



University of Naples "Federico II"

Marine Microbial Diversity

Know your Beasts 1: Bacterial and Archaeal Diversity in Marine Environments

The Tree Of Life: The Bacteria

- *Bacterial diversity is huge!* And there is much uncertainty in the classification and total number of phyla
- As of *January 2016*, there are *30 phyla* in the domain "Bacteria" accepted by LPSN
- The *ARB-Silva database* lists *67 phyla*, of which *37* are *candidate phyla*
- The *Ribosomal Database Project 10*, lists *49 phyla*, including *20 candidate phyla*
- NCBI lists *120 phyla*, including *90 candidate phyla*
- Despite the unclear branching order for most bacterial phyla, several groups of phyla have clear clustering and are referred to as superphyla: *The FCB Group, The PVC Group, the Patescibacteria, Terrabacteria* and *the Proteobacteria* as *superphylum*
- *Photosynthesis* only occurs within the Bacteria

**The Phyla of Bacteria (as used on this site and taken from
Berkeley's Manual of Systematic Bacteriology 1st Ed.)**

Name of Phylum	Number of Species	Number of Genera
<u>Aquificae</u>	27	12
<u>Xenobacteria</u>	29	11
Chrysogenetes	1	1
<u>Thermomicrobia</u>	13	6
<u>Cyanobacteria</u>	78	62
<u>Chlorobia</u>	17	6
<u>Proteobacteria</u>	1644	366
<u>Firmicutes</u>	2474	255
<u>Planctomycetes etc.</u>	13	5
<u>Spirochaetes</u>	92	13
Fibrobacter	5	3
<u>Bacteroids</u>	130	20
<u>Flavobacteria</u>	72	15
<u>Sphingobacteria</u>	76	22
<u>Fusobacteria</u>	29	6
Verrucomicrobia	5	2

International Committee on Systematics of Prokaryotes



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INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF SYSTEMATIC AND EVOLUTIONARY MICROBIOLOGY

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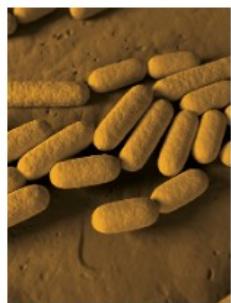
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International Journal of Systematic and Evolutionary Microbiology (previously *International Journal of Systematic Bacteriology*) is the journal of record for publication of novel microbial taxa and the official publication of the International Committee on Systematics of Prokaryotes and the Bacteriology and Applied Microbiology Division of the International Union of Microbiological Societies. [More](#)

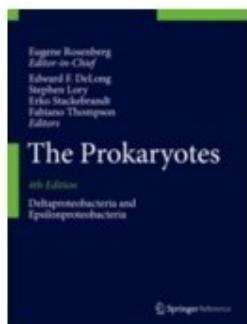
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IMPORTANT: The ICSP and the Microbiology Society are pleased to announce that our appeal against Clarivate's decision to suppress the journal from the 2019 Journal Citation Reports has been successful. *International Journal of Systematic and Evolutionary Microbiology* will be reinstated in the 2019 Journal Citation Reports (JCR) – the journal's metrics can be found on our Article and journal metrics page. [Read more about our appeal](#).

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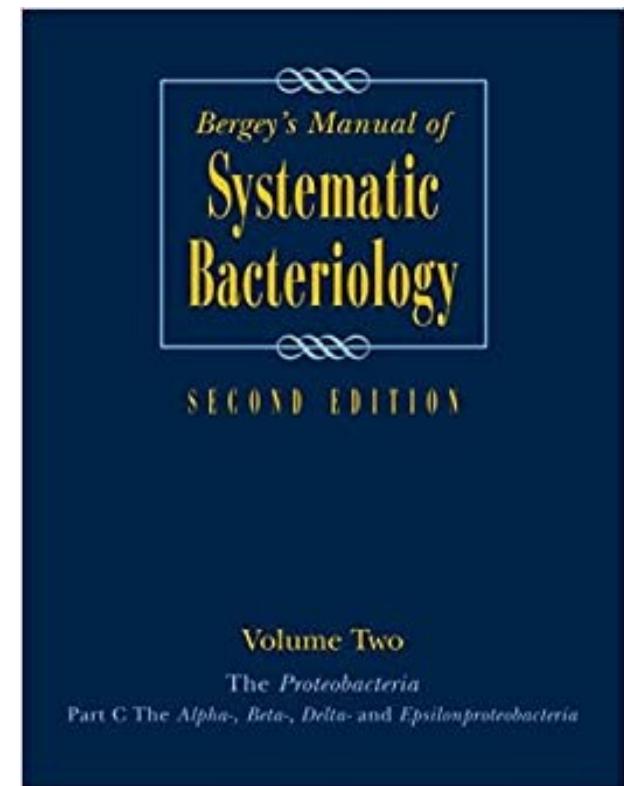


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The Prokaryotes

Deltaproteobacteria and Epsilonproteobacteria

Editors: Editor-in-chief: **Rosenberg, Eugene**
DeLong, E.F., Lory, S., Stackebrandt, E., Thompson, F. (Eds.)



International Committee on Systematics of Prokaryotes

Validly published A name of a prokaryotic species that has appeared on IJSEM validation lists

The new strain need to be **available in a pure culture**

The culture needs to be available in at least **two (2) public culture collections**

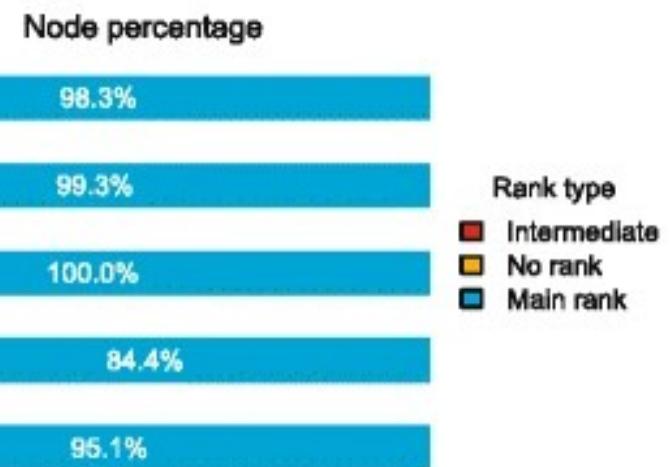
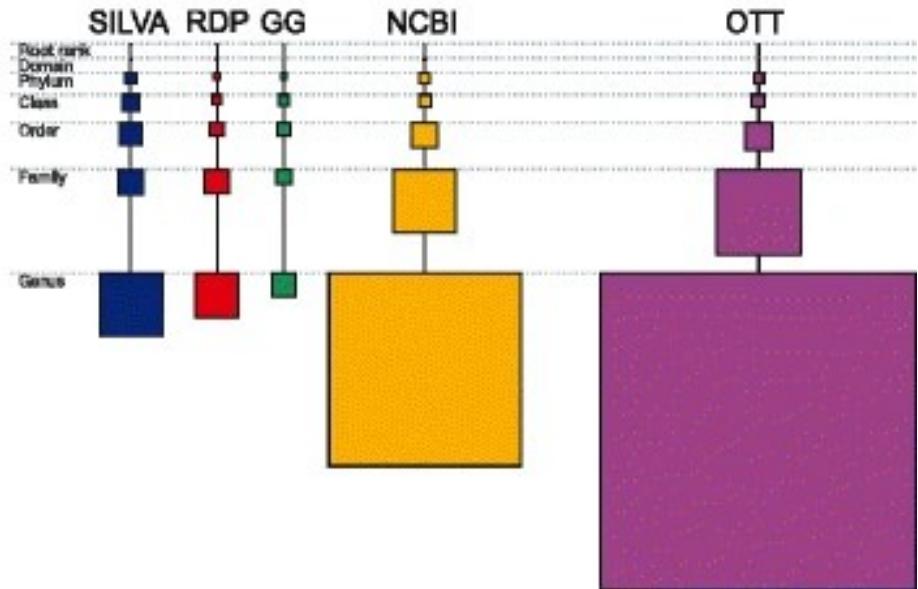
The **physiology** and **chemotaxonomy** needs to be known

New species are defined as **Genus species sp. nov.** on their first appearance

Non validly published prokaryotic species needs to be preceded by the
“**Candidatus** Genus species” or “Ca. Genus species”

The phylum rank is not a validly published taxonomic rank under ICSP code

As a reminder, valid prokaryotic taxa needs to be in **Italics** (e.g.
Rhodobacterales, *Escherichia coli*) while not validly published names cannot
appear in italics (*Ca. Pelagibacter ubique*)

a**b**

a NCBI order

- Acidaminococcales (Negativicutes)
- Bacteroidales (Bacteroidia)

Clostridiales

- Erysipelotrichales (Erysipelotrichia)
- Lactobacillales (Bacilli)
- Myxococcales (Deltaproteobacteria)
- Rhodospirillales (Alphaproteobacteria)
- Tissierellales (Tissierellia)**
- Undefined order
- Undefined order (Tissierellia)
- Undefined order (undefined class)**

GTDB order

- 4C28d-15
- Acetivibrionales
- CAG-41
- Christensenellales

Clostridiales

Eubacteriales

Lachnospirales

Lutisporales

Oscillospirales

Peptostreptococcales

Saccharofermentanales

TANB77

Tissierellales

b NCBI class

Actinobacteria (Actinobacteria)

Bacteroidia

Balneolia (Balneolaeota)

Chitinophagia

Chlorobia (Chlorobi)

Clostridia (Firmicutes)

Cytophagia

Erysipelotrichia (Firmicutes)

Flavobacteria

Ignavibacteria (Ignavibacteriae)

Saprospiria

Sphingobacteria

Synergistia (Synergistetes)

Undefined class

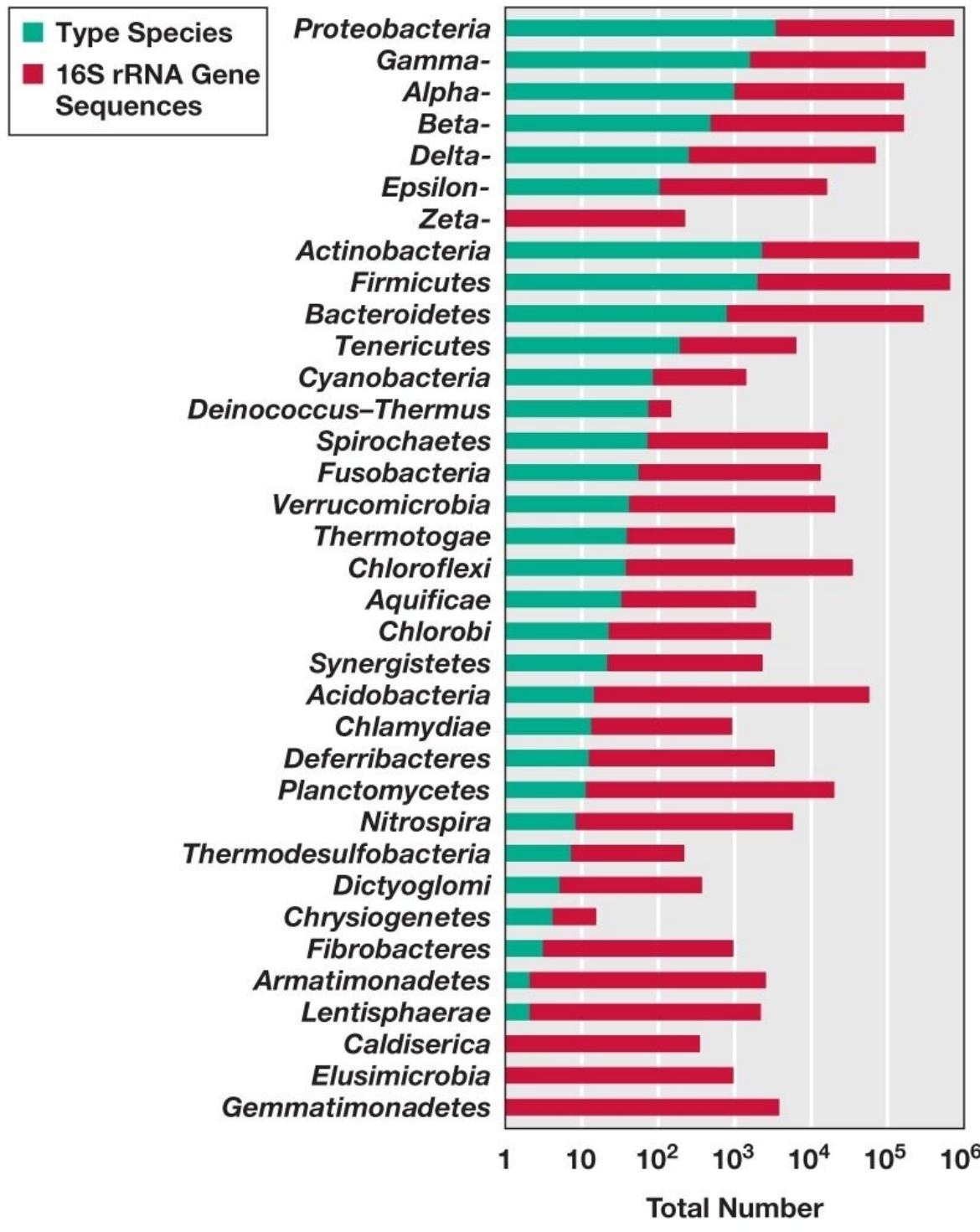
Undefined class (Candidatus Kryptonia)

Undefined class (Chlorobi)

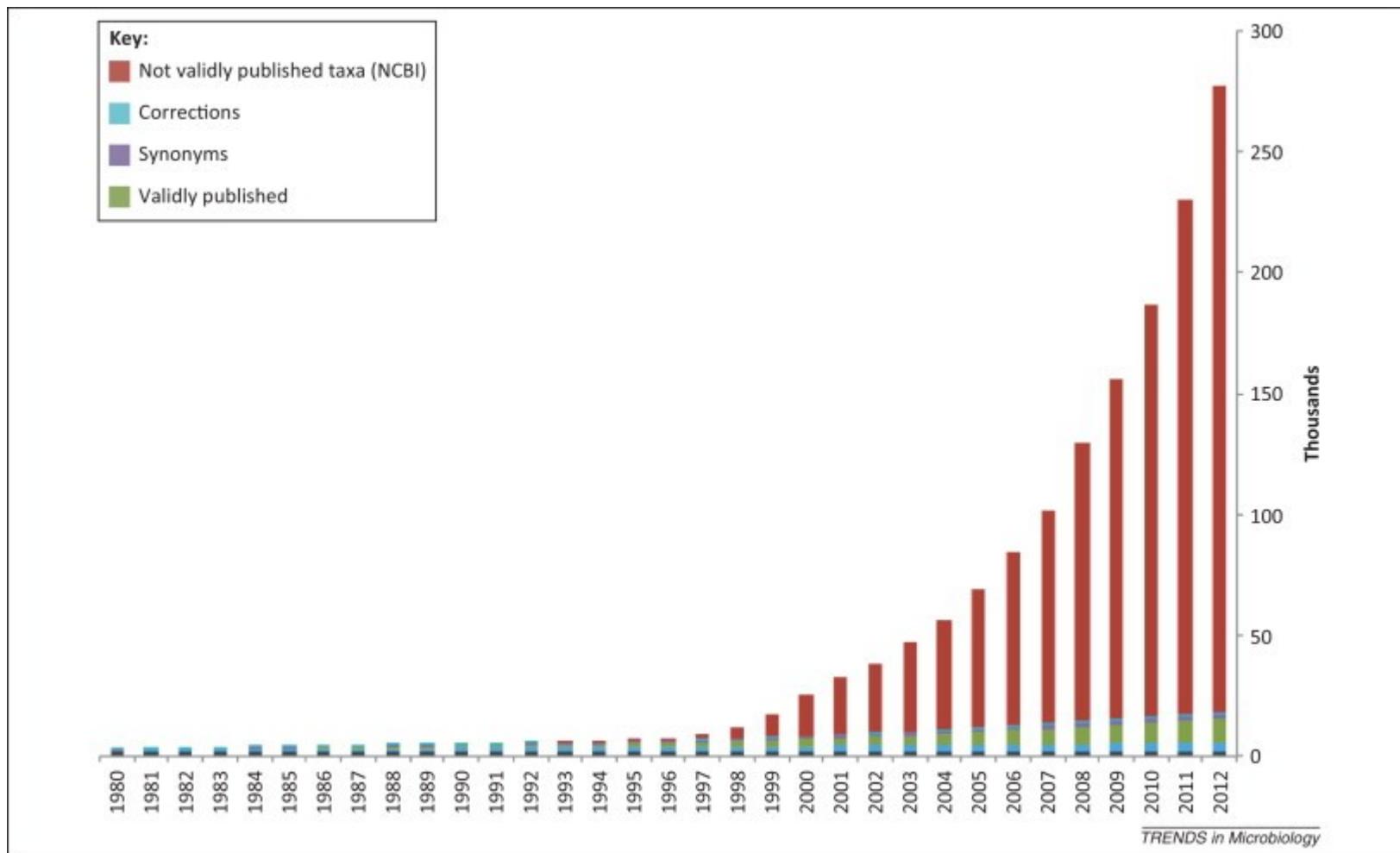
Undefined class (undefined phylum)

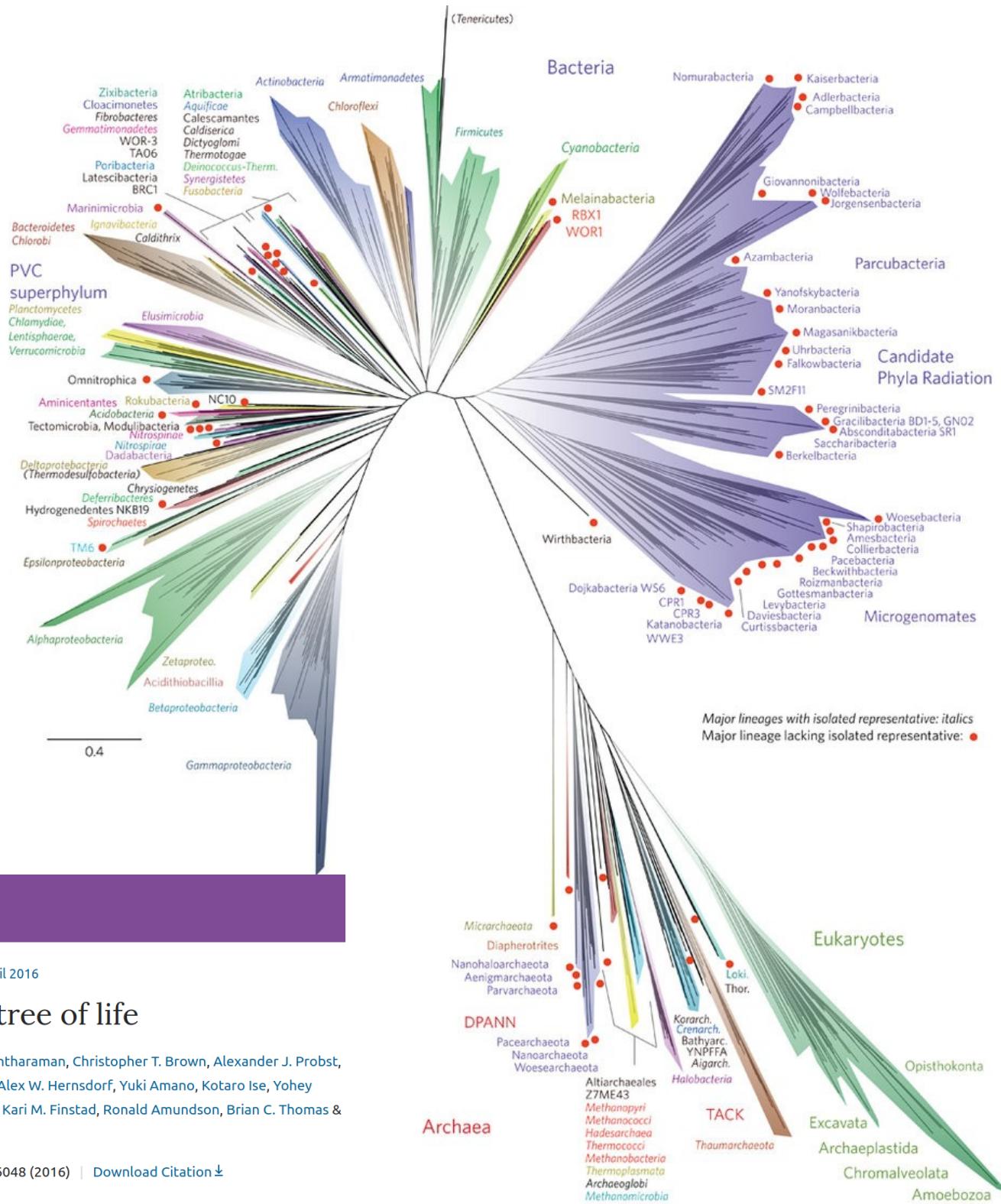
GTDB class

- Chlorobia
- Ignavibacteria
- Kapabacteria
- Kryptonia
- Rhodothermia
- UBA10030



(b) Cultured representatives versus phylotypes





A new view of the tree of life

Laura A. Hug, Brett J. Baker, Karthik Anantharaman, Christopher T. Brown, Alexander J. Probst, Cindy J. Castelle, Cristina N. Butterfield, Alex W. Hernsdorf, Yuki Amano, Kotaro Ise, Yohey Suzuki, Natasha Dukek, David A. Relman, Kari M. Finstad, Ronald Amundson, Brian C. Thomas & Jillian F. Banfield

Diverse uncultivated ultra-small bacterial cells in groundwater

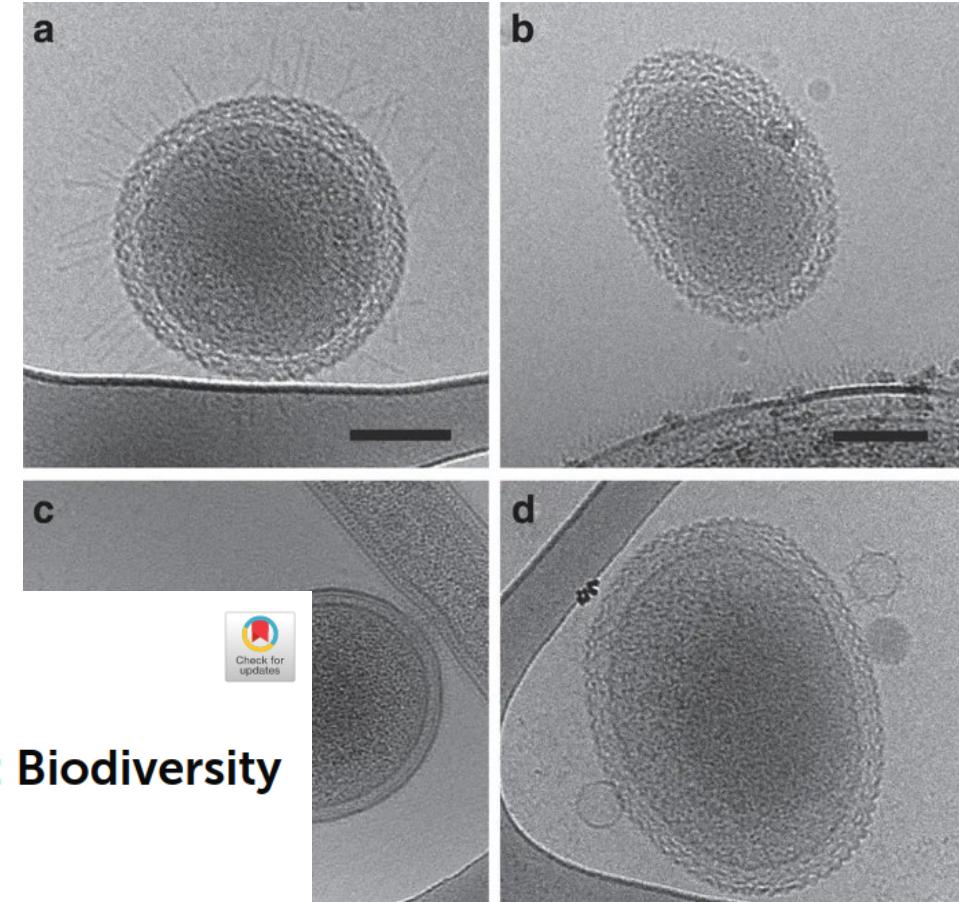
Birgit Luef, Kyle R. Frischkorn, Kelly C. Wrighton, Hoi-Ying N. Holman, Giovanni Birarda, Brian C. Thomas, Andrea Singh, Kenneth H. Williams, Cristina E. Siegerist, Susannah G. Tringe, Kenneth H. Downing, Luis R. Comolli & Jillian F. Banfield

Nature Communications 6, Article number: 6372 (2015) | Cite this article

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REVIEW ARTICLE

Front. Microbiol., 21 August 2018 | https://doi.org/10.3389/fmicb.2018.01971

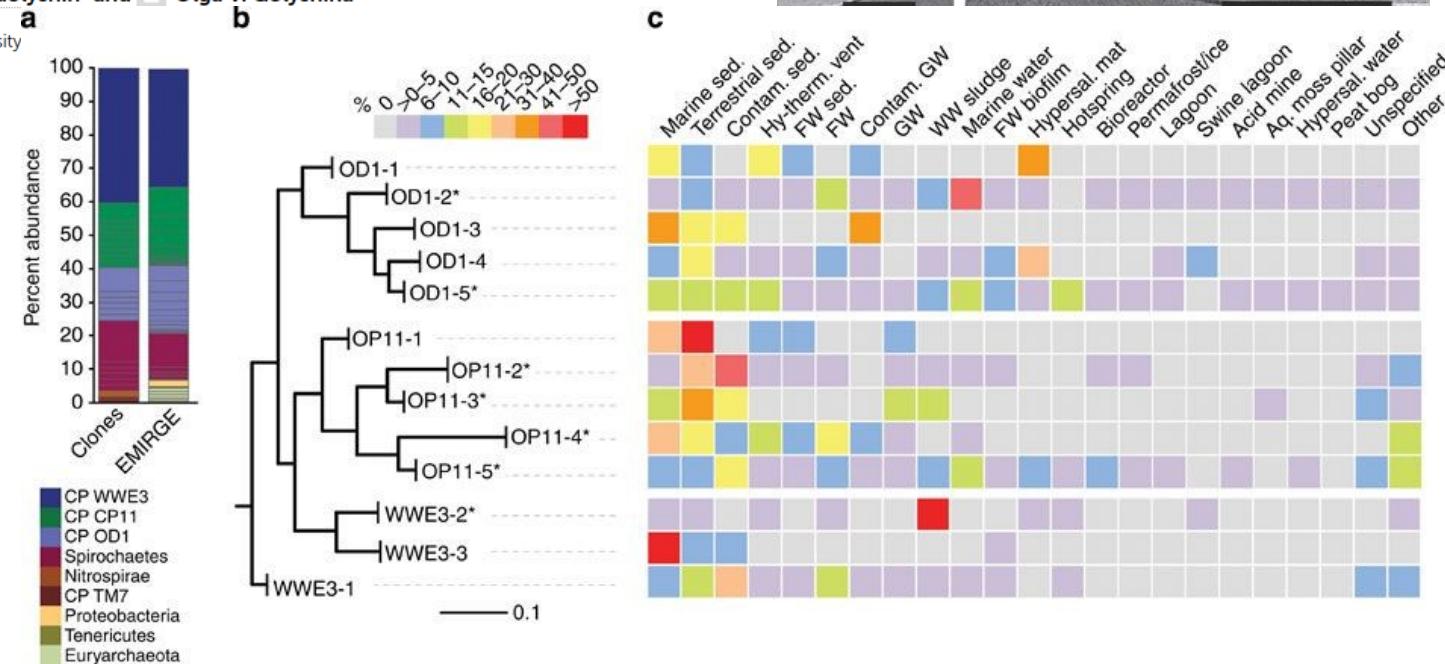


Nano-Sized and Filterable Bacteria and Archaea: Biodiversity and Function

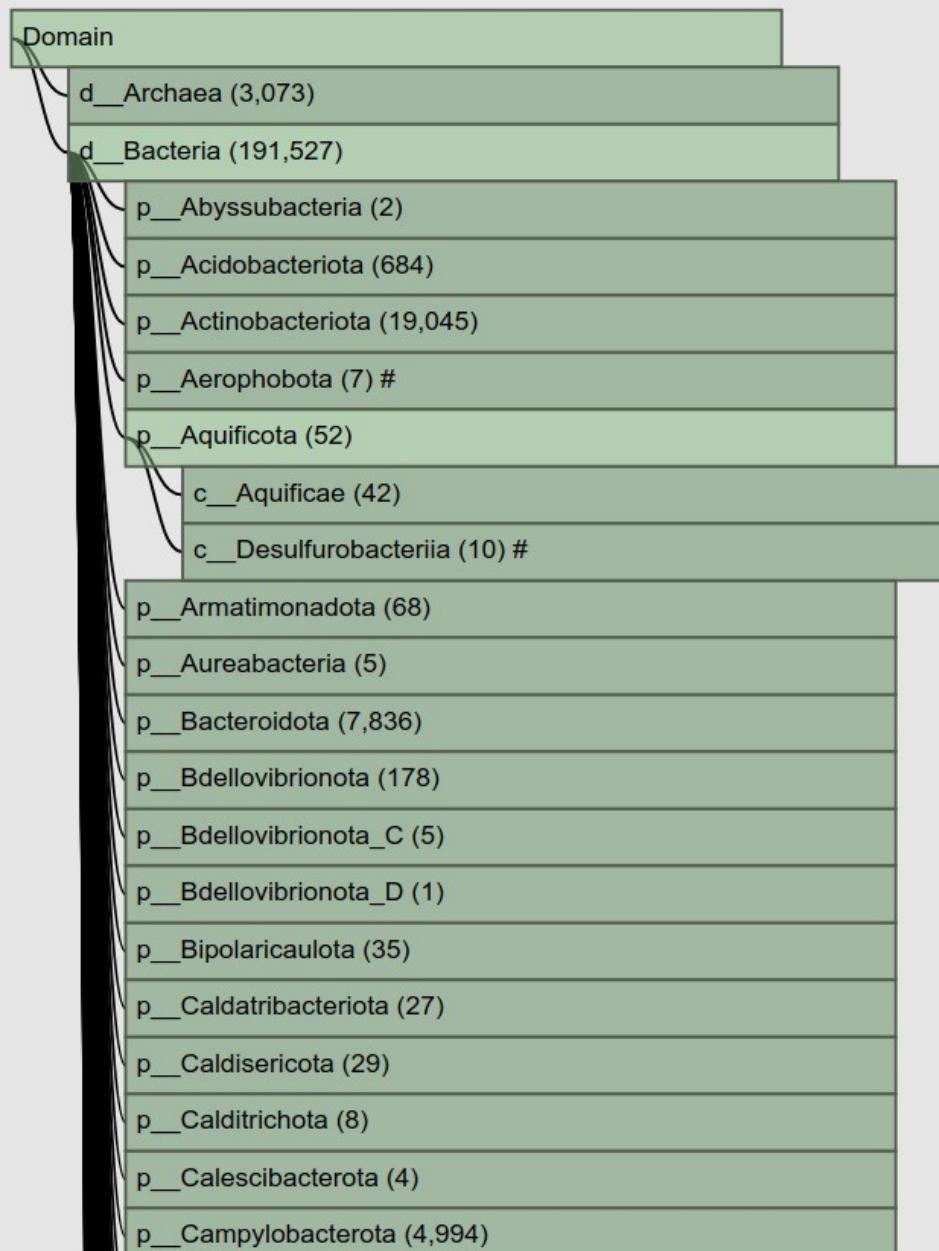
Lydia-Ann J. Ghuneim¹, David L. Jones¹, Peter N. Golyshin² and Olga V. Golyshina¹

¹School of Environment, Natural Resources and Geography, Bangor University

²School of Biological Sciences, Bangor University, Bangor, United Kingdom



Gene Taxonomy Database - gtdb.ecogenomic.org

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Legend:

Type species of genus

Type strain of species

Type strain of subspecies

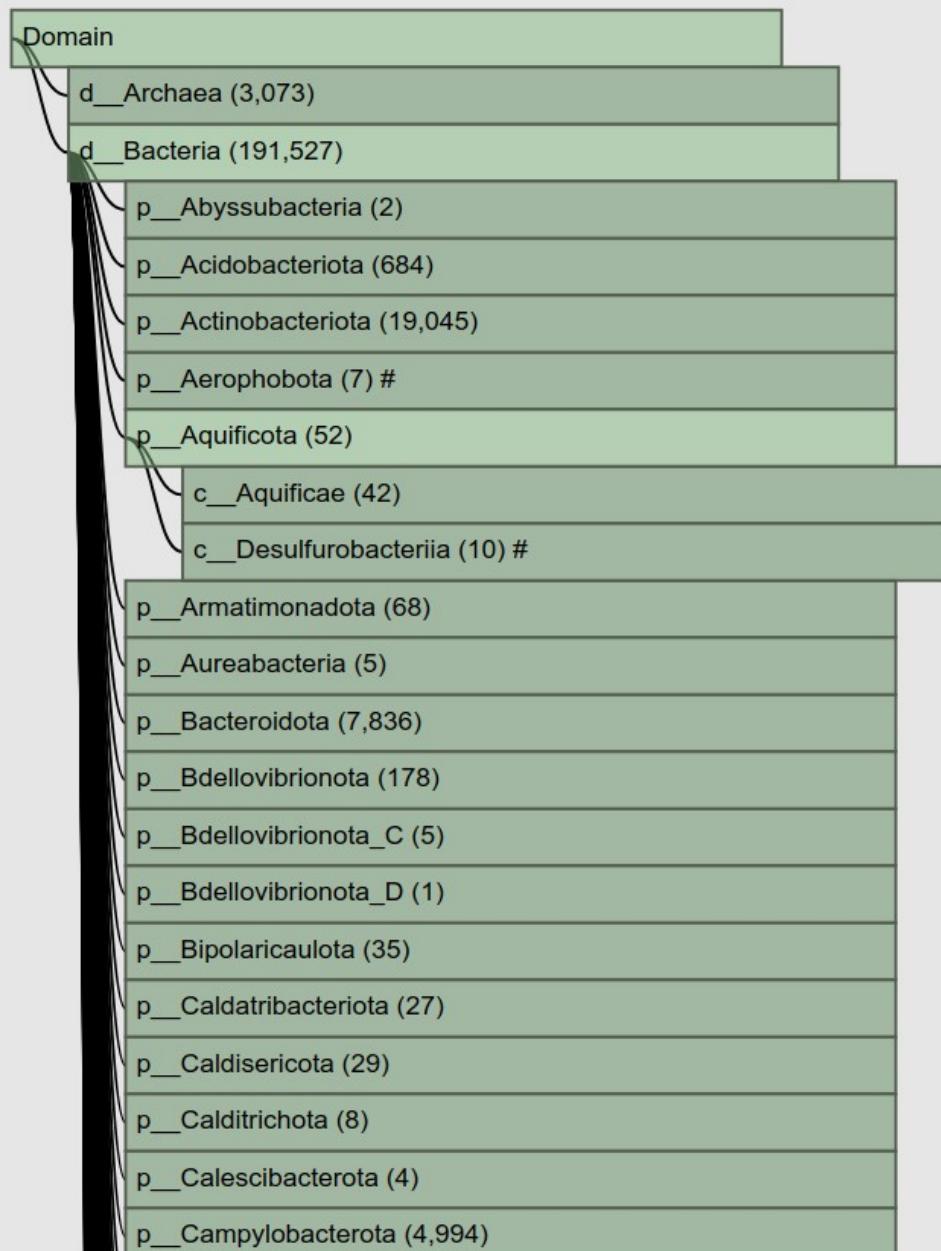
* GTDB species representative

GTDB proposed name

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NCBI ID, organism name

**Legend:**

Type species of genus

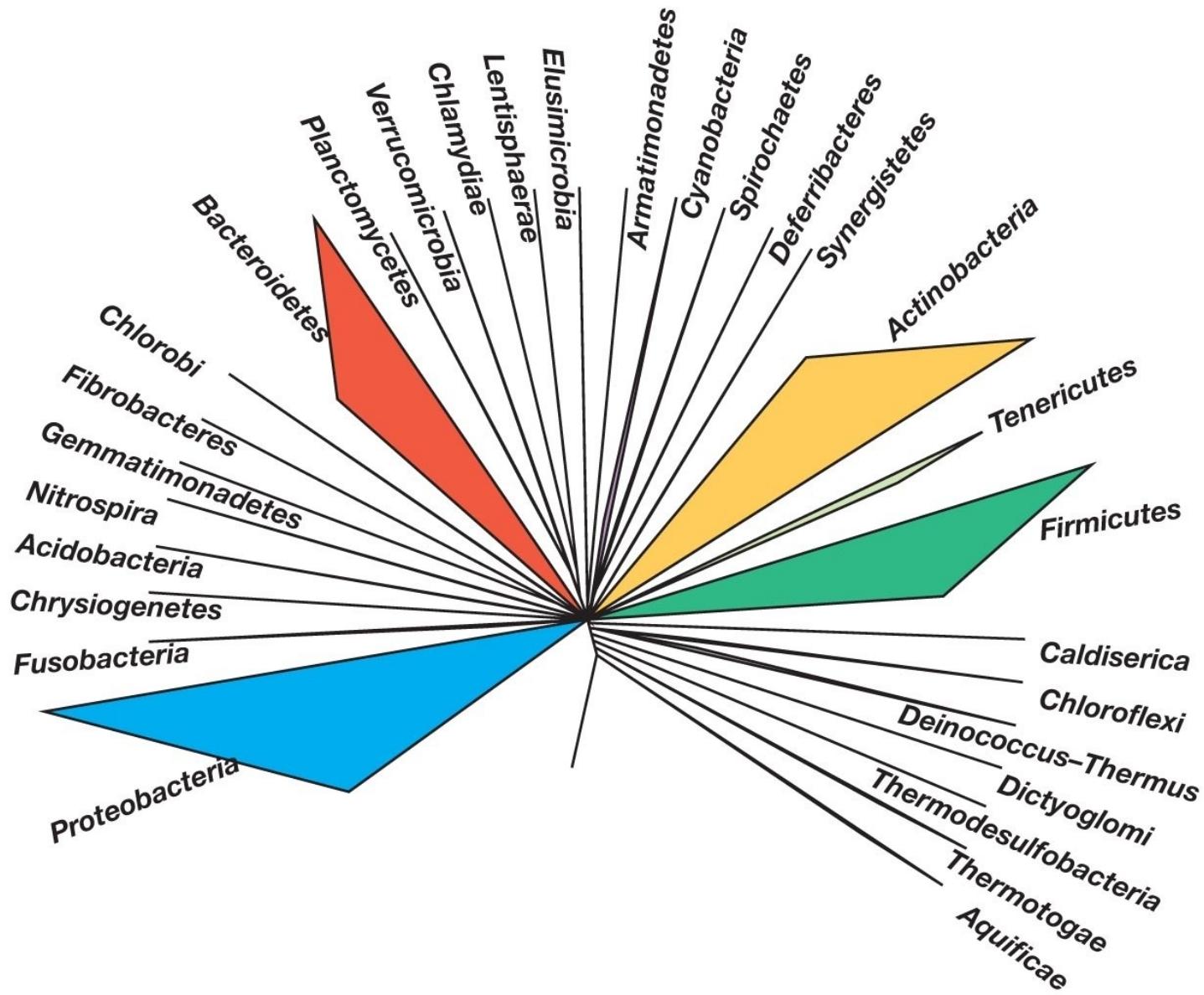
Type strain of species

Type strain of subspecies

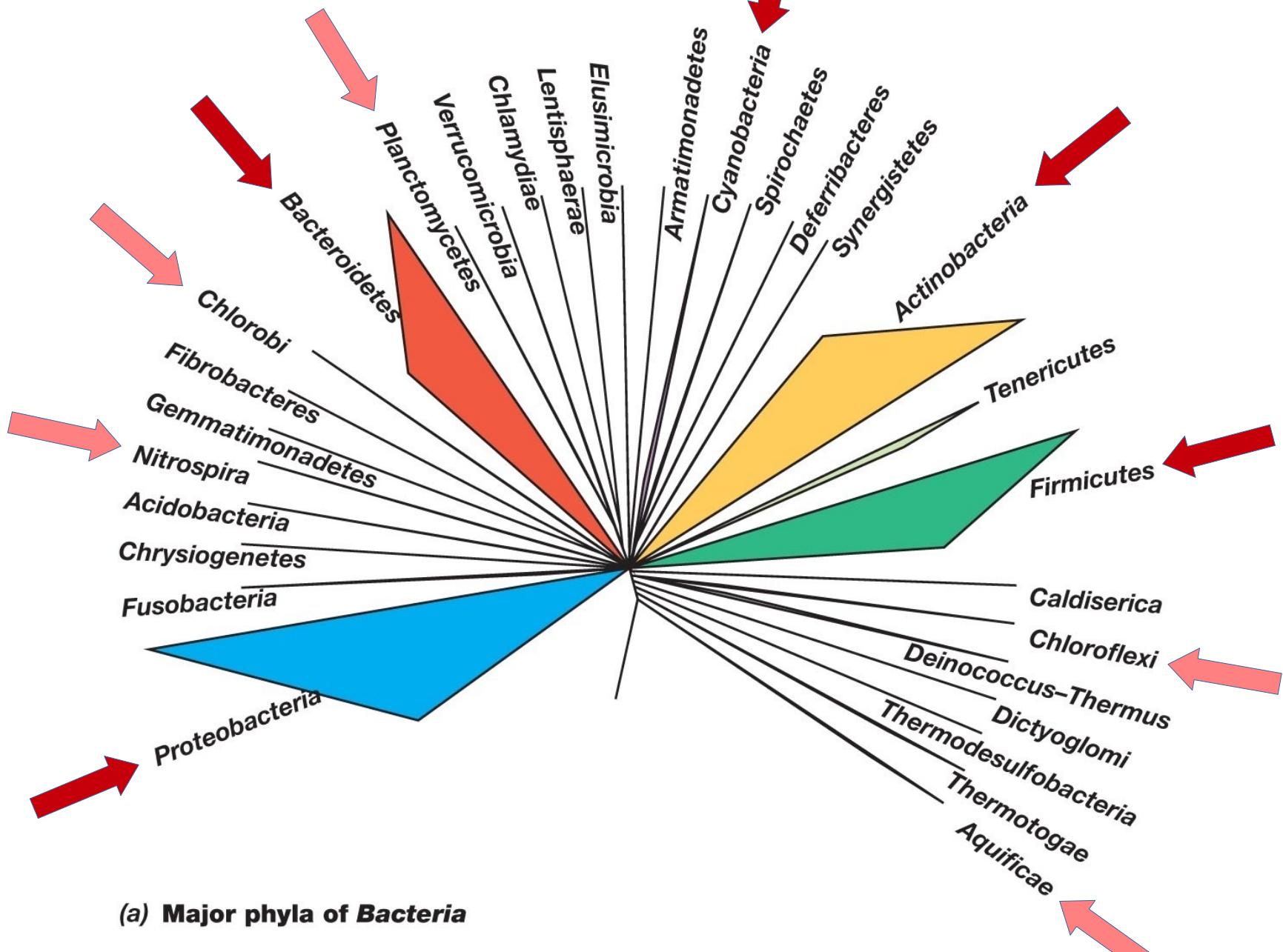
* GTDB species representative

GTDB proposed name

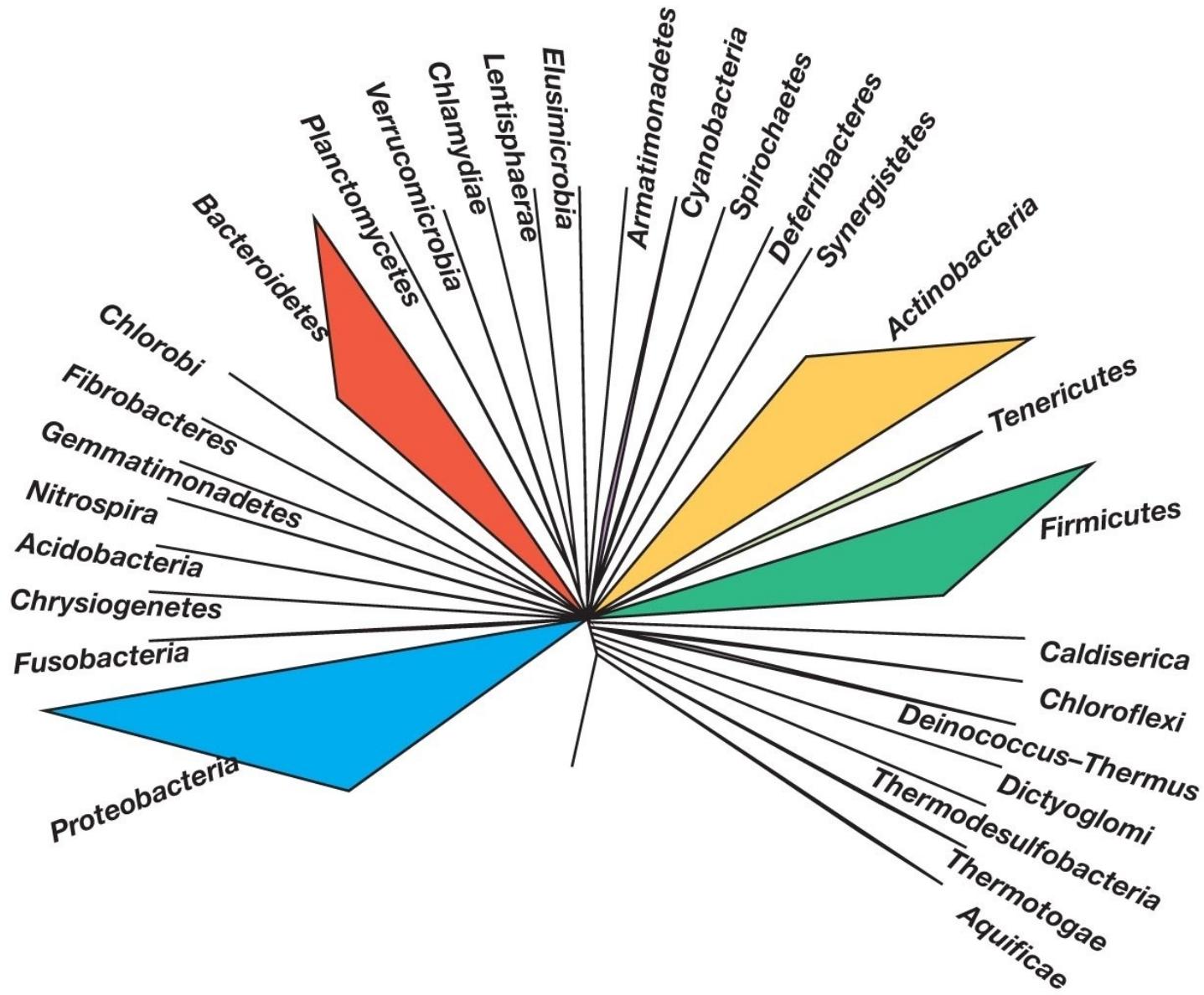
Bacteria: major phyla

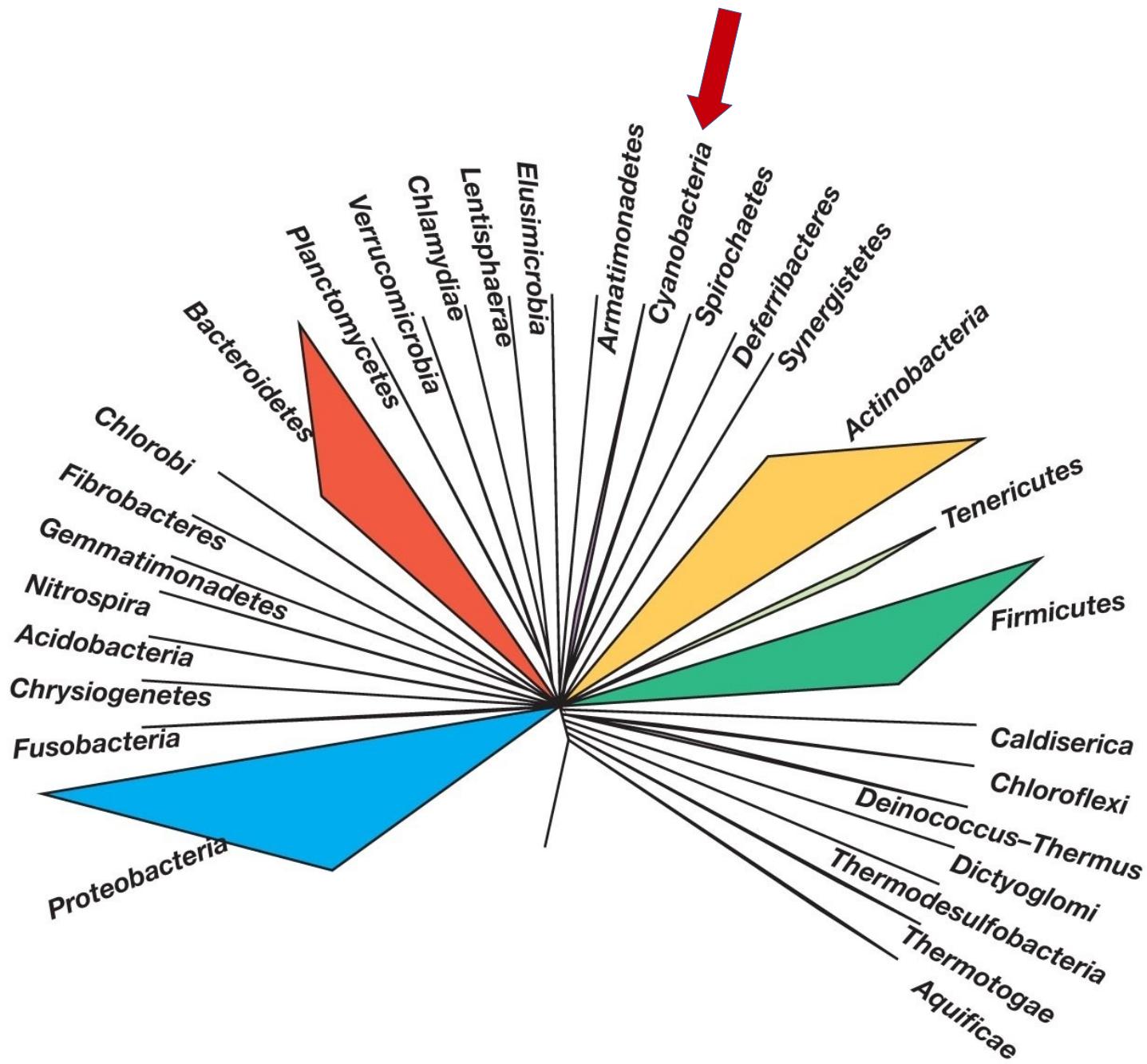


Bacteria: major phyla



(a) Major phyla of **Bacteria**





Cyanobacteria

- Cyanobacteria (once known as Cyanophyta), are a phylum of *photosynthetic, nitrogen fixing* bacteria
- Cyanobacteria can be found in almost *every terrestrial and aquatic habitat*— oceans, fresh water, damp soil, temporarily moistened rocks in deserts, bare rock and soil, and even Antarctic rocks. They can occur as *planktonic cells* or form *phototrophic biofilms*. They are found in almost every *endolithic ecosystem* and can form *symbiosis*.
- The morphological diversity of the Cyanobacteria is huge. Cyanobacterial cells range in size from 0.5 μm in diameter to cells as large as 100 μm in diameter. They range from *unicellular* to *filamentous* and include colonial species, forming filaments, sheets, or even hollow balls. In filamentous species cells can differentiate into several different cell types: *vegetative cells, akinetes and heterocysts*
- Photosynthesis is performed in distinctive folds in the outer membrane of the cell. *Chloroplasts found in eukaryotes*, have their ancestry in Cyanobacteria, via a process called endosymbiosis.

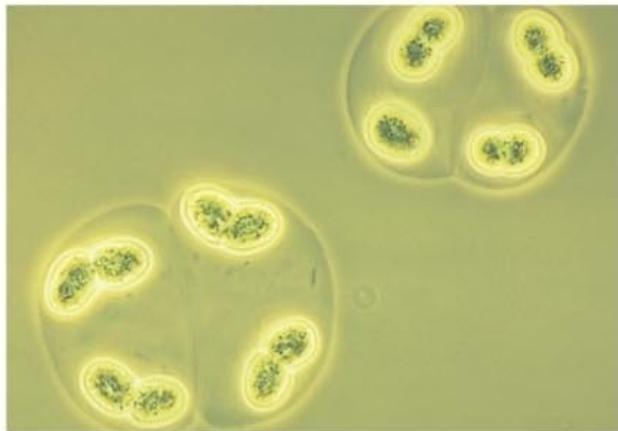
Cyanobacteria

- Cyanobacteria are *oxygenic phototrophs*, having both type I and type II photosystems. All species fix CO₂ by the *Calvin cycle*, and many can fix N₂. Some Cyanobacteria can assimilate simple organic compounds if light is present (*photoheterotrophy*). A few cyanobacteria, mainly filamentous species, can also grow in the dark on glucose or sucrose, using the sugar as both carbon and energy source. When sulfide concentrations are high, some cyanobacteria are able to *switch from oxygenic photosynthesis to anoxygenic photosynthesis* using hydrogen sulfide rather than water as electron donor
- Cyanobacteria are thought to have been the main contributor to the *Great Oxygenation Event*, ca. 2.5 Ga
- Cyanobacteria are of central importance to the *productivity of the oceans*. Small unicellular cyanobacteria of the genera *Synechococcus* and *Prochlorococcus* are the most abundant phototrophs in the oceans. Together these organisms contribute ~80% of marine photosynthesis and ~35% of all photosynthetic activity on Earth

Table 14.1 Genera and grouping of cyanobacteria

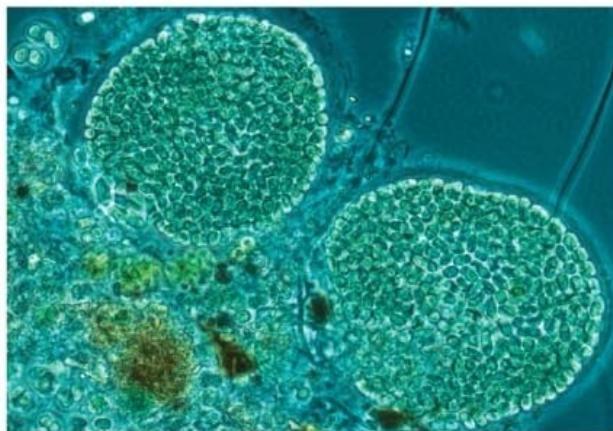
Group	Genera
Group I, Chroococcales. Unicellular or cell aggregates	<i>Gloeothece</i> (Figure 14.2a), <i>Gloeobacter</i> , <i>Synechococcus</i> , <i>Cyanothece</i> , <i>Gloeocapsa</i> , <i>Synechocystis</i> , <i>Chamaesiphon</i> , <i>Merismopedia</i> , <i>Crocospshaera</i> (Figure 14.7a), <i>Prochlorococcus</i> , <i>Prochloron</i>
Group II, Pleurocapsales. Reproduce by formation of small spherical cells called baeocytes produced through multiple fission	<i>Pleurocapsa</i> (Figure 14.2b), <i>Dermocarpa</i> , <i>Xenococcus</i> , <i>Dermocarpella</i> , <i>Myxosarcina</i> , <i>Chroococcidiopsis</i>
Group III, Oscillatoriales. Undifferentiated filamentous cells that divide by binary fission in a single plane	<i>Lyngbya</i> (Figure 14.2c), <i>Spirulina</i> (Figure 14.5), <i>Arthrosphaira</i> , <i>Oscillatoria</i> (Figure 14.6a–b), <i>Microcoleus</i> , <i>Pseudanabaena</i> , <i>Trichodesmium</i> (Figure 14.7b)
Group IV, Nostocales. Filamentous cells that produce heterocysts	<i>Nodularia</i> (Figures 14.2d), <i>Nostoc</i> , <i>Calothrix</i> (Figure 14.8a–b), <i>Anabaena</i> (Figure 14.6c), <i>Cylindrospermum</i> , <i>Scytonema</i> , <i>Richelia</i> (Figure 14.7c)
Group V, Stigonematales. Cells divide to form branches	<i>Fischerella</i> (Figures 14.2e, 14.8c, d), <i>Stigonema</i> , <i>Chlorogloeopsis</i> , <i>Hapalosiphon</i>

Chroococcales



(a)

Pleurocapsales

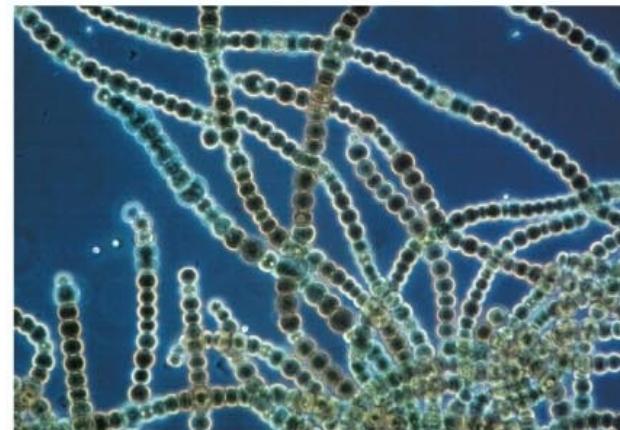


(b)

Oscillatoriales



(c)



(d)

Nostoccales



(e)

Stigonematales

Susan Barns and Norman Pace

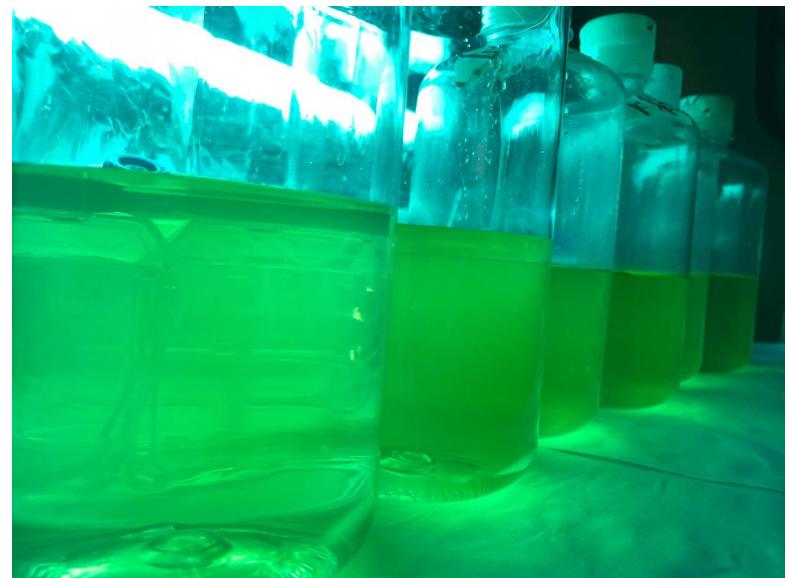
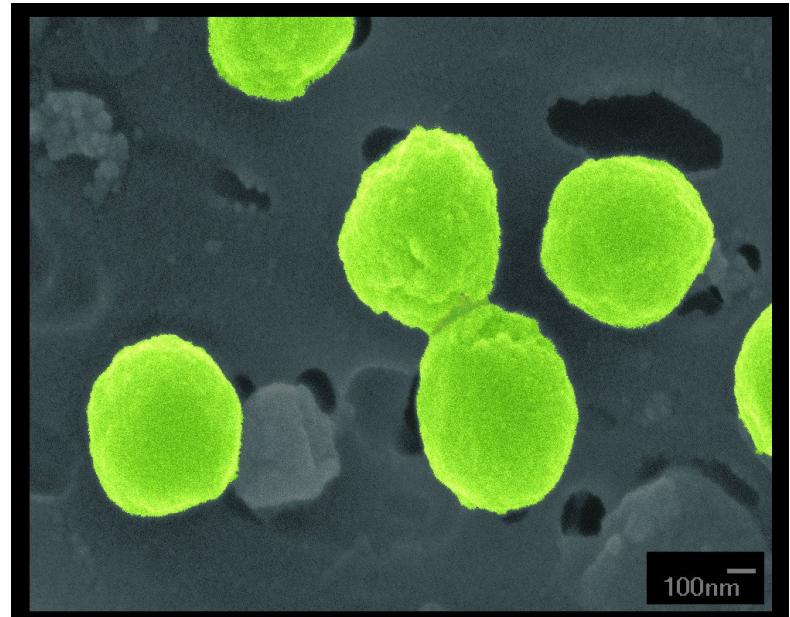
Daniel H. Buckley

Daniel H. Buckley

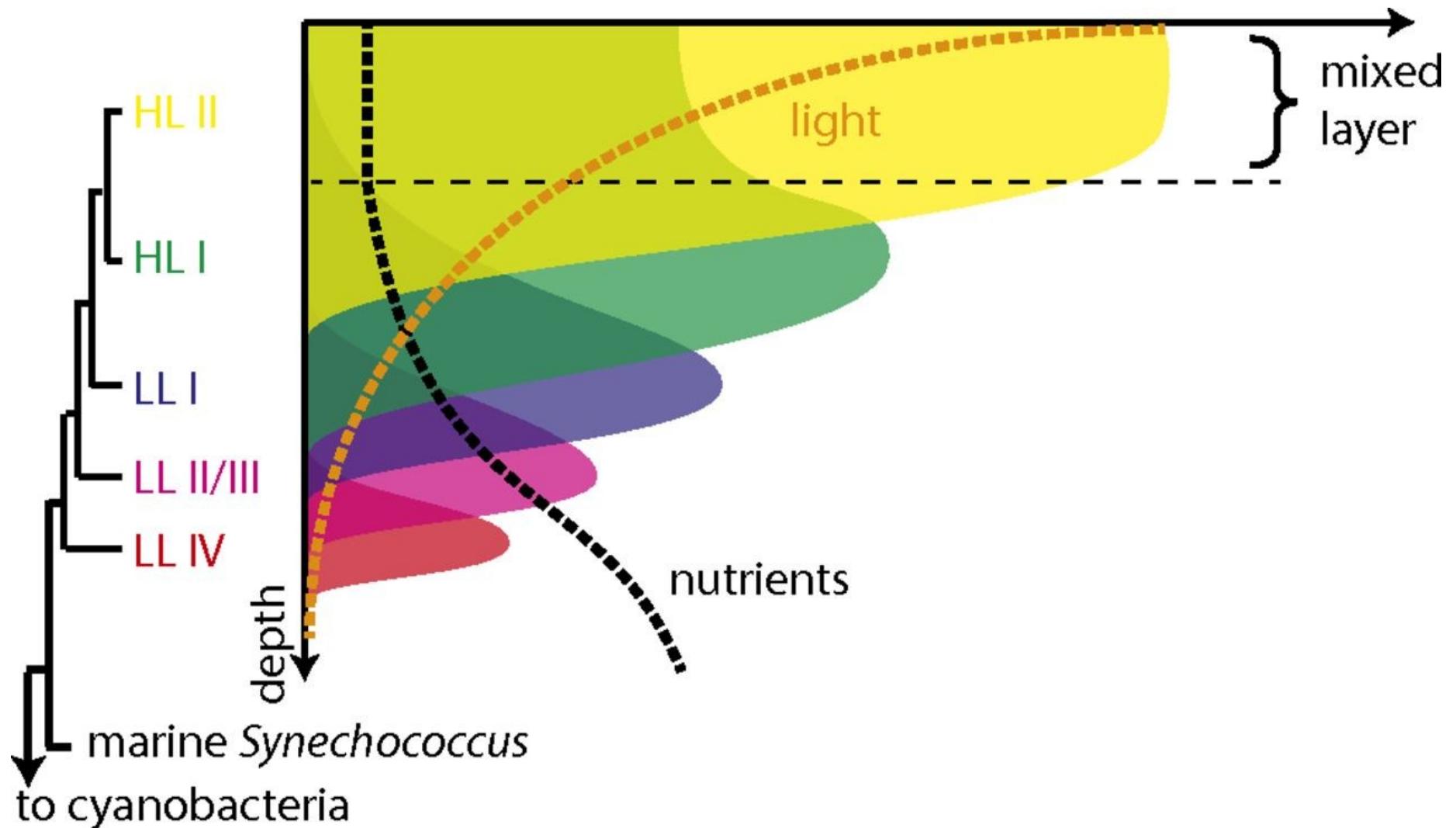
Daniel H. Buckley

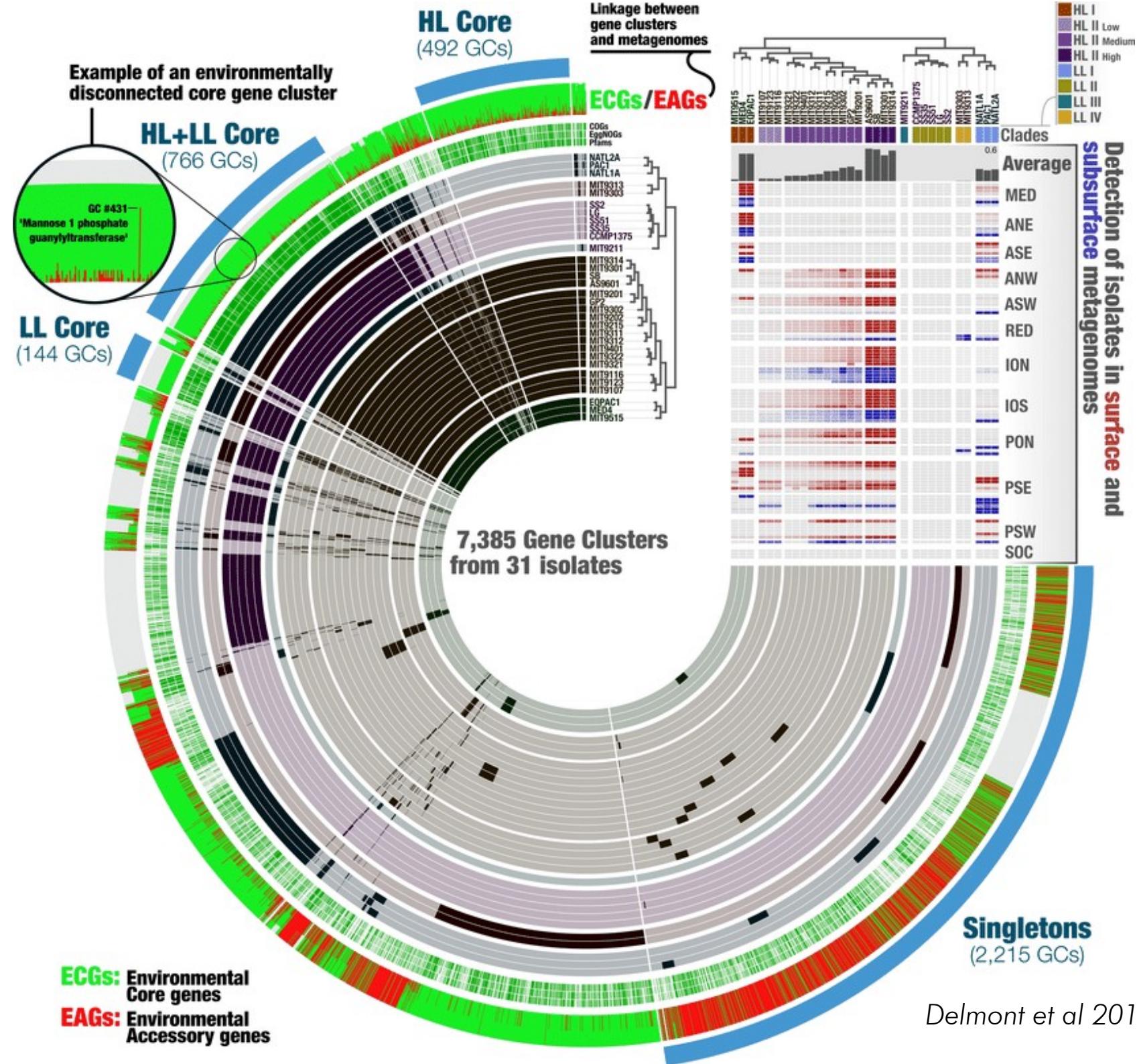
Prochlorococcus marinus

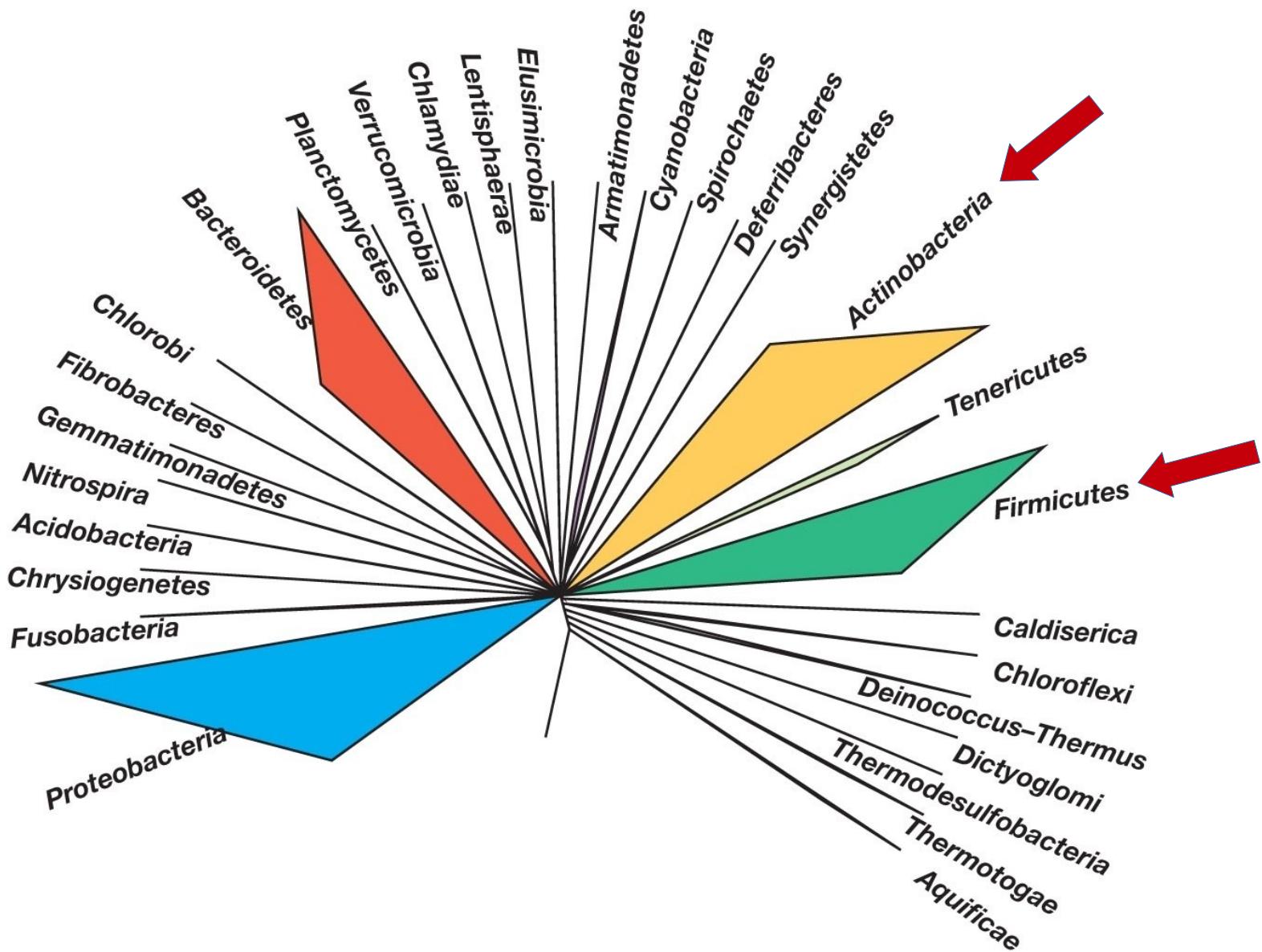
- *Prochlorococcus* is a genus of very small (0.6 µm) marine cyanobacteria with an unusual pigmentation (chlorophyll b)
- *Prochlorococcus* has been found to be abundant in the euphotic zone of the world's tropical oceans
- *Prochlorococcus* is ubiquitous between 40°N and 40°S and dominates in the oligotrophic (nutrient poor) regions of the oceans
- *Prochlorococcus* is mostly found in a temperature range of 10-33 °C and some strains can grow at depths with low light (<1% surface light)
- Microbes of the genus *Prochlorococcus* are among the major primary producers in the ocean, responsible for a large percentage of the photosynthetic production of oxygen



Prochlorococcus marinus







(a) Major phyla of *Bacteria*

Firmicutes

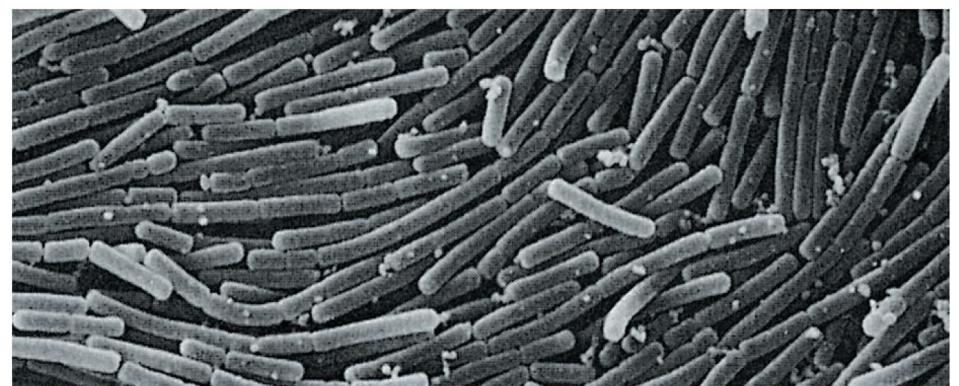
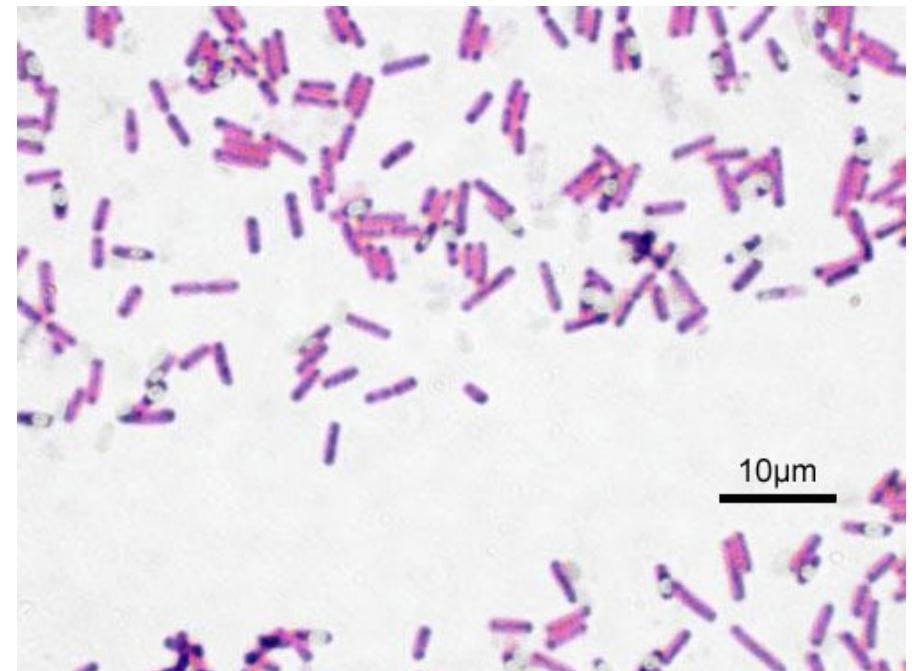
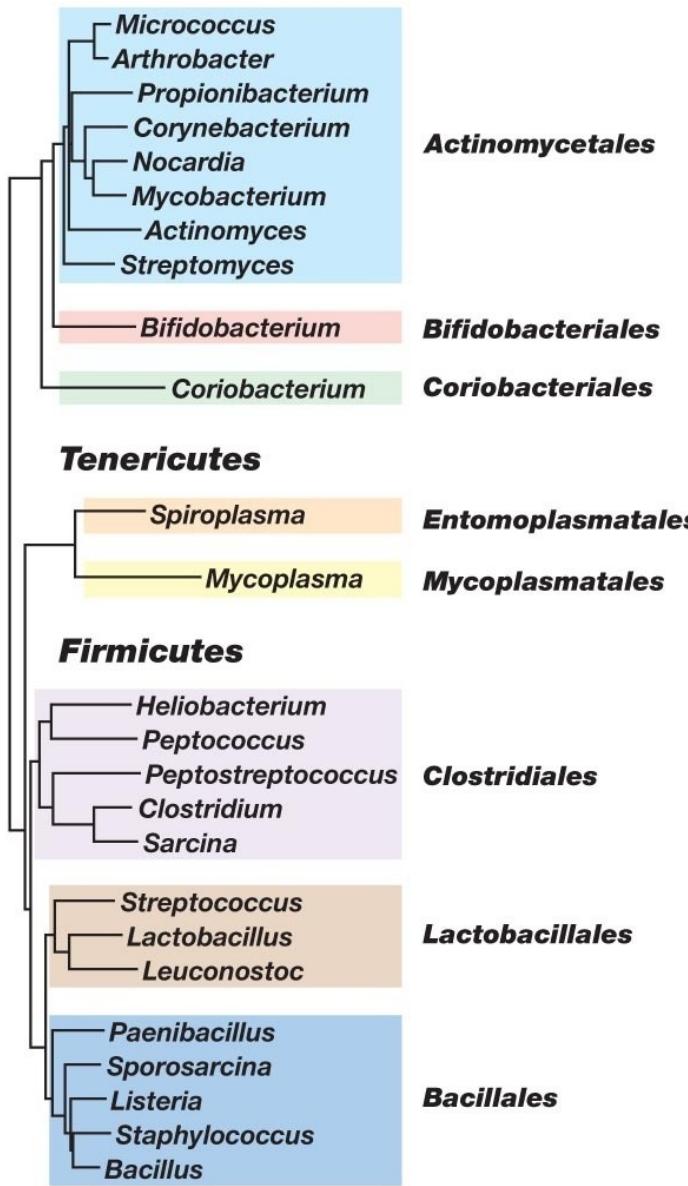
- The Firmicutes are phylum of bacteria, most of which have **Gram-positive** cell wall structure. The Firmicutes, once including all Gram-positive bacteria, has been recently defined to contain related forms called the **low-G+C group**, while Actinobacteria now contains the high-G+C group
- They generally have round cells, called cocci (singular coccus), or rod-like forms (bacillus). They are found in **various environments**, and the group includes some **notable pathogens**. They play an important role in beer, wine, and food fermentations
- Many Firmicutes produce **endospores**, which are resistant to desiccation and can survive extreme conditions. They are **generally heterotrophs and/or fermenters**. Those in one family, the Heliobacteria, produce energy through photosynthesis
- The group is typically divided into the **Clostridia**, which are obligate anaerobes, the **Bacilli**, which are obligate or facultative aerobes
- The Clostiridia are a **highly polyphyletic** class of Firmicutes, including Clostridium and other similar genera. They are **obligate anaerobes**. Studies show they are not a monophyletic group, and their relationships are not entirely certain. Currently, most are placed in a single order called Clostridiales, but this is not a natural group and is likely to be redefined in the future
- *Bacillus* species are almost **ubiquitous in nature**, e.g. in soil, but also occur in extreme environments such as high pH (*B. alcalophilus*), high temperature (*B. thermophilus*), or high salt (*B. halodurans*)

Actinobacteria

- Actinobacteria is a phylum of *gram-positive* bacteria. They are found in both terrestrial and aquatic environments.
- They have been *extensively studied in soils*, where they behave much like fungi, helping to *decompose the organic matter* of dead organisms so that the molecules can be taken up anew by plants. In this role the colonies often grow extensive mycelia, and the name of an important order of the phylum, *Actinomycetales*, reflects that they were long believed to be fungi
- Currently understood primarily as soil bacteria, their role in the *aquatic environment* is not yet clear
- They are of *great economic importance* to humans because agriculture and forests depend on their contributions to soil systems. *Streptomyces*, one of the largest bacterial genera, and other Actinobacteria are source of *many antibiotics*

Firmicutes and Actinobacteria

Actinobacteria



(c)

Table 15.5 Characteristics of representative species of bacilli

Characteristics	Species	Endospore position
I. Endospores oval or cylindrical, facultative aerobes, casein and starch hydrolyzed		
Sporangia not swollen, endospore wall thin		
Thermophiles and acidophiles	<i>Bacillus coagulans</i>	Central or terminal
	<i>Alicyclobacillus acidocaldarius</i>	Terminal
Mesophiles	<i>Bacillus licheniformis</i>	Central
	<i>Bacillus cereus</i>	Central
	<i>Bacillus anthracis</i>	Central
	<i>Bacillus megaterium</i>	Central
	<i>Bacillus subtilis</i>	Central
Insect pathogen	<i>Bacillus thuringiensis</i>	Central
Sporangia distinctly swollen, spore wall thick		
Thermophile	<i>Geobacillus stearothermophilus</i>	Terminal
Mesophiles	<i>Paenibacillus polymyxa</i>	Terminal
	<i>Bacillus macerans</i>	Terminal
	<i>Bacillus circulans</i>	Central or terminal
Insect pathogens	<i>Paenibacillus larvae</i>	Central or terminal
	<i>Paenibacillus popilliae</i>	Central
II. Endospores spherical, obligate aerobes, casein and starch not hydrolyzed		
Sporangia swollen	<i>Bacillus sphaericus</i>	Terminal
Sporangia not swollen	<i>Sporosarcina pasteurii</i>	Terminal

Table 15.6 Characteristics of some groups of clostridia

<i>Key characteristics</i>	<i>Other characteristics</i>	<i>Species</i>
Ferment carbohydrates		
Ferment cellulose	Fermentation products: acetate, lactate, succinate, ethanol, CO ₂ , H ₂	<i>C. cellobioparum</i> ^a <i>C. thermocellum</i>
Ferment sugars, starch, and pectin; some ferment cellulose	Fermentation products: acetone, butanol, ethanol, isopropanol, butyrate, acetate, propionate, succinate, CO ₂ , H ₂ ; some fix N ₂	<i>C. butyricum</i> <i>C. cellobioparum</i> <i>C. acetobutylicum</i> <i>C. pasteurianum</i> <i>C. perfringens</i>
Ferment sugars primarily to acetic acid	Total synthesis of acetate from CO ₂ ; cytochromes present in some species	<i>C. aceticum</i> <i>Moorella thermoacetica</i> <i>C. formicaceticum</i>
Ferments only pentoses or methylpentoses	Ring-shaped cells form left-handed, helical chains; fermentation products: acetate, propionate, <i>n</i> -propanol, CO ₂ , H ₂	<i>C. methylpentosum</i>

^aAll genus names beginning with a “C.” are species of the genus *Clostridium*.

Table 15.6 Characteristics of some groups of clostridia (*Continued*)

<i>Key characteristics</i>	<i>Other characteristics</i>	<i>Species</i>
Ferment amino acids	Fermentation products: acetate, other fatty acids, NH ₃ , CO ₂ , sometimes H ₂ ; some also ferment sugars to butyrate and acetate; may produce exotoxins; causative agents of serious or fatal diseases	<i>C. sporogenes</i> <i>C. histolyticum</i> <i>C. putrefaciens</i> <i>C. tetani</i> <i>C. botulinum</i> <i>C. tetanomorphum</i>
	Ferments three-carbon amino acids (for example, alanine) to propionate, acetate, and CO ₂	<i>C. propionicum</i>
Ferments carbohydrates or amino acids	Fermentation products from glucose: acetate, formate, small amounts of isobutyrate and isovalerate	<i>C. bifermentans</i>
Purine fermenters	Ferments uric acid and other purines, forming acetate, CO ₂ , NH ₃	<i>C. acidurici</i>
Ethanol fermentation to fatty acids	Produces butyrate, caproate, and H ₂ ; requires acetate as electron acceptor; does not use sugars, amino acids, or purines	<i>C. kluyveri</i>

^aAll genus names beginning with a "C." are species of the genus *Clostridium*.

Table 15.8 Some common antibiotics synthesized by species of *Streptomyces* and related *Actinobacteria*

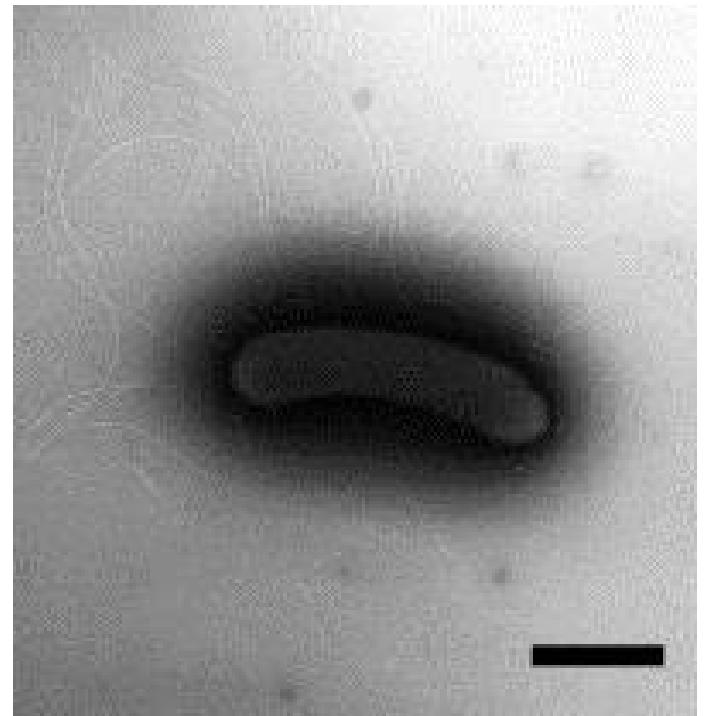
Chemical class	Common name	Produced by	Active against ^a
Aminoglycosides	Streptomycin	<i>S. griseus</i> ^b	Most gram-negative <i>Bacteria</i>
	Spectinomycin	<i>Streptomyces</i> spp.	<i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i> , penicillinase-producing <i>Neisseria gonorrhoeae</i>
	Neomycin	<i>S. fradiae</i>	Broad spectrum, usually used in topical applications because of toxicity
Tetracyclines	Tetracycline	<i>S. aureofaciens</i>	Broad spectrum, gram-positive and gram-negative <i>Bacteria</i> , rickettsias and chlamydias, <i>Mycoplasma</i>
	Chlortetracycline	<i>S. aureofaciens</i>	As for tetracycline
Macrolides	Erythromycin	<i>Saccharopolyspora erythraea</i>	Most gram-positive <i>Bacteria</i> , frequently used in place of penicillin; <i>Legionella</i>
	Clindamycin	<i>S. lincolnensis</i>	Effective against obligate anaerobes, especially <i>Bacteroides fragilis</i> , the major cause of anaerobic peritoneal infections
Polyenes	Nystatin	<i>S. noursei</i>	Fungi, especially <i>Candida</i> (a yeast) infections
	Amphotericin B	<i>S. nodosus</i>	Fungi
None	Chloramphenicol	<i>S. venezuelae</i>	Broad spectrum; drug of choice for typhoid fever

^aMost antibiotics are effective against several different *Bacteria*. The entries in this column refer to the common clinical application of a given antibiotic. The structures and mode of action of many of these antibiotics are discussed in Sections 27.11–27.14.

^bAll species names beginning with an "S." are species of *Streptomyces*.

Oceanobacillus iheyensis

- *Oceanobacillus iheyensis HTE831* is an extremely halotolerant and alkaliphilic *Bacillus* related species
- It was isolated from deep sea sediment collected at a depth of 1050m on the Iheya Ridge
- In nature, *bacillus* species are distributed nearly ubiquitously
- The genome of *O. iheyensis* is a single circular chromosome consisting of 3,630,528 nt



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Microbial dormancy in the marine subsurface: Global endospore abundance and response to burial

Lars Wörmer^{1,*}, Tatsuhiko Hoshino², Marshall W. Bowles³, Bernhard Viehweger¹, Rishi R. Adhikari¹, Nan Xiao², Go-ichiro Ur...

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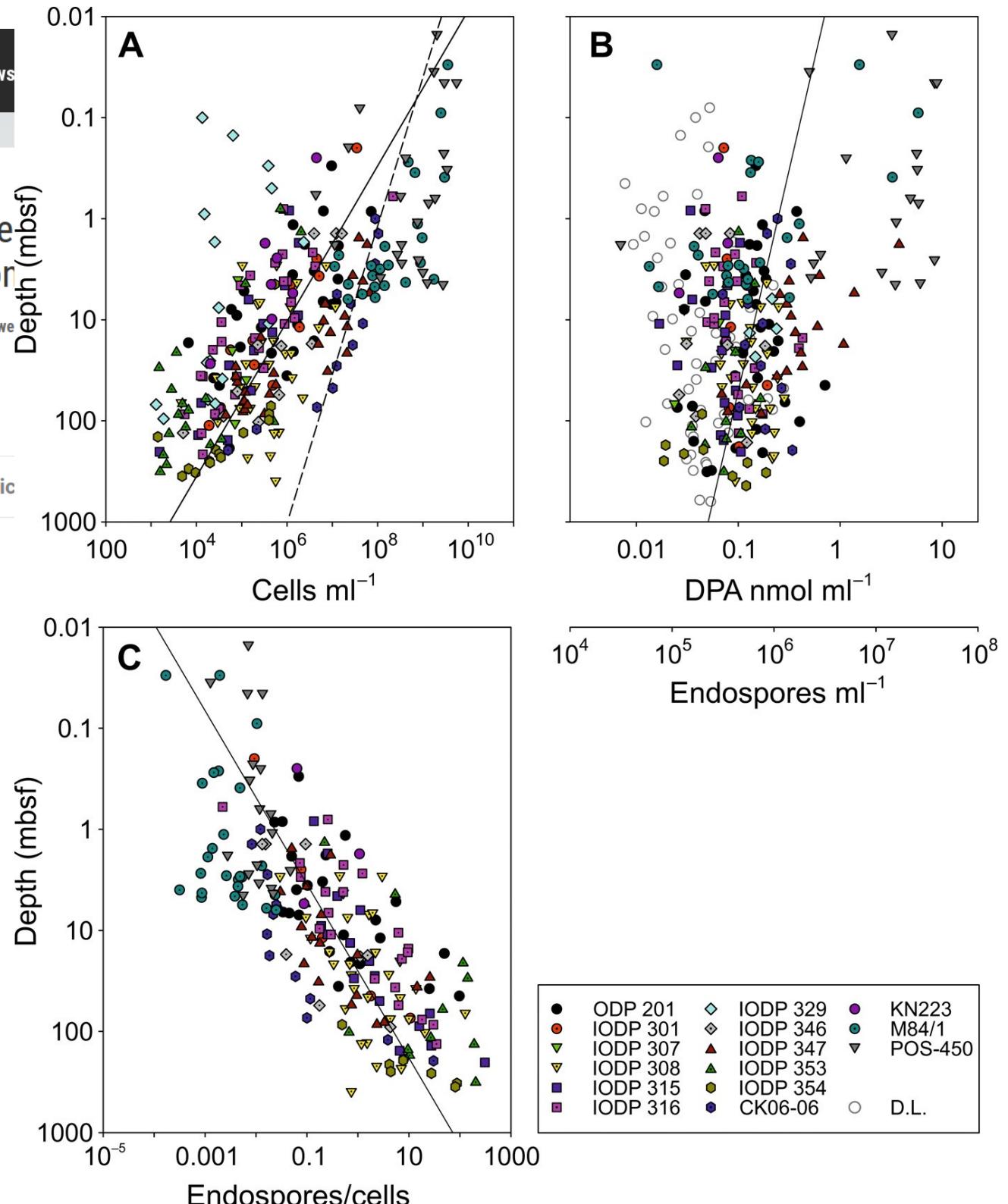
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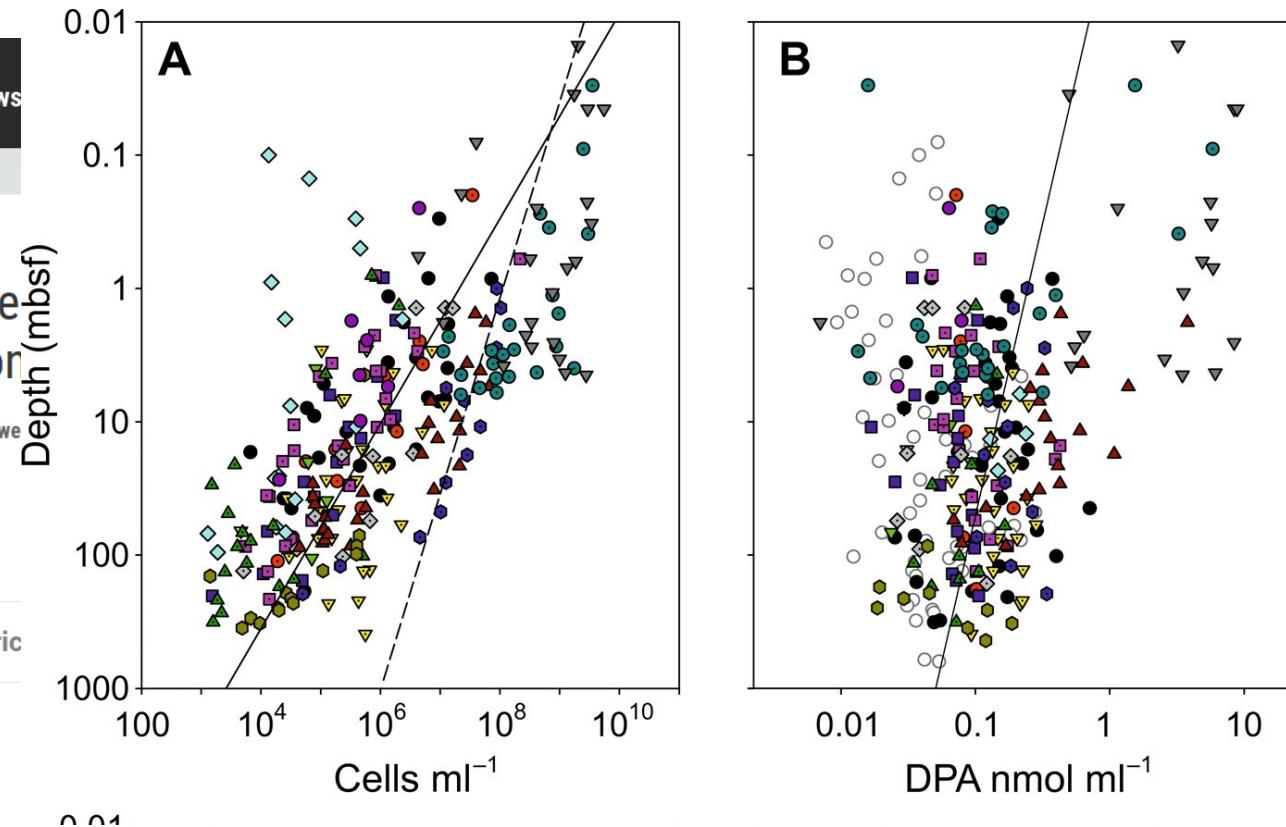
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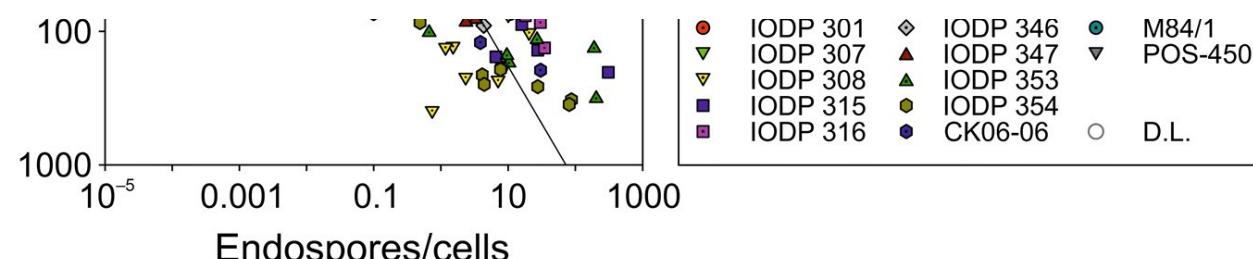
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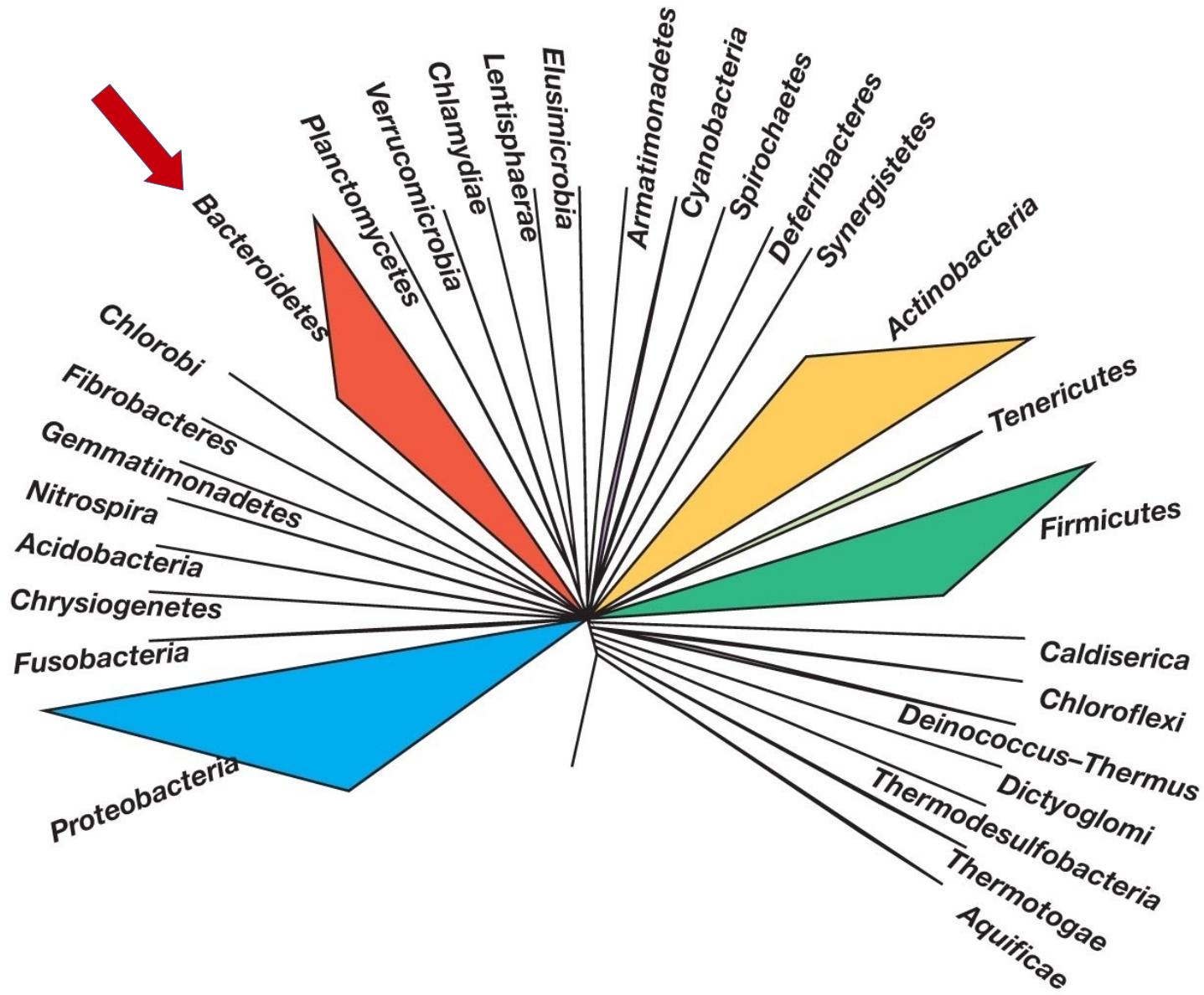
Front. Microbiol., 13 January 2012 | <https://doi.org/10.3389/fmicb.2011.00284>

Acetogenesis in the energy-starved deep biosphere – a paradox?

Mark Alexander Lever*

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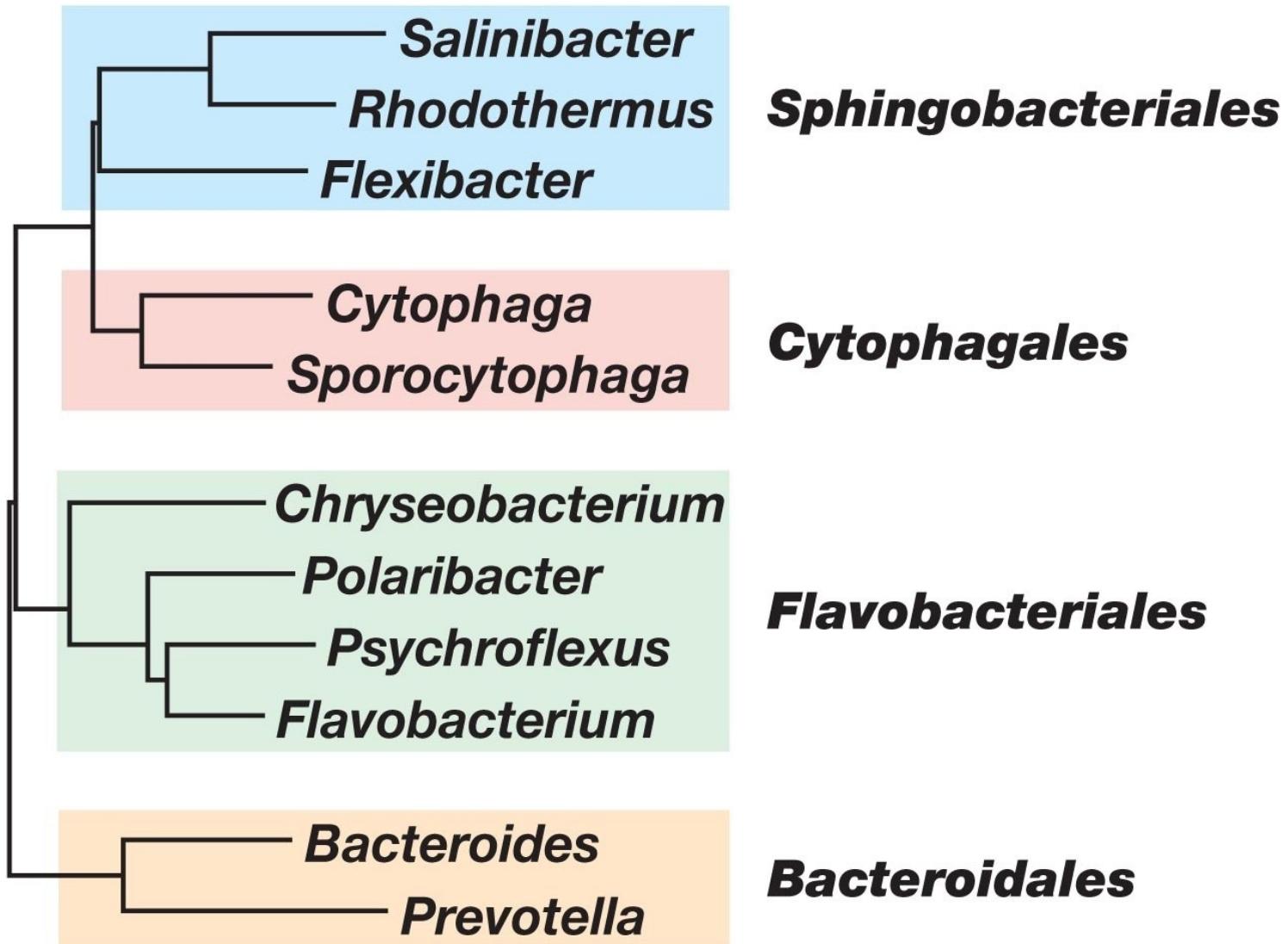




Bacteroidetes

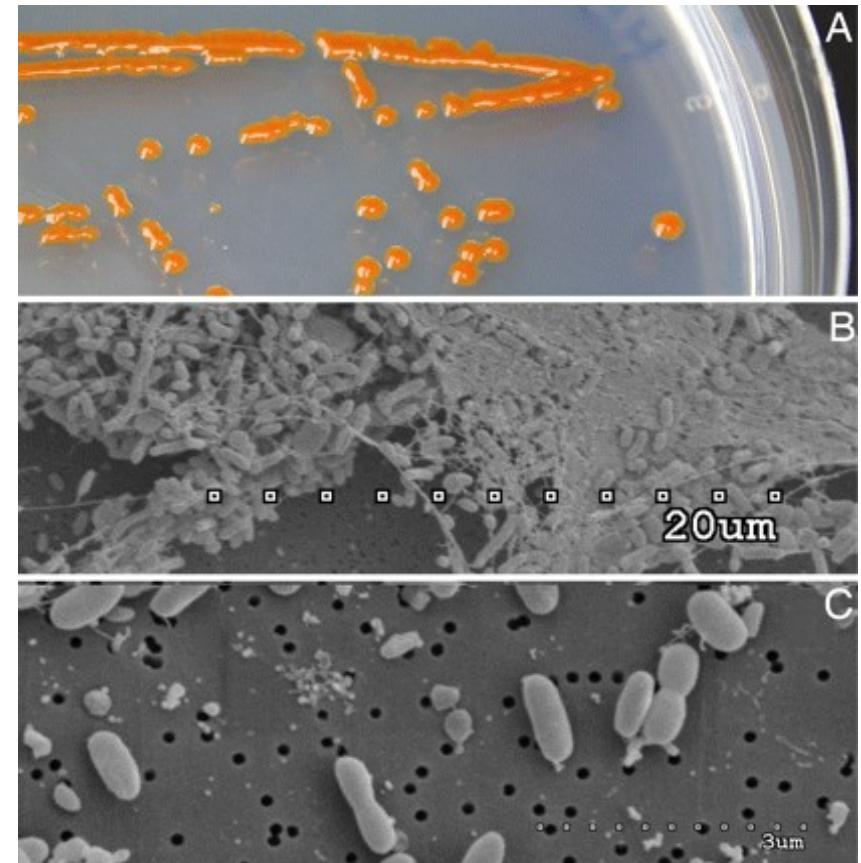
- The phylum Bacteroidetes (known as the CFB group) is composed of three large classes of *nonsporeforming*, *anaerobic or aerobic*, and rod-shaped bacteria that are *widely distributed in the environment*, including in soil, sediments, and sea water, as well as in the guts and on the skin of animals comprising 7,000 different species
- In the marine environment they are *ubiquitous*, and believed to play a major role in *degrading organic matter*, and decomposing complex recalcitrant compounds in the form of polysaccharides and proteins
- By far, the ones in the Bacteroidia class are the most well-studied, including the genus *Bacteroides* (an abundant organism in the feces of warm-blooded animals including humans), and *Porphyromonas*, a group of organisms inhabiting the human oral cavity. Yet, the *marine diversity has been poorly investigated*
- Bacteroidetes can represent the dominant phylum in *marine snow aggregates*

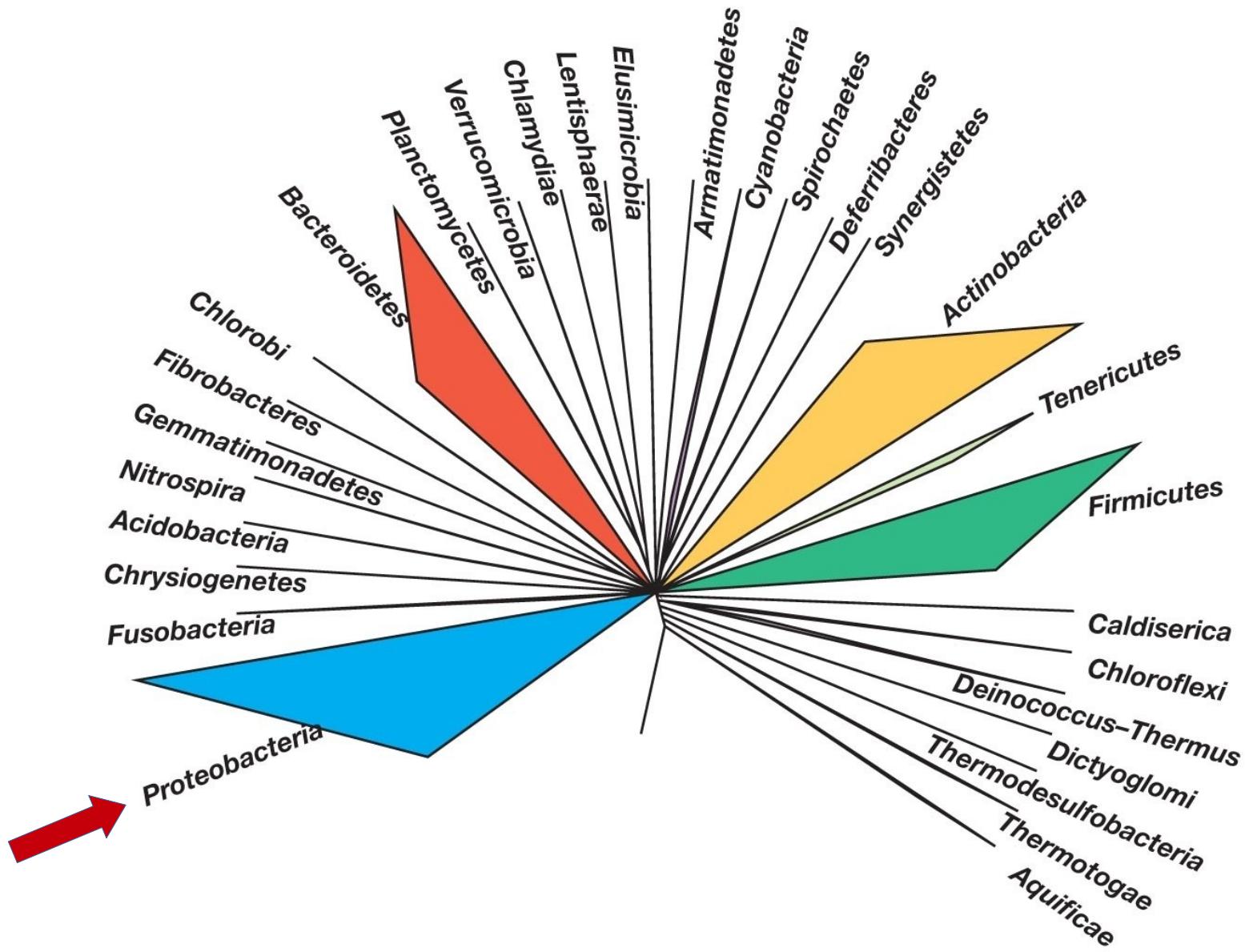
Bacteroidetes



Polaribacter sp. MED152

- *Polaribacter* is one of the major genera of Bacteroidetes found in the marine environment
- They contain a proteorhodopsin functioning as a light-driven H⁺ pump in the ocean
- It can grow only by aerobic respiration, and it is unable to use fermentation or anaerobic respiration for energy conservation.
- Its genome contains a number of genes potentially involved in anaplerotic metabolism (fixation of CO₂) such as PEP carboxylase and pyruvate carboxylase





Proteobacteria

- The Proteobacteria are a major phylum of Gram-negative bacteria. Carl Woese established this grouping in 1987, calling it informally the "purple bacteria and their relatives". Because of the great diversity of forms found in this group, the Proteobacteria are named after Proteus, a Greek god of the sea capable of assuming many different shapes
- They are *ubiquitous in the environments* and posses a *huge metabolic diversity*, encompassing facultatively or obligately anaerobes, chemolithoautotrophy, heterotrophy and anoxygenic phototrophy. They include free living, commensal, symbiotic and pathogenic species
- They are currently divide in six classes: *Alphaproteobacteria*, *Betaproteobacteria*, *Gammaproteobacteria*, *Deltaproteobacteria*, *Epsilonproteobacteria* and *Zetaproteobacteria*
- Given their diversity they have been proposed as *superphylum*, with the classes promoted to distinct phyla

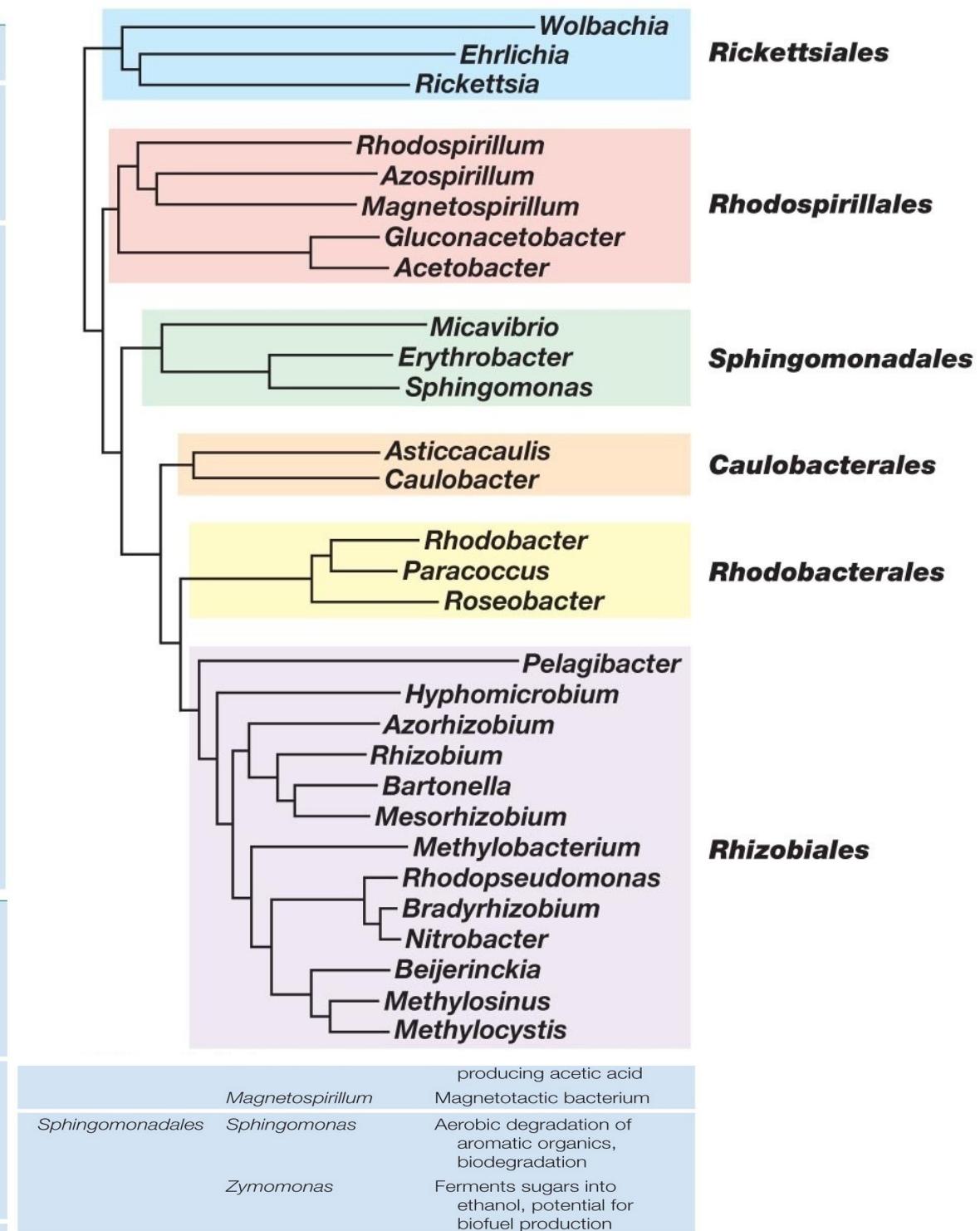
Proteobacteria: Alphaproteobacteria

- With nearly one thousand described species, the *Alphaproteobacteria* are the second largest class of Proteobacteria
- The *Alphaproteobacteria* is a *diverse taxon* and comprises several *phototrophic genera*, several genera *metabolising C1-compounds* (e.g., *Methylobacterium* spp.), *symbionts* of plants (e.g., *Rhizobium* spp.), *endosymbionts* of arthropods (*Wolbachia*) and *intracellular pathogens* (e.g. *Rickettsia*). A total of 10 orders have been described within the *Alphaproteobacteria*
- Most species are *obligate aerobes or facultative aerobes* and many are *oligotrophic*, preferring to grow in environments that have low nutrient concentration. Several species play a key role in nitrogen fixation in various types of plants
- The class includes the *protomitochondrion*, the bacterium that was engulfed by the eukaryotic ancestor and gave rise to the mitochondria through endosymbiosis
- Pelagibacter ubique* is an oligotroph and an obligately *aerobic chemoorganotroph* that inhabits the photic zone of Earth's oceans. This organism can make up 25% of the bacterial cells found at the ocean's surface, and its numbers can reach 50% of cells in temperate waters in the summer; as a consequence, *Pelagibacter ubique* is likely the most abundant bacterial species on Earth

Table 15.1 Notable genera of *Alphaproteobacteria*

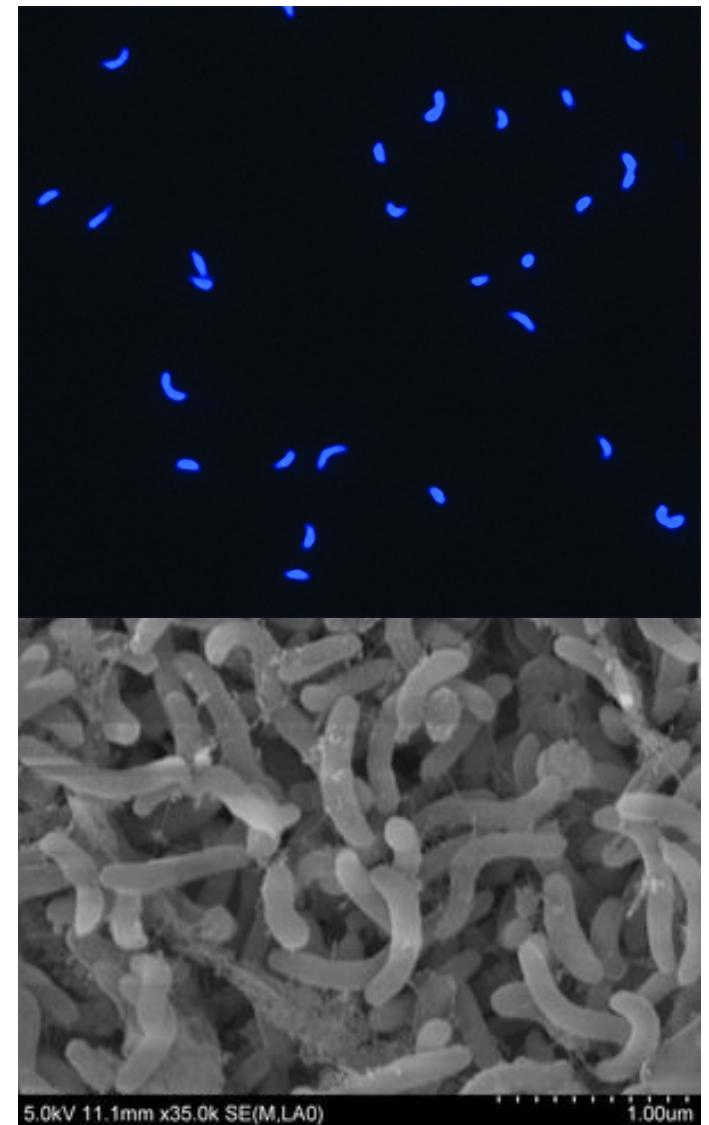
Family	Genus	Notable characteristics
Caulobacterales	<i>Caulobacter</i>	Asymmetric cell division and formation of prosthecae
Rickettsiales	<i>Rickettsia</i>	Obligate intracellular parasites, transmitted by arthropods
	<i>Wolbachia</i>	Live within arthropods and impact their reproduction
Rhizobiales	<i>Bartonella</i>	Obligate intracellular parasites, transmitted by arthropods
	<i>Bradyrhizobium</i>	Form root nodules with soybean and other legumes
	<i>Brucella</i>	Facultative intracellular parasites of animals, zoonotic pathogen
	<i>Hypomicrobium</i>	Stalked cells, metabolically versatile
	<i>Mesorhizobium</i>	Form root nodules with bird's-foot trefoil and other legumes
	<i>Methylobacterium</i>	Methylotroph found on plants and in soil
	<i>Nitrobacter</i>	Nitrifying bacterium that oxidizes NO_2^- to NO_3^-
	<i>Pelagibacter</i>	Oligotrophic chemoorganotroph; high abundance in ocean surface
	<i>Rhodopseudomonas</i>	Metabolically versatile purple nonsulfur bacterium
Rhodobacterales	<i>Paracoccus</i>	Species used as a model for studying denitrification
	<i>Rhodobacter</i>	Metabolically versatile purple nonsulfur bacteria
	<i>Roseobacter</i>	Aerobic anoxygenic phototroph
Rhodospirillales	<i>Acetobacter</i>	Used industrially for producing acetic acid
	<i>Azospirillum</i>	Obligately aerobic diazotroph
	<i>Gluconobacter</i>	Used industrially for producing acetic acid
	<i>Magnetospirillum</i>	Magnetotactic bacterium
	<i>Sphingomonadales</i>	Aerobic degradation of aromatic organics, biodegradation

Alphaproteobacteria



Ca. Pelagibacter ubique

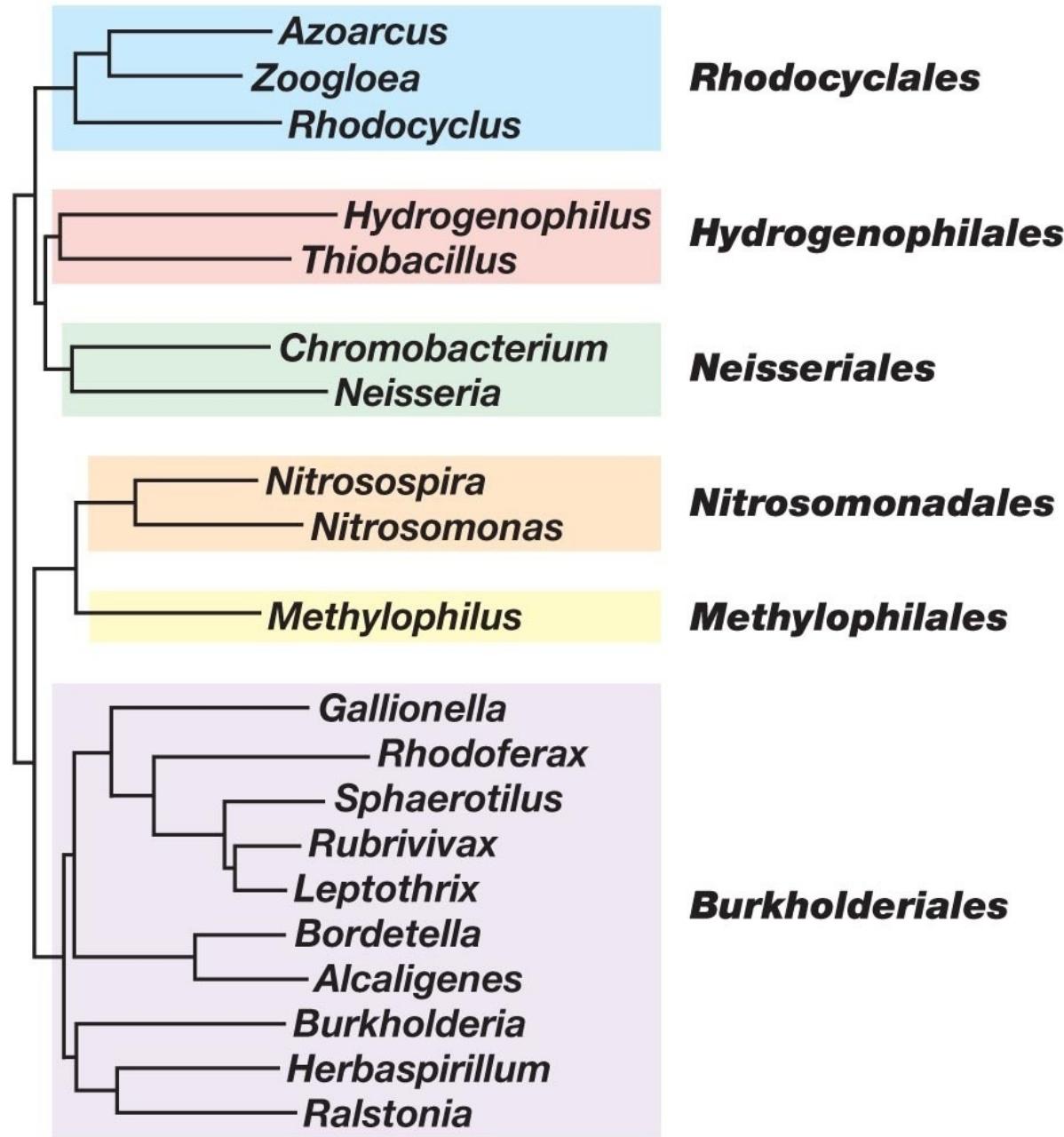
- *Ca. Pelagibacter*, with the single species *Ca. P. ubique*, is an abundant member of the SAR11 clade in the phylum Alphaproteobacteria
- SAR11 members are highly dominant organisms found in both salt and fresh water worldwide
- It recycles dissolved organic carbon. It undergoes regular seasonal cycles in abundance - in summer reaching ~50% of the cells in the temperate ocean surface waters. Thus it plays a major role in the Earth's carbon cycle
- It is rod or crescent shaped and one of the smallest cells known, with a length of 0.37-0.89 μm and a diameter of only 0.12-0.20 μm . 30% of the cell's volume is taken up by its genome



Proteobacteria: Betaproteobacteria

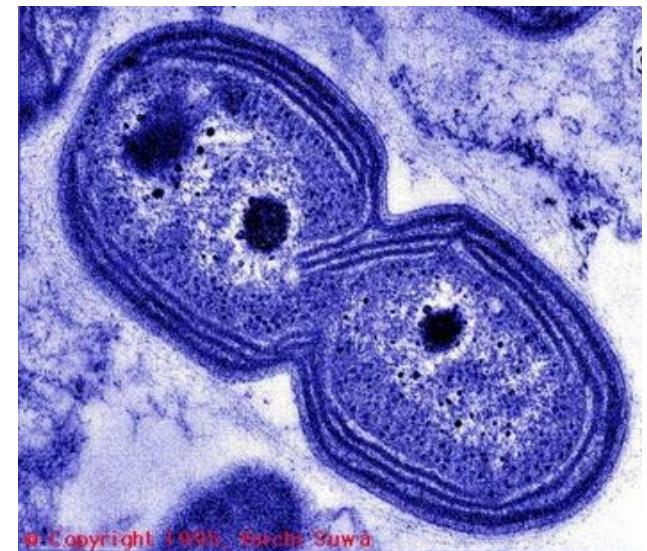
- With nearly 500 described species, the Betaproteobacteria are the third largest class of Proteobacteria.
- The *Burkholderiales* contain species with a wide range of metabolic and ecological characteristics. Species include *strictly aerobic*, *facultatively aerobic*, and *obligately anaerobic chemoorganotrophs*, *anoxygenic phototrophs*, *obligate* and *facultative chemolithotroph*
- The Betaproteobacteria contain an immense amount of functional diversity, and consist of several groups of *aerobic* or *facultative anaerobic bacteria* that are often *highly versatile in their degradation capacities*, but also contain *chemolithotrophic* genera (e.g., the ammonia-oxidising genus *Nitrosomonas*) and some *phototrophs* (members of the genera *Rhodocyclus* and *Rubrivivax*). *Pathogenic* species within this class are the *Neisseriaceae* (gonorrhoea and meningitis) and species of the genus *Burkholderia*
- The *Methylophilales* and *Nitrosomonadales* contain metabolically specialized organisms. *Methylophilus* species are *obligate* and *facultative methylotrophs* that grow on methanol and other C1 compounds, but not on CH4. The order *Nitrosomonadales* contains *obligately chemolithotrophic ammonia-oxidizing bacteria*, the key genera being *Nitrosomonas* and *Nitrosospira*

Betaproteobacteria



Nitrosomonas marina

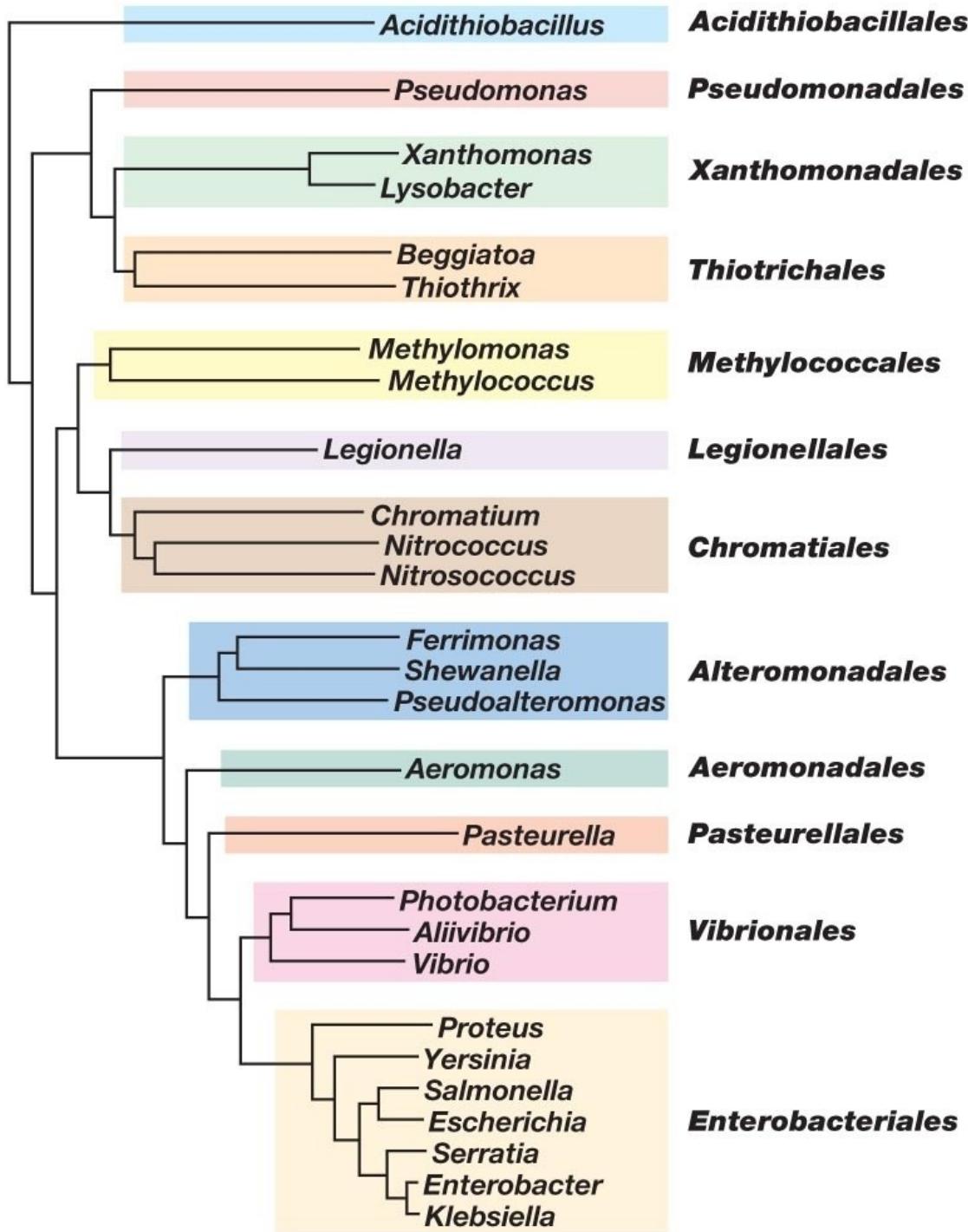
- *Nitrosomonas* is a genus of rod-shaped chemoautotrophic bacteria in the phylum Betaproteobacteria
- *Nitrosomonas* prefers an optimum pH of 6.0-9.0 and a temperature range of 20 to 30°C. Most species are motile with a flagellum located in the polar regions
- *Nitrosomonas* species are aerobic chemolithoautotrophs using the Calvin cycle and oxidize ammonia to nitrite
- Some *Nitrosomonas* species have been identified as also being able to degrade a variety of halogenated compounds including trichloroethylene, benzene, and vinyl chloride



Proteobacteria: Gammaproteobacteria

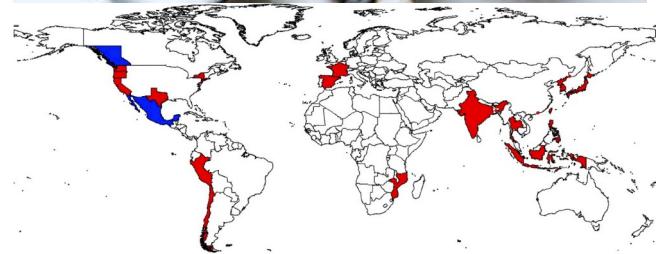
- The Gammaproteobacteria comprise *several medically, ecologically and scientifically important groups of bacteria*
- Gammaproteobacteria are *major players* in diverse marine ecosystems, including extreme environments
- The class contains a *huge variety of taxonomic and metabolic diversity*, including *aerobic* and *anaerobic* species, *chemolitoautotrophic*, *chemoorganotrophic* and *phototrophic* species and include *free living*, *biofilms formers*, *commensal* and *symbionts*
- Chemolitoautotrophic species use the *Calvin cycle* to fix CO₂, with the exception of the symbionts of the vent tubeworm *Riftia* which posses also the *rTCA* cycle
- Families of interest include the *Thiotrichales* and *Chromatiales*, *Pseudomonadales*, *Vibrionales*, *Methylococcales* and *Enterobacterales*

Gammaproteobacteria



Vibrio parahaemolyticus

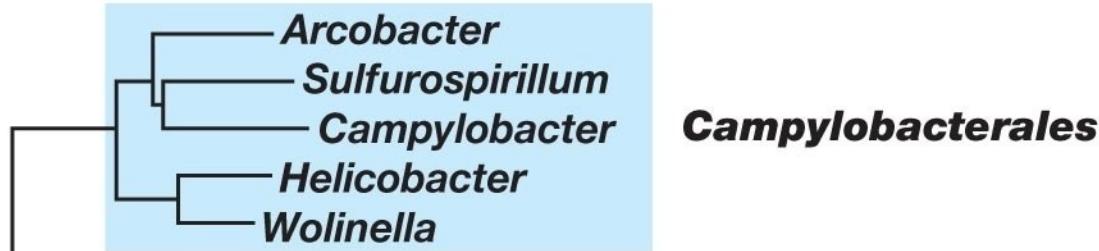
- *Vibrio parahaemolyticus* is a curved, rod-shaped member of the Vibrionales
- It is found in brackish saltwater, and generally associated with shellfish
- *V. parahaemolyticus* is oxidase positive, facultatively aerobic, and does not form spores
- It is the predominant cause of the acute gastroenteritis caused by *V. parahaemolyticus*, generally connected to fecal-oral route, ingestion of bacteria in raw or undercooked seafood, usually oysters, squid, mackerel, tuna, crabs
- Outbreaks tend to be concentrated along coastal regions during the summer and early fall when higher water temperatures favor higher levels of bacteria.



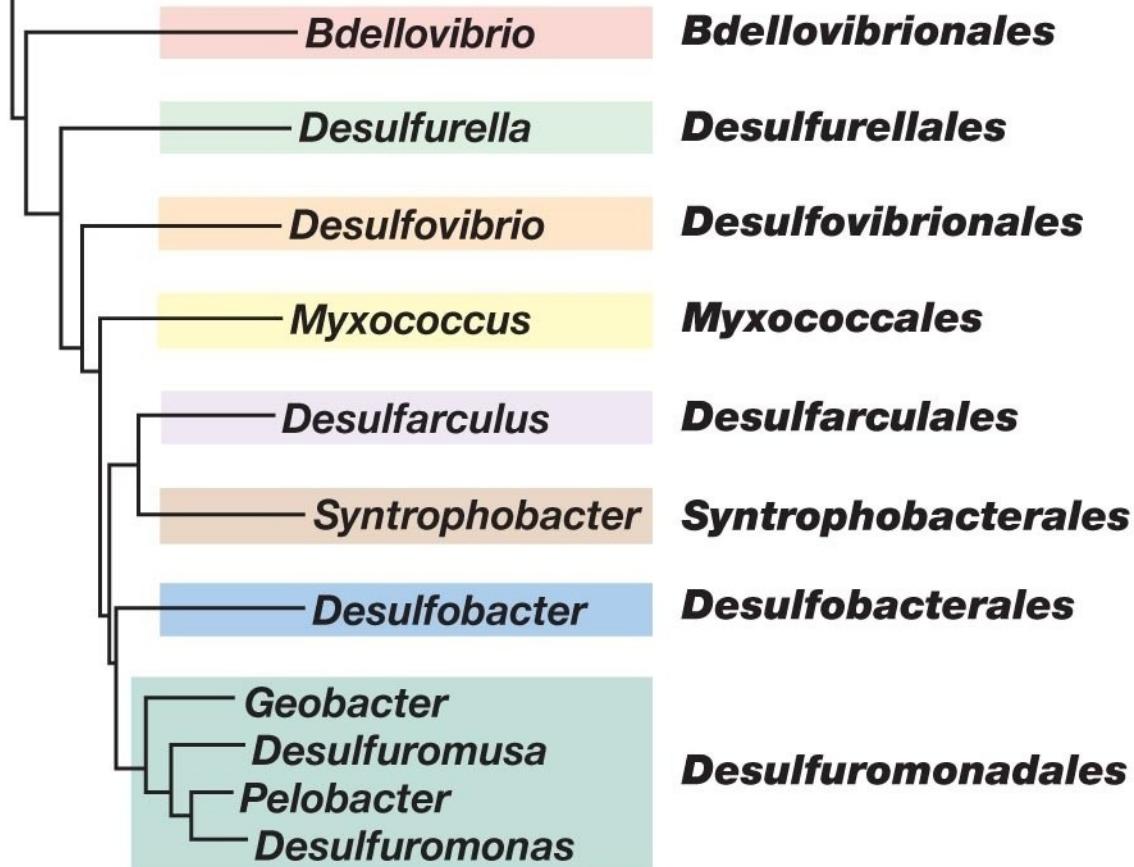
Proteobacteria: *Deltaproteobacteria*

- The Deltaproteobacteria are *ubiquitous in marine sediments*, and contains *most of the known sulfate-* (Desulfovibrio, Desulfobacter, Desulfococcus, Desulfonema, etc.) and *sulfur-reducing bacteria* (e.g. Desulfuromonas spp.) alongside several other anaerobic bacteria with different physiology (e.g. ferric iron-reducing Geobacter spp. and syntrophic Pelobacter and Syntrophus spp.)
- The largest and most common order containing sulfate reducers is the *Desulfovibrionales*, followed by the *Desulfobacterales* and *Desulfarculales*. These organisms are readily cultivated from marine sediments and nutrient-rich anoxic environments that contain sulfate
- Species of *Desulfovibrionales* are typically incomplete oxidizers. All use sulfate as the terminal electron acceptor, and all require *small organic compounds* such as lactate as a source of carbon and energy for growth. Species within the orders *Desulfobacterales* and *Desulfarculales* can be complete or incomplete acetate oxidizers. In addition to sulfate, some species in these three orders can also reduce sulfite, thiosulfate, or nitrate, and some are capable of certain fermentations. Some species are able to fix CO₂ using the *reductive Acetyl-CoA pathway* or *rTCA cycle*
- Some but not all *Syntrophobacterales* are able to reduce sulfate. In nature, however, species of *Syntrophobacterales* primarily interact with *H₂-consuming bacteria* in a metabolic partnership called *syntrophy*

Epsilonproteobacteria



Deltaproteobacteria



Desulfovibrio desulfuricans

- *Desulfovibrio desulfuricans* is a sulfate-reducing bacteria generally found in soils, waters, and the stools of animals, although in rare cases it has been found to cause infection in humans
- *Desulfovibrio* cells typically grow anaerobically, but certain strains have been identified growing in the presence of oxygen. It measures approximately 3 μm by 0.5 μm .
- *Desulfovibrio* is known for its flexibility in response to the extended amount of electron acceptors it utilizes including sulfate, sulfur, nitrate, and nitrite among others
- Species of *Desulfovibrio* were first identified as possible bioremediators. With the ability to reduce several toxic metals such as uranium (VI), chromium (VI) and iron (III)

