



Microbial Oceanography as a Business

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2010 C-MORE summer course in Microbial
oceanography,
Univ. of Hawaii, 15 June, 2010



The background of the slide is a vibrant underwater photograph of a coral reef. In the center, a large, intricate feathered worm (a polychaete) is visible, with its numerous white, feathery parapodia extending outwards. The worm is surrounded by various other marine life, including purple and orange sponges and other colorful coral structures. The lighting is bright, highlighting the textures and colors of the reef.

or

- How to get rich in Microbial Oceanography



or

- How to get rich in Microbial Oceanography

The screenshot shows the Santander online banking interface. At the top left is the Santander logo. A red banner contains the quote: "Yo con mi futuro no arriesgo. ¿Y tú?". To the right of the banner is a phone number: 902 73 49 60 and a "Desconectar" button. Below the banner is a red bar with an "Imprimir" button. The main content area is titled "Cuentas - Movimientos". A box displays the following account information:

Número de Cuenta:	0049 6081 42 2594906717
Titular:	Duarte Quesada Carlos Manuel
Saldo:	0,00 EUR

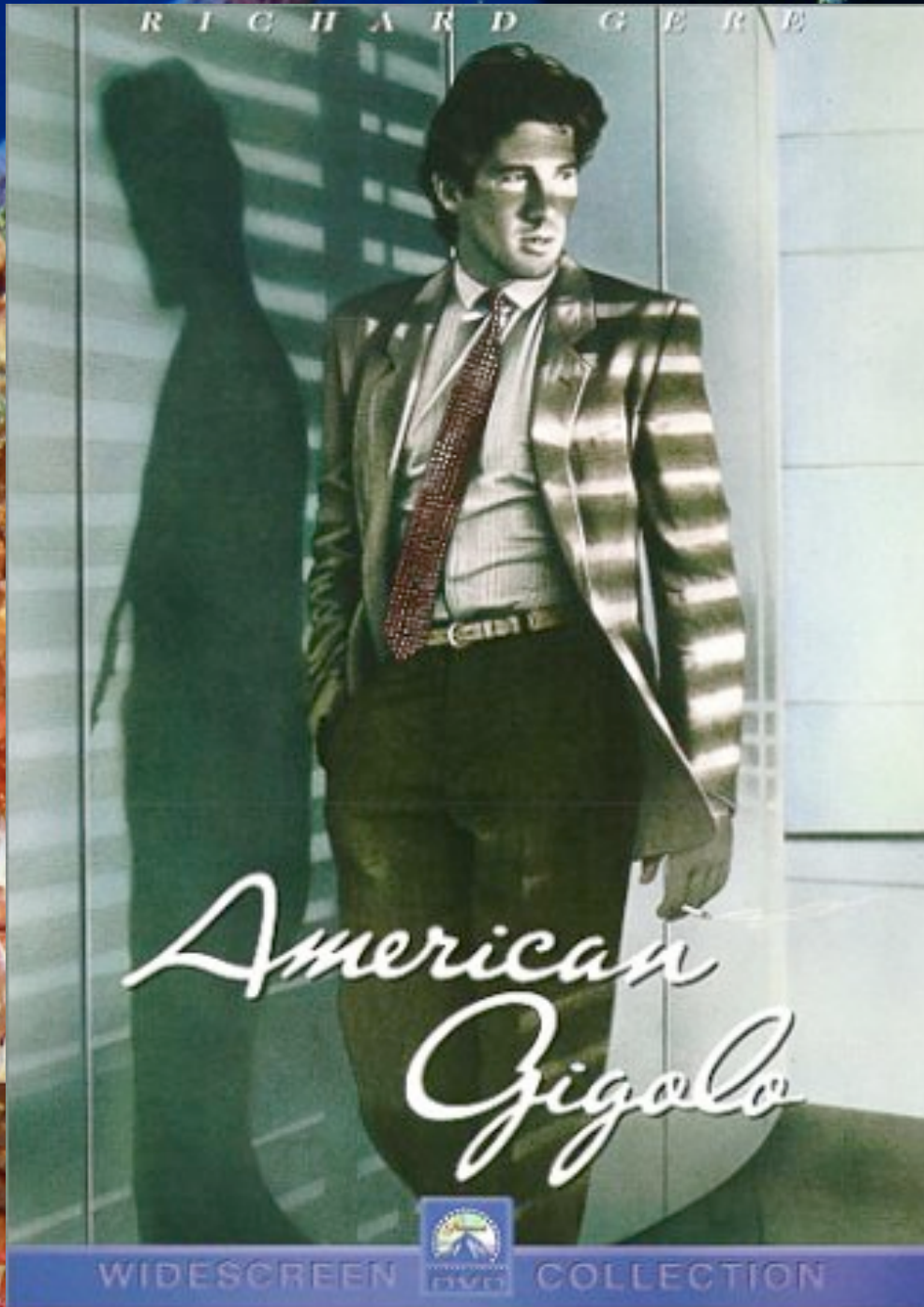
On the left side of the interface, there is a navigation menu with the following items: Posición global, Cuentas, Transferencias, Recibos, and Pagos y donaciones.

My bank statements shows a 0 balance





RICHARD GERE



*American
Gigolo*

WIDESCREEN



COLLECTION



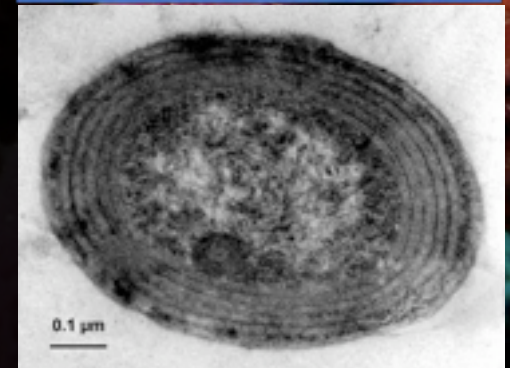


Marine Biodiversity

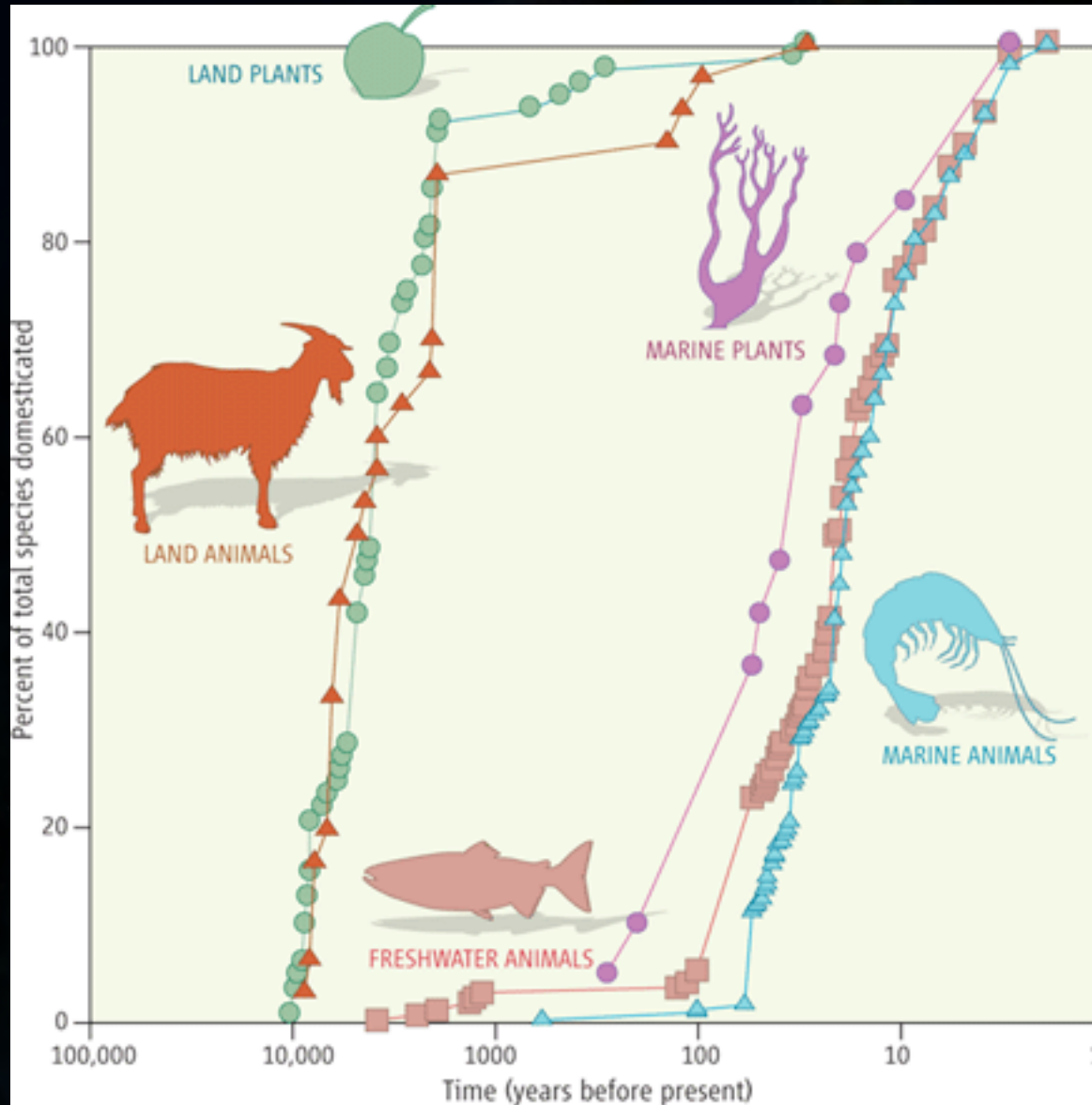
- Oceans encompasses $>70\%$ of the sea surface.
- Research on marine biodiversity $\sim 10\%$ of global biodiversity research.
- Approximately 10% of all named species are marine.
- Growth rate of marine species 0.9% per year.
- Large surprises despite limited resources allocated to marine research.

Recent milestones in the exploration of the “inner space”

- 1977. Chemosynthetic ecosystems discovered (hydrothermal vents).
- 1983. A new marine phylum Loricifera, discovered.
- 1988. *Prochlorococcus*, possibly the most abundant phototroph in the planet discovered.



Use of living resources: Domestication



On land, > 90% of species domesticated > 2000 yrs ago.

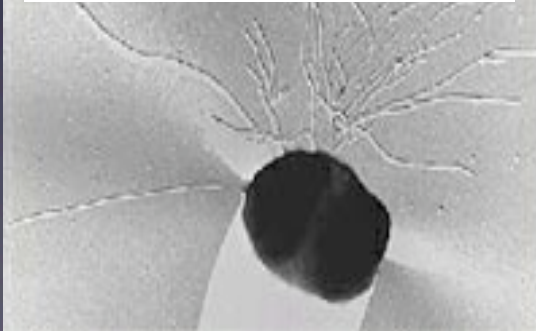
At sea, 90% of species, domesticated within last 100 years

Duarte et al 2007

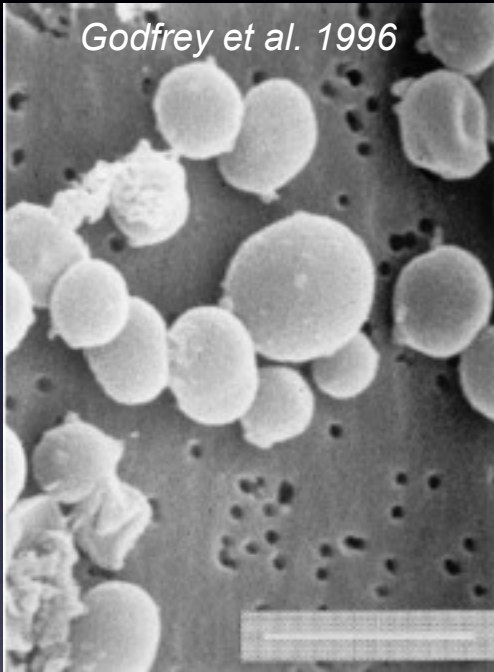
Marine Genetic Resources

- Linked with discovery (exploration of) marine biodiversity
- Highest potential in extreme habitats, where the highest potential for biodiversity discoveries are:

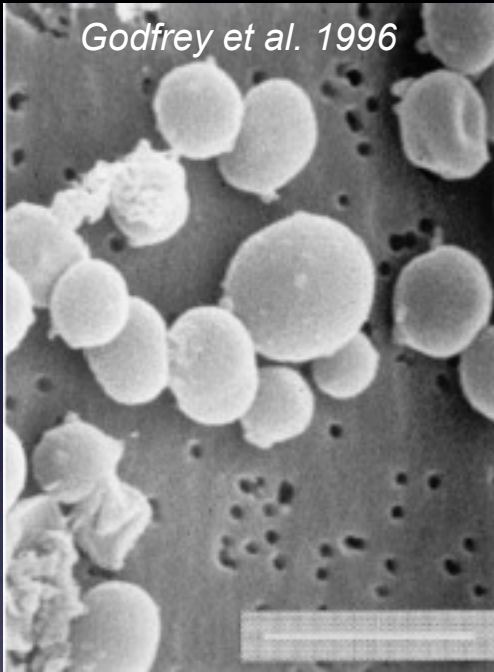
*Pyrococcus
furiosus*



The bacteria *Pyrococcus furiosus*, recently discovered by NASA grows at enormous speed (1 duplication every 37 minutes) at 100 ° C in submarine volcanoes , and is the only known living organism able to Tungsten



- Proteins from bacteria isolated from submarine volcanoes are stable at high temperature and can be used for development of more efficient and sure methods for genome sequencing.
- e.g. polymerase *Tfu* used in PCR, isolated from bacteria *Thermococcus fumicolans* out hydrothermal vents by



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Genetic Resources

- Natural Products
 - Molecules produced by organisms that can be used as medicines, cosmetics, nutritional supplements...
- DNA Sequences
 - Genes that code for a protein or enzyme of interest, or sequences of DNA useful for diagnostics or detection.



Business opportunities in marine biodiversity

- Observational technologies
- Biotechnology
- Food Industry
 - Aquaculture

(production of new species)
- Cosmetics industry
- Pharmaceutical Industry

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Patented Genes

- The PAT division of Genbank (release 165) lists more than 5 million records of DNA sequences deposited in different patent offices worldwide.
- Most sequences from humans, model organisms and domestic/food animals and plants.
- The requirements to patent a gene is that both the sequence and the function of the protein/enzyme that the gene codes for be described.
- No required information on organismal identity (e.g. species name) or source (location where sample



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Judge Invalidates Human Gene Patent

By JOHN SCHWARTZ and ANDREW POLLACK
Published: March 29, 2010

A federal judge on Monday struck down patents on two genes linked to breast and ovarian cancer. The decision, if upheld, could throw into doubt the patents covering thousands of human genes and reshape the law of intellectual property

Enlarge This Image



United States District Court Judge Robert W. Sweet issued the 152-page decision, which invalidated seven patents related to the genes BRCA1 and BRCA2, whose mutations have been associated with cancer.

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Examples of marine natural products

Product	Use	Source
<i>Pharmaceuticals</i>		
Ara-A (acyclovir)	Antiviral drug (herpes infections)	Marine sponge, <i>Cryptotethya cryta</i>
Ara-C (cytosar-U, cytarabine)	Anticancer drug (leukemia and non-Hodgkin's lymphoma)	Marine sponge, <i>Cryptotethya cryta</i>
<i>Molecular Probes</i>		
Okadaic acid	Phosphatase inhibitor	Dinoflagellate
Manoalide	Phospholipase A ₂ inhibitor	Marine sponge, <i>Luffariella variabilis</i>
<i>Cosmetic additives</i>		
Resilience (Estée Lauder)	"Marine extract" additive	Caribbean gorgonian, <i>Pseudopterogorgia elisabethae</i>
<i>Nutritional Supplements</i>		
Formulaid (Martek Biosciences)	Fatty acids used as additive in infant formula nutritional supplement	Marine microalga
<i>Pigment</i>		
Phycoerythrin	Conjugated antibodies used in ELISAs and flow cytometry	Red algae

MARINE NATURAL PRODUCTS

Marine Natural Products under clinical trials (January 2004)

Compound name	Origin	Supply	Discovered by	Developped by	Biological Activity	Clinical Phase
APLIDINE Depsipeptide	<i>Aplidium albicans</i> Tunicate	Chemical synthesis	Univ. of Illinois (USA) PharmaMar (Spain)	PHARMAMAR (Spain)	Cytotoxic	Phase II
BRYOSTATIN Macrocyclic lactone	<i>Bugula neritina</i> Bryozoan (Pos. bacterial origin)	Recollection / Aquaculture	Arizona State Univ. (USA)	GPC Biotech (Germany)	Antitumor (modulator of protein kinase C- PKC activity)	Phase II Esophageal cancer and others cancers.
CONOTOXINS Polypeptides (more than 100 reported)	<i>Conus spp.</i> Mollusk	Chemical synthesis	Univ. of Utah (USA)	PRIALT (Ziconotide) : ELAN PHARMACEUTICALS (Ireland) AM336 : AMRAD (Australia)	Analgesic (neuropharmacologic activity)	PRIALT (Ziconotide): Phase III. AM336 : Phase II Severe pain.
DISCODERMOLIDE Polyketide	<i>Discodermis sp.</i> Sponge	Chemical synthesis	Harbor Branch (USA)	NOVARTIS (USA)	Antitumor	Phase I Pancreatic cancer
DOLASTATINS (Cemadotin, ILX-651 and TZT-1027 are synthetic analogues of Dolastatins) Polypeptides	<i>Dolabella auricularia</i> Mollusk (Possible origin cyanobacterium species: <i>Lynghya sp.</i> , <i>Symploca sp.</i> , <i>Schirothrix sp.</i>)	Chemical synthesis Polypeptide	Arizona State Univ. (USA)	Cemadotin (LU103793): Dol-15 Synt. anal. ABBOTT GmbH & Co. KG (Germany) (formally Knoll Pharma). ILX-651 : Dol- 15 anal. from BASF Pharma, licensed to ILEX ONCOLOGY (USA). TZT-1027 : Dol-10 derivative: TEIKOKU HORMONE (Japan) DOL-10 : NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE (USA)	Cytotoxic (inhibition of microtubule assembly)	Cemadotin : Phase II Melanoma ILX-651 : Phase I. Advanced solid tumors TZT-1027 : Phase I. DOL-10 : Phase I-II
ES-285 Anti-Beta-aminoalcohol	<i>Mactromaris polyonyma</i> Mollusk	Synthesis	Univ. of Illinois (USA) PharmaMar (Spain)	PHARMAMAR (Spain)	Antitumor	Phase I Solid Tumors
ET-389	<i>Axinella sp.</i> Sponge		Arizona State U. (USA)	NCI-Approved California Cancer Consortium (USA). EISAI Inc. (Japan)	Antitumor	Phase I
GTS-21, DMXBA (Anabaseine analogue) Alkaloid	<i>Amphiporus lactiflorus</i> Nemertine	Chemical synthesis	Univ. of Florida (USA)	TAIHO PHARMACEUTICALS CO (Japan)	Inhibition of neuronal nicotinic receptors	Phase I-II Alzheimer disease.

ip://www.bioaqua.net/mnp/MNP/clinical.asp

Examples of Genes

Product	Use	Source
<i>Molecular Probes</i>		
Aequorin	Bioluminescent calcium indicator Reporter gene	Bioluminescent jellyfish, <i>Aequora victoria</i>
Green fluorescent protein (GFP)	Reporter gene	Bioluminescent jellyfish, <i>Aequora victoria</i>
<i>Enzymes</i>		
Vent and Deep Vent DNA polymerase (New England BioLabs)	Polymerase chain reaction enzyme	Deep-sea hydrothermal vent bacterium
Fish proteases	Fish scaling Ripening of salted fish Tenderization of squid	Many fish species.
Cold adapted enzymes	Proteases, lipases for detergents Extraction of carotenoproteins for food coloring Caviar production Meat tenderizing Pectinase for lactose removal	Psichrophylic microorganisms

Food Industry



Business potential



- US\$2.1 billion in 2002, increasing at a rapid 9.4% from the previous year.
- 1 amylase, from a hydrothermal vent organism, used to liquify corn biofuel deliver 150M \$ every year on patent use rights.



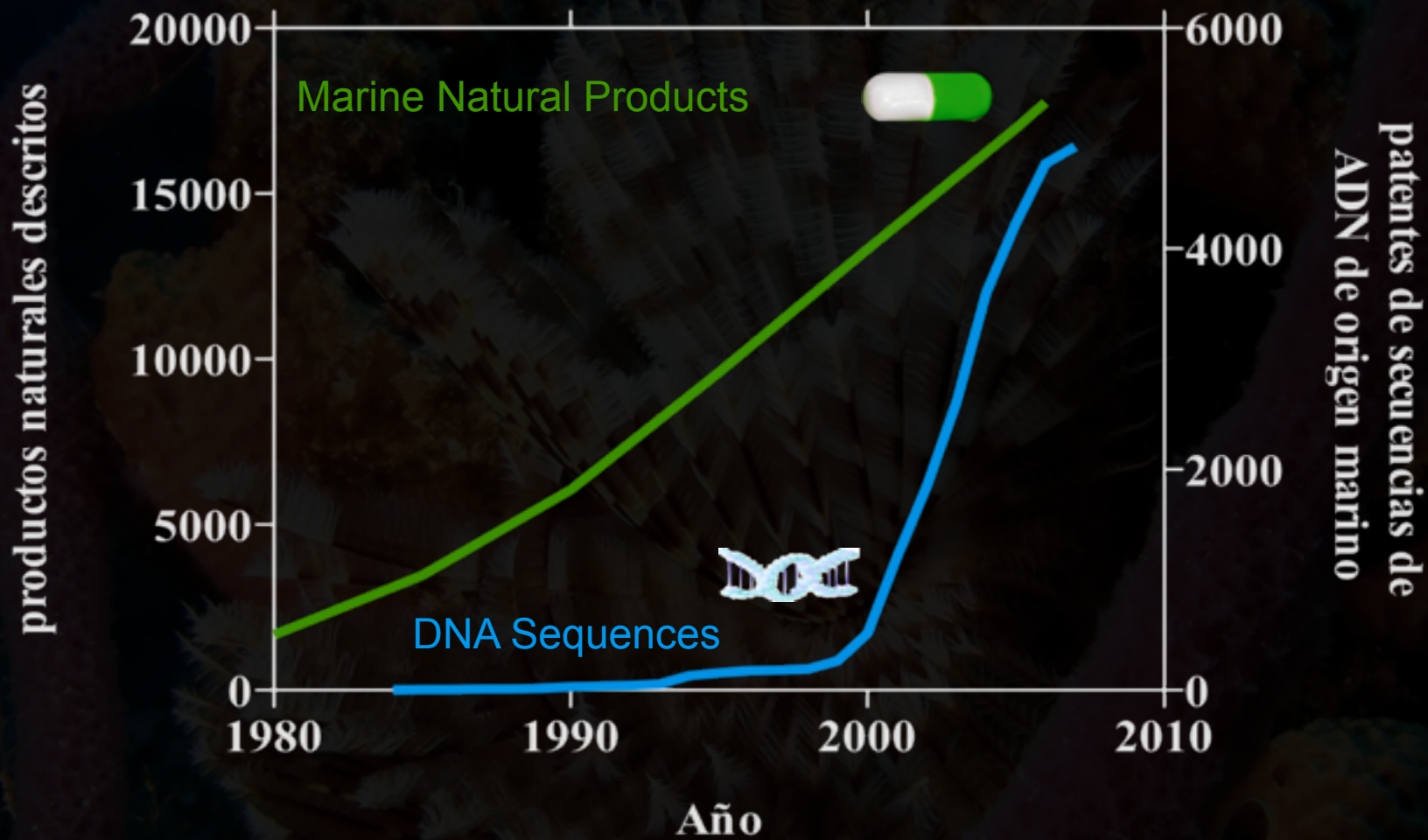
Deep Ocean MGR

Blue Gold

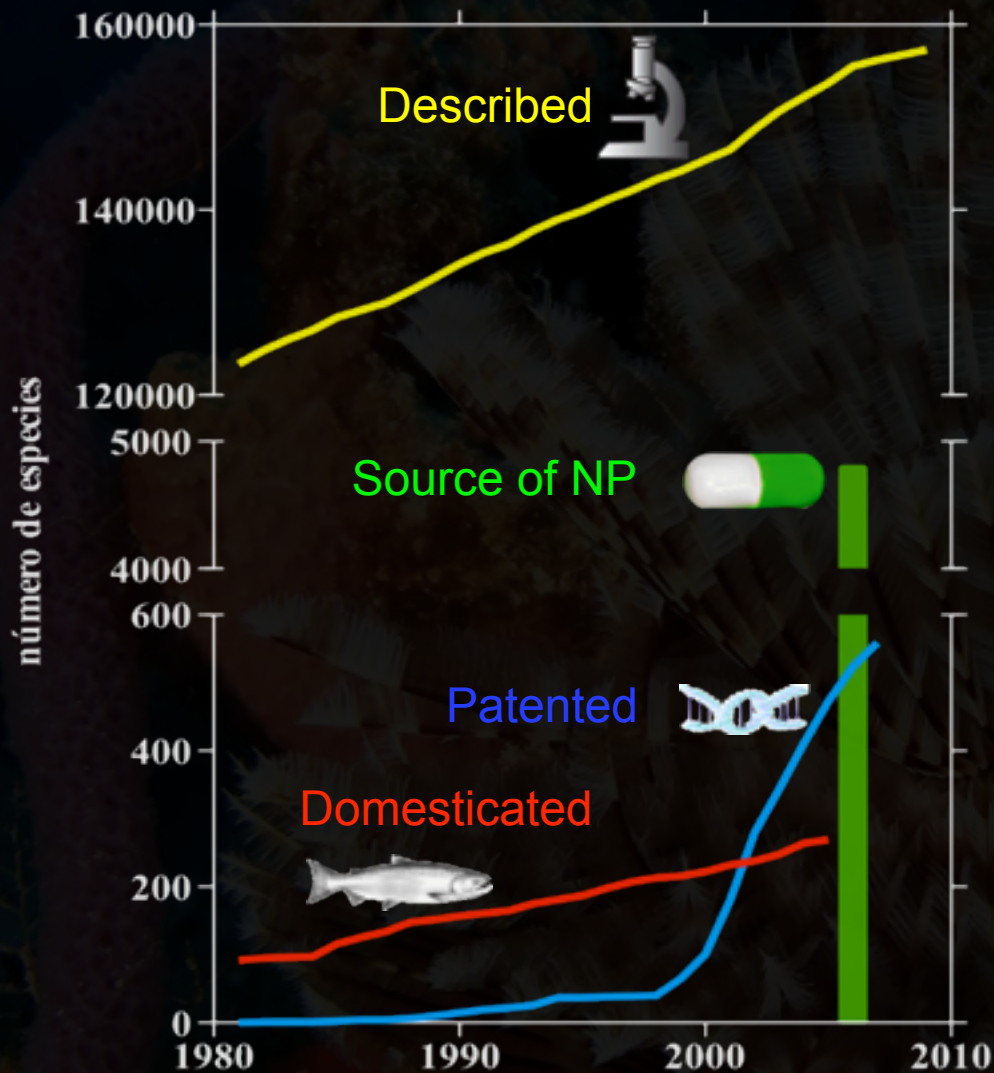
Table 1 Selected marine biotech patents 2005

Patent	Assignee	Publication date	Patent number
Novel polysaccharide obtained from marine bacterium <i>Alteromonas macleodii</i>	Ifremer, Issy-les-Moulineaux, France, and Cooperative Laitiere Ploudaniel, Pancoet, France	January 19, 2005	EP1171625B1
Fluorescent and colored reporter proteins isolated from marine organisms	University of Florida Research Foundation, Gainesville, Florida	March 3, 2005	WO2005019252A2
Novel Agrobacterium with improved production of carotenoids derived from marine strain	Tosoh, Tokyo	March 10, 2005	JP2005058216A
Novel compound derived from marine actinomycete for treating mammalian cell proliferative disorder or bacterial infection	University of California, Oakland, California	March 24, 2005	WO2005025490A2
Equipment for sampling microorganisms from the Earth's crust	Japan Marine Science and Technology Center, Yokosuka, Japan	May 19, 2005	US2005106751A1
Marine yeast component for cancer drug screening	Orient Cancer Therapy, Tokyo	June 16, 2005	WO2005054497A1
Substrate for detection of marine microorganisms	Mitsubishi Jukogyo, Tokyo	July 7, 2005	JP2005176791A
Novel marine Actinomycete	University of California Oakland, California	July 14, 2006	US2005153389A1

Nature Biotechnology (2005)



Number of marine species used



Annual Growth Rate

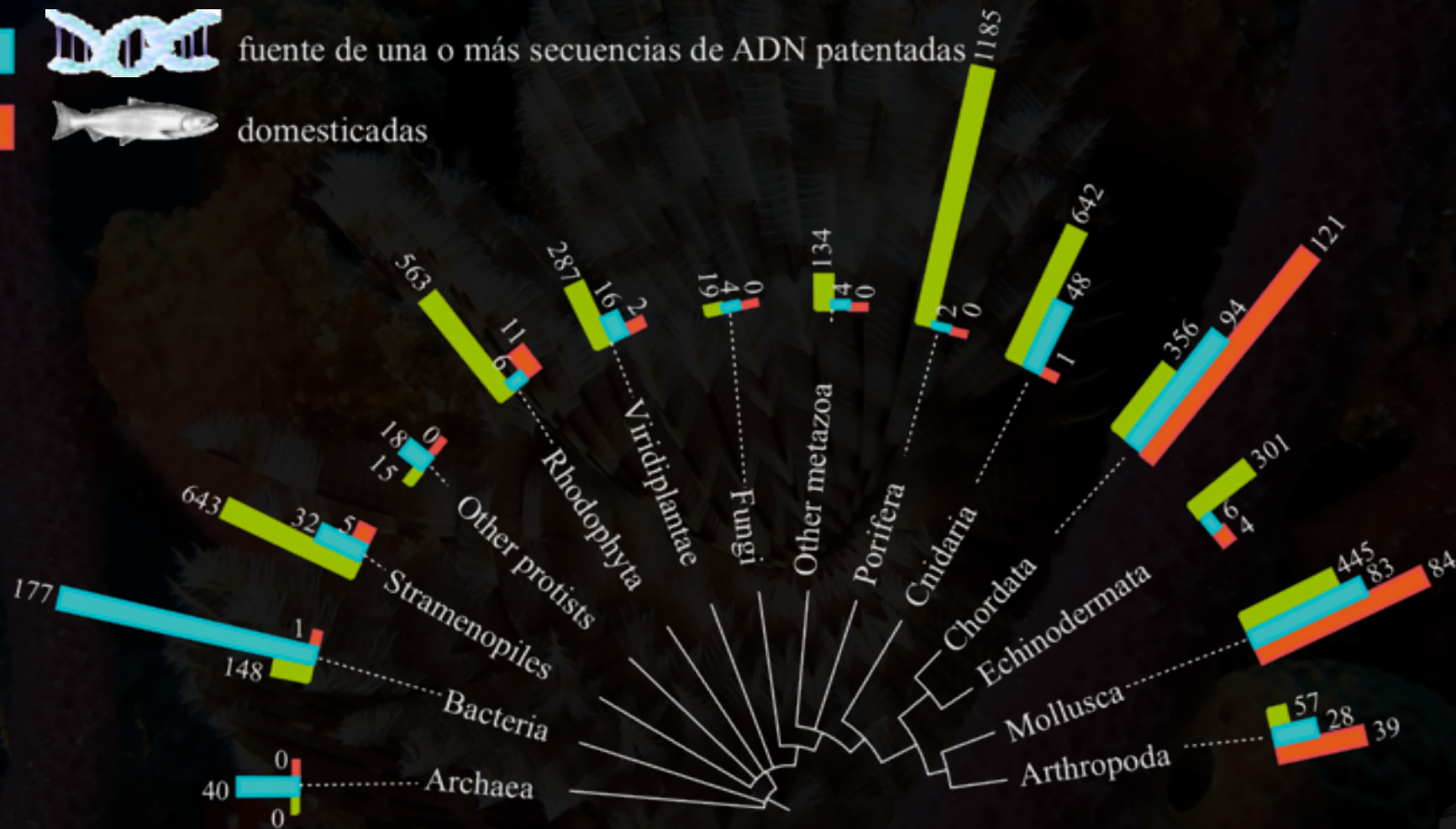
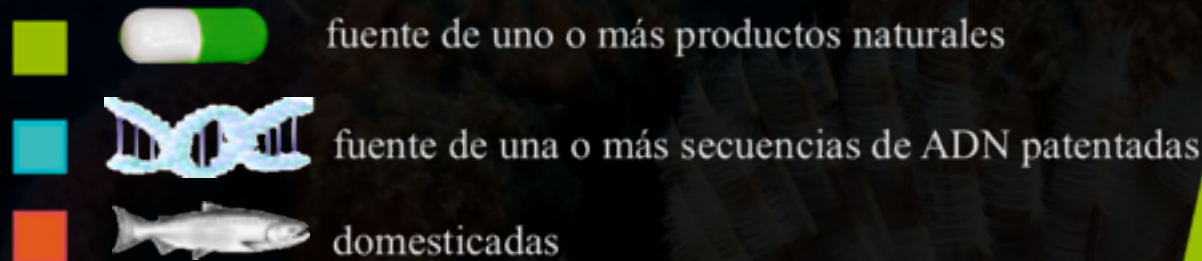
Described
0.91%

Domesticated
2.75%

Patented
12%

Number of marine species

Numero de especies marinas descritas



Comparison with terrestrial species

	Especies descritas			Especies en patentes			Porcentaje de las descritas en patentes		
	Total	terrestres	marinas	Total	terrestres	marinas	Total	terrestres	marinas
	procariotas	7928	7173 90.48%	755 9.52%	1619	1401 86.53%	218 13.47%	20.42%	19.53%
eucariotas	1800000	1653045 91.84%	146955 8.16%	2019	1679 83.16%	340 16.84%	0.11%	0.10%	0.23%
Total	1807928	1660218	147710	3638	3080	558	0.20%	0.19%	0.38%

- Prokaryotes (Bacteria, Archaea) are the best candidates to derive useful genes.
- About twice as many marine species have yielded patentable genes as terrestrial ones.
- The probability to derive a natural product from a marine species is 500 times that for a randomly selected terrestrial species (Venugopal, 2008)

Marine biodiversity

- About 300000 named marine species.
- Likely about 1.4 to 1.6 million marine species in total.
- At present rate of description, 250 to 1000 years for a full inventory of marine species.



Microbial diversity

Some recent examples:

- Rowher et al (2002) → 430 species most new from 14 coral fragments.
- Venter et al. (2004) → 1800 OTUs in a m³ of Sargasso Sea waters, 148 of them unknown.
- Rusch et al (2007) → 811 OTUs in 45 coastal stations, of which 52% were thus unknown.
- Sogin et al (2006) → >6000 OTUs in a L of water, statistical extrapolation: ~25000 species.

Globally, there may be several million species of marine microbes

Sustainable use of marine genetic resources

- Most yet to be discovered → huge potential for future discoveries.
- Bioprospección of genes and natural products does not require large biomass harvest in most cases → a sustainable process.



Are MGR's threatened?

- A third of marine coral reefs are endangered (Carpenter, 2008)
- Los of Arctic ice (ACIA, 2004).
- Out of the 340 especies of marine eukaryotic species described as sources of useful genes:
 - Only 36 appear as in the Red list of IUCN
 - 2 as “Endangered”
 - 6 as “Vulnerable”
 - 7 as “Near Threatened”
 - 10 as “Data deficient”

More will appear...



Biopiracy

- Bioprospecting for genes and natural products require sophisticated methods and is dominated by developed countries.
- Marine genetic resources are often in the waters of developing countries or in international waters.
- **Biopiracy:** Apropiation of natural biological materials by a technological advanced country without a just compensation to the nations in which territory the materials were found

Prospection of natural resources

- UN Convention for the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS)
 - Establish the boundaries of national waters
 - Regulates the use of mineral resources in international waters.
 - Does not regulate the use of biological resources in international waters.
 - Convention for Biological Diversity (CBD)
 - Establishes the rights of the nations to biological resources and obligates signatory countries to share the benefits.
- Not all nations have ratified these conventions
- The use of marine genetic resources meet a legal void in international waters.

Circunnavegation Cruises

The Pioneer



Opening the Global Marque, 16th Century

Magallanes / Elcano, 1519-1522 on board ships Trinidad (capitana), Victoria, San Antonio, Concepción y Santiago.

Goal: Open a route from Occident to the land of the spices
(Molucas)

Circunnavegation Cruises

The Pioneer



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Goal: Open a route from Occident to the land of the spices (Molucas)

Francis Drake, 1577–1580, on board Pelican / Golden Hind.

Goal: Dispute commercial interests to Spain

Circumnavigation cruises

The Illustration

Exploring the Planet, Siglo XVIII

James Cook, 1^a 1768-1771 on board HMS *Endeavour*;
2^a 1772–1775 on board HMS *Resolution*.

Goal: Funded by the Royal Society astronomy, botany and zoology



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Jean-François de La Pérouse, 1777–1780, on board *Boussole and l'Astrolabe*. Goal: Scientific research, commercial and politics .

Incomplete



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Incomplete

Alejandro Malaspina, 1789–1794, on board *Atrevida y la Descubierta*. **Scientific research, oceanography and politics**

Incomplete

Jar
2^a
Go

Jea
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Jar
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J. Craig Venter Institute's Sorcerer II Expedition

Funding provided by:



Results

Sampling and the Metagenomic Dataset

Microbial samples were collected as part of the *Sorcerer II* expedition between August 8, 2003, and May 22, 2004, by the *S/V Sorcerer II*, a 32-m sailing sloop modified for marine research. Most specimens were collected from surface water marine environments at approximately 320-km (200-mile) intervals. In all, 44 samples were obtained from 41

Sample collection.

A YSI (model 6600) multiparameter instrument (<http://www.ysi.com>) was deployed to determine physical characteristics of the water column, including salinity, temperature, pH, dissolved oxygen, and depth. Using sterilized equipment [91], 40–200 l of seawater, depending on the turbidity of the water, was pumped through a 20- μ m nytex prefilter into a 250-l carboy. From this sample, two 20-ml subsamples were collected in acid-washed polyethylene

Deep Malaspinomics:

Microbial genetic and functional diversity
in the world's deep ocean



A few facts about the Dark Ocean

- ▶ Enormous genetic variability contained in the DO
- ▶ Not only phylogenetic but also functional
- ▶ And, very dynamic (much more than previously thought)
- ▶ Microbial life–style adapted to large MW DOM
- ▶ High production of exoenzymes
- ▶ Microbial life–style adapted to survival on particles
- ▶ Very little known of viruses and protists
- ▶ Unclear, yet, effect of pressure on interaction with DOM
- ▶ Dark Ocean is not homogeneous: water mass interfaces appear to be hotspots of microbial activity and diversity

Prokaryote diversity studies in the deep Ocean

▶ FISH

- Crenarchaeota most abundant in the deep ocean

▶ Fingerprinting studies

- richness decreases 25% with depth
- diff. communities in diff. water layers
- according to water-mass characteristics

▶ Clone libraries

- Lots of piezophiles closely related to psychrophiles (same ecol. constraints?)
- enrichment of gamma- and deltaproteobacteria, Actinos, Acidobacter... lack of Bacteroidetes

Backgroup on Marine Deep “Omics”

- ▶ Metagenomics (i.e. no PCR) of the Deep Sea:

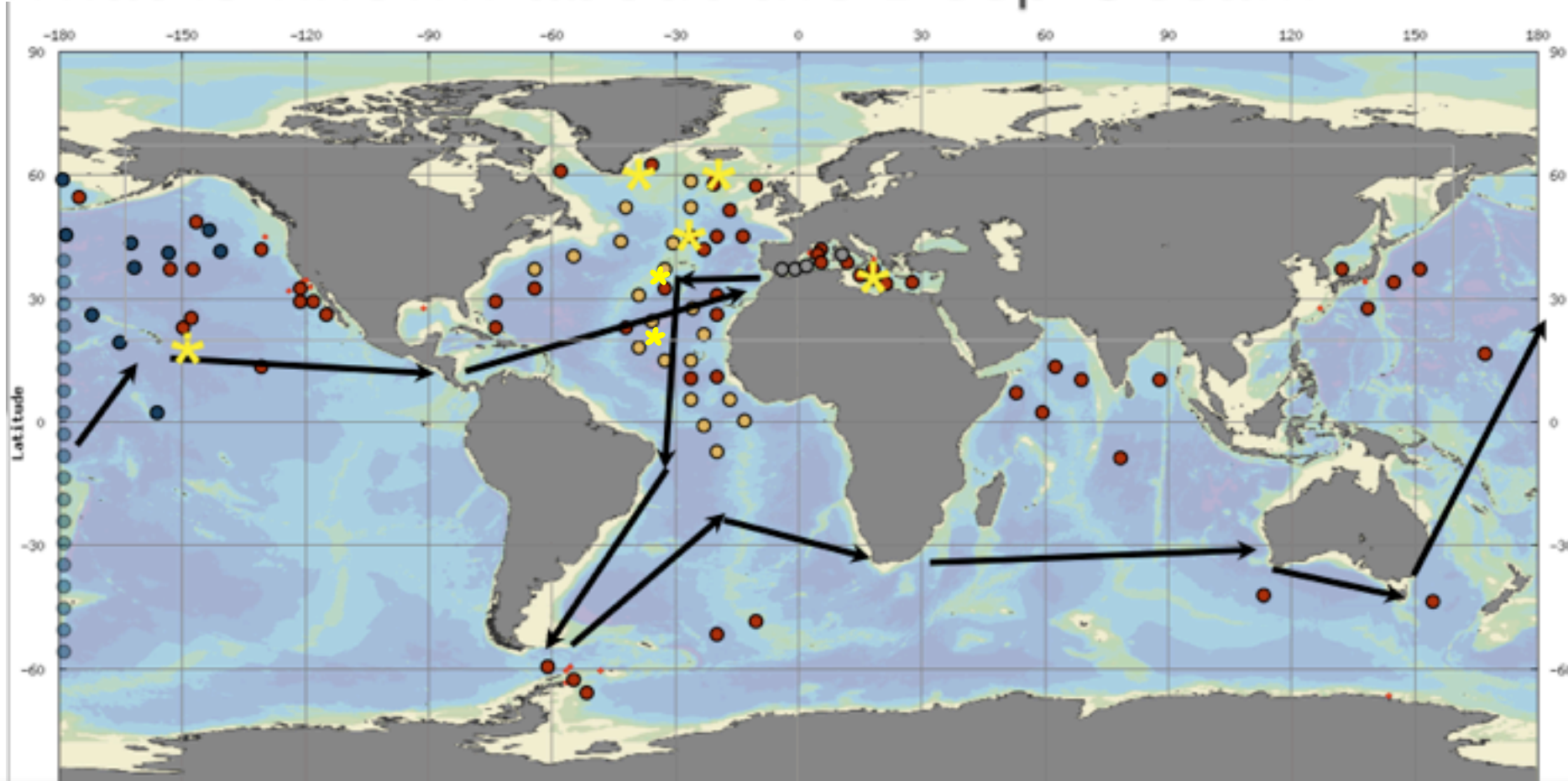
DeLong et al. 2006 (Science)

North–Pacific Subtropical Gyre ALOHA station, ranging from 10 to 4000 m (Temp: 2°C)

Martín–Cuadrado et al. 2007 (PLoSOne)

Comparison btween DeLong dataset and a deep Mediterranean metagenome from 3000 m depth (Km3)

What is known about the Deep Ocean?



The points (in different colors) belong to different studies where microbial deep ocean data exists based on a recent review (Arístegui et al. 2009). The yellow asterisks indicate the sites of 454 tag-sequencing and/or metagenomic studies of the deep ocean, all in the Northern Hemisphere. The Arrows illustrate the Malaspina 2010 path mostly along uncharted deep ocean waters.

The Malaspina cruise (2010–2011)



- ▶ ca. 180 stations with profiles to <4000 m
 - ▶ Bathypelagic DNA samples of 4 z per station
 - ▶ High quality DNA and RNA samples of
 - 60 stations – > 150 L – one depth (at ca. 4000 m)
 - ▶ Ancillary data for all stations:
 - Prokaryote abundance and viability
 - HNF and viruses
 - Prokaryote heterotrophic activity and chemolithoautotrophic CO₂ fixation
 - Exoenzymatic activity
 - Biolog Ecoplates
 - Respiration rates
 - FISH and ¹⁴CO₂ and ³HLeu MARFISH samples
- Physical profiles



What is Deep Malaspinomics?

First sequencing effort:

Proposal for CSP2011 Program by DOE JGI under review in their second stage.

PI: Silvia G. Acinas (ICM, CSIC, Spain)

Co-PIs: José M. González (ULL, Spain), Josep M. Gasol (ICM, CSIC, Spain), Carlos Pedrós–Alió (ICM, CSIC, Spain), Jesús M. Arrieta (IMEDEA, CSIC, Spain), Dolors Vaqué (ICM, CSIC, Spain) and Matthew Sullivan (Univ. Arizona, US)

Collaborators: Ramunas Stepanauskas and Michael Sieracki, Bigelow Laboratory for Ocean Sciences (US)

Technological State of the Art

454 pyrosequencing and Illumina

60 selected samples

From Malaspina deep ocean

30 samples

30 samples

Pyrotagging
(Bacteria & Archaea)
Who is there?

16S rDNA (present)
versus
16S rRNA (active)

Metagenomics
Bacteria and
Viruses

What genes are
present?

Transcriptomics
Bacteria

What are they
doing?

Main Goals of Deep Malaspinomics:

- ▶ Explore the biogeography of deep ocean prokaryotes and associated viruses as it correlates to water masses and to the ecological and oceanographic settings
- ▶ obtain insights on relevant prokaryotic metabolic pathways and their interaction with viruses.
- ▶ usage Single Amplification Genomes (SAGs) as reference genomes for assemblage of the prokaryotic metagenome of the selected deep ocean samples.



Jun 3, 2010 01:45 PM in [Basic Science](#) | [7 comments](#)

What's next for synthetic life?

By [Katherine Harmon](#)



COLD SPRING, N.Y.— J. Craig Venter and his colleagues [recently announced](#) that they had created the first cell to run on a fully artificial genome. So what's next for this synthetic strain of microscopic *Mycoplasma mycoides* and the new technology?

The "synthetic cell" achievement has been [lauded](#), [condemned](#) and [undercut](#), but it has yet to fully demystify life's underlying code, the genome. "It's amazing how little we know about genomics," Venter said June 1 at the [Cold Spring Harbor Symposia on Quantitative Biology](#) in Cold Spring, N.Y.

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Genetics

Microbiology: The business side of synthetic life

J. Craig Venter is more focused on practical applications than playing God.

By Laura Cameron





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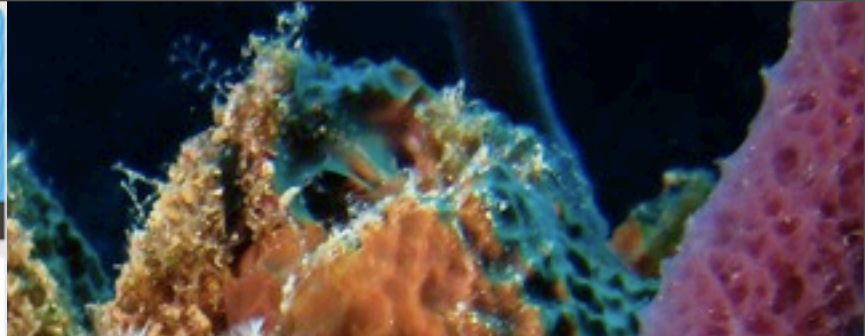
What's next for synthetic life?

By [Katheri](#)

Synthetic Genomics is investigating a naturally occurring organism capable of generating biofuels. ExxonMobil has invested \$600 million in the company to research the possibility of synthesizing algae that converts carbon dioxide into fuel. The partnership is looking at blue-green algae, a one-celled organism found in the ocean that turns carbon into fuel. Venter claims an industrial cell with this function could be worth over \$1 trillion.



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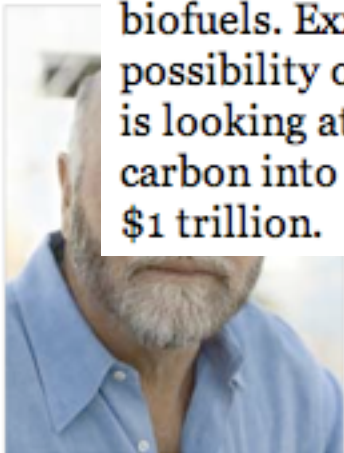


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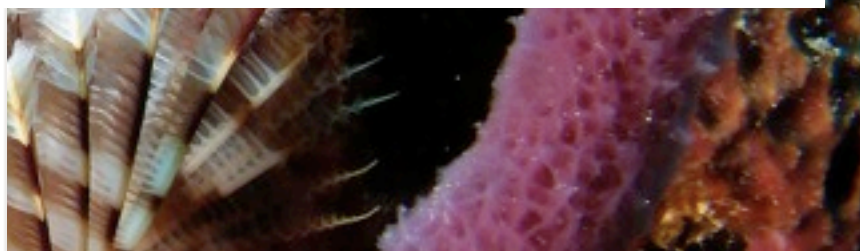
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50 million candidate genes to play with...

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Resumen

1. Marine ecosystems hold great potential to deliver MGRs of commercial interest.
2. The large unexplored biodiversity together with the limited impact of bioprospecting makes this a potentially sustainable process.
3. MGR's must be incorporated into schemes to conserve marine biota.
4. Legal and ethical issues must be addressed and resolved.
5. 21st Century will be the century of Biology.
6. This is very exciting... Open your Eyes!