

SSR PG COLLEGE NIZAMABAD
M,Sc Biotechnology
Semester – III
PAPER – I, INTERNAL - I
r – DNA TECHNOLOGY

Credit I: Enzymes and Vectors Used in Molecular Cloning

1. The primary function of a restriction modification system in a bacterial host is to:

- a) Facilitate horizontal gene transfer
- b) Degrade foreign DNA while protecting its own
- c) Increase the rate of DNA replication
- d) Synthesize new restriction enzymes

Answer: b) Degrade foreign DNA while protecting its own

2. Which type of restriction endonuclease is most commonly used in molecular cloning due to its specific recognition sequence and cleavage site?

- a) Type I
- b) Type II
- c) Type III
- d) Type IV

Answer: b) Type II

3. The enzyme that catalyzes the formation of a phosphodiester bond between two DNA fragments is:

- a) DNA Polymerase
- b) Alkaline Phosphatase
- c) DNA Ligase
- d) Polynucleotide Kinase

Answer: c) DNA Ligase

4. The pBR322 plasmid is often used as a cloning vector. It contains genes for antibiotic resistance. Which two antibiotics are commonly used as selectable markers in pBR322?

- a) Kanamycin and Tetracycline
- b) Ampicillin and Kanamycin
- c) Ampicillin and Tetracycline
- d) Chloramphenicol and Ampicillin

Answer: c) Ampicillin and Tetracycline

5. Which feature of the pUC18 plasmid allows for blue-white screening of recombinant colonies?

- a) The lacZ gene
- b) The tetracycline resistance gene
- c) A cos site
- d) The origin of replication

Answer: a) The lacZ gene

6. An expression vector like pET21 is designed specifically for:

- a) Replicating in multiple host species

- b) High-level transcription and translation of a cloned gene
- c) Accommodating very large DNA inserts
- d) Preparing genomic libraries

Answer: b) High-level transcription and translation of a cloned gene

7. Which vector is most suitable for cloning large genomic DNA fragments (30-45 kb)?

- a) Plasmid pUC18
- b) Bacteriophage M13
- c) Cosmid
- d) Yeast Artificial Chromosome (YAC)

Answer: c) Cosmid

8. Bacteriophage λ vectors are primarily used for:

- a) Protein expression in mammalian cells
- b) DNA sequencing by the Sanger method
- c) Construction of genomic and cDNA libraries
- d) Cloning single-stranded DNA

Answer: c) Construction of genomic and cDNA libraries

9. A vector that can replicate in two different host organisms (e.g., E. coli and yeast) is called a:

- a) Phagemid
- b) Shuttle vector
- c) Phasmid
- d) Viral vector

Answer: b) Shuttle vector

10. The enzyme Reverse Transcriptase (RNA-dependent DNA polymerase) is crucial for:

- a) Digesting genomic DNA
- b) Synthesizing cDNA from an mRNA template
- c) Phosphorylating the 5' ends of DNA
- d) Methylating DNA to protect it from restriction enzymes

Answer: b) Synthesizing cDNA from an mRNA template

11. Terminal Deoxynucleotidyl Transferase (TdT) adds nucleotides to the 3' end of DNA without a template. This property is useful for:

- a) Creating blunt ends
- b) DNA sequencing
- c) Adding homopolymeric tails in cDNA cloning
- d) Restriction digestion

Answer: c) Adding homopolymeric tails in cDNA cloning

12. Alkaline Phosphatase is used in cloning to remove 5' phosphate groups. This prevents:

- a) Ligation of the vector without an insert
- b) Digestion by restriction enzymes
- c) Transcription of the insert
- d) Replication of the plasmid

Answer: a) Ligation of the vector without an insert

13. Which viral vector is commonly used for protein expression in insect cells?

- a) SV40
- b) Cauliflower Mosaic Virus (CaMV)

c) Baculovirus

d) M13 phage

Answer: c) Baculovirus

14. A Yeast Artificial Chromosome (YAC) is capable of cloning very large DNA inserts up to:

a) 10 kb

b) 50 kb

c) 200 kb

d) 2000 kb (2 Mb)

Answer: d) 2000 kb (2 Mb)

15. The key difference between a phagemid and a regular plasmid is that a phagemid:

a) Contains a phage origin of replication

b) Cannot replicate in *E. coli*

c) Lacks an antibiotic resistance gene

d) Is always single-stranded

Answer: a) Contains a phage origin of replication

16. The enzyme Polynucleotide Kinase is used to:

a) Degrade RNA from a DNA-RNA hybrid

b) Add a phosphate group to the 5' end of DNA

c) Remove phosphate groups from DNA

d) Synthesize DNA from a RNA template

Answer: b) Add a phosphate group to the 5' end of DNA

17. Which vector is derived from a plant virus and has been used in plant genetic engineering?

a) SV40

b) BAC

c) Cauliflower Mosaic Virus (CaMV)

d) λ phage

Answer: c) Cauliflower Mosaic Virus (CaMV)

18. The main advantage of a Bacterial Artificial Chromosome (BAC) over a YAC is:

a) Larger insert size capacity

b) Higher stability and easier manipulation in bacteria

c) Ability to express eukaryotic genes correctly

d) Presence of a selectable marker for blue-white screening

Answer: b) Higher stability and easier manipulation in bacteria

19. In the context of restriction enzymes, "sticky ends" are created when the enzyme:

a) Cuts both DNA strands at the same position

b) Makes a staggered cut, producing short, single-stranded overhangs

c) Requires ATP for its activity

d) Cleaves DNA at a distance from its recognition site

Answer: b) Makes a staggered cut, producing short, single-stranded overhangs

20. Methylases are enzymes that protect host DNA from its own restriction enzymes by:

a) Degrading the restriction enzyme

b) Adding methyl groups to specific bases within the recognition sequence

c) Sealing nicks in the DNA backbone

d) Unwinding the DNA double helix

Answer: b) Adding methyl groups to specific bases within the recognition sequence

Credit II: Construction of Genomic and cDNA Libraries

1. The fundamental difference between conventional cloning and recombinant DNA-based cloning is that recombinant technology involves:

- a) Cloning within the same organism
- b) Joining DNA molecules from different sources in vitro
- c) Using only natural plasmids
- d) Cloning without the use of enzymes

Answer: b) Joining DNA molecules from different sources in vitro

2. The first step in constructing a genomic library is to:

- a) Ligate the DNA into a vector
- b) Transform the host bacteria
- c) Isolate and fragment the genomic DNA
- d) Screen for recombinant clones

Answer: c) Isolate and fragment the genomic DNA

3. For the construction of a representative genomic library, genomic DNA is often partially digested with a restriction enzyme. Why is a partial digestion preferred?

- a) To generate uniformly small fragments
- b) To create random fragments of a clonable size, ensuring all genomic regions are represented
- c) To ensure all fragments have the same sticky ends
- d) To prevent the DNA from being cut at all

Answer: b) To create random fragments of a clonable size, ensuring all genomic regions are represented

4. Chromosome walking is a technique used for:

- a) Rapid DNA sequencing
- b) Isolating adjacent sequences of DNA to map and clone a gene
- c) Constructing cDNA libraries
- d) Separating chromosomes by gel electrophoresis

Answer: b) Isolating adjacent sequences of DNA to map and clone a gene

5. Chromosome jumping libraries are particularly useful for:

- a) Studying gene expression levels
- b) Bypassing large regions of repetitive or unclonable DNA during positional cloning
- c) Expressing proteins in bacteria
- d) Cloning short cDNA fragments

Answer: b) Bypassing large regions of repetitive or unclonable DNA during positional cloning

6. The key component needed to start the construction of a cDNA library is:

- a) Genomic DNA
- b) Total RNA or mRNA
- c) Restriction enzymes
- d) DNA Ligase

Answer: b) Total RNA or mRNA

7. The enzyme essential for synthesizing the first strand of cDNA from an mRNA template is:

- a) DNA-dependent DNA polymerase
- b) Taq polymerase
- c) Reverse transcriptase
- d) RNA polymerase

Answer: c) Reverse transcriptase

8. A subtracted cDNA library is enriched for:

- a) All genes expressed in a cell
- b) Genes that are expressed in one cell type but not in another
- c) Highly repetitive genomic sequences
- d) Non-coding RNAs

Answer: b) Genes that are expressed in one cell type but not in another

9. A normalized library is treated to:

- a) Increase the representation of rare transcripts
- b) Reduce the representation of abundant transcripts, equalizing the frequency of all cDNAs
- c) Remove all intronic sequences
- d) Add specific restriction sites

Answer: b) Reduce the representation of abundant transcripts, equalizing the frequency of all cDNAs

10. What does PCR stand for?

- a) Protein Copying Reaction
- b) Polymerase Chain Reaction
- c) Primer Controlled Replication
- d) Phage Cloning Reaction

Answer: b) Polymerase Chain Reaction

11. The three main steps in a standard PCR cycle, in order, are:

- a) Ligation, Transformation, Screening
- b) Denaturation, Annealing, Extension
- c) Digestion, Ligation, Polymerization
- d) Synthesis, Degradation, Methylation

Answer: b) Denaturation, Annealing, Extension

12. The thermostable DNA polymerase commonly used in PCR was isolated from the bacterium:

- a) *Escherichia coli*
- b) *Thermus aquaticus* (Taq polymerase)
- c) *Bacillus subtilis*
- d) *Agrobacterium tumefaciens*

Answer: b) *Thermus aquaticus* (Taq polymerase)

13. Which type of PCR is used to quantify the amount of a specific DNA sequence in a sample?

- a) Nested PCR
- b) RT-PCR
- c) Real-time PCR (qPCR)
- d) Inverse PCR

Answer: c) Real-time PCR (qPCR)

14. Reverse Transcription PCR (RT-PCR) is used to amplify:

- a) Genomic DNA

- b) Protein sequences
- c) DNA copies of RNA sequences
- d) Plasmid DNA

Answer: c) DNA copies of RNA sequences

15. The purpose of the "Annealing" step in PCR is to:

- a) Separate the double-stranded DNA template
- b) Synthesize new DNA strands
- c) Allow primers to bind to their complementary sequences on the template DNA
- d) Degrade the original template

Answer: c) Allow primers to bind to their complementary sequences on the template DNA

16. Which application is NOT a common use of PCR?

- a) DNA fingerprinting and forensics
- b) Diagnosis of genetic diseases and infections
- c) Cloning large genomic fragments directly without vectors
- d) Site-directed mutagenesis

Answer: c) Cloning large genomic fragments directly without vectors

17. In a genomic library, each clone contains:

- a) A copy of a specific mRNA
- b) A fragment of the entire genome
- c) A fully functional gene ready for expression
- d) Only non-coding DNA

Answer: b) A fragment of the entire genome

18. A cDNA library represents:

- a) The entire genome, including introns and exons.
- b) Only the genes that are being expressed as mRNA in the cell/tissue at the time of RNA isolation.
- c) All mitochondrial DNA.
- d) Repetitive sequences of the genome.

Answer: b) Only the genes that are being expressed as mRNA in the cell/tissue at the time of RNA isolation.

19. What is the primary goal of "positional cloning"?

- a) To determine the 3D structure of a protein
- b) To clone a gene based on its map position on a chromosome, without prior knowledge of the gene product
- c) To clone genes that are positionally expressed in the nucleus
- d) To create a library of cDNA sequences

Answer: b) To clone a gene based on its map position on a chromosome, without prior knowledge of the gene product

20. Which technique would be most appropriate if you wanted to study only the genes that are differentially expressed in a cancer cell compared to a normal cell?

- a) Construct a genomic library
- b) Perform chromosome walking
- c) Construct a subtracted cDNA library
- d) Use Inverse PCR

Answer: c) Construct a subtracted cDNA library

SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS

1. Define Restriction endonuclease
2. Write a short note on pBR322
3. Define Shuttle vector
4. Mention the steps involved in PCR
5. Define C-DNA Libraries