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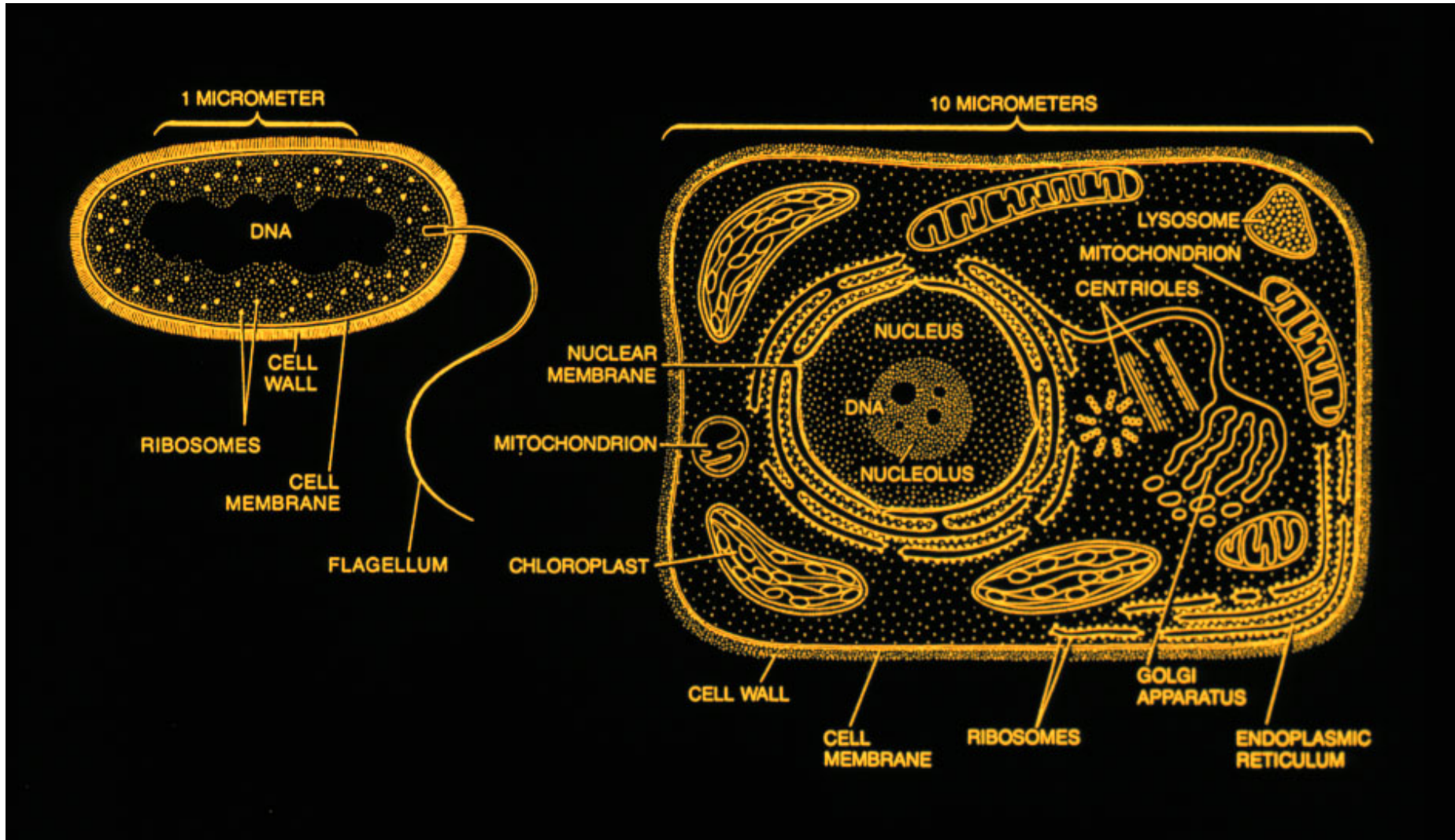
Planctomycetes and PVC superphylum bacteria and their similarities in structure and function to eukaryotes

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Tutorial for ICTS EvoCell 2012, NCBS Bangalore

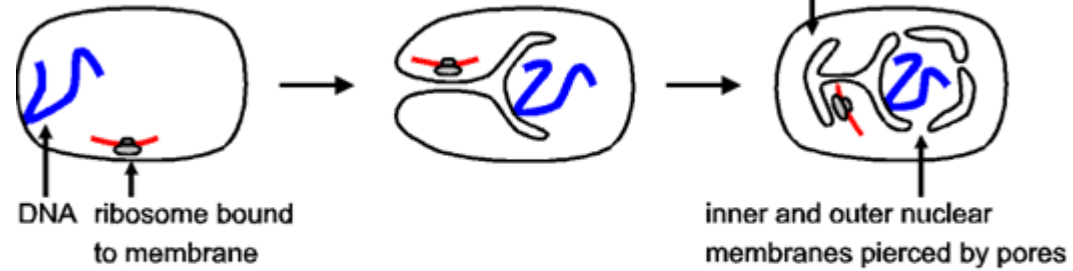
Prokaryote vs. Eukaryote



Major ways proposed for evolving endomembranes and the eukaryotic nucleus

A. Autogenous pathway

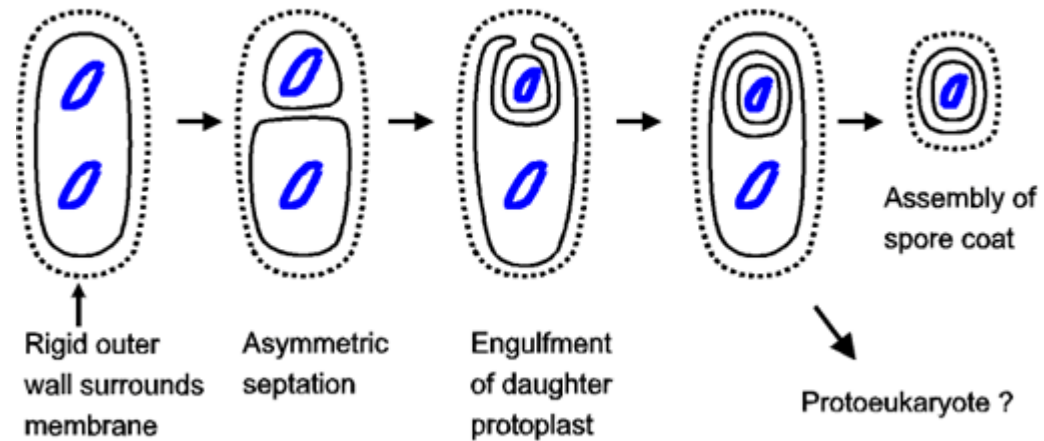
ancient prokaryote



B. Exogenous pathway



C. Defective sporulation



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Evolutionary advantages of the nucleus?

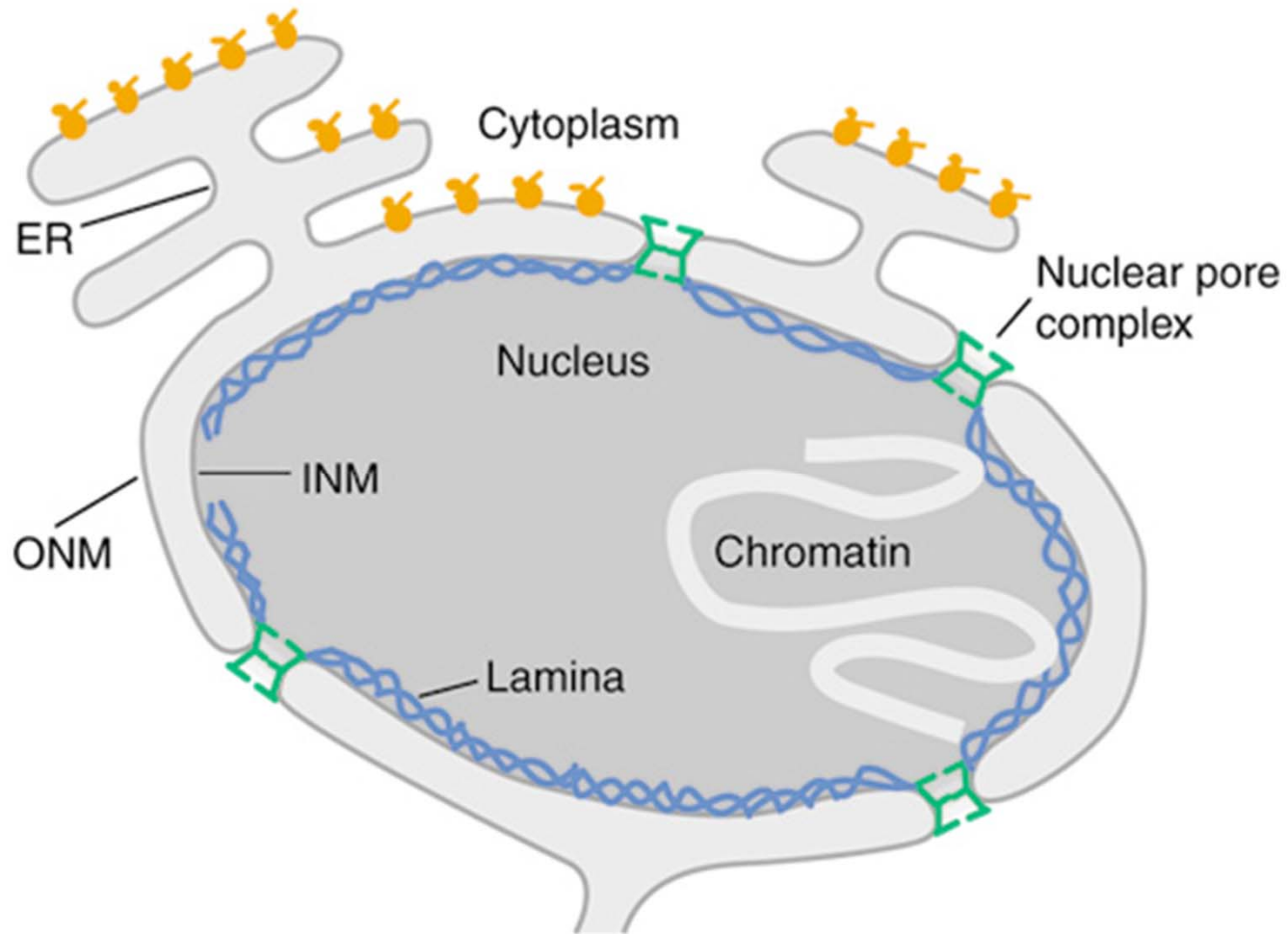
Evolutionary advantages of the nucleus?

- 1) **overcomes diffusion limits** in large cells - advantages of '**molecular crowding**'
- 2) Protection of DNA from shearing forces on mitosis? Protection from oxidation products after the mitochondrial invasion?
- 3) Separation of **slow transcription & RNA processing** from ***fast* translation** - prevent translation of unprocessed nonsense pre-mRNA
- 4) Corollary of **endomembranes** accompanying **endocytosis/phagocytosis** as a new eukaryotic **modes of nutrition**

OR

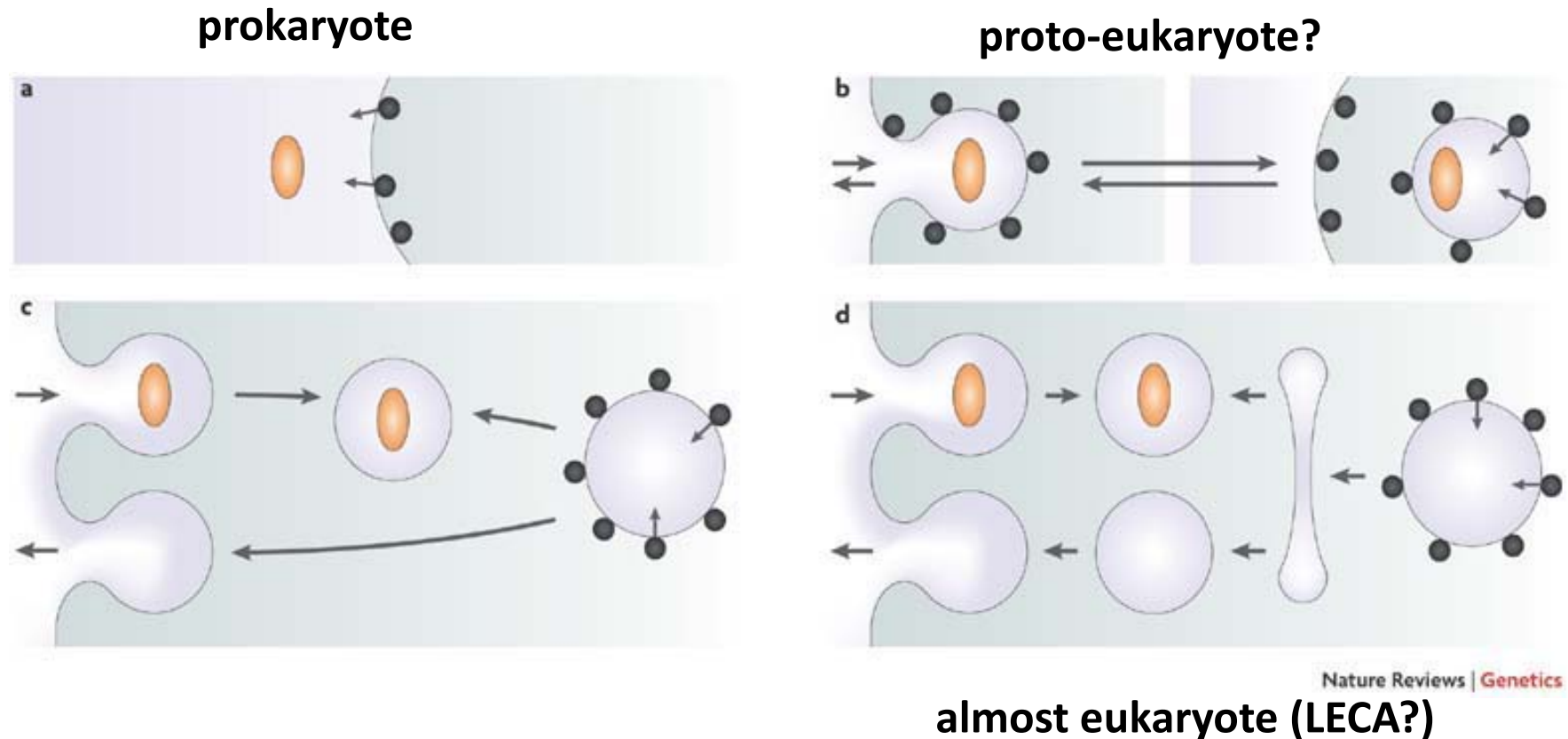
a neutral non-adaptive evolutionary accident?

Eukaryote nuclear envelope – ER connection – origins of endomembranes and nucleus connected?



From: Schirmer and Gerace *Genome Biology* 2002 **3**:reviews1008.1

Is the origin of endocytosis and vesicle formation a key to endomembrane evolution & thus cell compartments?



From: De Duve, C 2007. The origin of eukaryotes: a reappraisal. Nature Reviews Genetics 8, 395 - 403

Do any organisms living today resemble such proto-eukaryotes?

i.e.

are there any 'living fossils' preserving features of the proto-eukaryote?

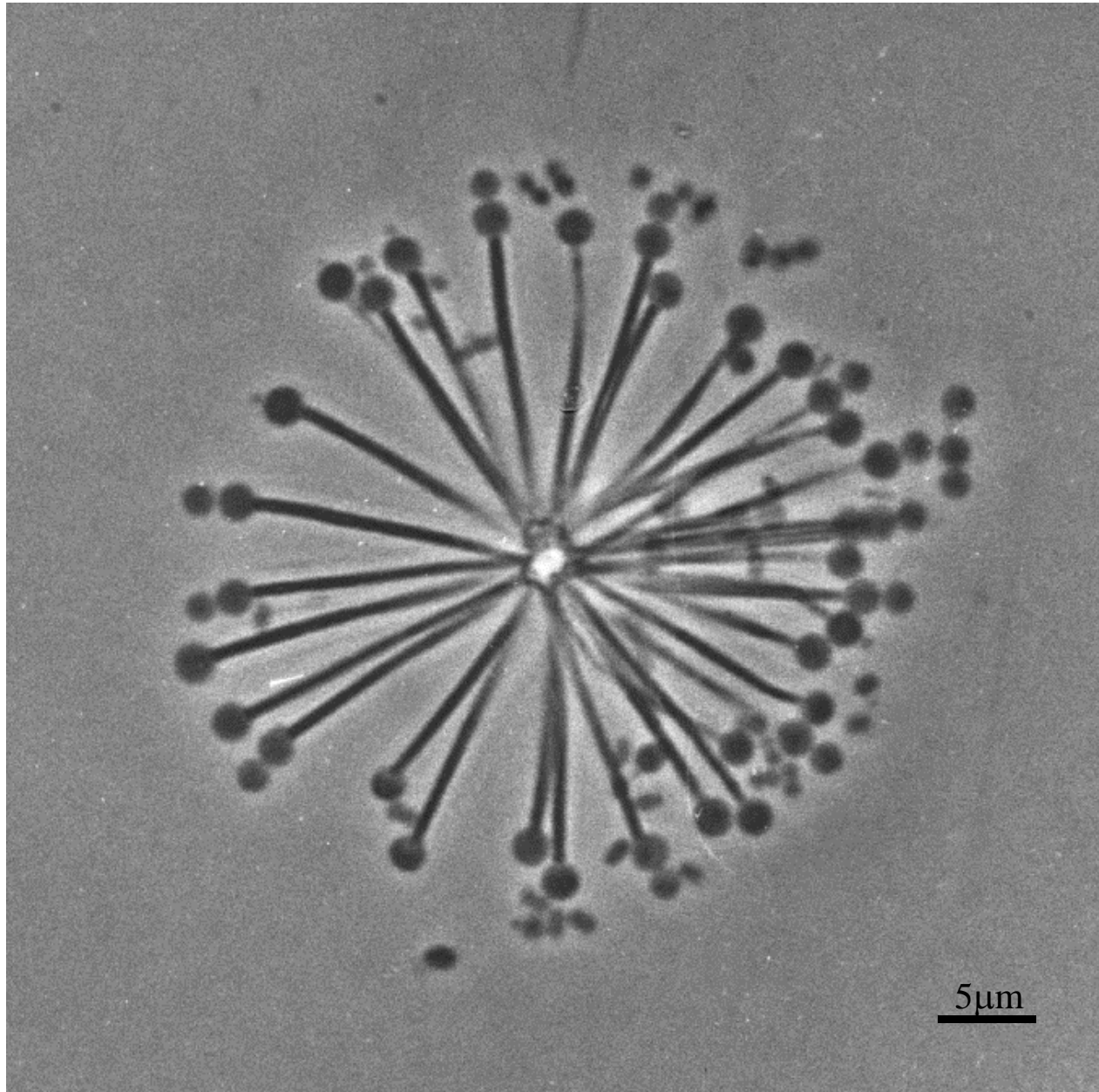
if so, what do they imply about evolutionary models for compartmentalization origins?

A Bacterial model for origin of eukaryote compartmentalization? - The Planctomycetes

Planctomycetes are:

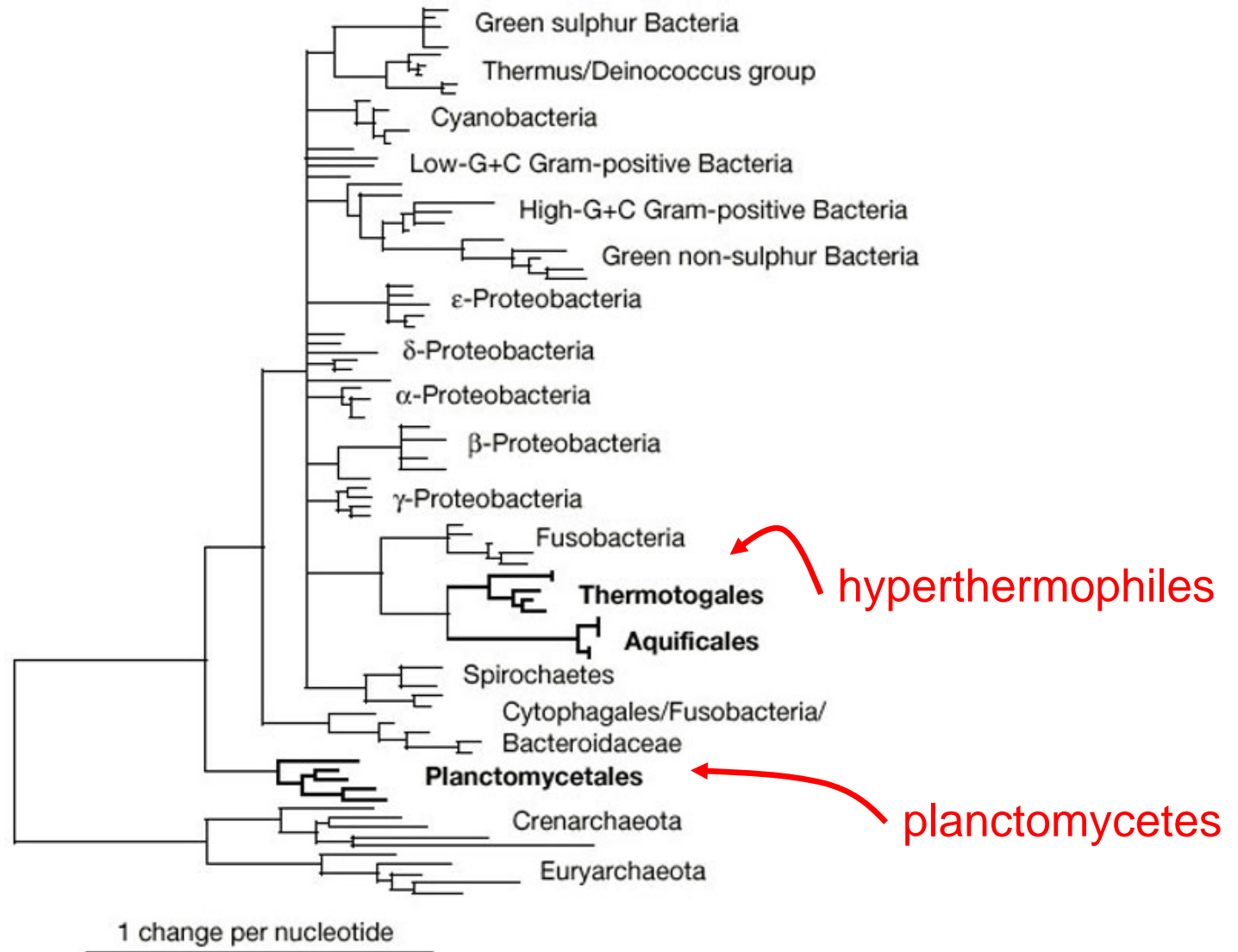
- Members of **Domain Bacteria** (e.g. by 16S rRNA **sequence trees**)
- Form distinct **separate Phylum** within Domain –but may be member of the **'PVC' superphylum**
- Budding, aquatic/soil bacteria
- Cell walls mostly protein - possess **no peptidoglycan** (unlike most other domain Bacteria members)
- All possess **compartments with DNA enveloped by membrane**

Uncultured *Planctomyces bekefii* rosette from lake water – stalks are non-cellular

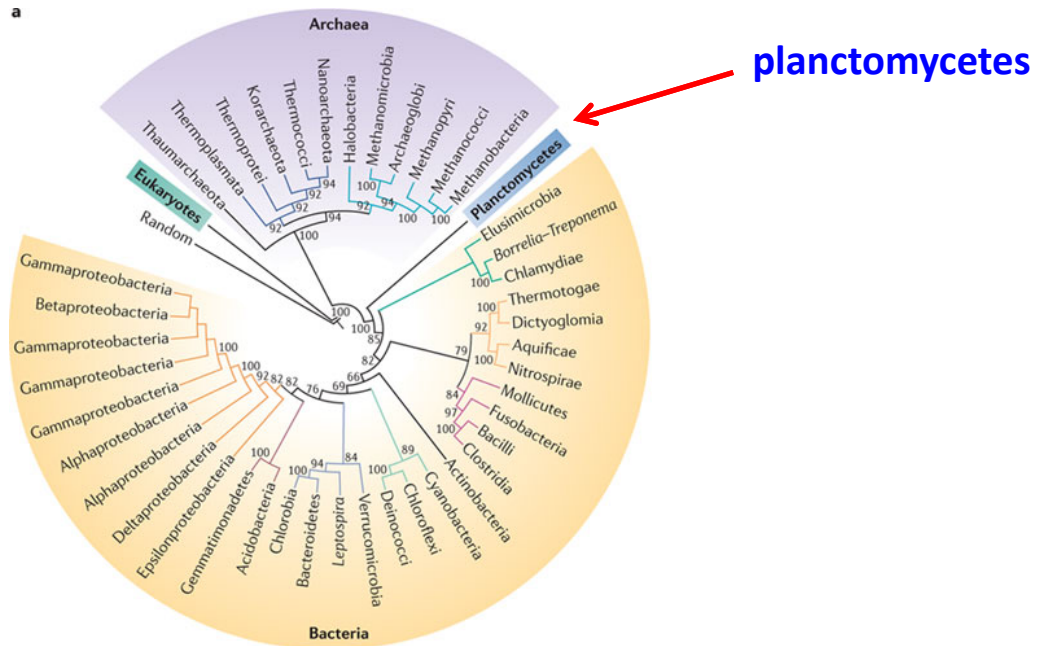


Are planctomycetes the deepest branching Bacterial phylum?

From: Brochier, C. and Philippe, H. 2002. Phylogeny: A non-hyperthermophilic ancestor for Bacteria
Nature **417**, 244

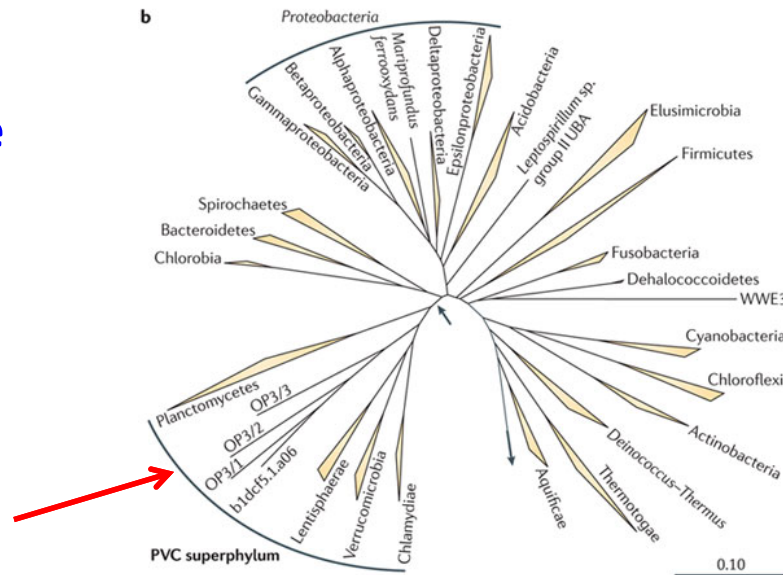


Proteome-derived tree



23S rRNA-derived tree

PVC superphylum



Markers of the unusual evolutionary significance of planctomycetes

- **Sterols & simple sterol synthesis pathway** in *Gemmata obscuriglobus*
- **Mixed ether and ester ladderane lipids** in anammox planctomycetes
- **Unique form of anaerobic chemolithoautotrophy** in anammox planctomycetes
- **C₁ - transfer enzymes** in *Gemmata* and *Rhodopirellula* with **phylogenetic position between the Archaea and Bacteria**
- **Deep-branching position in 16S rRNA tree of Bacteria** when slowly-evolving positions used
- **Membrane-bounded compartments & condensed nucleoids**

Similarities of planctomycetes to eukaryotes

- **Cells compartmentalized** via internal membranes (nucleoid in a compartment with at least one surrounding membrane)
- In *Gemmata obscuriglobus*, **nuclear compartment** surrounded by 2-membrane envelope (within planctomycete major membrane-bounded compartment)
- **Condensed chromosomes**
- **Endocytosis** – uptake of external proteins via membrane infolding
- **MC (membrane-coat) proteins** homologous with eukaryotic clathrins
- **Sterols** (*G. obscuriglobus*)

Compartmentalized cells of planctomycetes

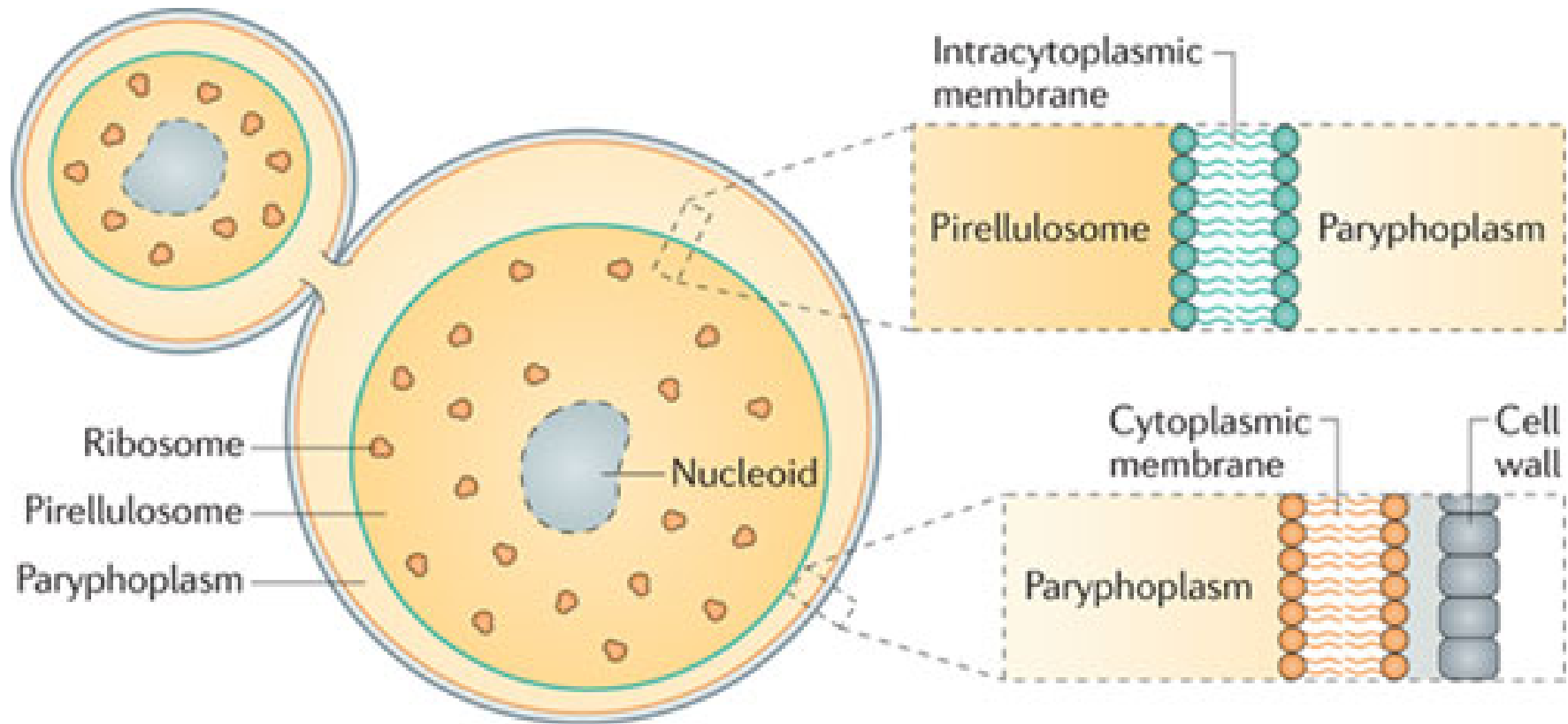
- All planctomycetes examined share a common **compartmentalized cell plan** including an **intracytoplasmic membrane** separating 2 major internal cell regions
 - - **ribosome-free paryphoplasm**
 - - ribosome-rich **pirellulosome**
- Some planctomycetes have further compartments – *Gemmata* with a **double-membrane-bounded nuclear compartment** within the pirellulosome

All known planctomycetes share a new type of bacterial cell compartment: the **pirellulosome**

A cell compartment :

- **bounded** by a **single membrane**
- contains **nucleoid and electron-dense ribosome-like particles**, all cell **DNA** + most (but not all) cell **RNA**

The shared planctomycete plan

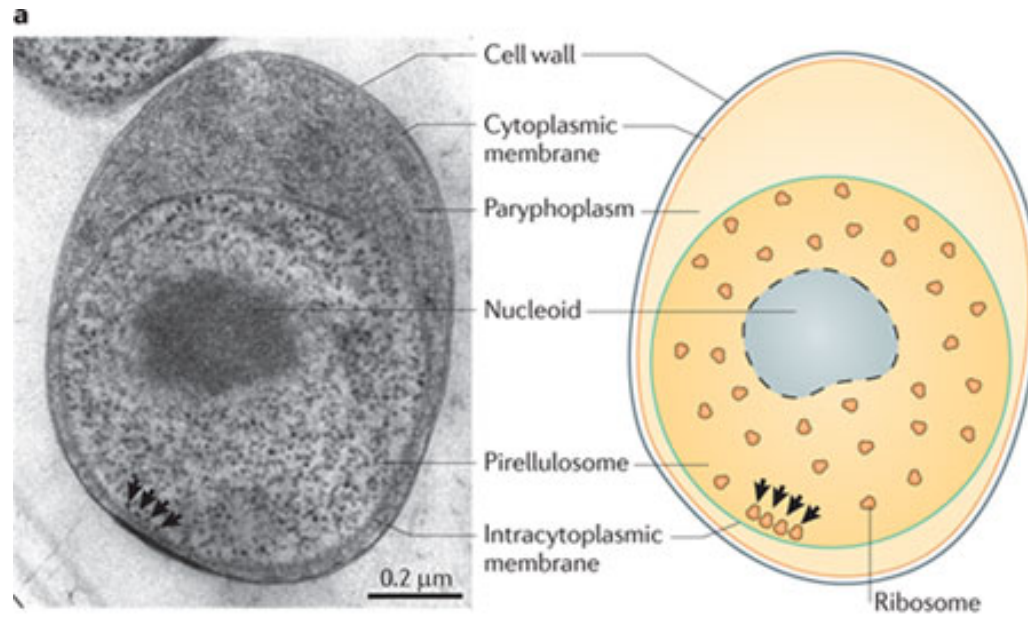


Nature Reviews | **Microbiology**

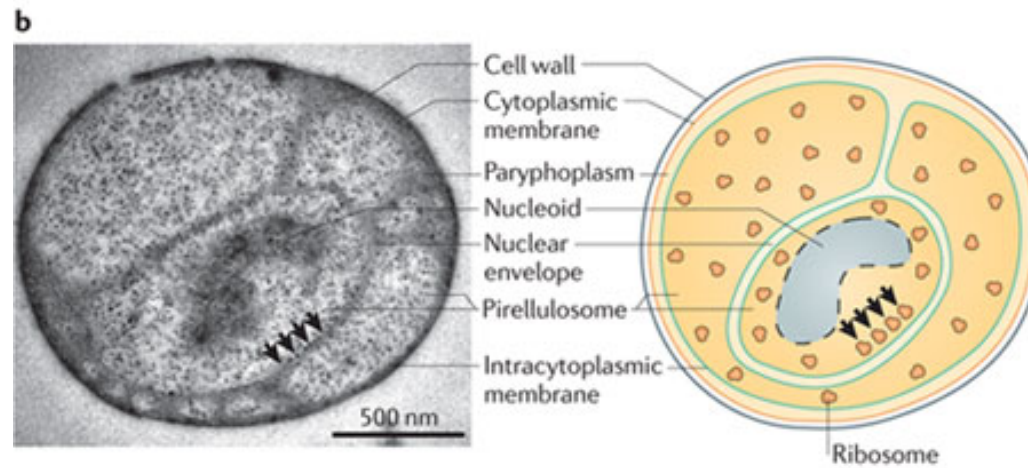
From: Fuerst JA, Sagulenko E. 2011. *Nat Rev Microbiol.* 9(6):403-13.

Cell structure of Planctomycetes – variation within a shared plan

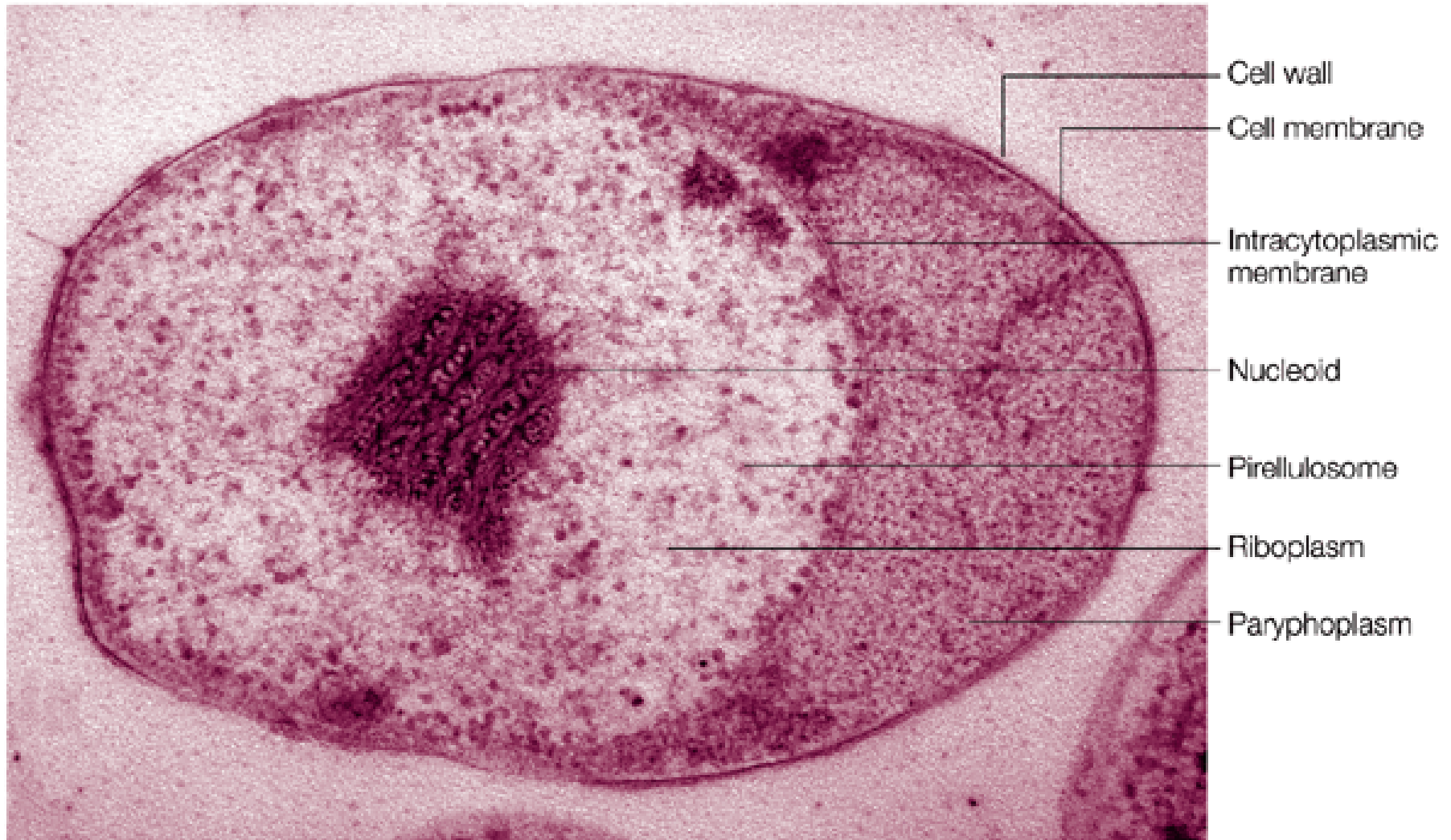
Pirellula



Gemmata



Cell plan of *Pirellula* group planctomycetes- TEM of sectioned cryosubstituted cell of *Blastopirellula marina*



From: Nature Reviews Microbiology 1:11-12 (2003)

Nature Reviews | **Microbiology**

Planctomycetes may belong to a postulated wider PVC Superphylum

- At least 3 phyla:

Planctomycetes

Verrucomicrobia

Chlamydiae

+ phyla such as marine *Lentisphaerae* and *Poribacteria*

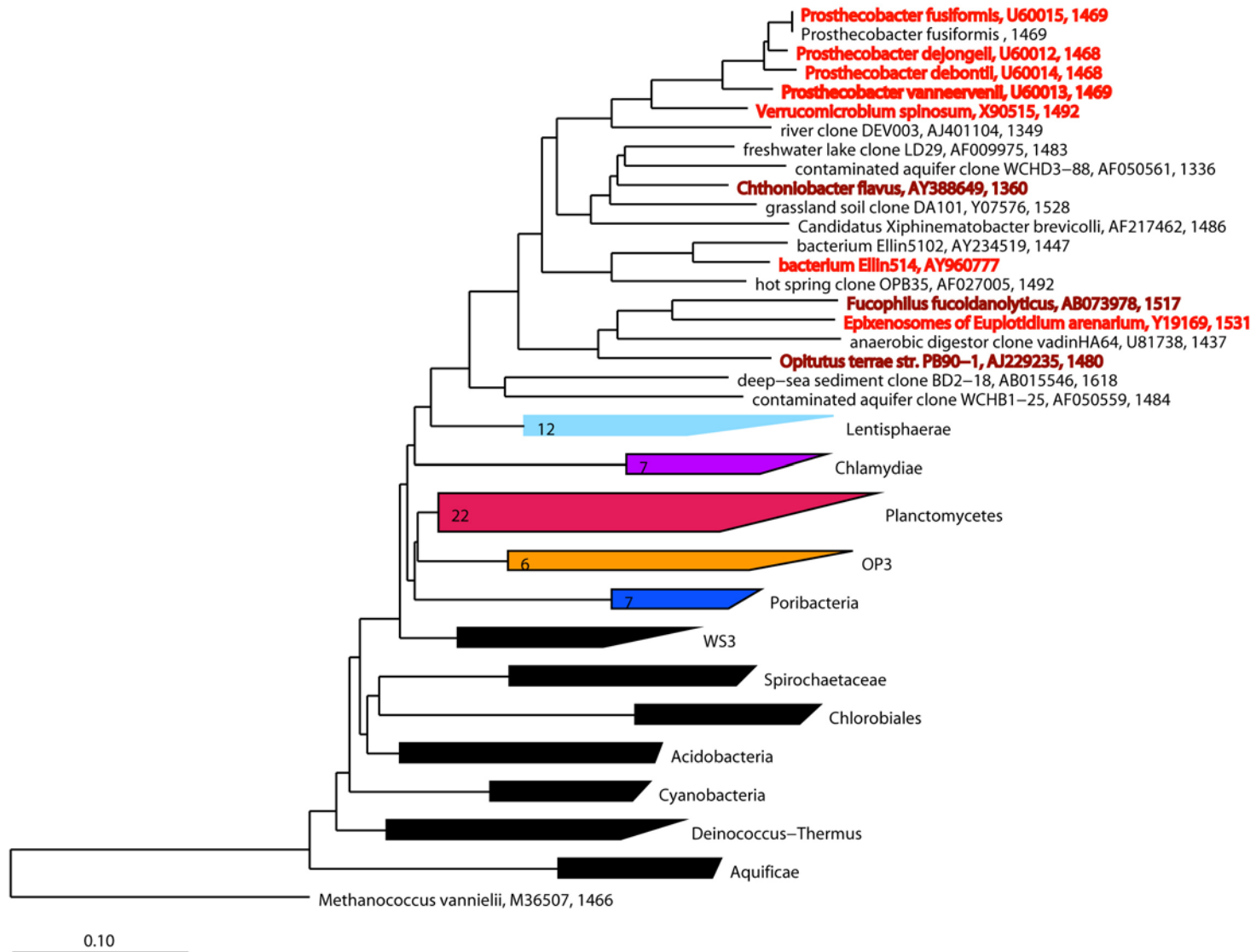
(Wagner M, Horn M. 2006. Curr Opin Biotechnol. 17:241-249).

Hypothesis

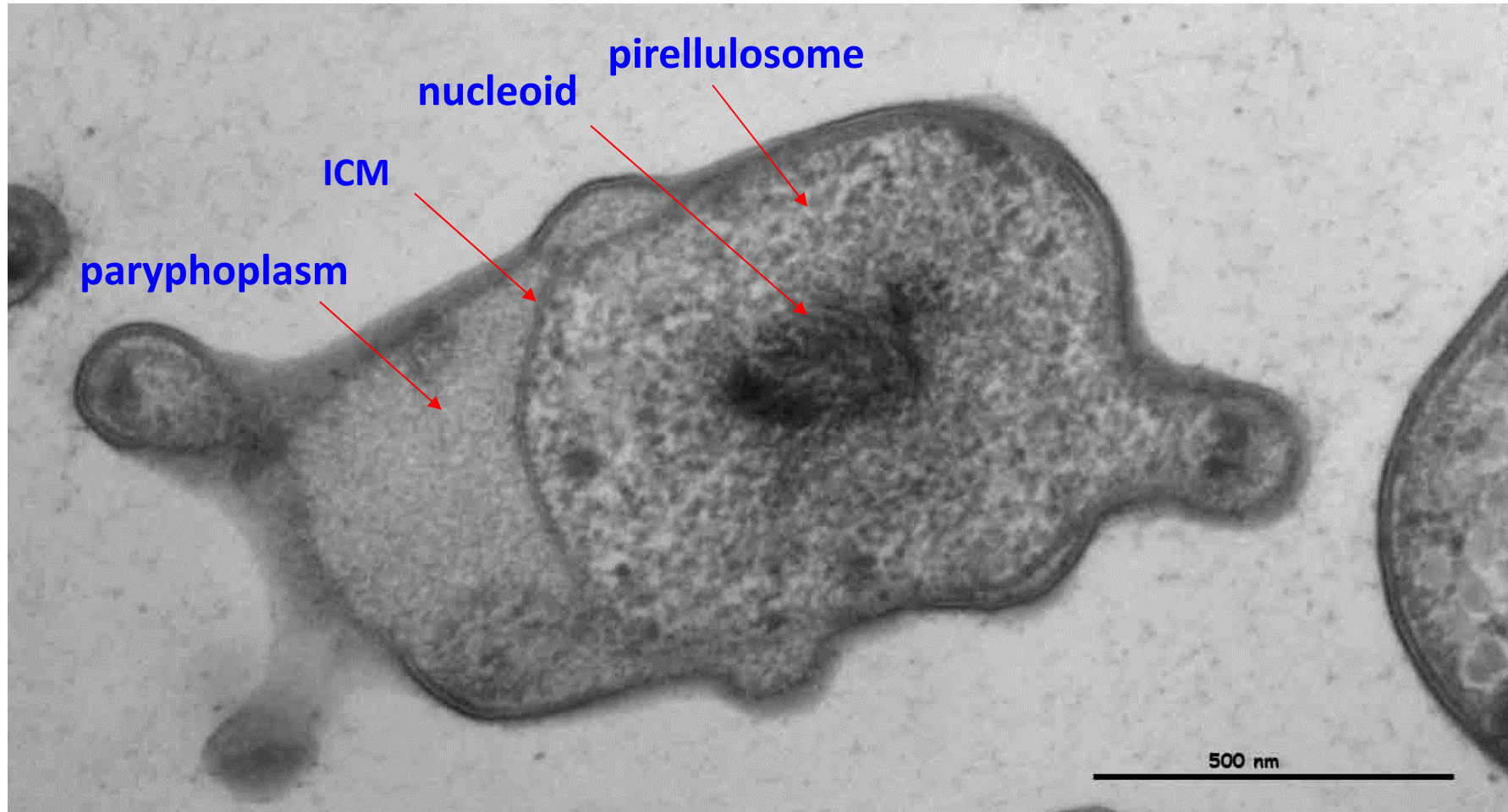
If PVC superphylum reflects valid evolutionary relationship

then phylum *Verrucomicrobia* and/or *Chlamydiae* or other members of the superphylum might display **cell compartments** homologous to those in Planctomycetes

Phylum *Verrucomicrobia* : compartmentalized cells in all species examined

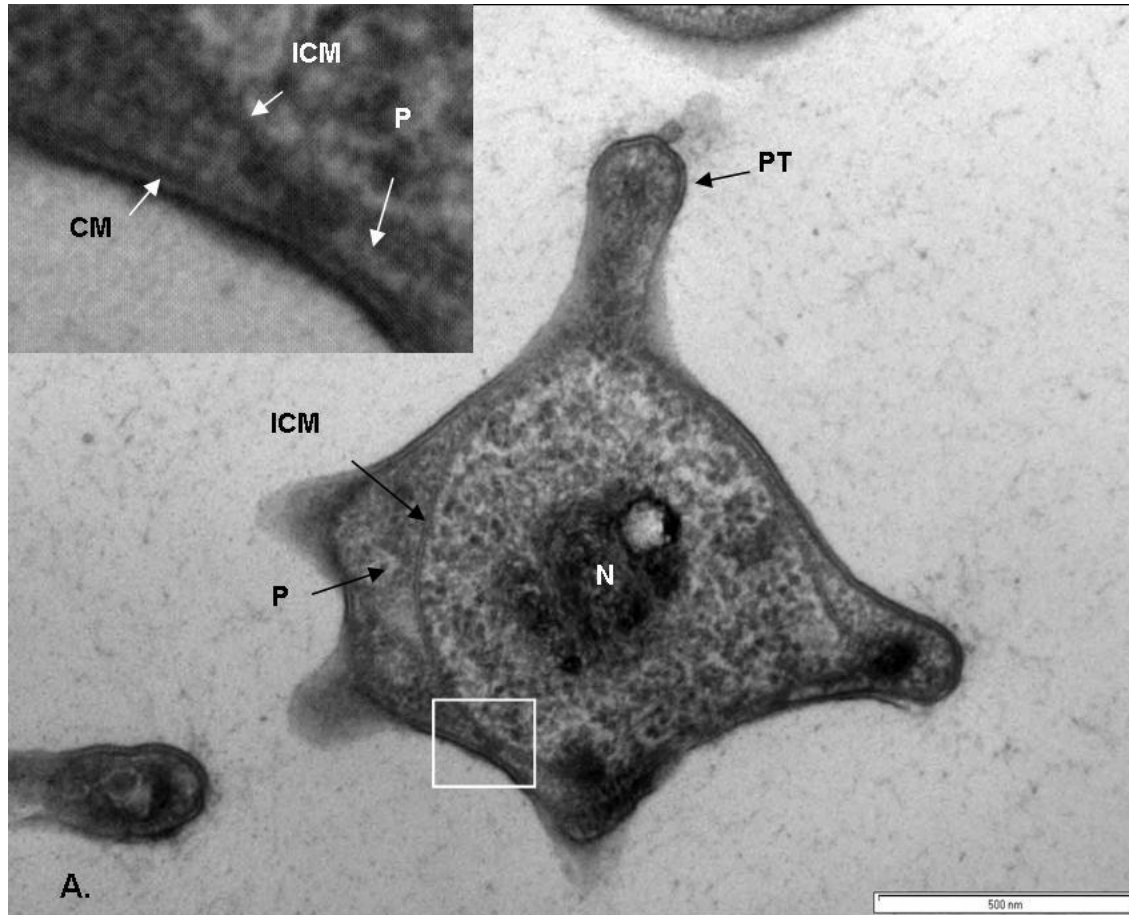


Major cell compartment of *Verrucomicrobium spinosum* is topologically equivalent to pirellulosome of planctomycete shared cell plan

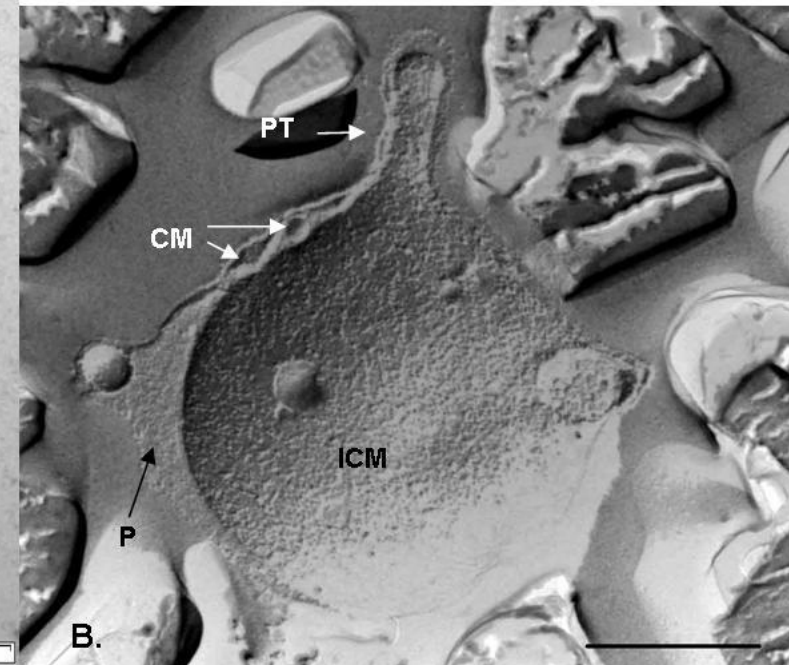


Verrucomicrobium spinosum compartmentalization

Sectioned HPF-frozen



Freeze-fractured

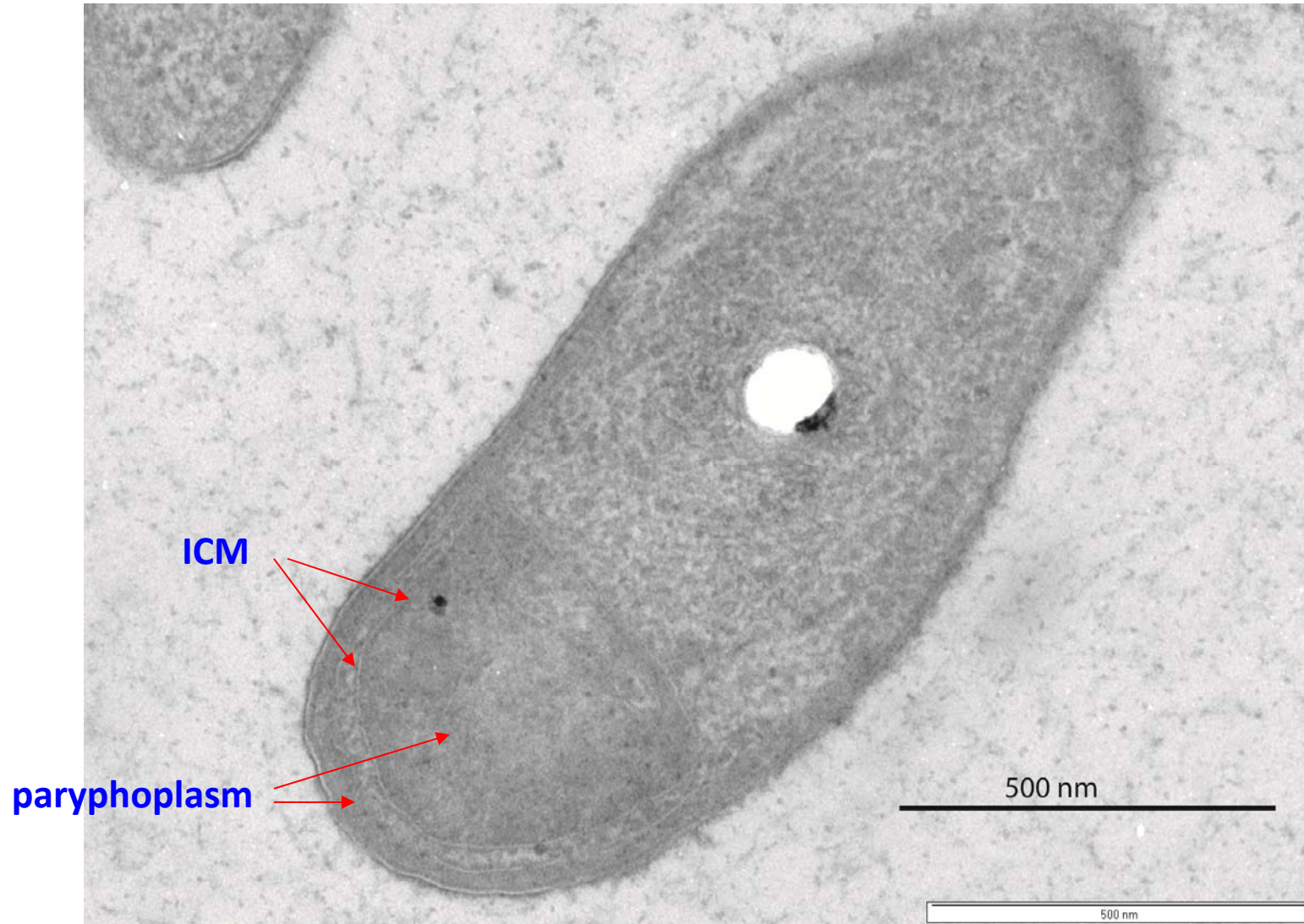


From: Kuo-Chang Lee, Richard I Webb, Peter H Janssen, Parveen Sangwan, Tony Romeo, James T Staley, John A Fuerst
Phylum Verrucomicrobia representatives share a compartmentalized cell plan with members of bacterial phylum Planctomycetes
BMC Microbiology 2009, 9:5 (8 January 2009)

Compartmented cells of marine *Lentisphaera araneosa* - another example of the planctomycete cell plan in a separate phylum *Lentisphaerae* of PVC

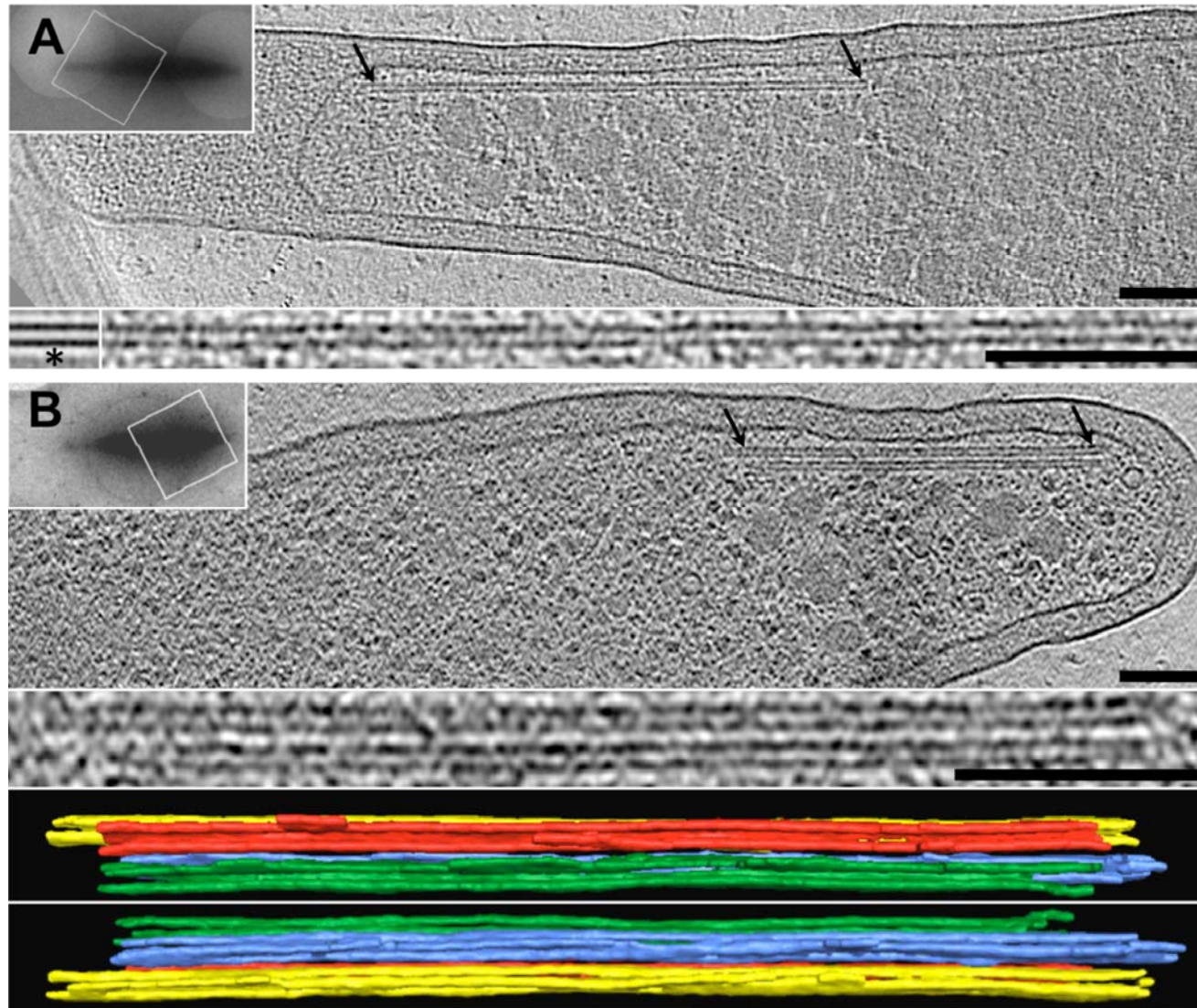


Prostheco bacter de jone ii, the first tubulin-syntheizing verrucomicrobia, has compartmentalized cells also! (when prepared by high-pressure freezing)

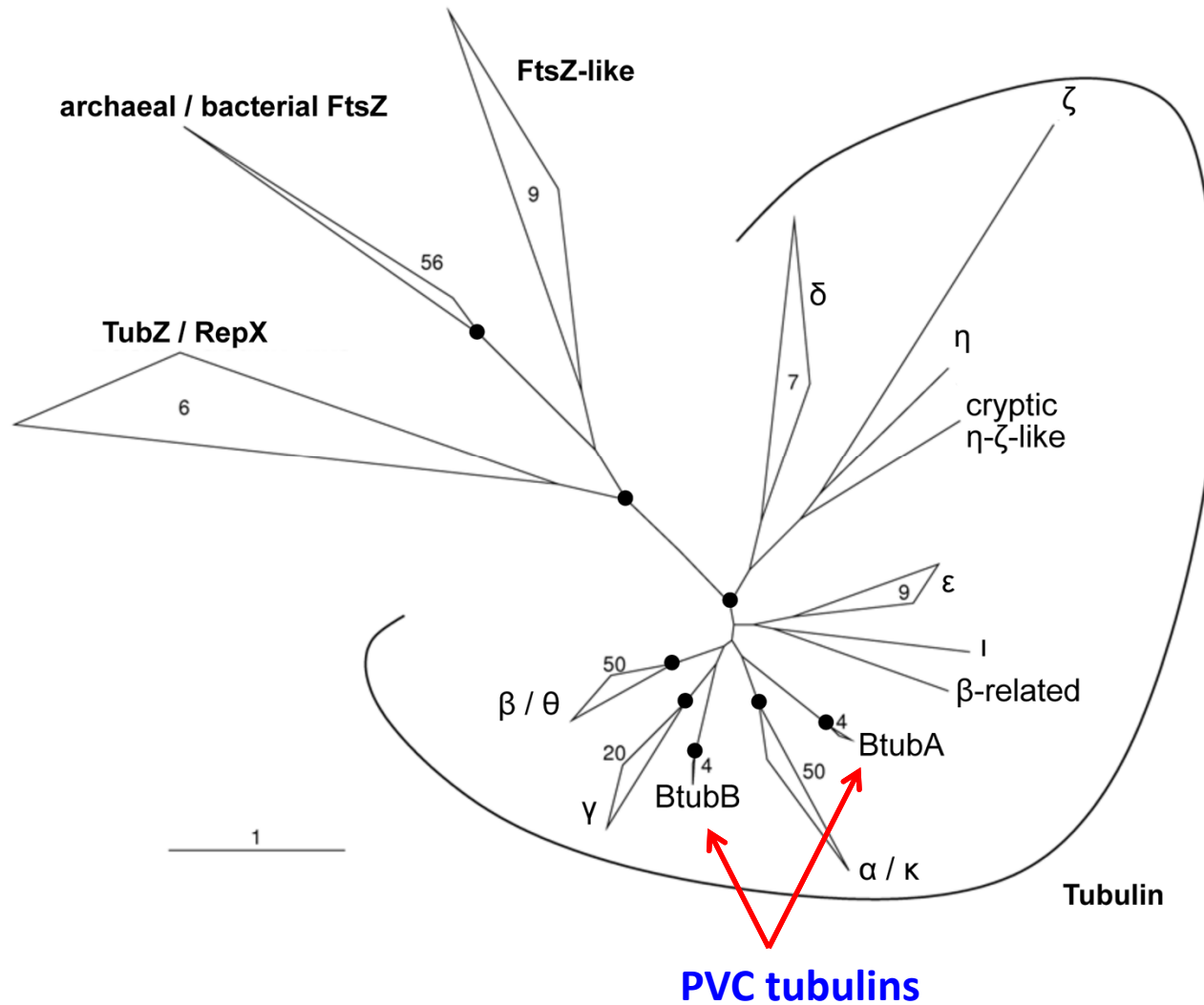


From: Kuo-Chang Lee, Richard I Webb, Peter H Janssen, Parveen Sangwan, Tony Romeo, James T Staley, John A Fuerst
BMC Microbiology 2009, 9:5 (8 Januarv 2009)

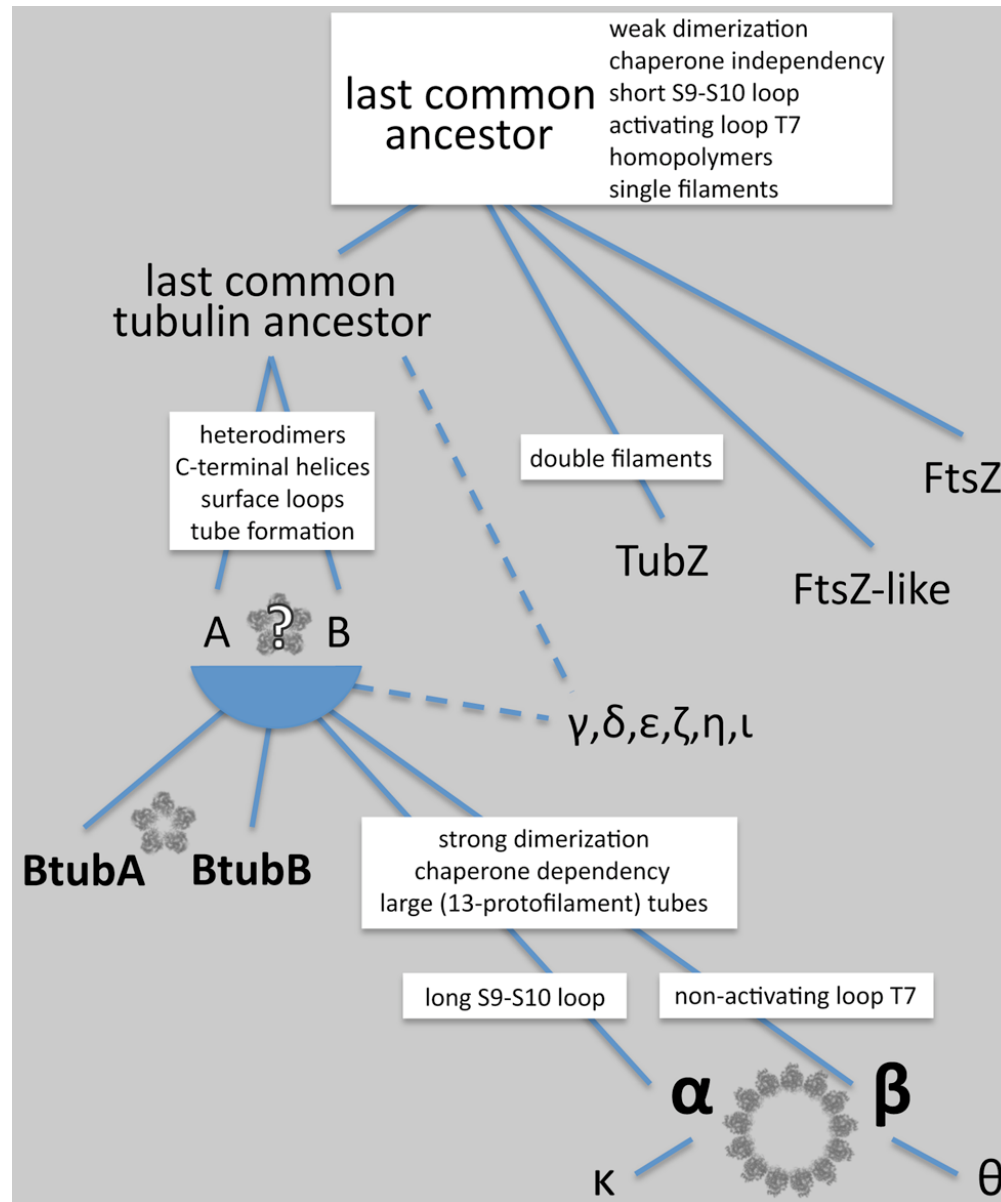
Prostheco bacter (PVC member) has tubulin-based 5-protofilament microtubules



PVC tubulins are eukaryote-like



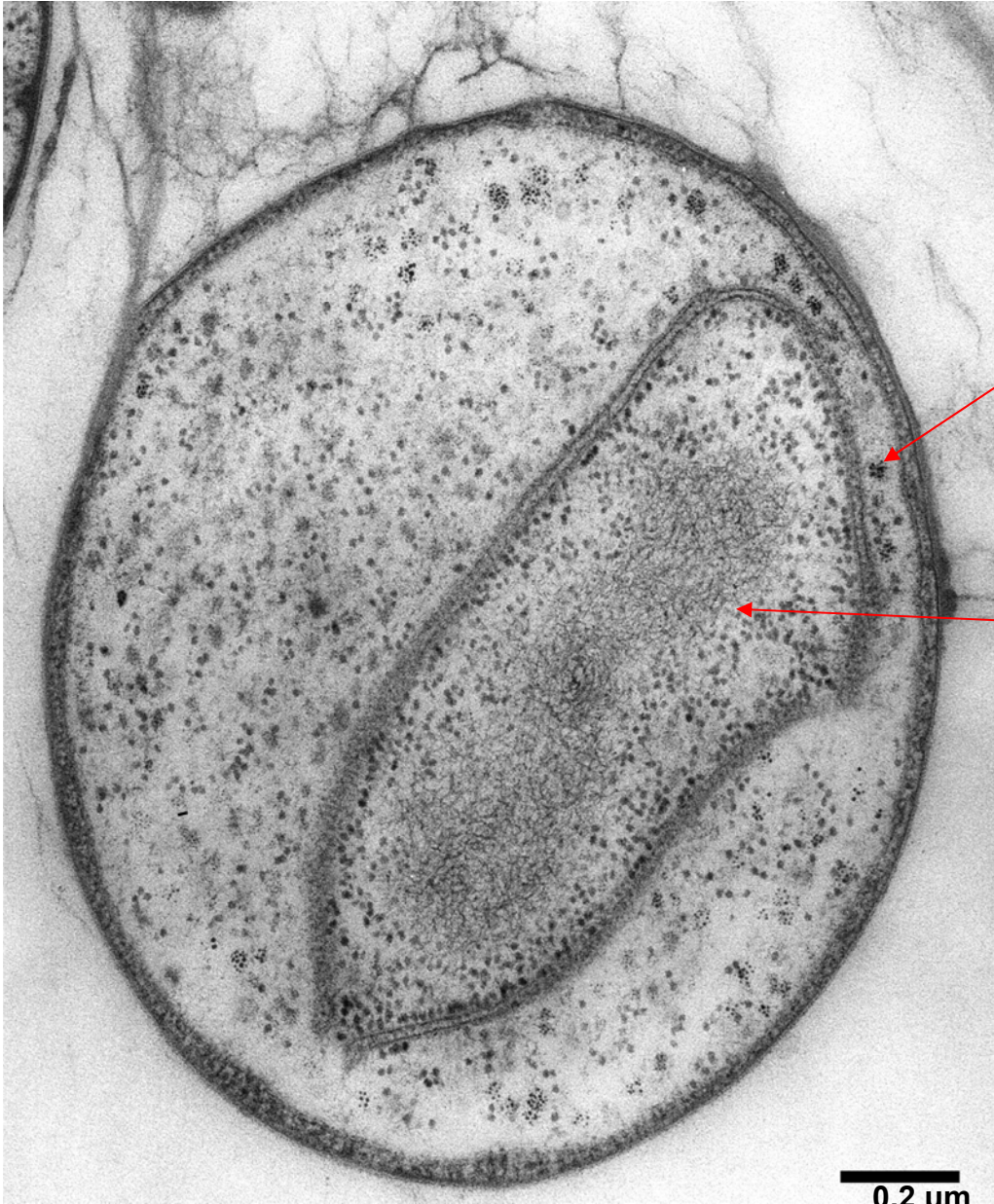
Tubulin evolution model - PVC tubulins ancient, not result of HGT from modern eukaryote clade



Gemmata obscuriglobus - a 'nucleated' bacterium?

- Freshwater aerobic heterotroph from Maroon Dam, Queensland
- Possesses 'double'-membrane envelope surrounding their nucleoid DNA (but envelope appears to be a folded single membrane topologically)
 - Lindsay et al. 2001 Archives of Microbiology 175: 413-429
- Possesses **sterols** and the simplest pathway for sterol synthesis known
- **radiation resistant** (UV and gamma rays) - 40X more resistant to UV radiation than *E. coli* (Lieber, A et al., J Bacteriol. Dec 2008):
- Draft 9 Mb (?) genome available

Gemmata obscuriglobus – section of cryosubstituted cell in TEM



Nuclear body

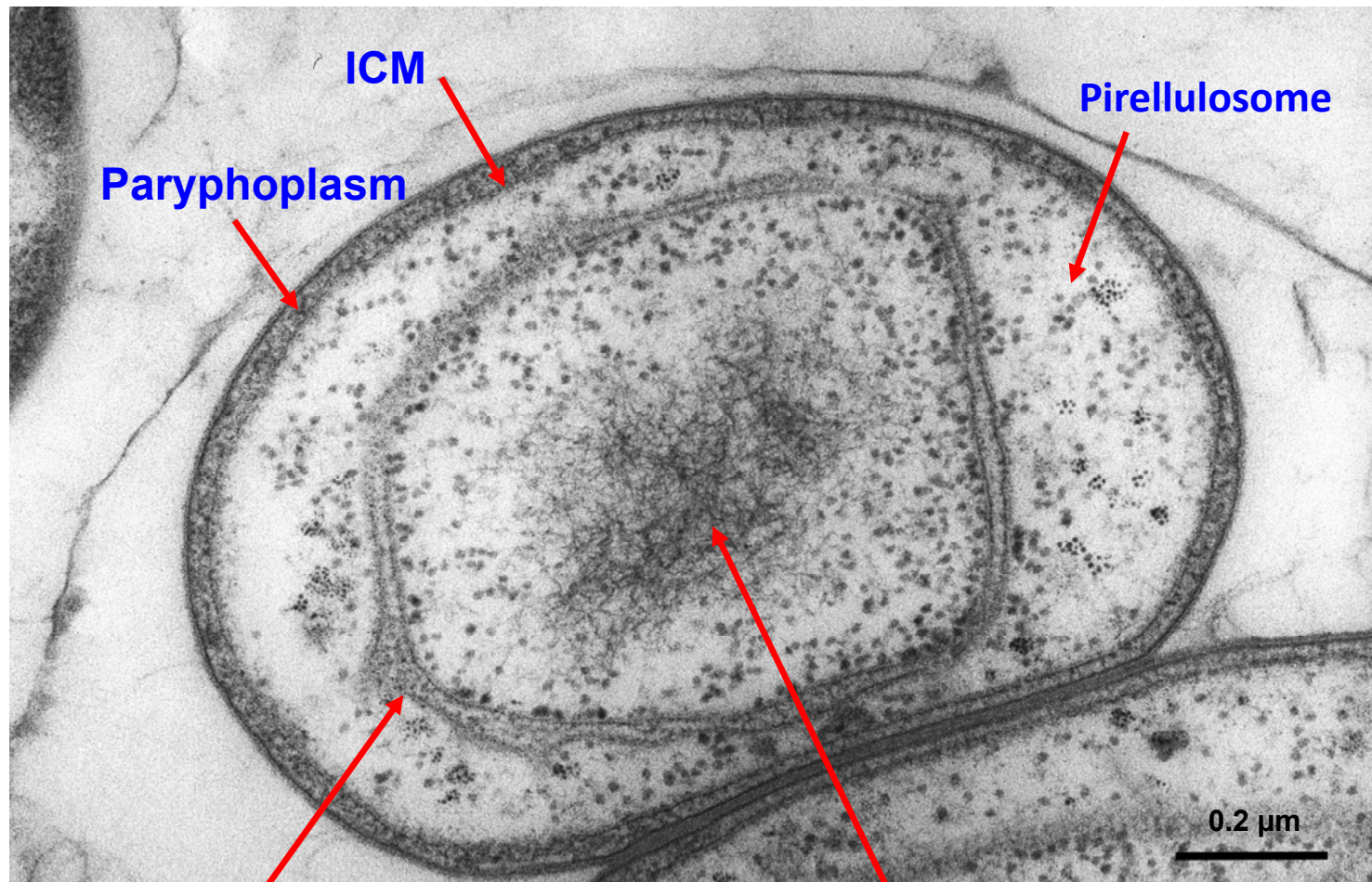


Nucleoid DNA

Lindsay MR, Webb RI, Strous M, Jetten MS, Butler MK, Forde RJ, Fuerst JA.
Arch Microbiol. 2001 Jun;175(6):413-29.

Gemmata obscuriglobus: a planctomycete with a double membrane-bounded nucleoid within the pirellulosome

Thin section of cryosubstituted *Gemmata obscuriglobus* bud



Nuclear body
envelope
membranes

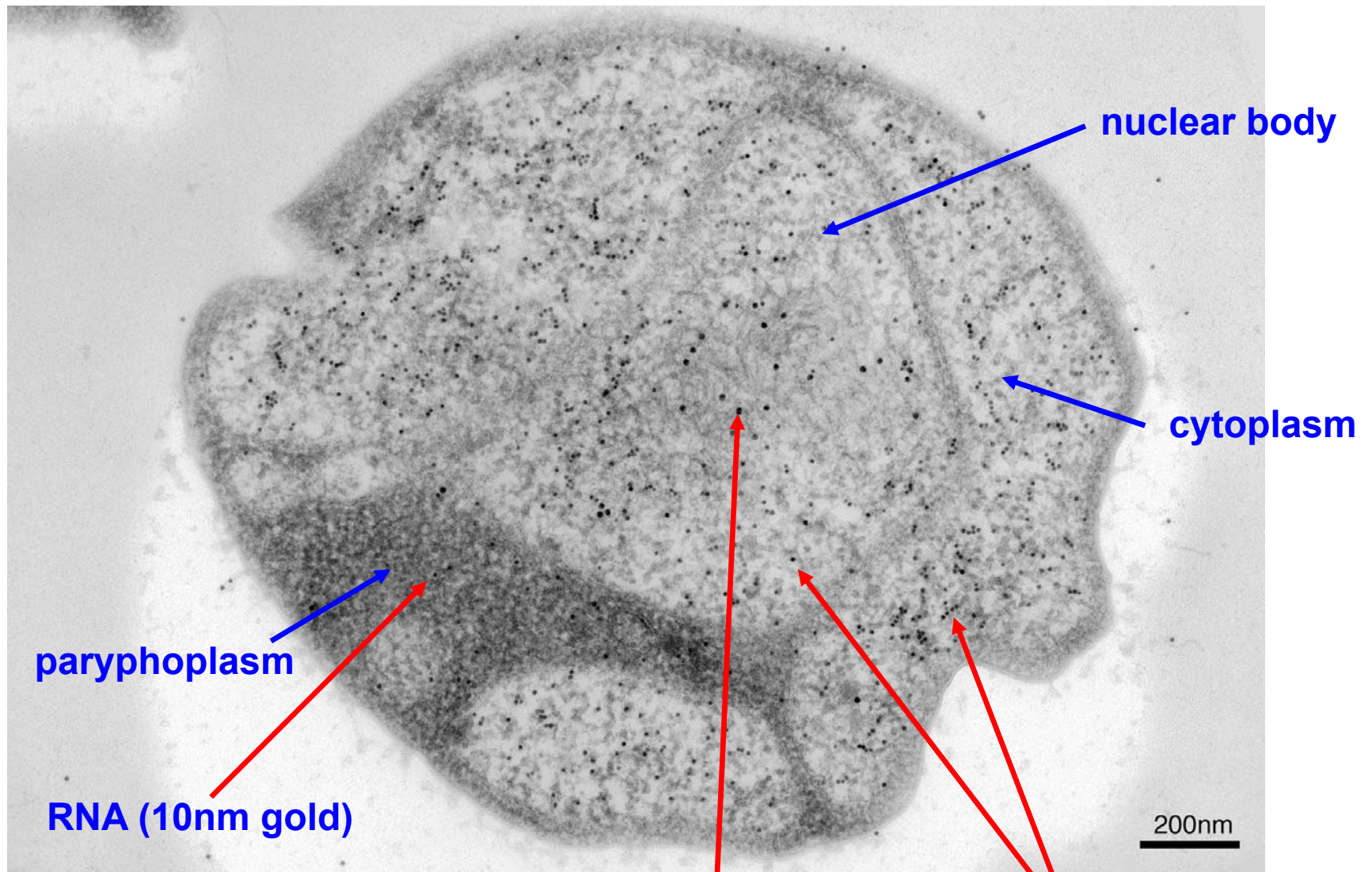
Nucleoid DNA

Condensed chromatin correlates with radiation resistance in *Gemmata*



Arnon Lieber, Andrew Leis, Ariel Kushmaro, Abraham Minsky, and Ohad Medalia
Chromatin organization and radio-resistance in the bacterium *Gemmata obscuriglobus* J. Bacteriol.
published ahead of print on 12 December 2008, doi:10.1128/JB.01513-08

**Location of DNA and RNA within *Gemmata obscuriglobus*
(via anti-DNA antibody immunogold and RNase-gold localization)**



From Lindsay *et al.*, 2002

DNA (15nm gold)

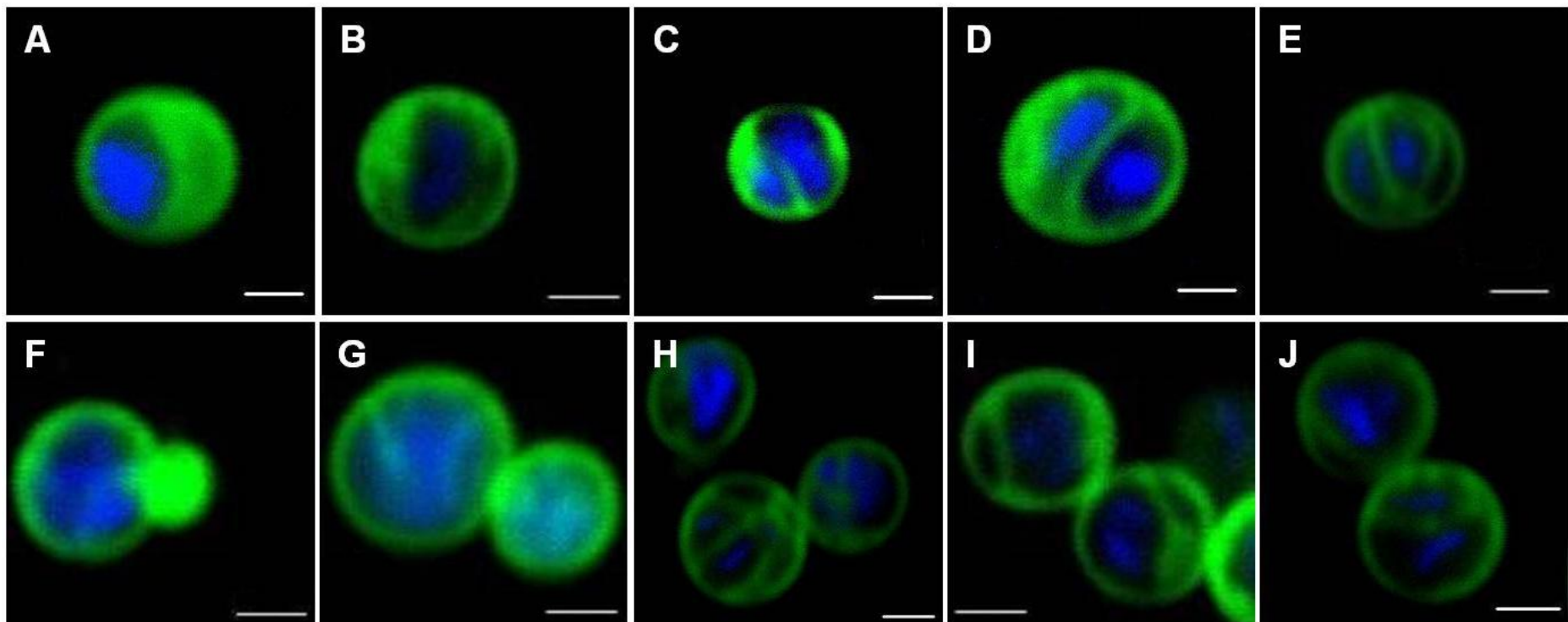
RNA (10nm gold)

Cell division in *Gemmata obscuriglobus*

- No FtsZ involved
- of divisome proteins found in other Bacteria only FtsK appears (and this could operate in chromosome segregation independently)
- Budding involving asymmetric formation of daughter bud and eventual separation of mother and daughter – can be repeated
- Nuclear body and envelope reforms in bud, but nucleoid may be transferred through bud neck
- New envelope formed from ICMs of mother and daughter (if ICM= ER membrane then similar to eukaryote nuclear envelope formation)

Gemmata cell cycle stages – Fate of nuclear DNA relative to nuclear envelope during division

Lee, K-C , Webb, RI and Fuerst, JA, *BMC Cell Biology* January 2009

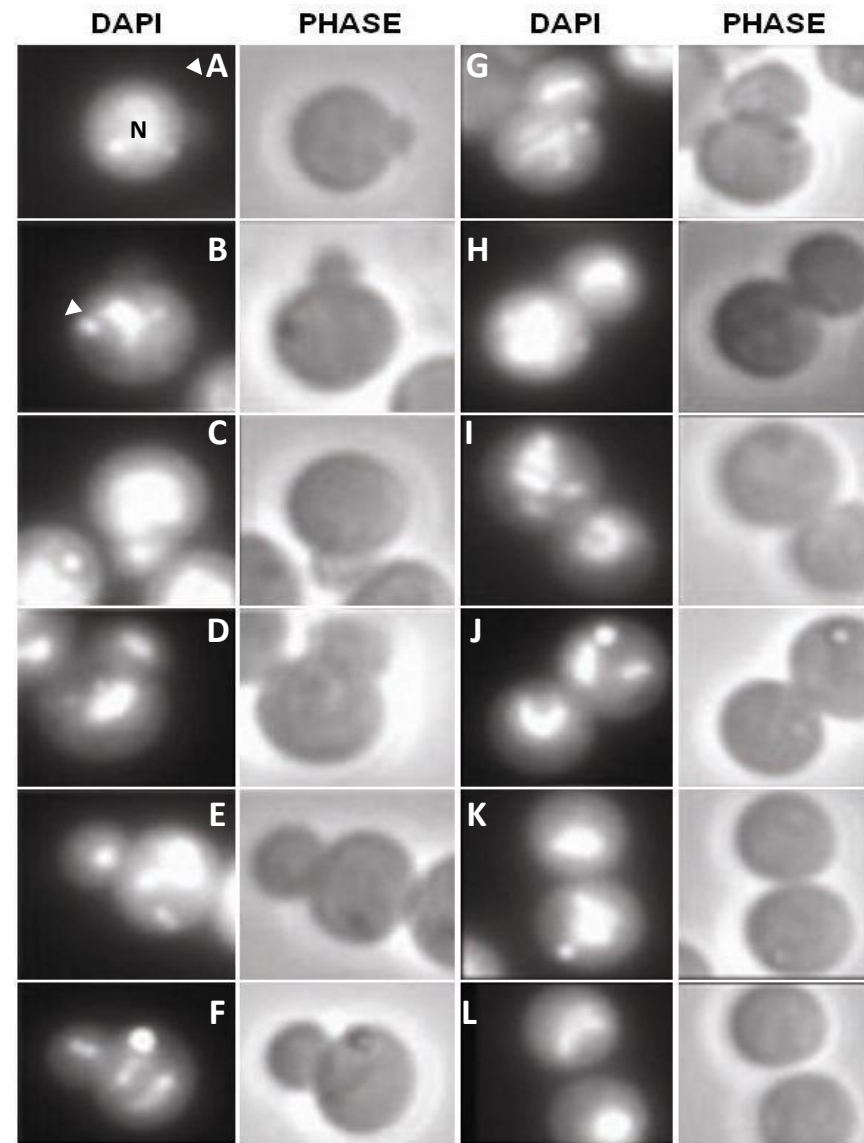


Confocal laser scanning micrographs **Blue** – DAPI, **Green** – DiOC₆(3), **Bar** - 1 μ m

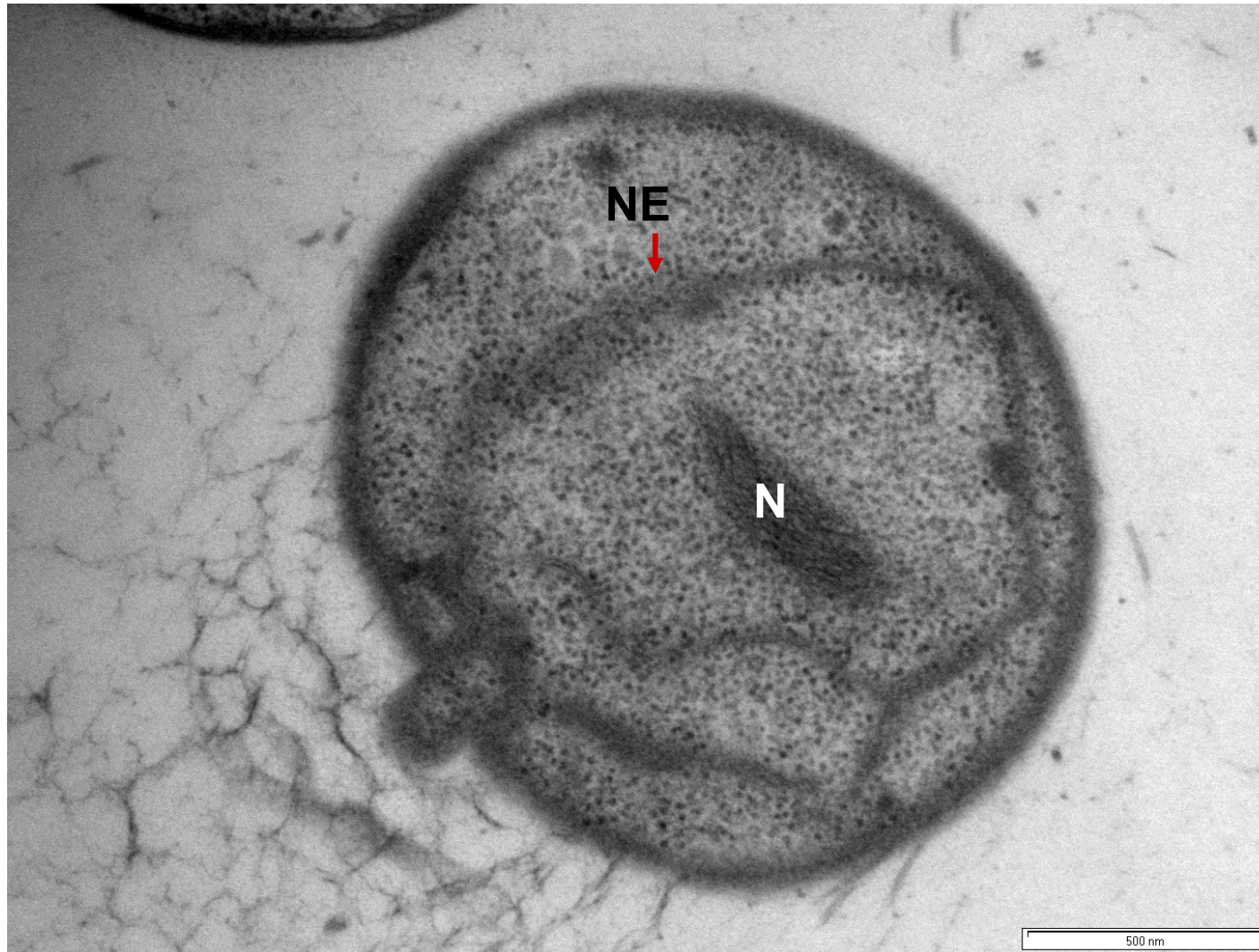
Lee KC, Webb RI, Fuerst JA. The cell cycle of the planctomycete *Gemmata obscuriglobus* with respect to cell compartmentalization. *BMC Cell Biol.* 2009 Jan 14;10(1):4. [Epub ahead of print]

Fate of the nucleoid DNA during budding

- Formation of bud and translocation of nucleoid **do not occur** at the same time
- Bud initiates **without** nucleoid
- Nucleoid appears in bud later, before bud matures to full size

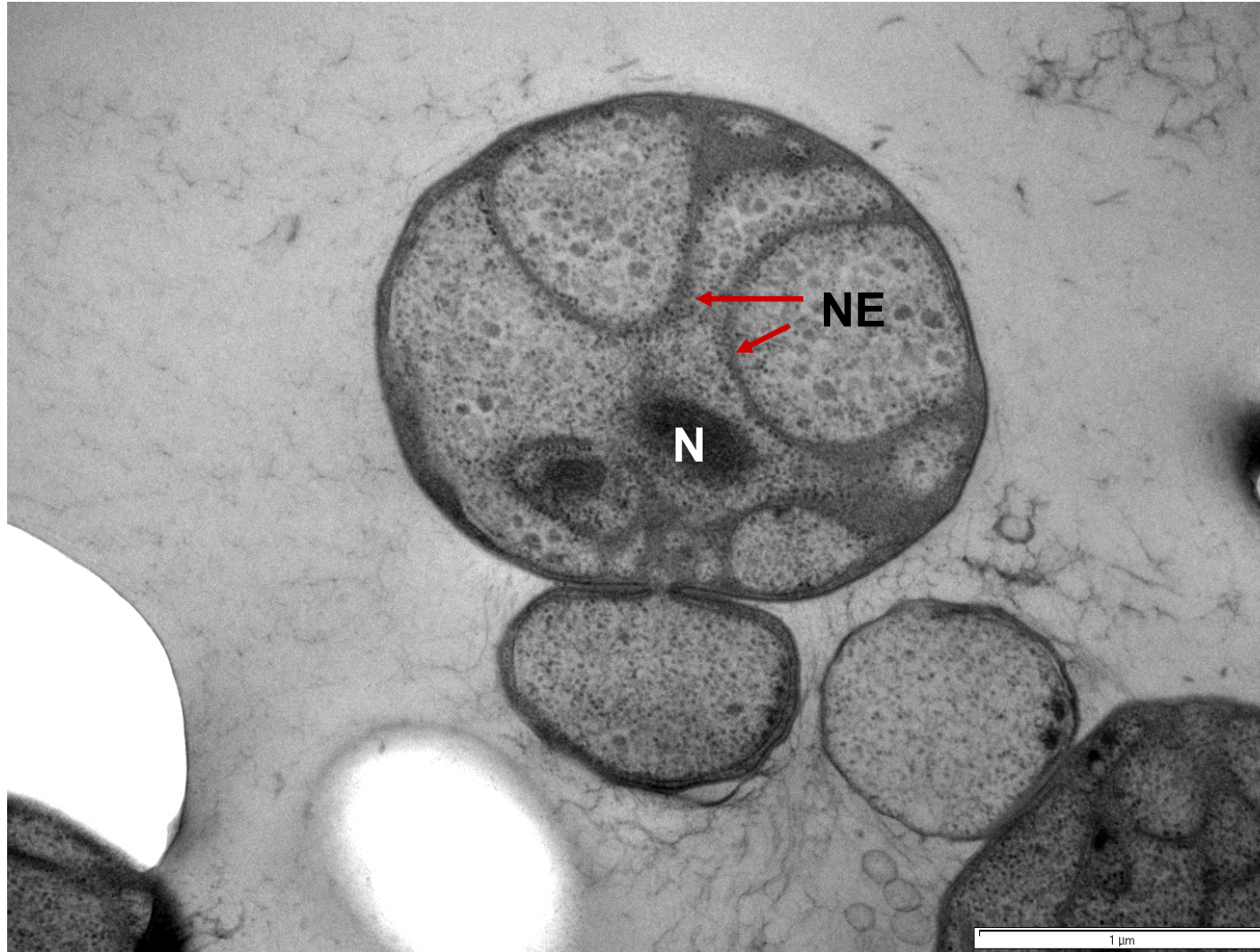


G. obscuriglobus budding cell - 1



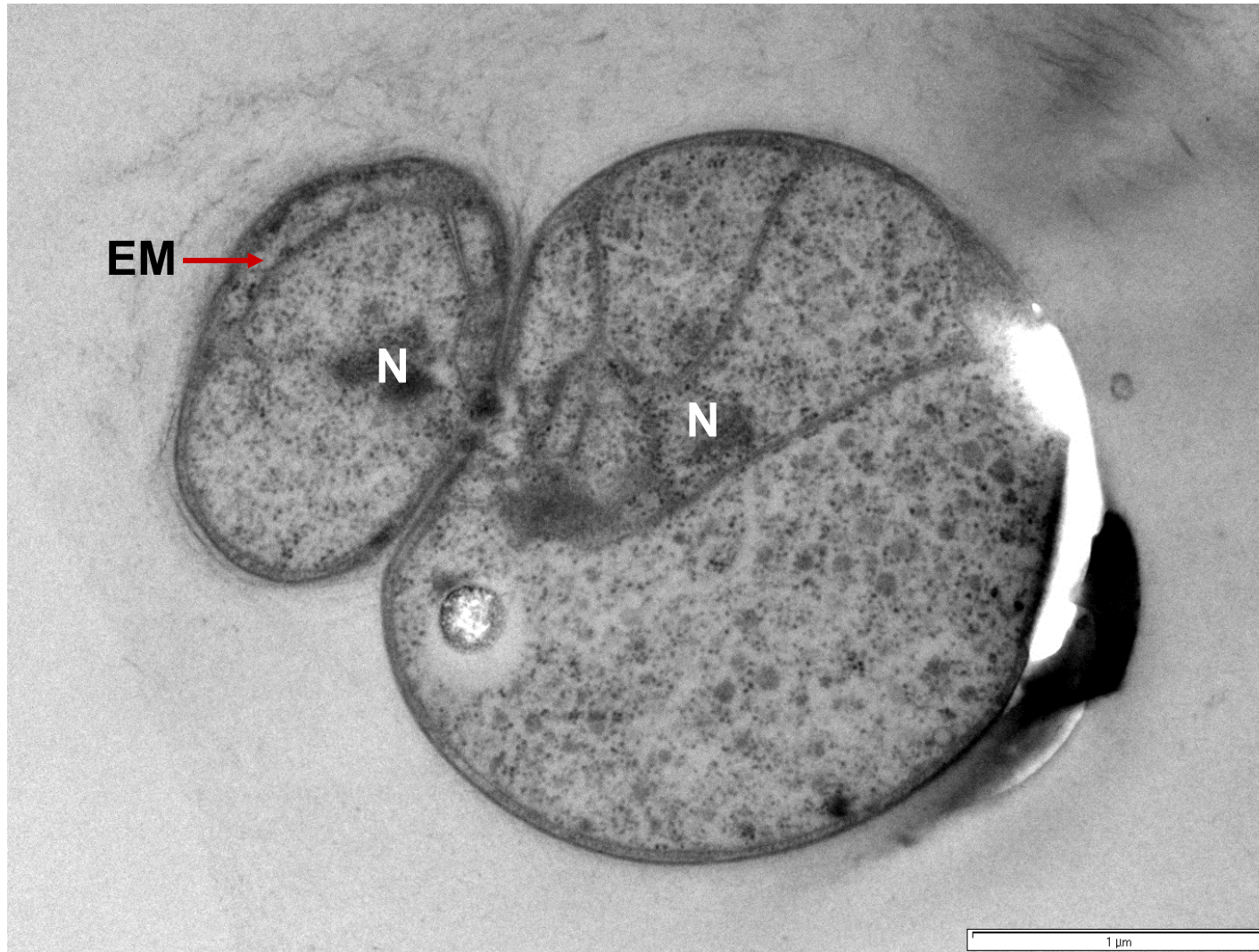
TEM, Thin section of high pressure-frozen cells grown on M1 agar

G. obscuriglobus budding cell - 2



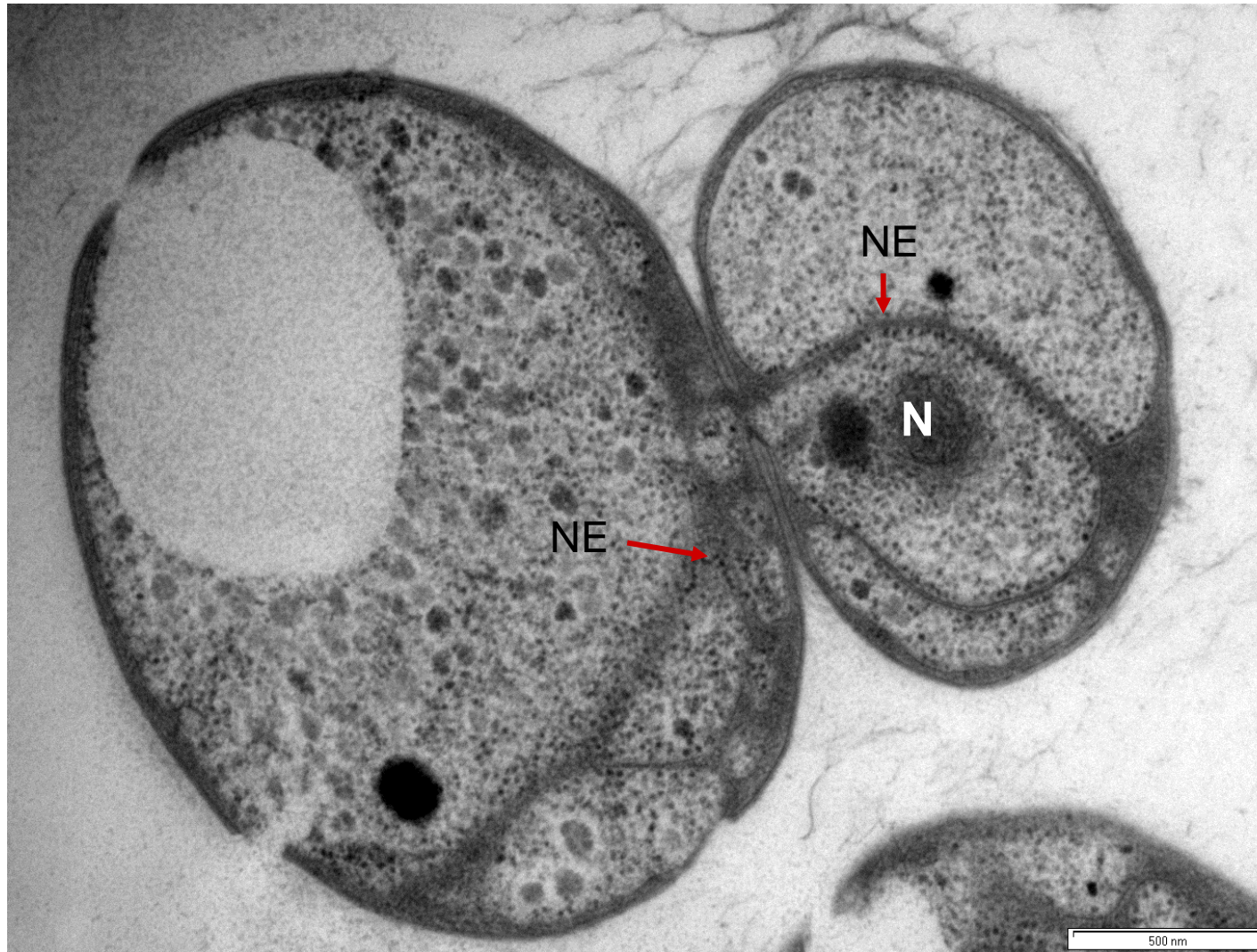
TEM, Thin section of high pressure-frozen cells grown on M1 agar

G. obscuriglobus budding cell - 3



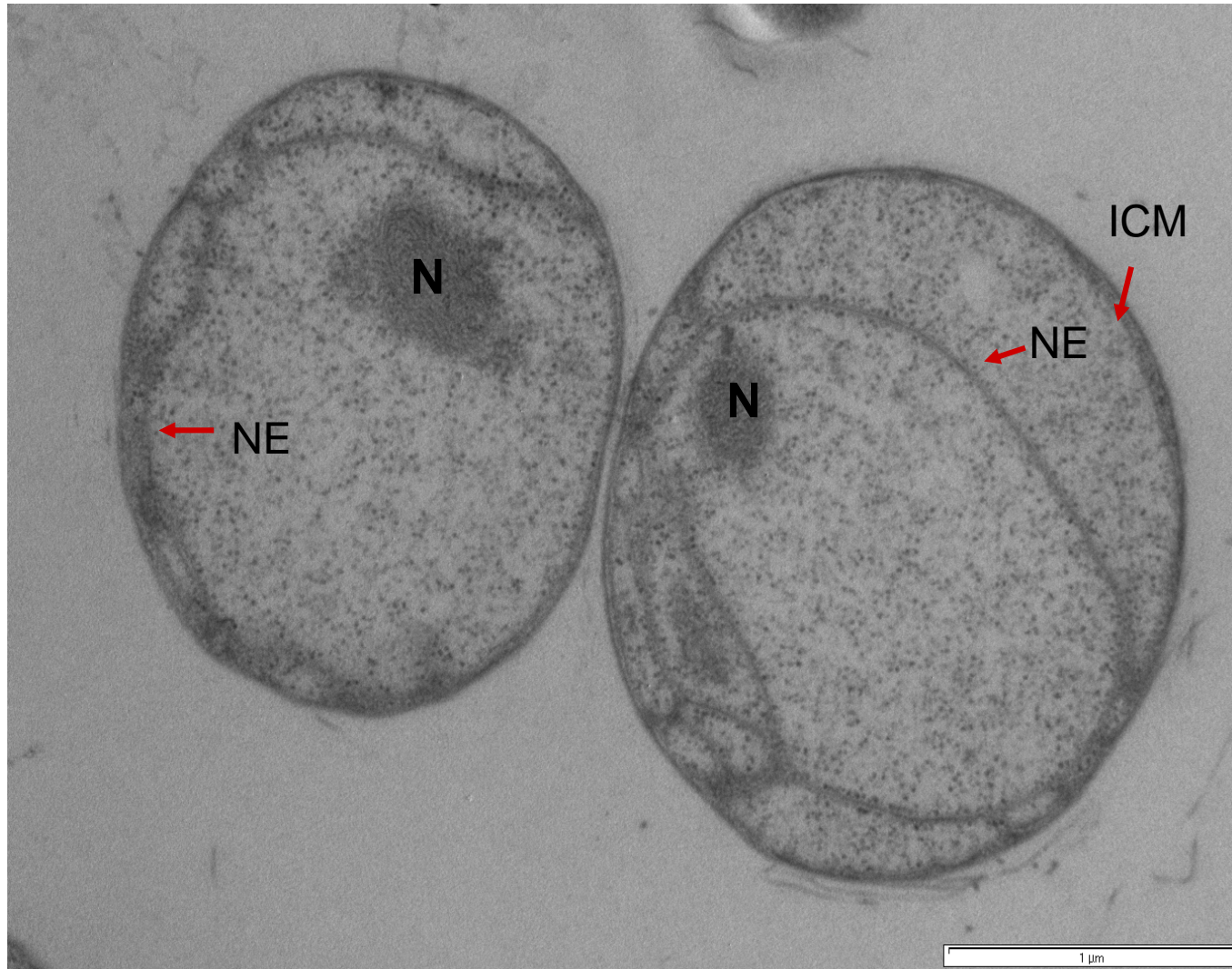
TEM, Thin section of high pressure-frozen cells grown on M1 agar

G. obscuriglobus budding cell - 4



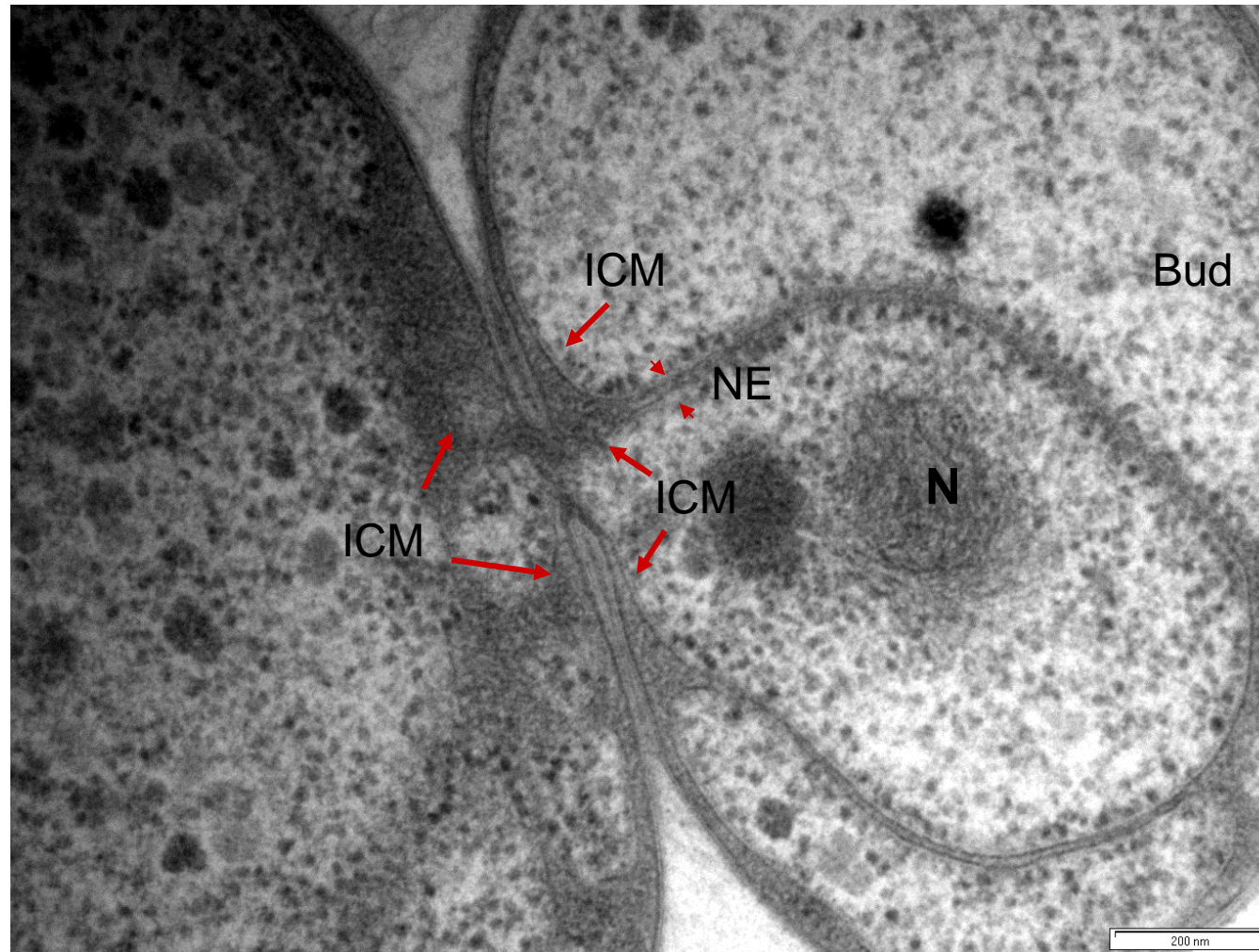
TEM, Thin section of high pressure frozen cells grown on M1 agar

G. obscuriglobus budding cell - 5



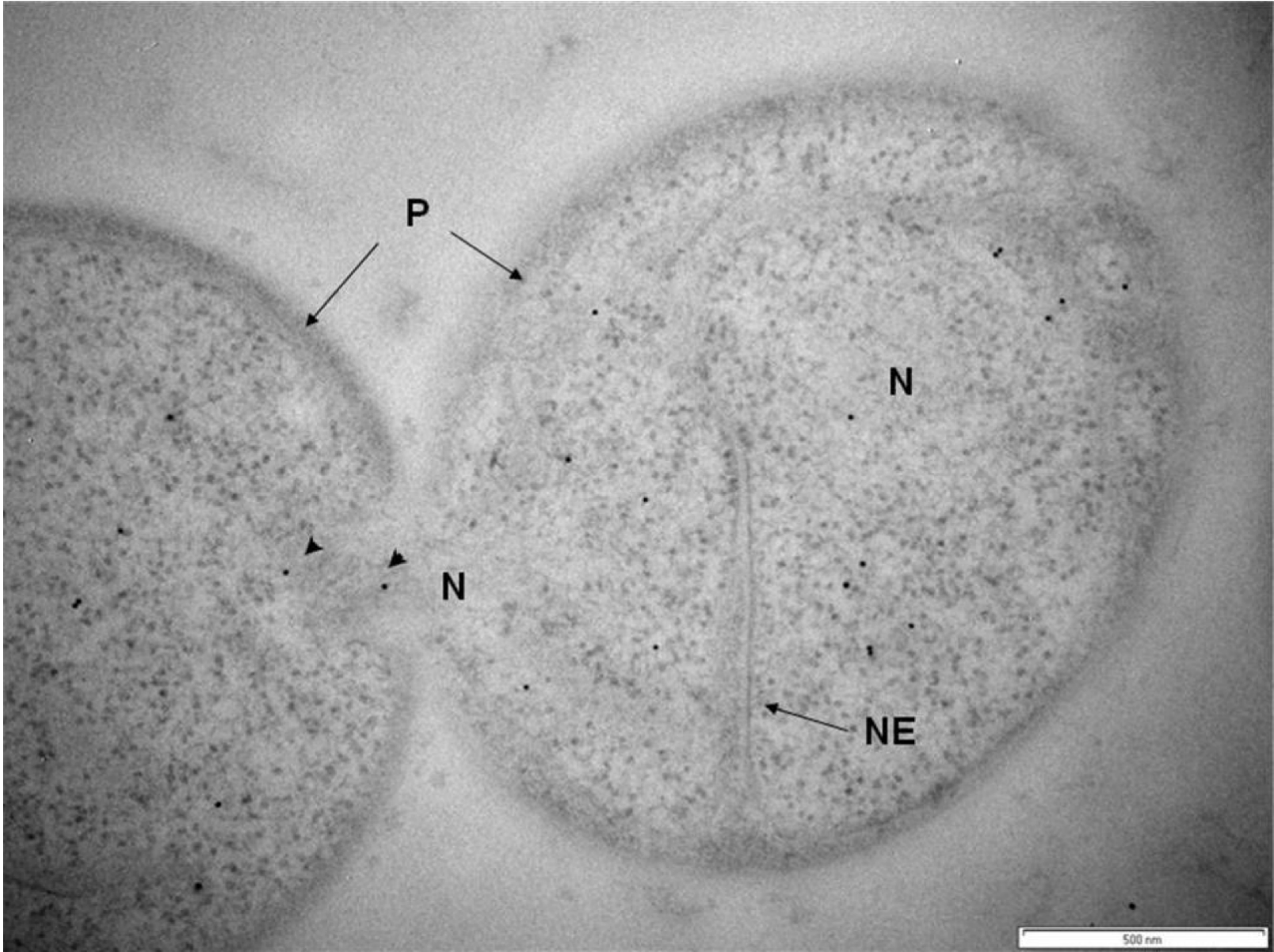
TEM, Thin section of high pressure frozen cells grown on M1 agar

ICM membranes of mother cell and the bud form the 2-membraned nuclear envelope in the bud



TEM, Thin section of high pressure frozen cells grown on M1 agar

A *Gemmata* mother cell nucleoid associated with FtsK passes through bud neck

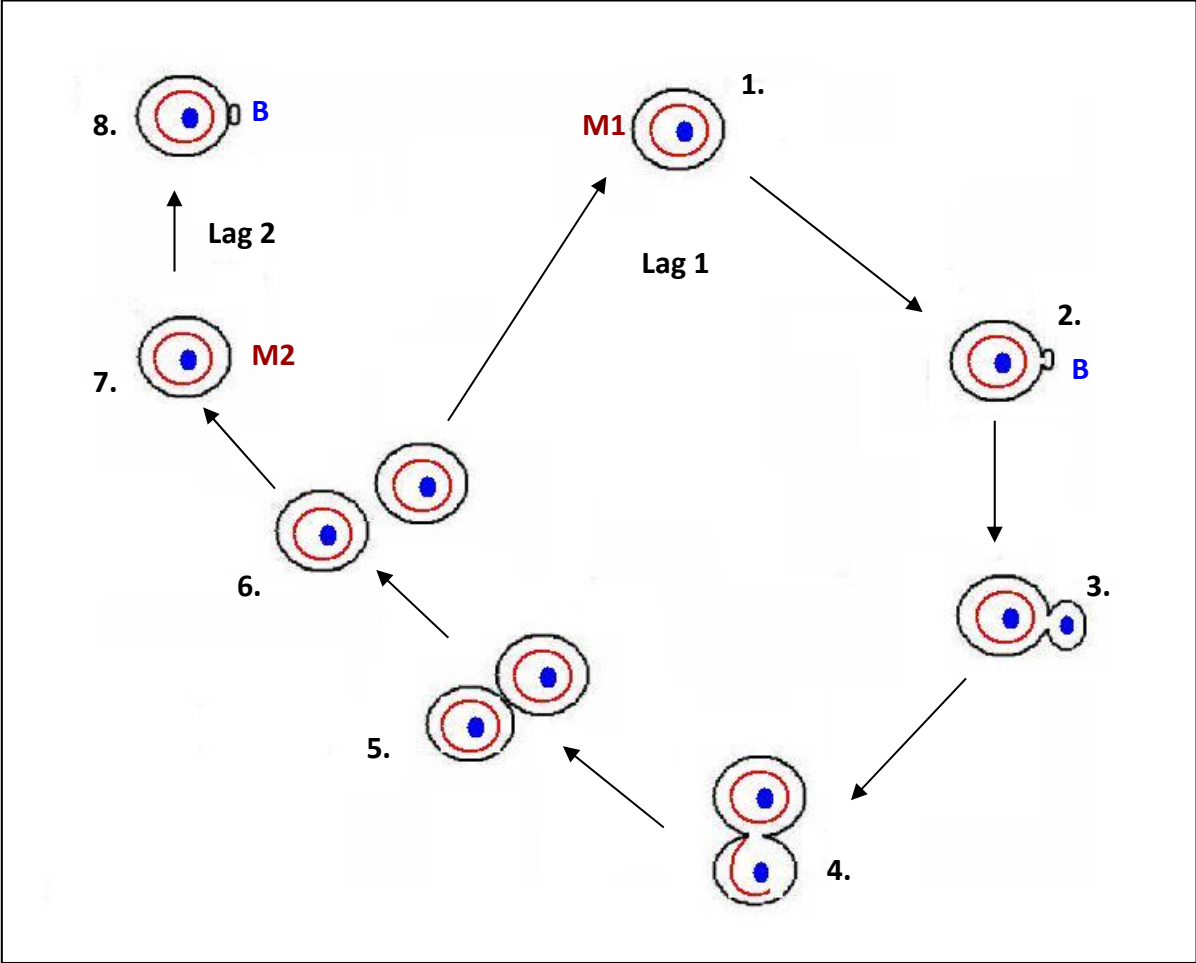


Jeffery Lee PhD thesis, Fuerst lab

Nuclear segregation during division in *Gemmata obscuriglobus*

- Bud initiates **without** nucleoid, then nucleoid appears in bud before bud matures to full size
- Naked nucleoid appears in bud **before** its **envelopment in nuclear membranes**
- **Nuclear envelope** of bud derives **from intracytoplasmic membrane**, but from **different cells** - **inner membrane** is from ICM of **mother cell**, **outer membrane** from ICM of **bud**
- **Ribosomes** associated with the new nuclear envelope

Gemmata obscuriglobus cell budding cycle



M1 – mother cell giving rise to the first bud

M2 – mother cell derived from the first bud

B – bud

Blue region – nucleoid

Red circle - nuclear envelope

Lag 1 – 2~4 hours

Lag 2 – 3~5.5 hours

'Eukaryality' implies nuclei AND endomembranes forming vesicles with the help of coatomer proteins

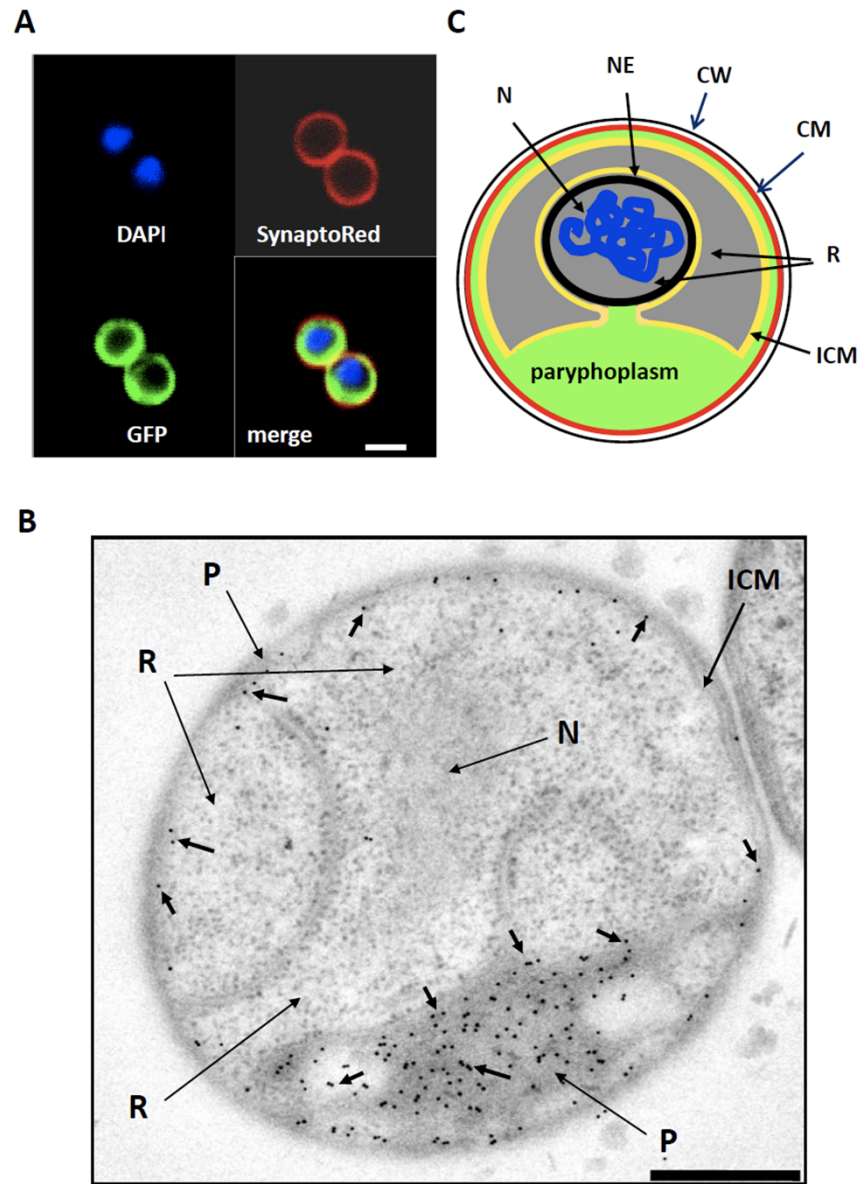
- *Gemmata* should be ideal system for -
Experimental test for endocytosis and membrane trafficking in a bacterium!

Evidence for endocytosis in a
bacterium - a functional
'eukaryotic' process in the
planctomycete *Gemmata
obscuriglobus*

Endocytosis-like processes in planctomycetes

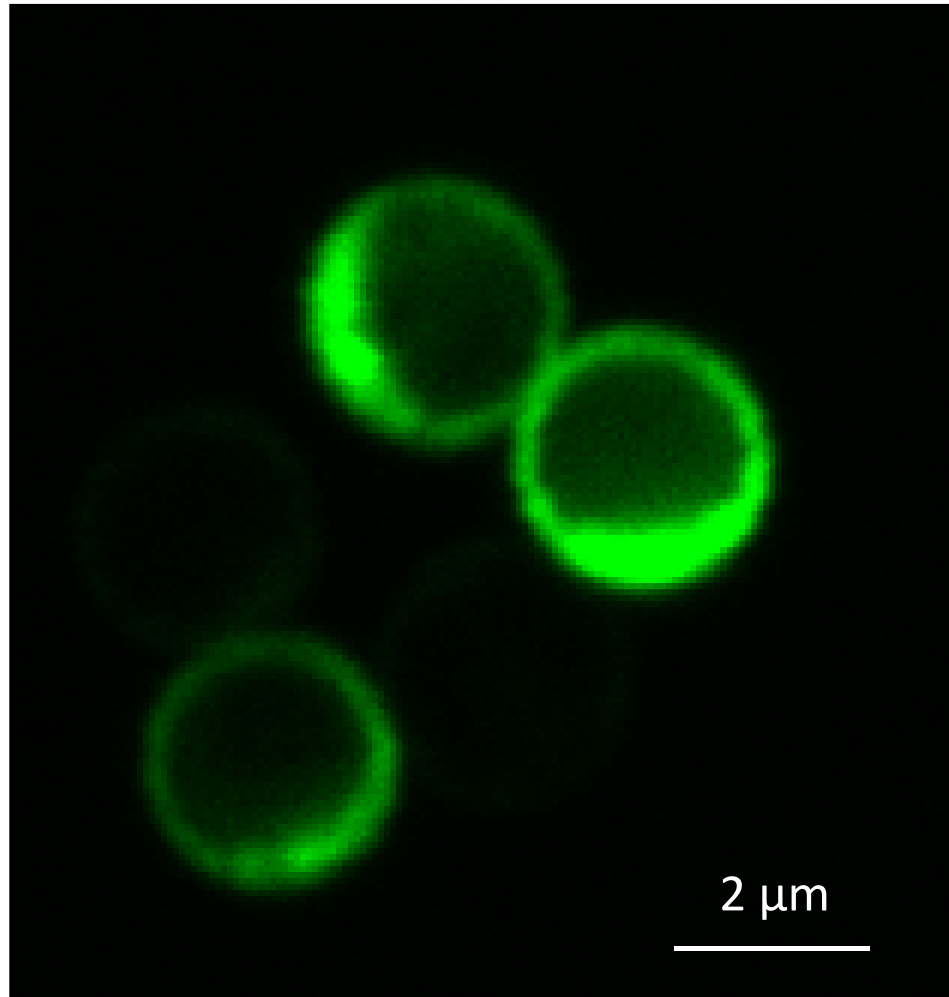
- **Protein uptake** – receptor-mediated, energy-dependent & vesicle-associated
- **Polysaccharide uptake** – vesicle-associated but probably via fluid-phase pinocytosis, energy-dependent

Protein uptake by *Gemmata*

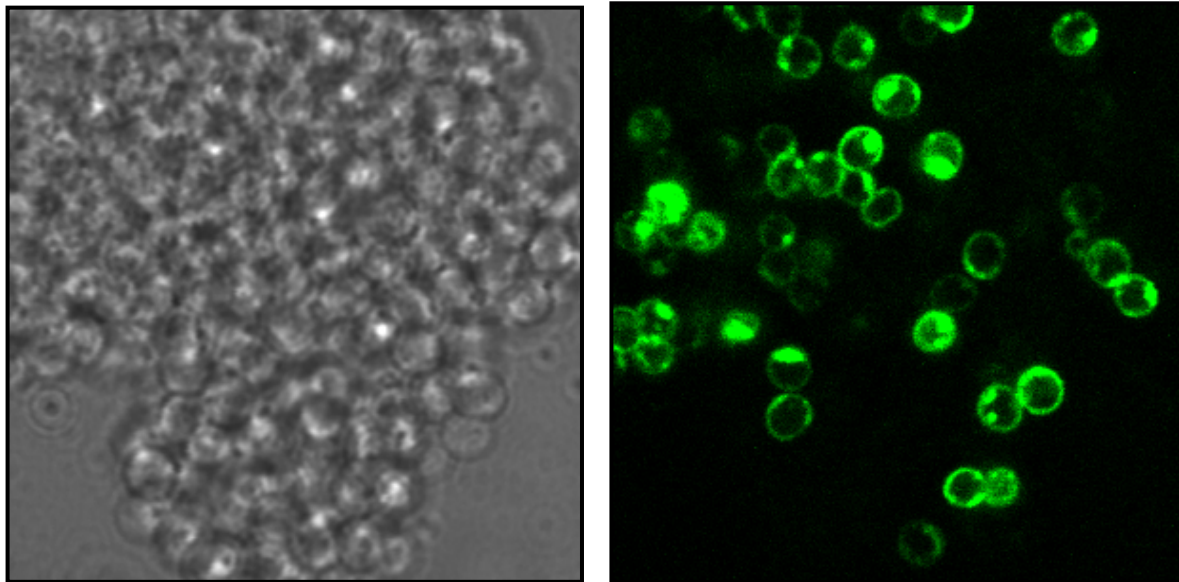


From: Lonhienne TG, Sagulenko E, Webb RI, Lee KC, Franke J, Devos DP, Nouwens A, Carroll BJ, Fuerst JA. Endocytosis-like protein uptake in the bacterium *Gemmata obscuriglobus*. Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A. 2010 Jul 20; 107(29):12883-8.

Uptake of GFP by cells of *Gemmata obscuriglobus*
seen via CLSM

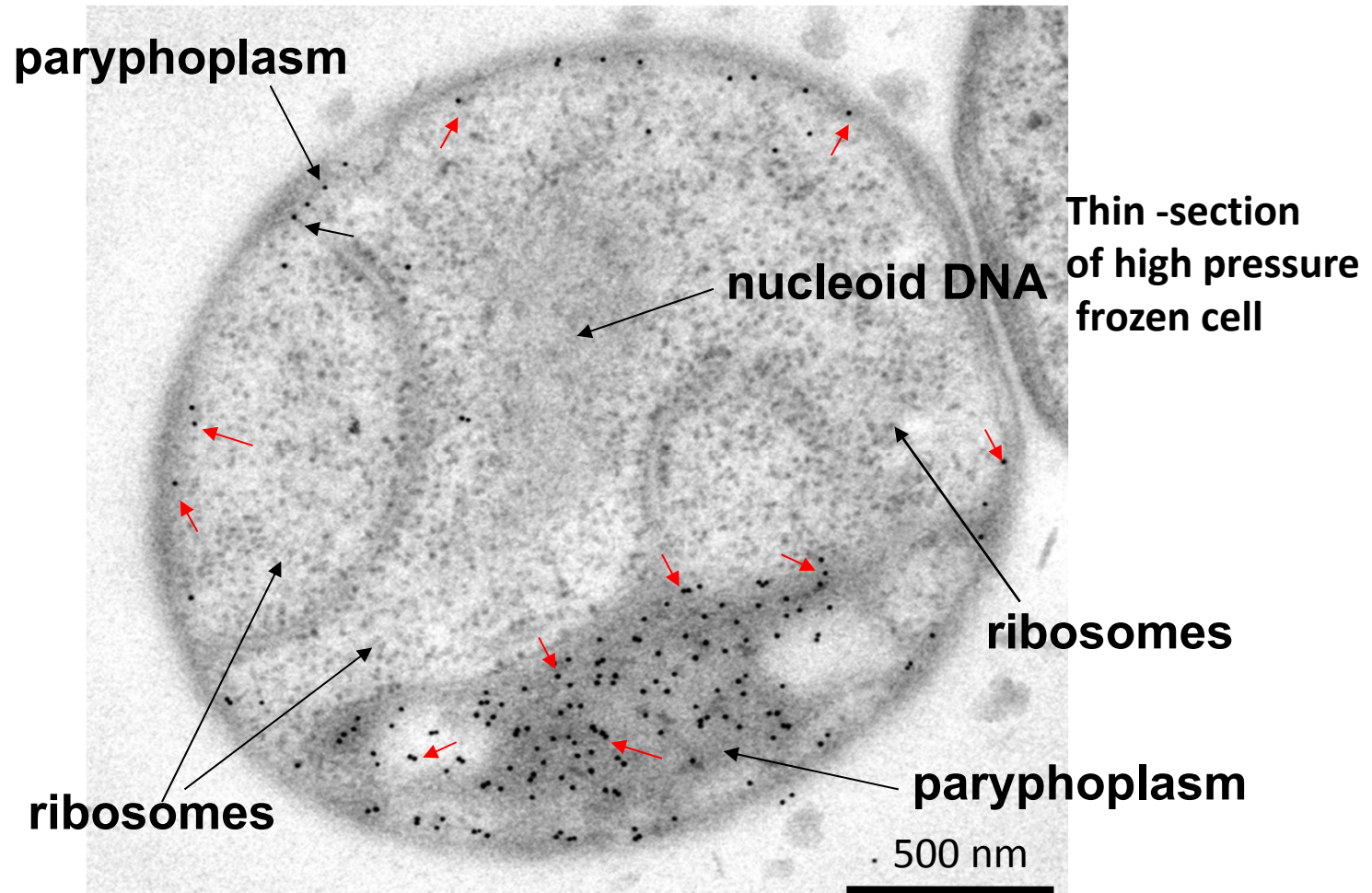


GFP is taken up by Gemmata cells



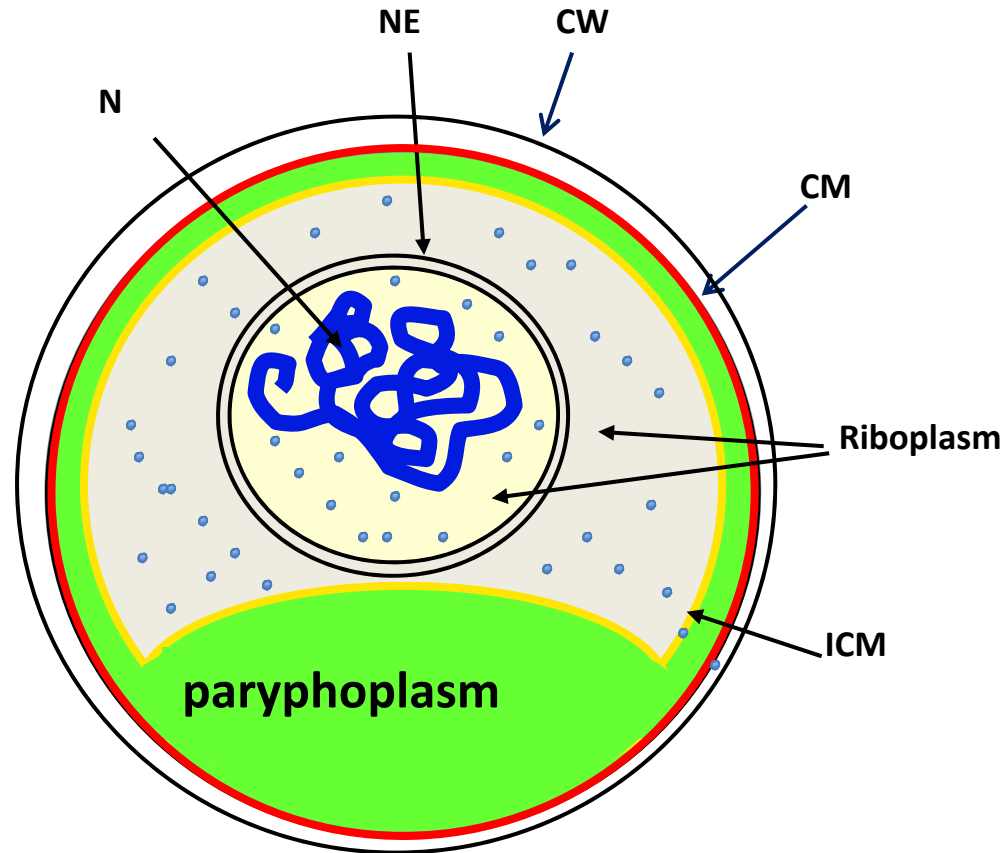
From: Lonhienne TG, Sagulenko E, Webb RI, Lee KC, Franke J, Devos DP, Nouwens A, Carroll BJ, Fuerst JA. Endocytosis-like protein uptake in the bacterium *Gemmata obscuriglobus*. **Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A**. 2010 Jul 20; 107(29):12883-8.

Immunogold labelling of GFP taken up by *Gemmata obscuriglobus* cells

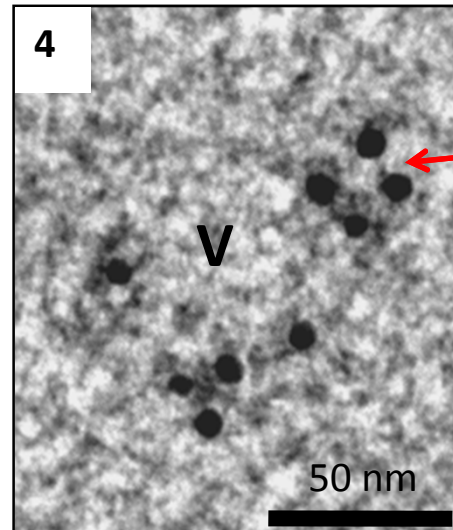
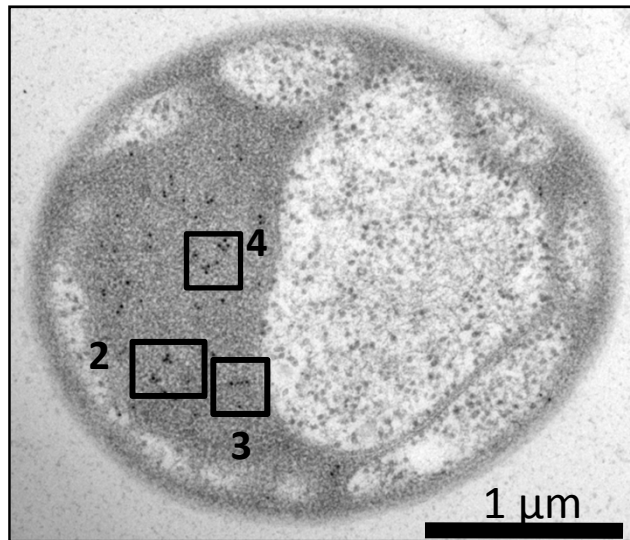


From: Lonhienne TG, Sagulenko E, Webb RI, Lee KC, Franke J, Devos DP, Nouwens A, Carroll BJ, Fuerst JA. Endocytosis-like protein uptake in the bacterium *Gemmata obscuriglobus*. Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A. 2010 Jul 20;107(29):12883-8.

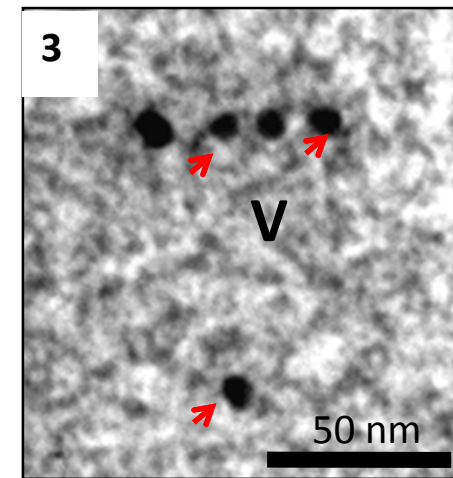
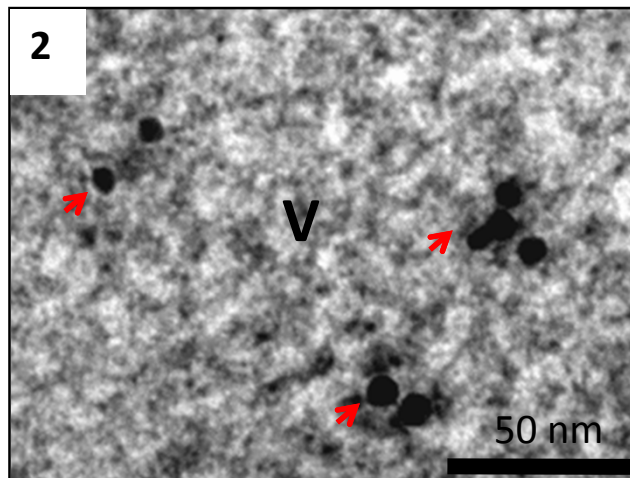
Gemmata obscuriglobus cell plan



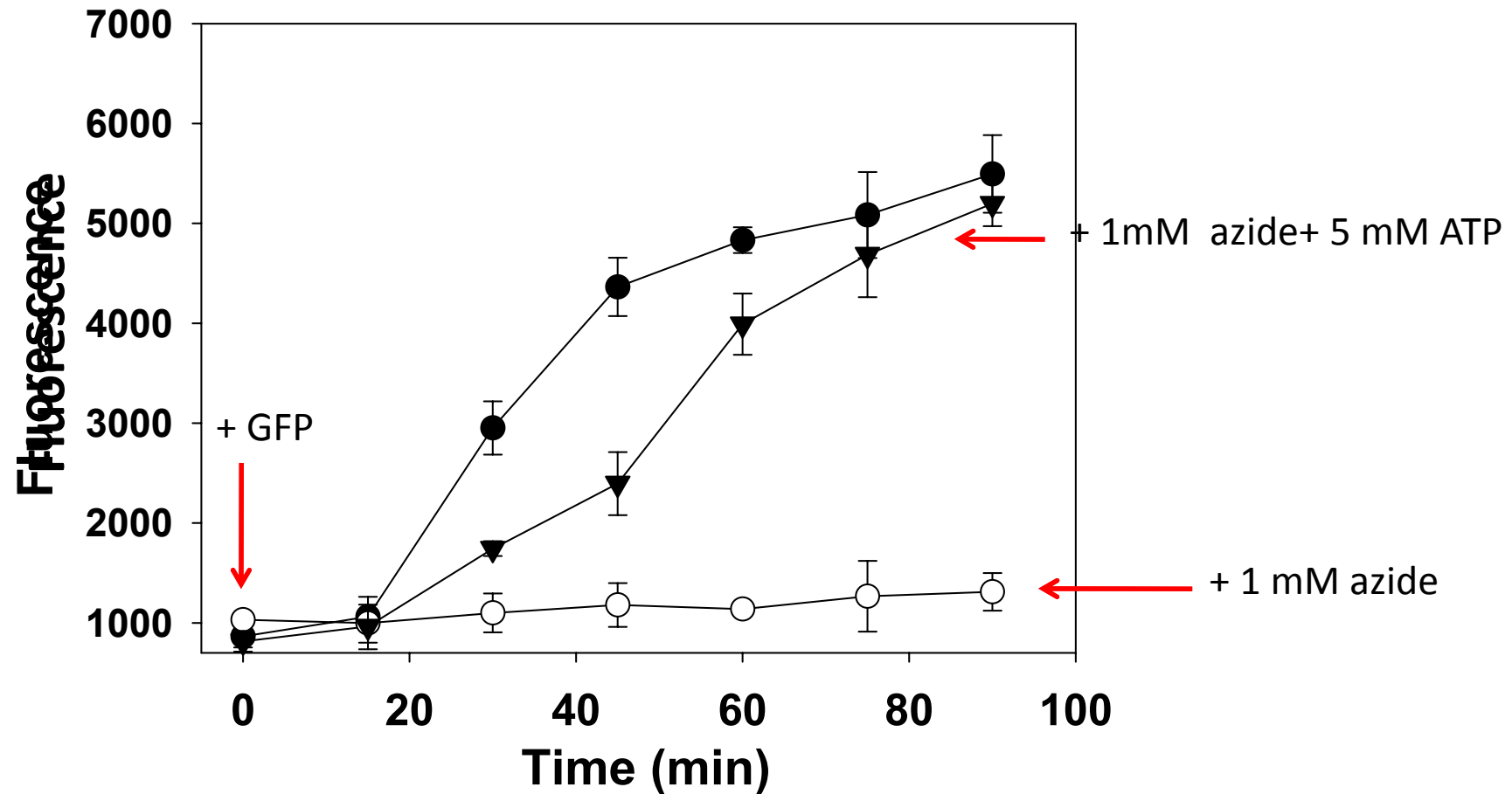
GFP is incorporated into membrane-bounded vesicles within one compartment (the paryphoplasm)



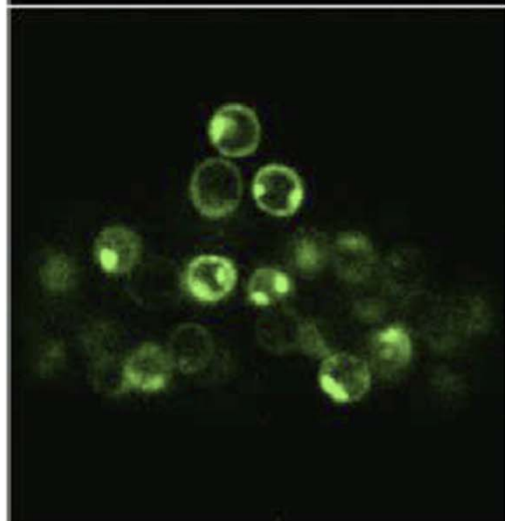
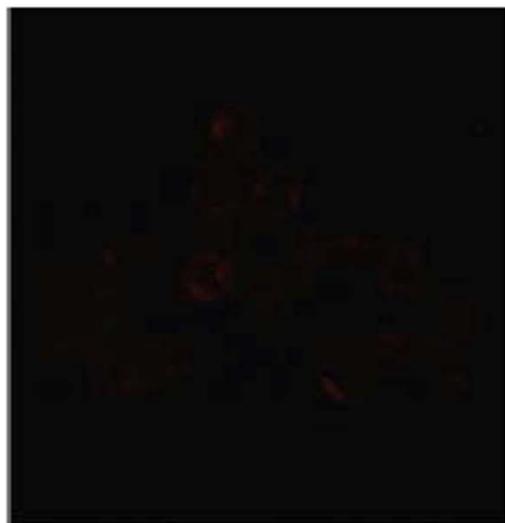
Immunogold label via anti-GFP Ab



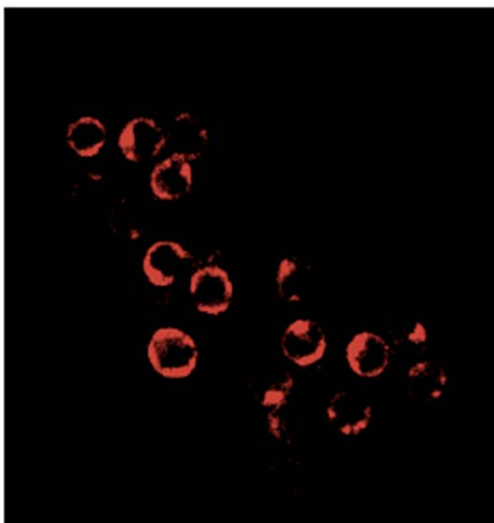
Fluorescence plot for GFP incubation with *Gemmata obscuriglobus* : GFP uptake is an energy-dependent process.



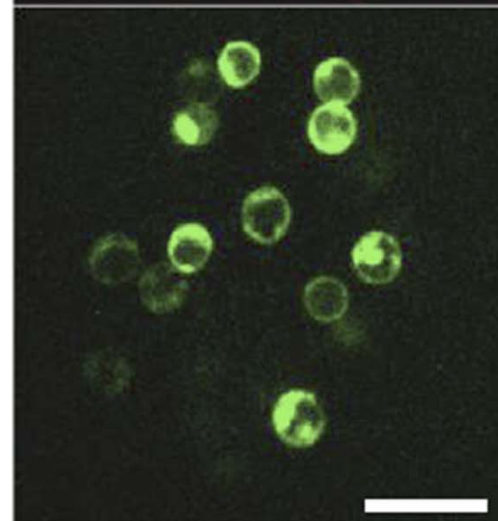
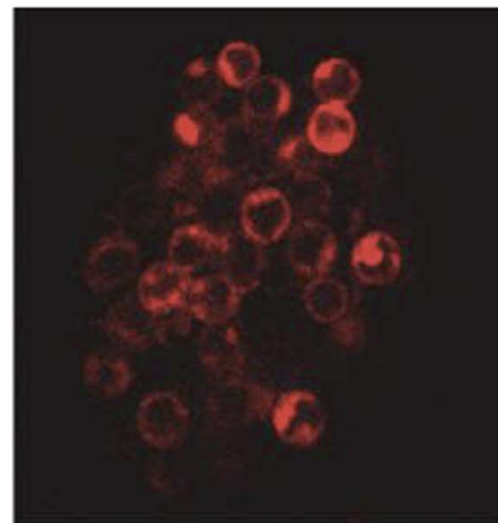
IgG-Cy3:GFP
1:20



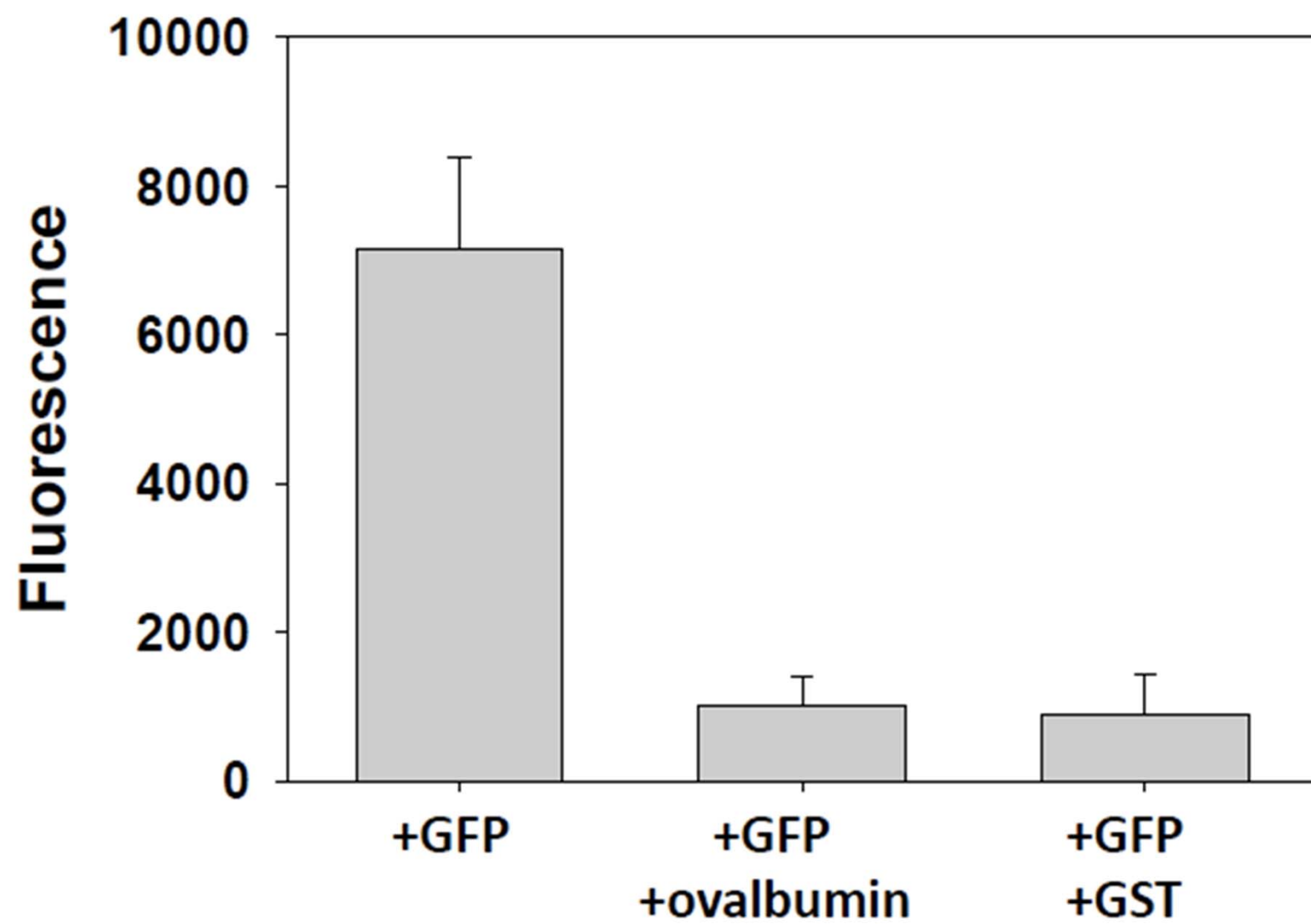
IgG-Cy3:GFP
20:1



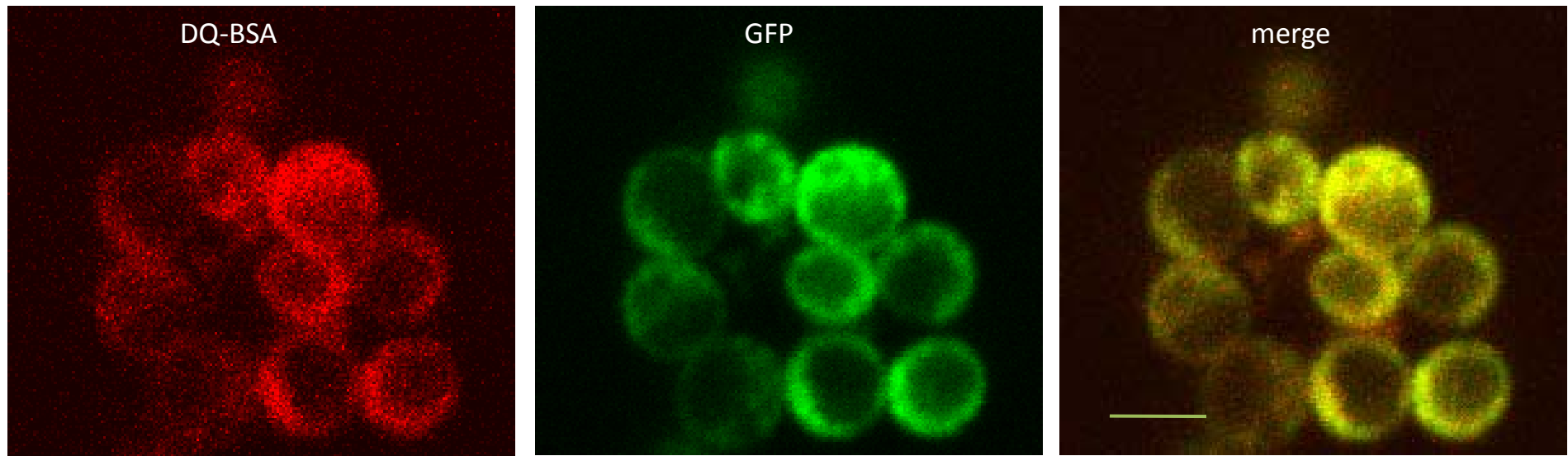
IgG-Cy3:GFP
1:1



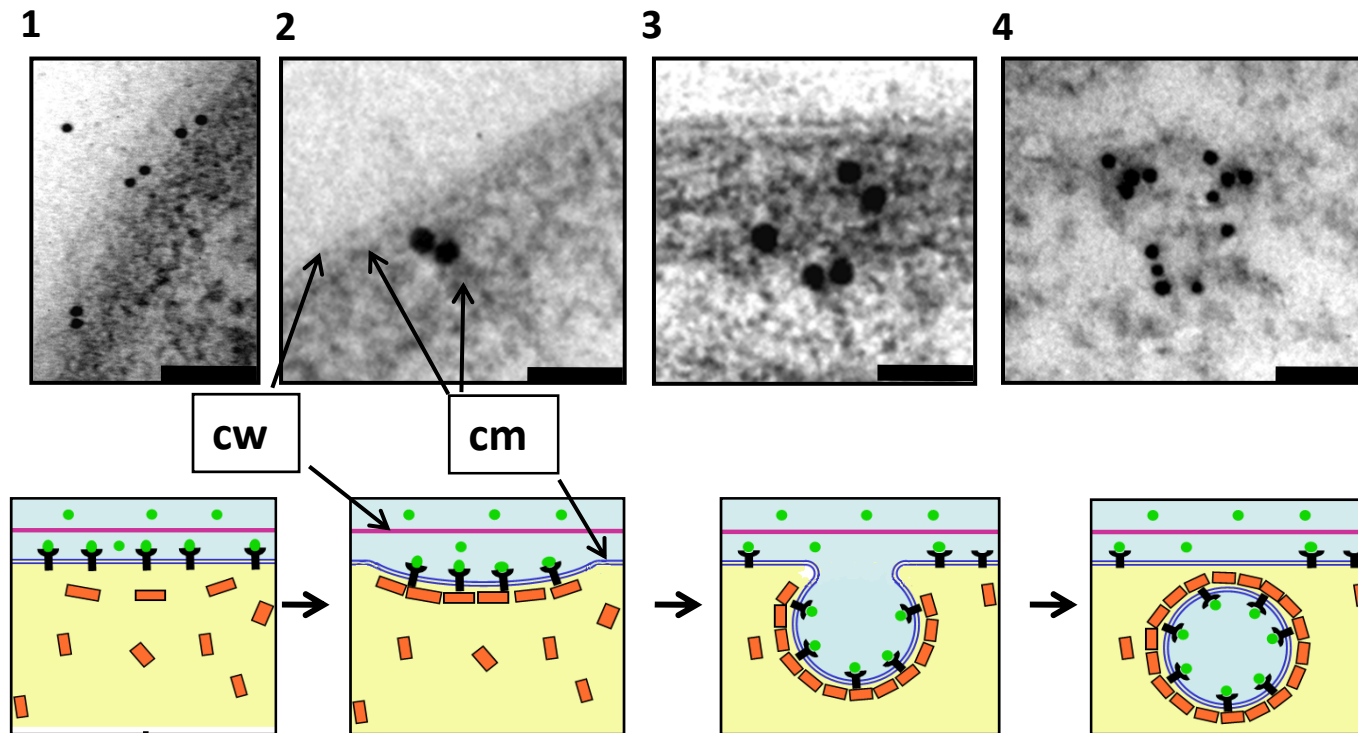
Competition experiment



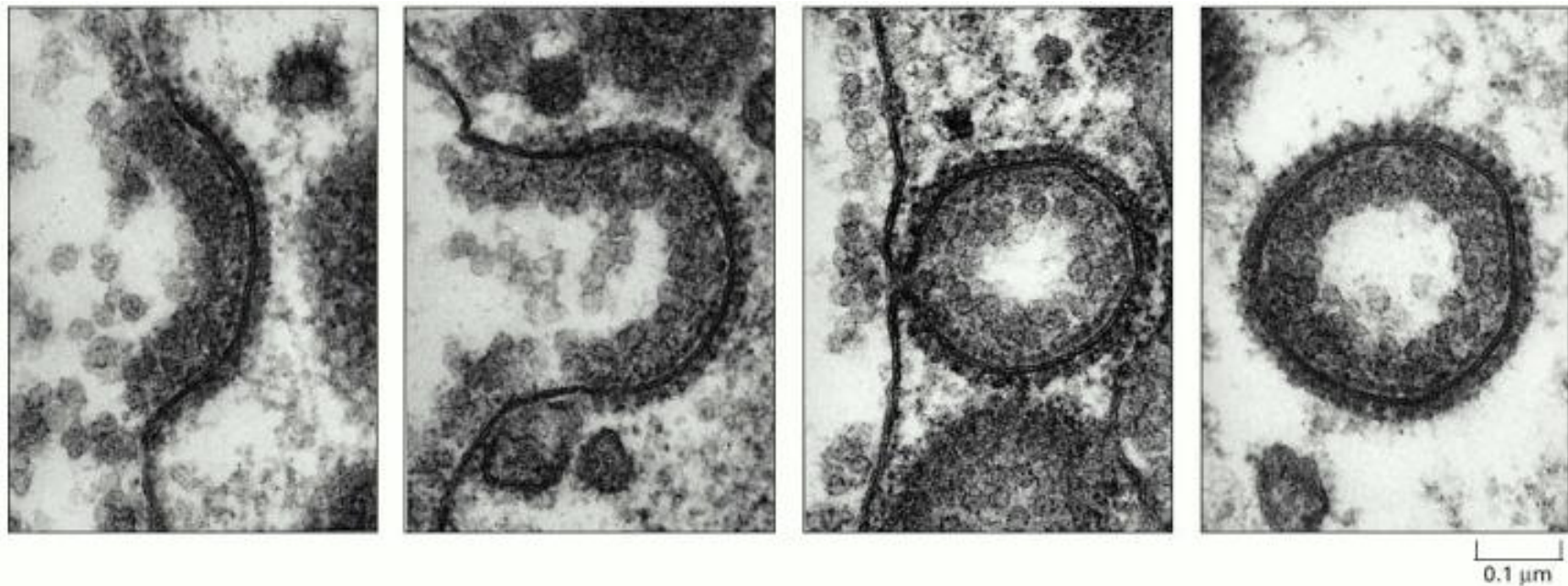
Protein DQ Green BSA (fluorescent only after degradation) is degraded after uptake into *Gemmata* cells (in same major compartment as one taking up GFP) - can there be a bacterial lysosome?



Proposed mechanism of receptor-mediated endocytosis in *Gemmata obscuriglobus* cells



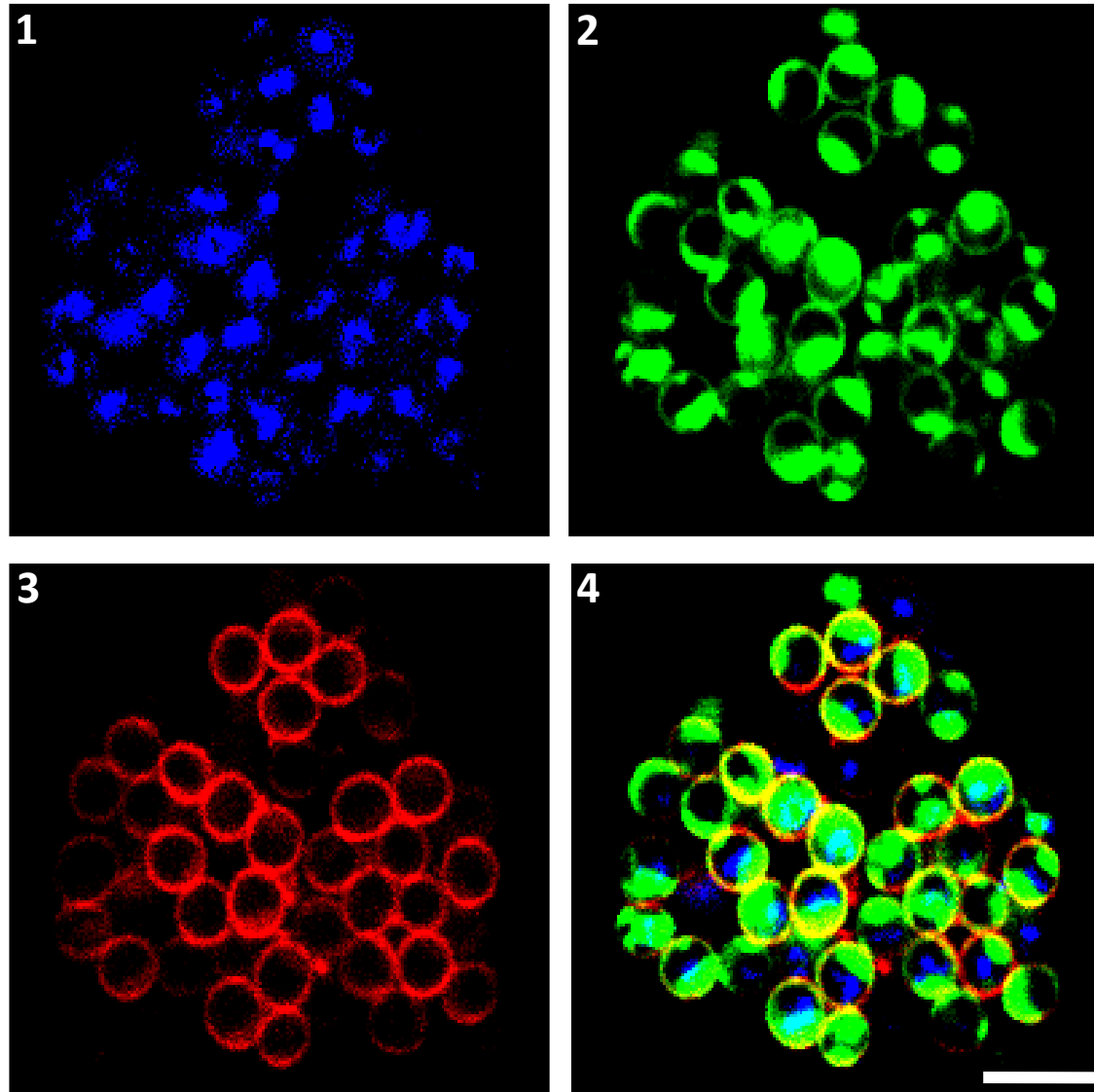
Endocytosis in a eukaryote: TEM section showing endocytosis of lipoprotein by hen oocyte



From:: Alberts, Molecular Biology of the Cell 2002 ed. Fig. 13-41
modified figure from:

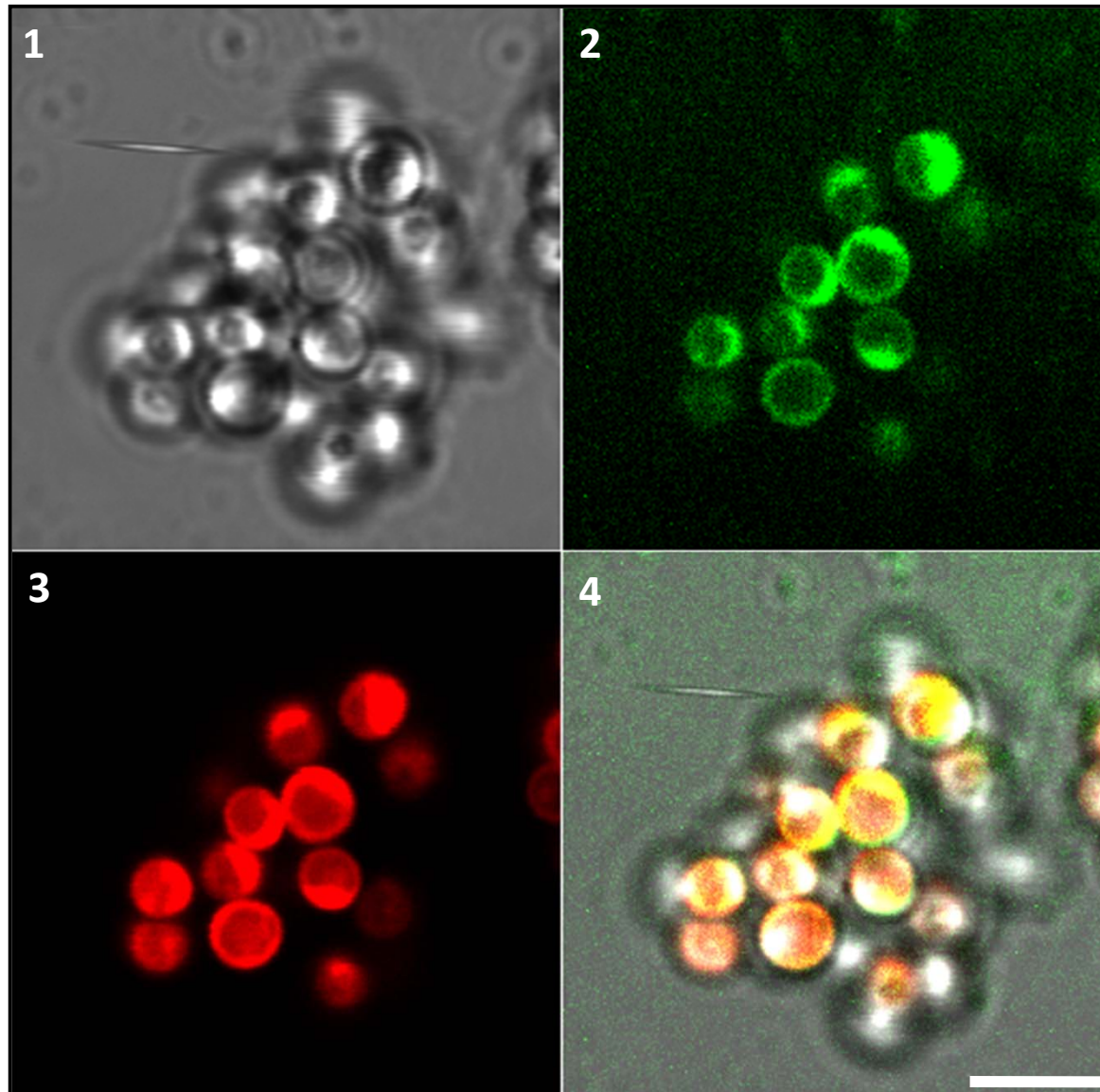
MM Perry and AB Gilbert 1979. Yolk transport in the ovarian follicle of the hen (*Gallus domesticus*): lipoprotein-like particles at the periphery of the oocyte in the rapid growth phase. *J Cell Sci* 39: 257-272

Gemmata the omnivore - uptake of FITC-dextran by *Gemmata obscuriglobus* cells



Sagulenko and Fuerst, in preparation

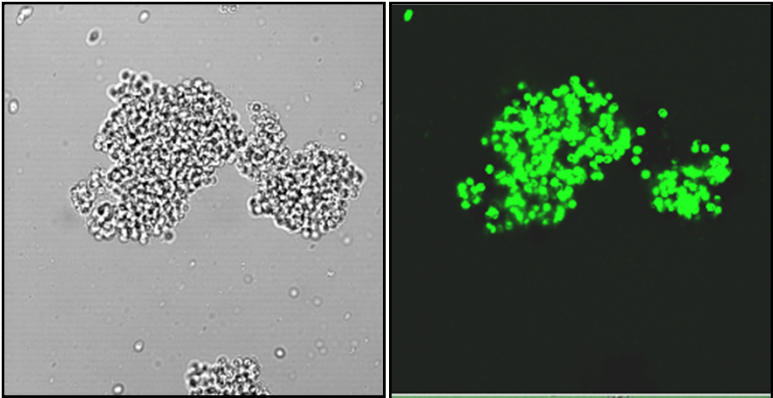
Rhodamine-dextran co-localizes with GFP in the paryphoplasm of *Gemmata obscuriglobus* cells



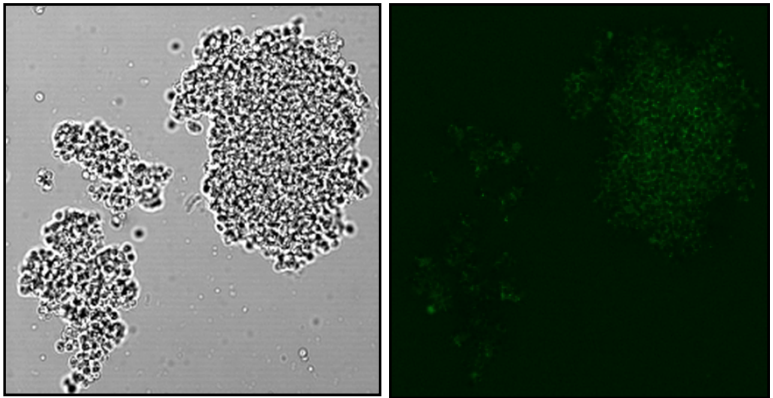
Sagulenko and Fuerst, in preparation

Energy dependent dextran uptake: Low temperature (0°C) and sodium azide inhibit uptake of FITC-dextran by *G.obscuriglobus*

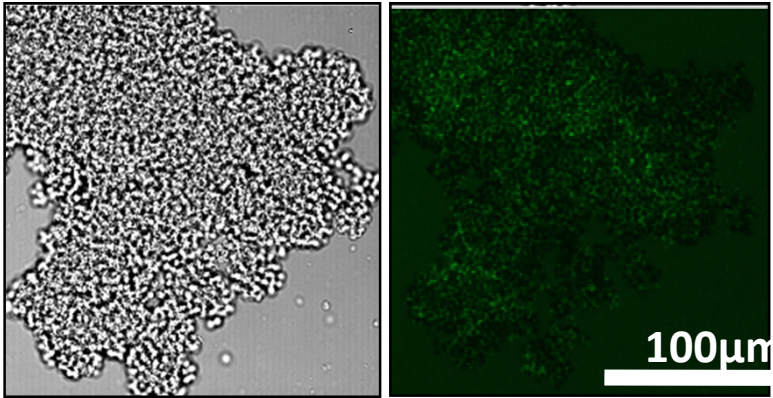
FITC-dextran,
28°C



FITC-dextran,
+ sodium azide



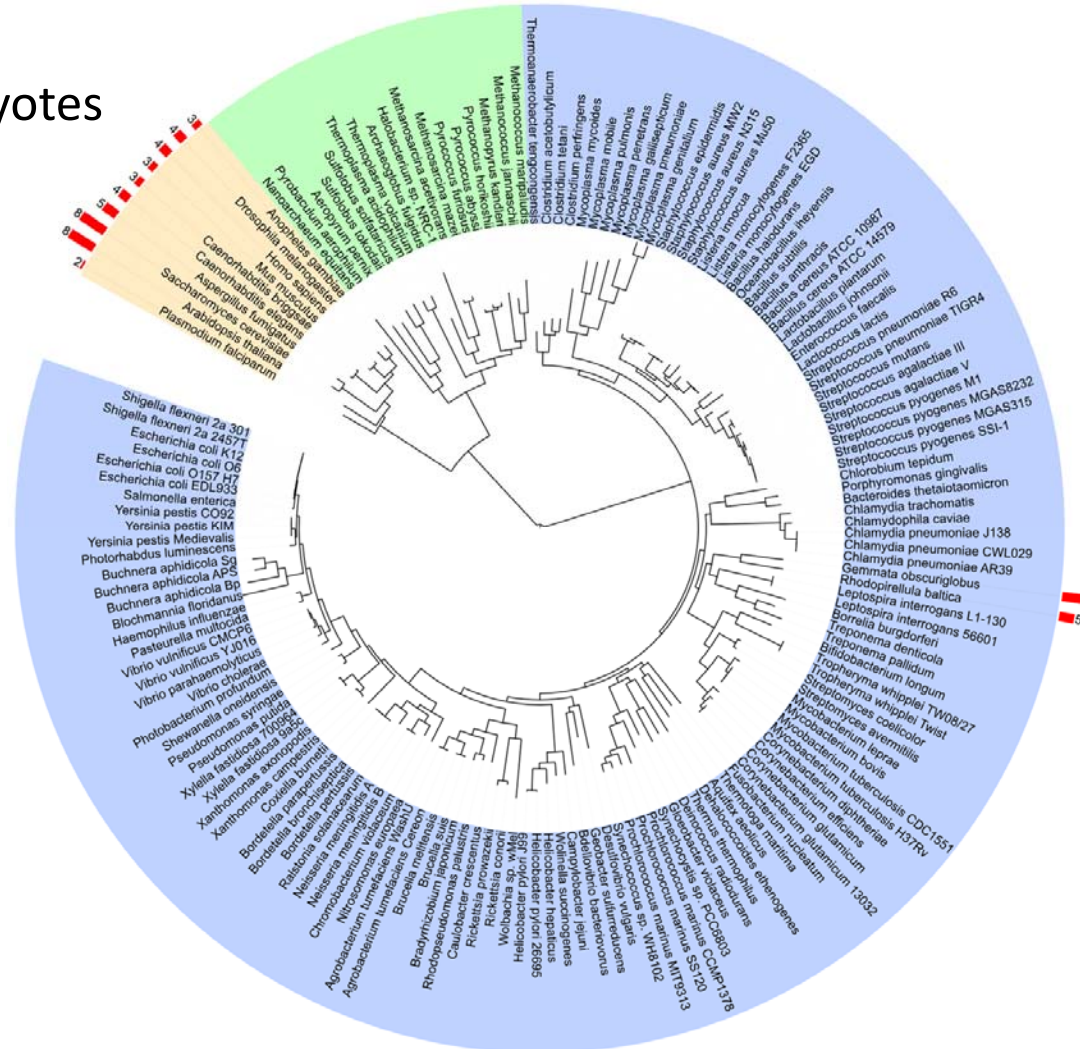
FITC-dextran,
0°C



Protozoans & planctomyces

- Within domain Bacteria, PVC superphylum members including planctomyces share MC protein clathrin-like homologs
- Implies possibility of both clathrin-based endocytosis and MC-containing nuclear pores in PVC members, e.g. *Gemmata*

Eukaryotes



Planctomycetes

Santarella-Mellwig R et al. PLoS Biol. 2010 Jan 19;8(1):e1000281.

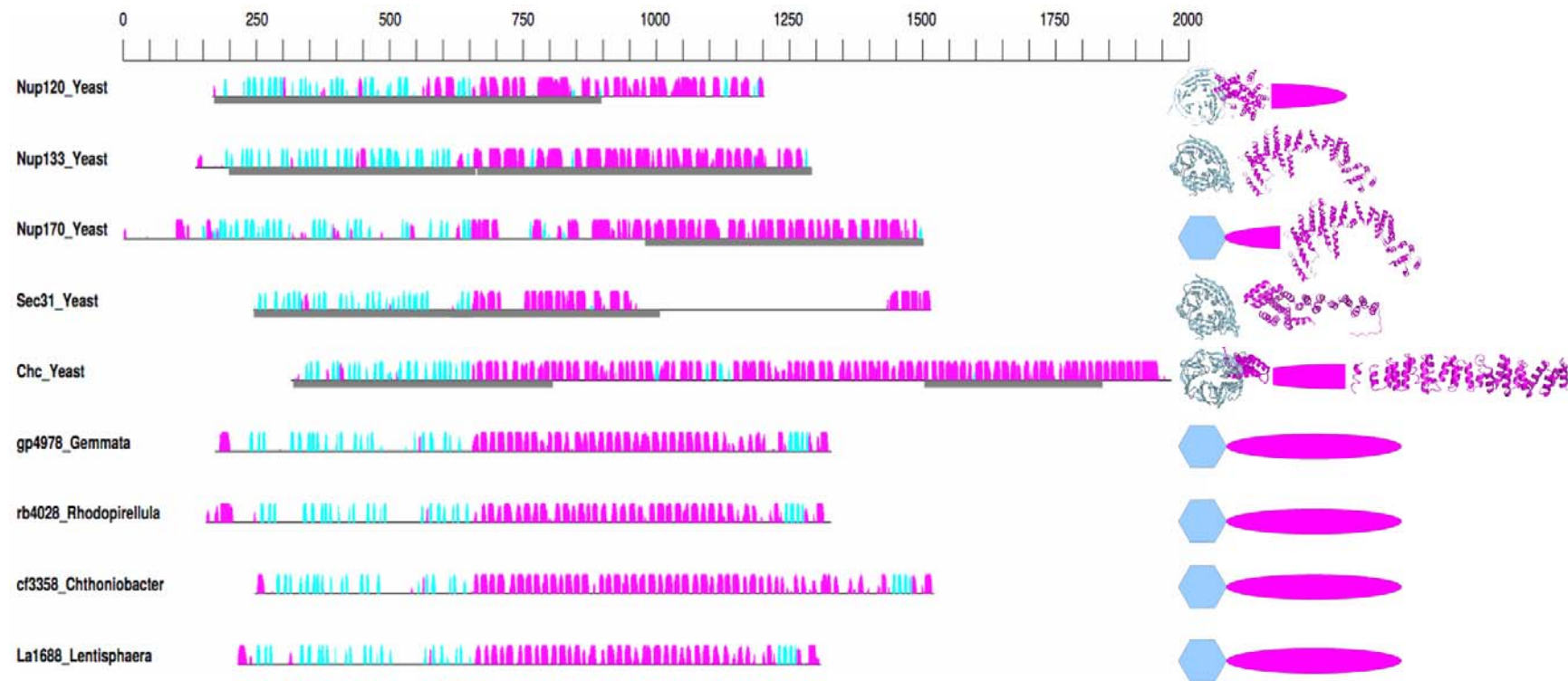
MC proteins in PVC members

| Species | Phylum | Genome Status | Total Number of Proteins | Number of MCs |
|----------------------------------------------------|--------|---------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| <i>Chlamydomonas reinhardtii</i> Fe/C-56 | C | F | 1,013 | 0 |
| <i>Candidatus Protochlamydia amoebophila</i> UWE25 | C | F | 2,031 | 0 |
| <i>Chlamydia muridarum</i> Nigg | C | F | 911 | 0 |
| <i>Victivallis vadensis</i> BAA-548 | L | D | 3,541 | 0 |
| <i>Lentisphaera araneosa</i> HTCC2155 | L | D | 5,104 | 9 |
| <i>Candidatus Kuenenia stuttgartiensis</i> | P | F | 4,663 | 0 |
| <i>Blastopirellula marina</i> DSM 3645 | P | D | 6,025 | 11 |
| <i>Planctomyces maris</i> DSM 8797 | P | D | 6,480 | 11 |
| <i>Rhodopirellula baltica</i> SH 1 | P | F | 7,325 | 5 |
| <i>Gemmata obscuriglobus</i> UQM 2246 | P | D | 7,989 | 8 |
| <i>Akkermansia muciniphila</i> BAA-835 | V | F | 2,176 | 0 |
| <i>Methylophilum inferorum</i> V4 | V | F | 2,462 | 0 |
| <i>Opitutaceae bacterium</i> TAV2 | V | D | 4,036 | 0 |
| <i>Opitutus terrae</i> PB90-1 | V | F | 4,632 | 0 |
| <i>Pedosphaera parvula</i> Ellin514 | V | D | 6,402 | 9 |
| <i>Verrucomicrobium spinosum</i> | V | D | 6,509 | 16 |
| <i>Chthoniobacter flavus</i> Ellin428 | V | D | 6,716 | 14 |

V, Verrucomicrobia; L, Lentisphaerae; P, Planctomycetes; C, Chlamydiae; D, draft; F, finished.
doi:10.1371/journal.pbio.1000281.t001

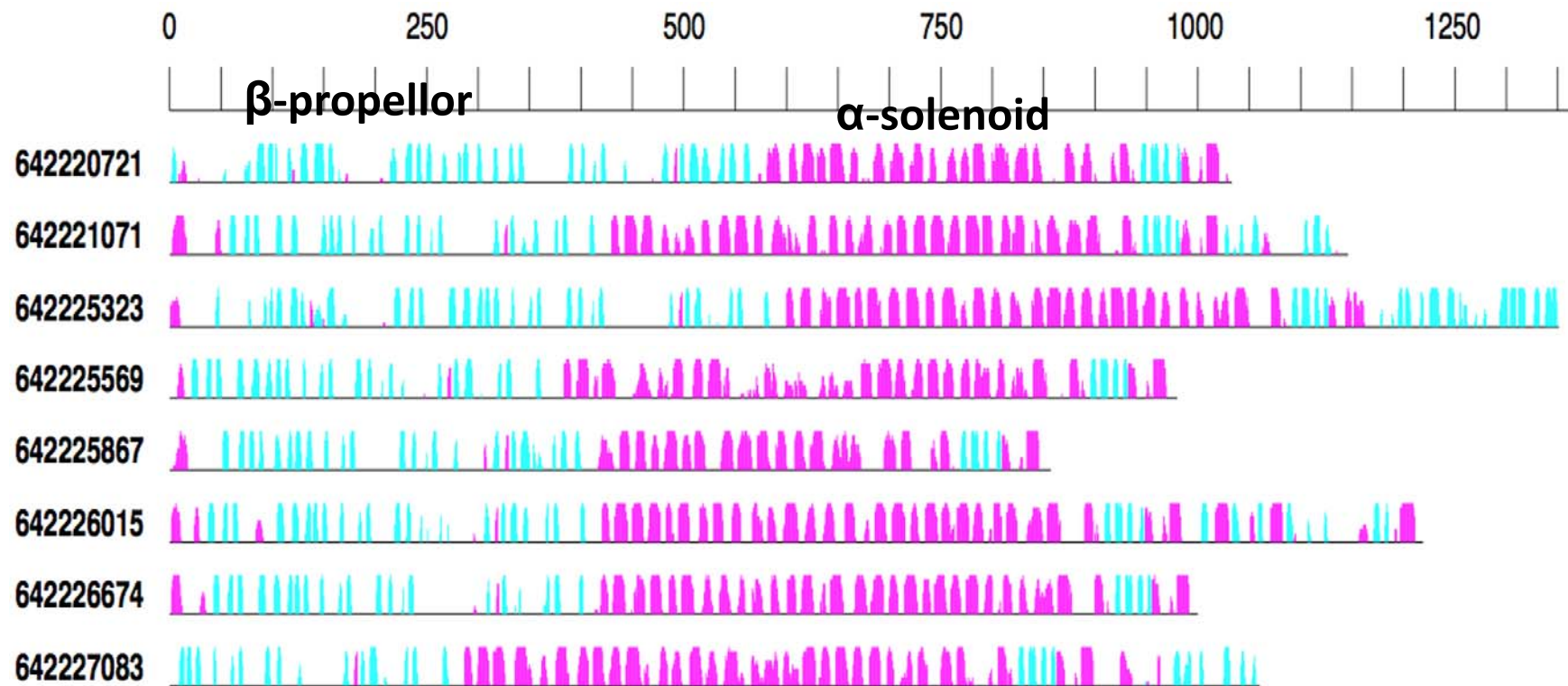
Santarella-Mellwig R et al. PLoS Biol. 2010 Jan 19;8(1):e1000281.

MC proteins - Eukaryotes & PVC bacteria



Santarella-Mellwig R et al. PLoS Biol. 2010 Jan 19;8(1):e1000281

Gemmata MC proteins & shared domains

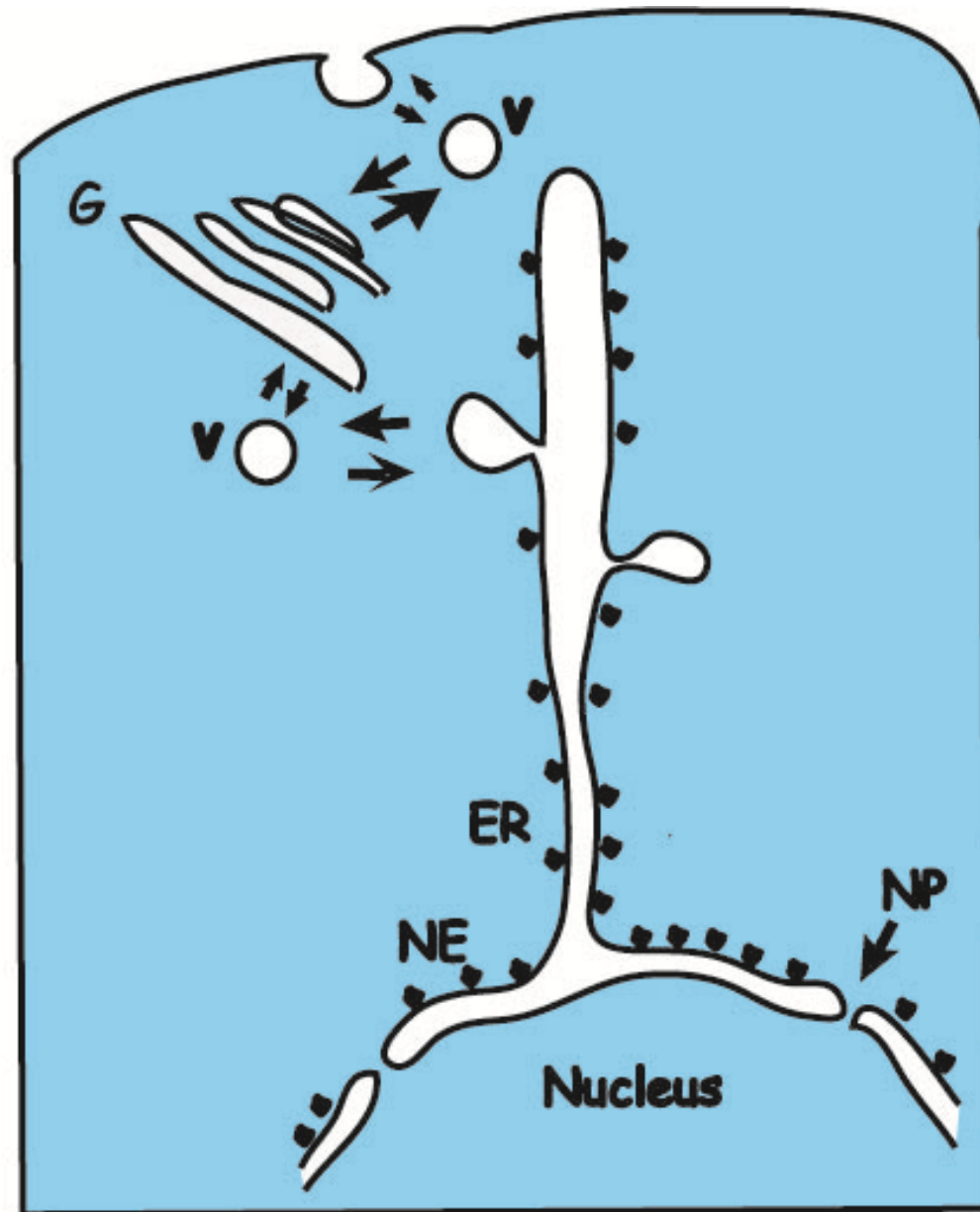


Santarella-Mellwig R et al. PLoS Biol. 2010 Jan 19;8(1):e1000281.

Towards the first eukaryote ancestral nutrition

- **First planctomycete may have taken up proteins and polysaccharides as a mode of nutrition**
- **This may be a clue to the origin of compartmentalization and the eukaryote endomembrane system re selective pressure for internal vesicles & trafficking**

The **Evolved** Eukaryotic Endomembrane System - Essential Elements?
Several features are already present in *Gemmata obscuriglobus*

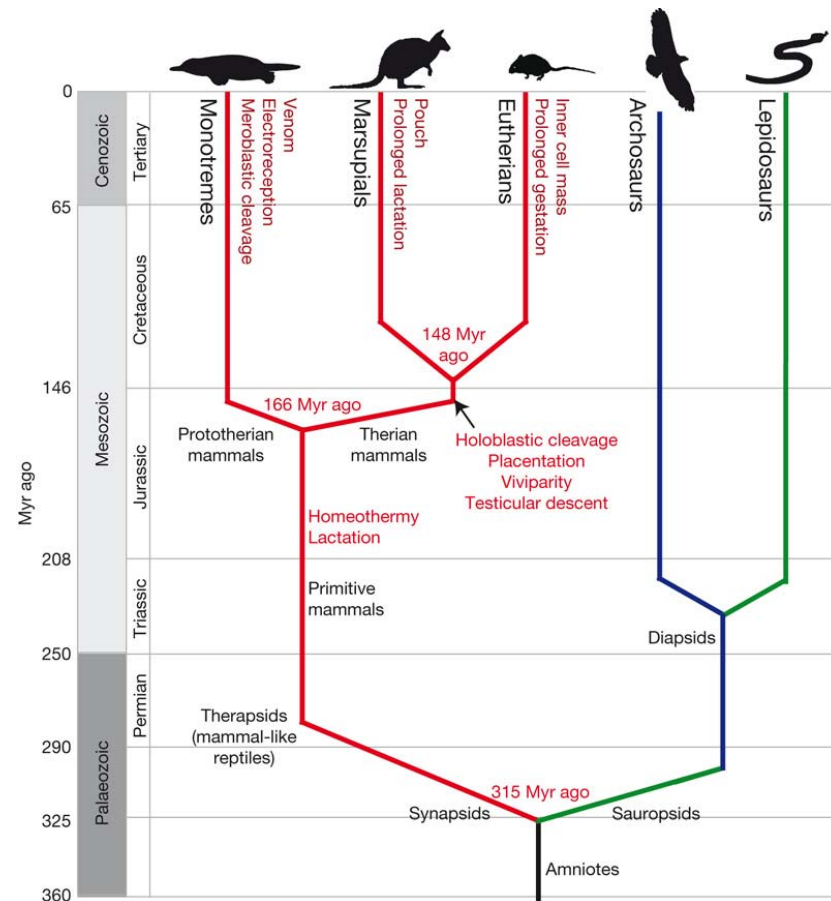


Modified from J Maynard Smith and Szathmary

Planctomycetes have both structural and functional features analogous to eukaryotes with some actual homology with eukaryote molecular mechanisms

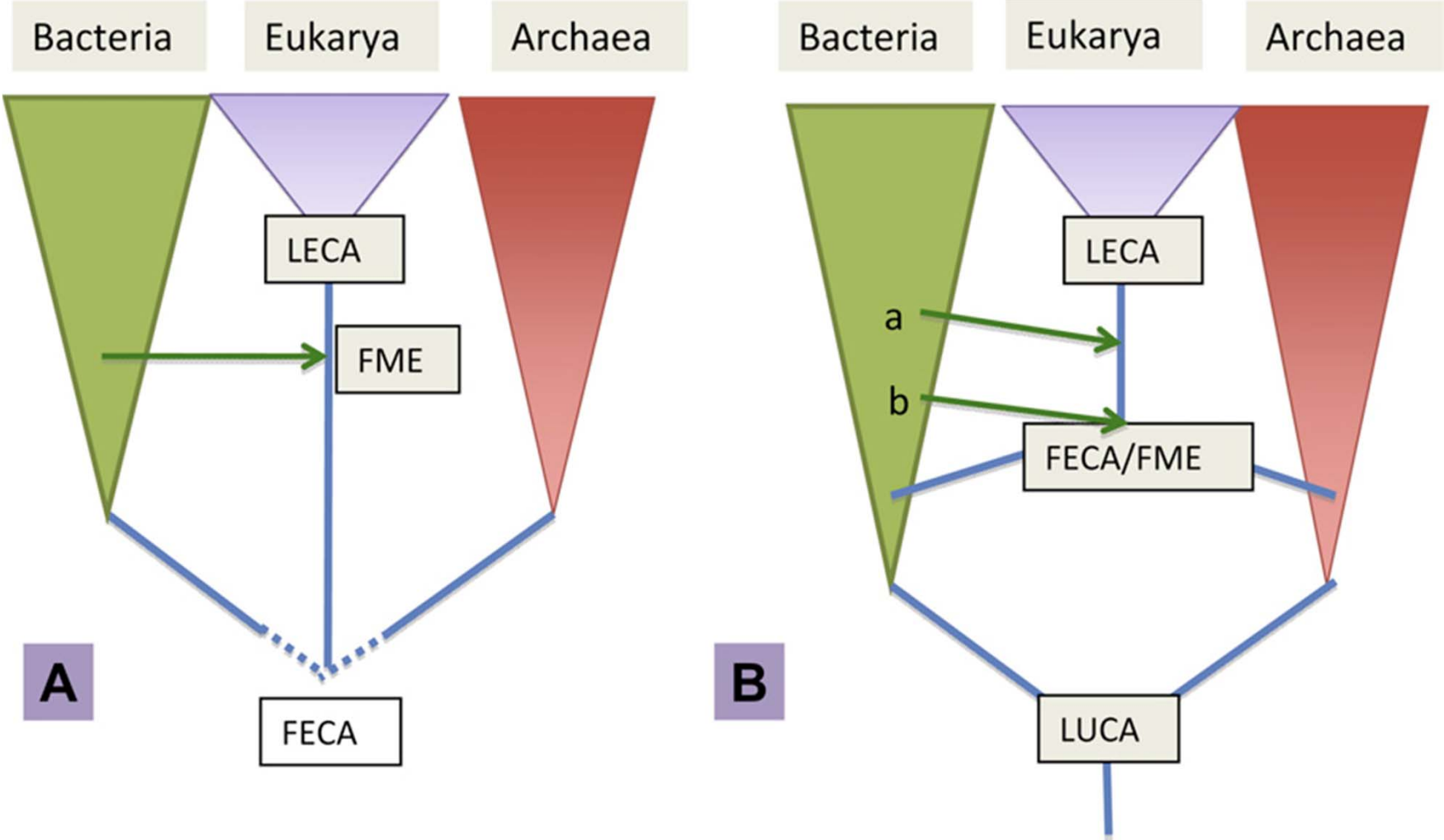
What's the evolutionary origin of such features?

Is the planctomycete a Bacterial Platypus? - with a mix of features, some from deep ancestor of separate lineages?



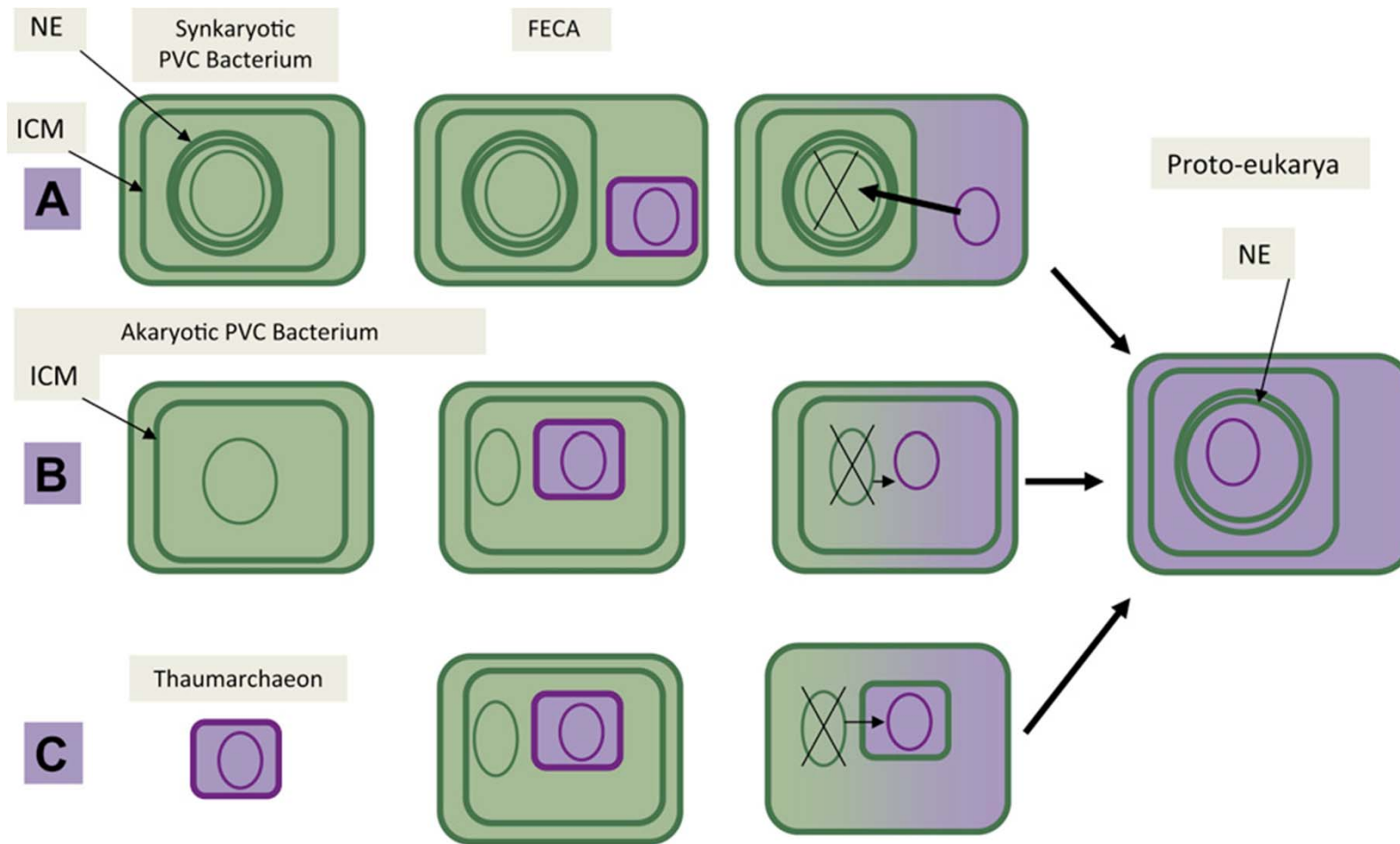
e.g. genomics reveals sex chromosome homology to birds but convergent evolution of venom peptides

Domain tree models - eukarya ancestral or derived?



Forterre P. A new fusion hypothesis for the origin of Eukarya: better previous ones, but probably also wrong. Res Microbiol. 2011 Jan;162(1):77-91

New improved but probably wrong fusion hypotheses for Euk origins

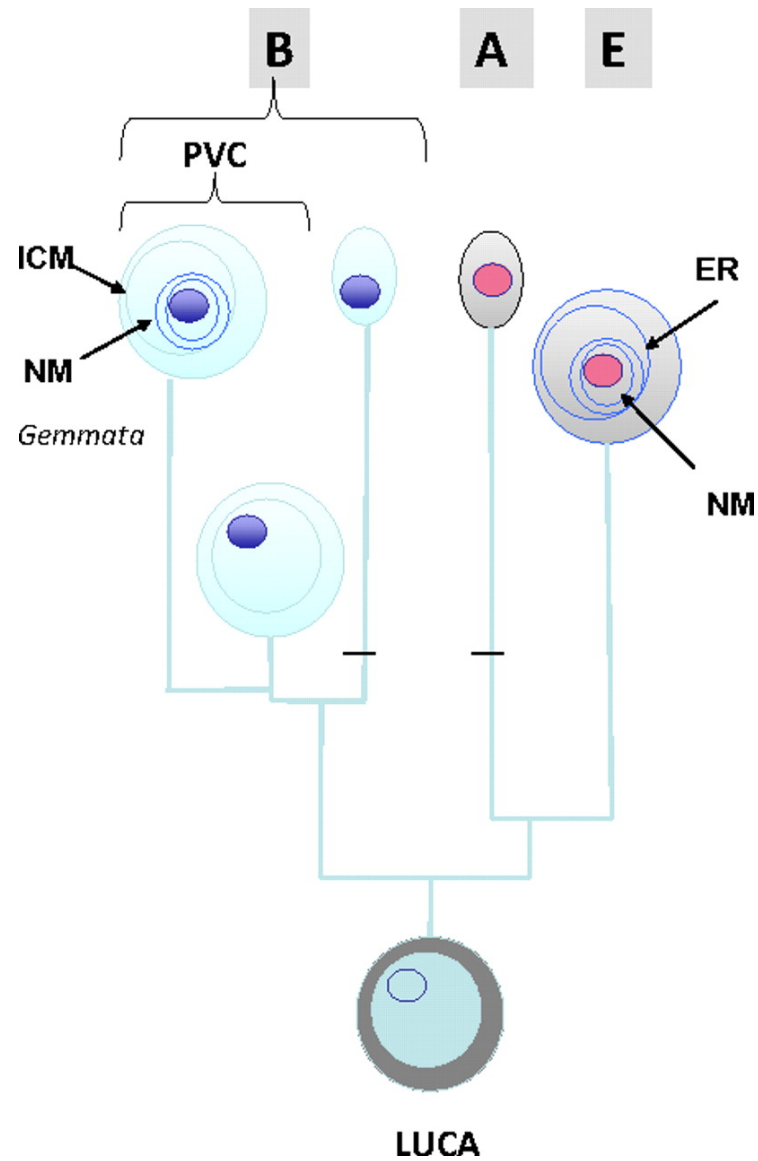


Forterre P. A new fusion hypothesis for the origin of Eukarya: better previous ones, but probably also wrong. Res Microbiol. 2011 Jan;162(1):77-91

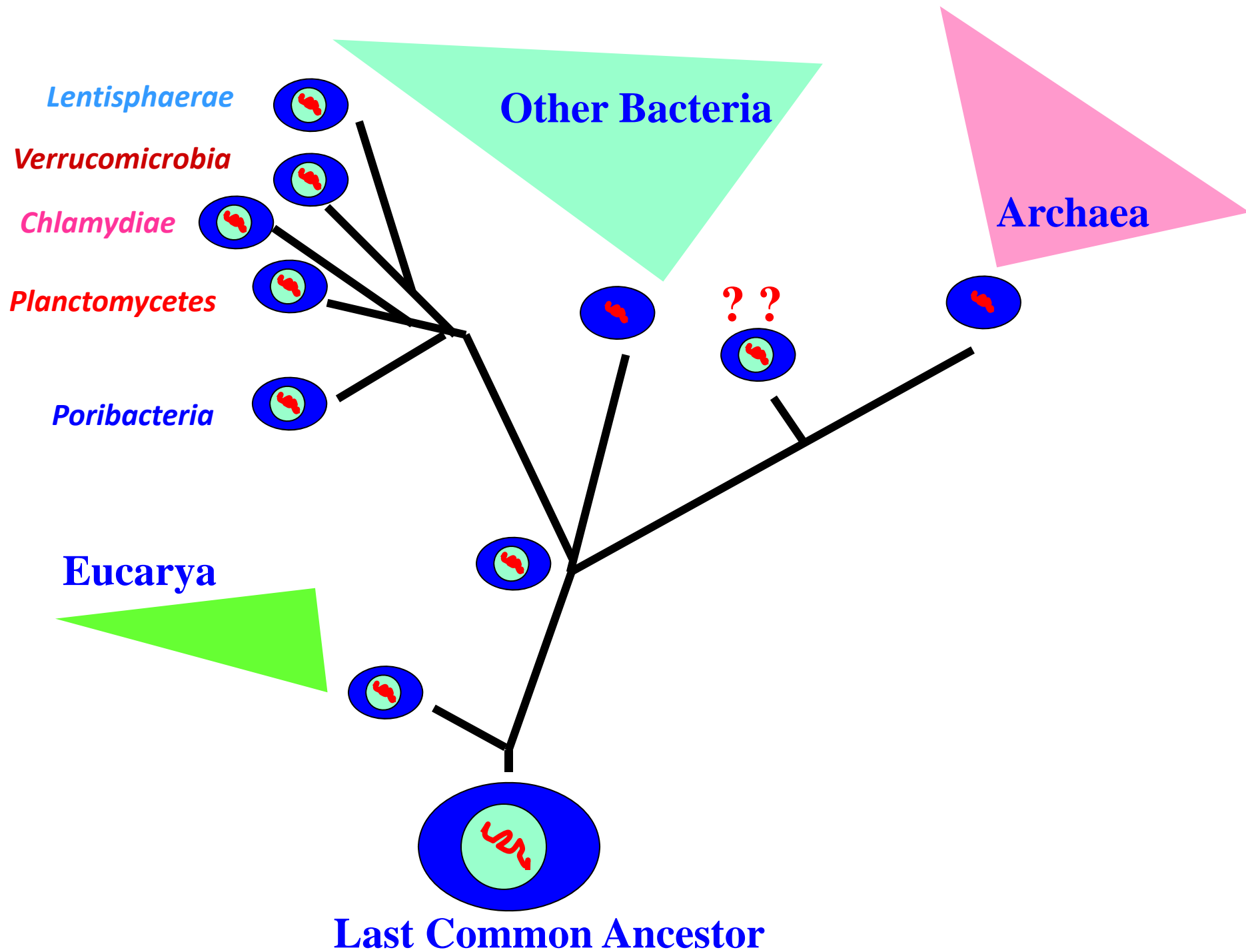
Lessons from *Gemmata*

- Fusion hypotheses are not necessary to explain origin of eukaryote nucleus, and some form of autogenous internal development of a nucleus is more parsimonious
- Uncouples origin of nucleus from origin of eukaryote chimeric genome
- Suggests retention from compartmentalized FECA or LUCA should again be considered

A 'retention' scenario for the origin of modern compartmentalized cells (Eukarya and PVC bacteria) from a compartmentalized LUCA. A, Archaea; B, Bacteria; E Eukarya.



Forterre P , Gribaldo S PNAS 2010;107:12739-12740



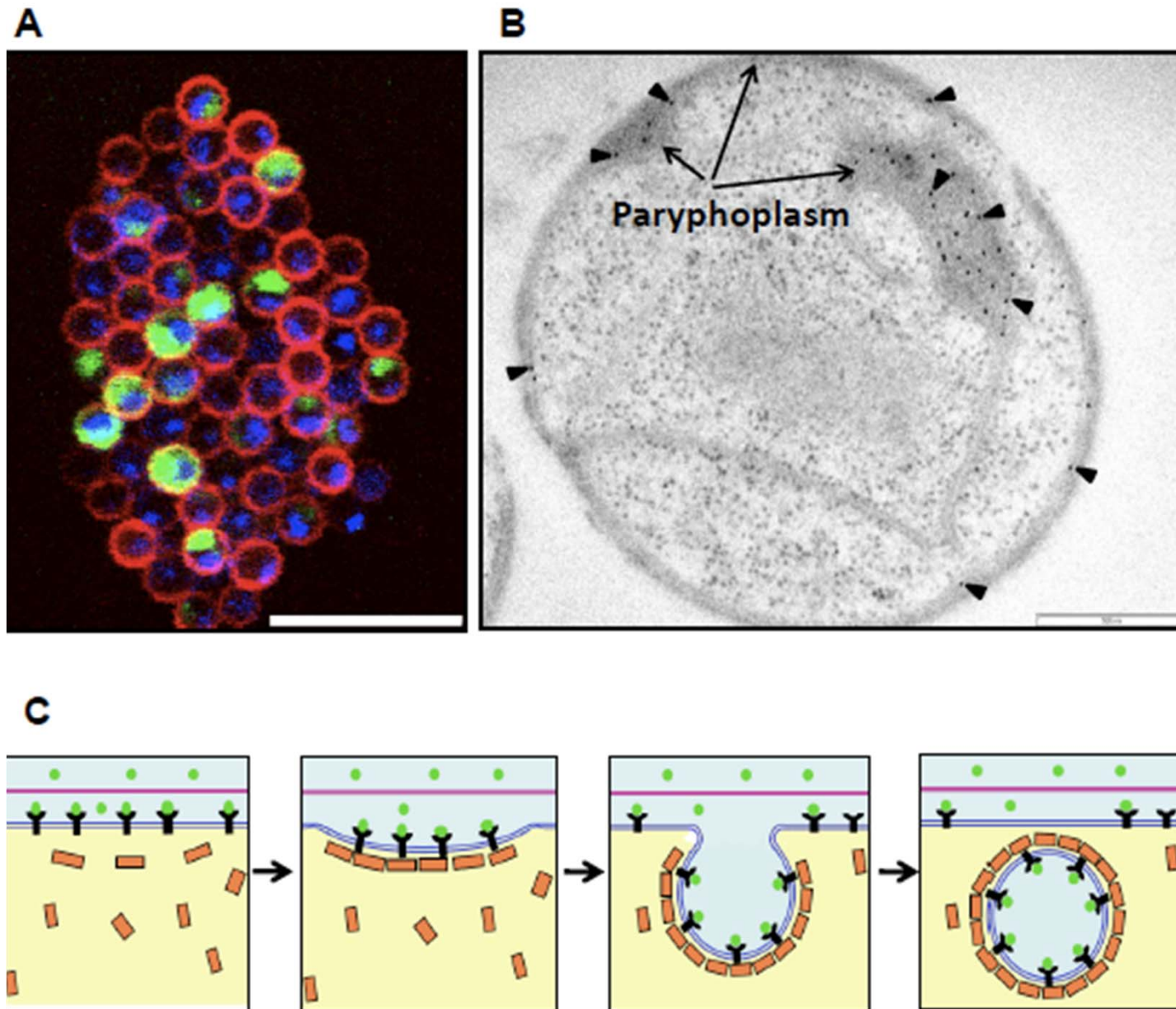


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Acknowledgements

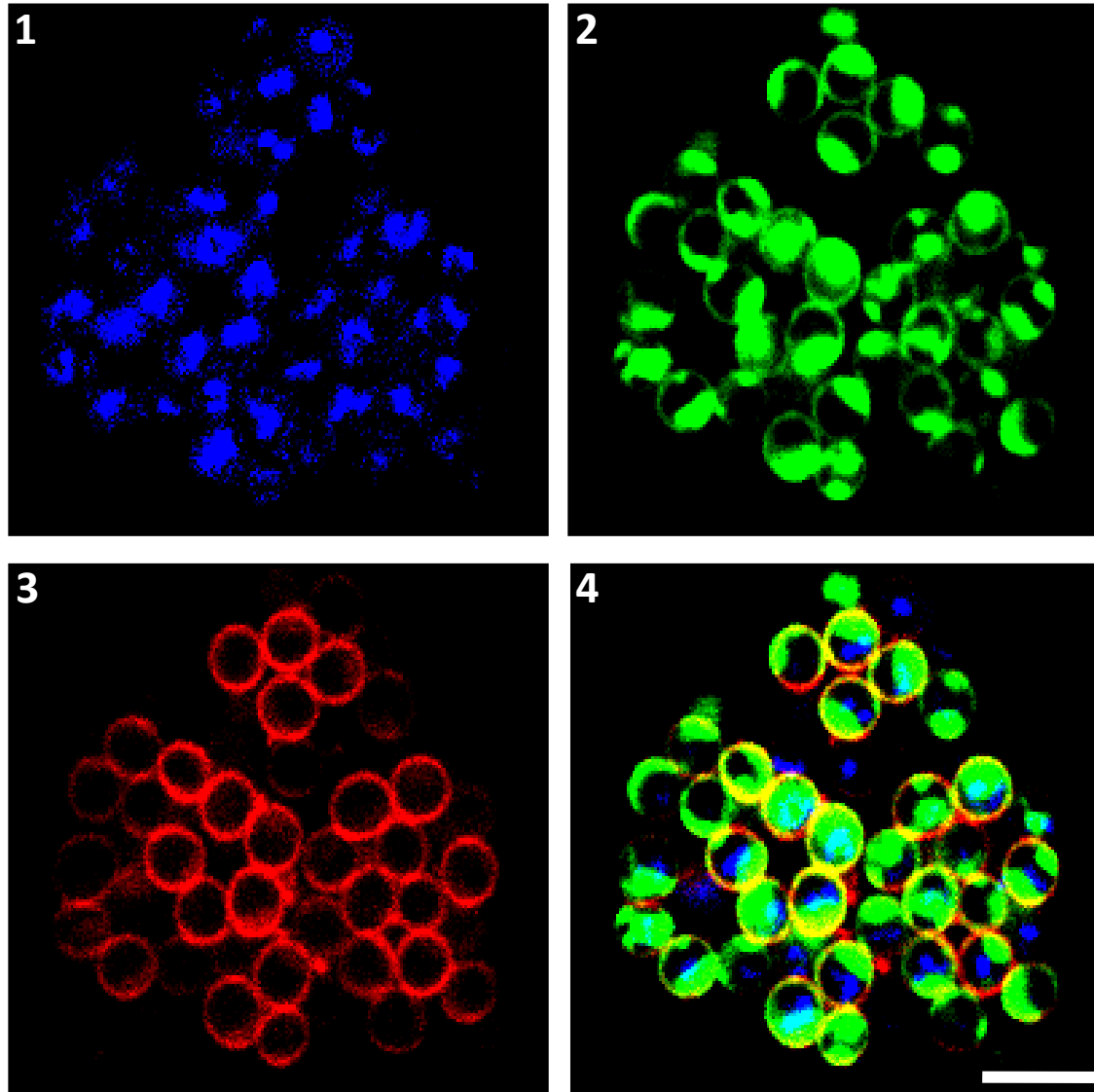
- Australian Research Council
- Evgeny Sagulenko, Benjamin Yee, Jeffery Lee, Margaret Butler
- Collaborators on protein uptake research:
Jody Franke, Mike Rout (Rockefeller University);
Damien Devos (EMBL Heidelberg)
Rick Webb (Centre for Microscopy and Microanalysis, The University of Queensland)

Protein uptake by the planctomycete *Gemmata obscuriglobus*

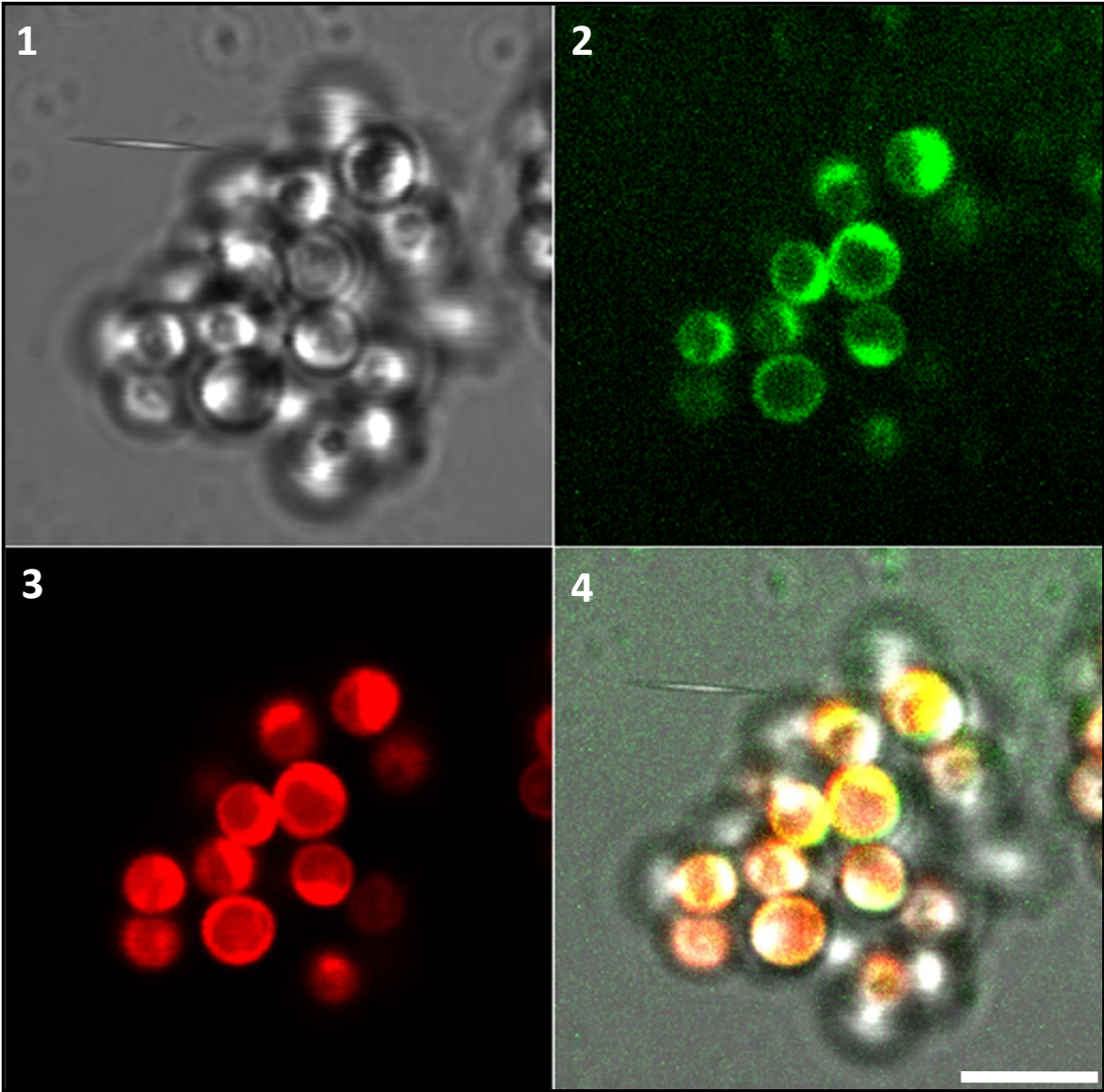


For B&C See: Fuerst, JA and Sagulenko, E. Communicative & Integrative Biology 3:6, 1-4, Nov/Dec 2010

Uptake of FITC-dextran by *Gemmata obscuriglobus* cells

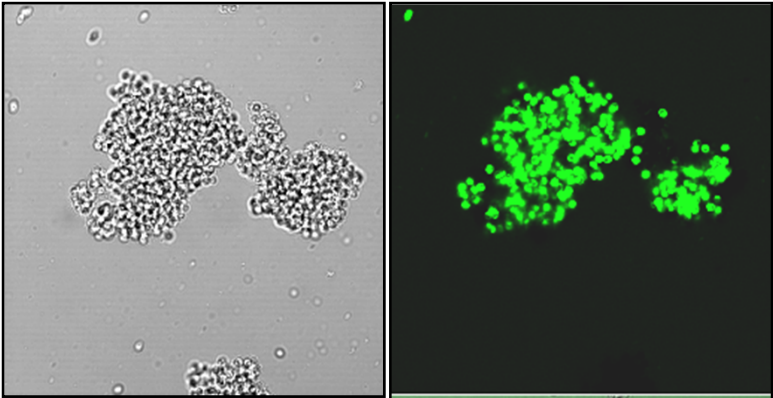


Rhodamine-dextran co-localizes with GFP in the paryphoplasm of *Gemmata obscuriglobus* cells

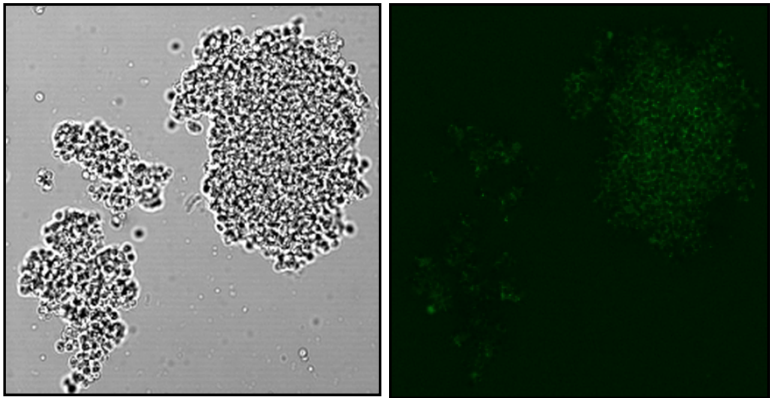


Energy dependent dextran uptake: Low temperature (0°C) and sodium azide inhibit uptake of FITC-dextran by *G.obscuriglobus*

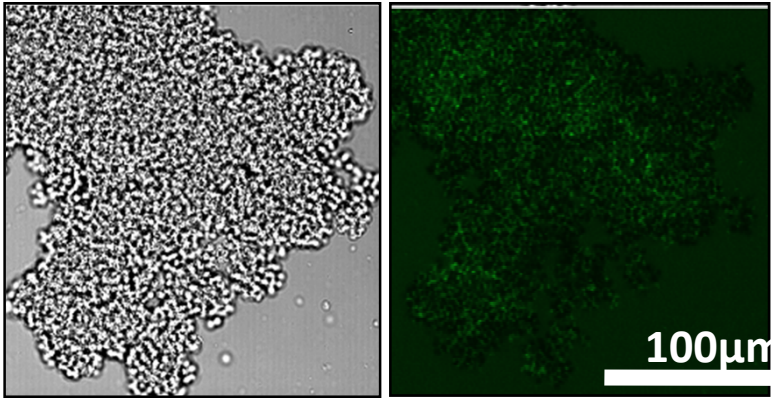
FITC-dextran,
28°C



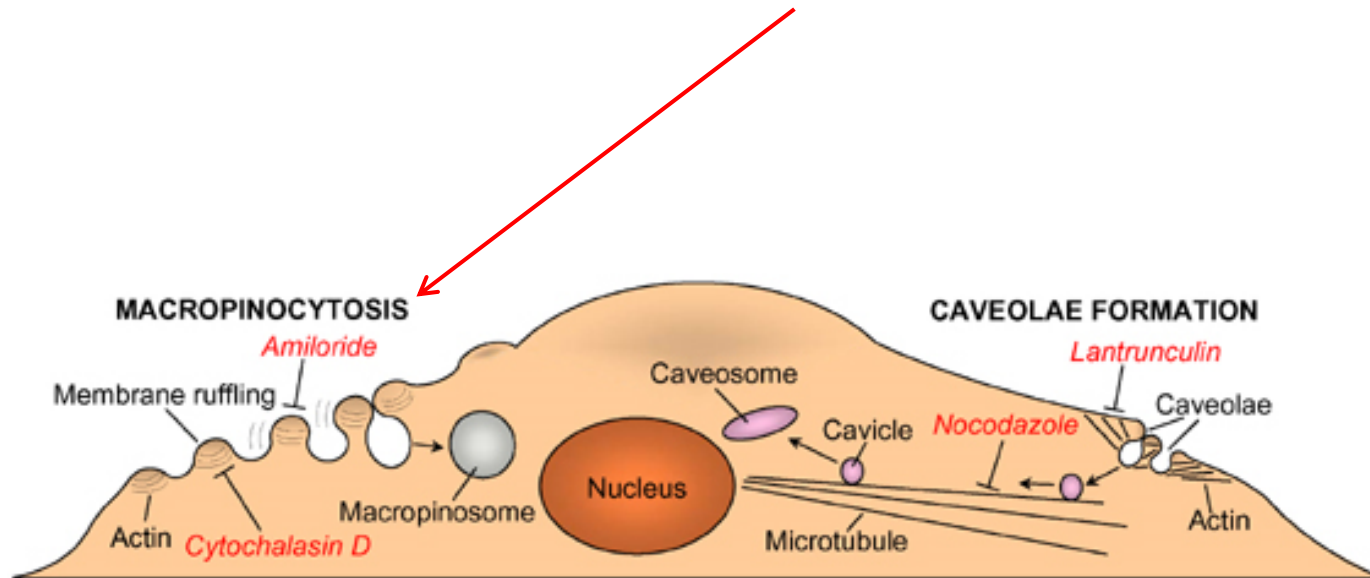
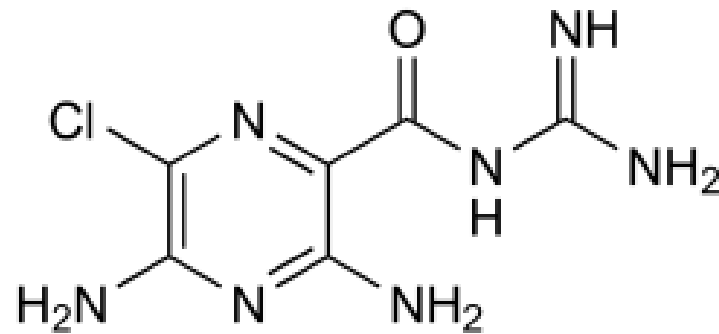
FITC-dextran,
+ sodium azide



FITC-dextran,
0°C

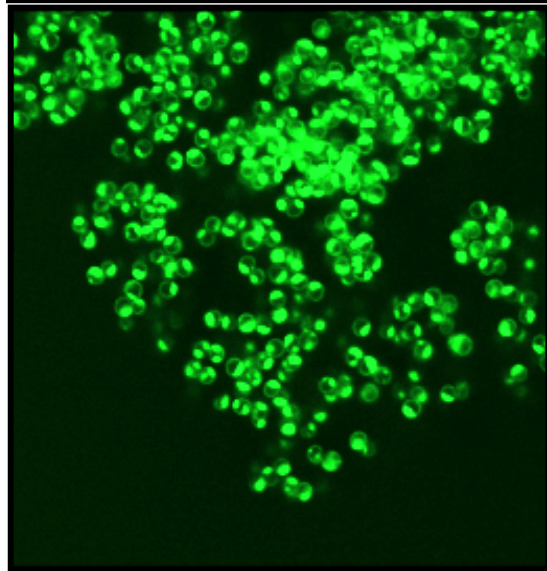
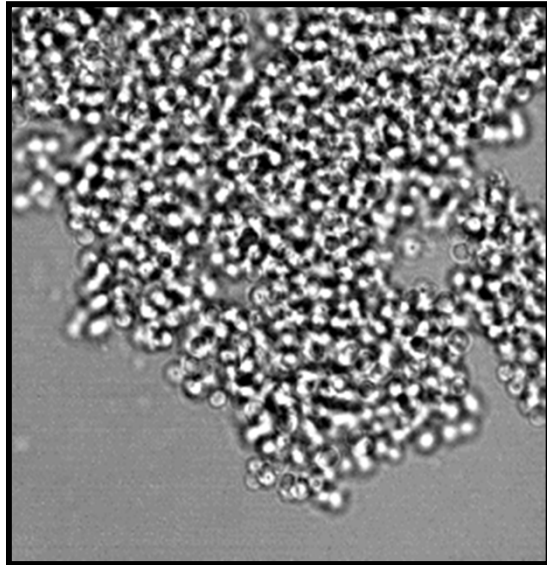


Macropinocytosis is inhibited by amiloride, which blocks the Na^+/H^+ exchanger and inhibits ruffling

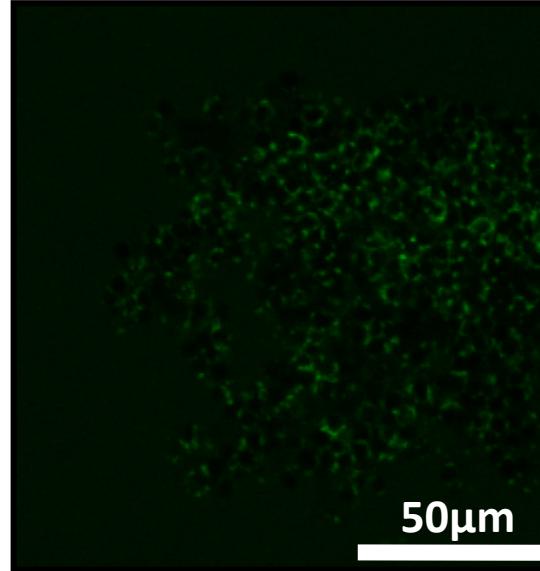
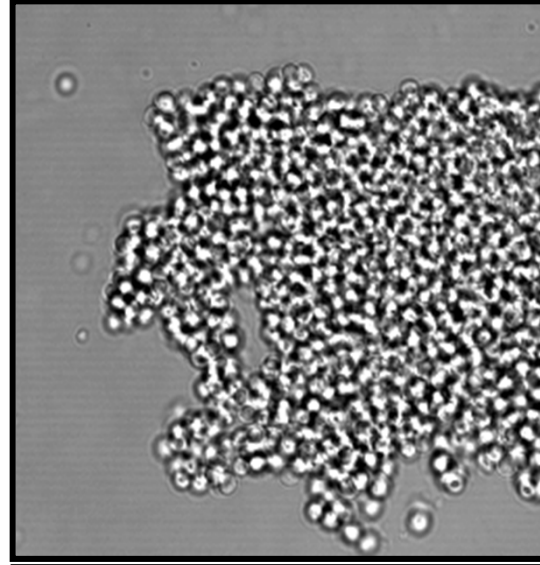


Amiloride inhibits uptake of FITC-dextran by *Gemmata obscuriglobus*

FITC-dextran

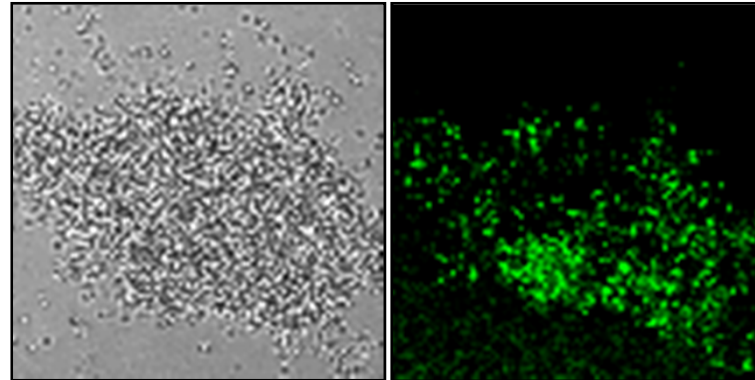


FITC-dextran + amiloride

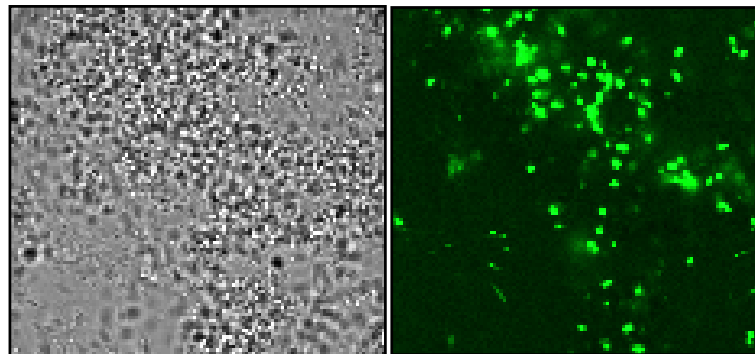


Marine planctomycetes can uptake FITC-dextran

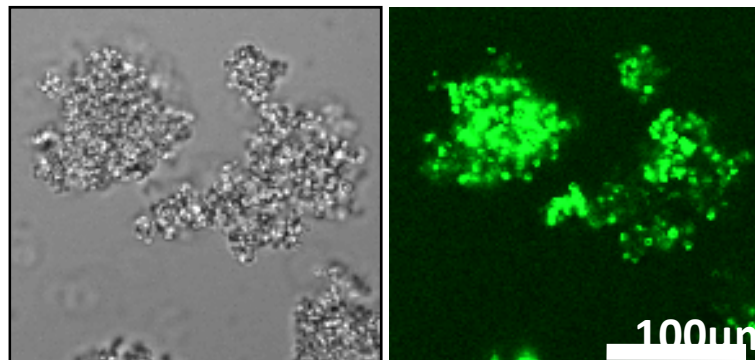
*Pirellula
staleyi*



*Blastopirellula
marina*

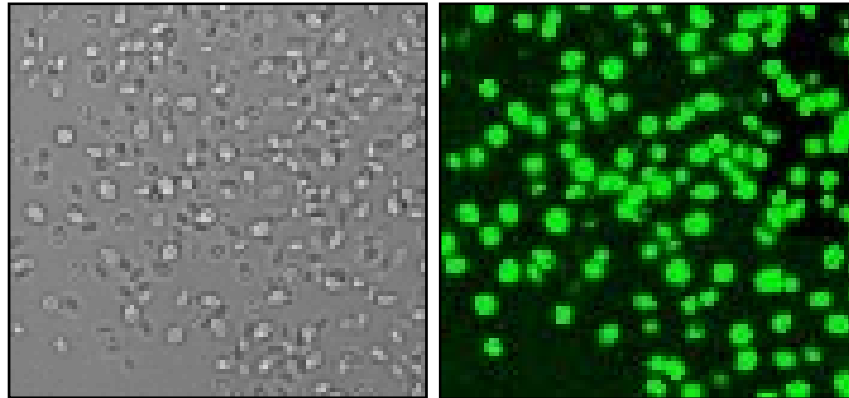


DDSe3013

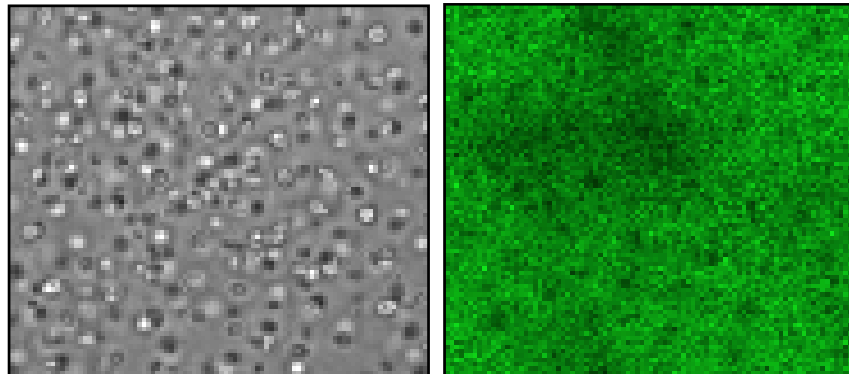


Marine planctomycetes can uptake GFP-dextran only in salt water, freshwater bacteria - only in freshwater

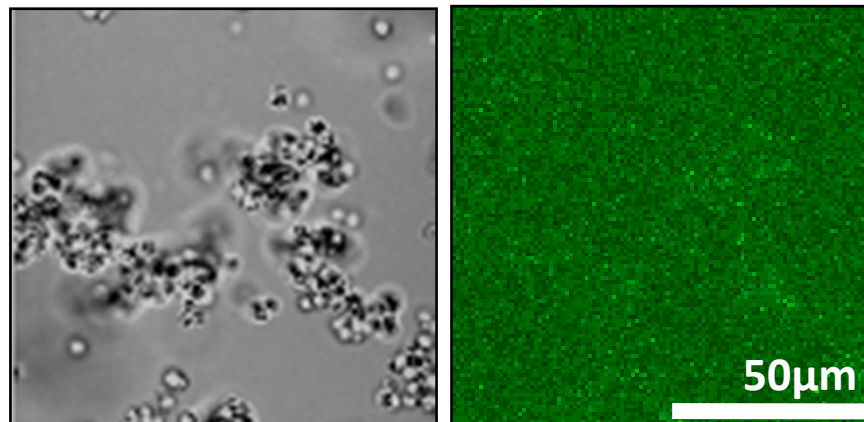
**DDSe3017-
artificial
seawater**



**DDSe3017-
freshwater**

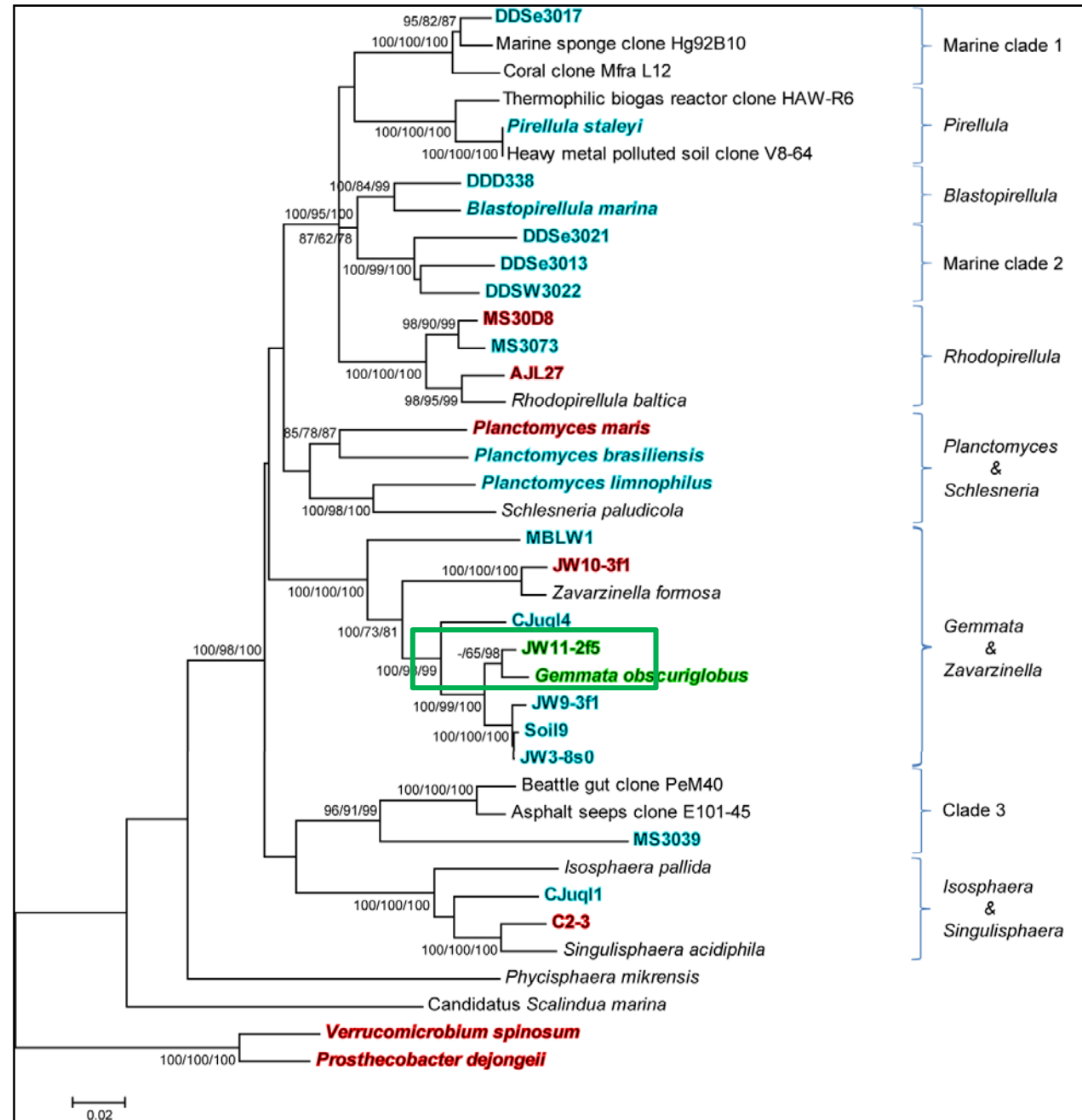


**JW11-2F5-
artificial
seawater**

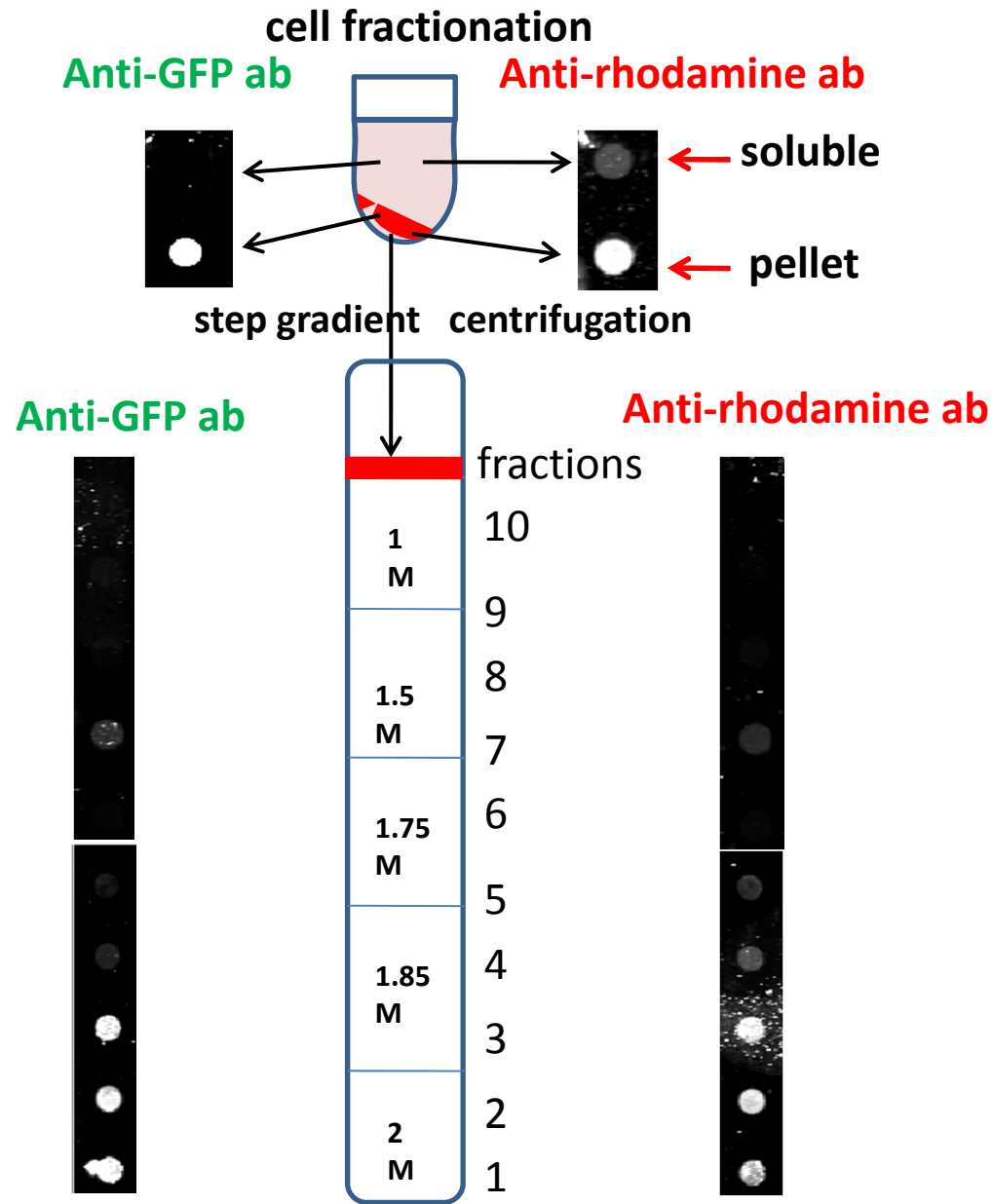


Phylogenetic tree based on 16S rRNA gene of planctomycetes and verrucomicrobia strains tested for macromolecule uptake

Green – take up proteins and dextran;
 Blue – take up dextran, but not proteins;
 Red – take up neither dextran nor protein;
 Black – not tested .



GFP and rhodamine-dextran co-localize to the same lysed cell fraction



Gemmata obscuriglobus cell fractionation and step gradient centrifugation

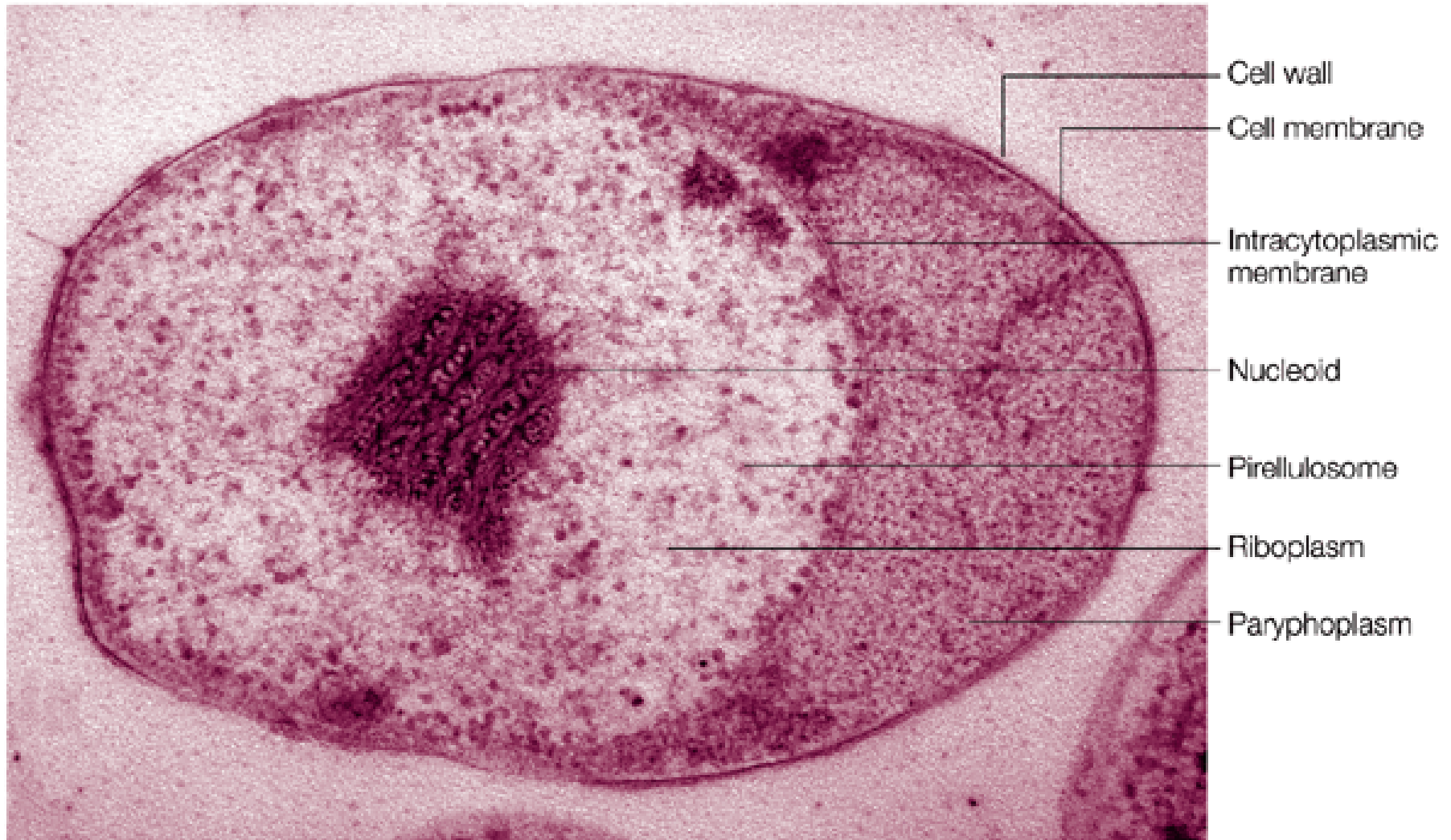
- Forterre's 'unlikely' PTV (planctomycete-thaumarchaea-virus) fusion models of PVC contributions to eukaryality -
- NE could be early & PVC-derived but FECA would still need archaeal contribution? (e.g. thaumarchaea supply actins, ESCRT genes, informational system, PVC supply tubulin, sterols and NE
- Viral contributions needed to explain full eukaryal complexity

A Bacterial model for origin of eukaryote compartmentalization? - The Planctomycetes

Planctomycetes are:

- Members of **Domain Bacteria** (e.g. by 16S rRNA **sequence trees**)
- Form distinct **separate Phylum** within Domain –but may be member of the **'PVC' superphylum**
- Budding, aquatic/soil bacteria
- Cell walls mostly protein - possess **no peptidoglycan** (unlike most other domain Bacteria members)
- All possess **compartments with DNA enveloped by membrane** (single or single+double)
- **Thus – may be analogous or homologous with an early eukaryote?**

Cell plan of *Pirellula* group planctomycetes- TEM of sectioned cryosubstituted cell of *Blastopirellula marina*



From: Nature Reviews Microbiology 1:11-12 (2003)

Nature Reviews | Microbiology

Planctomycete Cell Plans

