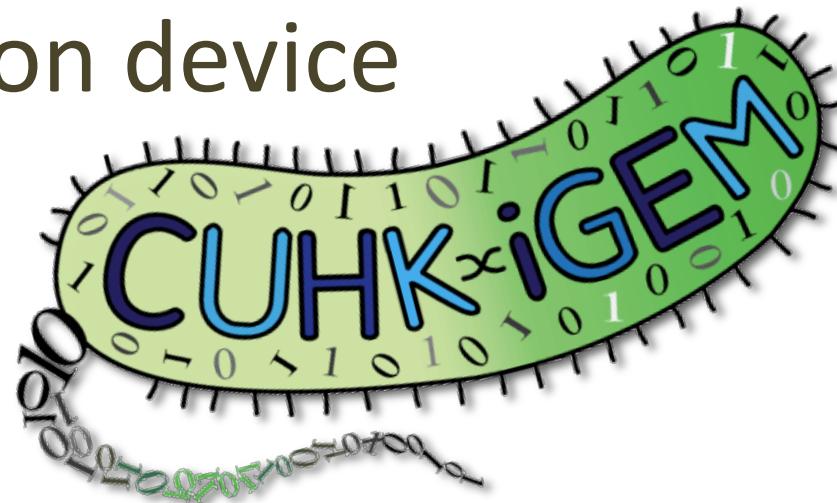
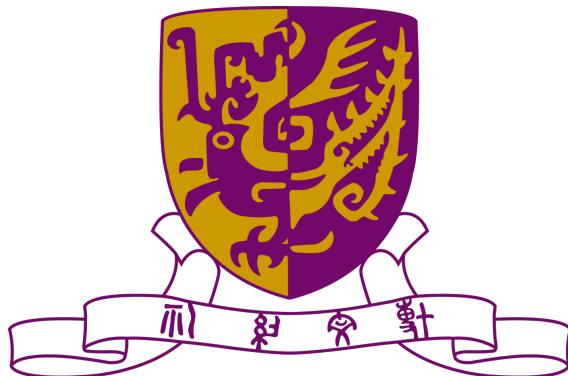


# The Chinese University of Hong Kong – iGEM 2010

Bacterial based storage and  
encryption device

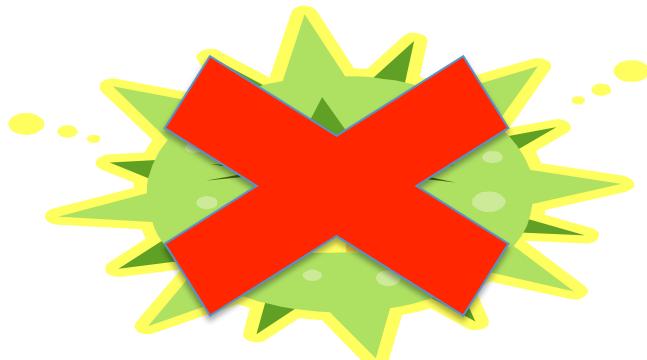


# Bacterial based information storage device

- Bancroft's group (2001)  
Mount Sinai School of Medicine
- Yachie's group (2007)  
Keio University



However..



# This year, The CUHK...

- True, massively parallel bacterial storage system

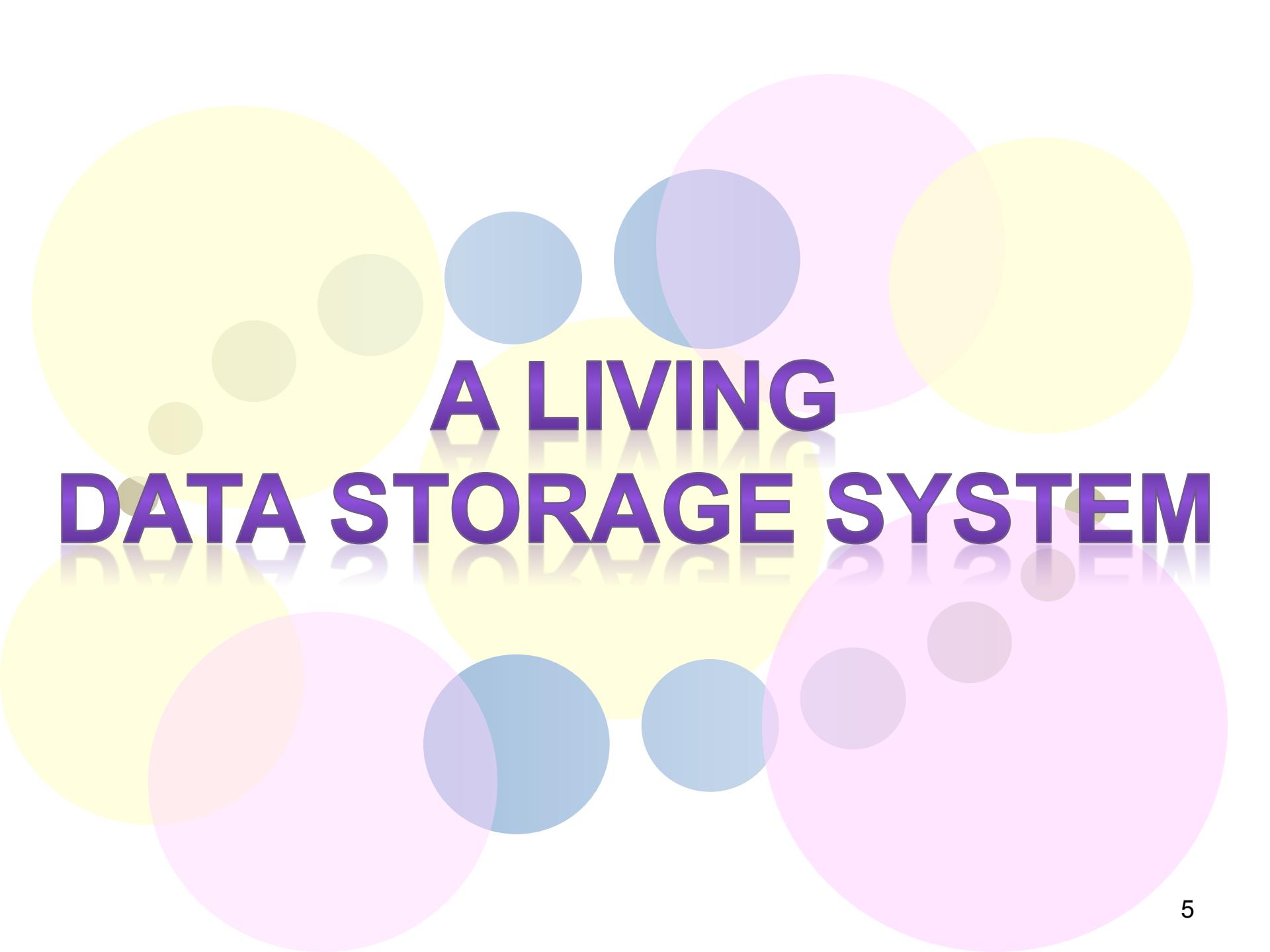
It is not the only  
thing we did..!!



# In Addition...

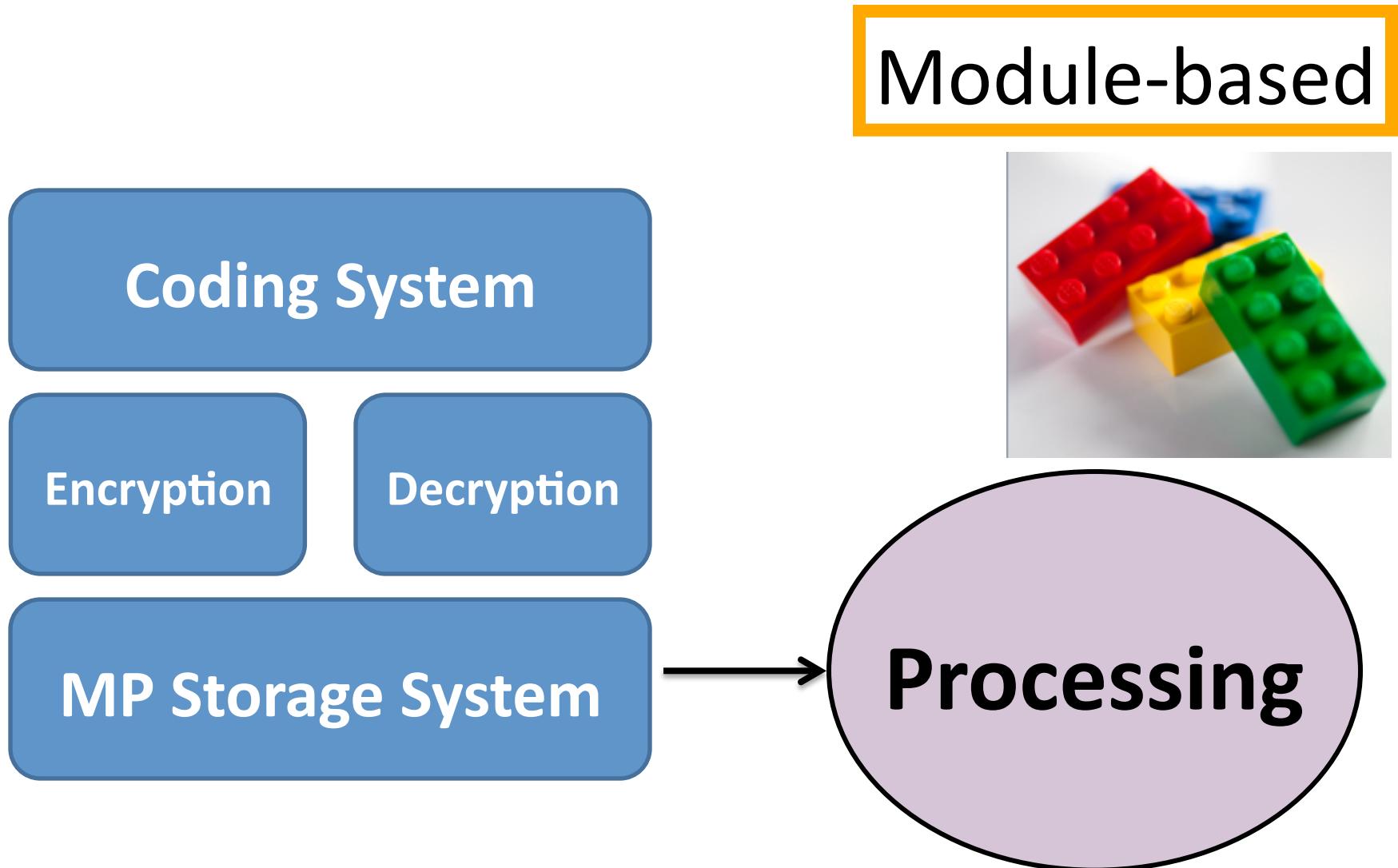
- Encryption module with DNA shuffling system
  - Rci system
- The data proof-read
  - Checksum
- Strategy deal with synthesis/sequencing difficulties
  - Homopolymer, repetitive sequence





# A LIVING DATA STORAGE SYSTEM

# Basic infrastructure of the system



# Coding System

Encryption

Decryption

MP Storage System

# Coding System

Encoding table



Quaternary Number System



DNA sequence



Compression

# Use Numbers to Represent the Letters

From ASCII Table

- i = 105
- G = 71
- E = 69
- M = 77

Change to Quaternary Numbers

- 105 → 1221
- 71 → 0113
- 69 → 0111
- 77 → 0131

iGEM → 1221011301110131

Use “A, T, C & G” to Represent the Numbers

- 0 = A
- 1 = T
- 2 = C
- 3 = G

iGEM → 1221011301110131  
→ ATCTATTGATTTATGT

Enter your text here:

iGEM is very interesting

24 chars

Original message input

Quaternary Encoding:

12211013101110310200122113030200131212111302132102001221123213101211130212111303131012211232  
1213

96 chars

Converted to Quaternary number

DNA Encoding:

TCCTTATGTATTAGTACAATCCTTGAGACAATGTCTTTGACTGCTACAATCCTCGCTGTATCTTGACTCTTGA  
GTGTATCCTTCGCTCTG

96 bp

Converted to DNA sequence

# Coding - Compression

- **DEFLATE — a compression algorithm**

1. Can reduce the **homopolymer** and **repetitive regions**
2. Can store more information

# Homopolymer

## Vector Insert Size

(~200 bp will be used by shufflon system)

1000 bp

Minimum Number of bacteria required for storing compressed DNA encoded message:

1

Enter your text here:

650 chars

## Quaternary Encoding:

2600 chars

## DNA Encoding:

2600 bp

Handwriting practice lines consisting of three rows of horizontal lines. The top and bottom lines are solid black, while the middle line is dashed.

## Compressed DNA Encoding:

60 bp

TGCAGTCCAACGAAAGTATGTAATTCCAGTC  
AAAAAAAAAATGGAATCGGTTGGTAG

**The length and repetitive sequence is greatly reduced**

## Conversion

# Repetitive Regions

## Vector Insert Size

(~200 bp will be used by shufflon system)



1000 bp

Minimum Number of bacteria required for storing compressed DNA encoded message:

672 chars

Enter your text here:

## Quaternary Encoding:

2688 chars

## DNA Encoding:

2688 bp

## Compressed DNA Encoding:

69 bp

TGCAGTCCTGAGAAGCGGTGGAAATGTCATGCTTCAGTGCACTAACACAAAAAGGCTCCGGGATAAGCT

## Convert

Coding System

Encryption

Decryption

MP Storage System

# Encryption

- Provide DNA variation
- DNA Shuffling system
- Examples:

Homologous recombination

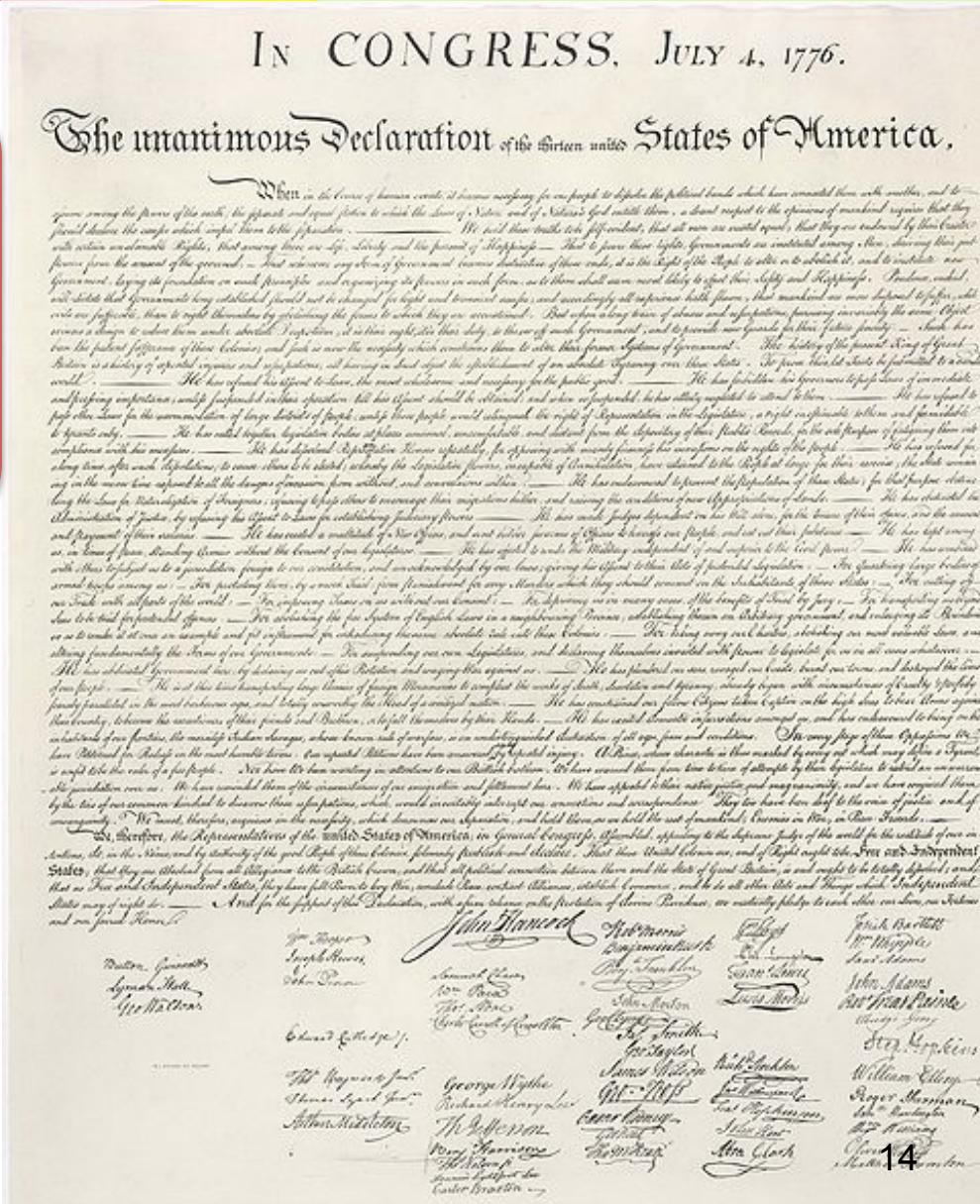
RACHITT

# Simulation Analysis

## The United States Declaration of Independence

8074

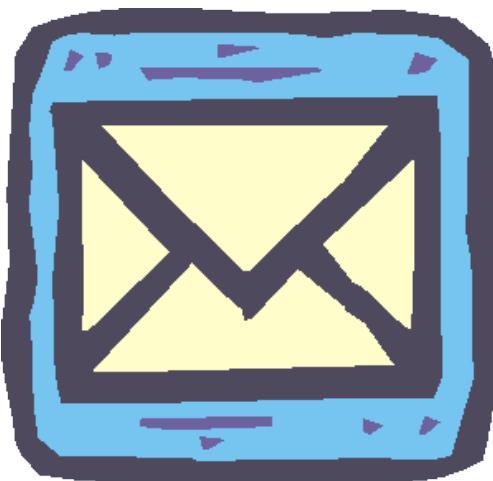
Characters!!!



# Fragmentation of message

- Larger than the maximum vector insertion size
  - Limitation of current DNA synthesis technology
- Split the message into different parts

How do you deal with the problem of positioning?

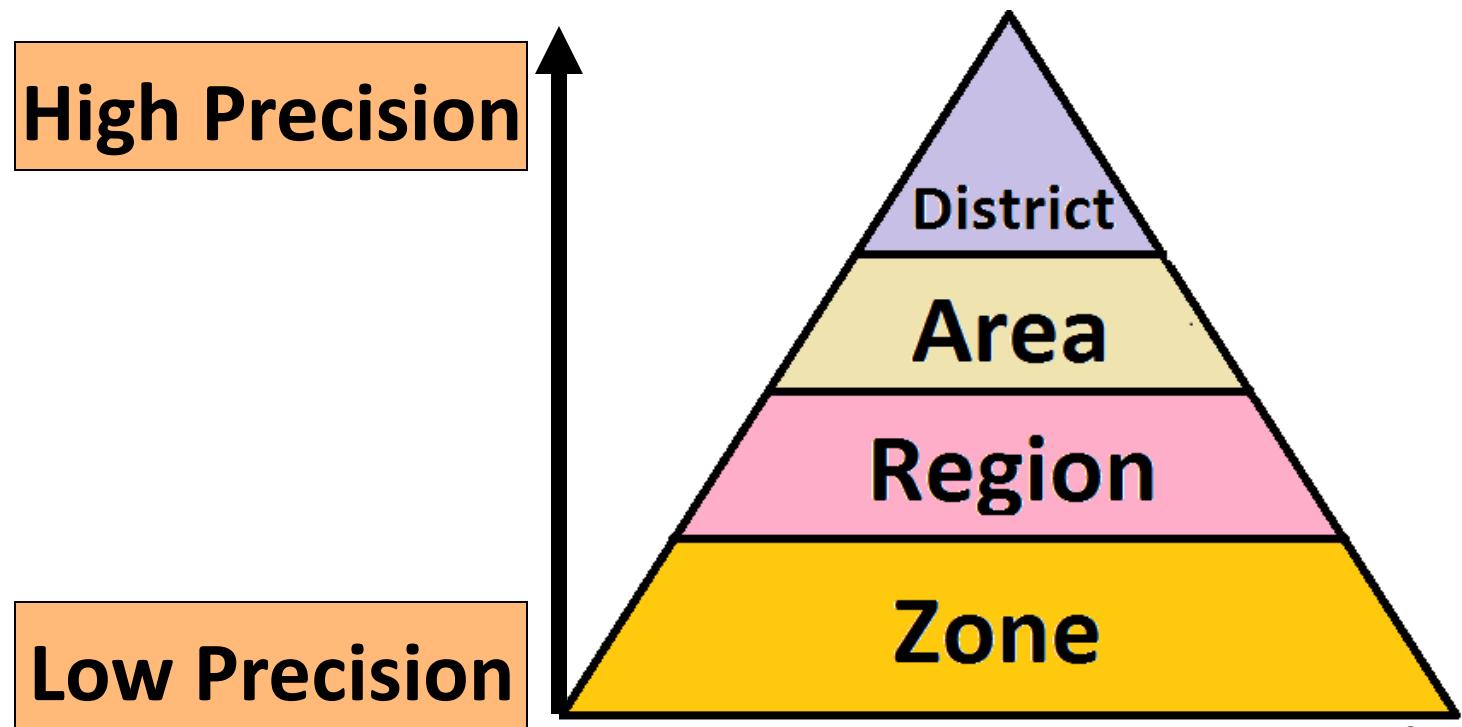


**Postal Code**

# Storage – Massively parallel

Header – Locate particular data fragment of the message

Analogy to the hard disk : 4 address units



**Header of  
2<sup>nd</sup>  
fragment**



AGAT | AGAC | AGTA | AGAG

**Header of  
1<sup>st</sup>  
fragment**



AGAT | AGAC | AGAG | AGCT

**Header of  
3<sup>rd</sup>  
fragment**



AGAT | AGAC | AGTA | AGTG

AGAT | AGTG | AGAT | AGAC



**Header of 4<sup>th</sup>  
fragment**

**Header of  
2<sup>nd</sup>  
fragment**

1

0301 0302 0310 0303

2

**Header of  
1<sup>st</sup>  
fragment**

3

0301 0302 0303 0321

4

**Header of  
3<sup>rd</sup>  
fragment**

0301 0302 0310 0313

0301 0313 0301 0302

**Header of 4<sup>th</sup>  
fragment**



# Capacity

1 gram of cells consists of~ 10 Million cells.

The United States Declaration of Independence requires 18 cells.....

Each fragment will have at least  
500,000 copies!!!

## Coding System

Encryption

Decryption

## MP Storage System

# Decryption

sequencing

Identification of repeat, message, checksum

Checksum system

Header

AAATAA

Repeats

Repeats

Footer

GCGGCG

TTTATT

CGTAAT

TTGCG

CTGCC

CGCCGC

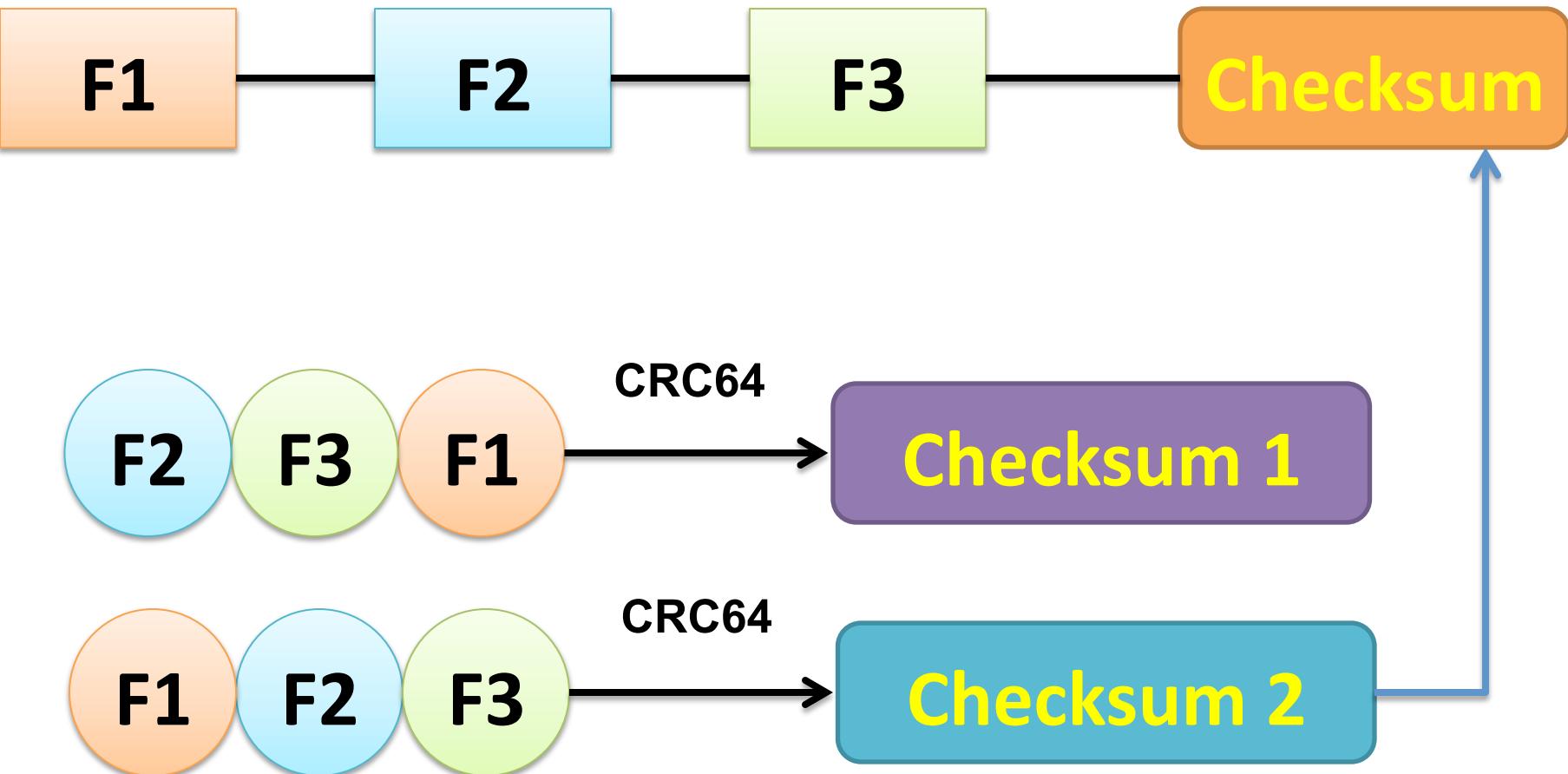
Contains:

-Data fragment  
order

Contains:  
-Checksum

Data  
Fragment

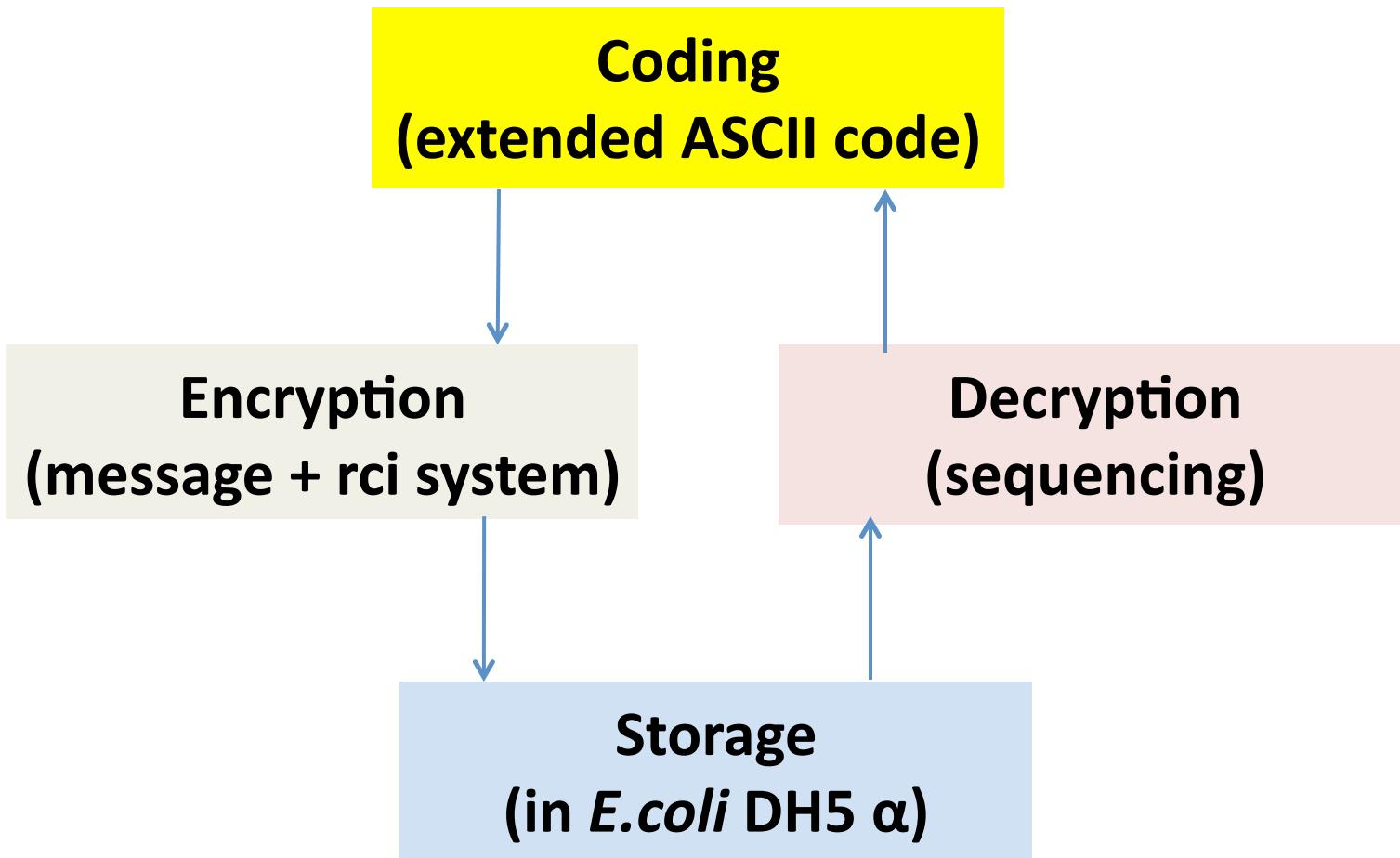
# Checksum Mechanism



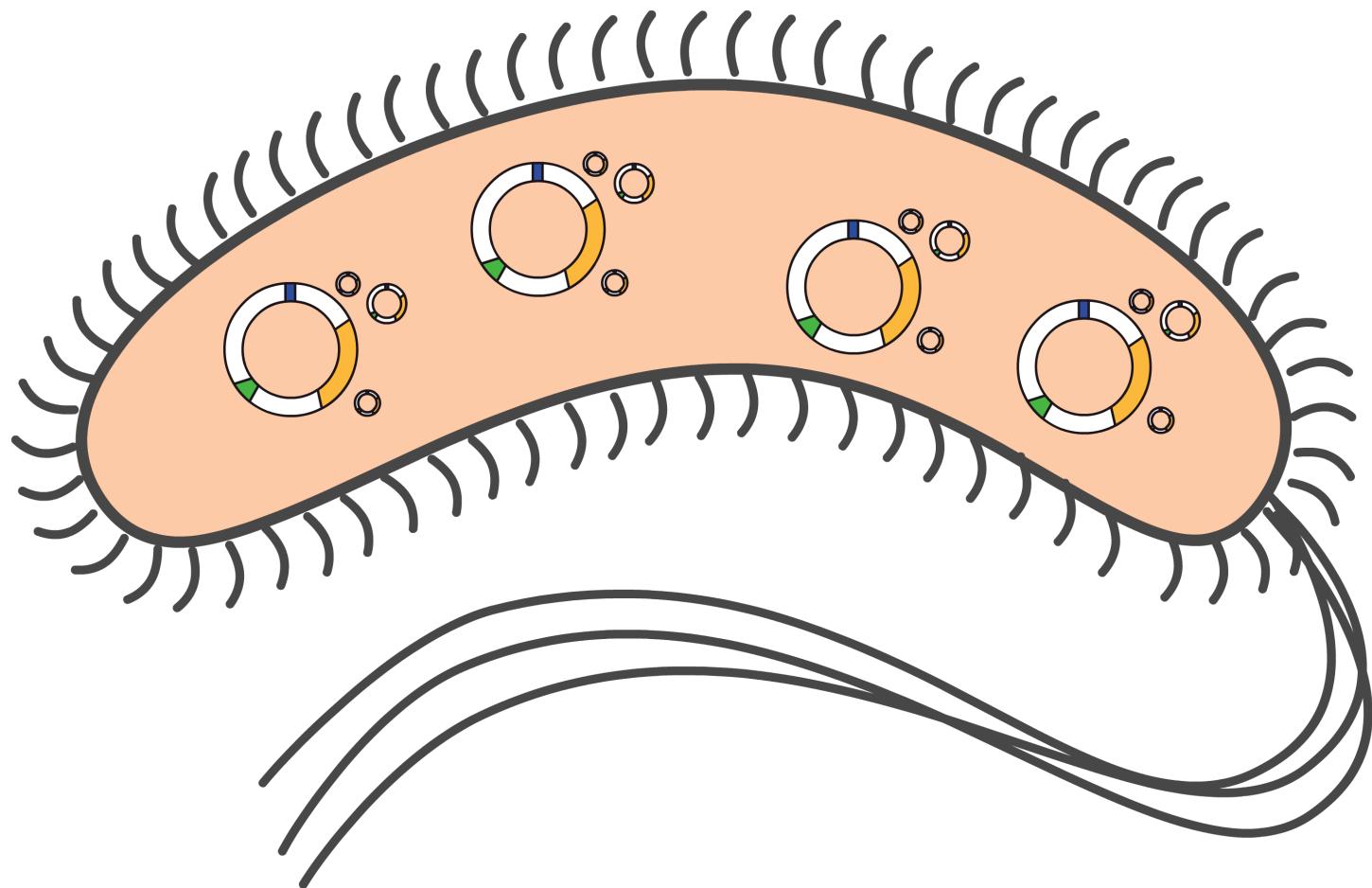


# **WET LAB TEAM**

# To prove our concept...



**4. The host cell duplicates the data storage vectors, which helps to ensure data integrity by redundancy.**



# Message

- we must learn to live together as brothers or perish together as tools

<<code from Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., a prominent leader in the African American civil rights movement >>

eg. “tools”

DNA encoding:

TGTATCGGTC  
GGTCGATGAG

(20bp)

Enter your text here:

70 chars

we must learn to live together as brothers or perish together as tools

Our message (70 characters)

Quaternary Encoding:

280 chars

131312110200123113111303131002001230121112011302123202001310123302001230122113121211020013101233  
121312111310122012111302020012011303020012021302123313101220121113021303020012331302020013001211  
1302122113031220020013101233121312111310122012111302020012011303020013101233123312301303

DNA Encoding:

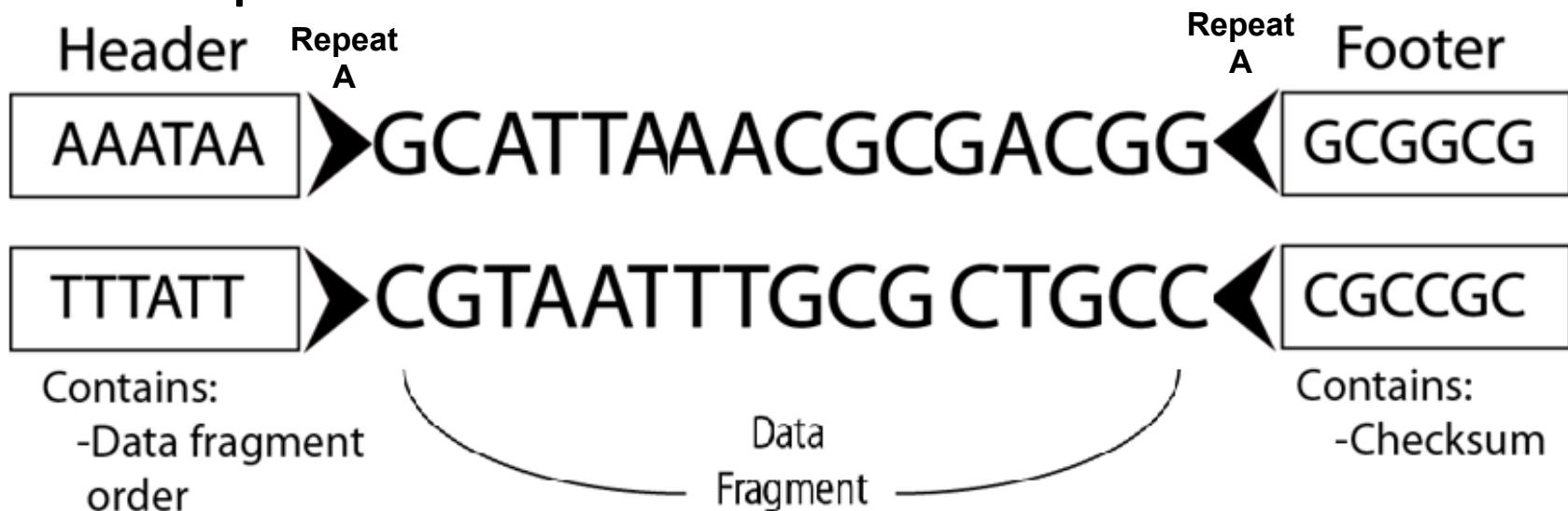
280 bp

TGTGTCTTACAATCGTTGTTGAGTGTAAACAATCGATCTTCATTGACTCGCACAATGTATCGGACAATCGATCCTTGCTCT  
TTACAATGTATCGGTCTGTCTTGTATCCATCTTGACACAATCATTGAGACAATCACTGACTCGGTGTATCCATTTGAC  
TGAGACAATCGGTGACACAATGAATCTTGACTCCTTGAGTCCAACAATGTATCGGTCTGTCTTGATCCATCTTGACA  
CAATCATTGAGACAATGTATCGGTGCGATGAG

DNA Encoding(280bp) 26

# Structure of message

- Repeat A sequence in natural shufflon system has the highest inversion frequency
- 19bp



# Parts designed



**Message gene template (438bp)**

Synthesized DNA

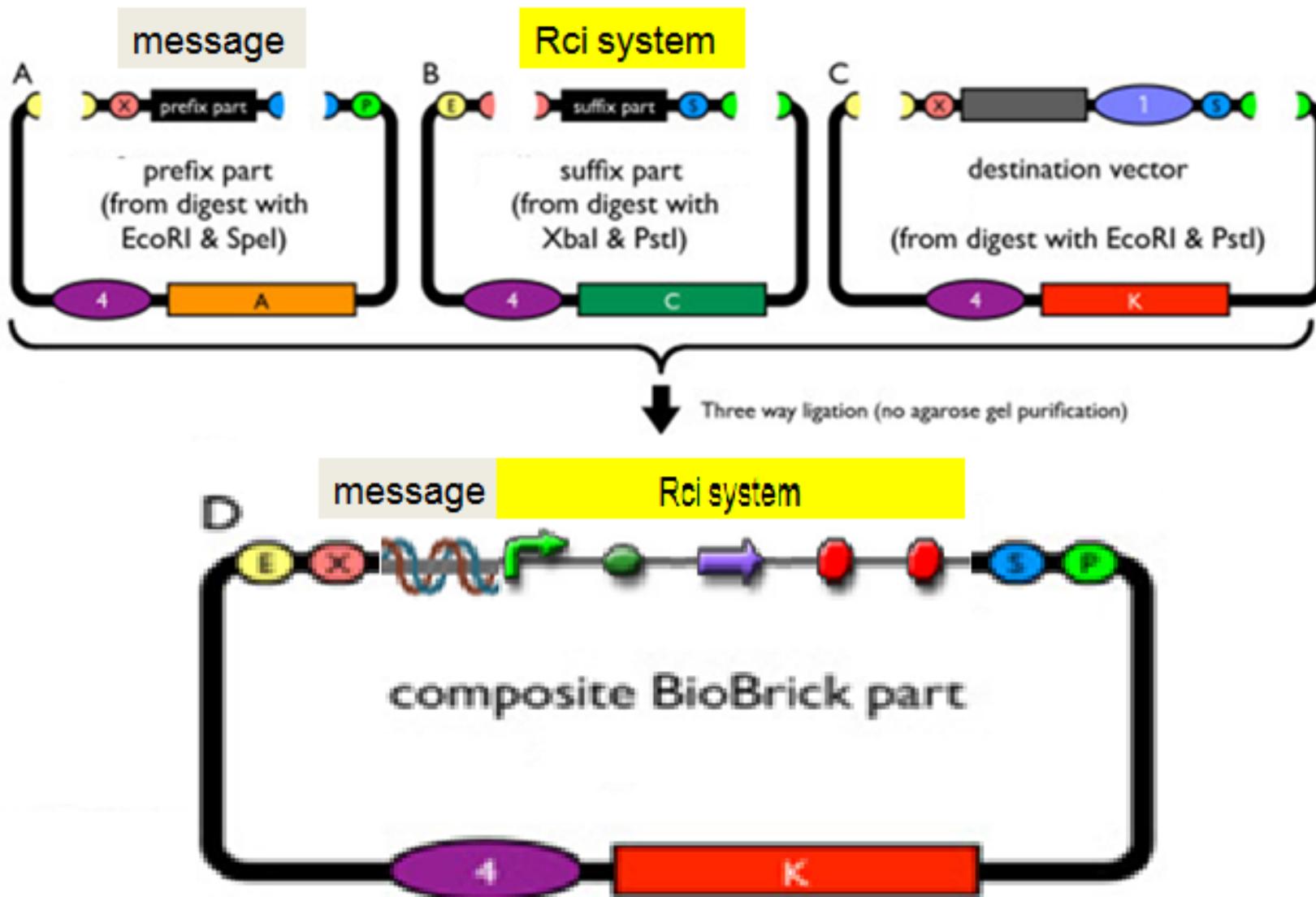
**Rci site-specific recombinase (1155bp)**

Synthesized DNA (rci gene sequence of *E. coli* (strain: K-12))

**Rci system (1484bp)**

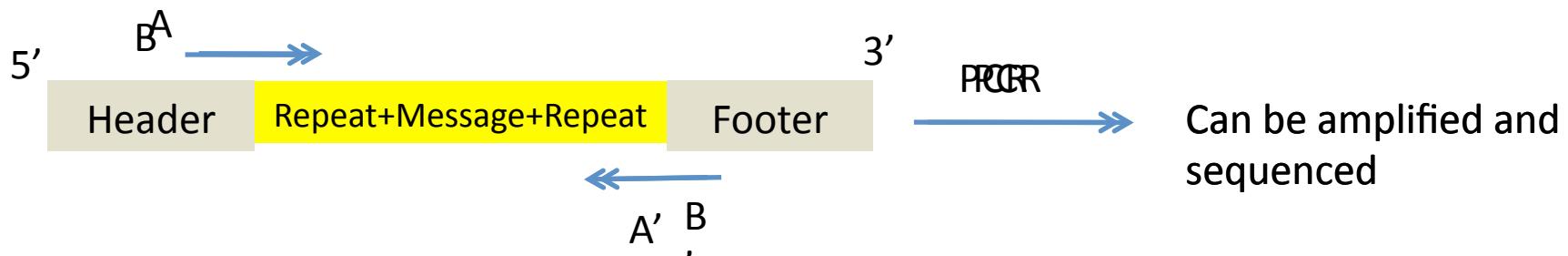
- lac promoter
- ribosome binding site
- rci gene
- double terminator

# Integration of message to rci system

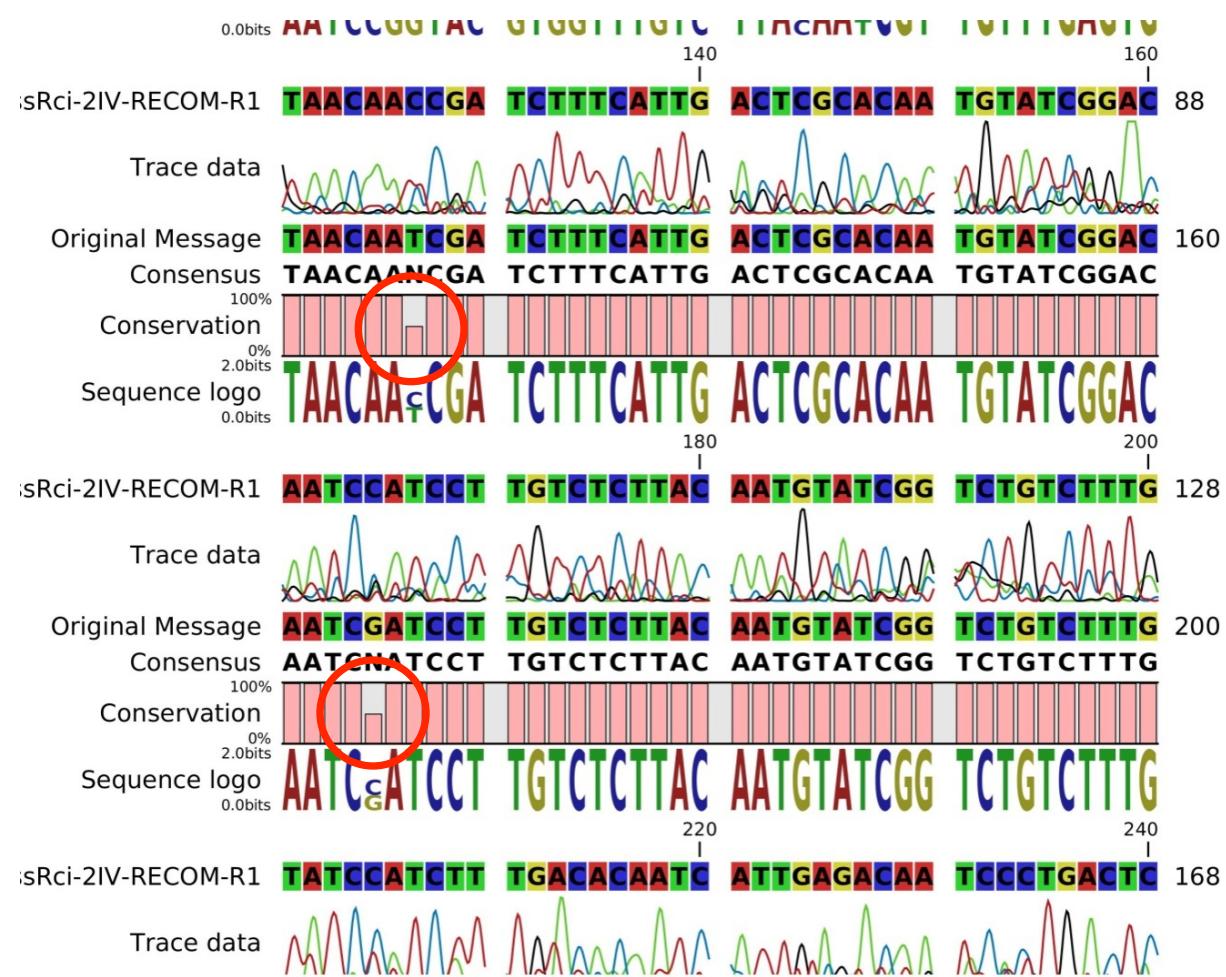


# Expectation

- Repeat sequence + Message + Repeat sequence
- There should be two scenarios:
  1. Inversion of message
  2. No change of original message
- Two sets of primers are used



# Results



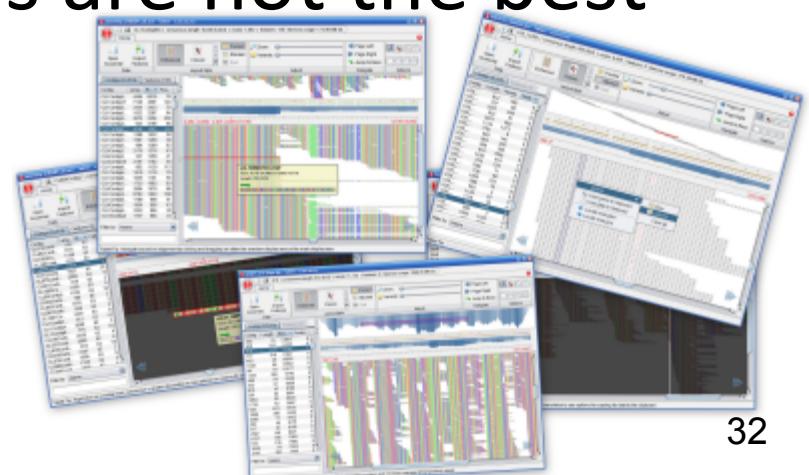
- Inverted and original message were found

- No loss of DNA

**Checksum and high throughput sequencing!!!**

# High throughput sequencing

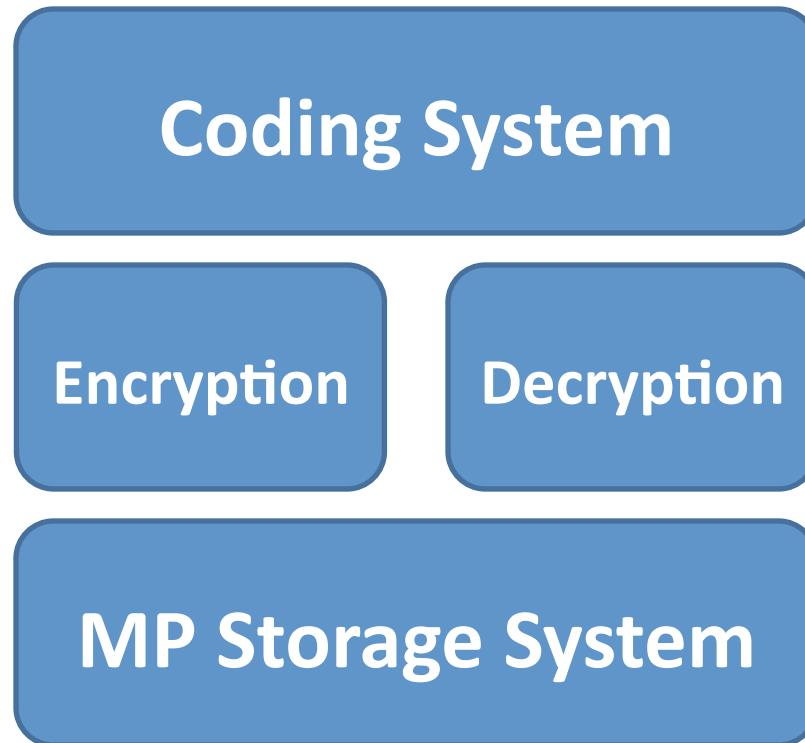
- Massively parallel sequencing process
- Multiple copies of sequencing products (reads) that can cover a particular message stored within the DNA
- Enable us to perform a majority voting on bases for which qualities are not the best



# FUTURE PERSPECTIVES

# To summarize...

- Infrastructure of our system



- Experimental proof

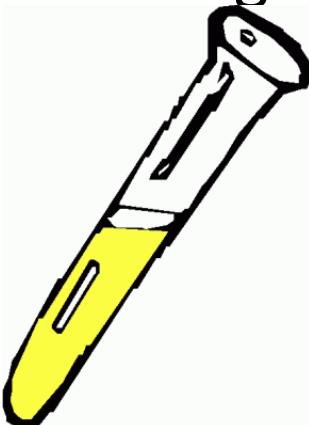
# Bio-hard disk



|               | Storage   |
|---------------|-----------|
| Hard disk     | 2000GB    |
| 1 gram E.coli | 900,000GB |

**Therefore.....**

1 gram(wet weight) of E.coli



= 450

2 TB hard disk



# Rapid & Specific access

- Parallel storage system

Insert ***Header & Footer*** in every message fragment



Design ***specific probe*** corresponding to Header



Pick up particular message from pool of data

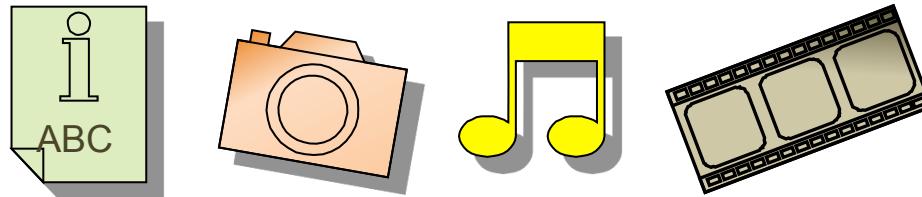


***Targeted sequencing***



# Future Application

- Can store text, images, music, movies.....



- Insertion of barcodes *into synthetic organisms* as a part of current safety protocols to distinguish between synthetic & natural organisms
- Store additional information:

**Copyrights**

**Designers of the organisms**

**Safety protocols**

# Acknowledgement



The Chinese University  
of Hong Kong



# Further Information

- Gyohda, A. & Komano, T. (2000). Purification and Characterization of the R64 Shufflon-Specific Recombinase. *J. Bacteriol.*, 182 (10), 2787-92.
- Gyohda, A., Zhu, S., Furuya, N. & Komano, T. (2005). Asymmetry of Shufflon-specific Recombination Sites in Plasmid R65 Inhibits Recombination between Direct sfx Sequences. *J. Biol. Chem.*, 281 (30), 20772-9.

If you would like to know more about our project,  
you are welcome to visit our Wiki page:

[http://2010.igem.org/Team:Hong\\_Kong-CUHK](http://2010.igem.org/Team:Hong_Kong-CUHK)



# Q&A

# Inversion frequency

1. types of 19-bp repeat sequences  
**(repeat-a > repeat-d > repeat-b or repeat-c)**
2. distance between repeat sequences  
**(distance increases, frequency increases)**
3. DNA sequences surrounding the repeat sequences  
**(symmetric repeat sequence increase frequency)**

# Inversion frequency

## 4. presence of HU protein

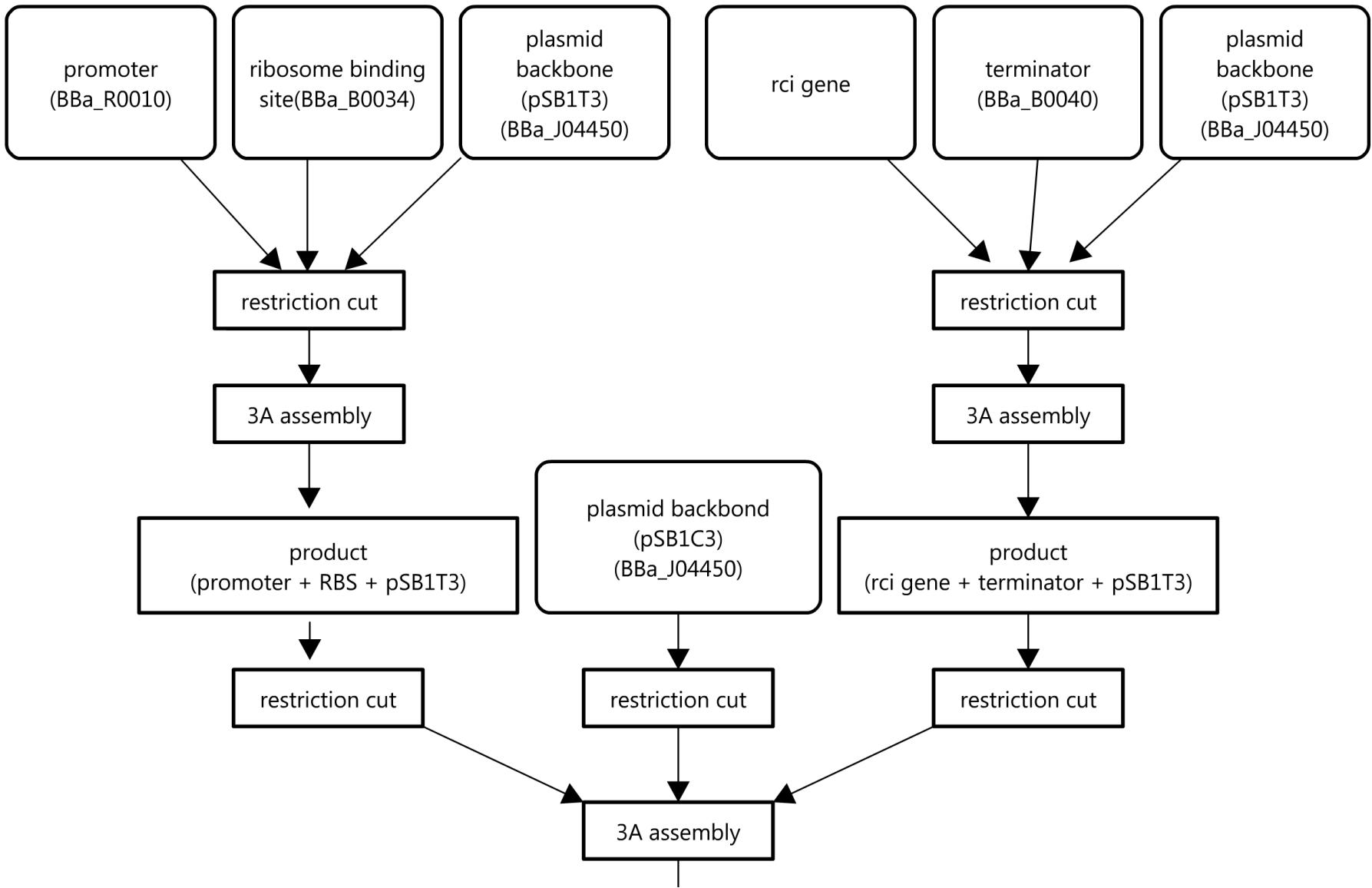
(binding of HU protein to DNA might facilitate assembly and/or stabilization of the Rci-DNA complex at the recombination sites, increases frequency)

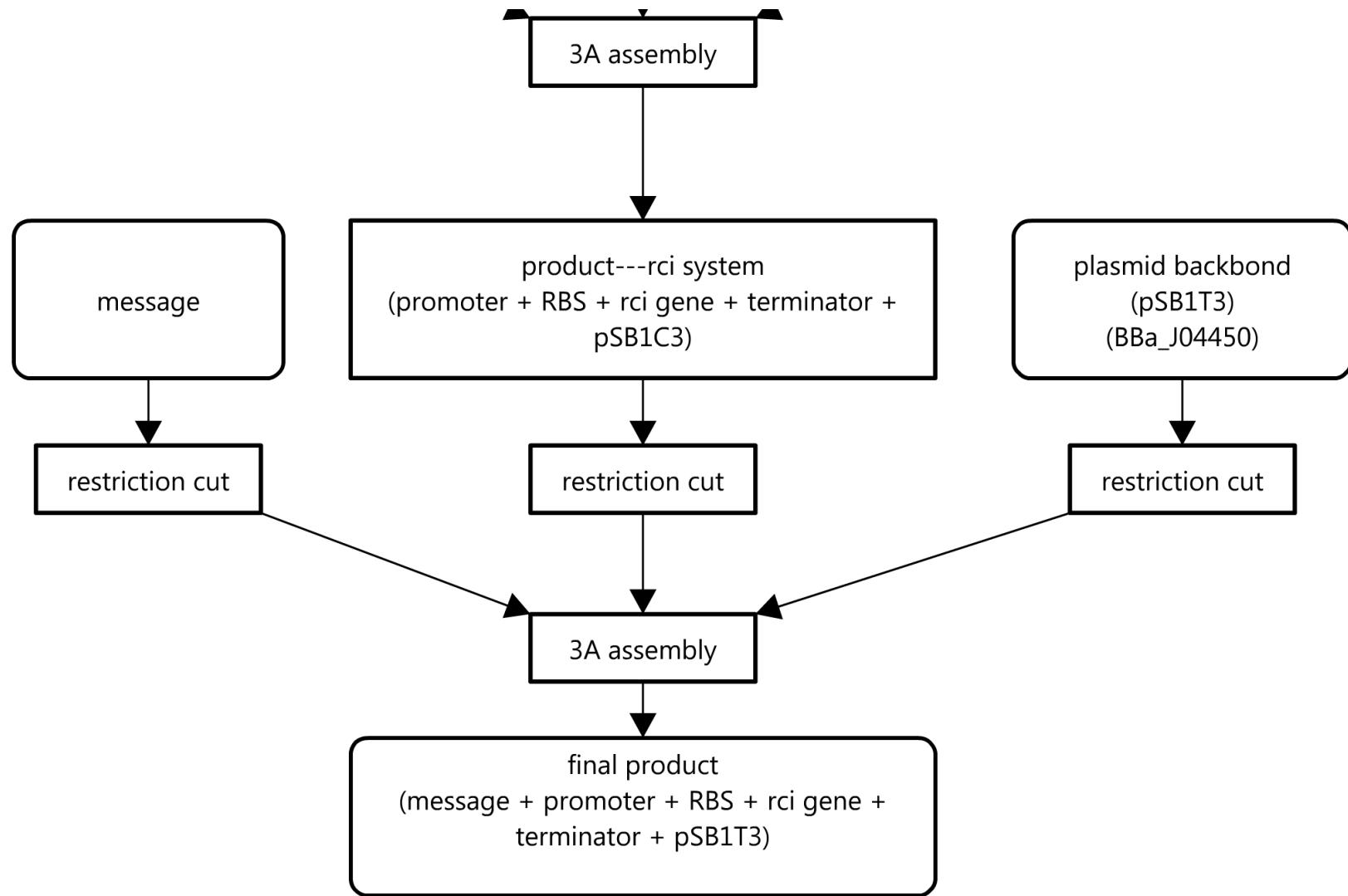
## 5. extent of DNA supercoiling

(Inhibition of DNA supercoiling → decrease Rci activity → decrease inversion frequency)

# To avoid mutation

- Reduce reproductive cycle
- Provide favorable condition
- Move on to eukaryotes, make use of eukaryotes' proofreading system(more sophisticated DNA repair system)







PACIFIC  
BIOSCIENCES™

# Pacific Bioscience

- Real time
- Read Length : 1000 - 10000bp
- Single Molecule Sequencing
- 30 minutes sequencing process

