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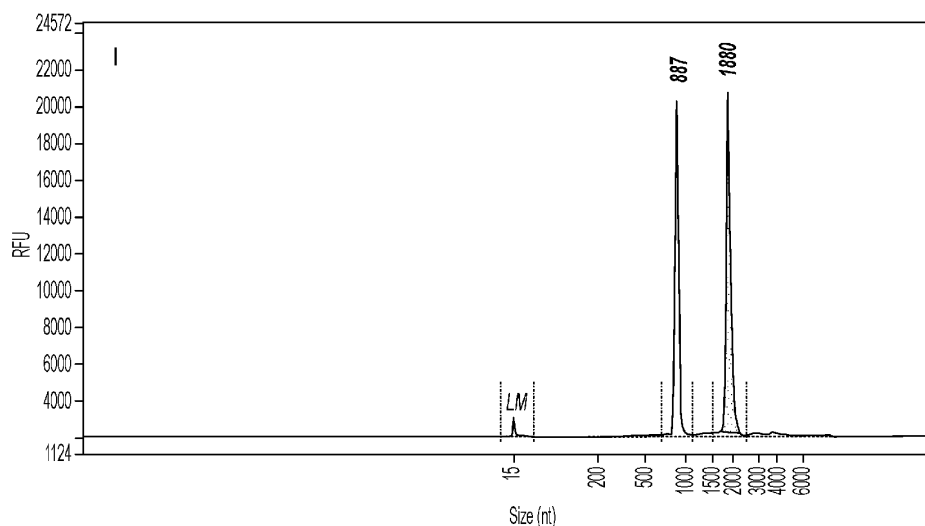


FIG. 1

(57) Abstract: The present invention provides methods for preparing optimized DNA sequences as templates for in vitro transcription of mRNA. These DNA sequences are optimized to avoid premature termination of transcription by RNA polymerase. The invention also provides methods for preparing optimized DNA sequences that include one or more termination signal at their 3' end to reduce or prevent non-templated "runoff" transcription.

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