

Semester	Course	Hours	Credit	Sub. Code	Marks
V	MBE 1	6	6	18K5BELB1	25 + 75 = 100

CYTOGENETICS AND MOLECULAR BIOLOGY

UNIT-I :CYTOLOGY

Ultra structure of Plant cell- Structure and functions of cell wall, plasma membrane and cell organelles – Plastids, Mitochondria, Golgi bodies, Endoplasmic Reticulum, Ribosome and Lysosomes.

UNIT-III: GENETICS

Introduction, Monohybrid & Dihybrid Experiment, Test and Back cross, Mendel's Law. Gene Interaction- Complementary Gene, Supplementary Gene, Duplicate Gene, Epistasis, Inhibitory factor, Incomplete Dominance and Co-dominance.

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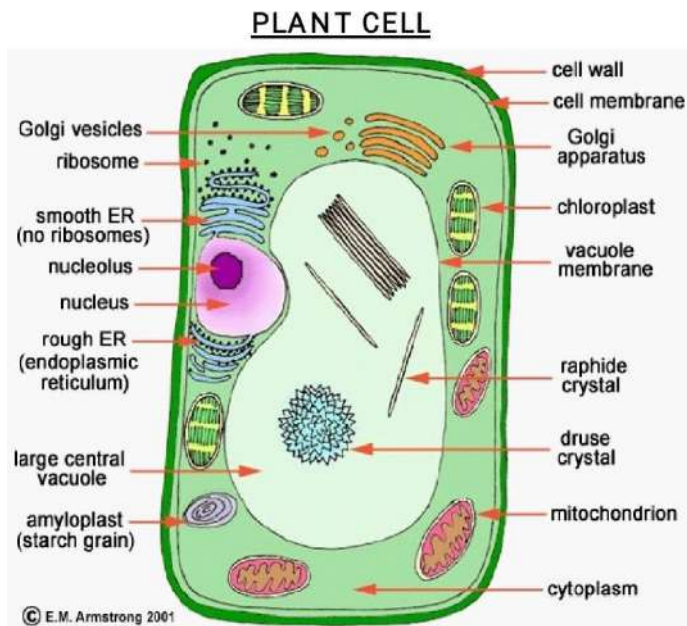
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UNIT- I

ULTRA STRUCTURE OF PLANT CELL:



What is a Plant Cell?

Plant cells are eukaryotic cells that vary in several fundamental factors from other eukaryotic organisms. Both plant and animal cells contain nucleus along with similar organelles. One of the distinctive aspects of a plant cell is the presence of a cell wall outside the cell membrane.

Plant Cell Structure

Just like different organs within the body, plant cell structure includes various components known as cell organelles that perform different functions to sustain itself. These organelles include:

Cell Wall

- It is a rigid layer which is composed of cellulose, glycoproteins, lignin, pectin and hemicellulose. It is located outside the cell membrane. It comprises proteins, polysaccharides and cellulose.
- The primary function of the cell wall is to protect and provide structural support to the cell. The plant cell wall is also involved in protecting the cell against mechanical stress and to provide form and structure to the cell. It also filters the molecules passing in and out of the cell.

- The formation of the cell wall is guided by microtubules. It consists of three layers, namely, primary, secondary and the middle lamella. The primary cell wall is formed by cellulose laid down by enzymes.

□ Cell membrane

- It is the semi-permeable membrane that is present within the cell wall. It is composed of a thin layer of protein and fat.
- The cell membrane plays an important role in regulating the entry and exit of specific substances within the cell.
- For instance, cell membrane keeps toxins from entering inside, while nutrients and essential minerals are transported across.

Nucleus

- The nucleus is a membrane-bound structure that is present only in eukaryotic cells. The vital function of a nucleus is to store DNA or hereditary information required for cell division, metabolism and growth.
- Nucleolus: It manufactures cell's protein-producing structures and ribosomes.
- Nucleopore: Nuclear membrane is perforated with holes called nucleopore that allows proteins and nucleic acids to passthrough.

Plastids

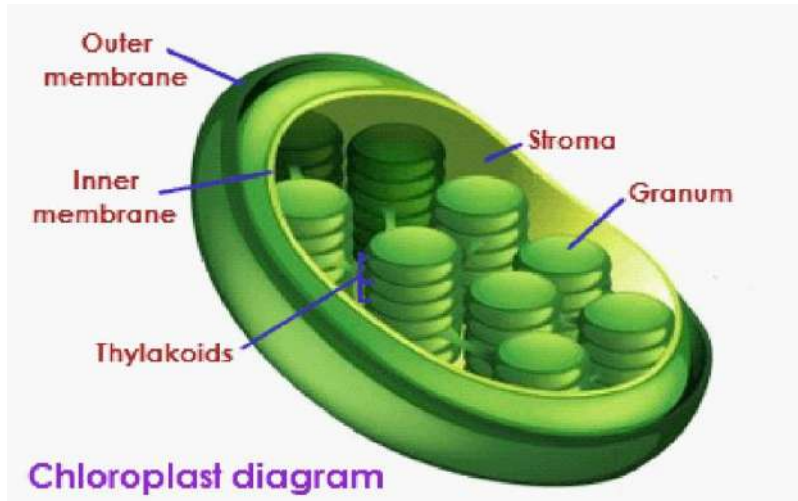
- They are membrane-bound organelles that have their own DNA. They are necessary to store starch, to carry out the process of photosynthesis. It is also used in the synthesis of many molecules, which form the building blocks of the cell. Some of the vital types of [plastids](#) and their functions are stated below;

Leucoplasts

- They are found in non-photosynthetic tissues of plants. They are used for the storage of protein, lipid and starch.

Chloroplasts

- It is an elongated organelle enclosed by phospholipid membrane. The chloroplast is shaped like a disc and the stroma is the fluid within the chloroplast that comprises a circular DNA. Each chloroplast contains a green colored pigment called chlorophyll required for the process of photosynthesis. The chlorophyll absorbs light energy from the sun and uses it to transform carbon dioxide and water into glucose.



Chromoplasts

They are heterogeneous, colored plastid which is responsible for pigment synthesis and for storage in photosynthetic eukaryotic organisms. Chromoplasts have red, orange and yellow colored pigments which provide color to all ripe fruits and flowers.

Central Vacuole

It occupies around 30% of the cell's volume in a mature plant cell. Tonoplast is a membrane that surrounds central vacuole. The vital function of central vacuole apart from storage is to sustain turgid pressure against the cell wall. The central vacuole consists of cell sap. It is a mixture of salts, enzymes and other substances.

Golgi Apparatus:

They are found in all eukaryotic cells which are involved in distributing synthesized macromolecules to various parts of the cell.

Ribosomes:

They are the smallest membrane-bound organelles which comprise RNA and protein. They are the sites for protein synthesis, hence, also referred to as the protein factories of the cell.

Mitochondria:

They are the double-membraned organelles found in the cytoplasm of all eukaryotic cells. They provide energy by breaking down carbohydrate and sugar molecules, hence they are also referred to as the “Powerhouse of the cell.”

Lysosome:

Lysosomes are called suicidal bags as they hold digestive enzymes in an enclosed membrane. They perform the function of cellular waste disposal by digesting worn-out organelles, food particles and foreign bodies in the cell.

Plant Cell Types

Cells of a matured and higher plant become specialized to perform certain vital functions that are essential for their survival. Few plant cells are involved in the transportation of nutrients and water, while others for storing food.

The specialized plant cells include parenchyma cells, sclerenchyma cells, collenchyma cells, xylem cells and phloem cells.

Collenchyma Cells

They are hard or rigid cells, which play a primary role in providing support to the plants when there is restraining growth in a plant due to lack of hardening agent in primary walls.

Sclerenchyma Cells

These cells are more rigid compared to collenchyma cells and this is because of the presence of a hardening agent. These cells are usually found in all plant roots and mainly involved in providing support to the plants.

Parenchyma Cells

Parenchyma cells play a significant role in all plants. They are the living cells of plants, which are involved in the production of leaves. They are also involved in the [exchange of gases](#), production of food, storage of organic products and cell metabolism. These cells are typically more flexible than others because they are thinner.

Xylem Cells

Xylem cells are the transport cells in vascular plants. They help in the transport of water and minerals from the roots to the leaves and other parts of the plants.

Phloem Cells

Phloem cells are other transport cells in vascular plants. They transport food prepared by the leaves to different parts of the plants.

Plant Cell Functions

Plant cells are the building blocks of plants. Photosynthesis is the major function performed by plant cells.

[Photosynthesis](#) occurs in the chloroplasts of the plant cell. It is the process of preparing food by the plants, by utilizing sunlight, carbon dioxide and water. Energy is produced in the form of ATP in the process.

A few plant cells help in the transport of water and nutrients from the roots and leaves to different parts of the plants.

CELL WALL:

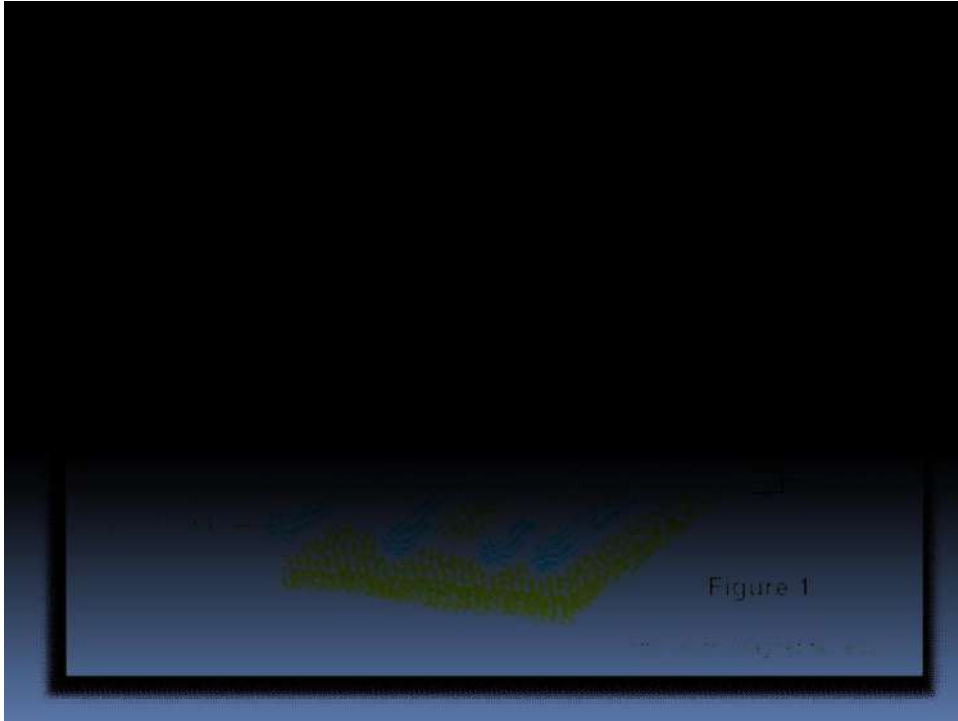
A cell wall is a rigid, semi-permeable protective layer in some [cell](#) types. This outer covering is positioned next to the [cell membrane](#) (plasma membrane) in most [plant cells](#), [fungi](#), [bacteria](#), [algae](#), and some [archaea](#). [Animal cells](#) however, do not have a cell wall. The cell wall has many important functions in a cell including protection, structure, and support.

Cell wall composition varies depending on the organism.

In plants, the cell wall is composed mainly of strong fibers of the [carbohydrate](#) polymer cellulose. Cellulose is the major component of cotton fiber and wood, and it is used in paper production. Bacterial cell walls are composed of a sugar and amino acid polymer called peptidoglycan. The main components of fungal cell walls are chitin, glucans, and proteins.

The plant cell wall is multi-layered and consists of up to three sections. From the outermost layer of the cell wall, these layers are identified as ,

- ~~primary~~
- ~~middle~~
- ~~secondary~~



Primary cell wall:

This layer is formed between the middle lamella and [plasma membrane](#) in growing plant cells. It is primarily composed of cellulose microfibrils contained within a gel-like matrix of hemicellulose fibers and pectin polysaccharides. The primary cell wall provides the strength and flexibility needed to allow for cell growth.

Middle lamella:

This outer cell wall layer contains polysaccharides called pectins. Pectins aid in cell adhesion by helping the cell walls of adjacent cells to bind to one another.

Secondary cell wall:

This layer is formed between the primary cell wall and plasma membrane in some plant cells. Once the primary cell wall has stopped dividing and growing, it may thicken to form a secondary cell wall. This rigid layer strengthens and supports the cell. In addition to cellulose and hemicellulose, some secondary cell walls contain lignin. Lignin strengthens the cell wall and aids in water conductivity in [plant vascular tissue](#) cells.

A major role of the cell wall is to form a framework for the cell to prevent over expansion. Cellulose fibers, structural proteins, and other polysaccharides help to maintain the shape and form of the cell. Additional functions of the cell wall include:

Support:

The cell wall provides mechanical strength and support. It also controls the direction of cell growth.

Withstand turgor pressure:

Turgor pressure is the force exerted against the cell wall as the contents of the cell push the plasma membrane against the cell wall. This pressure helps a plant to remain rigid and erect, but can also cause a cell to rupture.

Regulate growth:

The cell wall sends signals for the cell to enter the [cell cycle](#) in order to divide and grow.

Regulate diffusion: The cell wall is porous allowing some substances, including [proteins](#), to pass into the cell while keeping other substances out.

Communication: Cells communicate with one another via plasmodesmata (pores or channels between plant cell walls that allow molecules and communication signals to pass between individual plant cells).

Protection:

The cell wall provides a barrier to protect against [plant viruses](#) and other pathogens. It also helps to prevent water loss.

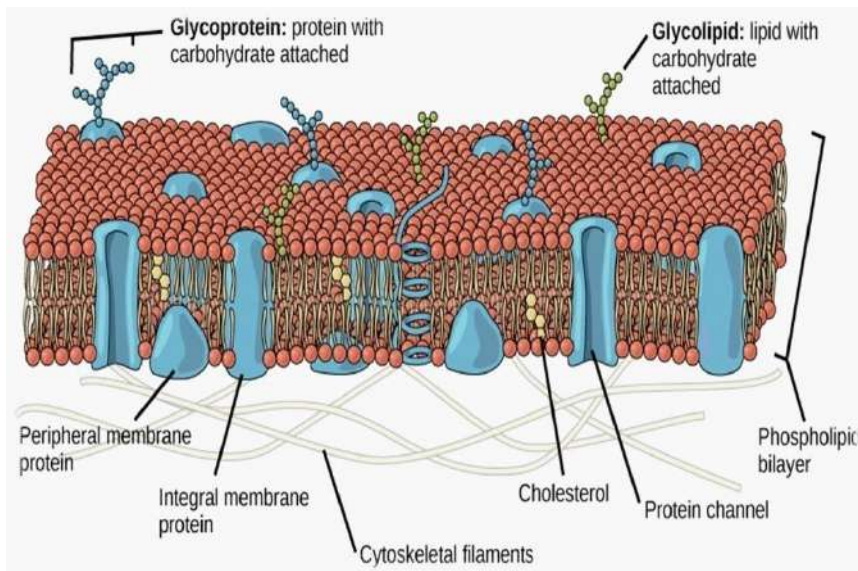
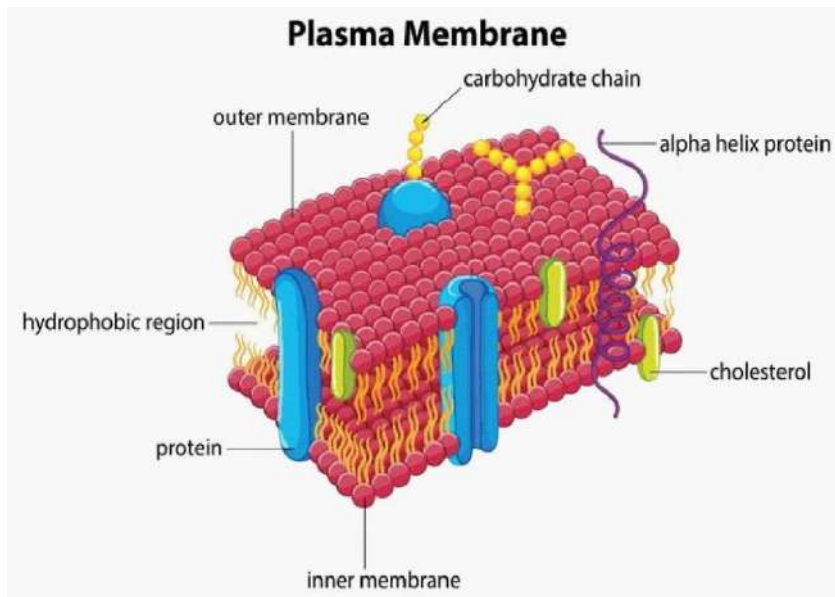
Storage:

The cell wall stores carbohydrates for use in plant growth, especially in seeds.

PLASMA MEMBRANE:

PLASMA MEMBRANE :

- The plasma membrane may be defined as the thin, elastic semi permeable living membrane that serves as a boundary for the cytoplasm.
- The term “plasma membrane” was coined by Nageli-1855.
- Plasma membrane is otherwise called cell membrane or plasmalemma.
- It is about 75Å IN thick.
- It is present inner to the cell wall.
- It serves as a barrier for the flow of some components into and out of cells.



STRUCTURE OF PLASMA MEMBRANE:

- Plasma membrane has fluid mosaic structure.
- The structure is proposed by Singer and Nicolson in 1972.

- According to this model, the plasma membrane consists of lipids and proteins.
- The lipid is in form of fluid and the proteins are embedded here and there in the lipid in a mosaic pattern.
- The lipids are arranged in two layers namely,
 - ▣ Outer layer
 - ▣ Inner layer
- Each lipid molecule has a hydrophobic tail and hydrophilic head.
- The hydrophilic heads face outwards and the hydrophobic tails face each other.
- The protein molecules are globular and are of two types, namely
 - ▣ Peripheral
 - ▣ Integral protein
- The integral protein are deeply embedded and tightly bound to the lipid molecules.
- The peripheral proteins are arranged on the surface and are loosely bound to the lipid.
- The peripheral proteins and the outer parts of the integral proteins are studded with sugars.
- Such proteins attached with sugar it is called glycoprotein.
- Sugars are attached to the outer surface of some lipids it is called glycolipids.
- The glycoprotein and glycolipids form a sugary covering called glycocalyx.
- The mosaic model stresses that the plasma membrane is semi fluid in nature.
- The plasma membrane of some cells produce finger-like projections called microvilli.
- Eg: intestinal cells
- Kidney cells
- Uterine cells
- FUNCTION OF PLASMA MEMBRANE:
 - Plasma membrane is a semipermeable membrane present around the protoplasm.
 - It gives a definite shape to the cell.

- It gives mechanical support to the cell.
- It protects the cell content.
- Plasma membrane regulates exchange of materials into and out of the cell.
- The rate of absorption increased by the microvilli of intestinal cells.
- The plasma membrane of nerve fibres transmits nerve impulse.
- Endocytosis and exocytosis take place through the plasma membrane.

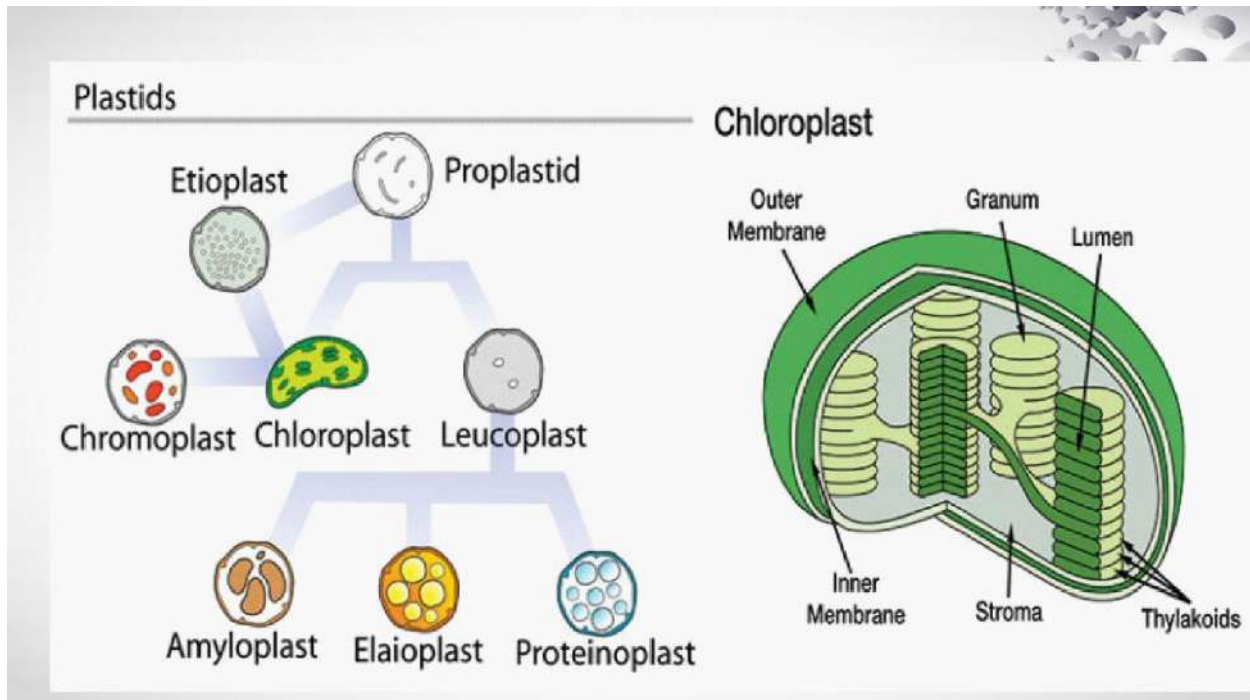
PLASTIDS:

- Plastid is a double membrane-bound organelle involved in the synthesis and storage of food, commonly found within the cells of photosynthetic plants.
- Plastids were discovered and named by Ernst Haeckel, but A. F. W. Schimper was the first to provide a clear definition.
- They are necessary for essential life processes, like photosynthesis and food storage.
- A plastid containing green pigment (chlorophyll) is called chloroplast whereas a plastid containing pigments apart from green is called a chromoplast. A plastid that lacks pigments is called a leucoplast and is involved mainly in food storage.

An undifferentiated plastid is called a proplastid. It may develop later into any of the other plastids.

Chloroplasts

- The chloroplasts are probably the most-known of the plastids.
- These are responsible for photosynthesis.
- The chloroplast is filled with thylakoids, which is where photosynthesis occurs, and chlorophyll remains.



Chromoplasts:

- Chromoplasts are units where pigments are stored and synthesized in the plant.
- These are found in flowering plants, fruits, and aging leaves.
- The chloroplasts actually convert over to chromoplasts.
- The carotenoid pigments allow for the different colors seen in fruits and the fall leaves. One of the main reasons for these structures and the colors is to attract pollinators.

Leucoplasts:

- Leucoplasts are the non-pigmented organelles.
- They are found in the non-photosynthetic parts of the plant, such as the roots.
- Depending on what the plant needs, they may become essentially just storage sheds for starches, lipids, and proteins.
- They are more readily used for synthesizing amino acids and fatty acids.
- A leucoplast may be an amyloplast that stores starch, an elaioplast that stores fat, or a proteinoplast that stores proteins.

Gerontoplasts:

- Gerontoplasts are basically chloroplasts that are going through the aging process.

- These are chloroplasts of the leaves that are beginning to convert into different organelles or are being re-purposed since the leaf is no longer utilizing photosynthesis (such as in the fall months).

Structure of Plastids:

- Chloroplasts may be spherical, ovoid or discoid in higher plants and stellate, cup-shaped or spiral as in some algae.
- They are usually 4-6 μm in diameter and 20 to 40 in number in each cell of higher plants, evenly distributed throughout the cytoplasm.
- The chloroplast is bounded by two lipoprotein membranes, an outer and an inner membrane, with an intermembrane space between them.
- The inner membrane encloses a matrix, the stroma which contains small cylindrical structures called grana. Most chloroplasts contain 10-100 grana.

Functions of plastids:

- All plant cells contain plastids in some shape or form. This fact indicates their functional diversity and demonstrates that plastids lie at the very core of plant cellular function.
- Plastids are the site of manufacture and storage of important chemical compounds used by the cells of autotrophic eukaryotes.
- The thylakoid membrane contains all the enzymatic components required for photosynthesis. Interaction between chlorophyll, electron carriers, coupling factors, and other components takes place within the thylakoid membrane. Thus the thylakoid membrane is a specialized structure that plays a key role in the capture of light and electron transport.
- Thus, chloroplasts are the centers of synthesis and metabolism of carbohydrates.
- They are not only of crucial importance in photosynthesis but also in the storage of primary foodstuffs, particularly starch.
- Its function largely depends on the presence of pigments. A plastid involved in food synthesis typically contains pigments, which are also the ones responsible for the color of a plant structure (e.g. green leaf, red flower, yellow fruit, etc.).

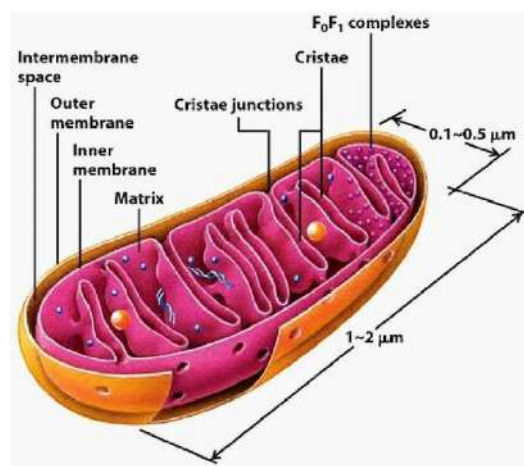
MITOCHONDRIA:

- Mitochondria are oxygen-consuming ribbon-shaped cellular organelles of immense importance floating free throughout the cell.

- They are known as the “powerhouse of the cell” since these organelles supply all the necessary biological energy to the cell by oxidizing the substrates available.
- The enzymatic oxidation of chemical compounds in the mitochondria releases energy.
- Since mitochondria act as the power-houses, they are abundantly found on those sites where energy is earnestly required such as sperm tail, muscle cell, liver cell (up to 1600 mitochondria), microvilli, oocyte (more than 300,000 mitochondria), etc.
- Typically, there are about 2000 mitochondria per cell, representing around 25% of the cell volume.
- In 1890, mitochondria were first described by Richard Altmann and he called them bioblasts. Benda in the year 1897 coined the term ‘mitochondrion’

Mitochondria are mobile, plastic organelles that have a double-membrane structure. It ranges from 0.5 to 1.0 micrometer in diameter. It has four distinct domains: the outer membrane, the inner membrane, the intermembrane space, and the matrix.

Structure of Mitochondria



- The organelle is enclosed by two membranes—a smooth outer membrane and a markedly folded or tubular inner mitochondrial membrane, which has a large surface and encloses the matrix space.

- The intermembrane space is located between the inner and outer membranes.
- The number and shape of the mitochondria, as well as the numbers of cristae they have, can differ widely from cell type to cell type.
- Tissues with intensive oxidative metabolism— e. g., heart muscle—have mitochondria with particularly large numbers of cristae.
- Even within one type of tissue, the shape of the mitochondria can vary depending on their functional status.
- Both mitochondrial membranes are very rich in proteins.

Outer Mitochondrial Membrane:

- The outer mitochondrial membrane resembles more with the plasma membrane in structure and chemical composition.
- Porins in the outer membrane allow small molecules to be exchanged between the cytoplasm and the intermembrane space.

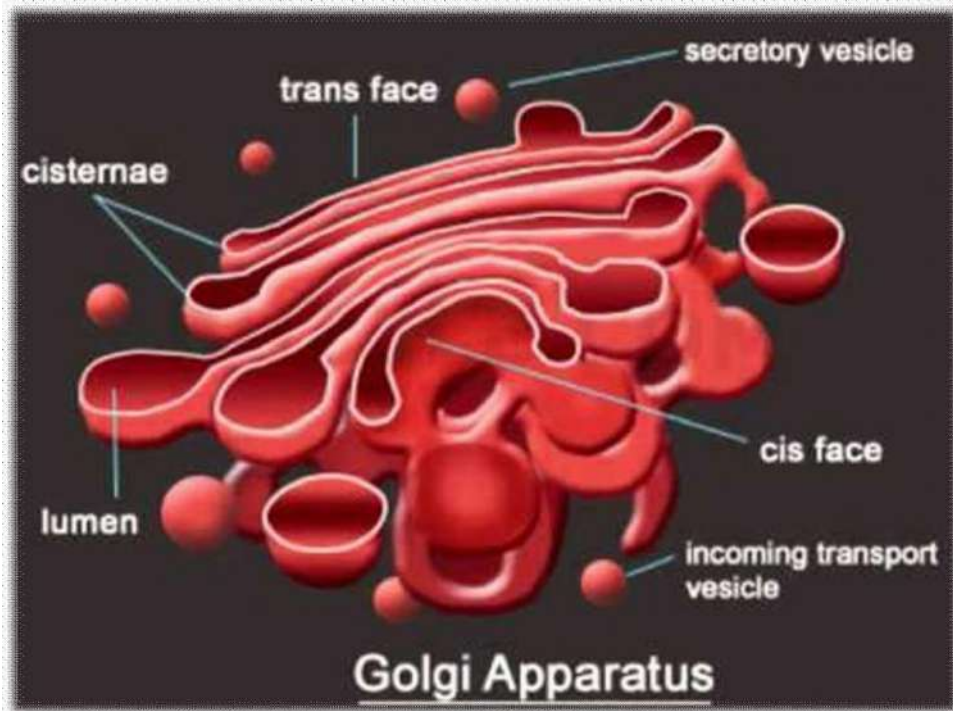
Inner Mitochondrial Membrane

- The inner mitochondrial membrane is rich in many enzymes, coenzymes, and other components of electron transport chain. It also contains proton pumps and many permease proteins for the transport of various molecules such as citrates, ADP, phosphate, and ATP.
- The inner mitochondrial membrane gives out finger-like outgrowths (cristae) towards the lumen of the mitochondrion and contains tennis-racket shaped F1 particles that contain ATP-ase enzyme for ATP synthesis.
- The inner mitochondrial membrane is completely impermeable even to small molecules (with the exception of O₂, CO₂, and H₂O).
- Numerous transporters in the inner membrane ensure the import and export of important metabolites.

Intermembrane Space:

- It is the space between the outer and inner membrane of the mitochondria, it has the same composition as that of the cell's cytoplasm.
- There is a difference in the protein content in the intermembrane space.

GOLGI



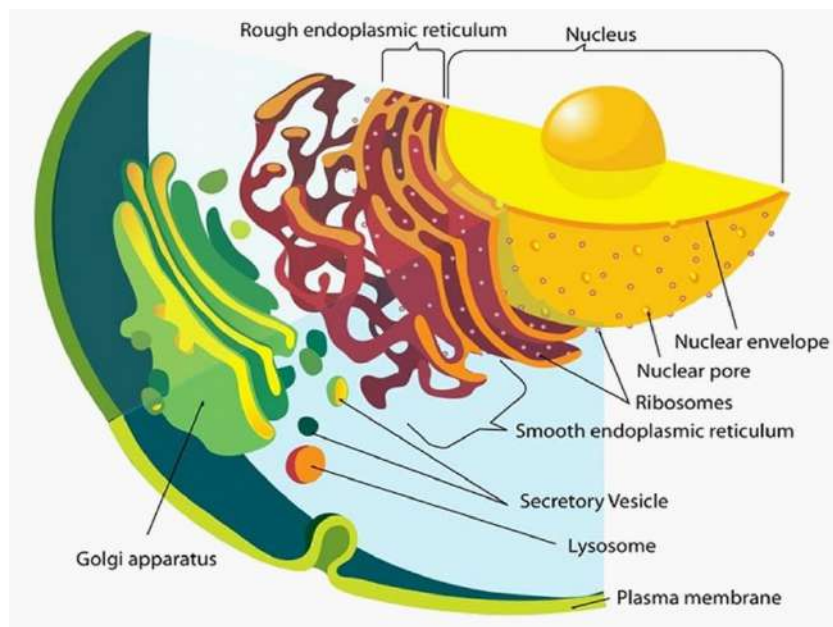
GOLGI APPARATUS:

- The Golgi apparatus has multiple names such as Golgi complex or Golgi body. The name is given on the name of the scientist, who discovered the organelle, i.e. Camillo Golgi. It is found in all the eukaryotic cells, plants as well as animals. They are membrane-bound organelle present in the cytosol of the cell.
- The Golgi body comprises 5 to 8 cup-shaped, series of compartments known as cisternae. Cisternae is a flattened, disk-shaped, stacked pouches that make up the Golgi apparatus. A Golgi stack mostly contains 4 to 8 cisternae. However, ~60 cisternae are found in some protists. A mammalian cell contains ~40 to 100 stacks of cisternae.
- Animal cells generally contain around 10 to 20 Golgi stacks per cell, which are connected by tubular connections. Golgi complex is mostly found near the nucleus.
- Creation, or [evolution](#), whichever one, you hold a belief in has worked in wondrous ways to evolve or design the various living beings in this world in the most optimum ways. For example, take the Golgi complex, it has been designed in such a way, to ensure a sufficient number of Golgi bodies are present in the cell as per the requirement.

GOLGI BODIES FUNCTIONS:

- Its main function is the packaging and secretion of proteins. It receives proteins from Endoplasmic Reticulum. It packages it into membrane-bound vesicles, which are then transported to various destinations, such as lysosomes, plasma membrane or secretion. They also take part in the transport of lipids and the formation of lysosomes.
- Post-translational modification and enzymatic processing occur near the membrane surface in Golgi bodies, e.g. phosphorylation, glycosylation, etc.
- Golgi apparatus is the site for the synthesis of various glycolipids, sphingomyelin, etc.
- In the [plant cells](#), complex polysaccharides of the cell wall are synthesised in the Golgi apparatus.

ENDOPLASMIC RETICULUM



ENDOPLASMIC RETICULUM

- The endoplasmic reticulum (ER) is a large [organelle](#) made of membranous sheets and tubules that begin near the nucleus and extend across the [cell](#). The endoplasmic reticulum creates, packages, and secretes many of the products created by a cell.

Ribosomes, which create proteins, line a portion of the endoplasmic reticulum.

- ☐ The entire structure can account for a large proportion of the endomembrane system of the cell. For instance, in cells such as [liver](#) hepatocytes that are specialized for protein [secretion](#) and detoxification, the ER can account for more than 50% of the total [lipid bilayer](#) of the cell. Similarly, the ER membrane system is particularly prominent in pancreatic beta cells that secrete insulin, or within activated B- lymphocytes that produce antibodies.
- ☐ Endomembrane system diagramAs seen in the image, the membranes of the endoplasmic reticulum are contiguous with the outer [nuclear membrane](#), even though their compositions can be different. The ER contains special membrane-embedded proteins that stabilize its structure and curvature. This organelle acts as an important regulator of cell function because it interacts closely with a number of other organelles. Products of the endoplasmic reticulum often travel to the [Golgi body](#) for packaging and additional processing before being secreted.

ENDOPLASMIC RETICULUM FUNCTION

- ☐ The ER plays a number of roles within the cell, from [protein synthesis](#) and lipid metabolism to detoxification of the cell. Cisternae, each of the small folds of the endoplasmic reticulum, are commonly associated with lipid metabolism. This creates the [plasma membrane](#) of the cell, as well as additional endoplasmic reticulum and organelles. They also appear to be important in maintaining the Ca^{2+} balance within the cell and in the interaction of the ER with [mitochondria](#). This interaction also influences the aerobic status of the cell.
- ☐ ER sheets appear to be crucial in the response of the organelle to stress, especially since cells alter their tubules-to-sheets ratio when the number of unfolded proteins increases. Occasionally, [apoptosis](#) is induced by the ER in response to an excess of unfolded protein within the cell. When ribosomes detach from ER sheets, these structures can disperse and form tubularcisternae.
- ☐ Although ER sheets and tubules appear to have distinct functions, there isn't a perfect delineation of roles. For instance, in mammals tubules and sheets can interconvert, making the cells adaptable to various conditions. The relationship between structure and function in the ER has not been completely elucidated. PROTEIN SYNTHESIS AND FOLDING
- ☐ [Protein synthesis](#) occurs in the [rough endoplasmic reticulum](#). Although [translation](#) for all proteins begins in the [cytoplasm](#), some are moved into the ER in order to be folded and sorted for different destinations. Proteins that are translocated into the ER during translation are often destined for secretion.
- ☐ For instance, the hydrolytic enzymes in the [lysosome](#) are generated in this manner. Alternately, these proteins could be secreted from the cell. This is the origin of the enzymes of the digestive tract. The third potential role for proteins translated in the ER is to remain

within the endomembrane system itself. This is particularly true for chaperone proteins that assist in the folding of other proteins. The genes encoding these proteins are upregulated when the cell is under stress from unfolded proteins.

LIPID SYNTHESIS

- The [smooth endoplasmic reticulum](#) plays an important role in cholesterol and [phospholipid biosynthesis](#). Therefore, this section of the ER is important not only for the generation and maintenance of the plasma membrane but of the extensive endomembrane system of the ER itself.
- The SER is enriched in enzymes involved in sterol and steroid biosynthetic pathways and is also necessary for the synthesis of steroid hormones. Therefore the SER is extremely prominent in the cells of the [adrenal gland](#) that secrete five different groups of steroid hormones that influence the metabolism of the entire body. The synthesis of these hormones also involves enzymes within the mitochondria, further underscoring the relationship between these two organelles.
- The SER is an important site for the storage and release of calcium in the cell. A modified form of the SER called sarcoplasmic reticulum forms an extensive network in contractile cells such as [muscle](#) fibers. Calcium ions are also involved in the regulation of metabolism in the cell and can change cytoskeletal dynamics.

STRUCTURE OF THE ENDOPLASMIC RETICULUM

- The endoplasmic reticulum membrane system can be morphologically divided into two structures—cisternae and sheets. Cisternae are tubular in structure and form a three-dimensional polygonal network. They are about 50 nm in diameter in mammals and 30 nm in diameter in yeast. ER sheets, on the other hand, are membrane-enclosed, two-dimensional flattened sacs that extend across the cytoplasm. They are frequently associated with ribosomes and special proteins called translocons that are necessary for protein translation within the RER.
- The high-curvature of ER tubules is stabilized by the presence of proteins called reticulons and DP1/Yop1p. Reticulons are membrane-associated proteins encoded by four genes in mammals (RTN1-4). These proteins localize to ER tubules and the curved edges of ER sheets. DP1/Yop1p are a class of integral membrane proteins involved in stabilizing the structure of ER cisternae.
- Both reticulons and DP1/Yop1 proteins form oligomers and interact with

the [cytoskeleton](#). Oligomerization seems to be one of the mechanisms used by these proteins to shape the lipid bilayer into a tubule. Additionally, they also appear to use a wedge-like structural motif that causes the membrane to curve. These two classes of proteins are redundant, since the overexpression of one protein can compensate for the lack of the other protein.

TYPES OF ENDOPLASMIC RETICULUM

- There are two major types of ER within each cell –
 - i. smooth endoplasmic reticulum (SER)
 - ii. Rough endoplasmic reticulum (RER).
- Each has distinct functions, and often, differing morphology. The SER is involved in lipid metabolism and acts as the calcium store for the cell. This is particularly important in muscle cells that need Ca^{2+} ions for contraction. The SER is also involved in the synthesis of phospholipids and cholesterol. It is often located near the periphery of the cell.
- On the other hand, the RER is commonly seen close to the nucleus. It contains membrane-bound ribosomes that give it the characteristic 'rough' appearance. These ribosomes are creating proteins that are destined for the lumen of the ER and are moved into the organelle as they are being translated. These proteins contain a short signal created by a few [amino acids](#) in their N-terminus and are initially translated in the cytoplasm.

PROCESSES AND RIBOSOMES

Ribosomes - While examining the animal and plant cell through a microscope, you might have seen numerous organelles that work together to complete the cell activities. One of the essential cell organelles are ribosomes, which are in charge of protein synthesis. The ribosome is a complex made of protein and RNA and which adds up to numerous million Daltons in size and assumes an important part in the course of decoding the genetic message reserved in the genome into protein. The essential chemical step of protein synthesis is peptidyl transfer, that the developing or nascent peptide is moved from one tRNA molecule to the amino acid together with another tRNA. Amino acids are included in the developing polypeptide in line with the arrangement of codons of a mRNA. The ribosome, therefore, has necessary sites for one mRNA and no less than two tRNAs. Made of two subunits, the big and the little subunit which comprises a couple of ribosomal RNA (rRNA) molecules and an irregular number of ribosomal proteins. Numerous protein factors catalyze distinct impression of protein synthesis.

- ▢ Situated in two areas of the cytoplasm.
- ▢ They are seen scattered in the cytoplasm and a few are connected to the endoplasmic reticulum.
- ▢ Whenever joined to the ER they are called the rough endoplasmic reticulum.
- ▢ The free and the bound ribosomes are very much alike in structure and are associated with protein synthesis.
- ▢ Around 37 to 62% of RNA is comprised of RNA and the rest is proteins.
- ▢ Prokaryotes have 70S ribosomes respectively subunits comprising the little subunit of 30S and the bigger subunit of 50S.
- ▢ Eukaryotes have 80S ribosomes respectively comprising of little (40S) and substantial (60S) subunits.
- ▢ The ribosomes seen in the chloroplasts of mitochondria of eukaryotes are comprised of big and little subunits composed of proteins inside a 70S particle.
- ▢ Share a center structure which is very much alike to all ribosomes in spite of changes in its size.
- ▢ The RNA is arranged in different tertiary structures.
- ▢ The RNA in the bigger ribosomes is into numerous continuous infusions as they create loops out of the center of the structure without disturbing or altering it.
- ▢ They assemble amino acids to form specific proteins, proteins are essential to carry out cellular activities.
- ▢ The genetic message from the mRNA is translated into proteins during DNA translation.
- ▢ The sequences of protein assembly during protein synthesis are specified in the mRNA.
- ▢ The mRNA is synthesized in the nucleus and is transported to the cytoplasm for further process of protein synthesis.
- ▢ In the cytoplasm, the two subunits of ribosomes are bound around the polymers of mRNA; proteins are then synthesized with the help of transfer RNA.

LYSOSOMES:

Lysosomes are membrane-bound, dense granular structures containing hydrolytic enzymes responsible mainly for intracellular and extracellular digestion. The word “lysosome” is made up of two words “lysis” meaning breakdown and “soma” meaning body. It is an important cell organelle responsible for the inter and extracellular breakdown of substances. They are more commonly found in animal cells while only in some lower plant groups (slime molds and saprophytic fungi). Lysosomes occur freely in the cytoplasm. In animals, found in almost all cells except in the RBCs. They are found in most abundant numbers in cells related to enzymatic reactions such as liver cells, pancreatic cells, kidney cells.

Structure of Lysosomes:

- Lysosomes are without any characteristic shape or structure i.e. they are pleomorphic
- They are mostly globular or granular in appearance.
- It is 0.2-0.5 μ m in size and is surrounded by a single lipoprotein membrane unique in composition.
- The membrane contains highly glycosylated lysosomal associated membrane proteins (LAMP) and Lysosomal integral membrane proteins (LIMP).
- LAMPs and LIMPs form a coat on the inner surface of the membrane.
- They protect the membrane from attack by the numerous hydrolytic enzymes retained inside.
- The lysosomal membrane has a hydrogen proton pump which is responsible for maintaining pH conditions of the enzyme.
- The acidic medium maintained by the proton pump that pumps H⁺ inside the lumen, ensures the functionality of the lysosomal enzymes.
- Inside the membrane, the organelle contains enzymes in the crystalline form.
- Lysosomes are an important cell organelle found within eukaryotic animal cells. Due to their peculiar function, they are also known as the “suicide bags” of the cell.
- The term was coined by Christian de Duve, a Belgian biologist, who discovered it and ultimately got a Nobel Prize in Medicine or Physiology in the year 1974.

- Lysosomal Enzymes For degradation of extra and intracellular material, lysosomes filled with enzymes

- called hydrolases. It contains about 40 varieties of enzymes which are classified into the following main types, namely:
 - Proteases, which digest proteins
 - Lipases, which digests lipids
 - Amylase, which digests carbohydrates
 - Nucleases, which digest nucleic acids
 - Phosphoric acidmonoesters

- Collectively the group of enzymes is called hydrolases which cause cleavage of substrates by the addition of water molecules.

UNIT - III

INTRODUCTION TO GENETICS

The history of genetics started with the work of the Augustinian friar Gregor Johann Mendel. His work on pea plants, published in 1866, described what came to be known as Mendelian Inheritance. In the centuries before—and for several decades after—Mendel's work, a wide variety of theories of heredity proliferated. 1900 marked the "rediscovery of Mendel" by Hugo de Vries, Carl Correns and Erich von Tschermak, and by 1915 the basic principles of Mendelian genetics had been applied to a wide variety of organisms—most notably the fruit fly *Drosophila melanogaster*. Led by Thomas Hunt Morgan and his fellow "drosophilists", geneticists developed the Mendelian model, which was widely accepted by 1925. Alongside experimental work, mathematicians developed the statistical framework of population genetics, bringing genetic explanations into the study of evolution.

With the basic patterns of genetic inheritance established, many biologists turned to investigations of the physical nature of the gene. In the 1940s and early 1950s, experiments pointed to DNA as the portion of chromosomes (and perhaps other nucleoproteins) that held genes. A focus on new model organisms such as viruses and bacteria, along with the discovery of the double helical structure of DNA in 1953, marked the transition to the era of molecular genetics.

Johann Gregor Mendel (1822-1884) - Father of Genetics

Gregor Mendel, through his work on pea plants, discovered the fundamental laws of inheritance. He deduced that genes come in pairs and are inherited as distinct units, one from each parent. Mendel tracked the segregation of parental genes and their appearance in the offspring as dominant or recessive traits. He recognized the mathematical patterns of inheritance from one generation to the next. Mendel's Laws of Heredity are usually stated as:

- 1) The Law of Segregation: Each inherited trait is defined by a gene pair. Parental genes are randomly separated to the sex cells so that sex cells contain only one gene of the pair. Offspring therefore inherit one genetic allele from each parent when sex cells unite in fertilization.
- 2) The Law of Independent Assortment: Genes for different traits are sorted separately from one another so that the inheritance of one trait is not dependent on the inheritance of another.
- 3) The Law of Dominance: An organism with alternate forms of a gene will express the form that is dominant.

The genetic experiments Mendel did with pea plants took him eight years (1856-1863) and he published his results in 1865. During this time, Mendel grew over 10,000 pea plants, keeping track of progeny number and type. Mendel's work and his Laws of Inheritance were not appreciated in his

time. It wasn't until 1900, after the rediscovery of his Laws, that his experimental results were understood.

MENDEL'S LAWS OF INHERITANCE AND EXCEPTIONS TO THE LAWS

History

The assertion that life can instantaneously arise from non living matter is called spontaneous generation. Here are the critical experiments that busted the myth. Although today we understand that living things arise from other living things, the idea of spontaneous generation was entrenched in the minds of man throughout most of history. Spontaneous generation is the belief that, on a daily basis, living things arise from non living material. This debunked belief is not the same as abiogenesis, the study of how life on earth could have arisen from inanimate matter billions of years ago.

Aristotle and Spontaneous Generation (383-322)

Aristotle was one of the first to record his conclusions on the possible routes to life. He saw beings as arising in one of three ways, from sexual reproduction, asexual reproduction or nonliving matter. According to Aristotle, it was readily observable that aphids arise from the dew on plants, fleas from putrid matter, and mice from dirty hay; and this belief remained unchallenged for more than two thousand years.

Francesco Redi's Experiments (late 1600s)

Redi was an Italian physician and one of the first to formally challenge the doctrine of spontaneous generation. Redi's question was simple, "Where do maggots come from?" According to spontaneous generation, one would conclude that maggots came from rotting food. Redi hypothesized that maggots came from flies and designed an experiment, elegant in its simplicity, to challenge spontaneous generation.

Redi put meat into three separate jars:

Jar #1 he left open. He observed flies laying eggs on the meat and the eventual development of maggots.

Jar #2 he covered with netting. Flies laid their eggs on the netting and maggots soon appeared.

Jar #3 he sealed. Flies were not attracted to this jar and no maggots developed on the meat. This seems to be a clear demonstration of life giving rise to life. Yet it took another two hundred years for people to accept spontaneous generation as a fallacy.

Anthony van Leeuwenhoek's "Animalcules" (1600-1700s)

[Leeuwenhoek](#) was a Dutch cloth merchant, and due to his trade, he frequently used lenses **10**

examine cloth. Rather than employing lenses made by others, he ground his own, and the expertise that he gained through lens crafting combined with a curious mind eventually led

to an interest in microscopy. During his life, Leeuwenhoek assembled more than 250 microscopes, some of which magnified objects 270 times. Through magnification, he discovered presence of “micro” organisms - organisms so tiny that they were invisible to the naked eye. He called these tiny living things “animalcules,” and was the first to describe many microbes and microscopic structures, including bacteria, protozoans and human cells.

John Needham & Lazzaro Spallanzani (1700s)

The debate over spontaneous generation was reignited with Leeuwenhoek’s discovery of animalcules and the observation that these tiny organisms would appear in collected rainwater within a matter of days. John Needham and Lazzaro Spallanzani both set out to examine Leeuwenhoek’s animalcules.

Needham’s Experiment

John Needham was a proponent of spontaneous generation, and his beliefs were confirmed when, after boiling beef broth to kill all microbes, within the span of a few days, cloudiness of the broth indicated the respawning of microscopic life.

Spallanzani’s Experiment

Lazzaro Spallanzani noted a flaw in Needham’s experiment. The containers holding Needham’s beef broths had not been sealed upon boiling. So Spallanzani modified Needham’s experiment, boiling infusions, but immediately upon boiling he melted the necks of his glass containers so that they were not open to the atmosphere. The microbes were killed and did not reappear unless he broke the seal and again exposed the infusion to air.

Louis Pasteur (1800s)

Pasteur, a French scientist who made great contributions to our understanding of microbiology and for whom the process of “pasteurization” is named, repeated experiments similar to those of Spallanzani’s and brought to light strong evidence that microbes arise from other microbes, not spontaneously.

Pasteur’s Swan-Necked Flasks

Pasteur created unique glass flasks with unusual long, thin necks that pointed downward. These “swan-necked” flasks allowed air into the container but did not allow particles from the air to drift down into the body of the flask.

The End of Spontaneous Generation

After boiling his nutrient broths, Pasteur found that these swan-necked containers would remain free of microbes until he either broke the necks of the flasks, allowing particles from the air to drift in, or until he tilted the flask so that the liquid came in contact with dust that had accumulated at the opening of the flask. It was these carefully controlled experiments of Pasteur

that finally put to rest the debate over spontaneous generation.

Preformation theory (Swammerdam and Bonnet. 1720 1793)

Preformation theory proposes that the only male and female is responsible for heredity. The male gamete consists of a miniature figure of man's body called as homunculus which is responsible for heredity. Epigenesis (C.f.wolf (1733-1794) and K.E. Von Baer (1792-1876) said that the different organs and tissues of adult plant and animals developed from the uniform embryonic tissue and not from mere growth expansion of the miniature homunculi present in eggs / sperms. Von Baer proposed that they developed through a sequential modification of the embryonic tissue. This concept is universally accepted.

Swammerdam (1637-1680), for example, thought that a tiny preformed frog occurred in the animal hemisphere of the frog egg and that became simply larger by feeding on the food stored in the vegetal hemisphere of the egg. Another biologist, Hartsoeker (1695) published a figure showing a miniature man known as mankin or homunculus in the head of the human spermatazoa. Such preformation theories had been supported by Leeuwenhoek (1632-1723), Malpighi (1673), Reaumur, Bonnet (1720- 1793), Spallanzani (1729-1799) and other workers of 17th and early 18th centuries. With the development of improved microscopy and other cytological techniques in 17th and 18th centuries, it became clear to biologists that neither the egg nor the sperm contained a preformed individual but that each was a relatively uniform, homogeneous mass of protoplasm.

Particulate Theory

A French biologist Maupertius in 1698-1759 discards the preformation theory and forwarded the concept of biparental through many tiny particles. According to him both the parents produce the semen, which composed of many tiny particles. The semen of both the parents unite and the embryo formed each organ of the embryo was supposed to be formed by two particles. Each of which came from each parent. In the year 1732-1806 J.C. Koelreuter was the first person to get fertile hybrids by artificial crossing two species of tobacco and concluded that the gametes were the physical basis of heredity.

Pangeneses

Charles Darwin proposed this theory. According to pangeneses that each organ of an individual produces very small almost invisible identical copies of itself called gemmules or pangenes. These gemmules from various parts collected into the blood stream of animals. The blood transports the gemmules into the reproductive organ, which produce gametes. Male and female gametes unite to form zygotes. When these gives rise to a new organism, the gemmules of different parts of the body give rise to the same kind of organs, tissues and cells, which

produced them in the parents.

Lamarckism

A French biologist Lamarck (1774-1829) considered the inheritance of acquired characters to be the most important, if not the sole, mechanism of evolutionary changes. According to urgent need, use and disuse of organs, the modification thus acquired will be transmitted to their off spring.

Germplasm theory August Weismanís (1834-1914)

Germplasm theory explains that body of individual consists of two distinct types of tissues, (1) somatoplasm (2) germplasm. Somatoplasm consists of all body tissues, which do not contribute to the sexual reproduction. The germplasm on the other hand produces gametes that are the basis of heredity. It is only applied to animals and plants in which distinction between soma and germ can be made. Weismannís famous experiment of cutting off the tail of mice for 22 generations and observing that the progeny still had tail of normal length, proved that the somatoplasm is not responsible for transmission of characters.

Cell Theory(1838)

Schleiden and Schwann proposed cell theory 1838. They concluded that all plant and animal tissues were made of cells. It was also postulated that cell is the functional unit of living organism. In 1846 Negeli said that all cells originated from preexisting cells. Virchow 1853 elaborated this and referred it as cell linkage theory.

Mendelian concept of hereditary

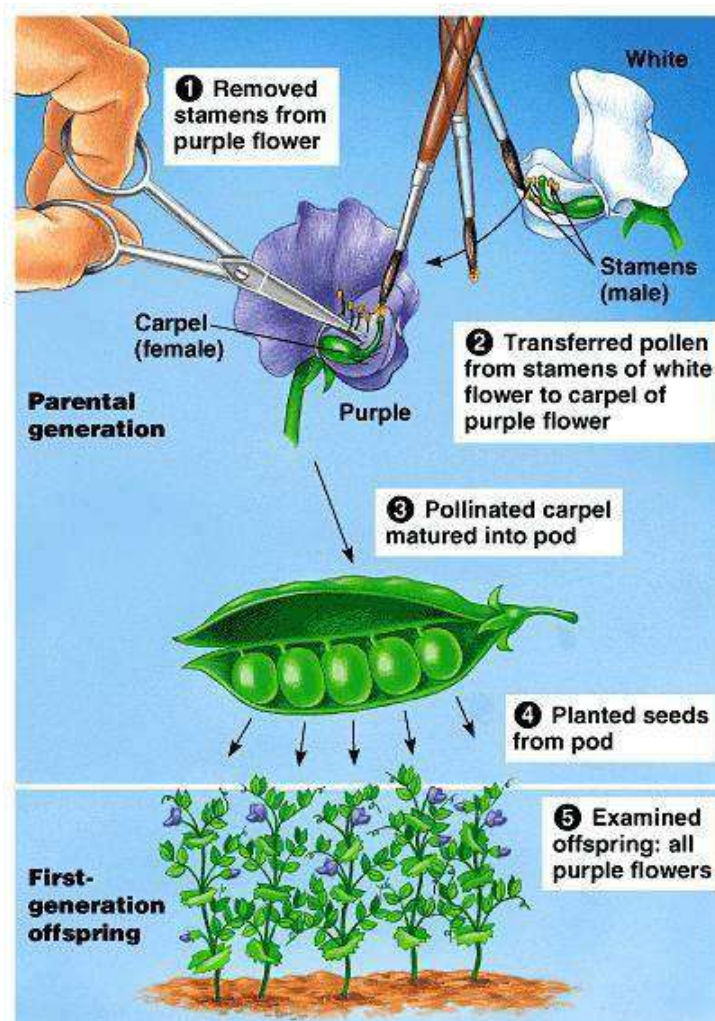
The laws of inheritance were derived by [Gregor Mendel](#), a 19th century monk conducting hybridization experiments in garden peas ([Pisum sativum](#)). Between 1856 and 1863, he cultivated and tested some 29,000 pea plants. From these experiments he deduced two generalizations which later became known as Mendel's Laws of Heredity or Mendelian inheritance. He described these laws in a two part paper, "[Experiments on Plant Hybridization](#)" that he read to the Natural History Society of [Bruno](#) on [February 8](#) and [March 8, 1865](#), and which was published in 1866.

Mendel's findings allowed other scientists to predict the expression of traits on the basis of mathematical probabilities. A large contribution to Mendel's success can be traced to his decision to start his crosses only with plants he demonstrated were true-breeding. He also measured only absolute (binary) characteristics, such as color, shape, and position of the offspring, rather than quantitative characteristics. He expressed his results numerically and subjected them to statistical analysis. His method of data analysis and his large [sample size](#) gave credibility to his data. He also had the foresight to follow several successive generations

(f₂, f₃) of his pea plants and record their variations. Finally, he performed "test crosses" (back-crossing descendants of the initial hybridization to the initial true-breeding lines) to reveal the presence and proportion of recessive characters. Without his careful attention to procedure and detail, Mendel's work could not have had the impact it made on the world of genetics.

Mendel's Laws

Mendel discovered that by crossing white flower and purple flower plants, the result was not a hybrid offspring. Rather than being a mix of the two, the offspring was purple flowered. He then conceived the idea of heredity units, which he called "factors", one which is a recessive characteristic and the other dominant. Mendel said that factors, later called genes, normally occur in pairs in ordinary body cells, yet segregate during the formation of sex cells. Each member of the pair becomes part of the separate sex cell. The dominant gene, such as the purple flower in Mendel's plants, will hide the recessive gene, the white flower. After Mendel self-fertilized the F₁ generation and obtained the 3:1 ratio, he correctly theorized that genes can be paired in three different ways for each trait; AA, aa, and Aa. The capital A represents the dominant factor and lowercase a represents the recessive.



Mendel stated that each individual has two factors for each trait, one from each parent. The two factors may or may not contain the same information. If the two factors are identical, the individual is called homozygous for the trait. If the two factors have different information, the individual is called heterozygous. The alternative forms of a factor are called alleles. The genotype of an individual is made up of the many alleles it possesses. An individual's physical appearance, or phenotype, is determined by its alleles as well as by its environment. An individual possesses two alleles for each trait; one allele is given by the female parent and the other by the male parent. They are passed on when an individual matures and produces gametes: egg and sperm. When gametes form, the paired alleles separate randomly so that each gamete receives a copy of one of the two alleles. The presence of an allele doesn't promise that the trait will be expressed in the individual that possesses it. In heterozygous individuals the only allele that is expressed is the dominant. The recessive allele is present but its expression is hidden. Mendel summarized his findings in two laws; the Law of Segregation and the Law of Independent Assortment.

Law of Segregation (The "First Law")

The Law of Segregation states that when any individual produces gametes, the copies of a gene separate, so that each gamete receives only one copy. A gamete will receive one allele or the other. The direct proof of this was later found when the process of meiosis came to be known. In meiosis the paternal and maternal chromosomes get separated and the alleles with the characters are segregated into two different gametes.

Law of Independent Assortment (The "Second Law")

The Law of Independent Assortment, also known as "Inheritance Law", states that alleles of different genes assort independently of one another during gamete formation. While Mendel's experiments with mixing one trait always resulted in a 3:1 ratio between dominant and recessive phenotypes, his experiments with mixing two traits (dihybrid cross) showed 9:3:3:1 ratios. But the 9:3:3:1 table shows that each of the two genes are independently inherited with a 3:1 ratio. Mendel concluded that different traits are inherited independently of each other, so that there is no relation, for example, between a cat's color and tail length. This is actually only true for genes that are not [linked](#) to each other.

Independent assortment occurs during [meiosis I](#) in [eukaryotic](#) organisms, specifically [metaphase I](#) of meiosis, to produce a gamete with a mixture of the organism's maternal and paternal chromosomes. Along with [chromosomal crossover](#), this process aids in increasing genetic diversity by producing novel genetic combinations.

In independent assortment the chromosomes that end up in a newly-formed gamete are randomly sorted from all possible combinations of maternal and paternal chromosomes. Because gametes end up with a random mix instead of a pre-defined "set" from either parent, gametes are therefore considered assorted independently. As such, the [gamete](#) can end up with any combination of paternal or maternal chromosomes. Any of the possible combinations of gametes formed from maternal and paternal chromosomes will occur with equal frequency. For human gametes, with 23 pairs of chromosomes, the number of possibilities is 2^{23} or 8,388,608 possible combinations. The gametes will normally end up with 23 chromosomes, but the origin of any particular one will be randomly selected from paternal or maternal chromosomes. This contributes to the genetic variability of progeny.

Rediscovery of Mendel's work

Mendel's conclusions were largely ignored. Although they were not completely unknown to biologists of the time, they were not seen as generally applicable, even by Mendel himself, who thought they only applied to certain categories of species or traits. A major block to understanding their significance was the importance attached by 19th century biologists to the apparent blending of inherited traits in the overall appearance of the progeny, now known to be due to multigene interactions, in contrast to the organ-specific binary characters studied by Mendel. In 1900, however, his work was "re-discovered" by three European scientists, [Hugo de Vries](#), [Carl Correns](#), and [Erich von Tschermak](#). The exact nature of the "re-discovery" has been somewhat debated: De Vries published first on the subject, mentioning Mendel in a footnote, while Correns pointed out Mendel's priority after having read De Vries's paper and realizing that he himself did not have priority. De Vries may not have acknowledged truthfully how much of his knowledge of the laws came from his own work, or came only after reading Mendel's paper. Later scholars have accused Von Tschermak of not truly understanding the results at all. Regardless, the "re-discovery" made Mendelism an important but controversial theory. Its most vigorous promoter in Europe was [William Bateson](#), who coined the term "[genetics](#)", "[gene](#)", and "[allele](#)" to describe many of its tenets.

The model of heredity was highly contested by other biologists because it implied that heredity was discontinuous, in opposition to the apparently continuous variation observable for many traits. Many biologists also dismissed the theory because they were not sure it would apply to all species, and there seemed to be very few true Mendelian characters in nature. However, later work by biologists and statisticians such as [R.A. Fisher](#) showed that if multiple Mendelian factors were involved in the expression of an individual trait, they could produce the diverse results observed. [Thomas Hunt Morgan](#) and his assistants later integrated the

theoretical model of Mendel with the chromosome theory of inheritance, in which the [chromosomes](#) of [cells](#) were thought to hold the actual hereditary material, and create what is now known as [classical genetics](#), which was extremely successful and cemented Mendel's place in history.

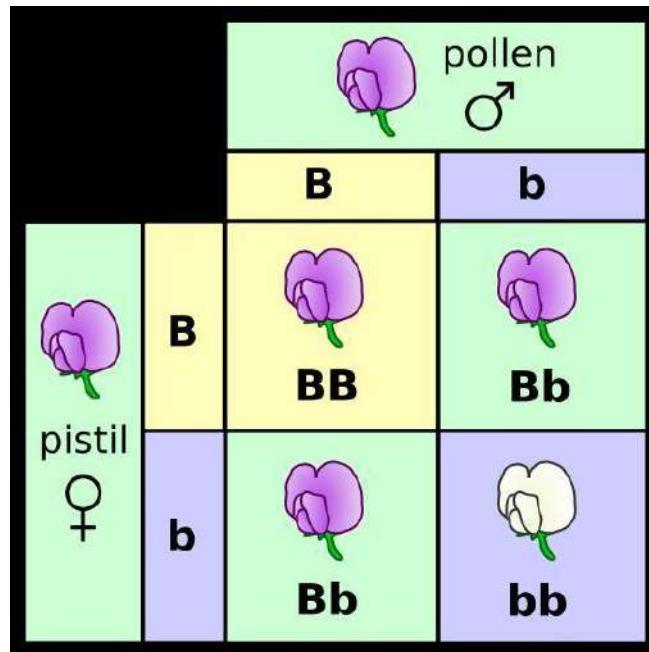
Mendel's Laws of Inheritance

Mendel postulated three laws, which are now called after his name as Mendel's laws of heredity. These are:

1. Law of dominance and recessive
2. Law of segregation
3. Law of independent assortment

1. Law of Dominance

Definition: When two homozygous individuals with one or more sets of contrasting characters are crossed, the characters that appear in the F₁ hybrids are dominant characters and those do not appear in F₁ are recessive characters.



Law of dominance- If there are two alleles coding for the same trait and one is dominant it will show up in the organism while the other won't

Explanation : The dominance and recessive of genes can be explained on the basis of enzymatic functions of genes. The dominant genes - are capable of synthesizing active polypeptides or proteins that form functional enzymes, whereas the recessive genes (mutant

genes) code for incomplete or non-functional polypeptides. Therefore, the dominant genes produce a specific phenotype while the recessive genes fail to do so. In the heterozygous condition also the dominant gene is able to express itself, so that the heterozygous and homozygous individuals have similar phenotype.

Critical appreciation of Law of Dominance

Scientists conducted cross-breeding experiments to find out the applicability of law of dominance. The experiments were conducted by Correns on peas and maize, Tschermak on peas, by De Vries on maize etc., by Bateson and his collaborators on a variety of organisms, by Davenport on poultry, by Furst on rabbits, by Toyama on silk moth and by many others. These scientists observed that a large number of characters in various organisms are related as dominant and recessive.

Importance of law of dominance

The phenomenon of dominance is of practical importance as the harmful recessive characters are masked by the normal dominant characters in the hybrids. In Human beings a form of idiocy, diabetes, haemophilia etc. are recessive characters. A person hybrid for all these characteristics appears perfectly normal. Thus harmful recessive genes can exist for several generations without expressing themselves.

Exceptions to Law of Dominance is the Incomplete Dominance. After Mendel several cases were recorded by scientists, where F_1 hybrids exhibited a blending of characters of two parents. These hybrids were found to be midway between the two parents. This is known as incomplete dominance or blending inheritance. It means that two genes of the allelomorph pair are not related as dominant and recessive, but each of them expresses itself partially. As for example, in four-o'clock plant, *Mirabilis jalapa*, when plants with red flowers (RR) are crossed with plants having white flowers (rr), the hybrid F_1 plants (Rr) bear pink flowers. When these F_1 plants with pink flowers are self-pollinated they develop red (RR), pink (Rr) and white (rr) flowered plants in the ratio of 1 : 2 : 1 (F_2 generation).

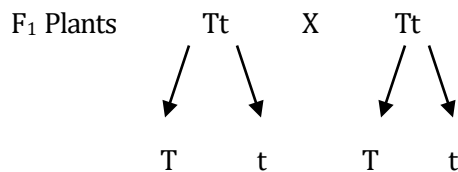
2. Law of Segregation (Purity of Gametes)

Explanation - The law of segregation states that when a pair of contrasting factors or genes or allelomorphs are brought together in a heterozygote (hybrid) the two members of the allelic pair remain together without being contaminated and when gametes are formed from the hybrid, the two separate out from each other and only one enters each gamete.

Example - Pure tall plants are homozygous and, therefore/possess genes (factors) TT; similarly dwarf possess genes tt. The tallness and dwarfness are two independent but contrasting factors or

determiners. Pure tall plants produce gametes all of which possess gene T and dwarf plants t type of gametes.

During cross fertilization gametes with T and t unite to produce hybrids of F₁ generation. These hybrids possess genotype Tt. It means F₁ plants, though tall phenotypically, possess one gene for tallness and one gene for dwarfness. Apparently, the tall and dwarf characters appear to have become contaminated developing only tall character. But at the time of gamete formation, the genes T (for tallness) and t (for dwarfness) separate and are passed on to separate gametes. As a result, two types of gametes are produced from the heterozygote in equal numerosity. 50% of the gametes possess gene T and other 50% possess gene t. Therefore, these gametes are either pure for tallness or for dwarfness. (This is why the law of segregation is also described as Law of purity of gametes).



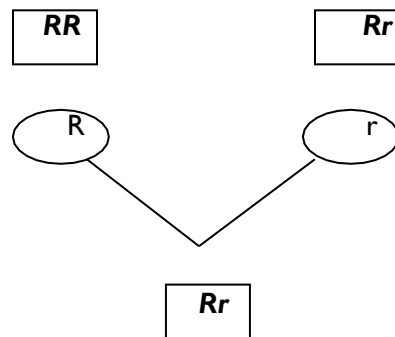
Gametes unite at random and when gametes are numerous all possible combinations can occur, with the result that tall and dwarf appear in the ratio of 3 :1. The results are often represented by Punnett square as follows:

Critical appreciation of law of segregation

It has been confirmed by cytological studies that dominance or no dominance, the law of segregation holds good to all cases. Its far reaching applicability has made it rare biological generalization. RR have only gene for round

Rr, rR have gene for round and wrinkle

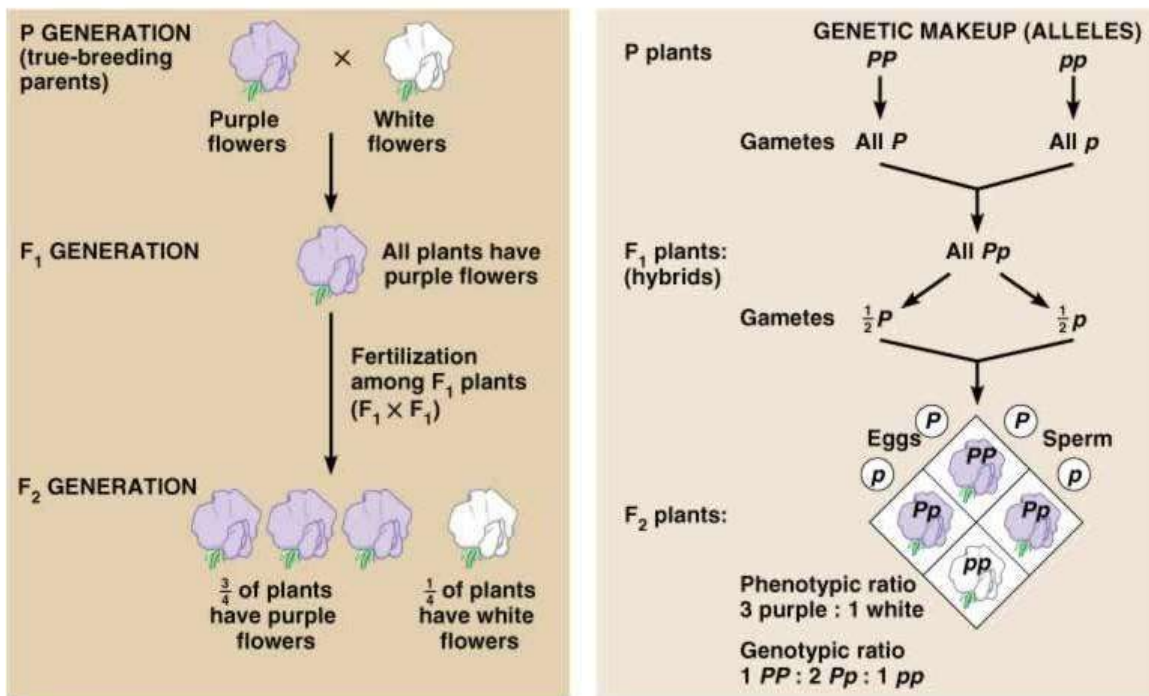
Rr have only wrinkled gene





	R	r
R	RR	Rr
r	Rr	Rr

Round, Wrinkled - 3:1 ratio



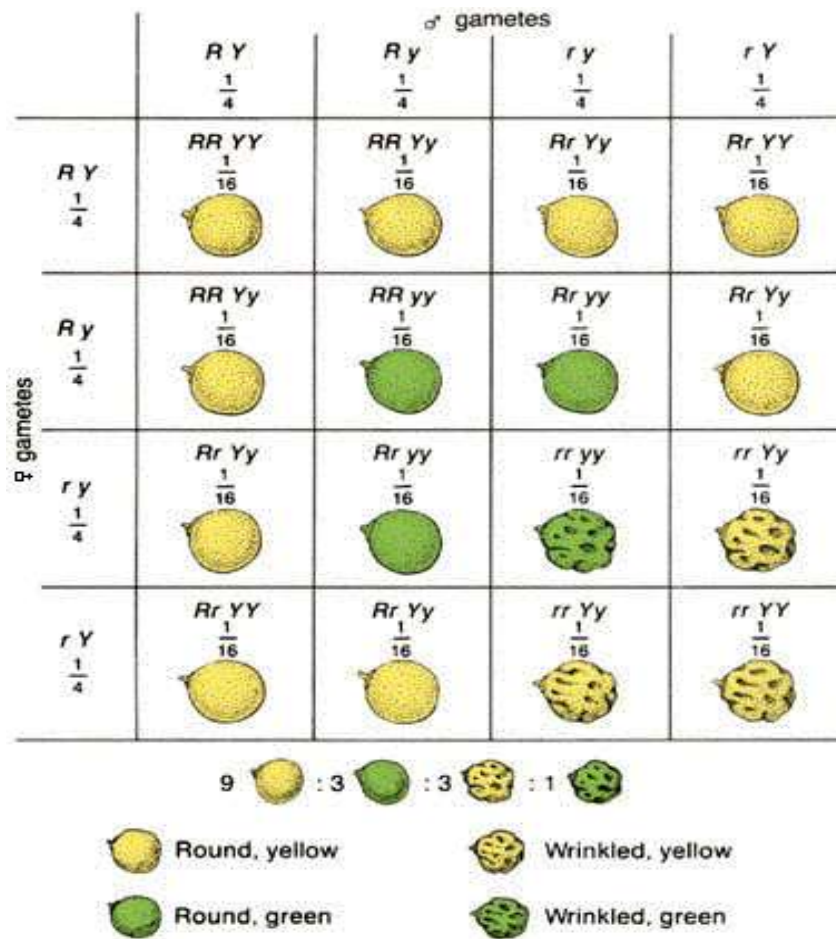
3. Law of Independent Assortment

Definition: The inheritance of more than one pair of characters (two pairs or more) is studied simultaneously, the factors or genes for each pair of characters assort out independently of the other pairs. Mendel formulated this law from the results of a dihybrid cross.

Explanation: The cross was made between plants having yellow and round cotyledons and plants having green and wrinkled cotyledons.

The F₁ hybrids all had yellow and round seeds. When these F₁ plants were self fertilized they produced four types of plants in the following proportion:

- (i) Yellow and round 9



Test cross

F1 $RrYy$ x $rryy$ (recessive)
1:1:1:1

Critical appreciation of law of Independent Assortment-

The law of independent assortment fails to have a universal applicability. Cytological studies have revealed that only those allelomorphs assort independently during meiosis, which are located in different homologous pairs of chromosomes. But, if the allelomorphs for different characters are present in the same homologous pair of chromosomes, these are passed on to the same gamete. Law of independent assortment does not apply to such cases.

BIOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF MENDEL'S LAWS

Mendel's work remained buried for about three decades, but after its rediscovery, the laws are being used for the various branches of breeding. These are used for improving the varieties of fowls and their eggs; in obtaining rust-resistant and disease-resistant varieties of grains. Various new breeds of horses and

dogs are obtained by cross breeding experiments. The science of Eugenics is the outcome of Mendelism, which deals with the betterment of human race.

Mendelian deviation

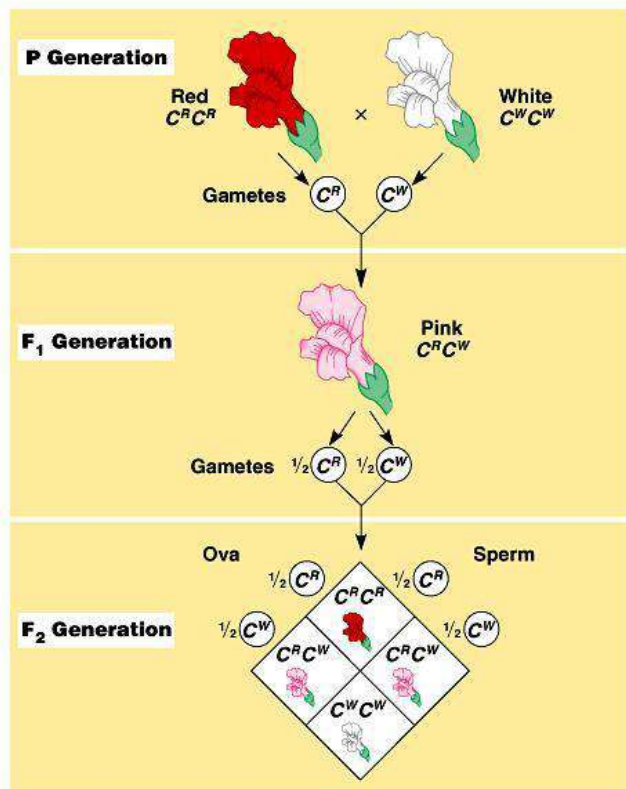
Mendelian deviations or exceptions or anomalies includes

- 1) Incomplete dominance
- 2) Codominance
- 3) Lethal genes etc.

1. Incomplete dominance

Mendel always observed complete dominance of one allele over the other for all the seven characters, which he studied, in garden pea. Later on cases of incomplete dominance were reported. For example, in four o' clock plant (*Mirabilis jalapa*) there are two types of flower viz., red and white. A cross between red and white flowered plants produced plants with intermediate flower colour i.e. pink colour in F1 and a modified ratio of 1 red: 2 pink: 1 White in F2.

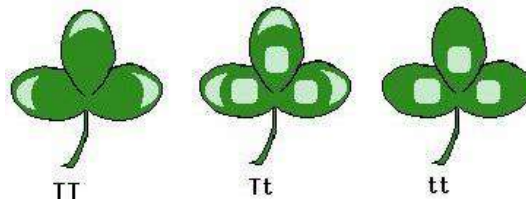
Parents	Red flower	x	White flower
	RR		rr
F1	Rr		pink flower
F2	1 Red (RR)	:	2 Pink (Rr) : 1 White (rr)



Incomplete dominance in flowers of *Mirabilis jalapa*

2. Codominance

In case of codominance both alleles express their phenotypes in heterozygote greater than an intermediate one. The example is AB blood group in human. The people who have blood type AB are heterozygous exhibiting phenotypes for both the I^A and I^B alleles. In other words, heterozygotes for codominant alleles are phenotypically similar to both parental types. The main difference between codominance and incomplete dominance lies in the way in which genes act. In case of codominance both alleles are active while in case of incomplete dominance both alleles blend to make an intermediate one.

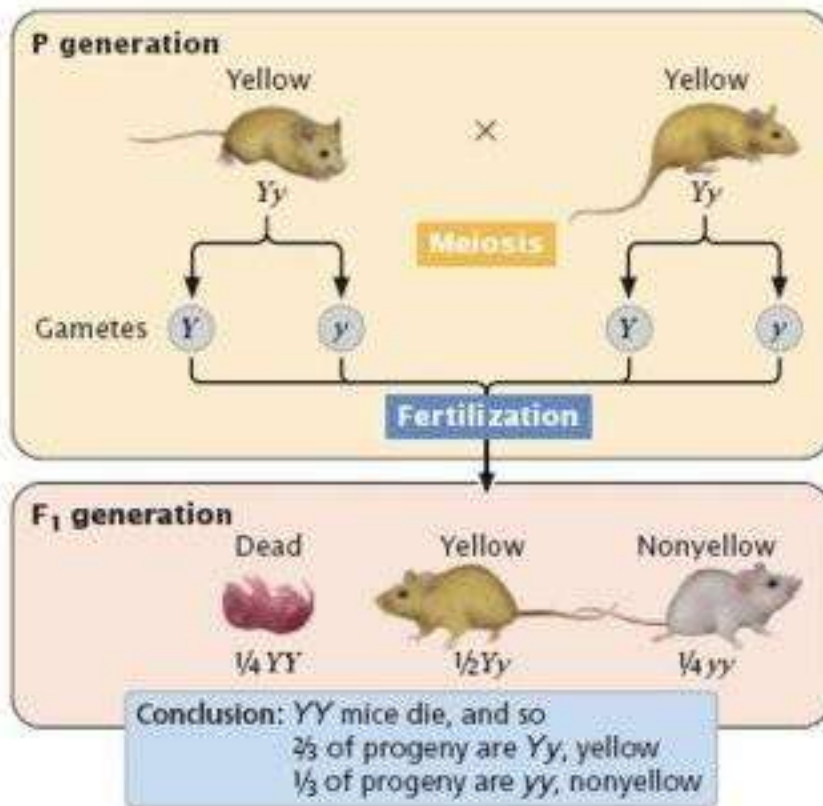


Codominance - both genes fully expressed

3. Lethal genes

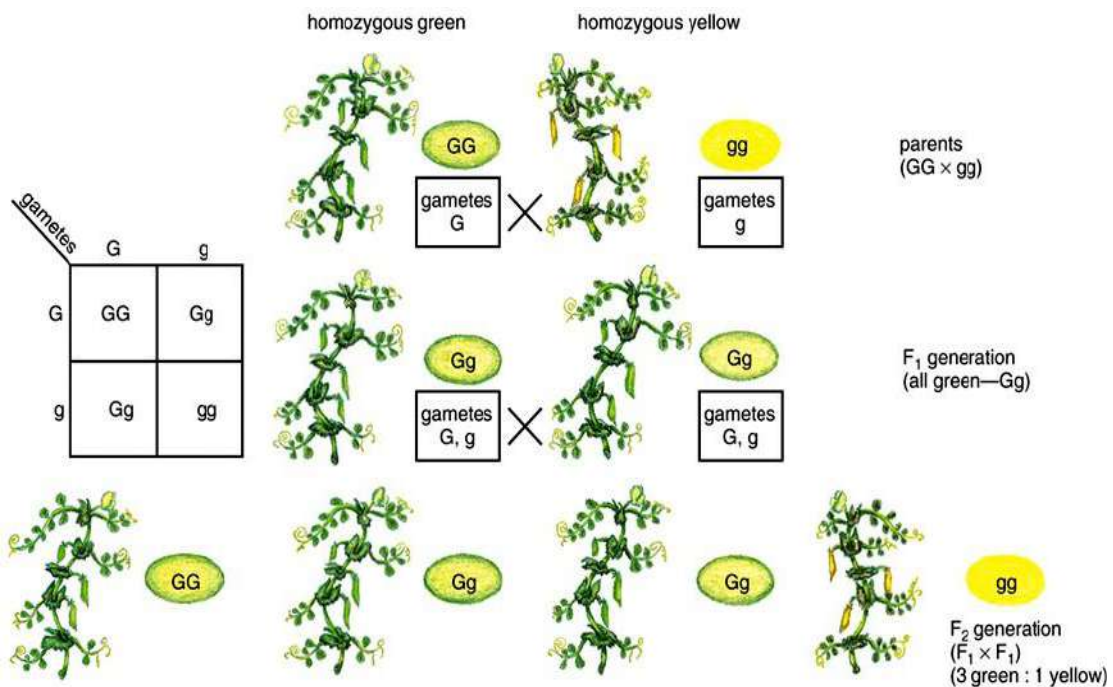
Gene, which causes the death of its carrier when in homozygous condition is called lethal gene. Mendel's findings were based on equal survival of all genotypes. In normal segregation ratio of 3:1 is modified into 2:1 ratio. Lethal genes have been reported in both animals as well as plants. In mice allele for yellow coat colour is dominant over grey. When a cross is made between yellow and grey a ratio of 1:1 for yellow and grey mice was observed. This indicated that yellow mice are always heterozygous. Because yellow homozygotes are never born because of homozygous lethality. Such genes were not observed by Mendel. He always got 3:1 ratio in F₂ for single gene characters.

Lethal genes can be recessive, as in the aforementioned mouse experiments. Lethal genes can also be dominant, conditional, semilethal, or synthetic, depending on the gene or genes involved.



MONOHYBRID CROSS

A cross is made between two true-breeding parents differing for a single trait, producing an F₁ generation. These plants are intercrossed to produce an F₂ generation.



Dihybrid Crosses

The following legends were described for peas by Mendel:

T- Tall

tt - dwarf

G - green (pod)

gg- yellow

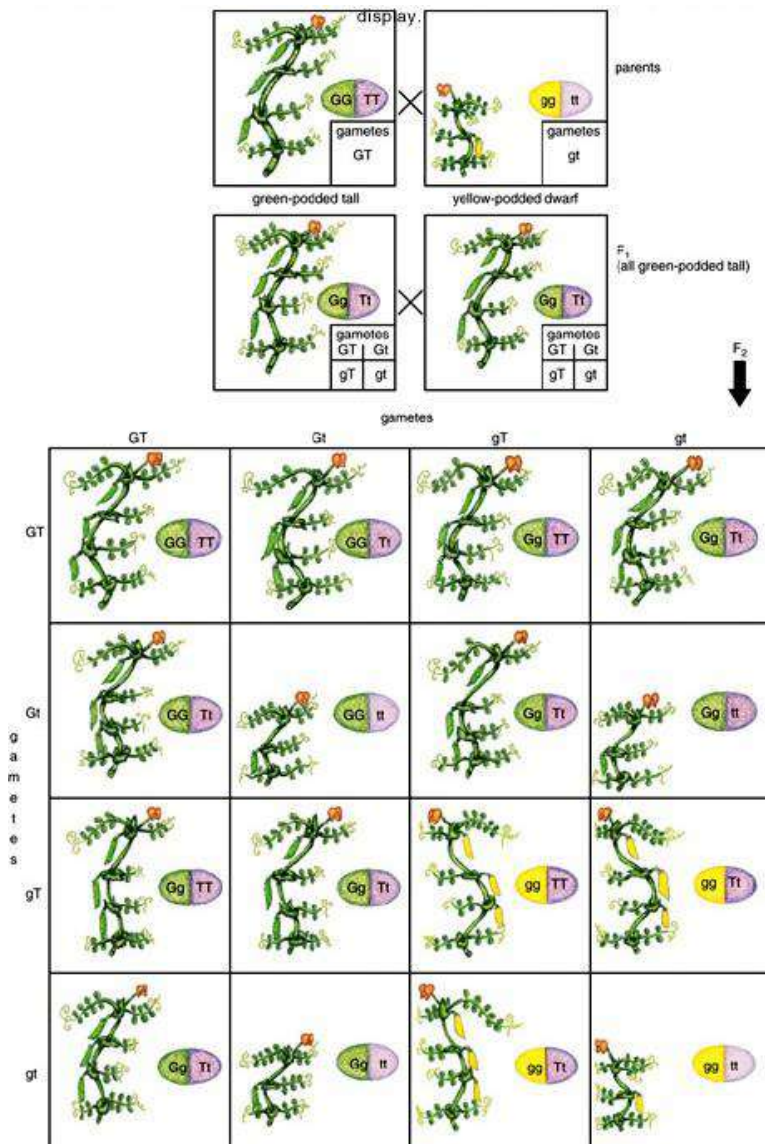
Pure breeding parents can be crossed to produce a dihybrid meaning that 2 genes affecting different traits are heterozygous (segregating) in all the f1 progeny.

Examples: TT, GG X tt, gg \longrightarrow Tt, Gg

TT, gg X tt, GG \longrightarrow Tt, Gg

When the F1 is self fertilized (plants) or crossed with another Tt, Gg individual, the progeny will show the expected 3 dominant : 1 recessive phenotypic ratio for each trait. If the two traits are independent, the two 3 : 1 ratios will interact to give a ratio based on 16ths.

#	Genotypes	Phenotypes
9	T_, G_	Tall, Green
3	T_, gg	Tall, yellow
3	tt, G_	Dwarf, Green
1	tt, gg	Dwarf, Yellow



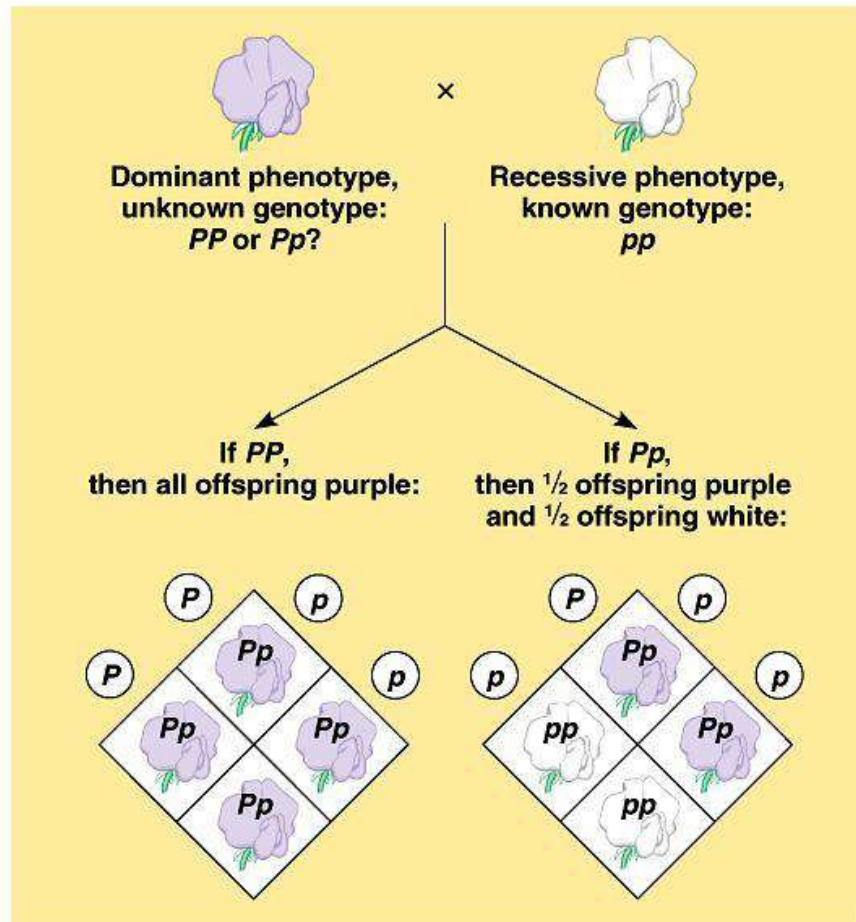
Backcross

Backcrossing is a crossing of a hybrid with one of its parents or an individual genetically similar to its parent, in order to achieve offspring with a genetic identity which is closer to that of the parent.

The Testcross

Because some alleles are dominant over others, the phenotype of an organism does not always reflect its genotype. A recessive phenotype (yellow) is only expressed with the organism is homozygous recessive (gg). A pea plant with green pods may be either homozygous dominant (GG) or heterozygous (Gg). To determine whether an organism with a dominant phenotype (e.g. green pod color) is homozygous dominant or heterozygous, you use a testcross.

The breeding of an organism of unknown genotype with a homozygous recessive. If all the progeny of the testcross have green pods, then the green pod parent was probably homozygous dominant since a GG x gg cross produces Gg progeny. If the progeny of the testcross contains both green and yellow phenotypes, then the green pod parent was heterozygous since a Gg x gg cross produces Gg and gg progeny in a 1:1 ratio. The testcross was devised by Mendel and is still an important tool in genetic studies.



TYPES OF GENE ACTION

The interaction with in alleles of gene controlling a single character may be dominant, incomplete dominance and co-dominance and are called intra allele interaction. When there is a interaction occurs between different pairs of alleles influencing a character of an individual is said to be interallelic interaction or epistatic. The gene that has masking effect is called epistatic gene, and the gene whose effect is masked is known as hypostatic gene. Epistasis leads to modification of normal dihybrid or trihybrid segregation ratio in F₂ generation.

The term epistasis was coined by Bateson in 1909. Various types of epistatic gene interaction are

- 1) Recessive epistasis (9:3:4)
- 2) Dominant epistasis (12:3:1)
- 3) Dominant and recessive (inhibitory) epistasis (13:3)
- 4) Duplicate recessive epistasis (9:7)
- 5) Duplicate dominant epistasis (15:1) and
- 6) Polymeric gene interaction (9:6:1).

Dihybrid ratio (9:3:3:1)

A classical case of two genes affecting the one and the same character and producing in the F₂ four different phenotypes in the ratio of 9:3:3:1 was discovered in fowls by Bateson and Punnett. Each breed of poultry possesses characteristic type of comb. The Wyandotte breed has a comb known as the rose comb, the Brahma has a pea comb, and the leghorn has a single comb and the Malaya walnut comb. Each of these breeds true. Cross between rose comb and single combed types show that rose is dominant to single comb and that there is a segregation of 3 rose: 1 single comb in the F₂. In mating between pea combed with single combed and 3:1 ratio appears in F₂. In mating between pea combed with single combed bird, pea combed is found to be dominant over single comb and 3:1 ratio appears in F₂. When a rose combed fowl is crossed with a pea combed one, all the F₁ birds show a new comb known as walnut comb. When the walnut combs are inbred there appears in F₂ walnut 3 rose pea single comb. As well in the ratio of 9:3:3:1. The rose comb is due to the presence of R gene and Pea due to P gene. Walnut comb is due to the presence of the dominant genes. R and P and single comb are due to the presence of recessive of r and p. The ratio expected in F₂ is 9:3:3:1.

Parent RR PP x rrpp
 Rose x rp

Rr pp(Walnut)

♀ \ ♂	RP	Rp	rP	rp
RP	RRPP (W)	RRPp (W)	RrPP (W)	RrPp (W)
Rp	RRPp (W)	RRpp (R)	RrPp (W)	Rrpp (R)
Rp	RrPP (W)	RrPp (W)	rrPP (P)	rrpp (P)
Rp	RrPp (W)	Rrpp (R)	rrPp (P)	rrPP (S)

9 Walnut: 3 Rose: 3 Pea: 1 Single

Duplicate recessive epistasis (Complimentary gene action) 9:7

When recessive alleles at either of the two loci can mask the expression of dominant alleles at the two loci, it is called duplicate recessive epistasis. This is also known as complementary epistasis. The best example of duplicate recessive epistasis is found for flower colour in sweet pea. The purple colour of flower in sweet pea is governed by two dominant genes say A and B when these genes are in separate individuals (Aabb or aaBB) and white (aabb) they produce white flower. A cross between purple flower (AABB) and white flower (aabb) strains produced purple colour in F1. Intermating of F1 plants produced purple and white flower plants in 9:7 ratio in F2 generation. Here the recessive allele 'a' is epistatic to B/b alleles and masks the expression of these alleles, another recessive allele 'b' is epistatic to A/a alleles and masks their expression.

Parents purple x White
 AABB x aabb
 AB ab
 AaBb
 Purple

♂ \ ♀	AB	Ab	aB	ab
AB	AABB (P)	AABb (P)	AaBB (P)	AaBb (P)
Ab	AABb (P)	AAbb (W)	AaBb (P)	Aabb (W)
aB	AaBB (P)	AaBb (P)	aaBB (W)	aaBb (W)
Ab	AaBb (P)	Aabb (W)	aaBb (W)	aabb (W)

Ratio = 9 Purple : 7 white

Duplicate gene action (15:1) (Duplicate dominant epistasis)

When a dominant allele at either of two loci can mask the expression of recessive alleles at the two loci, it is known as duplicate dominant epistasis. In rice awn character is controlled by two dominant duplicate genes (A and B). Presence of any of these two alleles can produce awn. The awnless condition develops only when both these genes are in homozygous recessive state (aabb). A cross between awned and awnless strains produced awned plants in F1. Intermating of F1 plants produced awned and awnless plants in 15:1 ratio in F2 generation. The allele A is epistatic to a/b alleles and all plants having allele A will develop awn. Another dominant allele B is epistatic to alleles a/b. An individual with these allele also develop awn character.

Parents awned rice x awnless rice
 AAbb x aaBB
 AaBb
 Awned rice

♀ \ ♂	AB	Ab	aB	ab
AB	AABB (A)	AABb (A)	AaBB (A)	AaBb (A)
Ab	AABb (A)	AAbb (A)	AaBb (A)	Aabb (A)
aB	AaBB (A)	AaBb (A)	aaBB (A)	aaBb (A)
ab	AABb (A)	AAbb (A)	AaBb (A)	Aabb (a)

Ratio = 15 awned : 1 awnless

Inhibitory gene action (13:3)

In this type of epistasis, a dominant allele at one locus can mask the expression of both (dominant and recessive) alleles at second locus. This is also known as inhibitory gene interaction. An example of this type of gene interaction is found for anthocyanin pigmentation in rice. The green colour of plants is governed by the gene I which is dominant over purple colour. The purple colour is controlled by a dominant gene P. when a cross was made between green (IiPp) and (iiPP) colour plants, the F1 was green. Intimating of F1 plants produced green and purple plants in 13:3 ratio in F2.

Parents awned rice x awnless rice AAbb
x aaBB
AaBb
Awned rice

♀ \ ♂	IP	Ip	iP	ip
IP	IIPP (G)	IIPp (G)	IiPP (G)	IiPP (G)
Ip	IIPp (G)	Iipp (G)	IiPp (G)	Iipp (G)
iP	IiPP (G)	IiPp (G)	IiPP (P)	iiPp (P)
ip	IiPp (G)	Iipp (G)	iiPp (P)	Iipp (G)

Ratio = 13 Green : 3 Purple

Supplementary gene action. (Recessive epistasis) 9:3:4

Here one dominant gene has its own phenotypic effect and other dominant gene has no effect of its own but its presence with the first gene modified the phenotypic expression. Thus in supplementary gene action the dominant allele of one gene is necessary for the development of the concerned phenotype, while the other gene modifies the expression of the first gene.

Parents RR PP x rr pp

Purple Red

Rr Pp

Purple

♂	RP	Rp	RP	Rp
♀	RP	Rp	RP	Rp
RP	RRPP (P)	RRPp (P)	RrPP (P)	RrPP (P)
Rp	RRPp (P)	RRpp (W)	RrPp (P)	Rrpp (W)
rP	RrPp (P)	RrPp (P)	RrPP (R)	RrPp (R)
rp	RrPp (G)	Rrpp (W)	rrPp (RP)	rrpp (W)

Ratio = 9 Purple : 3 Red : 4 White

Additive factors (9:6:1) (Polymeric gene action)

In these two genes controlling a character produces identical phenotype when they are alone i.e. with the homozygous recessive condition of the other gene. But when both the genes are present together, their phenotype effect is enhanced as if the effect of the two genes were cumulative or additives. It should be noted that in this case both the genes show complete dominance. If the two genes showing polymeric gene action, what will be the consequence. In barley two completely dominant genes A and B affect the length of awns, the thin needle like extension of lemma genes A and B alone (e.g. Aabb and aaBB give gives rise to awn of medium length, the effect of A is the same as that of B. But when both the genes A and B are present together they produce long awn indicating the effect of A and B genes of awn length are added together. Individual homozygous recessive for both these genes are awn less.

♀ \ ♂	WG	Wg	wG	wg
Wg	WWGG (W)	WWGg (W)	WwGG (W)	WwGG (W)
Wg	WWGg (W)	WWgg (W)	WwGg (W)	Wwgg (W)
WG	WwGG (W)	WwGg (W)	wwGG (Y)	WwGg (Y)
Wg	WwGg (W)	Wwgg (W)	wwGg (Y)	wwgg (G)

Ratio = 12 White: 3 Yellow: 1 Green

Modifying genes

These are group of genes, which enhances or reduce the phenotypic effect of a major gene. Such genes have small and cumulative effect on the expression of the major genes. As a result continuous variation is generated in the phenotype governed by a single major gene, which converts qualitative character into a quantitative one. In rats, guinea pigs and rabbits, piebald spotting is produced by recessive genes when present in a homozygous state (ss). The degree of spotting depends upon the modifying factors, designed as S1, S2, S3 etc. which enhances or reduces the expression of this spotting gene with cumulative on spotting. Most quantitative characters of crop plants may be determined in a similar fashion. Some modifying genes affect more than one character.

Major and minor genes

In the pie bald spotting the modifying factors produce some spotting even in the absence of the spotting genes but their effect is much more pronounced in the presence of s, Obviously the spotting gene s is a major gene controlling spotting, while the modifying genes are minor genes affecting this trait.

Inheritance of quantitative characters

Concept of polygenes

Colour, sex etc which shows distinct categories are known as qualitative characters. They are usually governed by one or major genes or oligogenes. Characters like length of ear in corn, yield of grain, yield of milk, stature etc do not fall into clear cut classes and shown more or less continuous variation and are governed by a large number of minor genes called multiple genes or polygenes. The characteristic feature of quantitative characters is 1) continuous variation and 2) a marked influence of the environment on their expression.

Multiple factor hypothesis (Nilsson - Ehle 1908)

He effected crosses between different true breeding strains of wheat with red kernels and with white kernel and the result of F1 and F2 were obtained. The F1 was (medium) red In F2 15:1 ratio was obtained. Careful examination revealed that the red colour of F1 was not as intense as the red colour of the parent and that in the F2 some red grains were as dark as those of the parent and other only as dark as those of the F1. F2 plants revealed marked difference in the intensity of colour depending upon the ratio of dominant and recessive genes present in them. Thus he obtained 1:4:6:4:1 ratio for dark red, medium dark red medium red, light red and white. It is evident that red colour is due to two pairs of genes. Each gene is capable of producing red colour. Each is incompletely dominant over white and is cumulative in its effect. The intensity of the red color depends upon the number of colour producing genes present. Dark red is due the presence of four genes for red medium dark red to three genes, medium red, to two genes and light red to one gene.

Nilson Ehle from his studies proposed the multiple gene hypothesis for the inheritance of quantitative characters. This assumes that there is a series of independent genes for a given quantitative traits. Dominance is usually incomplete and there is a strength of expression of the character, whereas its alleles do not possess any effect. The F1 essentially uniform but intermediate between the two parents. The F2 shows considerable variability, but is intermediate between the two parents. The F2 mean value being approximately equal to the parental mean and also the F1 mean. Studies on *Nicotiana* (East and Emerson 1916) worked on quantitative characters to explain the inheritance of corolla length in *nicotiana longiflora*. He crossed two inbred with contrasting corolla length of 40 and 93 mm. The F1 was intermediate with mean corolla length of 63 mm. In F2 a much larger variation for corolla length than the parents and F1 was observed. This variation was continuous as well and the F2 mean was close to that of F1 and intermediate between those of the parent. This is precisely what is expected in case of polygenic inheritance.

Transgressive segregation

The appearance in F₂ individuals with higher or lower intensity of characters than the parents is called as transgressive segregation. It is produced when the parents have positive alleles of different genes affecting a quantitative traits and segregation of these genes produce two extreme homozygotes in F₂, which transgress the parental limit for the character. The reappearance of ancestor is called atavism, throw back or reversion.

Expressivity

The degree of phenotypic expression of a penetrant gene is called expressivity. In other words, the ability of a gene to produce identical phenotypes in all the individuals carrying it in the appropriate genotype is known as incomplete expressivity. Many genes have incomplete expressivity, while the wild type (normal) alleles are buffered against such variations.

Penetrance

The frequency with which a gene produces a phenotypic or visible effect in the individuals, which carry it, is known as penetrance. In other words penetrance refers to the proportion of individuals which exhibit phenotypic effect of a specific gene carried by them. In general genes express themselves in all the individuals in which they are present in the appropriate genotype is known as penetrance. It indicates the number of individuals that give the expected phenotype to any degree.

Polydactyly

Polydactyly is a condition with extra fingers and toe or toes in man is due to the presence of dominant gene P. The normal condition is produced by the genotype PP. The genotype and pp produce polydactyly. Some heterozygous individual are not polydactyly. (Pp). Therefore the gene has penetrance of less than 100 per cent and said to be incompletely penetrant. A gene though penetrant, may be quite variable in its expression. The degree of expression produced by a penetrant genotype is termed expressivity. The polydactylous condition may be penetrant in the left hand and not in the right hand or may be penetrant in the feet and not in hands.