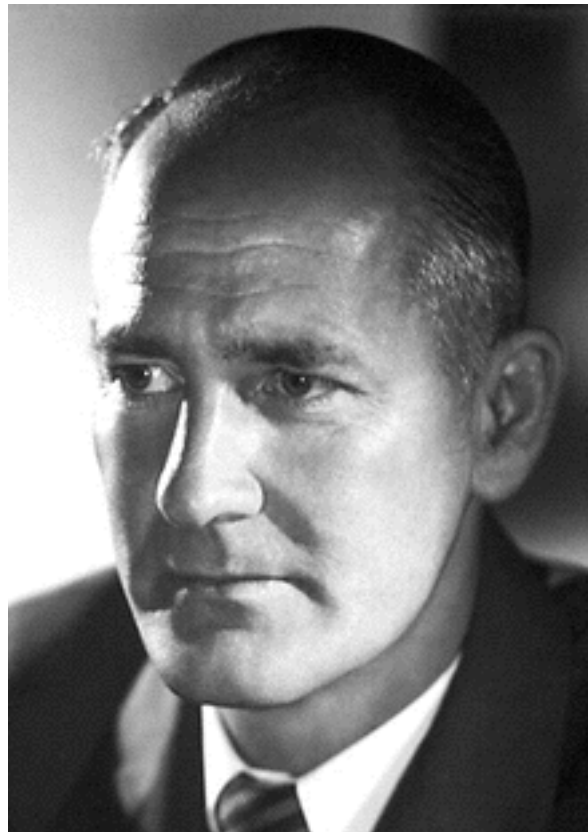


Bio393: Genetic Analysis

Genetic interactions: epistasis



George Beadle



Ed Tatum

Arginine mutant complementation experiment

	<i>arg-a</i>	<i>arg-b</i>	<i>arg-c</i>	<i>arg-d</i>	<i>arg-e</i>	<i>arg-f</i>	<i>arg-g</i>	<i>arg-h</i>	<i>arg-i</i>
<i>arg-a</i>									
<i>arg-b</i>									
<i>arg-c</i>									
<i>arg-d</i>									
<i>arg-e</i>									
<i>arg-f</i>									
<i>arg-g</i>									
<i>arg-h</i>									
<i>arg-i</i>									

Arginine mutant complementation experiment

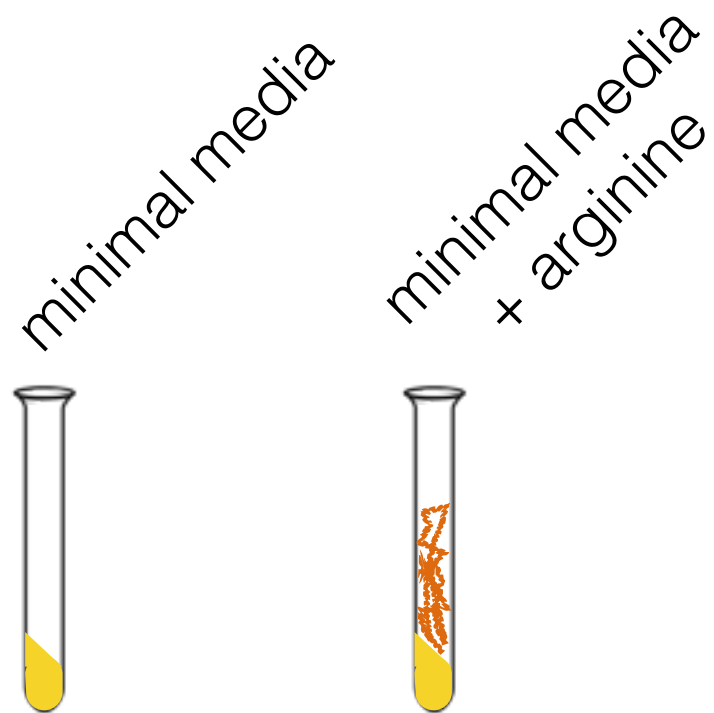
Three genes

arg1 = [a, d, f, g]

arg2 = [b, c]

arg3 = [e, h, i]

arg1



One gene - one enzyme hypothesis

Precursor → Ornithine → Citrulline → Arginine

One gene - one enzyme hypothesis

Precursor → Ornithine → Citrulline → Arginine

arg1



One gene - one enzyme hypothesis

arg1
Precursor → Ornithine → Citrulline → Arginine

arg1



One gene - one enzyme hypothesis

arg1
Precursor → Ornithine → Citrulline → Arginine

arg1

arg2



One gene - one enzyme hypothesis

Precursor $\xrightarrow{\text{arg1}}$ Ornithine $\xrightarrow{\text{arg2}}$ Citrulline \rightarrow Arginine

arg1



arg2



One gene - one enzyme hypothesis

Precursor $\xrightarrow{\text{arg1}}$ Ornithine $\xrightarrow{\text{arg2}}$ Citrulline \rightarrow Arginine

arg1



arg2



arg3



One gene - one enzyme hypothesis

Precursor $\xrightarrow{\text{arg1}}$ Ornithine $\xrightarrow{\text{arg2}}$ Citrulline $\xrightarrow{\text{arg3}}$ Arginine

arg1



arg2

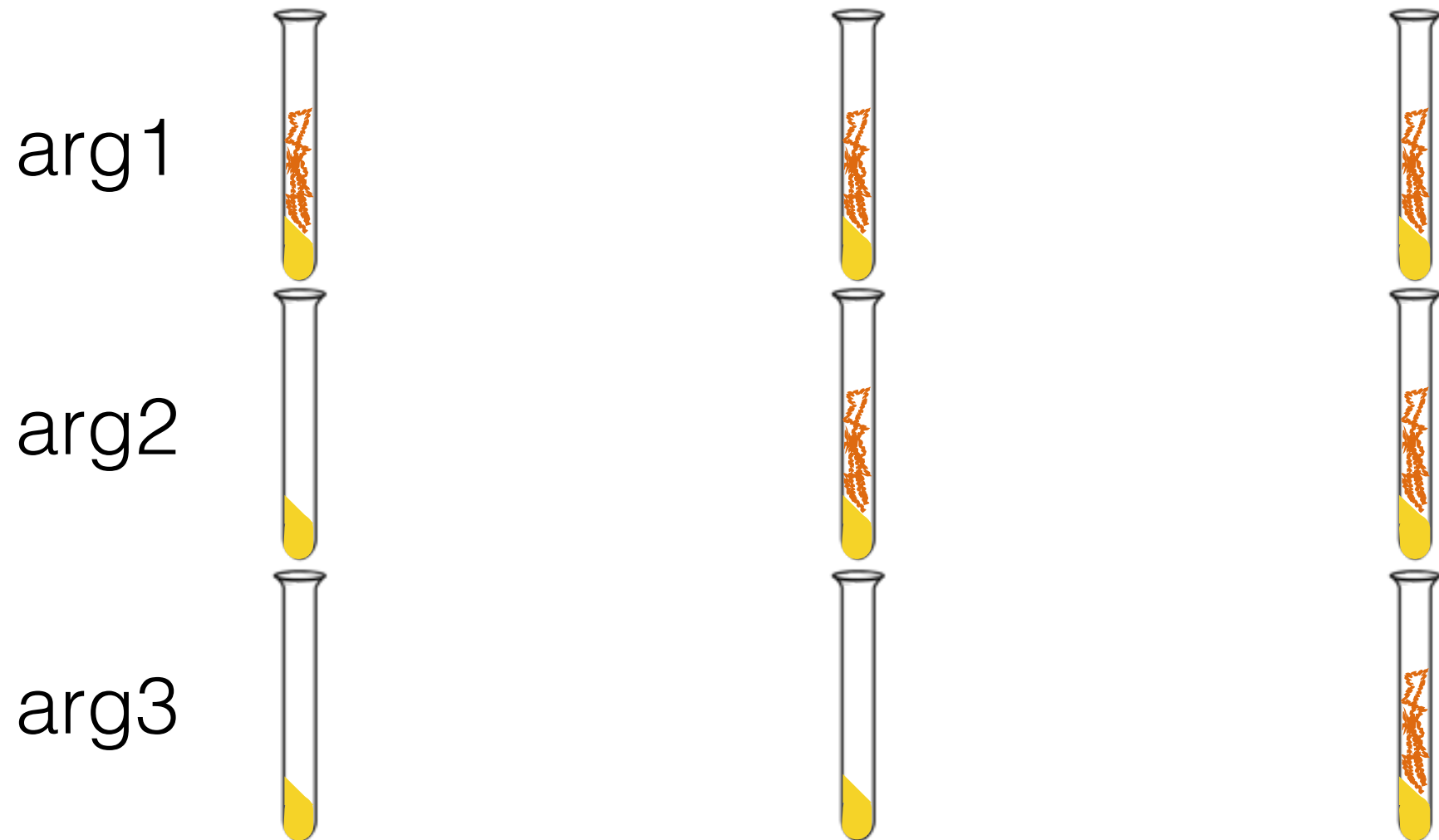


arg3



One gene - one enzyme hypothesis

Precursor $\xrightarrow{\text{arg1}}$ Ornithine $\xrightarrow{\text{arg2}}$ Citrulline $\xrightarrow{\text{arg3}}$ Arginine



Mutants accumulate precursor for previous step

One gene - one enzyme hypothesis



arg1

arg2

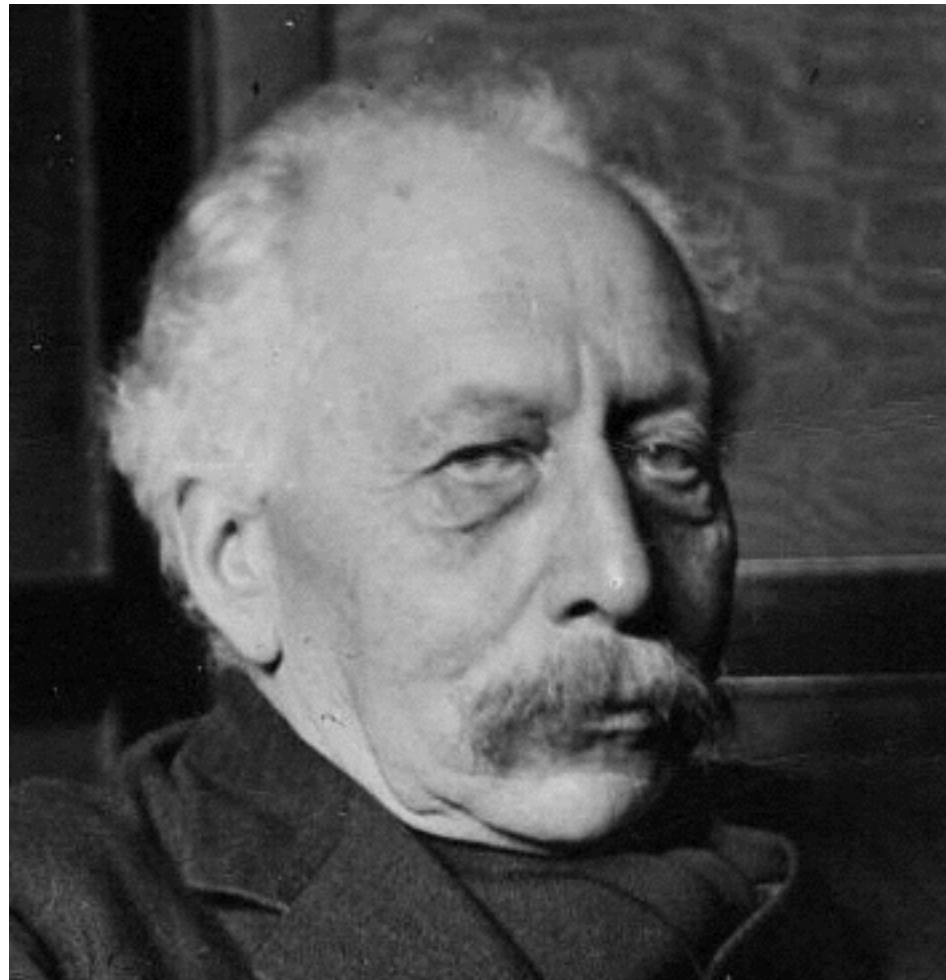
arg3



Mutants accumulate precursor for previous step

Epistasis

the effect of one gene is dependent on another gene



William Bateson

Biochemical epistasis

Precursor $\xrightarrow{\text{arg1}}$ Ornithine $\xrightarrow{\text{arg2}}$ Citrulline $\xrightarrow{\text{arg3}}$ Arginine

arg1



arg2

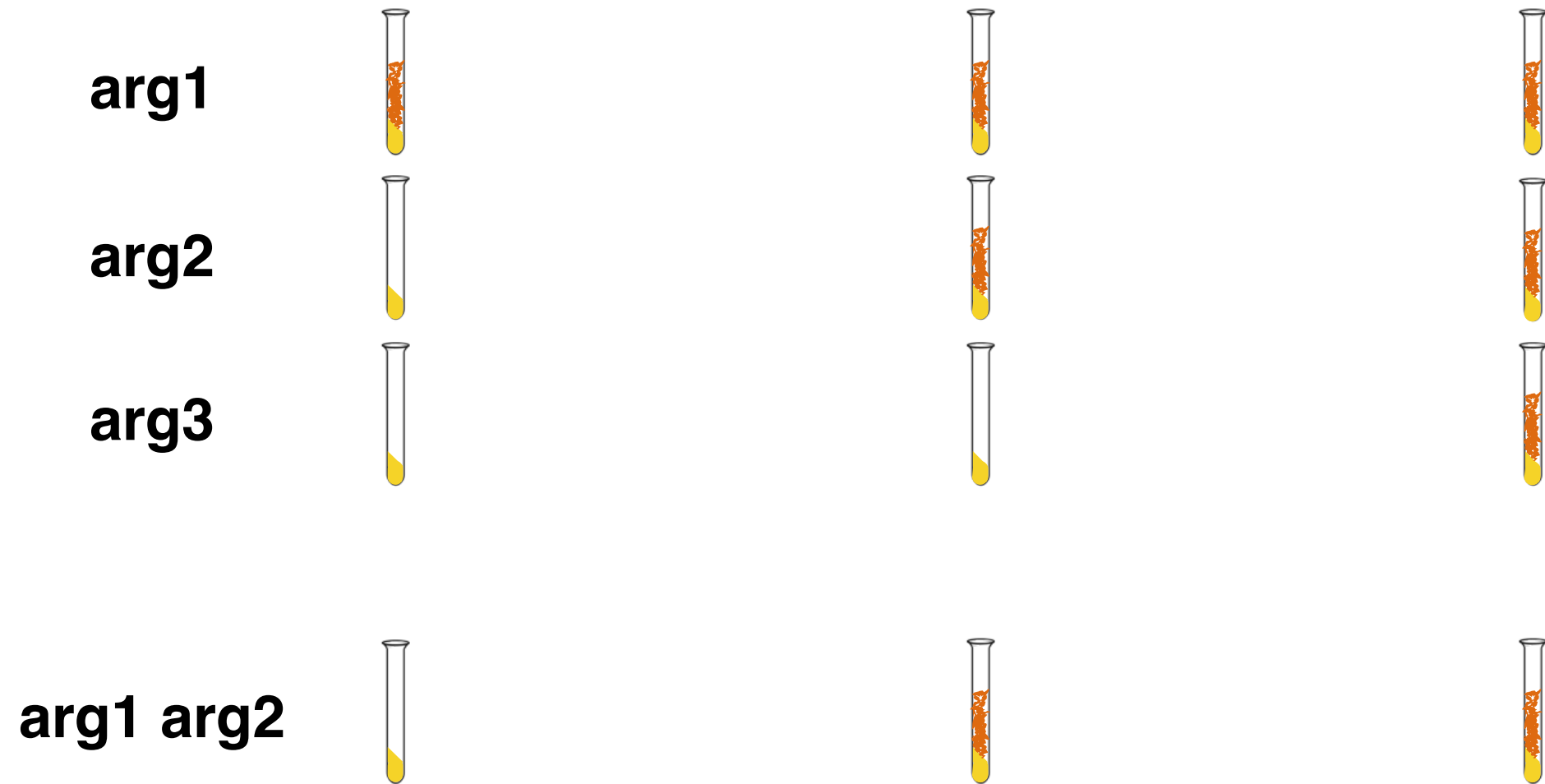


arg3



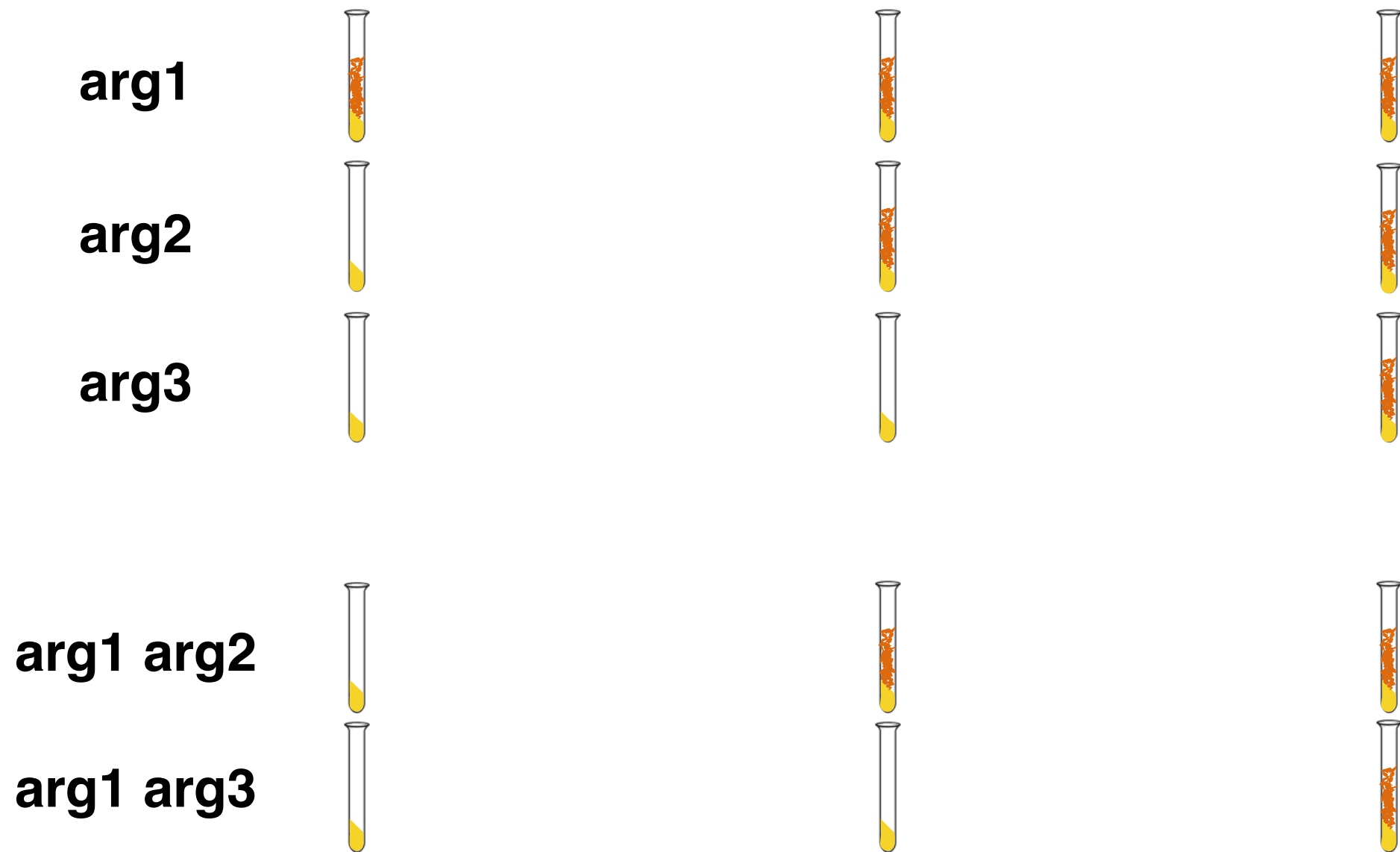
Biochemical epistasis

Precursor $\xrightarrow{\text{arg1}}$ Ornithine $\xrightarrow{\text{arg2}}$ Citrulline $\xrightarrow{\text{arg3}}$ Arginine



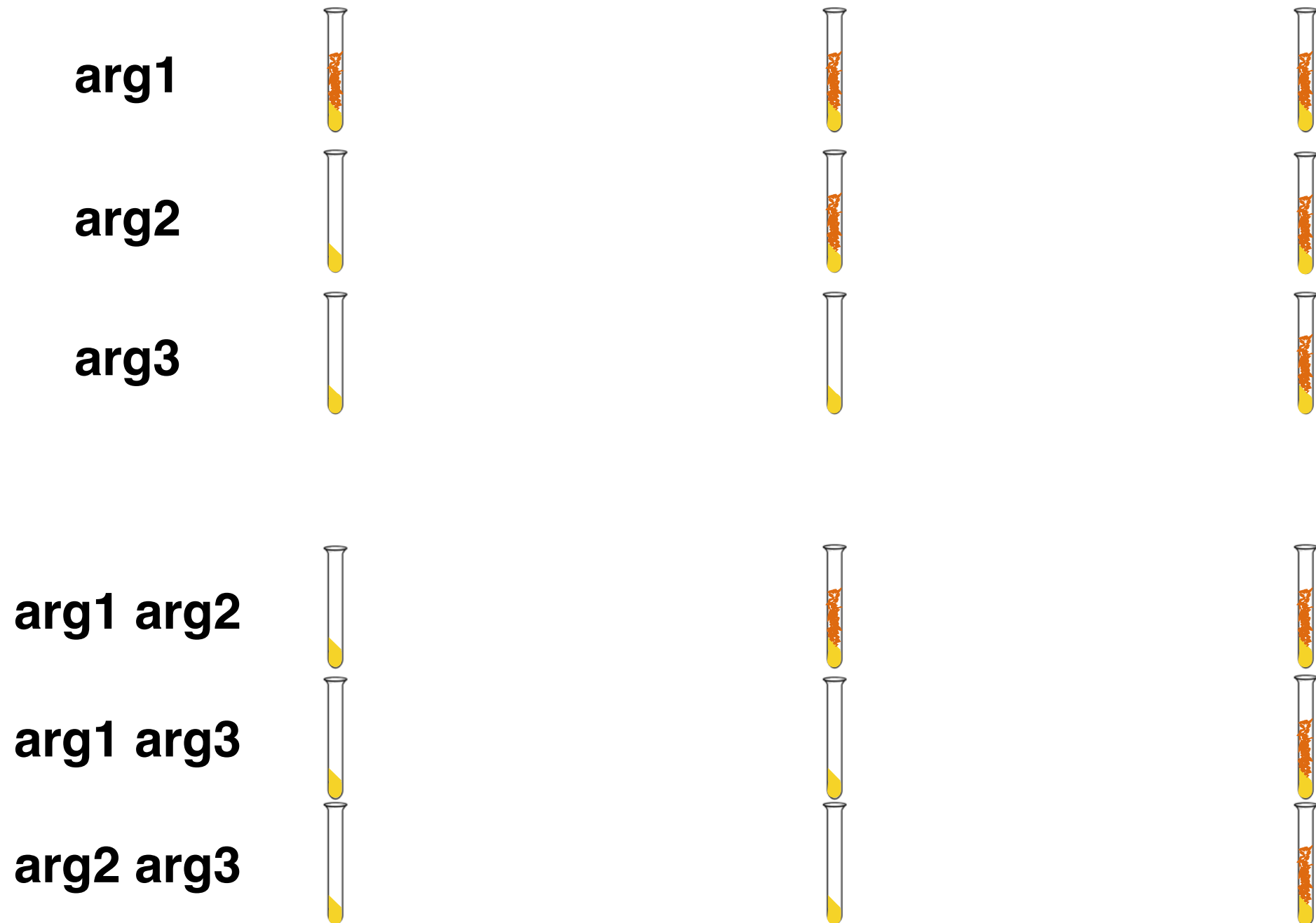
Biochemical epistasis

Precursor $\xrightarrow{\text{arg1}}$ Ornithine $\xrightarrow{\text{arg2}}$ Citrulline $\xrightarrow{\text{arg3}}$ Arginine

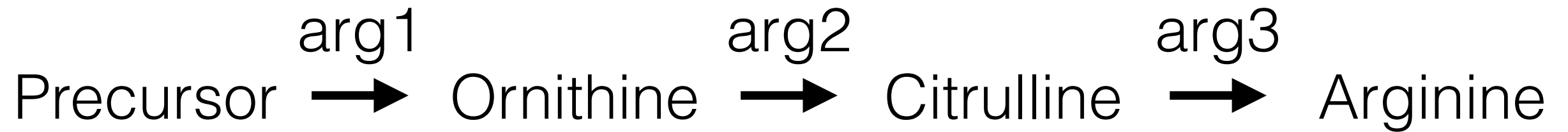


Biochemical epistasis

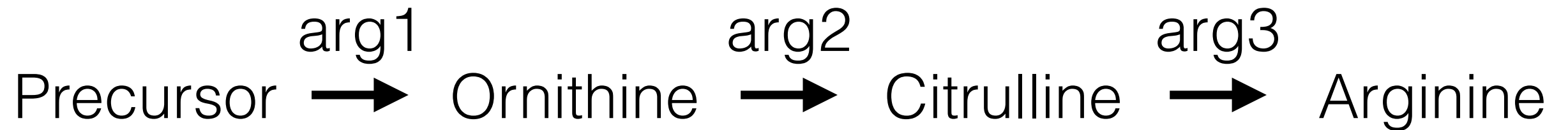
Precursor $\xrightarrow{\text{arg1}}$ Ornithine $\xrightarrow{\text{arg2}}$ Citrulline $\xrightarrow{\text{arg3}}$ Arginine



Approach to understanding biochemical epistasis

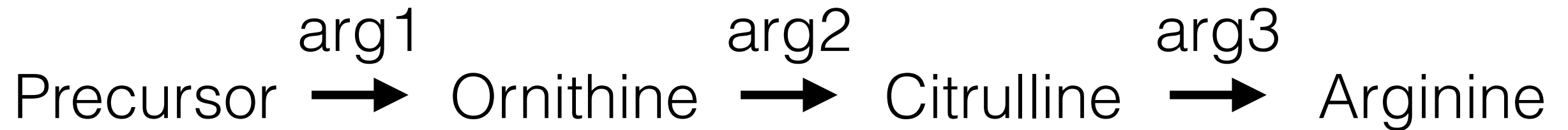


Approach to understanding biochemical epistasis



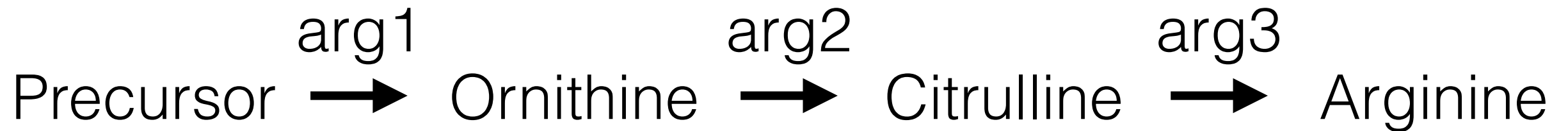
1. Single mutants fail in a step in a biosynthesis pathway

Approach to understanding biochemical epistasis



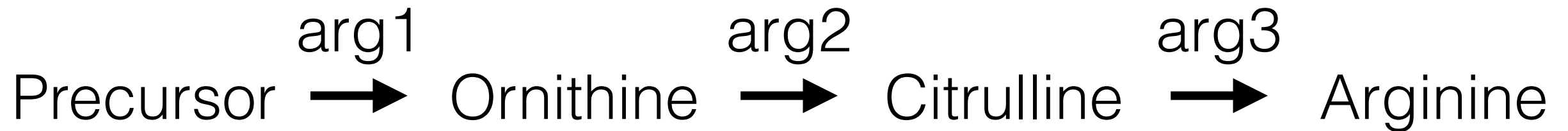
1. Single mutants fail in a step in a biosynthesis pathway

Approach to understanding biochemical epistasis



1. Single mutants fail in a step in a biosynthesis pathway
2. Double mutants fail in the most upstream step in a biosynthesis pathway

Approach to understanding biochemical epistasis



1. Single mutants fail in a step in a biosynthesis pathway
2. Double mutants fail in the most upstream step in a biosynthesis pathway

Approach to understanding biochemical epistasis



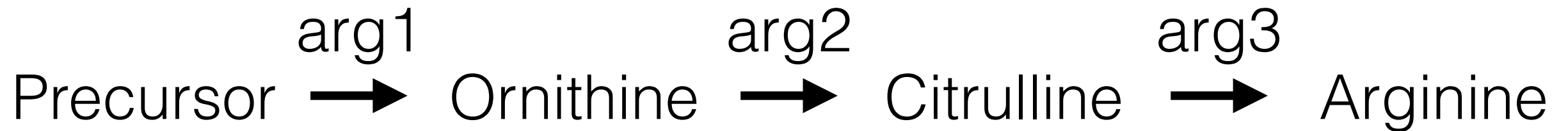
1. Single mutants fail in a step in a biosynthesis pathway
2. Double mutants fail in the most upstream step in a biosynthesis pathway
3. What will the single and double mutants accumulate?

Approach to understanding biochemical epistasis



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2. Double mutants fail in the most upstream step in a biosynthesis pathway
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Approach to understanding biochemical epistasis



1. Single mutants fail in a step in a biosynthesis pathway
2. Double mutants fail in the most upstream step in a biosynthesis pathway
3. What will the single and double mutants accumulate?
4. Pathways can be branched

Epistasis - one mutant phenotype trumps another



(A)



(B)



(C)

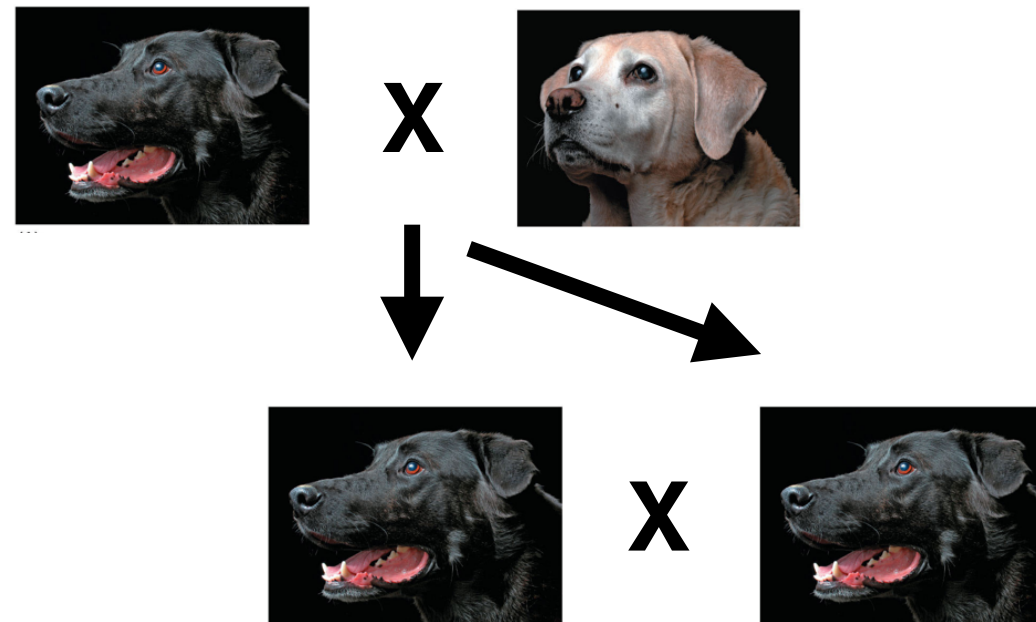
LIFE 8e, Figure 10.14

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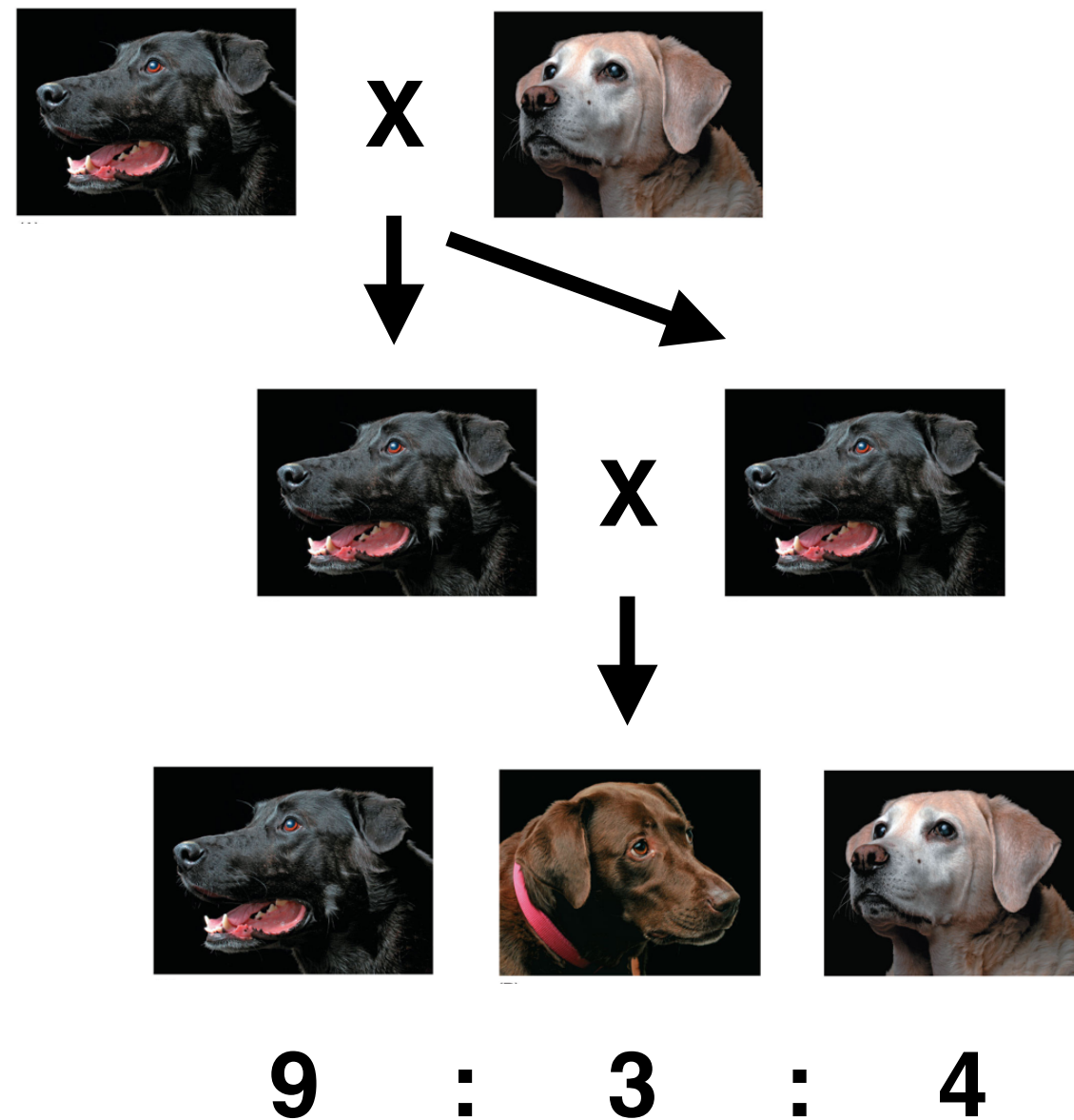
Epistasis - one mutant phenotype trumps another



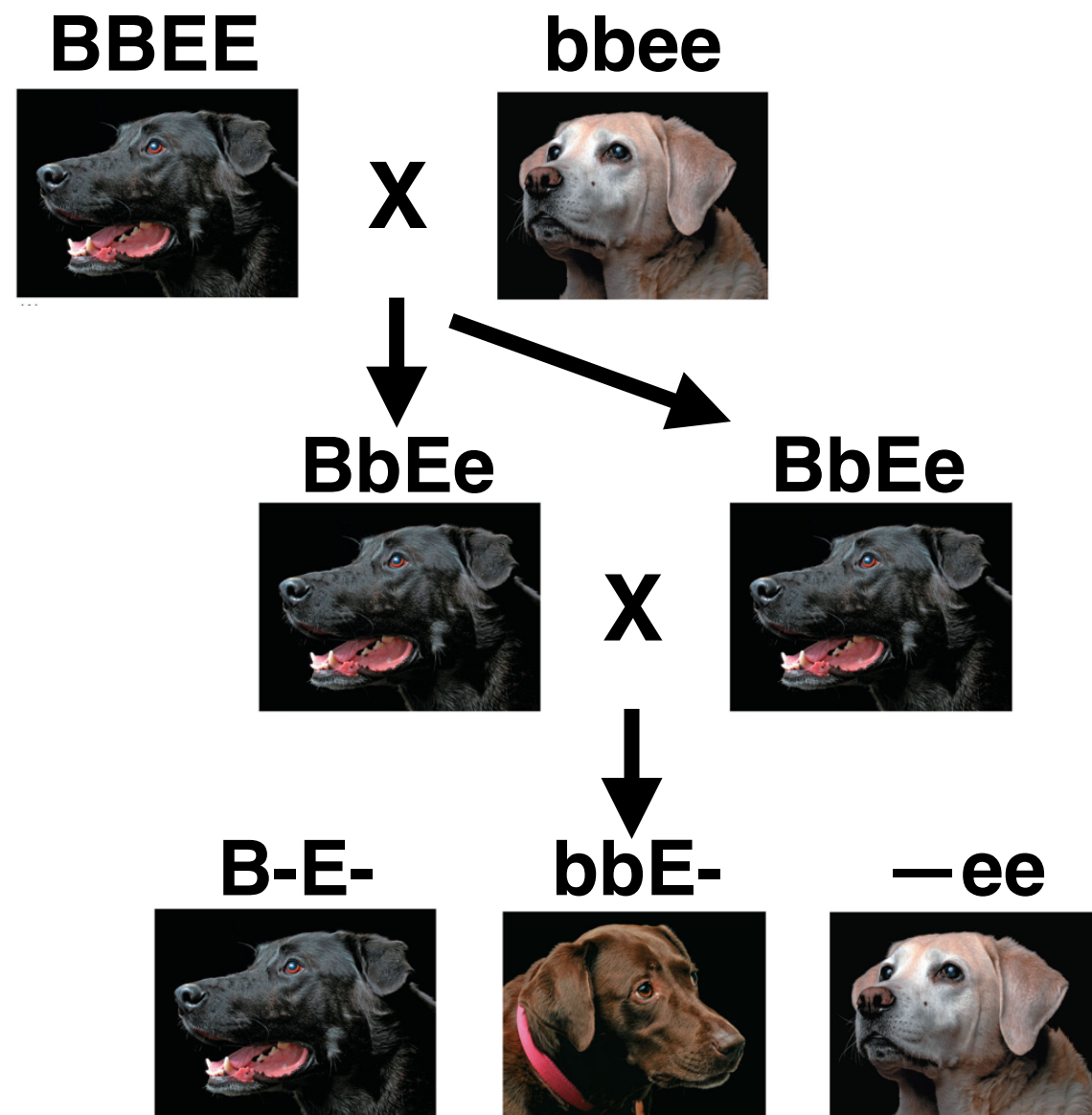
Epistasis - one mutant phenotype trumps another



Epistasis - one mutant phenotype trumps another

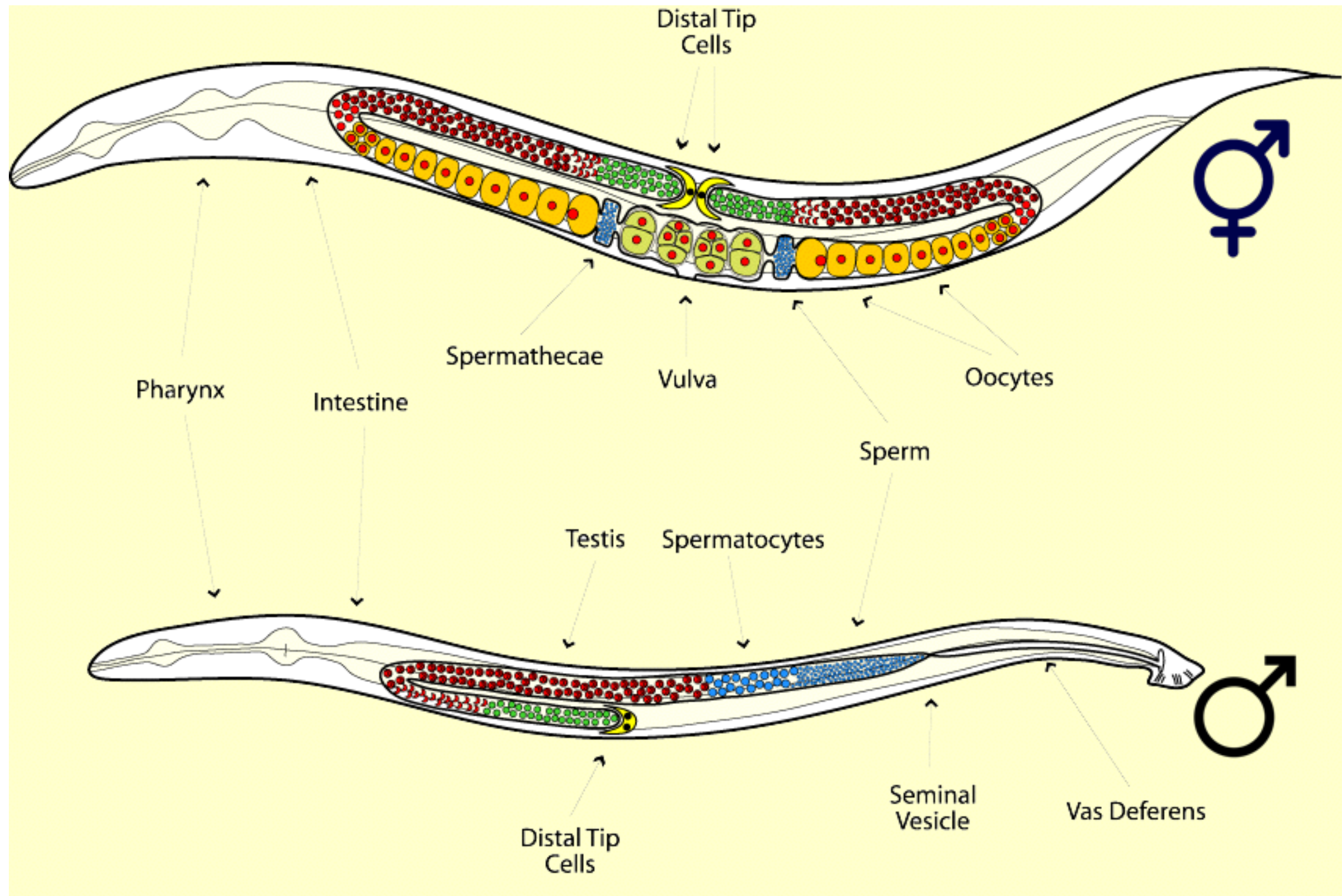


Epistasis - one mutant phenotype trumps another

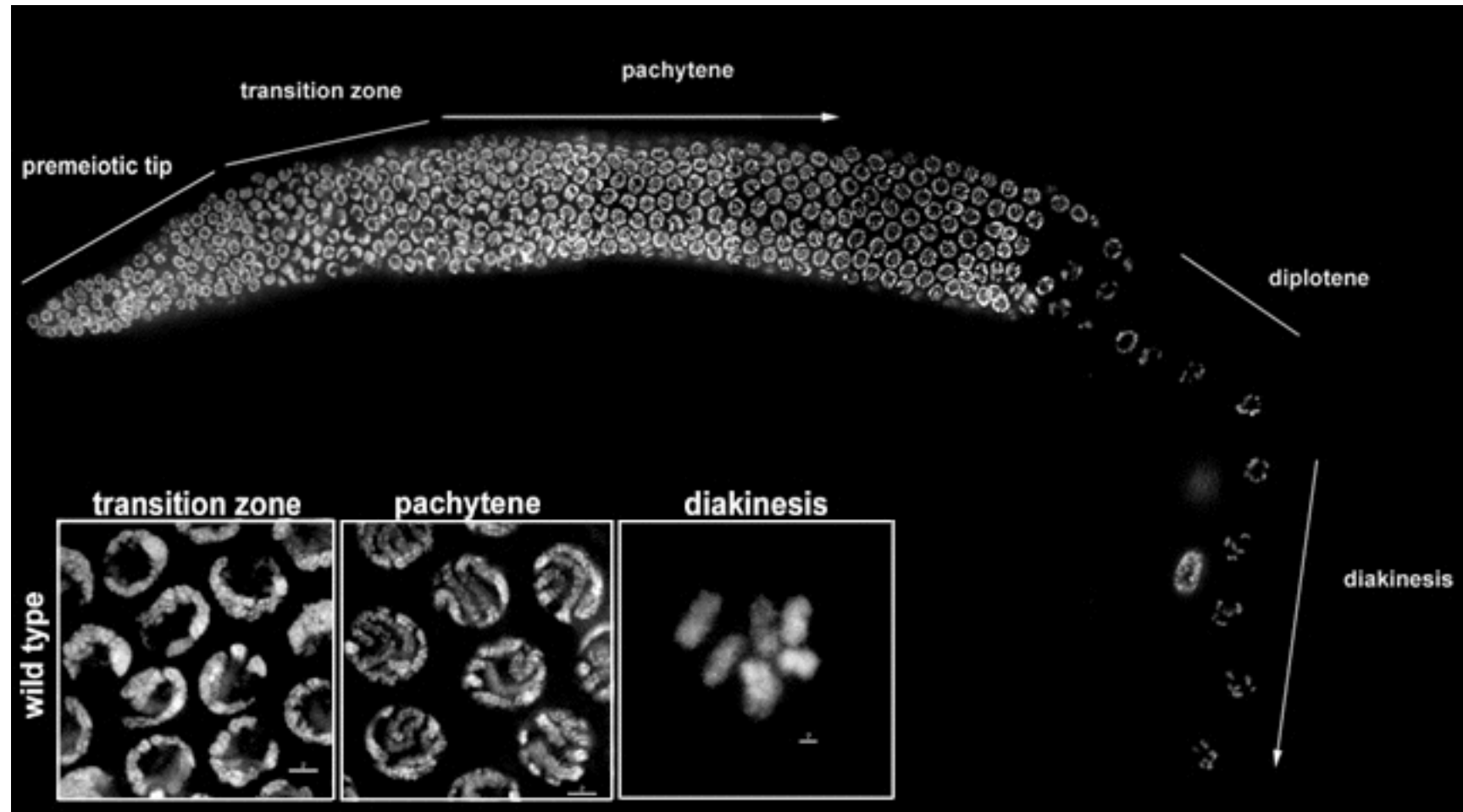


B = black
 b = brown
 E = color
 e = no color

The *C. elegans* germline



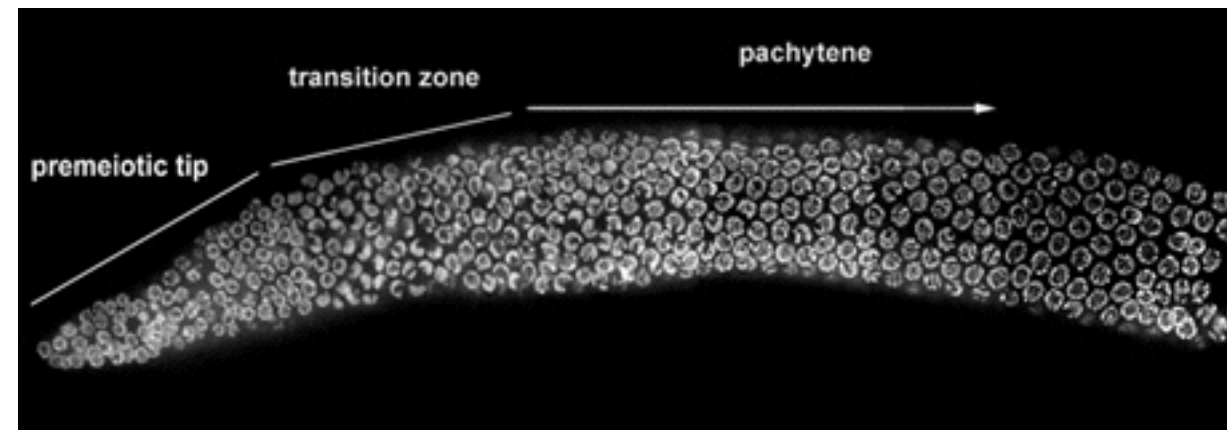
The *C. elegans* germline



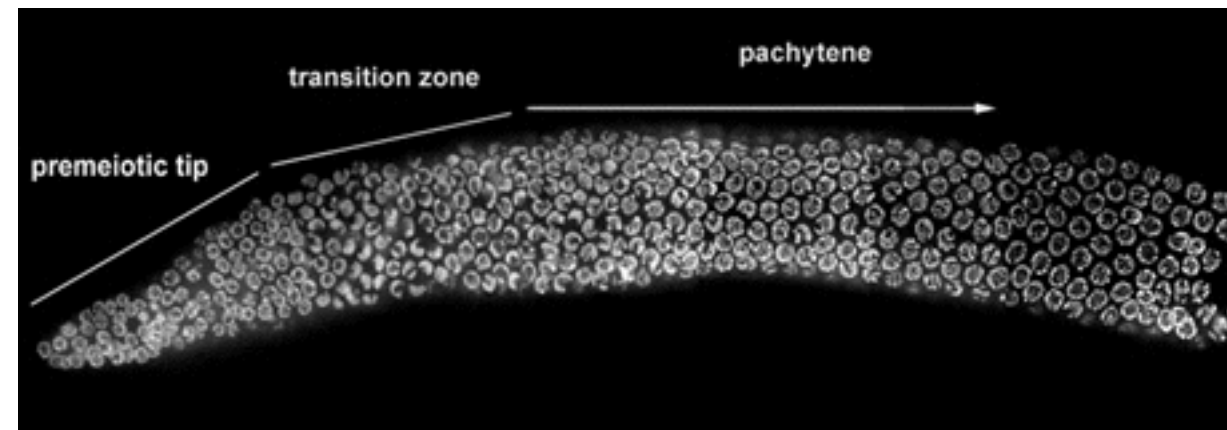


Judith Kimble

C. elegans germline mutants

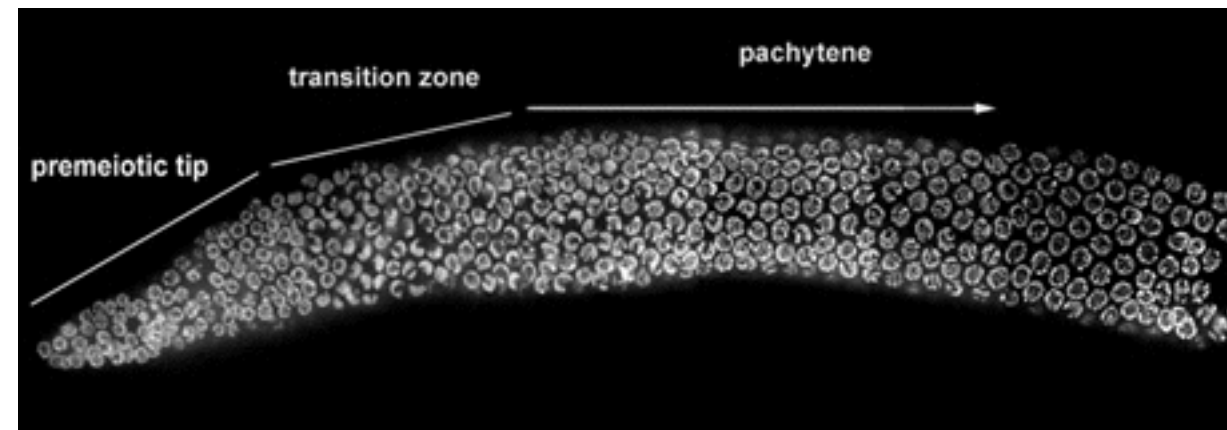


C. elegans germline mutants



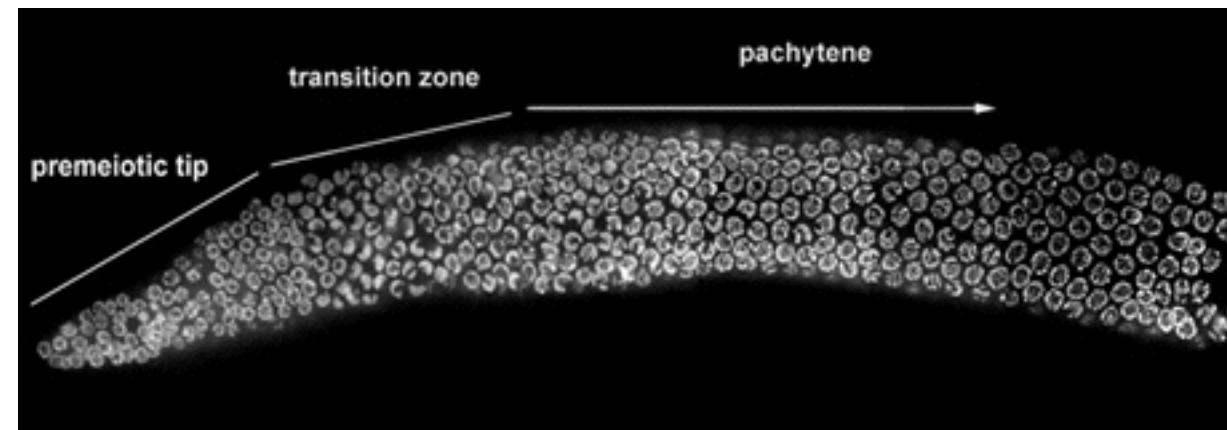
$glp-1(0)$ = all meiotic germ cells

C. elegans germline mutants



$glp-1(0)$ = all meiotic germ cells

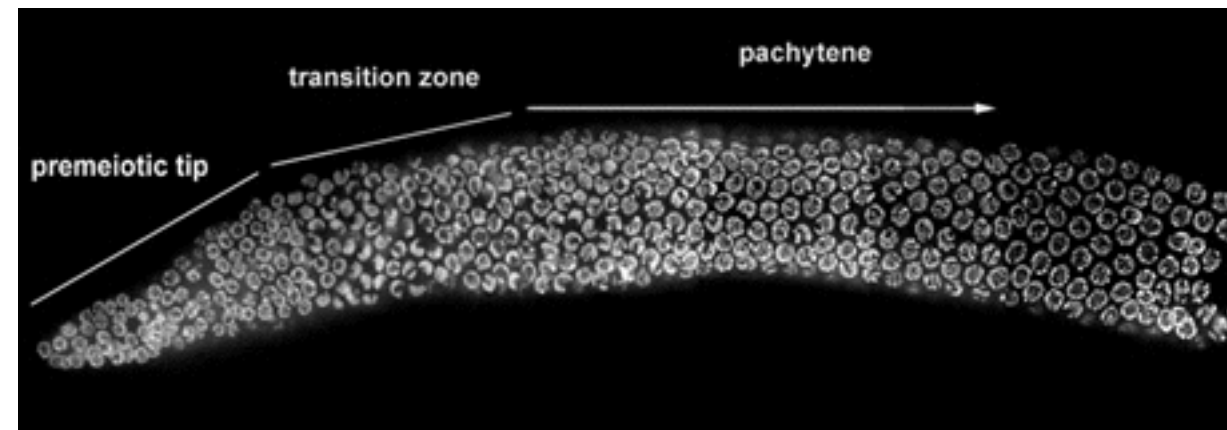
C. elegans germline mutants



$glp-1(0)$ = all meiotic germ cells

$glp-1(gf)$ = all mitotic germ cells

C. elegans germline mutants



$glp-1(0)$ = all meiotic germ cells

$glp-1(gf)$ = all mitotic germ cells

$glp-1$ → germ cell proliferation

***C. elegans* germline mutants**

Mutant	Phenotype
<i>glp-1(0)</i>	meiotic cells
<i>glp-1(gf)</i>	mitotic cells
<i>lag-2(0)</i>	meiotic cells
<i>fbf-1(0)</i>	meiotic cells
<i>gld-1(0)</i>	mitotic cells

***glp-1* → GSC proliferates.**

***C. elegans* germline mutants**

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How do these genes work together?

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<i>glp-1(gf)</i>	mitotic cells
<i>lag-2(0)</i>	meiotic cells
<i>fbf-1(0)</i>	meiotic cells
<i>gld-1(0)</i>	mitotic cells
<i>glp-1(0); lag-2(0)</i>	meiotic cells

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<i>fbf-1(0)</i>	meiotic cells
<i>gld-1(0)</i>	mitotic cells
<i>glp-1(0); lag-2(0)</i>	meiotic cells

You can only do epistasis tests with mutants that have opposing phenotypes

How do these genes work together?

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<i>glp-1(0)</i>	meiotic cells
<i>glp-1(gf)</i>	mitotic cells
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Which phenotype is epistatic?

How do these genes work together?

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<i>fbf-1(0)</i>	meiotic cells
<i>gld-1(0)</i>	mitotic cells
<i>glp-1(gf); lag-2(0)</i>	mitotic cells

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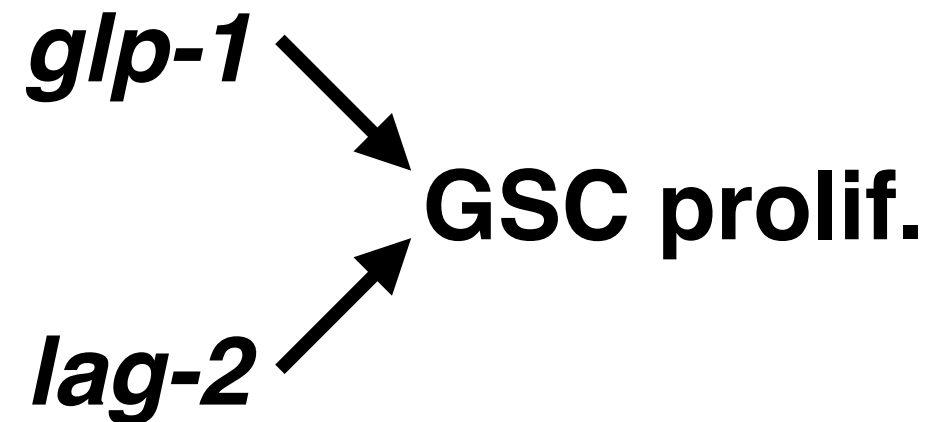
***lag-2* → GSC proliferates.**

Which phenotype is epistatic?

***lag-2* → *glp-1* → GSC proliferates.**

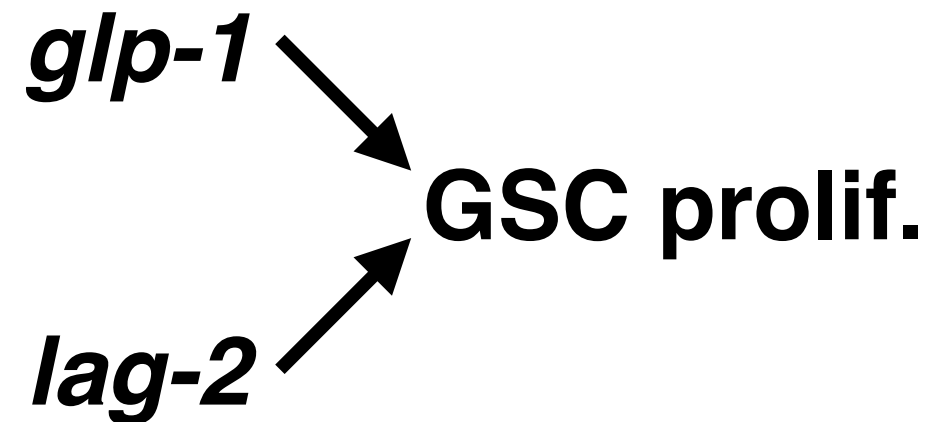
Parallel gene action can NEVER be formally excluded by phenotype alone

lag-2 → *glp-1* → GSC prolifer.



Parallel gene action can NEVER be formally excluded by phenotype alone

lag-2 → *glp-1* → GSC prolifer.



Null alleles have to be used

Approach to understanding regulatory epistasis

Approach to understanding regulatory epistasis

1. Decide what is the output phenotype; keep it consistent

Approach to understanding regulatory epistasis

1. Decide what is the output phenotype; keep it consistent

Approach to understanding regulatory epistasis

1. Decide what is the output phenotype; keep it consistent
2. Look at single mutants and make a model with output

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Approach to understanding regulatory epistasis

1. Decide what is the output phenotype; keep it consistent
2. Look at single mutants and make a model with output
3. Look at double mutants and make a model with output and respect to single mutant models - epistatic gene acts downstream

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1. Decide what is the output phenotype; keep it consistent
2. Look at single mutants and make a model with output
3. Look at double mutants and make a model with output and respect to single mutant models - epistatic gene acts downstream
4. Remember parallel but don't assume it is always parallel (*i.e.* make linear models for regulatory epistasis)

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1. Decide what is the output phenotype; keep it consistent
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3. Look at double mutants and make a model with output and respect to single mutant models - epistatic gene acts downstream
4. Remember parallel but don't assume it is always parallel (*i.e.* make linear models for regulatory epistasis)
5. Remember two negatives make a positive

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<i>glp-1(gf)</i>	mitotic cells
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<i>fbf-1(0)</i>	meiotic cells
<i>gld-1(0)</i>	mitotic cells
<i>glp-1(gf); lag-2(0)</i>	mitotic cells
<i>glp-1(gf); fbf-1(0)</i>	meiotic cells
<i>glp-1(0); gld-1(0)</i>	mitotic cells
<i>lag-2(0); fbf-1(0)</i>	meiotic cells
<i>lag-2(0); gld-1(0)</i>	mitotic cells

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***lag-2* → GSC proliferates.**

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***gld-1* → GSC proliferates.**

***lag-2* → *glp-1* → GSC proliferates.**

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<i>gld-1(0)</i>	mitotic cells
<i>glp-1(gf); lag-2(0)</i>	mitotic cells
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<i>glp-1(0); gld-1(0)</i>	mitotic cells
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<i>gld-1(0)</i>	mitotic cells
<i>glp-1(gf); lag-2(0)</i>	mitotic cells
<i>glp-1(gf); fbf-1(0)</i>	meiotic cells
<i>glp-1(0); gld-1(0)</i>	mitotic cells
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