

# **Population genomic studies of microbial recombination, phylogeny, and population structure**

Koji Yahara

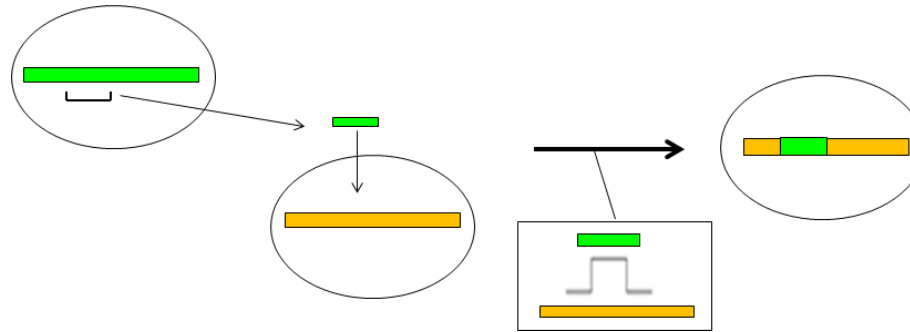
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Senior Investigator

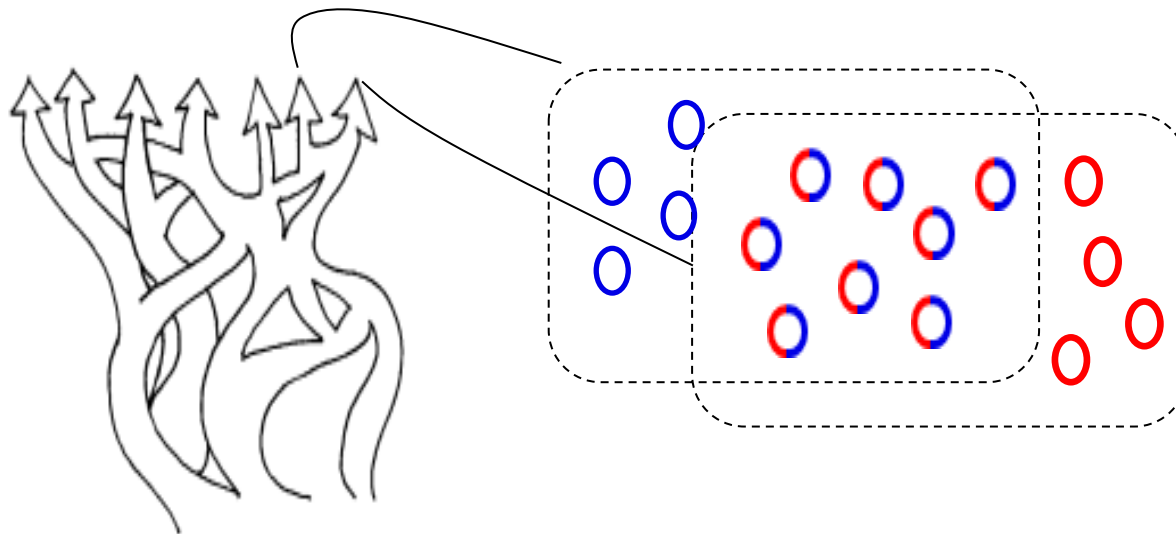
National Institute of Infectious Diseases

# Two main themes

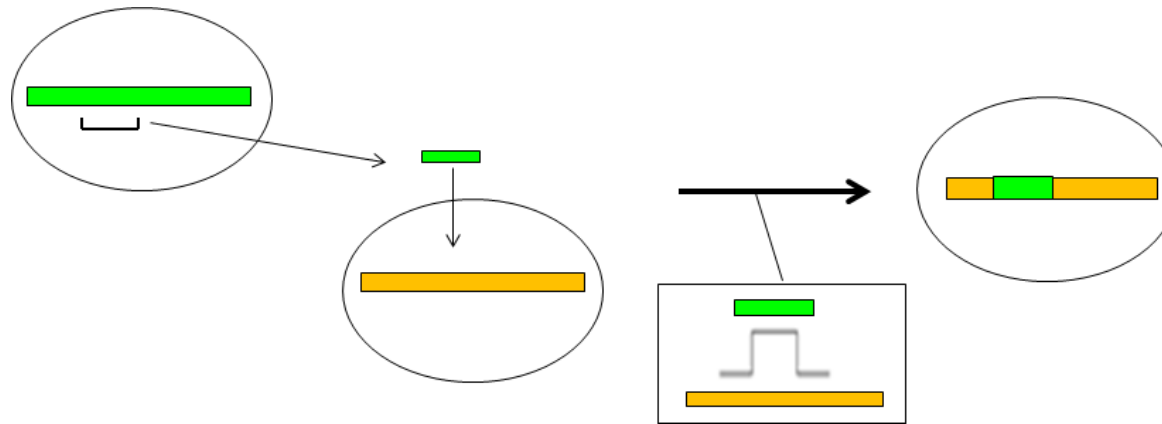
## ● Recombination



## ● Phylogeny and population structure

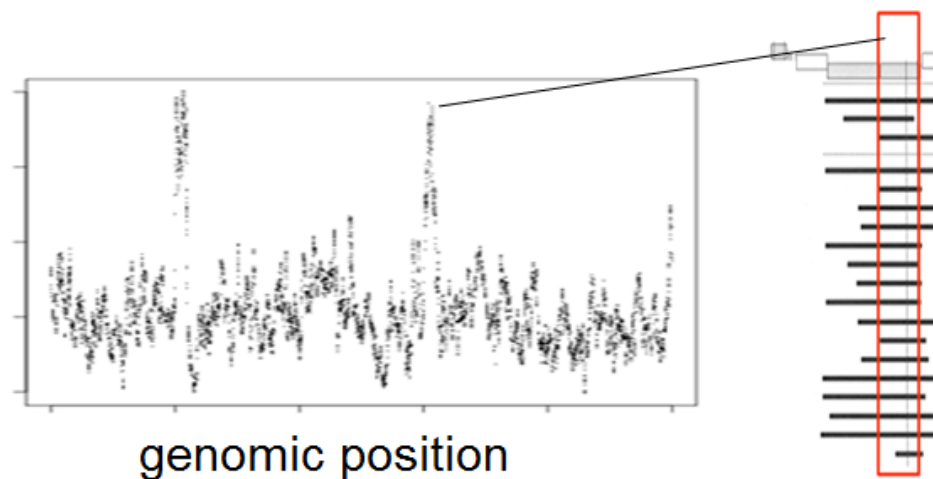


# Recombination



driving force of evolution

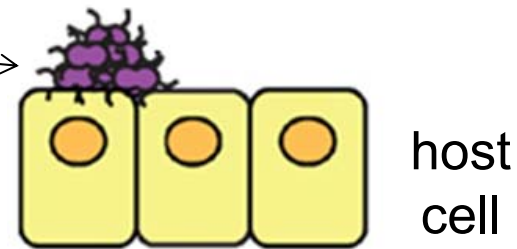
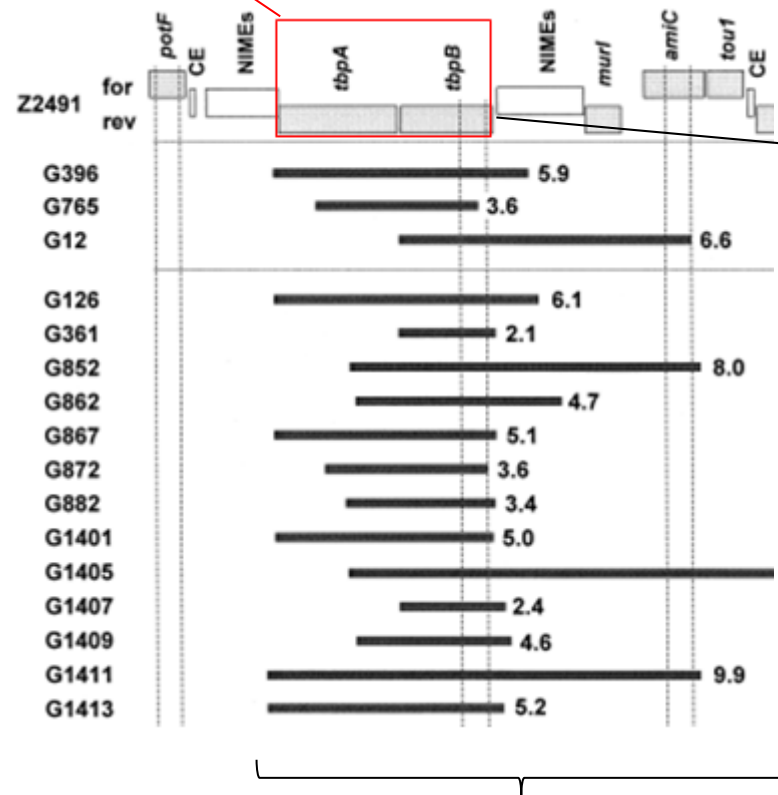
Variation of intensity of recombination across a genome?



recombination-  
hot region

## For example

- *tbpB*, an outer membrane protein in *Neisseria*



infection & adaptation

immune selection

Imported DNA fragments

Linz (2000), Microbiology

Largely unknown in most species

# Recombination

Method

Application to  
10 bacterial species

Relation to  
diversifying selection

Bacteriophage  
(virome)

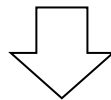
## Based on “chromosome painting”

- reconstructs a ‘recipient’ haplotype as recombination-derived mosaic of all the other donors



Lawson et al (2012), *PLoS Genetics*, for human  
→ Yahara et al (2013), *MBE*, applied to bacteria

➡ Limitation: only for the most recent recombination

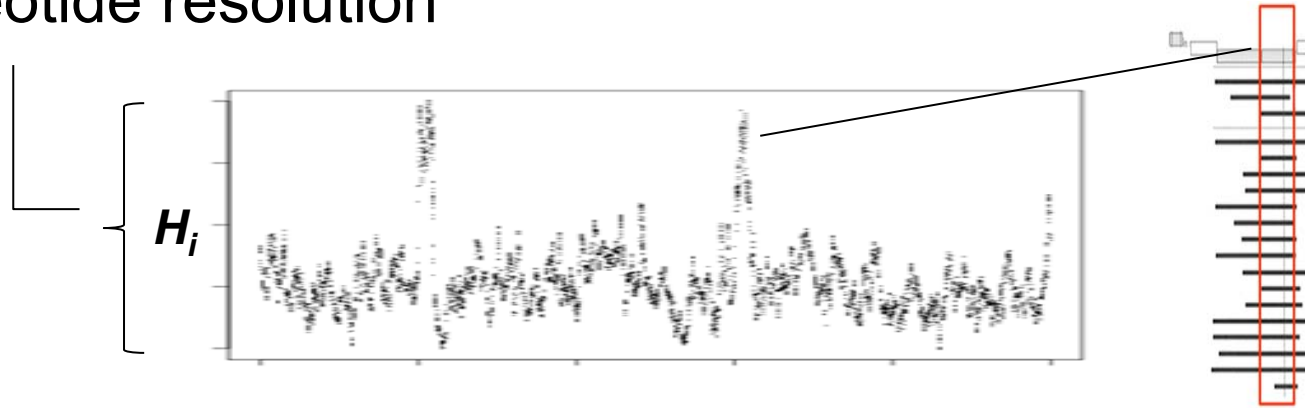


Improved to infer intensity or frequency of recombination at a nucleotide

Yahara et al (2014), *Mol. Biol. Evol.*

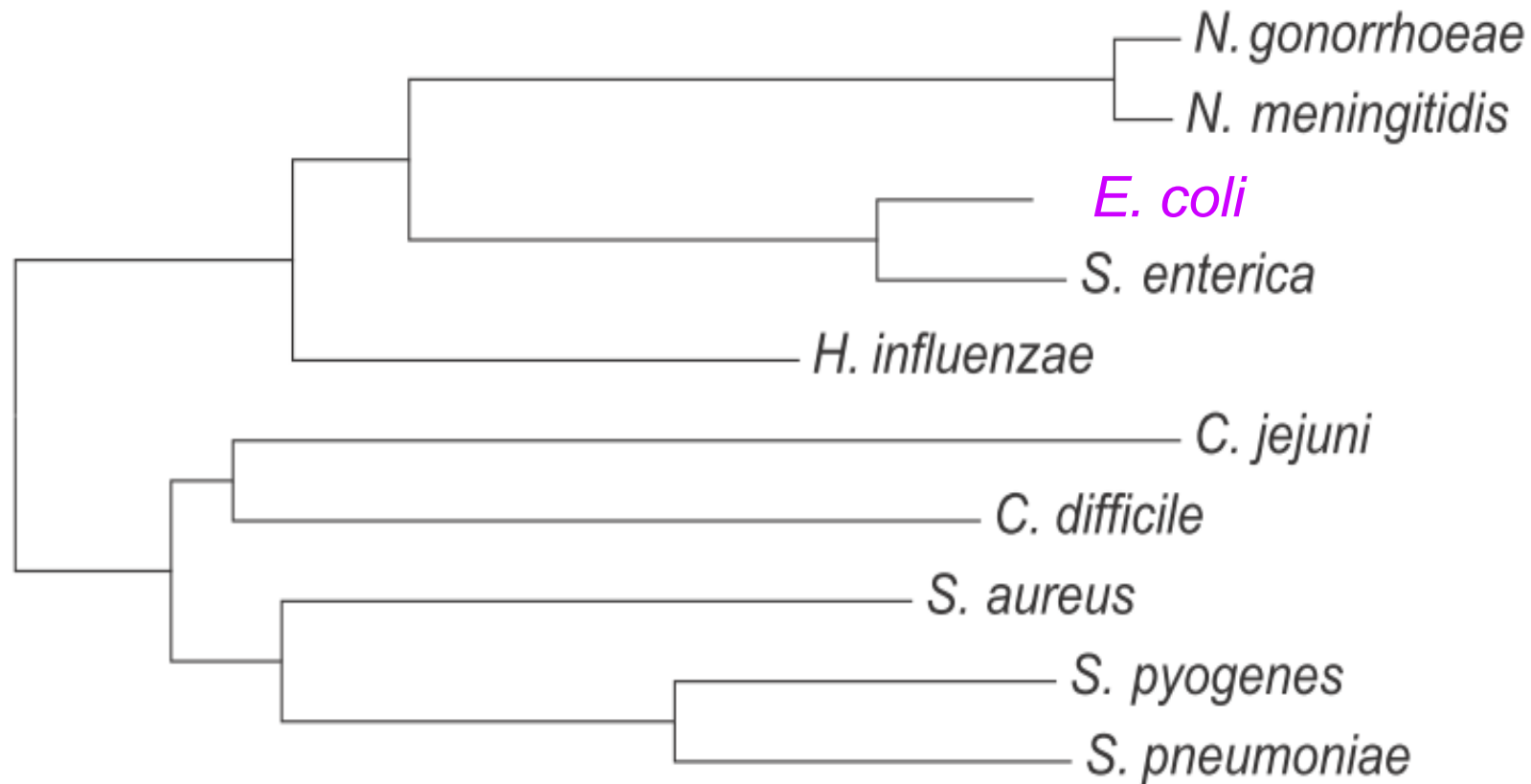
## Points of the method (“ordered painting”)

- intensity of recombination along a genome at single-nucleotide resolution



- highly correlated with local recombination rate
- applicable to both clonal and highly recombining species
- realized at population genetic level
  - influenced by selection
- normalized for between-species comparison

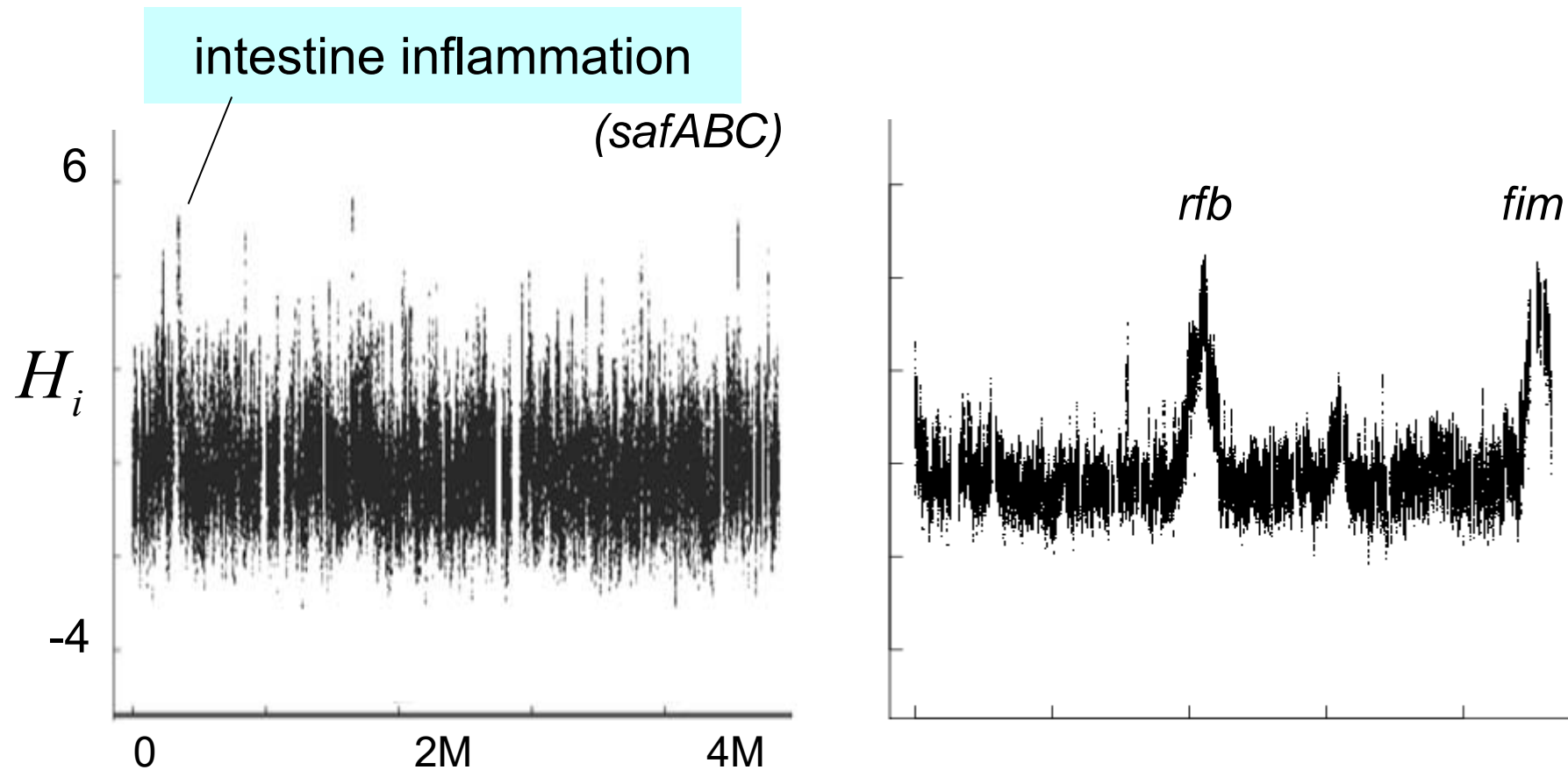
# 10 species of public health importance



hundreds or thousands of genomes in Oxford  
→ broadly selected 50 strains per species



# *S. enterica* vs *E. coli*



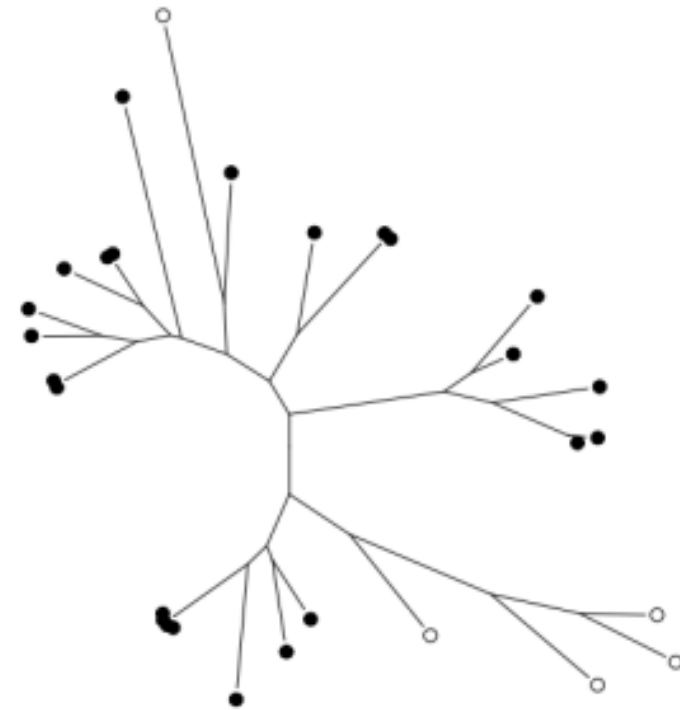
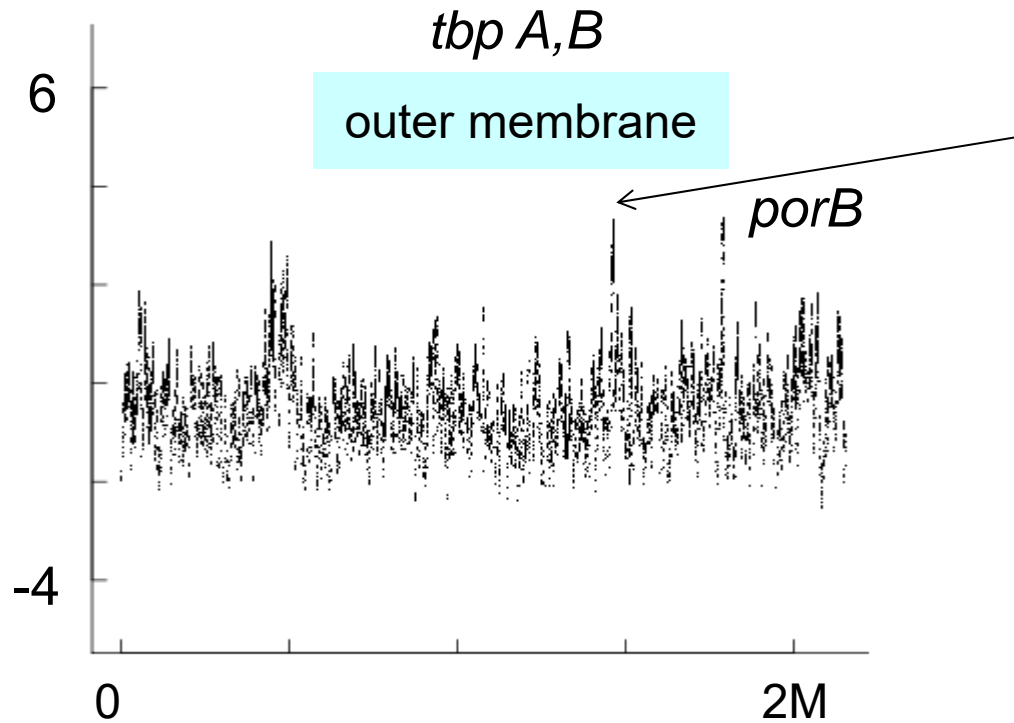
smaller hot regions than *E. coli*

highly variable even between related species

# Two *Neisseria* spp.

○ *N. gonorrhoeae*

● *N. meningitidis*

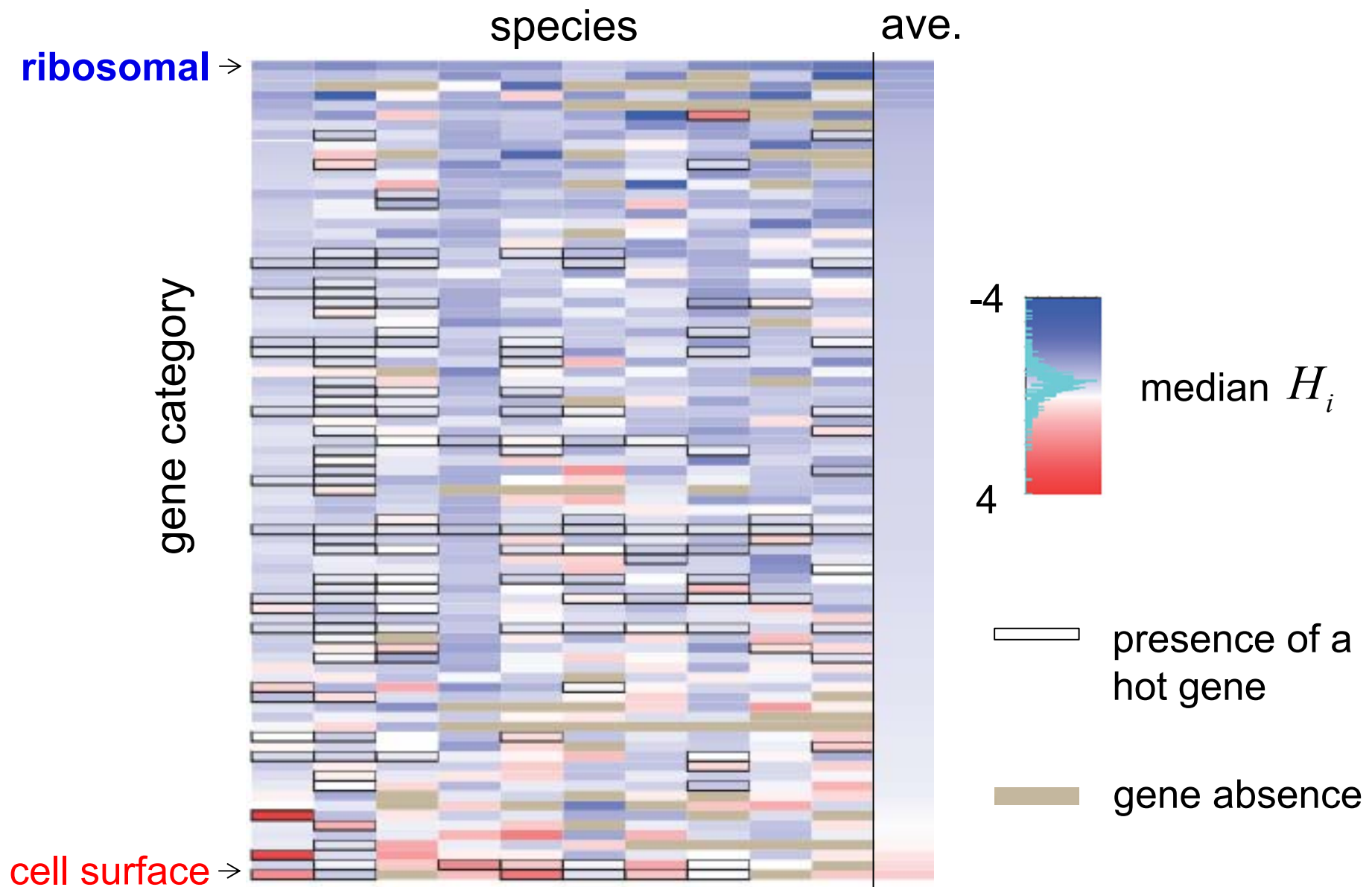


shared hot genes

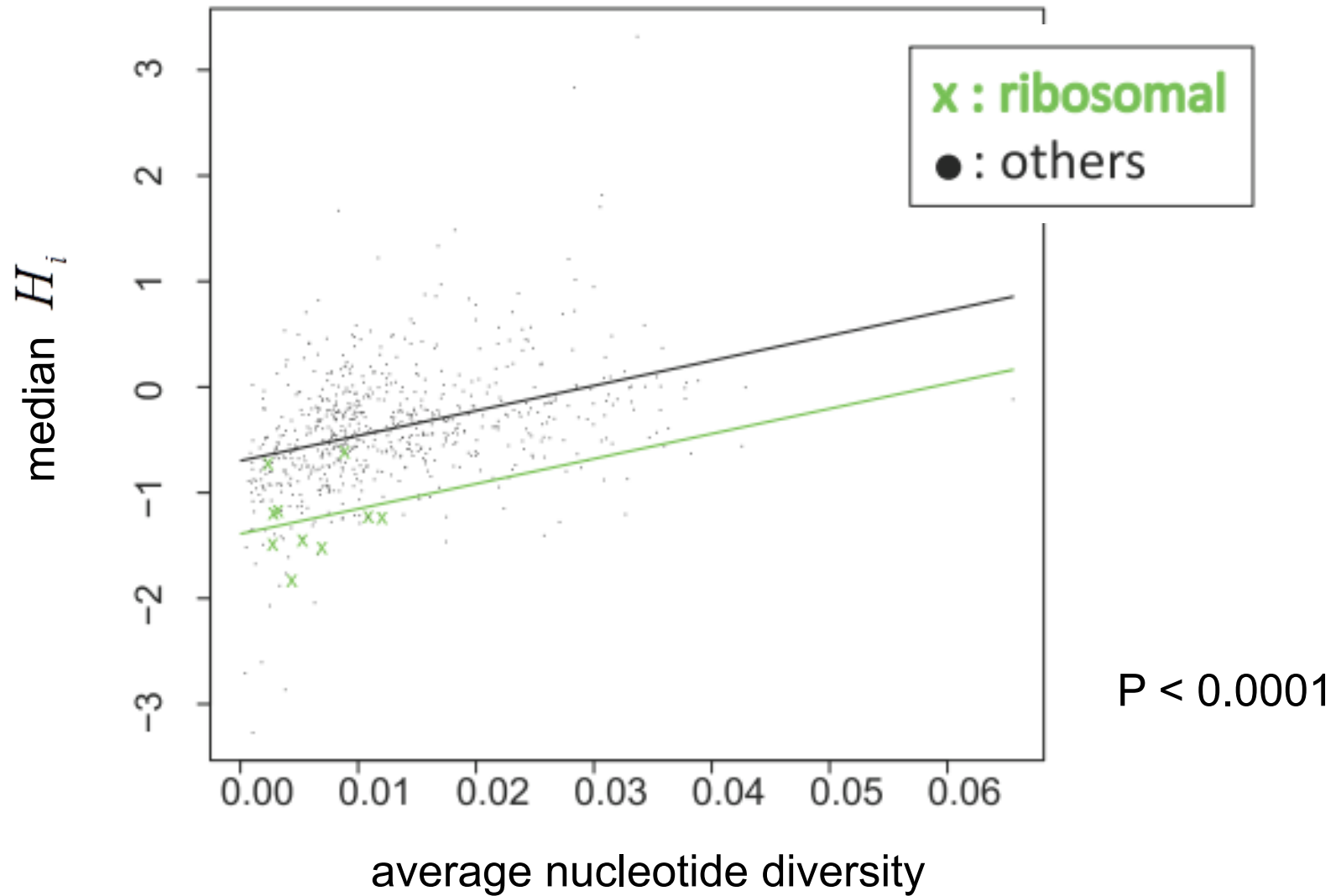
also in *H. influenza*  
( $P_{\text{bonf}} < 0.05$ )

inter-species recombination

# Universal pattern across functional gene categories?

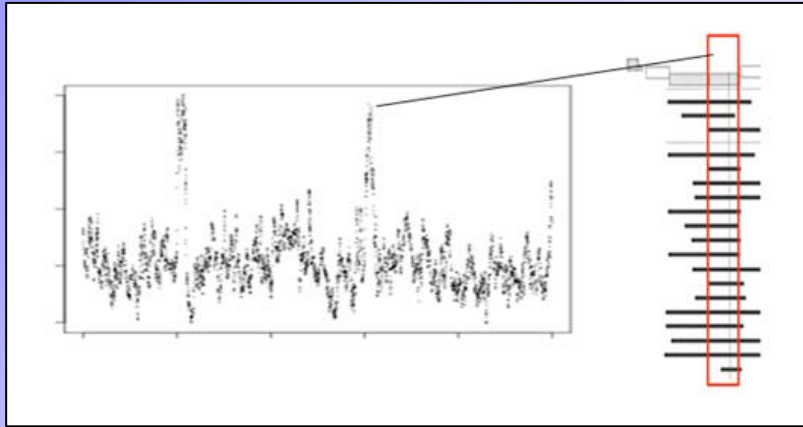


# Universal pattern across functional gene categories?

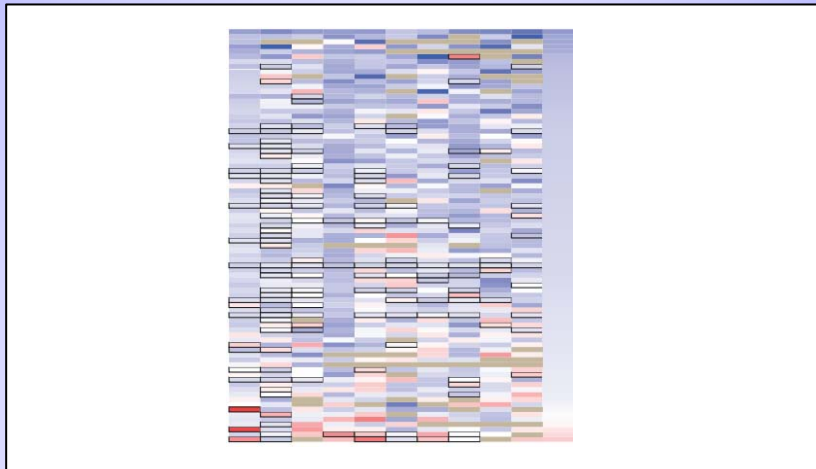


Yahara et al (2016), *Mol. Biol. Evol.*

# Recombination



Yahara et al (2014), *MBE*



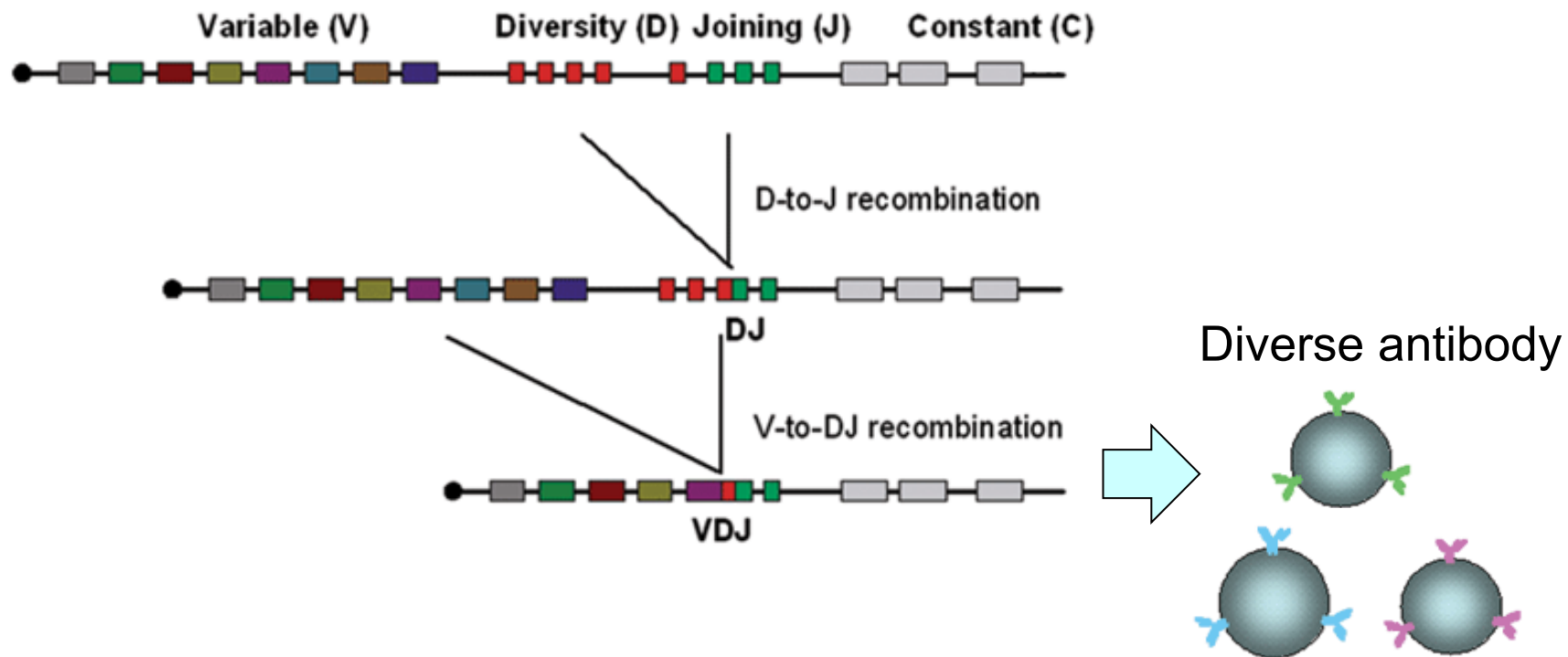
Yahara et al (2016), *MBE*

Relation to  
diversifying selection

Bacteriophage  
(virome)

# Relation between recombination and selection

- A central problem in evolutionary biology
- Popular theory
  - recombination facilitates selection by creating advantageous genetic combination
    - some evidence (e.g. eukaryotic immune system)



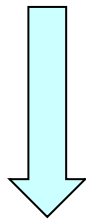
## However, throughout a genome,

- Controversial in eukaryotes

- ➔ “No effect of recombination on the efficacy of selection”  
measured by dN/dS in primates

- Bullaughey, Przeworski et al (2008), *Genome Res*

- no quantitative study in bacteria



utilizing the high genomic diversity and  
recombination rate of *H. pylori*

1) How are codons under diversifying selection  
(dN/dS > 1) distributed in the genome?

2) Do such codons appear to be more  
frequently subject to recombination ?

ENFQICLLWHADEYKA  
ENFQICLLWHADEKRV  
ENFQICLLWHADEDKA  
ENFQICLLWHADEDKA  
ENFQICLLWHADEDKA  
ENFQICLLWHADEDKA  
ENFQICLLWHADEDKA  
ENFQICLLWHADEDKA  
ENFQICLLWHADEDKA  
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ENFQICLLWHADEDKA

# Difficulties in recombining genome

- Inference of dN/dS assumes a single specific tree, but recombination can change tree topology



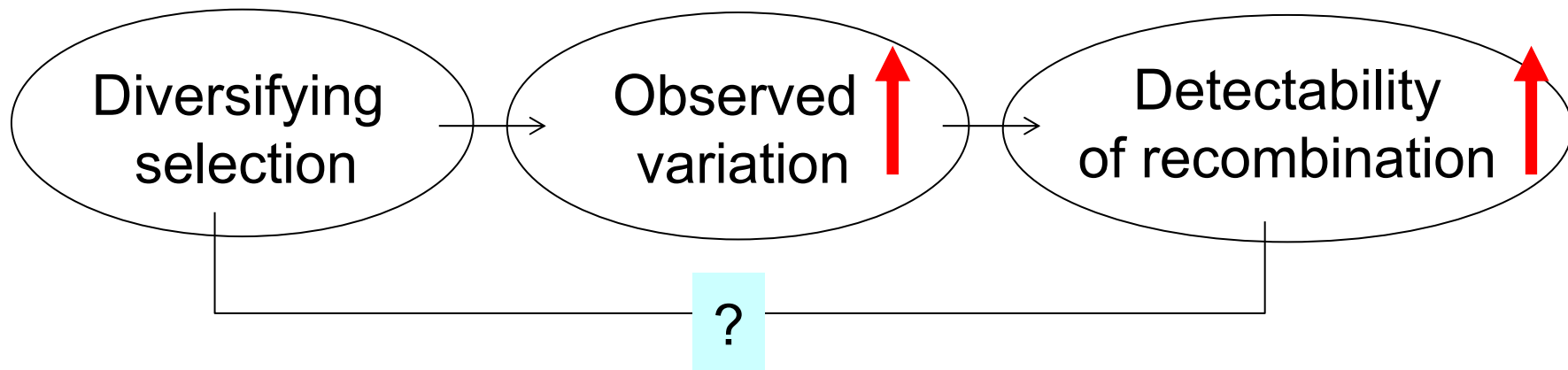
➔ a solution is to average it over

$$P(H | \Theta) = \int P(H | \underline{T}, \Theta) P(\underline{T}) d\underline{T}$$

H : sequence data

$\Theta$  : model parameters  
(e.g.. dN/dS)

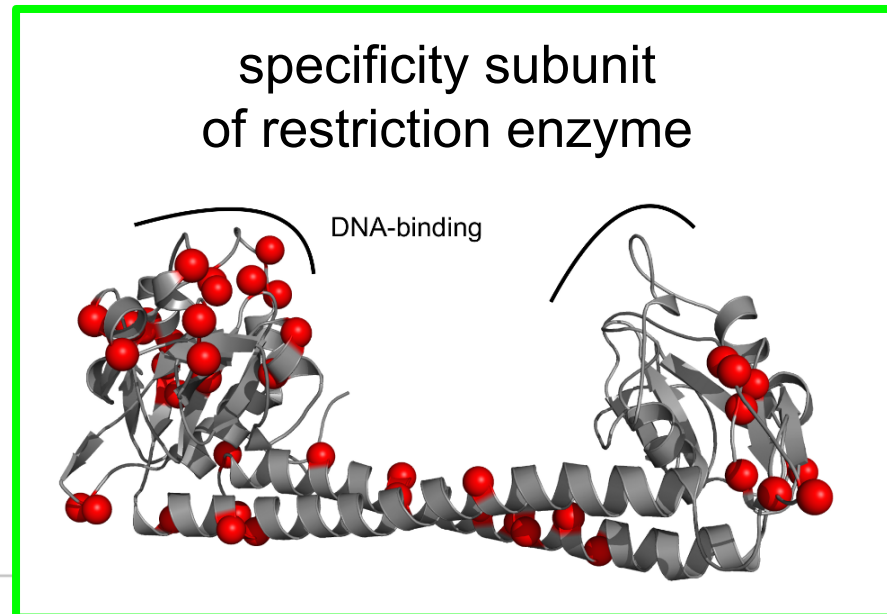
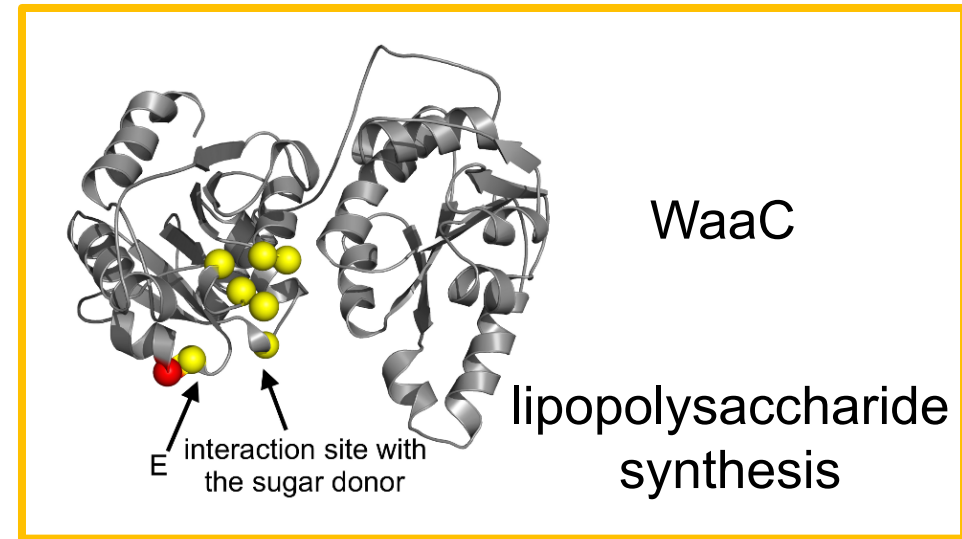
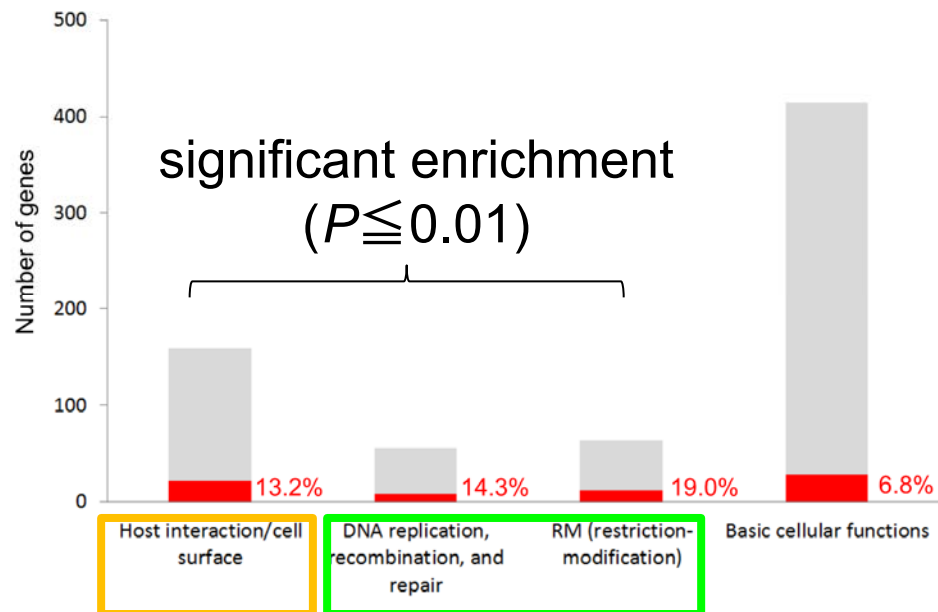
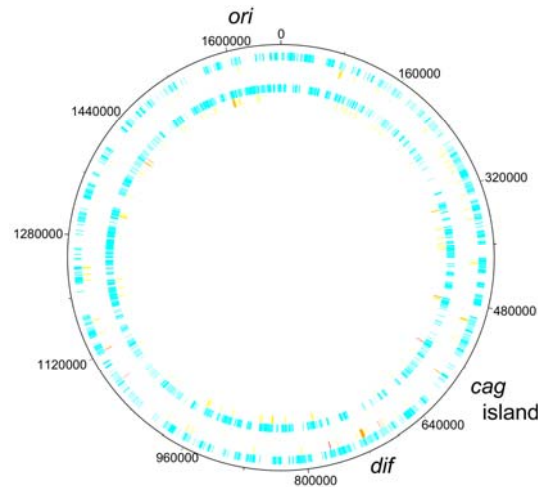
- Natural correlation between signatures of selection and recombination



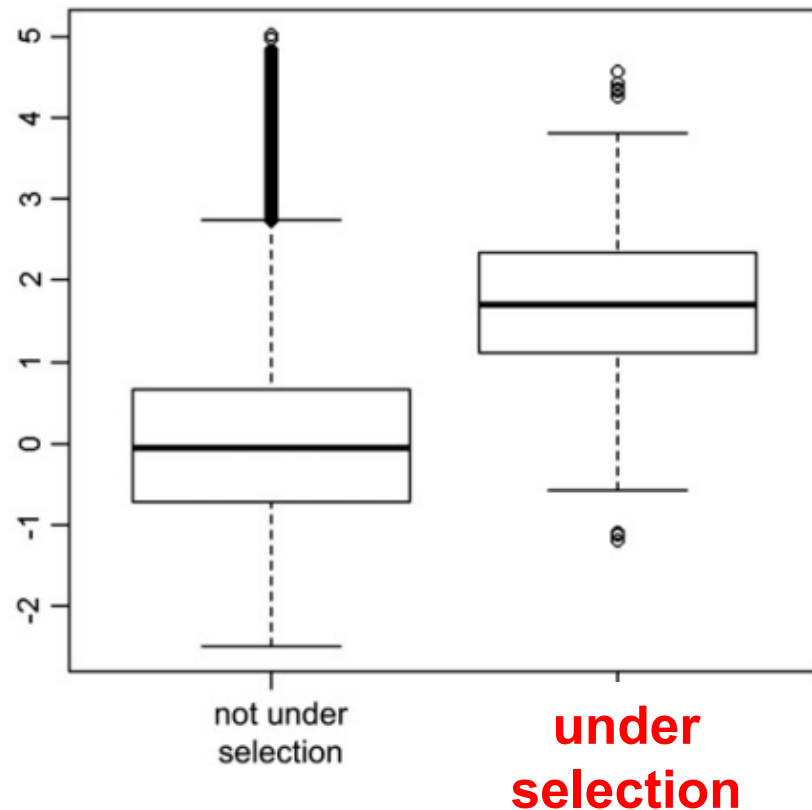


# Codons and genes under diversifying selection

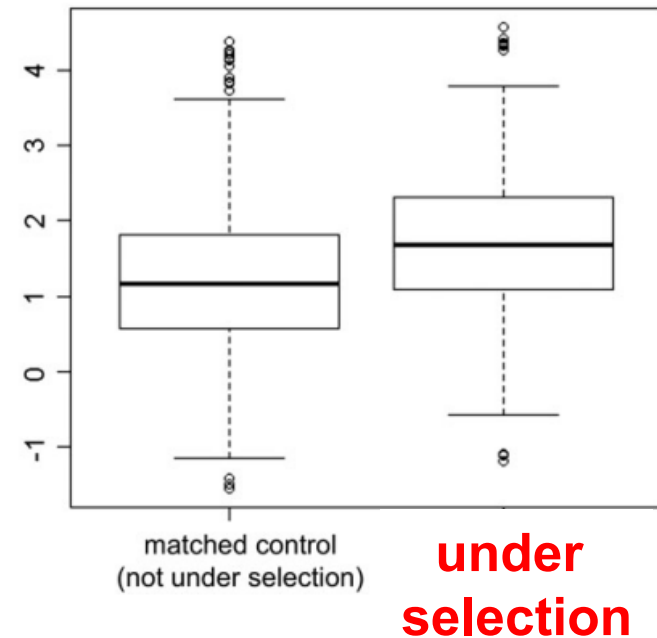
● ~0.2% of all the codons



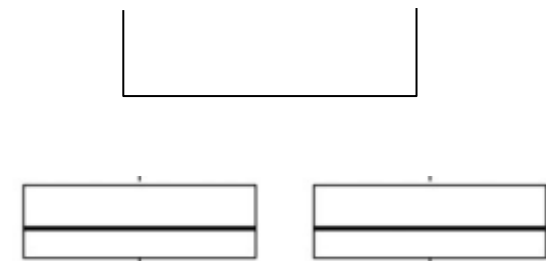
# Comparison of the intensity of recombination ( $H_i$ )



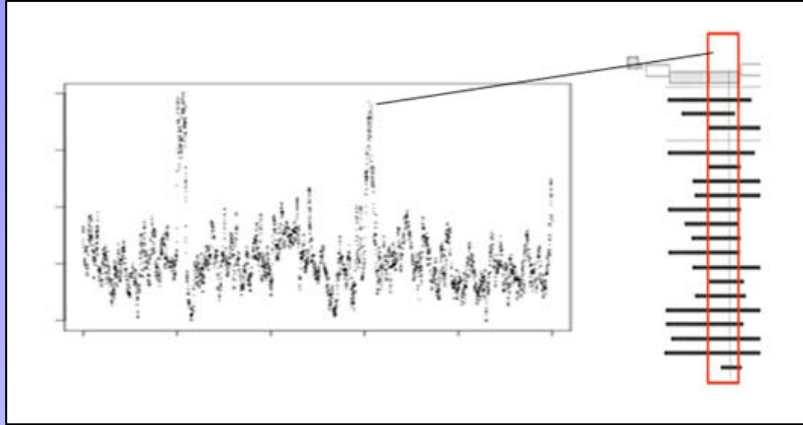
adjust



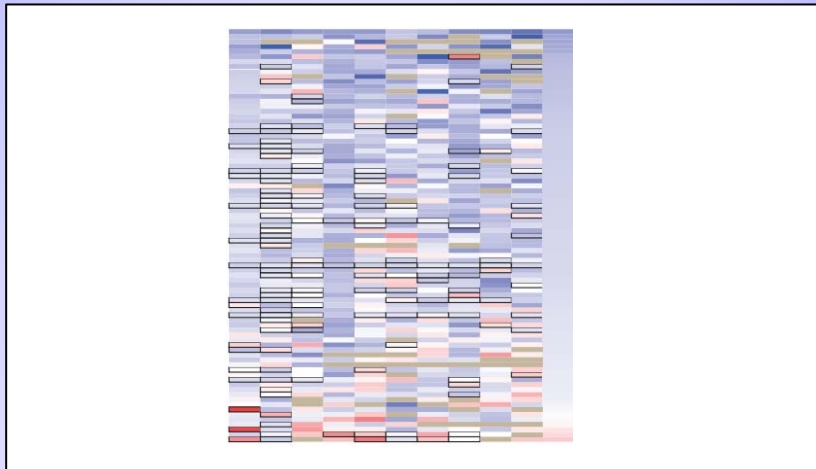
for “matched” nucleotides  
carrying the closest level of diversity



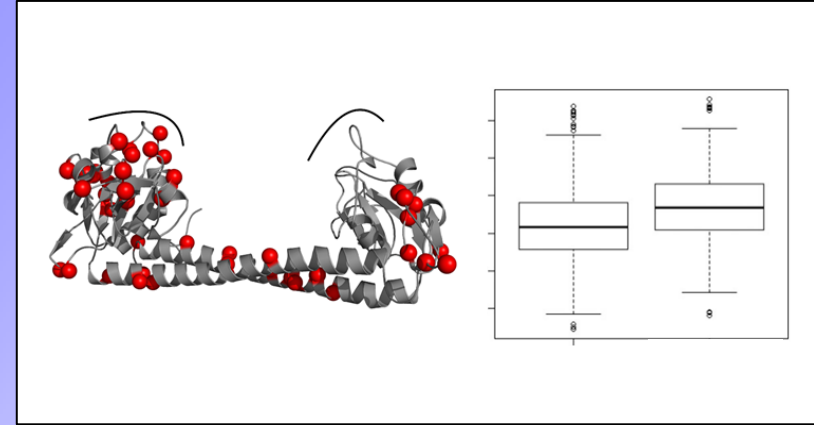
# Recombination



Yahara et al (2014), *MBE*



Yahara et al (2016), *MBE*

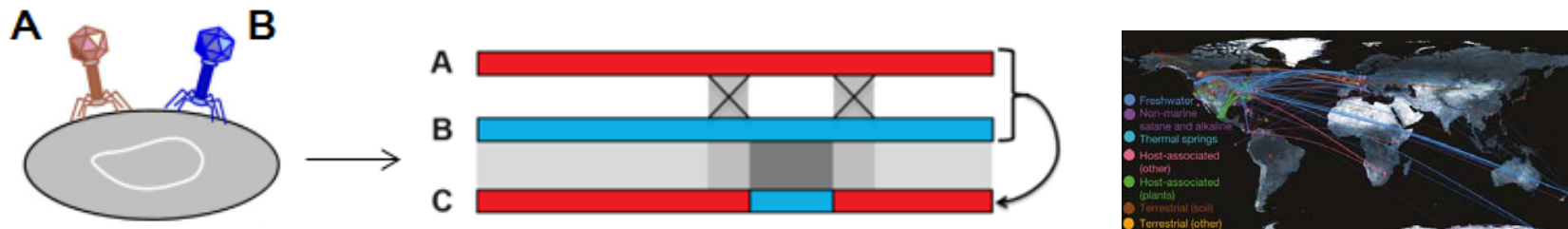


Yahara et al (2016), *DNA Res.*

Bacteriophage  
(virome)

# Phage and recombination (昨日の口頭発表)

- Most abundant and diverse biological entities
- Recombination occurs between co-infecting strains



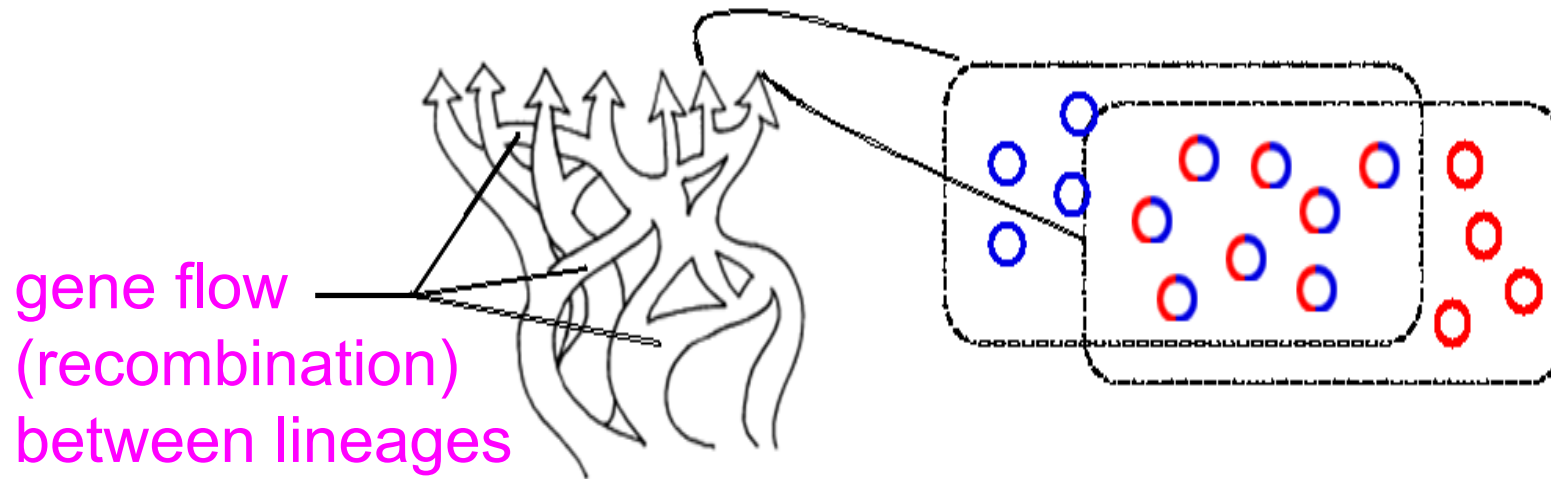
but recombination does not necessarily increase the average fitness of offspring

Are signatures of recombination observed across various phylogenetic groups of phages?

Investigation using Earth's virome data (Paez-Espino 2016, *Nature*)

Meier-Kolthoff et al (2018), *Sci. Rep.*

# Phylogeny & population structure



phenotype **A**



**B**



compare  
genetic polymorphisms  
(GWAS)

# Phylogeny & population structure

## gene flow (recombination)

*H. pylori*  
in Americas

non-*H. pylori*  
*Helicobacter* species

## GWAS

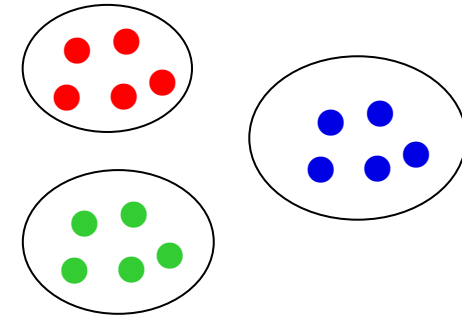
antimicrobial resistance  
(*Acinetobacter*)

food-borne disease  
(*Campylobacter*)

# Phylogeny & population structure

## ● Basis for various studies

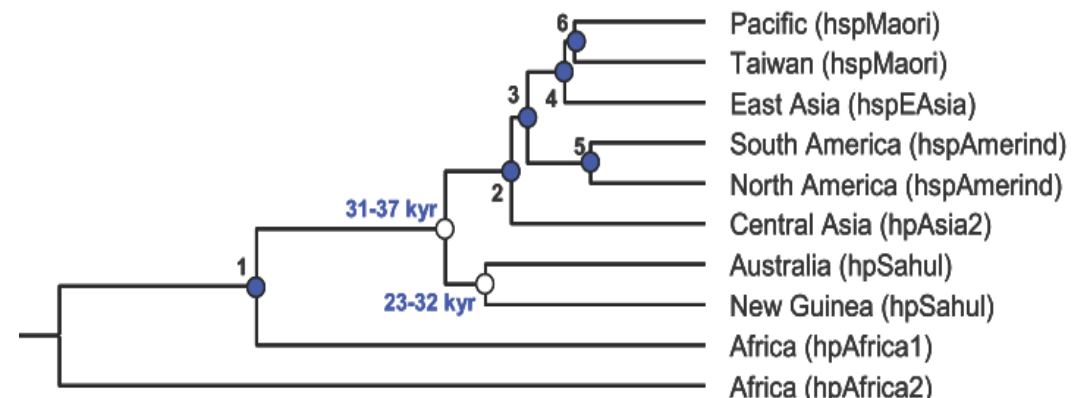
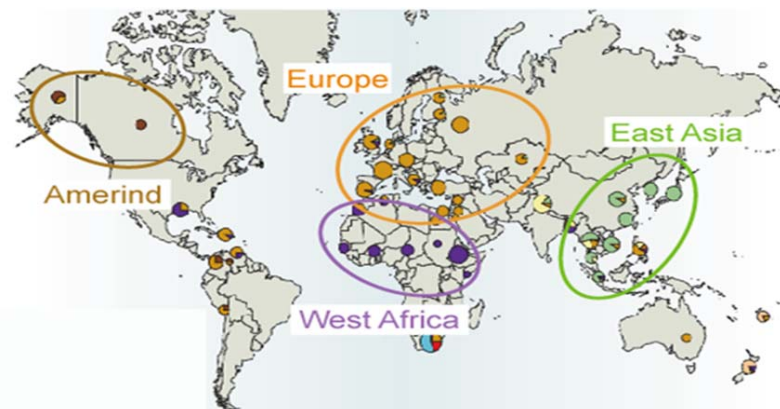
- population history & differentiation
- selection
- GWAS ...



## ● *H. pylori* : interesting material

### ➤ phylogeographically differentiated

- Falush (2003) *Science*, Moodley (2009) *Science*, Moodley (2012) *PLoS Pathogens* ...



## Largely unexplored: Americas

- Common view: American *H. pylori* are basically European
- A known subpopulation: hspAmerind (Native Americans)
  - ➔ but rare
- Latin America: high mortality rate
  - ➔ associated with genotypes of *H. pylori*
    - but by only several genes



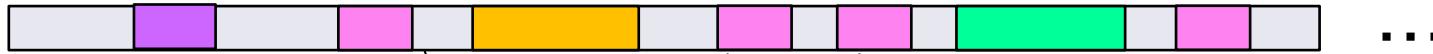
Kodaman (2014) *PNAS*

**American *H. pylori* differentiated from those in Old World?**

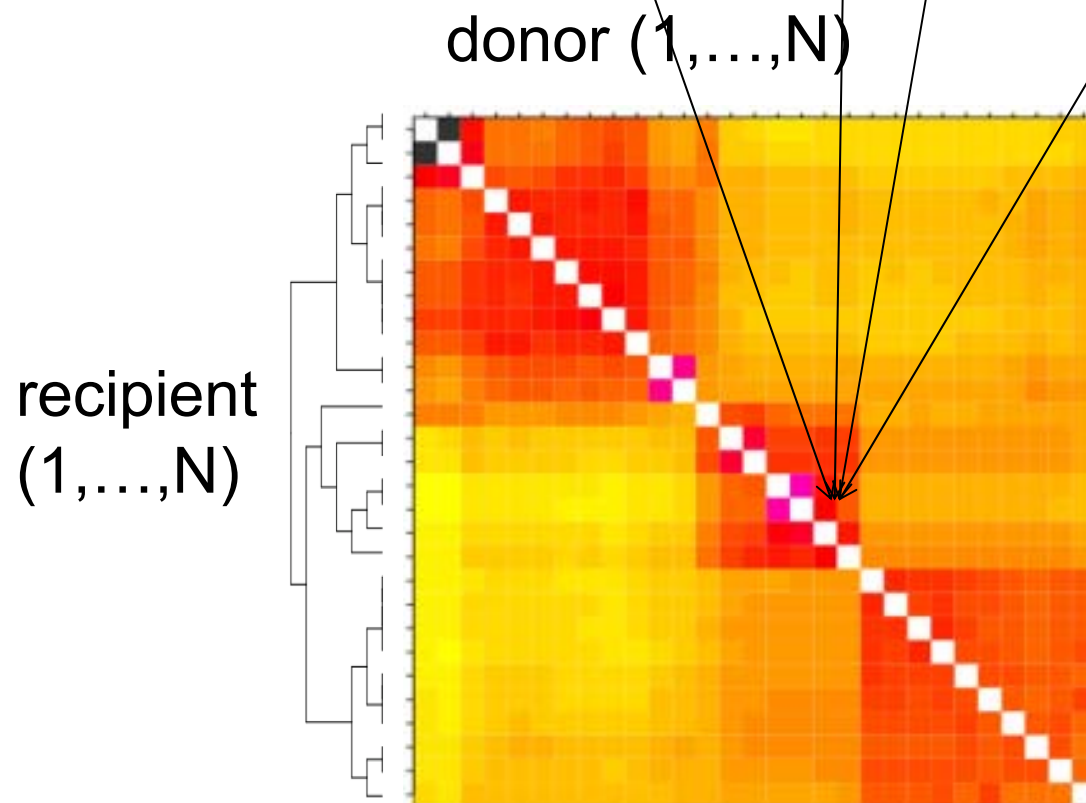
**Analysis of >400 genomes in various countries  
by the chromosome painting and another improvement**



# Chromosome painting for population structuring



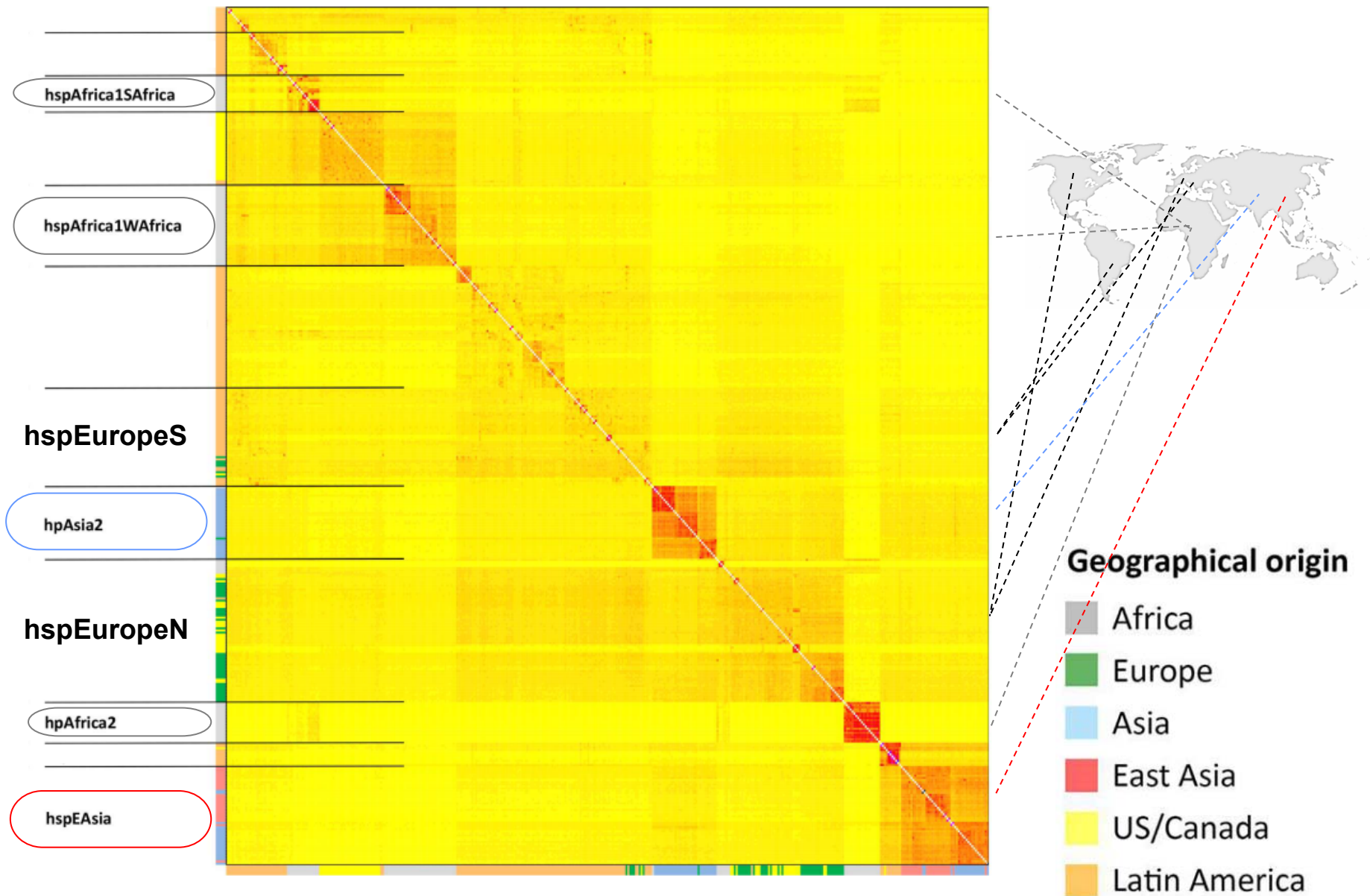
- into a “co-ancestry matrix”
  - ➡ counts the number of chunks



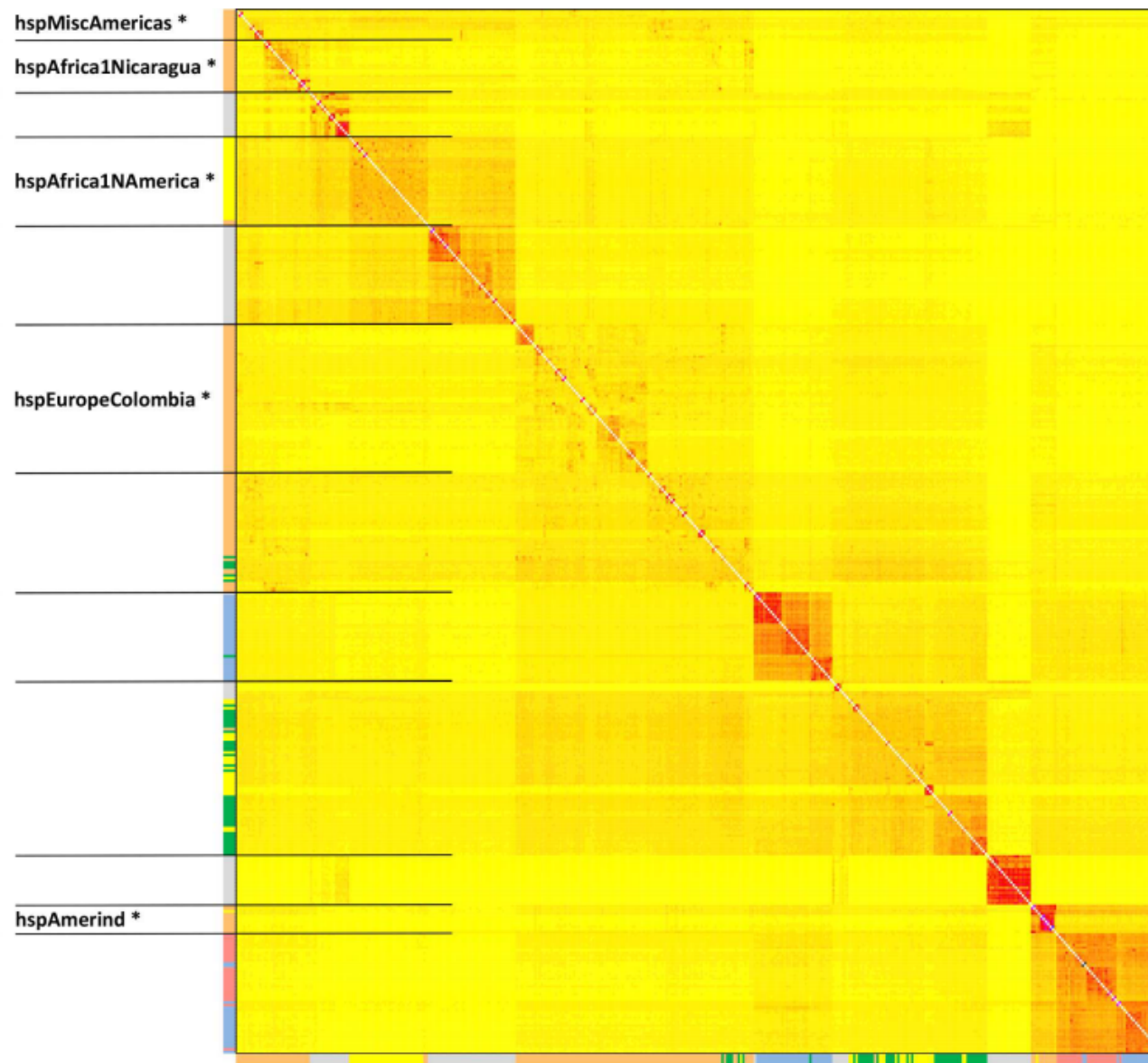
data reduction

fineSTRUCTURE  
captures more subtle  
population structure

# Substructures in the Old World populations



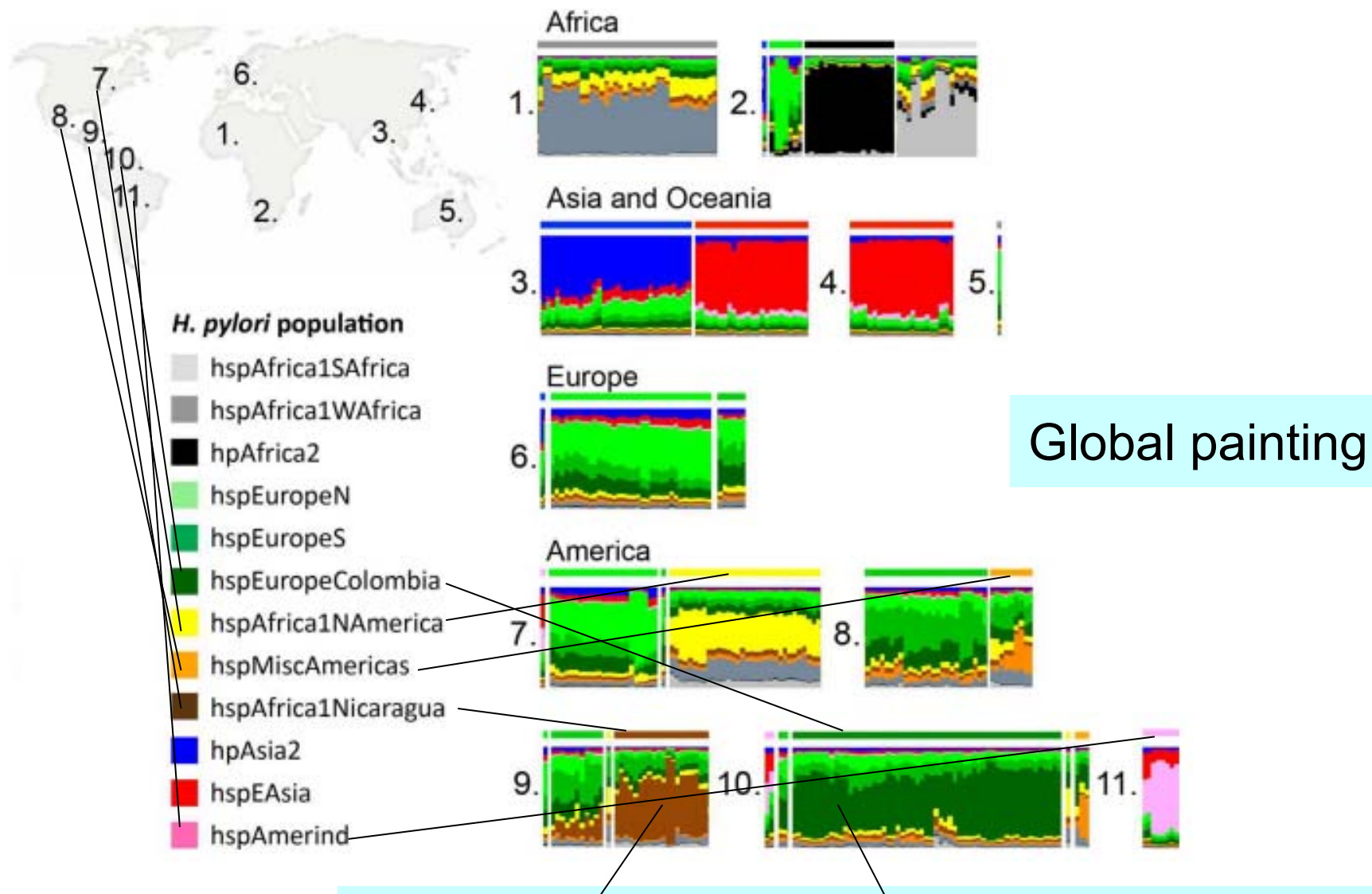
# Distinct subpopulations in Americas



## Geographical origin

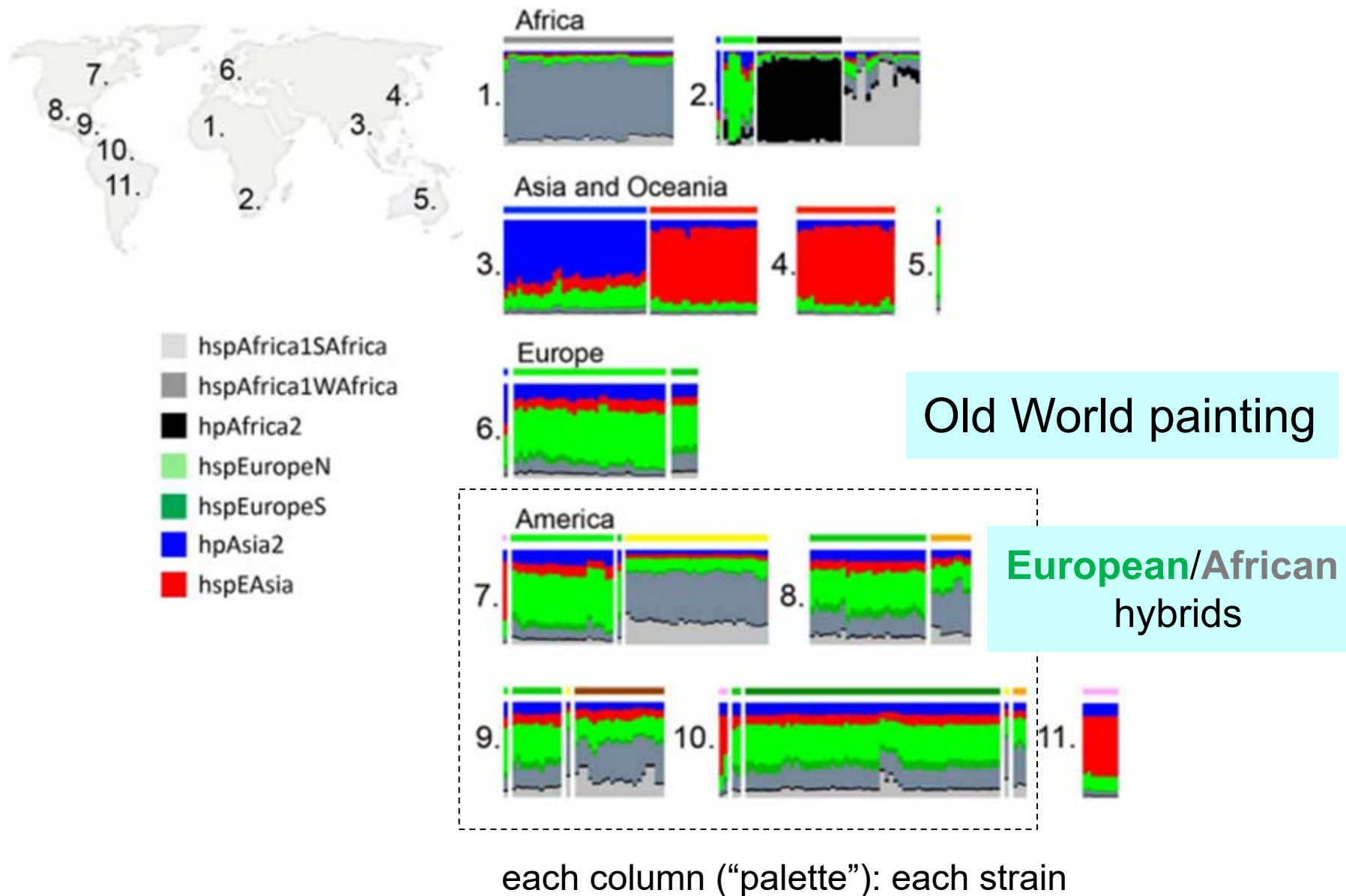
- Africa
- Europe
- Asia
- East Asia
- US/Canada
- Latin America

# Visualization of ancestry profile of each strain



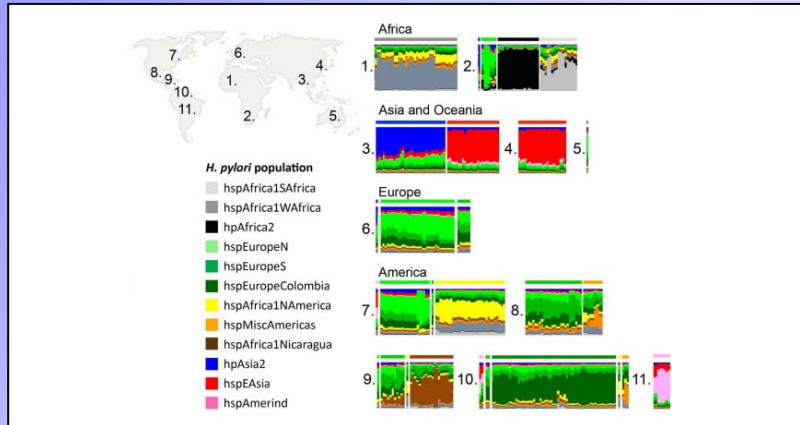


# Visualization using only Old World strains as donors



# Phylogeny & population structure

## gene flow (recombination)



Thorell\*, Yahara\* et al (2017), *PLoS Gen.*

non-*H. pylori*  
*Helicobacter* species

## GWAS

antimicrobial resistance  
(*Acinetobacter*)

food-borne disease  
(*Campylobacter*)

# Various other *Helicobacter* species

● in the stomach of domesticated and wild mammals



*H. pylori*  
*H. acinonychis*  
*H. cetorum*  
*H. baculiformis*  
*H. bizzozeronii*  
*H. ailurogastricus*  
*H. cynogastricus*  
*H. felis*  
*H. heilmannii*  
*H. salomonis*  
*H. suis*

gastric

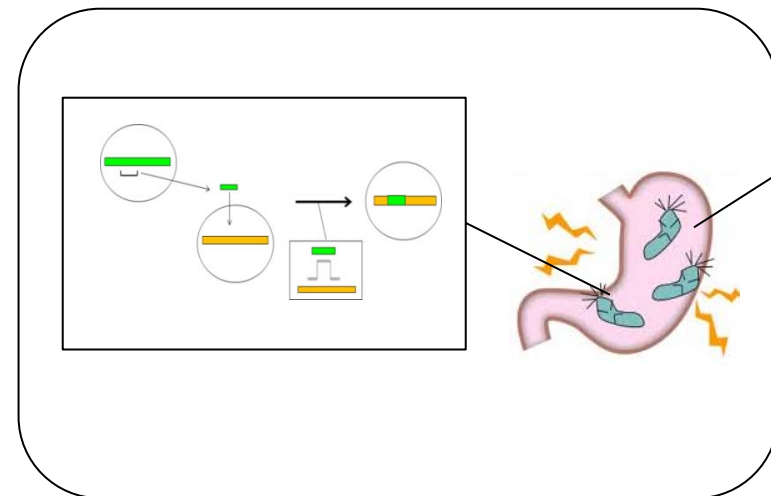
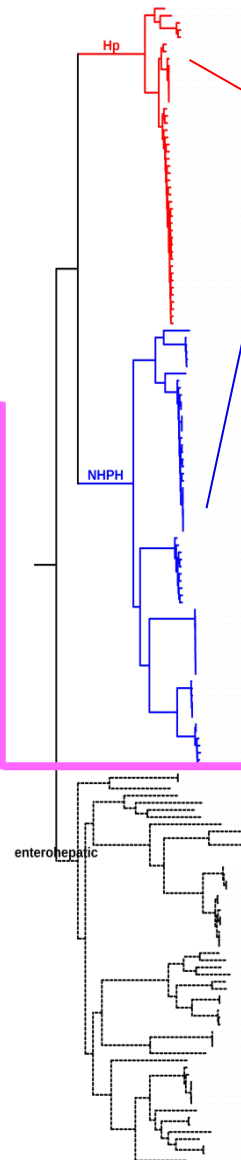


diverged at > 1m years ago

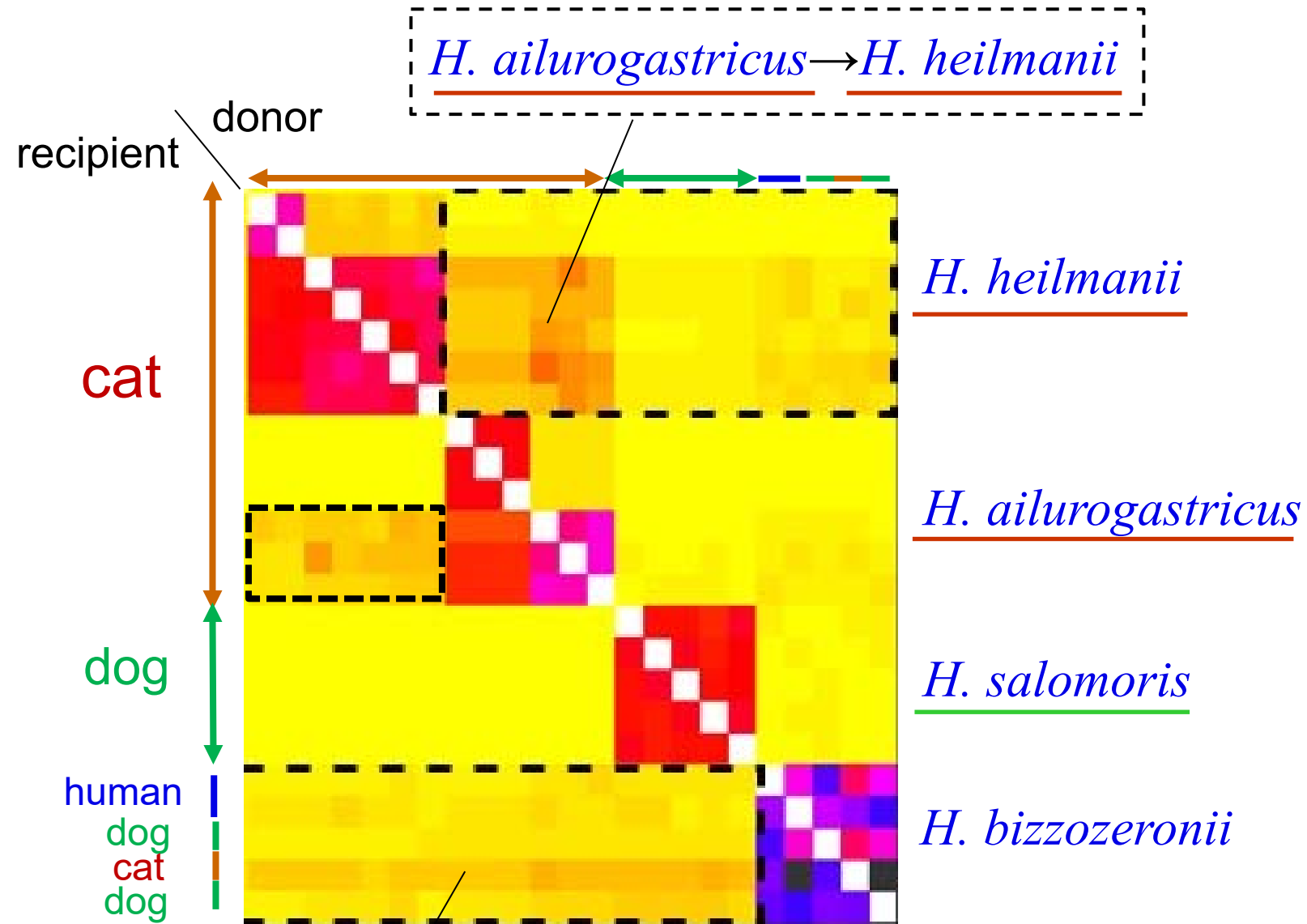
Inter-species recombination  
among different species  
co-infecting to a pet

*H. cinaedi*  
*H. fennelliae*  
*H. muridarum*  
*H. canis*  
*H. hepaticus*  
*H. pullorum*  
*H. bilis*  
*H. cholecystis*  
*H. trogonum*  
*H. rodentium*  
*H. typhlonius*  
*H. mesocricetorum*  
*H. pametensis*  
*H. canicola*  
*H. canadensis*  
*H. apodemus*  
*H. aurati*  
*H. marmotae*  
*H. winghamensis*  
*H. equorum*  
*H. macacae*  
*H. magdeburgensis*  
*H. sanguini*

entero  
hepatic



# Co-ancestry matrix by the chromosome painting

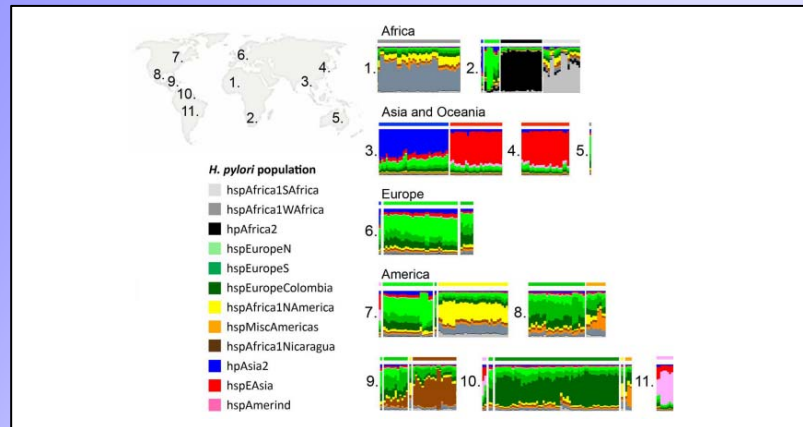


Smet\*, Yahara\* et al (2018), *ISME*

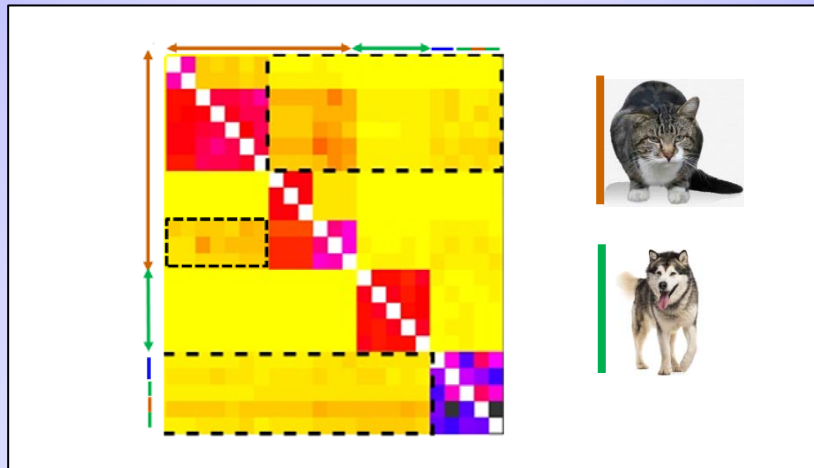


# Phylogeny & population structure

## gene flow (recombination)



Thorell\*, Yahara\* et al (2017), *PLoS Gen.*



Smet\*, Yahara\* et al (2018), *ISME*

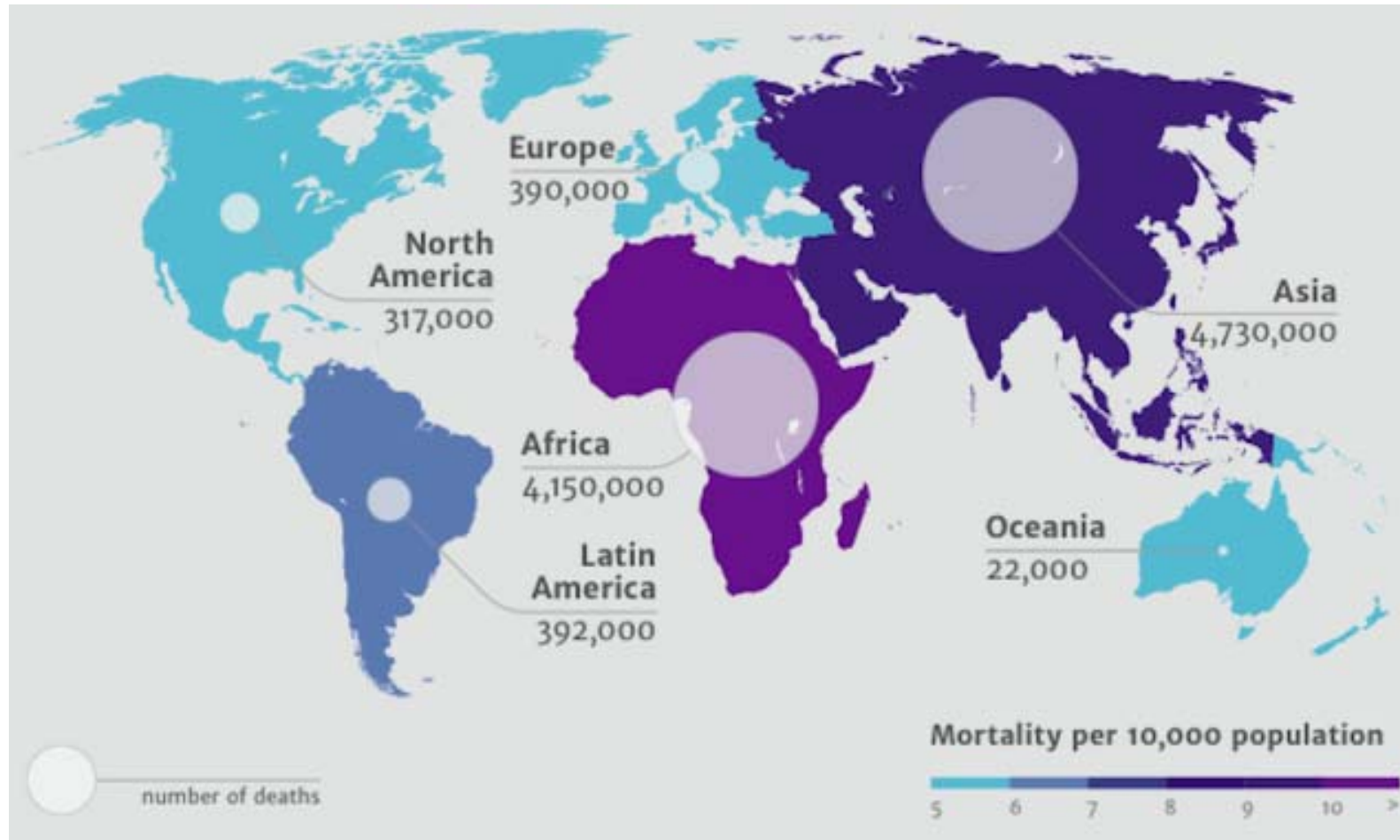
## GWAS

antimicrobial resistance  
(*Acinetobacter*)

food-borne disease  
(*Campylobacter*)

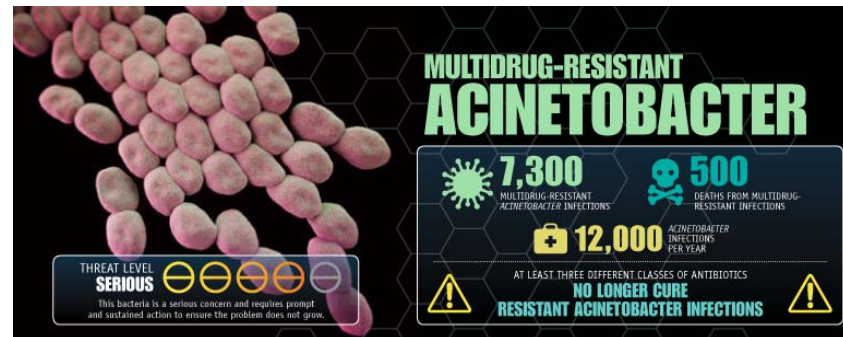
# Antimicrobial resistance

- 10 million deaths per year by 2050
  - ➡ > cancer deaths!!



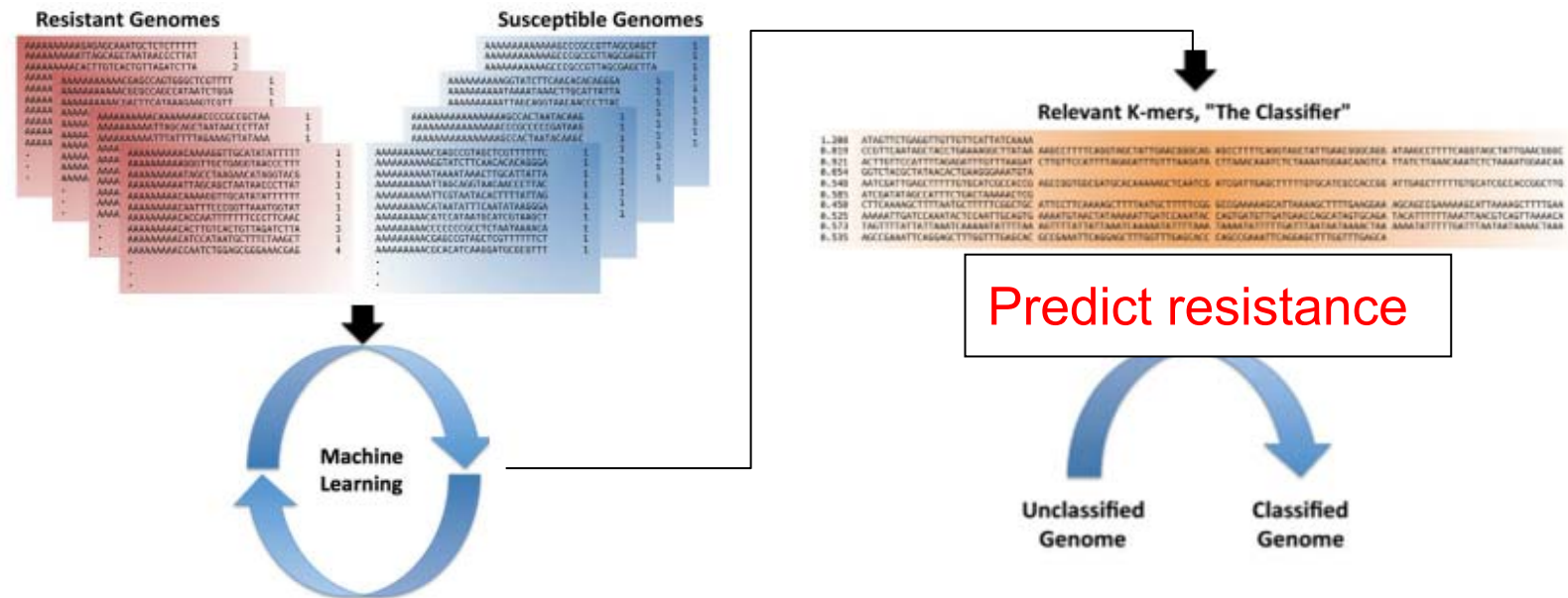
# Carbapenem & *Acinetobacter*

- last-resort antibiotic
  - ➔ broad spectrum, critically important in medicine
- carbapenem-resistance
  - ➔ *Enterobacteriaceae* (腸内細菌科細菌)
  - ➔ *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*
  - ➔ *Acinetobacter baumannii*
    - surviving in a wide range of environments
    - notoriously difficult to control in hospitals



# A recent genomic study

- 122 carbapenem-resistant and 110 carbapenem-susceptible *A. baumannii* strains
  - ➔ first dataset of > 100 genomes + AMR metadata
  - available in PATRIC database

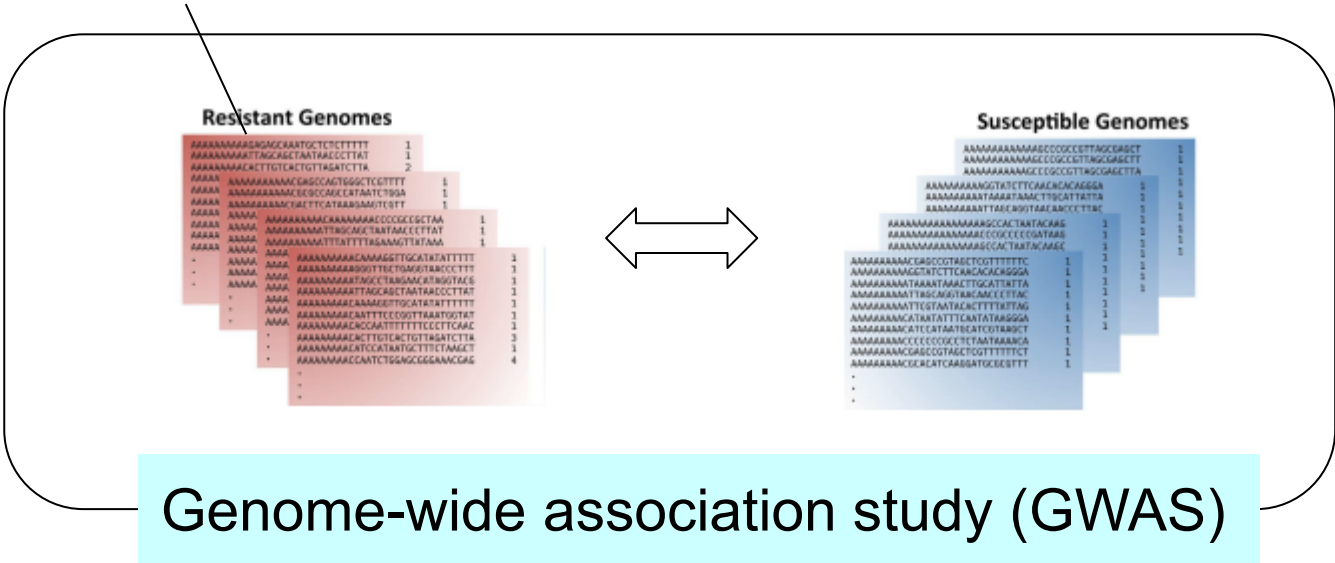


- ➔ built a machine-learning classifier to predict resistance of a strain, with accuracy approximately 95%

Davis et al (2016) *Sci. Rep.* modified

## My scope

- The data included the commonly known features (e.g. *bla*<sub>OXA-23</sub>)
  - ➡ prediction of resistance is obviously possible
- More interesting: exploration of novel genetic elements
  - ➡ in strains lacking the commonly known resistance features

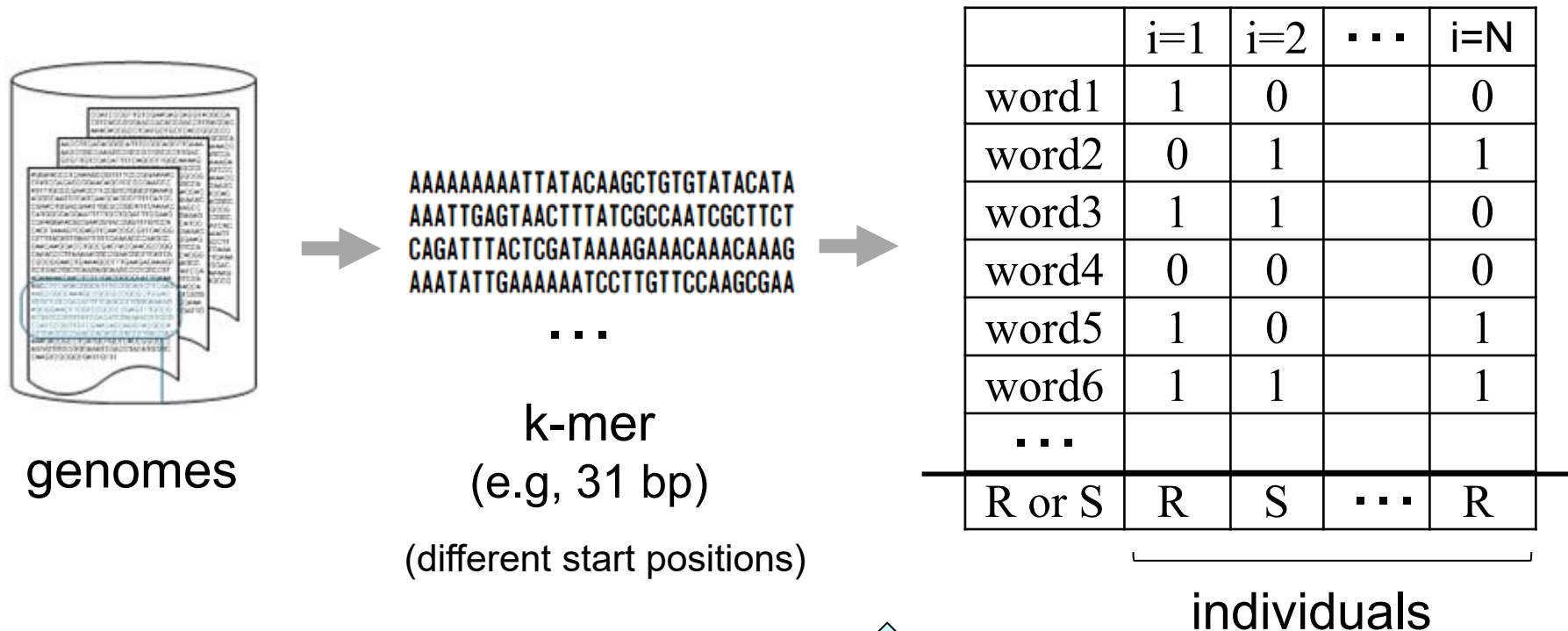


identifying any kind of genetic variation (SNP, indel, gene)  
enriched in resistant population

method in *bugwas* package, Earle et al (2016), *Nature Microb.*

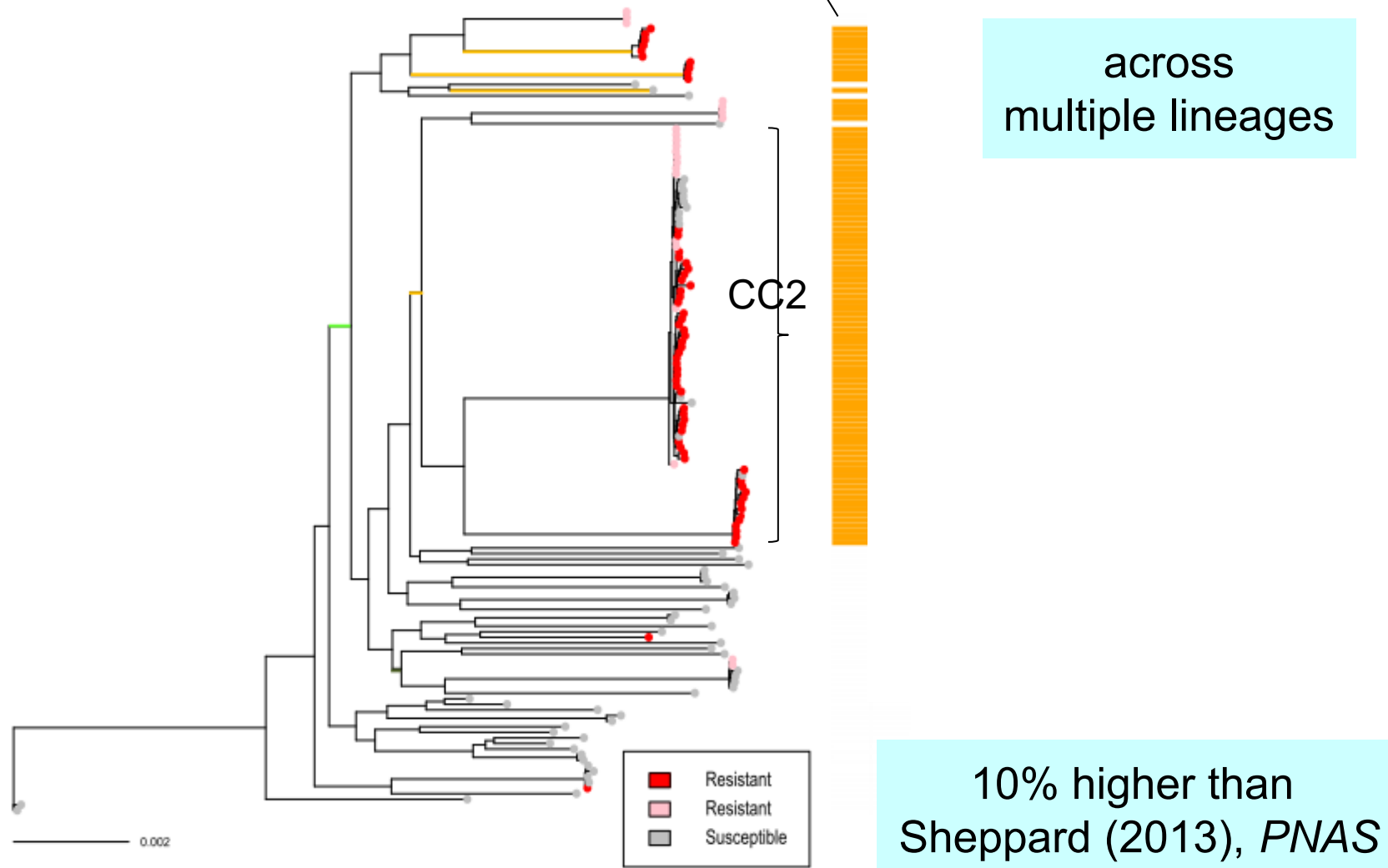
# Bacterial GWAS methods

- 1) Breakdown genomes into words  
to capture any kind of variation (SNP, indel, gene)



- 2) Statistical test of significance  
after accounting for phylogenetic relatedness of the strains  
(not independent!!)

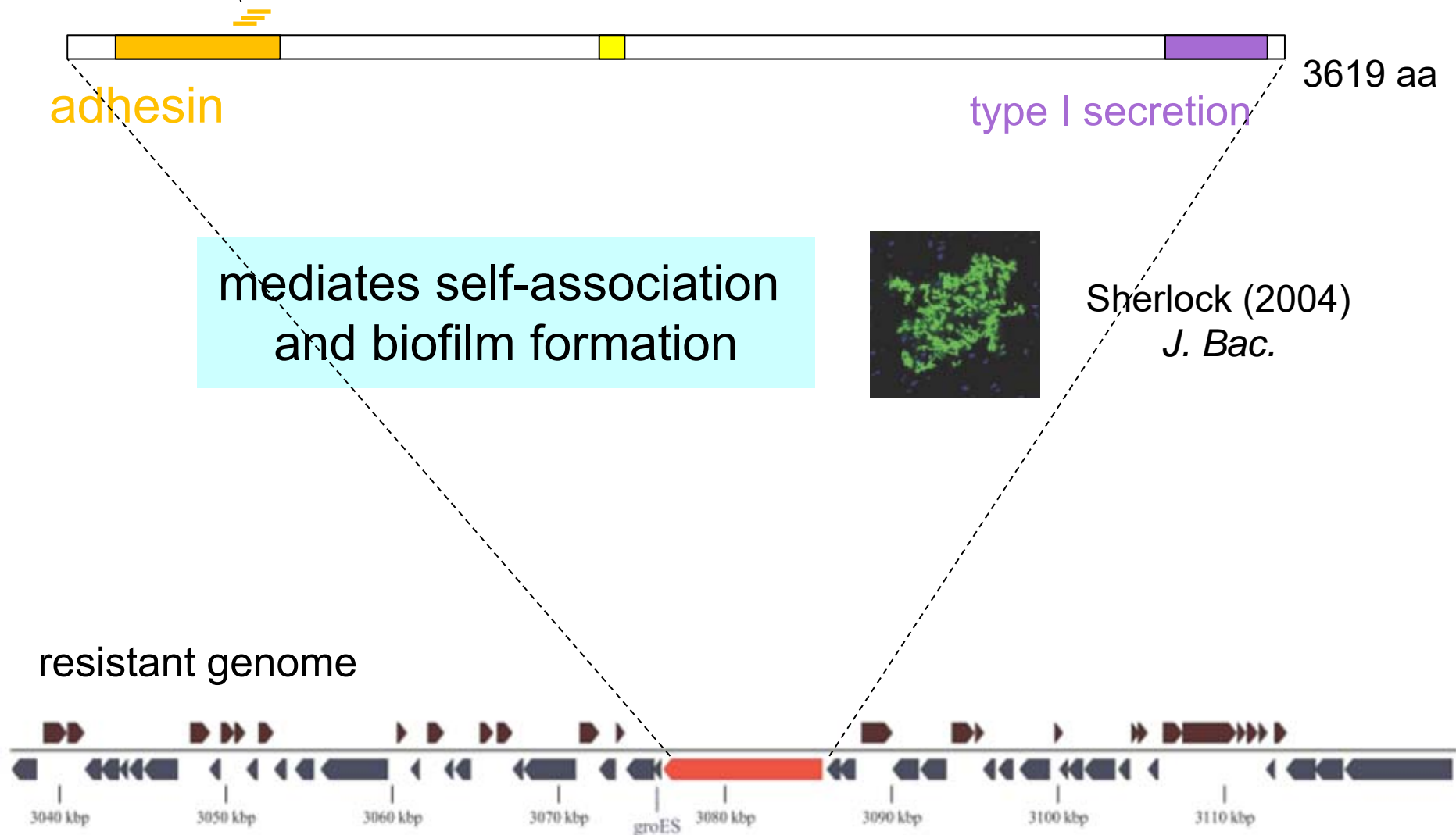
Top hit: three overlapping **words** that were  
>70% more frequent in the resistant strains



$P < 10^{-4}$



# Mapped to a putative adhesin gene horizontally transferred

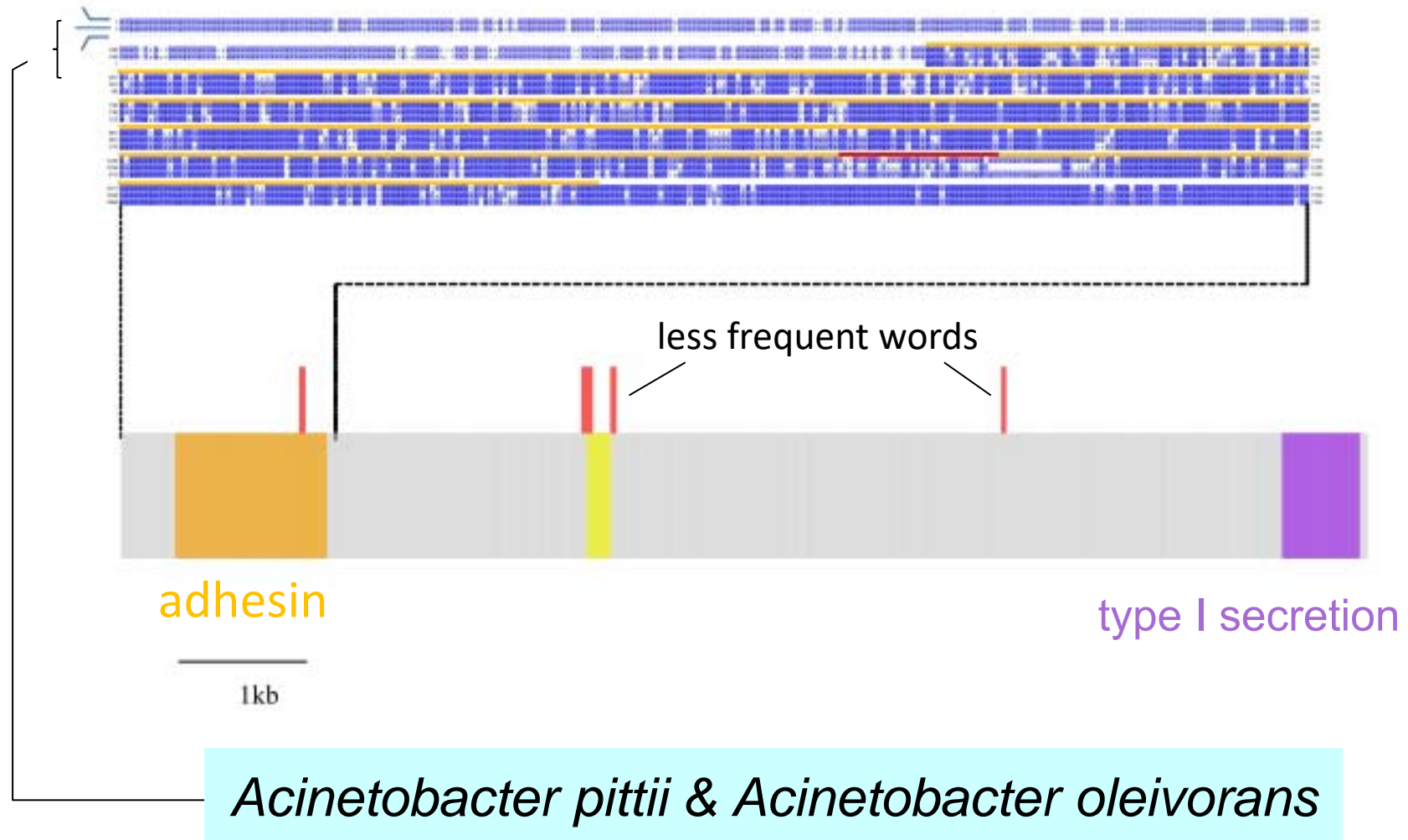


**atypical** nucleotide composition & gene tree topology



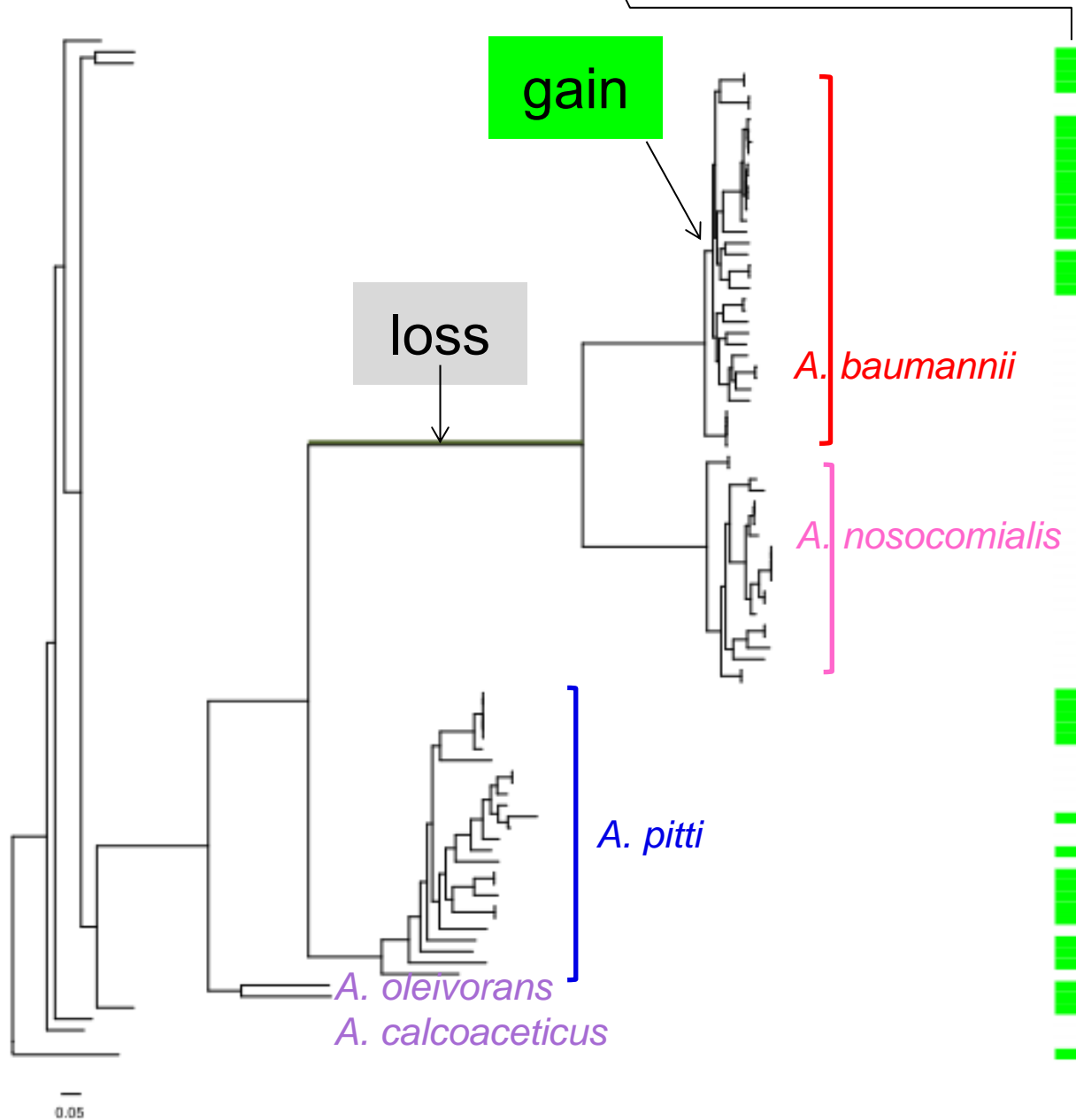
## Also found in other *Acinetobacter* species

*A. baumannii* ACICU



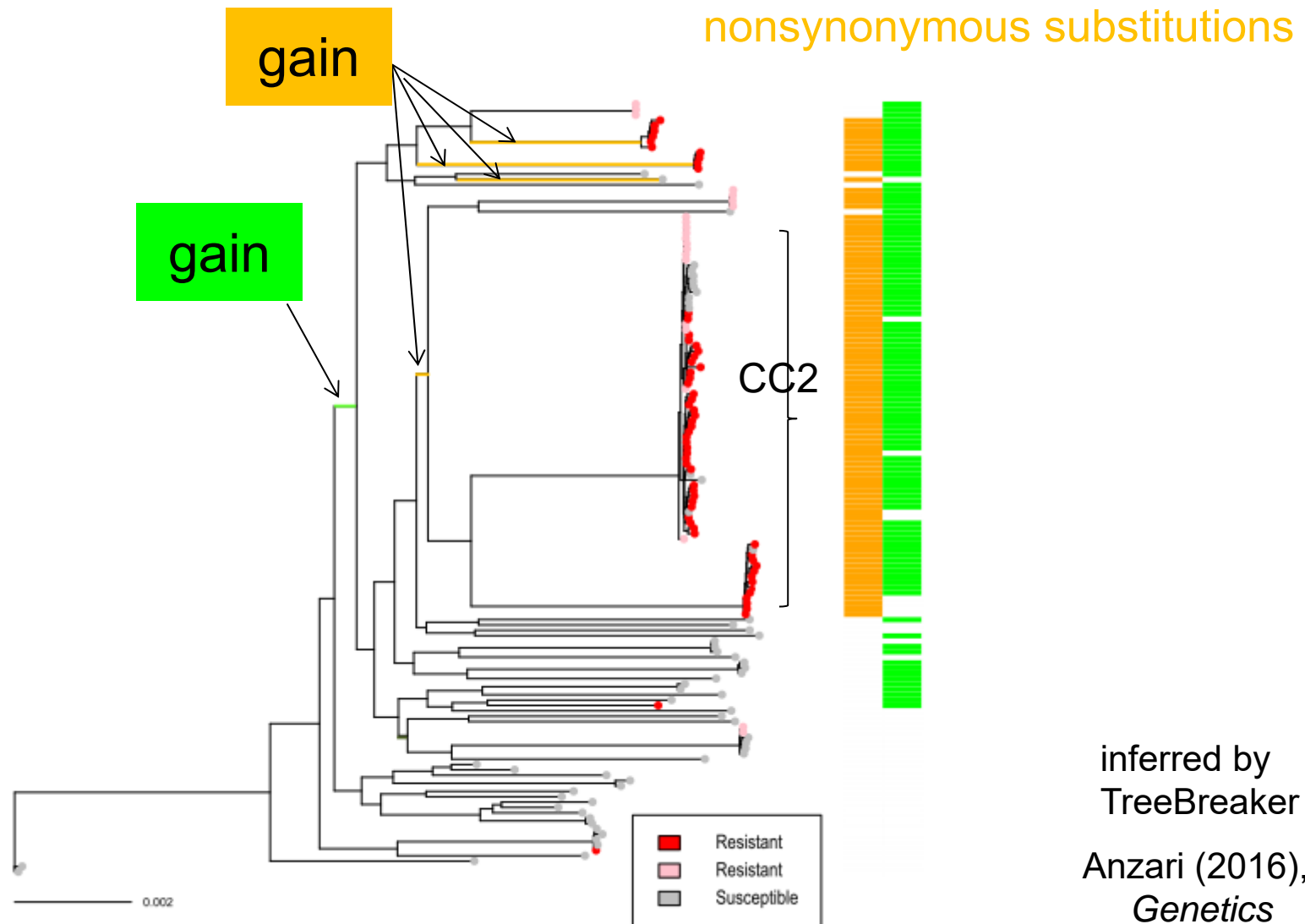
89% and 88% sequence identity  
over 100% and 95% of the alignment length of the locus

# Evolution of the **gene** in *Acinetobacter* spp.



inferred by  
TreeBreaker  
Anzari (2016),  
*Genetics*

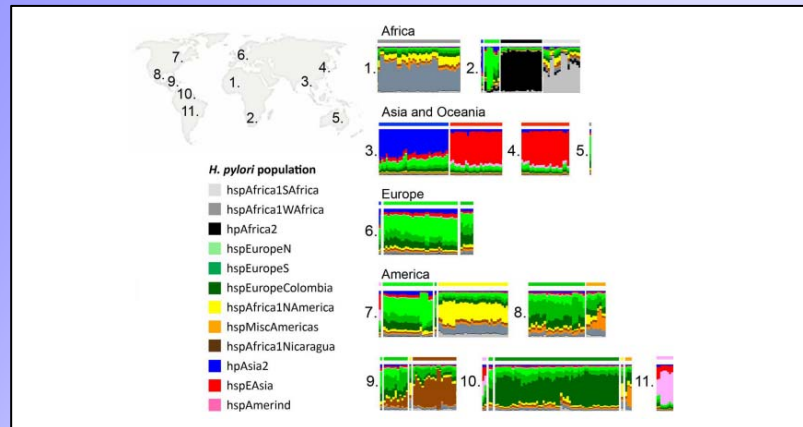
# Evolution of the **gene** and **word** in *A. baumannii*



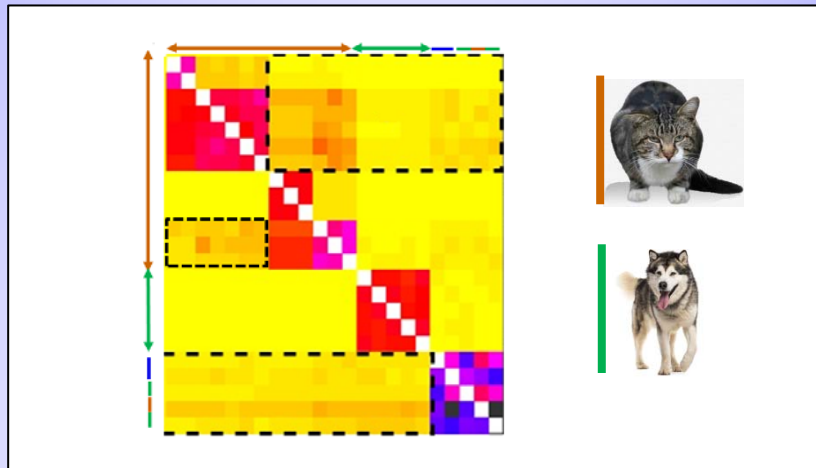
recurrent evolutionary signals across different lineages

# Phylogeny & population structure

## gene flow (recombination)

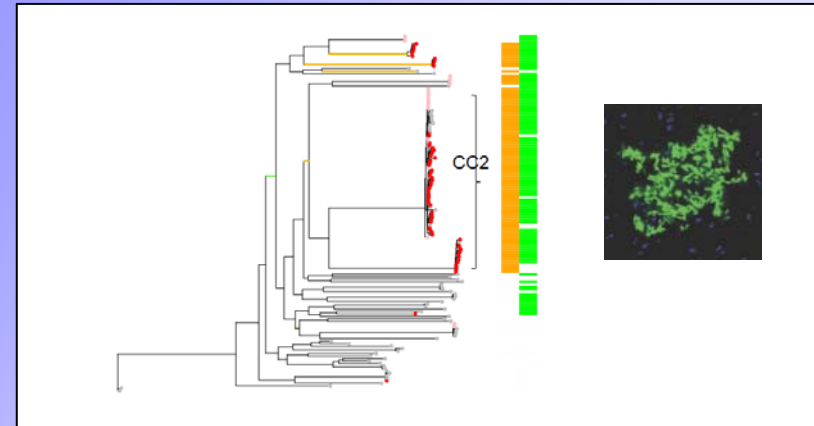


Thorell\*, Yahara\* et al (2017), *PLoS Gen.*



Smet\*, Yahara\* et al (2018), *ISME*

## GWAS



Suzuki, ... ,Yahara (2016), *Sci. Rep.*

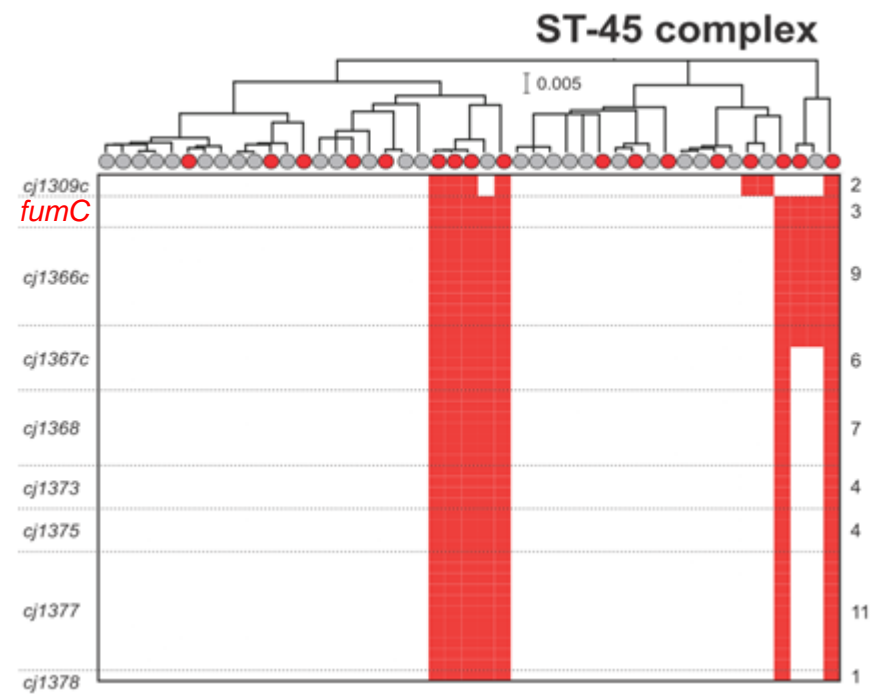
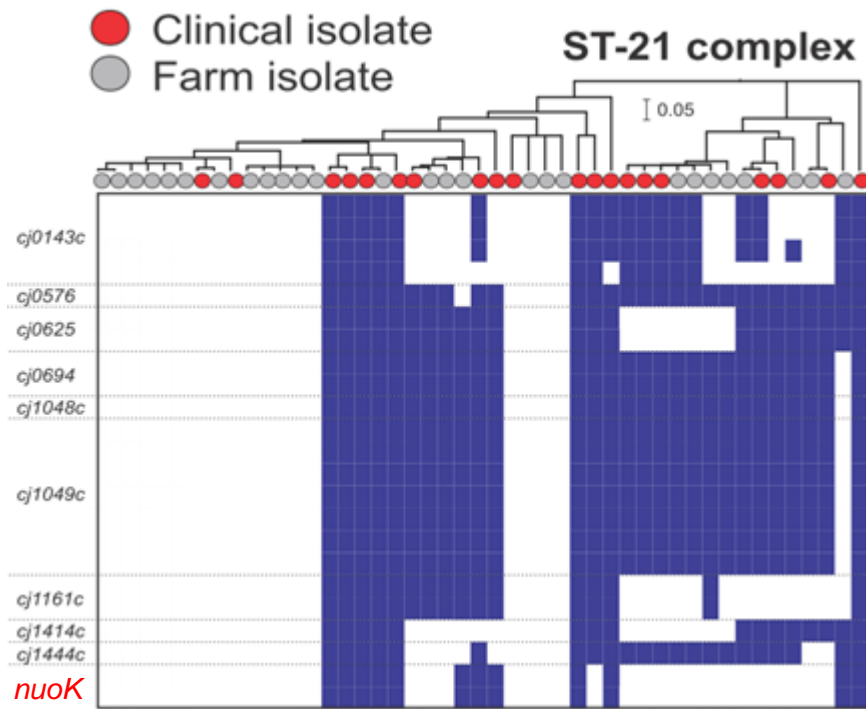
food-borne disease  
(*Campylobacter*)

# How do *Campylobacter* genomes change to cause diseases in human?



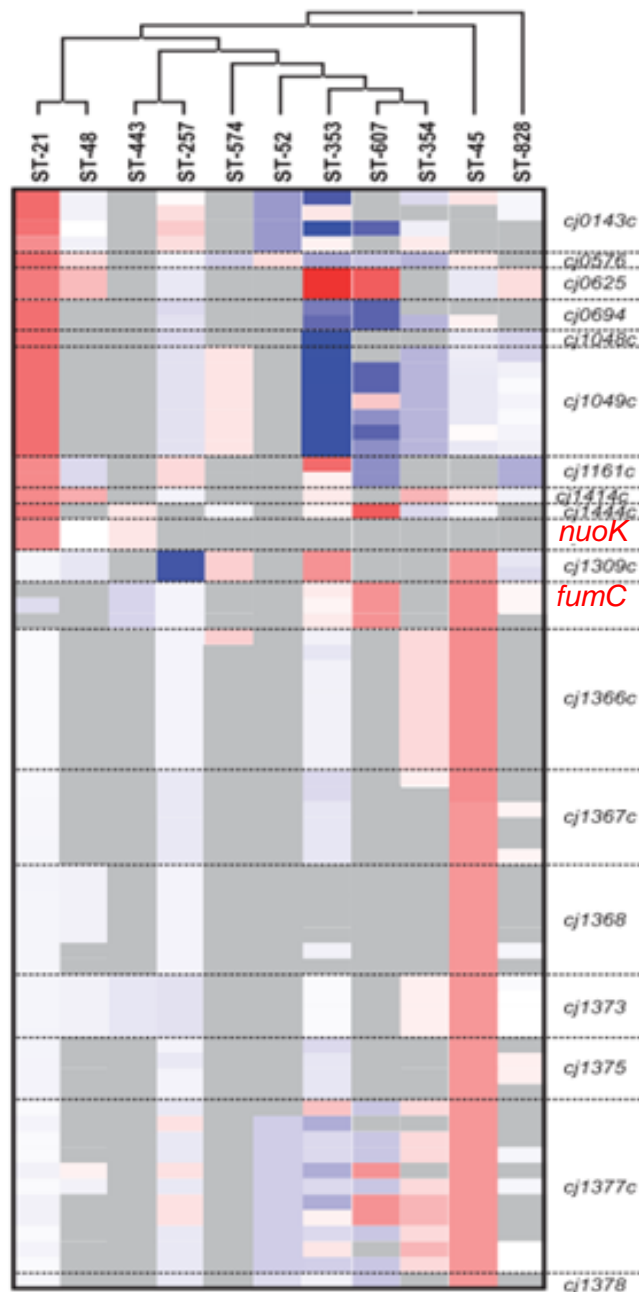
Previously, “similar”

Discovery in two major lineages



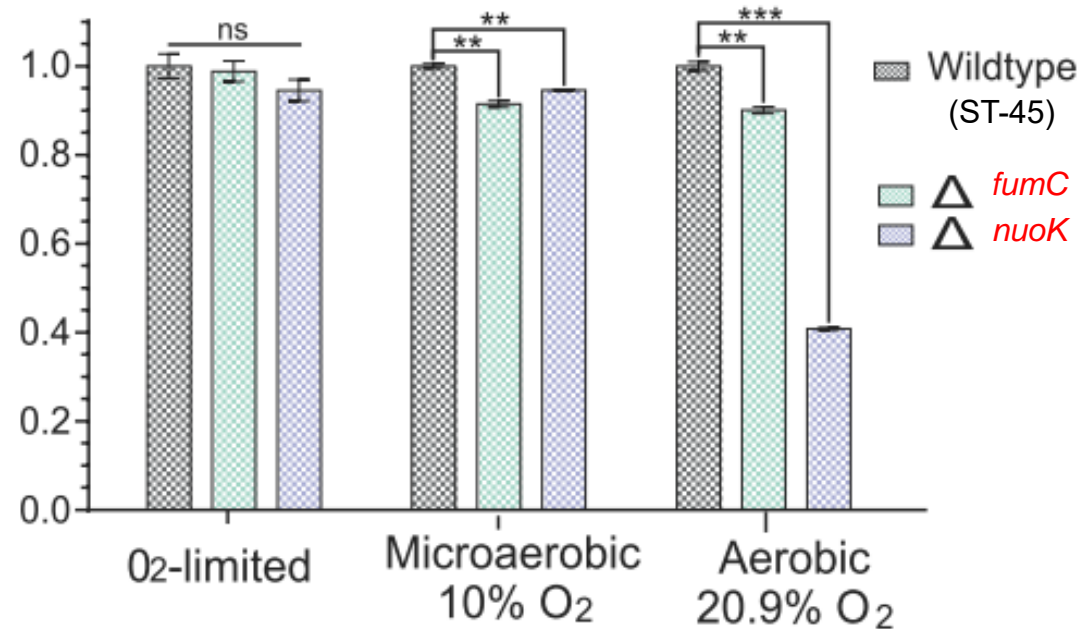
Disease-associated SNPs: 32-46% frequency increase ( $P < 5 \times 10^{-4}$ )

# Validation: function revealed by knock-out



For aerobic survival

relative  
OD600



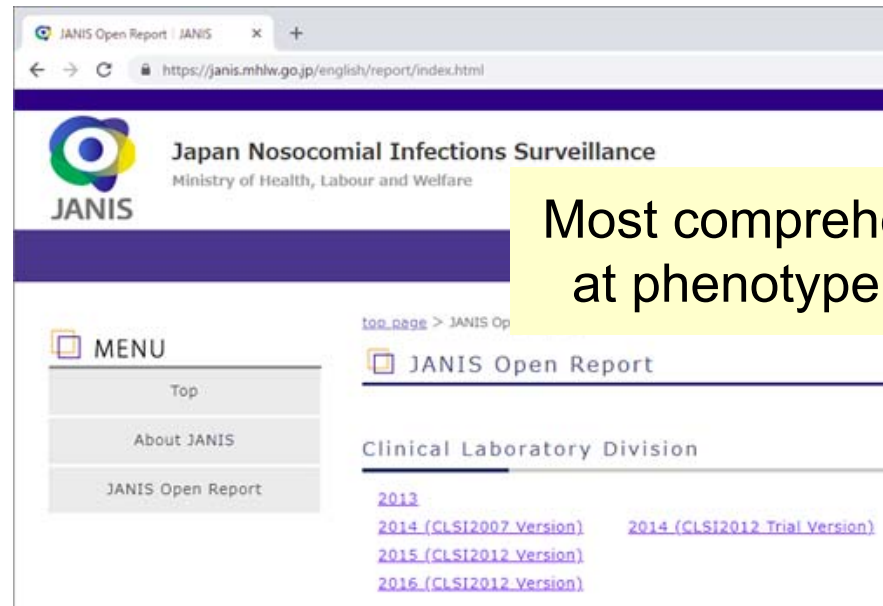
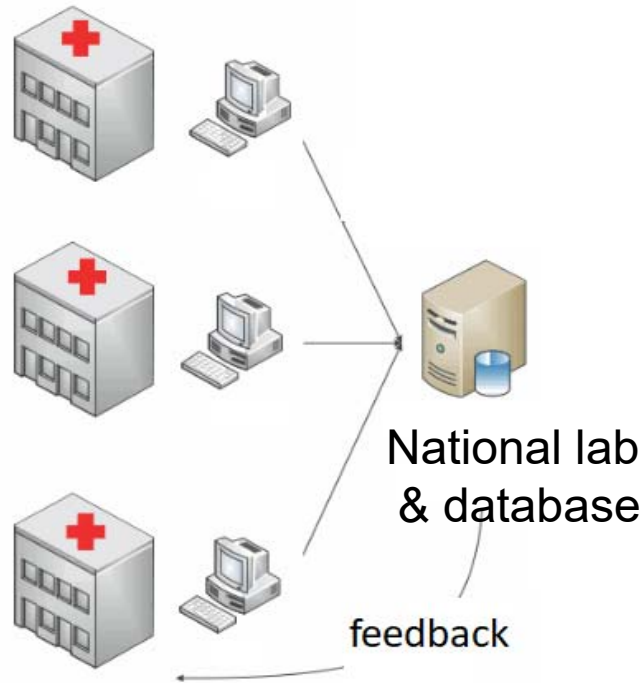
-1 1  
Frequency difference  
(clinical - farm)

Yahara\*, Meric\* et al (2017),  
*Env. Microbiology*



**Next direction**

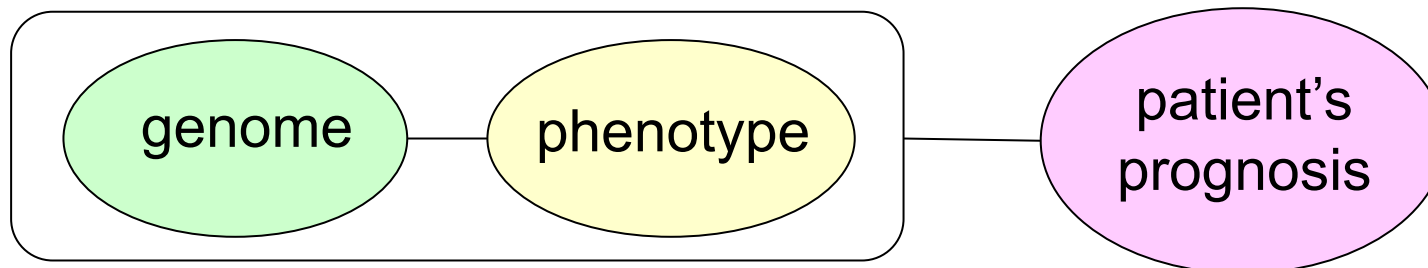
# National surveillance of antimicrobial resistance



Most comprehensive  
at phenotype level

all data of bacterial culturing and drug  
susceptibilities form > 2000 hospitals

Collection and genome sequencing of isolates satisfying specific criteria





# Hazard level in CDC and WHO priority list



1<sup>st</sup> (2009) &  
a new type (2016)  
in Japan

## Priority 1: CRITICAL

- *Acinetobacter baumannii*, carbapenem-resistant
- *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, carbapenem-resistant
- *Enterobacteriaceae*, carbapenem-resistant, ESBL-producing

## Priority 2: HIGH

- *Enterococcus faecium*, vancomycin-resistant
- *Staphylococcus aureus*, methicillin-resistant, vancomycin-intermediate and resistant
- *Helicobacter pylori*, clarithromycin-resistant
- *Campylobacter* spp., fluoroquinolone-resistant
- *Salmonellae*, fluoroquinolone-resistant
- *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*, cephalosporin-resistant, fluoroquinolone-resistant

# Determinant of cephalosporin resistance

- Altered penicillin binding protein
  - ➔ encoded by mosaic penA arising from recombination

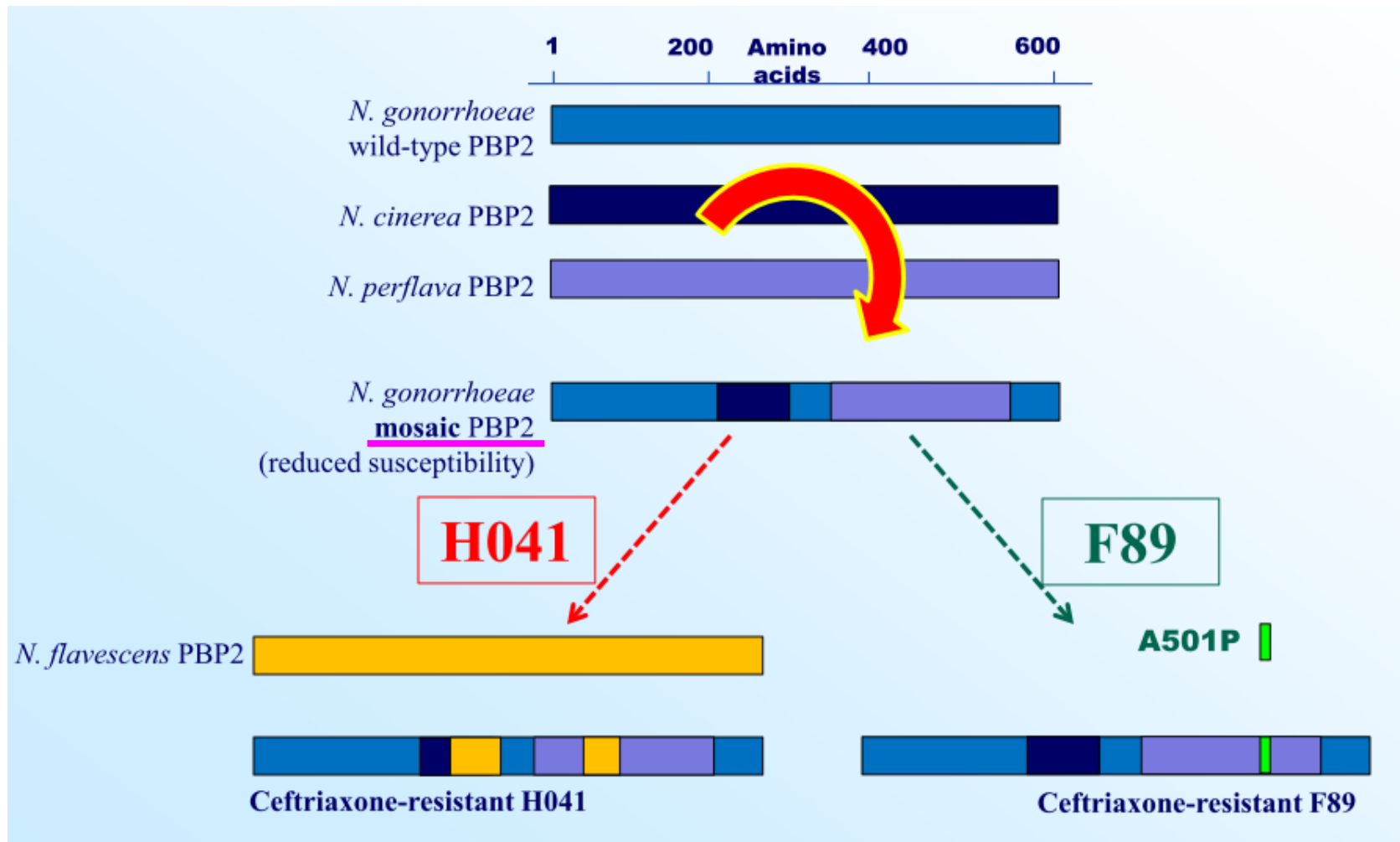


Figure from David Whiley

# How is it spreading and evolving in Japan as a region of global health concern?

- Surveillance has not been based on genome

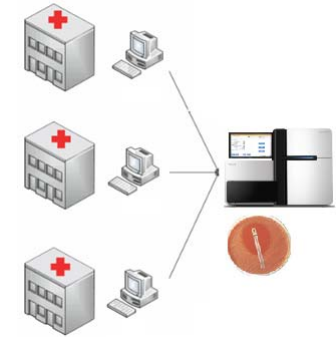
- Unanswered questions:

  - ➔ type & distribution of resistance determinants?

  - ➔ the extent to which these determinants can explain the observed phenotypic resistance?

  - ➔ population structures at the genomic level?

    - sub-lineage exhibiting unusual drug susceptibility?



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