

1 *Ascaris* phylogeny based on multiple whole mtDNA  
2 genomes

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6 Peter Nejsum<sup>a,b,\*,1</sup>, Mohamed B. F. Hawash<sup>c,1</sup>, Martha Betson<sup>d</sup>, J. Russell Stothard<sup>e</sup>, Robin B.  
7 Gasser<sup>f</sup>, Lee O. Andersen<sup>g</sup>

8  
9 <sup>a</sup> *Department of Clinical Medicine, Health, Aarhus University, Denmark*

10 <sup>b</sup> *Department of Veterinary Disease Biology, Faculty of Health Sciences, University of  
11 Copenhagen, Denmark*

12 <sup>c</sup> *Department of Genetics, Centre Hospitalier Universitaire Sainte-Justine Research Center,  
13 Montréal, Canada*

14 <sup>c</sup> *School of Veterinary Medicine, Faculty of Health and Medical Sciences, University of Surrey,  
15 Guildford, United Kingdom*

16 <sup>e</sup> *Department of Parasitology, Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, Liverpool, United Kingdom*

17 <sup>f</sup> *Department of Veterinary and Agricultural Sciences, University of Melbourne, Parkville, Victoria,  
18 Australia*

19 <sup>g</sup> *Department of Microbiology and Infection Control, Statens Serum Institut, Copenhagen, Denmark*

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26 *\*Corresponding author. Peter Nejsum, Department of Clinical Medicine, Health, , Aarhus  
27 University, Palle Juul-Jensens Boulevard 99, 8200 Aarhus N, Denmark. Phone: +45 5054 1392. E-  
28 mail: [pn@clin.au.dk](mailto:pn@clin.au.dk)*

29  
30 <sup>1</sup> Joint first authors

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32 ABSTRACT

33

34 *Ascaris lumbricoides* and *A. suum* are two parasitic nematodes infecting humans and pigs,  
35 respectively. There has been considerable debate as to whether *Ascaris* in the two hosts should be  
36 considered a single or two separate species. Previous studies identified at least three major clusters  
37 (A, B and C) of human and pig *Ascaris* based on partial *cox1* sequences. In the present study, we  
38 selected major haplotypes from these different clusters to characterize their whole mitochondrial  
39 genomes for phylogenetic analysis. We also undertook coalescent simulations to investigate the  
40 evolutionary history of the different *Ascaris* haplotypes. The topology of the phylogenetic tree  
41 based on complete mitochondrial genomic sequences was found to be similar to partial *cox1*  
42 sequencing, but the support at internal nodes was higher in the former. Coalescent simulations  
43 suggested the presence of at least two divergence events: the first one occurring early in the  
44 Neolithic period which resulted in a differentiated population of *Ascaris* in pigs (cluster C), the  
45 second occurring more recently (~900 generations ago), resulting in clusters A and B which might  
46 have been spread worldwide by human activities.

47

48 *Keywords: Ascaris, mitochondrial genomes, human, pig, phylogeny, soil transmitted helminth*

49 **1. Introduction**

50 *Ascaris lumbricoides* (Linnaeus, 1758) in humans and *A. suum* (Goeze, 1782) in pigs are prevalent  
51 parasitic nematodes. About a billion people are infected, and *A. suum* is found among pigs globally  
52 in both intensive and extensive production systems (Bethony et al., 2006; Hotez and Kamath, 2009;  
53 Roepstorff et al., 2011, Nissen et al., 2011, Pullan et al., 2014). There has been ongoing debate as to  
54 whether *Ascaris* from humans and pigs represents a single or separate species (e.g., Anderson 2001,  
55 Leles et al., 2012, S e et al., 2016). However, there is no doubt that *Ascaris* from the two host  
56 species are genetically very closely related and that both host species can be cross infected  
57 (reviewed by Nejsum et al., 2012). This may relate to a short evolutionary history of *Ascaris* in  
58 humans and pigs as a host switch is expected to have taken place during domestication of pigs  
59 ~10,000 years ago (Cox 2004; Leles et al., 2010; Araujo et al., 2008; Brinkkemper and Haaster,  
60 2012; Mitchell, 2013).

61 In order to assess the genetic relationship of *Ascaris* individuals from the two host species,  
62 sequencing of part of the mitochondrial (mt) *cox1* gene (383 bp) has been used in multiple studies  
63 (e.g. Peng et al, 2005; Cavallero et al., 2013; Betson et al., 2014). In these studies, three main  
64 haplotype clusters have been identified (A, B and C). Interestingly, worms from the two host  
65 species are found in both cluster A and B, whereas worms from pigs (or humans known to be cross-  
66 infected with pig worms) are represented in cluster C. Despite the fact that shared haplotypes  
67 between worms from the two host species have been observed, most worms from either humans or  
68 pigs are found together in either cluster A or B (Cavallero et al., 2013; Betson et al., 2014). It has  
69 also been noted that haplotypes belonging to clusters A and B are found worldwide in both host  
70 species, but in different proportions. Hence, most worms from humans and pigs in China have been  
71 found to represent cluster B (Peng et al., 2005), whereas most worms in these hosts from Uganda  
72 were found in cluster A (Betson et al., 2014), but with no clear geographical association. However,  
73 it is not known whether the relationships inferred based on *cox1* reflect that of other genes in the mt  
74 genome. In the present study, we conducted whole mitochondrial genomic haplotyping of six  
75 *Ascaris* representing five distinct *cox1* haplotypes recorded in Betson et al. (2014) for a comparative  
76 evolutionary analysis. In addition, coalescent simulation were performed on human and pig *Ascaris*  
77 population to gain insights into the deep evolutionary history of the parasite.

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79 **2. Methods**

80

81 *2.1. Genomic DNA isolation and cox1 haplotypes*

82

83 *Ascaris* DNA samples included in this study have previously been described (Betson et al.,  
84 2014). Part of the *cox1* gene (383 bp) was sequenced and three main haplotype clusters (A, B and  
85 C) were defined by phylogenetic analysis (Betson et al., 2014). For the present study, we selected  
86 DNA samples from *Ascaris* individuals representing the most common haplotypes H01, H03, H07,  
87 H28 and H64 for full mtDNA genome sequencing. Haplotypes H01 and H03 originated from two  
88 persons from Tanzania and were identified as *A. lumbricoides* by microsatellite analysis (Betson et  
89 al. 2014); the other samples were from pigs from Uganda (H01 and H07), Tanzania (H28) and the  
90 UK (H64) and were identified as *A. suum*. The Uganda pig worm H01 was later identified as a  
91 cross-infection (Betson et al., 2014) and therefore most likely represents *A. lumbricoides*.

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93 *2.2. Long-range PCR amplification of the mtDNA genomes and sequencing*

94

95 The primers given in Table 1 were designed using Primer 3 (Koressaar and Remm, 2007;  
96 Untergasser et al., 2012) and used to amplify the mt genomes in five overlapping fragments by long

97 range PCR. PCR cycling conditions were the same for all primer sets with an initial denaturation at  
98 92°C for 4 min, followed by 35 cycles of denaturation at 92 °C (20 sec), annealing at 55 °C for 30  
99 sec, extension at 62 °C for 5 min and a final extension at 62 °C for 10 min. The long-range PCR  
100 was conducted in a 20 µl-volume using a standard buffer, 0.2 mM of each dNTP, 0.4 mM of each  
101 primer pair, 2.0 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>, and 2.5 U of the Long PCR Enzyme Mix (Thermo Scientific). PCR  
102 products were detected by gel electrophoresis (0.8% agarose) using GelRed™ (Biotium) as the stain  
103 over ultraviolet light. Aliquots of amplicons (5 µl) were each treated with 1 µl Exonuclease I  
104 (Fermentas) and 2 µL FastAP thermosensitive alkaline phosphatase (1 U/µl) (Fermentas) at 37 °C  
105 for 15 min, and the enzymes inactivated at 85 °C for 15 min. DNA concentrations were measured  
106 spectro-photometrically (NanoDrop 1000, Thermo Fischer Scientific). Individual DNA libraries  
107 were constructed and sequenced using Illumina HiSeq 2000 by Macrogen Inc., South Korea.  
108

### 109 2.3. Assembly and annotation

110

111 Sequence reads (~100 bp) of each genome were assembled using the CLC Genomics Workbench  
112 v6.5.1 (CLC Inc, Aarhus, Denmark). Raw data can be provided upon request. Open reading frames  
113 were identified using the CLC Genomics Workbench and the BLASTx search tool embedded in the  
114 program used to identify the genes. tRNAScan-SE (Schattner et al., 2005) was used to identify  
115 tRNAs whereas rRNAs were identified using the BLAST search tools available through NCBI  
116 (<http://blast.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/Blast.cgi>).

117 The following reference sequences were obtained from the GenBank database for comparative  
118 analyses: *A. suum* from USA (NC\_001327); *A. suum* from China (HQ704901); *A. lumbricoides*  
119 from China (HQ704900); *A. lumbricoides* from unknown location (JN801161); *Ascaris* from  
120 Gibbon (KC839987) and a chimpanzee (KC839986) from China.  
121

### 122 2.4. Phylogenetic analysis and genetic variation

123

124 The 12 protein coding genes and the two ribosomal RNA (rDNA) genes were extracted and  
125 aligned using MUSCLE (Edgar, 2004). *Baylisascaris procyonis* from China (NC\_016200) was used  
126 as outgroup in phylogenetic analyses. A second dataset containing only the 383 bp of the *cox1* gene  
127 used in previous studies was also employed for comparative phylogenetic analysis. Maximum  
128 Likelihood (ML) and Maximum parsimony (MP) trees were built using MEGA v6.1 (Tamura et al.,  
129 2007) employing 1000 bootstraps to test the stability of the topology. For ML the best-to-fit  
130 substitution models were identified using jModelTest2 (Darriba et al., 2012) under Akaike  
131 information criterion (AIC) (Akaike, 1974) for each dataset. The Tamura 3-parameter model with  
132 gamma distribution and invariant sites was applied to all mt protein-encoding gene sequences, and  
133 the Hasegawa-Kishino-Yano model with invariant sites to the partial mt *cox1* sequences. For MP, a  
134 heuristic search using tree bisection-reconnection (TBR) branch swapping was used, with an  
135 addition of 10 initial random trees. Bayesian inference (BI) was conducted using BEAST v. 1.6.1.  
136 (Drummond and Rambaut, 2007). Log-normal was used as a prior and General Time Reversible  
137 (GTR) model with gamma distribution was used as the substitution model. A random starting tree  
138 with Yule prior was assumed. Three independent runs with 10 million steps each, with a burn-in of  
139 10,000 steps, were carried out. Tracer v.1.6 (Drummond and Rambaut, 2007) was used to analyze  
140 log files of the MCMC chains, and the reliability of parameters was verified by recording effective  
141 sample sizes values of > 200. Tree Annotator v.1.6.1 (Drummond and Rambaut, 2007) was used to  
142 summarize the tree data, with a posterior probability (pp) limit of 0.5. MEGA was used to estimate  
143 the p-distances between the difference clades identified in the phylogenetic analyses.

144 The genetic variation between the different genomes was characterized in terms of the number of  
145 point mutations in the protein-encoding genes. The program SNP sites (Page et al., 2016) was used  
146 to identify the different mutations in each genome using human *Ascaris* from China (HQ704900) as  
147 the reference mt genome. The number of mutations per mt genome and per mt gene, and the  
148 number of unique mutations (only found in one mt genome) was identified by multiple-wise  
149 alignment by MUSCLE (Edgar, 2004). The program DnaSP (Librado and Rozas, 2009) was used to  
150 identify synonymous and non-synonymous mutations and the ratio between them, in order to  
151 predict the pattern of selection on mt genes.

152

### 153 2.5 Demography and history of *Ascaris* spp.

154 To identify the most recent common ancestor (TMRCA) of the three major clusters we estimated  
155 the effective population size ( $N_e$ ) as this number is equal to TMRCA for uniparentally inherited  
156 DNA. The formula  $\Theta = 2N_e\mu$ , where  $\Theta$  (theta) is the genetic diversity of a population,  $\mu$  is the  
157 mutation rate per gene/genome and  $N_e$  is the effective population size and therefore in this case,  
158 TMRCA. Genetree (Bahlo and Griffiths, 2000) was used to estimate Theta ( $\Theta$ ) using the 12 mt  
159 protein-encoding genes as described (Hawash et al., 2016).

160 The mutation rate in the mt genome of free-living nematode *Caenorhabditis elegans* ( $1.6 \times 10^{-7}$   
161 per site per generation) (Denver et al., 2000) was used as an estimate for *Ascaris*, as no information  
162 is available for parasitic worms. The mutation rate in each mt genome was obtained by multiplying  
163 the mutation rate with the length of the 12 mt protein-encoding genes (10,288 bp), giving 0.00165  
164 mutations per generation.

165 Using an “isolation and migration” model implemented in IMA2 (Hey and Nielsen, 2004),  
166 TMRCA and time since divergence were estimated using the 12 protein coding genes. The priors  
167 used for the protein coding genes were  $t = 70$  (upper bound of splitting time) and  $q = 180$  (upper  
168 bound of population size); no migration after isolation was allowed in the out model ( $m=0$ ). The  
169 Hasegawa-Kishino-Yano substitution model was used for the protein coding genes, while the  
170 stepwise mutation model was used for microsatellite markers. 20 Markov chains with geometric  
171 heating scheme (first and second heating parameters being 0.96 and 0.90, respectively) and  
172  $10^6$  burn-in steps with  $10^5$  sampling genealogies were used. Three independent runs were conducted  
173 with different seed numbers to assess the convergence.

174

## 175 3. Results

176

177 The mt genomes were sequenced at 80-150-times coverage. The mt genomes of the two human  
178 *Ascaris* haplotypes H01 and H03 from Tanzania were 14,280 and 14,274 bp in length, respectively.  
179 The mt genomes of the four pig derived *Ascaris* representing H01 (Uganda), H07 (Uganda), H28  
180 (Tanzania) and H64 (United Kingdom) were 14,151, 14,320, 14,210 and 14,187 bp in length,  
181 respectively. The genomes contain 12 mt protein-encoding genes, 22 genes for transfer RNAs and  
182 two ribosomal RNA genes. Details on individual genomes, including gene annotations, can found in  
183 GenBank under the following accession numbers: KY045800-KY045805.

184 The phylogeny based on the mt genomic sequence data sets (i.e. 12 protein-encoding genes and  
185 the two rRNA genes) are depicted in Fig. 1a. All three tree clustering methods gave the same  
186 topology. Three main clusters (A, B and C) could be identified, with cluster C being basal to the  
187 two other clusters. The p-distances between cluster C and cluster A+B ranged from 0.048-0.051,  
188 whereas the p-distance between clusters A and B was in the range of 0.013-0.021. The topology of  
189 the phylogenetic tree based on the mt genomic data sets was similar to that obtained using partial

190 *cox1* sequence data (except for the *A. suum* from China) (Fig. 1b), but the nodes were robust for the  
191 former. The p-distances based on partial *cox1* sequences were higher between clusters A and C than  
192 between clusters B and C (range: 0.047-0.052 and 0.037-0.039, respectively).

193 Among the 12 *Ascaris* genomes, a total of 791 mutations were identified in the 12 protein-  
194 encoding genes (Table 2); 496 of these mutations were found to be unique to a single mt genome  
195 with highest numbers in pig *Ascaris* from UK representing cluster C (Table 2). No mutations were  
196 found to be specific to *Ascaris* from either human or pig. The number of mutations per gene length  
197 was found to be highest in the *nad4* gene and lowest in the *cox1* gene (Table 3). The non-  
198 synonymous/synonymous (Ka/Ks) mutation ratio indicates that purifying selection is acting on all  
199 of the protein coding genes. All SNPs detected are listed in Supplementary file S1.

200 Based on the 12 protein-encoding genes, theta was estimated at 223 (standard deviation: 82.35)  
201 using Genetree (Bahlo and Griffiths. 2000). The effective population size and thereby the TMRCA  
202 is thus 63,512 ( $\pm 23,000$ ) generations. A similar result was obtained when using IMA2 (Hey and  
203 Nielsen, 2004), where the most recent common ancestor was estimated to occur 58,238 generations  
204 ago, supported by pp estimates (Fig. 2).

205 The time of divergence between the three main clusters was estimated using IMA2. The first  
206 divergence event between cluster A+B and C was ~7500 generations (Fig. 2), whereas the  
207 divergence between clusters A and B was 913 generations (Fig. 2). However, the recent divergence  
208 was not supported by pp-values, likely due to low genetic structure.

#### 209 210 **4. Discussion**

211  
212 In this study, we used a long range PCR-coupled approach to directly sequence 6 human and pig  
213 *Ascaris* mt genomes representing five major haplotypes identified previously among worms from  
214 worldwide locations (cf. Betson et al., 2014). The genes and gene order, including the 22 tRNAs,  
215 were as described previously for *Ascaris* (cf. Okimoto et al., 1994; Liu et al., 2012). We found that  
216 the phylogeny based on mt genomic data also identified three major clusters, in accordance with  
217 that based on partial *cox1* sequence data (Cavallero et al., 2013; Betson et al., 2014). The topology  
218 of the phylogenetic trees are similar with cluster C, basal to the two other clusters, but where *A.*  
219 *suum* from China (HQ704901) are found in cluster A when based on all mtDNA genes, it is found  
220 between cluster A and B in the *cox1* tree (Fig. 1). The genetic distance between cluster A+B and  
221 cluster C was similar using data for all mt genes, whereas partial *cox1* sequencing suggest that  
222 cluster B is more basal than cluster A and more closely related to cluster C (Fig. 1).

223 Although mt *cox1* is used in many population genetic and phylogenetic studies of *Ascaris* (e.g.,  
224 Peng et al, 2005; Cavallero et al, 2013; Betson et al, 2014), it was less variable in sequence  
225 compared to *nad4*, suggesting that the latter gene may therefore be useful for future studies. We  
226 observed a negative selection on the protein-encoding genes (Table 3), which has also been reported  
227 for other parasitic nematodes (Ramesh et al., 2012; Hawash et al., 2015). In accordance with  
228 previous studies (e.g. Betson et al., 2014), no mutations were found to be characteristic to *Ascaris*  
229 from humans or *Ascaris* from pigs; thus there were no mutations of value to distinguish *Ascaris*  
230 from the two host species. However, mt genomic data might be informative in delineating the  
231 genetic structure based on the 3 clusters (A, B and C) which could reflect a complex demography  
232 and evolutionary history as discussed below.

233 *Ascaris* representing clusters A and B have been identified in both humans and pigs from  
234 worldwide locations, including both sympatric areas as well as regions where transmission among  
235 individuals of only one of the host species is expected. In this way, worms belonging to both cluster  
236 A and B have been found in pigs in Denmark and United Kingdom, where humans not are expected  
237 to contribute to transmission, and in humans living in areas with few or no pigs, including Zanzibar

238 and Bangladesh (cf. Betson et al, 2014). However, the frequencies of haplotypes vary among  
239 location. In this way, 82.9% and 57.8% of the human (n=392) and pig (n=331) worms from China  
240 belonged to cluster B whereas the majority of the Uganda worms from humans and pig belonged to  
241 cluster A (82.5% and 64.5%, respectively). Cluster C is interesting, as this haplotype only has been  
242 identified in pigs from Europe and Africa using *cox1* sequencing. In this way, it was not identified  
243 among 723 human and pig worms in China (Peng et al., 2005), 51 human and pig samples in  
244 Ecuador (Iñiguez et al., 2012) or 255 humans in Uganda, Kenya, Zambia or on Zanzibar (Betson et  
245 al., 2014). Using a combination of restriction mapping and sequencing of the mtDNA, Anderson  
246 and Jaenike (1997) also only identified pig *Ascaris* from Europe in cluster C, except for a single  
247 human worm from Guatemala.

248 In contrast to the mtDNA, where no clear geographic or host separation is observed, host or  
249 geographic differentiation between *Ascaris* populations is observed when microsatellite markers are  
250 used, but with contrasting results. In the study by Betson et al. (2014), *Ascaris* were first segregated  
251 by host and then by geographical origin, suggesting a single host shift, followed by geographical  
252 separation. This finding implies that the different haplotypes belonging to clusters A and B were  
253 present before the host shift and were subsequently distributed worldwide. In contrast, Criscione et  
254 al. (2007) found evidence for a geographical separation of *Ascaris* populations, followed by  
255 multiple host shifts. As there is genetic evidence that domestication may have taken place multiple  
256 times (Larson et al., 2005), this information supports the multiple host shift model. In this situation,  
257 the haplotypes were first distributed worldwide and then transmitted to the new host species. This  
258 proposal may explain why *Ascaris* representing cluster A predominates in Uganda, whereas *Ascaris*  
259 representing cluster B predominates in China.

260 The difference in the population genetic structures given by mtDNA or microsatellite analysis  
261 may be attributed to the difference in their mutation rates. As estimated in free-living nematodes  
262 (Molnar et al., 2011; Molnar et al., 2012), the mutation rate of microsatellites is faster than mtDNA.  
263 Hence, mtDNA could be useful for capturing ancient historical events while microsatellite markers  
264 are informative for relatively recent evolutionary events. This may be the reason why worms from  
265 all three mtDNA clusters can be found among Danish pigs but still belong to same population based  
266 on microsatellite analysis (Betson et al., 2014). Moreover, the finding of shared haplotypes and  
267 worms from both host belonging to cluster A and B may also be explained by recent or current  
268 introgression supported the observation of cross-infection and hybrids in sympatric areas (Criscione  
269 et al., 2007; Zhou et al., 2012; Betson et al., 2014). Incomplete lineage sorting may therefore  
270 explain the observed mtDNA pattern most likely due to very short evolutionary history of *Ascaris*  
271 in the two host species as discussed below.

272 It is expected that *Ascaris* host shift occurred during domestication about 10,000 years ago but it  
273 is unknown whether the direction was from humans to pigs or the other way around. However, as  
274 *Ascaris* eggs have been found in human archeological samples from France which dates back before  
275 domestication (30,160-24,660) (Loreille and Bouchet, 2003) and as eggs have been identified in  
276 human samples in America before introduction of pigs to the continent (reviewed by Goncalves et  
277 al., 2003) this suggests a transmission from humans to pigs. The coalescent simulations on the  
278 mtDNA suggested that the time to the most recent common ancestor is ~60,000 generations and that  
279 at least two divergence events have happened (Fig. 2). The first one happened at the beginning of  
280 the Neolithic period (15,000 – 2,500 years ago, given a generation time of 1/2-3 generations/year)  
281 and resulted in cluster C. This may have followed by an isolation event of one pig population that  
282 explains why *Ascaris* cluster C is exclusive in European pigs (except for zoonotic infection in  
283 humans). Alternatively, cluster C have circulated in specific isolated human and pig populations but  
284 later was lost from the human *Ascaris* population due to severe bottleneck. The second divergence  
285 has happened more recently (1,800-300 years ago) and resulted in cluster A and B and may have

286 been followed by massive dispersal globally of haplotypes by human activities such as trading,  
287 transportation and colonization. However, these data cannot rule out the alternative hypothesis with  
288 a single host shift about ~10,000 years ago followed by a more recent admixture of *Ascaris*  
289 populations due to human activities including transport of pigs. This may also explain the complex  
290 phylogenetic picture we see based on mtDNA. The mtDNA and microsatellite markers may  
291 however also be complementary to each other with mtDNA providing information on more ancient  
292 evolutionary events and microsatellite markers on more recent history.

293 Despite intensive research the taxonomic status of *Ascaris* in humans and pigs still needs to be  
294 elucidated. Several studies have shown that *Ascaris* in the two hosts species can cross-infect  
295 (Nejsum et al., 2005; Criscione et al., 2007; Peng et al., 2012; Betson et al., 2014) and hybrids have  
296 been identified in sympatric areas (Criscione et al., 2007; Zhou et al., 2012). In addition, the  
297 phylogeny based on mtDNA as described in this and other studies (e.g. Betson et al. 2014) may  
298 suggest that *Ascaris* in humans and pigs represents a single species. However, sympatric  
299 populations seem to be genetic differentiated (Anderson and Jaenike, 1997; Criscione et al., 2007;  
300 Betson et al., 2014) suggesting that there is no, or very restricted contemporary gene-flow between  
301 populations, supporting the idea of two separate species according to the biological species concept.  
302 Future studies should apply next-generation sequencing to *Ascaris* populations from both host  
303 species from locations worldwide, in order to illuminate the evolution, dispersal and the taxonomic  
304 status of this enigmatic parasite.

305

#### 306 **Competing interests**

307 The authors have declared that no financial and non-financial competing interests exist.

308

#### 309 **Acknowledgements**

310 This work was supported by a Danish Agency for Science, Technology and Innovation grant awarded to PN.  
311 RBG's research is funded mainly through grants from the Australian Research Council (ARC) and the  
312 National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) of Australia. MB is supported by University of  
313 Surrey. The original analysis of the samples reported in Betson et al. (2014) was supported by the Wellcome  
314 Trust (grant 085440) and the Natural History Museum, London. Thanks to Helena Ngowi (Sokoine  
315 University of Agriculture, Tanzania), Ida-Hella Poulsen and Sofie Nissen (University of  
316 Copenhagen, Denmark) for providing worms.

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432 **Legends to figures**

433

434 Fig. 1. Inferred evolutionary relationship among the different *Ascaris* mtDNA genomes based on  
435 the 12 protein coding genes and the two ribosomal DNA genes (A) and based on 383 bp of the *cox1*  
436 gene (B) using *Baylisascaris procyonis* as outgroup. For comparison, six *Ascaris* genomes were  
437 included from GenBank (accession numbers indicated). Maximum likelihood (ML), maximum  
438 parsimony (MP) and Bayesian inference (BI) was used and the bootstrap values and posterior  
439 probabilities are given at the nodes if >70 in the order: ML/MP/BI. The scale bar: number of base  
440 substitutions per site.

441

442 Fig. 2. Splitting time based on the isolation and migration model between *Ascaris* populations of  
443 clusters A/B and cluster C (yellow line) and *Ascaris* populations of cluster A and B (red points) and  
444 the time to the most recent common ancestor (TMRCA) (green line). The horizontal axis represents  
445 the number of generations since splitting while the vertical axis represents the posterior probability  
446 density.

447

Table 1. Primers used for long range PCR of the mtDNA genome of *Ascaris* from humans and pigs

Region	Fragment length	Forward primer	Reverse Primer
CO1F-ND5R	3.4kbp	CO1_F: TGGTTGTGTTGTTTGAGCTCA	ND5_R: ACAAAACTCAAACCAATACCAAC
ND5F-rrnSR	2.8kbp	ND5_F: AGGTGTAGAGGGGCTATGAA	rrnS_R: GGTACTAATCTGATTCATTCACC
rrnSF-ND2R	4.3kbp	rrnS_F: TGTTCCAGAATAATCGGCTAGAC	ND2_R: AAACCAACAAGACTTCCCAA
ND2F-CO3R	3.0kbp	ND2_F: TGTCTAAGGGGTCTGGTTCT	CO3_R: CCAAACACTACATCTACAAAATGCC
CO3F-CO1R	3.2kbp	CO3_F: TGGTTTCTTTTGTCTGGGGT	CO1_R: ACCACAAAGTCACACCCGTA

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Table 2. Number of SNPs and unique SNPs in the 12 protein coding genes for each of the 12 genomes using *Ascaris lumbricoides* from China (HQ704900) as reference genome

Genome	Total #SNPs	unique #SNPs
Reference genome	791	496
<i>Ascaris suum</i> H64 United Kingdom	576	410
<i>A. suum</i> USA (NC 001327)	240	28
<i>A. suum</i> H28 Tanzania	242	12
<i>Ascaris</i> sp. H01 Uganda	257	11
<i>A. lumbricoides</i> H01 Tanzania	257	12
<i>A. suum</i> China (HQ704901)	141	7
<i>A. suum</i> H07 Uganda	63	7
<i>A. lumbricoides</i> H03 Tanzania	66	6
<i>A. lumbricoides</i> (JN801161)	65	9
<i>Ascaris</i> sp. Chimpanzee China (KC839986)	67	2
<i>Ascaris</i> sp. gibbon China (KC839987)	64	9

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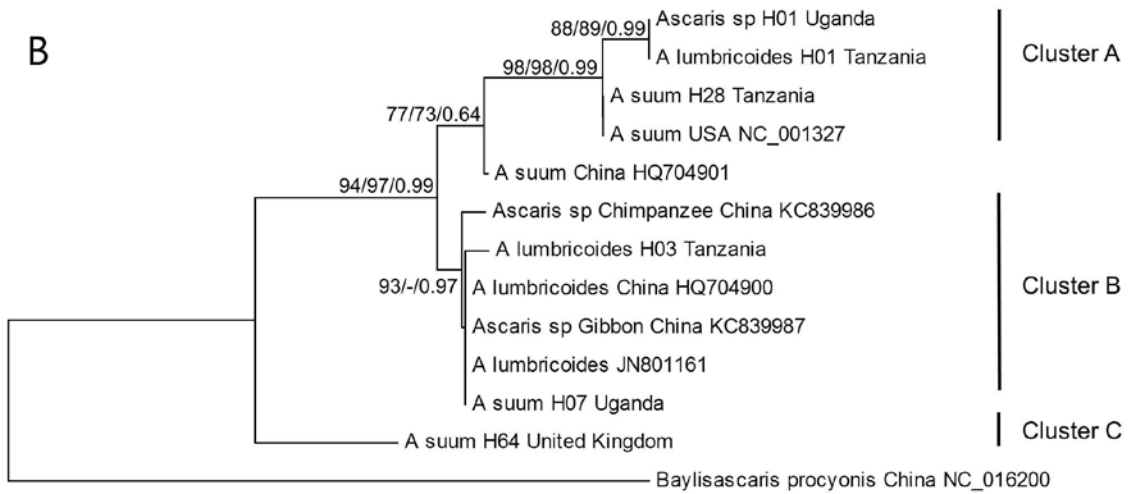
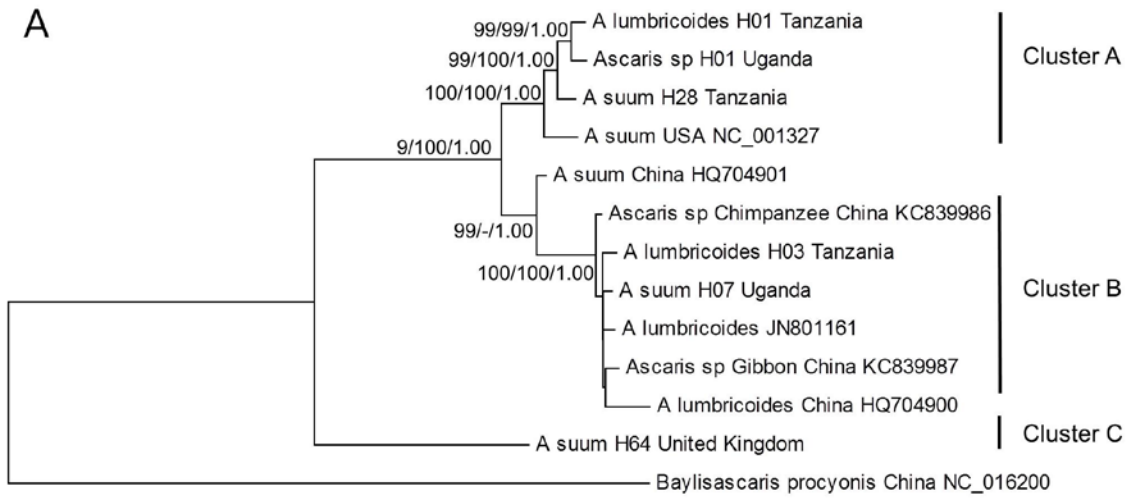
454

Table 3. Number of SNPs, synonymous, non-synonymous mutations and the percentage of variation given as number of SNPs per gene length for each of the 12 protein coding genes for the 12 *Ascaris* genomes

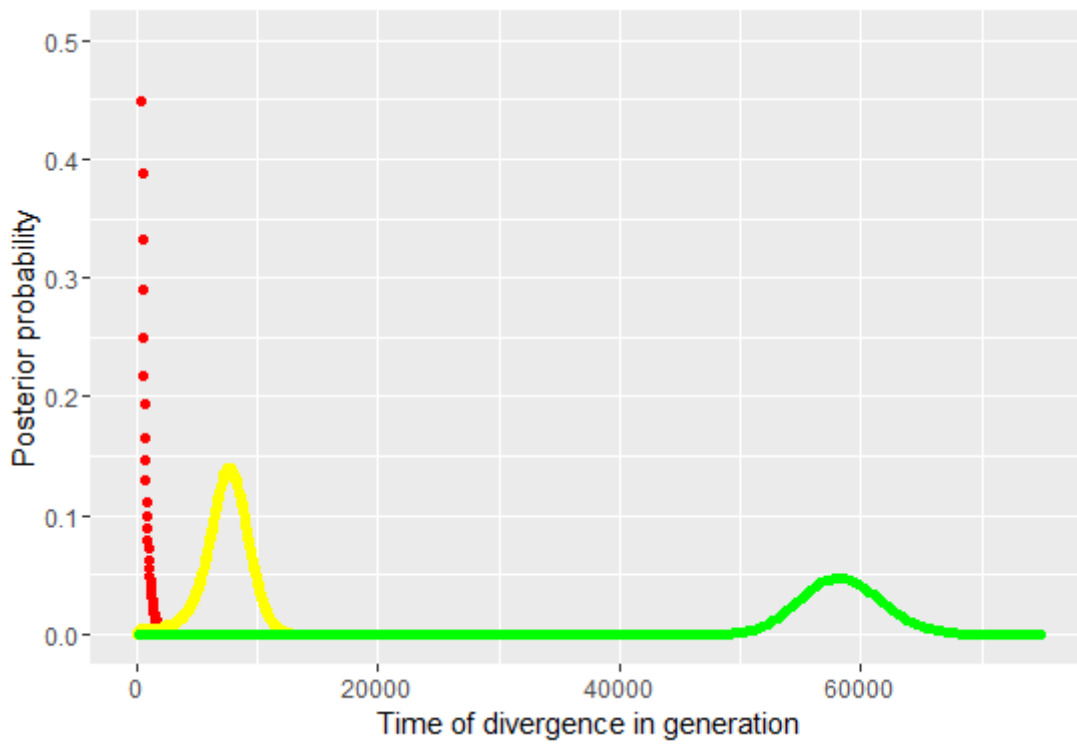
Gene	SNPs per gene	Non-synonymous mutations (Ka)	Synonymous mutations (Ks)	Ka/Ks ratio	% of variation
<i>cox1</i>	91	30	61	0.49	5.76
<i>cox2</i>	47	11	36	0.31	6.72
<i>nad3</i>	24	7	17	0.41	7.14
<i>nad5</i>	117	33	84	0.39	7.37
<i>nad6</i>	39	10	29	0.34	8.96
<i>nad4L</i>	19	3	16	0.19	8.11
<i>nad1</i>	65	19	46	0.41	7.45
<i>atp6</i>	44	17	27	0.63	7.33
<i>nad2</i>	65	25	40	0.63	7.71
<i>cytb</i>	99	33	66	0.50	9.01
<i>cox3</i>	57	15	42	0.36	7.34
<i>nad4</i>	124	36	88	0.41	10.08

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**Author/s:**

Nejsuma, P; Hawash, MBF; Betson, M; Stothard, JR; Gasser, RB; Andersen, LO

**Title:**

Ascaris phylogeny based on multiple whole mtDNA genomes

**Date:**

2017-03-01

**Citation:**

Nejsuma, P., Hawash, M. B. F., Betson, M., Stothard, J. R., Gasser, R. B. & Andersen, L. O. (2017). Ascaris phylogeny based on multiple whole mtDNA genomes. INFECTION GENETICS AND EVOLUTION, 48, pp.4-9. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.meegid.2016.12.003>.

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