

# Bioinformatics

CS300

Chap 3

Sequence Alignment  
and an Influenza Outbreak

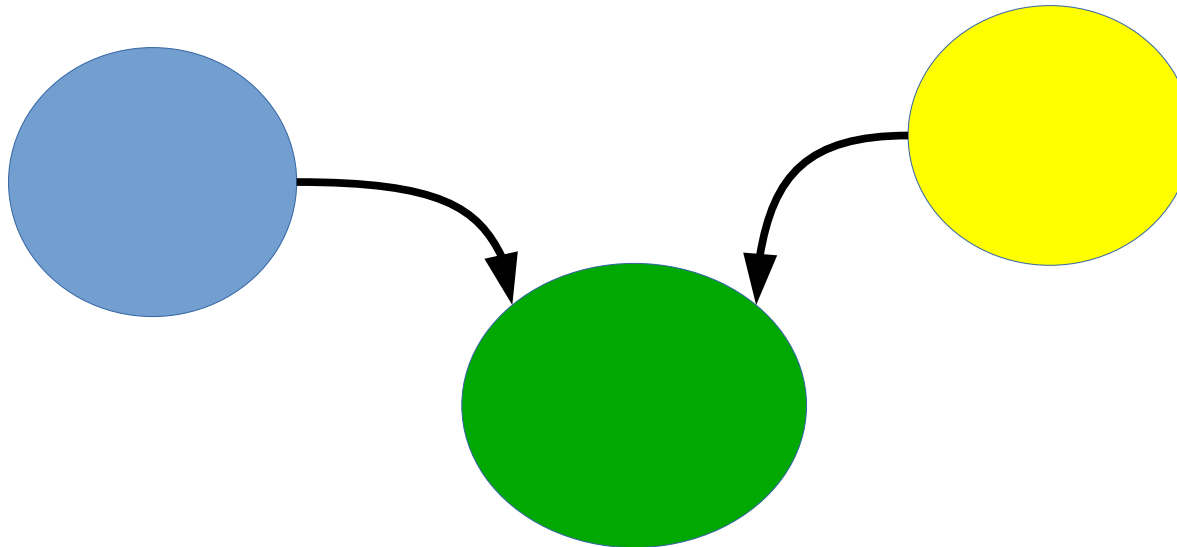
Spring 2021

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# Descent with Modification

- ***Descent with modification*** is simply a passing trait from parent to offspring.
- One of the fundamental ideas behind Charles Darwin's theory of evolution.
- Traits are passed on to children in a process known as heredity.



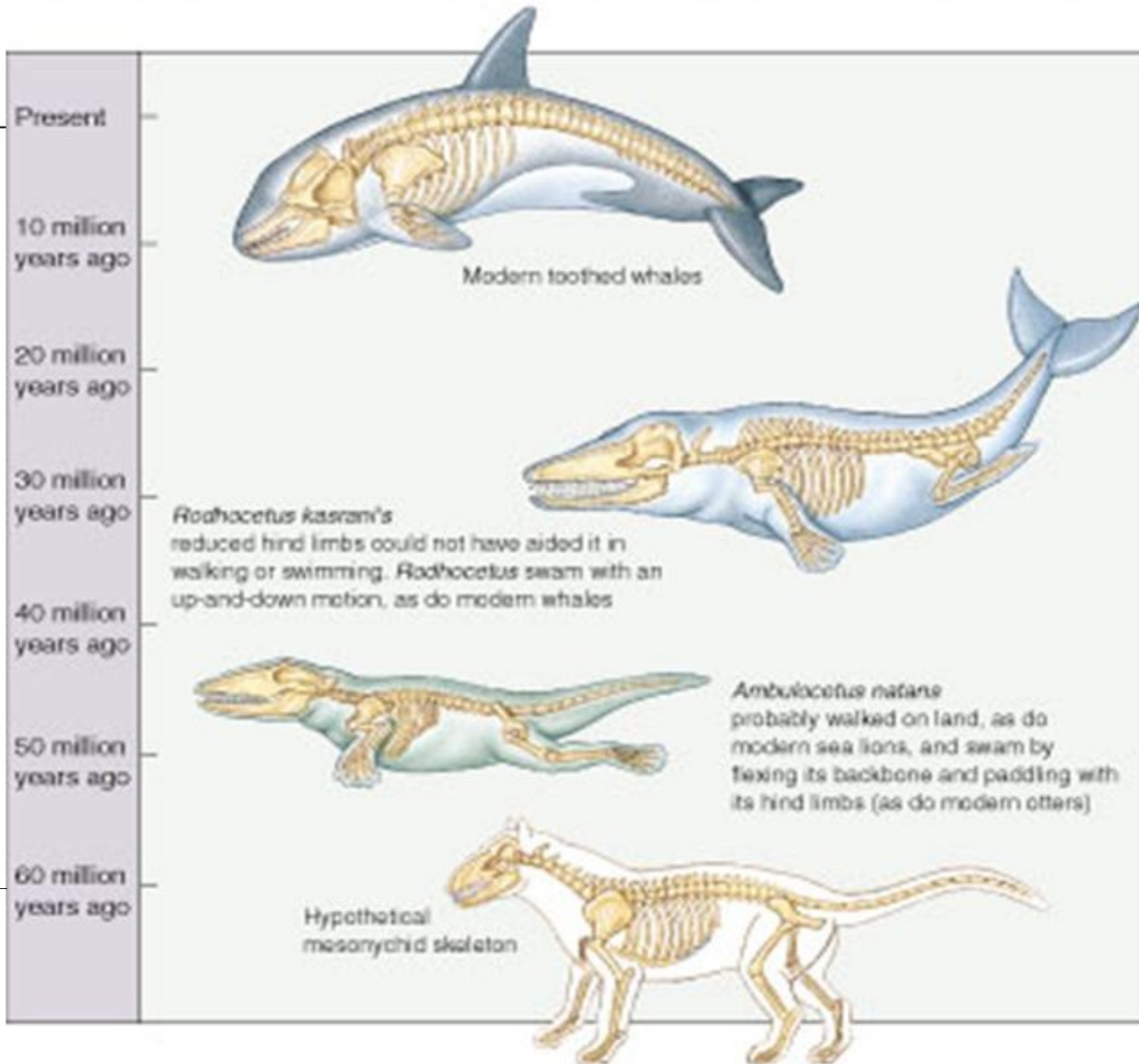
# Passed Down From Genome to Genome

- DNA replication ensures a **mostly** faithful passing of the genome to progeny
- What would be the consequence of 100% accurate replication?
- Is that high similarity really desirable for a species?
- How does decent with modification happen?



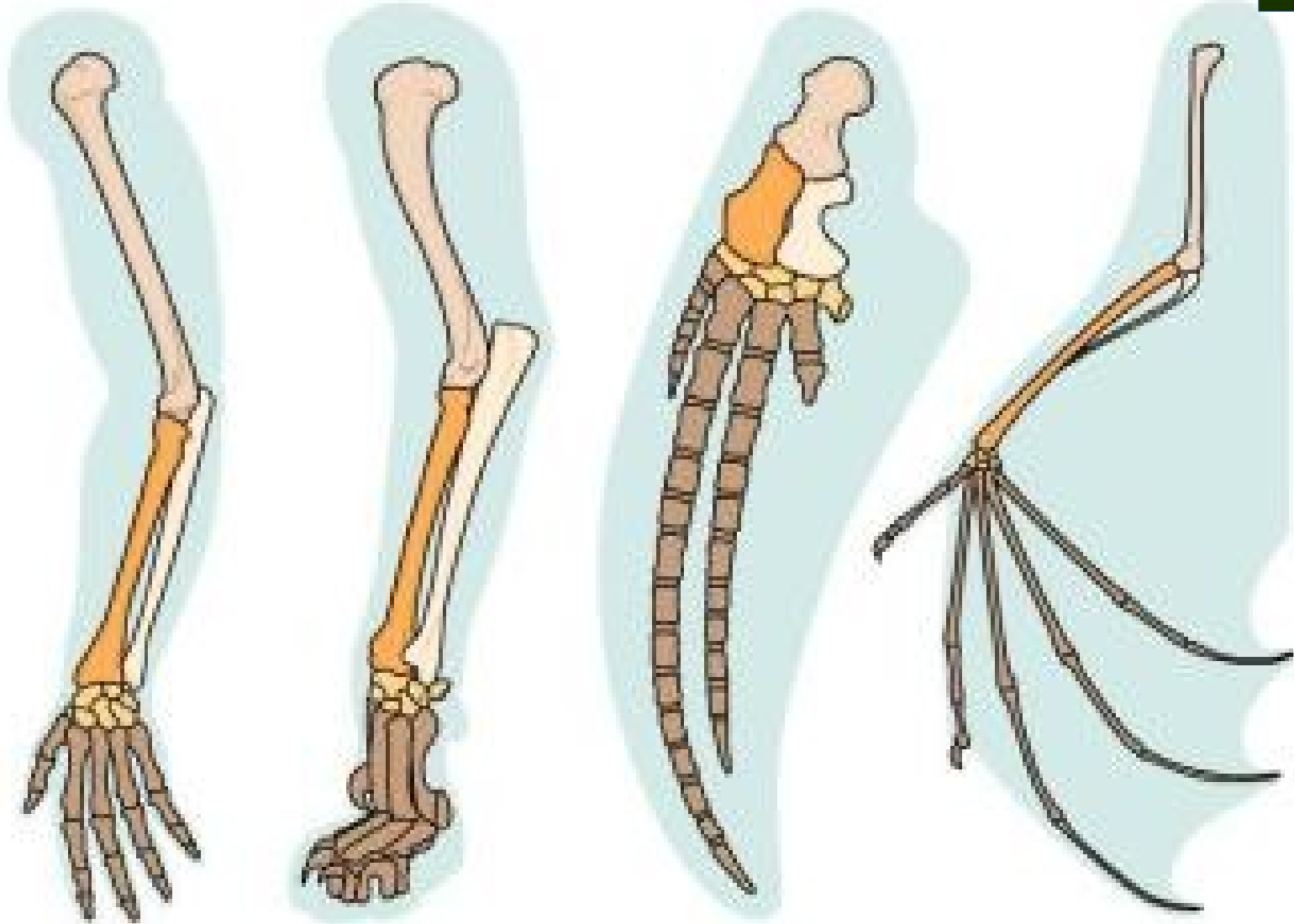
# Descent With Modification

Present  
Day



Long  
Ago

# Same Bone, Different Day



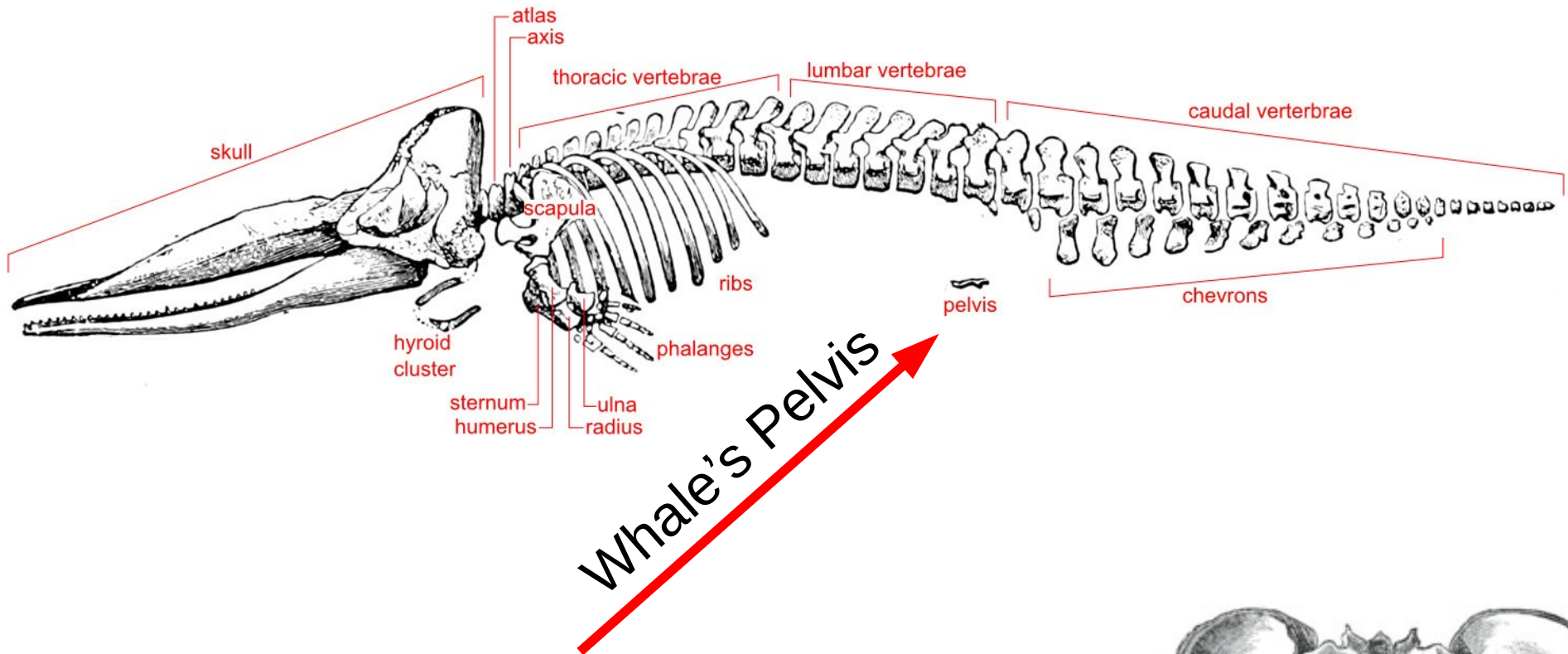
Human

Cat

Whale

Bat

# Same Bone, Different Day



Human's  
Pelvis







# How Does Descent With Modification Happen?

## Mutation

- A change in a DNA sequence
- Results from errors in replication or repair
- Mutation is the ultimate source of genetic variation

Domestic Dog – *Canis lupus familiaris*  
All descendent from the grey wolf  
All the same species (sub-species)  
Breeds – variation within the species





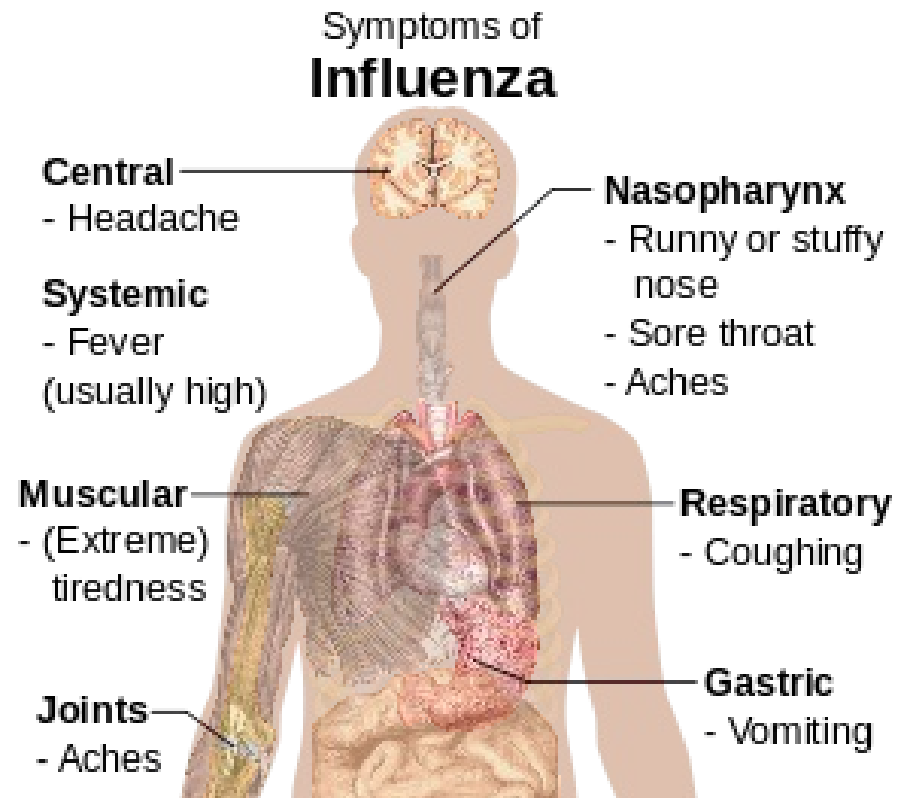
# Sequence Variations

- Sequences may have diverged from a common ancestor through various types of mutations:
- substitutions (ACGA □ AGGA)
- insertions (ACGA □ ACCGGAGA)
- deletions (ACGGAGA □ AGA)
- You are UNIQUE and SLIGHTLY GENETICALLY DIFFERENT from each of your parents, grand parents, great grand parents ...
- Retro Viruses (Influenza, HIV, etc) are also unique and slightly genetically different from their ancestors



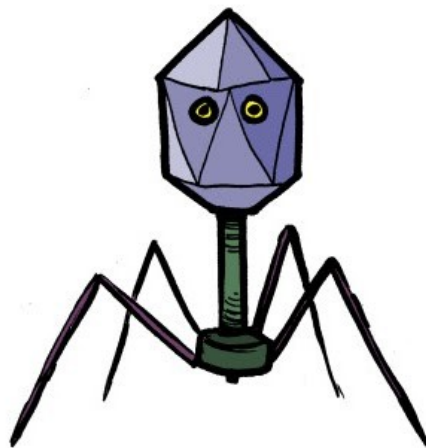
# What Is Influenza?

- Flu, also known as the influenza, is a contagious disease that is caused by the flu **virus**. It attacks the respiratory tract in humans (nose, throat, and lungs). The flu is different from a cold. Flu usually comes on suddenly and may include these symptoms:
- Fever
- Headache
- Tiredness (can be extreme)
- Dry cough
- Sore throat
- Nasal congestion
- Body aches



# The Influenza Virus: an RNA Virus (or retro virus)

- Like all living things, influenza makes small errors—mutations—when it copies its genetic code during reproduction.
- Influenza lacks the ability to repair those errors, because it is an RNA virus; RNA, unlike DNA, lacks a self-correcting mechanism.
- **As a result, influenza is not genetically stable.**



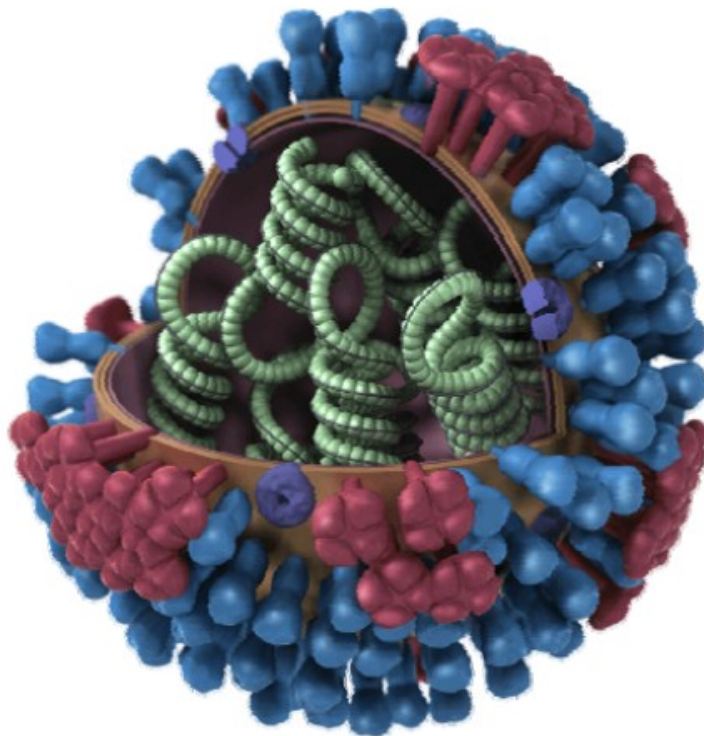
**Virus**



**Retrovirus**

# H1N1 Virus

## H1N1 Influenza Virus



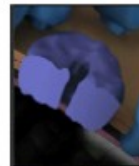
Hemagglutinin

**Hemagglutinin-** protein the virus uses to attach to the host cells



Neuraminidase

**Neuraminidase-** enables the virus to be released from the host cell



M2 Ion Channel

**M2 Ion Channel-** allows protons to move through the viral envelope and is essential for the virus replication process



RNP

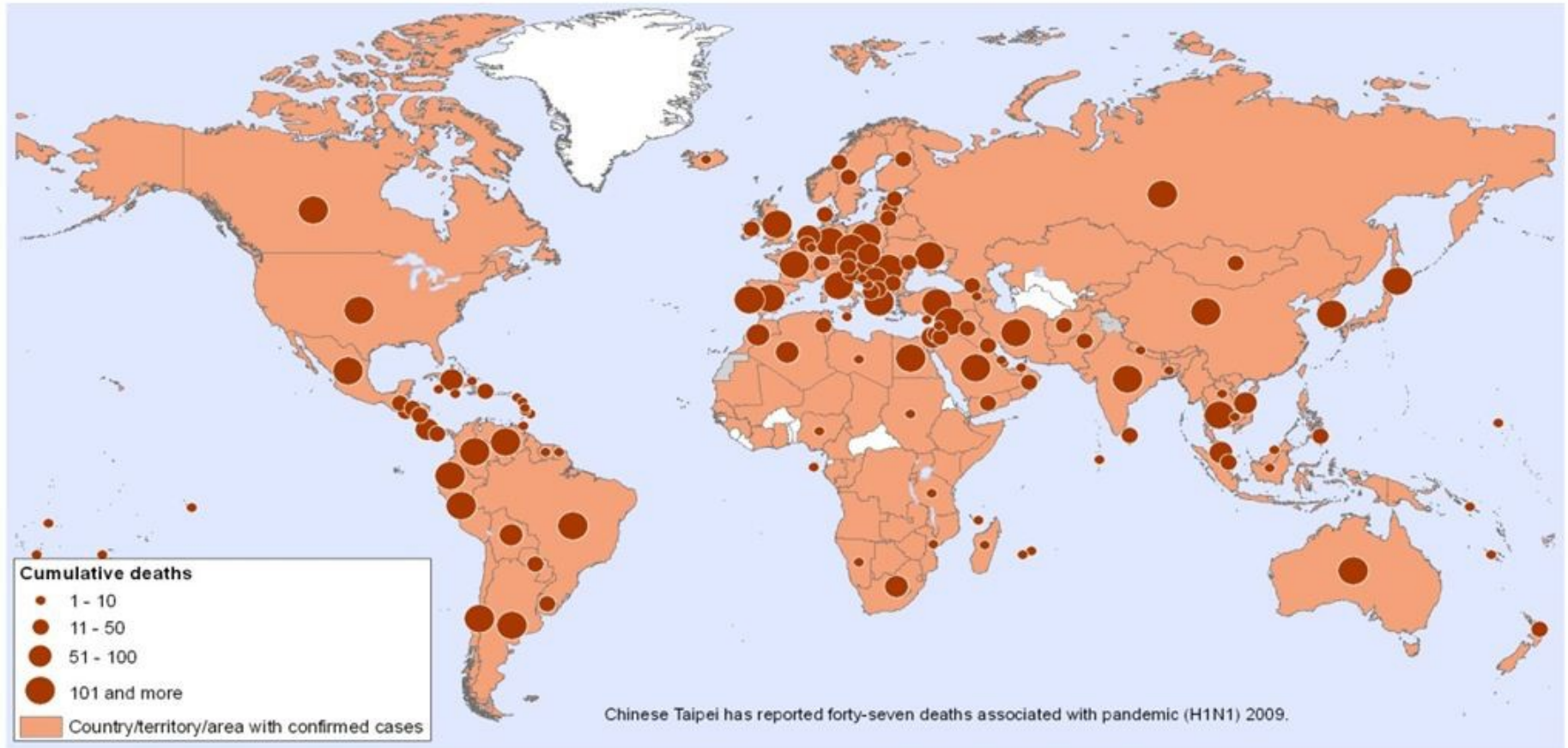
**RNP-** Ribonucleoprotein containing the virus RNA genome

# Tracking Infectious Disease

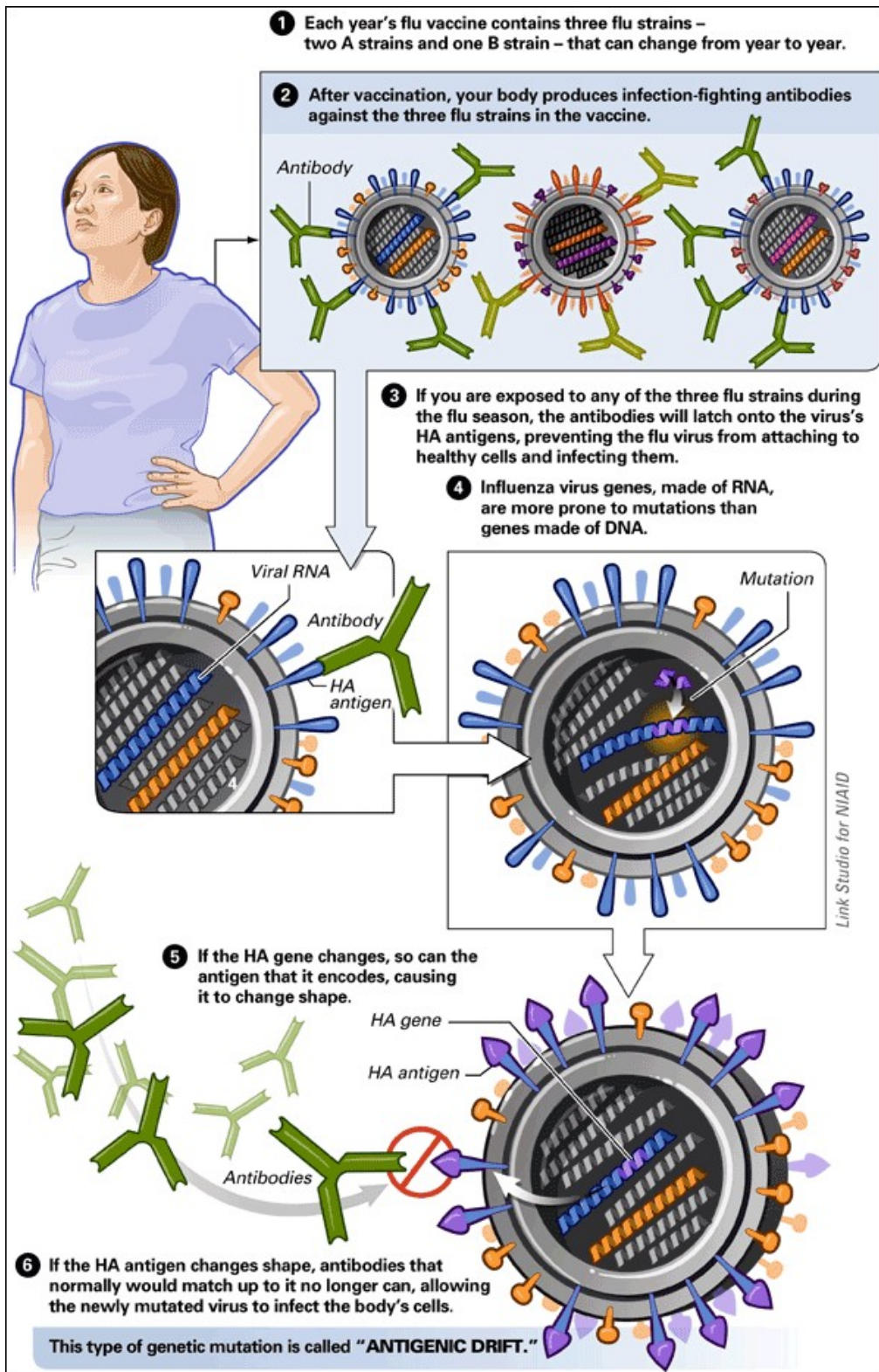
## 2009 H1N1 Influenza Pandemic



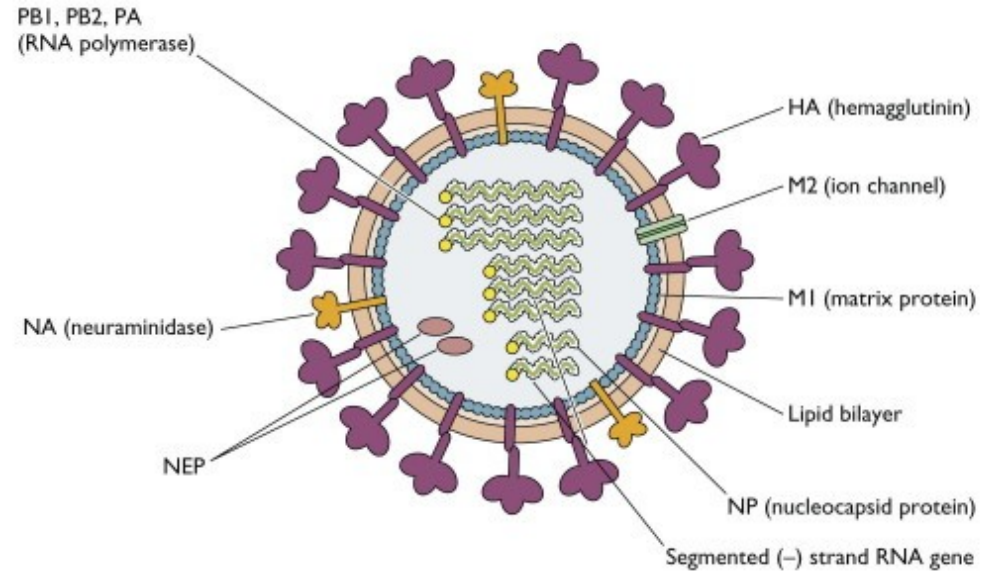
ALLEGHENY  
COLLEGE







# Vaccines

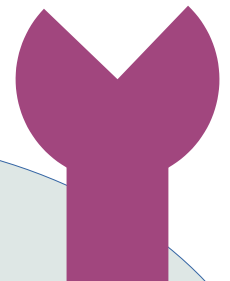


Antibody



No  
Infection

Virus



Attach  
to cell

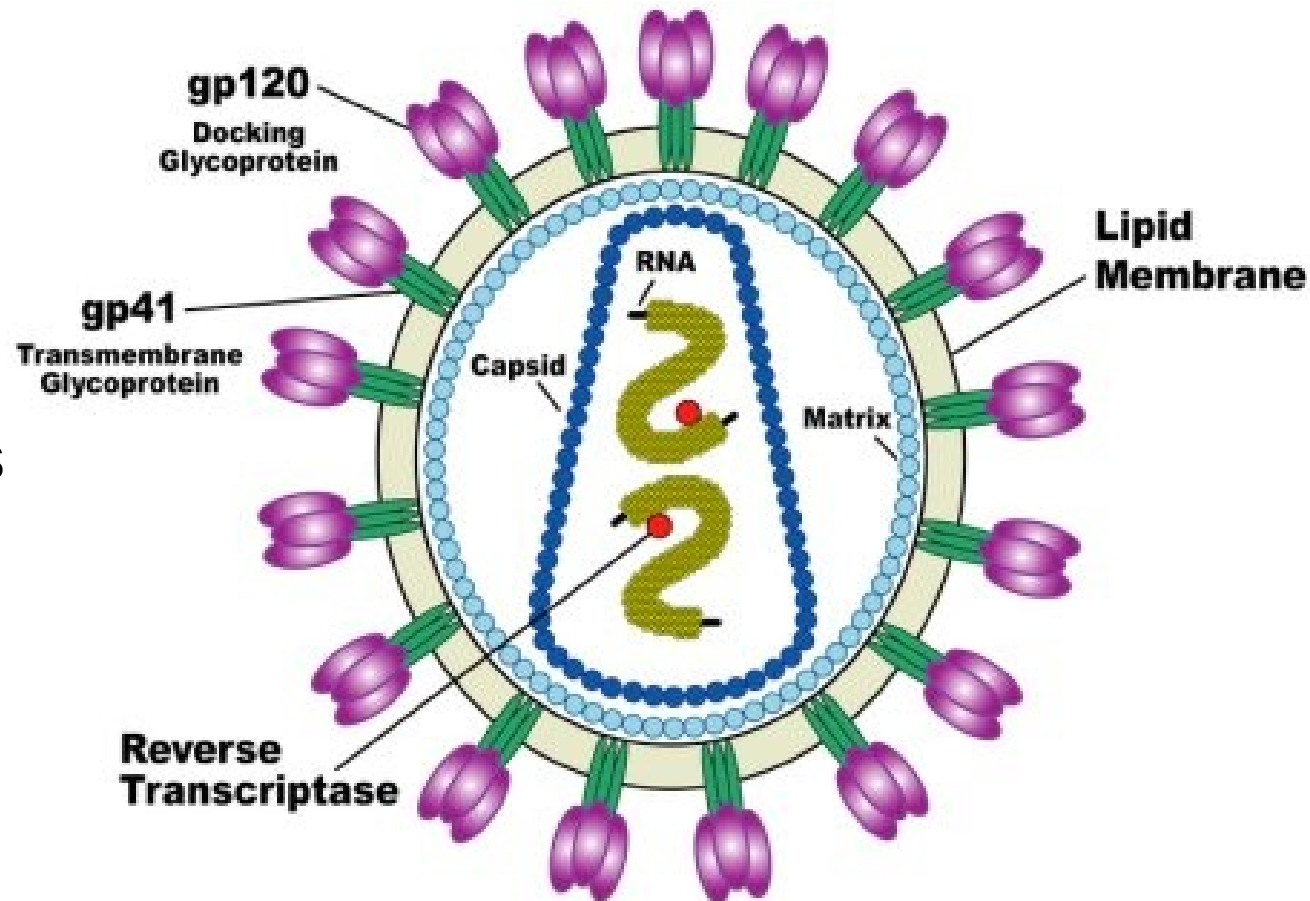


# Viral Evolution

- Viruses evolve very quickly
  - Some of the highest mutation rates known
    - Arms race with immune system
  - Viruses – mutation rate 0.0001 - 0.000001 mutations per base per generation
    - One mutation every 10,000 – 1,000,000 nucleotides
    - Influenza genome size = ~14,000 nucleotides
    - Entire genome is coding regions (genes)
- Humans – 0.00000001 mutations per base per generation
  - One mutation every 100,000,000 nucleotides
  - Human genome size 3 billion nucleotides
  - Only 1.5% of genome is coding regions (genes)

# Viruses Using DNA vs RNA

- DNA viruses are mostly double-stranded while RNA viruses are single-stranded.
- RNA mutation rate is higher than DNA mutation rate.
- Mutation causes major changes in virus genetic code
- Did mutation improve survival?







# Viruses Using DNA vs RNA

- DNA replication takes place in the nucleus while RNA replication takes place in the cytoplasm.
- DNA viruses are stable while RNA viruses are unstable.
- In DNA viruses, viral genetic code is injected in the host DNA for duplication and decoding.
- RNA viruses skip DNA for duplication and decoding.



# Reverse Transcription

- Retroviruses do not kill the host cell initially because they can insert their genome into the host genome.
- This process is called reverse transcription and is done by the viral protein reverse transcriptase. In the case of HIV, viral protein *integrase* then inserts the HIV DNA into host DNA.
- High mutation rate of genetic material from one organism to another.
- These mutations can be used to track virus spread.
- **Sequence Alignment to compare sequences!**

# Molecular Epidemiology of HIV Transmissions in a Dental Practice

How related is the DNA of each virus infection?

HIV-positive persons included in study of HIV isolates from a Florida dental practice

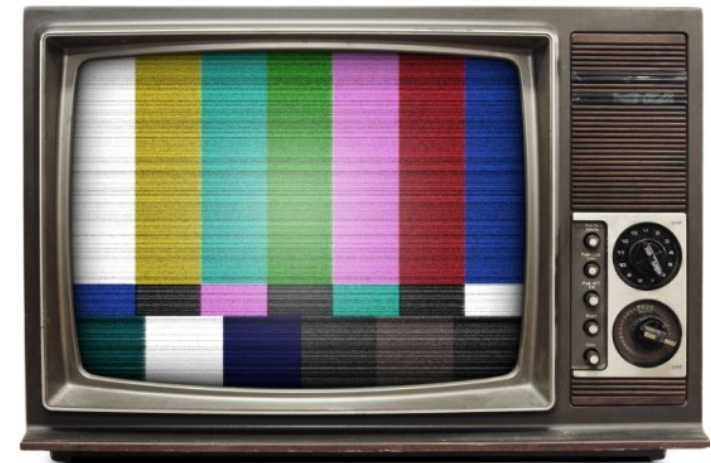
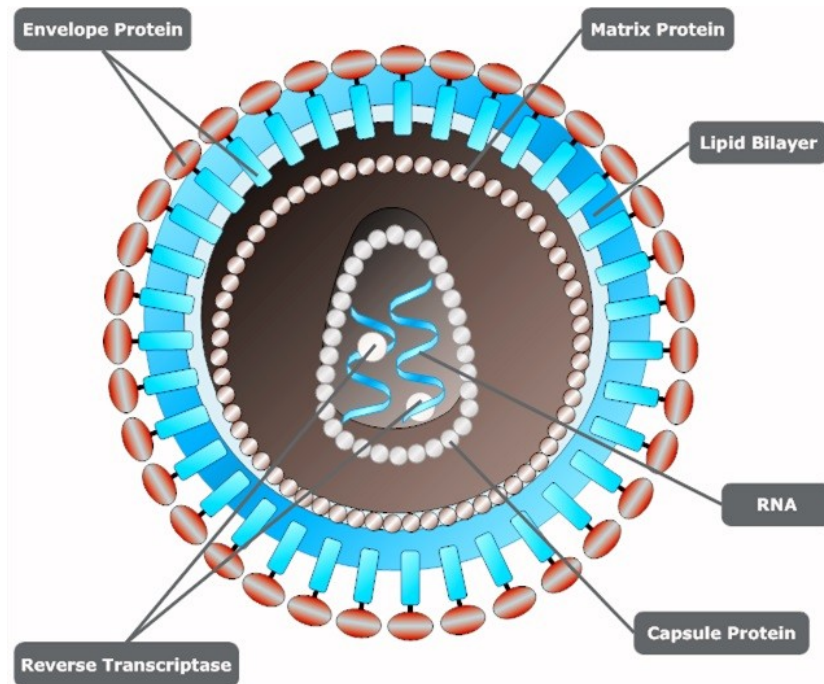
Person	Sex	Known risk factors	Average differences in DNA sequences (%)	
			From HIV from dentist	From HIV from controls
Dentist	M	Yes		11.0
Patient A	F	No	3.4	10.9
Patient B	F	No	4.4	11.2
Patient C	M	No	3.4	11.1
Patient E	F	No	3.4	10.8
Patient G	M	No	4.9	11.8
Patient D	M	Yes	13.6	13.1
Patient F	M	Yes	10.7	11.9

Source: After C. Ou et al., *Science* 256(1992):1165-1171, Table 1.

Similar DNA implies closer relationship between organisms

# Supporting Videos

- Retrovirus reverse transcription
  - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eS1GODinO8w>
- Coronavirus life cycle
  - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5DGwOJXSxqg>





# Pairwise Alignment Similarity and Relatedness

## Alignment of a gene from two closely related viruses

Hemagglutinin gene from virus A: ATGAACGCAATACTCGTAGTT...

||||| ||||| |||||

Hemagglutinin gene from virus B: ATGAAGGCAATACTAGTAGTT...

Few Mismatches



## Alignment of a gene from two distantly related viruses

Hemagglutinin gene from virus A: ATGAACGCAATACTCGTAGTT...

||| ||| ||| |||| | |

Hemagglutinin gene from virus C: ATGCACGAAATGCTCGGACCT...

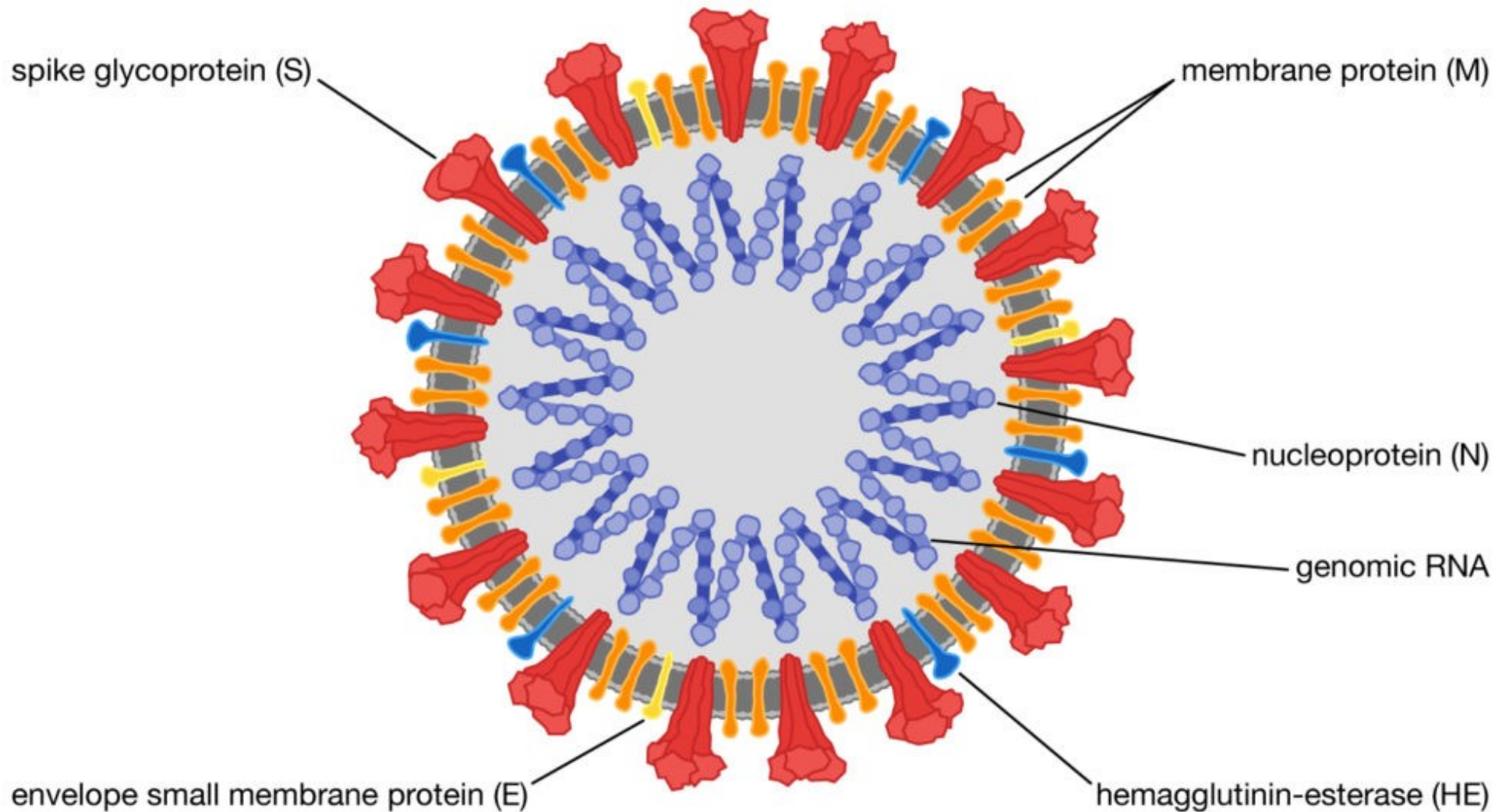
Lots of Mismatches





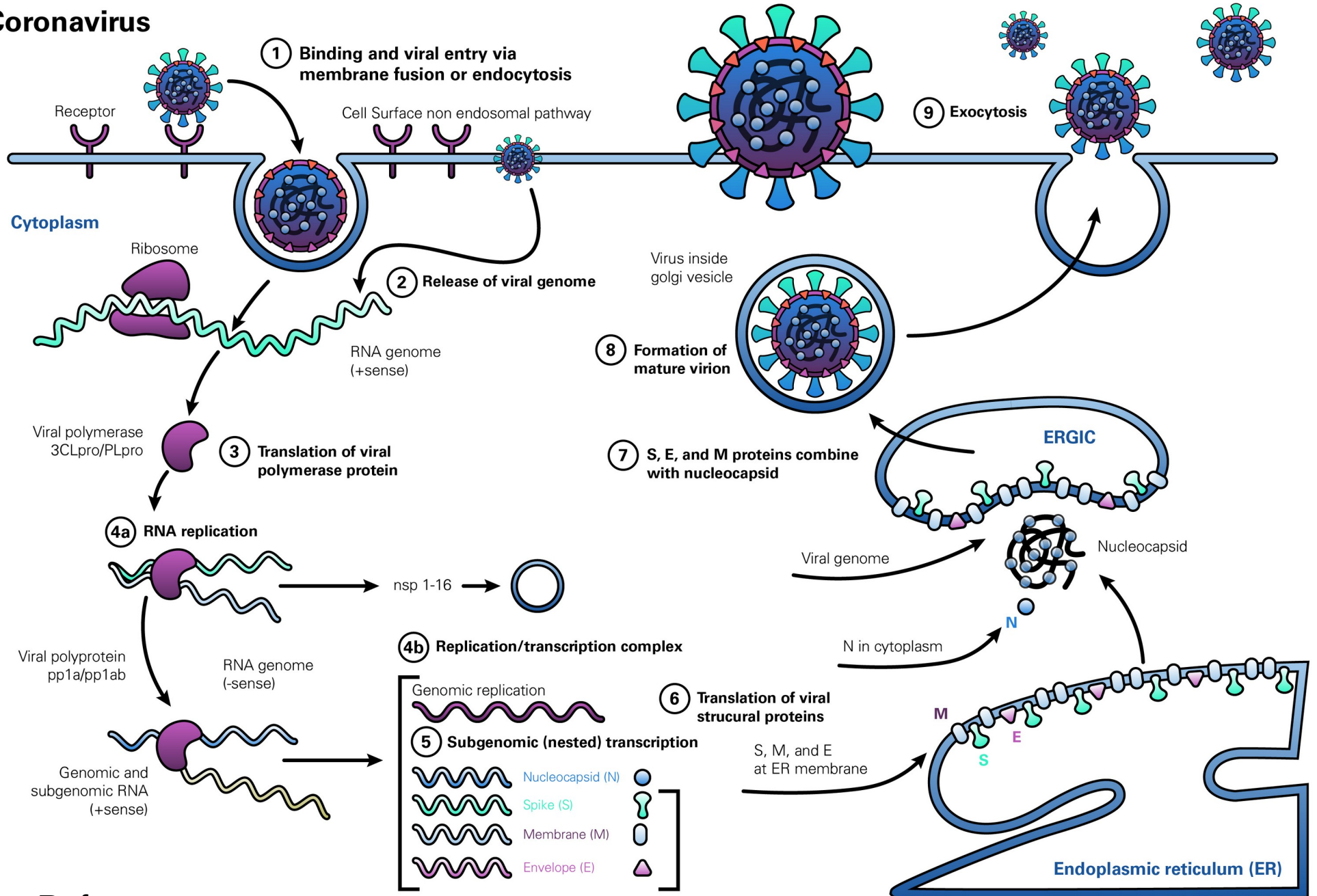
# Coronaviruses

## Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2)



# Life Cycle of Coronaviruses

## Coronavirus



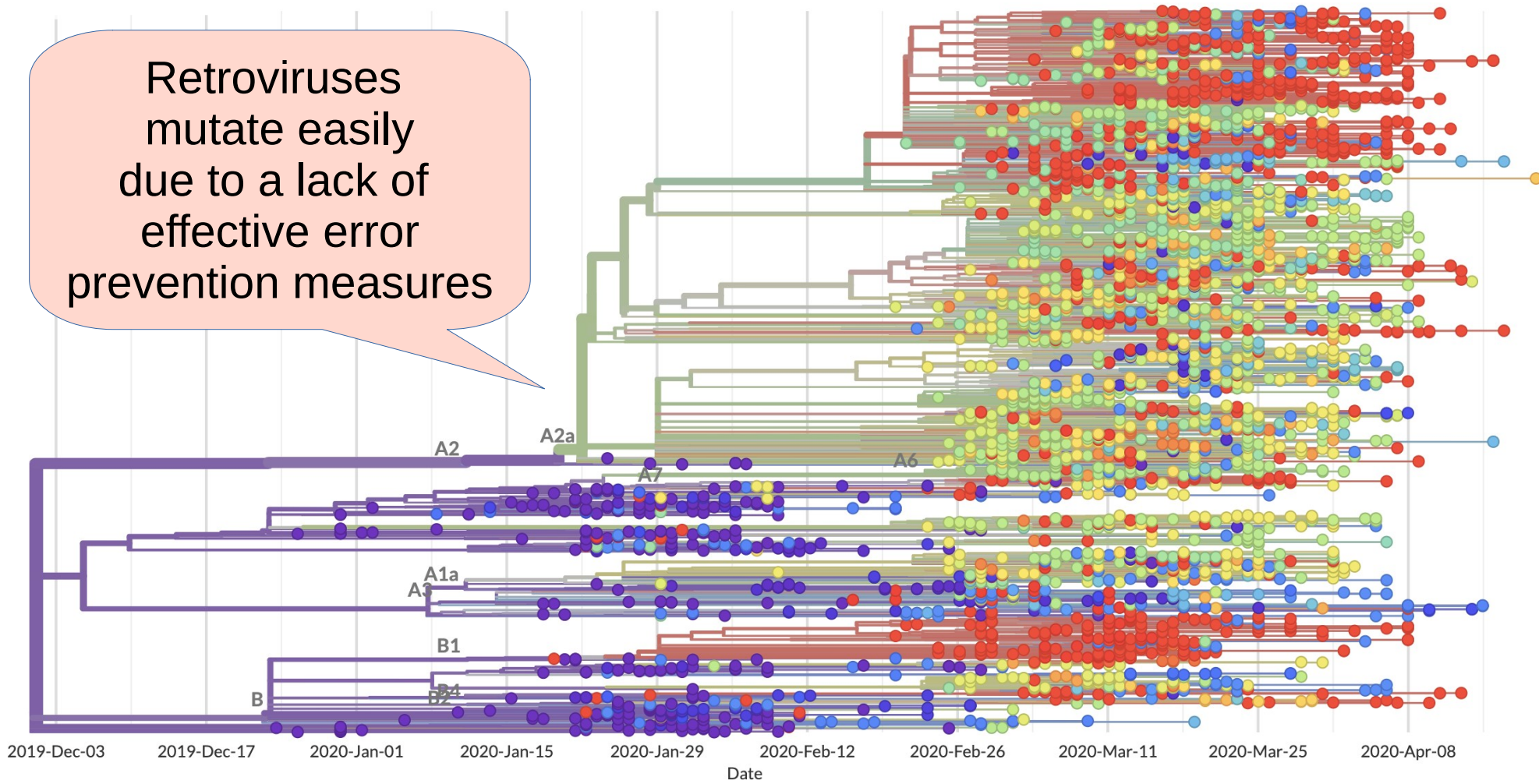
Ref :

<https://www.lsbio.com/media/whitepapers/sars-cov-2-and-covid-19-pathogenesis-a-review>



# Variants of Coronavirus

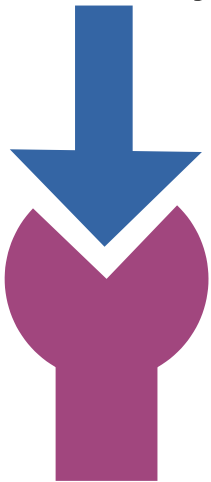
Retroviruses  
mutate easily  
due to a lack of  
effective error  
prevention measures



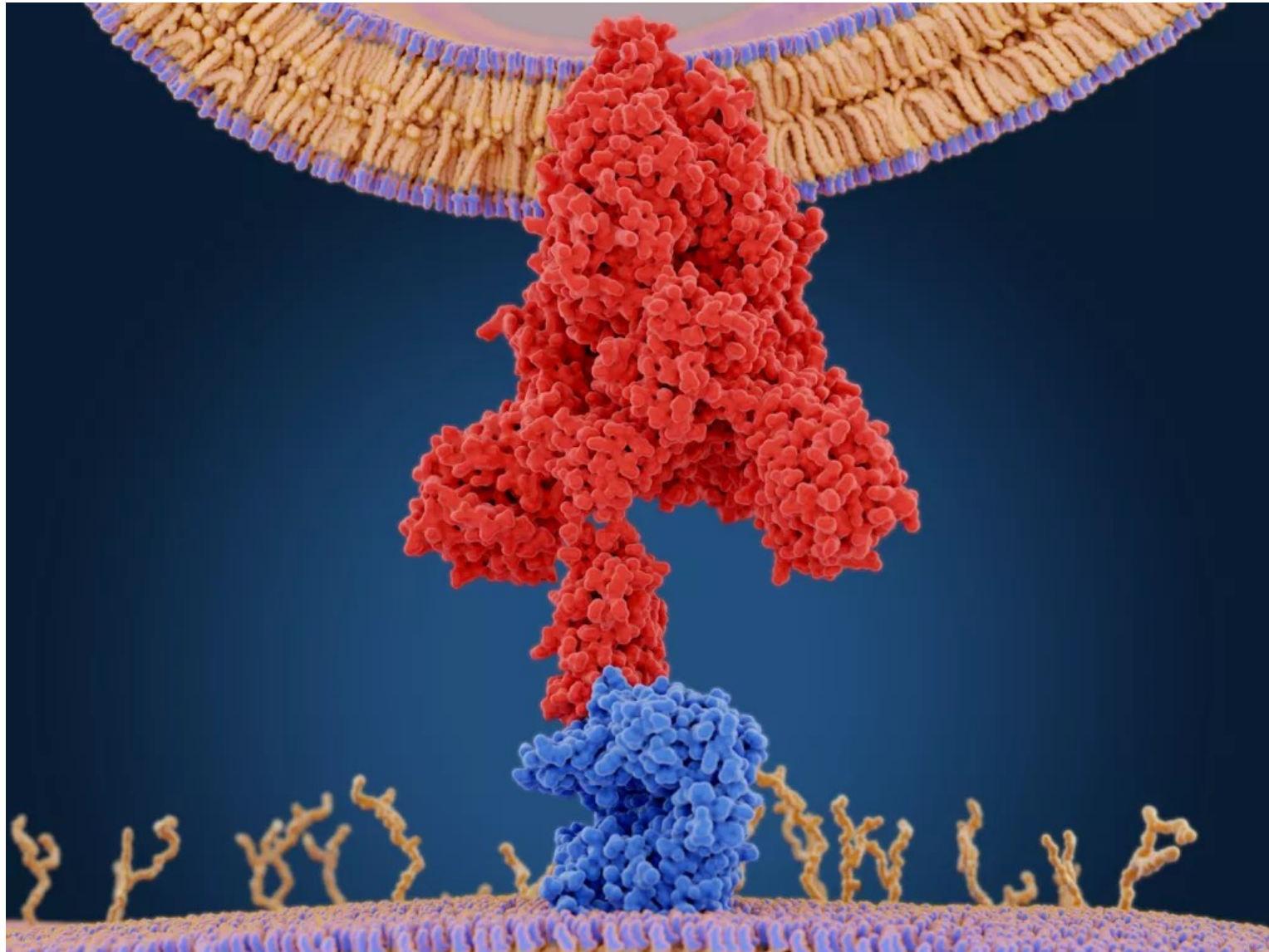
Retroviruses mutate easily by virtue of the lack of copying protections like

# Spike Proteins Also Mutate...

Antibody



No  
Infection



Ref:

<https://www.livescience.com/why-coronavirus-attaches-stronger-human-cells.htm>



# Midterm Reflection

- Please complete the below survey at this time.
- Your input helps to improve the quality of teaching in this course.
- Midterm reflection for CS300 spring 2021
  - <https://forms.gle/D29MmgVLs1rcd2TJ8>

