

Gibson Assembly

- Modified from Gibson et al. (2009)
- This assembly method is an isothermal, single-reaction method for assembling multiple overlapping DNA molecules. By coordinating the activity of a 5' exonuclease, a DNA polymerase and a DNA ligase two adjacent DNA fragments with complementary terminal sequence overlaps can be joined into a covalently sealed molecule, without the use of any restriction endonuclease.
- Preparation of DNA molecules for in vitro recombination
- Generate the complementary sequence overlaps by PCR using the Phusion DNA-polymerase. If necessary add 5 M Betain in the reaction mix by reducing the amount of H₂O to decrease the number of false PCR products.
- Identify the PCR products of interest by gel electrophoresis with known DNA standards.
- Extract the PCR products from the gel by cutting out the DNA fragments and clean them up by using a commercial PCR clean-up kit.
- in vitro recombination
- Assembly mixture:
 - 320 μl 5x isothermal reaction buffer
 - 0.64 μl of 10 U ml⁻¹ T5 exonuclease (for DNA molecules overlapping by greater than 150 bp add 3.2 μl of 10 U ml⁻¹ T5 exonuclease)
 - 20 μl of 2 U ml⁻¹ Phusion DNA polymerase
 - o 160 μl of 40 U ml⁻¹ taq DNA ligase
 - o add ddH₂O water up to a final volume of 1.2 ml
- aliquote 15 µl of the reagent-enzyme mix and store it at −20 °C
- Thaw 15 µl assembly mixture aliquot and keep it on ice until use.
- Add 5 μ l of the purified DNA molecules in equimolar amounts (between 10 and 100 ng of each DNA fragment).
- Incubate the resulting mixture at 50 °C for 15 to 60 min, with min being optimal.
- Transformation (via heat shock or via electroporation) without cleaning up the assembly product.

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