

2013 7.03 Exam 2 Review Sheet

Phage Genetics

- How does λ (Pam int-::Tn5) phage mutagenesis work?
- How does P1 phage cotransduction work?
 - o For 2 factors – to determine the frequency of cotransduction (linkage).
 - o For 3 factors – to determine the order of genes.

Bacterial Genetics

- Conjugation
 - o How do bacteria exchange genetic material by conjugation?
- F⁺ bacteria and F⁻ bacteria
 - o What is F⁺ bacteria? What is F⁻ bacteria?
 - o How can F⁺ bacteria transfer its F-plasmid to F⁻ bacteria?
- Hfr bacteria
 - o How does Hfr arise from F⁺ bacteria via integration of F-plasmid into chromosome?
 - o How does Hfr transfer its chromosomal DNA to F⁻ bacteria (by DNA replication, transfer through the pilus, and integration by double crossovers)?
 - o What genes are transferred early? What are transferred late?
 - o Closer genes are co-transferred more frequently.
- F' bacteria
 - o How does F' bacteria arise from Hfr bacteria via a looping event (single cross over) of bacterial chromosome to generate a F' plasmid?
 - o How is the F' plasmid different from the F-plasmid?
 - o How does a F' plasmid transfer bacterial DNA to a F⁻ bacteria?
 - o How is this transfer of bacterial DNA different from Hfr?

Regulatory Pathways in Prokaryotes (e.g. bacteria) and Eukaryotes (e.g. yeast)

- Lac Operon and Mal Operon (bacteria); Gal4-Gal80 pathway (yeast).
- Types of mutations in a regulatory pathway:
 - o Cis-regulatory elements/ DNA sequences:
 - Promoter, operator (in bacteria);
 - Promoter, UAS, URS (in yeast).
 - o Trans-regulatory elements/ diffusible factors:
 - Activator (loss-of-function, dominant-negative activator, super-activator)
 - Repressor (loss-of-function, dominant-negative repressor, super-repressor)
- How to assess the phenotype:
 - o Measure the gene product (e.g. LacZ activity).
 - o Insert a reporter into the operon, downstream of the gene of interest. (Promoter of gene A – GeneA – Reporter)
 - o Place reporter downstream of the cis-regulatory sequences of gene of interest, replacing the coding sequence of the gene. (Promoter of gene A – Reporter)
- Regulated pathway (inducible) VS dis-regulated pathway (uninducible or constitutive).
- How to set up the test and interpret the results for
 - o recessive VS dominant mutation?
 - o mutation in same gene VS different genes?
 - o cis VS trans acting components?
- Epistasis test - identify order of components in a linear pathway
 - o Require distinct phenotypes of each single mutant A- and B-
 - o If A-B- phenotype = A- phenotype, A is epistatic (works downstream) of B.