Micro 201
Dove Lecture 7, Class 25: Bistability and phase variation
April 30th, 2019

Overview
Within a population of bacterial cells certain genes can exist in one of two stable expression states (an on state and an off state), giving rise to heterogeneity in the cell population (i.e. some cells will express the genes whereas others will not). Such heterogeneity might provide a fitness advantage to the population as a whole. Our last class will consider mechanisms responsible for this rapid and reversible switch between on and off expression states. We will discuss a paper from David Low's laboratory that explains how differences in DNA methylation can generate on and off expression states for a set of pili genes in *E. coli*.

Paper for Discussion

Background Reading