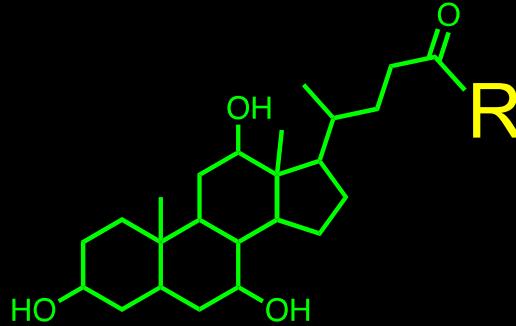


# Novel Conjugated Bile Acids from Gut Bacteria



Robert Quinn, PhD

Michigan State University

Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

1

## Our Research Areas

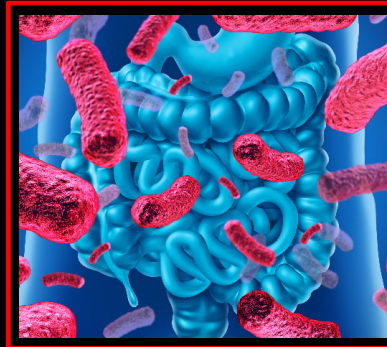


Integrated multi-omics approach

Lungs



Guts



Reefs

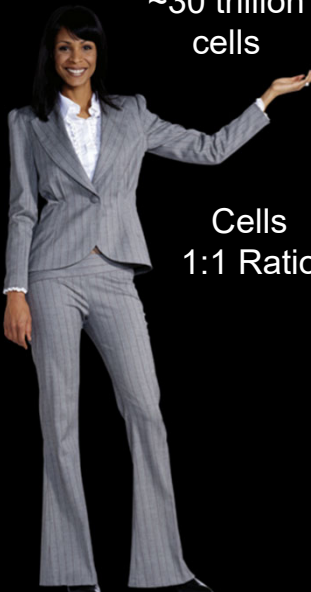


All mucosal associated microbial communities.

2

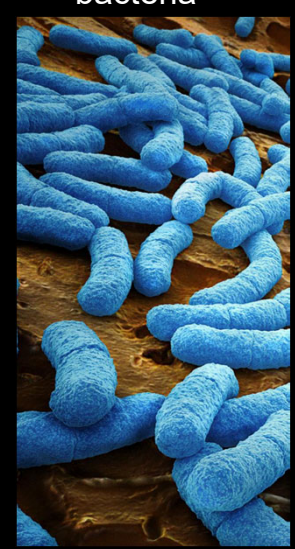
# We are a walking ecosystem

~30 trillion cells




**Cells**  
1:1 Ratio

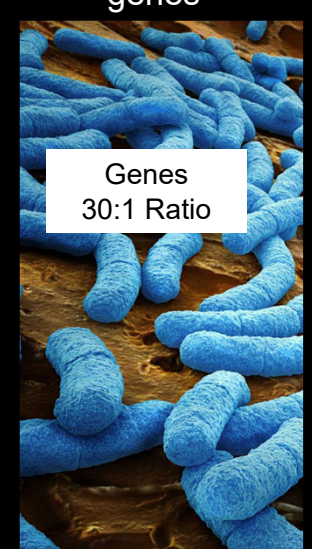
~40 trillion bacteria



~20 thousand genes



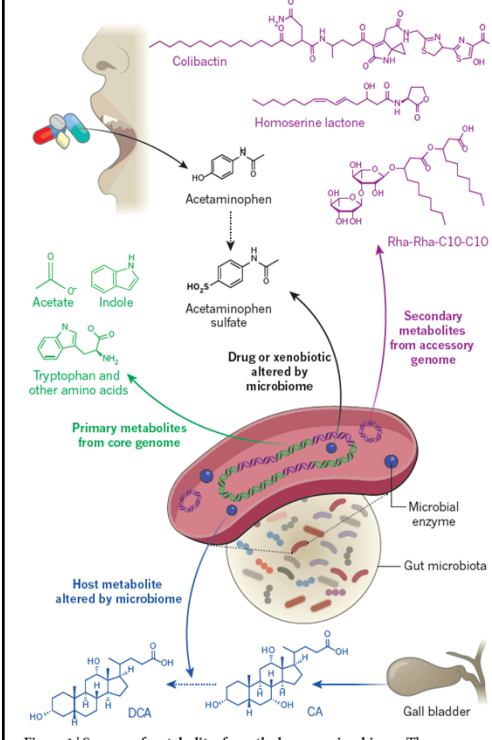
~600 thousand genes



3

## The Microbiome Interacts Through Chemistry

1. Primary Metabolite Production
2. Specialized Metabolites
3. Modification of host metabolites
4. Modification of xenobiotics

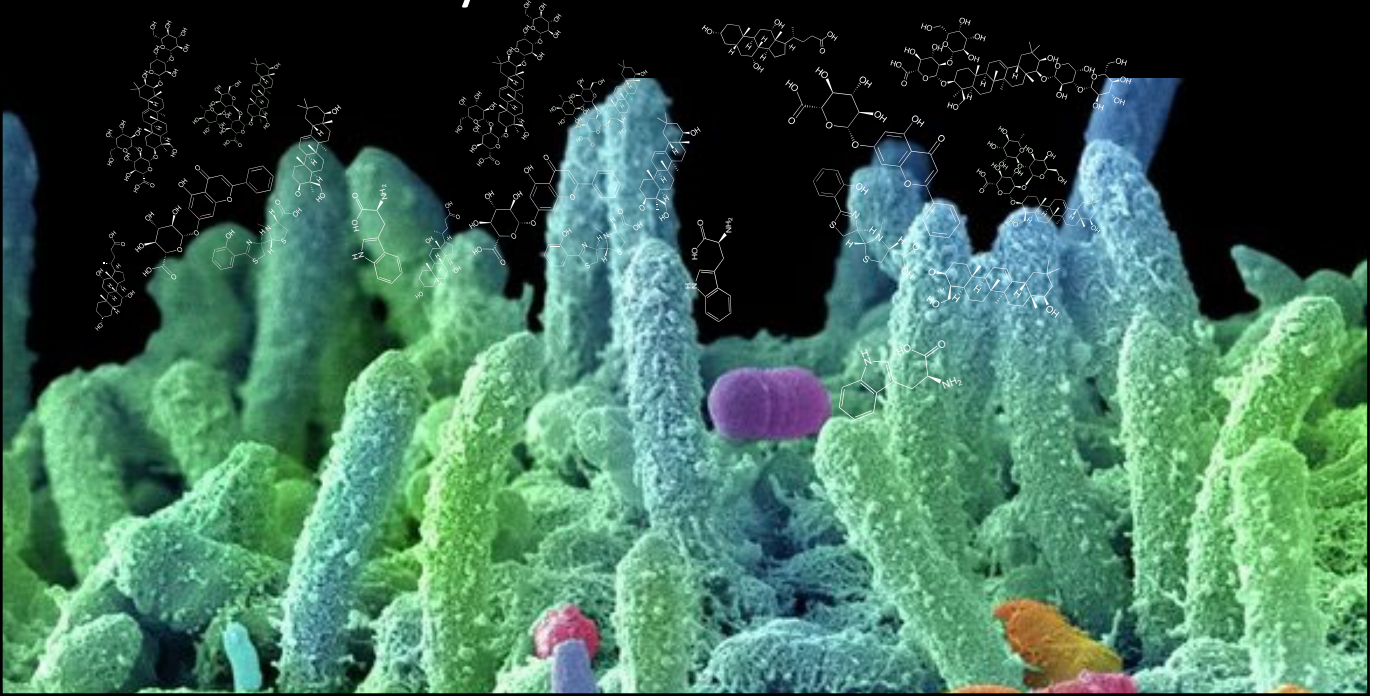


Gilbert, Quinn,....Dorrestein, Knight. *Nature*. 2016

Figure 1 | Sources of metabolites from the human microbiome. The core

4

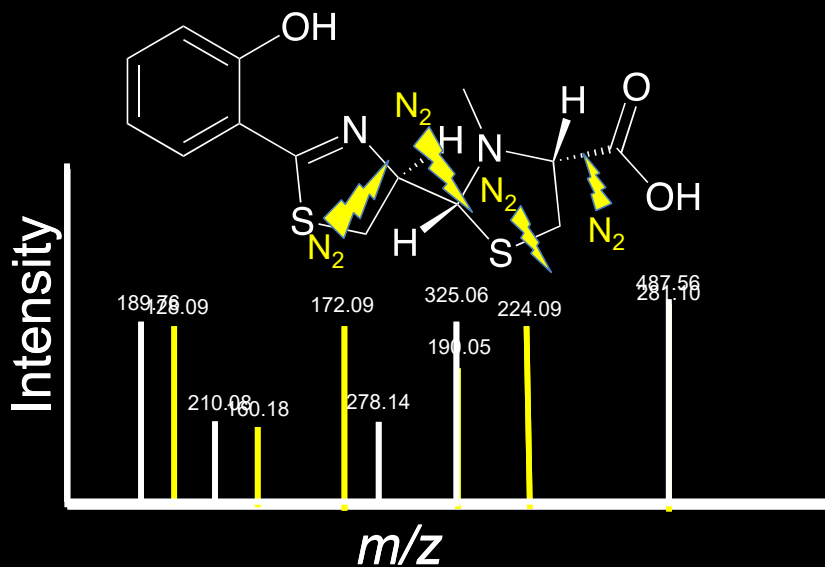
# How do we study the microbiome's metabolome?



5

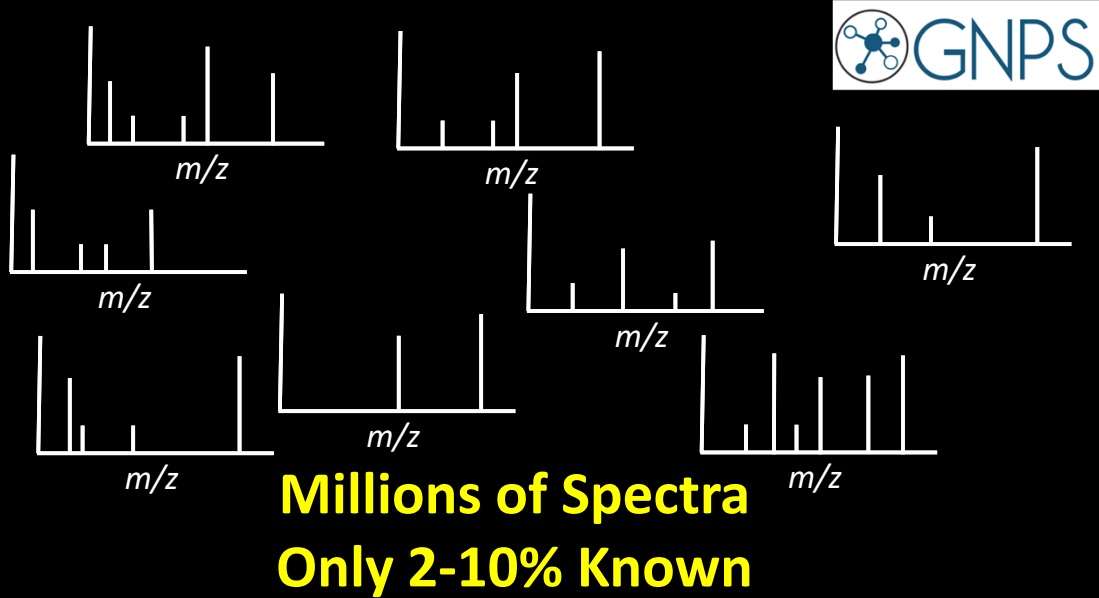
# Tandem Mass Spectrometry

Exact Mass: 324.06



6

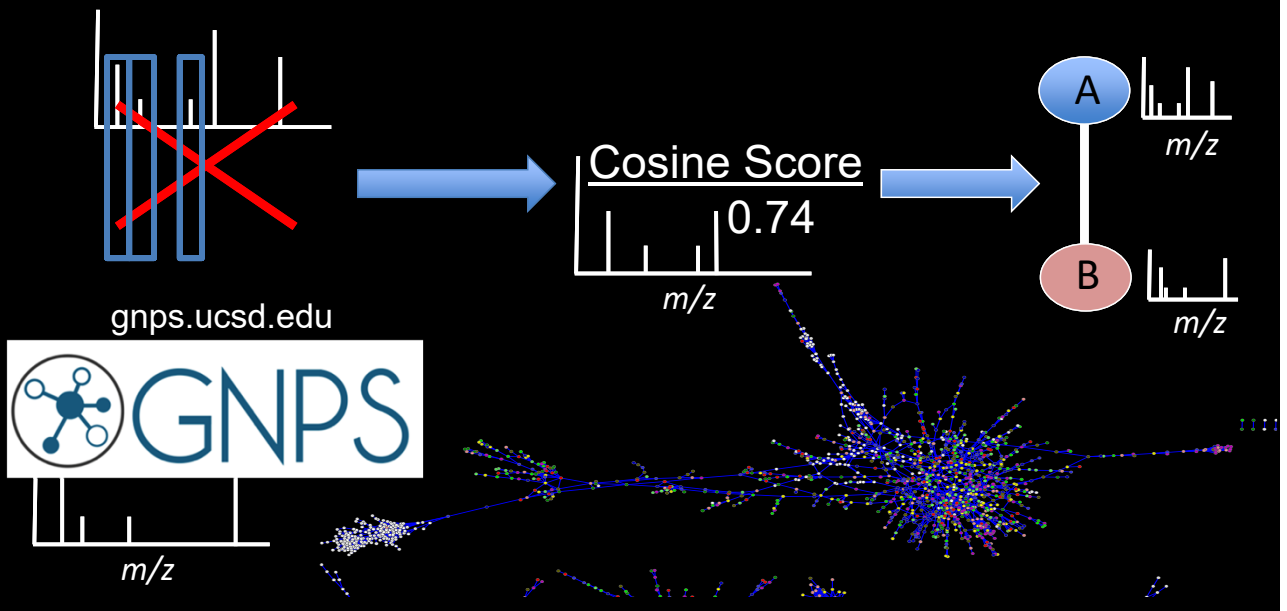
# LC-MS/MS Metabolomics



7

# Molecular Networking

Watrous et al. PNAS. 2012



8

# How does the microbiome impact the chemistry of an entire organism?



Sarkis Mazmanian  
CalTech

Germ Free



29 Organs

96  
samples/  
animal

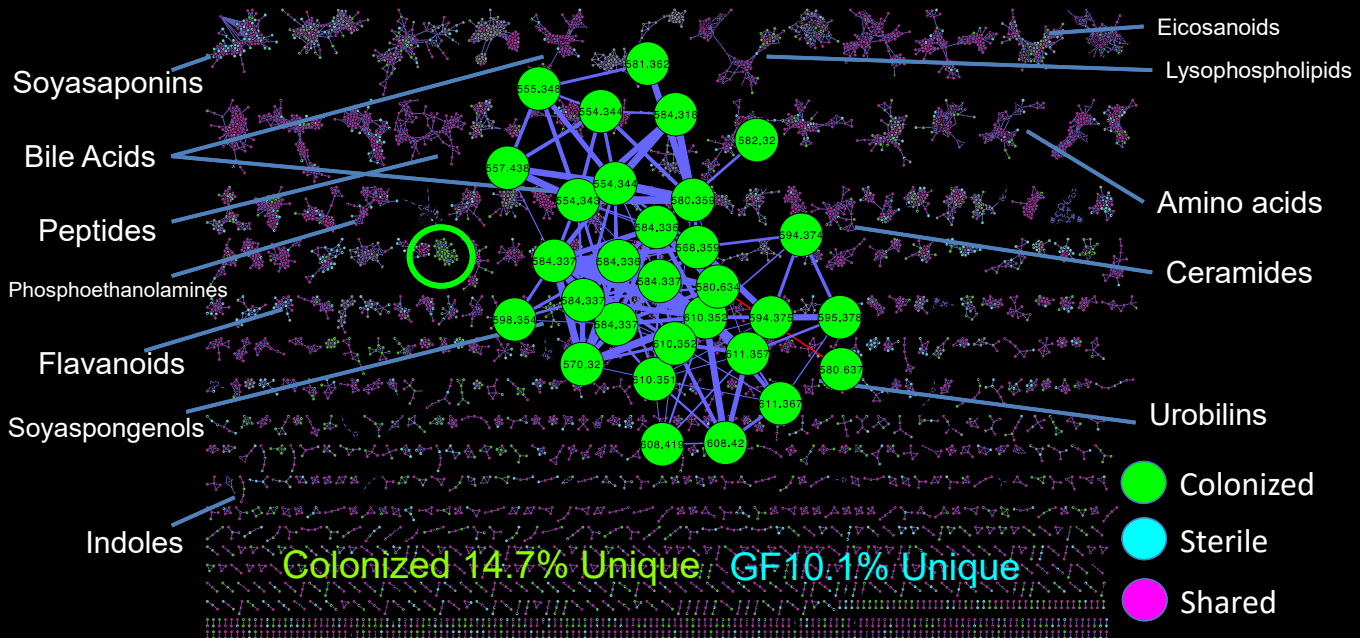
n=4

Colonized



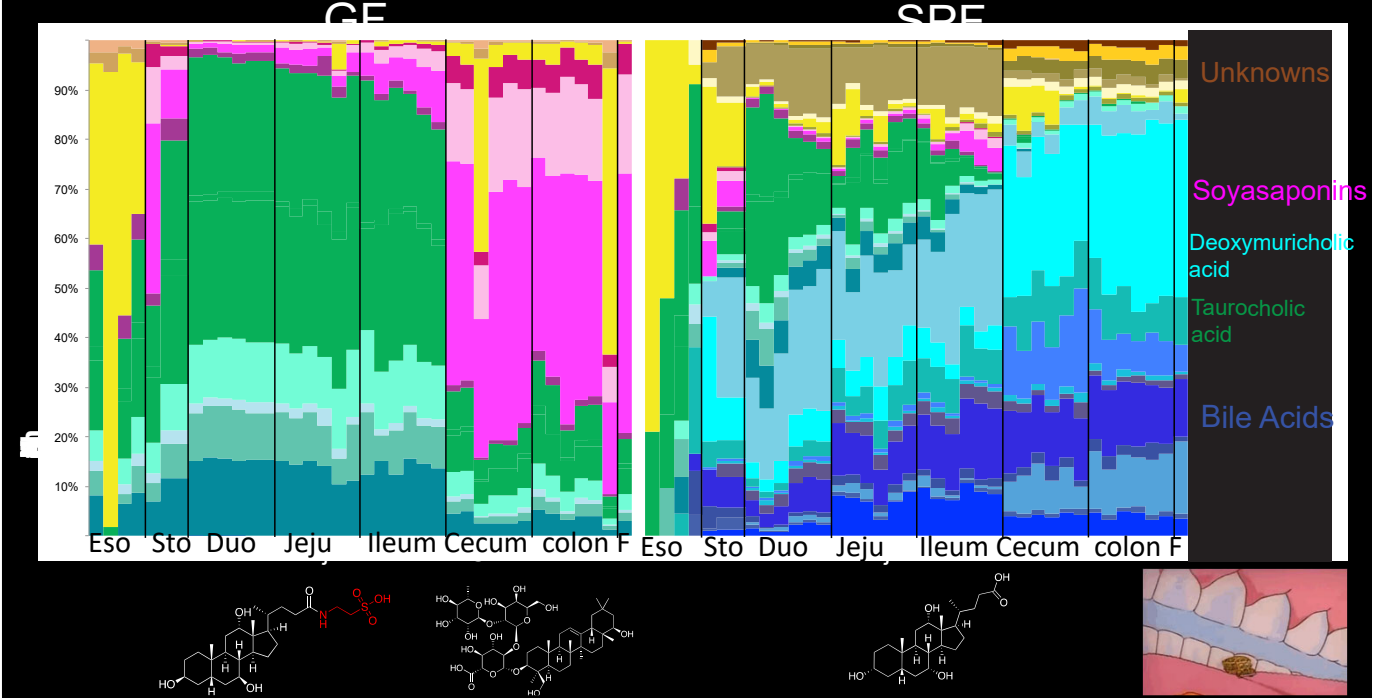
9

## Map of the Microbiome Chemical Space

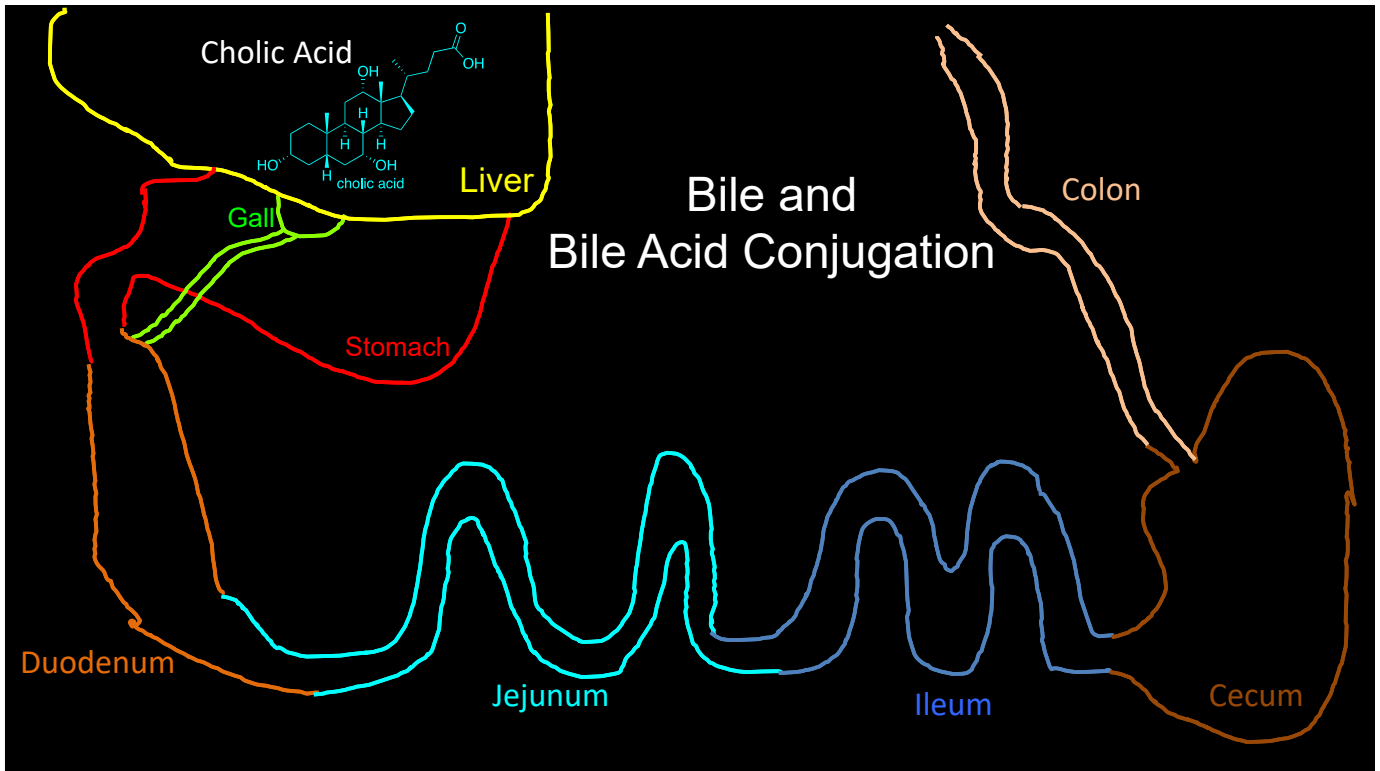


10

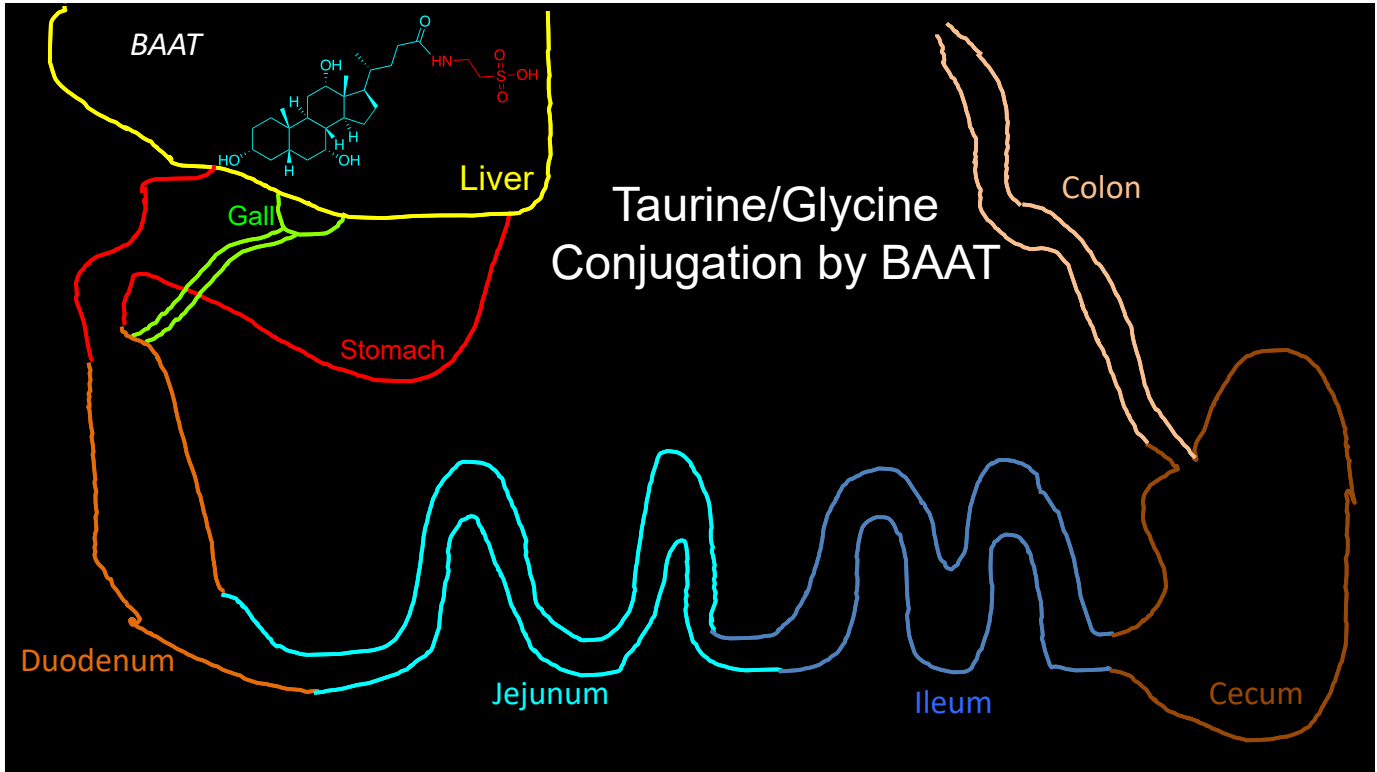
# Metabolite Trip Down the GI Tract



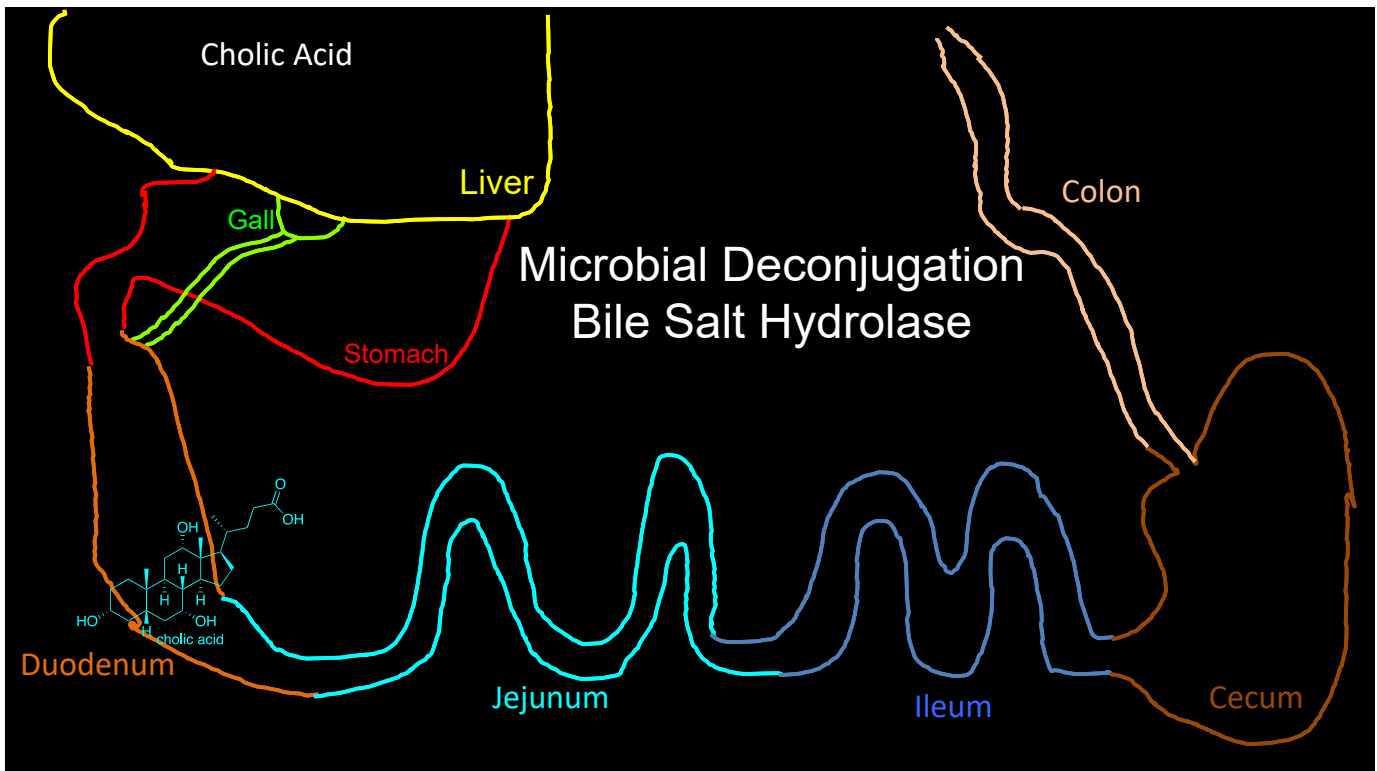
11



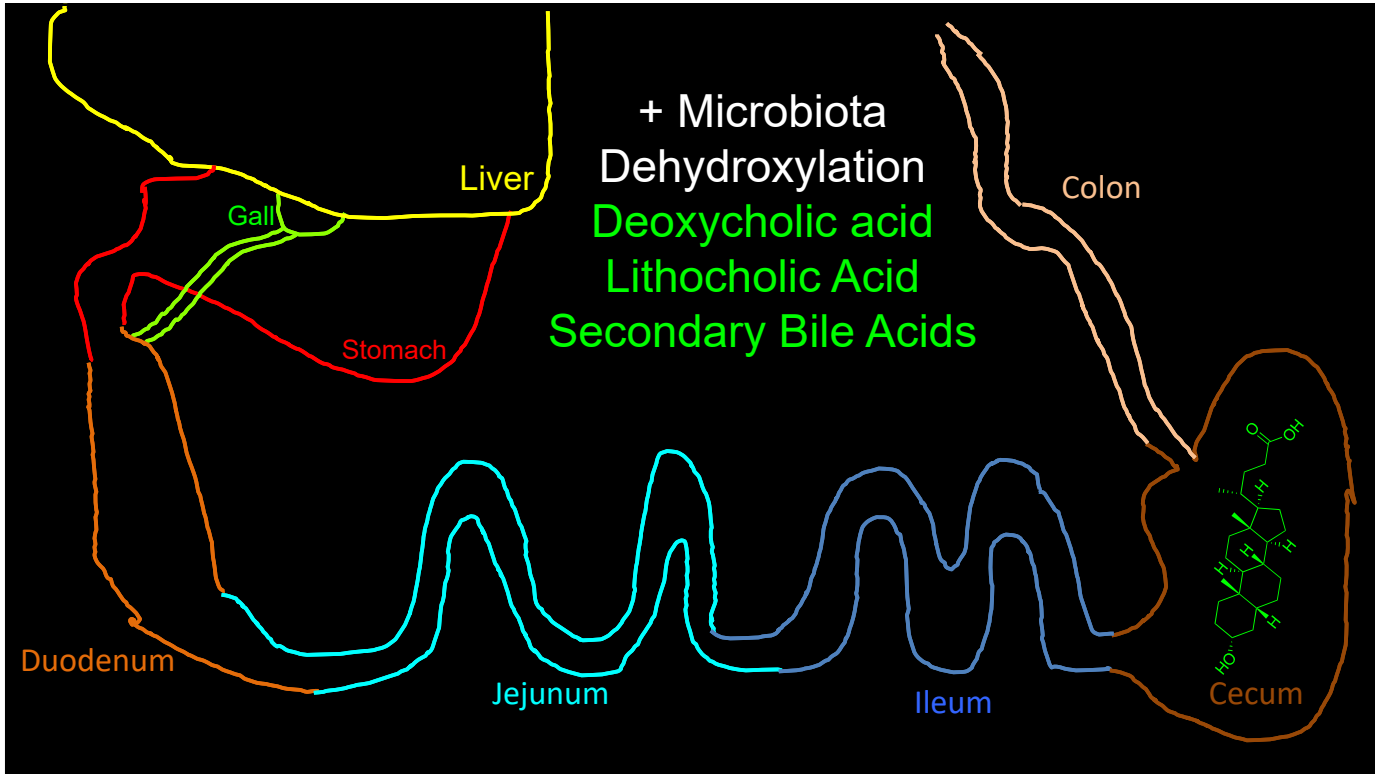
12



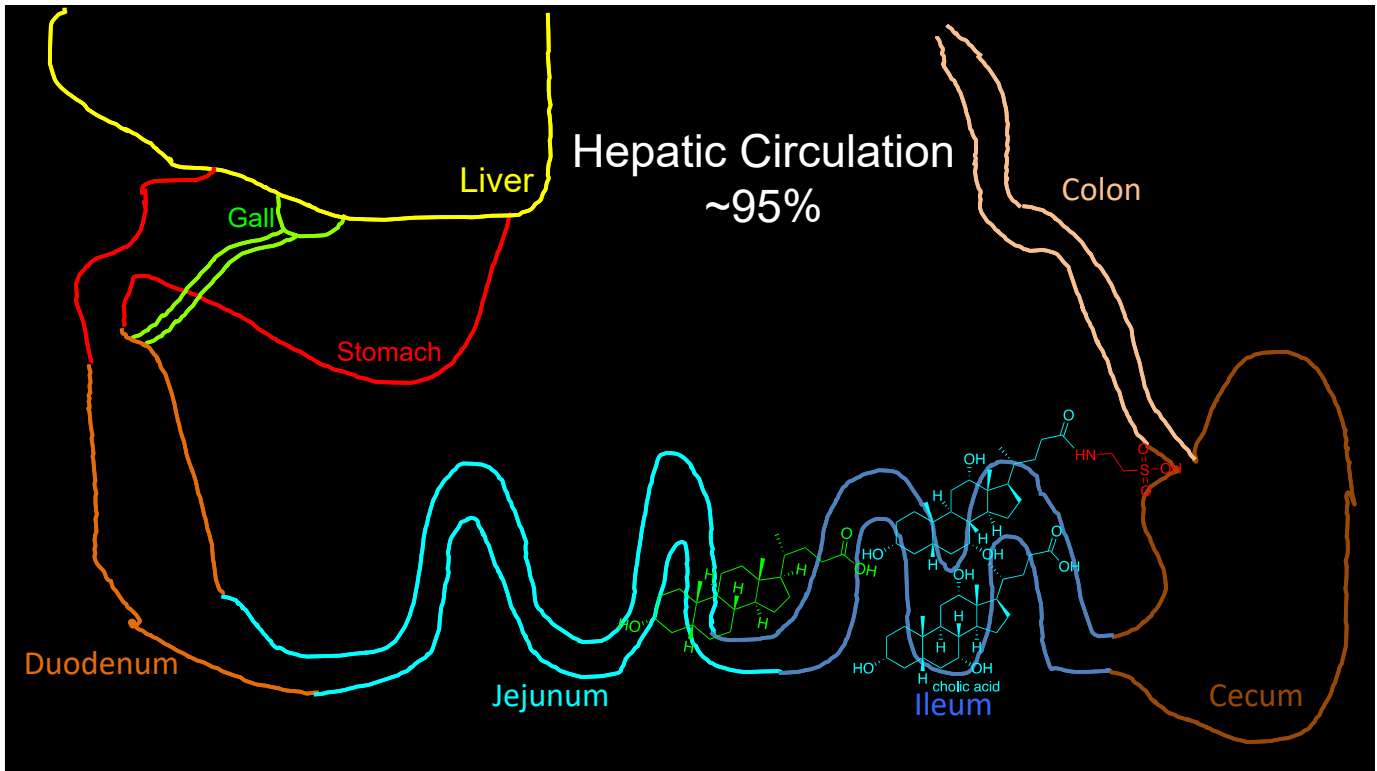
13



14

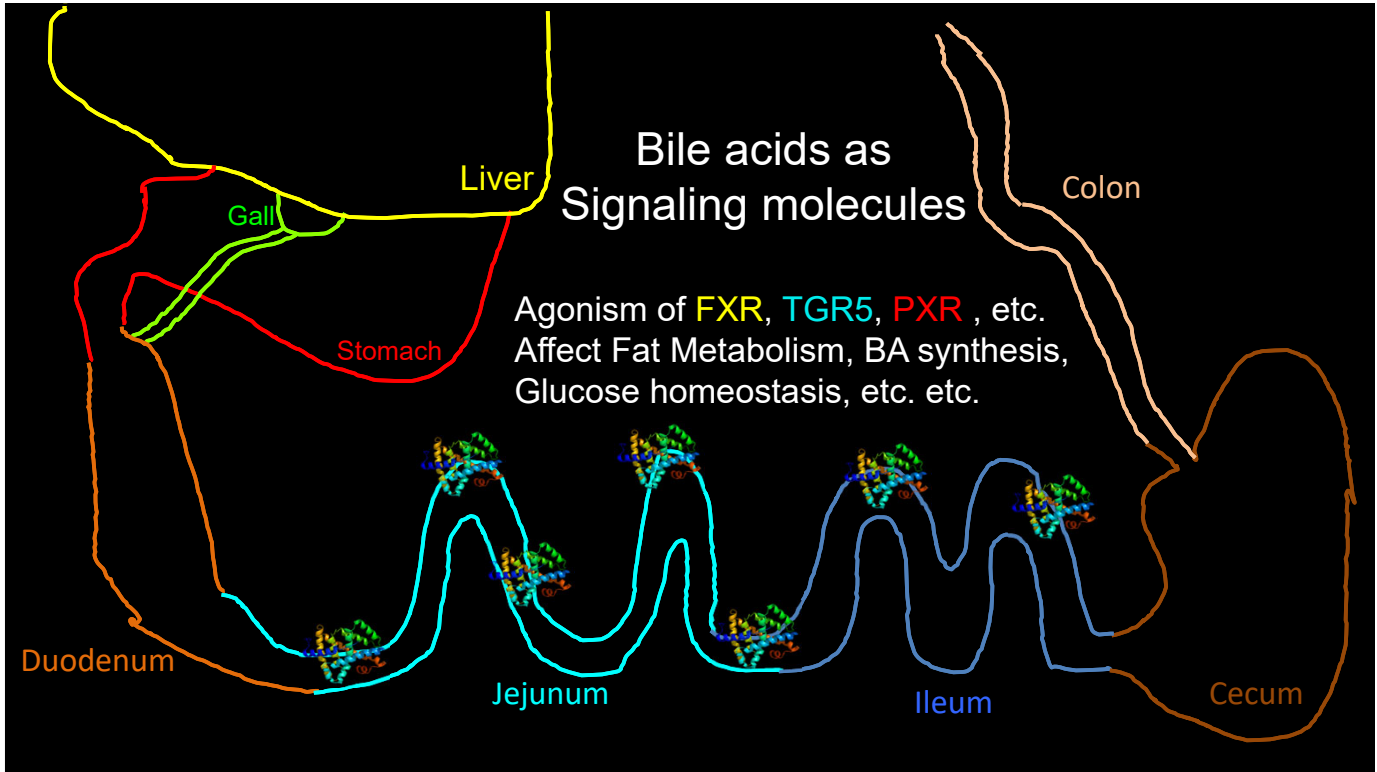


15



16





17

## Discovery of Novel Microbial Bile Acids

**Germ Free**

**Glycocholic Acids**

**Taurocholic Acids**

**Deoxytaurocholic Acids**

**Glycocholic Acid**

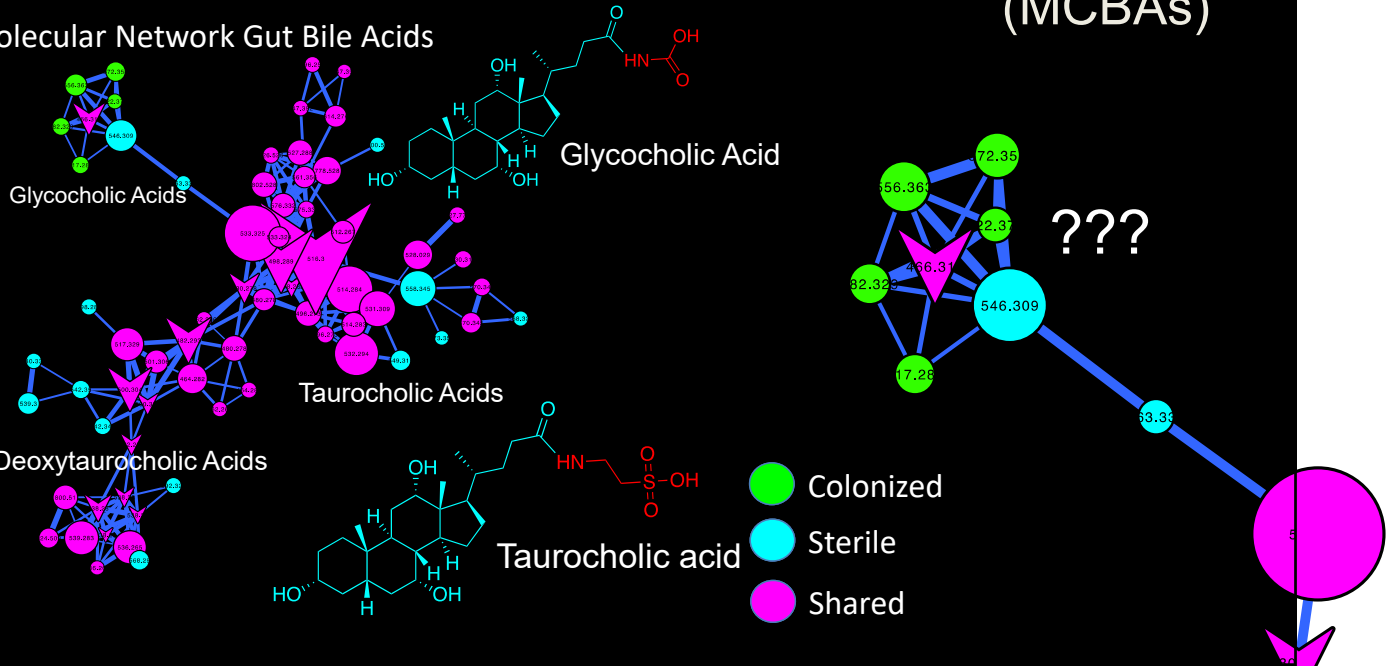
**Taurocholic acid**

- Colonized
- Sterile
- Shared

18

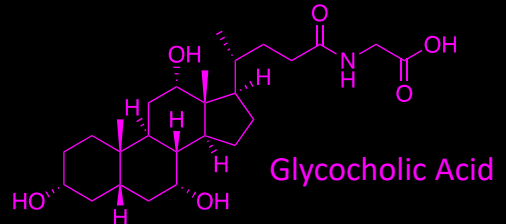
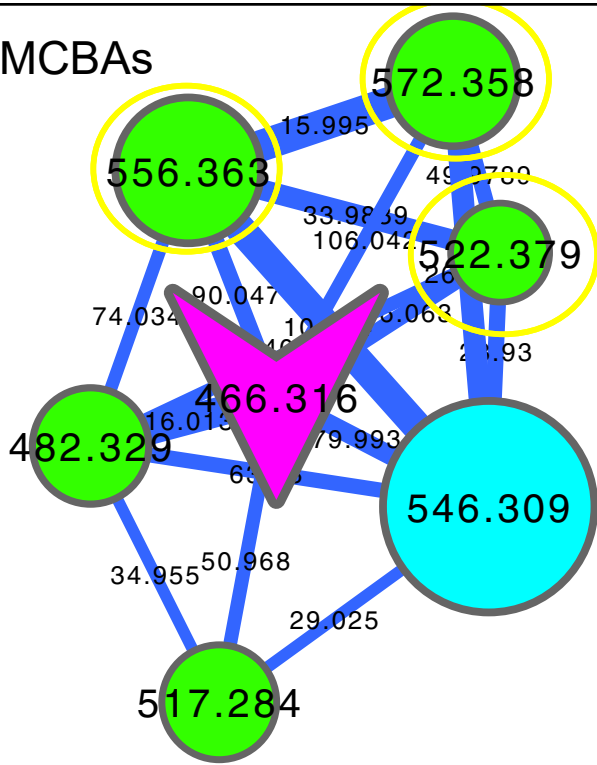
# Discovery of Novel Microbially Conjugate Bile Acids (MCBAs)

Molecular Network Gut Bile Acids

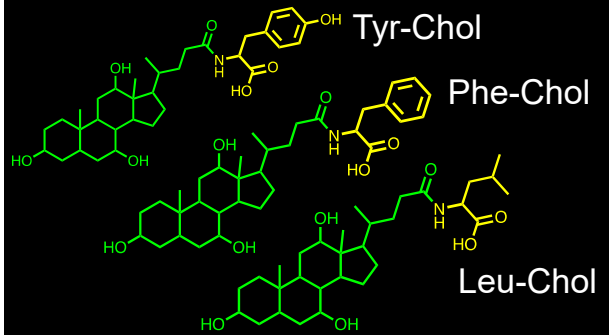


19

MCBAs



$m/z572.358 = + 106.042 =$  Tyrosine  
 $m/z556.363 = + 90.047 =$  Phenylalanine  
 $m/z522.379 = + 56.063 =$  Ile/Leu



20

HEINRICH O. WIELAND

## The chemistry of the bile acids

Nobel Lecture, December 12, 1928

Scientific chemistry occupied itself with the constituent substances of the bile at an early stage. L. Gmelin, Thénard and also Berzelius already did work on the acids present in bile, and several publications of the Liebig Laboratory in Giessen dealt with this subject. But it was only in 1848 that A. Strecker succeeded in isolating from ox-gall, the two most wide-spread acids, *taurocholic acid* and *glycocholic acid*, two conjugated substances of cholic acid  $C_{24}H_{40}O_6$ , condensed amide-like with taurine and glycine at the carboxyl group.

**nature**

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Article | Published: 26 February 2020

### Global chemical effects of the microbiome include new bile-acid conjugations

Robert A. Quinn, Alexey V. Melnik, [...] Pieter C. Dorrestein ✉

Nature 579, 123–129 (2020) | Cite this article

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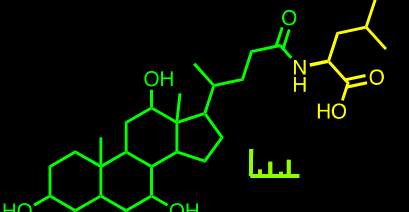
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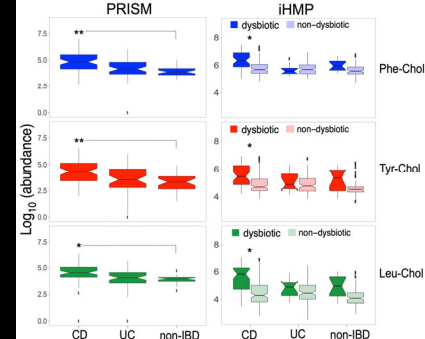
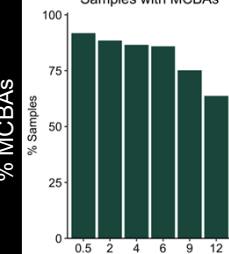
# MASST Search: They are also found in humans

## Elevated in Crohn's Disease




Mingxun Wang, P. Dorrestein, UCSD







**ABC Baby fecal study**  
n = 1362 samples

- 92% of samples
- 129 of 272 babies
- 13 different conjugates



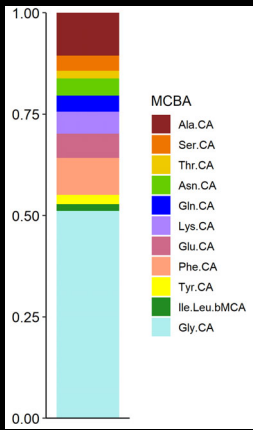
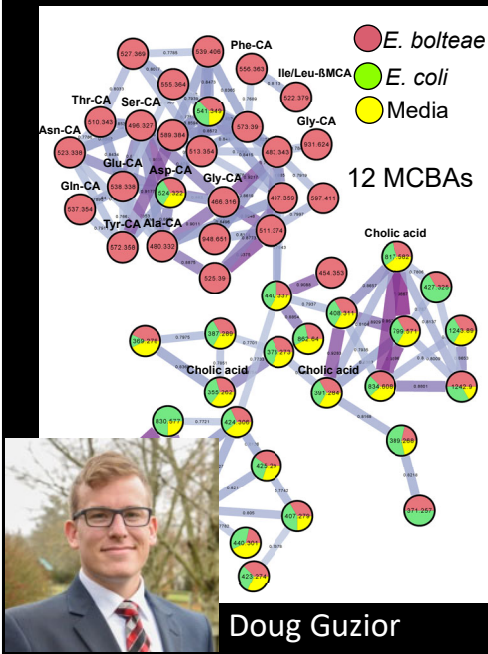
Curtis Huttenhower, Harvard



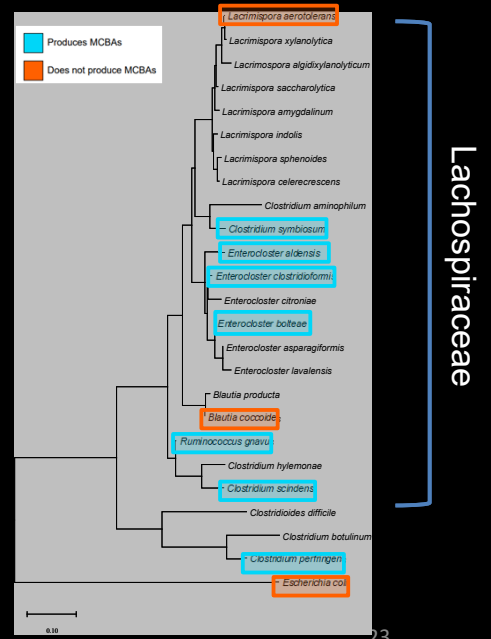
Julie Lumeng, U Michigan

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# In vitro MCBA production by gut bacterium *Enterocloster bolteae*



RCM Media  
24hr Culture, 37°C  
Synthesis requires  
live cells



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AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR MICROBIOLOGY | mSystems | RESEARCH ARTICLE | July/August 2021 | Volume 6 | Issue 4 | e00805-21 | https://doi.org/10.1128/mSystems.00805-21

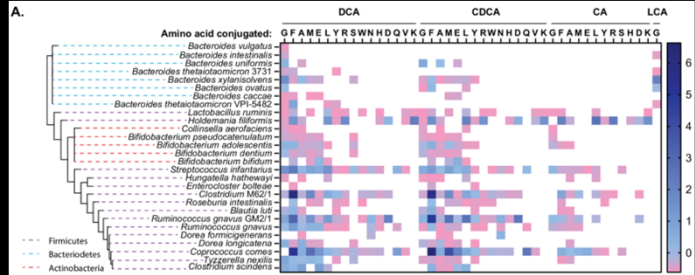
### Dominant Bacterial Phyla from the Human Gut Show Widespread Ability To Transform and Conjugate Bile Acids

L. N. Lucas<sup>a,b</sup>, K. Barrett<sup>a,b</sup>, R. L. Kerby<sup>a</sup>, Q. Zhang<sup>a</sup>, L. E. Cattaneo<sup>a,b</sup>, D. Stevenson<sup>a</sup>, F. E. Rey<sup>a</sup>, and D. Amador-Noguez<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Department of Bacteriology, University of Wisconsin—Madison, Madison, Wisconsin, USA  
<sup>b</sup>Microbiology Doctoral Training Program, University of Wisconsin—Madison, Madison, Wisconsin, USA



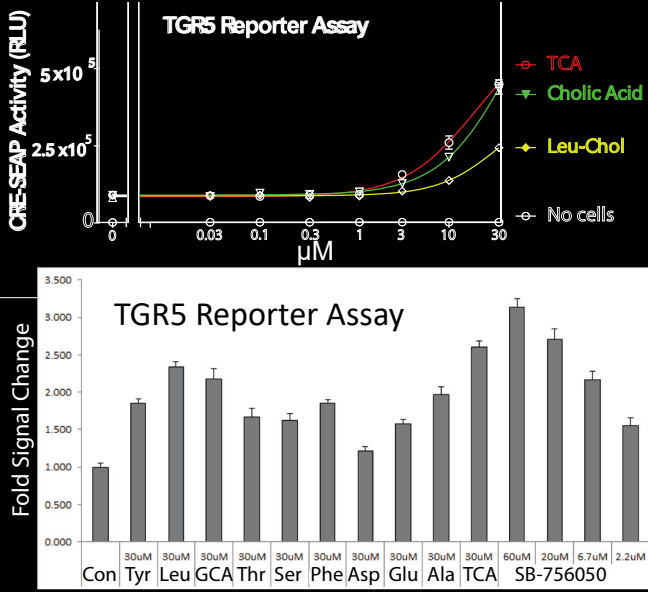
- Discovery of 44 new MCBAs
- 28 of 72 isolates tested
- Covering Actinobacteria, Firmicutes and Bacteroidetes



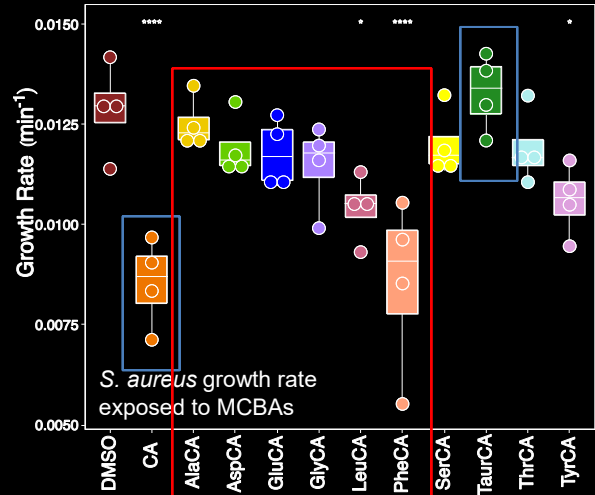
24

# So cool! But what do they do?

Alter Bile Acid Signaling but **AA-Dependent**



MCBAs are Less Antimicrobial but **AA dependent**



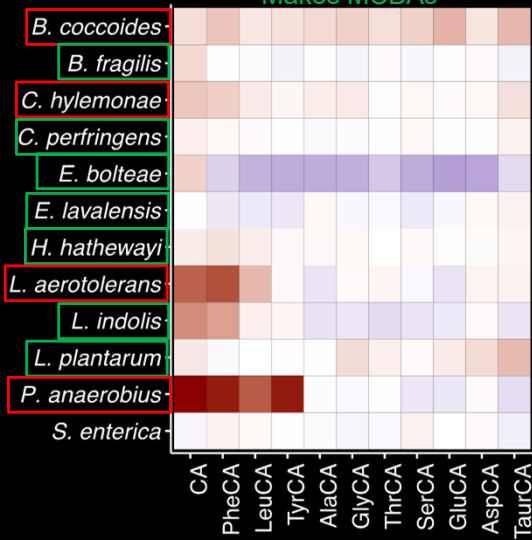
25

## MCBAs have Antimicrobial Properties Depending on the Amino Acid Conjugated

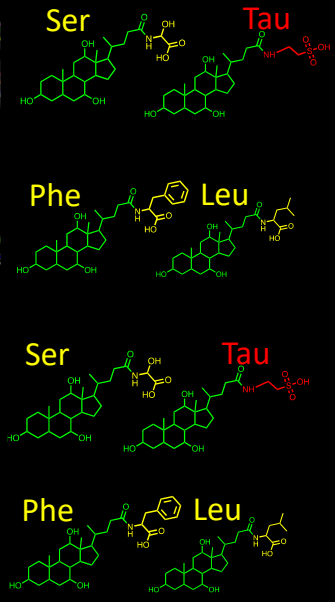
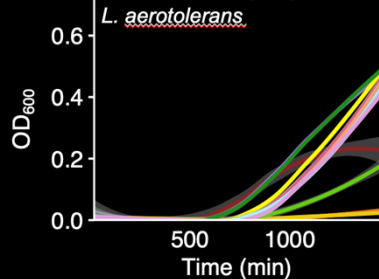
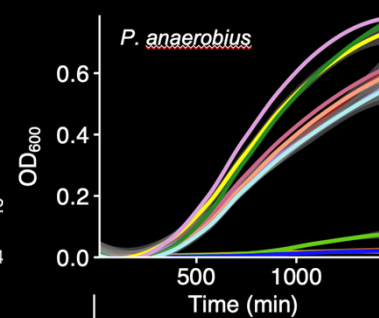
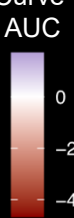


Doug Guzior

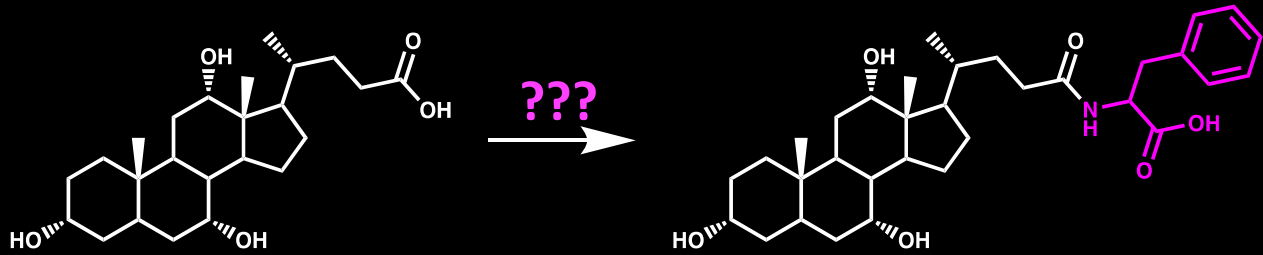
Doesn't make MCBAs (Red)  
Makes MCBAs (Green)



Growth Curve AUC



26

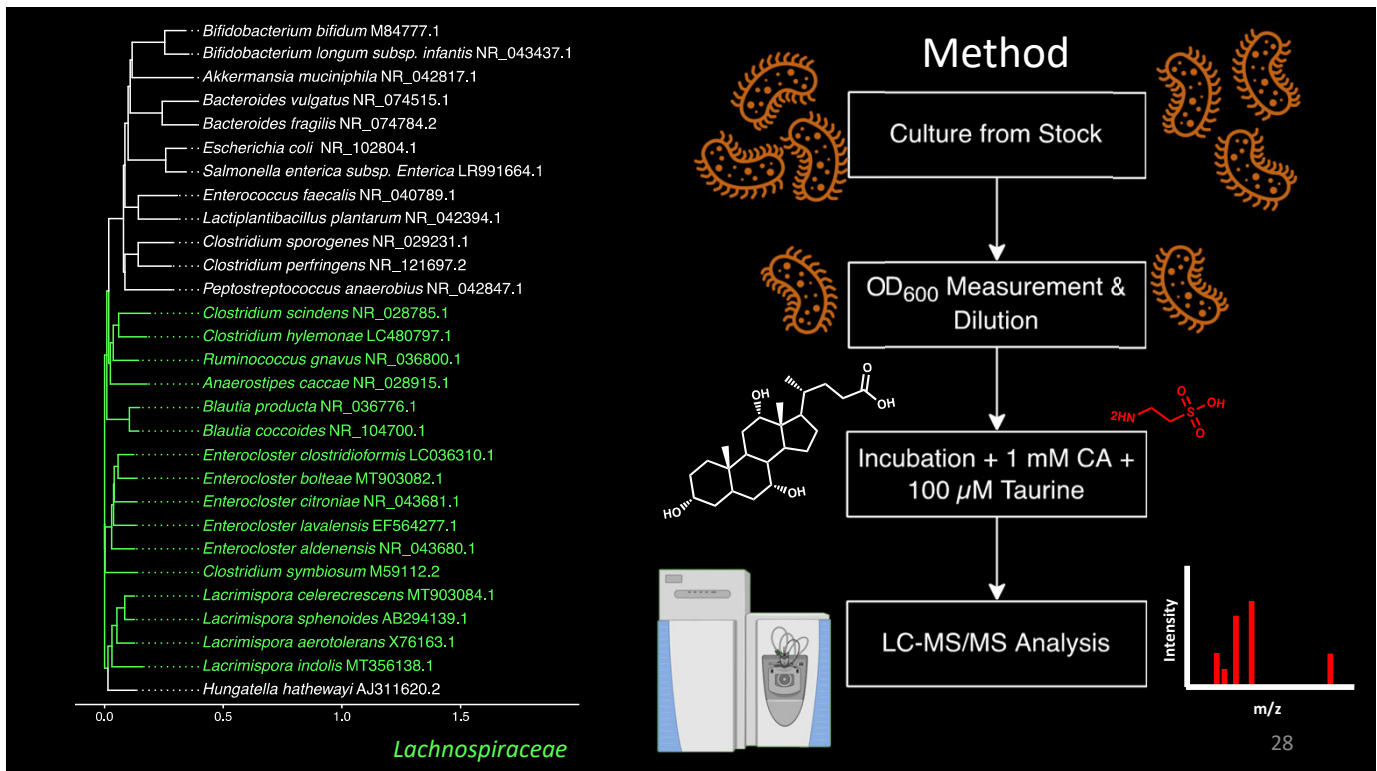


# HOW ARE BACTERIA CONJUGATING BILE ACIDS?

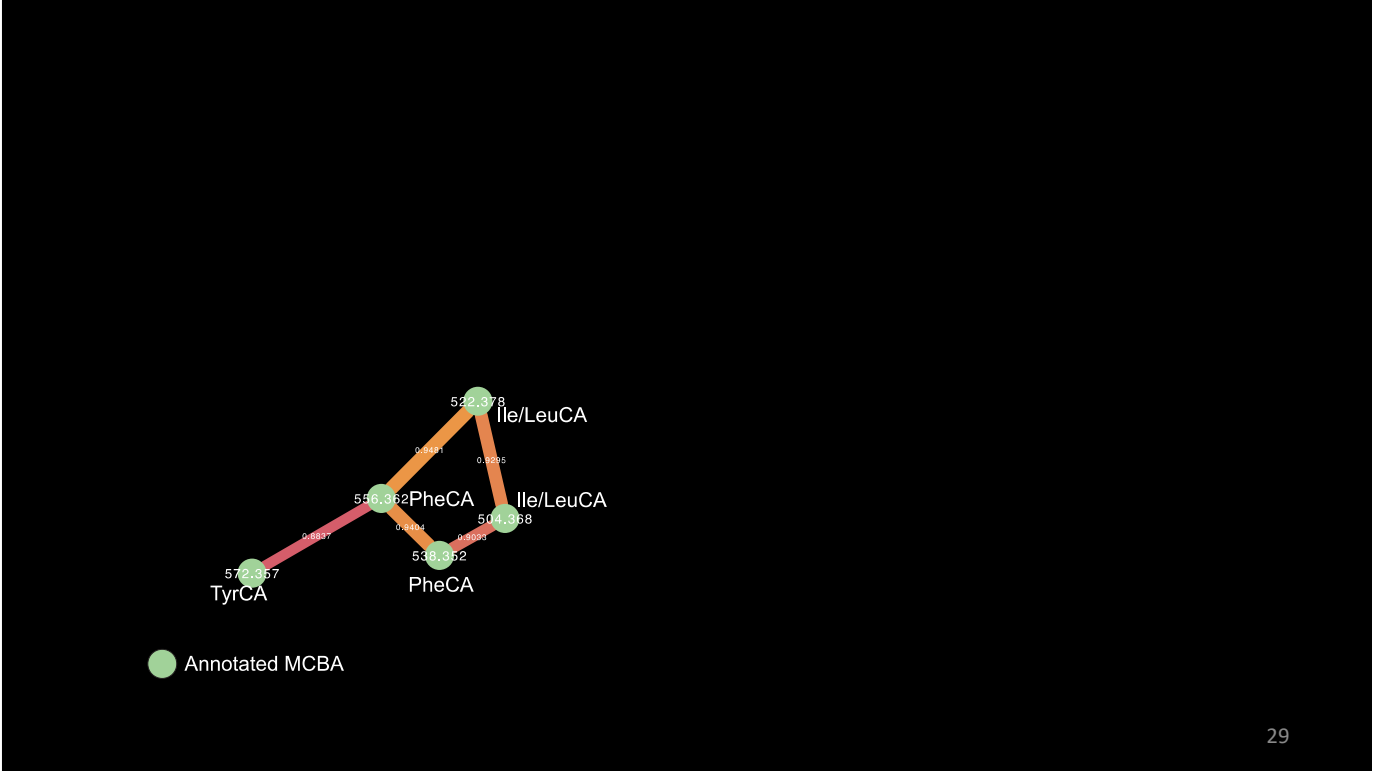
Does production correlate with phylogenetic relatedness?

27

27

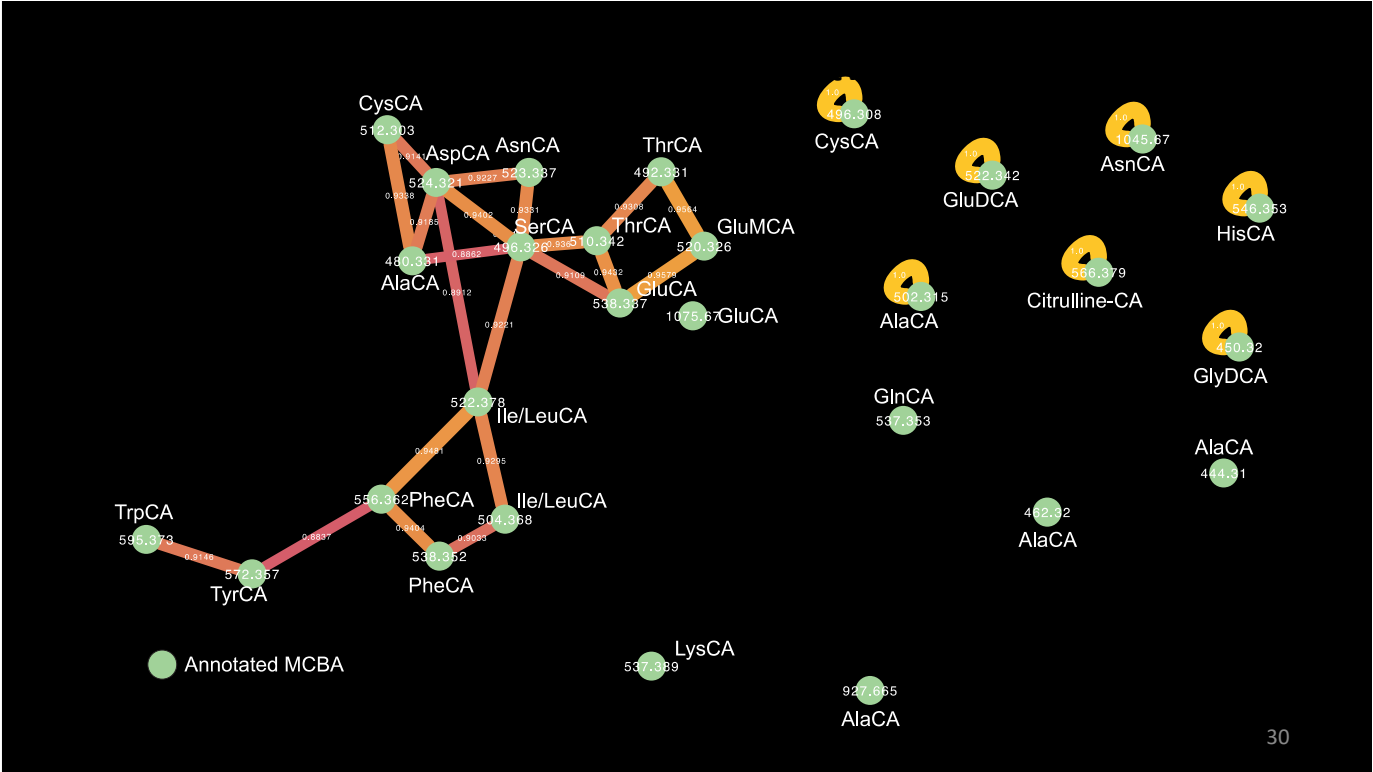


28



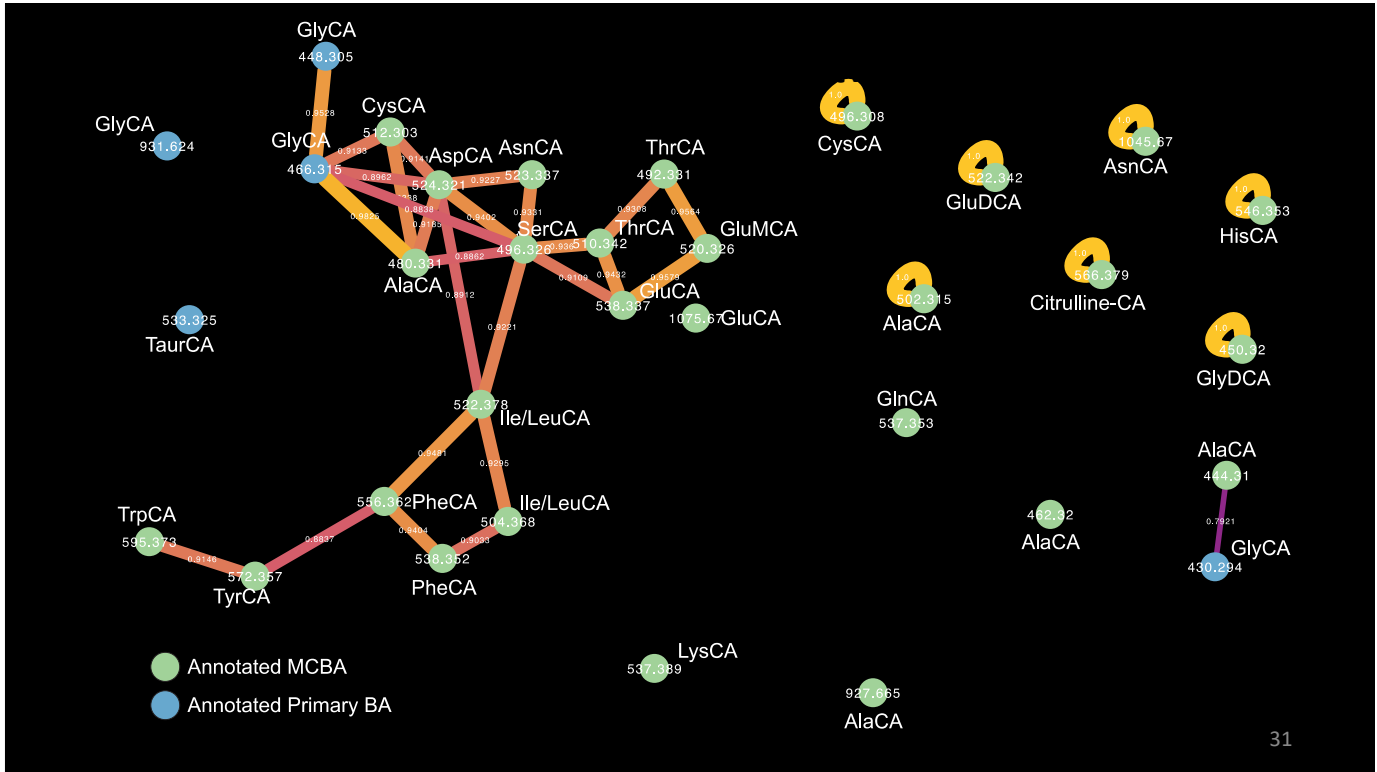
29

29

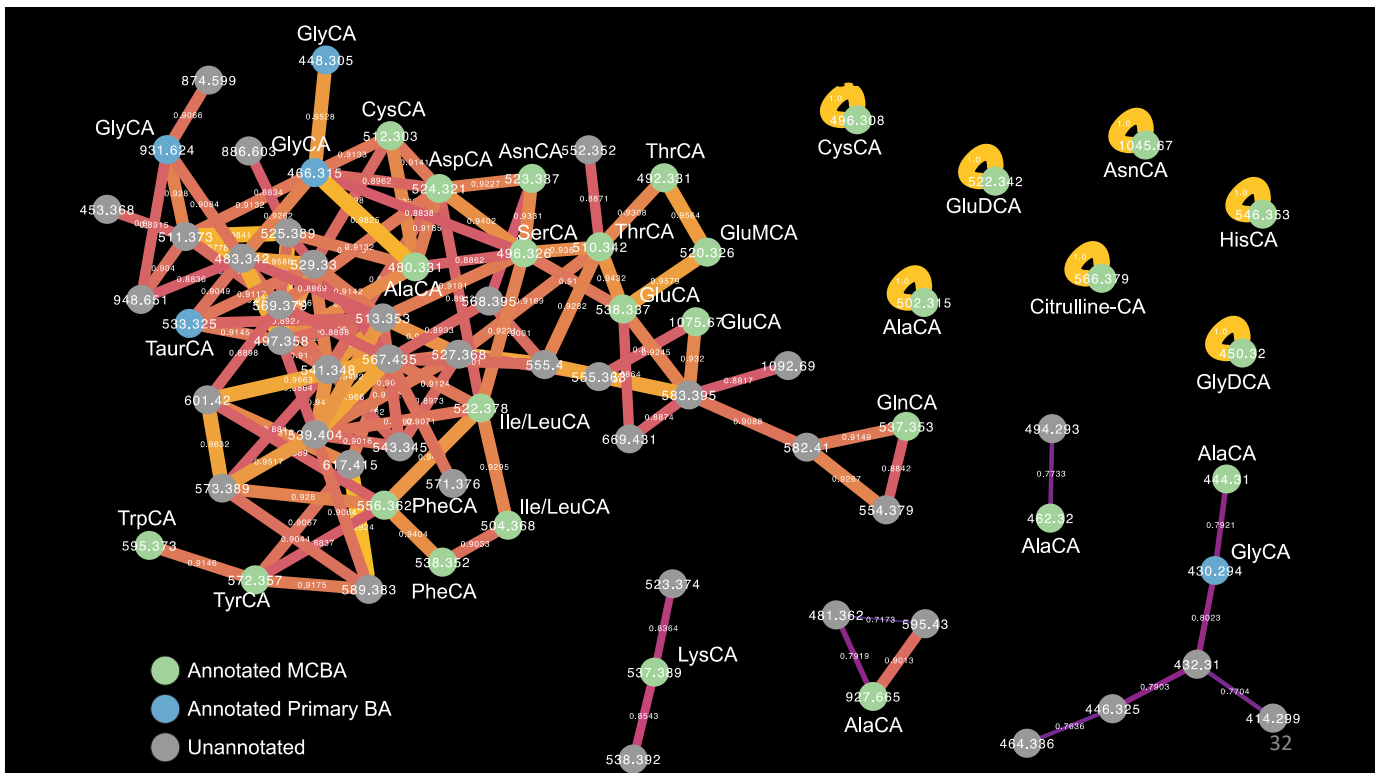


30

30

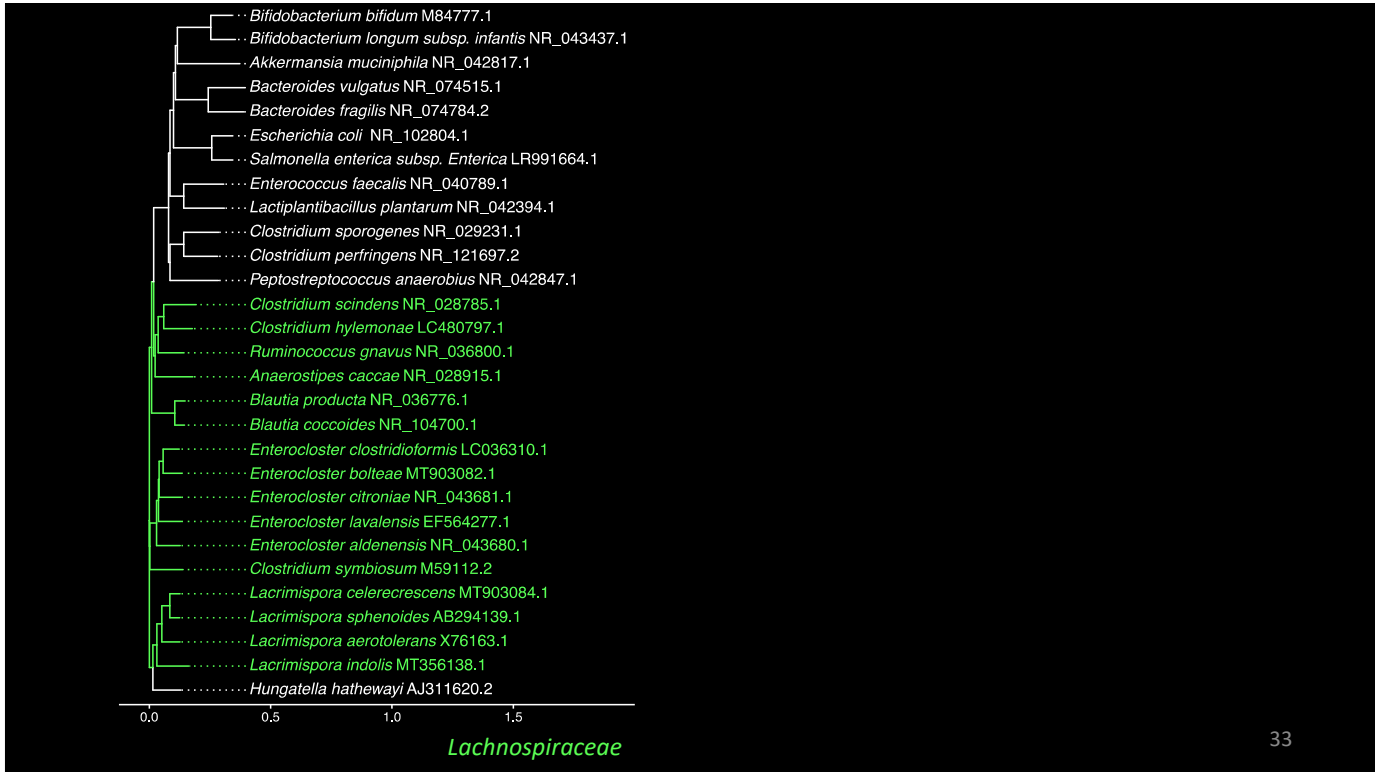


31

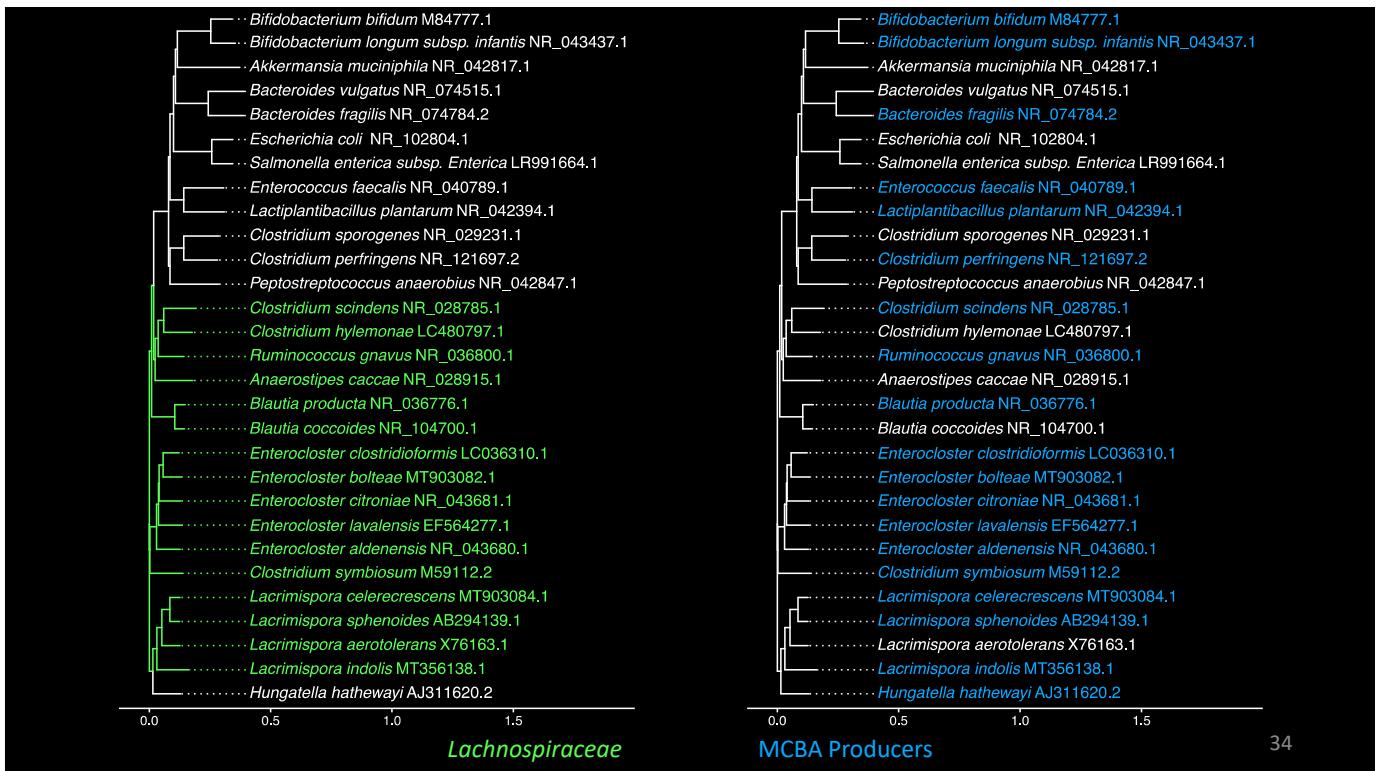


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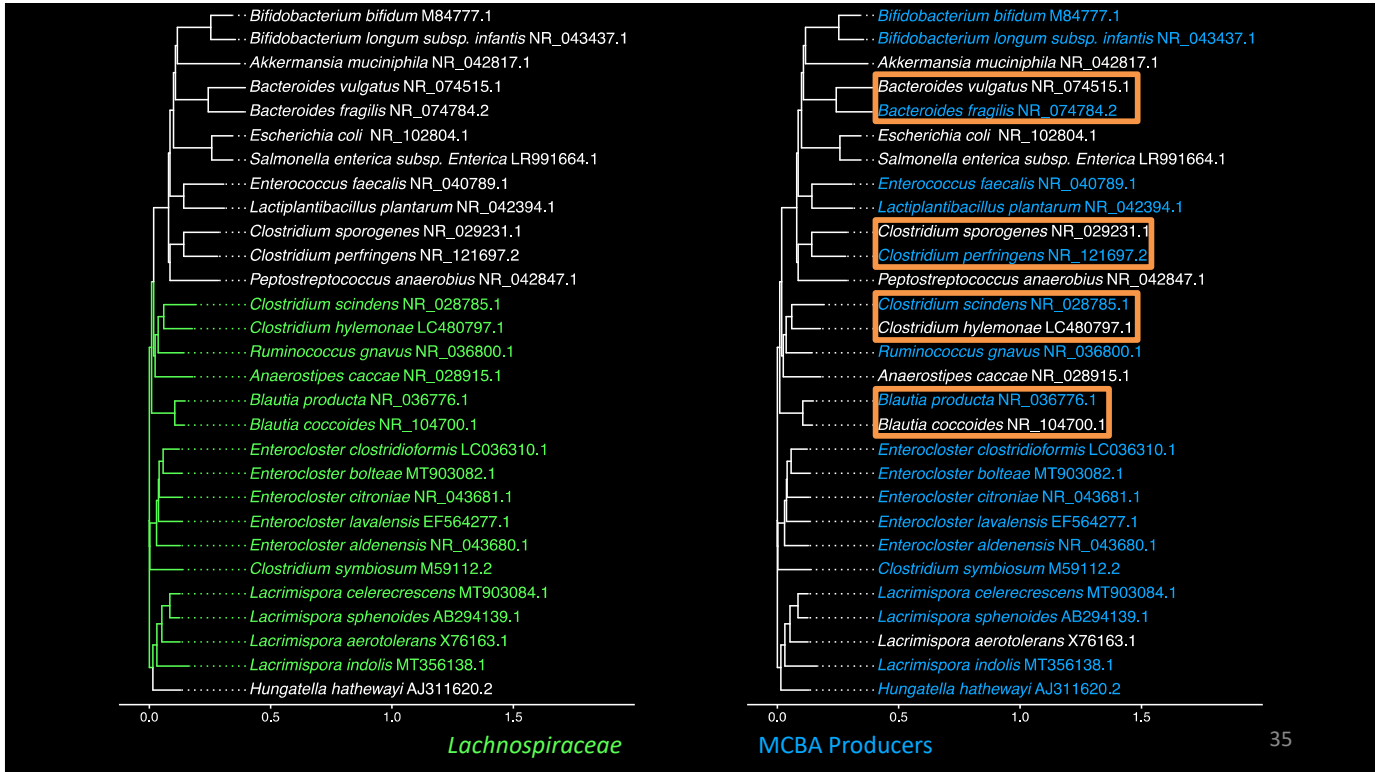




33






34



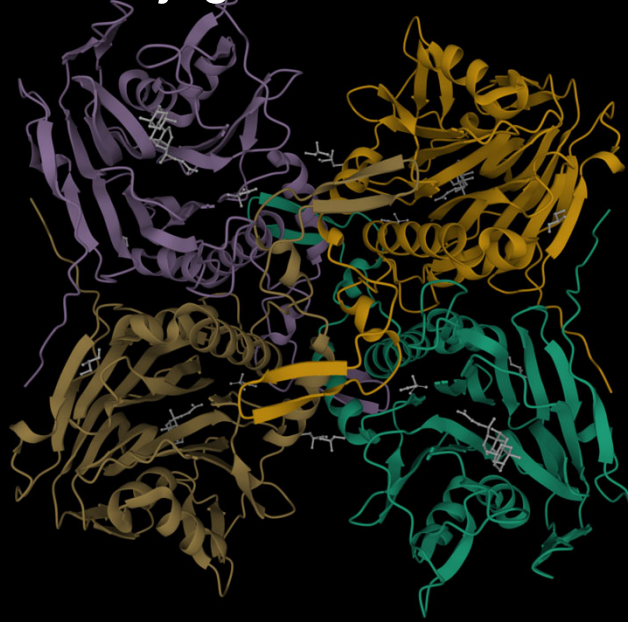
35

**What phylogenetically diverse enzyme is known to interact with conjugated bile acids?**

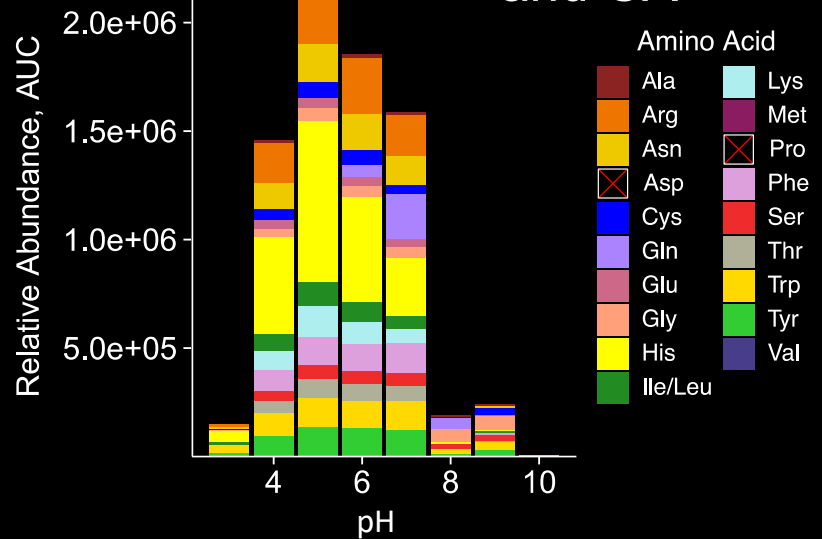
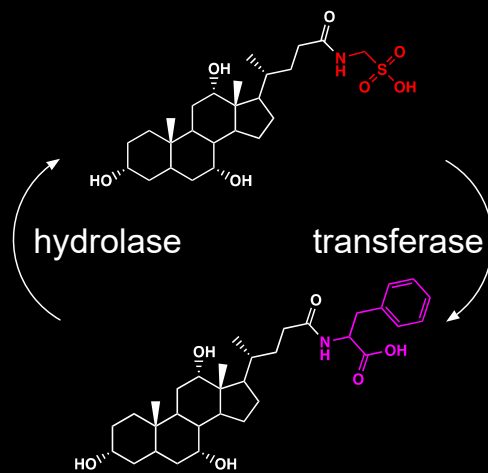
36

## Bile Salt Hydrolase Previously Unknown Amino-transfer Conjugates Bile Acids



37

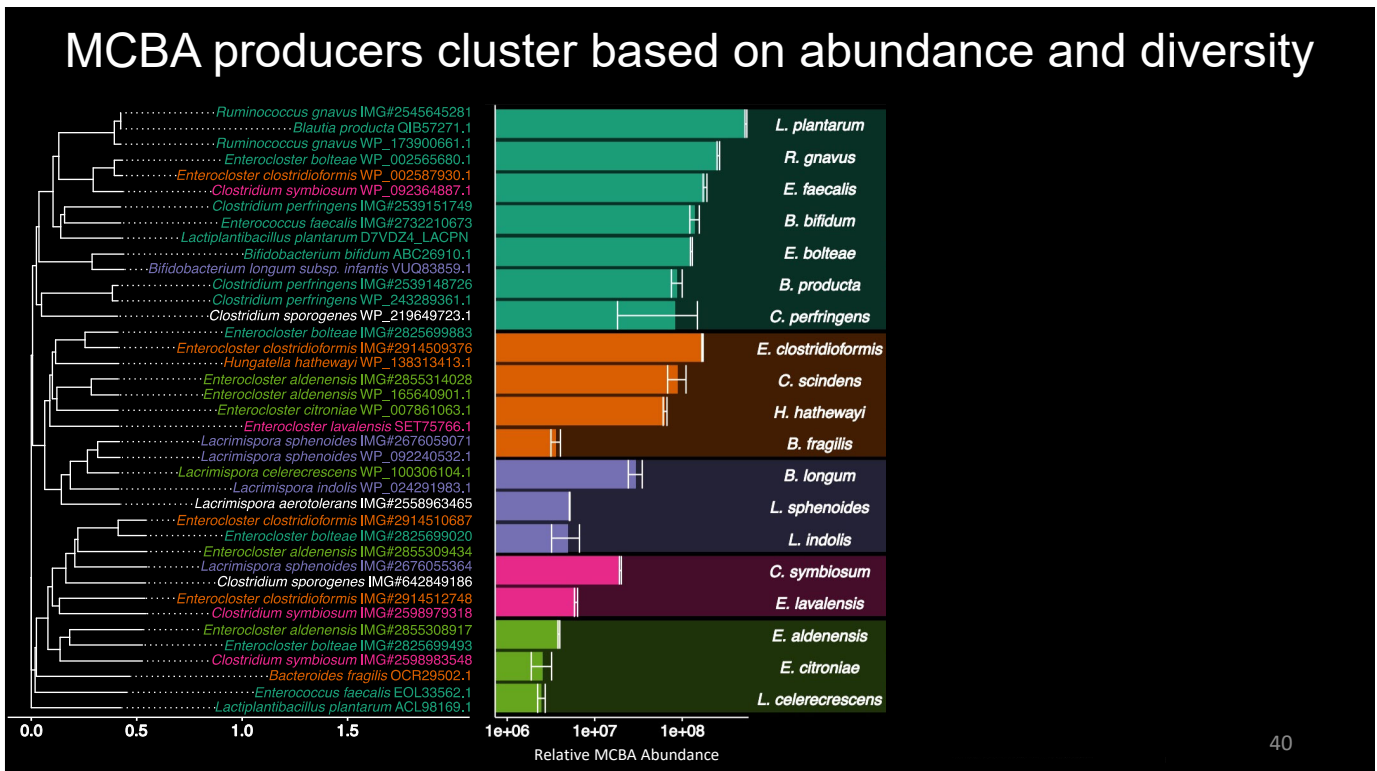
## CpBSH Transfers Amino Acids to TaurCA and GlyCA and CA



38

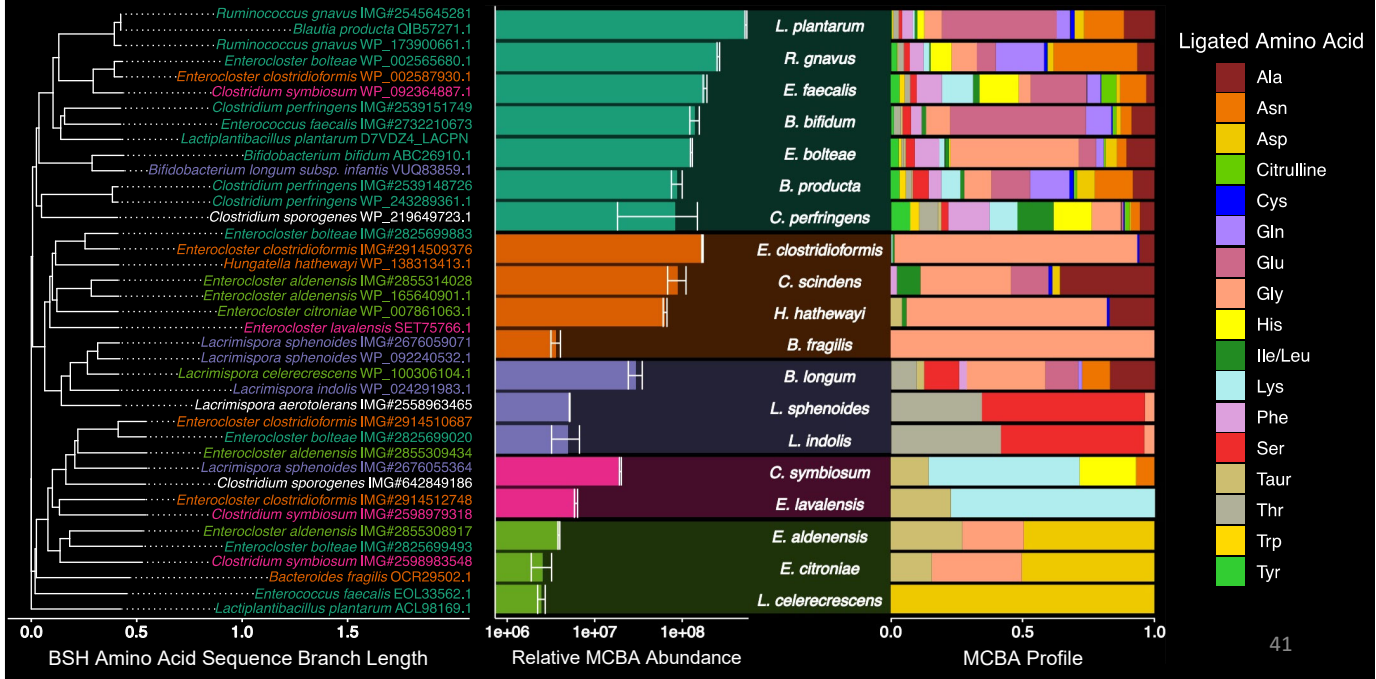


39



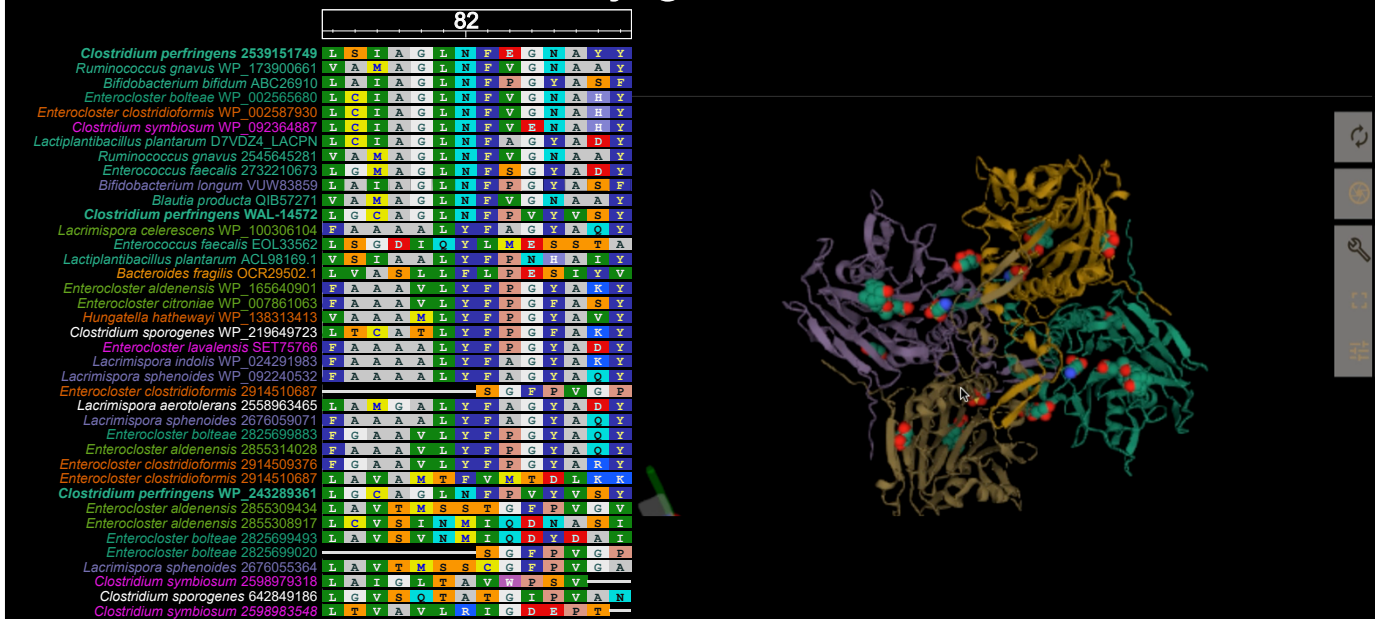
40

# MCBA producers cluster based on abundance and diversity



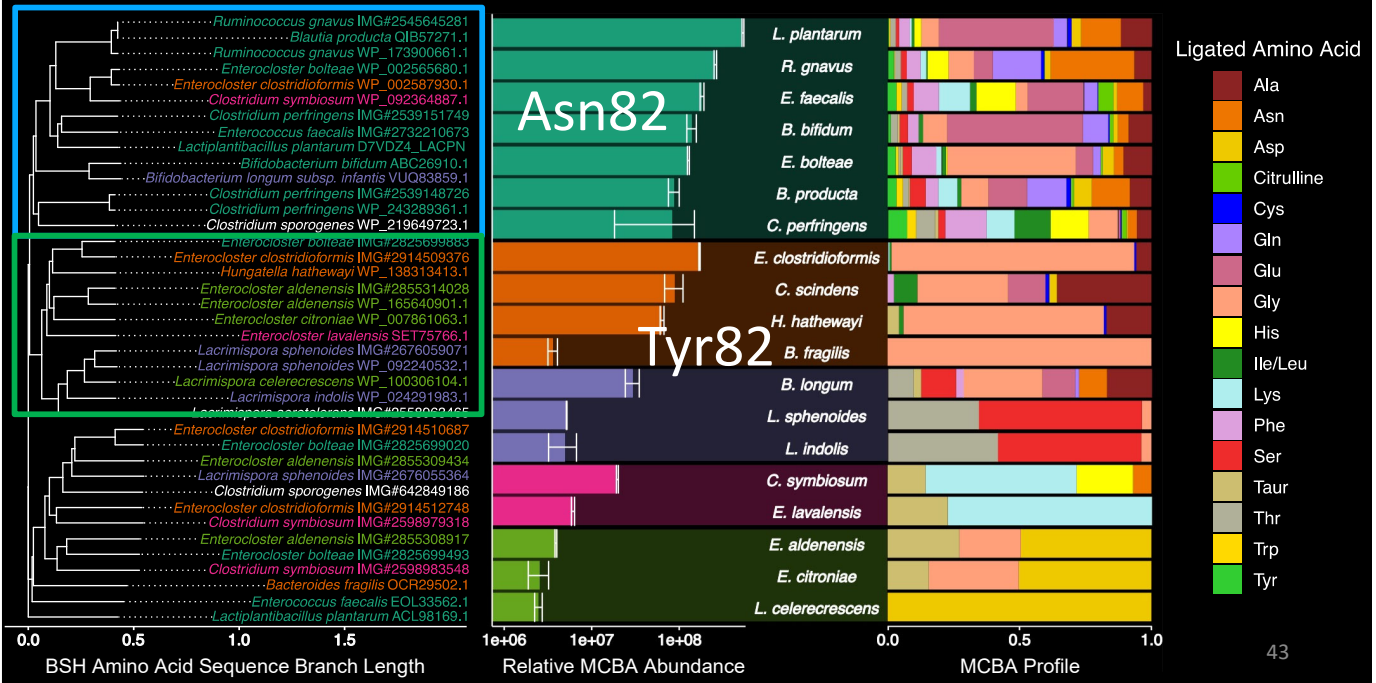
41

# Amino acid sequence of BSH Determines AA Conjugation Profile



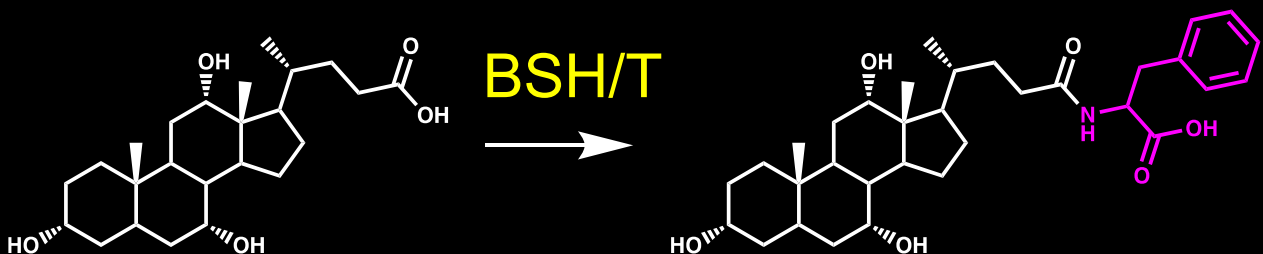
42

## MCBA producers cluster based on abundance and diversity

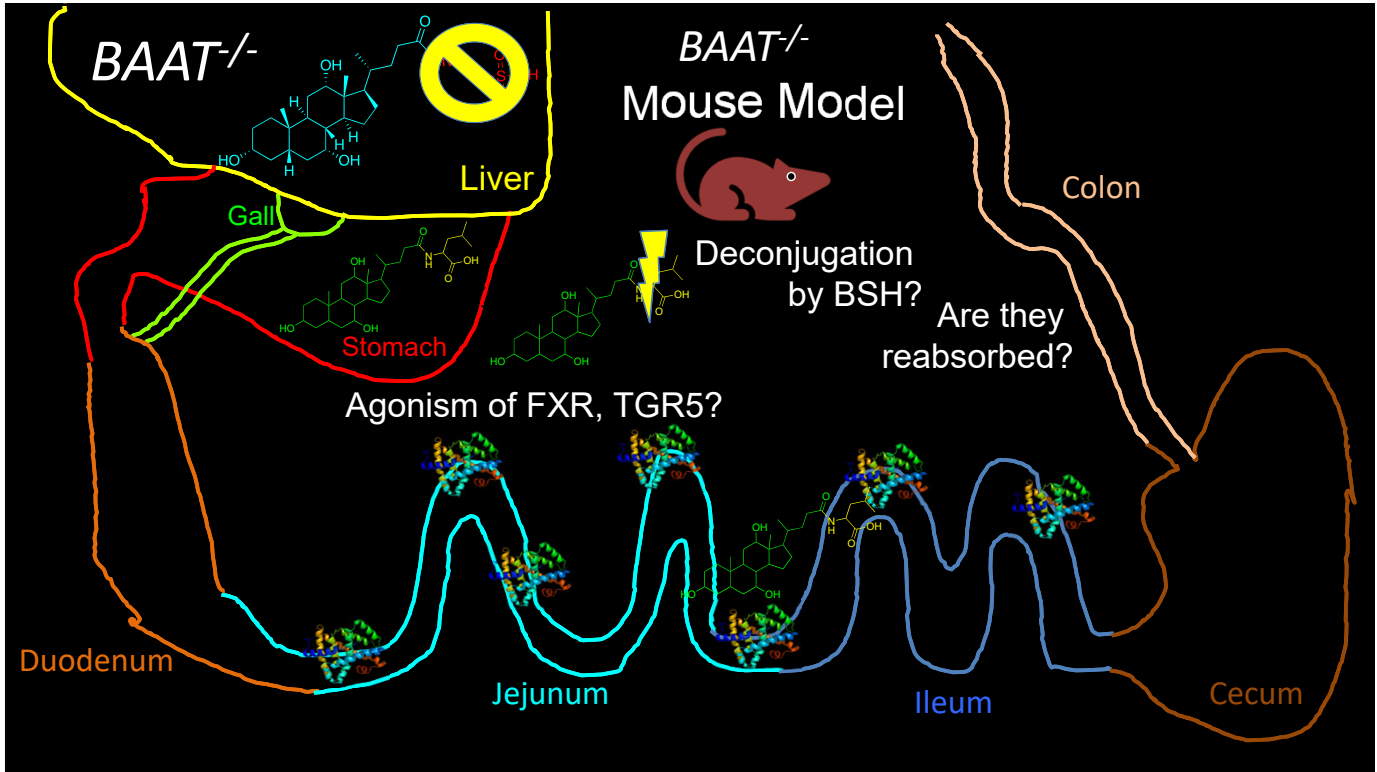


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## So how can we study MCBA properties and function?

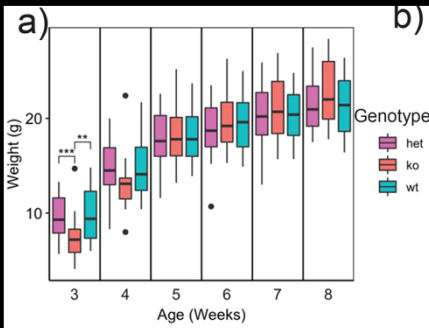


44

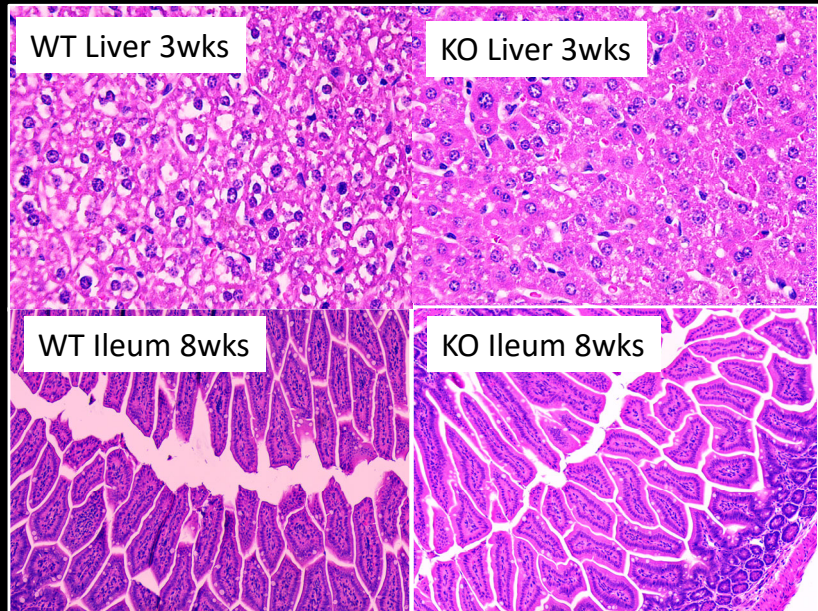


45

## BAAT<sup>-/-</sup> Phenotype

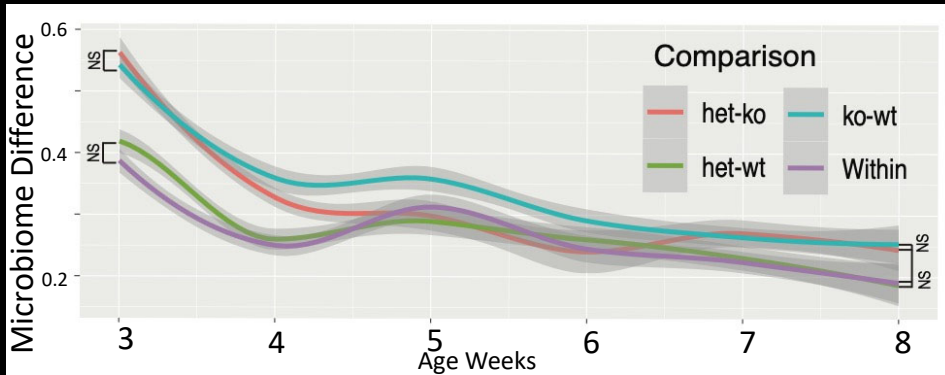


- Pups struggle after weaning
- Exhibit catch-up growth
- Little apparent pathology in adulthood
- Many ko x ko litters fail to thrive or die, mothers sometimes die

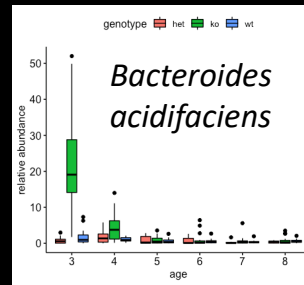
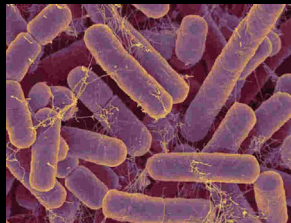
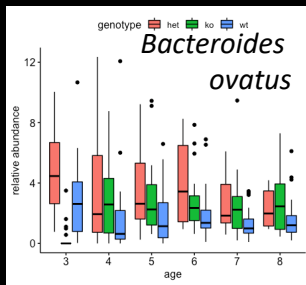


46

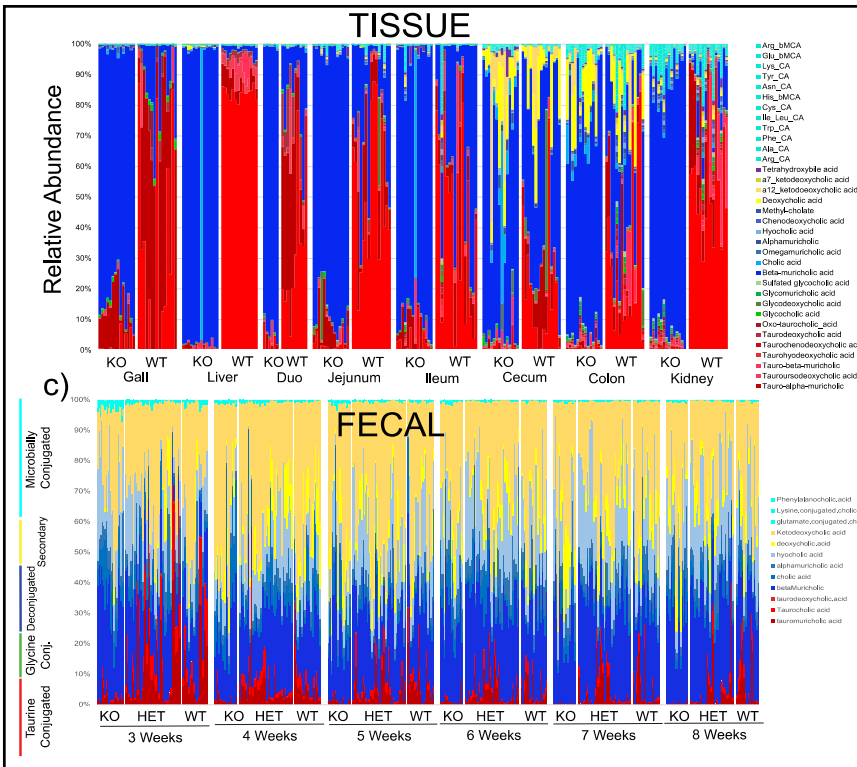
# BAAT<sup>-/-</sup> Mice have Altered Microbiome Early in Life



But it Normalizes!!!



47

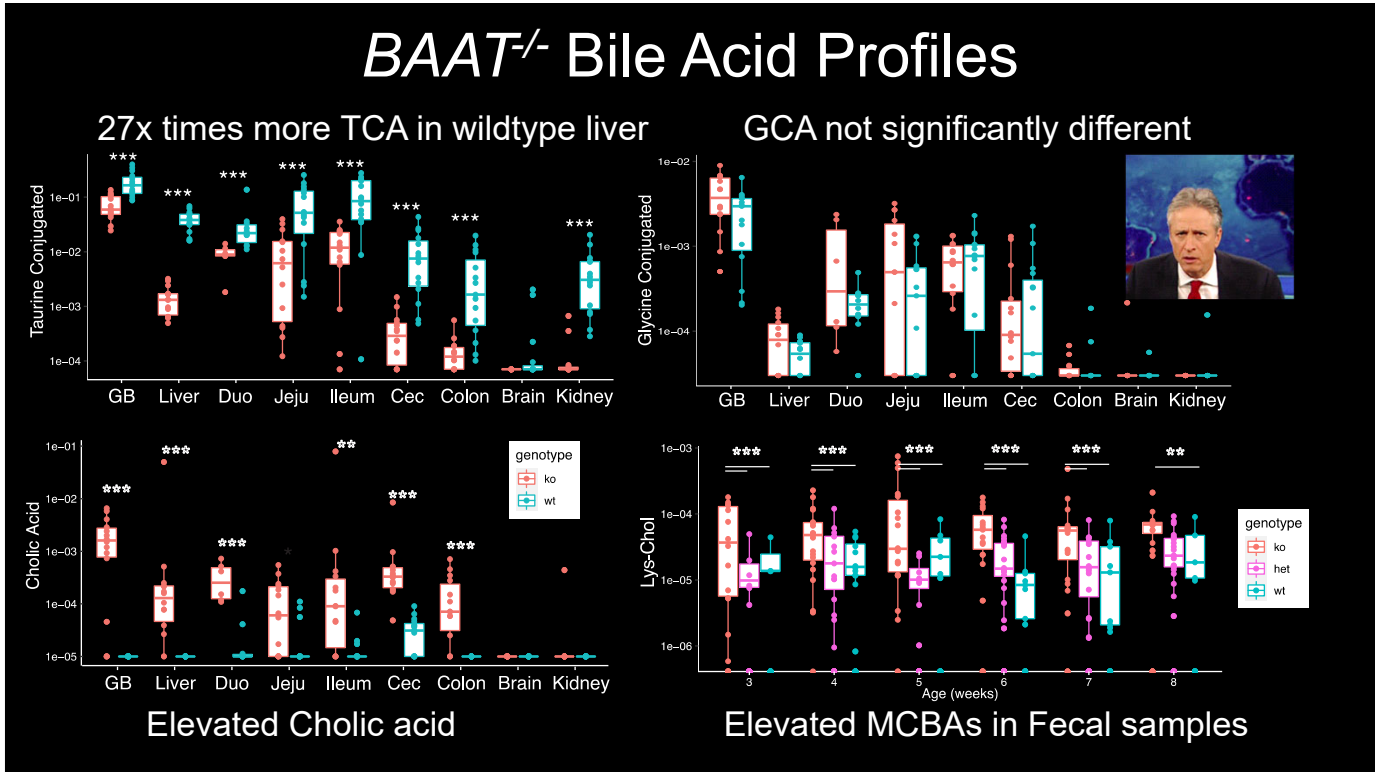


BAAT<sup>-/-</sup> mice have significantly altered bile acid profiles

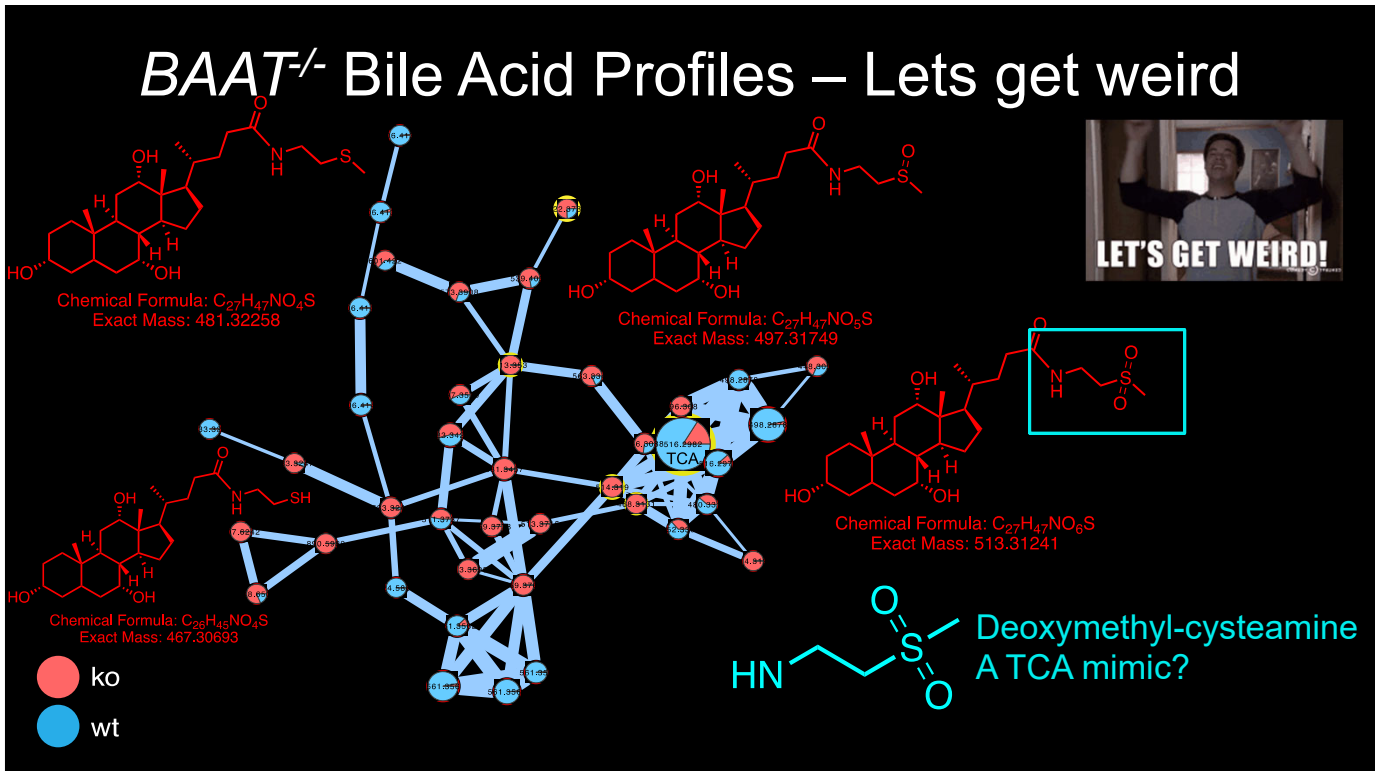
Taurine Conjugated  
Glycine Conjugated  
Cholic/muricholic  
Secondary  
MCBAs

48



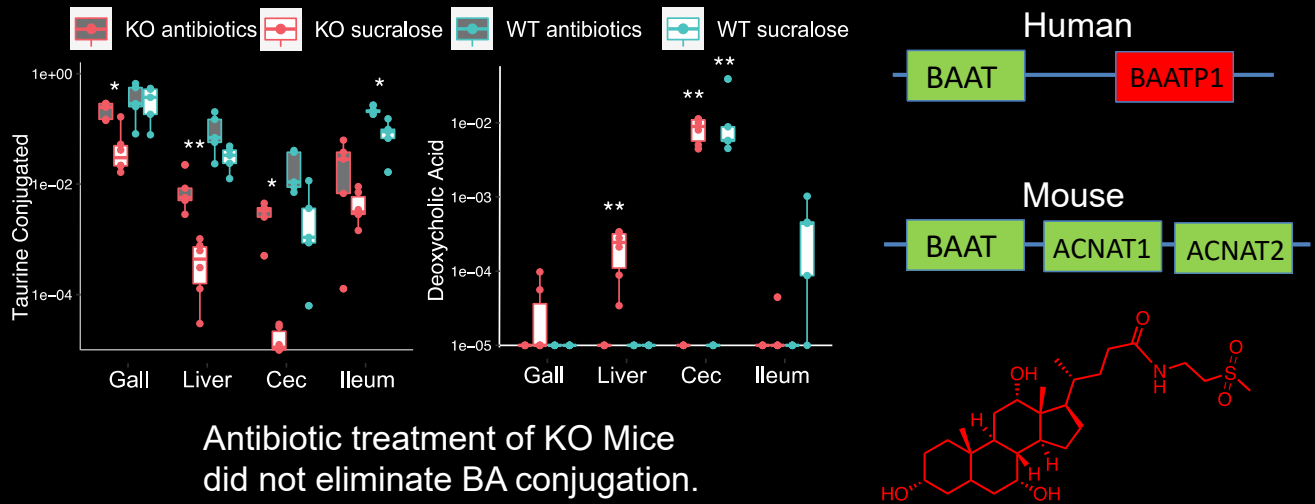


49

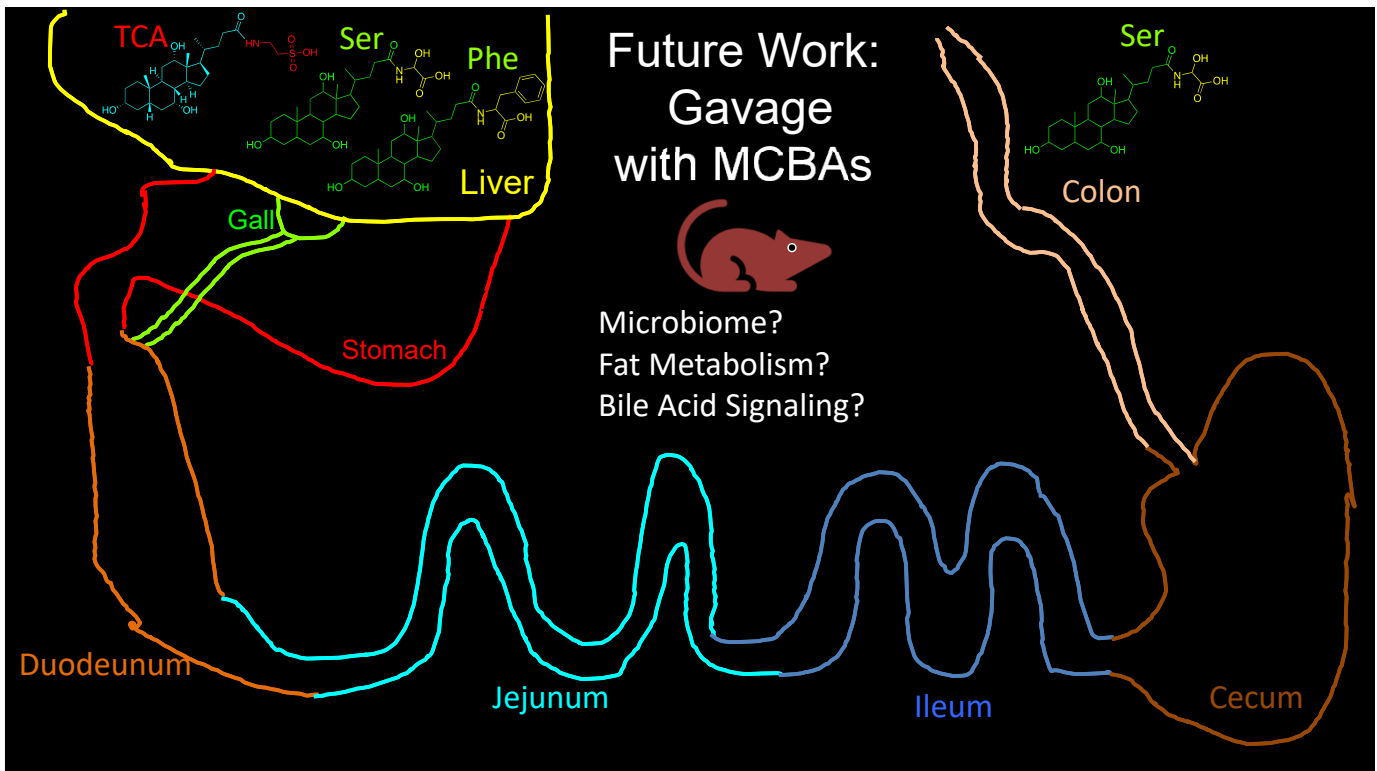


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# Unique Conjugated Bile Acids in *BAAT*<sup>-/-</sup> Mice are Not Microbial – *ACNAT1* and *ACNAT2*



51



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# Mammalian Bile Acid Conjugation:

We have a lot of work to do

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## Acknowledgements



Laura McCabe  
Bob Hausinger  
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Erika Lisabeth

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Julie Lumeng

UC San Diego  
Pieter Dorrestein  
Rob Knight



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Harvard  
Curtis Huttenhower  
Hera Vlakamis



Quinn Lab  
Kerri Neugebauer  
Doug Guzior  
Maxwell Okros  
Christian Martin  
Jeremy Feiner  
Yousi Fu

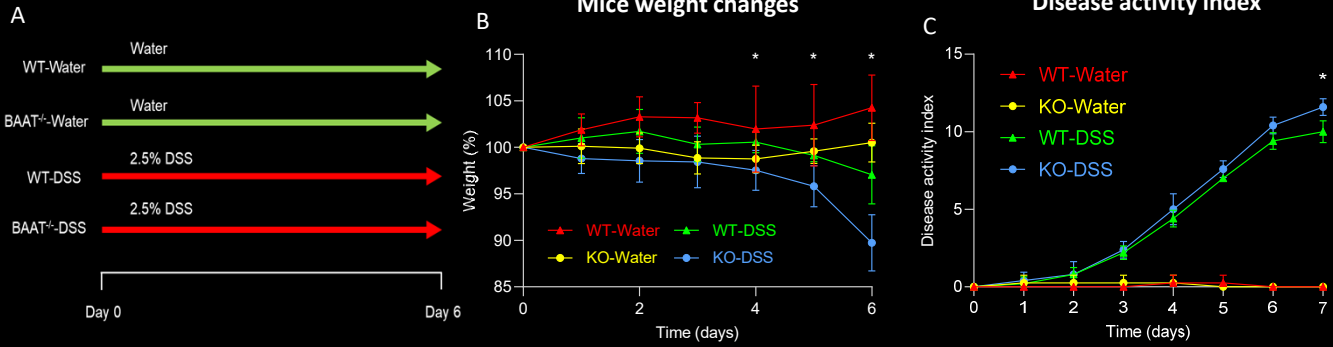
MSU Mass Spec Core  
Dan Jones, MSU  
Tony Schillmiller

[quinnrob@msu.edu](mailto:quinnrob@msu.edu)  
[robertquinnlab.com](http://robertquinnlab.com)

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# BAAT Knockout Mouse and DSS IBD Model

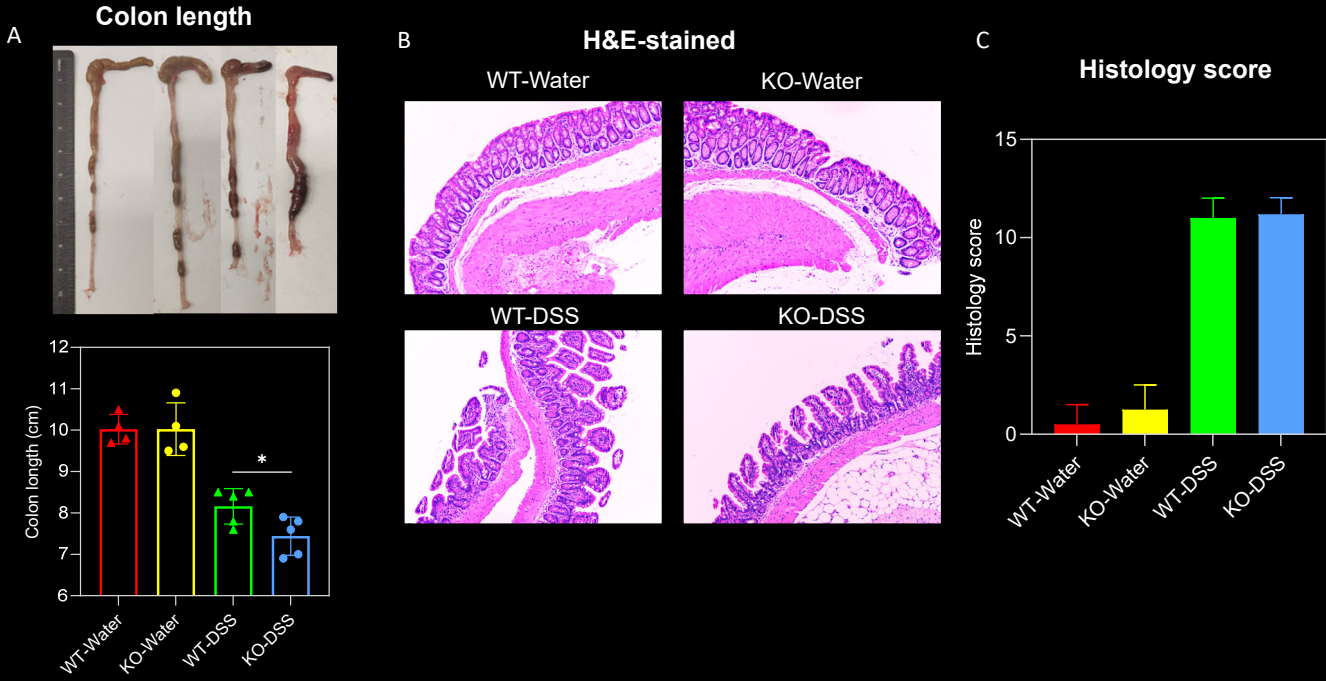
Experiment design of the colitis model



**BAAT KO mice showed more weights loss and higher Disease scores than WT mice**

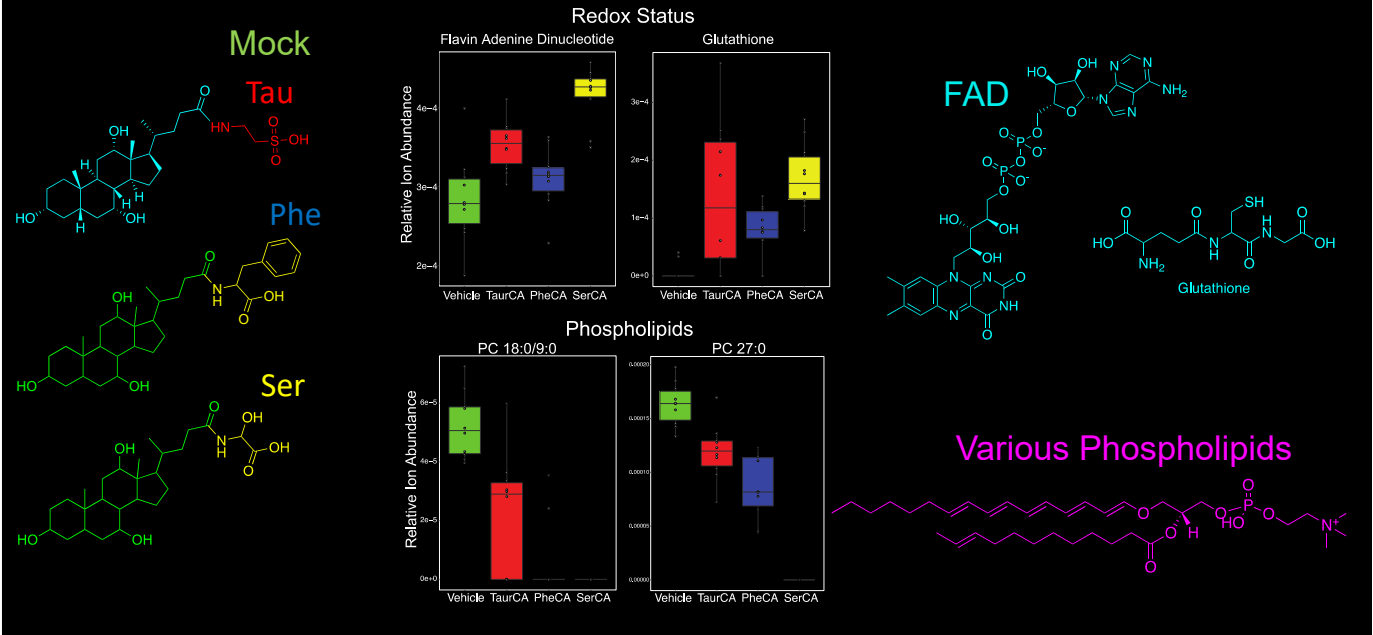
55

# BAAT Knockout Mouse and DSS IBD Model



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# MCBA Gavage Alters Liver Metabolism Depending on the Amino Acid Conjugated



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