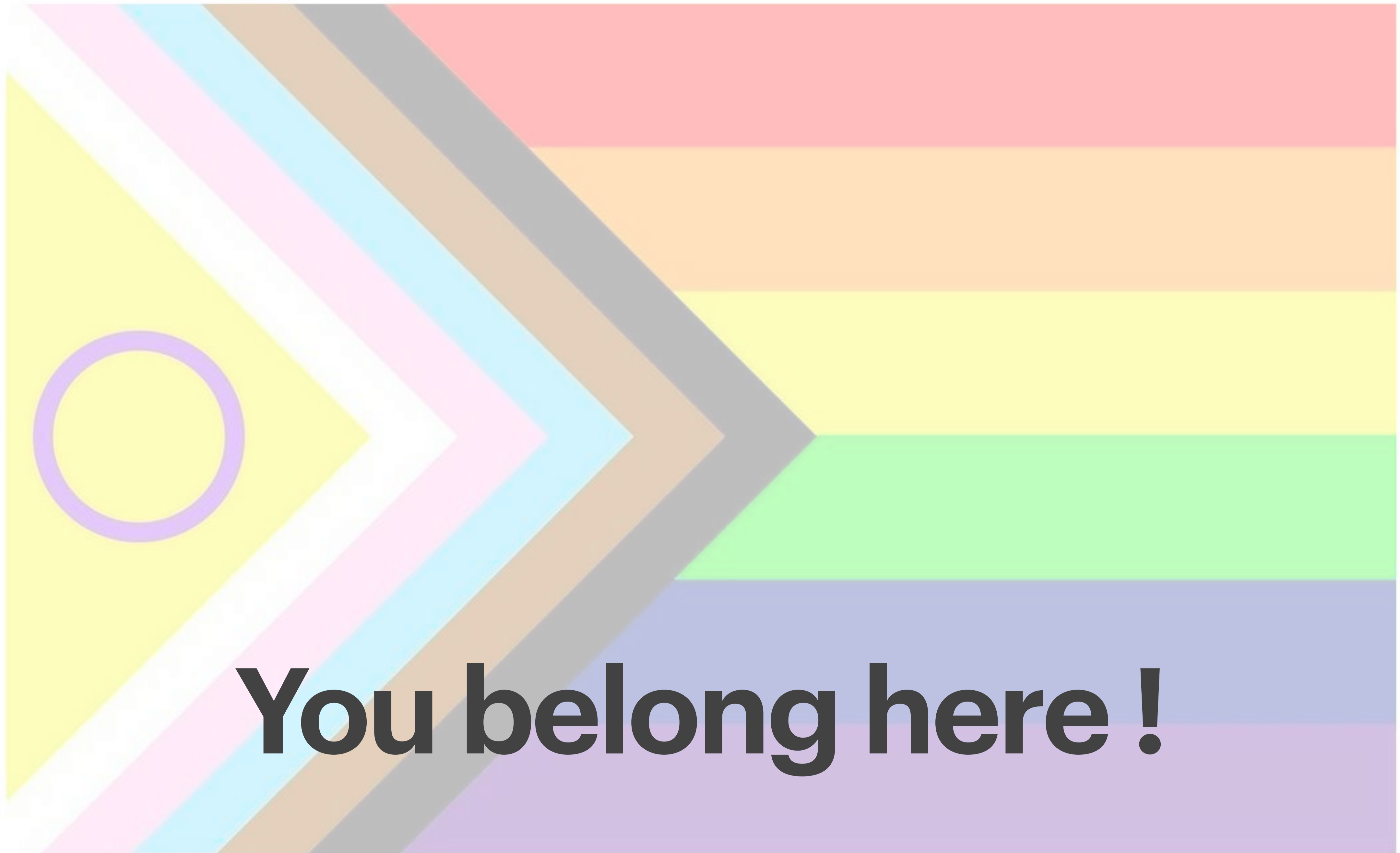


026SV_L01



You belong here !

★ Inclusivity statement:

My laboratory and my philosophy aim to create an inclusive environment in which students of all backgrounds, cultures and orientations can feel safe learning, growing, and participating within their community. From my experience and working with many people in my field, I have found this to be an important topic to bring up and present myself as a resource for those who find they might need it.



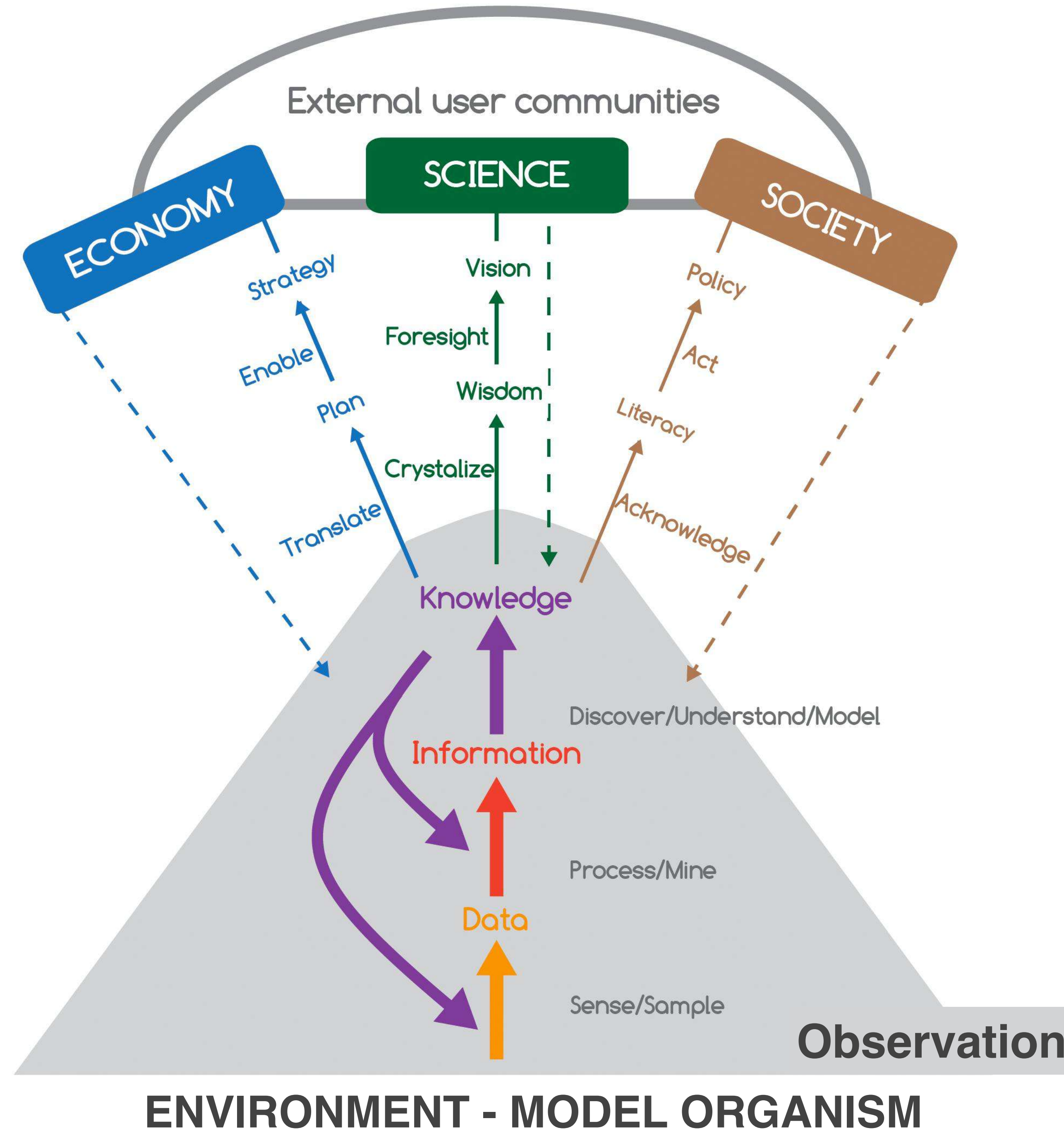
Sviluppo cognitivo e **pensiero critico**: due antidoti ai pregiudizi e ai preconcetti del presente

di Daniele Scarampi

https://www.treccani.it/magazine/lingua_italiana/articoli/scritto_e_parlato/pensiero_critico.html

Crise A, Ribera d'Alcalà M, Mariani P, Petihakis G, Robidart J, Iudicone D, Bachmayer R and Malfatti F

(2018) A Conceptual Framework for Developing the Next Generation of Marine Observatories (MOBs) for Science and Society. *Front. Mar. Sci.* 5:318. doi: 10.3389/fmars.2018.00318



BEFORE

Microbes not
important

Microbes=Disease

AFTER

**Microbes are everywhere and
will always be...**

**Microbes as ecosystem
engineers**

**Microbes keep the ecosystem
functioning**

**Humans and biota as
microbial ecosystems**

Ricevimenti concordati via email: fmalfatti@units.it

Tre report di laboratorio, in forma guidata, di gruppo per un valore totale di 3 punti su 30 punti (i.e. trentesimi). Ogni report puo' esser valutato da 0 a 1 punto in trentesimi.

Esame scritto della durata di 1 ora, per un valore pari a 27 su 30 del voto finale individuale. Esame scritto conterrà 2 domande a risposta aperta, 1 disegno/schema da fare dall'esaminando e 12 domande a vero-falso. Le domande aperte e il disegno/schema valgono 5/30 ciascuna. Le domande vero-falso valgono 1/30.

1. Introduzione al concetto di microbiologia e storia dal XVII secolo fino ad oggi ed **origine della vita sulla terra**
2. Biologia di **Bacteria e Archaea** con particolare attenzione alla **morfologia della cellula** batterica e ad alcuni meccanismi metabolici di base (capsula, parete cellulare, peptidoglicano, spazio periplasmico, membrane, citoplasma, vescicole appendici batteriche con flagelli e pili, endospore, aspetti del **genoma, crescita, diffusione** attiva e passiva delle molecole attraverso la membrana)
3. **Metabolismo batterico e nutrizione microbica** (macro- e micronutrienti, diversi tipi di metabolici in base alla fonte di energia utilizzata: fototrofi e chemiotrofi, in base alla fonte di carbonio: autotrofi o eterotrofi; differenti strategie metaboliche come la fermentazione, la respirazione aerobica ed anaerobica) e **crescita**
4. **Virus** (Bacteria, Archaea e Eukarya)
5. **DNA-RNA-Proteine** (antibiotici) e meccanismi di **movimento di DNA** tra microorganismi (trasposizione, trasformazione, coniugazione e trasduzione)

6. **Regolazione dell'espressione genica** in risposta a diversi stimoli ambientali (fattore sigma, regolazione positiva e negativa tramite molecole attivatrici, repressori, sistema a due componenti e punti di controllo a livello tradizionale, stress e motilità, metiloma)

7. **Interazioni tra microrganismi ed essere umano I. (Quorum sensing, simbiosi e biofilm)**

8. Interazioni tra microrganismi ed essere umano II. (**Infezioni e patogenicità** dei microrganismi & **OneHealth**)

9. **Interazioni tra microrganismi ed ambiente (Diversità, abbondanza e servizi ecosistemici)**

10. **Metodologie** di isolamento, caratterizzazione e fenotipizzazione di microrganismi ambientali e tecniche di microscopia, nuove metodologie-omiche (genomica, trascrittomica, proteomica, metabolomica, metagenomica, meta-proteomica, meta-trascrittomica)

**Why are the slides written in
English?**

**Brief self-introduction and future
career**

SIO, Scripps Institution of Oceanography, UCSD, USA

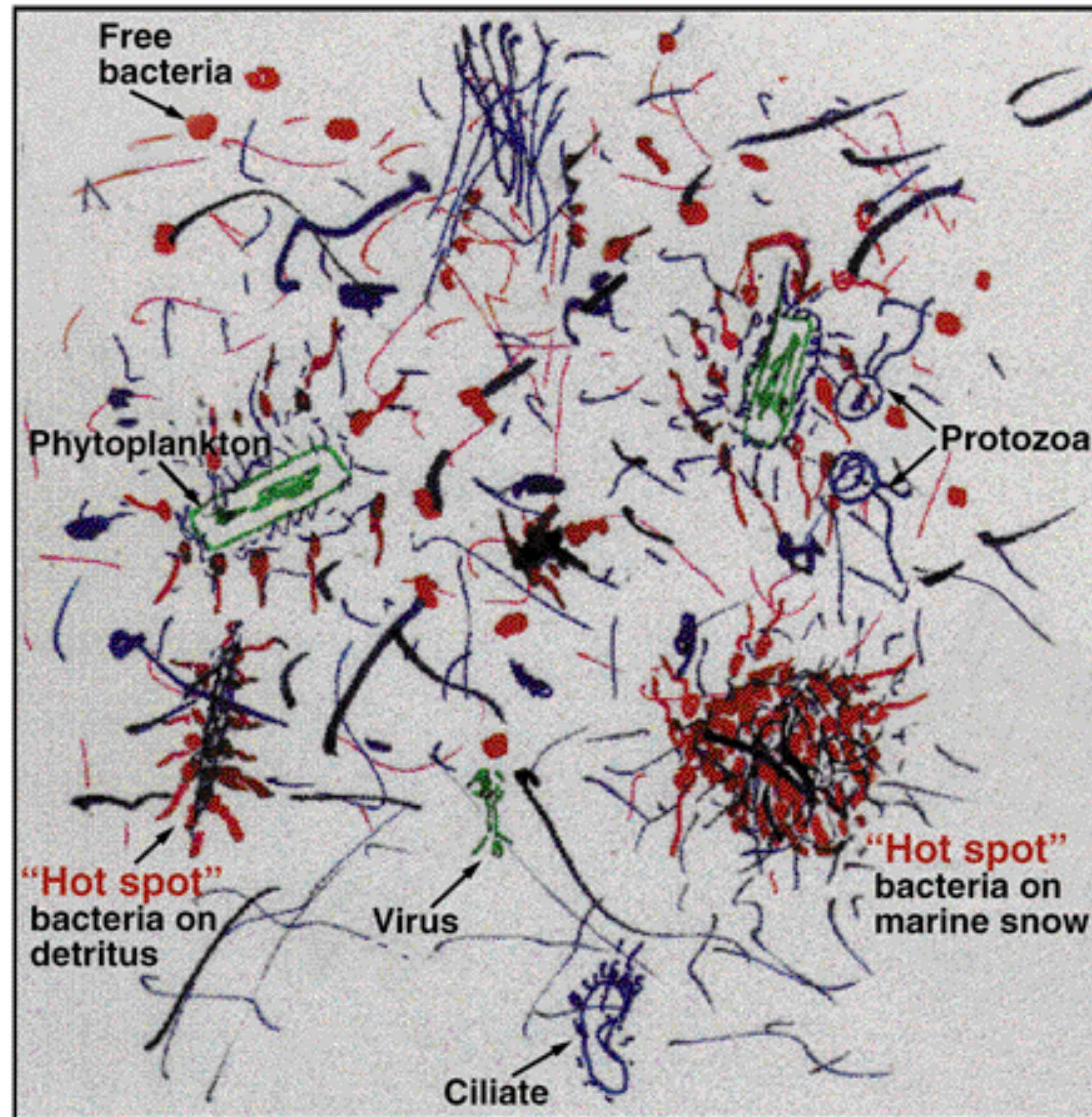


Dr. Farooq Azam

Dr. Andrew Benson (Calvin-Benson-Bashar: Photosynthesis)

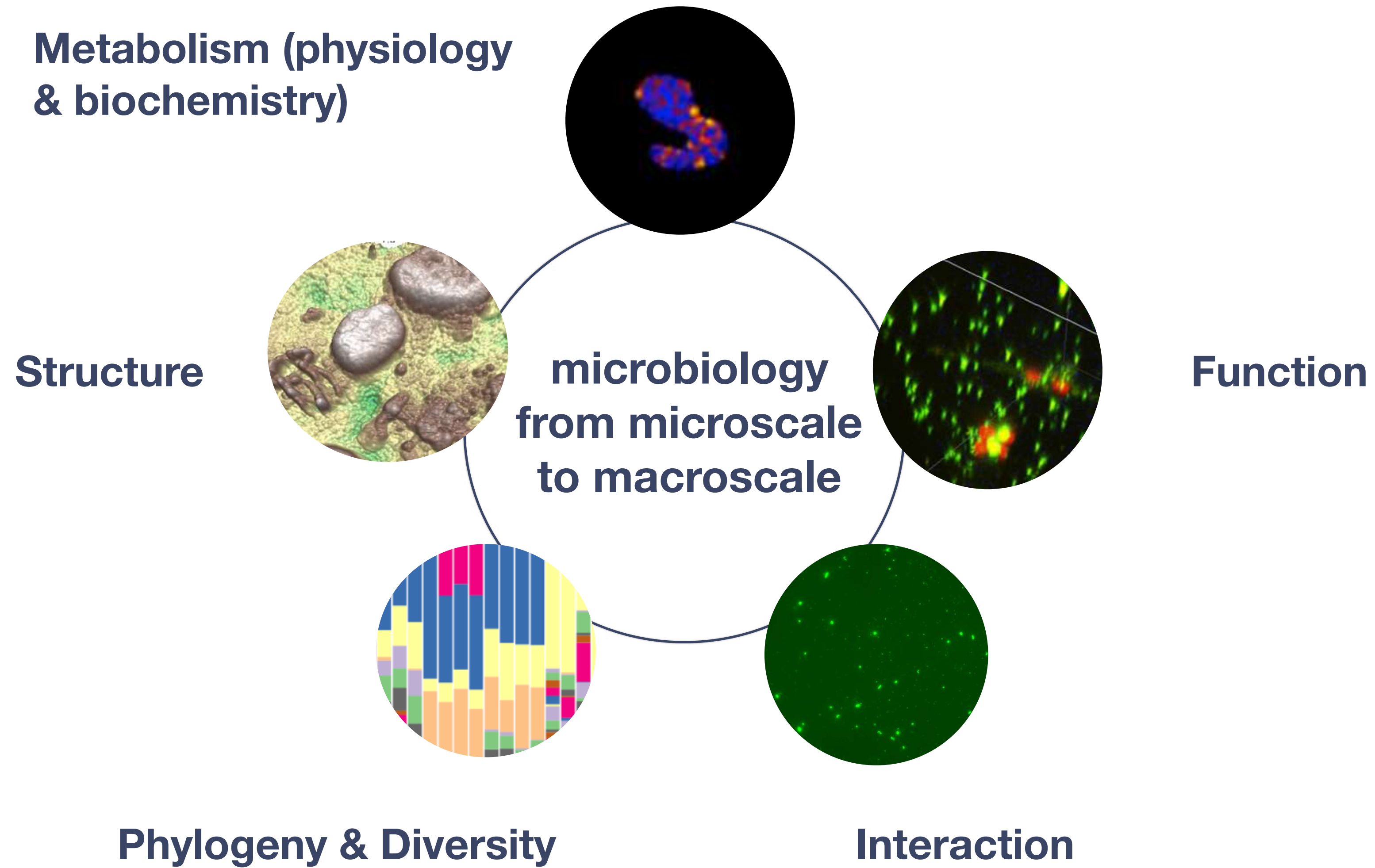
Ms. Judith Munn (wife of Dr. Walter Munn, Normandy landings, 2nd WW)

Impressionistic view, F. Azam



The microscale structure,
chemistry and physics of the
microbial environment dictate
microbial life

Mechanistic integrative approach



***Tell me and I will forget,
show me and I may remember,
involve me and I will understand.***

Lecture 01: Introduction, History & Origin of Life

- History
- Microbiology
- Origin of life

- How big are microbes? - How small are microbes?
- Who are the microbes?
- Where do microbes live?

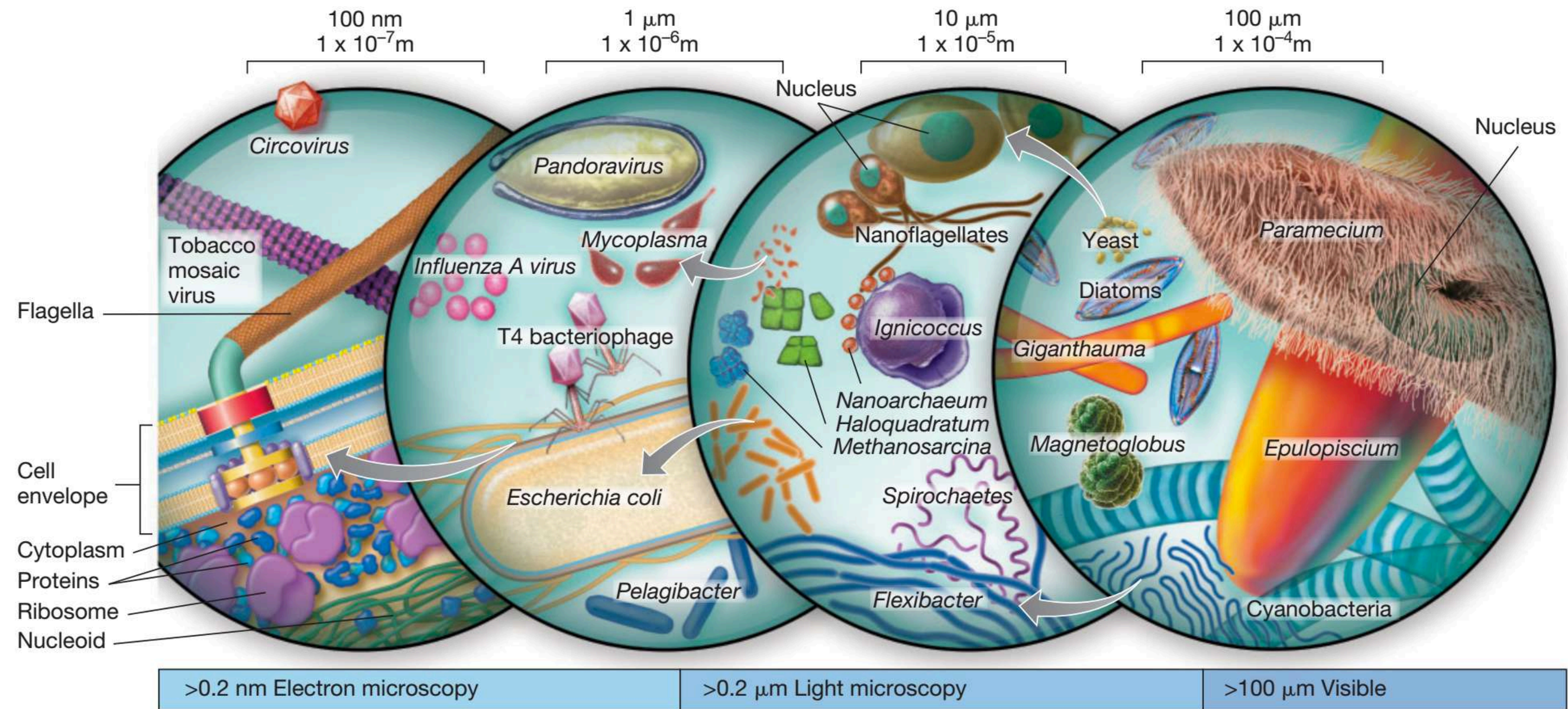
1 μm = 1 micrometer is $1/10^6$ meter

1 nm = 1 nanometer is $1/10^9$ meter

Bacteria, Archaea, Viruses & small Eukarya

Everywhere on Earth and in/on every organism

Microbial size range



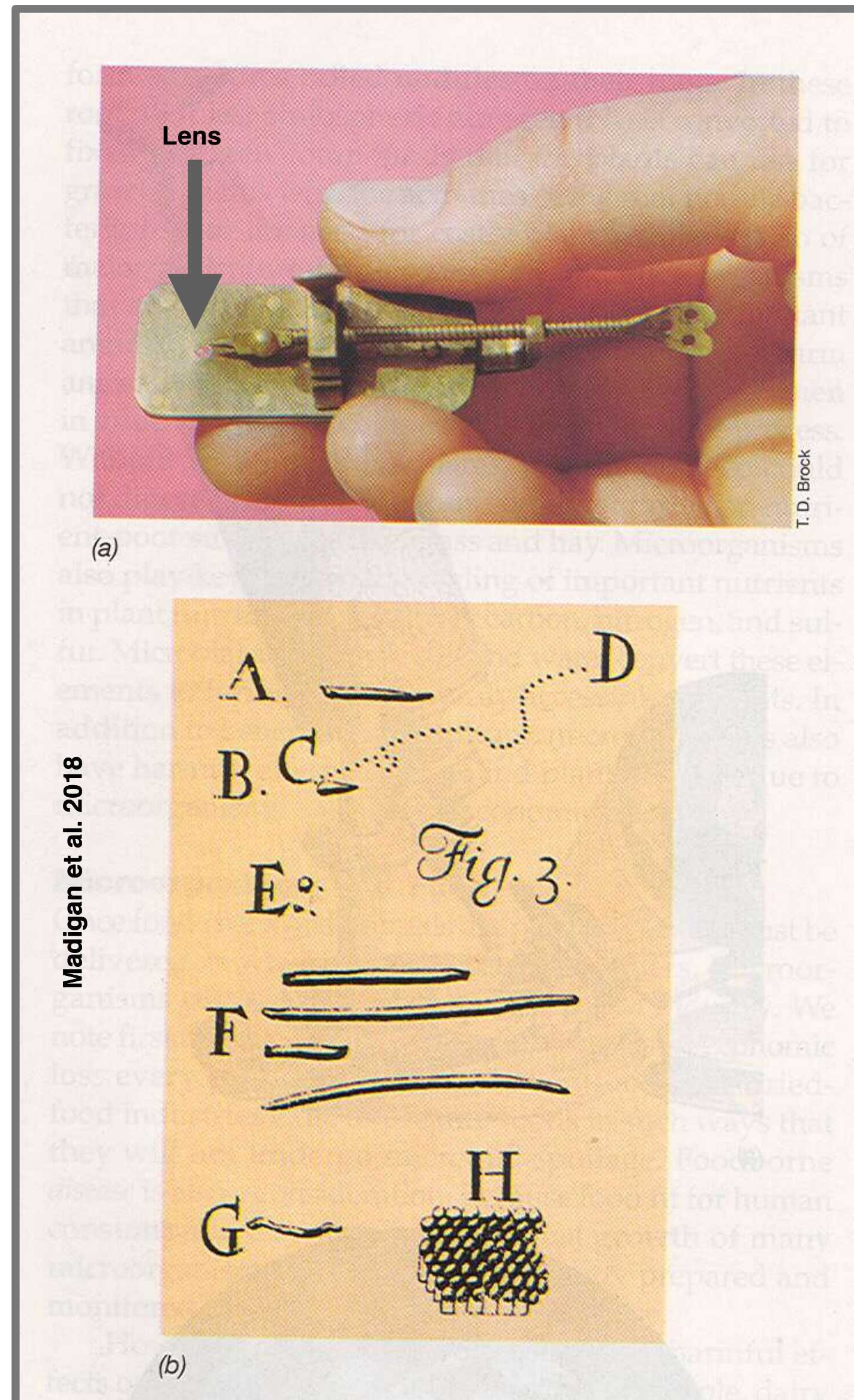
Madigan et al. 2018

**Microbiology is the discovery of LIFE
as we know it**

History

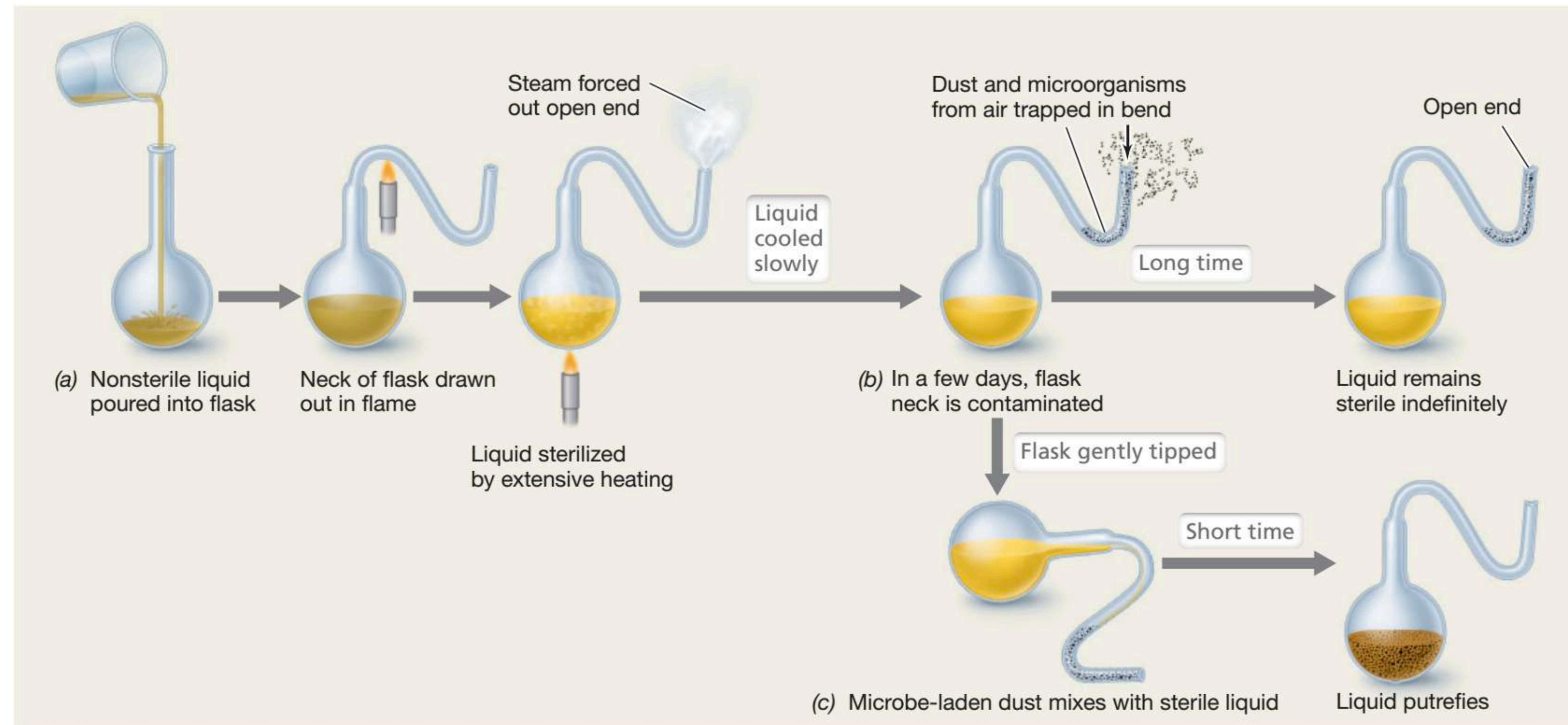
- 1665 Robert Hooke, invention of the microscope
- *1676 van Leeuwenhoek, discovery bacteria at the microscope*
- 1857 Pasteur, microbes cause fermentation & dispelling spontaneous generation of life
- *1881 Koch, Germ theory of disease & use of gelatin plates*
- End 19th century Beijerinck and Winogradsky —> environmental microbiology
- *End 20th One Health and Human being as a microbial world*

Developing Tools enabling discovery of the microbial worlds!



**1676 van Leeuwenhoek
the first microscope for bacteria**

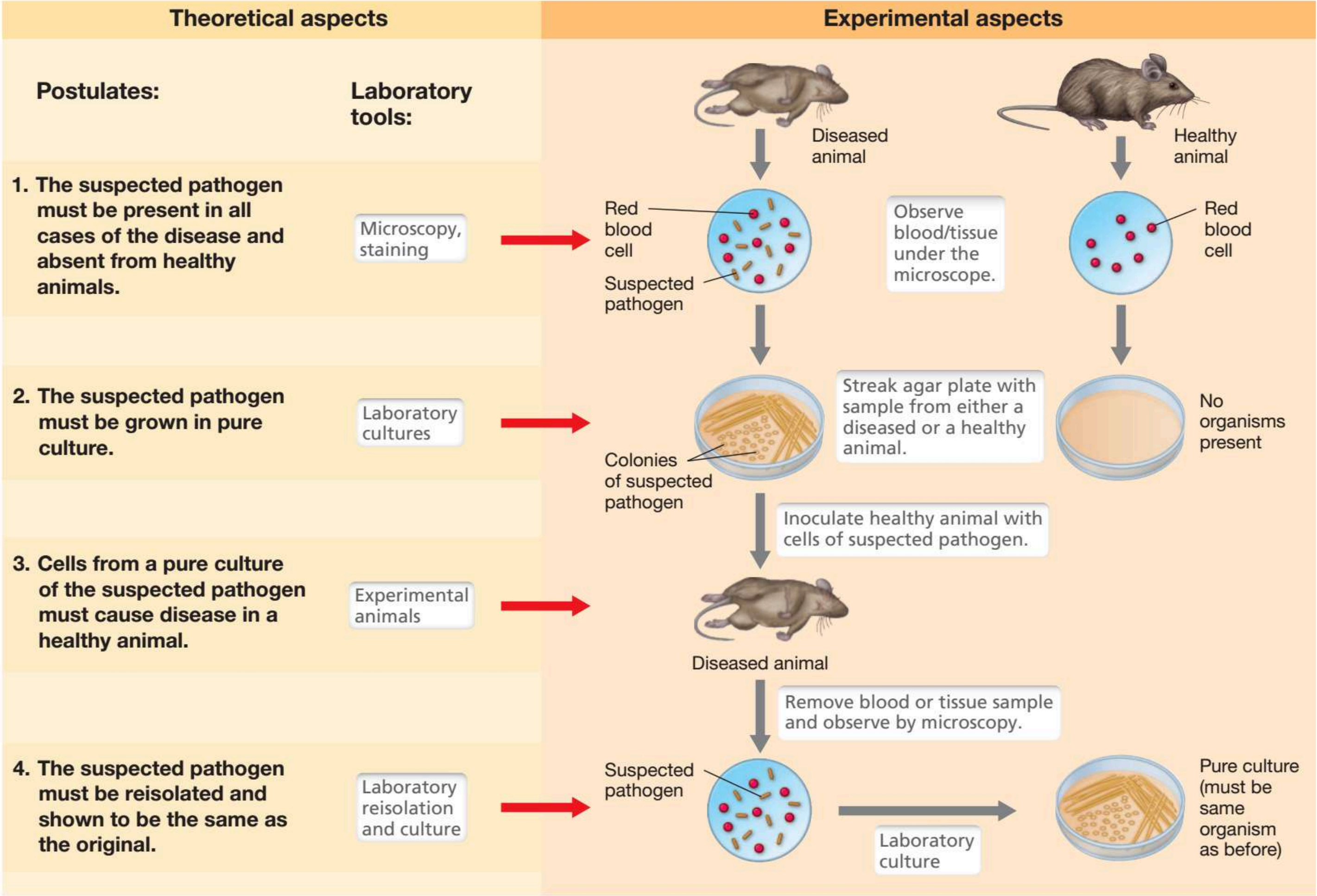
**Early focus: Human microbial diseases
Later focus: Biogeochemical role
Today focus: One Health**



Madigan et al. 2018

Pasteur: Experiment dispelling the theory of spontaneous generation of life (environmental change is microbial driven)

Koch → infectious diseases: Koch's postulates



Madigan et al. 2018

Vibrio cholerae and *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*
 ...what is missing?

Environmental microbiology —> *need to understand environment*

1. *Bacteria from environment don't live on Koch rich media*

2. *Need to create specific enrichment media to imitate the environment*

Delft School of Microbiology, Holland



Figure 2.11: Martinus Beijerinck.
Martinus Beijerinck (1851–1931), a major contributor to our understanding of the role of microbes in nature. From *Microbes: From Beijerinck to the Present*, by G. van Boven et al., U.S. Gov. Doc. de Jong, and A. J. Kluyver, Martinus Nijhoff, The Hague, 1962.

Beijerinck



Figure 2.12: Sergei Winogradsky.
Sergei Winogradsky (1856–1953), a Russian-born microbiologist. Winogradsky was the father of autotrophy. He lived from the days of Pasteur and Koch to the modern era of microbiology. From Sergei N. Winogradsky: *His Life and Work*, by S. A. Waxman, © 1950 by the Trustees of Rutgers College. Reprinted by permission of Rutgers University Press.

Winogradsky



Kluyver

Environmental microbiology —> *need to understand environment*

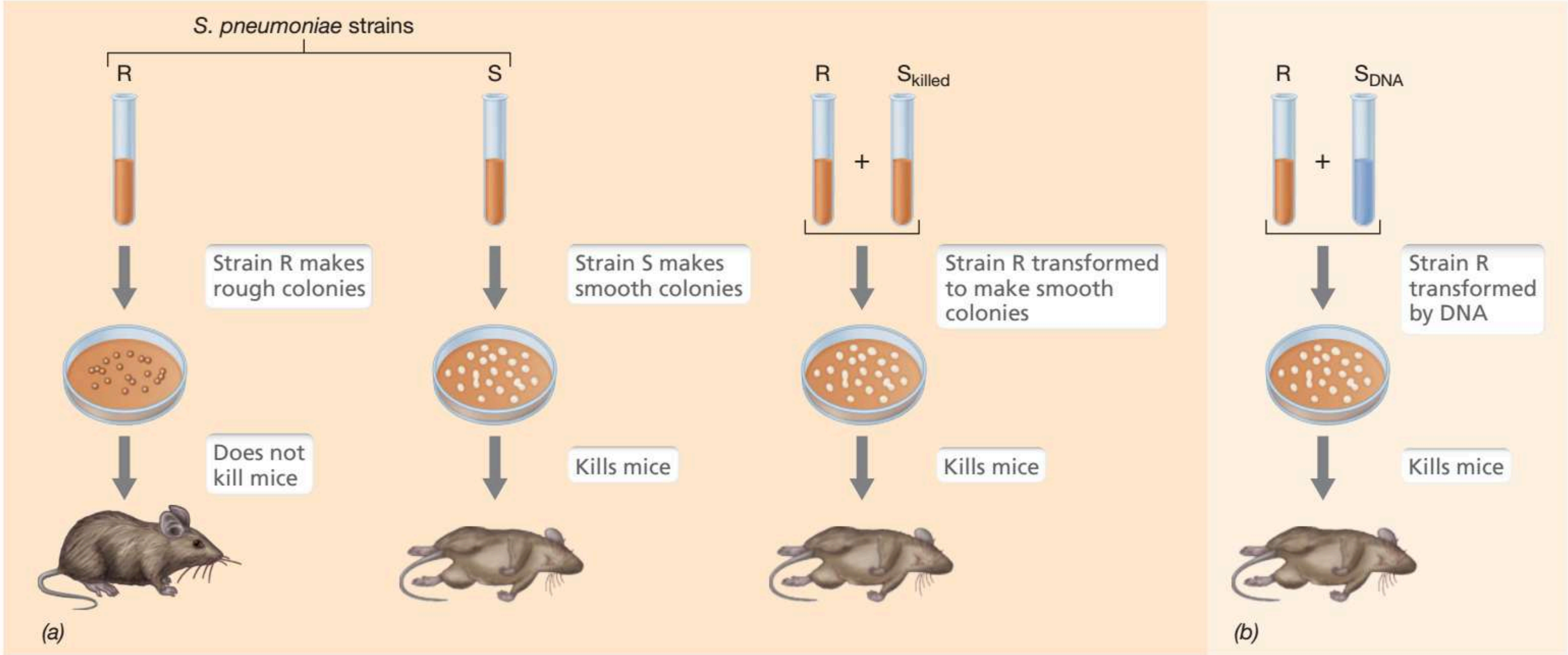
- 1. Bacteria from environment don't live on Koch rich media*
- 2. Need to create specific enrichment media to imitate the environment*

1. **Beijerinck**: Enrichment culture: Isolated pure culture of soil and aquatic microbes (aerobic nitrogen fixing bacteria, sulfur reducing and sulfur oxidizing bacteria);
2. **Winogradsky**: Diversity and environmental functions of microbes: Discovered nitrifying & sulfur oxidizing bacteria; chemolithotrophy;
3. **Kluyver**: unity of the biochemistry, stating that same biochemical pathways and thermodynamic constraints are similar for microbes

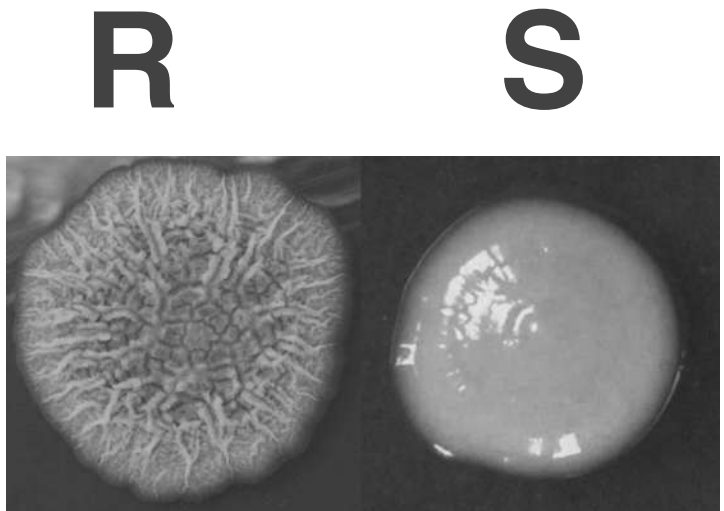
- End 19th century Griffith & 1944 Avery-MacLeod-McCarty, **DNA as a transforming principle**
- Early 20th century Alexander Fleming's **discovery of penicillin as an antiseptic antibiotic** (Howard Florey, Ernst Chain and Norman Heatley) and **lysozyme**
- First half 20th century Watson, Crick & Franklin: **DNA structure**
- 20th century Zuckerkandl & Pauling: **molecular sequences for evolutionary reconstruction relationship**
- 20th century Woese: **ribosomal RNA (rRNA) genes** for studying evolution in microbes (**cultivation dependent**)
- 20th century Pace: **ribosomal RNA (rRNA) genes** for assessing diversity of microbes (**cultivation independent**)

Griffith & Avery-MacLeod-McCarty

Streptococcus pneumoniae



DNA contains genetic information
 DNA is the molecular basis of hereditary





Alexander Fleming (1881-1955)

The **discovery of antibiotics** is a great milestone in the history of medicine

Many doctors believe that penicillin is one of the greatest medical advances

Penicillin can treat most forms of killer diseases such as meningitis, pneumonia and diphtheria, blood poisoning and septic wounds

In 1922, Fleming discovered a way of destroying bacteria with the lysozyme (saliva)

Alexander Fleming Laboratory Museum (Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust).

Woese



Ribosomal RNAs are components of ribosomes, the structures that synthesize new proteins in the process of translation

16S ribosomal RNA

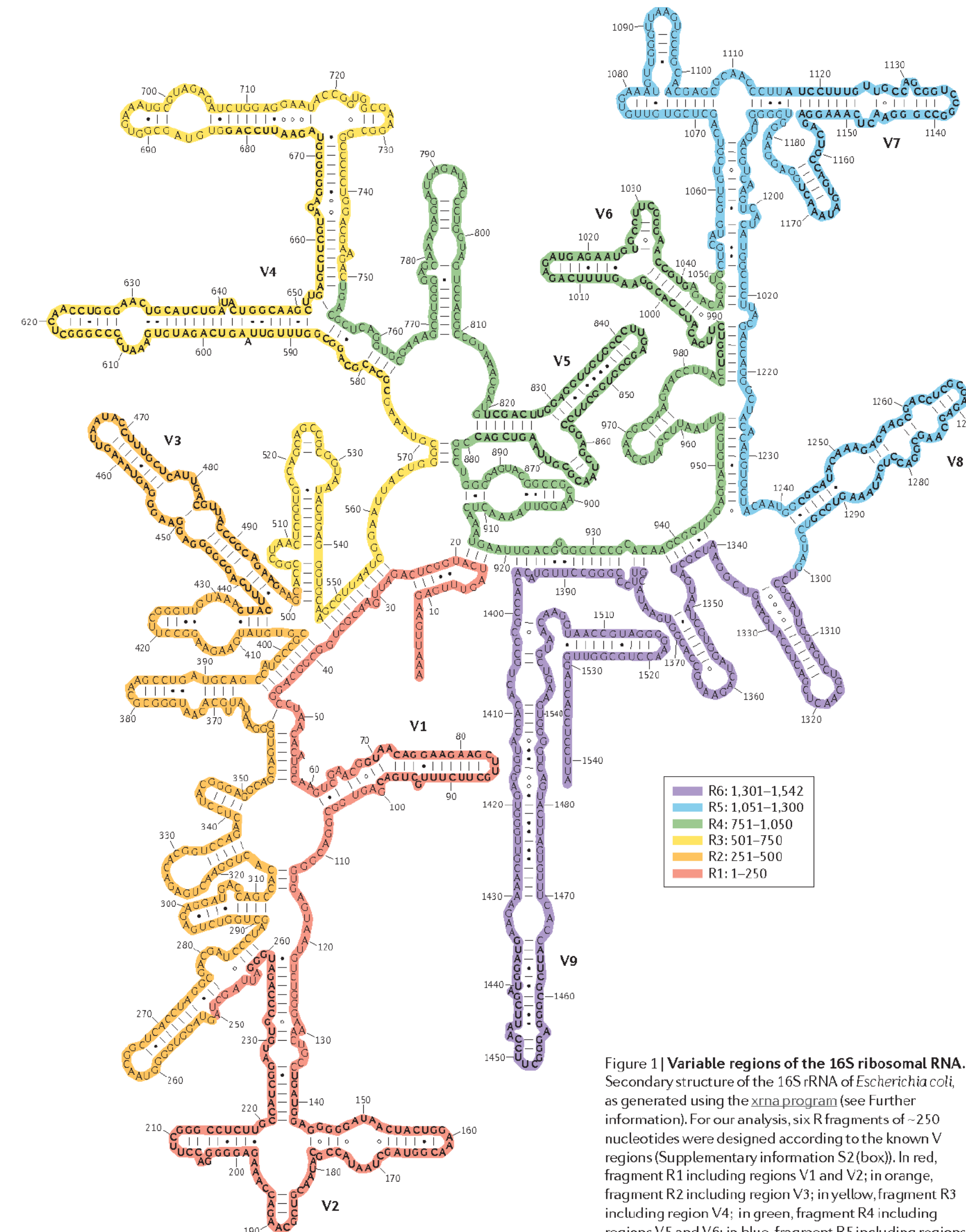


Figure 1 | Variable regions of the 16S ribosomal RNA. Secondary structure of the 16S rRNA of *Escherichia coli*, as generated using the *xrna* program (see Further information). For our analysis, six R fragments of ~250 nucleotides were designed according to the known V regions (Supplementary information S2 (box)). In red, fragment R1 including regions V1 and V2; in orange, fragment R2 including region V3; in yellow, fragment R3 including region V4; in green, fragment R4 including regions V5 and V6; in blue, fragment R5 including regions

Woese

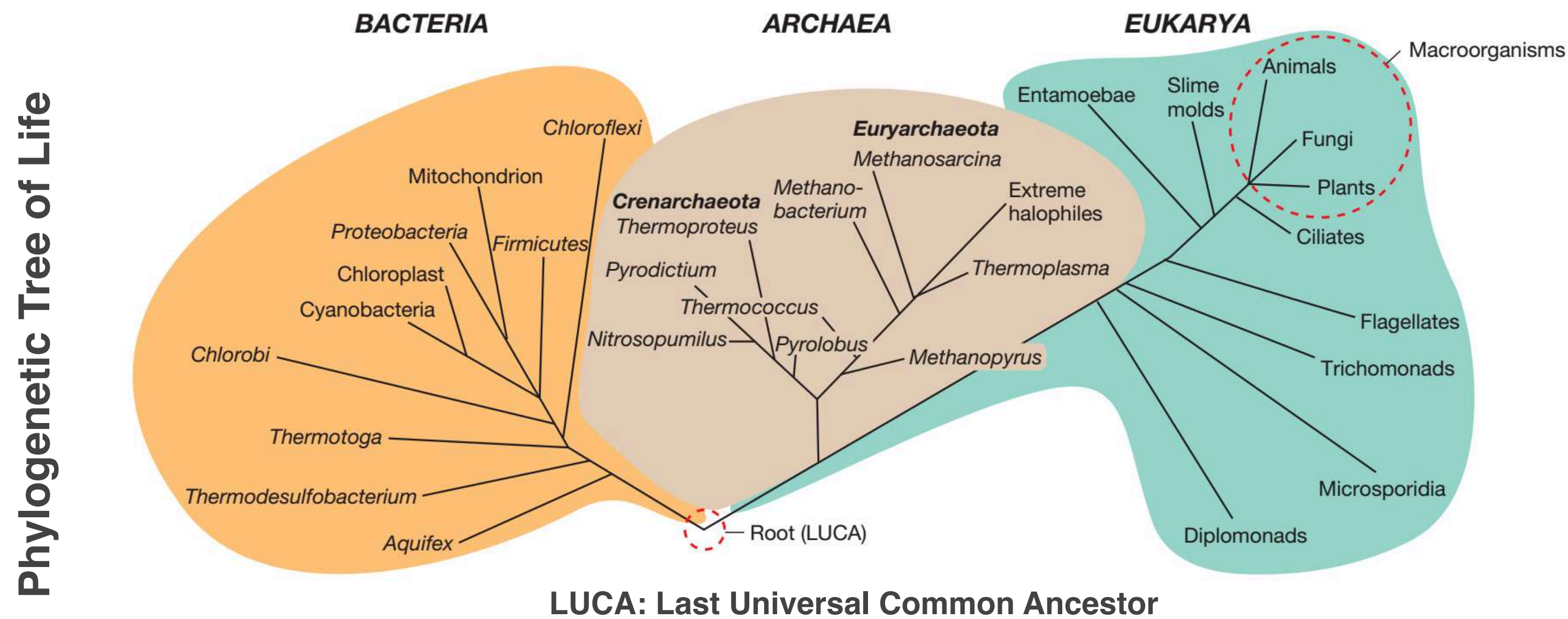
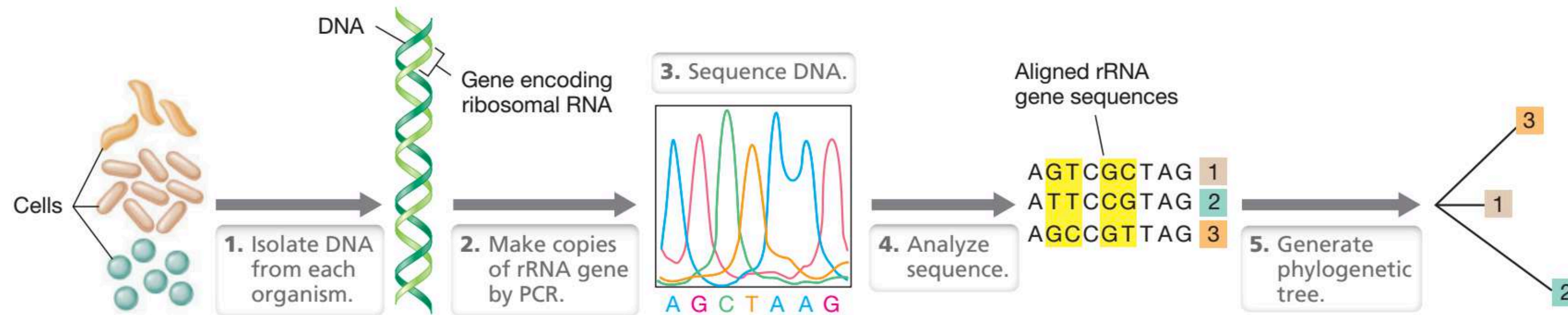
Genes encoding rRNAs are excellent candidates for

phylogenetic analysis because they are:

- (1) universally distributed,
- (2) functionally constant,
- (3) highly conserved (that is, slowly changing),
- (4) adequate length to provide a deep view of evolutionary relationships,
- (5) diverse in different 'species'

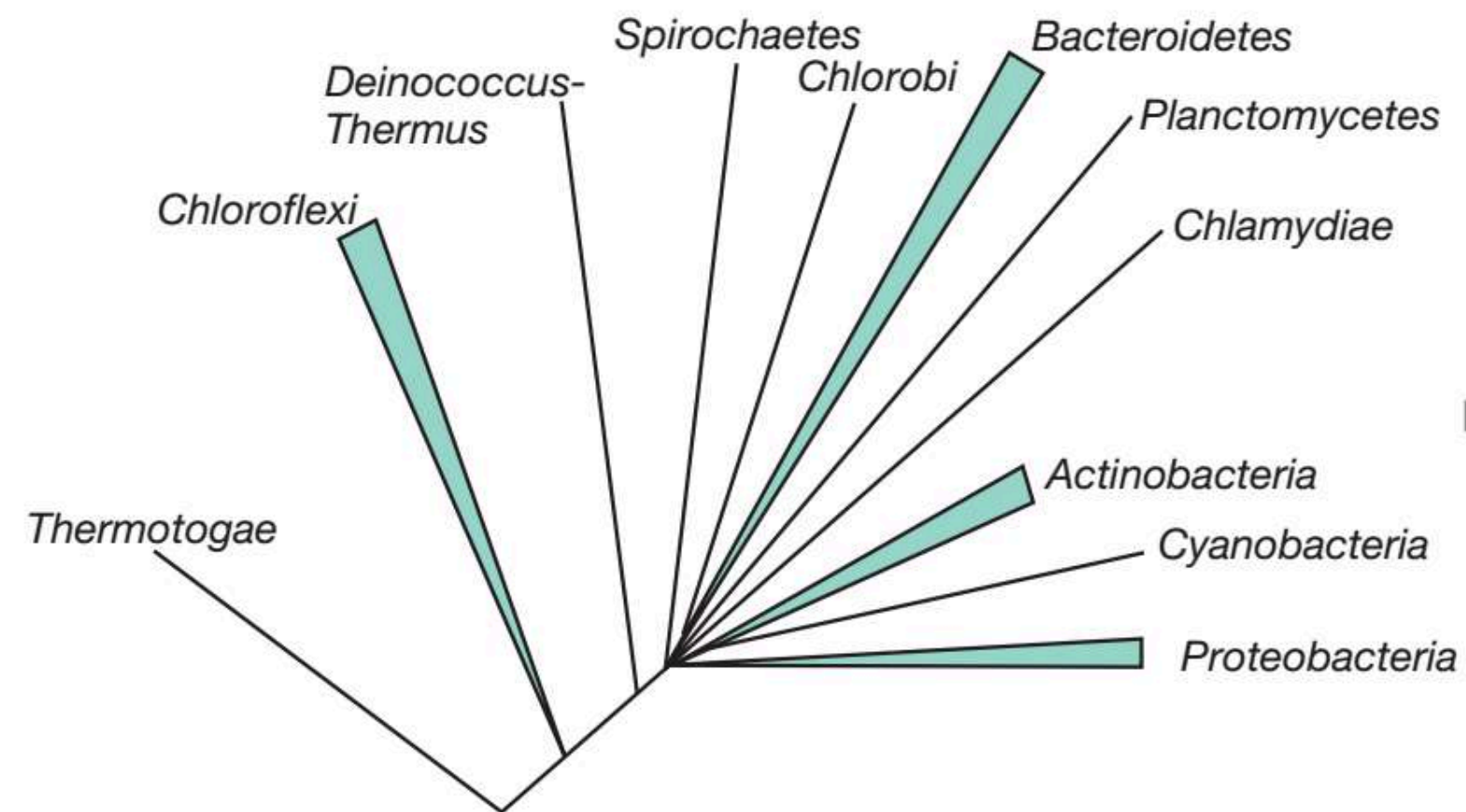
Using pure cultures of Bacteria and Archaea

Step-by-step technology for evolutionary classification of microbes

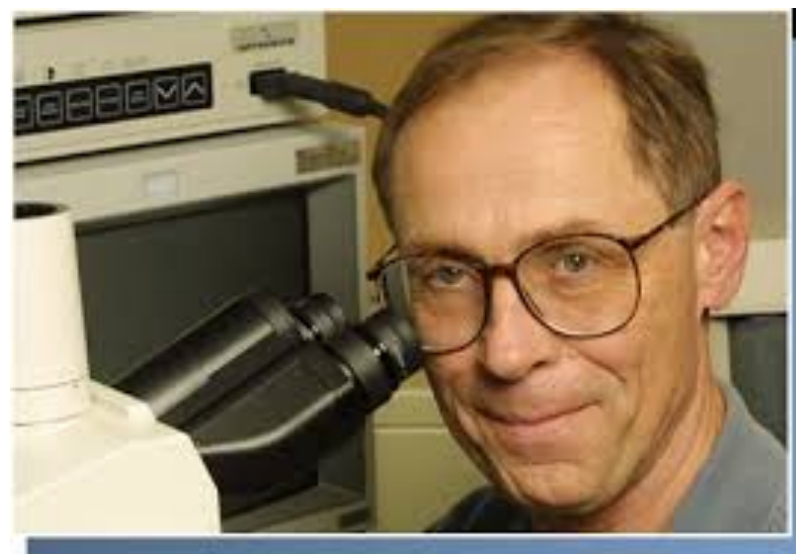


Woese

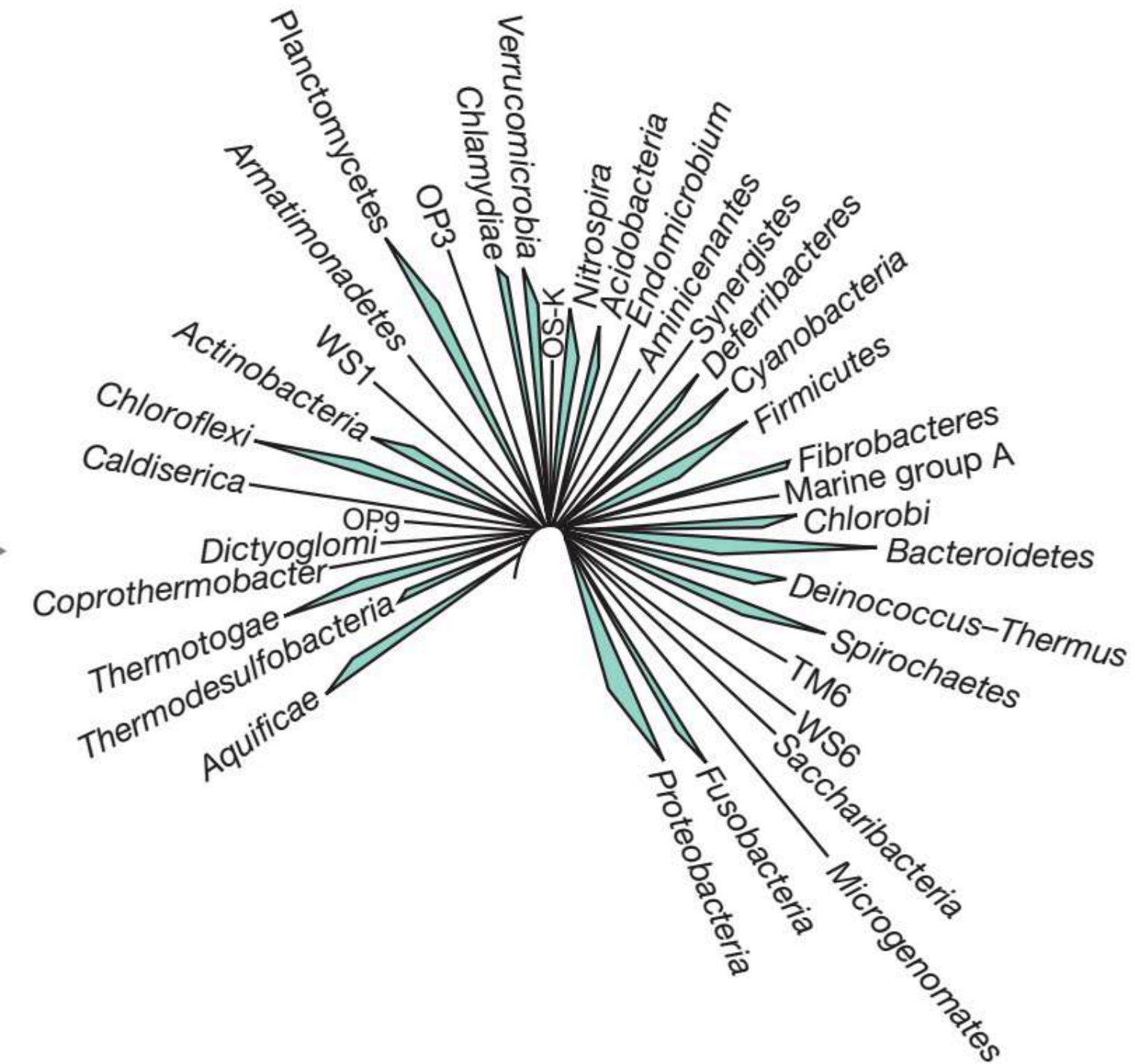
Woese



Cultivation dependent



Pace



Cultivation independent

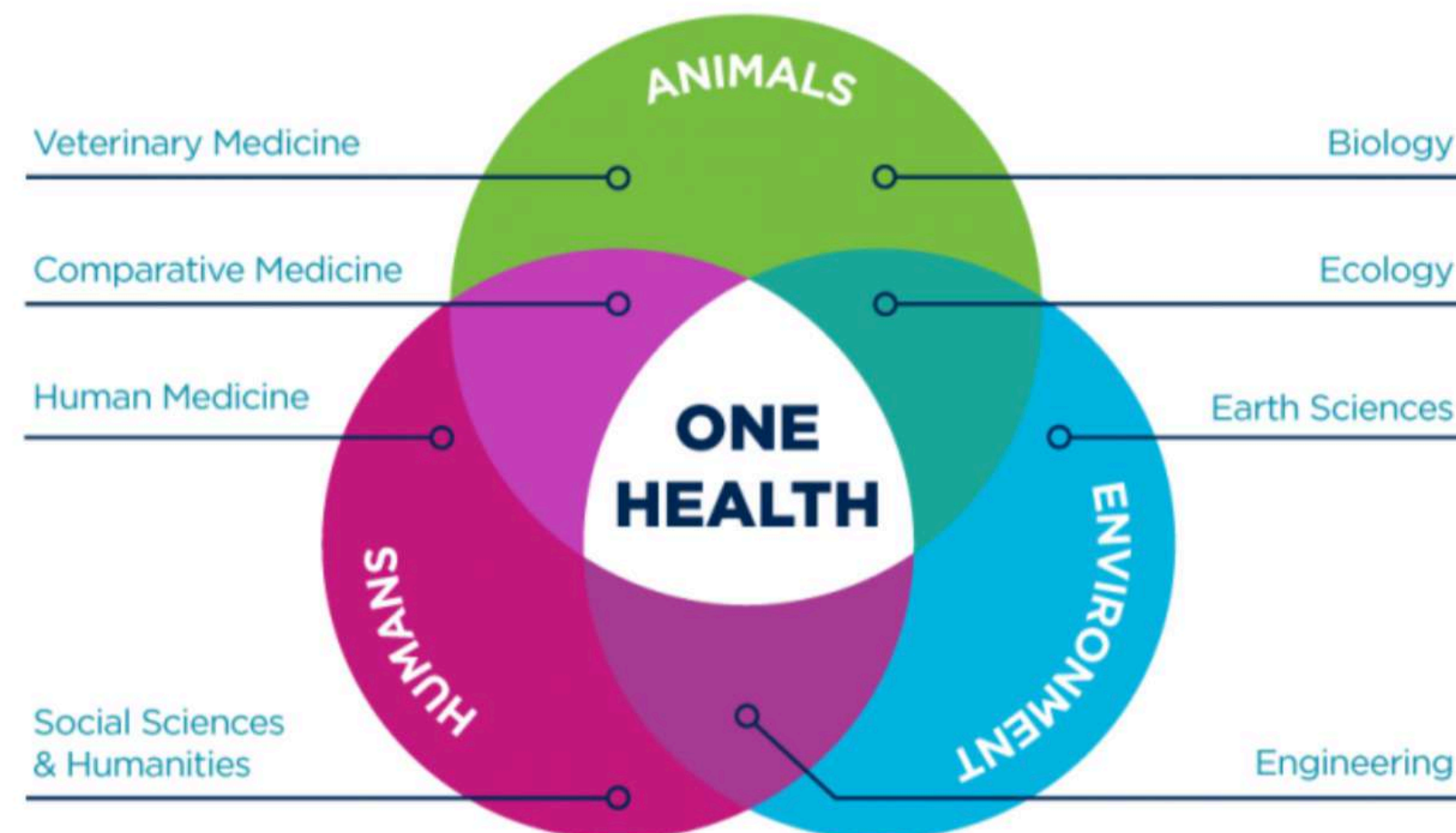
Microbes living in the environment

Microbes can or can't be cultivable

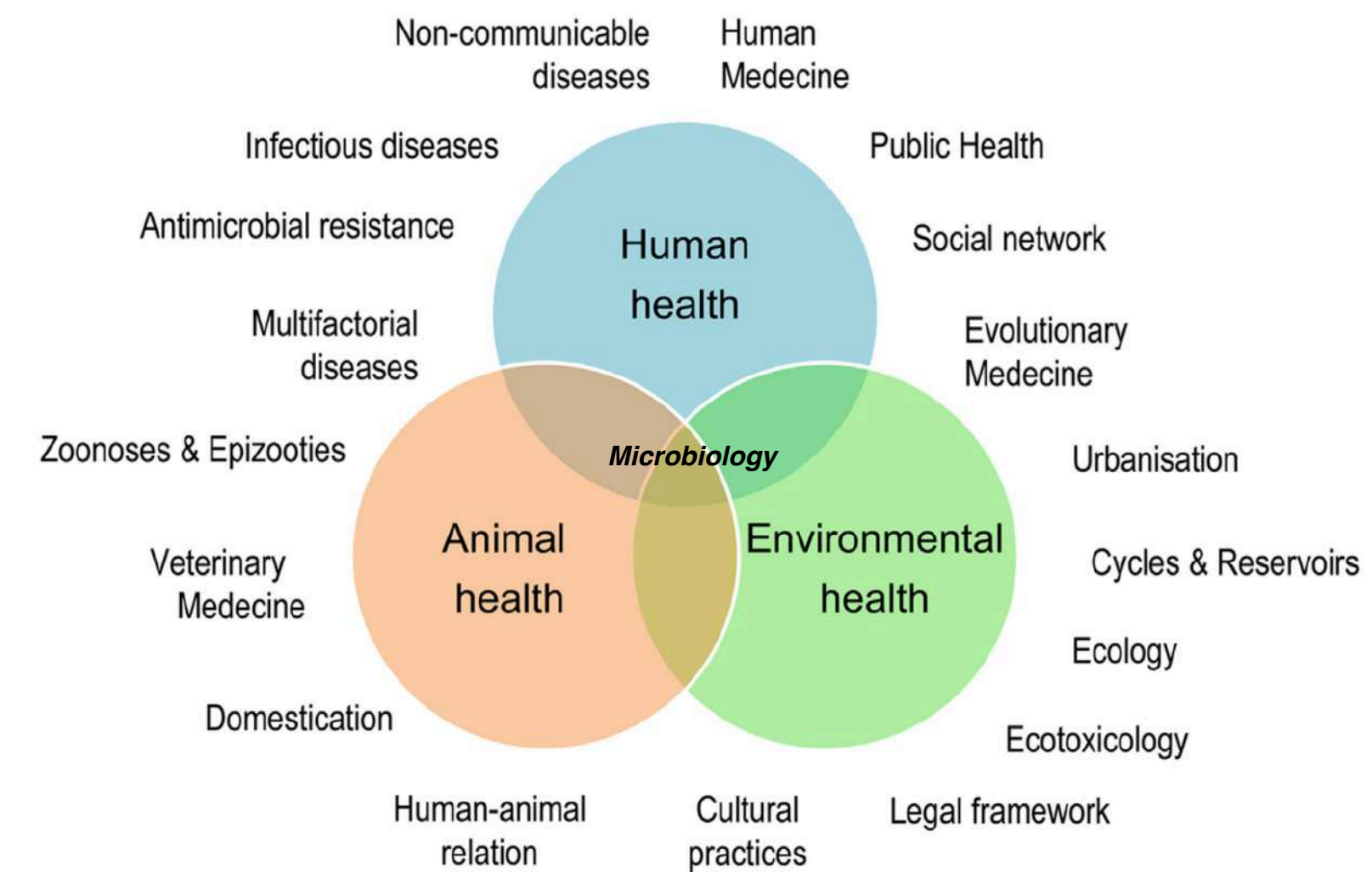
Madigan et al. 2018

- Now and in the near FUTURE: **One Health**: approach to designing and implementing programs, policies, legislation and research in which multiple sectors communicate and work together **to achieve better public health outcomes**

Holistic approach where interactions matter



Original author not found



Destoumieux-Garzon et al., 2018

Microbiology:

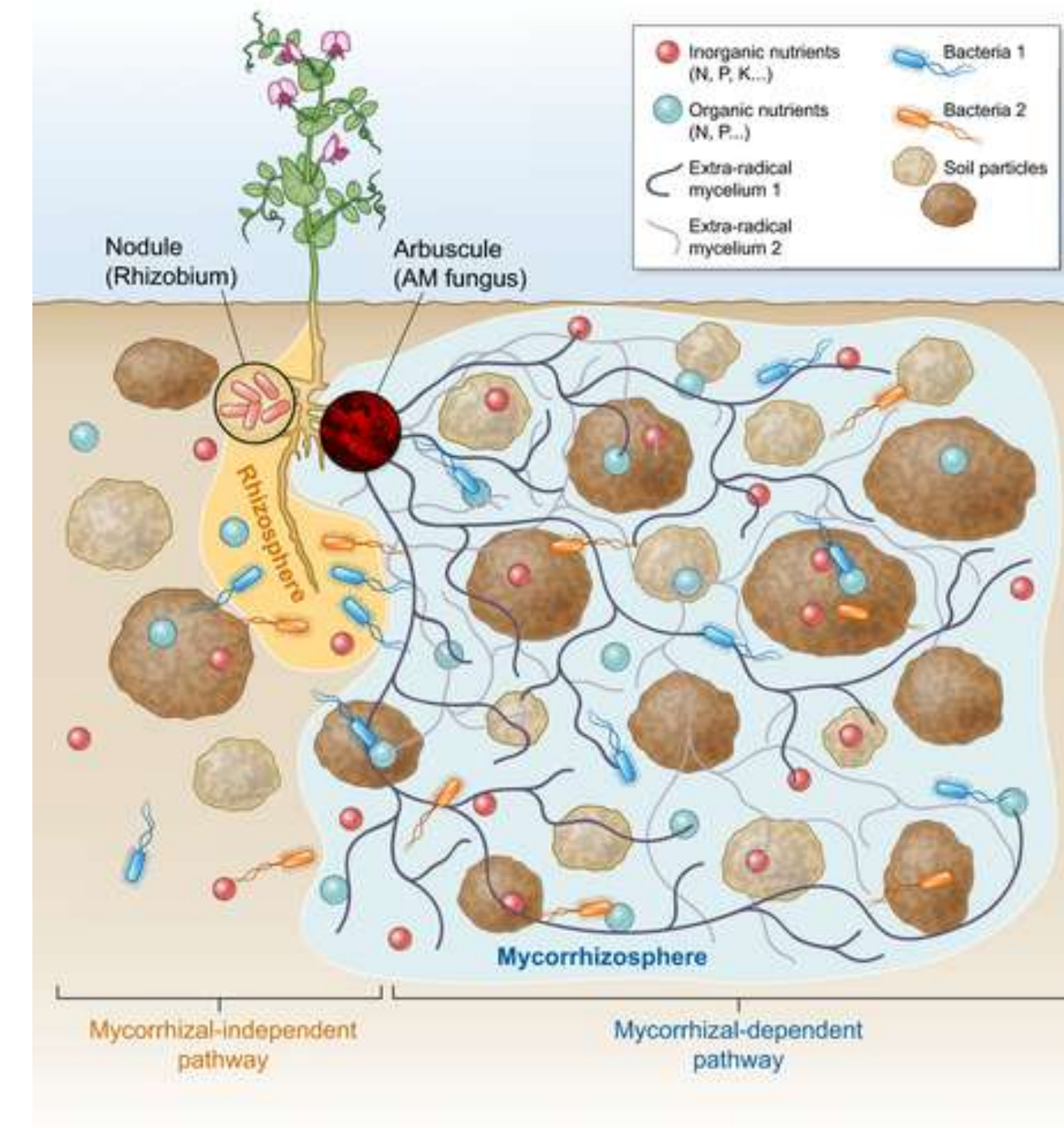
Holistic study of the function of microbial cells and their impact on medicine, industry, environment and technology (Madigan et al. 2018).

Goals of the course:

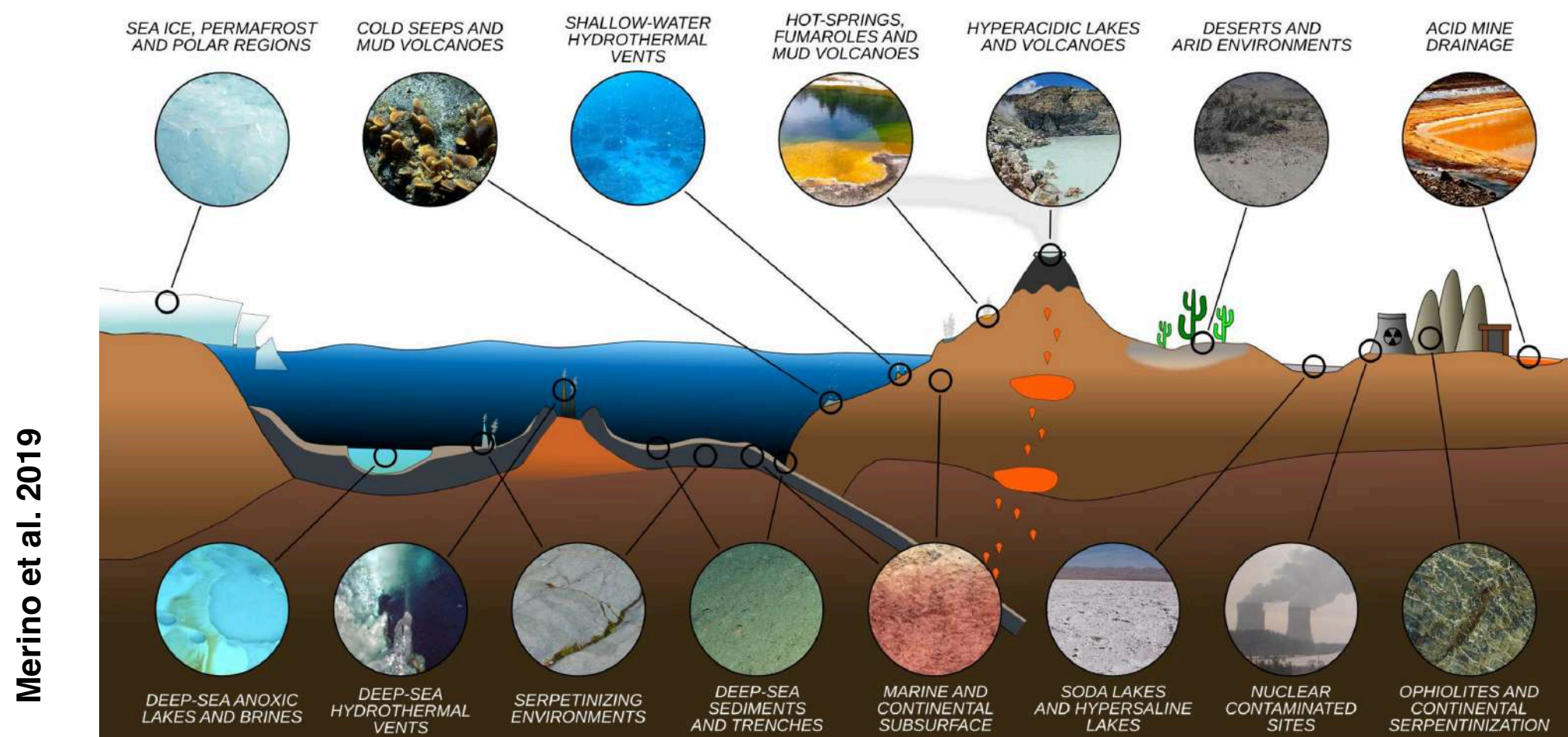
Proficiency in microbial literacy and gaining fundamental understanding of microbes life and their function in the environment, thus included the human beings in health and disease

Microbial environments

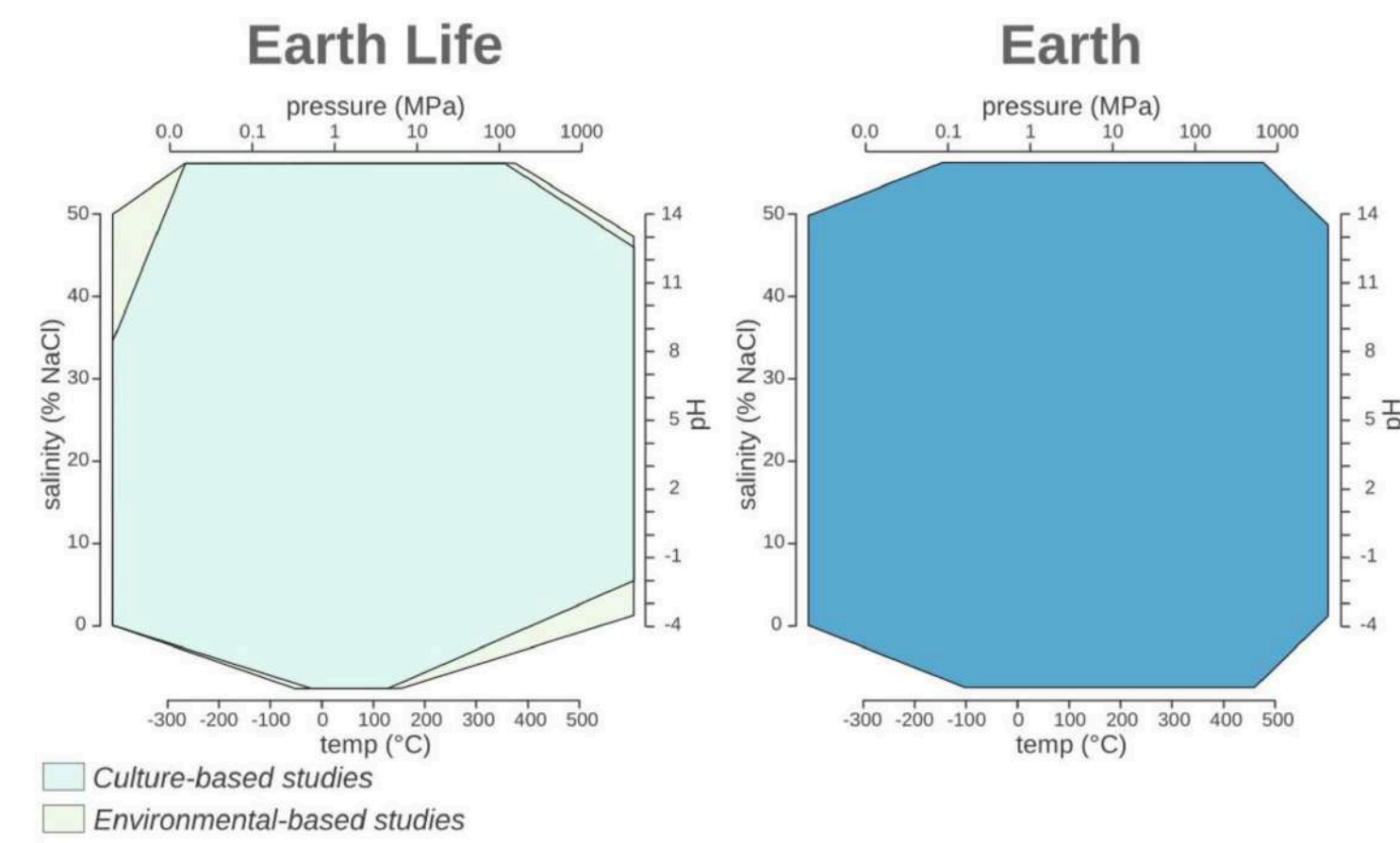
- Temperature
- pH
- Light/Dark
- Humidity
- Pressure
- Radiations (not on Earth)



Wipf et al. 2019



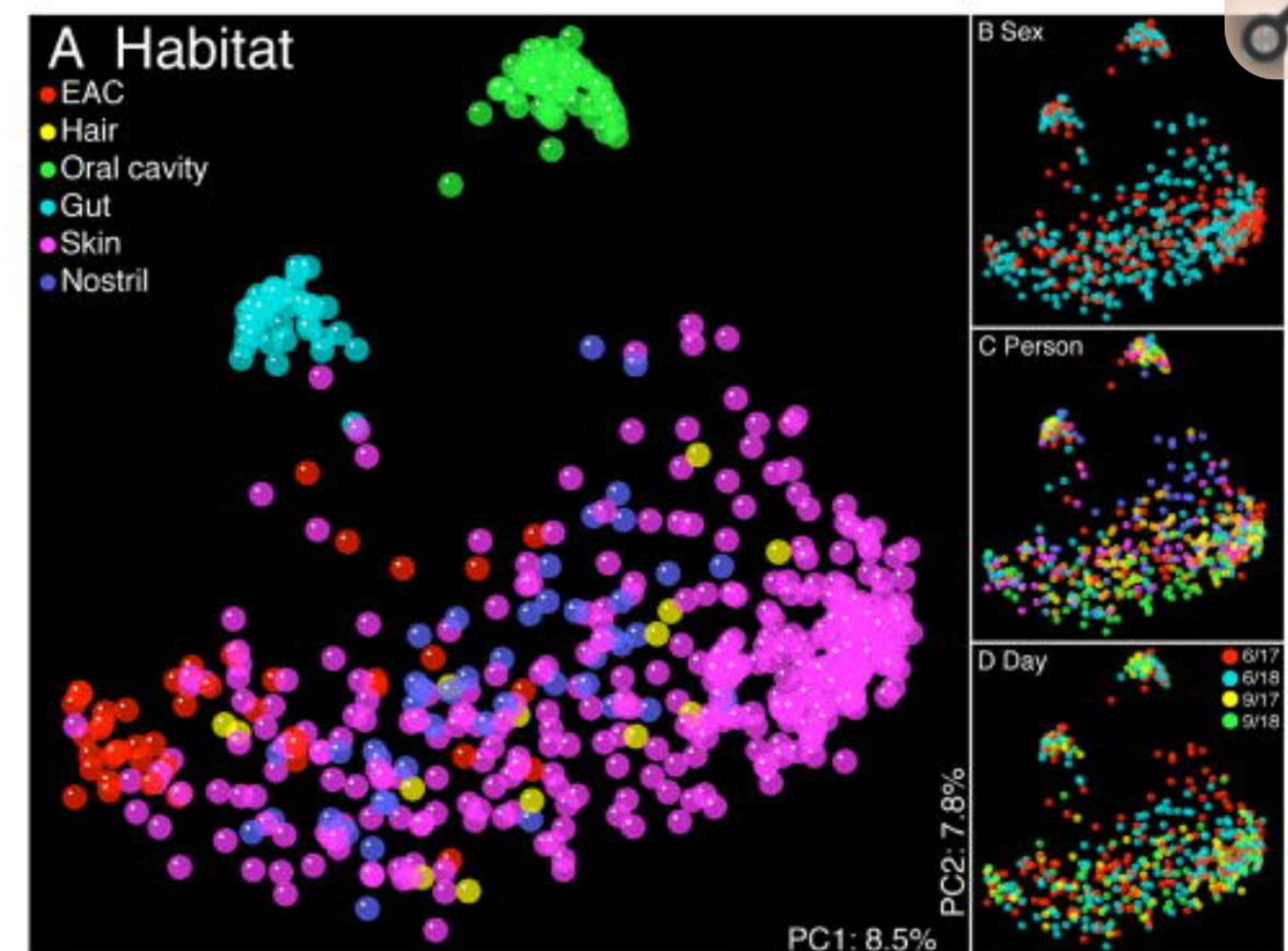
Merino et al. 2019



Merino et al. 2019

Human as a microbial environment

- 36-37 °C and > 38 °C
- Rich environment: proteins, sugar and lipids
- Oxygen: 5-20 mL/dL (in the blood) to 0 (in the stomach)
- Oxygen changes with altitude 100 mmHg = 20 mL/dL (148-43 mmHg from London to Mt. Everest)
- Light/Dark circles
- Eukaryotes and Viruses (ecology, chemistry and physiology)
- pH:
 - ★ skin~5.5
 - ★ blood~7.4
 - ★ mouth~ 6.7-7.3
 - ★ vagina ~3.8-4.5
 - ★ esophagus 5-7
 - ★ stomach 2-5
 - ★ duodenum 6.8



Why are we studying microbes?

- Microbes have been profoundly shaping the Earth's environment
- Microbes have invented biochemistry (unifying concept, Kluyver, 1956)
- Microbes are very diverse and productive despite size
- Microbes are everywhere
- Microbes have made Earth habitable
- Humans have evolved from them
- Microbes have changed Humans and still changing them

From where do we start? —> *ab initio*

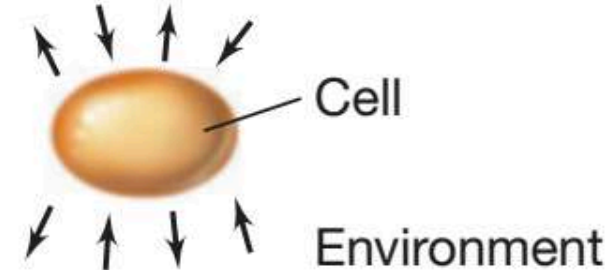
Being a microbe

Properties of *all* cells:

Metabolism

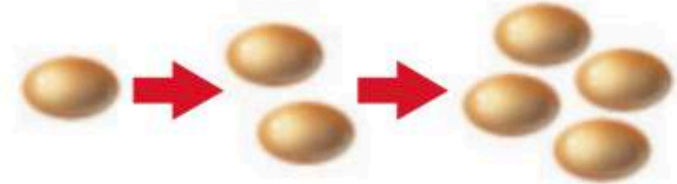
Cells take up nutrients, transform them, and expel wastes.

- 1. **Genetic** (replication, transcription, translation)
- 2. **Catalytic** (energy, biosyntheses)



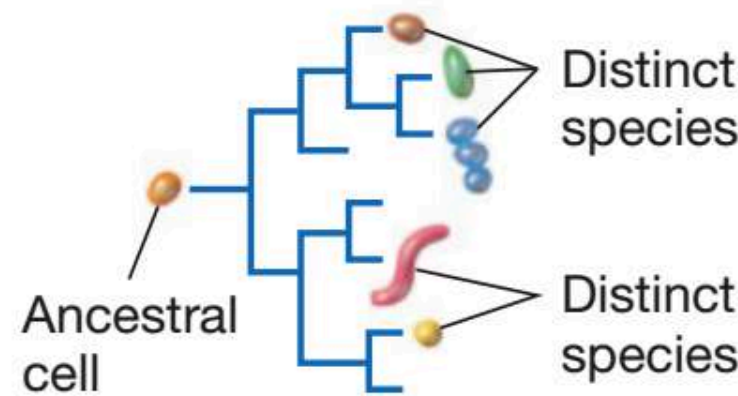
Growth

Nutrients from the environment are converted into new cell materials to form new cells.



Evolution

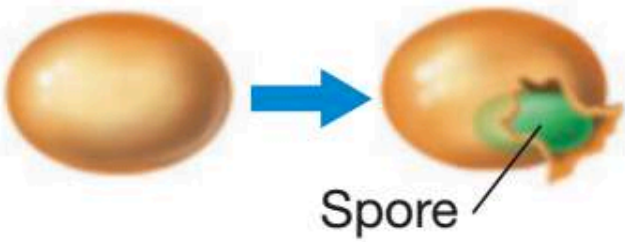
Cells evolve to display new properties. Phylogenetic trees capture evolutionary relationships.



Properties of *some* cells

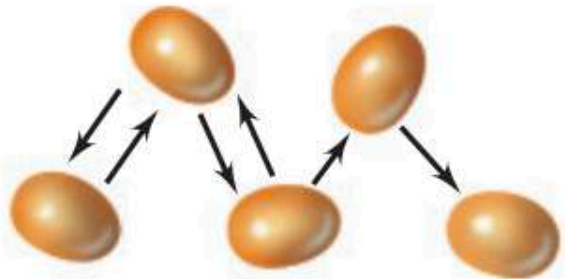
Differentiation

Some cells can form new cell structures such as a spore.



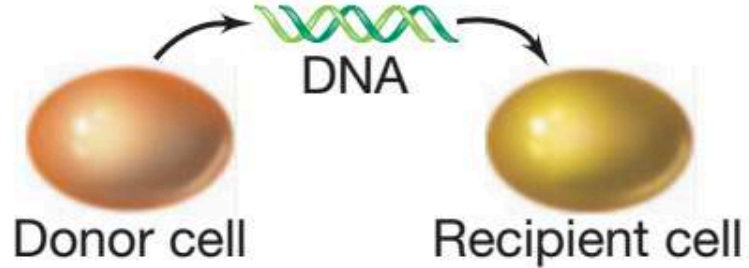
Communication

Cells interact with each other by chemical messengers.



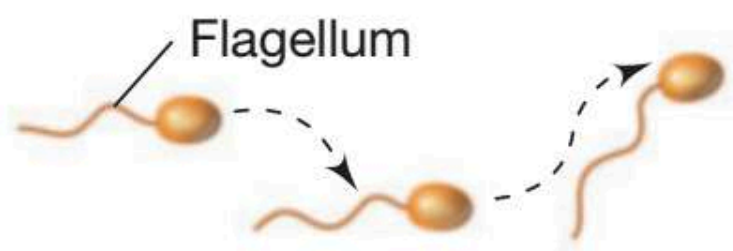
Genetic exchange

Cells can exchange genes by several mechanisms.

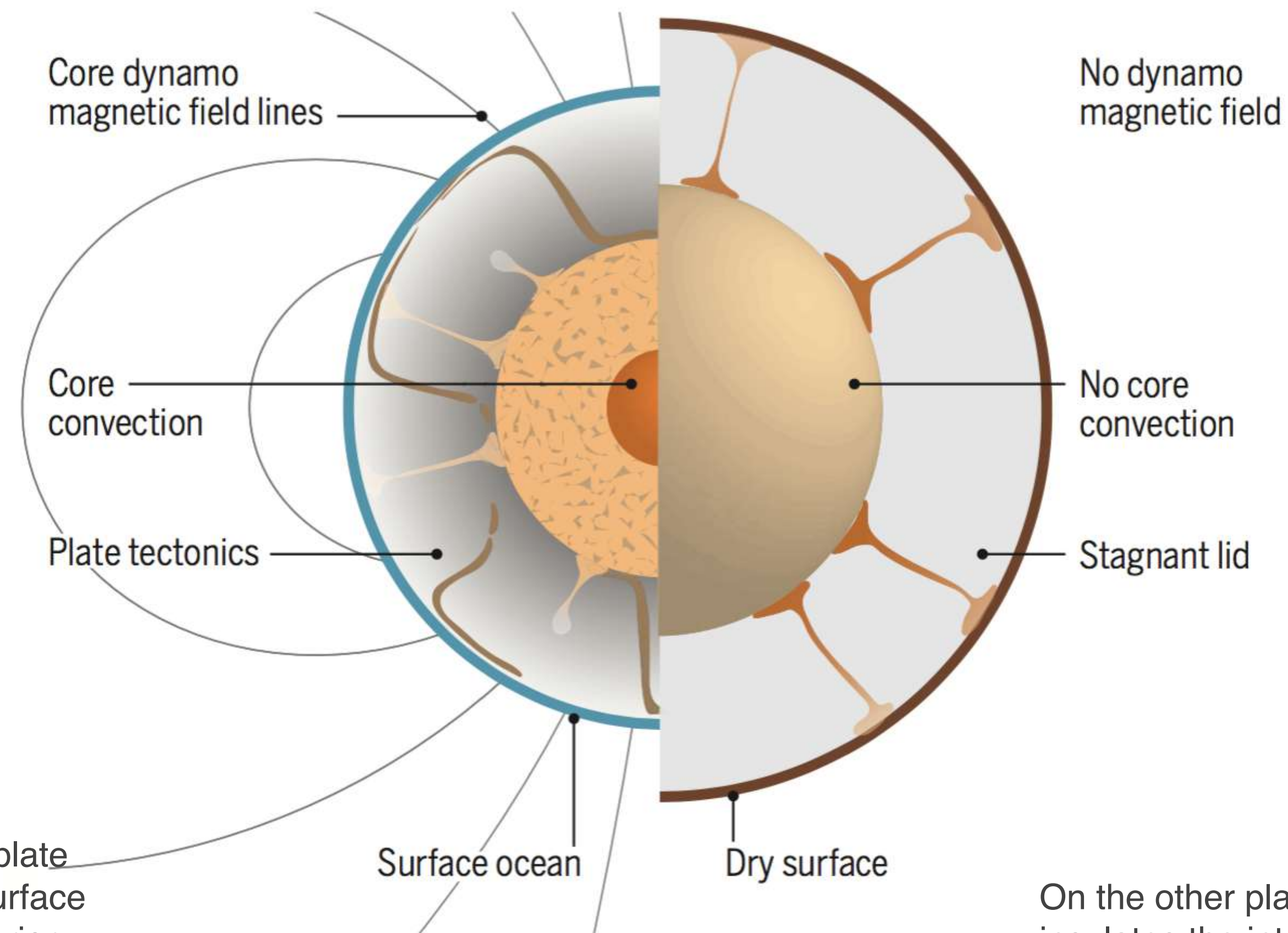


Motility

Some cells are capable of self-propulsion.



Habitable features of Earth and Exoplanets

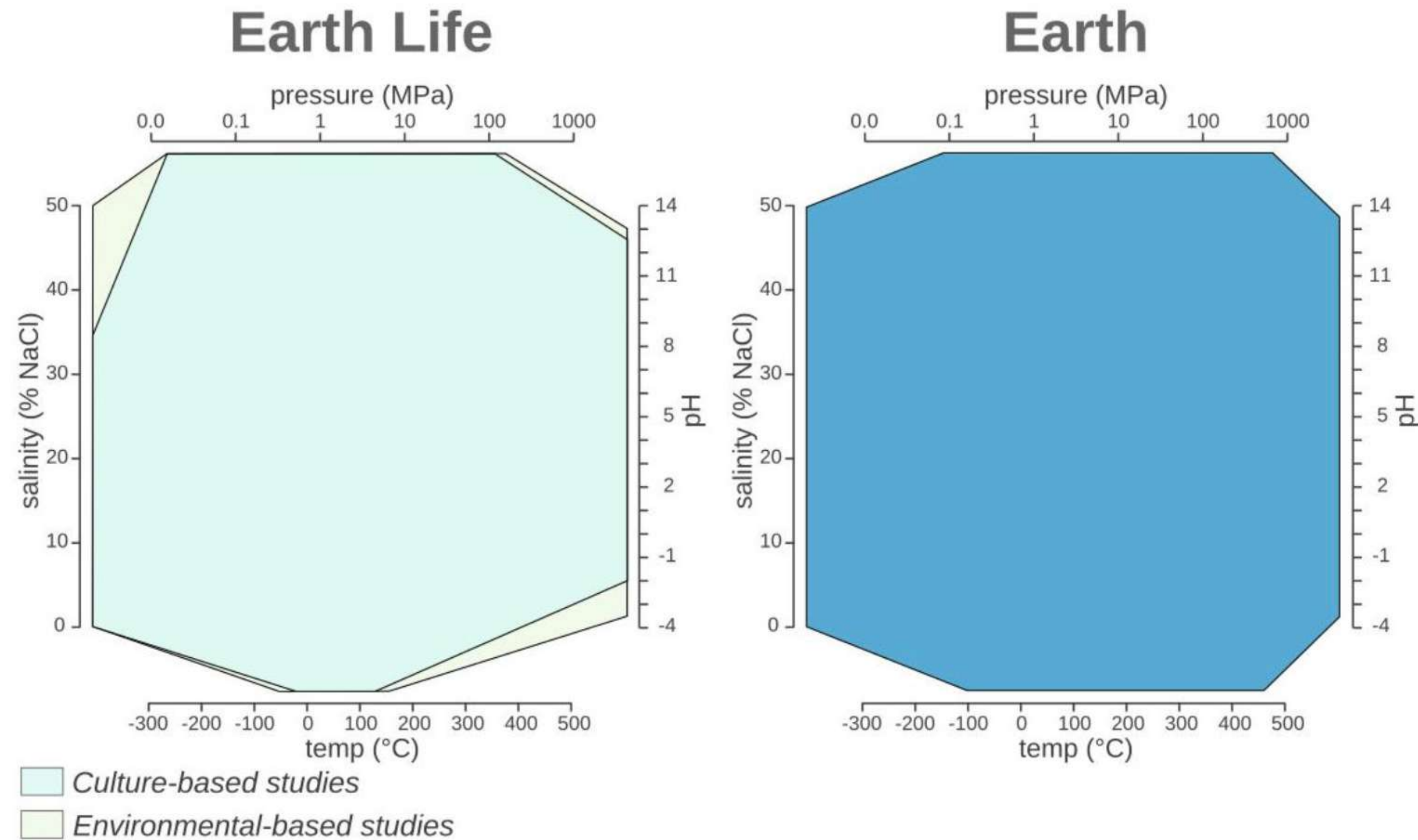


On the habitable planet, plate tectonics stabilizes the surface climate and cools the interior fast enough to generate a magnetic field that in turn shields the surface from water loss and harmful radiation

On the other planet, the stagnant lid insulates the interior, inhibiting magnetic field generation, allowing water loss to space, and rendering the surface too hot and dry for life

Microbial Life on Earth

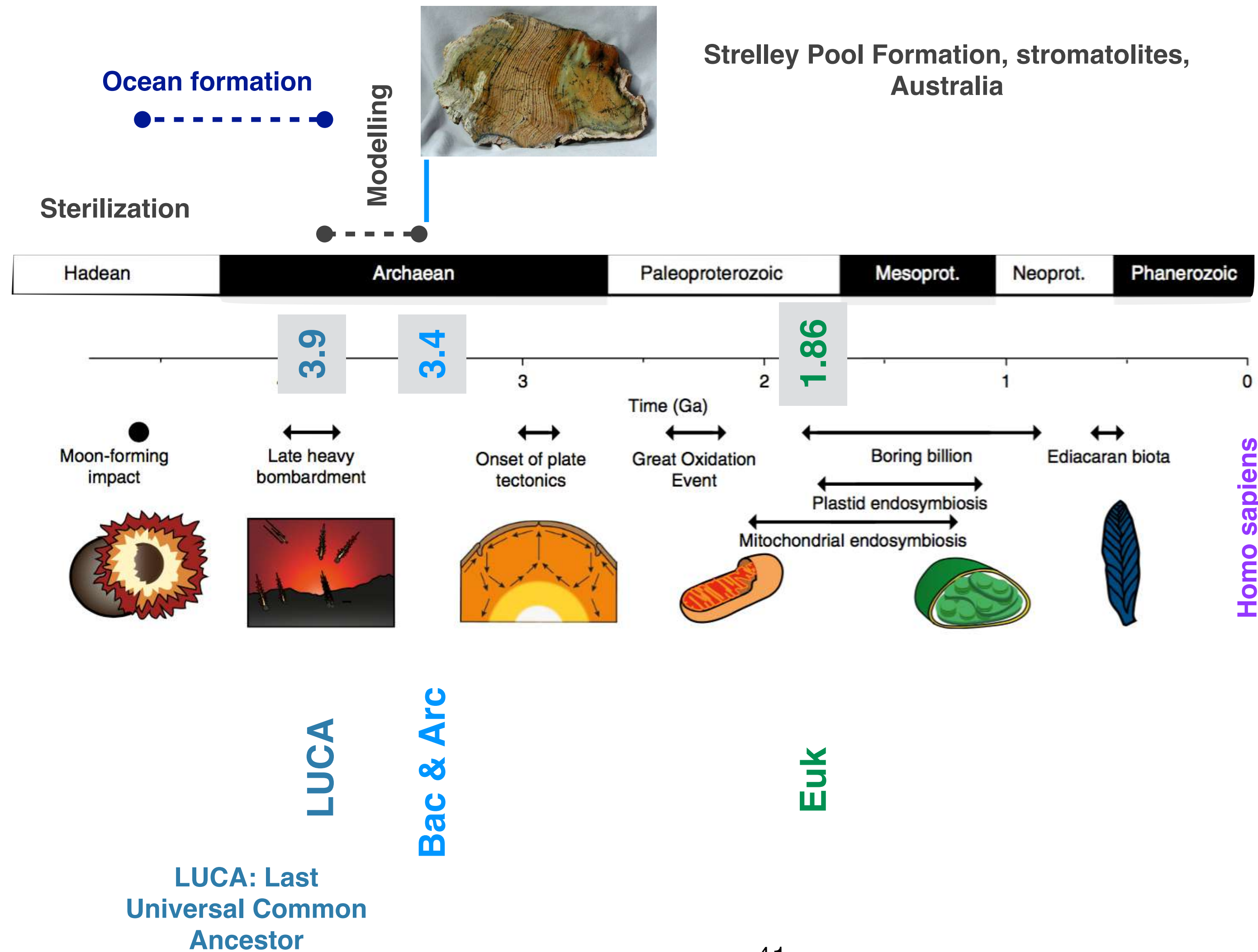
Merino et al., 2019



Earth is bursting with life, and its **biosphere** extends from ~10 km altitude to ~10 km into the oceans and oceanic crust as well as the continental crust

Biospheric capacity equivalent to ~1% of Earth's geosphere and troposphere → a minimum **biospheric volume** of ~1

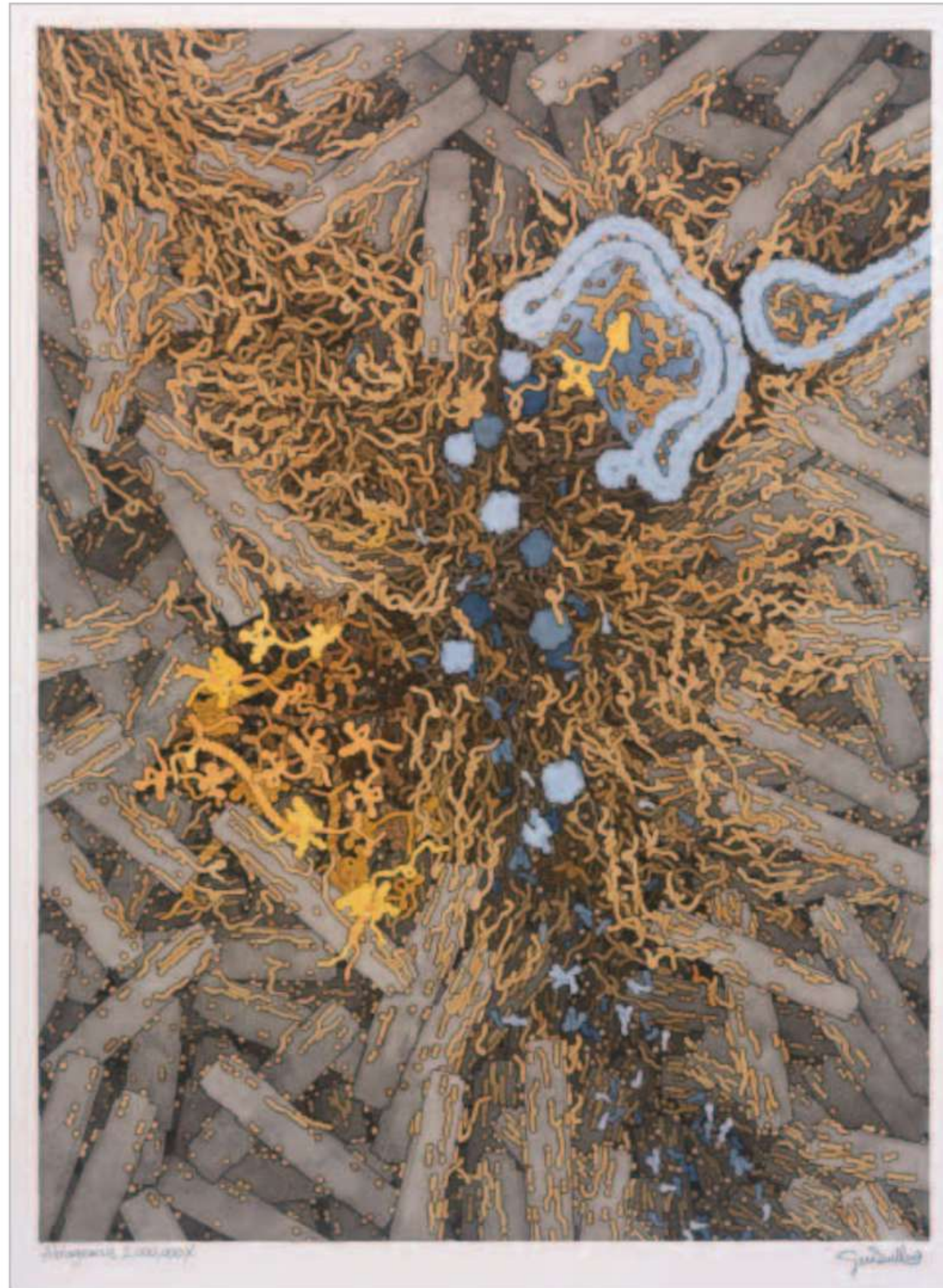
Origin of Life: **when**



Betts et al., 2018

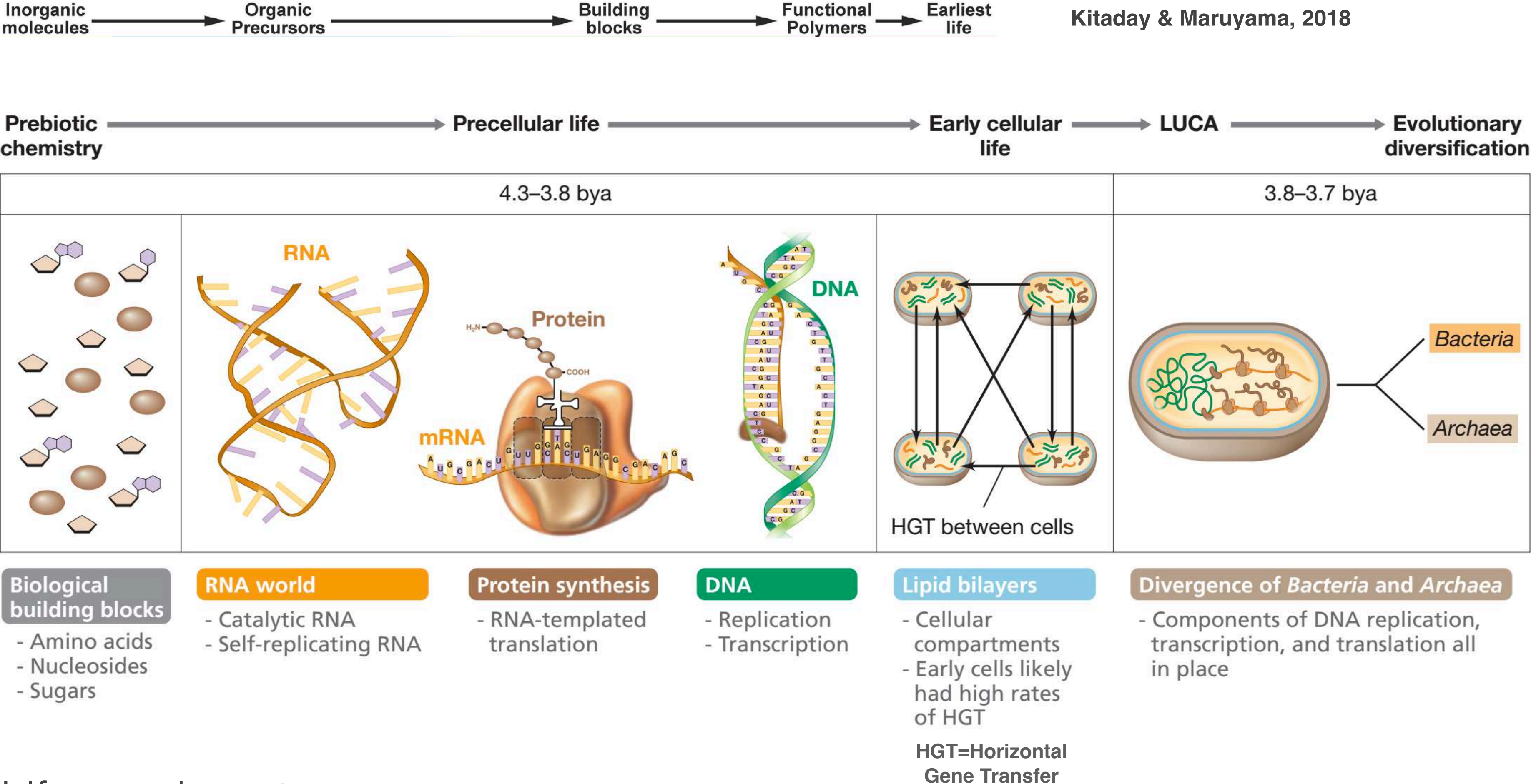
Origin of Life: “**Abiogenesis**”

David S. Goodsell



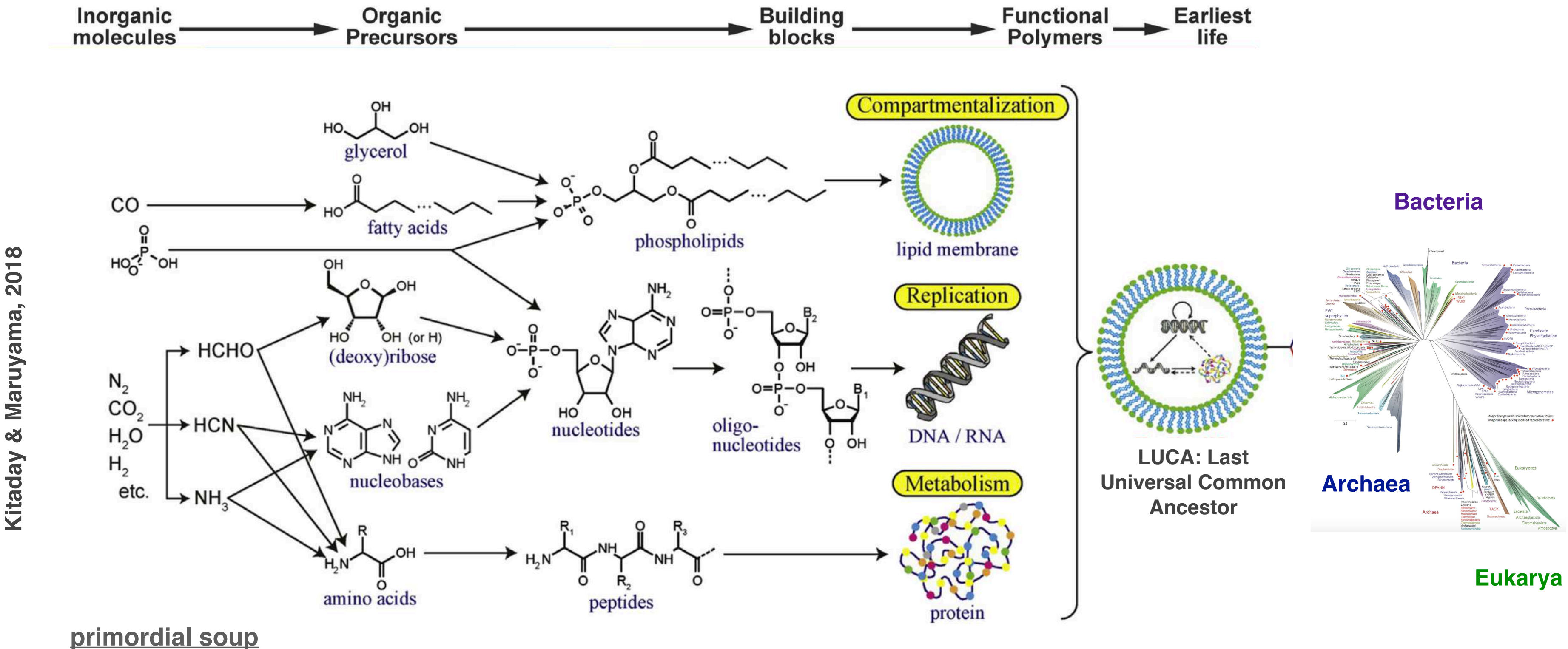
- Dawn of life, when **molecules gained the ability to replicate**
- **Cavity** in a mineral deposit at an alkaline hydrothermal vent
- **Nucleotide and lipid** building blocks are flowing in from lower right
- The nucleotides **interact** with the **mineral** crystals, catalyzing the formation of **RNA strands (brightest yellow)** → ability to replicate other RNA strands (many copies of itself)
- The molecules in blue are simple lipids that have a useful property: they **assemble into membranes** that allow the nucleotides, but not RNA, to cross
- **If a closed vesicle is formed with a replicator inside** (like the autophagy-type vesicle forming at top right), nucleotides can enter and the RNA products will be retained inside, forming the first protocell

Origin of Life: **how**



Life needs water

Building complexity to achieve the 3 fundamental functions of Life



Oparin AI. The Origin of Life. Izd. Moskovshii Rabochii; 1924

Haldane JB. The origin of life. Rationalist Annu. 1929

Miller-Urey's experiment mimicked lightning by the action of an electric discharge on a mixture of gases representing the early atmosphere (CH₄/H₂O/NH₃/H₂S and later H₂O, N₂, and CH₄, CO₂, or CO), in the presence of a liquid water reservoir, representing the early oceans → hydrogen cyanide, formaldehyde, and amino acids

Hug et al., 2016

Parker et al. 2014

RNA-peptide world

RNA world concept: life evolved from increasingly **complex self-replicating RNA molecules**

In RNA world: complex proto-RNA strands were able to both **copy themselves** and compete with other strands

Later, these **'RNA enzymes'** could have evolved the **ability to build proteins** and ultimately to **transfer their genetic information into more-stable DNA**

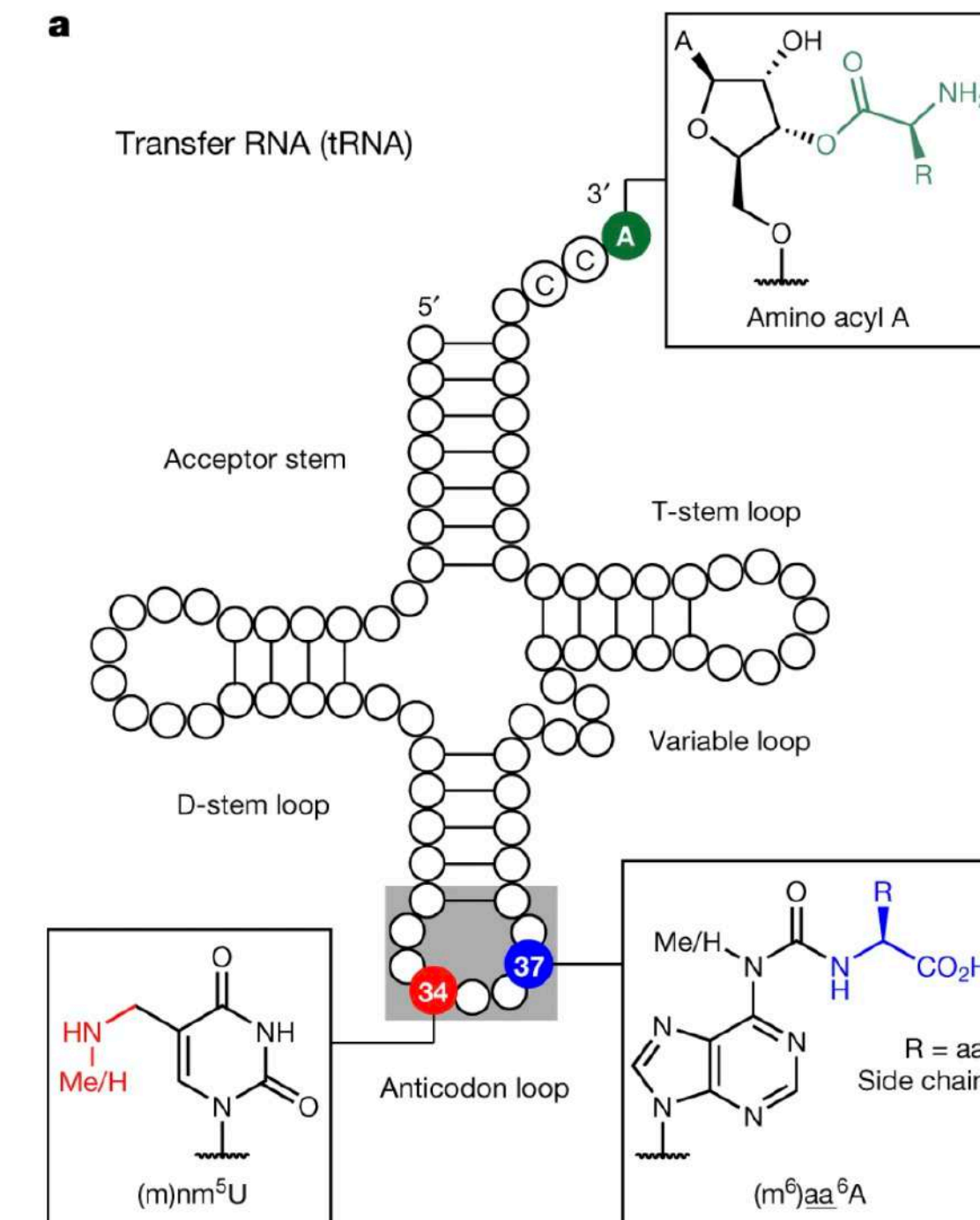
Catalysts made of RNA alone are much less efficient than the protein-based enzymes found in all living cells today

How this RNA world then advanced to the next stage, in which **proteins became the catalysts of life** and **RNA reduced its function predominantly to information storage**

Non-canonical RNA bases are considered to be relics of the RNA world and are able to establish peptide synthesis directly on RNA (transfer and ribosomal RNAs)

Complex peptide-decorated RNA chimeric molecules, which suggests the early existence of an RNA-peptide world → ribosomal peptide synthesis may have emerged

Müller et al., 2022

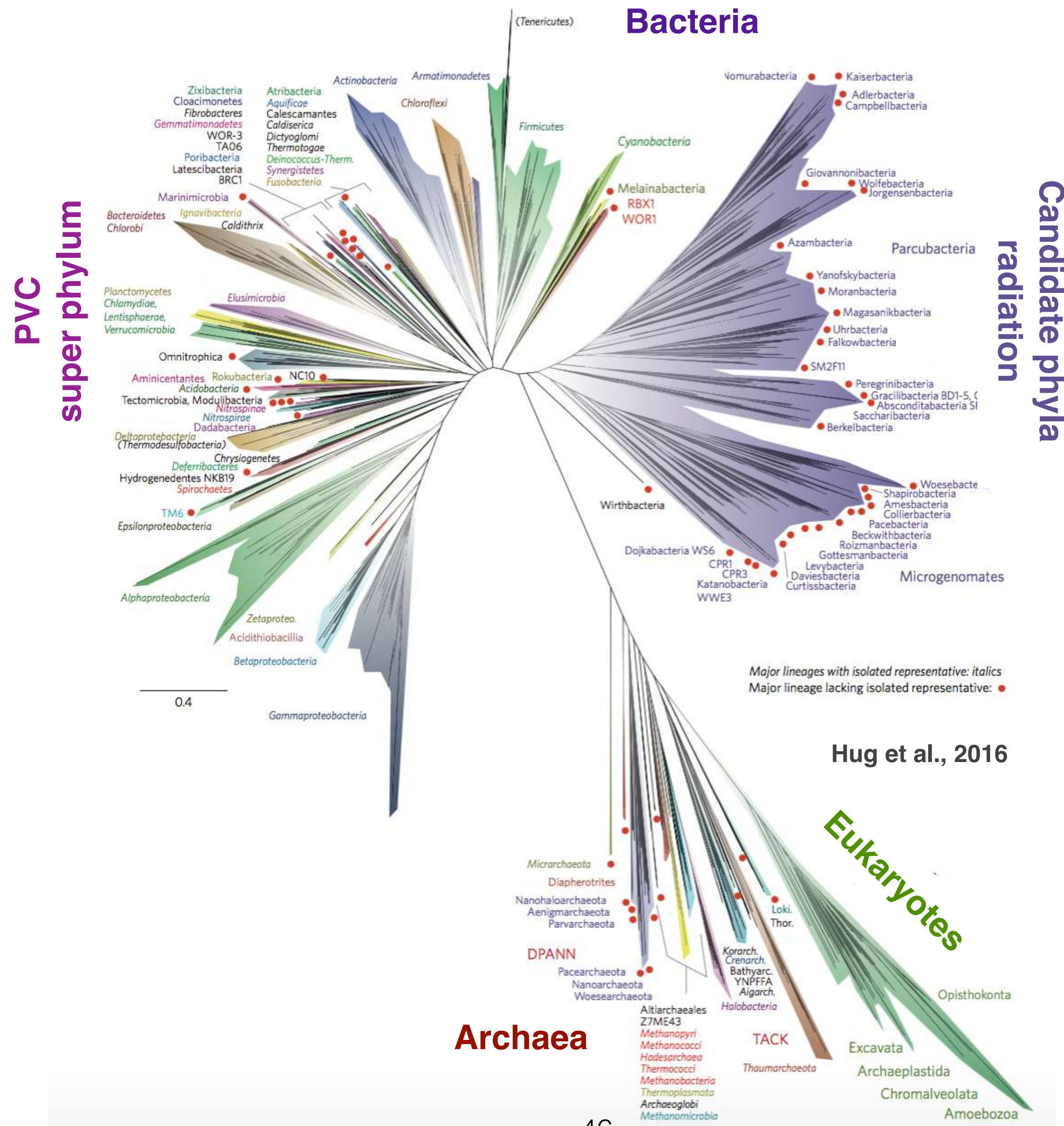


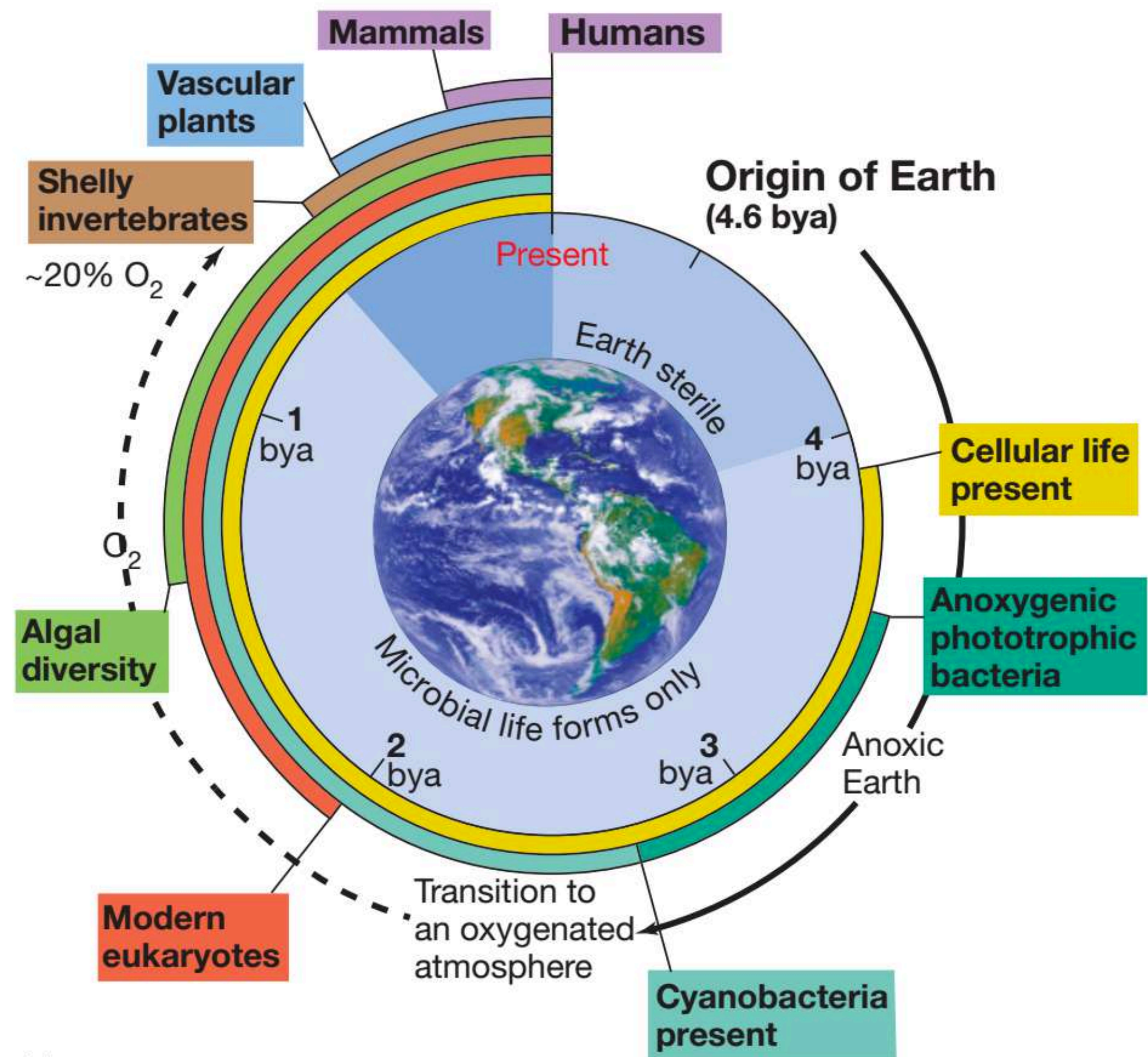
The 3'-amino acid-acylated adenosine is located at the CCA 3' end in contemporary tRNAs

5-Methylaminomethyl uridine, mnm⁵U, is found in the wobble position 34

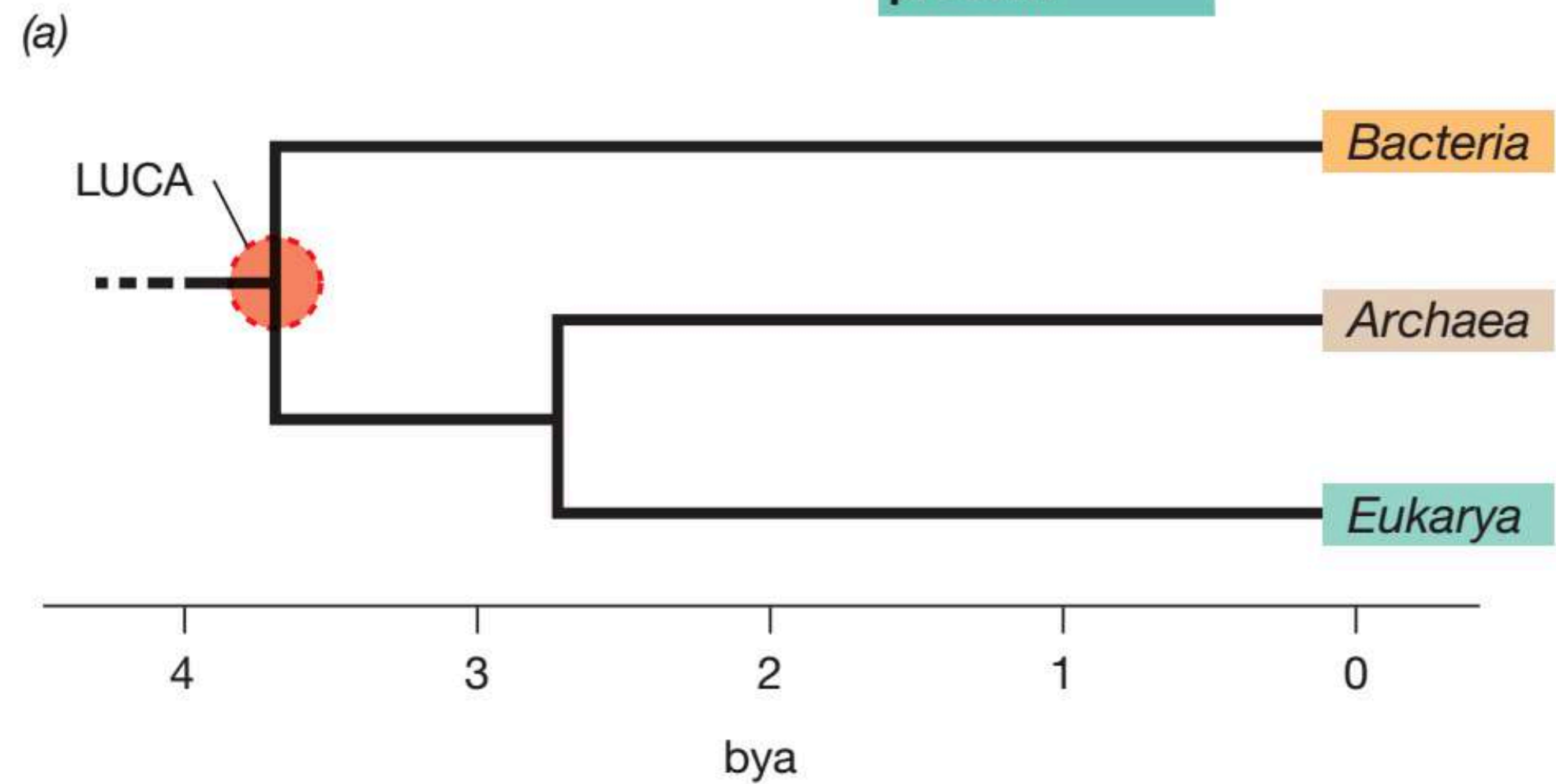
The amino acid-modified carbamoyl adenosine, (m⁶)aa⁶A (aa, amino acid), is present at position 37 in certain tRNAs

Microbial diversity on Earth

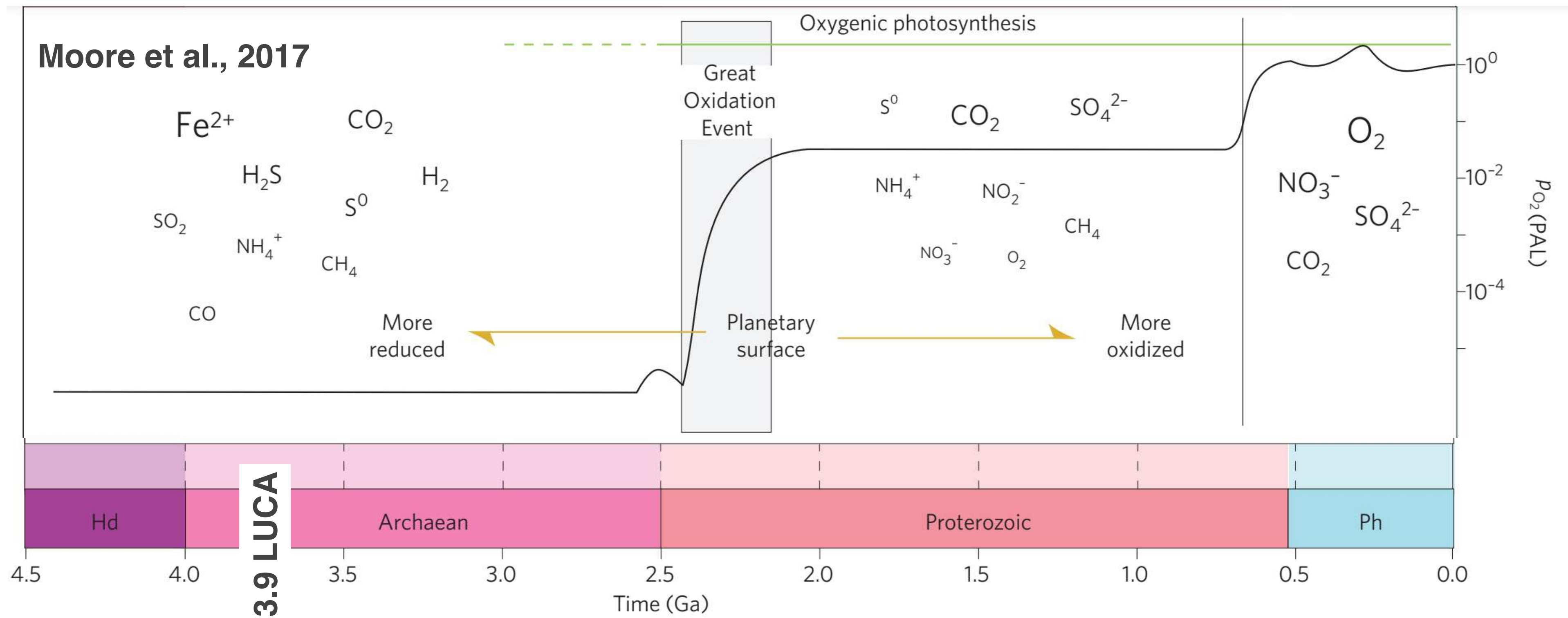




Microbial Metabolic diversity impacts Earth ecosystem



Earth redox state changes

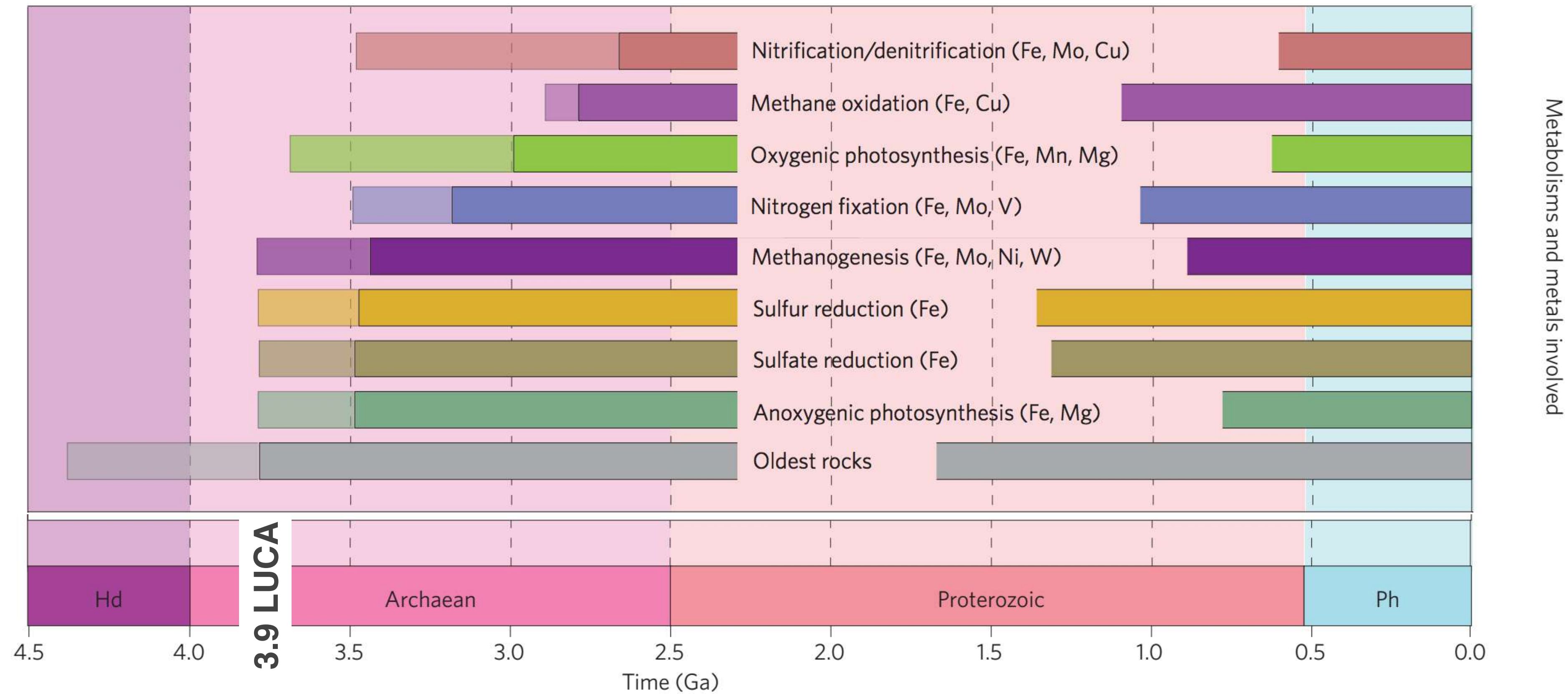


The availability of different metals and substrates has changed over the course of Earth's history as a result of secular changes in redox conditions of the mantle

Solar energy used by early microbes

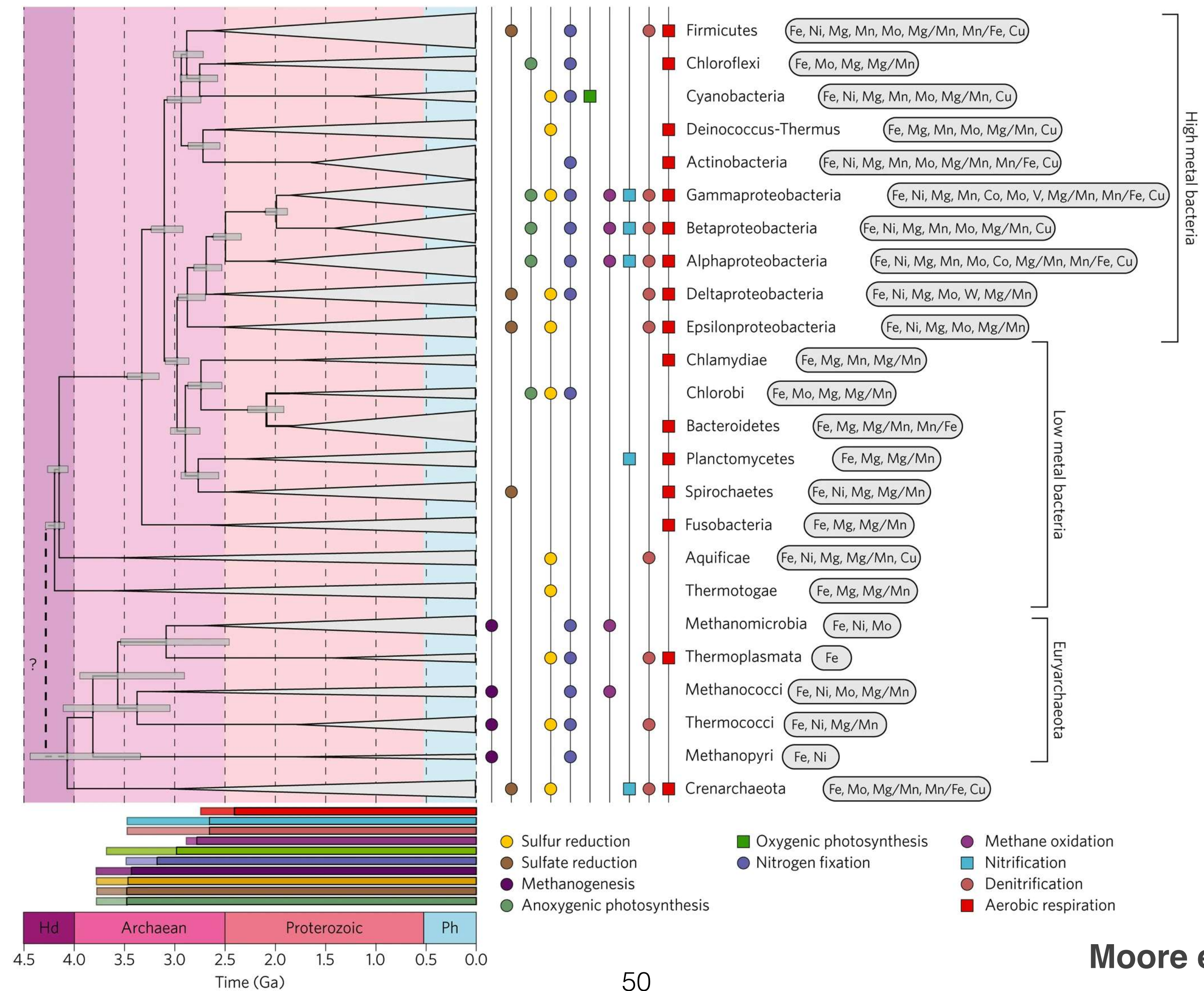
Emerging microbial metabolisms

Moore et al., 2017



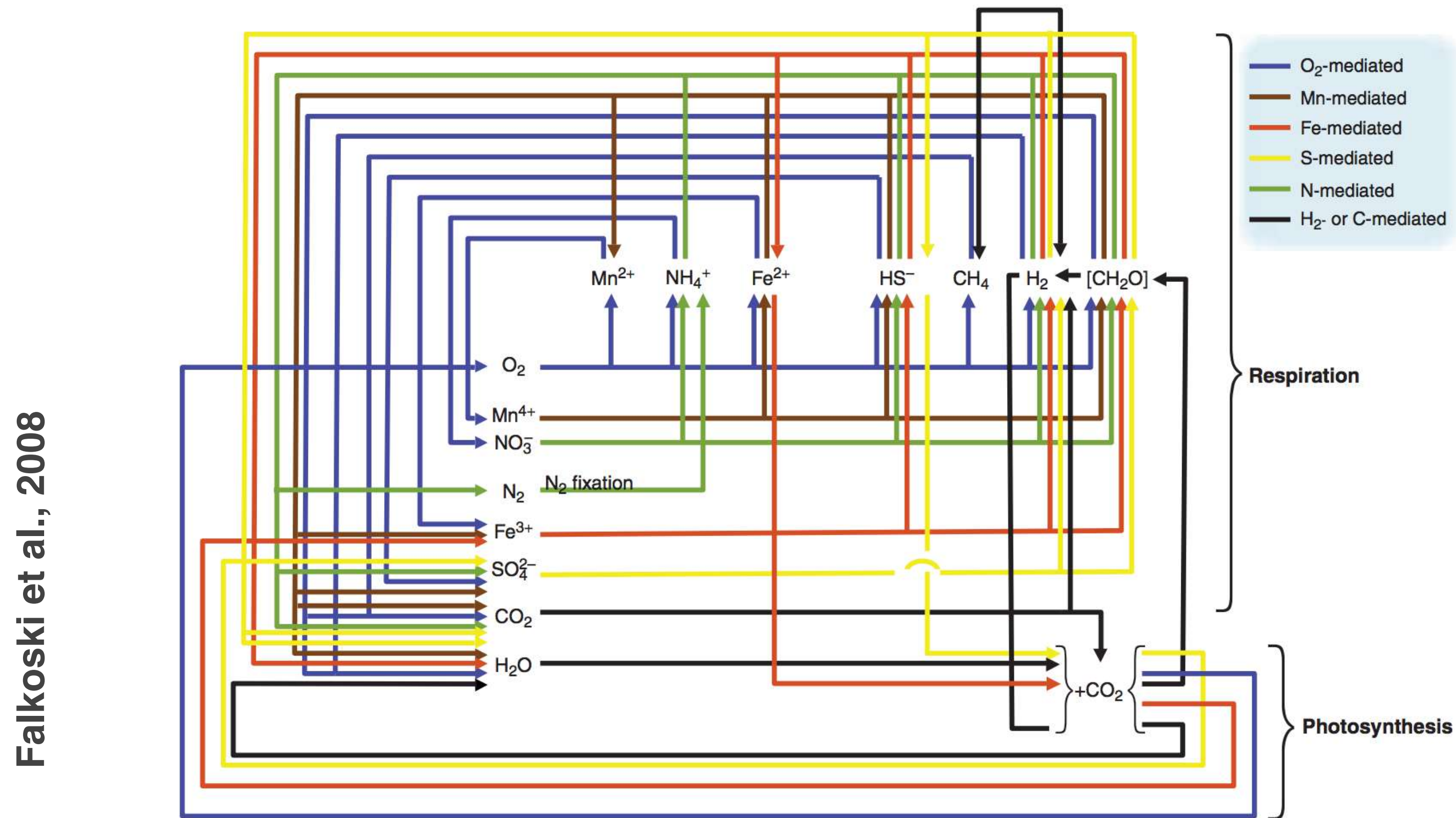
The oxidoreductases responsible for these metabolisms incorporated metals that were readily available in Archaean oceans: iron and iron–sulfur clusters

Phylogenetic tree of the main lineages of Bacteria and Archaea and their putative divergence times



Moore et al., 2017

Present microbial metabolism on Earth

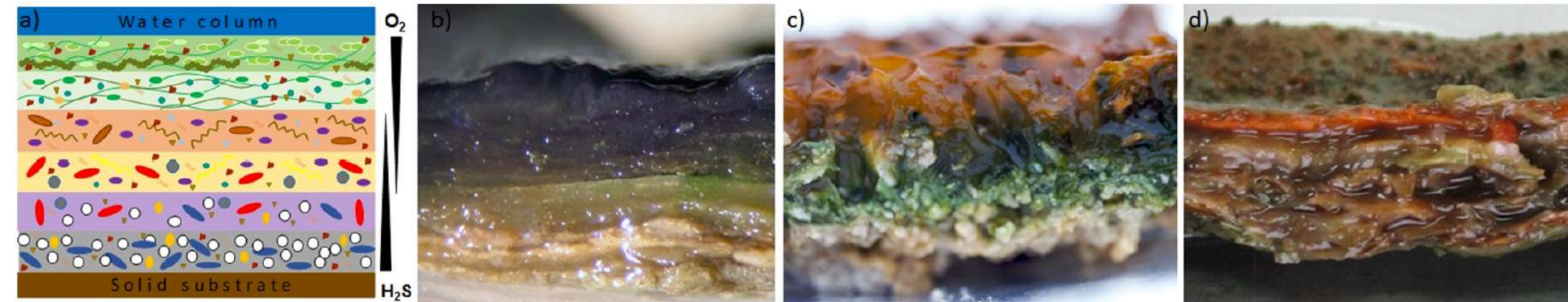


A global, interconnected network of the biologically mediated cycles for hydrogen, carbon, nitrogen, oxygen, sulfur, and iron
 A large portion of these microbially mediated processes are associated only with anaerobic habitats

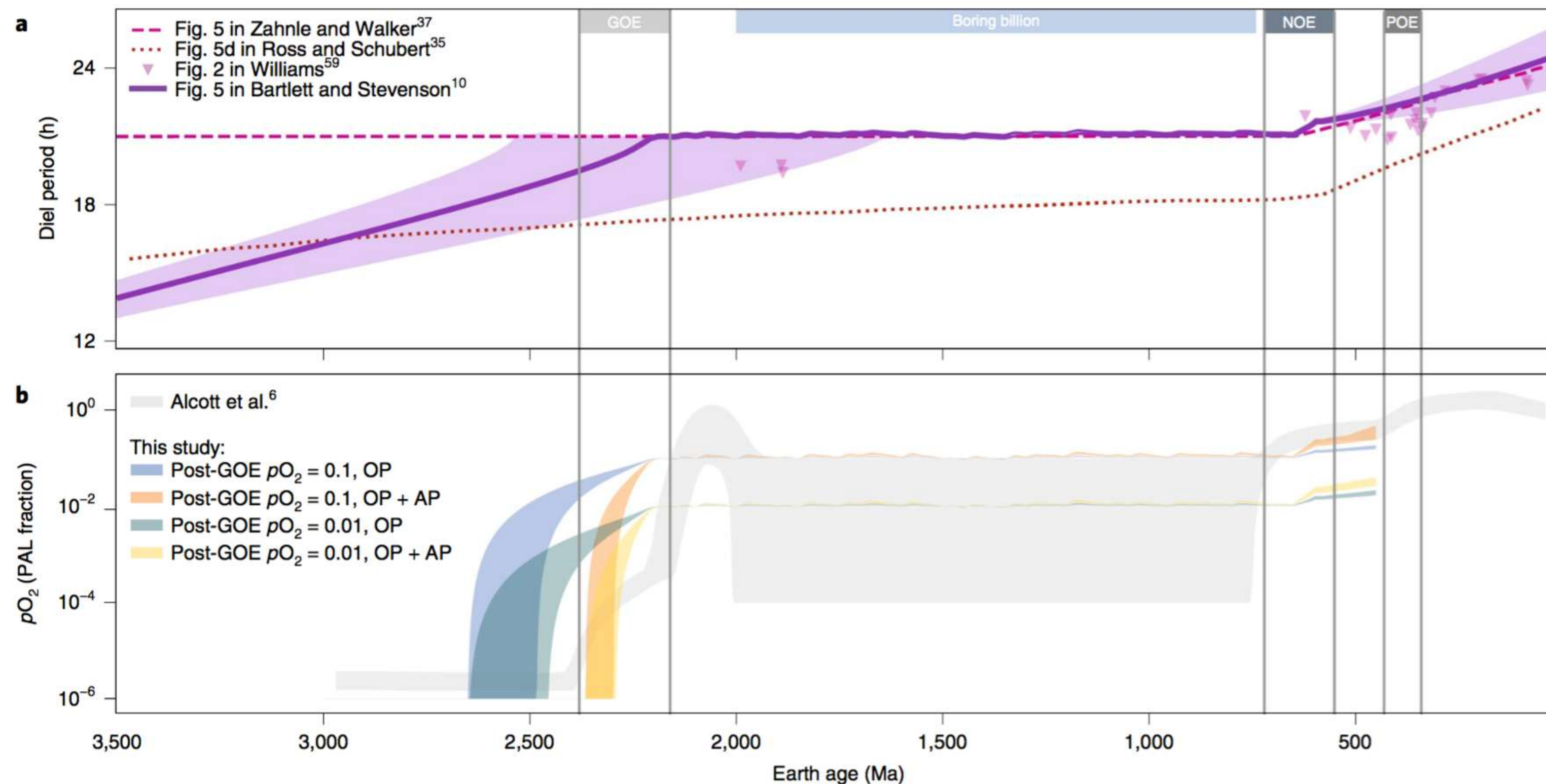
Earth's rotation rate → day-length → and oxygenation

Oxygenic photosynthesis (OP) in microbial mats was a substantial source of O₂ for the Great Oxidation Event (GOE) ~2.4 billion years ago (Ga), during the stable low-O₂ conditions that followed and for the Neoproterozoic Oxygenation Event (NOE) ~600Ma

Day-length, which has increased through geological time due to Earth's rotational deceleration caused by tidal friction

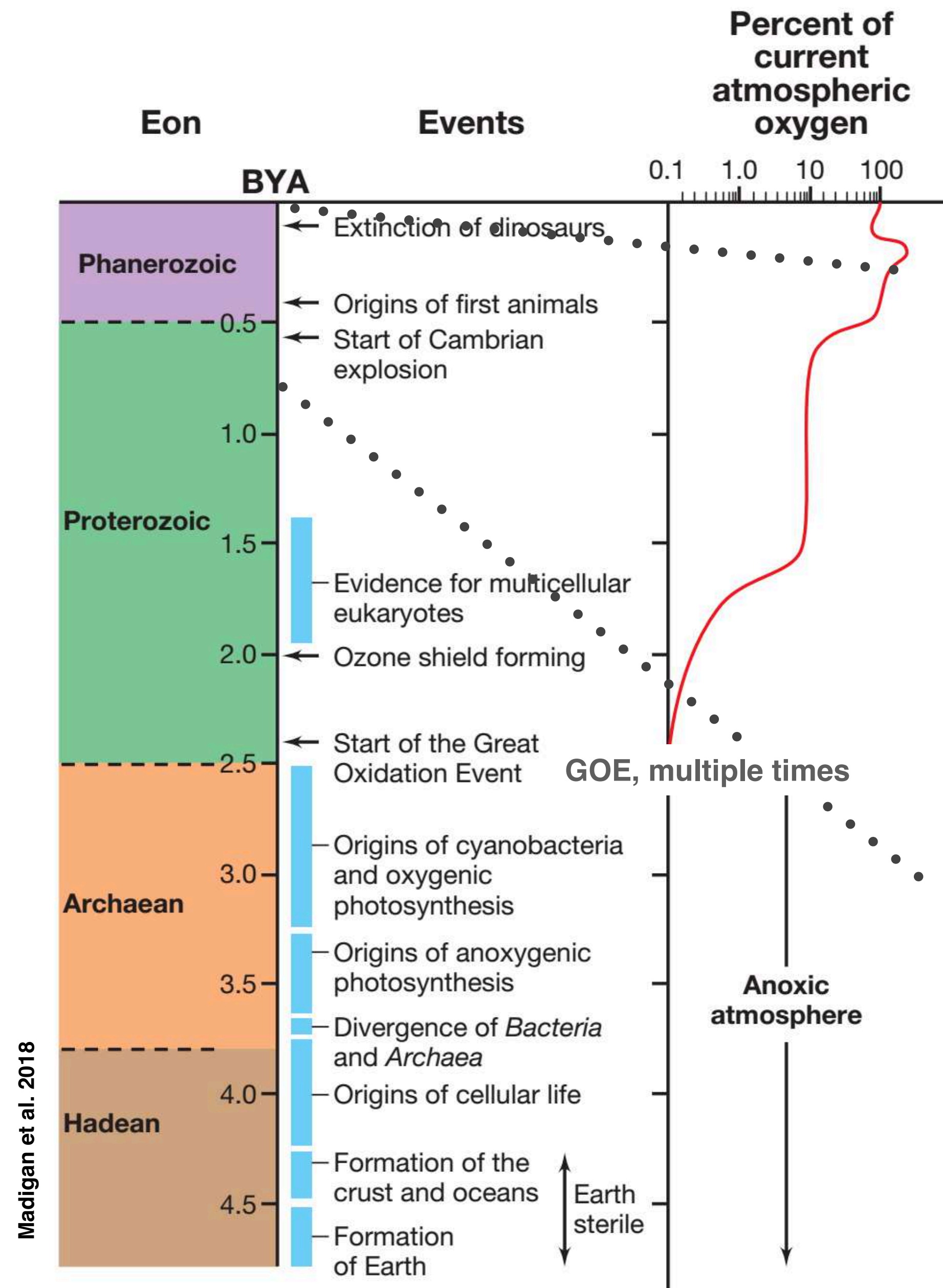


Prieto-Barajas et al. 2018

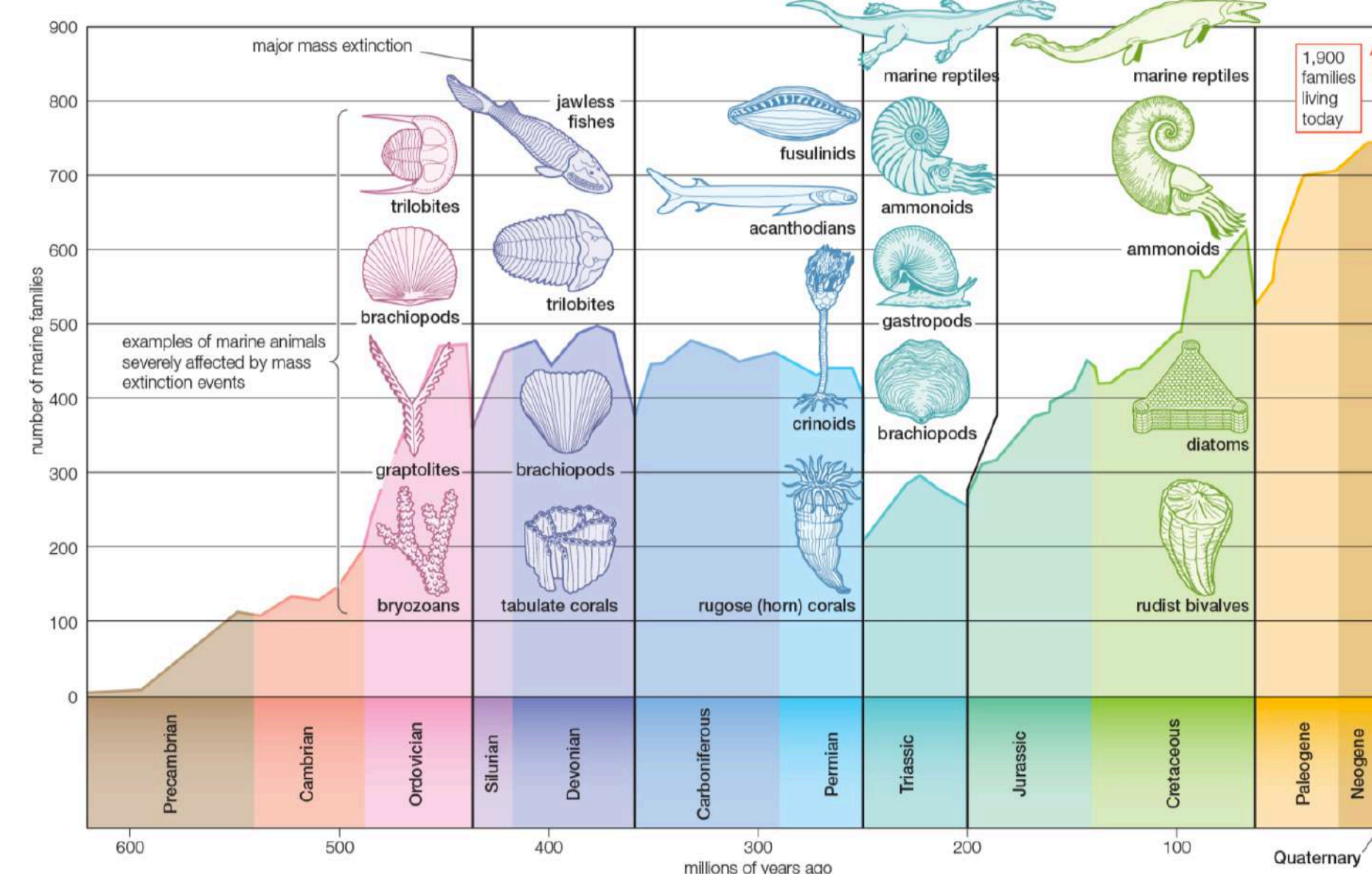


Klatt et al. 2021

Origin of Life: how



Diversity of marine animal families over geologic time



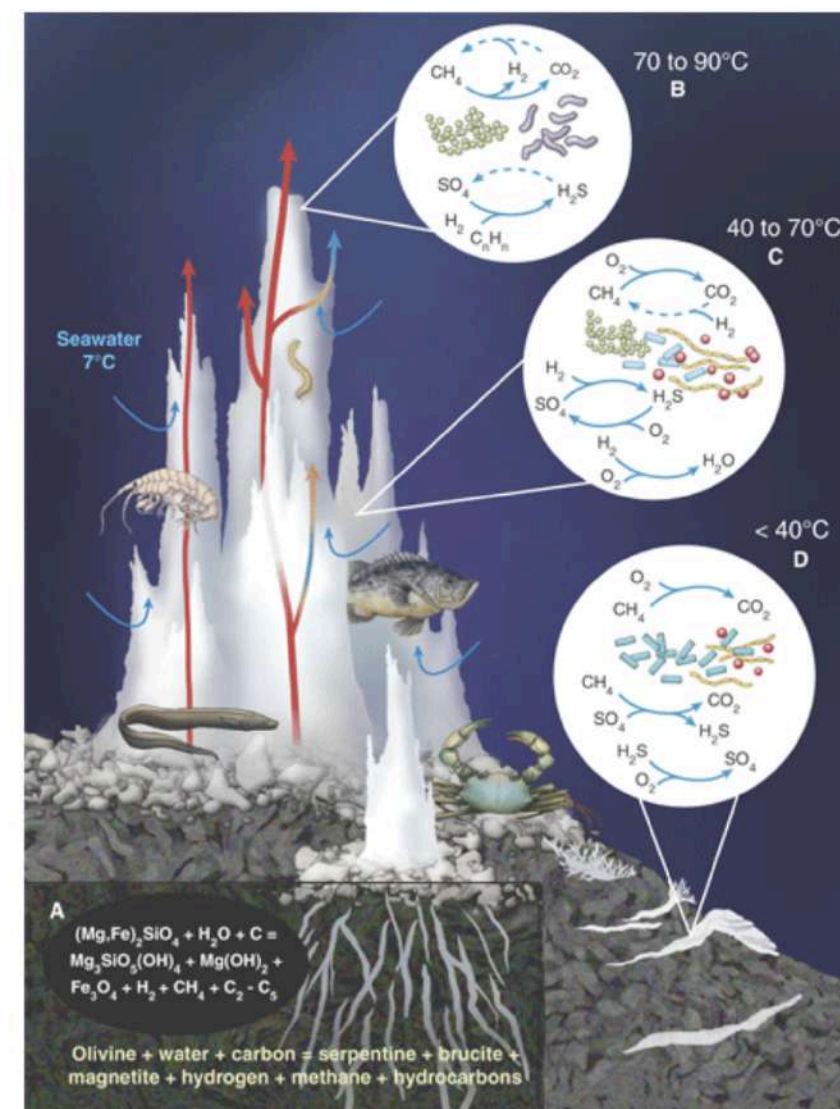
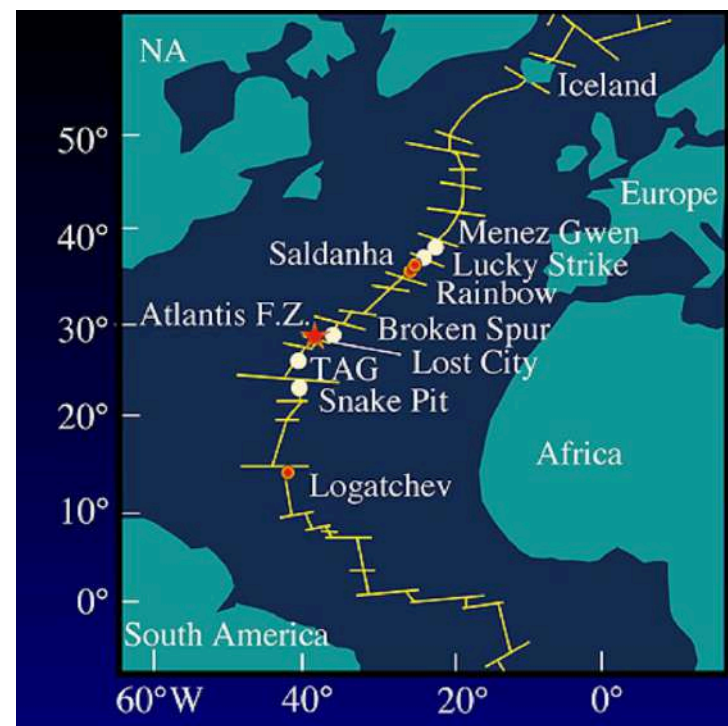
- **GOE: microbial extinction, segregation of anaerobes in microenvironment**
- **O₃ layer protecting UV**
- **Many massive extinctions for megafauna... still today**

Origin of Life: **where**

At the interface:

- a. Diffusion limited surfaces
- b. Hydrophobic surfaces
- c. Adsorption of organic pre-biotic molecules
- d. Fe, S, other minerals acting as catalyst

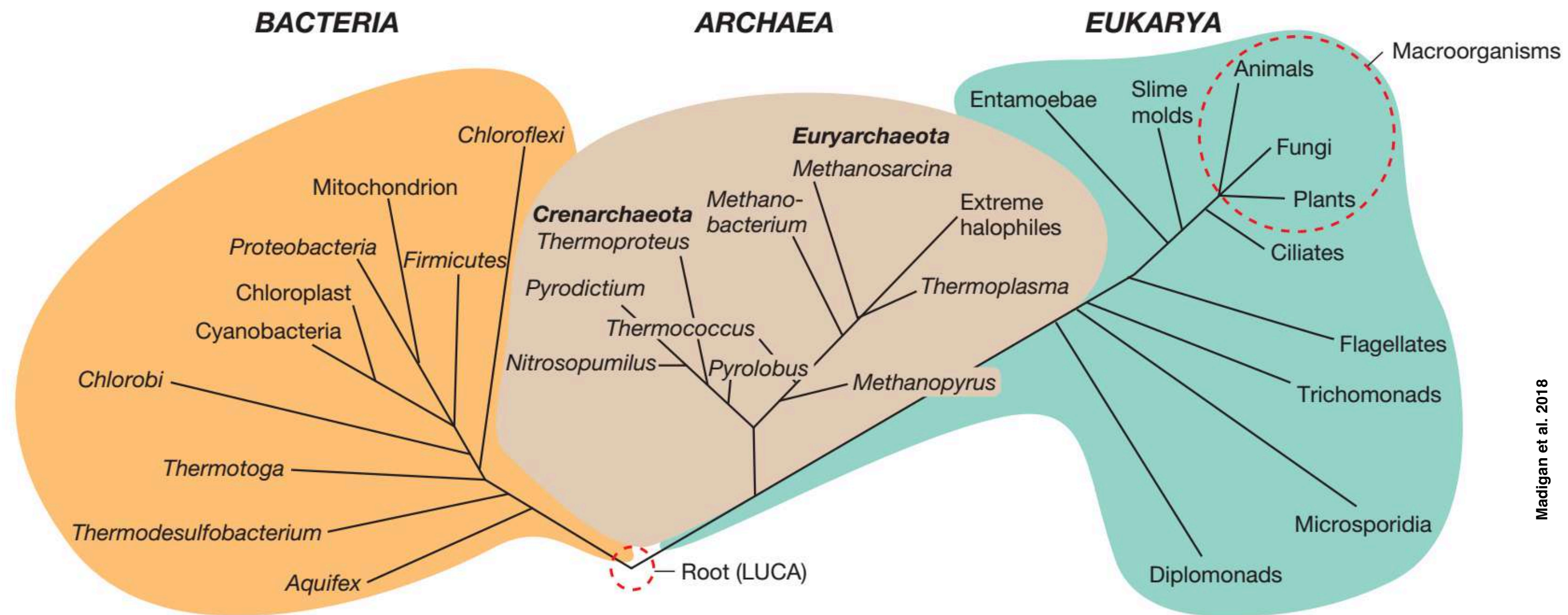
1. Mineral surfaces on microporous rock (similar at hydrothermal vent, LOST CITY)



2. Shallow terrestrial ponds with geothermal energy



The rise of the Eukarya: eukaryogenesis

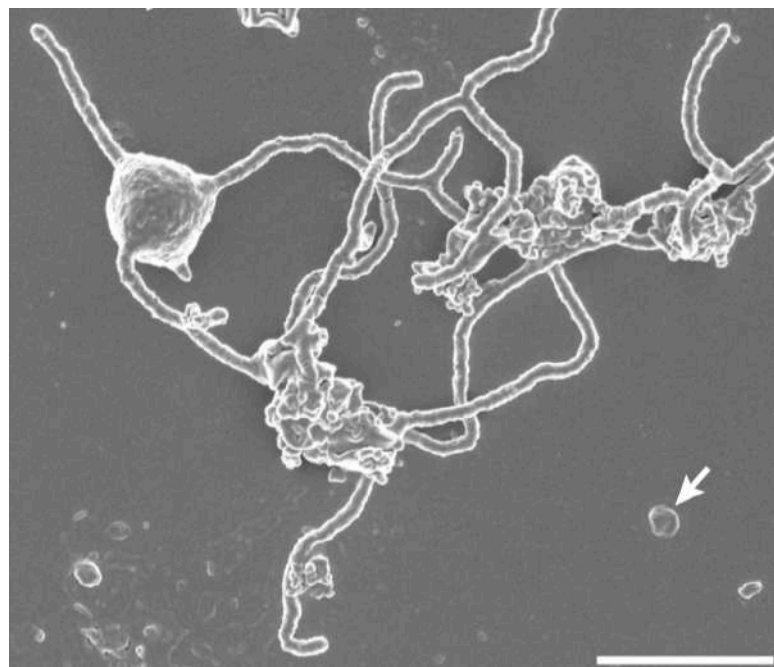


Madigan et al. 2018

LUCA: Last Universal Common Ancestor

~ 1.86 billions

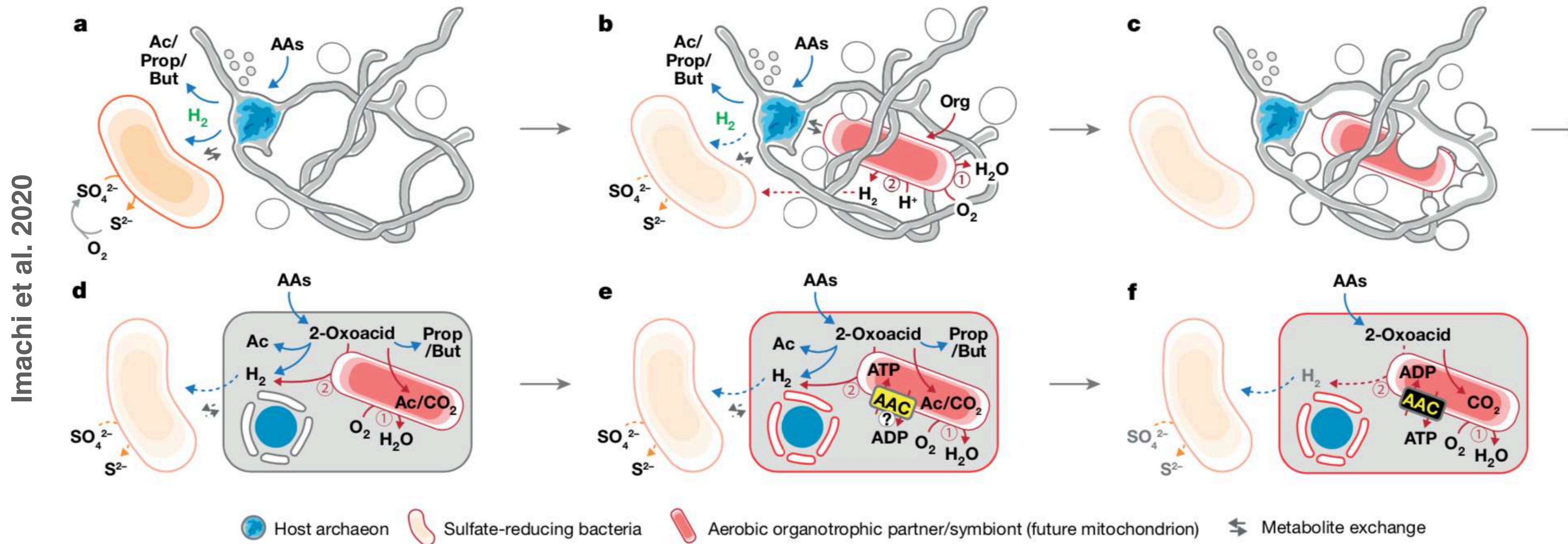
Imachi et al. 2020



2,000 days to enrich such organisms from anaerobic marine methane-seep sediments

Entangle–Engulf–Endogenize (also known as E³) model

Entangle–Engulf–Endogenize, E3 model

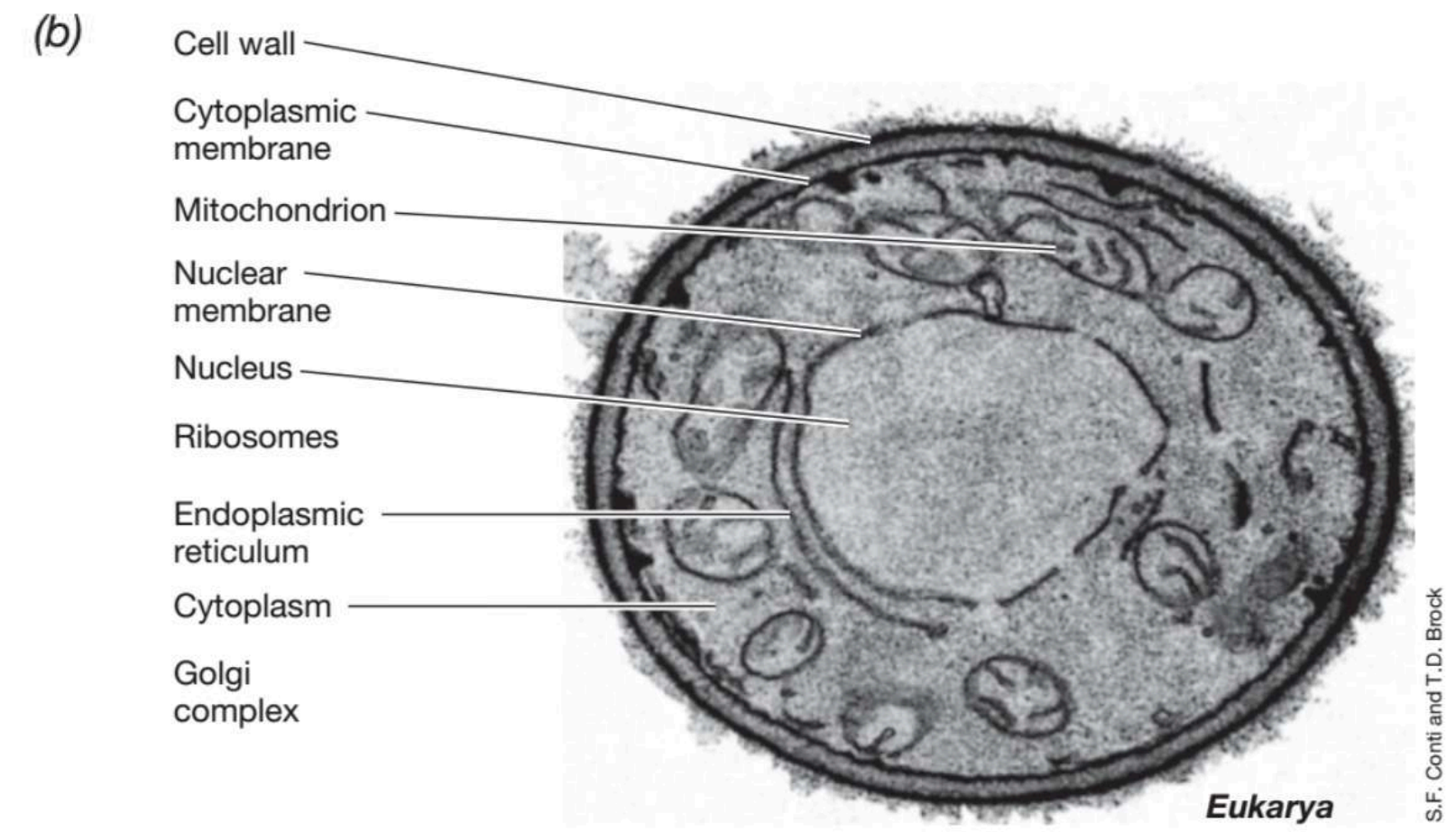
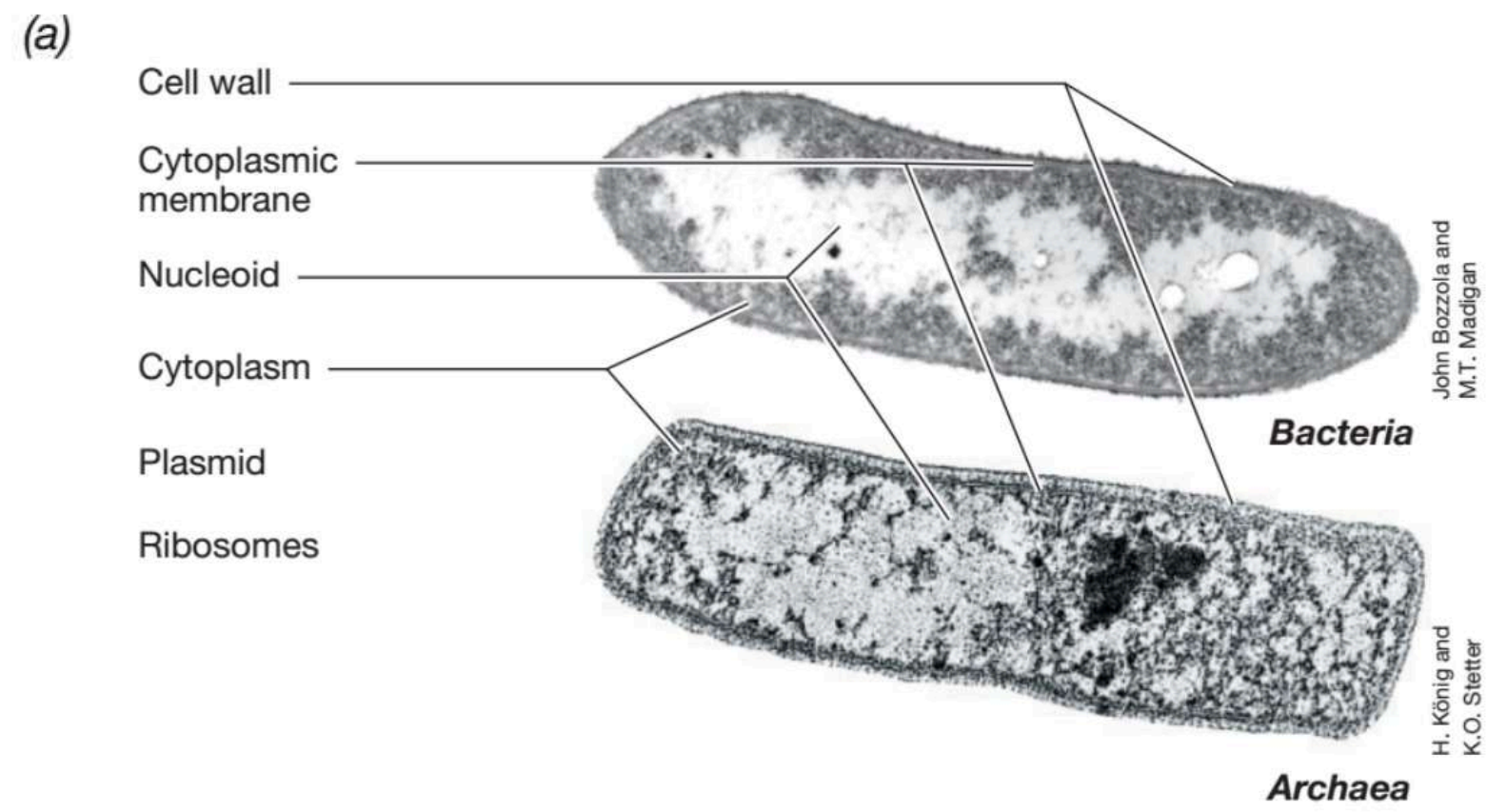
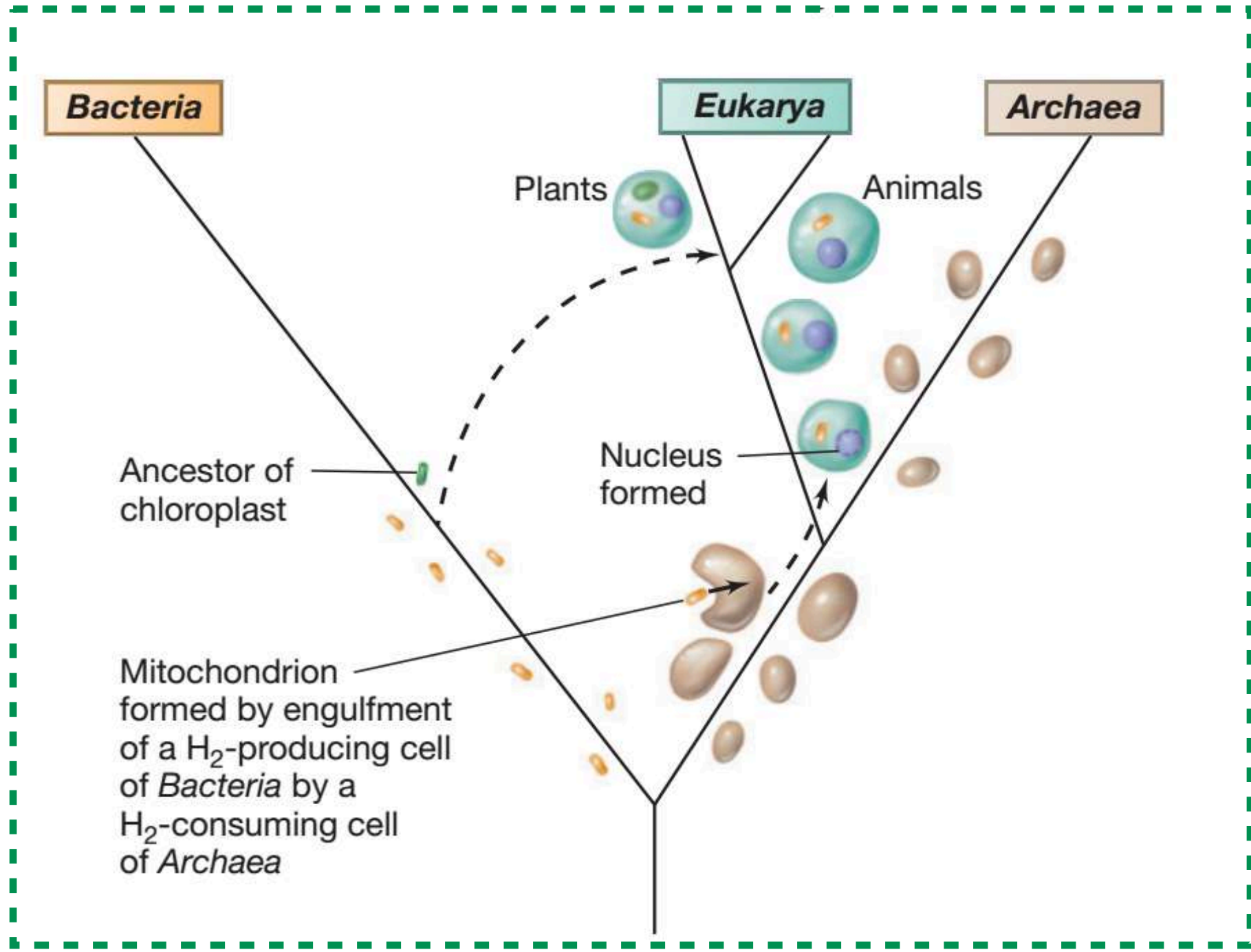
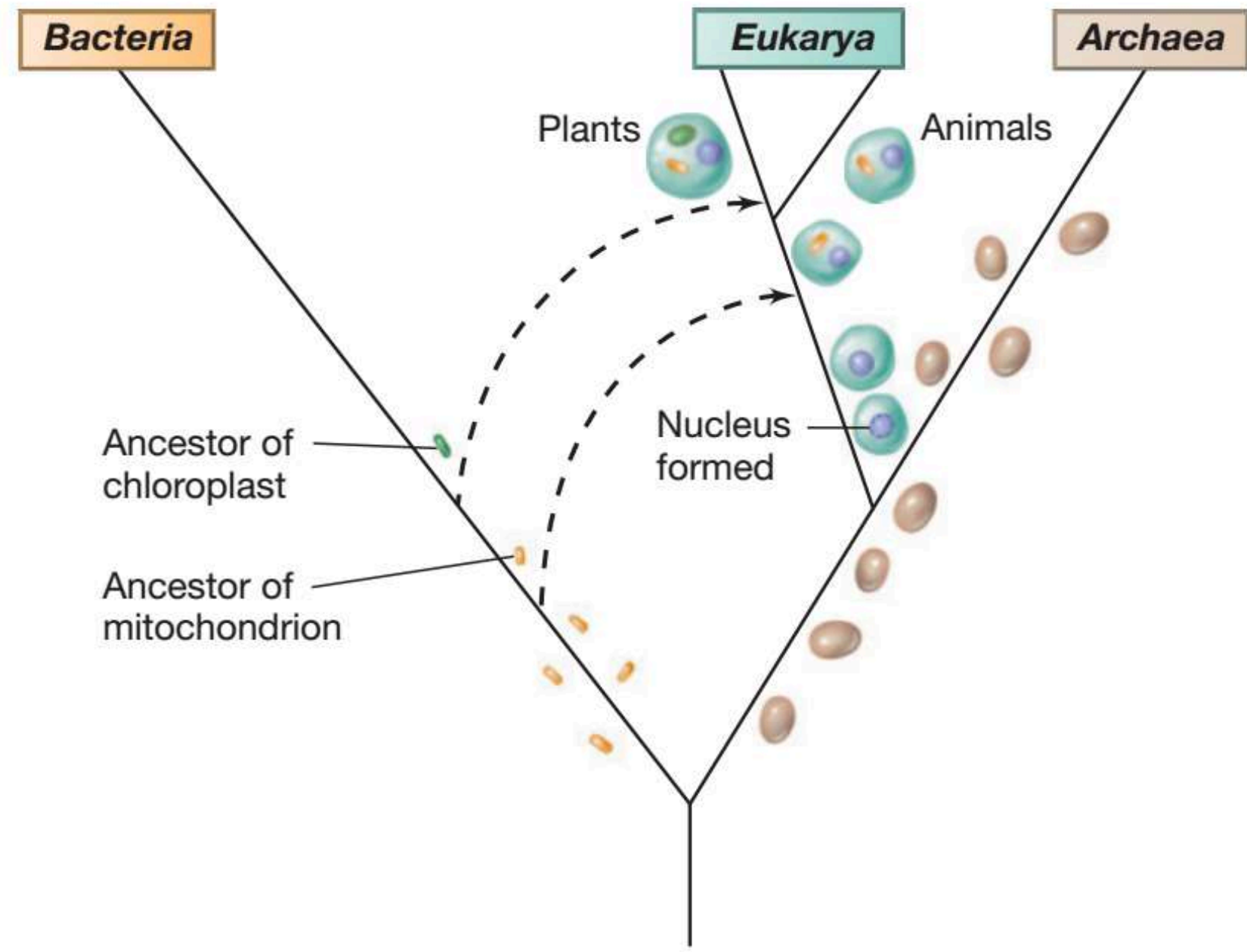


- (1) Transition from anaerobiosis to aerobiosis
- (2) Gain of an O₂-respiring and ATP-providing endosymbiont (future mitochondrion, alpha-Protobacterium)
- (3) Development of intracellular structures
- (4) Later stage Gain of a Cyanobacteria (future chloroplast)

Host archaeon (isolated over 2000 days of culture from deep-sea methane-seep sediment, basalt medium + antibiotics) engulfed the metabolic partner using extracellular structures and simultaneously formed a primitive chromosome surrounding structure similar to the nuclear membrane

Entangle–Engulf–Endogenize model to solve the structural and metabolic puzzle

Madigan et al. 2018



Bacteria-Archaea-Eukarya Comparison

	Bacteria	Archaea	Eukarya
Prokaryotic cell structure	+	+	-
Chromosomal DNA in closed circle	+	+	-
Histone proteins with DNA	-	+	+
Nucleus	-	-	+
Mitochondria/chloroplast organelles	-	-	+
Cell wall with muramic acid	+	-	-
Membrane lipids	Ester-linked	Ether-linked	Ester-linked
Ribosome mass	70S	70S	80S
Intons	-	-	+
Initiator tRNA	FormylMet	Met	Met
RNA polymerase	One	Several	Three
Genes as operons	+	+	-
mRNA tailed polyA	-	-	+
Sensitivity to antibiotics	+	-	-
Growth above 70°C	+	+	-
Growth above 100°C	-	+	-
Chemolithotrophy	+	+	-
N ₂ -fixation	+	+	-
Nitrogen fixation	+	+	-
Denitrification	+	+	-
Dissimilatory reduction	+	+	-
Methanogenesis	-	+	-

...and still evolving

Core Concept

01: Evolution, Thermodynamics, Habitat diversity, Ecology, Physiology
their integration define Microbiology

02: Unique goal of microbial life: survival, maintenance, generation of
ATP, growth of new cells

03: Planet's habitat diversity results in genetic, molecular, metabolic and
physiological microbial diversity