

### VECTORS: TYPES AND CHARACTERISTICS

#### E.g. PLASMIDS, PHAGES, HYBRID VECTORS, ARTIFICIAL CHROMOSOMES

## VECTORS

- Small DNA molecule capable of self replication.
- Cloning vehicle or Cloning DNA.
- Carrier of DNA fragment.
- E.g. Plasmid, Phage, Hybrid vector, Artificial Chromosomes.

# **CHARACTERISTICS**

- Self replication, multiple copies.
- Replication origin site.
- Cloning site.
- Selectable marker gene.
- Small size.
- Low molecular weight.
- Easily isolated & purified.
- Easily isolated into host cell.
- Control elements promoter, operator, ribosome binding site.

## **TYPES**

#### Two types :-

#### 1) <u>Cloning Vectors</u>

Propagation or cloning of DNA insert inside a suitable host cells.

**Examples: Plasmids, Phage or Virus** 

Obtaining millions of copies.

Uses :-

**Genomic library.** 

Preparing probes.

**Genetic Engineering Experiments.** 

Selection of cloning vector depends on :-

- (a) Objective of cloning experiment
- (b) Ease of working.
- (c) Knowledge existing about the vector.
- (d) Suitability.
- (e) Reliability.

#### 2) Expression Vectors

- Express the DNA insert producing specific protein.
- They have prokaryotic promoter.
- Ribosome binding site.
- Origin of replication.
- Antibiotic resistance gene.
- Expression vectors with strong promoters.
- Inducible Expression Vectors.
- Eukaryotic expression vectors.

#### VECTOR

#### **TARGET HOST CELL**

- Plasmid
- Bacteriophages
- Cosmid
- Yeast Cloning Vectors
- Ti & Ri Plasmids

Bacteria, Streptomyces Bacteria Bacteria Bacteria Yeasts Transformation of cloned gene in higher plants.

### **AGENTS USED AS VECTORS**

PLASMIDS
 BACTERIOPHAGES
 COSMID
 ARTIFICIAL CHROMOSOME VECTORS

In 1973, Cohen described first successful construction of recombinant vector. Plasmid PSC101 - Ecoli

## PLASMID

- Extra chromosomal DNA molecules.
- Self replicating.
- Double stranded.
- Short sequence of DNA.
- Circular DNA molecules.
- ✓ Found in prokaryotes.
- CHARACTERISTICS
  - a. Minimum amount of DNA.
  - b. Two suitable markers for identification .
  - c. Single restriction site.
  - d. More restriction enzyme.
  - e. Size range 1kg 200kg.
  - f. Relaxed replication control.
  - g. Restriction endonuclease enzyme.

### **THREE TYPES OF PLASMID**

- 1. Fertility plasmids:- can perform conjugation.
- 2. Resistance plasmids:- contain genes that build a resistance against antibiotics or poisons.
- 3. Col plasmids:- contain genes that code for proteins that can kill bacteria.



## **EXAMPLES OF PLASMID VECTORS**

**pBR**322 **pBR**327 **pBR**325 **pBR**328 ➢ pUC8 ➢ pUC9 pUC12 **pUC**13 ➢ pGEM₃Z

### **PBR**322

- Cloning Vector.
- 15 copies.
- Reconstructed plasmid.
- Derived from Ecoli plasmid- ColE1.
  - PBR322 4362 base pairs
    - P denotes Plasmid
    - **B** Scientific Boliver
    - **R** Rodriguez
    - **322** number given to distinguish.
- Ampilicin resistance gene derived from RSF2124.
- Tetracycline resistance gene from PSC101.
- Origin of replication from PMB1.
- Two selectable markers

amp<sup>r</sup> tet<sup>r</sup>



### **PBR**327

- Derived from PBR322.
- ✤ 30 40 copies.
- Expression plasmid.
- Ampilicin resistance gene.
- Tetracycline resistance gene.
- Deletion of nucleotide between 1427 & 2516.

# pUC

- ✓ Popular Ecoli cloning vector.
- ✓ Derivative of pBR322.
- ✓ Two parts derived:-
  - Ampicillin resistance gene.
- ColEI origin of replication.
- ✓ 2700 base pairs.
- ✓ lac Z gene derived from Ecoli.



lies in lac region.



## PHAGE

- Cloning large DNA fragmance.
- Linear Phage molecule.
- Efficient than plasmid.
- Used in storage of recombinant DNA.
- Commonly used Ecoli phages :-

<u>λ phage</u> M13 Phage

### **BACTERIOPHAGE VECTORS**

**Cloning Vectors.** 

It infects bacteria.

Commonly used Ecoli phages :-

λ phage M13 Phage

#### Lambda phage vector

Genome size is 48,502 bp.

- High transformation efficiency.
- 1000 times more efficient than the plasmid vector.
- Origin of replication.
- Genome linear in head.
- Single- stranded protruding cohesive ends of 12 bases.
- Cos site site of cleavage of phage DNA.

#### Phage M<sub>13</sub> Vectors

Filamentous bacteriophage of Ecoli. Used for obtaining single stranded copies. DNA sequencing. Single stranded. Inside host cell become double stranded.



# **HYBRID VECTOR**

- Component from both plasmid & phage chromosomes.
- Helper phage provided.
- Developed in 1978 by Barbara Hohn & John Collins.
- ✓ 30 40 Kb
- Origin of replication, cloning site, marker gene, DNA cos site.
- Smaller than plasmid.
- Use construction of genomic libraries of eukaryotes.
- e.g. Cosmid

## COSMIDS

- Combine parts of the lambda chromosome with parts of plasmids.
- Contain the cos sites of λ and plasmid origin of replication.
- Behave both as plasmids and as phages.
- Cosmids can carry up to 50 kb of inserted DNA.

#### **Structure of Cosmid**

- Origin of replication (ori).
- Restriction sites for cleavage and insertion of foreign DNA.
- Selectable marker from plasmid.
- A cos site a sequence yield cohesive end (12 bases).
- Ampicillin resistance gene (amp).

#### **Basic Features of a Cosmid**



#### <u>KEY</u>

OriV - origin of replication. Cos sites - provide blunt ends. R - recombinant site EcoRI - Restriction endonuclease Smal - Restriction sequence.



## **ARTIFICIAL CHROMOSOME**

- Linear or Circular.
- 1 0r 2 copies per cell.
- Different types –

Bacterial Artificial Chromosome (BAC)
Yeast Artificial Chromosome (YAC)
P1 derived artificial chromosome (PAC)
Mammalian Artificial Chromosome (MAC)
Human Artificial Chromosome. (HAC)

- YAC Cloning in yeast
- BAC & PAC Bacteria
- MAC & HAC Mammalian & Human cells.

### **BACTERIAL ARTIFICIAL CHROMOSOME**

- 1<sup>st</sup> BAC Vector PBAC108L.
- Cloning of large regions of eukaryotic genome.
- Origin of replication from bacterium Ecoli F -factor.
- **BAC vectors are pBACe3.6, pBeloBAC11.**
- Used in analysis of genomes.
- Host for BAC is mutant strain.

### YEAST ARTIFICIAL CHROMOSOME

- Linear Plasmid Vector.
- Clone large DNA segment (100 1400kb).
- Occurring two forms:-

Circular – grows in bacteria.

Linear – multiplies in yeast cells.

pYAC3 - first YAC developed.

It contains :-

**ARS sequence – replication** 

**CEN4** sequence – centromeric function

TRP1 & URA3 – 2 selectable markers

Use – mapping complex eukaryotic chromosome .

### **Gene Cloning with Different Vectors**



