



CHAPTER 5.4

Cladistics

CLADISTICS

Ancient greek: κλάδος (kládos) 'branch'

Clade : A group of organisms, both extant and extinct that share an ancestor.

Cladistics : A system of classifying organisms according to shared characteristics, based on ancestry.

Cladogram : A diagram that shows the evolutionary relationship of a group of organisms.

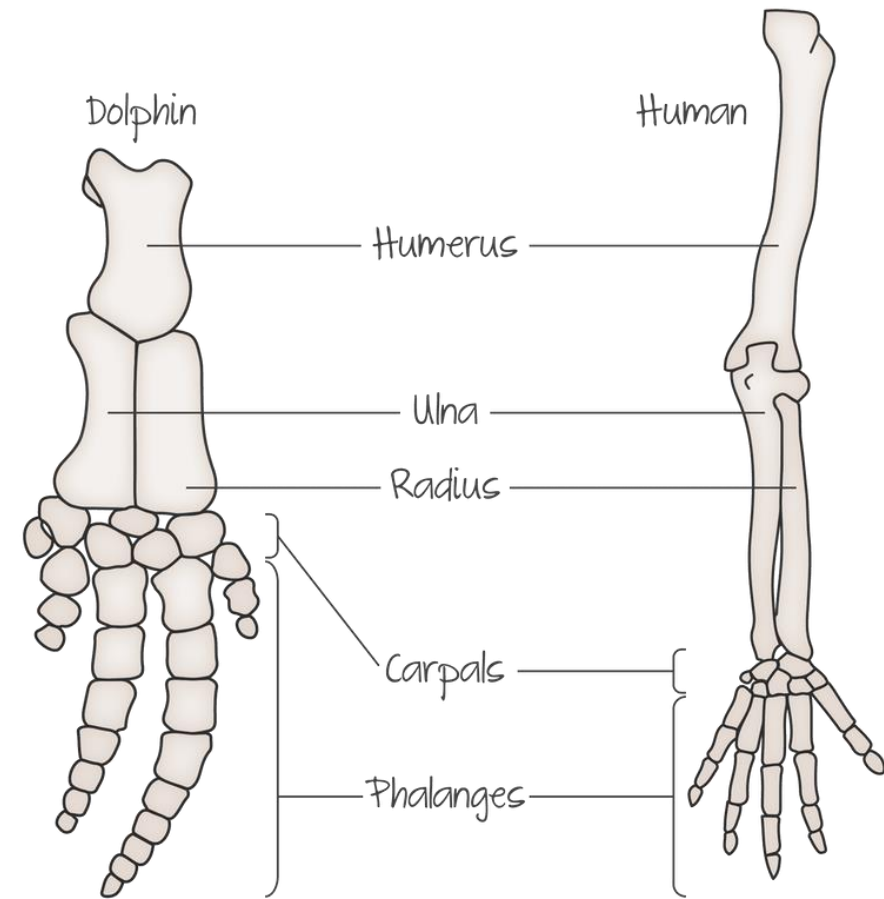
REVISION HOMOLOGOUS STRUCTURES

Homologous structures:

similar in position, structure, and evolutionary origin, but not necessarily function

Divergent evolution:

two separate species → a similar structure, but use it in different ways because of environment.





REVISION: ANALOGOUS VS HOMOLOGOUS

REVISION: ANALOGOUS VS HOMOLOGOUS

Homologous
structure

Human



Horse



Mole



Bat



Analogous
structure

Insect



Bat



REVISION: ANALOGOUS STRUCTURES

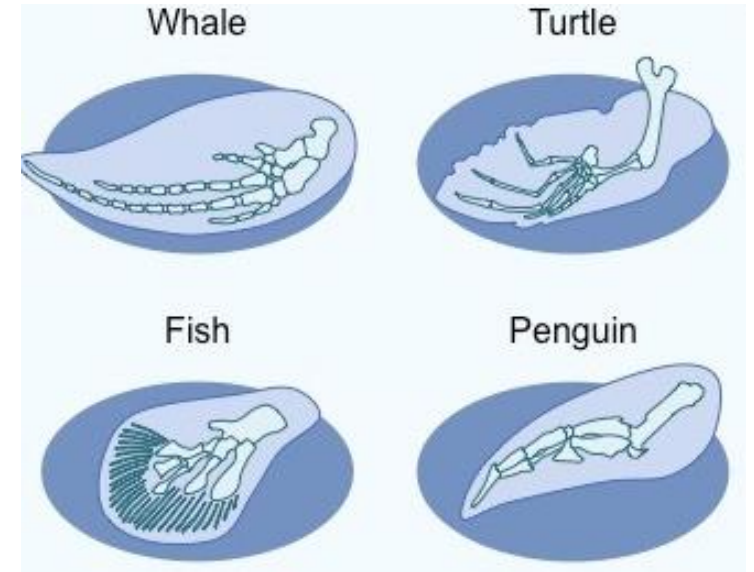
Analogous:

similar function but different evolutionary origin

e.g. bird and insect wings

Convergent evolution:

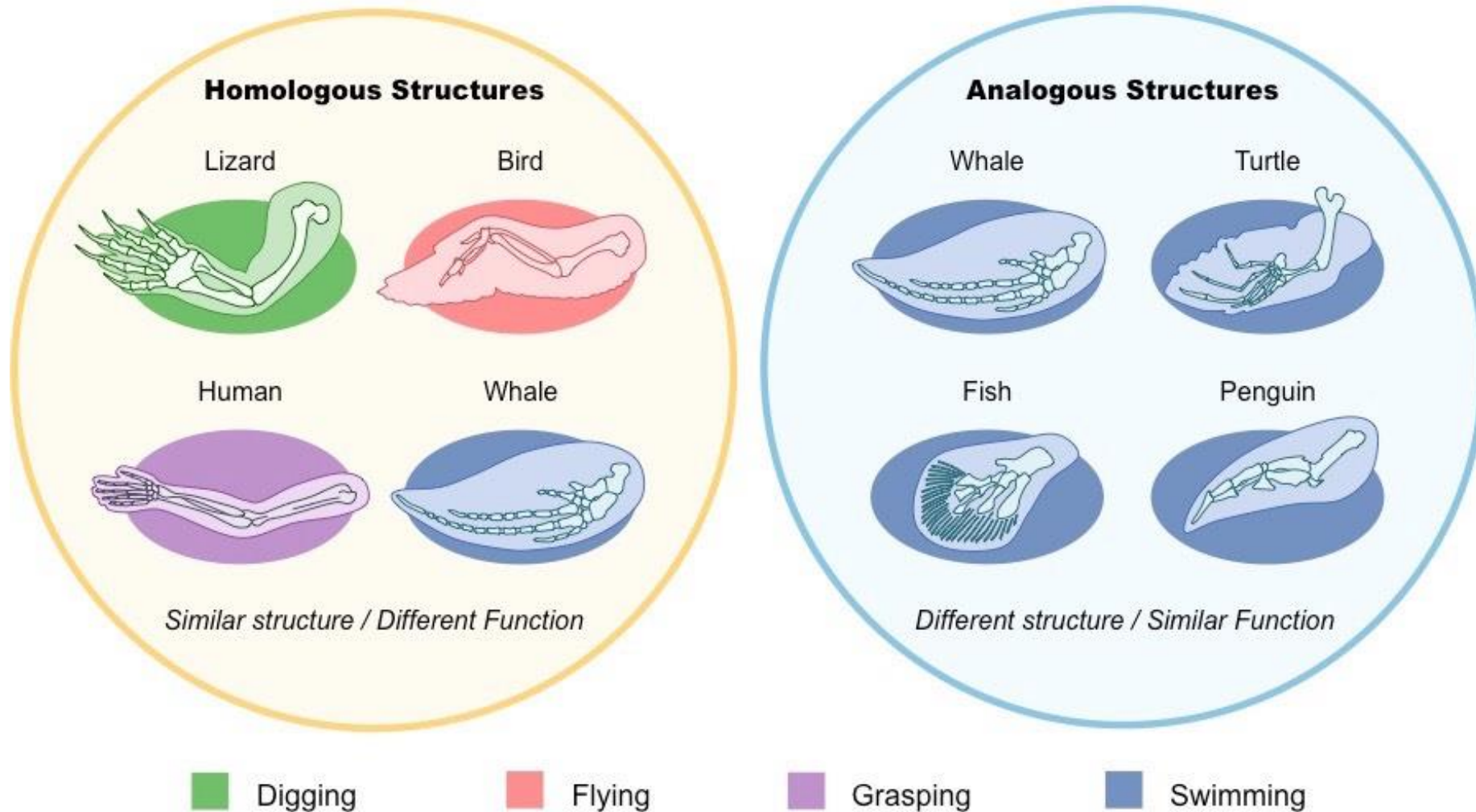
Different ancestor, but structures develop to resemble each other and have the same function.



REVISION: ANALOGOUS VS HOMOLOGOUS

Homologous Structures	Analogous Structures
Due to common ancestry	Due to common selection pressures
Arise via divergent evolution	Arise via convergent evolution
Example: Pentadactyl limb in vertebrates	Example: Wings in insects, birds and bats

REVISION: HOMOLOGOUS VS ANALOGOUS



CLADES

Clade = group of organisms → evolved from a common ancestor

each clade consists of a common ancestor (node) and all of its descendants

clade members possess common traits due to a shared evolutionary lineage



Figure 1. Basking shark.



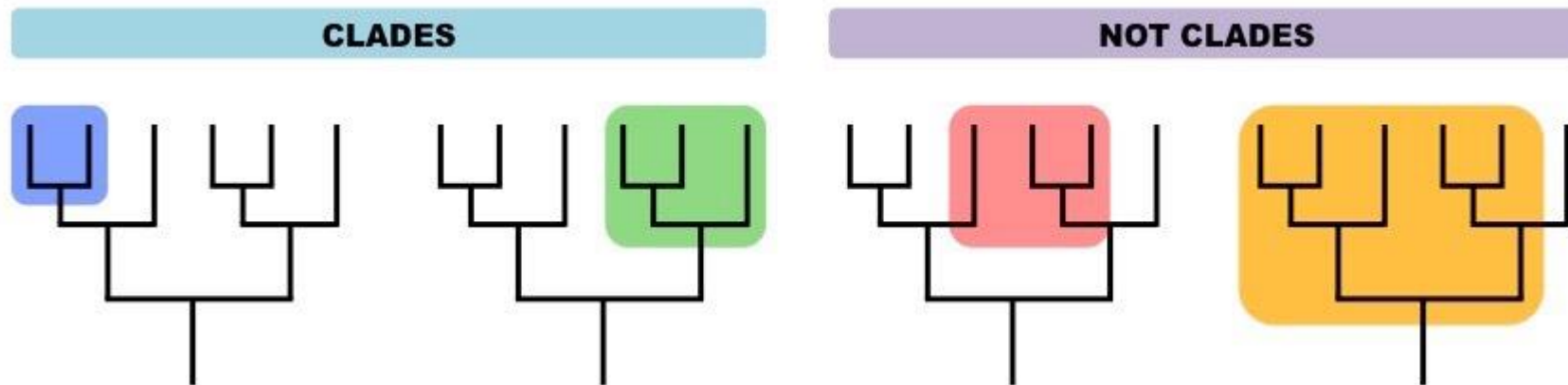
Figure 2. Common southern stingray.

CLADES

Node = speciation event via divergent evolution

Cladograms show probable sequence

Fewer nodes between two groups → more closely related

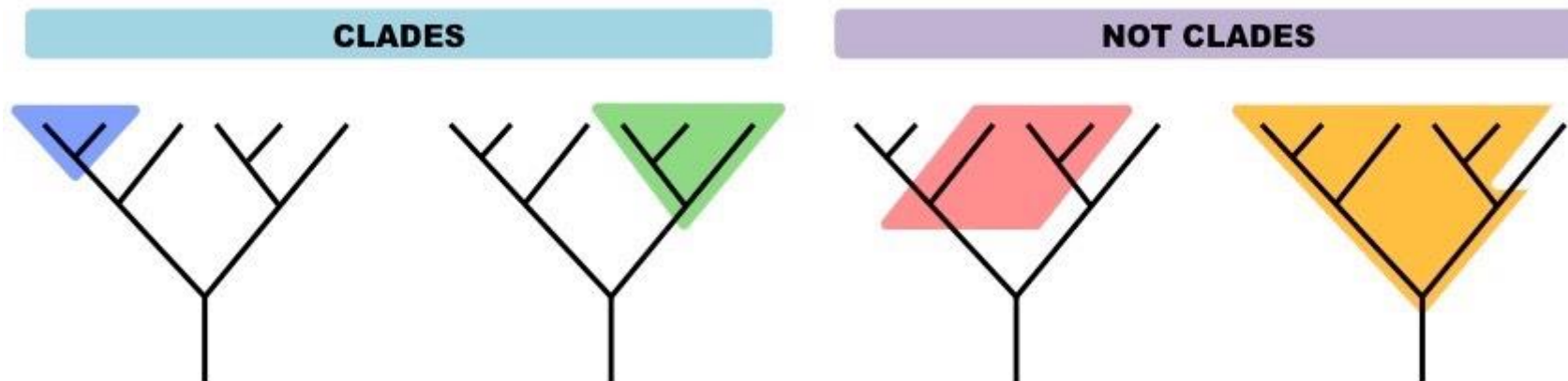


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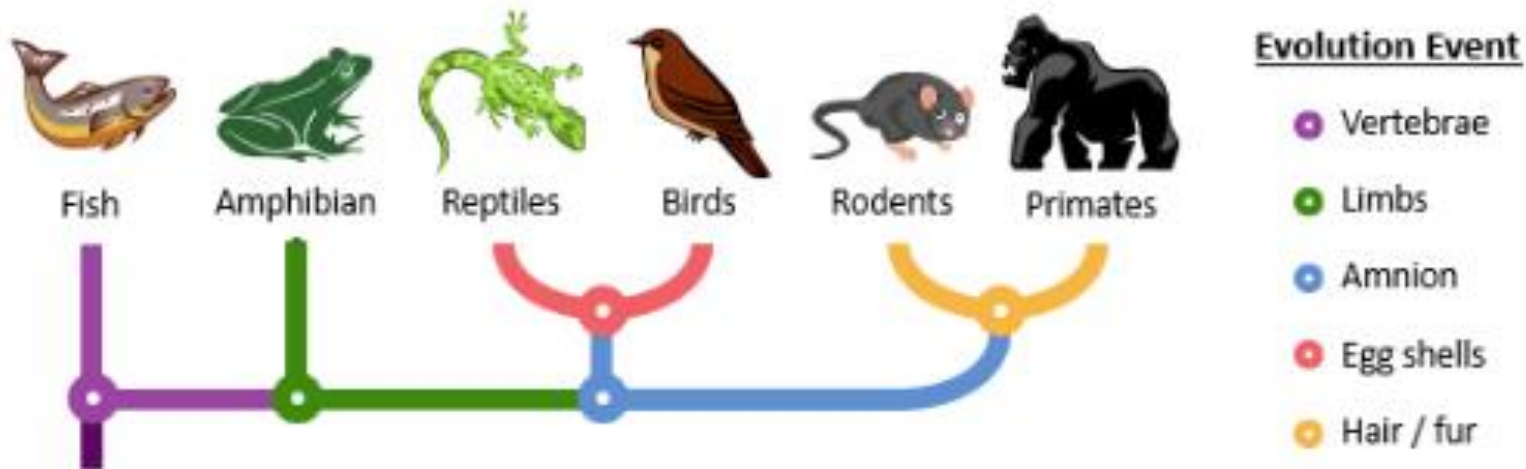


CLADES

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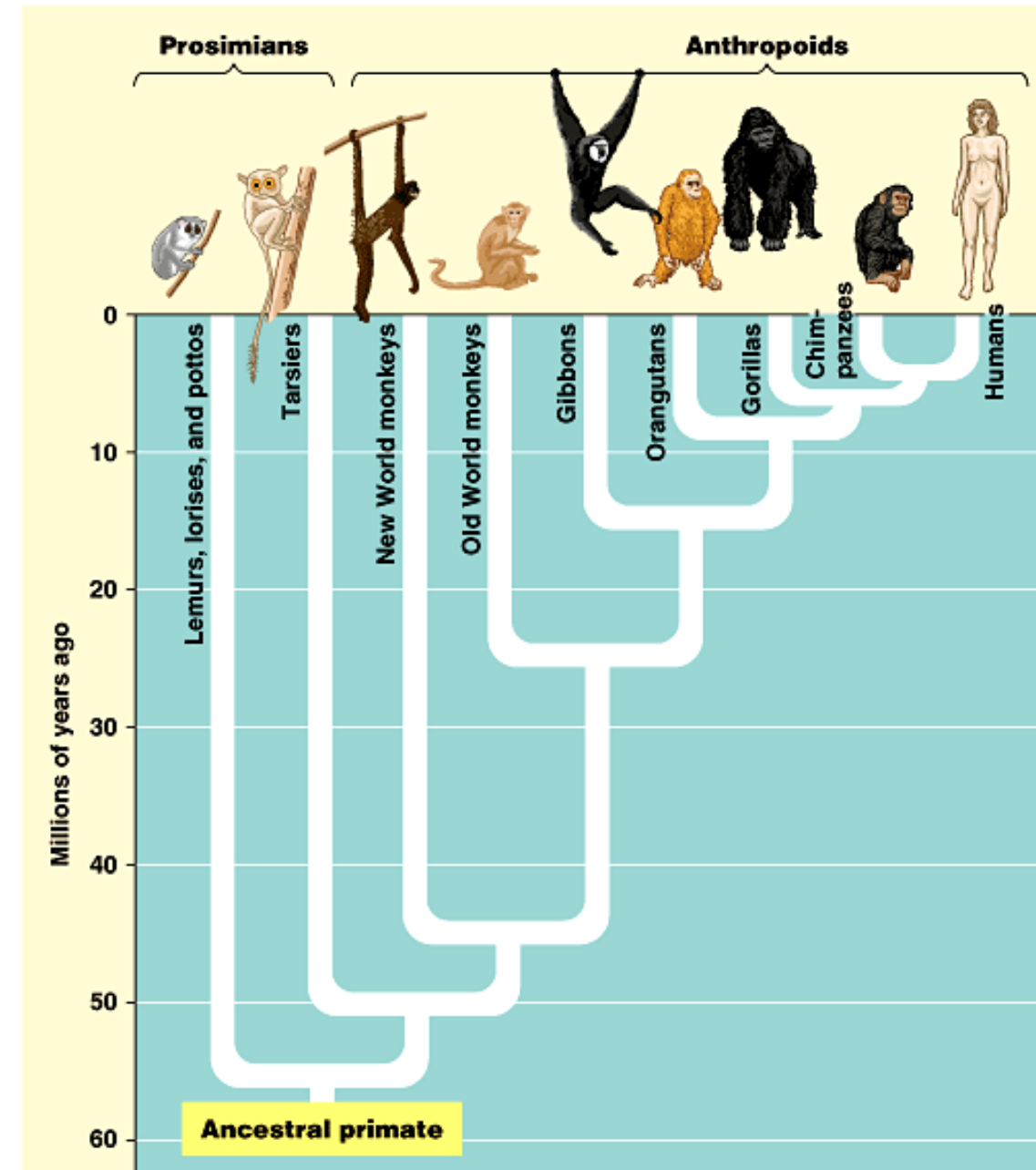
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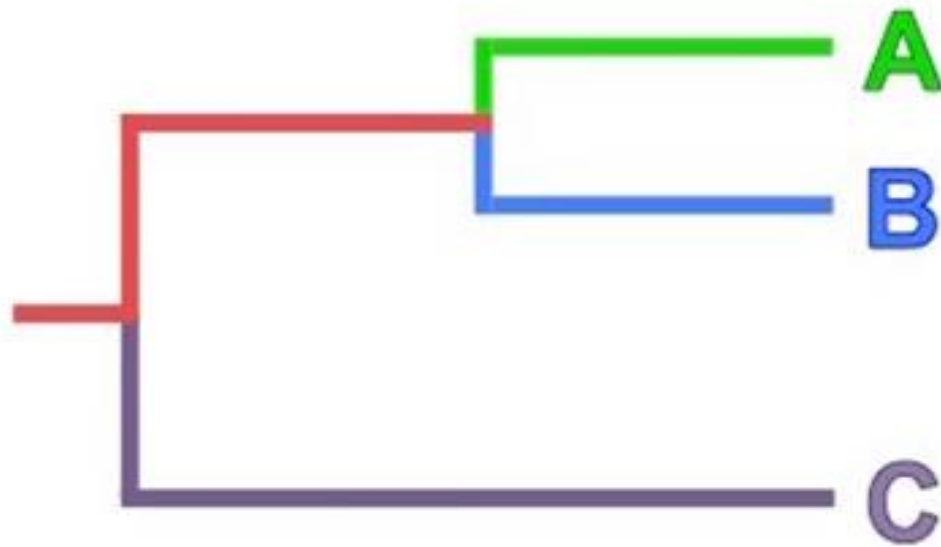
EXAMPLE:

Humans, chimps, gorillas, orangutans and gibbons =
Hominoids

Hominoids + Old World and New World monkeys =
Anthropoids



CLADOGRAMS



Key:



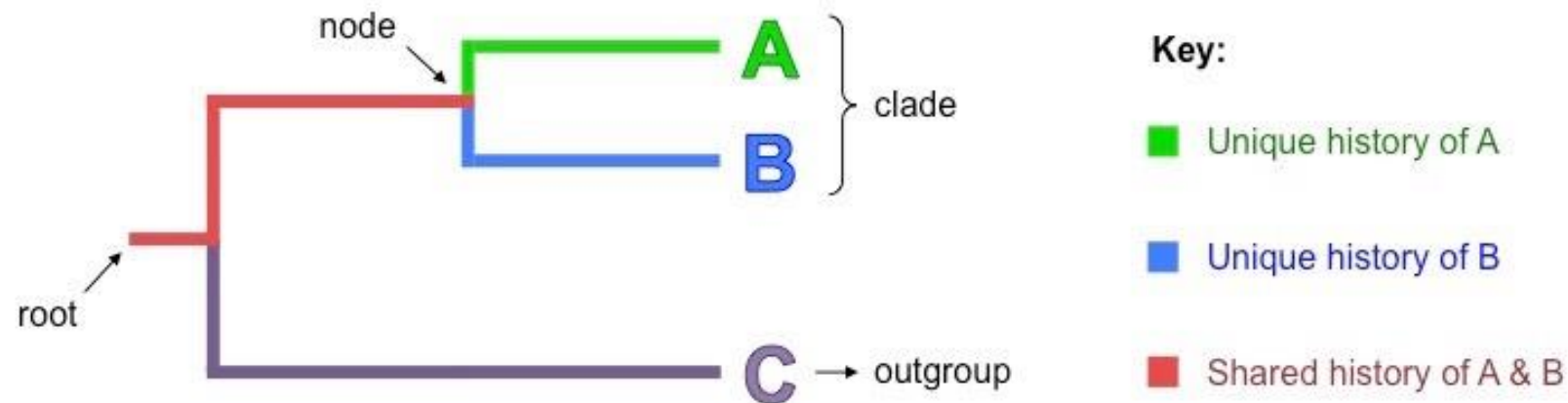
CLADOGRAMS

Root – initial ancestor common to all organisms within the cladogram

Nodes – each node = hypothetical common ancestor

Outgroup – most distantly related species in cladogram (often reference group)

Clades – A common ancestor and all of its descendants



CONSTRUCTING CLADOGRAMS

Comparison of features or molecular evidence

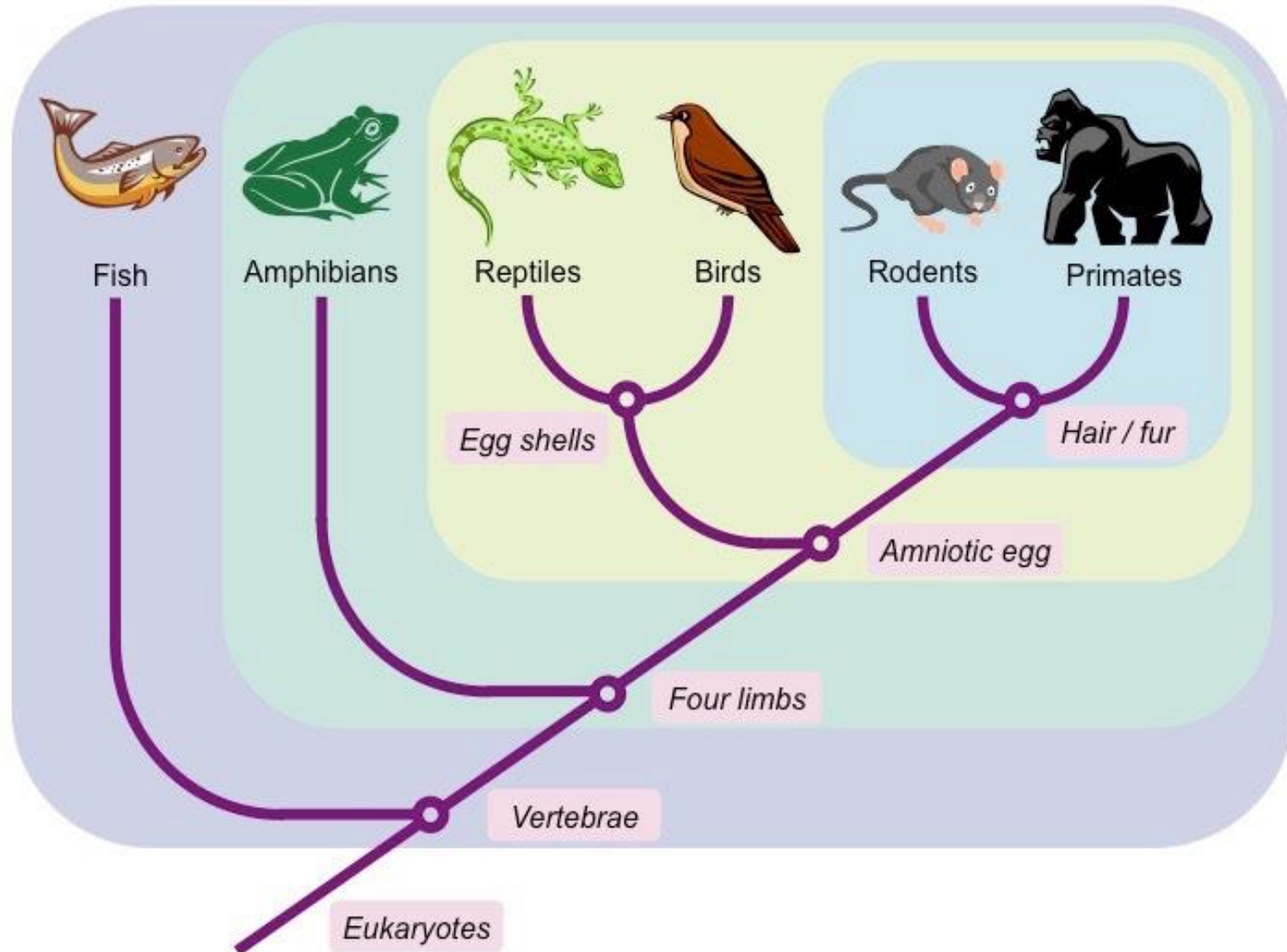
Historically → structural features

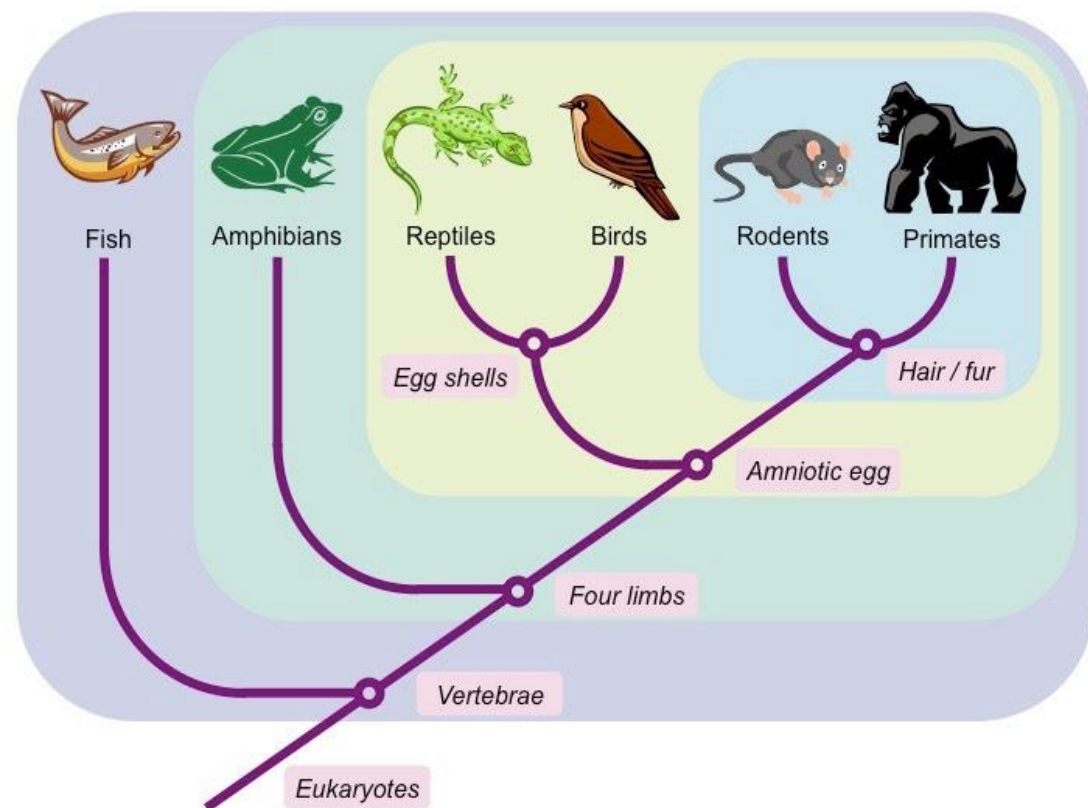
Nowadays → molecular evidence more common

EXAMPLE:

	Vertebrae	Four limbs	Amniotic egg	Egg shells	Hair/fur
Frog	✓	✓	-	-	-
Rodent	✓	✓	✓	-	✓
Lizard	✓	✓	✓	✓	-
Gorilla	✓	✓	✓	-	✓
Fish	✓	-	-	-	-
Bird	✓	✓	✓	✓	-

EXAMPLE:



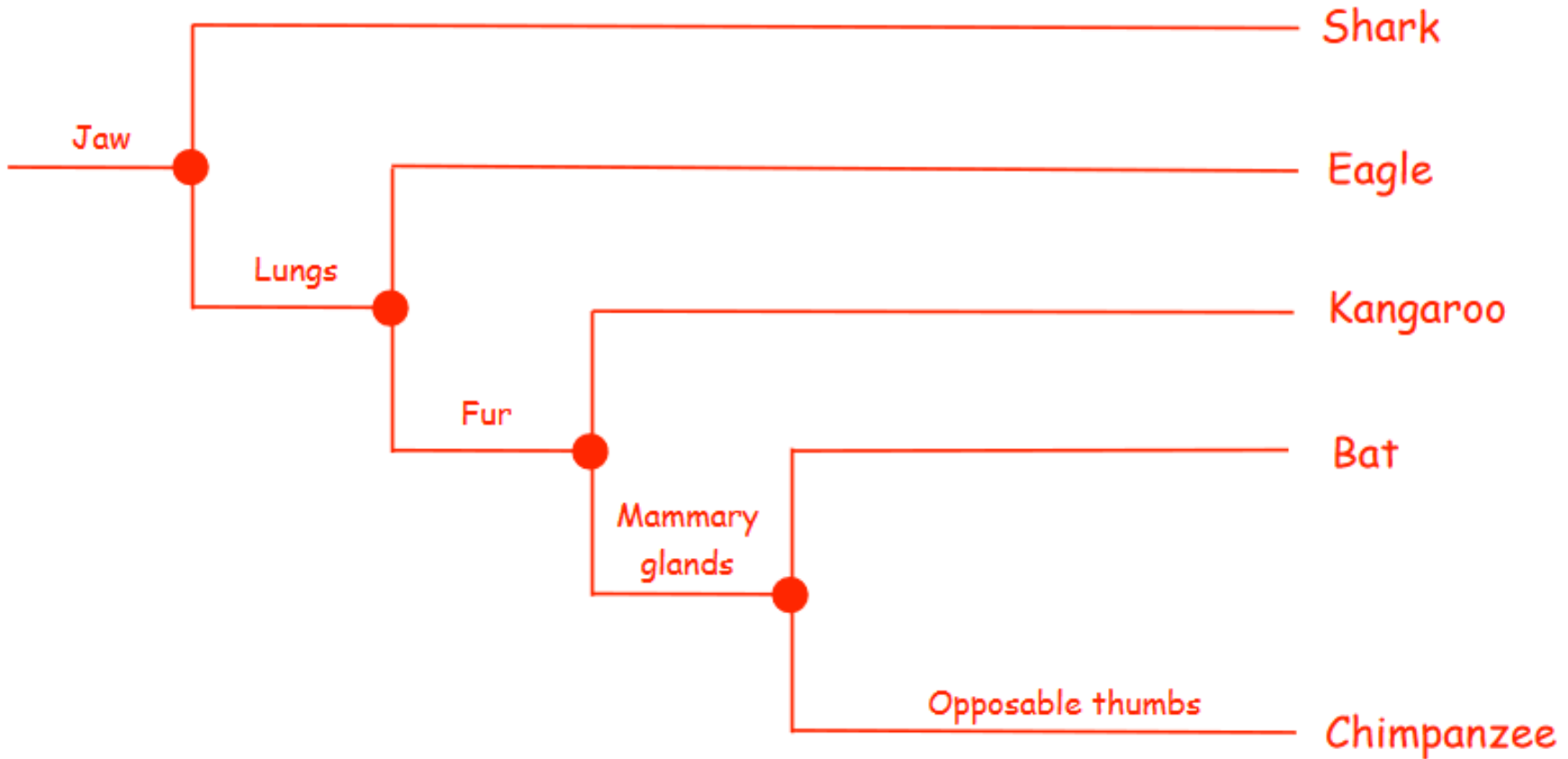


	Vertebrae	Four limbs	Amniotic egg	Egg shells	Hair/fur
Frog	✓	✓	-	-	-
Rodent	✓	✓	✓	-	✓
Lizard	✓	✓	✓	✓	-
Gorilla	✓	✓	✓	-	✓
Fish	✓	-	-	-	-
Bird	✓	✓	✓	✓	-

TASK:

Create a simple cladogram from the following information:

Taxa	Characteristics
Bat	Fur, jaws, lungs, mammary glands
Eagle	Jaws, lungs
Kangaroo	Fur, jaws, lungs
Shark	Jaws
Chimpanzee	Fur, jaws, lungs, mammary glands, opposable thumbs



MOLECULAR EVIDENCE

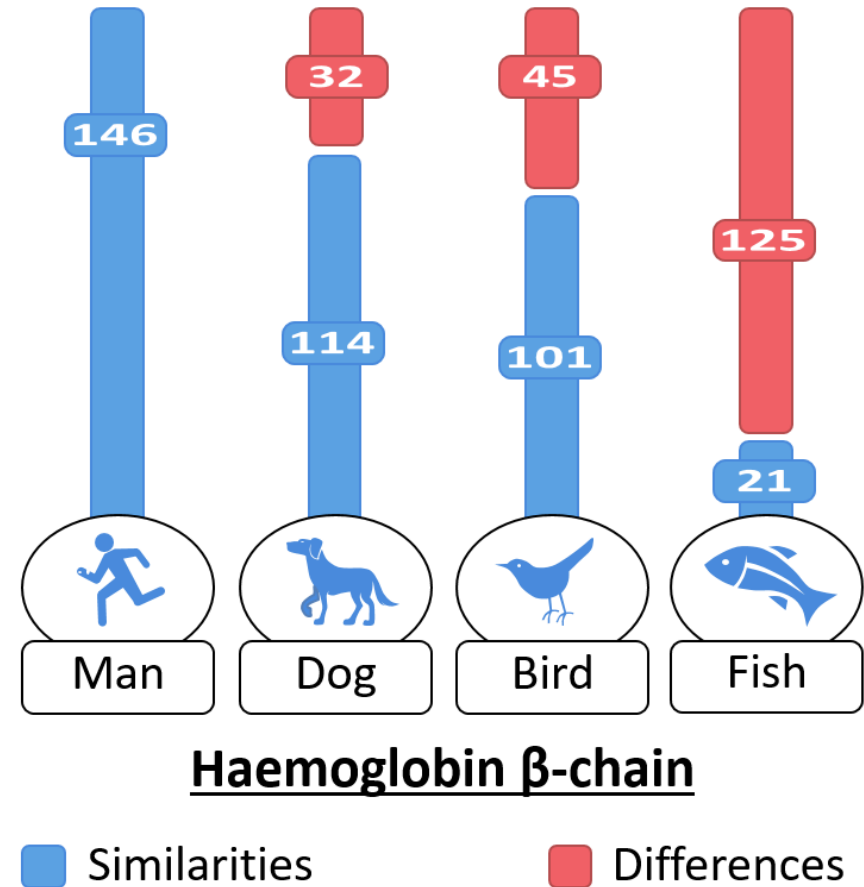
Mouse	F	S	T	A	A	F	R	F	G	H	A	T	V	L	P	L	V	R	R	L	N	T
Rat	F	S	T	A	A	F	R	F	G	H	A	T	V	H	P	L	V	R	R	L	N	T
Human	F	S	T	A	A	F	R	F	G	H	A	T	I	H	P	L	V	R	R	L	D	A
Pig	F	S	T	A	A	F	R	F	G	H	A	T	I	H	P	L	V	R	R	L	D	A
Dog	F	S	T	A	A	F	R	F	G	H	A	T	V	H	P	L	V	R	R	L	D	A
Chicken	F	A	T	A	A	F	R	F	G	H	A	T	I	Q	P	I	V	R	R	L	N	A
Frog	F	T	T	A	A	F	R	F	G	H	A	T	I	P	P	M	V	H	R	L	D	S

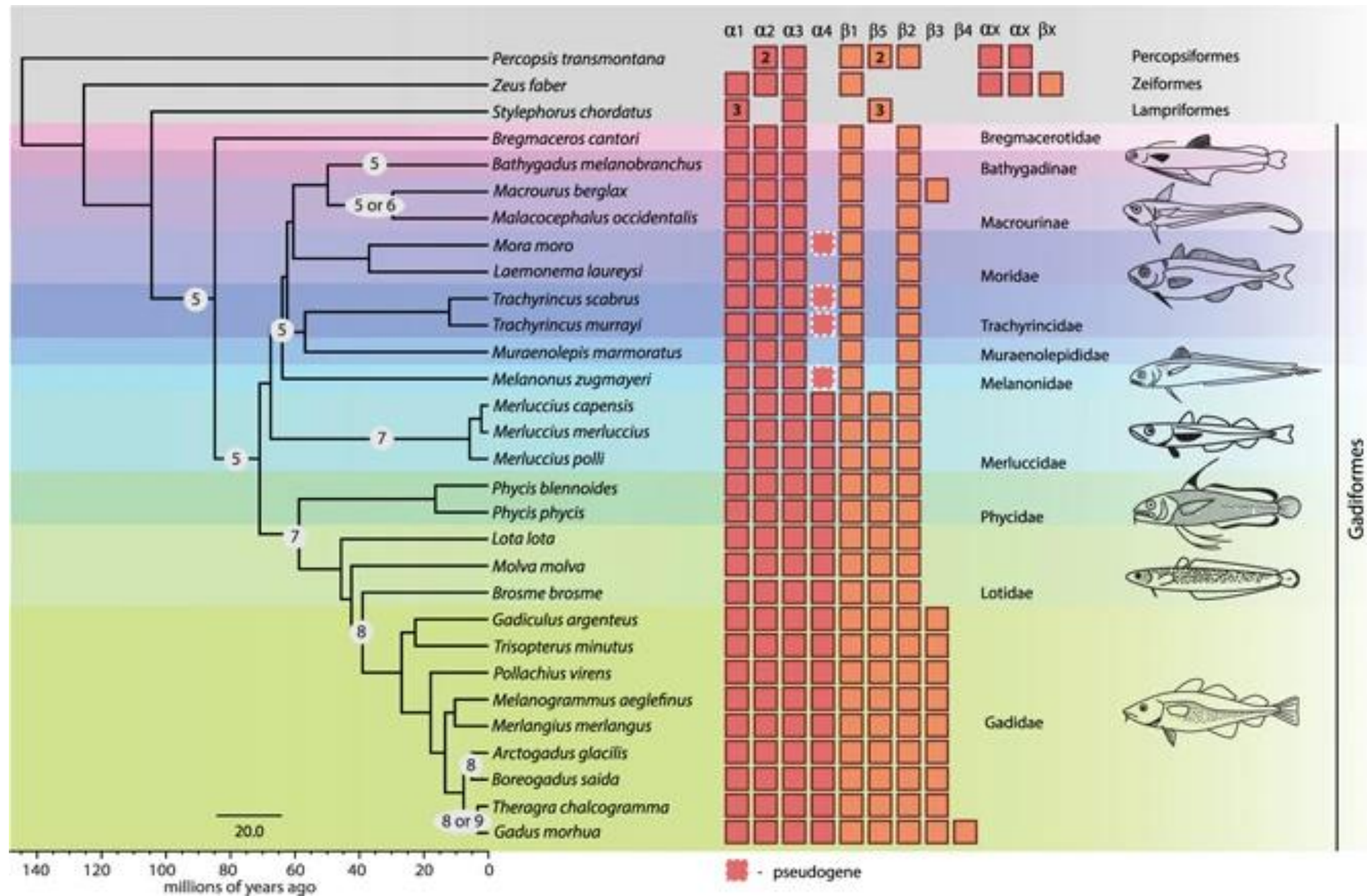
Consensus F S T A A F R F G H A T I H P L V R R L D A



MOLECULAR EVIDENCE

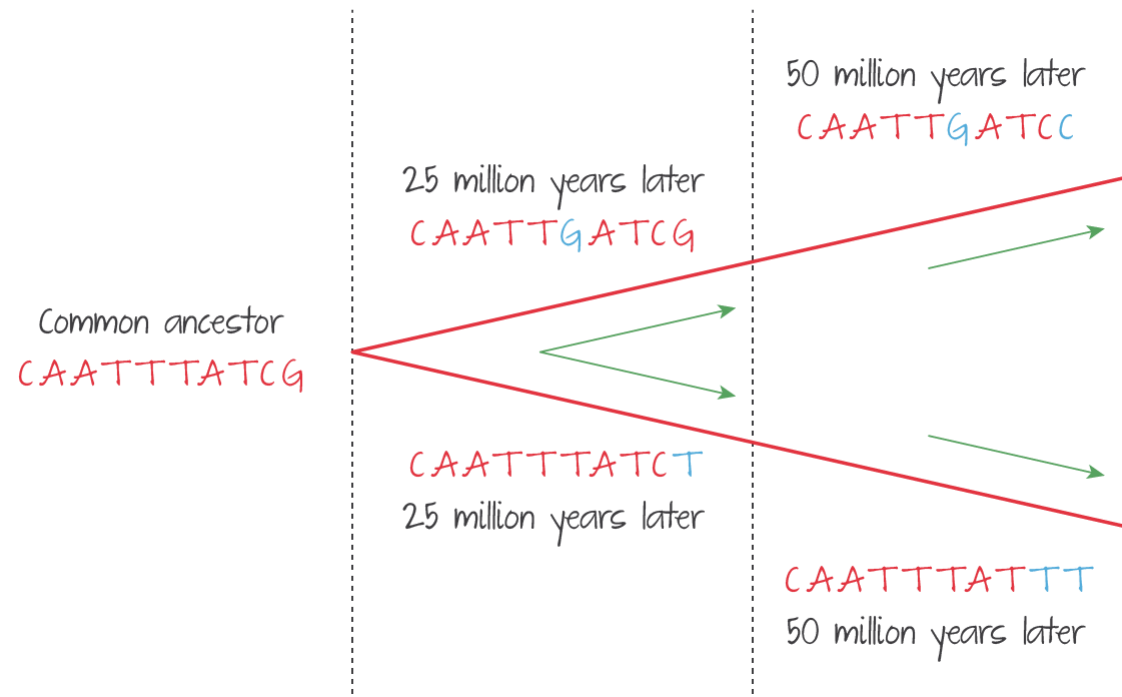
Evidence for which species are part of a clade can be obtained from the base sequences of a gene or the corresponding amino acid sequence of a protein.

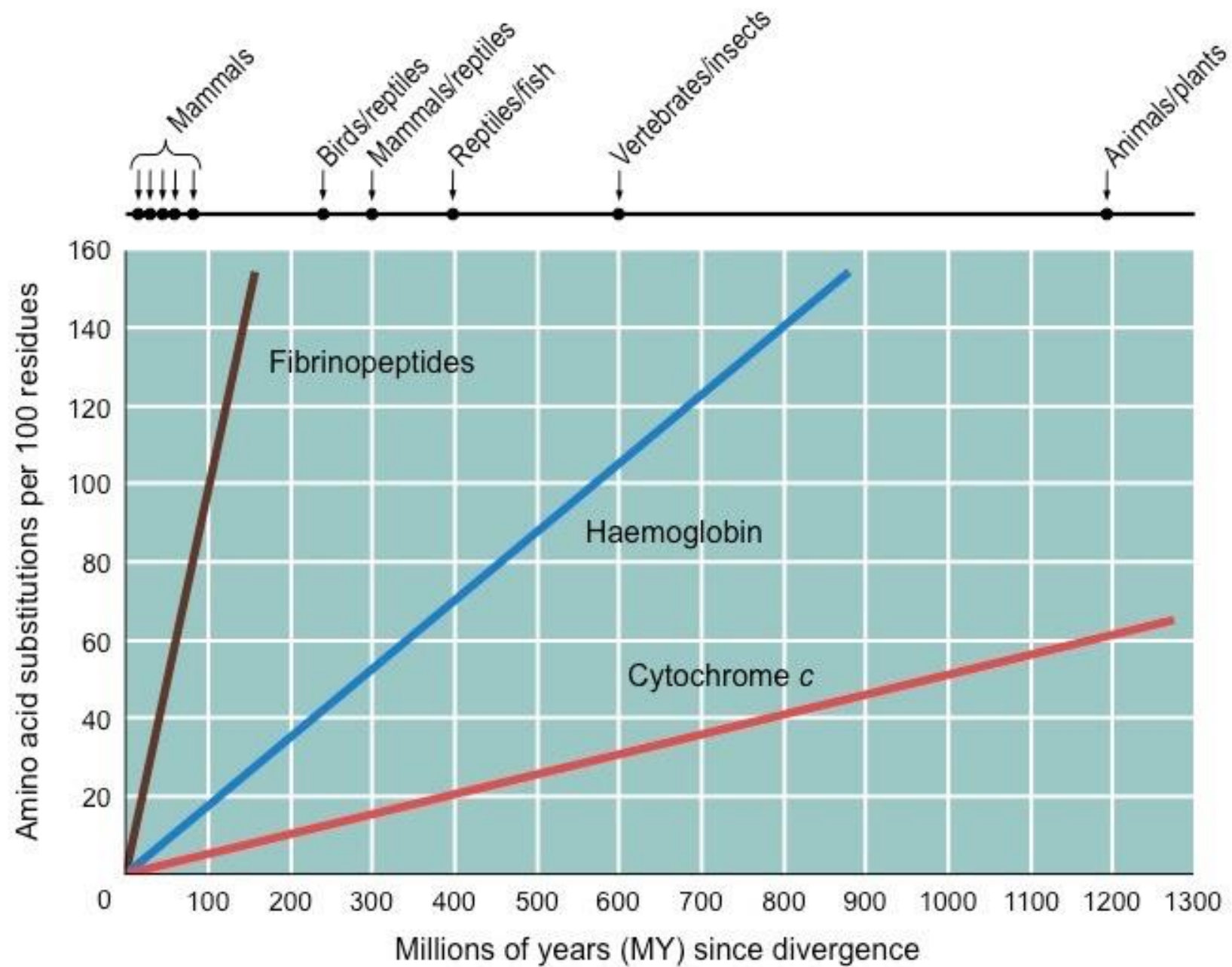




MOLECULAR CLOCKS

The **molecular clock** is a figurative term for a technique that uses the mutation rate of biomolecules to deduce the time in prehistory when two or more life forms diverged.

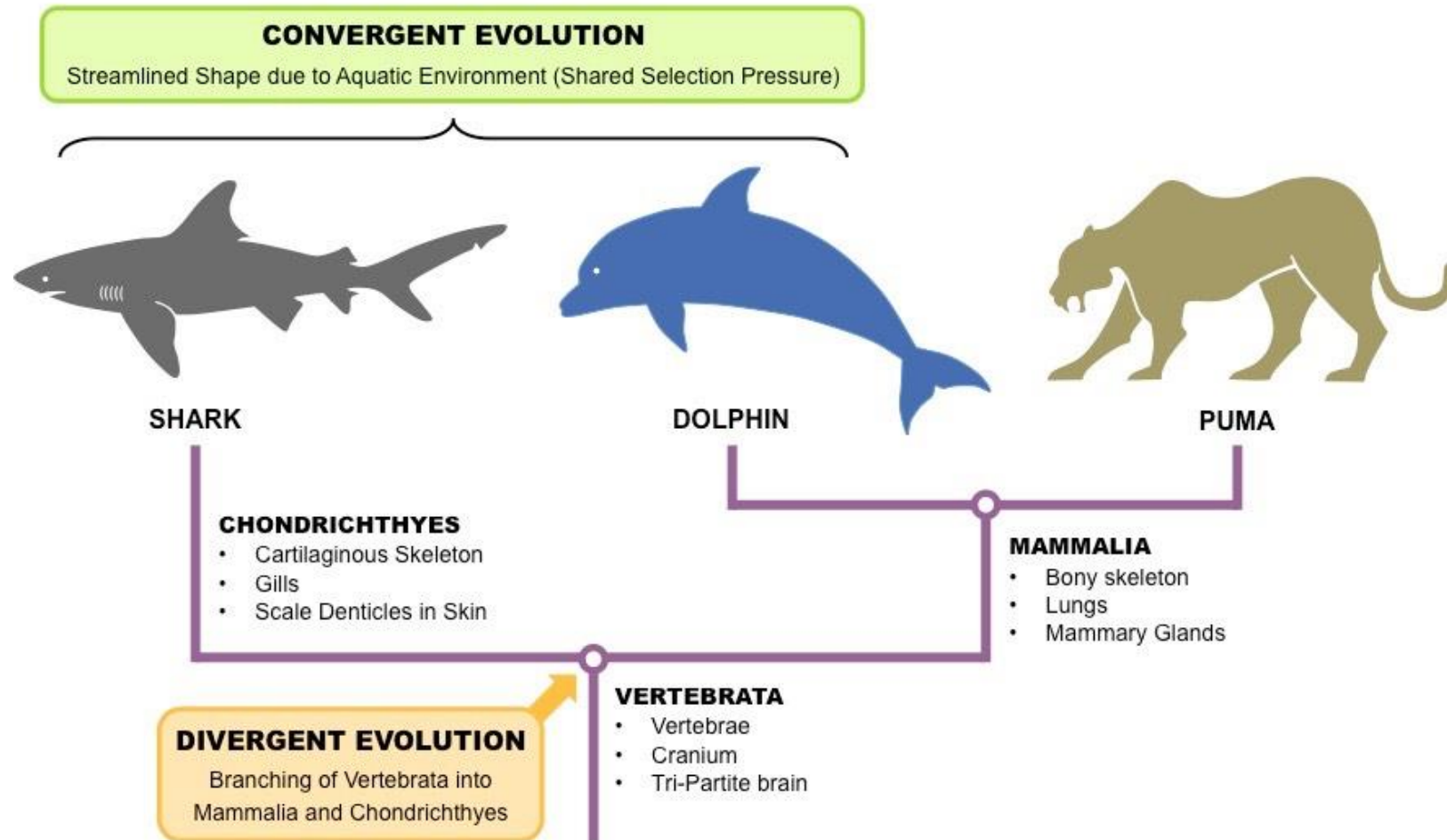




EXAMPLE:

- a gene which mutates at a rate of 1 bp per 100,000 years has 6 bp different, divergence occurred 600,000 years ago

CLADISTICS: CONVERGENT & DIVERGENT EVOLUTION



MOLECULAR EVIDENCE → RECLASSIFICATION

Crocodiles have been shown to be more closely related to birds than lizards, despite closely resembling lizards in structure



RECLASSIFICATION OF THE FIGWORT FAMILY

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