Table 27-1. Virion structure and assembly genes of bacteriophage λ.

gene	size of protein (amino acids)	in virion?	copies	function, special features
Nu1	181	N		small terminase subunit: DNA packaging
A	641	N		large terminase subunit: DNA packaging
W	68	Y	~6	adaptor between portal and gpFII
B	533	Y*	12	portal (*21 aa cleaved from N-terminus of most subunits)
C	439	Y*	~10	protease (*processed into X1 and X2)
Nu3	131	N		scaffolding protein
D	110	Y	405	major capsid decoration protein
E	341	Y	405	major capsid subunit
FI	132	N		accessory role in DNA packaging
FII	117	Y	~6	forms tail attachment site on head
Z	192	?		head-tail assembly
U	131	Y	~6	tail shaft stabilization
V	246	Y	192	major tail subunit
G	140	N		tail assembly chaperone
T	279*	N		extension, by translational frameshift, of gpG tail assembly chaperone (*size given is for G-T frameshift product)
H	853*	Y	~6	tail length tape measure protein (*~100 aa removed during tail maturation)
M	109	Y?		tail tip assembly
L	232	Y?		tail tip assembly
K	199	N?		tail tip assembly
I	223	N?		tail tip assembly
J	1132	Y	~3	tail tip assembly, central tail fiber
stf	774	Y	12	side tail fiber, main structural component
tfa	194	Y	12	side tail fiber, assembly factor and structural component