

A perda de genes e a remodelação evolutiva da pele dos cetáceos

Losing genes and the evolutionary remodelling of cetacean skin

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Genotype vs Phenotype

Comparative Genomics

NHGRI FACT SHEETS
genome.gov

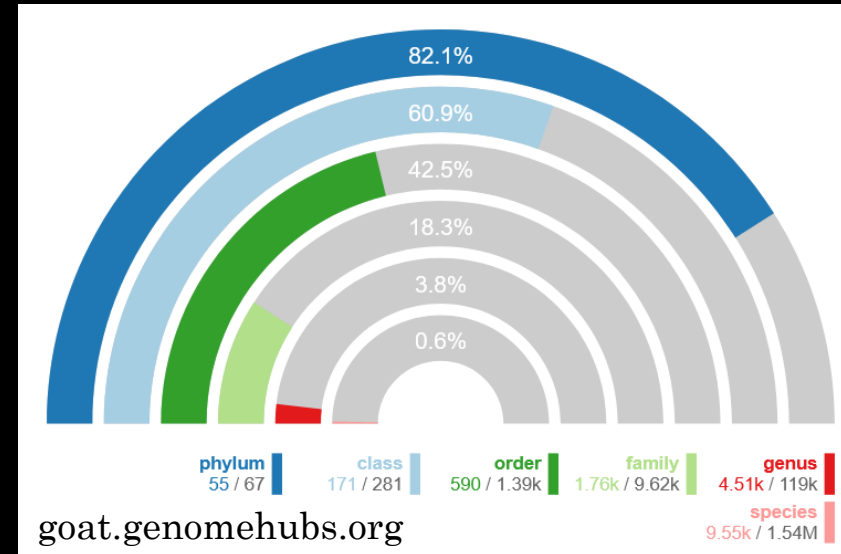
Researchers choose the appropriate time-scale of evolutionary conservation for the question being addressed.

Common features of different organisms such as humans and fish are often encoded within the DNA evolutionarily conserved between them.

Looking at closely related species such as humans and chimpanzees shows which genomic elements are unique to each.

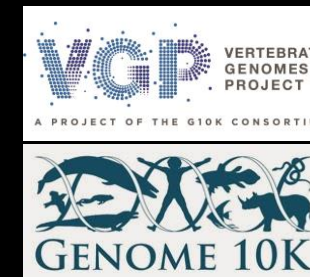
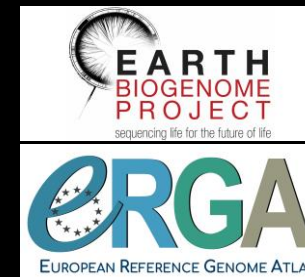
Genetic differences within one species such as our own can reveal variants with a role in disease.

NIH National Human Genome Research Institute



Species with published genomes

- 27 Cetacea
- 700 Mammalia
- 4778 Metazoa (Animals)
- 10719 Eukaryotes



Gene loss as engine for innovation

Evolution by gene loss

Ricard Albalat and Cristian Cañestro

Abstract | The recent increase in genomic data is revealing an unexpected perspective of gene loss as a pervasive source of genetic variation that can cause adaptive phenotypic diversity. This novel perspective of gene loss is raising new fundamental questions. How relevant has gene loss been in the divergence of phyla? How do genes change from being essential to dispensable and finally to being lost? Is gene loss mostly neutral, or can it be an effective way of adaptation? These questions are addressed, and insights are discussed from genomic studies of gene loss in populations and their relevance in evolutionary biology and biomedicine.

Albalat, R., Cañestro, C. Evolution by gene loss. *Nat Rev Genet* 17, 379–391 (2016).

Olson, Maynard V. 'When Less Is More: Gene Loss as an Engine of Evolutionary Change'. *American Journal of Human Genetics*, 1999. <https://doi.org/10.1086/302219>.

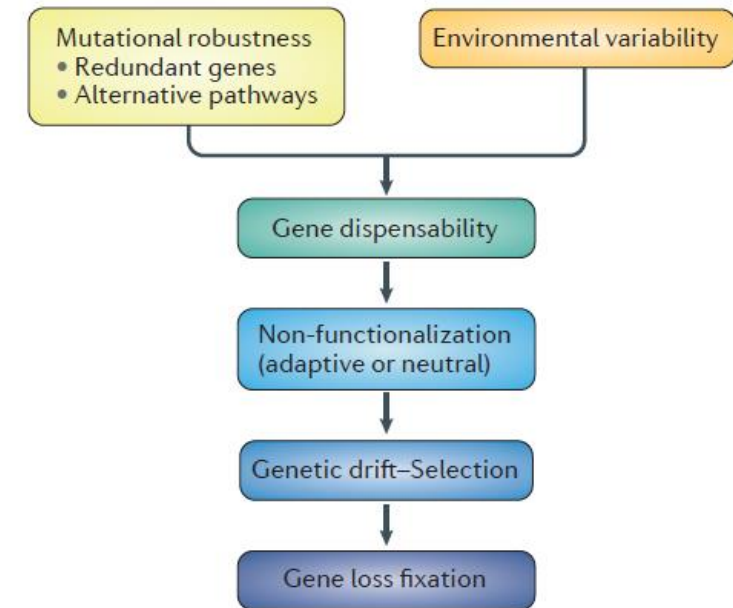
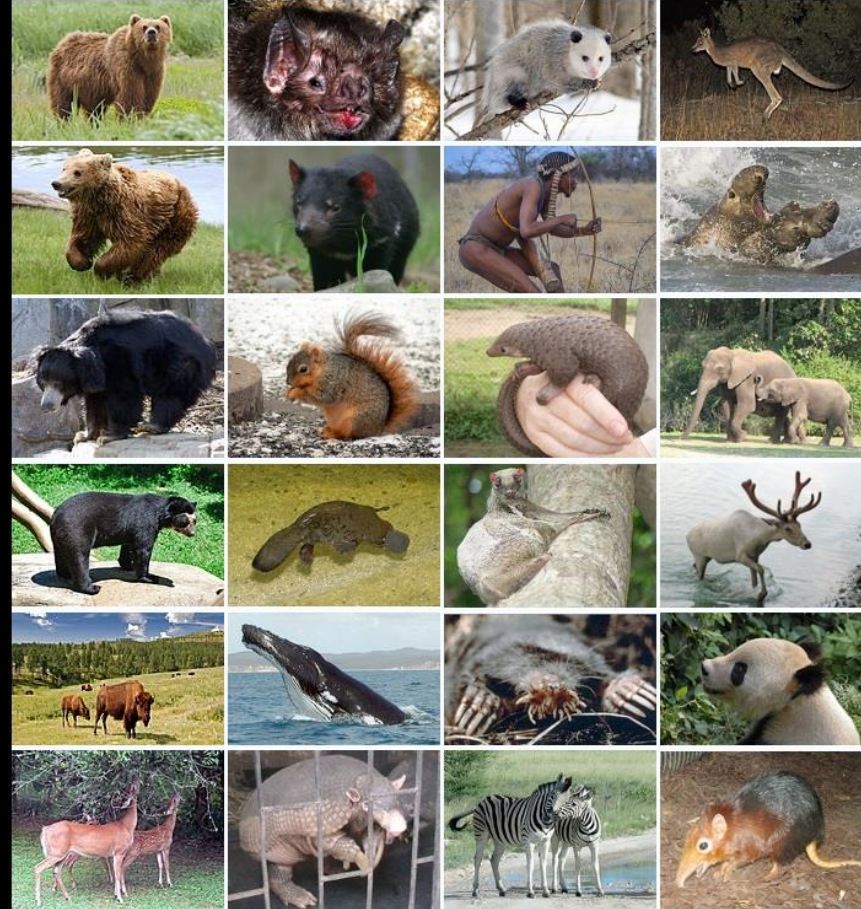
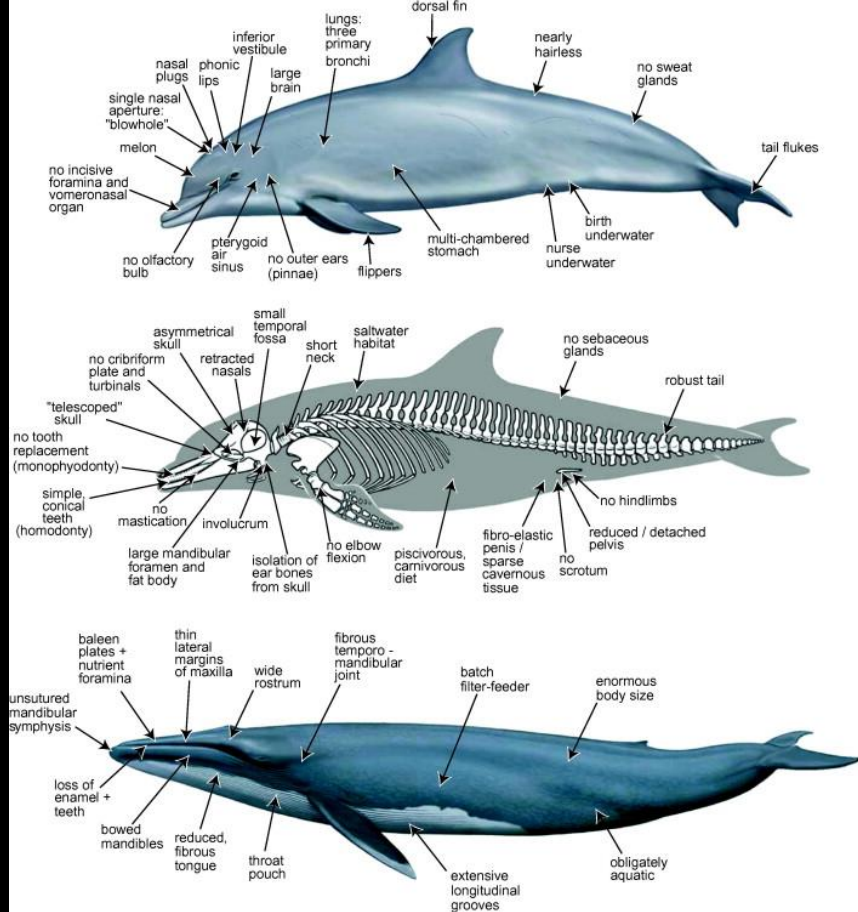


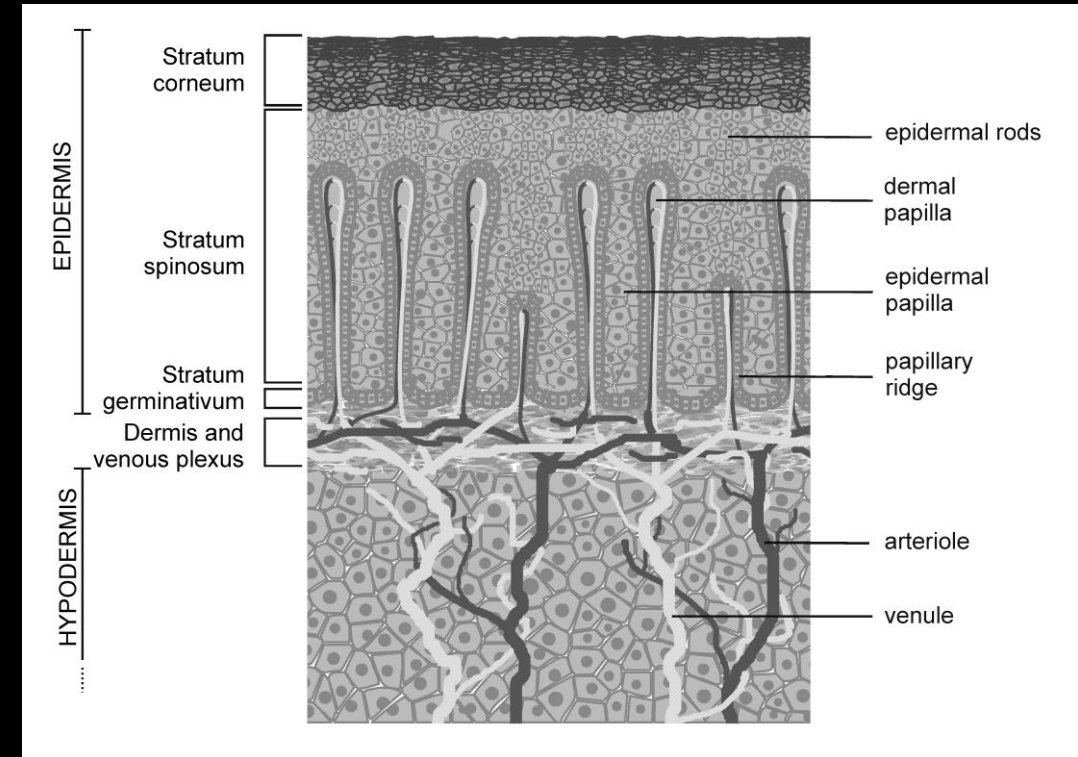
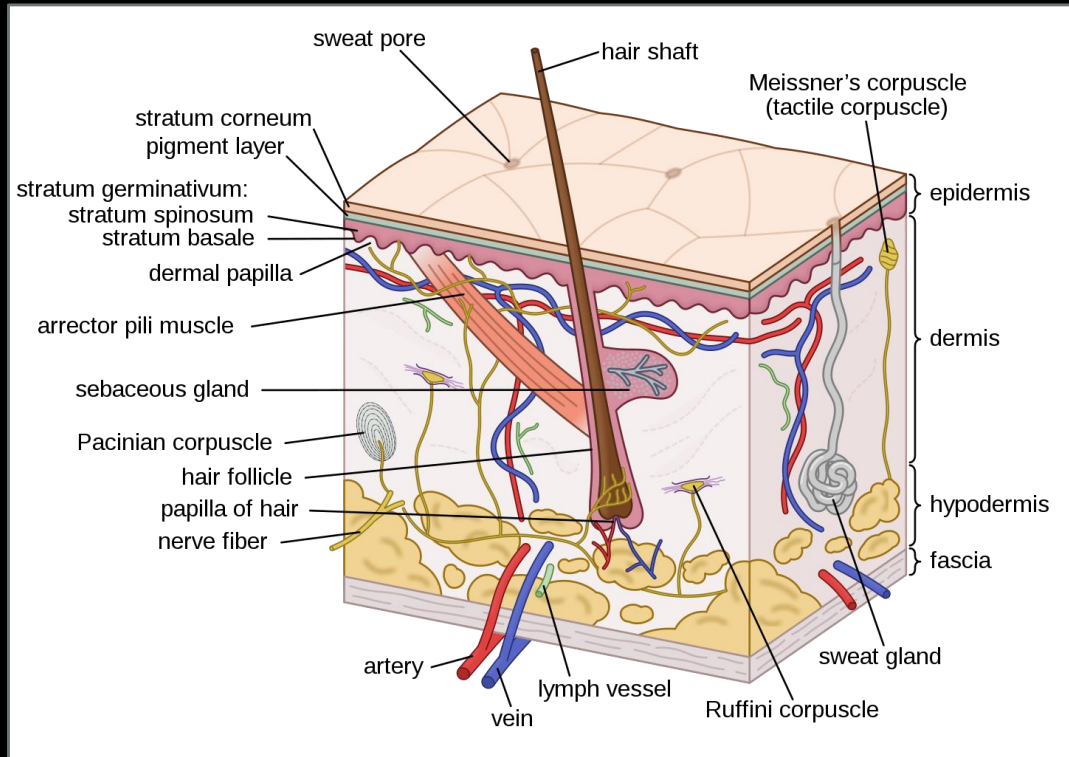
Figure 2 | **Conceptual framework for gene loss.** The loss

Mammalian diversity



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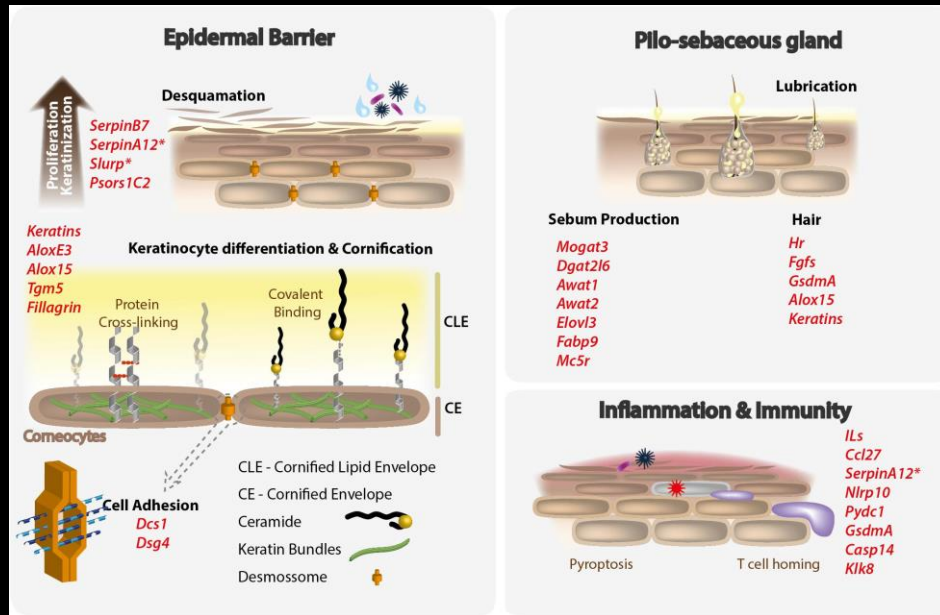
Cetacean skin



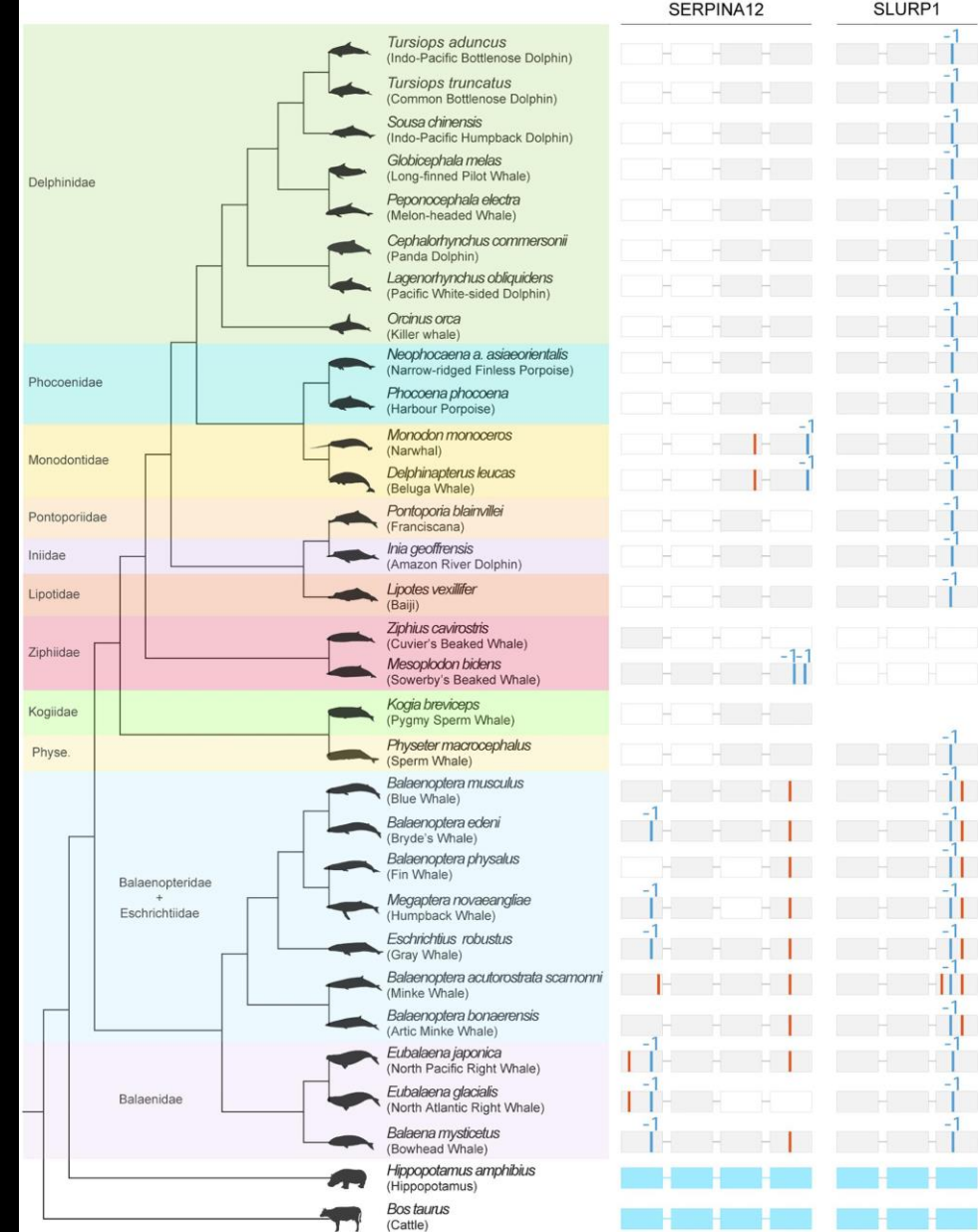
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Mouton, M., & Botha, A. (2012). Cutaneous Lesions in Cetaceans: An Indicator of Ecosystem Status?. In A. Romero, & E. O. Keith (Eds.), *New Approaches to the Study of Marine Mammals*. IntechOpen. <https://doi.org/10.5772/54432>

Gene loss in cetacean skin



Mammalian skin functions remodeled by processes of gene loss in cetaceans.



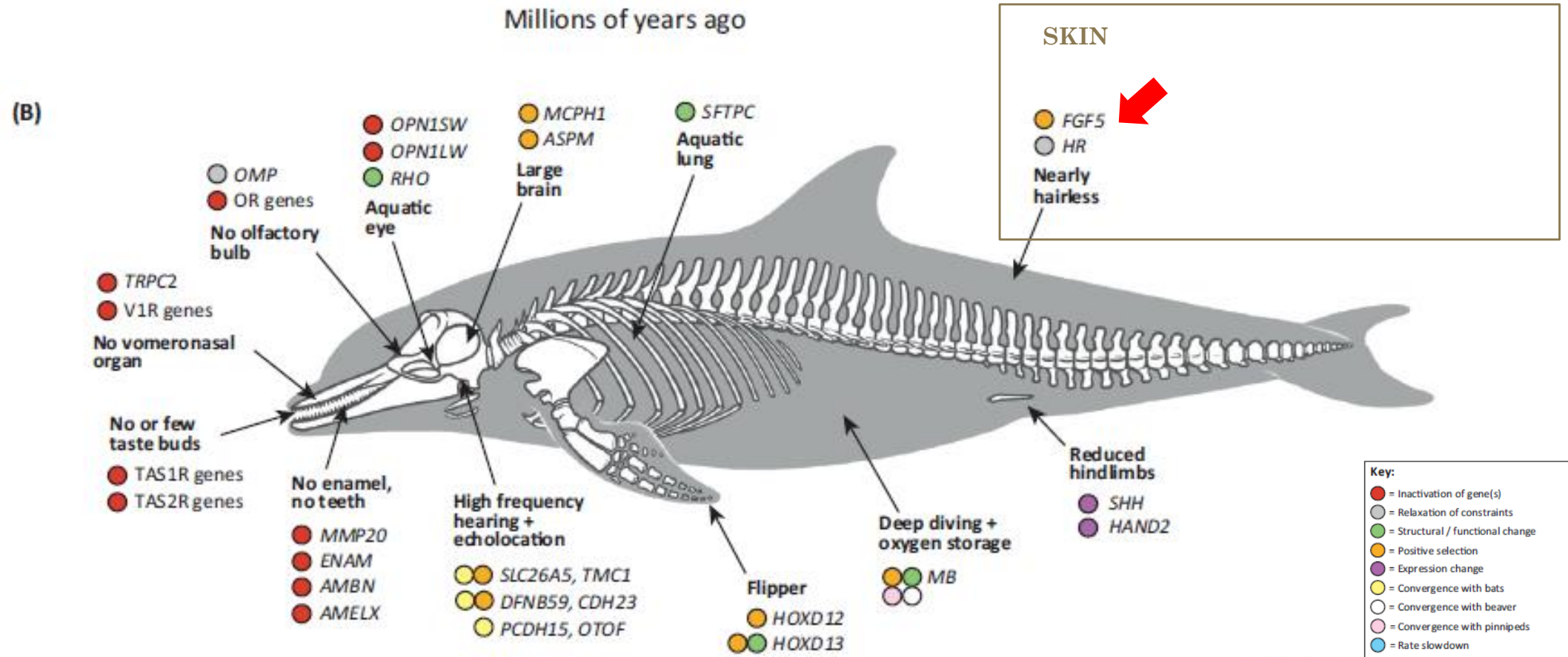
In-frame premature stop codons
Single-nucleotide deletions
Lost exons

Not only skin

Molecular evolution tracks macroevolutionary transitions in Cetacea

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TRENDS in Ecology & Evolution

What does this mean?

- Dramatic change in environment lead to relaxation of selection pressure
- Environment-led, gene followed, morphology as consequence (highly recursive)
- Redundancy becomes more limited (needs time to rebuild)
- Consequences for conservation?
- Open question: Are more recent genes more easily lost?

Agradecimentos / Acknowledgements



This research was co-financed by COMPETE 2020, Portugal 2020 and the European Union through the ERDF, and by Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia (FCT).

MINI REVIEW article

Front. Mar. Sci., 28 October 2020 | <https://doi.org/10.3389/fmars.2020.592375>

Losing Genes: The Evolutionary Remodeling of Cetacea Skin

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