

Supplementary Table 1. rcRNA sequences.

Sequence shown is the engineered rcRNA DNA sequence which was cloned between the NcoI and BlnI sites on pACYCDuet-1 (Novagen). These sequences are transcribed from a T7 promoter, contain an upstream RBS and downstream T7 RNA polymerase transcription terminator.

rcRNA	Sequence (5'-3')
rc1	aacgtcgccgccggaatatctccttaataag
rc2	aacgtcgccgccggaattcctccttaataag
rc3	aacgtcgccgccggaattcgaccttaataag
rc4	aacgtcgccgccggaattcctcgataataag
rc5	aacgtcgccgccggaattcgacgataataag
rc6	aacgtcgccgccggaattccgggataataag

Reporter Independence.

We determined the extent to which one fluorescent reporter protein is affected by the presence of a second. To accomplish this we compared the fluorescence intensities of *E. coli* strains carrying a CFP only expression construct, a YFP only expression construct and the monocistronic expression construct, J13065 carrying both genes in a constitutive background lacking TetR repressor. We found that the presence of one gene had no effect on expression of the other. The normalized fluorescence intensities per cell are shown below.

	CFP	YFP
CFP only		1
YFP only		1
J13065	1.024	0.978
% change	2.4	2.2

Supplementary Material (ESI) for Molecular BioSystems

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The data shown are uncorrected for filter bleedthrough. The contribution of CFP to the

YFP channel is 0.64% and the contribution of YFP to the CFP channel is 7.25%.