



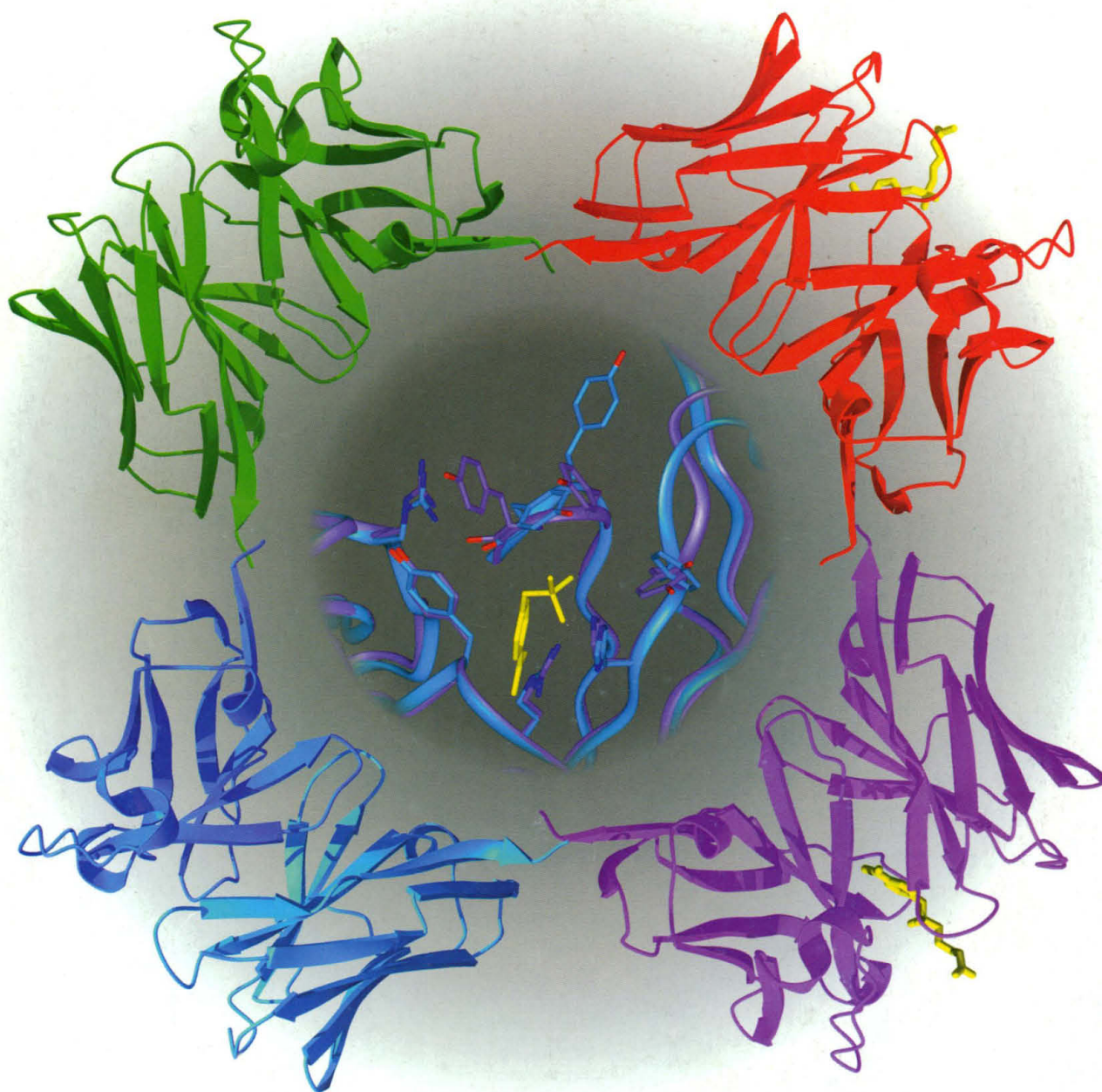
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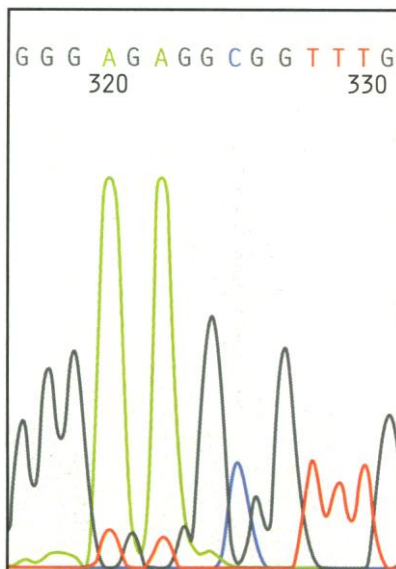
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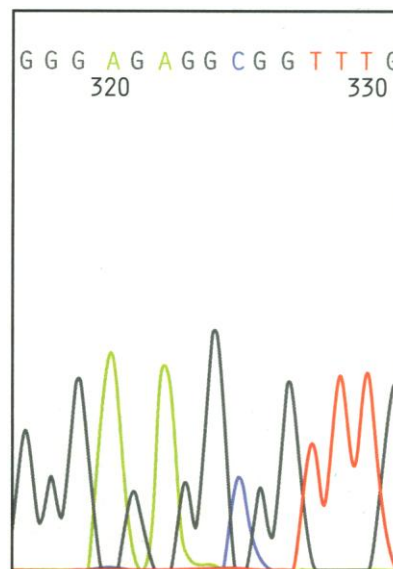
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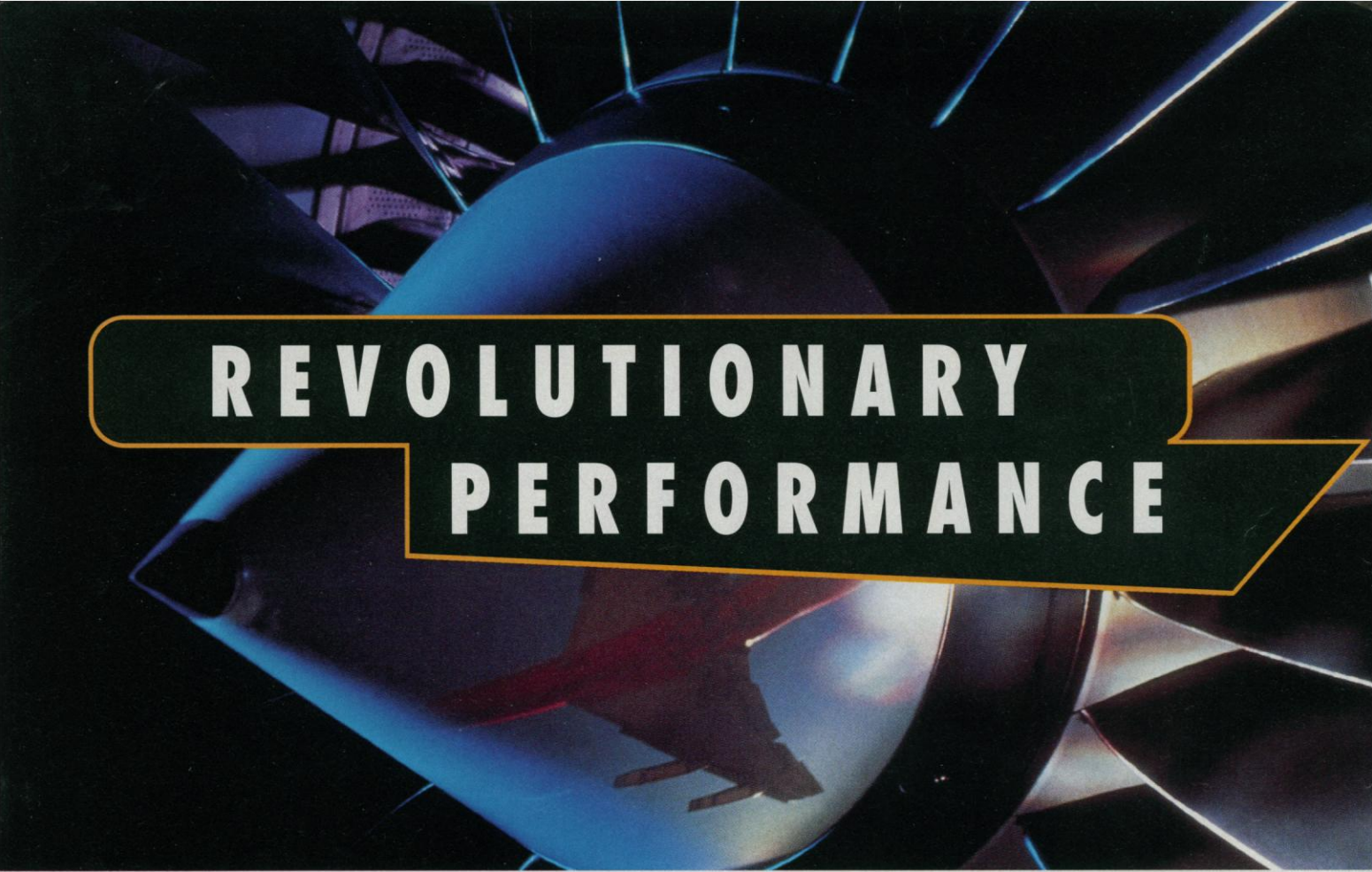
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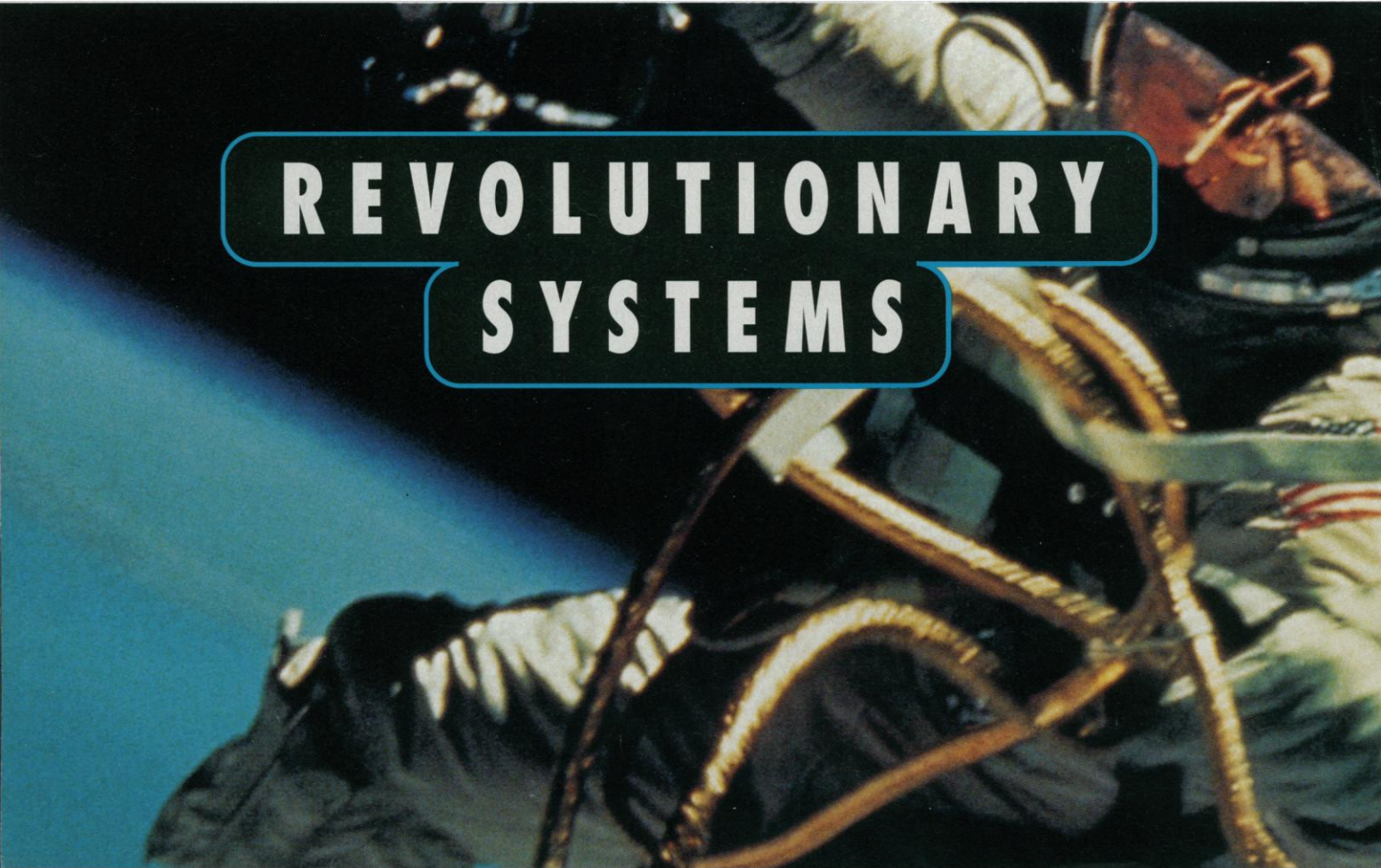


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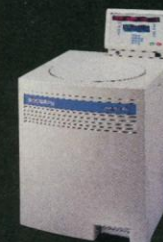
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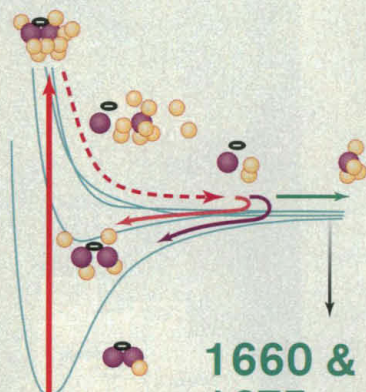


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1636

Endangered habitat



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NEWS & COMMENT

When a Habitat Is Not a Home ■ 1636

France: Allègre Reenergizes Research Ministry 1638

Russia: Science Agency Hit With 55% Cut 1639

A Networking Plan for the Rich States? 1639

Clinton Urges Outlawing Human Cloning 1640

Europe Tries 'Fast and Cheap' Missions 1641

United Kingdom: Observatory's Fate Hangs in Balance 1641

Japan Budget: Deficit Reduction Nicks Science Funding 1642

U.S. Kids Score Well in Primary Grades 1642

RESEARCH NEWS

New Clues to Asthma Therapies 1643
Why the Rise in Asthma Cases? 1645

New Lead to Safer Marrow Transplants ■ 1646

The Origin of Dogs: Running With the Wolves ■ 1647

From Clouds to Cores at the Spring Geophysics-Fest 1648

PERSPECTIVES

Evolutionary Chemistry: Getting There from Here ■ 1658
G. F. Joyce

Mariner Sails into *Leishmania* ■ 1659
D. L. Hartl

Ultrafast Reaction Dynamics in Molecular Cluster Ions ■ 1660
R. Parson and J. Faeder

POLICY FORUM

Do Habitat Conservation Plans Protect Endangered Species? ■ 1662
F. Shilling

RESEARCH ARTICLE

Structural Insights into the Evolution of an Antibody Combining Site ■ 1665
G. J. Wedemayer, P. A. Patten, L. H. Wang, P. G. Schultz, R. C. Stevens

REPORTS

A Disk of Scattered Icy Objects and the Origin of Jupiter-Family Comets 1670
M. J. Duncan and H. F. Levison

DEPARTMENTS

THIS WEEK IN SCIENCE 1621

EDITORIAL 1627
FDA Under Siege: The Public at Risk
D. Korn

LETTERS 1629
"Misleading" Molecules?: D. P. Mindell • Treating AIDS Dementia: S. A. Lipton; *Response*: W. Cavert and A. T. Haase • Testing the Power of Prayer: B. M. Cox; T. J. Crowley; J. Kling • Consumption and Sustainable Development: P. C. Stern and T. Dietz; R. Alcock • Metabolic Rates: C. C. Peterson •

Corrections and Clarifications

SCIENTESCOPE 1635

RANDOM SAMPLES 1651
The Power of IQ • NIH Peacemaker • Australian Cave Breakthrough • Shock Therapy for Parkinson's Patients

BOOK REVIEWS 1656
C. elegans II, reviewed by R. K. Herman • *Interrelationships of Fishes*, R. H. Rosenblatt • *Browsings*

PRODUCTS & MATERIALS 1729

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COVER

X-ray crystal structures of the ligand-bound and free forms of the variable domains of a catalytic antibody and its germline precursor. The binding of ligand (yellow) to the germline antibody (blue and purple) results in structural changes that lead to improved complementarity.

The mutations in the antibody that occur as an immune response progresses (green and red) lead to a high-affinity, lock-and-key binding interaction. See page 1665 and the Perspective on page 1658. [Image: G. Wedemayer, L. Wang, P. Patten, P. Schultz, and R. Stevens]



Paleobotanical Evidence for High Altitudes in Nevada During the Miocene 1672

J. A. Wolfe, H. E. Schorn, C. E. Forest, P. Molnar

Photodissociation of $I_2^-(Ar)_n$ Clusters with Anion Femtosecond Photoelectron Spectroscopy 1675

B. J. Greenblatt, M. T. Zanni, D. M. Neumark

Infrared Spectrum of a Molecular Ice Cube: The S_4 and D_{2d} Water Octamers in Benzene-(Water) $_8$ 1678

C. J. Gruenloh, J. R. Carney, C. A. Arrington, T. S. Zwier, S. Y. Fredericks, K. D. Jordan

Atomic Selectivity in the Chemisorption of ICI (Iodochloride) on Silicon Surfaces 1681

Y. Liu, D. P. Masson, A. C. Kummel

Differential Effects of Cytolytic T Cell Subsets on Intracellular Infection 1684

S. Stenger, R. J. Mazzaccaro, K. Uyemura, S. Cho, P. F. Barnes, J.-P. Rosat, A. Sette, M. B. Brenner, S. A. Porcelli, B. R. Bloom, R. L. Modlin

Multiple and Ancient Origins of the Domestic Dog 1687

C. Vilà, P. Savolainen, J. E. Maldonado, I. R. Amorim, J. E. Rice, R. L. Honeycutt, K. A. Crandall, J. Lundeberg, R. K. Wayne

Elementary Calcium-Release Units Induced by Inositol Triphosphate 1690

J. H. Horne and T. Meyer

Shared Motor Error for Multiple Eye Movements 1693

R. J. Krauzlis, M. A. Basso, R. H. Wurtz

Peptide Agonist of the Thrombopoietin Receptor as Potent as the Natural Cytokine 1696

S. E. Cwirla, P. Balasubramanian, D. J. Duffin, C. R. Wagstrom, C. M. Gates, S. C. Singer, A. M. Davis, R. L. Tansik, L. C. Mattheakis, C. M. Boytos, P. J. Schatz, D. P. Baccanari, N. C. Wrighton, R. W. Barrett, W. J. Dower

Epilepsy and Exacerbation of Brain Injury in Mice Lacking the Glutamate Transporter GLT-1 1699

K. Tanaka, K. Watase, T. Manabe, K. Yamada, M. Watanabe, K. Takahashi, H. Iwama, T. Nishikawa, N. Ichihara, T. Kikuchi, S. Okuyama, N. Kawashima, S. Hori, M. Takimoto, K. Wada

Osmotic Activation of the HOG MAPK Pathway via Ste11p MAPKKK: Scaffold Role of Pbs2p MAPKK 1702

F. Posas and H. Saito

Essential Role of Growth Hormone in Ischemia-Induced Retinal Neovascularization 1706

L. E. H. Smith, J. J. Kopchick, W. Chen, J. Knapp, F. Kinose, D. Daley, E. Foley, R. G. Smith, J. M. Schaeffer

Regulation of Mitochondrial Iron Accumulation by Yfh1p, a Putative Homolog of Frataxin 1709

M. Babcock, D. de Silva, R. Oaks, S. Davis-Kaplan, S. Jiralespong, L. Montermini, M. Pandolfo, J. Kaplan

Bimolecular Exon Ligation by the Human Spliceosome 1712

K. Anderson and M. J. Moore

Trans-Kingdom Transposition of the *Drosophila* Element *mariner* Within the Protozoan *Leishmania* 1716

F. J. Guerios-Filho and S. M. Beverley

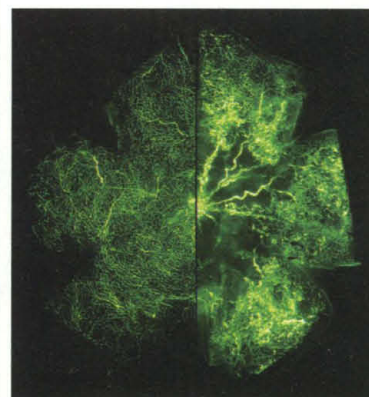
HSV-TK Gene Transfer into Donor Lymphocytes for Control of Allogeneic Graft-Versus-Leukemia 1719

C. Bonin, G. Ferrari, S. Verzeletti, P. Servida, E. Zappone, L. Ruggieri, M. Ponzoni, S. Rossini, F. Mavilio, C. Traversari, C. Bordignon

TECHNICAL COMMENTS

Dealing with Database Explosion: A Cautionary Note 1724

U. Bhatia, K. Robinson, W. Gilbert; Response: H.-P. Klenk, O. White, J. C. Venter



1706

Blinding growth of blood vessels

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THIS WEEK IN SCIENCE

edited by PHIL SZUROMI

Scattered objects

Beyond the orbit of Neptune lies a band of objects called the Kuiper belt, which is a source of comets. Duncan and Levison (p. 1670) simulated the evolution of such objects after they were perturbed by Neptune and found that some formed a disk of scattered icy objects, distinct from the Kuiper belt, in the early solar system. Recently, two objects with unusual orbits were discovered that may be members of this ancient disk. If such a disk exists, it may provide a source for the short-lived comets whose orbits are controlled by Jupiter.

Raising Nevada

Most of the Basin and Range Province in the western United States has been thought to have been uplifted recently (during the last 5 million years). Wolfe *et al.* (p. 1672) present an analysis of fossil leaf data collected from Nevada that provide an indication of paleoaltitude. The data imply instead that this part of the Basin and Range Province stood about 3 kilometers above sea level about 15 million years ago before subsiding to the current mean elevation of 1.0 to 1.5 kilometers about 13 million years ago.

Picky surface

Gas-phase chemical reactions can be highly atom-specific; for example, the reaction of iodine chloride (ICl) with deuterium atoms forms three times as much DI as DCl, although the latter product is more stable. Similar reactions with surfaces are thought to be much less selective because of the numerous possible reaction sites, but Liu

Controlling graft-versus-host disease

Allogeneic bone marrow transplantation (the use of a less than perfectly matched donor) is used to reconstitute the immune system after severe treatments for cancer. Because the T cells in the donor's marrow recognize the recipient as "foreign," they are usually removed from the original bone marrow graft. If the cancer recurs, an effective treatment is to infuse the donor T cells, but this procedure frequently runs the risk of graft-versus-host disease (GvHD), a potentially lethal complication. Bonini *et al.* (p. 1719; see the news story by Wickelgren, p. 1646) devised a strategy for killing the donor T cells if they started attacking normal host tissue. They transferred a herpes simplex virus "suicide vector" (thymidine kinase) into donor T cells in culture, selected for the cells that expressed the gene, and infused the genetically modified cells into 12 patients. Ganciclovir was used to successfully control GvHD by eliminating the donor lymphocytes in three patients, and antitumor activity was seen in five patients.

et al. (p. 1681) show that the reaction of a molecular beam of ICl with the silicon (111)-(7×7) reconstructed surface formed an iodine-rich surface layer. The preferential ejection of chlorine to the gas phase, the least energetically favorable outcome, appears to be due to interactions that align the ICl molecule with the I end toward the surface.

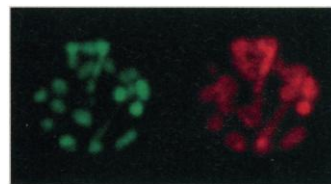
Growth hormone and blindness

The most common forms of untreatable blindness arise from by the abnormal growth of new blood vessels in the retina, a process triggered by oxygen deprivation. Vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) is thought to participate in this process of neovascularization, but other factors also likely play a role. In experiments with mouse models, Smith *et al.* (p. 1706) show that hypoxia-induced retinal neovascularization requires the action of growth hormone (GH) and one of its downstream effectors, insulin-like growth factor-1 (IGF-

I). These results suggest that GH and/or IGF-I inhibitors may prove useful for preventing certain forms of blindness.

Iron link in Friedreich's ataxia

Friedreich's ataxia is a degenerative disease affecting the nervous system and the heart. Although mutations in a gene product, frataxin, have been associated with the disease, the sequence of frataxin has not provided insights into its function. Babcock *et al.* (p. 1709) found that a yeast gene that has



high sequence similarity to frataxin encodes a mitochondrial protein involved in regulating iron homeostasis and mitochondrial function. Human frataxin was also shown to be a mitochondrial protein. As abnormal iron accumulation has been previously observed in

Friedreich's ataxia, these results suggest a mechanism for the observed pathology.

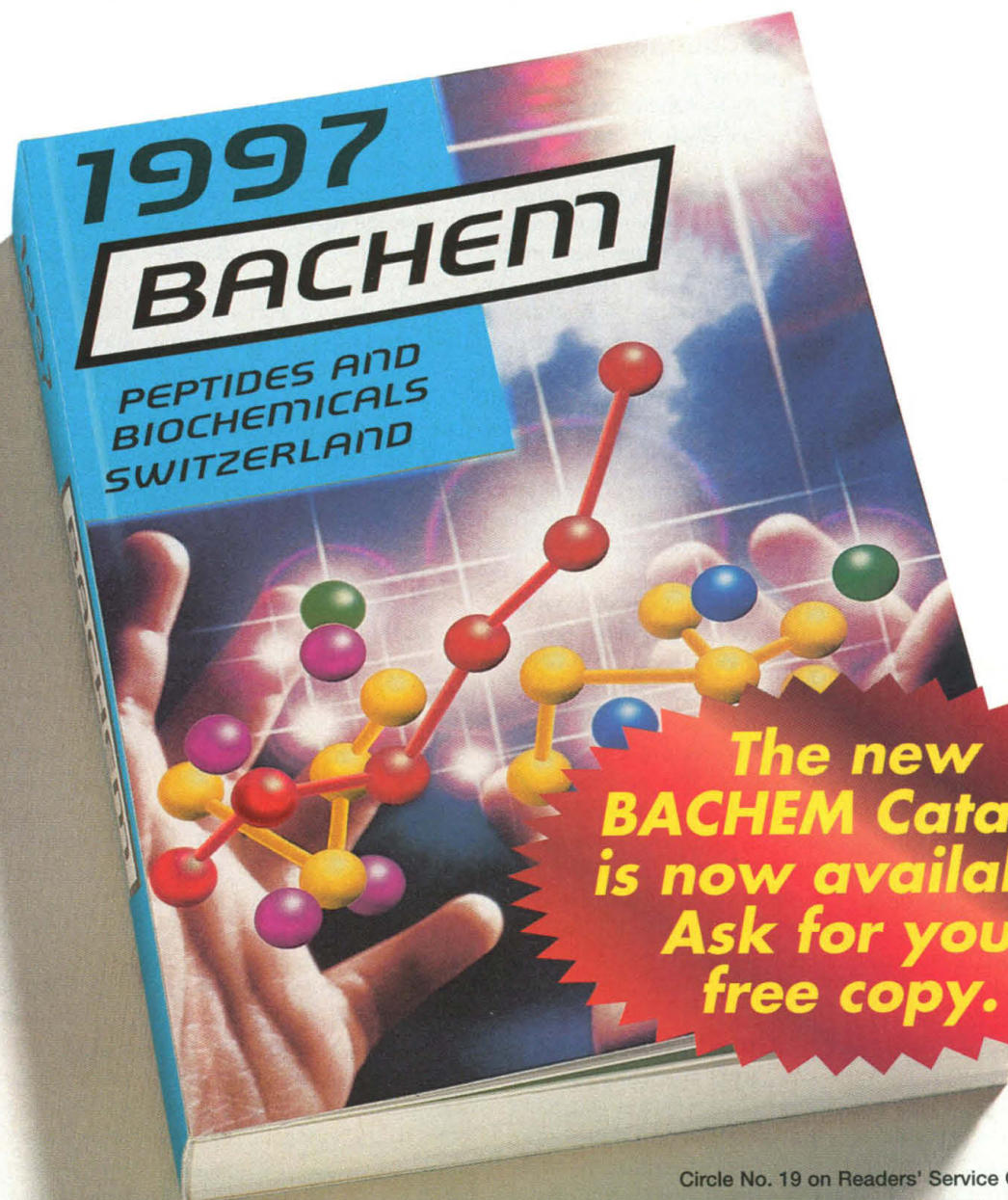
Enhancing platelet production

Thrombopoietin is a cytokine that promotes growth of megakaryocytes—cells in the bone marrow that give rise to platelets. Cwirla *et al.* (p. 1696) used several sophisticated screens to select small peptides that potentially bind to and activate the thrombopoietin receptor. Although the sequences of these peptides are not present in thrombopoietin, one dimerized 14-amino acid peptide had a mean effective concentration (EC₅₀) of 100 picomolar, essentially the same as that of the natural 332-amino acid cytokine. Thrombocytopenia, the insufficiency of platelets circulating in the blood, is encountered after chemotherapy or bone marrow transplantation.

Between two kingdoms

Transposable elements are pieces of DNA that can move around a genome as discrete units. This movement had been seen only between closely related species until Gueiros-Filho and Beverley (p. 1716; see the Perspective by Hartl, p. 1659) demonstrated that it could occur between two different kingdoms. The *Drosophila* element *mariner* was shown to inactivate or trap genes in *Leishmania major*, a protozoan that causes the fatal disease leishmaniasis. This finding will make genetic analysis of *Leishmania* easier and suggests that *mariner* can be a powerful genetic probe to study other eukaryotes as well.

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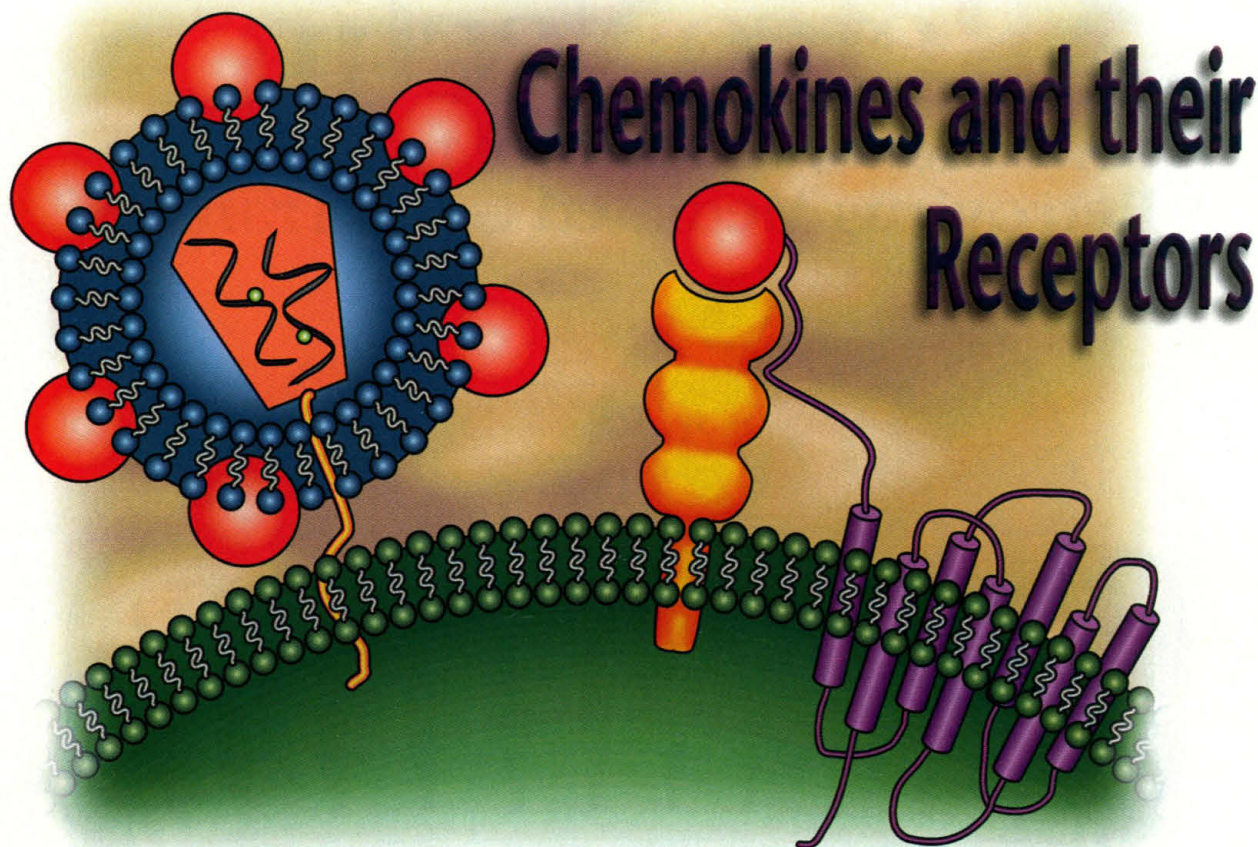
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The Mac OS Report

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It will give your Apple Macintosh computer (or, for that matter, any other Mac OS computer of your choice) a dramatic new look and feel, along with all kinds of enhanced capabilities for accessing the Internet.

It will also set an entirely new standard of powerful, intuitive computing—a standard the competition can try to catch up to. (Again.)

A new way of working

The moment you start using Mac OS 8, you'll feel the difference: you'll find yourself accomplishing more in less time. A multi-threaded Finder™ lets you execute multiple tasks simultaneously, such as launching applications and copying files. Mac OS 8 includes new information-management tools, such as contextual pop-up menus and spring-loaded folders, that give you quicker and easier access to all your information. A scalable environment lets you either limit your menu and window options, or expand them—whichever works better for you. A new, dimensional look makes the interface more dynamic and engaging than ever. And Mac OS 8 also includes the latest versions of QuickTime® with its MPEG support,



QuickTime VR and QuickDraw® 3D.

How easy is it to get going with all these new technologies and features? Very. Because our new installer and setup assistants take you through each step of configuring your new system

software. Once you're up and running, PowerPC™-native code improves your performance. Mac OS 8 is also completely compatible with all PowerPC and 68040-based hardware and software.

A new way of accessing the Internet

Mac OS 8 includes TCP/IP and PPP for easy network or modem access direct from the Finder. You get Netscape Navigator™ and the PointCast Network™. And a new Internet Setup Assistant makes it easier than ever to get on the Net, whether you're doing it from home with a modem or from work with a high-speed connection.

Personal web sharing is standard, so you can turn any Macintosh into an Internet web server. And Java™ support is built in, so you can run Java applications just as though they were any other desktop applications. (If you were wondering, Windows® 95 can't do this.)

And more advancements are on the way

Mac OS 8 is one of the most significant advances in OS technology ever. And it's just the beginning—additional upgrades are planned. And our support for the Mac OS will continue for years.

At the same time, we're also working on an industrial-strength OS, code-named Rhapsody, that will offer features such as protected memory, preemptive multitasking and symmetric multiprocessing. Rhapsody will also provide backwards compatibility, so you can be sure that the vast majority of your Mac OS apps will run on Rhapsody, too.

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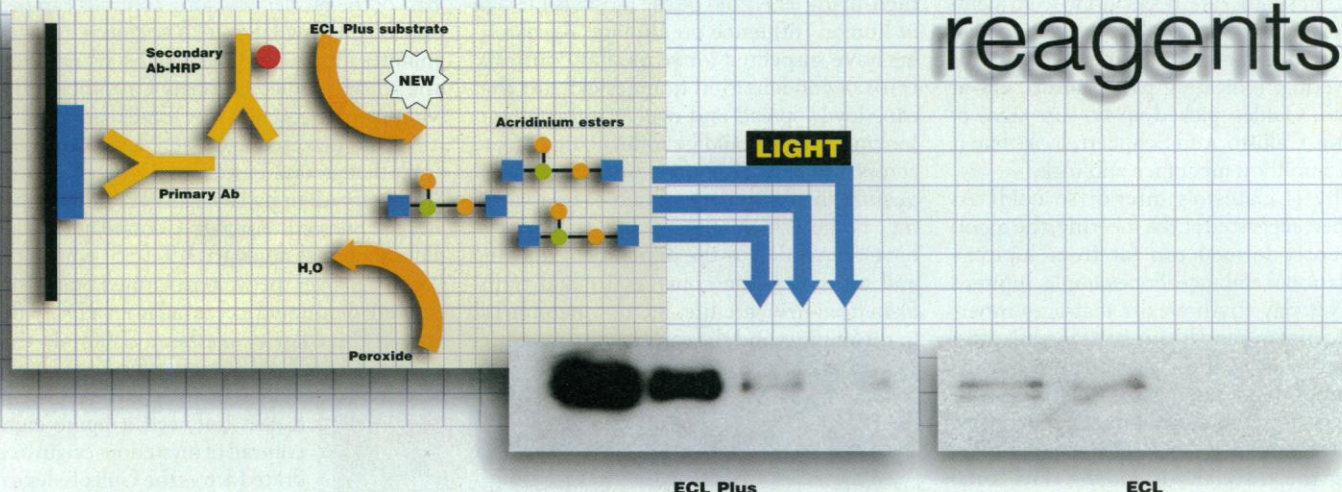
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Note the separation of the 238 and 242 bp bands.

*The polymerase chain reaction (PCR) is covered by patents owned by Hoffmann-La Roche Inc.

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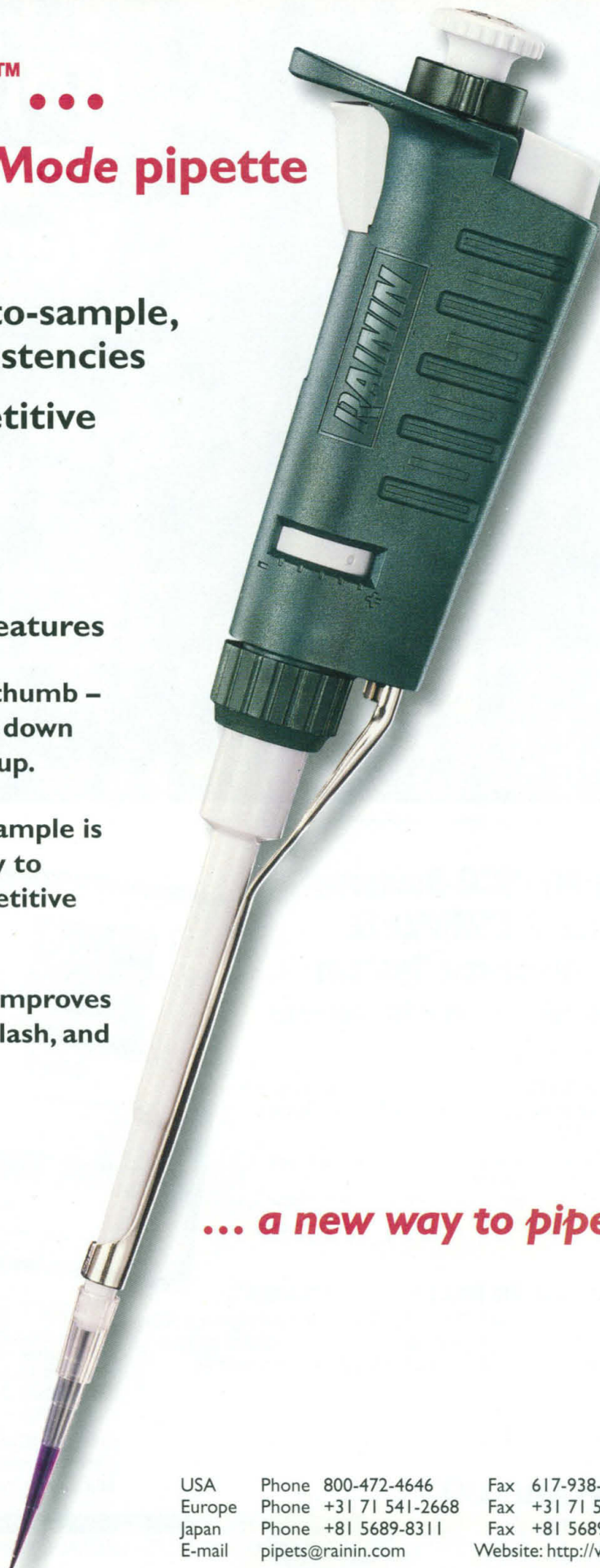
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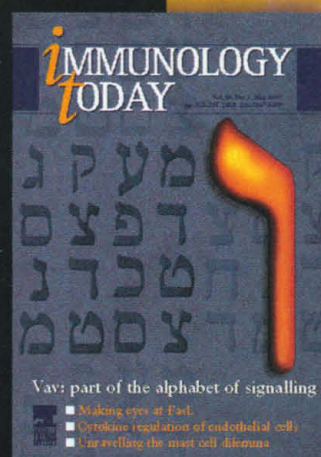
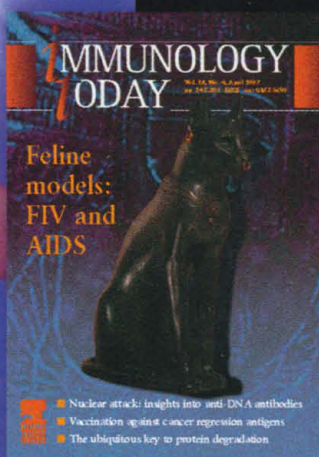


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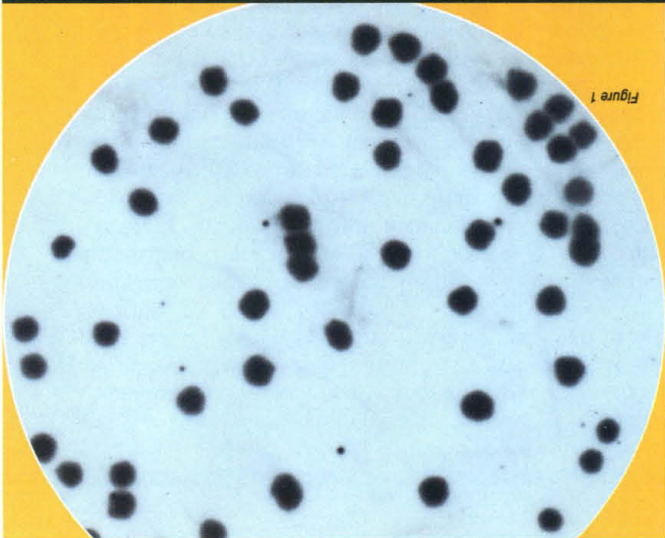


Figure 1

Figure 1. Colonies were screened for the TGF- β 1 gene using the Renaissance 3'-End Labeling Fluorescein Kit with Enhanced Luminal. This film demonstrates results obtained with the Renaissance 3'-End Labeling Fluorescein Kit with Enhanced Luminal (NEL201). Discs were exposed to Reflection film for 15 minutes.

Figure 2. Mouse β -actin was detected using a fluorescein-labeled ssRNA probe and ready-to-use CDP-Star. RNA Fluorescein Labeling Kit with Antifluorescein-AP (NEL63) in conjunction with ready-to-use CDP-Star (NEL601). Blots were exposed to Reflection film for 5 minutes.

Figure 2



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