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Susan Gottesman
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proteolysis, mucoid E. coli.

I enjoyed your review in Ann. Rev. Gen., and with some nostalgia your account of mucoid mutants, having puzzled over them since 1947.
(Genetics 32: 508)

As mentioned there, they were too unstable to be mapped - I assumed the mucoid must be at a terrible disadvantage compared to V_{1b}^{s} in the absence of phage selection; and that it was a mechanical barrier to the phage -- but those explanations were not entirely satisfying. So I am glad to see your further explorations

Might you be seeing local gene amplification à la Roth (r-DNA)?

Are you hinting that stress causes gene instability or merely selects for its consequences? Please give me your views

Please send me your other recent papers on the subject.

Sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg

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