



(51) International Patent Classification:

C12P 19/34 (2006.01) C12Q 1/6862 (2018.01)  
C12Q 1/6806 (2018.01)

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/US2022/048407

(22) International Filing Date:

31 October 2022 (31.10.2022)

(25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

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(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AO, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BN, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CL, CN, CO, CR, CU, CV, CZ, DE, DJ, DK, DM, DO, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IQ, IR, IS, IT, JM, JO, JP, KE, KG, KH, KN, KP, KR, KW, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LU, LY, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PA, PE, PG, PH, PL, PT, QA, RO, RS, RU, RW, SA, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, ST, SV, SY, TH, TJ,

(54) Title: METHODS OF SYNTHESIZING NUCLEIC ACID MOLECULES

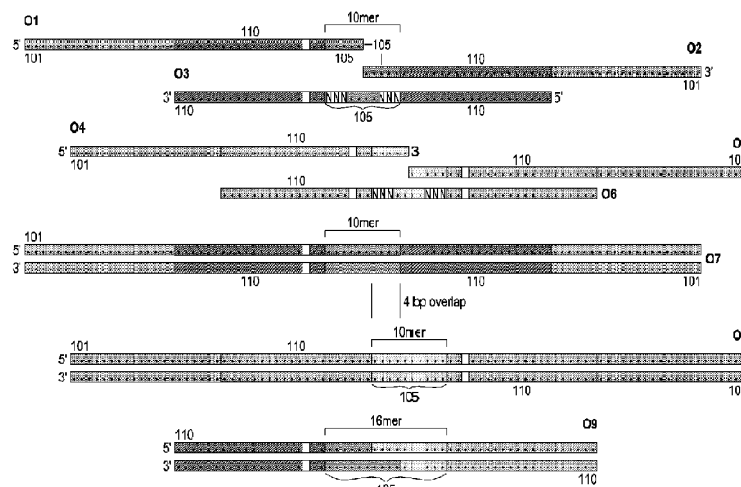


FIGURE 1A

(57) Abstract: The invention provides methods for synthesizing a product DNA molecule of any DNA sequence from a universal library of overlapping oligonucleotides. The method involves combining a plurality of the overlapping oligonucleotides in a reaction pool, where the sequences of the plurality of oligonucleotides comprise at least a sub-sequence of the product DNA molecule. The method also involves annealing the plurality of oligonucleotides, performing a ligation step, and performing an amplification step to thereby synthesize a sub-sequence of the product DNA molecule. The invention can be used to synthesize a DNA molecule of any possible sequence from the universal library, which can be accomplished through a hierarchal assembly scheme. In one embodiment the universal library comprises fewer than 10,000 pre-manufactured oligonucleotides that can be synthesized into the any possible DNA sequence.

[Continued on next page]

TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, WS, ZA,  
ZM, ZW.

**(84) Designated States** (*unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available*): ARIPO (BW, CV, GH, GM, KE, LR, LS, MW, MZ, NA, RW, SC, SD, SL, ST, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, RU, TJ, TM), European (AL, AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, ME, MK, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO, RS, SE, SI, SK, SM, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, KM, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

**Published:**

— with international search report (Art. 21(3))