

- In 1928, Meitner as the chromosomal regions that remain condensed during interphase forming the so called chromocentres or 'false nuclei'.
- The other part of chromosomal substance uncoils and swells during interphase.
- The heterochromatin stains deeply and the euchromatin is comparatively lightly stained.
- It is found in condensed regions of chromosomes.
- It is considered to be genetically inert, it was considered to be devoid of genes.
- It is late replicating. It replicates at the end of S-phase.
- It is more labile.
- It is affected by temperature and age of S-phase.
- It segments contains relatively less genes. The genes are inert or active for short period.
- The DNA of heterochromatin does not synthesize mRNA for protein synthesis.
- The crossover frequency is less.
- The heterochromatin region is made of structures chromosome chromosomes, chromocentres and knobs.
- They can be constitutive and facultative.