

Genetic Basics and Engineering

BME2105

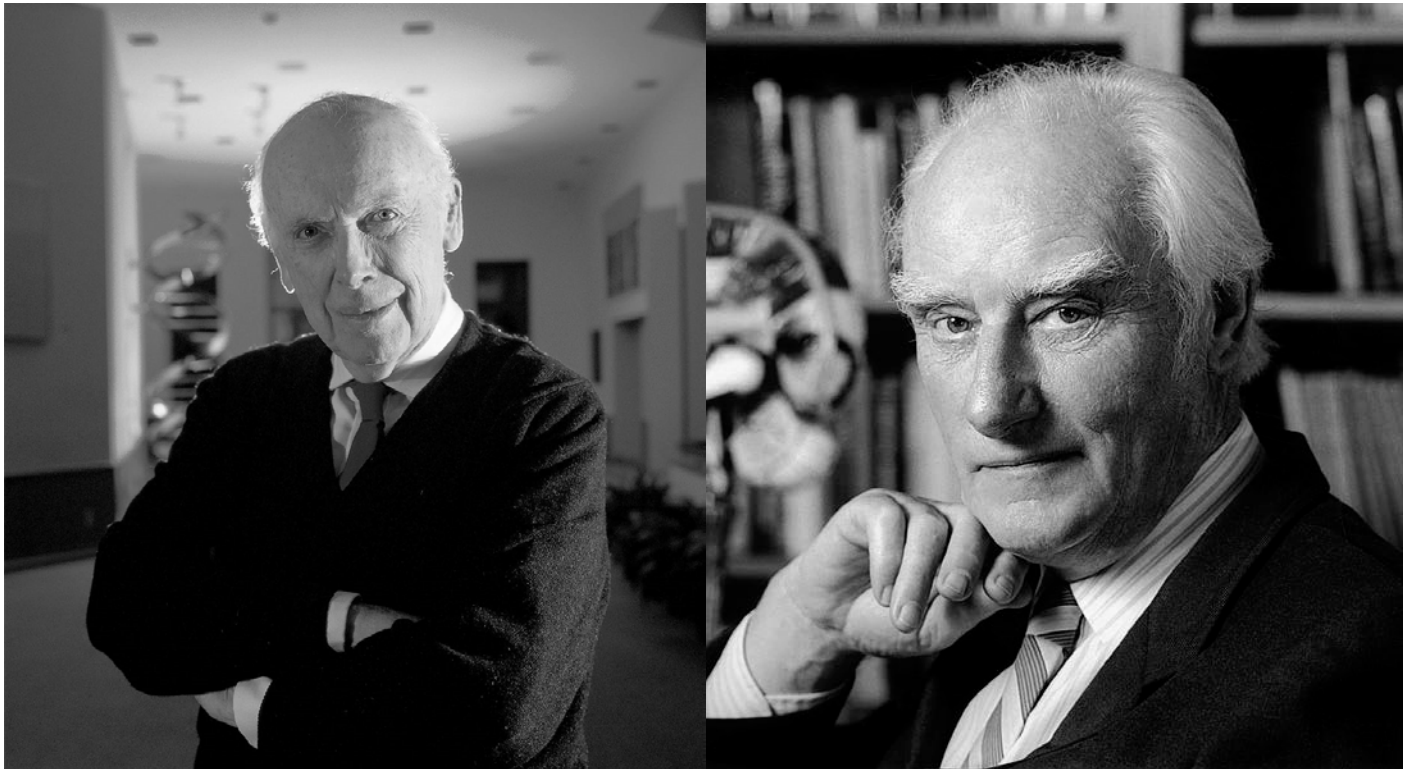
The Discovery of structure of DNA

► Deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA)



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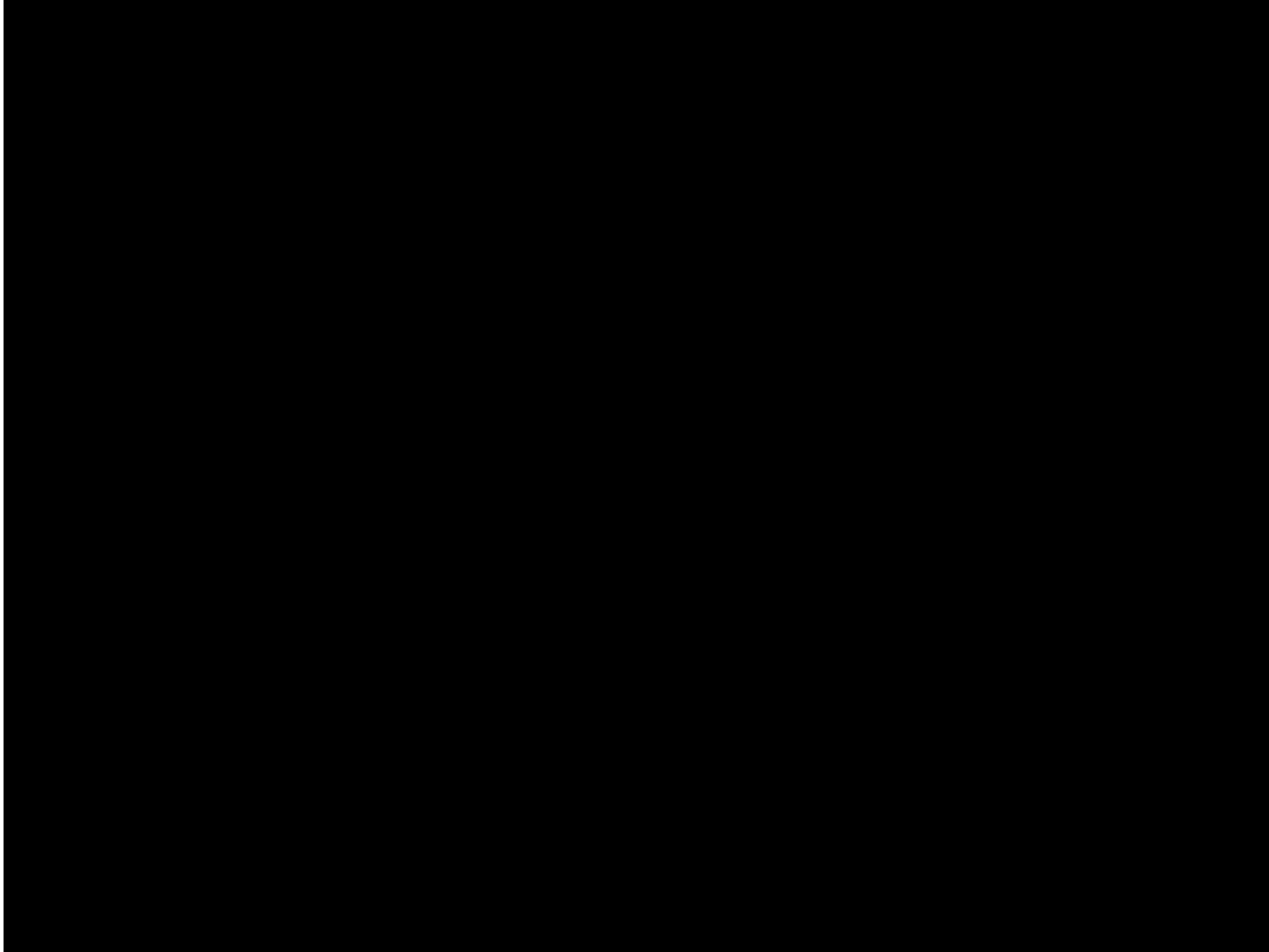
The code of Life and Health

Disease	Location of Defect	Incidence	Treatment
Enzyme involved			
Lesch–Nyhan syndrome	Hypoxanthine–guanine phosphoribosyltransferase	1 in 100,000–380,000 (males only)	
Adenosine deaminase deficiency	Adenosine deaminase		Enzyme infusion; gene therapy
Gaucher's disease	Lysosomal glucocerebrosidase		Enzyme infusion
Phenylketonuria	Phenylalanine hydroxylase		Diet
Sickle cell anemia	Hemoglobin	0.4% of African-American males	
Hemophilia	Factor VIII	1 in 10,000 males	Blood transfusion; protein infusion
Membrane protein involved			
Cystic fibrosis	Cystic fibrosis transmembrane conductance receptor (CFTR)	1 in 2000 live births in Caucasians	Gene therapy not yet successful
Disaccharidase deficiency (lactose intolerance)	Lactase	Frequent	Diet
Duchenne's muscular dystrophy	Dystrophin gene product	1 in 3500 males	None
Protein involved			
Huntington's disease	Huntington		None

The code of Life and Health

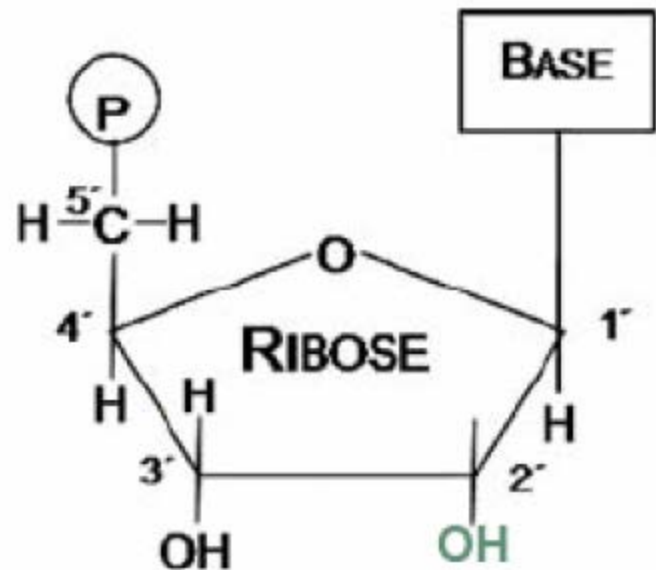
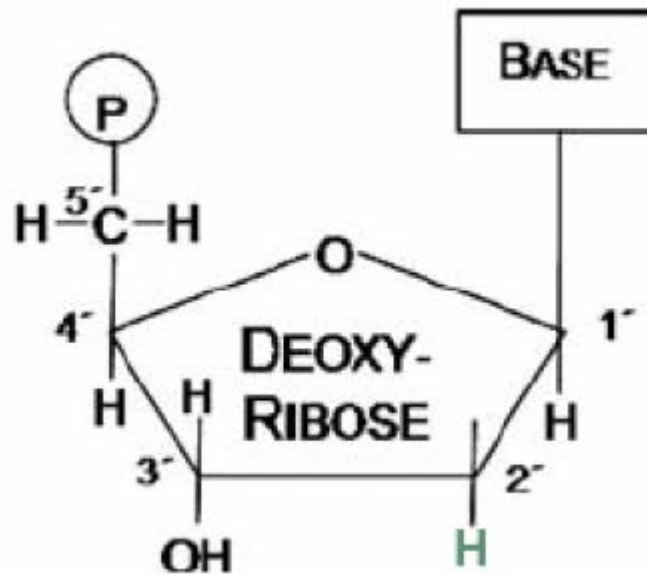
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DNA Structure

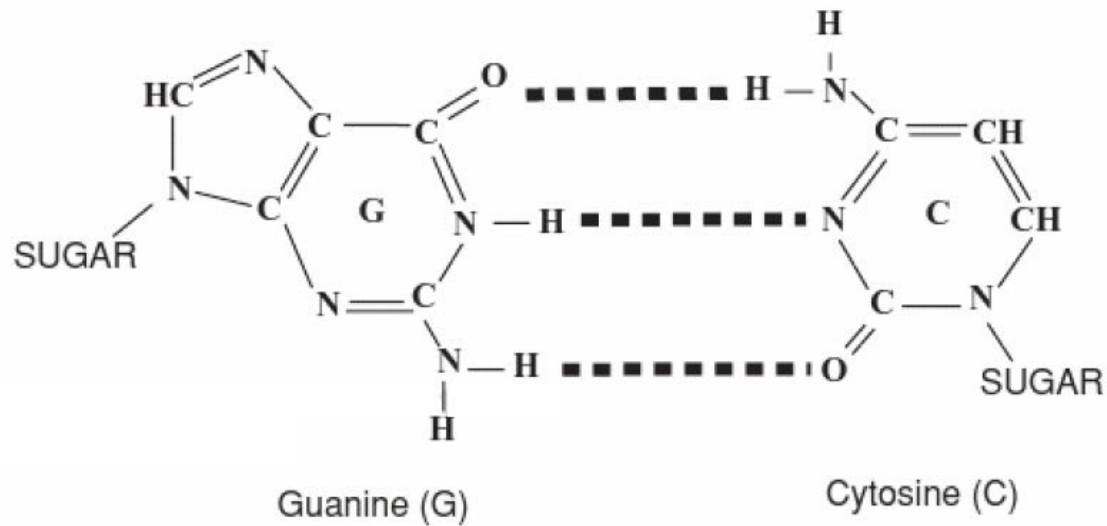
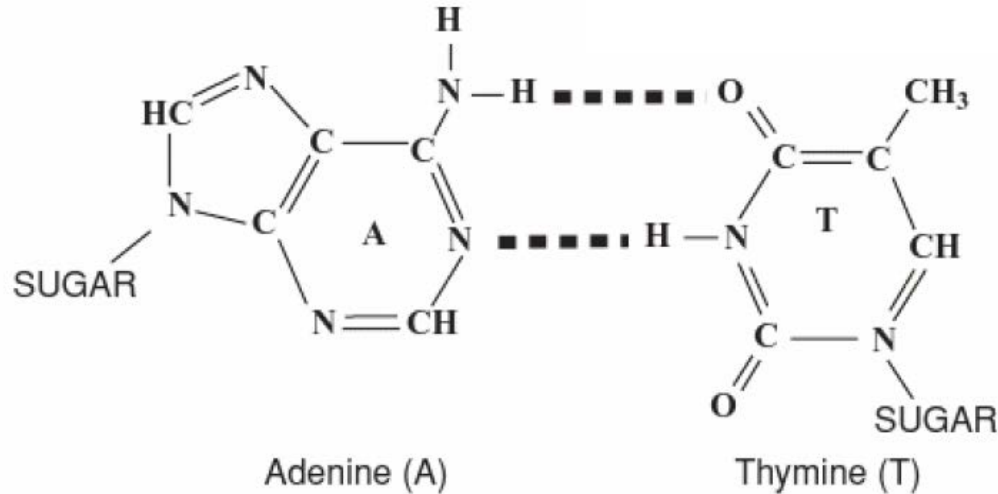


DNA/RNA Structure

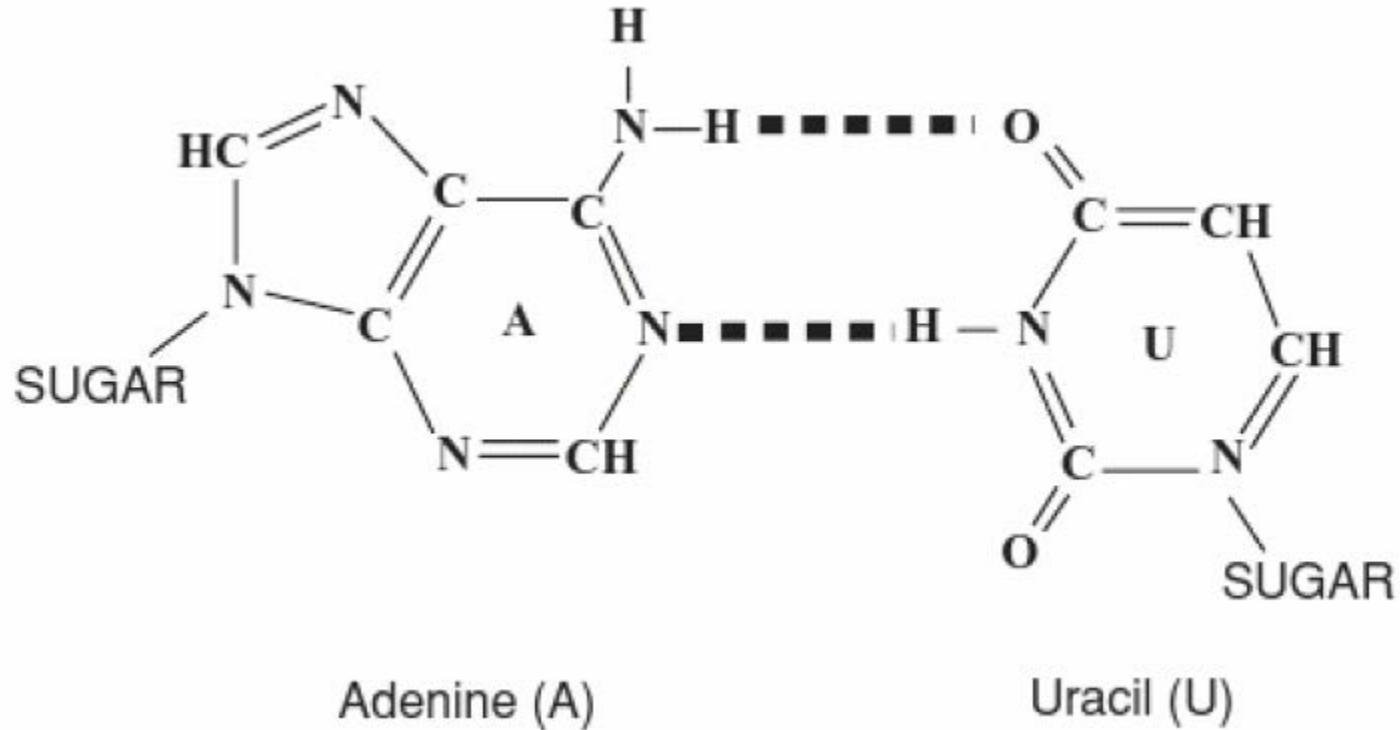
- ▶ DNA are linear polymers of nucleotides
- ▶ A gene is a segment of neucleotides that codes for one polypeptide chain.



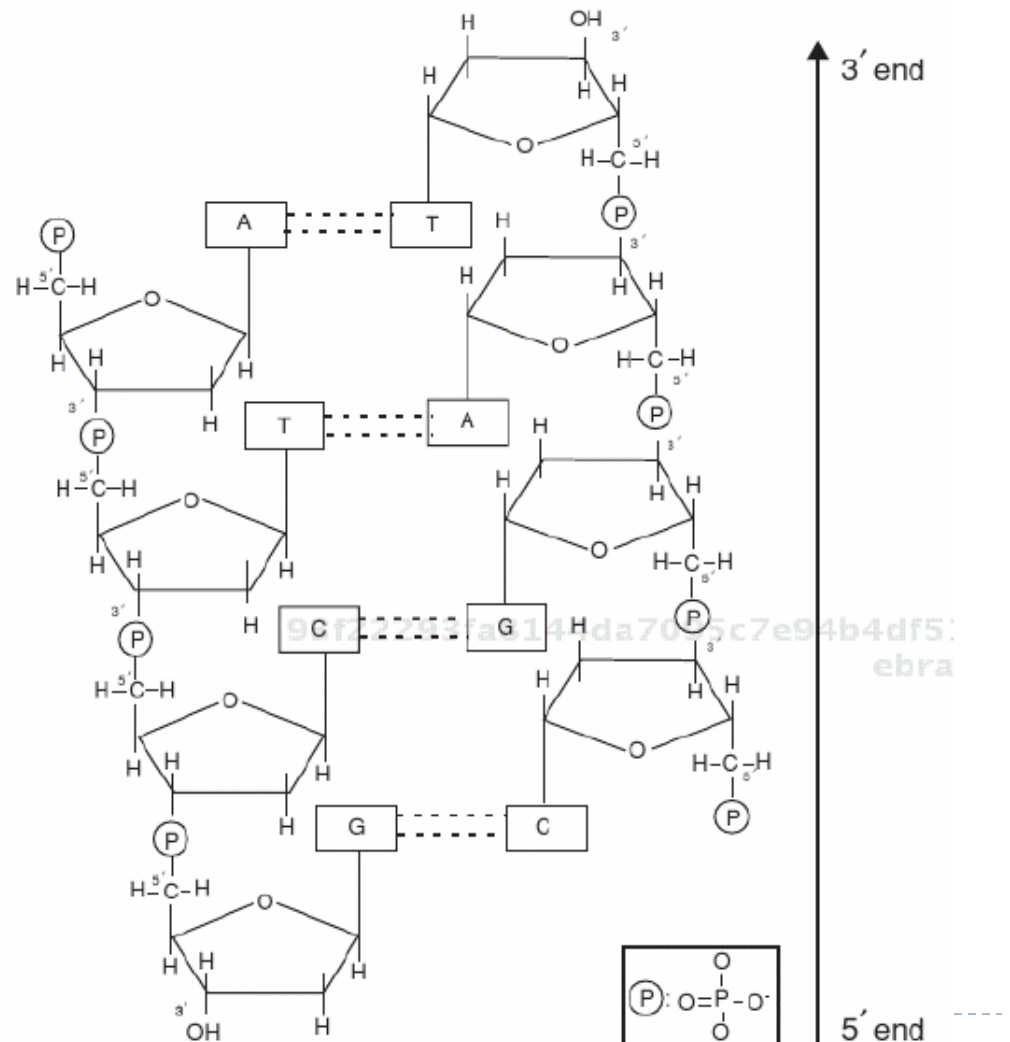
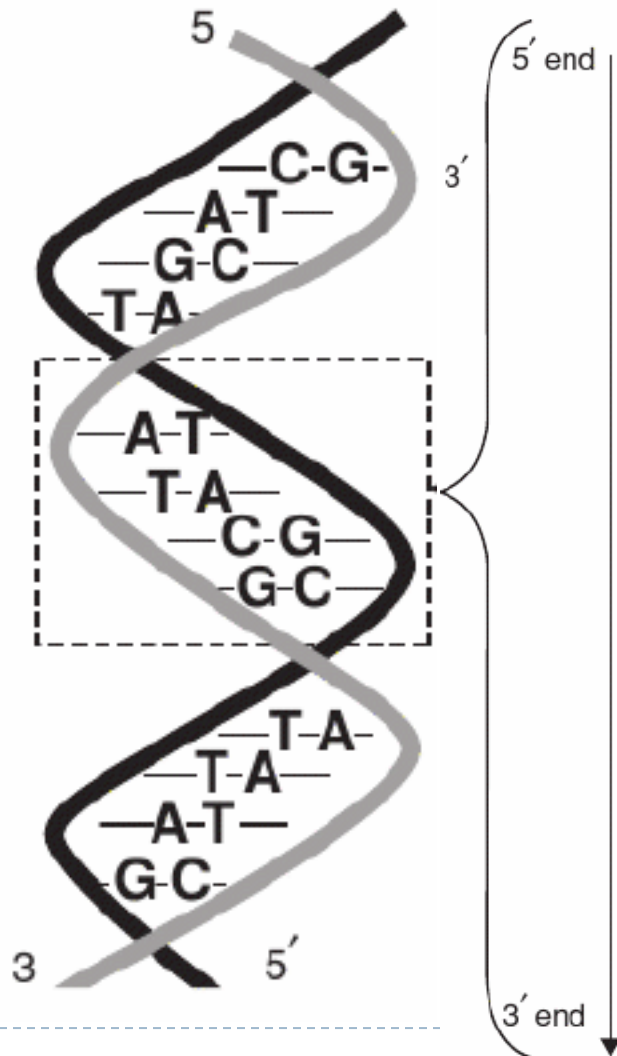
DNA Structure



RNA Structure

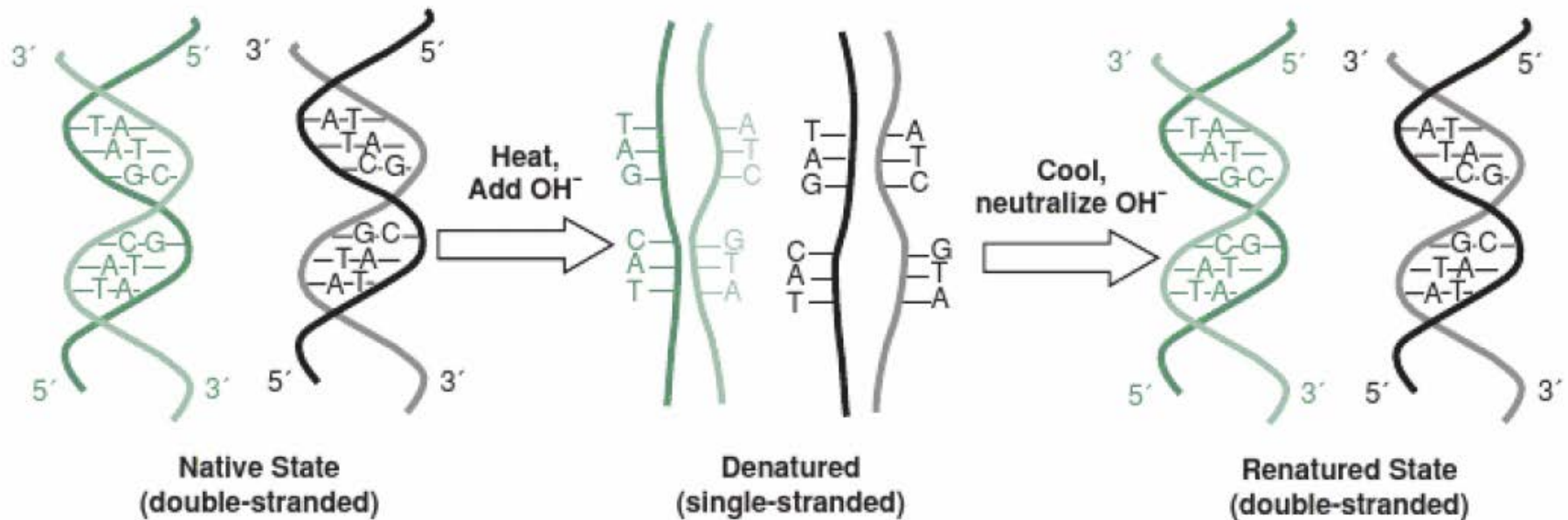


DNA Structure



DNA Structure

- ▶ The two strands of DNA in a double helix are held together by Hydrogen bonds between base pairs.
- ▶ The hydrogen bonds can be disrupted (denatured) to separate the two strands.

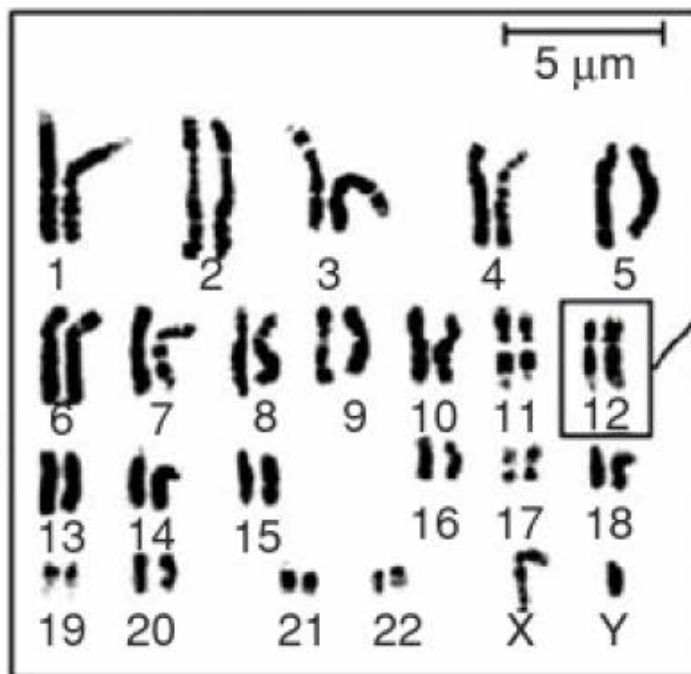


Chromosomes

- ▶ Chromosomes are strands of DNA packed with the nucleus of most cells.
 - ▶ Nearly 2m of DNA is compacted into a nucleus that is 5-10 μm in diameter.
 - ▶ The paired chromosomes are called homologous chromosomes
 - ▶ Genes are a segment of DNA sequence on the chromosome that encode specific proteins.



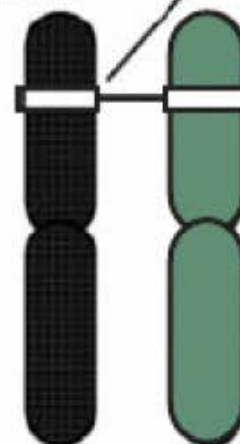
Human karyotype



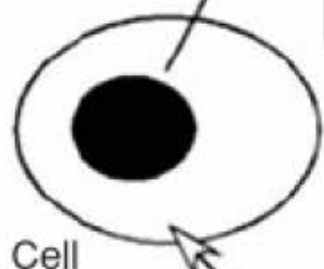
Homologous pair of chromosomes

Two alleles for the character

Locus of gene for the character



Genotype: genetic make-up of individual



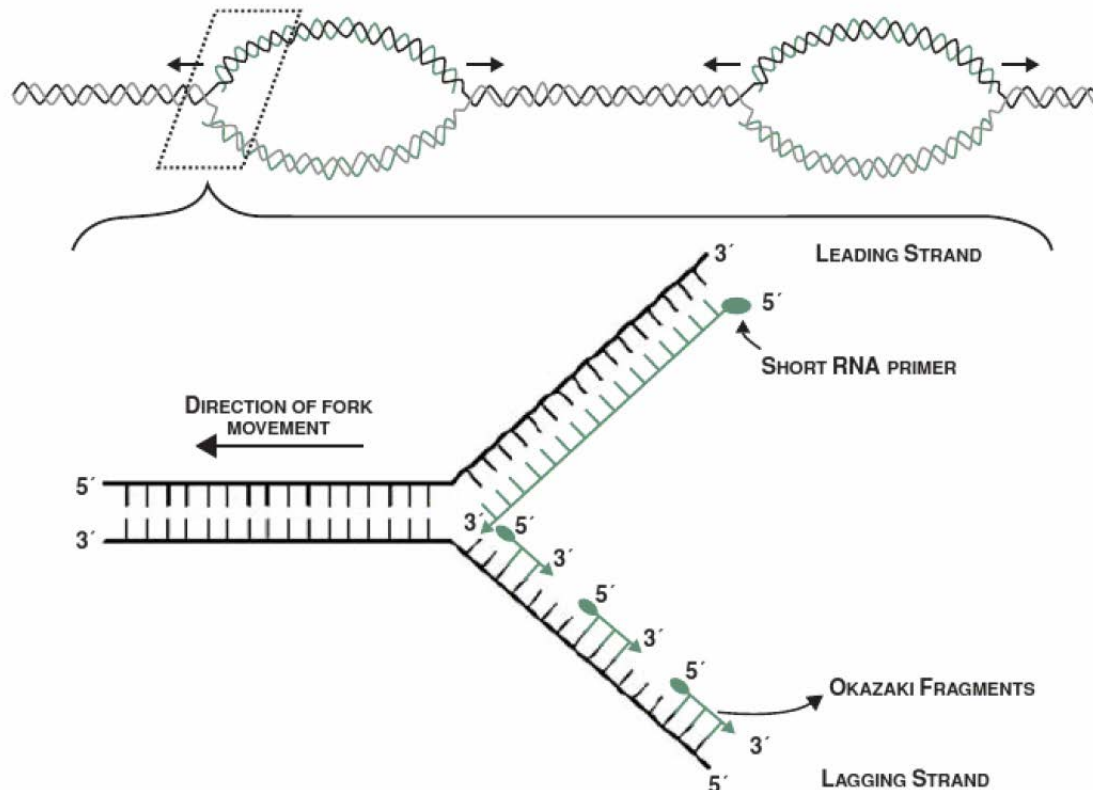
Cell



Phenotype: set of traits observed in individual

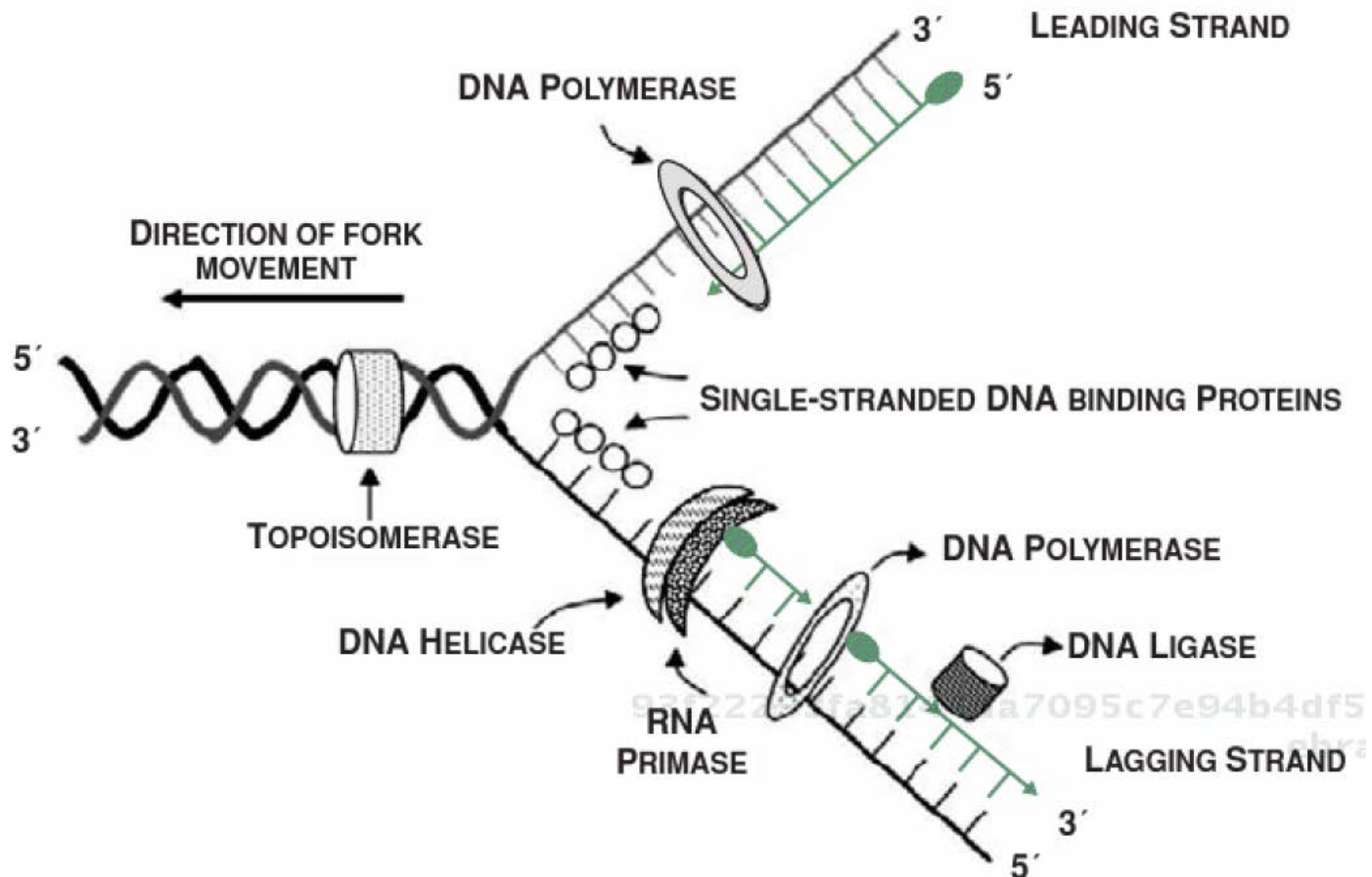
DNA Replication

- ▶ How is double-stranded DNA copied to ensure that daughter cells receive an exact version of the parent DNA?



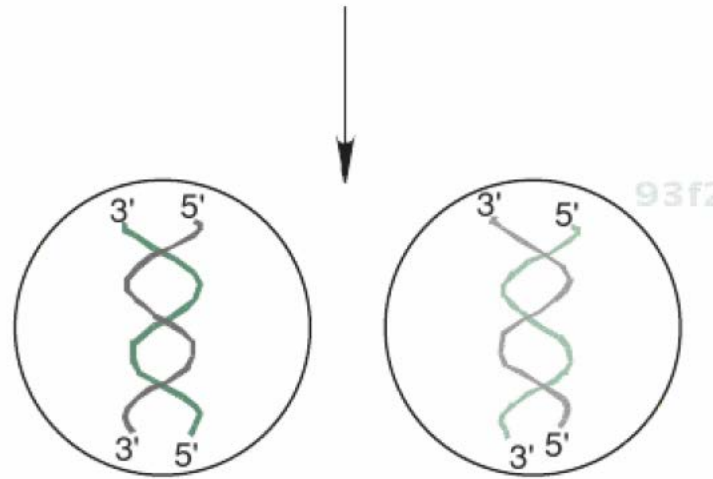
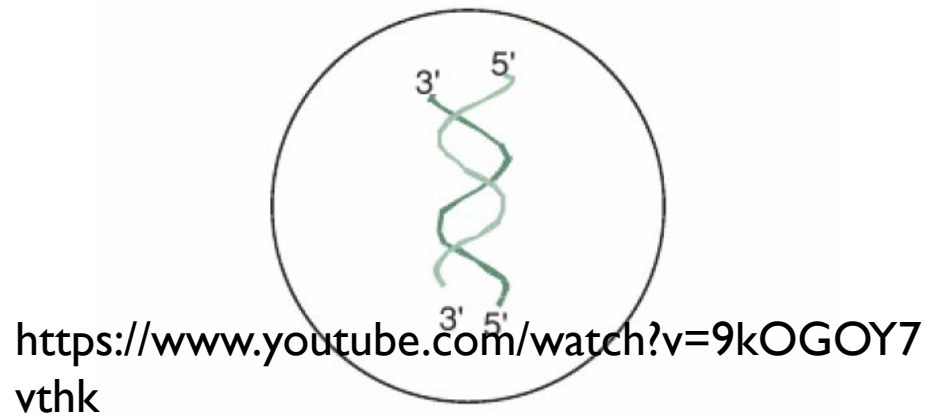
DNA Replication

- ▶ How is double-stranded DNA copied to ensure that daughter cells receive an exact version of the parent DNA?



DNA Replication

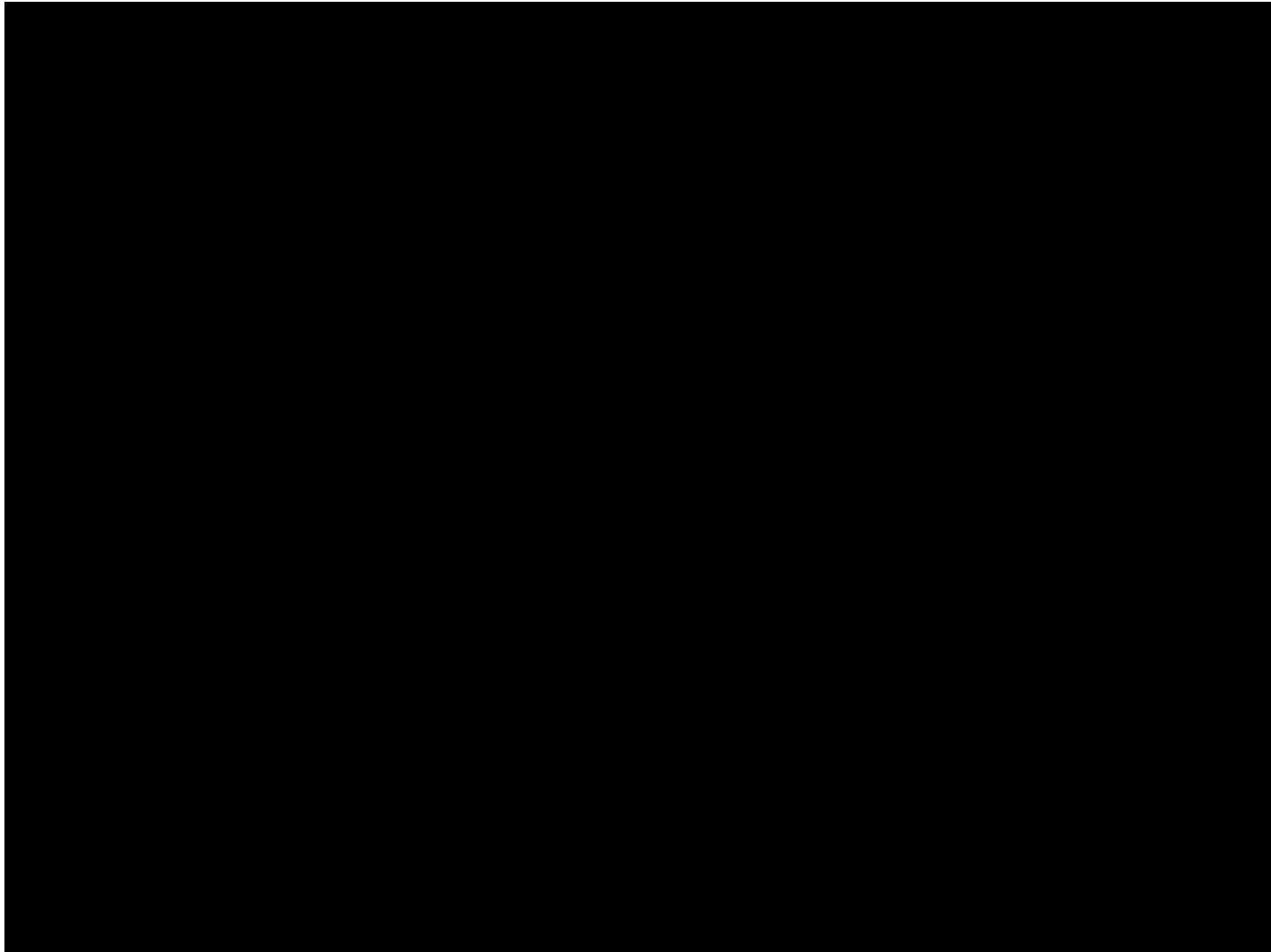
Parent cell with double-stranded DNA



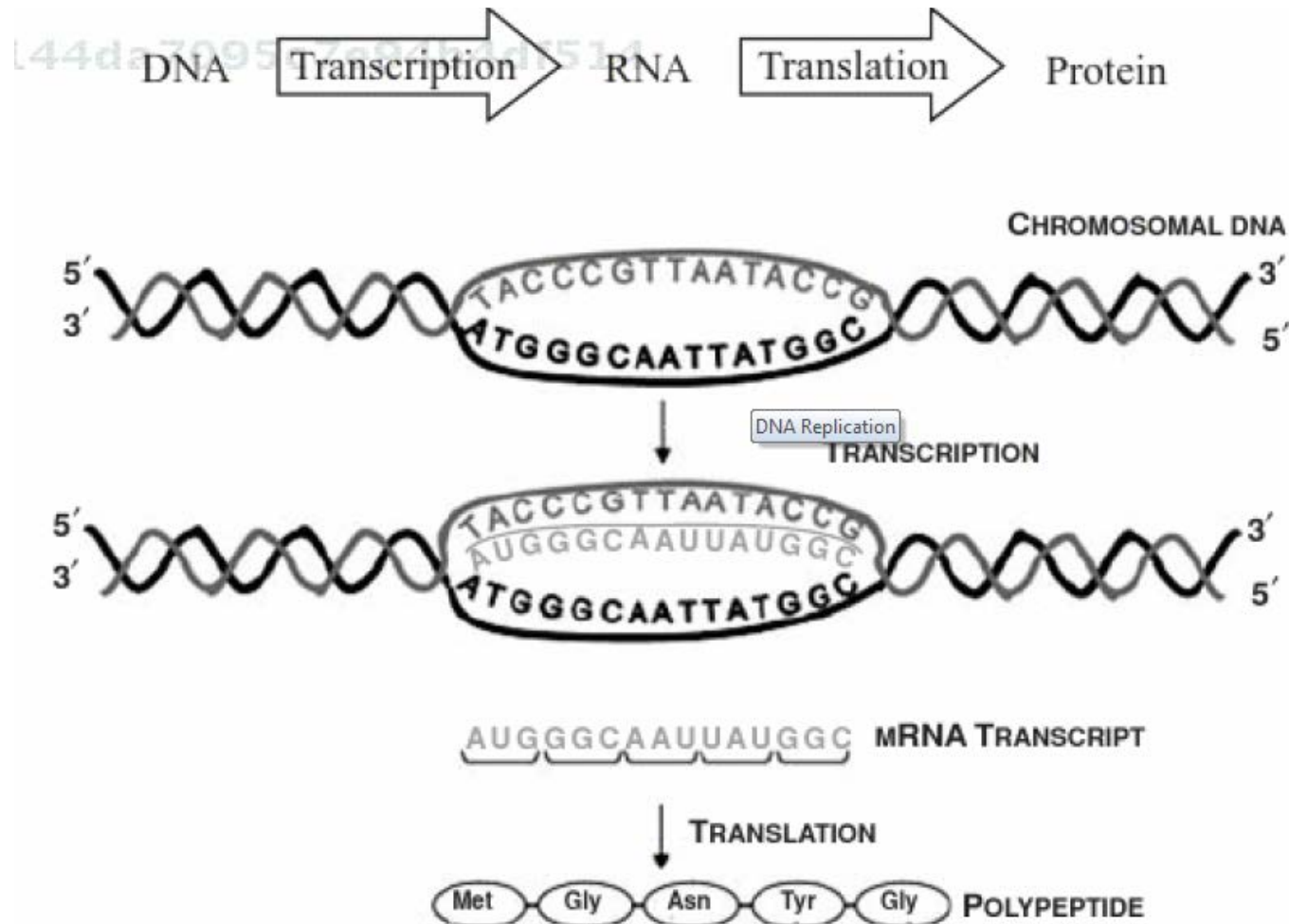
Daughter cells with double-stranded DNA
Each cell had one strand from the parent cell



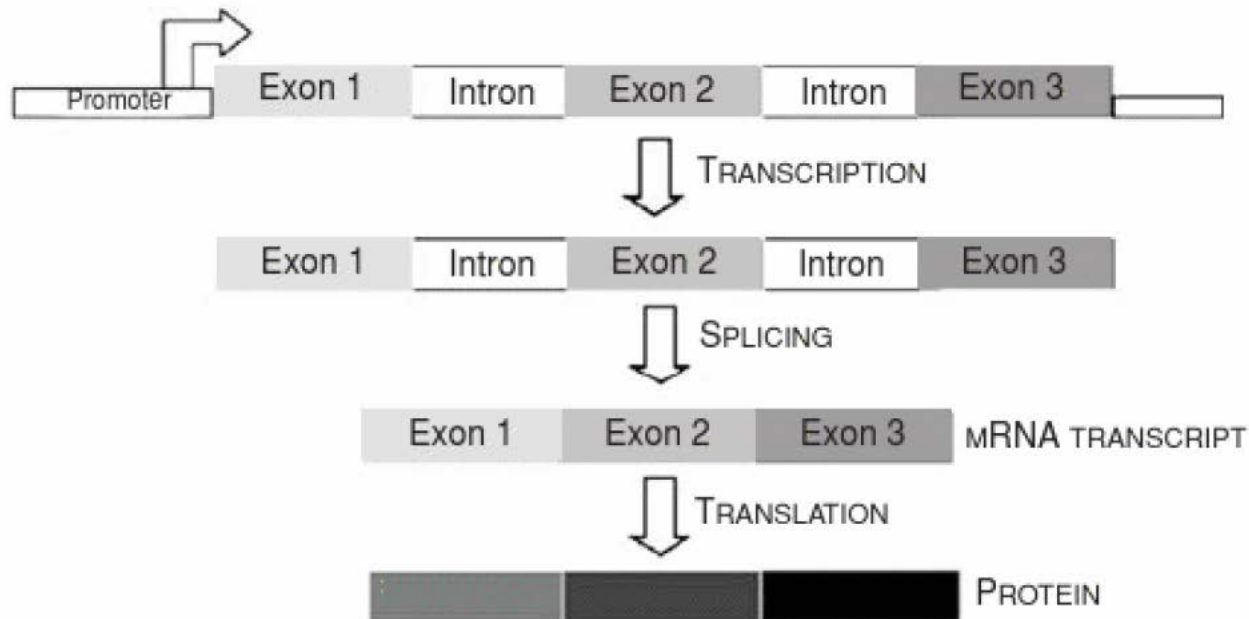
The Central Dogma: Transcription and Translation



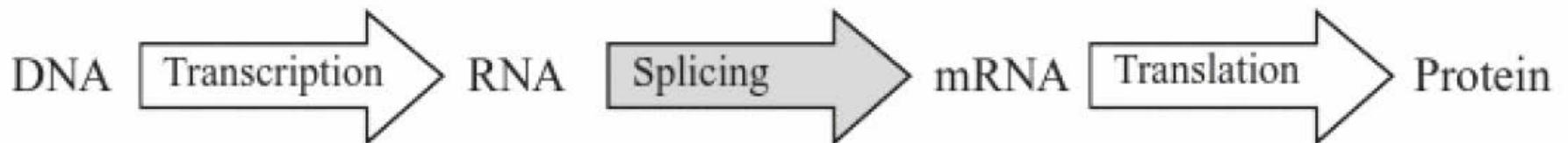
The Central Dogma: Transcription and Translation



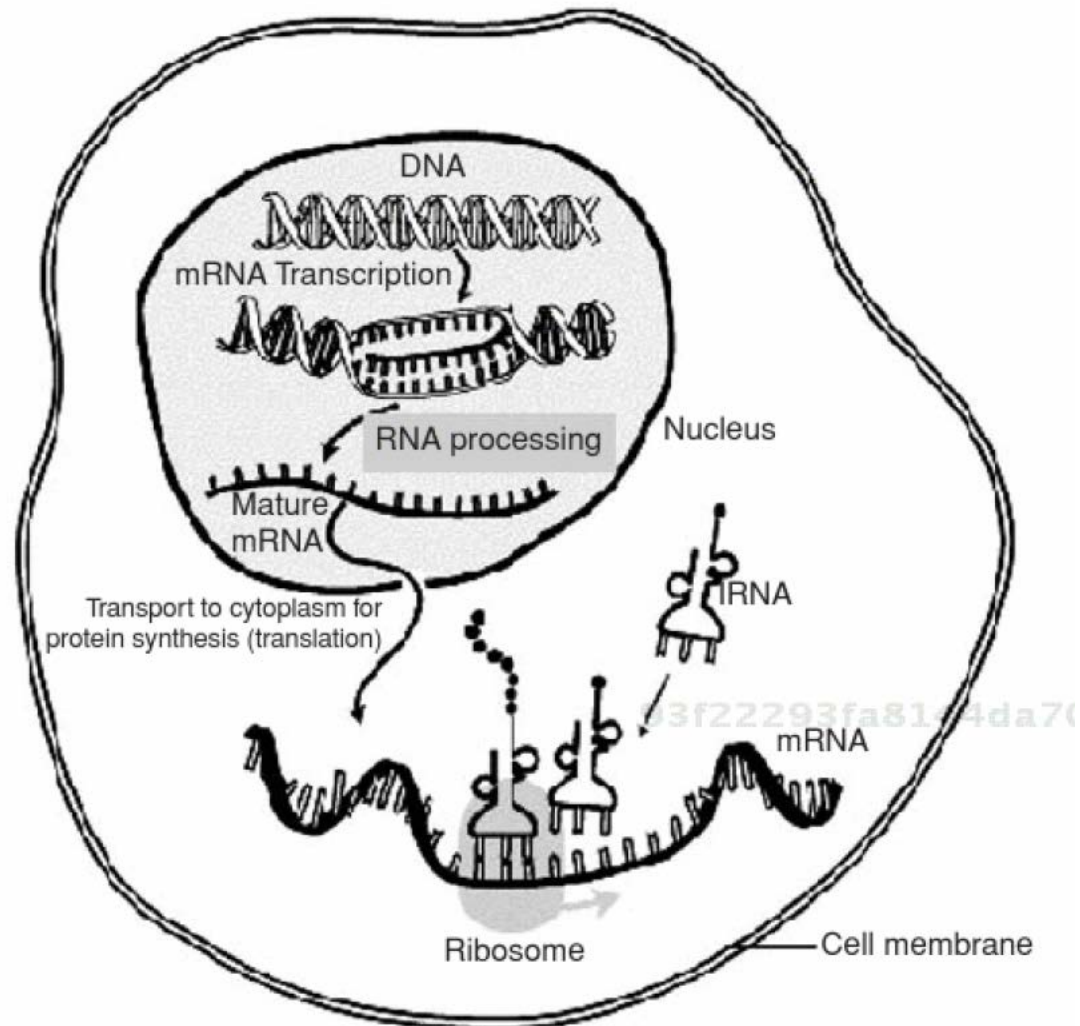
RNA Splicing



Revised dogma



mRNA translation: Protein synthesis



mRNA translation: Protein synthesis

- ▶ Triplet rule: three-base word in the mRNA transcript is called a **codon**.
- ▶ why not 3???
- ▶ Combination: $4 \times 4 \times 4 = 64$ possible codes
- ▶ Multiple codon for each amino acid



mRNA translation: Protein synthesis

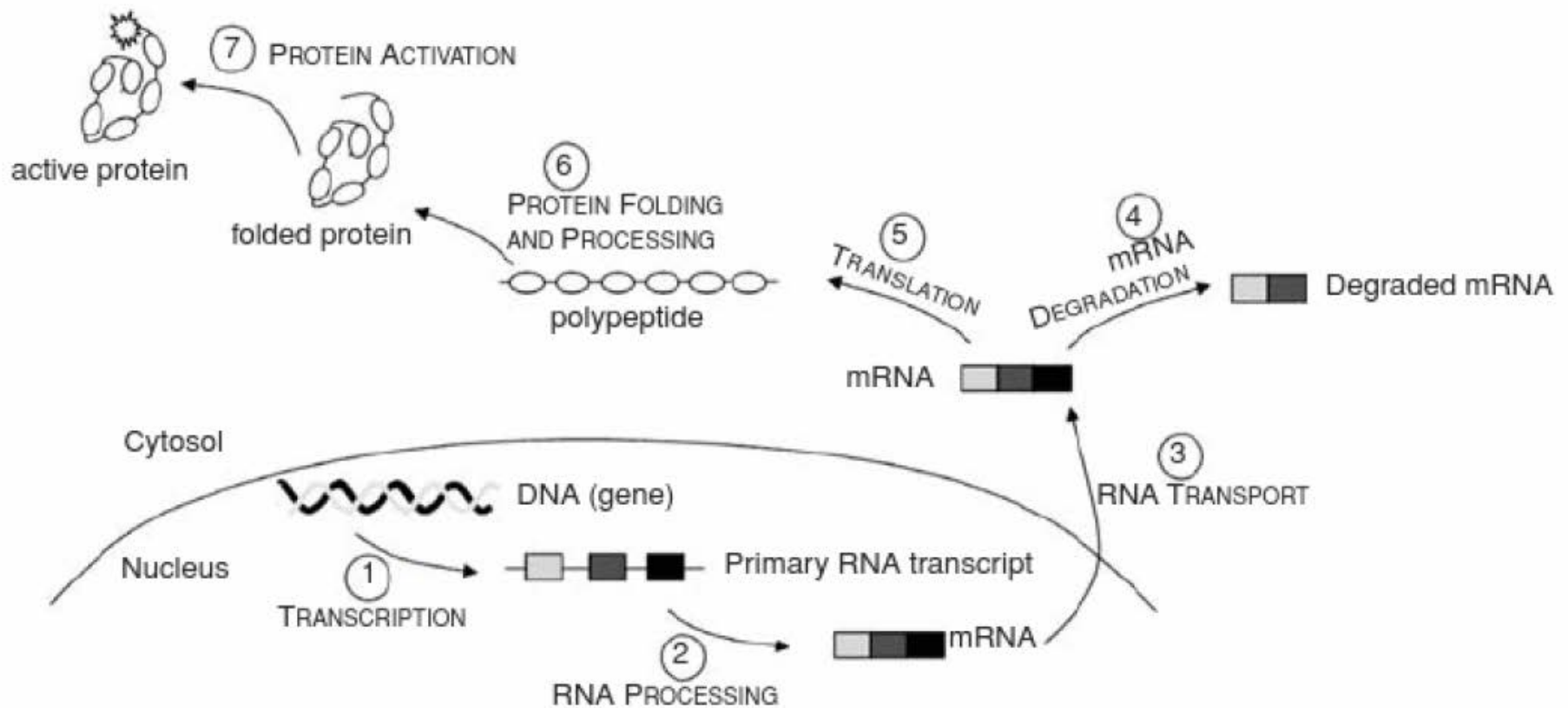
- ▶ Triplet rule: three-base word in the mRNA transcript is called a **codon**.

▶

		SECOND LETTER				
		U	C	A	G	
FIRST LETTER	U	UUU } Phe UUC } UUA } Leu UUG }	UCU } Ser UCC } UCA } UCG }	UAU } Tyr UAC } UAA Stop UAG Stop	UGU } Cys UGC } UGA Stop UGG Trp	U C A G
	C	CUU } Leu CUC } CUA } CUG }	CCU } Pro CCC } CCA } CCG }	CAU } His CAC } CAA } Gln CAG }	CGU } Pro CGC } CGA } CGG }	U C A G
	A	AUU } Ile AUC } AUA } AUG Met	ACU } Thr ACC } ACA } ACG }	AAU } Asn AAC } AAA } Lys AAG }	AGU } Ser AGC } AGA } Arg AGG }	U C A G
	G	GUU } Val GUC } GUA } GUG }	GCU } Ala GCC } GCA } GCG }	GAU } Asp GAC } GAA } Glu GAG }	GGU } Gly GGC } GGA } GGG }	U C A G

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Control of gene expression



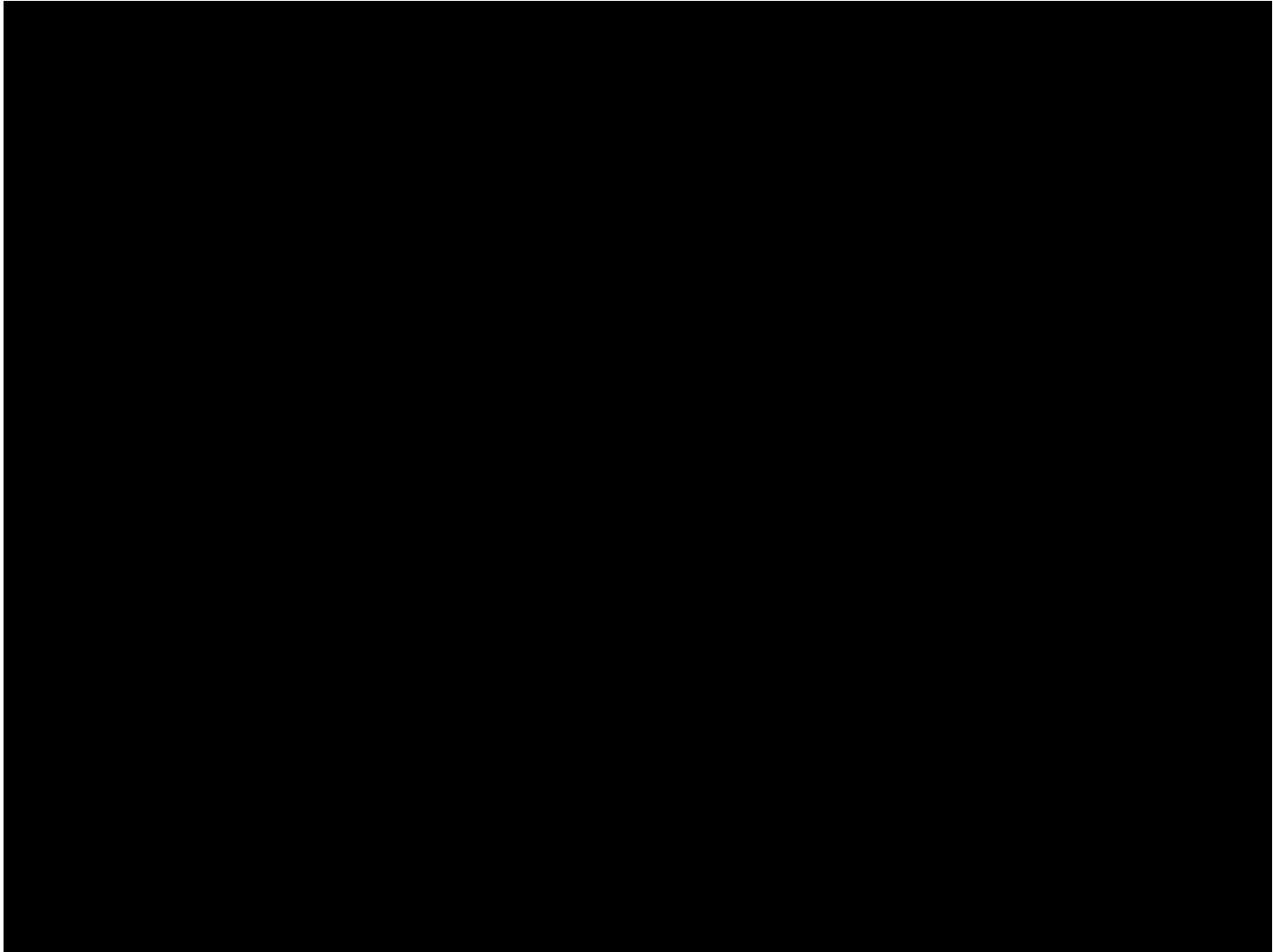
Control of gene expression

▶ Question:

- ▶ All of the cells of the human body contain the same genetic information, but they are functionally different, why?
- ▶ Gene expression can be regulated at each step in the pathway of converting DNA into protein.
 - ▶ Transcription factors
 - ▶ Alternative splicing
 - ▶ Transport of mRNA
 - ▶ Stability of mRNA transcript
 - ▶ Proteins can be inactivated

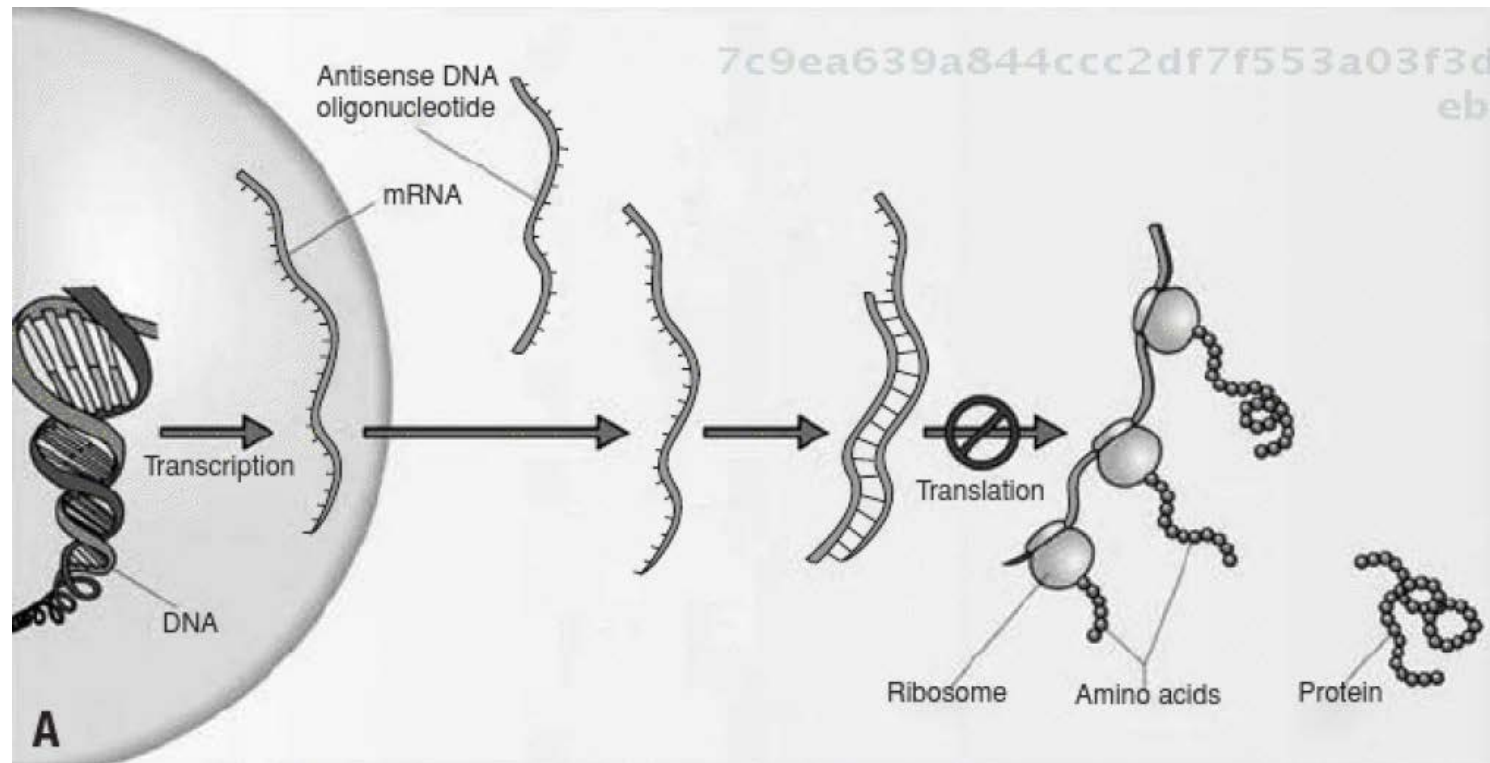


Control of gene expression



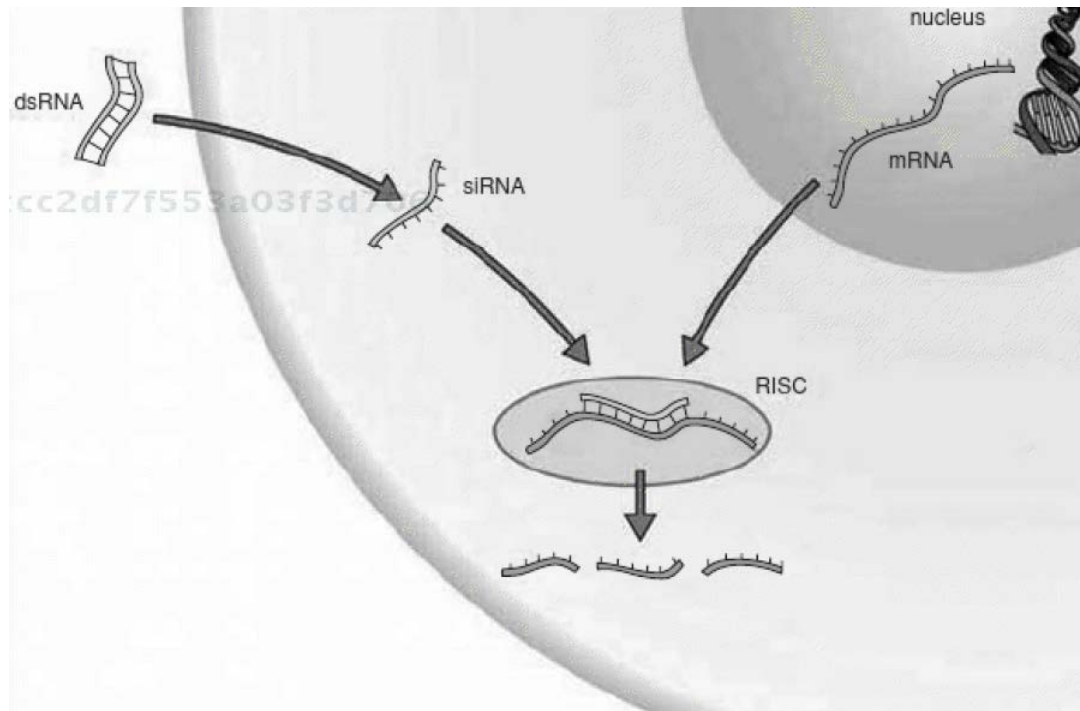
Control of gene expression (Engineering)

▶ Antisense nucleic acid



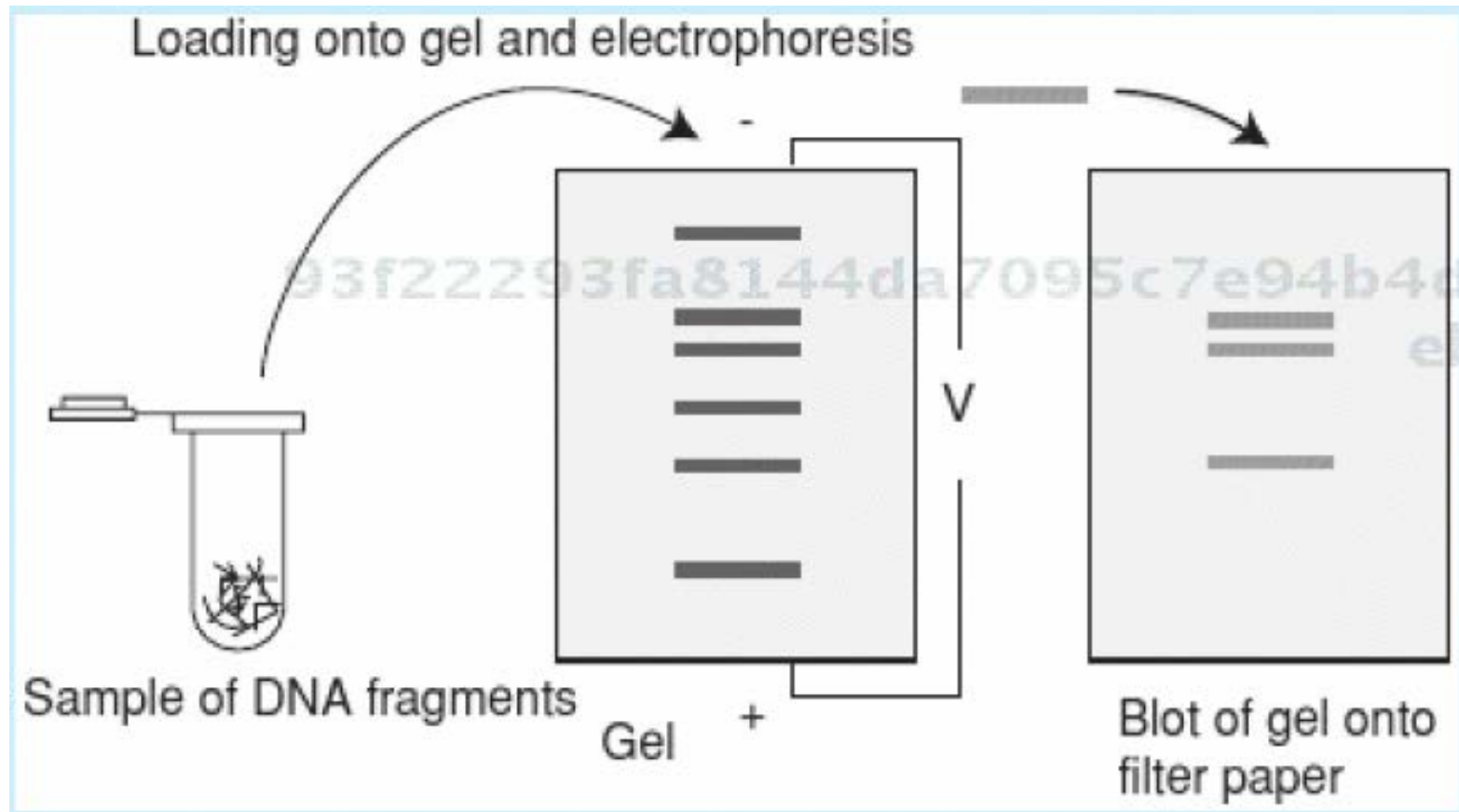
Control of gene expression (Engineering)

- ▶ Small interference RNA, siRNA
 - ▶ Duplex strands of less than 30 bp
 - ▶ Binds to the complementary bases in the target mRNA transcript
 - ▶ Cause the degradation of the mRNA (persisted effect)

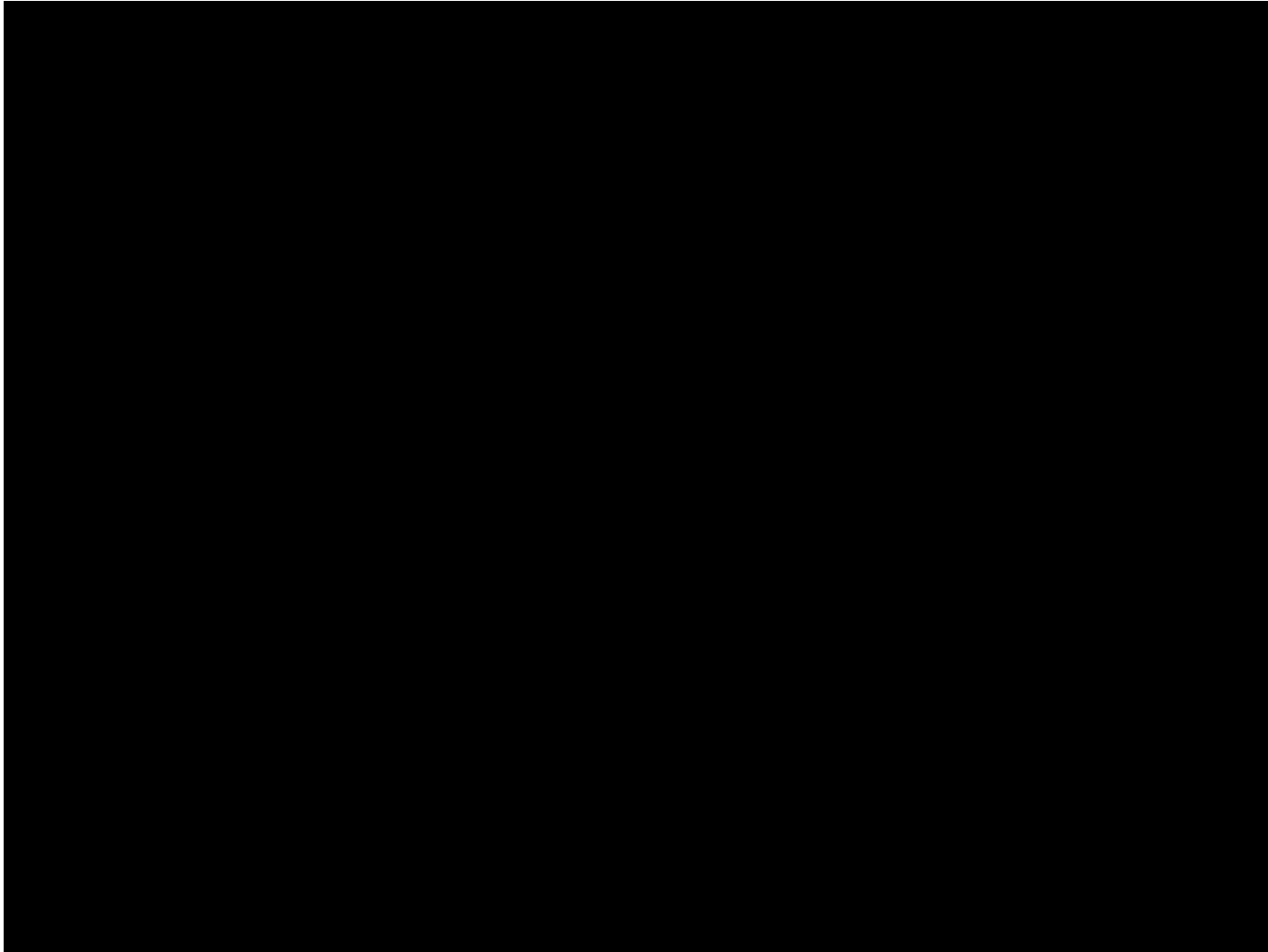


DNA Fingerprinting

- Unique evidence of an individual: within saliva, in hair,



DNA Fingerprinting

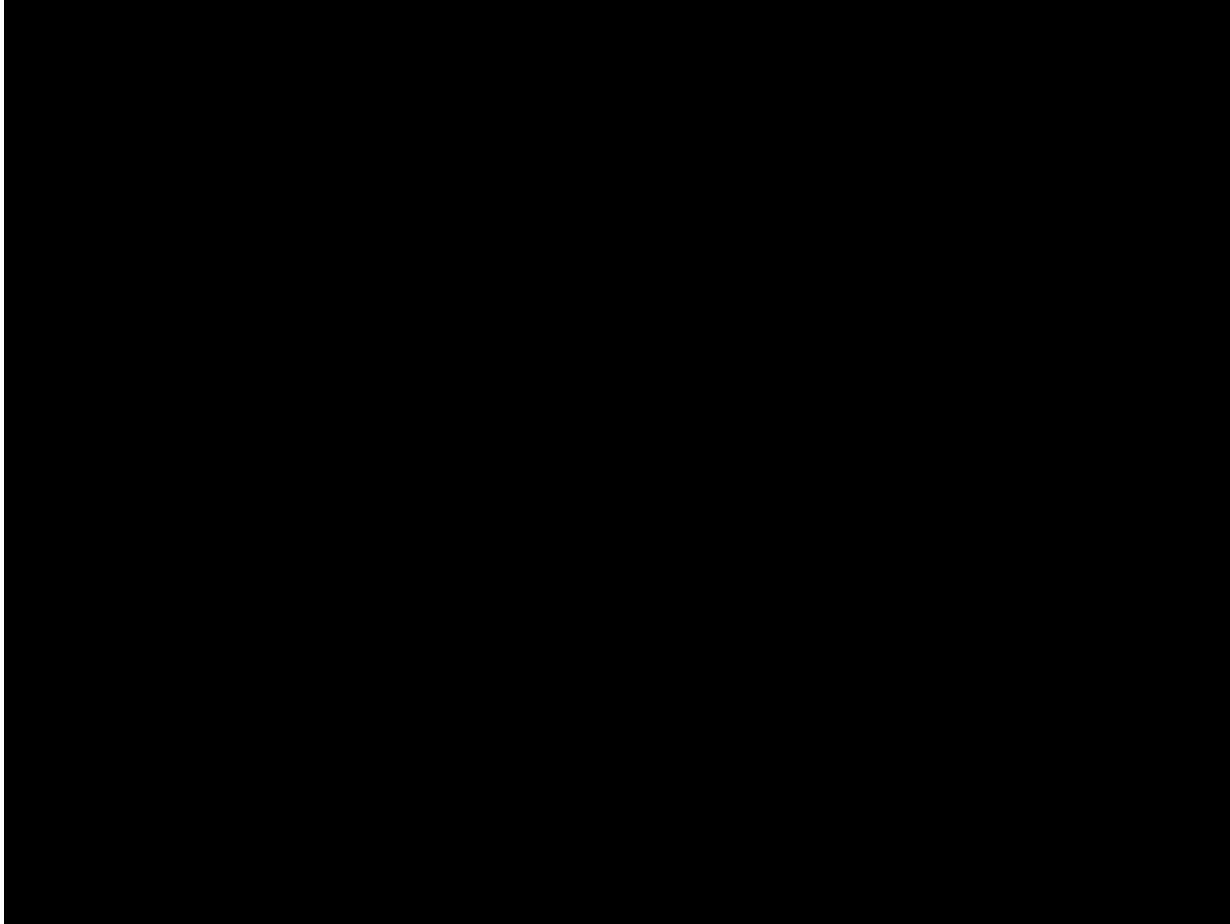


Genetic Engineering

► Cloning



Cloning

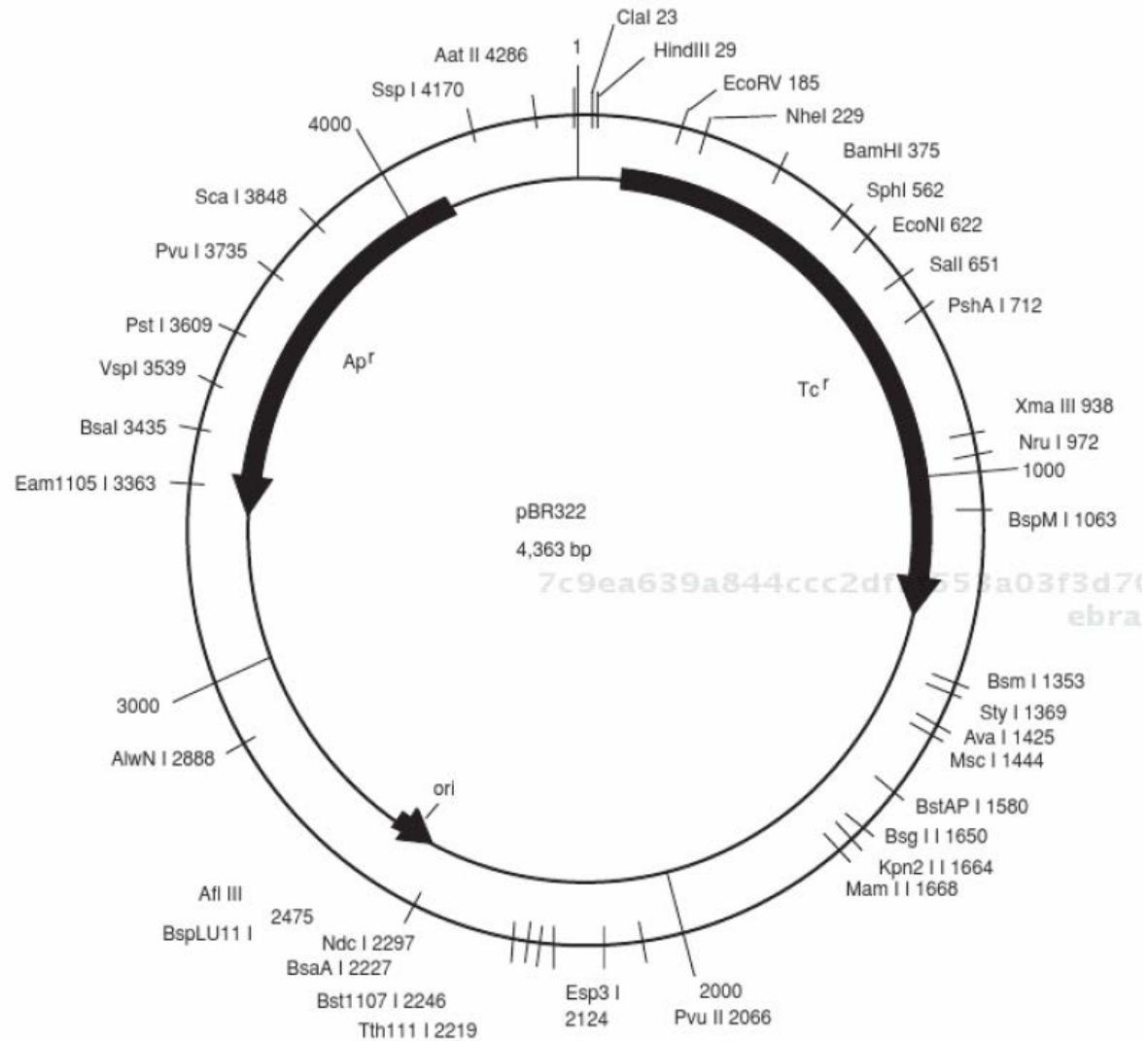


DNA Cloning

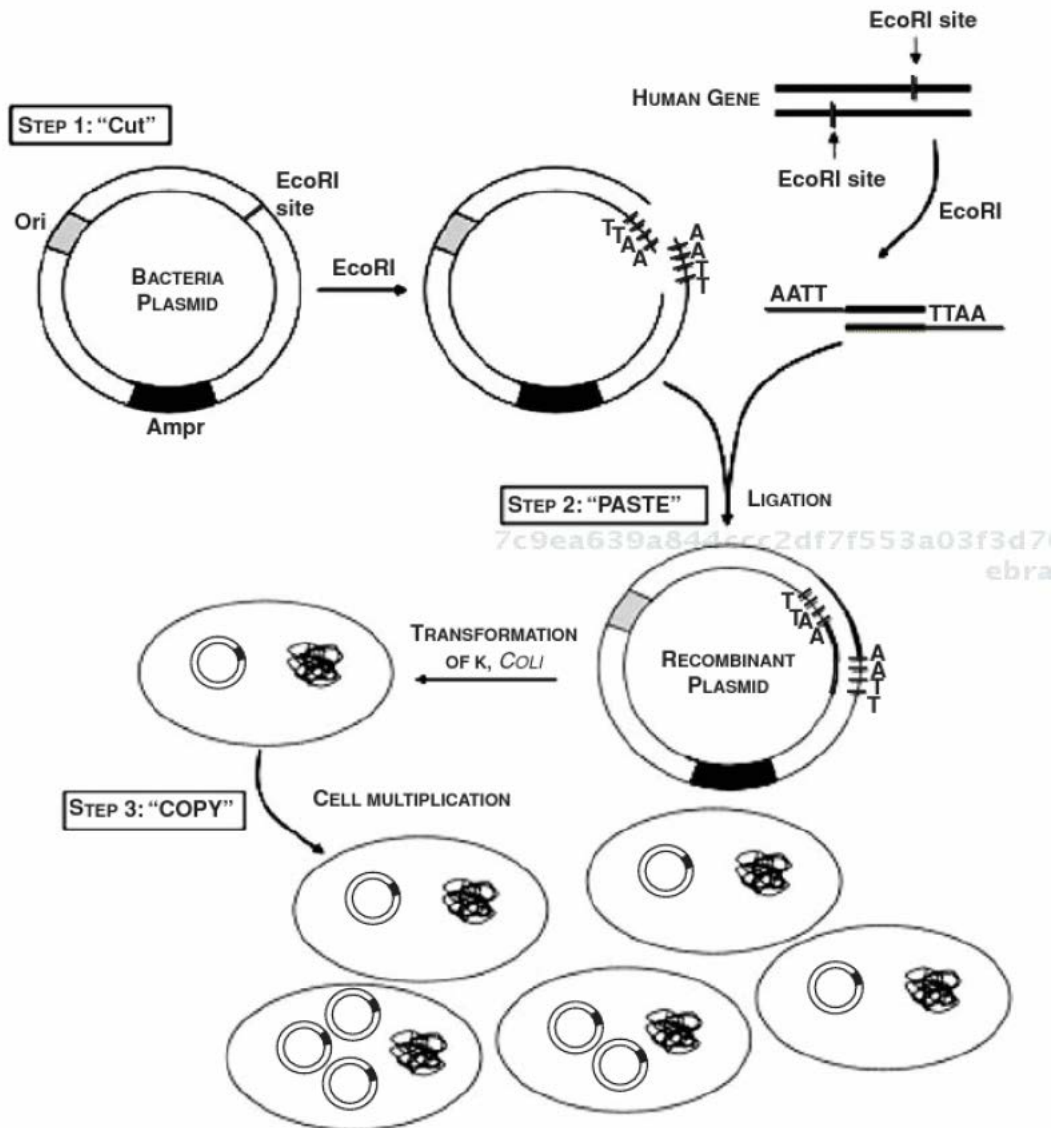
- ▶ **Making identical copies of DNA**
 - ▶ **Plasmids**, small circular DNA that replicate independently of chromosome in bacteria.
 - ▶ Occurred naturally in microorganisms to move genes between individual microorganisms.
 - ▶ **Restriction enzymes**: microorganism's defense system, allowing them to cut up and destroy genes of invaders, recognize specific short DNA sequences
 - ▶ These two tools have been used extensively in molecular biology



Plasmid

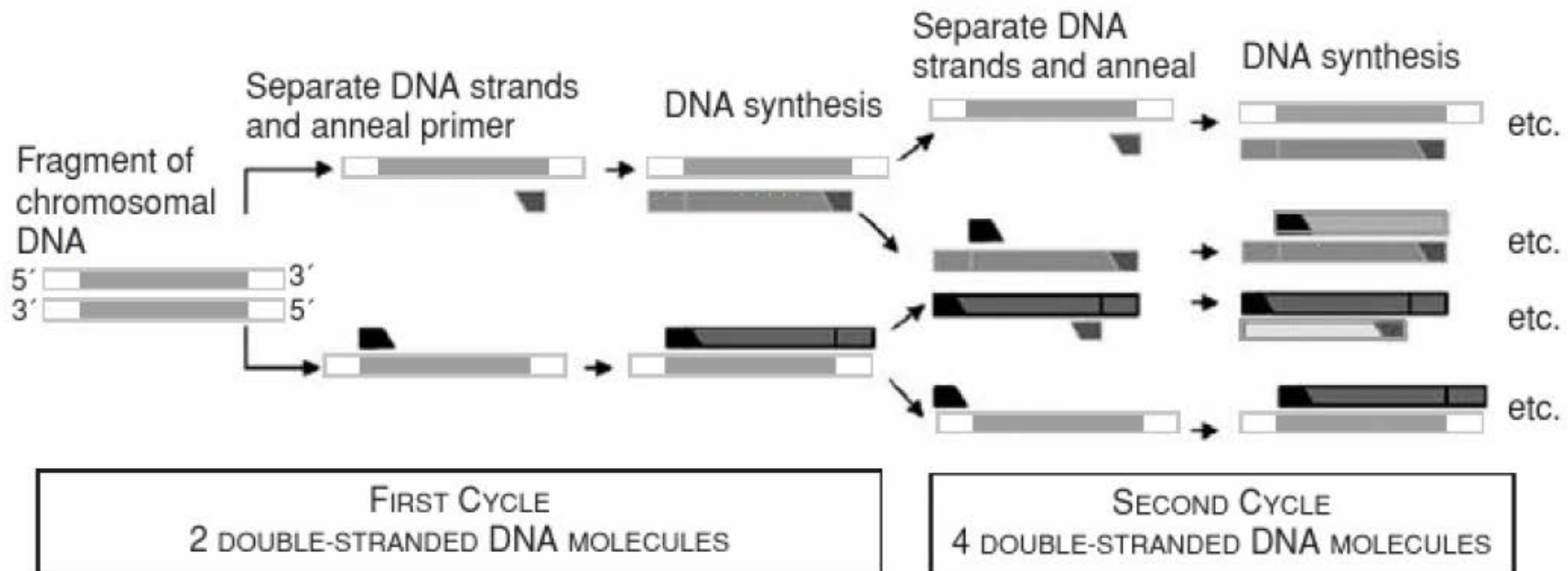


Transform



Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR)

- ▶ An engineering method to clone DNA
- ▶ Use DNA polymerase (Tag)





Biomedical Application of Genetic Engineering



Making human protein in bacteria

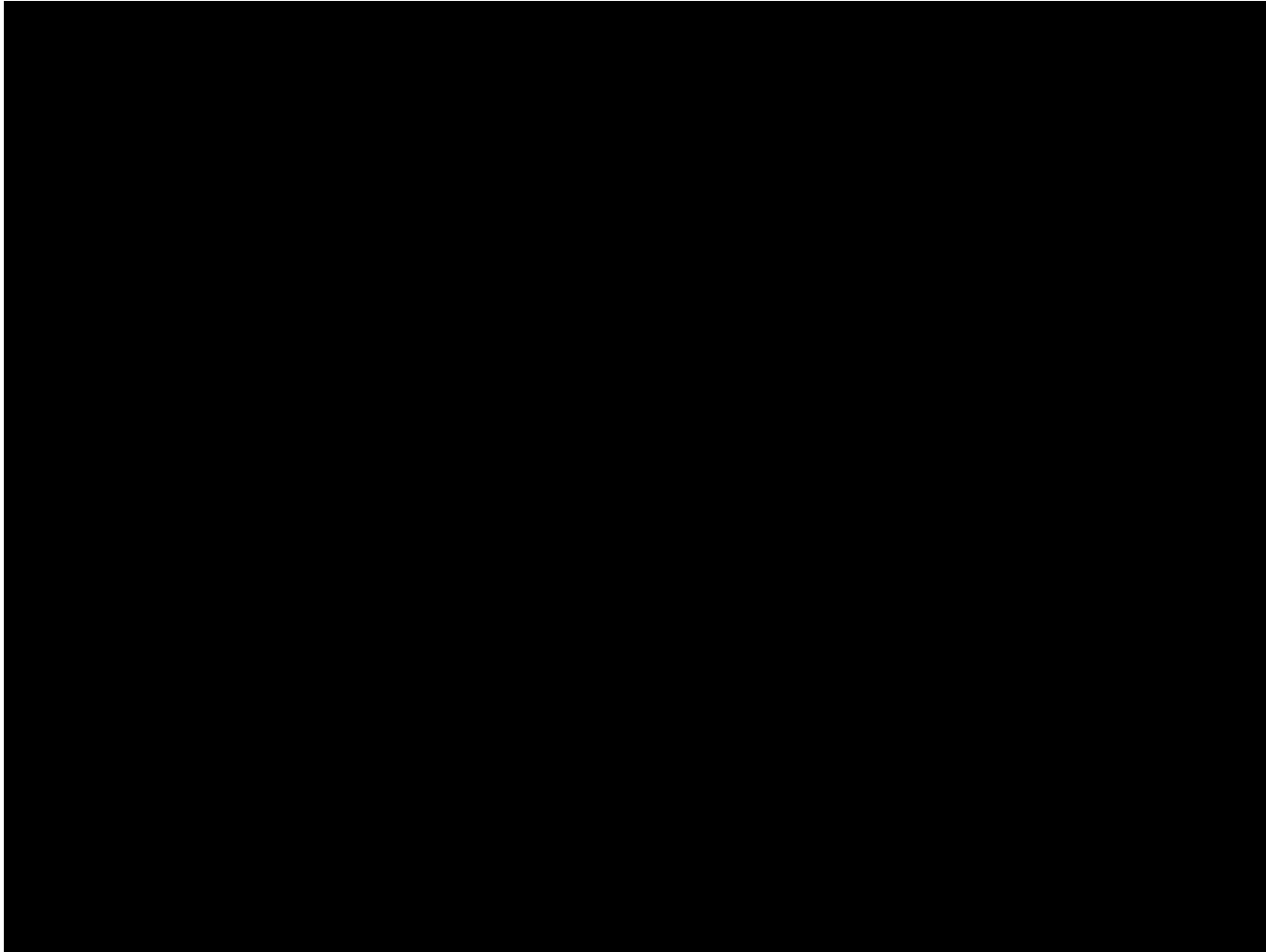
- ▶ Prior to DNA technology, insulin was extract from animals, similar, but not identical
- ▶ Make plasmid containing human gene encoding insulin
- ▶ Insert the plasmid to bacteria, which will produce human insulin as they translate the plasmid DNA
- ▶ Genentech developed the technology for recombinant human insulin, and approved for use in treating human diabetes in 1983.



Make human protein in bacteria



Insulin from Bacterial

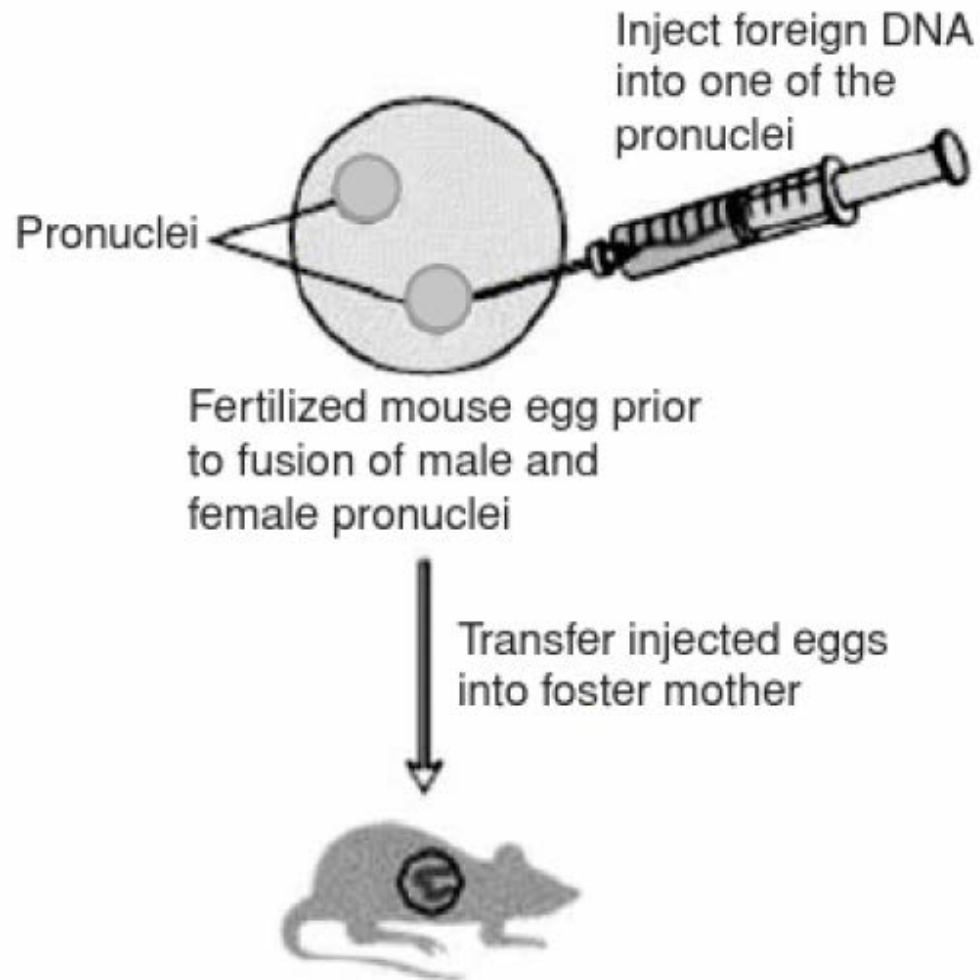


Animal models of human diseases

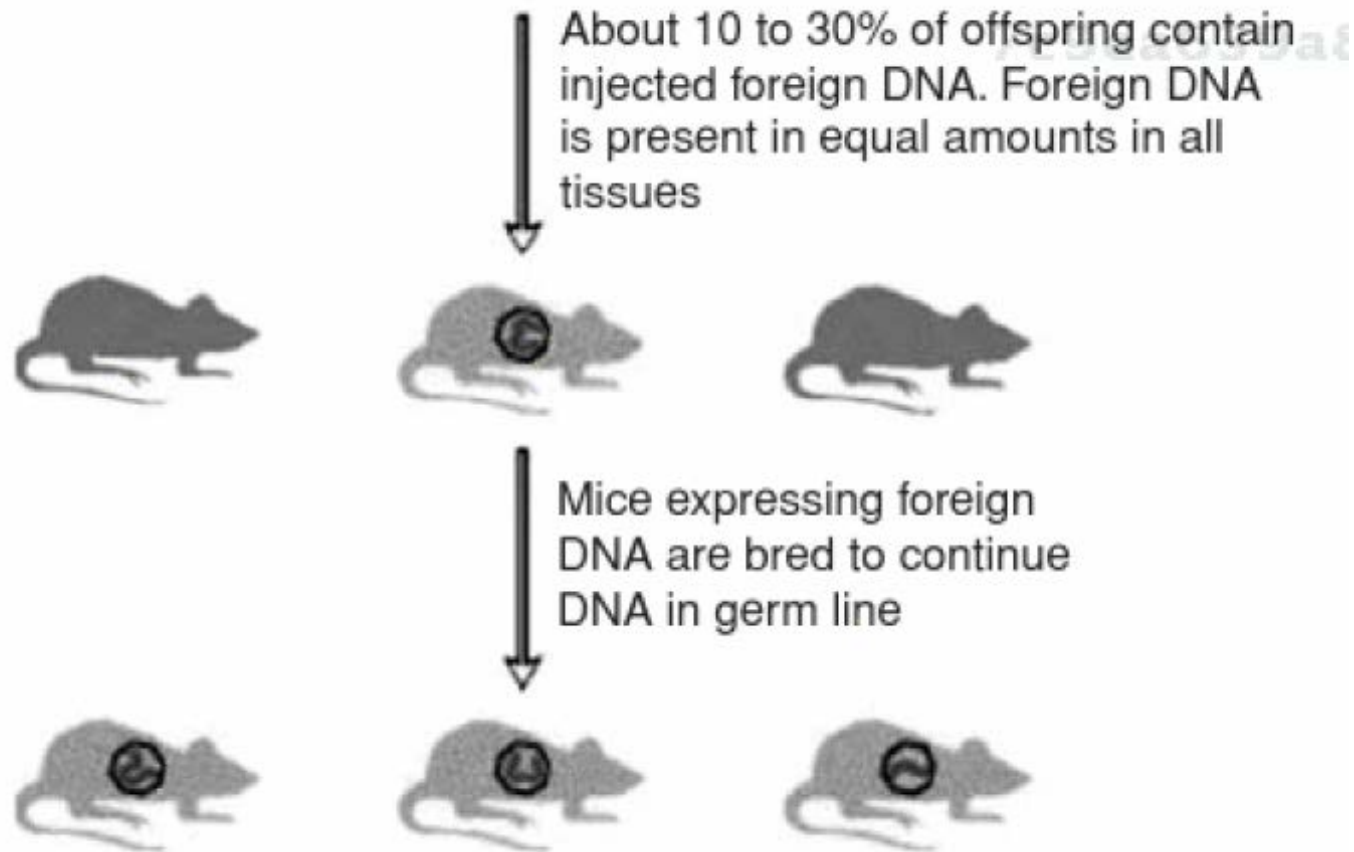
- ▶ The genome of rodents and other animals can be altered by recombinant DNA technique to produce phenotypes that mimic human diseases: **transgenic animals**



Animal models of human diseases



Animal models of human diseases



Gene Therapy

Disease	Location of Defect	Incidence	Treatment
Lesch–Nyhan syndrome	Enzyme involved Hypoxanthine–guanine phosphoribosyltransferase	1 in 100,000–380,000 (males only)	
Adenosine deaminase deficiency	Adenosine deaminase		Enzyme infusion; gene therapy
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Goal of gene therapy:

Management and correction of human diseases

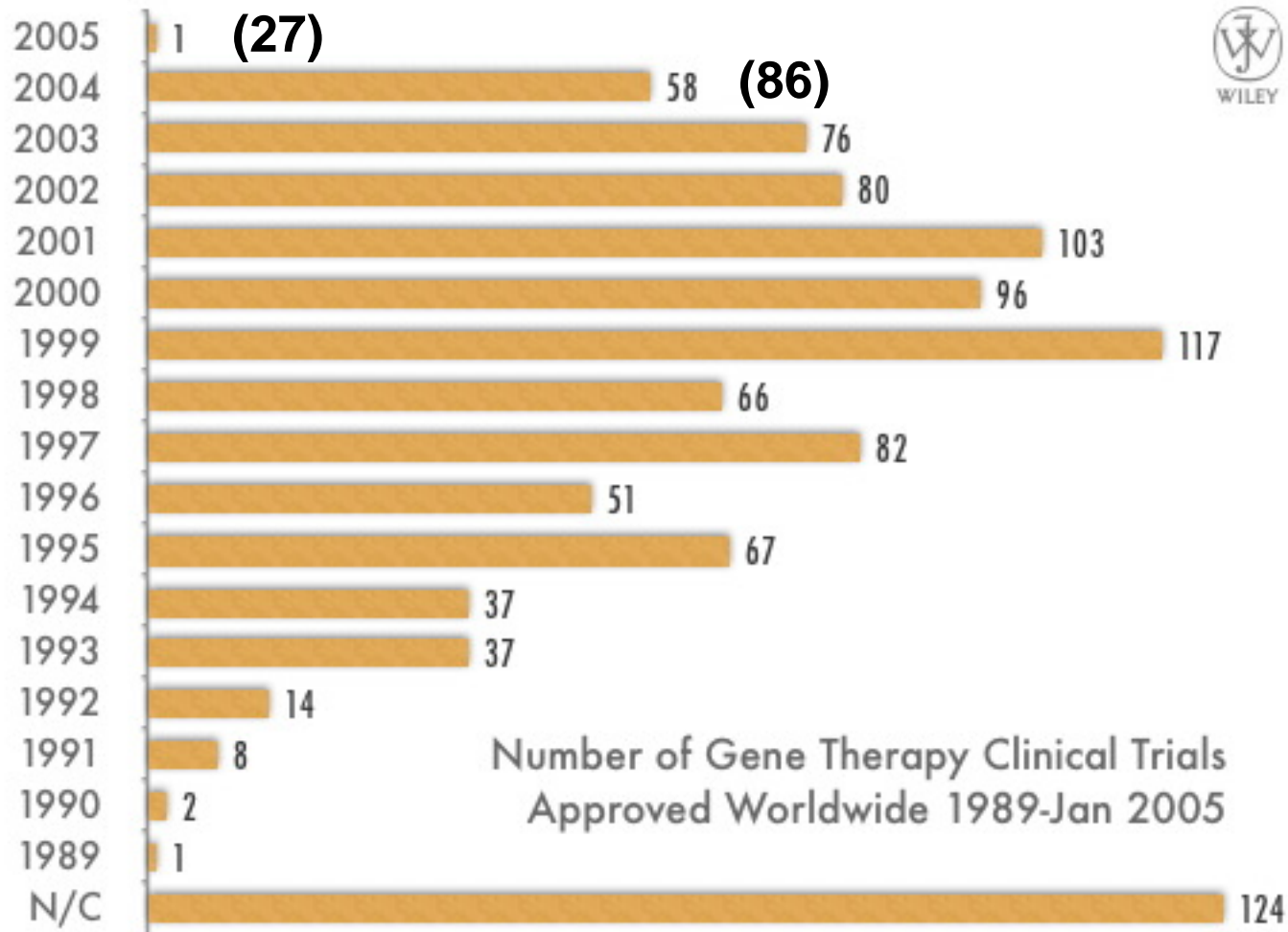
- a. Inherited and acquired disorders**
- b. cancer**
- c. AIDS/HIV**

Good news: Promising advances during the last two decades in recombinant DNA technology.

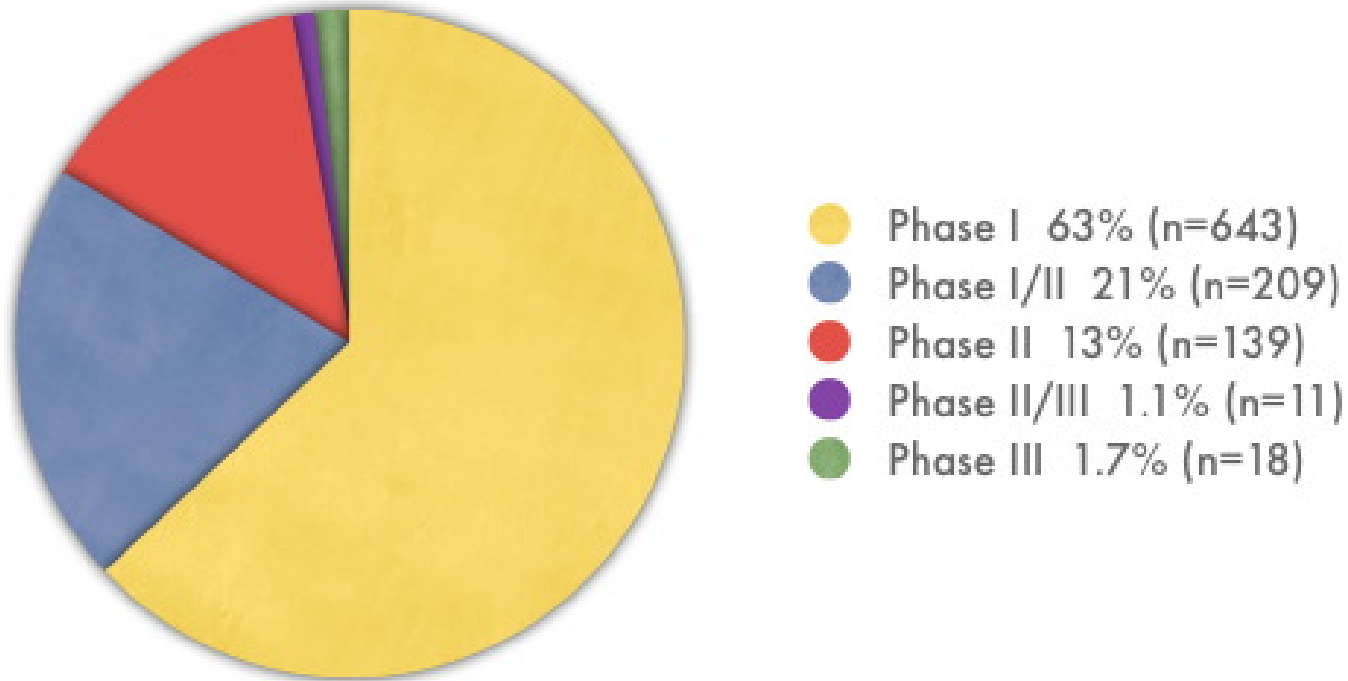
Bad news: (Until recently?) Efficacy in any gene therapy protocol is not definitive.

- 1. Shortcomings in gene transfer vectors.**
- 2. Inadequate understanding of biological interactions of vector and host.**





Phases of Gene Therapy Clinical Trials



Genetic diseases:

Type 1: Single locus (gene) is defective and responsible for the disease, 100% heritable.

examples: Sickle cell anemia,
Hypercholesterolemia
Cystic fibrosis

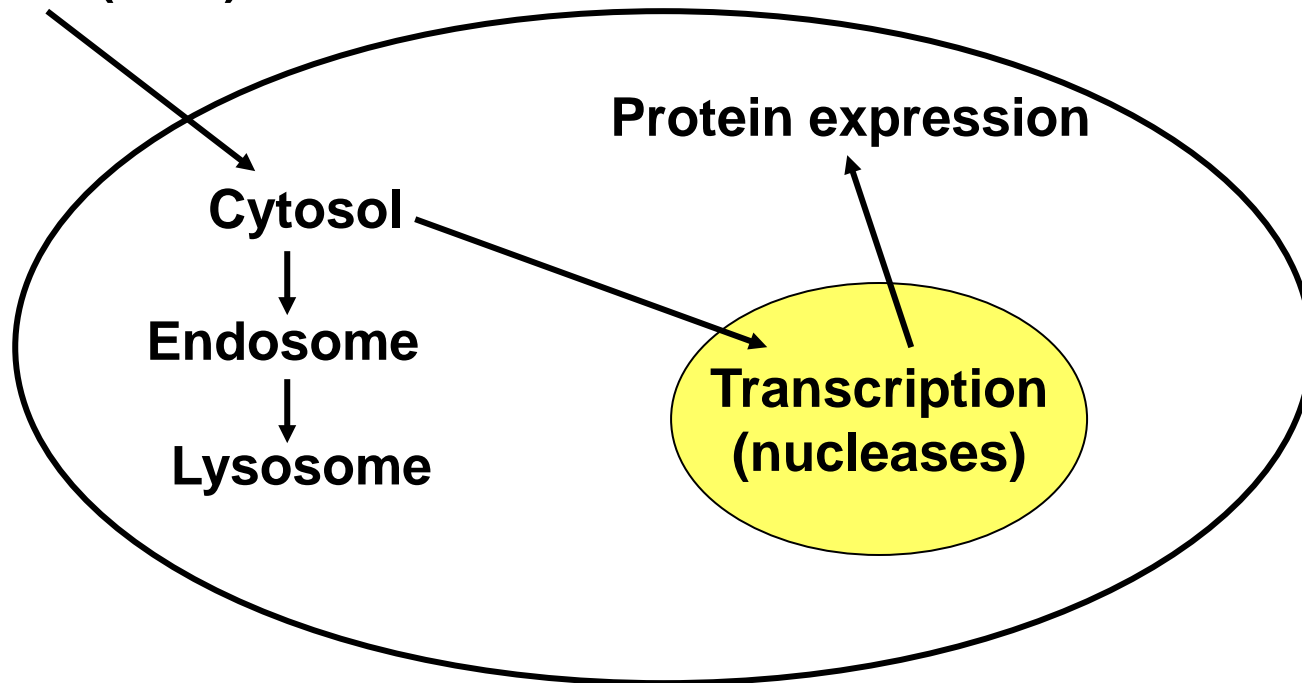
Type 2: Polygenic traits, <100% heritable, may be dependent on environmental factors and lifestyle.

examples: Heart disease
Cancer
Diabetes
Alcoholism
Schizophrenia
Criminal behavior?
etc....?



Gene Transfer

Exogenous DNA
+ vector (viral)



Barriers that prevent transfer of exogenous DNA



Vectors for gene transfer:

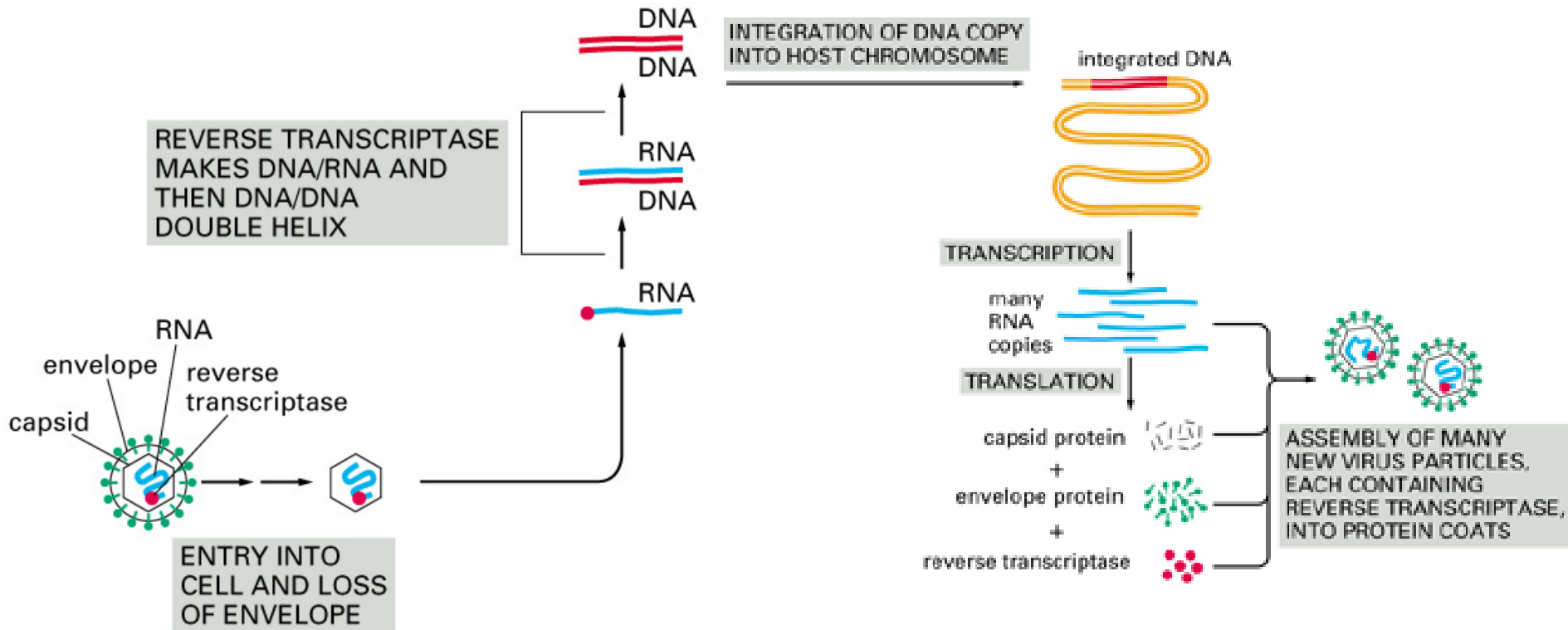
Retroviruses: promising candidates and widely used.

- Insert genetic material into host DNA.
- Insertion may disrupt a host gene.
- Insertion may be in a region that doesn't produce very much of the desired protein
- Can trigger immune response.

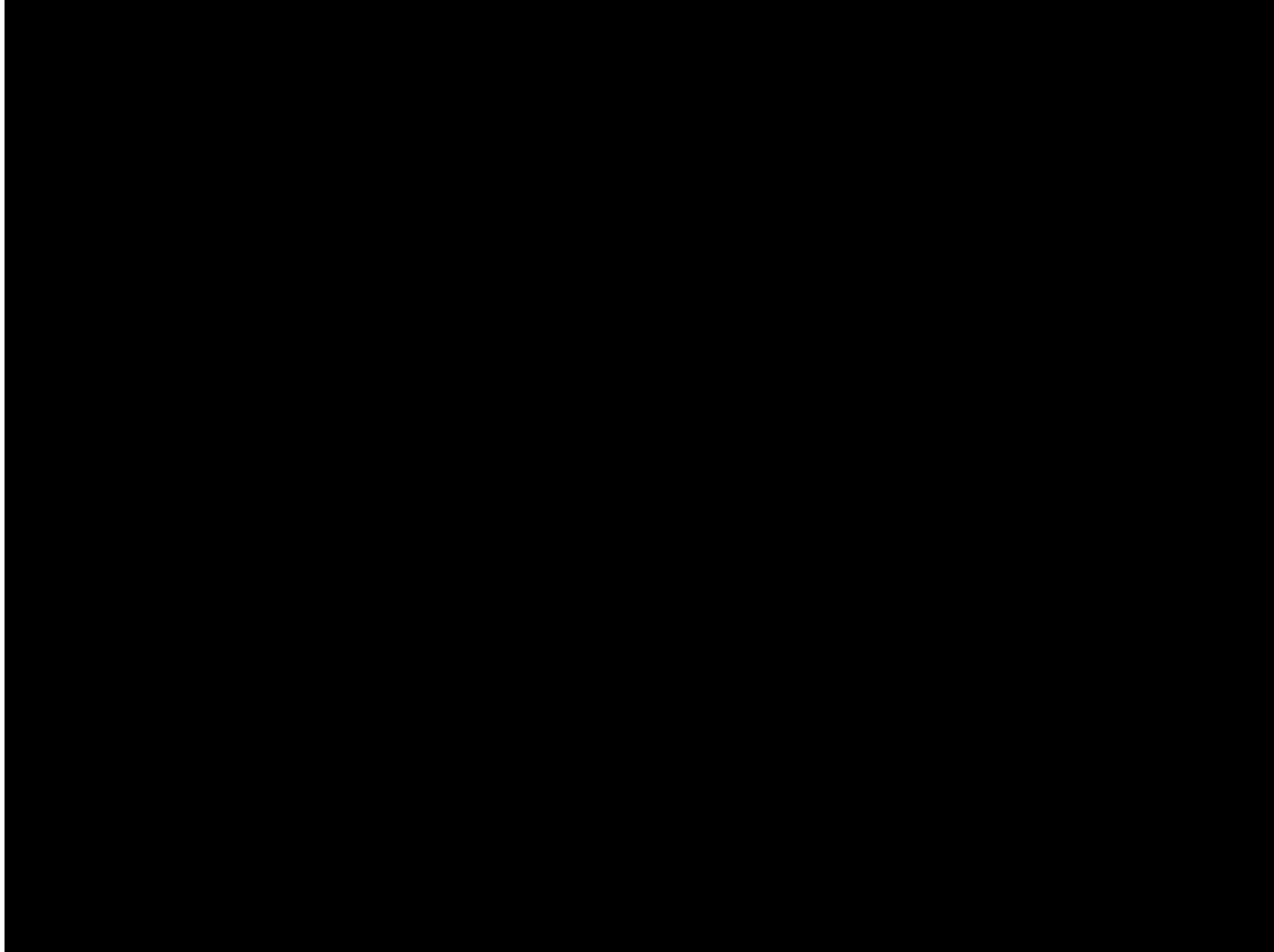
Ideal vector characteristics:

- Insert size: one or more genes.
- Targeted: limited to a cell type.
- No immune response.
- Stable: not mutated.
- Production: easy to produce high concentrations (titer).
- Effective: produce enough protein to cause an effect.

Retrovirus life cycle



Retrovirus life cycle

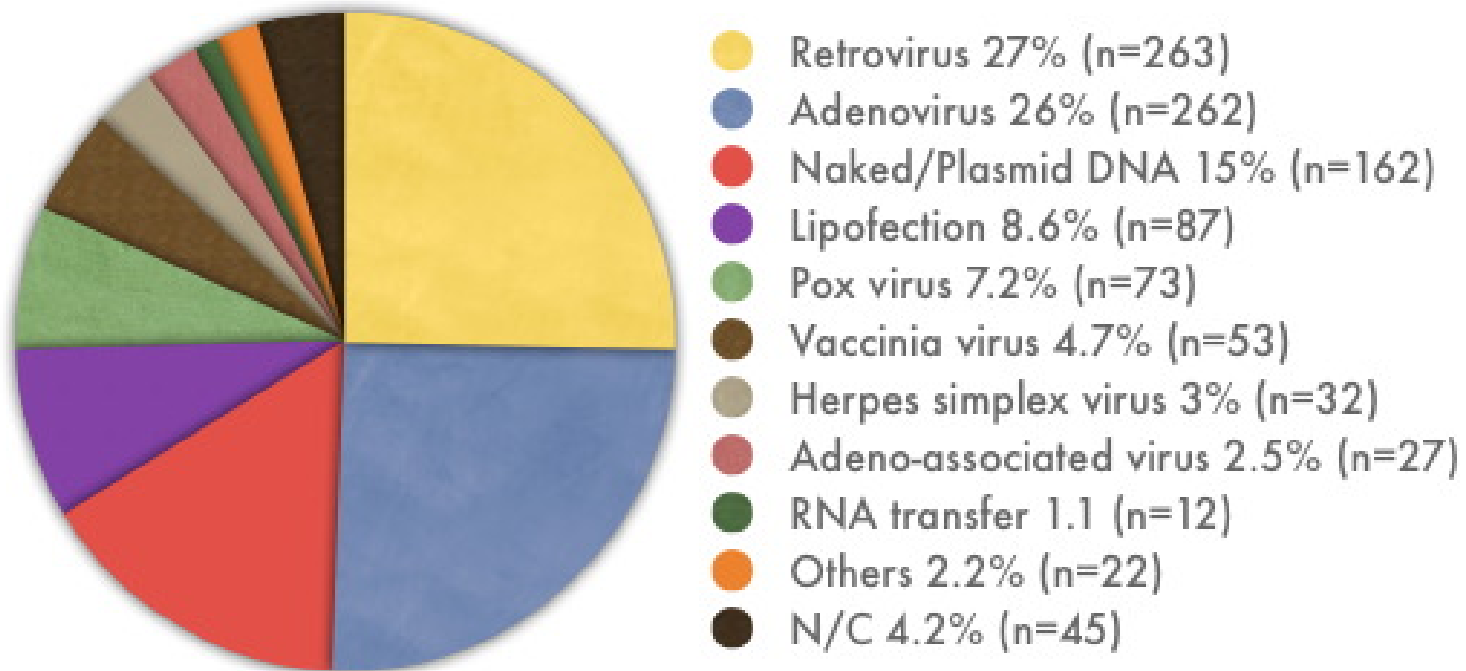


Retrovirus as delivery vectors

- Retrovirus with replication defective can be used as gene delivery vectors.
- Genome integration of inserted gene
 - Stable expression
 - Random insertion into genome, may disrupt normal genome function
 - Only transduce dividing cells
 - Less than 7kb gene



Vectors Used in Gene Therapy Clinical Trials



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www.wiley.co.uk/genmed/clinical

Non-viral DNA carriers:

Cationic liposomes: Positively charged lipids interact with negatively charged DNA. (lipid-DNA complex).

-Transverses cell membranes

Advantages:

- a. Stable complex**
- b. Can carry large sized DNA**
- c. Can target to specific cells**
- d. Does not induce immunological reactions.**

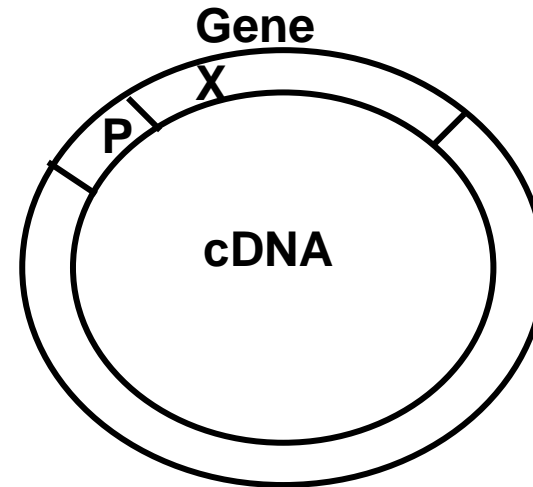
Disadvantages:

- a. Low transfection efficiency**
- b. Transient expression**
- c. Inhibited by serum**
- d. Some cell toxicity**

Non-viral DNA carriers:

2. Naked plasmid DNA injection

Promoter + gene of interest
(P) (gene X)



Expression observed in thymus, skeletal and cardiac muscle, skin.

Gene therapy to turn off genes:

Antisense approach:

***DNA makes mRNA, mRNA makes protein.**

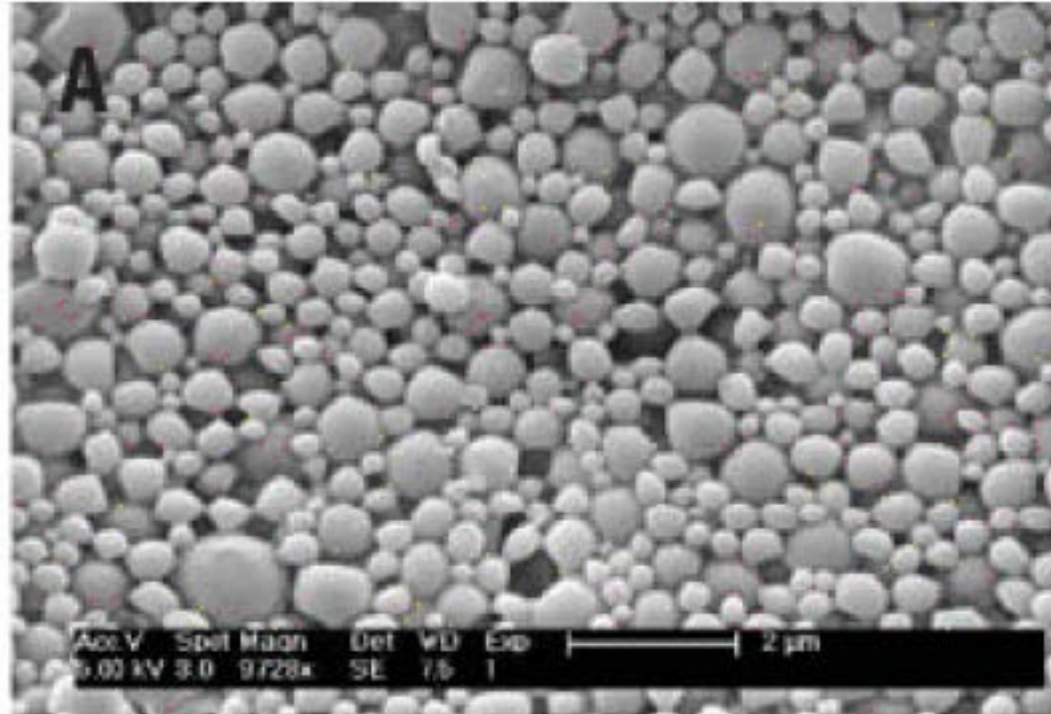
Antisense complements mRNA (sense) and prevents protein expression.

***Small interfering RNA (siRNA) molecules.**

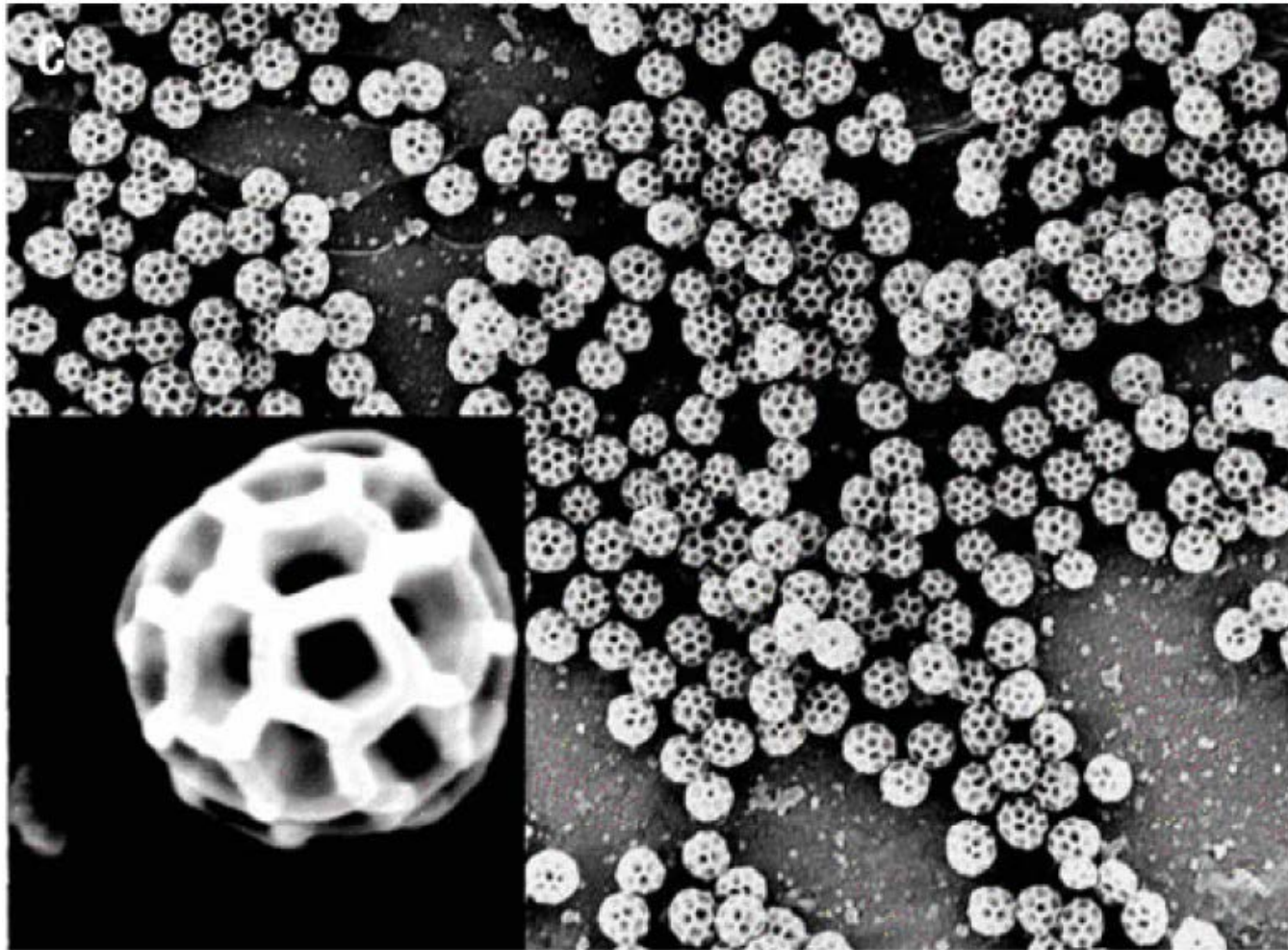
The silent treatment: siRNAs as small molecule drugs.

***Ribozymes**

Non-viral Gene Delivery Methods:



Non-viral Gene Delivery Methods:



Case study: Jesse Gelsinger

***First documented patient to die from gene therapy treatment. (may have been others).**

Disease: liver enzyme deficiency
(ornithine transcarbamylase, OTC) – controls ammonia metabolism

- **Vector used to deliver OTC – modified adenovirus**

Goal: deliver vector to liver cells and express OTC.

Problem: Very low transfer efficiency (1%), difficult to get enough functioning OTC expressed to do any good.

Solution: Infect with higher dose of viral particles.
(38 trillion)



Outcome:

- Vector not only delivered gene to liver but to other tissue.**
- Triggered systemic inflammatory response.**
- Patient acquired fever, coma, death.**

Why?

- Animal studies suggested dose was OK (?).**
- Adenoviral vectors known to induce inflammatory response.**
- Patient already compromised:**
 - Patient had higher than allowed ammonia levels.**

Results of follow-up investigation:

-3 month investigation by FDA concluded.

- patient enrollment in study despite ineligibility.
- participants misled on safety and toxicity issues.
- loosening of criteria for accepting volunteers.
- informed consent document did not reveal results of animal studies.

*** Other investigators may not have disclosed important information on patient deaths in gene therapy trials.**

- **Adenovirus safety: Engineered to prevent viral replication.**
- **Mutation from replication incompetent to competent?**
- **Shut down of Univ. of Penn. Institute for Human Gene Therapy**
- **Lawsuits**

Some successes:

Treatment of Severe Combined Immuno Deficiency (SCID)

- Genetic defects cause decreased T and B cells and NK cells.
- Affects 1-75,000 births.
- Mostly males (most common form is X-linked)
- Types: ADA (adenine deaminase) or Gamma chain (γ c).
- Success in treating children observed in Italy, Israel, England, France, and USA.
- Phase 1 trial: collect bone marrow, isolate CD34⁺ stem cells, and infect with retroviral vector containing the gene encoding the γ -common chain. Inject two infants with 14-26 million CD34⁺ cells/kg (5- 9 million contained the introduced gene).

Recent successes continued:

Phase I clinical trials results:

Detectable levels of NK and T cells containing the introduced gene were found in the blood within 30 and 60 days, respectively, and their numbers increased progressively until normal levels were reached. After 3 months, the two patients were also able to make antibodies in response to vaccination against diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis.

10/3/02: France and US (FDA) halted SCID gene therapy due to leukemia-like side effects in one child. Not clear whether this is related to the gene therapy itself.

1/14/03: FDA suspended 30 gene therapy trials using retrovirus vectors due to another case of leukemia.

Human Genome Project

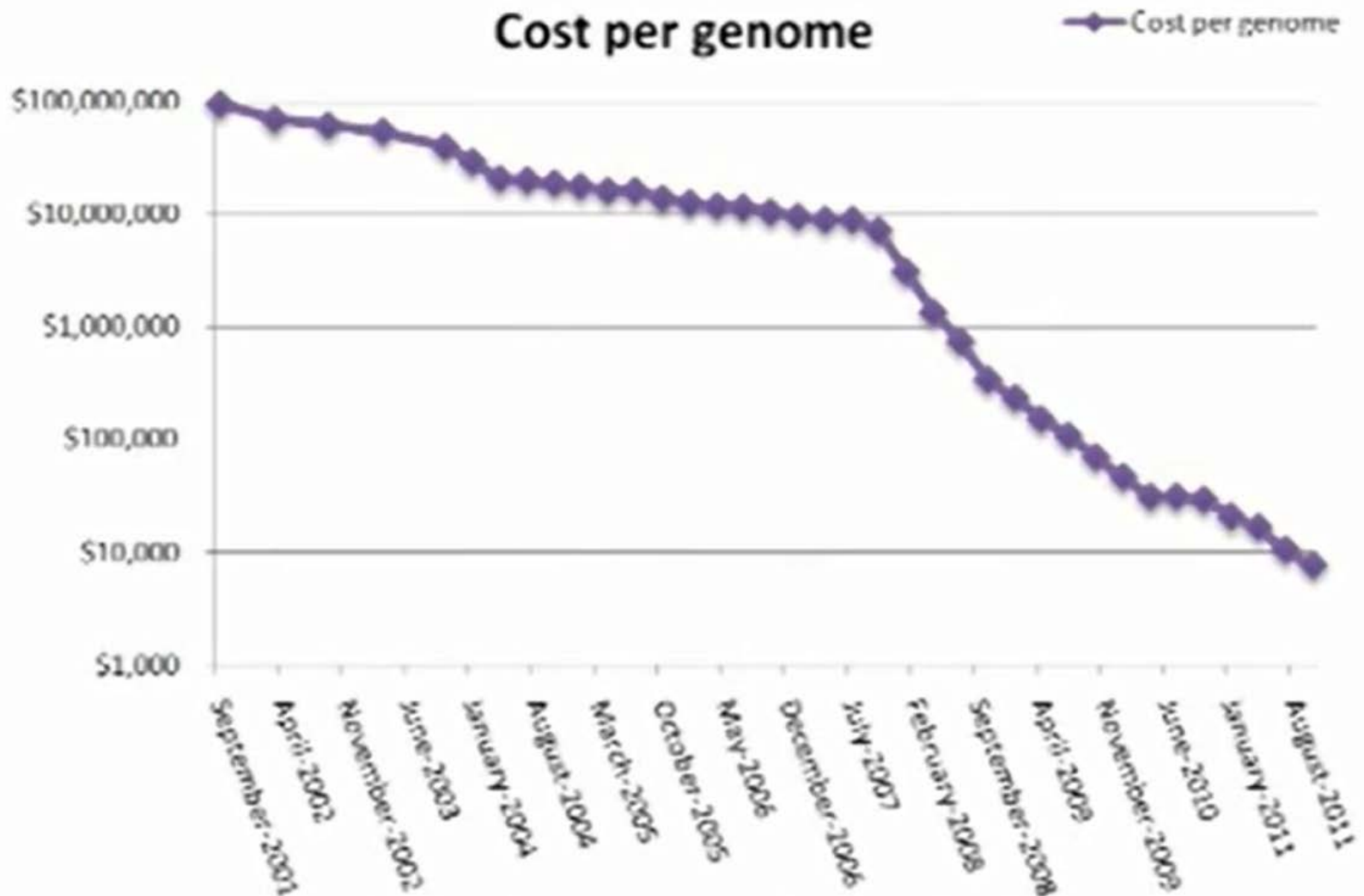


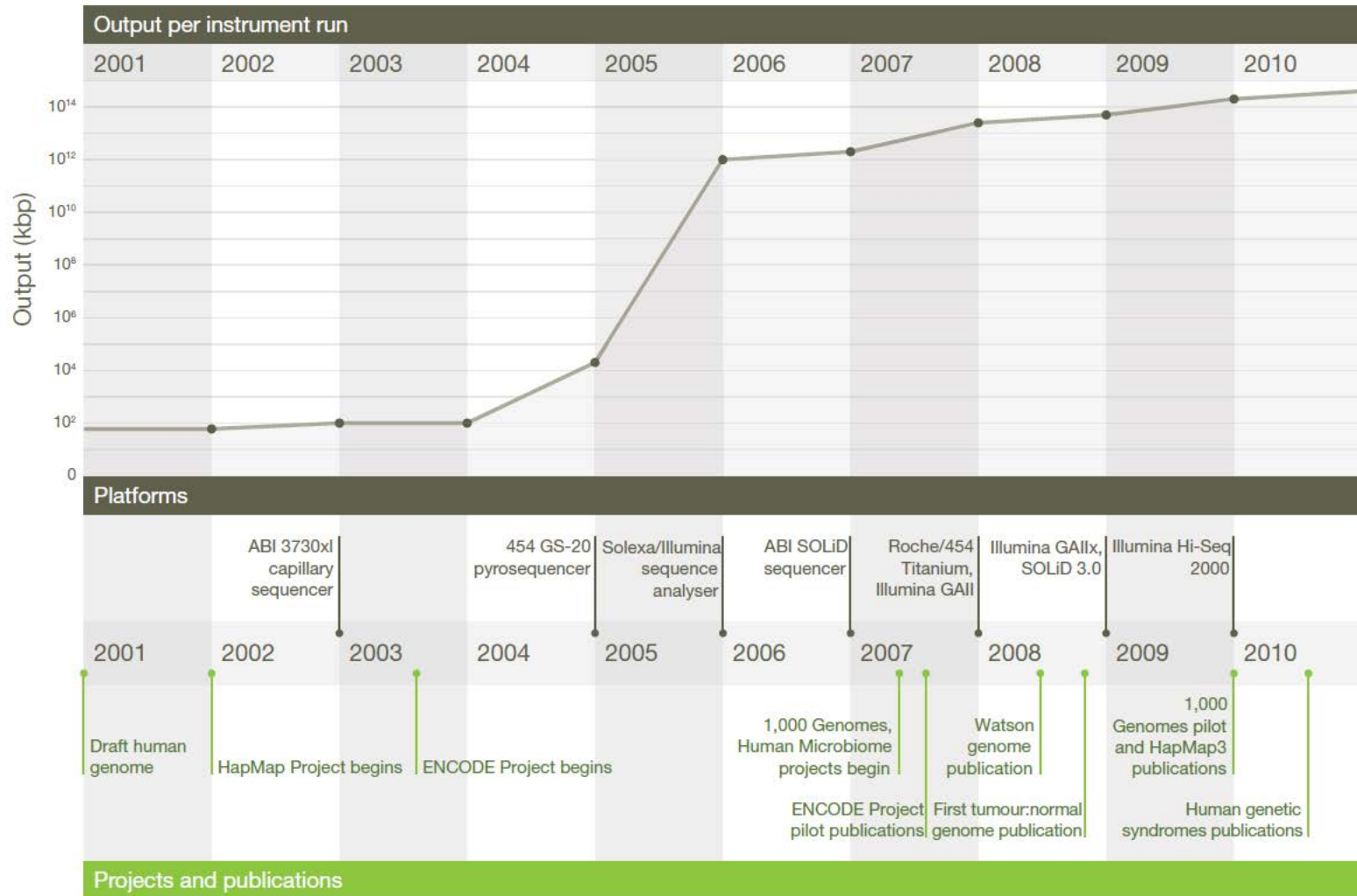
Impacting
many
disciplines

Courtesy
U.S. Department of Energy
Human Genome Program

*Global Carbon Cycles
Industrial Resources • Bioremediation
Evolutionary Biology • Biofuels • Agriculture • Forensics
Molecular and Nuclear Medicine • Health Risks*

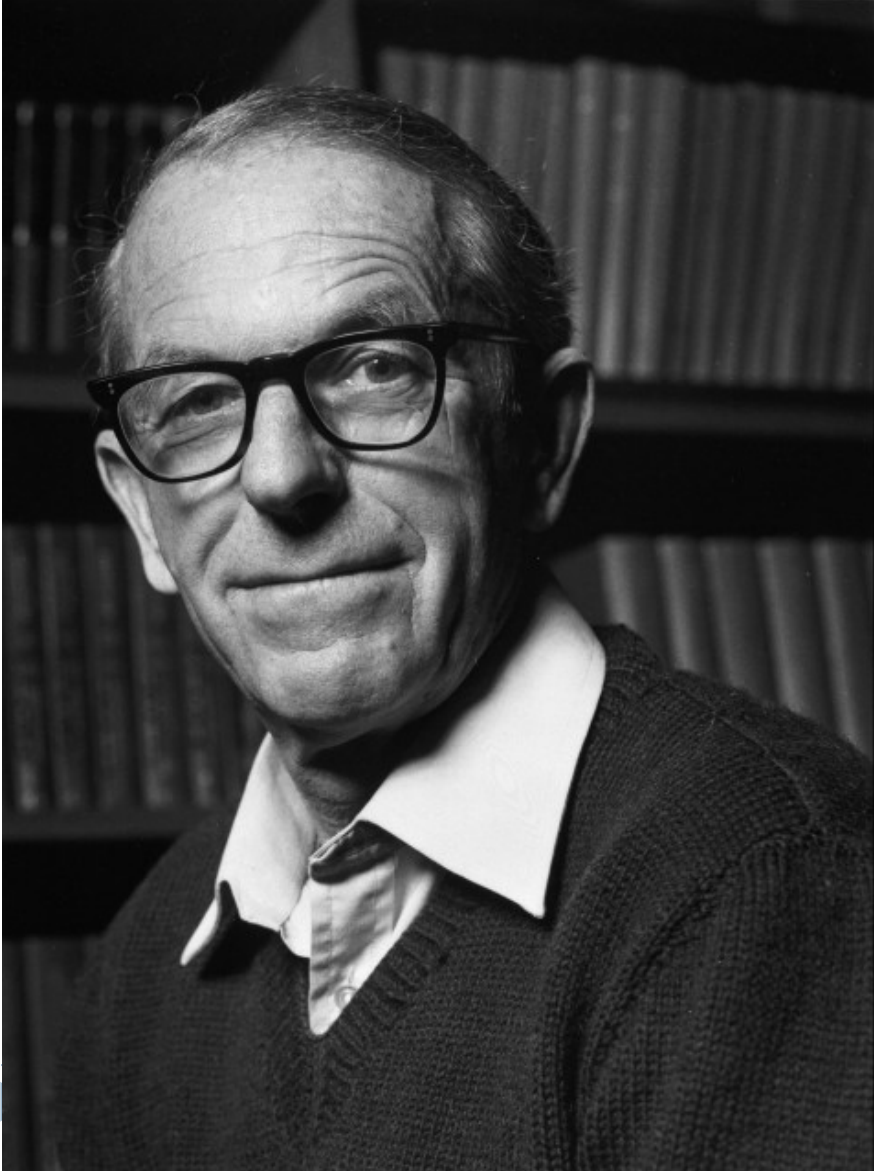
DNA sequencing technology





Frederick Sanger

1918-



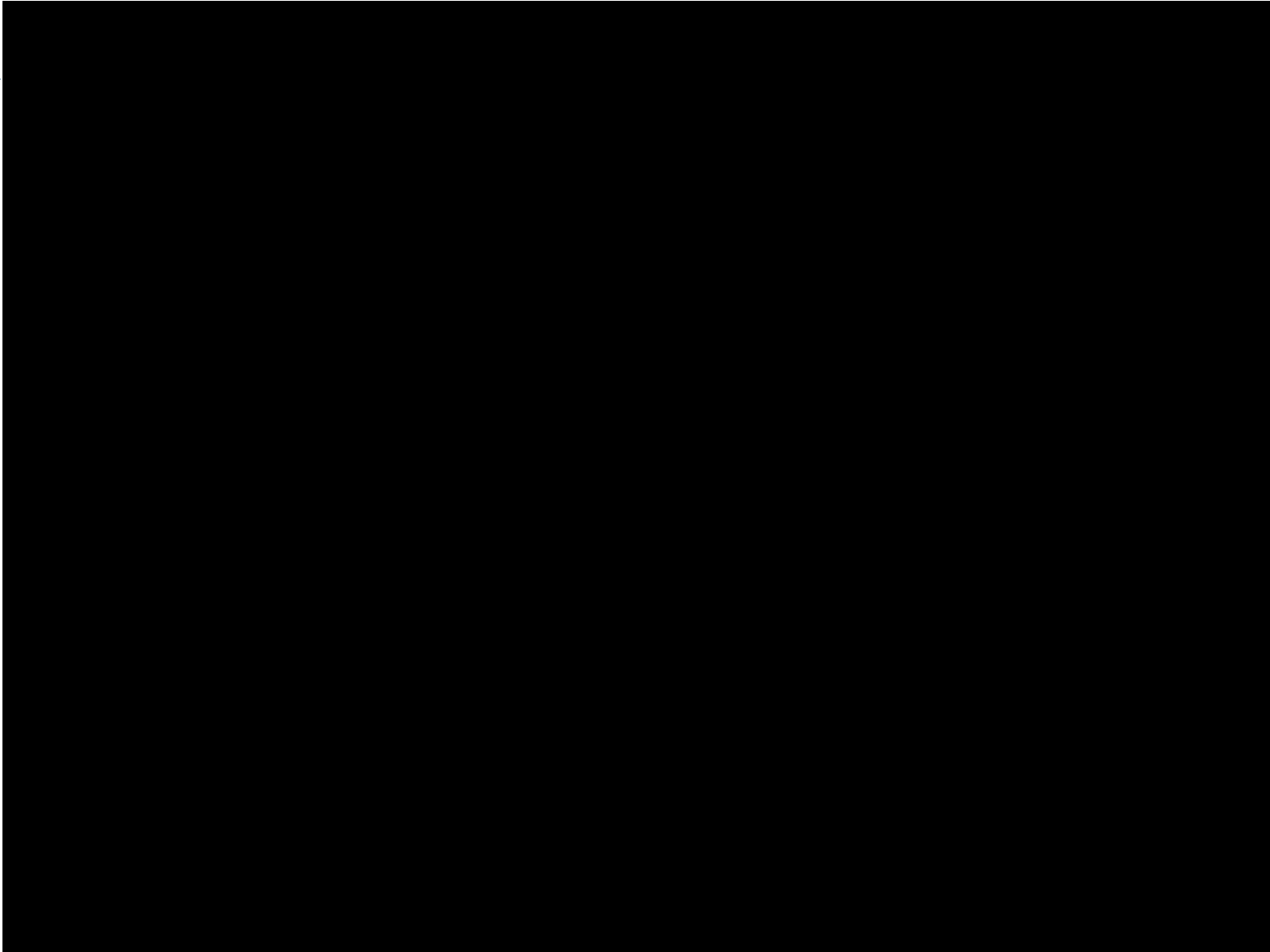
Sanger is the only chemist to have received two Nobel Prizes in Chemistry, the first as the sole recipient in 1958 for his work as the first to sequence a protein, the sequencing of insulin; and the second in 1980, shared with Paul Berg and Walter Gilbert, for the sequencing of nucleic acids.

Dideoxy (Sanger) Method

► 4 Steps:

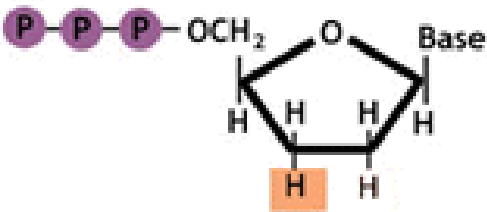
1. Denaturation
2. Primer attachment and extension of bases
3. Termination
4. Gel electrophoresis



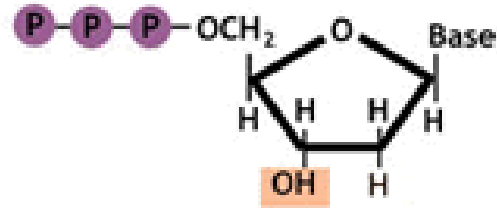




Sanger Method: Dideoxy Chain Termination



dideoxynucleotide (ddNTP)



deoxynucleotide (dNTP)

ddGTP ddATP ddCTP ddTTP



Add ddGTP, ddATP, ddCTP, ddTTP, one to each of four tubes containing target DNA. Load each onto a separate lane on a gel.

300-500 bases

G A C T

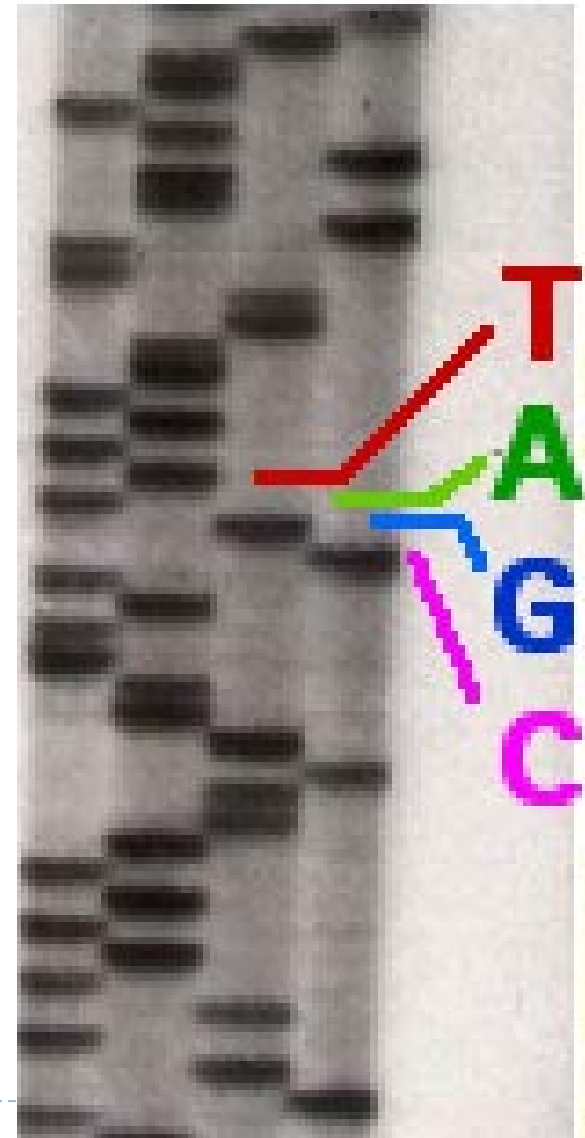
Largest

To sequence, read the order of bases from the smallest to the largest.

TCGAAGACGTATC

Smallest

A T G C



Deep Sequencing or 2nd Generation Sequencing Technology





A “Pyrosequencing” method.

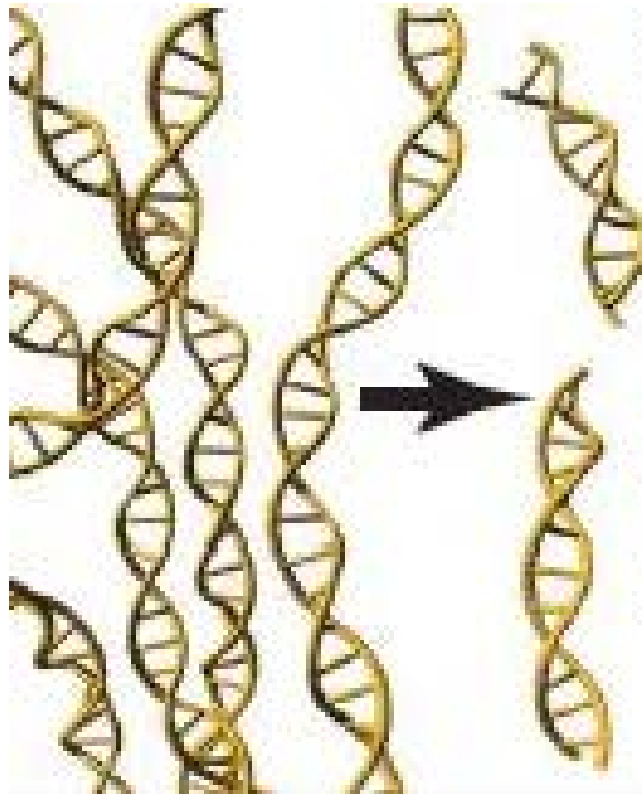
System Workflow:

- One Fragment = One Bead = One Read
- Four main steps:
 - Generation of a single-stranded template DNA library
 - Emulsion-based clonal amplification of the library
 - Data generation via sequencing-by-synthesis
 - Data analysis using different bioinformatics tools



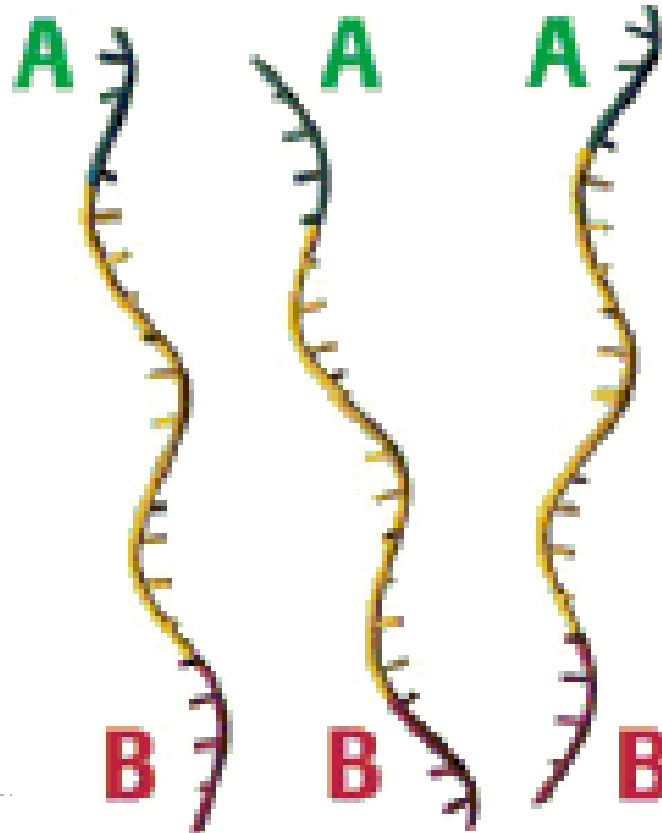
The Roche 454/GS FLX Sequencing Technology

I. Samples consisting of longer sequences are first sheared into a random library of 300-800 base-pair long fragments.



2. Adaptors essential for purification, amplification and sequencing are added to both ends of the fragments.
-

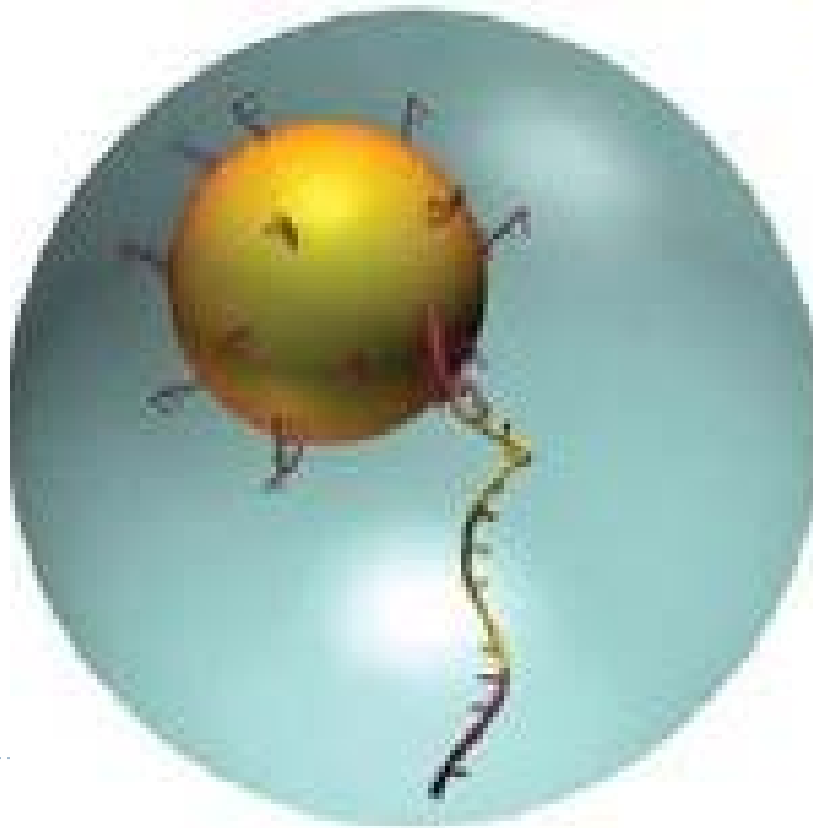
If the sample is double stranded one strand is removed and the remaining single strands are used in the following steps.



3. Using the adaptors, individual fragments are captured on own unique beads.

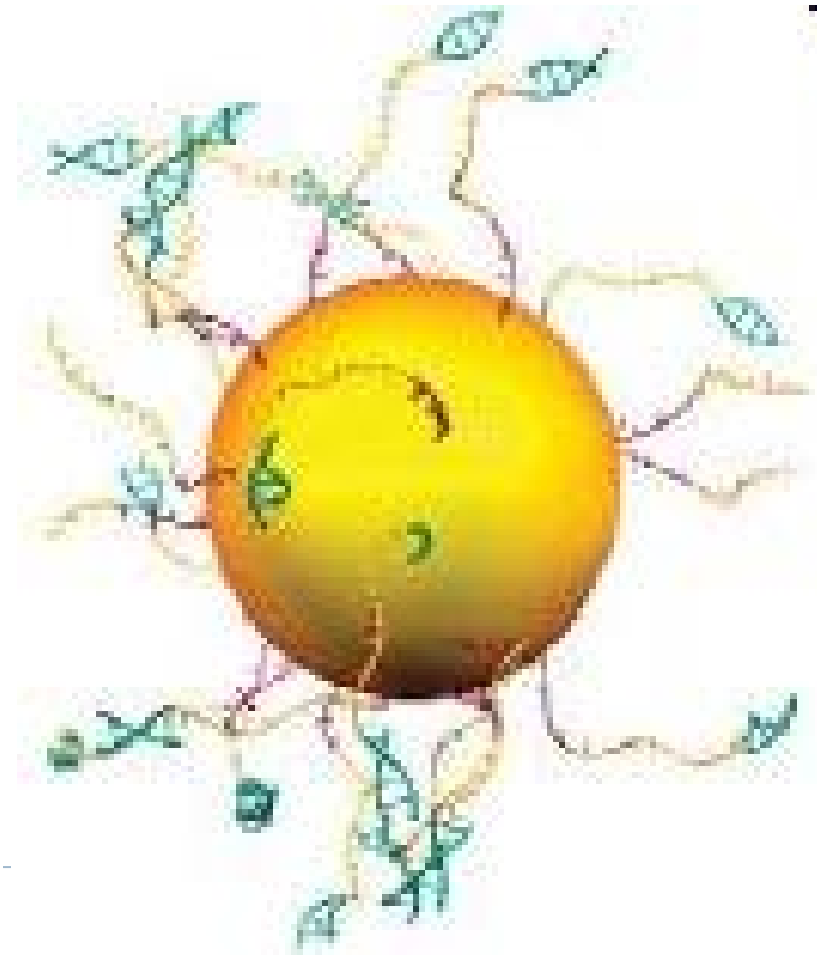
A bead and the bound fragment together with a water-in-oil emulsion form a microreactor so that each fragment can be amplified without contamination via the so called emulsion PCR (emPCR).

The entire fragment collection is amplified in parallel.

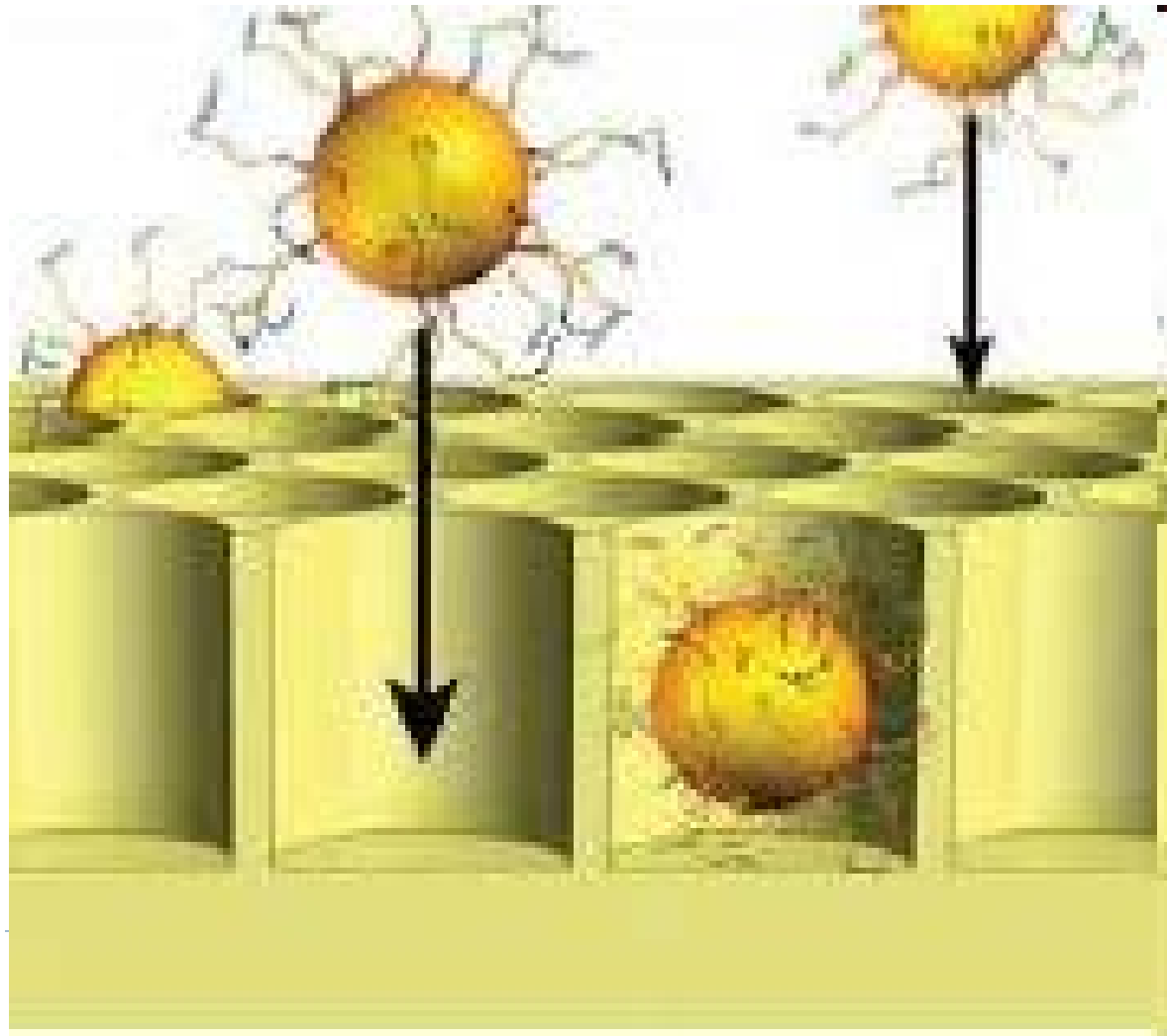


4. The emPCR amplifies each fragment several million times.

After amplification, the emulsion shell is broken and the clonally amplified beads are ready for loading onto the fibre-optic PicoTiterDevice for sequencing.



5. The PicoTiterPlate is loaded with one fragment carrying bead per well and smaller beads with the enzymes necessary for sequencing.



6. Sequencing is accomplished by synthesizing the complementary strands of the bead attached templates.

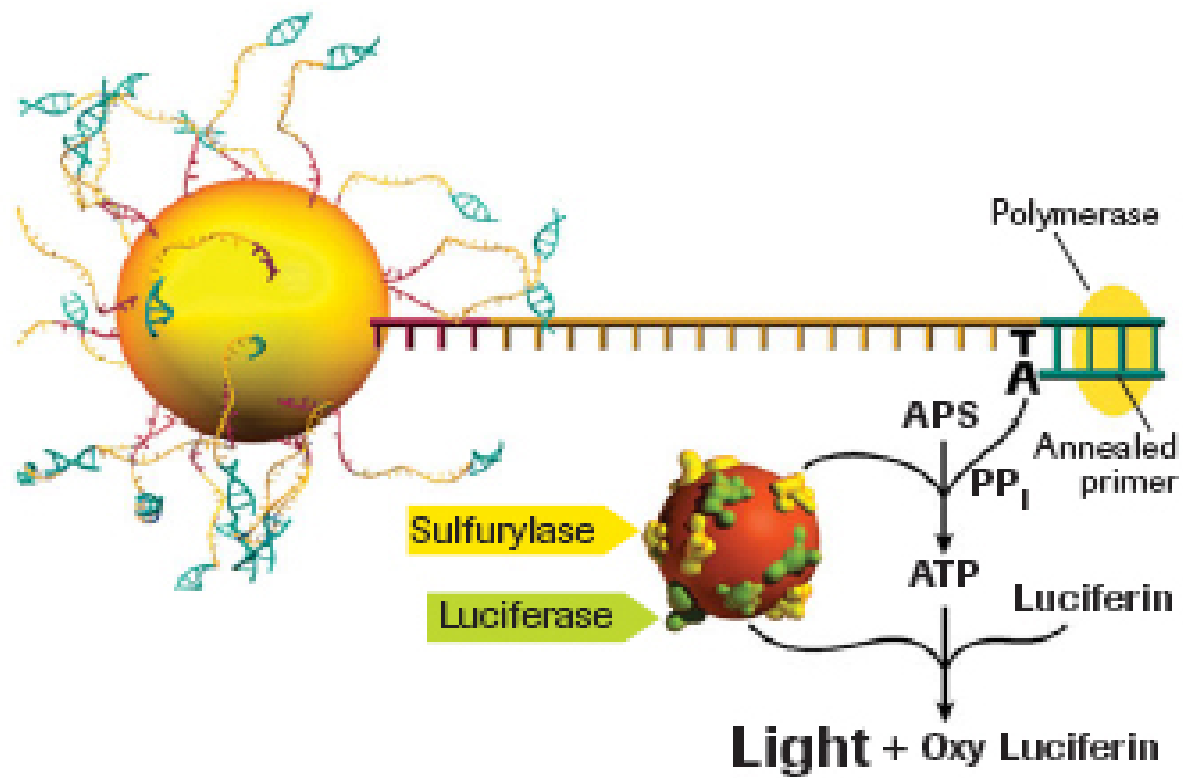
In a number of cycles the four bases (ATGC) are sequentially washed over the PicoTiterPlate.

The incorporation of a new base is associated with the release of inorganic pyrophosphate starting a chemical cascade.

This results in the generation of a light signal which is captured by a CCD camera.

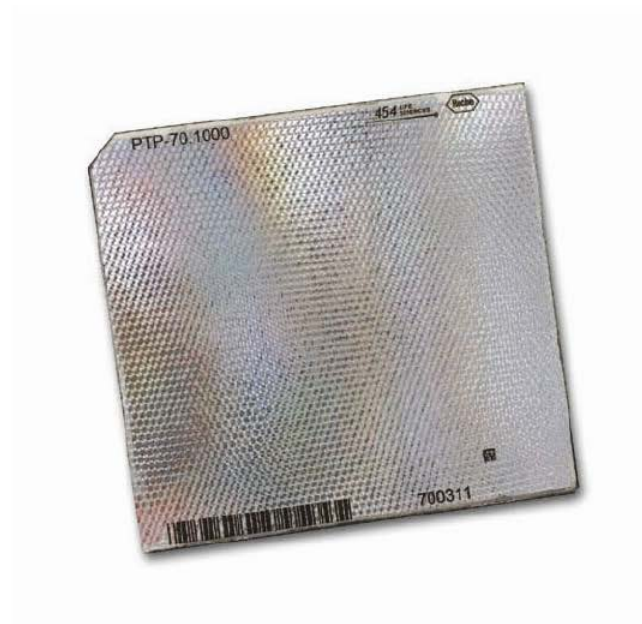
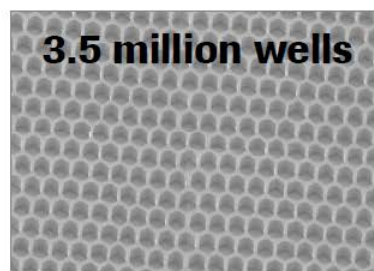
The released PPI is converted to ATP with adenosine 5'-phosphosulfate (APS) and ATP sulfurylase.

The ATP is used by luciferase in the metabolism of luciferin, which emits photons.



GS FLX Titanium Series

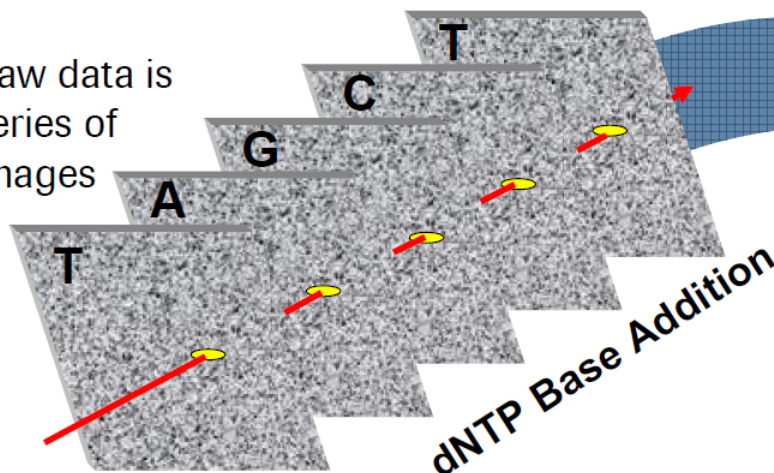
PicoTiterPlate Device



Genome Sequencer FLX Instrument Data

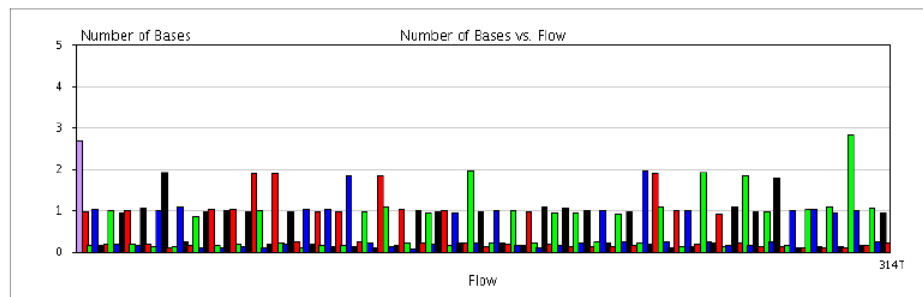
Image Processing Overview

1. Raw data is series of images



2. Each well's data extracted, quantified and normalized

3. Read data converted into "flowgrams"



3rd Generation

