

**Large-scale phylogenetic analyses elucidate  
the evolutionary affiliations of  
two novel microbial eukaryotes,  
*Tsukubamonas globosa* and *Palipitomonas bilix***

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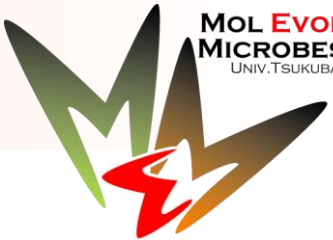
University of Tsukuba

# A well-resolved global eukaryotic phylogeny

- Model the evolutions of traits in eukaryotic cells
  - ✓ Mitochondria, plastids, other bacterial endosymbionts, translation systems, etc.
- *Novel microbial eukaryotes*, which have not been observed (or studied in detail)
  - ✓ *lots of them* in environments
  - ✓ Find & isolate
  - ✓ Cultivate
  - ✓ Characterize
  - ✓ Generate large-scale sequence data
  - ✓ Determine the phylogenetic position

Next-generation  
sequencing

'Phylogenomic'  
analysis



# How we find, characterize, and analyze novel eukaryotes

① Sampling



Culturing



②

Microscopic observation



Small-scale DNA sequencing



Small subunit rRNA gene

Next-generation sequencing

③



Large-scale transcriptomic data  
And/or genome data

Phylogenomic analyses

④





# Two novel eukaryotes

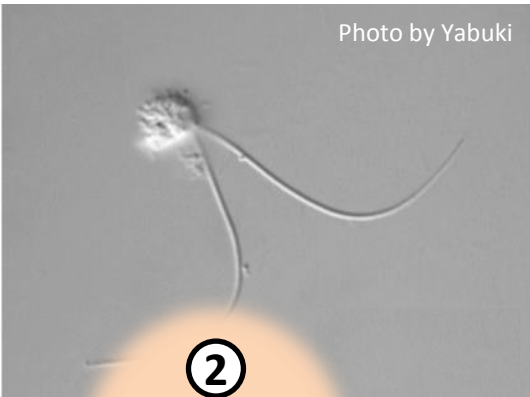


Photo by Yabuki

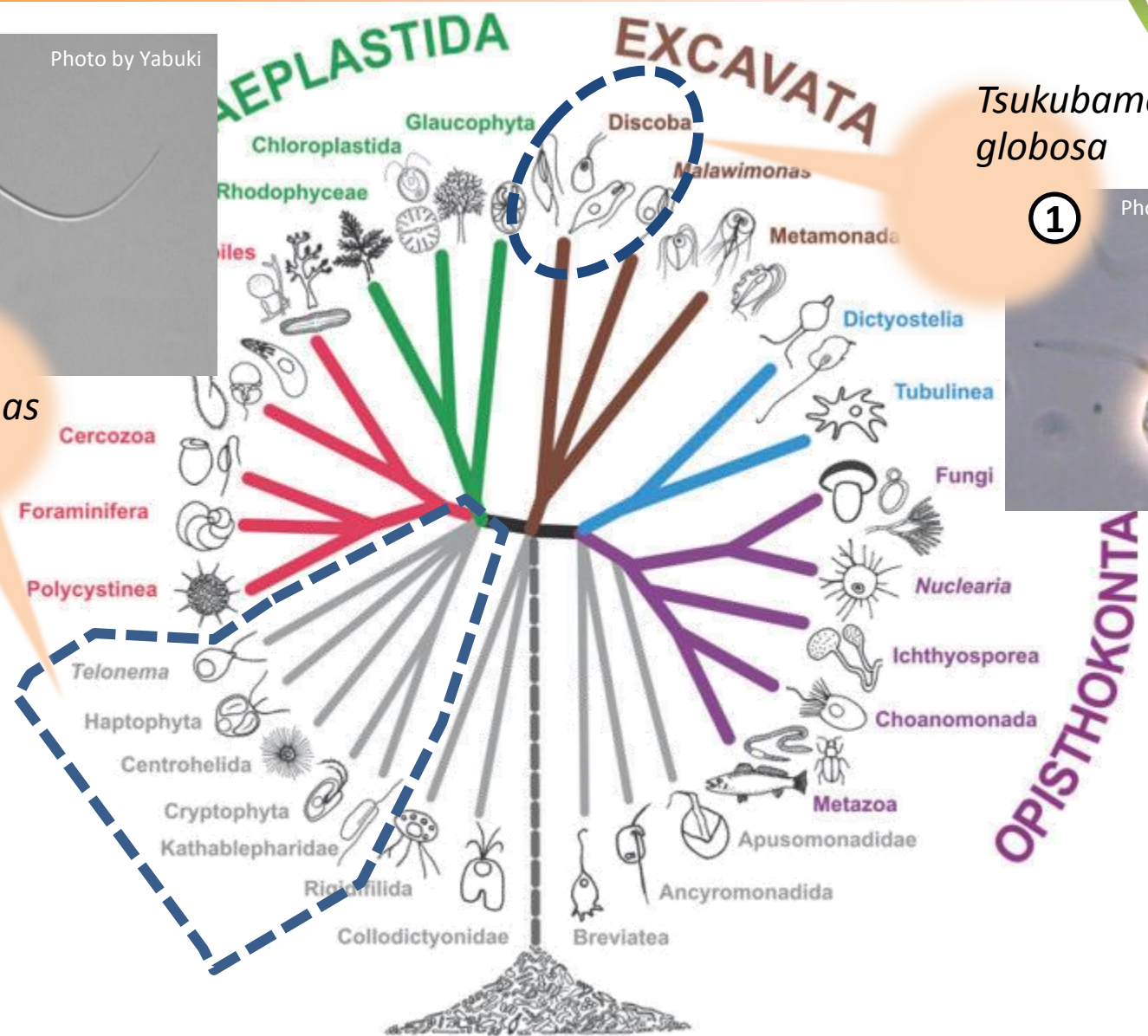
②

*Palpitomonas bilix*

*Tsukubamonas globosa*

①

Photo by N. Yabuki

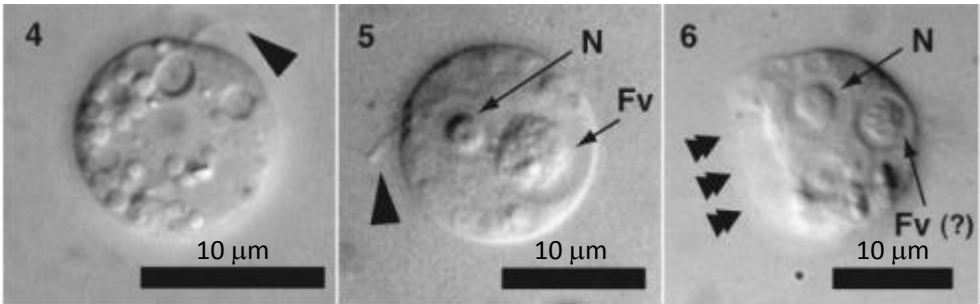


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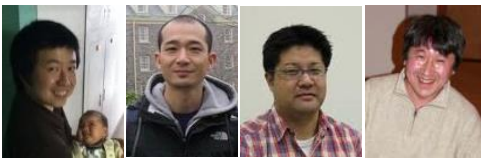
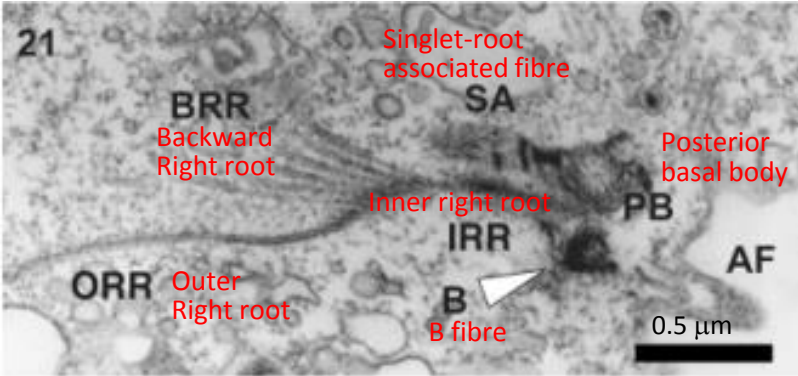
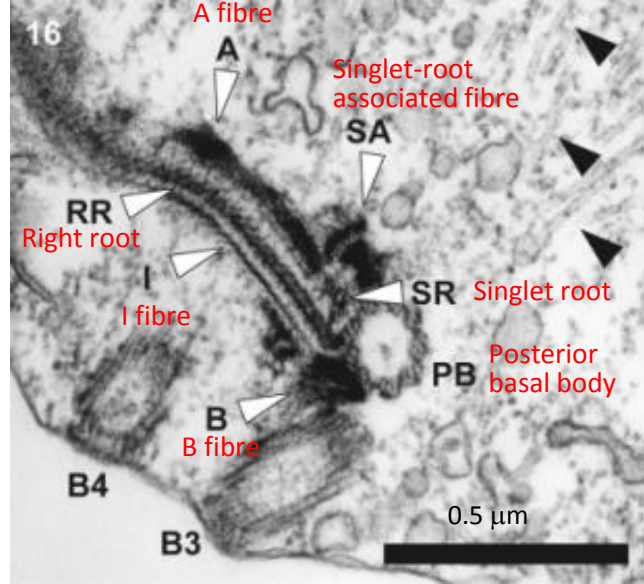
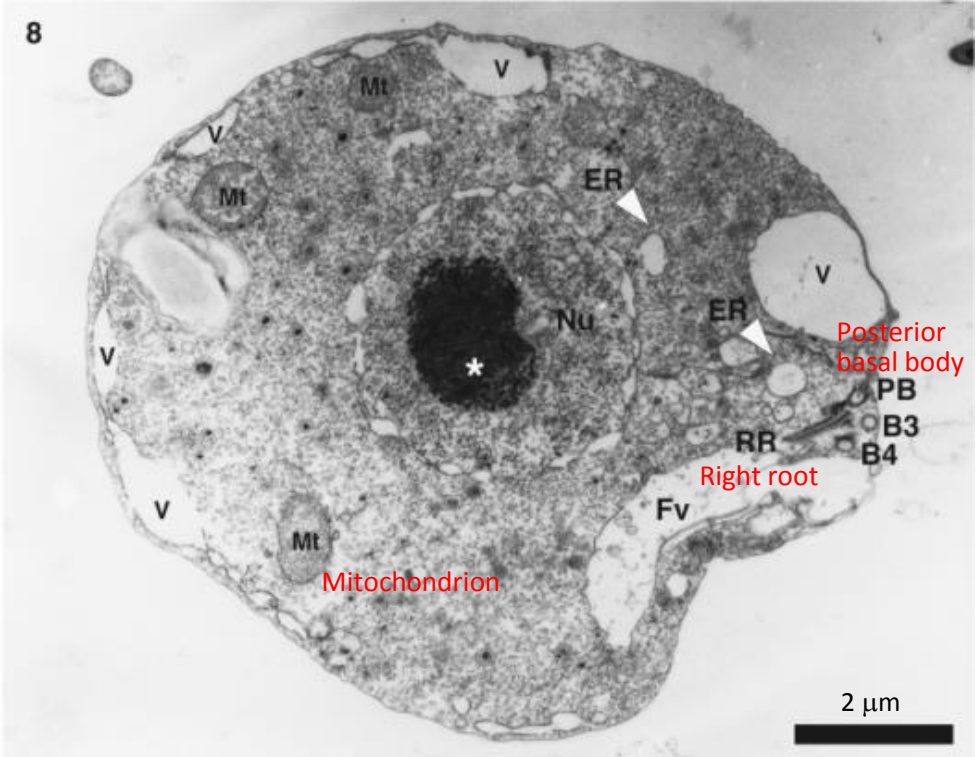


- Isolated from Hyoutaro-pond
- Maintained in UR-YT medium at 20°C since October 2002

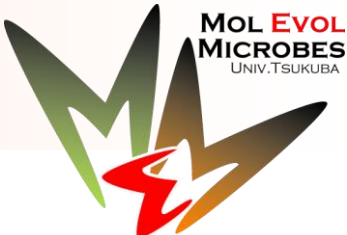
# Tsukubamonas: How it looks like



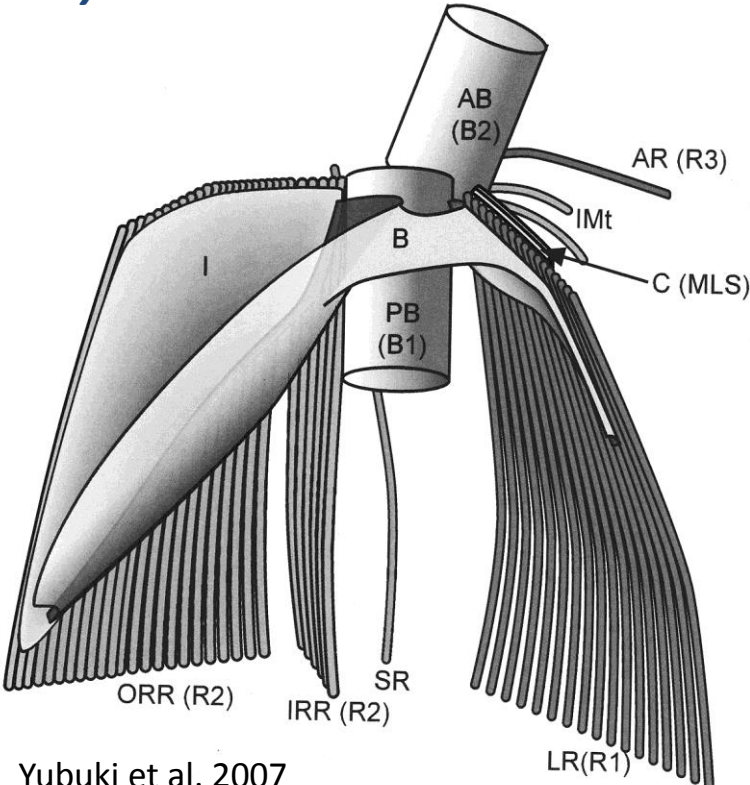
N, Nucleus; Fv, Food vacuole



# Tsukubamonas: Excavate-like flagellar apparatus

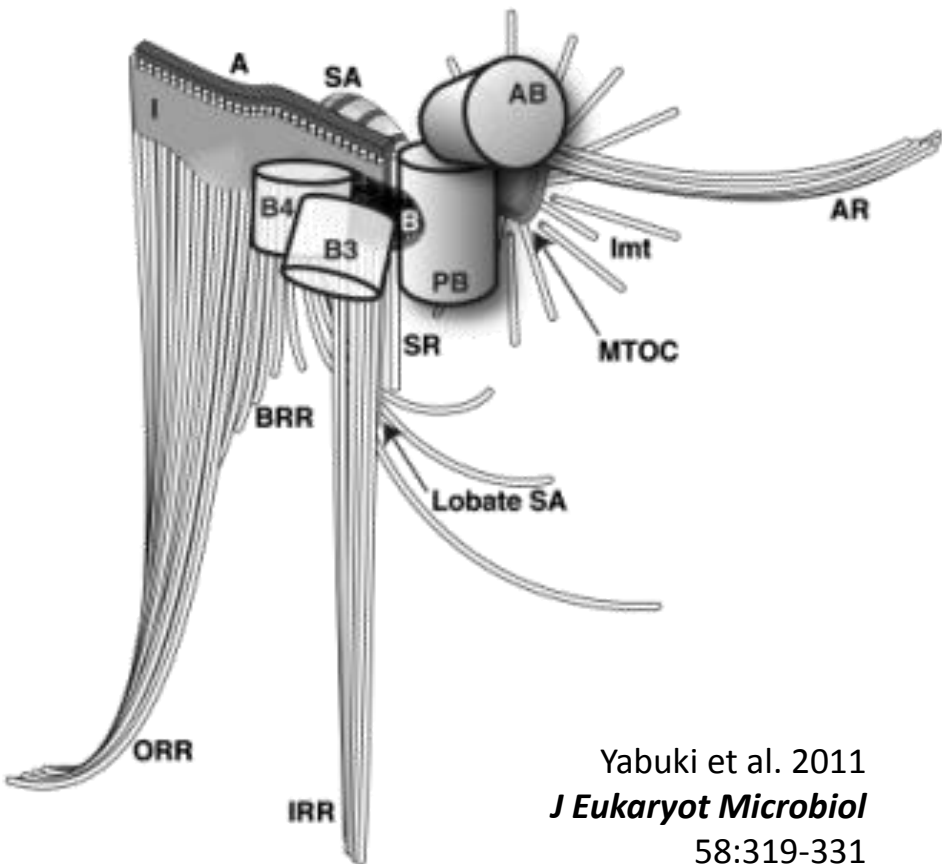


*Dysnectes brevis*



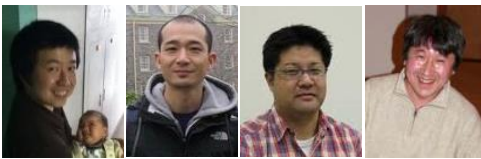
Yubuki et al. 2007  
*J Eukaryot Microbiol*  
54:191-200

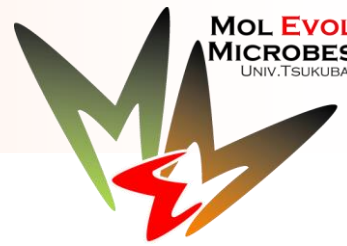
*Tsukubamonas globosa*



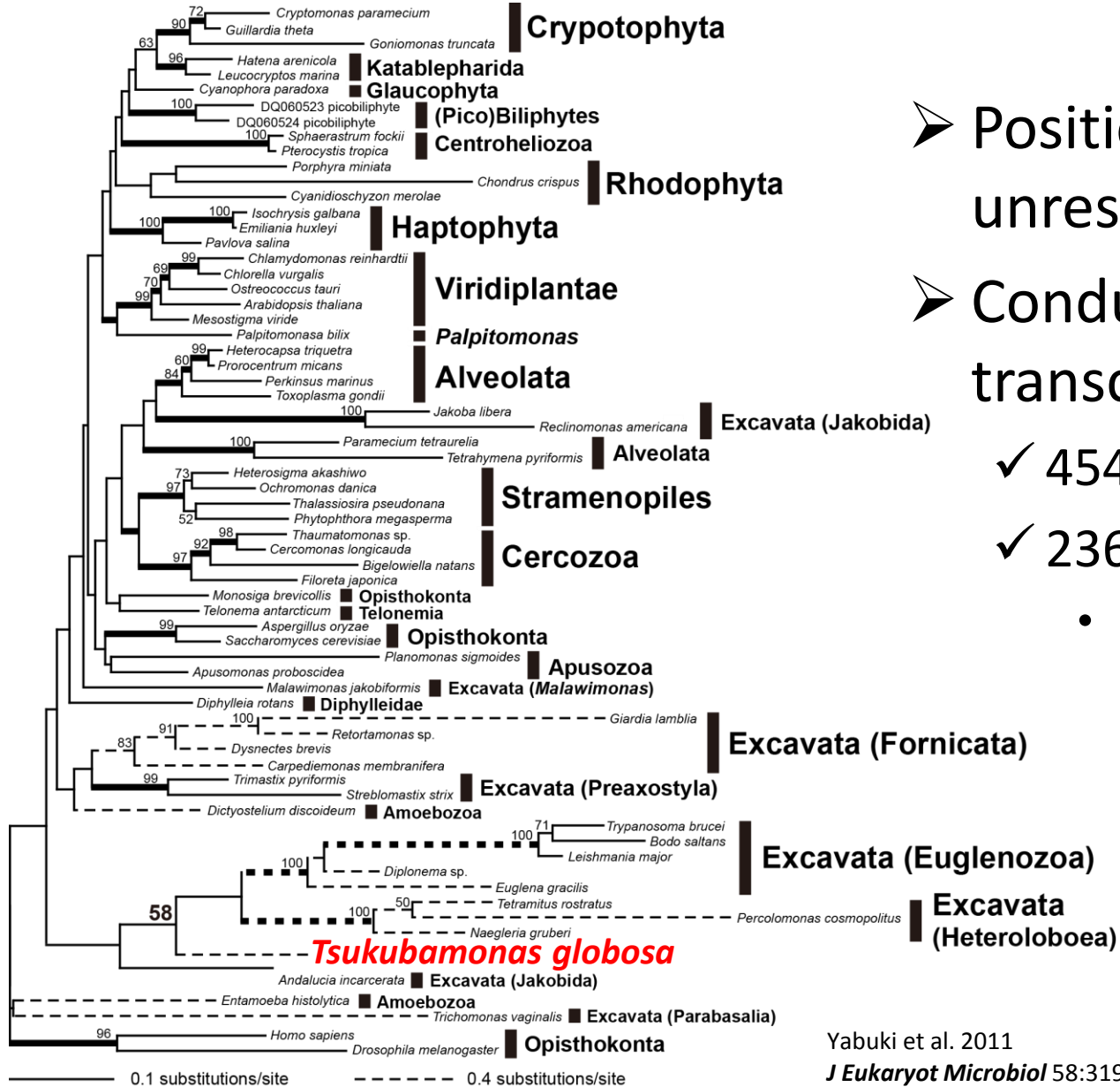
Yabuki et al. 2011  
*J Eukaryot Microbiol*  
58:319-331

➤ Is *Tg* a member of Excavata?



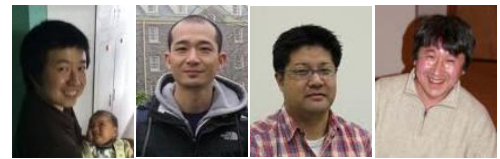


# Tsukubamonas: SSU rRNA phylogeny



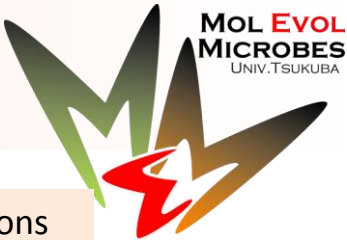
- Position of *Tg* was unresolved
- Conducted a transcriptomic analysis
  - ✓ 454 Titanium sequencing
  - ✓ 236,871 reads
  - 12,694 large contigs

ML & Bayesian methods  
GTR +  $\Gamma$  model  
1,347 nuc positions

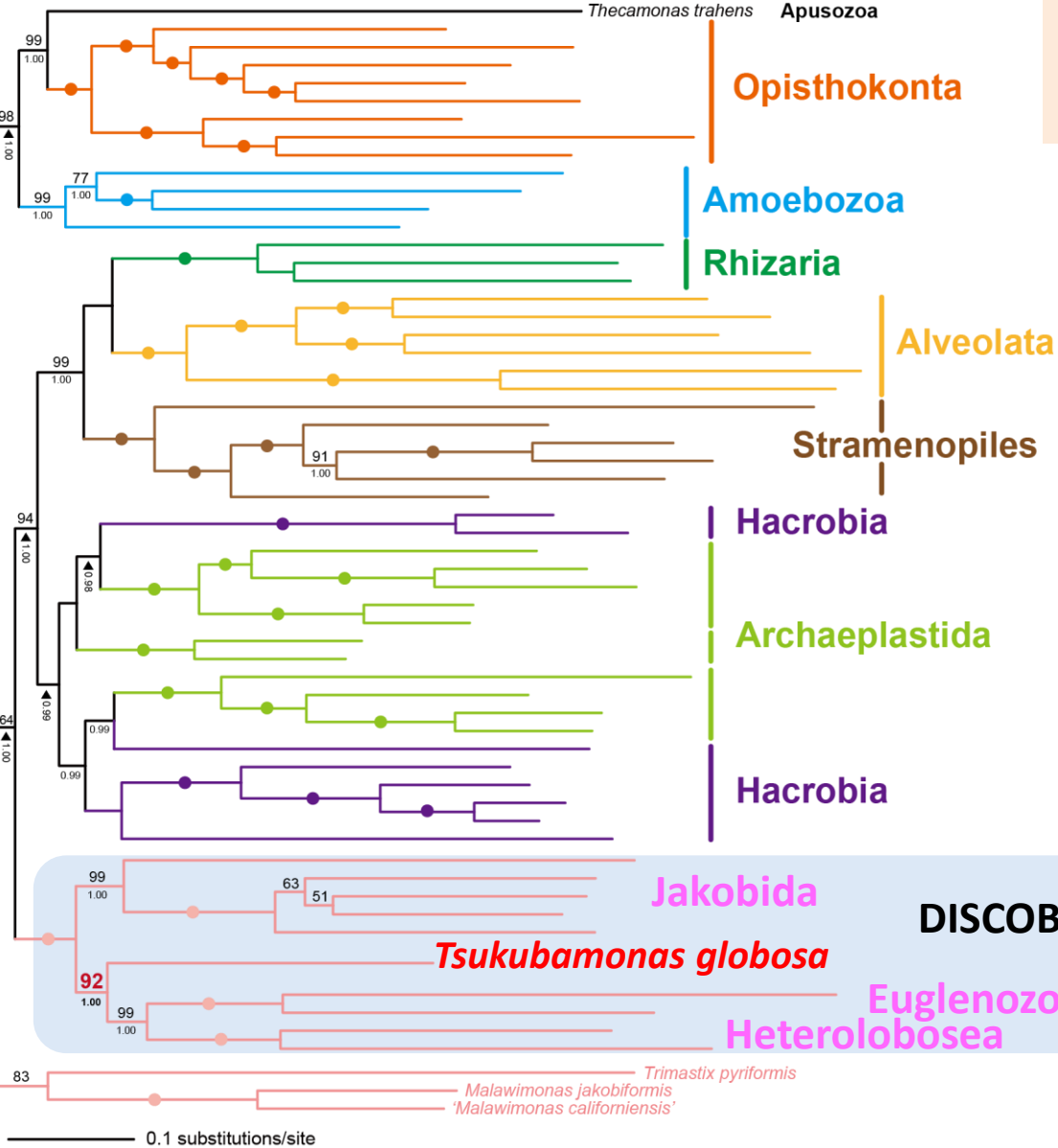




# Tsukubamonas: phylogenomic analyses



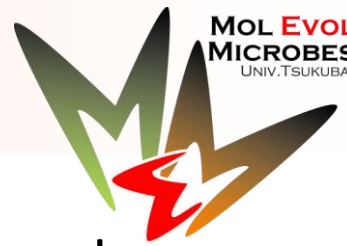
157 genes, 41,372 aa positions  
 ML method, LG +  $\Gamma$  + F model  
 Bayesian method, CAT +  $\Gamma$  model



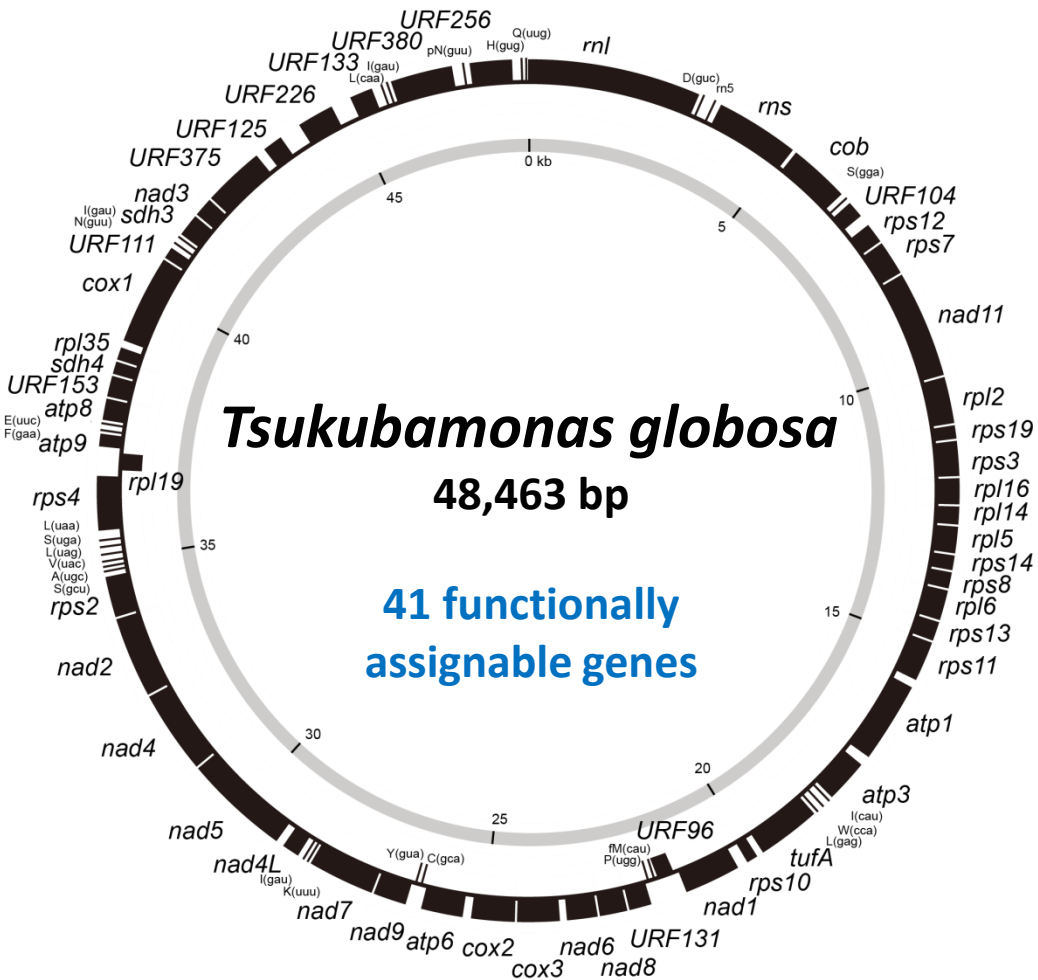
- *Tg* is basal to euglenozoans + heteroloboseans
- *Tg* is a novel member of Discoba



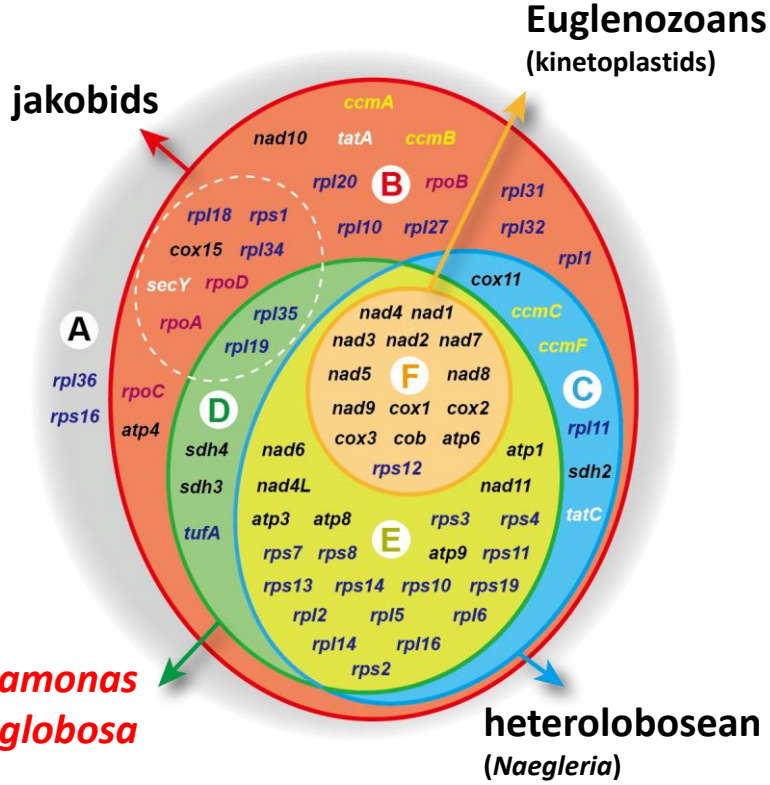




# Tsukubamonas: mt genome



- Amplified the mt genome by rolling circle amplification
- 454 sequenced the amplified DNA



Kamikawa et al. 2014  
*Genome Biol Evol* 58:319-331

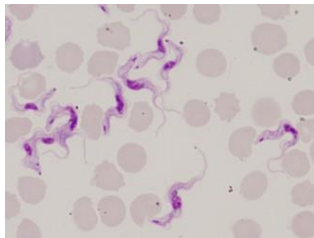
- *Tg* is a new member of Discoba
- *Tg* is important to infer the gene content evolution in discobid mt genomes
- *Tg* can be important to infer the evolution of life-style
  - ✓ Heteroloboseans are free-living
  - ✓ Euglenozoans do 'everything'
    - Kinetoplastids are *parasites*
    - Euglenids are *phototrophs*
    - Diplonemids are *free-living*

*Naegleria*



Images were taken from Wikipedia

*Trypanosoma*



ToL website (tolweb.org)

*Euglena*



<http://www.fcps.edu/islandcreekes/ecology/euglena.htm>

*Diplonema*



Image taken from Micro\*scope



# Palpitomonas bilix

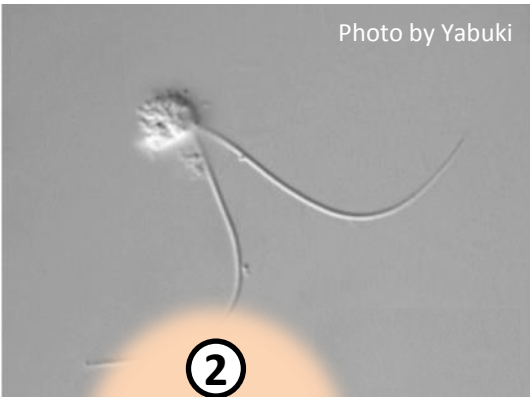


Photo by Yabuki

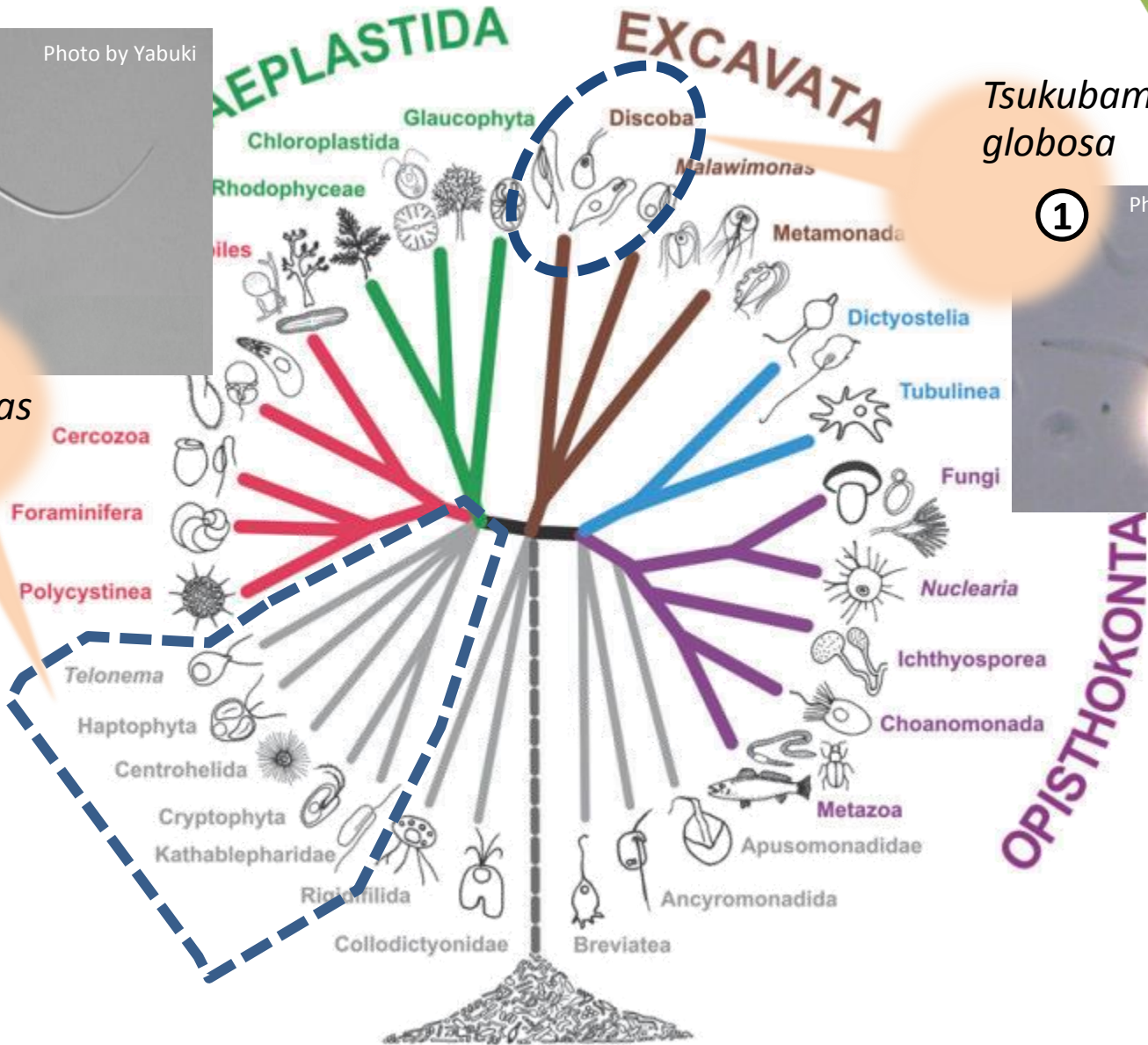
②

Palpitomonas bilix

# Tsukubamonas globosa

①

Photo by N. Yabuki



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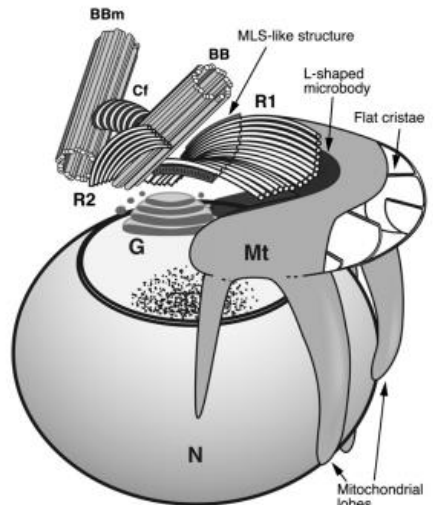
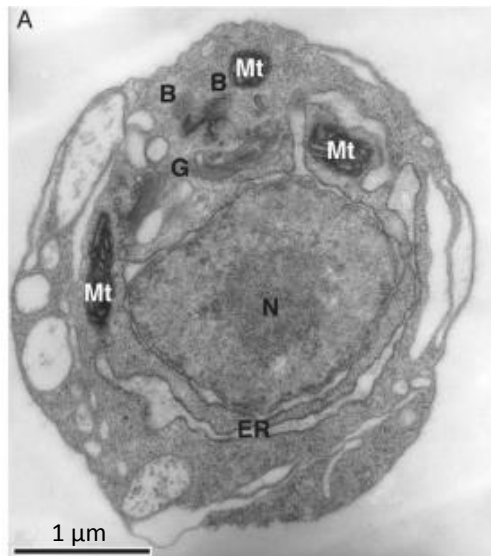
*Palpitomonas bilix*: Yabuki, Inagaki, Ishida 2010 Protist 161:523-38



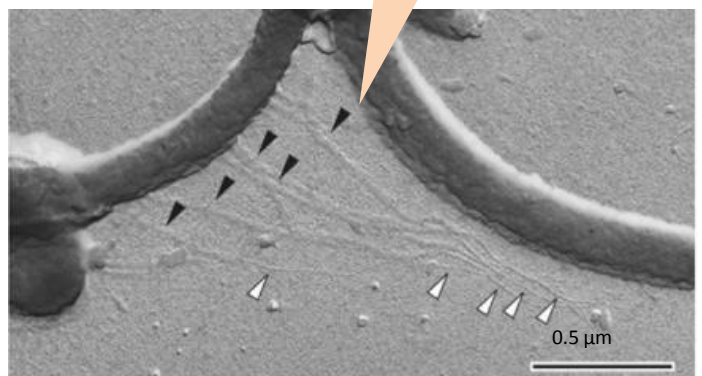
- Isolated from seawater sampled on Macharchar island, on July 2006
- Maintained in EMS medium at 20°C

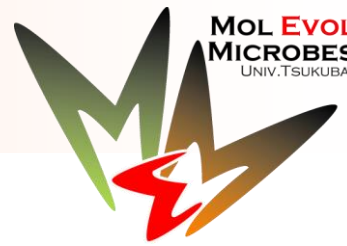


Yabuki et al. 2010  
*Protist* 161:523-538

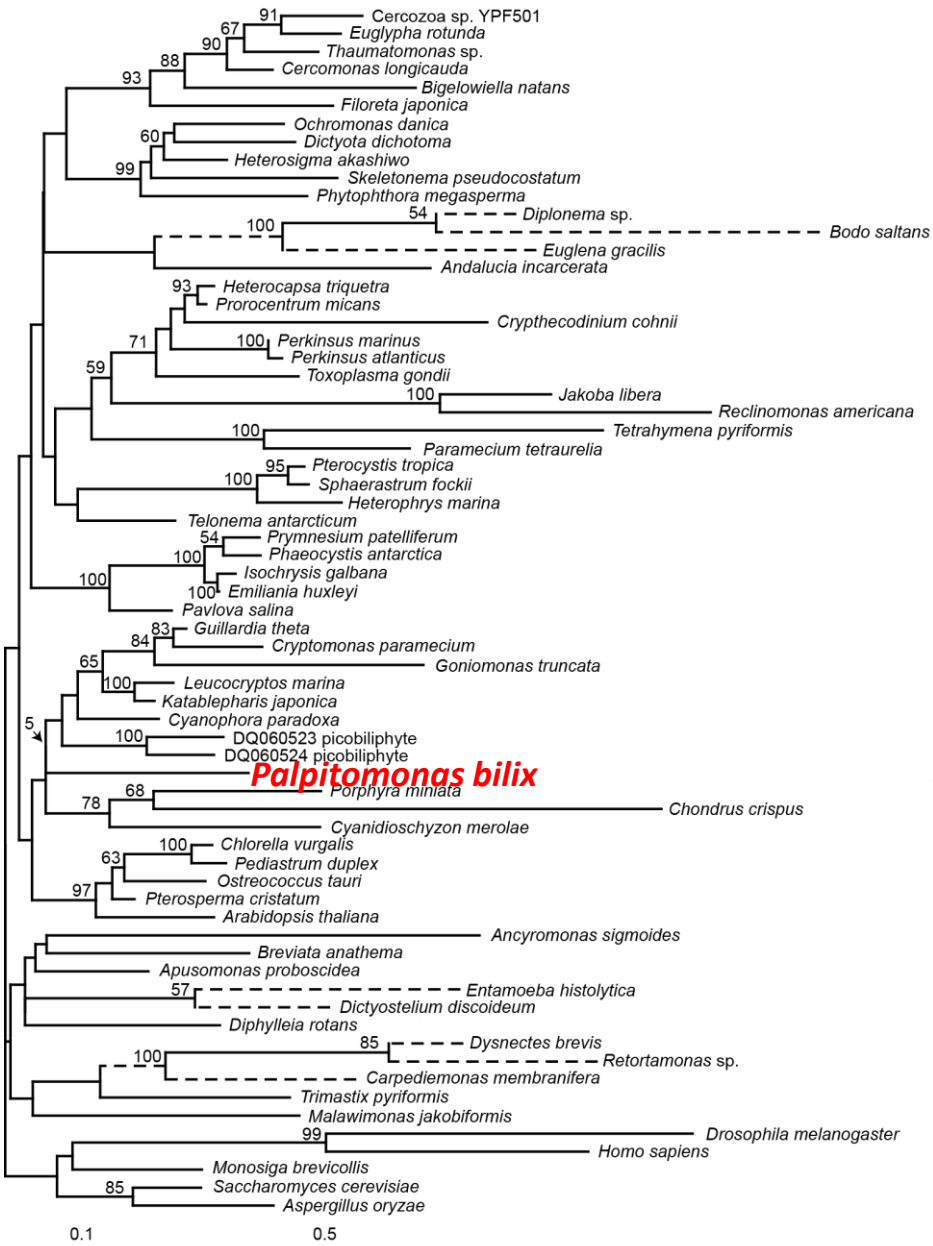


Is *Pb* a relative of cryptophytes?





# Palpitomonas: SSU rRNA phylogeny



➤ Position of *Pb* was unresolved

➤ Conducted a transcriptomic analysis

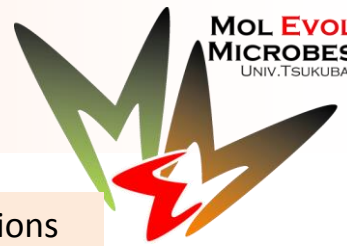
✓ 454 Titanium sequencing

✓ 104,136 reads

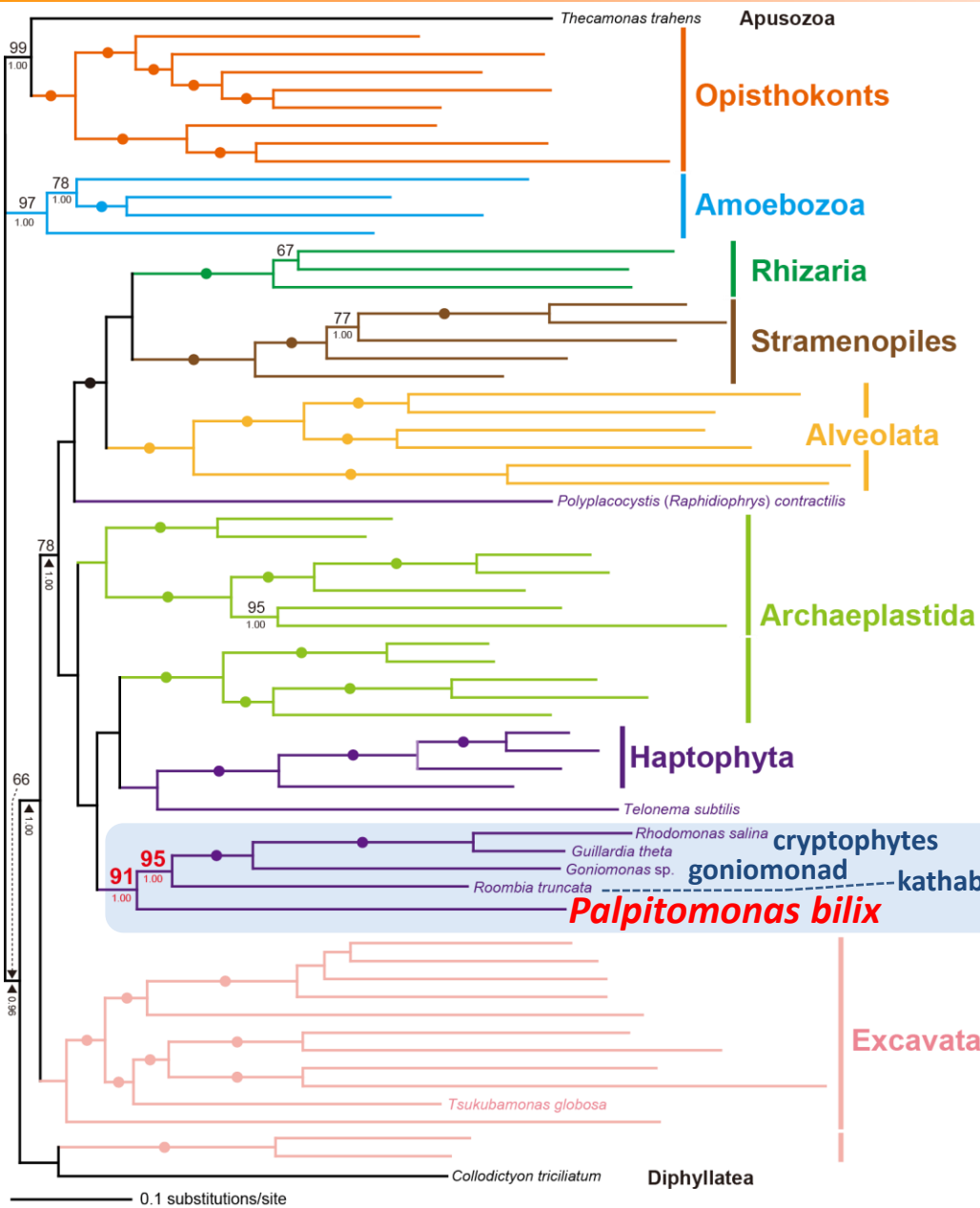
- 8,586 large contigs

ML & Bayesian methods  
GTR +  $\Gamma$  model  
1,335 nuc positions





# Palpitomonas: Phylogenomic analysis



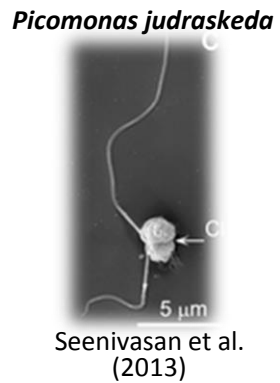
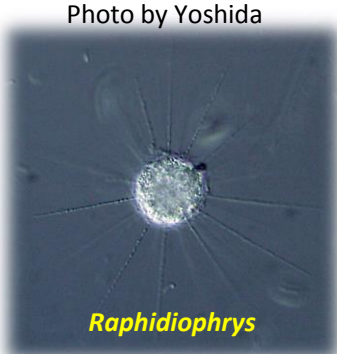
157 genes, 41,372 aa positions  
ML method, LG4X model  
Bayesian method, CAT +  $\Gamma$  model

- *Pb* is a basal to a clade of kathablepharids, goniomonads and cryptophytes
- *Pb* is a novel member of Cryptista



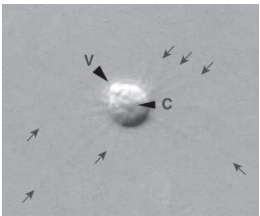


- *Pb* is a basal lineage of Cryptista
- Diversity of cryptophytes and their relatives has been underestimated
  - ✓ Will continue surveying potential cryptist members



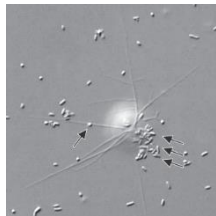
- Subject culture strains for novel eukaryotes to next-generation sequencing and phylogenomic analyses

*Microheliella maris*



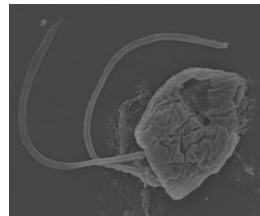
Yabuki et al. 2011  
*Protist* 163:356-388

*Rigifila ramosa*



Yabuki et al. 2013  
*Protist* 164:75-88

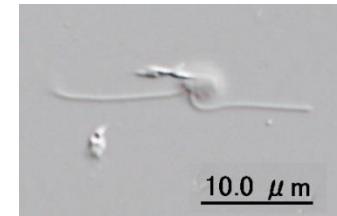
SRT149



PAP020



SRT312



- Continue surveying environments for more novel eukaryotes

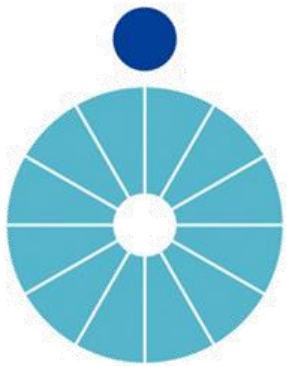


**A well-resolved global eukaryotic phylogeny**



## JSPS grants

- 21370031 & 22657025 (Inagaki)
- 2340513 & 2347038 (Hashimoto)



文部科学省



Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research  
on Innovative Areas from the MEXT

## Matryoshka-type evolution

(No. 3308)