

Comparative Analysis of Transcription Factors Families Across Fungal Tree of Life

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March 2015

The work conducted by the U.S. Department of Energy Joint Genome Institute is supported by the Office of Science of the U.S. Department of Energy under Contract No. DE-AC02-05CH11231

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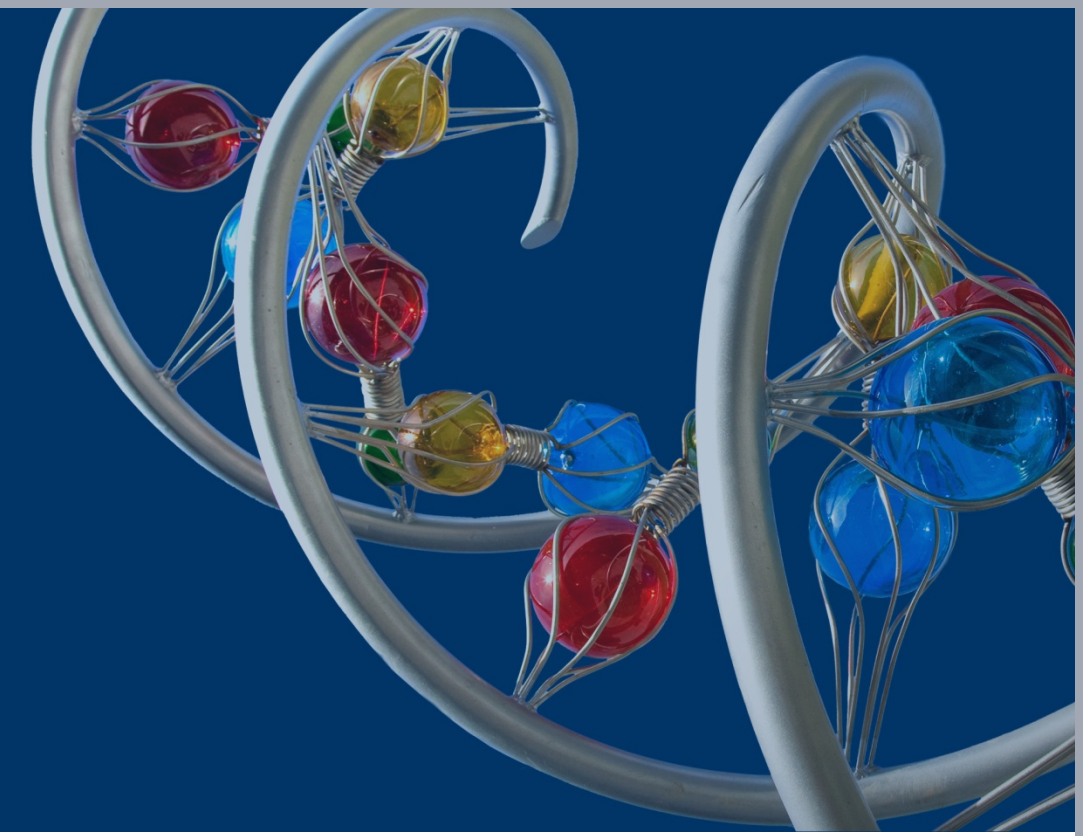
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Comparative analysis of transcription factors families across fungal tree of life

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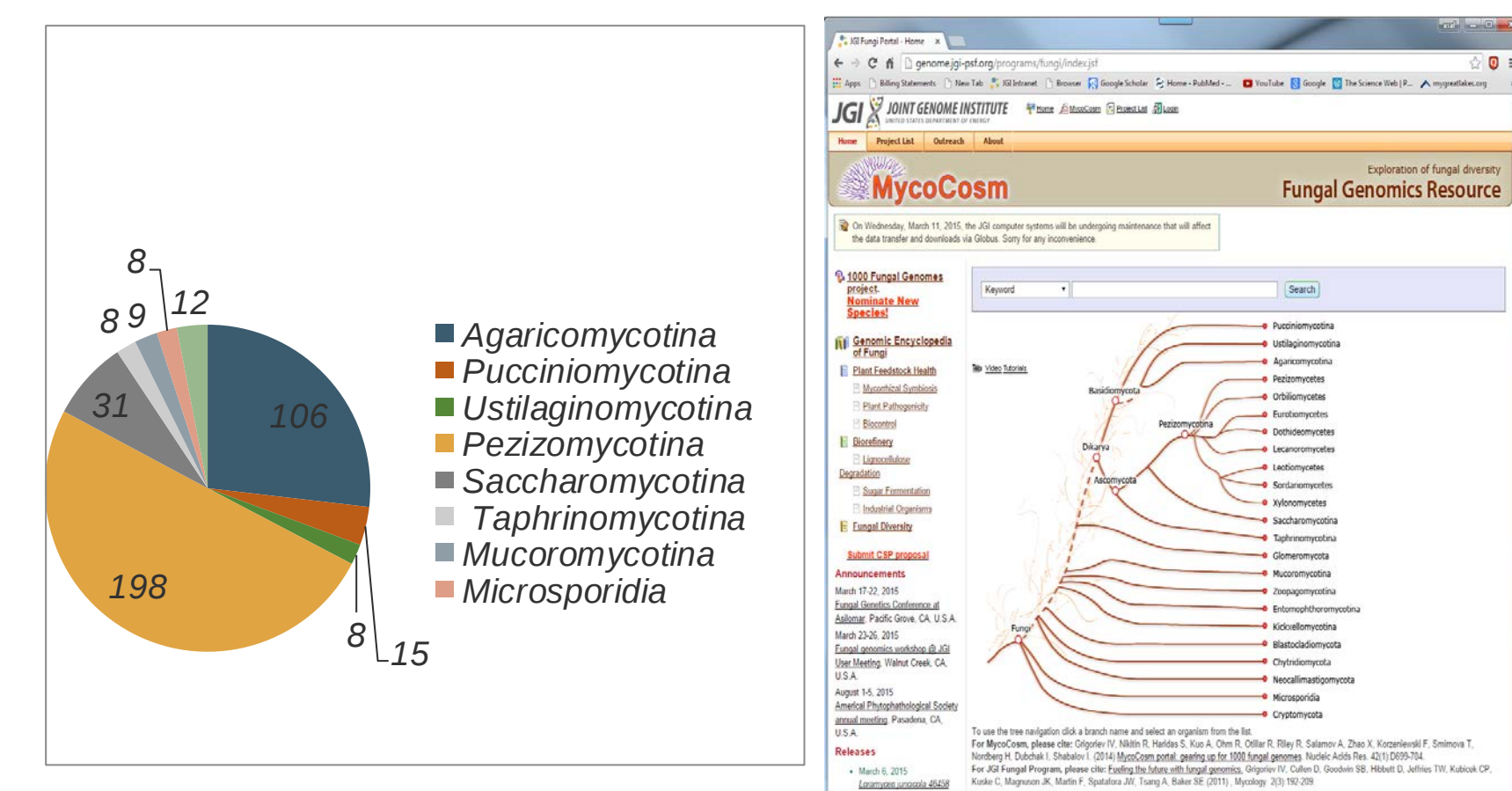
Introduction

Transcription factors (TFs) are proteins that regulate the transcription of genes, by binding to specific DNA sequences.

Based on literature (Shelest, 2008; Weirauch and Hughes, 2011) collected and manually curated list of DBD Pfam domains (in total 62 DBD domains)

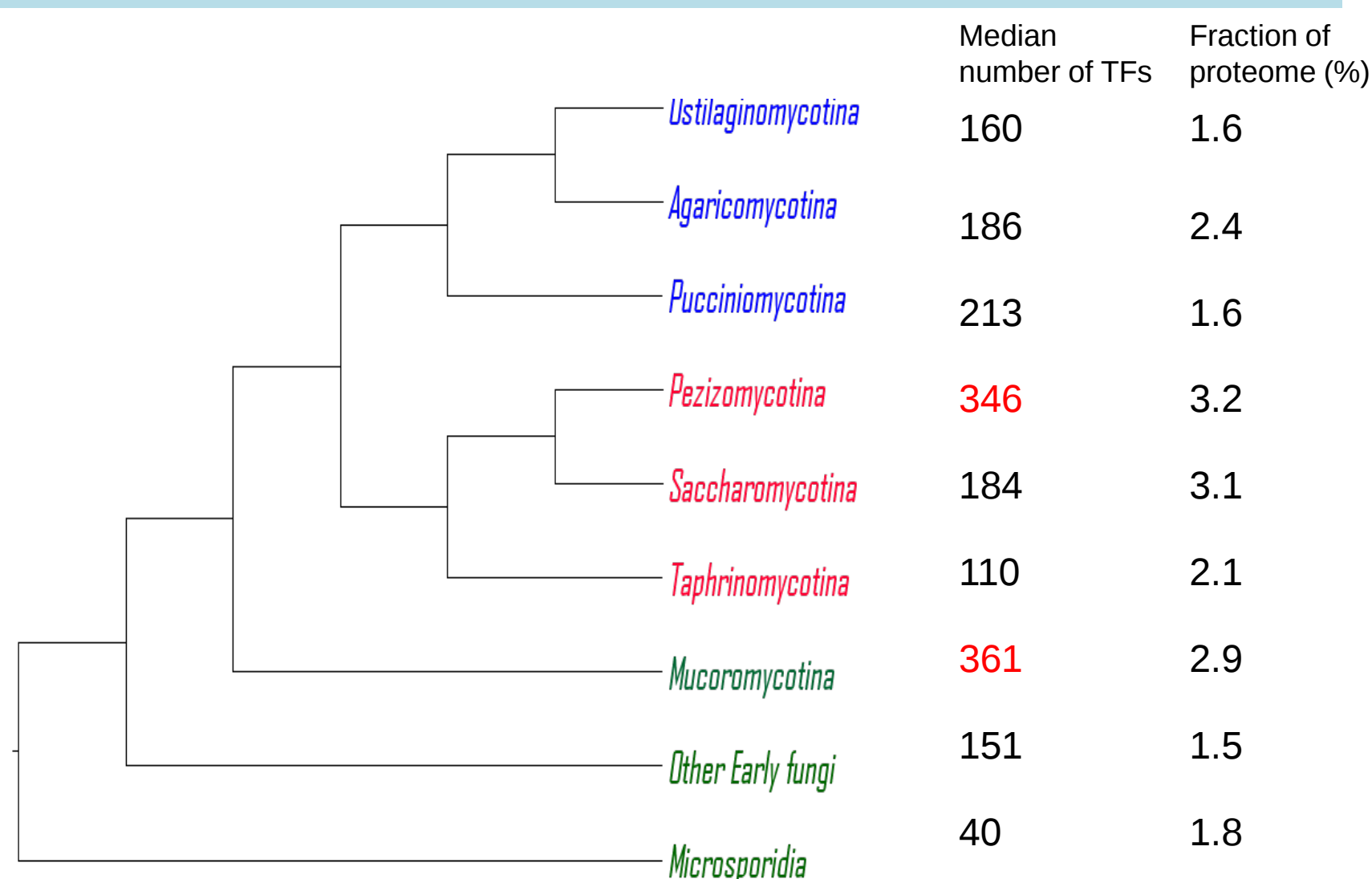
We looked for distribution of TFs in 395 fungal genomes plus additionally in plant genomes (Phytozome), prokaryotes (IMG), some animals/metazoans and protists genomes

395 fungal genomes from MycoCosm



<https://jgi.doe.gov/fungi>

TF distribution across fungal clades

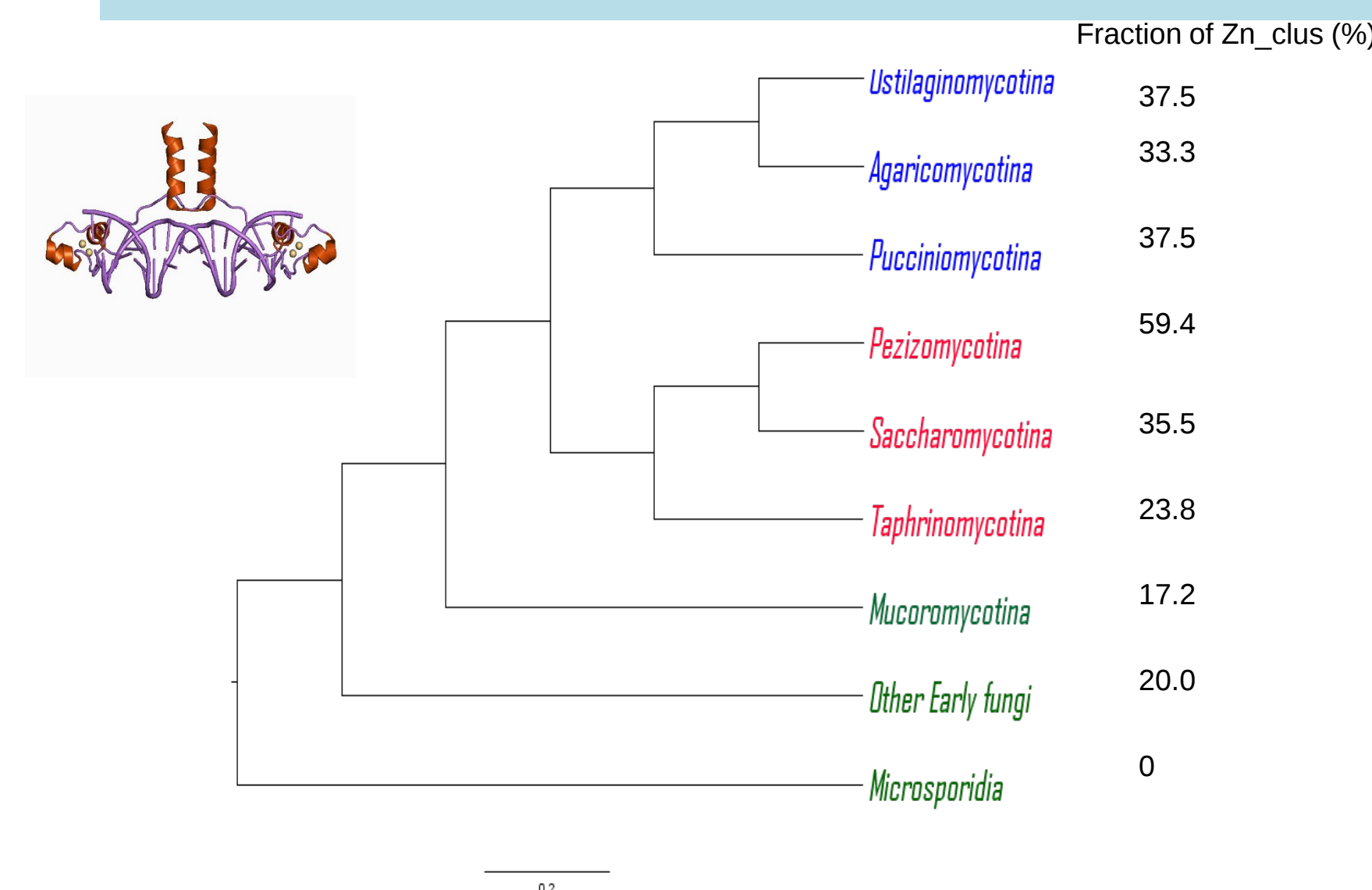


Median number of TFs per genome ~245, 0.5-6% per proteome

Top fungal transcription factor families

DBD-domain	TF family
Zn_clus, Fungal_trans, Fungal_trans_2	Fungal-specific Zn cluster
HLH	Basic helix-loop-helix
Homeobox	Homeodomain
CBFD_NFYB_HMF	Histone-like TFs
bZIP_1, bZIP_2	Leucine zipper
zf-C2H2	Zinc finger
GATA	GATA zinc finger
HMG_box	High-mobility group
HSF_DNA_bind	Heat-shock factor
Fork-head	Fork-head protein
SRF-TF	SRF-type TF

Fungal-specific binuclear Zn-cluster superfamily – the largest fungal TF family accounting for ~50% of all TFs



Correlation of numbers per genome of Zn_clus TFs with numbers of transporters and SM backbone genes

	Zn_clus	Fungal_trans	Fungal_trans_2	av.corr	Other 58 TFs range
MFS_1	0.89	0.92	0.87	0.08	-0.25 - 0.64
Sugar_tr	0.90	0.92	0.89	0.08	-0.22 - 0.65
PKS	0.68	0.70	0.68	0.02	-0.28 - 0.52
NRPS	0.45	0.49	0.46	-0.02	-0.027 - 0.42
Total SM	0.62	0.67	0.59	0.03	-0.28 - 0.58
Total number of genes	0.23	0.24	1	0.21	-0.31 - 0.63

Colocalization of Zn_clus TFs with transporters and SM backbone genes

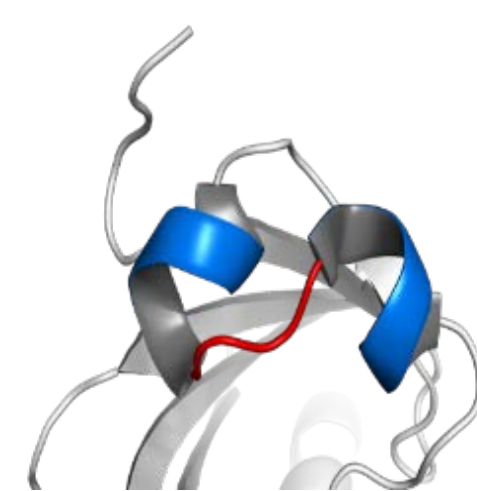
In most genomes Zn_clus transcription factors statistically significantly ($P < 0.05$) located adjacent to transporter genes (MFS, Sugar_tr)

Clade	Number of genomes (fraction)
Pezizomycotina	161 (81.3%)
Saccharomycotina	19 (61.3%)
Agaricomycotina	6 (5.7%)
Ustilaginomycotina	4 (50.0%)
Pucciniomycotina	3 (20%)
Taphrinomycotina	3 (37.5%)

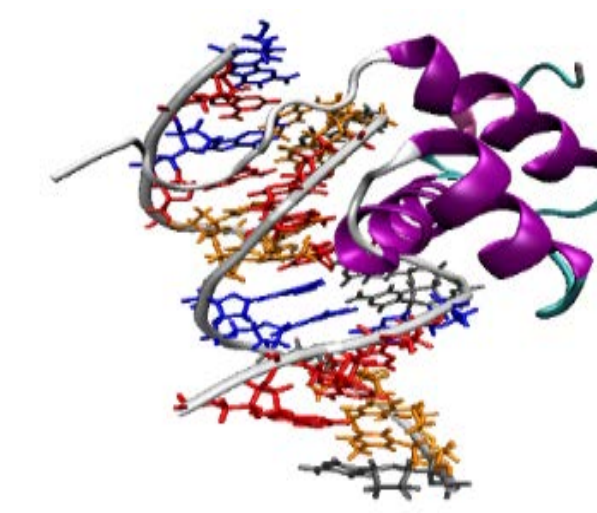
In many Pezizomycotina genomes Zn_clus transcription factors statistically significantly ($P < 0.05$) located within 20 genes to PKS/NRPS genes

Clade	Number of genomes (fraction)
Pezizomycotina	53 (26.8%)
Agaricomycotina	9 (8.5%)
Neocallimastigo	1
Taphrinomycotina	1 (12.5%)

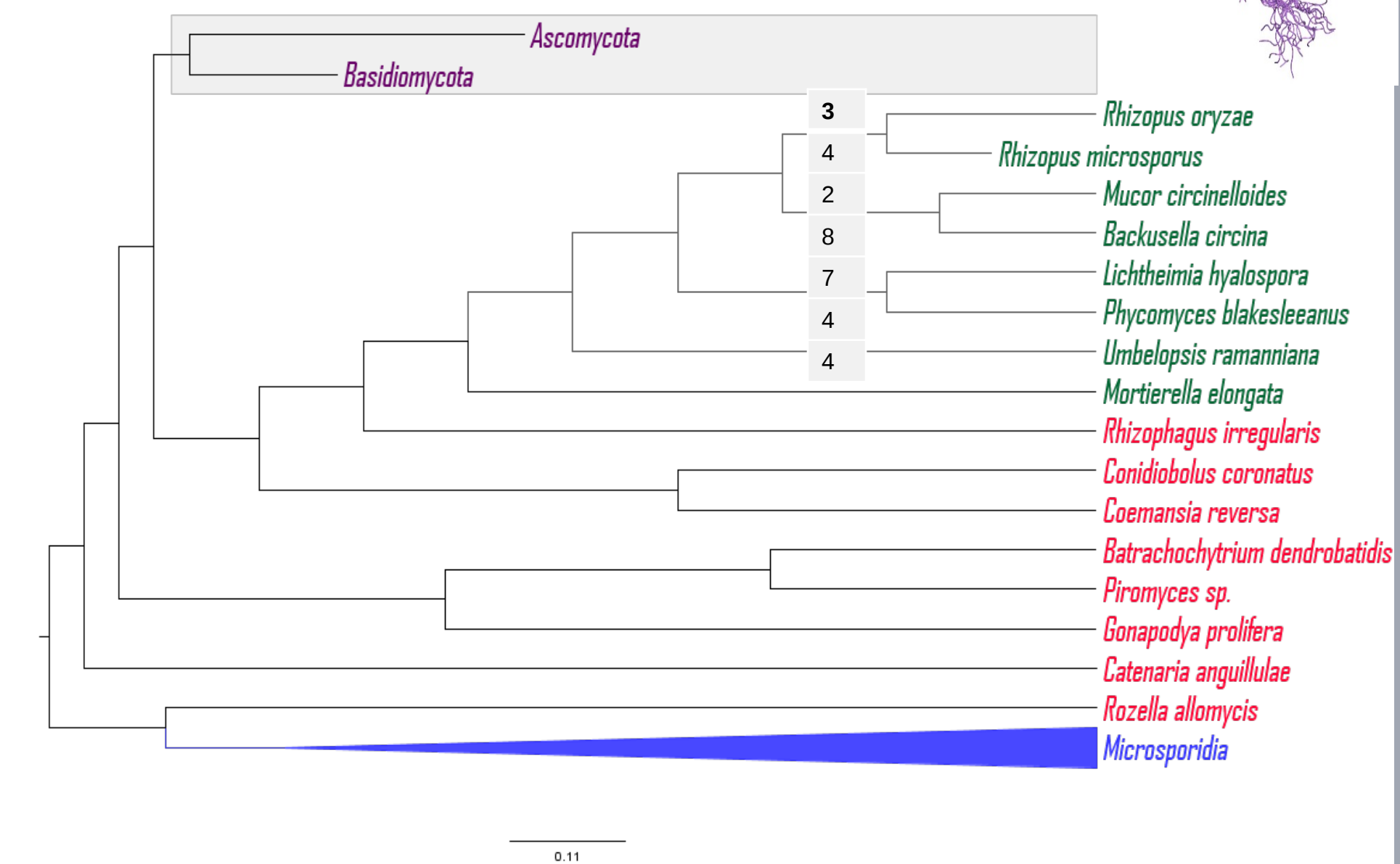
Most of universal eukaryotic TFs are expanded in Mucoromycotina



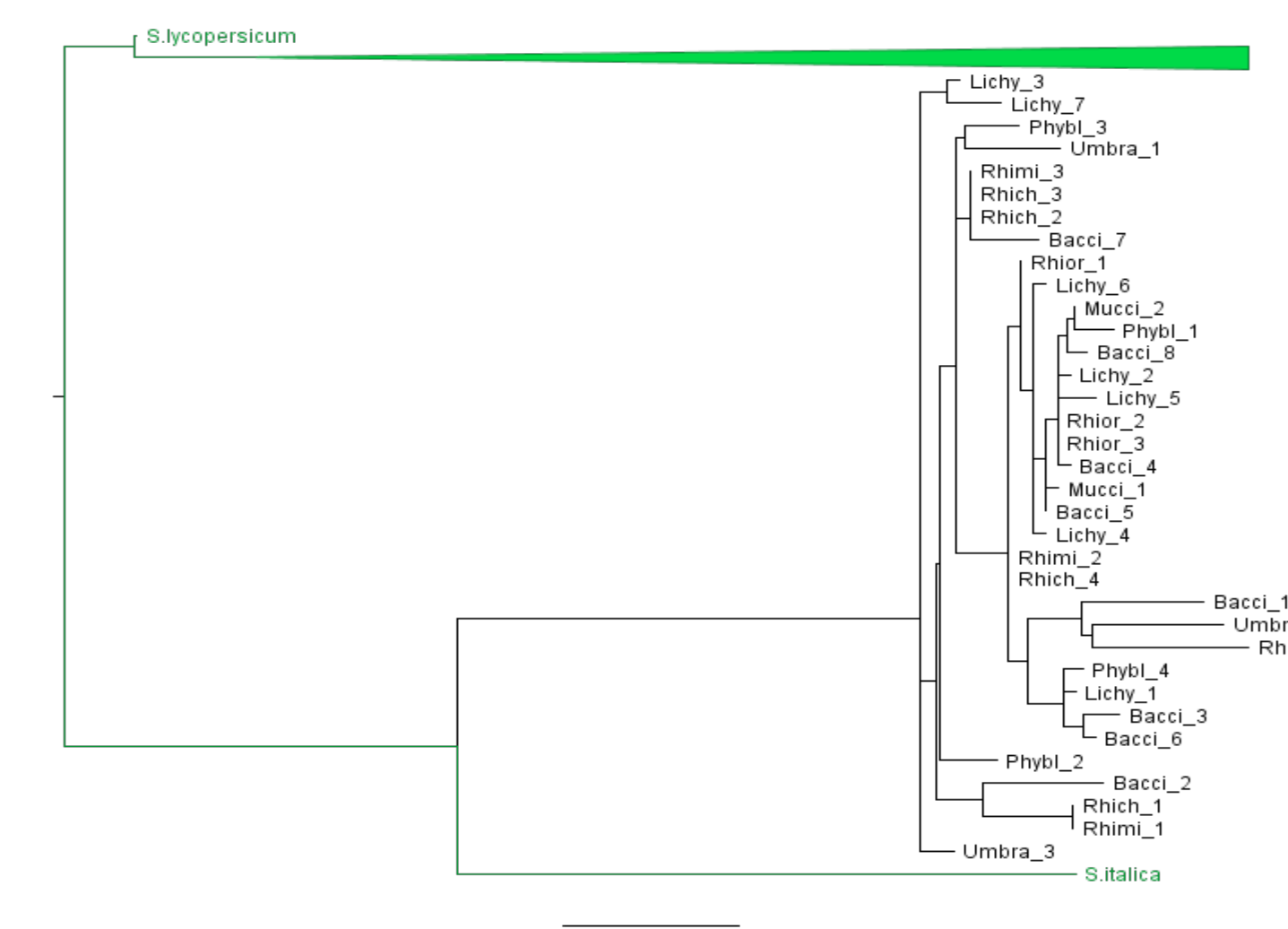
	Fungi	Mucor.	Metazoan	Plants	Protists
HLH	8	37	42	145	0
Homeobox	5	26	96	102	7
bZIP_1	5	16	15	87	10
BZIP_2	4	16	19	83	7
GATA	4	21	33	0	0
HSF	2	16	2	25	15
Fork-head	2	7	18	0	0
SRF-TF	2	9	2	89	1
NDT80_PhoG	1	6	1	0	0



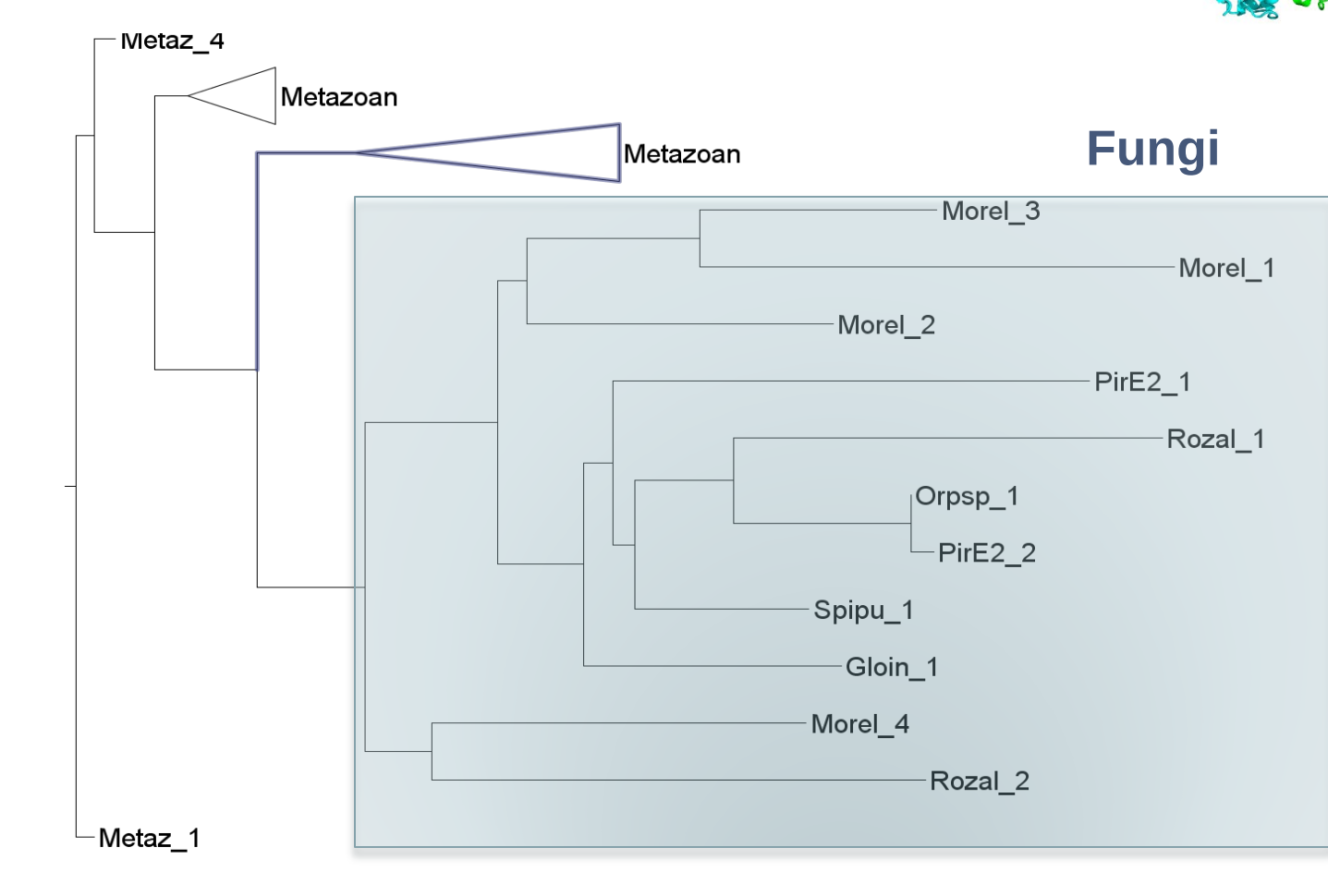
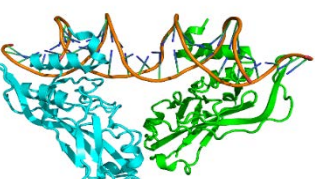
Plant-specific WRKY transcription factors are present in 2-8 copies in Mucomycotina genomes but absent in other fungal clades



WRKY gene tree with closest plant sequences (horizontal transfer)



Animal-specific T-box TFs, involved in limb and heart development are present at some early-diverging fungi



SUMMARY

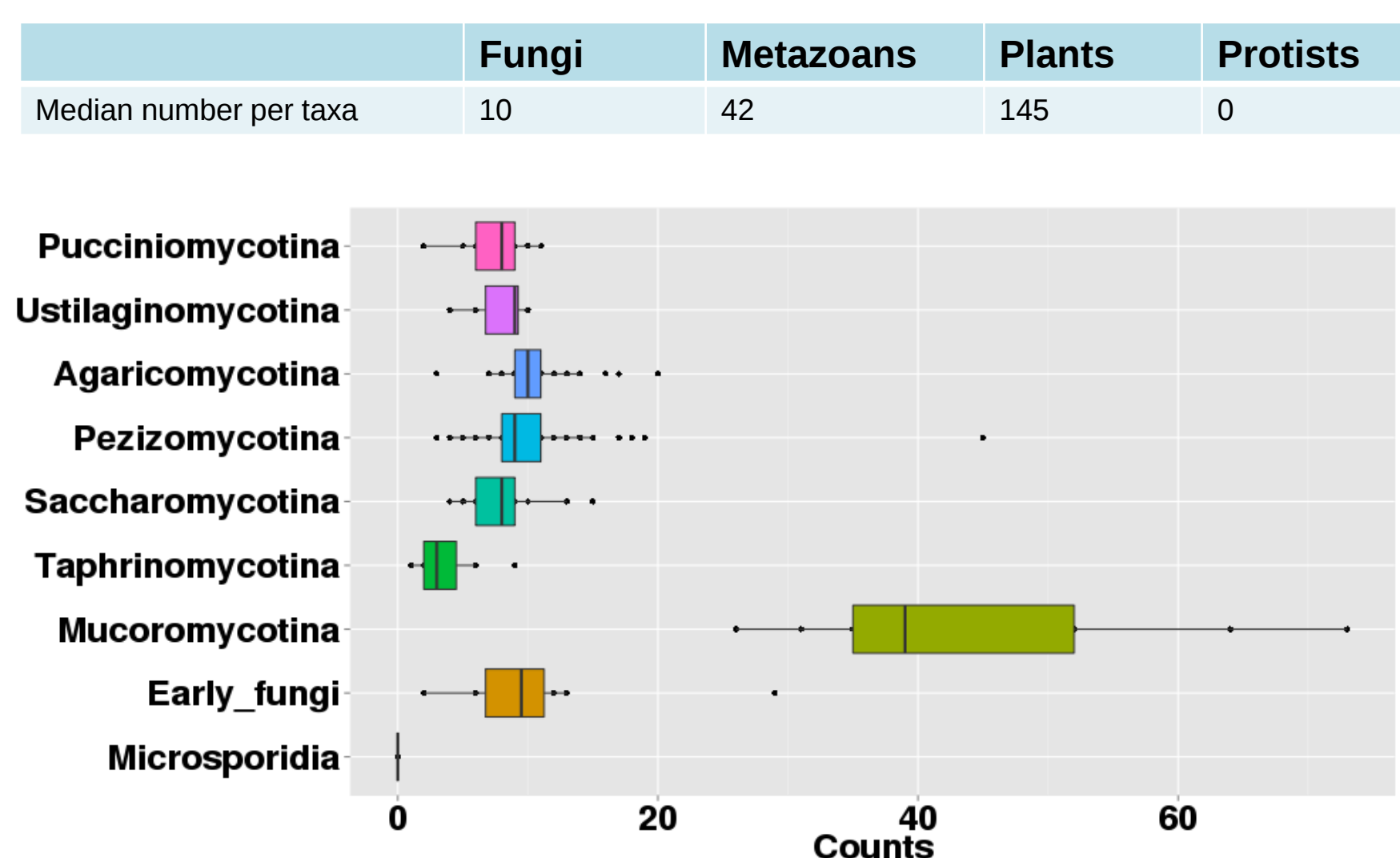
- Fungal-specific Binuclear zinc finger family (Zn_clus) constitutes the largest transcription factor family in the fungal kingdom, accounting for ~60% of all TFs in Pezizomycotina

- At least some fraction of Zn_clus TFs seem to be expanded in complex with other genes in SM clusters predominantly in Pezizomycotina clade

- Most of universal eukaryotic TF families are expanded in Mucoromycotina

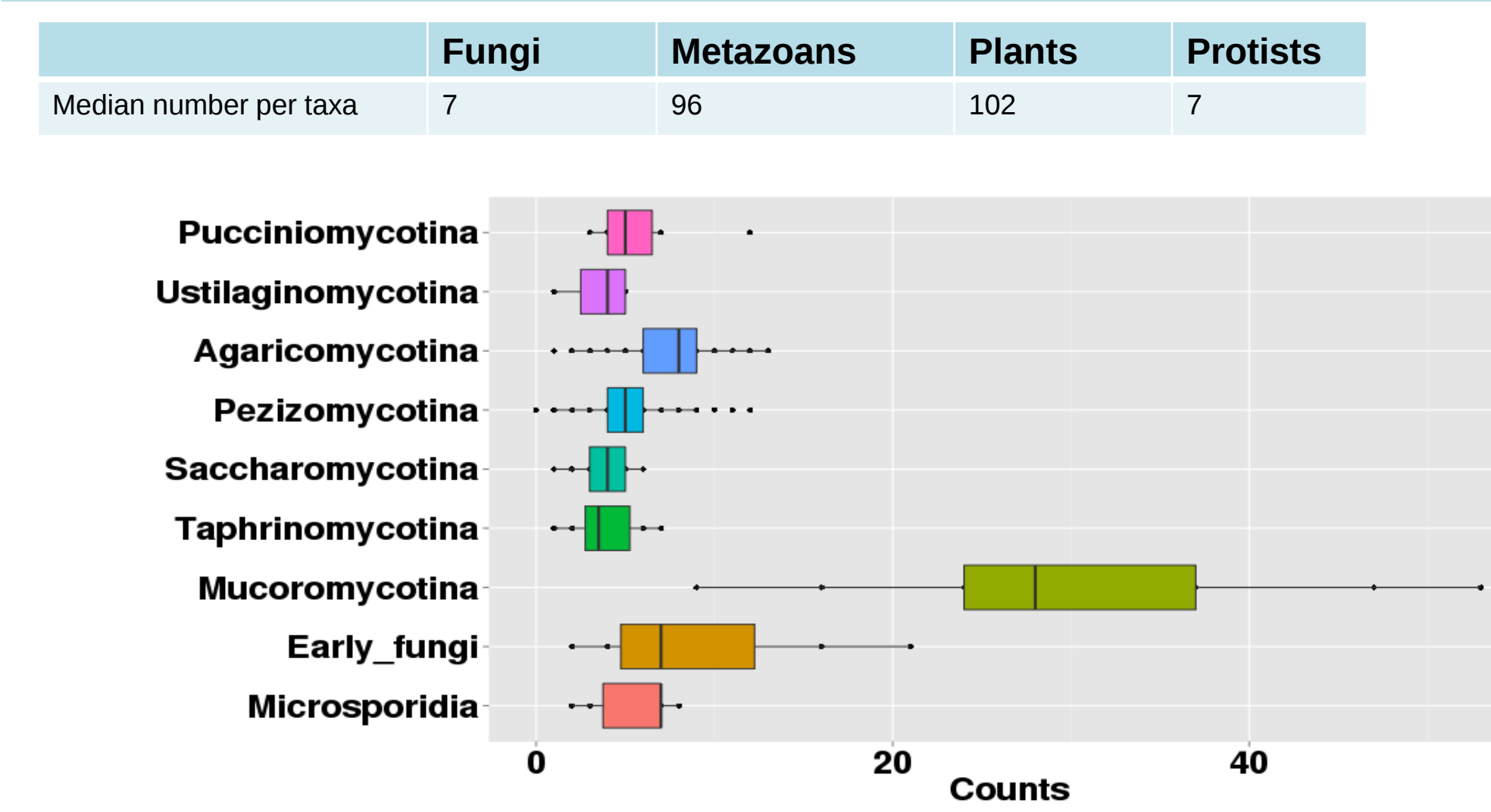
- Early divergent fungi have plant and animal specific TFs absent in Dikarya

Eukaryotic Basic helix-loop-helix (HLH) TF family



Mucoromycotina clade gained +8 genes ($P = 0.001$, CAFÉ)

Homeobox (TFs with homeodomain fold, found for example in animal Hox genes) family



Mucoromycotina clade gained +5 genes ($P = 0.004$, CAFÉ)