



# GENETICS

F O U R T H E D I T I O N

PETER J. RUSSELL

# GENETICS

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*Fourth Edition*

*Peter J. Russell*

REED COLLEGE

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*Genetics*, Fourth Edition

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# PREFACE

## OVERVIEW OF THE TEXT

Genetics has long been one of the core areas in biology, and in the now thirty years since the DNA mysteries were first unravelled, our knowledge and understanding about genetics and its related disciplines has progressed at an incredible rate. The many applications of this exciting flood of discoveries continue to affect our daily lives and bring benefit to humanity.

*Genetics*, Fourth Edition, has been crafted carefully to present comprehensive, quality coverage of the field of genetics in an accessible manner. As with the previous editions, this new edition emphasizes an experimental, inquiry-based approach with solid treatment of many of the research experiments that have contributed to our knowledge of the subject. In this way students are exposed to the “process of science,” that is, the way research scientists pose scientific hypotheses, design experiments to test those hypotheses, and analyze the data produced by the experiments. Learning about the formulation and study of scientific questions is of value not only in genetics, but in all other areas of biology, as well as in other fields of science. Great care has been taken to keep the text accessible to students by making it easy to read, with a consistent level of coverage and a logical development of ideas throughout. Many significant advances have been made in the field of genetics since the last edition, particularly those resulting from the use of molecular experimental approaches. The important advances have been included in this edition with an effort to ensure that the concepts being taught are not obscured by excessive facts and detail. *Genetics*, Fourth Edition, is an ideally suitable text for students who have had some background in biology and chemistry, and who are interested in learning the concepts of genetics from a research-oriented perspective.

This edition of *Genetics* retains the overall approach, logical progression of ideas, organization, and pedagogical features (such as “Principal Points,” “Keynotes,” “Summaries,” and “Analytical Approaches for Solving Genetics Problems”) that have made previous editions valued learning tools for students of genetics. It also retains a format that allows in-

structors to use the chapters out of sequence to accommodate various teaching strategies.

The fourth edition includes the following improvements:

- A new introductory chapter discusses the main branches of genetics, geneticists and their areas of research, and the main properties of genes in order to introduce this exciting, provocative field, and to acquaint the student with what is to come.
- All the molecular aspects of genetics are updated, so that the book continues to reflect our current understanding of genes at the molecular level.
- Human examples are used more extensively throughout the text, particularly with regard to new molecular understandings of various human genetic diseases.
- The coverage of recombinant DNA technology has been updated and expanded to reflect the rapid developments in that area. For example, a description of the cloning of the human cystic fibrosis gene is included as an illustration of how human genes may be isolated and studied.
- The chapters on “Transcription” and “RNA Molecules and RNA Processing” are now integrated into one chapter.
- The chapter on “Chromosomal Mutations” is now placed earlier in the text within the transmission genetics section to link the material more closely with the understanding of the relationship between genes and chromosomes developed in the early chapters. The involvement of triplet repeat mutations in certain human genetic diseases is included in this revised chapter.
- The chapters on genetics of populations and quantitative genetics have been revised by Robert Kaplan of Reed College and are now presented in the order “Population Genetics,” then “Quantitative Genetics” to reflect the logical progression from studies of heredity in groups or individuals for traits determined by one or a few genes, to studies of heredity in groups or individuals for traits determined by many genes.
- New questions and problems have been added throughout the book, many of them supplied by reviewers.

- A new appendix has been added, detailing Barbara McClintock's extraordinary contributions to the study of genetics.
- Many new references have been added to the "suggested readings" that accompany each chapter.

## ORGANIZATION AND COVERAGE

The three major areas of genetics—transmission genetics, molecular genetics, and population and quantitative genetics—are covered in 22 chapters. Chapter 1 is an introductory chapter designed to summarize the main branches of genetics, to explain what geneticists do and what their areas of research encompass, and to introduce the main properties of genes and the main experimental approaches used in genetics research today. The next seven chapters deal with transmission of the genetic material. Chapters 2 and 3 present the basic principles of genetics in relation to Mendel's laws. Chapter 2 is focused on Mendel's contributions to our understanding of the principles of heredity, while Chapter 3 covers mitosis and meiosis in the context of both animal and plant life cycles, the experimental evidence for the relationship between genes and chromosomes, and methods of sex determination. Mendelian genetics in humans is introduced in Chapter 2 with a focus on pedigree analysis and autosomal traits. The topic is continued in Chapter 3 with respect to sex-linked genes.

The exceptions to and extensions of Mendelian analysis (such as the existence of multiple alleles, the modification of dominance relationships, gene interactions and modified Mendelian ratios, essential genes and lethal alleles, and the relationship between genotype and phenotype) are described in Chapter 4. In Chapter 5, we describe how the order of and distance between the genes on eukaryotic chromosomes are determined in genetic experiments designed to quantify the crossovers that occur during meiosis. Chapter 6 considers advanced mapping analysis in eukaryotes, focusing on tetrad analysis, primarily in fungal systems; on mapping eukaryotic genes through mitotic analysis; and using somatic cell hybrids to map genes in human chromosomes. With the understanding of the relationship between genes and chromosomes obtained from Chapters 2 through 6, chromosomal mutations—changes in normal chromosome structure or chromosome number—are discussed in Chapter 7. Chromosomal mutations in eukaryotes and human disease syndromes that result from chromosomal mutations, including the recently discovered triplet repeat mutations, are emphasized.

In Chapter 8, we discuss the ways of mapping genes in bacteriophages and in bacteria, which take advantage of the processes of transformation, conjugation, and transduction. Fine structure analysis of bacteriophage genes concludes this chapter.

Chapters 9 through 15 comprise the "molecular core" of *Genetics*, Fourth Edition, detailing the current level of our knowledge about the molecular aspects of genetics. In Chapter 9, we examine some aspects of gene function, such as the genetic control of the structure and function of proteins and enzymes, and the role of genes in directing and controlling biochemical pathways. A number of examples of human genetic diseases that result from enzyme deficiencies are described to reinforce the concepts. The discussion of gene function in Chapter 9 enables students to understand the important concept that genes specify proteins and enzymes, setting them up for the following chapters in which gene structure and expression is discussed.

In Chapter 10, we cover the structure of DNA, presenting the classical experiments that revealed DNA and RNA to be genetic material and that established the double helix model as the structure of DNA. The details of DNA structure and organization in prokaryotic and eukaryotic chromosomes are set out in Chapter 11. We cover DNA replication in prokaryotes and eukaryotes, and recombination between DNA molecules in Chapter 12.

After thoroughly explaining the nature of the gene and its relationship to chromosome structure, in Chapter 13 we discuss the first step in the expression of a gene—transcription. First, we describe the general process of transcription and then present the currently understood details of the transcription of messenger RNA, transfer RNA, and ribosomal RNA genes, and the processing of the initial transcripts to the mature RNAs for both prokaryotes and eukaryotes. In Chapter 14, we describe the structure of proteins, the evidence for the nature of the genetic code, and a detailed expression of our current knowledge of translation in both prokaryotes and eukaryotes. A brief discussion of how eukaryotic proteins are sorted to the compartments in which they function is also included in Chapter 14. In Chapter 15, we discuss recombinant DNA technology and other molecular techniques that are now essential tools of most areas of modern genetics. There are descriptions of the use of recombinant DNA technology to clone and characterize genes and to manipulate DNA, followed by a discussion of the applications of recombinant DNA technology in the analysis of biological processes, the diagnosis of human diseases, the isolation of human genes, the Human Genome Project (with the goal of mapping and sequencing the complete

genomes of humans and other selected organisms), forensics (DNA fingerprinting), gene therapy, the development of commercial products, and the genetic engineering of plants.

The next two chapters focus on regulation of gene expression in prokaryotes (Chapter 16) and eukaryotes (Chapter 17). In Chapter 16, we discuss the operon as a unit of gene regulation, the current molecular details in the regulation of gene expression in bacterial operons, and regulation of genes in bacteriophages. In Chapter 17, we explain how eukaryotic gene expression is regulated, stressing molecular changes that accompany gene regulation, short-term gene regulation in simple and complex eukaryotes, gene regulation in development and differentiation, and immunogenetics.

In Chapters 18 and 19, we describe some of the ways in which genetic material can change or be changed. Chapter 18 covers the processes of gene mutation, the procedures that screen for potential mutagens and carcinogens (the Ames test), some of the mechanisms that repair damage to DNA, and some of the procedures that are used to isolate particular classes of mutants from a heterogeneous population. Chapter 19 presents the structures and movements of transposable genetic elements in prokaryotes and eukaryotes, as well as discussions of tumor viruses, focusing on retroviruses and the oncogenes they may carry.

In Chapter 20, we address the organization and genetics of extranuclear genomes of mitochondria and chloroplasts. We cover the current molecular information about the organization of genes within the extranuclear genomes, and the classical genetic experiments that are used to study the inheritance of extranuclear genes. New to this chapter are discussions of RNA editing and genomic imprinting.

In Chapters 21 and 22, we describe the genetics of populations and quantitative genetics, respectively. In Chapter 21, "Population Genetics," we present the basic principles in population genetics, extending our studies of heredity from the individual organism to a population of organisms. This chapter includes an integrated discussion of the developing area of conservation genetics. In Chapter 22, "Quantitative Genetics," we consider the heredity of traits in groups of individuals that are determined by many genes simultaneously. In this chapter we also discuss heritability: the relative extent to which a characteristic is determined by genes or by the environment. Both Chapters 21 and 22 include discussions of the application of molecular tools to these areas of genetics. Chapter 21, for example, includes a section on measuring genetic variation with RFLPs and DNA sequencing, and a discussion of molecular evolution.

## PEDAGOGICAL FEATURES

Because the field of genetics is complex, making the study of it potentially difficult, we have incorporated a number of special pedagogical features to assist students and to enhance their understanding and appreciation of genetic principles. These features have proved to be very effective in previous editions of this text:

- Each chapter opens with an outline of its contents and a section called "Principal Points." Principal Points are short summaries that alert students to the key concepts they will encounter in the material to come.
- Throughout each chapter, strategically placed "Keynote" summaries emphasize important ideas and critical points.
- Important terms and concepts—highlighted in bold—are clearly defined where they are introduced in the text. For easy reference, they are also compiled in a Glossary at the back of the book. The Glossary includes the page numbers on which the term and concepts are introduced so students can look up the definitions and easily find the text location to read more about them.
- Some chapters include boxes covering special topics related to chapter coverage. Some of these boxed topics are: *Genetic Terminology* (Chapter 2); *Denaturation-Renaturation Analysis of DNA* (Chapter 11); *Equilibrium Density Gradient Centrifugation* (Chapter 12); *Labeling of DNA* (Chapter 15); *Hardy, Weinberg, and the History of Their Contribution to Population Genetics* (Chapter 21); and *Analysis of Genetic Variation with Protein Electrophoresis* (Chapter 21).
- Chapter summaries close each chapter, further reinforcing the major points that have been discussed.
- With the exception of the introductory Chapter 1, all chapters conclude with a section entitled "Analytical Approaches for Solving Genetics Problems." Genetics principles have always been best taught with a problem-solving approach. However, beginning students often do not acquire the necessary experience with basic concepts that would enable them to attack assigned problems methodically. In the "analytical approaches" sections (pioneered in earlier editions of this text), typical genetic problems are talked through in step-by-step detail to help students understand how to tackle a genetics problem by applying fundamental principles.
- The problem sets that close the chapters include

approximately 530 questions and problems designed to give students further practice in solving genetics problems. The problems for each chapter represent a range of topics and difficulty. The answers to questions indicated by an asterisk (\*) can be found at the back of the book, and answers to all questions are available in a separate supplement, the *Study Guide and Solutions Manual*.

- Comprehensive and up-to-date suggested readings for each chapter are listed at the back of the book.
- Special care has been taken to provide the most useful Index—extensive, accurate, and well cross-referenced.

## SUPPLEMENTS

A *Study Guide and Solutions Manual* to accompany this text has been prepared by Bruce Chase of the University of Nebraska. In addition to detailed solutions for all the problems in the text, the *Guide* contains the following features for each chapter: a review of important terms and concepts; an “Analytical Approaches for Solving Genetics Problems” section, which provides guidance and tips on solving problems and avoiding common pitfalls; and additional questions for practice and review.

The study guide includes a variety of essays, multiple choice and matching questions, Key Terms and Concepts, Chapter Outline, Approach to Analytical Thinking and Comprehensive Solutions.

An Instructor’s Manual/Test Bank, prepared by Holly Ahern of Adirondack Community College, is also available to adopters. The Instructor’s Manual includes such features as Learning Objectives and Chapter Outlines. The Test Bank includes approximately 900 questions consisting of multiple choice, fill in the blanks and true/false.

A set of 134 full-color transparencies is available to adopters of the text.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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*Peter J. Russell*



# DETAILED CONTENTS

## PREFACE

### 1

## GENETICS: AN INTRODUCTION 1

### THE BRANCHES OF GENETICS 2

### RELATIONSHIP OF GENETICS TO OTHER AREAS OF BIOLOGY 2

### GENETICISTS AND GENETICS RESEARCH 2

What Are Geneticists? 3

What Is Basic and Applied Research? 3

What Organisms Are Suitable for Genetic Experimentation? 5

### THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE FIELD OF GENETICS 9

What Is the Nature of the Genetic Material? 9

How Is the Genetic Material Transmitted from Generation to Generation? 9

What Are Genetic Maps? 12

What Are Genes at the Molecular Level? 12

How Is Gene Expression Controlled? 14

What Experimental Approaches Are Commonly Used in Genetics Research Today? 14

### SUMMARY 16

### 2

## MENDELIAN GENETICS 17

### PRINCIPAL POINTS 18

### GENOTYPE AND PHENOTYPE 18

### MENDEL'S EXPERIMENTAL DESIGN 20

### MONOHYBRID CROSSES AND MENDEL'S PRINCIPLE OF SEGREGATION 22

The Principle of Segregation 26

Representing Crosses with a Branch Diagram 27

Confirming the Principle of Segregation: The Use of Testcrosses 29

### DIHYBRID CROSSES AND THE MENDELIAN PRINCIPLE OF INDEPENDENT ASSORTMENT 31

The Principle of Independent Assortment 31

Branch Diagram of Dihybrid Crosses 33

Trihybrid Crosses 34

### "REDISCOVERY" OF MENDEL'S PRINCIPLES 34

### STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF GENETIC DATA: THE CHI-SQUARE TEST 36

### MENDELIAN GENETICS IN HUMANS 38

Pedigree Analysis 38

Examples of Human Genetic Traits 39

### SUMMARY 41

### ANALYTICAL APPROACHES FOR SOLVING GENETICS PROBLEMS 42

### QUESTIONS AND PROBLEMS 43

### 3

## CHROMOSOMAL BASIS OF INHERITANCE, SEX DETERMINATION, AND SEX LINKAGE 47

### PRINCIPAL POINTS 48

### MITOSIS AND MEIOSIS 48

Chromosome Complement of Eukaryotes 49

Asexual and Sexual Reproduction 50

Mitosis 50

Genetic Significance of Mitosis 56

Meiosis 56

Genetic Significance of Meiosis 61

Locations of Meiosis in the Life Cycle 62

**CHROMOSOME THEORY OF INHERITANCE 66**

Sex Chromosomes 67

Sex Linkage 69

Nondisjunction of X Chromosomes 73

**SEX DETERMINATION 77**

Genotypic Sex Determination Systems 77

Environmental Sex Determination Systems 82

**ANALYSIS OF SEX-LINKED TRAITS IN HUMANS 84**

X-Linked Recessive Inheritance 84

X-Linked Dominant Inheritance 86

Y-Linked Inheritance 87

**SUMMARY 88****ANALYTICAL APPROACHES FOR SOLVING GENETICS PROBLEMS 89****QUESTIONS AND PROBLEMS 91**

---

**4**

---

**EXTENSIONS OF MENDELIAN GENETIC ANALYSIS 97****PRINCIPAL POINTS 98****MULTIPLE ALLELES 98**

ABO Blood Groups 98

*Drosophila* Eye Color 100**MODIFICATIONS OF DOMINANCE RELATIONSHIPS 102**

Incomplete Dominance 102

Codominance 104

**GENE INTERACTIONS AND MODIFIED MENDELIAN RATIOS 106**

Gene Interactions That Produce New Phenotypes 106

Epistasis 109

**ESSENTIAL GENES AND LETHAL ALLELES 116****THE ENVIRONMENT AND GENE EXPRESSION 117**

Penetrance and Expressivity 117

Effects of the Internal Environment 120

Effects of the External Environment 123

Nature versus Nurture 125

**SUMMARY 126****ANALYTICAL APPROACHES FOR SOLVING GENETICS PROBLEMS 127****QUESTIONS AND PROBLEMS 129**

---

**5**

---

**LINKAGE, CROSSING-OVER, AND GENE MAPPING IN EUKARYOTES 133****PRINCIPAL POINTS 134****DISCOVERY OF GENETIC LINKAGE 135**

Linkage in the Sweet Pea 135

Morgan's Linkage Experiments with *Drosophila* 136**GENE RECOMBINATION AND THE ROLE OF CHROMOSOMAL EXCHANGE 139**

Corn Experiments 139

*Drosophila* Experiments 140

Crossing-Over at the Tetrad (Four-Chromatid) Stage of Meiosis 141

**LOCATING GENES ON CHROMOSOMES: MAPPING TECHNIQUES 144**

Detecting Linkage Through Testcrosses 145

Gene Mapping by Using Two-Point Testcrosses 147

Generating a Genetic Map 149

Double Crossovers 151

Three-Point Cross 152

Mapping Chromosomes by Using Three-Point Testcrosses 153

**SUMMARY 159****ANALYTICAL APPROACHES FOR SOLVING GENETICS PROBLEMS 159****QUESTIONS AND PROBLEMS 161**

---

**6**

---

**ADVANCED GENETIC MAPPING IN EUKARYOTES 168****PRINCIPAL POINTS 169****TETRAD ANALYSIS 169**

Life Cycle of Yeast 169

Life Cycle of *Chlamydomonas reinhardtii* 170

Using Random-Spore Analysis to Map Genes in Haploid Eukaryotes 171

Using Tetrad Analysis to Map Two Linked Genes 172

Calculating Gene-Centromere Distance in Organisms with Linear Tetrads 175

**MITOTIC RECOMBINATION 179**

- Discovery of Mitotic Recombination 179
- Mechanism of Mitotic Crossing-Over 179
- Examples of Mitotic Recombination 181

**MAPPING GENES IN HUMAN CHROMOSOMES 185**

- Mapping Human Genes by Somatic Cell Hybridization Techniques 185

**SUMMARY 190****ANALYTICAL APPROACHES FOR SOLVING GENETICS PROBLEMS 190****QUESTIONS AND PROBLEMS 191**

---

# 7

---

**CHROMOSOMAL MUTATIONS 194****PRINCIPAL POINTS 195****TYPES OF CHROMOSOMAL MUTATIONS 195****VARIATIONS IN CHROMOSOME STRUCTURE 196**

- Deletion 197
- Duplication 199
- Inversion 201
- Translocation 203
- Position Effect 209
- Fragile Sites and Fragile X Syndrome 209

**VARIATIONS IN CHROMOSOME NUMBER 211**

- Changes in One or a Few Chromosomes 211
- Changes in Complete Sets of Chromosomes 215

**CHROMOSOME REARRANGEMENTS THAT ALTER GENE EXPRESSION 220**

- Amplification or Deletion of Genes 220
- Inversions That Alter Gene Expression 220
- Transpositions That Alter Gene Expression 221

**SUMMARY 222****ANALYTICAL APPROACHES FOR SOLVING GENETICS PROBLEMS 223****QUESTIONS AND PROBLEMS 224**

---

# 8

---

**GENETIC MAPPING IN BACTERIA AND BACTERIOPHAGES 228****PRINCIPAL POINTS 229****GENETIC ANALYSIS OF BACTERIA 229****BACTERIAL TRANSFORMATION 231****CONJUGATION IN BACTERIA 233**

- Discovery of Conjugation in *E. coli* 233
- The Sex Factor *F* 234
- High-Frequency Recombination Strains 235
- F'* Factors 237
- Using Conjugation and Interrupted Mating to Map Bacterial Genes 238
- Circularity of the *E. coli* Map 240

**TRANSDUCTION IN BACTERIA 241**

- Bacteriophages: An Introduction 241
- Transduction Mapping of Bacterial Chromosomes 243

**MAPPING GENES IN BACTERIOPHAGES 249****FINE-STRUCTURE ANALYSIS OF A BACTERIOPHAGE GENE 251**

- Recombination Analysis of *rII* Mutants 252
- Deletion Mapping 254
- Defining Genes by Complementation Tests 258

**SUMMARY 260****ANALYTICAL APPROACHES FOR SOLVING GENETICS PROBLEMS 262****QUESTIONS AND PROBLEMS 264**

---

# 9

---

**THE BEGINNINGS OF MOLECULAR GENETICS: GENE FUNCTION 269****PRINCIPAL POINTS 270****GENE CONTROL OF ENZYME STRUCTURE 270**

- Garrod's Hypothesis of Inborn Errors of Metabolism 270
- One Gene–One Enzyme Hypothesis 271

**GENETICALLY BASED ENZYME DEFICIENCIES IN HUMANS 276**

- Phenylketonuria 276
- Albinism 276
- Lesch-Nyhan Syndrome 278
- Tay-Sachs Disease 279

**GENE CONTROL OF PROTEIN STRUCTURE 280**

- Sickle-Cell Anemia: Symptoms and Causes 280
- Other Hemoglobin Mutants 281

Biochemical Genetics of the Human ABO Blood Groups	282
Cystic Fibrosis	283
<b>GENETIC COUNSELING</b>	<b>286</b>
Carrier Detection	286
Fetal Analysis	286
<b>SUMMARY</b>	<b>288</b>
<b>ANALYTICAL APPROACHES FOR SOLVING GENETICS PROBLEMS</b>	<b>288</b>
<b>QUESTIONS AND PROBLEMS</b>	<b>290</b>

## 10

### THE STRUCTURE OF GENETIC MATERIAL 295

<b>PRINCIPAL POINTS</b>	<b>296</b>
<b>THE NATURE OF GENETIC MATERIAL: DNA AND RNA</b>	<b>296</b>
The Discovery of DNA as Genetic Material	297
The Discovery of RNA as Genetic Material	301
<b>THE CHEMICAL COMPOSITION OF DNA AND RNA</b>	<b>304</b>
The Physical Structure of DNA: The Double Helix	307
Other DNA Structures	310
DNA in the Cell	311
Bends in DNA	313
<b>SUMMARY</b>	<b>313</b>
<b>ANALYTICAL APPROACHES FOR SOLVING GENETICS PROBLEMS</b>	<b>314</b>
<b>QUESTIONS AND PROBLEMS</b>	<b>315</b>

## 11

### THE ORGANIZATION OF DNA IN CHROMOSOMES 317

<b>PRINCIPAL POINTS</b>	<b>318</b>
<b>STRUCTURAL CHARACTERISTICS OF BACTERIAL AND VIRAL CHROMOSOMES</b>	<b>318</b>
Bacterial Chromosomes	319
T-Even Phage Chromosomes	322
Bacteriophage $\Phi$ X174 Chromosome	324
Bacteriophage $\lambda$ Chromosome	326

<b>STRUCTURAL CHARACTERISTICS OF EUKARYOTIC CHROMOSOMES</b>	<b>327</b>
The Karyotype	328
Chromosomal Banding Patterns	329
Cellular DNA Content and the Structural or Organizational Complexity of the Organism	331
The Molecular Structure of the Eukaryotic Chromosome	331
Centromeres and Telomeres	338
<b>UNIQUE-SEQUENCE DNA AND REPETITIVE-SEQUENCE DNA IN EUKARYOTIC CHROMOSOMES</b>	<b>341</b>
Unique-Sequence DNA	344
Repetitive-Sequence DNA	344
<b>SUMMARY</b>	<b>346</b>
<b>ANALYTICAL APPROACHES FOR SOLVING GENETICS PROBLEMS</b>	<b>347</b>
<b>QUESTIONS AND PROBLEMS</b>	<b>348</b>

## 12

### DNA REPLICATION AND RECOMBINATION 351

<b>PRINCIPAL POINTS</b>	<b>352</b>
<b>DNA REPLICATION IN PROKARYOTES</b>	<b>352</b>
Early Models for DNA Replication	352
The Meselson-Stahl Experiment	353
Enzymes Involved in DNA Synthesis	356
Molecular Details of DNA Replication in Prokaryotes	359
<b>DNA REPLICATION IN EUKARYOTES</b>	<b>369</b>
Molecular Details of DNA Synthesis in Eukaryotes	370
Replicating the Ends of Chromosomes	374
Assembly of New DNA into Nucleosomes	375
Genetics of the Eukaryotic Cell Cycle	377
<b>DNA RECOMBINATION</b>	<b>378</b>
Crossing-Over: Breakage and Rejoining of DNA	378
The Holliday Model for Recombination	379
Gene Conversion and Mismatch Repair	381
<b>SUMMARY</b>	<b>382</b>
<b>ANALYTICAL APPROACHES FOR SOLVING GENETICS PROBLEMS</b>	<b>383</b>
<b>QUESTIONS AND PROBLEMS</b>	<b>384</b>



# 13

## TRANSCRIPTION, RNA MOLECULES, AND RNA PROCESSING 387

### PRINCIPAL POINTS 388

#### THE TRANSCRIPTION PROCESS 389

RNA Synthesis 389

Classes of RNA and the Genes that Code for Them 391

#### TRANSCRIPTION OF PROTEIN-CODING GENES 393

Prokaryotes 393

Eukaryotes 397

mRNA Molecules 400

#### TRANSCRIPTION OF OTHER GENES 409

Ribosomal RNA and Ribosomes 409

Transfer RNA 417

### SUMMARY 421

### ANALYTICAL APPROACHES FOR SOLVING GENETICS PROBLEMS 423

### QUESTIONS AND PROBLEMS 424

# 14

## THE GENETIC CODE AND THE TRANSLATION OF THE GENETIC MESSAGE 426

### PRINCIPAL POINTS 427

#### PROTEIN STRUCTURE 427

Chemical Structure of Proteins 427

Molecular Structure of Proteins 428

#### THE NATURE OF THE GENETIC CODE 431

The Genetic Code Is a Triplet Code 431

Deciphering the Genetic Code 433

Nature and Characteristics of the Genetic Code 434

#### TRANSLATION OF THE GENETIC MESSAGE 437

Aminoacyl-tRNA Molecules 438

Initiation of Translation 438

Elongation of the Polypeptide Chain 441

Termination of Translation 445

#### PROTEIN SORTING IN THE CELL 447

Proteins Distributed by the Endoplasmic Reticulum 447

Proteins Transported into Mitochondria and Chloroplasts 448

Proteins Transported into the Nucleus 449

### SUMMARY 449

### ANALYTICAL APPROACHES FOR SOLVING GENETICS PROBLEMS 451

### QUESTIONS AND PROBLEMS 452

# 15

## RECOMBINANT DNA TECHNOLOGY AND THE MANIPULATION OF DNA 454

### PRINCIPAL POINTS 455

#### GENE CLONING 456

Restriction Enzymes 456

Cloning Vectors and the Cloning of DNA 461

#### CONSTRUCTION OF GENOMIC LIBRARIES, CHROMOSOME LIBRARIES, AND cDNA LIBRARIES 466

Genomic Libraries 466

Chromosome Libraries 469

cDNA Libraries 469

#### IDENTIFYING SPECIFIC CLONED SEQUENCES IN cDNA LIBRARIES AND GENOMIC LIBRARIES 471

Identifying Specific Cloned Sequences in a cDNA Library 471

Identifying Specific Cloned Sequences in a Genomic Library 472

Identifying Specific DNA Sequences in Libraries Using Heterologous Probes 475

Identifying Genes in Libraries by Complementation of Mutations 476

Identifying Genes or cDNAs in Libraries Using Oligonucleotide Probes 477

#### ANALYSIS OF GENES AND GENE TRANSCRIPTS 477

Restriction Enzyme Analysis of Cloned DNA Sequences 478

Restriction Enzyme Analysis of Genes 480

Analysis of Gene Transcripts 481

#### DNA SEQUENCE ANALYSIS 482

Dideoxy (Sanger) DNA Sequencing 482

Analysis of DNA Sequences 484

<b>POLYMERASE CHAIN REACTION (PCR) 485</b>	
<b>APPLICATIONS OF RECOMBINANT DNA TECHNOLOGY 487</b>	
Analysis of Biological Processes 487	
Diagnosis of Human Genetic Diseases by DNA Analysis 487	
Isolation of Human Genes 489	
Human Genome Project 494	
DNA Typing 495	
Gene Therapy 496	
Commercial Products 497	
Genetic Engineering of Plants 498	
<b>SUMMARY 500</b>	
<b>ANALYTICAL APPROACHES FOR SOLVING GENETICS PROBLEMS 501</b>	
<b>QUESTIONS AND PROBLEMS 502</b>	

## 16

### REGULATION OF GENE EXPRESSION IN BACTERIA AND BACTERIOPHAGES 507

<b>PRINCIPAL POINTS 508</b>	
<b>GENE REGULATION OF LACTOSE UTILIZATION IN <i>E. COLI</i> 509</b>	
Lactose as a Carbon Source for <i>E. coli</i> 509	
Experimental Evidence for the Regulation of the <i>lac</i> Genes 511	
Jacob and Monod's Operon Model for the Regulation of the <i>lac</i> Genes 513	
Positive Control of the <i>lac</i> Operon 518	
Molecular Details of <i>lac</i> Operon Regulation 520	
<b>TRYPTOPHAN OPERON OF <i>E. COLI</i> 523</b>	
Gene Organization of the Tryptophan Biosynthesis Genes 523	
Regulation of the <i>trp</i> Operon 523	
Regulation of Other Amino Acid Biosynthesis Operons 527	
<b>SUMMARY OF OPERON FUNCTION 528</b>	
<b>GENE REGULATION IN BACTERIOPHAGES 529</b>	
Regulation of Gene Expression in Phage Lambda 529	
<b>SUMMARY 534</b>	

<b>ANALYTICAL APPROACHES FOR SOLVING GENETICS PROBLEMS 536</b>	
<b>QUESTIONS AND PROBLEMS 537</b>	

## 17

### REGULATION OF GENE EXPRESSION AND DEVELOPMENT IN EUKARYOTES 541

<b>PRINCIPAL POINTS 542</b>	
<b>LEVELS OF CONTROL OF GENE EXPRESSION IN EUKARYOTES 543</b>	
Transcriptional Control 543	
RNA Processing Control 557	
Transport Control 561	
mRNA Translation Control 561	
mRNA Degradation Control 562	
Protein Degradation Control 562	
<b>GENE REGULATION IN DEVELOPMENT AND DIFFERENTIATION 563</b>	
Gene Expression in Higher Eukaryotes 564	
Constancy of DNA in the Genome During Development 564	
Differential Gene Activity Among Tissues and During Development 566	
Immunogenetics and Chromosome Rearrangements During Development 570	
<b>GENETIC REGULATION OF DEVELOPMENT IN <i>DROSOPHILA</i> 575</b>	
<i>Drosophila</i> Developmental Stages 575	
Embryonic Development 575	
Imaginal Discs 578	
Homeotic Genes 579	

<b>SUMMARY 583</b>	
<b>ANALYTICAL APPROACHES FOR SOLVING GENETICS PROBLEMS 585</b>	
<b>QUESTIONS AND PROBLEMS 585</b>	

## 18

### GENE MUTATION 589

<b>PRINCIPAL POINTS 590</b>	
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## ADAPTATION VERSUS MUTATION 591

### MUTATIONS DEFINED 593

- Types of Mutations 593
- Reverse Mutations and Suppressor Mutations 596

### CAUSES OF MUTATION 598

- Spontaneous Mutations 598
- Induced Mutations 603

### THE AMES TEST: A SCREEN FOR POTENTIAL MUTAGENS 610

### DNA REPAIR MECHANISMS 612

- Direct Correction of Mutational Lesions 612
- Repair Involving Excision of Base Pairs 613
- Human Genetic Diseases Resulting from DNA Replication and Repair Errors 617

### SCREENING PROCEDURES FOR THE ISOLATION OF MUTANTS 618

- Visible Mutations 619
- Nutritional Mutations 619
- Conditional Mutations 619

### SUMMARY 621

### ANALYTICAL APPROACHES FOR SOLVING GENETICS PROBLEMS 622

### QUESTIONS AND PROBLEMS 624

## 19

## TRANSPOSABLE ELEMENTS, TUMOR VIRUSES, AND ONCOGENES 628

### PRINCIPAL POINTS 629

### TRANSPOSABLE ELEMENTS IN PROKARYOTES 630

- Insertion Sequences 630
- Transposons 632
- IS Elements and Transposons in Plasmids 634
- Bacteriophage Mu 636

### TRANSPOSABLE ELEMENTS IN EUKARYOTES 637

- Transposons in Plants 638
- Ty* Elements in Yeast 642
- Drosophila* Transposons 643
- Human Retrotransposons 645

### TUMOR VIRUSES AND ONCOGENES 646

- Tumor Viruses 646
- Retroviruses 647

### HIV—The AIDS Virus 656

### SUMMARY 657

### ANALYTICAL APPROACHES FOR SOLVING GENETICS PROBLEMS 658

### QUESTIONS AND PROBLEMS 658

## 20

## EXTRANUCLEAR GENETICS 660

### PRINCIPAL POINTS 661

### ORGANIZATION OF EXTRANUCLEAR GENOMES 662

- Mitochondrial Genome 662
- Chloroplast Genome 670
- RNA Editing 674
- The Origin of Mitochondria and Chloroplasts 675

### RULES OF EXTRANUCLEAR INHERITANCE 675

### EXAMPLES OF EXTRANUCLEAR INHERITANCE 676

- Leaf Variegation in the Higher Plant *Mirabilis jalapa* 676
- The *poky* Mutant of *Neurospora* 679
- Yeast *petite* Mutants 680
- Extranuclear Genetics of *Chlamydomonas* 684
- Human Genetic Diseases and Mitochondrial DNA Defects 684
- Exceptions to Maternal Inheritance 686
- Infectious Heredity—Killer Yeast 686

### MATERNAL EFFECT 687

### GENOMIC IMPRINTING 689

### SUMMARY 690

### ANALYTICAL APPROACHES FOR SOLVING GENETICS PROBLEMS 691

### QUESTIONS AND PROBLEMS 691

## 21

## POPULATION GENETICS 694

### PRINCIPAL POINTS 695

### GENETIC STRUCTURE OF POPULATIONS 697

- Genotypic Frequencies 697
- Allelic Frequencies 697

### THE HARDY-WEINBERG LAW 701

- Assumptions of the Hardy-Weinberg Law 701

- Predictions of the Hardy-Weinberg Law 703
- Derivation of the Hardy-Weinberg Law 703
- Extensions of the Hardy-Weinberg Law to Loci with More Than Two Alleles 705
- Extensions of the Hardy-Weinberg Law to Sex-linked Alleles 705
- Testing for Hardy-Weinberg Proportions 706
- Using the Hardy-Weinberg Law to Estimate Allelic Frequencies 707

#### **GENETIC VARIATION IN SPACE AND TIME 708**

#### **GENETIC VARIATION IN NATURAL POPULATIONS 709**

- Models of Genetic Variation 709
- Measuring Genetic Variation with Protein Electrophoresis 710
- Measuring Genetic Variation with RFLPs and DNA Sequencing 714

#### **CHANGES IN GENETIC STRUCTURE OF POPULATIONS 716**

- Mutation 717
- Genetic Drift 719
- Migration 725
- Natural Selection 727
- Simultaneous Effects of Mutation and Selection 736
- Nonrandom Mating 737

#### **SUMMARY OF THE EFFECTS OF EVOLUTIONARY PROCESSES ON THE GENETIC STRUCTURE OF A POPULATION 738**

- Changes in Allelic Frequency Within a Population 738
- Genetic Divergence Among Populations 738
- Increases and Decreases in Genetic Variation Within Populations 738

#### **SUMMARY OF THE EFFECTS OF EVOLUTIONARY PROCESSES ON THE CONSERVATION OF GENETIC RESOURCES 739**

#### **MOLECULAR GENETIC TECHNIQUES AND EVOLUTION 739**

- DNA Sequence Variation 739
- DNA Length Polymorphisms 741
- Evolution of Multigene Families Through Gene Duplication 742
- Evolution in Mitochondrial DNA Sequences 743
- Concerted Evolution 743
- Evolutionary Relationships Revealed by RNA and DNA Sequences 744

#### **SUMMARY 745**

#### **ANALYTICAL APPROACHES FOR SOLVING GENETICS PROBLEMS 746**

#### **QUESTIONS AND PROBLEMS 747**

# 22

## QUANTITATIVE GENETICS 752

### **PRINCIPAL POINTS 753**

### **THE NATURE OF CONTINUOUS TRAITS 754**

- Why Some Traits Have Continuous Phenotypes 755
- Questions Studied in Quantitative Genetics 756

### **STATISTICAL TOOLS 756**

- Samples and Populations 756
- Distributions 757
- The Mean 758
- The Variance and the Standard Deviation 758
- Correlation 760
- Regression 763
- Analysis of Variance 763

### **POLYGENIC INHERITANCE 764**

- Inheritance of Ear Length in Corn 764
- Polygene Hypothesis for Quantitative Inheritance 766
- Determining the Number of Polygenes for a Quantitative Trait 767

### **HERITABILITY 769**

- Components of the Phenotypic Variance 769
- Broad-Sense and Narrow-Sense Heritability 771
- Understanding Heritability 772
- How Heritability Is Calculated 774

### **RESPONSE TO SELECTION 776**

- Estimating the Response to Selection 776
- Genetic Correlations 777

### **SUMMARY 779**

### **ANALYTICAL APPROACHES FOR SOLVING GENETICS PROBLEMS 780**

### **QUESTIONS AND PROBLEMS 782**

### **APPENDIX: BARBARA MCCLINTOCK (1902–1992) A1**

### **SUGGESTED READINGS R1**

### **SOLUTIONS TO SELECTED QUESTIONS AND PROBLEMS S1**

### **GLOSSARY G1**

### **CREDITS C1**

### **INDEX I1**



# BRIEF CONTENTS

## Detailed Contents

### Preface

1	Genetics: An Introduction	1
2	Mendelian Genetics	17
3	Chromosomal Basis of Inheritance, Sex Determination, and Sex Linkage	47
4	Extensions of Mendelian Genetic Analysis	97
5	Linkage, Crossing-Over, and Gene Mapping in Eukaryotes	133
6	Advanced Genetic Mapping in Eukaryotes	168
7	Chromosomal Mutations	194
8	Genetic Mapping in Bacteria and Bacteriophages	228
9	The Beginnings of Molecular Genetics: Gene Function	269
10	The Structure of Genetic Material	295
11	The Organization of DNA in Chromosomes	317
12	DNA Replication and Recombination	351
13	Transcription, RNA Molecules, and RNA Processing	387
14	The Genetic Code and the Translation of the Genetic Message	426
15	Recombinant DNA Technology and the Manipulation of DNA	454
16	Regulation of Gene Expression in Bacteria and Bacteriophages	507
17	Regulation of Gene Expression and Development in Eukaryotes	541
18	Gene Mutation	589
19	Transposable Elements, Tumor Viruses, and Oncogenes	628
20	Extranuclear Genetics	660
21	Population Genetics	694
22	Quantitative Genetics	752
	Appendix: Barbara McClintock (1902–1992)	A1
	Suggested Readings	R1
	Solutions to Selected Questions and Problems	S1
	Glossary	G1
	Credits	C1
	Index	I1