

**Biology 215, *Biochemical Evolution*, Fall 1991**

Ward Watt

TTh 08:35-09:50, Bio G(ilbert) 117

My office hours are W 1:30-3:00, my office is Bio R 488 THIS WEEK but will be G ~~488~~<sup>406A</sup>, my phone is 723-4297.

The graded work of the course is a ~ 20 pp. literature review and synthesis paper. It is due 3 December 1991, which is the next-to-last class meeting and is the Tuesday of "Dead Week". I'd like a brief written statement of choice of paper topic from each class member by 22 October - by all means see me outside class to talk about paper topics before then.

I have to miss scheduled class on 17 October, as I am flying east for the memorial service for G. E. Hutchinson, who died late last spring at age 88 - still working, we should all do so well! But you should be thinking about when it is convenient for you to make up that class meeting - in the early evening (7:30-9 PM), or some Saturday morning.

The course is not a stereotypic, integrated "package" - the subject matter of the course has not yet been integrated by *anyone* into a fully cohesive whole. Indeed, the aim of the course is to bring together, for our joint consideration, what is an incredibly scattered literature. As a result, there is no textbook, since there is none suitable, and the course works from a reserve shelf, and beyond that from the primary literature. Much of the class meeting time will necessarily be presentation by me, but I earnestly hope that we can get substantive discussion of many different specific topics. That will depend on course members being conscientious about using the reserve shelf! I will try to give some advance warning of key references, but there's nothing like a certain amount of "creative browsing" as well.

While the course is not a "package", it does have an organizing rationale. I will spend parts of two class meetings in review of contemporary evolutionary concepts and contemporary physical/chemical concepts that we'll come back to again and again in one way or another. We'll then look at three very major areas, *not* necessarily giving equal time to each, with a diversity of subtopics within each:

- I. Origins of life, or the rise of Darwinian systems out of their pre-Darwinian physical and chemical underpinnings.
  - a) Origins of the planet and the solar system; Hadean/Archaean conditions, abstractly and concretely; predispositions and constraints to living chemical systems in the phenomena of physics and in the periodic table
  - b) Palaeontological constraints on explanations: the microbial fossil record
  - c) Bio-monomer formation under simulated Hadean/Archaean conditions
  - d) The problem of polymer formation
  - e) The origins of catalysis
  - f) The origins of the genetic code and the general problem of cellular self-assembly; the transition from pre-biotic to proto-biotic systems.
  
- II. Mechanistic/ biochemical perspectives on Darwin's global problem # 1: The origins and improvement of adaptation to environmental pressures
  - a) Fitness-related measures for metabolic performance
  - b) Evolution of metabolic pathway choice
  - c) Evolution of metabolic kinetic organization
  - d) Evolution of enzyme/protein structure, and population genetics of contemporary enzyme/protein variation

III. Mechanistic/ biochemical perspectives on Darwin's global problem # 2: The origins, increase, and maintenance of phyletic diversity

- a) Evolution of gene families over time
- b) Interaction of adaptive and phyletic evolution -- how are they related, if at all?
- c) Local phyletic history by sequence comparisons
- d) "Deep" phyletic history by sequence comparisons, including endosymbiotic explanations for the eukaryotic cell structure strategy

**General references**

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# Biochemical Evolution

Darwin - Origin of Species

① Evolution by natural selection  
- population genetics

has led to

Adaptation

Phyletic differentiation

- comp. biochem  
- physiological ecology

- molecular systematics

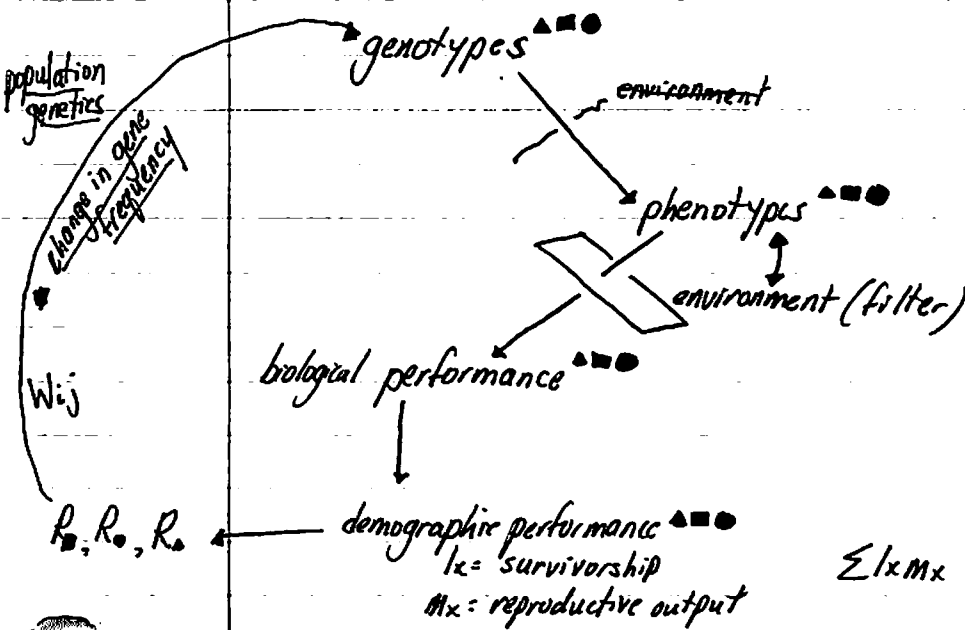
how explain these two?  
" " their interaction?

So - have these been explained?

Transmission of genotypes

- even diploid organisms can only transmit "haploid" cells  
- this severely constrains the possibilities for evolution.

Evolution by natural selection



$$\sum l_x m_x \text{ or } \sum l_x m_x = R = \text{"net repro rate"}$$

- can determine genotypic specific "R"  $R_1, R_2, R_3$  = relative fitness  
a.k.a.

Take  $R_1, R_2, R_3$  and refer to reference "R" to get relative fitness value.

$$W_{ij} = \frac{R_i}{R_j} = \text{relative fitness of genotypes}$$

Transmission of genotypes

$$\Delta P_i = \frac{P_i(\sum P_j W_{ij} - \bar{W})}{\bar{W}} + \sum \frac{f}{N_e} \quad \bar{W} = \sum W_{ij} P_{ij}$$

= error term to include drift, inbreeding

Prob.  $p$  = percent of genotype

Problems-

Genetic Load Controversy

Haldane; said that for a new allele to enter pop. some organisms carrying old allele should die.  $\therefore$  things can't change much too fast.

How much constraint is there on evolution?

- historical accident
- opportunism (aka. preadaptation)

How predictable is evolution?

- depends on scale
- how predictable is environment?
- CONVERGENCE suggests predictability

How do adaptation & phyletic differentiat.on interact?

① G.G. Simpson

- adaptive zone

② ~~Hutchinson~~

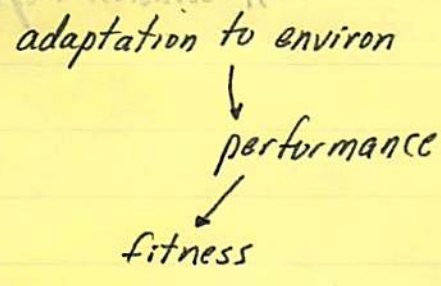
(also- Hutchinsonian niche or applying fitness values to environmental gradients)

### CONVERGENCE

- interaction between clades & grades

→ Hawk Moth & Hummers: v. similar "grades" but v. diff clades

Thermodynamics & Kinetics - looking for analogs to Darwinian parameters



- how did Darwinian systems originate in Prebiotic systems?

1<sup>st</sup> Law  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Law

① Conservation of mass/energy

② Systems move from high → low E

Gibbs free energy  
 $\Delta G = \Delta H - T\Delta S$

= exothermic

$\Delta G < 0$  for spontaneous process

- $\Delta S = +$  explosion  
 $\Delta S = ++$  ice cream  
 $\Delta S = -$  nylon

- so an incr. in complexity must be associated with a decrease in enthalpy

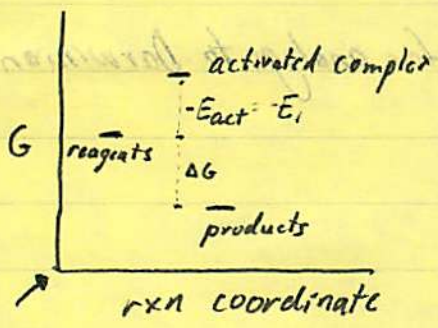
- so -- how do you get to a system w/ enough order and/or complexity to become Darwinian

Equilibrium

$K_{eq} = e^{(-\Delta G/RT)}$

$\Delta G = -RT \ln K_{eq}$

but doesn't say anything about rate -- bec. no info about activation



$A \hat{=}$  collision frequency

$$k = Ae^{-E_{act}/RT}$$

$$k_f = Ae^{-E_i/RT} = \text{forward rate constant}$$

$$k_b = Ae^{-(E_i + \Delta G)/RT}$$

$K_{eq}$  does NOT relate to rate -- just ratios

Important Parameters

① Efficiency

$$E = \frac{O}{I} \quad \therefore \text{high } E \rightarrow \Delta G \text{ is small}$$

② Yield  $Y = E \cdot K_{eq}$  if  $K_{eq} = 1$  then  $O = I$  &  $Y = 50\%$

③ Net yield

Equilibrium  
 $K_{eq} = e^{-\Delta G/RT}$   
 $\Delta G = -RT \ln K_{eq}$

but doesn't say anything about rate -- bec. no info about activation

## Non-Equilibrium

- e.g.  $[H^+]$  gradient in Chloroplasts

$$\frac{[H^+]_{high}}{[H^+]_{low}}$$

### ① Near-Equilibrium Lars Onsager

- continuous input of energy can maintain "order"

#### ② Two flows

$$J_1 = L_{11}X_1 + L_{12}X_2$$

$$J_2 = L_{21}X_1 + L_{22}X_2$$

$J_n$  = flow

$L_{nn}$  = coupling constant

$X_n$  = force driving flows

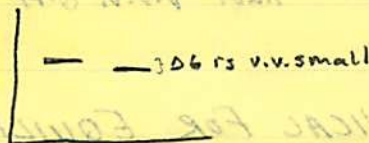
to get  
- when there is a linear relationship betw.  $J$  &  $X$

③  $\Delta G \ll RT$  because  $\Delta G/RT$  is exponent  
 $\therefore \Delta G/RT \approx 0 \quad e^0 = 1 \quad \therefore$  linear

$$-RT \text{ at } 0^\circ\text{C} = 2.27 \text{ kJ/mol} \approx 0.5 \text{ kcal/mol}$$

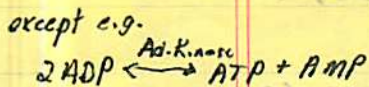
$\therefore$  cannot break too many chemical bonds ...

better if no chemical change



④ energy can approximate rate if ( $\Delta G \ll RT$ )  
the system is near-equilibrium

e.g. Popcorn ...  
oil forms convection currents  
- entropy decreases  
- maintained by flow of energy



ENTROPY  $T\Delta S \approx$  information

is proportional to

BOLTZMANN

$S = k \ln W$  =  $W = \#$  of equally probable ~~the~~ microstate that a macrostate can be in.

e.g.: two dice  
- total = macrostates = 11

- $2 \times 1 = 2$
- $2 \times 2 = 4$
- $2 \times 3 = 6$
- $2 \times 4 = 8$
- $2 \times 5 = 10$

- 2, 12 = 1 microstate =  $1/36$
- 3, 11, 10 = 2 =  $2/36$
- 4, 9, 8 = 3 =  $3/36$
- 5, 7 = 4 =  $4/36$
- 6, 6 = 5 =  $5/36$
- 7 = 6 microstates =  $6/36$

- 11 24 31 41 51 61
- 12 22 32 42 52 62
- 13 23 33 43 53 63
- 14 24 34 44 54 64
- 15 25 35 45 55 65
- 16 26 36 46 56 66

$S = -k \sum p_i \ln p_i = -k \sum p_i \ln p_i = 5/36$

Information  $H = -k \sum p_i \ln p_i =$  INFORMATION THEORY

LINK BETWEEN INFORMATION & BIOLOGY?  
WHY IS THIS ANOTHER PROBLEM?

...GGG GGG...  
...GGG A GG...  
...GGG GAG...

these three sequences have same probability of occurrence but have v.v.v. diff macrostates

BIOLOGY IS TOO HIERARCHICAL FOR EQUILIBRIUM ORIENTED MEASURES TO WORK





## Prebiotic Evolution

Two main points

- ① Lots of time available - so rare event could occur
- ② Or physical & chemical environment such that it was inevitable

## Primitive Earth

① Hal Morowitz... can thermodynamics help out over long period of time?

- how likely is spontaneous assembly of simplest cell?
- grow up E. coli
- Calorimeter... burn them...
- output from calorimeter -- can calculate  $\Delta H$  &  $T\Delta S$
- likelihood -  $1/10^{10^{13}}$  ... not even close

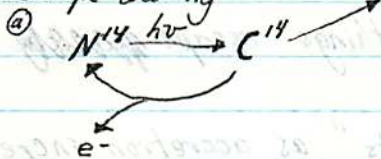
$\therefore$  need stage by stage progression... where each stage is somewhat likely

Age of Planet  $\approx 4.6 \pm 0.1 \times 10^9$  years

Life Evidence  $\approx 3.5 \times 10^9$  years

$\therefore$  max time =  $\approx 1.1 \times 10^9$  years

### ② Radioisotope dating



$\frac{1}{2}$  life  $\approx 5600$  years

- when one dies no more  $C^{14}$  input

- past 6-8 half lives - noise too high

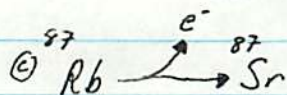
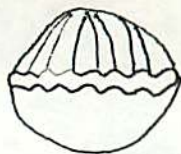


$\frac{1}{2}$  life = 12.4 billion years



but Argon can escape

$\therefore$  should look at multiple decay systems



$$t_{1/2} = 47 \times 10^9 \text{ years}$$

### EXAMPLE

biotite

207/206

$$\text{Pb} \cong 1.7 \times 10^9$$

$$\text{Rb/Sr} \cong 1.65 \times 10^9$$

### Primitive Earth

① Earth & Solar System have high concentration of heavy atoms

② So ... probably 2° or 3° system

③ Nearby supernova cause collapse of Solar Systems dust cloud

- exploding stars v. heavy

- v. heavy elements could be formed by big star especially at explosion

④ Solar nebulae formed

ENRICHMENT



$$F = G \frac{mm'}{d^2}$$

⑤ Massive entities attract ... bulge in middle gets bigger

⑥ Protosun forms

⑦ 2° centers of condensation w/ enough angular momentum to not fall in.

⑧ Sun ignites & light "things" escape ~~probably~~ & get blown away

ENRICHMENT for inside of Solar System

ACCRETION

① center of Earth "melts" as accretion increments

② ∴ Earth can trap lighter elements as Earth cools

- H<sub>2</sub>O, H<sub>2</sub>, ...

③ CRUST ACCRETION

④ Vaporization of outer surface  $\cong 4.4 - 3.9 \times 10^9$  years

- trying to estimate when last major impacts occurred ...

based on impacts (1/2 life) on Dark Side of moon

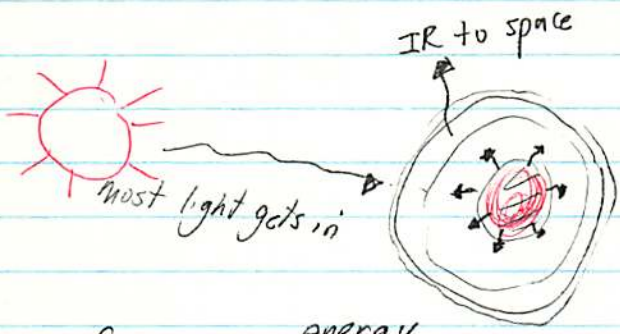
### Primitive Atmosphere

- ① Prior to 2 bya no free O<sub>2</sub> in atmosphere
- ② Unclear how reducing atmosphere was

Gunsite cherts ... section through O<sub>2</sub>/H<sub>2</sub> interface

- high U<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> } would only occur  
 - PbS } w/o free O<sub>2</sub>

③ likely H<sub>2</sub>O, CO<sub>2</sub>, N<sub>2</sub> & some CH<sub>4</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>S, NH<sub>3</sub> outgassing



- atmosphere v. turbulent
- high volcanism
- high meteorite impacts
- wakes create energy



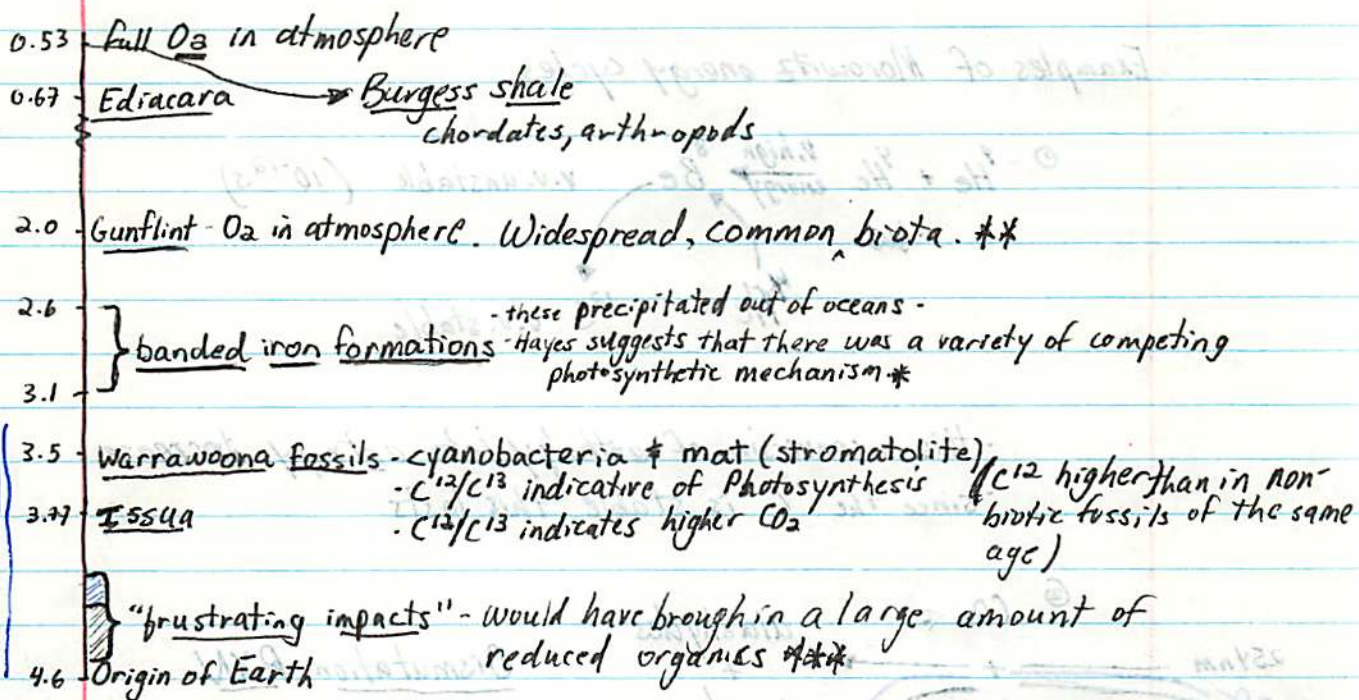
④ cycles of material due to <sup>energy</sup> flows  
 - input = earth + sun's heat (IR & UV)  
 output = IR

273

⑤ order increases w/ input of energy

⑥ EXACT INTERACTIONS are v. dependent on T<sup>0</sup>

- TAS
- activation energies (too high T<sup>0</sup> = not stable)  
(too low T<sup>0</sup> = no change)
- 20°C (253K) - 4-500K  
(Urey sugg. this due to low amt of halogens in oceans)



Issua - oldest known sedimentary rocks

- contains what some people claim to be microfossils
- $C^{13}/C^{12}$  suggest life

- \* one mechanism plucks off  $e^-$  from ferrous sulfate
- such an organism has been found in Dead Sea

- \*\* Gunflint
- moss
- no evidence for Eucaryotes



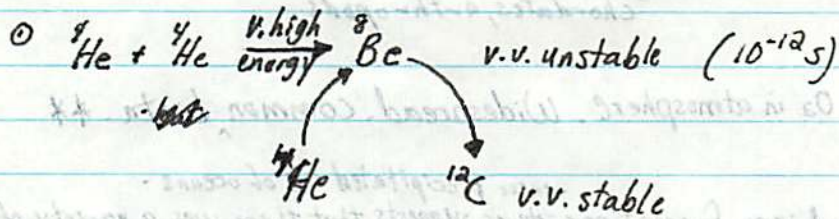
Eosphaera  
- maybe precursor to Eucaryote



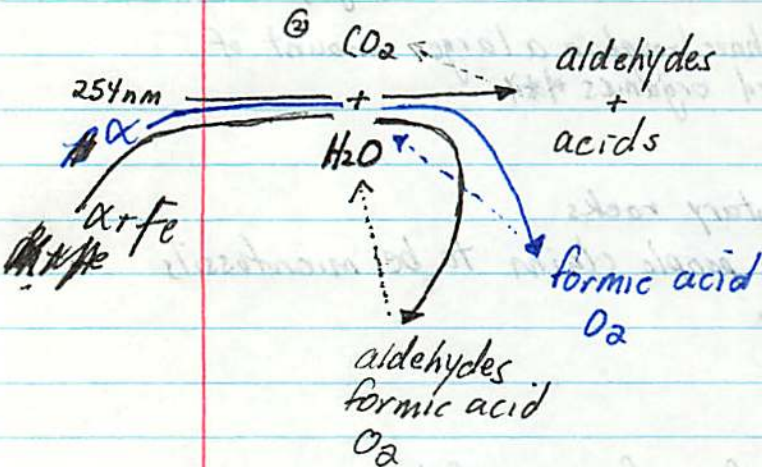
Kakabekia  
- also in Buck Creek in Australia  
- found to exist currently  
likes 2-3% oxygen  
- and  $CH_4$  ...

- \*\*\* - Carbonaceous chondrite meteorites
- contains a.a., bases, fatty acids...
- ∴ may have contributed to "life chemicals"

## Examples of Morowitz energy cycles



- this is conversion of enthalpy into entropy decrease.
- since the  $^{12}\text{C}$  is stable, this lasts



### Dismutation RXN

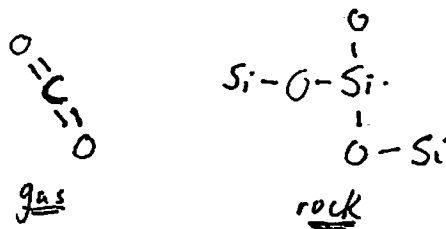
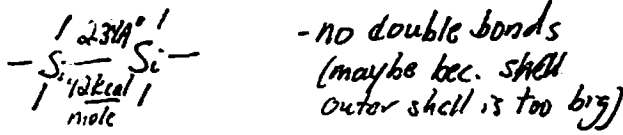
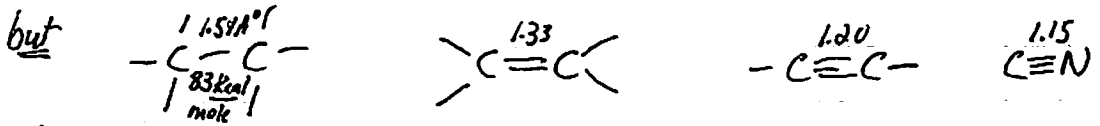
- products more reduced & oxidized than precursors

- input of energy leads to decrease entropy (incr. order)
- rate of decay back to  $\text{CO}_2$  &  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  is v.v.v.v. slow

**FITNESS OF THE ENVIRONMENT** - certain chemicals are more stable than others.  $\therefore$  last longer.

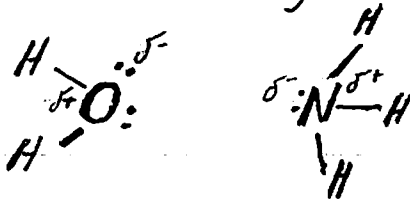
### SILICON

C 4 valence e<sup>-</sup> chains  
 Si 4 valence e<sup>-</sup> chains



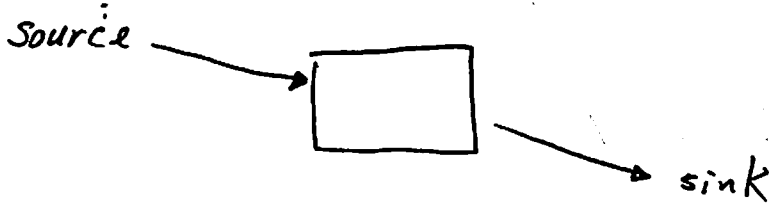
- ∴ w/o double bonds Silicon compounds can't ~~exp~~ photosynthesize
- ∴ SO<sub>2</sub> not soluble
- not gas
- ∴ hard to move building blocks

### H<sub>2</sub>O (would NH<sub>3</sub> work)



- |   |                               |
|---|-------------------------------|
| -v. mild reagent                                    | aggressive base - v. reactive |
| -liquid at 100-0°C                                  | -liquid at -33 to -78°C       |
| ∴ reactions faster                                  | -ice sinks                    |
| -ice floats which<br>means freeze from<br>top down. |                               |
| ∴ self insulating from cooling from above.          |                               |

Branewski : stratified stability



- If there is a large # of microstates and if these are randomly distributed, and if some microstates (rare one) are more stable... then can get fixed macrostates.

e.g.

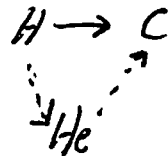


{ — Kinetically stable

— also kinetically stable

energy

- cannot go directly from need intermediates which are stable



∴ stratified stability : can "climb" up ladder against entropy grade as long as stable intermediates

## Life

most common elements in life: H C N O P S

" " " " " universe: H He ... not the same

	H	C	N	O	P	S
valence e <sup>-</sup>	1	4	3	2	3	2

- all form covalent bonds

## Original atmosphere

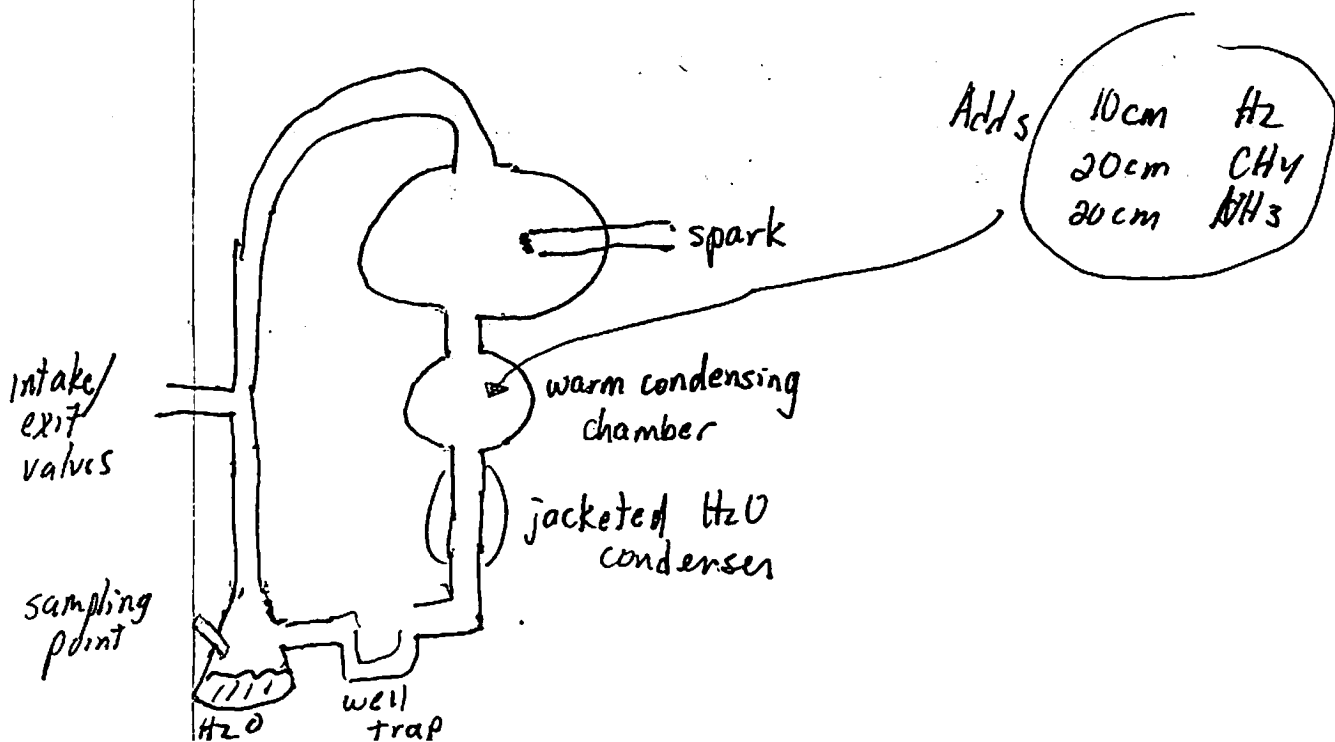
Much: H<sub>2</sub>O, CO<sub>2</sub>, CO, N<sub>2</sub>

Some: H<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub>, NH<sub>3</sub>

## Miller & Urey

① Primitive conditions

② high electrical activity

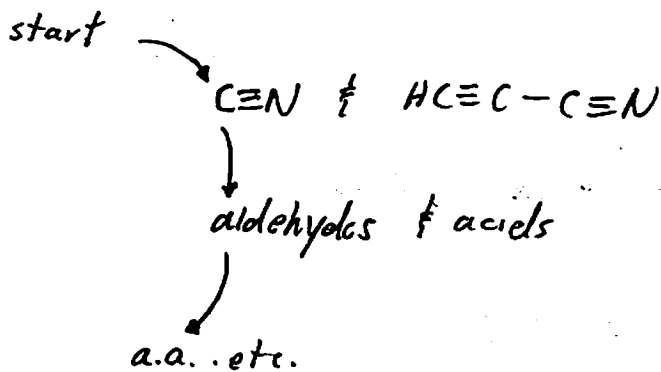




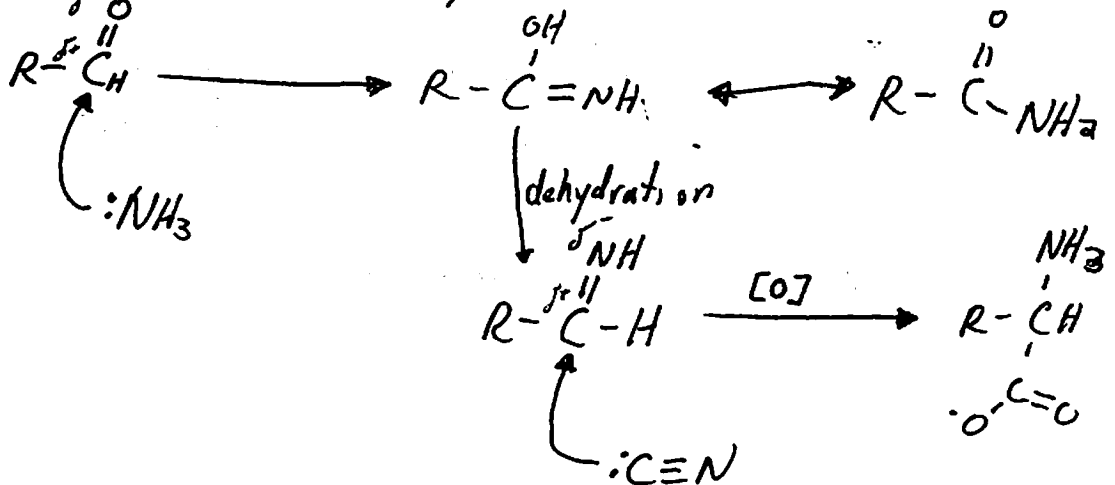
# Miller & Urey

Runs system for 1 week

C : 2.1% glycine  
1.7% D,L alanine  
0.3% sarcosine  
 $\alpha$ -NH<sub>2</sub> butyric --- formic acid --- propionic acid --- aldehydes  
cyanide  
cyanodiacetylene  $\text{HC}\equiv\text{C}-\text{C}\equiv\text{N}$



## a.a synthesis (Strecker synthesis)

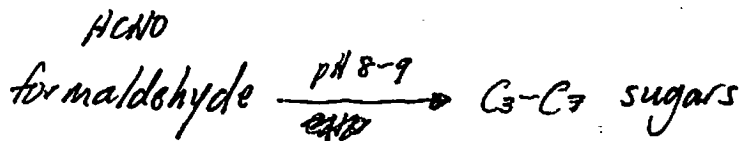
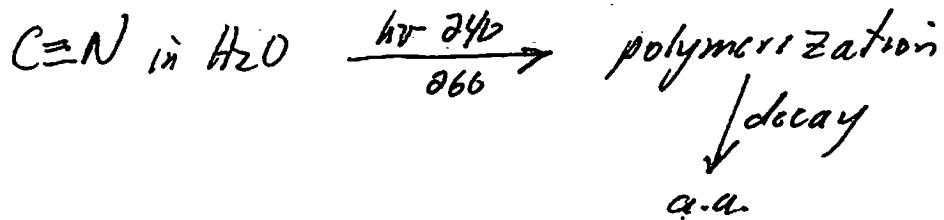


## PROBLEMS

⊙ not like primitive earth  
- but even if Δ chemicals -- as long as non-oxidizing  
the ~~conditions are the~~ results are similar

## New Ideas

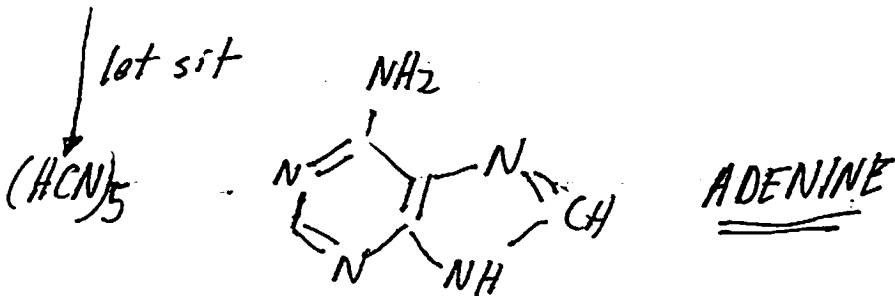
Abelson suggested that pH of atmosphere was ~ 8-9



ORO & KIMBEL

## CYANIDE & CYANOACETYLENE

HCN (1-15M 27-80°C)



but 1-15M HCN is unlikely

LESLIE ORGEL - how can we do w/o [high] HCN or lightning

- assumed earth was tilted ∴ seasons ∴ freeze/thaw

① dilute HCN

↓ freeze out H<sub>2</sub>O

concentrated HCN

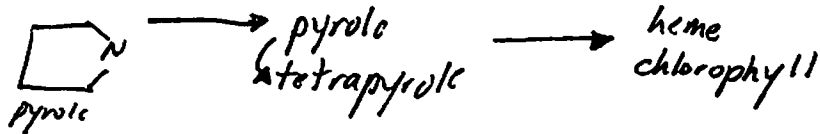
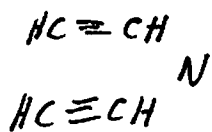
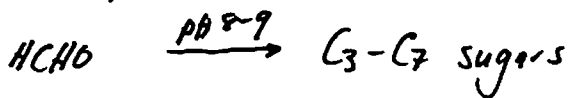
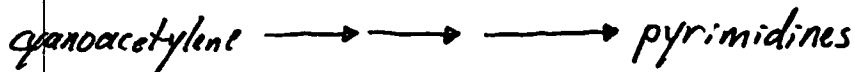
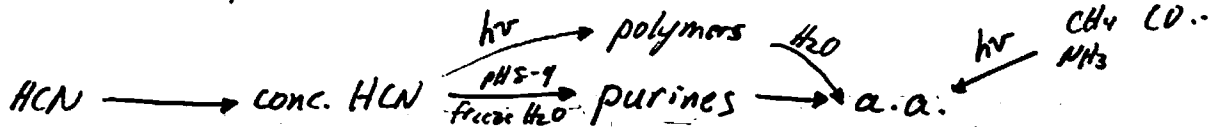
see Sanchez et al JMB 30:223 for mechanism

→ Adenine 30-40% + Guanine

+ many intermediates in contemporary synthesis

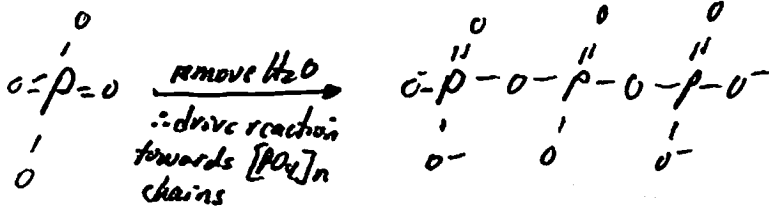
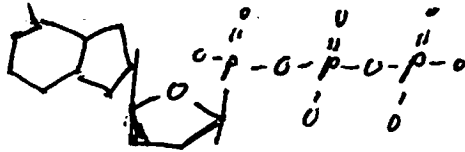
② cyanoacetylene → → → pyrimidines (much harder)

SUMMARY



# High Energy Compounds

ATP



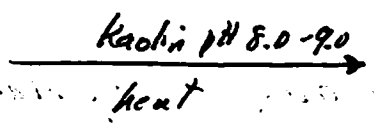
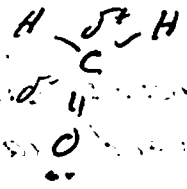
polyphosphates can spontaneously react w/ things to form phosphates.

- $\therefore$  wind energy (evaporation) is converted to chem. energy
- many prokaryotes use PP as energy storage

### Clays w/ molecular charge separations

e.g. Kaolin in dilute base (pH 8-9) + heat + 100M Formaldehyde

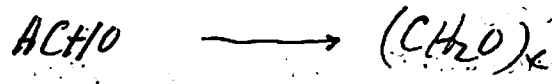
### Ka Formaldehyde



Carbohydrates

Aldehydes line up due to electrostatic attraction

① mutual condensation



∴ oligomerization could occur pre-abiotic conditions

### Why need Macromolecules?

- ① information storage
- ② stability
- ③ compartmentalization
- ④ consistency

### Why from monomers

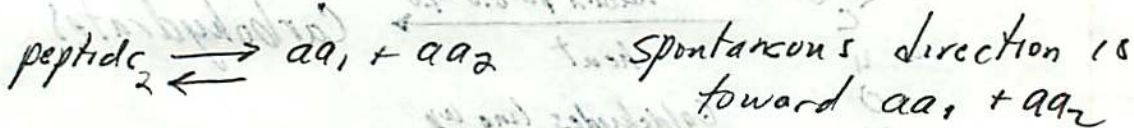
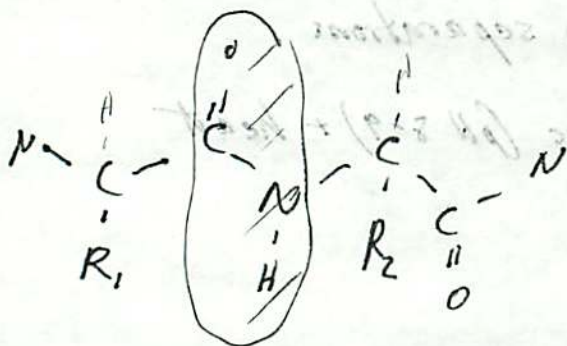
- ① historical

### How make large macromolecules

- ① source of monomers
- ② orientation, proximity
- ③ target bond distortion

$\xrightarrow{\text{high } [T]}$   
 $\xrightarrow{\text{specificity of binding}}$

peptide bond



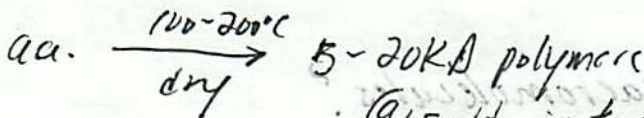
How get the RXN to go in other way

Ⓒ remove reactants

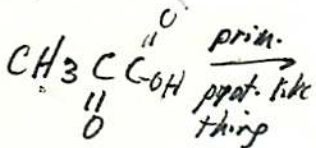
e.g: Fox's hot rocks

- a zone of a volcanic vent where  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  is boiling off ... maybe this would help polymerize

a.g.



- Ⓐ salt in & out
- Ⓑ soluble in  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  } is like proteins
- Ⓒ UV & IR like proteins
- Ⓓ mixed  $\alpha$  & other linkages



- saturation much like enzymes.

### Methods of "driving" rxn to polymerization

① a.a. + a.a.  $\rightarrow$  prot +  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$   $\rightarrow$  remove

② orient molecules

- clays have  $\text{@v. large SA}$   
 @ large charge separation potential

- Kaolinite:  $\text{Al}_2(\text{OH})_6\text{Si}_2\text{O}_5$

- Montmorillonite:  $\text{Al}_2\text{Mg}(\text{OH})_2\text{Si}_4\text{O}_{10}\text{Na}_2 \cdot \text{Ca} \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$ , ...

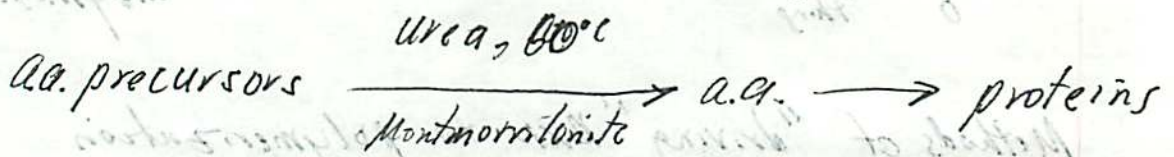


Multiple levels of repeating, finely divided structures with charge separation.

see Degons & Matheja

Degons & Matheja	Montmorillonite		Kaolinite		#1 pep
	50°C 7 days	80°C 7 days	50°C 7 days	80°C 7 days	
	free	polym	free	polym	
Asp	93.7	3.3	3.1	96.9	
Ser	86.9	-	9.8	1.6	
Glu	3.6	93.4	1.2	98.9	
Pro	10.1	-	10.3	-	
Gly	99.6	3.8	99.4	0.6	
Ala	99.1	2.1	89.3	15.0	
Val	-	-	-	-	
Phe	-	1.3	-	1.0	
Lys	-	-	-	-	#1 peptide
His	-	-	-	-	Leu, Asp, Glu, Ala, Phe

If add urea to Montmorillonite + a.a. precursors  
you get



- possible that this was stereospecific

## STEREOSPECIFICITY

① needed so that macromolecules have specific structure  
& helix ... held together by H bonds

②  $\alpha$  helix containing proteins are more stable  
 $\therefore$  chemical selection

③ why L vs D.



## Stereochemistry

- ① How do macromolecules become stereospecific? - stability
- ② Why D sugars and L amino acids?
  - ① Prevailing light polarization leading to differential formation/destruction
  - ② Differential decay
  - ③ Stereospecific adsorption see Bondy & Harrington

## ④ Biological racemization

~~organisms can convert L-to-R~~  
- organisms can convert L-to-R

## Prokaryotes

- haploid simple circle
- predominantly clonal reproduction
- Periodic Selection
  - in chemostat one clone takes over ... thus "neutral" genes may be fixed because they are on the clone
  - analogous to hitchhiking

⑤ Periodic selection -- an L specialist gets 1st big advantage.  
like Simpson adaptive zone -- if you're first then you're best

## Like in Math

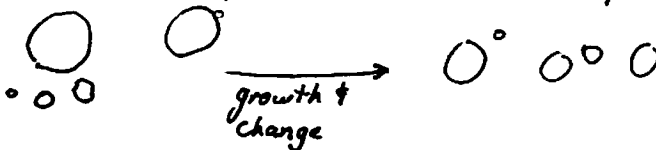
- ① prove possibility
- ② then work on uniqueness

## Polymerization

- ① Pre-proteins
- ② Pre-nucleosides

## Self partitioning

- ① Current Proteobacteria membranes are only 25% lipid
- ① Proteanoid microspheres -- from Fox's studies



- like crystallization

Self-partitioning, cont.

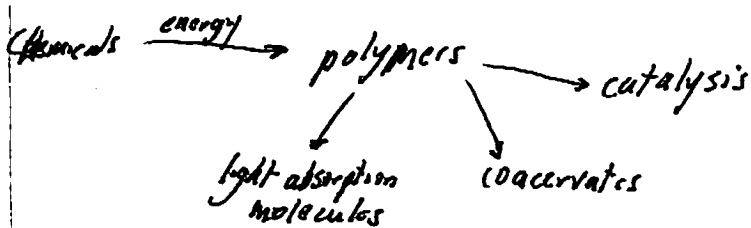
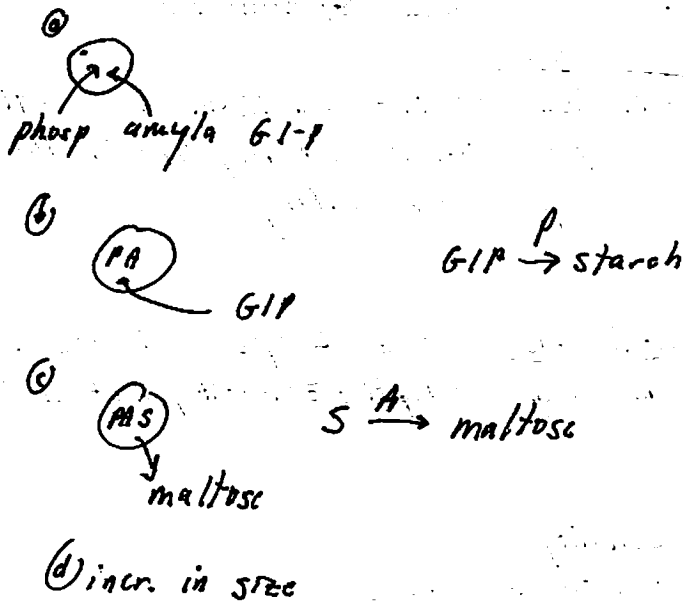
- Coacervate formation

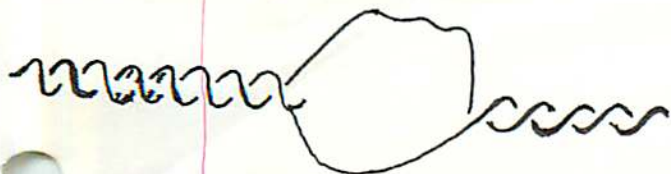
- almost any macromolecules with polarity in H<sub>2</sub>O can spontaneously form partitioned bodies.

- Opabin

- can make stable coacervates from RNA & lysine; from many things  
" " " " " " gum arabic & albumin

- ① took gum arabic/albumin coacervates
- ② added purified enzymes & got taken up  
phosphorylase + G-1-P + amylase





Information Transmission & Coupling to Energy needed for transmission

See Quasler -- the emergence of biological organization

# Biochemical Evolution

How does information storage and "function" become linked?

Why are proteins good catalysts?

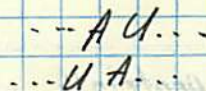
- ① shape, stereospecificity - flexible and stable
- ② diverse properties of 20 a.a.
  - polarity
  - charge
  - shape
  - diversity of potential catalytic groups
- ③ switch catalytic properties on/off

Why not good for information?

- ① once information is there its hard to get out
- ② there are no forced symmetries.

Why nucleic acids good?

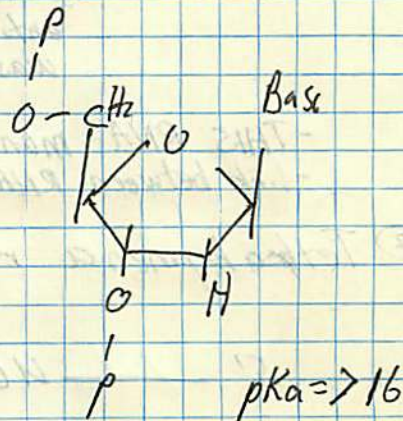
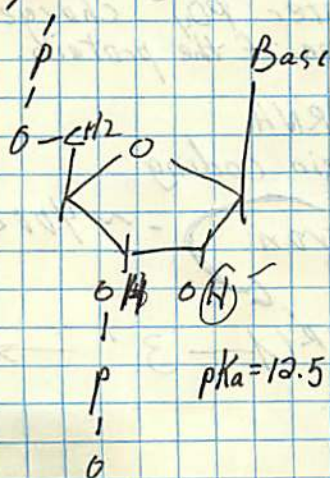
- ① self-complementary
- ② more H bonds possible



H bond  $\Delta G = -1 \text{ kcal/mole}$

$\therefore$  small oligomers in solution will "favor" by energy... the associations of their compliments.  $\therefore$  all you need is the ability to polymerize.

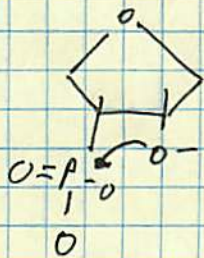
NB. DNA vs RNA  
① OH group



## RNA vs DNA

$pK_a < pK_a$

∴ RNA has more  $O^-$  ions



→ - self cyclizing  
- chain degradation

- DNA is most likely post-biotic

### NB - Attenuation

- RNA was folding up into alternative conformations

### RNA Catalysis

#### ① RNAse P - S. Altman

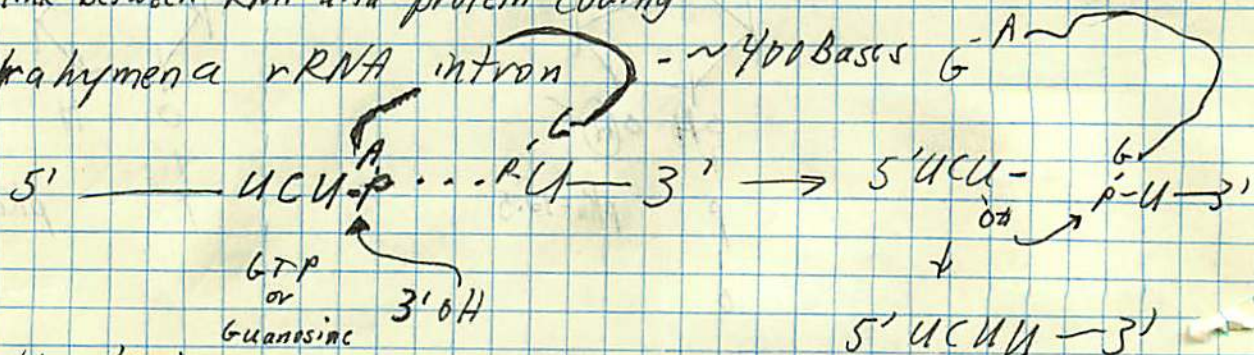
- v. hard to purify as "a protein"
- couldn't remove "RNA" ~~contamination~~ contamination.
- when they did... protein lost catalytic activity

↓ then RNA was shown to be catalytic part in the presence of high  $Mg^{++}$

- the divalent cations allow close association of RNA entities to counter  $PO_4^-$  charge repulsion. This was the function of the protein.

- THIS RNA manipulates tRNA
- link between RNA and protein coding

#### ② Tetrahymena rRNA intron - ~400 Bases



Resembles tRNA

synthesis  
③ telomeres, involves catalytic RNA

### The RNA world

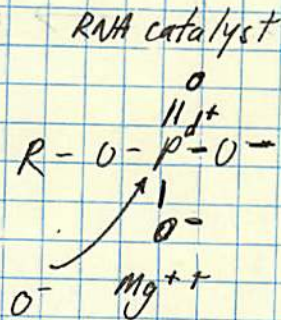
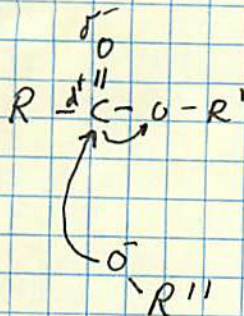
- RNA catalyst
- RNA stabilized by 2° structure

NB... many cases of symmetries & palindromes involved in control regions.

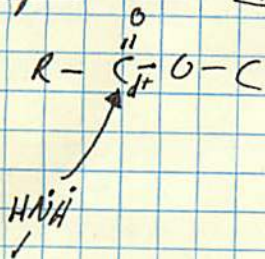
### Problems

- ① information assignment
- ② alignment of a.a. clays or coacervates
- ③ compartmentalization
- ④ peptide bond formation

Nucleophilic <sup>esterification</sup> ~~phosphorylation~~ is v. similar to peptide bond formation.



### peptide bond formation



-what catalyzes this bond...  
seems to be a property of the rRNA itself.

How does the information system originate?

- see
- ① Goldberg + Willis
  - ② Crick
  - ③ L. Orgel
  - ④ Weber & Lacy
  - ⑤ Junk

Problems with information system:

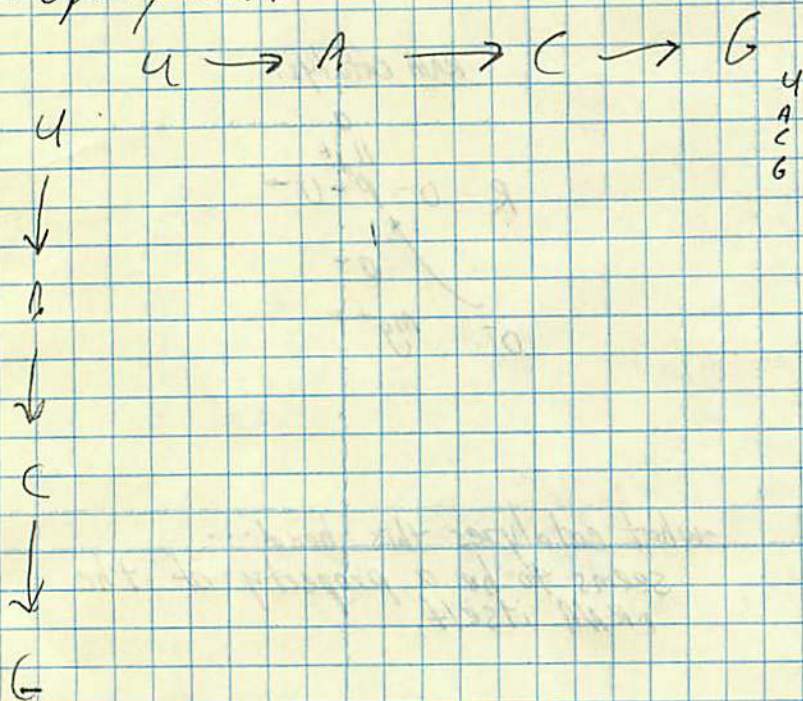
① Why is the code universal?  
- only exceptions in organelles (apparently post-biotic)

② hitchhiking?

③ If code is universal why are some potentially non-pre-biotic a.a. part of code?

④ How specify 3 nucleotides at a time?

How specify code?



① degenerately grouped

② 3rd position most degenerate

③ those with "two" codes → always

X Y purine

X Y pyrimidine

④ those with 4 codes

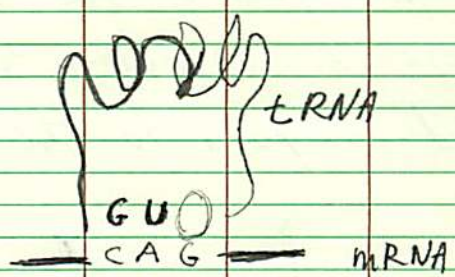
X Y N = one block

⑤ But don't seek at information of storage unit but of message unit.

# Origin of a.a. Codons

	U	C	G	A
U	Phe " *? " *? " *?	Ser " " " ?	Cys " *? Trp / STOP " *?	Tyr STOP " His " Gln " *?
C	" *? " *? " *? " *?	Pro " ? " ? " ?	Arg " " " *?	" *? " *? " *? " *?
G	Val " *? " *? " *?	Ala " " " ?	Gly " *? " *? " *?	Asp " *? Glu " *? " *?
A	Leu " *? " *? met	Thr " ? " ? " ?	Ser " *? " *? Arg	Asn " Lys "

DNA AGCT  
mRNA UCGA  
tRNA AGCU



① the third position can "wobble"  
so don't need as many tRNAs  
as codons

Crick argued that the code was a frozen accident. Once code was partially established the only ones that could invade would have to be similar

Goldberg & Wirths suggest that this minimizes effects of mutations.

- ① non-polar all together
- ② polar all together

∴ changes in 3<sup>rd</sup> position has no effect in fourfold degenerate and transitions at 3<sup>rd</sup> have no effect on twofold degenerate.

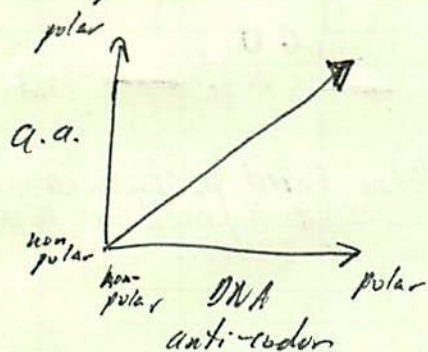
CANNOT DO ANY BETTER



- If you examine the codons according to what the bases are in DNA or tRNA.

- Polarity of DNA bases  $A < G < C < T$

If you take the first two nucleotides of the DNA part of the codon and arrange these 16 according to hydrophobicity/philicity and compare to the a.a. the code for.



This may be a footprint or relic of coacervations.

Questions

① Can you bias the formation of small peptides by adding oligonucleotides?

Lacy-unpublished - Yes -- thus in open solution anticodons may associate with their a.a.

② Is it possible to bend tRNAs so that they would work w/ 2 bases? - may be that 2 bases is too small to get efficient bond, so that multiple tRNAs can fit.

③ why 1<sup>st</sup> two not last two?

### J. Wong

- continued on ideas of Crick about "invasion" of code.

① Identified GROUP 1 a.a. which he considers pre-brutic (see \* on chart)

- notes - many post translational modification occurs in current systems

- ~~many~~ - current a.s. synthesis systems are relics of post-translational modifications in past.

- THUS STRUCTURALLY RELATED A.A. WOULD BE GROUPED.

- selected bacteria to replace Trp w/ 4-Fluoro-Tryptophan to see if "invasion" could occur.

### Molecular Fossils

① JKW Shephard

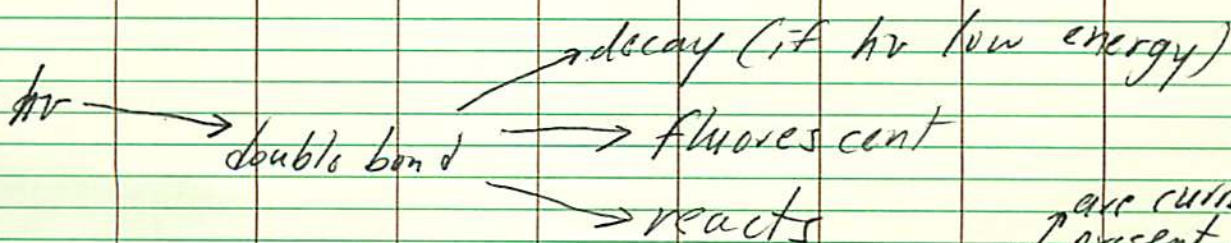
- suggests that there is evidence

RNY mRNA } statistical bias for codons  
YNR DNA } of this form.

U. Texas

② Buch et al: suggestion that in contemporary tRNA & rRNA sequences have substrings on 9, 11, ... nucleotides

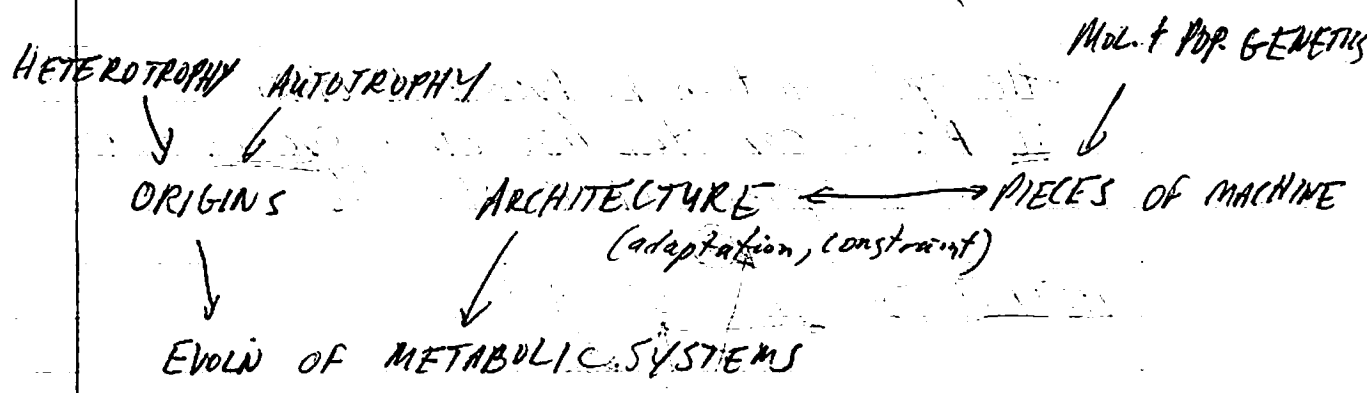
Assumption that 1st protobionts were heterotrophic.  
1st protobiont may have been ~~chemo~~<sup>photo</sup>synthetic.



Thus light could lead to proton gradients which <sup>are currently present in all</sup> energy generation

# Evolution of Metabolic Systems

see Horowitz *Evolving Genes & Proteins*  
Eigen & Schuster  
Hochachka & Somero  
Watt *Am Nat* 127:629



## Horowitz ('65)

- proposed notion that metabolic pathways evolved backwards

- e.g.

① Adenine in primitive soup

② use it all up

③ those that "advance" will be able to make adenine from something else

ⓐⓑⓓⓔⓕ

ⓑ → ⓐ

- if this is how metabolism originated then there has been a lot of condensing of RXN's pathways, because

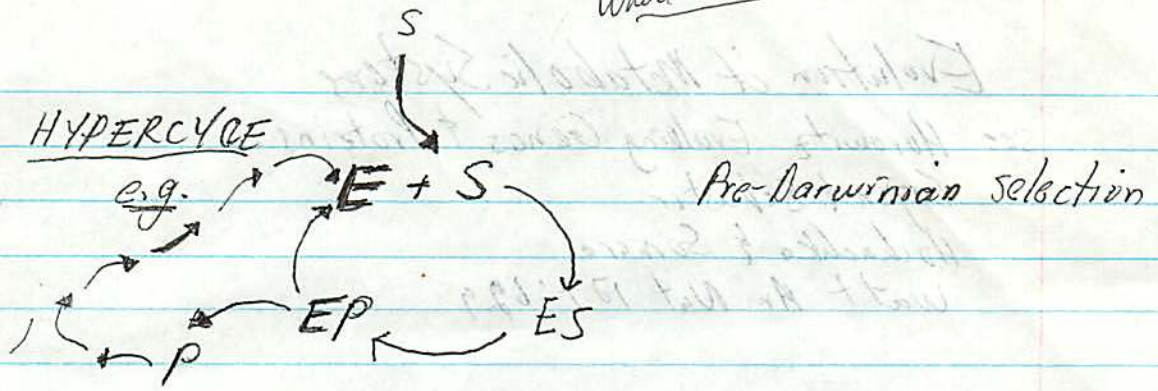
## Eigen & Schuster ('77 & '78) Springer-Verlag

### -HYPERCYCLE

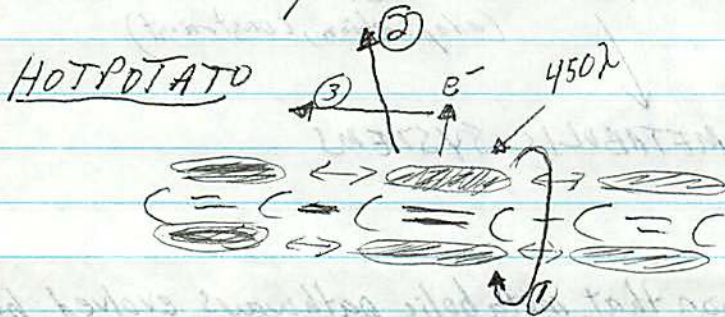
① more stable molecules would be more common in "SOUP"

② if a cycle makes part of "ITSELF" it will increase in representation in soup.

When are relics?



- this cycle can then be hooked to others  
 - if P or E can stabilize other cycles then these cycles will co-stabilize



- will pick up blue/green light  
 -  $e^-$  gets excited  $\rightarrow$  leads to 3 possibilities

- ① decays into translations/rotations of surrounding bonds
- ② fluoresce out (usu. at longer wavelengths)
- ③ chemical RXN

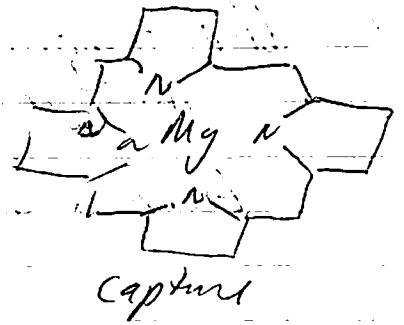
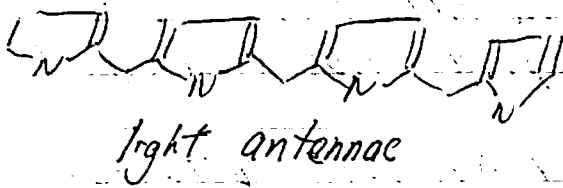
e.g. melanin

more likely w/ lower  $\lambda$  of hv.

ANY photochemical that generates a high energy electron will be stabilized if it can pass of the  $e^-$  to another molecule.

How do you test these theories?

① examine diversity of photosynthesis

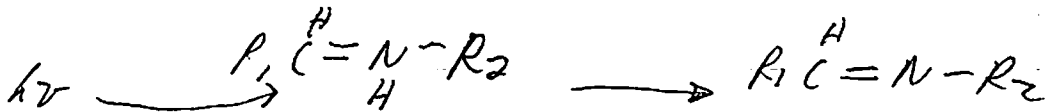
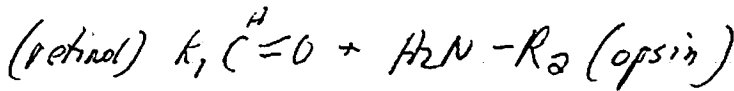


- but also have Carotenoids

- Halobacterium - facultative photosynthesis



- bound to small protein (bacterioopsin) through aldehyde via Schiff's base



- proton pump  
- makes ATP

H<sup>+</sup>

- THIS IS

① simple photosynthetic machinery  
② membrane is mostly protein

Stockinhus  
et al BBA  
505:217



## Innovations

- how do you change roots of systems
- how do you change quantitative processing

Hochachka  
&  
Somero

Understanding Metabolic Architecture  
must include reproductive success of system.

Enormous diversity of metabolic systems.



group group -  
ATP  
- This is  
Oxygen phosphorylation  
in metabolic pathway

Force balances can limit flow:

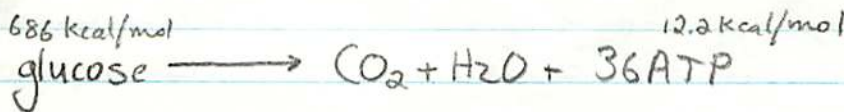
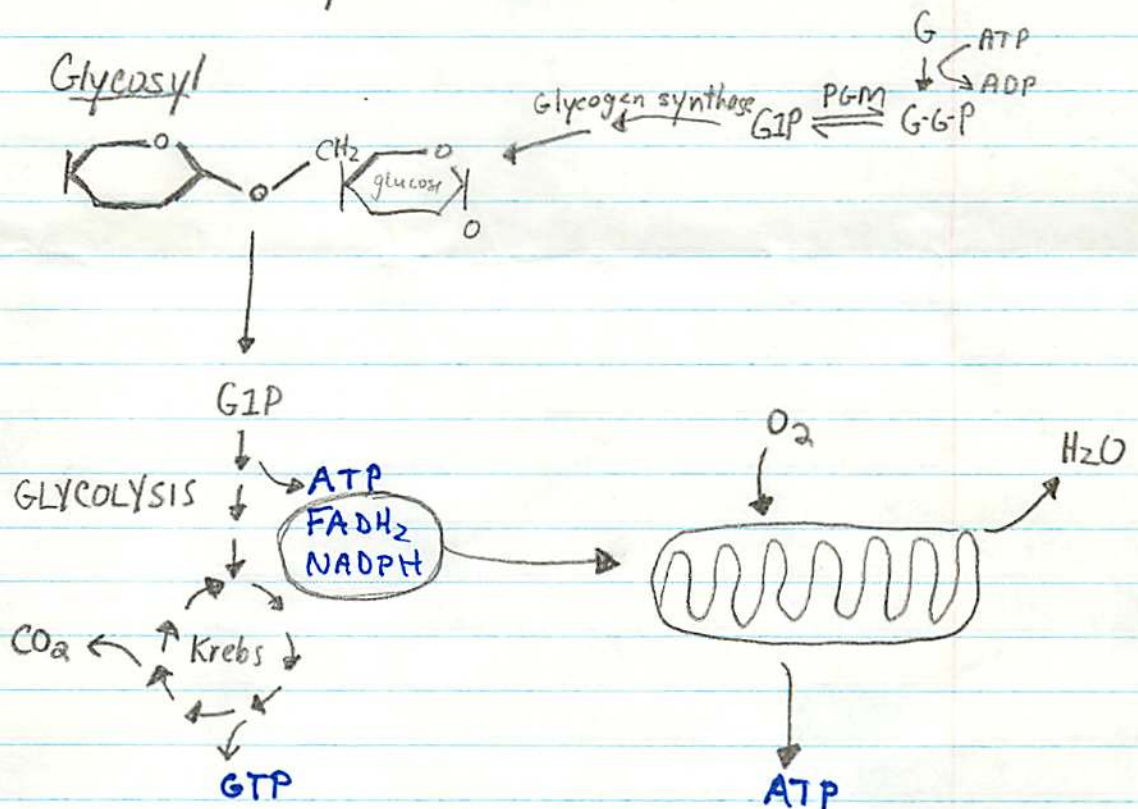
$$\text{efficiency} = \eta = \frac{-J_0 X_0}{J_I X_I}$$

$$\therefore J_0 \text{ is } \frac{J_I X_I \eta}{X_0} = J_I \eta \cdot \frac{X_I}{X_0} \quad (\text{Boundary Condition})$$

Evolution of alternate pathways

① why choose another

- can use carbohydrate metabolism



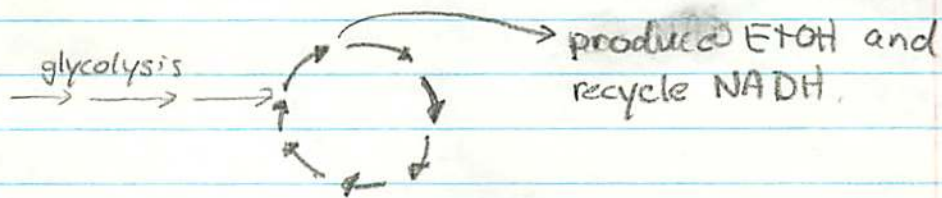
$$\frac{12.2 \cdot 36}{686} \approx 67\% = \text{v.v. high yield}$$

But rate can be very high in non-equilibrium

## Alternatives to glycolysis

### ① Fermentation

① no  $O_2$  present -  $\therefore$  mitochondria can't oxidate NADH



② much less efficient 2 vs. 36 ATP  
- but if carbs are limiting then  $O_2$  doesn't disappear.

### ② Lactate ■ shunt

① pyruvate  $\rightarrow$

② NADH recycled immediately in production of lactic acid with LDH.

③ but Heart & Brain never go anoxic

- different  $K_m$  for LDH than muscle LDH

- soak up lactate from blood & get rest of ATP's

### ③ Chronic anoxia organisms

- e.g. - bivalves which shut up to avoid sun

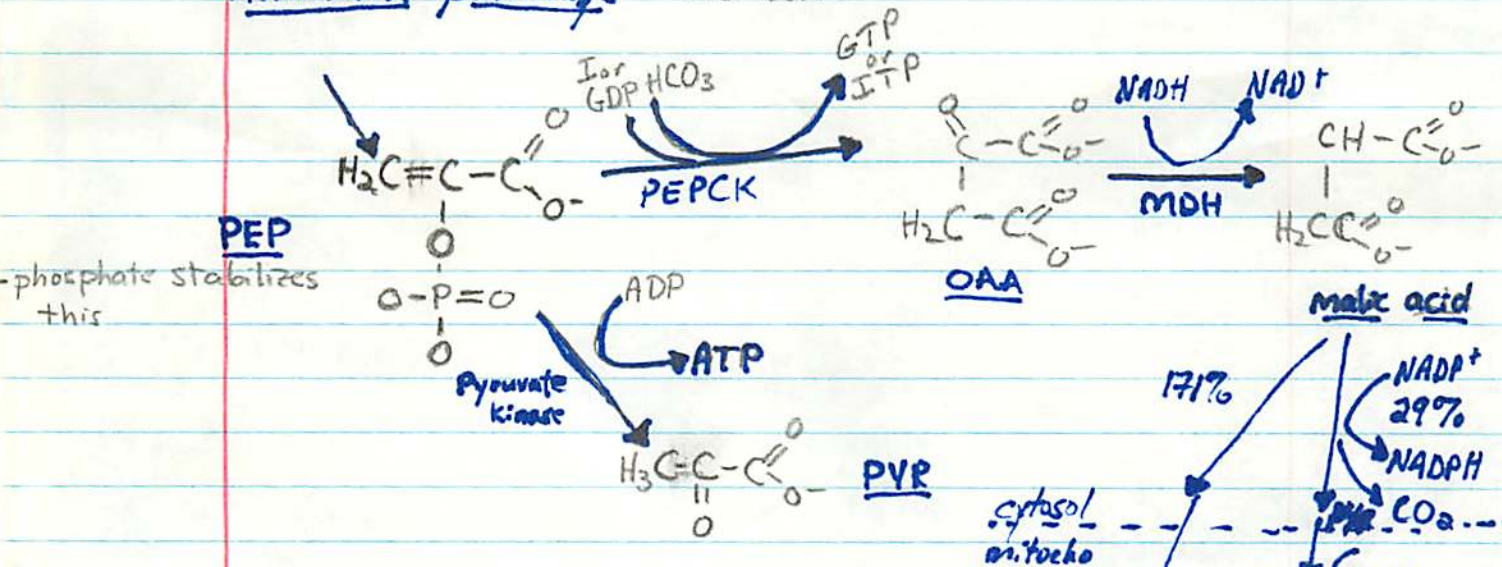
- less  $O_2$   $\Rightarrow$  decr. metabolism

- send pyruvate into alternative pathways

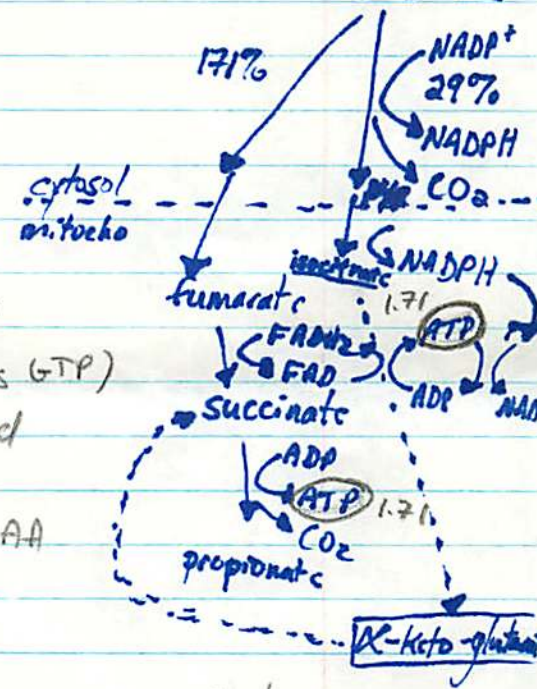
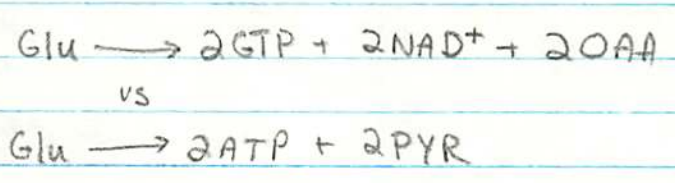


evolution of complex machinery

Alternative pathways - info about



- ① PEPCK → OAA → malic acid
- yield is about the same (ATP vs GTP)
- but C-4 not C-3 compound



- cytosolic & mitochondrial MDH's

∴ 6.42 ATP/glucose instead of 3

- α-Keto-glutarate: takeoff point for many synthesis

- to link up Kreb's cycle all you need to do is to link α-keto to succinate w/ acetyl.co.A

Why two?

① suggested that (by Vogel)

④ original - no lysine (group I)

- this does not  
match phylogeny



DAP (group II)

→ no lysine (group III)

↓  
AAA

② Norm Wooden (in Clarkia)

- separate isozyme in nucleus & chloroplast

- plastid isozymes were more similar to each other and to prokaryotes than to those of the cytosol.

- plastids ran their own glycolysis

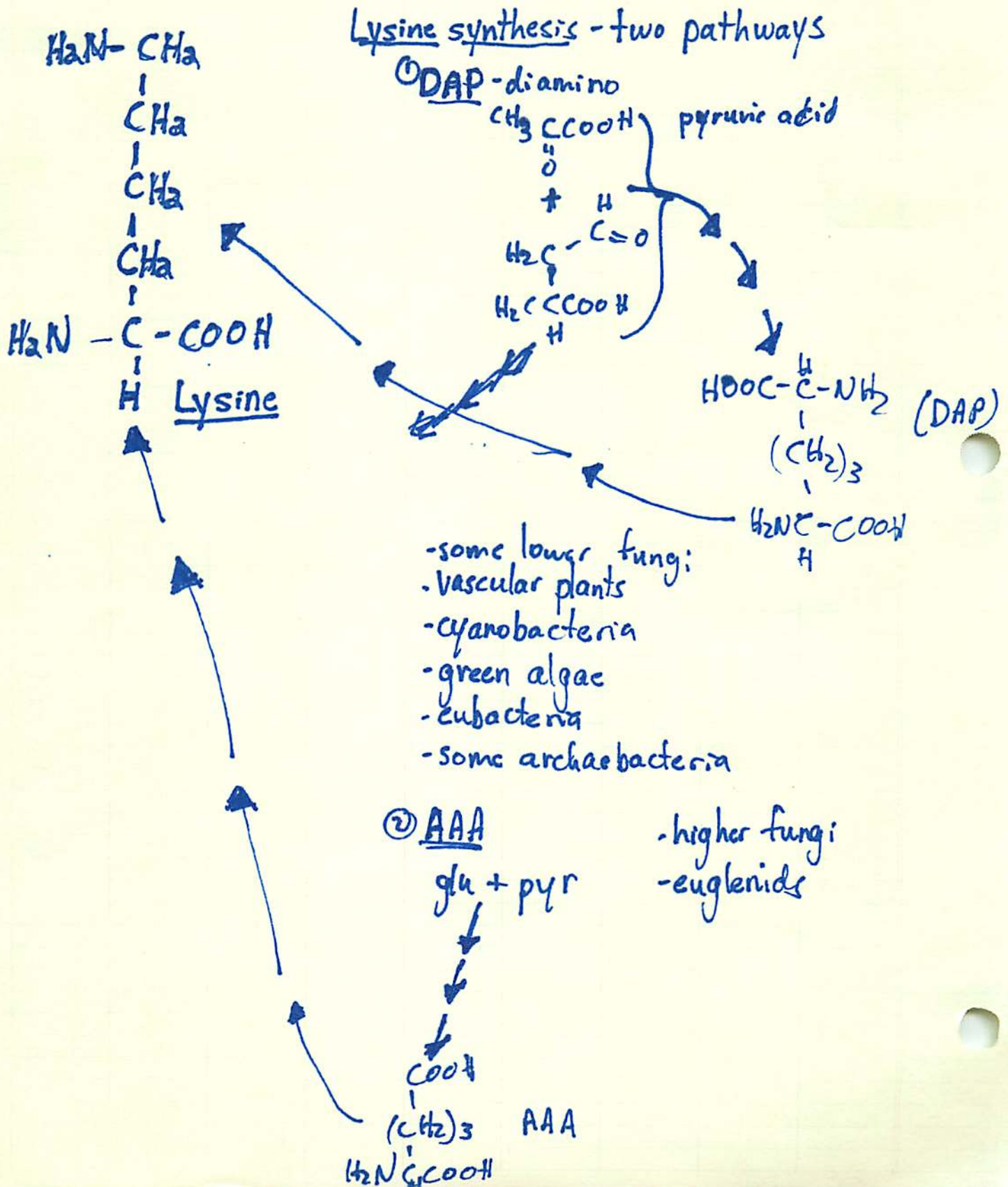
- the CYTOSOL was (x)ally an animal

- euglenids ....

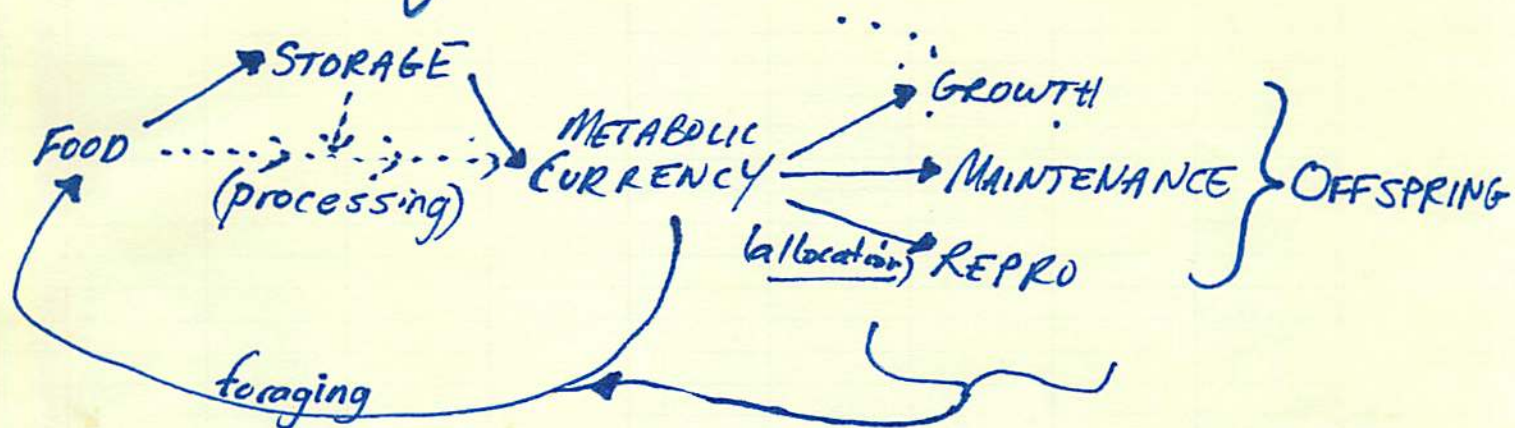
thus this makes lysine synthesis match phylogeny.

# Metabolic Network Theory

-note: choice of metabolic pathway is dependent of thermodynamic parameters which can be played with



# Metabolic Organization



- Separation of processing & allocation allows better connection of adaptation to fitness.

- but until Watt '86 this was not expressed explicitly in terms of applying adaptive differences to fitness.

Adaptation  $\rightarrow$  Fitness (Indices of fitness)

① Characters "VISIBLE" to selection

$$K_{eq} = e^{-(\Delta G/RT)}$$

$$\text{Efficiency} = \frac{\text{output}}{\text{input}} = \frac{n_0 \Delta G_0}{\Delta G_{II}}$$

$\Delta G_{II}$  = free energy in input compound  
 $\Delta G_0$  = same for output

- but in equilibrium models cannot get a measure of power because no rate.

- can use % completion of RXN as correlate of power

$$\% \text{ completion} = \frac{K_{eq}}{K_{eq} + 1}$$

THERE IS A MAX YIELD

# Biochemical Evolution

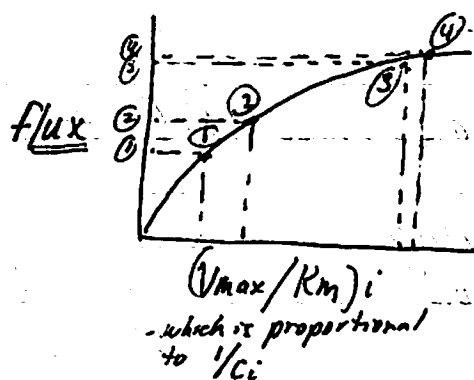
Hartl & Dykhuizen 1985

- steady state metabolism (rates constant, concentrations constant)

Transient conditions  
- have to try  
to get response  
time down to  
zero

-  $\sum C_i = 1.0$  (normalized)  
- suppose  $\sum C_{PFK} = 0.87$  then all others have small contribution.

Thus the power of selection on the other steps is greatly diminished.



- if natural selection favors flux then 2 will be favored over 1.

- but 3 vs 4 not much different

Thus as evolution improves a system over time, genetic variability will be primarily neutral.

## Problems

① assumes an incredibly stable environment

② assumes

① no heterozygote advantage (OK for haploids)

① no dominance effects

① directional selection

How do you evaluate performance? see Watt '85 Am Nat 125:118-43

① Bioenergetics

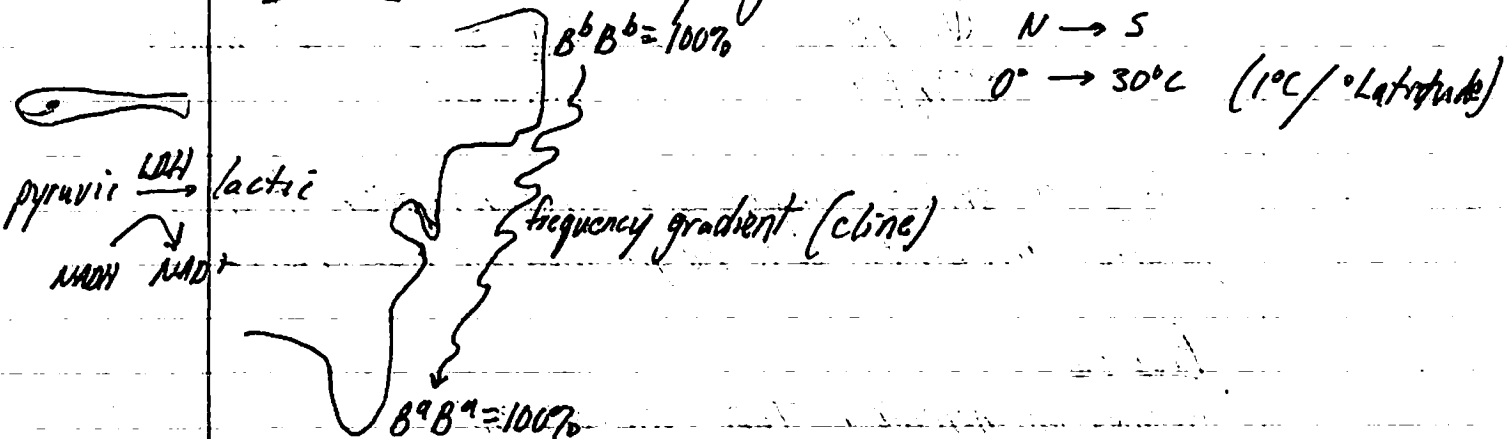
- won't always apply
- ② state variable regulation
- ③ metabolic processing
- ④ " " allocation

Mytilus - Leucine aminopeptidase (R. Koehn)

- role in osmoregulation
- diff. alleles change environments in which all other enzymes function

Tigropus - copepod transaminase (R. Burton)

Fundulus - Lactate dehydrogenase



LDH-A (muscle)  $\rightarrow$  lactate  
LDH-B (heart)  $\leftarrow$  pyruvate

also has allelic isozymes (isozymes) at LDH-B  
 $B^b, B^a$

## LDH continued

① Tetramer - 5 possible subunit conformations in heterozygote

4a, 3a:1b, 2:a, 1a:3b, 4b

1 1 1 1 1

		bb	ab	ba
k <sub>cat</sub> /K <sub>m</sub>	10°C	5460	4860	2540
"	25°C	6230	6030	5480
"	40°C	5020	6460	6530

-K<sub>m</sub> does not change linearly with T°. ∴ as T° decreases, the k<sub>cat</sub>/K<sub>m</sub> may go up because K<sub>m</sub> isn't linear.

② the heterozygote is closer to the favored genotype at both ranges.

-but ~~don't know~~ <sup>what</sup> ~~about~~ the ecology

③ Does this metabolic system have an organismal level function that could explain polymorphism.

④ blood cells

-fish use ATP (not DP6) to shift Hb curve  
-with higher V<sub>max</sub>/K<sub>m</sub> ... higher ATP levels can be maintained

this effects

⑤ swimming speed

⑥ egg hatch rate

## Note

① multiple genes

② multiple alleles

③ regulatory differences in enzyme levels  $[E]_H = 2[E]_S$   
- THUS structural difference may not be enough

## WATT et al - COLIAS glycolytic enzymes

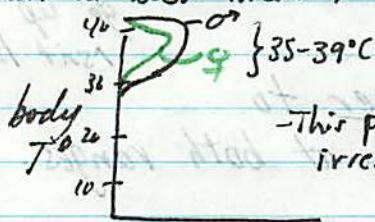
① easy to work on

② highly phenotypically variable

③ Behavioral thermoregulation (many orders)

④ burning flight muscle ATP by shivering (working flight muscles against each other)

⑤ can at best incr.  $T^{\circ}$  4-5 $^{\circ}$ C above ambient



- This pattern is same for all Colias irrespective of air  $T^{\circ}$

flight freq.  
or  
wing beat freq.

④ hasting --



- behavioral

- abs ① change absorption (insolation) } polygenic so

- genetic/developmental ② change thorax insulation

} natural selection can fine tune.

-- This filter still has problems

- high altitude, high wind, low  $T^{\circ}$

- too dark  $\rightarrow$  occasional cooking

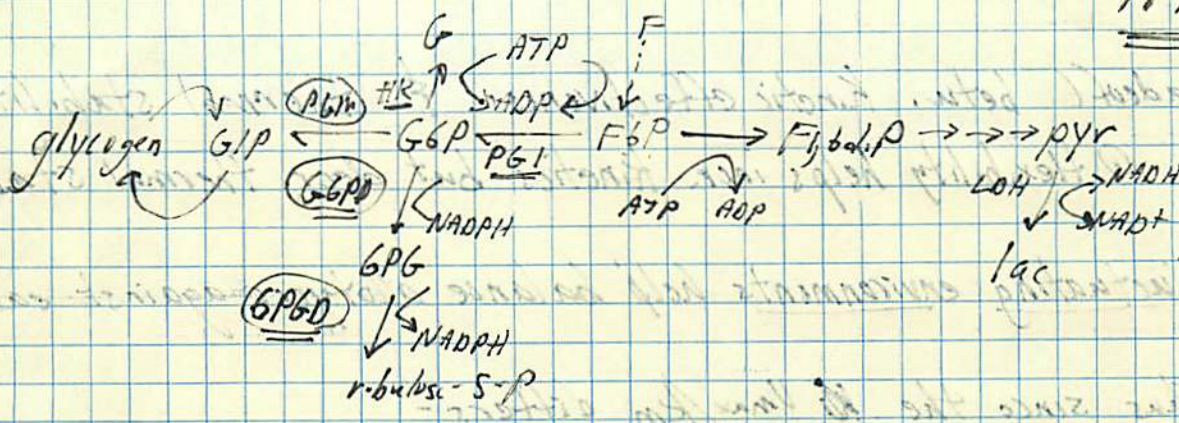
- too light  $\rightarrow$  too cold

FILTER CANNOT ISOLATE FROM ENVIRONMENTAL EXTREMES

ALL FITNESS DEPENDS ON FLIGHT.



11/19/91

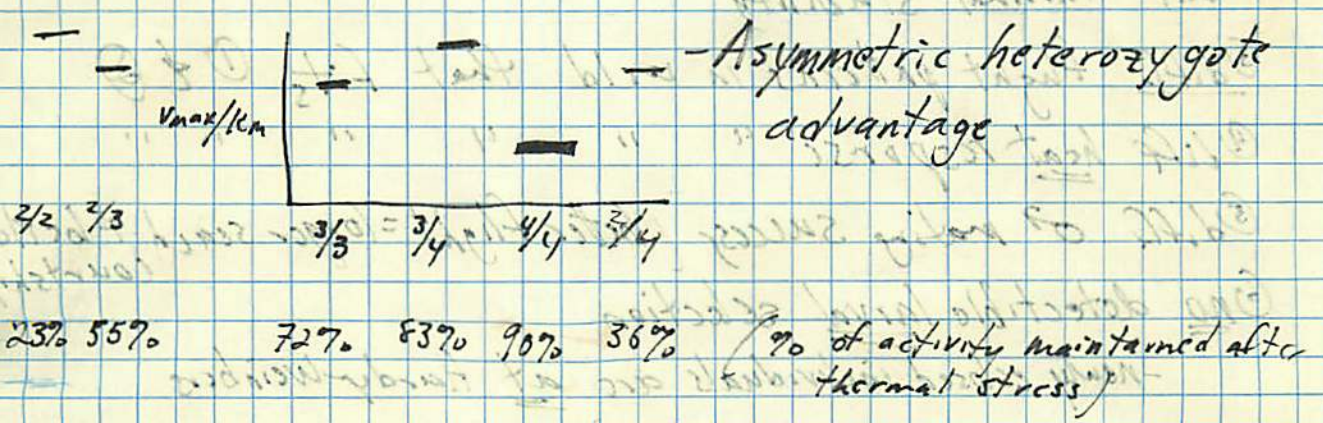


Natural Variation in Wild

- PGI, PGM, G6PD -- all popula both C. erythroae & eriphela have 3<sup>+</sup> alleles of each
- optimum T° = 35-39°C

To minimize effect of non-control steps on ability of control steps to respond to work transiently.

$\frac{v_{max}}{K_m}$  = high in non-control steps



Tradeoff betw. kinetic effectiveness & thermal stability

① flexibility helps incr. kinetics but decr. thermal stability

Fluctuating environments help balance allotypes against each other.

Thus since the  $V_{max}/K_m$  differs -

- should be able to observe flight differences of diff. genotypes

$$3/4 > 3/3 > 4/4$$

1980 - heat spell allowed natural test - more stable

-  $K_m$  is more variable part of  $V_{max}/K_m$

- So ... what are results

① diff  $V_{max}/K_m$

② diff thermal stability

③ diff flight patterns in wild that fits ① & ②

④ diff heat response " " " " " "

⑤ diff  $\rightarrow$  mating success (better flight = longer search & better courtship)

⑥ no detectible larval selection

- newly eclosed individuals are at Hardy-Weinbers

⑦ no differential expression

⑧ diff fecundity

⑨ diff survivorship

So what does this mean?

① no "attempt" to incr. enzyme level

② no optimal homozygote has been produced

③ **MANY CONSTRAINTS**

- Pentose shunt doesn't run in flight muscles

- PGM doesn't run

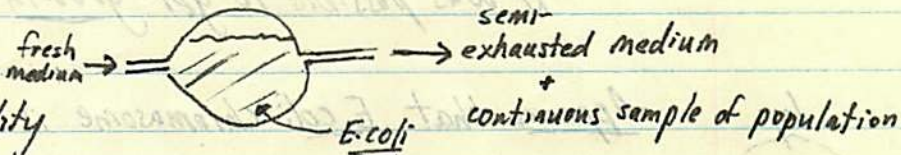
- Male mating success differences in PGM & G6PD  
may be due to pre-adult developed differences  
in nutrient reserves.

## Biochemical Genetics

What is visible to selection?

- ① functional diff. must be high
- ② role in process must be important
- ③ role of process in energy (or N, or C) budget on state variables

### Hartl and Dykhuizen



① E. coli has enzyme variability

② Haploid

③ 6PG appears neutral

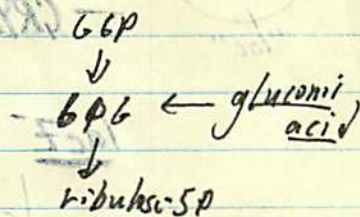
④ 6PGD

- two main alleles have relatively diff.  $K_m$ 's

- when gluconic acid was sole carbon source there was no selection difference

- but found gluc. acid dehydrogenase so wasn't simply fueling this step

⑤ knocked out gluc. acid dehydrogenase and major directional selection for kinetically favored allele.



Thus 6PGD alleles are neutral in some conditions and selective in others. This fits in with Wright's shifting balance

Thus when role of enzyme becomes central to energy budget - it is more visible to selection.

## Phylogenetics

① Why hasn't optimal allele arisen?

② If heterozygotes are best, why aren't genes doubled?

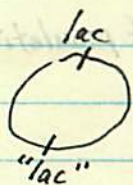
How do new gene functions originate?

Barry Hall - sec evolution on a petri-dish

- Evolution of new gene functions

- lacZ -  $\beta$ -galactosidase

① persistent reports that lacZ<sup>-</sup> bacteria on lac-minimal medium  
It was possible to get growth. ~~no growth~~



- Appears that E. coli chromosome is relic of duplication

- CRYPTIC lac operon 180° away from normal E. coli

lacZ<sup>-</sup> deletion

↓ selection

34 "lac"<sup>+</sup> (31 inducible ; 3 constitutive)

- functions

- normal lacZ : splits lactose, lactalose, lactobionate, galactose-arabinoside

- "lacZ"<sup>+</sup> "lacZ" I "lacZ" II

lactose	+	+ (slow)	+	+	Thus "lacZ" have been reverted from
lactalose	+	-	+	+	group selected not on lactose but lactalose Can only get lactobionate + by 1 <sup>st</sup> selecting on lactose (I) then lactalose (II) then lactobionate.
lactobionate	+	-	-	-	
gal-arab	+	+/-	+/-	+/-	
		I	II	III	

- Thus past history is crucial in determining future evolutionary prospects are ; and equally crucial is order of environment.

- Suggested that it was a problem of multiple simultaneous mutations.

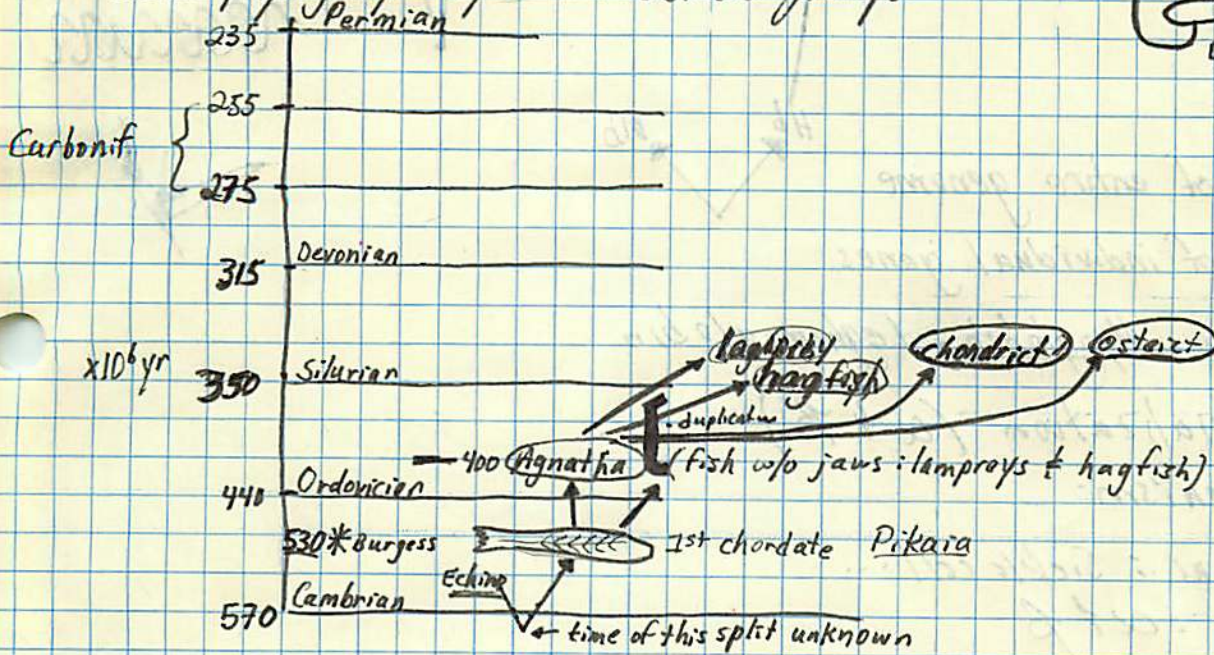
Barry Hall contd

Role of cryptic genes in Microbial Evolution (MBE 1:)

- ① Rare E. coli could use anomalous Carbon sources
- ② Concluded that cryptic genes are less prone to mutations than pseudogenes
- modeled this in terms of rare exposure to substrate.



Gene phylogeny w/in vertebrate groups

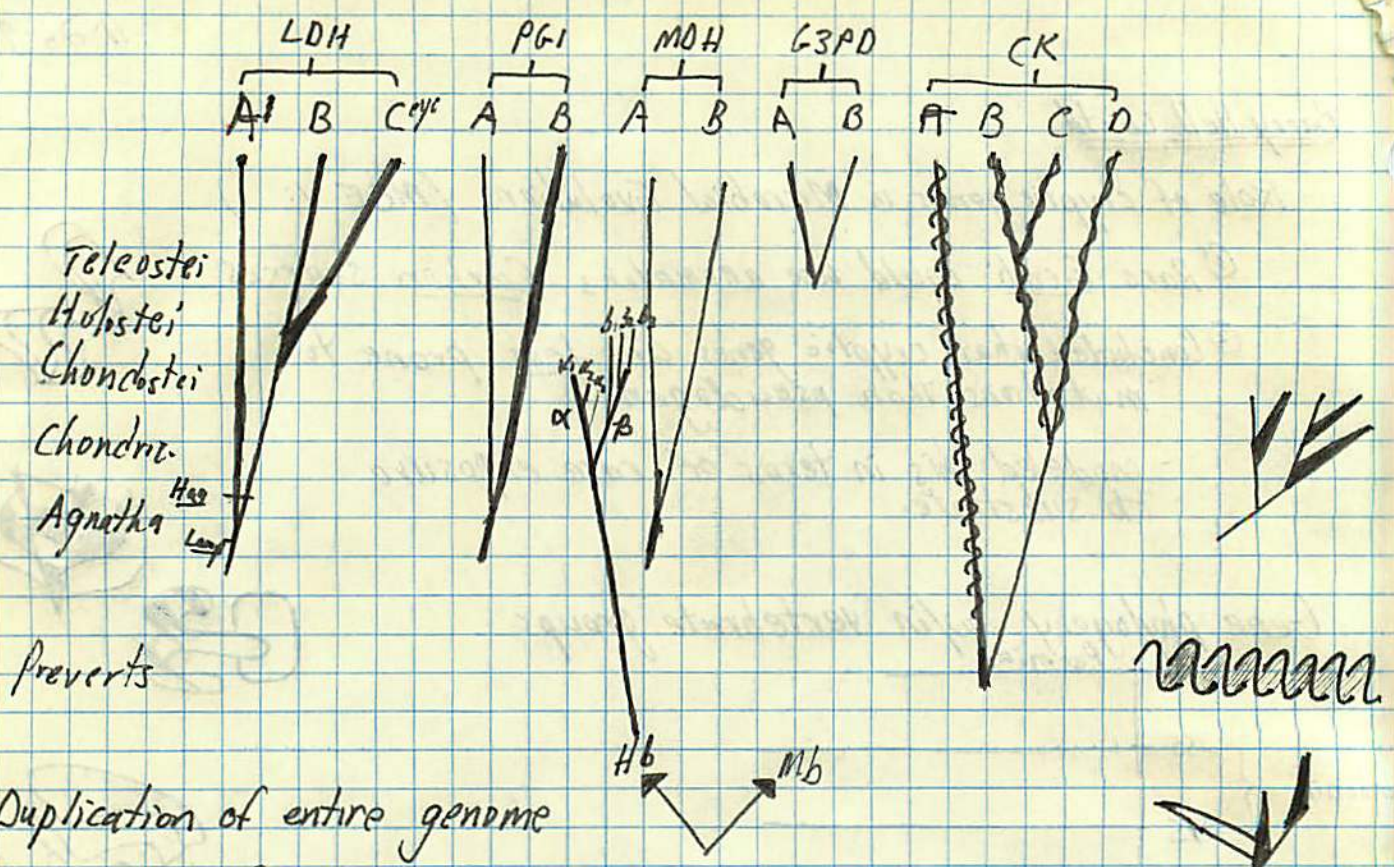


- Lampreys have 1 <sup>A</sup>LOH that is like muscle type  
 Echinoderm " " A " " " " " " " "  
 Tunicate " " A " " " " " " " "

- Hagfish have 2 but B gene is like A.

Conclusion

- appears to be a duplication of the entire vertebrate genome in the past



Duplication of entire genome

Duplication of individual genes

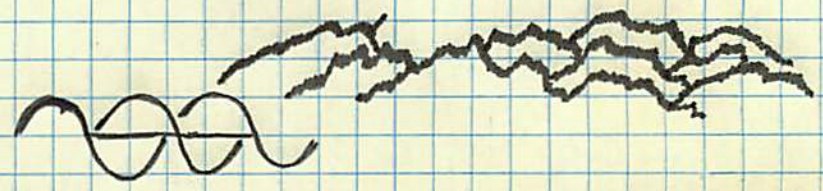
Hemoglobin, Myoglobin, Leghemoglobin

- gene specialization ( $\alpha$  &  $\beta$ )

- polymorphism -

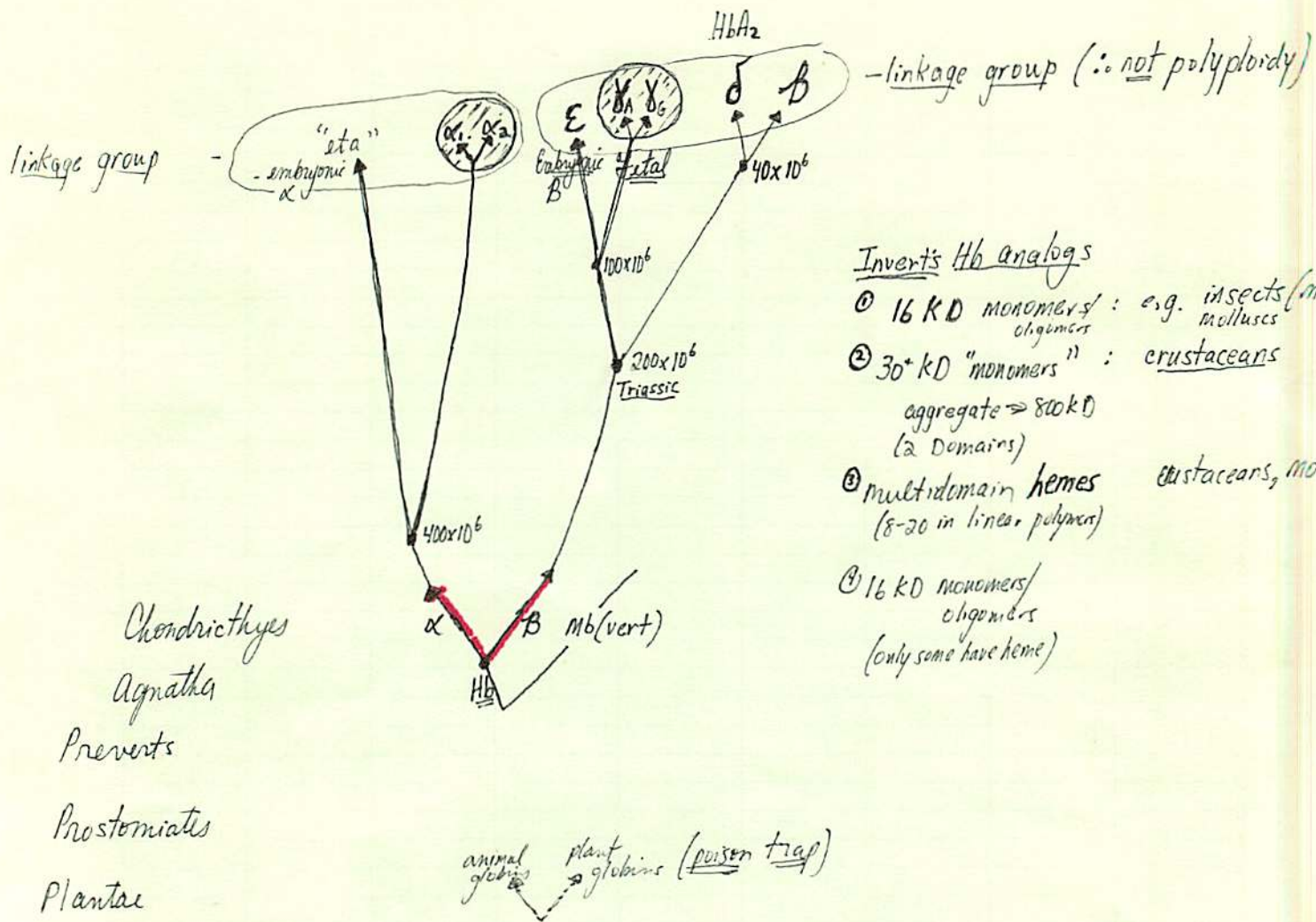
humans : Sick cell...

mice :  $\alpha$  &  $\beta$



# Phylogenesis of hemoglobins

12.03.91



## Invertebrate Hb analogs

- ① 16 kD monomers/oligomers: e.g. insects (midges), molluscs
- ② 30+ kD "monomers": crustaceans  
aggregate  $\Rightarrow$  800 kD (2 domains)
- ③ multidomain hemes: crustaceans, molluscs  
(8-20 in linear polymer)
- ④ 16 kD monomers/oligomers (only some have heme)

Mb: tissue O<sub>2</sub> receptors & storers; MONOMERS

Hb: O<sub>2</sub> transporters; usually TETRAMERS and/or COOPERATIVE

$\alpha_1, \alpha_2$  } Jeffreys says these are virtually identical and must be recent separation in humans. But mice also have duplication.

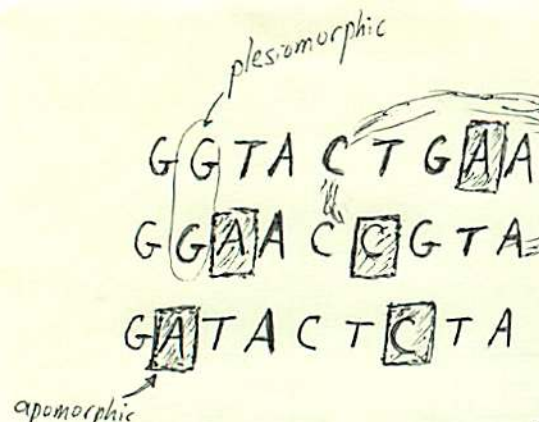
Polymorphism very high

$\beta$ : HbA, HbC, Hb  
paramuscu (see Snyder)

Phylogenetic distribution

- plants
- invertebrates





Comparative morphology: many judgement calls as to what is important

Molecular systematics: avoids problem of divergence in body plans as confusers of phylogeny

apomorphic: derived character

see Molecular Methods in Taxonomy

Two kinds of statistical approaches to this.

① distance methods

② parsimony or cladistics  
- assumes shortest path

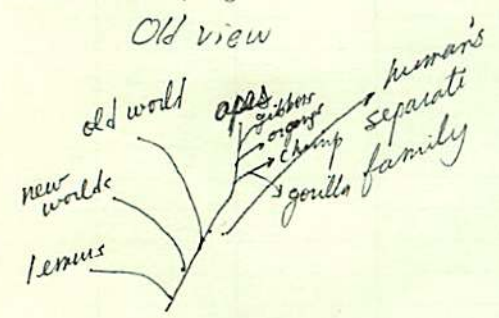
Problems

① how get time onto this

Atchley & Fitch Science 254:554-558

Primate phylogeny

Old view



New view  
① humans & apes in same family

