The BIOLOGY of VIBRIOS
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EDITED BY

Fabiano L. Thompson, Brian Austin, and Jean Swings
To Huai-Shu Xu
CONTENTS

Contributors • ix
Preface • xiii

I. Introduction
1. A Global and Historical Perspective of the Genus Vibrio • 3
R. R. Colwell

II. Isolation, Enumeration, and Preservation
2. Isolation, Enumeration, and Preservation of the Vibrionaceae • 15
Bruno Gomez-Gil and Ana Roque

III. Classification and Phylogeny
3. Taxonomy of the Vibrios • 29
Fabiano L. Thompson and Jean Swings
4. Molecular Identification • 44
Mitsuaki Nishibuchi

IV. Genome Evolution
5. Comparative Genomics: Genome Configuration and the Driving Forces in the Evolution of Vibrios • 67
Tetsuya Iida and Ken Kurokawa
6. Gene Duplicates in Vibrio Genomes • 76
Dirk Gevers and Yves Van de Peer
7. The Roles of Lateral Gene Transfer and Vertical Descent in Vibrio Evolution • 84
Yan Boucher and Hatch W. Stokes
8. The Adaptive Genetic Arsenal of Pathogenic Vibrio Species: the Role of Integrons • 95
Dean A. Rowe-Magnus, Mohammed Zouine, and Didier Mazel

V. Physiology
9. Motility and Chemotaxis • 115
Linda L. McCarter
10. Adaptive Responses of Vibrios • 133
Diane McDougald and Staffan Kjelleberg
11. Extremophilic Vibrionaceae • 156
Douglas H. Bartlett

VI. Habitat and Ecology
12. Aquatic Environment • 175
Hidetoshi Urakawa and Irma Nelly G. Rivera
13. Dynamics of Vibrio Populations and Their Role in Environmental Nutrient Cycling • 190
Janelle R. Thompson and Martin F. Polz
14. The Vibrio fischeri–Euprymna scolopes Light Organ Symbiosis • 204
Eric V. Stabb
15. The Mutual Partnership between *Vibrio halioticoli* and Abalones • 219
   Tomoo Sawabe

16. Vibrios in Coral Health and Disease • 231
   Eugene Rosenberg and Omry Koren

17. *Vibrio cholerae* Populations and Their Role in South America • 239
   Ana Carolina P. Vicente, Irma Nelly G. Rivera, Michelle D. Vieira, and Ana Coelho

VII. Animal Pathogens

18. The Biology and Pathogenicity of *Vibrio anguillarum* and *V. ordalii* • 251
   Jorge H. Crosa, Luis A. Actis, and Marcelo E. Tolmasky

19. *Vibrio harveyi*: Pretty Problems in Paradise • 266
    Leigh Owens and Nancy Busico-Salcedo

20. *Vibrio salmonicida* • 281
    Brian Austin

21. *Vibrio splendidus* • 285
    Frédérique Le Roux and Brian Austin

22. Miscellaneous Animal Pathogens • 297
    Brian Austin

VIII. The Impact of Genomics and Proteomics in the Study of Human Pathogens

23. *Vibrio cholerae*: the Genetics of Pathogenesis and Environmental Persistence • 311
    Michael G. Prouty and Karl E. Klose

24. *Vibrio parahaemolyticus* • 340
    Tetsuya Iida, Kwan-Sam Park, and Takeshi Honda

25. *Vibrio vulnificus* • 349
    James D. Oliver

26. Miscellaneous Human Pathogens • 367
    Mitsuaki Nishibuchi

IX. Epidemiology

27. Epidemiology • 385
    Shah M. Faruque and G. Balakrish Nair

X. Applications

28. Biotechnological Applications • 401
    J. Grant Burgess

XI. Conclusions

29. Conclusions • 409
    Fabiano L. Thompson, Brian Austin, and Jean Swings

Index • 417
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Two decades has passed since the last dedicated textbook on the vibrios, i.e. *Vibrios in the Environment*, which was edited by R. R. Colwell. Since then, there have been tremendous developments in the knowledge of the vibrios, including improvements in the taxonomy, ecology, and pathogenicity of the group. Indeed, vibrios are the best studied of all aquatic bacteria. Many new species have been described, and exciting concepts have been proposed. Improved detection, characterization, and identification tools have been developed to enable the rapid screening of strains. Molecular biology analyses and, more recently, whole genome sequencing of several vibrios, have shed much light on the biology of these microbes in their natural habitats and opened up new avenues for basic and applied research. It is therefore timely to compile a volume containing data about the current status of research and understanding of the vibrios. For this, we are grateful to the co-operation of the numerous authors, all of whom have produced manuscripts within a tight time frame. ASM Press was especially helpful during all stages of the book, from the nurturing of the original idea to the professional editing of the text, to the production of the finished volume. The result is a book that is primarily targeted at bacterial taxonomists, microbial ecologists, genome researchers, health management workers, and postgraduate and senior undergraduate students.

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We hope the book will be a fitting tribute to those who have worked assiduously to improve the understanding of this fascinating group of vibrios.

F. L. Thompson, B. Austin, and J. Swings
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INDEX

Abalones, biology of, 220–221
  development and aquaculture of, 220–221
  feeding behavior of, 220
  nitrogen cycle of, gut microbes and, 226–227
  taxonomy of, 220
  *Vibrio halioticoli* and, mutual partnership between, 219–230
  coevolution of, 227–228
  future work in, 228
  *Acinetobacter baumannii*, 258
  *Acinetobactin*, 258
  Adaptive responses, 133–155
  Alkaline peptone water, 16
  Alkaline serine exoprotease, 403
  Amplified fragment length polymorphism, 34–35, 36
  Anguibactin biosynthesis, *Vibrio anguillarum* and, 255, 256, 257
  Animal diseases, and control of, 412–413
  Animal models of cholera, 328–329
  Animal pathogens, 297–308
  Animals, marine. *See* Marine animals
  Antibiotic resistance, luminous vibriosis and, 270 rise in, 96–97
  Anticyanobacterial compound beta-cyanoalanine, 402–403
  Antigen technology, in vivo-induced, 327
  Aquatic animals, *Vibrio* species pathogenic to, 56
  Aquatic environment, 175–189
  coastal water, 175
cold adaptation in evolutionary history and, 182–183
  function and ecological roles in, 183–185
  grazing pressures and, 180–181
  habitats and niches in, 175–180
  host-microbe interactions in, 179–180
  moderately halophilic bacteria in, 181
  pelagic water, 179
  remote sensing to predict blooms in, 185–186
  salinity and temperature as distribution factors, 181–183
  sediment in, 180
  starvation response mechanism and, 180
  water and sediment, bacteria in, 177
  zooplankton in, 178–179
  Aquatic organisms, isolation of vibrios from, 20
  Bacterial luminescent disease, *Vibrio harveyi* and, 268–269
  Bacteriocins, *Vibrio harveyi*, 274
  Bacteriophages, toxicity of *Vibrio harveyi* and, 275–276
  Bacterioplankton, growth in, 193
  Bacteriophage CTXb, 72
  Barophiles, 158
  Bile, as signal for gene expression, 320
  Bile salts, 15
  Bioactive compounds, low-molecular-weight, 402–403
  Biofilm formation, as survival strategy, 144–149
  exopolysaccharide in, 147–148
  non-quorum sensing regulators of, 148–149
  protective effects of biofilms and, 145, 146
  quorum sensing regulation of, 148–149
  surface structures in, 151
  temperature and media influence on, 146–147
  Biofilms, 324
  protective effects of, 145, 146
  Bioluminescence, 3, 46
  biomonitoring using, 403–404
  importance of, in *Vibrio fischeri-Euprymna scolopes* symbiosis, 212–213
  Biotechnological applications, 401–406
  Bioterrorism, 404
  BLAST, searching databases with, 85
  Brominated compounds, 402
  Bromothymol blue teepol (BTBT) agar, 17
  *Campylobacter*, 7
  Capsular polysaccharide (CPS), 352–353
  Carbohydrates, degradation by *Vibrio halioticoli* and abalones, 224–225
  Carbon, storage of, 195
  Carbon products, 195
  Carbon substrates, consumption of, 195
  Cell-cell communication, interfering with, 403
  Chemotaxis, 124–127
  chemoeffectors and repellents in, 126
  chemoreceptors in, 126
  coordination of swimming and swarmng in, 127
  cytoplasmic chemotaxis genes in, 126–127
  flagellar behavior in, 125–126
  importance of, 124
  motility and, 115–132, 181, 314–315
  Chemotaxis genes, polar flagellar genes and, 115
  Chitin degradation, 184
  Chitinases, excretion by *Vibrio harveyi*, 273
  Cholera, acquisition of, 311–312, Color Plate 15
  animal models of, 328–329
  cases versus cases predicted, 8, 9
  countries reporting cases in 2003, 387, Color Plate 18
  enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay in, 404
  epidemiology of, 184, 387–392
  historical perspective on, 3
  in South America, historical and epidemiological aspects of, 239, Color Plate 10
  in 1990s, 239–240, Color Plate 10

417
research on, 243–246
multilocus enzyme electrophoresis and ribotyping in, 240
outbreaks of, sea surface temperature and, 8–9
population susceptible to, 388
seasonal epidemics of, 388
seventh pandemic of, 387
strains causing, 311
symptoms of, 312
Cholera toxin, 312–313, 401–402
Cholera toxin B subunit, 401–402
Cholera vaccine(s), 401
development of, 329–330
Chromogenic agar (CHROMagar Vibrio), 17–18
Chromosomal multidrug efflux pumps, 95–96
Chromosomes. See Two-chromosome genome configuration
Climate, and epidemic patterns, ecological relationship between, 185–186
Clinical samples, isolation of vibrios from, 20
Coastal waters, dynamics and distribution in, 190–191
Cold shock response, extremophilic Vibrionaceae and, 159
Colistin, 15
Colistin-polymyxin B-cellobiose agar, 357–358
Collagenase, 403
Colonization factors, in Vibrio fischeri-Euprymna scolopes symbiosis, 204–205
Colony hybridization technique, 23
Coral reefs, functions of, 233
Corals, bleaching of, vibrio population increases in, 232
decline in, 231
diseases of, 231–238
Counterillumination, 206
CP-T1, 323
Crassostrea gigas, 290, 291, 292, 293
Crustaceans, isolation of vibrios from, 21–22
Cryopreservation, 23
CTXφ, 322–323
Cultivation, media used for, 16–20, Color Plate 1
Culture collections, 23–24
and databases, publicly accumulated worldwide, biotechnical applications of, 413–414
Culturing, 413
Death, leading causes of, 5
Deep-sea habitats, dynamics and distribution in, 191–192
Differentiation, starvation-induced, 134–135
DNA-DNA hybridization and %G+C of DNA, 34, 35
DNA transfer, detection methods, 84
modes of, 84
Duplication, genome expansion by, 77–78
Dynamics and distribution of populations, 190–192
Ecology, microbial, 412
Ecotype, 288
Eels, 303–304
Enrichment media, 15–16
Enterotoxin, Vibrio heat-stable, 402
Enumeration, molecular techniques of, 22–24
Environmental conditions, changing, strategies to persist in, 180–181
flagellation and, 115
Environmental nutrient cycling, 190–203
system-level significance of, 192–194
Environmental samples, isolation of vibrios from, 21
Environments, aquatic. See Aquatic environment extreme, and viable but nonculturable state, 165
Enzymatic activity, extracellular, 193–194, 405
Extracellular enzymatic activity, 193–194, 403
Extracellular proteins, Vibrio harveyi and, 272–273
Evolution, driving forces in, 71–73
lateral and vertical inheritance in, 91–92
diversity of piezophiles and, 161–162
membrane alteration and, 162–163
mesophilic organisms and, 162
Piezobacterium profundum strain SS9 genetics/genomics and, 164
piezophile enzymes and, 163
low-temperature adaptation in, 158–161
cold shock response and, 159
membrane alteration and, 160–161
nucleic acid function and, 159–160
protein folding and, 161
psychrophile enzymes and, 161
low-temperature-adapted, examples of, 157–158
osmotic adaptation of, 164–165
Fatty acid methyl ester analysis, 32
Fermentation, by Vibrio halioticoli, abalones and, 225–226
Fermentation patterns, 183–184
Fish, isolation of vibrios from, 20
Fish pathogens, 3
Flagellar filaments, as propellers, 116–119
polar propulsion of, sodium-driven, 119–120
Flagellar genes, polar, and linked chemotaxis genes, 118
Flagellar system, lateral, 123–124
and polar, differences between, 124
genes of, 123
polar flagellar performance and, 128
regulation of expression of, 123–124
lateral propulsion in, 123
regulatory hierarchy and morphogenetic pathway in, 123–125
polar, 115–123
and lateral, differences between, 124
flagellar filaments of, 116–119
MotA-MotB complex of, 120
MotX and MotY proteins of, 120–121
polar flagellar genes of, 115–121
polar propulsion and, 119–120
regulatory hierarchy and morphogenetic pathway in,
121–123
sheath of, 119
surface sensing and, 128
torque generation and ion specificity of, 120
Flagellation, environmental conditions and, 115
patterns of, 115–117
Flow cytometry for enumeration, 21–22
Fluorescence in situ hybridization (FISH), 22
Food-borne and waterborne pathogens, detection of, 56
Food products, isolation of vibrios from, 19–20
Food-web interactions, 194
Freeze-drying, 23
Freshwater environments, distribution in, 176, 181
dynamics and distribution in, 190
Gammaproteobacteria, 184
Gastroenteritis, due to *Vibrio vulnificus*, 350
seafood-borne, 340
Gene cassette arrays, integrons and, 90–91
gene coding, for taxonomy and identification, 45–46,
47–56
Gene content, variation in, 87
Gene duplicates, in genomes, 76–83
Gene families, definition of, 76
sequence divergence within, 79
Gene probe(s), 44
for molecular identification, 46–56
Gene sequences, for taxonomy and identification, 45–46
Gene transfer, lateral, 84
and vertical descent in evolution, 84–94
at single locus, 86
cases of, 86
detection by atypical composition, 85
detection of, 86–88
 genomic islands and, 88–89
in completely sequenced genomes, 87
incongruence among phylogenetic trees and, 85
methods of detection, 84–86
ranking of similarity among homologs and, 85
transposon insertion elements and, 84
Genes, central cytoplasmic chemotaxis, 126–127
in genomes, 127
conserved in bacteria, for phylogenetic analysis, 45
conserved predominantly in *Vibrionaceae*, 46–48
expression of, polar flagellar performance and, 128
lateral flagellar, 123, 124
polar flagellar performance and, 128
regulation of expression of, 123–124
polar flagellar, 115–123
Genome(s), bacteriophages and, 72
bacteriophages and, 72
completely sequenced, 91
laterally acquired genes in, 87
copies of chemotaxis genes in, 127
evolution of, evolutionary scenarios for, 78–79
expansion by duplication, 77–78
gene content comparison between, 85
gene duplicates in, 76–83
organization of parnome within, 82, Color Plate 3,
Color Plate 4
pathogenicity islands in, 72–73
properties of, 77
segmental duplication and conservation and, 82,
Color Plate 4
superintegrons in, 72
Genome configuration, two-chromosome, chromosome size
comparisons, 70–72, Color Plate 2
discovery of, 67
subsequent reports of, 67–68
Genome sequences, determination of, 4
hybridization techniques and, 86
in GenBank database, 198–199
Genome structure, and relative positions of conserved
genes, compared, 70–72, Color Plate 2
Genomic islands, lateral gene transfer and, 88–89
Genomics, advances in, *Vibrio fischeri-Euprymna scolopes*
symbiosis and, 216–217
comparative, 67–75, 198
compensative, 67–75, 198
Germ theory of disease, 3
Global perspective, 3–11
Glucose-salt-teepol broth, 16
Grazing pressures, 180–181
Great Barrier Reef, bleaching on, 236
*Grimontia (Vibrio) hollisae*, 367–368
Growth, maximum, temperature for, 183
nonbiological factors limiting, 133

*Haliotis* abalone, sectional view of, 221
Halophiles, 158, 164
Haloversatiles, 158
Hantaviruses, discovered since 1993, 7
Hemagglutinin, mannose-sensitive, 149, 326
Hemagglutinin/protease, 316–317
Hemolysin, TDH-related, 340–341
thermostable direct, 340–341
*Hermodice carunculata*, as disease vector, 235,
Color Plate 8
as reservoir for *Vibrio shiloi*, 235
Heterotrophs, facultatively aerobic, ecological roles of, 183–184
Historical perspective, 3–11
HlyA hemolysin, 317
Human diseases, and control of, 412–413
Hydrocarbons, polycyclic aromatic, degradation of, 185
Identification, molecular, 44–64
gene sequences useful for, 45–46
Infection, wound, 352, 355
Infectious diseases, deaths caused by, 5, 6
outbreaks of, 5, 6
Inheritance, lateral and vertical, in evolution, 91–92
Integrative and conjugative elements, 96
Integrative/conjugative elements, plasmids and, 89–90
Integron(s), adaptive capacity and, 95–111
and gene cassette arrays, 90–91
and superintegron, structural comparison of, 98
definition of, 97–98
mobile, 98
and superintegrons, resistance cassettes of, 104–105
recombination pathway in, 105–107
Integron gene cassettes, functions encoded by, 101–103
interspecies content variations of, 103
Integron integrases, phylogeny of, 99–102

Isolation, 15–22
from aquatic organisms, 20
from clinical samples, 19
from contaminated food products, 19–20
from crustaceans, 21
from environmental samples, 20
from fish, 20
from mollusks, 21

Lateral flagellar system. See Flagellar system, lateral

Lateral gene transfer. See Gene transfer, lateral

Light organ environment, Vibrio fischeri-Euprymna scolopes symbiosis in, 209–210
Light organ symbiosis, See Vibrio fischeri-Euprymna scolopes symbiosis

Lipopolysaccharide, 313–314, 353
Luminescent agar, 19

Macronutrient cycling, 195–198
Mannitol salt agar, 17
Mannose-sensitive hemagglutinin, 149, 326
Marine agar, 16, 18
Marine algal cells, dynamics and distribution in, 192
Marine animals, as vehicle for survival, 181
dynamics and distribution in, 192
impact of vibrios on, 185
pathogens of, 3
Marine environment. See Aquatic environment

Media for cultivation, 15–19
vibrios in, Color Plate 1

Membrane lipids, alteration at high pressure, 163–164
alteration at low temperature, 160–161
Mesophilic organisms, high-pressure effects on, 163–164

Microarray analysis, 413
of Vibrio cholerae genome, 327–328, Color Plate 16
Microarray hybridization, for comparisons, 86

Microbial loop, 193, 194
Microbiology, systems, 411–412
Microtox system, 404

Molecular identification, 44–64
gene sequences useful for, 45–46
Mollusks, isolation of vibrios from, 21
Monastrea, bleaching of, vibrio population increases in, 232
Moritella marina, 297
Moritella viscosa, 297
MotA-MotB complex, 120
Motility, 314–315
and chemotaxis, 115–132, 181, 314–315
flagellum-mediated, 115–127
nonflagellar, 127–128
MotX and MotY proteins, 120–121
MT agar, 17
Mucinase production, 184
Multilocus enzyme electrophoresis, 240
Multilocus sequence analyses, 35, 37, 39, 40, 86
Multilocus sequence typing, 35–37, 40
Multiplicons, 82
Mutagenesis, signature-tagged, 327

N-(β-Hydroxybutyryl) homoserine lactone, 274–275
NaCl concentrations, 15
Nitrate metabolism, pathways of, 197
Nitrate reduction, dissimilatory and assimilatory, 197
Nitrification, 197
Nitrogen, ammonification of, 197–198
cycling of, 196
Nitrogen cycle, 184
Nitrogen fixation, 196–197
Nitrogen starvation, 136
Nucleic acids, function at low temperature, 159–160
Nutrient cycling, environmental, 190–203
system-level significance of, 192–194
Nutrients, limitation of, effect on starvation response, 136

Oceans, open, dynamics and distribution in, 190–191
Oculina patagonica, bleaching by Vibrio shiloi, 232–235, Color Plate 7
Oxidative stress, in starvation survival, 136–137
Oysters, Vibrio splendidus and, 292, 293
Vibrio vulnificus and, 350–352, 358, 361–362

Paranome, functional landscape of, 80–81, Color Plate 3
organization within genome, 82, Color Plate 3, Color Plate 4

Pathogenic Vibrio species, 95
adaptive genetic capacity of, 95–111
paths of resistance of, 95–96
Pathogenicity islands, in genomes, 72–73
Pelagic water, 179
Penaeus monodon, Vibrio harveyi and, 268, 269–273
Peptidoglycan monomer, roles for, 214
Peptone salt cellobiose, 16
Phenanthrene, 185
Phosphorus, inorganic and organic, assimilation of, 198
Photobacterium damselae, 368–369
identification of, 56
subsp. damselae, 297–298
subsp. piscicida, 298–299
Photobacterium phosphoreum, 157
Photobacterium profundum, 156, 157, 159, 163–164
Phylogenetic trees, incongruence among, 85
Phylogenomics, 412–413
Phytoplankton, 8
Phaeophytes, 158
diversity of, at high pressure, 161–162
Plankton, activity in, 193
proliferation in, 193

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Plasmid profile studies, 89
Plasmid profiling, 85
Plasmids, and integrative/conjugative elements, 89–90
antibiotic resistance, *Vibrio harveyi* and, 274
  cryptic, 323
Plate count for enumeration, 21
*Pocillopora damicornis*, bleaching of, by *Vibrio coralliilyticus*, 235, Color Plate 9
Polar flagellar gene expression, regulation of, 118, 121–124
Polar flagellar genes, 115–116
  and linked chemotaxis genes, 118–119, 121
  for molecular identification, 47–49
  for simultaneous pathogen detection, 56
Polymyxin B, 15
Polymyxin E, 15
Polysaccharide, capsular, 352–353
  extracellular, polar flagellar performance and, 128
Porins, outer membrane, 315–316
*Porites compressa*, skeletal tumors of, 236
Preservation, long-term, 23
temporal or short-term, 23
Probiotics, 404
  luminous vibriosis and, 269–272
Prophages, vibriophages and, 90
Proteases, extracellular, 403
Proteins, cold shock, 159
  folding of, at low temperature, 161
  in response to starvation, 135–136
Proteobacteria, phylogenetic relationship of integron genes among, 99–102
Proteomes, ancestral, properties of, 79, 80
  parsimonious evolutionary scenario for, 78
*Pseudoalteromonas*, 184
Psychrophiles, 156–158
  enzymes of, low-temperature adaptation by, 161
  temperature adaptation and, 182, 183
Psychrotolerants, 156–158
Psychrotrophs, 156–158, 181–183
Pulsed-field gel electrophoresis, 67–68
Quorum sensing, 140–144
discovery of, 403
  in regulation of biofilm formation, 148
  in *Vibrio anguillarum*, 144
  in *Vibrio cholerae*, 142–143
  in *Vibrio fischeri*, 140–141
  in *Vibrio harveyi*, 142
  in *Vibrio parahaemolyticus*, 143–144
  in *Vibrio vulnificus*, 144
  systems of, 143
Real-time polymerase chain reaction. See Polymerase chain reaction, real-time
Recombination, homologous, detection by multilocus sequence analysis, 87–88
Recombination-based in vivo expression technology (RIVET), 326–327
RTX toxin, 316
Salinity, as distribution and habitat segregation factor, 176, 181, 360
Salmon, Atlantic, *Vibrio salmonicida* and, 280
Seawater, *Vibrio vulnificus* in, 358
Septicemia, primary, due to *Vibrio vulnificus*, 350–352
Shellfish, *Vibrio vulnificus* in, 358
*Shewanella putrefaciens*, 298–299
Siderophores, *Vibrio harveyi* and, 273–274
Signature-tagged mutagenesis, 327
Squid, sepiolid, evolution and biology of, 206–207
Starvation, adaptation to, 133–137
  and differentiation induced by, 134–135
  limitation of nutrients and, 136
  oxidative stress and, 136–137
  protein response in, 135–136
  ultramicrobacteria and, 133–134
  as response mechanism, 180
Strain-specific expansions, 80
SXT element (conjugative-transposon-like element), 325
Superintegron(s), 98–101
  and chromosomal integrons, bacterial species harboring, 99–101
  and mobile integrons, structural comparison of, 98
  and mobile integrons, resistance cassettes of, 104–105
  in genomes, 72
Suppressive subtractive hybridization, for comparisons, 86
Swarming, 123–124
  swimming and, 115
Swimming, 115–123
  and swarming, 115
Systems microbiology, 411–412
Taurocholate tellurite gelatin agar, 16–17
Taurocholate tellurite peptone water, 15
Taxonomy, 29–43
  current status of, 30
  gene sequences useful for, 45–46
  genomic basis of, 34
  history of, 29
  perspectives for, 39–40, 412
  phenetic basis of, 30–34
TDH-related hemolysin, 340–341
Teepol, 15
Tellurite, 15
Temperature, as distribution and habitat segregation factor, 182–183, 359, 360
  for maximum growth, 183
Tetrodotoxin (TTX), 402
  biotechnology of, 402
  production of, 184–185
Thiosulfate citrate bile salt sucrose agar, 340–341
Thiolase citrate bile salt sucrose agar, 16, 18, 19–20, 266, 404
Toxin coregulated pilus, 313
Toxins, medical applications of, 401–402
ToxR regulon, 317–320
Tryptone soya medium, 20
TSA plus triphenyltetrazolium chloride, 18
Tularemia, 7
Two-chromosome genome configuration, chromosome
size comparisons, 70–71, Color Plate 2
discovery of, 67
origin of small chromosome and, 69
questions concerning, 68–69
replication and segregation of chromosomes in, 69–70
subsequent reports of, 67–68
Type II secretion system, 317
Type III secretion systems (TTSS), 341–345, Color Plate 17
Ultramicrobacteria, 133–134, 191
Vaccines, in vibriosis, 253
Viable but nonculturable state, 137–140, 326, 412
culturability of *Vibrio vulnificus* and, 360–361
extreme environments and, 165
hypothesis of, 137
indirect assays of viability and, 137–139
oxidative injury hypothesis in, 139
population differentiation in, 139
resuscitation of cellular response and, 138
*Vibrio alginolyticus*, 299, 370–371
identification of, 55
*Vibrio anguillarum*, 3
and *Vibrio ordalii*, differentiation of, 258, 259
anguibactin biosynthesis pathway and, 255–257
biology and pathogenicity of, 251
control of, 252–253
identification of, 56
and classification of, 251–253
production and secretion of proteases by, 255
quorum sensing in, 143, 254–255
virulence factors of, 254
virulence plasmid of, 255, Color Plate 12
*Vibrio angustum* S14, 135–137
*Vibrio campbellii*, 29
*Vibrio carchariae*, 3–4
*Vibrio cholerae*, 3, 4, 5, 7–8, 15, 29
Amazonian strain of, genetic characterization of,
242–243
proteomic analysis of, using mass spectrometry, 243,
244–245, Color Plate 11
ecology of, 186
emerging variants of, 390–391
environmental persistence of, 324–326
environmental reservoirs of, 391–392
epidemiology of, 385–386
genetic examination of, 52
genome of, 390
identification and detection of, 46–52
in Argentina, 240–241
in Brazil, 241–242
in Colombia, 241
in Peru, 241
infectious dose and mode of transmission of, 389
mobile genetic elements of, 322–324
molecular epidemiology of, 389–390
motility and chemotaxis, 314–315
pathogenesis and environmental persistence, genetics of,
311–339
pathogenicity islands and, 73
populations in South America, molecular analyses of,
240–243
quorum sensing in, 142–142, 321
role in South America, 239–247
virulence factors of, 314–317
and classification of, 251–253
and differentiation of, 258, 259
anguibactin biosynthesis pathway and, 255–257
biology and pathogenicity of, 251
control of, 252–253
identification of, 56
and classification of, 251–253
production and secretion of proteases by, 255
quorum sensing in, 143, 254–255
virulence factors of, 254
virulence plasmid of, 255, Color Plate 12
*Vibrio furnissii*, 15, 301, 372–373
*Vibrio harveyi*, 31, 373
animal hosts of, 267, 268
bioluminescence of, 265, Color Plate 13
classification of, 265, 266
identification of, 55, 56, 265, 267
luminous vibriosis and, 268–271
quorum sensing in, 142
sources of, 269
*Vibrio damsela*, 297
*Vibrio diazotrophicus*, 3–4, 184
*Vibrio fischeri*, 3, 301
quorum sensing in, 140–141
*Vibrio fischeri-Euprymna scolopes* symbiosis, as model of
bacteria-animal interactions, 204
basics of association in, 207, Color Plate 6
coevolution and, 206–207
colonization factors in, 210–212
everal events in, 207–209
experimental tractability of, 204–205
importance of bioluminescence in, 212–213
interspecies recognition and signaling in, 213–214
light organ environment of, 209–210
new perspectives gained by, 216
obstacles to overcome in, 207–208
research in, advances in genomics and, 214–215
stages in establishment of, 208–209
*Vibrio fischeri* genome, 214–215
*Vibrio furnissii*, 15, 301, 372–373
*Vibrio halioticoli*, and abalones, mutual partnership
between, 219–230
coevolution of, 227–228
future work in, 228
distribution, abundance, and diversity of, 221–224
ecophysiological roles of, 224–227
ecophysiology of, in terms of abalone life cycle, 225,
226
methods of detection of, 224
morphology of, 221, 222
motility of, 223–224
*Vibrio harveyi*, 31, 373
animal hosts of, 267, 268
bioluminescence of, 265, Color Plate 13
classification of, 265, 266
identification of, 55, 56, 265, 267
luminous vibriosis and, 268–271
quorum sensing in, 142
sources of, 269
Vibrio harveyi agar, 18
Vibrio hispanicus, 15
Vibrio cholerae, 367
identification of, 55
Vibrio ichthyoventeri, 301
Vibrio logei, 157–158, 301
Vibrio metchnikovii, 15, 373–374
Vibrio mimicus, 15, 301, 374–375
epidemiology of, 386
identification of, 55
Vibrio nereis, 29
Vibrio ordalii, 258–261
and Vibrio anguillarum, differentiation of, 258, 259
identification and classification of, 258–261
nucleotide sequence of, 259, 260
vibriosis caused by, 258, 261
virulence factors of, 261
Vibrio orientalis, 157–158
Vibrio parahaemolyticus, 3, 4, 16, 31, 301, 340–348
biochemical identification of, 52–54
epidemiology of, 386, 392
genome analysis of, 341–343
infection caused by, spread of, 394
mode of infection by, 340
pandemic potential of, 393
pathogenicity islands and, 73
pathogenicity of, 345
protein secretion by, 344
quorum sensing in, 143–144
type III secretion systems (TTSS) of, 341–345
bacterial pathogenicity and, 345
gene expression by, 344–345
virulence factors of, 392
whole genome sequencing, 67
Vibrio pectenicida, 302
Vibrio pelagius, 302
Vibrio penaeicida, 302
Vibrio proteolyticus, 302
Vibrio salmonicida, 157–158
characteristics of, 280–281
ecology of, 281
isolation of, 280
pathogenicity of, 281–282
vaccines against, 282
Vibrio shiloi, 138
bleaching of Oculina patagonica by, 232–235,
Color Plate 7
classification of, 233
temperature-regulated mechanisms of infection by,
233–234
Vibrio splendidus, 158
and host interactions, 287–292
bacteria related to, genetic structure of, 284–287
biotypes of, 285
epidemiological studies of, 284
genome sequence of, 292–293
identification of, 287
phylogenetic tree of, 286, 288
Vibrio tapetis, 302–303
Vibrio tubiashii, 303
Vibrio vulnificus, 4, 16, 18, 303–304, 349–366
biochemical identification of, 54–55
biotype 1, 349–350
diseases caused by, 350–352
biotype 2, 350, 354–355
biotype 3, 350, 355
distribution in environment, salinity and, 360
temperature and, 359, 360
VBNC state and, 360–361
distribution in marine environment, 357–361
environmental prevalence of, 394
epidemiology of, 386, 393
genetic heterogeneity of, 356–357
genotypes of, 356–357
in food, methods to eliminate, 361–362
infection caused by, host factors and, 355
pathogenesis of, 355–356
spread of, 394
pathogenesis of, 352–355
regulation of, 354
quorum sensing in, 144
taxonomy of, 349–350
virulence factors for, 352–355, 393–394
putative, 353–354
virulence of, 349
whole genome sequencing, 67
Vibrio vulnificus CMCP6, 104, Color Plate 5
Vibriophages, and prophages, 90
Vibriosis, antibiotics in, 252
clinical signs of, 253
coldwater, 280
etiology of, 251, 259
histopathology of, 253–254
luminous, 268–271
control of, 269–271
factors contributing to, 269
histopathology of, 269, Color Plate 14
vaccines in, 253
pathogenesis of, 352–355
regulation of, 354
virulence factors and, 254
Vimelysin, 403
Viral lysis, mortality due to, 194
VPS exopolysaccharide, 324–326, Color Plate 15
Waterborne pathogens, and food-borne pathogens,
detection of, 56
World Health Organization, infectious diseases and, 5, 6
Wound infection, due to Vibrio vulnificus, 352, 355
Yellow blotch/band disease, 235–236
causative agents of, 236
Zobell medium, simplified, 18–19
Zooplankton, association with, 176, 178
cholera and, 8