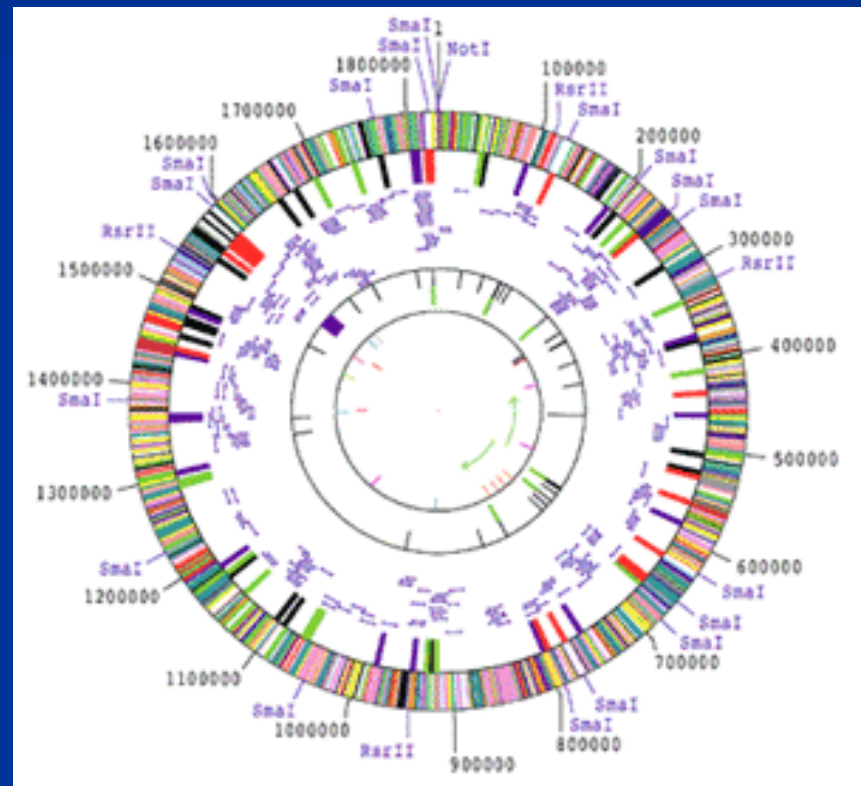


# Microbial Genomics

Michael J. Stanhope,  
Pop. Med. Diagnostic Sci.



Fleischmann et al. 1995. Science 269: 496

# Outline

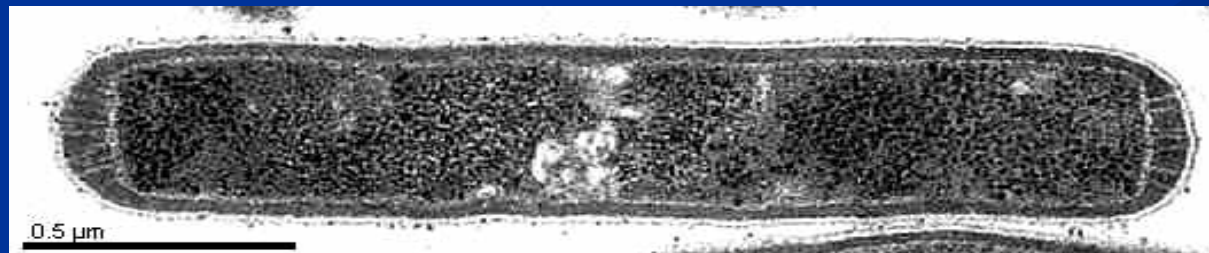
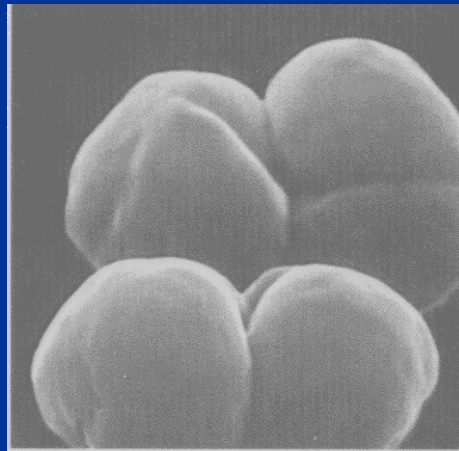
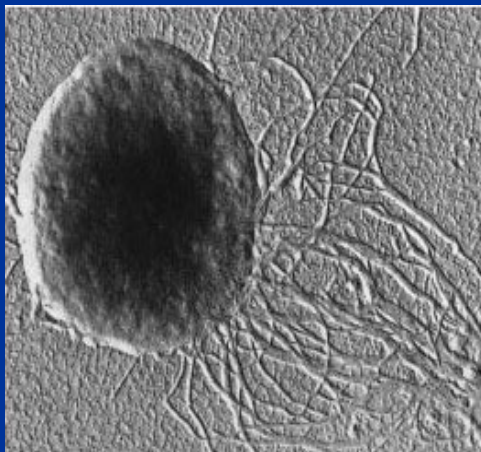
- Introduction
  - Microbial diversity
  - Universal Tree of Life
- Bacterial genome size
  - Core and pan genomes
- Horizontal Gene Transfer (HGT)
  - Mechanisms of HGT
  - Detecting HGT
- Comparative genomics of *Streptococcus*
- Comment on genome sequencing technology
- E.g. of 454 bacterial genome sequence
- Applications of microbial genomics

# Introduction

- Microbial diversity

# Microbial diversity

- Superficial inspection, bacteria and archaea hardly seem diverse



# Microbial diversity

- But metabolic diversity great, particularly energy generating
  - Even within a species; e.g. *E. coli*:
    - Fermentation or respiration; respire aerobically or anaerobically; glucose or lactose as sole carbon source
      - transforming sugar into amino acids, vitamins, nucleotides

# Microbial diversity

- Energy generating metabolism in bacteria:
  - Alcohol fermentation
  - Lactic acid fermentation
  - Aerobic respiration
  - Oxygenic photosynthesis

} present in eukaryotes & prokaryotes

- Anaerobic degradation of carbohydrates through the Embden-Meyerhof pathway.
- Other fermentation pathways e.g. phosphoketolase pathway
- Anaerobic respiration
- Lithotrophy (inorganics as source of energy)
- Anoxygenic photosynthesis
- Methanogenesis ( $H_2$  as energy source and produces methane)
- Light driven nonphotosynthetic photophosphorylation

# Microbial diversity

- prokaryotic cells on Earth =  $6 \times 10^{30}$
- Prokaryotic cellular carbon = 60-100% of estimated carbon in terrestrial and marine plants.
- Abundant in environments where eukaryotes are rare
- How many species?
  - Definition of species?
    - Lack diagnostic morphological characteristics
    - Exchange genetic material in unique and unusual ways
    - Same species = 70% DNA-DNA hybridization
      - Underestimating prokaryotic diversity
  - Practical limitations in counting
    - 1% cultivable

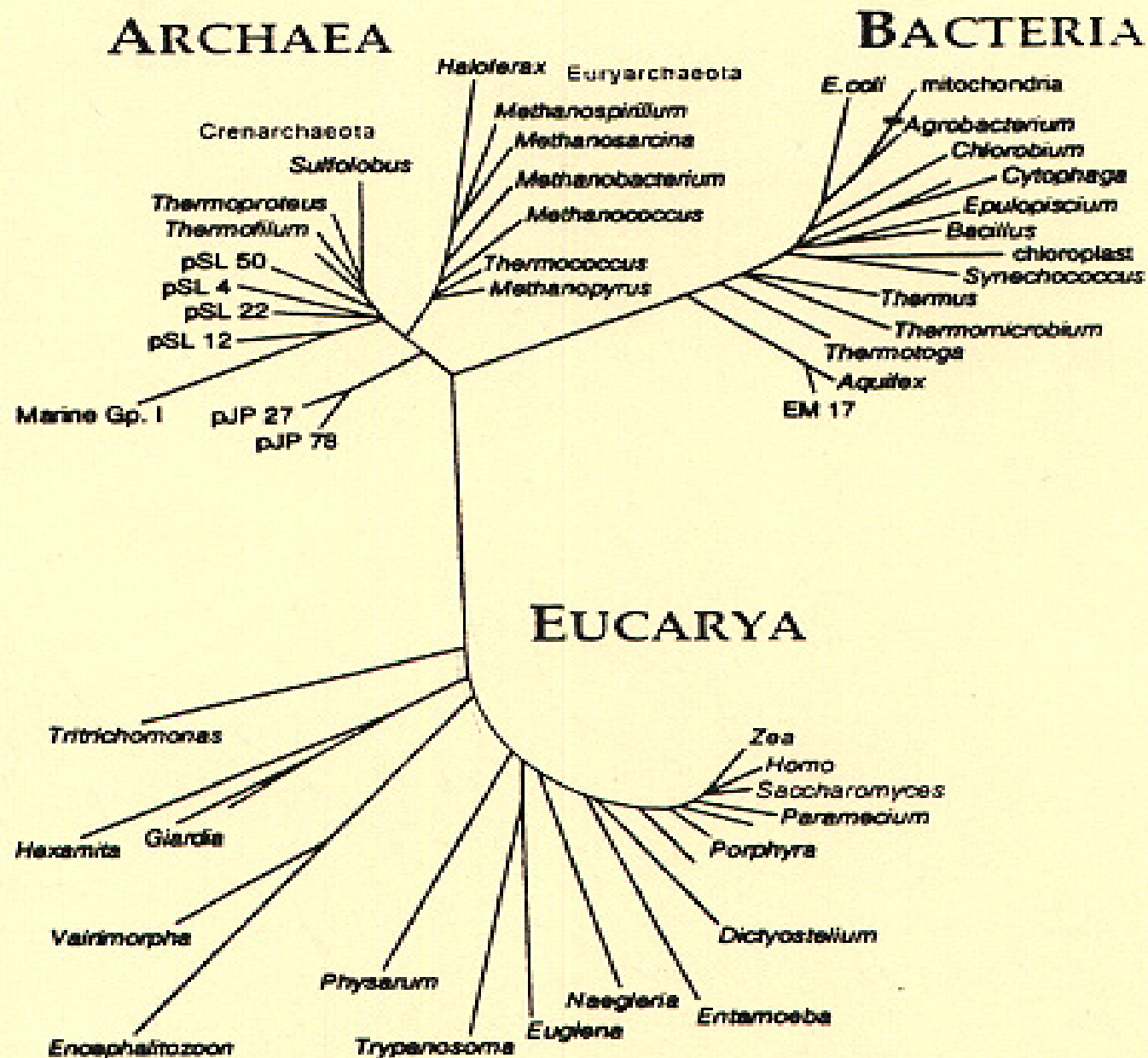
# Introduction

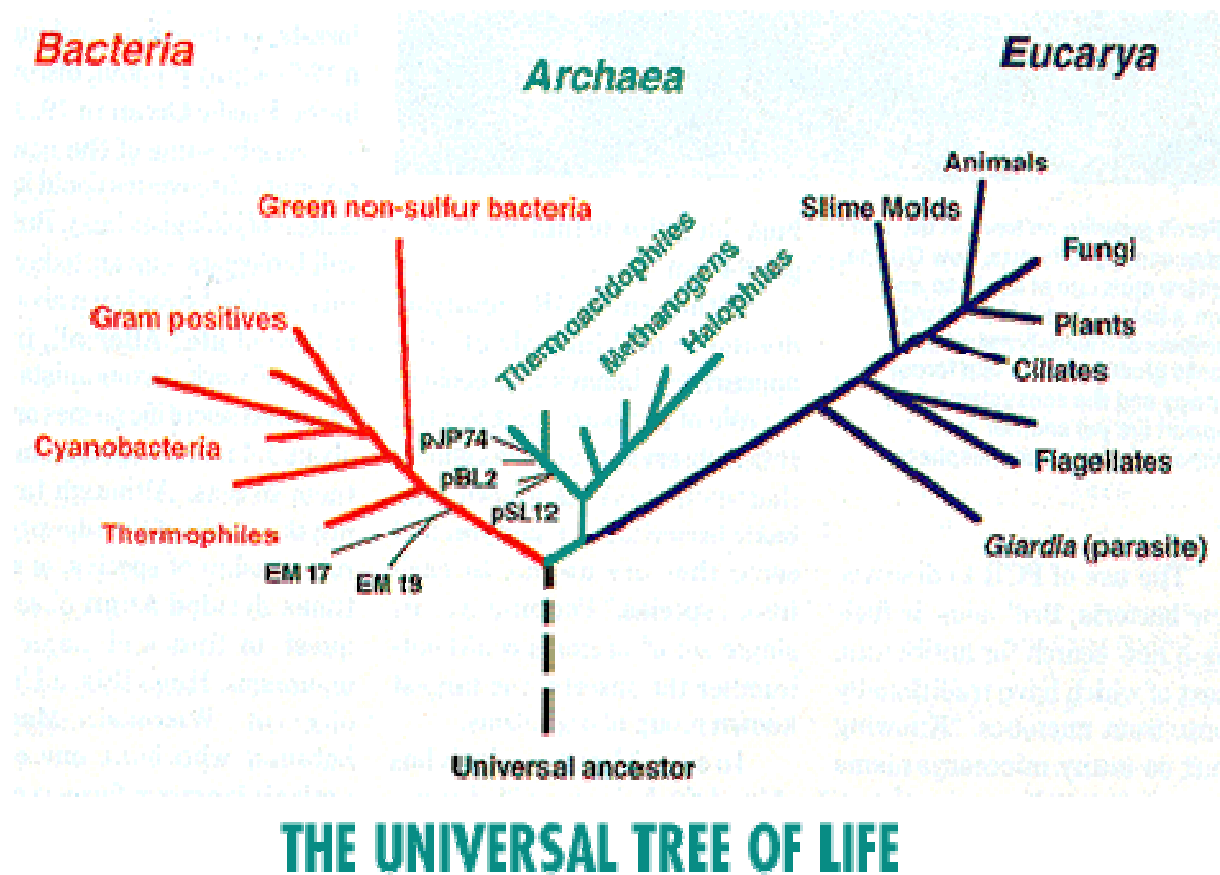
- Universal Tree



# Universal Tree of Life

- 1980's Carl Woese, phylogenetic analysis of all forms of cellular life; ssrRNA
  - Found in all cells
  - Present in thousands of copies and easy to isolate
  - Complementary to sequence of gene
  - Sequence can be compared to reveal similarity and differences
- Defined three cellular domains of life:
  - Eukaryotes
  - Eubacteria (Bacteria)
  - Archaeabacteria (Archaea)





<http://whyfiles.org/022critters/archaea.html>

# Genome Size

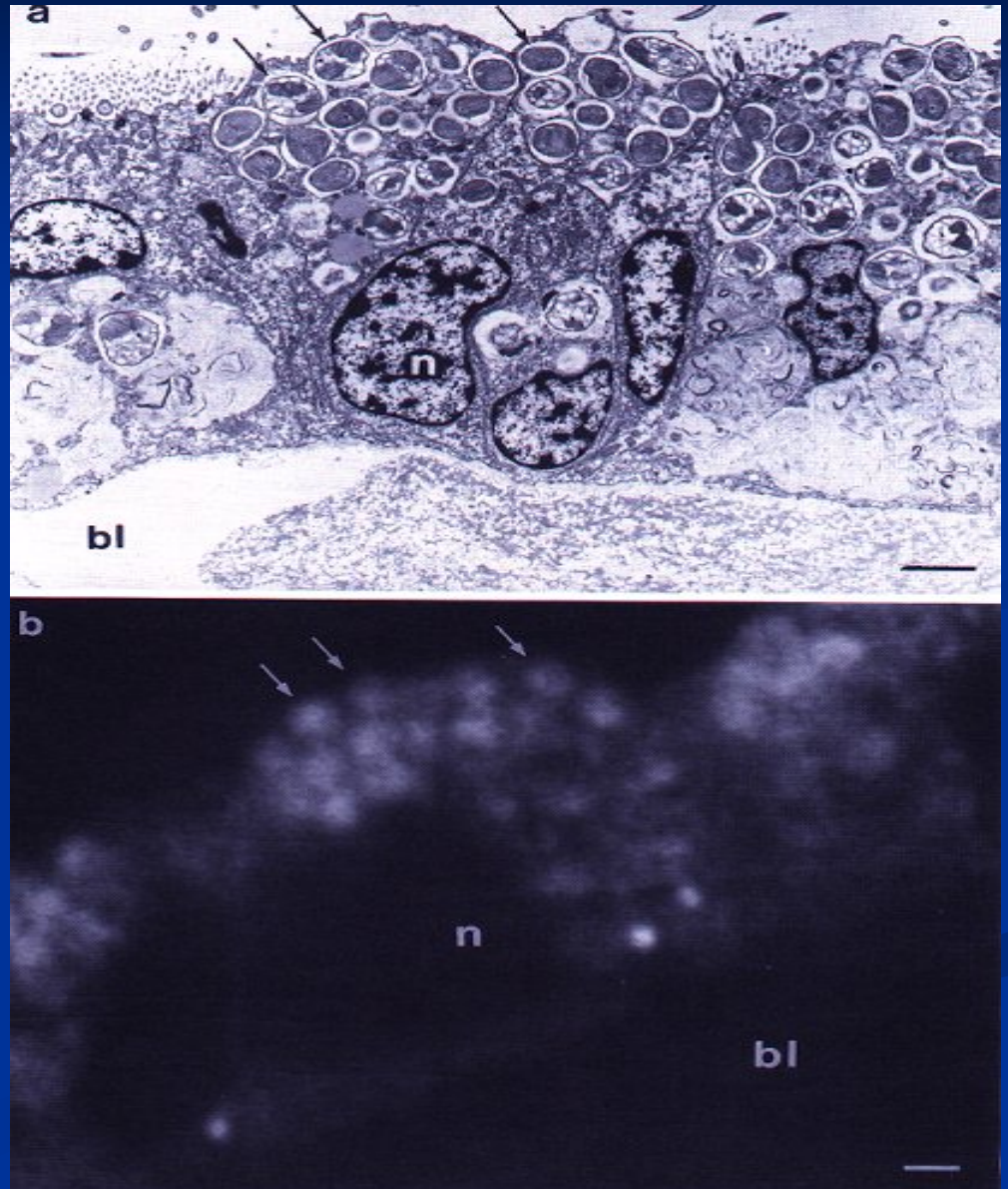
# Genome size

- 405 complete bacterial genomes on NCBI
  - *Carsonella ruddii* (159,662) – *Burkholderia xenovorans* (9.73 Mb)
- Genome size / ecological niche
  - Smaller genomes, endocellular parasites or symbionts

# Genome size

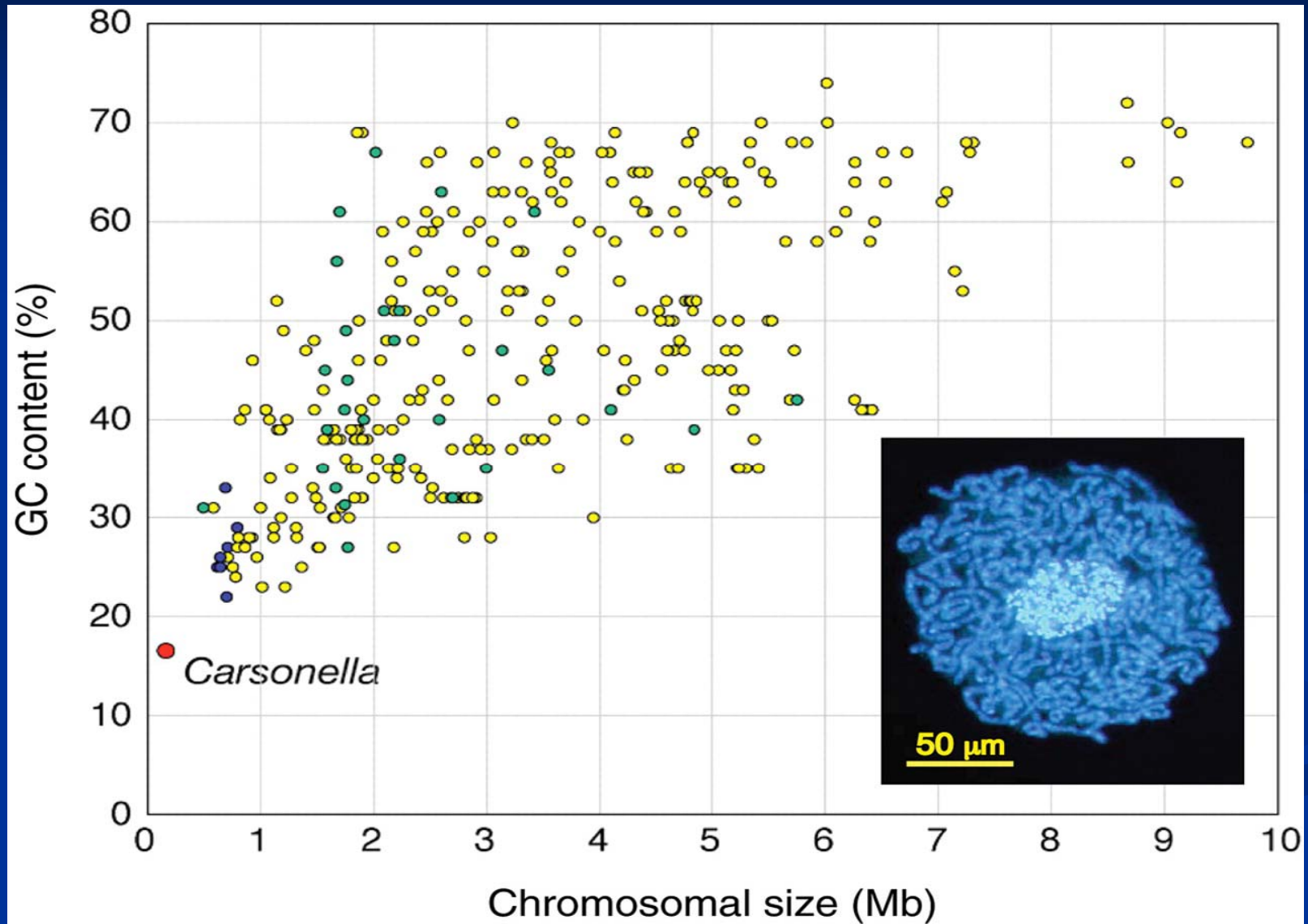
- Mutually obligate endosymbiotic associations with animal hosts

- bacteriocytes



Distel and Cavanaugh. 1994. J. Bact. 4:1932.

# Genome size





# Genome size

- Free living bacteria, genome size correlates with species metabolism & width of ecological niche
  - Pathogenic species, narrow range of hosts, small genomes; e.g. *Helicobacter*, *Streptococcus*
  - Anaerobic bacteria, restricted metabolism, e.g. methanogens, small genomes.
  - Aerobic organisms, and opportunistic pathogens, higher diversity of genome size; e.g. *Pseudomonas* (6 Mb)



# pan and core genomes

- Core
  - Genes present in all strains
- Pan (from Greek meaning whole)
  - Dispensable genome composed of genes absent from one or more strains and genes unique to particular strains

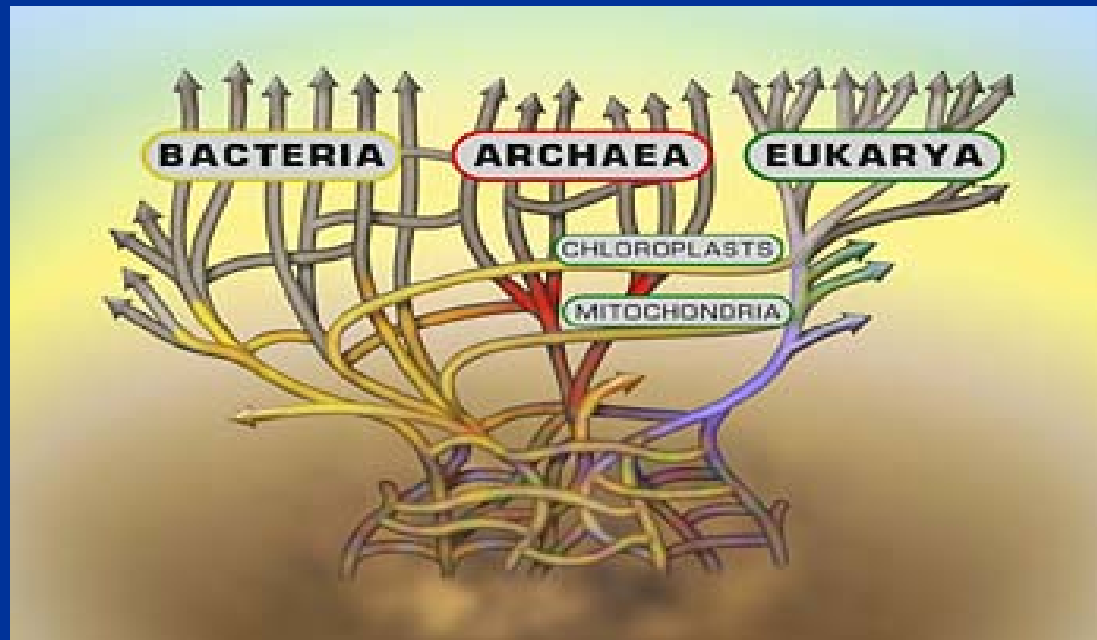
# Bacteria chromosomes

- Most, single circular chromosome, but exceptions:
  - E.g. *Streptomyces*, *Borrelia*, *Agrobacterium*, linear chromosomes
  - Linear plasmids – e.g. *Klebsiella*, *Escherichia*, *Thiobacillus*
  - Linearity: enhances genomic plasticity?
  - Multichromosome spp.; e.g. some proteobacteria with free living, opportunistic lifestyle

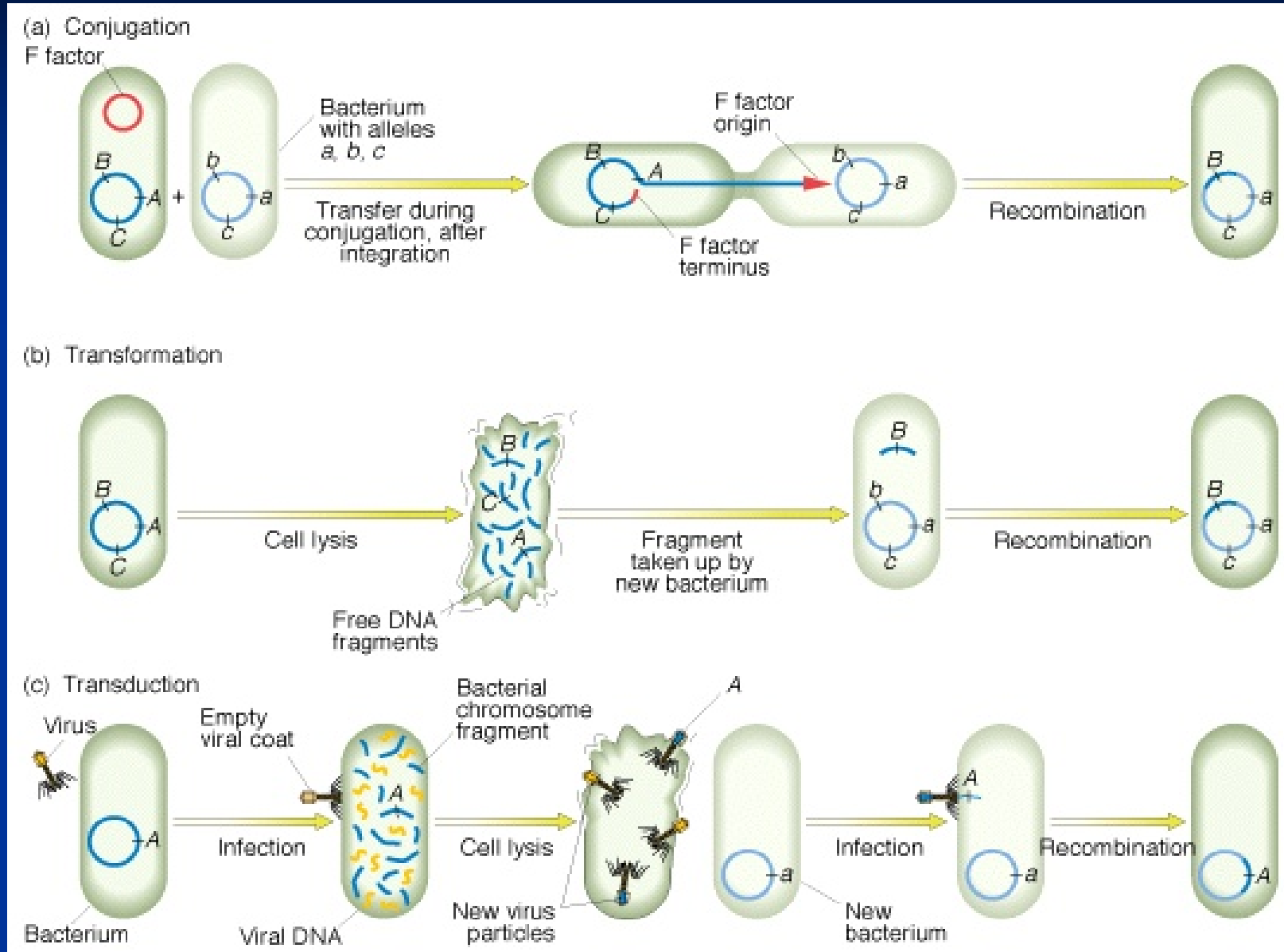
# Horizontal Gene Transfer

# Horizontal Gene Transfer

- Genetic exchanges between different evolutionary lineages
- 1944 Avery et al., DNA can be absorbed by **microorganisms** (Studies on the chemical nature of the substance inducing transformations of pneumococcal types. J. Exp. Med.79:137)
- Extent or degree is much debated



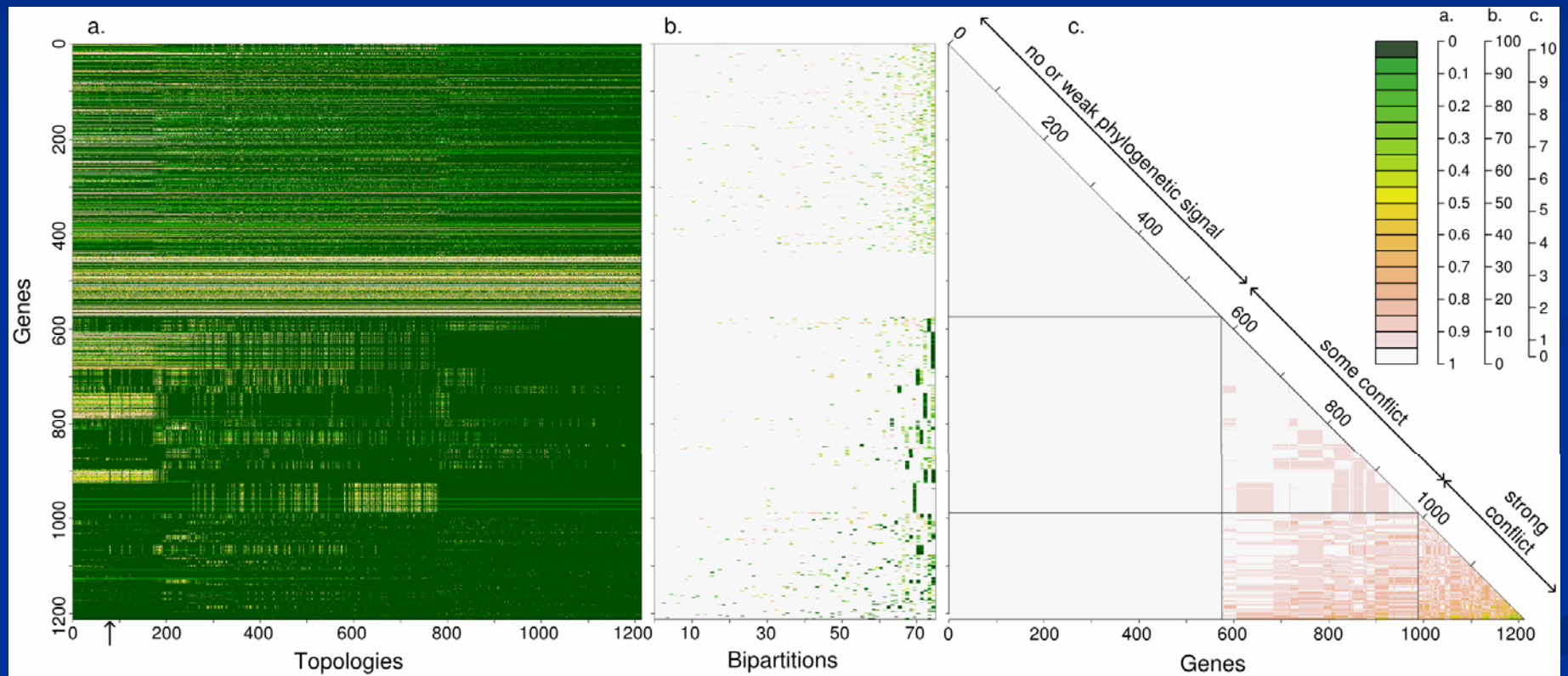
# Mechanisms of HGT



# Detecting HGT

- Phylogenetics
  - Gene tree that differs significantly from species tree
  - Compare all gene trees; gene trees that are significantly different from majority are putative LGT

# Detecting HGT



# Detecting HGT

- Best sequence match detection (BLAST)
  - Rapid, but of limited use, since sequence similarity not necessarily correlated with evolutionary history.



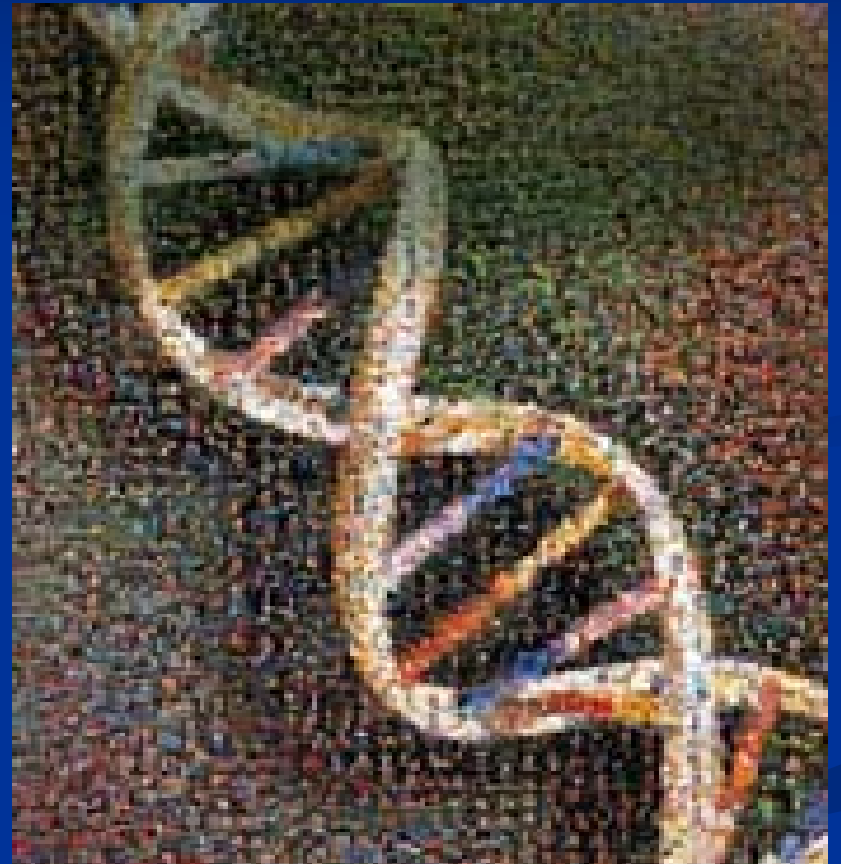
# Bacteria to Vertebrate Horizontal Gene Transfer??

“Hundreds of human genes appear likely to have resulted from horizontal transfer from bacteria at some point in the vertebrate lineage.”

International Human Genome Sequencing Consortium.

**Initial Sequencing and Analysis of the Human Genome.**

*Nature* 409, 860 (2001).



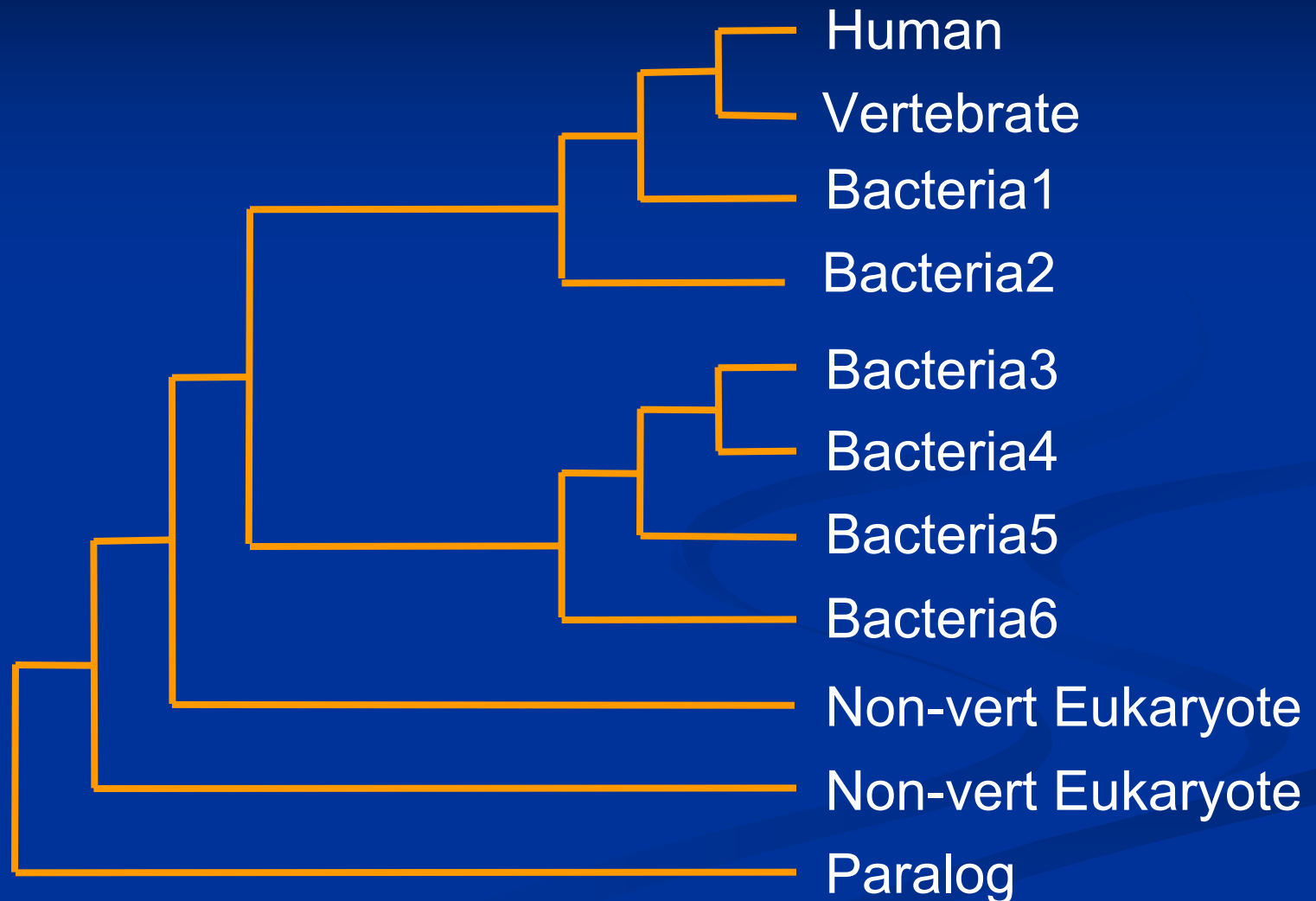
## **Bacteria to Vertebrate HGT -- Implications (*If True*)**

- HGT bacterial genes became fixed in vertebrates through insertion into germ cells (because somatic cell HGT genes would be lost within a generation).
- Foreign bacterial genes can co-opt vertebrate regulatory regions and transcription factors.
- Humans could accumulate foreign, perhaps deleterious, genes from bacterial infections and/or GM foods.

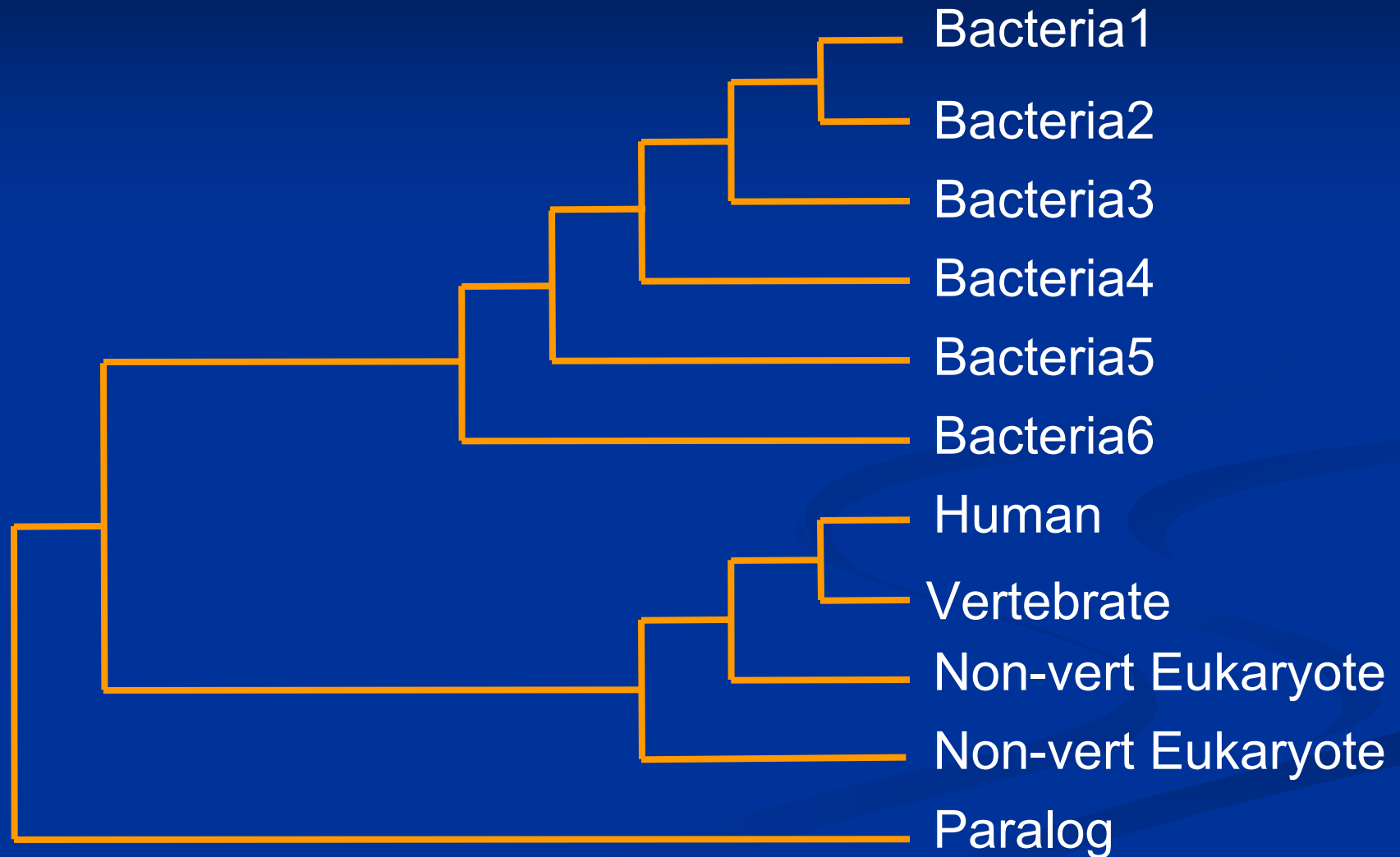
# Nature Human Genome Issue

- International Human Genome Sequencing Consortium (IHGSC)
  - 113 genes that are likely examples of bacteria to vertebrate HGT (horizontal gene transfer).
    - Conclusion based on BLASTP alignment scores. Best sequence match detection (BLAST)

## Phylogenetic evidence in support of bacteria - vertebrate HGT



# Phylogenetic evidence rejecting bacteria - vertebrate HGT



# **Why did the IHGSC conclude bacteria to vertebrate HGT?**

- Equated BLAST ranking with evolutionary relatedness.

# Detecting HGT

- Nucleotide compositional analysis
  - Based on premise that DNA fragments obtained through HGT retain sequence characteristics of donor genome
  - Advantage is it only requires genome sequence from 1 spp.

# Comparative Genomics of *Streptococcus*



# *Streptococcus* genomes

- 26 genomes (public) from 6 spp
  - *S. pneumoniae* (2), *S. agalactiae* (8), *S. pyogenes* (11), *S. thermophilus* (3), *S. mutans* (1), *S. suis* (1)

# Adaptive potential of bacteria

- 1. Darwinian or positive selection, favoring the fixation of advantageous mutations
- 2. acquisition of new genetic material by lateral DNA exchange
- 3. gene regulation

# Core genome

- LGT of bacterial genomes, possibly key factor in adaptation
  - Nonetheless, core genome, possibly relatively LGT free
- Focus on adaptation often centered on species specific loci
  - Selection pressure on core genome not explored

# Molecular selection

- Powerful statistical methods for detecting adaptive molecular evolution (Yang and Nielsen)
  - Nonsynonymous substitution rate elevated above the synonymous rate as evidence for positive selection
    - Fixation of advantageous mutations, driven by NS  
=>evolutionary innovations
- **Our goal:** assess positive selection pressure across core genome components of *Streptococcus*, while concomitantly assessing levels of recombination within core genome

# Pipeline (part 1)

## Bacterial genomes



## Orthologous search



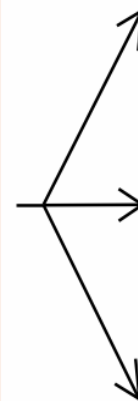
## Gene vs genomes table

	genome #1	genome #2	genome #3	genome #4	genome #5	...
gene #1	1	1	0	0	1	
gene #2	1	2	0	0	1	
gene #3	1	1	1	1	1	
gene #4	1	2	1	1	1	
gene #5	0	1	1	1	1	
gene #6	1	1	1	1	1	
gene #7	1	1	1	1	1	
gene #8	1	0	1	0	1	
...						

Set containing genome #4

Set of strict orthologs

## Alignment



## Gene by gene alignments

### gene #1

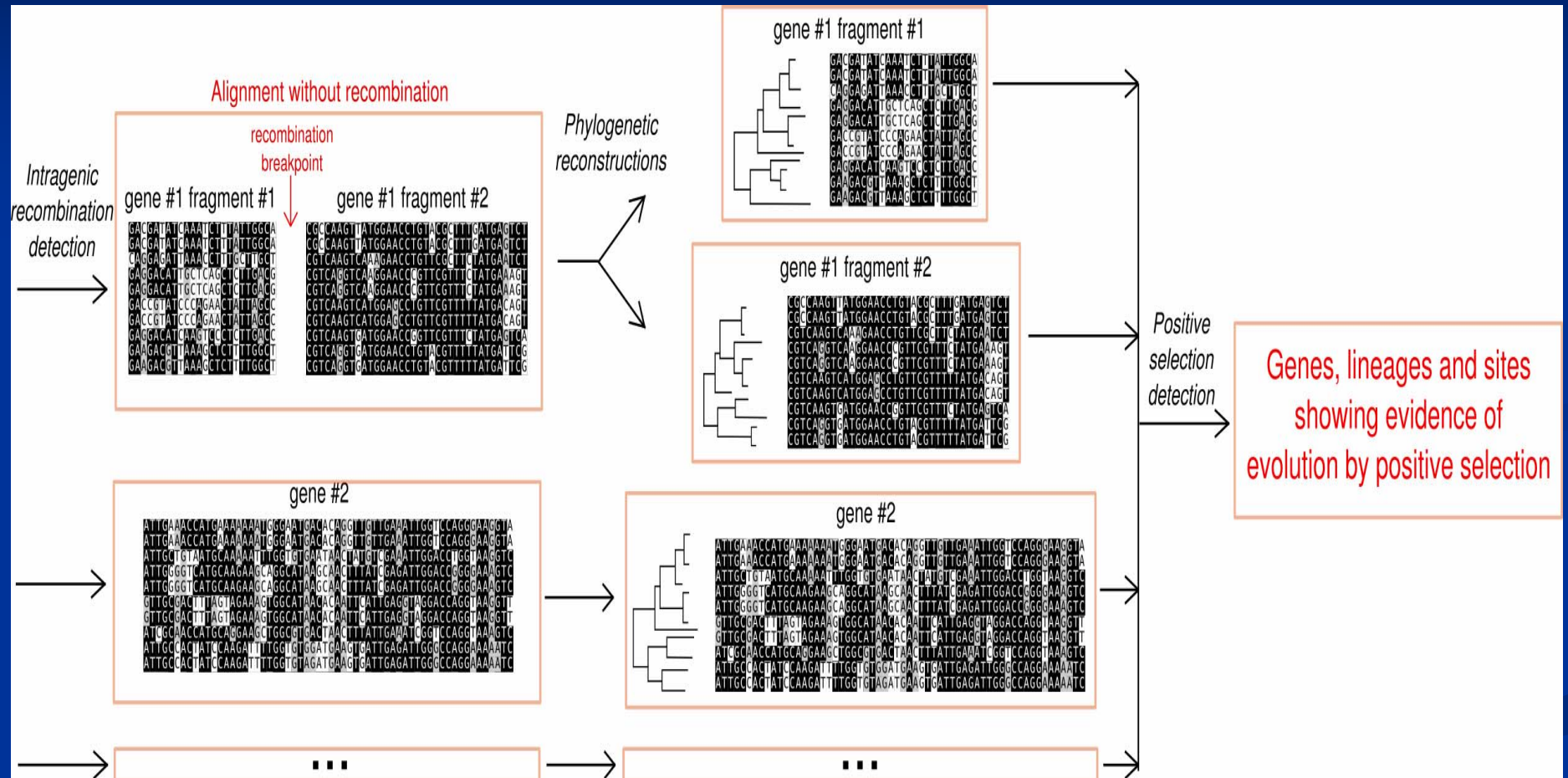
```
GACGATATCAAATCTTTATTGGCACGCCAAGTTATGGAACCTGTACGCTTTGATGAGTCT
GACGATATCAAATCTTTATTGGCACGCCAAGTTATGGAACCTGTACGCTTTGATGAGTCT
CAGGAGATTAAACCTTTGCTTGGTCGTCAAGTCAAAGAACCTGTTTCGTTCTATGAATCT
GAGGACATTGCTCAGCTCTTGACCGGTCAAGTCAAAGAACCTGTTTCGTTCTATGAATCT
GAGGACATTGCTCAGCTCTTGACCGGTCAAGTCAAAGAACCTGTTTCGTTCTATGAATCT
GACCGTATCCCAAGACTATTAGCCCGTCAAGTCAAAGAACCTGTTTCGTTCTATGAATCT
GACCGTATCCCAAGACTATTAGCCCGTCAAGTCAAAGAACCTGTTTCGTTCTATGAATCT
GAGGACATCAAGTCTCTTGACCGGTCAAGTCAAAGAACCTGTTTCGTTCTATGAATCT
GAAGACGTTAAAGCTCTTTTGGCTCGTCAAGTCAAAGAACCTGTTTCGTTCTATGAATCT
GAAGACGTTAAAGCTCTTTTGGCTCGTCAAGTCAAAGAACCTGTTTCGTTCTATGAATCT
```

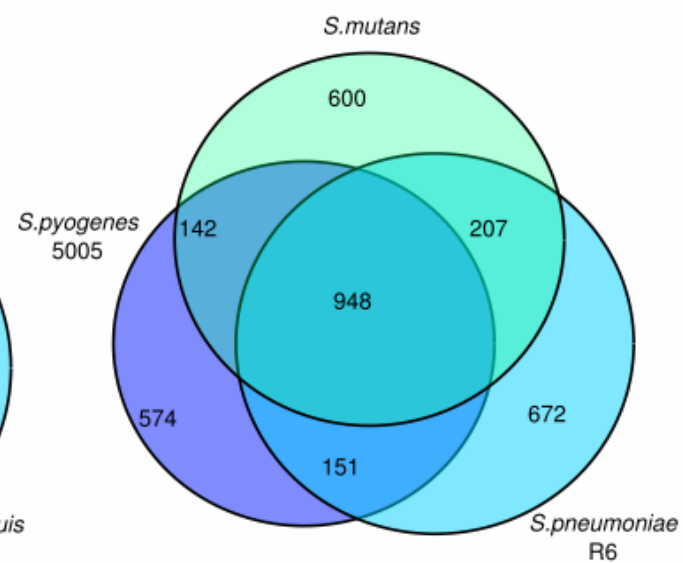
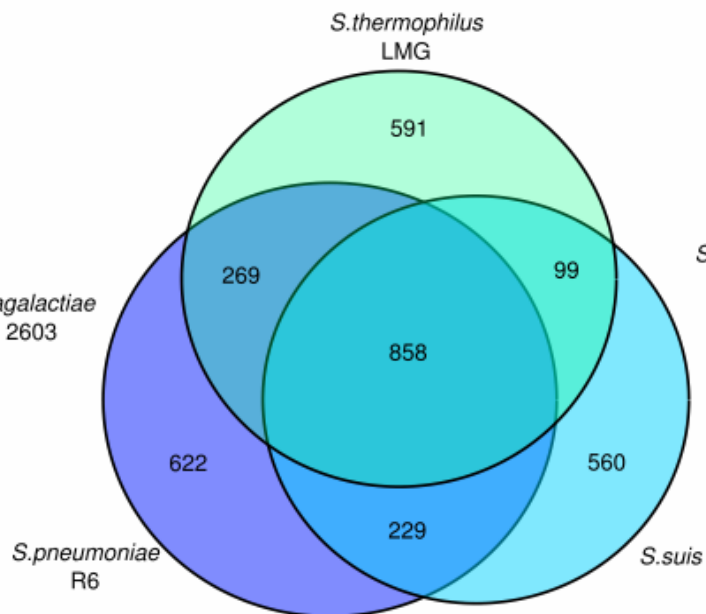
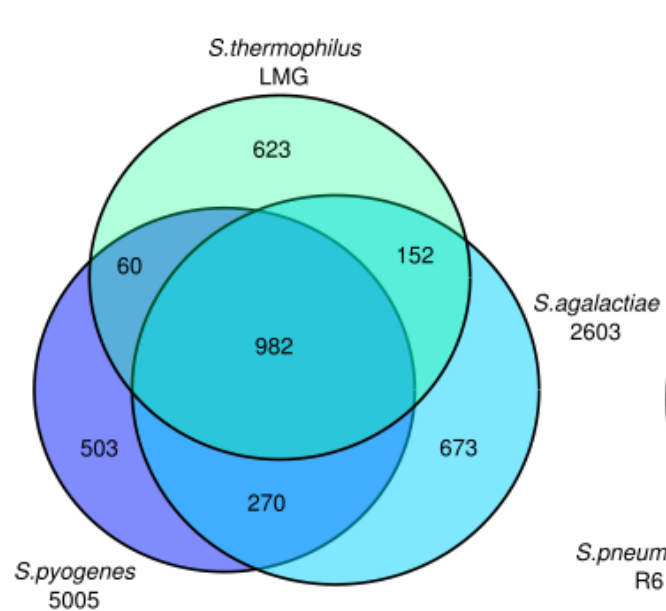
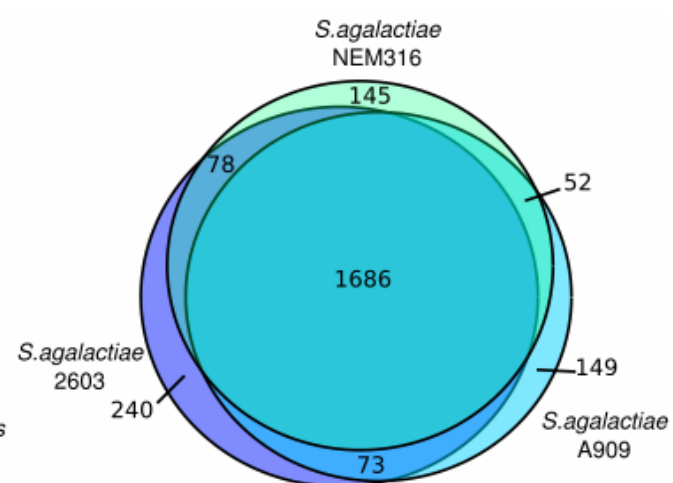
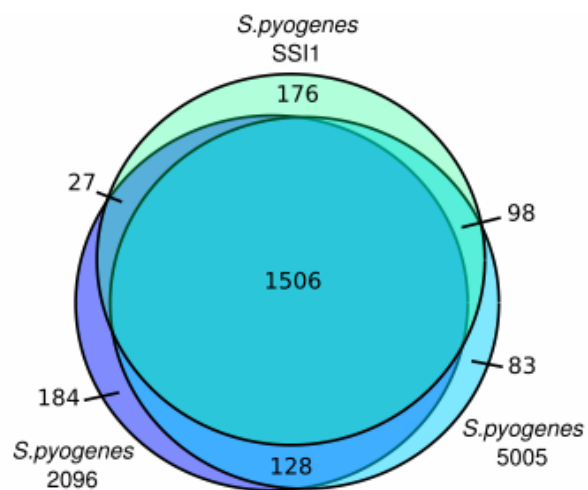
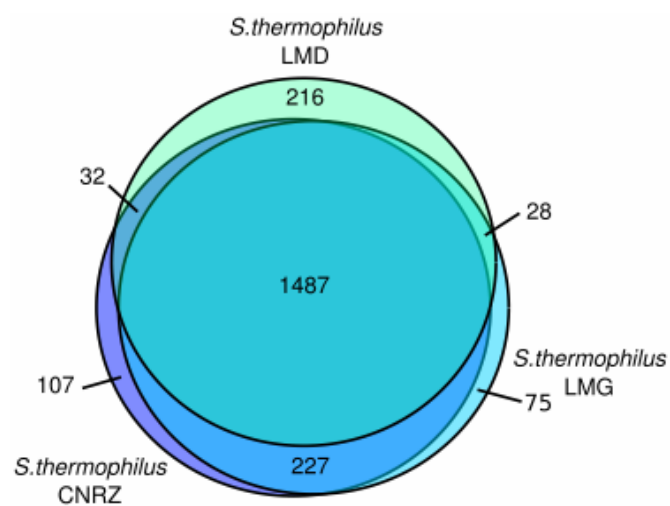
### gene #2

```
ATTGAAACCATGAAAAAATGGGAATGACACAGGTTGTGAAATGGTCCAGGGAAGGTA
ATTGAAACCATGAAAAAATGGGAATGACACAGGTTGTGAAATGGTCCAGGGAAGGTA
ATTGCTGTAATGCAAAATTTGGTGTGAATACTATGTCGAAATTGGACCTGGTAAAGGTC
ATTGGGGTCATGCAAGAAGCAGGCATAAGCAACTTTATCGAGATTGGACCGGGGAAAGTC
ATTGGGGTCATGCAAGAAGCAGGCATAAGCAACTTTATCGAGATTGGACCGGGGAAAGTC
GTTGGGACCTTAGTAGAAAGTGGCATAACACAAATTCATTGAGGTTAGGACCAGGTAAGGTT
GTTGGGACCTTAGTAGAAAGTGGCATAACACAAATTCATTGAGGTTAGGACCAGGTAAGGTT
ATCGCAACCATGCAGGAAGCTGGCGTGACTAATTTATTGAAATCGGTTCCAGGTAAGGTC
ATTGCCACTATCAAGATTTTGGTGTAGATGAAGTGATTGAGATTGGCCAGGAAAAATC
ATTGCCACTATCAAGATTTTGGTGTAGATGAAGTGATTGAGATTGGCCAGGAAAAATC
```

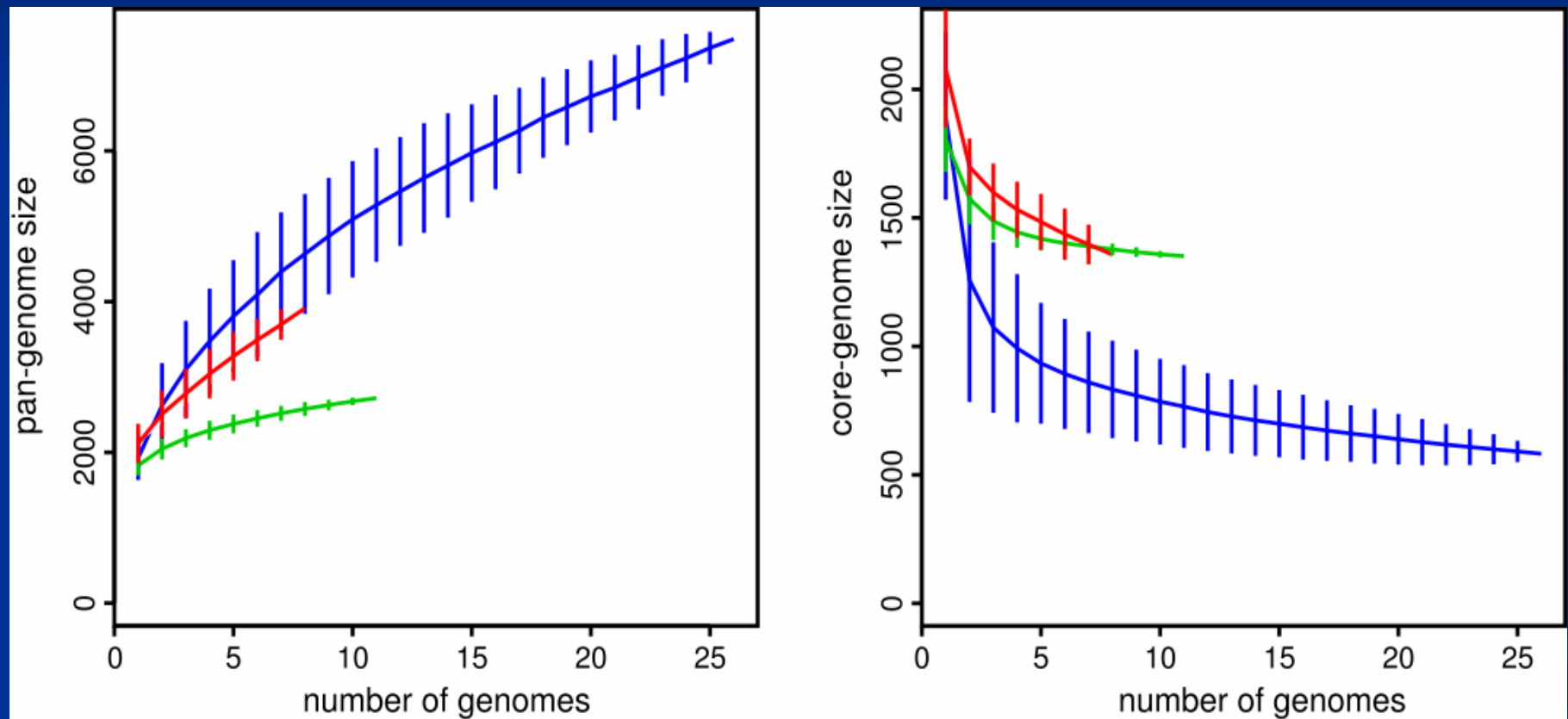
...

# Pipeline (part 2)





# Estimated pan & core genome sizes

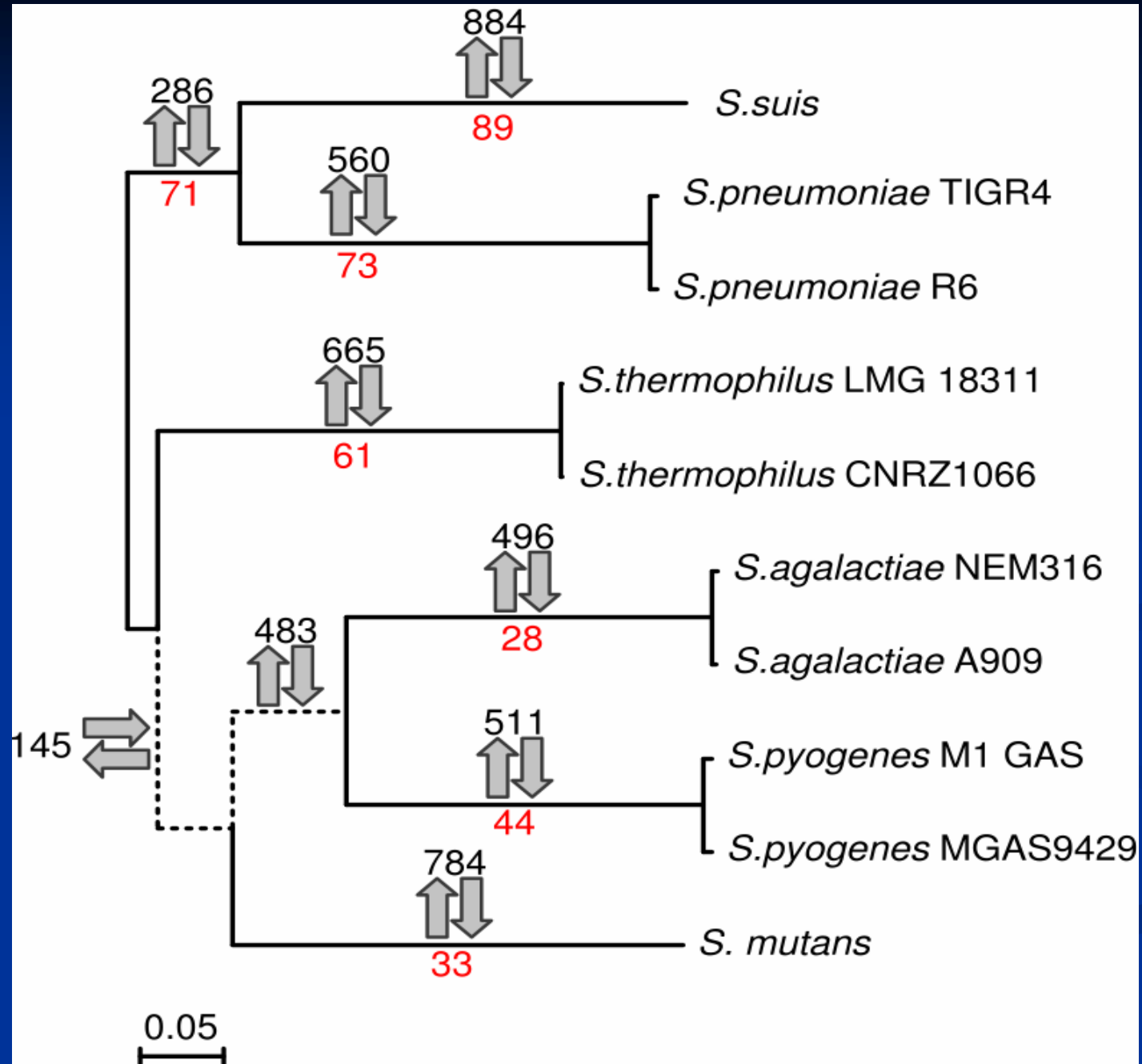


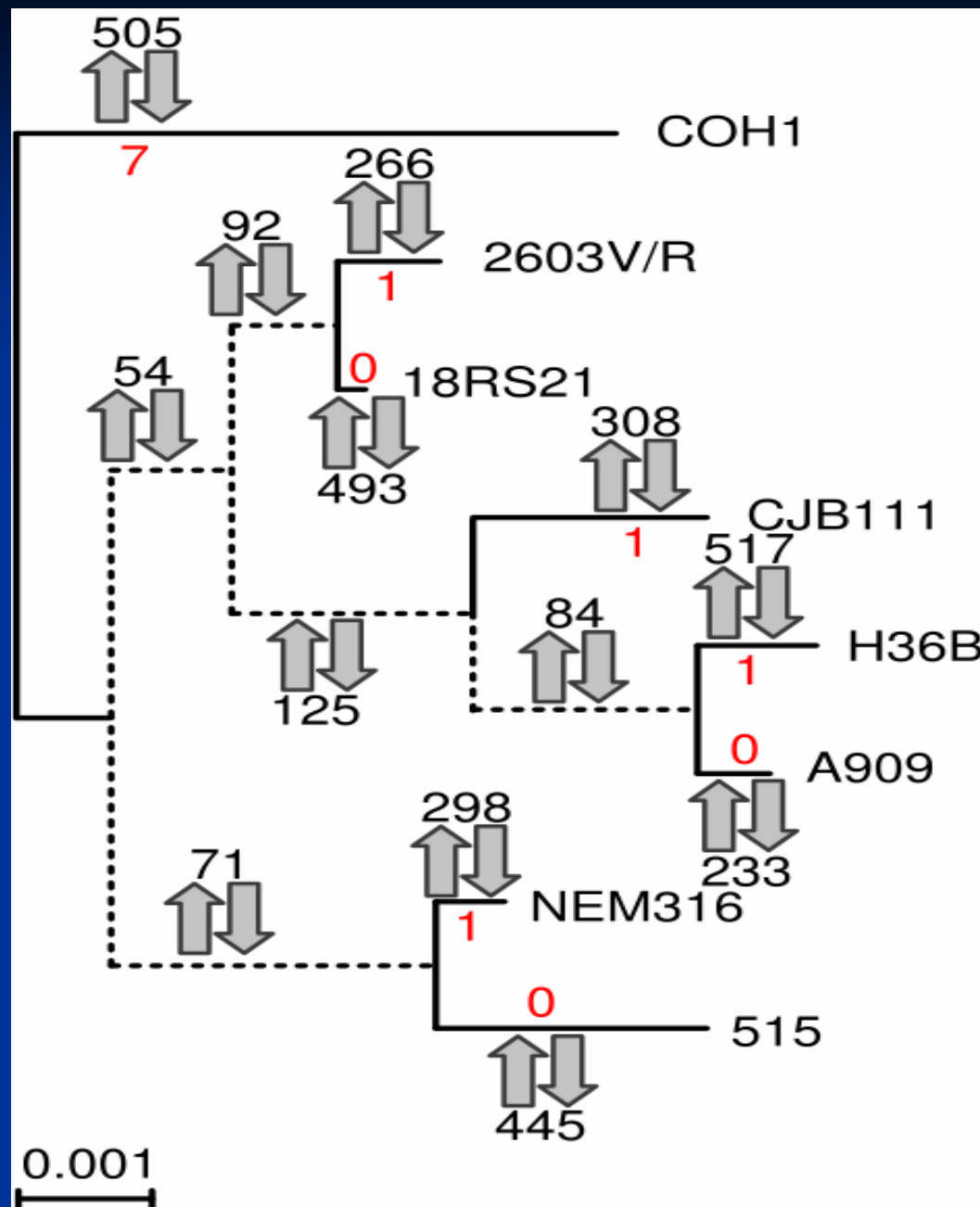
*S. agalactiae*

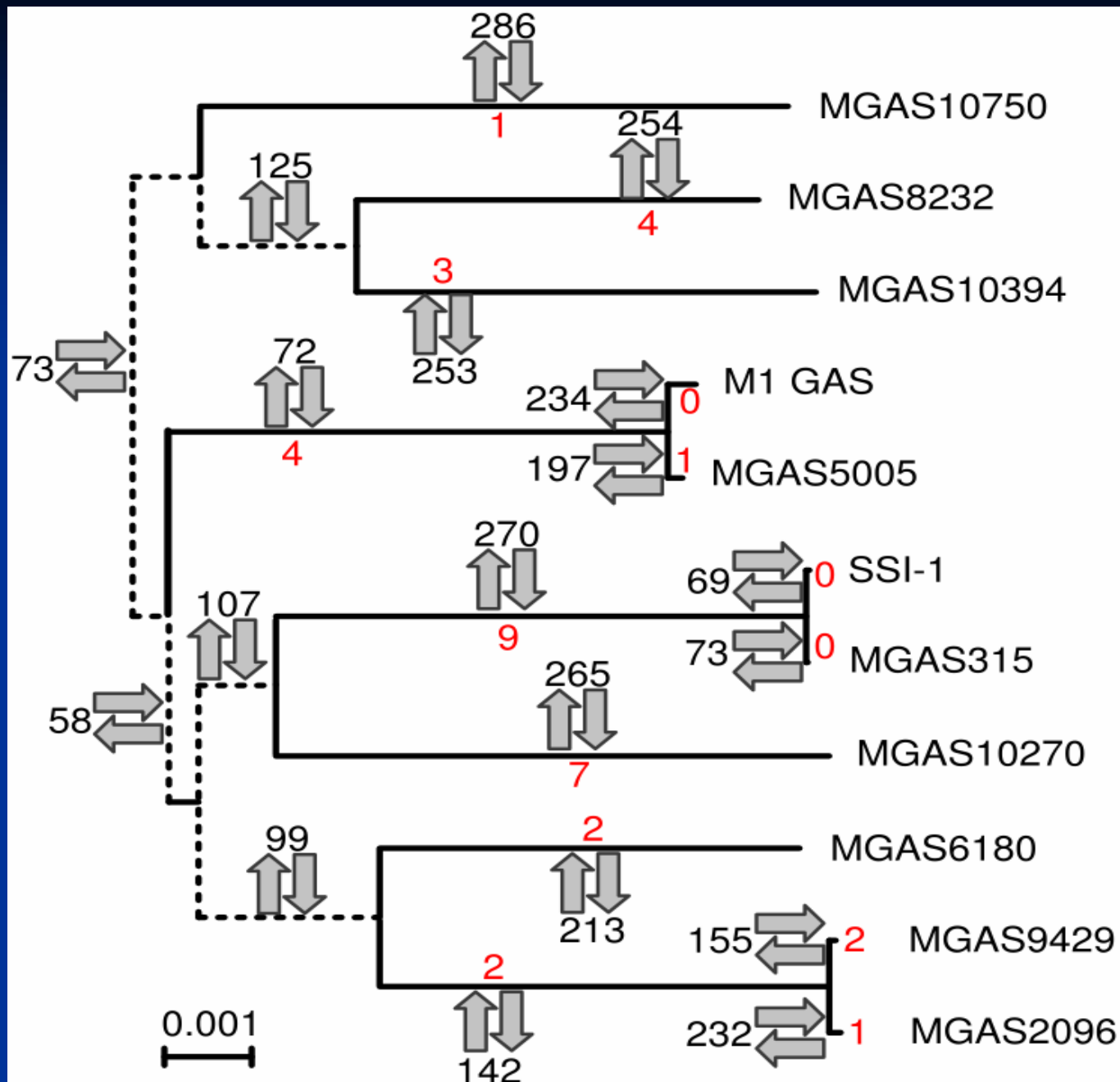
*S. pyogenes*

Alignable core genome  
size for interspecific analysis = 260









# Genes under positive selection: between species

Lineage	nbr analyzed	nbr under PS	% under PS
<i>S. mutans</i>	260	33	12.69
<i>S. pneumoniae</i>	260	73	28.08
<i>S. suis</i>	260	<b>89</b>	<b>34.23</b>
<i>S. thermophilus</i>	260	61	23.46
<i>S. agalactiae</i>	260	28	10.77
<i>S. pyogenes</i>	260	44	16.92
( <i>S. pneumoniae</i> , <i>S. suis</i> )	221	71	32.13

# Genes under positive selection: *S. agalactiae*

Lineage	nbr analyzed	nbr under PS	% under PS
COH1	1212	7	0.58
18RS21	1212	0	0.00
NEM316	1212	1	0.08
H36B	1212	1	0.08
A909	1212	0	0.00
2603V/R	1212	1	0.08
CJB111	1212	1	0.08
515	1212	0	0.00

## Genes under positive selection: *S. pyogenes*

Lineage	nbr analyzed	nbr under PS	% under PS
MGAS10270	1297	7	0.54
MGAS10394	1297	3	0.23
MGAS10750	1297	1	0.08
MGAS2096	1297	1	0.08
MGAS315	1297	0	0.00
MGAS5005	1297	1	0.08
MGAS6180	1297	2	0.15
MGAS8232	1297	4	0.31
MGAS9429	1297	2	0.15
M1 GAS	1297	0	0.00
SSI-1	1297	0	0.00
(MGAS9429, MGAS2096)	925	2	0.22
(MGAS5005, M1 GAS)	978	4	0.41
(SSI-1, MGAS315)	983	<b>9</b>	0.92

# Recombination

Data set	SPI (strong phylogenetic incongruence)	PHI (intragenic method)	PHI $\cap$ MaxChi $\cap$ NSS (set of intragenic methods)	SPI $\cap$ PHI	SPI $\cup$ intragenic set
interspecific	26 (10%)	54 (21%)	35 (14%)	11 (4%)	53 (20%)
<i>S. pyogenes</i>	<b>434 (33%)</b>	284 (22%)	168 (13%)	<b>186 (14%)</b>	<b>477 (37%)</b>
<i>S. agalactiae</i>	222 (18%)	34 (3%)	7 (1%)	18 (1%)	223 (18%)

# Recombination and positive selection

Data set	Genes under PS	PS + recombinant	PS + SPI	PS + intragenic
interspecific	175	43 (25%)	20 (8%)	29 (11%)
<i>S. agalactiae</i>	10	4 (40%)	4 (40%)	0
<i>S. pyogenes</i>	32	25 (78%)	21 (65%)	17 (53%)



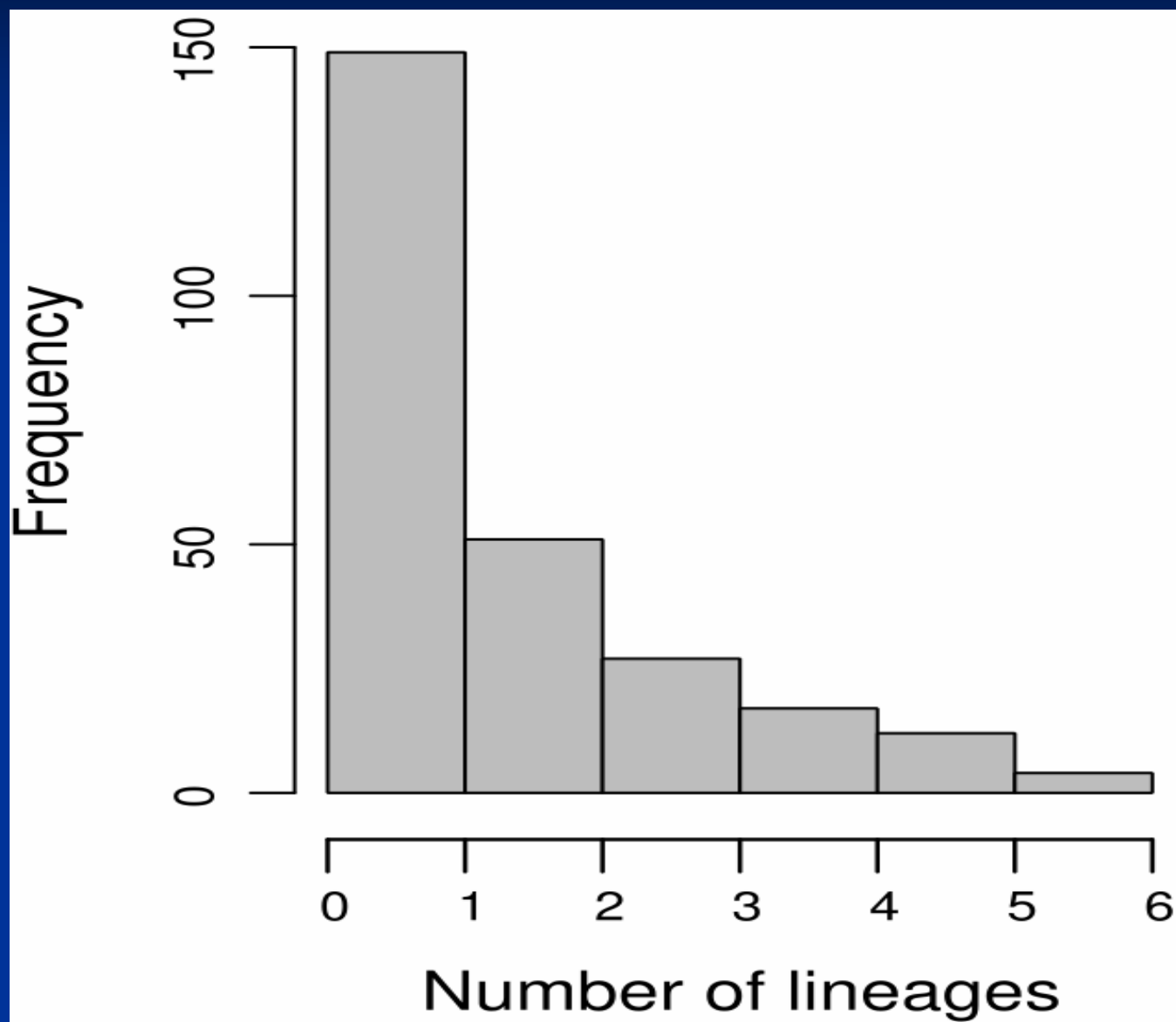
# Pan genome and recombination

- Habitat differences for *S. pyogenes* and *S. agalactiae*
  - Reduced gene pool environment for *S. pyogenes*, could result in smaller pan genome and potentially more homologous recombination

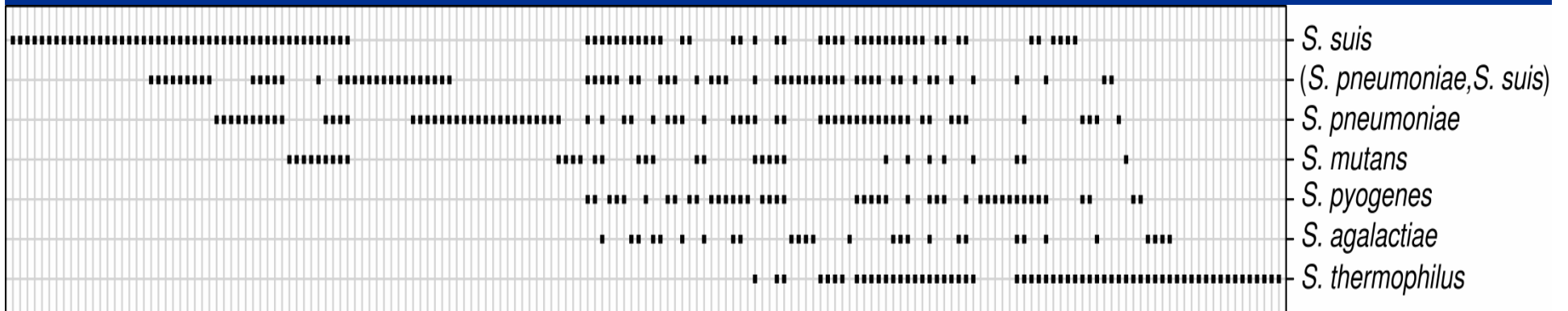
# Statistical analysis of PS data

- Significant affect of lineage (ANOVA;  $p < 0.0001$ ):
  - Majority of pairwise multiple comparisons significantly different
- Significant affect of biochemical category ( $p < 0.0001$ )
  - Amino acid biosynthesis; Biosynthesis of cofactors, prosthetic groups, and carriers; Cell envelope; Cellular processes; Central intermediary metabolism; **DNA metabolism**; Energy metabolism; Fatty acid and phospholipid metabolism; Hypothetical proteins; Protein fate; Protein synthesis; Purines, pyrimidines, nucleosides, and nucleotides; Regulatory functions; Signal transduction; **Transcription**; Transport and binding proteins; Unknown function
- Significant interaction between lineage and biochemical category ( $p = 0.003$ )
  - (*S. pneumoniae*, *S. suis*) DNA metabolism, Transcription, Protein fate

# Genes selected per lineage



# Genes selected on each lineage



19 unique loci for *S. suis*; 15 for *S. thermophilus*; 14 for *S. pneumoniae*

# Lineages with unusual selection pressure

- *S. suis*
  - Both gene gain and loss and PS; suggesting evolutionary flexibility – host jumping?
- *S. agalactiae*, COH1
  - Significantly associated with neonatal disease, and of recent bovine ancestry
- *S. pyogenes*, M3 serotype
  - M3 cause more cases of invasive disease, higher rate of lethal infections, epidemic tendencies
- *S. thermophilus*, LMD-9
  - ?

# ***Streptococcus* comparative genomics tentative conclusions**

- Considerable recombination and positive selection pressure in *Streptococcus* core genome
- Several loci identified for *S. agalactiae* and *S. pyogenes* that could be linked to the specific pathogenic features of these strains
- Identification and cataloguing of these loci, serve as an evolutionary short-cut for laboratory mutation experiments, to assess specific functional significance of these genes.

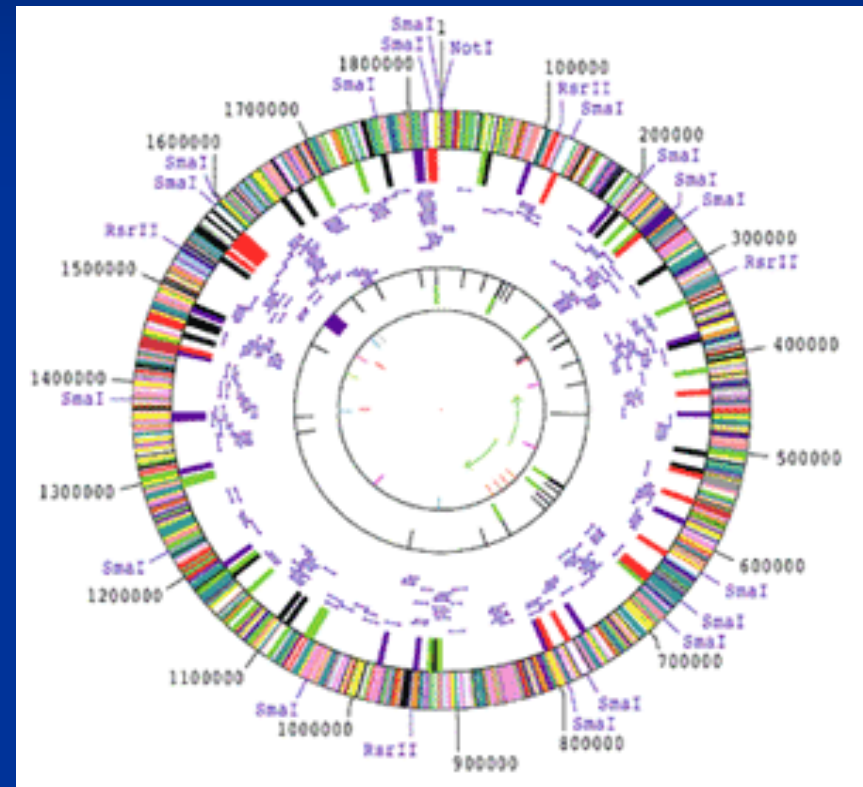
# Sequencing Technology

# First “shotgun” microbial genome sequence

*Haemophilus influenzae* 1.8 Mb

Library of plasmid clones,  
1600-2000 bp fragments;  
sequences of these clones with  
their many overlaps represent the  
raw data entered into computer  
programs (e.g. TIGR assembler)  
which assemble the genome;

remaining gaps closed with other  
strategies (e.g. long range PCR)



Fleischmann et al. 1995. Science 269: 496



# Race for the \$1000 genome

- First to produce \$1000 human genome
  - J. Craig Venter Science Foundation: \$500,000
  - X Prize Foundation: \$5 million
- 2004; NIH; \$70 million grant program

# Next generation of sequencers

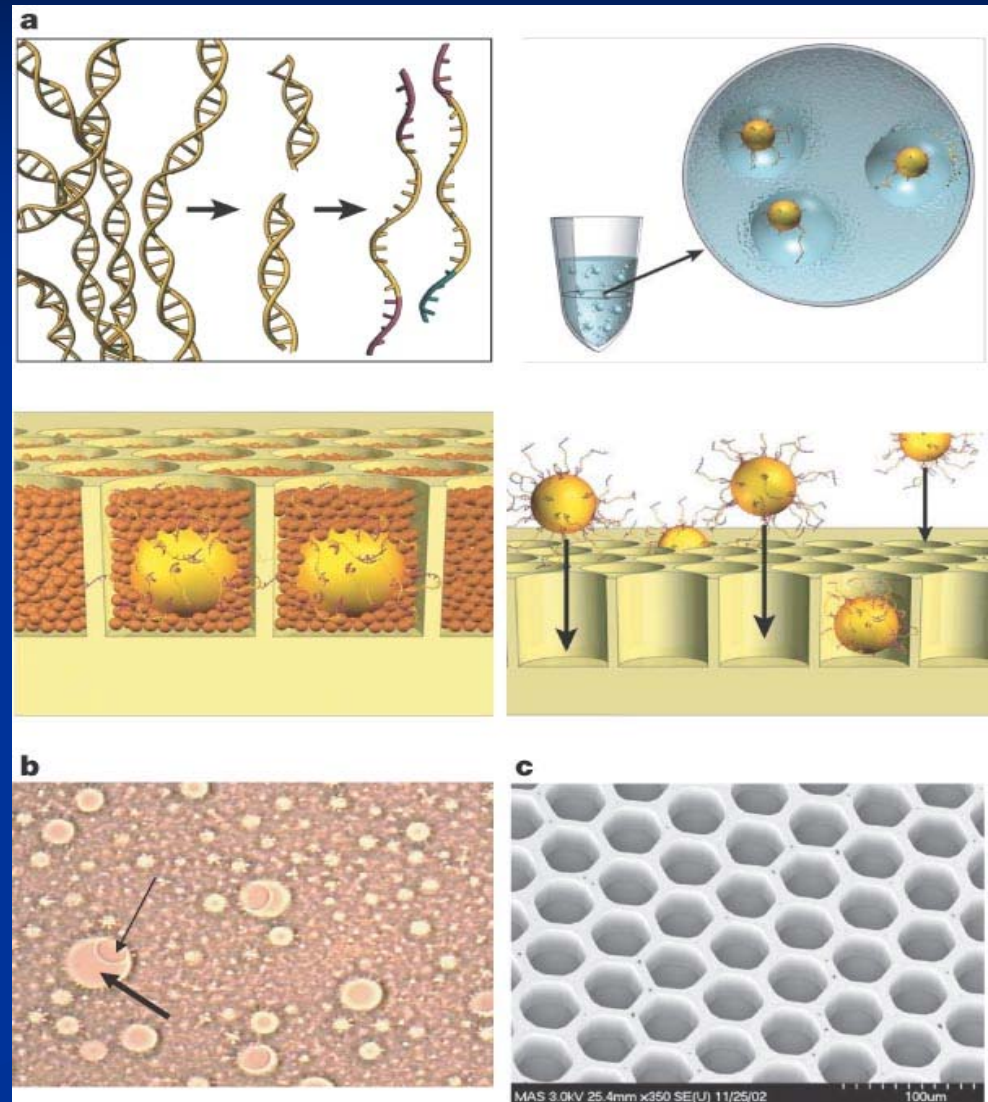
## Searching for Cheaper Genome Sequencers

Company	Format	Read Length (bases)	Expected Throughput Mb (million bases)/day
454 Life Sciences	Parallel bead array	100	96
Agencourt Bioscience	Sequencing by ligation	50	200
Applied Biosystems	Capillary electrophoresis	1000	3-4
LI-COR Biosciences	Electronic microchip	20,000	14,000
Microchip Biotechnologies	Parallel bead array	850-1000	7
Network Biosystems	Biochip	800+	5
NimbleGen Systems	Map and survey microarray	30	100
Solexa	Parallel microchip	35	500
VisiGen Biotechnologies	Single-molecule array	NA	1000

from: Service, RF 2006. Science 311:1544

# 454 sequencing

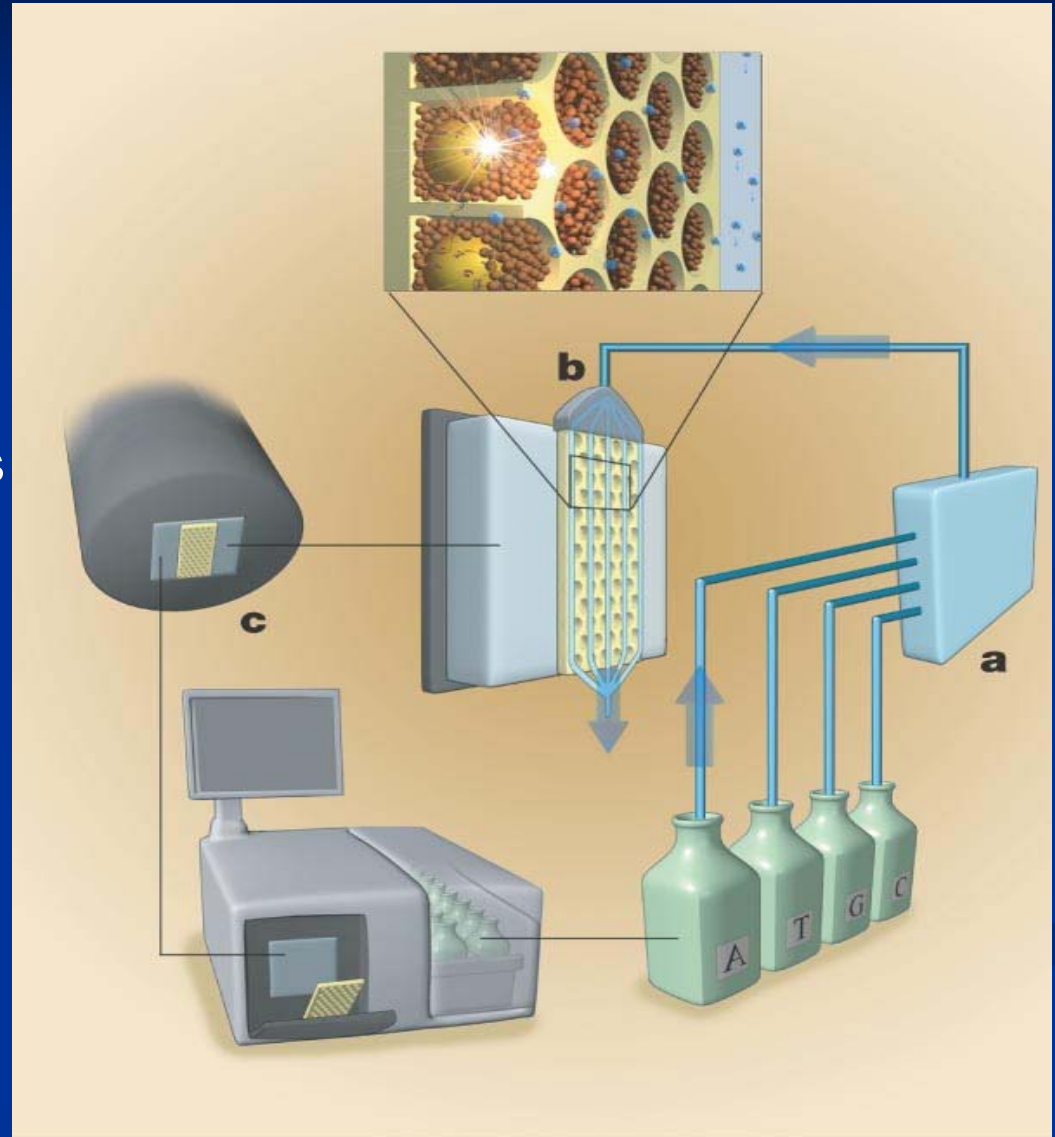
- Sequencing by synthesis (tracks bases as they are added); pyrosequencing
- 300-500 bp pieces, denatured;
- link one strand to plastic bead
- copy using emulsion PCR
- beads are separated on a fibre-optic plate containing approx. 1.6 million wells;
- add sequencing reagents



from: Margulies et al. 2005 Nature 437:376

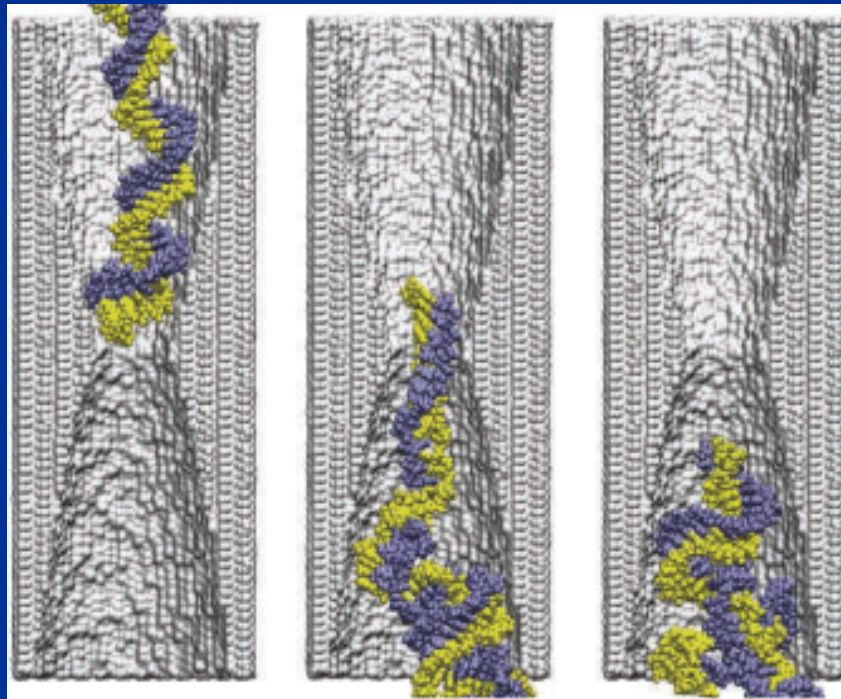
# 454 sequencing

- nucleotides added release pyrophosphate, prompting luciferase & flash of light
- correlating flashes from each cell with nucleotides presented in flow through, computer tracks sequence growth



from: Margulies et al. 2005 Nature 437:376

# Nanopore sequencing



from: Service, RF 2006. Science 311:1544

# Example of 454 Bacteria Genome Sequence

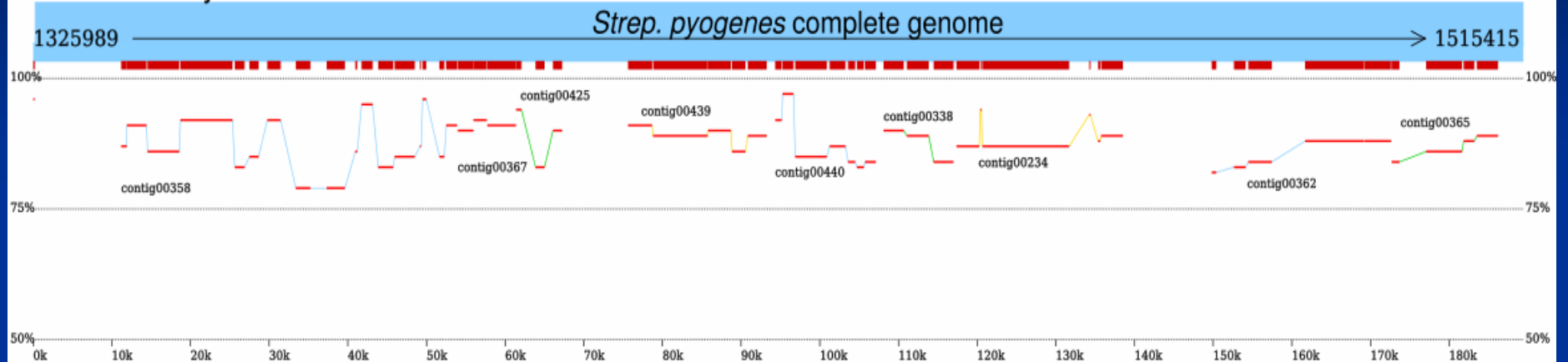
# *Streptococcus canis*

- Genome sequence data for putative sister groups to major pathogens often not available
  - e.g. *S. pyogenes*; putative sister group *S. canis*
- *S. canis* from 454 Life Sciences
  - 103 contigs, 2,191,310 bp, 98.5% coverage, 39.6% GC
  - 100% of the bases with Q40+ rating (99.99% accuracy)

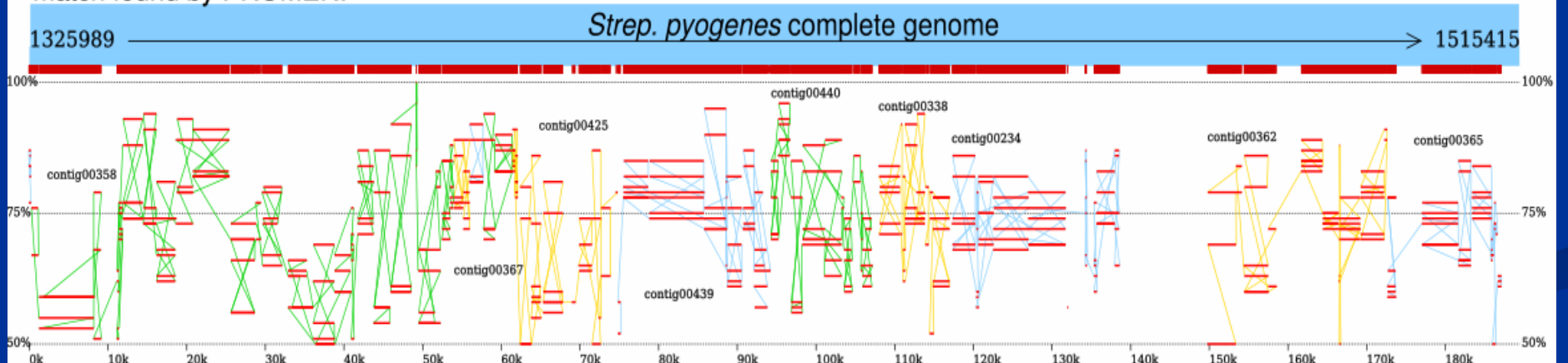


# *canis* / *pyogenes* genome wide alignments

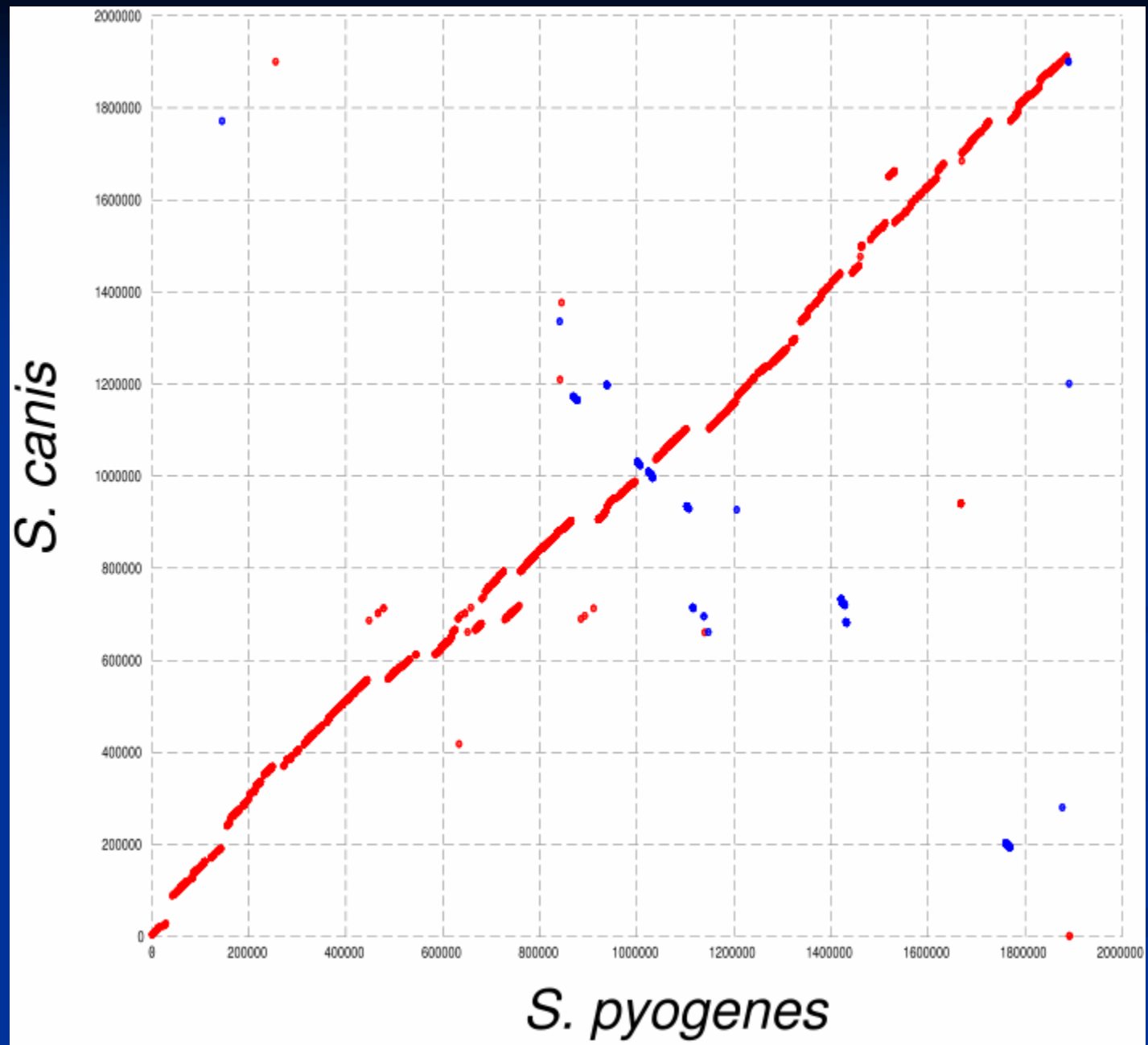
match found by NUCMER:



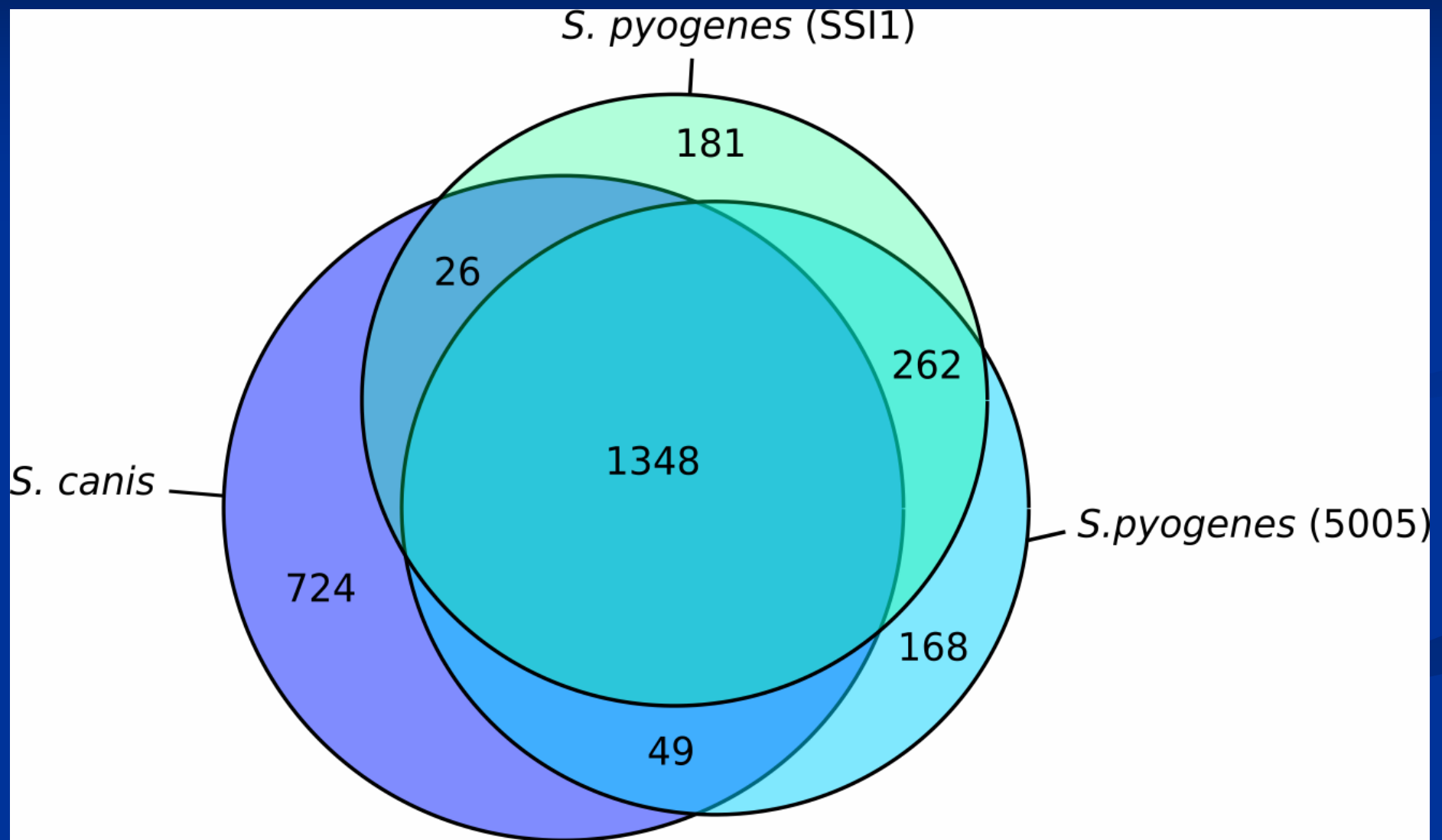
match found by PROMER:







# *canis* / *pyogenes* genomic content comparison



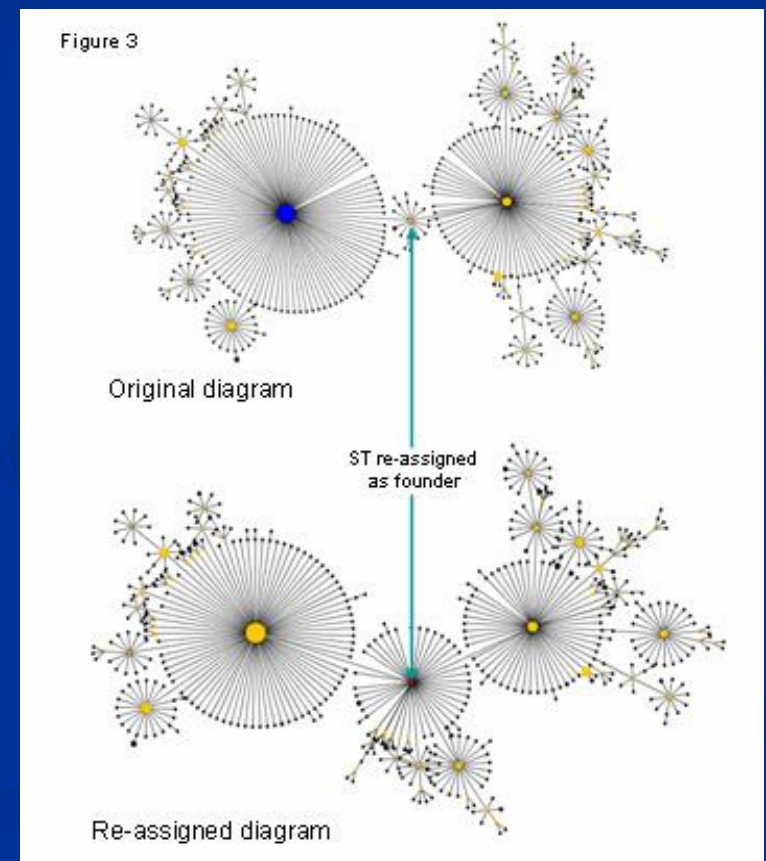
# Applications of Microbial Genomics

# Comparative genomics and drug discovery

- Genes need prioritization
- Drug development against a single bacterial species usually impractical
- Gene products, with orthologs in humans, may lack selectivity
  - => compare genomes, find potential drug targets shared by clinically important range of taxa, & absent or divergent from human host

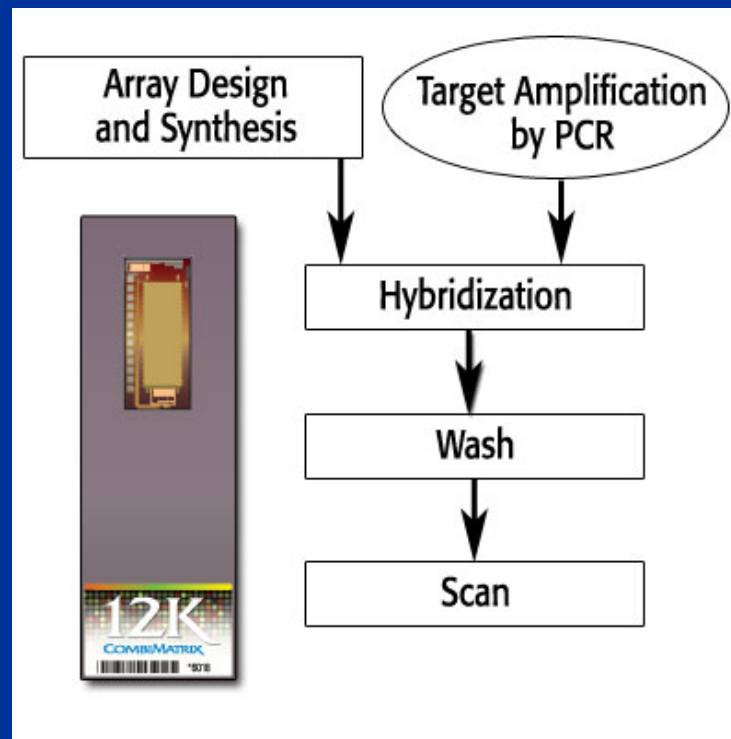
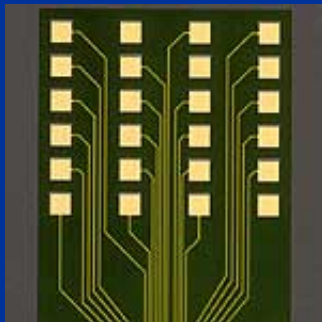
# Molecular Epidemiology

- MLST = multi locus sequence typing; sequence of portions of 7 (or more) housekeeping genes; combination of alleles = sequence type (ST); closely related STs (differ by one or two alleles) = clonal complex

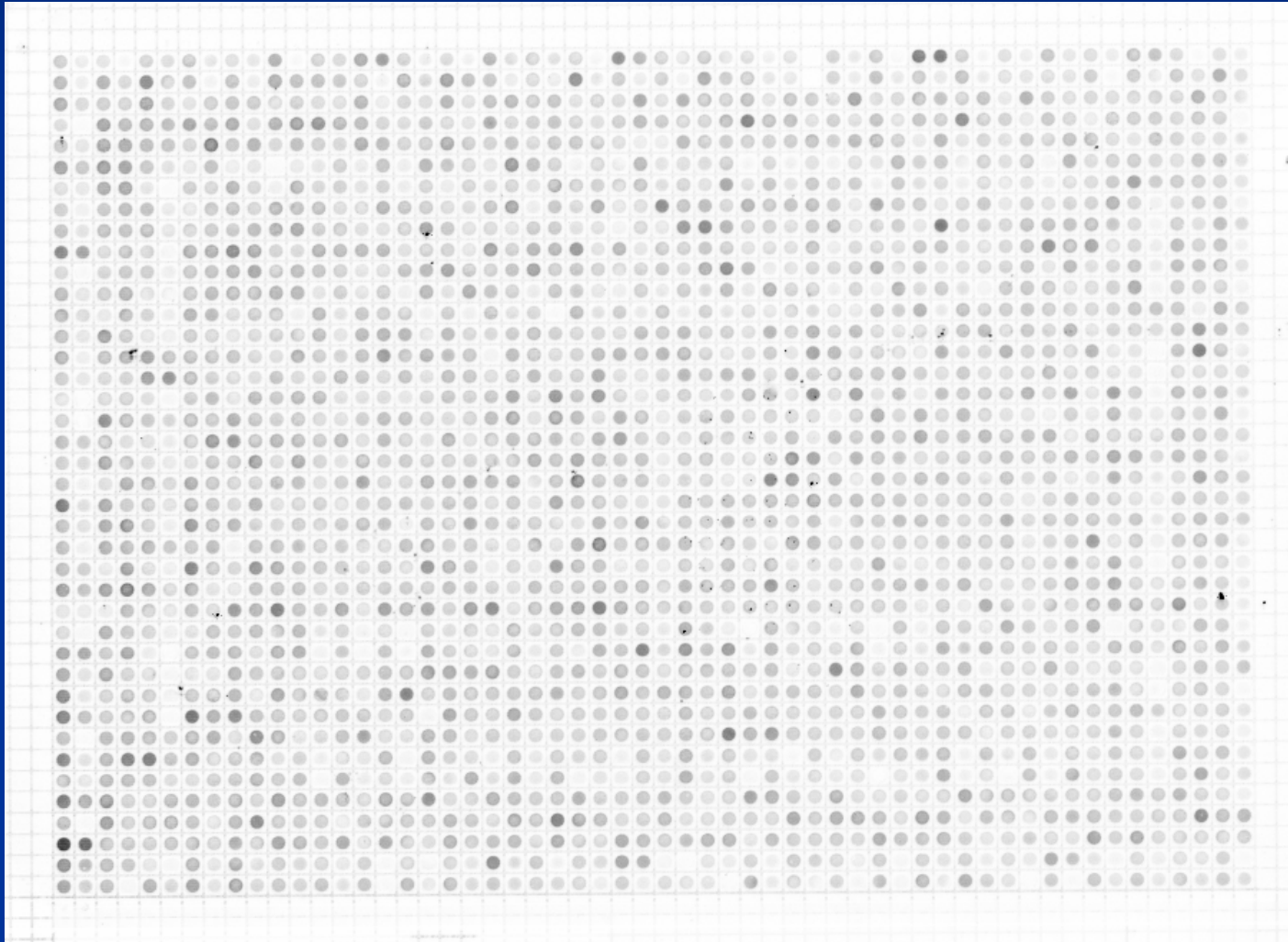


# Microarray gene / presence absence

- Genome sequence allows gene presence / absence detection across strains using microarrays
  - E.g. Combimatrix 4 X 2K microarrays



# Gene / presence absence hybridization





# Metagenomics

