

Barcelona Biomedical Research Park



Orthology Part I concepts and implications Toni Gabaldón Centre for Genomic Regulation (CRG), Barcelona



Barcelona Biomedical Research Park



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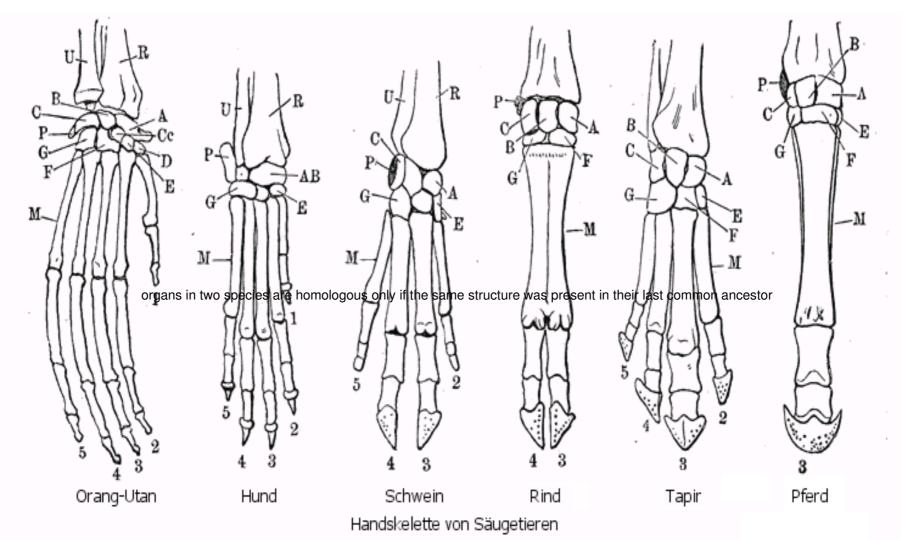


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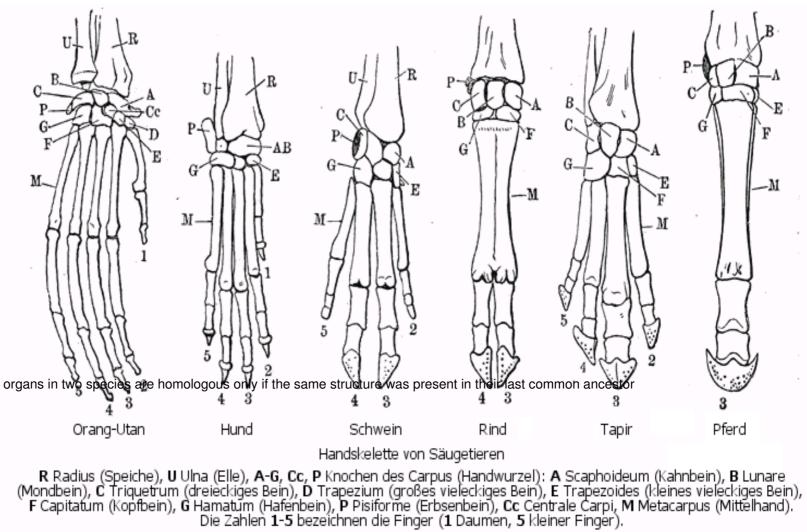


Orthology

"concepts and implications"

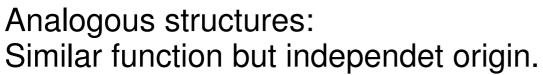


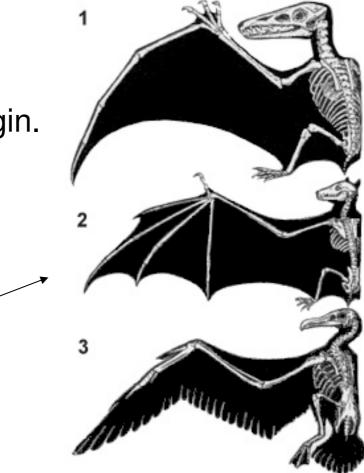
R Radius (Speiche), U Ulna (Elle), A-G, Cc, P Knochen des Carpus (Handwurzel): A Scaphoideum (Kahnbein), B Lunare (Mondbein), C Triquetrum (dreieckiges Bein), D Trapezium (großes vieleckiges Bein), E Trapezoides (kleines vieleckiges Bein), F Capitatum (Kopfbein), G Hamatum (Hafenbein), P Pisiforme (Erbsenbein), Cc Centrale Carpi, M Metacarpus (Mittelhand). Die Zahlen 1-5 bezeichnen die Finger (1 Daumen, 5 kleiner Finger).



"the same organ in different animals under every variety of form and function" R. Owan

 \rightarrow organs in two species are **homologous** only if the same structure was present in their last common ancestor





Homologous as forelimbs But Analogous as wings Extension of the concept of homology to sequences:

Two sequences are homologous if they share common ancestry

AAB24882	TYHMCQFHCRYVNNHSGEKLYECNERSKAFSCPSHLQCHKRRQIGEKTHEHNQCGKAFPT 60
AAB24881	GECNQCGKAFAQHSSLKCHYRTHIGEKPYECNQCGKAFSK 40
	**** *** * * *** * *****
AAB24882	PSHLQYHERTHTGEKPYECHQCGQAFKKCSLLQRHKRTHTGEKPYE-CNQCGKAFAQ- 116
AAB24881	HSHLQCHKRTHTGEKPYECNQCGKAFSQHGLLQRHKRTHTGEKPYMNVINMVKPLHNS 98
	**** * ********* *** *** *** *** ******

Important: Similarity and Homology

Similarity and homology are often confused. e.g. "the sequences are 50% homologous", "these two sequences are highly homologous"

Why is this incorrect? Where does the confusion comes from?

Detour

Sequence similarity, homology detection and blast database queries

AAB24882 AAB24881	TYHMCQFHCRYVNNHSGEKLYECNERSKAFSCPSHLQCHKRRQIGEKTHEHNQCGKAFPT 60 IGEKPYECNQCGKAFAQHSSLKCHYRTHIGEKPYECNQCGKAFSK 40
AAD24001	
	**** *** * * * * * **** * ******
AAB24882	PSHLQYHERTHTGEKPYECHQCGQAFKKCSLLQRHKRTHTGEKPYE-CNQCGKAFAQ- 116
AAB24881	HSHLQCHKRTHTGEKPYECNQCGKAFSQHGLLQRHKRTHTGEKPYMNVINMVKPLHNS 98
	**** * ********************************

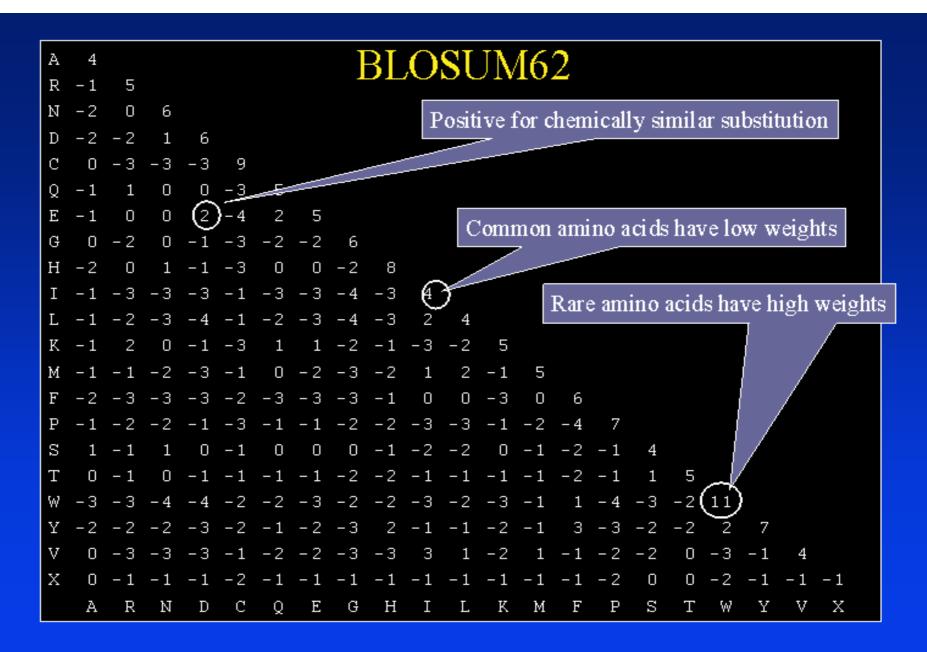
Are this two sequences **significantly** similar? (i.e how likely is that such an alignment is the result of chance) > ref NP 114344.1 G NADH dehydrogenase subunit 5 [Macaca sylvanus] Length=603

<u>GENE ID: 803075 ND5</u> | NADH dehydrogenase subunit 5 [Macaca sylvanus] (10 or fewer PubMed links)

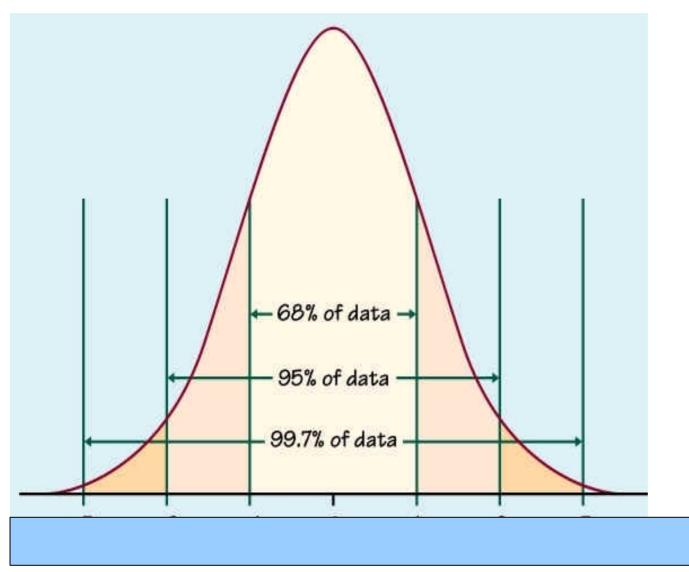
Query	24	VNPNKKNSYPHYVKSIVASTFIISLFPTTMFMCLDQEVIISNWHWATTQTTQLSLSFKLD +NPNKK+ YP+YVK+ V FI SL TT++M L+QE II +WHW TQT L+LSFKLD	83
Sbjct	24	INPNKKHLYPNYVKTAVMYAFITSLSSTTLYMFLNQETIIWSWHWMMTQTLSLTLSFKLD	83
Query	84	YFSMMFIPVALFVTWSIMEFSLWYMNSDPNINQFFKYLLIFLITMLILVTANNLFQLFIG YFSMMF P+AL TWSIMEFSLWYM+SDPNI+QFFKYLLIFLITMLILVTANNLFQ FIG	143
Sbjct	84		143
Query	144	WEGVGIMSFLLISWWYARADANTAAIQAVLYNRIGDIGFILALAWFILHSNSWDPQQMAL WEG+GIMSFLLISWW+AR DANTAAIQA+LYNRIGDIG IL + WF+LH NSWD QQM	203
Sbjct	144	WEGMGIMSFLLISWWHARTDANTAAIQAILYNRIGDIGLILTMTWFLLHYNSWDFQQMLA	203

Score of a High Scoring Pair (HSP)

Alignment scores are sums of residue-pairing scores according to a Scoring Matrix



Distribution of scores in comparisons of **random***-sequences



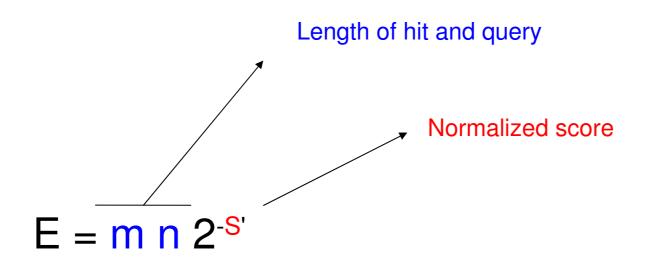
* considering the representation of the different amino acids (nucleotides) in a DataBase

Your score ← 68% of data → - 95% of data -99.7% of data -

The significance of each alignment is computed as a P value or an E value

Evalue: Expectation value. The number of different alignents with scores equivalent to or better than S that are expected to occur in a database search by chance. The lower the E value, the more significant the score.

P value :The probability of an alignment occurring with the score in question or better. The p value is calculated by relating the observed alignment score, S, to the expected distribution of HSP scores from comparisons of random sequences of the same length and composition as the query to the database. The most highly significant P values will be those close to 0. P values and E values are different ways of representing the significance of the alignment.

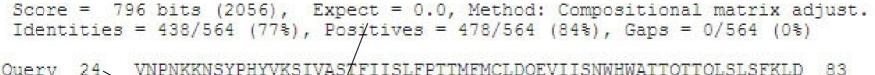


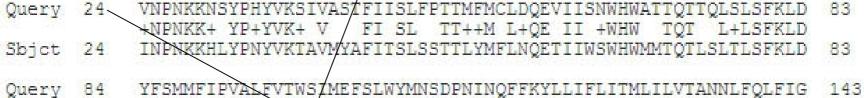
E-value (Expectation value)= the number of sequences that would be expected to have that **score** (or higher) if the query sequence were compared against a **database** containing unrelated sequences

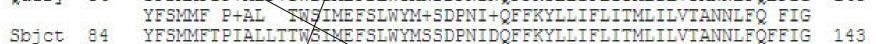
E-value= ranges from 0 to the number of sequences in the DB, and depends on the Database!!!

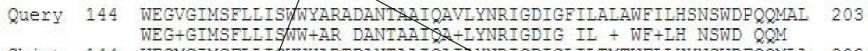
> ref NP 114344.1 G NADH dehydrogenase subunit 5 [Macaca sylvanus] Length=603

<u>GENE ID: 803075 ND5</u> | NADH dehydrogenase subunit 5 [Macaca sylvanus] (10 or fewer PubMed links)









Sbjct 144 WEGMGIMSFLLISWWHARTDANTAAIQAILYNRIGDIGLILTMTWFLLHYNSWDFQQMLA 203

E-value

Coverage over the query

Other aspects in Blast searches

- E-value depends on database (specially important when locally searching in small databases)
- Use of Low complexity filtering
- Why multiple HSPs in a hit
- PSI-Blast, HMMER searches

End of the detour

From homology to orthology

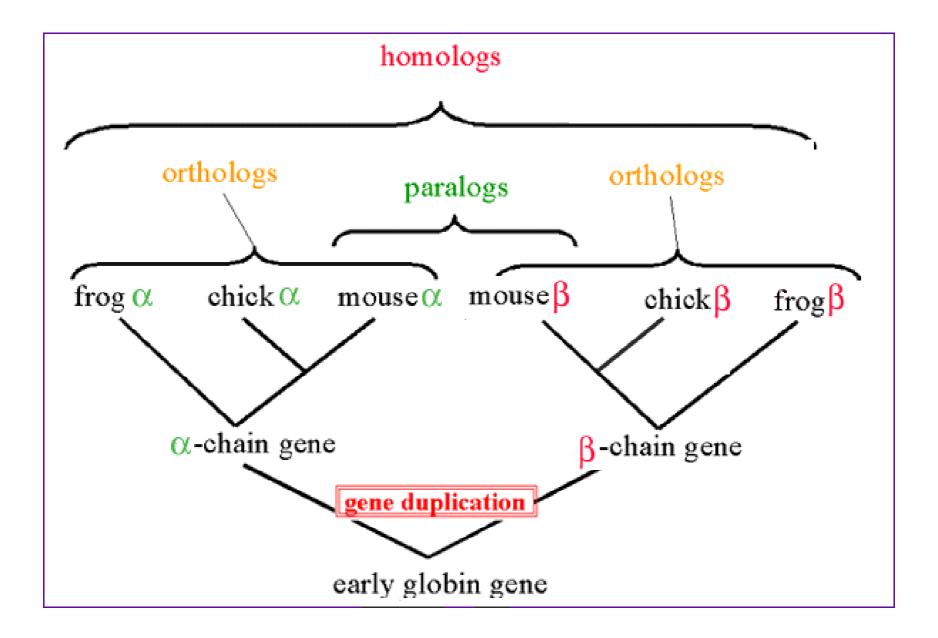
Homologues are sequences derived from a common ancestor...

What are then orthologues?.... and paralogues?

Original definition of orthology and paralogy by Walter Fitch (1970, Systematic Zoology 19:99-113):

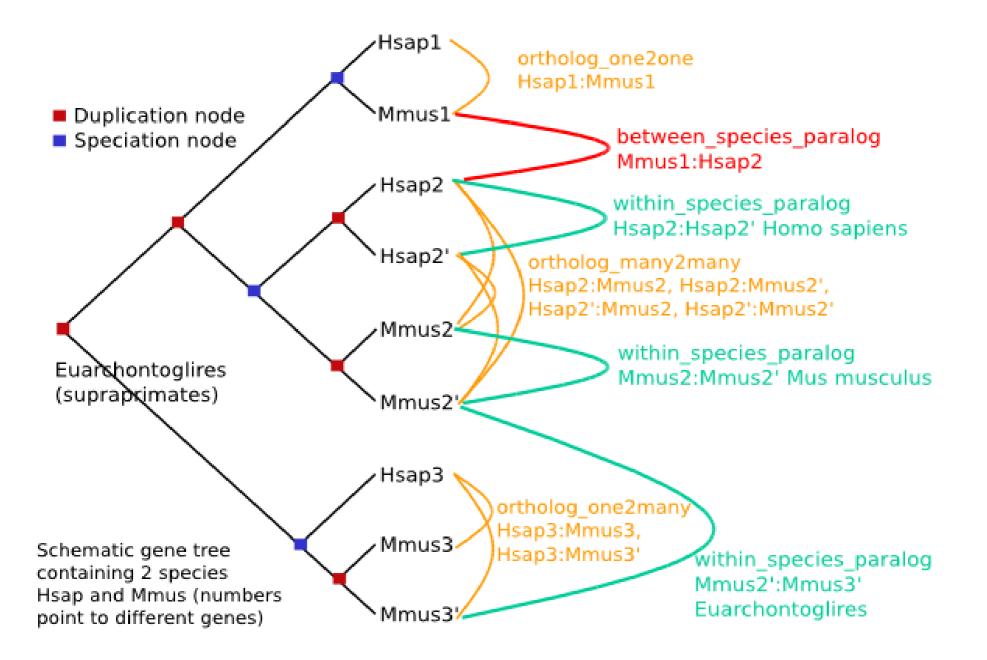
"Where the homology is the result of gene duplication so that both copies have descended side by side during the history of an organism, (for example, alpha and beta hemoglobin) the genes should be called paralogous (para = in parallel).

Where the homology is **the result of speciation** so that the history of the gene reflects the history of the species (for example alpha hemoglobin in man and mouse) the genes should be called **orthologous** (ortho = exact)."



Corollary:

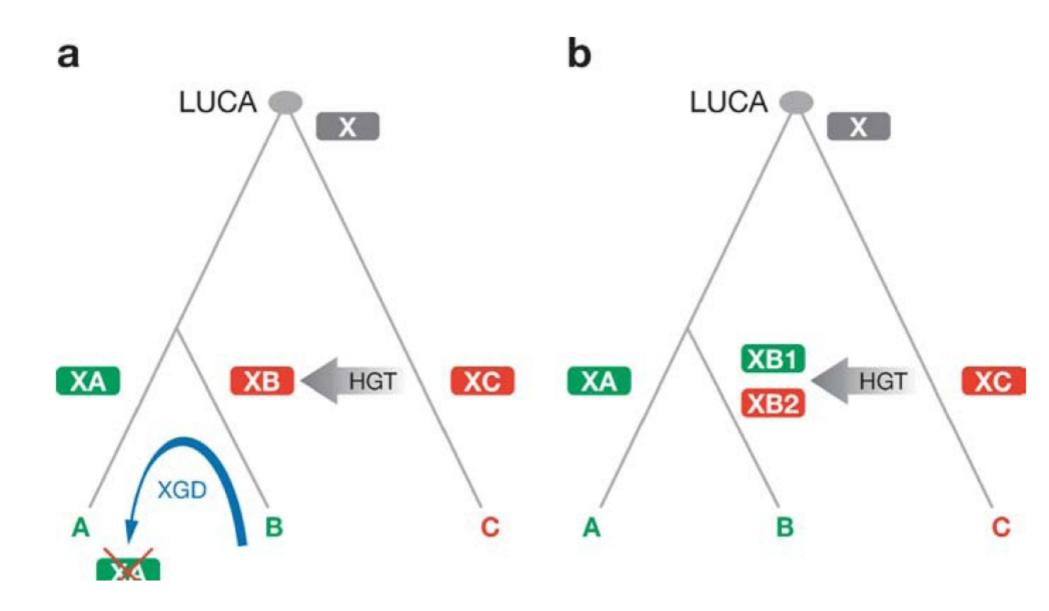
- Orthology definition is purely on evolutionary terms (not functional, not synteny...)
- Orthology/paralogy defines a pair-wise relationship between two genes
- There is no limit on the number of orthologs or paralogs that a given gene can have (when more than one ortholog exist, there is nothing such as "*the true ortholog*",)
- Many-to-Many orthology relationships do exist (co-orthology)
- No limit on how ancient/recent is the ancestral relationship of orthologs and paralogs
- Orthology is non-transitive (as opposed to homology)



Additional useful definitions

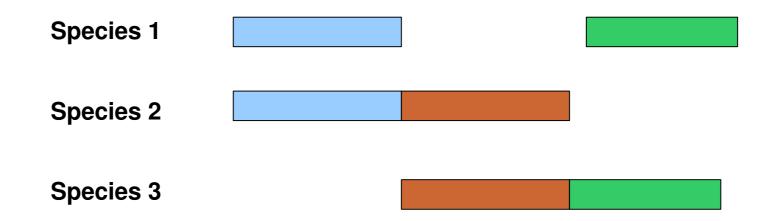
 In-paralogs and out-paralogs (Sohnhammer and koonin): It is defined relative to a given speciation event. In-paralogs are derived from duplications occurred subsequent to the speciation event and are therefore specific of one lineage. Out-paralogs are paralogs emerged from duplications occurred before the speciation. (Important: if you change the speciation events these relationships change)

 Orthologous group (~Orthogroup): Also defined relative to a speciation event. It is the complete set of genes in one of the lineages formed by a speciation event. (it includes orthologs and in-paralogs, so not all the genes in an orthologous group are orthologs to each other) The effect of HGT: Xenology and pseudoparalogy



Orthology and multi-domain proteins

• Orthology was defined at the level of genes, but this is not always the smallest level of evolution: domains do constitute smaller units of evolution, due to gene fusion/fission and recombination.



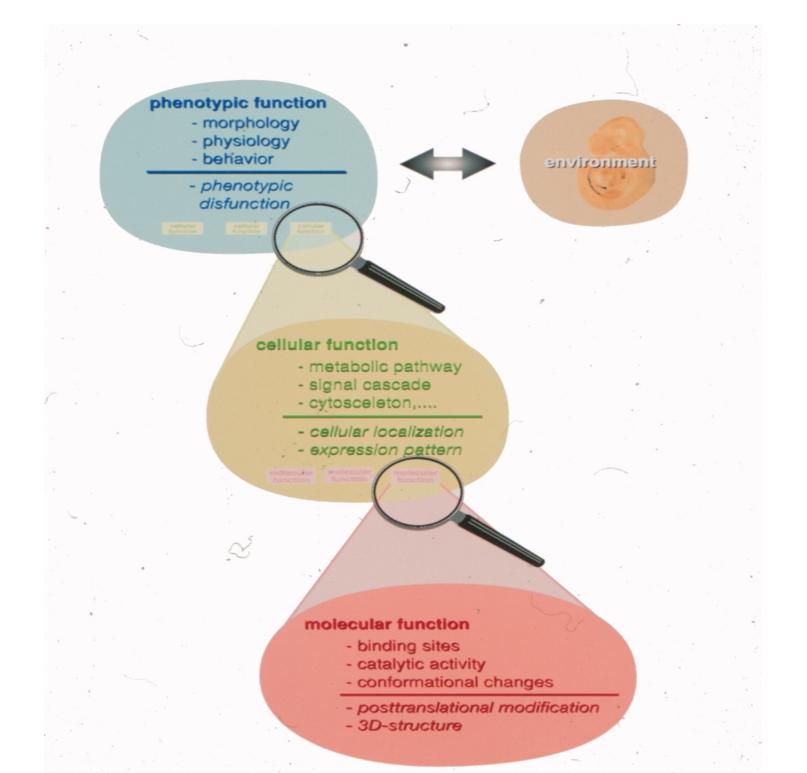
Why predicting orthology is important?

- Important implications for phylogeny: only sets of orthologous genes are expected to reflect the underlying species evolution (although there are many exceptions)
- The most exact way of comparing two (or more) genomes in terms of their gene content. Necessary to uncover how genomes evolve.
- Implications for **functional inference**: orthologs, as compared to paralogs, are more likely to share the same function

Why predicting orthology is important?

- Important implications for phylogeny: only sets of orthologous genes are expected to reflect the underlying species evolution (although there are many exceptions)
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- Implications for **functional inference**: orthologs, as compared to paralogs, are more likely to share the same function

REALLY???, IS THIS TRUE IF SO, WHY IS THAT?

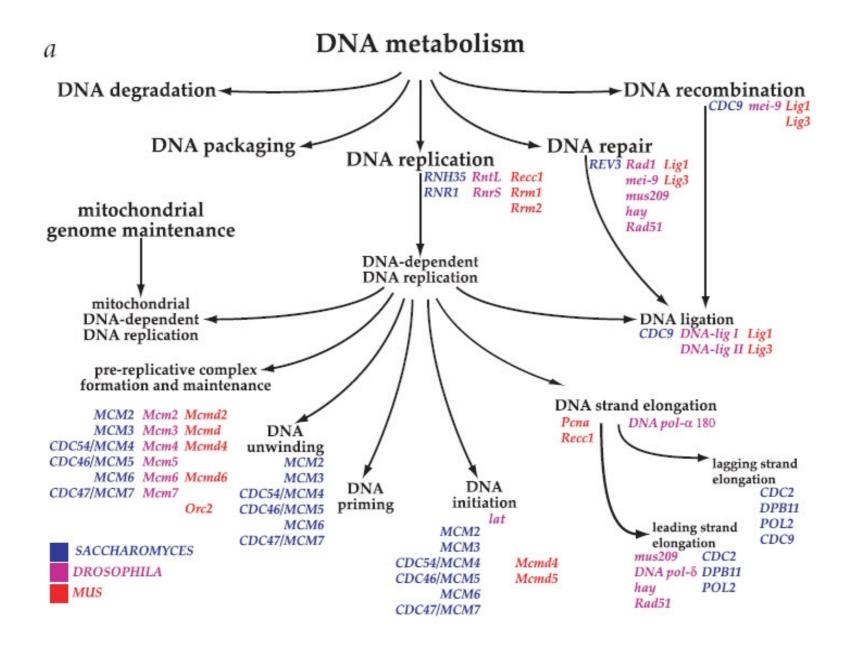


Bit mandates Bit mandates Bi	e Ontology
	Downloads

	Accession, Term	Ontology	Qualifier	Evidence
C	GO:0006915 : apoptotic process 10407 gene products view in tree			ISS With UniProtKB:P04637
C	GO:0002326 : B cell lineage commitment 34 gene products view in tree			IEA With Ensembl:ENSMUSP00000
C	GO:0007569 : cell aging 878 gene products view in tree			ISS With UniProtKB:P04637
C	GO:0035690 : cellular response to drug 1521 gene products view in tree			IEA With Ensembl:ENSP00000

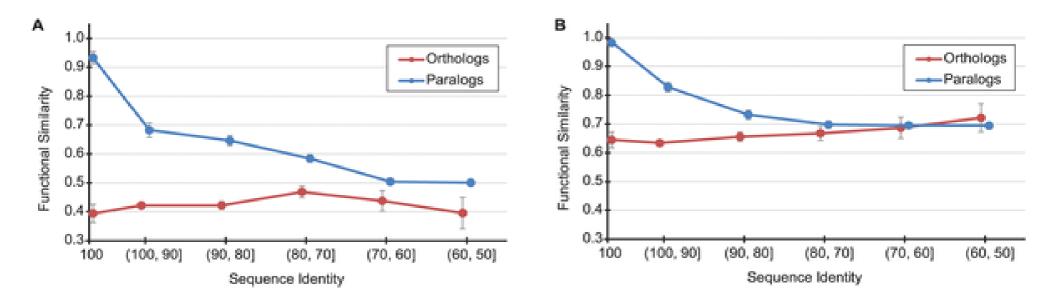
GO:0006915 (Apoptotic process)

A programmed cell death process which begins when a cell receives an internal (e.g. DNA damage) or external signal (e.g. an extracellular death ligand), and proceeds through a series of biochemical events (signaling pathways) which typically lead to rounding-up of the cell, retraction of pseudopodes, reduction of cellular volume (pyknosis), chromatin condensation, nuclear fragmentation (karyorrhexis), plasma membrane blebbing and fragmentation of the cell into apoptotic bodies. The process ends when the cell has died. The process is divided into a signaling pathway phase, and an execution phase, which is triggered by the former.



Do orthologs have more similar GO terms than paralogs?

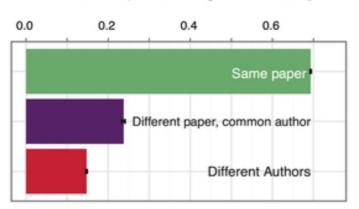
Figure 1. The relationship between functional similarity and sequence identity for humanmouse orthologs (red) and all paralogs (blue).



Nehrt NL, Clark WT, Radivojac P, Hahn MW (2011) Testing the Ortholog Conjecture with Comparative Functional Genomic Data from Mammals. PLoS Comput Biol 7(6): e1002073. doi:10.1371/journal.pcbi.1002073 http://www.ploscompbiol.org/article/info:doi/10.1371/journal.pcbi.1002073

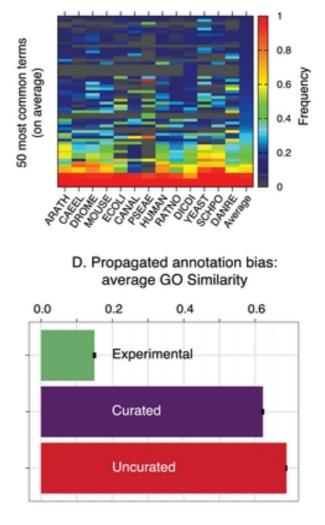


Figure 1. Potential confounding factors in GO analyses.

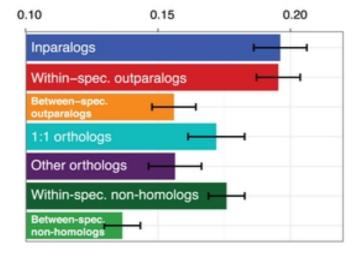


A. Authorship bias: average GO Similarity

B. Variation of GO term frequency among species



C. Variation of *background* GO similarity among types of relations (random gene pairs)

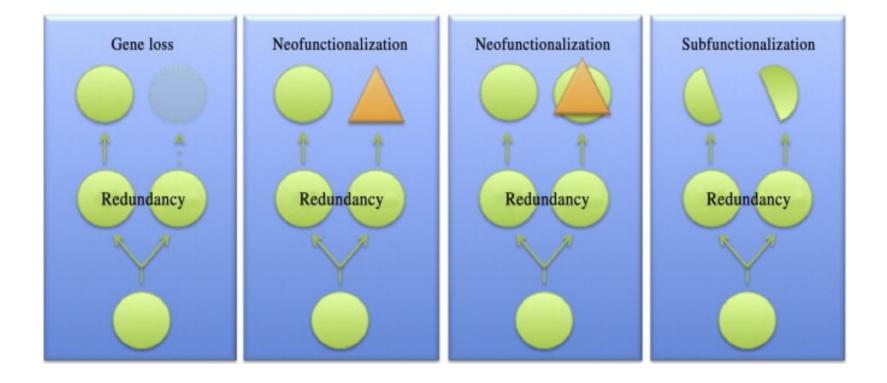


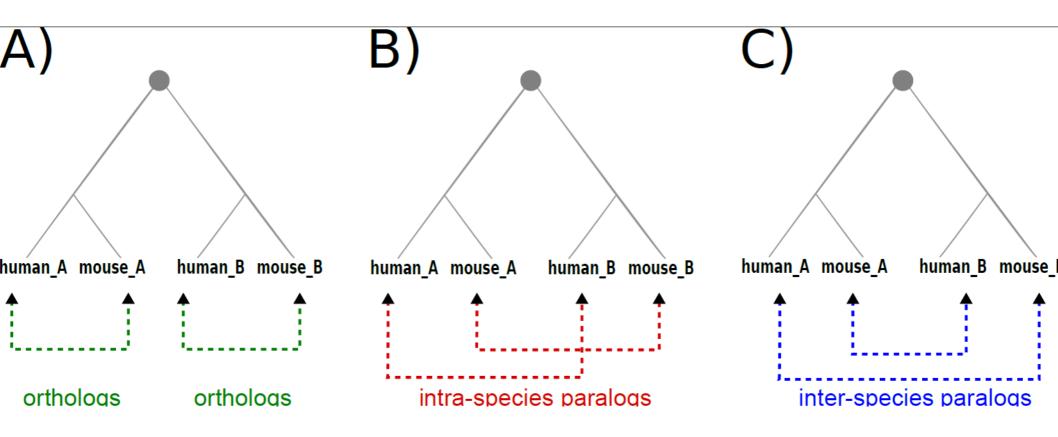
Altenhoff AM, Studer RA, Robinson-Rechavi M, Dessimoz C (2012) Resolving the Ortholog Conjecture: Orthologs Tend to Be Weakly, but Significantly, More Similar in Function than Paralogs. PLoS Comput Biol 8(5): e1002514. doi:10.1371/journal.pcbi.1002514 http://www.ploscompbiol.org/article/info:doi/10.1371/journal.pcbi.1002514



Orthologs do **tend** to have a more similar function because duplications promote functional divergence.

However, orthologs do also may vary their functions with time.



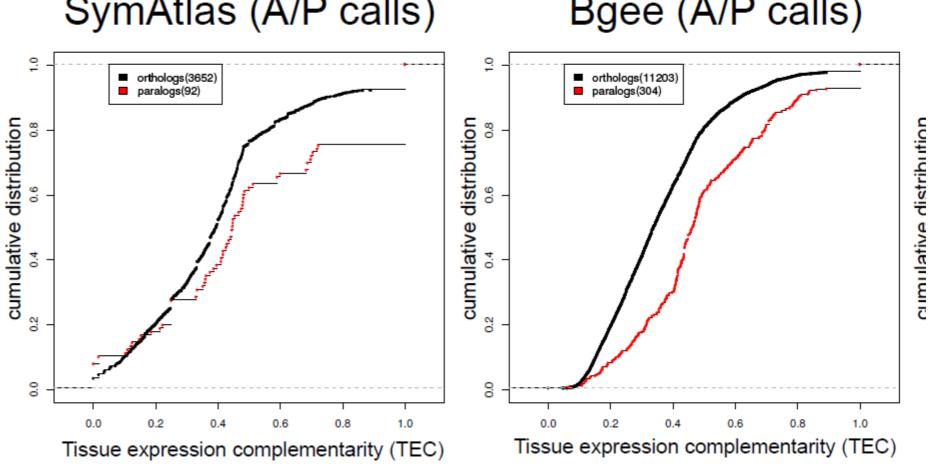


Comparison of differences in tissue-specific patterns of expression across orthologs and paralogs.

Evidence for short-time divergence and long-time conservation of tissue-specific expression after gene duplication.

Huerta-Cepas J, Dopazo J, Huynen MA, Gabaldón T.

Brief Bioinform. 2011 Sep;12(5):442-8. doi: 10.1093/bib/bbr022



SymAtlas (A/P calls)

Bgee (A/P calls)



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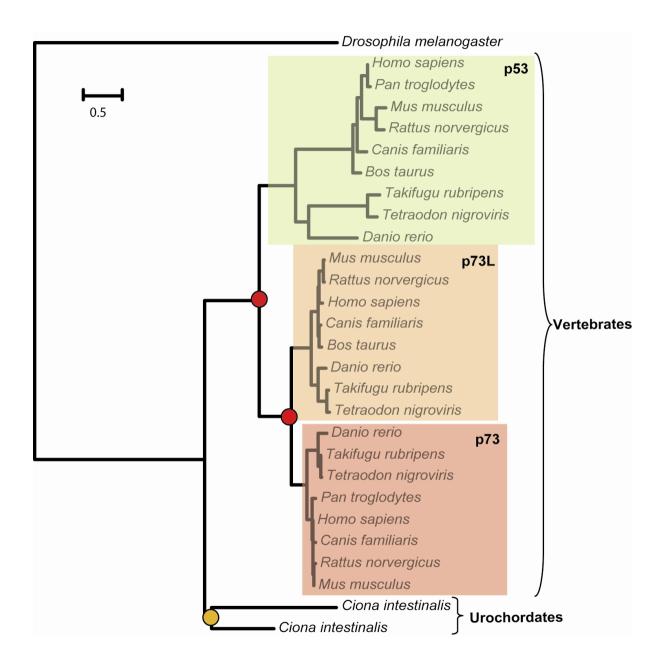
Orthology Part II

Orthology prediction methods

Toni Gabaldón Centre for Genomic Regulation (CRG), Barcelona

Classical approach: phylogenetic inference

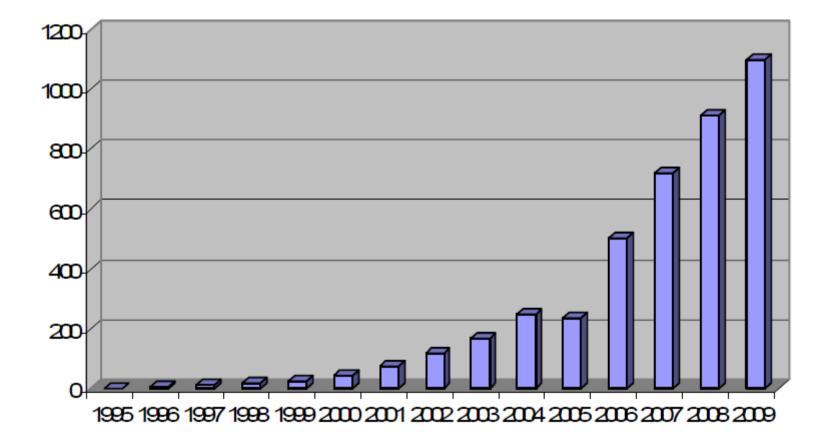
- Build a gene tree
- Compare to the species tree
- Infer duplications and speciation events
- Assign orthology and paralogy relationships accordingly

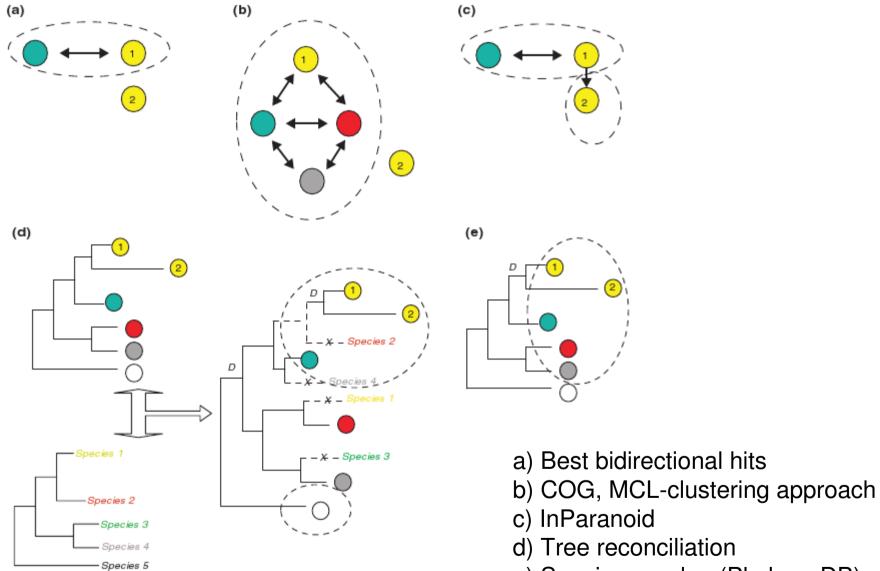


Going genome-wide scale:

Everything must be done automatic and "blind"

Completely sequenced genomes





e) Species-overlap (PhylomeDB)

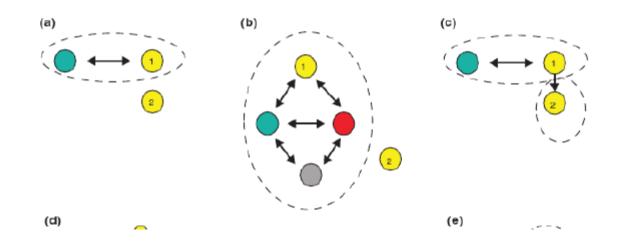
Gabaldón, T. *Genome Biology* (2008)

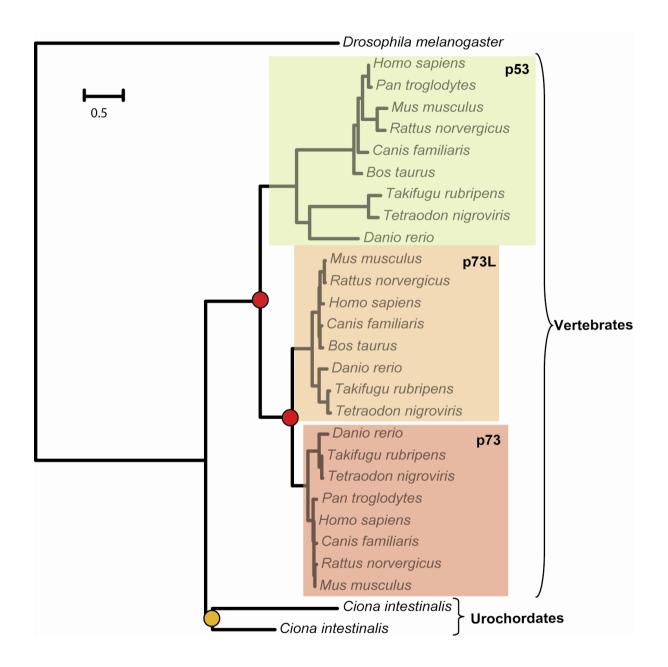
Similarity-based approaches (many more approaches):

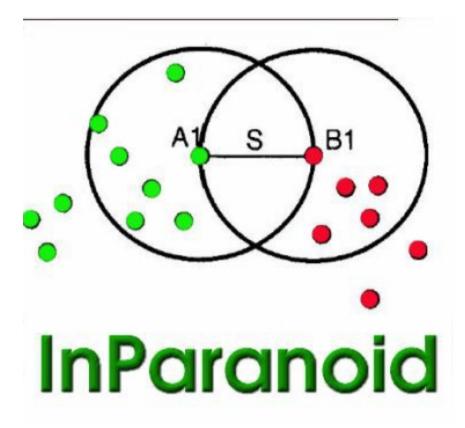
Best Reciprocal Hits

Detects all orthologies as one-to one. Highly affected by paralogy. Low rate of false positives but high rates of false negatives.

The simplest and fastest method, still widely used

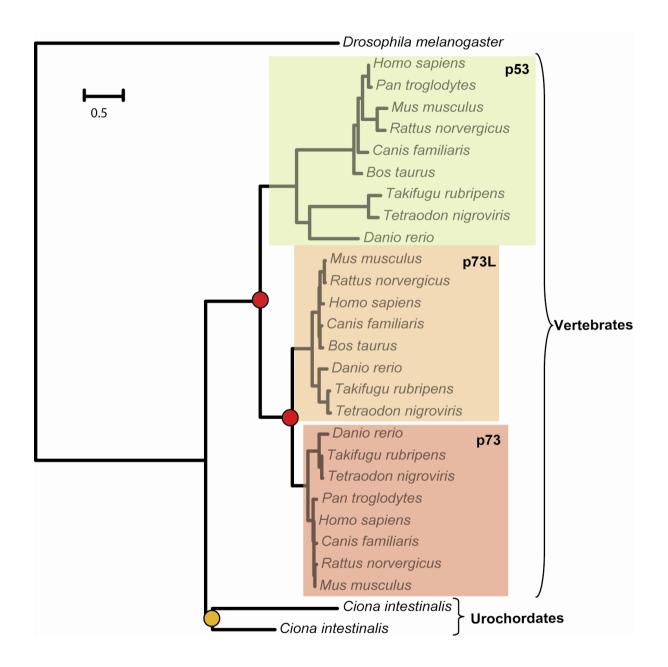






In-Paranoid.

Improved BRH to detect in-paralogs as well. Works well at the pairwise level. (multi-paranoid for multi-species comparisons



Definition of **in-** and **out-paralogues** require the specification of a given **speciation-node** of reference

COG-like (used by many DBs like STRING)

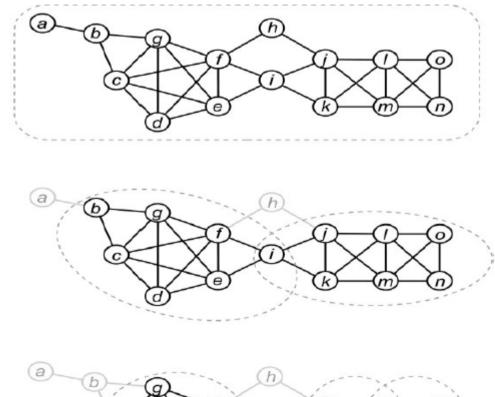
Exploits multi-species information. Predicts clusters of orthologous groups (in-paralogs) not all pairs in a cluster are paralogs.

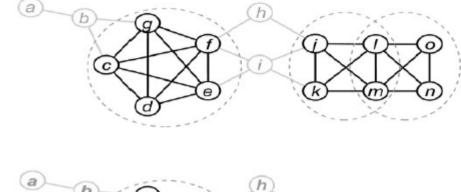
Can be used at different stringent levels



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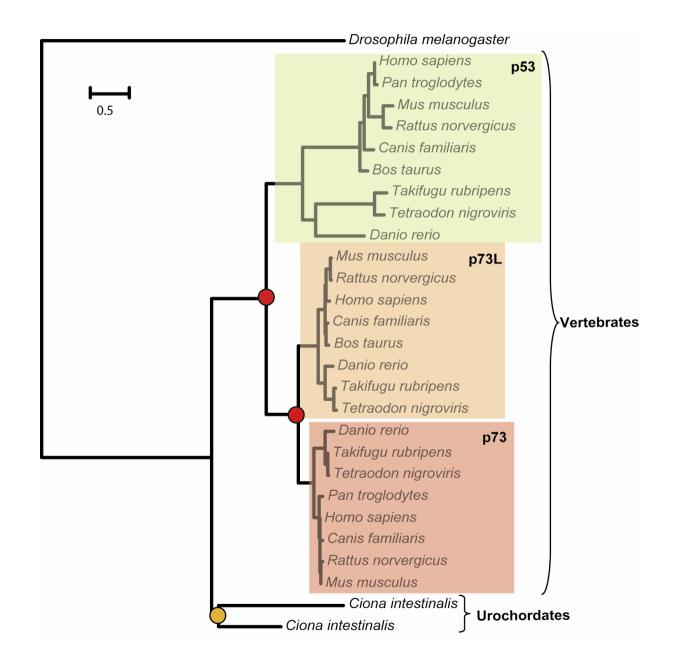
Clustering methods produce: orthologous groups

Equivalent to the earlier concept of sub-family

Orthologous groups = Group of sequences derived from a single gene in a common ancestor. They may include orthologs and in-paralogues.

Each orthologous group has implicit the specification of an ancestral species of reference (a speciation node).

How many orthologous groups? 3 at the level of vertebrates, 1 at the level of chordates



The definition of a reference ancestral species is just an approximation to the inherently hierarchical nature of gene family evolution: and is thus incomplete.

To alleviate this, many databases define orthologous groups at various hierarchical levels (e.g Metazoa, Vertebrates, Mammals, Primates)

Methods based on phylogeny where not used at a large scale due to limitations in computational power (phylogenetics is costly).

However, these has changed recently, fast pipelines and algorithms are available:

Ensembl trees, PhylomeDB, TreeFam, etc..

Review Large-scale assignment of orthology: back to phylogenetics? Toni Gabaldón

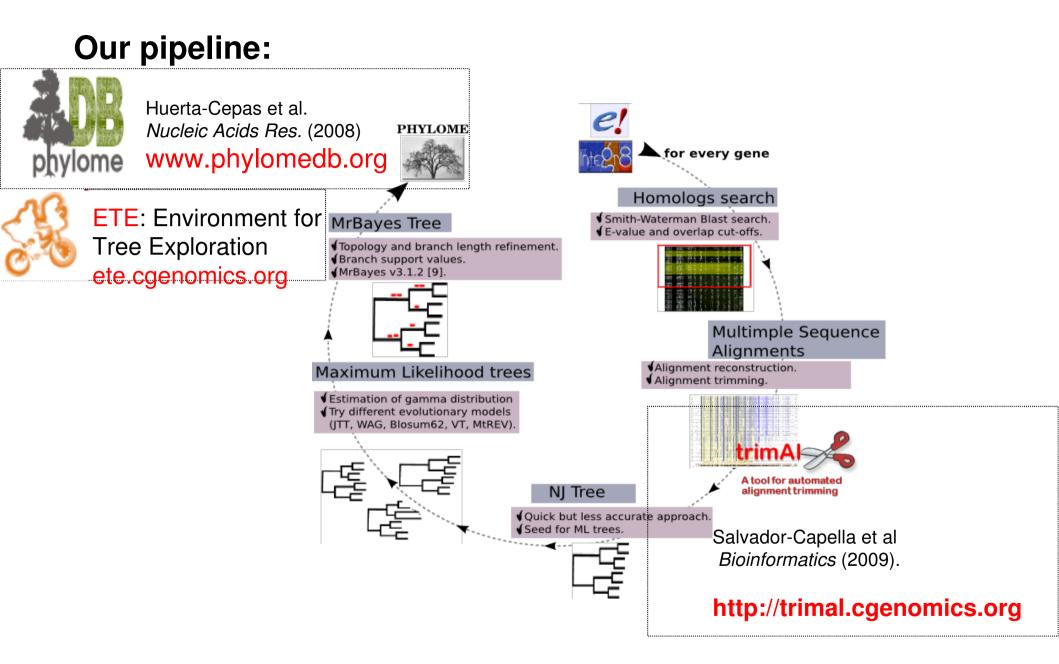
Bioinformatics and Genomics Program, Center for Genomic Regulation, Doctor Aiguader, 88, 08003 Barcelona, Spain. Email: tgabaldon@crg.es

Published: 30 October 2008

Genome Biology 2008, 9:235 (doi:10.1186/gb-2008-9-10-235)

Abstract

Reliable orthology prediction is central to comparative genomics. Although orthology is defined by phylogenetic criteria, most automated prediction methods are based on pairwise sequence comparisons. Recently, automated phylogeny-based orthology prediction has emerged as a feasible alternative for genome-wide studies.



Pipeline described in Huerta-Cepas et al Genome Biology (2007)

Phylogeny-based methods

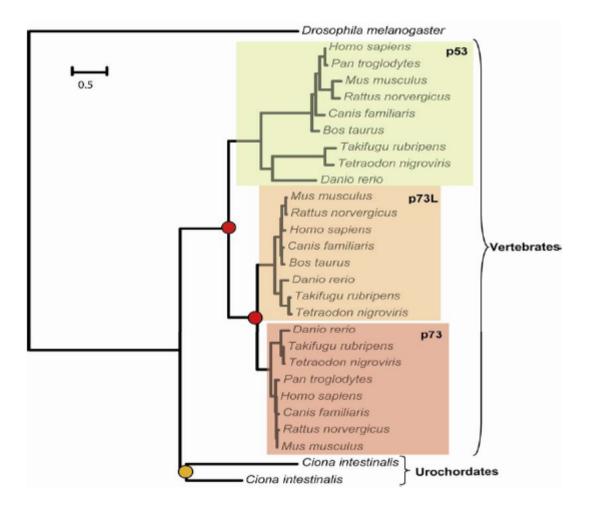
- General procedure: reconstruct the evolution of a gene family (phylogenetics), detect duplication and speciation nodes and predict orthology and paralogy accordingly.
- Two main methods for predicting duplication and speciation nodes from a tree:
 - → Species tree reconciliation (RIO, Ensembl)
 - \rightarrow Species-overlap algorithms

Reconciliation with the species tree readily provides you information on speciation and duplication nodes in a tree

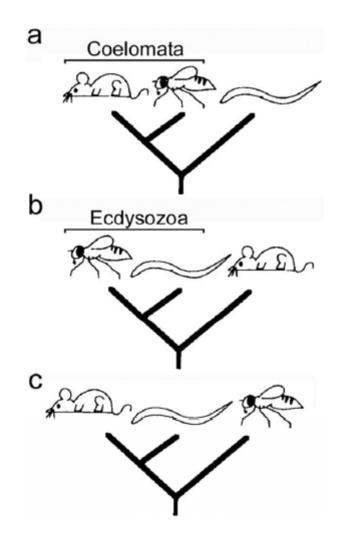
It works when these two assumptions are correct:

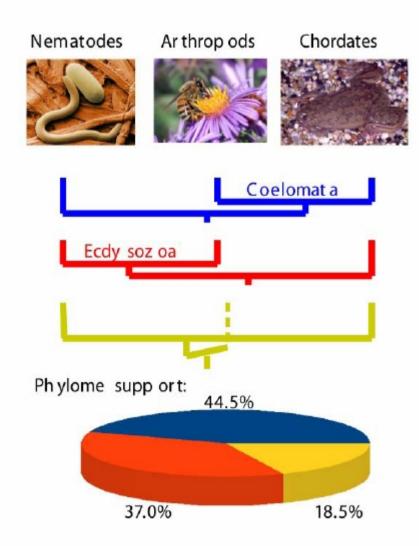
A) We know the true species tree

B) The gene tree is correct and reflects the species evolution



Uncertainty in species trees and topological variability in gene trees





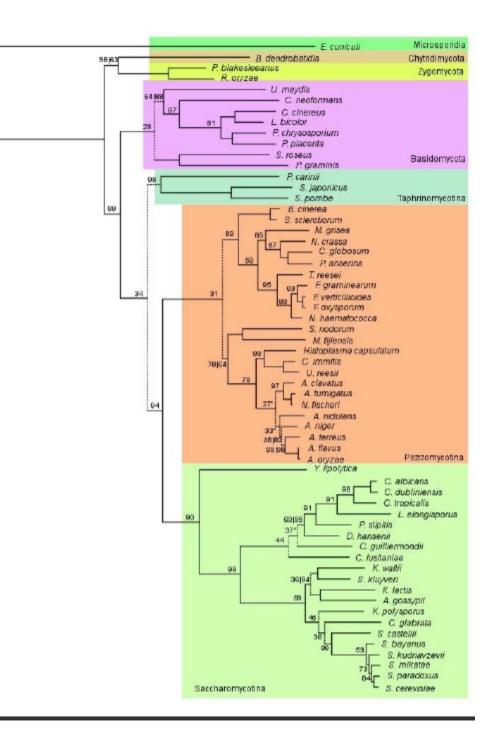
What percentage of gene trees from the human phylome support each topology?

Similar results for

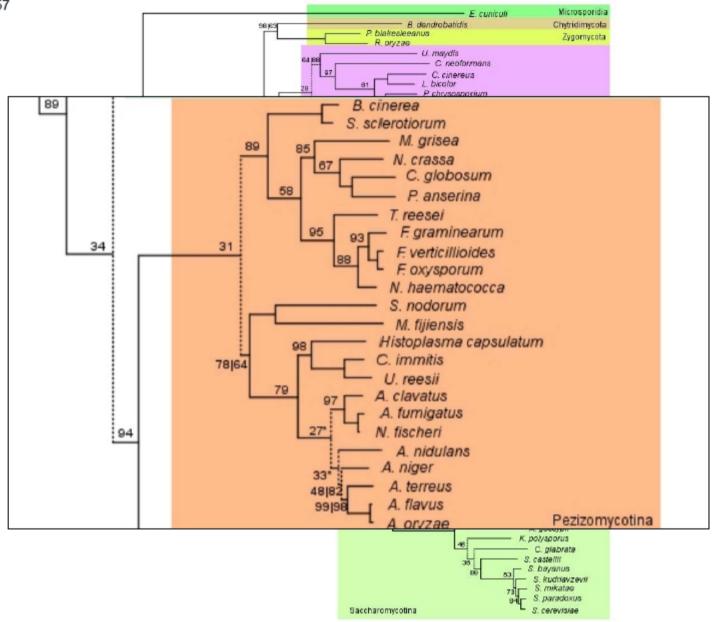
Primates Rodents Iaurasatheria The tree vs the forest:

Comparison of a fungal species tree with the topological variability of the fungal phylome

Marcet-Houben M and Gabaldón T, 2009 PLoS ONE 4(2): e4357



Marcet-Houben M, Gabaldón T, 2009 PLoS ONE 4(2): e4357

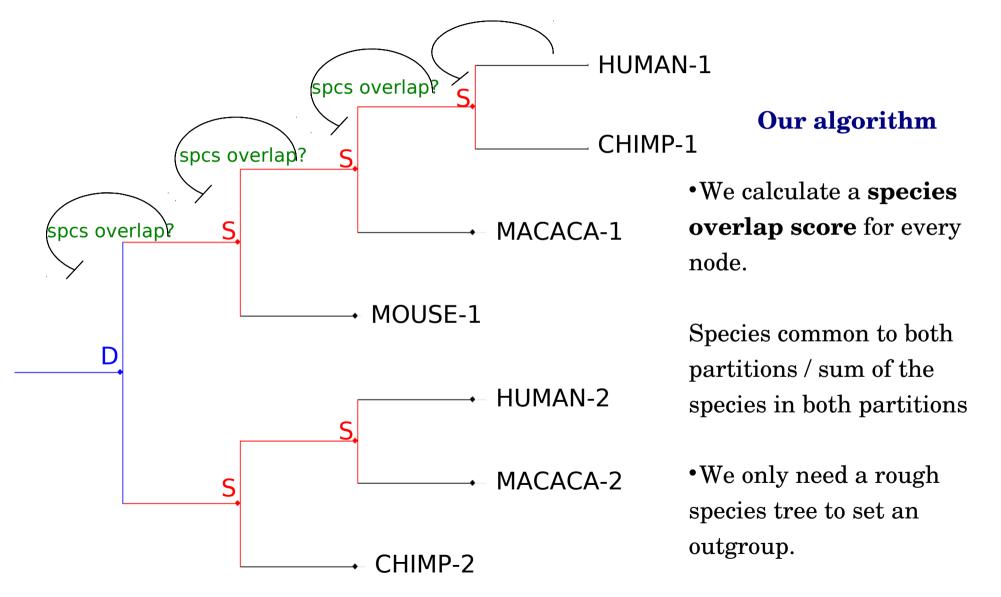


This large-degree of topological variability might be in part due to phylogenetic artifacts, insuficient phylogenetic signal, etc. But also to real evolutionary processes that render a gene tree different from a species tree: lineage sorting, gene conversion, etc

In any case: strict interpretation of gene and species trees will result in many incorrect predictions

To deal with topological variability we implemented a species-overlap algorithm

(described in Huerta-Cepas et al. (2007) The human phylome. Genome Biology)



The species-overlap algorithm (**PhylomeDB**) is highly accurate and less affected by gene tree/ species tree artifacts than tree-reconciliation

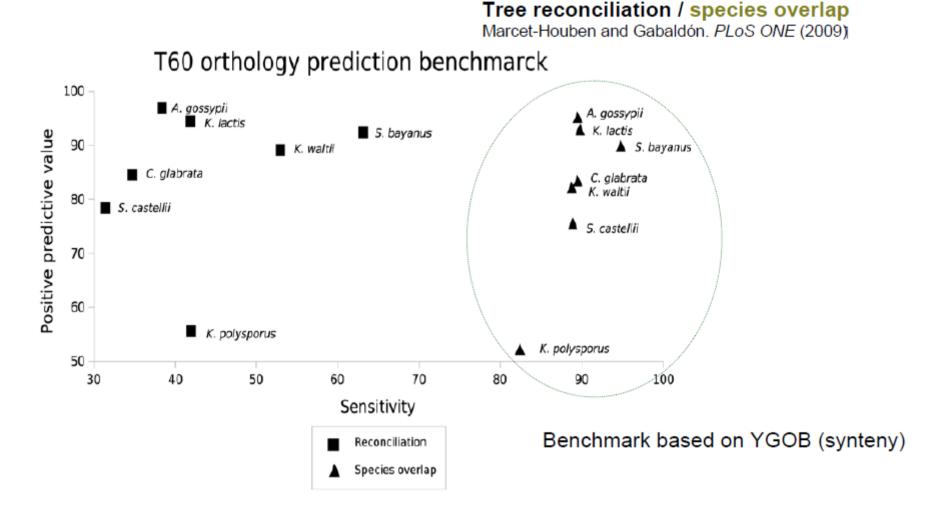
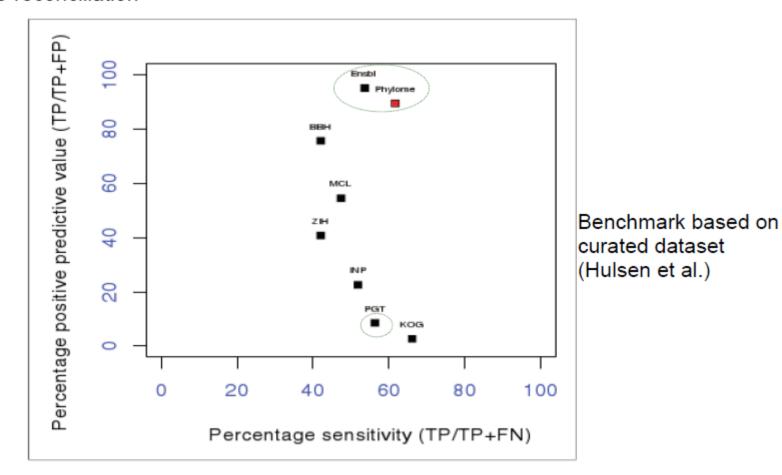


Figure 2. Comparison of different orthology inference algorithms. The synteny based and manually curated orthology predictions available at YGOB database [18] is taken as a golden set to compute the number of true positives (TP), false positives (FP) and false negatives (FN) yielded by each method. For each method, the sensitivity S = TP/(TP+FN) and the positive predictive value P = TP/(TP+FP) are computed. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0004357.g002

The species-overlap algorithm (PhylomeDB) is highly accurate and less affected by gene tree/ species tree artifacts than tree-reconciliation



Blast based / phylogeny-based

Huerta-Cepas et al. Genome Biology (2007)

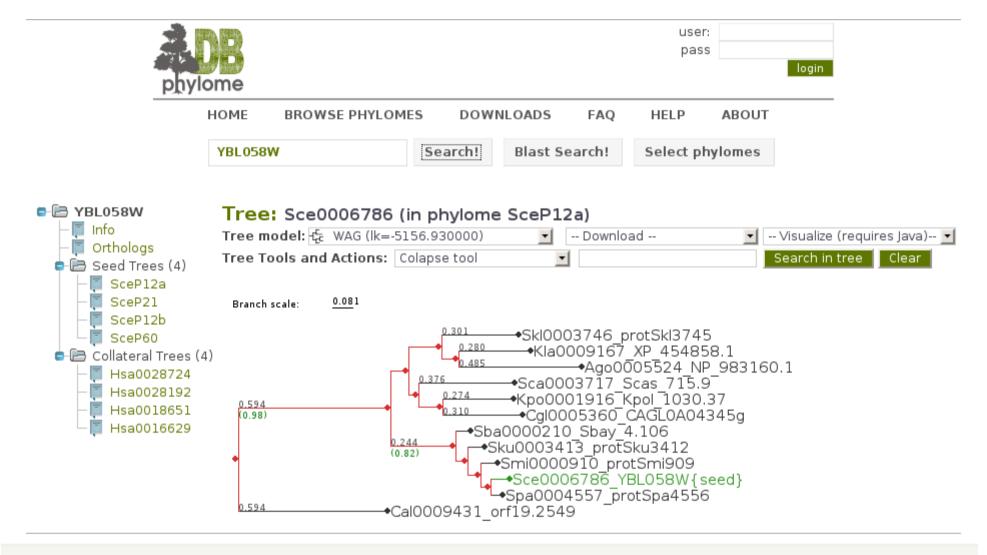
www.phylomedb.org

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phylo	ome							login
	HOME	BROWSE PHYLOM	ES DOW	NLOADS	FAQ	HELP	ABOUT	
	YBL058W		Search!	Blast Se	earch!	Select ph	ylomes	

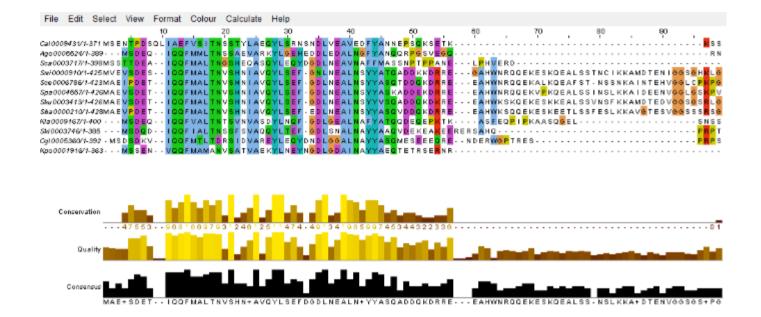
Welcome to PhylomeDB.

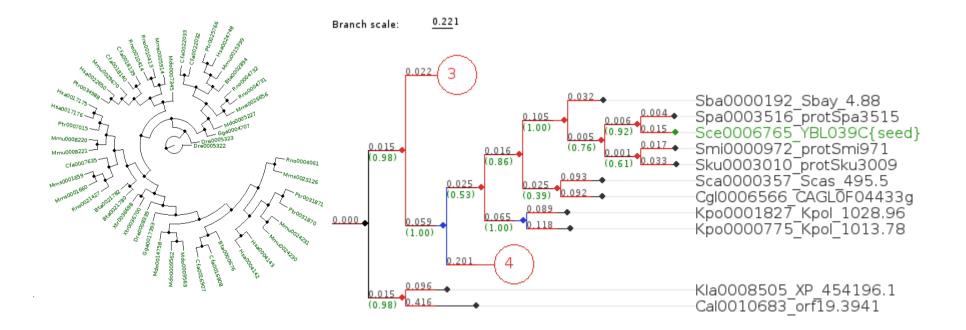
PhylomeDB is a public database for complete collections of gene phylogenies (phylomes). It allows users to **interactively explore the evolutionary history of genes** through the visualization of phylogenetic trees and multiple sequence alignments. Moreover, phylomeDB provides genome-wide orthology and paralogy predictions which are based on the analysis of the phylogenetic trees. The automated pipeline used to reconstruct trees **aims at providing a high-quality phylogenetic analysis of different genomes**, including Maximum Likelihood or Bayesian tree inference, alignment trimming and evolutionary model testing. PhylomeDB includes also a public **download section with the complete set of trees, alignments and orthology predictions**.

Comparative Genomics Group at CRG (Barcelona, Spain). | Citation



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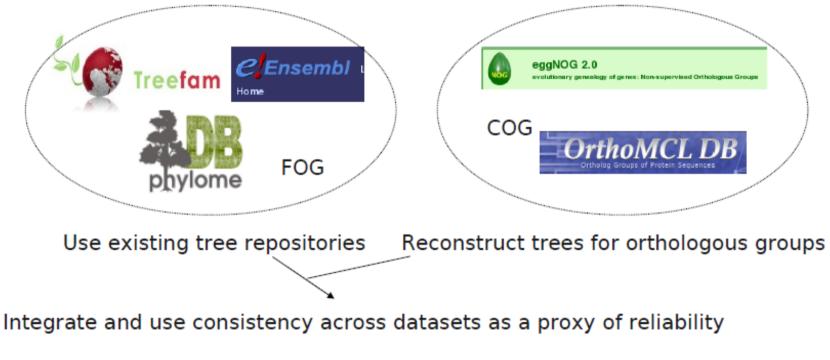






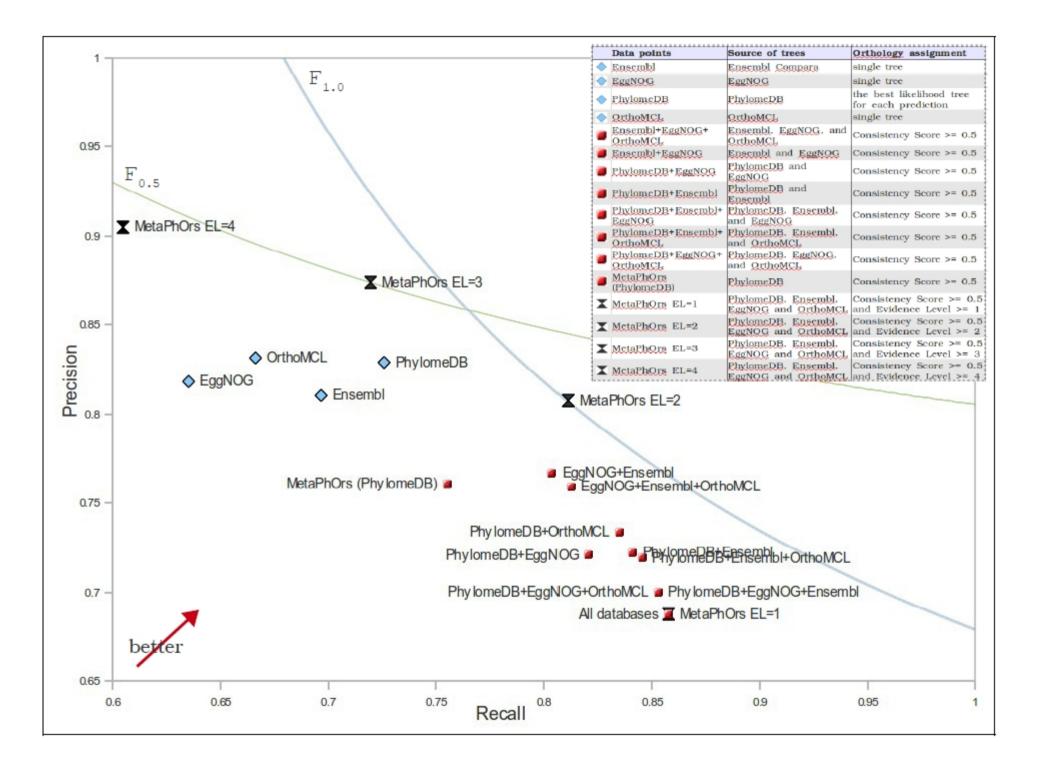
MetaPhOrs

(Meta-Phylogeny-Based-Orthologs)



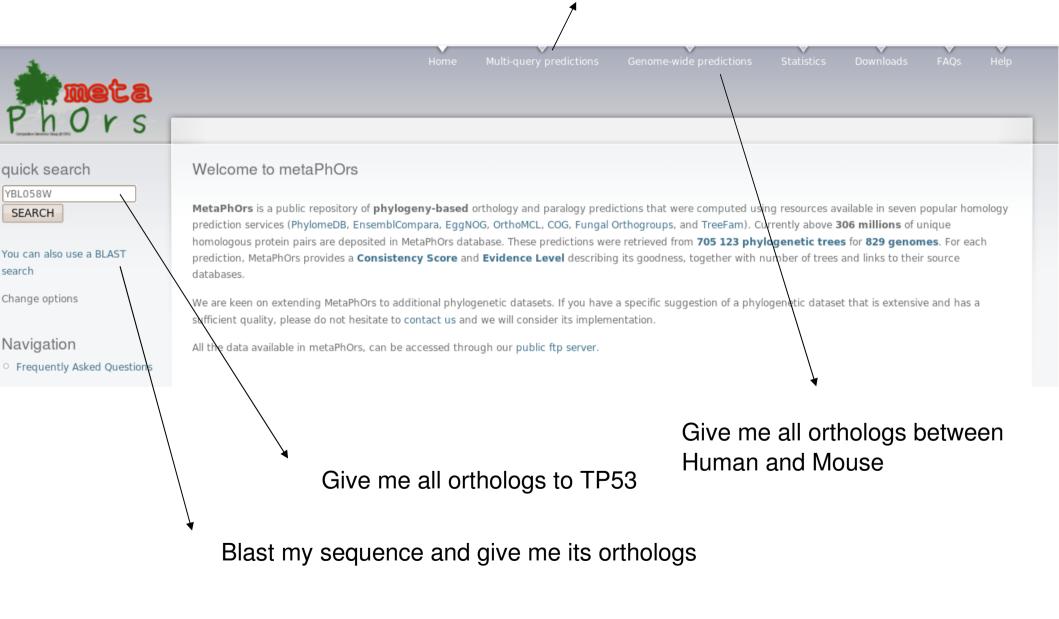
result: phylogeny-based predictions across 800 genomes with a confidence score

Pryszcz et. al. (NAR, 2011)



http://orthology.phylomedb.org

Give me all orthologs for a list of IDs



* Where it says orthologs, you can place paralogs instead!



P04637

SEARCH

You can also use a BLAST search

Change options

Navigation

Frequently Asked Questions

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Orthology predictions for P04637

Phy00086SJ_HUMAN (Homo sapiens) mapped as: P04637

Target species	H. sapiens	Target orthologs	CS	Evidence	Trees	PhylomeDB	Ens	Egg	Ort	COG	FO	TF
	co-orthologs (CS)			level		CS / EL						
Acyrthosiphon pisum	4 co-orthologs	Phy000YFHA	0.833	3	6	0.833 / 3						
	4 co-orthologs	Phy000YLR7	0.833	3	6	0.833 / 3						
	4 co-orthologs	C4WXY0	0.833	3	6	0.833 / 3						
Aedes aegypti	4 co-orthologs	Q171M5	1.000	2	3	1.000 / 1						
	4 co-orthologs	Q171M1	0.800	3	5	0.667 / 1						
Anopheles gamblae	4 co-orthologs	Q7QAB9	0.833	4	6	0.800 / 3						
	4 co-orthologs	Q7QBX6	0.875	5	8	0.833 / 3						
Apis mellifera	3 co-orthologs	Phy000ZPXS	0.667	1	3	0.667 / 1						
Bombyx mori	3 co-orthologs	Phy000VIB2	1.000	2	3	1.000 / 2						
Bos taurus	Phy00086SJ_(1.00)	P67939	1.000	4	7	1.000 / 1						
Branchiostoma floridae	3 co-orthologs	C3XPU2	1.000	1	1	-						
	3 co-orthologs	СЗҮХНЗ	1.000	1	1	-						
	3 co-orthologs	C3ZIW1	1.000	1	1	-						

Confidence score [0-1] = fraction of independent trees that support this association

Evidence level

Check the trees

"Estoy enganchado al metaphors como un drogata al caballo--y hoy parece que tienen el servidor colgado--porfa diselo a quien se encargue porque necesito mirar cosas ahi."

Our best feedback ever.

(Received last week from a famous Immunologist.)

¿With over 30 orthology databases, based on various methods, which ones to choose?

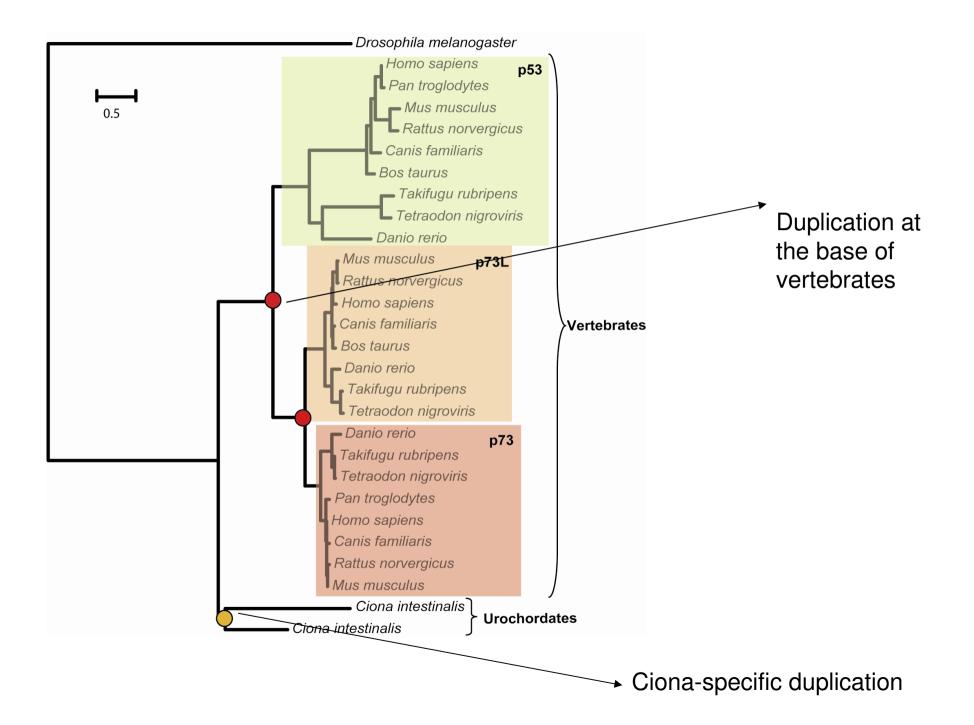
- Different taxonomic focuses
- Different methodologies
- Different outputs (pairwise relationships, groups, etc)
- Different interfaces
- Different accuracies (how to benchmark this?)

What about paralogy?

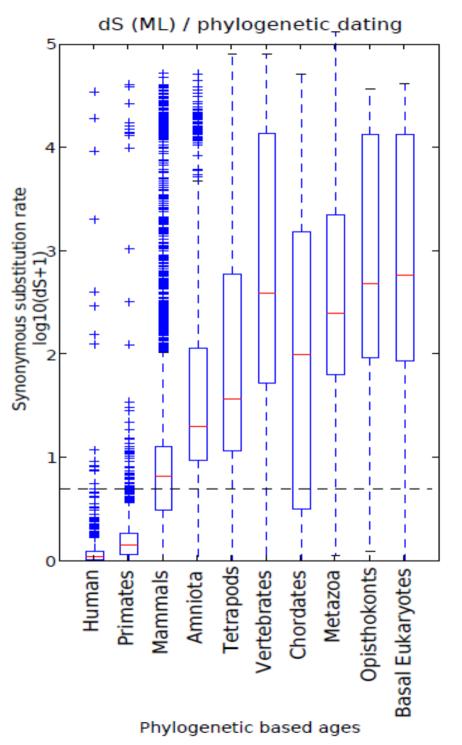
Most pairwise methods focus on orthologs, only in-paralogs are taken into account sometimes.

Phylogeny-based methods readily inform both on orthology and paralogy.

They also provide information on the possible date of the duplication (topological dating)







Comparison of topological dating vs dS

