

Synthetic genome



Yeast 2.0

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What is yeast 2.0?

- **Synthetic biology aims to redesign and reconstruct biological systems for new, useful end goals.**
- **Yeast 2.0 is ongoing project that designs and synthesizes a complete eukaryotic genome - *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*.**
- **Yeast 2.0 makes it possible to study different properties of chromosomes, evolution and genetics in general.**

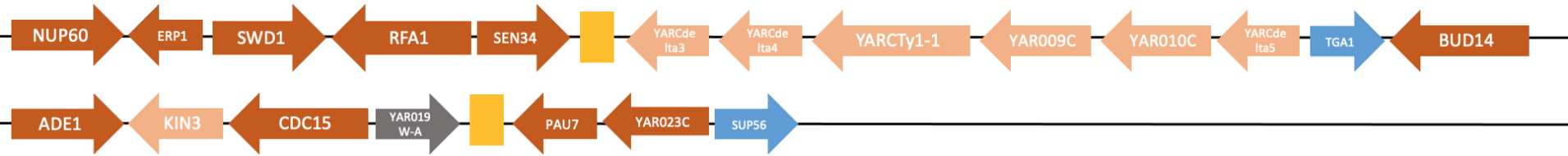


Our megachunk design

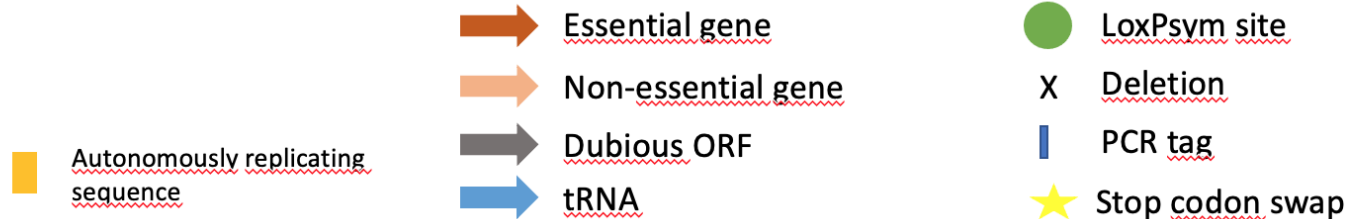
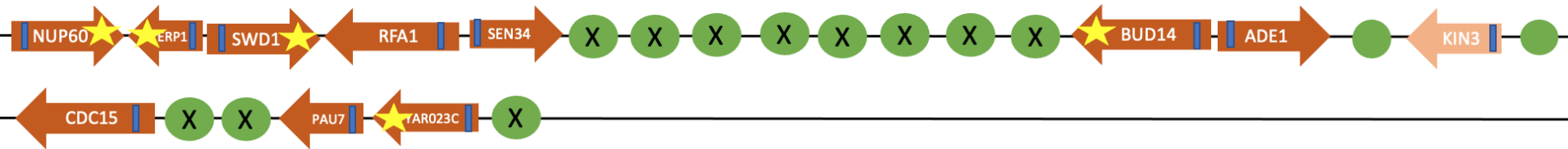
- **Megachunk = synthetic 30-50 kB region in a selected chromosome**
- **Chromosome I**
- **Randomly chosen 30 kB megachunk between 151-181 kB**
- **Alterations:**
 - Deletion of transposons
 - Relocation of tRNA genes
 - Stop codon swap
 - PCR tags
 - Removal of non-essential genes

Our megachunk design

Original megachunk



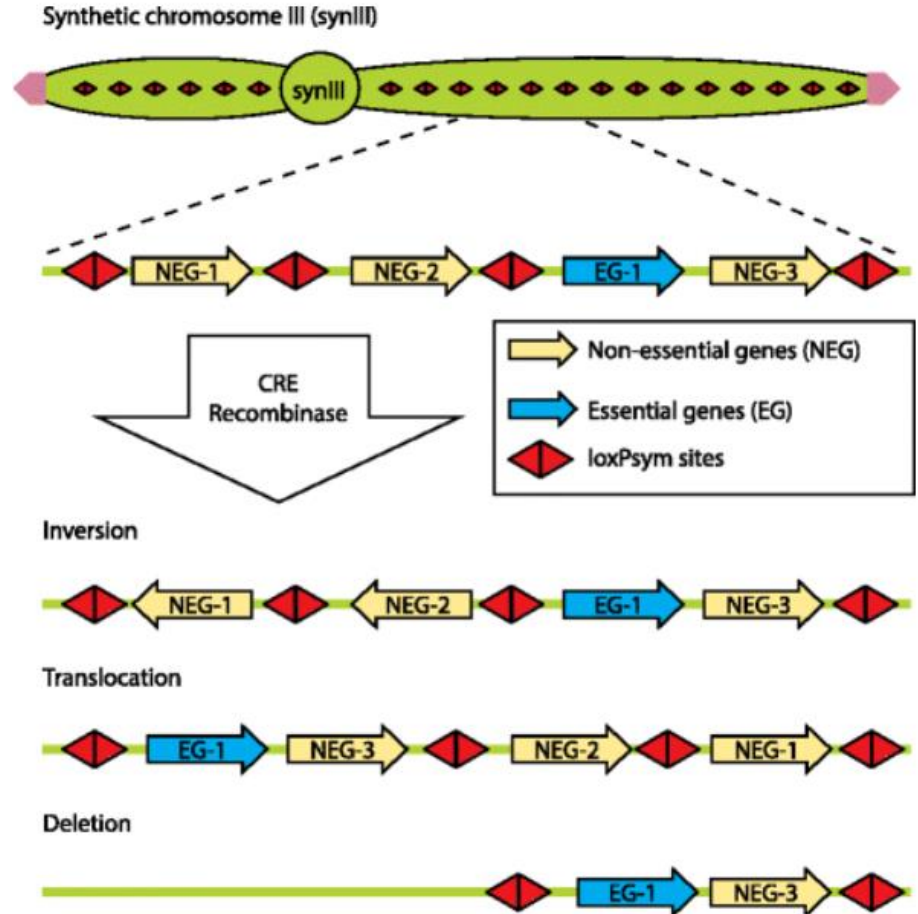
Our synthetic megachunk



SCRaMbLE

= Synthetic Chromosome Recombination and Modification by LoxP-mediated Evolution

- Used to rapidly reorganise the genome
- Initiated by the induction of Cre expression
- LoxP sites facilitate the recombination of genetic elements
- Can be used to target multiple synthetic chromosomes simultaneously



Neochromosome

- **Neochromosome is a separate centromeric plasmid where tRNA genes are removed from the synthetic chromosomes**
- **Two tRNA genes from our megachunk are removed**
 - TGA1
 - SUP56
- **tRNA genes tend to be sites of genomic damage and rearrangement**

Computer programs

- Saccharomyces genome database, SGD



- Database of essential genes, DEG

DEG database

Wet Lab Procedure

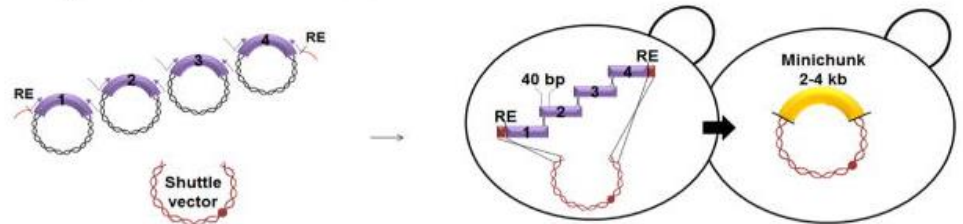
Goal: construction of megachunks (30-50kb) from building blocks and their introduction into wild type yeast genome.

1. Design and synthesis of building block from oligonucleotides.
2. Assembly of minichunks through cutting with restriction enzymes and homologous recombination.
3. Replacement of native sequences through transformation with alternating selection for URA3 and LEU2 markers.
4. Confirmation of successful replacement with PCRtags.

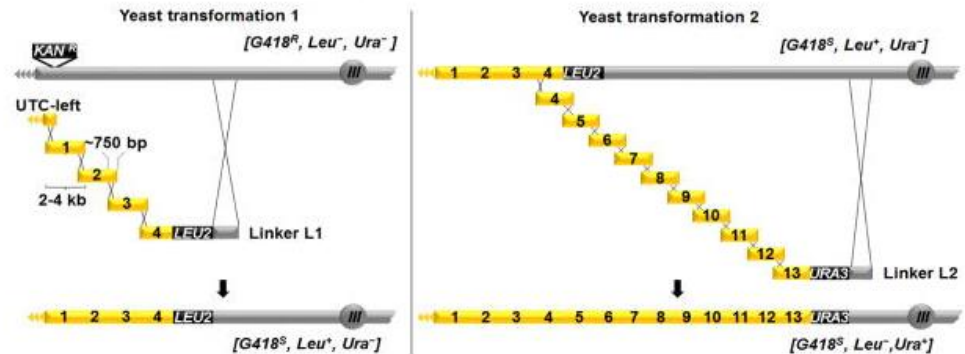
A Step 1: Synthesize Building Blocks (BBs) from oligonucleotides



B Step 2: Assemble 2-4 kb minichunks



C Step 3: Replace native *III* with minichunks



References

Building better yeast. 2018. *Nature communications*, 9(1), 1939. doi: 10.1038/s41467-018-04159-y.

Eisenstein M. 2020. *How to build a genome*. *Nature* **578**, 633-635 (2020)
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Saccharomyces genome database. <https://www.yeastgenome.org/>

Shen Y. et al. 2016. SCRaMbLE generates designed combinatorial stochastic diversity in synthetic chromosomes. *Genome Res.* Jan;26(1):36-49. doi: 10.1101/gr.193433.115.

The Cai Lab. 2021. Projects. <https://www.cailab.org/about>