

Plasmic (pUC57-Sulfur-3Metallic) Gene Probe to Identify Hydrocarbons



Prairie View A&M University
IGEM Team 2006

Background

- Cation porphyrins, Zn, Cu, Fe enhance mRNA expression in fungi (Cuero et al 2003, Cuero and Ouellet, 2005)
- Cation porphyrins are found in petroleum oil, so they can be used as a markers.
- Cation porphyrins mediate redox potential reactions, they produce reactive (radicals) hydroxides that oxidize DNA. (Byrnes, 1996)
- Iron-sulfur clusters $[3Fe_4S]$, in their oxidized form will induce repression of gene, while the reduced form for FdI; $[4Fe_4S]$ will derepress the gene expression (A.J Thomson)
- Genes are made of hundreds of atoms.....

Metals Bound to the Negative Charged Sugar-Phosphate of DNA

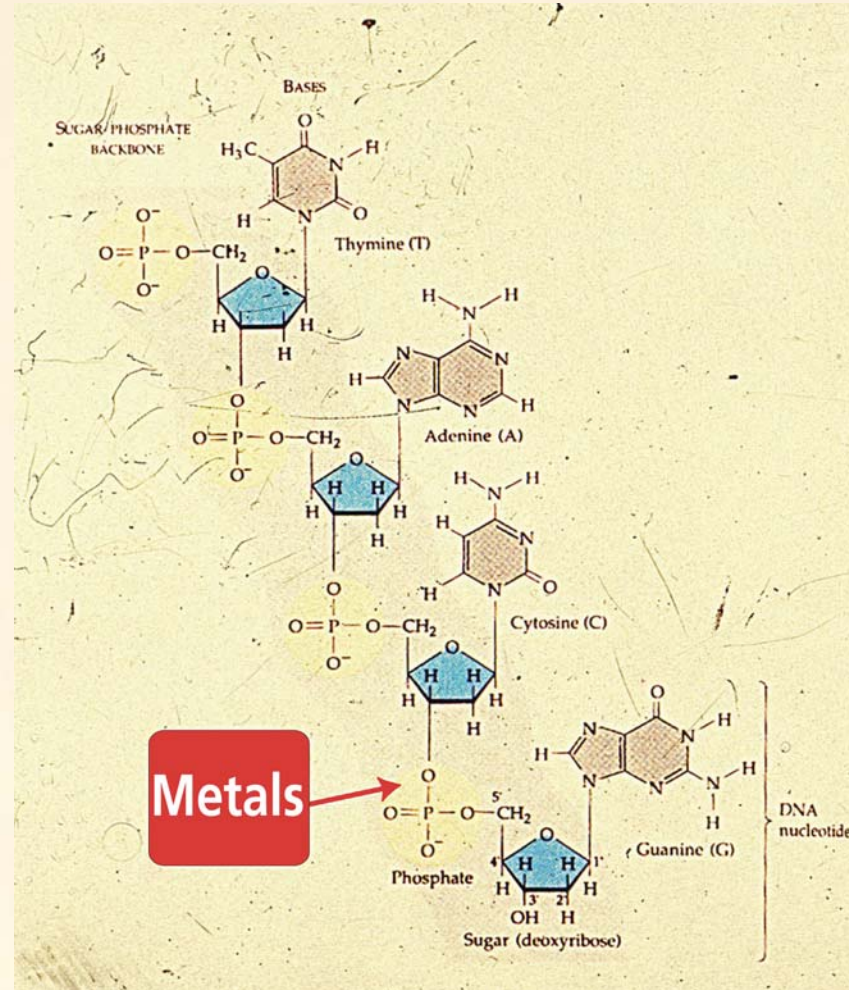


Figure 1

Objective

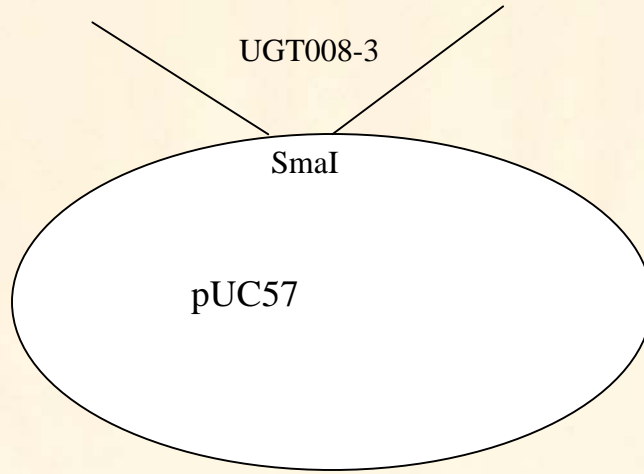
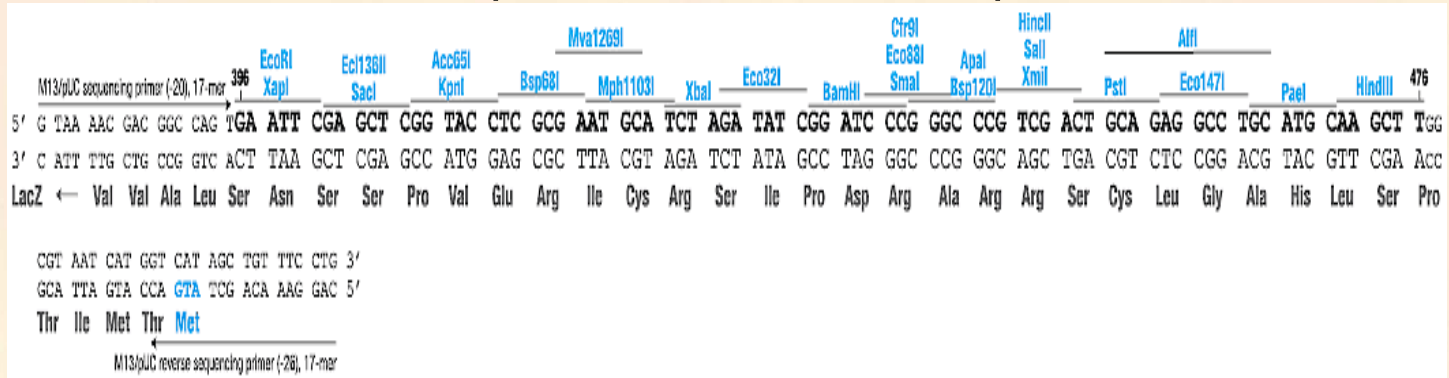
To develop standardized Metallo-genes for sensing Hydrocarbons by using metal ions [Fe (II), Ni(II), V(VI)] as a marker.

Hypothesis

Developing gene probe sensorability of metal ions to detect hydrocarbons using standard DNA components (BioBricks).

Figure 2.

pUC57-S-3M Map



Courtesy GeneMen Synthesis Inc, CA,2006

Insertion sites
for BioBricks

- EcoRI
- XbaI
- BamHI
- PstI

Table 1. Met32p Gene Information

Gene No.		Gene Name	Similar to Met32p
Length (bp)	588		
Vector	pUC57		
Plasmid No.	A63403-3		
Cloning site*	SmaI	Host	DH5a

A unique BamH1 and EcoRV sites at 5' and 3' end, respectively was added .

Table 1a. Assembled Parts in Registry

-?-	Name	Type	Description	Length
	BBa_J48108	Measurement	pUC57-Sulfur-3M	10106
-?-	Name	Type	Description	Length
	BBa_J48103	Regulatory	Iron promoter	140
	BBa_J48104	Regulatory	NikR promoter, a protein of the ribbon helix-helix family of transcription factors that repress expre	40
	BBa_J48106	Regulatory	vnfH	891
	BBa_J48107	Regulatory	UGT008-3 Promoter/Met32p	588
	BBa_J48109	Signalling	lux I	4791
	BBa_J48110	Regulatory	Fe Promoter+ mRFP1	1009
	BBa_J48111	Regulatory	E. coli NikR	926
	BBa_J48112	Regulatory	vnfH: vanadium promoter	1816

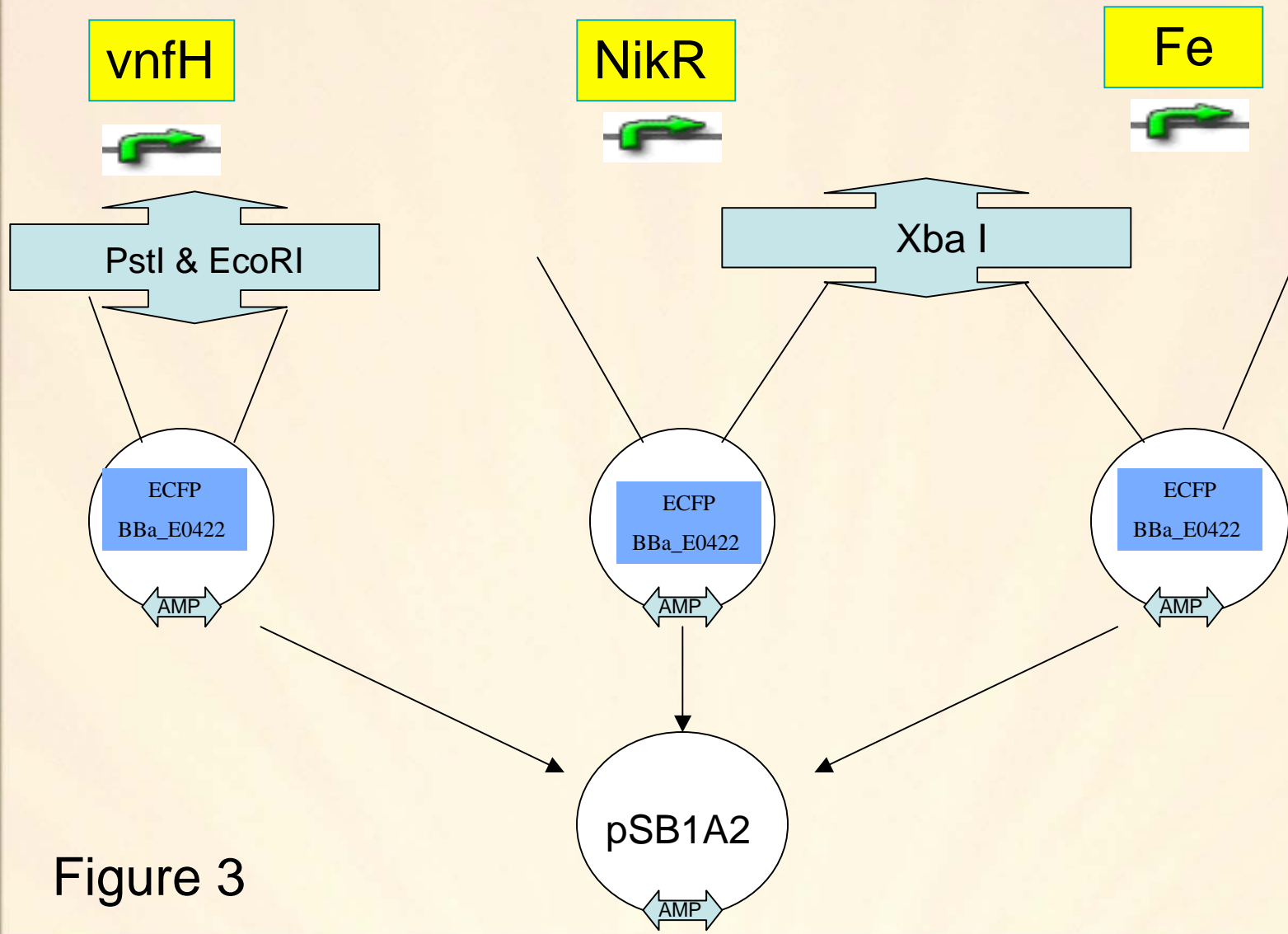
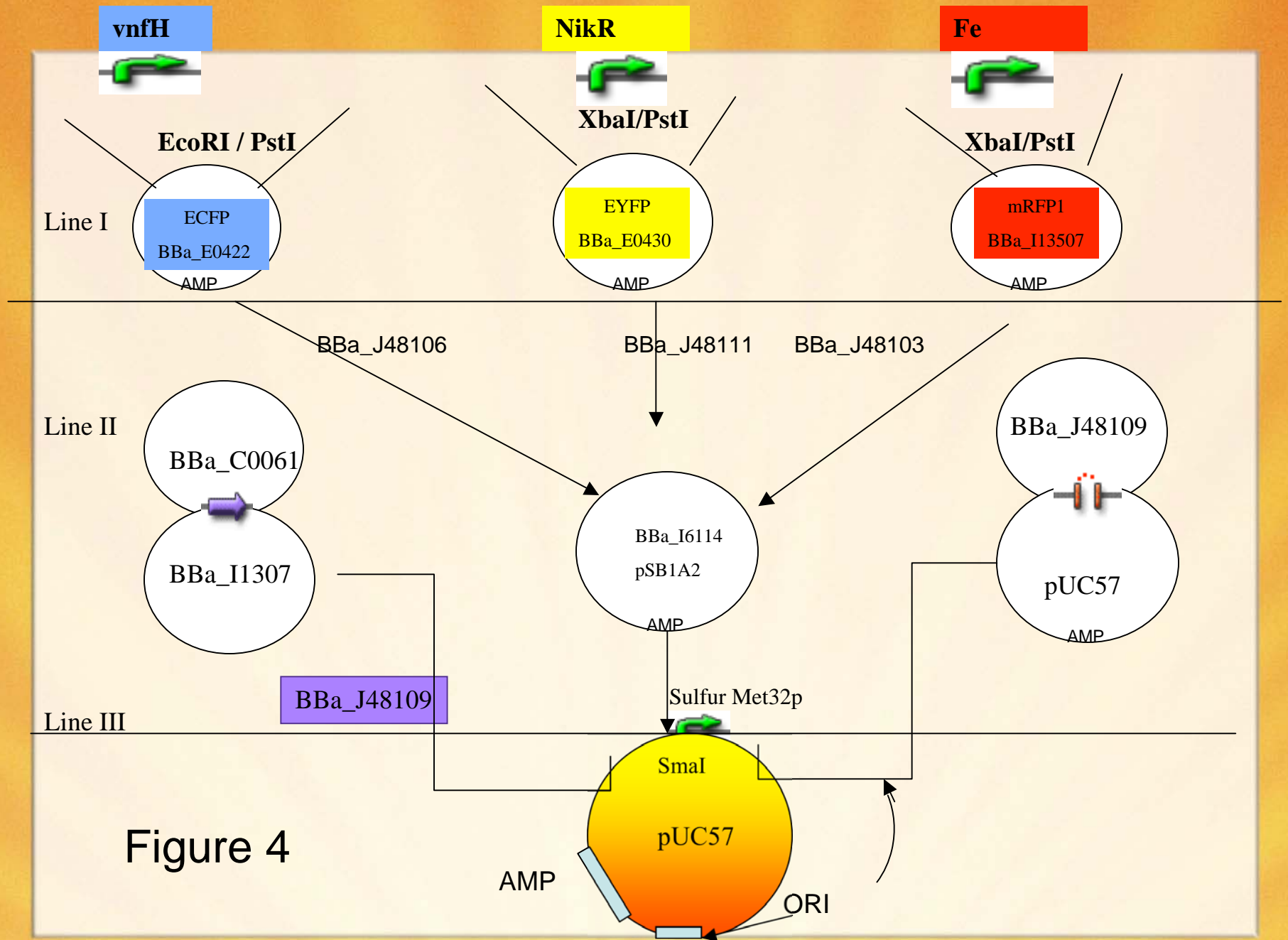
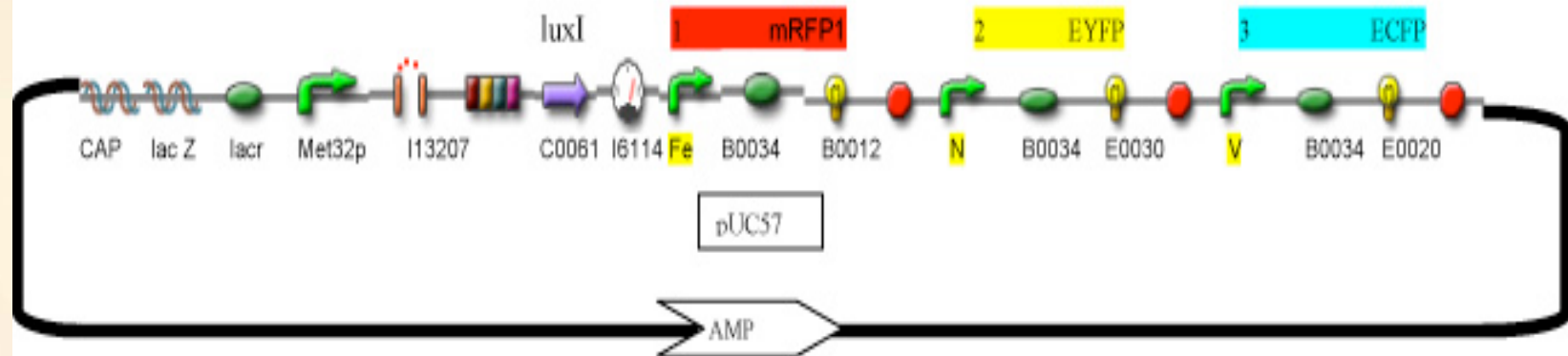


Figure 3



Constructed PV-Trimetallic-gene probe: pUC57-S-3M

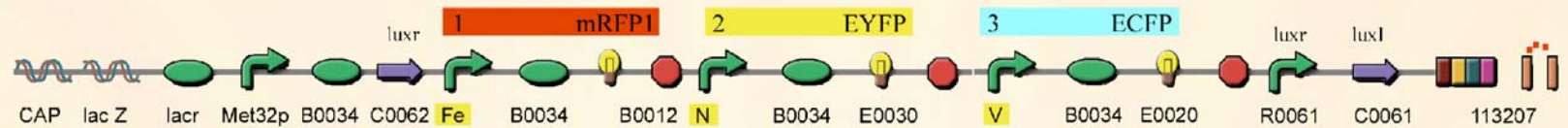
Favorite Part # 1



Constructed PV-Trimetallic-gene probe: pUC57-S-3M

Favorite Part 2

(Planning)



Growth of the pUC57-S-3M Transformed *Micrococcus luteus* Cells in Comparison with Non-transformed *M. luteus* (ATCC #4698)



Figure 5.

CFU of the Transformed Cells Showing the
Expression of the Fluorescent Protein



Figure 6

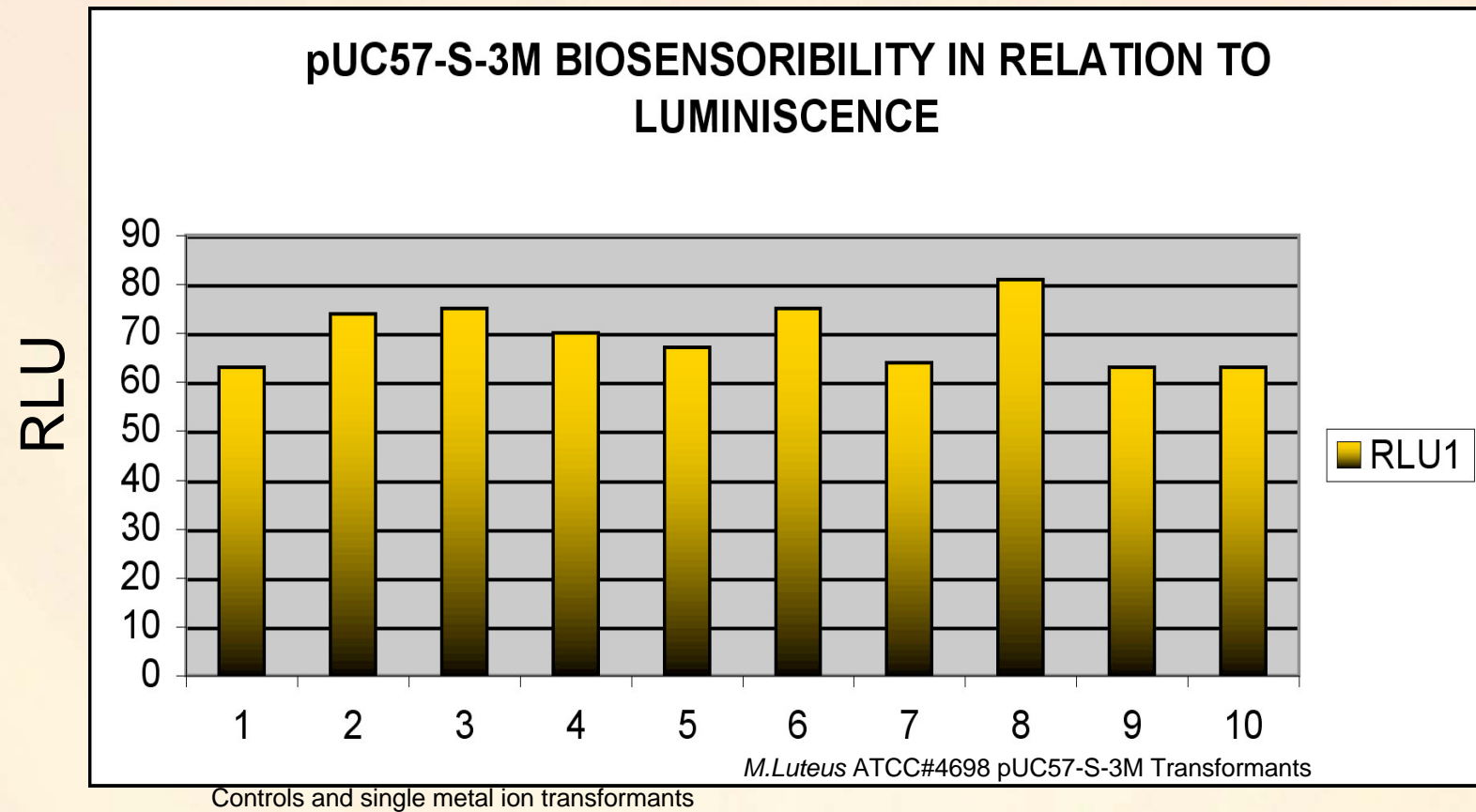


Figure 7

Table 2. Biosensorability of the Trimetallic Gene Probe in Relation to DNA Expression under Different Metal Concentration, as Compared to Non-Transformed

Cell Treatment	DNA Concentration (ng/ml)
Transformed (Gene Probe)	
CONTROL (Micrococcus luteus)	30.6
Tr ML-O ₂ , Fe+Ni+V+S(0.2ppm)	11.9
Tr MLO ₂ +C6H5SH, Fe+Ni+V+S (2ppm)	18.3
Tr MLCO ₂ + C6H5SH, Fe+Ni+V+S(0.2ppm)	12.2
Tr O ₂ +C6H5SH No Metals	5.15
Non Transformed	
M.L -O ₂ (2ppm)	3.95
M.L -O ₂ +C6H5SH(2ppm)	1.15
M.L -CO ₂ +C6H5SH(2ppm)	0.95
M.L-CO ₂ (2ppm)	4.5
Tr- Transformed cells by pUC57S-m3	

Figure 8

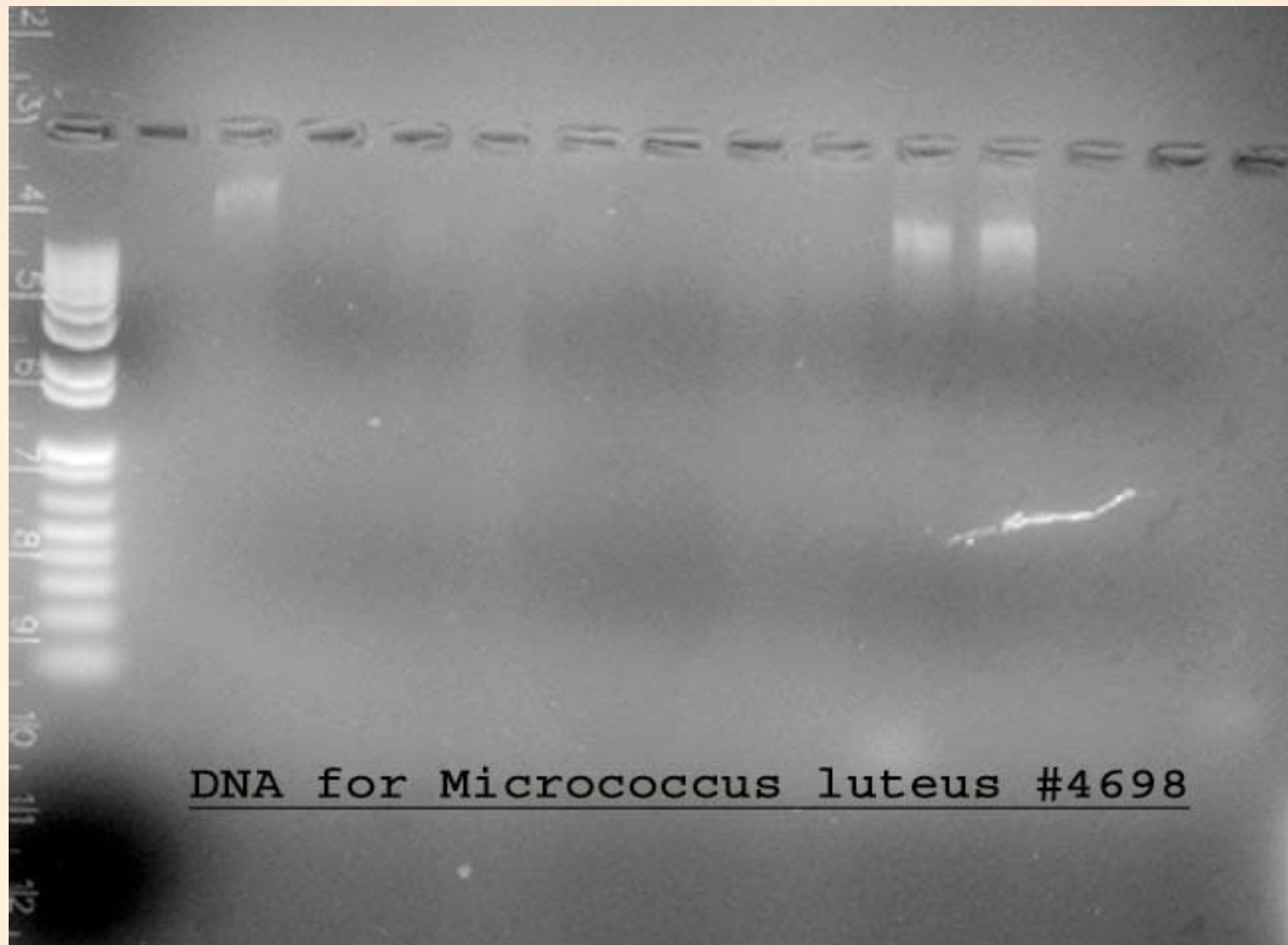


Table 3. Biosensorability of trimetallic gene probe (pUC57 SM-3) in relation to cell growth (CFU) as Compared to Cells Transformed with Single Metal Genes (before subjection in metal ion media)

BACTERIAL STRAINS					
Time	M.L. ATCC#4698	Fe +mRFP1	V+ECFP	N+ EYFP	pUC57-S-3m probe
Day1	2.56 x 10 ⁵	1.5x10 ⁴	1.2x10 ⁴	2.1x10 ⁴	9x10 ³
Day2	1.79x10 ⁵	1.50x10 ⁵	3.00x10 ⁵	1.55x10 ⁵	2.50x10 ⁵

CFU=Colony Forming Units

- Fe+mRFP1 Iron promoter + red fluorescence protein
- V+ECFP Vanadium + Enhanced Cyan Fluorescence Protein
- N+ EYFP Nickel+ Enhanced Yellow Fluorescent Protein

Table 4. Sensorability of *M. luteus* Strain (ATCC4698) Using in Relation to Metal Ion Concentration, pH, O₂, and Redox Potential at Different Times

Metal(ppm)	<i>M. luteus</i>		<i>M. luteus + metal</i>					
	2	50	2	50				
Time (hr)	INITIAL				INITIAL			
0								
O.D.	0.007	0.03	0.06	0.5	0.05	0.3	0.3	0.3
pH	7.1	7.1	6	6.5	6	7	7	7
mV	20	27	60	94	87	80	80	90
	O ₂	CO ₂	O ₂	CO ₂	O ₂	CO ₂	O ₂	CO ₂
18								
O.D.	0.4	0.2	0.5	0.02	0.12	0.21	0.21	0.21
pH	7.7	7.5	6.6	6	2	1.4	1.4	1.4
mV	-13	34	50	94	309	336	336	336
	O ₂	CO ₂	O ₂	CO ₂	O ₂	CO ₂	O ₂	CO ₂
40								
O.D.	1.1	1.6	0.2	0.33	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.1
pH	7.8	7	5.7	6	1.4	2	2	2
mV	-16	42	103	86	332	305	305	305

M.L has the ability to grow in both CO₂ and O₂ atmosphere. However the presence of thiophenol enables the transformed micrococcal cells to grow under CO₂ atmosphere.

FOR CO₂ INCUBATION; CULTURES WERE KEPT AT 20% CO₂ ATMOSPHERE
 METAL IONS WERE USED @ 0.2, 2, 50ppm
 O.D.=OPTICAL DENSITY

Table 5. Sensorability of M.L. Strain (ATCC4698) Using in Relation to Metal Ion Concentration, pH, O₂, Redox Potential, and Hydrocarbon (Thiophenol)

		<i>M.luteus+metal+CHO</i>			
Metal(ppm)		2	50		
<u>Time (hr)</u>		INITIAL			
0					
	<i>O.D.</i>	0.3	0.5	0.6	0.3
	<i>pH</i>	6.1	6.3	6.6	6.3
	<i>mV</i>	71	97	88	93
		O2	CO2	O2	CO2
18					
	<i>O.D.</i>	0.23	0.2	0.38	0.24
	<i>pH</i>	1.6	1.43	6.4	5.7
	<i>mV</i>	327	311	63	98
		O2	CO2	O2	CO2
40					
	<i>O.D.</i>	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1
	<i>pH</i>	1.4	2	6	1.6
	<i>mV</i>	332	365	335	47

CHO=HYDROCARBON=THEOPHENOL

The hydrocarbon, thiophenol provides the substrate for catalase and oxidase which allows for better growth in low O₂ concentration.

Table 6. Interactive Effect of pH, O₂, CO₂, and CHO on Transformed M. luteus pUC57-S-3M in Relation to Biosensorability

		<i>pUC57-S-3M</i>					
Metal(ppm)		0.2		2		no metals	
<u>Time (hr)</u>		I N I T I A L					
0							
	O.D.	0.021	0.038	0.03	0.023	0.006	0.011
	pH	7.01	6.85	6.72	6.53	7.01	7
	mV	28	36	54	53	28	26
		O2	CO2	O2	CO2	O2	CO2
18							
	O.D.	0.986	0.261	0.508	0.314	0.753	0.435
	pH	5.18	5.06	4.96	4.85	5.82	5.14
	mV	127	137	142	149	94	131
		O2	CO2	O2	CO2	O2	CO2
40							
	O.D.	0.99	0.171	0.514	0.282	0.869	0.51
	pH	5.56	5.26	5.71	5.09	6.79	5.66
	mV	108	121	99	130	31	102

CHO=HYDROCARBON=THEOPHENOL

Table 7. Interactive Effect of pH, O₂, CO₂, and CHO on Transformed M. luteus pUC57-S-3M in Relation to Biosensorability

INCUBATION TIME = 0 hr			
	Redox	pH	mV
M.L. pUC57-S-3M + 0.2 ppm METAL			
CO ₂	0.03E	7.85	35
O ₂	0.021	7.01	21
CHO + O ₂	0.177	7.99	21
CHO + CO ₂	0.173	7.03	23
M.L. pUC57-S-3M + 2 ppm METAL			
CO ₂	0.022	8.53	53
O ₂	0.05	7.72	14
CHO + O ₂	0.042	8.66	43
CHO + CO ₂	0.177	7.66	47
M.L. pUC57-S-3M + NO METAL			
CO ₂	0.011	?	23
O ₂	0.007	7.01	23
CHO + O ₂	0.032	8.02	33
CHO + CO ₂	0.184	7.85	31
Time = 18 hrs			
	Redox	pH	mV
M.L. pUC57-S-3M + 0.2 ppm METAL			
CO ₂	0.201	8.08	31
O ₂	0.986	7.18	27
CHO + O ₂	1.271	8.25	25
CHO + CO ₂	1.907	8.01	22
M.L. pUC57-S-3M + 2 ppm METAL			
CO ₂	0.374	4.61	149
O ₂	0.908	4.96	127
CHO + O ₂	1.324	5.79	95
CHO + CO ₂	1.905	5.82	97
M.L. pUC57-S-3M + NO METAL			
CO ₂	0.405	5.74	127
O ₂	0.753	7.20	24
CHO + O ₂	1.37	7.49	17
CHO + CO ₂	1.89	6.06	20

Redox potential is high under CO₂ atmosphere- CO₂ is a reductant

NOTE: ppm = metal concentration; type of metals = Ni, V, Fe.
 3 = s, 18hr = CHO + O₂ = 1 V CHO + CO₂ = 1.1 V CHO + O₂ = 1.1 V CHO + CO₂
 M.L. = Micrococcus luteus

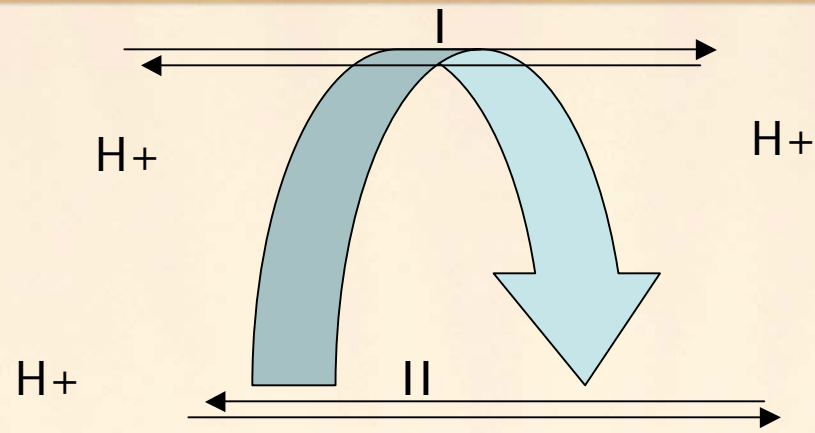
There is redox potential threshold around 300mV which indicates sensorability for the metals ions.

Sulfur Clusters

- Sulfur is the bridging ligand in the Cu site of cytochrome oxidase
- Important component of coenzyme A
- Sulfur is used in as H₂S and can be used in place of water as an electron donor.

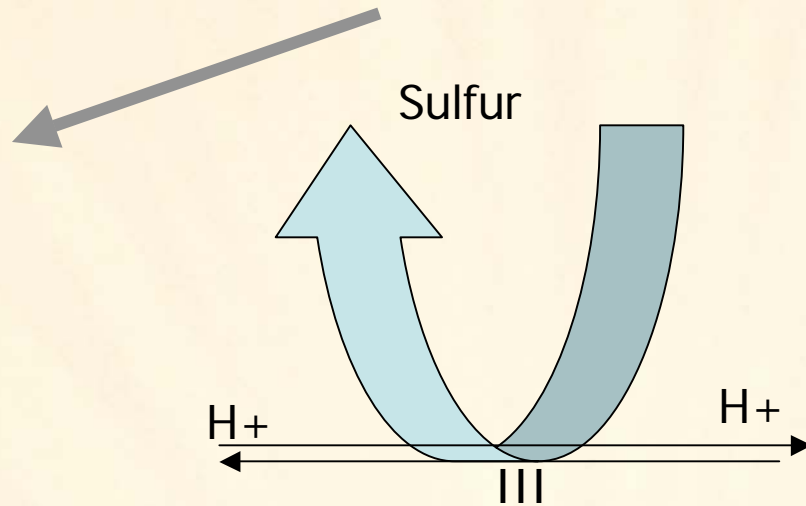
- Iron sulfur clusters-motifs found in metalloproteins e.g Ferredoxins, NADH dehydrogenase, Coenzyme Q-cytochrome C reductase of the ETS.
- [2Fe2S]cluster-Bridging Ligands by
 - 2Fe-4 cysteine side chains
 - 2Fe-2 cysteine sulfur
 - 2Fe -2 nitrogen atoms of histidine
- [4Fe4S]Bridging Ligand by 4 sulfur of cysteine
- [3Fe4S]cluster

DNA



Nickel Sulfate

Vanadium Sulfate



Iron-Sulfate

Figure 9. Metallic-sulfate Shuttle

Machine or Circuit?

INPUT

PROCESS

OUTPUT

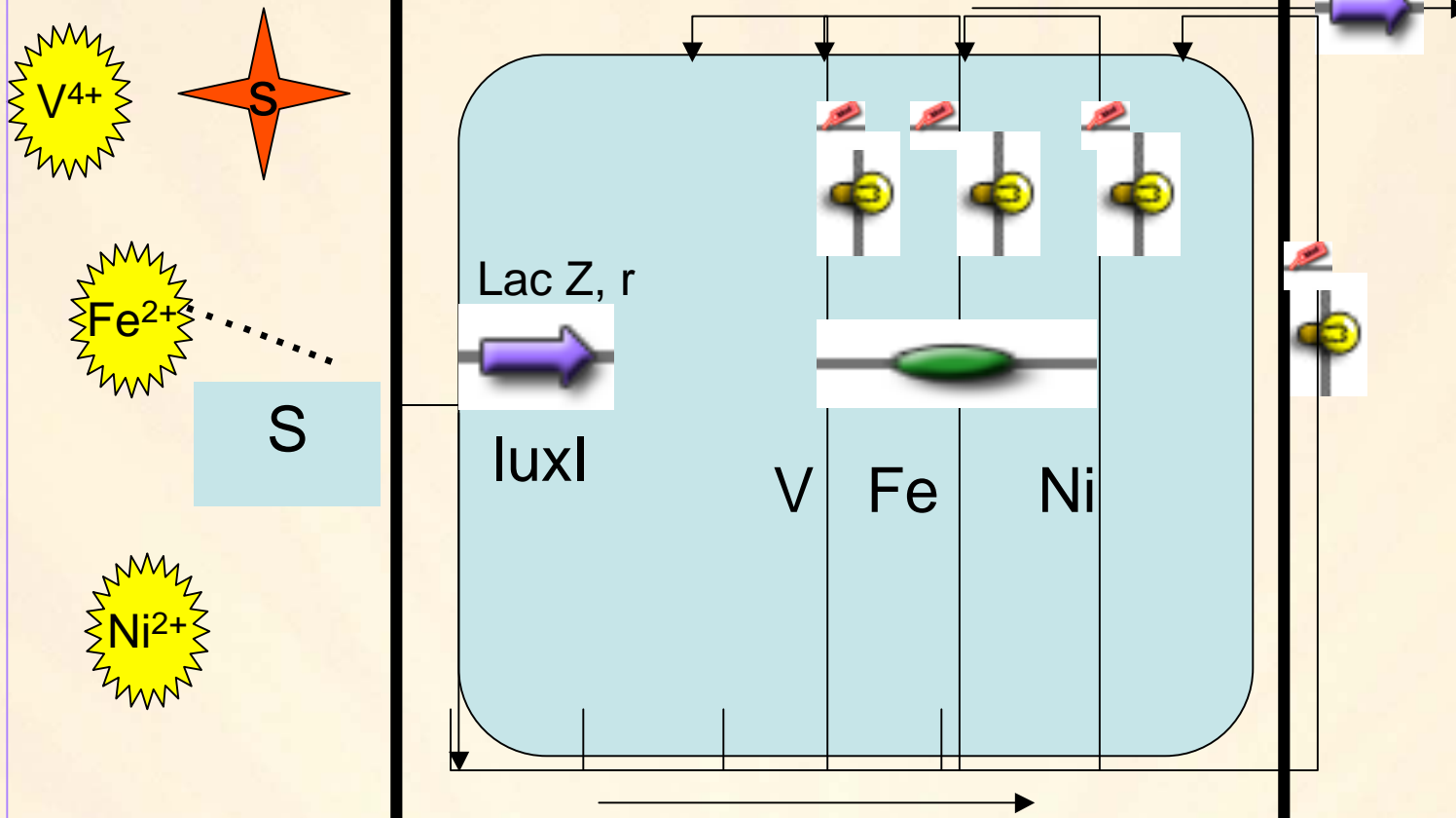


Figure 10

Conclusion

- Our BioBrick Assemblance, resulting in pUC57-S-3M was achieved.

Possibility of Different assemblages can be configured different sensoribility.

2. The pUC57-S-3M probe showed biosensorability to different metal ion concentrations related to hydrocarbons.

- A much cheaper biological initiator in synthetic oil production.
- A possible better alternative to Microdiesel production.
- A biological Device that can be used in industry as a non persistent biological Chelater and complexation agent : a triplet function.

References

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The Prairie View A&M University IGEM Team 2006



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