

# Molecular Mechanisms of Recombination

## I. Forms of Recombination

- Nonhomologous
- Homologous
- Homeologous (ectopic)

## II. Molecular Requirements

- Homology between Recombining Sequences
- Heteroduplex Formation (Synapse)
- Resolution of the Heteroduplex

## III. Molecular Models of Recombination

- Holliday Double-Strand Invasion Model
- Single Strand Invasion Model
- Doubles Strand Break Repair Model
- Replication Initiation Model \*\*(not in book)

## IV. Enzymes Involved in Recombination

- RecA
  - a strand pairing enzyme
- RecBCD (and the chi site)
  - a double strand DNA helicase/nuclease
- RuvAB or RecG
  - branch migration of holliday junctions
- RuvC
  - a nuclease that resolves holliday junctions
- Other recombination genes
  - RecFOR: a backup gene or new function
  - RecJ RecQ: another helicase nuclease combo
  - RecE: a nuclease from a cryptic phage?
- Homologous activities from phage that use recombination
  - red gam* of phage lambda
  - UvsX* of phage T4

## V. Isolating *rec*- mutants

- A tricky negative selection

## VI. The Complications of Mismatch Repair

- Gene Conversion
- Interspecies Recombination (Less Homologous Recombination) \*\*(not in book)