



Classification

- classification is the 3rd goal of systematics
- ancient search for “natural” system of classification
- important non-Western systems
 - Parashara (India) 2000 BC
 - Chinese
 - Aztecs
 - Egyptians
 - Mayan (Tzeltal) - ethnotaxonomy



Systems of Classifications

Examine three main systems of classifications and how they “evolved” in the context of western civilization

Artificial

→ suites of characters

Natural

→ evolutionary interpretation

Phylogenetic

- Theophrastus
- Herbalists
- Carolus Linnaeus

- Andre Caesalpino
- John Ray
- Pierre Magnol
- Antoine-Lauren de Jussieu

- George Bentham
- Engler/Prantl
- Charles Bessey
- Arthur Cronquist
- Robert Thorne
- Rolf Dalghren
- APG
- “Rankless”

Artificial Classifications

Theophrastus (372-287 BC) took the philosophical ideas of Plato and Aristotle and applied them to taxonomy

‘essentialism’

Habit as an “essence” or essential character



herb

subshrub

shrub

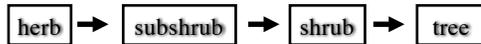
tree

Artificial Classifications

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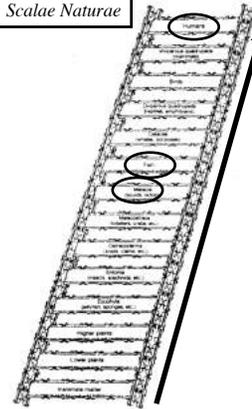
Theophrastus saw a linear gradation when essences are used to arrange organisms

De Historia Plantarum



Artificial Classifications

Scalae Naturae

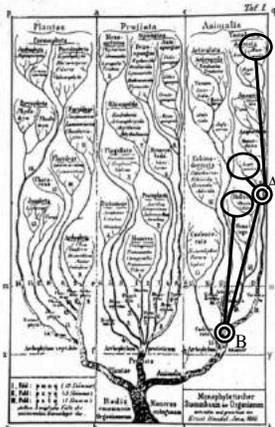


This linear gradation concept is the Aristotlean *Scalae Naturae* or Great Chain of Being or Ladder of Life

Unidirectional progression and rank on ladder leads to (false) ideas of relationships – “fish more closely related to molluscs than fish are to humans”

Concept of ladder of life still around today and causes much of the controversy and mis-understanding surrounding evolution

Artificial Classifications



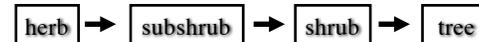
Evolution does not advocate this “ladder” of life, but rather advocates a “branching tree”

Evolution asserts (testable!) that fish are more closely related to humans because they have a more recent common ancestor A than the common ancestor B with molluscs

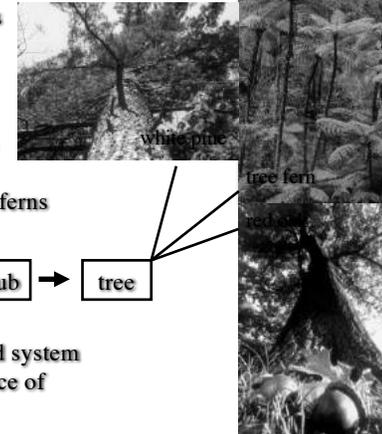
Artificial Classifications

... back to Theophrastus and his classification of plants

- clearly artificial as conifers are placed with some (woody) angiosperms and some (woody) ferns



- logical, efficient, easy, but rigid system of classification — *a priori* choice of characters



Artificial Classifications

Herbalists - physicians: a second group using artificial systems of classification - 15-16th centuries

- little emphasis placed on system of classification of the plants — alphabetical or medicinal property

- less than 1000 species of plants were known; no need for intricate classification system in the herbals



Artificial Classifications

Herbalists - physicians: a second group using artificial systems of classification - 15-16th centuries

- herbals often lavishly illustrated
- herbalists referred to as the 'German Fathers of Botany'



Leonhart Fuchs

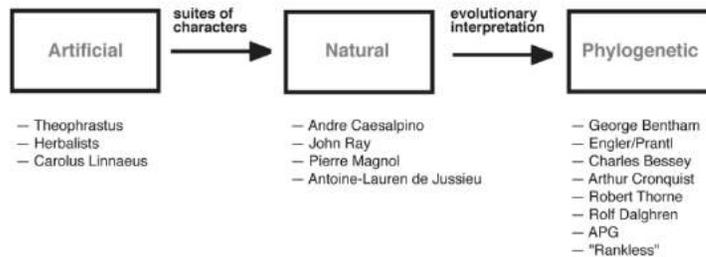
Fuchsia

De Historium Stirpium - 1542



1580 - 1800: Pivotal Period

Artificial or Natural Systems?

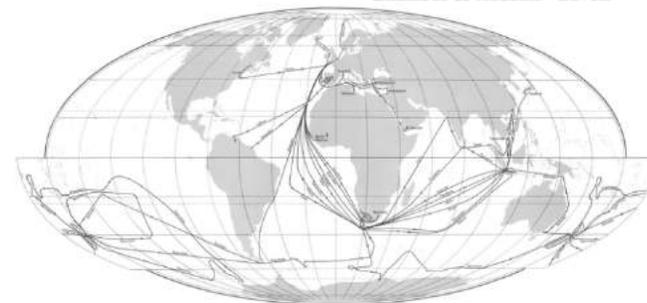


1580 - 1800: Pivotal Period

Artificial or Natural Systems?

- world-wide trade and exploration — many new plant species were seen by European taxonomists

Linnaeus & students' travels



1580 - 1800: Pivotal Period

Artificial or Natural Systems?

Andrea Caesalpino (1519-1603) - Italian doctor

- struggled with question how to form a more 'natural' classification [*De plantis libri XVI* (1583)]
- private collection of 768 plants arranged in 266 sheets in 3 volumes
- arranged by reproductive features of the plants - flowers and fruits
- first natural system, first herbarium



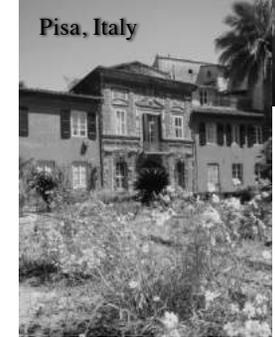
1580 - 1800: Pivotal Period

Artificial or Natural Systems?

Andrea Caesalpino (1519-1603) - Italian doctor



- first natural system, first herbarium, first botanical garden arranged by classification



1580 - 1800: Pivotal Period

Artificial or Natural Systems?

John Ray (1628-1705) - English blacksmith

- argued that all parts of the plant should be used in classification
- classified 18,000 species in *Methodus Plantarum* (1703) first by fruit types and subdivided by flower and leaf features



1580 - 1800: Pivotal Period

Artificial or Natural Systems?

John Ray (1628-1705) - English blacksmith

- first recognized distinction between dicots and monocots
- 25 'classes' of dicots
- 4 'classes' of monocots
- many = orders today



1580 - 1800: Pivotal Period

Artificial or Natural Systems?

Pierre Magnol (1638-1715) - French botanist

- considered Ray's system of 29 'classes' too cumbersome
- classified 76 'families' — first to recognize family level (Magnoliaceae honored after him)

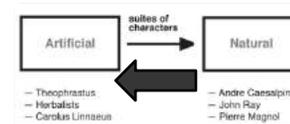


1580 - 1800: Pivotal Period

Artificial or Natural Systems?

Carolus Linnaeus (1707-1778) - Swedish taxonomist

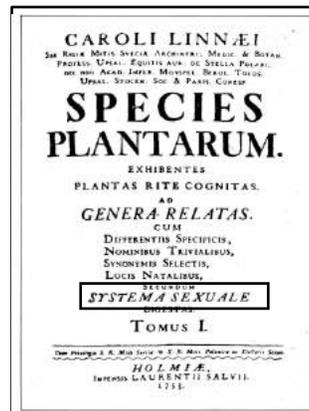
- work of Caesalpino, Ray, and Magnol in producing a workable classification system culminated in Linnaeus' *Sexual System*
- however, this classification system was a backward step to artificial!



Linnaeus - Sexual System

What did he do?

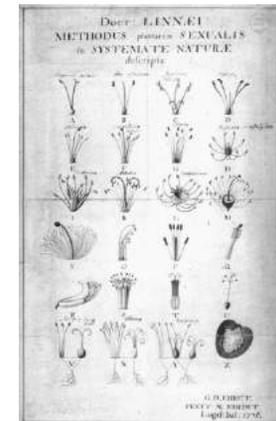
- greatest achievement - *Species Plantarum* in 1753 arranged as *Systema Sexuale*
- classification based on reproductive features like Caesalpino, but *selective* and features chosen *a priori* simply on workability



Linnaeus - Sexual System

Take a closer look inside *Species Plantarum*

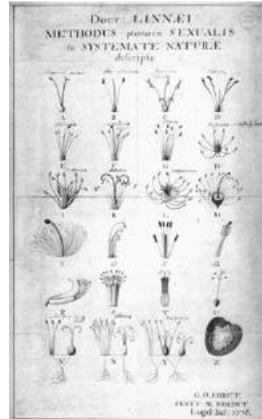
- 1st level based on number of stamens
- 2nd level based on number of pistils



Linnaeus - Sexual System

Take a closer look inside *Species Plantarum*

- Linnaeus got some intense criticism – especially from Johan Siegesbeck
- “loathsome harlotry . . . who would have thought that bluebells, lilies, and onions could be up to such immorality?”



Linnaeus - Sexual System

Take a closer look inside *Species Plantarum*

- Linnaeus got some intense criticism – especially from Johan Siegesbeck
- “would God allow 20 men or more [the stamens] to have one wife in common [the pistil]?”



Linnaeus - Sexual System

Take a closer look inside *Species Plantarum*

- Linnaeus got some intense criticism – especially from Johan Siegesbeck
- “would God allow 20 men or more [the stamens] to have one wife in common [the pistil]?”
- Linnaeus had the last laugh



Sigesbeckia orientalis L. – St. Paul's wort

Linnaeus - Sexual System

How does it work? *Oenothera biennis* or evening primrose



- *Oenothera* has 8 stamens - placed in *Octandria* (1st level)
- *Oenothera* has 1 pistil (but 4 fused carpels) - placed in *Monogynia* (2nd level)

Linnaeus - Sexual System

Note that *Oenothera* is placed with other genera of the family Onagraceae

The image shows a page from Linnaeus's 'Sexual System' with Latin text and botanical illustrations. The text is organized into columns under the heading 'OCTANDRIA MONOGYNIA'. One of the entries is 'OENOTHERA', which is placed among other genera of the Onagraceae family. There are two botanical illustrations of flowers, one of which is labeled 'Epilobium'.

Linnaeus - Sexual System

Linnaeus and followers DID realize that the system would have issues

- cacti and cherries have little overall similarity to each other
- but both have many stamens and a single pistil — placed in Polyandria / Monogynia
- Linnaeus more concerned with mechanics: *usable, predictable, expandable, immutable*
- Sexual System artificial, and thus backward step away from 'natural' classifications

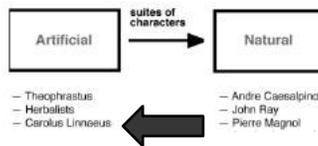


Natural Classifications

Period of Natural Systems: 1760 - 1880

• late 18th century saw accumulation of botanical collections

• Linnaeus had provided popular and efficient cataloguing scheme but unrelated plants were often grouped



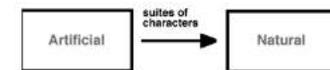
• taxonomists reconsidered purposes of classification; revisited older 'natural' ideas

Natural Classifications

Period of Natural Systems: 1760 - 1880

• de Jussieu family of Paris produced the most complete 'natural' classification

• their natural system came from the practice of 'taxonomic gardens'



Antoine-Laurent de Jussieu

Natural Classifications

Period of Natural Systems: 1760 - 1880

- private and public gardens were then arranged according to the Linnaean *Sexual System* of classification



Linnaean Gardens in Uppsala, Sweden

Natural Classifications

Period of Natural Systems: 1760 - 1880

- Bernard de Jussieu experimented by replanting in the Trianon Garden on Versailles Palace grounds so that those most “similar” looking on the basis of many features would be in proximity



Antoine - nephew
Bernard - uncle

Natural Classifications

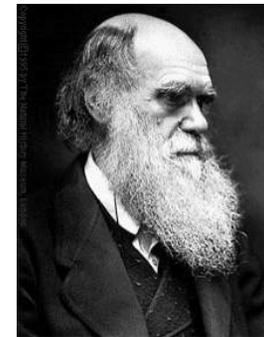
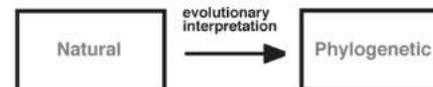
Period of Natural Systems: 1760 - 1880

- Antoine Laurent de Jussieu published *Genera Plantarum* in 1789 based on the de Jussieu family’s new, more natural classification system - and today reflected in the plantings at the Trianon Gardens



Phylogenetic Classifications

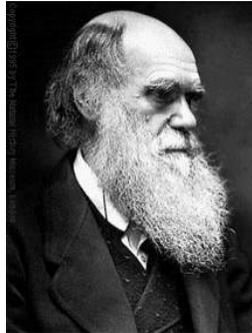
Phylogenetic systems date to 1859 and publication of *Origin of Species* by Charles Darwin



Phylogenetic Classifications

Phylogenetic systems date to 1859 and publication of *Origin of Species* by Charles Darwin

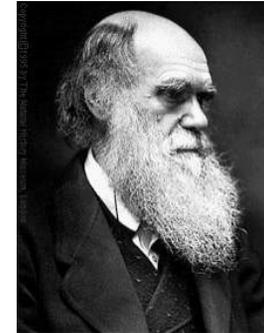
- ‘Natural’ had meant different things to different people
- to Linnaeus and others ‘natural’ referred to the ordered structure of the universe and biota as ordained by God - specific or special creation
- to others “natural” groupings of taxa into larger groups implied relationships based on genealogy - with or without a God



Phylogenetic Classifications

Phylogenetic systems date to 1859 and publication of *Origin of Species* by Charles Darwin

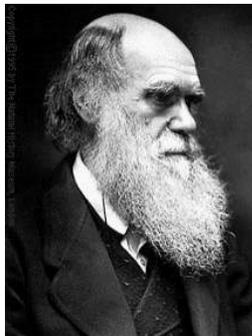
- ‘Natural’ had meant different things to different people
- to Darwin, ‘natural’ implied that two species looked similar because they shared features from a common ancestor in their genealogy



Phylogenetic Classifications

Phylogenetic systems to Darwin must include genealogy + amount of change (or similarity)

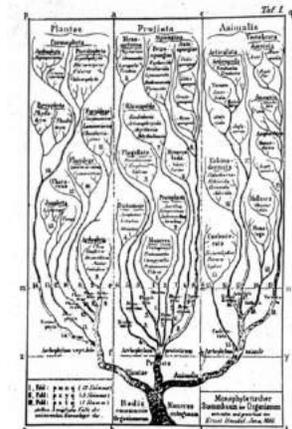
- “classification must be genealogical”
- “genealogy alone does not give classification”
- “descent with modification” : or genealogy plus change = evolution



Phylogenetic Classifications

Phylogenetic systems represented by the “tree” metaphor

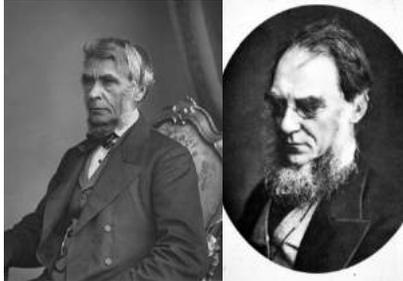
- Darwin argued that “common ancestry” is a fact — and outcome is a phylogenetic ‘tree’
- less than a decade later Ernst Haeckel published the first tree of life
- all classification systems since have been phylogenetic



Phylogenetic Classifications

Bentham & Hooker at Kew Royal Botanic Gardens first systematists to wrestle with phylogenetic classifications

- provided Darwin with much of his botanical evidence for evolution
- rudimentary phylogenetic system quickly over-shadowed by two younger Germans



George Bentham
1800-1884

Joseph Hooker
1817-1911

Phylogenetic Classifications

Engler and Prantl produced the monumental *Die Natürlichen Pflanzenfamilien* between 1887-1915



Adolph Engler
1844-1930

Karl Prantl
1849-1893

Phylogenetic Classifications

Engler and Prantl produced the monumental *Die Natürlichen Pflanzenfamilien* between 1887-1915

- original classification was 'natural' and based on many characters
- by 1915 their system had a phylogenetic flavor with simple plants listed first and progressing to more complex plants



Adolph Engler
1844-1930

Karl Prantl
1849-1893

Phylogenetic Classifications

Engler - Prantl classification system became the standard to arrange herbaria and floras by early 20th century

- stressed that "simple" flowers - that is with few or no parts - were "primitive"
- e.g., "Amentiferae" - a group with reduced flowers were considered primitive
- their system can be called "simple = primitive" or "*Salix* = primitive"



Salix - willow

Phylogenetic Classifications

Engler - Prantl classification system became the standard to arrange herbaria and floras by early 20th century



Salix - willow

University of Wisconsin Student Herbarium – five years ago - Salicaceae listed first in dicots

Phylogenetic Classifications

Charles Bessey revolutionized the classification of angiosperms by his ideas on primitive vs. advanced characters

- hypothesized the primitive vs. advanced state of many characters of plants - see *handout*

Charles Bessey (1848-1915)
at University of Nebraska



- Bessey's 'dicta' or rules were the basis of his phylogenetic classification scheme

- formed the basis for all subsequent modern systems

Phylogenetic Classifications

What were Bessey's main dicta or rules?

| Character | Primitive State | Advanced State |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Floral parts | All present, many in number | loss of parts, few in number |
| 2. Floral fusion | parts separate | parts fused |
| 3. Floral symmetry | actinomorphy | zygomorphy |
| 4. Ovary position | hypogynous | epigynous |

Phylogenetic Classifications

Bessey's dicta or rules

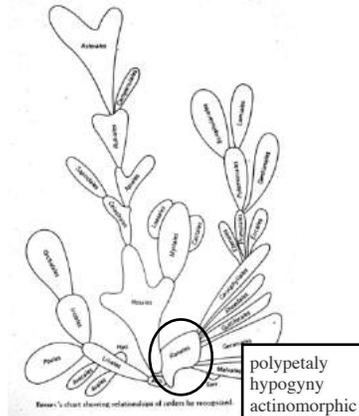
- similar to foliar theory of the flower
- "*Magnolia* = primitive" idea
- general trend in angiosperms has been reduction, loss, and fusion



Phylogenetic Classifications

Bessey's classification ('cactus')

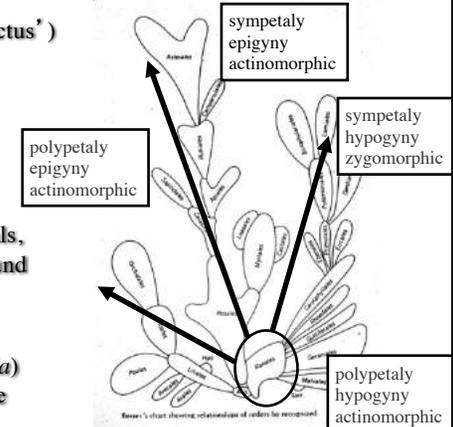
- Bessey produced a classification system based on his rules
- orders (-ales) of flowering plants attached showing relationships and degree of primitive vs. advanced features
- order Ranales (*Magnolia*) considered most primitive



Phylogenetic Classifications

Bessey's classification ('cactus')

- zygomorphy, fused petals, and inferior ovary are found further up the chart
- order Ranales (*Magnolia*) considered most primitive



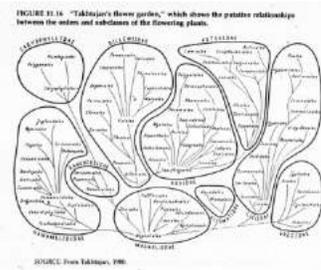
Phylogenetic Classifications

Contemporary classifications

- most based on Bessey's principles
- which characters stressed, though, varies (subjective)



Takhtajan (d. 2009) Cronquist (d. 1992)



Armen Takhtajan's and Arthur Cronquist's are similar with subclasses (-idae) as the major groupings

Phylogenetic Classifications

Contemporary classifications

- most based on Bessey's principles
- which characters stressed, though, varies (subjective)



Takhtajan (d. 2009) Cronquist (d. 1992)



Cronquist's best developed of the contemporary classifications based on morphology

Phylogenetic Classifications

Molecular classifications

- Angiosperm Phylogeny Group classification — UW Botany Gardens first garden based on the APG system!

Botanical Journal of the Linnean Society, 2000, 144, 325–421. © 2001. 1 page



An update of the Angiosperm Phylogeny Group classification for the orders and families of flowering plants: APG III

THE ANGIOSPERM PHYLOGENY GROUP[†]

Monocotyledonous classes: APG III (2009). This paper was compiled by Brigitte Bremer, Kåre Bremer, Mark W. Chase, Michael P. Fay, James L. Brumell, Douglas E. Soltis, Pamela S. Soltis and Peter F. Stevens, who were equally responsible and listed here in alphabetical order only, with contributions from Arne A. Andersson, Michael A. Moore, Richard G. Olmstead, Paula A. Rudall, Kenneth J. Sytsma, David C. Thak, Kenneth Wurdack, Jenny Q. Y. Xiang and Sue Zengedy (in alphabetical order). Addressed to: Bremer, The Bergius Foundation at the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, PO Box 6017, SE-104 05 Stockholm, Sweden; K. Bremer, Vasa Christoferi, Stockholm University, SE-166 91 Stockholm, Sweden; M. W. Chase, M. P. Fay, Andrew Labranche, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, Richmond, Surrey, TW9 3DS, UK; J. L. Brumell, L.H. Bailey Herbarium, Department of Plant Biology 412 Mass Building, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14853-4301, USA; D. E. Soltis, Department of Biology, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida 32611-8535, USA; P. S. Soltis, Florida Museum of Natural History, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida, 32611-7200, USA; and P. F. Stevens, Department of Biology, University of Missouri-St. Louis and Missouri Botanical Garden, PO Box 290, St. Louis, Missouri 63105-0290, USA.

Received 12 August 2008; accepted for publication 19 August 2009

Phylogenetic Classifications

UW Botany Department Student Herbarium



Dr. John Zaborsky – 2018 Bot400 TA

Arranging these named organisms in 1 dimensional linear space?

Botanical Journal of the Linnean Society, 2000, 144, 325–421. © 2001. 1 page

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Issues in Grouping

1. Convergence a problem with any system



Reduced flowers



Inferior ovary

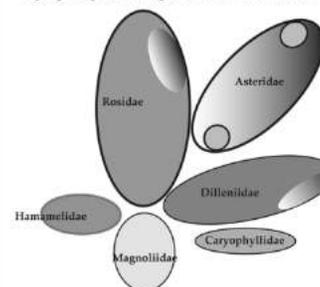


Corolla tube

Issues in Grouping

1. Convergence a problem with any system

Sympetaly in Cronquist's Dicot Subclasses

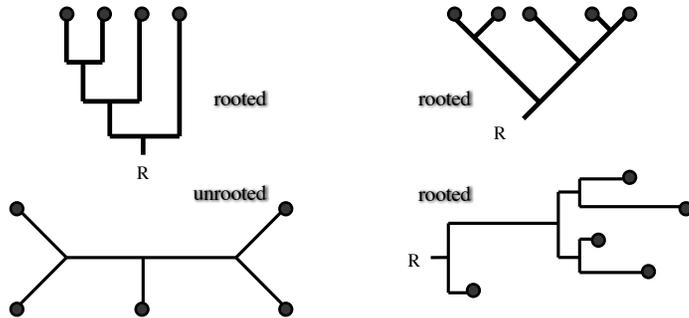


Corolla tube

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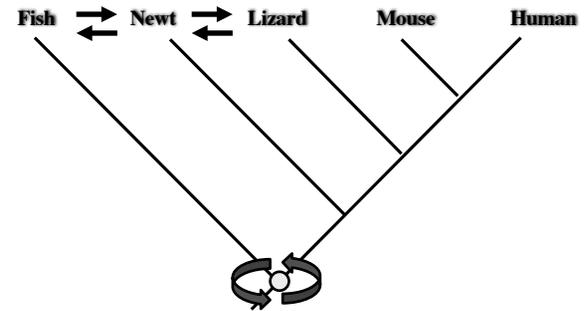
2. "Tree Thinking" - what a phylogenetic tree is . . .

- various trees that you will see in this course



Issues in Grouping

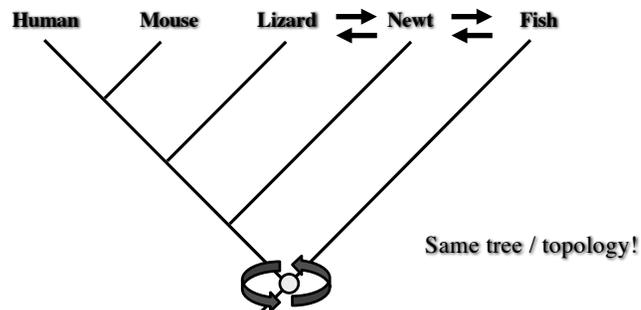
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Is a Newt more closely related to a Fish than to a Human?

Issues in Grouping

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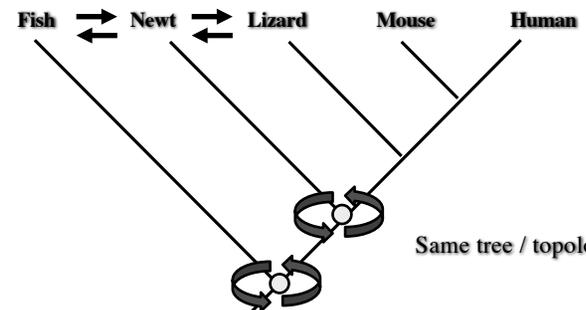


Same tree / topology!

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Issues in Grouping

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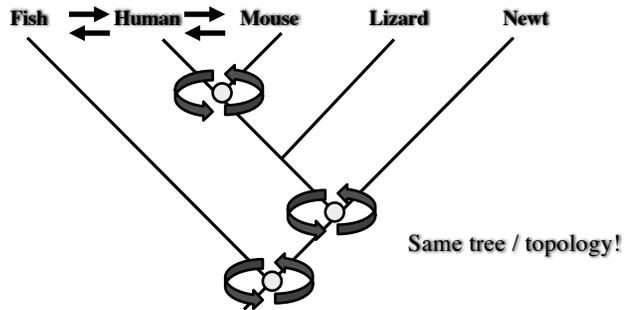


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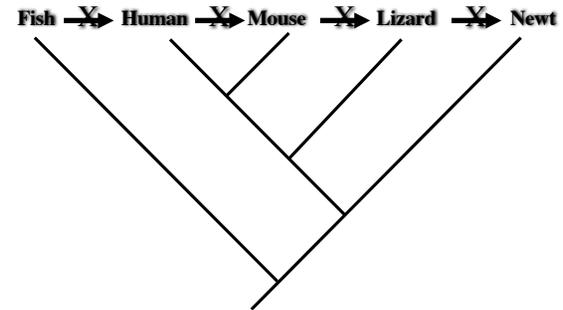
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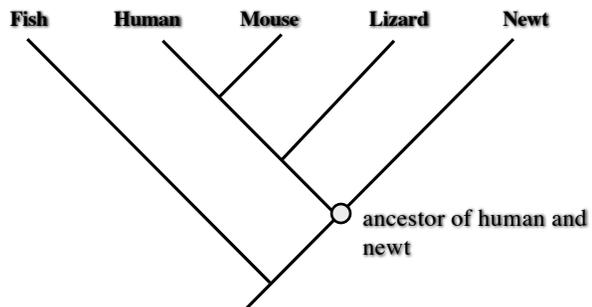
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Tip reading is ladder reading, incorrect!

Issues in Grouping

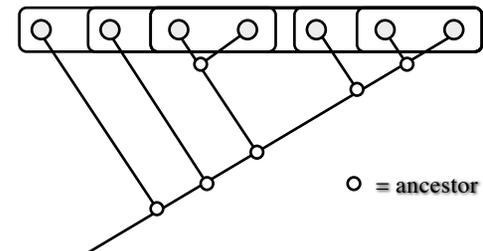
2. "Tree Thinking" - what a phylogenetic tree is not . . .



Newt is more related to Humans than Fish! They share a more recent common ancestor than either does with Fish.

Issues in Grouping

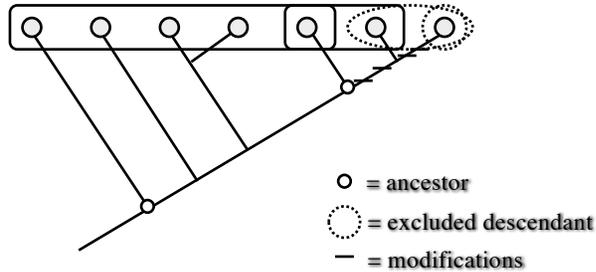
3. Named groups are monophyletic (ancestors and all descendants)



○ = ancestor

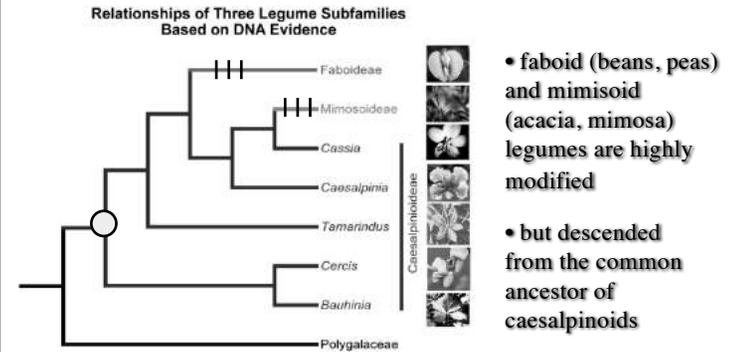
Issues in Grouping

3. . . . vs. paraphyletic (not all descendants included - usually because these are highly modified) - should these be allowed?



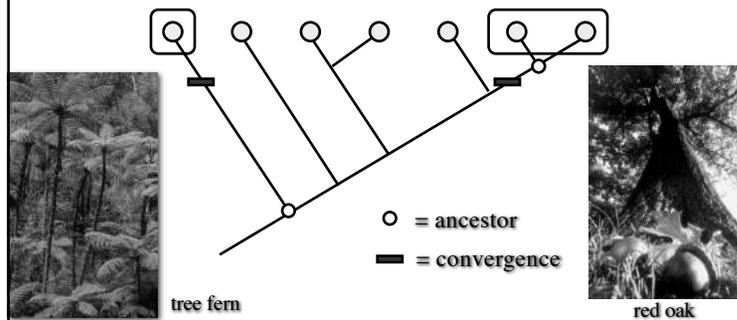
Issues in Grouping

3. e.g. Caesalpinoid legumes are paraphyletic



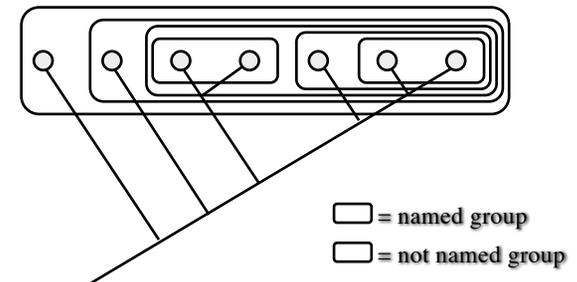
Issues in Grouping

3. . . . vs. polyphyletic (more than one ancestor - defined by convergent feature) - these are avoided



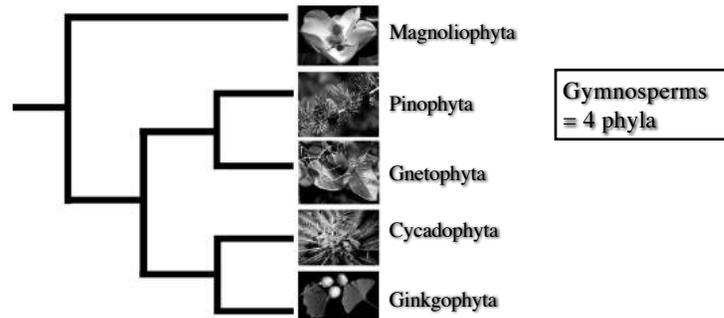
Issues in Grouping

4. Not all monophyletic groups are named - limited categories available in ranked (Linnean) systems



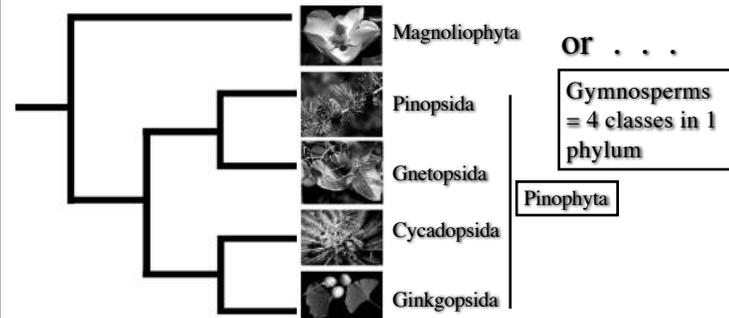
Issues in Grouping

5. Ranks are arbitrary - but follow Linnean categories: kingdom, phylum, class, order, family, genus, species



Issues in Grouping

5. Ranks are arbitrary - but follow Linnean categories: kingdom, phylum, class, order, family, genus, species



Issues in Grouping

6. International Code of Phylogenetic Nomenclature or PhyloCode (established 2004)
<http://www.ohiou.edu/phylocode/>

- taxon based on phylogeny (a "clade") - rankless
- content of taxon specified by the phylogeny or tree
- any clade can be named
- what clade a species is in will not change!

vs. International Code of Nomenclature or "ranked" / "Linnean" system

- ranked taxon defined based on types
- content of defined taxon not specified except for type
- limited number of groups or ranks can be named
- what taxa a species is in can change!

Issues in Grouping

- in practice and informally, recent phylogenetic classifications have been using a hybrid of ranked and rankless groupings
- APGIII uses ranks for families and orders; informal rankless names for larger groups

