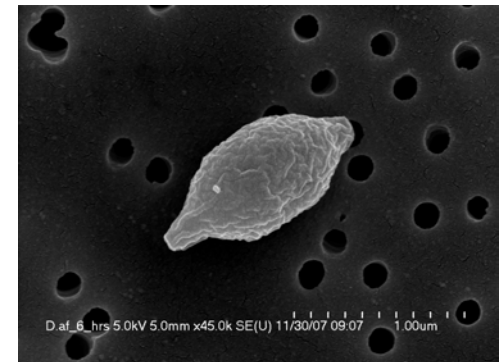
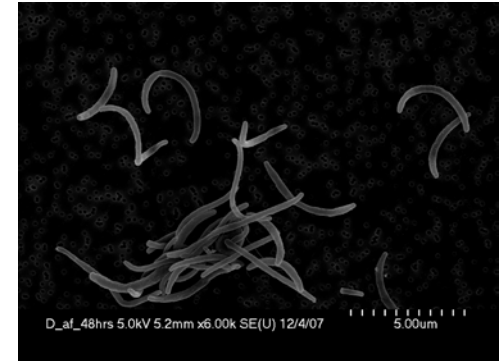


Genome Sequence of Mercury-Methylating and Pleomorphic *Desulfovibrio africanus*

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- Methylmercury (MeHg) is a potent human neurotoxin produced by bacteria, but the mechanisms of methylation by microorganisms are unknown.
- *Desulfovibrio africanus* is an anaerobic sulfate-reducing bacterium capable of producing MeHg, and it also has different morphotypes associated with a cell cycle.
- We present the 4.2 Mb *D. africanus* genome sequence to allow us to gain insights into the physiological states and regulation associated with its different cell cycles and microbial mercury methylation.
- Comparative genomics using the sequence information for *D. africanus* and the previously sequenced mercury methylator *D. desulfuricans* ND132 should assist in identifying the mechanisms of mercury methylation.



Different *D. africanus* morphotypes

Brown, S.D., J.D. Wall, A.M. Kucken, C.C. Gilmour, M. Podar, C.C. Brandt, H. Teshima, J.C. Detter, C.S. Han, M.L. Land, S. Lucas, J. Han, L. Pennacchio, M. Nolan, S. Pitluck, T. Woyke, L. Goodwin, A.V. Palumbo, and D.A. Elias. 2011. Genome sequence of mercury-methylating and pleomorphic *Desulfovibrio africanus* strain Walvis Bay. *J. Bacteriol.* 193:4037-4038 (doi:10.1128/JB.05223-11).



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