Gene trees challenge





SC-OGs are types of phylogenomic markers





Molecular evo. often relies on SC-OGs

Many molecular evolution studies *strictly* rely on single-copy orthologs (SC-OGs)



Phylogenomics typically relies on SC-OGs

- Phylogenomics,
- gene coevolution analysis
- others

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genome-wide surveys of (+) selection





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- Phylogenomics,
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but SC-OGs are hard to find...

Many molecular evolution studies strictly rely on single-copy orthologs (SC-OGs)

genome-wide surveys of (+) selection





The quest for SC-OGs

A dataset of 35 plants only one single-copy orthogroup was identified





The quest for SC-OGs

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A dataset of 30 turtles, tortoise, birds, crocodile, alligators, and others only 27 single-copy orthogroups identified







The quest for SC-OGs

A dataset of 35 plants

only one single-copy orthogroup was identified

only 27 single-copy orthogroups identified

A dataset of 76 arthropods (Thomas et al. (2020), Genome Biology) Zero single-copy orthogroups with 100% occupancy



A dataset of 30 turtles, tortoise, birds, crocodile, alligators, and others





Too few phylogenomic markers :(

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The number of single-copy orthologs decreases as the number of species and evolutionary distance among species increases





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Can other types of orthologs be used for molecular evolution studies?











Steenwyk et al. (2022), PLOS Biology

 Gene M, N, and O are outparalogs—paralogous genes wherein duplication occurred prior to a speciation event





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 A | N1 and A | N2 are within species inparalogs





Steenwyk et al. (2022), PLOS Biology

Note, splitting this tree will result in multiple subgroups of single-copy orthologs





Steenwyk et al. (2022), PLOS Biology

subgroups of single-copy inand outparalogs from multi-copy orthologous groups of genes





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We term these SNAP-OGs because they are orthologs that have undergone a **s**plitting and pruning procedure



Ortho

identify single-copy orthologous genes nested within larger gene families

A Gene family sequences with multiple homologs in one or more species

> >sp0|g0 ATGCAGGCA... >sp1|g0 ATGCCGGCA... >sp2|g0 ATGCAGGCA... ...

Gene family tree with multiple homologs in one or more species



ORTHO logous group of genes Splitting And Pruning





ORTHO logous group of genes SplittiNg And Pruning





ORTHOlogous group of genes **S**plitti**N**g **A**nd **P**runing





ORTHOlogous group of genes **S**plitti**N**g **A**nd **P**runing



Cartoon depiction of Ortho







1,668

Budding yeast (No WGD)

| SNAP-OGs | Fold difference |
|----------|-----------------|
| 1,392 | 0.83 |







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| | SC-OGs | SNAP-OGs | Fold difference |
|---------------------------------------|--------|----------|-----------------|
| Budding yeast (No WGD) | 1,668 | 1,392 | 0.83 |
| Budding yeast (WGD) | 2,782 | 1,334 | 0.48 |
| Filamentous fungi (Aspergillus and | 4,393 | 2,035 | 0.46 |



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| Mammals (Eutherians) | 321 | 1,775 | 5.53 |
| Plants (Complex dup. And | 15 | 653 | 43.53 |
| Choanoflagellate (Transcriptomes) | 390 | 2,087 | 5.35 |





But are SNAP-OGs bad markers?

SNAP- & SC-OGs are statistically indistinguishable







SNAP- & SC-OGs are statistically indistinguishable



Steenwyk et al. (2022), PLOS Biology







@JLSteenwyk

SNAP- & SC-OGs are statistically indistinguishable



Steenwyk et al. (2022), PLOS Biology





@JLSteenwyk

Phylogenomics typically relies on SC-OGs

High-throughput screens of (+) selection requires SC-OGs





Phylogenomics typically relies on SC-OGs

- What types of genes are not typically SC-OGs?
 - Receptors
 - Heat shock proteins
 - Transporters
 - Transcription factors
 - Kinases
 - Etc...

High-throughput screens of (+) selection requires SC-OGs





Molecular evolution of all types of genes

- 5 SNAP-OGs were identified in OGs of transcription factors
- 5 SNAP-OGs were identified in OGs of MFS transporters
- 4 SNAP-OGs were identified in an OG of kinases





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