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National Key Laboratory of Crop Genetic Improvement, Huazhong Agricultural University
农业农村部农业基因组学重点实验室（武汉）

基因编辑 操作手册

Tad-CBE

华中农业大学作物遗传改良全国重点实验室

湖北洪山实验室

棉花遗传改良团队

二〇二五年六月·武汉



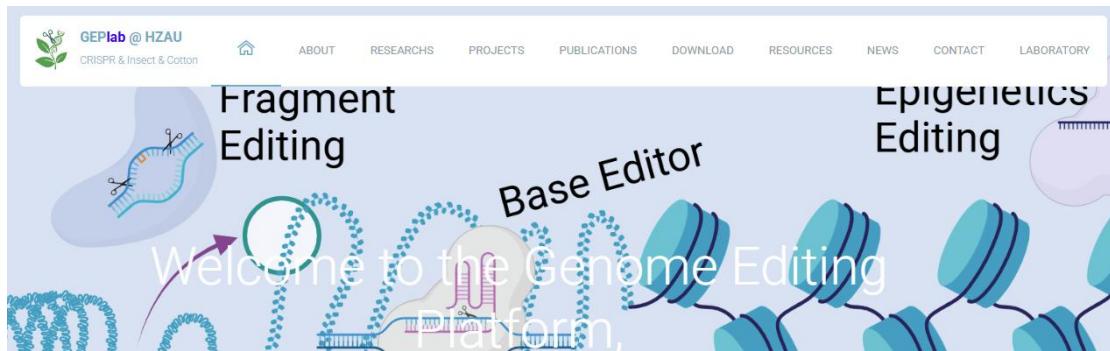
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基因编辑平台: <http://jinlab.hzau.edu.cn/GenomeEditingPlatform/>

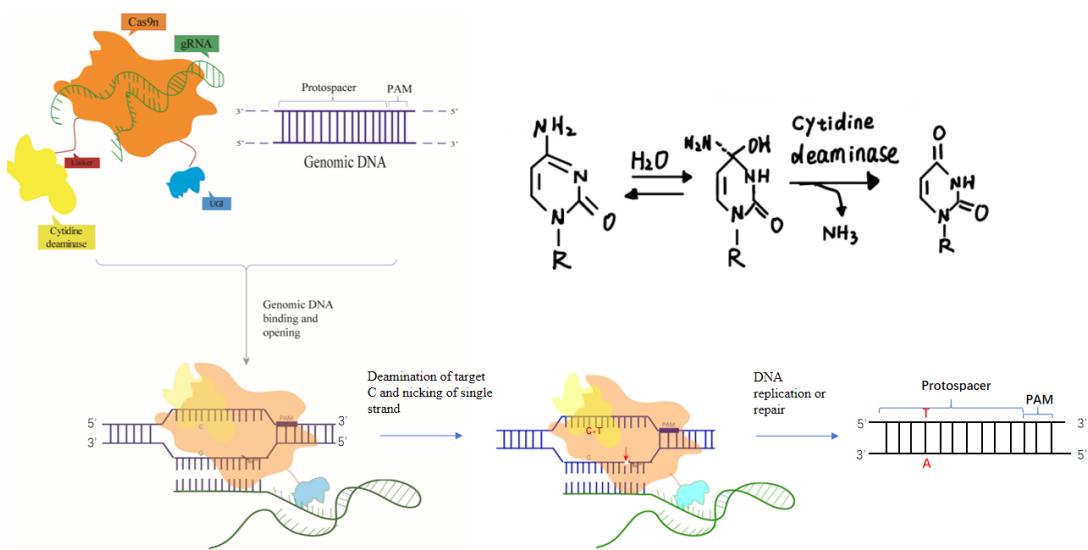


Tad-CBE protocol (中文版)

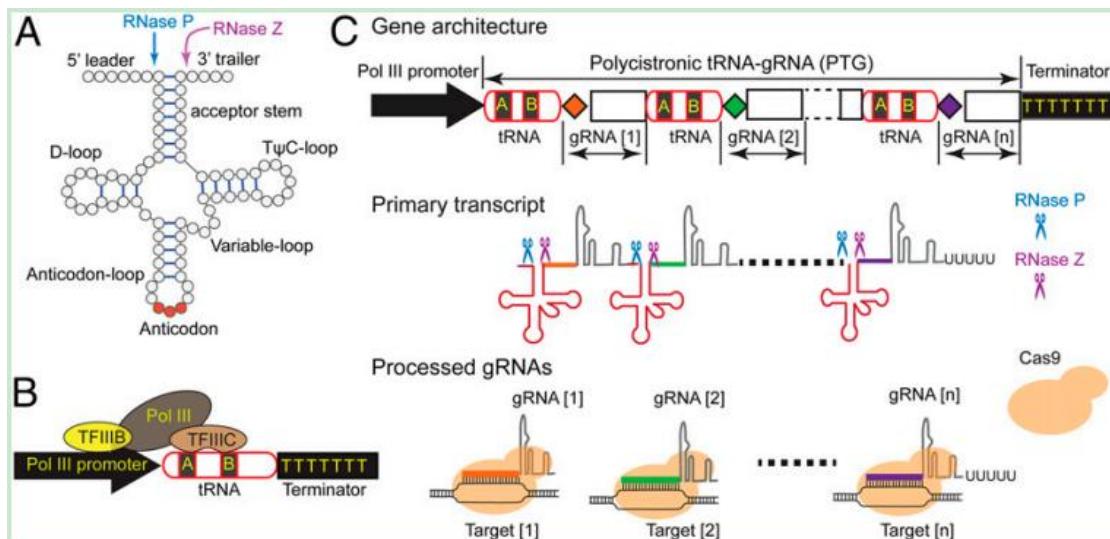
——以 CLA 为例

1. 基本原理

Tad-CBE 是一种经过优化的胞嘧啶碱基编辑系统，能够在不造成 DNA 双链断裂（DSB）的情况下，将 DNA 中的 C•G 碱基对精准地转换为 T•A 碱基对。Tad-CBE 主要由以下三个功能模块组成：(1) Tad 脱氨酶：将靶点 DNA 链上的胞嘧啶（C）脱氨为胸腺嘧啶（T）；(2) Cas9 nickase (D10A)：一个只在非编辑链上产生单链裂口的 Cas9 酶突变体，配合 sgRNA 实现靶向；(3) sgRNA：指导 Cas9 准确识别靶点序列，使脱氨酶作用于目标 C 碱基所在窗口。



我们采用的载体可以串联多个 tRNA+靶标+gRNA（下图 C），从而提高突变效率，植物体自身的 RNase P 和 RNase Z 分别切割 tRNA 的 5'端和 3'端（如下图 A），可以将多个靶标（引导序列）的 gRNA 释放，与目标序列互补后，Cas9/gRNA 会在 PAM 前 3bp 左右的位置精确的切割靶 DNA 双链。



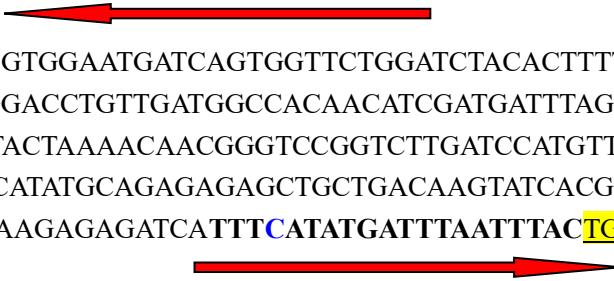
目前我们实验室 Tad-CBE 为卡纳抗性，以及引导 gRNA 转录的棉花内源 U6 启动子（编号为 U6-7），但驱动 Cas9 表达的依然是水稻 Ubiquitin2 启动子，原核中的抗性均为 kan。以下主要以 U6-7 启动子载体连接两个靶标位点，针对同一基因为例介绍载体构建过程。



2. 设计靶标以及设计引物

CLA 序列及靶标：可以进行手动搜索，Blast 后，具有特异性的序列可以作为靶标。最好在 PAM 前 3bp 左右的位置有唯一的酶切位点，方便后续的验证。负链为 G-A 突变，正链为 C-T 突变。突变的碱基最好在远离 PAM 的第 4-8 的窗口内。

CTCGACGGACCTATACCACCTGTGGGAGCTTGAGCAGTGCTCTCAGCAGGCTGCAAT
CAAACAGGCCTCTTAGAGAACTGAGAGAGGTTGCAAAGGTAAGTAGAAATGAATAGA
ACCCAGAAAACAATAATTACTAGAAACTAAACTACTAAGACTGGATGTGGT

TTGATTGCAGGGAGTTACCAAGCAAATCGGTGG**GCCTATGCATGA**ACTGGCTG

 CAAAAGTTGATGAGTATGCTCGTGGAAATGATCAGTGGTTCTGGATCTACACTTTCGAA
 GAACTTGGACTATATTATATTGGACCTGTTGATGCCAACACATCGATGATTAGTTCT
 ATTCTCAAAGAGGTTAAGACTACTAAAACAACGGGTCCGGTCTGATCCATGTTGTCAC
 TGAGAAAGGCCGAGGTATCCATATGCAGAGAGAGCTGCTGACAAGTATCACGGTAAC
 ATACAGAATAAGCCTTTAGAAGAGAGATCATTCCATATGATTAATTACTGGTGCC

 TCGATATCTGACCTTAGTTAGGAAATAAAAGAATAAAACTGTACCTGGATTCTTCTC
 AGGAGTGGTGAAGTCGATCCGCAACTGGAAAGCAATTCAAAGGCAA
 TTCTGCTACCCAGTCTTACACTACATATTGCTGAGGCTTGATTGCCAGCTGAGG
 CAGACAAAAATATTGTTGCCATCCATGCTGCAATGGGAGGTGAAACCGGATTAAACCT
 CTTCCCTCCGCCGGTCCCACAAAGATGTTGATGTGGGATAGCTGAACAAACATGCTG
 TCACCTTGCTGCAGGCTTGGCCTGTGAAGGCTGAAACCTTTGTGCAATCTACTCA
 TCATTGCAAAGGGCTTATGACCAG

插入目标序列连接在载体图方框所示 BasI 酶切位点之间，最终连接方法为一步克隆法。

*aagcatcagatggca*AACAAAGCACCAGAGTGGCTAGTGGTAGAATAGTACCCCTGC
CACGGTACAGACCCGGGTTCGATTCCCGGCTGGTGCA**CATAGGCCACCGA**
TTTGCT**GTTTAGAGCTAGAAATAGCAAGTTAAAATAAGGCTAGTCCGTTA**
TCAACTTGAAAAGTGGCACCGAGTCGGTGC**AACAAAGCACCA**GAGTGGT
CTAGTGGTAGAATAGTACCCTGCCACGGTACAGACCCGGGTTGCAATTCCCG
GCTGGTGCA**TTTCATATGATTAAATTAC**gttttagagctagaad.....(载体gRNA)

注：小写部分是载体序列；下划线部分是 tRNA；加粗部分是 gRNA；斜体部分是靶标位置。

需要用到的引物：

CLA1 as: 5' AGCAAATCGGTGGCCTATGtgccaccaggccggaaat3' (靶标 1 互补序列)
 CLA 2 s: 5' CATAGGCCACCGATTGCTgttttagagctagaata 3' (靶标 1 序列)
 CLA 2 as: 5' GTAAATTAAATCATATGAAAtgccaccaggccggaaat3' (靶标 2 互补序列)
 inf CLA as: 5' ttctagctaaaacGTAAATTAAATCATATGAAA3' (靶标 2 互补序列)
 pRGEB32-7 s: 5' AAGCATCAGATGGCAAAACAAAGCACCAAGTGGTCTAG3'
 inf pRGEB32-7 s: 5' AAGCATCAGATGGCAAAACAAA 3'

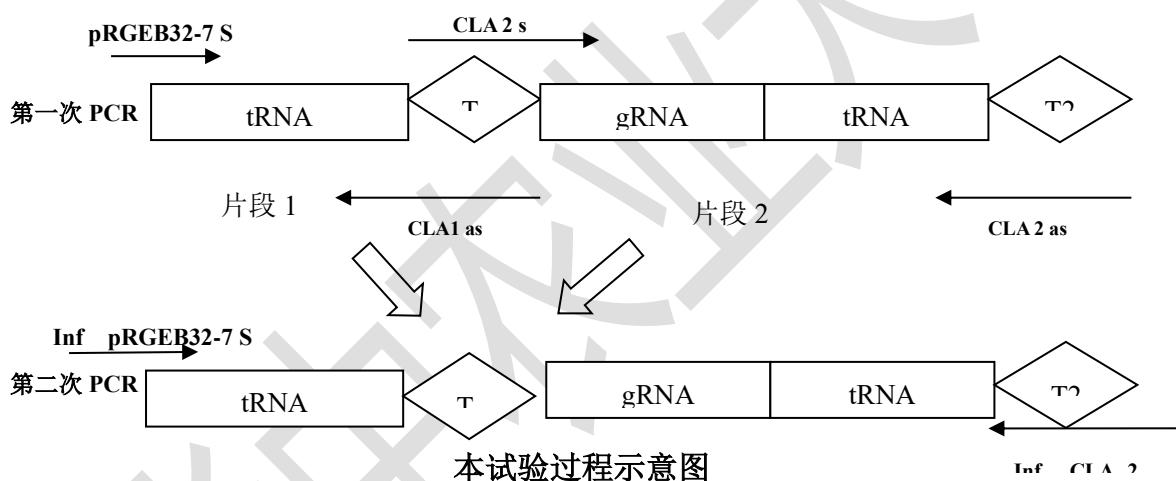
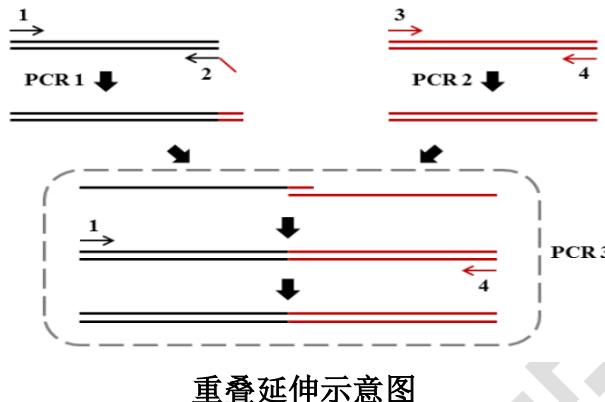
小写部分是固定序列，引物设计只需修改引物中的下划线标示的靶标序列即可。

其中，inf pRGEB32-7 s、pRGEB32-7 s、u6-7 s 为通用引物无须更改。pRGEB32-7 s 含有载体一部分序列，方便 In-fusion 连接。因插入序列中有多个 tRNA，inf pRGEB32-7 s 为增强扩增特异性，序列长度比 pRGEB32-7 s 短。Inf CLA as 含有载体序列接头，方便后续 In-fusion 连接。

3. 第一次 PCR 扩增

重叠延伸 PCR：

PCR 循环中，扩增产生的新链是引物和延伸产物共同组成的，而且新链可以作为下一循环的模版。如果在引物的 5' 端加入接头，下一轮循环过后产生的链便会带有接头互补的序列。如此循环，最后的产物中，几乎所有的产物都含有接头序列。如果将接头序列设计得和待融合片段的引物互补，那么两个独立 PCR 的产物便可以借助这一区域产生配对，经 Taq 酶延伸成为融合片段。



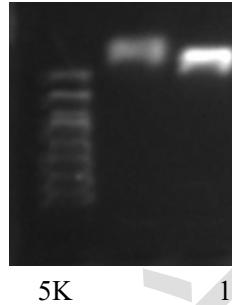
gRNA+tRNA 组合序列可自行合成序列连接到公共载体（如用 T 载体），第一次 PCR:1、2 两个片段分别从含 gRNA+tRNA 载体的菌液或者质粒中扩增。（相关序列可见附件）

20μl 体系:

	1	2
ddH ₂ O	16.1	16.1
Buffer	2	2
dNTP	0.3	0.3
S primer	pRGEB32-7 s 0.2	Cla 2 s 0.2
AS primer	CLA1 as 0.2	CLA 2 as 0.2
Taq	0.2	0.2
模板	1	1

PCR 条件:

预变性: 95°C 4min
 变性: 95°C 30S
 退火: 55°C 30S
 延伸: 72°C 20S
 循环: 3C
 变性: 95°C 30S
 退火: 60°C 30S
 延伸: 72°C 20S
 循环: 27C
 最后延伸 72°C 5min
 电泳检测

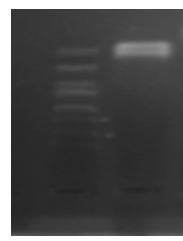
**4.第二次 PCR 及纯化:**

使用重叠延伸 PCR 将两个小片段进行连接,

100μl 体系			
ddH ₂ O			83.5μl
Buffer			10μl
dNTP			1.5μl
S primer	Inf	pRGEB32-7 s	1μl
AS primer	Inf	CLA as	1μl
Taq			1μl
片段 1			1μl
片段 2			1μl

PCR 条件:

预变性: 95°C 4min
 变性: 95°C 30S
 退火: 59°C 30S
 延伸: 72°C 20S
 循环: 28C
 最后延伸 72°C 5min



电泳检测

使用凝胶回收的试剂盒对 PCR 产物进行纯化、测浓度

5.载体 酶切:

100μl 体系:	
Tad-CBE	10μg
10X cut smart Buffer	10μl
BsaI	4μl
ddH ₂ O	up to 100μl

37℃ 酶切 5.5h

可与第四步同时做，电泳检测酶切效果、使用凝胶回收的试剂盒对酶切产物进行纯化、测浓度。

6.In-fusion 连接:

目的片段	100ng
线性化表达载体	100ng
Exnase	0.5μl
CE Buffer	1μl

37℃水浴 30min，冰上放置 5min，可-20℃保存备用

7.转化感受态

连接产物与感受态混合，冰上放置 30min，42℃热激 90S，冰上静置 5min。取 300μlSOC 加入新的 2ml 离心管，将热激产物加入 SOC 中，37℃震荡 45min，涂于 KAN 皿，37℃培养过夜，挑单克隆于 500μl kan 抗性液体 LB,37℃震荡 3h，使用 Inf pRGE32-7 s Inf CLA as 引物阳性检测，电泳跑胶，挑阳性送测序（GC rich）。

阳性检测引物/测序引物

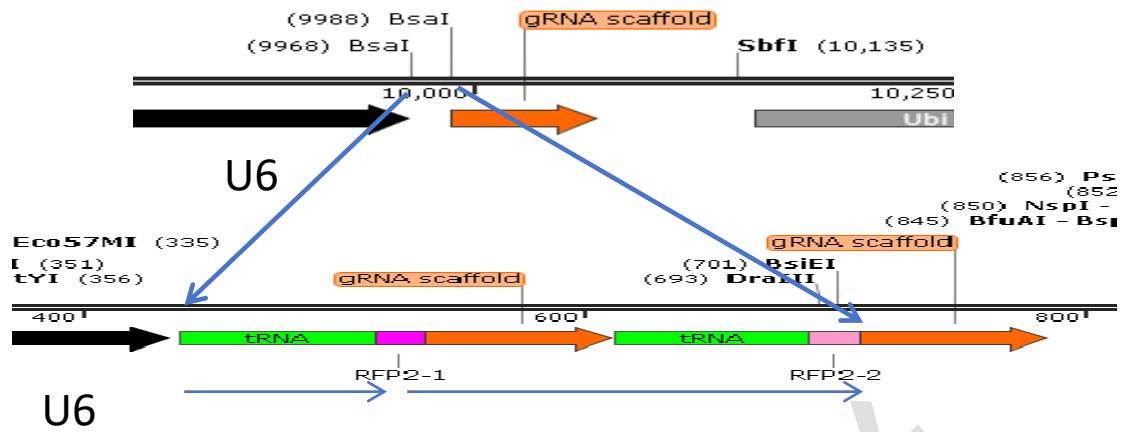
u6-7 s: TGTGCCACTCCAAAGACATCAG + Inf XX AS

阳性检测电泳图:



5K 阴 阳

构建成功载体图:



8. 电转

测序成功后，电转农杆菌
阳性检测引物

u6-7 s: TGTGCCACTCCAAAGACATCAG + Inf XX AS

9. 效果验证

(1) 提取愈伤/单株 DNA, PCR 扩增含有靶标位置的一段序列, TA 克隆测序或 barcode 高通量测序。

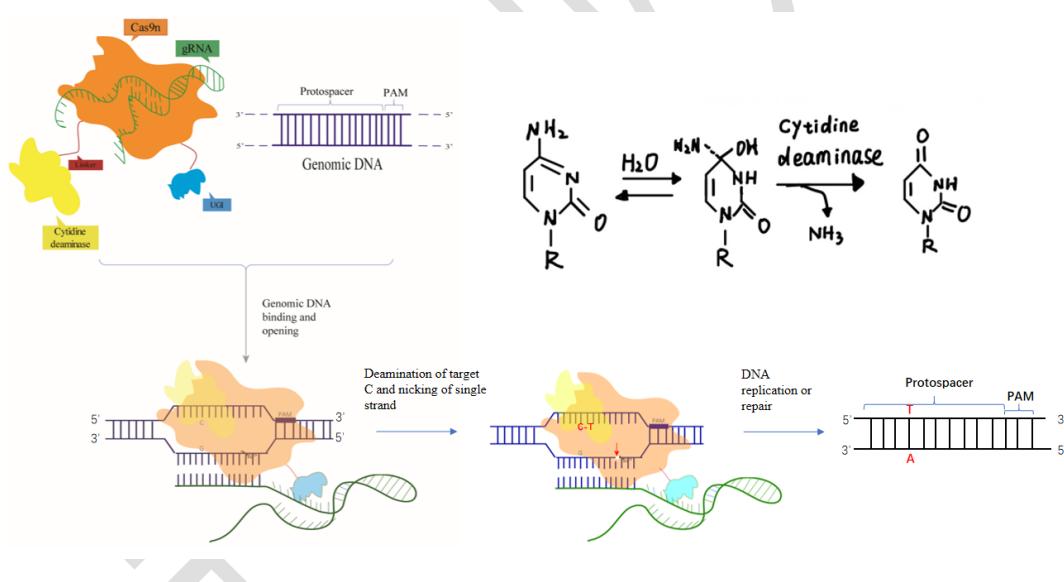
Tad-CBE protocol (英文版)

—Using CLA as an Example

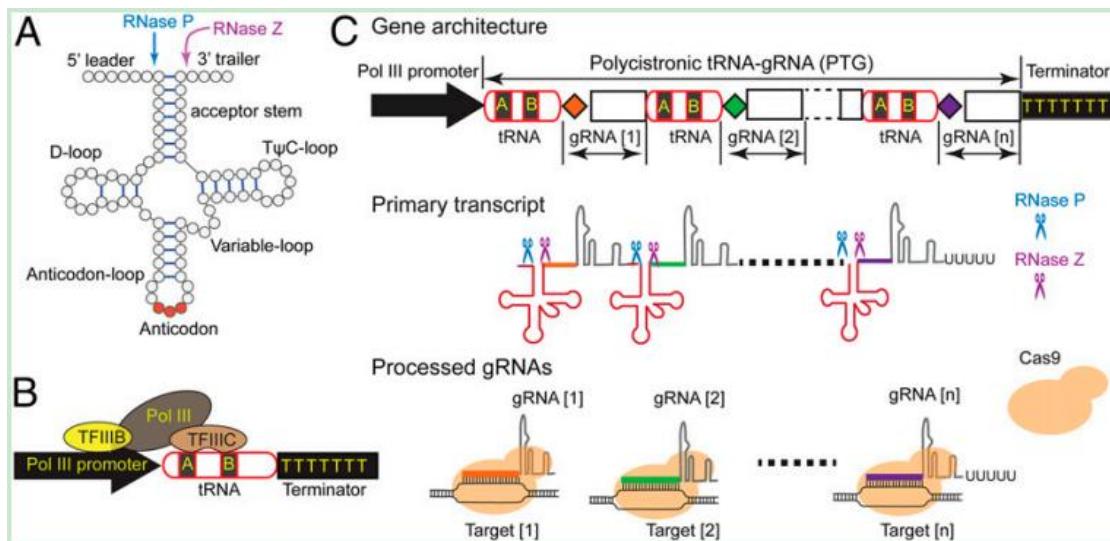
1. Basic Principles

Tad-CBE is an optimized cytosine base editing system capable of precisely converting C•G base pairs into T•A base pairs without introducing DNA double-strand breaks (DSBs). Tad-CBE consists of the following three functional modules:

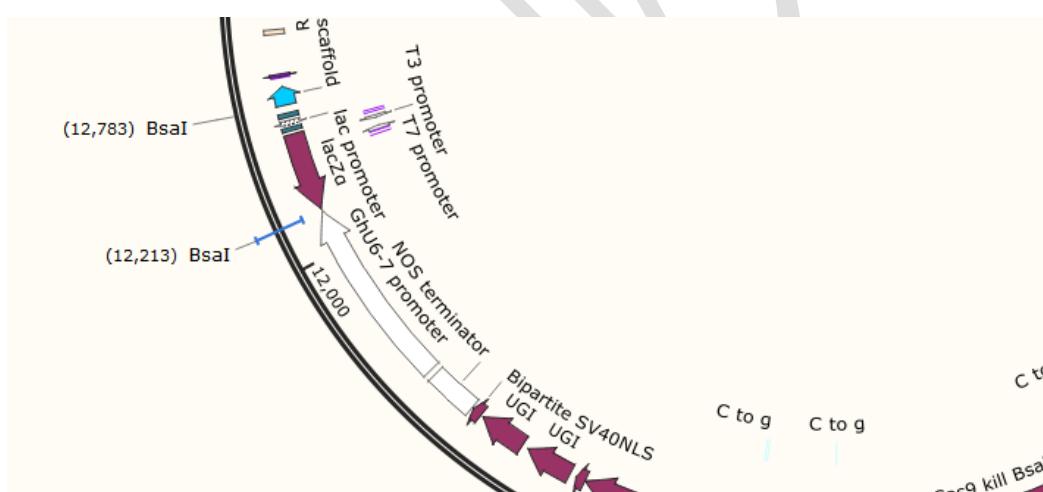
- (1) **Tad deaminase**: deaminates the target cytosine (C) on the DNA strand, converting it into thymine (T);
- (2) **Cas9 nickase (D10A)**: a mutated Cas9 enzyme that generates a single-strand nick on the non-edited strand, guided by the sgRNA;
- (3) **sgRNA**: guides Cas9 to accurately recognize the target sequence, enabling the deaminase to act on the cytosine base within the editing window.



Our vector system allows tandem integration of multiple **tRNA + target + gRNA** units (Fig. C), enhancing mutation efficiency. Plant endonucleases RNase P and RNase Z cleave the 5' and 3' ends of tRNA (Fig. A), releasing gRNAs that guide Cas9/gRNA to cleave the target DNA at the specified site.



In our lab, we modified the Tad-CBE vector by replacing the kanamycin resistance marker with hygromycin and incorporating the cotton endogenous U6 promoters (U6-7) for gRNA transcription. The protocol below focuses on constructing a vector with two target sites under the U6-7 promoter using rice Ubiquitin2 as the Cas9 promoter.



2. Target Search and Primer Design

CLA Sequence and Targets: Use the CRISPR-P website (<http://cbi.hzau.edu.cn/crispr/>) to search for targets (limited to *Gossypium raimondii* data). Alternatively, manually BLAST sequences for specificity. Prefer targets with unique restriction sites near the PAM (3 bp upstream) for downstream validation. G-to-A mutation on the negative strand corresponds to an C-to-T mutation on the positive strand. The target base is ideally located within positions 4 to 8 distal from the PAM site.

CTCGACGGACCTATACCACCTGTGGGAGCTTGAGCAGTGCTCTCAGCAGGCTGCAAT

CAAAACAGGCCTCTAGAGAACTGAGAGAGGTTGCAAAGGTAAGTAGAAATGAATAGA
ACCCAGAAAACATAATATAATTTTACTAGAAACTAAACTACTAAGACTGGATGTGGT
TTGATTGCAGGGAGTTACCA**AGCAAATCGGTGG****GCCTATGC**ATGAACGGCTG



CAAAAGTTGATGAGTATGCTCGTGGAAATGATCAGTGGTCTGGATCTACACTTTGAA
GAACCTGGACTATATTATGGACCTGTTGATGCCAACACATCGATGATTAGTTCT
ATTCTCAAAGAGGTTAACGACTAAACAAACGGGCCGGTCTGATCCATGTCAC
TGAGAAAGGCCGAGGTTATCCATATGCAGAGAGAGCTGCTGACAAGTATCACGGTAAC
ATACAGAATAAGCCTTTAGAAGAGAGATCATTC**CATATGATT**TAATTACTTGGTGCC



TCGATATCTGACCTTAGTTAGGAAATAAAAGAATAAAACTGTACCTGGATTCTTCTC
AGGAGTGGTGAAGTTCGATCCGGCAACTGGAAAGCAATTCAAAGGCAA
TTCTGCTACCCAGTCTTACACTACATATTGCTGAGGCTTGATTGCCAGCTGAGG
CAGACAAAAATATTGTTGCCATCCATGCTGAATGGGAGGTGGAACCGGATTAAACCT
CTTCCTCCGCCGGTCCCACAAAGATGTTGATGTTGGGAGTAGCTGAACAAACATGCTG
TCACCTTGCTGCAGGCTTGGCCTGTGAAGGCTTGAAACCTTTGTCAATCTACTCA
TCATTGCAAAGGGCTTATGACCAG

Insert the target sequence and ligate between the MfeI digestion sites shown in the box of the vector diagram. The final ligation method is the one-step cloning method.

*aagcatcagatggca***AACAAAGCACCAGTGGCTAGTGGTAGAATAGTACCC****TGC**
CACGGTACAGACCCGGGTTCGATTCCCGCTGGTGC**CATAGGCCACCGA**
TTTGCT**GTTTAGAGCTAGAAATAGCAAGTTAAAATAAGGCTAGTCCGTTA**
TCAACTTGAAAAGTGGCACCGAGTCGGTGC**AACAAAGCACCAGTGGT**
CTAGTGGTAGAATAGTACCC**TGCCACGGTACAGACCCGGGTTCGATTCCCG**
GCTGGTGCA**TTTCATATGATT****TAATTAC***gttttagagctaga*..... (载体gRNA)

notes: Note: Lowercase = vector backbone; underscores = tRNA; bold = gRNA; italics = target site.

Primers::

CLA1 as: 5' AGCAAATCGGTGGCCTATGtgccaccagccggaaat3' (靶标1互补序列)

CLA 2 s: 5' CATAGGCCACCGATTGCTgttttagagctagaata 3' (靶标1序列)

CLA 2 as: 5' GTAAATTAAATCATATGAAAtgccaccagccggaaat3' (靶标2互补序列)

inf CLA as: 5' ttctagctaaaacGTAAATTAAATCATATGAAA3' (靶标2互补序列)

pRGEB32-7 s: 5' AAGCATCAGATGGCAAACAAAGCACCAGTGGTCTAG3'

inf pRGEB32-7 s: 5' AAGCATCAGATGGCAAACAAA 3'

The lowercase part is a fixed sequence. Primer design only requires modifying the target sequence indicated by the underline in the primer.

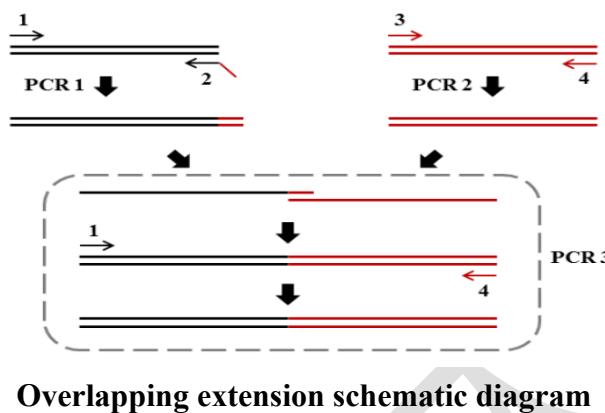
Among them, inf pRGEB32-7 s, pRGEB32-7 s, u6-7 s are universal primers and do not need to be changed. pRGEB32-7s contain a part of the vector sequence, facilitating In-fusion ligation. Because there are multiple trnas in the inserted sequence, inf pRGEB32-7 s, in order to enhance amplification specificity, have shorter sequence lengths than pRGEB32-7 s. Inf CLA as contains carrier sequence

connectors for convenient subsequent In-fusion connections.

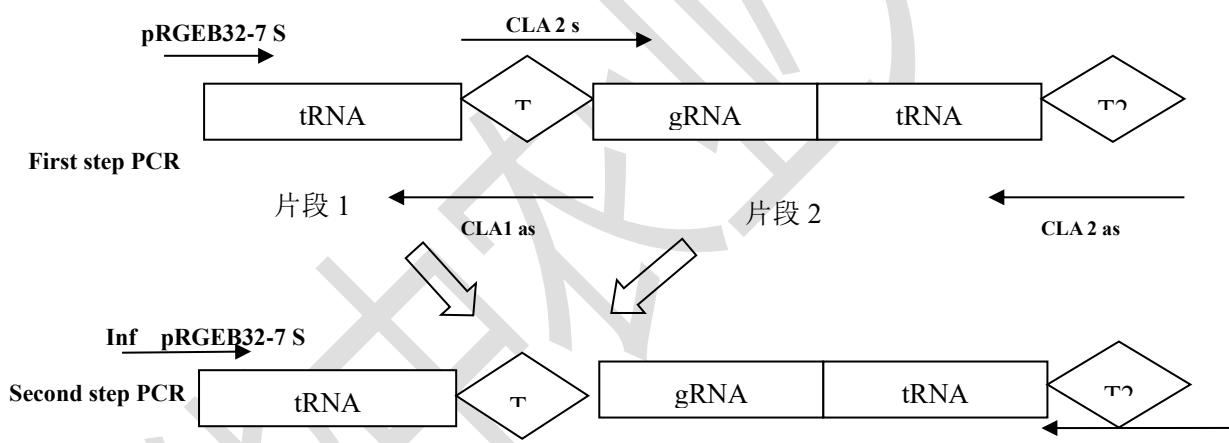
3. First PCR Amplification

Overlap Extension PCR:

This method generates fusion fragments by designing primers with complementary overhangs. Two overlapping PCR products are combined and extended to form a single construct.



Overlapping extension schematic diagram



This is a schematic diagram of the test process

The gRNA+tRNA combination sequence can be synthesized by itself and ligated to a common vector (such as using the T vector). In the first PCR: Fragments 1 and 2 were amplified respectively from the bacterial liquid or plasmid containing the gRNA+tRNA vector. (The relevant sequence can be found in the attachment.)

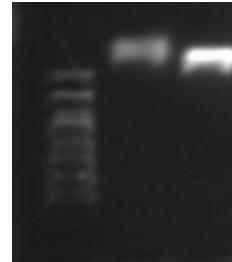
Reaction Mixture (20 μL):

	1	2
ddH ₂ O	16.1	16.1
Buffer	2	2
dNTP	0.3	0.3
S primer	pRGE32-7 s 0.2	CLA 2 s 0.2
AS primer	CLA 1 as 0.2	CLA 2 as 0.2

Taq	0.2	0.2
Template DNA	1	1

PCR Conditions:

1. Initial denaturation: 95° C for 4 min
2. Denaturation: 95° C for 30 s
3. Annealing: 55° C for 30 s
4. Extension: 72° C for 20 s
 - Repeat steps 2 – 4 for 3 cycles
5. Denaturation: 95° C for 30 s
6. Annealing: 60° C for 30 s
7. Extension: 72° C for 20 s
 - Repeat steps 5 – 7 for 27 cycles
8. Final extension: 72° C for 5 min



Electrophoresis: Verify amplification.

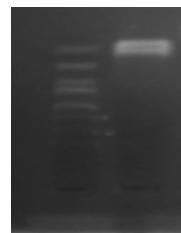
4. Second PCR and Purification

Combine the two PCR products from Step 3 using overlap extension,

Reaction Mixture (100 μL)		
ddH ₂ O		83.5μl
Buffer		10μl
dNTP		1.5μl
S primer	Inf	pRGEB32-7 s
AS primer	Inf	CLA as
Taq		1μl
Fragment 1		1μl
Fragment 2		1μl

PCR Conditions:

1. Initial denaturation: 95° C for 4 min
2. Denaturation: 95° C for 30 s
3. Annealing: 59° C for 30 s
4. Extension: 72° C for 20 s
- Repeat steps 2 – 4 for 28 cycles
5. Final extension: 72° C for 5 min



Purification: Use a gel extraction kit to purify the product and measure concentration.

5. Vector Digestion

Digest the vector with BsaI.

Reaction Mixture (100 μL):

	Volume (μL):
Tad-CBE	10 μg
CutSmart Buffer	10 μL
BsaI	1 μL
ddH ₂ O	Up to 100 μL

Digestion: 37°C for 5.5 h.

6. In-Fusion Cloning

Assemble the digested vector and insert using In-Fusion technology.

Components:

- **Insert (100 ng)**
- **Linearized vector (100 ng)**
- **Exnase (0.5 μL)**
- **CE Buffer (1 μL)**

Incubation: 37°C for 30 min, then ice for 5 min. Store at -20°C.

7. Transformation

Transform competent cells with the ligation product.

Steps:

Mix with SOC medium and incubate at 37°C for 45 min.

Plate on kanamycin agar plates and incubate overnight.

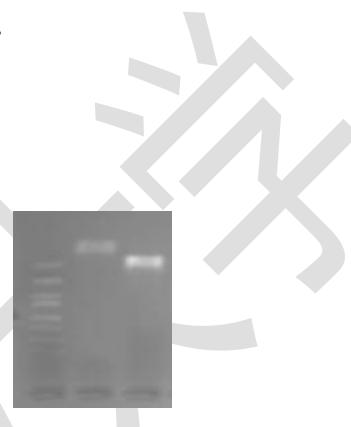
Pick colonies for PCR validation using primers:

u6-7s: TGTGCCACTCCAAAGACATCAG + Inf XX AS

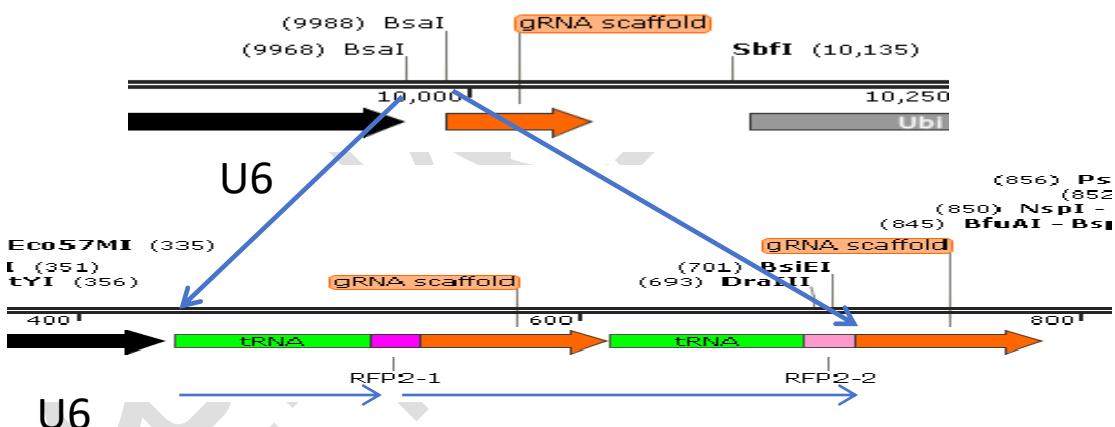
Positive clones are sequenced (GC-rich regions).

Electrophoresis: Confirm positive clones.

Positive detection electrophoresis pattern:



Construct a successful carrier diagram:



8. Agrobacterium Electroporation

Electroporate the verified construct into *Agrobacterium*.

u6-7 s: TGTGCCACTCCAAAGACATCAG + Inf XX AS

9. Validation

Genomic DNA Extraction: PCR amplify the target region, clone, and sequence.