

Parameters and tools

Exhaustive table of each model's parameters are listed below.

Recombinase section

Name	Description	Value	Reference
k_attBP	Binding rate of integrase Bxb1 and attB/P sites	1.0 nM ⁻¹ min ⁻¹	Fitted
k_DattBP	Dissociation rate of integrase Bxb1 and attB/P sites	1.0E-6 nM ⁻¹ min ⁻¹	Fitted
Gamma_Int	Integrase Bxb1 degradation rate	0.01 min ⁻¹	Assumed
Gamma_Int2	Integrase Bxb1 dimer degradation rate	0.02 min ⁻¹	Assumed
k_Int2	Integrase Bxb1 dimerization rate	1.0 nM ⁻¹ min ⁻¹	Fitted
k_Dint2	Dissociation rate of Bxb1 dimer	1.0E-6 min ⁻¹	Fitted
Alpha_Int	Integrase Bxb1 production rate	0.1 min ⁻¹	Assumed
k_flip	Bxb1 flipping Forward reaction rate	0.04	Fitted
k_flipr	Bxb1 flipping Reverse reaction	7.7E-4	Fitted
k_basal	pBAD basal (leaky) transcription rate	0.015 min ⁻¹	Fitted
k_max	pBAD maximum transcription rate	5.0 min ⁻¹	Estimated
k_half	pBAD half-maximum transcription rate	1.6E5 nM	Literature ⁱ
n	Hill coefficient	2.65	Literature ⁱⁱ

Control unit section

Name	Description	Value	Reference
k_prodA (k_prodB)	Production rate of Integrase A/B	$50(\mu\text{m}^3 \text{ hr})^{-1}$	Estimated
k_deg	Degradation orate of Integrase A/B	$0.3(\text{hr})^{-1}$	Estimated
k_flipA	Flipping rate of integrase A	$0.4(\text{hr})^{-1}$	Literature ⁱⁱⁱ
k_flipB	Flipping rate of integrase B	$0.4(\text{hr})^{-1}$	Literature
k_leakA	Leaky expression of integrase A	$0(\mu\text{m}^3 \text{ hr})^{-1}$	Estimated
k_leakB	Leaky expression of integrase B	$0(\mu\text{m}^3 \text{ hr})^{-1}$	Estimated
K_dA	Binding constant	10 Molecules	Estimated
K_dB	Binding constant	10 Molecules	Estimated

Assumptions for parameters:

1. We assume the plasmid copy number is proportional to the volume of a cell.
2. We use $1 \mu\text{m}^3$ (1 femtoliter) as the estimated volume of a single *E. coli* cell.

Clock section

Name	Description	Value	Reference
Beta	Ratio of protein to mRNA decay rates	0.2	BIOMD0000000012
Alpha0	Leakiness in protein copies per promoter and cell	0.2164	BIOMD0000000012
Alpha	Protein copies per promoter and cell	216.404	BIOMD0000000012
Eff	Translation efficiency: Average number of proteins per transcript	20.0	BIOMD0000000012
N	Hill Coefficient of repressor repressing transcription	2.0	BIOMD0000000012
KM	Number of repressor molecules per cell giving half maximal repression, in	40.0	BIOMD0000000012

	monomers per cell		
Tps_active	Transcription from free promotor in transcripts per second and promotor	0.5	BIOMD0000000012
Tps_repr	Transcription from fully repressed promotor in transcripts per second and promotor	0.0005	BIOMD0000000012

Units:

Physical quantity	Unit
Time	Minute
Volume	Cubic micron
Substance	molecules

Tools

We used following tools for modelling and simulation:

- MATLAB 2017a. Natick, Massachusetts: The MathWorks Inc., 2017. MATLAB Simbiology for recombinase mechanism deterministic model. Fimcon function for parameter estimation. Gillespie simulation of control unit is implemented in MATLAB code.
- Tellurium, a Python package for systems biology simulation. For clock module simulation.

ⁱ Sourjik V, Berg HC. Functional interactions between receptors in bacterial chemotaxis. Nature. 2004 Mar 25;428(6981):437-41.

ⁱⁱ Salto R, Delgado A, Michán C, Marqués S, Ramos JL. Modulation of the function of the signal receptor domain of XylR, a member of a family of prokaryotic enhancer-like positive regulators. J Bacteriol. 1998 Feb;180(3):600-4.

ⁱⁱⁱ Singh S, Ghosh P, Hatfull GF (2013) Attachment site selection and identity in bxb1 serine integrase-mediated site-specific recombination. PLoS Genet 9: e1003490