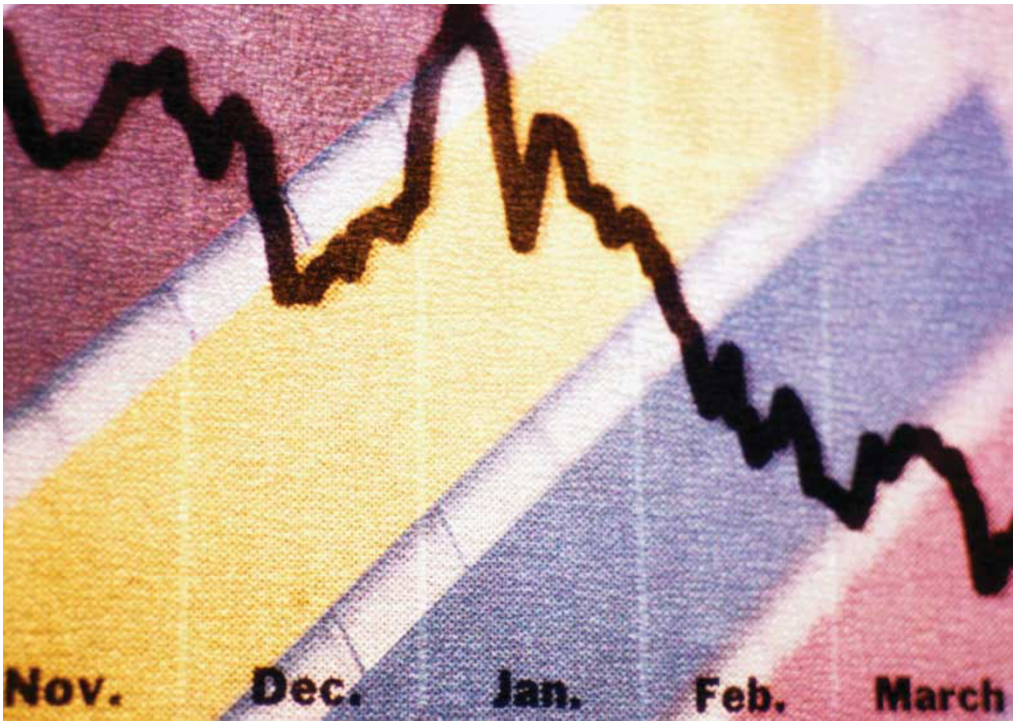
NATUREVIEW
REVIEWS AND COMMENT FROM THE NATURE PUBLISHING GROUP



▲ **Epidemic cycling and immunity.** Grenfell, B. & Bjørnstad, O. *Nature* 27 January (2005) **In this News & Views piece, Bryan Grenfell and Ottar Bjørnstad comment on the work of Grassly *et al*. in the same issue of *Nature* in which the dynamics underlying the periodicity of syphilis epidemics in the United States are analysed using a large dataset from 68 US cities over more than 30 years.**

◀ **A global view of epistasis.**
Moore, J. H. *Nature Genetics* January (2005)
Jason Moore comments on the impressive work of Daniel Segrè *et al*. in which single and double knockouts for almost 900 metabolic genes were generated and the corresponding growth phenotypes were analysed by metabolic flux analysis.

• **Nuclear RNA export unwound.**
Cullen, B. R. *Nature* 6 January (2005)

• **Knockout malaria vaccine?**
Ménard, R. *Nature* 13 January (2005)

• **Vietnam's war on flu.**
Aldhous, P. *Nature* 13 January (2005)

• **Bacteria spurned by self-absorbed cells.**
Gorvel, J.-P. & de Chastellier, C. *Nature Medicine* January (2005)
In this News & Views article, Jean-Pierre Gorvel and Chantal de Chastellier comment on three recent studies detailing the host autophagic response to *Shigella flexneri*, *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* and group A *Streptococcus*, which emphasize the role of autophagy as an innate immune mechanism.

• **Sorting out metagenomes.**
Handlesman, J. *Nature Biotechnology* January (2005)

• **Variability is its specialty.**
Brower, V. *EMBO Reports* January (2005)
An *EMBO Reports* analysis of the prospect of an avian influenza epidemic.

▼ **Ethanol fermentation on the move.**
Jeffries, T. W. *Nature Biotechnology* January (2005)
The complete genome sequence of the ethanologenic bacterium *Zymomonas mobilis* is reported in this issue of *Nature Biotechnology*. In the accompanying News & Views, Jeffries profiles *Z. mobilis*, which has an ethanol production rate that is three- to fivefold higher than that of *S. cerevisiae*, and looks to the genome sequence for clues for performance enhancement.