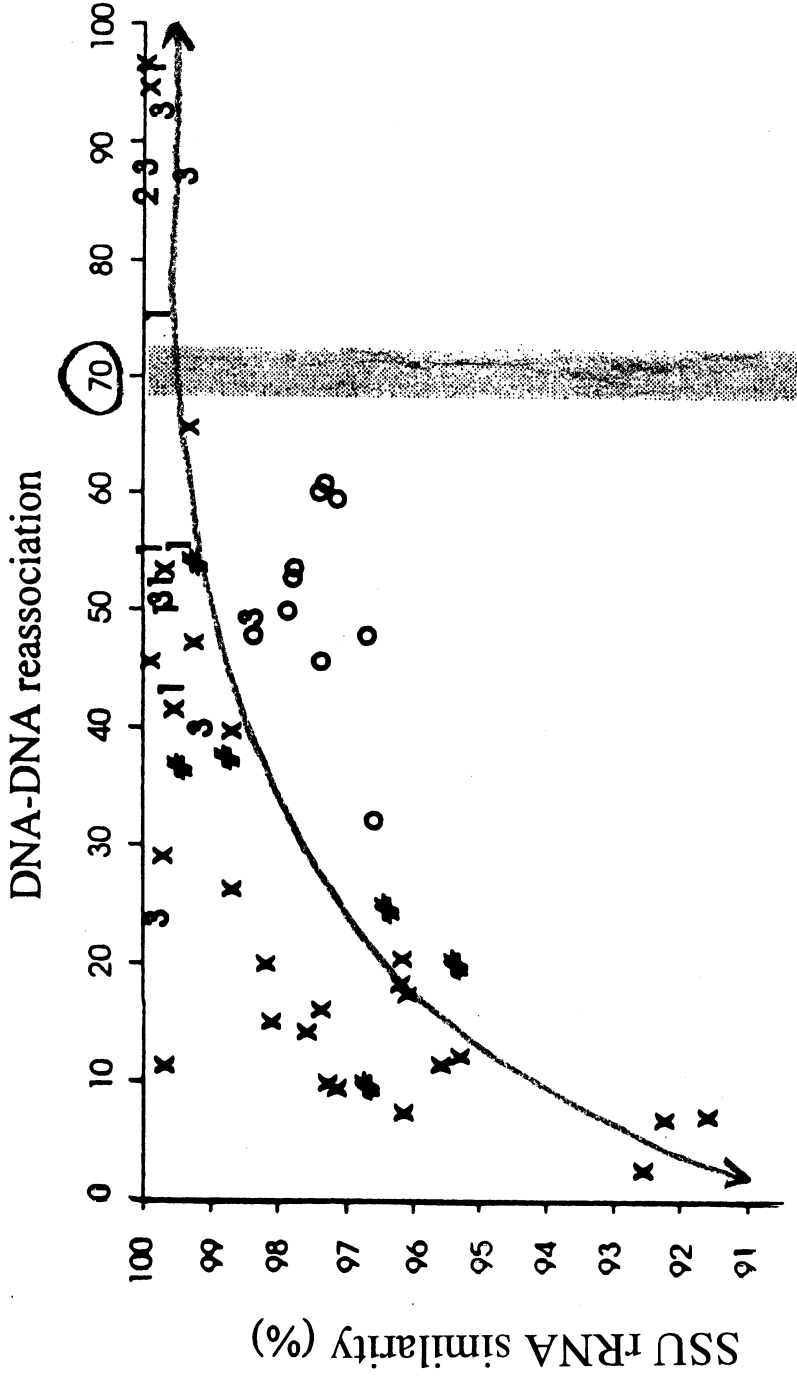


**Hybridization Data** yield whole-genome similarities – do NOT confuse with molecular sequence comparisons.



**Summary:**

- Classical physiological descriptors of microbes constitute a taxonomy, but do NOT provide relationships (except as might be inferred subjectively).
- Methods such as DNA-DNA reassociations establish relationships ONLY if closely related.
- Molecular sequence comparisons (e.g., SSU rRNA similarity) contain evolutionary relationship information.