

# Introduction;

# **Basics of bacterial genetics**

**Pavel Drevinek** 

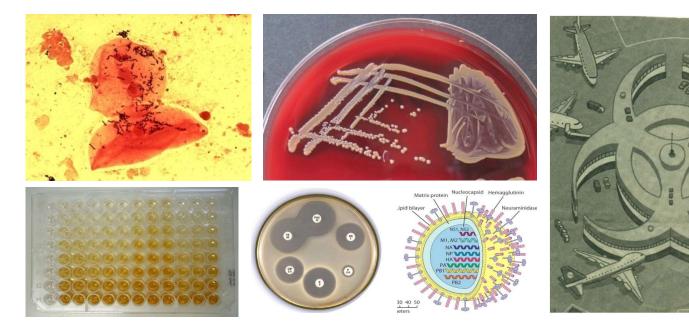


### Human body:

- 10<sup>13</sup> human cells
- 10<sup>14</sup> bacterial cells (100 trillions)
  ~ 2 kg

### Earth:

• 10<sup>30</sup> microbial cells



## The Subject of Medical Microbiology

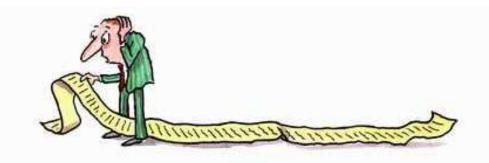
<u>General microbiology</u>

properties of microorganisms, their pathogenicity, their interaction with a host, pathogenesis of infectious diseases, residential microbiota (flora), antibiotics

# Special microbiology

individual microorganisms:

- bacteria
- viruses
- fungi
- parasites



### <u>Clinical microbiology</u>

microbiological examination, diagnostics of infectious agents in relation to clinical picture, antimicrobial therapy

### Lectures summer semester

Molecular microbiology
Bacterial cell structure. Pathogenicity.
Antimicrobial therapy I.
Antimicrobial therapy II.
Staphylococci.
Streptococci and enterococci.
Corynebacteria, listeria, clostridia.
Enterobacteria. Pseudomonads and other G- nonferementers.
Bordetella. Legionella. Meningococci. Haemophilus.
Campylobacter and helicobacter. Anaerobic bacteria.
Atypical bacteria (rickettsia, bartonela, chlamydia, mycoplasma).
Mycobacteria. Spirochetes.

### Lectures winter semester

CAVE!

no longer practicals/seminars during winter semester

Medical mycology
General virology
Viral exanthem rash
Herpesviruses
Protosoa
Helminths
Alimentary infections
Respiratory infections
Respiratory viruses
Haemorrhagic fevers
Bloodstream infections. Sepsis.
Healthcare associated infections

### Lectures winter semester

no longer practicals/seminars during winter semester

Neuroinfections
Infections in pregancy.
Sexually transmitted infections.
Urinary tract infections.
Virus HIV and hepatitis viruses
Bone and joint infections
Soft tissue infections
Microbiota
Clostridioides difficile infections
MDR bacteria
Vaccination

### How to not get lost in bacterial classification?

#### Gram staining:

- Gram positive
- Gram negative

#### Bacterial cell shape:

- cocci
- rods (bacilli)

#### Relation to oxygen:

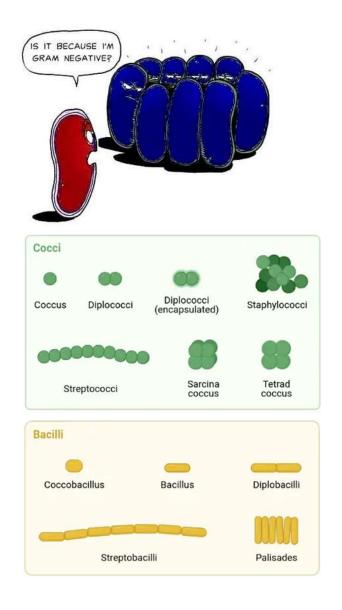
- aerobes
- anaerobes



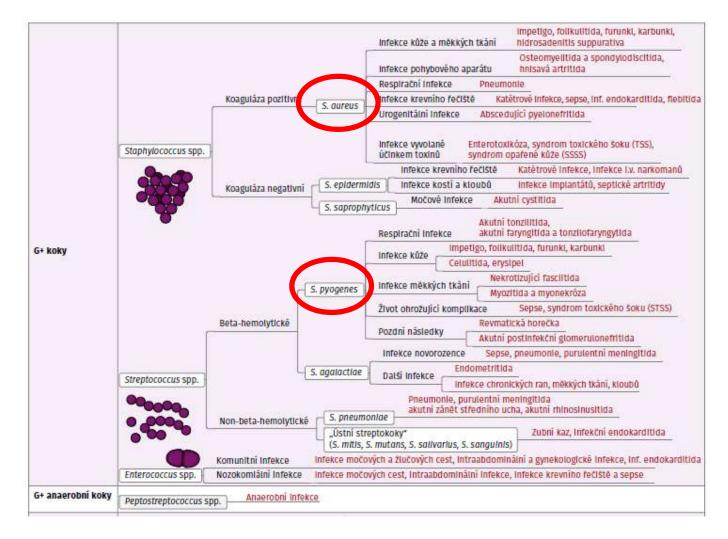
Hans Christian Gram 1853 - 1938

... always a grey zone can be found

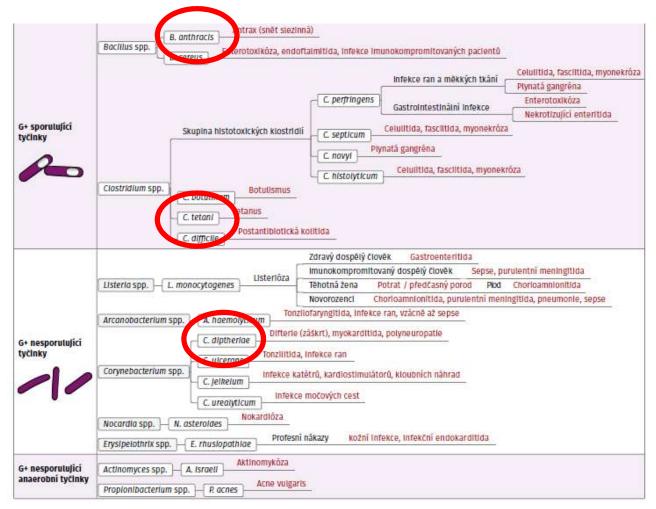
- not stainable with Gram
- coccobacilli and other shapes
- facultative anaerobes



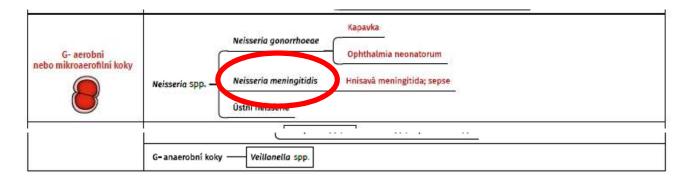
#### G+ cocci



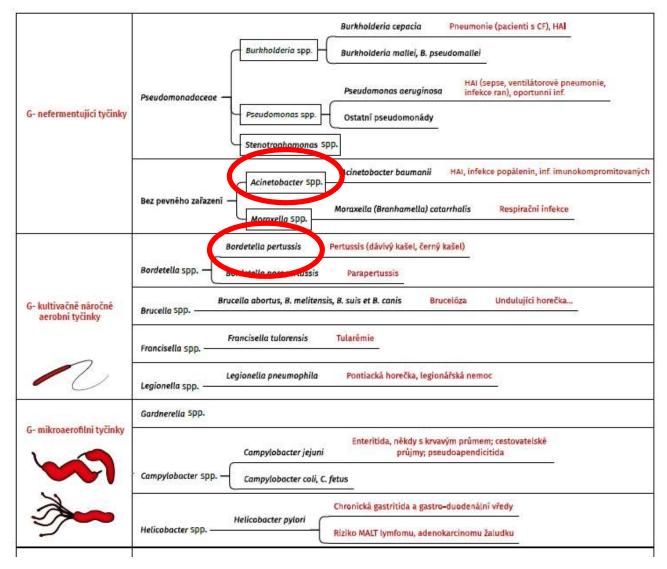
#### G+ rods (spore forming yes or no)



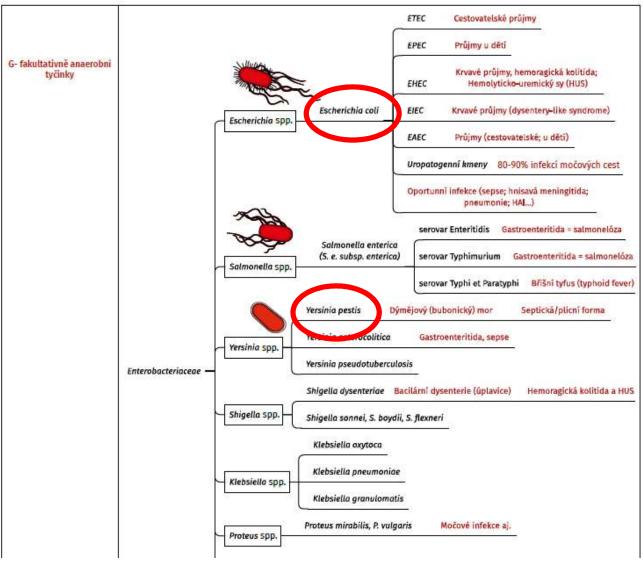
### G- cocci



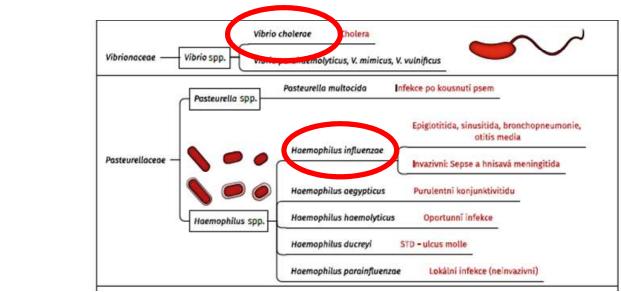
#### G-rods (part I)

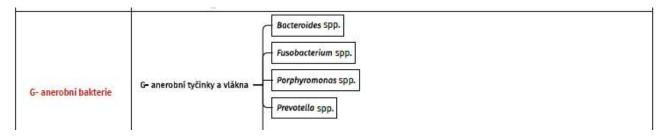


#### G-rods (part II)



#### G- rods (part III)

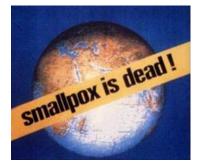




### Other big names



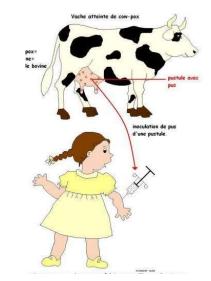
Edward Jenner 1749 – 1823



eradication 1980



smallpox



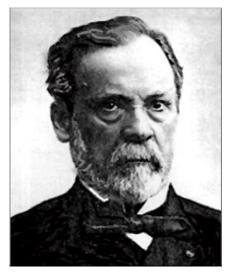
vaccination 1796



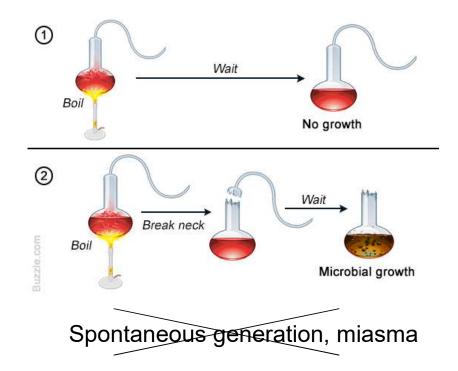




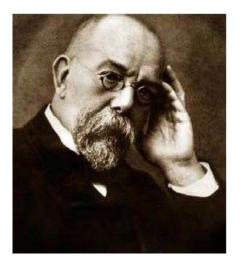
"Greatpox" = Syfilis; one of signs of secondary stage (ultrarare today)



Louis Pasteur 1822 - 1895



#### Vaccine against anthrax (in animals) and rabies

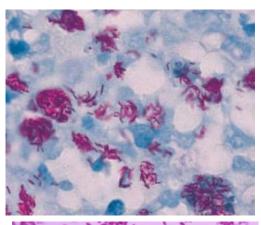


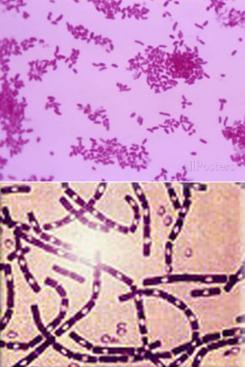
Robert Koch 1843 - 1910

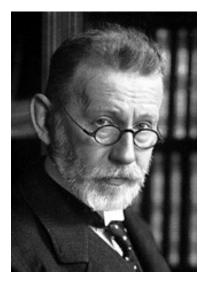
#### *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*

#### Vibrio cholerae

Bacillus anthracis and its spores

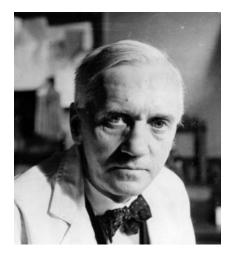






Paul Ehrlich 1854 - 1915

- "Magic bullet"
- dawn of chemotherapy era
- Salvarsan: drug against syphilis



Alexander Fleming 1881 - 1955

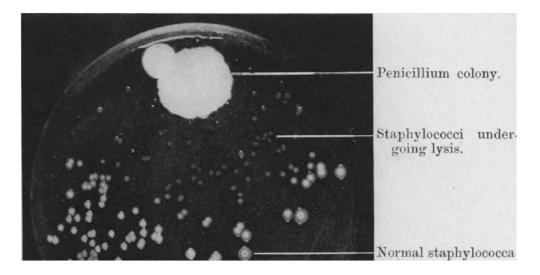
- Discovery of penicillin in 1928
- Go into therapy in 1941 (Walter Florey, Ernst Chain)

#### ON THE ANTIBACTERIAL ACTION OF CULTURES OF A PENICILLIUM, WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO THEIR USE IN THE ISOLATION OF *B. INFLUENZÆ*.

#### ALEXANDER FLEMING, F.R.C.S.

From the Laboratories of the Inoculation Department, St Mary's Hospital, London.

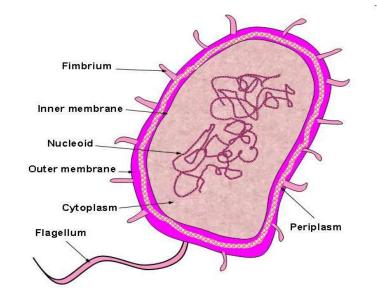
Received for publication May 10th, 1929.



"That's funny"

### Bacterial genome

- Its organization
- Its evolution

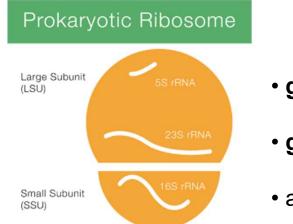


- chromosomal DNA (Mb units)
- extrachromosomal DNA (plasmid hundreds kb)

### Individual genes

• structural (protein coding)

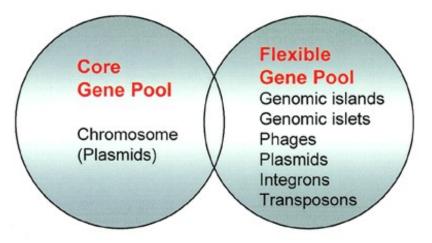
a gene length ~ 1 kb structural genes ~ 90% of genome !



- genes for rRNA (16S rRNA, 23S rRNA, 5S rRNA)
- genes for tRNA
- additional non coding RNA )small RNA)

not translated

### Genome structure



### Housekeeping genes:

encoding

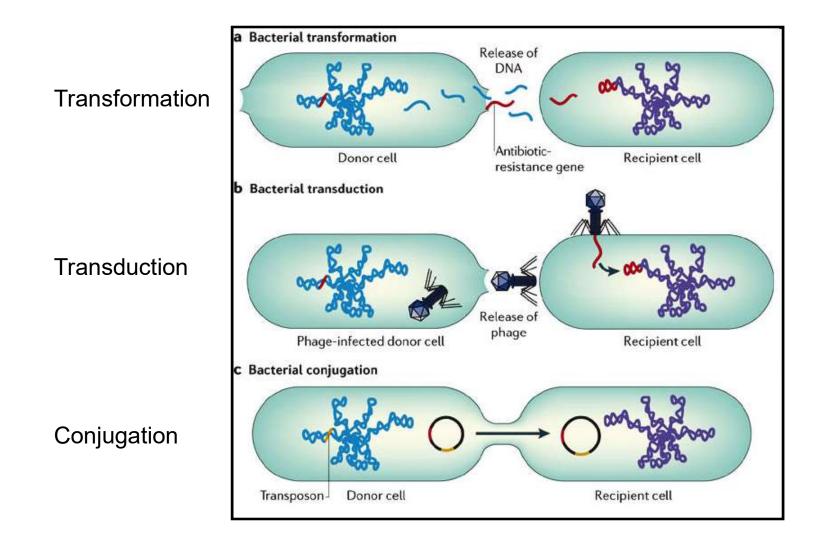
- ribosomes
- Cell wall
- Metabolic pathways
- DNA replication
- ...

#### Additional genes:

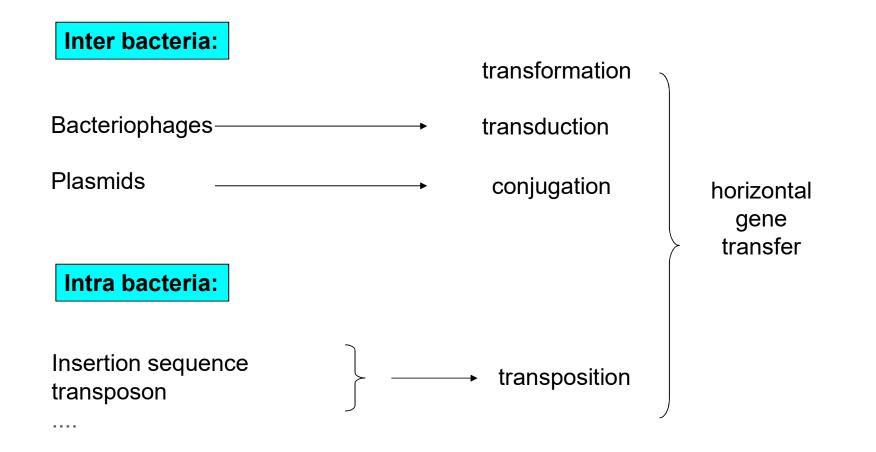
encoding

- Pathogenicity
- AB resistance
- Mobile genetic elements
- ...

→ genome plasticity

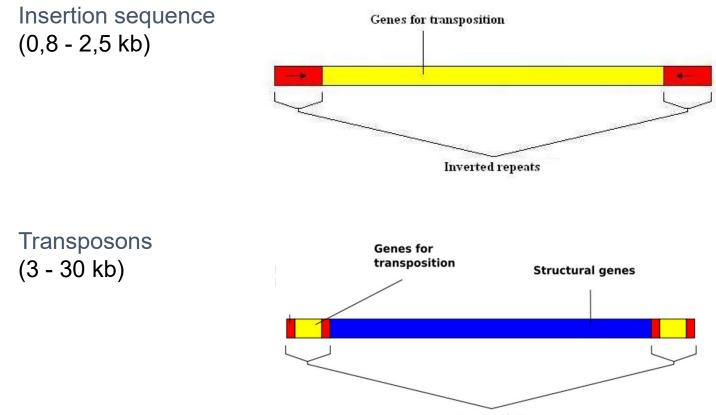


Mobile genetic elements



Transposable elements

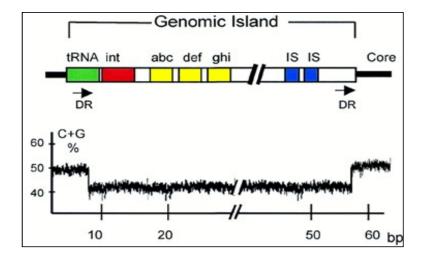
DNA that is capable of movement within the genome



Inverted IS

### Genomic islands

transposition can end up with the creation of genomic islands (10 - 200 kb)

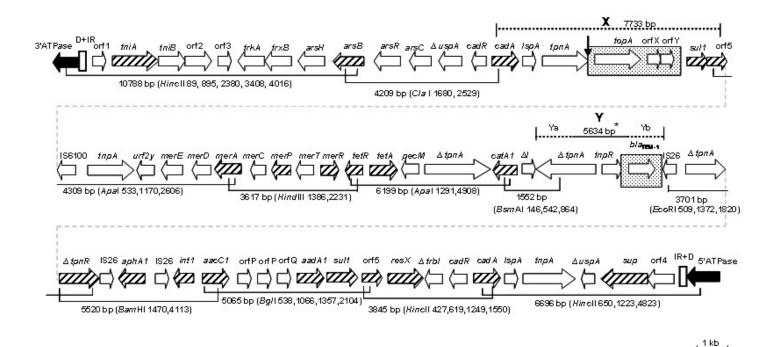


- resistance islands (RI)
- pathogenicity island (PAI)

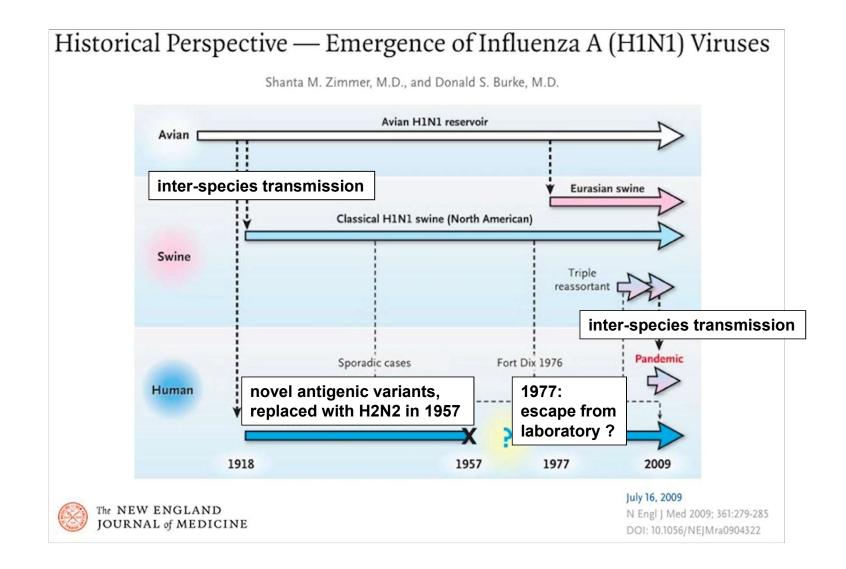
(not present on avirulent strains of the same species)

### Resistance island and Acinetobacter baumannii

64 kb in length 23 genes of resistance on various transposable elements disruption of a gene for ATPase clone of *A. baumannii* with a **multiresistant phenotype** 



just a note: Spanish flu H1N1 and its fate



Pathogenicity island and ...

### Black death

- 1. the Justinian plague (542 757)
- 2. Black Death (Europe, 1346 1352 and till 18th century)
- 3. Third pandemics (China, 1860 1890s)

over 200 mil people killed

today endemic in Africa, Asia, N. America in 1997: 5500 cases (and 270 deaths)

- bubonic form
- septicemic
- pneumonic



1894: Alexandre Yersin – discovered the cause: Yersinia (Pasteurella) pestis 1898: Paul-Louis Simond – discovered the route of transmission (dead rats as a good hint)

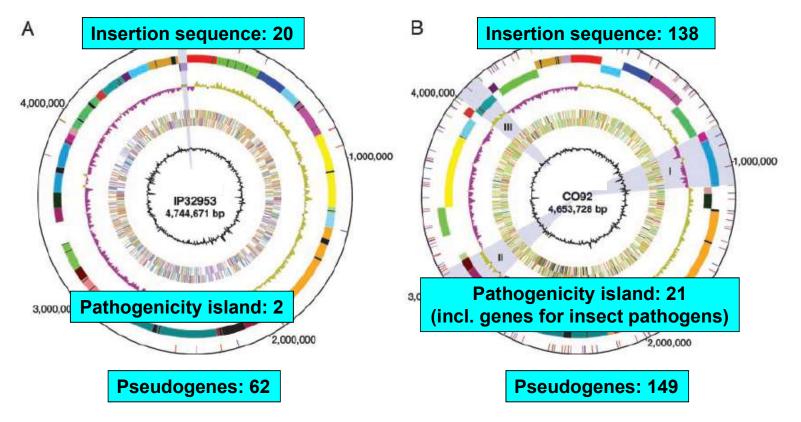
#### Why pandemics?

- a dense human population cohabiting with infected rats
- low hygiene standards
- a large and susceptible rat population
- development of pneumonic form
- extremely low infectious dose

Pathogenicity island and ...

Yersinia pseudotuberculosis

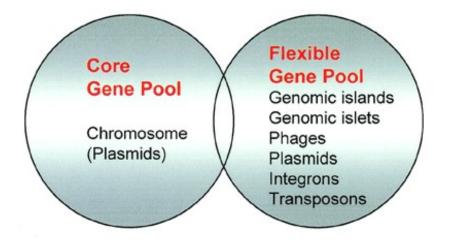
Yersinia pestis

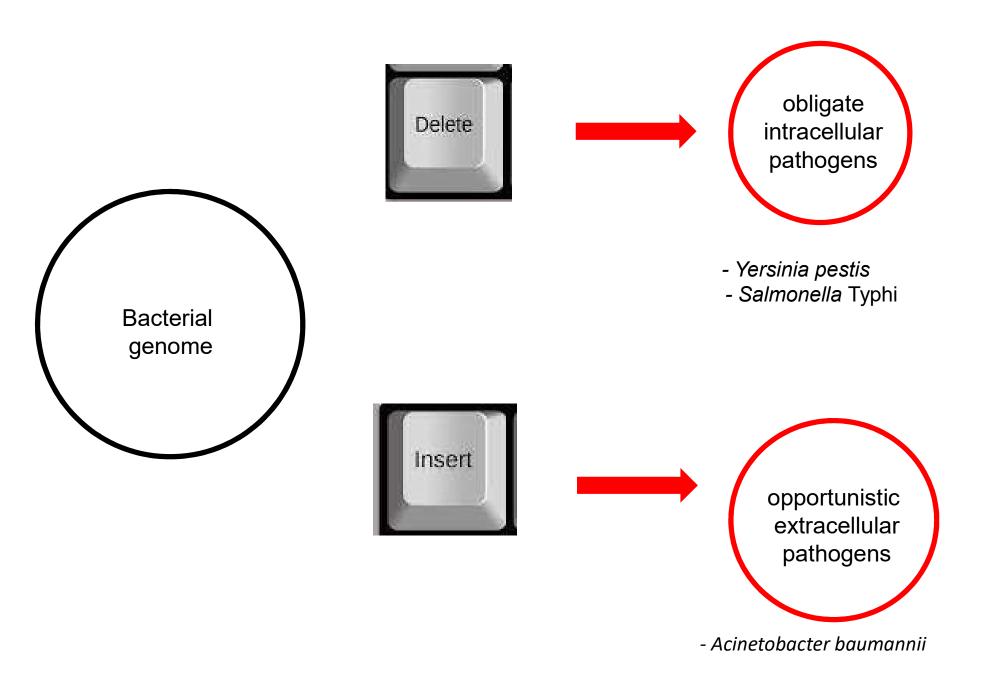


Chain et al: Insights into the evolution of Y. pestis ... 2004.

### What happens to bacterial genome

- Its flexible part is really in motion
- adaptability of the organism to new conditions
  - random mutations
  - horizontal gene tranfer: acquisition, loss, inactivation/activation
  - intragenomic recombination





## Typhus

"War Fever", "Jail Fever":

- June 1812: Grand Army entering Russia; 500,000 troops
- Sept 7, 1812: battle at Borodino, 130,000 troops
- Sept 14, 1812: seizing Moscow, 90,000 troops
- Dec 1812: on retreat, 20,000 troops, just 1,000 fit for duty

### Typhus

1909: Charles Nicolle - discovered the transmission

1916: Henrique Da Rocha-Lima- discovered the cause of the disease:

Rickettsia prowazekii

<sup>†</sup> Howard Ricketts<sup>†</sup> Stanislaus Von Prowazek



contaminated faeces

#### Why epidemics?

overcrowded places low hygiene body lice