Bacteria and archaea

Commonalities and differences

Lateral gene transfer

Chloroplasts and mitochondria

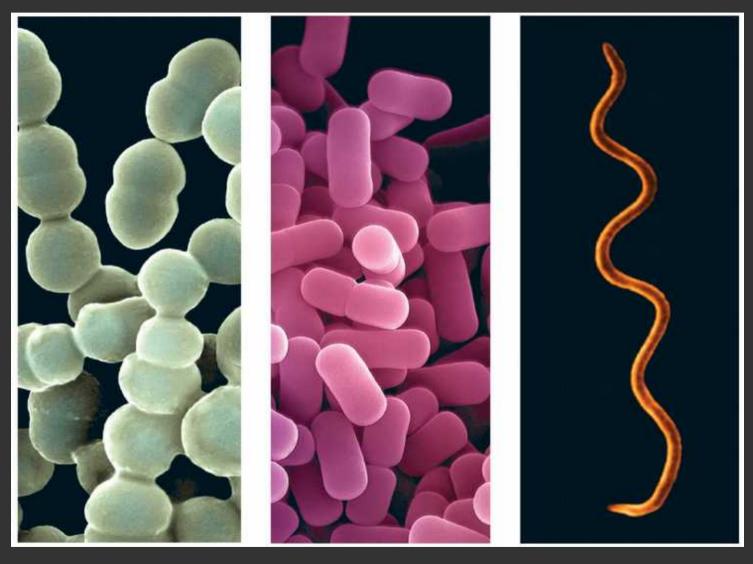
Symbioses

Metabolic cooperation

Global importance



Prokaryote cell shapes

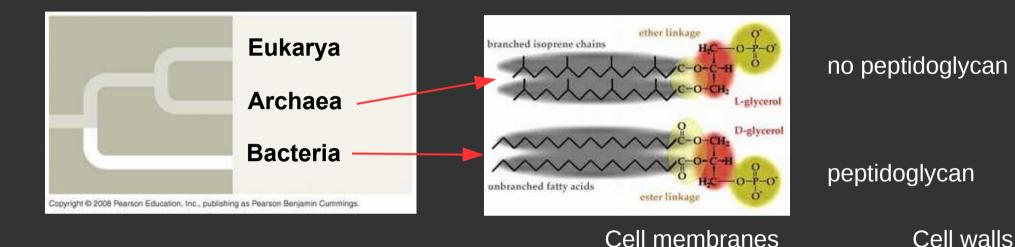


Spherical (cocci)

Rod-shaped (baccili)

Spiral

Prokaryotes: Two domains



Archaea have eukaryote-like ribosomes as well

Archaeal metabolic pathways: (what is missing?)

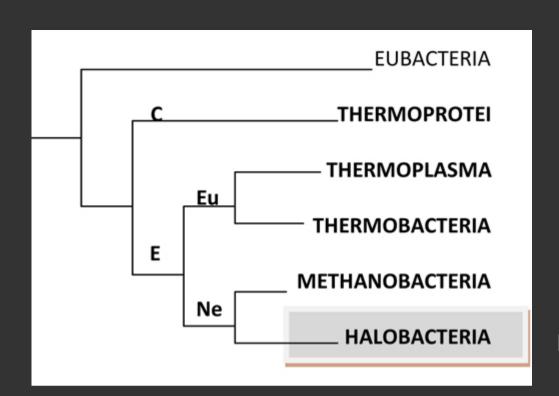
Photo-litho-hetero

Chemo-litho-auto

Chemo-litho-hetero

Chemo-organo-auto

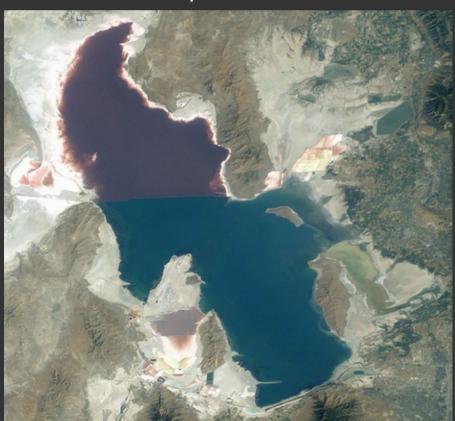
Chemo-organo-hetero



Halobacteria (aren't bacteria!)

Don't use chlorophyll...
They use rhodopsins, the same compound in animal eyes used to detect light

Photo-litho-heterotrophs



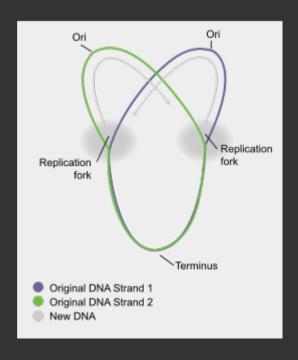
Common characteristics

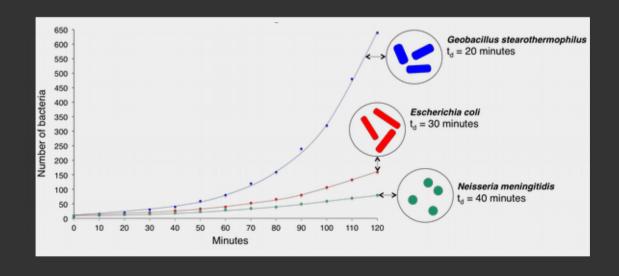
(between bacteria and archaea)

Circular chromosome

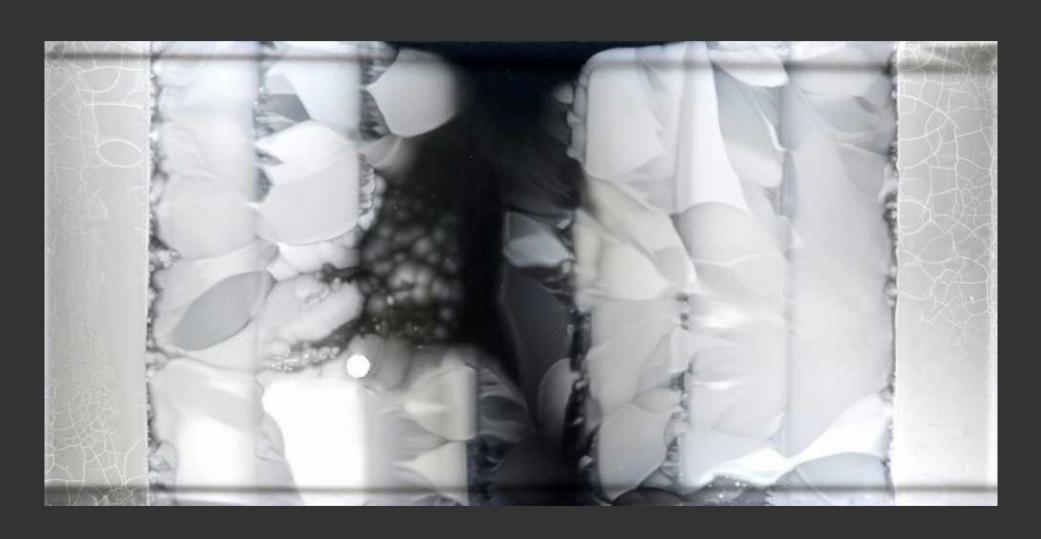
Fast generation times

Low mutation rates (very good DNA polymerase proofreading activity)

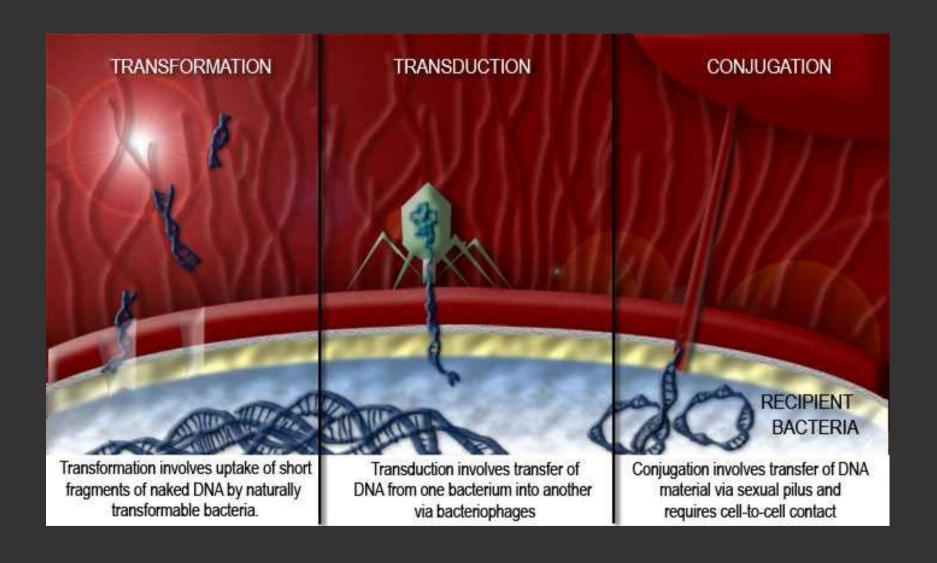




How do they evolve so quickly if they mutate so rarely?



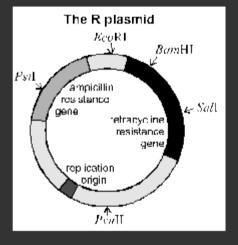
Lateral Gene Transfer (LGT)



R and F Factors

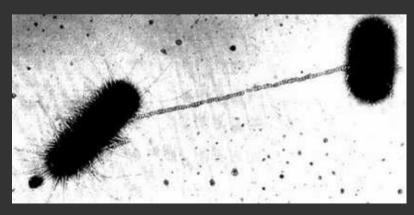
R factor: a plasmid that contains code for resistance

to stress (e.g., antibiotic resistance)



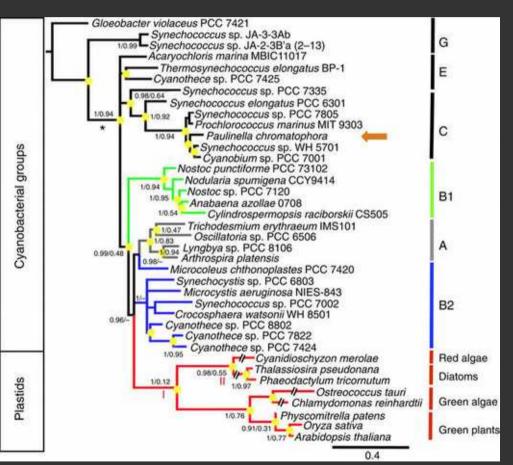
F factor: code that enables construction of sexual pilus for efficient plasmid transfers

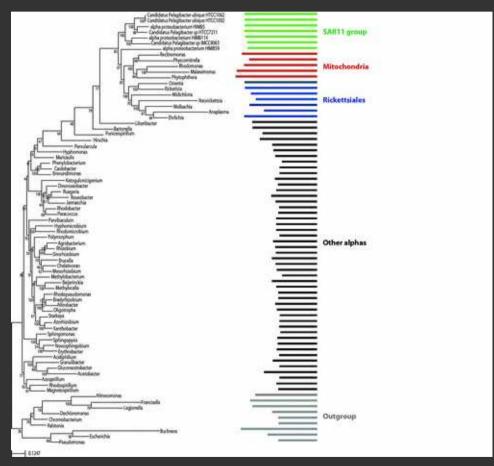
Why is fertility factor so widespread?



Chloroplasts and Mitochondria

(Certain Cyanobacteria and α-Proteobacteria)



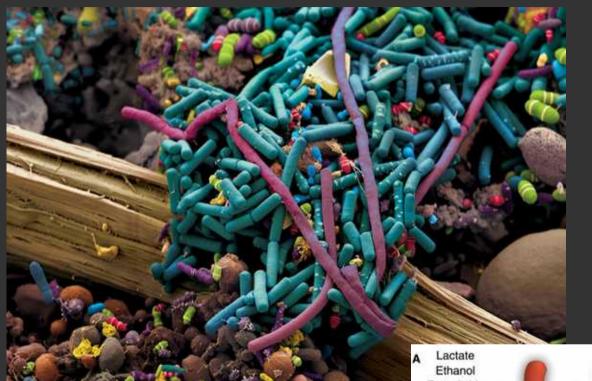


Symbiosis: A spectrum of cooperation

Table 14.1 The Three Types of Symbiotic Relationships			
-	Organism 1	Organism 2	Example
Mutualism	Benefits	Benefits	Bacteria in human colon
Commensalisn	n Benefits	Neither benefits nor is harmed	Staphylococcus on skin
Parasitism	Benefits	Is harmed	Tuberculosis bacteria in human lung
Copyright © 2006 Pearson Education, Inc., publishing as Benjamin Cummings.			

A bacterial strain that causes a disease in its host is called a **pathogen**.

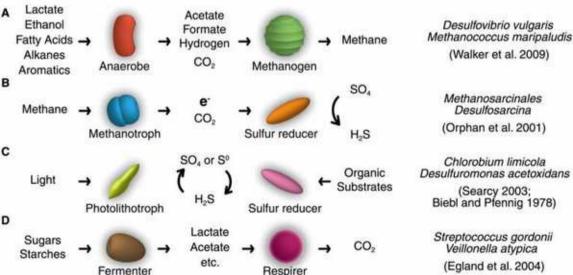
Metabolic cooperation



Microbial "consortia"

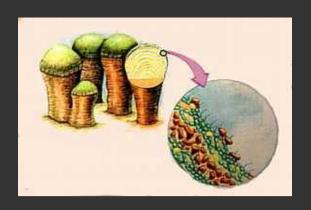
One person's garbage is another's treasure!

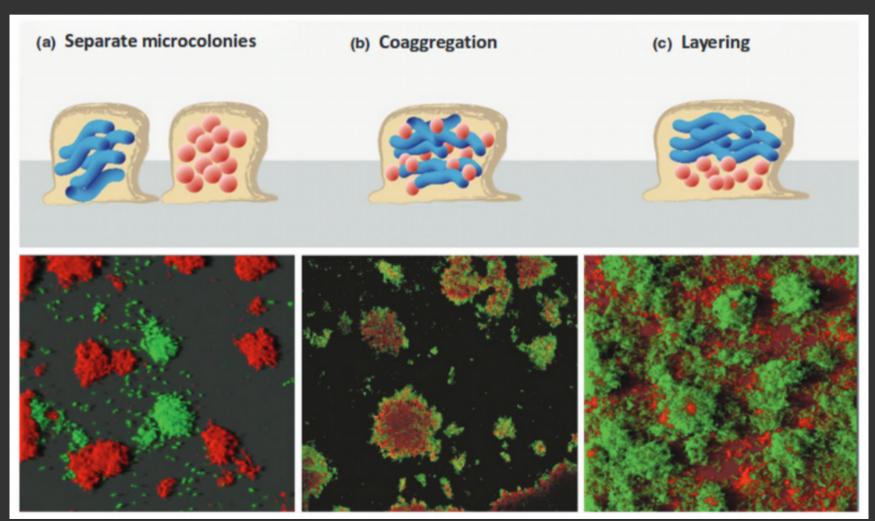
Allows microbial communities to perform functions that individual species cannot





Stromatolites are layered consortia





Elias, et al., FEMS Reviews, 2012

Prokaryotes: So what?



Iron bacteria (bog iron)



Prokaryotes: So what?

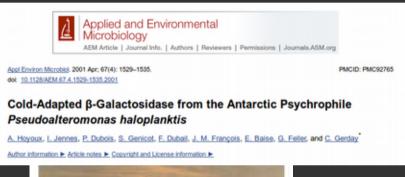
Bioremediation

THE SCIENCES

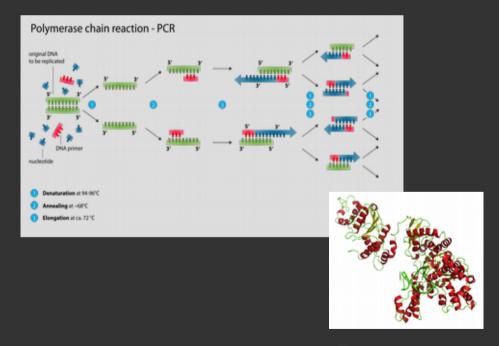
Slick Solution: How Microbes Will Clean Up the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill

Bacteria and other microbes are the only thing that will ultimately clean up the ongoing oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico

Prokaryotes: So what? Bioprospecting







Taq polymerase: from *T. aquati*s

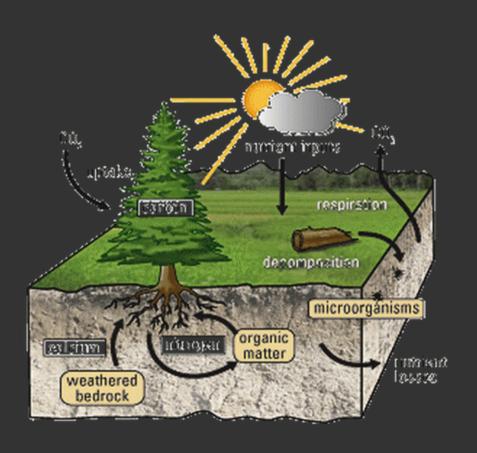
Streptomyces coelicolor



Source of antibiotic: Streptomycin

Prokaryotes: So what?

Nutrient cycling - Without it, we would all die





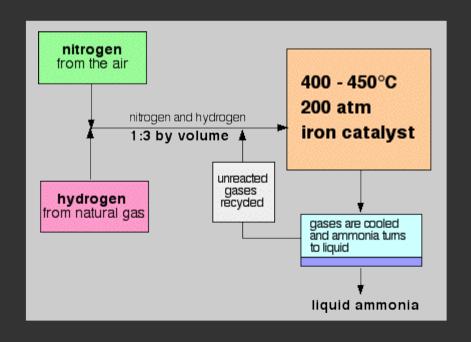
Nitrogen fixation

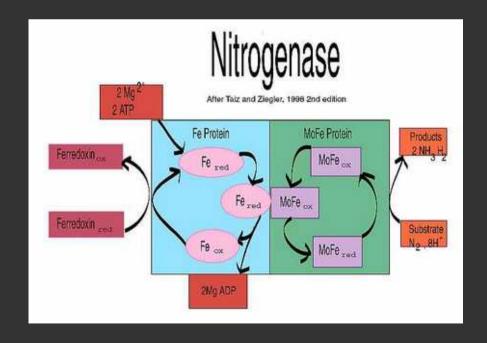
Haber process: Turn air into fertilizer

- 15% efficiency
- 80% of human N comes from this process
- 2% of the world's annual energy used to power it
- Directly linked to population explosion

N-fixing bacteria: Turn air into fetilizer

- 54-99% efficiency
- Basically, only source of plantavailable N in areas not fertilized
- No energy costs to humans
- Not good enough to feed 9B people





Nitrogen fixation

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Recovery of nearly 8,000 metagenomeassembled genomes substantially expands the tree of life

Donovan H. Parks, Christian Rinke, Maria Chuvochina, Pierre-Alain Chaumeil, Ben J. Woodcroft,
Paul N. Evans, Philip Hugenholtz [™] & Gene W. Tyson [™]

