Newly Sequenced Genomes Reveal Patterns of Gene Family Expansion in Select Dragonflies (Odonata: Anisoptera)

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Abstract

Gene family evolution plays a key role in shaping patterns of biodiversity across the tree of life. In Insecta, adaptive gene family turnover has broadly been tied to vision, diet, pesticide resistance, immune response and survival in extreme environments. Patterns of gene family evolution are of particular interest in Odonata (dragonflies and damselflies), which represents the first lineage to fly, and one of the most exceptional groups of predators. Previous work in Odonata found expansions of opsin genes are correlated with the diversification of the herbivorous insects that Odonata prey upon, but general trends in gene family turnover has not been studied in this order. Here, we show that two families of suborder Anisoptera (dragonflies), Libellulidae and Petaluridae, have expanded gene repertoire related to their unique life history and diversification patterns. These results are an important step towards understanding why Libellulidae is, generally, a species rich family of short lived species that are highly tolerant to poor water quality, while Petaluridae is a species poor family of habitat and behavioral specialists. Specifically, Libellulidae share expanded gene families related to immune response, desiccation response, and processing of free radicals, which all potentially enable many Libellulidae to inhabit low quality water bodies. Likewise, Petaluridae show unique patterns of gene turnover in gene families implicated in sensory perception, which could be tied to the unique semi-terrestrial lifestyle of the nymphs of this family. Furthermore, Odonata as a whole has a gene gene turnover rate that is an order of magnitude smaller than other studied insect orders, potentially contributing to the relatively low species diversity in the order Odonata compared to other insects. These results offer important hypotheses for the consideration of evolutionary drivers across Insecta.

Introduction

Gene turnover, through both duplication and loss, is a crucially important source of both variation and novel adaptation across the tree of life (Innan and Kondrashov 2010). In particular, rapidly evolving gene families, with high divergence between related species, are more closely related to adaptation than other genes in the genome (Zhang et al. 2013; Kim et al., 2022). While insects exhibit a stunning array morphological, physiological and behavioral adaptations are thought to have influenced their success-flight, herbivory and complete metamorphosis are all suggested to be dramatic drivers of insect diversity (Misof et al. 2014)- the implication of gene turnover in these adaptations is not well studied across all insect taxa, with a particular lack of taxonomic coverage in aquatic insect lineages (Hotaling et al. 2020). A better understanding of adaptive gene family evolution may help explain why insects have been so successful (Luo et al., 2018); work on insect genomes has already revealed how turnover in gene families is related to adaptations of species and whole lineages.

While not meant to be exhaustive, the following are pertinent hypotheses of adaptive gene family evolution in insects. Diversification of supergene families is a major force behind pesticide resistance in mosquitoes (Ranson et al. 2002; Claret et al. 2024). The expansion of gene families associated with detoxification can be related to polyphagy in the Lepidoptera family Noctuidae (Breeschoten et al., 2022), and in species of Thysanoptera (Hu et al., 2023). Detoxifying genes have also duplicated in the weevil *Rhynchophorus ferrugineus* (Olivier, 1790), as have genes related to insecticide resistance (Hazzouri et al., 2020). Expansion of gene families related to nutrient metabolism, development, stress response, reproduction, and immune processes may play a major role in the adaptability of the fall armyworm, *Spodoptera frugiperda* (Smith, 1797; Gao et al., 2023). The expansion of sensory related gene families can be associated with host differences in Hymenoptera (Kuang et al., 2023). The Antarctic midge *Parochlus stenenii* (Gercke, 1889) has undergone many gene family expansions tied to processes such as the innate immune system, unfolded protein response, DNA packaging, protein folding, and unsaturated fatty acid biosynthesis that are likely adaptive to the frigid environment it inhabits (Kim et al., 2022). The expansion of transcription factors, proteases, odorant receptors, and horizontally transferred genes involved in nutritional symbioses probably play an important role in interactions with plants and bacteria in the

hemipteran *Bactericera cockerelli* (Šulc, 1909; Kwak et al., 2023). Gene family expansion has also been

linked to adaptations necessary for life in the ocean in the family Hermatobatidae (Wang et al., 2023).

Duplications of genes within the cytochrome p450 family, and families of olfactory binding proteins are

associated with pollution tolerance and mate finding in the caddisfly *Stenopsyche tienmushanensis* (Hwang,

1957; Luo et al., 2018). Opsins genes are highly diverse, with numerous expansions and contractions across

the insect tree of life, but the evolutionary processes driving these patterns largely remain unclear

(Guignard et al., 2022) .

In dragonflies, gene family evolution could provide insight into the question: why have some

taxonomic lineages diversified into many species while others remained species poor? The most diverse

family in Anisoptera, Libellulidae, likely originated in the late Paleogene (~20-40Ma; Suvorov et al., 2021)

and has since radiated into over 1500 known species. Libellulidae inhabit a wide variety of aquatic habitats,

and some taxa are very tolerant of poor water quality (Šigutová et al., 2022). Although generation times

have not been studied for most of the Libellulidae, they are generally understood to have, on average, a

relatively rapid life-cycle of less than one year, compared to other families of Odonata (Tennessen, 2019).

In contrast to Libellulidae, the least diverse family within Anisoptera is Petaluridae, which

originated in the mid-to-late Jurassic (~150-175 Ma; Ware et al., 2014a; Kohli et al., 2021; Suvorov et al.,

2021; Tolman et al., 2024), and contains only 11 extant species, with little fossil evidence of widespread

extinction (Ware et al., 2014a; Tolman et al., 2024). The ages of the individual species lineages within

Petaluridae range between 15 and 115 million years (Ware et al., 2014a; Tolman et al., 2024). While

Libellulidae inhabit a broad range of habitats, Petaluridae only inhabit fens with high water quality (Turner,

1970; Baird, 2012; Ware et al., 2014a; Baird, 2019). The lifespan of Petaluridae varies from 5 to 20 years

depending on the species, quite possibly making them the longest lived dragonflies (Baird, 2012).

With the exception of micro-chromosomes, the genomes of these two families differ very little on

a structural scale, as the genomes of the petalurid *Tanypteryx hageni* (Selys, 1879) and libellulid *Pantala*

flavescens (Fabricius, 1798) share widespread synteny both with each other, and with two distantly related

species of Zygoptera (Tolman, Beatty, et al., 2023).

Within this framework of remarkable karyotypic stability, there is some evidence that gene family

evolution is tied to phenotypic and behavioral diversity in Odonata. Opsin duplication and losses have been

correlated with both larval and adult behavior, and occurred around the diversification of flowering plants,

and herbivorous insects which Odonata prey upon (Futahashi et al., 2015; Suvorov et al., 2017). Despite

promising initial data from opsins, patterns of gene family evolution more broadly have not been

considered in Odonata. Identifying gene family expansions can illuminate the molecular processes behind

the phenotypic and ecological diversity of Odonata and should lead to further research into the functional

genomics of these Odonata, which may be tied to adaptations to their different habitats. An understanding

of patterns of gene family evolution also informs how species may respond to shifting habitats during

climate change (Kim et al., 2022). Similarly, comparative work exploring different levels of gene turnover

across the Odonata tree of life, can shed light upon the diversity of different clades (Thomas et al., 2020).

To better understand the patterns of gene family evolution in the dragonfly families Libellulidae

and Petaluridae, and determine how gene expansion is related to the evolution and ecology of the two

families, we sequenced and annotated the genomes of the libellulid *Pachydiplax longipennis* (Burmeister,

1839) and the petalurid *Uropetala carovei* (White, 1846). We then included the annotations in a gene

family expansion analysis of all publicly available genomes of Odonata (two Libellulidae, one Petaluridae,

and three Zygoptera) that were generated with PacBio HiFi data at the time of analysis. Because it is

relevant for understanding gene family expansion, we also briefly discuss the life history of each of the five

Anisoptera used in the analysis below.

Pachydiplax longipennis (Libellulidae)

Perhaps no dragonfly interacts with humans more than the monotypic species *Pachydiplax longipennis*.

Within its range, which spans the United States, Southern Canada, Mexico, and several Caribbean Islands,

P. longipennis is the most observed aquatic insect, and fortieth most observed species on the community

science platform iNaturalist, despite being one of the least observed Anisoptera in more conserved habitats

such as National Parks, suggesting this species may predominantly be utilizing urban habitats (Tolman et

al. 2024b). Indeed *P. longipennis* was the most commonly observed Odonata by community scientists in a

recent survey of the Odonata in a North American City (Uche-Dike et al. 2024). Further supporting the

hypothesis that *P. longipennis* thrives in urban habitats, some genes involved in the response to oxidative

stress, immune response, DNA damage repair, all functions implicated in urban adaptation (Salmón et al.

2018) , were suggested to be under diversifying selection while other genes involved in these processes are

under stabilizing selection (Tolman et al., 2024b). The range of *P. longipennis* recently has expanded

northward with a warming climate (Lis et al., 2020). Reflecting its seeming propensity for urban habitats,

P. longipennis can be observed in localities with a highly diverse assemblage of Odonata, as well as bodies

of water with few species, suggesting a high tolerance to poor water quality (Tollett et al., 2009). Many

cohorts of *P. longipennis* develop over the course of a year, but bi-voltinism has also been observed in this

species (Wissinger, 1988).

Pantala flavescens (Libellulidae)

P. flavescens, the wandering glider, is one of two species in *Pantala.* It is among the most well-studied

species of Anisoptera, and is the most widely distributed dragonfly (Russell et al., 1998). It makes long

transcontinental and trans-oceanic migrations (Rowe, 2004; Ware et al., 2022), and is frequently found in

warmer regions, particularly in the tropics, but can also be found in temperate regions in the summer (May,

2013). Though it is not surprising—given the migratory nature of the species—evidence suggests

widespread gene flow between populations across the globe, and it may be appropriate to refer to many, if

not all, of the migratory sub-populations as panmictic (Ware et al., 2022). An analysis of historical

effective population size (N_e), using individuals from Guangdong Province, China found that the N_e of *P.*

flavescens has varied between 1 million and 10 million over the last million years, with declines associated

with the onset of the agricultural and industrial period (H. Liu et al., 2022).

Sympetrum striolatum (Charpentier, 1840; Libellulidae)

S. striolatum is a palearctic dragonfly (John Horne, 2012) that is found in Europe and other areas in the

Mediterranean (Borkenstein and Jödicke, 2022), with bodies of salt-water likely serving as a major barrier

to gene flow within this species (Parkes et al., 2009). A demographic model of *S. striolatum*, generated

from a reference assembly of an individual from Wytham Woods, Oxfordshire, UK (Crowley et al., 2023)

estimated a relatively stable N_e around 1 million throughout most of the past 10 million years (which may

predate the divergence times of this species), with declines to an effective population size of around

100,000 occurring in the last 100,000 years (Tolman, Bruchim, et al., 2023).

Tanypteryx hageni (Petaluridae)

T. hageni is one of only two species in *Tanypteryx* and is the only Petaluridae to inhabit the fens of Western

North America, ranging from Southern California, USA, to Southern British Columbia, Canada (Turner,

1970). *T. hageni* burrows in its nymphal stage, and takes five years to emerge as an adult (Turner, 1970). A

recent behavioral analysis demonstrated that *T. hageni* nymphs regularly leave their burrows for extended

periods of time during both day and night, navigating a terrestrial environment. *Tanypteryx* is one of two

genera in the "Laurasian" clade of Petaluridae (Tolman et al., 2024)

Uropetala carovei (Petaluridae)

U. carovei is one of two species of the genus *Uropetala* (referred to by Māori as Kapokapowai) , and is

found in the lowlands of both the Northern and Southern islands of New Zealand (Rowe, 1981). Their

lifespan ranges from five to six years, depending upon the length of the growing seasons (L. S. Wolfe,

1952). Like *T. hageni*, *U. carovei* burrows in its nymphal stage (Green, 1977). It has been suggested that *U.*

carovei leaves its burrow to forage (G. Theischinger and I. Endersby, 2009), but it is unclear if *U. carovei*

is as active outside of its burrow as *T. hageni*. *Uropetala* (Kapokapowai) is one of three genera in the

"Gondwanan" clade of Petaluridae.

Materials and Methods

Specimen collection

We sequenced the genome of *U. carovei*, a member of the Gondwanan clade of Petaluridae which diverged

from the Laurasian clade of Petaluridae (including *T. hageni*) in the late Jurassic (Ware et al., 2014a;

Tolman et al., 2024). *U. carovei* was collected as a nymph near Aorere goldfields in New Zealand and was

injected with and stored in 100% ethanol prior to DNA extraction and sequencing. To expand the taxon

coverage of the Libellulidae we sequenced the genome of *Pachydiplax longipennis*. An adult specimen was

collected from Parkcenter Park Pond in Boise, Idaho, and was stored in 100% ethanol prior to sequencing.

Sequencing and Genome Size Estimation

High molecular weight DNA was extracted from both the *U. carovei* and *P. longipennis* specimens using

the Qiagen Genomic-tip kit. High molecular weight DNA was sheared to 18 kbp using a Diagenode

Megaruptor and separate libraries were prepared for each specimen using the PacBio HiFi SMRTbell

Express Template Kit 2.0. Each library was sequenced on a single PacBio Revio SMRT cell in CCS mode

at the BYU DNA sequencing center.

Genome Assembly and QC

For both *U. carovei* and *P. longipennis* we used HiFi reads to estimate genome size with Genomescope 2.0

(Ranallo-Benavidez et al., 2020). We first generated read histograms with a histogram length of 21 using

Jellyfish (Marçais and Kingsford, 2011), and ran Genomescope 2.0 with default settings. We generated

both whole genome assemblies with hifiasm v.0.16.0 (Cheng et al., 2021).

We used taxon-annotated GC-coverage plots generated with BlobTools v1.1.1 (Laetsch and

Blaxter, 2017) to screen for contamination. We mapped all HiFi reads against the final assembly for each

species using minimap2 v2.1 (Li, 2018) and sorted the resulting bam files with samtools v1.13 (Danecek et

al., 2021). We then assigned taxonomy with megablast (Shiryev et al., 2007) using the parameters: task

megablast and -e-value 1e-25. We calculated coverage using the blobtools function map2cov, created the

blobtools database for each species using the command blobdb, and generated the blobplot with the

command "`blobtools plot`". After examining the blobplots we removed one contig from the

assembly of *P. longipennis* which was assigned to the phylum tracheophyta and removed all contigs from

the assembly of *U. carovei* with coverage above 100x, or below 10x, which did not blast to Arthropoda.

Additional contaminants were automatically removed from the assembly of *U. carovei* as a part of

the NCBI genome upload (supplementary Supplementary Table 1). No additional contaminants were

removed from the assembly of *P. longipennis*.

We generated all contiguity stats for both assemblies with the command line tool assembly-stats

v0.1.4 (Trizna, 2020). We assessed the completeness of both assemblies with BUSCO v.4.1.4 (Manni et al.,

2021) using the Insecta Odb10 database, in genome mode with the flag -–long to retrain the initial BUSCO

results for a more accurate identification of BUSCO genes.

Whole genome alignment

Given the contiguity of the assembly of *P. longipennis*, we calculated synteny between the draft genome

assembly and the chromosome length genome assembly of *S. striolatum* to identify any complete

chromosomes. We identified potentially homologous genes using BLASTp (Camacho et al., 2009),

restricting output to 5 hits per gene and filtering for hits with an e-value below 1e-5. We combined the

BLAST output and gff annotation files for *P. longipennis* and *S. striolatum* and used MCscanX (Wang et

al., 2012) to identify areas of synteny between the genomes with a minimum of 5 genes. We visualized the

syntenic relationships in a Circos v.0.69-18 (Krzywinski et al., 2009) plot to identify chromosome-length

contigs.

To assemble the remaining contigs into chromosomes, we aligned the chromosome length

assemblies of *Pantala flavescens*, *Sympetrum striolatum*, *Tanypteryx hageni* and the Platycnemididae

Platycnemis pennipes with the assembly of *P. longipennis* using progressive cactus v.2.6.7 (Armstrong et

al., 2020). We then used ragout v.2.3 (Kolmogorov et al., 2014; Kolmogorov et al., 2018), with the option -

-solid-scaffolds, to generate a scaffolded assembly from the alignment. As the karyotype of *U. carovei* is

currently unclear (Kuznetsova and Golub, 2020), it would not be possible to assess the quality of the

scaffolding, so we did not attempt to scaffold this genome. This would not impact the results of the gene

family evolution analysis.

Gene family expansion analysis

Data selection

In addition to the genomes of *P. longipennis* and *U. carovei* we included publicly available genomes of

Odonata from GenBank (October 1, 2023). To minimize bias due to differing genome sequencing methods

we only included genomes that had been generated from PacBio high-fidelity technology, which has been

shown to generate the highest quality insect genomes to date (Hotaling et al., 2021). We identified four

Anisopteran genomes sequenced with this technology, comprising two Libellulidae (*Pantala flavescens* (H.

Liu et al., 2022) and *Sympetrum striolatum* (Crowley et al., 2023)) and one Petaluridae (*Tanypteryx hageni*

(Tolman et al., 2023)). We also chose to include the three publicly available genome assemblies of

Zygoptera, the Platycnemididae *Platycnemis pennipes* (Benjamin W. Price and E. Louise Allan, 2023), the

Coenagrionidae *Ischnura elegans* (Price et al., 2022), and the Calopterygidae *Hetaerina americana*

(Grether et al., 2023) to use as an outgroup in the gene family expansion analysis.

Annotation

To ensure consistency in the genome annotations we annotated with genomes of *H. americana*, *P.*

pennipes, I. elegans, P. longipennis, S. striolatum, U. carovei, and *T. hageni* in GALBA (Brůna et al.,

2023) using the annotated protein set of *P. flavescens* (H. Liu et al., 2022). GALBA aligns the reference

protein set to the soft-masked target genome using miniprot (Li, 2023) and uses the alignments to train

Augustus (Stanke et al., 2006; Hoff and Stanke, 2019), and has produced more accurate annotations of

insect genomes than common annotation pipelines such as BRAKER2 (Brůna et al., 2021; Brůna et al.,

2023) which use RNA-seq. Of the published genomes of Odonata, the annotated protein set of *P. flavescens*

(H. Liu et al., 2022) is by far the most complete (Tolman et al., 2023), with nearly 99% of BUSCO genes

present (fig 1.A), justifying its use as a reference. Prior to annotation with GALBA, repetitive elements of

all target species were modeled and soft-masked with RepeatModeler2 (v2.0.1) and RepeatMasker v.4.1.2-

p1(Flynn et al., 2020). Because the initial GALBA annotations found an unreasonably high (>50,000)

number of genes, we only kept annotated genes with a significant BLAST (Camacho et al., 2009) hit (with

an e-value cutoff of 1e-10) to the annotated protein set of *P. flavescens* (H. Liu et al., 2022). Given the

completeness of this annotated protein set (H. Liu et al., 2022) this filtering step increases the specificity of

GALBA without a drop in sensitivity, and has since been incorporated into the GALBA pipeline (see

https://github.com/Gaius-Augustus/GALBA/releases/tag/v1.0.10). The GALBA documentation indicates

this filtering step removes erroneous annotations, and with a low homology threshold, retains accurate gene

models. The documentation contains detailed analyses demonstrating that such a filtering step is highly

unlikely to remove accurate gene models, and is thus unlikely to miss key orthologues and bias a

downstream gene family expansion analysis. The new filtered annotations are much more complete than

the original genome annotations for the species (Tolman et al., 2023). We generated all contiguity stats for

both assemblies with the command line tool assembly-stats v0.1.4 (Trizna, 2020). We assessed the

completeness of all annotations with BUSCO v4.1.4 (Manni et al., 2021) using the Insecta ODB10

database, in protein mode.

As part of the annotation process, we also identified the mitochondrial genomes from the de novo

assembles of *P. longipennis* and *U. carovei* using mitohifi v. 3.0.0 (Uliano-Silva et al., 2021). We used the

mitochondrial genome of *T. hageni* (Tolman et al., 2023) as a reference for *U. carovei* and the

mitochondrial genome of *S. striolatum* (Crowley et al., 2023) as a reference for *P. longipennis*. The

mitochondrial genome sequences have been uploaded, as part of the reference genome sequences, to

GenBank.

Gene family evolution

For the ultrametric input tree required by CAFE5 (Mendes et al., 2021), we largely used divergence times

recovered by Suvorov et al. (2021) which utilized transcriptomic datasets, and shared overlapping

interfamilial divergence times with Kohli et al. (2021). The dated tree from Suvorov et al. (2021) contained

Platycnemididae, while the tree by Kohli et al. (2021) did not, making it the more prudent of the two time-

trees to utilize here. The only branch length not used from this analysis was the divergence between the

Petaluridae *T. hageni* and *U. carovei,* which was set to 161 Ma, as suggested by Tolman et al. (2024),

which used a multilocus anchored-hybrid enrichment dataset. Suvorov recovered a more recent split (~115

Ma) between the Gondwonan (including *Uropetala*) and Laurasian (including *Tanypteryx*) clades in

Petaluridae by placing the fossil *Argentinopetala archangelski* (F. Petrulevičius and Nel 2003) as crown

Petaluridae. Tolman et al. (2024) demonstrated that, based on wing venation, this fossil should be

considered as a crown member of the Gondwanan clade of Petaluridae. This fossil placement altered the

divergence time estimation between the two clades within Petaluridae, but did not alter the divergence

estimation between Petaluridae and other families in Odonata, which closely overlapped with the time

identified by Suvorov et al. (2021) (Tolman et al., 2024). While *Pachydiplax longipennis* and *Platycnemis*

pennipes were not included in the dated tree considered by Suvorov et al. (2021), this tree does include

other taxa which shared the same most-recent common ancestor of *Sympetrum striolatum* and *Pachydiplax*

longipennis (the genus *Libellula* is more closely related to *Pachydiplax* than is *Sympetrum* (Ware et al.,

2007)) and *Ischnura elegans* and *Platycnemis pennipes* (other representative of Platycnemididae were

included by Suvorov et al.) so these dates were used in our ultrametric tree.

We clustered the amino acid sequences from the longest isoforms of each gene for each species

with Orthofinder (Emms and Kelly, 2019). We then used CAFE5 (Mendes et al., 2021) to generate three

different lambda (gene birth/death rate) models of gene family evolution. First, a global lambda model with

a shared lambda for the whole tree, second a two lambda model with separate lambdas for Anisoptera and

Zygoptera, and third a four lambda model with separate lambdas for Petaluridae, Libellulidae, the ancestral

branch of Anisoptera, and Zygoptera. We ran each model with 100,000,000 iterations to allow for

convergence and replicated each model run 1000 times, which involved first running CAFE5 with the

ultrametric tree and orthofinder output to generate an error model, and then rerunning CAFE5 with the

estimated error model to account for sequencing and annotation error for each of the replicate runs. We

then identified significantly expanding and contracting gene families from each converged model and used

the Akaike Information Criterion (AIC) and Likelihood-ratio Test (LRT) to compare each of the converged

models. In addition to comparing the converged models with AIC and LRT, we also randomly selected

1000 combinations of each of the model runs without resampling, and identified the number of times each

model was selected by AIC and LRT in the random comparison. Finally, to assess convergence we

evaluated the variance of -LnL values estimated across each of the 1000 runs for each lambda model.

Specifically we tested whether the -LnL standard deviation (SD) of the two and four lambda models

significantly differ from the SD of the global model using the F-test in R v4.1.4 (R Core Team 2021) to

determine whether the independent runs of the two and four lambda runs varied more than the global

lambda run.

While the four lambda model did outperform the other two models in AIC and LRT and was the

best fitting model by both metrics when comparing model runs independently (Supplementary Table 3), its

-LNL SD of this model indicated it did not converge as strongly as the other two models (Supplementary

Table 3), with a particular lack of convergence around the lambda for the ancestral branch of Anisoptera

(supplementary Fig. 6). This lack of convergence is likely the cause of the differing counts of expansions

and contractions in the four lambda model as compared to the other two tested models (Supplementary

Table 4).The likelihood surface may have a flat plateau near the optimum or have a multiple local optima

near the optimum Due to this lack of convergence, we considered less complex models for the the summary

of the functions of expanded gene families, as the CAFE5 documentation recommends use convergence as

a strong consideration in considering the appropriateness of gene family evolution models (hahnlab/CAFE5

2025). In selecting between the global and two lambda models, we chose to use expanded gene families

selected from the two lambda model, as it provides better fit than the global lambda model in the AIC and

LRT tests, was selected at a higher rate (11.3% overall) than the global model (0.3% overall) by both AIC

and LRT, and showed small improvement in the strength of convergence compared to the global model

(Supplementary Table 3). Additionally, these two models had 93% overlap in the identification of

significantly expanding gene families, and only minor differences in the counts of expanding and

contracting gene families (Supplementary Table 4).

Functional annotation

We obtained Gene Ontology (GO) terms for all of the protein sequences (with the exception of *P.*

flavescens which were previously reported (H. Liu et al., 2022) using interproscan (Mariani et al., 2013;

Baek et al., 2021; Hiranuma et al., 2021). We summarized the GO terms of significantly expanding gene

families into TreeMaps with REVIGO (Supek et al., 2011) for expanded gene families in the Libellulidae

and Petaluridae. Given the missing taxon sampling in other areas of the tree, it would not be appropriate to

analyze patterns of gene family expansion on a broader level.

Demographic histories

As the demographic history of a species may be important when studying genome evolution, particularly in

relict insect lineages lineages (H.-L. Liu et al., 2022; Bentley et al., 2023), we estimated the demographic

histories of *U. carovei*, *P. longipennis* and *T. hageni* (estimates for all other species have previously been

described (H. Liu et al., 2022; Tolman, Bruchim, et al., 2023)). As with the blobtools analysis, HiFi reads

were mapped to the genome assemblies with minimap2 v2.1.1(Li, 2018), and the bam files were sorted

with samtools v1.16.1 (Danecek et al., 2021) and bcftools v1.6 (Danecek et al., 2021), with a minimum

depth of 5 and a maximum depth of 100, was used to make base calls from the sorted bam files. We then

used psmc v0.6.5-r67 (Liu and Hansen, 2017) to convert the fastq basecalling output to psmcfa format and

estimate the pairwise sequential markovian coalescent (PSMC) with 100 bootstrap replicates for each

species. For all three species we visualized the PSMC with the programs psmc (Liu and Hansen, 2017) and

gnuplot v5.2 (Phillips, 2012) using four different mutation rates (1e-9, 2e-9, 3e-9, and 4e-9), encompassing

known genome-wide mutation rates in Insecta (Liu et al., 2017), and values previously used in

demographic analyses of Odonata (H. Liu et al., 2022; Ethan R. Tolman et al., 2023). As *P. longipennis*

cohorts are typically uni-voltine, but occasionally exhibit bi-voltinism (Wissinger, 1988) , we used a

generation time of 0.8 to reflect the occasional bi-voltine generations. *U. carovei* has a generation time of

5-6 years depending on the length of growth seasons (Winstanley and Rowe, 1980; Baird, 2012) so we used

a generation time of 5.5 years. *T. hageni* has a life cycle of 5 years (Turner, 1970; Baird, 2012), and this

was the value used in the coalescent analysis.

Results

Sequencing and Genome Size Estimation

We generated over 6 million high-fidelity reads, totaling more than 93 Gbp, for *U. carovei* (read

N50=15,101; L50=2,488,241; ave=14,547.95) and over 5.8 million reads totaling more than 76 Gbp for *P.*

longipennis (read N50 = 13,394; L50 = 2,369,807; ave= 13,034.64). Using GenomeScope 2.0, we

estimated a genome size of 0.88 Gb (87.4% unique sequence, 1.8% heterozygosity, kcov: 40.5, err:

0.0885%, k:21) for *P. longipennis* (supplementary fig. 1A). and 1.00 Gb (67.5% unique sequence, 1.18%

heterozygosity, kcov: 36.7, err: 0.224%, k:21) for *U. carovei* (supplementary fig. 1B).

Genome Assembly and QC

The initial assembly of *U. carovei* was highly contiguous when compared to other whole genome

assemblies of Odonata (length=1.33Gb, N50=8.67Mb, L50=49, ave=1.72Mb, N=773). The assembly of *P.*

longipennis was among the most contiguous genomes ever assembled without scaffolding (length=1.0Gb,

N50=66.9 1Mb, L50=7, ave=3.71Mb, N=270). The blobplot, which displays the assigned taxonomy,

coverage and GC content of each contig to identify potential contaminants, of *U. carovei* showed potential

contamination (supplementary fig. 2A) of contigs with coverage above 100x, or below 10x. Such contigs

that were not assigned to Arthropoda were removed. Only one contig of *P. longipennis*, which was

assigned by BLAST to tracheophyta (a common laboratory plant) was removed from the assembly

(supplementary fig. 2B), as all other contigs were assigned to Arthropoda. The identification of core

BUSCO orthologues indicate that the genomes were highly complete, with nearly 97 percent of assessed

Insecta genes present in the assembly of *U. carovei* (C:96.9%[S:95.9%,D:1.0%],F:1.0%,M:2.1%,n:1367),

and 98% of the Insecta genes present in *P. longipennis* (C:98.0% [S:95.2%,D:2.8%], F:0.5%, M:1.5%,

n:1367). Both are comparable to other HiFi assemblies of Odonata (Newton et al., 2023 Jun 7; Tolman et

al., 2023).

Whole genome alignment

We generated eight pseudo-chromosomes for the assembly of *P. longipennis* from the cactus whole

genome alignment with *S. striolatum* (supplementary Table 1). The remaining four chromosomes still

showed high levels of synteny with a select number of contigs (supplementary Table 1, supplementary fig.

3).

Annotation

All our annotations recovered more than 97% of BUSCO Insecta db10 genes (fig. 1A) after filtering. We

initially recovered 114,332 genes for *H. americana*, 103,410 for *P. pennipes*, 66,745 for *I. elegans*, 45,043

for *P. longipennis*, 53,217 for *S. striolatum*, 53,629 for *U. carovei*, and 75,637 for *T. hageni*. After filtering

for genes that had a significant BLAST hit with the proteome of *P. flavescens* we recovered 13,567 genes

for *H. americana*, 15,064 from *P. pennipes*, 15,378 from *I. elegans*, 16,663 from *P. longipennis*, 17,672

from *S. striolatum*, 15,122 from *U. carovei*, and 17,447 from *T. hageni* (fig. 1B).

Figure 1: Gene Family Expansion Analysis

Gene family evolution

Gene birth-death rate

The four lambda model had a lower AIC (258702) than the global (261966) and two (261974) lambda

models, and both the two lambda (94) and four lambda models outperformed the Global lambda in the LRT

(Supplementary Table 3). However, the four lambda model did not converge as well as the global lambda

model, with a significantly higher standard deviation of -LnL from 1000 (SD=1872.92) independent runs

than the global model (SD=170.67; Supplementary Table 3). The two lambda model had a significantly

smaller distribution of final model -LnL than the global model (SD=132.67; Supplementary Table 3).

The gene families identified as significantly evolving by CAFE shared 93% overlap between the

one and two lambda models, 88% overlap between the one and four lambda models, and 83% overlap

between the two and four lambda models. The counts of identified expanding and contracting gene families

differed by a max of 13 (in Anisoptera) between the one and two lambda models (Supplementary Table 4).

The four lambda model did not identify any expansions or contractions in the ancestral Anisoptera, and the

branches leading to Petaluridae, Libellulidae, and Zygoptera differed from the global model by counts of

11, 72, and 157 respectively. We identified convergence at $\lambda = 0.0008$ in the global lambda model (Fig.

1C; supplementary Fig. 4), $\lambda = 0.0008$ and $\lambda = 0.0007$ for Anisoptera and Zygoptera respectively in the

two lambda model (supplementary Fig. 5), and $\lambda = 0.0000091$ (ancestral Anisoptera), $\lambda = 0.00058$

(Petaluridae), $\lambda = 0.002$ (Libellulidae), and $\lambda = 0.007$ (Zygoptera) in the four lambda model

(supplementary Fig. 6).

Functional annotation

Figure 2: Tree maps of GO terms associated with significantly expanding gene families in Libellulidae and

Petaluridae

GO terms associated with significantly expanding gene families shared amongst the Libellulidae and

Petaluridae in the two lambda model were summarized into 44 (Fig. 2A) and 3 (Fig 2B) biological

processes respectively. Within Libellulidae, GO terms associated with gene family expansion were

summarized into 44 biological processes in *S. striolatum*, 13 in *P. flavescens*, and 45 processes in *P.*

longipennis (Fig. 2A). In Petaluridae, GO terms from significantly expanded gene families were

summarized into 36 biological processes in *T. hageni*, and 32 processes in *U. carovei*.

Figure 3: *Demographic histories* of <u>*Pachydiplax longipennis, Uropetala carovei,*</u> and <u>*Tanypteryx hageni*</u>

To test the assumption that the Petaluridae have long been habitat specialists, and the Libellulidae have

long been generalists, we modeled the historical effective population size of the species considered here, as

habitat specialists are more likely to have a historically smaller effective population size. PSMC models

showed one climb in N_e of *P. longipennis*, starting between 7 and 20 Mya, and peaking from 1-6 Mya (fig.

3A). The peak N_e was estimated to be between 0.5 and 6 million, with declines stabilizing less than 100k

years before present at ~100,000 Fig. 3A). The PSMC model suggests the N_e of *Uropetala carovei*

fluctuated throughout a period from 25-100 Mya depending on the mutation rate (fig. 3B). In the scenario

with the lowest genome-wide mutation rate, from 100 Mya to 10 Mya, the N_e of *Uropetala* increases, but

continuously decreases until around a million years ago. In the scenario with the fastest mutation rate, the

population starts increasing around 25 Mya and peaks around 2.5 Mya (fig. 3B). Among the different

scenarios the highest peak N_e was between 7 and 25 million (fig. 3B).

All estimates for the change in effective population size (N_e) for *T. hageni* showed an initial drop

in N_e starting around 30 million years ago (Mya), until a brief uptick in N_e approximately 3 Mya, followed

by another period of decline stabilizing approximately 200,000 years before present (fig. 3C), as made

evident by the tight bootstrap replicates. Regardless of the mutation rate used in the model, the N_e of *T.*

hageni never climbed higher than 2 million, and lower estimates of the genome-wide mutation rate do not

show an effective population size above 1 million (fig. 3C).

Discussion

Our results provide a number of testable hypotheses relating to genome size, gene family expansion, and

the diversification of odonates into the range of ecosystems they currently inhabit. We consider here the

strengths and implications of the technologies used to generate these results, and then some of the major

research areas suggested by our results.

Genome assembly and annotation

Genome size estimates of Odonata assembled from PacBio high-fidelity sequences have been found to

diverge from genome sizes estimated with Genomescope (Ranallo-Benavidez et al., 2020). Although many

contigs from the *U. carovei* assembly were not assigned to the Arthropoda, it is likely an artifact of an

incomplete NCBI reference database (Tolman et al., 2023). Another Petaluridae, *T. hageni*, showed a

similar profile with contigs not assigned to Arthropoda, even in well supported scaffolds with HiC data,

likely due to poor coverage in NCBI databases (Tolman et al., 2023). This phenomenon has also been

observed in horseshoe crabs, and in the transcriptomes of other Petaluridae (Tolman et al., 2023). With our

current understanding, taxonomically mis-assigned contigs with a similar GC content and coverage to

contigs not assigned to Arthropoda are not a major source of concern (Tolman et al., 2023).

PacBio high-fidelity sequencing has become the gold standard for insect genomics (Hotaling et al.,

2021). The near chromosome-level assembly of *P. longipennis* presented here, before any scaffolding,

further demonstrates the potential of this sequencing technology. As this technology is further developed,

complete, chromosome-length genome assemblies will be available without any scaffolding.

The genome annotation tool GALBA has been demonstrated to outperform more established

pipelines, such as BRAKER2 (Brůna et al., 2021) when annotating insect genomes, and does not need

further sequencing of transcriptomes (Brůna et al., 2023). While our genome annotations initially had a

high (>50,000) number of genes compared to the annotation of *P. flavescens*, by conservatively retaining

only genes which had a BLAST hit to a protein sequence from *P. flavescens* (H. Liu et al., 2022), we were

able to generate highly complete annotations with nearly all insecta BUSCO orthologues present (Fig. 1. A,

B), further supporting the efficacy of this pipeline in insects, especially in the absence of transcriptomic

data.

Gene turnover in Odonata

The global lambda recovered for Odonata (λ=0.0008) was higher than a previous estimate of 0.000010

(Thomas et al., 2020). However this previous estimate only included one species in Odonata, which could

explain this disparity. Our estimate is still much lower than other animal lineages, as the estimated lambdas

of primates (λ=0.00563), birds of paradise (λ=0.00226), and the insect orders Hymenoptera (λ=0.00375)

(Mendes et al., 2021), and Hemiptera (λ= 0.00233070.01; Kwak et al., 2023) are all an order of magnitude

greater than the global lambda of Odonata (λ=0.0008). An analysis of the synteny between chromosome

level genome assemblies of Odonata found a high degree of conservation in chromosome structure, even

between suborders (Tolman, Beatty, et al., 2023). Thus, our results here demonstrate that not only does the

karyotype of Odonata evolve much slower than many studied insect lineages, but gene turnover in Odonata

also appears to occur at a much slower rate than other studied insect lineages. Such a dynamic could

partially explain why the Odonata are so species poor (with ~6000 species) compared to other insect

lineages.

It is also notable that that, in the four lambda model, the rate of gene turnover in the Petaluridae

(λ = 0.00058) was an order of magnitude lower than the gene turnover rate identified in Libellulidae (λ =

0.002). This low turnover rate could partially explain why Petaluridae has not radiated to the extent of

Libellulidae (nor is there evidence of widespread extinction in the Petaluridae (Tolman et al., 2024)). While

this is certainly an exciting hypothesis for future study, caution does need to be taken at this time, as the

lambda for ancestral anisoptera did not show strong evidence of convergence (Supplementary Fig 6; Table

1). This hypothesis should be further explored as more Odonata genomes become available, and as

bioinformatic methods for studying gene family evolution improve.

Hypotheses from expanding gene families

While more research is necessary to better understand the molecular processes tied to the evolutionary and

ecological histories of odonates, our functional annotations of expanding gene families can be used to

generate testable hypotheses related to the ecology and evolution of Petaluridae and Libellulidae. Here, we

discuss hypotheses derived from our GO analyses that warrant further investigation in future studies.

As *T. hageni* and *U. carovei* represent ~18% of all Petaluridae, and both major clades within the

family (Ware et al., 2014, Tolman et al., 2024), we believe it is highly likely that most of the gene family

expansions shared between these two species are shared across Petaluridae. However, as the family

Gomphidae is likely sister to Petaluridae (Bybee et al., 2021; Kohli et al., 2021; Suvorov et al., 2021),

without representative genomes for Gomphidae, we cannot determine whether these expanded gene

families would be found in both families, thereby suggesting that they may have originated in a most-recent

common ancestor. Given these limitations, the expanding gene families shared between the two Petaluridae

still suggest candidate genes to explore for genomic adaptations related to the life history attributes of this

family, namely the longevity of these lineages through evolutionary time, the long development times seen

in these species, and the unique semi-terrestrial lifestyle of the nymphs.

Hypothesis 1: terrestrial nymphs have different sensory perception profiles. The genomes of

T. hageni and *U. carovei* both contained expanded gene families implicated in the "sensory perception of

taste."(fig. 2B). While all odonate nymphs are aquatic, the nymphs of this petaltail species have been

observed to forage in the terrestrial habitats around their subterranean burrows (which fill with water,

providing an aquatic environment). Odonates are generalist predators in their nymph and adult stages.

Terrestrial foraging could bring these petalurid nymphs in contact with a range of potential prey very

different from those they would encounter in a strictly aquatic environment. Insects generally utilize taste

to avoid toxic chemicals, find suitable food sources, select mates and find oviposition sites (Rebora et al.,

2022). Adult Odonata, in particular, have been observed catching and rejecting toxic prey upon tasting it

(Rebora et al., 2022). It is currently unclear if nymphs exhibit this behavior. With terrestrial foraging,

petalurid nymphs may encounter a greater proportion of toxic prey, such as arachnids,which have been

observed in and around the burrows of *T. hageni*. Further examination of the specific genes involved in

taste perception in petalurids needs to be performed, along with greater documentation of their foraging

behavior and analysis of their diet to test this hypothesis.

Our results also suggested that *T. hageni* perceives light differently than other studied Anisoptera.

The expansion of gene families related to *phototransduction* in *T. hageni* could be due to the differing light

conditions the nymphs face in a terrestrial environment. Transcriptomic data has shown that opsin genes in

particular have undergone a number of expansions and contractions across Odonata, but the reasons for this

evolutionary pattern are currently unclear (Bybee et al., 2022). Transcriptomic work will be needed to

confirm whether expanded gene families related to phototransduction are expressed in the nymphs, as

previously published transcriptomic work including Petaluridae sequenced only adults (Suvorov et al.,

2017). It is currently unclear if *U. carovei* is semi-terrestrial to the same extent as *T. hageni*, and it is

necessary to determine the extent of semi-terrestriality across Petaluridae to refine any hypotheses related

to this behavior. As the nymphal behavior of the Petaluridae is better understood, and more genomes and

transcriptomes are sequenced, gene families associated with taste and vision could be a promising avenue

for understanding their interaction with a terrestrial environment as nymphs.

Hypothesis 2: highly tolerant dragonflies have expanded gene families to deal with

desiccation and bacterial exposure. While it is certainly plausible that shared expansions in the three

Libellulidae analyzed here are shared across the family, we will be more certain about gene family

expansions among libellulids when more genomes are available. Several biological processes related to the

shared expansions of these three taxa may be associated with the generalist life-history of libellulids. A

major overrepresented GO term shared between these three species is the *peptidoglycan catabolic process*

(fig. 2A). Peptidoglycan is an essential element in the walls of most bacteria (Vollmer et al., 2008). Several

hypotheses could explain why gene families related to catabolizing peptidoglycan would be present. First:

genes involved in the peptidoglycan catabolic process were upregulated when the Antarctic midge *Belgica*

antarctica was placed under desiccation conditions (Teets et al., 2012). In the case of odonates, expansions

could be adaptive to deal with more arid environments, or in ephemeral aquatic environments. Secondly,

Libellulidae often inhabit warm, eutrophic waters, where harmful bacteria are more likely to be found

(Sharip and Fauzi, 2019). Expansion of gene families involved in the peptidoglycan catabolic process could

enable Libellulidae to tolerate exposure to high levels of bacteria.

Hypothesis 3: highly tolerant dragonflies have expanded gene families to deal with exposure

to free radicals. Another GO term associated with expanded gene families in Libellulidae is *cell redox*

homeostasis (fig. 2A), a dynamic but essential process ensuring balance between oxidizing and reducing

reactions in cells that is also involved in many biological responses (Le Gal et al., 2021). These elements

have been shown to maintain homeostasis in fluid conditions (Le Gal et al., 2021). An ability to maintain

homeostasis would be critical for Libellulidae, as the shallow bodies of water they inhabit can often

undergo rapid changes in temperature and water chemistry. GO terms associated with expanding gene

families of *P. longipennis* could offer some explanation for how this species has been so successful in

colonizing urban environments. One of the most overrepresented GO terms for this species was *response to*

oxidative stress (fig. 2A). Birds in urban or polluted environments have increased antioxidant protection,

and face higher levels of oxidative stress (Salmón et al., 2018), so it is likely that Odonata face these same

pressures. It follows that a greater capacity to respond to oxidative stress in urban environments would

allow *P. longipennis* to outcompete other species that do not have this capacity. Additionally, the expansion

of gene families related to *chromatin remodeling* (fig. 2A) could allow *P. longipennis* sufficient plasticity

to thrive in an urban environment.

Hypothesis 4: highly tolerant dragonflies have expanded gene families to allow for greater

phenotypic plasticity. Expansions related to both *methylation*, *response to ATP*, and *response to stress* in

Libellulidae (fig. 2A) could result in increased phenotypic and molecular plasticity, which are a necessity

for evolutionary stability in fluctuating environments (Lalejini et al., 2021), and could be another molecular

adaptation to fluctuating environments.

Hypothesis 5: migratory dragonflies can more efficiently process carbohydrates. In *P.*

flavescens, the expansion of gene families related to the *carbohydrate metabolic process* are a plausible

mechanism for allowing this species to undertake trans-oceanic and trans-continental migrations in a single

generation (Ware et al., 2022). It is likely that an especially efficient process for obtaining energy from

carbohydrates would be selected for on such long migrations. The genome of closely related non-migratory

species to *P. flavescens* are needed to explore the genomic adaptations to a migratory lifestyle.

We recognize that a limitation of this study is a lack of taxonomic coverage. *T. hageni* and *U.*

carovei represent the two major clades of Petaluridae (Laurasian and Gondwanan) and ~18% of the family.

However, the three species of Libellulidae anlayzed here represent only 3 of 29 genera and 3 of >1500

species. Additionally, our analysis includes only 2 of the 39 families of Anisoptera, 3 of the 39 Zygoptera,

and only 8 of ~6300-6400 species of Odonata (May, 2019; Waller et al., 2019), so we acknowledge the

birth/death rates calculated could be influenced by poor taxon sampling, and more genomes are needed to

more accurately model gene birth and death. We have included all of the high-quality odonate genome

assemblies currently available at the time of analysis, offering predictions about birth/death rates in this

order that can be refined as more data becomes available.

Demographic histories

Similar to *I. elegans* and *S. striolatum* (Tolman, Bruchim, et al., 2023) the PSMC model for *P. longipennis*

showed a decline in effective population size $(N)_e$ roughly corresponding with the Pleistocene ice ages. As

the climate warms this species could become more widely distributed, but more research into the ecological

niche of this species is needed to affirm this assumption. The N_e of the two fen-dwelling petalurid species–

U. carovei and *T. hageni*–were estimated to be smaller than *P. longipennis* or the other libellulids through

time (H. Liu et al., 2022; Tolman, Bruchim, et al., 2023). If the Petaluridae have consistently been habitat

specialists through the period covered by our analysis, we would predict that their population size would be

limited by availability of their habitat.

Conclusions

Our findings are the first comprehensive analysis of gene family expansion in Odonata. We identify a

number of gene families that may be associated with the differing evolutionary and ecological histories of

the Petaluridae and the Libellulidae. The role of these gene families, and the relatively low levels of gene

turnover will be an exciting avenue of future research as more genomes from across the Odonata, along

with more transcriptome data, become available.

Author contributions

E.R.T: Methodology, formal analysis, data curation, writing.

C.D.B: Methodology, formal analysis, writing.

P.B.F: Methodology, writing, resources.

R.J.B: Methodology, writing.

O.R.B: Formal analysis, writing.

E.S.D: Formal analysis.

K.M.H: Formal analysis.

D.J: Methodology, resources, writing.

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J.P: Formal analysis.

S.P: Formal analysis.

K.R: Formal analysis, writing.

M.R: Formal analysis.

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A.S. Methodology, resources, supervision, writing.

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Declaration of interests

The authors declare no competing interests.

Data availability

The genome assemblies and rawreads of U. carovei (PRJNA1043152 and P. longipennis (PRJNA999334)

are available on GenBank. RepeatMasker output (10.6084/m9.figshare.24714909), unfiltered annotations

(10.6084/m9.figshare.24714918) and filtered proteins sets used for gene family expansion analysis

(10.6084/m9.figshare.24593130) are all available on figshare.

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Figure 1*:* (A) BUSCO results of the eight utilized Odonata genomes. (B) Number of genes recovered with
GALBA (Brůna et al., 2023) annotation, after filtering out genes that did not have a BLAST match with the
genome annotation of *P. flavescens.* (C) Results of global lambda gene family expansion analysis. The
global lambda is shown at the root with the number of identified expansions and contractions on each
branch.
*Annotation previously reported (H. Liu et al., 2022)
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Figure 2. *TreeMaps summarizing rapidly expanding gene families in the (A) Libellulidae and (B)*
Petaluridae. Shared gene family expansions are represented under "Libellulidae" and "Petaluridae". The
enriched biological process terms were summarized with REVIGO (Supek et al., 2011) . *(C) From left to*
right, an adult of the petalurid Tanypteryx hageni, an adult of the libellulid Pantala flavescens, (top) a fen
habitat inhabited by T. hageni (California, USA) and (bottom) an urban pond where the authors have
observed both P. longipennis and P. flavescens (New York, USA)
923

924
925 *Figure 3: Demographic histories of A) P. longipennis, B) U. carovei, and C) Tanypteryx hageni estimated*
926 *with the Pairwise Sequential Markovian Coalescent (PSMC) using mutations of 1,2,3, and 4e-9. Bootstrap*
927 *replicates are shown as lighter lines. A generation time of .8 years was used for P. longipennis, 5 years for*
928 *T. hageni and 5.5 years for U. carovei. D) The semi-terrestrial nymphs of U. carovei (left) and T. hageni*
929 *(right) in their specialized fen habitats.*

A

Complete and single-copy BUSCOs ■ Complete and duplicated BUSCOs ■ Fragmented BUSCOs ■ Missing BUSCOs

Hetaerina americana — C:98.1%[S:96.6%,D:1.5%],F:0.4%,M:1.5%

Platycnemis pennipes — C:97.5%[S:96.3%,D:1.2%],F:0.8%,M:1.7%

Ischnura elegans — C:98.0%[S:96.7%,D:1.3%],F:0.4%,M:1.6%

Pachydiplax longipennis — C:98.5%[S:95.5%,D:3.0%],F:0.4%,M:1.1%

Sympetrum striolatum — C:97.8%[S:96.0%,D:1.8%],F:0.4%,M:1.8%

Pantala flavescens — C:98.9%[S:95.5%,D:3.4%],F:0.0%,M:1.3%

Uropetala carovei — C:97.9%[S:96.8%,D:1.1%],F:0.8%,M:1.3%

Tanypteryx hageni — C:98.0%[S:96.9%,D:1.1%],F:0.6%,M:1.4%

0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

B

Genes Recovered:

Hetaerina americana	13567
Platycnemis pennipes	15064
Ischnura elegans	15378
Pachydiplax longipennis	16663
Sympetrum striolatum	17672
Pantala flavescens	15354
Uropetala carovei	15122
Tanypteryx hageni	17447

C

+35/-202
λ=0.0008

+13/-5

+434/-929 — *Tanypteryx hageni*

+468/-968 — *Uropetala carovei*

+266/-720

+407/-1062 — *Pantala flavescens*

+36/-52

+630/-511 — *Pachydiplax longipennis*

+503/-447 — *Sympetrum striolatum*

+84/-215
λ=0.0007

+61/-22

+479/-663 — *Ischnura elegans*

+406/-758 — *Platycnemis pennipes*

+375/-1068 — *Hetaerina americana*

30.0 Million Years

A) PSMC of *Pachydiplax longipennis*

B) PSMC of *Uropetala carovei*

C) PSMC of *Tanypteryx hageni*

D)