- Farming, slaving and enslavement: histories of endosymbioses duringkinetoplastid evolution
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### 19 SUMMARY

20 Parasitic trypanosomatids diverged from free-living kinetoplastid ancestors several hundred million years ago. These parasites are relatively well known, due in part to several unusual cell biological and 21 22 molecular traits and in part to the significance of a few - pathogenic Leishmania and Trypanosoma species - as etiological agents of serious neglected tropical diseases. However, the majority of 23 24 trypanosomatid biodiversity is represented by osmotrophic monoxenous parasites of insects. In two 25 lineages, novymonads and strigomonads, osmotrophic lifestyles are supported by cytoplasmic endosymbionts, providing hosts with macromolecular precursors and vitamins. Here, we discuss the 26 27 two independent origins of endosymbiosis within trypanosomatids and subsequently different 28 evolutionary trajectories that see entrainment versus tolerance of symbiont cell divisions cycles within 29 those of the host. With potential to inform on the transition to obligate parasitism in the 30 trypanosomatids, interest in the biology and ecology of free-living, phagotrohpic kinetoplastids is 31 beginning to enjoy a renaissance. Thus, we take the opportunity to additionally consider the wider 32 relevance of endosymbiosis during kinetoplastid evolution, including the indulged life style and 33 reductive evolution of basal kinetoplastid Perkinsela.

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Key words: Angomonas deanei; Candidatus Kinetoplastibacterium; cytostome; Kentomonas;
 Novymonas esmeraldas; Pandoraea.

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### **39** INTRODUCTION

Kinetoplastids are one of three major groups of organisms that belong to the evolutionarily divergent
protist phylum Euglenozoa (Cavalier-Smith 2016). Although divergent, euglenozoans are ubiquitous;
representatives from all three groups are easily isolated from many freshwater, marine and soil
environments and, in part due to their overall abundance, contribute significantly to ecosystem ecology
(Edgcomb *et al.* 2011; Flegontova *et al.* 2016; Flegontova et al. 2018; Lukeš *et al.* 2015; Mukherjee *et al.* 2015; von der Heyden *et al.* 2004).

46 Systematically, the kinetoplastids separate into the monophyletic, obligatory parasitic 47 trypanosomatids and a wide diversity of free-living, bi-flagellate phagotrophs, with occasional examples of parasites and symbionts populating three major clades (Simpson et al. 2006; von der 48 49 Heyden et al. 2004; Yazaki et al., 2017; Kaufer et al. 2017). It is the uniflagellate trypanosomatids 50 that are the best known due to the role of some as the aetiological agents of serious, neglected tropical diseases (Nussbaum et al., 2010). The defining characteristic common to both free-living and parasitic 51 52 kinetoplastids is the coalescence (in trypanosomatids the catenation) of several thousand circular DNA 53 molecules to form distinctive mitochondrial genome architectures, known more commonly as 54 kinetoplasts, and which give rise to the class name Kinetoplastea (Lukeš et al. 2002). Uridine-insertion 55 and -deletion editing of mRNA on a massive scale is essential for gene expression from these genomes, and provides a second example of extreme or unusual biology that defines and pervades throughout 56 57 the kinetoplastids (Read et al. 2016; David et al. 2015; Aphasizhev and Aphasizheva 2014). For further 58 examples of extreme kinetoplastid biology that have peripheral relevance for this review -59 peroxisome-compartmentalized carbohydrate metabolism, loss of transcriptional control on protein-60 coding gene expression, flagellar pocket dynamics - readers are directed towards articles by Haanstra et al. (2016), Morales et al. (2016a), Clayton (2014), and Field and Carrington (2009). 61

62 Although trypanosomatid species are widely known as the causative agents for diseases of medical, veterinary, and agricultural importance (Field et al. 2017; Giordani et al. 2016; Jaskowska et 63 64 al. 2015; Kaufer et al. 2017), most members of the family are simply monoxenous parasites of insects 65 (Maslov et al. 2013; Podlipaev et al. 2004; Kaufer et al. 2017; Lukeš et al. 2014) with not always a clear indication that these protists are pathogenic towards their invertebrate host(s). Also less widely 66 67 recognized is that at least twice, symbiosis between a bacterial endosymbiont and a host trypanosomatid has occurred (Du et al. 1994; de Souza and Motta 1999; Kostygov et al. 2016; Votýpka 68 69 et al. 2014) (Figure 1). Trypanosomatid taxa involved in these events are not particularly closely 70 related, and different evolutionary trajectories are possibly evident for each symbiosis: in the 71 Strigomonadinae, growth and division of a single bacterial endosymbiont is entrained within the cell 72 cycle of the host cell (Motta et al. 2010), whereas in recently discovered Novymonas less stringent 73 regulation on the number of β-proteobacterial *Pandoraea* endosymbionts could reflect either symbiont farming or a snap-shot of an early transitional phase in the establishment of a novel endosymbiont-74 75 host relationship (Kostygov et al. 2016, 2017). In this mini-review, we consider metabolic advantages 76 conferred by bacterial endosymbionts to their partner trypanosomatids, how the biology of the host 77 cell potentially influences the establishment, reductive evolution and subsequent entrainment of the endosymbiont(s), and we survey the literature with regard to endosymbioses within free-living 78 79 phagotrophic kinetoplastids. Finally, we also consider the fascinating example of *Perkinsela*, a basal 80 kinetoplastid and itself an endosymbiont of Paramoeba sp. (Dykova et al. 2003; Tanifuji et al. 2011). 81 Here, the evolutionary path from protist to obligate endosymbiont has been accompanied by streamlining and loss of much cell biology that defines and characterizes the Kinetoplastea (Tanifuji 82 et al. 2017). 83

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#### 85 INDEPENDENT ORIGINS OF ENDOSYMBIOSIS AMONG TRYPANOSOMATIDS

86 Species belonging to four trypanosomatid genera, spanning two monophyletic groups (Figure 1), are 87 characterized by the presence of a bacterial endosymbiont. Phylogenetic analyses indicate Novymonas esmeraldas, the most recently characterized endosymbiont-bearing trypanosomatid isolated in 88 89 Ecuador from a scentless plant bug (Niesthrea vincentii) (Kostygov et al. 2016), is closely related to the genus Leishmania that encompasses more than 30 species of dixenous parasites found variously in 90 tropical and sub-tropical countries across the New and Old World and include the aetiological agents 91 92 of cutaneous, mucocutaneous, and visceral human disease (Akhoundi et al. 2017). N. esmeraldas is 93 considered to be monoxenous and non-pathogenic, despite its close relatedness with Leishmania. It 94 β-proteobacterial endosymbiont, *Candidatus* Pandoraea novymonadis contains а (order 95 Burkholderiales; family Burkholderiaceae) (Kostygov et al. 2017). Environmental DNA reads 96 corresponding to 18S rRNA and trypanosomatid spliced leader RNA gene sequences point to the 97 presence of trypanosomatid taxa very closely related to N. esmeraldas in Central Africa (Kostygov et 98 al. 2016), raising the question of whether such taxa also contain similar Pandoraea-related 99 endosymbionts.

100 In contrast, strigomonads form a discrete monophyletic clade most closely related to the genera 101 Wallacemonas and Sergeia and some distance removed from the leishmanias (Teixeira et al. 2011; 102 Votýpka et al. 2014). In the common ancestor of the three genera forming Strigomonadinae -103 Angomonas, Strigomonas, and Kentomonas – an endosymbiotic association with a different member of the Burkholderiales (family Alcaligenaceae) occurred. Considered to be a more ancient relationship 104 105 than the endosymbiosis occurring in *N. esmeraldas*, the cell cycle of the endosymbiont in strigomonads 106 is firmly entrained within that of its host cell and the peptidoglycan and outermost layers of the cell envelope are absent or heavily reduced (de Souza and Motta 1999; Motta et al. 1997), potentially 107 facilitating easy metabolite transfer between host and endosymbiont (discussed further in the 108 109 'INTERFACE WITH HOST CELL BIOLOGY'). Bacterial endosymbionts in Strigomonadinae are known as 110 Candidatus Kinetoplastibacterium spp. (Alves et al. 2013). The known distribution of strigomonads 111 is also more cosmopolitan than that of Novymonas, as they are variously found in heteropteran and dipteran insects. Moreover, different Angomonas species have been isolated from Europe, the 112 113 Americas, Africa and Australia, while Kentomonas has been isolated from Ecuador and the 114 Philippines, and Strigomonas was encountered in different regions of the Americas (Maslov et al. 115 2013; Votýpka et al. 2014)

116 Classic hallmarks of the transition to an obligate endosymbiotic life cycle are evident in all trypanosomatid endosymbionts: a reduced GC-content (in comparison with free-living relations), 117 reduced genome size, a paucity of mobile elements, and a reduced gene content (Table 1). Among 118 119 different Candidatus Kinetoplastibacterium spp. from the strigomonads there are only slight variations 120 in overall gene content and near-complete preservation of synteny (Alves et al. 2013; Silva et al. 2018) 121 indicating reductive evolution of these endosymbionts had progressed nearly to completion prior to the divergence of the last common Strigomonas/Angomonas/Kentomonas ancestor(s) or that reductive 122 123 evolution of endosymbionts followed parallel trajectories in each strigomonad lineage (Alves et al. 124 2013). We pick up briefly in discussion of the INTERFACE WITH HOST CELL BIOLOGY how the reductive 125 evolution of trypanosomatid endosymbiont gene content commonly incorporates loss of processes associated with a free-living lifestyle and perception of environmental change. 126

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# 128 COMMON METABOLIC GAINS IN ENDOSYMBIONT-CONTAINING TRYPANOSOMATIDS

A consequence of any endosymbiosis is conferment of new metabolic capability for the host cell. Taken to extremes, an endosymbiont's cell cycle can become entrained within that of its host and the advent of translocon-mediated protein targeting from host to endosymbiont classically marks the transition from endosymbiont to 'organelle' (Cavalier-Smith and Lee 1985; Theissen and Martin 2006;

133 Keeling et al. 2015; McCutcheon 2016). Among eukaryotes, the most easily recognizable products of

134 endosymbiotic relationships are mitochondria, which conferred cytochrome-dependent oxidative 135 phosphorylation upon an archaeal host cell of ill-defined metabolic capability (Zachar and Szathmáry 2017; Eme et al. 2017; Sousa et al. 2016), and chloroplasts responsible for photosynthesis; they have 136 137 evolved independently twice as the consequence of a primary endosymbiotic event (Singer et al, 2017; 138 Nowack and Grossman 2012). These organelles were pivotal in the radiation of eukaryotic diversity with chloroplasts, notably of red algal origin, also becoming widely established in many protist 139 140 lineages as consequences of secondary and tertiary endosymbiosis (Keeling 2013). On a global scale, 141 chloroplast functions remain integral to carbon cycle dynamics (Pan et al. 2011; Phillips and Lewis 2014; Worden et al. 2015). At a species level, a few taxa are also secondarily photosynthetic owing to 142 143 transient retention of chloroplasts (and transcriptionally active nuclei) from their algal prey (Dorrell 144 and Howe 2012). This phenomenon is termed 'kleptoplastidy'; such opportunistic oxygenic 145 photosynthesis potentially confers several advantages, including aerobic respiration within anoxic environments (Esteban et al. 2009). A wide variety of other endosymbioses also exist in eukaryotic 146 147 evolution that confer alternative physiological advantage(s) for the host cell as consequences of 148 different metabolic gains: e.g. N2 fixation and N2 recycling (from waste host urea, ammonium 149 products) occurring in termite gut-dwelling parabasalid and oxymonad flagellates and in some diatoms 150 or, among anaerobic (non-photosynthetic) ciliates, CO<sub>2</sub> fixation by methanogenic bacterial 151 endosymbionts that utilize H<sub>2</sub> produced as a metabolic end-product by the host cell (Allen et al. 2011; 152 Carpenter et al. 2013; Nowack and Melkonian 2010; Tai et al. 2016).

153 Among the Trypanosomatidae, endosymbiosis likely confers physiological advantage within 154 nutritionally challenging environments offered by the digestive tracts of their invertebrate vectors (or 155 hosts). However, it is neither N<sub>2</sub> nor CO<sub>2</sub> fixation or an ability to utilize or provide alternative carbon sources or electron acceptors for energy generation that differentiate endosymbiont-bearing 156 157 trypanosomatids from other trypanosomatids. Instead, their endosymbionts render strigomonads and 158 Novymonas autotrophic for vitamins (or cofactor precursors), amino acids, purines, and heme which 159 are all essential nutrients in other trypanosomatids (Table 2). The curious exception is the 160 endosymbiont from Kentomonas sorsogonicus, which is missing the heme biosynthetic pathway and 161 the host cell is thus reliant upon an exogenous source of heme within its culture medium (Silva et al. 2018). As highlighted in Table 2, in many instances complete biosynthetic pathways are encoded 162 within endosymbiont genomes; in other instances, metabolite exchange between endosymbiont and 163 host is required to complete amino acid, heme or vitamin provision. For Angomonas deanei, 164 165 Strigomonas culicis, and S. oncopelti, predictions for autotrophy arising from genome annotations are 166 consistent with early descriptions of minimal culture media (de Menezes et al. 1991; Mundim et al. 167 1974; Newton, 1957).

168 Whether the enhanced autotrophies of endosymbiont-containing trypanosomatids serve to 169 widen the range of vectors that can be colonized and/or offers these trypanosomatids a competitive 170 edge over other microbiota that may compete for the gut niche is not known. At first glance, the relative 171 rarity of endosymbiont-containing trypanosomatids in ecological surveys argues against either of these 172 possibilities. However, it is most whether susceptibility to antibiotics typically applied during isolation 173 into culture of trypanosomatids from ecological surveys limits the frequency with which 174 endosymbiont-bearing taxa are found. Insect digestive tracts colonized by trypanosomatids are ill-175 understood environments, but although they clearly provide sufficient heme, purines, vitamins of the group B and other precursors to support parasite replication in different regions of the alimentary tract, 176 177 they are also unequivocally nutritionally challenging environments. Several pieces of evidence support 178 this assertion of a nutritional 'knife-edge': (i) with rare exception, trypanosomatid species present (in 179 comparison with other parasites) complex and robust metabolic networks for central energy 180 metabolism and anabolism (notably in the extent of sterol and other lipid biosynthetic pathways) 181 (Opperdoes et al. 2016; Kraeva et al. 2015; Ginger 2006); (ii) retention in some trypanosomatids of 182 enzymes to (a) complete biosynthetic pathways for which gut microbiota can provide initial precursors

183 -e.g. the importance of homoserine kinase coupled to the expression of threonine synthase in tsetse-184 dwelling forms of the African trypanosome Trypanosoma brucei (Ong et al. 2015) or (b) catabolize carbon sources likely specific to the insect vectors of some trypanosomatids -e.g. histidine in the 185 186 reduviid vector of the American trypanosome T. cruzi (Berriman et al. 2005); (iii) the extensive 187 reductive evolution of central metabolism that does occur in trypanosomatids when they become adapted to live in particularly nutrient rich environments -e.g. Phytomonas in sugar-rich plant sap 188 189 (Kořený et al. 2012; Porcel et al. 2014) or kinetoplast loss in mechanically- rather than tsetse-190 transmitted African trypanosomes (Lai et al. 2008). Intriguingly, the loss of respiratory complexes III 191 and IV in Phytomonas (Nawathean and Maslov, 2000) may have helped facilitate an ability of P. 192 françai to colonize its cyanide-rich cassava host. Comparative analysis of proteome and annotated 193 genomes of endosymbiont-containing A. deanei and S. culcis have indicated no obvious moderation 194 of the central metabolic networks seen in better studied Leishmania or Trypanosoma parasites (Motta 195 et al. 2013).

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# 197 INTERFACE WITH HOST CELL BIOLOGY I: STRIGOMONADS THE SLAVERS; NOVYMONAS THE 198 FARMER

Despite some variations in cell shape, all endosymbiont-containing trypanosomatids adopt liberform
 morphologies where the flagellum is not attached for an extended region to the cell body following
 exit from the flagellar pocket (Figure 2).

202 In strigomonads, their endosymbiont is positioned proximate to the nucleus and its replication 203 and division in cell cycle entrained (Motta et al. 2010): endosymbiont duplication occurs early in the 204 cell cycle preceding the host cell's discrete kinetoplast S-phase and segregation, which is coupled to flagellar basal body segregation (Ogbadovi et al. 2003); endosymbiont division is followed by 205 206 movement of the endosymbionts such that each is positioned on opposite outer-faces of the nucleus; 207 mitosis (with each nucleus associated with a single endosymbiont) and new flagellum elongation 208 beyond the flagellar pocket exit point conclude the latter stages of the cell cycle prior to cytokinesis. Annotation of Ca. Kinetoplastibacterium genomes reveals they lack much of the machinery associated 209 210 with bacterial cell division, indicating involvement from the host cell in that regard (Alves et al. 2013; 211 Motta et al. 2013). The co-ordination of endosymbiont division within that of the host cell is illustrated 212 further by the effect of addition of aphidicolin, an inhibitor of eukaryotic replication DNA polymerases, or the eukaryotic translation inhibitor cycloheximide to A. deanei or S. culicis (Catta-213 Preta et al. 2015). Application of either eukaryotic growth inhibitor resulted in cessation of host cell 214 215 growth and division and also blocked endosymbiont division but not endosymbiont replication. 216 Application of aphidicolin in S. culicis additionally caused filamentation of bacteria indicating re-entry of the endosymbiont into subsequent cell cycles and continued DNA replication, but without any 217 completion of cytokinesis (Catta-Preta et al. 2015). 218

219 Ca. Pandoraea novymonadis replicates more readily within the cytoplasm of its host cell 220 (Figure 4A-B). In multiplicative N. esmeraldas promastigotes, ~70 % of the population contain 221 between 2 to 6 endosymbionts, with 10 or more present in ~5 % of cells (Kostygov et al. 2016). 222 Approximately 6% of *Novymonas* cells are aposymbiotic although extreme difficulty in cloning such cells, the retention of intracellular bacteria in cultures since their isolation, and the significant 223 deceleration of an aposymbiotic cell line growth as compared to wild-type highlight the importance of 224 225 Ca. Pandoraea to host cell fitness (Kostygov et al. 2017). This contrasts with strigomonads where aposymbiotic populations, albeit replicating more slowly than parental lines and with increased 226 227 nutritional requirements, can be readily obtained by treatment of cultures with chloramphenicol (de 228 Souza and Motta 1999). Intriguingly, studies of aposymbiotic strigomonads reveal another possible 229 dimension to the host-endosymbiont interface with differences evident in cell surface carbohydrate 230 composition between symbiont-containing and symbiont-lacking S. culicis cultivated in equivalent media and the indication that altered surface composition negatively influences interaction of the
trypanosomatid with permissive insect hosts (Catta-Preta *et al.* 2013; Dwyer and Chang 1976; d'AvilaLevy, C. M. *et al.* 2015). Significantly, culture conditions have been shown to influence composition
of the cell surface of other trypanosomatids, demonstrating common links between nutritional status
and cell surface properties (Morris *et al.* 2002; Vassella *et al.* 2000).

236 Fusion of *Novymonas* lysosomes with *Ca*. P. novymonadis provides indication that the host 237 'farms' its endosymbiont, presumably taking amino acids, heme, purines and other molecules liberated in lysosomes to satisfy dietary requirements. In agreement with the 'lax' control on endosymbiont 238 239 multiplication evident in Novymonas, Ca. P. novymonadis retains more genes associated with bacterial 240 cell division than Ca. Kinetoplastibacterium (Kostygov et al. 2017). Yet, other findings from Ca. P. novymonadis genome annotation point to a well-established host-endosymbiont relationship and 241 242 provide a note of caution for any assumption of how readily Ca. P. novymonadis might multiply free 243 from the host cell in different, commonly used bacterial growth media. For instance, cellular characteristics associated with perception and response to environmental change are either absent 244 245 (genes for pilus and flagellum assemblies, 'wsp' chemotaxis proteins, 'pel' proteins involved in 246 biofilm formation) or minimalized (two-component signaling). There is also a drastic reduction in the 247 number of nutrient transporters/exporters present, including members of ABC-transporter and major 248 facilitator superfamilies and in the ability of Ca. P. novymonadis to catabolize diverse carbon sources 249 in comparison with free-living Pandoraea (Figure 3).

Yet, metabolic dependencies in endosymbiotic relationships go both ways. In the trypanosomatid examples, owing in large part to the close proximity of strigomonad endosymbionts to host cell mitochondria and glycosomes, strigomonads have for many years been considered to provide ATP to their intracellular partners (see Loyola-Machado *et al.* 2017 for recent consideration of this topic). This assertion is supported by paucity of options for efficient oxidative phosphorylation by *Ca.* Kinetoplastibacterium spp..

256 Genomes of both Ca. Kinetoplastibacterium and Ca. P. novymonadis contain genes for nuo-257 type NADH: ubiquinone oxidoreductases (Kostygov et al. 2017), but in the former its electron transport 258 chain is truncated to a cytochrome bd terminal oxidase for transfer of electrons from ubiquinone to O2 259 - the type of terminal oxidase favoured by numerous bacteria, including Escherichia coli under low 260 O<sub>2</sub> availability. In contrast to *Ca*. Kinetoplastibacterium spp., however, whilst the carbon source(s) utilized by Novymonas endosymbionts remains enigmatic - fructose, common in the diet of plant-261 262 feeding insects is the most likely carbon source (Kostygov et al. 2017) - the novymonad endosymbiont 263 appears more self-sufficient for energy generation. Perhaps as a consequence of their greater autonomy 264 with regard to their rate of cell division, and thus a greater need for intra-symbiont ATP generation, 265 Ca. P. novymonadis retains a more expansive electron transport chain. Here, the metabolism includes 266 a capacity for oxidative phosphorylation from *c*-type cytochrome-dependent respiration.

Currently, the least explored facet of the interface from host to endosymbiont is the degree to which the host cell targets nuclear-encoded proteins to the symbiont. One example is known for *A. deanei* (Morales *et al.* 2016), but this is a long way short of the number of host targeted proteins that might be required to question whether trypanosomatid endosymbionts begin to blur boundaries between endosymbiont and organelles.

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# INTERFACE WITH HOST CELL BIOLOGY II: SYMBIONT ACQUISITION BY CLOSED-MOUTH, OSMOTROPHIC TRYPANOSOMATIDS – HOW?

In contrast to phagotrophic bodonids and other free-living kinetoplastids, trypanosomatids are obligate
 osmotrophs. A robust sub-pellicular mono-layer of microtubules cross-linked to one another and the
 over-laying plasma membrane provides a corset that defines characteristic trypanosomatid cell

278 morphologies and prevents general endocytosis or membrane invagination across the cell surface. 279 Membrane invagination occurs only at points where the sub-pellicular corset is absent which, in wellstudied African trypanosomes and *Leishmania*, is where the flagellar pocket forms around the single 280 281 flagellum emerging from the cell body. In these trypanosomatids the flagellar pocket is the site of 282 endo- and exo-cytic traffic (Field and Carrington 2009). At the flagellum exit point an essential collar marks the flagellar pocket boundary (Bonhivers et al. 2008) limiting the size and rate of 283 macromolecular traffic into the pocket lumen (Gadelha et al. 2009). Given these constraints, how, 284 285 following radiation of various trypanosomatid lineages, have trypanosomatid-endosymbiont 286 associations occurred on at least two occasions?

287 Several possibilities can explain the conundrum of how Novymonas and a strigomonad ancestor 288 acquired their respective bacterial endosymbionts. Conserved in free-living kinetoplastids and present 289 in some trypanosomatids (Alcantara et al. 2017; Attias et al. 1996; Brooker 1971a; Brugerolle et al. 290 1979; Skalický et al. 2017) is a cytostome-cytopharynx complex, sitting in close proximity to the flagellar pocket (Figure 1; Figure 5). In T. cruzi (Porto-Carreiro et al. 2000) and apparently in Crithidia 291 292 fasciculata (Brooker 1971b) the cytostome is a site of endo- and pinocytosis. In free-living 293 kinetoplastids, the cytostome leading to the cytopharynx, in conjunction with the anterior flagellum, is used for phagotrophic feeding on bacterial prey. Early microscopy analyses indicate extensive 294 295 distension of the feeding apparatus in order to ingest large prey (Brooker 1971a; Burzell 1973; 1975). 296 Enzymatic machinery necessary for digestion of complex macromolecular structures from live prey is 297 considered to have been lost at an early point following divergence of the last common trypanosomatid 298 ancestor (Skalický et al. 2017), coincident with the advent of obligate osmotrophy but also indicating 299 that fortuitous uptake of a bacterium would not readily be followed by its digestion.

300 Although clearly absent from African trypanosomes and Leishmania (Skalický et al. 2017), a 301 paucity of data cannot yet allow insight into how often and when the cytostome-cytopharynx was lost during trypanosomatid evolution. Whilst this organelle complex has never been seen from detailed 302 303 ultrastructural analyses of extant strigomonads (Bombaca et al. 2017; Loyola-Machado et al. 2017) or analysis of Phytomonas sp. (e.g. Milder et al. 1990; Postell and McGhee 1981) and functionality of 304 305 the Crithidia 'cytostome' has not, to our knowledge been revisited since the early 1970s, the critical 306 questions are whether an ancestral cytostome was present and could have played a role in 307 endosymbiont uptake by strigomonad and/or novymonad ancestors. A cytostome-cytopharynx is 308 retained in the basal trypanosomatid Paratrypanosoma confusum (Skalický et al. 2017); coupled to 309 the monophyly of the trypanosomes coupled, plus the relatively close relationship between the leishmanias and C. fasciculata, the pattern of organelle degeneration and thence loss was likely 310 311 complex. The observation that cytostome-cytopharynx assembly in T. cruzi is stage-regulated (Vidal 312 et al. 2016) also leaves open the possibility of a cryptic or hidden cytostome in other extant 313 trypanosomatids. Thus, cell entry via a cytostome is a plausible route for acquisition of Novymonas or 314 strigomonad endosymbionts.

315 To consider alternative acquisition routes, a hypertrophied mitochondrion is a diagnostic trait 316 for the Strigomonadinae and its invasion of the spacing between sub-pellicular microtubules (Figure 317 4C) is often considered to be a consequence of endosymbiosis with the ATP requirements of the 318 endosymbiont driving mitochondrial expansion and an increased rate of energy generation by the host 319 cell. Looser organization of the kinetoplast, relative to other trypanosomatids, is another strigomonad-320 specific characteristic (Teixeira et al. 2011; Votýpka et al. 2014), conceivably facilitates high rates of 321 mitochondrial gene expression, and, thus, potentially an enhanced capacity for oxidative 322 phosphorylation relative to some other trypanosomatids<sup>1</sup>. Considered less often, however, is the 323 possibility that mitochondrial hypertrophy and/or disruption of sub-pellicular microtubule spacing

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Careful, cross-species quantitative assessment of metabolic rate as a function of growth rate(s) under equivalent conditions will be necessary to determine if this is the case.

324 preceded endosymbiont acquisition. In this instance, a release of constraints on plasma membrane 325 invagination would facilitate another route for endosymbiont uptake in the ancestor of the 326 Strigomonadinae.

327 Looking further at the influence(s) of mitochondrial hypertrophy, rather than the endosymbiont 328 itself might exert on host cell biology, then another strigomonad synapomorphy is the extensive 329 reduction of paraflagellar rod (PFR) architecture. This results in a vestigial structure extended along 330 only the proximal third of the axoneme (Gadelha et al. 2006). Reductive PFR evolution was driven, at least in part, by loss of genes encoding the major PFR2 protein. The extreme alteration of PFR form 331 332 is intriguing not least because of the essentiality of this flagellar structure in other trypanosomatids (Ginger et al. 2013; Lander et al. 2015; Maga et al. 1999). If the view that the PFR provides an 333 important function in maintaining intraflagellar nucleotide homeostasis is correct (Ginger et al. 2008; 334 335 Pullen et al. 2004), then a significant increase to the efficiency of mitochondrial ATP production in 336 strigomonads could have provided a selective driver for the enigmatic reduction of PFR form seen in 337 this trypanosomatid group.

338 Mitochondrial hypertrophy is not so evident in Novymonas with sub-pellicular microtubules 339 having a spacing reminiscent of that found in most trypanosomatids. Acquisition of its symbiont is 340 thus unlikely to have occurred via invagination of the plasma membrane. Sessile N. esmeraldas 341 choanomastigotes, however, attach to surfaces via their flagellum and attached in this way exhibit a 342 drastically altered flagellum structure (Figure 4D) reminiscent of the flagellum surface attachment 343 remodeling seen also in P. confusum (Skalický et al. 2017). In scanning electron micrographs of 344 detached N. esmeraldas choanomastigotes (Figure 4D; inset) the altered flagellum morphology hints 345 at a more open flagellar pocket collar through which a flagellum membrane-attached bacterium could 346 putatively be ingested.

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## 348 ENDOSYMBIOSES WITHIN FREE-LIVING PHAGOTROPHIC KINETOPLASTIDS

349 There is currently sparse data with regard to endosymbionts and their role(s) in free-living 350 phagotrophic kinetoplastids. This is not surprising given that attention to their molecular cell biology 351 using modern approaches is only recently forthcoming (Gomaa et al. 2017). However, constraints that 352 leave the conundrum of how at least two trypanosomatids acquired their endosymbionts - arrayed sub-353 pellicular microtubules; a closed flagellar pocket - are not conspicuous among free-living 354 kinetoplastids. Plus, there are likely significant insights to be made with regard to niche adaptation and 355 exploitation; anoxic environments provide an obvious example with kinetoplastids being one of the 356 few protist groups for which there is only limited evidence of adaptation (Priva et al. 2008). The current 357 lack of known anaerobic kinetoplastids contrasts with observations of obligately aerobic metabolism 358 in trypanosomatid and Bodo saltans genomes that nonetheless showcases several anaerobic hallmarks 359 (Annoura et al. 2005; Michels et al. 1997; Opperdoes et al. 2016).

360 Surveying the literature indicates that the presence of endosymbiotic bacteria is not an obligate characteristic of free-living kinetoplastids e.g. an absence from Rhynchomonas metabolita (Burzell 361 362 1973). When present, however, endosymbionts are found in the anterior region of the cytoplasm or in 363 close proximity to the nucleus of other kinetoplastids, albeit far from the posterior cell region that tends to be dominated by food vacuoles containing bacteria ingested via the cytostome-cytopharynx 364 365 (Figure 2) (Brooker 1971; Burzell 1975; Vickerman 1977). Likely bacterial epibionts have been noted on the surface of Cryptobia vaginalis (Vickerman 1977) and in others endosymbiont multiplication 366 keeps pace with host cell division and a reduced peptidoglycan layer of the endosymbiont's cell wall 367 is in evidence, again indicative of the establishment of long term endosymbioses. 368

369 Only distantly related to the kinetoplatids, but nonetheless of interest, another clade of 370 euglenozoans – Symbiontida – is characterized by a dense layer of ectosymbiotic bacteria, present on their surface. This poorly studied group of flagellates, consisting of only three known species, inhabits
low-oxygen sea environments. The function of the ectosymbionts is not known (Yubuki *et al.* 2013).

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# 374 *Perkinsela*: The enslaved kinetoplastid

375 The ancestor of *Perkinsela*, which is most closely related to the fish ectoparasite *Ichthyobodo*, is thought to have diverged early in kinetoplastid evolution (Figure 1). Extant Perkinsela is an obligate 376 377 endosymbiont of lobose amoebae genus Paramoeba (phylum Amoebozoa), which are pathogenic to a 378 variety of marine animals, including farmed fish. GC-content in Perkinsela is not reduced in 379 comparison with other sampled kinetoplastids (Tanifuji et al. 2017) even though the Perkinsella-380 Parmoeba endosymbiosis is a very long time established association (Sibbald et al. 2017). In contrast, 381 gene content of Perkinsela is significantly reduced in comparison with free-living Bodo saltans and parasitic trypanosomatids - 5,252 protein-coding genes in Perkinsela versus 18,943 genes in B. 382 saltans; 6,381 in Phytomonas sp.; 9,068 in T. brucei (although this includes expansion of its critical 383 384 antigenic variant surface glycoprotein gene repertoire); and 8,272 genes in L. major. This reductive evolution reflects secondary loss of much of the cell biology that characterizes kinetoplastid cell form 385 (Tanifuji et al. 2017). Ichthyobodo, in contrast, displays the biflagellate morphology typical of non-386 trypanosomatid kinetoplastids (Grassé 1952). 387

388 Lost from the genome of Perkinsela are all the genes required for basal body/flagellum 389 assembly and architecture, together with an absence of genes encoding homologues of trypanosomatid 390 cytoskeletal proteins. Absence of sub-pellicular microtubules relieves the constraints on the surface 391 siting of endocytosis and leaves the endosymbiont able to readily ingest cytoplasm from the host 392 (Tanifuji et al. 2017). Metabolism of Perkinsela is also minimized: glycolysis occurs but obvious 393 metabolic routes from pyruvate to acetyl-CoA are lacking; a truncated Krebs' cycle running from α-394 ketoglutarate to oxaloacetate likely uses a (host-derived) glutamate carbon source and provides 395 electrons to fuel a mitochondrial respiratory chain truncated by the loss of complex I 396 (NADH:ubiquinone oxidoreductase). It is likely that the benign environment offered by the 397 Paramoeba host, with respect to carbon provision, facilitates the reductive evolution of intermediary 398 metabolism. An absence of sterol metabolism potentially reflects either absence of sterol from 399 endosymbiont membranes (similar to a few other eukaryotes) or a possibility that the host provides an 400 easy availability of the ergosta- and stigmasta-type sterols found in other amoebozoans and 401 trypanosomatids (Nes et al. 1990; Roberts et al. 2003; Raederstorff and Rohmer 1985). A lack of sugar nucleotide biosynthesis possibly indicates a reduced requirement for protein glycosylation and no need 402 403 for investment in a protective cell surface glycocalyx.

Benefits arising from an intracellular lifestyle for *Perkinsela* are clear, although this is not to suggest that the lifestyle is lazy: the kinetoplastid makes a huge investment in RNA editing, perhaps as a consequence of the neutral evolutionary ratchet discussed by Lukeš *et al.* (2014), for the expression of the six (essential) respiratory chain components encoded on the mitochondrial genome (David *et al.* 2015) and the nuclear genome hints at the presence of a sexual cycle that is perhaps integrated within that of its host (Tanifuji *et al.* 2017).

Apart from *Paramoeba* and *Perkinsela*, all known endosymbioses involving only eukaryotes
bring the provision of photosynthesis to the host partner (David *et al.* 2015). What *Parameoba* derives
from its unusual endosymbiont is currently a mystery and a source only for speculation.

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# 414 CONCLUSIONS

415 Endosymbiosis is a feature of kinetoplastid evolution. Several case examples provide tractable 416 opportunities to understand how, at the host-endosymbiont interface, long-lasting endosymbiotic 417 relationships become established in microbial eukaryotes and leave other questions that will likely be 418 more challenging to address. Of the latter, until more robust culture systems for Paramoeba are 419 forthcoming, it will be difficult to establish what *Perkinsela* provides for its host. Similarly, without 420 relevant traits being revealed in continuing surveys of trypanosomatid diversity, the chronology and 421 interplay between endosymbiont acquisition, mitochondrial hypertrophy, altered kinetoplast structure 422 and PFR reduction cannot realistically be addressed. However, we now work in an era of easy next-423 generation sequencing. Thus, paralleling combined genomic, transcriptomic, and proteomic studies of 424 environmentally sourced protists such as the breviate Lenisia limosa (Hamann et al. 2016), there is 425 much scope to reveal what endosymbiotic (and epibiotic bacteria) contribute to free-living 426 kinetoplastid hosts. Similarly, and in contrast to many other examples of protists with endosymbionts, 427 the tractability of trypanosomatids towards genetic manipulation (Morales et al. 2016b) leaves huge 428 opportunity to dissect at a molecular level the regulatory influences on endosymbiont growth and 429 division in strigomonads and *Novymonas*. Genetic tractability also provides the means to probe the 430 extent to which protein targeting from host-to-symbiont (and perhaps vice versa) also eclipses the biology of trypanosomatid-endosymbiont associations. 431

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# 762 LEGENDS TO FIGURES

763

Fig. 1. Kinetoplastid phylogeny and a history of endosymbiosis.

765 Taxa in possession of bacterial endosymbionts are highlighted in bold. Filled circles denote presence 766 of a cytostome-cytopharynx complex in some trypanosomatid taxa; open and dashed circles denote 767 uncertainty (as defined by an absence of data) or an unlikeliness (based on extensive, published 768 electron microscopy studies), respectively, with regard to the presence of these structures in others; -769 denotes absence of a cytostome cytopharynx from *Laishmania* and African trypanosome species.

- denotes absence of a cytostome-cytopharynx from *Leishmania* and African trypanosome species.
- 770
- 771

Fig. 2. Morphology and nucleus-mitochondrial genome-endosymbiont organization in endosymbiont-containing kinetoplastids.

Cartoons (not to scale) are based on images shown in Kostygov *et al.* (2016), Teixeria *et al.* (2011),
and Votýpka *et al.* (2014) or original drawings in Brooker (1971) and Vickerman (1977). Relative
positions of several organelles discussed in the main text are shown. Shading: black, bacterial
endosymbionts; dark grey, nuclei; light grey, mitochondrial genomes (kinetoplasts (kDNA) or (in *Cryptobia*) pan-kDNA and (in *Bodo saltans*) pro-kDNA).

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Fig. 3. *In silico* annotated proteomes illustrate reductive evolution of *Ca*. Pandoraea novymonadis and
 *Ca*. Kinetoplastibacterium.

783 Predicted protein repertoires for Ca. P, novymonadis, 5 Ca. Kinetoplastibacterium spp. and 11 free-784 living Pandoraea species (Kostygov et al. 2017) were analyzed according within the KEGG Orthology 785 (KO). 2728 KO functions were analyzed. For Ca. Kinetoplastibacterium spp. and Pandoraea spp. 786 annotation of gene products in 3 or 5 genomes, respectively, were required for inclusion in the chart 787 shown. Known nearest free-living relatives of Ca. Kinetoplastibacterium are evolutionarily more 788 distant than for Ca. P. novymonadis, and were not therefore included in the analysis although we note 789 the closest Ca. Kinetoplastibacterium free-living relative, A. xylosoxidans, is more gene-rich than 790 free-living *Pandoraea* spp. (Table 2).

791 Individual gene products were scored once and appear in only one of the following categories.

792 Central metabolism: category 1, carbohydrate usage (including lipopolysaccharide and 793 peptidoglycan assembly); 2, amino acid catabolism; 3, amino acid biosynthesis (including glycolysis); 794 4, fatty acid and terpenoid metabolism; 5, inositol phosphate and glycerophospholipid metabolism; 6 795 butanoate and propanoate metabolism; 7, pyruvate, glyoxylate, and dicarboxylate metabolism; 8, 796 degradation of aromatics; 9, pentose phosphate and antioxidant metabolism; 10, Krebs cycle; 11, 797 respiration and oxidative phosphorylation. Accessory metabolism: 12, porphyrin metabolism; 13, 798 miscellaneous (including carbon fixation, Sulphur and methane metabolism, urease); 14, vitamin and 799 cofactor biosynthesis; 15, transporters and ATPases. Information processing: 16, replication and DNA repair; 17, purine and pyrimidine metabolism (including tRNA processing and core 800 801 transcription); 18, ribosome and translation; 19, chaperones. Environmental responses: 20, two-802 component signaling, transcriptional regulation, quorum sensing and phosphate metabolism; 21, cell 803 division; 22, secondary metabolism and antibiotic defence/attack; 23, flagellum, pilus, biofilm 804 formation.

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## 806

- Fig. 4. Electron microscopy of the endosymbiont-host cell association and cell form in *Novymonas* and *Kentomonas*.
- 809 A-B, Longitudinal sections through N. esmeraldas promastigotes showing the presence of multiple
- 810 endosymbiont profiles (e). Also highlighted are the kinetoplast (K), nucleus (N), and cross-sections 811 through the mitachandrian (m)
- 811 through the mitochondrion (m).
- C, Longitudinal section through a *Kentomonas sorsogonicus* choanomastigote illustrating (i) a
  dividing bacterial endosymbiont and (ii) mitochondrial hypertrophy and loss of typical microtubule
  spacing within the sub-pellicular array.
- 815 D, Sessile *N. esmeraldas* choanomastigote attached to the substrate surface via a modified flagellum
- 816 (asterisk). Inset, the modified flagellum of a sessile choanomastigote revealing a possible open collar
   817 structure to the flagellar pocket exit point.
- 818 Scale bars A-B, 2 μm; C, 1 μm; D, 2 μm (inset, 400 nm).
- 819 Images in D are reproduced from Kostygov et al. (2016) under the terms of a Creative Commons
- 820 Attribution-Noncommercial-ShareAlike 3.0 Unported licence.
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- 822
- Fig. 5. Relative positions of flagella, cytostome, cytopharynx and other cellular features in free-living *Bodo* and *Cryptobia* kinetoplastids.
- 825 Images were adapted from original drawings in Figures 4-6 from Brugerolle et al. (1979).
- 826 Abbreviations (translated from the original French): Cr, oral ridge; Fas, 'microtubule fibre' associated
- 827 with the 'striatal plaque'; Fd, 'dorsal fibre'; Fr, recurrent flagellum; Fv, 'ventral fibre'; Fa, anterior
- 828 flagellum; G, Golgi; K, kintetoplast; M, mitochondrion; mb, microbodies; mtr, 'reinforced
- 829 microtubules; *N*, nucleus; *Pf*, flagellar pocket; *Vc*, contractile vacuole; *Vd*, food vacuole.

Table 1. Genome properties of trypanosomatid endosymbionts and related taxa

	<i>Ca.</i> Pan.	<u>fl</u> Pan. spp.			
Characteristic	Nov		<i>Ca.</i> Kin.	Tay. equ	Ach. xyl
Genome size (Mb)	1.16	4.46 - 6.50	0.74 - 0.83	1.70	7.36
GC-content (%)	44	63 - 65	25 - 33	37	66
No. of protein-coding genes	968	4181 - 5342	670 - 742	1556	6815
No. of pseudogenes	13	76 - 361	1 – 20	0	0
Reference	Kostygov <i>et</i> <i>al.</i> (2017)		Alves <i>et al.</i> (2013)		
			Silva <i>et al.</i>		
			(2018)		

Ca. Pan. nov, Candidatus Pandoraea novymonadis.

<u>fl</u> Pan. spp., free-living Pandoraea species.

*Ca.* Kin, *Candidatus* Kinetoplastibacterium.

*Tay. equ, Taylorella equigenitalis* (pathogenic bacterium closely related to *Ca.* Kinetoplastibacterium; Alves *et al.* 2013).

*Ach. xyl, Achromobacter xylosoxidans* (free-living bacterium closely related to *Ca.* Kinetoplastibacterium; Alves *et al.* 2013).

Table 2. Metabolic gains for endosymbiont-containing trypanosomatids

Metabolic gain	RT	Ne	A/K/S
heme biosynthesis	-	+	+1
purine provision	-	+	+
branched chain a.a. synthesis (leu, iso, val)	-	+	+2
aromatic a.a. synthesis (phe, trp, tyr)	-	+	+
lys biosynthesis	-	+	+
de novo folic acid production	-	+	+
thiamine, nicotinic acid, biotin provision	-	+	-
riboflavin, pantothenic acid, vitamin B <sub>6</sub> provision	-	+	+3

RT, regular trypanosomatids

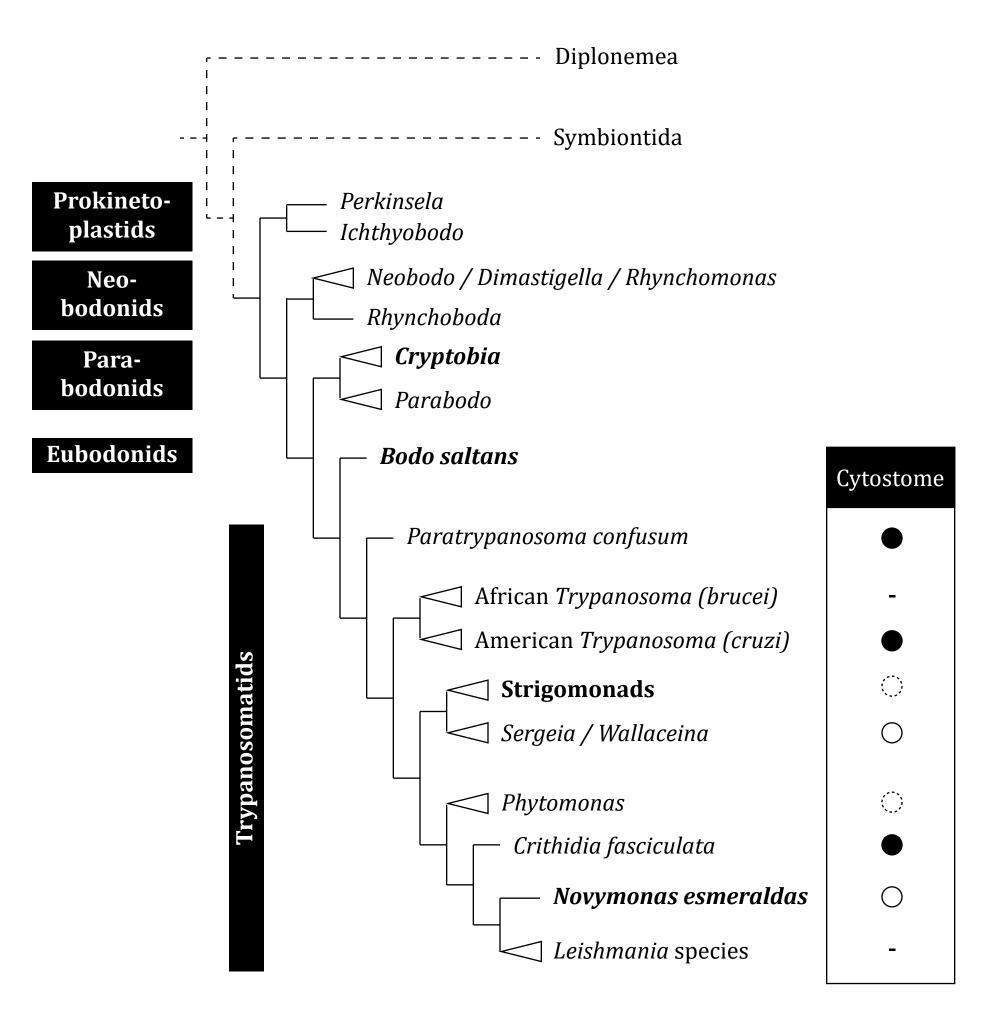
Ne, Novymonas esmeraldas

A/K/S, Angomonas/Kentomonas/Strigomonas

<sup>1</sup>With the exception of the endosymbiont from the sole characterised *Kentomonas* species (*K. sorsogonicus*) where the heme biosynthetic pathway is absent from both host and its endosymbiont (Silva *et al.* 2018).

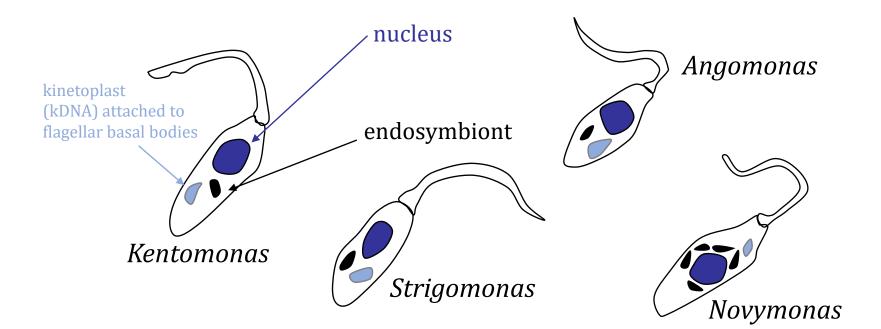
<sup>2</sup>Requires use of host cell branched chain amino acid aminotransferase.

<sup>3</sup>Pantothenic acid synthesis utilises enzymes from host and endosymbiont.



# Figure 1

Lorem ipsum



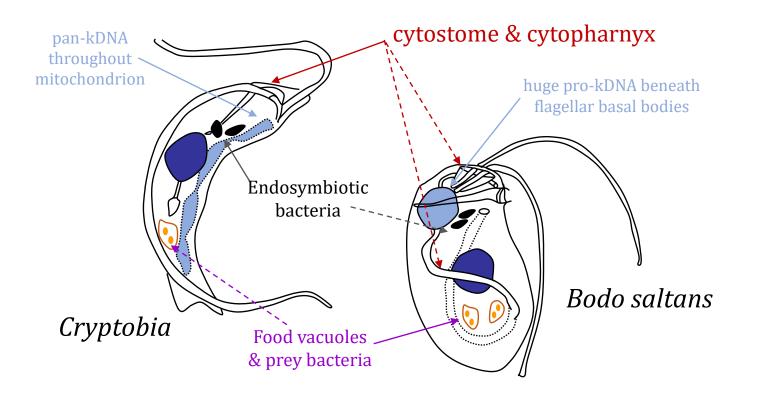
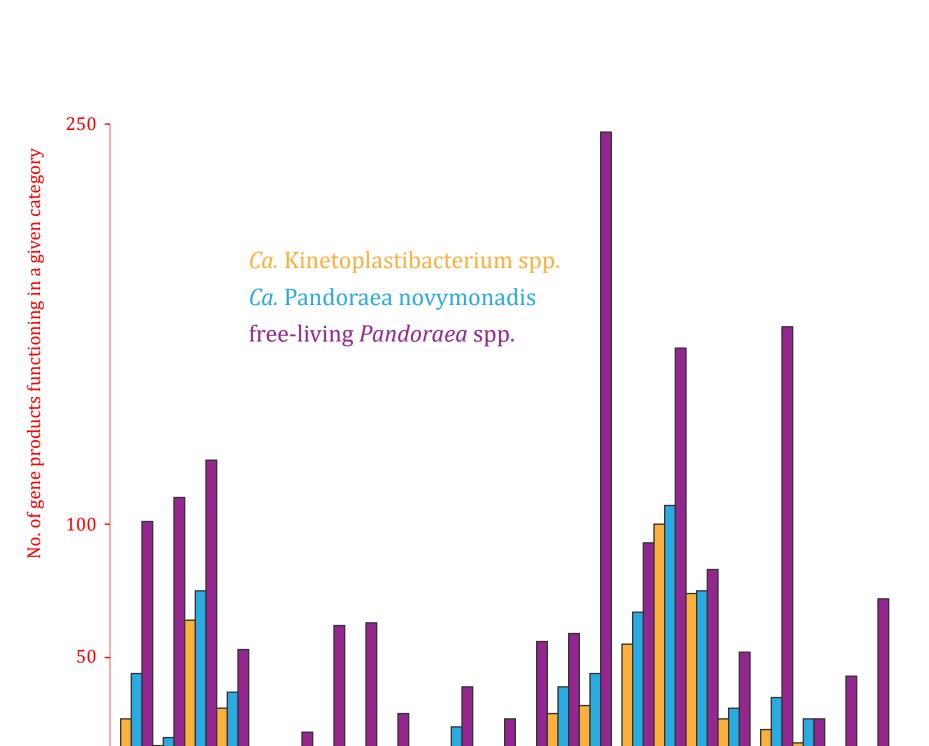


Figure 2



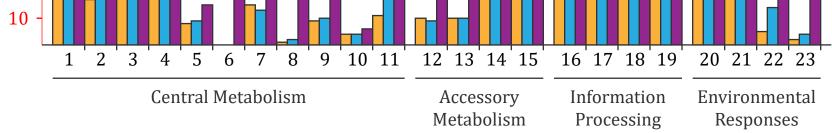


Figure 3

