

The Evolution of Human and Animal Microbiomes

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- van Leeuwenhoek - Drape -
 - . looking at fabric
 - . saw book by Robert Hooke
 - . started building better microscopes
- Letters to Royal Society
 - . then found single-celled organisms
 - . Royal Society didn't believe it
 - . sent Robert Hooke
 - . eventually whole field started
- New Era of Leeuwenhoek-esque cataloguing
- Human microbiome project
- many possible/known functions
- Big questions
 - . which co-evolve w/ humans
 - . genetic basis of relationship
 - . how alter evolution

but no answers so will talk about related work

- 1) How has composition of gut microbiota changed during human evolution
- 2) Have gut bacteria co-speciated w/ humans & apes
- 3)

Great apes harbor clues about ancestral status

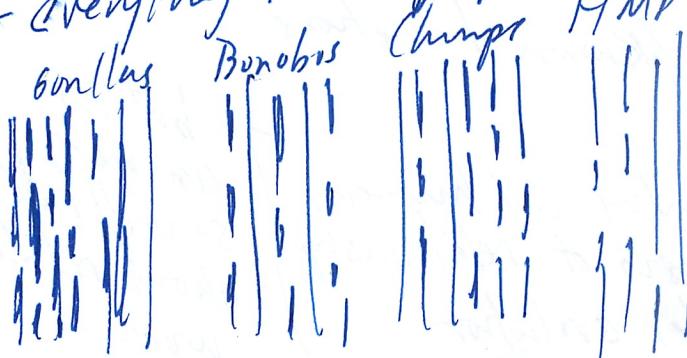
② what lineages found in Apes

100s of Apes across Africa

- chimps, gorillas,
- fecal samples

-rRNA PCR → relative abundance

- everything from my pHTC in one slide

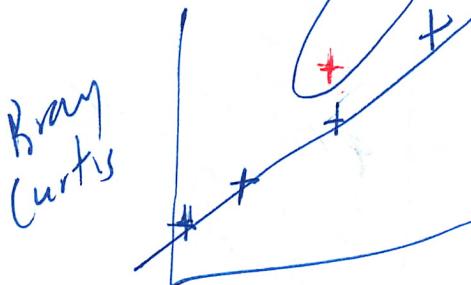


PCA



How has microbiome changed over host evolution

- humans in US
more divergent
than expected



5x *Bacteroides*
2x *Bifidobacterium*
.5x *obesum*
.2x *methan*

Humans

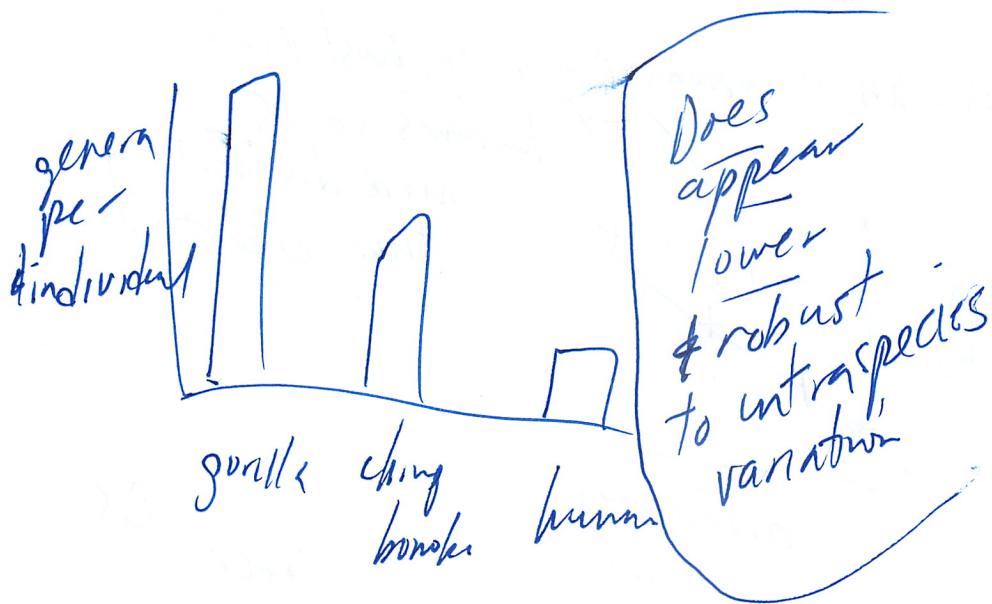
5x *Asticcoccus*
Chimp

bonobos

infer AS
using
parsimony

Have humans lost microbial diversity?

Some progress thus → Blaser
can test this.



But unclear why?

- don't appear to be due to geography, lifestyle, disease status

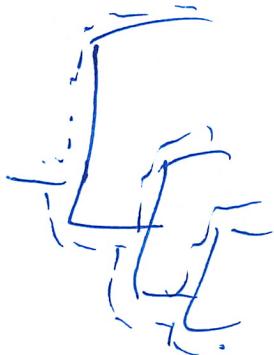
2. Have gut bacteria cospeciated
w/ humans + apes

Refs Moran
+ Sloan

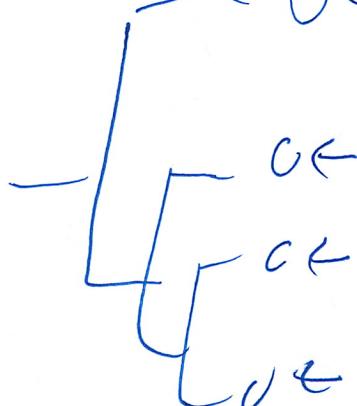
Figure

PLoS Biol 2015

cospeciation



separate assembly
ce



can't resolve w/
16S sequencing

so switch to synt B
family specific primers

- Bact. / Bifido - topologues
microbiome phylogeny

w/ one exception of a
Bifido that may have
moved betw. hosts

- some lineages missing from
humans but in every other
primate

∴ some gut bacteria in
humans can trace back to primate
ancestor

• predicts that dates of divergence
should match up

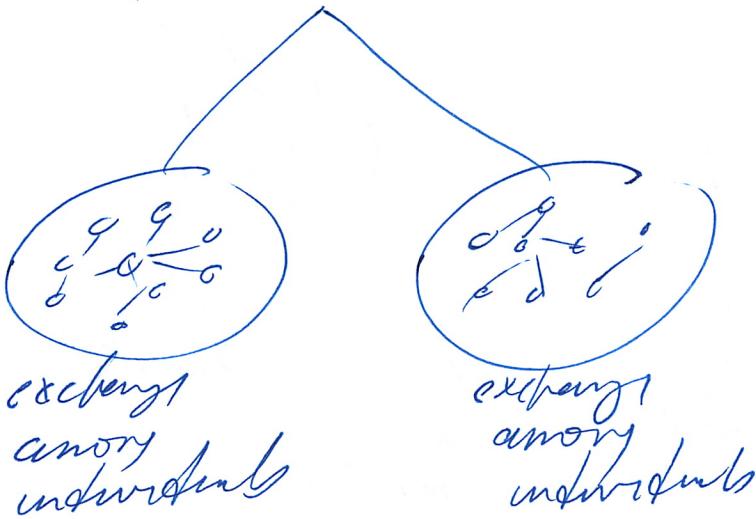
• They appear to match up

Lachnospiraceal do NOT
parallel host phylogeny well
- may be related to
spore formation

How are bacteria maintained
within host lineage over evolutionary
timescales?

- ① one possibility - vertical transmission
- e.g. aphid - Buchnera
 - does this happen in primates?
unclear
 - development is complex process
in humans

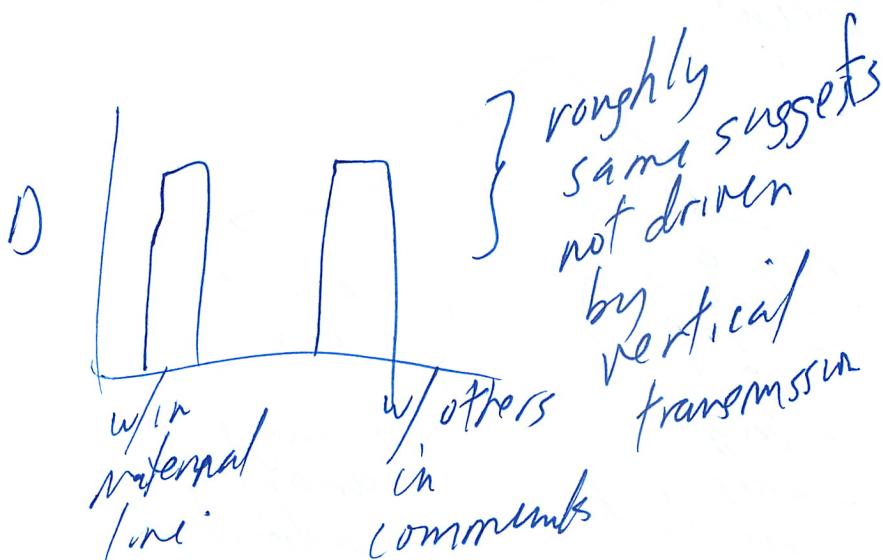
② social transmission

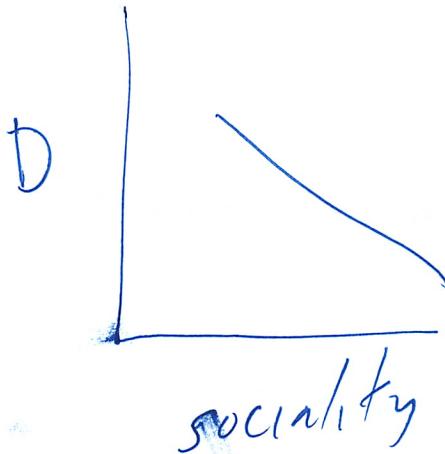


Degnan et al 2012

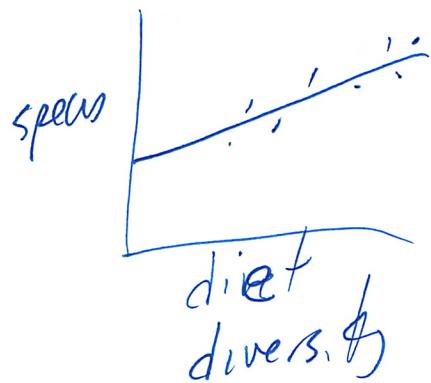
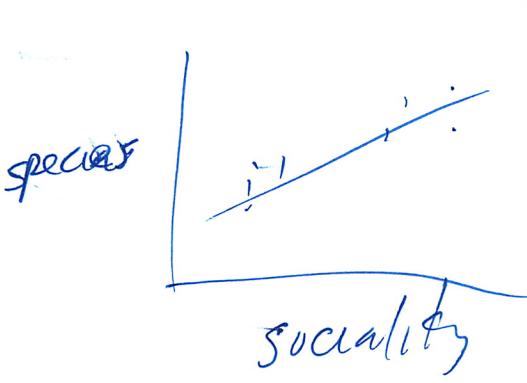
Moullor et al. Science Advances 2011

composition in chimp communities
shift in parallel over time





when more
social fits
differences
are less



social transmission plays
a big role in monkeys

Also similar pattern in a life
study by Tung et al 2015

of baboons, socially structured bacteria
tend to be more specific form.

Conclusion

- ① Ancestral microbiomes can be reconstructed
- ② Gut bacteria can co-spectate w/ hosts
- ③ Social behaviors may be essential to maintain diversity