
Enabling Phylogenetic Research via the CIPRES Science Gateway

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In collaboration with
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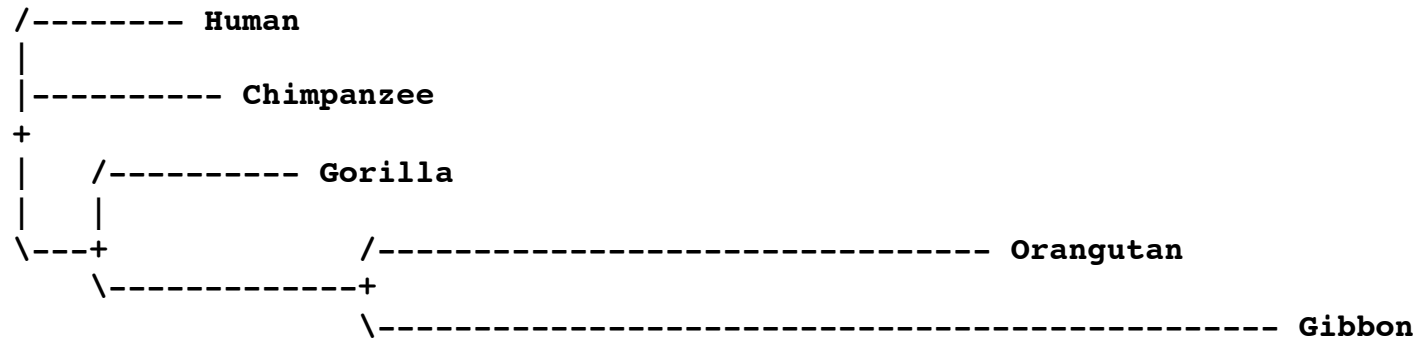
2013 Summer Institute: Discover Big Data, August 5-9, San Diego, California

SAN DIEGO SUPERCOMPUTER CENTER *at the* UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO



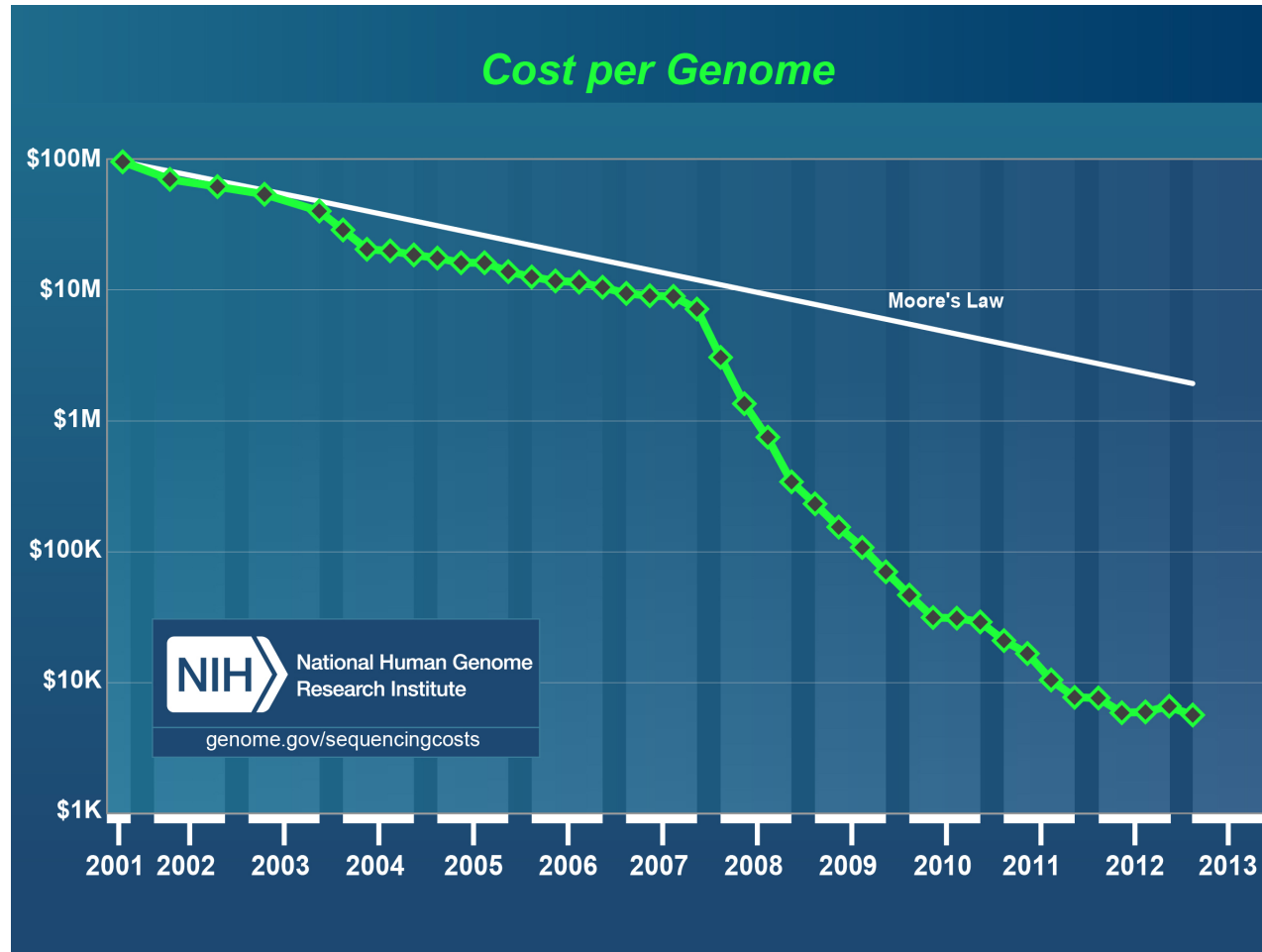
Phylogenetics is the study of evolutionary relationships among groups of organisms called taxa (typically species)

- **The result of a phylogenetic analysis is a phylogeny, most often represented as a tree**



- **In olden times, phylogenies were based on morphology**
- **Now phylogenies are usually based on DNA sequences**

Cost of DNA sequencing has dropped much faster than cost of computing in recent years, producing a flood of data for biological analysis



Market-leading DNA sequencers come from Illumina & Life Technologies (both SD County companies)

- **Illumina HiSeq 2500**

- Big; \$740,000 list price
- High throughput
- Low error rate
- 150-bp paired-end reads

read



read

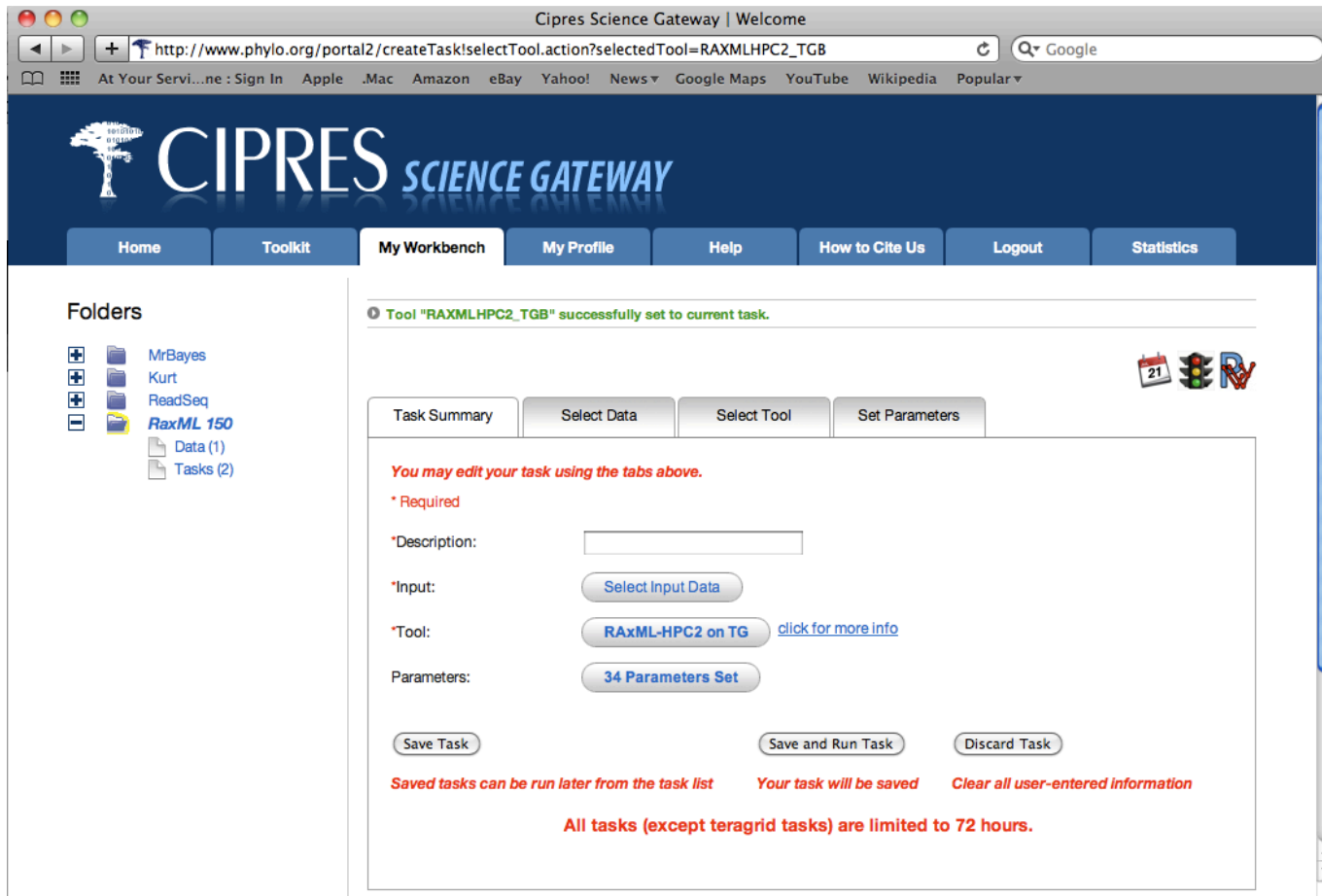


- **Life Technologies Ion Proton**

- Small; \$243,000 list price
- Medium throughput
- Modest error rate
- 200-bp reads



The CIPRES gateway (or portal) lets biologists run phylogenetics codes at SDSC via a browser interface; <http://www.phylo.org/index.php/portal>



Browser interface simplifies access to community codes, especially for users who only occasionally compute

- **Users do not log onto HPC systems & so do not need to learn about Linux, parallelization, or job scheduling**
- **Users simply use browser interface to**
 - pick code, select options, & set parameters
 - upload sequence data
- **Numbers of cores, processes, & threads are selected automatically based on**
 - input options & parameters
 - rules developed from benchmarking
- **Occasionally we make special runs not allowed by rules**
- **In most cases, users do not need individual allocations**
- **Users still need to understand code options!**

Parallel versions of six phylogenetics codes are available via the CIPRES gateway

Code & version	Parallelization	Cores	Computer
MAFFT 7.037	Pthreads	8	Trestles
BEAST 1.7.5	Pthreads/Pthreads	8	Trestles
GARLI 2.0	MPI	≤32	Trestles
MrBayes 3.1.2h	MPI/OpenMP	10 to 32	Gordon
MrBayes 3.2.1	MPI	8 to 16	Gordon
RAxML 7.6.6	MPI/Pthreads	8, 30, or 60	Trestles
RAxML-Light 1.0.9	bash/Pthreads	≤1,000	Trestles

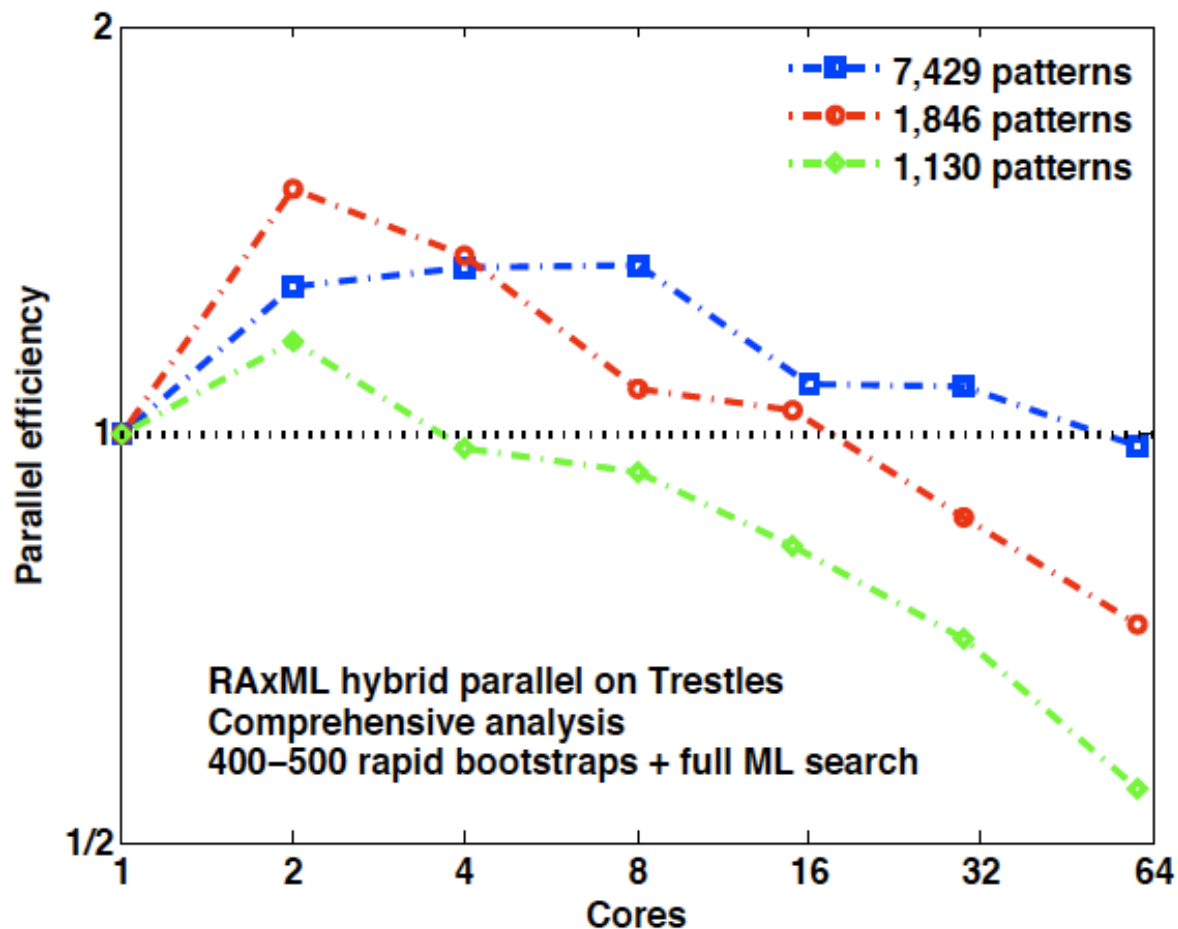
Run times for some analyses are substantial

Code & data set	Time (h)	Cores	Computer
MrBayes 3.1.2h, AA data, 73 taxa, 10.4k patterns*, 3M generations (HL)	194	32	Gordon
MrBayes 3.2.1, DNA data, 40 taxa, 16k patterns*, 100M generations (NJ)	155	8	Gordon
RAxML 7.2.7, AA data, 1.6k taxa, 8.8k patterns*, 160 bootstraps+ (JG)	106	160	Trestles

* Number of patterns = number of unique columns in multiple sequence alignment
+ 20 thorough searches were also done

Computer	Processors	Cores/ node	Memory/ node (GB)
Gordon	2.6-GHz Intel Sandy Bridge	16	64
Trestles	2.4-GHz AMD Magny-Cours	32	64

***RAxML parallel efficiency is >0.5 up to 60 cores for >1,000 patterns*;
speedup is superlinear for comprehensive analysis at some core counts;
scalability generally improves with number of patterns***



* Number of patterns = number of unique columns in multiple sequence alignment

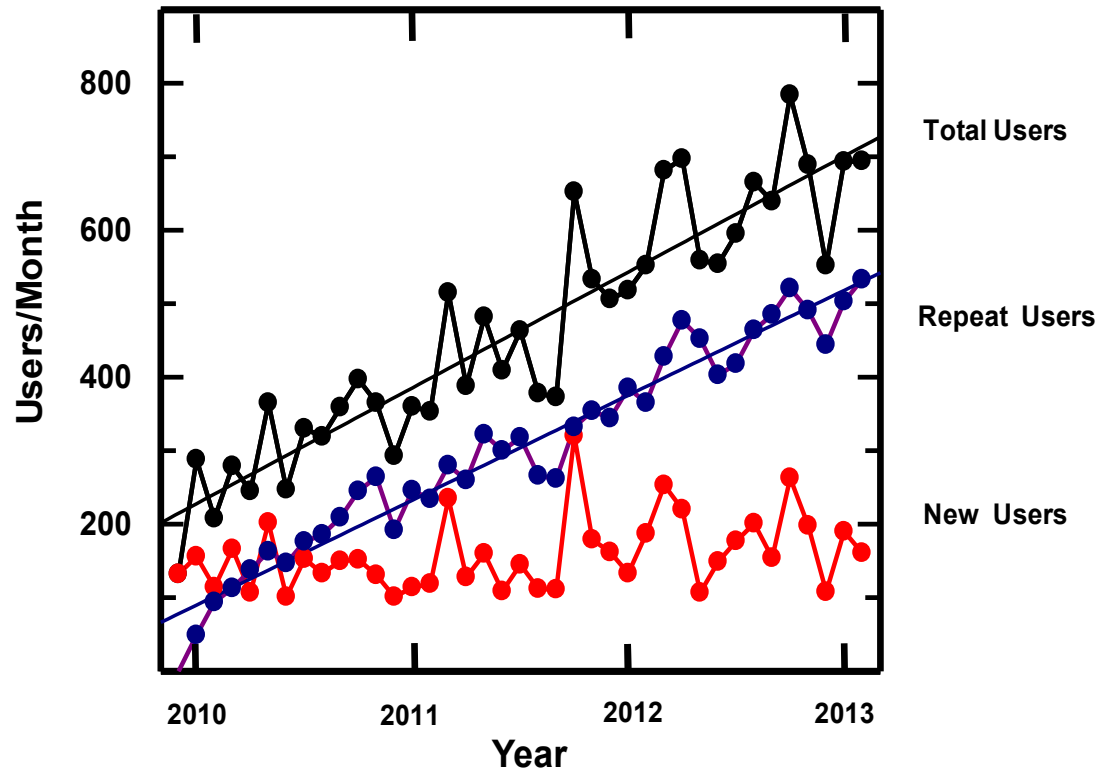
Rules for running RAxML on Trestles were developed based on benchmarking

- **Check number of searches specified by -N option**
- **If -N is not specified,**
 - Run with 8 Pthreads on 8 cores of a single node in shared queue
- **If -N n is specified with $n < 50$,**
 - Run with 5 MPI processes & 6 Pthreads on 30 cores of a single node in normal queue
- **If -N n is specified with $n \geq 50$ or $n = \text{auto}$,**
 - Run with 10 MPI processes & 6 Pthreads on 60 cores of two nodes in normal queue

Some operational facts & considerations

- **>100 jobs are usually running; a July 3 snapshot showed**
 - 66 MrBayes jobs using 920 cores on Gordon
 - 79 BEAST jobs using 632 cores on Trestles
 - 14 RAxML jobs using 896 cores on Trestles
 - 1 GARLI job using 32 cores on Trestles
- **Jobs are run on both systems to distribute load**
 - ~15% of load on Trestles is from CIPRES gateway jobs
- **Jobs can run a long time; allowable limits are**
 - 168 hours (1 week) on Gordon
 - 334 hours (2 weeks) on Trestles
- **I/O is done via ZFS (/projects), not Luster (/oasis)**
 - BEAST & MrBayes output frequent, small updates to log files
 - This can overwhelm the Lustre metadata servers

The CIPRES gateway has been extremely popular



- >6,000 users have run on TeraGrid/XSEDE supercomputers
- ~173,000 jobs were run & ~29M Trestles SUs were used thru Feb 2013
- >600 publications have been enabled by CIPRES use

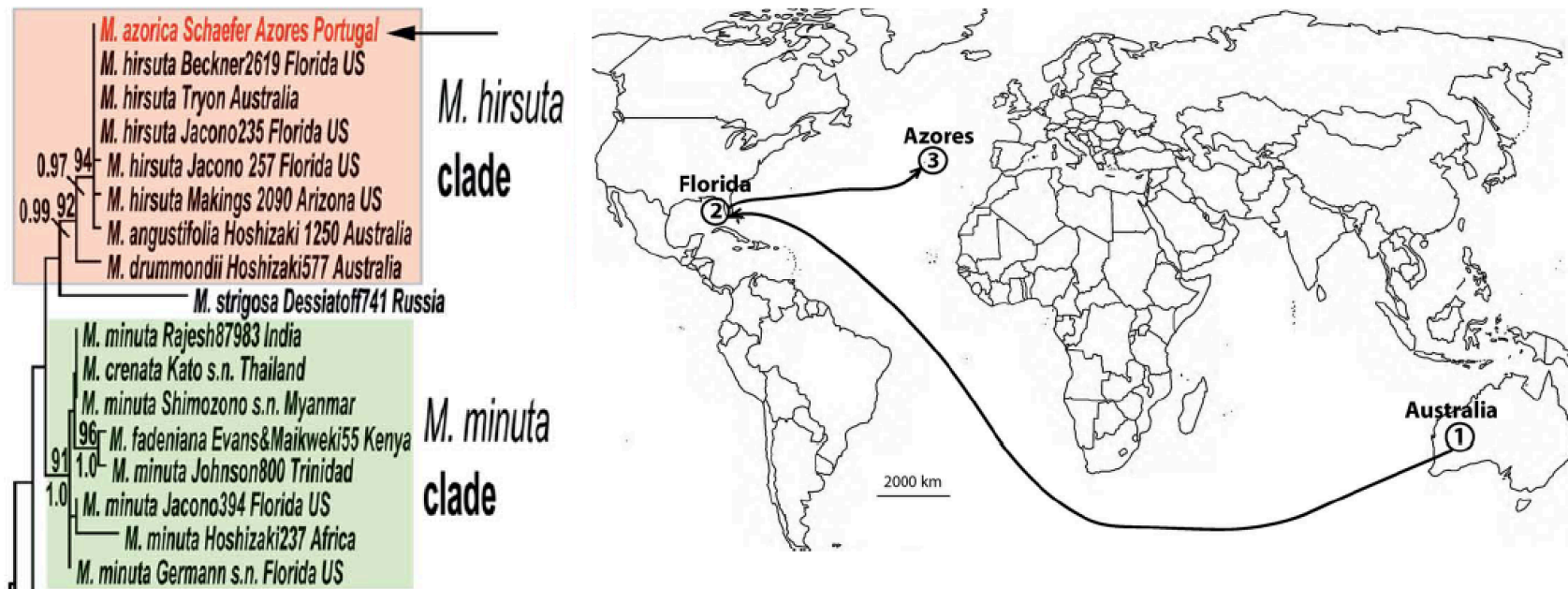
***Most CIPRES gateway jobs are submitted from US,
but many come from elsewhere***



- Screen shot shows locations of 1,000 consecutive user logons as of April 20, 2011
- Highlighted dots show users online

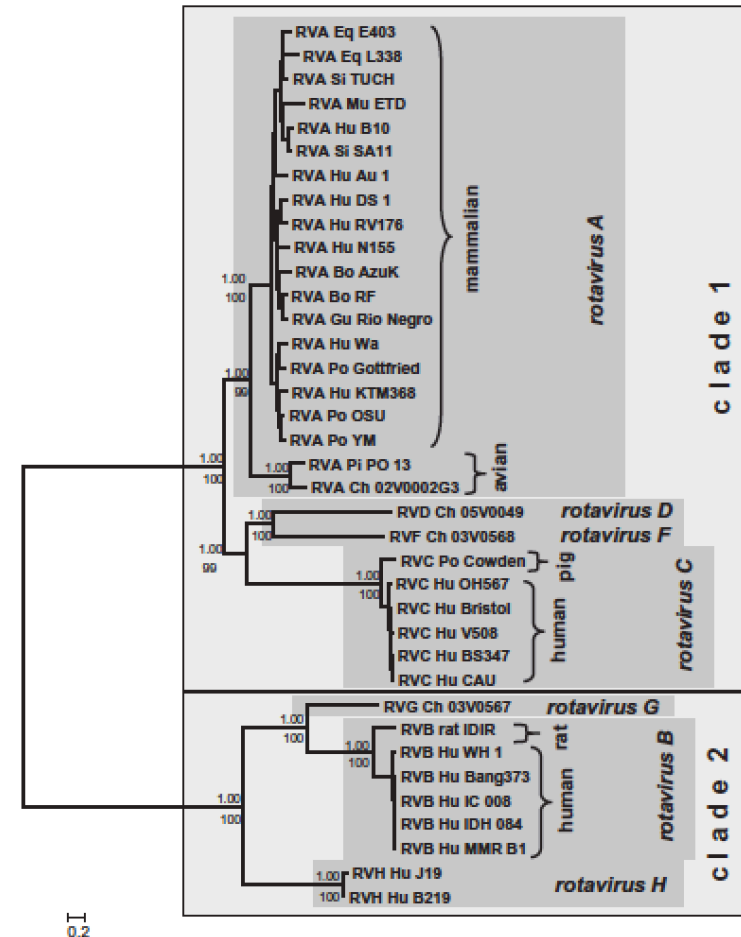
Protected clover fern in Azores was shown to be an invasive species from Australia introduced from the US

- RAXML & MrBayes analyses were done via CIPRES gateway
- H. Schaefer, M.A. Carine, & F.J. Rumsey, “From European Priority Species to Invasive Weed: *Marsilea azorica* (Marsileaceae) is a Misidentified Alien,” *Systematic Biology*, v. 36, pp. 845-853 (2011)



Most studies using CIPRES gateway involve basic research, but some have biomedical implications

- Humans are much more likely to infect apes with malaria than the reverse (J.C. Silva, et al., *Parasitology*, 2011)
- Graph-theory method allows viral variants to be ranked for effectiveness in vaccines (T.K. Anderson, et al., *Bioinformatics*, 2012)
- Rotoviruses are in two major clades: rotavirus A/C/D/F and rotavirus B/G/H (E. Kindler, et al., *Infection, Genetics and Evolution*, 2013) →



Recently received NSF grant is supporting enhancements to user interface & codes

- **Enhancements in progress**
 - A RESTful web services interface in addition to browser interface is being developed
 - Additional codes are being installed
 - Hybrid parallel version of MrBayes 3.2.1 is being developed
- **Enhancements planned**
 - Input files will be checked before submission
 - Smarter rules will be developed
 - A guide will be prepared to help users decide which code(s) to use

Summary

- **The CIPRES gateway has been extremely effective at providing access to HPC resources for phylogenetics researchers**
- **Planned enhancements will improve the gateway's accessibility and utility**

Questions?

Moki Dugway in Utah



**Part of 107-mi bicycle ride
on May 10, 2013**

Mt Haeckel in the Sierra



**First ascent of year
on May 27, 2013**