

Characterization of conserved Flavivirus 5'UTR elements

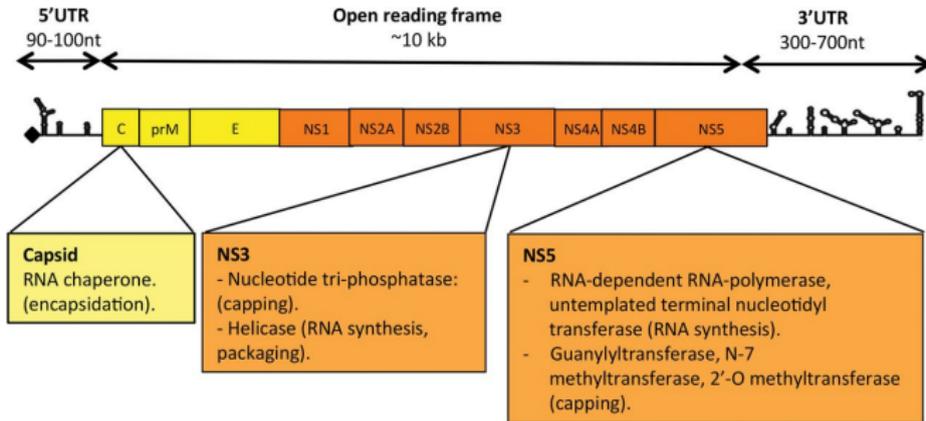
Michael T. Wolfinger
Andrea Tanzer
Roman Ochsenreiter

Department of Theoretical Chemistry
University of Vienna

Bled, Slovenia, February 16, 2017

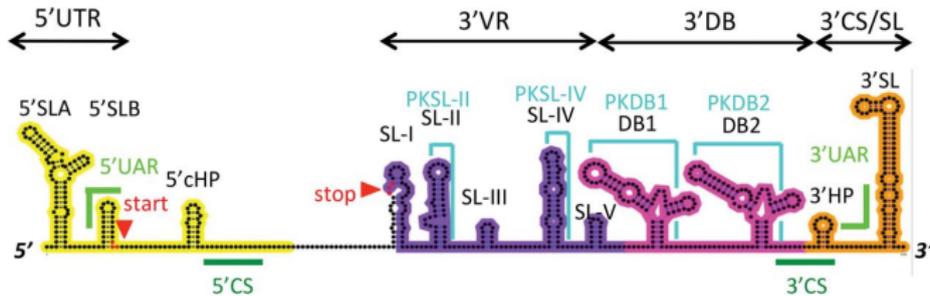
Flavivirus genome characteristics

- Single-stranded, positive-strand RNA viruses
- Enters cell through receptor-mediated endocytosis
- Capped, non-polyadenylated genome (gRNA) of 10-12kb length
- Encodes a single ORF, flanked by structured 5'-UTR and 3'-UTR
- Translation of FV ORF yields a single polyprotein



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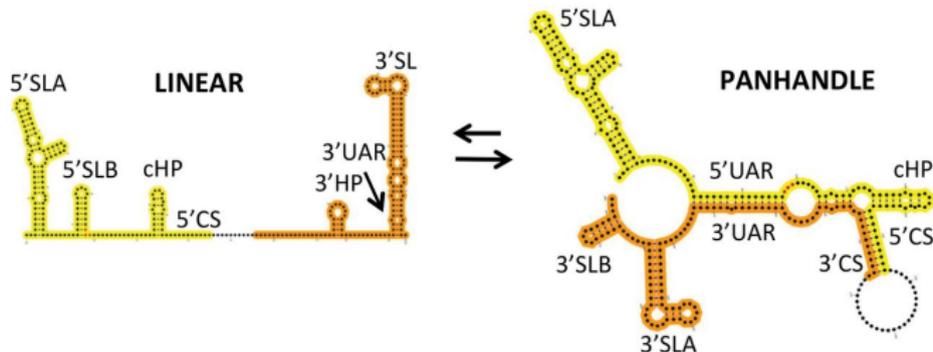


Flavivirus replication

- FV RNA replication happens via asymmetric replication cycle
- Viral RNA-dependent RNA polymerase (RdRp) synthesizes a full-length minus-strand (-)gRNA
- (-)gRNA is a template for several rounds of (+)gRNA synthesis
- Ratio (-)gRNA / (+)gRNA between 1:10 and 1:100
- Genome cyclisation is required for (-)gRNA synthesis

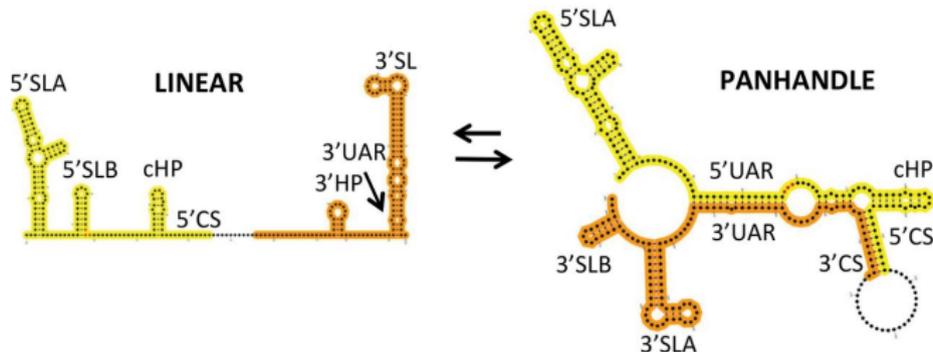
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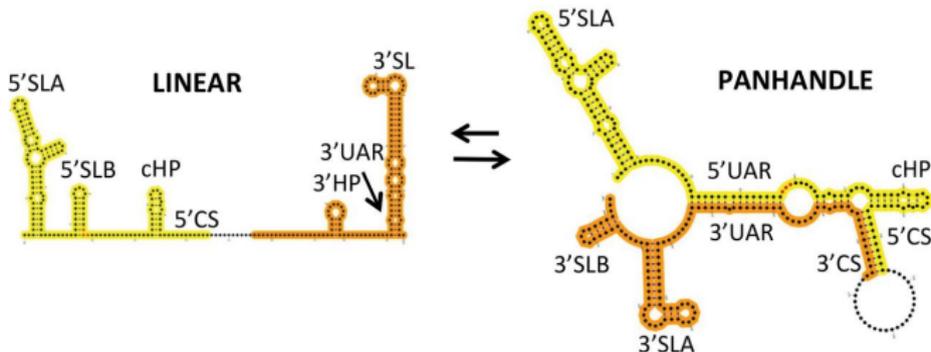
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- SLA acts as promoter / enhancer for viral RdRp

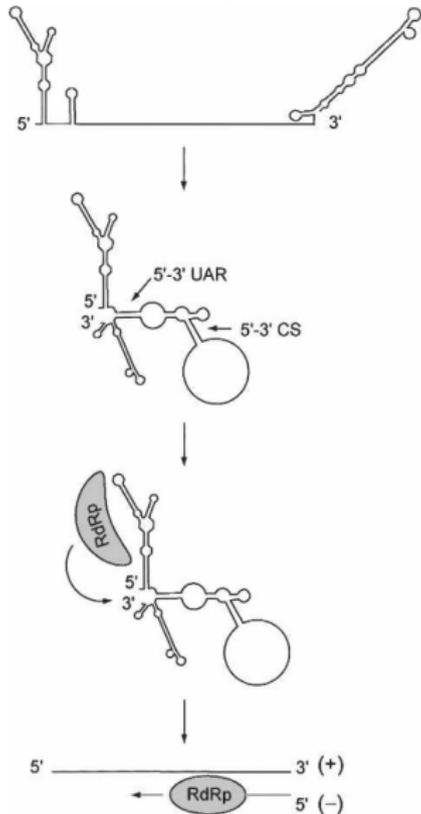
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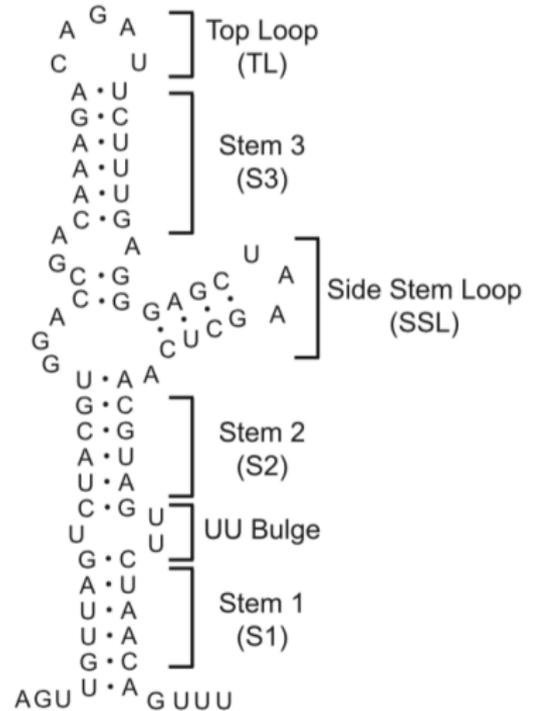
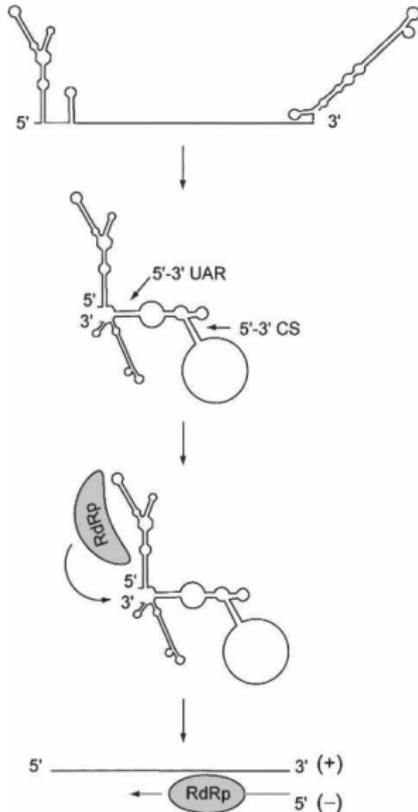


- SLA acts as promoter / enhancer for viral RdRp
- Viral RdRps are **error-prone**: Misincorporations every 40-70kb

Flavivirus replication



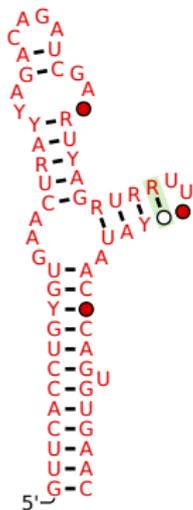
Flavivirus replication



SLA in different FV groups

Consensus structures computed from mlocarna alignments of all non-redundant representatives for each group obtained from NCBI

Kokobera virus group (KOKVG)



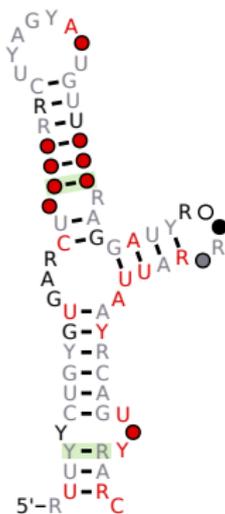
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SLA in different FV groups

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Japanese encephalitis virus (JEVG)

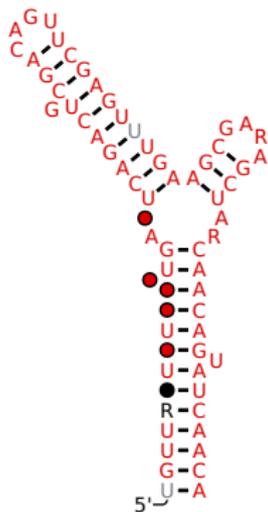


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JEV.1.3.1.163.1.1 G-UUU--AUCUGUGUGA---ACUUCUUGGCUUAGUAUCGU-UGAGAAGAAUCG-AGA-GAUUAGU-GCAGUUUAAC-
JEV.1.3.1.130.1.1 G-UUU--AUCUGUGUGA---ACUUCUUGGCUUAGUAUCGU-UGAGAAGAAUCG-AGA-GAUUAGU-GCAGUUUAAC-
ALFV.1.3.5.1.1.1.1 G-UUC--AUCUGUGUGA---ACUUUUUGACUCAGGAUUGU-UGGAAGGGAUUG-AAA-GAUUAU-ACAGUUUAAC-
JEV.1.3.1.165.1.1 G-UUU--AUCUGUGUGA---ACUUCUUGGUUUAGUAUCGU-UGAGAAGAAUCG-AAA-GAUUAGU-GCAGUUUAAC-
JEV.1.3.1.75.1.1 G-UUUU--UAACGUGUGA---ACUUCUUGGCUUAGUAUCGU-CGAGAGAAUCG-AGA-GAUUAGU-GCAGUUUAAC-
JEV.1.3.1.82.1.1 G-UUUU--UUUUUGUGU---ACUUCUGGCUUAGUAUCGU-UGAGAAGAAUCG-AGA-GAUUAGU-GCAGUUUAAC-
JEV.1.3.1.84.1.1 G-UUUU--AACUGUGUG---ACUUCUUGGCUUAGUAUCGU-UGAGAAGAAUCG-AGA-GAUUAGU-GCAGUUUAAC-
USUV.1.3.7.89.1.1 G-UUG--GCCUGUGUGA---GCUUCUACUUCUAGUAUUGU-UUUGGAGGAUCG-UUA-GAUUAU-ACAGUUGUUC-
MVEV.1.3.6.2.1.1 G-UUC--AUCUGCGUGA---GCUUCGGAUCUCAGUAUUGU-UUGGAAGGAUCA--UU-GAUUAAC-GCGGUUGAAC-
MVEV.1.3.6.1.1.1 G-UUC--AUCUGCGUGA---GCUUCGGAUCUCAGUAUUGU-UUGGAAGGAUCA--UU-GAUUAAC-GUGGUUUGAAC-
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WNV.1.3.2.973.1.1 G-UUCG--CCUGUGUGA---ACUGACAAACUUGUAUGU-UUGUGAGGGAUUAACAAACAUUAAC-ACAGUCCGAGC-
KUNV.1.3.4.43.1.1 G-UUCG--CCUGUGUGA---GCUGACAAACUUGUAUGU-UUGUGAGGGAUUAACAAACAUUAAC-ACAGUCCGAGC-
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GUUCG--UCUGUGUGA---GCUUCUACUUCUAGUAUUGUUUUUGGAGGAUCGUGA--GAUUAAC-ACAGUCCGGC-
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GUUCG--UCUGUGUGA---GCUUCUACUUCUAGUAUUGUUUUUGGAGGAUCGUGA--GAUUAAC-ACAGUCCGGC-
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SLEV.1.3.3.30.1.1 UGUUCG--CGUGUGUGA---GCCAAGAGGAACAGAUUUC-UUUUUUGGAGGAUUAACAAACUUAACUUGAUCGCGAAC
WNV.1.3.2.1616.1.1 UUCG--UCAGAAUC--CUGAAAGAAUUCAGAGU-UUUGUGAGGGAUUAACAAACAUUAAC-ACAGUCCGAGC-
#GC SS_cons ..(((.....(((((((.....(((.....(((.....(((.....(((.....(((.....(((.....))))))))))))).....)))))
```

SLA in different FV groups

Consensus structures computed from mlocarna alignments of all non-redundant representatives for each group obtained from NCBI

Spondweni virus group (SPOVG)

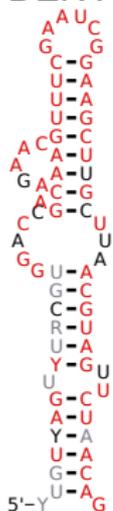


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ZIKV.1.6.2.158.1.1 UGUUGAUCUGUGUGAGUCAGACUGCGACAGUUCGAGUCUGAAGCGAGAGCUAACCAACAGUAUCAACA
ZIKV.1.6.2.169.1.1 UGUUGAUCUGUGUGAAUCAGACUGCGACAGUUCGAGUUUGAAGCGAGAGCUAACCAACAGUAUCAACA
ZIKV.1.6.2.84.1.1 AGUUGAUCUGUGUGAAUCAGACUGCGACAGUUCGAGUUUGAAGCGAAAGCUAGCAACAGUAUCAACA
ZIKV.1.6.2.150.1.1 UGUU--UCUGUGUGAAUCAGACUGCGACAGUUCGAGUUUGAAGCGAAAGCUAGCAACAGUAUCAACA
ZIKV.1.6.2.141.1.1 UGUUACUGUUGCUGACUCAGACUGCGACAGUUCGAGUUUGAAGCGAAAGCUAGCAACAGUAUCAACA
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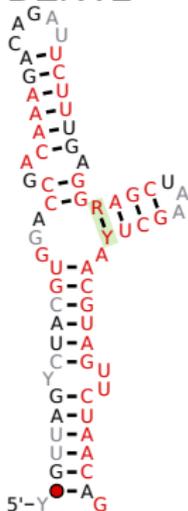

Dengue virus SLA

There are four DENV serotypes, probably five ...

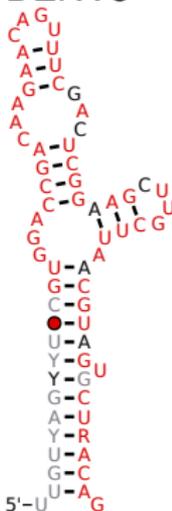
DENV1



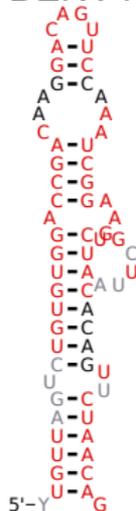
DENV2



DENV3



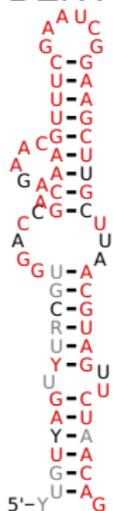
DENV4



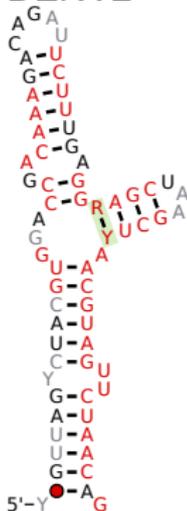
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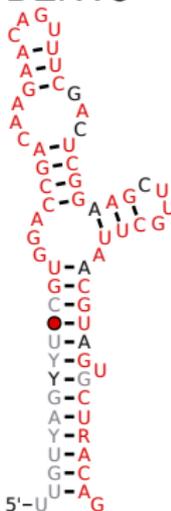
DENV1



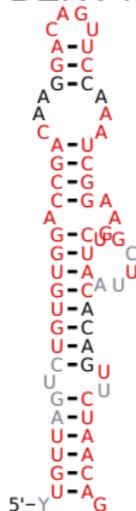
DENV2



DENV3



DENV4



Alternative facts:

- DENV1 folds into another consensus structure
- We need to deconvolute that !

RNAaliSplit objectives

```
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DENV1.1.2.1.21.1.1 CUGUUAGU-CUACGUGGACC-GACAAGAA-CAGUUUCGAAUCGGAAGCUUGC---UUAACGUAGKUCUAACAG
DENV1.1.2.1.1731.1.1 UUGUUAGU-CUACGUGGACC-GACAAGAA-CAGUUUCGAAUCGGAAGCUUGC---UUAACGUAGUUCUAACAG
DENV1.1.2.1.229.1.1 UUGUUAGU-CUGUCUGGACC-GACAAGAA-CAGUUUCGAAUCGGAAGCUUGC---UUAACGUAGUUCUAACAG
DENV1.1.2.1.339.1.1 UUGUUAGU-CUACGUGGACC-GACAAGAA-CAGUUUCGAAUCGGAAGCUUGC---UUAACGUAGUUCUACAG
DENV1.1.2.1.157.1.1 UUGUUAGU-CUACGUGGACU-GACAAGAA-CAGUUUCGAAUCGGAAGCUUGC---UUAACGUAGUUCUAACAG
DENV1.1.2.1.168.1.1 UUGUUAGUACUACGUGGACC-GACAAGAAUCAGUUUCGAAUCGGAAGCUUGC---UUAACGUAGUUCUAACAG
DENV1.1.2.1.402.1.1 GACUCAGA-UACCACGGACC-GACAAGAA-CAGUUUCGAAUCGGAAGCUUGC---UUAACGUAGUUCUAACAG
#=GC SS_cons .(((((((.((((((((.(.(((...(((...)))...)))...)).....)))))..)))))
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DENV1.1.2.1.168.1.1 UUGUUAGUACUACGUGGACC-GACAAGAAUCAGUUUCGAAUCGGAAGCUUGC---UUAACGUAGUUCUAACAG
DENV1.1.2.1.402.1.1 GACUCAGA-UACCACGGACC-GACAAGAA-CAGUUUCGAAUCGGAAGCUUGC---UUAACGUAGUUCUAACAG
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DENV1.1.2.1.21.1.1 CUGUUAGU-CUACGUGGACC-GACAAGAA-CAGUUUCGAAUCGGAAGCUUGC---UUAACGUAGKUCUAACAG
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DENV1.1.2.1.168.1.1 UUGUUAGUACUACGUGGACC-GACAAGAAUCAGUUUCGAAUCGGAAGCUUGC---UUAACGUAGUUCUAACAG
DENV1.1.2.1.402.1.1 GACUCAGA-UACCACGGACC-GACAAGAA-CAGUUUCGAAUCGGAAGCUUGC---UUAACGUAGUUCUAACAG
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Structure conservation

Covariation

RNAaliSplit objectives

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DENV1.1.2.1.21.1.1 CUGUUAGU-CUACGUGGACC-GACAAGAA-CAGUUUCGAAUCGGAAGCUUGC---UUAACGUAGKUCUAACAG
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DENV1.1.2.1.339.1.1 UUGUUAGU-CUACGUGGACC-GACAAGAA-CAGUUUCGAAUCGGAAGCUUGC---UUAACGUAGUUCUACAG
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DENV1.1.2.1.168.1.1 UUGUUAGUACUACGUGGACC-GACAAGAAUCAGUUUCGAAUCGGAAGCUUGC---UUAACGUAGUUCUAACAG
DENV1.1.2.1.402.1.1 GACUCAGA-UACCACGGACC-GACAAGAA-CAGUUUCGAAUCGGAAGCUUGC---UUAACGUAGUUCUAACAG
#=GC SS_cons .(((((((.((((((((.(.(((...(((.....)))...)))...)).....)))))..)))))..
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How can we quantify them?

RNAaliSplit objectives

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DENV1.1.2.1.156.1.1 CUGUUAGU-CUACGUGGACC-GACAAGAA-CAGUUUCGAAUCGGAAGCUUGC---UUAACGUAGWUCUAACAG
DENV1.1.2.1.21.1.1 CUGUUAGU-CUACGUGGACC-GACAAGAA-CAGUUUCGAAUCGGAAGCUUGC---UUAACGUAGKUCUAACAG
DENV1.1.2.1.1731.1.1 UUGUUAGU-CUACGUGGACC-GACAAGAA-CAGUUUCGAAUCGGAAGCUUGC---UUAACGUAGUUCUAACAG
DENV1.1.2.1.229.1.1 UUGUUAGU-CUGUCUGGACC-GACAAGAA-CAGUUUCGAAUCGGAAGCUUGC---UUAACGUAGUUCUAACAG
DENV1.1.2.1.339.1.1 UUGUUAGU-CUACGUGGACC-GACAAGAA-CAGUUUCGAAUCGGAAGCUUGC---UUAACGUAGUUCUACAG
DENV1.1.2.1.157.1.1 UUGUUAGU-CUACGUGGACU-GACAAGAA-CAGUUUCGAAUCGGAAGCUUGC---UUAACGUAGUUCUAACAG
DENV1.1.2.1.168.1.1 UUGUUAGUACUACGUGGACC-GACAAGAAUCAGUUUCGAAUCGGAAGCUUGC---UUAACGUAGUUCUAACAG
DENV1.1.2.1.402.1.1 GACUCAGA-UACCACGGACC-GACAAGAA-CAGUUUCGAAUCGGAAGCUUGC---UUAACGUAGUUCUAACAG
#=GC SS_cons .(((((((.(((((((.(.((...(((.....)))...)))...)))).)))).)))).
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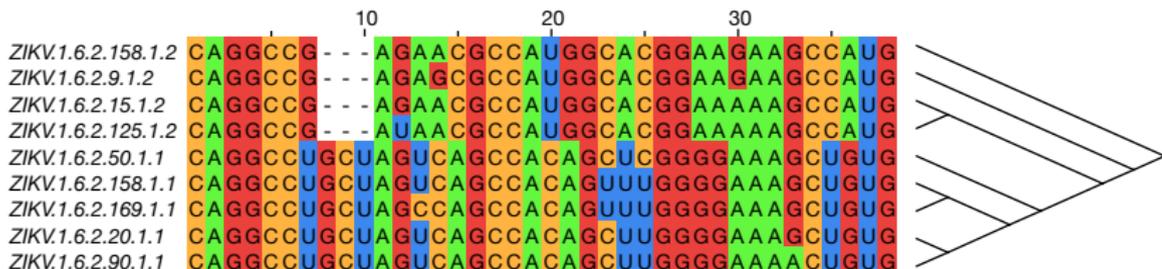
Structure conservation

- SCI
 - z-score
 - mean pairwise identity
 - GC content
- RNAz SVM RNA-class probability

Covariation

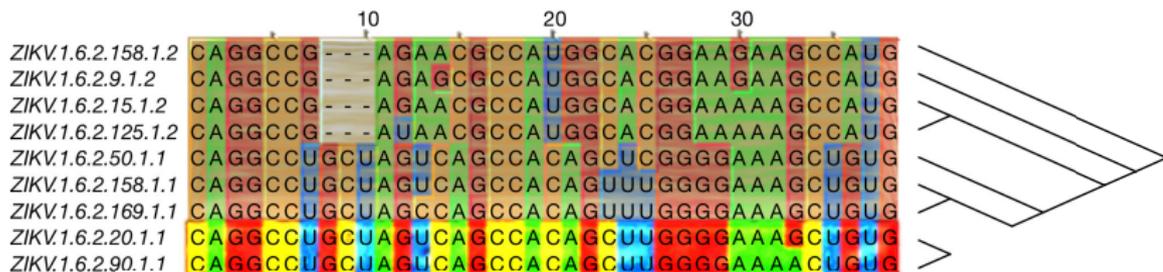
- compensatory mutations
- RNAalifold
- statistical significance
- R-scape

RNAaliSplit workflow



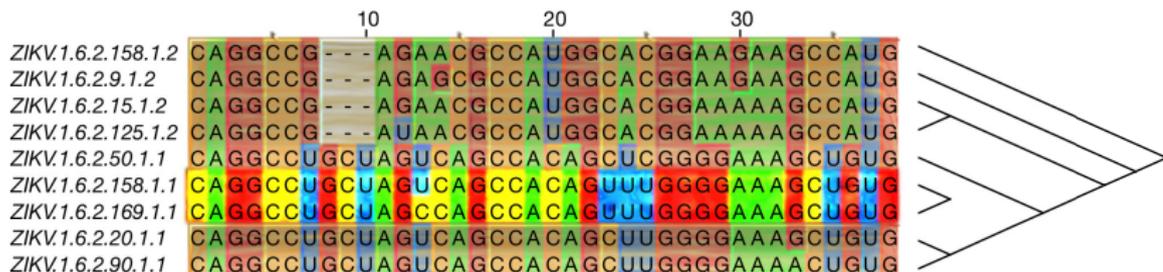
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0.036973	-0.65	0.9671	2 ((((((.....))(((((((.....))))))))..)))))) 0	split7.set2.aln	
0.051212	-0.51	1.0091	2 ((((((.....(((.....))..))))))))..)))))) 0	split8.set1.aln	
0.887830	-1.18	0.8409	7 (((((((.....(((.....))))))))..)))))) 2	split8.set2.aln	
0.899553	-1.43	0.9442	5 (((((((.....(((.....))))))))..)))))) 2	split9.set1.aln	
0.063624	-0.56	0.9789	4 ((((((.....(((.....))..))))))))..)))))) 0	split9.set2.aln	
...					

RNAaliSplit workflow



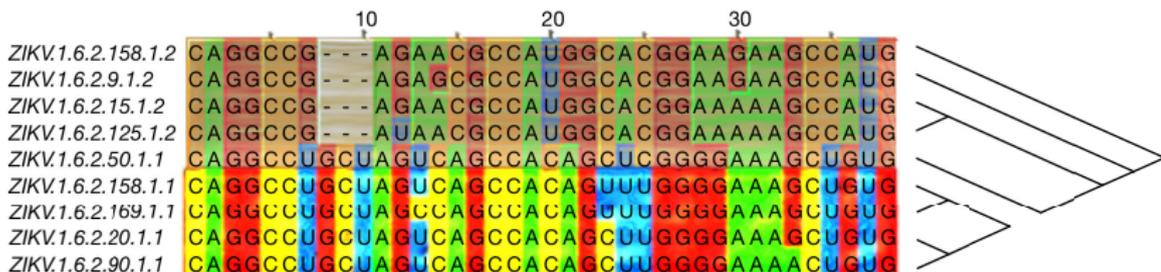
SVM prob	z-score	SCI	seq consensus	structure	SP	alignment
0.856846	-1.06	0.8613	9	((((((((.....))).(((((((.....)))))))).))))))	3	result.aln
0.939812	-1.17	0.8497	7	(((((.....(((.....)))))))).))))))	3	split7.set1.aln
0.036973	-0.65	0.9671	2	(((((.....(((.....)))))))).))))))	0	split7.set2.aln
0.051212	-0.51	1.0091	2	(((((.....(((.....)))))))).))))))	0	split8.set1.aln
0.887830	-1.18	0.8409	7	(((((.....(((.....)))))))).))))))	2	split8.set2.aln
0.899553	-1.43	0.9442	5	(((((.....(((.....)))))))).))))))	2	split9.set1.aln
0.063624	-0.56	0.9789	4	(((((.....(((.....)))))))).))))))	0	split9.set2.aln
...						

RNAaliSplit workflow



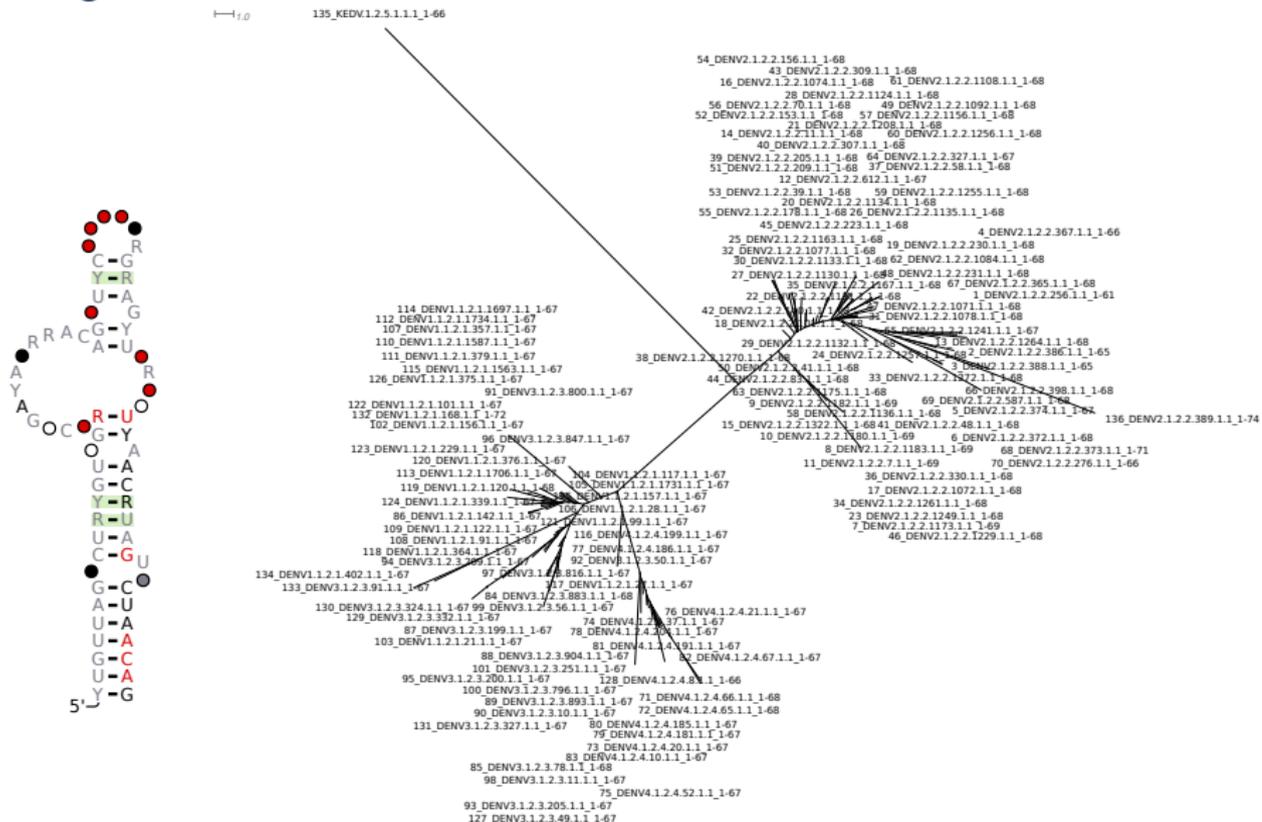
SVM prob	z-score	SCI	seq consensus	structure	SP	alignment
0.856846	-1.06	0.8613	9	((((((((.....))).(((((((.....)))))))).))))))	3	result.aln
0.939812	-1.17	0.8497	7	(((((.....(((.....)))))))).))))))	3	split7.set1.aln
0.036973	-0.65	0.9671	2	(((((.....(((.....)))))))).))))))	0	split7.set2.aln
0.051212	-0.51	1.0091	2	(((((.....(((.....)))))))).))))))	0	split8.set1.aln
0.887830	-1.18	0.8409	7	(((((.....(((.....)))))))).))))))	2	split8.set2.aln
0.899553	-1.43	0.9442	5	(((((.....(((.....)))))))).))))))	2	split9.set1.aln
0.063624	-0.56	0.9789	4	(((((.....(((.....)))))))).))))))	0	split9.set2.aln
...						

RNAaliSplit workflow



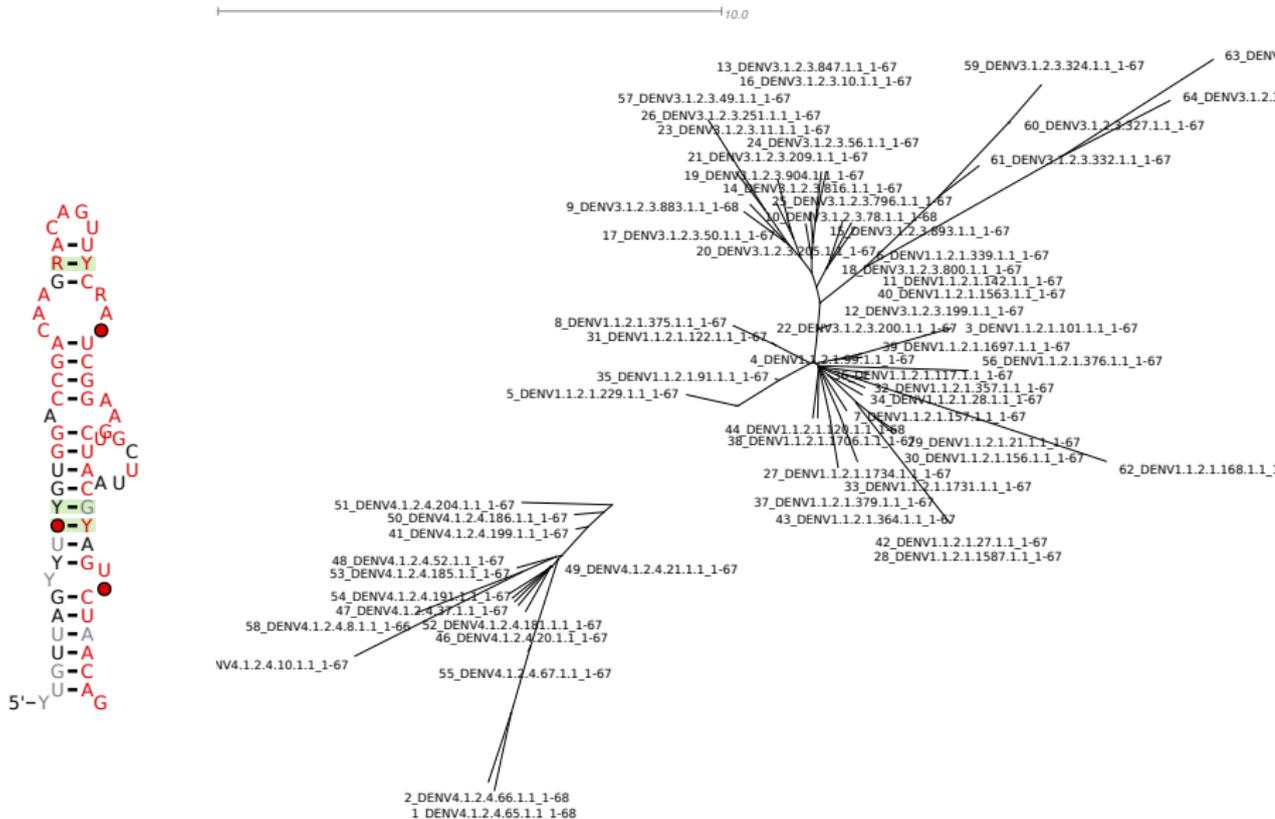
SVM prob	z-score	SCI	seq consensus	structure	SP alignment
0.856846	-1.06	0.8613	9	((((((((.....))).(((((((.....)))))))).))))))	3 result.aln
0.939812	-1.17	0.8497	7	(((((.....(((.....)))))))).))))))	3 split7.set1.aln
0.036973	-0.65	0.9671	2	(((((.....(((.....)))))))).))))))	0 split7.set2.aln
0.051212	-0.51	1.0091	2	(((((.....(((.....)))))))).))))))	0 split8.set1.aln
0.887830	-1.18	0.8409	7	(((((.....(((.....)))))))).))))))	2 split8.set2.aln
0.899553	-1.43	0.9442	5	(((((.....(((.....)))))))).))))))	2 split9.set1.aln
0.063624	-0.56	0.9789	4	(((((.....(((.....)))))))).))))))	0 split9.set2.aln
...					

Dengue virus SLA



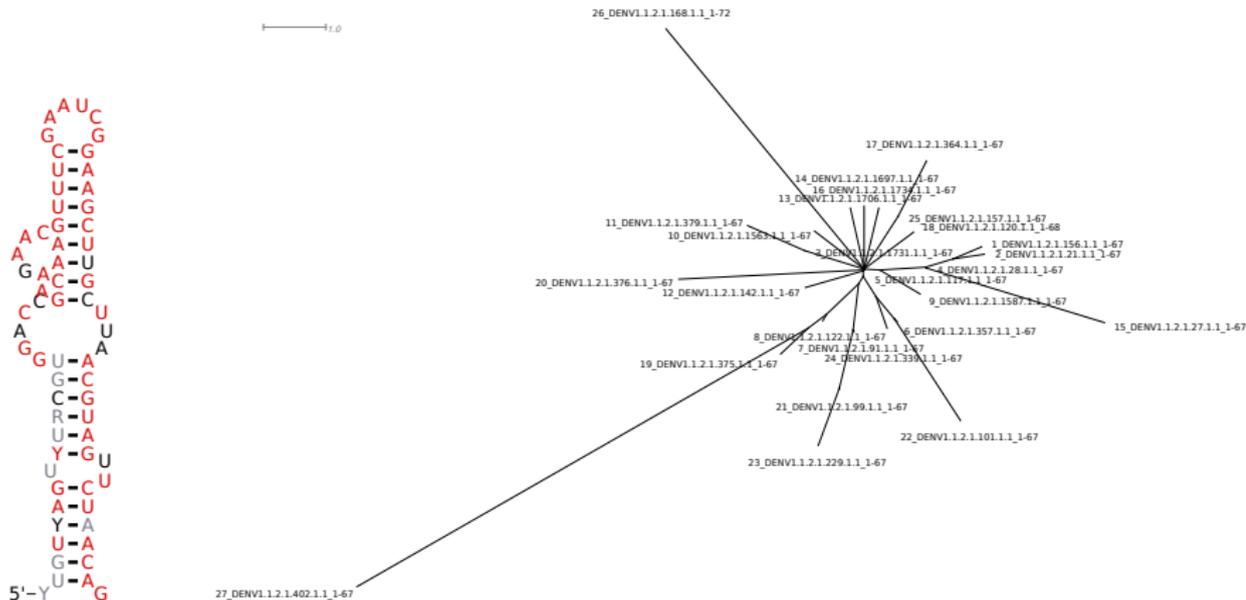
NJ tree; 146 pairwise different DENVG SLA sequences

Dengue virus SLA



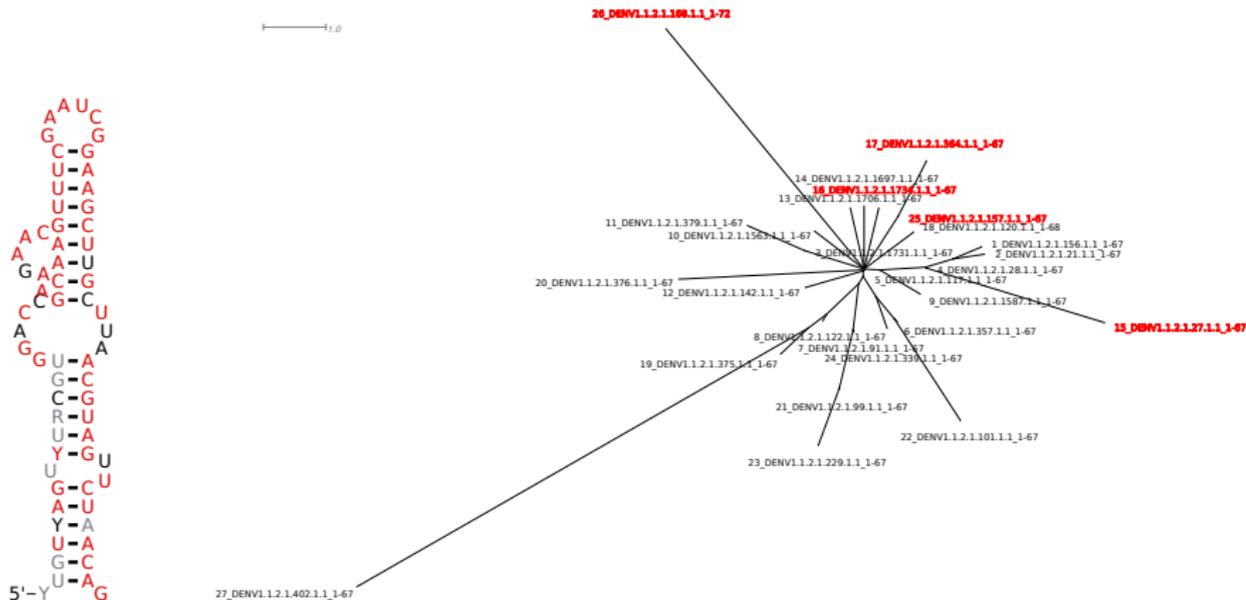
NJ tree; 64 pairwise different DENV1,3,4 SLA sequences

Dengue virus SLA



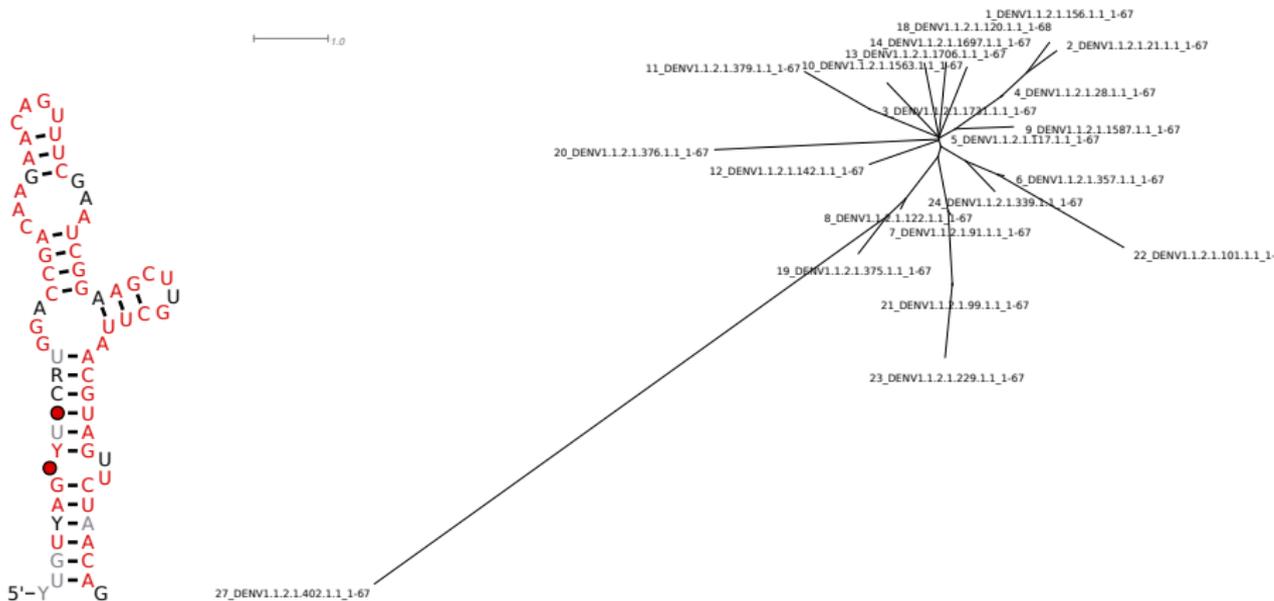
NJ tree; 27 pairwise different DENV1 SLA sequences

Dengue virus SLA



NJ tree; 27 pairwise different DENV1 SLA sequences

Dengue virus SLA



NJ tree; 22 pairwise different DENV1 SLA sequences

Summary

Flavivirus SLA elements are

- required for FV replication, mediating (-)gRNA synthesis by RdRp
- conserved among Mosquito-bourne and Tick-bourne FV

Summary

Flavivirus SLA elements are

- required for FV replication, mediating (-)gRNA synthesis by RdRp
- conserved among Mosquito-bourne and Tick-bourne FV

RNAaliSplit is

- a heuristic approach for splitting MSA into sets that have alternative consensus structures
- a means for cleaning MSA before constructing covariance models
- unversally applicable to moderate-sized RNA MSA
- implemented in a modular, object-oriented way based on the Perl Moose framework
- available soon as a stand-alone Perl Module

Acknowledgments

Collaborators

Andrea Tanzer

Roman Ochsenreiter

Ivo L. Hofacker



DK RNA Biology (FWF-W 1207)

FWF

Der Wissenschaftsfonds.

SFB RNA regulation of the
transcriptome (FWF-F43)



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Thank you!