

Contents

Preface *xiii*

1	The Bacterial Genome – Where the Genes Are	1
1.1	Genome Philosophy	1
1.2	The Bacterial Chromosome	4
1.3	Chromosome Replication: Initiation	6
1.4	Chromosome Replication: Elongation	11
1.5	Chromosome Replication: Termination	12
1.6	Replication Produces Physically Connected Products	13
1.7	Decatenating the Sister Chromosomes	13
1.8	Resolving Chromosome Dimers	14
1.9	Segregating the Products of Chromosome Replication	15
1.10	Polar Tethering of Chromosome Origins	20
1.11	Some Bacterial Chromosomes Are Linear	20
1.12	Some Bacteria Have More than One Chromosome	21
1.13	Plasmids	22
1.14	Plasmid Replication	22
1.15	Plasmid Segregation	26
1.16	The Nucleoid	28
1.17	The Chromosome Has Looped Domains	29
1.18	The Macrodomain Structure of the Chromosome	29
1.19	The Chromosome Displays Spatial Arrangement Within the Cell	30
1.20	SeqA and Nucleoid Organisation	31
1.21	MukB, a Condensin-Like Protein	32
1.22	MatP, the <i>matS</i> Site and Ter Organisation	33
1.23	MaoP and the <i>maoS</i> Site	34
1.24	SlmA and Nucleoid Occlusion	34
1.25	The Min System and Z Ring Localisation	34
1.26	DNA in the Bacterial Nucleoid	36
1.27	DNA Topology	36
1.28	DNA Topoisomerases: DNA Gyrase	38
1.29	DNA Topoisomerases: DNA Topoisomerase IV	40
1.30	DNA Topoisomerases: DNA Topoisomerase I	40

1.31	DNA Topoisomerases: DNA Topoisomerase III	41
1.32	DNA Replication and Transcription Alter Local DNA Topology	41
1.33	Transcription and Nucleoid Structure	41
1.34	Nucleoid-associated Proteins (NAPs) and Nucleoid Structure	43
1.35	DNA Bending Protein Integration Host Factor (IHF)	44
1.36	HU, a NAP with General DNA-binding Activity	46
1.37	The Very Versatile FIS Protein	47
1.38	FIS and the Early Exponential Phase of Growth	48
1.39	FIS and the Stringent Response	49
1.40	FIS and DNA Topology	49
1.41	Ferritin-Like Dps and the Curved-DNA-binding Protein CbpA	51
1.42	The H-NS Protein: A Silencer of Transcription	53
1.43	StpA: A Parologue of H-NS	57
1.44	H-NS Orthologues Encoded by Plasmids and Phage	58
1.45	H-NSB/Hfp and H-NS2: H-NS Homologues of HGT Origin	58
1.46	A Truncated H-NS-Like Protein	59
1.47	Hha-like Proteins	59
1.48	Other H-NS Homologues: The Ler Protein from EPEC	60
1.49	H-NS Functional Homologues	62
1.50	H-NS Functional Homologues: Rok from <i>Bacillus</i> spp.	63
1.51	H-NS Functional Homologues: Lsr2 from Actinomycetes	63
1.52	H-NS Functional Homologues: MvaT from <i>Pseudomonas</i> spp.	63
1.53	The Leucine-responsive Regulatory Protein, LRP	64
1.54	Small, Acid-soluble Spore Proteins, SASPs	65
2	Conservation and Evolution of the Dynamic Genome	67
2.1	Disruptive Influences: Mutations	67
2.2	Repetitive Sequences in the Chromosome and Their Influence on Genetic Stability	69
2.3	Contingency Loci and the Generation of Microbial Variety	70
2.4	Rhs: Rearrangement Hotspots	71
2.5	REP Sequences	72
2.6	RIB/RIP, BIME-1, and BIME-2 Elements	73
2.7	ERIC Sequences	73
2.8	Repeat-Mediated Rearrangements: Mechanisms and Frequency	74
2.9	Site-specific Recombination and Phenotypic Variety	74
2.10	Site-Specific Recombination: Bacteriophage Lambda	75
2.11	The Lambda Lysis/Lysogeny Decision	76
2.12	Tyrosine Integrases	77
2.13	Serine Invertases	78
2.14	Large Serine Recombinases	79
2.15	Transposition and Transposable Elements	80
2.16	Pathways of Transposition	82
2.17	Peel-and-paste Transposition	85
2.18	Control of Transposition	88

2.19	Host Factors and Transposition	91
2.20	Integrative and Conjugative Elements (ICE)	91
2.21	Integrations	93
2.22	Introns	96
2.23	Horizontal Gene Transfer	96
2.24	Distinguishing Self from Non-self	99
2.25	Distinguishing Self and Non-self: CRISPR-Cas Systems	99
2.26	Distinguishing Self and Non-self: Argonaute Proteins	102
2.27	Distinguishing Self and Non-self: Restriction Enzymes/Methylases	103
2.28	Distinguishing Self and Non-self: BREX	103
2.29	Self-sacrifice and Other Behaviours Involving Toxin—antitoxin Systems	104
2.30	Conservative Forces: DNA Repair and Homologous Recombination	104
2.31	The RecA Protein	105
2.32	RecA, LexA, and the SOS Response	106
2.33	Holliday Junction Resolution	108
2.34	Mismatch Repair	109
2.35	Non-homologous End Joining	110
3	Gene Control: Transcription and Its Regulation	113
3.1	Transcription: More Than Just Transcribing Genetic Information	113
3.2	RNA Polymerase	113
3.3	The Core Enzyme	114
3.4	The Sigma Factors (and Anti-Sigma Factors)	116
3.5	Promoter Architecture	120
3.6	Stringently Regulated Promoters	120
3.7	Transcription Factors and RNA Polymerase	121
3.8	Transcription Initiation	124
3.9	Transcription Elongation	125
3.10	Transcription Termination: Intrinsic and Rho-Dependent Terminators	127
3.11	Rho and Imported Genes	128
3.12	Rho, R-Loops, and DNA Supercoiling	128
3.13	Rho and Antisense Transcripts	128
3.14	Anti-Termination: Insights from Phage Studies	129
3.15	Transcription Occurs in Bursts	129
4	Gene Control: Regulation at the RNA Level	133
4.1	Antisense Transcripts and Gene Regulation <i>in cis</i>	134
4.2	RNA that Regulates <i>in trans</i>	134
4.3	DsrA and the RpoS/H-NS Link	138
4.4	sRNA Turnover	140
4.5	DEAD-box Proteins	140
4.6	RNA Chaperone Proteins	141
4.7	StpA, H-NS, and RNA Binding	142

4.8	Degradation of mRNA	143
4.9	RNA Folding and Gene Regulation	144
4.10	Transcription Attenuation	145
4.11	Riboswitches	145
4.12	RNA as a Structural Component in the Nucleoid	146
5	Gene Control: Regulation at the Protein Level	149
5.1	Control Beyond DNA and RNA	149
5.2	Translation Machinery and Control: tRNA and rRNA	149
5.3	Translation Machinery and Control: The Ribosome	150
5.4	Translation Initiation	152
5.5	Translation Elongation	154
5.6	Elongation Factor P (EF-P)	155
5.7	Translation Termination	156
5.8	Protein Secretion	157
5.9	Protein Secretion: The Sec Pathway	157
5.10	The Twin Arginine Translocation (Tat) Pathway of Protein Secretion	159
5.11	Type 1 Secretion Systems (T1SS)	160
5.12	Type 2 Secretion Systems (T2SS)	161
5.13	Type 3 Secretion Systems (T3SS)	162
5.14	Type 4 Secretion Systems (T4SS)	164
5.15	Type 5 Secretion Systems (T5SS): The Autotransporters	165
5.16	Type 6 Secretion Systems (T6SS)	166
5.17	Protein Secretion in Gram-Positive Bacteria: SecA1, SecA2, and SrtA	167
5.18	Type 7 Secretion Systems (T7SS)	168
5.19	Protein Modification: Acetylation	168
5.20	Protein Modification: Glycosylation	169
5.21	Protein Modification: Phosphorylation	169
5.22	Protein Splicing	171
5.23	Small Proteins	172
5.24	Selenocysteine and Pyrrolysine: The 21st and 22nd Amino Acids	173
6	Gene Control and Bacterial Physiology	175
6.1	The Bacterial Growth Cycle	175
6.2	Physiology Changes Throughout the Growth Cycle	176
6.3	Generating Physiological Variety from Genetic Homogeneity	178
6.4	Bacterial Economics – Some Basic Principles	179
6.5	Carbon Sources and Metabolism	180
6.6	Gene Control and Carbon Source Utilisation	183
6.7	Anaerobic Respiration	183
6.8	ArcA, Mobile Genetic Elements, and HGT	184
6.9	Stress and Stress Survival in Bacterial Life	185
6.10	Oxygen Stress	185
6.11	Iron Starvation	186
6.12	Siderophores and Iron Capture	188

6.13	TonB-Dependent Transporters	188
6.14	Gene Regulation and Iron Transport	190
6.15	Iron Storage and Homeostasis	191
6.16	Osmotic Stress and Water Relations in Bacteria	191
6.17	Signal Molecules and Stress	193
6.18	The Stringent Response	194
6.19	Regulation of the Acid Stress Response	196
6.20	Alkaline pH Stress Response	200
6.21	Motility and Chemotaxis	201
6.22	Quorum Sensing	203
6.23	Biofilms	205
6.24	'Cheating' as a Lifestyle Strategy	206
6.25	Thermal Regulation	207
6.26	Epigenomics and Phasevarions	209
6.27	Some Unifying Themes	210
7	Gene Control: Global Regulation by H-NS	211
7.1	H-NS Is a Global Regulator	211
7.2	H-NS and Foreign DNA	211
7.3	H-NS and Xenogenic Silencing: Three Case Studies	212
7.4	The H-NS Virulence Regulon in <i>Vibrio cholerae</i>	212
7.5	HGT in <i>V. cholerae</i> : The CTX ϕ Phage and the VPI1 Island	213
7.6	The ToxRS, ToxT, TcpPH Regulatory Network	215
7.7	Control by VpsR, VpsT, and HapR	215
7.8	Quorum Sensing and Cholera	217
7.9	Chitin and HGT	217
7.10	The H-NS Virulence Regulon in <i>Shigella flexneri</i>	219
7.11	<i>Shigella</i> Infection	221
7.12	The VirF AraC-Like Transcription Factor	222
7.13	VirB: A Recruit from a Plasmid-Partitioning System	222
7.14	The <i>Shigella</i> Virulence Plasmid	223
7.15	The <i>Salmonella</i> H-NS Virulence Gene Regulon	223
7.16	<i>Salmonella</i> 's Pathogenicity Islands (SPI)	224
7.17	SlyA, PhoP/Q, and SPI Gene Expression	227
7.18	Gene Control in SPI1 and SPI2	227
8	An Integrated View of Genome Structure and Function	231
8.1	Networks versus Hierarchies	231
8.2	Regulons, Stimulons, and Heterarchies/Netarchies	232
8.3	Transcription Burstiness and Regulatory Noise	233
8.4	The Significance of Gene Position	234
8.5	Messenger RNA May Not Be Free to Diffuse Far in Bacteria	236
8.6	RNA Polymerase Activity and Genome Organisation	237
8.7	Gene-Gene Interactions in the Folded Chromosome	239
8.8	DNA Supercoiling as a Global Regulator	240

8.9	Modelling the Nucleoid	243
8.10	Synthetic Biology	243

References 247

Index 379