

# Biological Evolution:

- small changes: observed all the time
- large changes (e.g., creation of species): rarely seen

## Theory of biological evolution:

- large changes from accumulation of small changes
- main difficulty: how to hold on to the desired small changes?
- easy if every small changes gives a fitness benefit



but reality is complex...



- function of a circuit/device requires  
coordinated activities of multiple components
- ➔ many small changes before fitness benefit realized  
(cf development of eyes)

A landscape photograph showing a wide, flat plateau in the foreground, a body of water in the middle ground, and a range of mountains in the background under a cloudy sky. The text is overlaid on the image.

at least a plateau landscape

function of a circuit/device requires  
coordinated activities of multiple components

→ many small changes before fitness benefit realized

→ how to get to the edge of the plateau  
given the huge genome space?

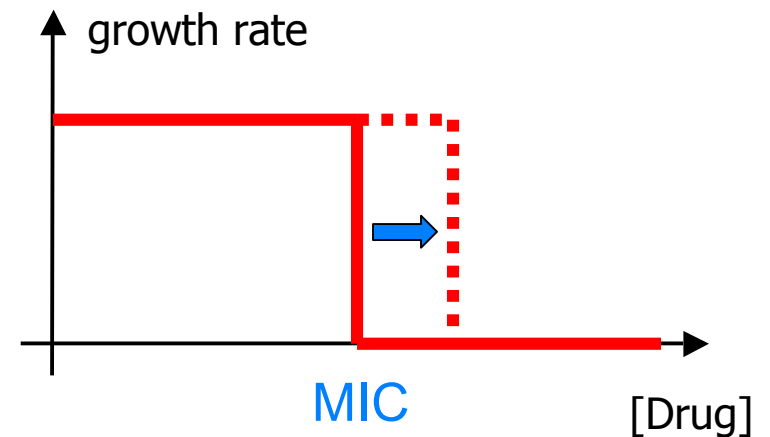
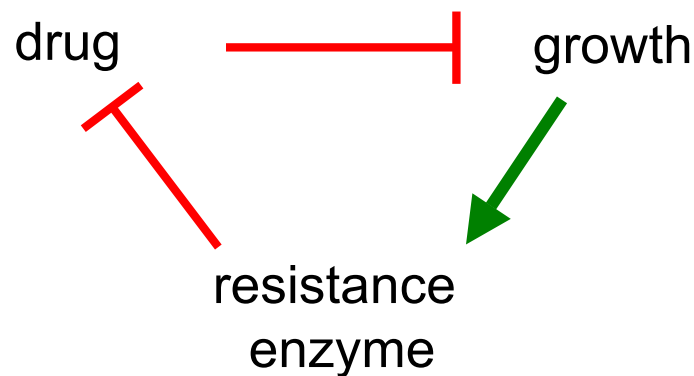
How does evolution overcome the severe entropy problem?

# get inspiration from biology

## rapid evolution of antibiotic resistance

- emerging medical crisis: bacteria resistant to multiple antibiotics
- drug resistance emerged over just the last 30 years
- attributed to wide usage of antibiotics in hospitals and on farms

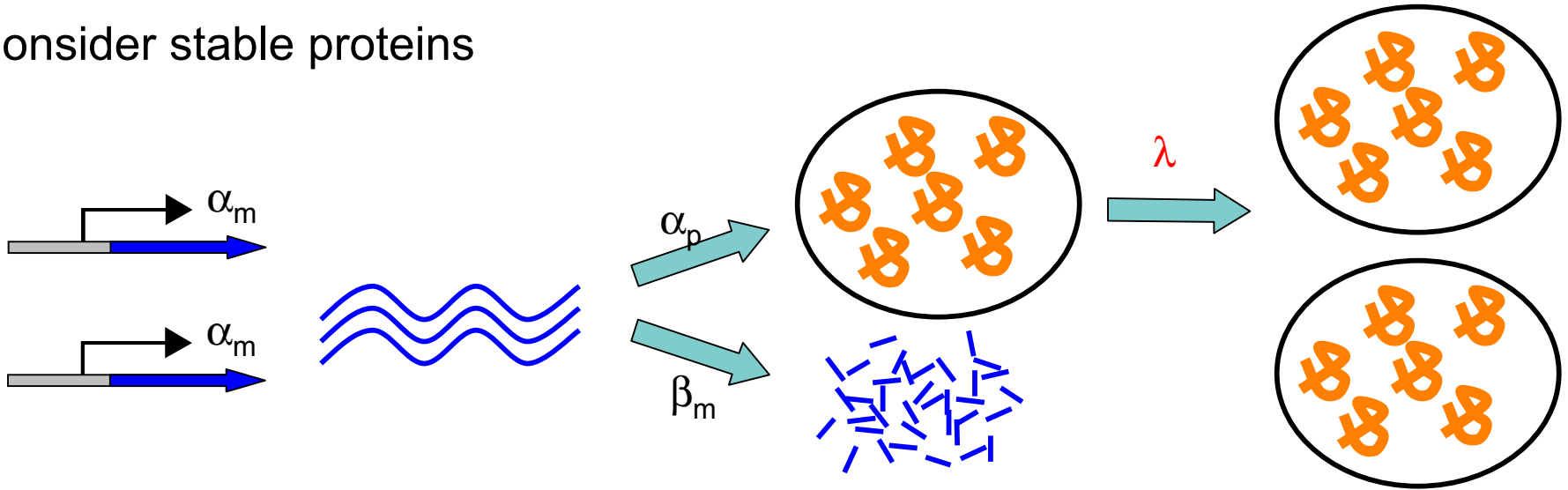
## This talk: theory of drug resistance evolution



- growth-dependence of constitutive gene expression } [Scott et al, Science 2010]
  - **positive feedback** w/o need of gene regulation } [Klumpp et al, Cell 2009]
  - **abrupt response** to drug levels } [Deris et al, in prep]
  - **increased MIC for higher resistance enzyme expression** }
- **recipe for rapid evolution of drug resistance** [Hermsen & TH, PRL 2010]
- **possible lesson for the evolution of more complex systems**

# Growth-rate dependence of constitutive gene expression?

Consider stable proteins



factors expected to increase with growth rate:

- chromosome copy number  $\rightarrow$  gene dose ( $g$ )
- ribosome conc  $\rightarrow$  translational initiation ( $\alpha_p$ )
- dilution rate ( $\lambda$ )
- cell volume ( $V$ )

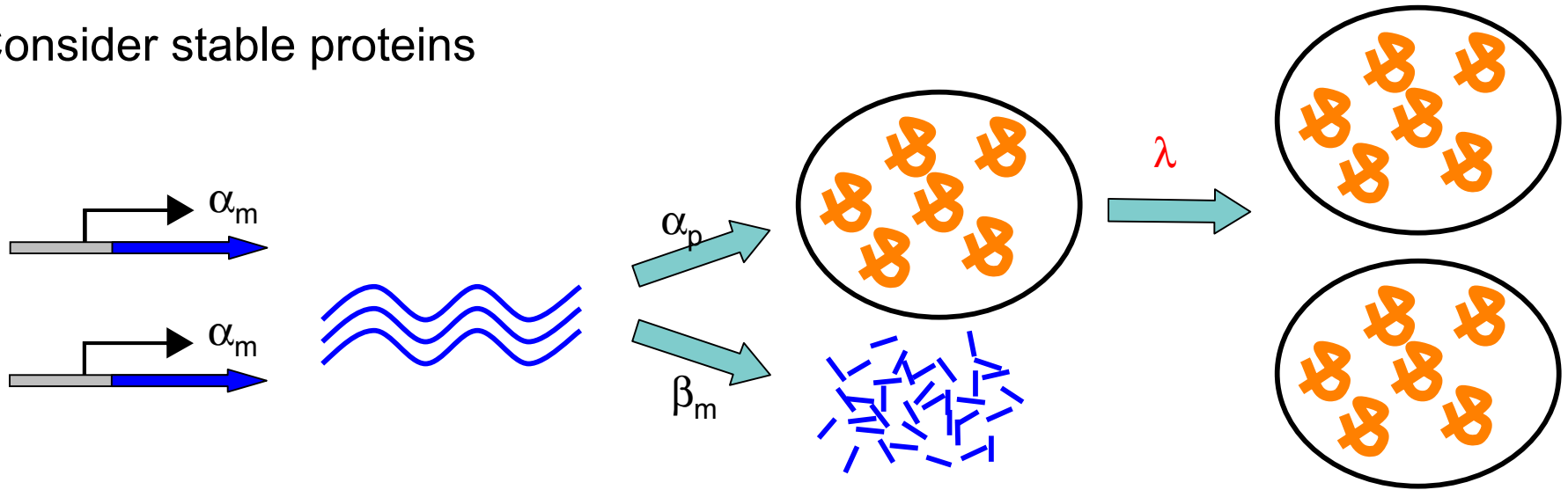
steady state protein conc

$$[p] = \frac{g\alpha_m\alpha_p}{\beta_m\lambda V} \propto \frac{1}{\lambda}$$

The equation above is crossed out with a large red 'X', indicating that the steady-state protein concentration is not proportional to  $1/\lambda$  in this context.

# Growth-rate dependence of constitutive gene expression?

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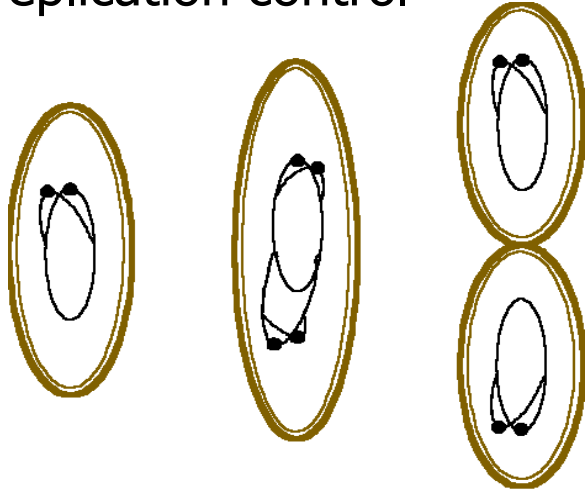
steady state protein conc

$$[p] = \frac{g\alpha_m\alpha_p}{\beta_m\lambda V} \propto \frac{1}{\lambda}$$

- growth-rate dependence of gene expression may be complex
- growth-rate dependence of genetic circuits even more complex

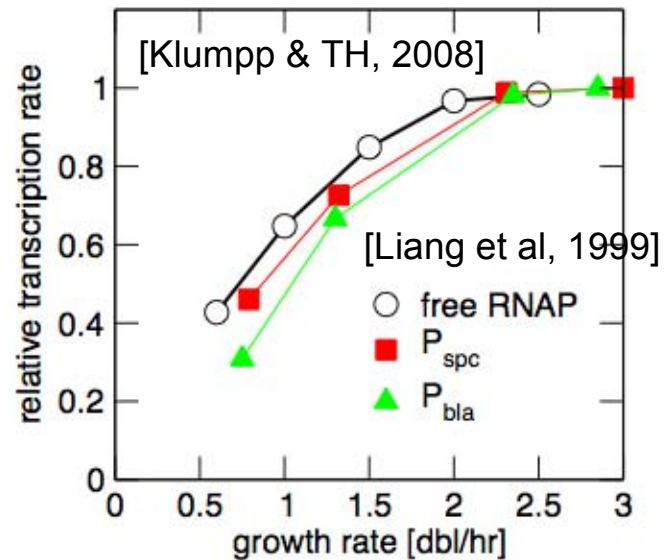
[Klumpp et al, Cell 2009]

## gene dose from mass-dependent DNA replication control

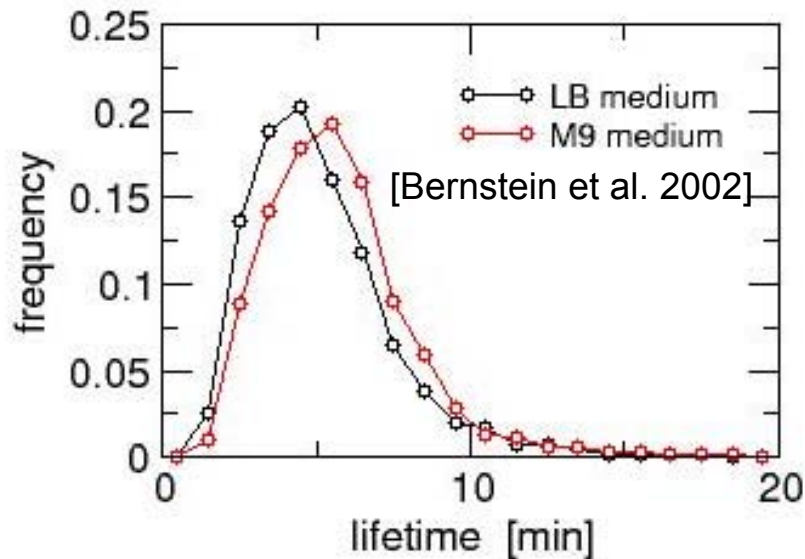


[Cooper & Helmstetter, JMB 1968]

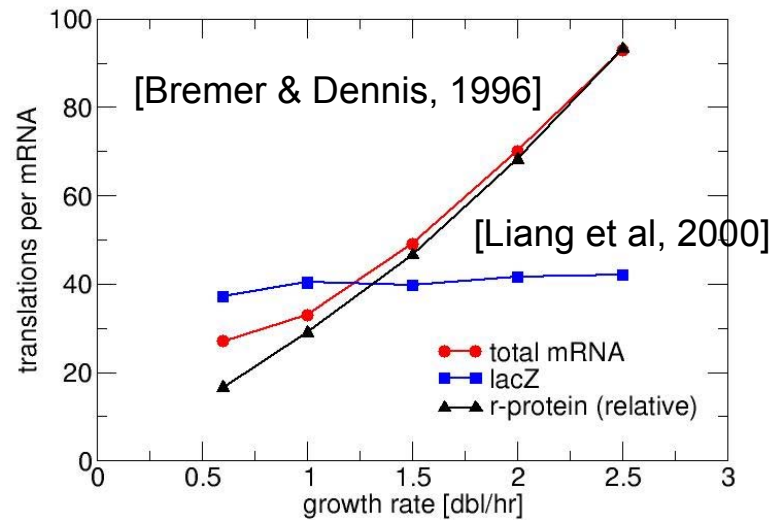
## RNAP abundance from tsx studies



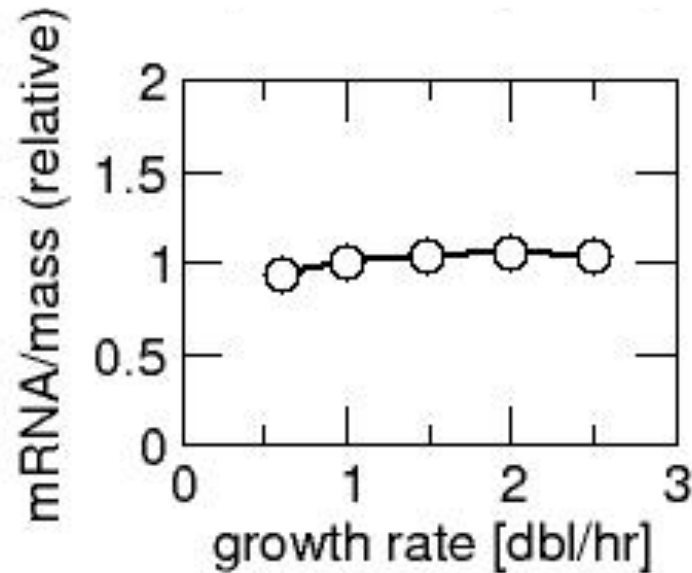
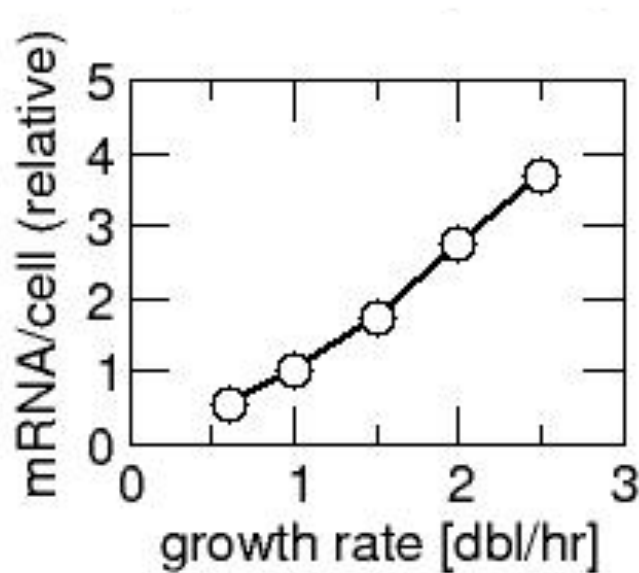
## mRNA stability from microarray



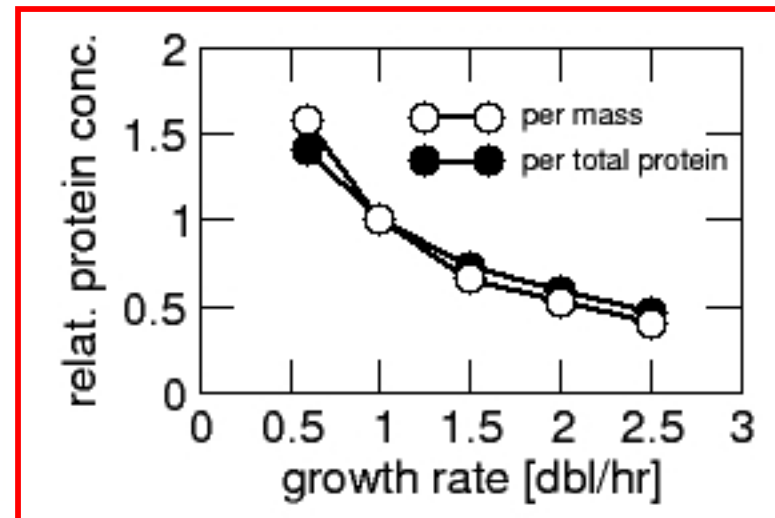
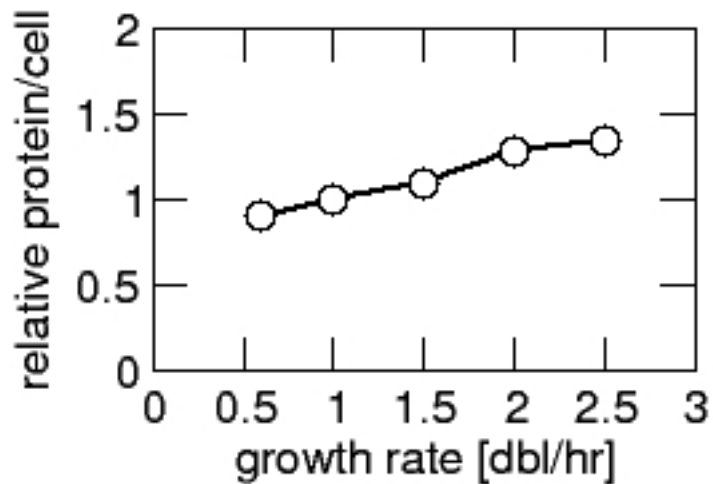
## Translational burstiness



→ growth rate dependence of mRNA “levels”



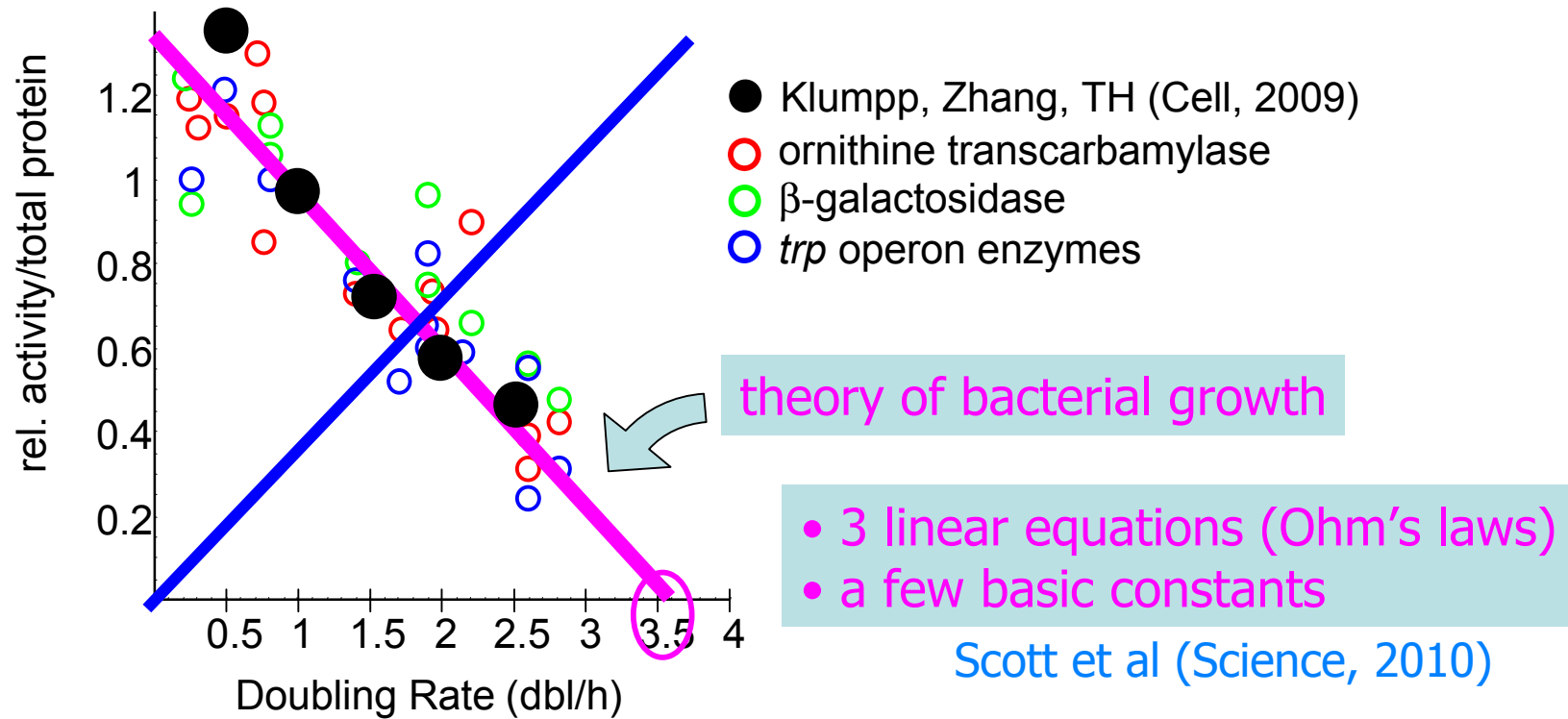
→ growth rate dependence of protein “levels”



[stronger dependences for genes expressed from plasmids]



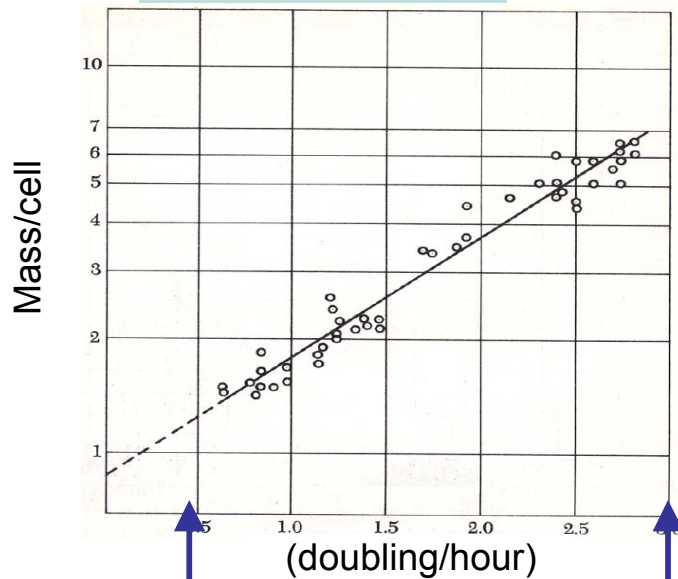
# Growth-rate dependence of constitutive gene expression



- can be derived quantitatively from theory of bacterial growth
- based on empirical growth laws + model of proteome partition
- some applications:
  - effect of (sub-lethal) antibiotics on gene expression
  - fitness cost of unnecessary protein expression
  - catabolite repression, metabolic coordination, ...

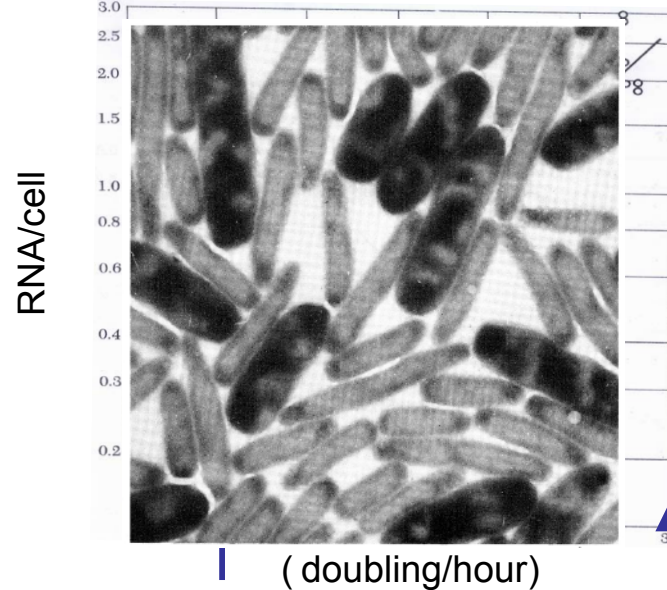
SCHAECHTER, M., MAALØE, O. & KJELDGAARD, N. O. (1958). *J. gen. Microbiol.* 19,  
**Dependency on Medium and Temperature of Cell Size and  
 Chemical Composition during Balanced Growth of  
*Salmonella typhimurium***

1st growth law



100 min

20 min



100 min

20 min

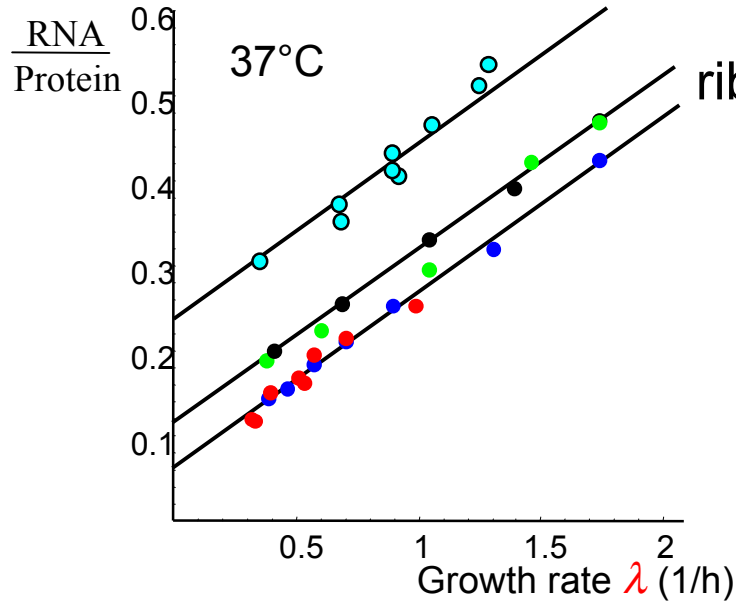
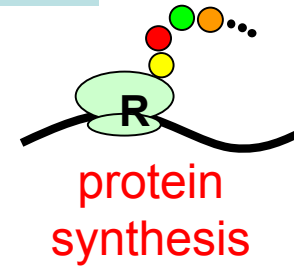
- dependence on the medium through **growth rate** only!
- cell mass ( $\propto$  cell size) increases **exponentially** with growth rate
- similar dependences seen in other bacteria
- ➔ understood from mass-dependent DNA replication control  
 [Cooper & Hemstetter, 1968; Donachie, 1968]

## 2nd growth law:

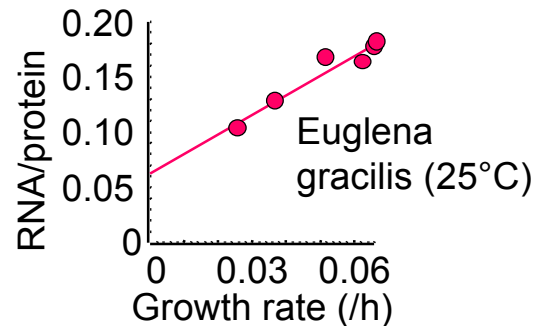
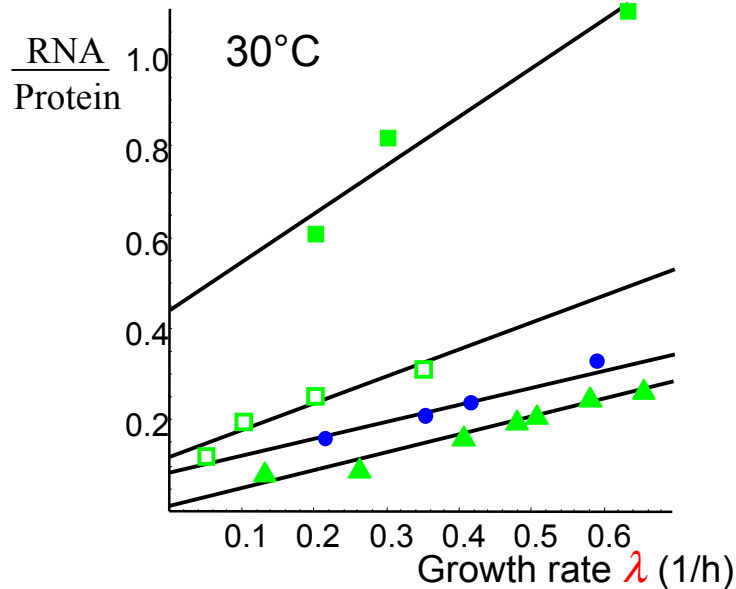
$$\text{RNA/protein} = a \cdot \lambda + b \propto \text{ribosome conc}$$



ribosome cell volume



- *Aerobacter aerogenes* (XXXV – Fraenkel & Neidhardt, 1961)
- *Escherichia coli* (B/r – Bremer & Dennis, 1996)
- *Escherichia coli* (15 $\tau$ -bar – Forchhammer & Lindahl, 1970)
- *Escherichia coli* (B – Bennett & Maaløe, 1974)
- *Escherichia coli* (K12 – this study)

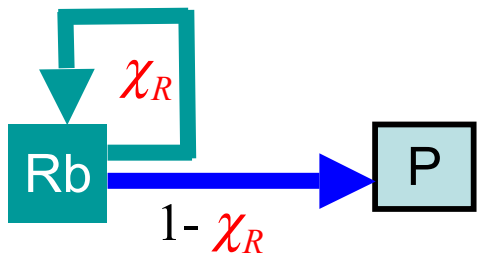


- *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* (5105D – Wehr & Parks, 1969)
- *Candida utilis* (NCYC 321 – Brown & Rose, 1969)
- ▲ *Neurospora crassa* (74A – Alberghina et al., 1975)
- *Escherichia coli* (ML308 – Rosset et al., 1964)

# Simple two-component model of bacterial growth [Maaloe et al]

Focus on the ribosomes as the growth-limiting resource

- let  $\chi_R$  be the fraction of Rb synthesizing Rb



$$\lambda \cdot M_{Rb} = \chi_R \cdot \gamma \cdot M_{Rb}$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda = \chi_R \cdot \gamma$$

$\lambda$ : specific growth rate

$\gamma$ : Rb elongation rate

(~20 aa/s or 10 Rb/hr)

- absolute max growth rate ( $\chi_R = 1$ ) set by  $\gamma$  (10/hr or 5 min/doubling)  
[note: maximal doubling rate of E. coli = 20min/doubling]
- can change growth rate by changing  $\chi_R$  (capitalism) or  $\gamma$  (socialism)

- ribosomes efficiently used in protein synthesis
- synthesized proteins predominantly stable

rate protein mass accum. = rate Rb elongation

$$\uparrow \uparrow$$

$$\lambda \cdot M_{tot}$$

$$\uparrow \uparrow$$

$$\gamma \cdot M_{Rb}$$

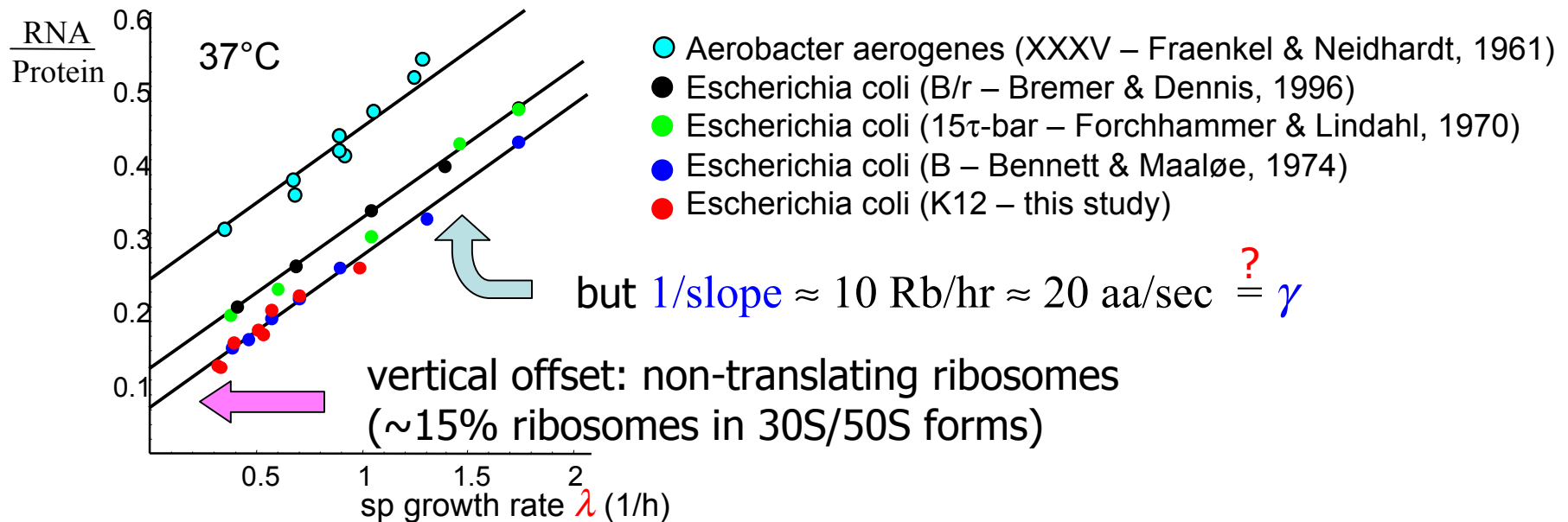
$$\Rightarrow r \equiv \frac{M_{Rb}}{M_{tot}} = \lambda / \gamma$$



$$\chi_R(\lambda) = M_{Rb} / M_{tot}$$

growth control strategy revealed by  $r$  vs  $\lambda$  plots

## 2nd growth law: RNA/protein = $a \cdot \lambda + b$



- ribosomes efficiently used in protein synthesis
- synthesized proteins predominantly stable

$\lambda$ : specific growth rate  
 $\gamma$ : Rb elongation rate  
 (~20 aa/s or 10 Rb/hr)

rate protein mass accum. = rate Rb elongation

$$\uparrow \uparrow$$

$$\lambda \cdot M_{tot}$$

$$\uparrow \uparrow$$

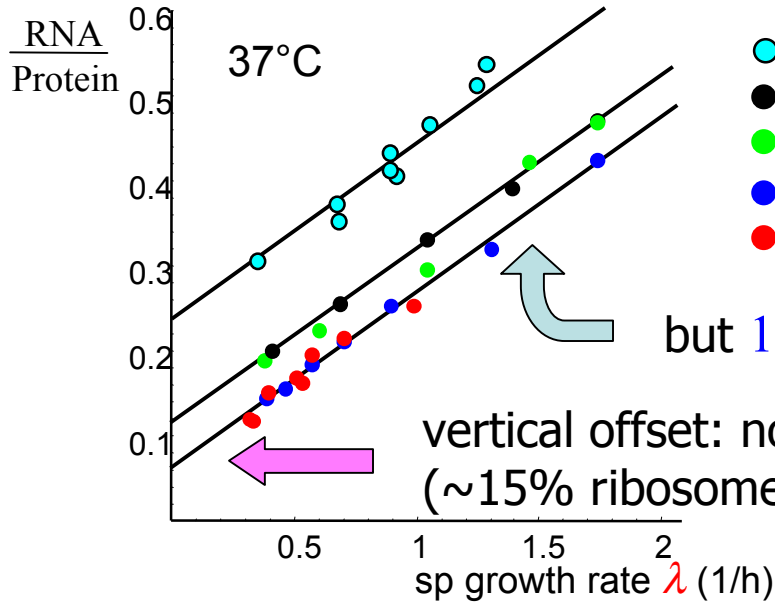
$$\gamma \cdot M_{Rb}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{r \equiv \frac{M_{Rb}}{M_{tot}} = \lambda / \gamma}$$

→  $\chi_R(\lambda) = M_{Rb}/M_{tot}$  growth control strategy revealed by  $r$  vs  $\lambda$  plots

# 2nd growth law:

$$M_{Rb} / M_{tot} \equiv r = \lambda / \gamma + r_0$$

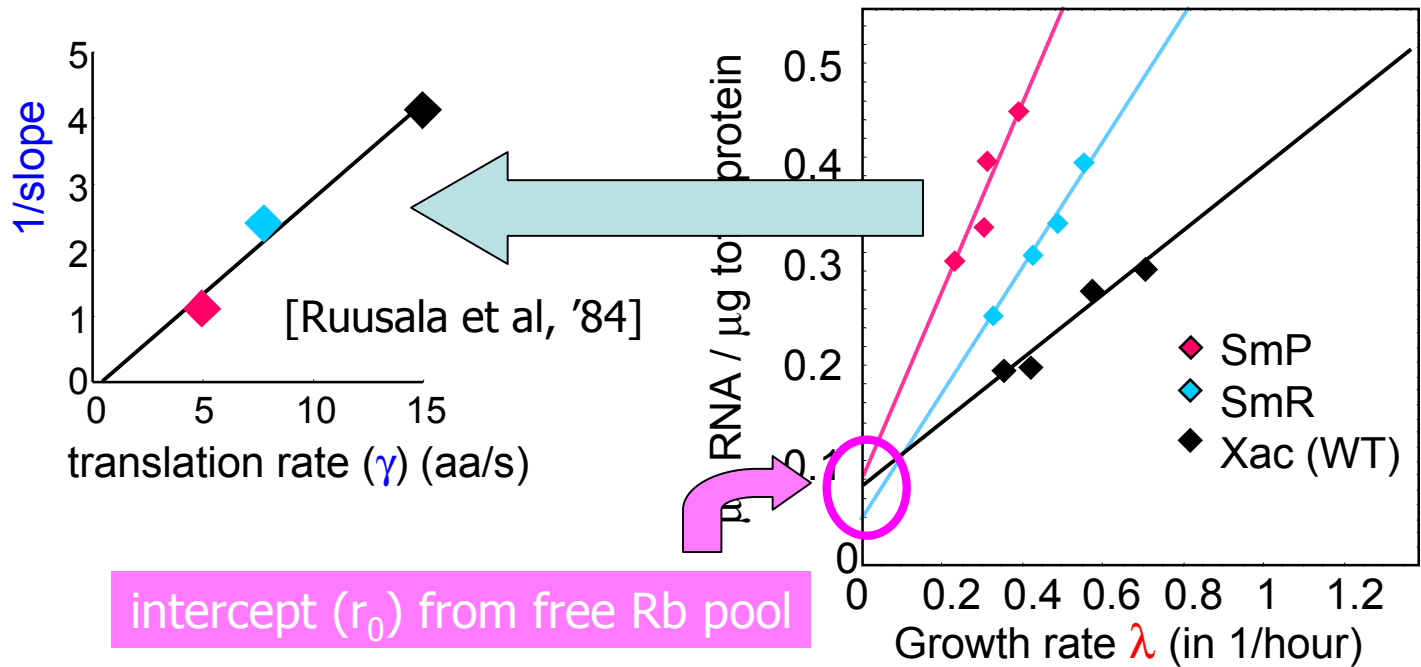


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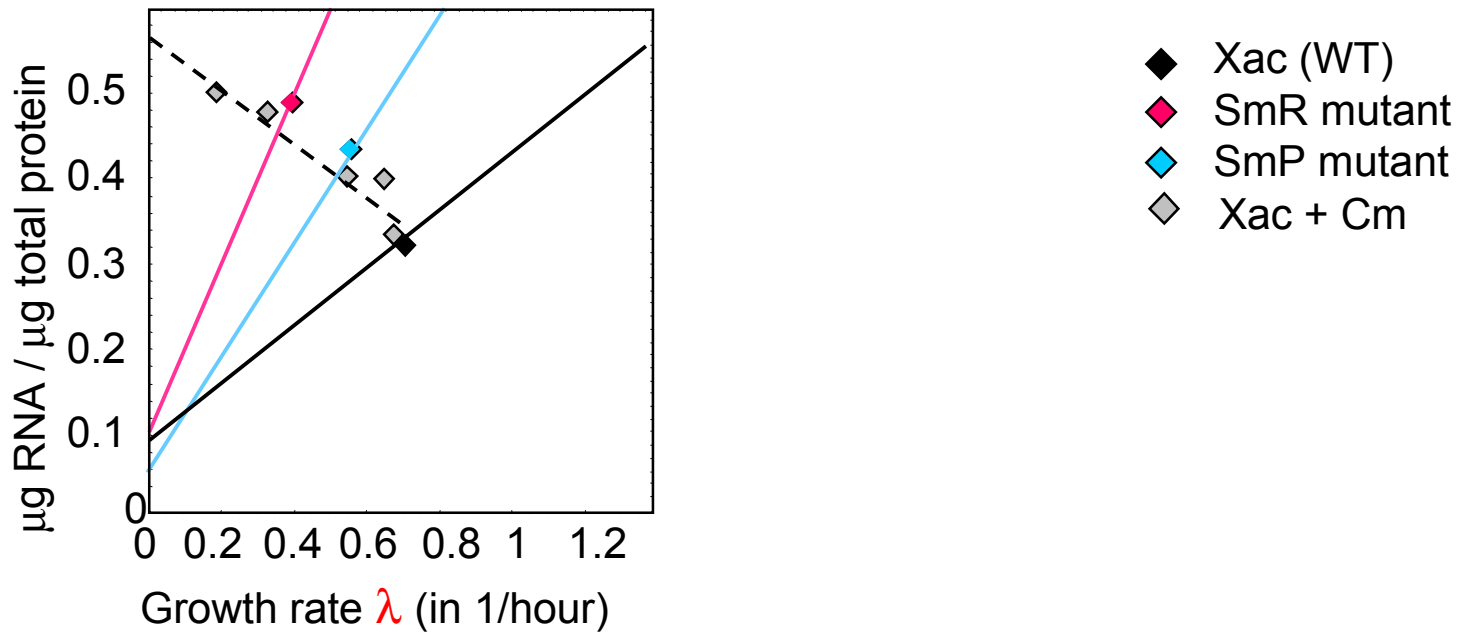
but  $1/\text{slope} \approx 10 \text{ Rb/hr} \approx 20 \text{ aa/sec} = \gamma$

vertical offset: non-translating ribosomes  
(~15% ribosomes in 30S/50S forms)

## Translational mutant (S12)

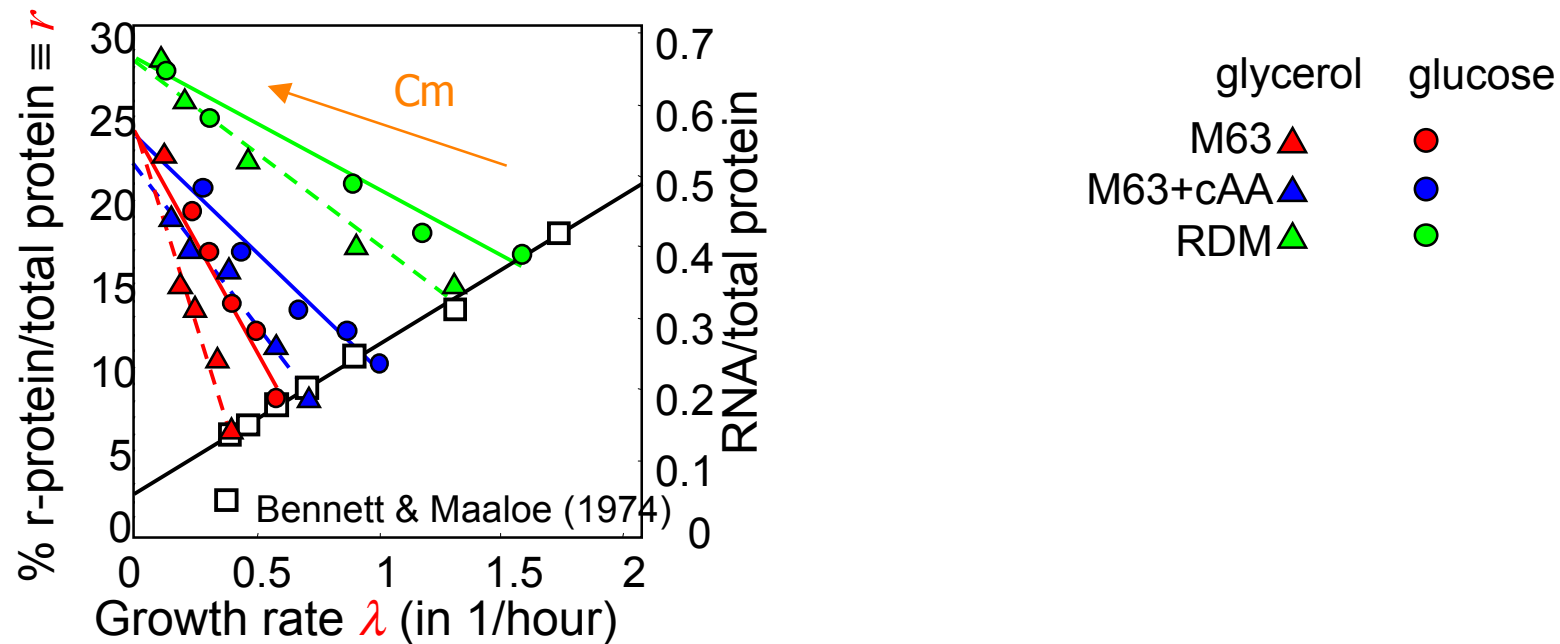


modulate translation rate  $\gamma$  for fixed nutrients

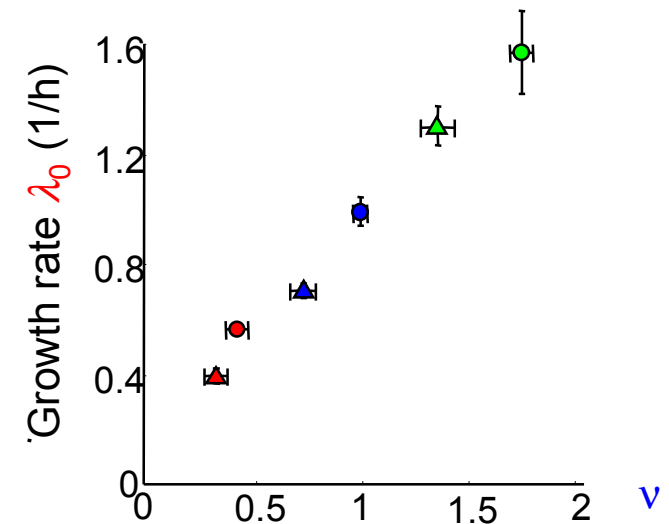


- similar effects from *tsl* mutants and sublethal dose of Cm
- linear relation obtained:  $r = r_{\max} - \lambda / v$

# modulate translation rate $\gamma$ for fixed nutrients



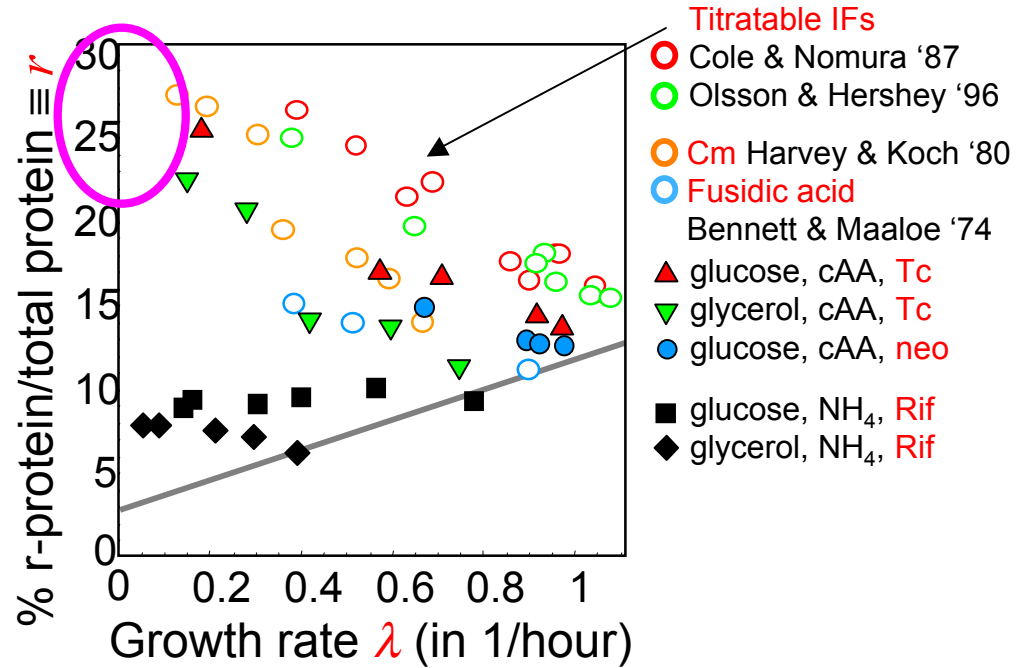
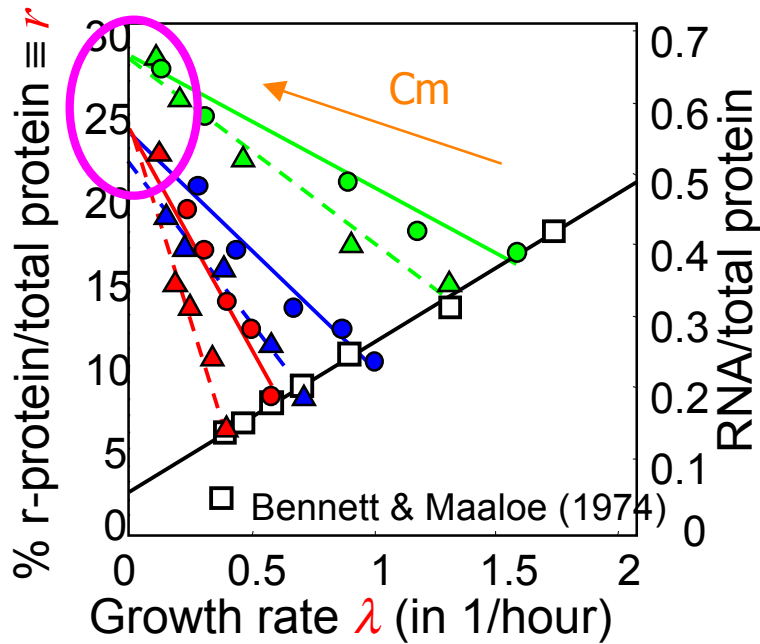
- similar effects from *tsl* mutants and sublethal dose of Cm
- linear relation obtained:  $r = r_{\max} - \lambda / v$
- seen for all media studied
- $v \sim$  “nutrient quality”





# Significance of the 3rd law?

$r_{max} \sim 25\%$ : importance of other proteins



- similar effects from *tsl* mutants and sublethal dose of Cm

- linear relation obtained:
- seen for all media studied
- $v \sim$  "nutrient quality"

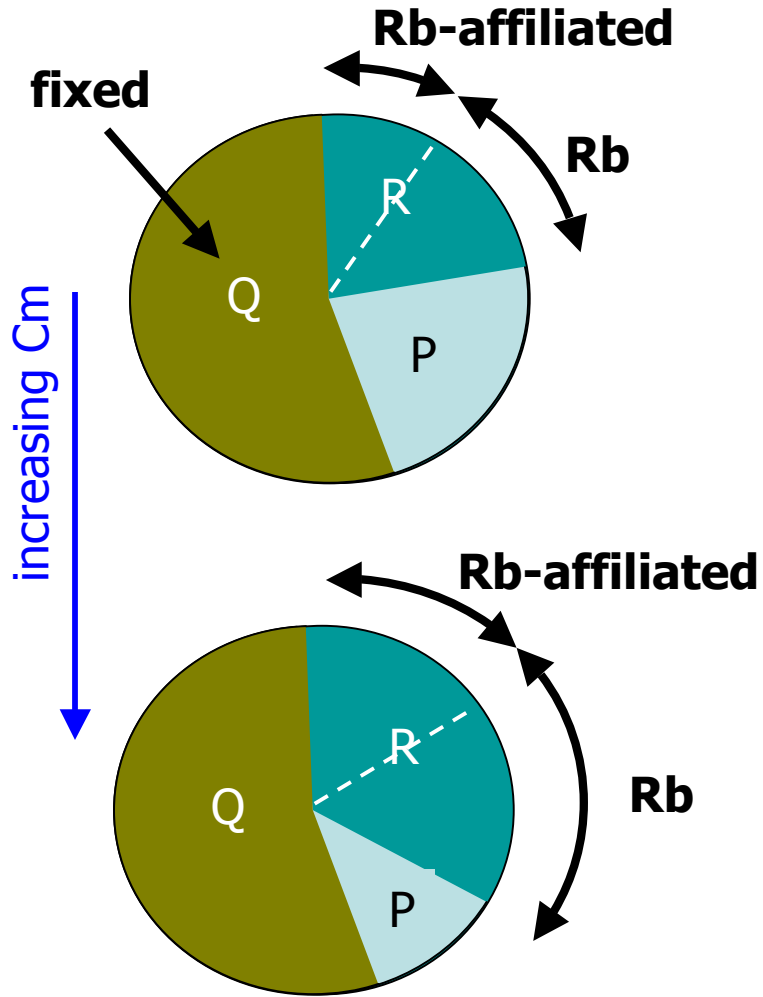
$$r = r_{max} - \lambda / v$$

← 3rd growth law

(inverse  $r$ - $\lambda$  correlation expected qualitatively from ppGpp-mediated rRNA control)

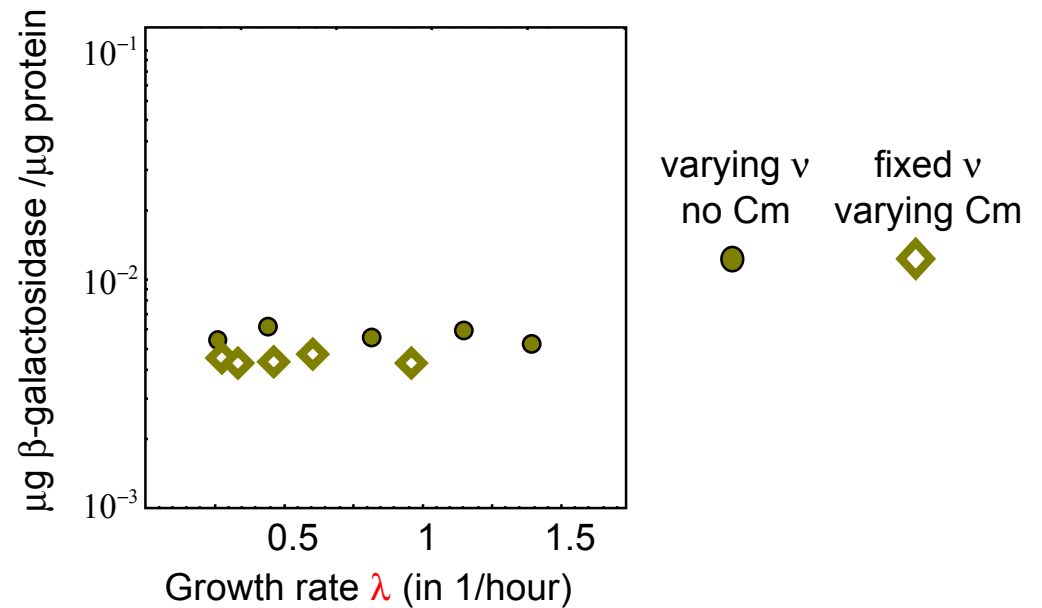
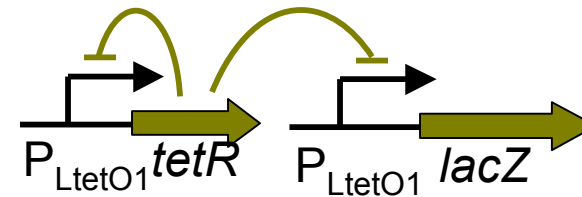
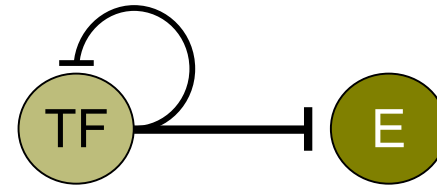
- also seen for other *tsl* inhibiting drugs (Tc, neo, FA, ... ), and variable induction of *tsl* initiators IF2/IF3 but not *tsx* inhibiting drug (Rif)

# Three-component model of the proteome

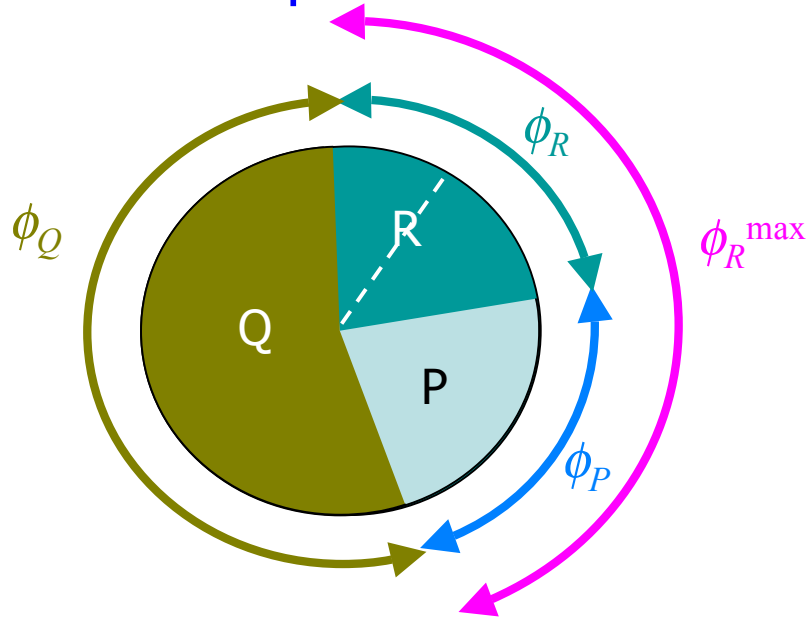


- maintenance of a fixed core (Q)

negative feedback regulation



# Three-component model of the proteome



Mass fraction:  $\phi_R + \phi_Q + \phi_P = 1$

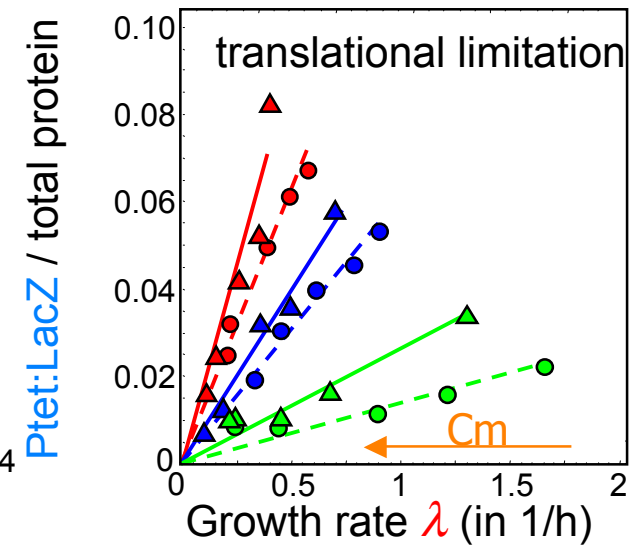
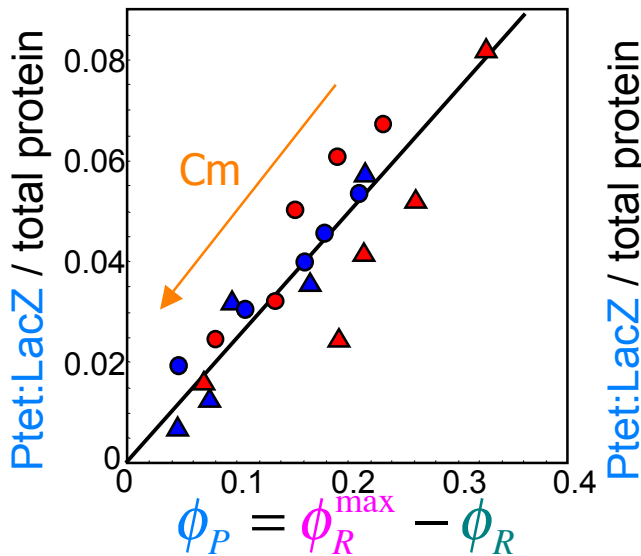
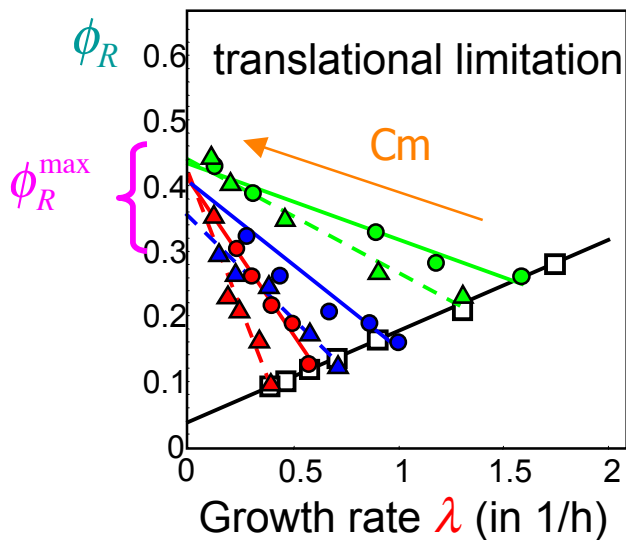
$\Downarrow \phi_R^{\max} + \phi_Q = 1,$

$\phi_P + \phi_R = \phi_R^{\max}$

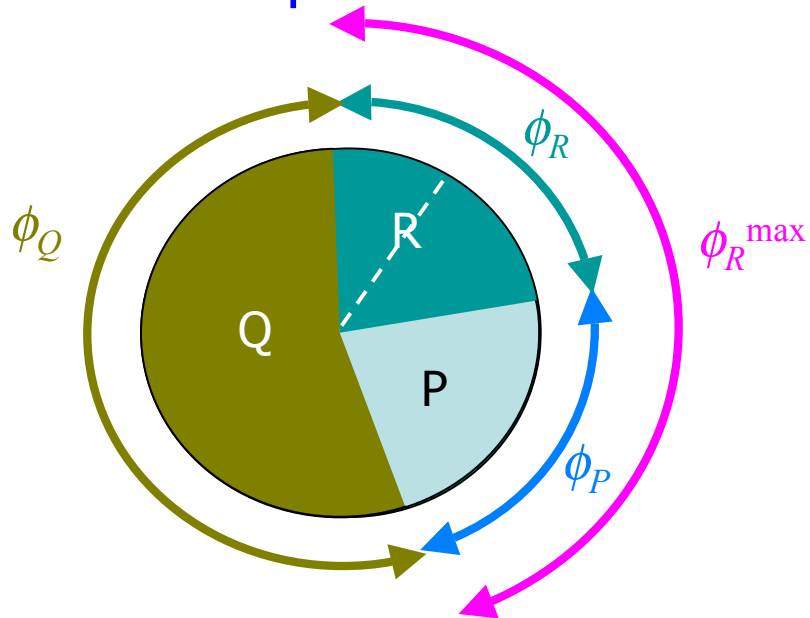
$\Rightarrow \phi_P = \lambda / \nu$  for ts1 limitation

- ✓ constitutive expression  $\propto \phi_P$
- ✓ linear increase with GR

combine with  $\phi_R = \phi_R^{\max} - \lambda / \nu$



# Three-component model of the proteome



Mass fraction:  $\phi_R + \phi_Q + \phi_P = 1$

$$\Downarrow \phi_R^{\max} + \phi_Q = 1,$$

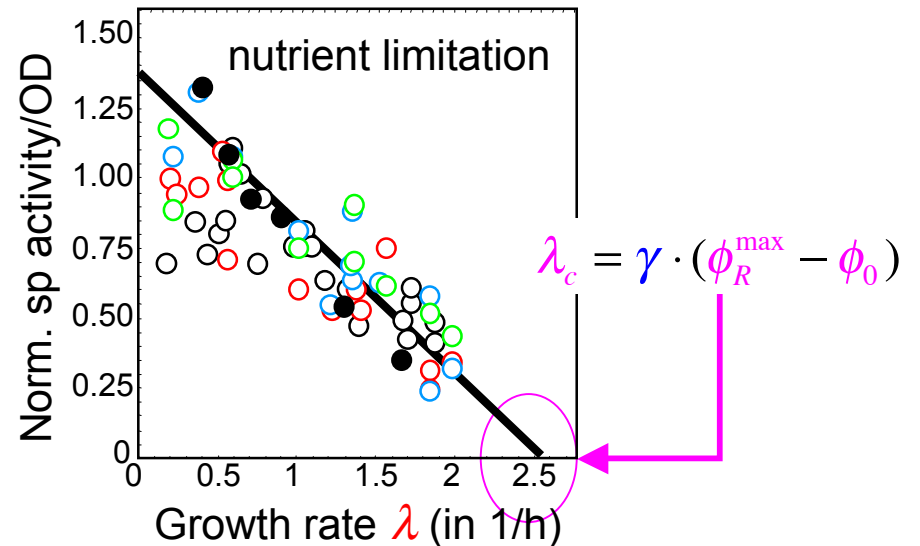
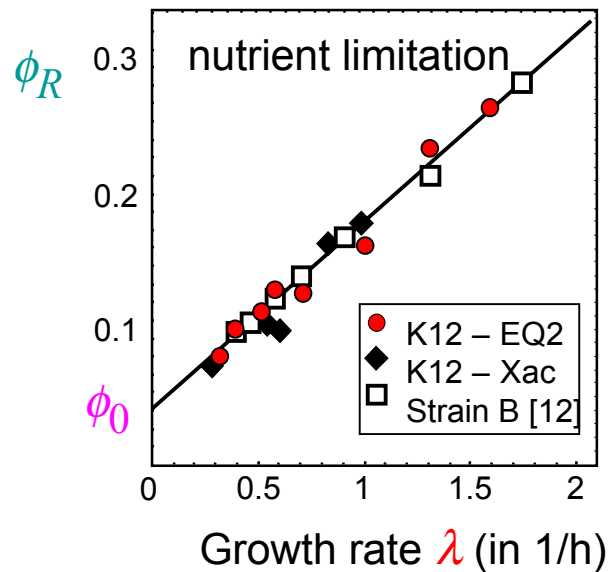
$$\phi_P + \phi_R = \phi_R^{\max}$$

$$\Rightarrow \phi_P = \lambda / \nu \quad \text{for ts1 limitation}$$

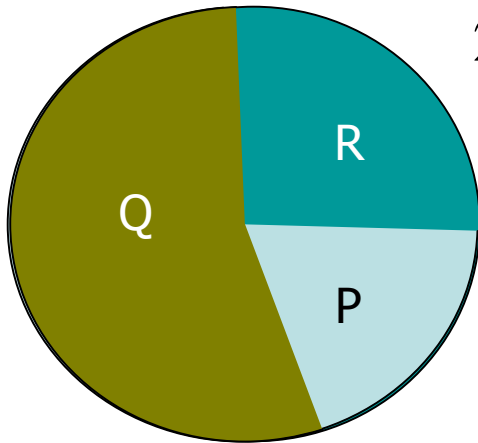
$$\Rightarrow \phi_P = (\phi_R^{\max} - \phi_0) - \lambda / \gamma$$

combine with  $\phi_R = \lambda / \gamma + \phi_0$

for nutrient limitation



# Overall picture:



2nd growth law:

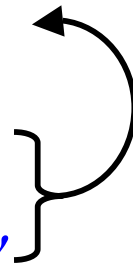
$$\lambda = \gamma \cdot (\phi_R - \phi_0)$$

$$\lambda = v \cdot \phi_P$$

constraint:

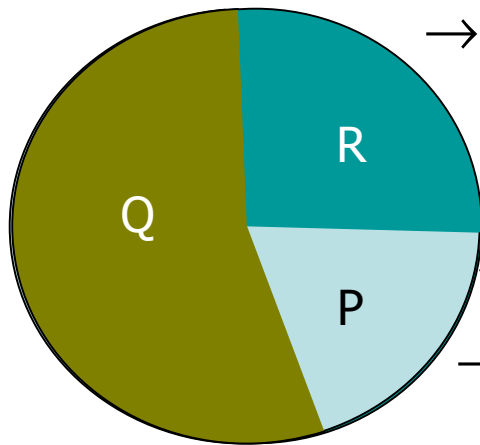
$$\phi_P + \phi_R = \phi_R^{\max}$$

3rd growth law:  $\phi_R = \phi_R^{\max} - \lambda / v$



# Theory of growth-dependent gene expression

[Scott et al, Science 2010]



→ protein synthesis:

$$\lambda(\gamma, v) = \gamma \cdot (\phi_R - \phi_0)$$

← Ohm's law

R/P partition according to  $v, \gamma$  (state variables!)

← conductances

→ nutrient influx:

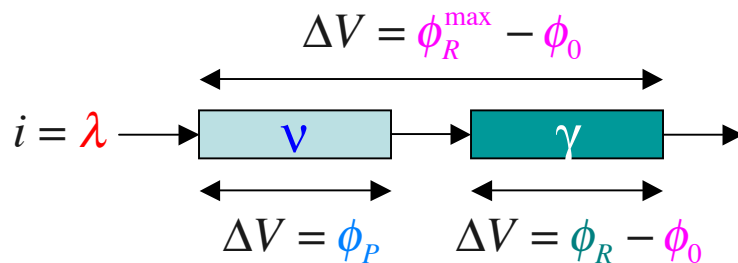
$$\lambda(\gamma, v) = v \cdot \phi_P$$

← Ohm's law

constraint:  $\phi_P + \phi_R = \phi_R^{\max}$

← Kirchoff's law

Electrical analogy: resistors in series

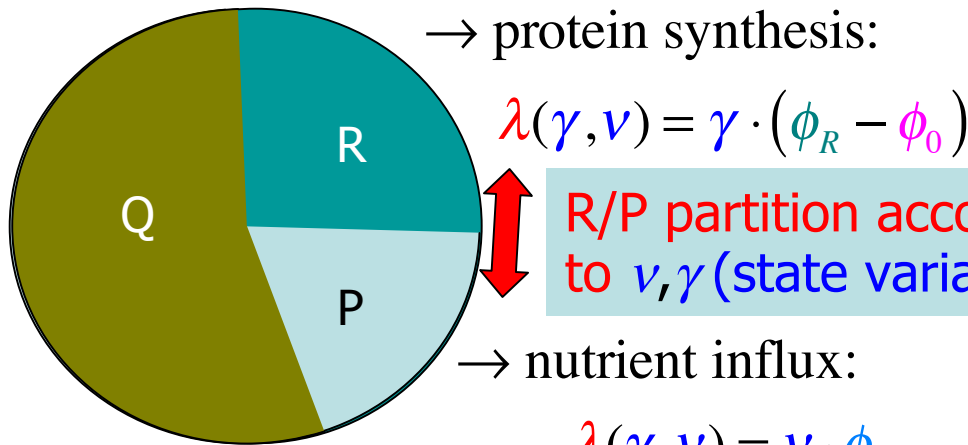


$$\lambda_{\max} \approx 3.5 \text{ dbl/hr}$$

$$\rightarrow \lambda(\gamma, v) = (\gamma^{-1} + v^{-1})^{-1} \cdot (\phi_R^{\max} - \phi_0) = \underbrace{(\phi_R^{\max} - \phi_0)}_{\lambda_{\max}} \cdot \underbrace{\gamma \cdot \frac{v}{\gamma + v}}_{\text{conductance}} \quad \text{[J. Monod, '42]}$$

Michaelis formula for cell growth!

# Theory of growth-dependent gene expression



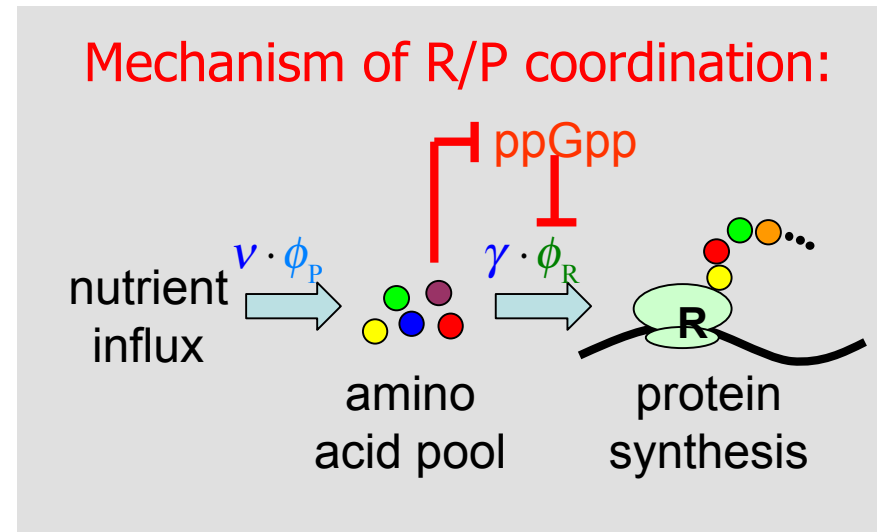
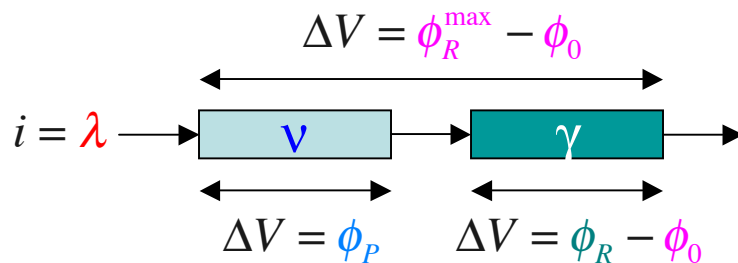
R/P partition according to  $v, \gamma$  (state variables!)

→ nutrient influx:

$$\lambda(\gamma, v) = v \cdot \phi_P$$

constraint:  $\phi_P + \phi_R = \phi_R^{\max}$

Electrical analogy: resistors in series



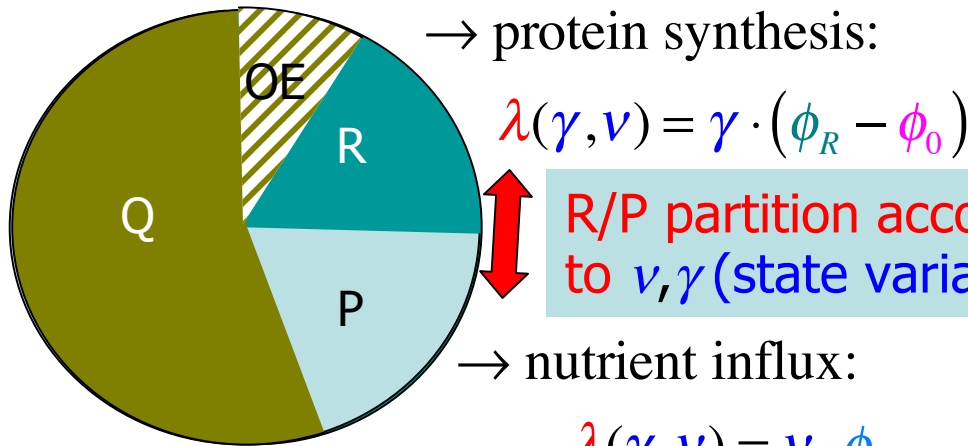
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[J. Monod, '42]

Michaelis formula for cell growth!

# Test: cost of protein overexpression

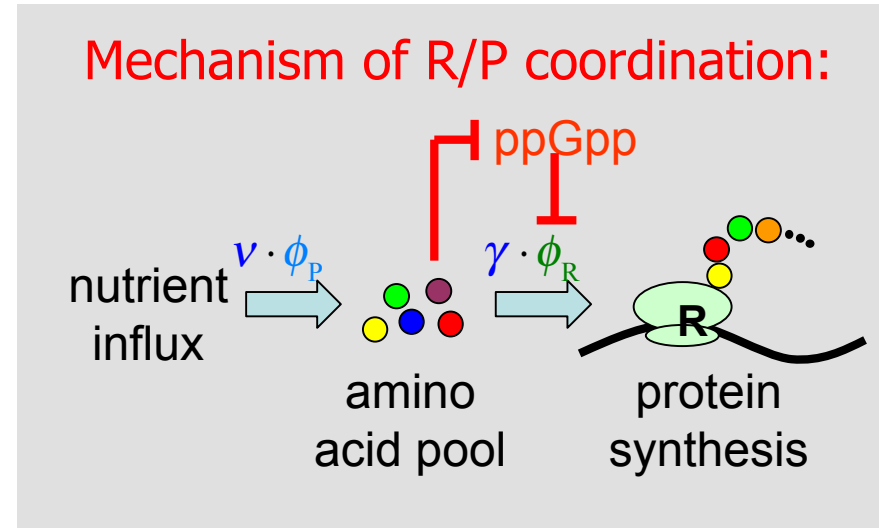
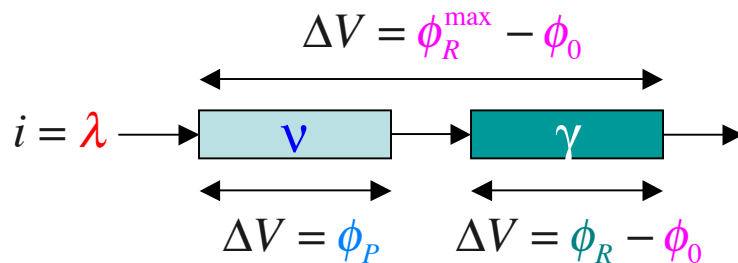


R/P partition according to  $v, \gamma$  (state variables!)

constraint:

$$\phi_P + \phi_R = \phi_R^{\max}$$

Electrical analogy: resistors in series



$$\lambda_{\max} \approx 3.5 \text{ dbl/hr}$$

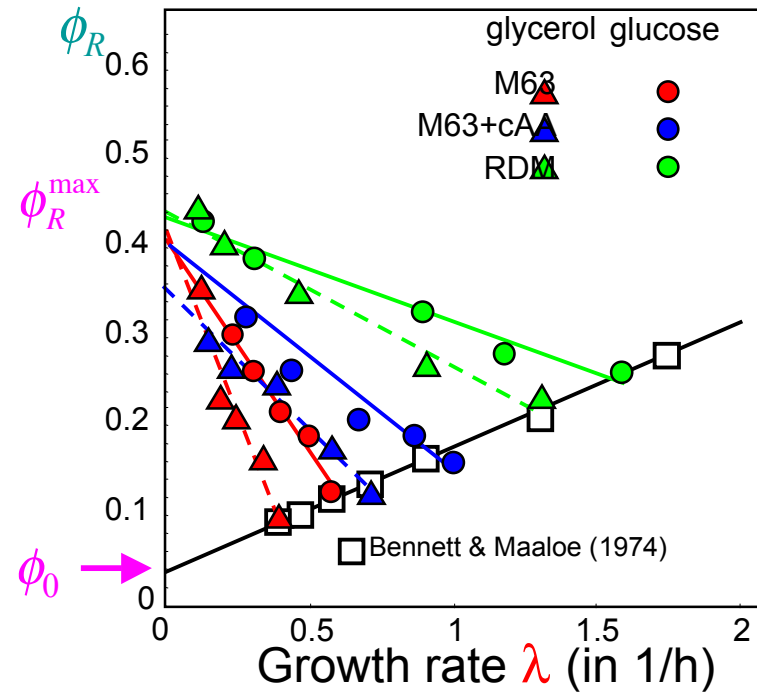
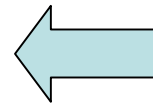
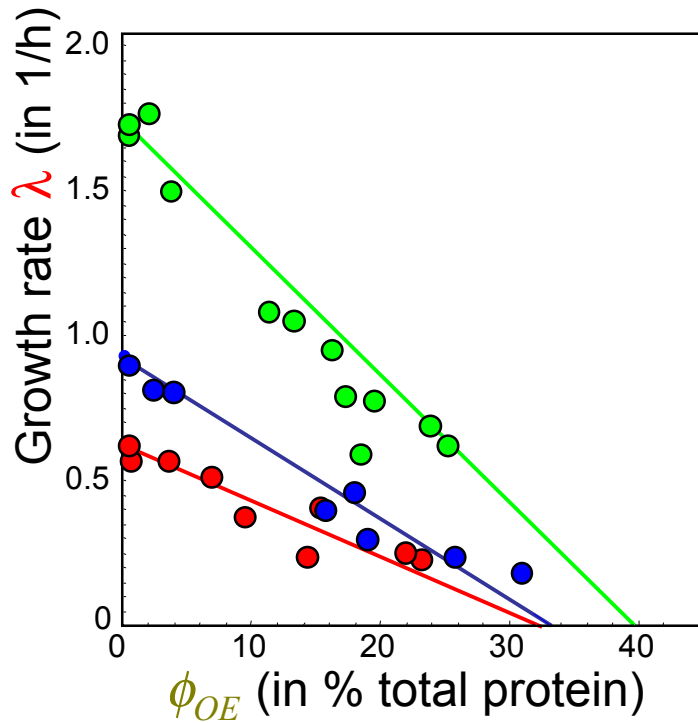
$$\rightarrow \lambda(\gamma, v) = (\gamma^{-1} + v^{-1})^{-1} \cdot (\phi_R^{\max} - \phi_0) = (\phi_R^{\max} - \phi_0) \cdot \gamma \cdot \frac{v}{\gamma + v}$$

$$\rightarrow \text{protein overexpression: } \phi_R^{\max} \rightarrow \phi_R^{\max} - \phi_{OE}$$

$$\lambda(\phi_{OE}; \gamma, v) = \lambda(0; \gamma, v) \cdot \left[ 1 - \phi_{OE} / (\phi_R^{\max} - \phi_0) \right]$$



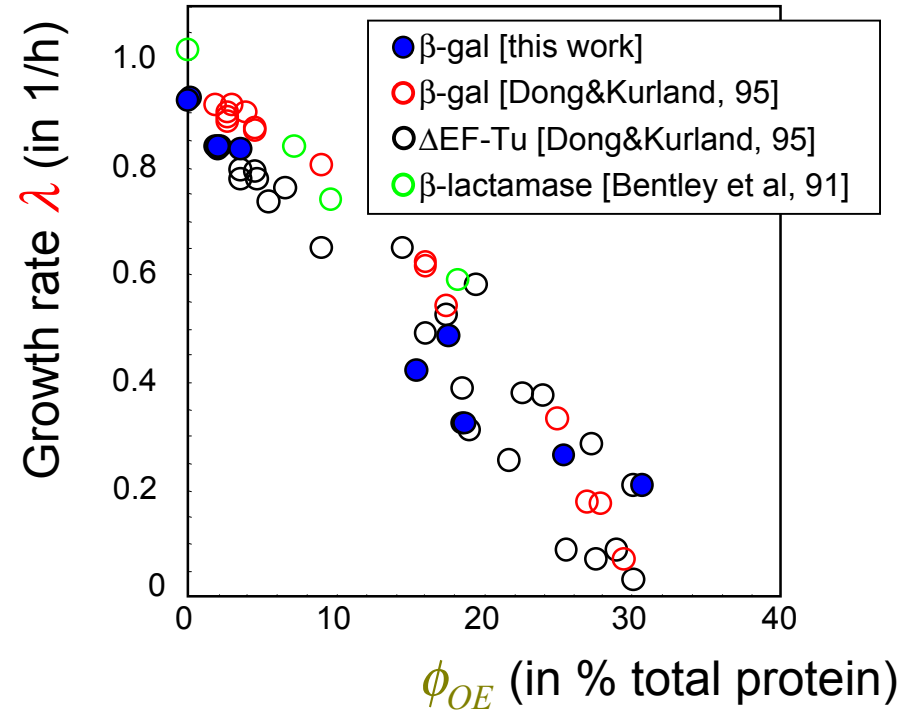
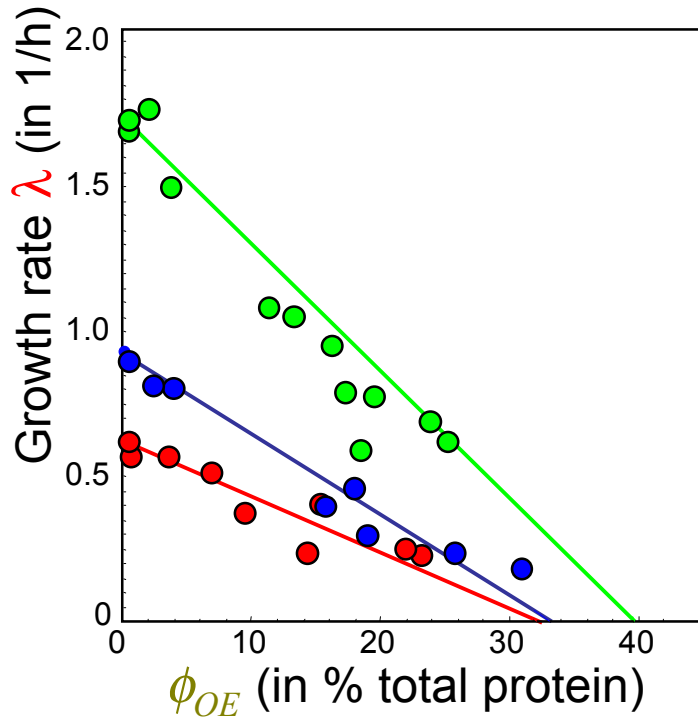
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→ protein overexpression:  $\phi_R^{\max} \rightarrow \phi_R^{\max} - \phi_{OE}$

$$\lambda(\phi_{OE}; \gamma, \nu) = \lambda(0; \gamma, \nu) \cdot \left[ 1 - \phi_{OE} / (\phi_R^{\max} - \phi_0) \right]$$

# Test: cost of protein overexpression

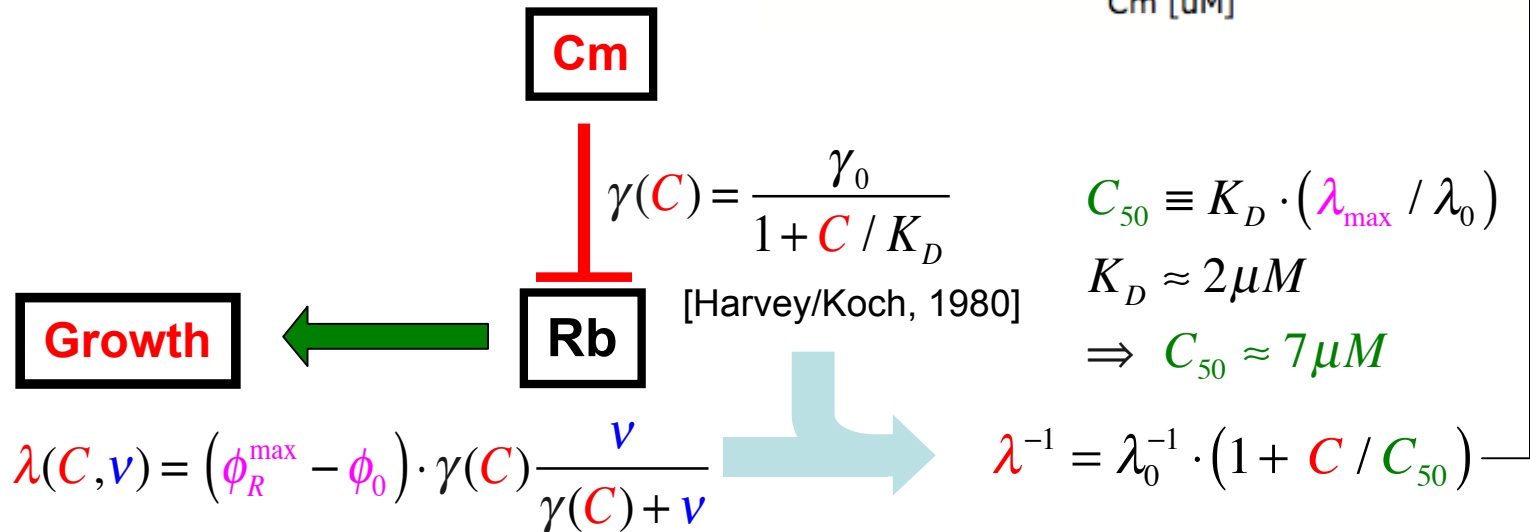
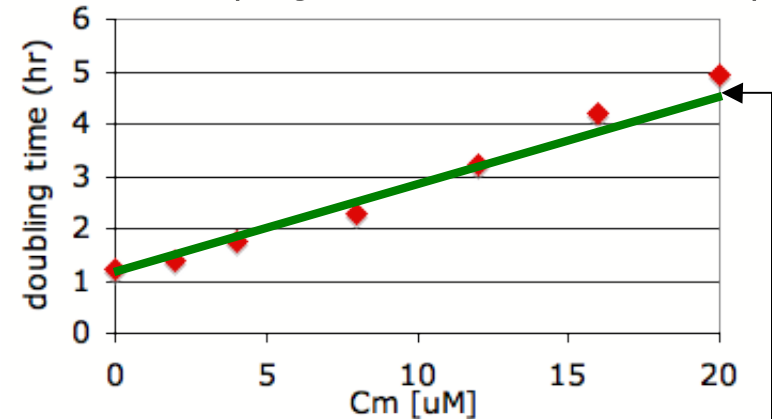


→ protein overexpression:  $\phi_R^{\max} \rightarrow \phi_R^{\max} - \phi_{OE}$

$$\lambda(\phi_{OE}; \gamma, \nu) = \lambda(0; \gamma, \nu) \cdot \left[ 1 - \phi_{OE} / (\phi_R^{\max} - \phi_0) \right]$$

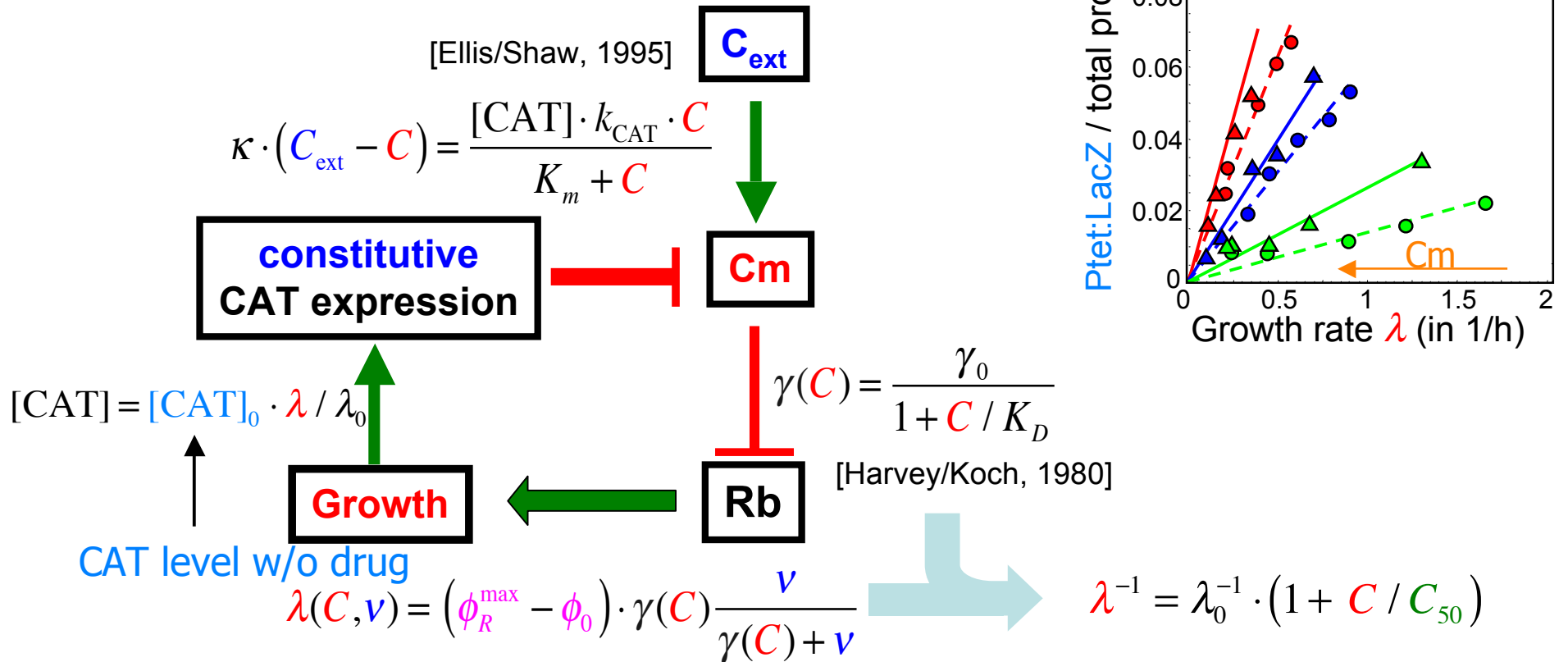
# Application: Effect of antibiotics on cell growth

- consider a translation-inhibiting antibiotics (e.g., chloramphenicol)



# Application: Effect of antibiotics on cell growth

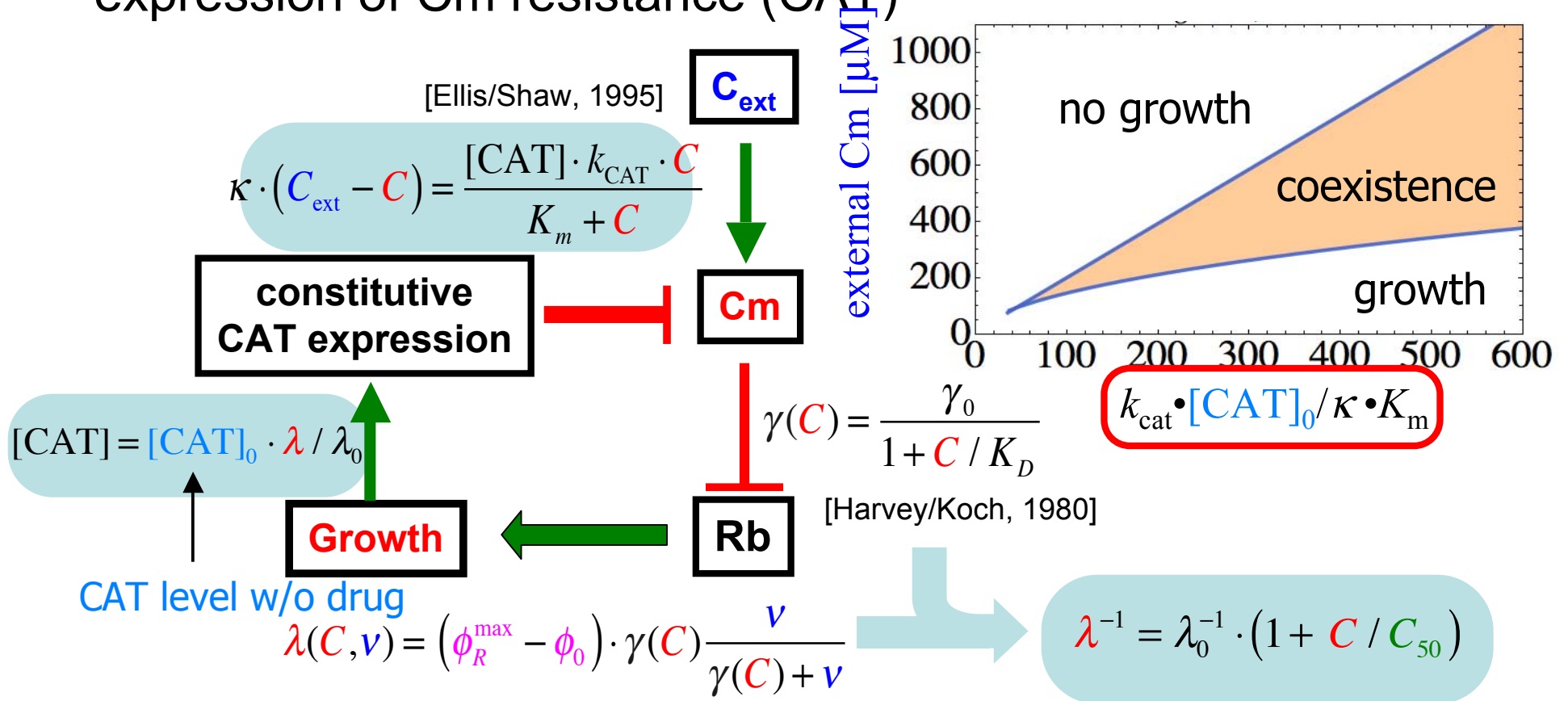
- consider a translation-inhibiting antibiotics (e.g., chloramphenicol)
- expression of Cm resistance (CAT)



→ positive feedback without need for specific regulation!

# Application: Effect of antibiotics on cell growth

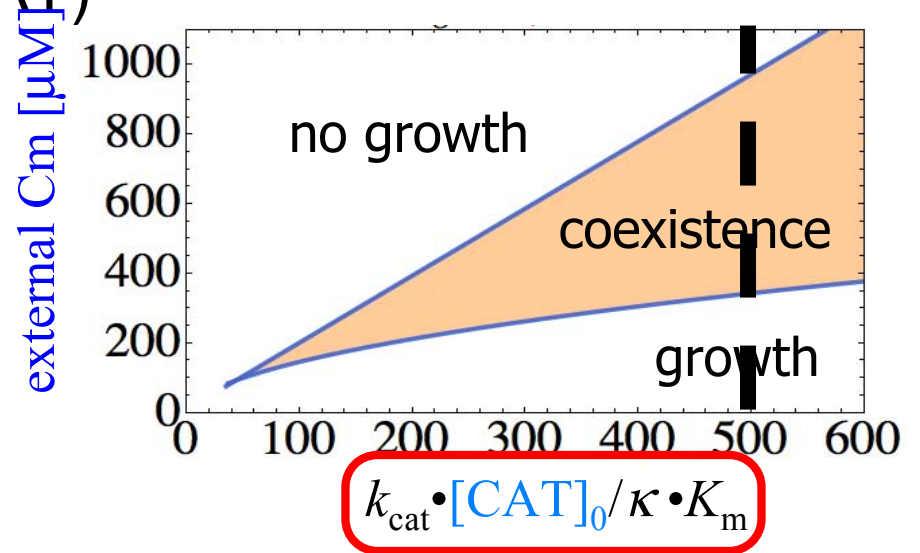
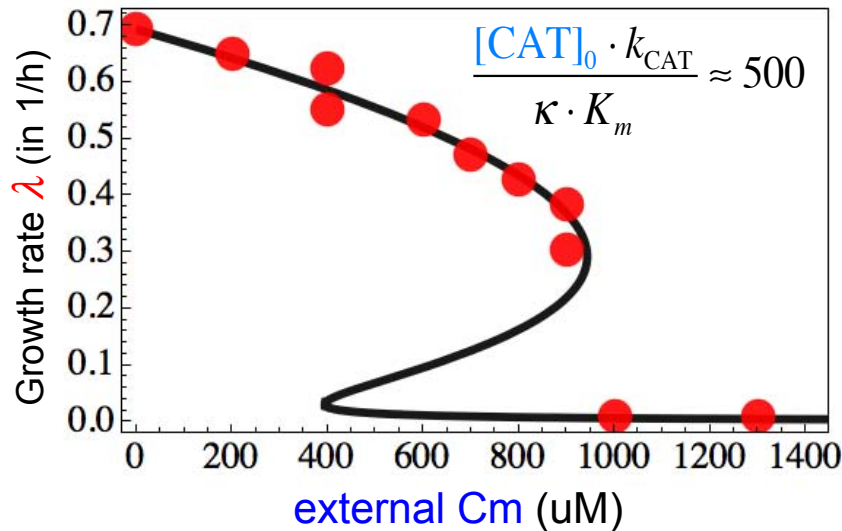
- consider a translation-inhibiting antibiotics (e.g., chloramphenicol)
- expression of Cm resistance (CAT)



- positive feedback without need for specific regulation!
- generically expect abrupt transition and bimodality
- one dimensionless parameter (resistance efficacy)

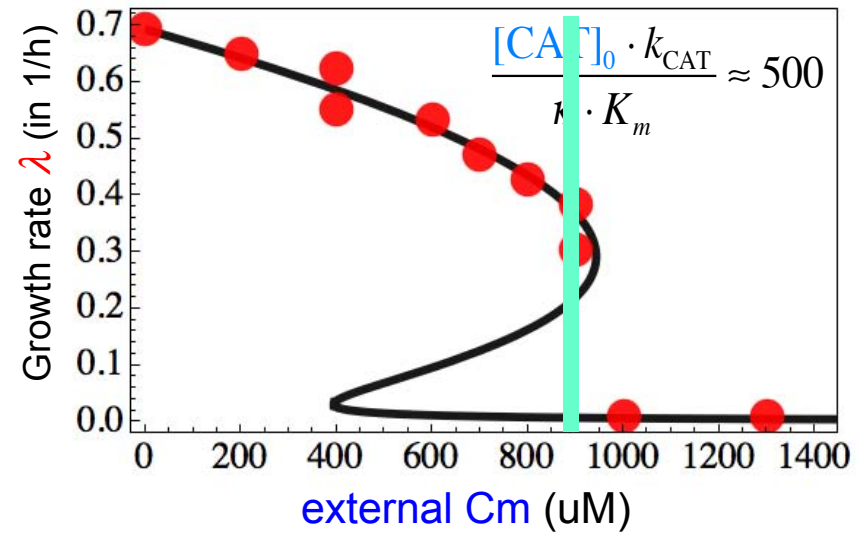
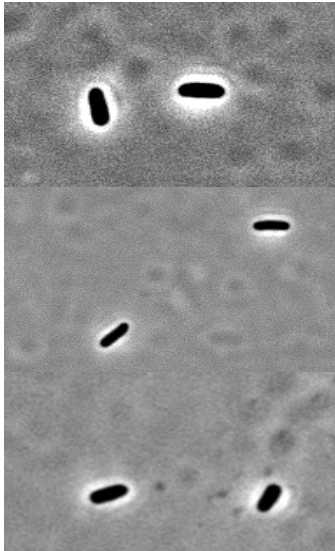
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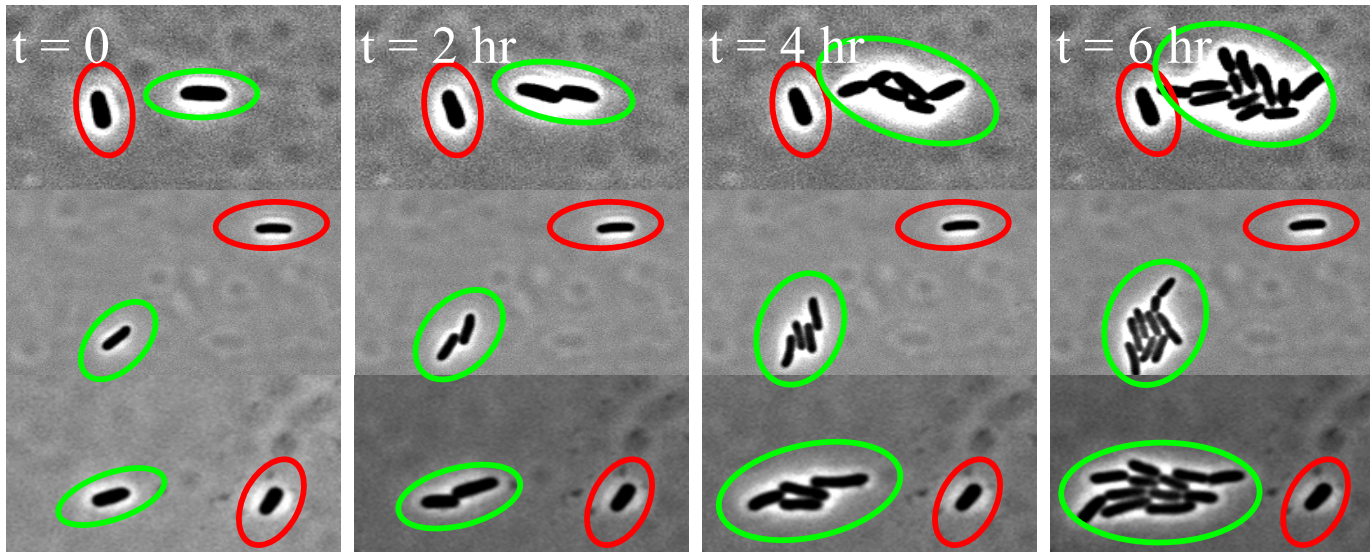
# Occurrence of growth bimodality in the transition region

Observe cell growth in microfluidic chamber at 0.9mM Cm

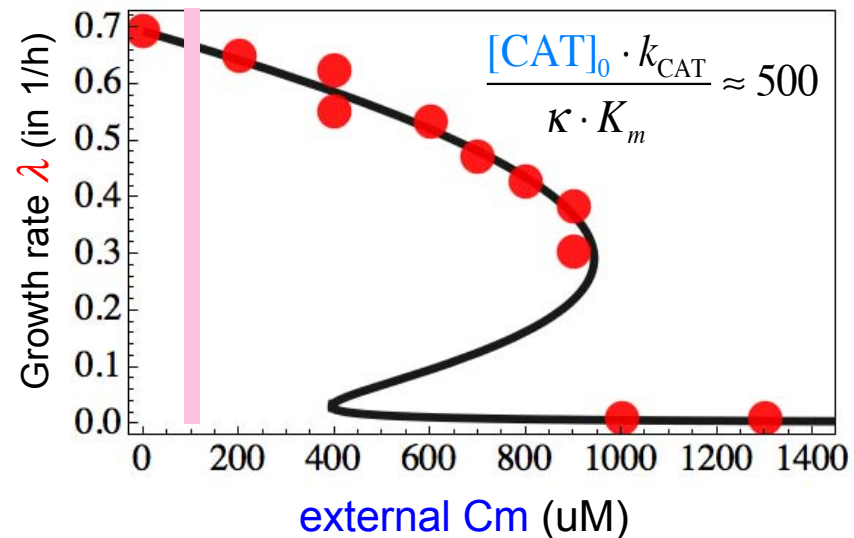


# Occurrence of growth bimodality in the transition region

30% of seeded cells grew in microfluidic chamber at 0.9mM Cm



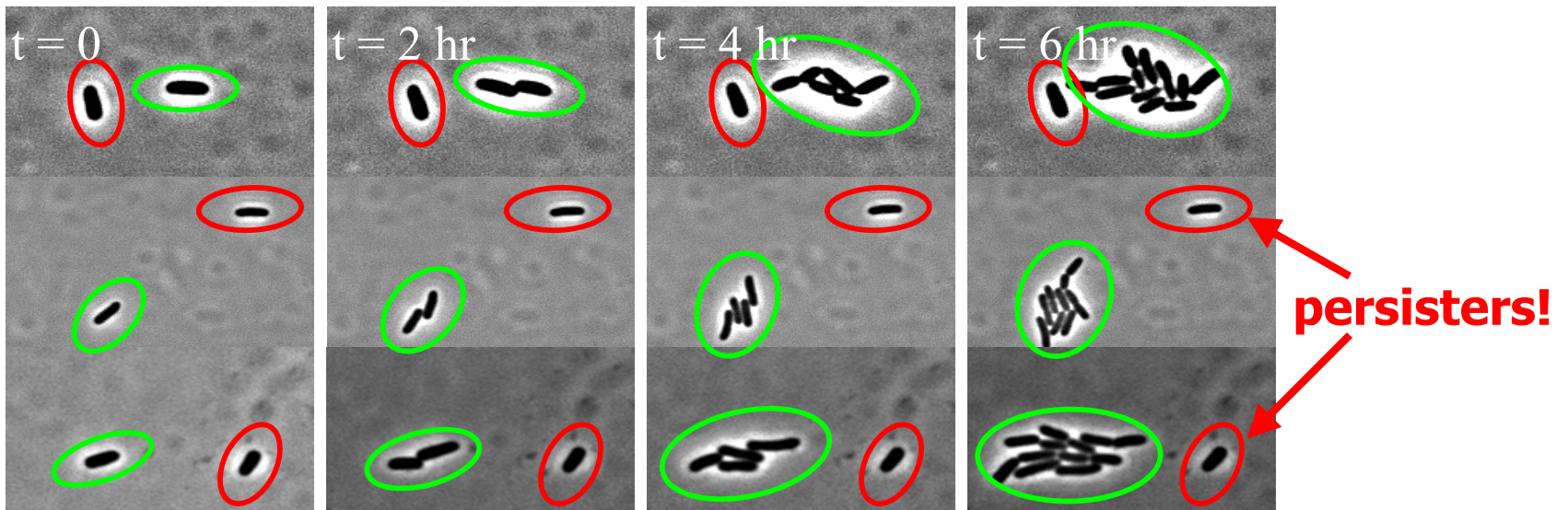
Switch back to 0.1mM Cm



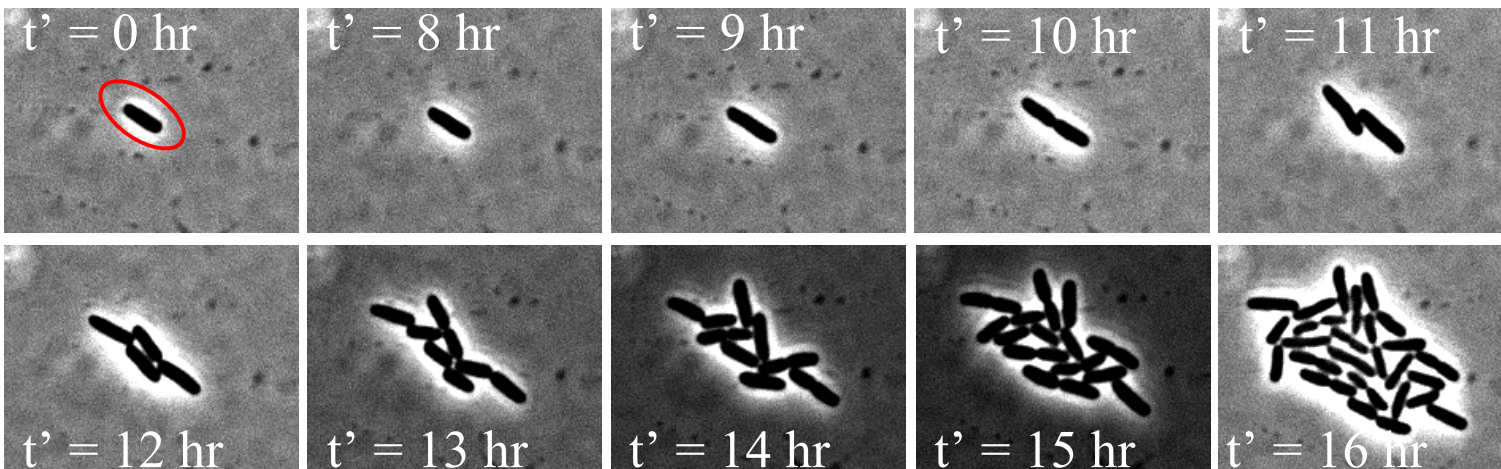


# Occurrence of growth bimodality in the transition region

30% of seeded cells grew in microfluidic chamber at 0.9mM Cm

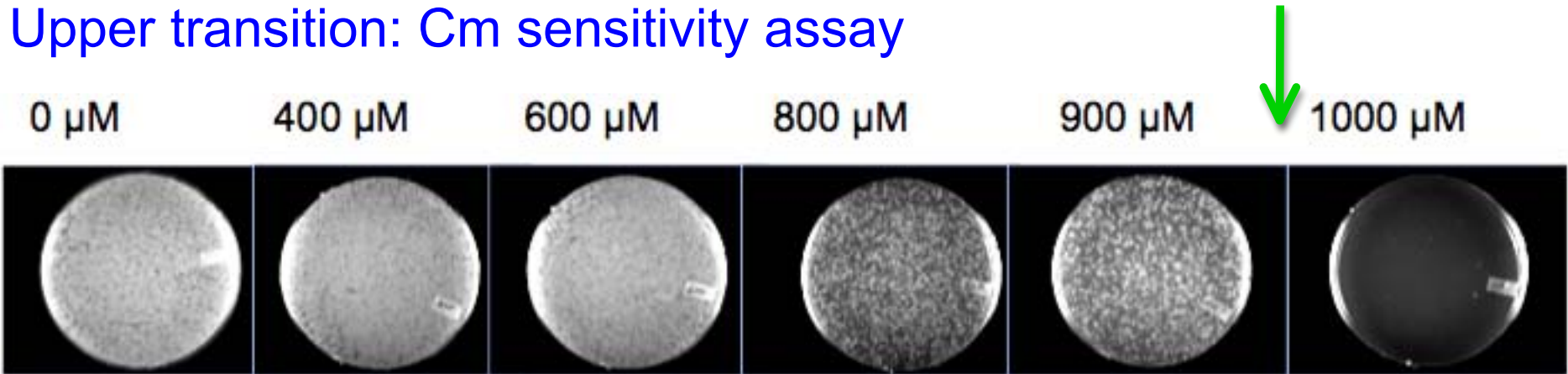


non-growers resumed growth 10hr after downshift to 0.1mM Cm



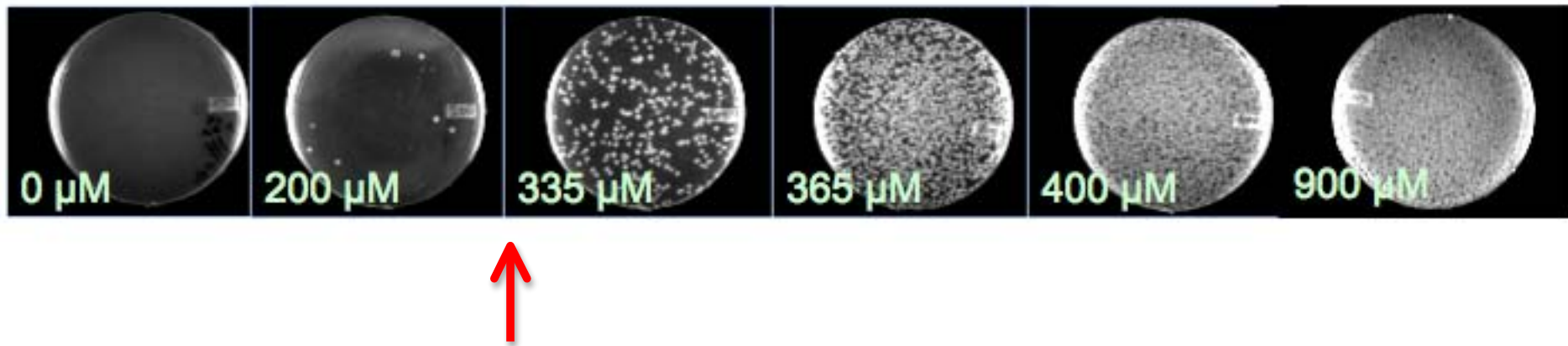
# Plate assays to determine upper/lower transitions

## Upper transition: Cm sensitivity assay

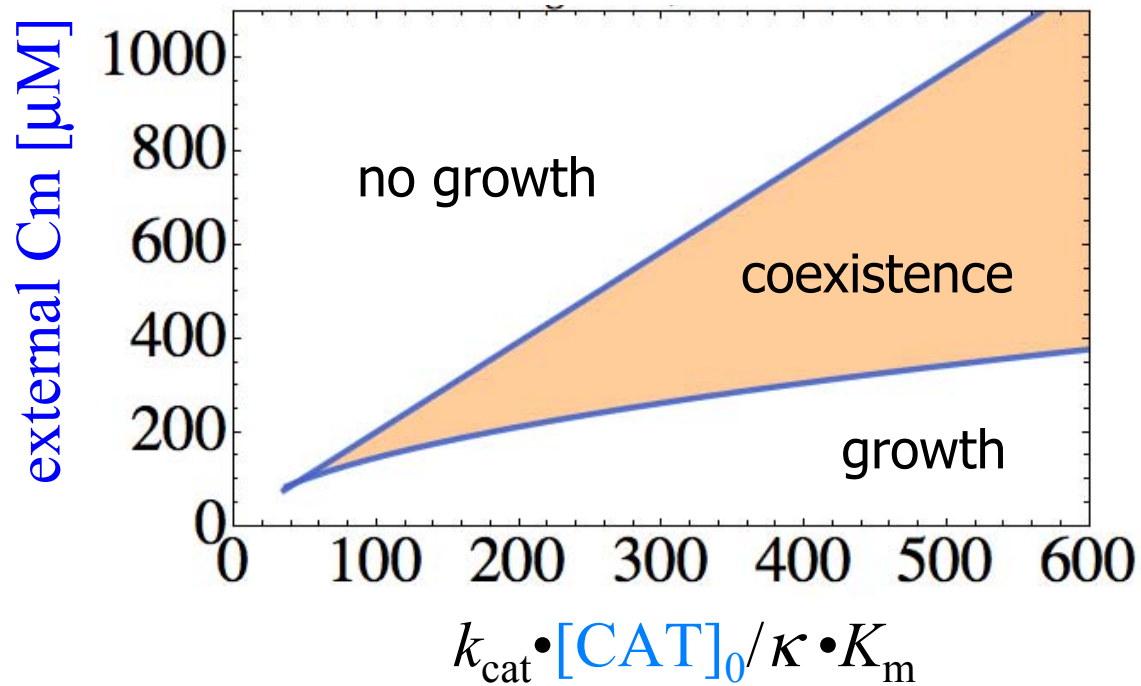


## Lower transition:

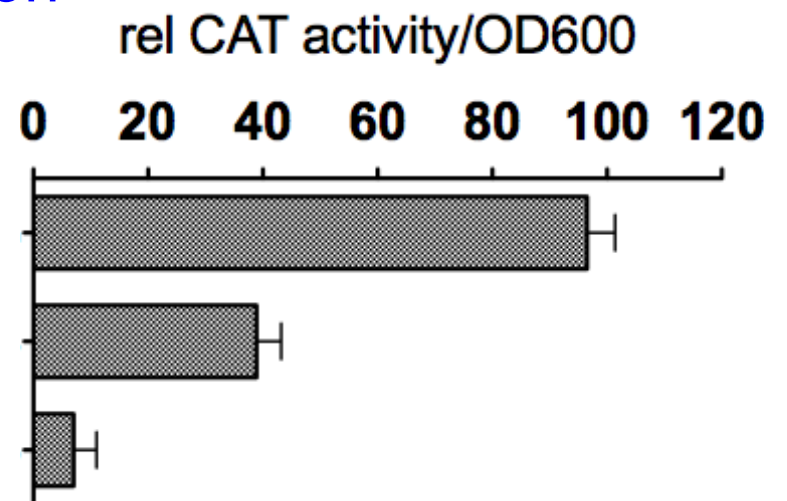
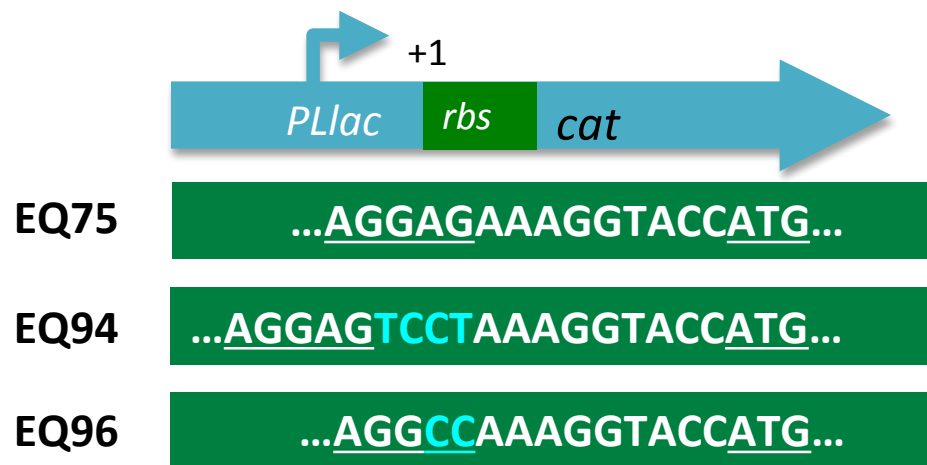
1. Batch culture growth in medium with Cm+Amp
2. Plate on LB plates with no drugs



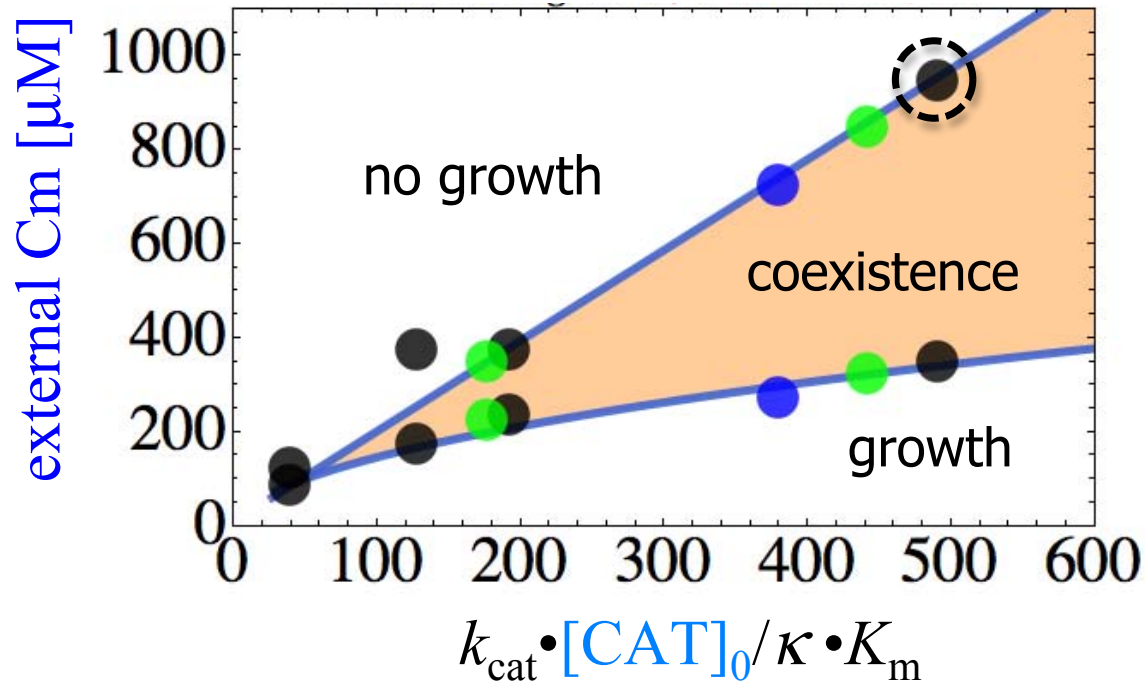
# Predicted phase diagram



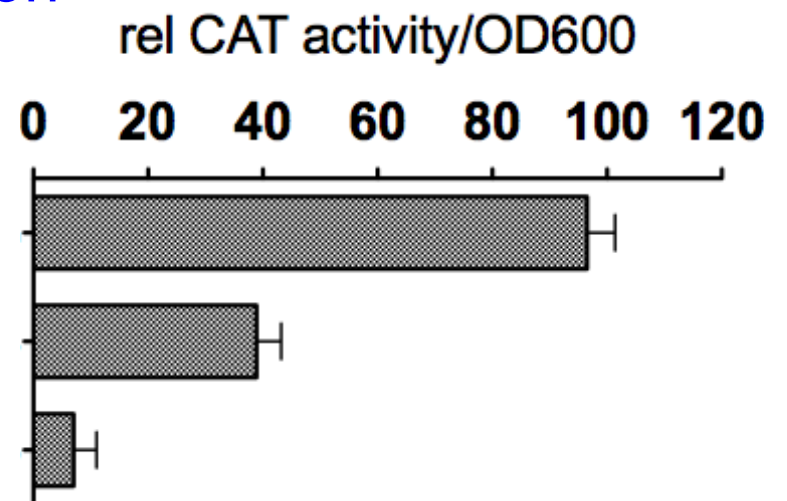
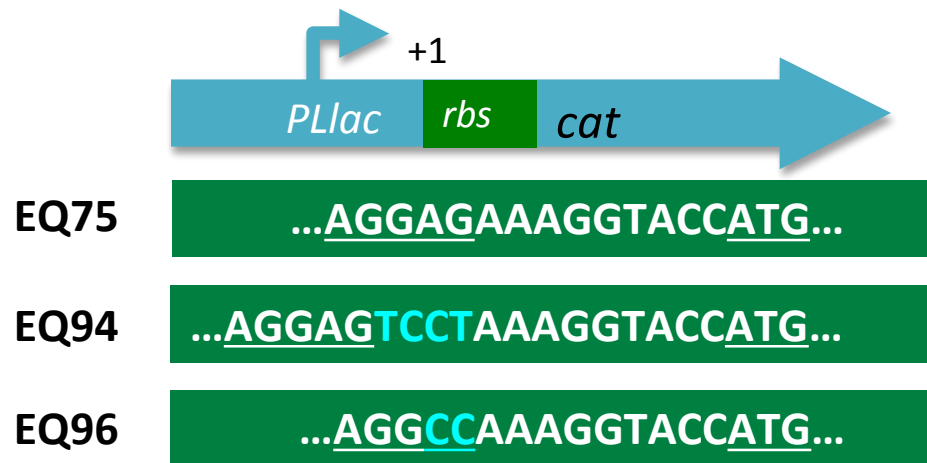
## Probe by varying basal CAT expression



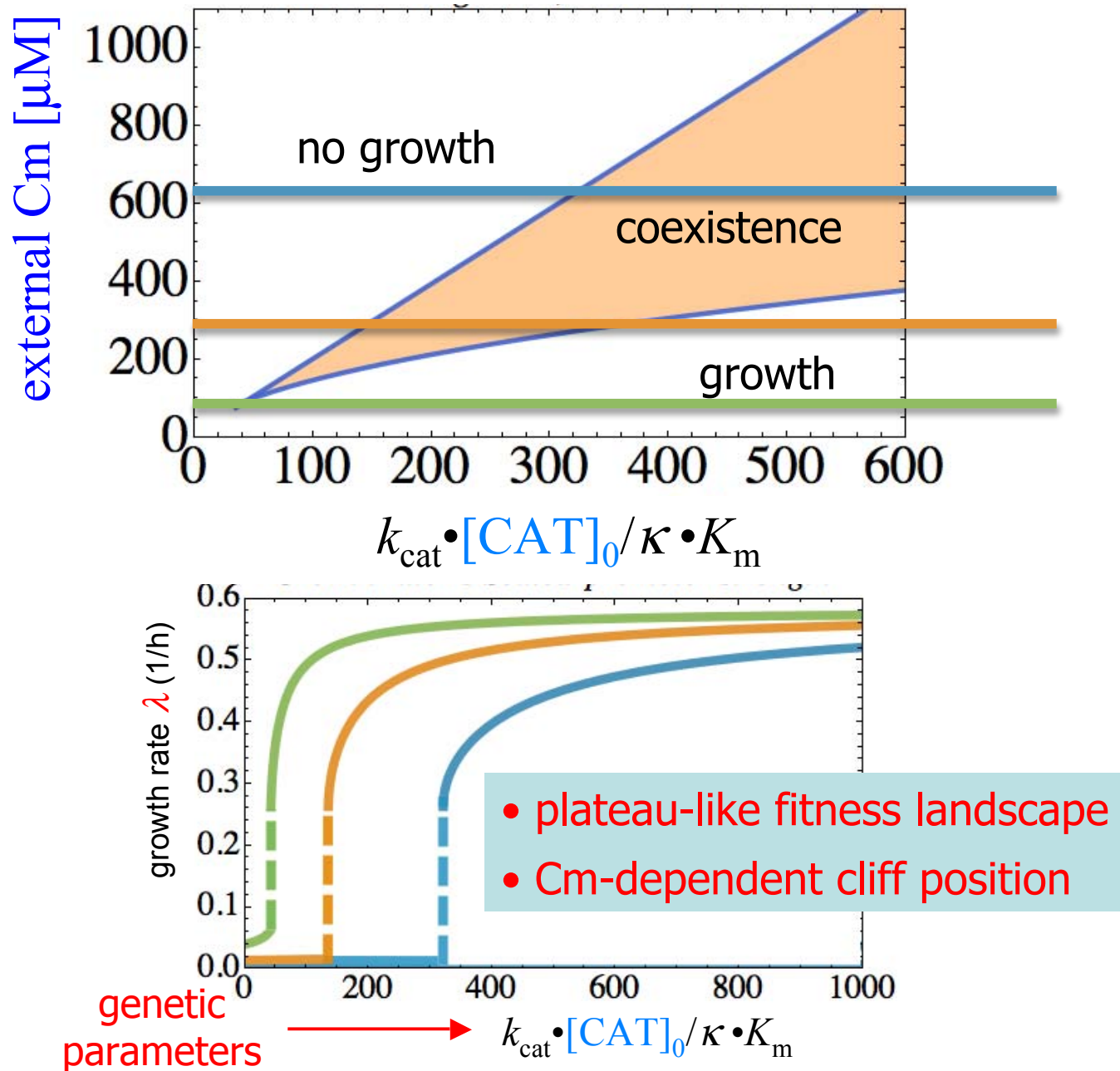
# Predicted phase diagram



## Probe by varying basal CAT expression



# Another perspective: fixed ext Cm level



A landscape photograph showing a wide, flat plateau in the foreground, a body of water in the middle ground, and a range of mountains in the background under a cloudy sky. The text is overlaid on the image.

at least a plateau landscape

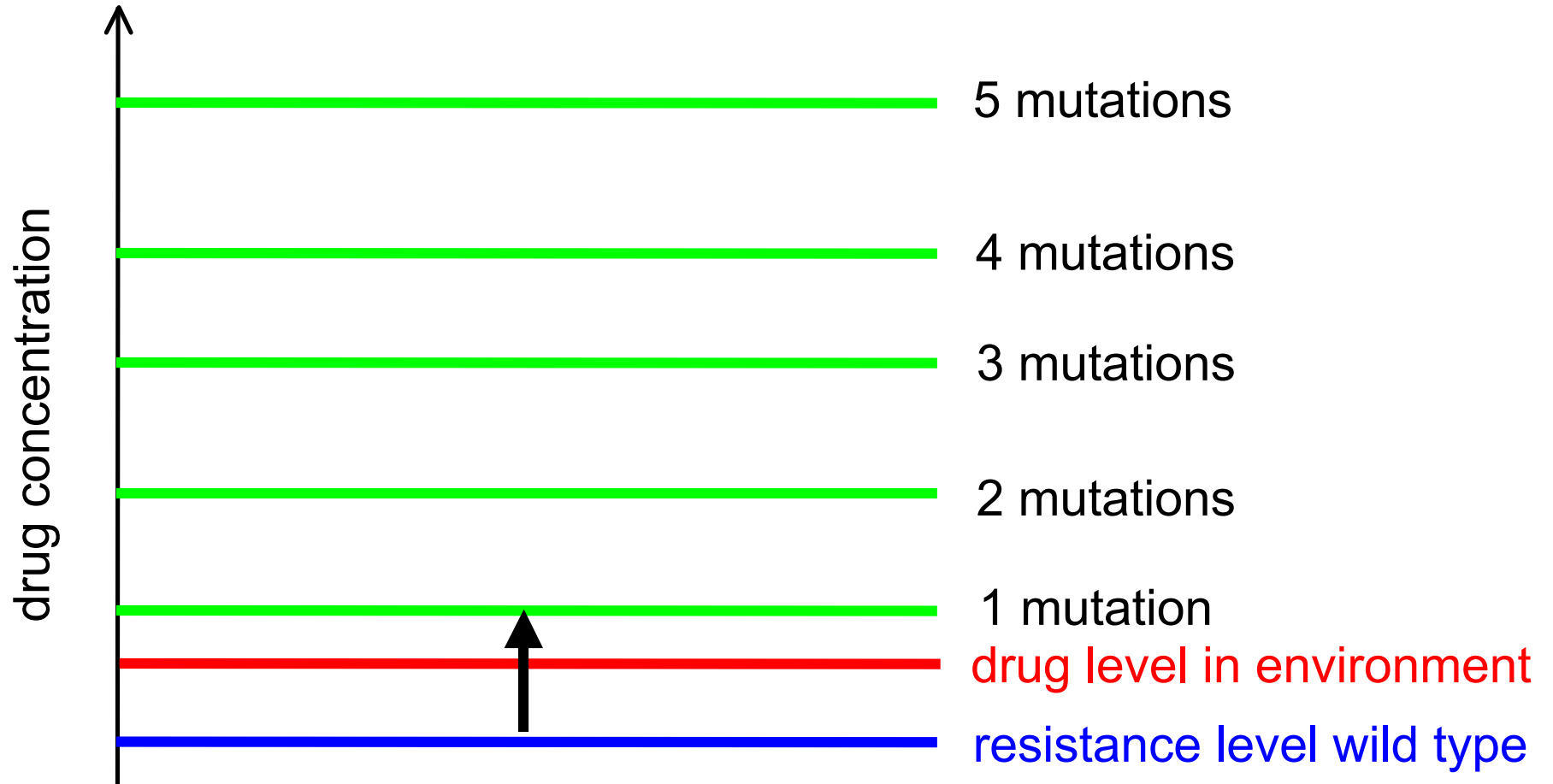
function of a circuit/device requires  
coordinated activities of multiple components

→ many small changes before fitness benefit realized

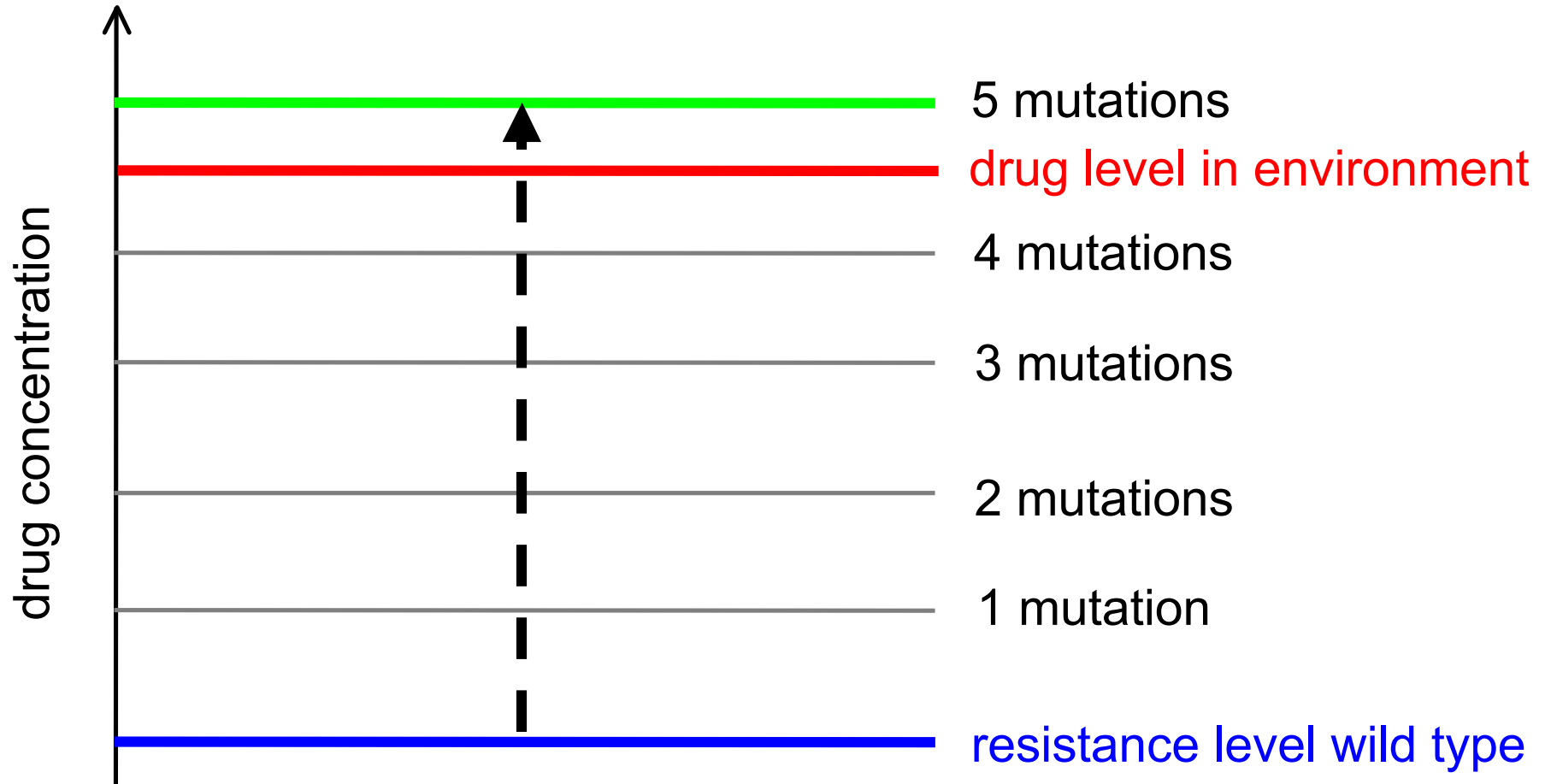
→ how to get to the edge of the plateau  
given the huge genome space?

antibiotics: distance to plateau depends on environment

# Adaptation easy if plateau close by

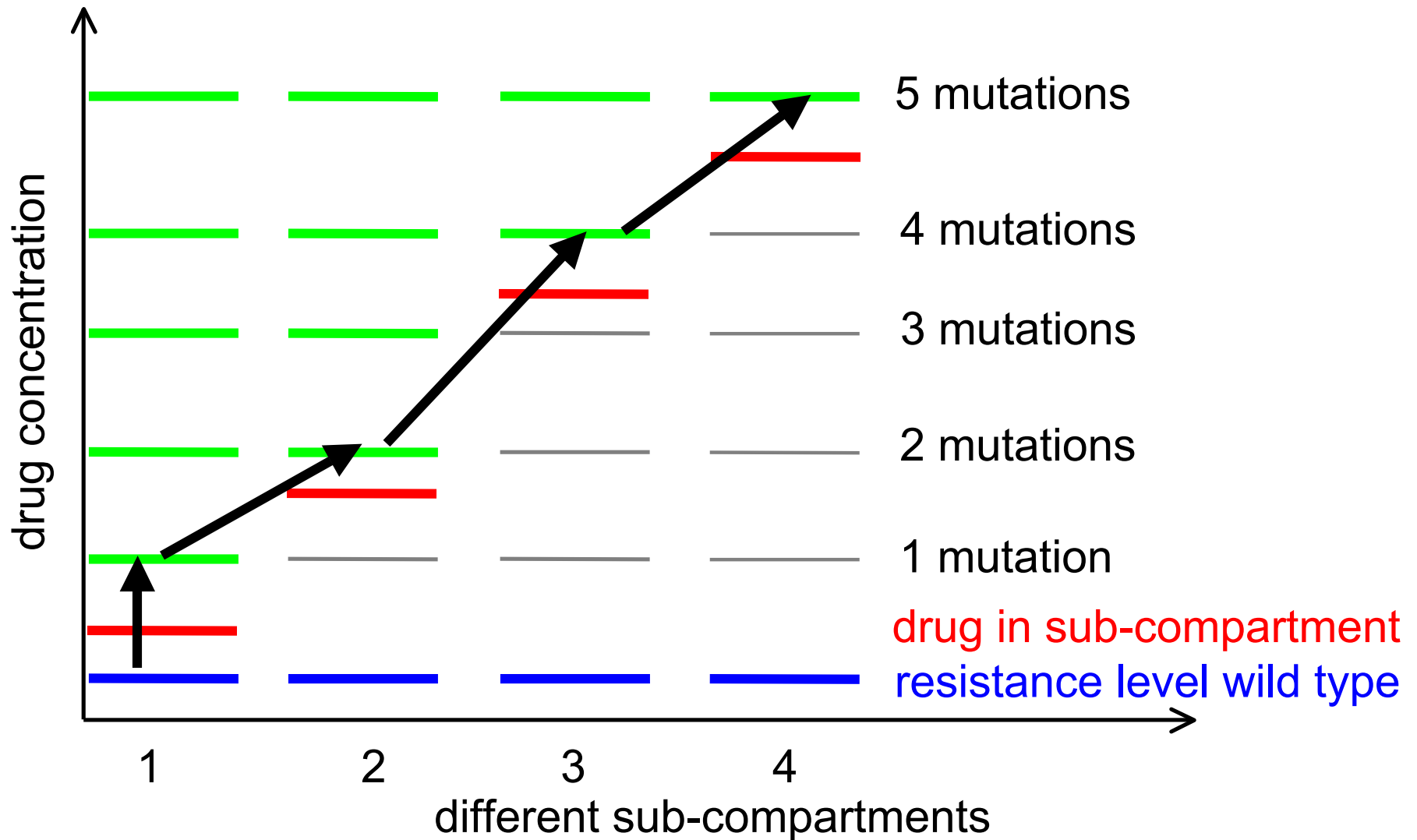


# Adaptation hard if plateau far away



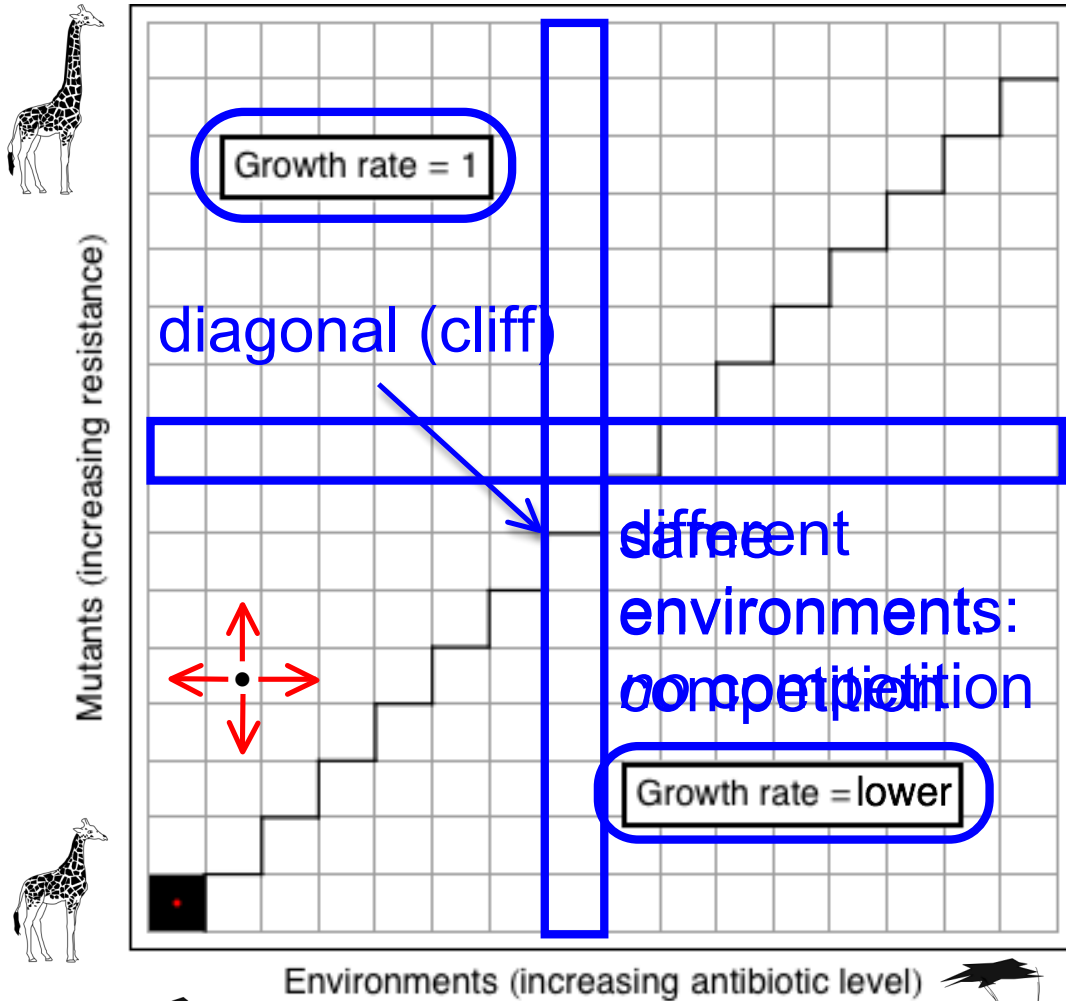


# Spatial heterogeneities provide “staircase”



# The “staircase model”

Landscape:

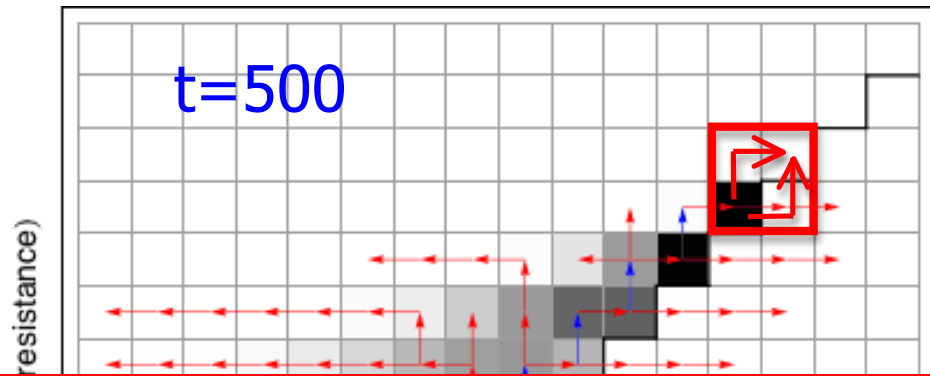
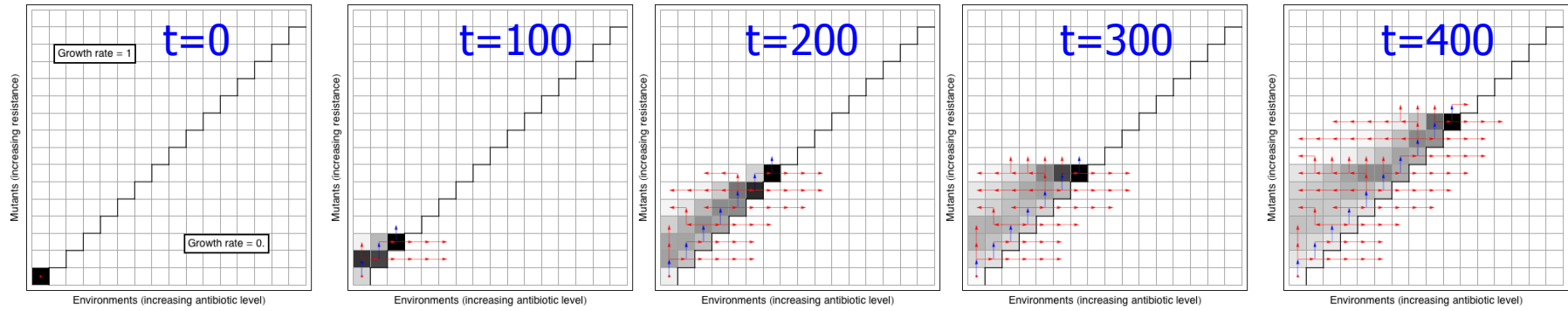


Processes and rates:

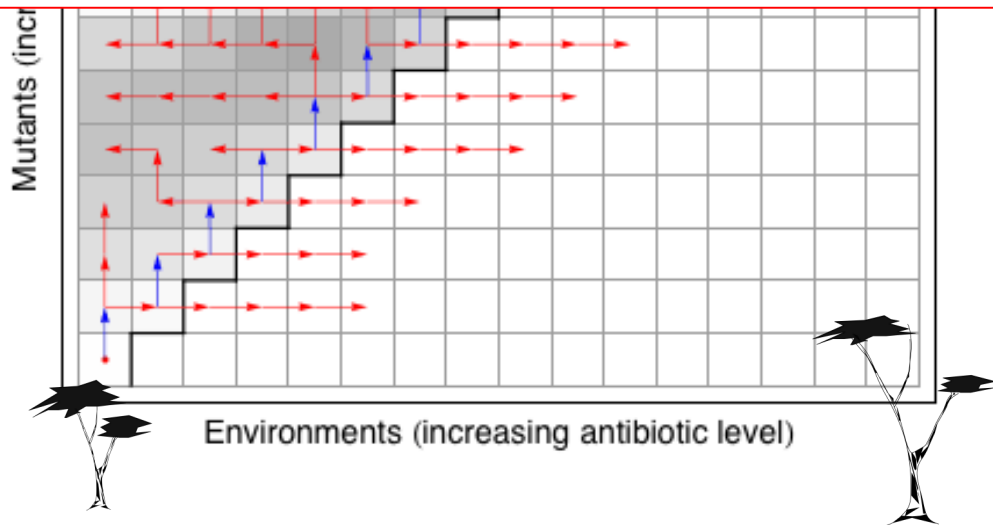
Mutation	$\mu_f$	
	$\mu_b$	
Migration	$\nu$	
	$\nu$	
Death	$\delta$	
Growth	$\gamma_{ij}(\rho_{ij})$	

$$\gamma_{ij}(\rho_{ij}) = \lambda_{ij} \cdot \left(1 - \rho_{ij} / K\right)$$

("logistic")



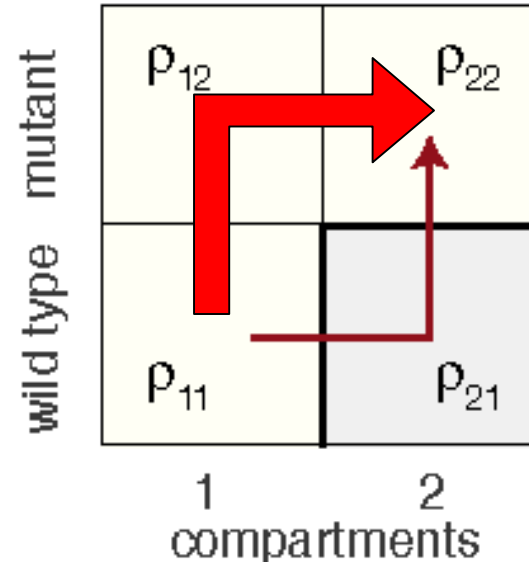
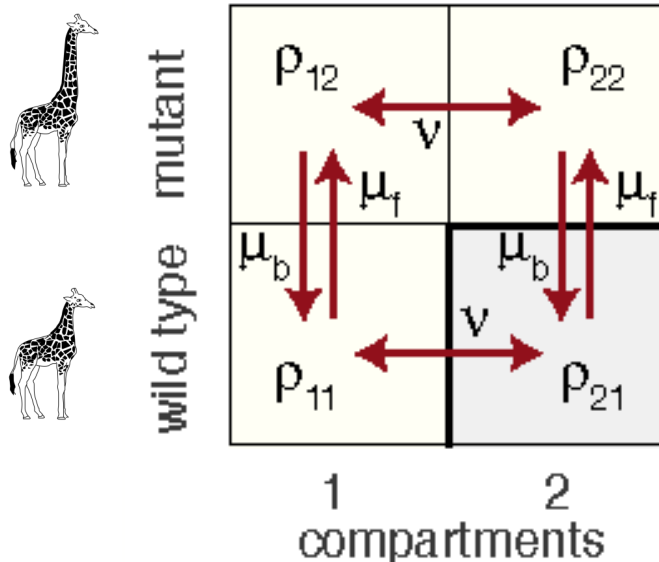
The full model as a concatenation of 2x2 models



# Quantitative descrip. of the evolution-migration process?

2x2 case

- how long to go from (1,1) to (2,2)?
- by the upper or lower pathway?



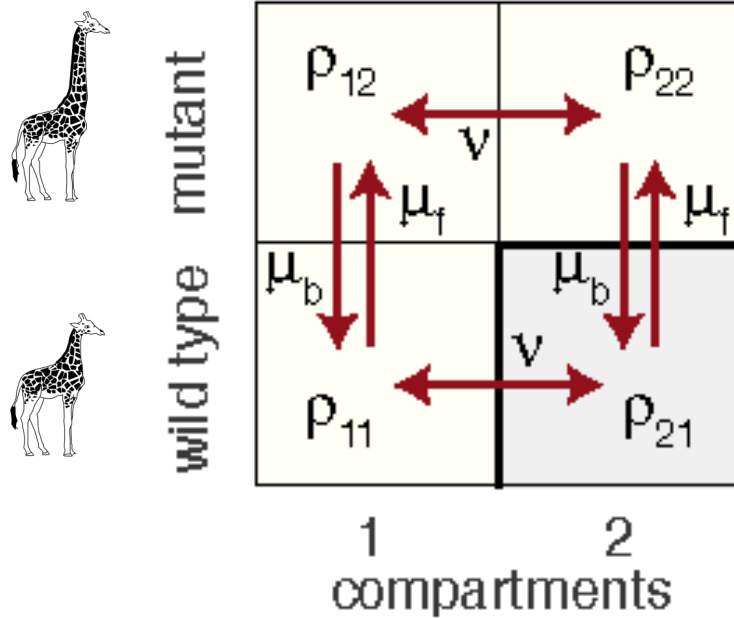
Analytic soln: path  $\curvearrowright$  dominates

[Hermsen & TH, PRL, 2010]

mean 1st arrival time:  $\tau \approx \frac{1}{\sqrt{v \cdot (\delta + v)}} f\left(\frac{\mu_f K}{\delta + v}\right)$  for  $\mu_f, \mu_b \ll v < \delta$

with  $f(x) = \begin{cases} x^{-1} & \text{for } x \ll 1 \text{ (mutation-limited)} \\ x^{-1/2} & \text{for } x \gg 1 \text{ (migration-limited)} \end{cases}$

# Dependence on the fitness landscape ( $\lambda_{ij}$ )



- landscape used so far:

1	1
1	0

- cost of adaptation ( $c$ ):

$1-c$	1
1	0

death rate:  $\delta$

growth rate:  $\lambda_{ij} \cdot (1 - n_i / K)$

$\Rightarrow$  cost of adaptation not important unless  $c > \sqrt{v / \delta}$

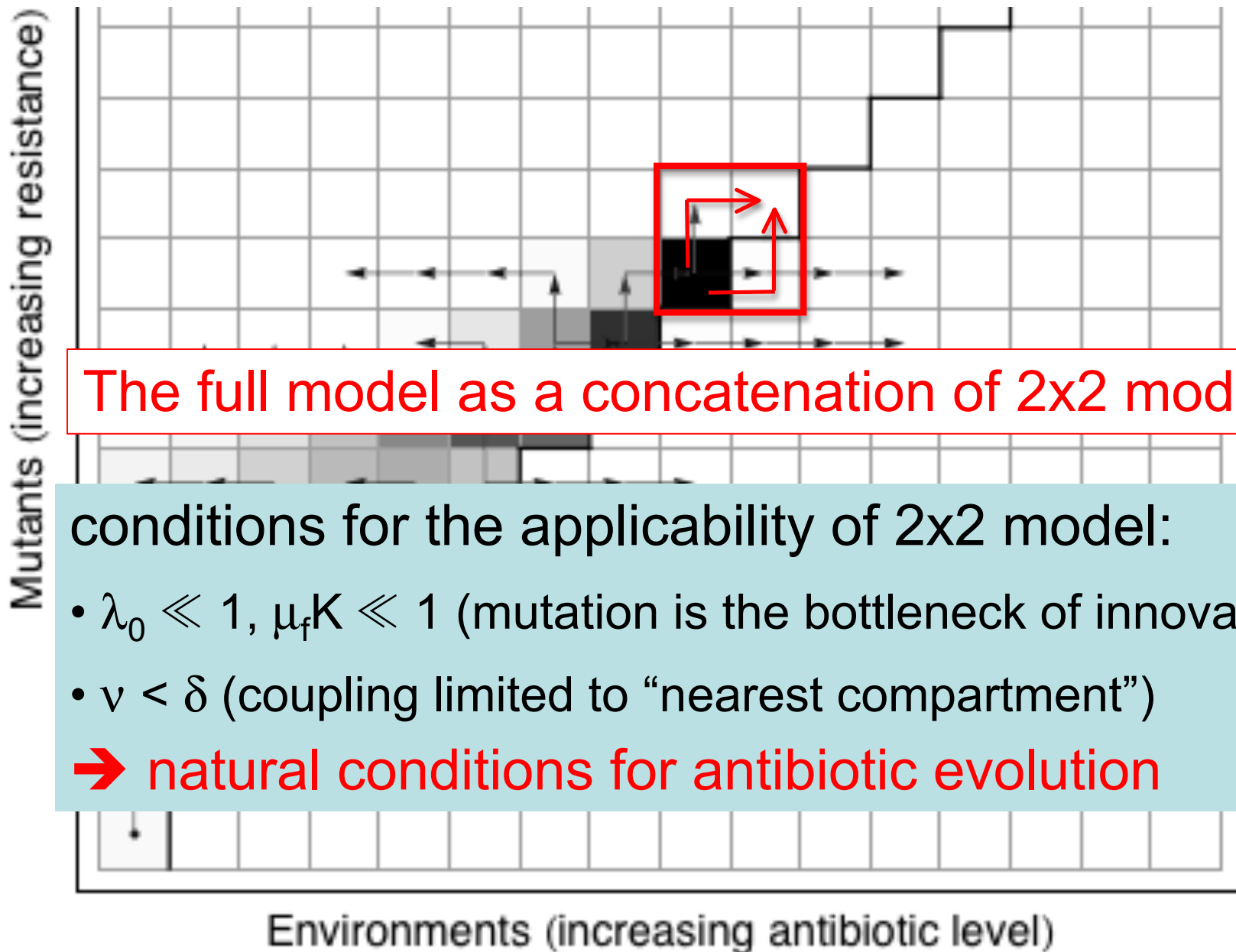
$\Rightarrow$  abrupt drop in fitness ( $\lambda_0 < v + \delta$ ) crucial

- fitness of lower plateau ( $\lambda_0$ )

1	1
1	$\lambda_0$

$\rightarrow$  plateau landscape eliminates competitors

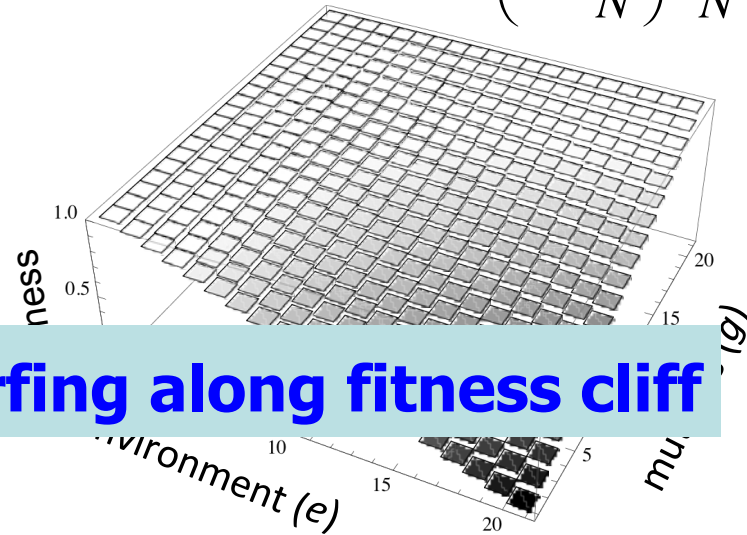
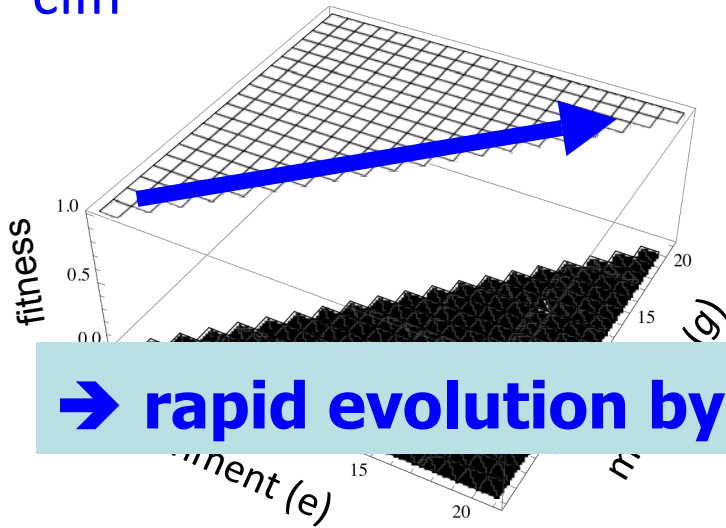
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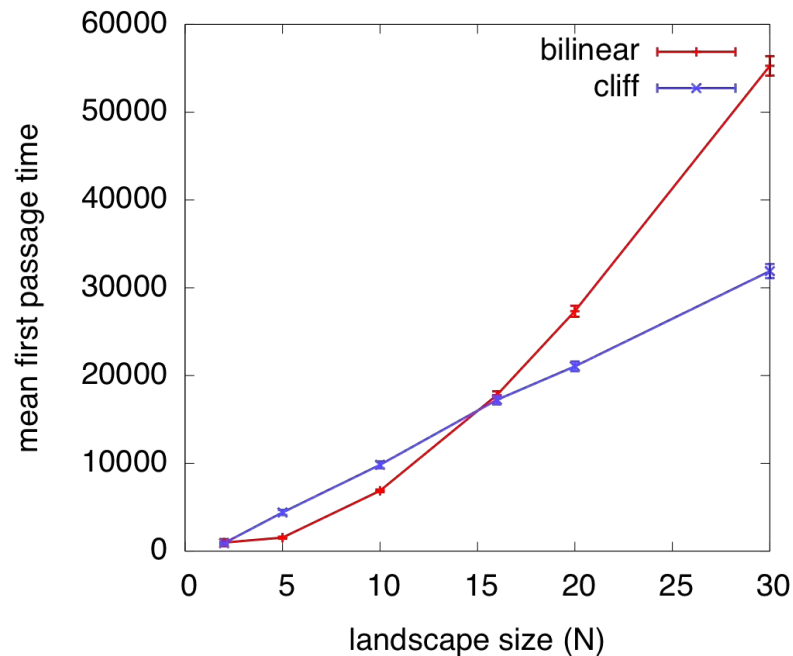
# Plateau vs Fuji landscape

cliff

bilinear:  $\lambda = 1 - \left(1 - \frac{g}{N}\right) \cdot \frac{e}{N}$

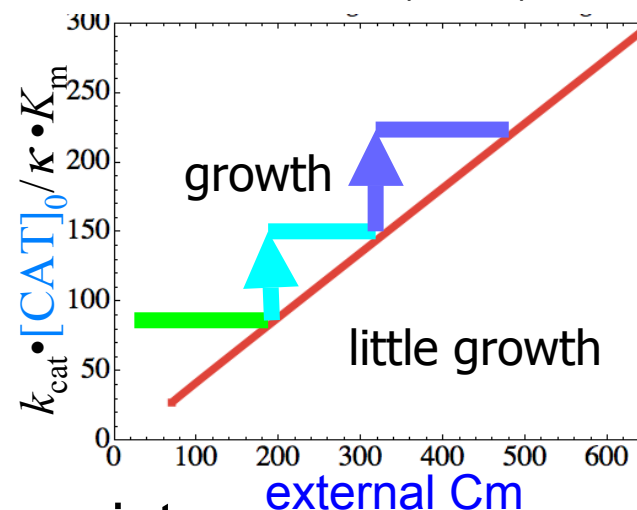
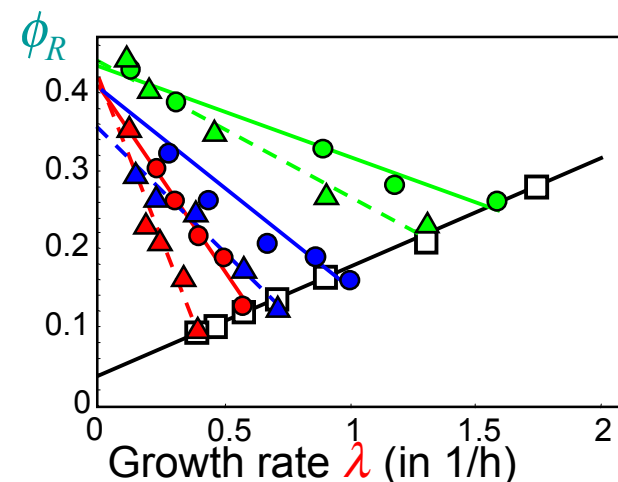


→ rapid evolution by surfing along fitness cliff



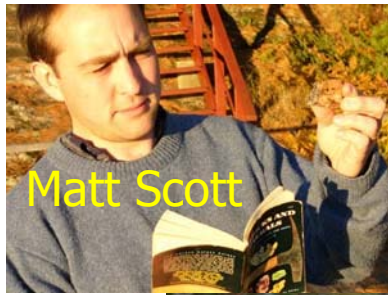
## Summary:

- strong coupling between physiology and genetic circuits
- describable through simple growth laws (few parameters!)
- laws → growth theory  
→ genotype-fitness relation
- abrupt fitness landscape: survive or perish (cf “survival of fittest”)



- **built-in recipe** for rapid evolution of drug resistance for bacteria exposed to **a continuum of drug levels** (via mutation, invasion, and colonization of new niches)
- **evolution effectively “directed” by the fitness cliff**
- expect to be generic for translational inhibiting drugs





Matt Scott



Stefan Klumpp



Barrett Deris



Rutger  
Hermsen

Zhongge  
Zhang

Carl  
Gunderson

Minsu  
Kim

“Now in the further development of science, we want more than just a formula. First we have an observation, then we have numbers that we measure, then we have a law which summarizes all the numbers. But the real glory of science is that we can find a way of thinking such that the law is evident.”

from *The Feynman Lectures on Physics*

