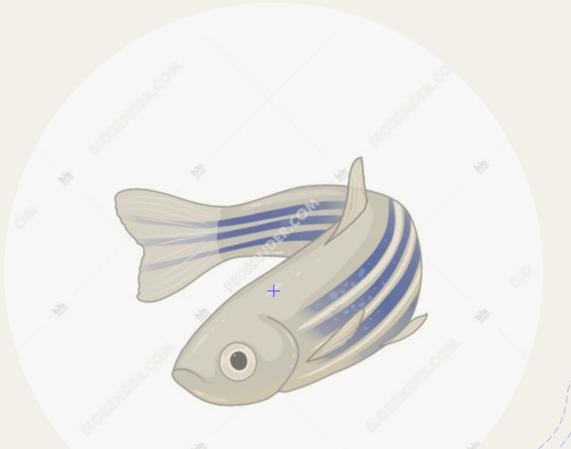
Transgenic zebrafish for the study of physiology and pathology



Ludovica Sulcanese, Department of Bioscience and Agro-Food and Environmental Technology, University of Teramo

# What is a transgenic animal?

**FELASA** (*Federation of European Laboratory Animal Associations*) definition:

Each animal whose genome has been deliberately modified.

#### **Common definition:**

Animals in which a foreign gene has been introduced into all cells, including the germline, allowing it to be passed on to the offspring.

Generation of a transgenic reporter line: Overview of the Protocol

- **Cloning** of the regulatory region in a plasmid
- Cloning of the reporter gene in a plasmid
- Assembling of a Tol2 destination vector (regulatory region:reporter)
- Inject the F0 eggs with the vector and the Tol2 transposase (or its mRNA)
- When possible, **screen** the fluorescent embryos for potential founders.
- Grow the F0
- Outcross the F0 founders to find F1 positive embryos-> larvae->adults
- Outcross F1 or F2 or F3.... to do the experiment.

### Crucial Factors for Obtaining Reliable Transgenic Fish

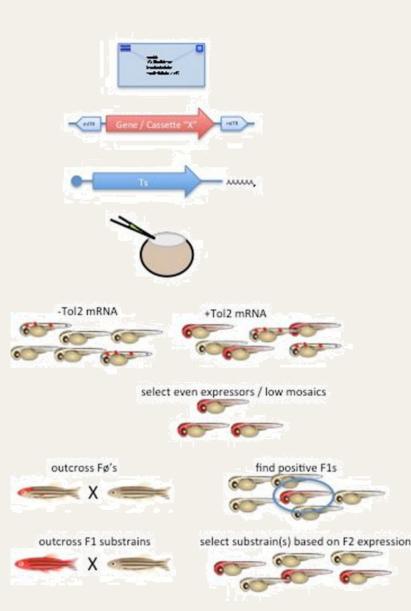
Choosing the most appropriate transgenesis method

- Selecting the correct **promoter/enhancer region**
- Adding a strong minimal promoter
- Choosing the most appropriate **reporter protein**

# **Transgenesis method: Tol2 strategy**

- Transposon-based system  $\rightarrow$  Tol2 transposon
- Advantages:
- 1. high germline transmission rate  $\rightarrow$  about 70%
- 2. single-copy (non-concatemerized) integration of the transgene
- 3. high activity and integration efficiency
- Originally isolated from the medaka fish genome
- Leads to the precise integration of a single-copy of the transgene at a random location.
- Transgenesis tool of choice for zebrafish
- Requires the delivery of:
- 1. Transposase mRNA
- 2. Transgenesis vector containing a desired transgene cargo flanked by Tol2 transposon repeats

# **Transgenesis method: Tol2 strategy**



II. Request Tol2 system reagents.

IIA. Prepare your favorite Tol2 transposon.

IIB. Prepare Tol2 transposase mRNA.

III. Microinject embryos with mix of transposon DNA and transposase mRNA.

IV. Quality check for transposition.

#### V. Select Fø embryos to raise.

VI. Out cross Fø to non-transgenic partner, select positive F1 embryos.

VII. Raise F1's. Select best line(s) by observing F2 embryos.

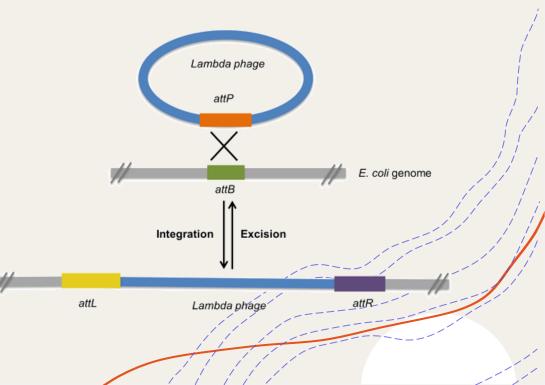
#### **Transgenesis method: Multisite Gateway-based Tol2 strategy** Lamba-based recombination

- Universal cloning method based on the site-specific recombination properties of **bacteriophage lambda** which ease the integration of lamba into **E. Coli**
- DNA sequences are cloned into multiple vectors → 3 vectorbased technique
- Two major components:
- 1. The DNA recombination sequences (*att* sites)
- 2. The proteins that mediate the recombination reaction (*i.e.* **Clonase**)
- Recombination occurs between specific attachment (*att*) sites on the interacting DNA molecules.
- Conservative recombination (no net loss or gain of DNA)

#### **Transgenesis method: Multisite Gateway-based Tol2 strategy** Att sites and recombination

- Att-site: site-specific attachment sites:
- **1.** attB  $\rightarrow$  originally present on E. Coli chromosome
- 2. attP $\rightarrow$  originally present on lambda chromosome
- Binding sites for recombination proteins
- The DNA segments flanking the recombination sites (att) are switched
- After recombination, the **remaining att sites are hybrid sequences** comprised of sequences donated by each parental vector
- Strand exchange occurs within a **15 bp core region** that is **common to all att sites**

Give rise to attL and attR sites

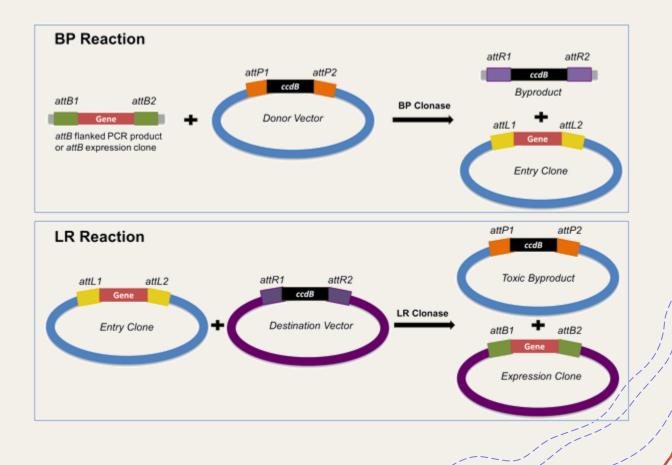


#### **Transgenesis method: Multisite Gateway-based Tol2 strategy** Att sites and recombination

Two types of recombination reaction:

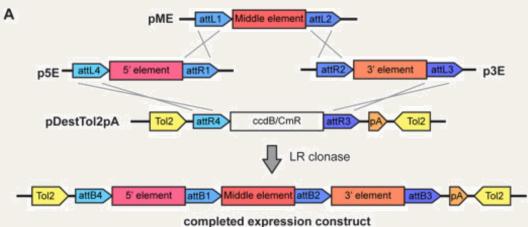
**BP Reaction:** Recombination of an *att*B substrate with an *att*P substrate to create an *att*L-containing entry clone  $\rightarrow$  Lysogenic Pathway

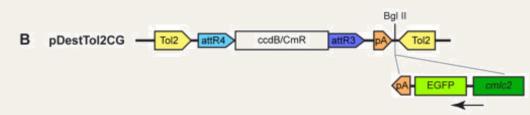
**LR Reaction:** Recombination of an attL substrate with an attR substrate to create an attB-containing expression clone  $\rightarrow$  Lytic Pathway

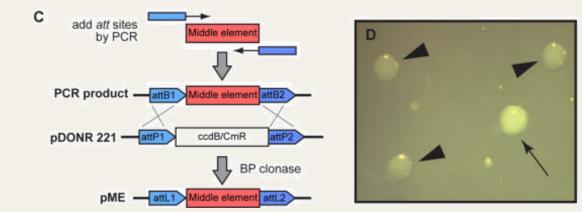


### **Transgenesis method: Multisite Gateway-based Tol2 strategy**

Vectors







#### **Transformation of TOP10 cells.**

Clear colonies yield the correct recombination product 99% of the time, whereas opaque colonies never do.

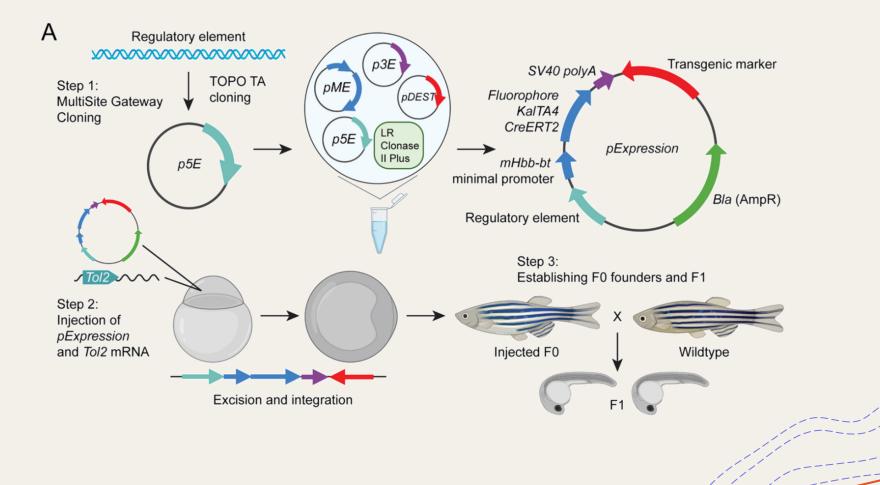
#### **Transgenesis method: Multisite Gateway-based Tol2 strategy Vectors**

TABLE 1. Components of the Tol2kit <sup>a</sup>			
Name	Description	Test	Figure
5' entry clones			
p5E-bactin2	5.3-kb beta-actin promoter (ubiquitous)	F0, F1	2
p5E-h2afx	1-kb H2A-X promoter (quasi-ubiquitous)	F0	2b
p5E-CMV/SP6	1-kb CMV/SP6 cassette from pCS2+	F0	
p5E-hsp70	1.5-kb hsp70 promoter for heat-shock induction	F0, F1	4
p5E-UAS	10x UAS element and basal promoter for Gal4 response	F0	
p5E-MCS	Multicloning site from pBluescript	F0	
p5E-Fse-Asc	Restriction sites for 8-cutters FseI and AscI	F0	
Middle entry clones			
pME-EGFP	EGFP	F0	
pME-EGFPCAAX	Membrane-localized (prenylated) EGFP; fused to the last 21 amino acids of H-ras	F0, F1	3
pME-nlsEGFP	Nuclear-localized EGFP	F0	2f
pME-mCherry	Monomeric red fluorophore mCherry	F0, F1	2c
pME-mCherryCAAX	Membrane-localized (prenylated) mCherry	F0	2e, 4
pME-nlsmCherry	Nuclear-localized mCherry	F0	2abd
pME-H2AmCherry	mCherry fused to the zebrafish histone H2A.F/Z	F0, F1	
pME-Gal4VP16 3′ entry clones	Gal4 DNA binding domain fused to the VP16 transactivation domain	F0	
p3E-polyA	SV40 late poly A signal sequence from pCS2+	F0, F1	3, 4
p3E-MTpA	6x myc tag for protein fusions, plus SV40 late polyA		
p3E-EGFPpA	EGFP for protein fusions, plus SV40 late polyA	F0, F1	
p3E-mCherrypA	mCherry for protein fusions, plus SV40 late polyA	F0, F1	
p3E-IRES-EGFPpA	EMCV IRES driving EGFP plus SV40 late polyA	F0	2d
p3E-IRES-EGFPCAAXpA	EMCV IRES driving EGFPCAAX (prenylated EGFP) plus SV40 late polyA	F0, F1	2abcf
p3E-IRES-nlsEGFPpA	EMCV IRES driving nlsEGFP (nuclear EGFP) plus SV40 late polyA	F0	2e
Destination vectors			
pDestTol2pA/pDestTol2pA2	attR4-R3 gate with SV40 polyA flanked by Tol2 inverted repeats	F0, F1	3
pDestTol2CG/pDestTol2CG2	pDestTol2pA/pDestTol2pA2 with <i>cmlc2</i> :EGFP transgenesis marker	F0, F1	4
Other	• •	-	
pCS2FA-transposase	For in vitro transcription of capped Tol2 transposase RNA		3, 4

<sup>a</sup>EGFP, enhanced green fluorescent protein; F0, yields appropriate expression in transient transgenics; F1, yields appropriate expression in stable transgenics.

Kwan et al., 2007

#### **Transgenesis method: Multisite Gateway-based Tol2 strategy Workflow Overview**



Kemmler et al., 2023

## THE PROMOTER/ENHANCER

#### /SIMPL/E

# **TISSUE SPECIFIC** (e.g. insulin promoter, CMLC promoter; crystallin promoter)

- Inserted (isolated in a plasmid, fused and injected together with the reporter gene) in a vector
- Trapped (enhancer trap screening)
- **TIME SPECIFIC** (e.g. HSP70 promoter)
- UBIQUITOUS (ubiquitin, alpha-actin)
- COMBINATORIAL
  - **SIMPLE: SPACE** (e.g. Ins:Gal4 and UAS:GFP) or **TIME** (HSP70:*Gal4* and UAS:*GFP*)
  - **CONDITIONAL (SPACE AND TIME)** (HuC:ERT2-Gal4 and UAS:GFP)





Pictures from: Cassie L. Kemmler et al., 2023

### THE PROMOTER/ENHANCER

- /TISSUE/CELL SPECIFIC PROMOTER/ENHANCER
  - <u>Span</u>: 0.3-30 kb (to Mb)
  - Characterized *in vitro* (cell transfection)
  - Characterized *in silico*: comparative alignments of evolutionary conserved non coding regions of genes (evolutionary footprinting analysis)
  - **Characterized** targeted KI (insertion of the reporter in the regulatory region of a known gene by CRISPR/Cas or TALEN)
  - Non characterized (trial and error in transient injection experiments or enhancer trap)

# ENHANCER/GENE TRAP EXPERIMENTS (non characterized regulatory elements/random insertion)

The introduction of the yeast Gal4 system in Zebrafish

#### **TWO** TRANSGENIC LINES:

- a) THE **DRIVER** (ACTIVATOR) EXPRESSING Gal4 TF IN SPECIFIC FEATURES (CELLS TISSUE, TIME)
- b) THE **REPORTER** (ACTIVATED) BEARING UAS:REPORTER

are crossed to **produce animals with both alleles,** expressing the reporter

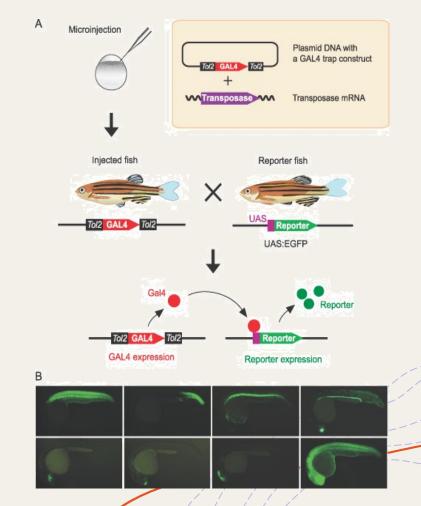
GAl4 transcription factor

GFP



8xUAS (binding element)

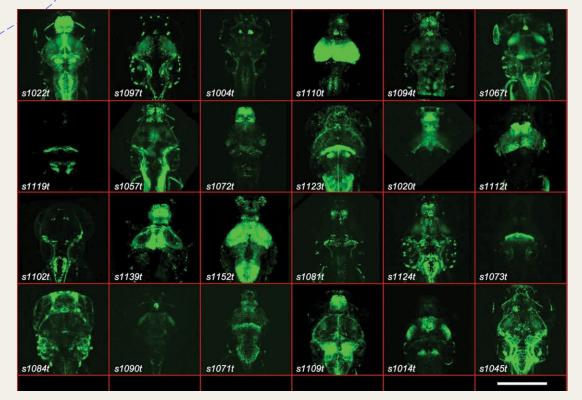
The **DRIVER** (GAL4 expressing line) is produced by multiple **RANDOM INSERTION** in the zebrafish genome.



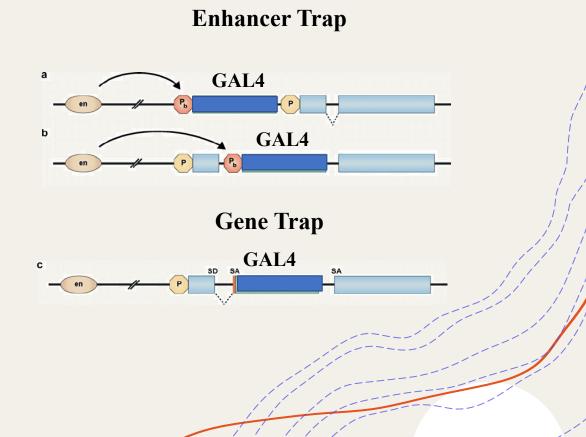
Asakawa, 2008

# ENHANCER/GENE TRAP EXPERIMENTS (non characterized regulatory elements/random insertion)

EVERY INDEPENDENT INSERTION OF THE GAL4 DRIVER NEAR OR IN THE CODING REGION OF A GENE WILL RESULT IN A SPECIFIC PATTERN WHEN CROSSED WITH THE REPORTER (GFP)



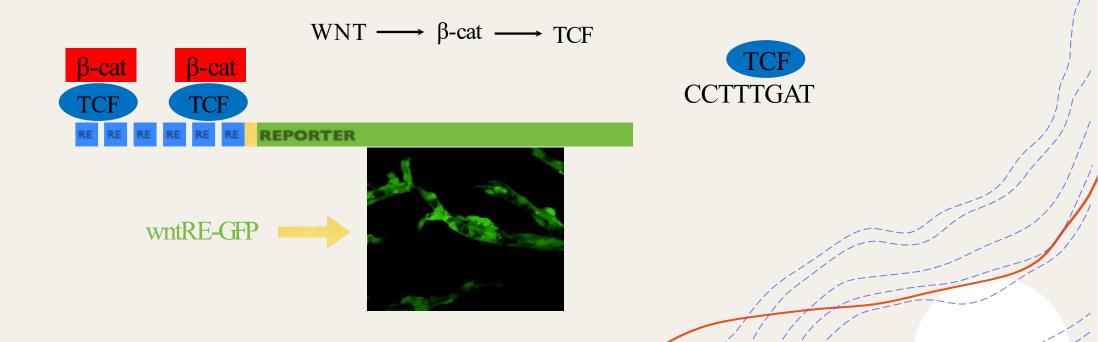
N.B.: (GFP is produced by the «reporter» allele)



#### Scott Baier, 2009

## **REGULATORY ELEMENTS (REs)**

- Transcription factors and cis-elements are conserved in vertebrates
- Polymerized cis elements increase signal sensitivity
- Multimerized REs recruit more signal-dependent TF
- Can be chosen from literature or bioinformatic tools (es. UCSC) → Search for conserved regions close to the target
- Useful for the creation of transgenic lines for the study of specific signalling pathways

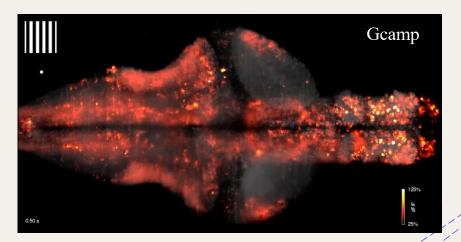


### THE REPORTER PROTEIN

- STRICTLY QUANTITATIVE REPORTERS (e.g. Luciferase)
- «MORPHOLOGICAL» AND QUANTITATIVE FLUOPRESCENCE REPORTER (e.g. GFP/RFP/KAEDE/others)
- COMBINED DOMAINS QUANTITATIVE FLUORESCENT REPORTER
  - SUBCELLULAR RESOLUTION (NUCLEAR, MITOCHONDRIAL, MEMBRANES ETC)
  - SPECIFIC INTRACELLULAR SIGNAL (Ca++, ROS, pH, Oxygen)



Barazzuol et al., 2023



Benjamin F. Fosque, 2015

### THE REPORTER PROTEIN

STRICTLY **QUANTITATIVE** REPORTERS (e.g. Luciferase) rarely used, mostly in physiology.

- DISADVANTAGES: NO SPATIAL INFORMATIONS
- ADVANTAGES: VERY FAST SIGNAL DYNAMICS

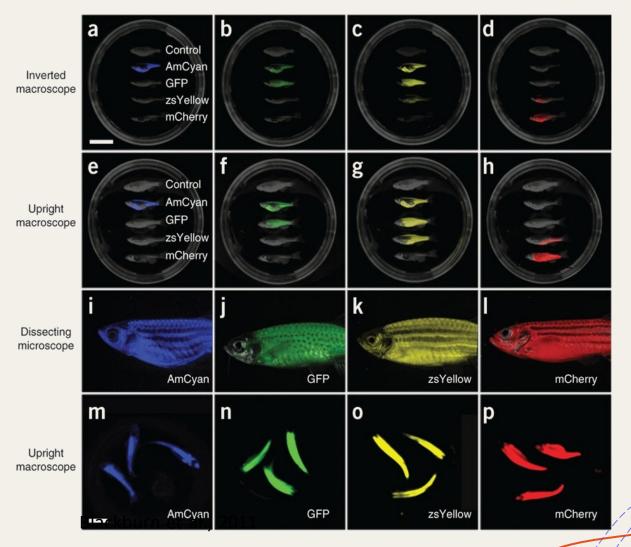
«**MORPHOLOGICAL**» AND QUANTITATIVE FLUOPRESCENCE REPORTER(e.g. GFP/RFP/KAEDE/others)

- DISADVANTAGES: ACCUMULATED (SLOW DYNAMICS)
- ADVANTAGES: SPATIAL INFORMATIONS

PHYSIOLOGICAL FLUORESCENT REPORTER SUBCELLULAR RESOLUTION (NUCLEAR, MITOCHONDRIAL, MEMBRANES ETC) SPECIFIC INTRACELLULAR SIGNAL (Ca++, ROS, pH, Oxygen...)

### FLUORESCENT PROTEIN: PALETTE

#### GFP, RFP, VENUS, KAEDE CERULEAN...



# THE REPORTER PROTEIN: How to choose?

Factors determining the choice of the most suitable fluorescent protein:

- Colour
- Brightness
- Toxicity
- Tissue Penetration

VS

- Subcellular Localization
- Availability of Modified Version (e.g. convertible, toxic, stable/destabilized)

#### **STABLE REPORTER**

Which use?

- Cell Signalling Dynamics
- Cell Lineage Tracking

#### Drawbacks:

Slow accumulation

#### **DESTABILIZED REPORTER**

Which use?

• Studying rapid dynamics

Drawbacks:

• Low amount of detectable accumulating protein during a biological event

# To Sum Up

- The regulatory element targets the cell/tissue
- The reporter collect the signal
- Different combinations of regulatory elements and reporters are possible,
- Reporters can be in multiple colors (filters or spectral microscopes are needed)
- Combinatorial control of gene expression uses Gal4 or CRE systems
- The reporter can be targeted in any tissue/cell and in any subcellular compartment

# Microinjection in Zebrafish

Transgenesis and genome editing: 1-cell (zygote) stage

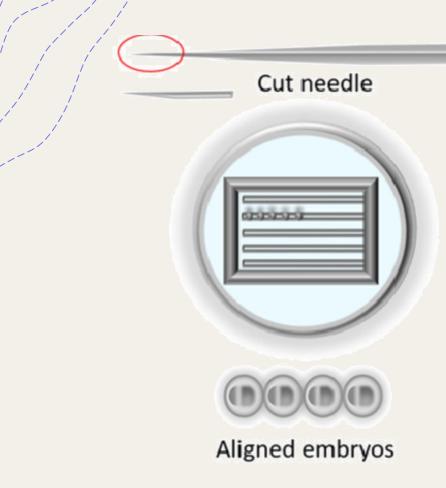
Antisense technology (eg: morpholino oligos): 1-4 cells stage)

Cell transplantation: usually 1-2 days post-fertilization



Best stages:

# Microinjection in Zebrafish

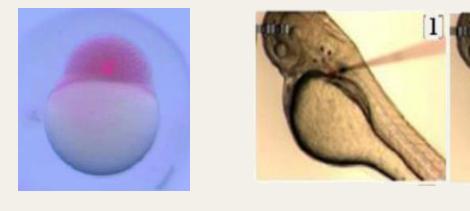


- Embryos or larvae obtained from pair or population crosses
- Egg collection after about 15 min from laying (to allow fertilization)
- Alignment along agarose-made lanes or microscope slide borders
- Glass needles with filament (for solutions) or without filament (for cells)

# Microinjection in Zebrafish

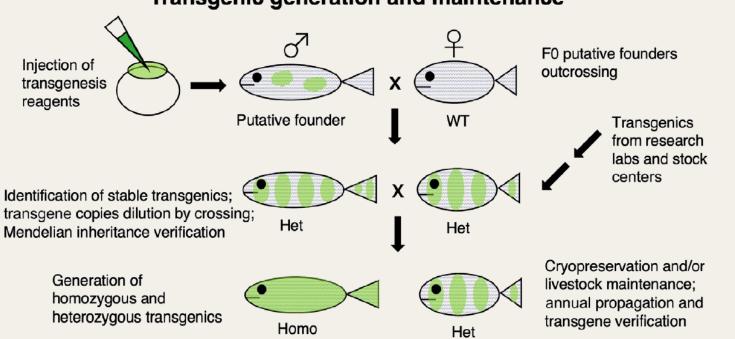
Tracking the microinjection:

- Typical dyes: phenol red (red under visible light; pH indicator), rhodamine, dextrans
- Stable membrane dyes: DiI (fluorescent red), DiO (fluorescent green)
- An mRNA for GFP or other reporters can track nucleic acid translation/quality/quantity/distribution/degradation (for 1-2 days)



#### Transgenic line stabilization, genotyping and maintenance

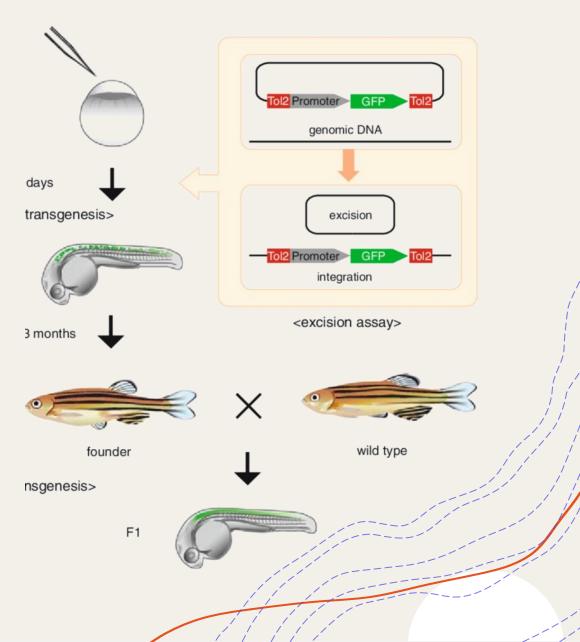
How to manage a newly produced transgenic line?



#### Transgenic generation and maintenance

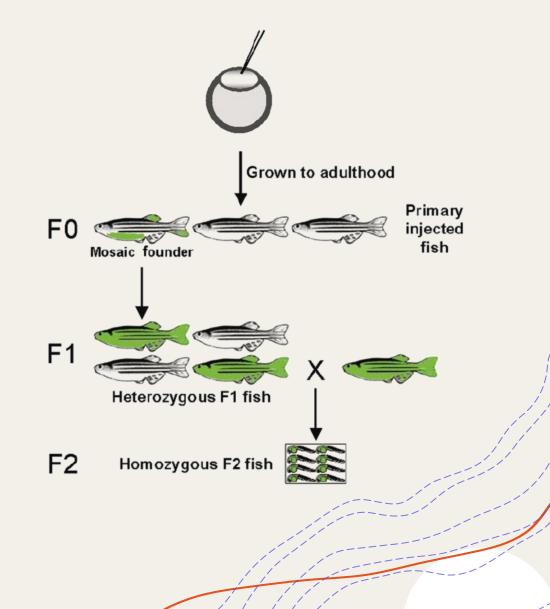
# Transgenic line stabilization

- After F0 (mosaic) production, founders are outcrossed to verify the germline transmission
- If transgene **multi-copies** are present (variable phenotypes, non-Mendelian inheritance), fishes are further out- crossed to dilute/select single copies
- Stabilized line: homogeneous phenotypes, Mendelian inheritance of the transgene



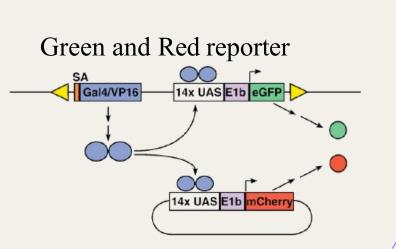
## Monitoring the transgene presence

- Fluorescence analysis
- In many cases single/double copies correspond to different fluorescence intensities
  - → this can help to identify heterozygous and homozygous transgenic animals



### Monitoring the transgene presence

- Analysis of transgene presence by PCR (transgenespecific primers)
- Useful in case of non-fluorescent transgenes (Eg: classical GAL4 is not fluorescent in itself (but it can be combined with a fluorescent reporter))



14x UAS E1b eG

Green reporter

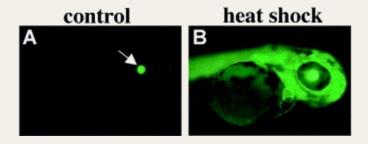
SA

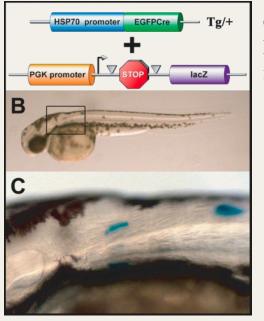
Gal4/VP16

## Monitoring the transgene presence

Various methods depend on the type of transgene e.g:

- heat-shock based transgenes (eg: hsp70 transgenes)
- Combination in **binary systems** (eg: GAL4/UAS, Cre/Lox, Flp/FRT)
- Enzymatic activity revealed by a substrate (eg: LacZ, NTR)
- Transcriptional activity depending on **compound administration** (eg: Tet-Off and Tet-On systems) and so on ...





Cre- dependent LacZ expression in zebrafish

(PGK: ubiquitous promoter)

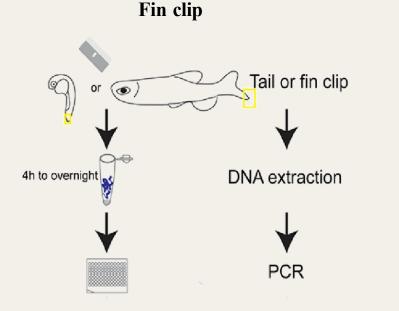
# Methods for zebrafish genotyping

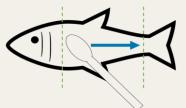
Genotyping can be performed on:

- Zebrafish embryos
- Zebrafish larvae
- Zebrafish juveniles
- Zebrafish adults

Genotyping can be:

- Destructive (eg: from whole embryos or larvae)
- Mildly invasive (eg: fin clipping)
- Non-invasive (cutaneous cells, skin swabs); this is a refinement in animal experimentation





Skin swab

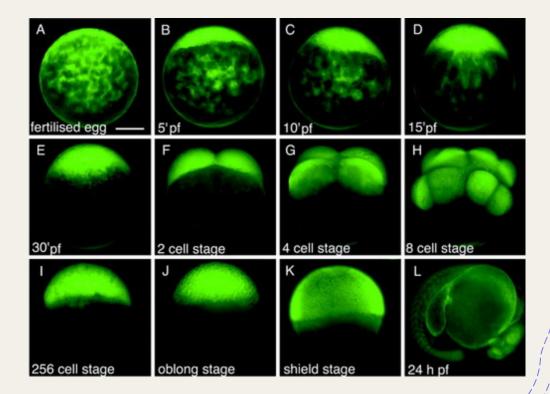
Genotyping can be based on PCR, directly inspected or followed by post-PCR assays (eg: digestion, HRMA).

### Transgenic line maintenance along the generations

- Lines can be maintained alive or frozen (a **frozen backup** is recommended)
- To avoid repeated inbreeding within the transgenic line (with deleterious effects due to homozygosity **inbreeding depression**), outcrosses are recommended every
- Fluorescent transgenes should be monitored at every generation, discarding weaker ones (due to **gene silencing, epigenetic modifications**, other reasons), and keeping the selection on brighter ones.
- Should this strategy be insufficient, the generation of a new transgenic line, reinjecting the original transgene constructs/reagents, may be required.

### Transgenic line maintenance along the generations

- To check for possible cross-contaminations among adjacent tanks, fluorescent embryos/larvae are always checked under **different filter/illumination conditions**, keeping individuals with the expected pattern, and discarding those bearing wrong transgenes.
- Specific attention is paid to **maternally activated transgenes**. For instance, in case of a heterozygous mother, maternal fluorescence can mask negative genotypes in the offspring. In this case, we suggest monitoring and reevaluating the offspring after 2- 4 dpf, usually sufficient for the fading of the maternal signal.
- Criteria to propagate: internal/external requests, low numbers, old age (we schedule **new crosses** every 6-12 months)

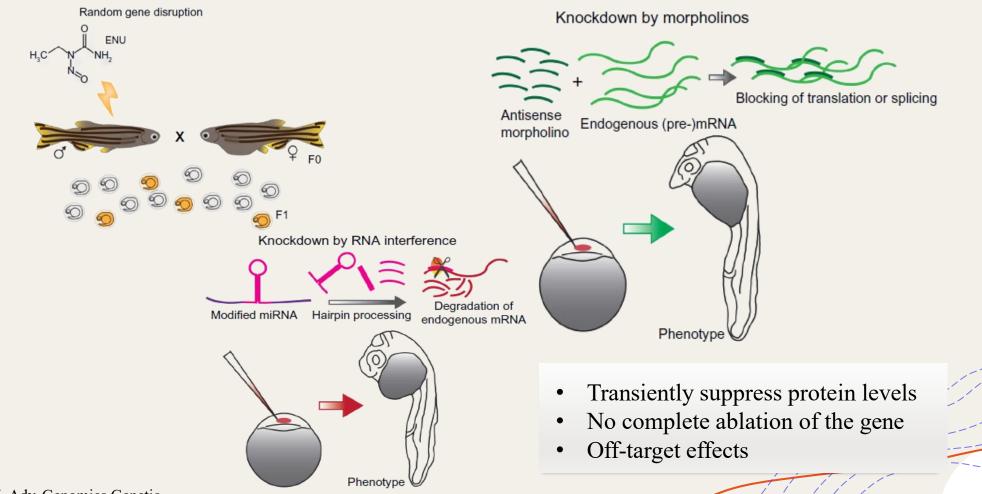


### Useful Videos

- <u>https://app.jove.com/v/21012/tol2-transposonmediated-zebrafish-</u> <u>transgenesis-a-procedureto-generate-transgenic-zebrafish-following-</u> <u>thecoinjection-of-tol2-system-into-fertilizedzebrafish-embryos</u>
- <u>https://app.jove.com/it/v/5130/zebrafish-microinjection-techniques</u>

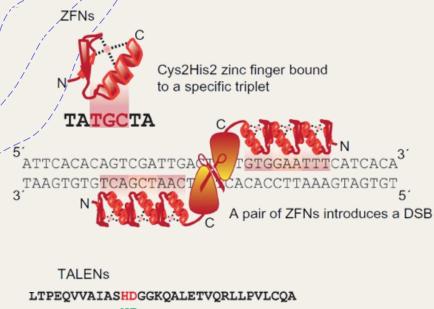
#### CRISPR/Cas9 technology in zebrafish: an efficient approach for human genetic diseases modeling

How can we study gene function with zebrafish?



Sassen & Köster, 2015. Adv. Genomics Genetic.

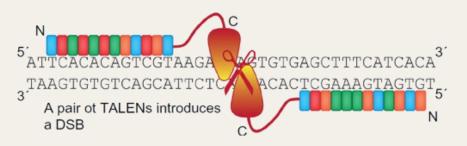
# New experimental approaches with genome editing



NI NG NK

The highly conserved TALE repeat domain has two variable residues at position 12 and 13

Each TALE repeat binds specifically to one of the four DNA nucleotides



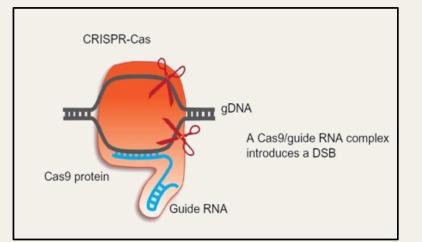
NATURE PROTOCOLS | VOL.8 NO.11 | 2013 | 2281

PROTOCOL

#### Genome engineering using the CRISPR-Cas9 system

F Ann Ran<sup>1-5,8</sup>, Patrick D Hsu<sup>1-5,8</sup>, Jason Wright<sup>1</sup>, Vineeta Agarwala<sup>1,6,7</sup>, David A Scott<sup>1-4</sup> & Feng Zhang<sup>1-4</sup>

IBroad Institute of Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and Harvard, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA. 'McGovern Institute for Brain Research, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA. 'Department of Brain and Cognitive Sciences, MIT, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA. 'Department of Biological Engineering, MIT, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA. 'Department of Micloular and Cellular Biology, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA. 'Department of Micloular and Cellular Biology, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA. 'Program in Biophysics, Harvard University, MIT, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA. 'Phorearent of Micloular and Cellular Biology, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA. 'Phorearent in Biophysics, Harvard University, MIT, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA. 'Phore authors contributed equally to this work. Correspondence should be addressed to EZ. (change/broadinstitute org).



#### Simple and efficient method (2013)

Sassen & Köster, 2015. Adv. Genomics Genetic

### **CRISPR-Cas9**

Zebrafish was the **first vertebrate model** used to demonstrate that CRISPR/Cas9 can efficiently edit the genome in vivo (Hwang et al., 2013)

Components:

- guide RNA (crRNA + tracrRNA): short synthetic RNA composed of a scaffold sequence necessary for Cas-binding and a user-defined ~20 nucleotide spacer that defines the genomic target to be modified.
- CRISPR-associated endonuclease (Cas protein)

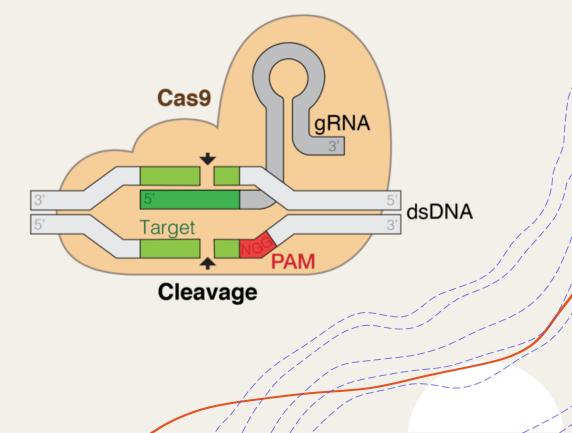
#### Target sequence: 20 bp

Microinjecting an *in vitro* complex of guide RNA and Cas9 protein into one-cell stage embryos.

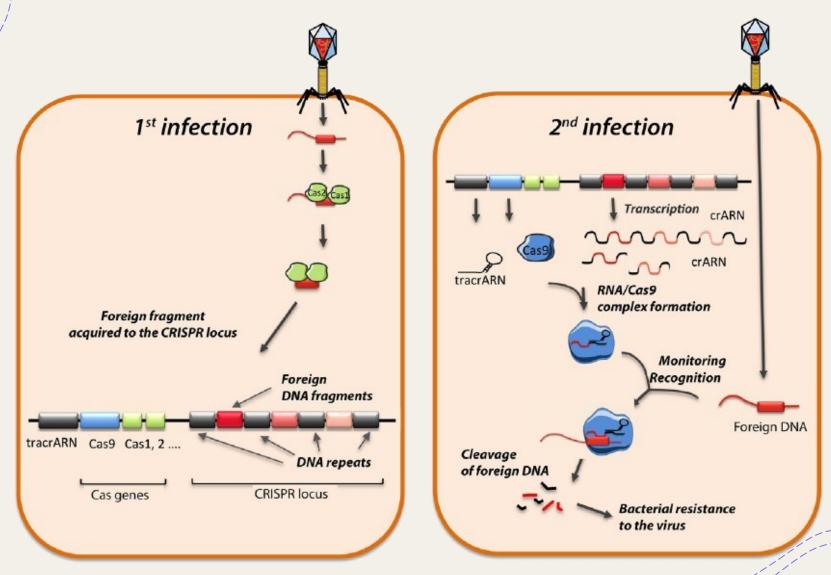
CRISPR-mediated knockout zebrafish models are extremely popular and have been used to **model several diseases**.



Emmanuelle Charpentier and Jennifer Doudna, Nobel Prize 2020

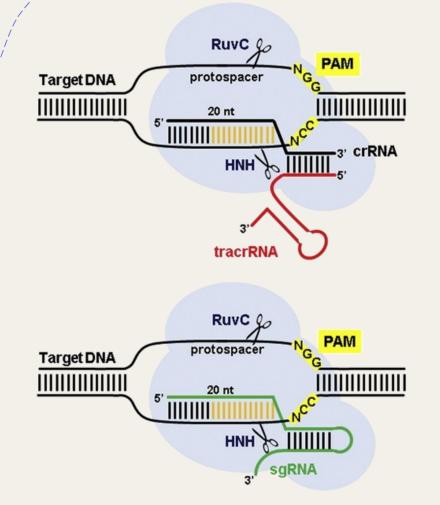


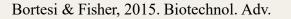
### CRISPR/Cas: the Immune System of Bacteria

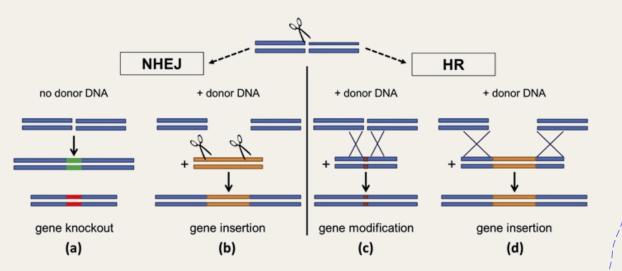


Duroux-Richard et al. 2017. Joint Bone Spine

# CRISPR/Cas9 for targeted genome editing

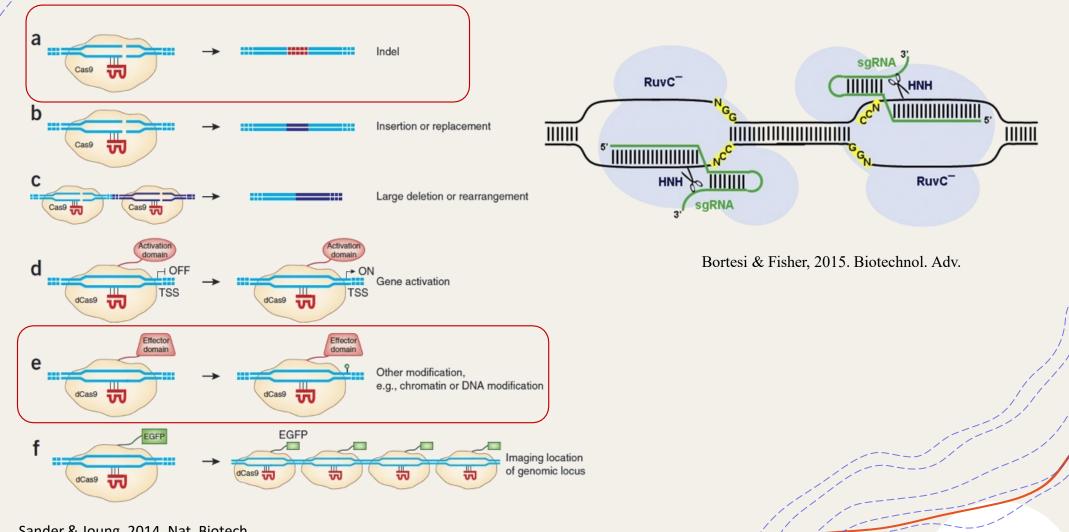






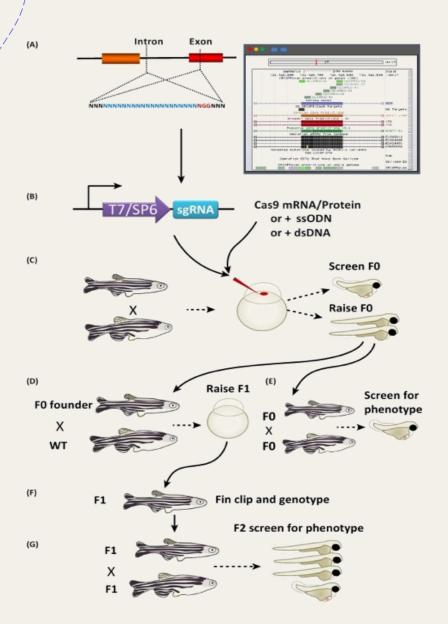
Bortesi & Fisher, 2015. Biotechnol. Adv.

# CRISPR/Cas9 for Gene Activation and Repression



Sander & Joung, 2014. Nat. Biotech

#### CRISPR/Cas9 and Zebrafish

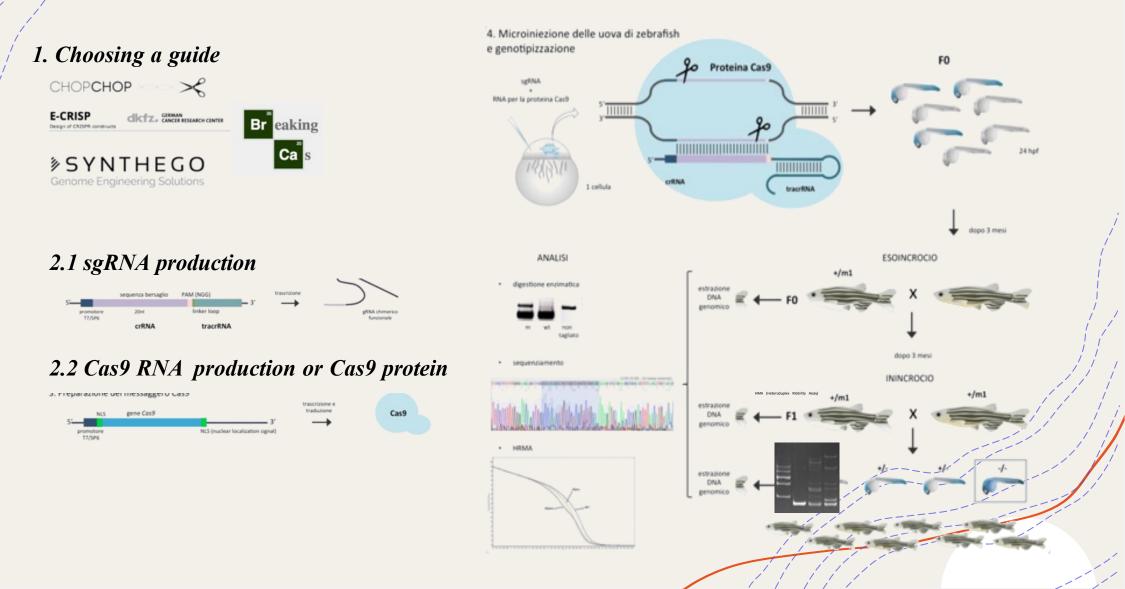


From 2002, 9600 articles have been published on CRISPR/Cas and 300 in zebrafish

Li et al., 2016. Trends Genetics

### Steps to generate and characterize a mutant in zebrafish

3. Injection and downstream analysis

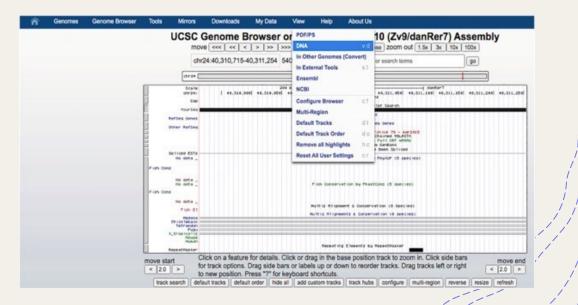


### **Selection of Target Sequence - Gene Analysis in UCSC**

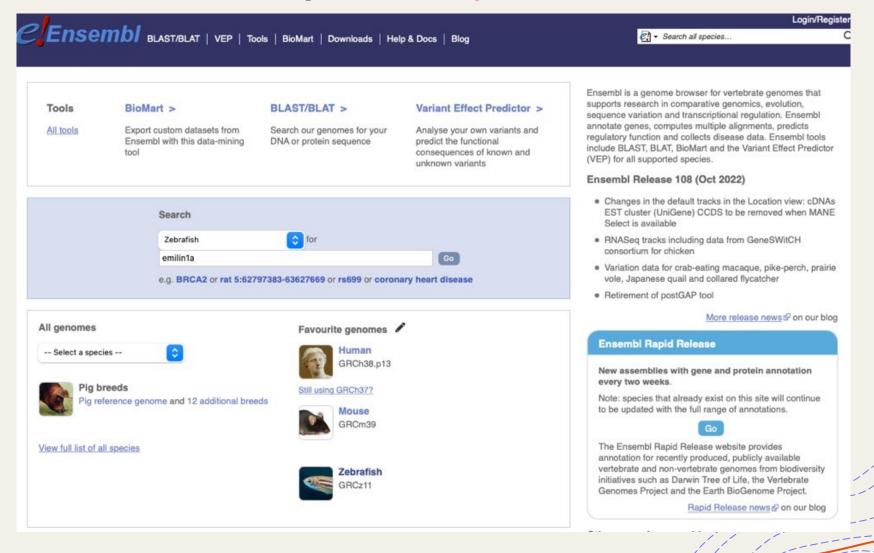
Choose your target sequence in the zebrafish genome. You can search for a DNA sequence in a genome browser such as UCSC Genome Browser (<u>https://genome.ucsc.edu/</u>) (<u>Kent et al., 2002</u>) (<u>Figure 1</u>). For this, in the website:

1.Figure 1. Snapshot of the UCSC Genome Browser Website Showing How to Get a DNA Sequence of Interest, Using the Example Shown (Nog2E3)

- 1. Select: Genomes zebrafish
- Search for a specific gene or genomic coordinates (e.g., Nog2E3 genomic coordinates – chr24:40,310,715-40,311,254; danRer7)
- 3. Zoom on your sequence of interest
- 4. Select: View  $\rightarrow$  DNA
- 5. Select: get DNA
- 6. Copy and save the obtained sequence



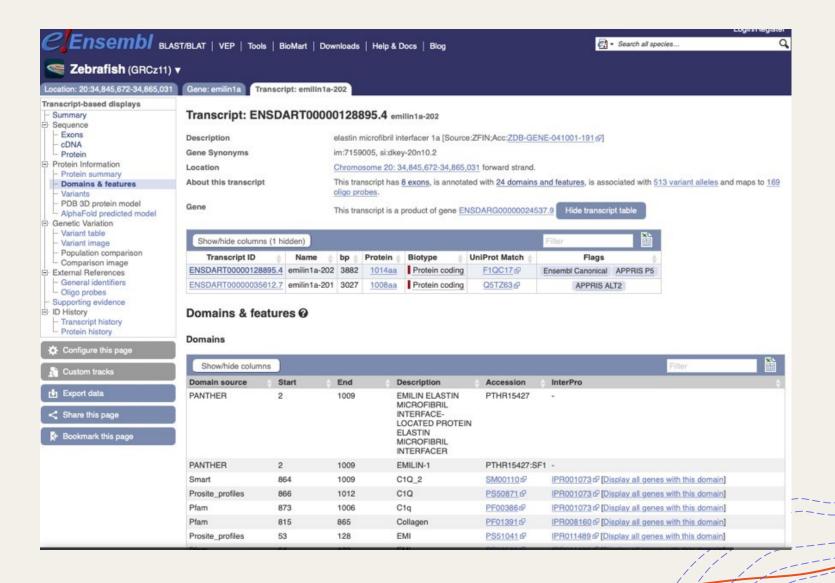
#### https://www.ensembl.org

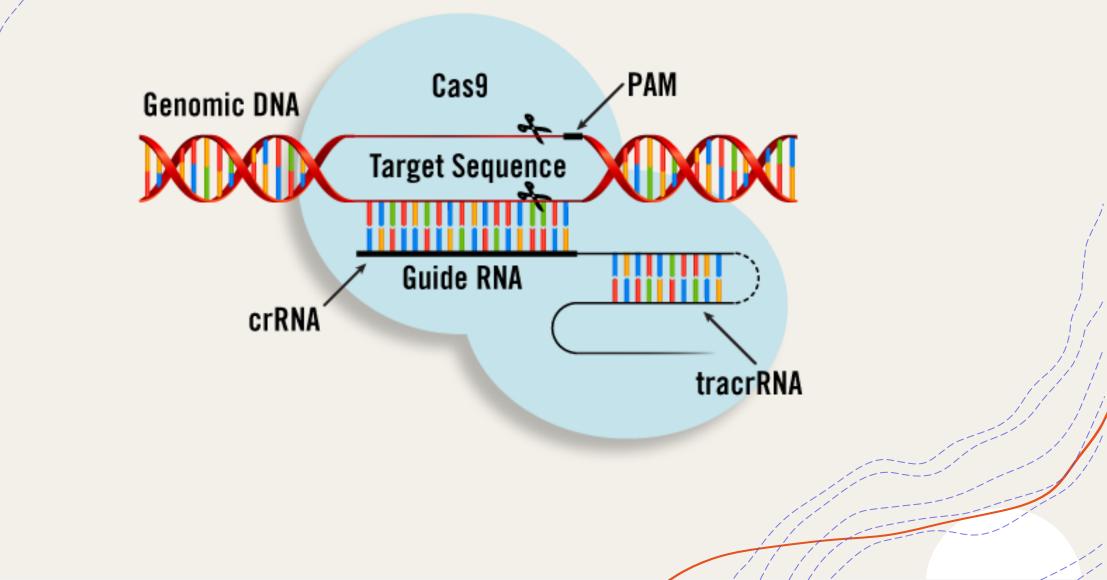


	ILAST/BLAT   VEP   Tools   BioMart   Downloads   Help & Docs   Blog	C
New Search		
Current selection:	Only searching Zebrafish V emilin1a	
Only searching Zebrafish	4 results match emilin1 a when restricted to species: Zebrafish X	
Restrict category to:	emilin1a (Zebrafish Gene)	
Gene 1	ENSDARG00000024537 20:34845672-34865031:1 Elastin microfibril interfacer 1a [Source:ZFIN;Acc:ZDB-GENE-041001-191]	
Transcript 2	emilin1a-201 (ZFIN transcript name record; description: elastin microfibril interfacer 1a,) is an external	
GeneTree 1	reference matched to Transcript ENSDART00000035612 Variant table • Phenotypes • Location • External Refs. • Regulation • Orthologues • Gene tree	
Per page:	emilin1a-201 (Zebrafish Transcript) ENSDART00000035612 20:34845997-34864519:1	
10 25 50 100	Elastin microfibril interfacer 1a [Source:ZFIN;Acc:ZDB-GENE-041001-191]. Location • External Refs. • cDNA seq. • Exons • Variant table • Protein seq. • Population • Protein summary	
Layout:	emilin1a-202 (Zebrafish Transcript)	
Standard Table	ENSDART00000128895 20:34845672-34865031:1 Elastin microfibril interfacer 1 a [Source:ZFIN;Acc:ZDB-GENE-041001-191]. Location • External Refs. • cDNA seg. • Exons • Variant table • Protein seg. • Population • Protein summary	
Tip:	ENSGT01030000234633 (Zebrafish GeneTree)	
You can choose which results appear near the top of your sear by updating your favourite specie	Ch Gene emilin1a (ENSDARG0000024537) is a member of GeneTree ENSGT01030000234633.	
	<< < 1 > >>	

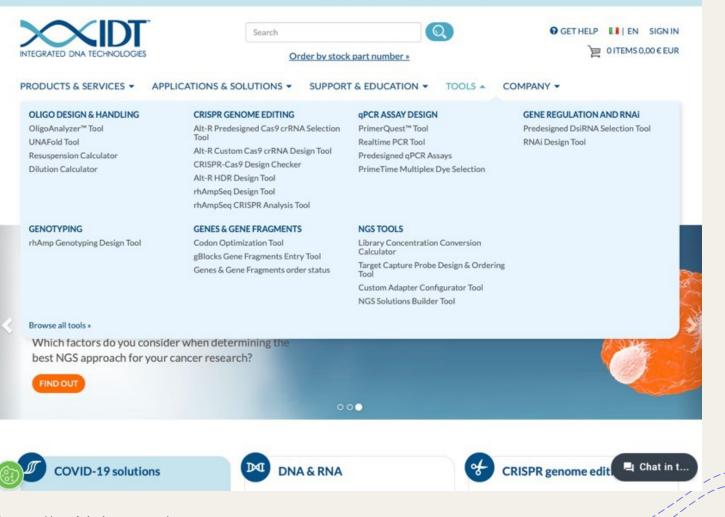
	▼								
ocation: 20:34,845,672-34,865,031	Gene: emilin1a Transcript	emilin1a-20	2						
anscript-based displays									
Summary Sequence	Transcript: ENSDA	RT000001	2889	95.4 em	ilin1a-202				
- Exons	Description	ela	astin mi	icrofibril int	erfacer 1a [Sourc	e:ZFIN;Acc:ZDB-GE	NF-041001-191 ऌ		
- cDNA	Gene Synonyms			05, si:dkey					
- Protein Protein Information				0.0000000000000000000000000000000000000		001 featured strend			
<ul> <li>Protein summary</li> </ul>	Location					,031 forward strand.			
<ul> <li>Domains &amp; features</li> <li>Variants</li> </ul>	About this transcript		go prob		<u>3 exons</u> , is annota	ited with 24 domains	and features, is asso	ciated with 51	13 variant alleles and maps to
<ul> <li>PDB 3D protein model</li> </ul>	Gene						-		
- AlphaFold predicted model	Gene	Th	is trans	script is a p	product of gene E	NSDARG000000245	37.9 Hide transcri	ot table	
Genetic Variation									
- Variant image	Show/hide columns (1 hidd	len)					Filter		
<ul> <li>Population comparison</li> <li>Comparison image</li> </ul>	Transcript ID 💧	Name 💧 b	p 💧 F	Protein 💧	Biotype 💧	UniProt Match 🖕	Flags	é.	
External References	ENSDART00000128895.4 et	milin1a-202 3	3882	1014aa	Protein coding	<u>F1QC17</u> &	Ensembl Canonical	APPRIS P5	
- General identifiers	ENSDART0000035612.7 e	milin1a-201 3	3027	1008aa	Protein coding	Q5TZ63 &	APPRIS A	.T2	
<ul> <li>Oligo probes</li> <li>Supporting evidence</li> </ul>					0				
ID History	Summary @								
<ul> <li>Transcript history</li> <li>Protein history</li> </ul>	6.5.4998675038888 <b>-</b>								
	Export image								
Configure this page					19.36	kb			Forward strand
Custom tracks									
	emilin1a-202 - ENSDART000001	28895 >							
🖢 Export data	protein county								
Share this page	Statistics	Ex	ons: 8	, Coding (	exons: 8, Transc	ript length: 3,882 bp	os, Translation lengt	h: 1,014 resid	ues
+ Bookmark this page	Version	EN	SDAR	T0000012	8895.4				
	Туре	Pre	otein co	oding					
	Annotation Method Manual annotation (determined on a case-by-case basis) from the Havana project.								

BLAST/BLAT   VEP   Tools   BioM	rt   Downloads   Help & Docs   Blog	a					Cl * Search all species
Cz11) 🔻							
72-34,865,031 Gene: emilin1a Tr	nscript: emilin1a-202						
Transcript: ENSDART0000	128895.4 emilin1a-202						
	astin microfibril interfacer 1a [Source:	ZHIN;ACC:ZDB-GENE-04100	<u>J1-191</u> <sup>[0]</sup>				
	17159005, si:dkey-20n10.2	at the second strend in					
	hromosome 20: 34,845,672-34,865,03		1	Free starts the last	1		
	his transcript has <u>8 exons</u> , is annotate			513 variant alleles an	d maps to 169 oligo	probes.	
aene -	his transcript is a product of gene ENS	3DARG00000024537.9	de transcript table				
Show/hide columns (1 hidde		Filter					
	lame   bp   Protein   Biotype	UniProt Match	Flags				
ENSDART00000128895.4 en	lin1a-202 3882 1014aa Protein o		Ensembl Canonical AP	PRIS P5			
ENSDART00000035612.7 en	lin1a-201 3027 1008aa Protein o	coding Q5TZ63	APPRIS ALT2				
rison Exerce @							
e Exons @							
B Download sequence							
Exons/ Translated sec	ence Flanking sequence Intron ser	ATTA ACTAN					
	prime UTR Missense Splice regio						
Variants loaded		Cynonymous					
e Markup							
Show All : entries		Sha	w/hide columns				Elter
	Start	End		Start Phase	End Phase	Length	Sequence
No. Exon / Intro 5' upstream		End		Start Phase	End Phase	Length	sequence agagagagagagagagagagagagagagagagag
ge 1 ENSDARED		.672 34.84	46,157	-	2	486	GGATCCGCATCTTTTCAGGACAGTTTTCACATTATGAGGGCGCAGACGATGAAGGAA
90							AACCGGACGTTTCTCATTAGCGTTTGACTGCGGAGCGTCTGTCAAGTAGAAAATGAC AACATATTTTGCGATTAATGGACACTGTGCAAAATTATGACACCGGTTCATAAACAG
							CAACACATAGAACTTTATGAATCCCAGCGCTGAACATCATCAACTCATGGAGAGTTA
							GGACTGCTGGACTGCACCTACCAGGCGGATTTCTACTTTGAAACACTTGGATGTACT TAACGATCGTTTTACTTGTAAGCCATGGCACTATATTTTGTTTACTTGTCCACTCT
							GGCGCTGATTTTGCTTGGAGATAATTGGGCAGCGGGAACTTACGCTTCTCGATACAC
							ACATGTGGATGAGAATCAGTCTGGAGCAGCAGCAGCAGAGTGGATCTAAGGTGACCAG ACATAG
Intron 1-2	34,846	158 34.85	57,142			10.985	gtaagacagcaccagtgtcttcattatgatttgctcatgtacacaaa
2 ENSDARED			57,262	2	2	120	GAACTGGTGTGCCTACGTAGTGACGCGGACTGTAAGCTGTGTTATGGAAGATGGAGT
2 ENGDANED	00270100	,140	11,202	2	L	120	AACTTATGTCAAACCTGAATACCAGCGCTGTGCTTGGGGGCCAATGTTCCCATGTGGT
Intron 2-3	34,857	.263 34,85	58,606			1,344	gtaagtattcatgcttaagcactgcaacatgataaaatatctcacca
3 ENSDARED	000265386 34,858	607 34,85	58,758	2	1	152	GTATCSGACTTACAGAAAACCACGGTATAAGGTTGCCTATAAAGTGGTATCAGAGAT
							ATGGAAGTGCTGTCATGGTTACTCAGGTGATGACTGCAGTGACGGTTCCTCTGCCAT TGACAGCAGGGCAAGACCTACTGGTGAAGAAG
Intron 3-4	34,858	.759 34.85	59,424			666	gtagaatttatatacatatataataataactogtooaacoatgtett
4 ENSDARED			61,434	1	1	2,010	GGAGAAGTGACAGCGACAGGATTAGACAACTCGAGGAACAAATACAAAGCTTGAACA
							ACCTTCACAACCTCCAAAAGAAAATATATGAAGAATCTCAAAGGGAAGGCATCAGCG GCAACAATCTGGCAGACGCTGCCCAGCCAGGGATGAAAGAGACCATTCACAGCATCC
							CCAAACTGGACATGCTGGACAACATGACACGAGTGCATGACAAGACCCTCACAAACA
							ACAACCACCTTGTGGGCGGCAATGGAATTGAGAATGAGTTGGACAGTCGCTATGGCA TTAAAGAGGGAGATTCTACGGGGGGCGGGGGGGGGG
							AAACCGGAGTGGAGAGCATACAAAGGCAACATCAGGAAGACAGAGAGAG
							TGGAGAAGCACATCAGTGTGATGGAACAGCACCACCAGCAAACCTTAGACTTGCTAT
							GCTCTCAGAGTTGCTGTGATTCCCTGGACAGGAAGCTCAGTGCAATTGACAGAAGG GTTCGACTGCAGAGACATACGATATCCTTAGAGGACGCCTTGAGAAGGAGGTGAGA
							ATGGCAATGGAGGTCGTGGGAAAAGCTATGGAGGAAAAACTGAATAACCGCCTTCGAG TGGAGCGGAGATTGAATGGGACTGTGAGAAAAACTGAGCAAAAATGCTCCCCATACAG
							CAAGTATGAAGGAGTTTGTCCAGAGAGAGAGAGCCAGATAAAGAACTCAGTCCTCG
							GAAACGATGATCATGGTTATAGGATATCTACA <mark>G</mark> TTGAGATAGACATCCAAGACTTGA GTTTTATTAACGATCATAAAAATAACCTGGAACGGTTAGGGAACAAAACAAAC
							GTTTTNTTAACGATCATAAAAATAACCTGGAACGGTTAGGGAACAAAAAAAA
							AGACAGAAGATACTGTGAAAAGCCTGGAATGGAAGGTTGTTGCCAATGAGGAGGACA
							AGAAGTTTGACACCAAGCTAAAGGATATAAGTGTGTCTGGTGACTCCTTATTGGACC TAATAGATCTAAGCAATGACGTTCAAAAAATTAAGGATCTGACAGGACAAAATGGAG
							ACTITAACCAAATCGTCACCGATGTGGAGAATCTGGGACGTGATTGTGACGTATGCA
							CGATAGATGGCGAACTACAAAAAATAAGAAACGTCACGAGCTACGACCACAAAA AGGCAGAGCTTACAGTTTTGGGCAGAAAGGTATTTTCAGATGAGCACGTTTGCTCAC
							TGTGCTCAAACCTCCAGGAGGAAGTGGGCAAATTGAAAGAAGAGGGTTGAAAAATGCA





IDT's contact information has changed! Visit our Contact Us page for updated information.



https://eu.idtdna.com/

#### Custom Alt-R<sup>®</sup> CRISPR-Cas9 guide RNA

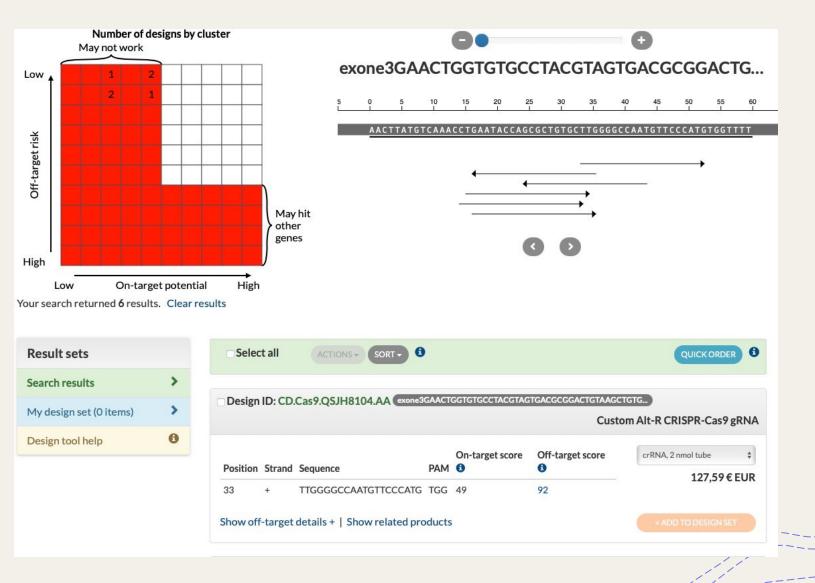
Generate CRISPR-Cas9 guide RNAs (gRNAs, such as crRNA and sgRNA) targeting any sequence from any species. Currently, analysis of off-target effects against human, mouse, rat, zebrafish, or *C. elegans* genes are available. For HDR experiment designs, please see the following HDR design tool.

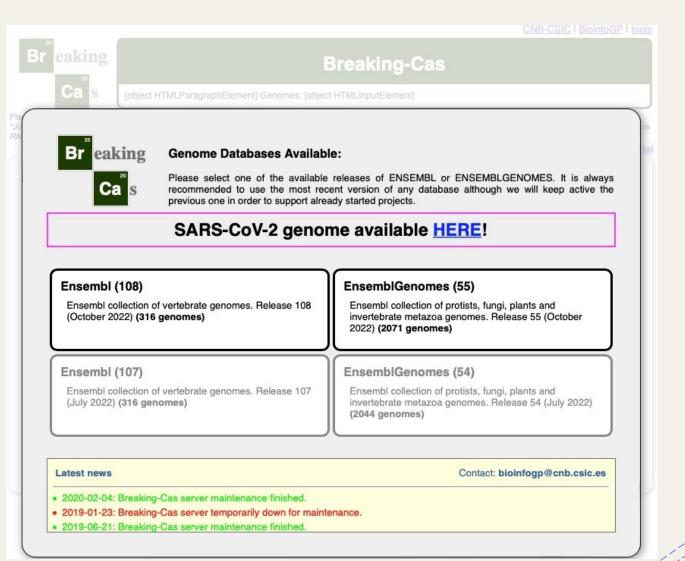
Search for predesigned gRNA

Design custom gRNA CRISPR-C

CRISPR-Cas9 gRNA checker

Species	Danio rerio	DESIGN
Input format	FASTA Sequence 💠 🚯	CLEAR AND RESET
Paste/Type input	Jpload file	
Enter up to 10 FASTA S Please enter sequences in No more than 1000 bases	standard FASTA formatting.	
	GCCTACGTAGTGACGCGGACTGTAAGCTGTGTTATGGAAGATGGAGTGGA GAATACCAGCGCTGTGCTTGGGGCCAATGTTCCCATGTGGTTTT	





https://bioinfogp.cnb.csic.es/tools/breakingcas/

#### CNB-CSIC | BioinfoGP | tools

	Breaking-Cas									
Ca	Ensembl collection of vertebrate genomes. Release 108 (October 2022) Genomes: 316									
	nica Franch, Daniel Tabas-Madrid, David San-León, Lluis Montoliu, Pilar Cubas and Florencio Pazos (2016). Breaking-Cas—interactive design of guide s experiments for ENSEMBL genomes. <u>Nucleic Acids Research (2016) doi: 10.1093/nar/gkw407</u> . https://bioinfogp.cnb.csic.es/tools/breakingcas" Tutoria									
	anism: (alphabetic list) Danio rerio, leopard danio, zebra danio, : Write 3 letters or more and select it. r several query DNA sequences in FASTA format (up to 20,000 nucleotides in total):									
> esone3 GTATCGG ATGGAAG	ACTTACAGAAAAACCACGGTATAAAGTTGCCTATAAAGTGGTATCAGAGAGTGGA TGCTGTCATGGTTACTCAGGTGATGACTGCAGTGACGGTTCCTCTGCCATACA AGGGCAAGACCTACTGGTGAAGAAG									
Or upload F	ASTA file (DNA): Scegli file nessun file selezionato									
3 Select nucle	Select nuclease settings: Cas9: Streptococcus pyogenes Cas9 (SpCas9) (PAM: "NGG" in 3')									
Or set your	own parameters:									
PA Gu	M sequence:       NGG         M position:       5' • 3'         Use predefined settings for Cas9 or Cpf1, or set custom parameters for other nucleases. If necessary, write a different PAM sequence (in IUPAC notation). For Cas9, positional weights based on Hsu et al. (2013) are used by default. See tutorial pages for details on off-targets score's calculation.         Immatches:       Up tr \$									
	Position-dependent weights Edit									
#1 5'-	#2       #3       #4       #5       #6       #7       #8       #9       #10       #11       #12       #13       #14       #15       #16       #17       #18       #19       #20       (PAM)         0       0.014       0       0       0.395       0.317       0       0.389       0.079       0.445       0.508       0.513       0.651       0.732       0.628       0.615       0.604       0.665       0.563       NGG       -31									
Confirmation er	nail (optional): To receive a message as soon the job finishes. Write it carefully (it will not be checked).									

#### esone 3

Danio rerio (leopard danio, zebra danio, zebra fish, zebrafish)

Analysis Settings: -Database='Ensembl\_108' -Genome(FASTA)='Danlo\_rerio.GRCz11.dna.primary\_assembly.fa' -Genome(GTF)='Danio\_rerio.GRCz11.108.gtf' -PAM='NGG' -PAM Position=3' -Oligo Size=20 -Max. mismatches=4

-Positional Weights (1 to 20)=01010.014101010.39510.3171010.38910.07910.44510.50810.61310.85110.73210.82810.61510.80410.68510.583

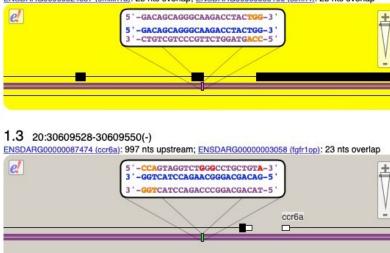
Filter boxes 2 Export Oligos (text-tabulated format)

START‡	END‡	STRAND:	OLIGO‡	ONTARGETS‡	OFFTARGETS‡	GENES‡	SCORE↓
23	42		TTATAGGCAACCTTATACCGTGG	1	12	12	99.1
65	84	+	AAGTGCTGTCATGGTTACTCAGG	1	48	41	93.9
10	29	+	TTACAGAAAACCACGGTATAAGG	1	62	40	93.4
39	58		CATCTCTGATACCACTTTATAGG	1	43	32	92.5
111	130		CCTGCTGTCATGTATGGCAGAGG	1	47	38	92.4
3	22	+	ATCGGACTTACAGAAAACCACGG	1	17	14	91.1
109	128	+	CTCTGCCATACATGACAGCAGGG	1	45	36	90.6
25	44	+	<b>GTATAAGGTTGCCTATAAAGTGG</b>	1	53	44	89.5
108	127	+	CCTCTGCCATACATGACAGCAGG	1	47	34	89.4
42	61	+	AAGTGGTATCAGAGATGGAATGG	1	70	45	88.3
117	136		TCTTGCCCTGCTGTCATGTATGG	1	39	30	87
83	102	+	TCAGGTGATGACTGCAGTGACGG	1	57	47	86.8
122	141	+	GACAGCAGGGCAAGACCTACTGG	1	59	43	83.7
56	75	+	ATGGAATGGAAGTGCTGTCATGG	1	48	35	82.8
37	56	+	CTATAAAGTGGTATCAGAGATGG	1	72	59	80.3

#### GACAGCAGGGCAAGACCTAC(TGG) Export Targets (text-tabulated format)

#### 100 20:34858728-34858750(+)

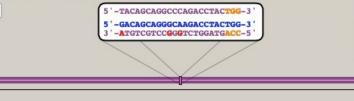
ENSDARG00000024537 (emilin1a): 23 nts overlap; ENSDARG00000030106 (stmn4): 23 nts overlap



#### 1.3 8:4659140-4659162(+)

e!

ENSDARG00000017140 (zgc:63587): 23 nts overlap



+

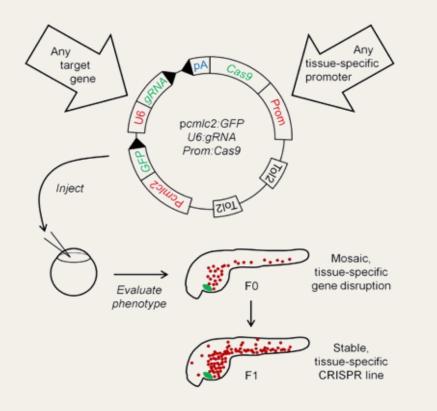
### **Top tips for success with CRISPR-Cas9**

- Identify a target region
  - 1. The target region should be 5' to domains that you suspect may impart functionality.
  - 2. The target region should be in a constitutive exon. Avoid exons that are sometimes excluded from transcripts unless your project focuses on function of a particular splice form.
  - 3. Preferred exons have few or no SNPs shown in Ensembl's "Variation Features" track.
  - 4. Exons longer than 150 bp are likely to contain ideal CRISPR sites.
- Finding Guides IDT, CHOPCHOP, CRISPRSCAN, Breaking Cas9 and Synthego
- *Choosing a guide* How do you choose which one to use?
  - 1. Never choose a guide that has any significant **off-target** sites (perfect match for the 8-12 bases closest to the PAM) in a coding of the genome
  - 2. Eliminate candidate CRISPR target sites with an obvious stretches of self-complementary sequence that

might cause hairpin formation

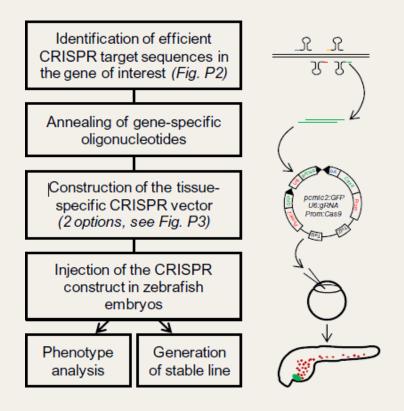
- 3. GC content should be between ~ 30-80%, the higher the better (but not too high!).
- 4. Consider the method to assay mutagenesis and genotype (restriction enzyme, HRMA, agarose gel 4%)

#### Conditional KO in zebrafish



#### Advantage

- Flexibility of the tissue-specific CRISPR vector system.
- Avoid the embryonic lethality associated with the global knockout of certain genes.
- Insertion marker in the vector (GFP) facilitates sorting of transgenic animals.
- Greater level of biallelic inactivation by the vector.
- Faster than the time required to generate KO or conditional knockout mice (CRE/Lox system).



#### Disadvantage

The efficiency of gene inactivation is likely to be lower than in a straight knockout or a conditional knockout such as the Cre/Lox system in the mouse.

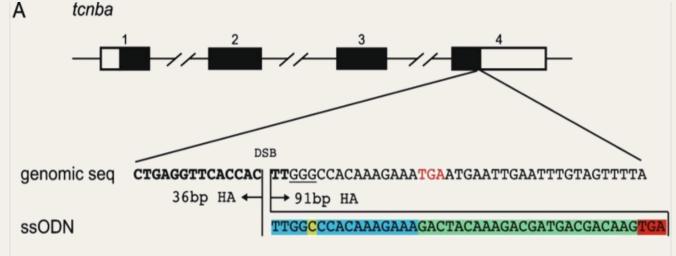
#### Knock-in

> Nat Biotechnol. 2016 Mar;34(3):339-44. doi: 10.1038/nbt.3481. Epub 2016 Jan 20.

#### Enhancing homology-directed genome editing by catalytically active and inactive CRISPR-Cas9 using asymmetric donor DNA

Christopher D Richardson  $^{1\ 2}$ , Graham J Ray  $^{1\ 2}$ , Mark A DeWitt  $^{1\ 2}$ , Gemma L Curie  $^{1\ 2}$ , Jacob E Corn  $^{1\ 2}$ 

Affiliations + expand PMID: 26789497 DOI: 10.1038/nbt.3481



#### Indel detection following CRISPR/Cas9 mutagenesis by PCR: Oligo design

Drimor2wah		disclaimer	code
Primer3web version 4.1.0 - F	rick primers from a DNA sequence.	cautions	-
Select the Task for primer selection generic	:		
Template masking before primer design (avai	(able spacies)		
	otides to mask in 5' direction 1		
	otides to mask in 3' direction o		
Paste source sequence below (5'->3', string of <u>Mispriming Library (repeat library)</u> NONE	ACGTNacgtn other letters treated as N numbers and blanks ignored). FASTA format ok. Please N-out undesirable sequence (ve	ctor, ALUs, LINEs, etc.)	or use a
CTGTGTTTATGGAAGATGGAOTggaaacttatgtcaaacctgaatac	ccagogctgtggttggggccaatgttcccatgtggttttgtaagtattcatgcttaagcactgccaaat JGAAAGGTCTGG		
	h		
Pick left primer, or use left primer below	Pick hybridization probe (internal oligo), or use oligo below Z Pick right primer, or use right primer below (5' to 3' on opposite s	trand)	
<b>G</b> ·			
Pick Primers Download Settings Reset Form			
Sequence Id	A string to identify your output.		
Targets	E.g. 50,2 requires primers to surround the 2 bases at positions 50 and 51. Or mark the source sequence with [ and ]: e.gATCT[C must flank the central CCCC.	CCC]TCAT means that	l primers
Overlap Junction List	E.g. 27 requires one primer to overlap the junction between positions 27 and 28. Or mark the <u>source sequence</u> with -: e.gATCT. must overlap the junction between the C and T.	AC-TGTCAT means that	it primers
Excluded Regions	E.g. 401,7 68,3 forbids selection of primers in the 7 bases starting at 401 and the 3 bases at 68. Or mark the source sequence with - forbids primers in the central CCCC.	< and >: e.gATCT <cc< td=""><td>CC&gt;TCAT</td></cc<>	CC>TCAT
Pair OK Region List	See manual for help.		
Included Region	E.g. 20,400: only pick primers in the 400 base region starting at position 20. Or use { and } in the source sequence to mark the beg region: e.g. in ATC{TTCTCT}AT the included region is TTCTCT.	inning and end of the inc	:luded
Start Codon Position			
Internal Oligo Excluded Region			
Force Left Primer Start -100¢ Force Right Prin	mer Start -1000		
Force Left Primer End -100c Force Right Pri	imer End -1000		
Sequence Quality			
Min Sequence Quality   Min End Sequen	ce Quality • Sequence Quality Range Min • Sequence Quality Range Max 100		
Pick Primers Download Settings Reset Form			
		11 1	

https://primer3.ut.ee/

#### Indel detection following CRISPR/Cas9 mutagenesis by PCR: Oligo design

#### Primer3 Output

PRIMER PICKING RESULTS FOR

Template masking not selected No mispriming library specified Using 1-based sequence positions OLIGO gc% any\_th 3'\_th hairpin seq start len tm 59.16 0.00 TGTGTTATGGAAGATGGAGTgga LEFT PRIMER 2 23 43.48 0.00 0.00 177 20 58.47 RIGHT PRIMER 55.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 CCAGACCTTTCCAGCTTGAC SEQUENCE SIZE: 177 INCLUDED REGION SIZE: 177

PRODUCT SIZE: 176, PAIR ANY\_TH COMPL: 15.07, PAIR 3'\_TH COMPL: 8.30

- 61 gggccaatgttcccatgtggttttgtaagtattcatgcttaagcactgccaaattacatt

121 tcatttaatcttggtgaccacttgttattatgacagtGTCAAGCTGGAAAGGTCTGG

KEYS (in order of precedence): >>>>> left primer <<<<< right primer

ADDITIONAL OLIGOS

start len tm gc% any th 3' th hairpin seq

1	LEFT PRIMER		8	22	57.34	40.91	0.00	0.00	0.00 ATGGAAGATGGAGTggaaactt
	RIGHT PRIMER		175	21	59.23	47.62	0.00	0.00	0.00 AGACCTTTCCAGCTTGACact
	PRODUCT SIZE:	168,	PAIR	ANY_	TH COMPL:	15.07,	PAIR 3'	TH COMPL	: 0.00

#### Guidelines to design successful primers for PCR

Before designing a gRNA, ensure that you can design good primers flanking the CRISPR target site for HRMA and sequencing.

#### Primers for agarose gel 4%

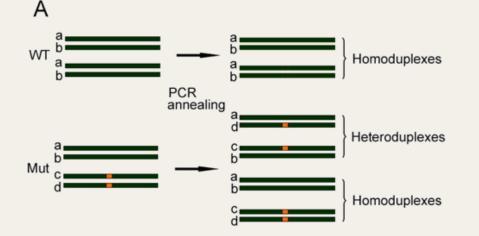
- Check for predicted SNPs in the target region using the "variation features" track on Ensembl
- The product size should be 100-160 bp; with these short PCR products, small sequence changes can produce large changes in melting temperature
- Ensure that at least 20 bp are present between each primer and the CRISPR target site, so longer insertions or deletions (indels) can be detected.

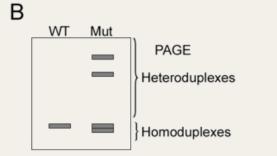
#### Primers for sequencing reactions:

- Ensure that at least 50 bp are present between each sequencing primer and the CRISPR target site.
- Ensure that at least one of the primers for sequencing is found in the same exon as the CRISPR target site.
- Intronic sequence and untranslated regions (UTRs) sometimes contain silent indels, which can complicate lesion identification.

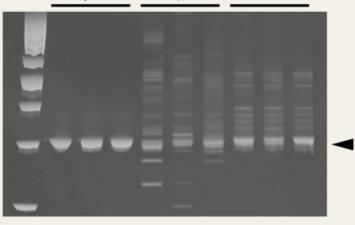
# PAGE-based genotyping protocol for identification of CRISPR/Cas9-mediated indel mutations

#### F0 adults screening (mutation efficiency)





uninjected Cas9 protein Cas9 mRNA



#### Cas9 protein-gRNA

#### <u>spns2</u>

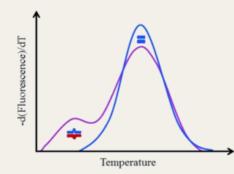
#### indel mutations rate : 15/15 (100%)

TCTCTCCGCAGCGGTCTGGGCTACATCCTGGGA	WT	×0
TCTCTCCGCAGTCTGGGCTACATCCTGGGA	-3	×5
TCTCTCCGCTACATCCTGGGA	-12	$\times 4$
TCTCTCCGCAGGA	-20	×2
TCTCTCCGGTCTGGGCTACATCCTGGGA	-5	×l
TCTCTGGGCTACATCCTGGGA	-12	×l
TCTCTCCGCAGAGAGAGACTACATCCTGGGA	-9/+7	×1,
TCTCTCCGCAAAACATGTTATAGCTCCGGTCTG	-1/+16	*1

# Identification of founders

F1 embryos screening (founders identification)

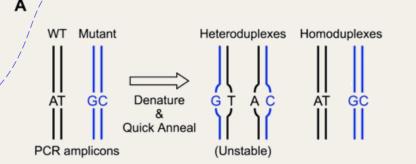
HRMA (High Resolution Melting Analysis (HRMA)

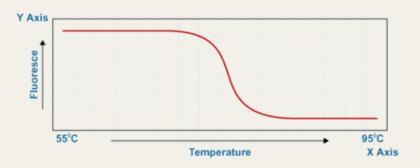


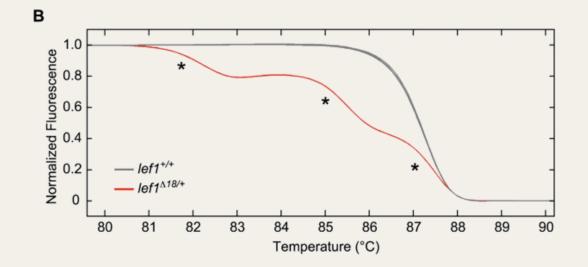
PCR on 4% agarose gel

# 

#### Identification of founders: High Resolution Melt Analysis (HRMA)

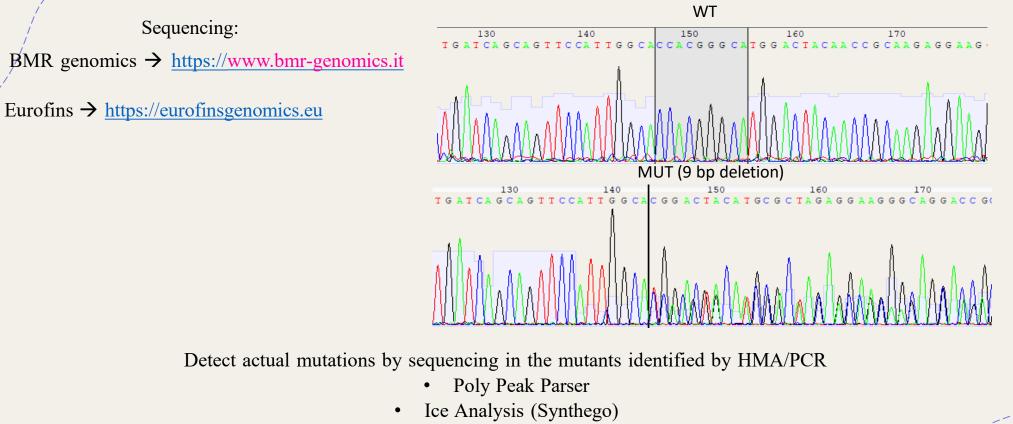






## Identification of mutations

#### F1 embryos sequencing (mutations identification)



• TIDE (https://tide.nki.nl)

652 ATTGAATACGG<u>GGACATGCAGCTGATCTGTG</u>AGGCCTATCATCTGATGAAGGACGTGCTTTGTATGAAC 660

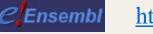
- 218 -I--E--Y--G--D--M--Q--L--I--C--E--A--Y--H--L--M--K--D--V--L--C--M--N--240
- 652 ATTGAATACGGGGACATGCAGC-----TGAGGCCTATCATCTGATGAAGGACGTGCTTTGTATGAAC 660

218 -I--E--Y--G--D--M--Q-----L--R--P--I--I--\*--\*-230

# To Sum Up

1. Identify the target region

https://genome.ucsc.edu/



https://www.ensembl.org/

#### 2. crRNA Design



**Genome Browser** 

SANTA CRUZ Genomics

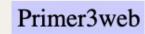
https://eu.idtdna.com/

https://bioinfogp.cnb.csic.es/tools/breakingcas/



http://www.crisprscan.org

3. Indel detection following CRISPR/Cas9 mutagenesis by PCR/



https://primer3.ut.ee/



https://tide.nki.nl