

# Analyzing antibody sequence for recombinant antibody expression

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# Presentation Outline



- 1 Antibody basics, structure and function
- 2 Antibody production *in vivo*
- 3 Antibody database and analysis
- 4 Optimization of antibody production

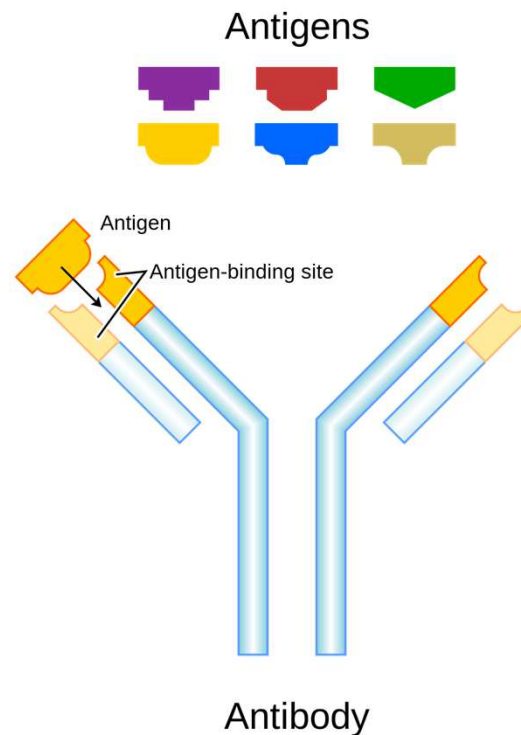


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# What is an Antibody?



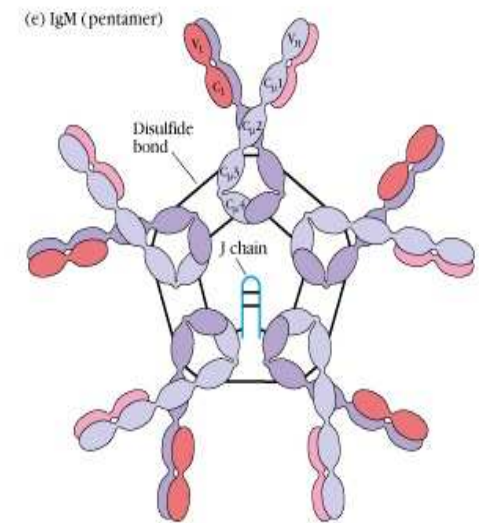
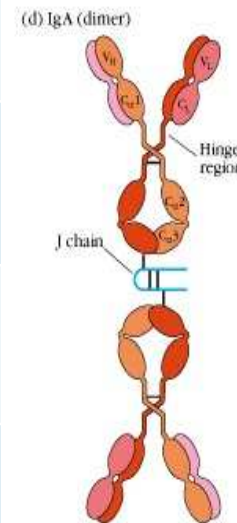
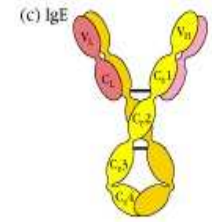
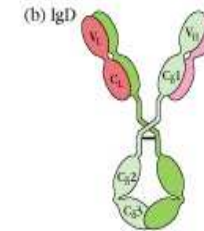
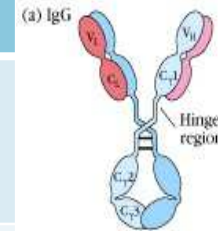
- ◆ An antibody (aka Immunoglobulin) is a large Y-shaped protein produced by B cells.
- ◆ Used by the immune system to neutralize foreign objects.



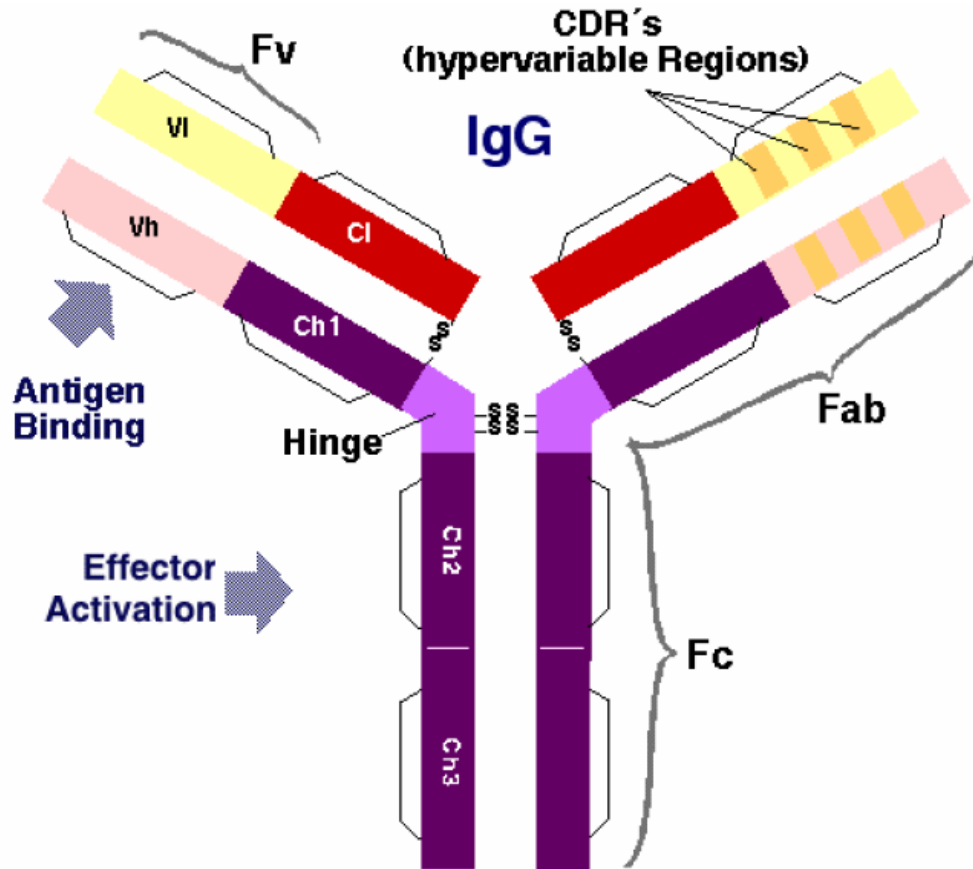
# Types of Antibody *in vivo*



| Name | Function   | Light Chain                                    | Heavy Chain  |
|------|--|--|--|
| IgA  | Found in mucosal areas                           | $\kappa$ or $\lambda$<br>$\kappa$ or $\lambda$ | $\alpha 1$<br>$\alpha 2$                             |
| IgD  | Antigen receptors on B cells                     | $\kappa$ or $\lambda$                          | $\delta$   |
| IgE  | Binds to allergen and triggers histamine release | $\kappa$ or $\lambda$                          | $\epsilon$   |
| IgM  | Secreted from B cells with very high avidity     | $\kappa$ or $\lambda$                          | $\mu$  |
| IgG  | Majority of antibody-based immunity              | $\kappa$ or $\lambda$                          | $\gamma 1$<br>$\gamma 2$<br>$\gamma 3$<br>$\gamma 4$ |



# Structural and Functional Units of IgG

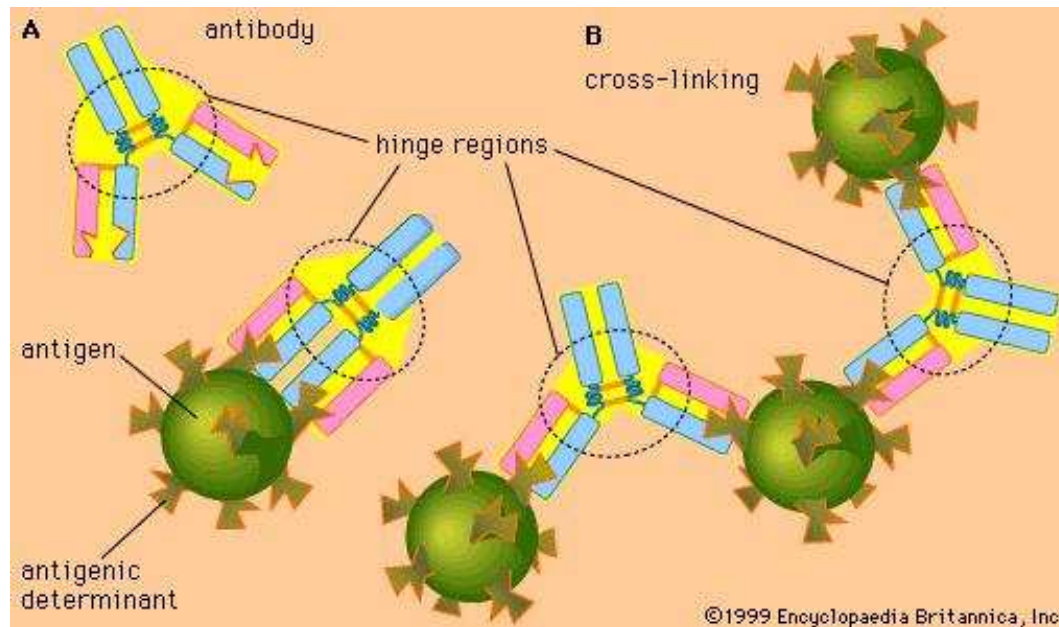


- ◆ "Y"-shaped molecule
- ◆ **Fab region** determines its antigen specificity. (**Fv region** and **CDR**)
- ◆ **Fc region** determines the effects.
- ◆ **Hinge region.**

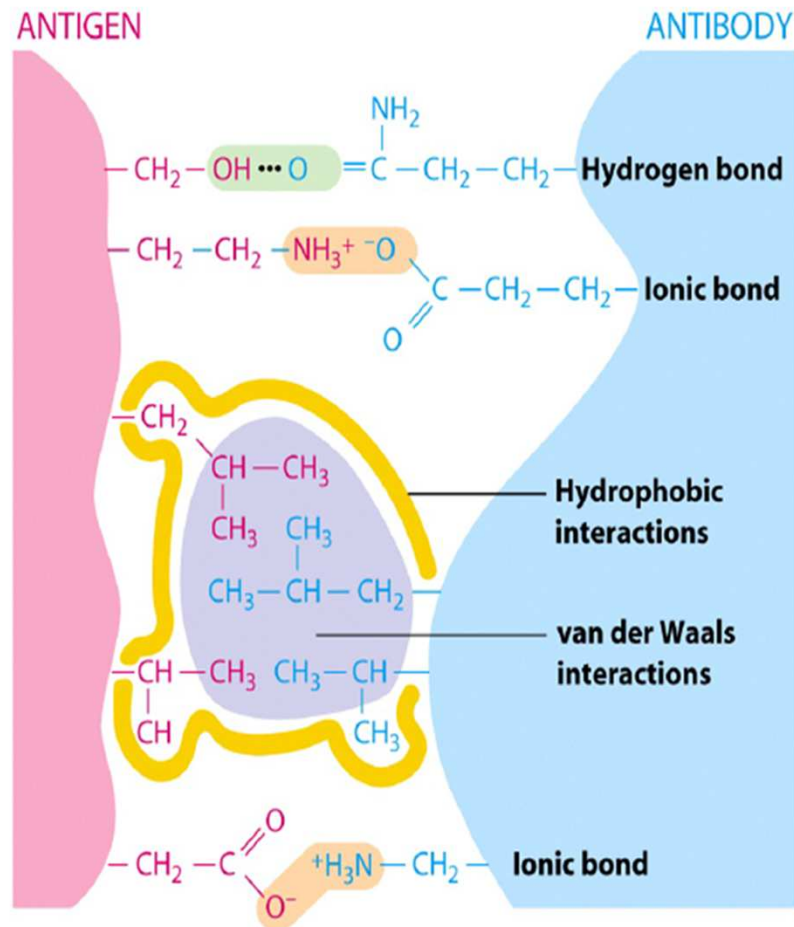
# Antibody-Antigen Interaction



- ◆ Each antibody binds only to a **specific** antigen.
- ◆ Ab-Ag interaction are based on **non-covalent binding** between Ab and Ag.
- ◆ The **hinge region** allow better binding.



# Antibody-Antigen Interaction



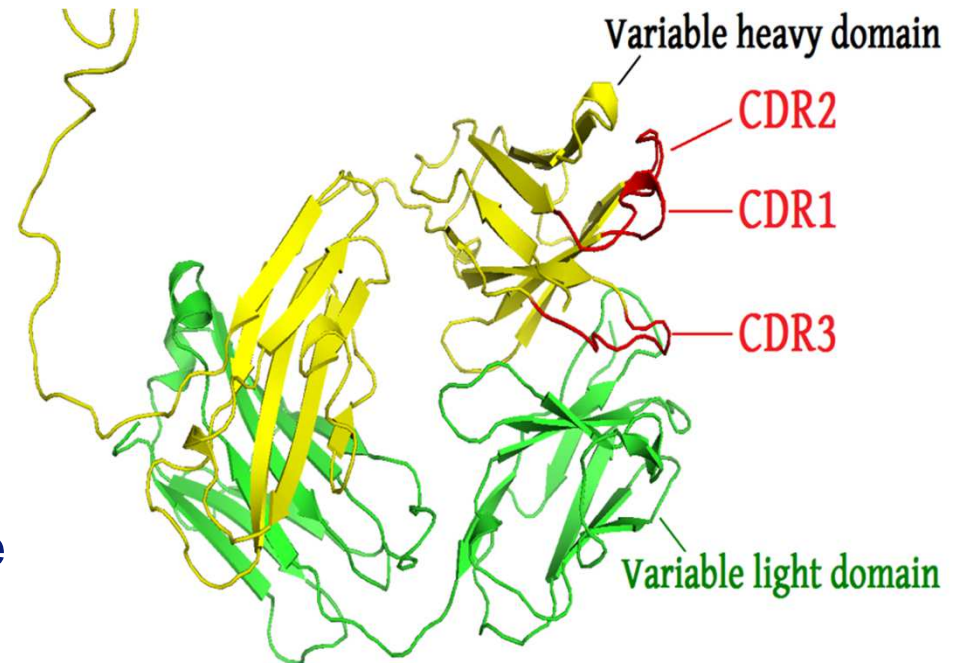
- ◆ Antibody and antigen interact by **spatial complementarity**.
- ◆ Weak and **non-covalent bonds**.  
electrostatic interactions  
hydrogen bonds  
Van der Waals forces  
hydrophobic interactions
- ◆ Binding between antibody and antigen is **reversible**.



# Complementarity Determining Regions (CDRs)



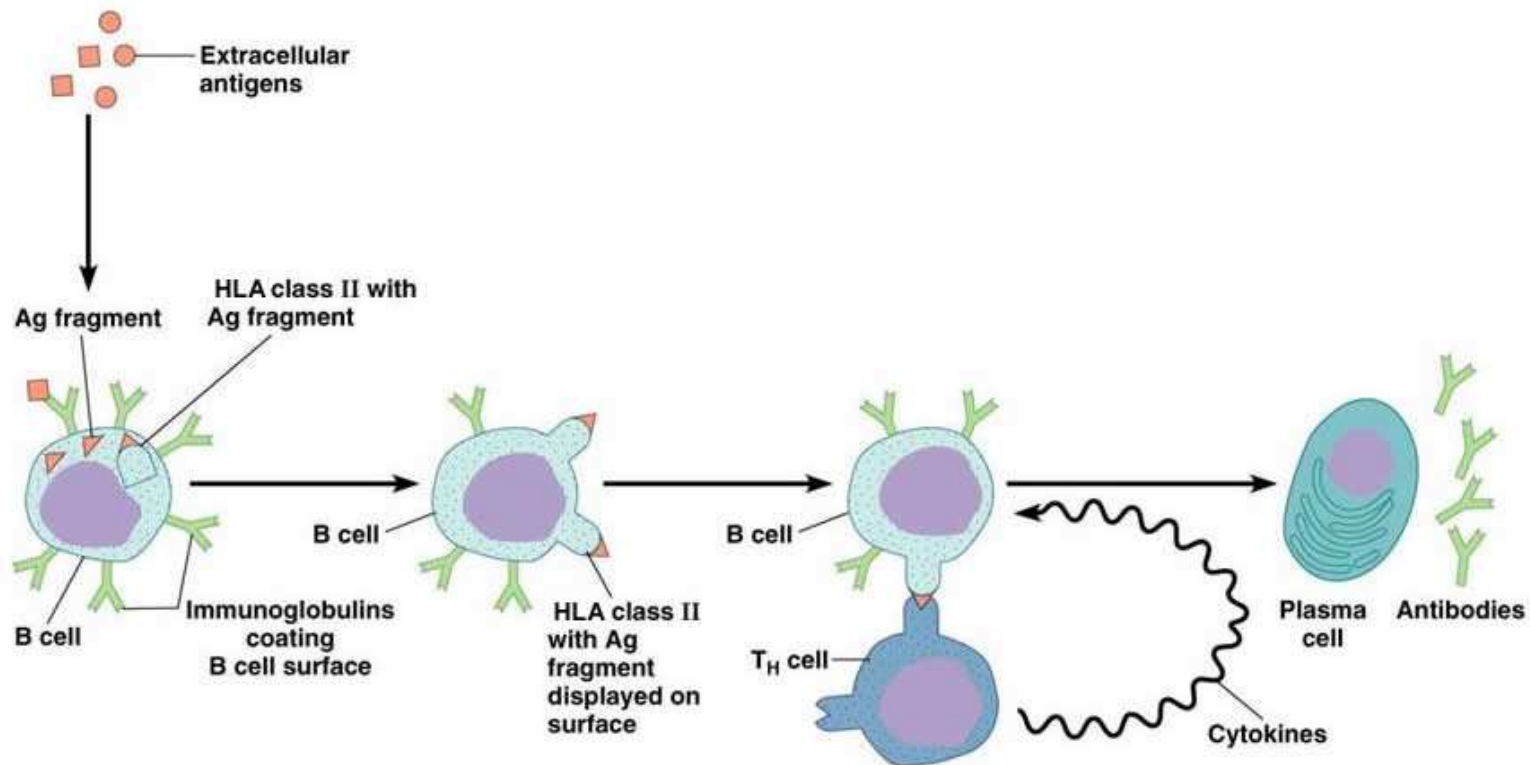
- ◆ Ab binding residues are mainly located in **CDRs**.
- ◆ **6 CDRs** form the combining site: L1, L2, L3, H1, H2, H3.
- ◆ **CDR-H3 and L3** have a distinctive role in antigen recognition.





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# Activation of B cells to Produce Abs



**1** Immunoglobulins on B cell surface recognize and attach to antigen, which is then internalized and processed. Within the B cell a fragment of the antigen combines with HLA class II.

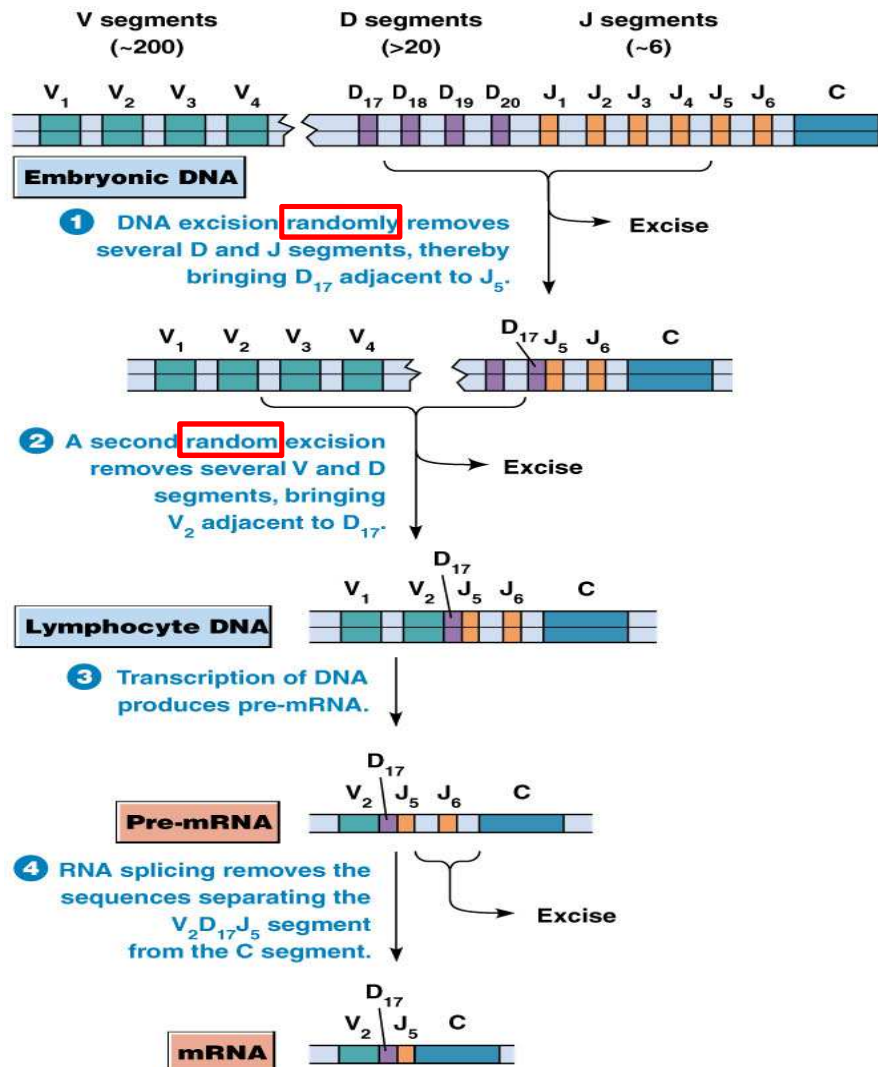
**2** HLA class II-antigen-fragment complex is displayed on B cell surface.

**3** Receptor on the helper T cell ( $T_H$ ) recognizes complex of HLA class II and antigen fragment and is activated—producing cytokines, which activate the B cell.

**4** B cell is activated by cytokines and begins clonal expansion. Some of the progeny become antibody-producing plasma cells.

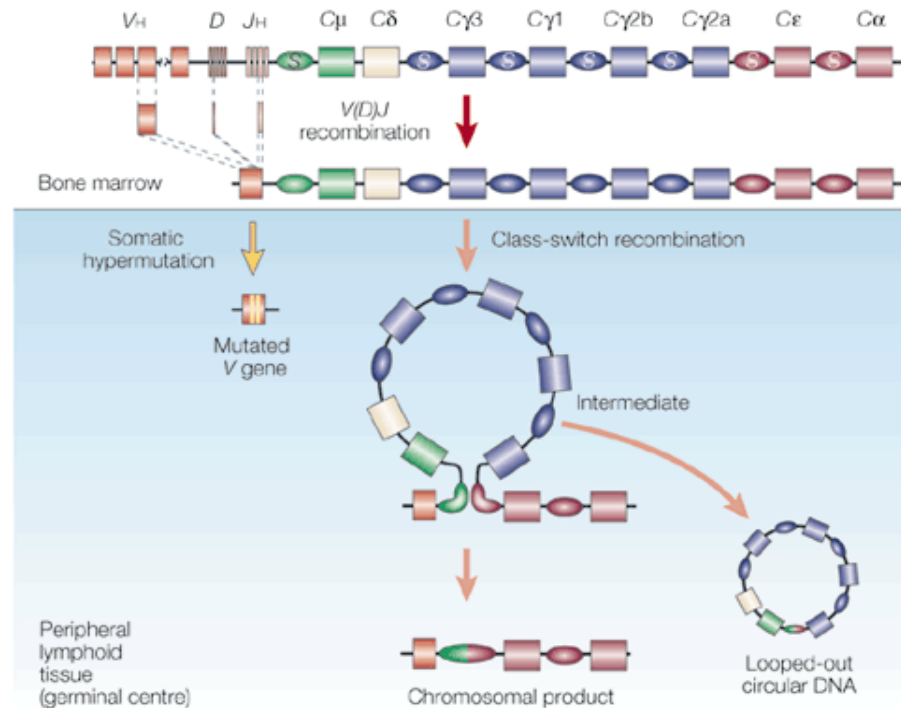
<http://classes.midlandstech.edu/carterp/Courses/bio225/chap17/lecture3.htm>

# Antibody Gene Rearrangement



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# Antibody Gene Rearrangement

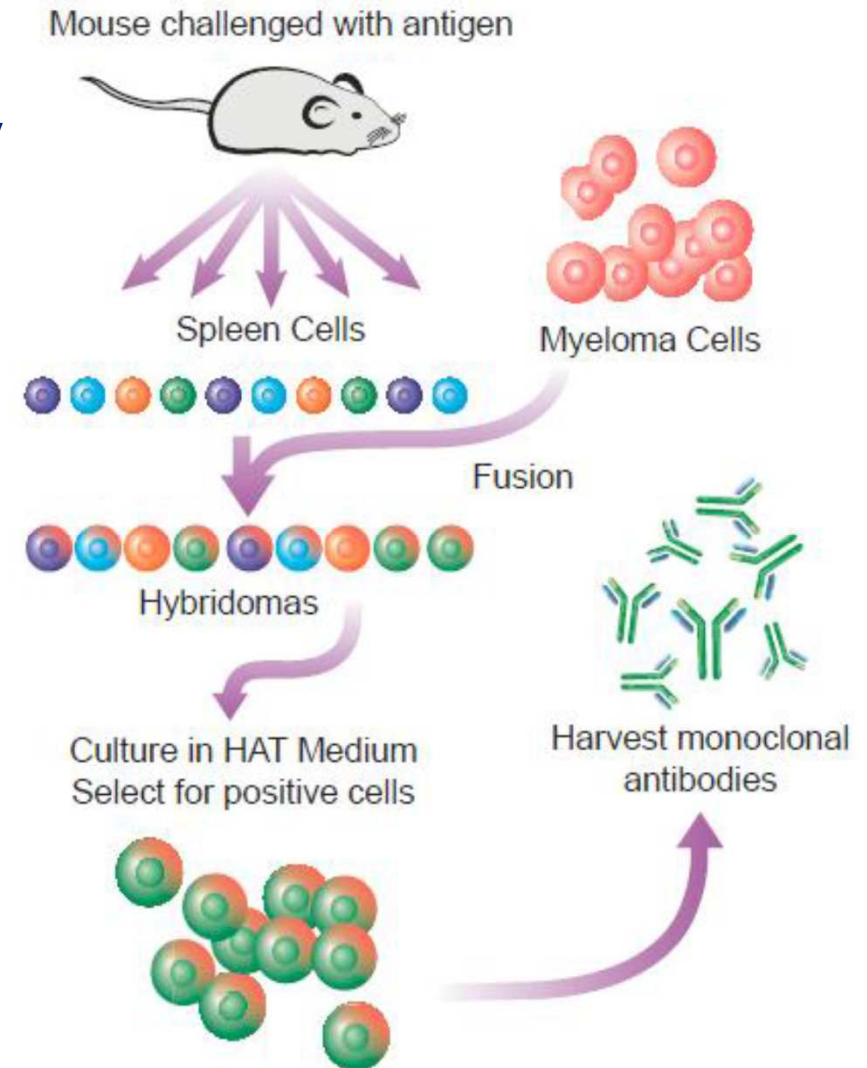


- ◆ **Somatic Hypermutation** allows slight amino acid differences in the variable domains.
- ◆ **Class-switch recombination** produce antibodies of different isotypes or subtype.

# Production of mIgG by Hybridoma



- ◆ **Hybridoma:** fusion cell of specific antibody producing B cells with myeloma.
- ◆ Used for production of **monoclonal antibody**.
- ◆ Inventor: Milstein and Köhler.
- ◆ Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine in 1984.



# Recombinant Antibody Production



Hybridoma Antibody Sequence

Gene Synthesizing and Sub cloning

Small Scale Production for Function Analysis

Scale-up Production of Interested Antibodies

Stable Cell Line Development

Large Scale Production-GLP/cGMP (with partner)





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# Online Antibody Analysis Tool



- ◆ **Bioinf**

<http://www.bioinf.org.uk/abs/labmanual/>

- ◆ **IMGT**

<http://www.imgt.org/IMGTrepertoire/>

- ◆ **AbCheck - Antibody Sequence Test**

<http://www.bioinf.org.uk/abs/seqtest.html>

- ◆ **IgBlast**

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/igblast/>

- ◆ **Sequence alignment tools**

<http://blast.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/Blast.cgi>

<http://www.ebi.ac.uk/Tools/msa/clustalo/>

# Kabat Numbering



## *Light chain*

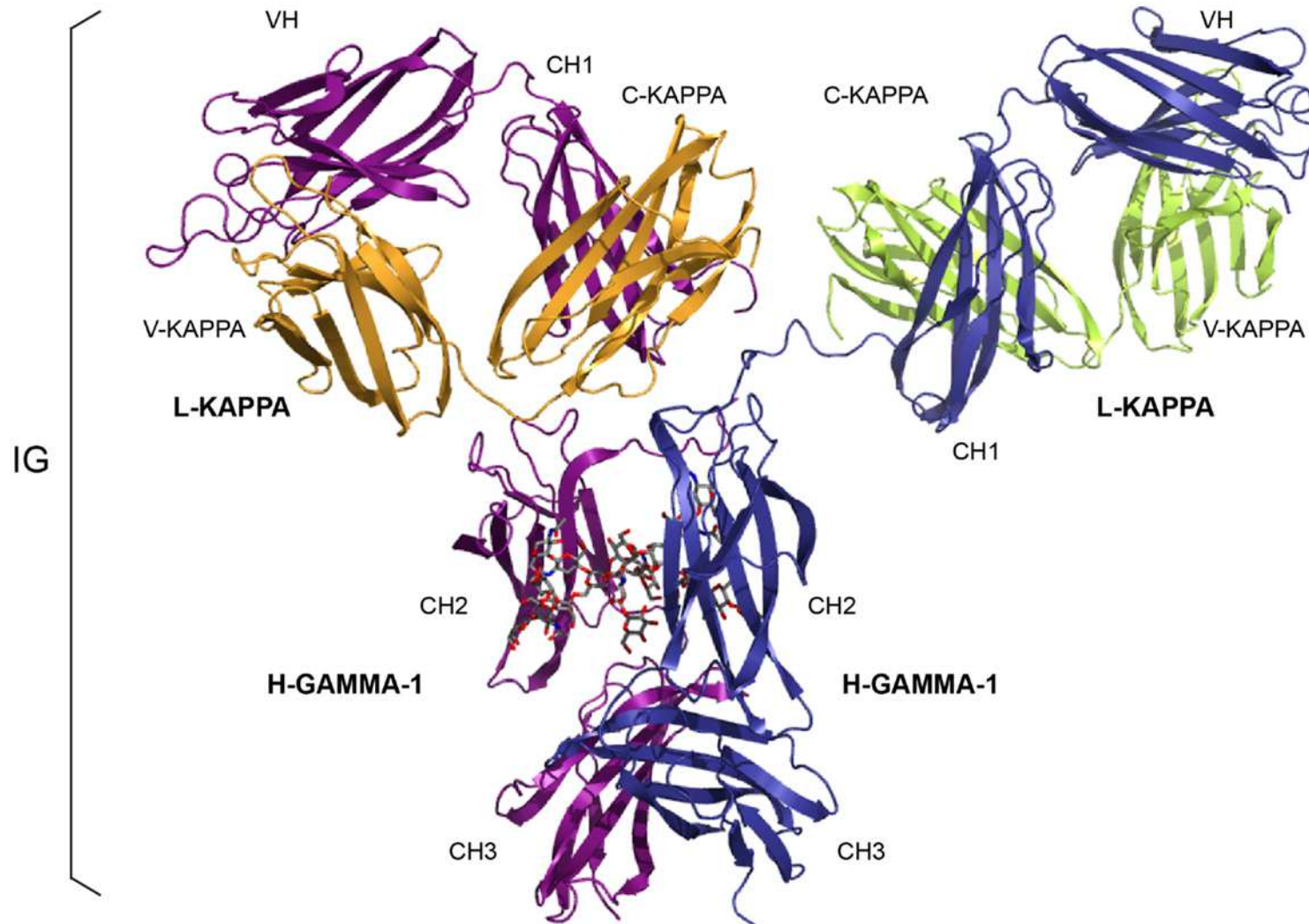
|      |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 0    | 1   | 2   | 3   | 4   | 5   | 6   | 7   | 8   | 9   |
| 10   | 11  | 12  | 13  | 14  | 15  | 16  | 17  | 18  | 19  |
| 20   | 21  | 22  | 23  | 24  | 25  | 26  | 27  |     |     |
| 27A  | 27B | 27C | 27D | 27E | 27F |     |     | 28  | 29  |
| 30   | 31  | 32  | 33  | 34  | 35  | 36  | 37  | 38  | 39  |
| 40   | 41  | 42  | 43  | 44  | 45  | 46  | 47  | 48  | 49  |
| 50   | 51  | 52  | 53  | 54  | 55  | 56  | 57  | 58  | 59  |
| 60   | 61  | 62  | 63  | 64  | 65  | 66  | 67  | 68  | 69  |
| 70   | 71  | 72  | 73  | 74  | 75  | 76  | 77  | 78  | 79  |
| 80   | 81  | 82  | 83  | 84  | 85  | 86  | 87  | 88  | 89  |
| 90   | 91  | 92  | 93  | 94  | 95  |     |     |     |     |
| 95A  | 95B | 95C | 95D | 95E | 95F | 96  | 97  | 98  | 99  |
| 100  | 101 | 102 | 103 | 104 | 105 | 106 |     |     |     |
| 106A |     |     |     |     |     |     | 107 | 108 | 109 |

## *Heavy chain*

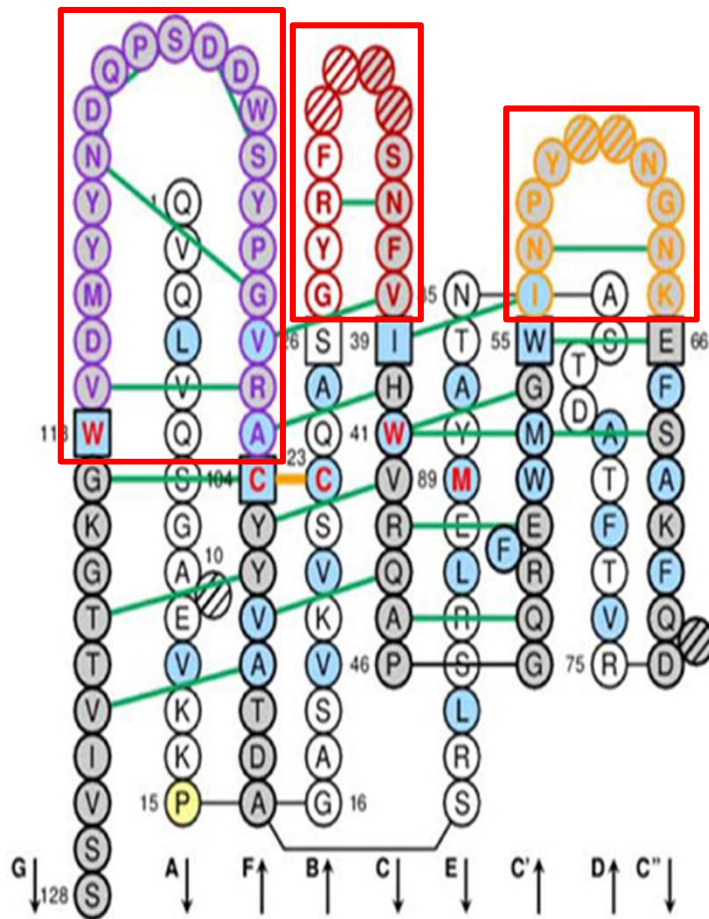
|      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| 0    | 1    | 2    | 3    | 4    | 5    | 6    | 7    | 8    | 9    |
| 10   | 11   | 12   | 13   | 14   | 15   | 16   | 17   | 18   | 19   |
| 20   | 21   | 22   | 23   | 24   | 25   | 26   | 27   | 28   | 29   |
| 30   | 31   | 32   | 33   | 34   | 35   |      |      |      |      |
| 35A  | 35B  |      |      |      |      | 36   | 37   | 38   | 39   |
| 40   | 41   | 42   | 43   | 44   | 45   | 46   | 47   | 48   | 49   |
| 50   | 51   | 52   |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| 52A  | 52B  | 52C  | 53   | 54   | 55   | 56   | 57   | 58   | 59   |
| 60   | 61   | 62   | 63   | 64   | 65   | 66   | 67   | 68   | 69   |
| 70   | 71   | 72   | 73   | 74   | 75   | 76   | 77   | 78   | 79   |
| 80   | 81   | 82   |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| 82A  | 82B  | 82C  | 83   | 84   | 85   | 86   | 87   | 88   | 89   |
| 90   | 91   | 92   | 93   | 94   | 95   | 96   | 97   | 98   | 99   |
| 100  |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| 100A | 100B | 100C | 100D | 100E | 100F | 100G | 100H | 100I | 100J |
| 100K | 101  | 102  | 103  | 104  | 105  | 106  | 107  | 108  | 109  |
| 110  | 111  | 112  | 113  |      |      |      |      |      |      |

<http://www.bioinf.org.uk/abs/>

# IMGT Analysis



# IMGT Analysis – V domain



| V domain strands and loops <sup>a</sup> | IMGT positions | Lengths <sup>b</sup>        | Characteristic Residue@Position <sup>c</sup> |
|---|----------------|-----------------------------|--|
| A-STRAND                                | 1–15           | 15 (14 if gap at 10)        |  |
| B-STRAND                                | 16–26          | 11                          | 1st-CYS 23                                   |
| BC-LOOP                                 | 27–38          | 12 (or less)                |  |
| C-STRAND                                | 39–46          | 8                           | CONSERVED-TRP 41                             |
| C'-STRAND                               | 47–55          | 9                           |  |
| C'C''-LOOP                              | 56–65          | 10 (or less)                |  |
| C''-STRAND                              | 66–74          | 9 (or 8 if gap at 73)       |  |
| D-STRAND                                | 75–84          | 10 (or 8 if gaps at 81, 82) |  |
| E-STRAND                                | 85–96          | 12                          | hydrophobic 89                               |
| F-STRAND                                | 97–104         | 8                           | 2nd-CYS 104                                  |
| FG-LOOP                                 | 105–117        | 13 (or less, or more)       |  |
| G-STRAND                                | 118–128        | 11 (or 10)                  | V-DOMAIN J-PHE 118 or J-TRP 118 <sup>d</sup> |

# Identifying CDRs by sequence



## **CDR-L1**

Start                    Approx residue 24  
Residue                **always** a Cys  
before  
Residue                **always** a Trp. Typically Trp-Tyr-Gln, but also, Trp-Leu-Gln, Trp-  
after                    Phe-Gln, Trp-Tyr-Leu  
Length                 10 to 17 residues

## **CDR-L2**

Start                    **always** 16 residues after the end of L1  
Residues                generally Ile-Tyr, but also, Val-Tyr, Ile-Lys, Ile-Phe  
before  
Length                 **always** 7 residues (except NEW (7FAB) which has a deletion in  
this region)

## **CDR-L3**

Start                    **always** 33 residues after end of L2 (except NEW (7FAB) which  
has the deletion at the end of CDR-L2)  
Residue                **always** Cys  
before  
Residues                **always** Phe-Gly-XXX-Gly  
after  
Length                 7 to 11 residues

# Identifying CDRs by sequence



## **CDR-H1**

Start            Approx residue 26 (**always** 4 after a Cys) [Chothia / AbM definition];  
                  Kabat definition starts 5 residues later

Residues        **always** Cys-XXX-XXX-XXX  
before

Residues after **always** a Trp. Typically Trp-Val, but also, Trp-Ile, Trp-Ala

Length          10 to 12 residues [AbM definition];  
                  Chothia definition excludes the last 4 residues

## **CDR-H2**

Start            **always** 15 residues after the end of Kabat / AbM definition) of CDR-H1

Residues        typically Leu-Glu-Trp-Ile-Gly, but a number of variations  
before

Residues after Lys/Arg-Leu/Ile/Val/Phe/Thr/Ala-Thr/Ser/Ile/Ala

Length          Kabat definition 16 to 19 residues;  
                  AbM (and recent Chothia) definition ends 7 residues earlier

## **CDR-H3**

Start            **always** 33 residues after end of CDR-H2 (**always** 2 after a Cys)

Residues        **always** Cys-XXX-XXX (typically Cys-Ala-Arg)  
before

Residues after **always** Trp-Gly-XXX-Gly

Length          3 to 25(!) residues

# Identifying CDRs by sequence



| Region        | Position | Sequence Characterization | Length |
|---------------|----------|---------------------------|--------|
| <b>CDR-L1</b> | 24-34    | C-----W/WYQ/WLQ/WFQ/WYL   | 10-17  |
| <b>CDR-L2</b> | 50-56    | IY/VY/IF-----             | 7      |
| <b>CDR-L3</b> | 89-97    | C-----FG*G                | 7-11   |

**Light chain: Amino acids sequence (237 AA)**

**Leader sequence-FR1-CDR1-FR2-CDR2-FR3-CDR3-FR4-Constant region-Stop codon**

MKLPVRLLVLMFWIPASSSDVVM<sup>T</sup>QIPLSLPVS<sup>L</sup>GDQASIS<sup>C</sup>RSSQSLVHSNGNTYLH<sup>W</sup>Y<sup>L</sup>QKPGQ  
 SPKLL<sup>I</sup>Y<sup>K</sup>VSNRFS<sup>G</sup>VPDRFSGSGSGTDFTLKISRVEAEDLGVYF<sup>C</sup>SQSTHVPT<sup>F</sup>GGG<sup>T</sup>TKLEIKRADAA  
 PTVSIFPPSSEQLTSGGASVVCFLN<sup>F</sup>YPKDINVKWKIDG<sup>S</sup>ERQNGVLNSWTDQDSK<sup>D</sup>STYSMSST  
 LTLTKDEYERHNSYTCEATHKTSTSPIVKS<sup>F</sup>NRNEC



# Identifying CDRs by sequence



| Region        | Position | Sequence Characterization        | Length |
|---------------|----------|----------------------------------|--------|
| <b>CDR-H1</b> | 31-35B   | C****-----W/WV/WI/WA             | 10-12  |
| <b>CDR-H2</b> | 50-65    | LQWIG-----K/R L/I/V/F/T/A T/S//A | 16-19  |
| <b>CDR-H3</b> | 95-102   | C**-----WG*G                     | 3-25   |

Heavy chain: Amino acids sequence (458 AA)

Leader sequence-**FR1-CDR1-FR2-CDR2-FR3-CDR3-FR4-Constant region-Stop codon**

MGWSCIFLFLLSVTVGVFSEVQLQQSGPELVKPGASVKISCKASGYSFTGYFMN**WV**KQSHGKS**LE**  
**WIG**RINPNNGDSLQNQKFKG**KAT**LTVDKSSTTAHMELLSLTSEDSAVYY**CGR**DYFFDY**WGQG**TTL  
**TVSS**AKTTPPSVYPLAPGSAAQTNSMVTLGCLVKGYFPEPVTVTWNSGSLSSGVHTFPVAVLQSDLYT  
LSSSVTVPSSTWPSETVTCNVAHPASSTKVDKIVPRDCGCKPCICTVPEVSSVFIFPPKPKDVLTTITLT  
PKVTCVVVDISKDDPEVQFSWFVDDVEVHTAQTQPREEQFNSTFRSVSELPIMHQDWLNGKEFKC  
RVNSAAFPAPIEKTISKTKGRPKAPQVYTIPPPKEQMAKDQVSLTCMITDFFPEDITVEWQWNGQPA  
ENYKNTQPIMDTDGSYFVYSKLNQKSNWEAGNTFTCSVLHEGLHNHHTEKSLSHSPGK



# Ab Check - Sequence Analysis



## AbCheck - Antibody Sequence Test

### Info

This page allows you to test an antibody sequence against the Kabat sequence database. Any unusual residues (occurring in < 1% of chains in the database) will be reported to you. This allows the identification of potential cloning artifacts and sequencing errors. The current Kabat database contains 6014 light chains and 7895 heavy chains.

### Sequences

### Structures

Click [here](#) for details of the method used for checking your antibody sequence.

### Software

If you get any error or warning messages, please check you have entered your sequence correctly. Strange sequence features may cause the alignment stage to fail. Loops longer than anything observed in the current Kabat database will also cause the alignment to fail. If, after checking your sequence, you *still* get errors or warnings, please send me EMail: [andrew@bioinf.org.uk](mailto:andrew@bioinf.org.uk) and I'll see if the programs can be modified to accomodate your sequence. Alternatively, your antibody may just be very strange!

### Humanization patents

### Links

Identify [Chothia canonical classes](#) for your antibody sequence.

### Awards

Enter the **amino acid** sequence (1-letter code) of your Fv fragment (optionally you may include the whole Fab fragment, but only the Fv portion will be tested).

Enter the light chain **amino acid sequence** here:

```
DVVMTQIPLSLPVS LGDQASISCRSSQSLVHSNGNTYLHWYLQKPGQSPKLLIYKVS NRFSGV PDRFSGSGSGTDFTLKI  
SRVEAEDLG VYFCSQSTHVPTFGGGTKLEIK
```

Enter the heavy chain **amino acid sequence** here:

```
EVQLQQSGPELVKPGASVKISCRASGYSFTGYFMNWVKQSHGKSLEWIGRINPNNGDSL YNQKFKGKATLTVDKSSTTAH  
MELLSLTSEDSAVYYCGRDYFFDYWGQGTTLTVSS
```

# Ab Check - Sequence Analysis



## Antibody Sequence Test Results

If no results appear below, please send me EMail with your sequence as an error has occurred!

If you get lots of errors, please make sure you have used the AMINO ACID sequence (not DNA) and don't have any leader sequence residues

### Kabat alignment results

Alignment with consensus:

```
DVVMTQIPLSLPVLGDQASISCRSSQSLVHSNGNTY-LHWYLQKPGQSPKLLIYKVSNRFSGVPDRFSGSGSGTDFTLKIIRVEAEDLGVYFCSQSTHVPT-----FGGGTKLEIK---  
-AVLTQPPXS!%!S!GXXVTII%CXXSXXXXXXXXXXXXX!XWYQQXXGXXPK!LIYXX%XXXSGVPRFRSGS!SGTXX%LXISX!XXEDX!XY#CXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXFGXGTKLEIXKRA
```

```
EVQLQQSGPELVKPGASVKISCKASGYSFTGYFMN--WVKQSHGKSLEWIGRINPNN--GDSLYNQKFKGKATLTVDKSSTTAHMELLSLTSEDSAVYYCGRDYFFDY-----WGQGTTLTVSS  
XVQLXXSGXXL!XPGXS!$!SCX!SG#%F%XXXXXXXXWV$QXPG$XLEW! !XIXXXXXXGXXXYYXXXXK!$XX!%XDXSXX%!YXXXXSLXXED%AXYYCXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXWGQGTXTVTVSS
```

L1 D  
L2 V  
L3 V  
L4 M  
L5 T  
L6 Q  
L7 I  
L8 P  
L9 L  
L10 S  
L11 L  
L12 P  
L13 V  
L14 S  
L15 L  
L16 G  
L17 D  
L18 Q

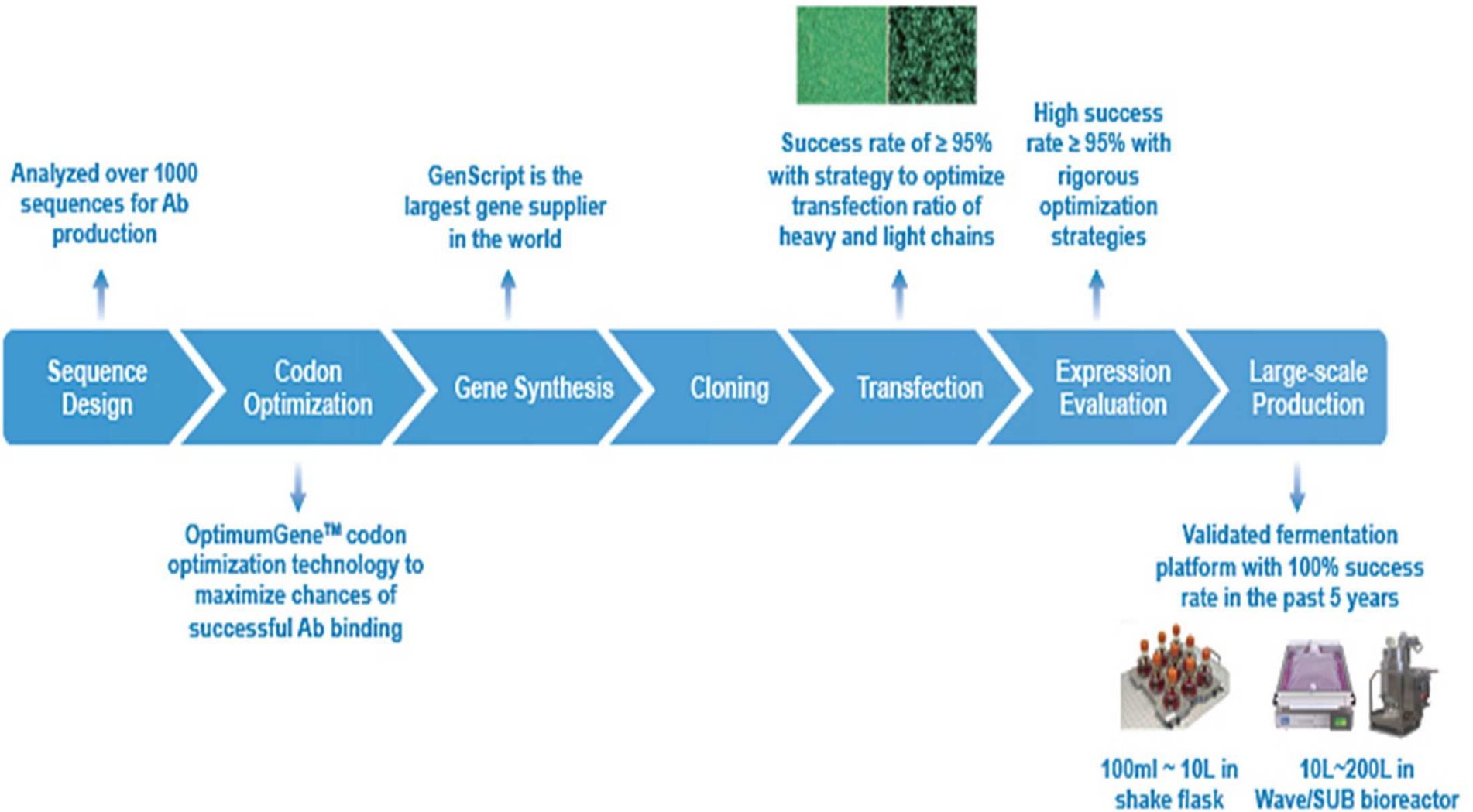
The following unusual sequence features have been identified:

- ◆ L7 = I in 0.542% of light chains (17 examples)
- ◆ L106A = K in 0.542% of light chains (17 examples)



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# Rapid Transient Gene Expression



# Advantages of GenScript Recombinant Abs



 **Mammalian Expression System**  
— Your reliable source for functional proteins.

- ◆ Serum free 293 and CHO suspension systems
- ◆ Reliable protein and mAb production up to grams

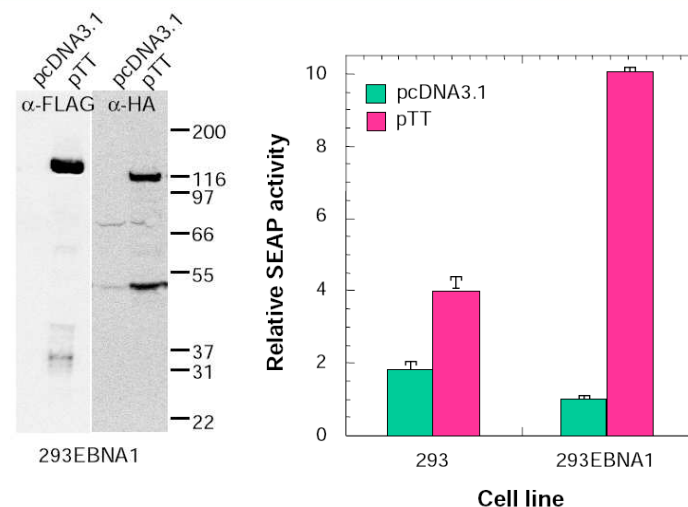
## ➤ Advantages:

- Prominent 293 and CHO suspension systems promote large-scale and fast-delivery of recombinant protein and monoclonal antibody up to gram level.
- A strong commitment of scientific teams with many years of experience in developing highly productive stable cell lines with strict expression stability evaluation.
- Comprehensive professional process development enhances the protein expression capacity of cell lines.
- GenScript has successfully delivered >500 proteins in mammalian expression system with >100 stable cell lines.



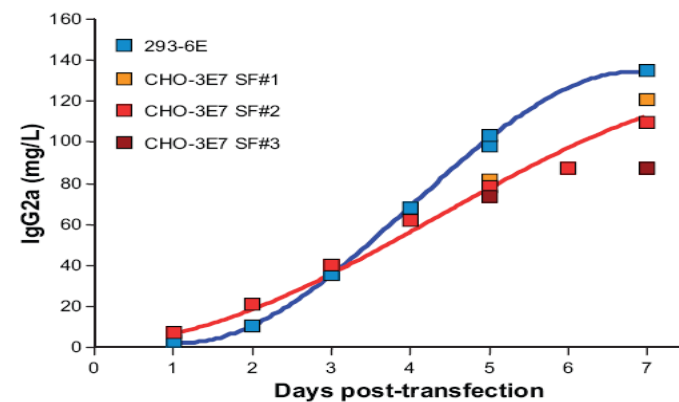
## ➤ HEK293

- Highly stable 293EBNA1 clone
- Increase recombinant protein yields through co-expression
- Afford the advantages of serum-free production
- Rapid and high yield recombinant protein production
- Availability of a Master Cell Bank (MCB) for cGMP production



## ➤ CHO-pTT

- Provides comparable protein expression level to those of HEK293 system
- Rapid production of recombinant proteins that require post-translation modification for research or pharmaceutical use.



Transient gene expression in CHO-3E7 cells using an optimized process and pTT vectors yield antibody titers closely matching those obtained in 293 cells (LODs 11266 & 11565)



National Research  
Council Canada

Conseil national  
de recherches Canada



# MamPower™ Guaranteed Services



| Customer provides | Amount                        | Purity & endotoxin level options  | Timeline   | Deliverables  | Price starting from |
|-------------------|-------------------------------|---|------------|---|---------------------|
| Antibody sequence | 5mg                           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>≥95% by SDS-PAGE</li> </ul>  | 5-6 weeks  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>LC and HC in pUC57 vector</li> <li>Optimized gene sequence report</li> <li>Purified antibody at listed amount and purity</li> <li>QC data</li> </ul> | \$2,999             |
|                   | 10mg<br>25mg<br>50mg<br>100mg | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>≥95% by SDS-PAGE</li> <li>Endotoxin ≤10EU/mg</li> <li>Concentration ≥1mg/ml</li> </ul> | 6-8 weeks  |   |                     |
|                   | 250mg<br>500mg                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>≥95% by HPLC</li> <li>Endotoxin ≤1EU/mg</li> </ul>                                     | 8-10 weeks |   |                     |

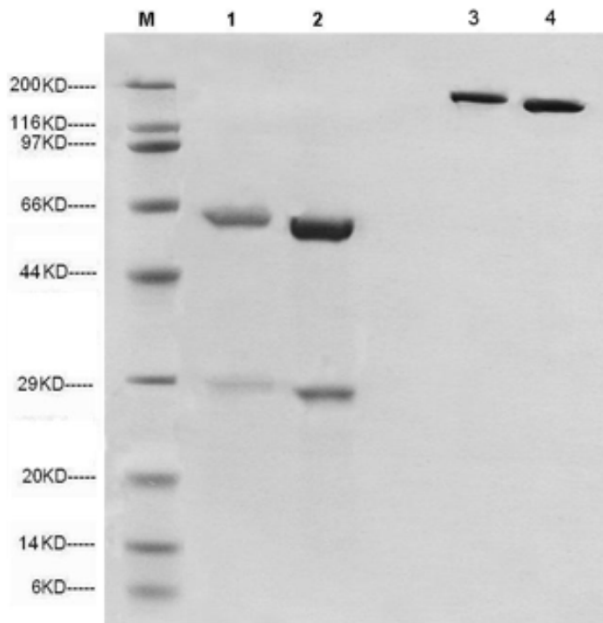
## ➤ Key features of MamPower™ guaranteed recombinant antibody production services

- Gene synthesis is included in the package – no additional cost to you.
- Guarantee recombinant antibody amount, purity and desired endotoxin level – no cost to you if we don't deliver as promised.
- Flexible scale from 5mg to 500mg.
- Competitive price.
- Fast turnaround time - as little as 5 weeks.

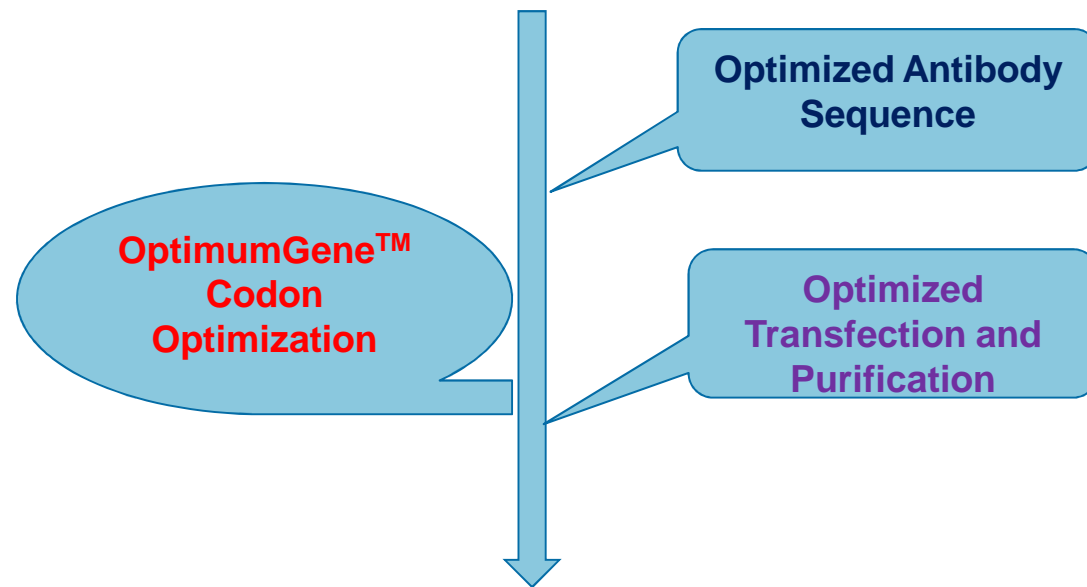
# Case Study



384390



- ◆ Expression level was low (2.5 mg/L)



- ◆ Expression level was significantly increased (25 mg/L)

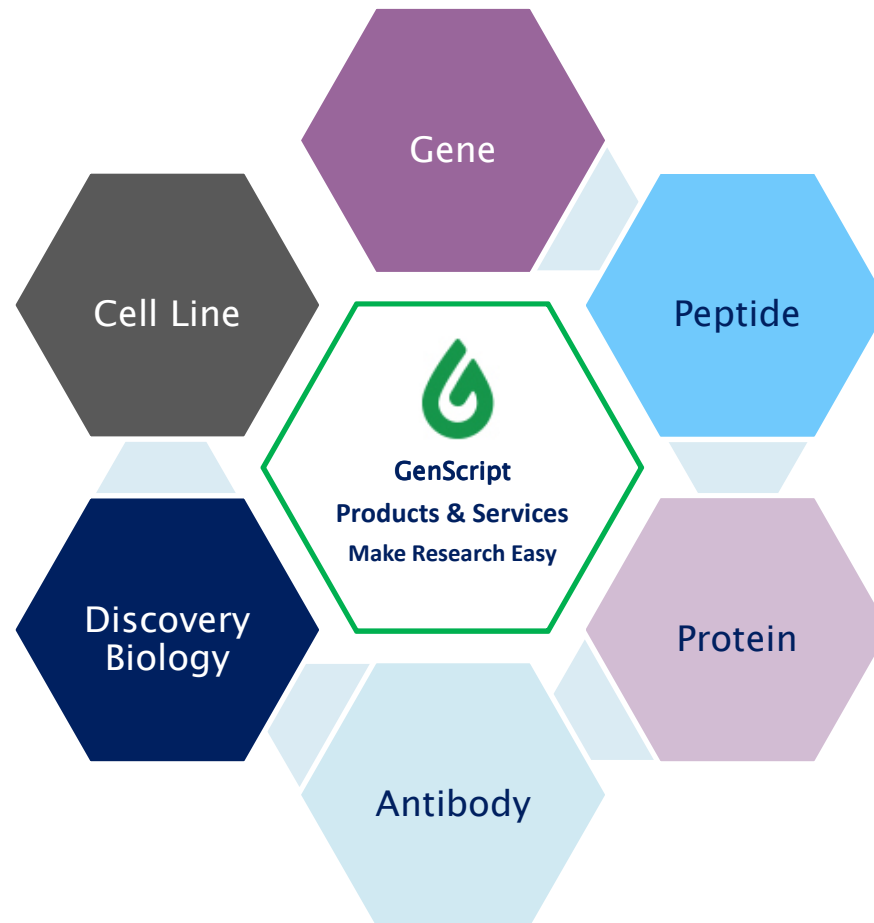


# Summary



- ◆ Antibody is used by the immune system to neutralize foreign objects (antigens).
- ◆ Antibody-antigen binding residues are mainly located in CDRs.
- ◆ Analysis of sequence could assist to evaluate the expression level of a certain antibody.
- ◆ GenScript could offer you the professional service for optimized recombinant antibody production.

# About GenScript



# Thank you



## Upcoming webinar



**Expression vectors: how to choose, or customize, vectors for gene & protein expression**

Presented by Rachel Speer, Ph.D, Technical Writer, GenScript

June 3, 2015/11:00 AM EST

Visit our website for archived webinars: <http://www.genscript.com/webinars.html>

Contact today's presenter: [hanqxing.yu@genscript.com](mailto:hanqxing.yu@genscript.com)

*Thank you*