

- Q1: Find the secret message in the sentences.
  - Why is DNA necessary? Life is very special and cells are great things. Significantly advanced life science is easily mistaken as magic.
- Q2: Can I delete a “w” letter in these sentences?

# Session 4: Synthetic/constructive experiment of life and evolution of genome

## Daisuke Kiga

ELSI /

Dept of computational intelligence and systems science,  
Tokyo Institute of Technology

Back ground: **biochemistry**

## Why **4** nucleotide and **20** amino acids?

**For resurrection of proteins before commonotes,  
engineered genetic code less than 20 amino acids is important**

Previous works: engineering of genetic code  
xanthine-binding aptamer  
autonomous DNA computing,  
artificial genetic network in living cell

# Acknowledgements

## 遺伝暗号の改変

- 21番目のアミノ酸
  - 理研 SSBC (横山グループ)
- 19アミノ酸遺伝暗号
  - 木賀研
    - 内山正彦(NEDO研究員)
    - 小林晃大
    - 網蔵和晃
- 無細胞タンパク合成
  - 木川隆則
- アミノ酸組成分析
  - 理研 堂前直・中山洋・益田晶子
- 質量分析
  - 東大 福沢世傑・児玉公一郎
- 結晶構造解析
  - 東大 荒磯裕平・濡木理
- NEDO産業技術助成事業  
(-2009.3)
- JSPS科研費若手(A) (-2009.3), (-20011.3)
- JSPS科研費挑戦的萌芽 (-2013.3)

## 人工遺伝子ネットワーク

- 東工大 木賀研
  - 鮎川翔太郎
  - 畑敬士
  - 石松愛
- 東工大 山村雅幸
- 東大 陶山研
  - 陶山明
  - 庄田耕一郎
  - 瀧ノ上正浩
  - 李 泳薰
- 東大 萩谷昌己
- JSPS科研費特定  
「分子プログラミング」  
(-2007.3)
- JSPS科研費若手(B) (-2007.3)
- JST先端計測(-2009.3)
- JSPS科研費挑戦的萌芽(-2009.3) (-2010.3)
- JSTさきがけ(-2012.3)
- JSPS科研費若手(A) (-2014.3)
- JSPS科研費新学術領域  
「合成生物学」計画研究(-2016.3)

赤字:研究代表

# contents

- Synthetic/Constructive approach in life science
  - proof by synthesis
  - construction of another life
- Simplified genetic code for reconstitution of ancient protein
  - code and protein with less than 20 amino acids
- How to engineer genetic code
  - detailed results

# contents

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# Understanding of System

**analytical approach**



**constructive approach**

What I cannot create, I do not understand. -R. Feynman

# Life is a multi layer system

**analytical approach**



● ● atom    building block    bio macromolecule    subsystem of cell    cell    tissue    individual

---

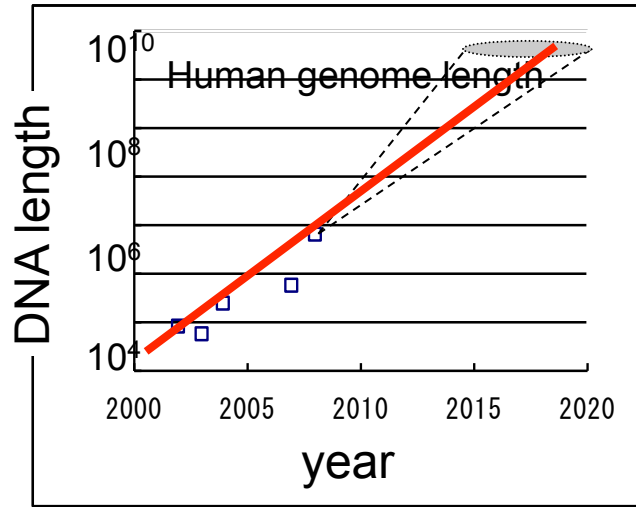
● ● Carbon    nucleotide    DNA    gene network  
● ● Oxygen    amino acid    RNA    protein synthesis  
Nitrogen    lipid    protein    Photosynthesis  
vesicle

## Recent Developments

- Comprehensive analysis: genome, proteome....
- Preparation of biomolecules

# Developments in preparation of biomolecules

Moor's Law in DNA synthesis: exponential growth



Kiga and Yamamura, *New Generation Computing*,  
26 (2008), p347-364

2 JULY 2010 VOL 329 SCIENCE 52

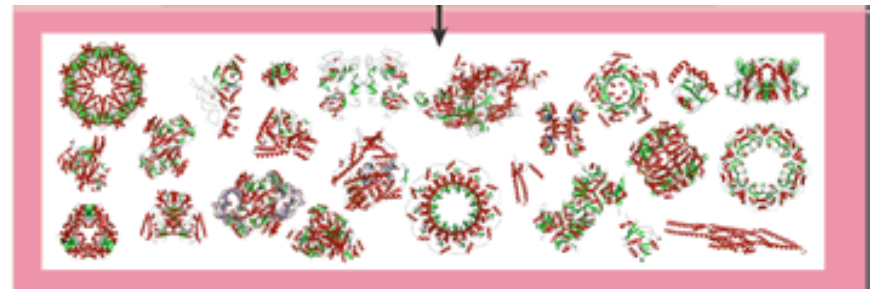
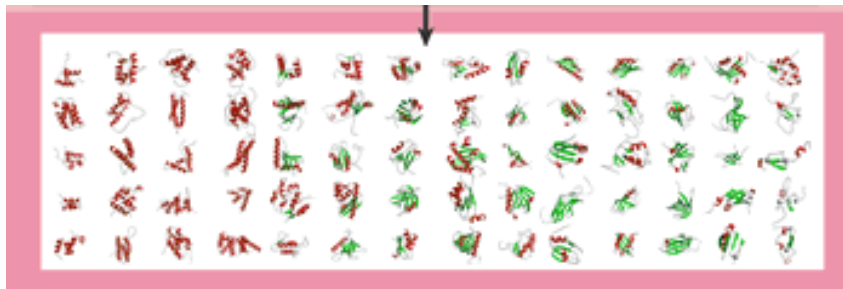
## Creation of a Bacterial Cell Controlled by a Chemically Synthesized Genome

J. Craig Venter<sup>1,2\*</sup>

2015-2020 artificial DNA  
with human genome length!?

Preparation of proteins

Protein 3000: Structural genomics





Natural / unnatural combinations can be realized

**analytical approach**



atom      building block      bio macromolecule      subsystem of cell      cell      tissue      individual

Carbon  
Oxygen  
Nitrogen

nucleotide  
amino acid  
lipid

DNA  
RNA  
protein

gene network  
protein synthesis  
Photosynthesis  
vesicle



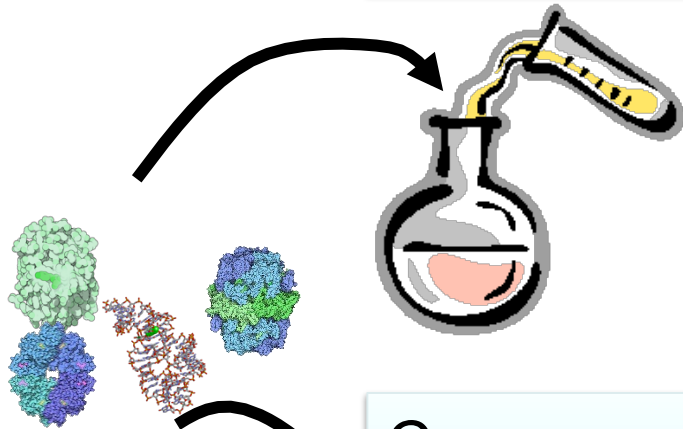
**constructive approach**

**Synthetic Biology**

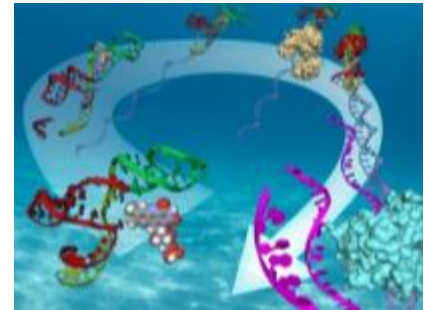
# synthetic molecular system

Mix proteins and DNA/RNA

aptazyme system



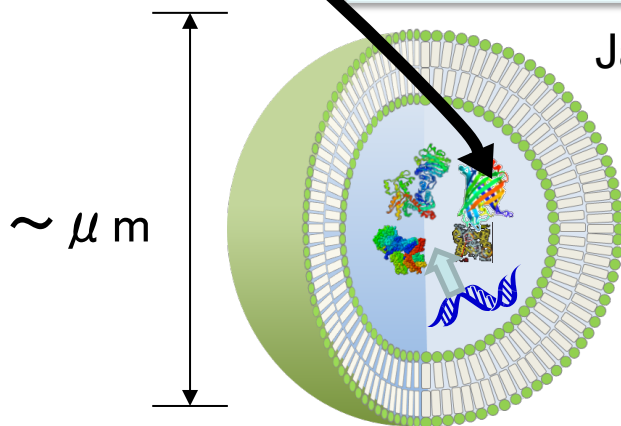
In vitro protein production  
DNA computation  
/molecular programming



*ChemComm* 2012  
cover figure

Can we synthesize a cell?

Japanese Society for Cell Synthesis Research



President -2008 Tetsuya Yomo  
President -2012 Daisuke Kiga

# Objectives of Synthetic biology

- **Engineering**

- protein engineering
- metabolic engineering
- tissue engineering

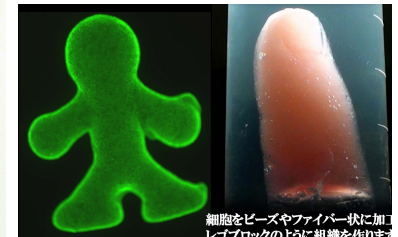
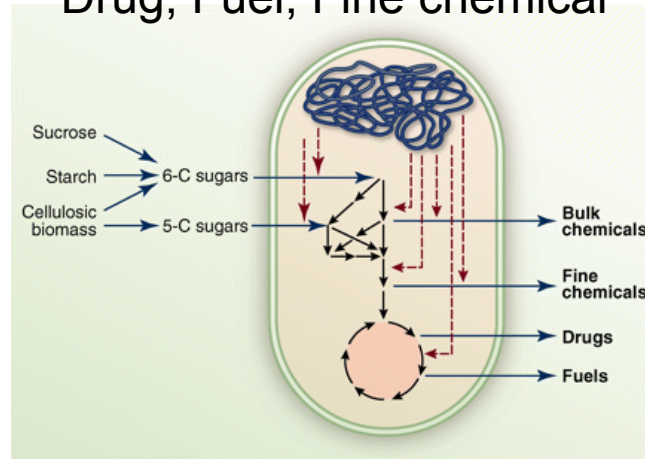
- **Science**

washing-powder



Drug, Fuel, Fine chemical

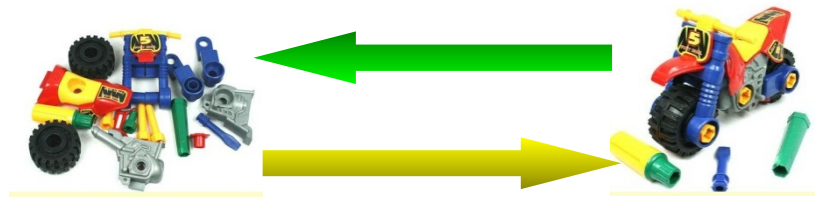
combination of cells



# Objectives of Synthetic biology

- Engineering

- Science



Process for  
robust system

- Reconstitution:  
proof-by-synthesis

- ATPase, RNA Pol,  
Ribosome

- PURE Translation  
system

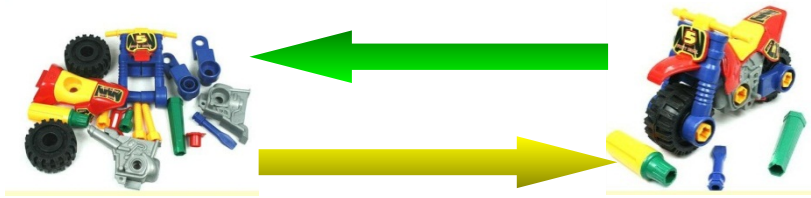
- **Regulatory circuit**

- Construction of “another  
life”

# Objectives of Synthetic biology

- Engineering

- Science
  - Reconstitution:

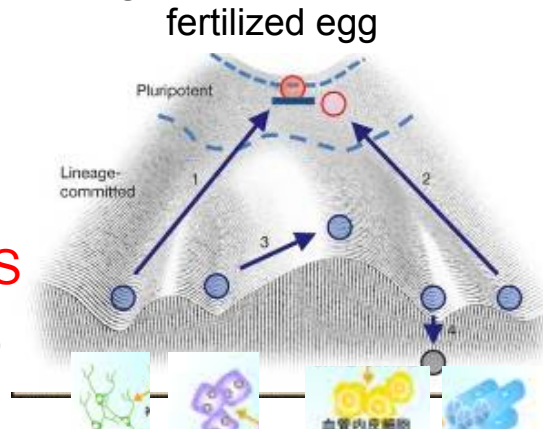


Natural Complicated system

Process for robust system

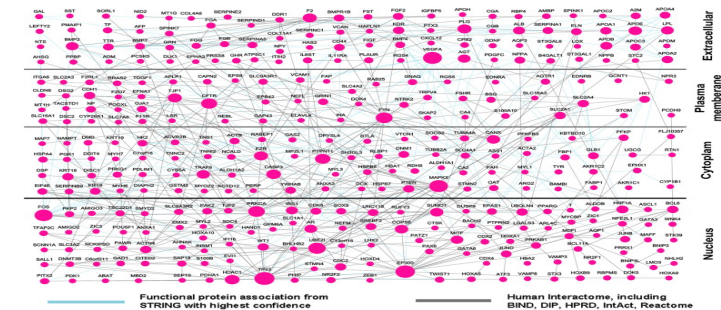
Waddington 1957  
 one phenotype  
 ↓  
 multi phenotypes  
 S Yamanaka *Nature* (2009)

Epigenetic landscape



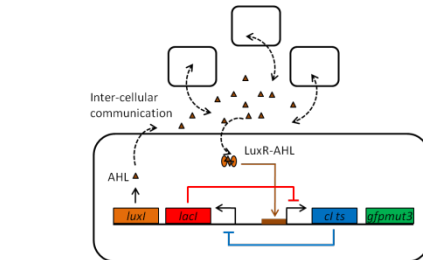
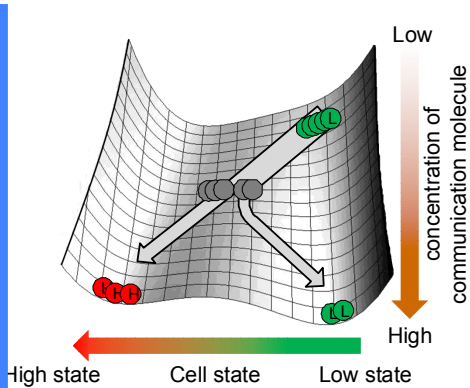
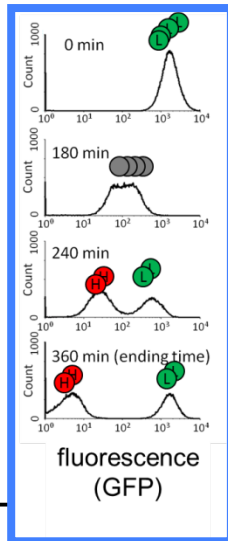
differentiated cells

- Regulatory circuit



Molecular Interaction Network in Human Organogenesis  
 Fang et al, Dev Cell 2010

# Objectives of Synthetic biology



$$\frac{dy_i}{dt} = \frac{\alpha_y}{1 + (x_i/K_x)^{n_x}} \cdot \frac{z^{n_z}}{K_z^{n_z} + z^{n_z}} - d_y \cdot y_i$$

$$\frac{dx_i}{dt} = \frac{\alpha_x}{1 + (y_i/K_y)^{n_y}} - d_x \cdot x_i$$

– Reconstitution:  $\frac{dz}{dt} = \frac{N_{tot}}{N} \sum \lambda \cdot x_i - d_z \cdot z$

Kiga Lab  
PNAS (2011)  
vol108, 17969-

Synthetic Simple system  
in living cell/test tube

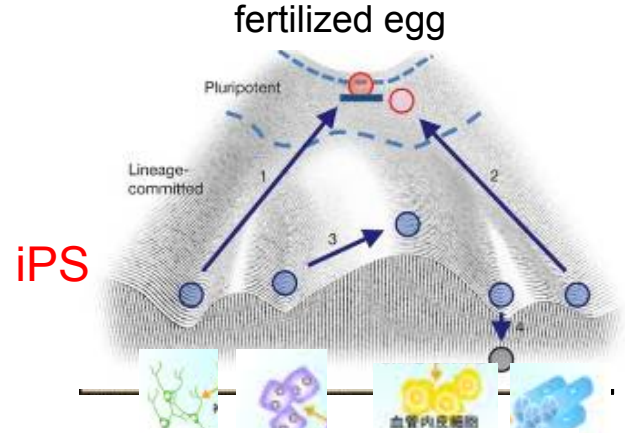
Wet experiment & Modeling

Process for  
robust system

Natural Complicated system

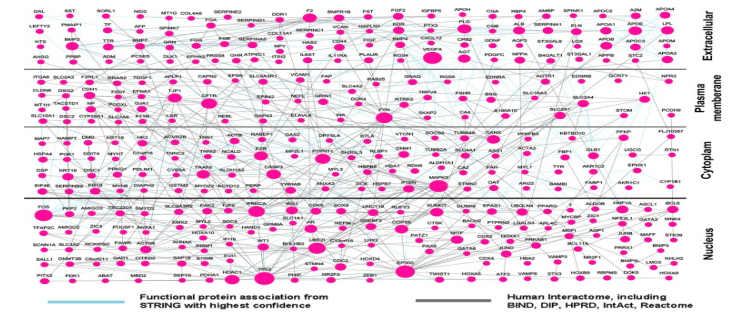
Waddington 1957  
one  
phenotype  
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phenotypes

Epigenetic landscape



differentiated cells

• Regulatory circuit



Molecular Interaction Network in Human Organogenesis  
Fang et al, Dev Cell 2010

# Objectives of Synthetic biology

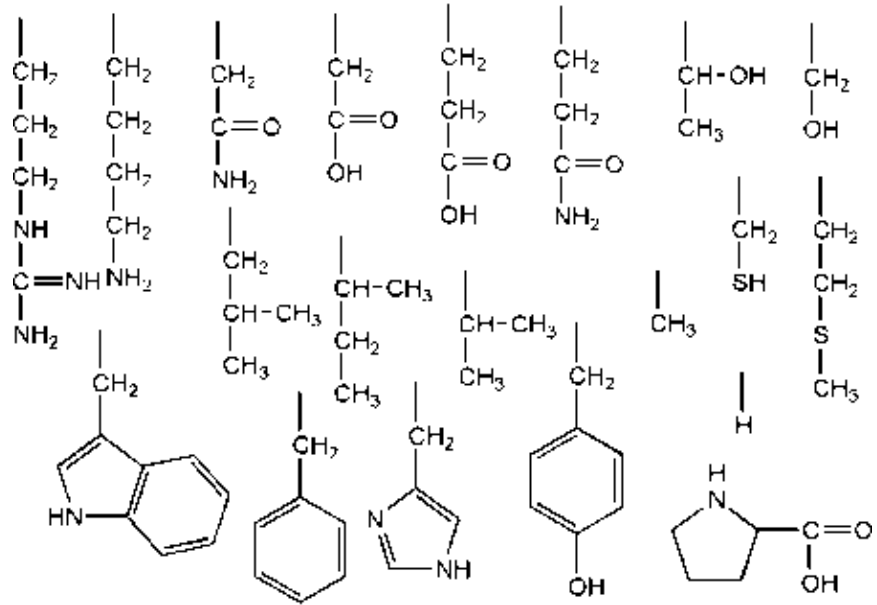
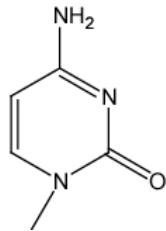
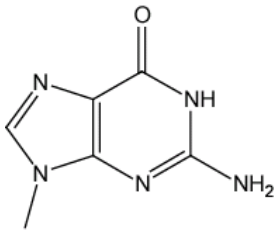
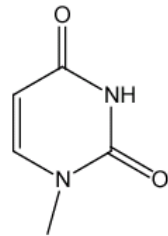
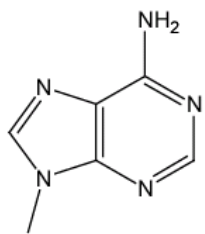
- Engineering
  - protein engineering
  - metabolic engineering
  - tissue engineering
- Science
  - Reconstitution:  
proof-by-synthesis
    - ATPase, RNA Pol, Ribosome
    - PURE Translation system
    - Regulatory circuit
  - Construction of  
**“another life”**
    - other “natural ” systems  
made of natural parts
    - what life could be  
in early earth or exoplanets

# contents

- Synthetic/Constructive approach in life science
- Simplified genetic code  
for reconstitution of ancient protein
  - code and protein with less than 20 amino acids
- How to engineer genetic code



# Why 4 nucleotide and 20 amino acids?



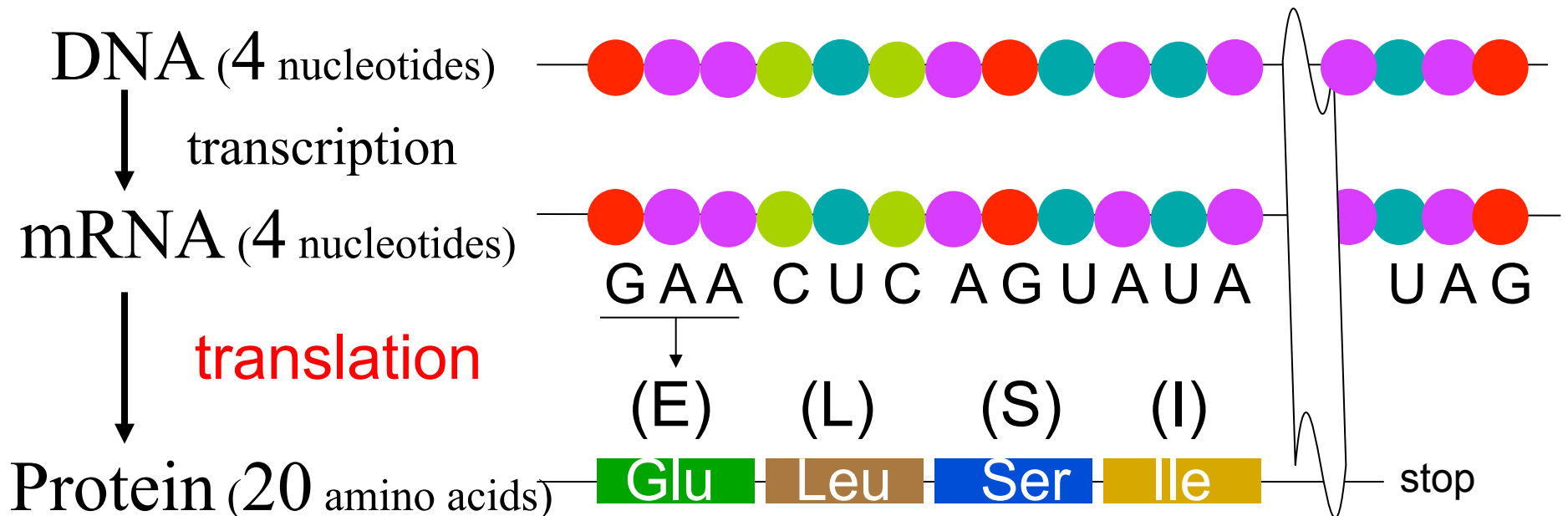
# Only one solution for one function?



many  
“alternative forms”

# Universal property in Present Life is Important for Life?

- Replication, Metabolism, Containment
- Carbon-based polymer
  - L-amino acids, D-ribose
- Succession of DNA through generations
- DNA=Blue Print, Protein=Functional Molecule



# The Universal genetic code

from *E. coli* to Human

UUU	Phe	UCU	Ser	UAU	Tyr	UGU	Cys
UUC		UCC		UAC		UGC	
UUA	Leu	UCA		UAA	Stop	UGA	Stop
UUG		UCG		UAG	Stop	UGG	Trp
CUU	Leu	CCU	Pro	CAU	His	CGU	Arg
CUC		CCC		CAC		CGC	
CUA		CCA		CAA	Gln	CGA	
CUG		CCG		CAG		CGG	
AUU	Ile	ACU	Thr	AAU	Asn	AGU	Ser
AUC		ACC		AAC		AGC	
AUA		ACA		AAA	Lys	AGA	Arg
AUG	Met	ACG		AAG		AGG	
GUU	Val	GCU	Ala	GAU	Asp	GGU	Gly
GUC		GCC		GAC		GGC	
GUA		GCA		GAA	Glu	GGA	
GUG		GCG		GAG		GGG	

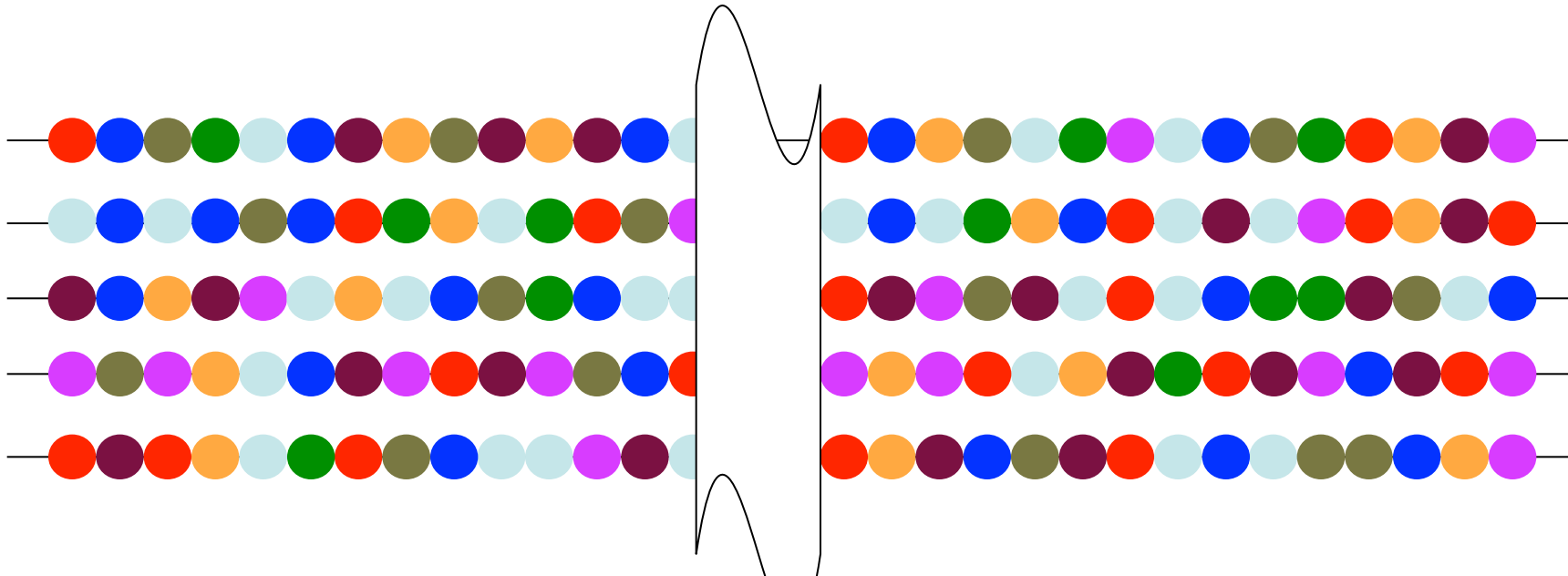
# Nature creates little part of “What life could be”

Sequence variety for a small  
protein (200 amino acids length)

$$20^{200} \doteq 10^{260}$$

atoms in the Universe  $10^{70} \sim 10^{80}$

age of the Universe  $10^{16}$  (sec)



# Is set of natural 20 amino acids the only solution ?

## The Universal Genetic Code

UUU UUC	Phe	UCU UCC	Ser	UAU UAC	Tyr	UGU UGC	Cys
UUA UUG	Leu	UCA UCG		UAA UAG	Stop Stop	UGA UGG	Stop Trp
CUU CUC CUA CUG	Leu	CCU CCC CCA CCG	Pro	CAU CAC	His	CGU CGC CGA CGG	Arg
AUU AUC AUA		Ile		ACU ACC ACA	Thr	AAU AAC	
AUG	Met	ACG	AAA AAG	Lys		AGA AGG	Arg
GUU GUC GUA GUG	Val	GCU GCC GCA GCG	Ala	GAU GAC	Asp	GGU GGC GGA GGG	Gly
					GAA GAG	Glu	

~2005: all of the natural codes contains 20 aa.

# Why 20 amino acids in the Universal code? can we construct other codes?

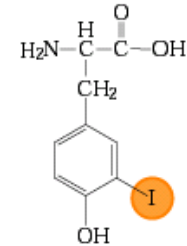
The universal genetic code **20**

UUU	Phe	UCU	Ser	UAU	Tyr	UGU	Cys
UUC		UCC		UAC		UGC	
UUA	Leu	UCA	Stop	UAA	Stop	UGA	Stop
UUG		UCG	Stop	UAG	Stop	UGG	Trp
CUU	Leu	CCU	Pro	CAU	His	CGU	Arg
CUC		CAC		CGC			
CUA		CAA		CGA			
CUG		CAG		CGG			
AUU	Ile	ACU	Thr	AAU	Asn	AGU	Ser
AUC		ACC		AAC	AGC		
AUA		ACA		AAA	Lys	AGA	Arg
AUG		Met		ACG	AAG	AGG	
GUU	Val	GCU	Ala	GAU	Asp	GGU	Gly
GUC		GCC		GAC	GCC		
GUA		GCA		GAA	GGA		
GUG		GCG		GAG	GGG		

**21**

## Expanded genetic code

UUU	Phe	UCU	Ser	UAU	Tyr	UGU	Cys
UUC		UCC		UAC		UGC	
UUA	Leu	UCA	Stop	UAA	Stop	UGA	Stop
UUG		UCG	Stop	UAG	21st aa	UGG	Trp
CUU	Leu	CCU	Pro	CAU	His	CGU	Arg
CUC		CAC		CGC			
CUA		CAA		CGA			
CUG		CAG		CGG			
AUU	Ile	ACU	Thr	AAU	Asn	AGU	Ser
AUC		ACC		AAC	AGC		
AUA		ACA		AAA	Lys	AGA	Arg
AUG		Met		ACG	AAG	AGG	
GUU	Val	GCU	Ala	GAU	Asp	GGU	Gly
GUC		GCC		GAC	GCC		
GUA		GCA		GAA	GGA		
GUG		GCG		GAG	GGG		



3-iodo tyrosine

Kiga et al., *PNAS*2002

## “Simplified” genetic code

UUU	Phe	UCU	Ser	UAU	Tyr	UGU	Cys
UUC		UCC		UAC		UGC	
UUA	Leu	UCA	Stop	UAA	Stop	UGA	Stop
UUG		UCG	Stop	UAG	Stop	UGG	Ala
CUU	Leu	CCU	Pro	CAU	His	CGU	Arg
CUC		CAC		CGC			
CUA		CAA		CGA			
CUG		CAG		CGG			
AUU	Ile	ACU	Thr	AAU	Asn	AGU	Ser
AUC		ACC		AAC	AGC		
AUA		ACA		AAA	Lys	AGA	Arg
AUG		Met		ACG	AAG	AGG	
GUU	Val	GCU	Ala	GAU	Asp	GGU	Gly
GUC		GCC		GAC	GCC		
GUA		GCA		GAA	GGA		
GUG		GCG		GAG	GGG		

**19**

any mRNA produces protein w/o Trp

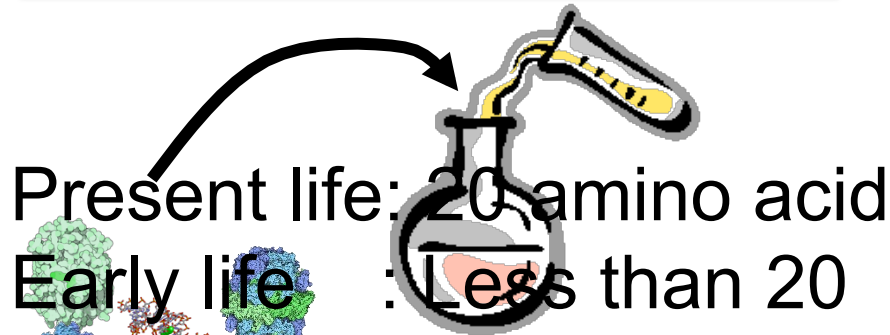
Kiga Lab  
*Nucleic Acids Research*  
2012, featured article

# synthetic molecular system

Mix proteins and DNA/RNA

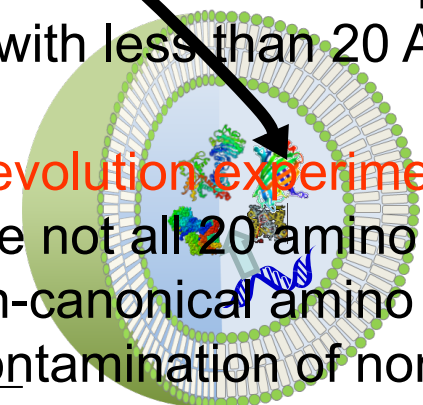
Subsystem of early life

Present life: 20 amino acid  
Early life : Less than 20



/Phylogenetic analysis of components for protein production shows possibility of organisms with less than 20 AA

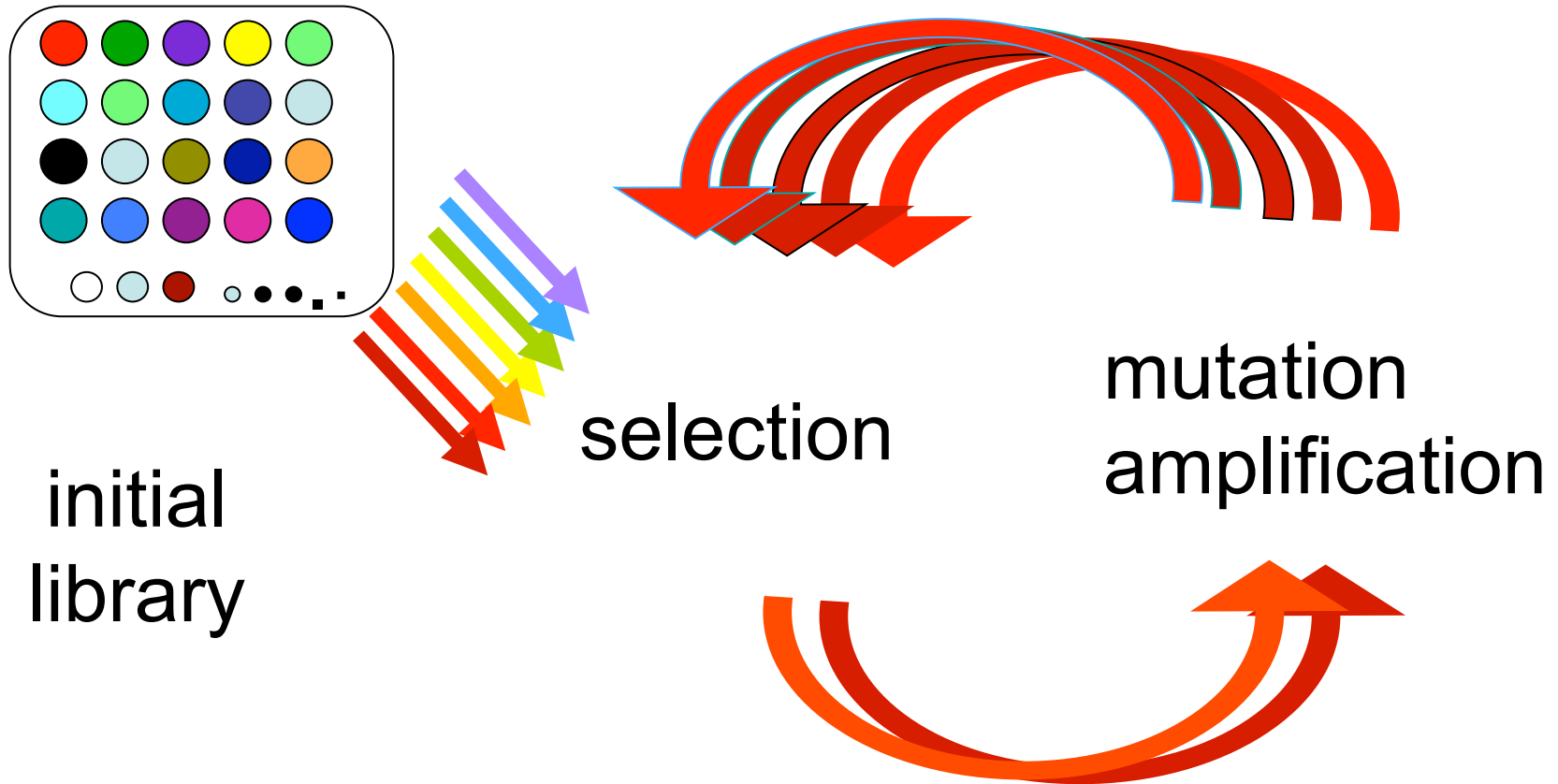
/Chemical evolution experiments can produce not all 20 amino acids (exclude non-canonical amino acids /accept contamination of non-canonical AA)



Can proteins with less than 20 amino acids provide activities for life system?



# Artificial evolution of protein



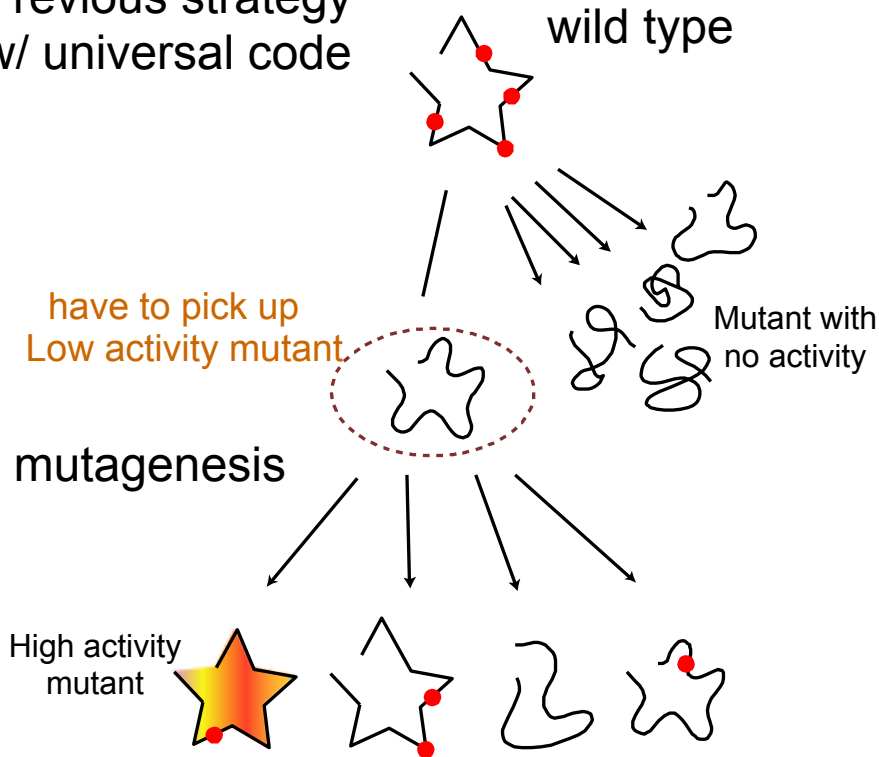
Mutations are introduced to  
nucleotide sequence on DNA,

Can proteins with less than 20 amino acids provide activities for life system?  
not amino acid sequence on protein

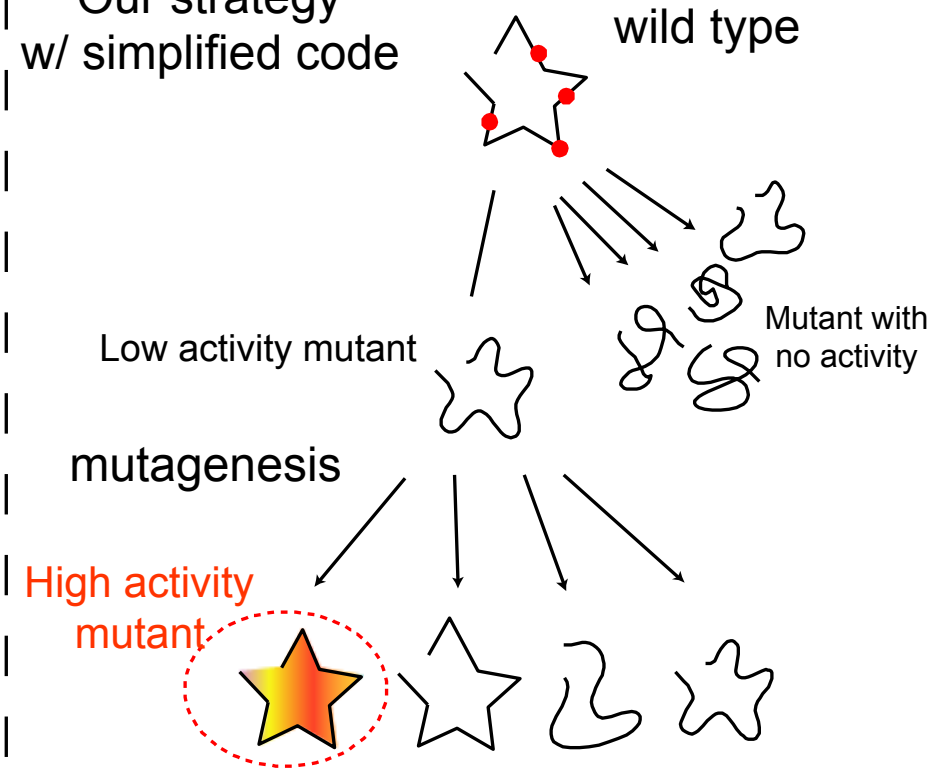
# Artificial evolution of protein with less than 20 amino acids

- amino acids to be removed

Previous strategy  
w/ universal code



Our strategy  
w/ simplified code



Cannot use evolutionary process

mutations on DNA restore codons  
for amino acids to be removed

w/ simplified genetic code  
Can use evolutionary process

amino acids to be removed never appear  
even with mutations on DNA

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# The Universal genetic code

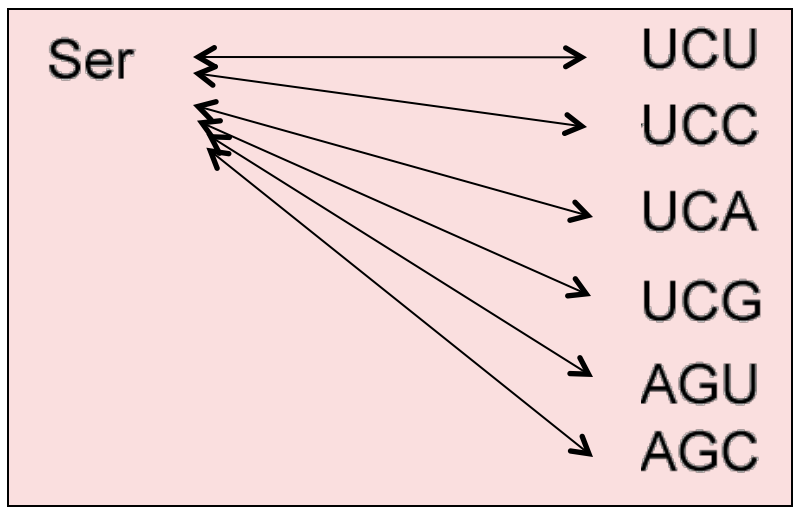
from *E. coli* to Human

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CUU	Leu	CCU	Pro	CAU	His	CGU	Arg
CUC		CCC		CAC		CGC	
CUA		CCA		CAA	Gln	CGA	
CUG		CCG		CAG		CGG	
AUU	Ile	ACU	Thr	AAU	Asn	AGU	Ser
AUC		ACC		AAC		AGC	
AUA		ACA		AAA	Lys	AGA	Arg
AUG	Met	ACG		AAG		AGG	
GUU	Val	GCU	Ala	GAU	Asp	GGU	Gly
GUC		GCC		GAC		GGC	
GUA		GCA		GAA	Glu	GGA	
GUG		GCG		GAG		GGG	

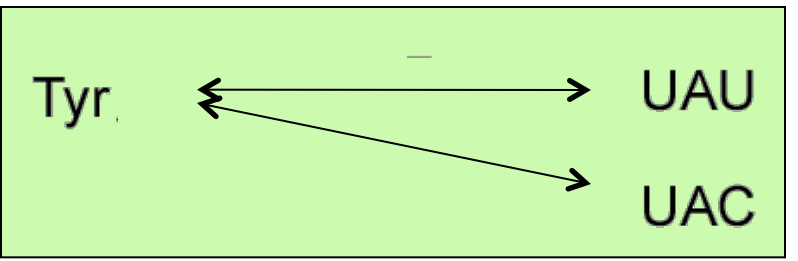
# Mechanism of the genetic code

Amino acid

codon



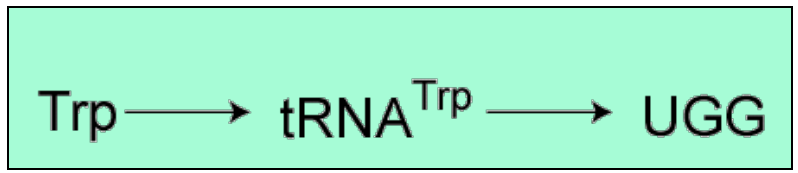
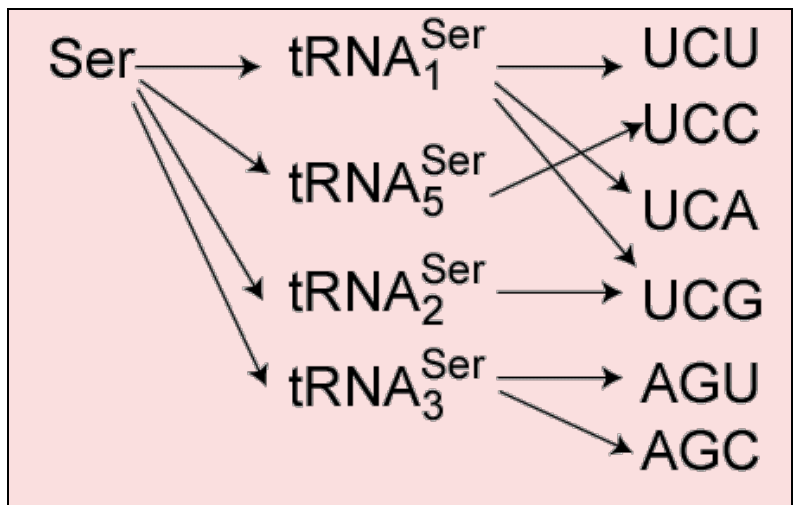
⋮



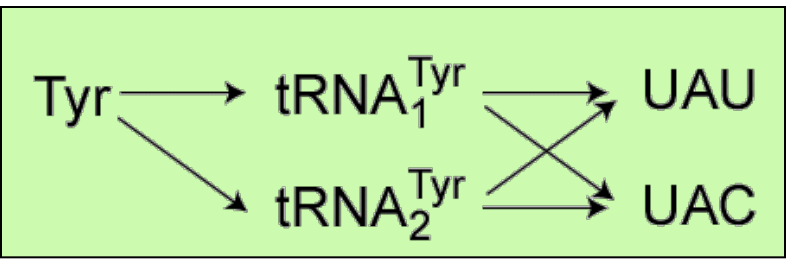
# Mechanism of the genetic code

Amino acid

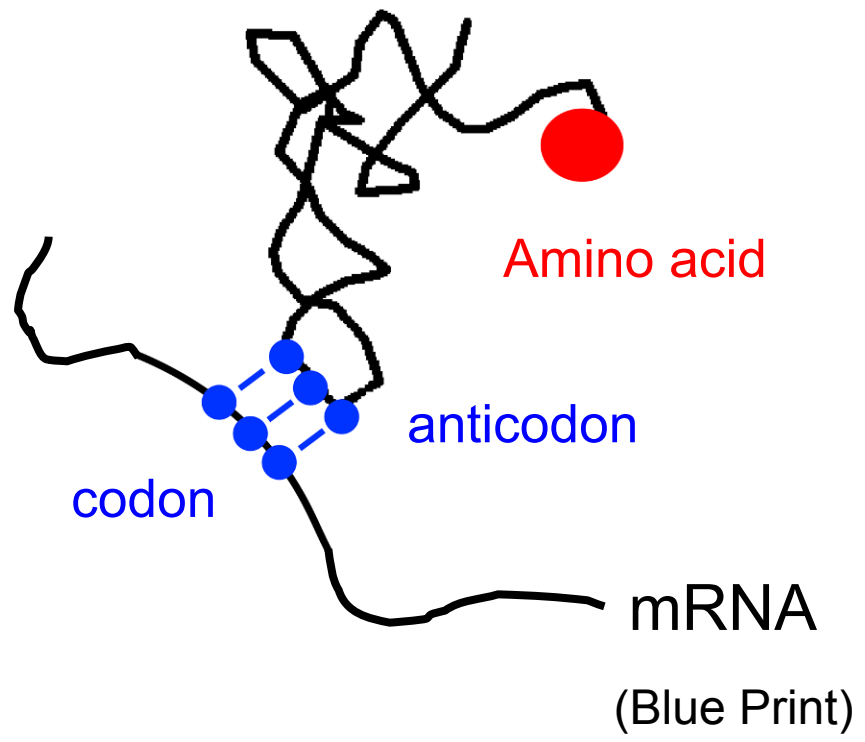
codon



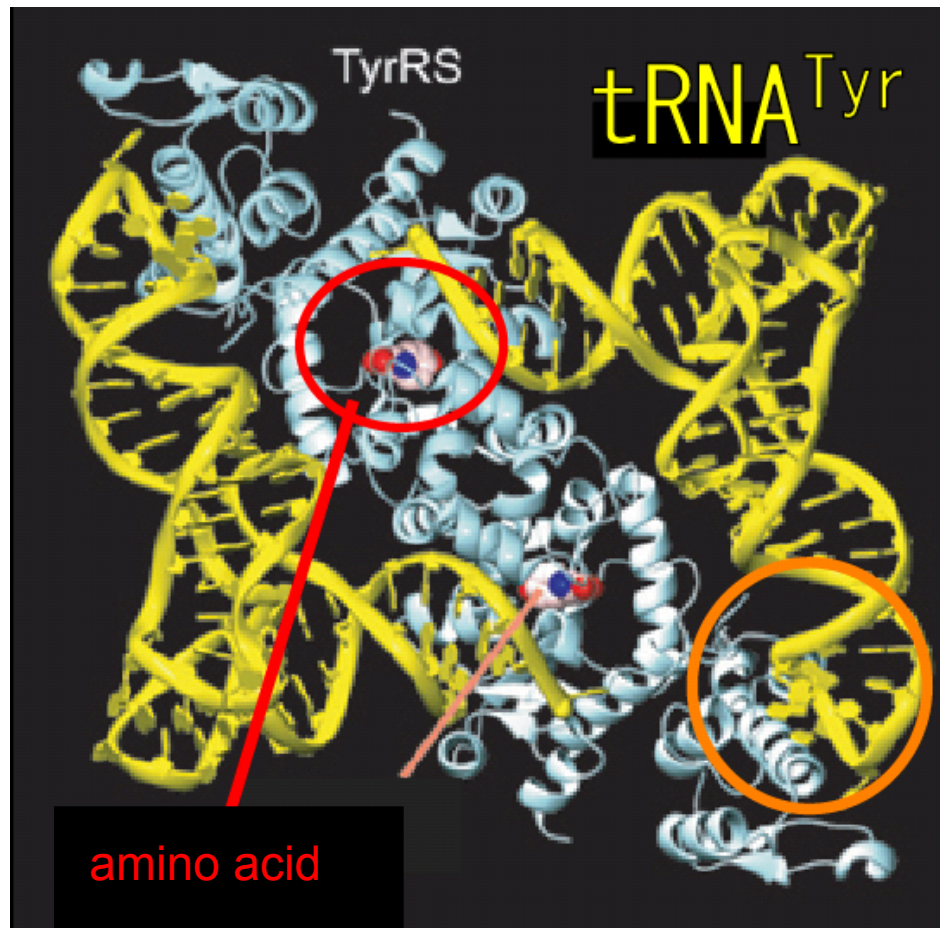
⋮



## tRNA: adaptor



# Aminoacyl-tRNA synthetase (aaRS) attaches amino acid to tRNA

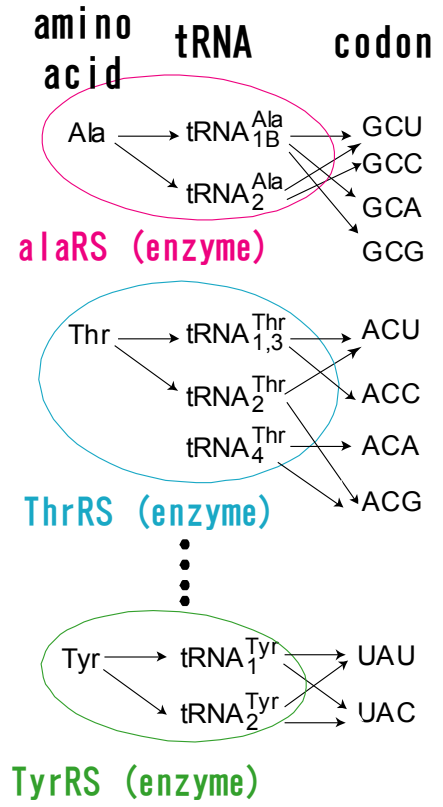


anticodon

# Natural 20 exclusive groups of amino acid, enzyme and tRNAs

## The Universal Genetic Code

UUU	Phe	UCU	Ser	UAU	Tyr	UGU	Cys
UUC		UCC		UAC		UGC	
UUA	Leu	UCA	Ser	UAA	Stop	UGA	Stop
UUG		UCG		UAG		UGG	
CUU	Leu	CCU	Pro	CAU	His	CGU	Arg
CUC		CCC		CAC		CGC	
CUA		CCA	CAA	Gln	CGA		
CUG		CCG	CAG		CGG		
AUU	Ile	ACU	Thr	AAU	Asn	AGU	Ser
AUC		ACC		AAC		AGC	
AUA		ACA		AAA	Lys	AGA	
AUG	ACG	AAG	AGG				
GUU	Val	GCU	Ala	GAU	Asp	GGU	Gly
GUC		GCC		GAC		GGC	
GUA		GCA		GAA	GGA		
GUG		GCG	GAG	Glu	GGG		

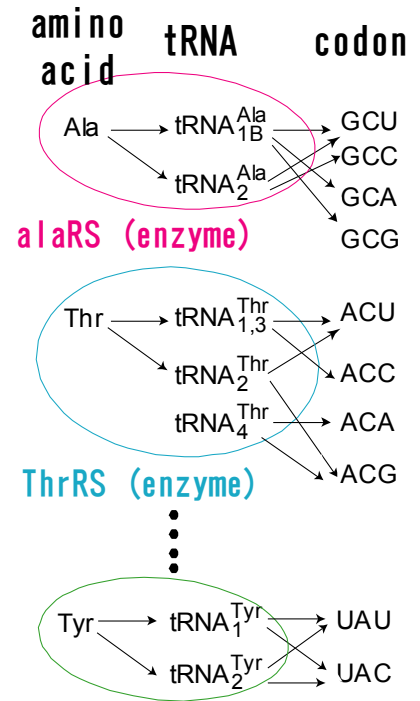




# Genetic code with 21 amino acids by creation of additional group

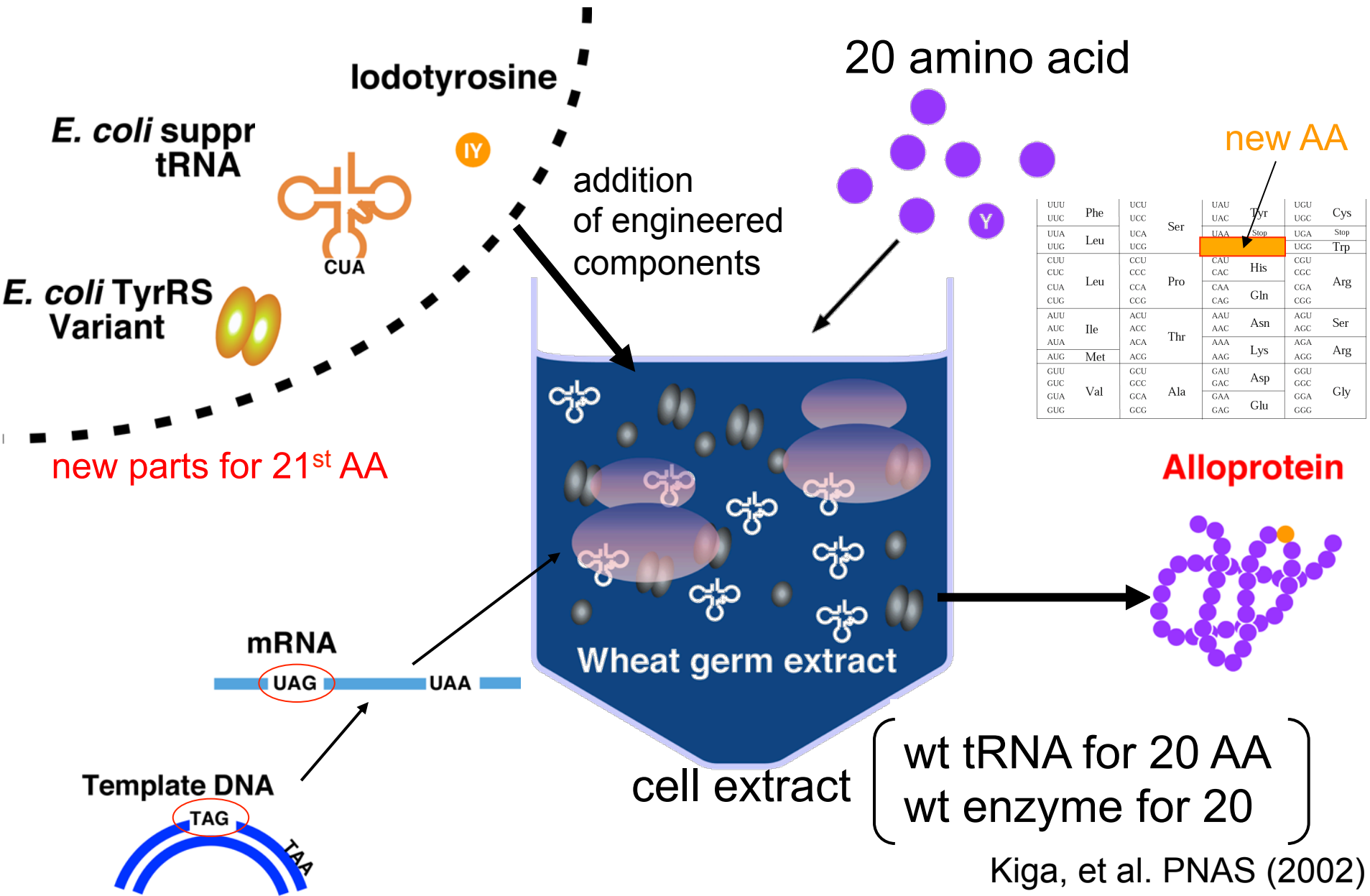
an expanded genetic code

UUU UUC	Phe	UCU UCC	Ser	UAU UAC	Tyr	UGU UGC	Cys
UUA UUG	Leu	UCA UCG	Ser	UAA UAG	Stop 21st aa	UGA UGG	Stop Trp
CUU CUC CUA CUG	Leu	CCU CCC CCA CCG		Pro	CAU CAC CAA CAG	His Gln	CGU CGC CGA CGG
AUU AUC AUA	Ile	ACU ACC ACA	Thr	AAU AAC	Asn	AGU AGC	Ser
AUG	Met	ACG		AAA AAG	Lys	AGA AGG	Arg
GUU GUC GUA GUG	Val	GCU GCC GCA GCG	Ala	GAU GAC	Asp	GGU GGC	Gly
				GAA GAG	Glu	GGA GGG	



new group without crosstalk

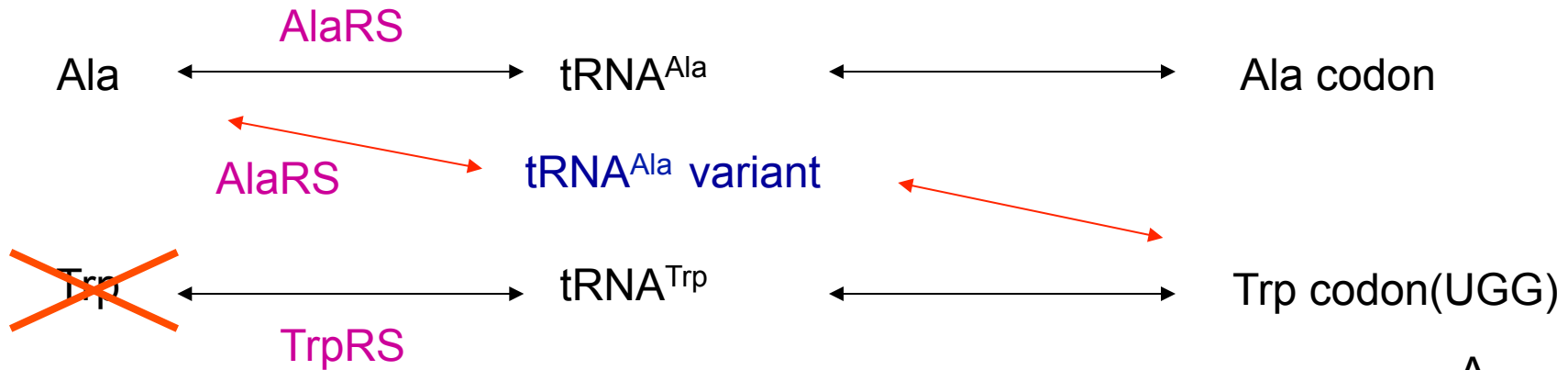
# Expansion of genetic code system by addition of engineered components for the 21st amino acid



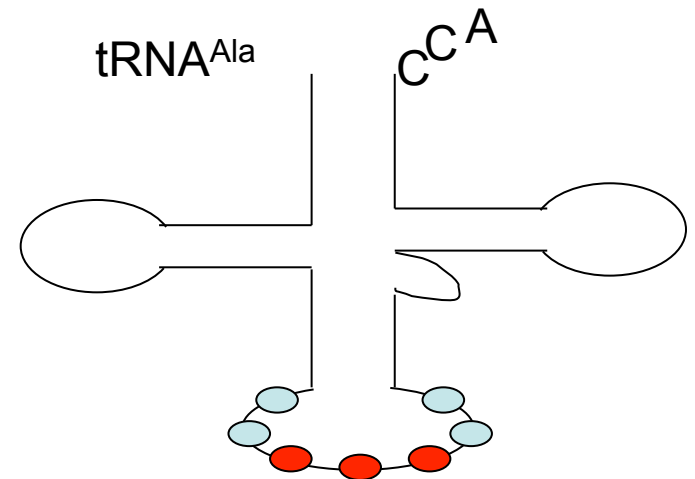
# Design of simplified genetic code

in vitro

Reassign **Trp** codon to **Ala**



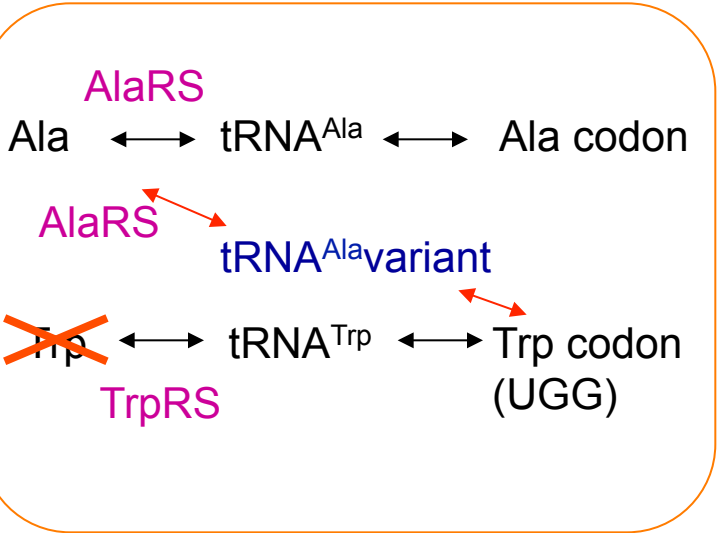
AlaRS doesn't recognize the anticodon loop to attach Ala.



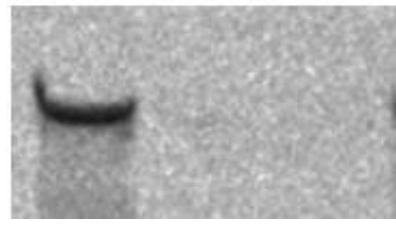
Ala anticodon U G C  
↓  
Trp anticodon C C A

# Sense codon “suppression” by tRNA<sup>Ala</sup> variant

<sup>14</sup>C-labeled protein.

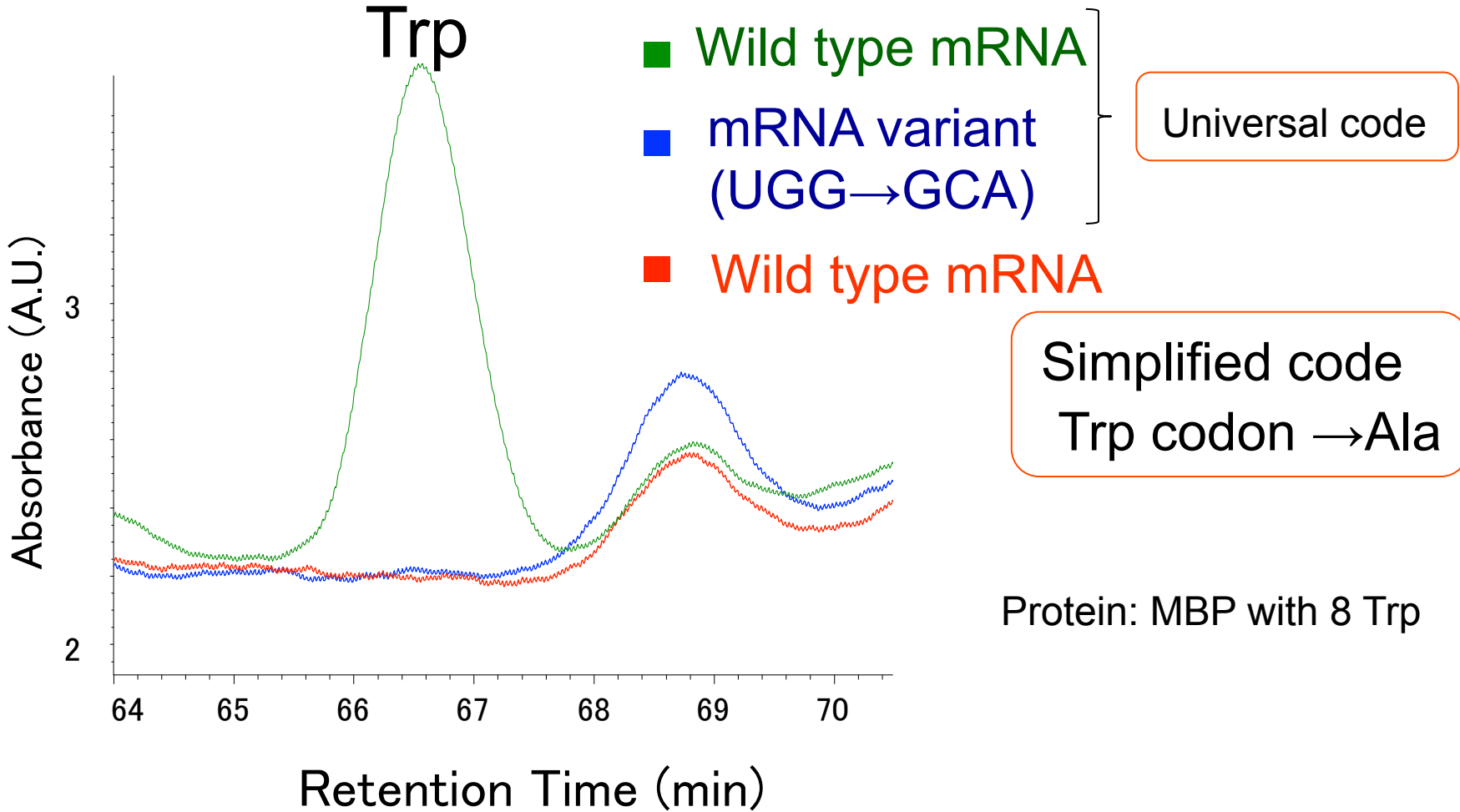


tRNA <sup>Ala</sup> variant (μM)	-	-	-
Trp	+	-	-
Trp-SA	-	-	+
Lane	1	2	3



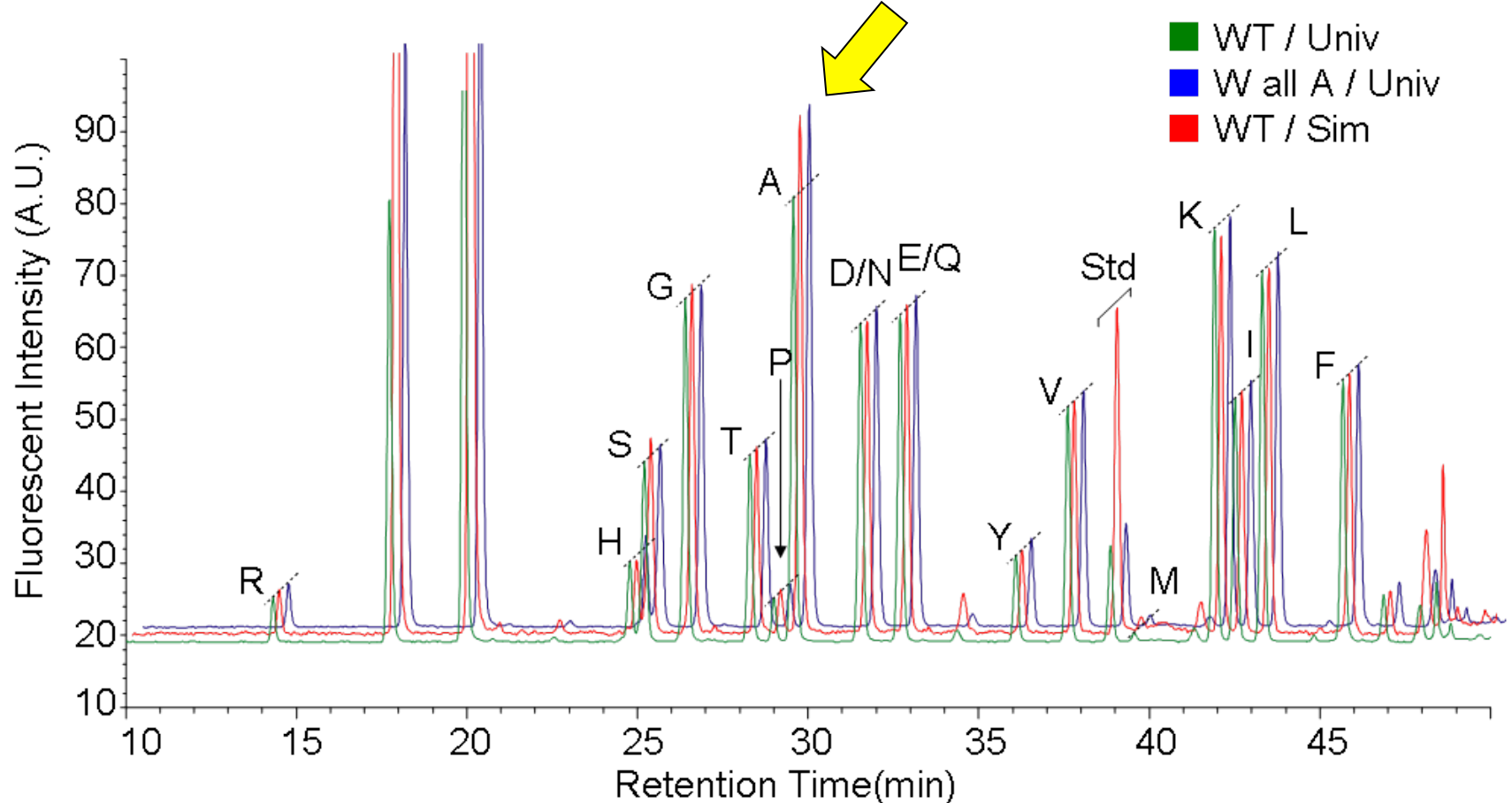
Ala, not Trp, is likely to be inserted for UGG codons.  
Next: amino acid composition analysis

# Synthesized protein did not contain Trp.



# Ala was increased instead of Trp disappearance.

Amino acid composition analysis showed Ala and other amino acid's content.



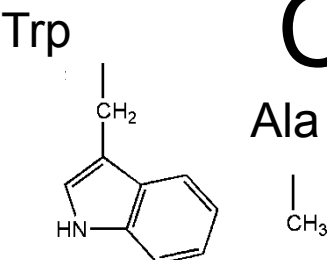
The increased amount of Ala was estimated as 8 residues, which is equivalent to the number of UGG codons in the MBP-WT mRNA.

The result strongly indicates that the tRNA variant introduced Ala to the UGG codon.

Results-I

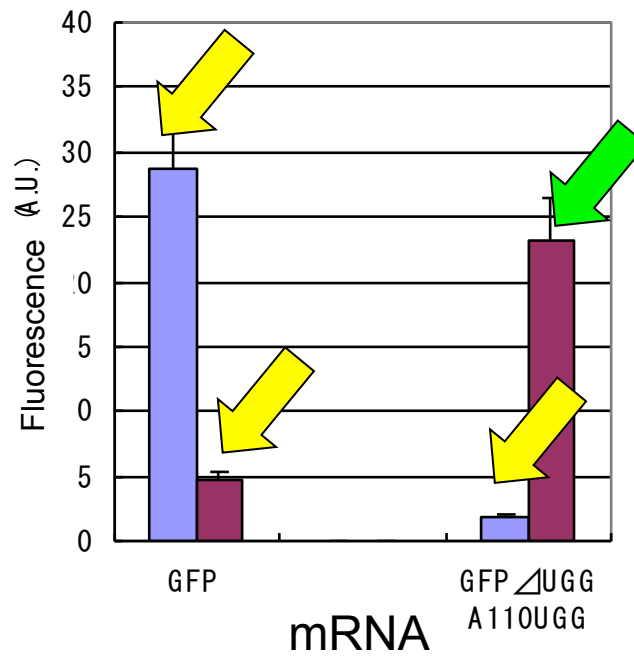
# Simplified genetic code

## Can produce active protein



Ala

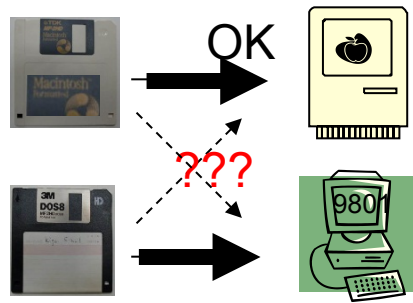
UUU	Phe	UCU	UUA	Tyr	UGU	Cys
UUC		UCC	UAC		UGC	
UUA	Leu	UCA	UAA	Stop	UGA	Stop
UUG		UCG	UAG	Stop	UGG	Ala
CUU		CCU	CAU	His	CGU	Arg
CUC	Leu	CCC	CAC		CGC	
CUA		CCA	CAA	Gln	CGA	
CUG		CCG	CAG		CGG	
AUU		ACU	AAU	Asn	AGU	Ser
AUC	Ile	ACC	AAC		AGC	
AUA		ACA	AAA	Lys	AGA	Arg
AUG	Met	ACG	AAG		AGG	
GUU		GCU	GAU	Asp	GGU	Gly
GUC	Val	GCC	GAC		GGC	
GUA		GCA	GAA	Glu	GGA	
GUG		GCG	GAG		GGG	



protein : GFP

- Natural Universal code (20 amino acid, UGG:Trp)
- Engineered Simplified code (19 amino acid, UGG:Ala)

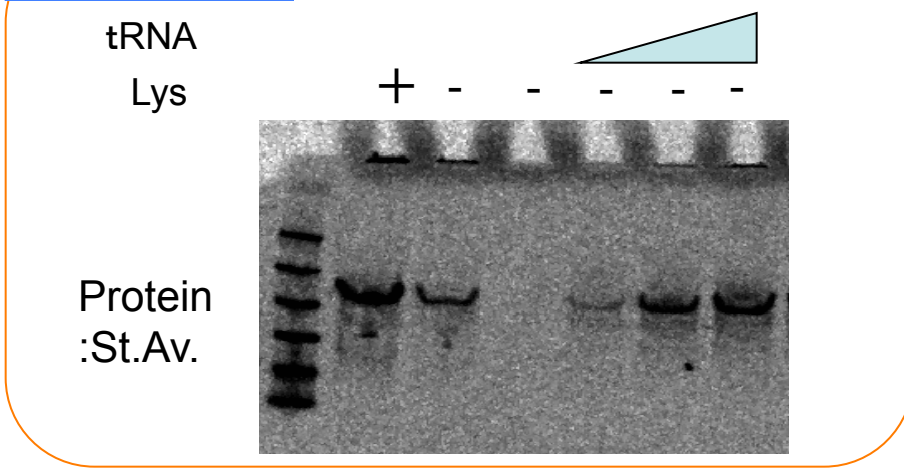
## Gene specific for simplified genetic code



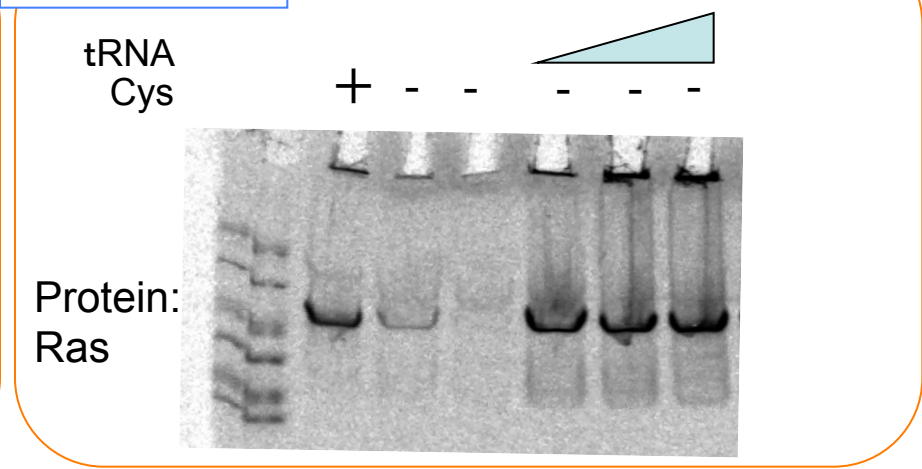
barrier against horizontal transfer

# Results-II Generality of simplified genetic codes

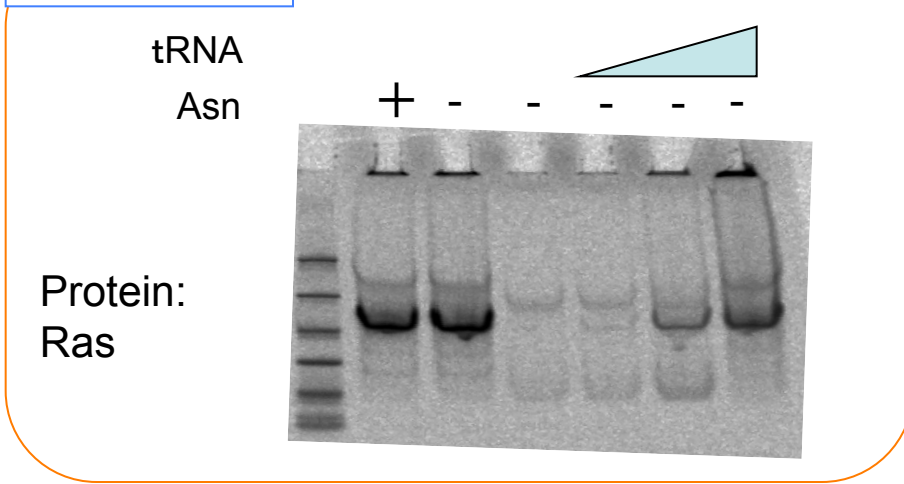
Lys→Ser



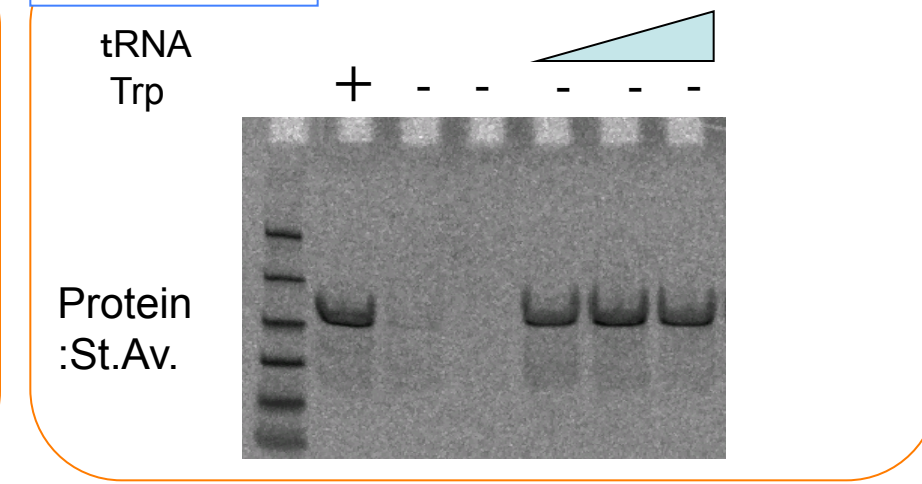
Cys→Ser



Asn→Ala



Trp→Ala



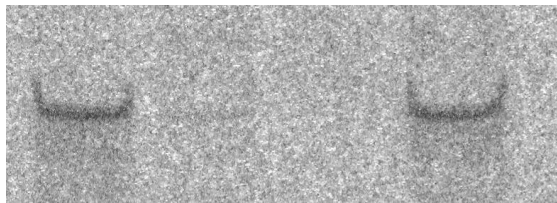
Cys→Ala, Asn→Ser, Trp→Ser Thr→Ser ....



# The simplified genetic code comprising 16 amino acids

Translation reaction with the tRNA<sup>Ser</sup> variants in the *E.coli* cell extract lacking specific amino acids.

tRNA variant      -      -      -      +  
 4amino acids    +      -      -      -  
 aa-SAs          -      -      +      +  
 Lane            1      2      3      4



UUU	Phe	UCU	Ser	UAU	<del>Asn</del>	UGU	<del>Cys</del>	Ser
UUC		UCC		UAC	<del>Trp</del>	UGC	<del>Tyr</del>	
UUA	Leu	UCA	Ser	UAA	Stop	UGA	Stop	Ser
UUG		UCG		UAG	Stop	UGG	<del>Trp</del>	
CUU	Leu	CCU	Pro	CAU	His	CGU	Arg	Ser
CUC		CCC		CAC	His	CGC		
CUA		CCA		CAA	Gln	CGA		
CUG		CCG		CAG	Gln	CGG		
AUU	Ile	ACU	Thr	AAU	<del>Asn</del>	AGU	Ser	Ser
AUC		ACC		AAC	<del>Trp</del>	AGC		
AUA	Met	ACA	Thr	AAA	Lys	AGA	Arg	Ser
AUG		ACG		AAG	Lys	AGG		
GUU	Val	GCU	Ala	GAU	Asp	GGU	Gly	Ser
GUC		GCC		GAC	Asp	GCC		
GUA		GCA		GAA	Glu	GGA		
GUG		GCG		GAG	Glu	GGG		

tRNA variant : UGU/UGC:Ser, UGG:Ser, UAU/UAC:Ser, AAU/AAC:Ser

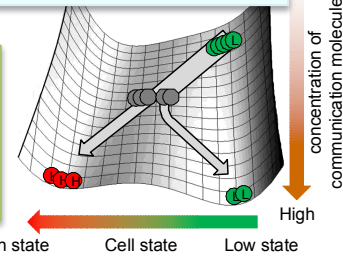
4amino acids : Cys, Trp, Tyr, Asn

aa-SAs : Cys-SA, Trp-SA, Tyr-SA, Asn-SA

For resurrection of proteins before commonotes, engineered genetic code less than 20 amino acids is important

# contents

Process for robust system



- Synthetic/Constructive approach in life science

- proof by synthesis
- construction of another life

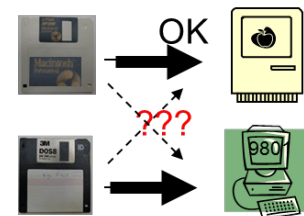
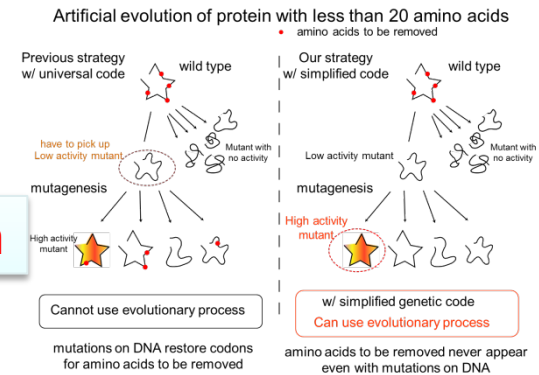
- Simplified genetic code for reconstitution of ancient protein

artificial evolution

- code and protein with less than 20 amino acids

- How to engineer genetic code

- Gene specific for simplified genetic code
- 16 aa genetic code, and so on



- Q1: Find the secret message in the sentences.
  - Why is DNA necessary? Life is very special and cells are great things. Significantly advanced life science is easily mistaken as magic.
- Q2: Can I delete the “w” letter in these sentences?

The above sentences use 20 of 26 letters in English alphabet

How about expression in German, Spanish, Japanese and so on?

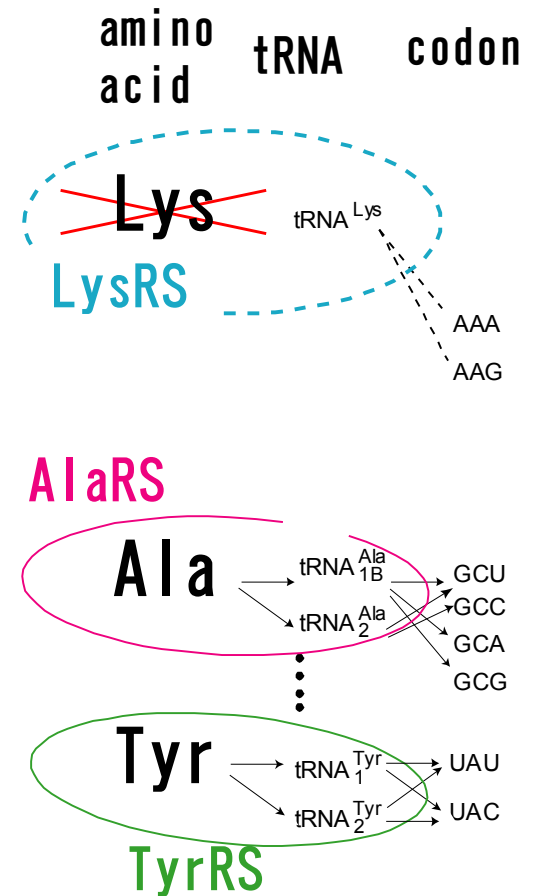




# Simplification of the code:

## Construction of genetic codes with 19 amino acids

UUU	Phe	UCU	Ser	UAU	Tyr	UGU	Cys
UUC		UCC		UAC	UGC		
UUA	Leu	UCA	Ser	UAA	Stop	UGA	Stop
UUG		UCG		UAG	Stop	UGG	Trp
CUU	Leu	CCU	Pro	CAU	His	CGU	Arg
CUC		CCC		CAC	His	CGC	
CUA		CCA	CAA	Gln	CGA		
CUG		CCG	CAG	Gln	CGG		
AUU	Ile	ACU	Thr	AAU	Asn	AGU	Ser
AUC		ACC		AAC	Asn	AGC	
AUA		ACA		AAA	<del>Lys</del>	AGA	Arg
AUG	Met	ACG	AAG	<del>Lys</del>	AGG	Arg	
GUU	Val	GCU	Ala	GAU	Asp	GGU	Gly
GUC		GCC		GAC	Asp	GGC	
GUA		GCA	GAA	Glu	GGA		
GUG		GCG	GAG	Glu	GGG		



Removal of an amino acids

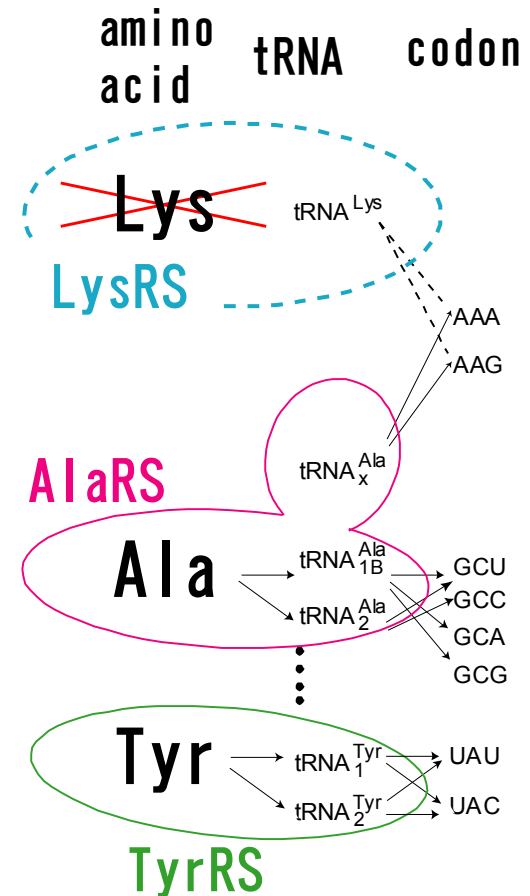


Unassigned codon

# Simplification of the code:

## Construction of genetic codes with 19 amino acids

UUU	Phe	UCU	Ser	UAU	Tyr	UGU	Cys
UUC		UCC		UAC		UGC	
UUA	Leu	UCA	Stop	UAA	Stop	UGA	Stop
UUG		UCG		UAG		UGG	
CUU	Leu	CCU	Pro	CAU	His	CGU	Arg
CUC		CCC		CAC		CGC	
CUA		CCA		CAA	Gln	CGA	
CUG		CCG		CAG		CGG	
AUU	Ile	ACU	Thr	AAU	Asn	AGU	Ser
AUC		ACC		AAC		AGC	
AUA		ACA		AAA	Arg	AGA	
AUG	Met	ACG	AAG	AGG			
GUU	Val	GCU	Ala	GAU	Asp	GGU	Gly
GUC		GCC		GAC		GGC	
GUA		GCA		GAA	Glu	GGA	
GUG		GCG		GAG		GGG	



Removal of an amino acids  $\longrightarrow$  Unassigned codon

Addition of tRNA<sup>Ala/Ser</sup> mutant  $\longrightarrow$  Codon Reassignment

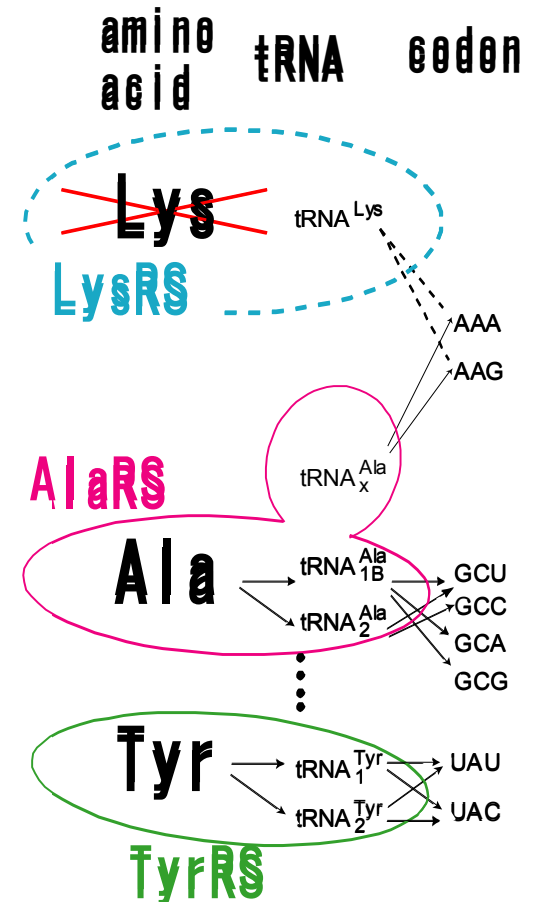
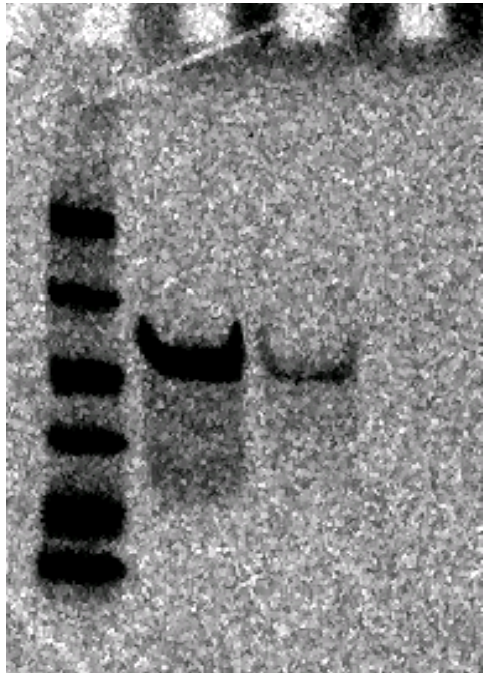
# Simplification of the code:

## Codon reassignment by tRNA<sup>Ala</sup> variant

Lys codon AAA/G → Ala

tRNA<sup>Ala</sup> mutant

Lys	+	-	-
Lys-SA	-	-	+
laneNo	1	2	3

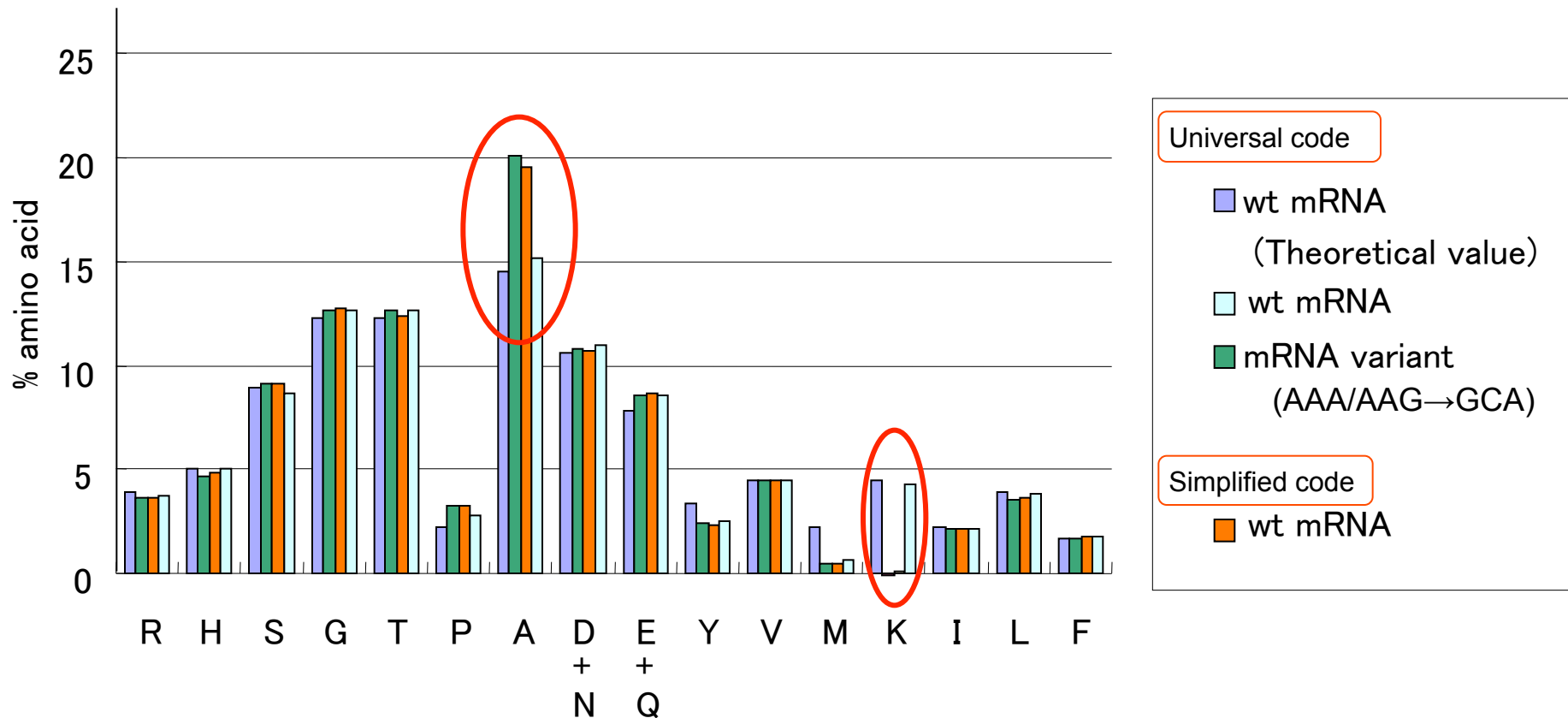




# Simplification of the code:

## Amino acid composition analysis w/ RIKEN Dohmae group

AAA/AAG codons are reassigned from Lysine(K) to Alanine(A)



# Simplification of the code: Generality of the method

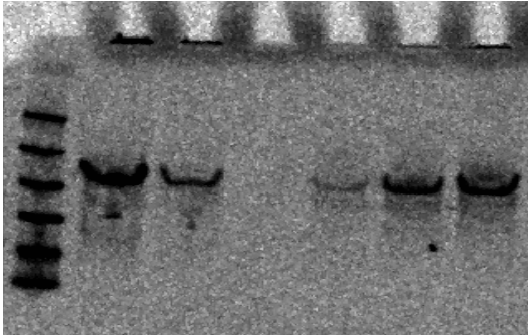
Lys→Ser

tRNA  
Lys

+ - - - -



Protein:  
:St.Av.



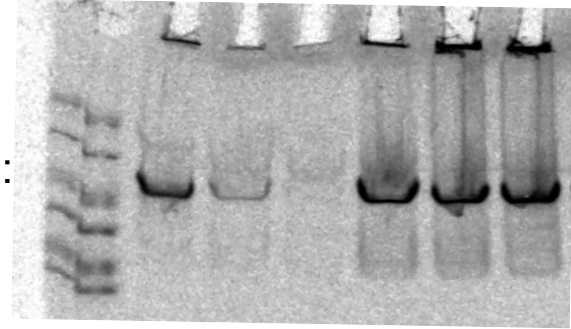
Cys→Ser

tRNA  
Cys

+ - - - -



Protein:  
Ras



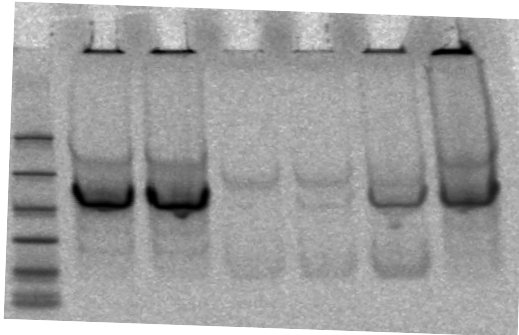
Asn→Ala

tRNA  
Asn

+ - - - -



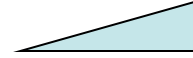
Protein:  
Ras



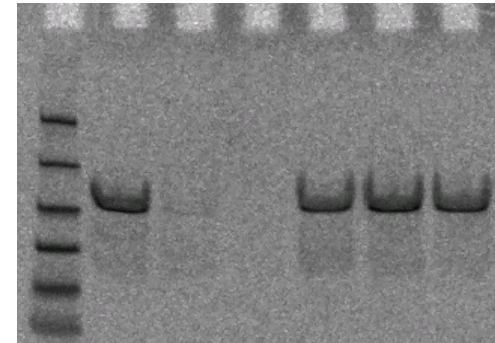
Trp→Ala

tRNA  
Trp

+ - - - -



Protein:  
:St.Av.



Cys→Ala, Asn→Ser, Trp→Ser Thr→Ser ....

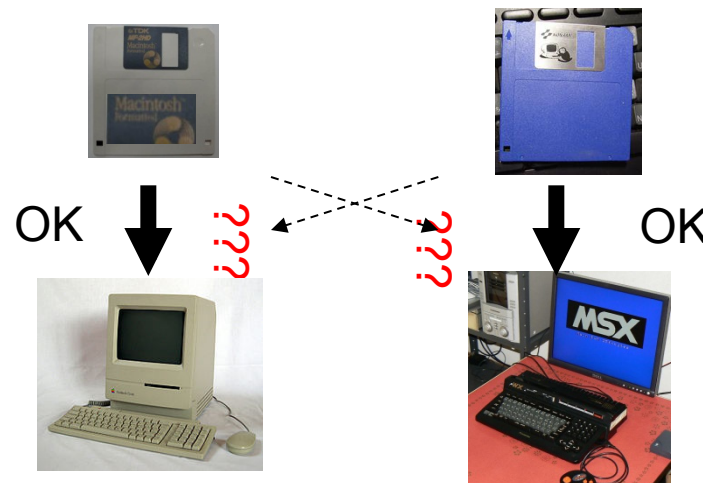
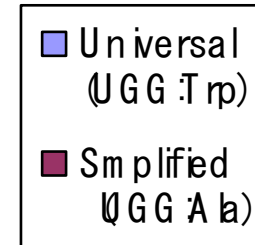
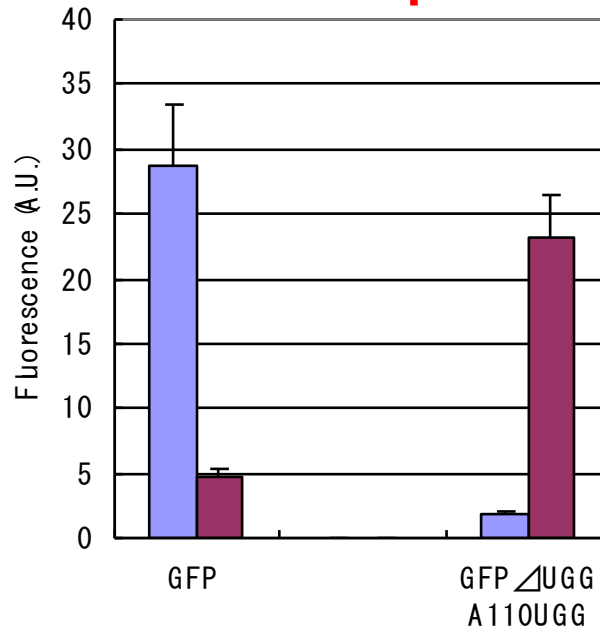
# Simplification of the code:

Simplified genetic code can produce active protein

## Gene specific for simplified genetic code

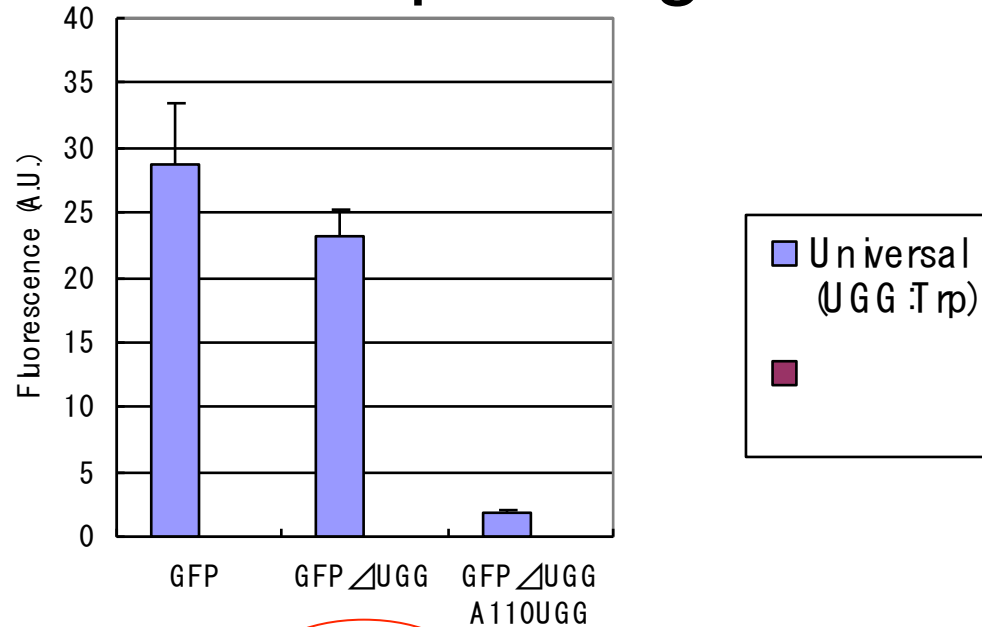
Ala

UUU	Phe	UCU	Ser	UAU	Tyr	UGU	Cys
UUC		UCC		UAC		UGC	
UUA	Leu	UCA	Pro	UAA	Stop	UGA	Stop
UUG		UCG		UAG	Stop	UGG	Trp
CUU	Leu	CCU	Pro	CAU	His	CGU	Arg
CUC		CCC		CAC		CGC	
CUA		CCA		CAA	Gln	CGA	
CUG		CCG		CAG		CGG	
AUU	Ile	ACU	Thr	AAU	Asn	AGU	Ser
AUC		ACC		AAC		AGC	
AUA		ACA		AAA	Lys	AGA	Arg
AUG	Met	ACG		AAG		AGG	
GUU	Val	GCU	Ala	GAU	Asp	GGU	Gly
GUC		GCC		GAC		GGC	
GUA		GCA		GAA		GGA	
GUG		GCG		GAG	Glu	GGU	
						GGG	



# Simplification of the code:

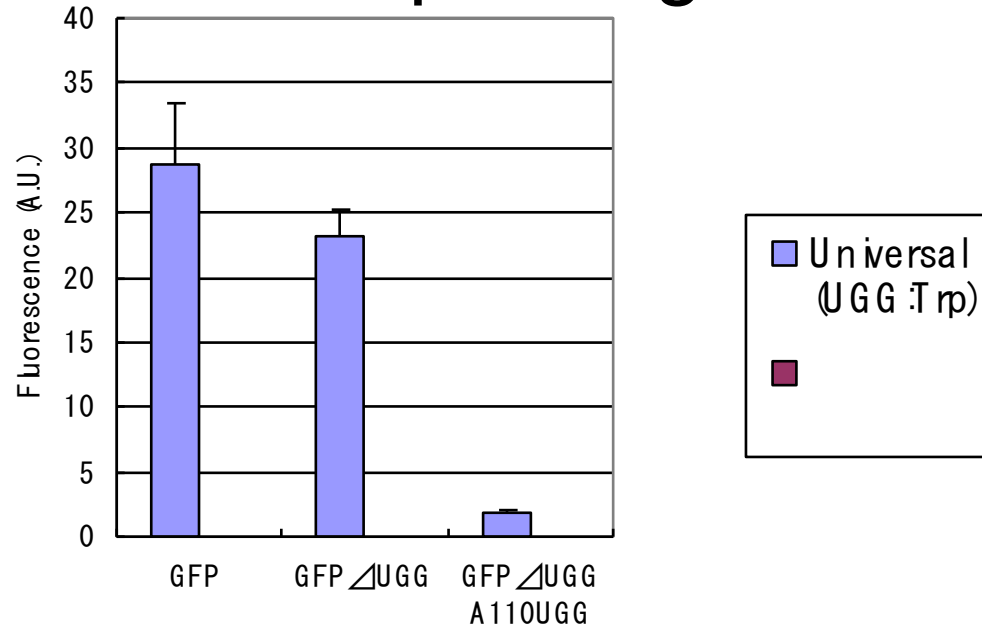
## Gene specific for simplified genetic code



codon 57	UGG	UUU	UUU
amino acid required at 57	Trp	Phe	Phe
amino acid programmed at 57	Trp	Phe	Phe
codon 110	GCU	GCU	UGG
amino acid required at 110	Ala	Ala	Ala
amino acid programmed at 110	Ala	Ala	Trp

# Simplification of the code:

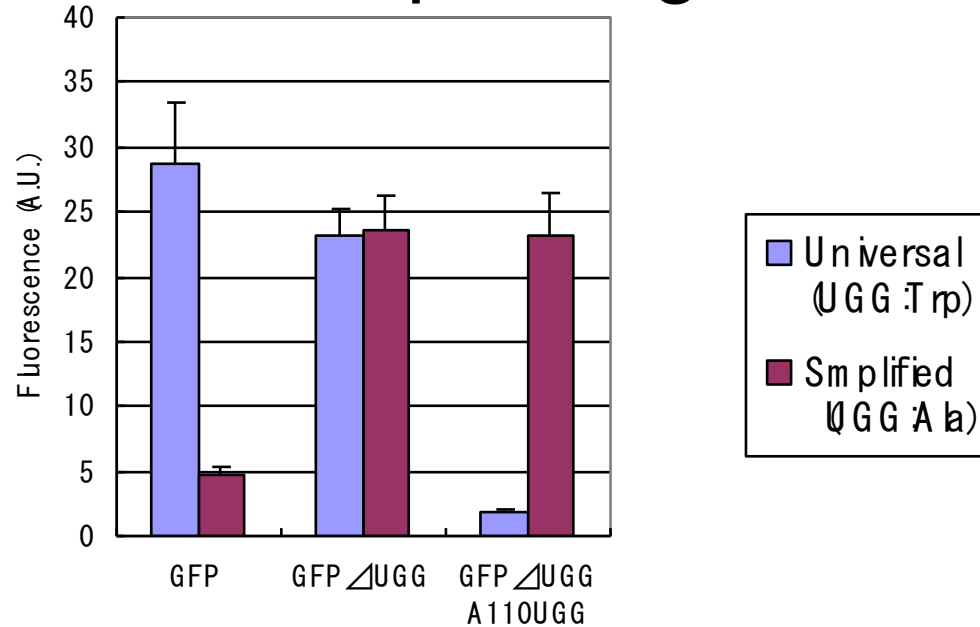
## Gene specific for simplified genetic code



codon 57	UGG	UUU	UUU
amino acid required at 57	Trp	Phe	Phe
amino acid programmed at 57	Trp	Phe	Phe
codon 110	GCU	GCU	UGG
amino acid required at 110	Ala	Ala	Ala
amino acid programmed at 110	Ala	Ala	Trp

# Simplification of the code:

## Gene specific for simplified genetic code



codon 57

amino acid required at 57

amino acid programmed at 57

UGG

Trp

Trp Ala

UUU

Phe

PhePhe

UUU

Phe

PhePhe

codon 110

amino acid required at 110

amino acid programmed at 110

GCU

Ala

AlaAla

GCU

Ala

AlaAla

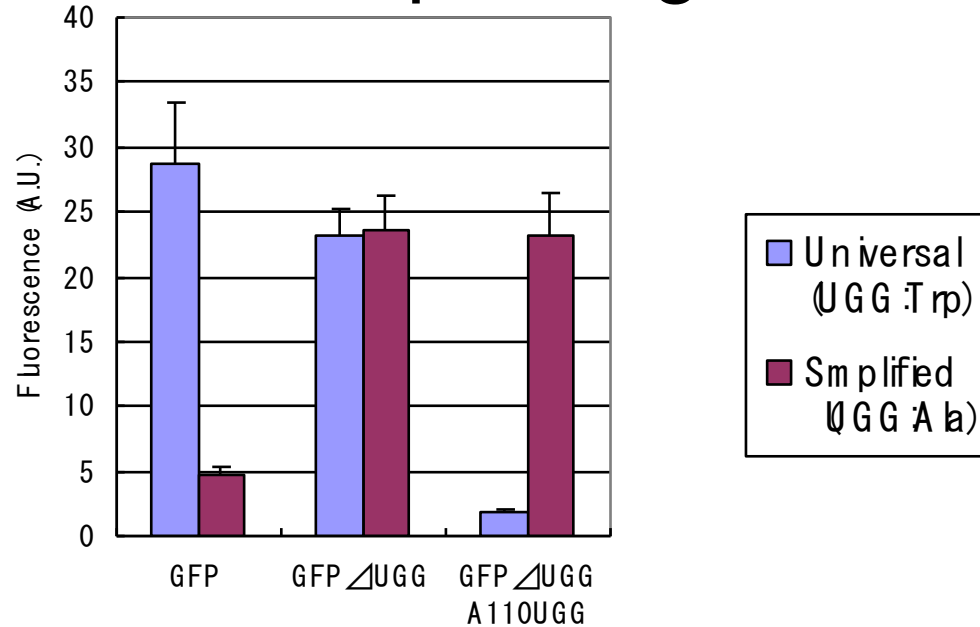
UGG

Ala

TrpAla

# Simplification of the code:

## Gene specific for simplified genetic code



	codon 57	UGG	UUU	UUU
	amino acid required at 57	Trp	Phe	Phe
	amino acid programmed at 57	Trp Ala	PhePhe	PhePhe
	codon 110	GCU	GCU	UGG
	amino acid required at 110	Ala	Ala	Ala
	amino acid programmed at 110	AlaAla	AlaAla	TrpAla

# Simplification of the code:

## Genetic code with 18 amino acids

tRNA (Lys->Ala)

tRNA (Cys->Ser)

Lys

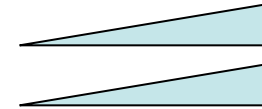
+ - - - - -

Cys

+ - - - - -

Lane No

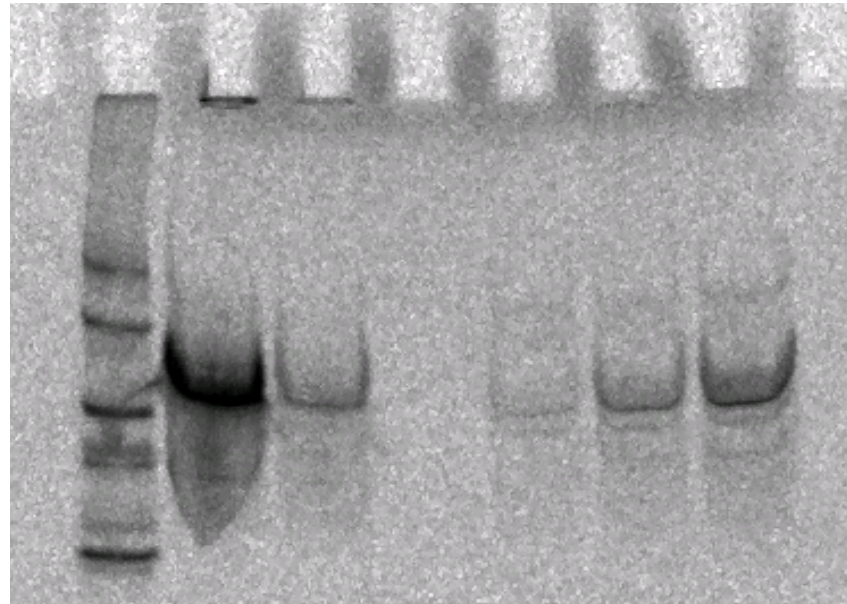
1 2 3 4 5 6



Ser

UUU	Phe	UCU	Ser	UAU	Tyr	UGU	<del>Cys</del>		
UUC		UCC		UAC		UGC	<del>Cys</del>		
UUA	Leu	UCA	Ser	UAA	Stop	UGA	Stop		
UUG		UCG		UAG	Stop	UGG	Trp		
CUU	Leu	CCU	Pro	CAU	His	CGU	Arg		
CUC		CCC		CAC	CGC				
CUA		CCA		CAA	CGA				
CUG		CCG		CAG	CGG				
AUU	Ile	ACU	Thr	AAU	Asn	AGU	Ser		
AUC		ACC		AAC	AGC	Ser			
AUA		ACA		AAA	<del>Lys</del>	AGA	Arg		
AUG	Met	ACG		AAG	<del>Lys</del>	AGG	Arg		
GUU	Val	GCU	Ala	GAU	Asp	GGU	Gly		
GUC		GCC		GAC	GGC				
GUA		GCA		GAA	GGA				
GUG		GCG			GAG	GAG		Glu	GGA
									GGG

Ala




Ras



# Genetic Code: Conclusion

The “universal” number of amino acids  
in the genetic code can be changed.

## Future works

- Protein with less than 20 amino acids
  - evolution under different genetic codes
    - Screening System 
- Cell with less than 20 amino acids ?
  - have to construct artificial cell from scratch



# Number of amino acids and aminoacyl tRNA synthetases

Canonical case: 20 aaRS :20 amino acids

19 aaRS : 20(=19+1) AA

Organisms without Glutamyl tRNA synthetase

→ transfer of amino group to Glu on tRNA

20 aaRS : 20 AA + additional AA

Selenocysteine incorporation

→ transfer of selenium to Ser on tRNA

21 aaRS : 20 AA + additional AA

Pyrrolysine incorporation (in nature)

Iodotyrosine incorporation (engineered)

19 aaRS : 19 amino acids



In a past form of life,  
less than 20 amino acids would be assigned in a genetic code



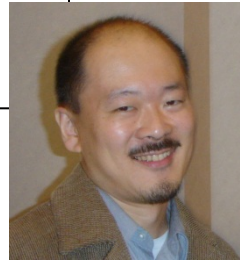
# Objectives of Synthetic biology

- Engineering

- protein engineering
- metabolic engineering
- tissue engineering

- Science

- Reconstitution:  
proof-by-synthesis
  - ATPase, RNA Pol, Ribosome
  - PURE Translation system
  - Regulatory circuit
- Construction of  
“another life”



We still cannot construct “cell” w/ 20 aa

# Japanese Society for Cell Synthesis Research



President 2010 Shoji Takeuchi  
President 2012 Daisuke Kiga

# Japanese Society for Cell Synthesis Research



Umeno

H.R.Ueda

Itaya

Gene  
Network

Genome  
Engineering

Yomo

Kiga

Shimizu

Protein  
synthesis

Cell  
synthesis

Observation

T. Ueda

Suga

Information  
Processing

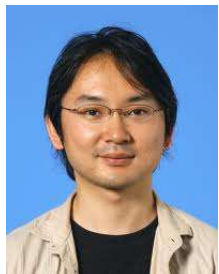
Compartment.

Toyoda

Noji

Suzuki

Kobayashi



Iwasaki

Interactions w/ Society

Tabata

Takeuchi



Yoshizawa

Kato

Hashimoto

Hibino

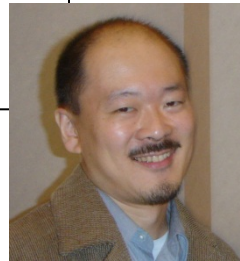
# Objectives of Synthetic biology

- Engineering
  - Protein engineering
  - metabolic engineering
  - tissue engineering

- Science
  - Reconstitution: proof-by-synthesis

- ATPase, RNA Pol, Ribosome
- PURE Translation system

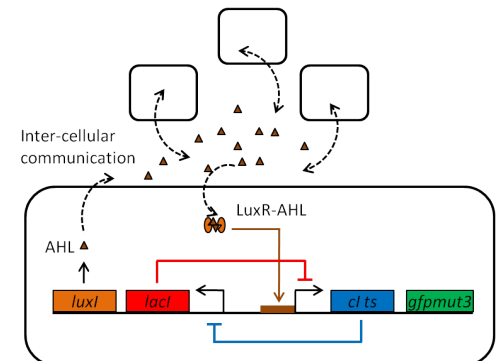
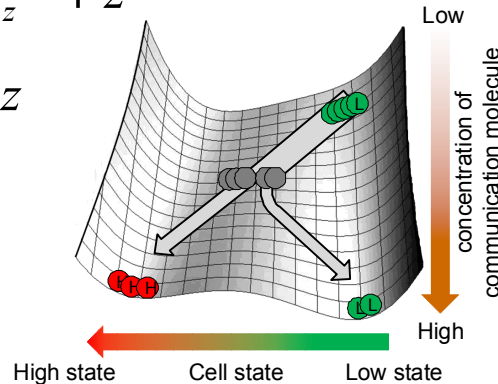
- **Regulatory circuit**



$$\frac{dx_i}{dt} = \frac{\alpha_x}{1 + \left(\frac{y_i}{K_y}\right)^{ny}} - d_x \cdot x_i$$

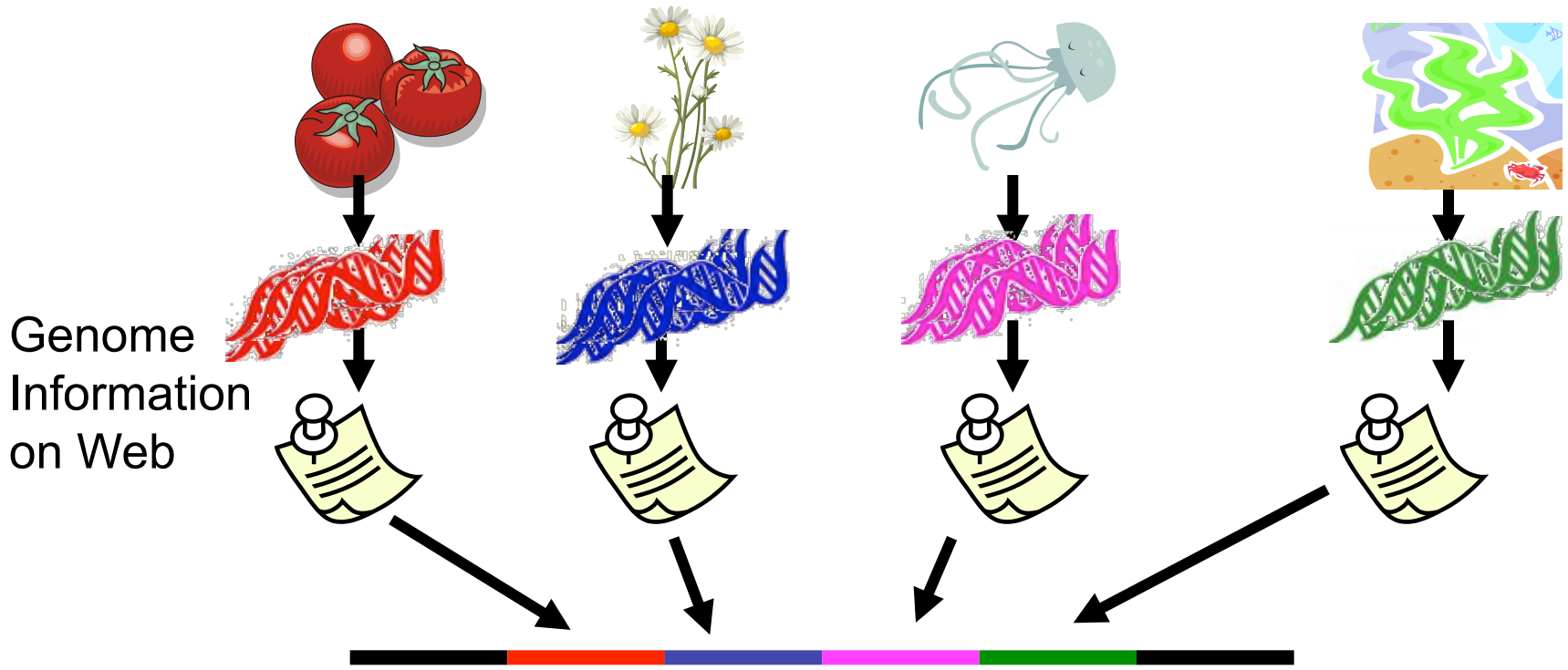
$$\frac{dy_i}{dt} = \frac{\alpha_y}{1 + \left(\frac{x_i}{K_x}\right)^{nx}} \cdot \frac{z^{nz}}{K_z^{nz} + z^{nz}} - d_y \cdot y_i$$

$$\frac{dz}{dt} = \frac{N_{tot}}{N} \sum \lambda \cdot x_i - d_z \cdot z$$





# Construction of Artificial Genetic Circuit by Copy-and-Paste from DNA sequence of Organisms

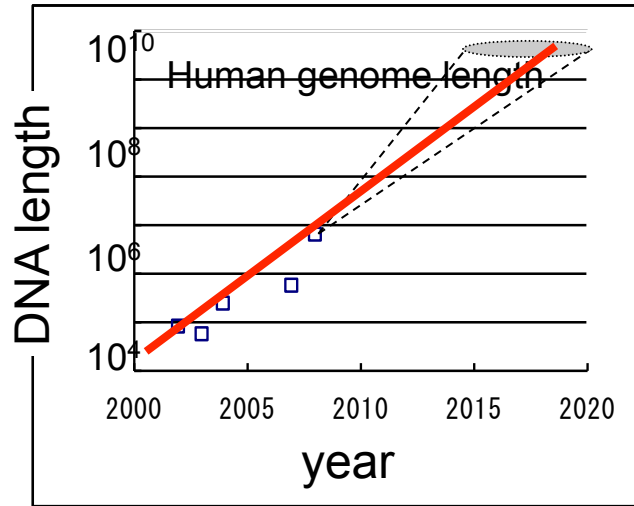


Genome  
Information  
on Web

Design of DNA sequence

# Developments in preparation of biomolecules

Moor's Law in DNA synthesis: exponential growth



biological synthesis: copy template  
chemical synthesis: any sequence

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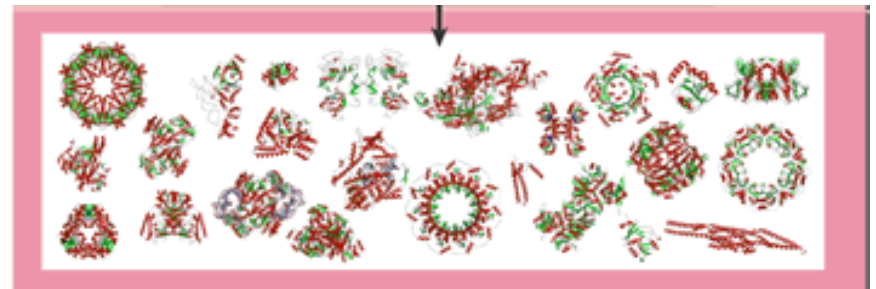
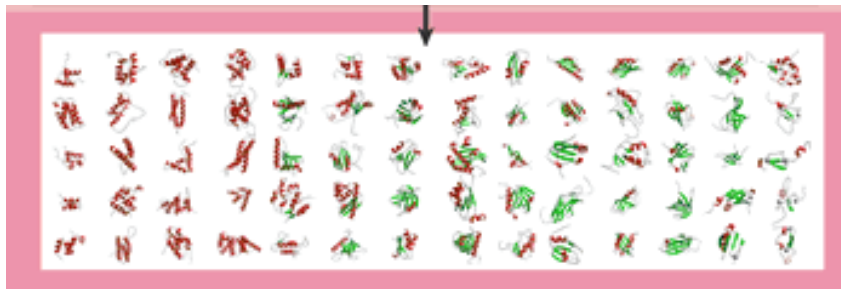
**Creation of a Bacterial Cell Controlled  
by a Chemically Synthesized Genome**

J. Craig Venter<sup>1,2\*</sup>

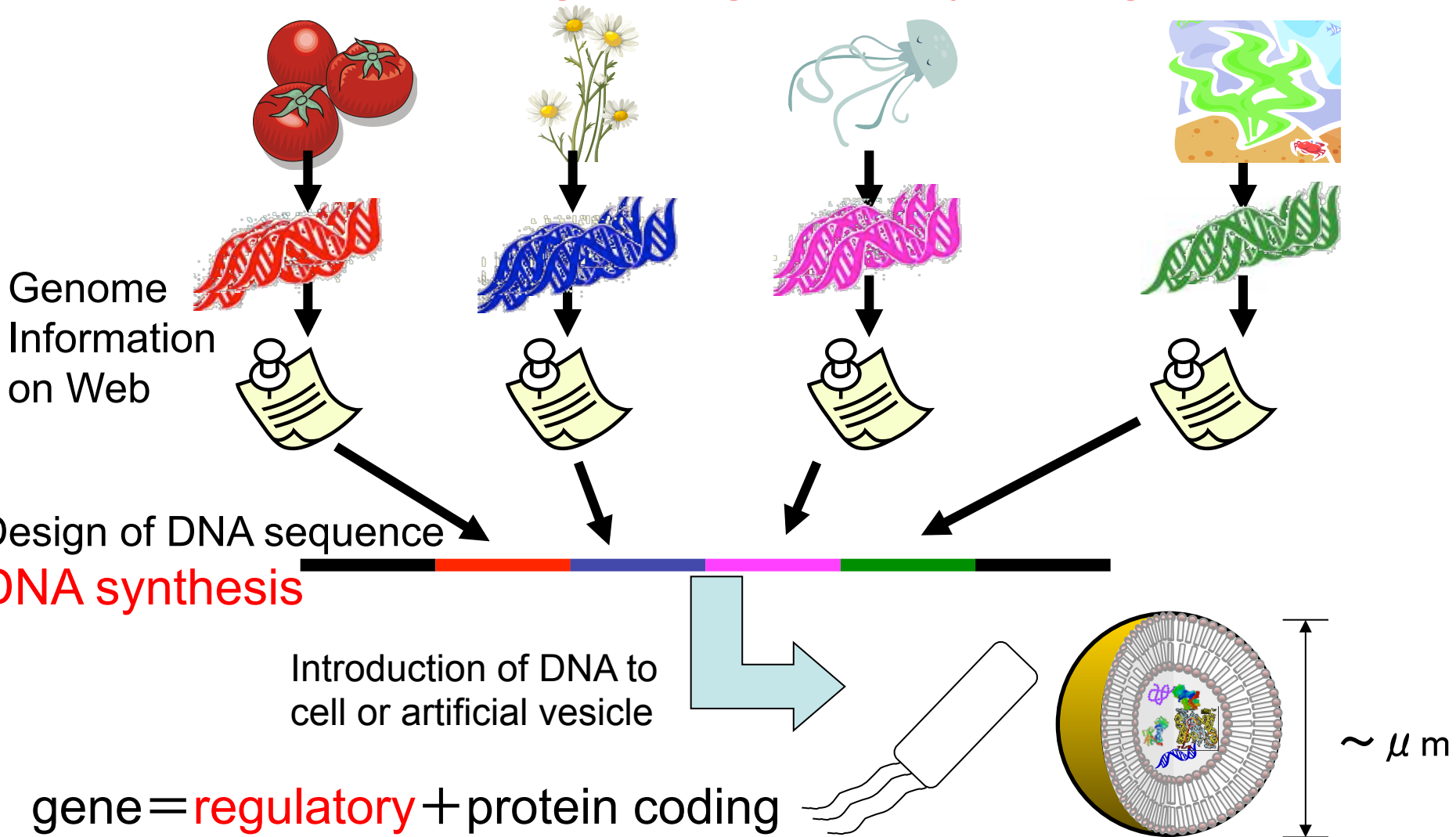
2015-2020 artificial DNA  
with human genome length!?

Kiga and Yamamura, *New Generation Computing*,  
26 (2008), p347-364

Preparation of proteins



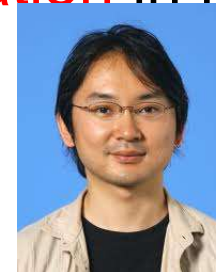
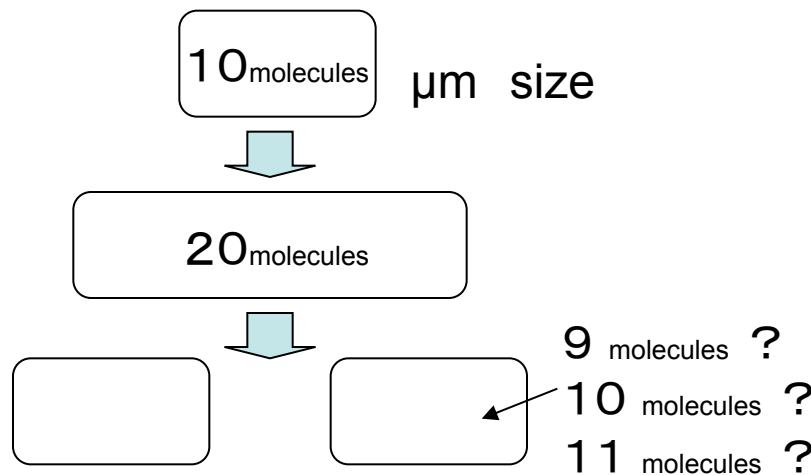
# Construction of Artificial Genetic Circuit by Copy-and-Paste from DNA sequence of Organisms have to design regulatory program



# Programming in computer and life

- computer
- Fix 0-1 state in a bit
- High energy consumption

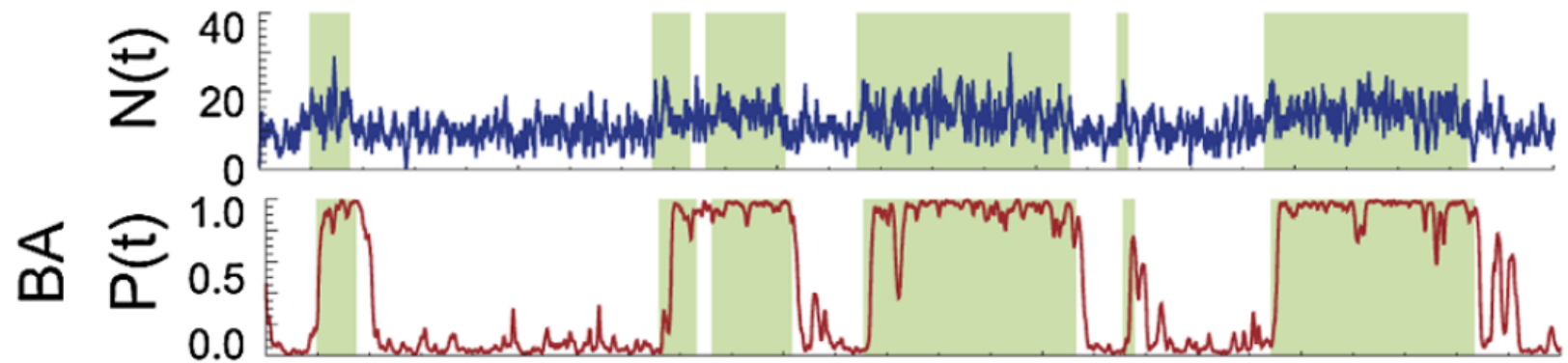
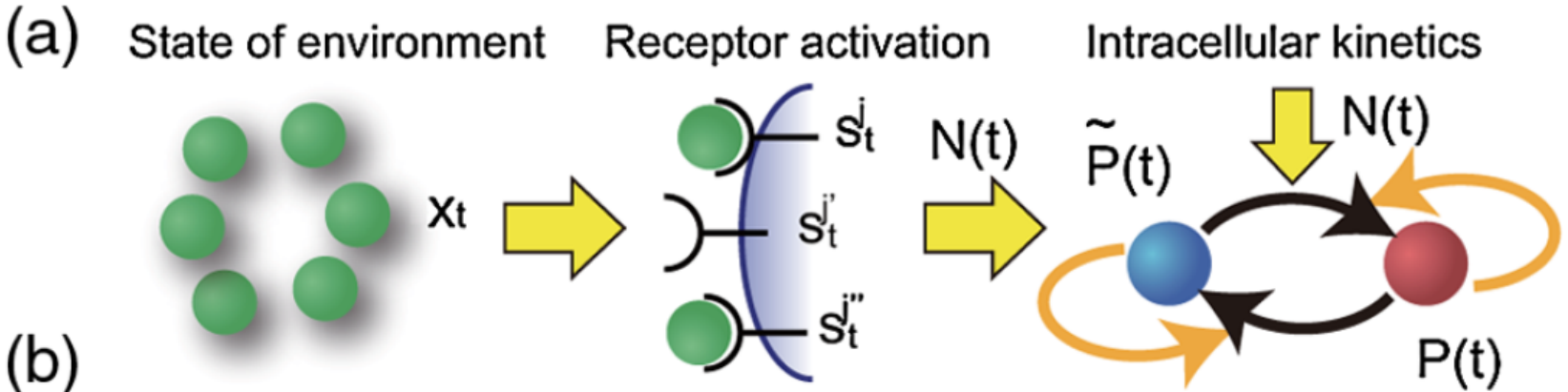
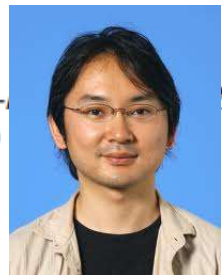
- life
- Low energy consumption
- unable to fix its state
- Reaction in tiny space containing a **small number** of molecules  
→ **fluctuation** in number



# Implementation of Dynamic Bayesian Decision Making by Intracellular Kinetics

Tetsuya J. Kobayashi\*

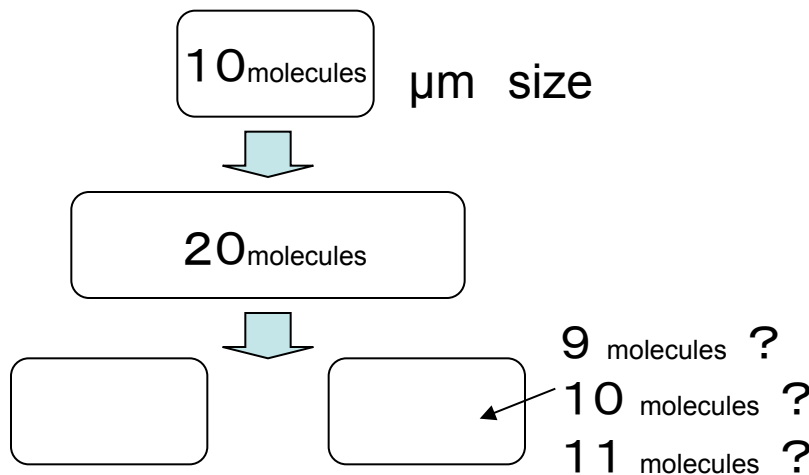
*Institute of Industrial Science, The University of Tokyo, 4-6-1 Komaba Meguro-ku, Tokyo 153-8505, Japan*  
(Received 20 January 2010; published 3 June 2010)



# Programming in computer and life

- computer
- Fix 0-1 state in a bit
- High energy consumption

- life
- Low energy consumption
- unable to fix its state
- **Reaction in tiny space** containing a ***small number*** of molecules  
→ fluctuation in number



# Japanese Society for Cell Synthesis Research

Umeno

H.R.Ueda

Itaya

Kiga

Gene  
Network

Genome  
Engineering

Yomo

Shimizu

Protein  
synthesis

Cell  
synthesis

Observation

T. Ueda

Suga

Information  
Processing

Compartment.

Toyoda  
Noji

Kobayashi

Suzuki

Iwasaki

Interactions w/ Society

Tabata

Takeuchi

Yoshizawa

Kato

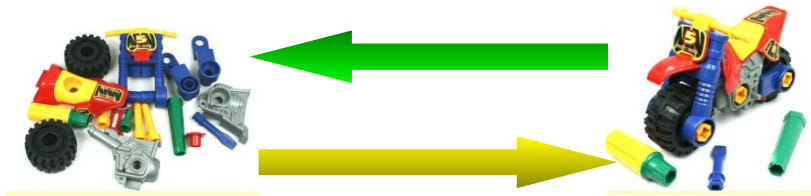
Hashimoto

Hibino

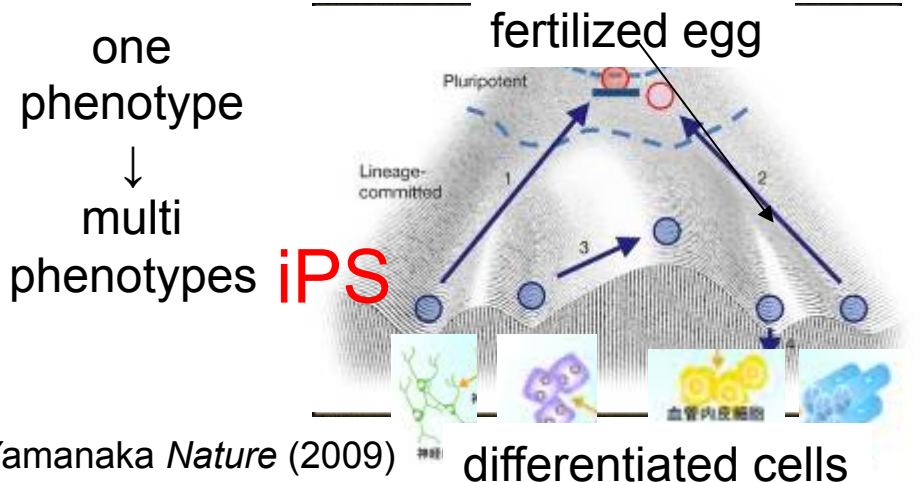
# Objectives of Synthetic biology

- Engineering

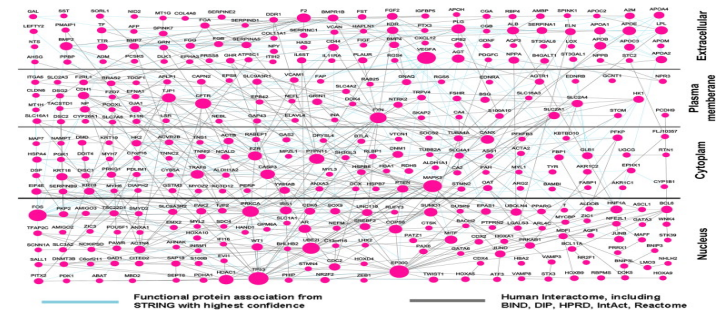
- Science
  - Reconstitution:



## Epigenetic landscape



## • Regulatory circuit



Molecular Interaction Network in Human Organogenesis  
Fang et al , Dev Cell 2010