# Competent cells

### Competent #1 - Chemo-Competent Bacillus subtilis

- 1. Inoculate a culture of *Bacillus subtilis* in 4 ml of LB-Medium
- 2. Let them grow overnight at 37°C, 200 rpm
- 3. Measure the OD<sub>600</sub> of your overnight culture and dilute it in MNGE Medium to an OD<sub>600</sub> of around 0.1-0.2/ml in 10 ml LB
- 4. Let the cells grow to an  $OD_{600}$  of 1.0-1.3/ml (37°C, 200 rpm)
- 5. Cells should be competent now (very motile)
- 6. Aliquot 400  $\mu$ l of the samples in different tubes (each tube stands for one transformation)
- 7. You can either use the competent cells directly or add glycerol to dilute to a final concentration of 10% and freeze them in -80°C (Protocol from iGEM team munich 2012)

### MNGE-Medium (100 ml)

9.2 ml 10x MN-Medium

82.8 ml Sterile water

10 ml Glucose (20% filtered) 500 μl K-Glutamate (40%)

500 μl Fe[III]-ammonium-citrate (2,2 mg/ml)

1 ml Tryptophan (5 mg/ml)

300 μl MgSO<sub>4</sub> (1 M)

(1 ml Threonine (5 mg/ml) only for selective agar after the transformation)

## Transformation of Bacillus subtilis

### Transformation #1

Using fresh, competent *B. subtilis* cells:

- 1. Add 600 ng of DNA and incubate at 37°C (200 x g) for 1 h
- 2. Add 100 µl of expression mix to each sample
- 3. Incubate at 37°C for another hour
- 4. Plate 400 μl the samples on selective agar

Note: if you use the frozen aliquots you can also just add the DNA to the sample, don't centrifuge the competent cells!

(Protocol from iGEM team Munich 2012)

#### Expression mix 10,5 ml

5 ml Yeast extract (5%)

2.5 ml Casamino-acids (CAA)(10%)

2.5 ml Sterile water