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Javier Arsuaga* (jarsuaga@ucdavis.edu), Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology, On Shields Avenue, University of California, Davis, Davis, CA 95616, and **Brian Cruz** and **Mariel Vazquez**. *Molecular modeling of DNA packing in bacterial viruses*. Preliminary report.

The conformation of DNA inside bacteriophage viruses remains to be determined. A key factor contributing to this conformation is the packing reaction by which DNA is pumped inside the virus by a molecular motor. Several models have been proposed to correlate final features of DNA arrangement and the packing reaction but they are to some extent contradictory. In this presentation we discuss the effects of different packing motor mechanisms and the ionic conditions in the environment in the final conformation of the DNA molecule

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