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CLONING VECTORS P-3

BACTERIOPHAGE LAMBDA

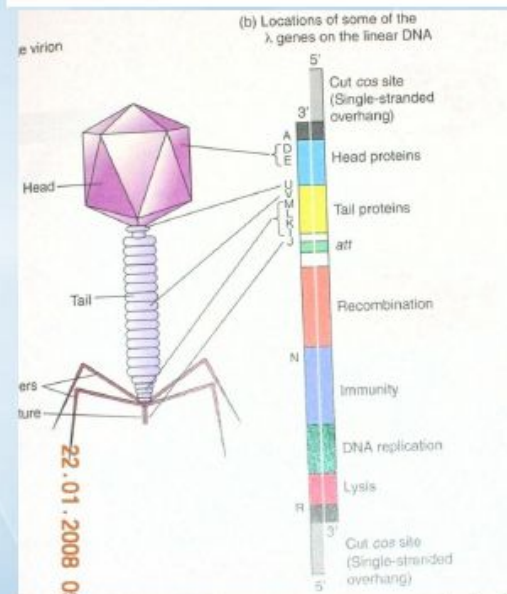
Phage lambda is a bacteriophage or phage, i.e. bacterial virus, that uses *E. coli* as host.

Its structure is that of a typical phage: head, tail, tail fibres.

Lambda viral genome: 48.5 kb linear DNA with a 12 base ssDNA "sticky end" at both ends; these ends are complementary in sequence and can hybridize to each other (this is the *cos* site: cohesive ends).

Infection: lambda tail fibres adsorb to a cell surface receptor, the tail contracts, and the DNA is injected.

The DNA circularizes at the *cos* site, and lambda begins its life cycle in the *E. coli* host.



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