

## APPENDIX S1. The SSR-patchwork protocol for SSR libraries.

### LEGEND



\* **HINT**



### I. DNA extraction and quantification.

\* *Before beginning the preparation, set the water bath to 60°C.*

- 1) Grind 100 mg of fresh leaf tissue to a fine powder in liquid nitrogen with a mortar and pestle. For algal culture, go directly to the next step.
- 2) Transfer the resulting powder to a new 2-mL tube and add 900  $\mu$ L of 2 $\times$  CTAB extraction buffer.
- 3) Mix vigorously and then incubate at 60°C for 30 min in a water bath with gentle agitation.
- 4) Add an equal volume of chloroform–isoamyl alcohol (24:1) and mix vigorously.
- 5) Centrifuge the sample at 7000 g for 5 min.
- 6) Recover the top aqueous layer and transfer into a new tube.
- 7) Repeat steps 4, 5, and 6.



*If the aqueous phase is not clear, then repeat step 7.*

- 8) Add 70% of cold isopropanol and mix gently by inverting the tube.
- 9) Place the sample at –20°C for 10 min.
- 10) Centrifuge the sample at 10,000 g at 4°C for 8 min and discard the supernatant.
- 11) Rinse with 70% EtOH and centrifuge at 10,000 g at 4°C for 5 min.
- 12) Discard the supernatant.
- 13) Dry the pellet and resuspend in 50  $\mu$ L of sterile water.
- 14) Add 1  $\mu$ L of (1 mg/mL) RNase A and mix the sample.
- 15) Incubate the sample for 1 h at 37°C.

- 16) Precipitate the DNA with 0.7 volumes of isopropanol and 0.1 volume of 3 M NaOAc, pH 5.2.
- 17) Place the sample at  $-20^{\circ}\text{C}$  for 10 min.
- 18) Centrifuge the sample at 10,000 g at  $4^{\circ}\text{C}$  for 10 min to pellet the DNA.
- 19) Discard the supernatant.
- 20) Rinse with 70% EtOH and centrifuge at 10,000 g at  $4^{\circ}\text{C}$  for 5 min.
- 21) Discard the supernatant.
- 22) Dry the pellet and resuspend in 50  $\mu\text{L}$  of sterile water.
- 23) Run 2  $\mu\text{L}$  of DNA with Marker II (AppliChem) on a 0.8% agarose gel containing 0.5  $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$  of ethidium bromide.
- 24) Run at 60 V for approximately 4 h.
- 25) Visualize the gel using an UV-transilluminator and estimate the concentration of DNA.

*\*Extraction should yield a high-molecular-weight band of DNA.*

## II. Restriction enzyme digestion.

- 1) To digest genomic DNA with restriction enzymes, mix the following components in a 1.5-mL tube:

Component	Quantity
2 $\mu\text{g}$ genomic DNA	x $\mu\text{L}$
10 $\times$ buffer ReAct3 (Invitrogen)	6 $\mu\text{L}$
<i>Eco</i> RI (10 U/ $\mu\text{L}$ ) (Invitrogen)	0.5 $\mu\text{L}$
<i>Mse</i> I (5 U/ $\mu\text{L}$ ) (Invitrogen)	1 $\mu\text{L}$
Sterile water	x $\mu\text{L}$
<b>Total volume</b>	60 $\mu\text{L}$



*Always add the restriction enzymes last, removing them from  $-20^{\circ}\text{C}$  only when needed and immediately return the enzyme to  $-20^{\circ}\text{C}$  after use.*

- 2) Incubate the sample at  $37^{\circ}\text{C}$  for 2 h.
- 3) Inactivate the enzymes by heating the sample to  $75^{\circ}\text{C}$  for 15 min.
- 4) Precipitate the DNA with 2 volumes of 100% EtOH and 0.1 volume of 3 M NaOAc, pH 5.2.


- 5) Place the sample at  $-20^{\circ}\text{C}$  for 10 min.
- 6) Centrifuge the sample at 10,000 g at  $4^{\circ}\text{C}$  for 10 min to pellet the DNA.
- 7) Discard the supernatant.
- 8) Rinse with 70% EtOH and centrifuge at 10,000 g at  $4^{\circ}\text{C}$  for 5 min.
- 9) Discard the supernatant.
- 10) Repeat steps 8 and 9.
- 11) Dry the pellet and resuspend in 15  $\mu\text{L}$  of sterile water.

### III. Size selection, gel extraction, and purification.

- 1) Run the precipitated digestion with a 100-bp DNA ladder (Promega) on a 1% agarose gel containing 0.5  $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$  of ethidium bromide.
- 2) Run at 50 V for approximately 4 h.

 *Run until the markers are well separated.*

- 3) Visualize the gel using an UV-transilluminator and cut a slice containing DNA fragments of 250–500 bp in size from the gel with a razor blade (Fig. 1).

 *Be sure to use a sterile scalpel and trim away as much agarose as possible.*

- 4) Place the gel slice into a 2-mL tube.
- 5) Add 500  $\mu\text{L}$  of 20 mM Tris-HCl (pH 8.0) with 1 mM EDTA (pH 8.0) to the slice of agarose.
- 6) Close the tube and mix by vortexing vigorously. Incubate for 5 min at  $65^{\circ}\text{C}$ .
- 7) During the incubation period, a special filtration column to elute the contents of the band must be prepared, according to the instructions at the end of protocol (see Filtration column).
- 8) After the incubation, transfer the sample to the filtration column and centrifuge at 10,000 g for 5 min.
- 9) Remove the pierced tube and add an equal volume of phenol to the eluate.
- 10) Vortex the mixture for 20 s and centrifuge at 7000 g for 10 min.
- 11) Recover the aqueous phase and transfer it into a new 1.5-mL tube.
- 12) Add an equal volume of phenol:chloroform:isoamyl alcohol (25:24:1) to the sample.
- 13) Vortex the mixture for 20 s and centrifuge at 7000 g for 10 min.
- 14) Recover the aqueous phase and transfer it into a new 1.5-mL tube.

- 15) Add an equal volume of chloroform:isoamyl alcohol (24: 1).
- 16) Vortex the mixture for 20 s and centrifuge at 7000 g for 10 min.
- 17) Transfer the aqueous phase into a new 1.5-mL tube.
- 18) Add 2 volumes of 100% EtOH and 0.1 volume of 3 M NaOAc, pH 5.2.



*Store at -20°C overnight. Alternatively, you can place the sample at -80°C for 15 min.*

- 19) Centrifuge the sample at 10,000 g at 4°C for 10 min to pellet the DNA.
- 20) Discard the supernatant.
- 21) Rinse with 70% EtOH and centrifuge at 10,000 g for 5 min.
- 22) Discard the supernatant.
- 23) Repeat steps 21 and 22.
- 24) Dry the pellet and resuspend in 15 µL of sterile water.

#### IV. Adapter preparation and ligation.

Adap\_*EcoA*: 5'-CTC gTA gAC TgC gTA CC-3'

Adap\_*EcoB*: 5'-AAT Tgg TAC gCA gTC TAC-3'

Adap\_*MseA*: 5'-gAC gAT gAg TCC TgA g-3'

Adap\_*MseB*: 5'-TAC TCA ggA CTC AT-3'

- 1) For the preparation of the *EcoRI*-adapter (5 µM), in a 0.2-mL PCR tube, add:

Component	Quantity
Adap_ <i>EcoA</i> , 100 µM	2 µL
Adap_ <i>EcoB</i> , 100 µM	2 µL
Sterile water	36 µL
<b>Total volume</b>	40 µL

- 2) For the preparation of the *Mse*I-adapter (50  $\mu$ M), in a 0.2-mL PCR tube, add:

Component	Quantity
Adap_ <i>Mse</i> A, 100 $\mu$ M	20 $\mu$ L
Adap_ <i>Mse</i> B, 100 $\mu$ M	20 $\mu$ L
<b>Total volume</b>	40 $\mu$ L

- 3) Incubate the two PCR tubes in a thermocycler using the following protocol:

PCR PROGRAM = ADAPTERS		
Step	Temperature	Time
Hold 1	94°C	3 min
Hold 2	70°C	5 s
Hold 3	60°C	5 s
Hold 4	50°C	5 s
Hold 5	40°C	5 s
Hold 6	25°C	5 s
Hold 7	14°C	1 min
Hold 8	4°C	1 min

- 4) To perform the ligation of the adapters to restricted DNA, in a 0.2-mL PCR tube, add:

Component	Quantity
Digested DNA	7.5 $\mu$ L
5 $\times$ DNA ligase buffer (Invitrogen)	5 $\mu$ L
5 $\mu$ M <i>Eco</i> RI-adapter	3 $\mu$ L
50 $\mu$ M <i>Mse</i> I-adapter	3 $\mu$ L
T4 ligase (5 U/ $\mu$ L) (Invitrogen)	0.4 $\mu$ L
Sterile water	6.1 $\mu$ L
<b>Total volume</b>	25 $\mu$ L

➡ Always add *T4* ligase last, removing it from  $-20^{\circ}\text{C}$  only when needed and immediately return the enzyme to  $-20^{\circ}\text{C}$  after use.

- 5) Incubate the reaction at  $24^{\circ}\text{C}$  for 2 h.

#### V. First enrichment.

- 1) To increase the amount of DNA ligated with the adapters, perform a PCR reaction.

Pre\_*Eco*-0: 5'-gAC TgC gTA CCA ATT C-3'

Pre\_*Mse*-0: 5'-gAT gAg TCC TgA gTA A-3'

In a 0.2-mL tube add:

Component	Quantity
Restricted-ligated DNA	2.5–5 $\mu\text{L}$
10× <i>Taq</i> DNA polymerase buffer (DreamTaq, Fermentas)	2.5 $\mu\text{L}$
2.5 mM dNTPs (Promega)	2 $\mu\text{L}$
Primer Pre_ <i>Eco</i> -0, 50 $\mu\text{M}$	0.125 $\mu\text{L}$
Primer Pre_ <i>Mse</i> -0, 50 $\mu\text{M}$	0.125 $\mu\text{L}$
5 U/ $\mu\text{L}$ <i>Taq</i> DNA polymerase (DreamTaq, Fermentas)	0.25 $\mu\text{L}$
Sterile water	x $\mu\text{L}$
<b>Total volume</b>	<b>25 <math>\mu\text{L}</math></b>

\*The 10× *DreamTaq* buffer contains 20 mM  $\text{MgCl}_2$ .

Vortex to mix the solution and spin down.

- 2) Incubate in a thermocycler using the following protocol:

PCR PROGRAM = PRE1_ARR			
Step	Temperature	Time	No. of cycles
Extension	$72^{\circ}\text{C}$	2 min	1
Denaturation	$95^{\circ}\text{C}$	30 s	25
Annealing	$50^{\circ}\text{C}$	1 min	

Extension	72°C	1 min	
Final extension	72°C	2 min	1

- 3) Run 4  $\mu\text{L}$  of PCR product with 1  $\mu\text{L}$  of a 100-bp ladder on a 1% agarose gel containing 0.5  $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$  of ethidium bromide (Fig. 2).


 *The smear of fragments should be visible and centered at approximately 500 bp.*

## VI. Preparation of the biotinylated oligo-repeat and hybridization.

- 1) In a 0.2-mL PCR tube, add:

Component	Quantity
250 ng PCR product of the first enrichment	x $\mu\text{L}$
500 ng biotinylated oligo-repeat (1 $\mu\text{g}/\mu\text{L}$ ) (e.g., GA <sub>15</sub> -b)	0.5 $\mu\text{L}$
2 $\times$ hybridization buffer	25 $\mu\text{L}$
Sterile water	x $\mu\text{L}$
<b>Total volume</b>	50 $\mu\text{L}$

- 2) Incubate the reaction in a thermocycler using the following protocol:

PCR PROGRAM = OLIGO-HIB		
Step	Temperature	Time
Denaturation	95°C	5 min
Touchdown	-0.2°C/5 s until the next hold (hybridization)	
Hybridization	82°C  <i>This step is a function of the <math>T_m</math> of the biotinylated oligo-repeat. In this example, a (GA)<sub>15</sub>-b has been considered.</i>	20 min
Hold	14°C	$\infty$

**VII. Preparation and VETREX Avidin D capture.**

- 1) Place 40  $\mu\text{L}$  of VETREX Avidin D into a 1.5-mL tube.
- 2) Centrifuge the sample at 12,000 g for 30 s and discard the supernatant.
- 3) Equilibrate the VETREX Avidin D by washing twice with 2 volumes of 1 $\times$  TBS (500  $\mu\text{L}$  for 1 min), centrifuge and discard the supernatant following each wash.
- 4) In a new 1.5-mL tube, mix the following:

Component	Quantity
2 $\times$ TBS	500 $\mu\text{L}$
Biotinylated hybridized sample from the VI.2 procedure	50 $\mu\text{L}$
Sterile water	450 $\mu\text{L}$
<b>Total volume</b>	1000 $\mu\text{L}$

- 5) Add this solution to the VETREX Avidin D pellet, gently resuspend, and allow the reaction to bind for 1 h at room temperature with occasional mixing.
- 6) Centrifuge the binding reaction for 1 min at 12,000 g.
- 7) Carefully remove the supernatant without disturbing the VETREX Avidin D pellet.
 

*\*Retain the supernatant until binding of the biotinylated sample has been verified in step 8.*
- 8) Wash the VETREX Avidin D matrix with 1 mL of 1 $\times$  TBS to remove any unbound molecules.
- 9) Pellet the matrix by centrifugation for 1 min at 12,000 g and discard the supernatant.
- 10) Repeat steps 8 and 9 two times.
- 11) Wash the VETREX Avidin D pellet with 500  $\mu\text{L}$  of 1 $\times$  TBS at 50°C.
- 12) Pellet the matrix by centrifugation for 1 min at 12,000 g and discard the supernatant.
- 13) Wash the VETREX Avidin D pellet with 500  $\mu\text{L}$  of 1 $\times$  TBS at 65°C.
- 14) Pellet the matrix by centrifugation for 1 min at 12,000 g and discard the supernatant.
- 15) Wash the VETREX Avidin D pellet with 500  $\mu\text{L}$  of 0.1 $\times$  TBS at 65°C.



- 16) Pellet the matrix by centrifugation for 1 min at 12,000 g and discard the supernatant.
- 17) Resuspend the VETREX Avidin D pellet in 250  $\mu$ L of sterile water at 65°C for 30 min.
- 18) Centrifuge the sample for 1 min at 12,000 g and transfer the aqueous phase into a new 1.5-mL tube.
- 19) Add 2 volumes of 100% EtOH and 0.1 volume of 3 M NaOAc, pH 5.2. Place at  $-20^{\circ}$ C for 20 min.
- 20) Centrifuge the sample at 11,000 g at 4°C for 8 min to precipitate the DNA.
- 21) Discard the supernatant.
- 22) Rinse the sample with 70% EtOH and centrifuge at 10,000 g for 5 min.
- 23) Discard the supernatant.
- 24) Repeat steps 22 and 23.
- 25) Dry the pellet and resuspend in 25  $\mu$ L of sterile water.



*Store the sample at 4°C overnight.*

- 26) To remove any residual VETREX Avidin D matrix, vortex and centrifuge at 12,000 g for 2 min.
- 27) Transfer the aqueous phase into a new 1.5-mL tube.

#### VIII. Second enrichment and cloning.

- 1) To increase the selected DNA fragments, perform triplicate PCR reactions. For each PCR reaction, add the following:

Component	Quantity
Enriched-recovered DNA post Avidin D	5 $\mu$ L
10 $\times$ <i>Taq</i> DNA polymerase buffer (DreamTaq, Fermentas)	2.5 $\mu$ L
2.5 mM dNTPs (Promega)	2 $\mu$ L
Primer Pre_ <i>Eco</i> -0, 50 $\mu$ M	0.125 $\mu$ L
Primer Pre_ <i>Mse</i> -0, 50 $\mu$ M	0.125 $\mu$ L
5 U/ $\mu$ L <i>Taq</i> DNA polymerase (DreamTaq, Fermentas)	0.25 $\mu$ L
Sterile water	15 $\mu$ L

<b>Total volume</b>	25 $\mu$ L
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- 2) Incubate in a thermocycler using the following protocol:

<b>PCR PROGRAM = PRE2_ARR</b>			
<b>Step</b>	<b>Temperature</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>No. of cycles</b>
Initial denaturation	95°C	30 s	1
Denaturation	95°C	30 s	30
Annealing	50°C	1 min	
Extension	72°C	1 min	
Final extension	72°C	3 min	1

- 3) When the PCR reactions are completed, join all three PCR reactions in a unique tube.
- 4) Purify the PCR product with DNA Enzyme-free Isolation Spin Kit (AppliChem), according to the standard protocol recommended by the manufacturer, and resuspend in 30  $\mu$ L of sterile water.
- 5) To estimate the concentration of purified product, run 2  $\mu$ L on 1% agarose gel with Marker II (AppliChem).
- 6) For cloning, follow the protocol supplied using pMosBlue blunt-ended cloning kit (GE Healthcare) or any other comparable cloning kits on the market (e.g., CloneJET PCR Cloning Kit, Fermentas–Thermo Fisher Scientific).
- 7) To calculate the appropriate amount of PCR product (insert) to include in the ligation-cloning reaction, calculate the average of an insert between 250 and 500 bp (i.e., approximately 375 bp).

#### **IX. Colony screening and sequencing.**

- 1) The presence of an appropriate insert can directly be determined using colony PCR.
- In this step, we were able to use a homemade *Taq* polymerase (NAP-*Taq*; De Castro, unpublished data).
- 2) Pick an individual colony from the plate containing the transformants using a sterile tip, place into a 0.2-mL PCR tube and resuspend in 20  $\mu$ L of the PCR master mix. Pipet up and down to disperse the pellet.

- 3) Prepare a PCR master mix for the number of colonies analyzed plus one extra sample. For each 20- $\mu$ L reaction, mix the following reagents:

Component	Quantity
10 $\times$ <i>Taq</i> DNA polymerase buffer	2 $\mu$ L
2.5 mM dNTPs (Promega)	1.8 $\mu$ L
Plasmid forward primer, 50 $\mu$ M	0.1 $\mu$ L
Plasmid reverse primer, 50 $\mu$ M	0.1 $\mu$ L
5 U/ $\mu$ l <i>Taq</i> DNA polymerase (homemade NAP- <i>Taq</i> ) <span style="color: red;">⇒</span> <i>Taq</i> made in the authors' laboratory (De Castro, unpublished data)	0.25 $\mu$ L
Sterile water	15.75 $\mu$ L
<b>Total volume</b>	20 $\mu$ L

- 4) Incubate the reaction in a thermocycler using the following protocol:

PCR PROGRAM = Colony screening			
Step	Temperature	Time	No. of cycles
Initial denaturation	95°C	3 min	1
Denaturation	94°C	30 s	30
Annealing	$T_m$ primers	30 s	
Extension	72°C	1 min	
Final extension	72°C	2 min	1

- 5) On a 1% agarose gel containing 0.5  $\mu$ g/mL of ethidium bromide, run 2  $\mu$ L of PCR product with a 100-bp ladder (Promega) and Marker II (AppliChem).
- 6) Run the sample at 80 V for approximately 30–40 min.
- 7) Visualize the gel using an UV-transilluminator and examine the PCR results.
- 8) Quantify the PCR product concentration and size for subsequent sequencing. Select the fragments larger than 350 bp.

*\*Discard the fragments smaller than 350 bp because if a non-recombinant colony is picked, a sequence of 139 bp would be amplified.*

- 9) Proceed to sequencing, without purification of the PCR products. For each 10- $\mu$ L sequencing reaction, mix the following reagents:

Component	Quantity
5 $\times$ Sequencing Buffer, BigDye Terminator v.1.1, v.3.1 (Applied Biosystems)	1.75 $\mu$ L
Plasmid forward primer, 6.4 $\mu$ M (Macrogen)	0.5 $\mu$ L
BigDye Terminator v.3.1 Cycle Sequencing Kit (Applied Biosystems)	0.3–0.4 $\mu$ L
3–5 ng of positive PCR product	$\leq$ 0.25 $\mu$ L
Sterile water	x $\mu$ L
<b>Total volume</b>	10 $\mu$ L

Vortex the sample and centrifuge briefly.

- 10) Incubate the reaction in a thermocycler using the following protocol:

PCR PROGRAM = Sequencing			
Step	Temperature	Time	No. of cycles
Denaturation	96°C	10 s	25
Annealing	50°C	5 s	
Extension	60°C	4 min	

- 11) Perform a precipitation of the sequencing reactions by adding 2 volumes of 100% EtOH and 0.1 volume of 3 M NaOAc, pH 5.2. Place the reaction at  $-20^{\circ}$ C for 10 min.
- 12) Centrifuge the sample at 11,000 g at  $4^{\circ}$ C for 8 min.
- 13) Discard the supernatant.
- 14) Rinse the sample with 70% EtOH and centrifuge at 11,000 g for 5 min.
- 15) Discard the supernatant.
- 16) Repeat steps 13 and 14.
- 17) Dry the pellet and resuspend in 13  $\mu$ L of Hi-Di Formamide.
- 18) Denature the sample at  $95^{\circ}$ C for 3 min.

- 19)** Load the samples into a 3130 Genetic Analyzer (Applied Biosystems, Life Technologies) or similar old-generation automated sequencer.
- 20)** ... and good luck screening!
- 21)** During the screening, discard the sequences without repeating. Perform the sequencing reaction again with the reverse primers on the positive sequences (with repeat).
- 22)** Following DNA sequencing, the poly-linker vector and adapter sequences should be removed. Both strands are contiged and edited to ensure the accuracy of the sequencing. The sequences are now available to design primers.
- 23)** Following editing, PCR primers are designed from the flanking DNA sequences using handmade methodology or with the free software available on the web (e.g., NCBI/Primer-BLAST = <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/tools/primer-blast/>).

## RECIPES

### 2× CTAB Extraction Buffer

CTAB	2% (w/v)
EDTA	20 mM
NaCl	1.4 M
Tris–HCl	100 mM (pH 8.0)
β-mercaptoethanol	0.2% (v/v)

*Room temperature*

### 2× Hybridization Buffer

NaH <sub>2</sub> PO <sub>4</sub>	1 M (pH 7.4)
SDS	1% (w/v)

*Room temperature*

### 2× TBS (binding buffer)

Tris	200 mM (pH 7.5)
NaCl	300 mM

*Room temperature*

## CHEMICALS AND SUPPLIES

### Chemical Check List:

Agarose: AppliChem, A2114,0050.

Chloroform: Isoamylalcohol (24: 1): AppliChem, A1935,0100.

CTAB: AppliChem, A0805,0100.

dATP: Promega, U1205.

dCTP: Promega, U1225.

dGTP: Promega, U1215.

DNA ladder 100-bp: BenchTop, Promega, G8291.

dTTP: Promega, U1235.

EDTA: AppliChem, A3145,0500.

Ethidium bromide: AppliChem, A1152,0025.

EtOH: AppliChem, A3693,1000PE.

Hi-Di Formamide: Applied Biosystems—Life Technologies, 4311320.

Isopropanol (2-Propanol): AppliChem, A3465,1000.

Marker II: AppliChem, A5223,0005.

NaCl: AppliChem, A4661,1000.

NaH<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>: AppliChem, A4229,0250.

NaOAc: AppliChem, A3802,0500.

Oligo or primer: Macrogen.

Phenol: AppliChem, A1624,0100.

Phenol:Chloroform: Isoamyl alcohol (25:24:1): AppliChem, A0889,0100.

SDS: AppliChem, A2263,0100.

Tris-HCl: AppliChem, A3452,0250.

VETREX Avidin D: Vector Laboratories, A2020.

β-mercaptoethanol: AppliChem, A4338,0100.

#### Enzyme Check list:

*Eco*RI: Invitrogen—Life Technologies, 15202.

*Mse*I: Invitrogen—Life Technologies, 15494.

RNase A: AppliChem, A2760.

*Taq* DNA Polymerase: DreamTaq DNA Polymerase: Fermentas—Thermo Fisher Scientific, EP0703; homemade NAP-*Taq* (De Castro et al., unpublished data).

T4 ligase: Invitrogen—Life Technologies, 15224.

#### Kit Check list:

BigDye Terminator v.3.1. Cycle Sequencing Kit: Applied Biosystems—Life Technologies, 4337454.

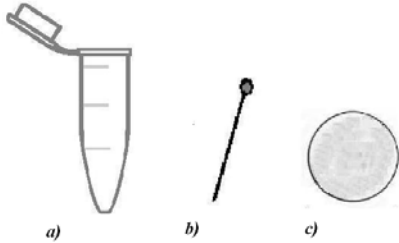
CloneJET PCR Cloning Kit: Fermentas—Thermo Fisher Scientific, K12341.

DNA Enzyme-free Isolation Spin Kit: AppliChem, A5266,0050.

pMOS*Blue* Blunt-ended Cloning Kit: GE Healthcare, RPN5110.

## FILTRATION COLUMN

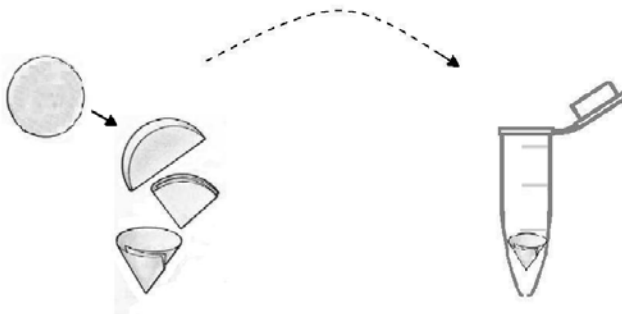
1. For construction of “special” filtration column, the following materials are necessary: (a) a 1.5-mL tube, (b) a sterile needle, and (c) a small piece of blotting paper with diameter of 1.5 cm.



2. Pierce the bottom of a 1.5-mL tube with a hot sterile needle. The hole must have a diameter of approximately 3 mm.



3. Using a small piece of blotting paper, create a small funnel and place it into the pierced 1.5-mL tube.



4. Finally, insert the pierced tube into a new 1.5-mL tube.

