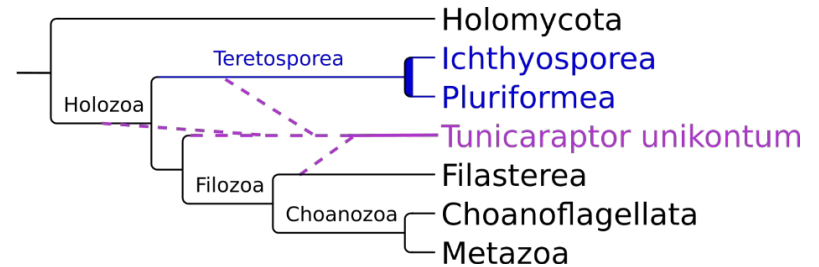
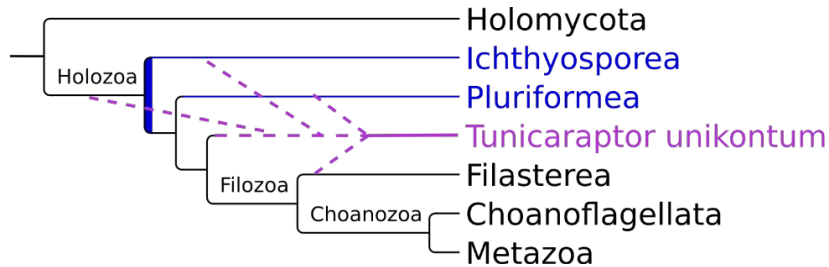


Evolution of CCA-adding Enzymes at the Origin of Metazoa

Elisa Israel
Computational EvoDevo, Leipzig University
Bled, 14.02.2023

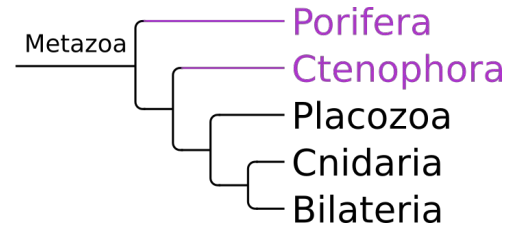
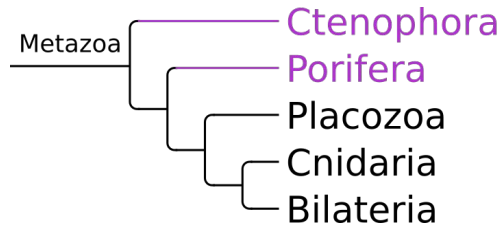
Phylogeny

- Holozoa: Metazoa and their unicellular relatives
- holozoan phylogeny still discussed: Pluriformea as sister group to Filozoa vs. 'Teretosporea' hypotheses
- the unicellular species *T. unikontum* is yet to be placed in the phylogenetic tree



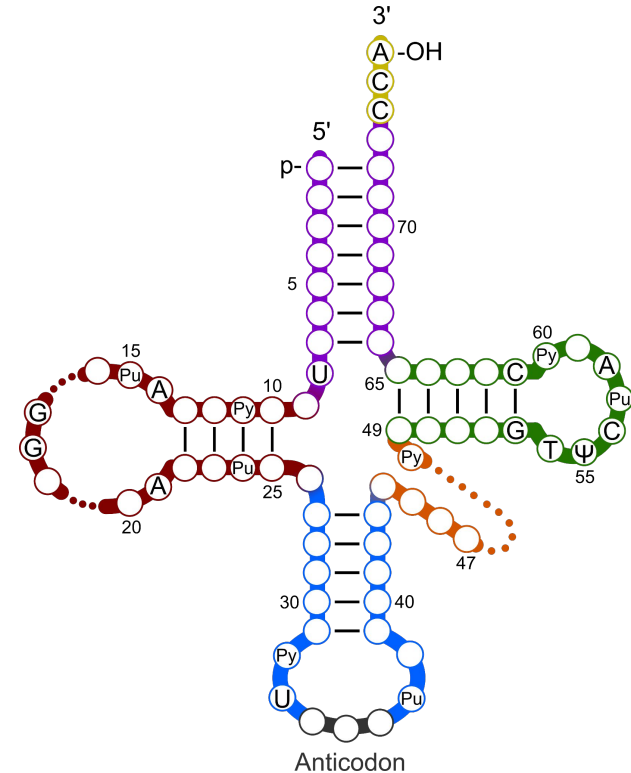
Phylogeny

- phylogeny of early-branching Metazoa is strongly debated
- ‘Ctenophora first’ vs. ‘Porifera first’ hypotheses (comb jellies vs. sponges)
- phylogeny of unicellular Holozoa and early-branching Metazoa is based on a small set of genomes and transcriptomes
- the fast evolutionary rates of ctenophores further complicates things
- ambiguities also exist within the clades



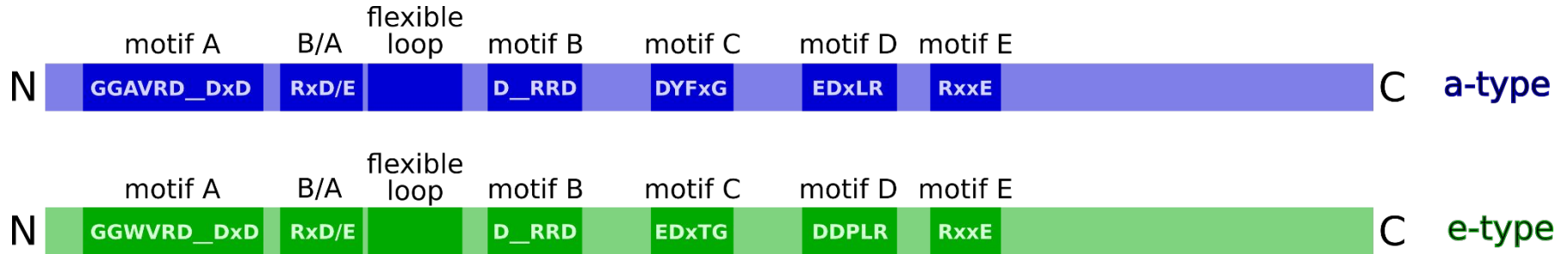
CCA-adding Enzymes

- CCA sequence is usually added post-transcriptionally by CCA-adding enzymes or CC-/A-adding enzymes
- class I: archaeal enzymes
- class II: bacterial and eukaryotic enzymes
- class II enzymes are characterized by five highly conserved catalytic core motifs



CCA-adding Enzymes

- only a few paralogs identified in eukaryotes (Choanoflagellata & Schizosaccharomyces)
- eukaryotic CCA: eCCA
- alphaproteobacterial CCA: aCCA
- differ in their conserved motifs A, C and D



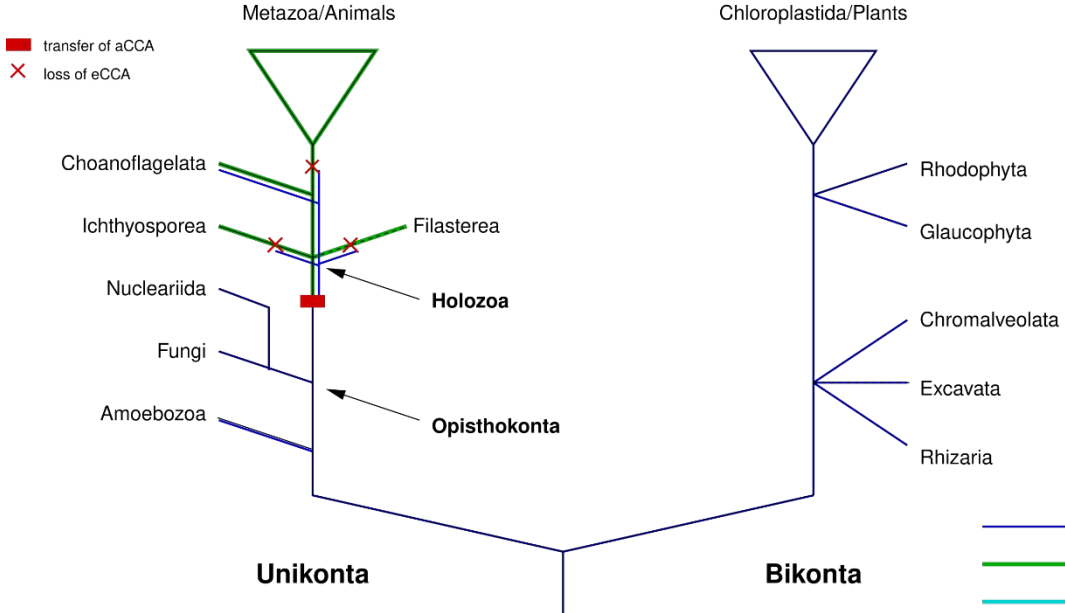
CCA-adding Enzymes

- Holozoa: aCCA through HGT, eCCA lost in most lineages
- Choanoflagellata: all have aCCA, some eCCA additionally
- subfunctionalization shown for *S. rosetta*
 - aCCA: CC-addition, mutations in the flexible loop
 - eCCA: A-addition

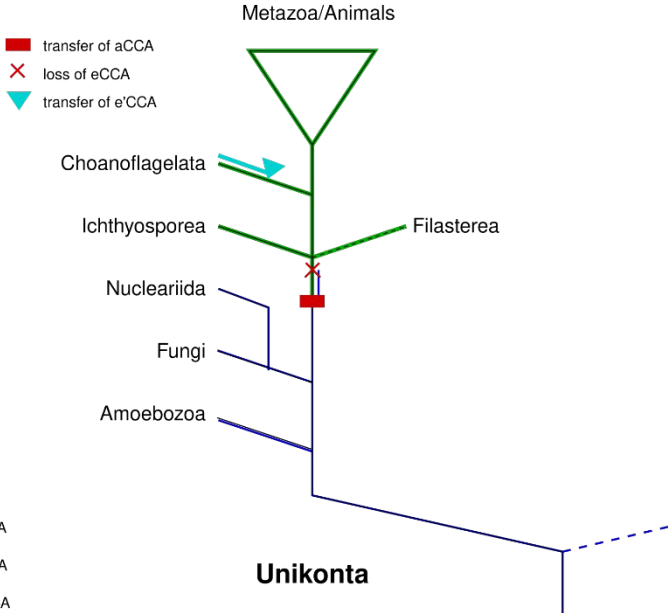
Evolutionary Events in Holozoa

➤ Retention vs. Gain Scenario to explain paralogs in Choanoflagellata

Retention Scenario



Gain Scenario

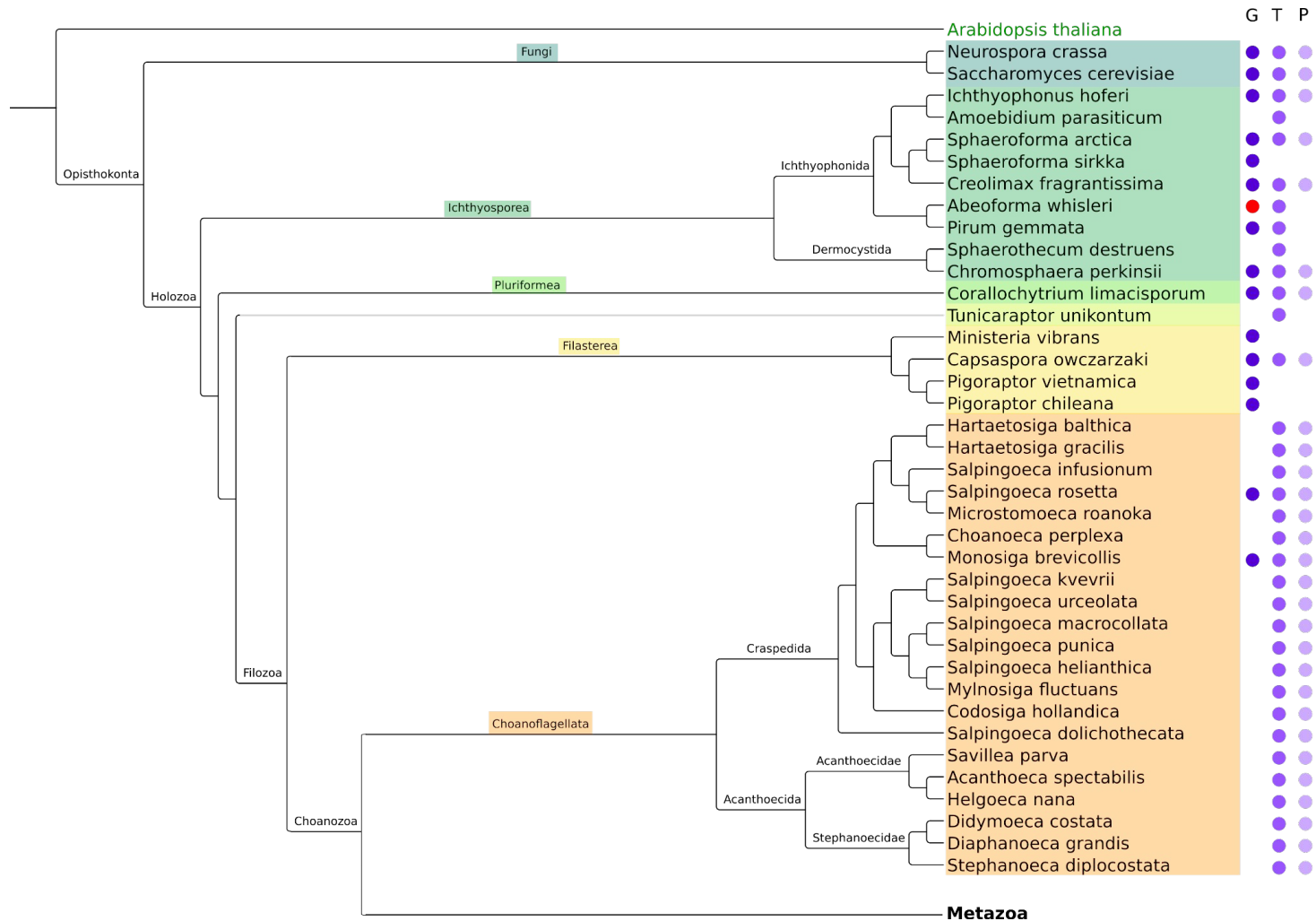


Is the occurrence of paralogs limited to our closest unicellular relatives?

➤ expectation: all Metazoa possess one aCCA enzyme

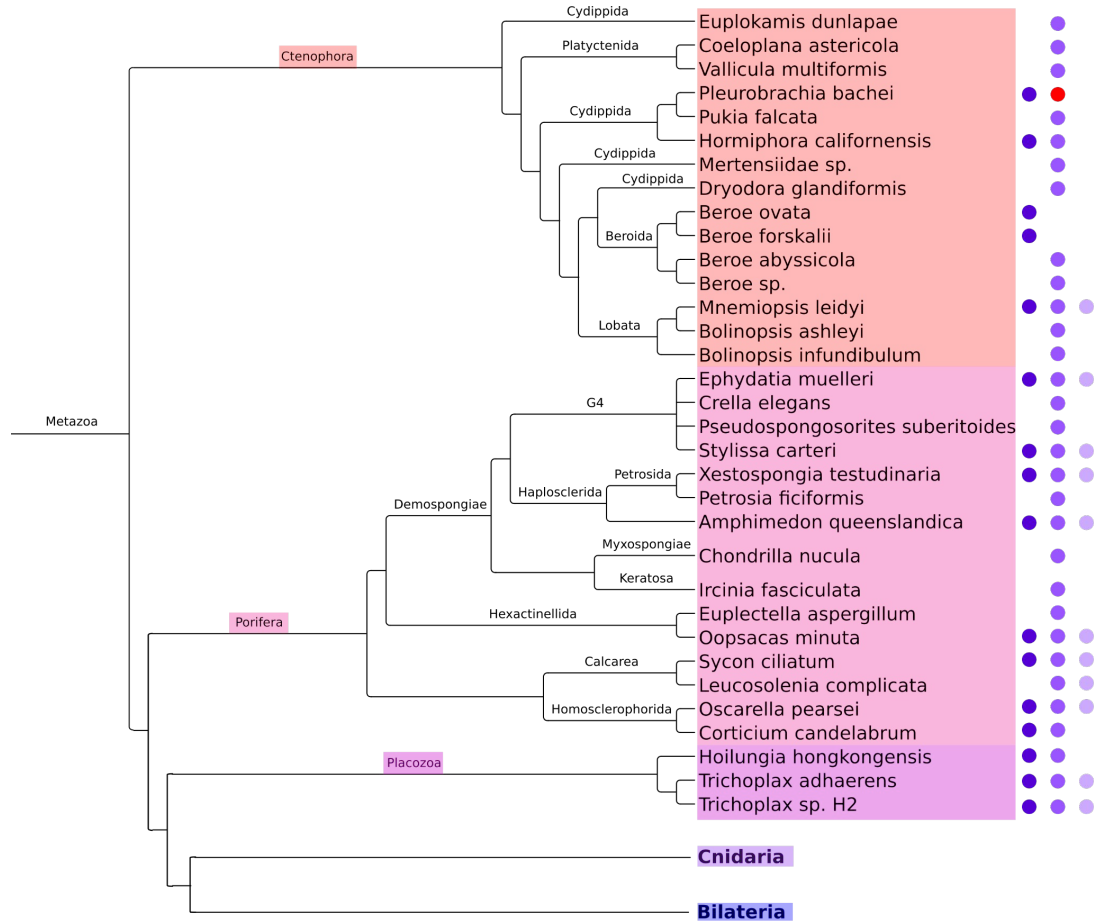
Data

- proteome, transcriptome and genome data of 102 holozoan species
 - 58 genomes
 - 91 transcriptomes
 - 59 proteomes
- reference protein sequences:
 - aCCA: *Homo sapiens*
 - eCCA: *Arabidopsis thaliana*



G T P

Metazoa



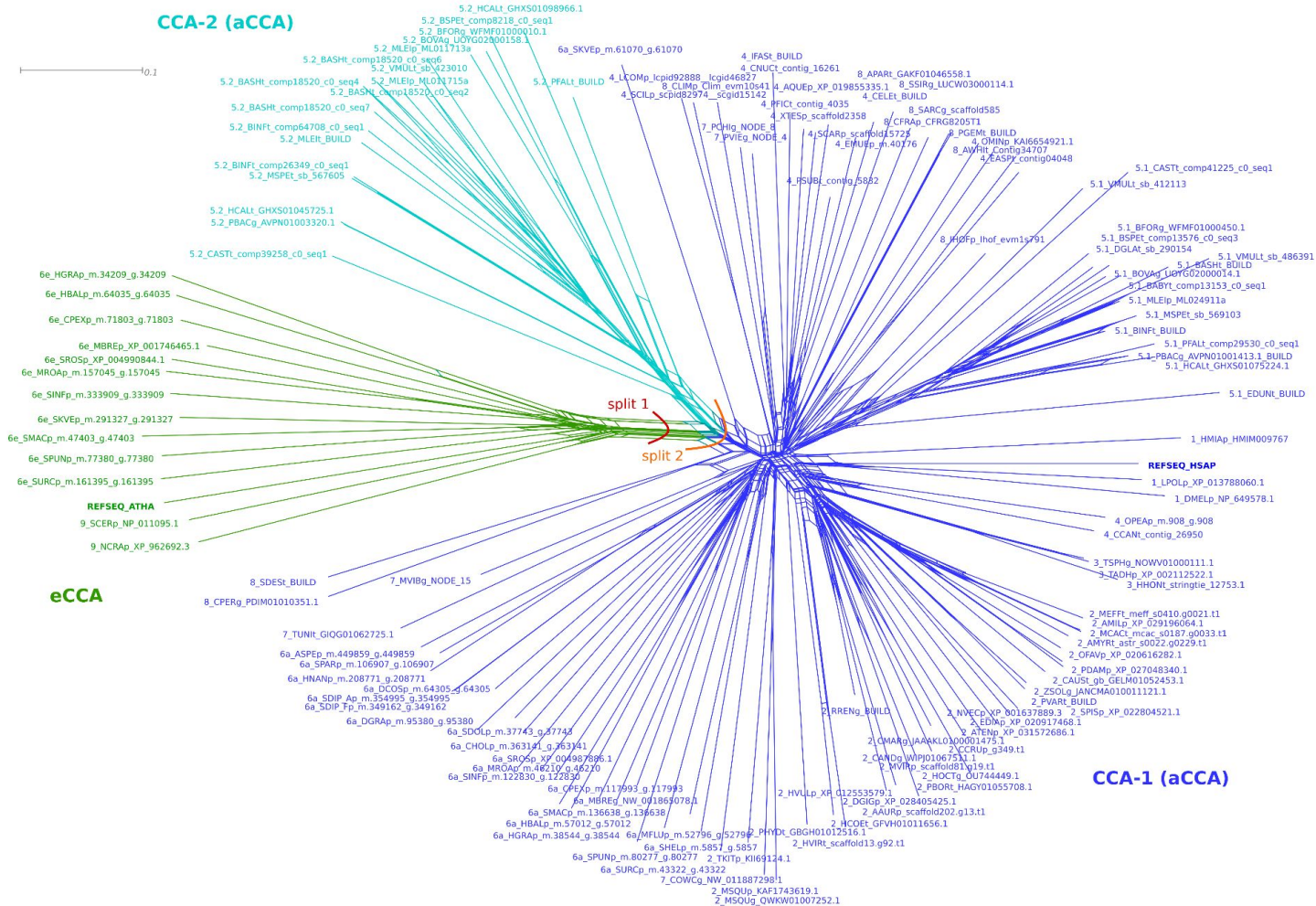
Workflow

- identify candidate sequences
- transcriptome: translate candidates
- genome: splice site prediction (unicellular Holozoa) or gene prediction using clade specific parameters (early-branching Metazoa)
- check for contaminations
- iterate using clade specific protein sequence if only partial sequences/no candidates found
- align candidates, generate phylogenetic network
- classify candidates using sequence similarity, common motifs and the phylogenetic network

Expectations

- one aCCA enzyme in all holozoan species
- additional eCCA sequence in Choanoflagellata
- clear separation of eCCA sequences from Choanoflagellata and aCCA sequences from all holozoan lineages

CCA-2 (aCCA)



split 1

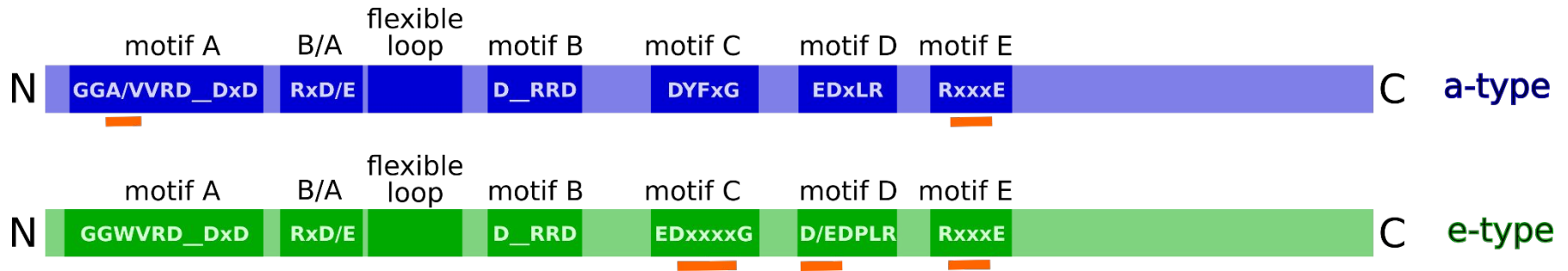
split 2

eCCA

CCA-1 (aCCA)

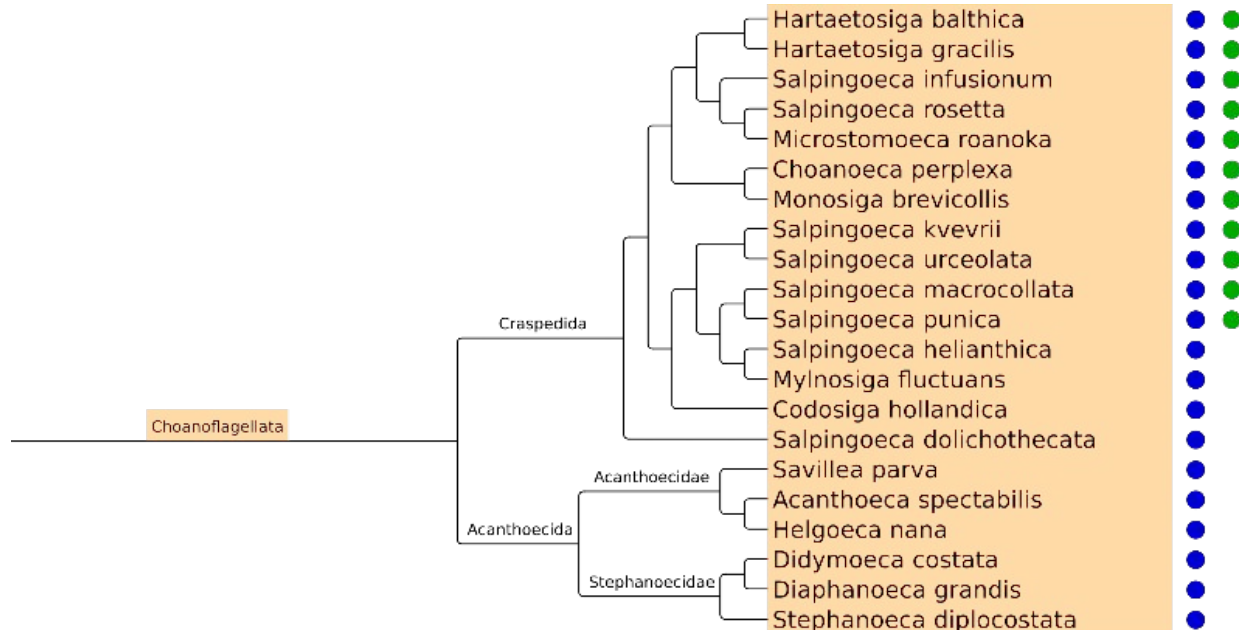
Motifs

- motifs A, C, D and E need revision
- strict pattern search failed to classify eCCA sequences

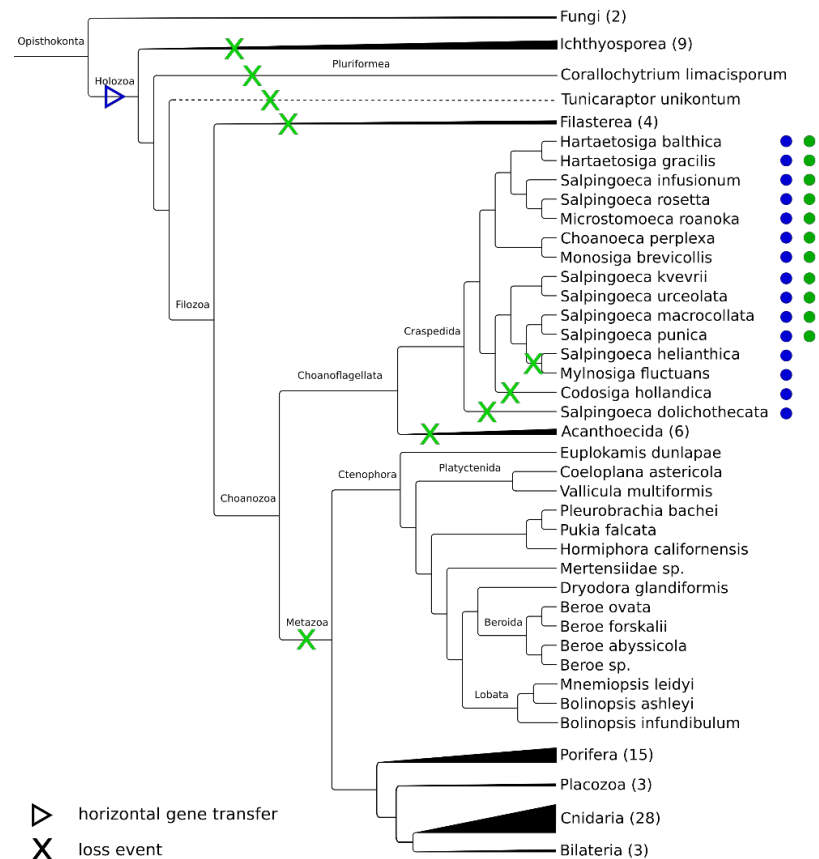


Distribution of CCA-adding Enzymes

➤ eCCA in Craspedida clade 1 and clade 2

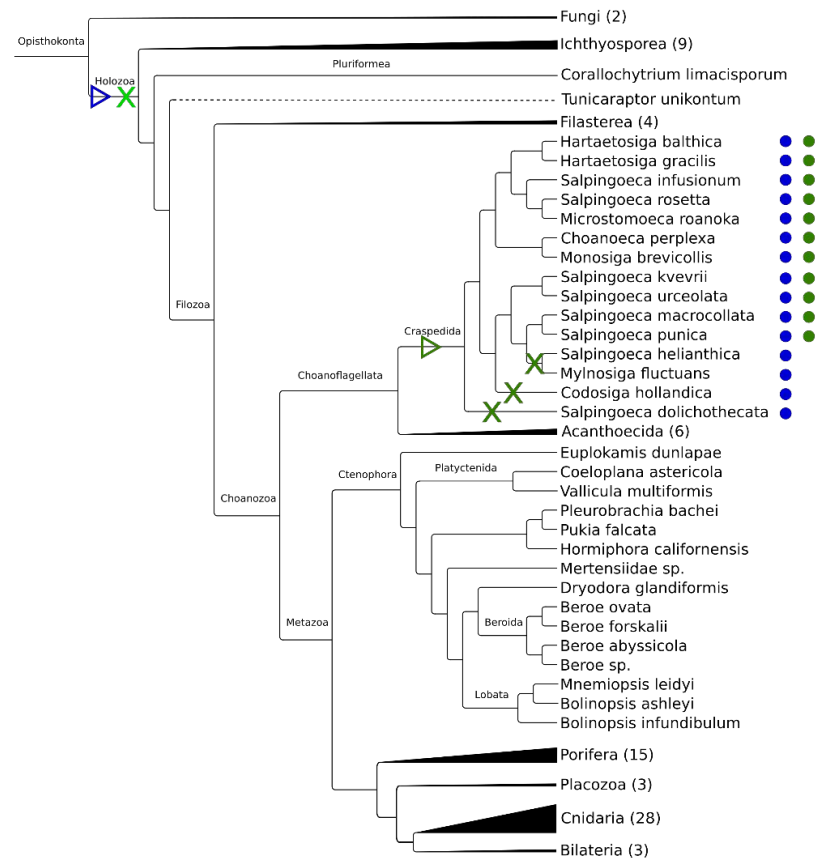


Retention Scenario



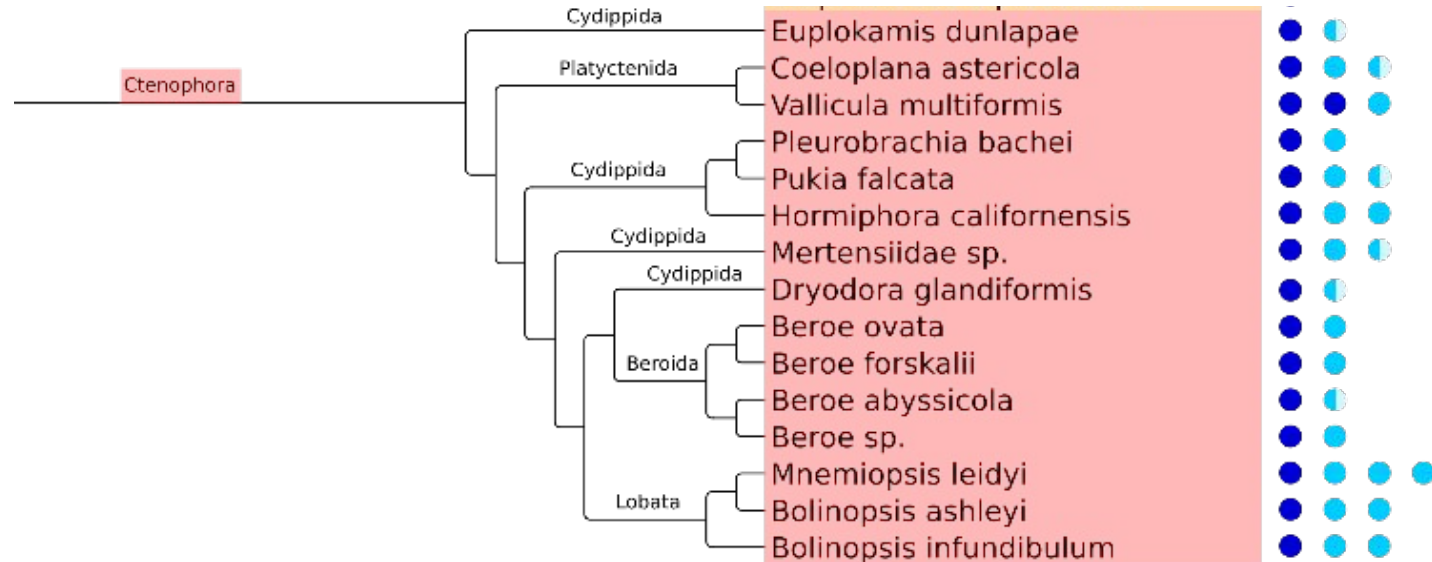
- ▷ horizontal gene transfer
- X loss event
- aCCA
- eCCA
- e'CCA

Gain Scenario



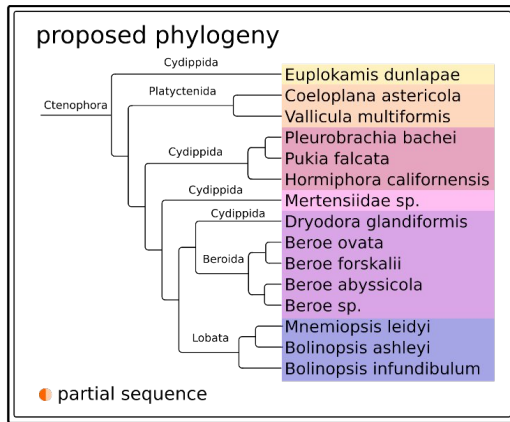
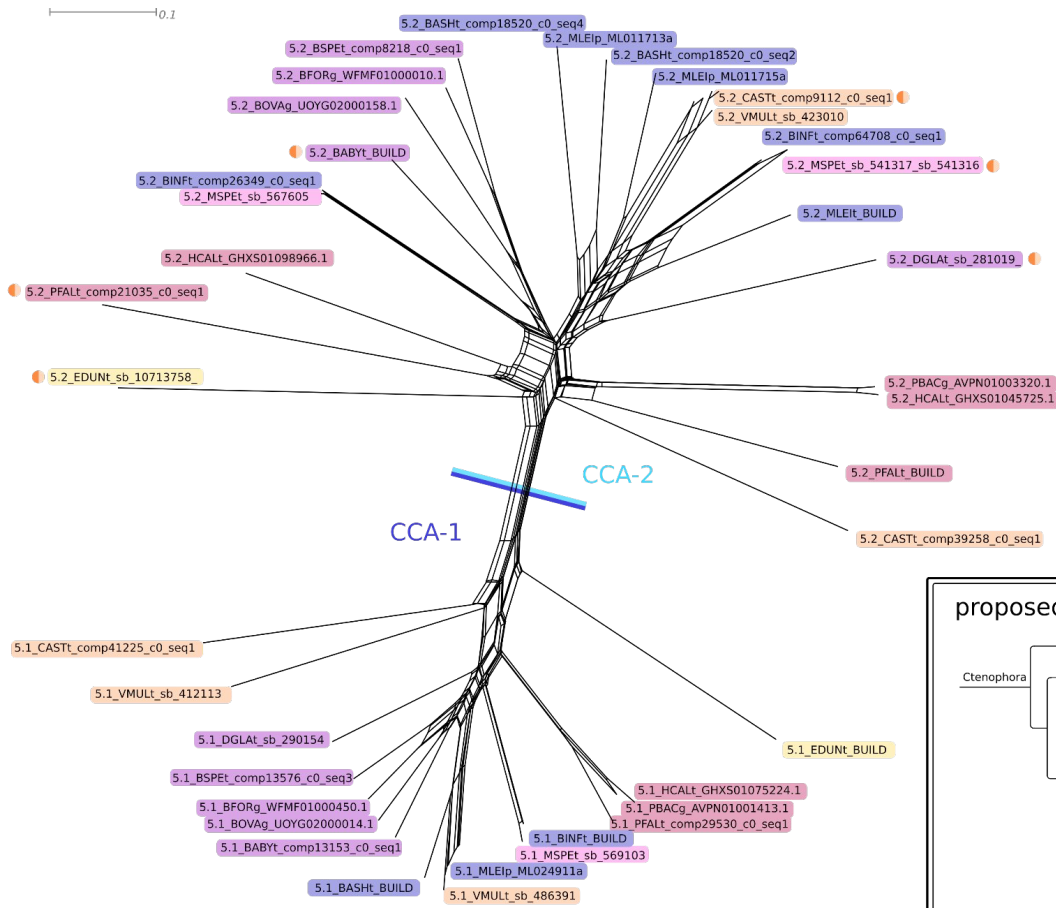
Distribution of CCA-adding Enzymes

- multiple a-type enzymes in Ctenophora

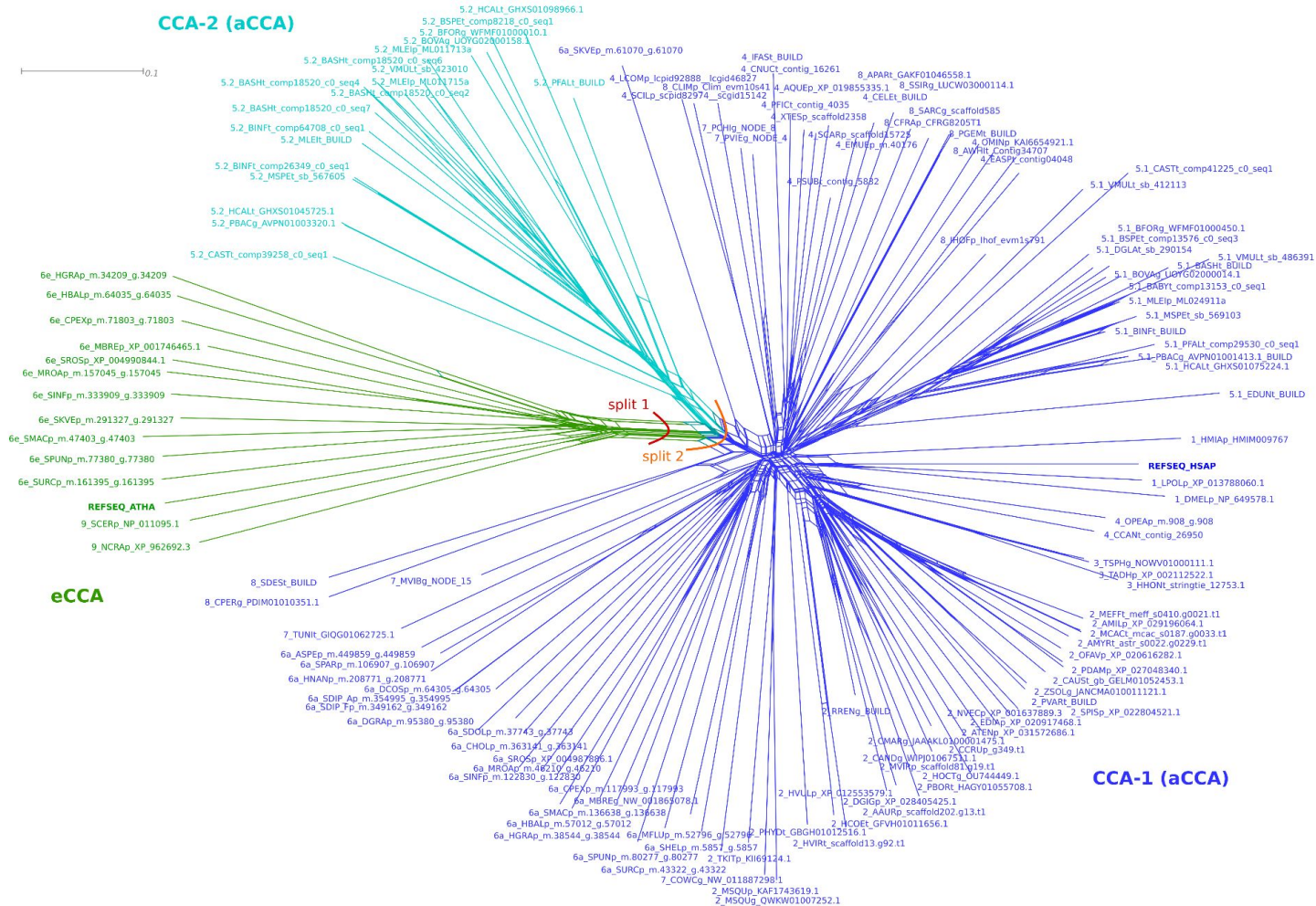


Ctenophore Sequences

- multiple sequences found in Ctenophora, all clearly classified as aCCA
- significant differences separating them into two distinct groups
→CCA-1 and CCA-2



CCA-2 (aCCA)



split 1

split 2

eCCA

CCA-1 (aCCA)

Ctenophore Sequences

- CCA-1 sequences resemble those of all other holozoan lineages
- CCA-2 sequences differ in:
 - motif D: forms the single nucleotide binding pocket where Watson-Crick-like hydrogen bonds are formed with the incoming nucleotides
 - CCA-2 sequences show a rare proline substitution in this motif
→indicative of structural changes

1 HMIAP HMIM009567
 1 DMELp NP 649578.1
 1 LPOLp XP 013788060.1
 3 HHONt stringtie 12753.1
 3 TADHp XP 002112522.1
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 4 PSUBt contig 5832
 4 XTESp scaffold2358
 4 PFICT contig 4035
 4 AQUep XP 019855335.1
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 4 OMInp KAI6654921.1
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 4 LCOMp lcpid92888 lcgid46827
 4 CCANt contig 26950
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 5.1 BINf BUILD
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 5.2 BSPet comp8218 c0 seq1
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 5.2 MLEIp ML011715a
 5.2 MLEIk BUILD
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 5.2 BASht comp18520 c0 seq6
 5.2 BASht comp18520 c0 seq7
 5.2 BASht comp18520 c0 seq4
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 5.2 BINf comp64708 c0 seq1
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 6a SKVEp m.61070 g.61070
 6a SMACp m.136638 g.136638
 6a SPUNp m.80277 g.80277
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 8 AWHit Contig34707
 8 CLIMp Clim evm10s41

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 EDYLRILRYFRF--HARITVDPD---TLPGSHDEATLKLARENHGL-NRITGGERTIAS

Ctenophore Sequences

- CCA-1 sequences resemble those of all other holozoan lineages
- CCA-2 sequences differ in:
 - motif D: forms the single nucleotide binding pocket where Watson-Crick-like hydrogen bonds are formed with the incoming nucleotides
 - CCA-2 sequences show a rare proline substitution in this motif
→indicative of structural changes
 - point mutations in the flexible loop
 - exon counts
- structural and functional differences likely, subfunctionalization possible (CCA-1 A-addition, CCA-2 CC-addition)

4 PFICt contig 4035	ID - Y E I T T L R I - D - R L T D G R H - A V V E Y T Q D W R L D A E R R D L T I N A M S L E L D
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4 IFASt contig 15820 21667 BU	TD - - F T T L R I - D - R E T D G R H - A V V D F T T D W L V D A E R R D L T I N A M S L D F D
4 EASPt contig04048	----- D F T I N A M F M D Q K
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5.1 BINPt BUILD comp53744 c0	IP - Y E V T T L R I - D - T E T D G R H - A E V K F T T D F Q L D A A R R D L T I N A M S V D L E
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5.2 MLEIt BUILD comp31840 c0	HN - F E M T S L R E - D I L E R G G K V - C R - Y G R S F R D A N R R D L T I N A M S L D E E
5.2 BASHT compl8520 c0 seq2	FV - F E T T S L R E L D V L V E G E K V - C K - F G T S F V E D A R R R D L T V N A M S L D V E
5.2 BASHT compl8520 c0 seq6	FM - F E M N S L R K - D F M V A G E R N - S Q - Y G V S F I E D A N R R D F T M N A M S L D V E
5.2 BASHT compl8520 c0 seq7	FV - F E T T S L R E L D V L V E G E K V - C K - F G T S F V E D A R R R D L T V N A M S L D V E
5.2 BASHT compl8520 c0 seq4	FM - F E M N S L R K - D F M V A G E R N - S Q - Y G V S F I E D A N R R D F T M N A M S L D V E
5.2 BINPt comp26349 c0 seq1	HQ - F E M T S L R M - D - T I V D G R K - C K C L Y G R S F K E D A T R R D L T M N A M S L D V N
5.2 BINPt comp64708 c0 seq1	FQ - F E M T S L R V - D Y M D K G E R V - C R - - Y G T D F K E D A N R R D L T I N A M S L D E E

Ctenophore Sequences

- multiple sequences found in Ctenophora, all clearly classified as aCCA
- significant differences separating them into two distinct groups
→CCA-1 and CCA-2
- CCA-1 sequences resemble those of all other holozoan lineages
- CCA-2 sequences differ in:
 - motif D: forms the single nucleotide binding pocket where Watson-Crick-like hydrogen bonds are formed with the incoming nucleotides
 - CCA-2 sequences show a rare proline substitution in this motif
→indicative of structural changes
 - point mutations in the flexible loop
 - exon counts
- structural and functional differences likely, subfunctionalization possible
(CCA-1: A-addition, CCA-2: CC-addition)

