

# *Tara Oceans and virus ecogenomics*

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NSF EMERGE Biology Integration Institute Executive Committee



# Where are we going?

Why and how do we study viruses  
of microbes?

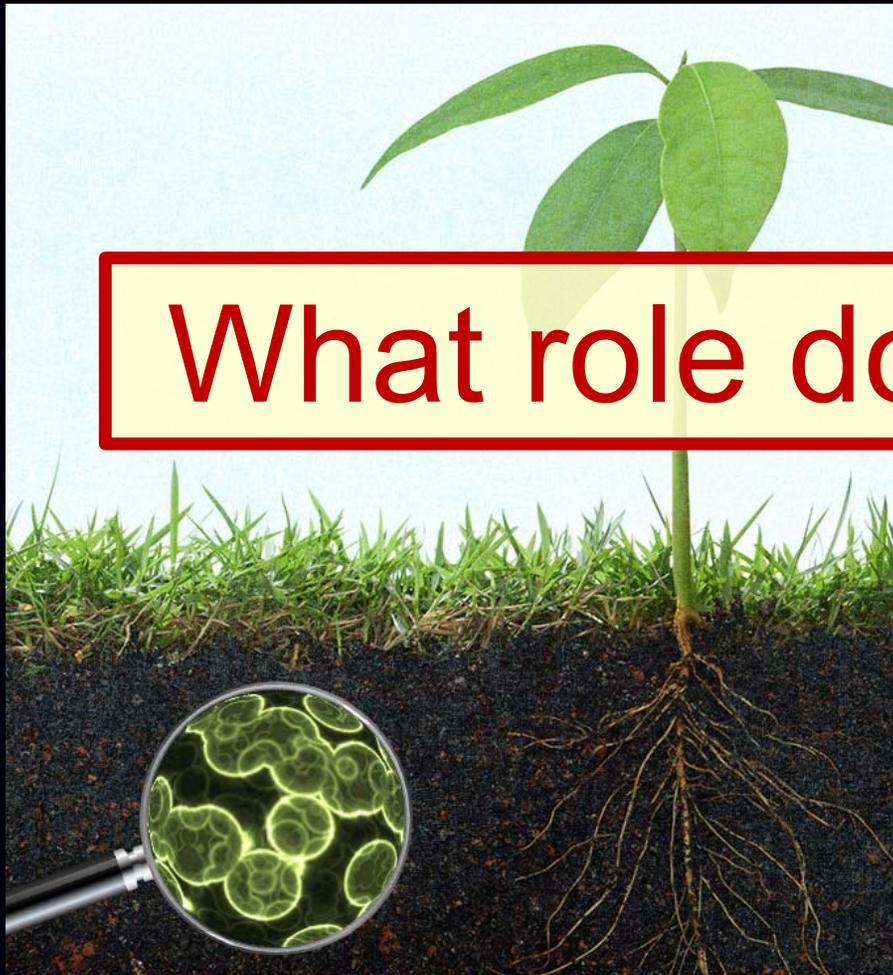
Oceans – patterns, processes and paradigms

# Microbes for ...

nutrients in soils

oxygen  
(half of that in air is from  
*marine* microbes)

What role do viruses play?



modernfarmer.com



# Viruses impact microbes, in the oceans ...

< 1%

(can be cultured)

1/3

(cells killed per day)

50 million  
viruses in a  
mouthful of  
seawater

$10^{29}$

(genes moved per day)



Toxins

Ecosystem  
impacts ?

# How can we study viruses?

REQUIRES A  
CULTIVATED  
HOST

SHAPE, BUT  
NO HOST OR  
BIOLOGY

NUMBERS,  
BUT NO HOST  
OR BIOLOGY

**Virus Ecogenomics**  
(genome seq'g in ecological context)

6 yrs to get quantitative  
data and establish  
what to count

Plaque

Electron microscopy

Fluorescence  
microscopy

Human Lab, USC

# Viruses in the global oceans

Patterns, Processes, Paradigms



# Viruses in the global oceans

Patterns, Processes, Paradigms



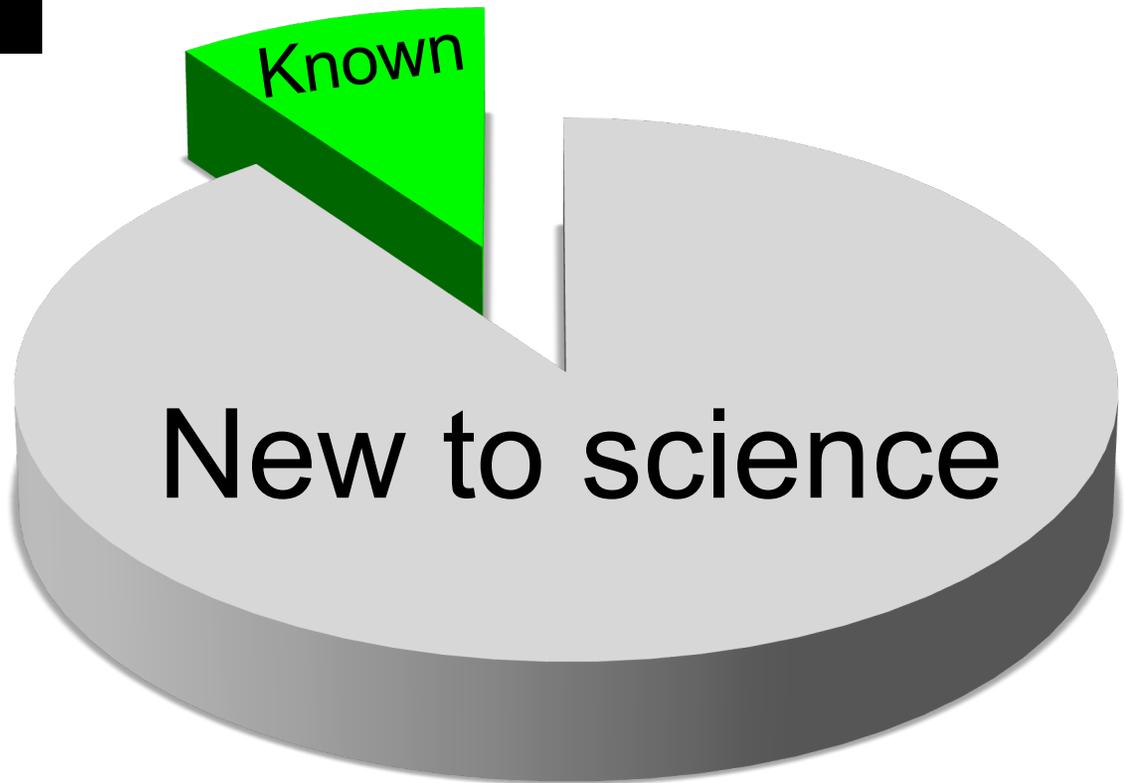
# *Tara* Oceans: A 30+ PI international consortium

The *Tara*:  
Our research  
vessel





Most (90%) of what  
we observe is  
*unknown*



# Cataloging viruses – globally

( 1 picture ~ 1000 known viruses of microbes )

Machine learning  
for taxonomy

Jang et al. 2019. *Nature Biotech*

Now 200K  
virus species

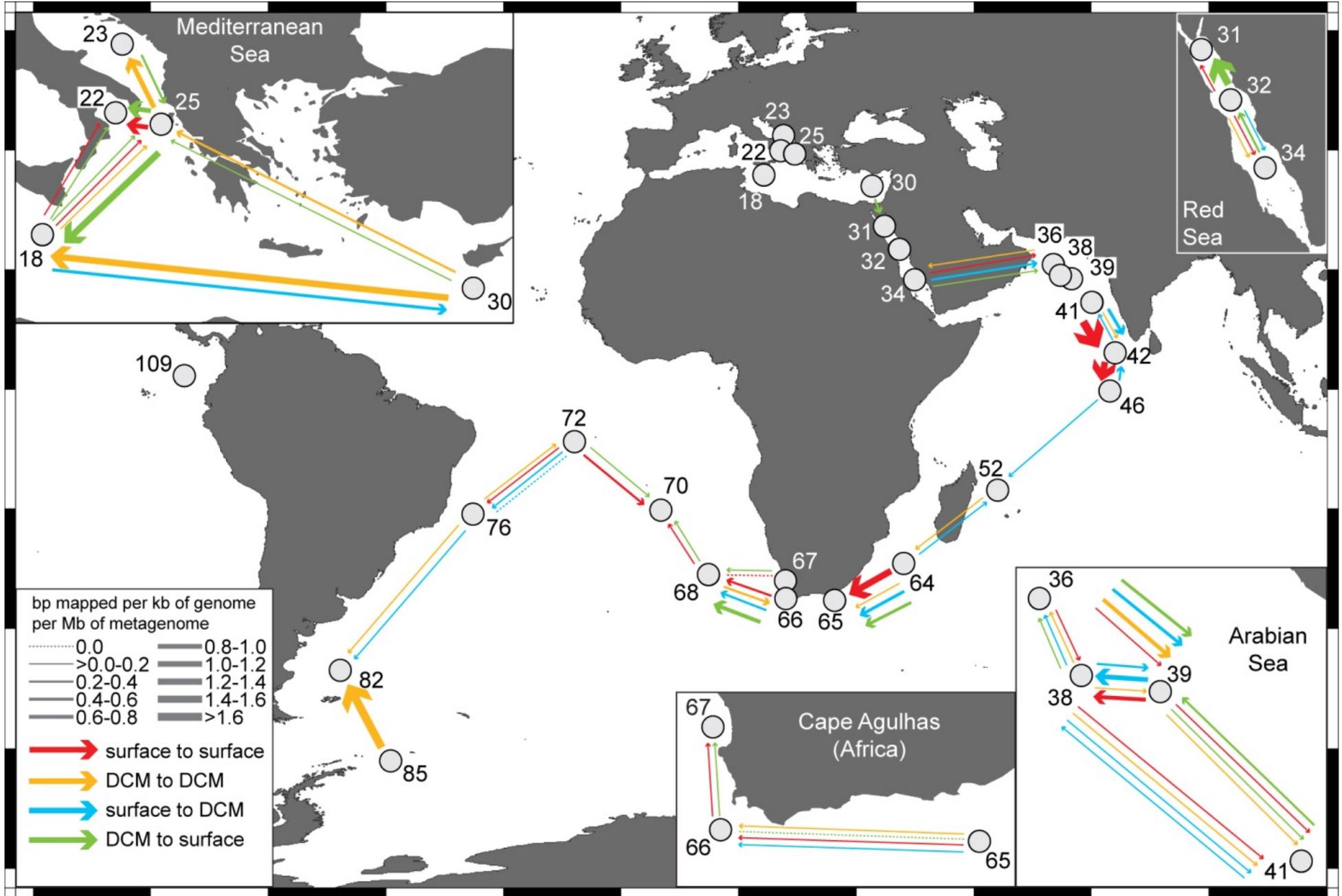
Gregory & Zayed et al. 2019. *Cell*

5.5K from Brum, Ignacio-Espinoza & Roux et al. 2015. *Science*

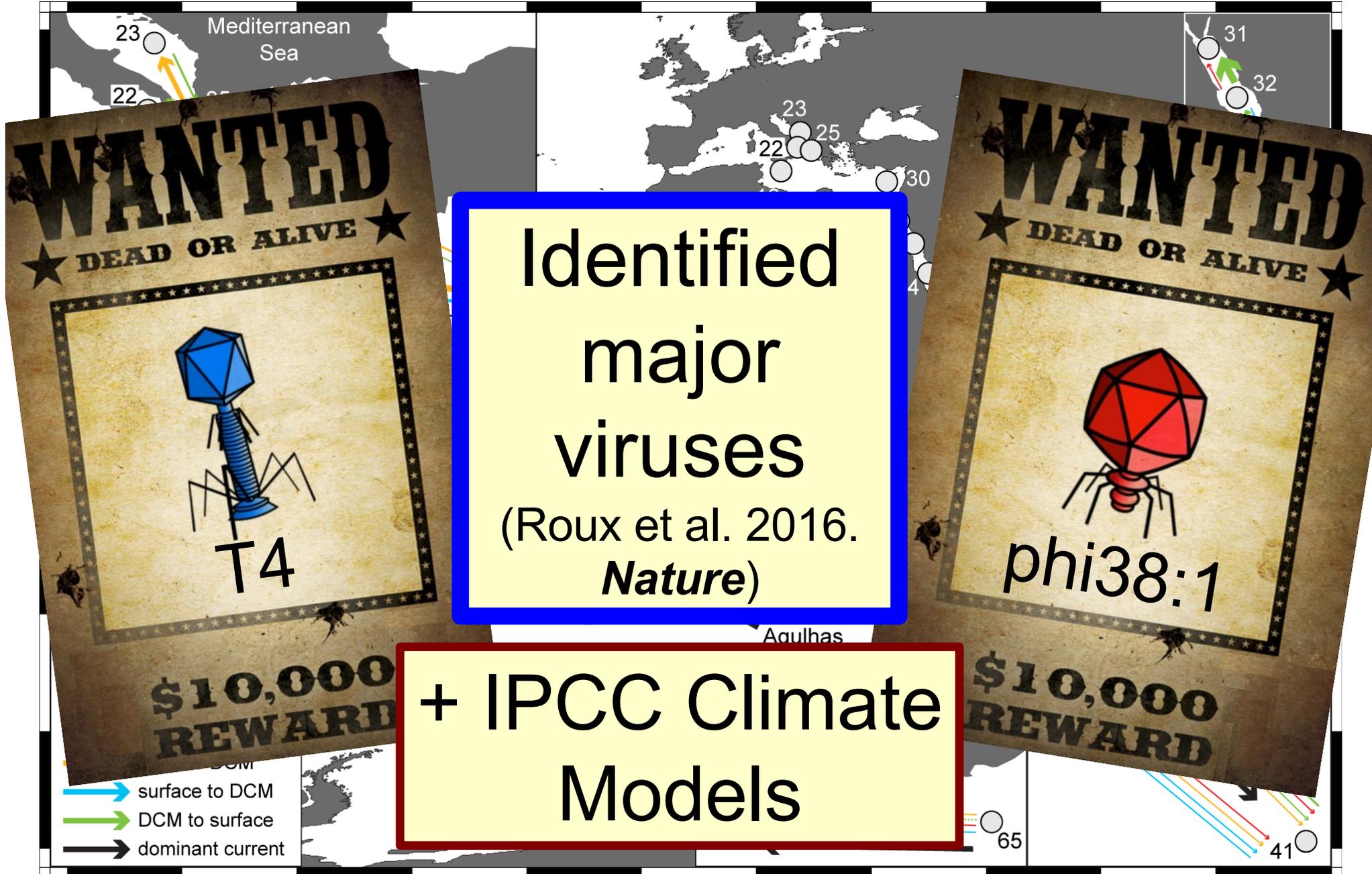
10K from Roux et al. 2016. *Nature*. / 12.5K from Roux et al. 2015. *eLife*. 08490

Virus Art by Joanne Emerson, Sheri Flöge, Consuelo Gazitua, Kate Hargreaves, Simon Roux

# Patterns: Genome-enabled virus tracking



# Genomic tracking: Viruses 'ride' ocean currents

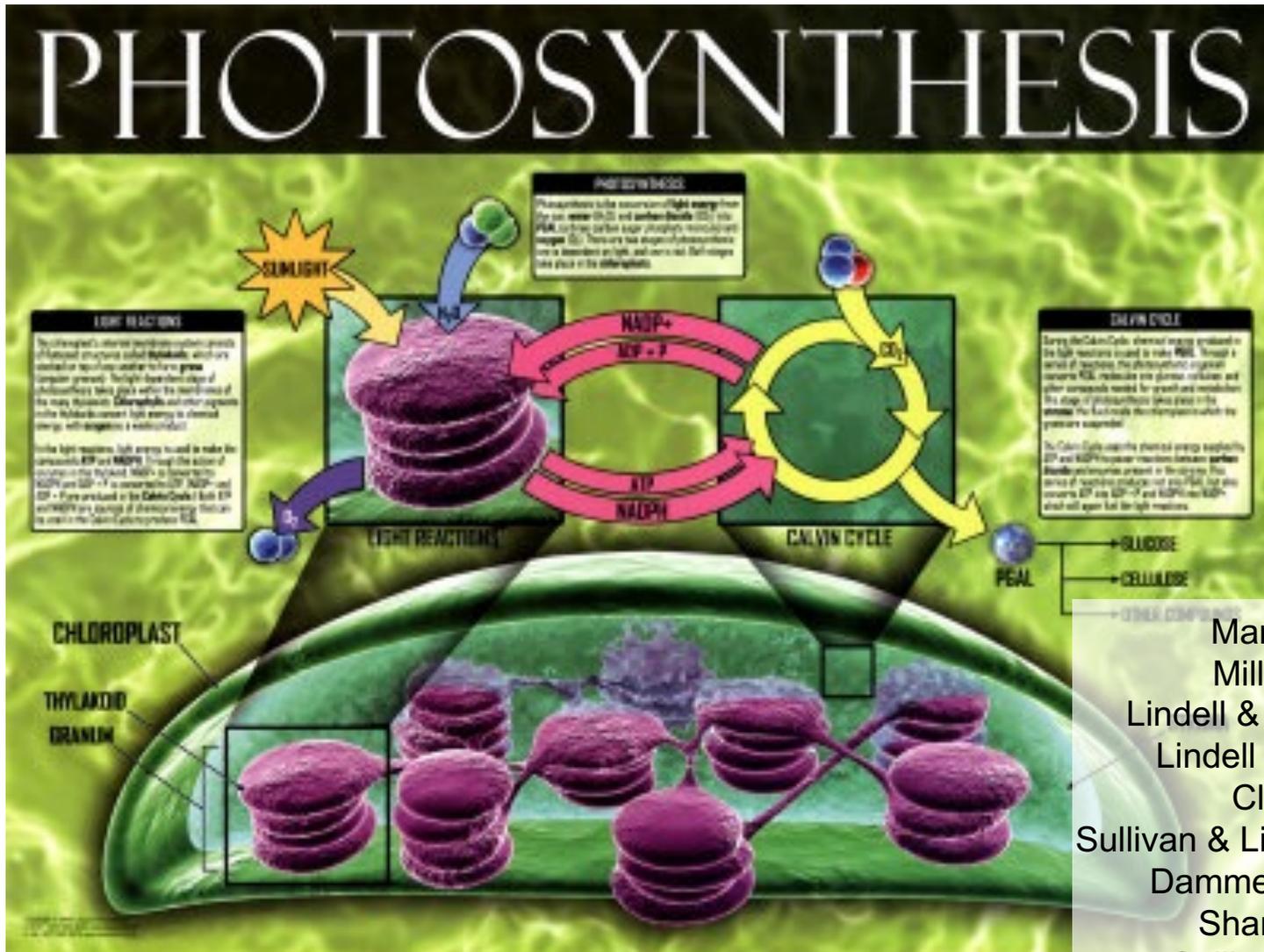


# Viruses in the global oceans

Patterns, Processes, Paradigms



# Viruses impact processes through metabolic reprogramming by AMG<sup>\*</sup>



Mann et al. *Nature*. 2003.  
 Millard et al. *PNAS*. 2004  
 Lindell & Sullivan et al. *PNAS*. 2004.  
 Lindell et al. *Nature*. 2005, 2007.  
 Clokie et al. *EM*. 2006.  
 Sullivan & Lindell et al. *PLoS Biology*. 2006  
 Dammeyer et al. *Curr. Biol*. 2008.  
 Sharon et al. *Nature*. 2009.  
 Sullivan et al. *EM*. 2005, 2010.  
 Fridman et al. *Nature Microbiol*. 2017.

\* AMG<sup>s</sup> = Auxiliary Metabolic Genes



# Viruses in the global oceans

Patterns, Processes, Paradigms

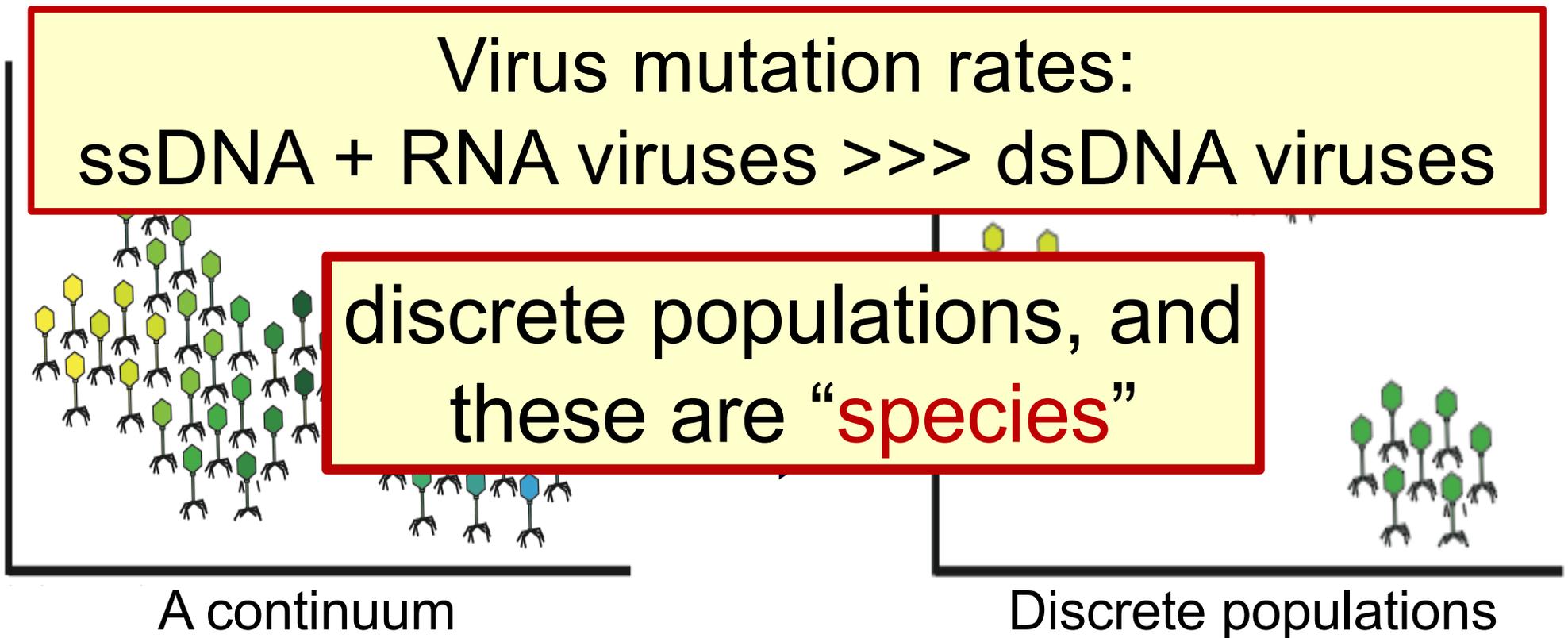


# Paradigms?

#1 – virus sequence space

# Can we, and how do we identify viral 'populations' in environmental data?

The paradigm: viral genomes are subject to rampant mosaicism, so continuum expected

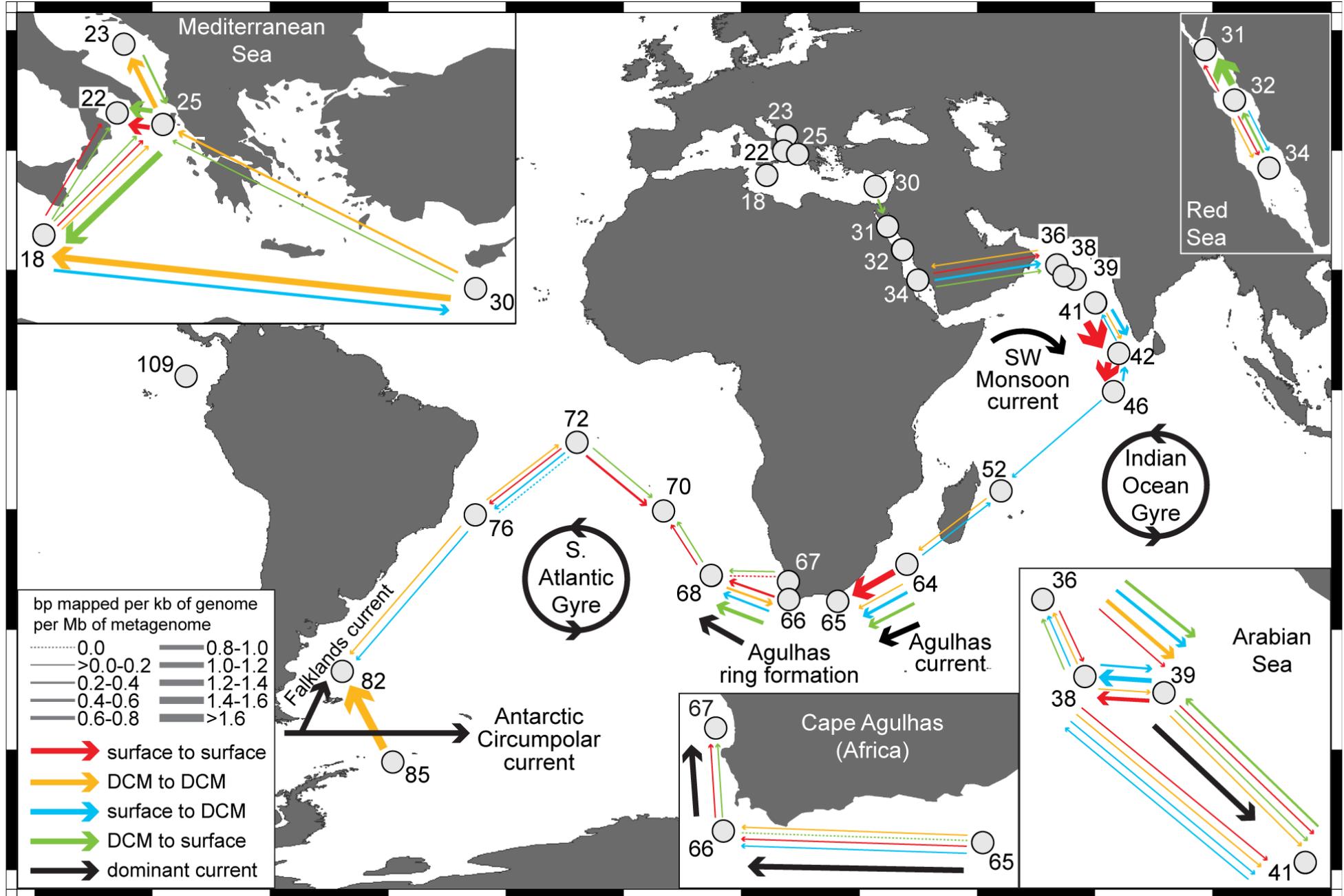


# Paradigms?

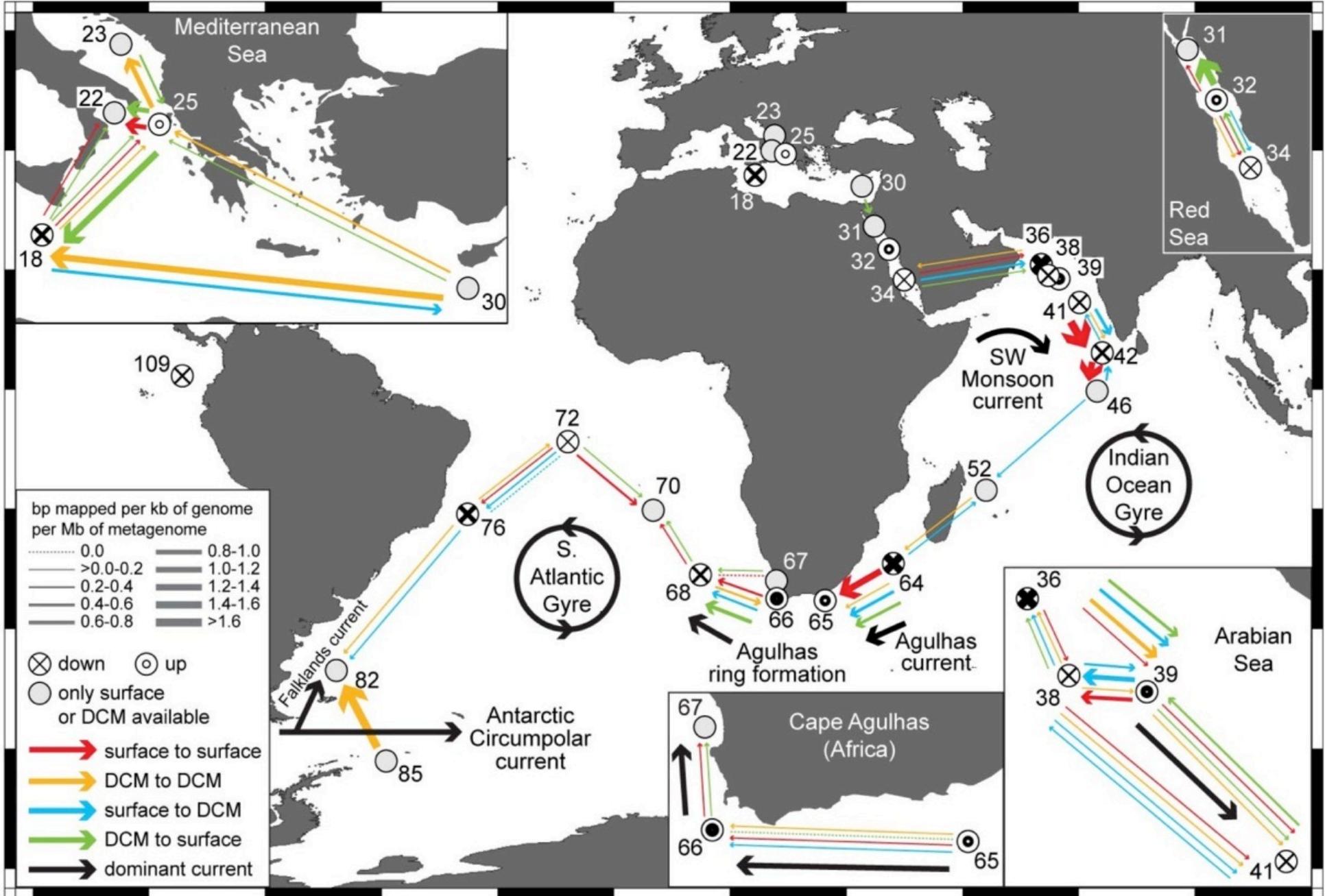
#1 – virus sequence space

#2 – the ocean C pump

# Genomic tracking: Viruses 'ride' ocean currents

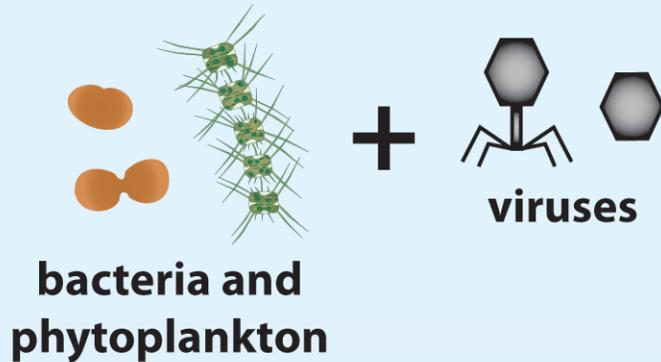


# Viruses 'sink' at many stations – why ?



# *Paradigm:*

## **Viral lysis increases recycling of organic matter**

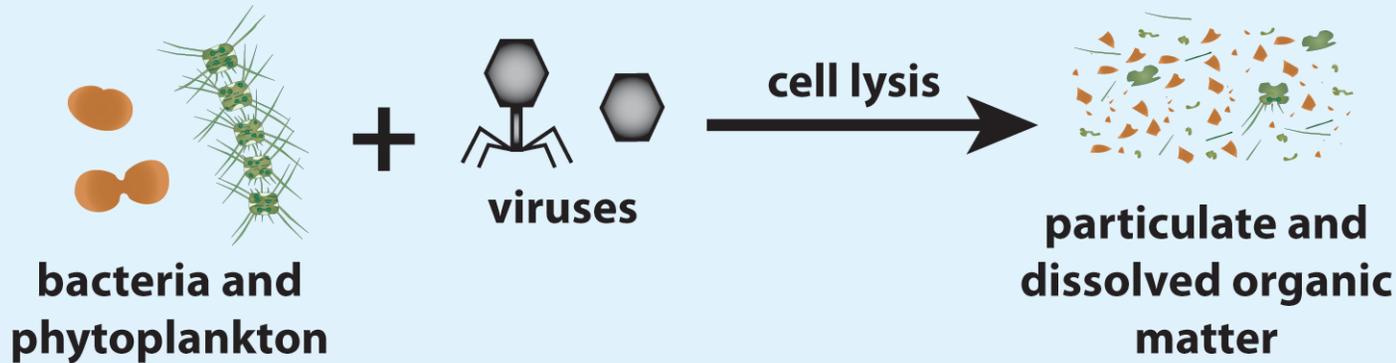


slides from  
Jenn Brum



# *Paradigm:*

## **Viral lysis increases recycling of organic matter**

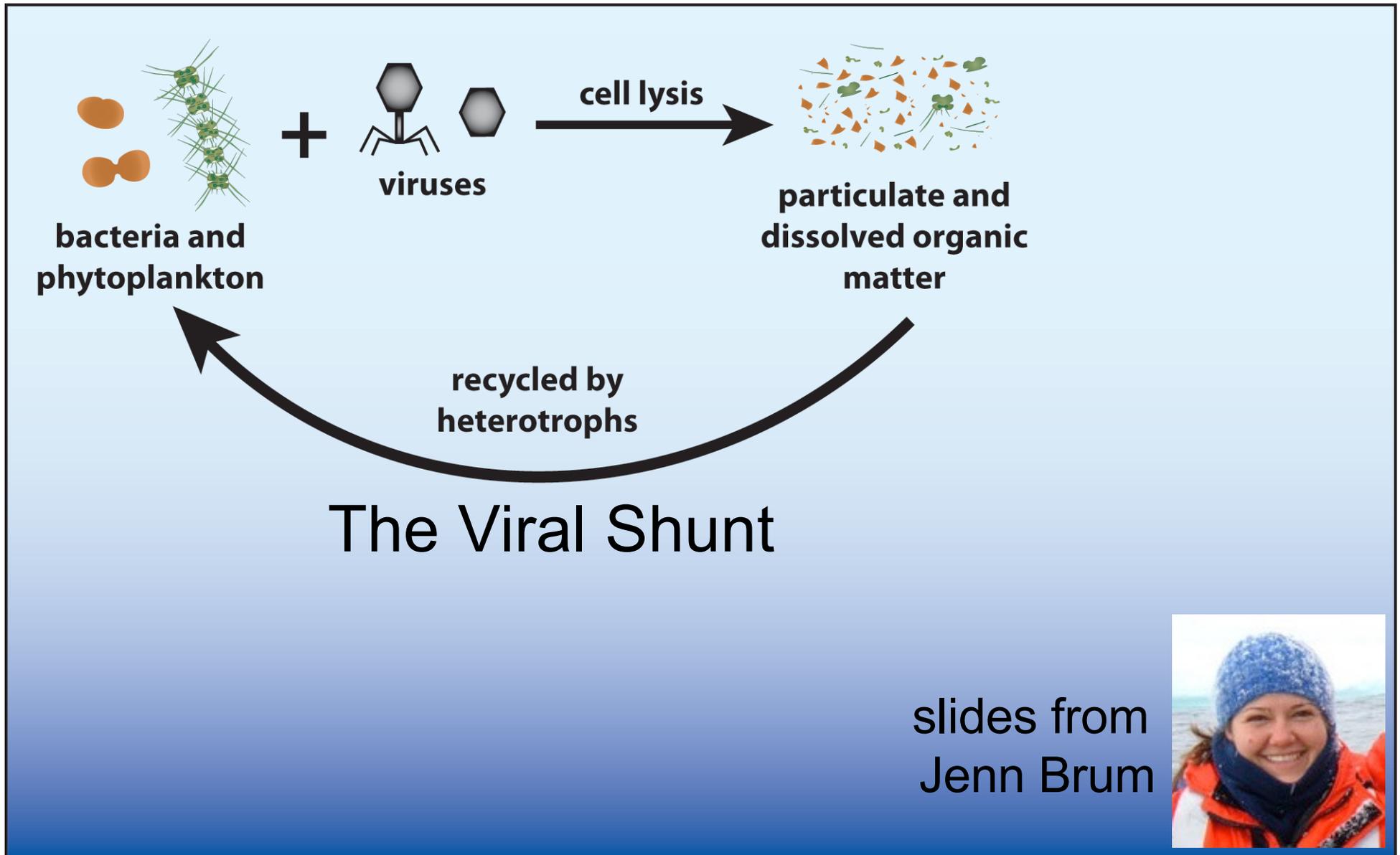


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# *Paradigm:*

## **Viral lysis increases recycling of organic matter**

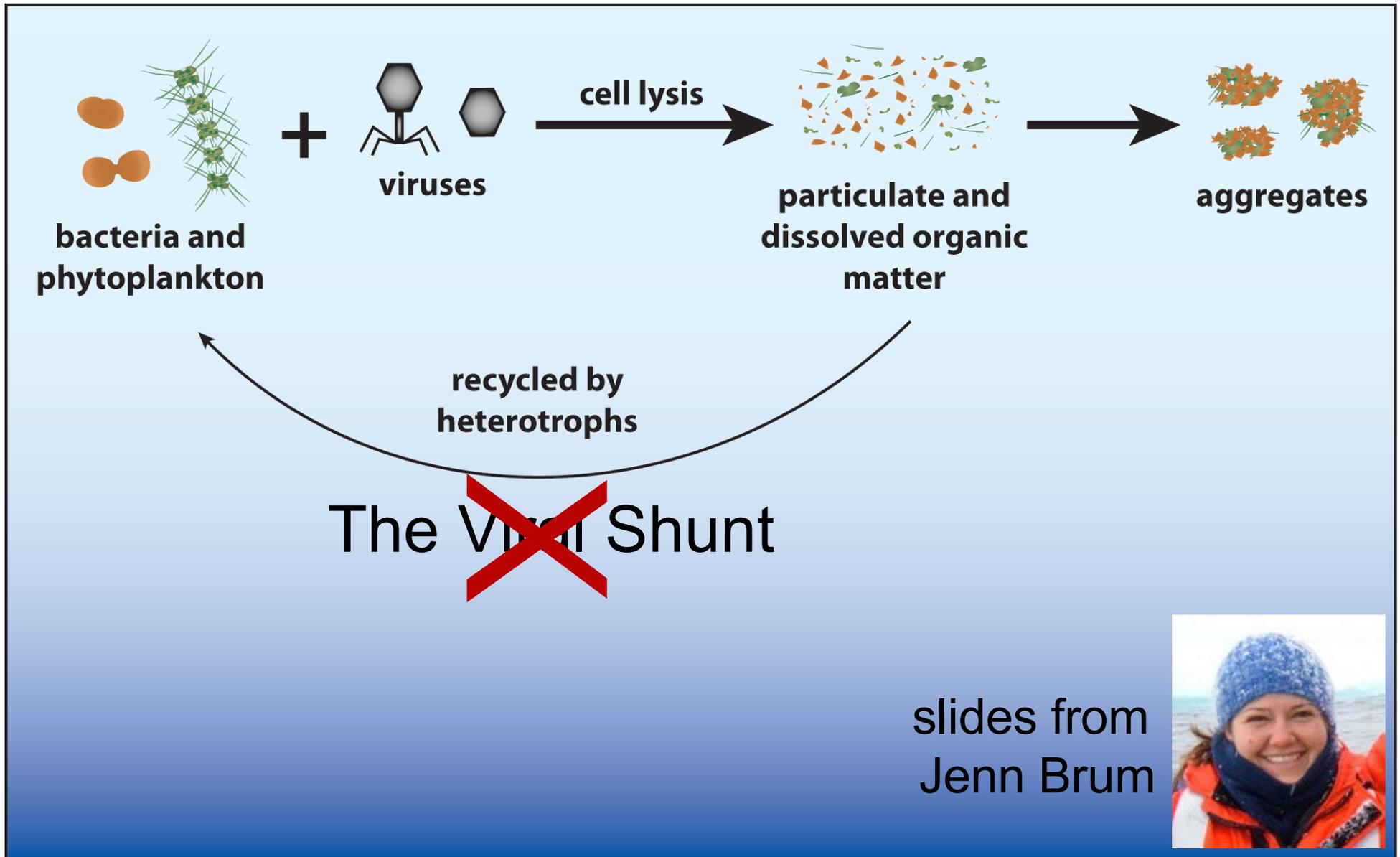


slides from  
Jenn Brum



## *Alternative hypothesis:*

# Viral lysis increases export via **aggregate formation**

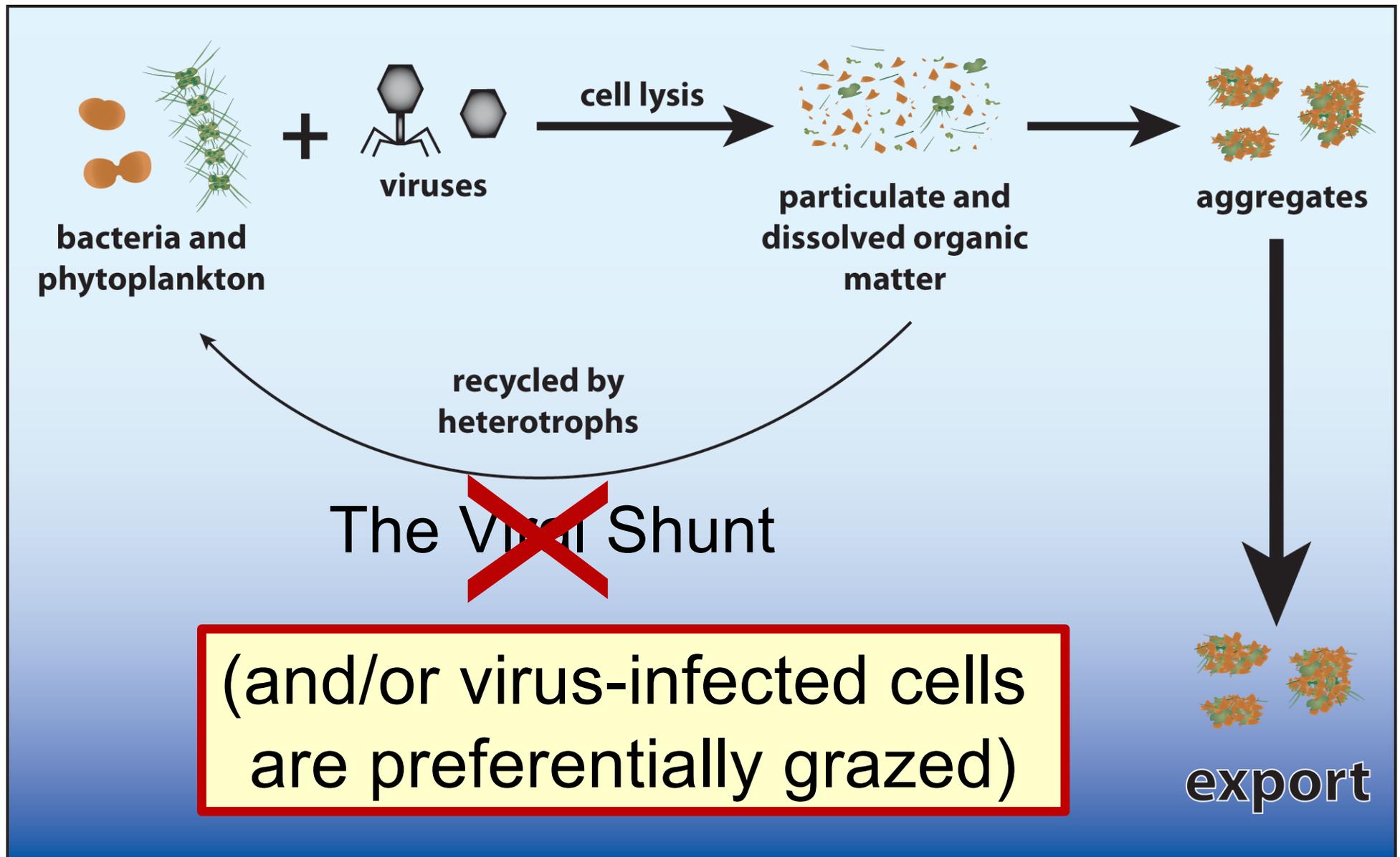


slides from  
Jenn Brum



## *Alternative hypothesis:*

# Viral lysis increases export via **aggregate formation**



test by 'genes-to-ecosystems' modeling  
using *Tara Oceans* data



# Plankton networks driving carbon export in the oligotrophic ocean

Lionel Guidi<sup>1,2\*</sup>, Samuel Chaffron<sup>3,4,5\*</sup>, Lucie Bittner<sup>6,7,8\*</sup>, Damien Eveillard<sup>9\*</sup>, Abdelhalim Larhlimi<sup>9</sup>, Simon Roux<sup>10†</sup>, Youssef Darzi<sup>3,4</sup>, Stephane Audic<sup>8</sup>, Léo Berline<sup>1†</sup>, Jennifer Brum<sup>10†</sup>, Luis Pedro Coelho<sup>11</sup>, Julio Cesar Ignacio Espinoza<sup>10</sup>, Shruti Malviya<sup>7†</sup>, Shinichi Sunagawa<sup>11</sup>, Céline Dimier<sup>8</sup>, Stefanie Kandels-Lewis<sup>11,12</sup>, Marc Picheral<sup>1</sup>, Julie Poulain<sup>13</sup>, Sarah Searson<sup>1,2</sup>, *Tara Oceans* Consortium Coordinators‡, Lars Stemmann<sup>1</sup>, Fabrice Not<sup>8</sup>, Pascal Hingamp<sup>14</sup>, Sabrina Speich<sup>15</sup>, Mick Follows<sup>16</sup>, Lee Karp-Boss<sup>17</sup>, Emmanuel Boss<sup>18</sup>, Hiroyuki Ogata<sup>19</sup>, Stephane Pesant<sup>20,21</sup>, Jean Weissenbach<sup>13,21,22</sup>, Patrick Wincker<sup>13,21,22</sup>, Silvia G. Acinas<sup>23</sup>, Peer Bork<sup>13,24</sup>, Colomban de Vargas<sup>8</sup>, Daniele Iudicone<sup>25</sup>, Matthew B. Sullivan<sup>10†</sup>, Jeroen Raes<sup>3,4,5</sup>, Eric Karsenti<sup>7,14</sup>, Chris Bowler<sup>7</sup> & Gabriel Gorsky<sup>1</sup>

Guidi, Chaffron, Bittner & Eveillard et al. 2016. *Nature*. 532: 465-70.

Lucie Bittner



Samuel Chaffron



Lionel Guidi

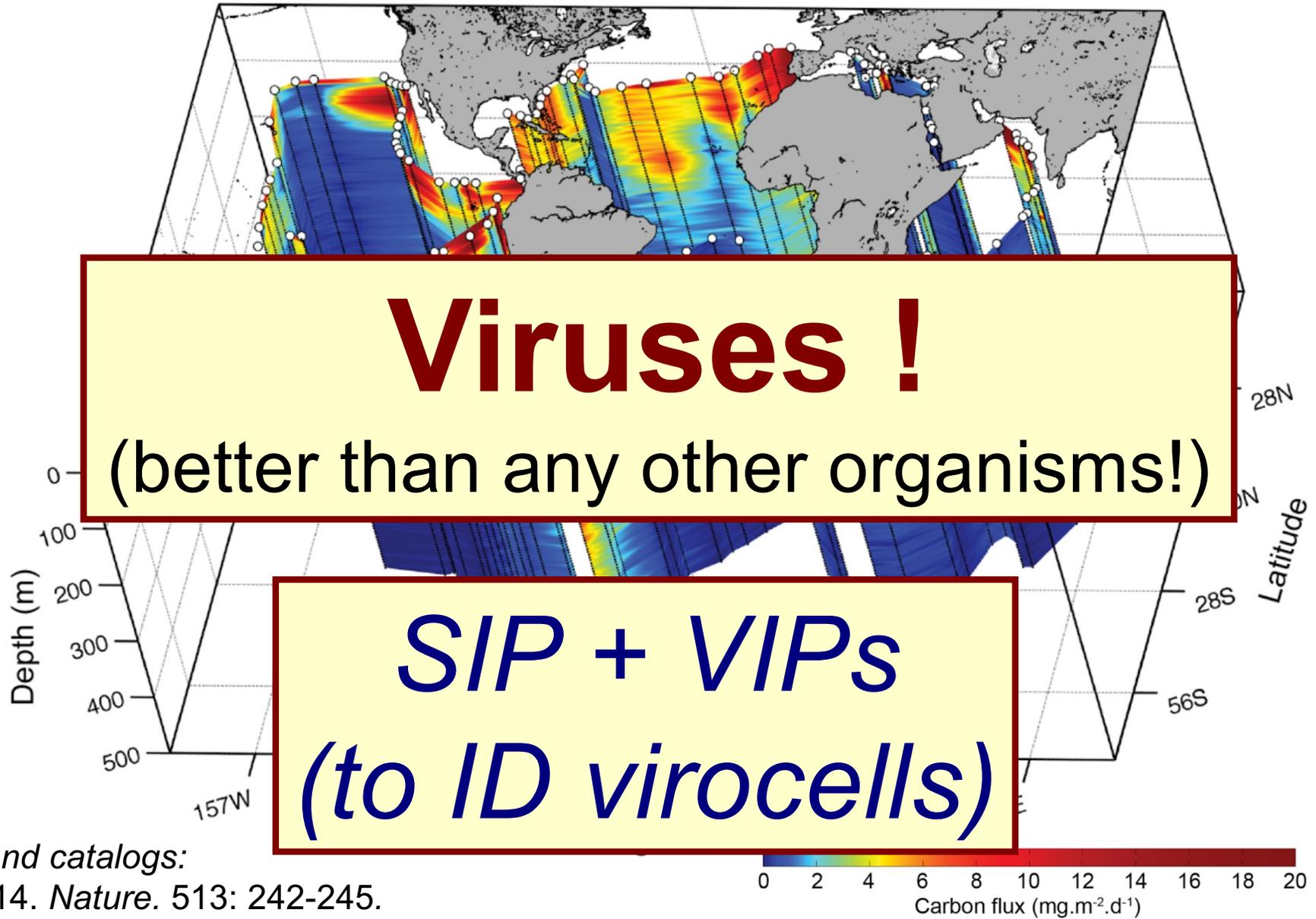
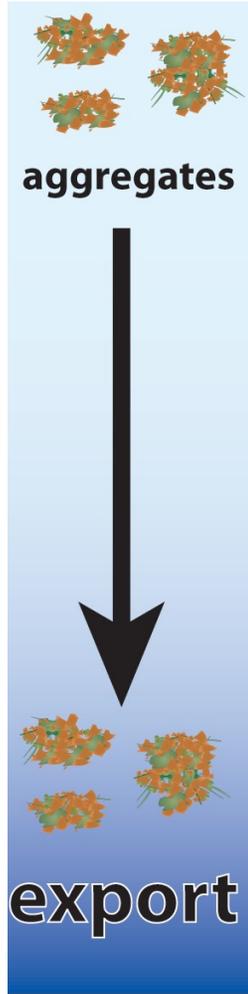


Damien Eveillard



# Which organisms drive carbon export in the oceans?

Viral lysis  
forms ...



**Viruses !**  
(better than any other organisms!)

*SIP + VIPs*  
(to *ID virocells*)

*Viral ecology and catalogs:*

Deng et al. 2014. *Nature*. 513: 242-245.

Brum et al. 2015. *Science*. 348: 1261498.

Roux et al. 2016. *Nature*. 537: 689-693.

Gregory et al. 2019. *Cell*. 177: 1109-23.

*Genes-to-ecosystems modeling:*

Guidi et al. 2016. *Nature*. 532: 465-70.

That was all DNA viruses ...

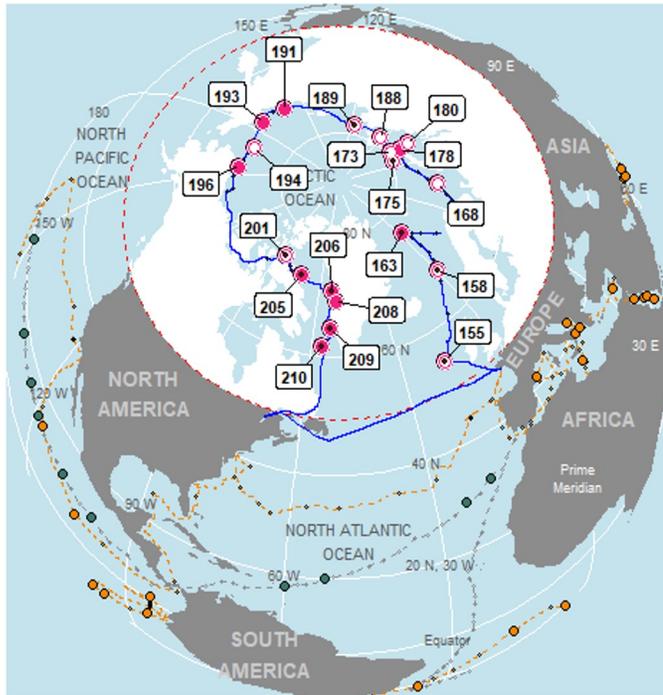
what about **RNA**

viruses?

(likely more impt for eukaryotes)

# RNA virus discovery, doubles known phyla

Oceans have ALL 20 classes,  
49/103 families (**99.7% new spp**)  
+ 5 new RNA virus phyla

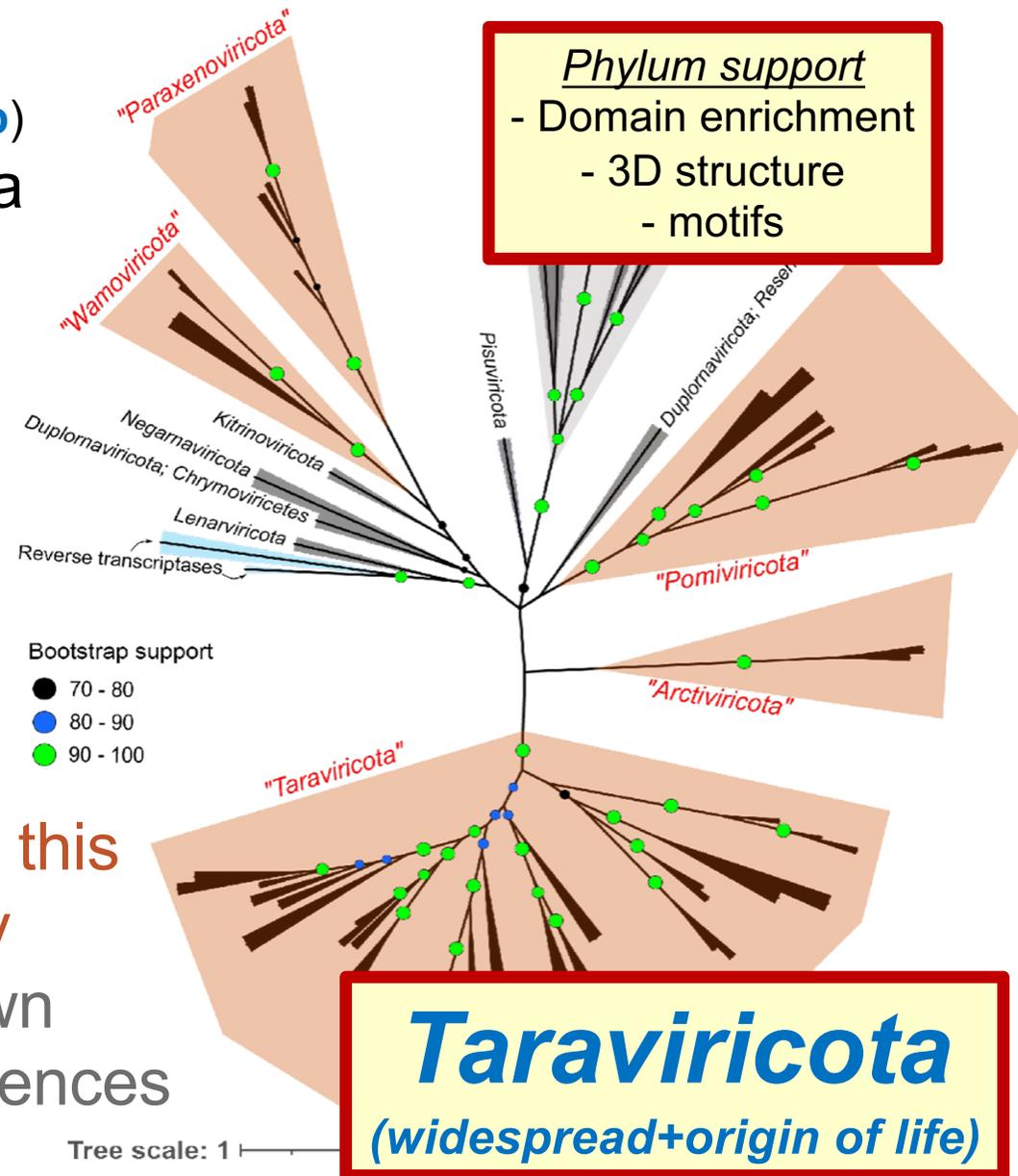


28 Tb = 44K contigs =  
6,686 “complete” RdRp

Zayed, Wainaina & Dominguez-Huerta  
*et al.* 2022. *Science*. 376: 156-162.

New, this  
study  
Known  
sequences

Also see “ecology” companion paper =  
Dominguez-Huerta & Zayed *et al.*  
2022. *Science*. 376: 1202-8.



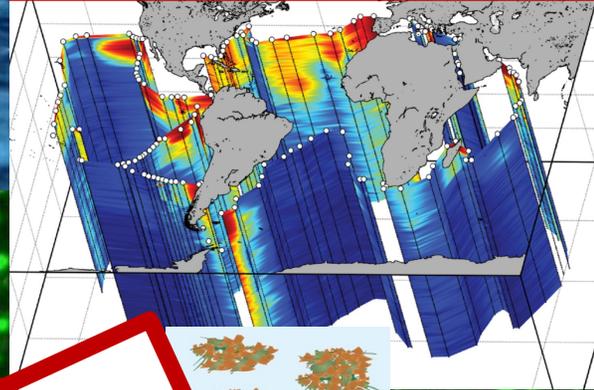
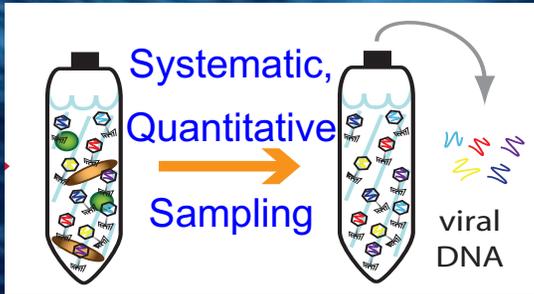
**Taraviricota**  
(widespread+origin of life)

# Oceans viruses

## Genes-to-ecosystems

Population-based science (dsDNA)

# TARA OCEANS



A global catalog – 200K

## Acknowledgements

Ben Bolduc, Jennifer Brum, Sheri Flöge, Ann Gregory, Karin Holmfeldt, Cristina Howard-Varona, Bonnie Hurwitz, Ho Bin Jang, Simon Roux, Ahmed Zayed

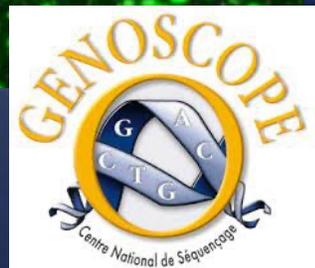
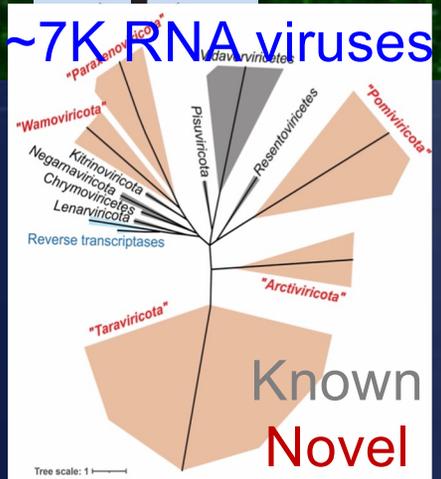
# iVirus

viruses + C flux + VIPs



Genome-based taxonomy

# AMGs



Brum & Sullivan. 2015. *Nat. Rev. Micro.* / Brum, Ignacio-Espinoza & Roux et al. 2015. *Science* / Roux et al. 2016. *Nature*. / Roux et al. 2015. *eLife*. 08490 / Guidi, Bitner, Chaffron, Eveillard et al. 2016. *Nature* / Howard-Varona et al. 2018. *ISME J* / Gregory & Zayed et al. 2019. *Cell* / Jang & Bolduc et al. 2019. *Nature Biotechnology* / Howard-Varona et al. 2020. *ISME J* / Zayed, Wainaina & Dominguez-Huerta et al. 2022. *Science* / Dominguez-Huerta & Zayed et al. 2022. *Science*