

CLONING

PCRS

Q5 PCR

PCR mix per Reaction	
DNA*	1
Forward primer (50 µM)	1
Reverse primer (50 µM)	1
dNTPs (1 mM)	10
GC enhancer (5X)	10
Q5 buffer (5X)	10
Q5 hotstart polymerase	0,5
SDW	16,5
	50µl

- ▶ DNA* Use ~50 ng plasmid DNA; if using genomic DNA, dilute 1/10 in dH₂O
- ▶ x** = annealing temperature
= $81.5 + 0.41\% \text{GC} - 600/\text{Length} + 16.6\log_{10}[\text{Na}^+]$
Assuming Na⁺ concentration = 50 mM
Subtract 1°C for each 1% mismatch
- ▶ y† = extension time, 20 sec/kb for plasmid DNA, 30 sec/kb for genomic DNA,

PCR cycles	Temperature /°C	Time
Initial Denature	98	30s
Denature	98	10s
Anneal	x**	20s
Extension	72	y† (secs per kb)
Final Extension	72	10mins

TOUCHDOWN PCR

TD PCR cycles	Temperature /°C	Time
Initial Denature	98	30s
Denature	98	10s
Anneal	Low - High temp**	20s
Extension	72	y† (secs per kb)
Denature	98	10s
Anneal	High temp**	20s
Extension	72	y† (secs per kb)
Final Extension	72	10mins

COLONY PCR: ONETAQ

DNA prep:

- ▶ Touch DNA with yellow tip (the less cells the better)
- ▶ Pipette cells up and down in 100µl SDW
- ▶ Boil at 100°C for 10mins
- ▶ Leave on ice for 10mins

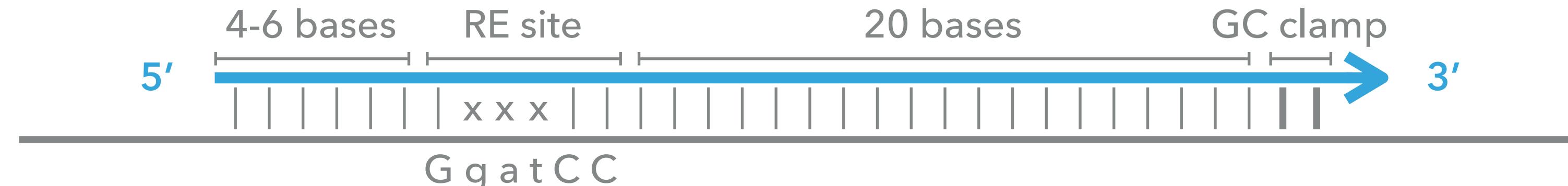
PCR mix per Reaction	
DNA	1
Forward primer	0,4
Reverse primer	0,4
dNTPs	4
GC buffer (5X)	4
OneTaq	0,1
SDW	10,1
	20µl

PCR cycles	Temperature /°C	Time	
Initial D	94	30s	
D	94	30s	
A	x	30s	x 30
E	68	y (1min per kb)	
Final E	68	5mins	

Can use [Q5 hotstart polymerase](#) instead, but costs more

TIPS FOR PRIMER DESIGN

- ▶ PCR primers from MWG are fixed-price for 15-35 bases, don't be stingy
- ▶ Last two bases at 3' end must be G/C = GC clamp
 - ▶ Primers should be ~65%GC to match Hvo genome, but this is not critical
- ▶ Try to limit number of mismatches to 3 or 4, or increase length of primer
 - ▶ Any mismatches should be as close as possible to 5' end of primer
- ▶ But... restriction sites should be located ≥ 4 bases from 5' end, (≥ 6 bases from 5' end for Ndel), otherwise enzyme will not cut
- ▶ 5' -[6-bases@100%homology]-[≤ 4 -bases@mismatch]-[20-bases@100%homology] -3'



DIGESTS

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- ▶ Note: volume of enzyme(s) added must not exceed 10% of the total volume

	Maxiprepped DNA (1-2µg)	Miniprepped/genomic DNA	PCR
DNA	(1-2µg)	5	~41 (eluted in 45µl)
Buffer (10x)	2	2	5
Enzyme 1	1	1	1
Enzyme 2 (if applicable)	1	1	1
SDW	x	x	x
	20µl	20µl	50µl

- ▶ Incubate at appropriate temperature for the enzymes used, for an appropriate length of time.
Typically Maxi- and Mini-prepped DNA for 1-2hours, genomic and PCR DNA overnight
- ▶ Note: useful website is the [NEB Double digest finder](#) to work out appropriate buffer
- ▶ Note: nCTAGn sites are methylated in *Haloferax volcanii*, therefore genomic DNA will not be cut by these enzymes (e.g. XbaI).

DEPHOSPHORYLATION

RSAP PHOSPHATASE

- ▶ No clean-up
- ▶ Add 1µl to digest, works in CutSmart buffer
- ▶ Incubate at 37°C for 30 mins
- ▶ Heat inactivate at 65°C for 10 mins

ANTARCTIC PHOSPHATASE

- ▶ After clean-up elute in 50 μ l

Reaction Mix	
DNA	~45
Phosphatase buffer	5
Antarctic phosphatase	1
	50 μ l

- ▶ Incubate at 37°C for 45 mins
- ▶ Heat inactivate at 65°C for 10 mins

BLUNT ENDING

BLUNT ENDING

- ▶ After clean up elute in 45µl

Reaction Mix	
DNA	~40
Buffer 2	5
dNTPs	5
BSA	1
Klenow	1
	~50µl

- ▶ Incubate at room temperature for 30mins MAX
- ▶ Heat inactivate at 75°C for 20mins

LIGATIONS

T4 LIGASE: INSERT INTO VECTOR

- ▶ Note: Use ligation tubes

	+Insert	Vector only control
SDW	-	35
Vector	18	9
Insert	27	-
T4 buffer	5	5
T4 ligase	1	1
	50µl	50µl

- ▶ Incubate in 16°C water-bath in cold room overnight

T4 LIGASE: LINKER INTO INVERSE PCR (FOR GENE DELETION)

- ▶ Note: vector only control in this case the inverse PCR product with no linker
- ▶ Note: Use ligation tubes

	+Linker	Vector only control
SDW	-	9
Vector	16	8
Linker (1/10 in TE)	1	-
T4 buffer	2	2
T4 ligase	1	1
	20µl	20µl

- ▶ Incubate in 15°C water-bath in cold room overnight

ELECTROLIGASE

- ▶ Note: Use ligation tubes

	+Insert	Vector only control
SDW	-	4
Vector	1	1
Insert	4	-
Buffer	5	5
ElectroLigase	1	1
	11µl	11µl

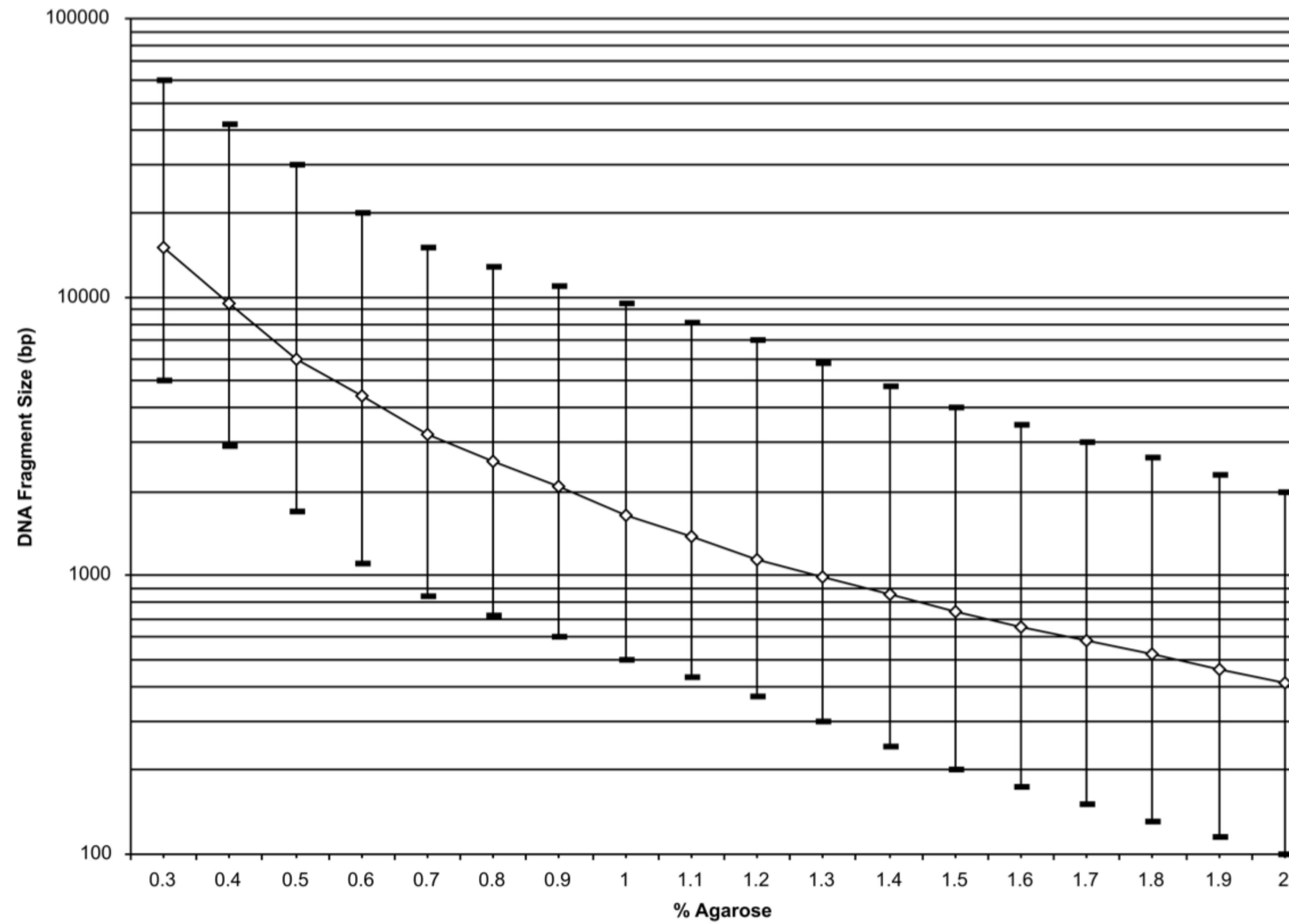
- ▶ Incubate at 25°C (on bench) for 1hour
- ▶ Heat-inactive ligase at 65°C for 15 mins

SEQUENCING (INTERNAL)

- ▶ 70-150 ng/ μ l of plasmid DNA (preferably 100 ng/ μ l)
- ▶ 5 μ l of template per reaction
- ▶ 3-5 μ l of primer per reaction
- ▶ Print and complete sequencing form
- ▶ Drop samples (in a sealable plastic bag) and form to D106

AGAROSE GELS

WHAT % AGAROSE GEL TO I NEED?



- ▶ Typically use 0.75% for large fragments, 1% for medium fragments, and 1.5% for small fragments

TBE GELS

- ▶ 'Short-run' gels to resolve min-prep, maxi-prep, and PCR digests
- ▶ 50ml or 100ml size gels
- ▶ Run at 100V for ~1hour
- ▶ Stain with either SYBR Safe (4µl per 100ml) or EtBr (8µl per 100ml)

TAE GELS

- ▶ 'Long-run' gels to resolve genomic digests
- ▶ 200ml gel size
- ▶ Typically run at 50V for 16hours
- ▶ Post-stain with EtBr

PLASMID CLONING

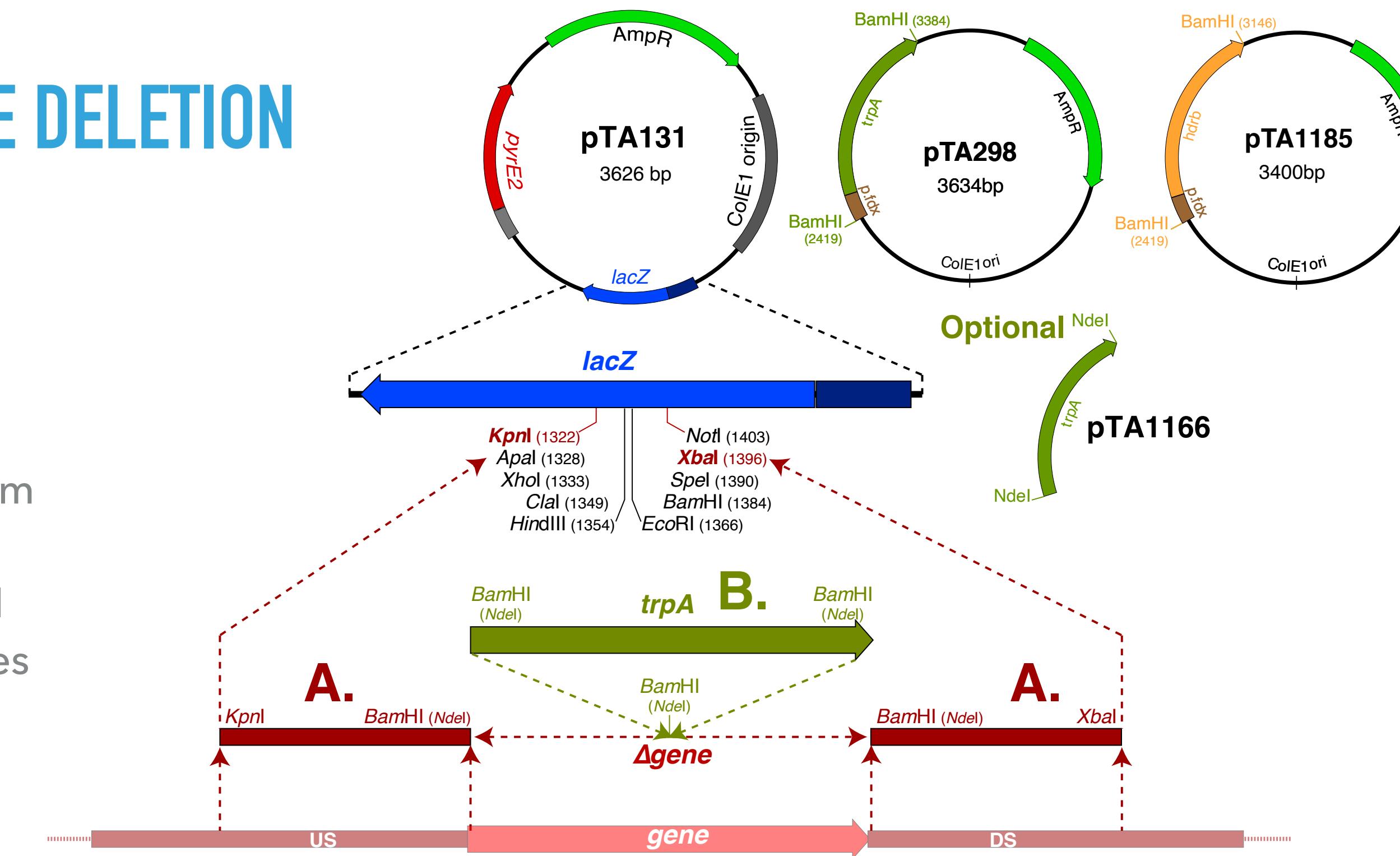
ISOLATE GENOMIC CLONE

- ▶ Use [PCR](#) (or [restriction digest](#)) of genomic DNA to isolate genomic clone of gene plus flanking upstream and downstream regions.
 - ▶ Find flanking restriction enzyme(s) compatible with pBluescript (or [pTA131](#)) cloning sites, that cut ≥ 1 kb upstream and downstream of gene.
- ▶ For PCR, use primers just outside of [flanking restriction sites](#), use high-fidelity polymerase, and ligate with compatible sites in pBluescript or pTA131.
- ▶ For restriction digest, excise band of expected size (± 0.5 kb) from gel and ligate with compatible sites in pBluescript (or pTA131) to generate size-selected genomic library. Screen for gene by colony hybridisation with gene-specific probe made by PCR.
 - ▶ Note: nCTAGn sites are methylated in *Haloferax volcanii*, therefore genomic DNA will not be cut by these enzymes (e.g. XbaI).

PLASMIDS FOR GENE DELETION

TRADITIONAL METHOD

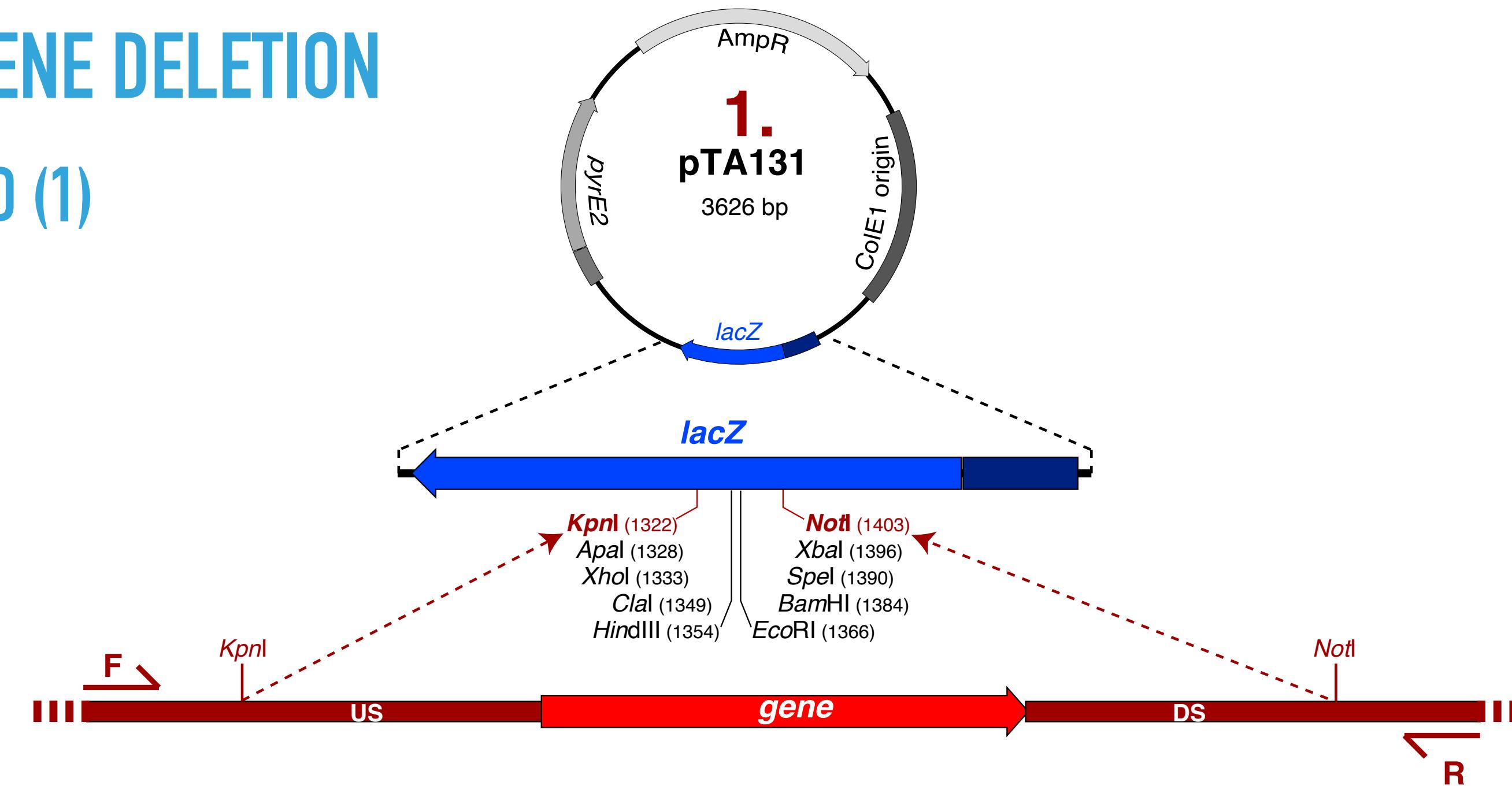
- ▶ Make Δ gene deletion construct: PCR amplify upstream and downstream flanking regions using primers with KpnI/BamHI sites and BamHI/XbaI sites



- ▶ Join upstream and downstream flanking regions at internal BamHI sites, ligate into pTA131 at KpnI and XbaI sites.
 - ▶ Optional: for operonic genes, use primers with internal Ndel sites instead of BamHI to remove the high-expression p.fdx promoter.
- ▶ Make Δ gene::trpA+ construct: excise trpA marker from pTA298 using BamHI, insert between upstream and downstream flanking regions at internal BamHI site.
- ▶ Similarly, a Δ gene::hdrB+ construct can be created by excision of the hdrB marker from pTA1185 using BamHI and subsequent insertion into the internal BamHI site between the upstream and downstream flanking regions.
 - ▶ Optional: for operonic genes, insert promoter-less trpA gene flanked by Ndel sites, excised from pTA1166

PLASMIDS FOR GENE DELETION

ALTERNATIVE METHOD (1)

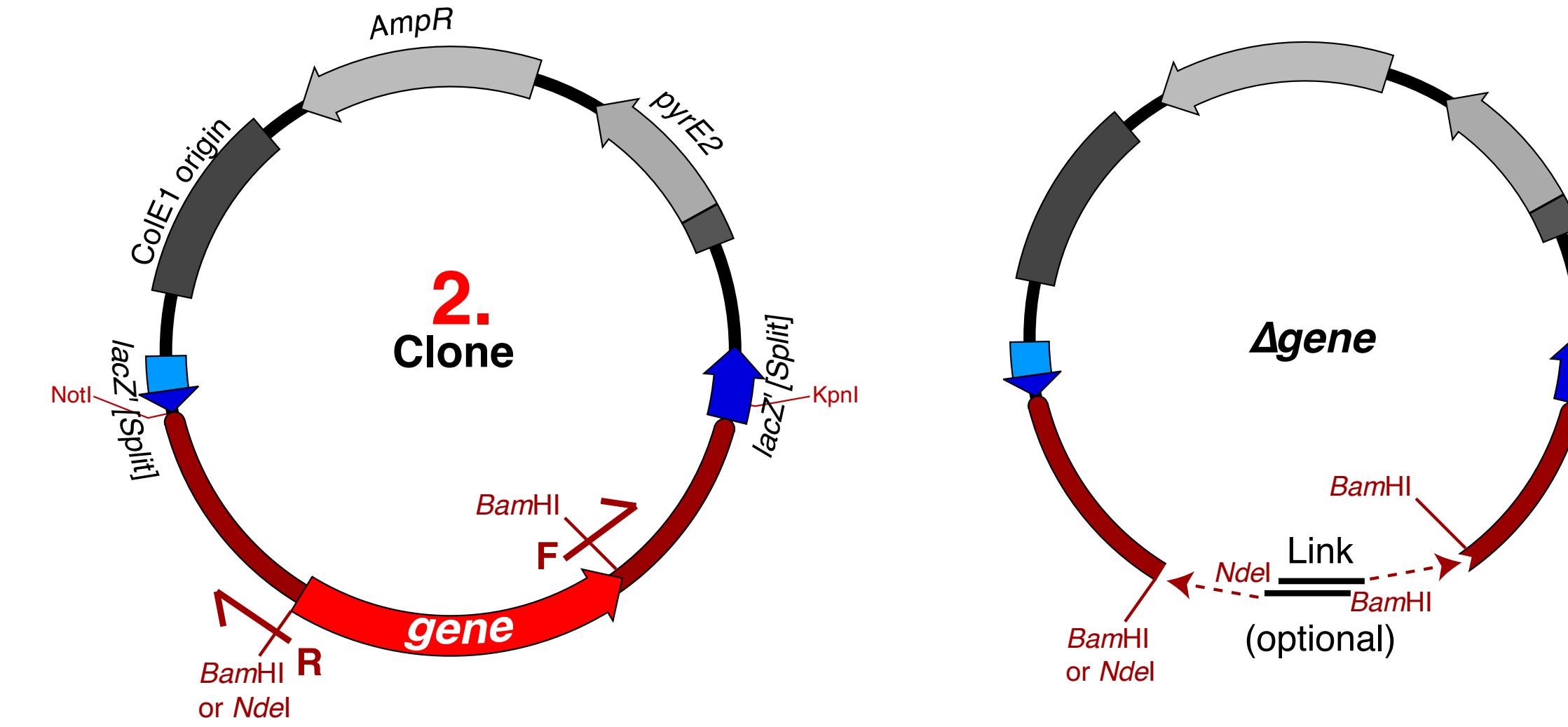


1. MAKE GENOMIC CLONE OF GENE

- ▶ PCR amplify gene plus ~1 kb each of US and DS flanking regions. Use high-fidelity polymerase.
- ▶ Use 100%-matched primers that bind just outside sites that are compatible with polylinker of pTA131 or pTA1431 (has no BamHI site).
- ▶ Clone in pTA131 or 1431 at compatible sites and check by sequencing.

PLASMIDS FOR GENE DELETION

ALTERNATIVE METHOD (2)

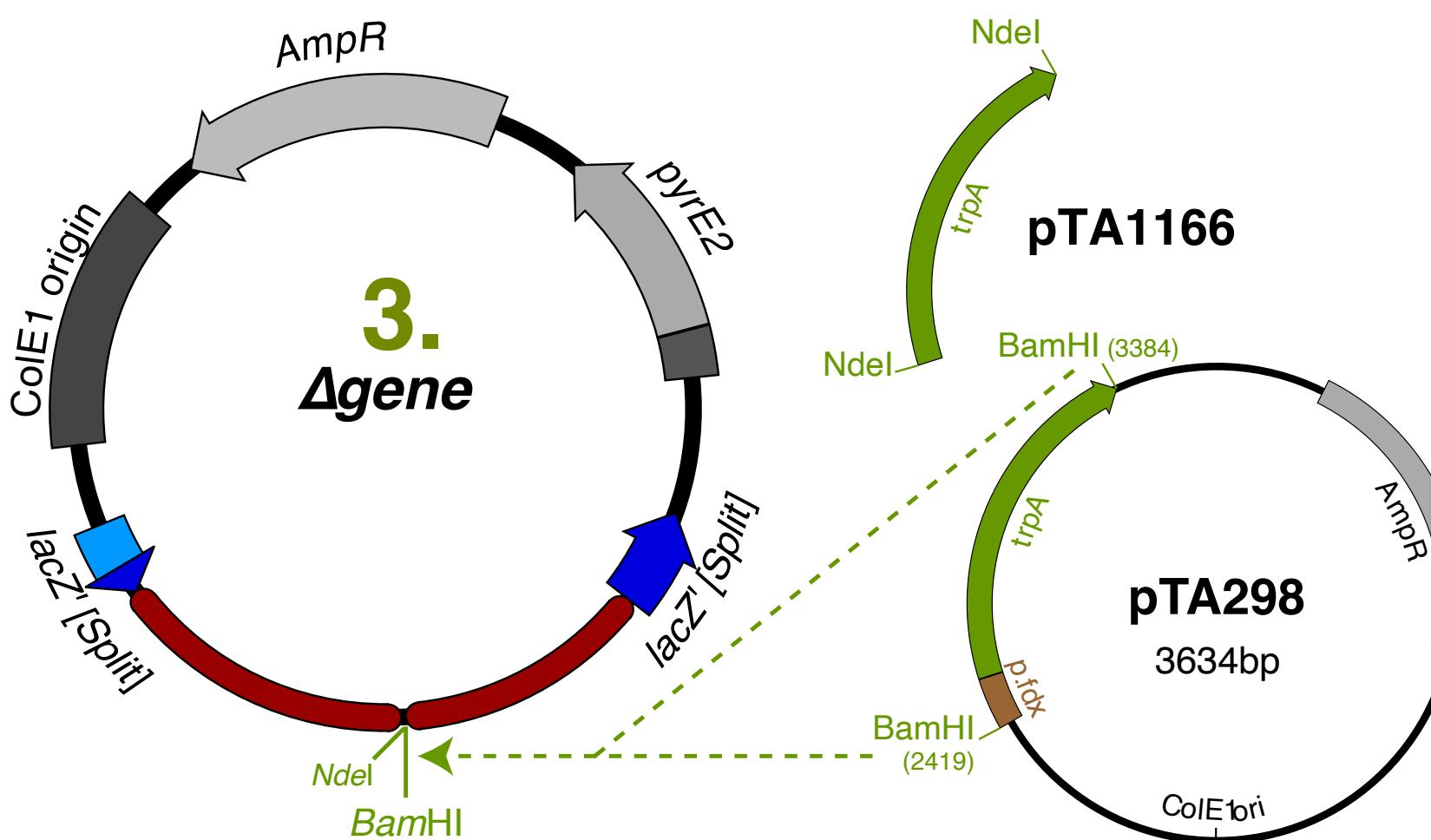


2. MAKE ΔGENE CONSTRUCT

- ▶ PCR amplify all of plasmid apart from gene using outward-facing primers:
 - ▶ F primer: binds just downstream of stop codon, incorporates novel BamHI, BgIII or BclI site;
 - ▶ R primer: binds at start codon, incorporates novel BamHI site, or NdeI site at ATG start codon.
- ▶ Cut PCR product with NdeI and/or BamHI (or BgIII or BclI).
- ▶ Gel purify large fragment and self-ligate.
 - ▶ If R primer has NdeI site (e.g. for His-tagged gene) use NdeLinkBam (or NdeLinkBgl or NdeLinkBcl) linker to join NdeI and BamHI (or BgIII or BclI) ends.
- ▶ Check by sequencing.

PLASMIDS FOR GENE DELETION

ALTERNATIVE METHOD (3)



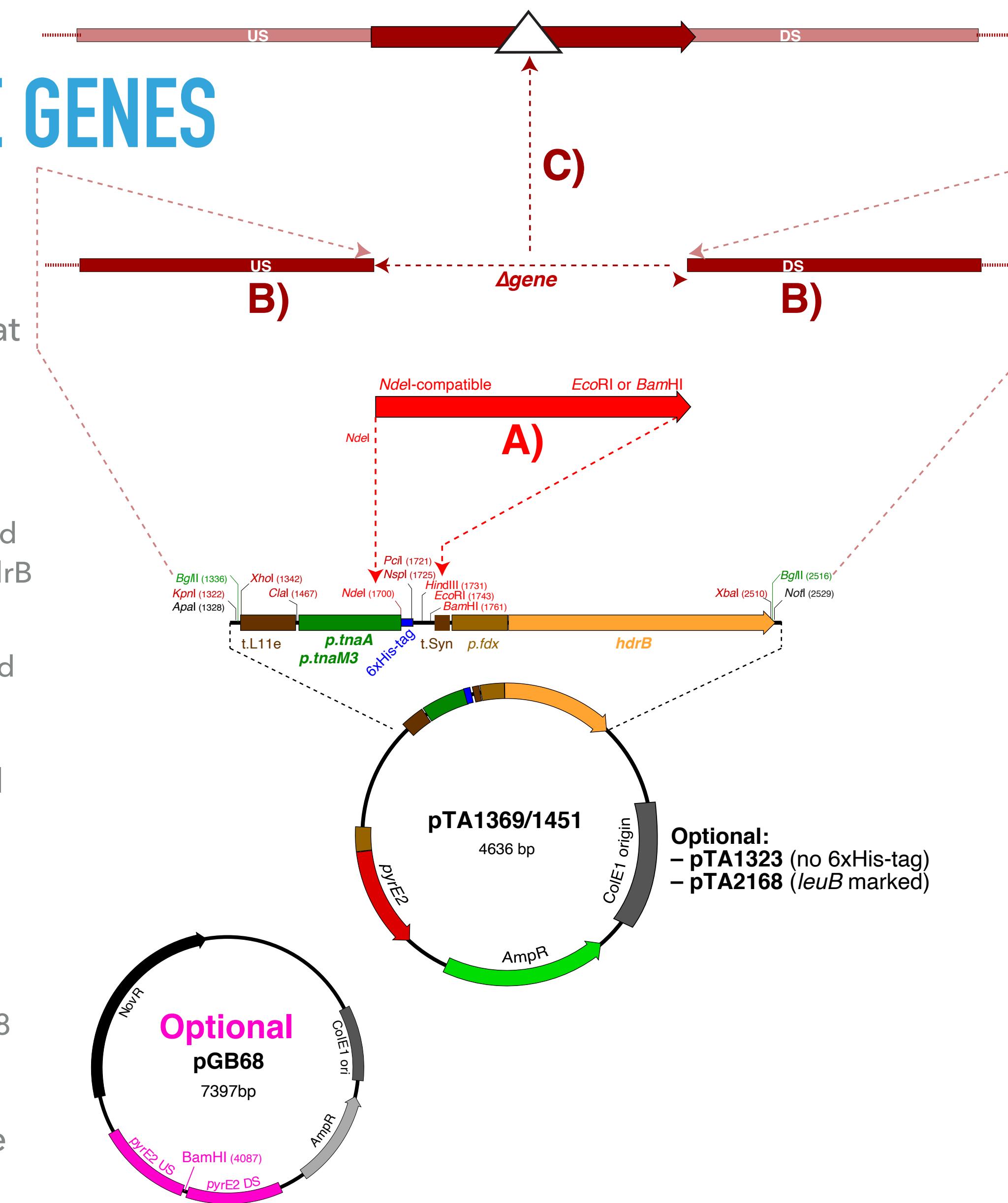
3. MAKE ΔGENE::TRPA+ CONSTRUCT

- ▶ Cut trpA gene out of pTA298 using BamHI, insert between US and DS regions at internal BamHI (or BgIII or BclI) site
- ▶ For operonic genes, insert promoter-less trpA NdeI fragment from pTA1166.

Plasmid	Relevant Properties
pTA131	Integrative vector based on pBluescript, with pyrE2 marker (pTA1431 has no BamHI site)
pTA298	Integrative vector based on pBluescript, with pyrE2 and trpA markers
pTA356	Shuttle vector with hdrB marker and pHV1/4 replication origin
pTA409	Shuttle vector with pyrE2 and hdrB markers and pHV1/4 replication origin
pTA631	Shuttle vector with mevinolin-resistance and pyrE2 markers and pHV2 replication origin
pTA1185	Integrative vector based on pBluescript, with pyrE2 and hdrB markers
pTA1166	Vector based on pBluescript, with pyrE2 and promoter-less trpA markers
pTA1369	Vector with pyrE2 marker and p.tnaA promoter
pTA1451	Vector with pyrE2 marker and p.tnaM3 promoter
pTA2168	Vector with leuB marker and p.tnaA promoter
pTA2169	Vector with leuB marker and p.tnaM3 promoter
pTAMDS99	Shuttle vector with mevinolin-resistance marker and pHV2 replication origin
pGB68	Integrative vector with flanking ΔpyrE2 sequences and NovR marker

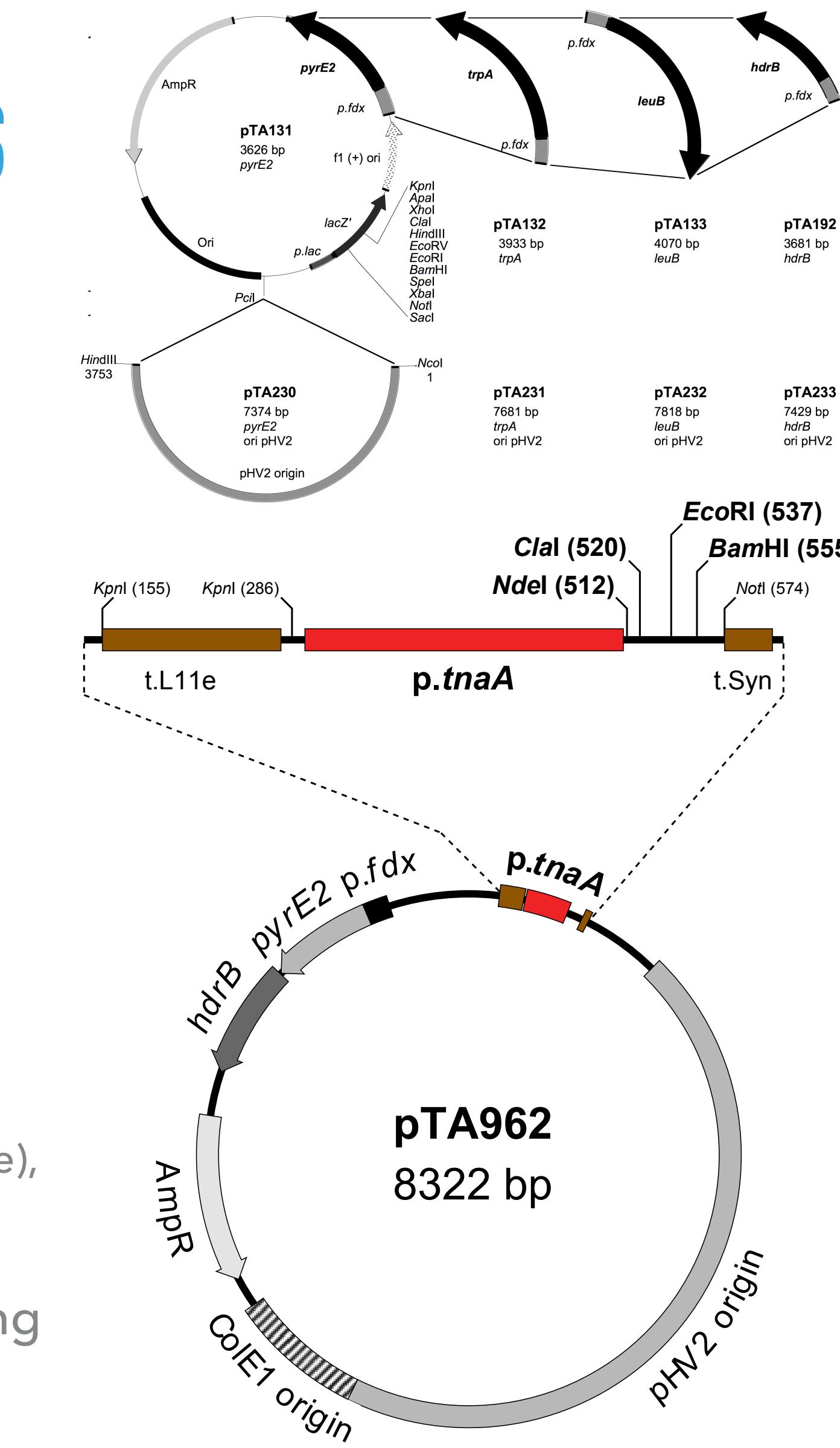
PLASMIDS FOR INDUCIBLE GENES CHROMOSOMAL ALLELE

- ▶ PCR amplify gene with Ndel-compatible site at 5' end, and EcoRI or BamHI site at 3' end. Insert into pTA1369 or pTA1451 at Ndel site, and either EcoRI or BamHI site.
 - ▶ Optional: For no *hdrB* marker, add XbaI site at 3' end of gene and insert in pTA1369 at XbaI to replace *hdrB*
 - ▶ To retain native promoter, PCR amplify upstream flanking region using primers with Xhol site at 5' end and Ndel site at 3' end (at ATG start codon).
- ▶ Digest pTA1369(1451)+gene at flanking BglII sites and insert gene expression cassette at BamHI site of Δ gene plasmid, replacing *trpA* marker (if present).
 - ▶ Optional: for ectopic integration at *pyrE2* locus, use flanking BglII sites and insert at BamHI site in pGB68 (instead of Δ gene plasmid).
- ▶ Transform vector into a strain containing gene deletion, to replace with p.tnaA::gene allele



PLASMIDS FOR INDUCIBLE GENES EPISOMAL ALLELE

- ▶ [pTA962](#) is derived from [pTA230](#)
 - ▶ pTA962 as tryptophan inducible [p.tnaA promoter](#)
- ▶ PCR amplify gene with:
 - ▶ Ndel-compatible or Clal-compatible site at 5' end
 - ▶ EcoRI or BamHI-compatible site at 3' end (or Notl)
- ▶ Insert into pTA962 between Ndel / Clal site and EcoRI / BamHI site
 - ▶ Optional: For no hdrB marker (pyrE2 only), use pTA927 instead
 - ▶ Note: [pTA963](#) is like pTA962 with 6xHis tag (but no Clal site), it has been replaced by [pTA1228](#) etc.
- ▶ Transform vector into a Δ hdrB trpA⁺ strain containing gene deletion
 - ▶ For tryptophan-inducible complementation, need trpA⁺ strain



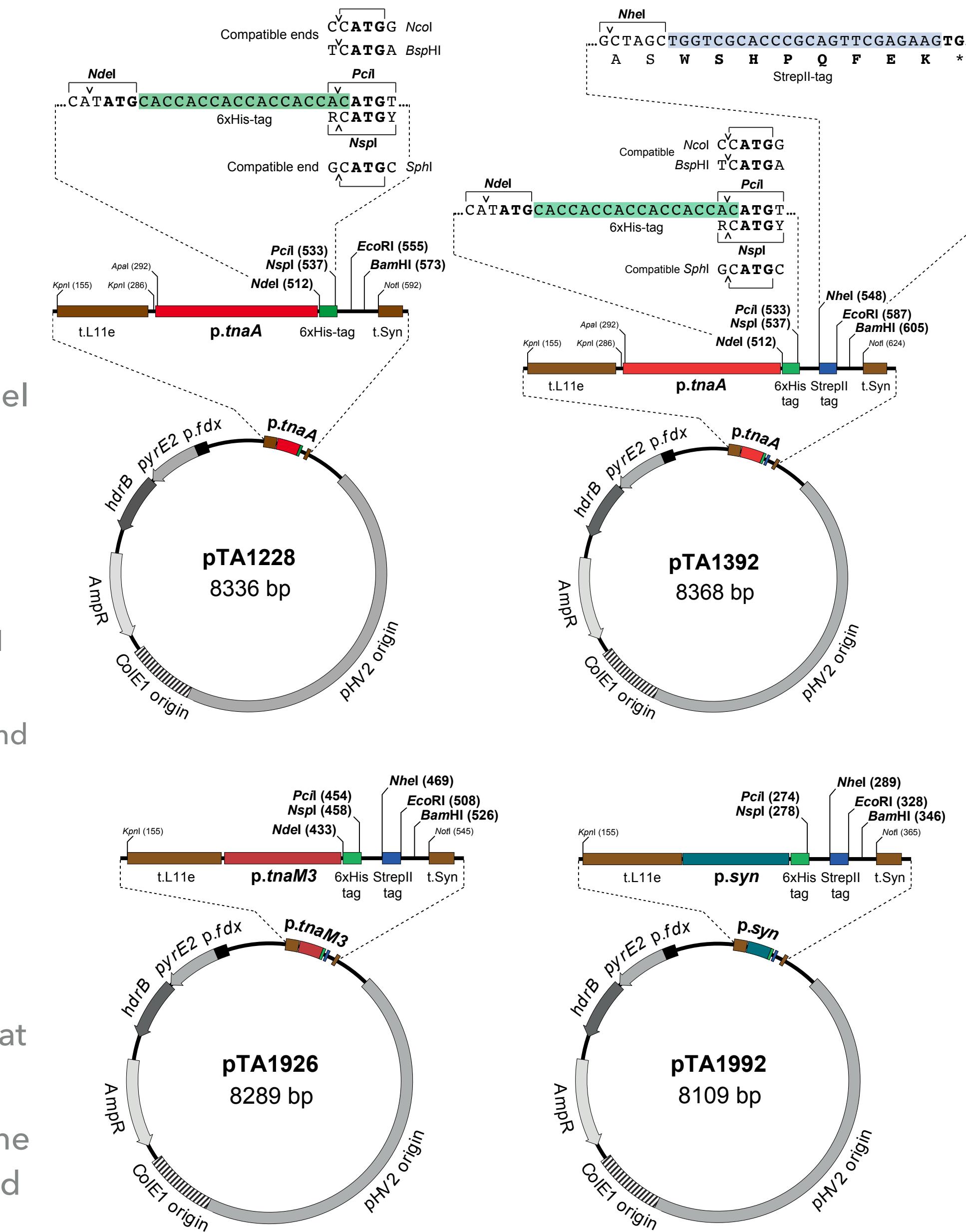
PLASMIDS FOR PROTEIN OVER-EXPRESSION (1)

N-TERMINAL HIS TAG

- ▶ NdeI site in plasmid is directly upstream of 6xHis tag, for cloning without His-tag use PCR to incorporate NdeI site at 5' end of gene
- ▶ For cloning with 6xHis-tag, insert gene at PciI or NsiI site in plasmid, in-frame with 3' end of His tag:
 - ▶ If second codon starts with T, G, or A, cut plasmid with PciI and incorporate PciI (A/CATGT), NcoI (C/CATGG) or BspHI (T/CATGA) site at 5' end of gene, respectively
 - ▶ If second codon starts with C, cut plasmid with NsiI site and incorporate SphI (GCATG/C) site at 5' end of gene
- ▶ Incorporate EcoRI/BamHI/NotI site at 3' end of gene

C-TERMINAL STREPII TAG

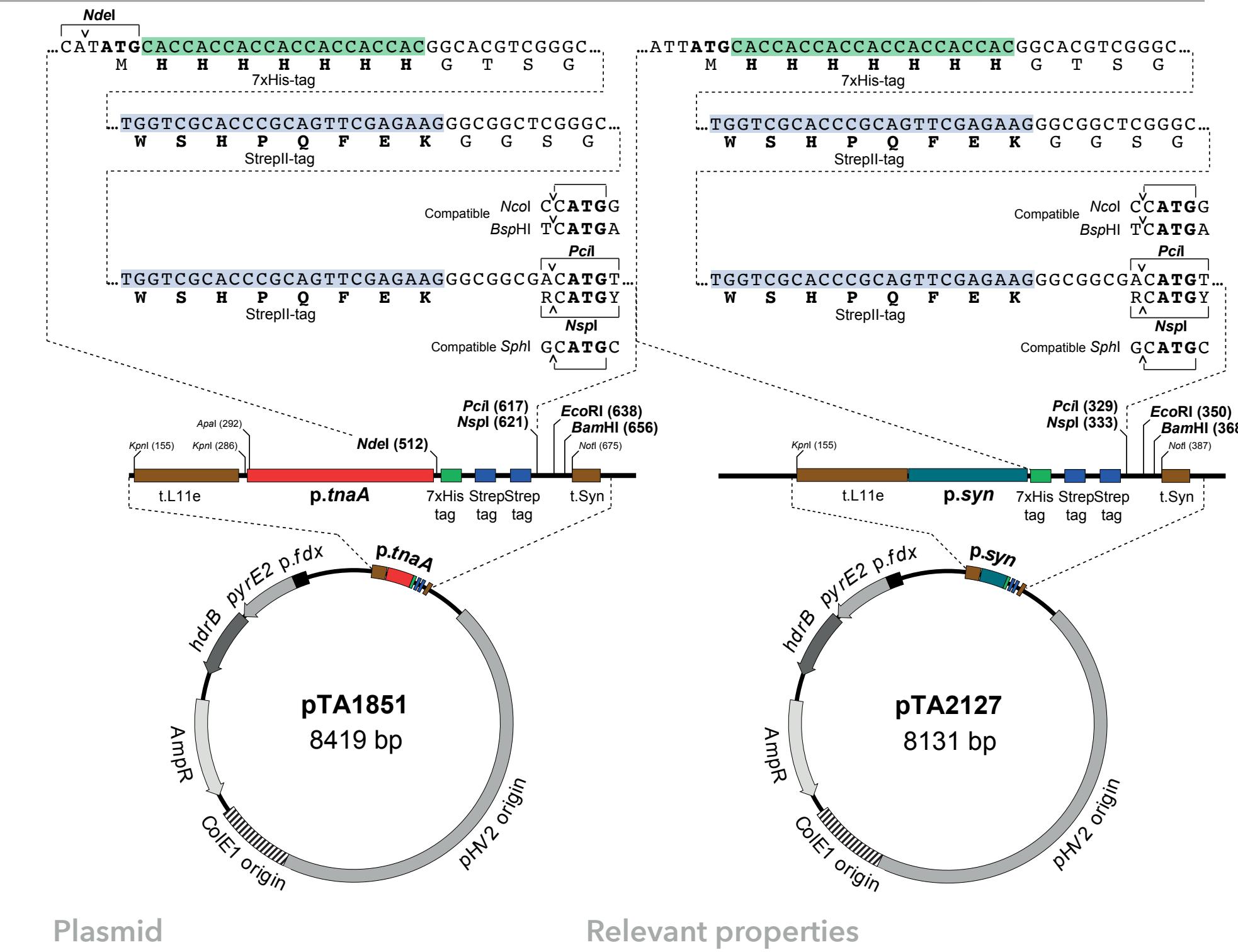
- ▶ EcoRI and BamHI sites are downstream of StrepII tag, for cloning without Strep-tag use EcoRI or BamHI site at 3' end of gene, after stop codon
- ▶ For cloning with StrepII tag, replace stop codon of gene with NheI site (G/CTAGC), insert at NheI site of plasmid



PLASMIDS FOR PROTEIN OVER-EXPRESSION (2)

N-TERMINAL TANDEM 7XHIS-2XSTREPII TAG

- ▶ NdeI site in plasmid is upstream of N-terminal tandem 7xHis-2xStrepII tag, for cloning without any tag incorporate NdeI site at 5' end of gene.
- ▶ For cloning with 7xHis-2xStrepII tag, insert gene at PciI or NspI site in plasmid, in-frame with 3' end of His tag:
 - ▶ If second codon starts with T, G, or A, cut plasmid with PciI and incorporate PciI (A/CATGT), NcoI (C/CATGG) or BspHI (T/CATGA) site at 5' end of gene, respectively.
 - ▶ If second codon starts with C, cut plasmid with NspI site and incorporate SphI (GCATG/C) site at 5' end of gene.
- ▶ Incorporate EcoRI/BamHI/NotI (or compatible) site at 3' end of gene.



Plasmid	Relevant properties
pTA1228	pTA963 (not shown) and pTA1228 have N-terminal His tag only. Both have <i>p.tnaA</i> tryptophan-inducible promoter. pTA1228 has better cloning sites (NspI)
pTA1392	pTA1392 has an N-terminal His tag and a C-terminal StrepII tag, which works reasonably well. It also has the <i>p.tnaA</i> tryptophan-inducible promoter
pTA1403	pTA1403 (not shown) is like pTA1392 but the tags are the other way round: N-terminal StrepII tag and C-terminal His tag. This doesn't seem to work well
pTA1926	pTA1926 is like pTA1392 but has 50% strength <i>p.tnaM3</i> promoter, which has 50% basal and induced activity for "toxic" proteins. The tags are like pTA1392
pTA1992	pTA1992 is like pTA1392 but has the strong constitutive <i>p.syn</i> promoter for "harmless" proteins. The tags are like pTA1392
pTA1851	pTA1851 has N-terminal tandem tag: 7xHis 2x StrepII, separated by linkers. This normally works best. It has the <i>p.tnaA</i> tryptophan-inducible promoter
pTA2127	pTA2127 is like pTA1851 but has the strong constitutive <i>p.syn</i> promoter for "harmless" proteins. The tandem 7xHis tag 2x StrepII tag is like pTA1851

PLASMIDS FOR SPLIT GFP

- ▶ Clone desired gene into the four split GFP episomes:
- ▶ pTA2170 (pJAS-NGFP-Nterm): N-GFP-gene NovR
 - ▶ Incorporate gene of interest at **Ncol/KpnI** sites
 - ▶ Forward primer: ensure ATG start codon is within Ncol-compatible site (C | CATGG), will be in-frame with GFP
 - ▶ Reverse primer: KpnI site directly after Stop codon
- ▶ pTA2171 (pJAS-NGFP-Cterm): gene-N-GFP NovR
 - ▶ Incorporate gene of interest at **Ncol/BpI** sites
 - ▶ Forward primer as for pTA2170
 - ▶ Reverse primer: replace Stop codon with BpI-compatible site (GC | TNAGC), ensure in-frame with GFP
- ▶ pTA2172 (pWL-CGFP-Nterm): C-GFP-gene MevR
 - ▶ Incorporate gene of interest at **BamHI/KpnI** sites
 - ▶ Forward primer: ensure ATG start codon is directly after BamHI site (G | GATCGC), will be in-frame with GFP
 - ▶ Reverse primer as for pTA2170
- ▶ pTA2173 (pWL-CGFP-Cterm): gene-C-GFP MevR
 - ▶ Incorporate gene of interest at **Ncol/BamHI** sites
 - ▶ Forward primer as for pTA2170
 - ▶ Reverse primer: replace Stop codon with BamHI-compatible site (G | GATCGC), ensure in-frame with GFP

