



Barcelona
Biomedical
Research
Park



Functional and Evolutonary Implications of Orthology

Toni Gabaldón

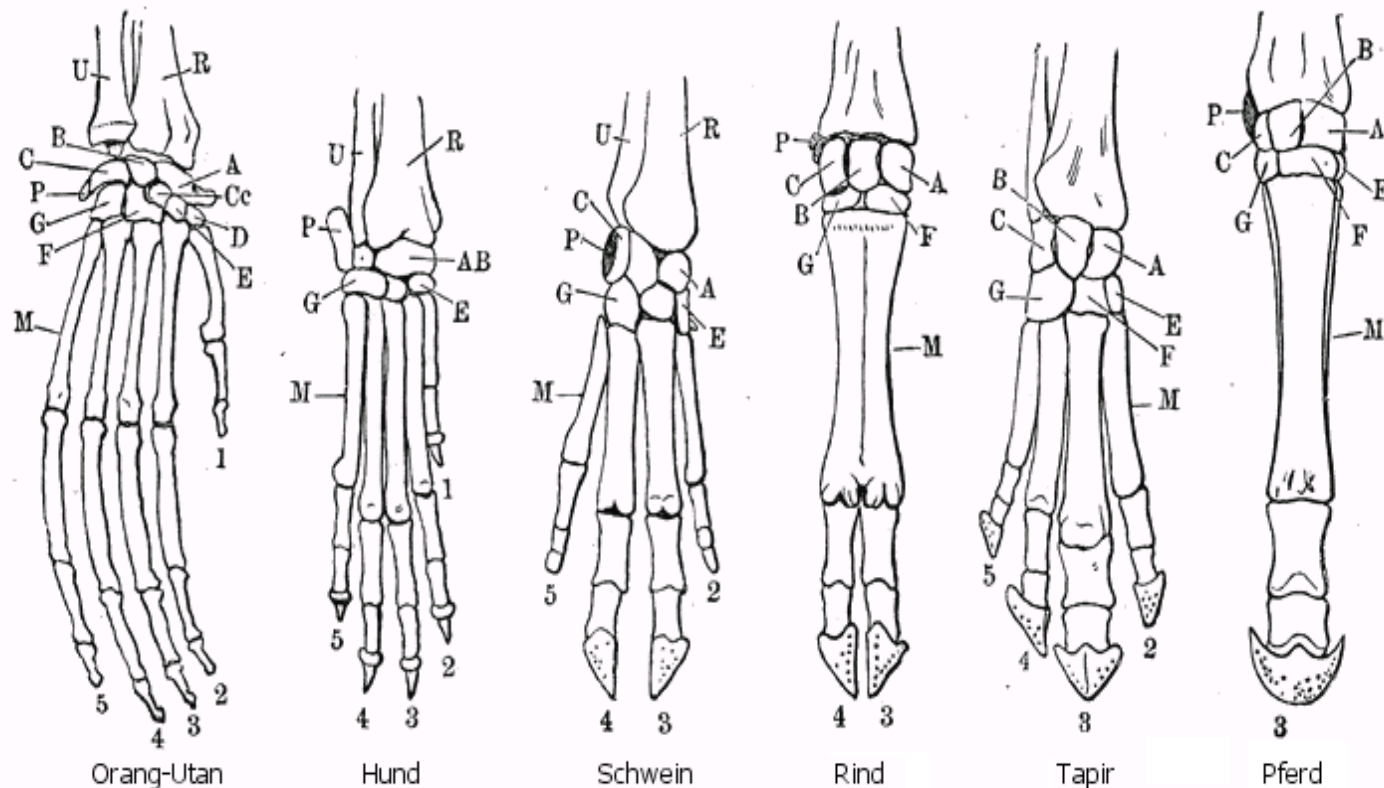
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<http://gabaldonlab.crg.es>



Finding which gene is which in a set of genomes (orthology)



Handskelette von Säugetieren

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).

Homology: **common ancestry**

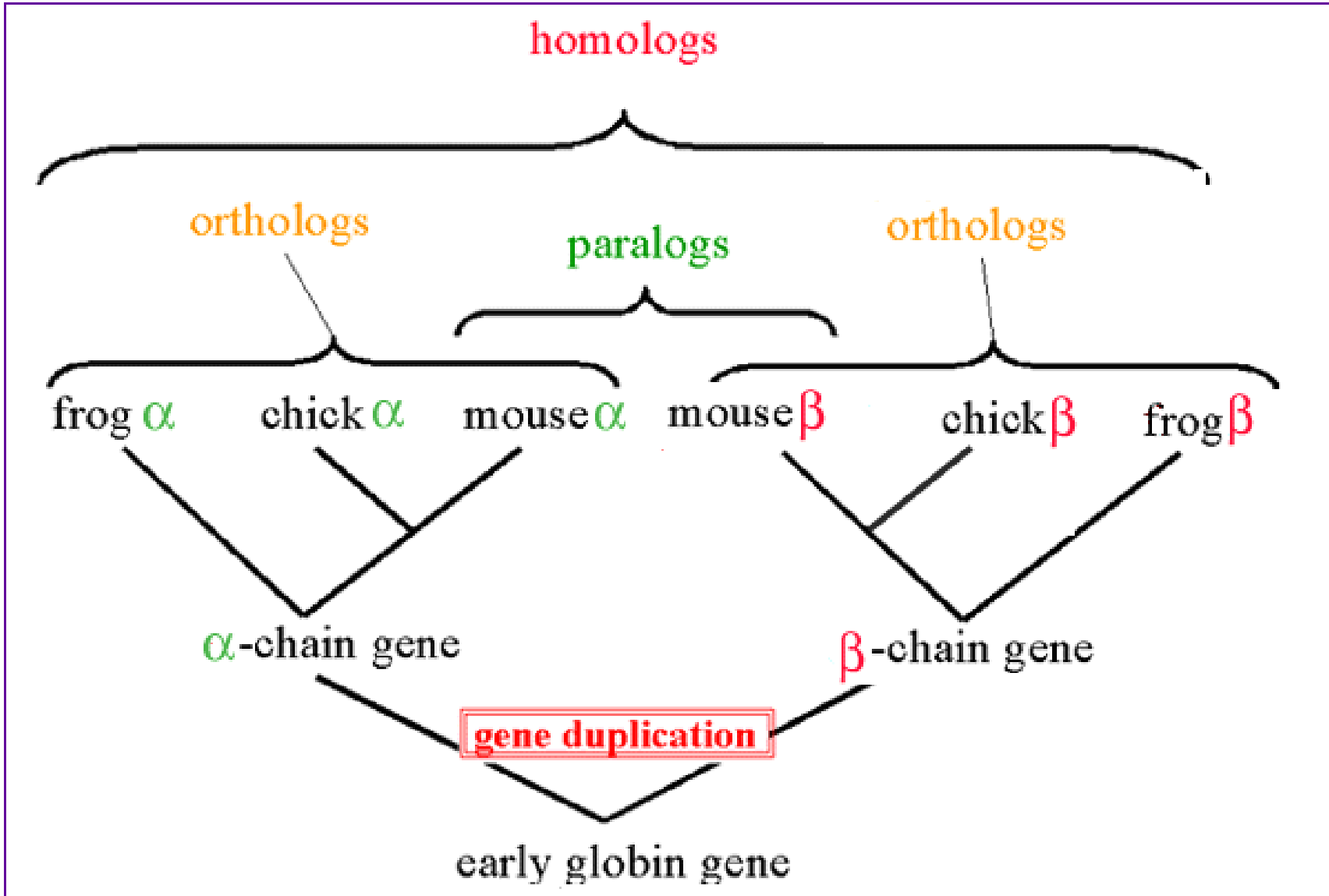
AAB24882 TYHMCQFHCRYVNNHSGEKLYECNERSKAFSCPSHLQCHKRRQIGEKTHEHNQCGKAFPT 60
 AAB24881 -----YECNQC GKAF AQHSSLKCHYRTHIGEKPYECNQC GKAF SK 40
 ****: .***: * *:** * :****.:* *****..

AAB24882 PSHLQYHERTHTGKPYECHQCQAFKKCSLLQRHKRTHTGKPYE-CNQC GKAF AQ- 116
 AAB24881 HSHLQCHKRTHTGKPYECNQC GKAF SQHGLLQRHKRTHTGKPYMNVINMVKPLHNS 98
 **** *:*****:***:**. : .***** : *.: :

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:

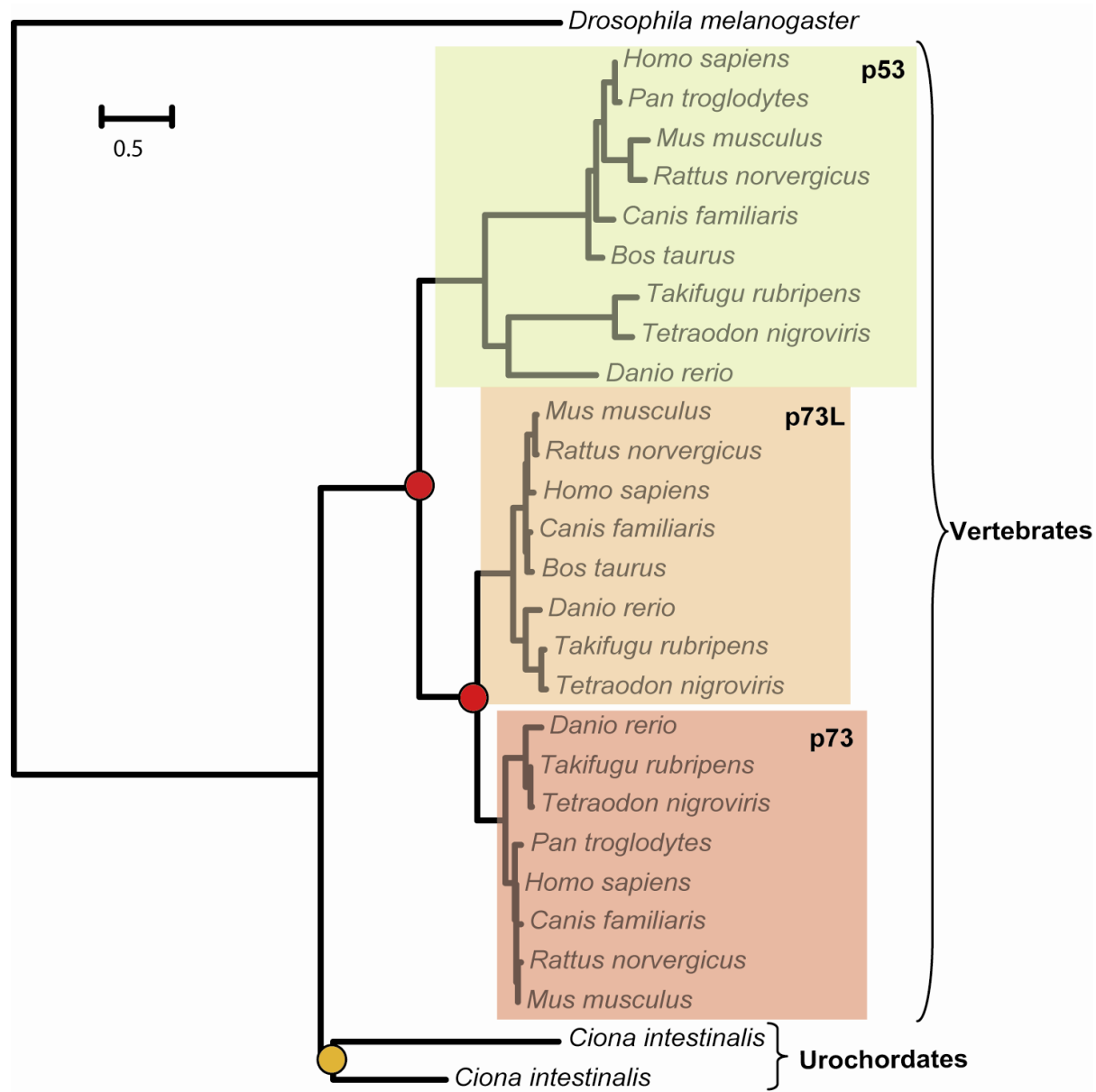
- Orthology definition is purely on evolutionary terms (not functional, not synteny...)
- There is no limit on the number of orthologs or paralogs that a given gene can have (when more than one ortholog exist, there is nothing such as “*the true ortholog*”)
- Many-to-Many orthology relationships do exist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

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

Classical approach: phylogenetic inference

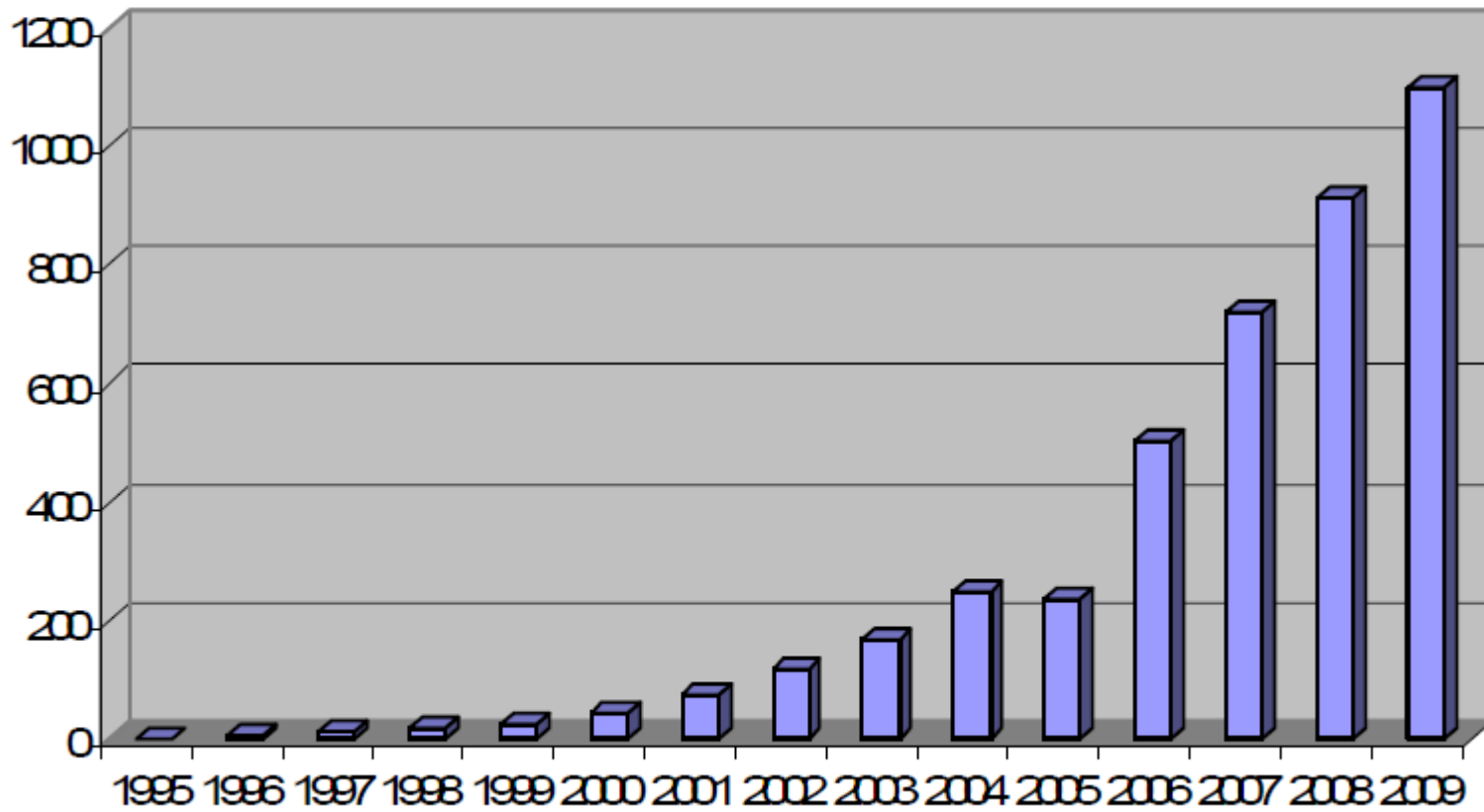
- Build a gene tree
- Compare to the species tree
- Infer duplications and speciation events
- Assign orthology and paralogy relationships accordingly

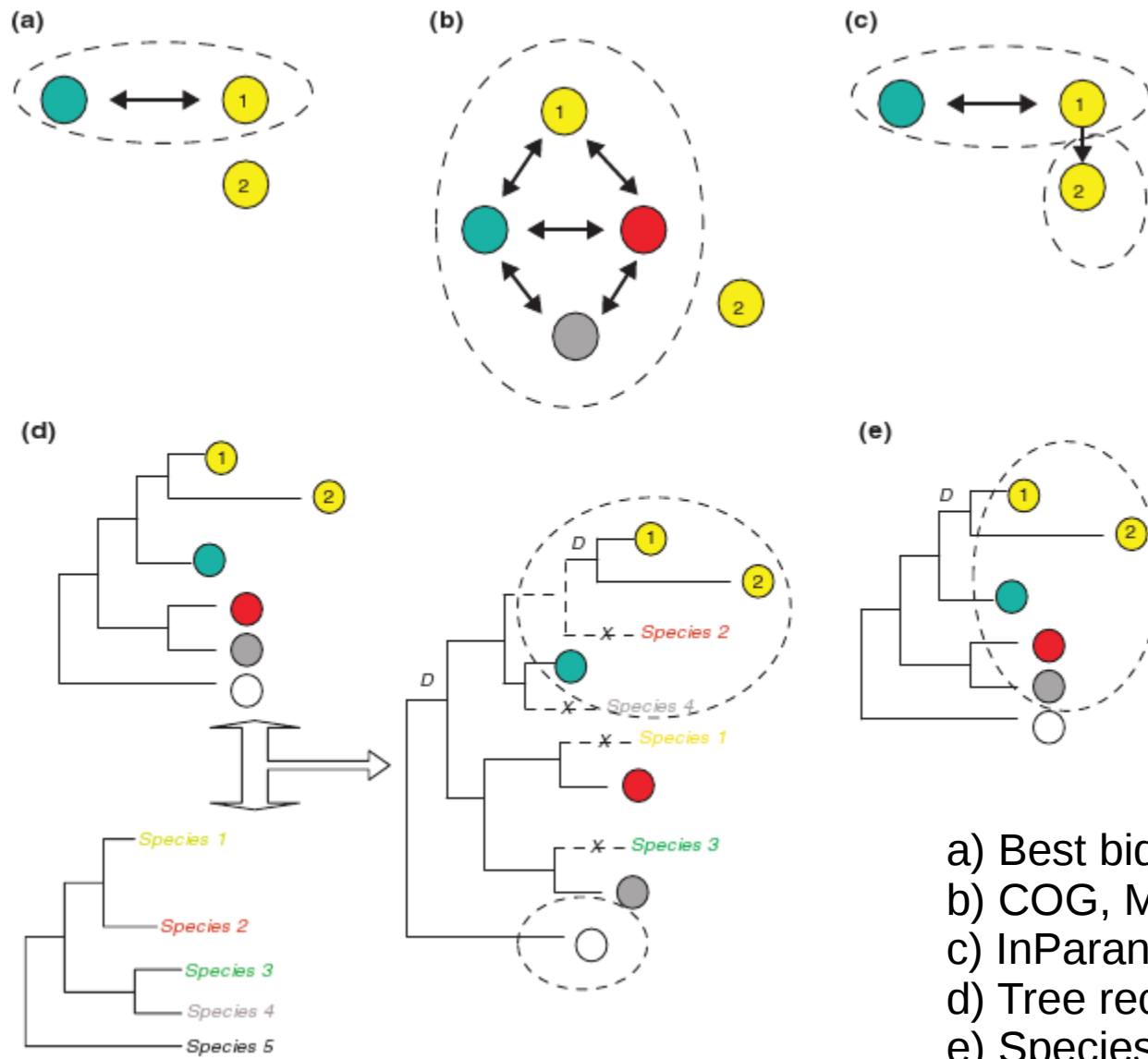


Going genome-wide scale:

Everything must be done automatic and “blind”

Completely sequenced genomes





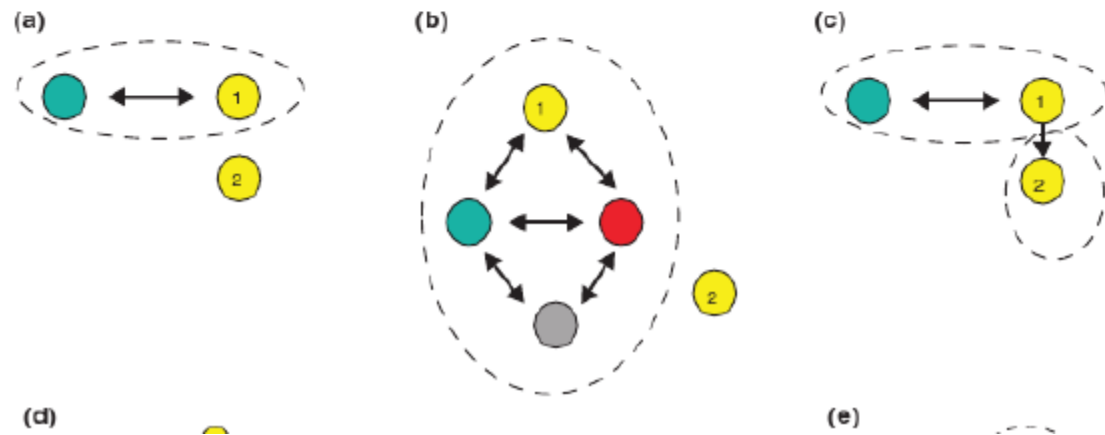
- a) Best bidirectional hits
- b) COG, MCL-clustering approach
- c) InParanoid
- d) Tree reconciliation
- e) Species-overlap (PhyloMeDB)

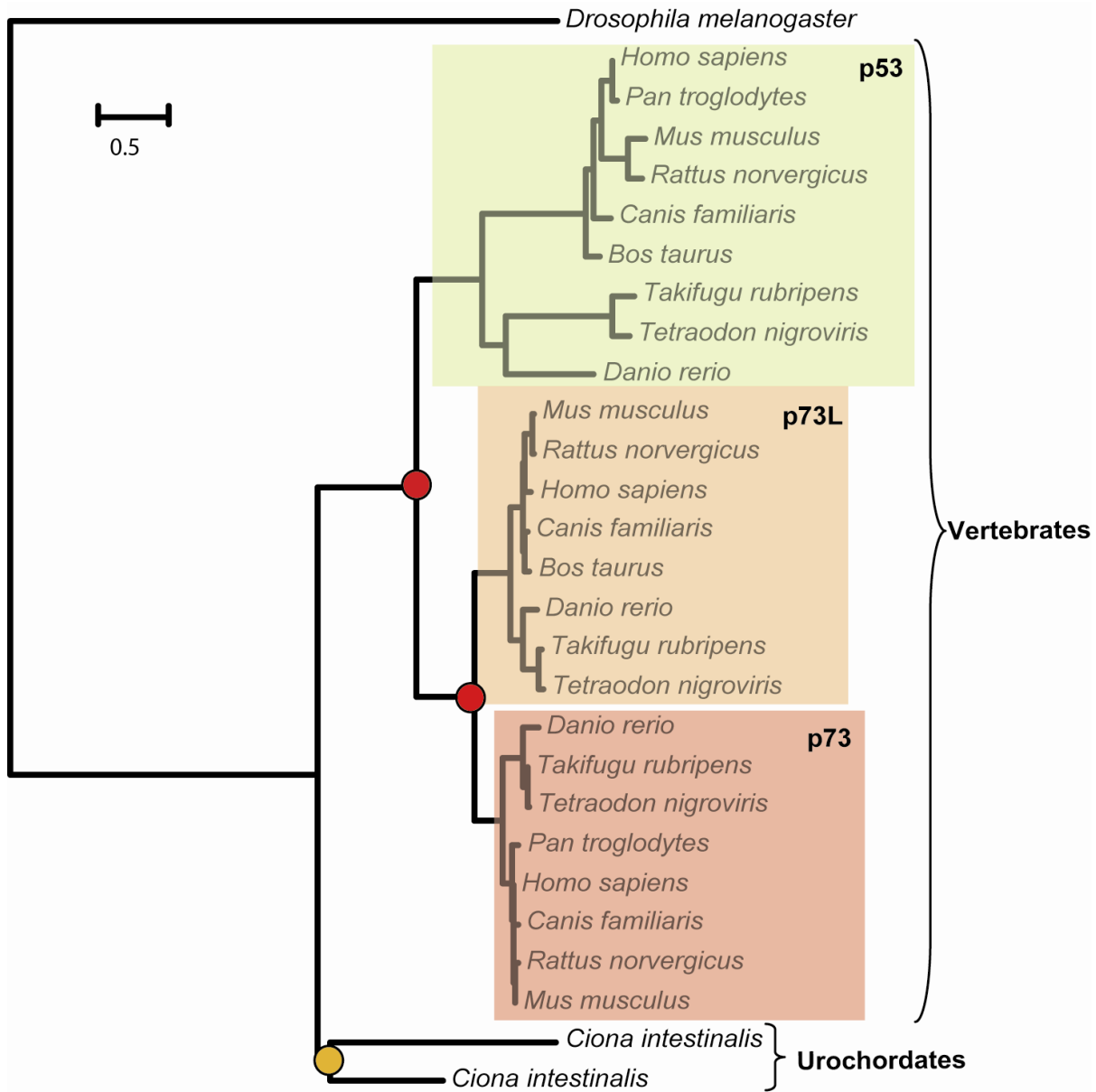
Similarity-based approaches (many more approaches):

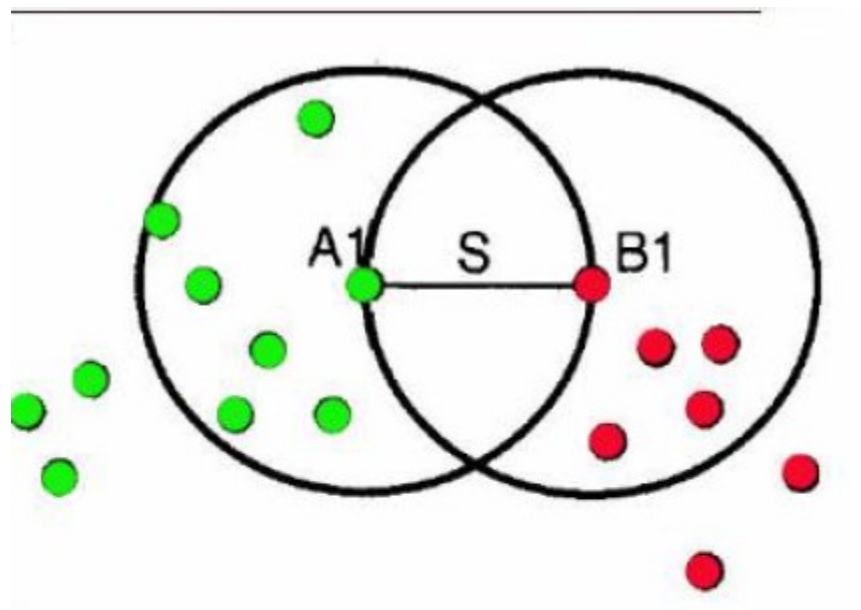
-Best Reciprocal Hits

-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







InParanoid

In-Paranoid.

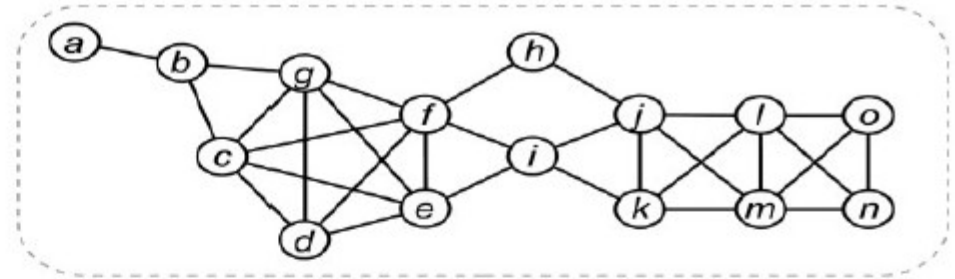
Improved BRH to detect in-paralogs as well. Works well at the pairwise level. (multi-paranoid for multi-species comparisons)

COG-like
(used by many DBs like **STRING**)

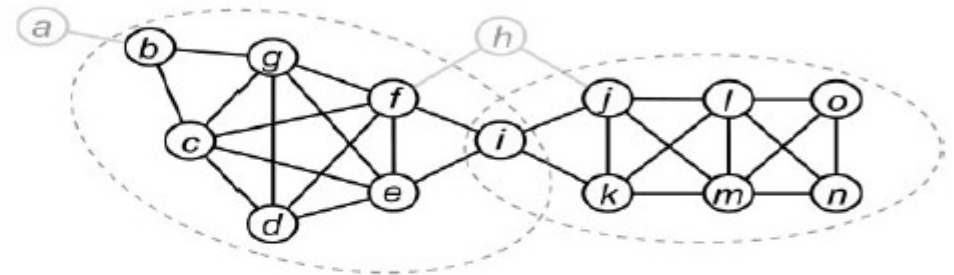
Exploits multi-species information.
Predicts clusters of orthologous groups (in-paralogs) not all pairs in a cluster are paralogs.

Can be used at different stringent levels

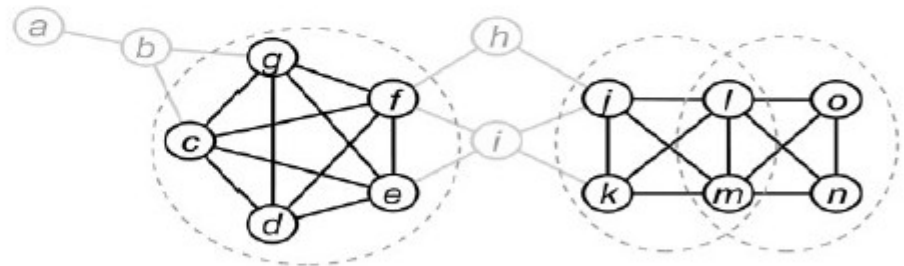
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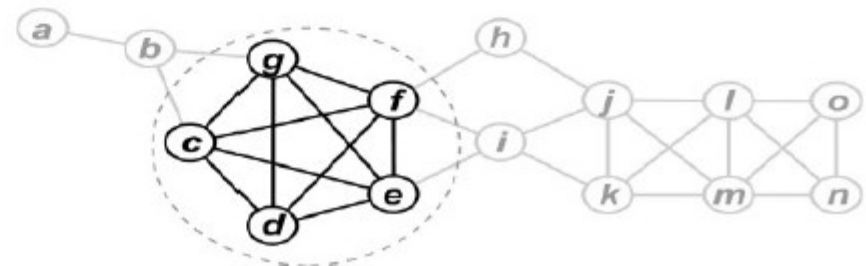
3



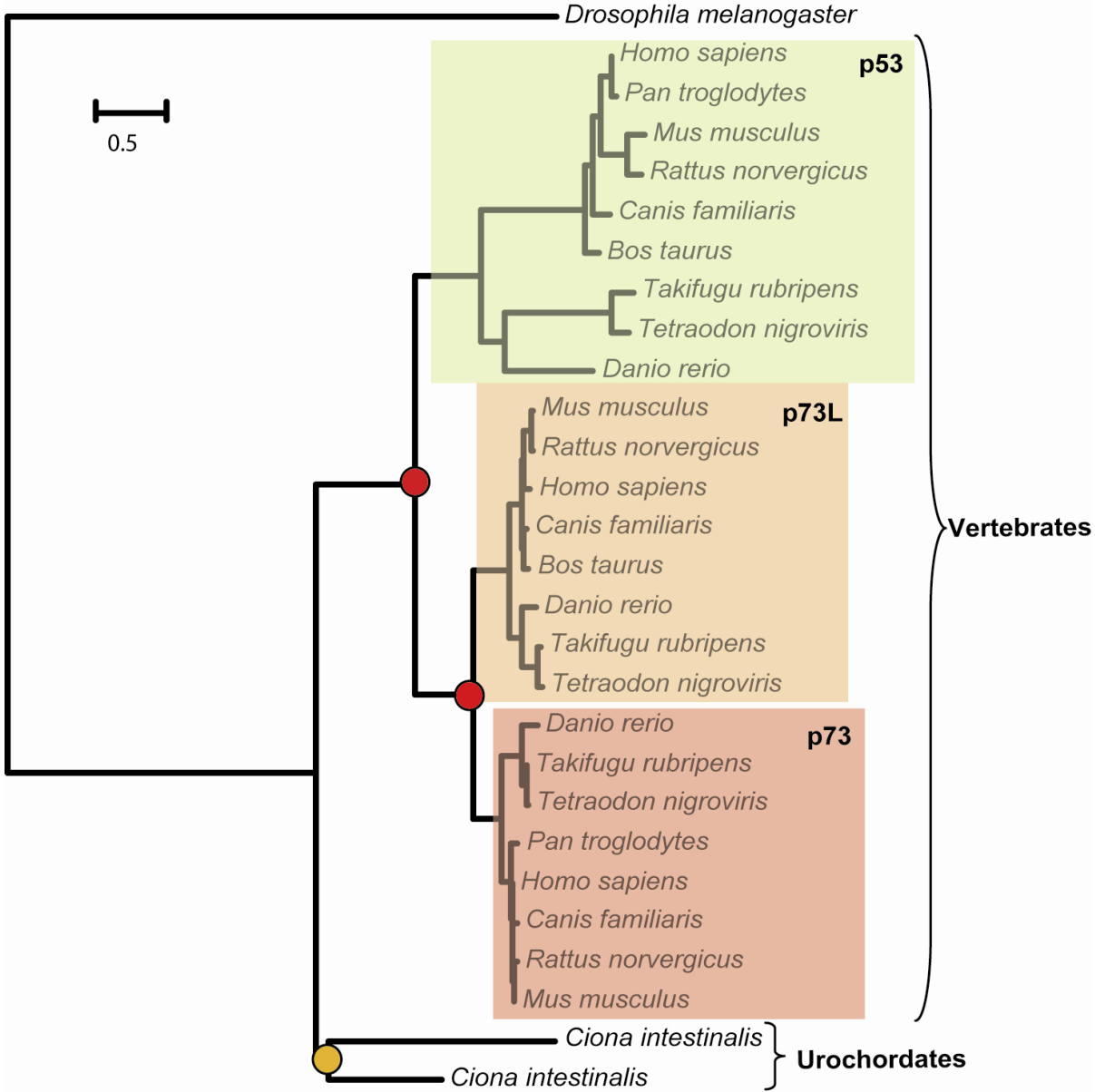
4



5



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



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)

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

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

Ensembl trees, PhylomeDB, TreeFam, etc..

Review

Large-scale assignment of orthology: back to phylogenetics?

Toni Gabaldón

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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.

Phylogeny-based methods

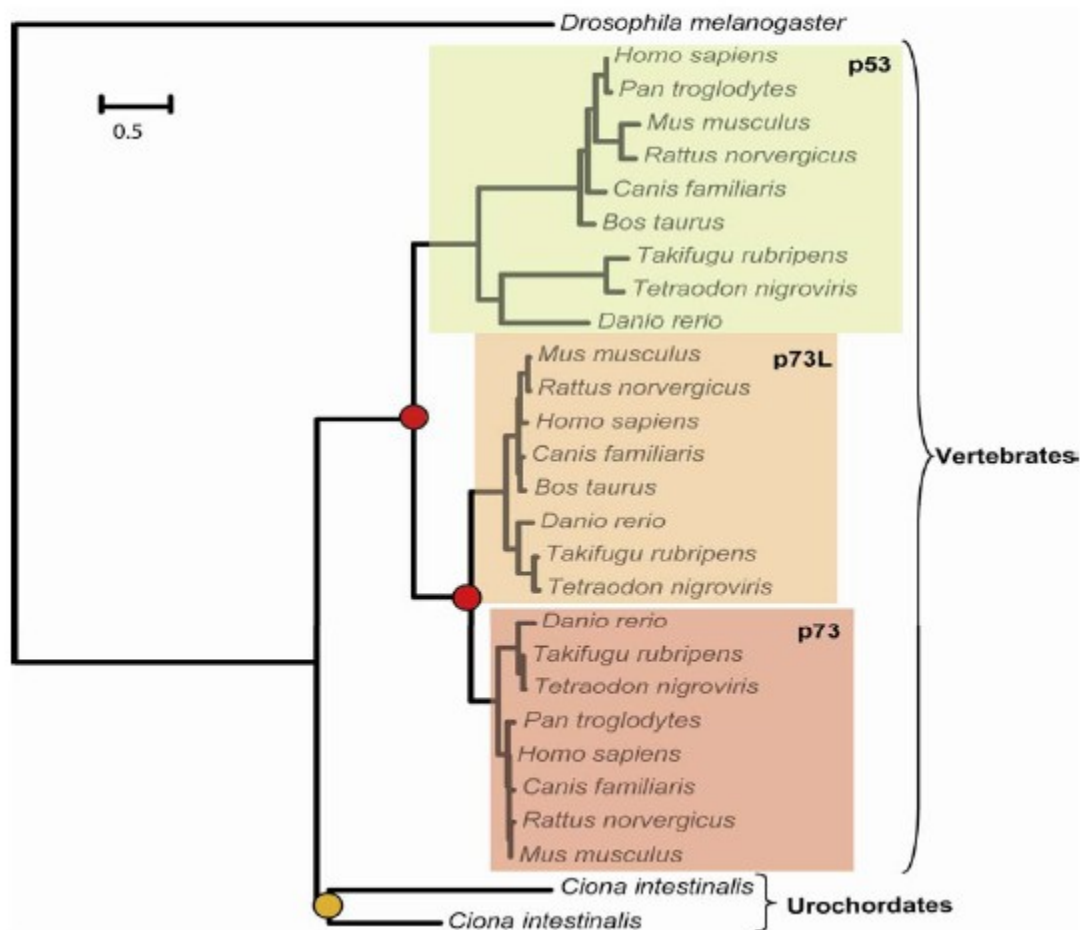
- General procedure: reconstruct the evolution of a gene family (phylogenetics), detect duplication and speciation nodes and predict orthology and paralogy accordingly.
- Two main methods for predicting duplication and speciation nodes from a tree:
 - Species tree reconciliation (RIO, Ensembl)
 - Species-overlap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

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

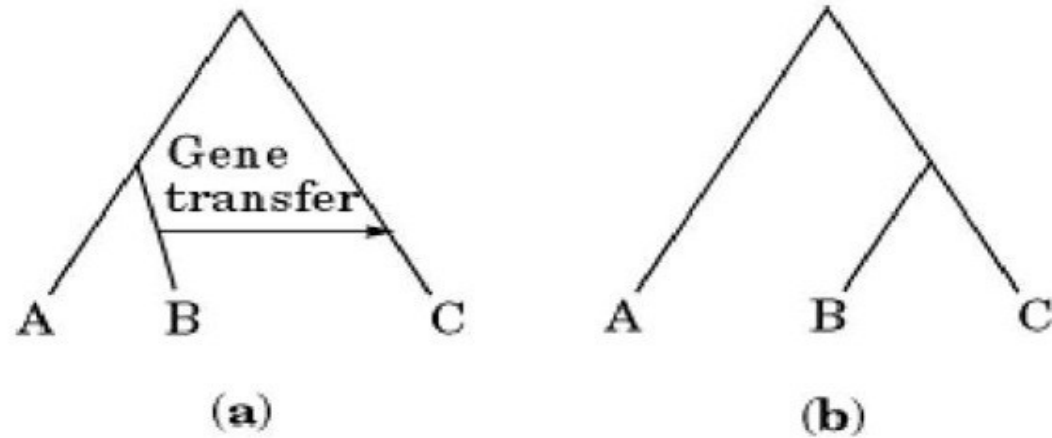
It works when these two assumptions are correct:

A) We know the true species tree

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

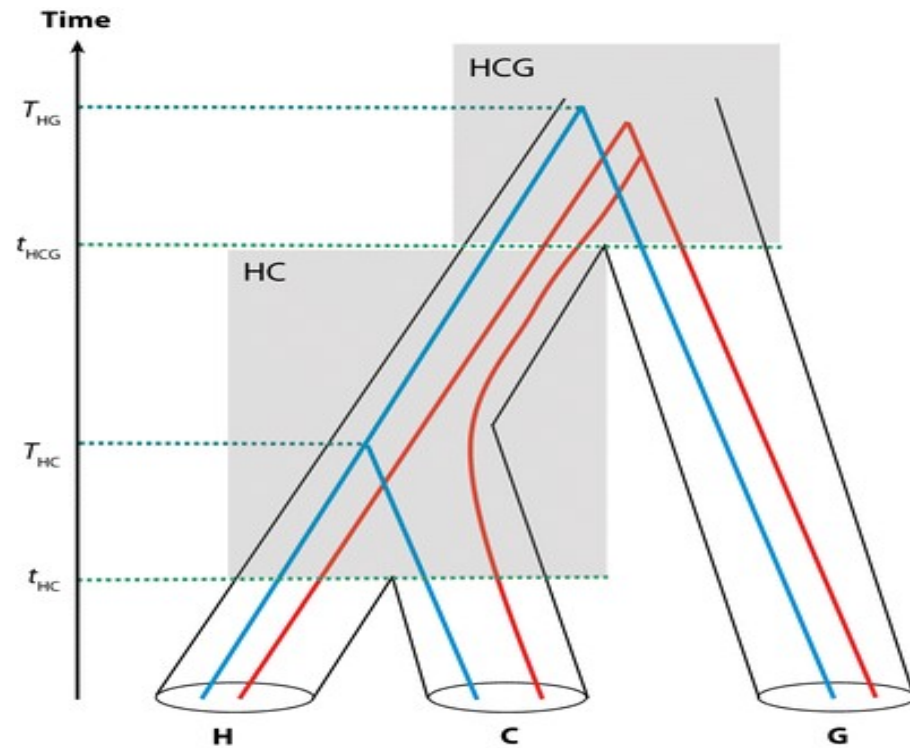


Horizontal gene transfer



Incomplete lineage sorting

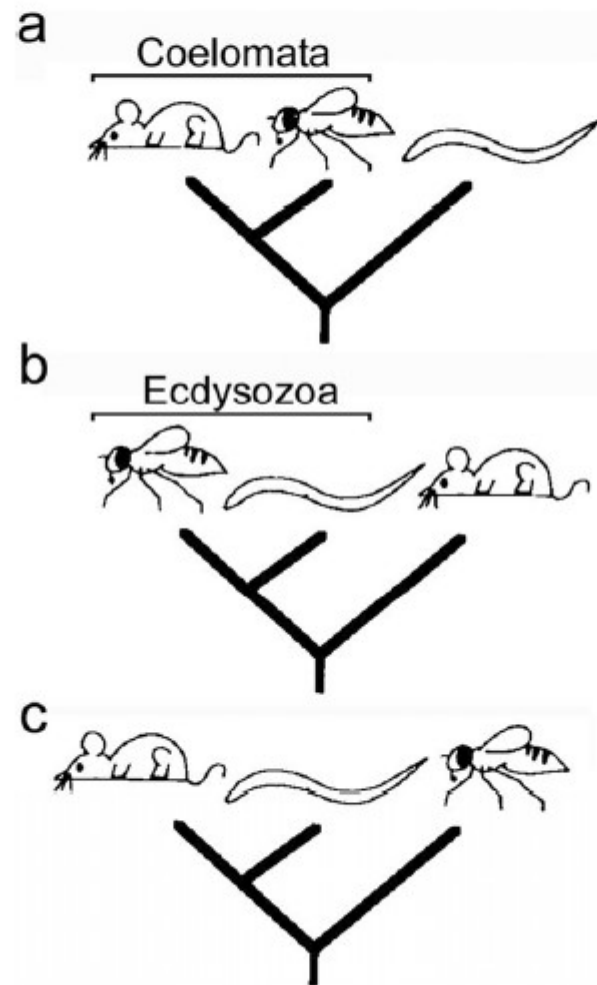
Gene conversion
Hybridization
Introgression



Rannala B, Yang Z. 2008.

Annu. Rev. Genomics Hum. Genet. 9:217–31

Uncertainty in species trees and topological variability in gene trees



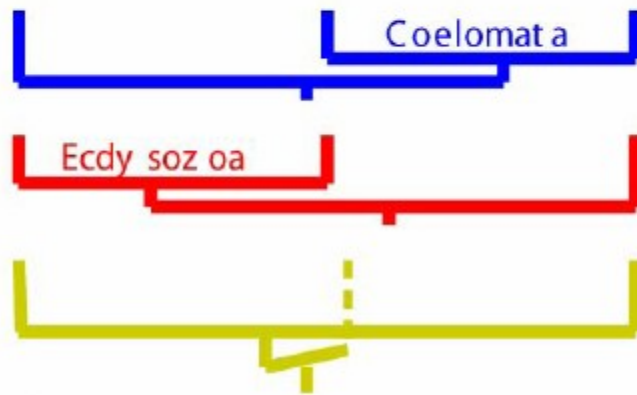
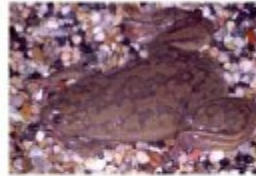
Nematodes



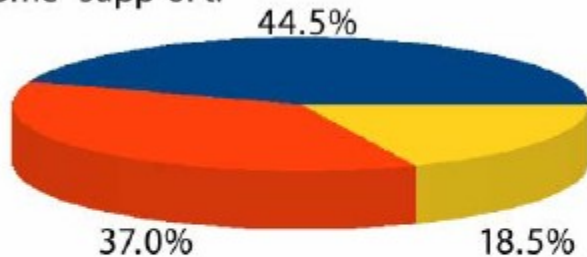
Arthropods



Chordates



Phylome support:



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

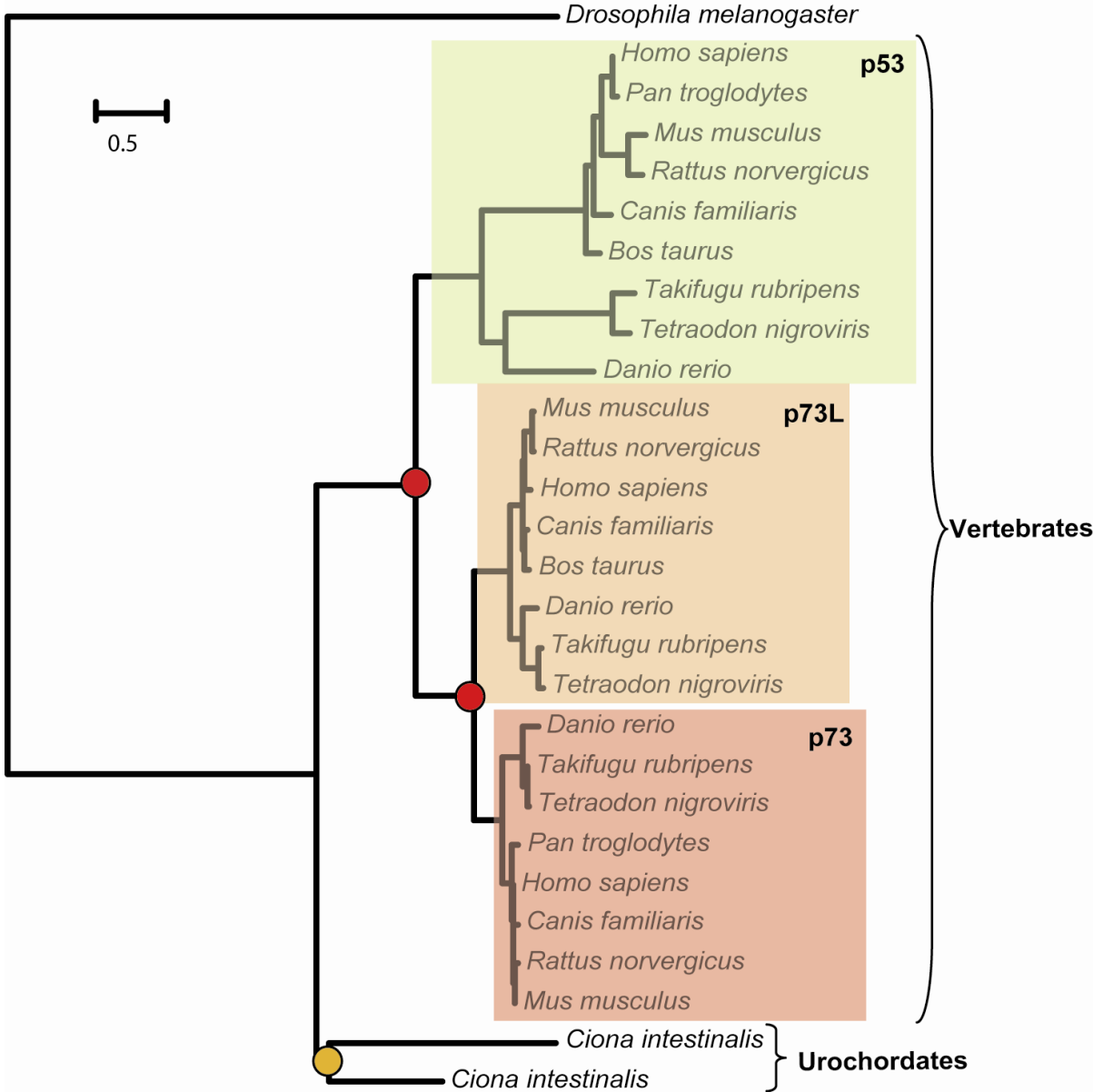
Similar results for

Primates

Rodents

laurasatheria

Species overlap to detect duplications and speciations



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

Tree reconciliation / species overlap
 Marcet-Houben and Gabaldón. *PLoS ONE* (2009)

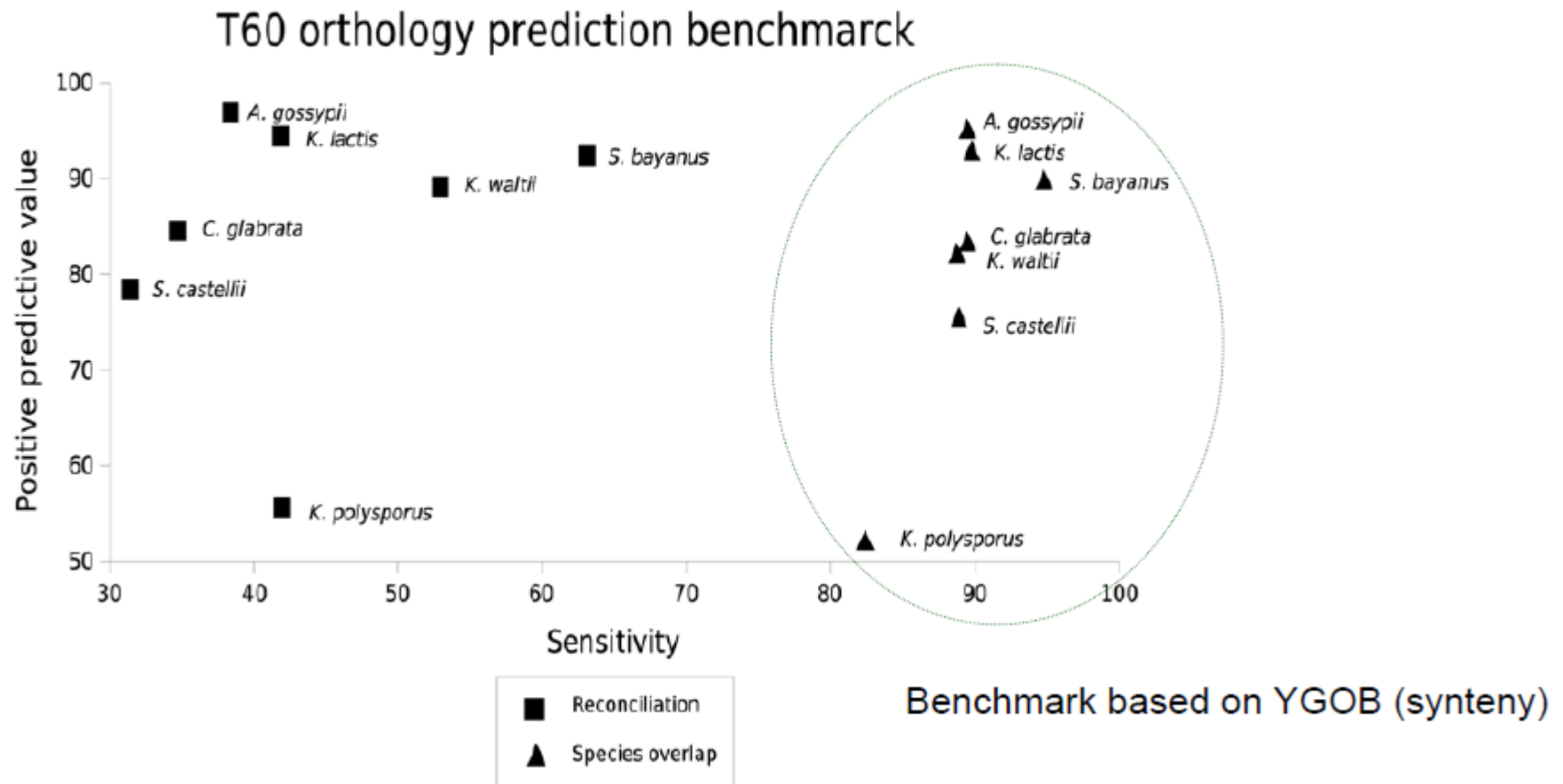
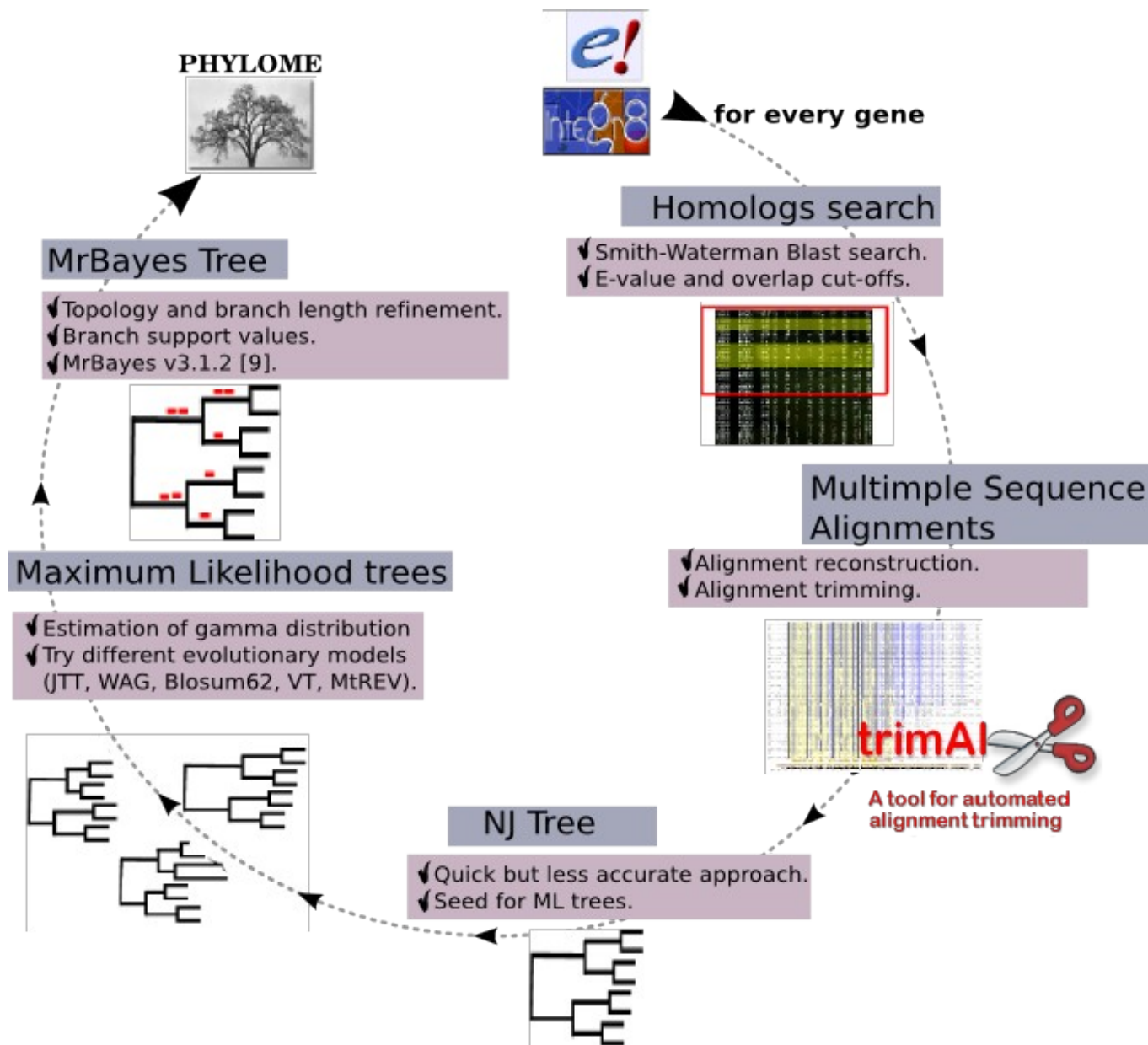


Figure 2. Comparison of different orthology inference algorithms. The synteny based and manually curated orthology predictions available at YGOB database [18] is taken as a golden set to compute the number of true positives (TP), false positives (FP) and false negatives (FN) yielded by each method. For 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



Search in PhylomeDB

(i.e. ENSG00000139618, YBL058W, TP53)

Search

[RandomTree!](#)

[BLAST search](#)

Latest Phylomes

Clogmia albipunctata	2013
Penicillium digitatum	2012
Schistosoma mansoni	2012
Cucumis melo	2012

[see all phylomes](#)

PhylomeDB uses



Welcome to PhylomeDB 4!

PhylomeDB is a public database for complete **catalogs 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 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, as well as a **web API** that facilitates cross linking trees from external sources. Finally, phylomeDB provides an advanced tree visualization interface based on the **ETE toolkit**, which integrates tree topologies, taxonomic information, domain mapping and alignment visualization in a single and interactive tree image.

[What's new in phylomeDB 4?](#)

Latest story

Phylomes for three early-branching dipteran transcriptomes available

Fri, 03/22/2013 - 13:17

The phylomes for three early-branching dipteran species are available: The moth midge *Clogmia albipunctata* [phylome 183], the scuttle fly *Megasella abdita* [174] and the hoverfly *Epsyrphus balteatus* [184]. These phylomes were computed as part of a study aiming to characterize the transcriptomes of these three dipteran species that serve as a model to study early dipteran development and its evolution (Jiménez-Guri et. al. 20013). As such this is the first time that the PhylomeDB pipeline was applied to a transcriptome, showing satisfactory results but highlighting the necessity to deal with expected

Latest News



Phylomes for three early-branching dipteran transcriptomes available

Fri, 03/22/2013 - 13:17

Phylomes of two Penicillium species: P. digitatum and P. Chrysogenum available in PhylomeDB

Tue, 01/08/2013 - 12:09



A new version of Schistosoma mansoni

phylome

Fri, 11/16/2012 - 11:05



A new plant in PhylomeDB: Melon

Wed, 07/18/2012 - 16:02

Wine yeast Dekkera bruxellensis' phylome available

Mon, 06/04/2012 - 18:48

[show all](#)

PhylomeDB cross linking

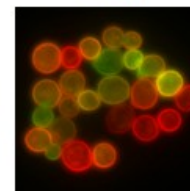


Popular Phylome Collections

Human



Fungi



Plants



Model Species



Search in PhylomeDB

(i.e. ENSG00000139618, YBL058W,

TP53)

Search

RandomTree!

BLAST search

Latest Phylomes

Clogmia albipunctata	2013
Penicillium digitatum	2012
Schistosoma mansoni	2012
Cucumis melo	2012
see all phylomes	

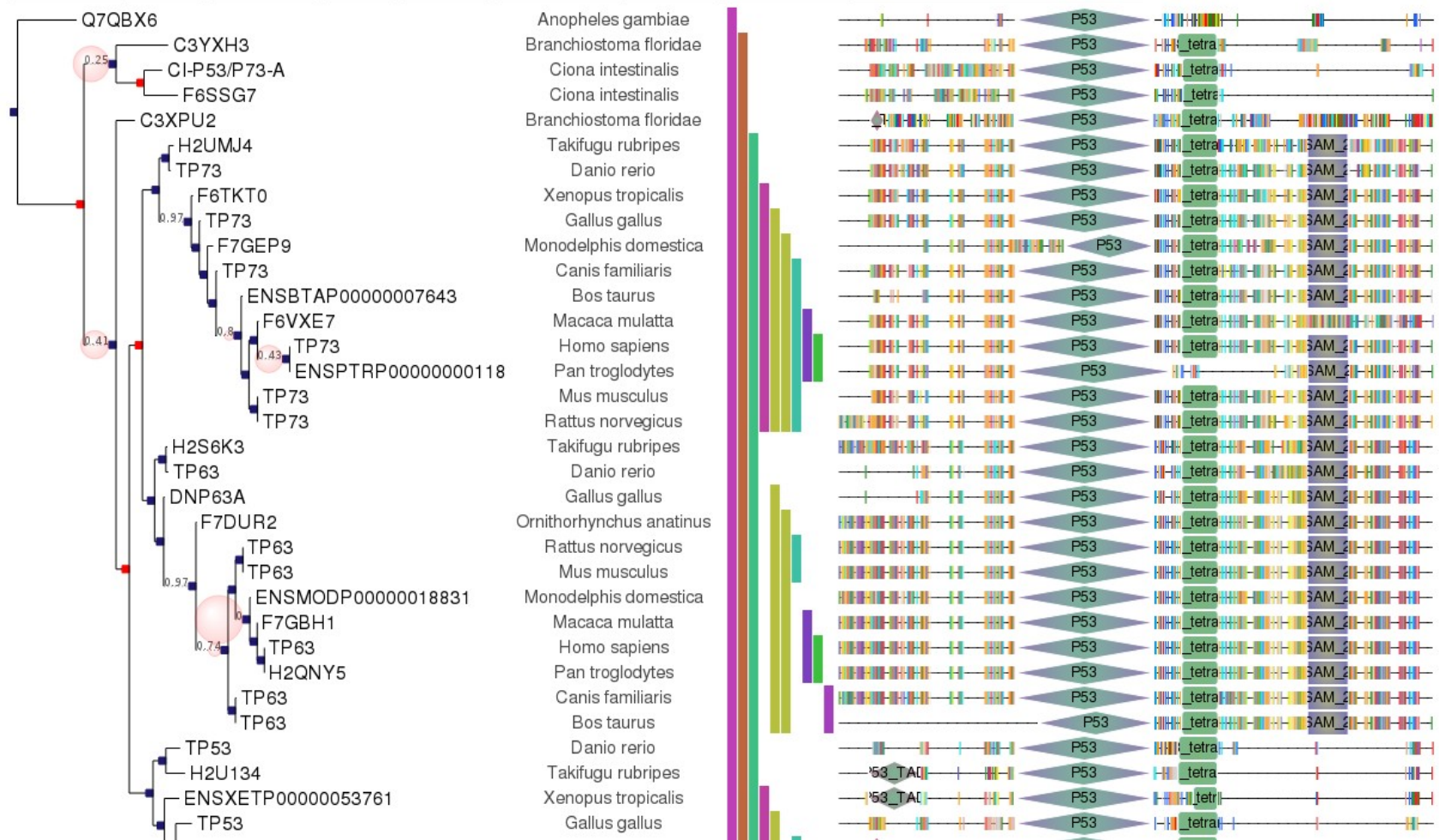
PhylomeDB uses



TP53 tree in phylome 218

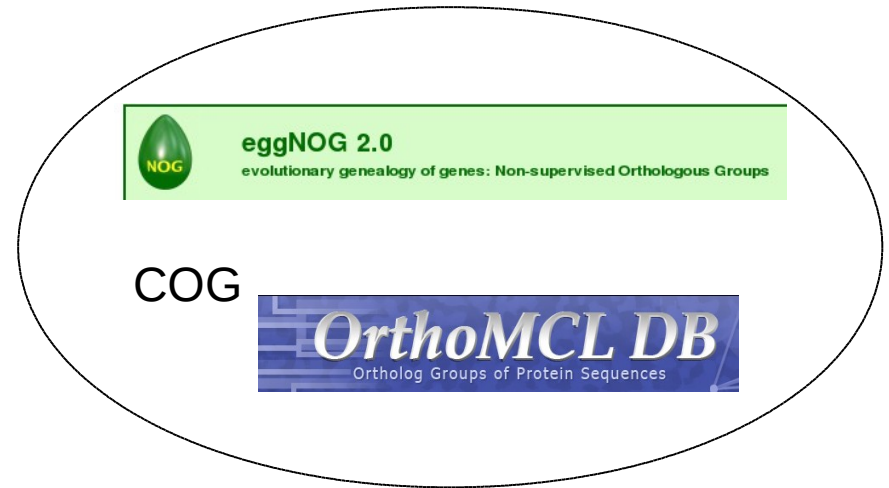
AS seed in Rat phylome | JTT (k:-18130.4) | -- in collateral trees --

- Tree features
- Search
- Clear search
- Image
- Hard link
- Download OrthoXML
- See alignments
- Download data.tar.gz



MetaPhOrs

(Meta-Phylogeny-Based-Orthologs)

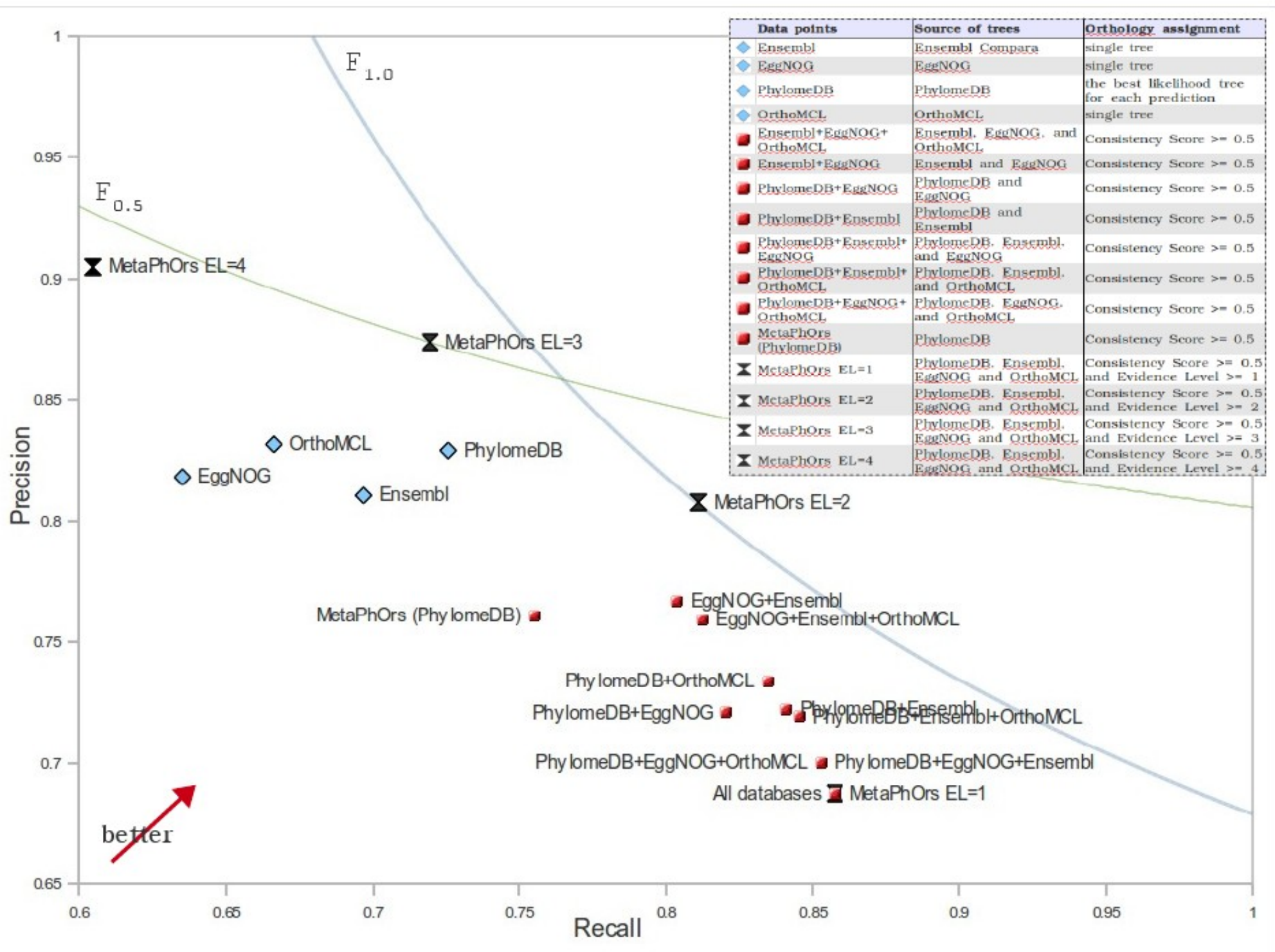


Use existing tree repositories


Reconstruct trees for orthologous groups

Integrate and use consistency across datasets as a proxy of reliability

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



http://orthology.phylomedb.org



quick search

You can also use a BLAST search

Change options

Navigation

- Frequently Asked Questions

User login

Username: *

Password: *

Welcome to metaPhOrs

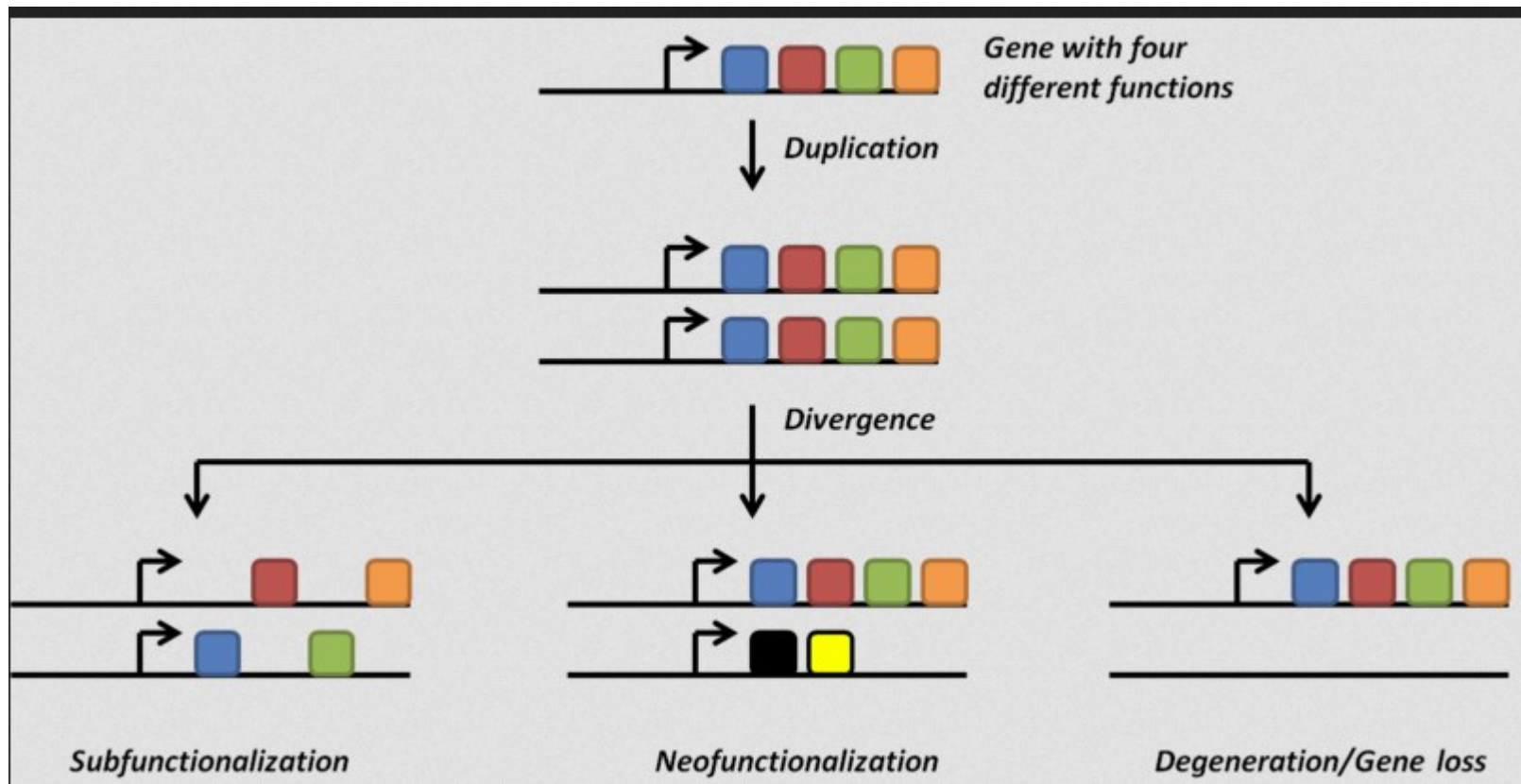
MetaPhOrs is a public repository of **phylogeny-based** orthology and paralogy predictions that were computed using resources available in seven popular homology prediction services ([PhylomeDB](#), [EnsemblCompara](#), [EggNOG](#), [OrthoMCL](#), [COG](#), [Fungal Orthogroups](#), and [TreeFam](#)). Currently above **306 millions** of unique homologous protein pairs are deposited in MetaPhOrs database. These predictions were retrieved from **705 123 phylogenetic trees** for **829 genomes**. For each prediction, MetaPhOrs provides a **Consistency Score** and **Evidence Level** describing its goodness, together with number of trees and links to their source databases.

We are keen on extending MetaPhOrs to additional phylogenetic datasets. If you have a specific suggestion of a phylogenetic dataset that is extensive and has a sufficient quality, please do not hesitate to [contact us](#) and we will consider its implementation.

All the data available in metaPhOrs, can be accessed through our [public ftp server](#).

Functional Implications of orthology

After duplication: diversify or die (neofunctionalization or subfunctionalization models)



How confident can we be that orthologs are similar, but paralogs differ?

Romain A. Studer and Marc Robinson-Rechavi

Department of Ecology and Evolution, Biophore, Lausanne University, CH-1015 Lausanne, Switzerland and Swiss Institute of Bioinformatics, CH-1015 Lausanne, Switzerland

OPEN ACCESS Freely available online

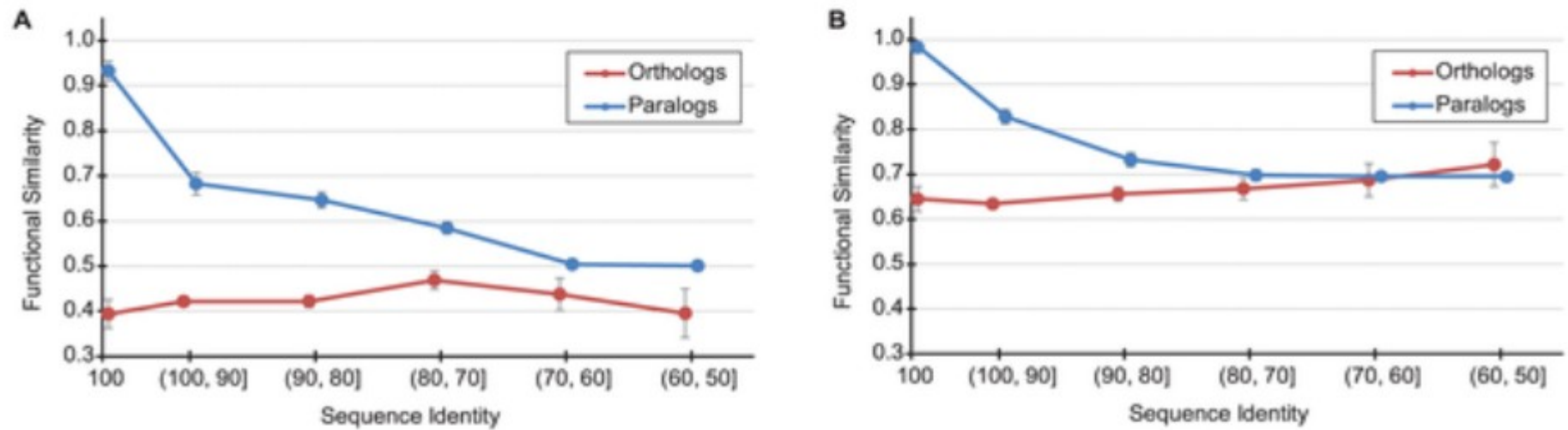
PLoS COMPUTATIONAL BIOLOGY

Testing the Ortholog Conjecture with Comparative Functional Genomic Data from Mammals

Nathan L. Nehrt¹, Wyatt T. Clark¹, Predrag Radivojac^{1*}, Matthew W. Hahn^{1,2*}

1 School of Informatics and Computing, Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana, United States of America, **2** Department of Biology, Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana, United States of America

Figure 1. The relationship between functional similarity and sequence identity for human-mouse 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>

On the Use of Gene Ontology Annotations to Assess Functional Similarity among Orthologs and Paralogs: A Short Report

Paul D. Thomas^{1*}, Valerie Wood², Christopher J. Mungall³, Suzanna E. Lewis³, Judith A. Blake⁴ on behalf of the Gene Ontology Consortium

1 Division of Bioinformatics, Department of Preventive Medicine, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, California, United States of America, **2** Cambridge Systems Biology Centre and Department of Biochemistry, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, United Kingdom, **3** Genomics Division, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Berkeley, California, United States of America, **4** Bioinformatics and Computational Biology, The Jackson Laboratory, Bar Harbor, Maine, United States of America

OPEN ACCESS Freely available online

Resolving the Ortholog Conjecture: Orthologs Tend to Be Weakly, but Significantly, More Similar in Function than Paralogs

Adrian M. Altenhoff^{1,2}, Romain A. Studer^{2,3,4}, Marc Robinson-Rechavi^{2,3}, Christophe Dessimoz^{1,2,5*}

1 ETH Zurich, Department of Computer Science, Zürich, Switzerland, **2** Swiss Institute of Bioinformatics, Lausanne, Switzerland, **3** Department of Ecology and Evolution, University of Lausanne, Lausanne, Switzerland, **4** Institute of Structural and Molecular Biology, Division of Biosciences, University College London, London, United Kingdom, **5** EMBL-European Bioinformatics Institute, Hinxton, Cambridge, United Kingdom

Nature Reviews Genetics | AOP, published online 4 April 2013; doi:10.1038/nrg3456

PERSPECTIVES

BRIEFINGS IN BIOINFORMATICS. VOL 12. NO 5. 442–448
Advance Access published on 22 April 2011

doi:10.1093/bib/bbr022

OPINION

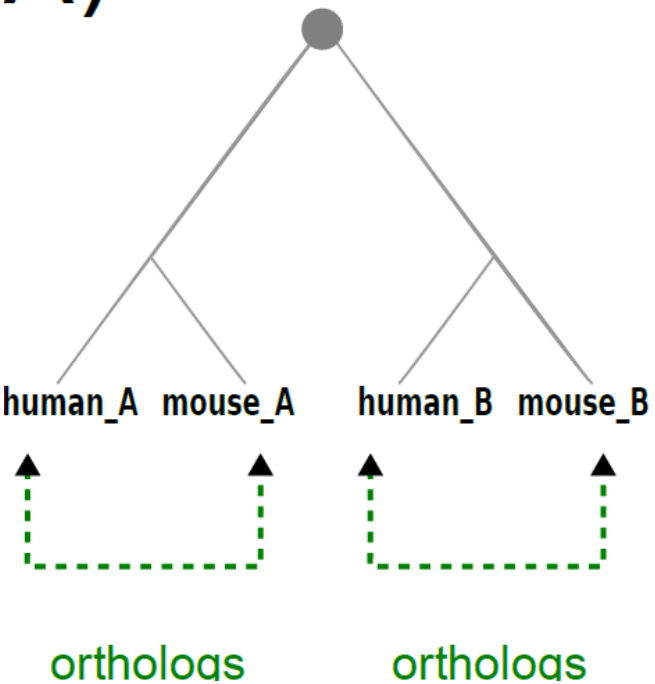
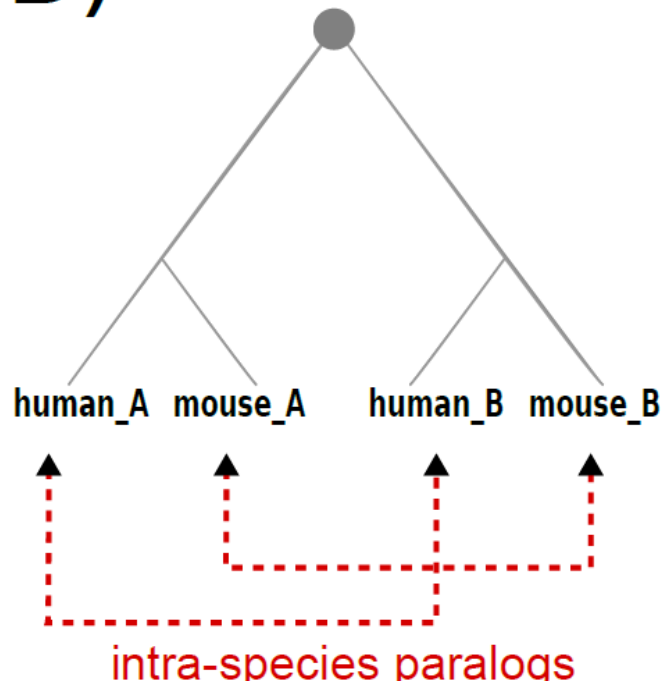
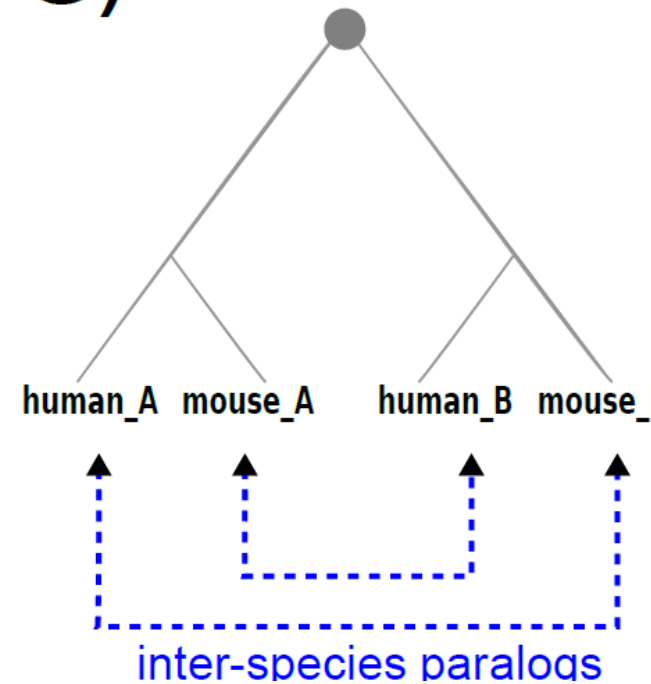
Functional and evolutionary implications of gene orthology

Toni Gabaldón and Eugene V. Koonin

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

Jaime Huerta-Cepas, Joaquín Dopazo, Martijn A. Huynen and Toni Gabaldón

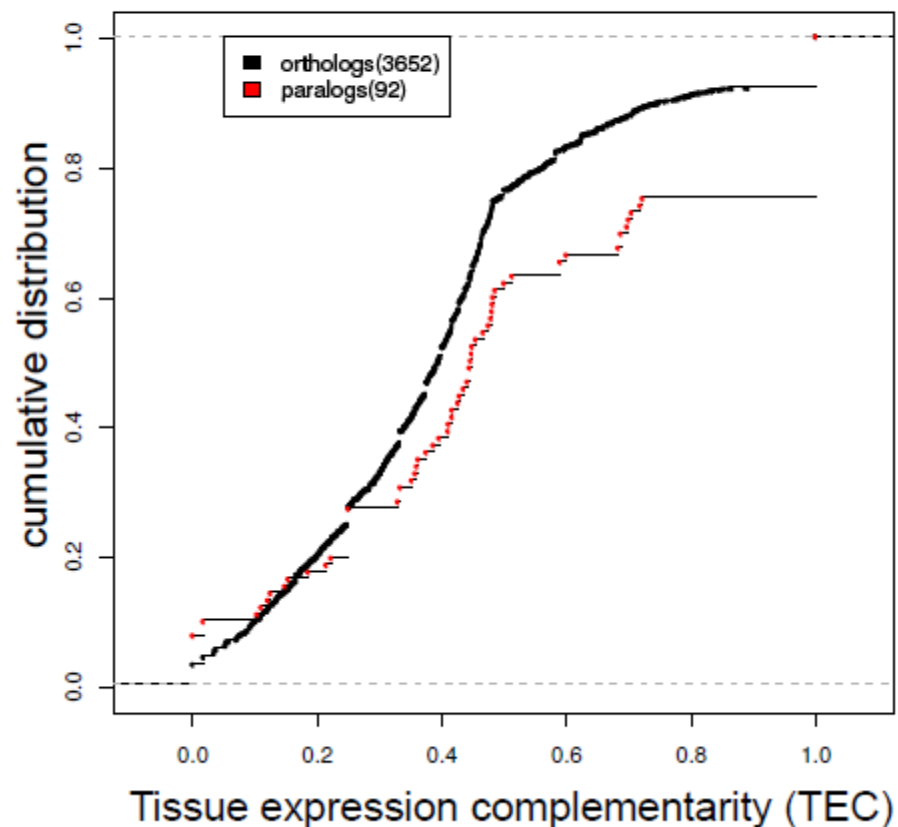
Submitted: 19th January 2011; Received (in revised form): 22nd March 2011

A)**B)****C)**

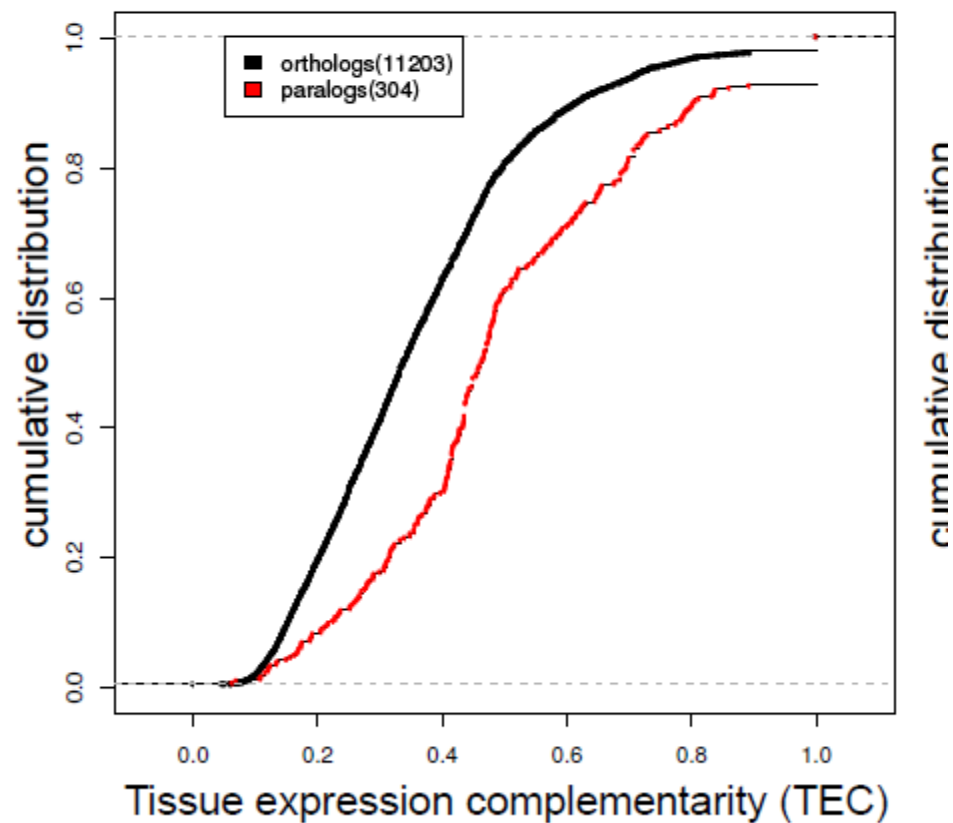
Comparison of differences in tissue-specific patterns of expression across orthologs and paralogs.

Huerta-Cepas. et. al. (Brief. In Bioinf. Special issue on orthology)

SymAtlas (A/P calls)



Bgee (A/P calls)



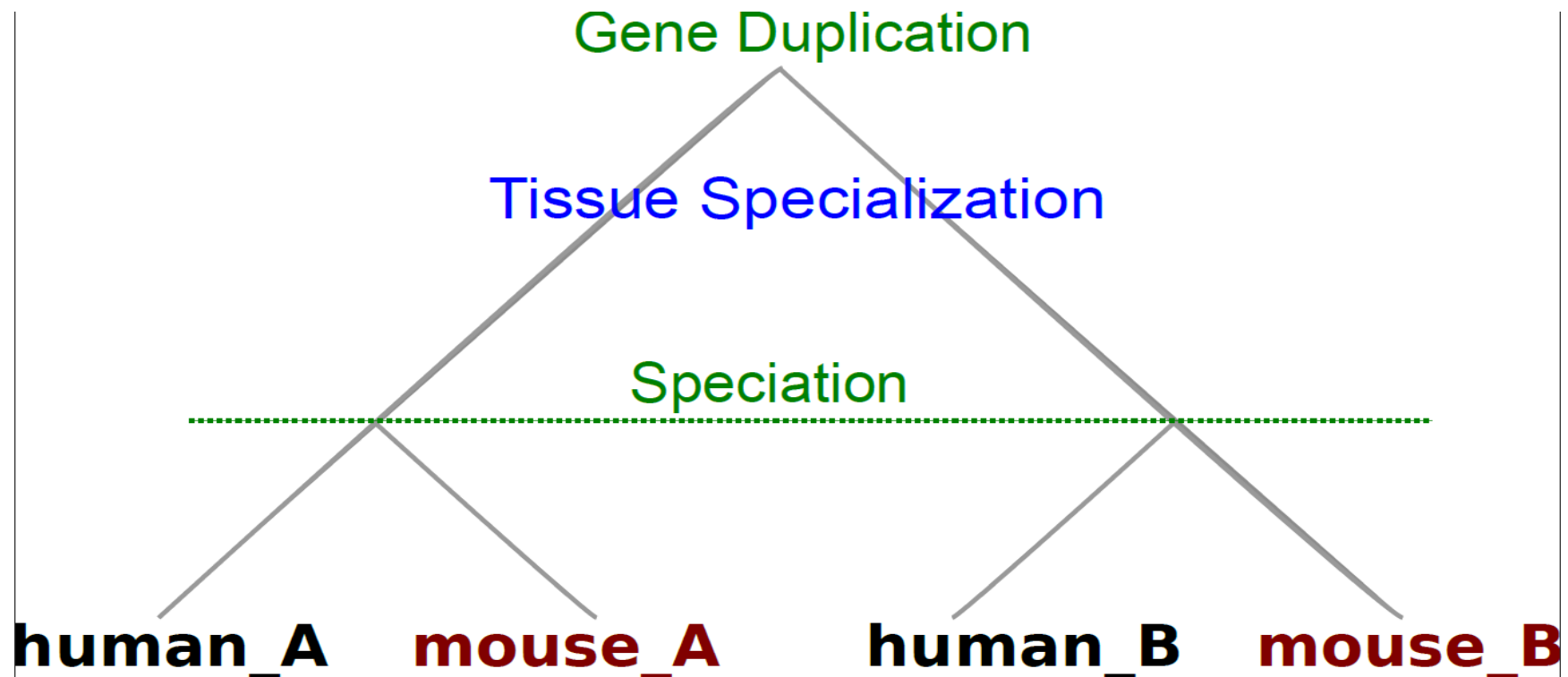
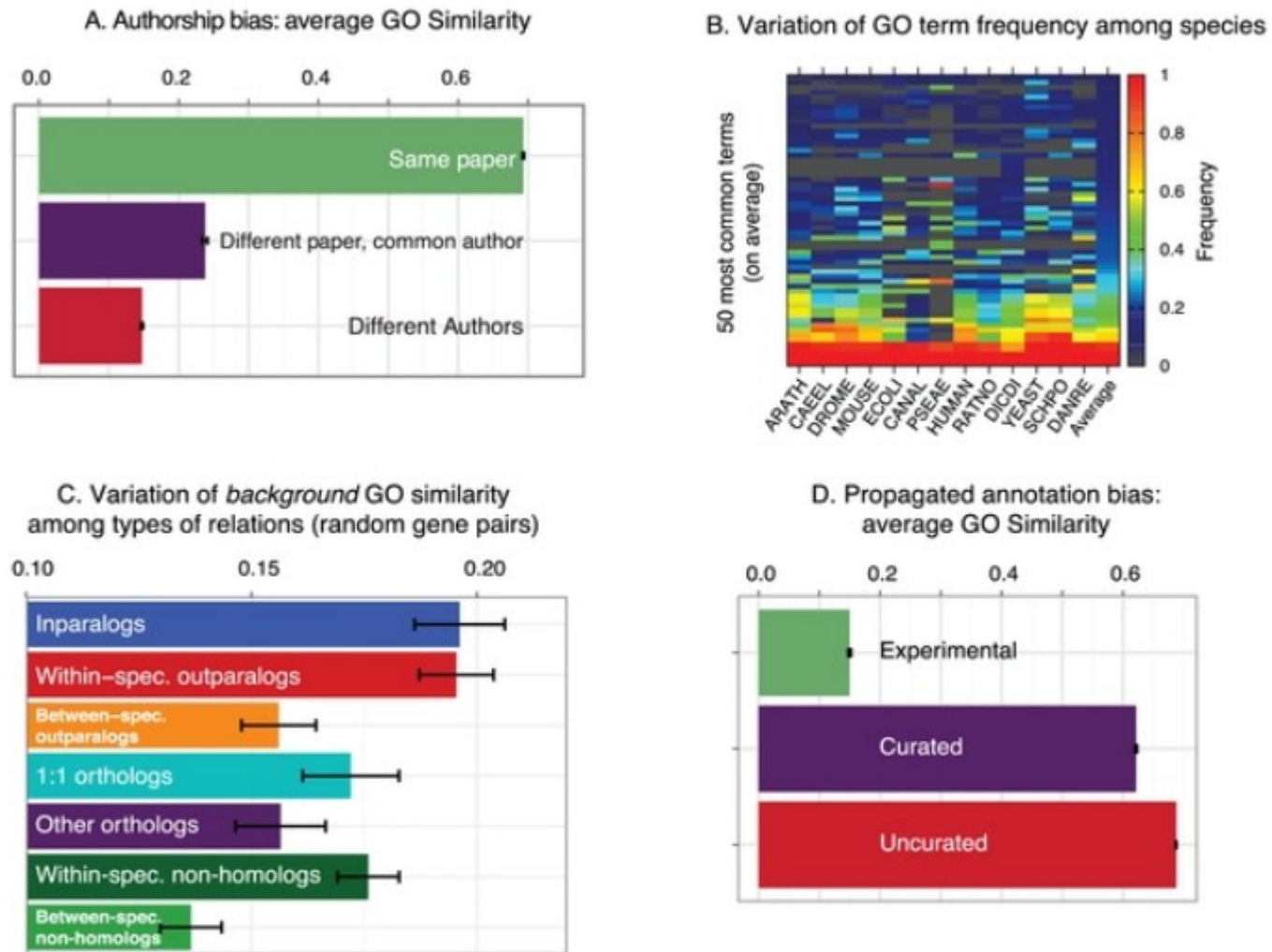


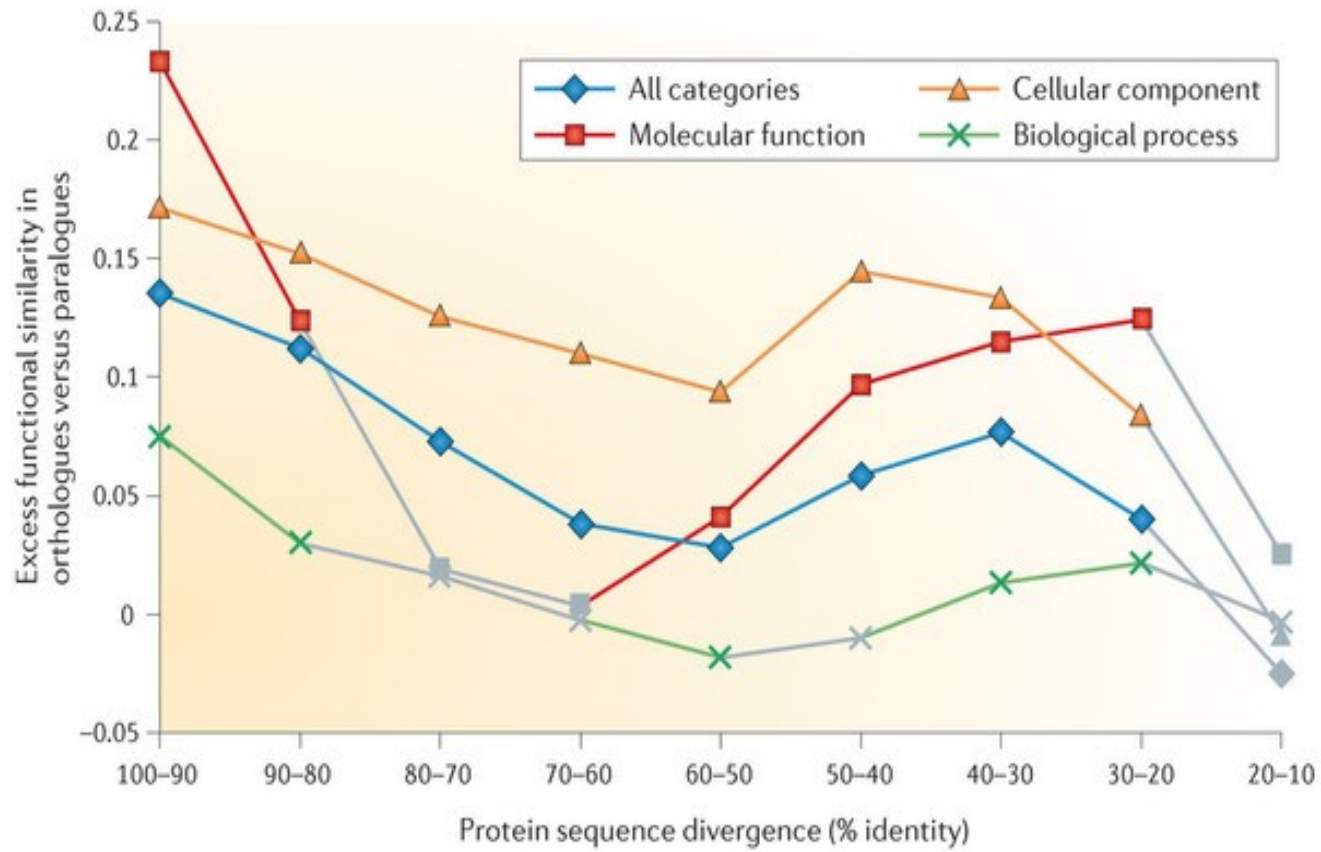
Figure 1. Potential confounding factors in GO analyses.



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>



Nature Reviews | Genetics

Gabaldón and Koonin (2013) Nat. Rev. Gen.

Thanks