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Complete mitochondrial genome sequence of the “copper moss” *Mielichhoferia elongata* reveals independent *nad7* gene functionality loss

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The mitochondrial genome of moss *Mielichhoferia elongata* has been sequenced and assembled with Spades genome assembler. It consists of 100,342 base pairs and has practically the same gene set and its order as in other known bryophyte chondriomes. The genome contains 66 genes including three rRNAs, 24 tRNAs, and 40 conserved mitochondrial proteins genes. Unlike the majority of previously sequenced bryophyte mitogenomes, it lacks the functional *nad7* gene. The phylogenetic reconstruction and scrutiny analysis of the primary structure of *nad7* gene carried out in this study suggest its independent pseudogenization in different bryophyte lineages. Evaluation of the microsatellite (simple sequence repeat) content of the *Mielichhoferia elongata* mitochondrial genome indicates that it could be used as a tool in further studies as a phylogenetic marker. The strongly supported phylogenetic tree presented here, derived from 33 protein coding sequences of 40 bryophyte species is consistent with other reconstructions based on a number of different data sets.

1 **Complete mitochondrial genome sequence of the “copper moss” *Mielichhoferia***
2 ***elongata* reveals independent *nad7* gene functionality loss.**

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17

18 **ABSTRACT**

19 The mitochondrial genome of the moss *Mielichhoferia elongata* has been sequenced and
20 assembled with the Spades genome assembler. It consists of 100,342 base pairs and has
21 practically the same gene set and order as reported for other known bryophyte chondriomes. It is
22 the smallest known mitogenome among bryophytes. The genome contains 66 genes including
23 three rRNAs, 24 tRNAs, and 39 conserved mitochondrial proteins genes. Unlike the majority of
24 previously sequenced bryophyte mitogenomes, this mitogenome lacks a functional *nad7* gene.
25 The phylogenetic reconstruction and scrutiny analysis of the primary structure of the *nad7* gene
26 carried out in this study suggest an independent pseudogenization in different bryophyte lineages.
27 Evaluation of the microsatellite (simple sequence repeat) content of the *Mielichhoferia elongata*
28 mitochondrial genome indicates that it could be used as a tool in further studies as a phylogenetic
29 marker. The strongly supported phylogenetic tree presented here, derived from 33 protein coding
30 sequences of 40 bryophyte species is consistent with other reconstructions based on a number of
31 different data sets.

32

33

34 INTRODUCTION

35 Bryophytes (mosses, liverworts, and hornworts) represent an ancient group of higher plant
36 evolution that shows a dominance of the gametophyte stage in the life cycles. These nonvascular
37 pioneers of land plants first acquired adaptations that enabled the transition from aquatic to
38 terrestrial habitats. Mosses (Bryophyta), branched off from the stem of the Embryophyta
39 phylogenetic tree after the Marchantiophyta and before the separation of the Anthocerotophyta
40 (Liu et al., 2014; Qiu et al., 2006).

41 The mitogenomes (MGs) of mosses have recently become a target of sequencing efforts for
42 phylogenetic reconstructions due to their compact size and a higher degree of synteny than is
43 observed in vascular plants (Liu, Medina & Goffinet, 2014). The NCBI RefSeq database
44 (<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/refseq>) currently contains 39 mitochondrial genomes for members
45 of this group of plants. This quite limited data set includes only representatives of 9 orders from
46 the Bryopsida and 3 orders from other classes of mosses, so it clearly does not perfectly reflect
47 bryophyte diversity. The aim of the present study is to extend bryophyte taxonomical coverage
48 and expand the phylogenetic analysis to include MG data from the still unexplored order Bryales.
49 For this purpose the complete MG of *Mielichhoferia elongata* (Hoppe & Hornsch.) Nees &
50 Hornsch. was sequenced.

51 The Plant List (<http://www.theplantlist.org>, Version 1.1 September 2013) contains 142
52 accepted species names of *Mielichhoferia* Nees & Hornsch. The taxonomical status of
53 *Mielichhoferia* remains under debate. The genus has usually been treated as the subfamily
54 Mielichhoferioideae within the Bryaceae, although some authors have attributed it to a separate
55 family, the Mielichhoferiaceae (Hill et al., 2006; Shaw, 2009). The only molecular study of
56 phylogenetic relationships of *Mielichhoferia* placed the Mielichhoferiaceae within the Mniaceae
57 according to the *trnL-F* and *rps4* sequence data (Guerra, 2011).

58 Several moss and hepatic species are restricted to substrates enriched in heavy metals. These
59 bryophytes that show an affinity for metalliferous substrates have been referred to as "copper

60 mosses" (Antonovics et al., 1971; Chopra & Kumra, 1988; Persson, 1948, 1956; Shaw, 1987,
61 1989). *M. elongata* Homsch. (Shaw, 2000) and the closely related *Mielichhoferia*
62 *mielichhoferiana* (Funck.) Loeske are among the species that are highly tolerant and largely
63 restricted to substrates enriched in copper. These species are widely distributed around the globe,
64 but are always rare. They grow in habitats rich in copper (often associated with other metals) and
65 inorganic sulfides, which results in a very low pH. These habitats represent areas damaged by
66 mining (mine waste tailings) or metal-rich rocks. The heavy metal tolerance mechanisms are not
67 well understood and apparently vary across species. Metals are adsorbed by the cell walls and are
68 accumulated in cells (Antonovics et al., 1971; Antreich, Sassmann & Lang, 2016; Brown, 1982;
69 Meharg, 2005; Tyler, 1990).

70 Knowledge of the sequence of the mitochondrial genome of *M. elongata* will be useful both
71 for finding an appropriate taxonomic treatment for the taxa and for population studies within the
72 *Mielichhoferia*. The latter studies are particularly important in light of the disruptive character of
73 the habitat area, the rarity of these species, and ongoing habitat damage.

74

75 MATERIALS AND METHODS

76 Sample collection and DNA isolation

77 The *M. elongata* samples were collected from July 12-17, 2011 in the area near Mus-Khaya
78 Peak (62°31'–36°N, 140°56'–141°07'E) Republic of Sakha (Yakutia) and deposited in MHA,
79 the Herbarium of the Main Botanical Garden Russian Academy of Science, Moscow (Ignatova et
80 al., 2011). This moss was originally identified in a cited paper as *Mielichhoferia*
81 *mielichhoferiana*. However, a subsequent analysis of the nuclear rDNA 5.8S-ITS 2 region
82 attributed this plant to that of morphologically hardly distinguishable *M. elongata* (Fig. S1).
83 Rocks in the area are especially rich in MnS, with other heavy metals (Pb, Sn, As, Zn, Ag, etc.,
84 usually as sulfides) present in high concentrations. Consequently, many brooks have very acidic
85 water and sulfurr deposits along them. Siderite (iron carbonate) forms red outcrops ('Red rocks')

86 rich in iron and is always enriched with other heavy metals. When the outcrops are dry, *M.*
87 *elongata* is the only moss that grows on this substrate or at least it is the only particularly
88 abundant one.

89 DNA was extracted from specimens in the herbarium collection that had been gathered with
90 a minimal soil amount and dried using ordinary herbarium techniques (in a paper envelope,
91 under a tent, in the shade for several days until dry), and then stored in the herbarium at room
92 temperature. A Nucleospin Plant DNA Kit (Macherey Nagel, Germany) was used for total DNA
93 extraction from whole shoots of plants according to the manufacturers' protocol. A yield of
94 about 2 µg DNA was obtained according to measurements determined with a Qubit fluorometer
95 (Invitrogen, USA).

96 **Library preparation and sequencing**

97 A 500 ng sample of genomic DNA was fragmented using a Covaris S220 sonicator (Covaris,
98 USA) and a library was prepared using TruSeq DNA sample preparation kit (Illumina, USA).
99 The concentration of the prepared library was measured with the Qubit fluorometer (Invitrogen,
100 USA) and qPCR and fragment length distribution was determined with Bioanalyzer 2100
101 (Agilent). The library was diluted to 10 pM and used for cluster generation on a cBot instrument
102 with TruSeq PE Cluster Kit v3 reagents (Illumina, USA). Sequencing was performed on a
103 HiSeq2000 sequencer with read length of 101 from both ends of the fragments. About 6 million
104 read pairs were obtained.

105 **Mitogenome assembly and annotation**

106 Raw sequencing reads were preprocessed with Trimmomatic software (Bolger, Lohse &
107 Usadel, 2014) to remove adapters and low-quality data from further analysis. The whole genome
108 assembly was then accomplished using the Spades assembler (Bankevich et al., 2012). A Blast
109 database was generated from the assembled contigs, and a Blast search was performed against
110 the *Physcomitrella patens* MG sequence (Terasawa et al., 2007) using the standalone NCBI

111 BLAST-2.2.29+ (Altschul et al., 1990). The longest hit was the *M. elongata* complete MG.
112 Iterative mapping was carried out using Geneious R10 software (<https://www.geneious.com>;
113 Kearse et al., 2012) to verify the assembled genome. The resulting sequence had almost 100X
114 coverage depth. The correctness of the genome boundaries was verified by PCR amplification
115 followed by Sanger sequencing. Initial reads mapping to the genome sequence with Bowtie 2
116 (Lingmead et al., 2009) was applied as an additional genome structure verification step.

117 Genome annotation based on sequence similarity was performed using Geneious software.
118 The MG sequence of *Bartramia pomiformis* which gave a maximum score in a BLAST search
119 against a *M. elongata* MG query was applied as a reference. The annotated genome sequence
120 was submitted to GenBank (accession number: MF417767). A circular genome map was drawn
121 using the CGView Server (Grant & Stothard, 2008;
122 http://stothard.afns.ualberta.ca/cgview_server).

123

124 **SSR analysis**

125 Simple sequence repeats (SSRs) were detected and located in the MG of *M. elongata* using
126 GMATo v1.2 software (Wang, Lu & Luo, 2013).

127 **Phylogenomic analysis**

128 Phylogenetic reconstruction was conducted by selecting only functional protein-coding
129 sequences (CDS) present in MGs of all bryophytes under investigation. A total of 33 of these
130 CDS are known, including *atp1*, *atp4*, *atp6*, *atp8*, *atp9*, *cob*, *cox1*, *cox2*, *cox3*, *nad1*, *nad2*, *nad3*,
131 *nad4*, *nad4L*, *nad5*, *nad6*, *nad9*, *rpL2*, *rpL5*, *rpL6*, *rpL16*, *rps1*, *rps2*, *rps4*, *rps7*, *rps11*, *rps12*,
132 *rps13*, *rps14*, *rps19*, *sdh3*, *sdh4*, and *tatC*. . These, were extracted from the MG sequences of 39
133 mosses and the liverwort *Treubia lacunose* available in GenBank (www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov), and
134 the *M. elongata* sequenced in this work. The GenBank files were imported into Geneious R10

135 and merged to export a fasta dataset file. All sequences from this dataset were aligned using the
136 default option implemented in MAFFT (Kato & Standley, 2013). The final alignment was
137 adjusted manually in BioEdit 7.2.5. (Hall, 1999).

138 Phylogenetic reconstruction was performed using the Bayesian method with the program
139 MrBayes v3.2.6 (Ronquist et al., 2012). For Bayesian analyses, we used a parallel MPI version
140 of MrBayes (Altekar et al., 2004). Two simultaneous runs of Metropolis Coupled Markov Chain
141 Monte Carlo (MC3), both with one cold and seven heated chains were performed for 10 million
142 generations. Two starting trees were chosen randomly. The General Time Reversible
143 evolutionary model (GTR+I+G) with 4 rate categories was used. Posterior probabilities (PP) for
144 trees and parameters were saved every 1000 generations and parameters for each data partition
145 were sampled independently from each other; the first 25% of the trees was discarded in each run.
146 Bayesian PPs were used as branch support values.

147 **RESULTS**

148 **Structure of the *M. elongata* mitogenome**

149 The MG of *M. elongata* is 100,342 bp in length and has a typical circular structure (Figure 1).
150 The nucleotide composition of this genome has a GC content of 39.8%. The MG of *M. elongata*
151 contains 66 genes including genes for 3 rRNAs (*rrn18*, *rrn26*, and *rrn5*), 24 tRNAs, and 39
152 conserved mitochondrial proteins (15 ribosomal proteins, 4 ccm proteins, 8 nicotinamide adenine
153 dinucleotide dehydrogenase subunits, 5 ATPase subunits, 2 succinate dehydrogenase subunits, 1
154 apocytochrome b, 3 cytochrome oxidase subunits, and 1 twin-arginine translocation complex
155 subunit). Besides the functional genes, a single pseudogene, *nad7*, resides in the genome (Table
156 1).

157 **Structure of *nad7* gene in bryophytes**

158 The lack of a functional gene copy of the *nad7* gene has been reported previously in the MG
159 of hornworts and the majority of liverworts (Groth-Malonek et al., 2007; Li et al. 2009; Xue et

160 al., 2010). Evolution and losses of the functionality of the gene copies within mosses also
161 deserve special attention and scrutiny. Pseudogenization of the *nad7* gene is currently described
162 for *Tetraphis pellucida* and *Buxbaumia aphylla* (Bell et al., 2014; Liu, Medina & Goffinet, 2014),
163 whereas all other sequenced bryophyte MGs have a functional gene, that consists of three exons
164 separated by two introns. The only known exception is the *nad7* locus structure in MG of
165 *Hypnum imponens* (NC 024516), its functional gene consists of only two exons and one intron
166 sequences. The intron 2 of the gene was lost and exon 2 and exon 3 were merged together in one
167 exon sequence. The low conservation of the pseudogene sequences has created difficulties in
168 constructing a reliable nucleotide alignment and unambiguously judging whether exons 2 and 3
169 are completely deleted in either these chondriomes or whether some exon remnants are still
170 preserved. We performed a Tblastn search of these exons amino acid sequence of the *nad7* gene
171 in *T. pellucida* and *B. aphylla* and confirmed the absence of exon 2 in *B. aphylla* and exon 3 in
172 both species. The same finding is evident from [Figure S2](#) with the alignment of *nad7* from *B.*
173 *aphylla*, *T. pellucida*, *M. elongata*, and six other moss species. It agrees with the earlier data
174 provided by Bell et al. (2014) on the structure of the *T. pellucida* MG. In addition, *B. aphylla* and
175 *T. pellucida* pseudogenes have deletions in the sequences of the first gene exon, although at
176 different locations. The main difference in the *nad7* pseudogene primary structure in these
177 bryophytes is two deletions in the sequence of exon 2 in *B. aphylla* whereas *T. pellucida* has an
178 intact exon 2 sequence. By contrast, the *nad7* pseudogene of *M. elongata* completely lacks the
179 second exon and has intact exon 1 sequence and exon 3 with frame shift mutation as a result of 2
180 bp insertion located at 190 bp from 5' end of the exon ([Figure 2](#)).

181 **SSR analysis of the *M. elongata* mitochondrial genome**

182 Following more stringent criteria (Zhao et al., 2016) of perfect SSR locus identification
183 (minimal number of repeating units ≥ 10 for mononucleotides, ≥ 5 for dinucleotides, ≥ 4 for
184 trinucleotides, and ≥ 3 for tetra-, penta- and hexanucleotides) 73 SSR loci were identified in the
185 MG of *M. elongata* ([Table 2](#) and [Figure 3](#)). Most microsatellites refer to mono- and dinucleotides

186 classes (35 and 28 loci, respectively). Trinucleotides are the least frequent SSRs group in the
187 genome (one locus). No hexanucleotide microsatellite repeats occur in the genome. Among all
188 the SSRs, 87.67% are composed only of A/T bases. The total length of the SSR loci is 852 bp,
189 which comprises approximately 0.85% of the genome length.

190 **Phylogenetic analysis**

191 The alignment of 33 mitochondrial protein CDS of 40 moss taxa and hepatic *Treubia*
192 *lacunosa* (Haplomitriopsida, Treubiidae, Treubiales, Treubiaceae) consists of 24,827 positions.
193 The Bayesian phylogenetic tree inferred from this data with the hepatic *T. lacunosa* as an
194 outgroup is shown in [Figure 4](#). Most nodes of the tree have very high PP supports. Two
195 exceptions are two nodes among the Orthotrichaceae.

196

197 **DISCUSSION**

198 We performed sequencing and analysis of the MG of *M. elongata*, a rare "copper moss" with
199 an ambiguous taxonomic status. The-MG size significantly varies even among closely related
200 flowering plants (Allen et al., 2007; Alverson et al., 2010; Cho et al., 2004; Sloan et al., 2010;
201 2012), but it is extremely stable in bryophytes (Liu, Medina & Goffinet, 2014). The MG of *M.*
202 *elongata* is 383 bp smaller than the genome of *B. aphylla* (Liu, Medina & Goffinet, 2014), which
203 to date is the smallest MG among bryophytes. However, the MG of *M. elongata* contains the
204 same set of genes and a similar genome structure to that of other mosses. The only difference is a
205 pseudogenization of the *nad7* gene.

206 This locus encodes subunit 7 of NADH dehydrogenase (NDH-1 or complex I of the
207 mitochondrial electron transfer chain) is located on the inner mitochondrial membrane and plays
208 an important role in oxidative phosphorylation process (Bonen et al., 1994). NDH-1 is a quite
209 complicated protein complex, consisting of approximately 30-40 subunits (Kerscher et al., 2008).
210 The majority of the subunits are encoded in nuclear genome, but several proteins of the complex

211 are specified by mitochondrial genes (Bonen et al., 1994).

212 Although the MGs of the Bryophyta are highly stable in terms of their gene content, there
213 are two other mosses, *B. aphylla* and *T. pellucida* that lack the intact open reading frame (ORF)
214 of the *nad7* gene in their MGs (Bell et al., 2014; Liu, Medina & Goffinet, 2014). In our study, we
215 found that the exon structure of *nad7* pseudogene of *M. elongata* differs substantially when
216 compared with that of the MGs of *B. aphylla* and *T. pellucida*. Taking into account the close
217 location of the later on the constructed a phylogenetic tree (Fig. 4) and the extremely distant
218 position of *M. elongata* relative to them, the loss of the functionality of the *nad7* gene can be
219 concluded to have occurred at least twice during the evolutionary history of the mosses.

220 Intact *nad7* genes were found in the MGs of different angiosperms clades (Adams & Palmer,
221 2003) and in representatives of hornworts, lycophytes, ferns and gymnosperms (Guo et al., 2017;
222 Li et al., 2009; Xue et al., 2010). However several exceptions were noted in different
223 evolutionary lineages. Therefore, the absence of a functional *nad7* gene was noted in the MG of
224 *Nicotiana sylvestris* cytoplasmic male sterile (CMS) mutants (Pla et al., 1995) and in the
225 lycophyte *Huperzia squarrosa* (Liu et al., 2012). In the liverwort *Marchantia polymorpha*, a
226 functional *nad7* gene was transferred from the MG to nucleus, but the pseudogene was preserved
227 in the MG (Kobayashi et al., 1997). Pseudogenization of *nad7* was observed in 11 other
228 liverwort groups, whereas the intact gene was found in *Haplomitrium mnioides* MG (Groth-
229 Malonek et al., 2007). This discovery suggested a basal placement of the taxon among liverworts.
230 Overall, pseudogenization of *nad7* may have occurred independently in different unrelated
231 lineages of embryophytes.

232 A total of 73 simple sequence repeats (SSRs, microsatellites) loci were identified in the MG
233 of *M. elongata*. SSRs are common in plant and animal genomes and could play an important role
234 in gene functioning (Li et al., 2004). Besides the occurrence of the SSR loci in nuclear genomes,
235 microsatellite repeats are present in plastids and MGs as well (Kumar, Kapil, & Shanker, 2014;
236 Sablok, 2015). However, to date, it is much less known about distribution and functions of

237 microsatellites in bryophyte genomes. SSR loci are usually characterized by high mutation rate,
238 and therefore actively used as molecular markers in population genetics surveys (Zalapa et al.,
239 2012). Molecular markers based on organellar microsatellites have been used successfully for
240 phylogeny reconstruction at the genus taxonomic level and for intraspecific variation analysis
241 (Ishii, Mori & Ogihara, 2001; Nishikawa, Vaughan & Kadowaki, 2005). The SSR loci revealed
242 in the MG of *M. elongata* could therefore be further investigated to obtain informative markers
243 for using in monitoring programs for *Mielichhoferia* species. That is especially important due to
244 the disruptive character of the habitat area, the rarity of the species, and ongoing habitat damage.

245 *M. elongata* represents a separate branch on a phylogenetic tree within the Bryidae and is
246 closest to the Hypnales/Ptychomniales/Orthotrichales group. However, the absence of a MG
247 sequence for the Mniaceae and Bryaceae representatives preclude clarification of the taxonomic
248 position of *Mielichhoferia*. The phylogenetic tree depicted in [Figure 4](#) inferred from 33
249 mitochondrial CDSes of 40 mosses species with liverwort as an outgroup, is consistent with
250 other reconstructions based on 14–17 plastid genes from 43 moss species representing the major
251 lineages summarized by Chang, Sean & Graham (2013), and based on 41 concatenated
252 mitochondrial protein-coding genes from 19 Bryophyta species (Liu et al., 2014). Although plant
253 mitochondrial sequences evolve slowly (Palmer & Herbon, 1988), phylogenomic analyses can be
254 effective for bryophytes taxa of both lower and higher ranks. Of course, the remarks of Liu et al.
255 (2014) and other earlier authors should be kept in minds; namely, that even high support does not
256 guarantee that an inferred phylogeny is approaching the true evolutionary history.

257 **CONCLUSION**

258 This study provides the complete MG sequence of the “copper moss” *Mielichhoferia*
259 *elongata* consisting of 100,342 base pairs. It is the smallest known mitochondrial genome among
260 bryophytes and non-parasitic tracheophytes. *M. elongata* is a moss with very specific
261 requirements regarding environmental conditions; in particular, it is mostly confined to heavy
262 metals enriched substrates. Although the MG has the same gene set as that found within
263 previously studied mosses and does not demonstrate any special features associated with high

264 heavy metal tolerance, it lacks a functional *nad7* gene. Based on the phylogeny reconstruction
265 data and exon structure analysis of the gene, it has been deduced, that *nad7* pseudogenization
266 took place independently not once in moss evolution. The phylogenetic tree presented in this
267 study, inferred from the 33 mitochondrial CDS of 41 bryophyte species is consistent with the
268 reconstructions made in earlier studies.

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272

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448 **FIGURE LEGENDS**

449 **Figure 1.** Mitogenome map of *M. elongata* (MF417767) consisting of 100,342 base pairs.

450 **Figure 2.** The diversity of the mitochondrial *nad7* gene exon structure in mosses. The majority of
451 the sequenced moss mitogenomes have the same type of locus structure found in *Atrichum*
452 *angustifolium*. The black filled sections indicate absent exons (or parts of them).

453 **Figure 3.** Simple sequence repeat unit length distribution in *M. elongata* mitogenome. n - the
454 numbers of base pairs (n=1, 2, 3, 4, and 5) in different microsatellite classes. N - the number of
455 loci in each SSR category.

456 **Figure 4.** Bayesian phylogenetic tree of 40 Bryophyta species constructed for 33 mitochondrial
457 protein coding sequences. The hepatic *Treubia lacunosa* was used as an outgroup. All nodes,
458 except those indicated on the tree, have maximal posterior probability values equal to 1,0.
459 Asterisks indicate taxa with pseudogenization of *nad7*.

460 **Figure S1.** The *Mielichhoferia mielichhoferiana*/*M. elongata* evolutionary tree.

461 The phylogenetic tree based on nuclear rDNA region (5.8S rDNA-ITS 2-5'-end of 26S rDNA).
462 The alignment consists of 440 positions. The tree reconstruction was conducted in TREECON
463 software (Van de Peer & De Wachter, 1994) using the Neighbor-Joining method (Saitou & Nei
464 1987) with 500 bootstrap replications. Bootstrap support values >50% are shown next to the
465 branches. The evolutionary distances were computed using the Kimura method (1980) with gaps
466 taken into account as it implemented in the TREECON package.

467 **Figure S2.** The alignment of *nad7* genes from nine moss species.

468 The alignment was the map was created by the MAFFT program with the subsequent manual
469 checking. Only generic names of species are indicated for brevity. The full species names are
470 shown in the Figure 4. Yellow columns mark exon/intron boundaries.

471

Figure 1

Mitogenome map of *Mielichhoferia elongata* (MF417767) consisting of 100,342 base pairs.

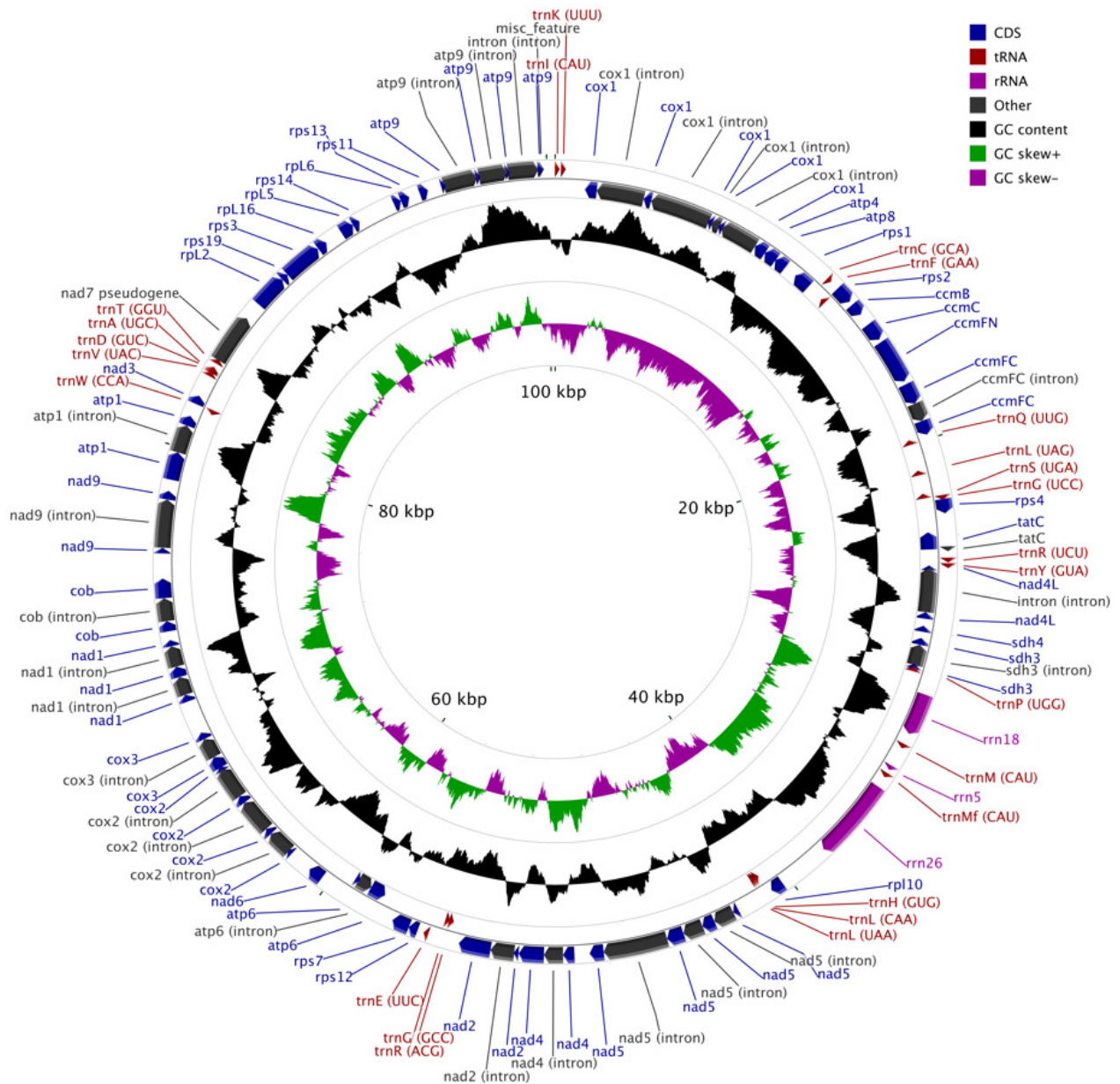


Figure 2(on next page)

The diversity of the mitochondrial *nad7* gene exon structure in mosses.

The majority of the sequenced moss mitogenomes have the same type of locus structure found in *Atrichum angustifolium*. The black filled sections indicate absent exons (or parts of them).

Atrichum angustifolium



Hypnum imponens



Mielichhoferia elongata



Tetraphis pellucida



Buxbaumia aphylla



Exon 1

Exon 2

Exon 3

Figure 3(on next page)

Simple sequence repeat unit length distribution in *M. elongata* mitogenome.

n - the numbers of base pairs (n=1, 2, 3, 4, and 5) in different microsatellite classes. N - the number of loci in each SSR category.

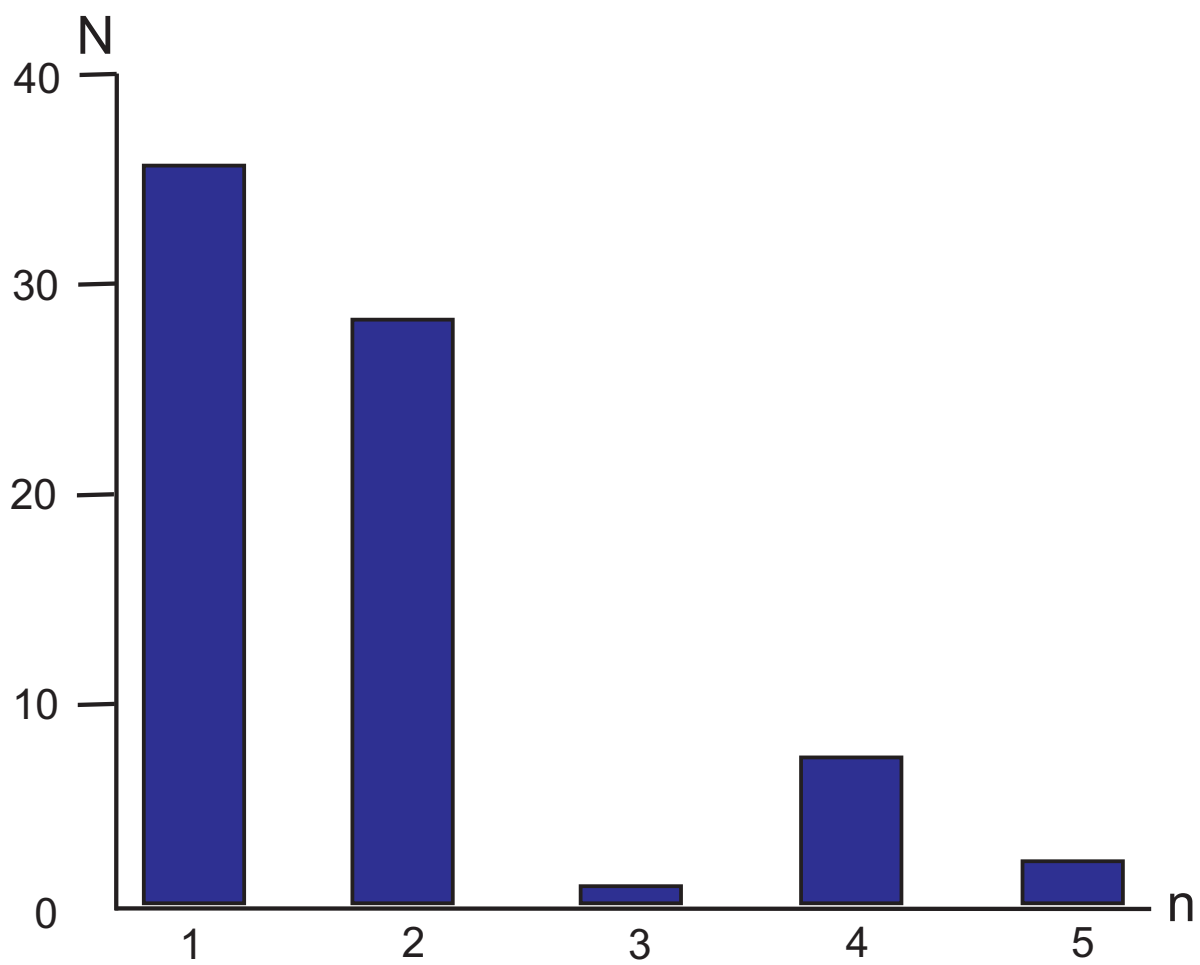


Figure 4(on next page)

Bayesian phylogenetic tree of 40 Bryophyta species constructed for 33 mitochondrial protein coding sequences.

The hepatic *Treubia lacunosa* was used as an outgroup. All nodes, except indicated on the tree, have maximal posterior probability values equal to 1,0. Asterisks indicate taxa with pseudogenization of *nad7*.

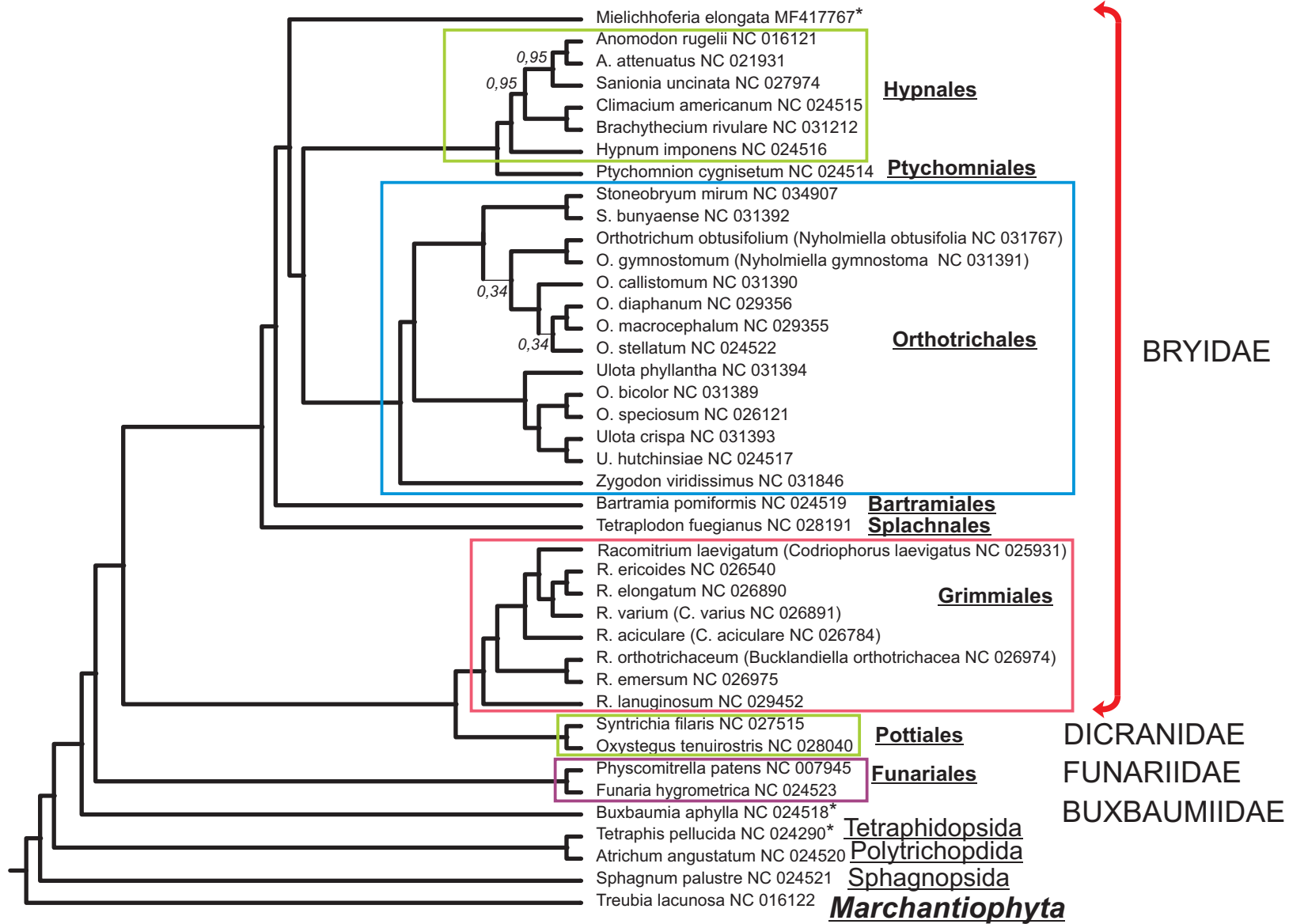


Table 1 (on next page)

Gene contents in *Mielichhoferia elongata* mitogenome (66 genes, one pseudogene).

1 **Table 1.** Gene contents in *Mielichhoferia elongata* mitogenome (66 genes, one pseudogene).

2

Category	Group of genes	Genes	Number of genes
RNA genes	rRNAs	<i>rrn18, rrn26, rrn5</i>	3
	tRNAs	<i>trnA (UGC), trnC (GCA), trnD (GUC), trnE (UUC), trnF (GAA), trnG (GCC), trnH (UCC), trnI (GUG), trnJ (CAU), trnK (UUU), trnL (CAA), trnL (UAA), trnL (UAG), trnM (CAU), trnMf (CAU), trnP (UGG), trnQ (UUG), trnR (ACG), trnR (UCU), trnS (UGA), trnT (GGU), trnV (UAC), trnW (CCA), trnY (GUA)</i>	24
conserved mitochondrial proteins	large ribosomal subunits	<i>rpl10, rpl16, rpl2, rpl5, rpl6</i>	5
	small ribosomal subunits	<i>rps1, rps11, rps12, rps13, rps14, rps19, rps2, rps3, rps4, rps7</i>	10
	cytochrome c maturation proteins	<i>ccmB, ccmC, ccmFC, ccmFN</i>	4
	nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide dehydrogenase subunits	<i>nad1, nad2, nad3, nad4, nad4L, nad5, nad6, nad9</i>	8
	ATPase subunits	<i>atp1, atp4, atp6, atp8, atp9</i>	5
	succinate dehydrogenase subunits	<i>sdh3, sdh4</i>	2
	apocytochrome b	<i>cob</i>	1
	cytochrome oxidase subunits	<i>cox1, cox2, cox3</i>	3
	twin arginine translocation complex subunit	<i>tatC</i>	1
pseudogenes		<i>nad7pseudo</i>	1

3

Table 2 (on next page)

SSR-loci of *Mielichhoferia elongata* mitogenome.

1

2

3

Table 2. SSR-loci of *Mielichhoferia elongata* mitogenome.

Type of repeat unit	Motif	Repetitions	StartPos	EndPos
mono-	A	10	269	278
mono-	A	10	13526	13535
mono-	A	10	22179	22188
mono-	A	10	25861	25870
mono-	A	10	40307	40316
mono-	A	10	46592	46601
mono-	A	10	49092	49101
mono-	A	10	52217	52226
mono-	A	10	54565	54574
mono-	A	10	62618	62627
mono-	A	10	88341	88350
mono-	A	10	91128	91137
mono-	A	10	93879	93888
mono-	A	11	39390	39400
mono-	A	12	16182	16193
mono-	G	10	98368	98377
mono-	G	12	52784	52795
mono-	G	12	57418	57429
mono-	T	10	29873	29882
mono-	T	10	46703	46712
mono-	T	10	47865	47874
mono-	T	10	56400	56409
mono-	T	10	57552	57561
mono-	T	10	86976	86985
mono-	T	10	94469	94478
mono-	T	10	99146	99155
mono-	T	11	16200	16210
mono-	T	11	25885	25895
mono-	T	11	40958	40968
mono-	T	11	50459	50469
mono-	T	11	58416	58426
mono-	T	11	95793	95803
mono-	T	12	17608	17619

mono-	T	12	100200	100211
mono-	T	15	11233	11247
di-	AT	5	32938	32947
di-	AT	5	54921	54930
di-	AT	6	14278	14289
di-	AT	6	14298	14309
di-	AT	6	59230	59241
di-	AT	7	70407	70420
di-	TA	5	195	204
di-	TA	5	279	288
di-	TA	5	466	475
di-	TA	5	27730	27739
di-	TA	5	41770	41779
di-	TA	5	44628	44637
di-	TA	5	62826	62835
di-	TA	5	68954	68963
di-	TA	5	69190	69199
di-	TA	6	12557	12568
di-	TA	6	86244	86255
di-	TA	6	94457	94468
di-	TA	7	10767	10780
di-	TA	7	19813	19826
di-	TA	7	25871	25884
di-	TA	7	28304	28317
di-	TA	7	29340	29353
di-	TA	7	41786	41799
di-	TA	8	57533	57548
di-	TA	8	69397	69412
di-	TA	10	100045	100064
di-	TA	11	72289	72310
tri-	TTA	4	70696	70707
tetra-	AATA	3	54140	54151
tetra-	ATAA	3	25162	25173
tetra-	ATAG	3	10865	10876
tetra-	ATTT	3	69685	69696
tetra-	CATA	3	25129	25140
tetra-	TACC	3	76426	76437
tetra-	TAGA	3	85926	85937
penta-	AACAA	3	54704	54718

penta-	AAGAA	3	75527	75541
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