



- Identify the components of DNA
- Know that traits are determined by proteins that are built according to instructions coded in DNA
- Summarize the process of DNA replication
- Understand that enzymes proofread the newly synthesized DNA correcting mistakes

— Menu —	
History of DNA	
Structure	
Nucleotides	
DNA Replication	
Enzymes Involved in Replication	
Leading & Lagging Strands	
Semi-Conservative Replication & Proofreading DNA	

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History of DNA

History of DNA

- Early scientists thought protein was the cell's hereditary material because it was more complex than DNA
- Proteins were composed of 20 different amino acids in long polypeptide chains
- Griffith Transformation:
 - → Fred Griffith worked with virulent S and non-virulent R strain Pneumococcus bacteria
 - → He found that R strain could become virulent when it took in DNA from heat-killed S strain
 - → Study suggested that DNA was probably the genetic material
- Hershey & Chase
 - → Chromosomes are made of both DNA and protein
 - → Experiments on bacteriophage viruses by Hershey & Chase proved that DNA was the cell's genetic material

Frederick Griffith





Martha Chase /

Alfred Hershey





Experimentation



Griffith's Transformation





DNA Structure



DNA Structure:

- Erwin Chargaff showed the amounts of the four bases on DNA (A,T,C,G)
- In a body or somatic cell:
 - → A = 30.3%
 - → T = 30.3%
 - → G = 19.5%
 - → C = 19.9%
- Chargaff's Rule:
 - → Adenine must pair with Thymine
 - → Guanine must pair with Cytosine





DNA Structure Continued

- The bases are held together by weak hydrogen bonds
- DNA's First Photograph
 - Rosalind Franklin took diffraction x-ray photographs of DNA crystals
 - → In the 1950's, Watson & Crick built the first model of DNA using Franklin's X-rays



Francis Crick

James Watson









DNA Structure Continued



Structure

- Two strands coiled called a **double helix**
- Sides made of a pentose sugar Deoxyribose bonded to phosphate (PO4) groups by phosphodiester bonds
- Center made of nitrogen bases bonded together by weak
 hydrogen bonds
- Helix
 - Most DNA (B-DNA) has a right-hand twist with 10
 base pairs in a complete turn
 - → Left twisted DNA is called Z-DNA or southpaw DNA
 - \rightarrow Hot spots occur where right and left twisted DNA

meet producing mutations



DNA Structure Continued





Nucleotides

Nucleotides

- DNA Stands for Deoxyribonucleic acid
- Made up of subunits called nucleotides
- Nucleotide made of:
 - → Phosphate group
 - → 5-carbon sugar
 - → Nitrogenous base (genetic code)
- Double ring PURINES
 - \rightarrow Adenine (A)
 - → Guanine (G)

- Single ring PYRIMIDINES
 - \rightarrow Thymine (T)
 - → Cytosine (C)
- Base Pairings
 - → Purines only pair with Pyrimidines
 - → Three hydrogen bonds required to bond Guanine to Cytosine
 - → Two hydrogen bonds are required to bond Adenine to Thymine
 - → These are what allows for DNA to be copied exactly





Nucleotides Continued

Nucleotide Structure





Base Pairing



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DNA Replication

DNA Replication:

- DNA has to be copied before a cell divides
- DNA is copied during the **S or synthesis phase** of **interphase**
- New cells will need identical DNA strands
 - → Occurs in the Nucleus of eukaryotes
 - → Replication Fork -
 - Begins at Origins of Replication Two strands open forming
 - Replication Forks: (Y-shaped region)
 - New strands grow at the forks
 - ➔ Replication Bubbles
 - □ As the 2 DNA strands open at the origin, Replication Bubbles form
 - **Eukaryotic** chromosomes have **MANY** bubbles
 - Prokaryotes (bacteria) have a single bubble





Enzymes for Replication

01 Helicase

- Enzyme: Helicase unwinds and separates the 2 DNA strands by breaking the weak hydrogen bonds.
- Single-Strand Binding
 Proteins attach and
 keep the 2 DNA
 strands separated and
 untwisted

- 02 Topoisomerase
- Topoisomerase
- → Enzyme:
 - Topoisomerase attaches to the 2 forks of the
 - bubble to relieve
 - stress on the DNA
 - molecule as it
 - separates

- 03 RNA Primase
- RNA Primers and Primase
- → Before new DNA strands can form, there must be
 RNA primers present to
 start the addition of new
 nucleotides
- Primase is the enzyme
 that synthesizes the RNA
 Primer
- → DNA polymerase can then add the new nucleotides

- 04 DNA Polymerase
- DNA Polymerase
 - → DNA polymerase
 can only add
 nucleotides to the
 - 3' end of the DNA
 - → This causes the NEW strand to be built in a 5' to 3'
 - direction

05

- Ligase
- DNA Ligase
 - → Okazaki Fragments series of short segments on the lagging strand
 - → Okazaki Fragments
 must be joined
 together by an enzyme
 DNA Ligase



Helicase & Topoisomerase





RNA Primase





DNA Polymerase











Leading & Lagging Strands

The Leading Strand - (continuous)

→ is synthesized as a single strand from the point of origin toward the opening replication fork

Lagging Strand: (discontinuous)

- → The Lagging Strand is synthesized discontinuously against overall direction of replication
- → This strand is made in MANY short segments It is replicated from the replication fork toward the origin
- → Okazaki Fragments series of short segments on the lagging strand





Semi-Conservative Replication & Proofreading



Semiconservative Model for Replication

- → Idea presented by Watson & Crick
- → The two strands of the parental molecule separate, and each acts as a template for a new complementary strand
- → New DNA consists of 1 PARENTAL (original) and 1 NEW strand of DNA

Proofreading DNA

- → DNA polymerase initially makes about 1:10,000 base pairing errors
- → Enzymes proofread and correct these mistakes
- → The new error rate for DNA that has been proofread is 1 in 1 billion base pairing errors



DNA Damage & Repair

DNA Damage & Repair:

- → Chemicals & ultraviolet radiation damage the DNA in our body cells
- → Cells must continuously repair DAMAGED DNA
- → Excision repair occurs when any of over 50 repair enzymes remove damaged parts of DNA
- → DNA polymerase and DNA ligase replace and bond the new nucleotides together





DNA Replication Summary





Introduction to Gel Electrophoresis

- **Definition** and purpose of gel electrophoresis
 - Gel electrophoresis is a laboratory
 technique used to separate DNA
 fragments or other macromolecules
 based on their size and charge.
 - → The purpose of gel electrophoresis is to analyze and study DNA samples, identify genetic variations, and determine fragment sizes.





Importance of Gel Electrophoresis

- Importance and applications in biology research and DNA analysis
- → Gel electrophoresis is a fundamental tool in molecular biology research.
- → It is used in DNA fingerprinting, genetic profiling, paternity testing, and forensic investigations.
- → It is essential for studying gene expression, analyzing protein samples, and characterizing DNA mutations.





Principles of Gel Electrophoresis

Principles of Gel Electrophoresis

- Charge and size of DNA molecules
- → DNA molecules are **negatively** charged due to the **phosphate** groups in their structure.
- → Smaller DNA fragments migrate faster through the gel than larger fragments.
- Agarose gel as the separation matrix
- → Agarose gel is a polysaccharide derived from seaweed, used as the medium for gel electrophoresis.
- → It forms a porous gel matrix that slows down the movement of DNA fragments, allowing for separation based on size.





The Setup

- Electrophoretic apparatus and components (gel box, power supply, electrodes)
- → The electrophoretic apparatus consists of a gel box that holds the gel, a power supply to generate an electric field, and electrodes (anode and cathode).
- → The anode attracts the negatively charged DNA fragments, while the cathode repels them, causing them to migrate through the gel.





Step-by-Step



Procedure of Gel Electrophoresis

- Preparation of the agarose gel
- → Agarose powder is mixed with a buffer solution, heated, and poured into a gel tray with comb indentations to create wells for sample loading.
- \rightarrow The gel is allowed to solidify and form a gel matrix.
- Loading the DNA samples onto the gel wells
 - → DNA samples are mixed with a loading buffer that provides density and a tracking dye.
 - → The mixture is carefully loaded into the wells of the gel using a micropipette.
- Running the electrophoresis
 - → The gel tray is placed in the electrophoretic apparatus, submerged in a **buffer solution** that conducts electricity.
- → The power supply is turned on to apply an electric field across the gel, causing the DNA fragments to migrate.



Step-by-Step Cont'

• Staining the gel to visualize DNA

bands

- → After electrophoresis, the gel is stained with a DNA-specific dye, such as ethidium bromide.
- → The dye binds to the DNA fragments, and the gel is illuminated with UV
 light to visualize the fluorescent DNA
 bands.





Data Interpretation

Interpretation of Gel Electrophoresis Results

- Identifying DNA bands on the gel
- → DNA fragments of different sizes appear as distinct bands on the gel.
- → Each band represents a specific fragment size.
- Understanding the relationship between DNA fragment size and migration distance
- → Smaller DNA fragments migrate farther through the gel, while larger fragments stay closer to the sample well.
- Using DNA markers as a reference for fragment size determination
- → **DNA markers** are **known fragments** of different sizes that are loaded alongside the samples.
- → By comparing the migration distances of the DNA bands with those of the markers, the size of unknown DNA fragments can be estimated.



Data Interpretation - cont'





Analysis of Electrophoresis

Analysis and Applications of Gel Electrophoresis

- Comparing DNA samples for genetic variation
- → Gel electrophoresis can be used to compare DNA samples from different individuals or species to identify genetic variations or similarities.
- DNA fingerprinting and forensic applications
- → Gel electrophoresis is employed in DNA fingerprinting to create unique genetic profiles for individuals.
- → It plays a crucial role in forensic investigations by comparing crime scene DNA with suspects' DNA.
- Studying gene expression and protein analysis
- → Gel electrophoresis is used to analyze gene expression by separating and visualizing RNA transcripts (through reverse transcription).
- → It is also used in protein analysis to separate and identify proteins based on their size and charge.





Troubleshooting

Troubleshooting and Experimental Considerations

- Common issues during gel electrophoresis and possible solutions
- → Issues like smearing, distorted bands, or insufficient separation can occur.
- → Troubleshooting steps include adjusting gel concentration, running voltage, or buffer composition.
- Factors affecting DNA migration (voltage, gel concentration, buffer composition)
- → The voltage applied, the concentration of agarose gel, and the buffer composition can influence the rate and resolution of DNA migration.



Ethical Considerations

Ethical Considerations and Safety Measures

- Ethical considerations in DNA analysis and research
 - → The responsible use of DNA analysis, considering privacy, consent, and potential misuse of genetic information.
 - → Privacy:
 - Individuals have the right to keep their genetic information private. Researchers and institutions must ensure that proper safeguards are in place to protect the confidentiality of DNA data.
 - Genetic information should be stored securely and only accessible to authorized personnel to prevent unauthorized use or disclosure.
 - Anonymization techniques can be employed to remove personal identifiers from genetic data, ensuring that individuals cannot be identified solely based on their DNA information.





Ethical Considerations - cont'

→ Consent:

- Informed consent is essential before obtaining and using DNA samples for analysis. Individuals should be fully informed about the purpose, potential risks, and benefits of the study or analysis.
- Researchers must obtain explicit consent from participants, ensuring they understand how their genetic information will be used, who will have access to it, and how long it will be retained.
- Consent should be voluntary, and individuals should have the right to withdraw their consent at any time, with the assurance that their genetic data will be appropriately handled.





Ethical Considerations - cont'

→ Potential Misuse:

- Genetic information can reveal sensitive and personal details about individuals, such as susceptibility to certain diseases or inherited traits. It is essential to prevent the misuse of this information.
- Genetic discrimination is a concern, where individuals may face discrimination in employment, insurance coverage, or access to certain services based on their genetic information. Safeguards should be in place to protect against such discrimination.
- Genetic information should not be used for purposes beyond the scope of the study or analysis without explicit consent. It should not be shared with third parties without proper authorization.
- Proper handling and disposal of chemicals and hazardous materials
 - Safety precautions to prevent exposure to hazardous chemicals and proper disposal of biohazardous materials used in gel electrophoresis.







Thank you!

Do you have any questions? instructor@email.com xxx-xxx-xxxx x-xxxx

