

# Predicting and Combating Pathogenic and Abiotic Disruptions to Diverse Microbiomes



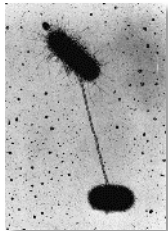
Gautam Dantas, PhD

Professor

Department of Pathology & Immunology

Department of Biomedical Engineering

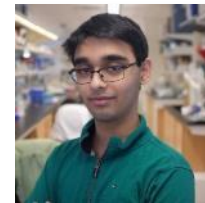
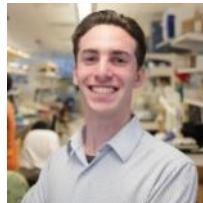
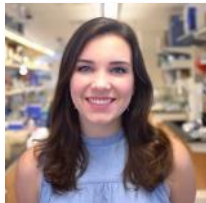
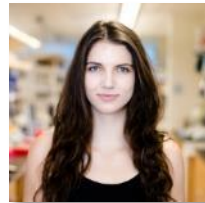
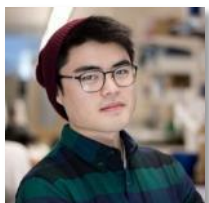
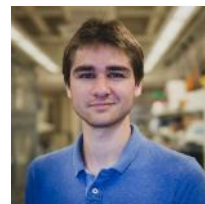
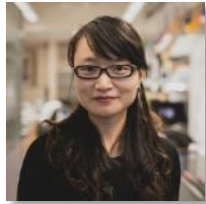
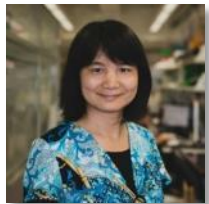
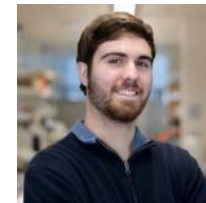
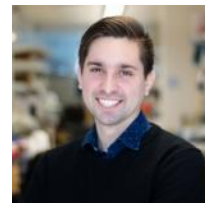
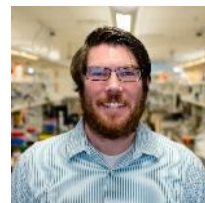
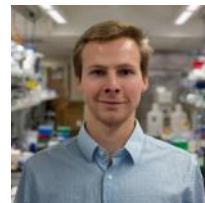
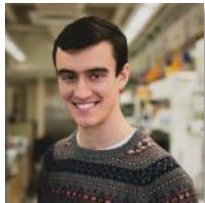
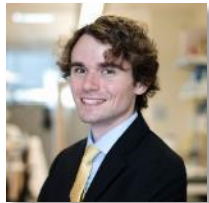
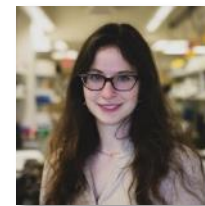
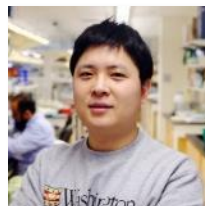
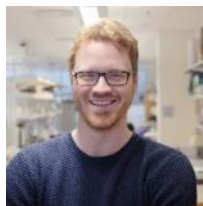
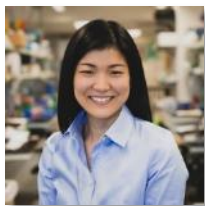
Department of Molecular Microbiology



# DANTAS LAB

 Washington University in St. Louis

[www.dantaslab.org](http://www.dantaslab.org)



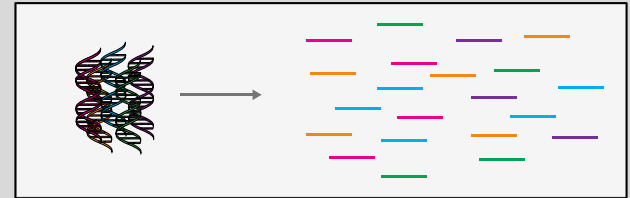
# Methods for studying antibiotic resistance in microbial communities

## KNOWN






### CULTURE & PHENOTYPE

- Clinical resistance levels
- Direct clone to (multidrug) resistance connection
- Culture bias

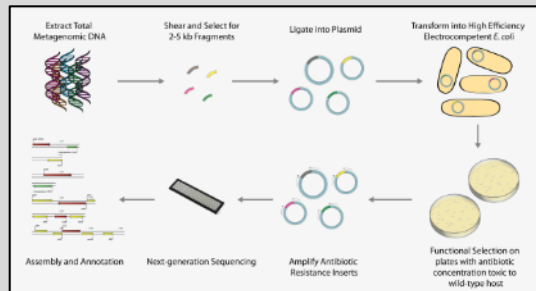


### SHOTGUN METAGENOME SEQUENCING

- No culture bias
- Large sampling depth
- **Only previously identified genes**
- Relative abundance

-  Known, Readily Cultured
-  Known, Not Readily Cultured
-  Unknown

Antibiotic Resistance Reservoir (**RESISTOME**)



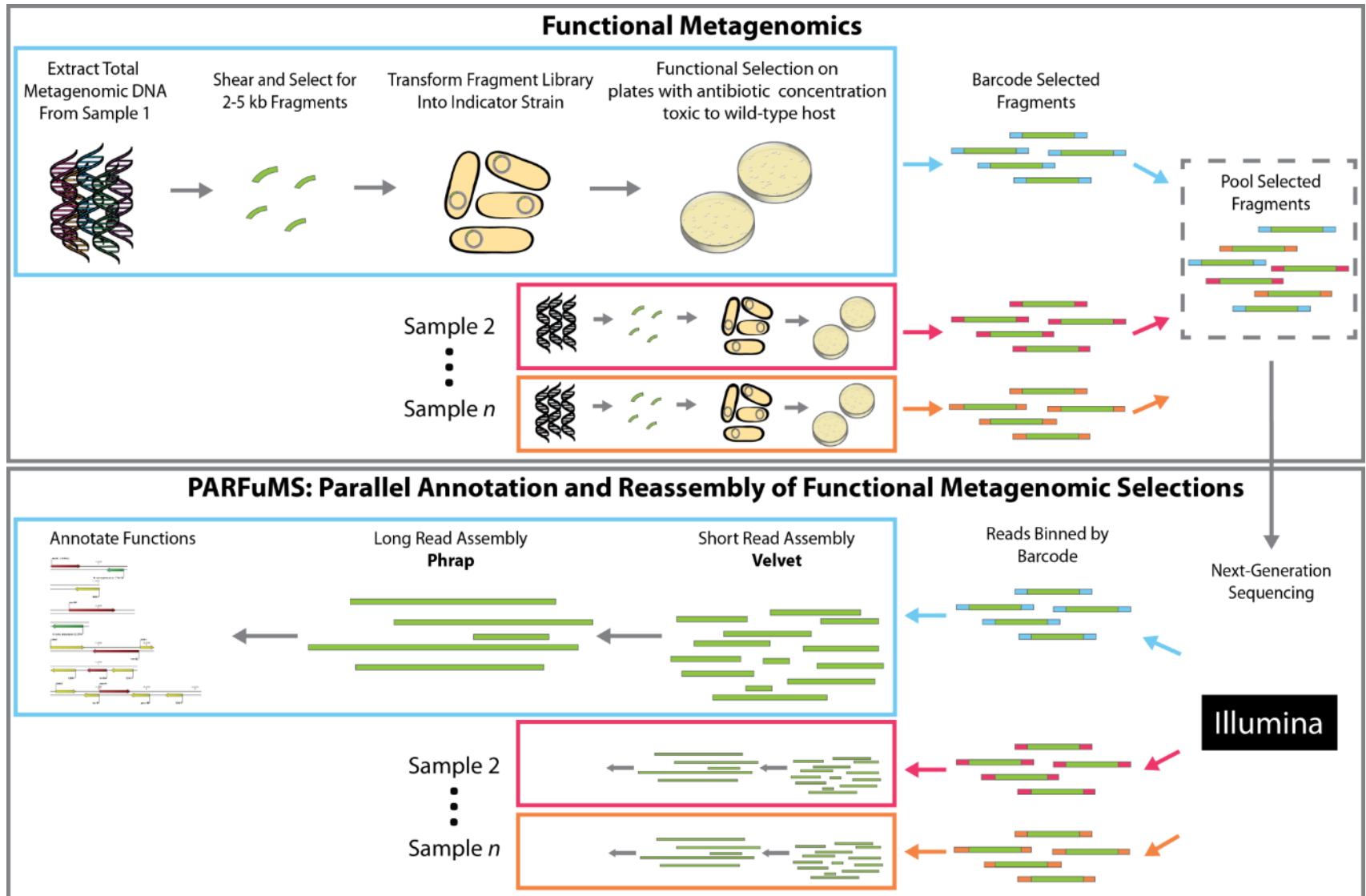
### FUNCTIONAL METAGENOMIC SELECTIONS

- No culture bias
- Large sampling depth
- **Function confirmed**
- **Can identify novel genes**

## UNKNOWN

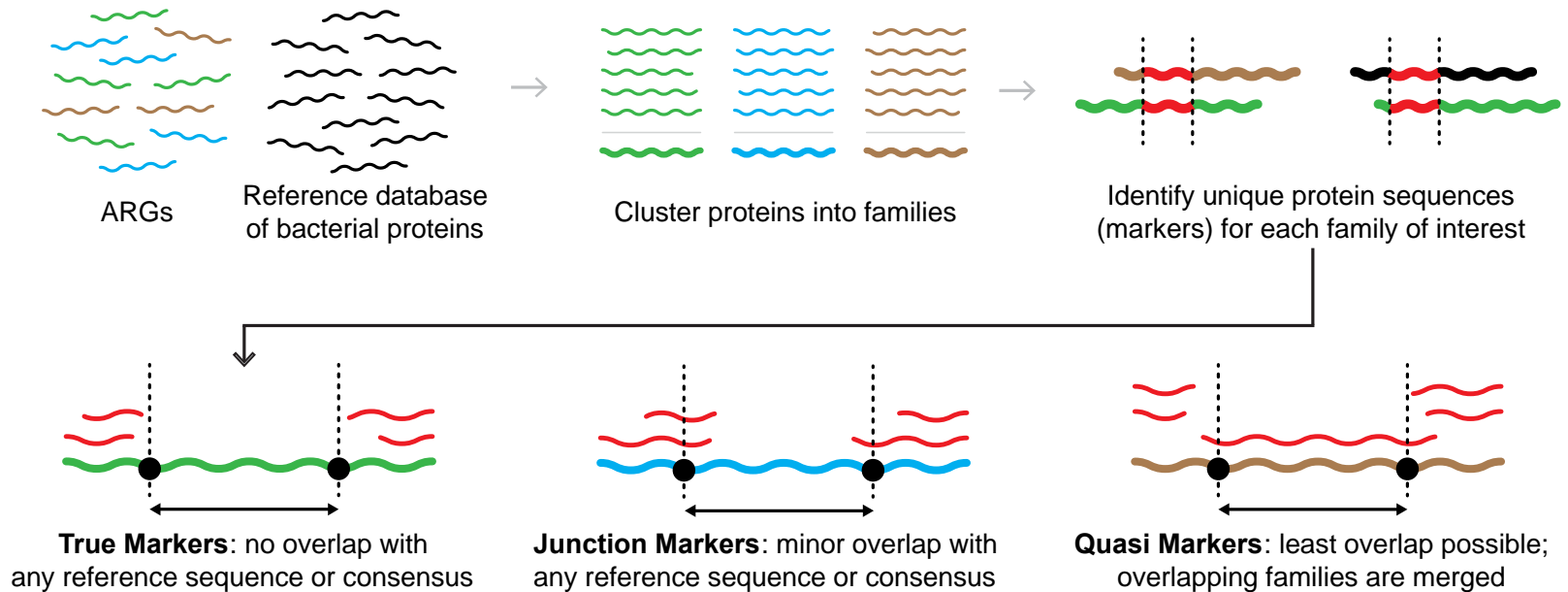


# Increasing functional metagenomic throughput via next-gen sequencing

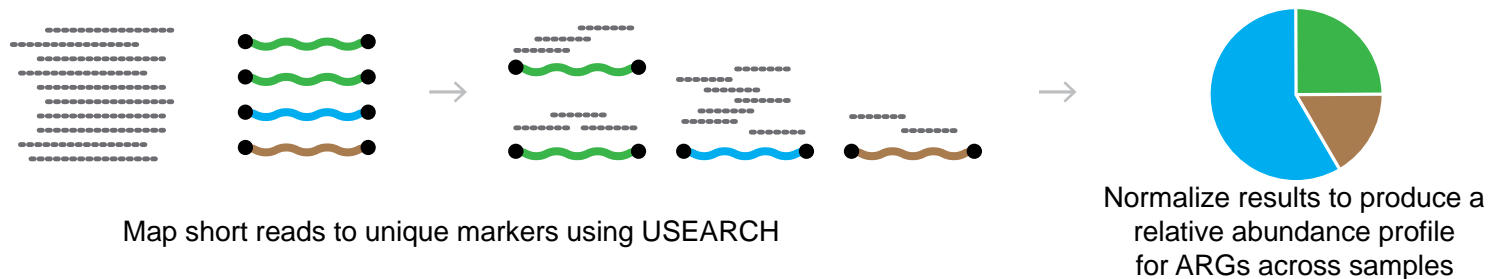


# ShortBRED: improved annotation accuracy from short reads

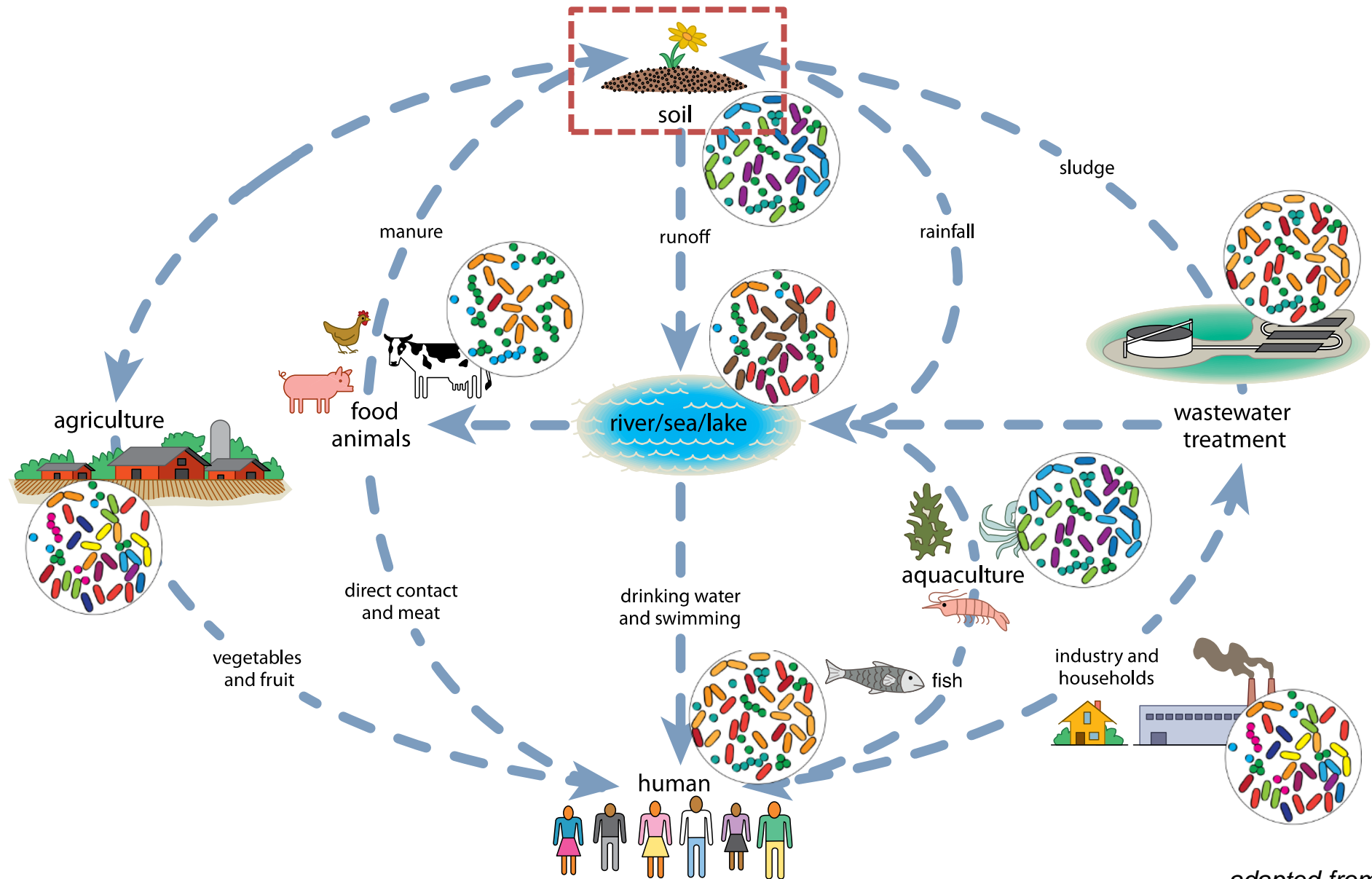
1. Create a short protein marker database for functionally selected **antibiotic resistance genes (ARGs)**



2. Quantify relative abundance of **antibiotic resistance genes (ARGs)** in whole metagenome shotgun data



# Transmission networks of microbiomes and resistomes across habitats



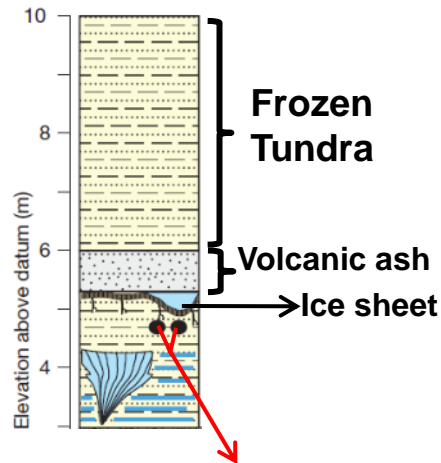
adapted from:  
Dantas and Sommer, *American Scientist* (2014)

# The soil resistome is ancient, diverse, and growing:

## Is it in RECENT exchange with pathogens?

### Antibiotic resistance is ancient

D'Costa...Wright, *Nature* (2011)

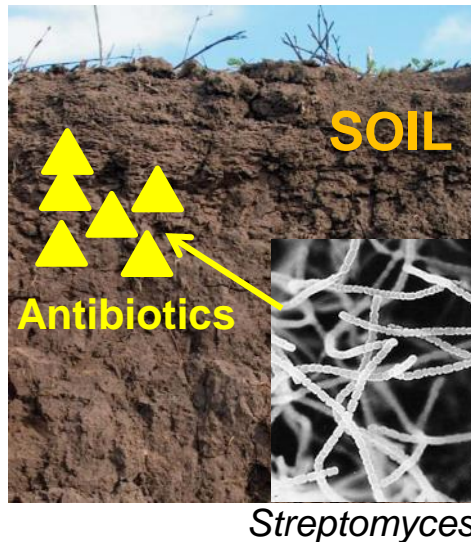


### 30,000 year-old preserved DNA Resistance to 3 antibiotic classes:

- $\beta$ -lactams
  - e.g. Penicillin, Amoxicillin
- Tetracyclines
  - e.g. Tetracycline, Minocycline
- Glycopeptides
  - e.g. Vancomycin

### Producer Hypothesis

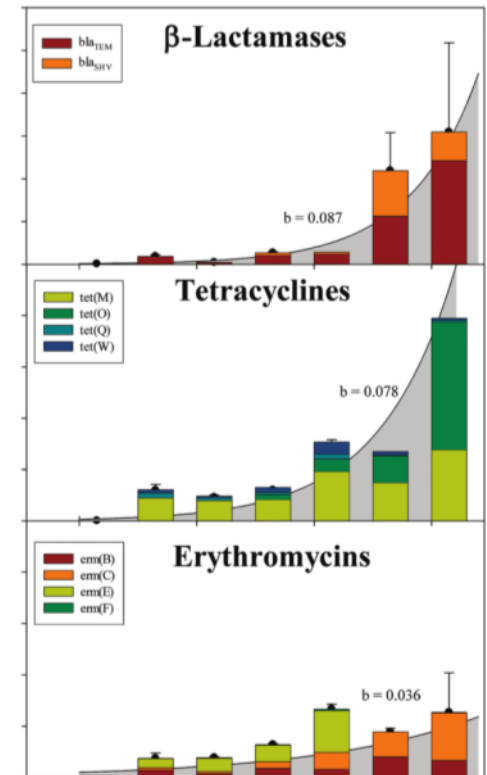
Benveniste, Davies, *PNAS* (1973)



- Most clinical antibiotics are produced by soil bacteria
- Producer resistome billions of years old

### Increased Gene Abundance

Knapp...Graham, *PNAS* (2010)



- Antibiotic resistance in soil enriched over last 70+ years

# Antibiotic catabolizers are even more multidrug resistant than producers



Media + 1000µg/mL  
of 18 antibiotics



Abx passage  
7 days



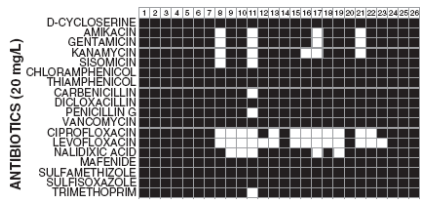
Abx Passage  
7 days



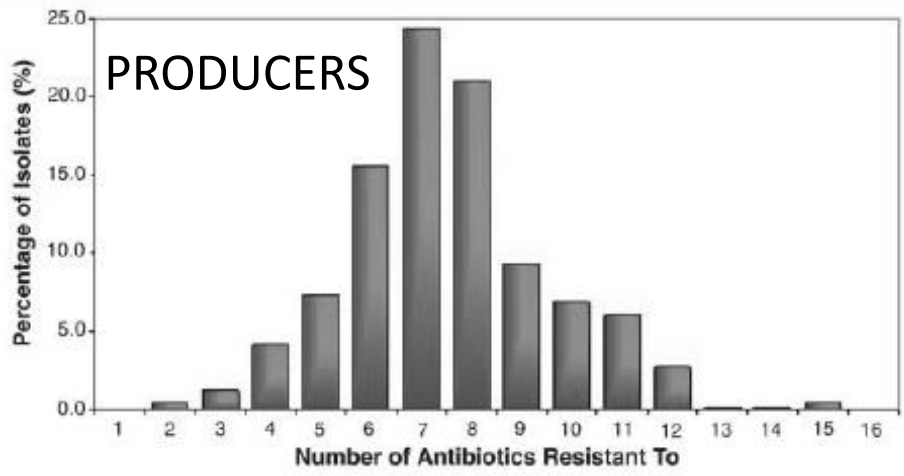
Abx  
Passage  
7 days



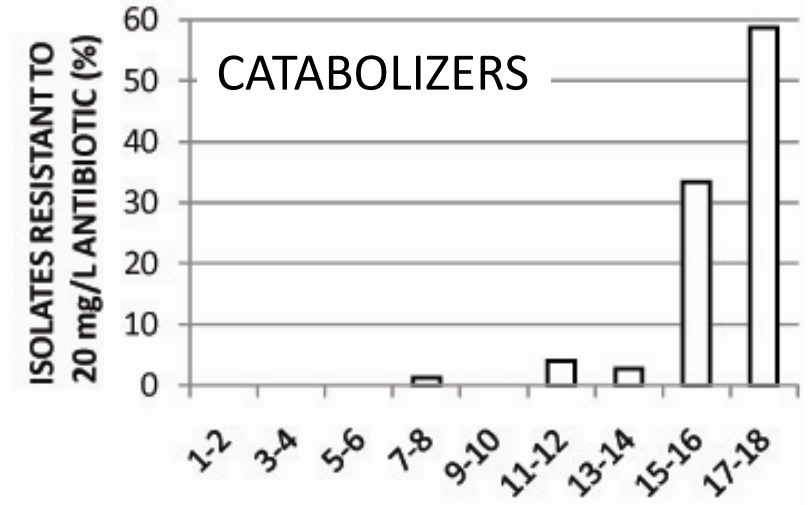
Test abx  
resistance



Resistant Susceptible

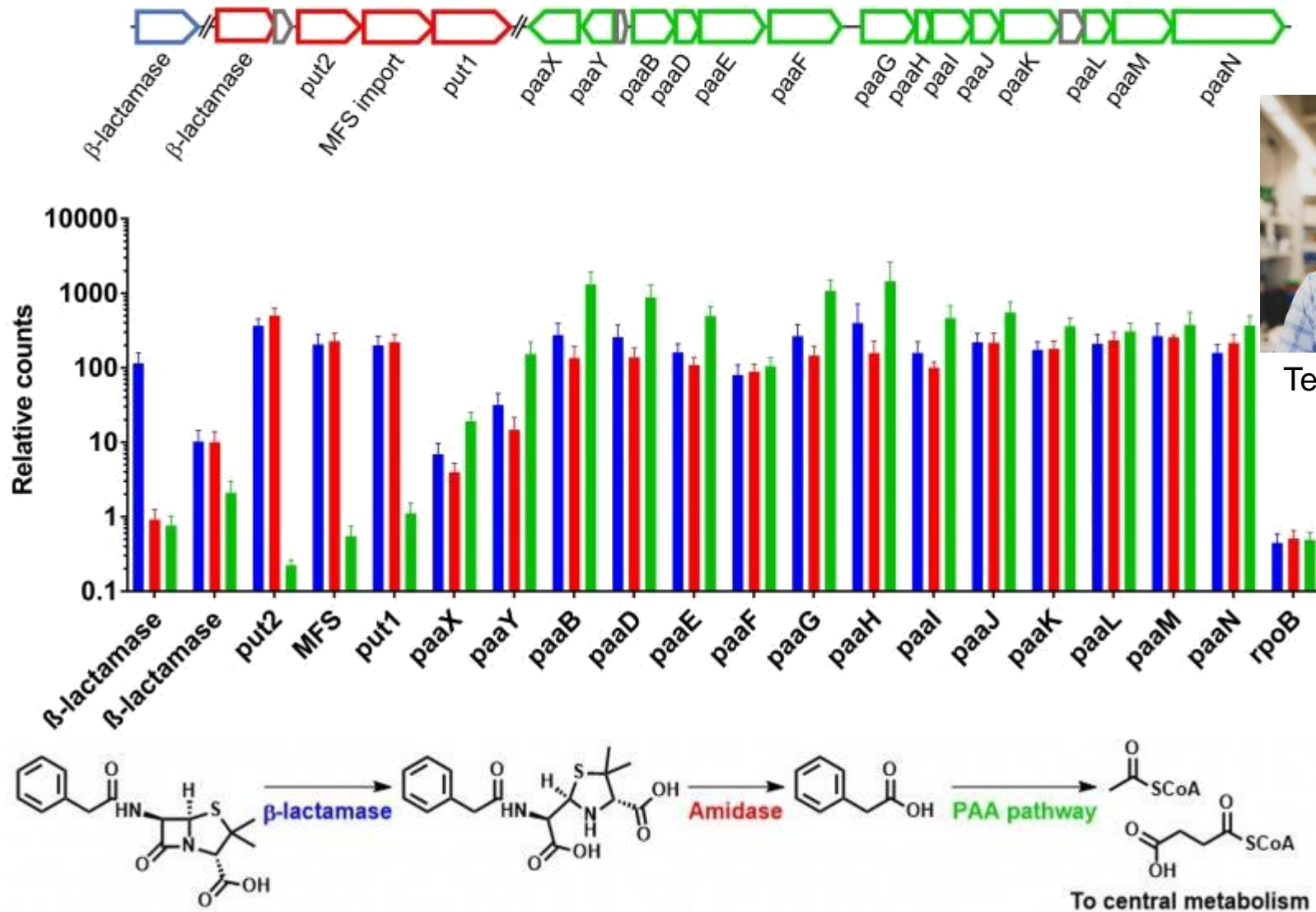


D'Costa et al., *Science* (2006)



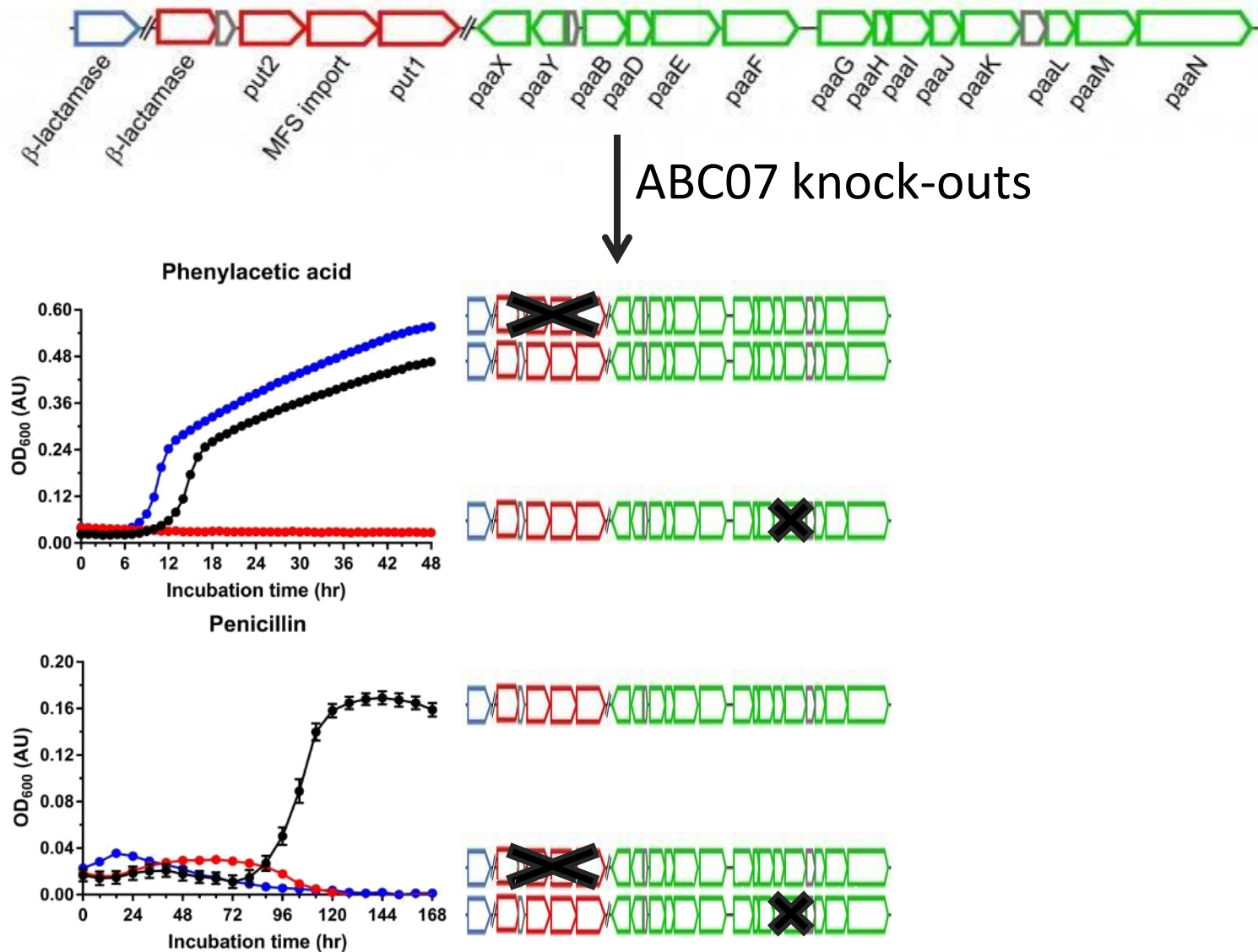
Dantas, Sommer, et al., *Science* (2008)

# Characterizing the mechanism of $\beta$ -lactam catabolism by soil isolates: ABC07 consumes penicillin *via* $\beta$ -lactamase, amidase, and phenylacetic acid operon



Terence Crofts

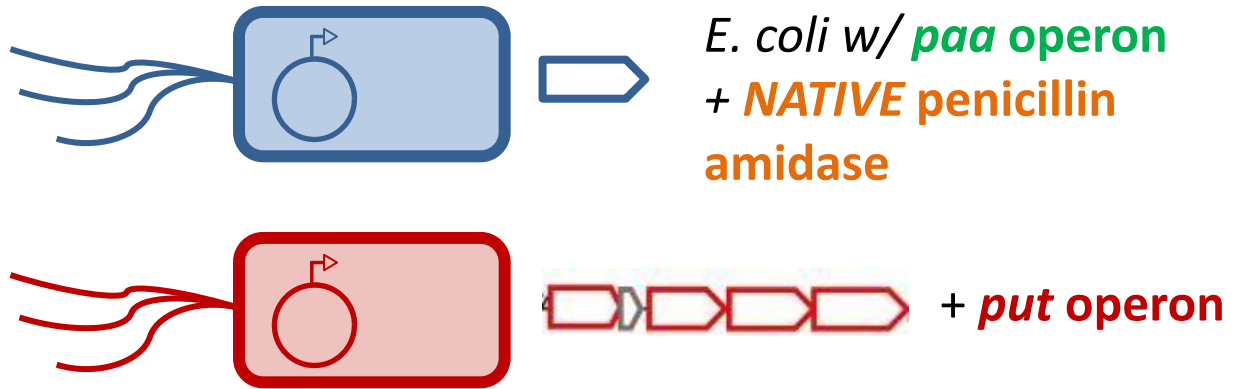
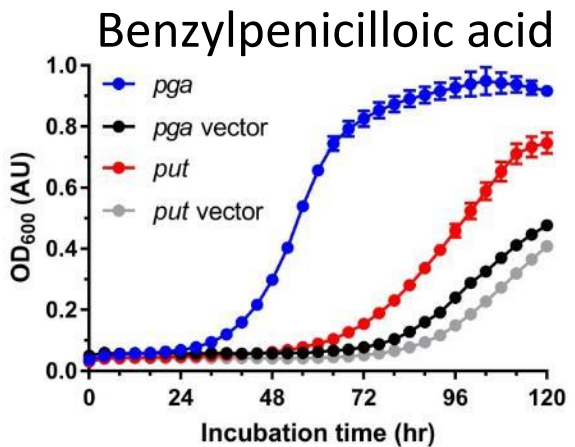
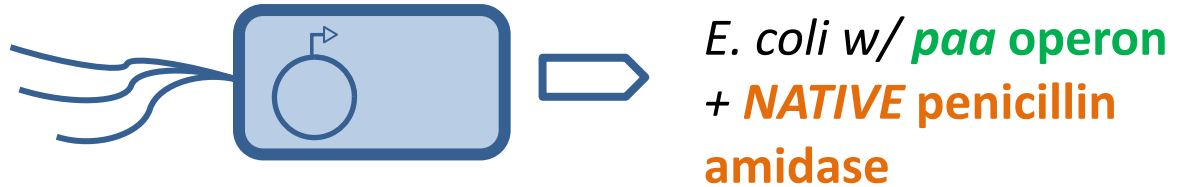
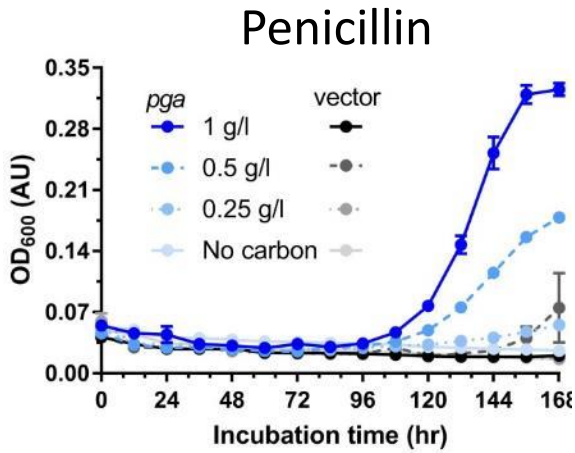
# Phenylacetic acid and penicillin utilization (*put*) operons are necessary for growth on penicillin in ABC07



*put* operon or penicillin amidase (*pga*) expression are **sufficient** for improved growth on penicillin or benzylpenicilloic acid in *E. coli*



Heterologous expression



# MDR soil Proteobacteria exchange resistance genes with pathogens BUT majority of extensive soil resistome has low potential for exchange

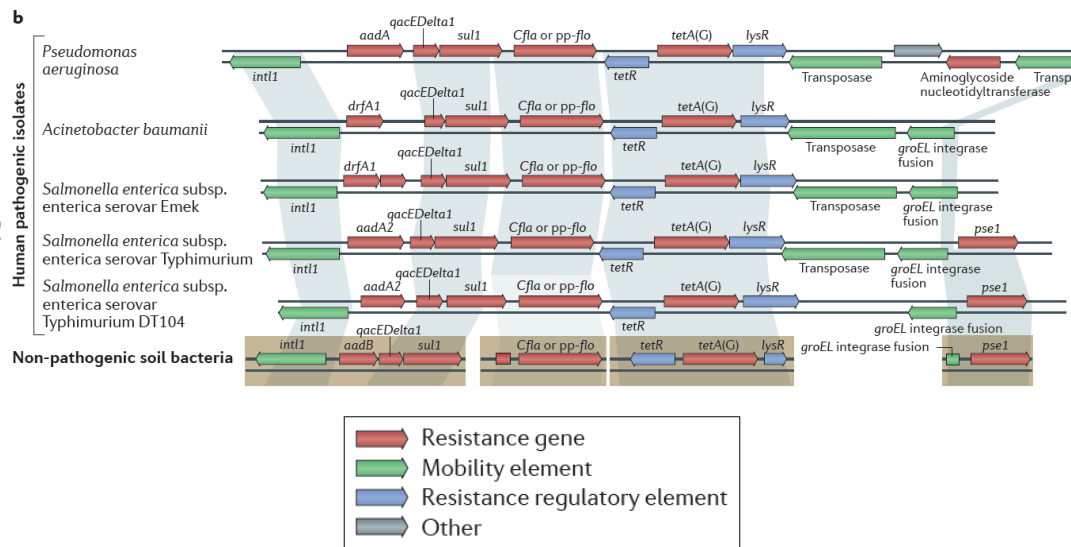
## The Shared Antibiotic Resistome of Soil Bacteria and Human Pathogens

Kevin J. Forsberg,<sup>1\*</sup> Alejandro Reyes,<sup>1\*</sup> Bin Wang,<sup>1,2</sup> Elizabeth M. Selleck,<sup>3</sup>  
Morten O. A. Sommer,<sup>4,5†</sup> Gautam Dantas<sup>1,2†</sup>

www.sciencemag.org **SCIENCE** VOL 337 31 AUGUST 2012



Kevin Forsberg Alejandro Reyes

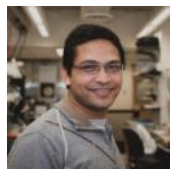


*Soil Proteobacteria share MULTIDRUG resistance gene clusters with human pathogens*

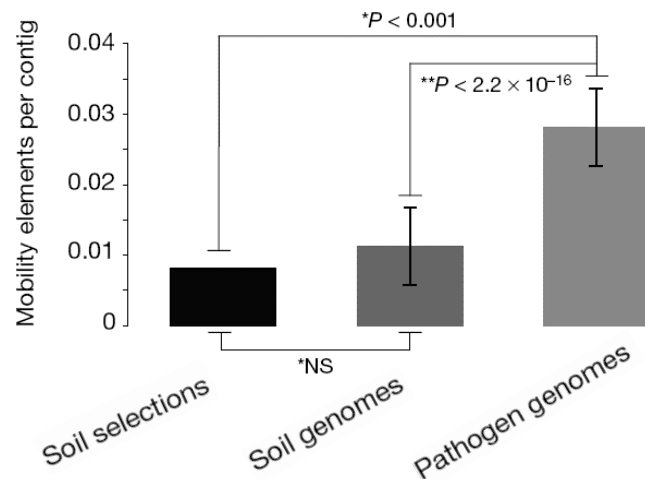
## Bacterial phylogeny structures soil resistomes across habitats

Kevin J. Forsberg<sup>1\*</sup>, Sanket Patel<sup>1,2\*</sup>, Molly K. Gibson<sup>1</sup>, Christian L. Lauber<sup>3</sup>, Rob Knight<sup>4,5</sup>, Noah Fierer<sup>3,6</sup> & Gautam Dantas<sup>1,2,7</sup>

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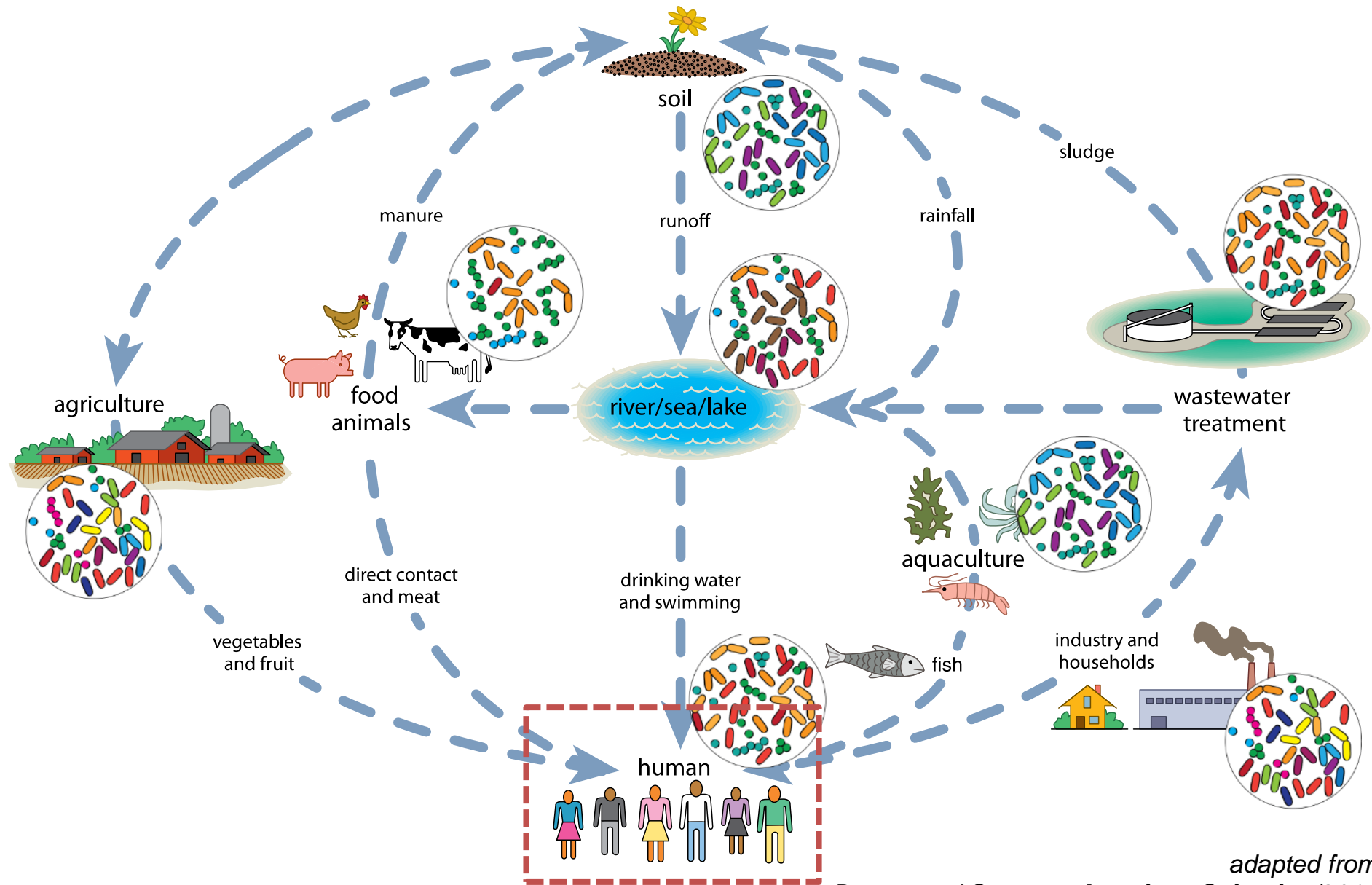


Kevin Forsberg Sanket Patel



*But MOST soil resistance genes are novel and co-localized with fewer mobilization genes than pathogens*

# Transmission networks of microbiomes and resistomes across habitats

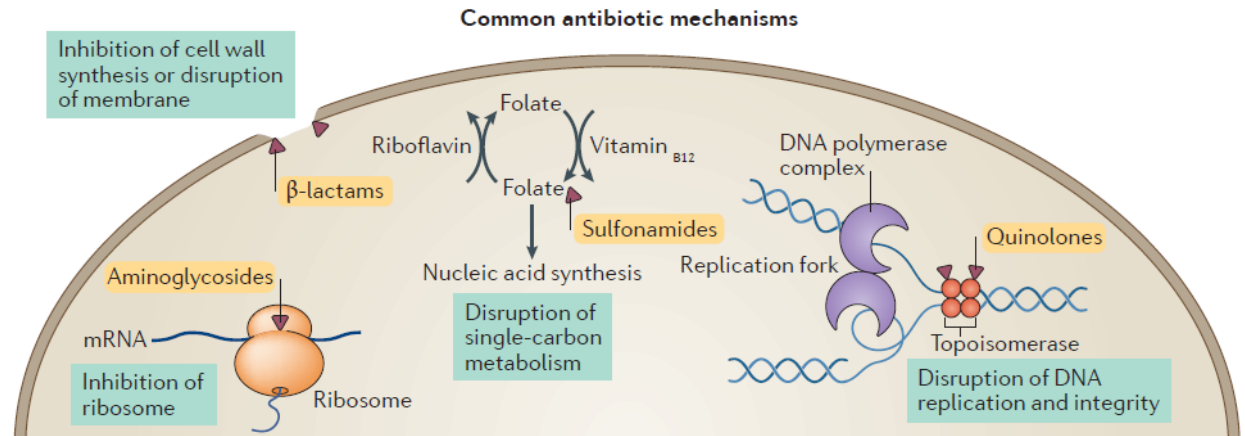


adapted from:  
Dantas and Sommer, *American Scientist* (2014)

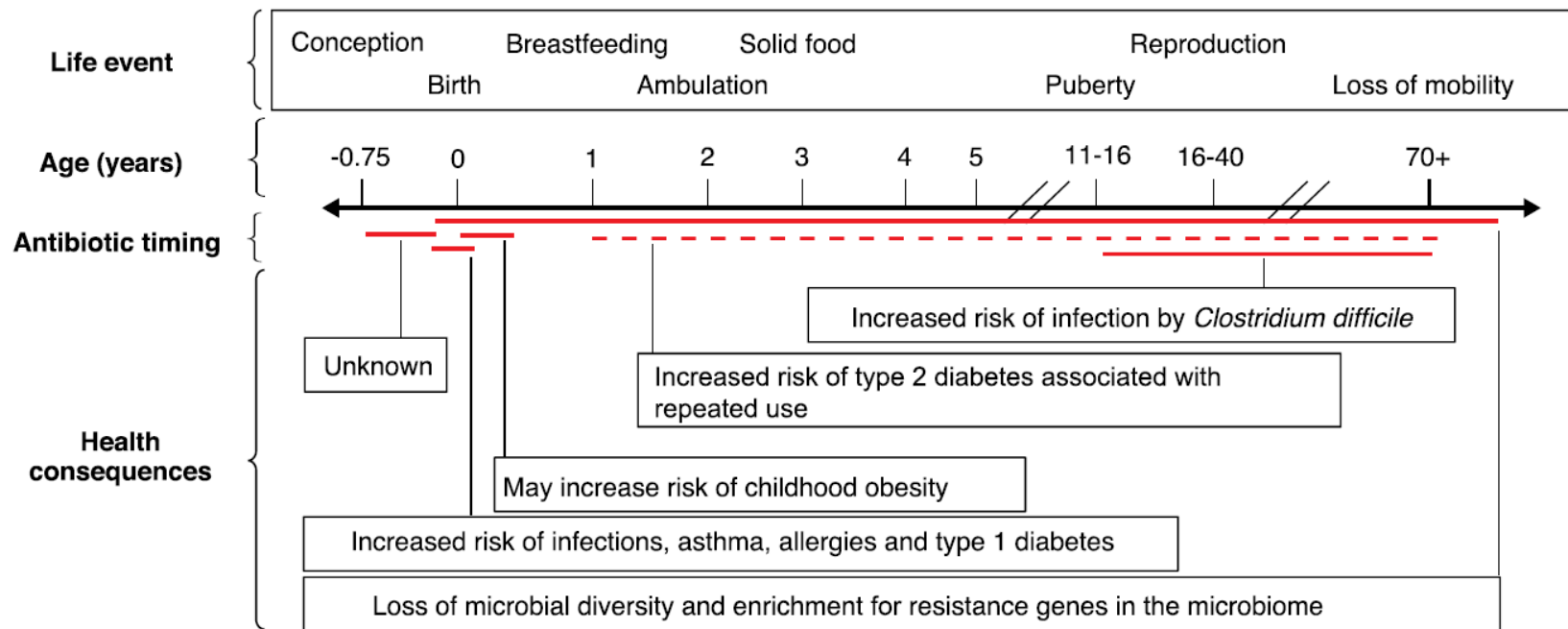
# Resistance spreads across habitats



# Antibiotic perturbation of the human microbiome can be dysbiotic

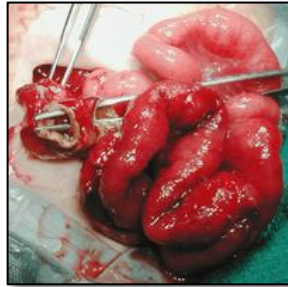


Crofts, Gasparrini, Dantas. *Nature Reviews Micro* (2017)

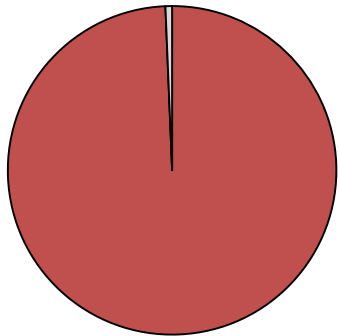


Langdon, Crook, Dantas. *Genome Medicine* (2016)

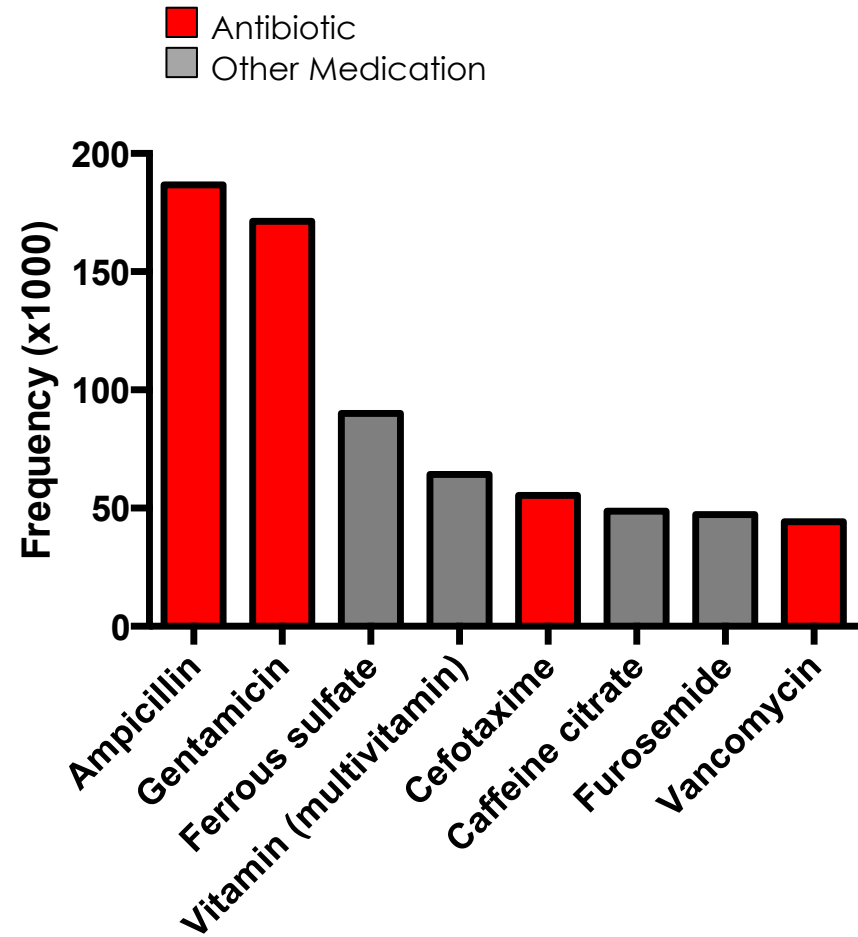
# Antibiotics are the most prescribed medication for preterm infants



Preterm birth is **leading cause of infant death**  
Preterm infants are highly susceptible to infections



**99%**  
of VLBW infants receive  
antibiotics  
in the  
1<sup>st</sup> two days of life

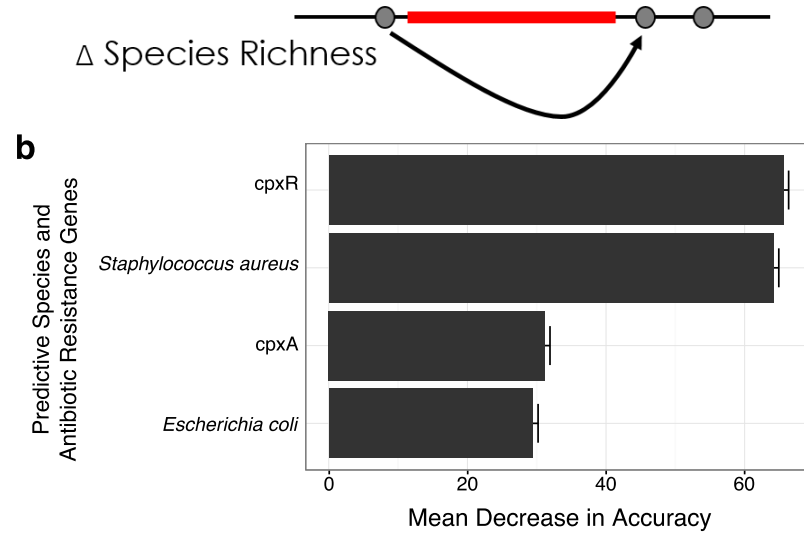
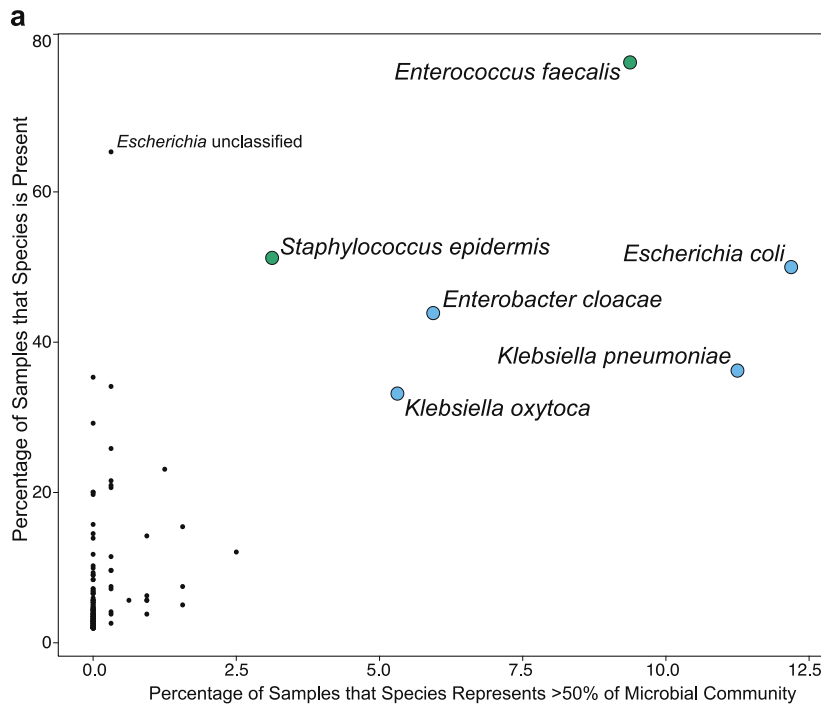
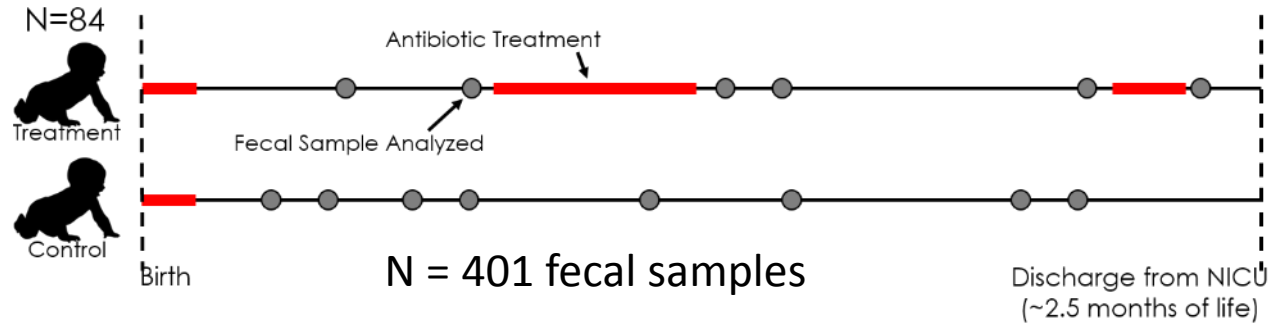


# Gut microbiomes of preterm infants are dominated by MDROs

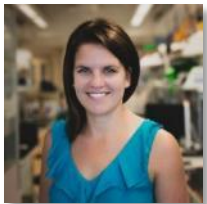
## We can predict microbiome and resistome responses to antibiotics



Preterm birth is **leading cause of infant death**

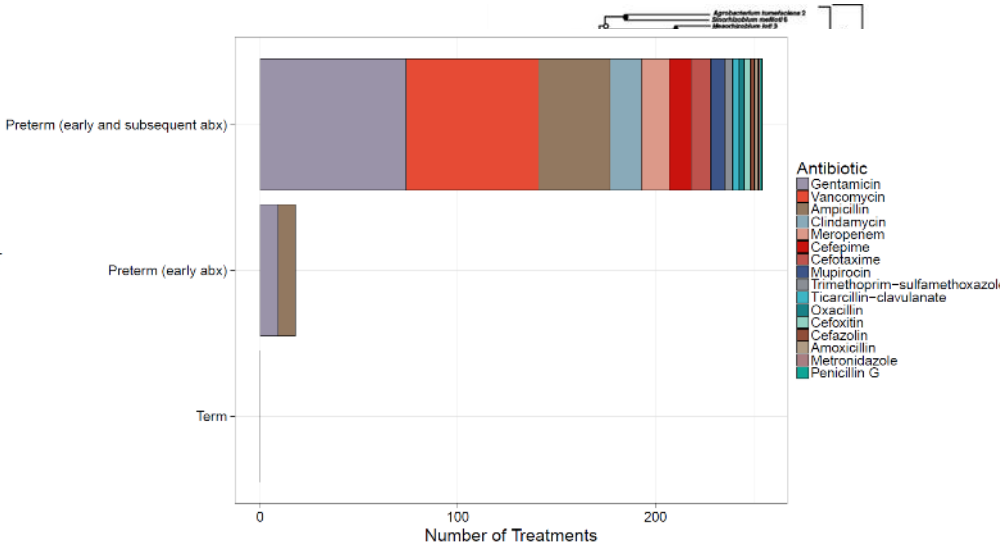
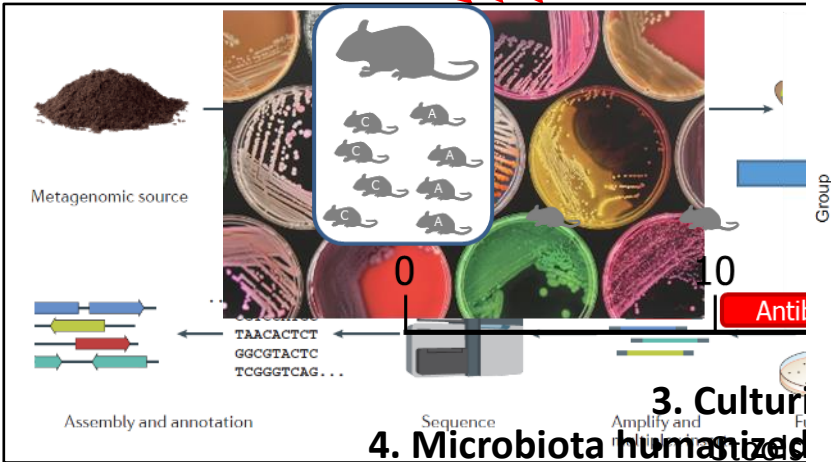
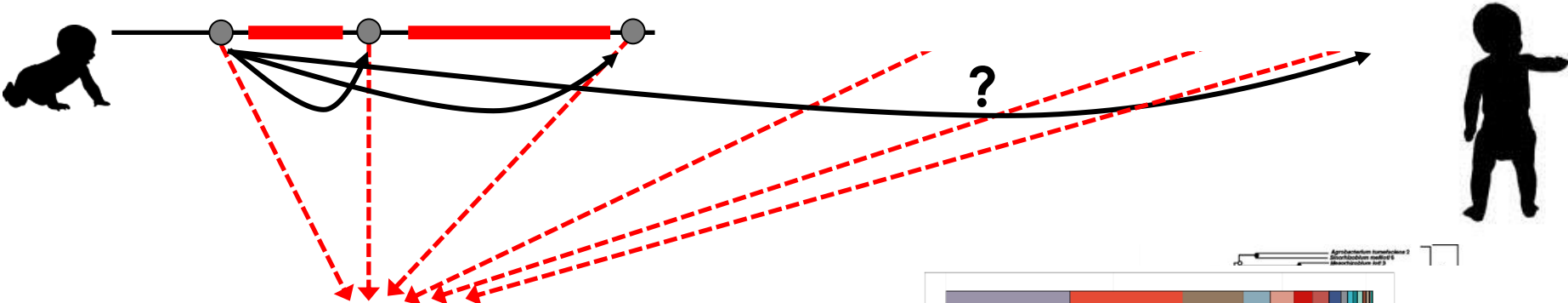


**85% prediction accuracy based on 4 variables**



Molly Gibson

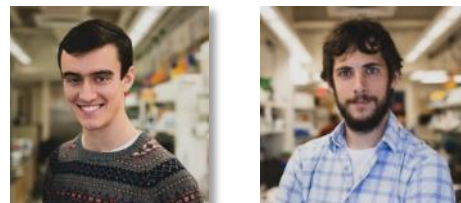
# Next steps: Persistent perturbations of preterm infant gut microbiome and resistome?



**2. Functional metagenomics** 558 isolates sequenced and assembled (*E. cloacae*, *E. faecalis*, *E. coli*, *K. pneumoniae*, *K. oxytoca*, *S. epidermidis*)

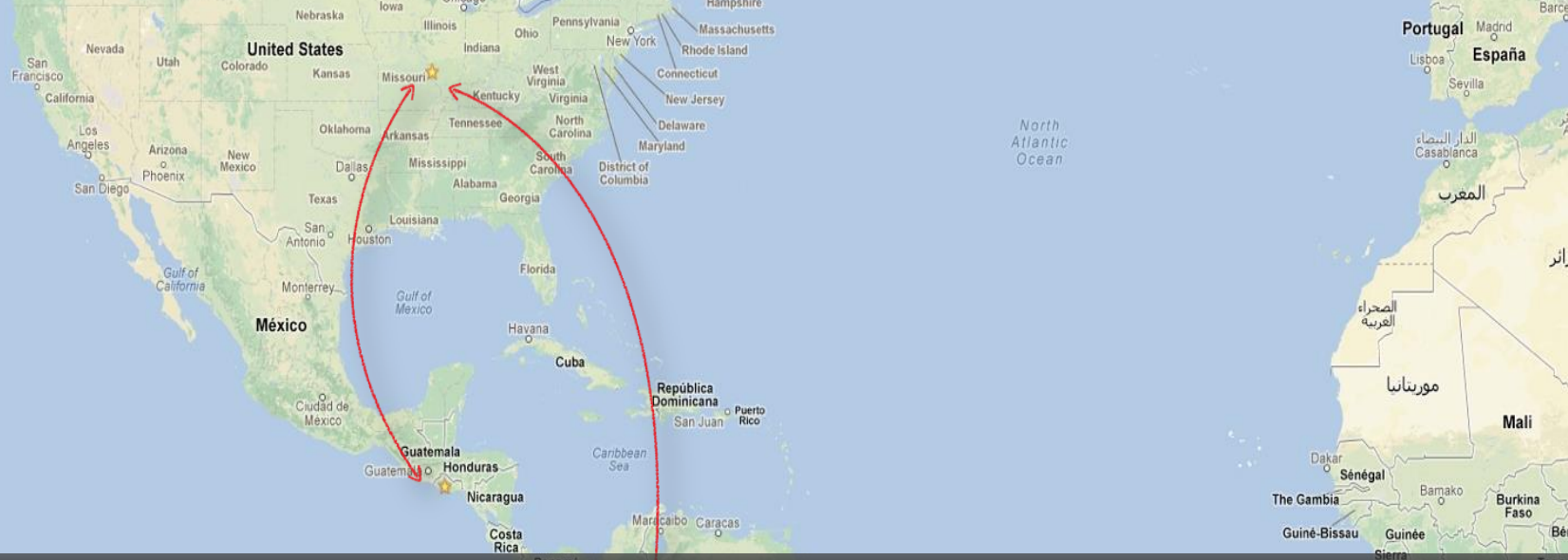
- 22 libraries from 448 stools (308 GI bacterial DNA)
- Screened on 16 antibiotics and sequenced
- Resistance gene assembly and annotation in progress

1. Microbiome composition
2. Resistome composition
3. MDRO carriage
4. Validate findings in animal model

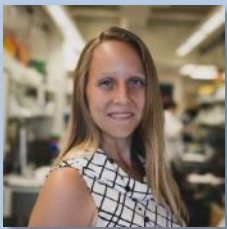


Drew Gasparrini Terence Crofts

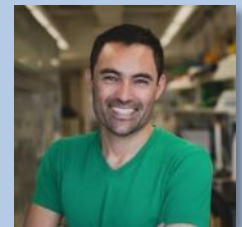




# Cross-Habitat Resistome Dynamics in Resource-Poor Human Environments in Central and South America



Erica Pehrsson



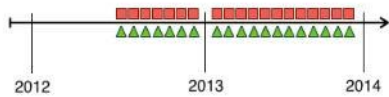
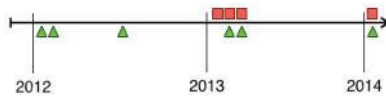
Pablo Tsukayama

# Dissemination of bacteria and antibiotic resistance genes across interconnected habitats in low-income settings in Latin America

Village in Rural El Salvador (RES)



Peri-urban Shanty-Town (PST) in Peru



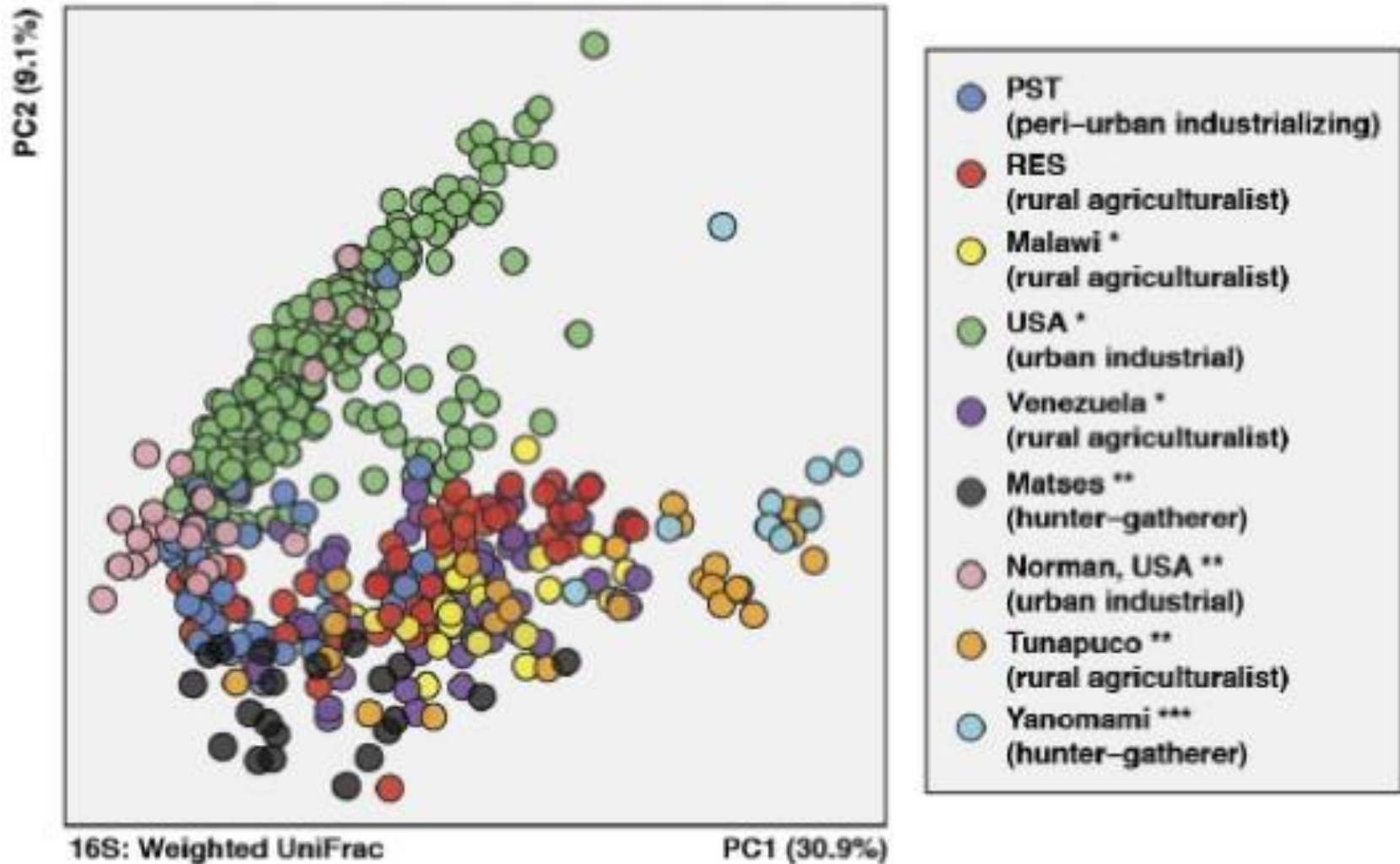
■ = human fecal sample  
▲ = sewage / latrine / environmental sample

- **Most microbiome studies from extremes of global population:** industrialized nations or remote hunter-gatherers
- **Low-income, resource-poor settings represent 2/3<sup>rd</sup> of global population**
- **Models for global population growth** (pop. density, living conditions)
- **Lower hygiene standards = higher rates of infectious disease and bacterial exchange**
- **Frequent misuse of antibiotics**

## SAMPLES ANALYZED FROM RES and PST:

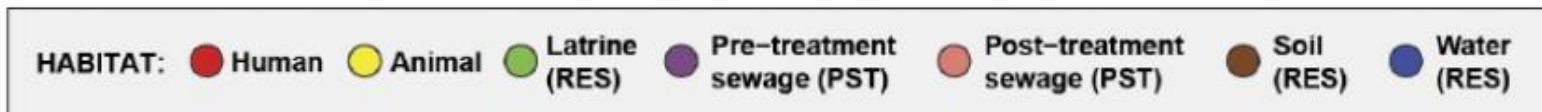
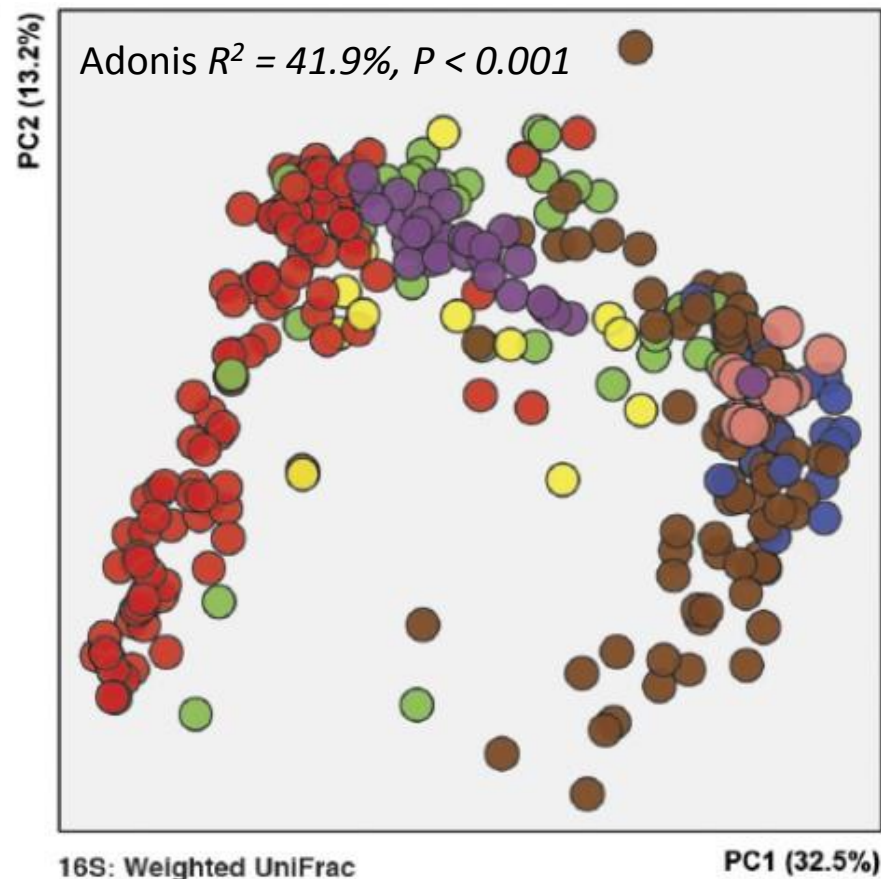
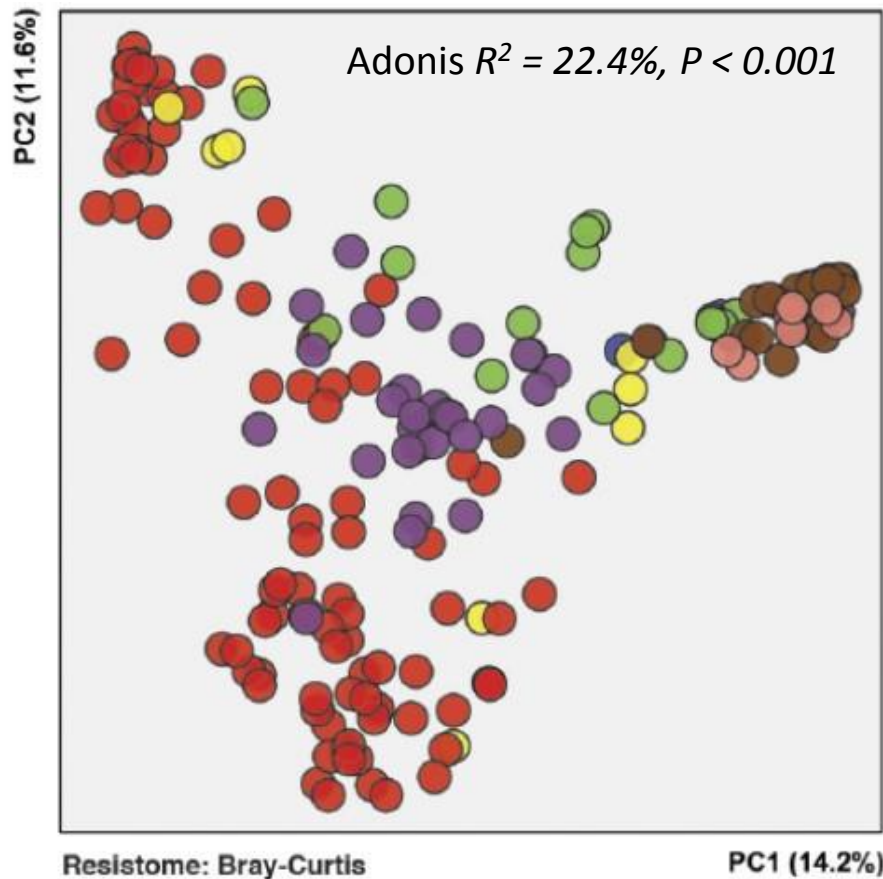
- **263 fecal samples** from 115 individuals from 27 houses
- **209 environmental samples** from animal feces, soils, water, sewage

# El Salvador and Peru cluster with other human gut microbiota by lifestyle across industrializing gradient

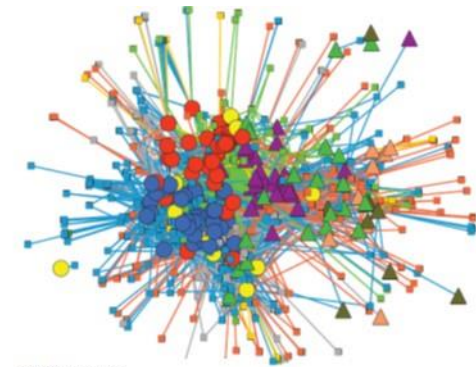


Adonis  $R^2 = 37.6\%$ ,  $P < 0.001$

# El Salvador and Peru microbiomes and resistomes cluster by habitat



# Identification of resistome dissemination hotspots may help with surveillance

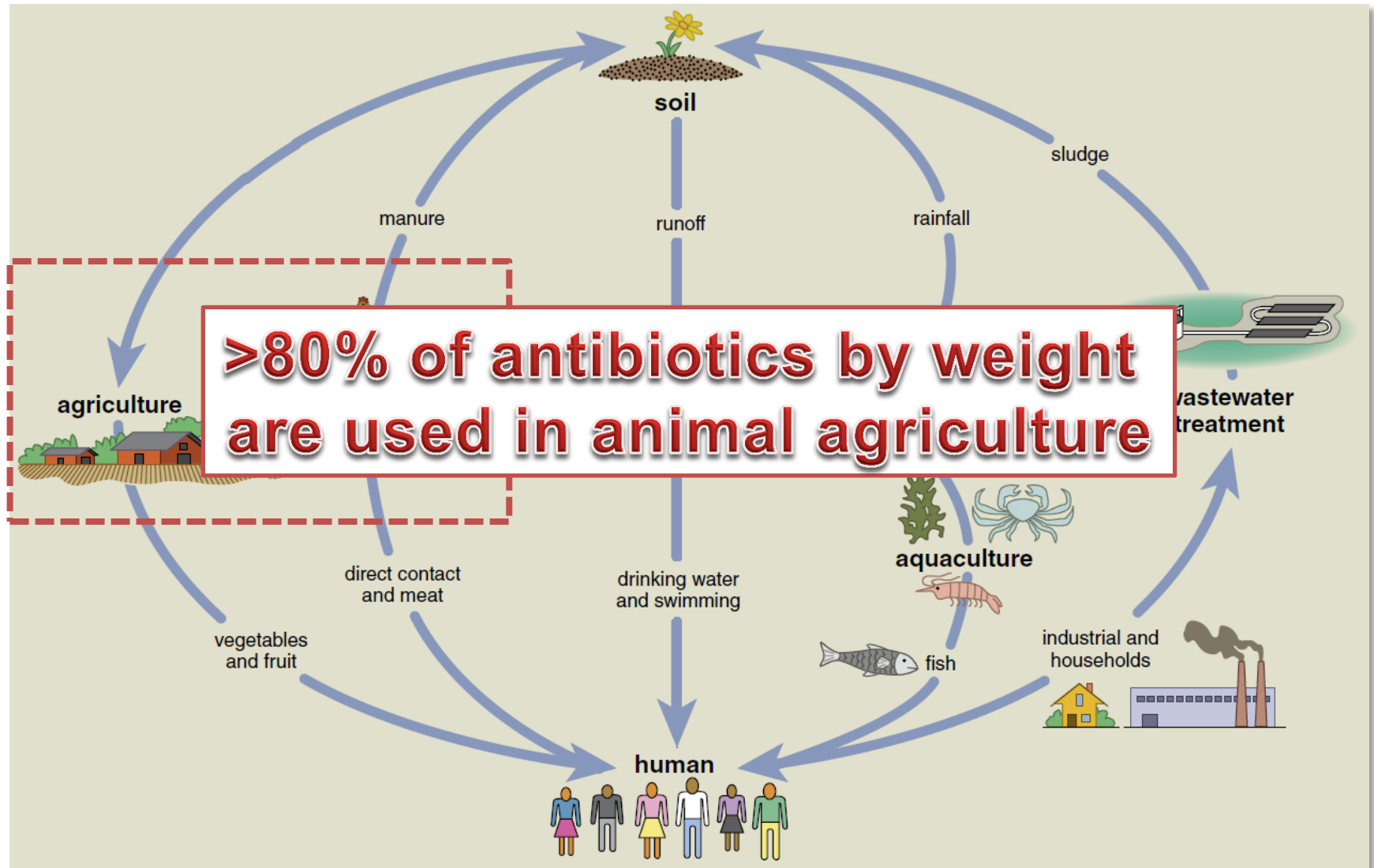


- Metagenome
- Human (RES)
  - Human (PST)
  - Animal (RES / PST)
  - ▲ Soil (RES)
  - ▲ Latrine (RES)
  - ▲ Sewage pre-treatment (PST)
  - ▲ Sewage post-treatment (PST)
- AR gene category
- Drug efflux
  - Resistance inactivation
  - Target bypass
  - Target protection

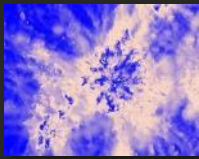
**Chicken coops (El Salvador) and Sewage treatment plant (Peru) were hotspots for resistome exchange between humans and the environment**



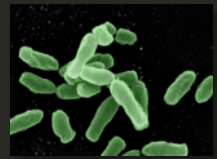
# Antibiotic resistance is an ECOLOGICAL problem







# Acknowledgements



## Dantas Lab

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- Winston Anthony
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- Manish Boolchandani
- Chris Bulow
- Tayte Campbell
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- Aura Ferreira
- Drew Gasparrini
- Nick Goldner
- Sidra Irum
- Aki Yoneda Kau

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- Boahemaa Adu-Oppong
- Sara Ahmadi
- Bertram Berla
- Nathan Crook
- Kevin Forsberg
- Molly Gibson

- Eric Keen
- Vinai Kumar
- Suryang Kwak
- Amy Langdon
- Nicholas Lin
- Aimee Moore
- Sanket Patel
- Vishal Patel
- Robert Potter
- Muhammad Rafique
- Pratyush Sontha
- Xiaoqing Sun
- Preston Tasoff
- Robert Thaenert
- Bin Wang
- Kate Wardenburg

- Patrick Gonzales
- Erica Pehrsson
- Mitch Pesesky
- Jie Sun
- Pablo Tsukayama
- Gretchen Walljasper

## Collaborators

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- Carey-Ann Burnham
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- Jennie Kwon
- Paul Schlessinger
- Tae Seok Moon
- Phillip Tarr
- Niraj Tolia
- Barb Warner
- Tim Wencewicz

## Financial Support

### *Current:*

- CDC Prevention Epicenter
- CDC OADS BAA
- DOE Biosys-Design (BER)
- Mallinckrodt Foundation
- Gates Foundation (GCE)
- NIH R01 (NIAID)
- NIH R01 (NICHD)
- USAID/NAS Pak-US

### *External:*

- Saadia Andleeb (NUST)
- Robert Gilman (JHU)
- William Hoyos (UJMD)
- Sanjay Shukla (Marshfield)
- Mark Simons (US NMRC)

### *Completed:*

- BJHF-CTS
- CDI (IRI)
- I-CARES
- Kenneth Rainin Foundation
- March of Dimes Foundation
- MSF Epicentre
- National Academies KFI
- NIH R01 (NIGMS)
- NIH Director's New Innovator Award (NIDDK)
- DOE SysBio (BER)

I think I need  
antibiotics for my  
col...

**IT'S A VIRUS!**

