How many bases?

DNA

4 bases

Pairing:

G - C

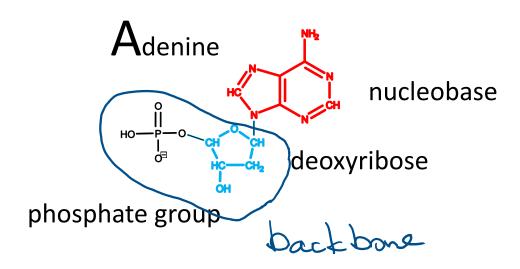
A - T

Mutation rate:

 $10^{^{-10}}_{\text{errors}/_{\text{(rep*base)}}}$



Pyramidines



RNA

DNA RNA

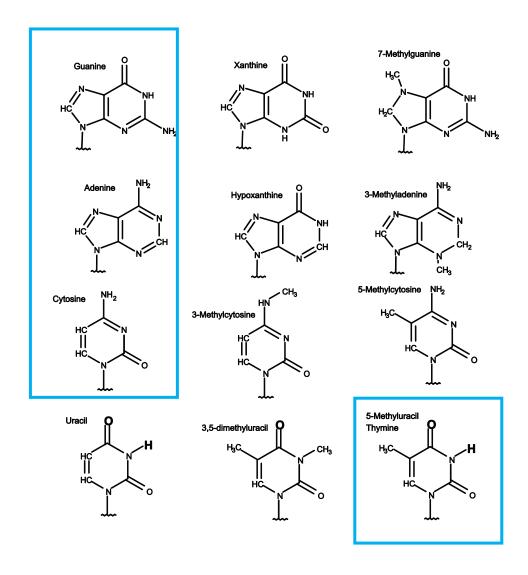
 $T_{\text{hymine}} \\ 5\text{-methyluracil}$

$$A \xrightarrow{\text{N-F}_{\text{P}}} A \xrightarrow{\text{N-F}_$$

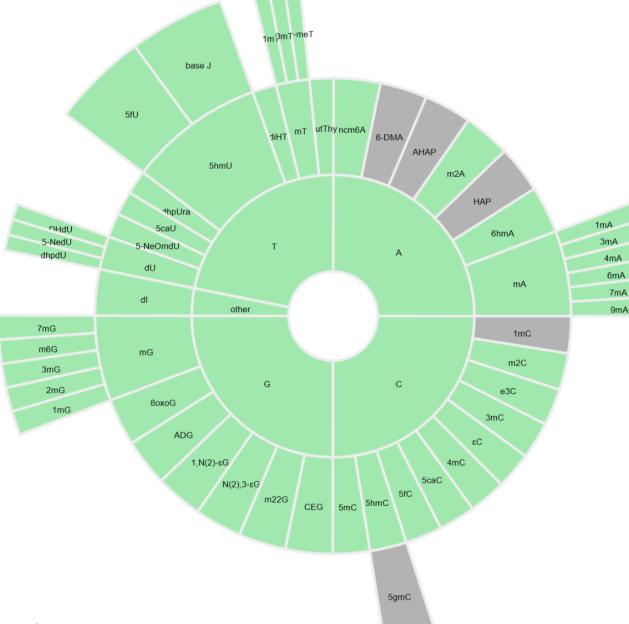
 T_{hymine}

Adenine

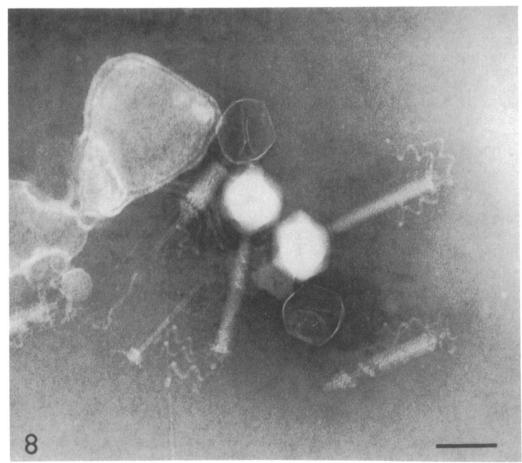
Modified bases



44 Modified DNA nucleobases



DNA of bacteriophage PBS1

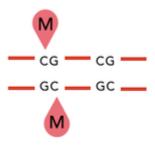


Phage of *Bacillus subtillis*

Micrograph of phage PBS1, ×130,000, courtesy of F. A. Eiserling. Reference bar represents 100 nm.

5-methylcytosine in DNA (5mC)

5-methylcytosine in DNA



6-Methyladenine (6mA)

Differentiating old from new strand

Modified RNA bases

Phylogenetic Distribution

The database currently (March 1, 2012) contains 109 modified ribonucleoside entries, distributed by RNA type and phylogenetic source as shown in the following table:

		Source	
	Archaea	(eu)Bacteria	Eukarya
trna	46	46	50
rRNA		1a	4a
SSU	12	9	21
LSU	8	15	14
5S	3		1
5.8S			5
mRNA			13
tmRNA			2
snRNA			11
chromosomal RNA			2
other small RNA			1

- 44 DNA mod
- 112 RNA mod
- Many survive replication
- Some are replicated themselves
- Functional: 5mC, 6mA, 5hmC, RNA &more

- Generated:
 - Enzyme activity
 - Damage
 - Misincorporation