

Genomic phylostratigraphy reveals a wealth of *Hermetia illucens* species-specific genes of unknown function

Momir Futo

School of Medicine
Catholic University of Croatia

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Genomic phylostratigraphy

- genetic bio-statistical method
- dating the origin of specific genes by looking at their homologs across species
- system links genes to their **founder gene**, allowing us to then determine their age
- better understand many evolutionary processes such as
 - patterns of gene birth throughout evolution
 - the relationship between the age of a transcriptome throughout embryonic development

Founder genes

- diversity of the genome is not caused only by gene duplications but also by continuous, frequent *de novo* gene births
- "founder genes" - form from non-genic DNA sequences, as well as from changes in reading frame, other ways of arising from existing genes
- the founder genes can then be sorted into a specific **phylostratum** - the clade that includes all the genes that derive from the same founder gene
- we can signify that this gene was formed in the common ancestor of a certain clade
- (e.g. Arthropoda, Mammalia, Metazoa, etc.)

Evolutionary age and function

- Positioning the founder genes and their descendants on different phylostrata allows us to age them
- This can then be used to analyze the origin of certain functions of proteins and developmental processes on a macroevolutionary scale

A phylogenetically based transcriptome age index mirrors ontogenetic divergence patterns

[Tomislav Domazet-Lošo](#)  & [Diethard Tautz](#)

[Nature](#) **468**, 815–818 (2010) | [Cite this article](#)

➤ [Trends Genet.](#) 2007 Nov;23(11):533–9. doi: 10.1016/j.tig.2007.08.014.

A phylostratigraphy approach to uncover the genomic history of major adaptations in metazoan lineages

[Tomislav Domazet-Lošo](#) ¹, [Josip Brajković](#), [Diethard Tautz](#)

Comparative transcriptome analysis reveals vertebrate phylotypic period during organogenesis

[Naoki Irie](#)  & [Shigeru Kuratani](#)

[Nature Communications](#) **2**, Article number: 248 (2011) | [Cite this article](#)

A transcriptomic hourglass in plant embryogenesis

[Marcel Quint](#) , [Hajk-Georg Drost](#), [Alexander Gabel](#), [Kristian Karsten Ullrich](#), [Markus Bönn](#) & [Ivo Grosse](#)

[Nature](#) **490**, 98–101 (2012) | [Cite this article](#)

➤ Mol Biol Evol. 2021 Jan 4;38(1):31-47. doi: 10.1093/molbev/msaa217.

Embryo-Like Features in Developing *Bacillus subtilis* Biofilms

Momir Futo¹, Luka Opašić^{1 2}, Sara Koska¹, Nina Čorak¹, Tin Široki³, Vaishnavi Ravikumar⁴, Annika Thorsell⁵, Maša Lenuzzi^{1 6}, Domagoj Kifer⁷, Mirjana Domazet-Lošo³, Kristian Vlahoviček^{8 9}, Ivan Mijakovic^{4 10}, Tomislav Domazet-Lošo^{1 11}


➤ Mol Biol Evol. 2020 Jun 1;37(6):1667-1678. doi: 10.1093/molbev/msaa035.

Evolutionary Analysis of the *Bacillus subtilis* Genome Reveals New Genes Involved in Sporulation

Lei Shi¹, Abderahmane Derouiche¹, Santosh Pandit¹, Shadi Rahimi¹, Aida Kalantari¹, Momir Futo², Vaishnavi Ravikumar³, Carsten Jers³, Venkata R S S Mokkaṭṭi¹, Kristian Vlahoviček^{4 5}, Ivan Mijakovic^{1 3}

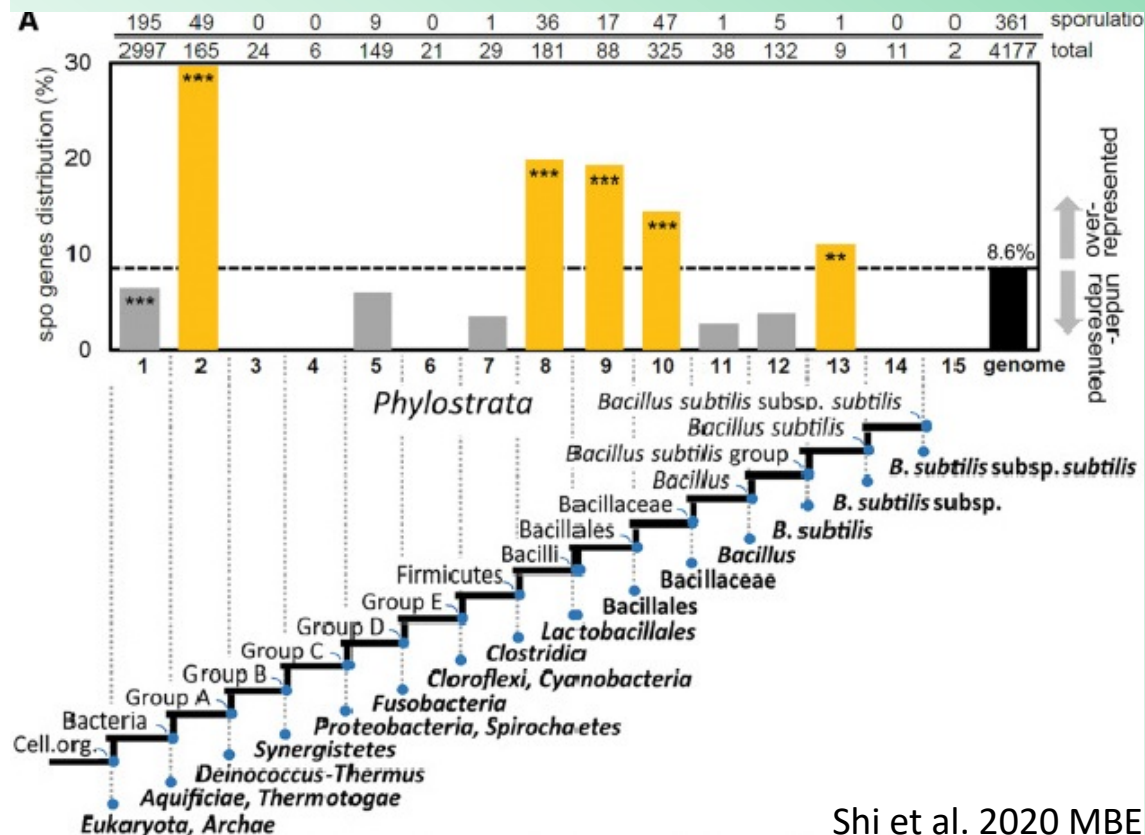
Article

Pleomorphic Variants of *Borrelia* (syn. *Borrelia*) *burgdorferi* Express Evolutionary Distinct Transcriptomes

Nina Čorak¹, Sirli Anniko^{2,3}, Christina Daschkin-Steinborn², Viktoria Krey^{2,4}, Sara Koska¹, Momir Futo^{1,5,6}, Tin Široki⁵, Innokenty Woichansky², Luka Opašić¹, Domagoj Kifer⁷ , Anja Tušar¹, Horst-Günter Maxeiner^{2,8}, Mirjana Domazet-Lošo⁵, Carsten Nicolaus² and Tomislav Domazet-Lošo^{1,6,*}

Phylostratigraphic map

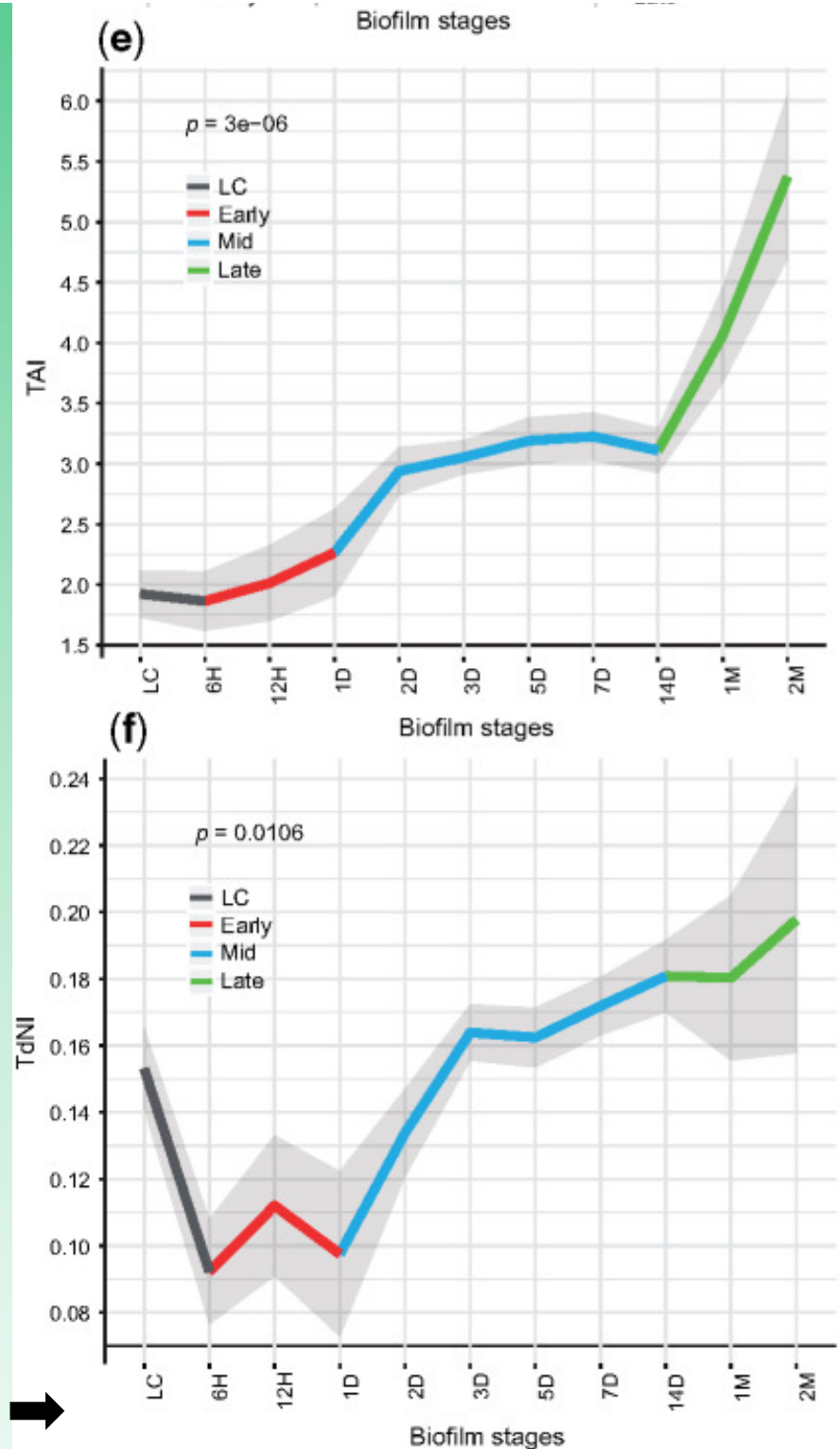
Predictive power ↓



Shi et al. 2020 MBE

Futo et al. 2021 MBE

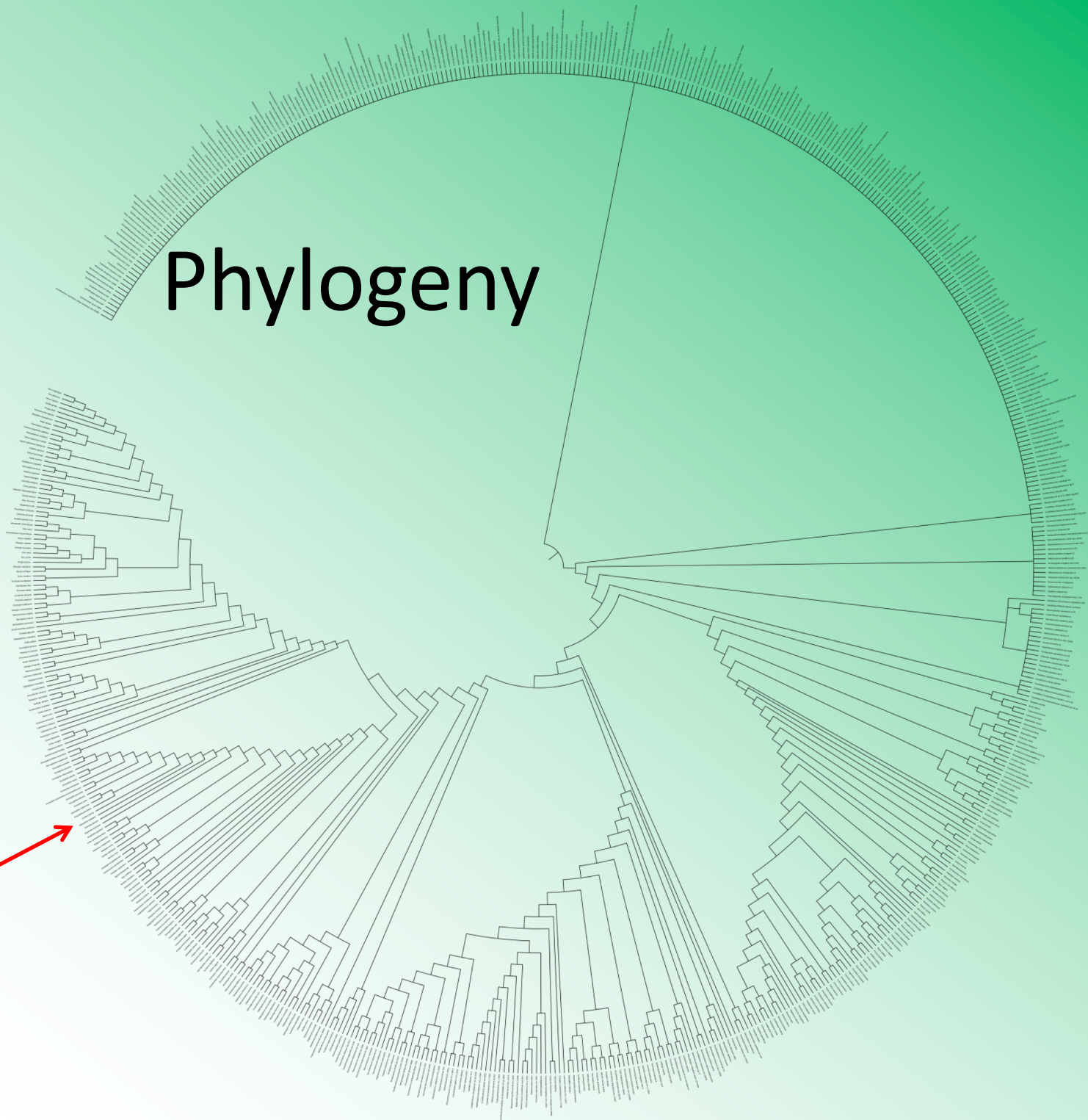
Developmental transcriptomics →



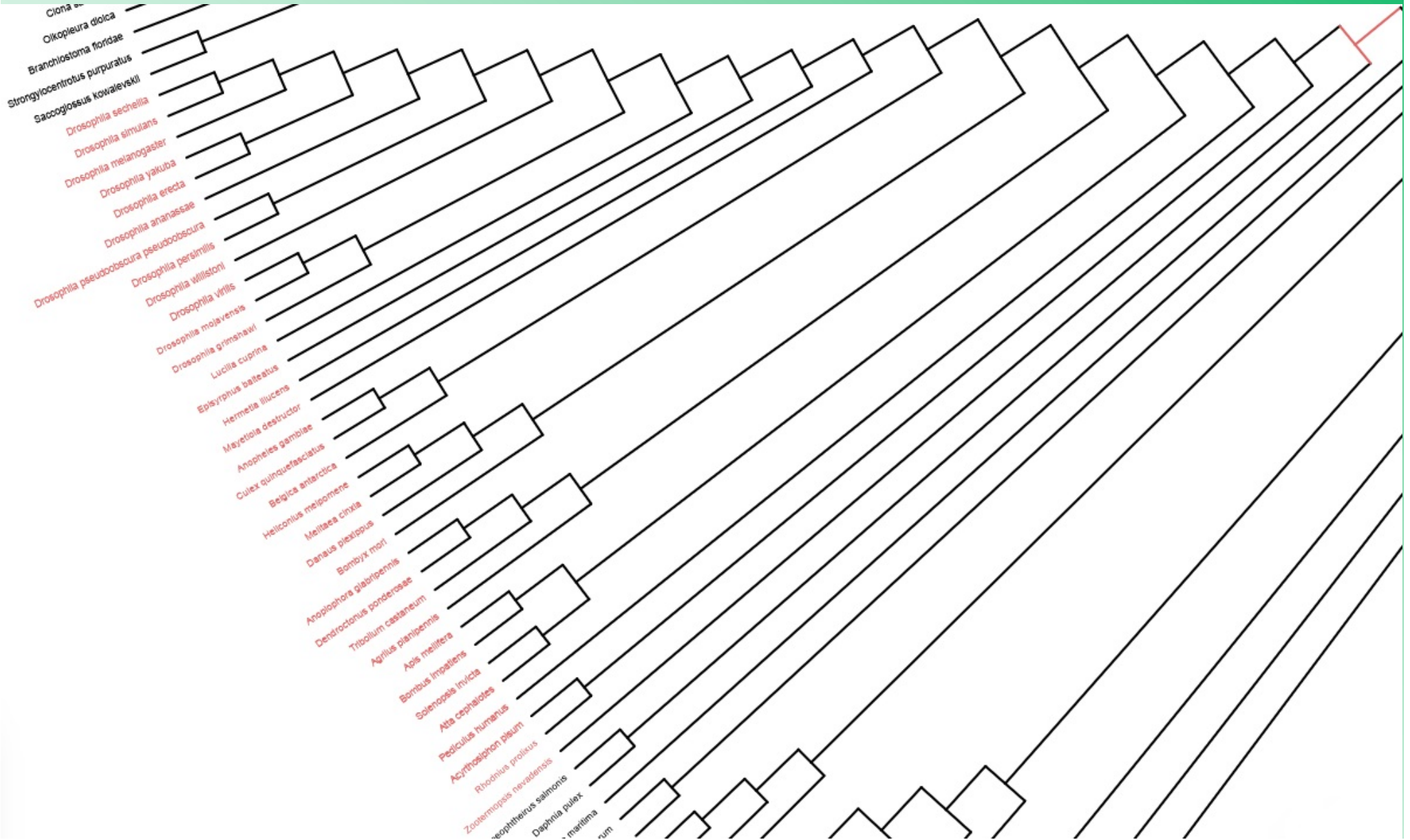
Phylogeny

BSF

668 species



Insecta – 35 species



[illegible]

Our phylostratigraphic map

Phylostratum	PS_No.	No. of proteins
Cellular_organisms	1	4839
DPANN/Euryarchaeota/TACK/Asgard_archaea/Eukaryota	2	123
Euryarchaeota/TACK/Asgard_archaea/Eukaryota	3	50
TACK/Asgard_archaea/Eukaryota	4	57
Asgard_archaea/Eukaryota	5	69
Eukaryota	6	3901
Amorpheae	7	96
Obazoa	8	30
Opisthokonta	9	282
Holozoa	10	151
Filozoa	11	61
Choanoflagellida/Metazoa	12	267
Metazoa	13	295
Myriazoa	14	202
Parahoxozoa	15	357
Bilateria	16	441
Protostomia	17	126
Ecdysozoa	18	11
Arthropoda	19	183
Mandibulata	20	115
Pancrustacea	21	153
Insecta	22	438
Eumetabola	23	117
Holometabola/Psocodea	24	36
Holometabola	25	92
Aparaglossata	26	160
Mecopterida	27	44
Diptera	28	295
Bibionomorpha	29	42
Brachycera	30	213
Hermetia_illucens	31	835

H. illucens proteome:
14,081 protein entries

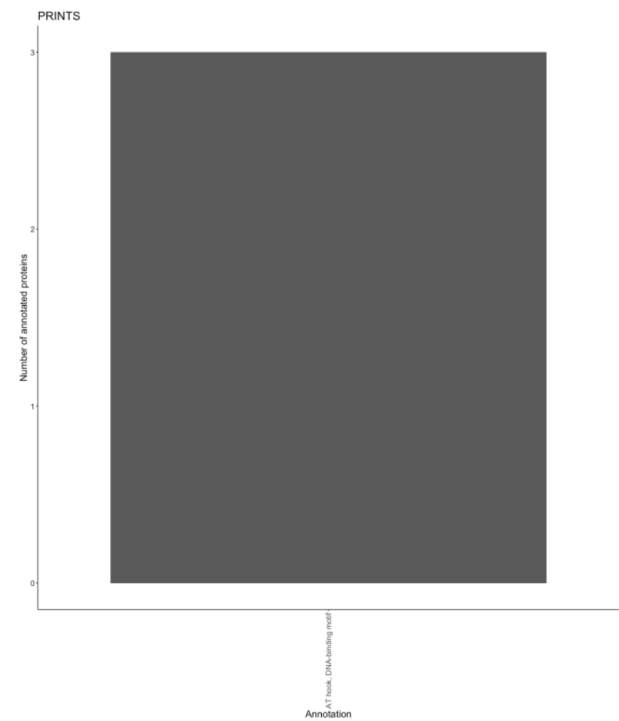
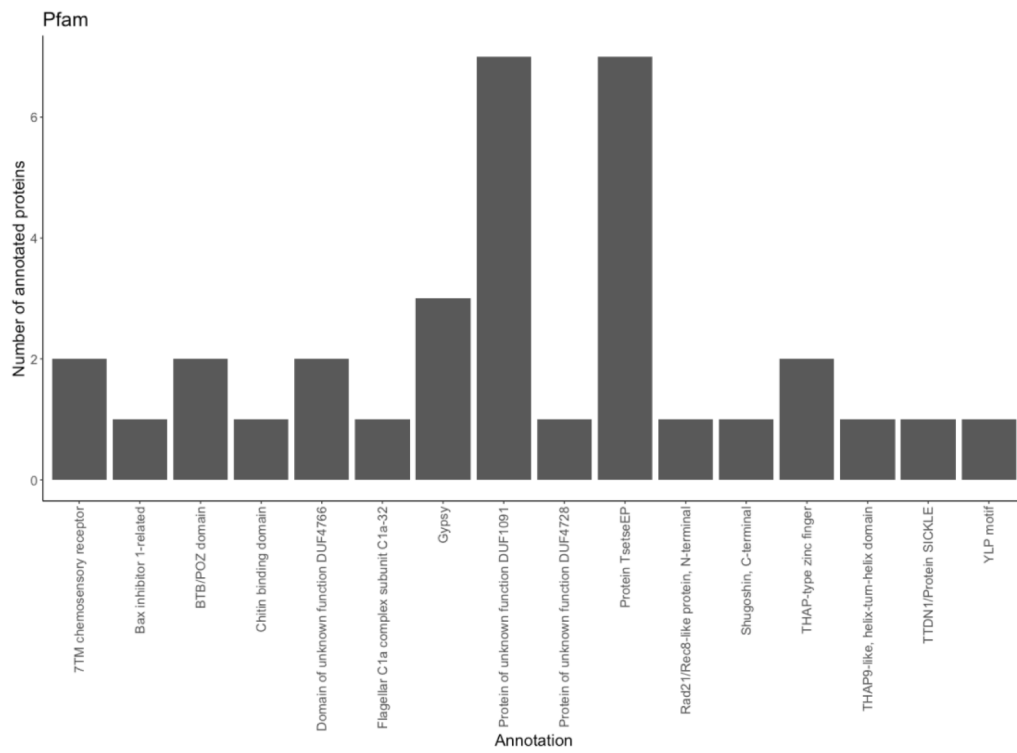
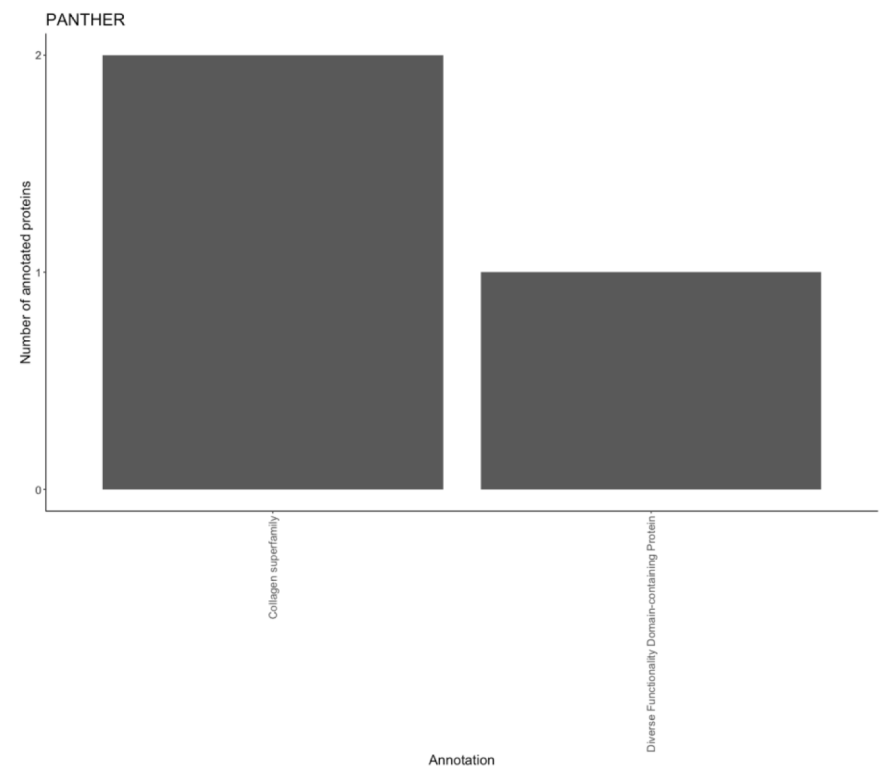
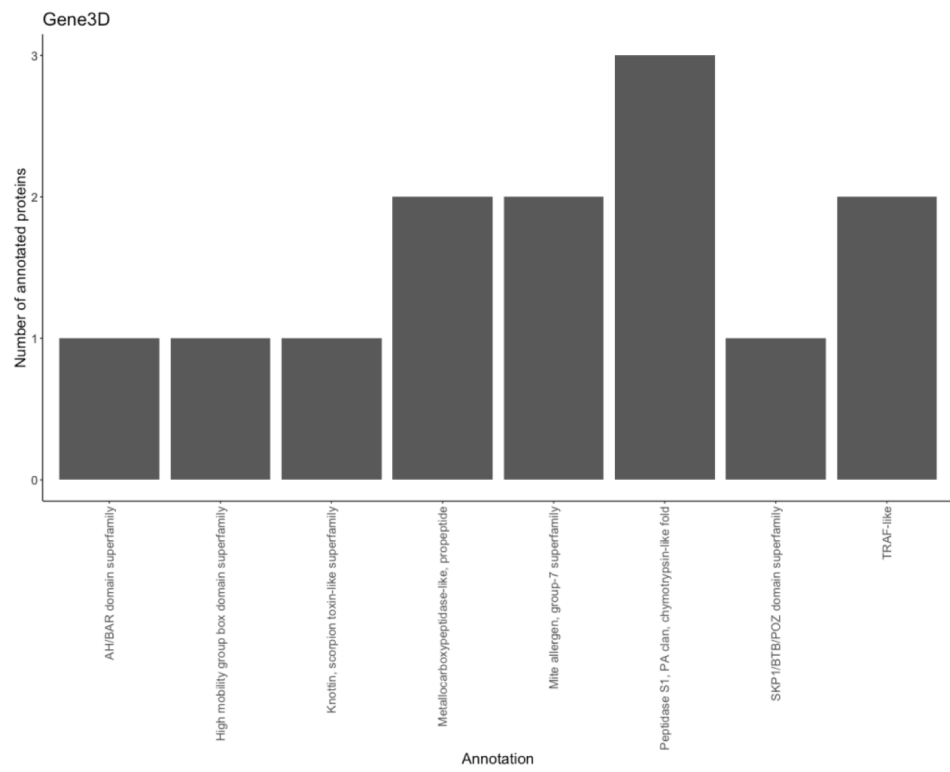
31 phylostrata in total

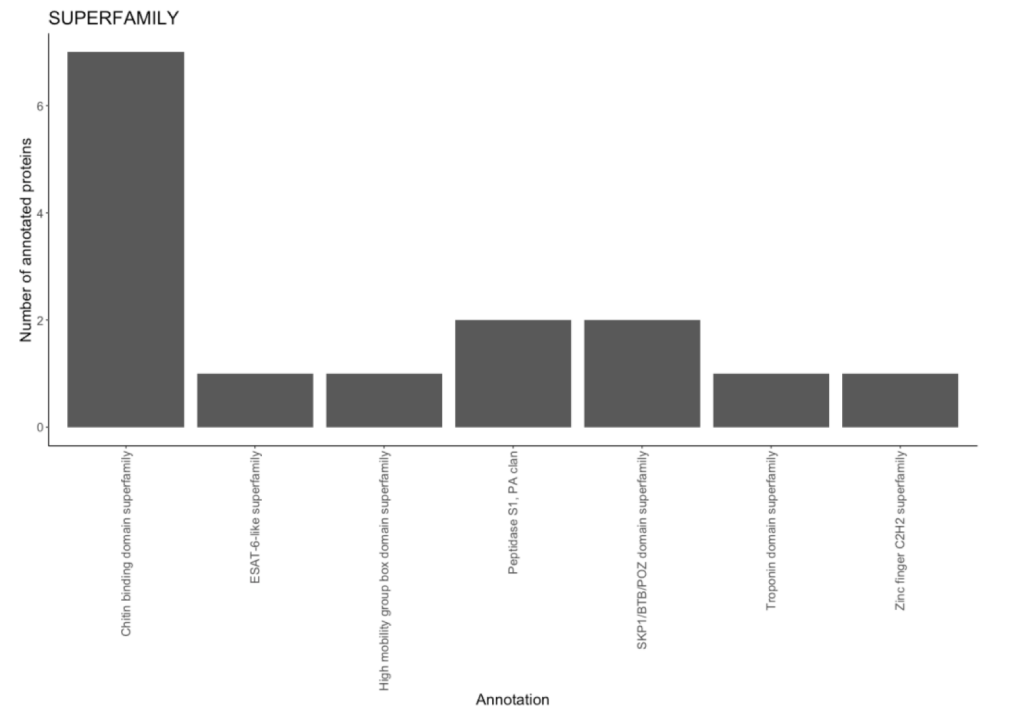
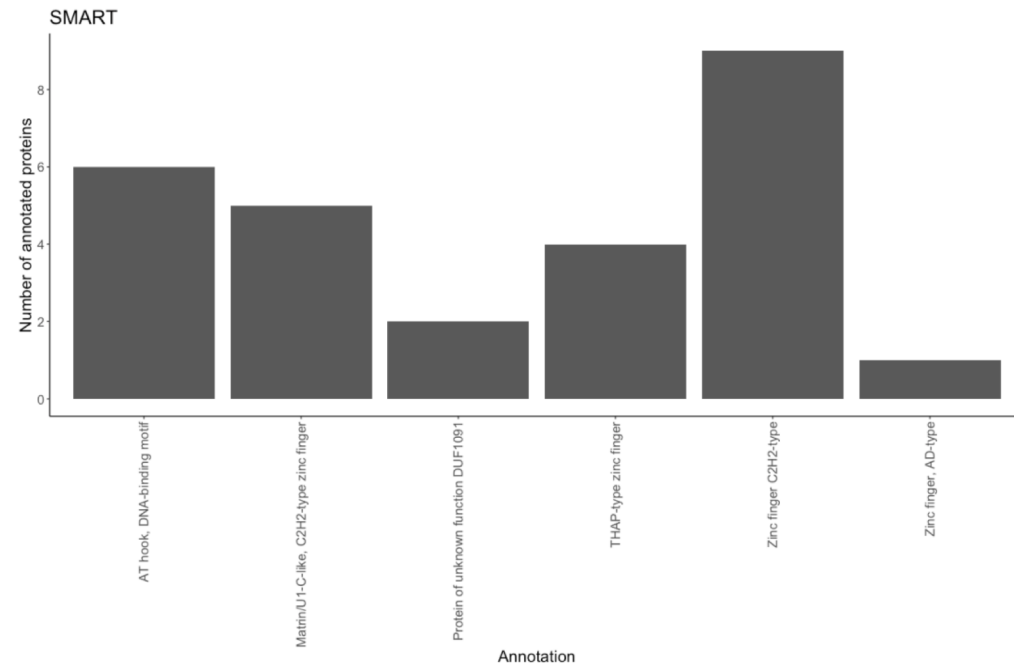
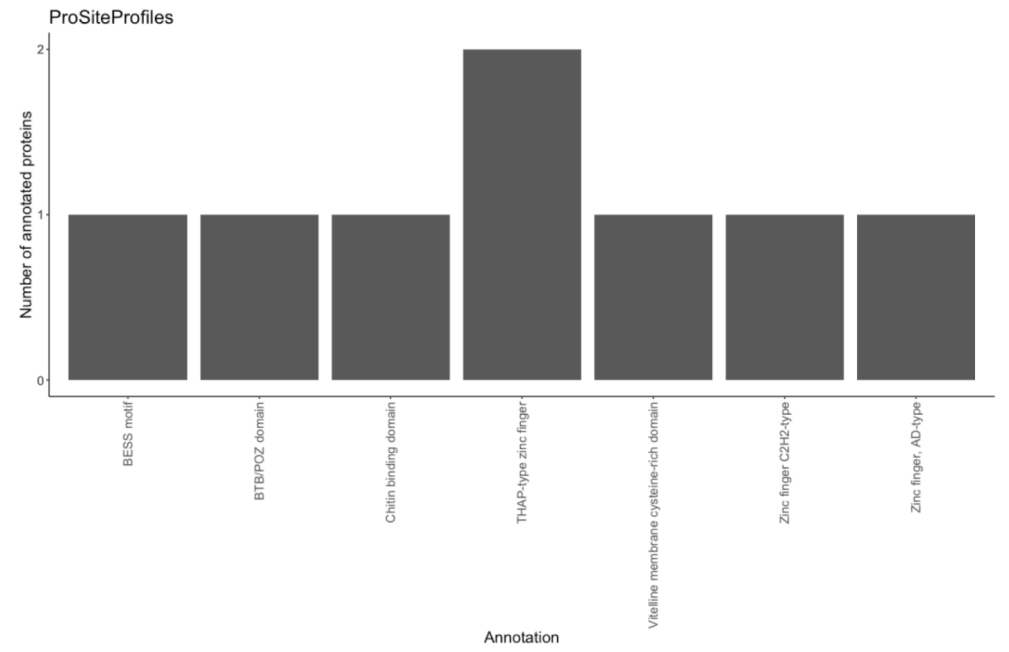
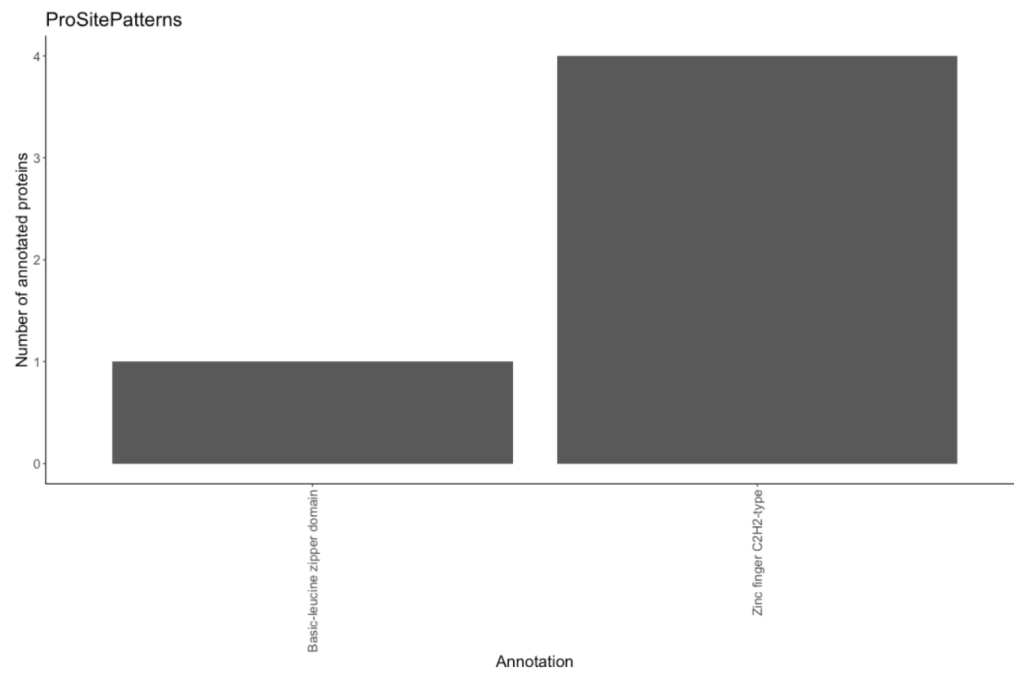
PS No. 31 – proteins specific
to *H. illucens*

835

Functional analysis

- 835 genes analyzed
- **EggNOG database** – 0 annotations
- **INterPro databases** – only a few annotations
 - Gene3D
 - PANTHER
 - PRINTS
 - Pfam
 - ProSitePatterns
 - ProSiteProfiles
 - SMART
 - SUPERFAMILY





Outlook

- Plenty of genes of unknown function to work with
- To build a robust and resolved phylogeny enriched with insect clades
- *H. illucens* developmental transcriptomics



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Tomislav Domazet-Lošo,
PhD