



CHAPTER 3.2

Chromosomes

ESSENTIAL IDEA

Chromosomes: carry genes in a linear sequence that is shared by a member of a species

REVISION: ORGANIZATION OF DNA

DNA = double stranded molecule → genetic material of a cell.

- Composed of nucleotides with 4 distinct bases (A, T, G, and C)
- Order of these bases → gene sequence → code for specific proteins

A single double-stranded DNA molecule = chromosome

- A single chromosome → thousands of unique genes

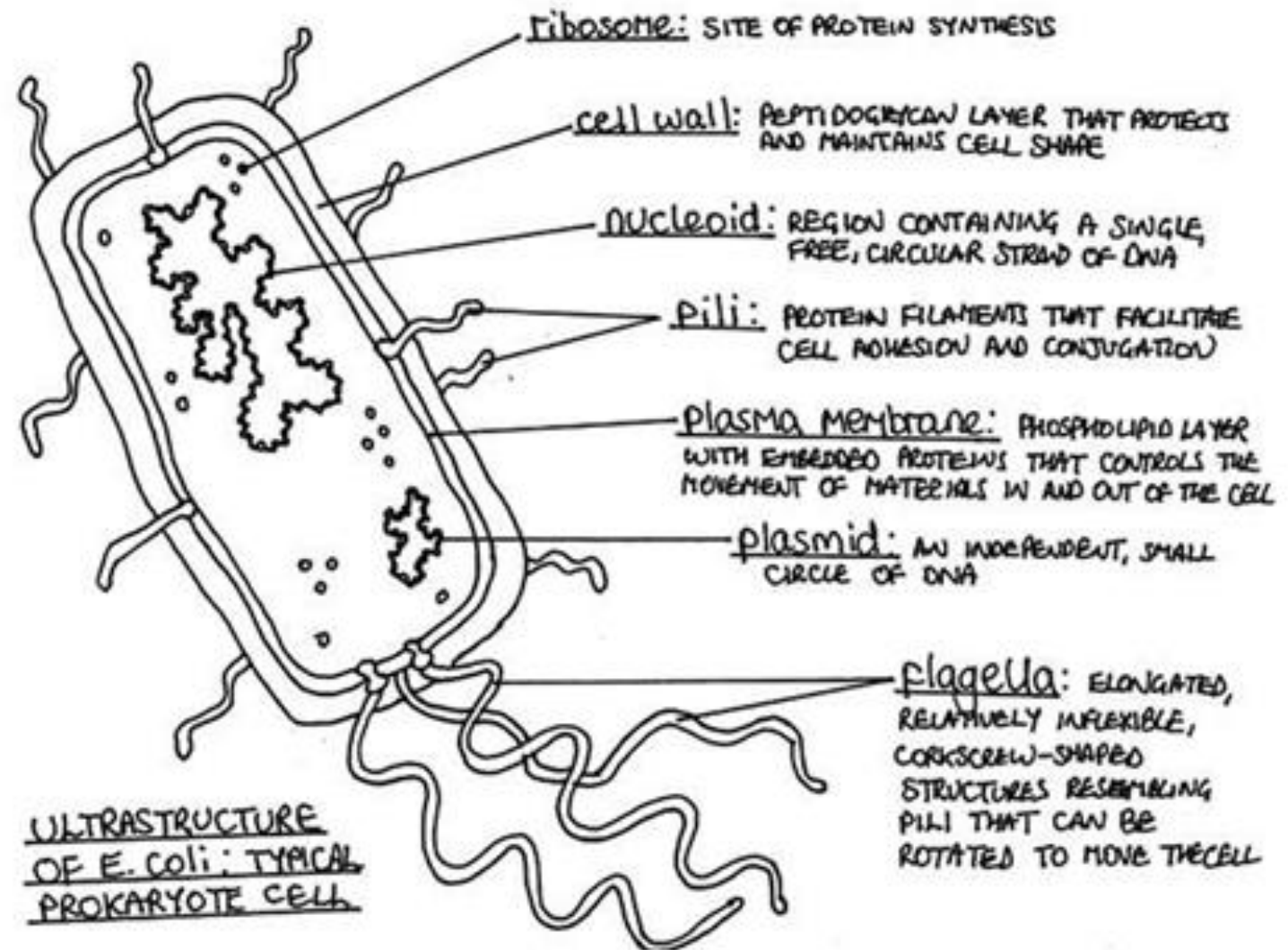
Chromosomal structure differs between prokaryotic and eukaryotic organisms

REVISION E. COLI

E. Coli = model organism.
Some strains are toxic to humans.

Cell parts or ultrastructure of prokaryotes → not organelles

Ultrastructure of *E. coli* as an example of a prokaryote



PROKARYOTIC CHROMOSOMES

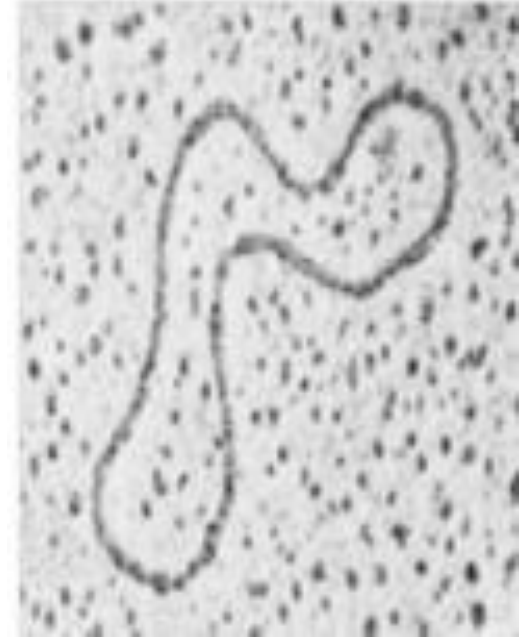
Prokaryotes – no membrane-bound nucleus

- DNA in a region called nucleoid

Prokaryotes only have a single chromosome (genophore)

- DNA is circular and naked (not protein bound)
- genome is more compact (usually no introns)

Some eukaryotic organelles also have circular DNA
(chloroplast, mitochondria) indicating prokaryotic origins



Circular genophore

PLASMIDS

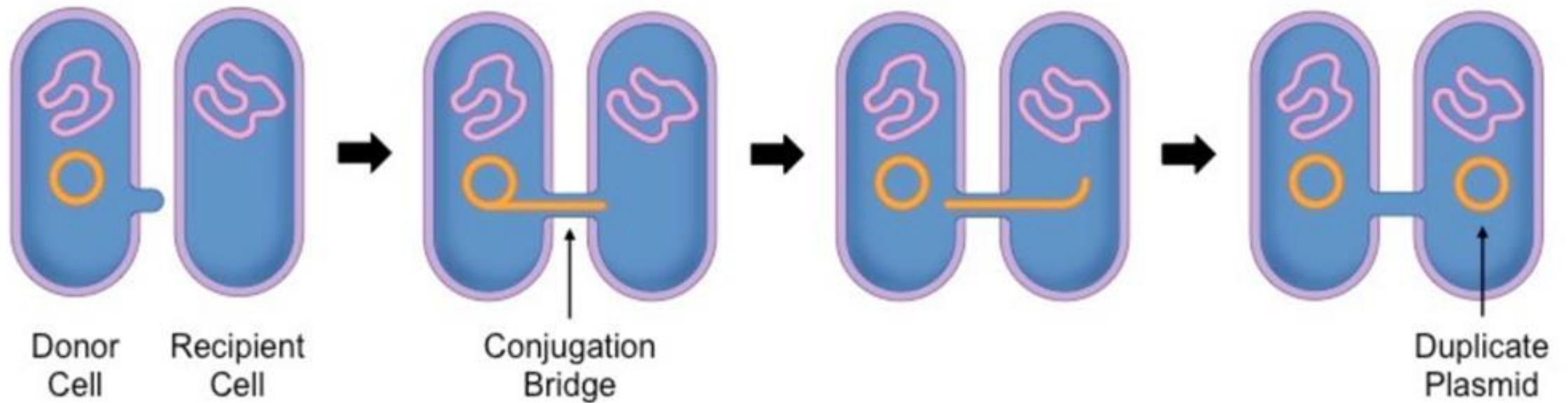
Prokaryotes may also contain extra DNA molecules – plasmids

- autonomous function
- may be exchanged via conjugation (&sex pili)

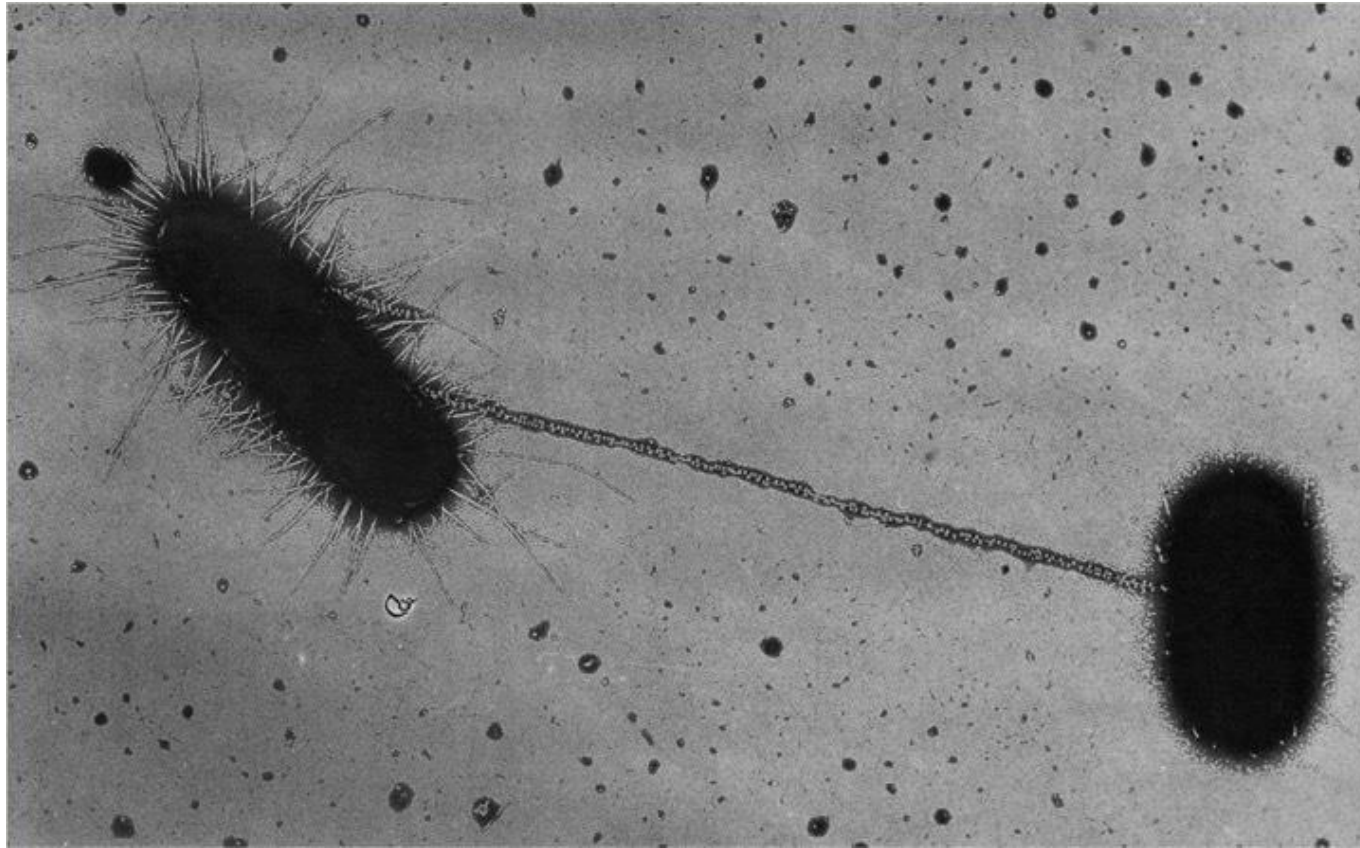
Eukaryotes do NOT have plasmids



HOW DO BACTERIA EVOLVE NEW FEATURES WITHIN A GENERATION?



BACTERIAL CONJUGATION



EUKARYOTIC CHROMOSOMES

Eukaryotic DNA = stored in membrane-bound nucleus

- nuclear pores → transport RNA to cytosol

Eukaryotes multiple linear chromosomes

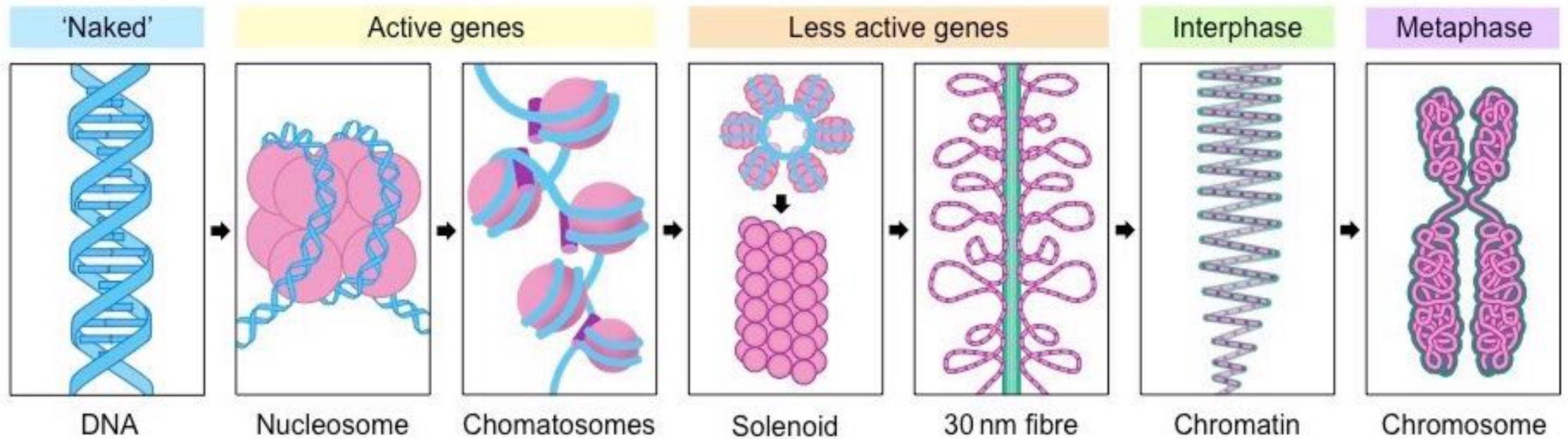
- DNA is bound to histone proteins to form chromatin
- genome is less compact (many introns)

Uncondensed chromatin vs chromosomes

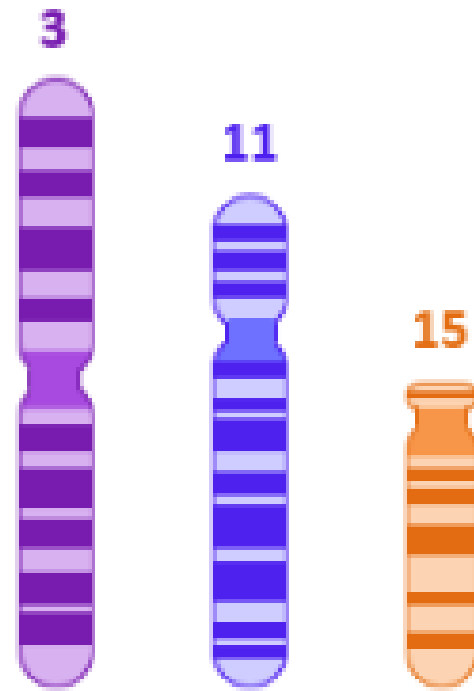


linear DNA (condensed)

ORGANISATION OF DNA IN EUKARYOTIC CHROMOSOMES

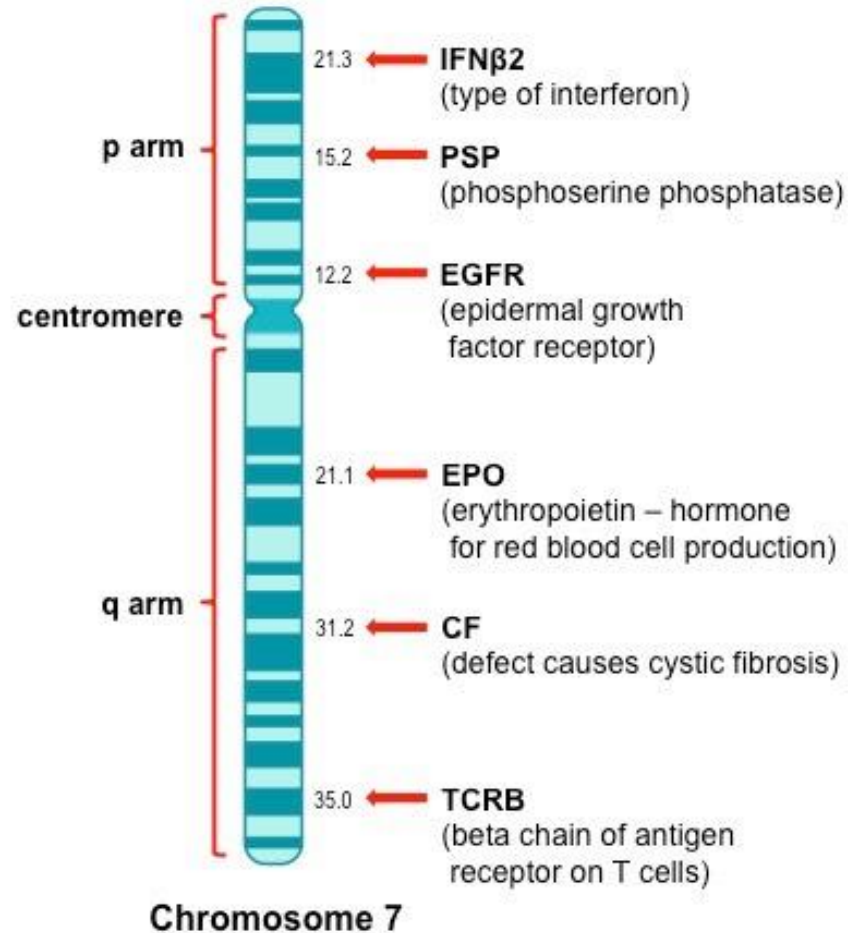


CHROMOSOME COMPOSITION



Human Chromosomes

CHROMOSOME COMPOSITION



CHROMOSOME NUMBERS

Number of chromosomes = characteristic feature of a species

Different species → different chromosome numbers and gene distribution

Different species – cannot sexually reproduce (because genetic content not complementary)



Hybrid species
can sometimes
occur, but are
always **infertile**

HAPLOID VS DIPLOID

Species that reproduce sexually → offspring genetic info (chromosomes), from both parents

two copies of each chromosome = **diploid** ($2n$)

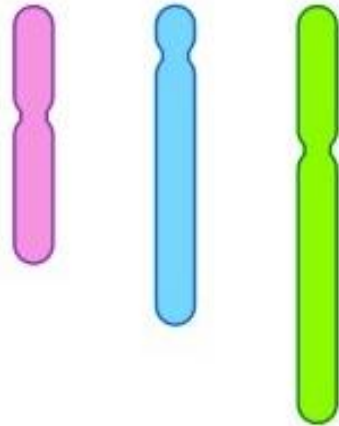
Sex cells (gametes) one of each pair.

one copy of each chromosome = **haploid** (n)

Organisms that only reproduce asexually → haploid

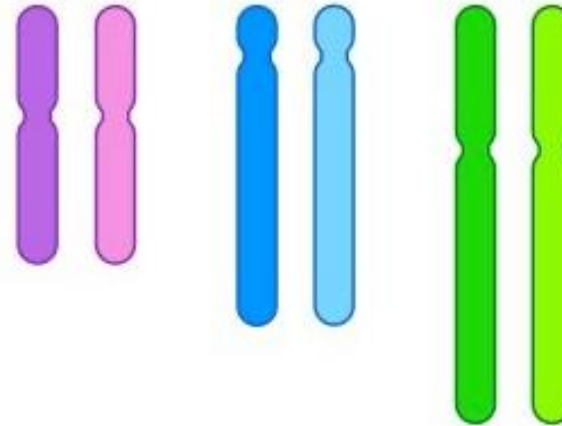
HAPLOID VS DIPLOID

Haploid (n)
One copy of each chromosome



Three non-homologous
chromosomes

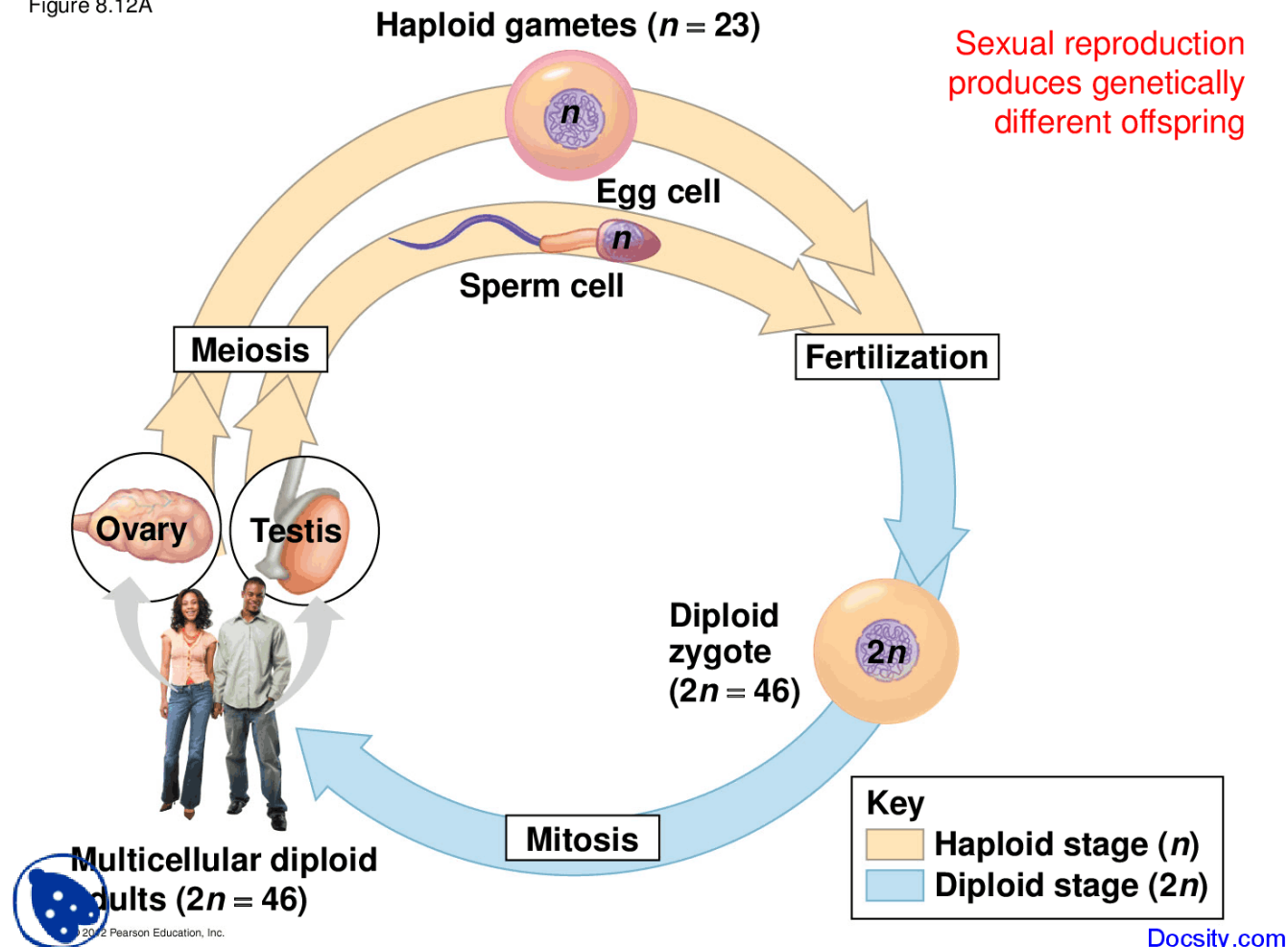
Diploid (2n)
Two copies of each chromosome



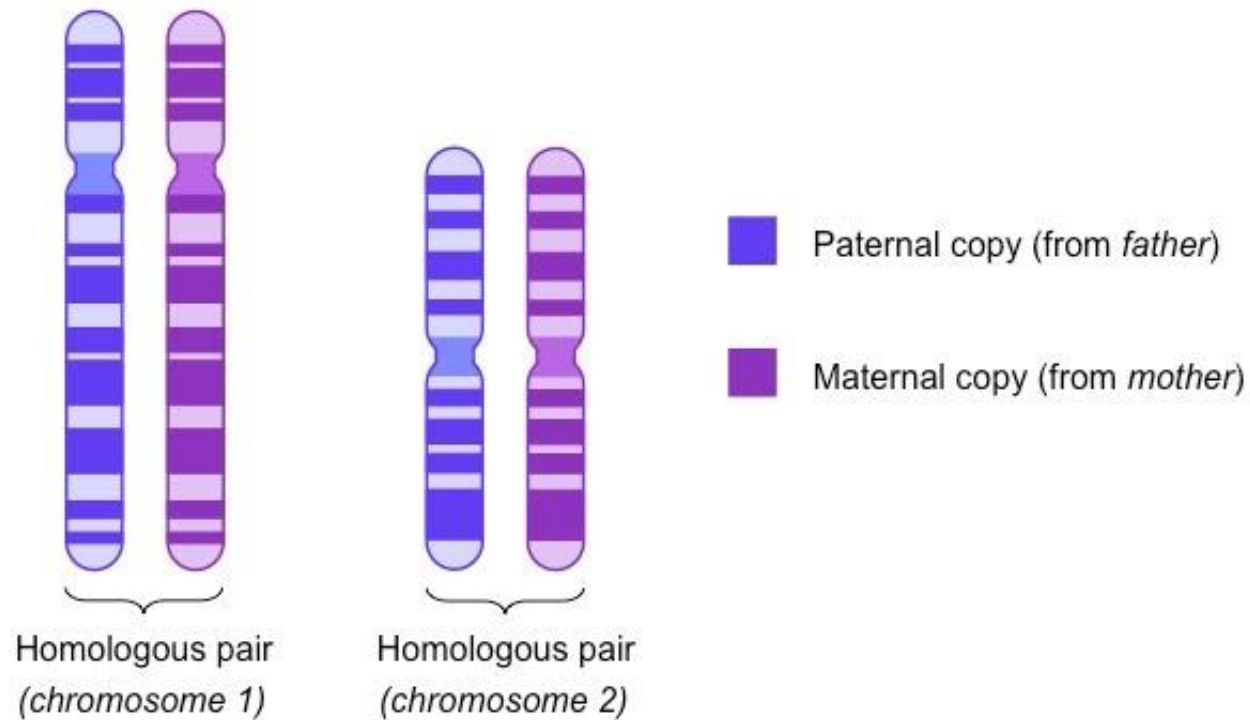
Three pairs of homologous chromosomes
(of maternal and paternal origin)

HAPLOID VS DIPLOID

Figure 8.12A



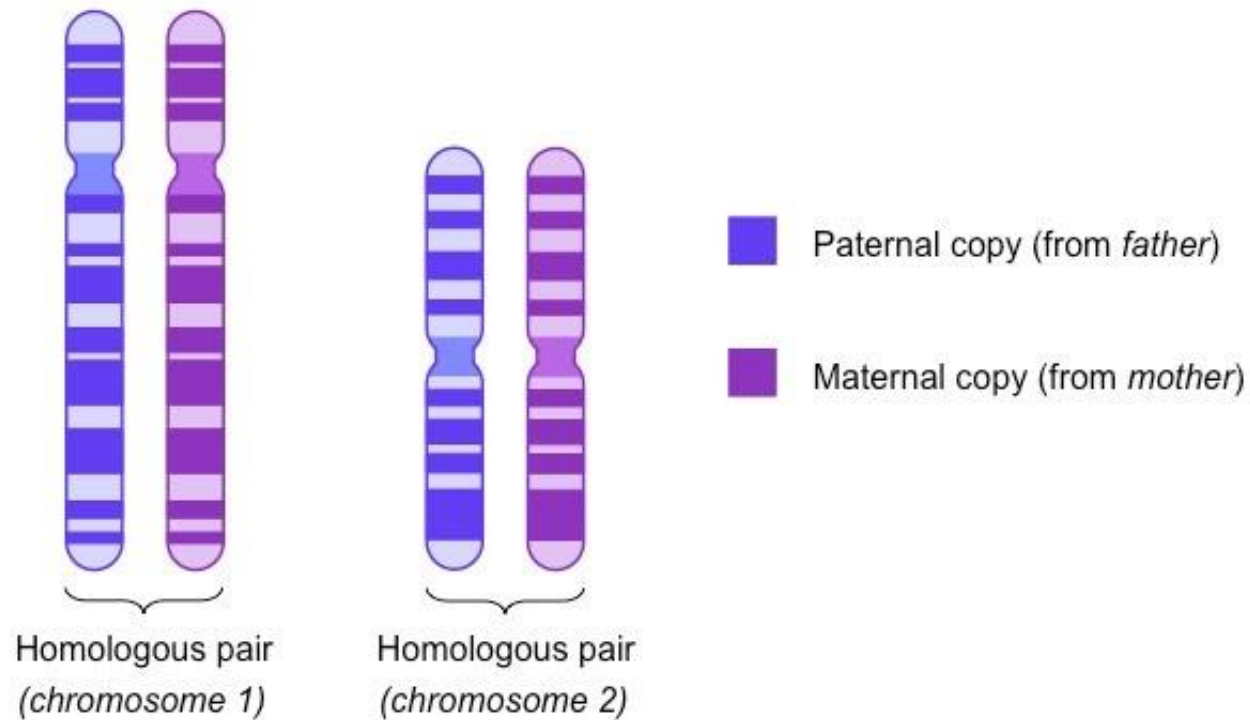
HOMOLOGOUS CHROMOSOMES



Which features will homologous chromosomes share?

Could there be any differences?

HOMOLOGOUS CHROMOSOMES



- Same: size, band patterns, centromere positions, same genes at same loci
- Different: alleles may be different

AUTOSOMES VS HETEROSOMES

Not all chromosome pairs in diploid cells are homologous

- Sex determination requires distinct chromosomes

Humans have 23 pairs

- 22 homologous autosomes (autosomes do not determine sex)
- the 23rd pair = sex chromosomes (heterosomes)

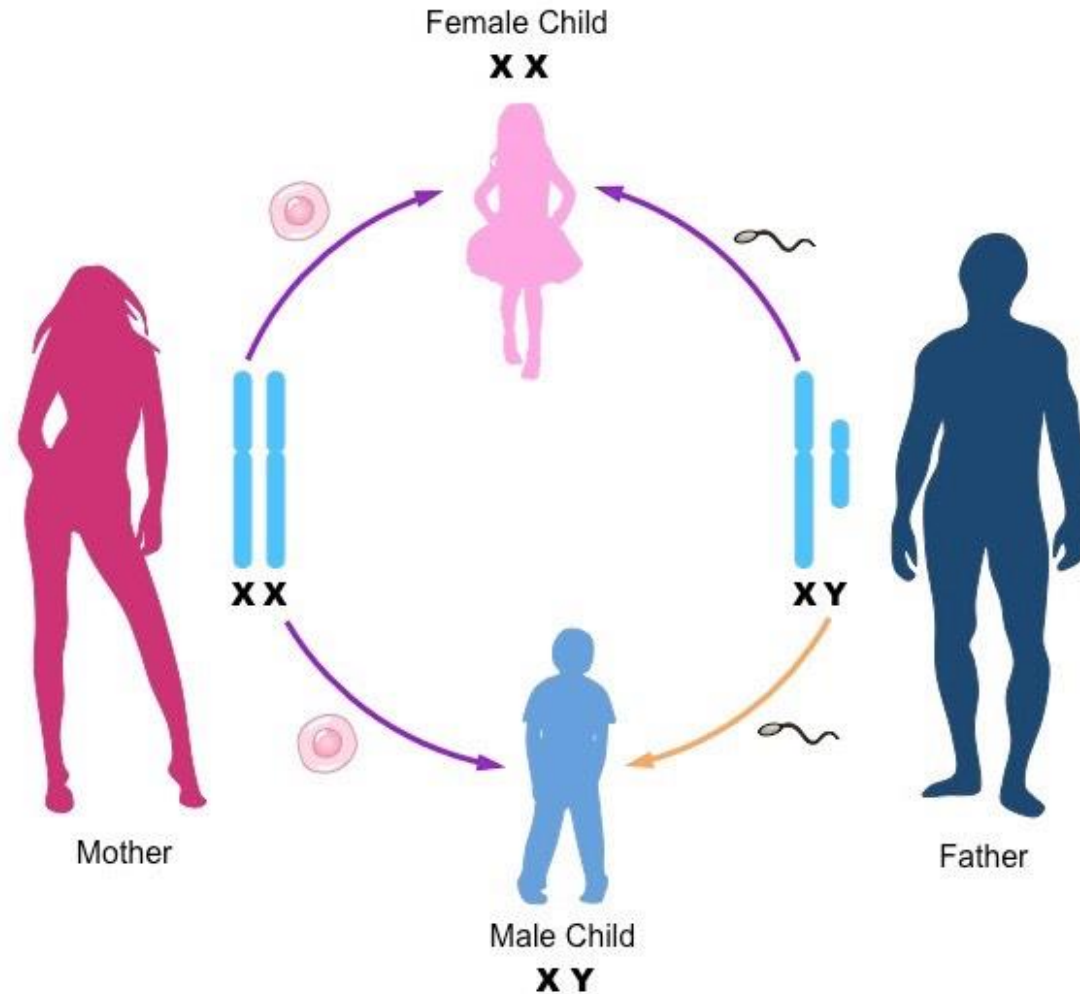
In males sex chromosomes are different (XY)

In females they are the same (homologous)

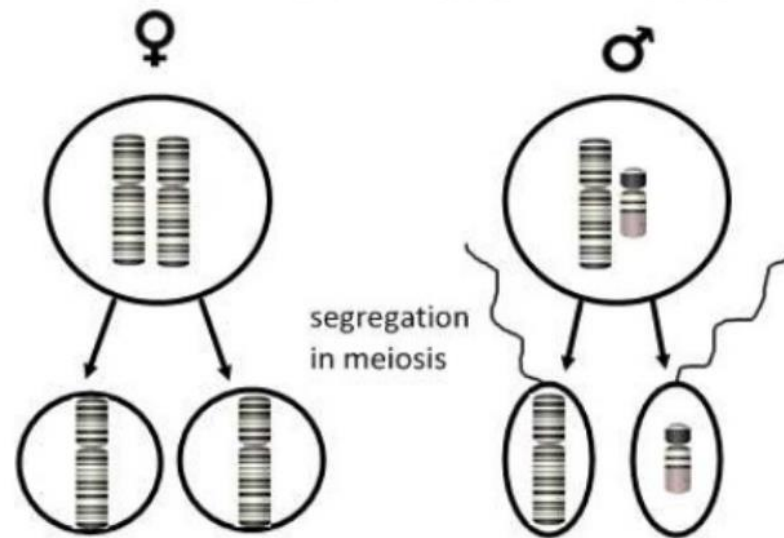


Sex chromosomes

SEX DETERMINATION IN HUMANS



SEX DETERMINATION



Segregation of the sex chromosomes in meiosis.

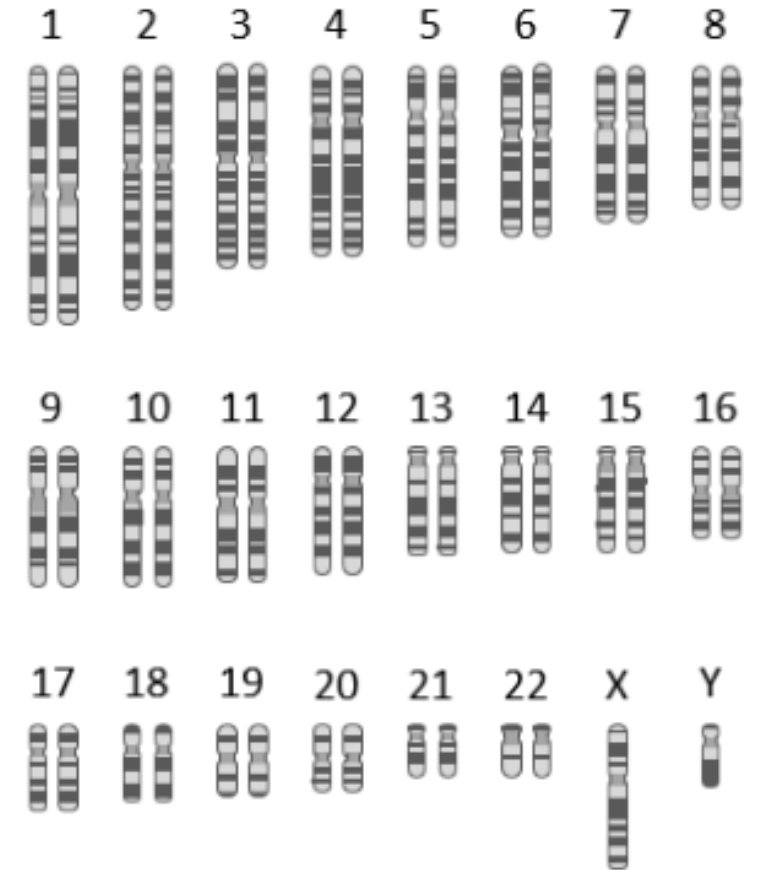
gametes	X	Y
X	XX	XY
X	XX	XY

KARYOGRAMS

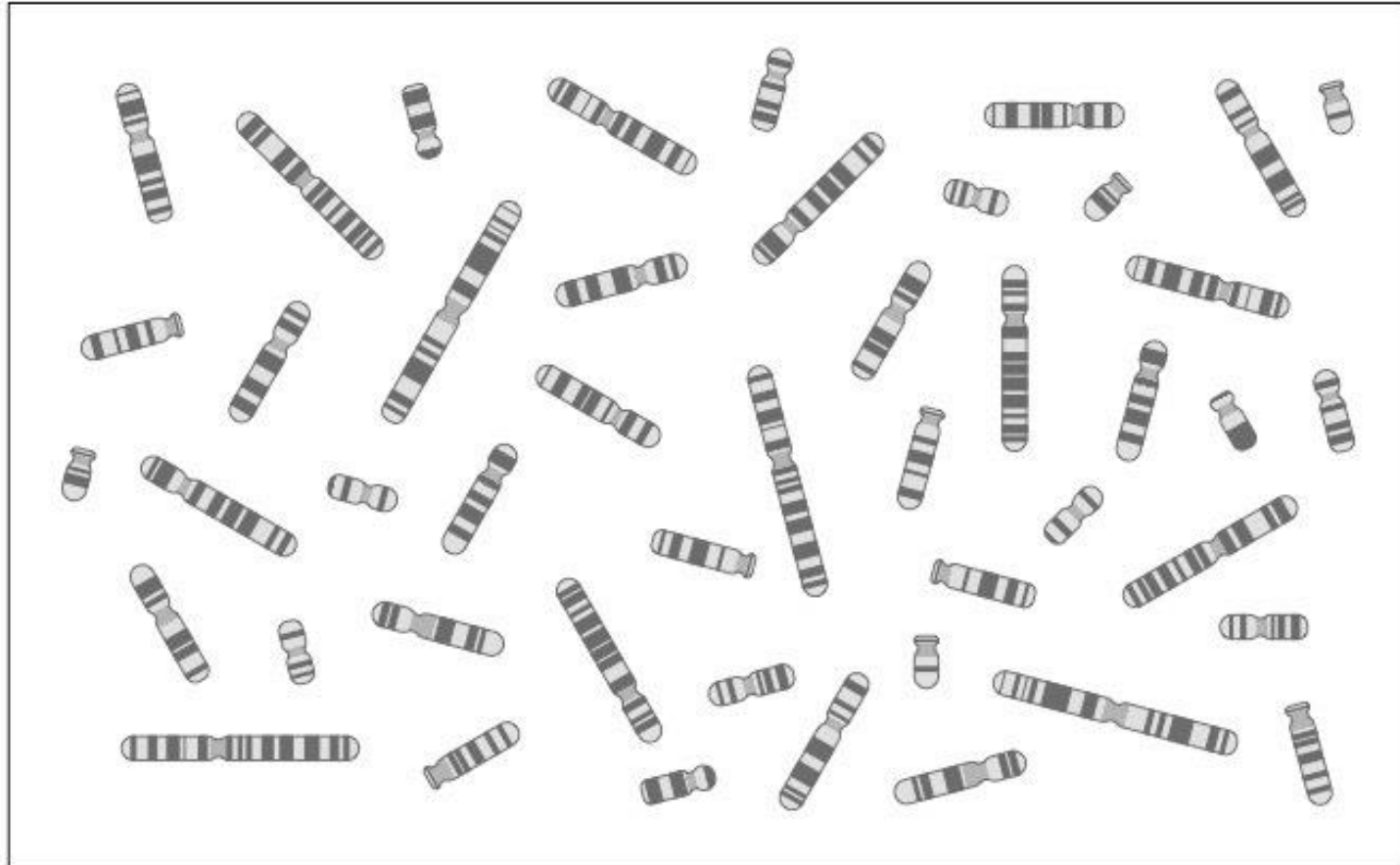
Chromosome profile of an individual organism →
karyogram

Cells have been arrested during mitosis (chromosomes
visible)

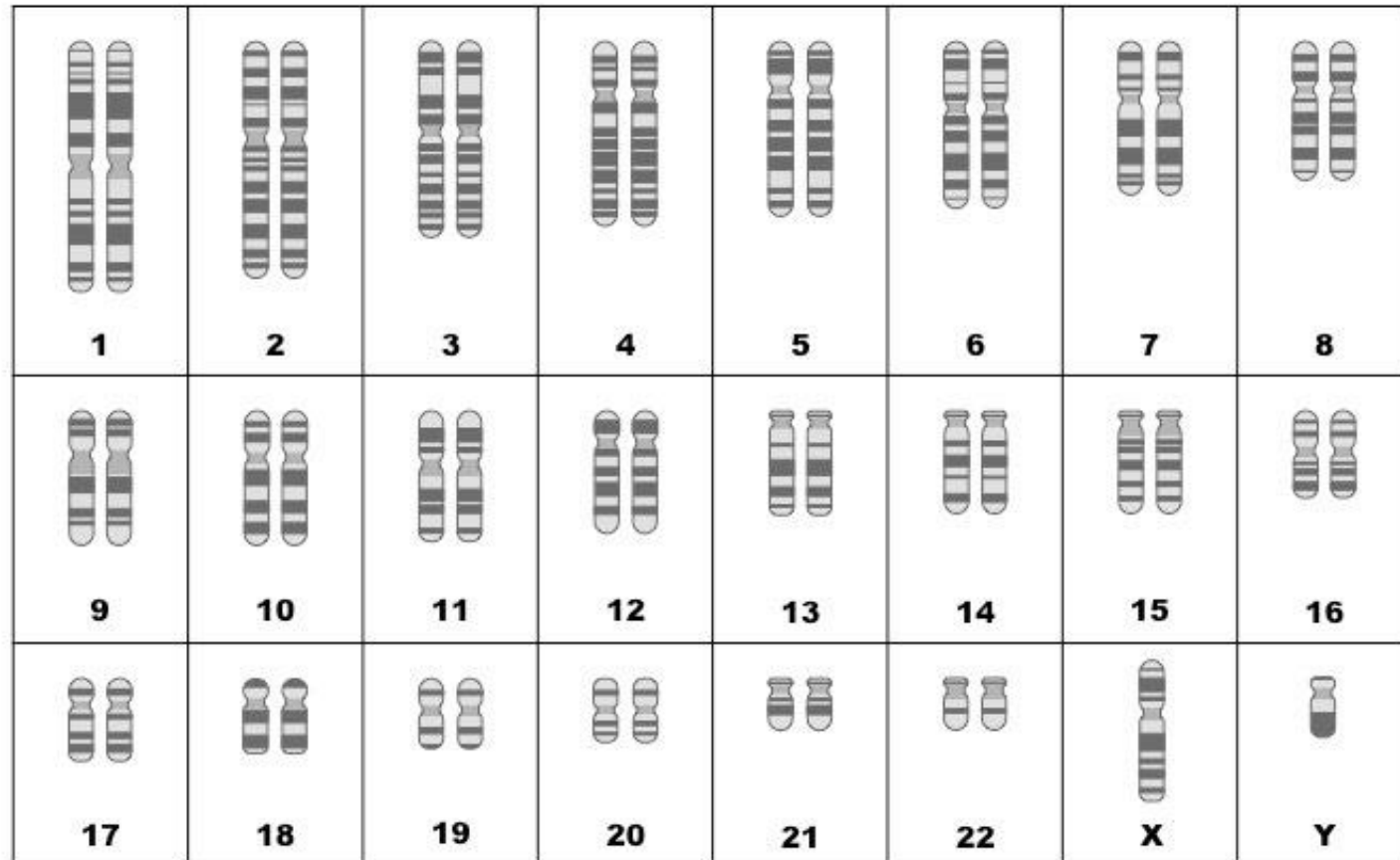
Usually to identify sex or chromosomal abnormalities
(aneuploidy)



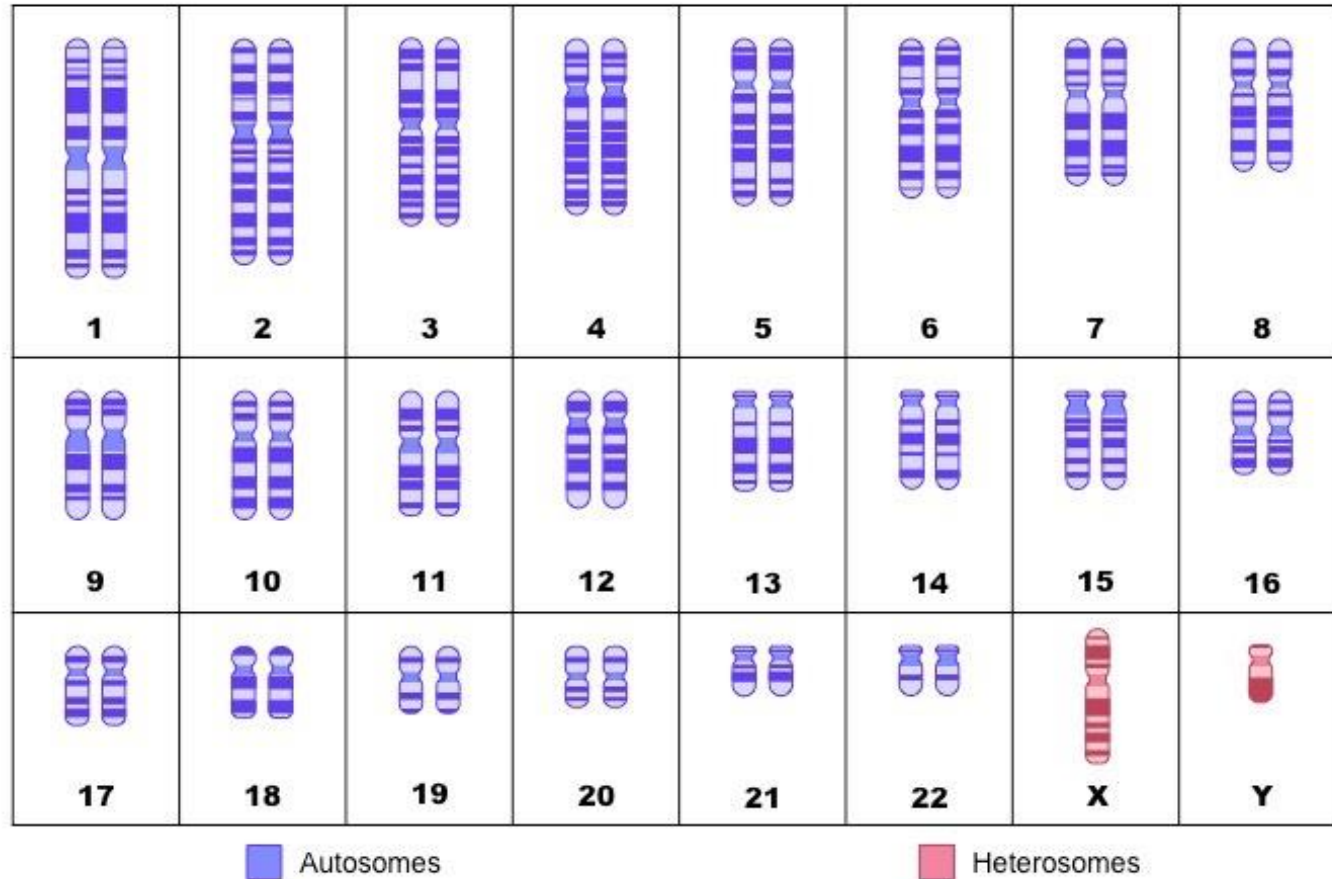
KARYOGRAMS



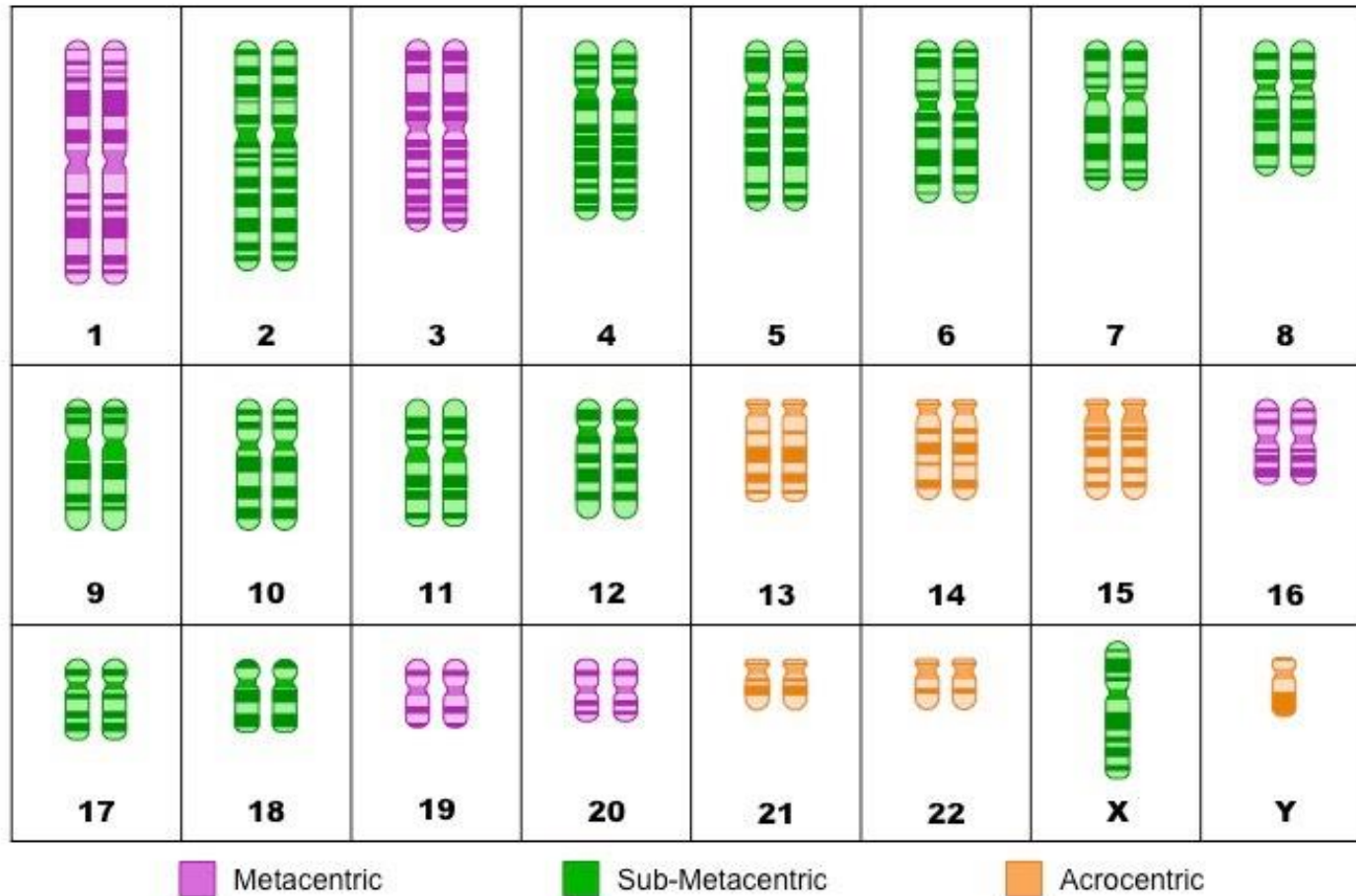
KARYOGRAMS



KARYOGRAMS

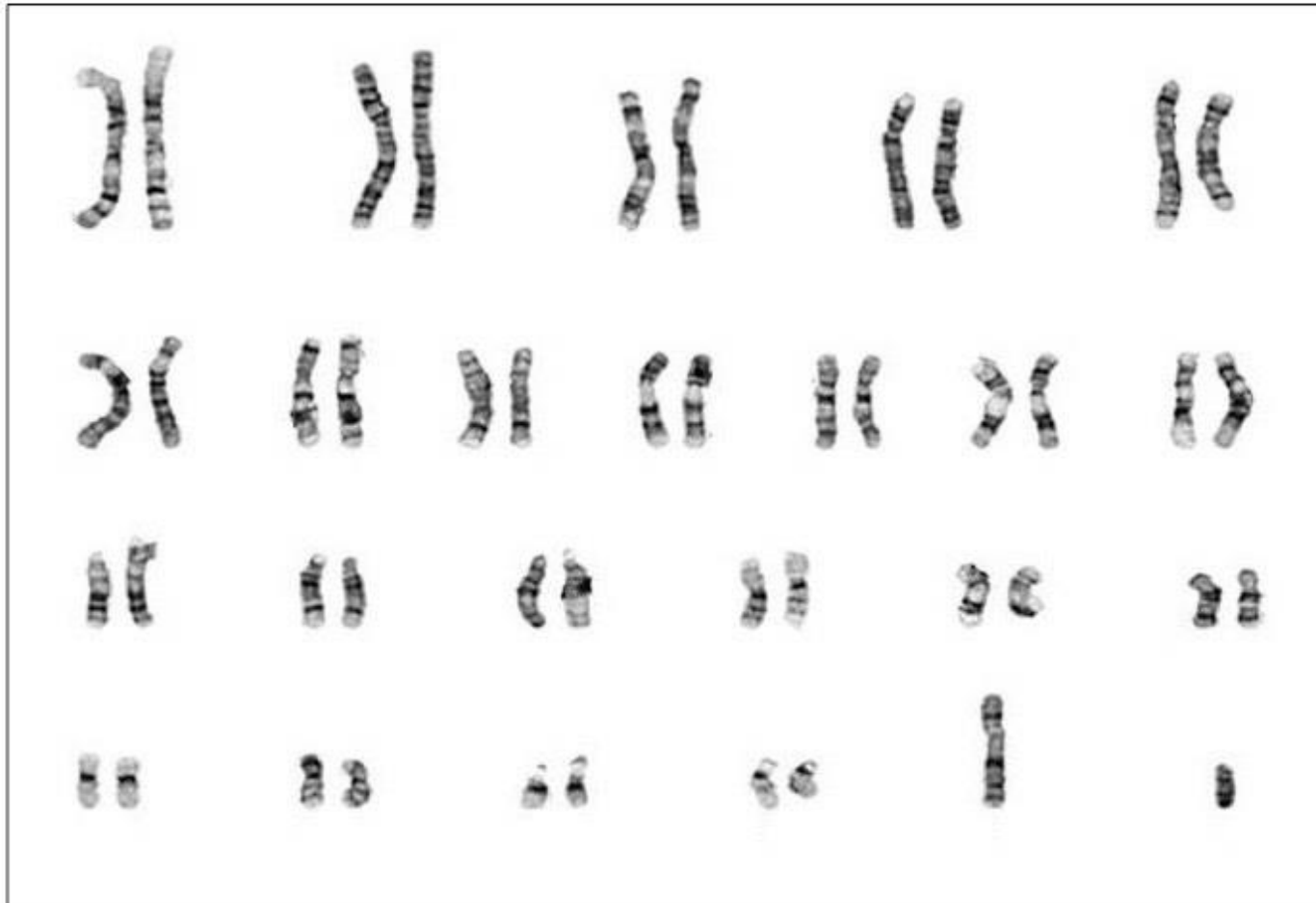


KARYOGRAMS



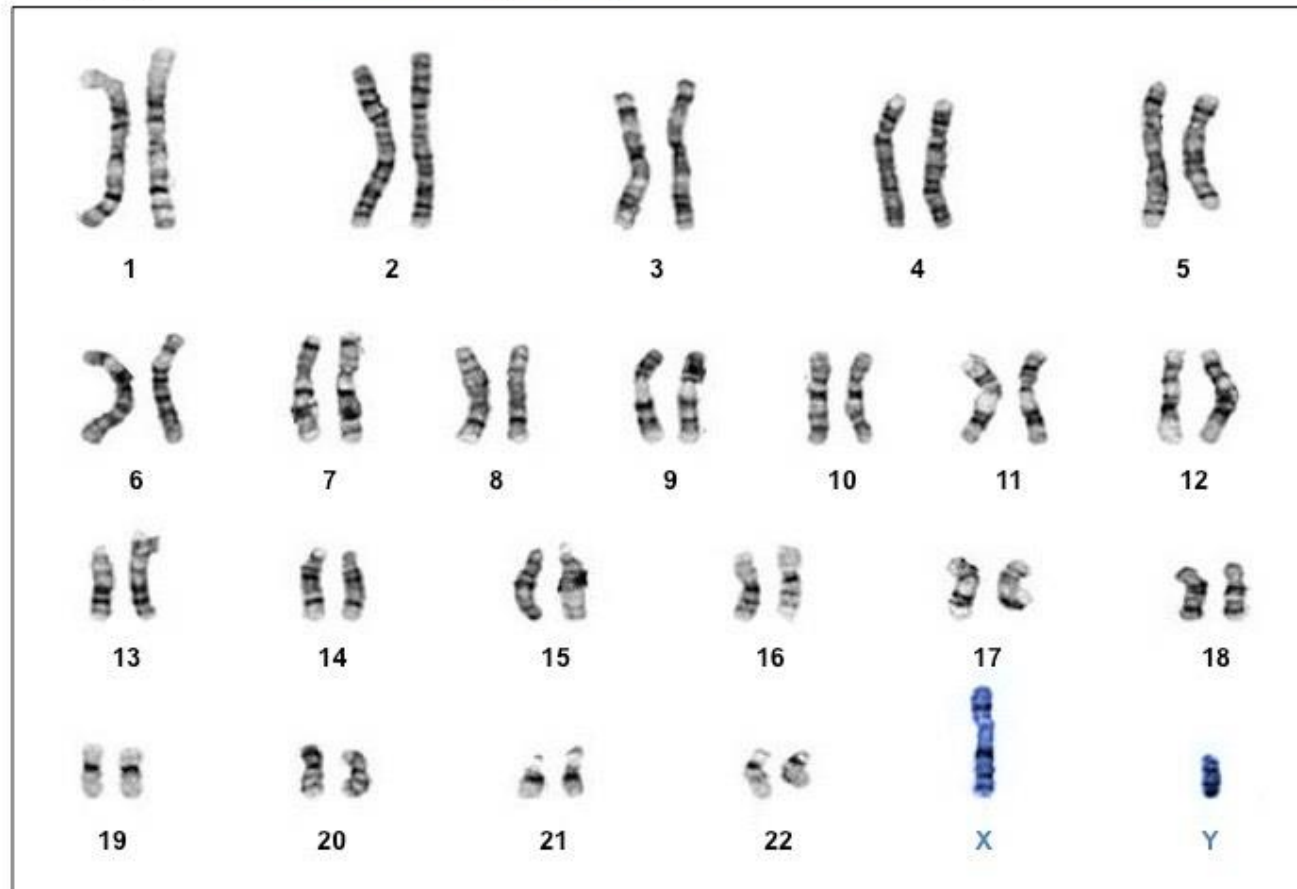
EXERCISE: KARYOGRAMS

Karyogram #1:



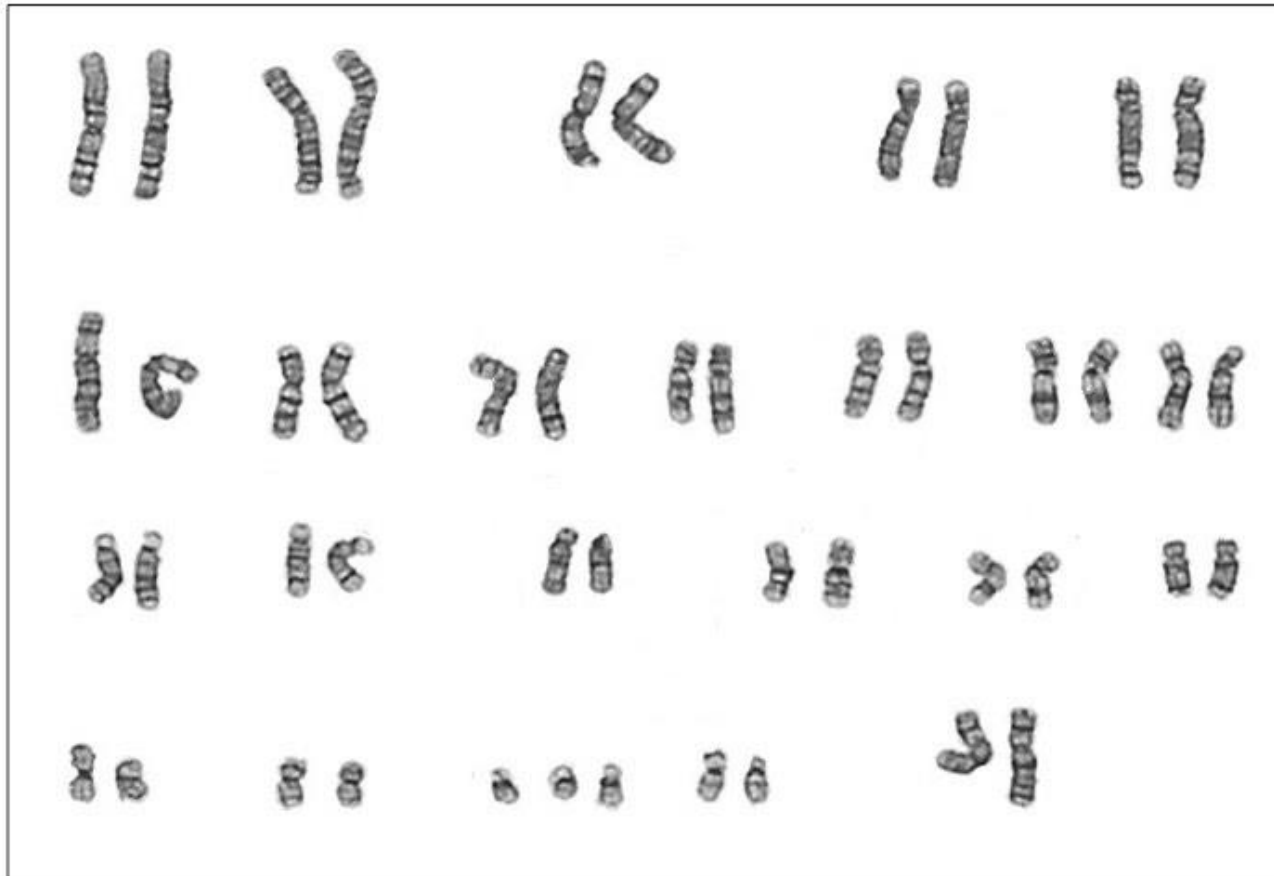
EXERCISE: KARYOGRAMS

Karyogram #1: Normal Male (46, XY)



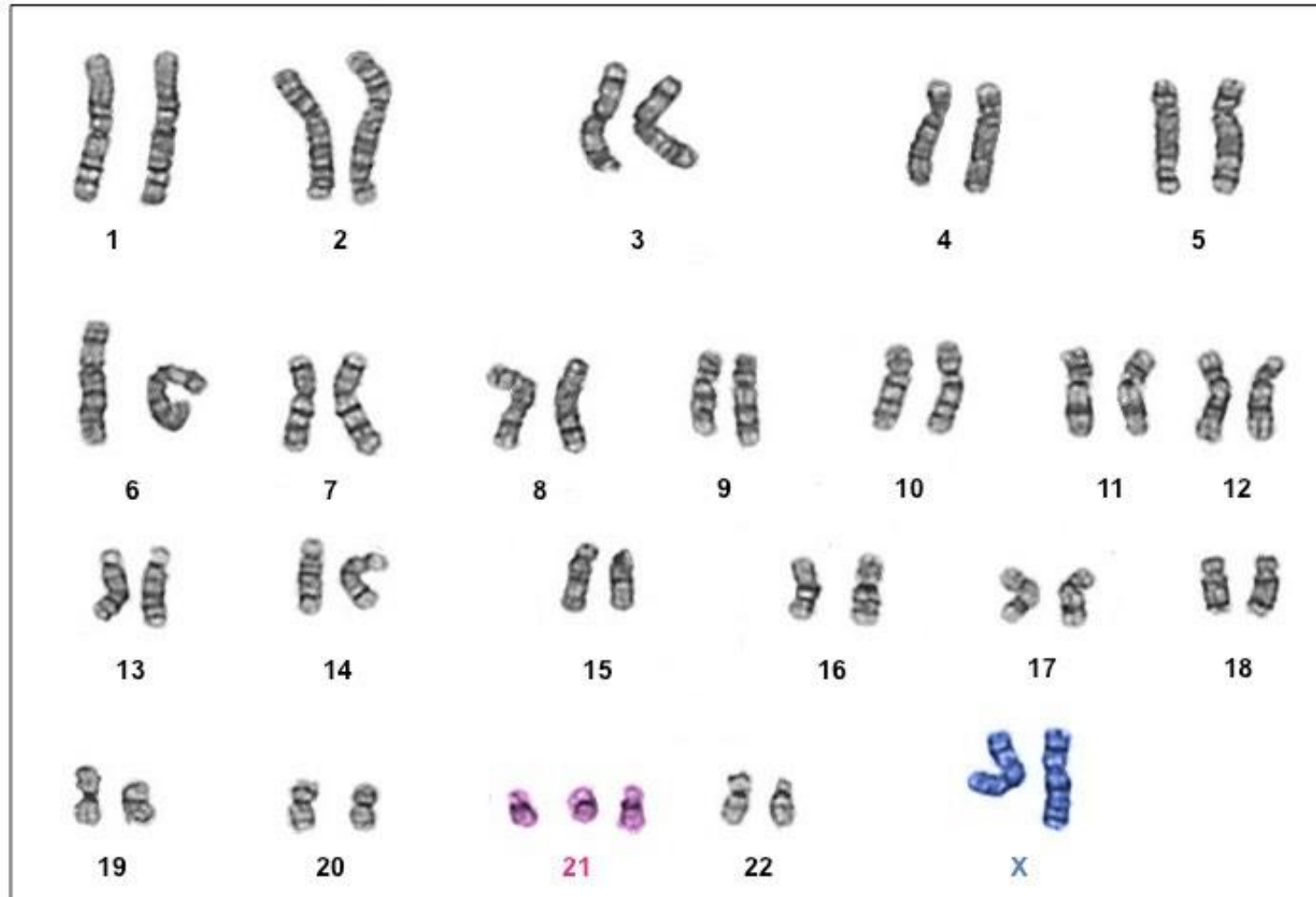
EXERCISE KARYOGRAMS

Karyogram #2:



EXERCISE KARYOGRAMS

Karyogram #2: Female with Trisomy 21 (47, XX)



MEASURING LENGTH OF CHROMOSOMES

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