

# Species delimitation in *Capurodendron* Aubrév. (Sapotaceae) using an integrative approach

Patterns of diversification in an endemic  
genus of Madagascar

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# Context & Aims

Tropical biodiversity is difficult to assess

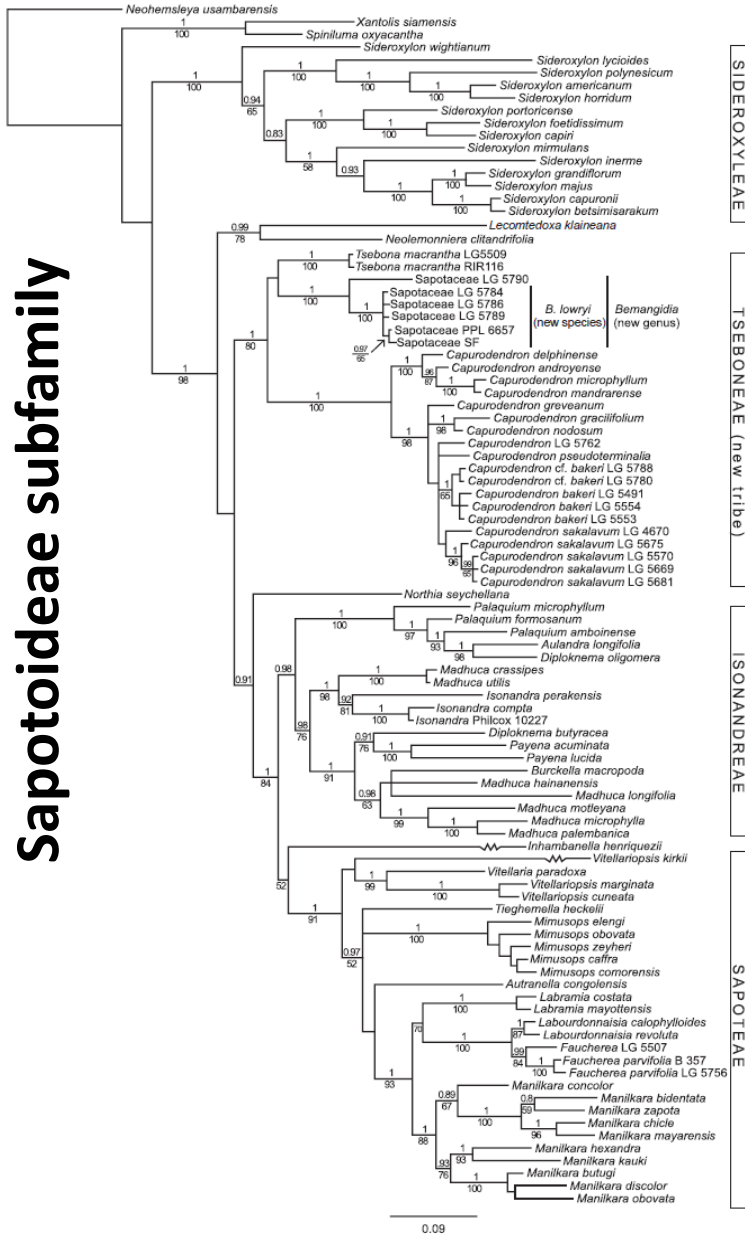
- a difficult access to the field
- low number of individuals/species within a hectare
- scarcity of herbarium samples

Difficult to delineate species within a particular genus

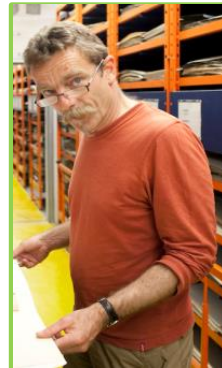
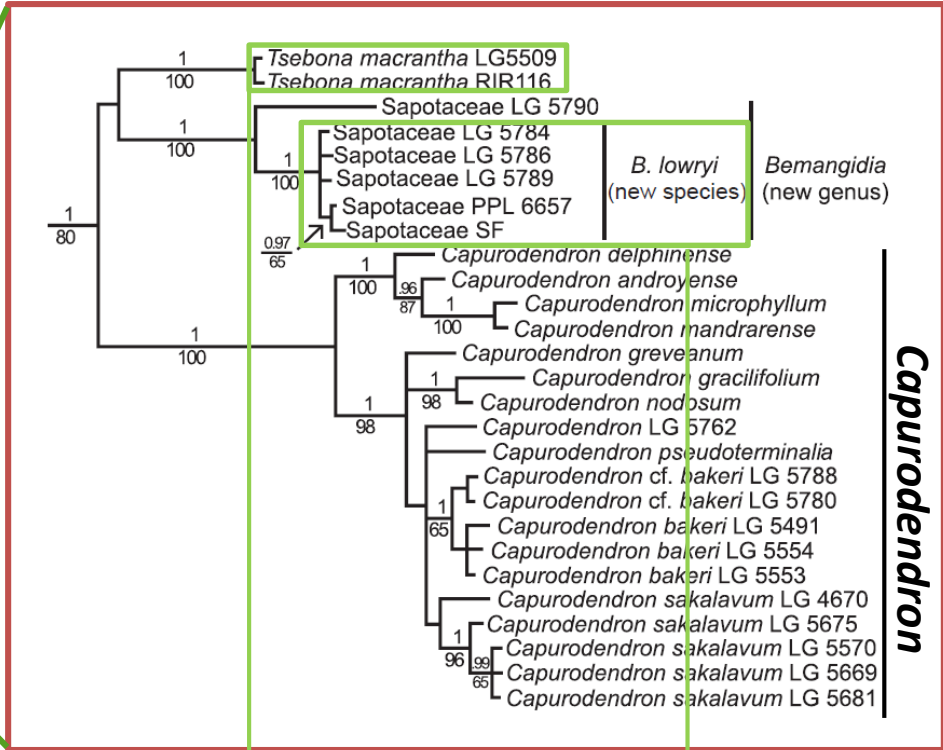
Especially the case with tree species because they are known to hybridize at higher rates than annual species



# Sapotoideae subfamily



## Tsebhoneae Tribe



# Capurodendron

5 sepals; gamopetal corolla 5-lobed, contorted; 5 stamens; 5 hairy connate staminodes closing a nectar chamber above the 5-celled ovary



*Capurodendron delphinense*  
Aubrév.



*Capurodendron sakalavum*  
Aubrév.



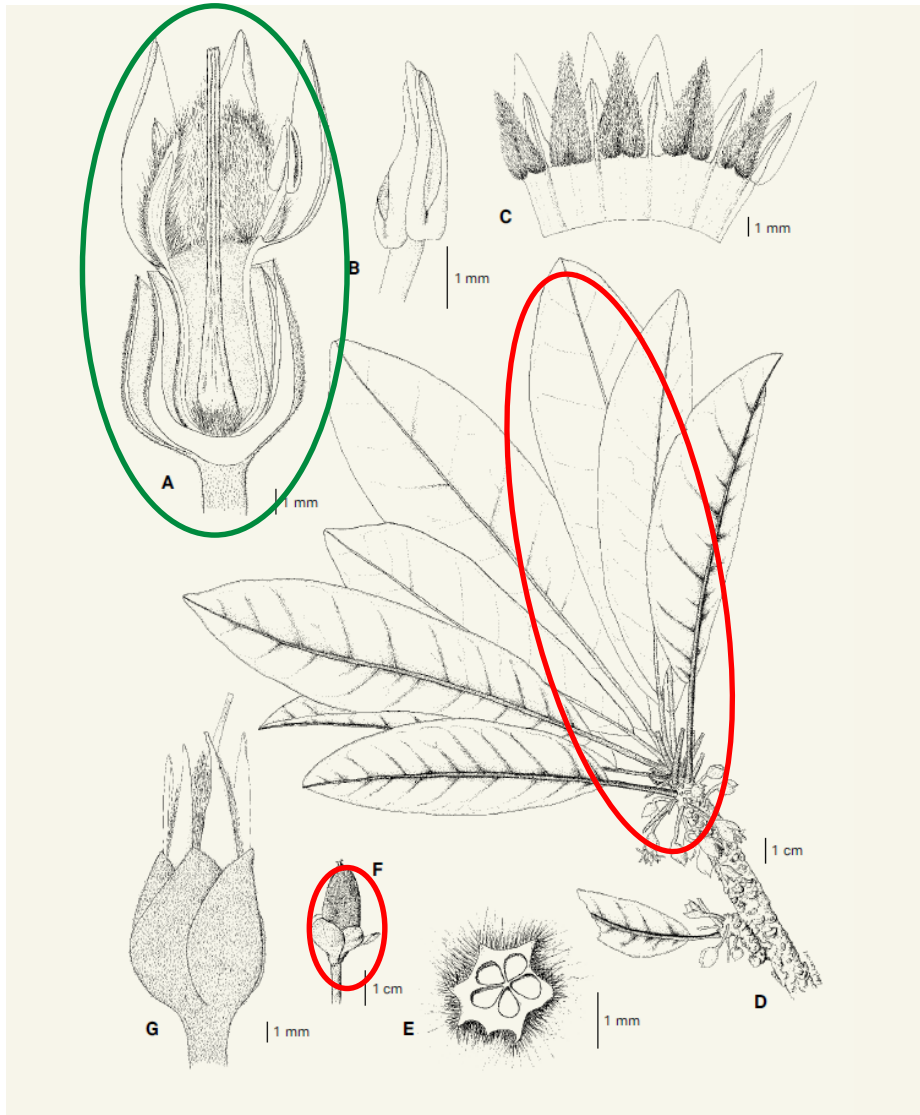
*Capurodendron bakeri*  
var. *antalahense* Aubrév.



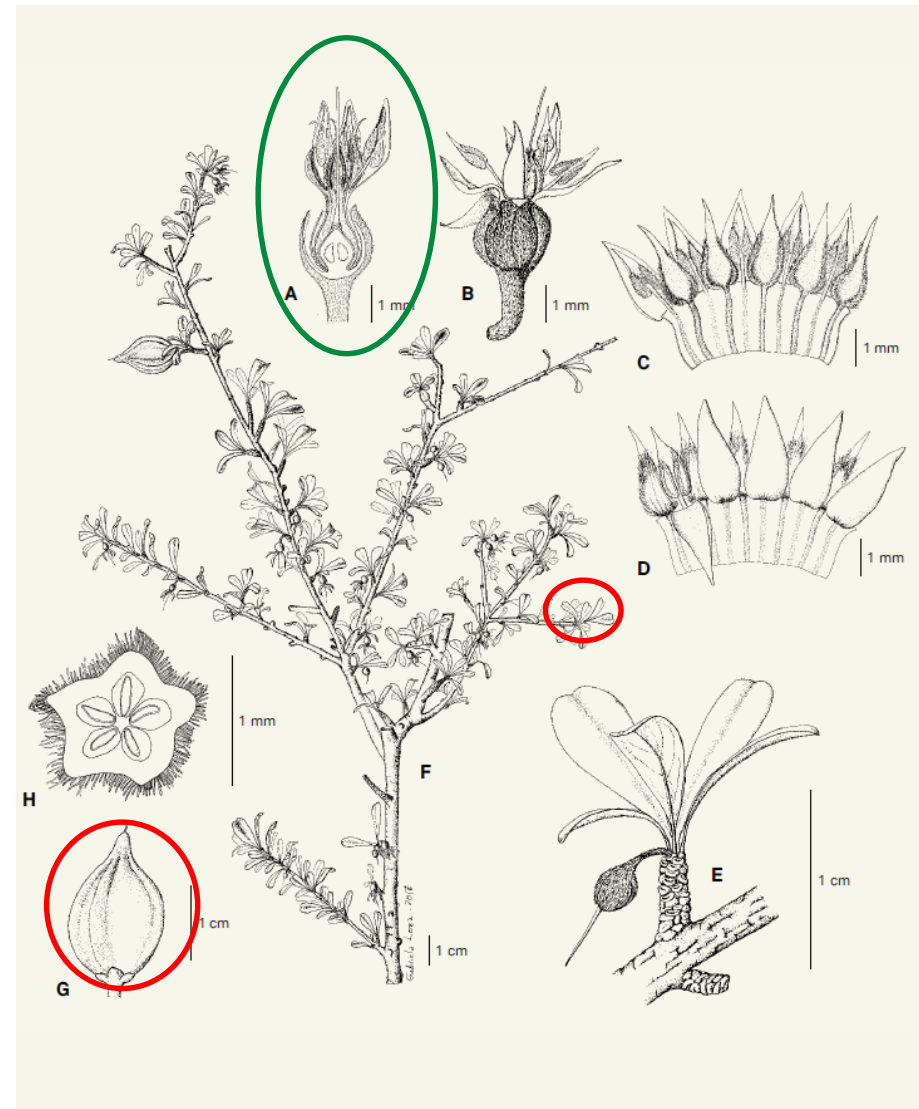
*Capurodendron*  
*mandrareense* Aubrév.

- Trees or shrubs
- 26 described species
- Very homogeneous flowers structure
- Differences in leaves, fruits and seeds morphology

# Variability among *Capurodendron* species



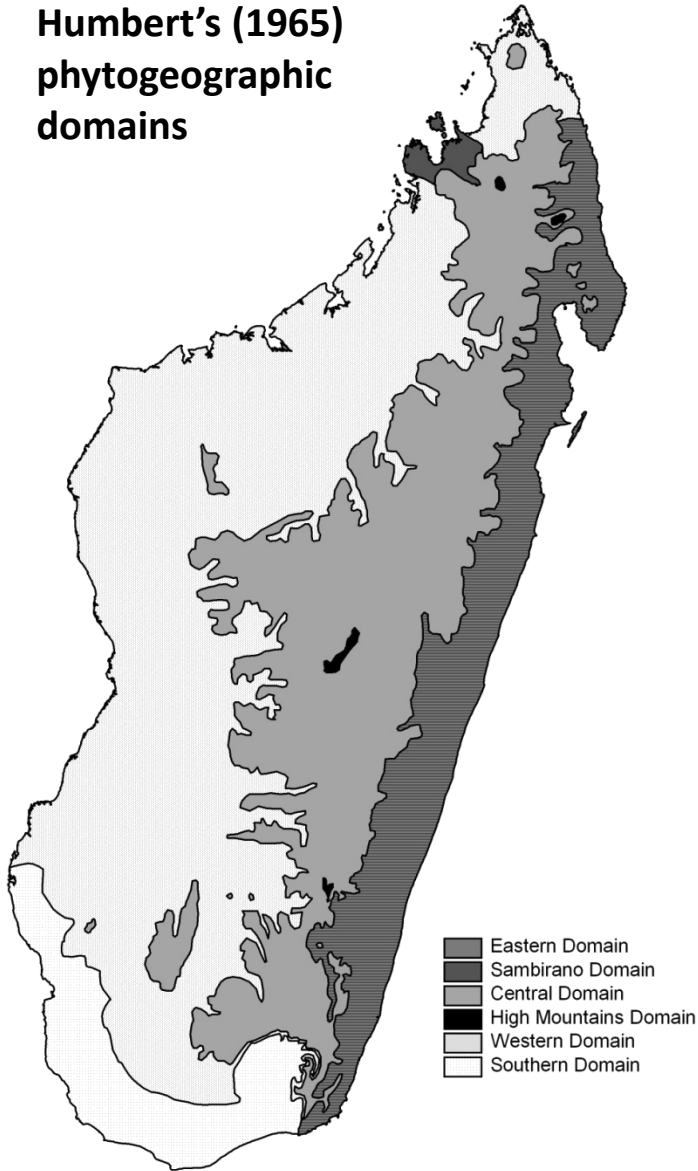
*Capurodendron schatzii* L. Gaut. & Naciri



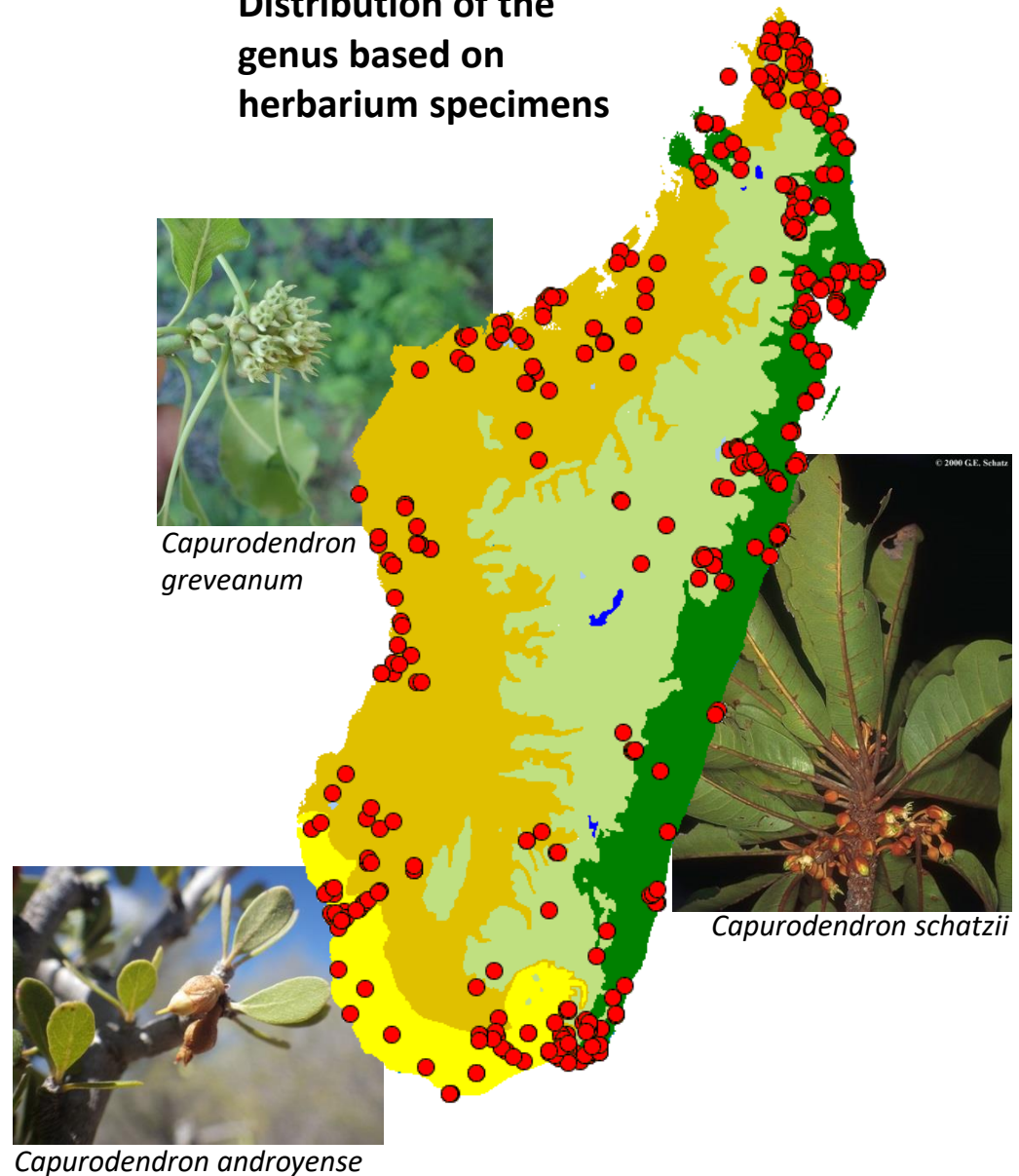
*Capurodendron sahariense* L. Gaut. & Naciri

# Capurodendron (Sapotaceae)

Humbert's (1965)  
phytogeographic  
domains



Distribution of the  
genus based on  
herbarium specimens

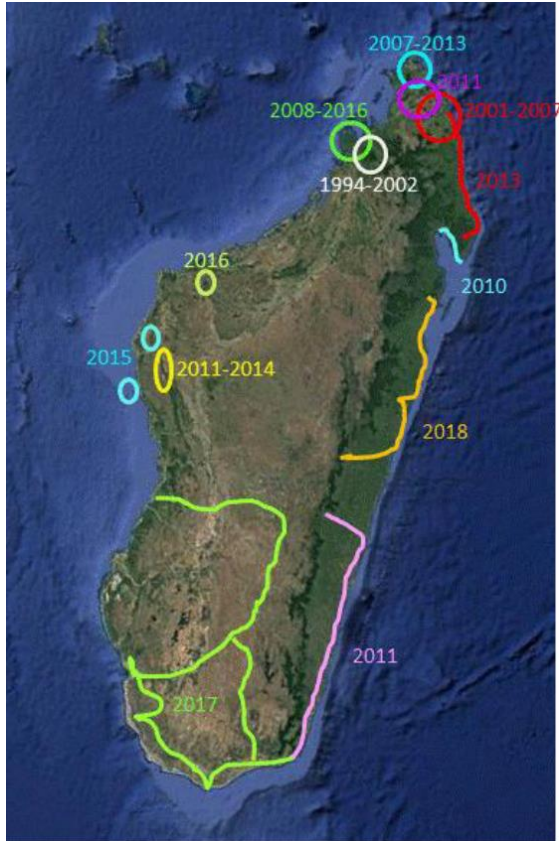


# Aims of the project

- Delimit species using morphology, anatomy and genetics
- Infer the genus history and assess its biogeography (dating)
- Infer the number of species and their known distribution using the samples at hand
- Model the species putative distributions using environmental factors (species modelling)
- Assess their threat categories according to IUCN criteria



# Sampling (from the 1990<sup>ies</sup>)



**2017-2018:** 178 new samples from South and East Madagascar

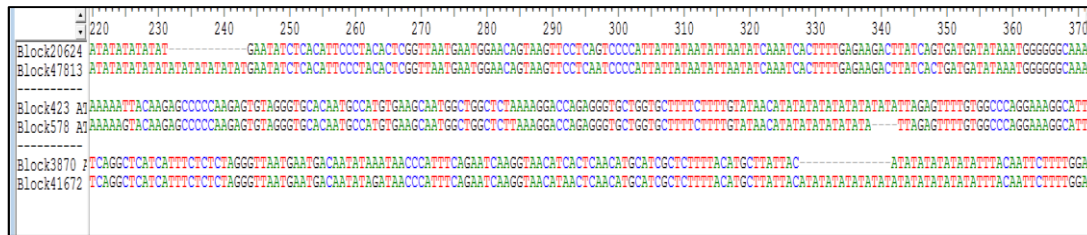


# Targeting genes and microsatellites



We sequenced two genomes (*Capurodendron delphinense* and *Bemangidia lowryi*) and used them together with a published transcriptome (*Manilkara sapota*) to define baits targeting 1469 sequences totalling 1'034'731bp in order to fish:

- **227 microsatellite markers**, specific to *C. delphinense*

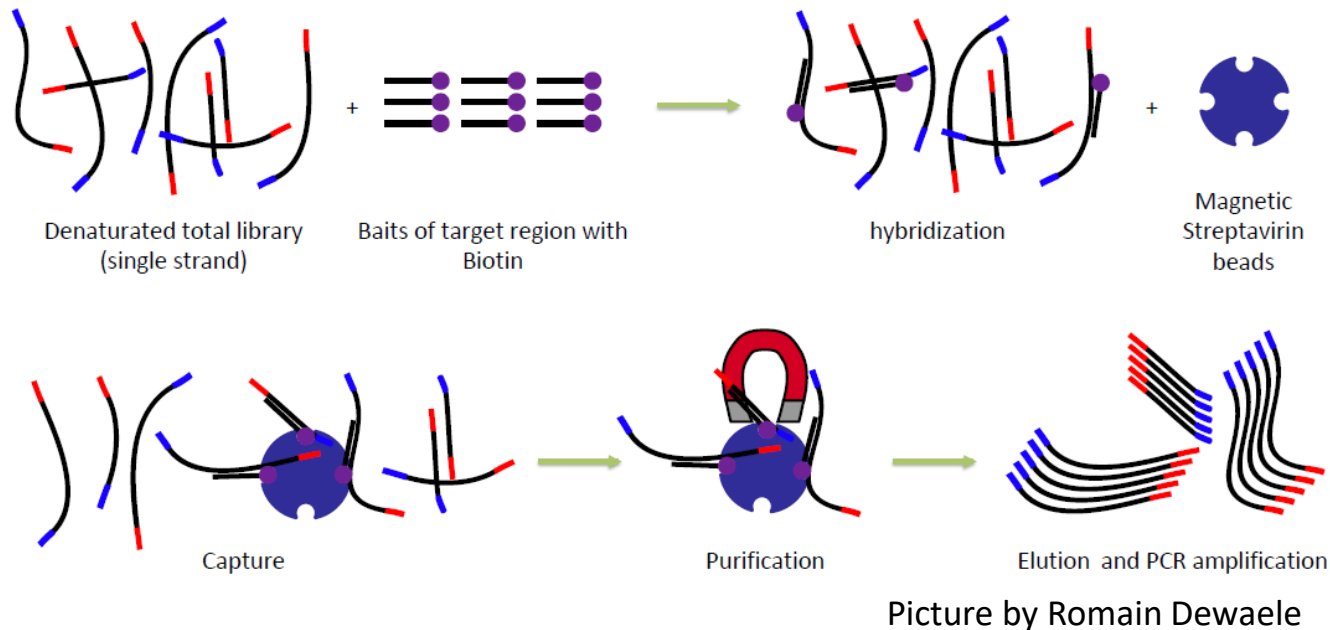


- **532 monocopy genes** (753 exons) specific to the Tseboneae tribe.
- **262 monocopy genes** (262 exons) from a pool suggested by Johnson & al. (2018) for the entire Angiosperm group.

# Libraries and sequence capture



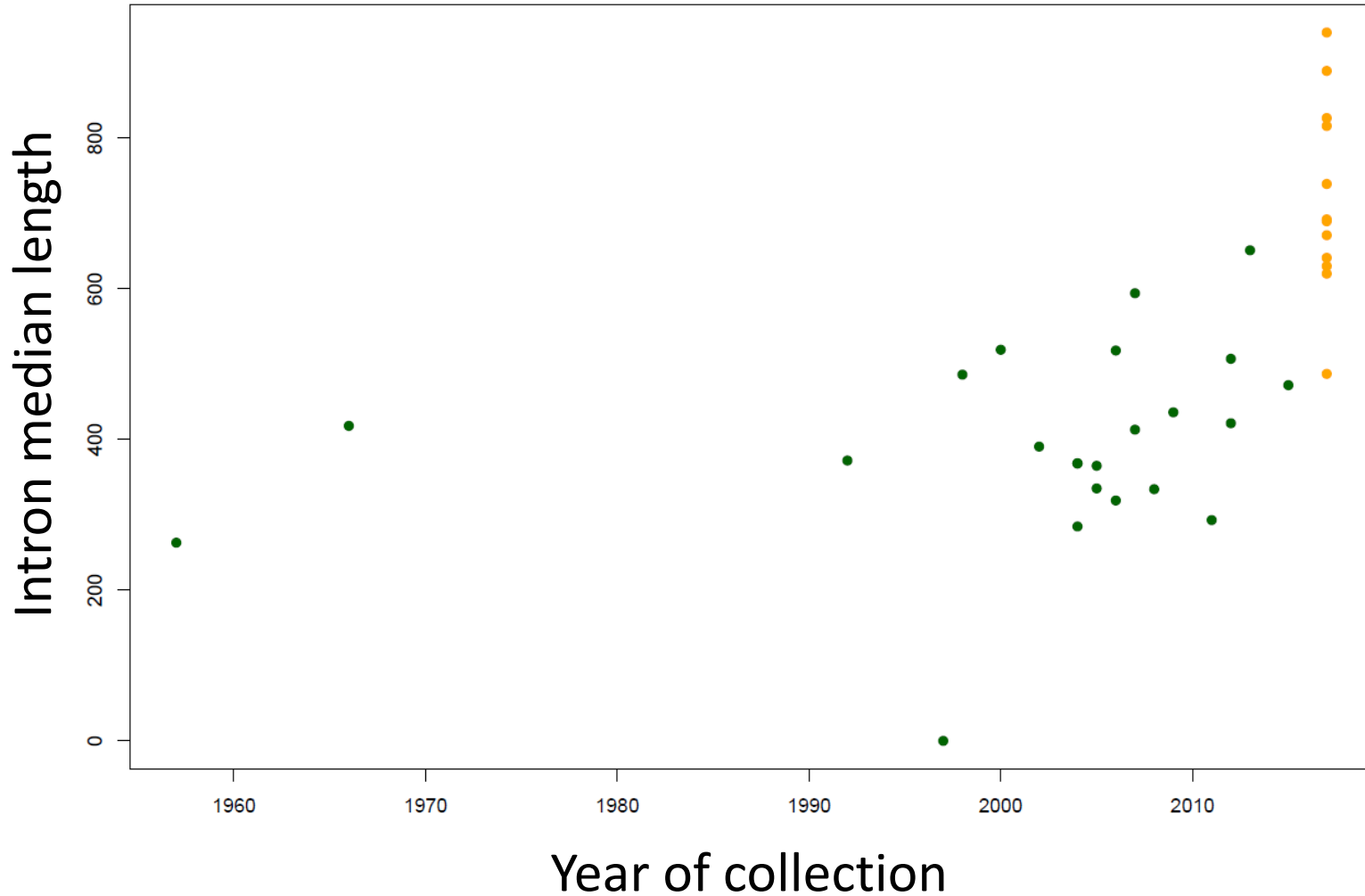
- 281 libraries for Illumina sequencing with fragments of 400bp on herbarium specimens and silagel dried leaves
- Gene capture using streptavidin beads



- Multiplexing in 5 different pools according to DNA quality and quantity

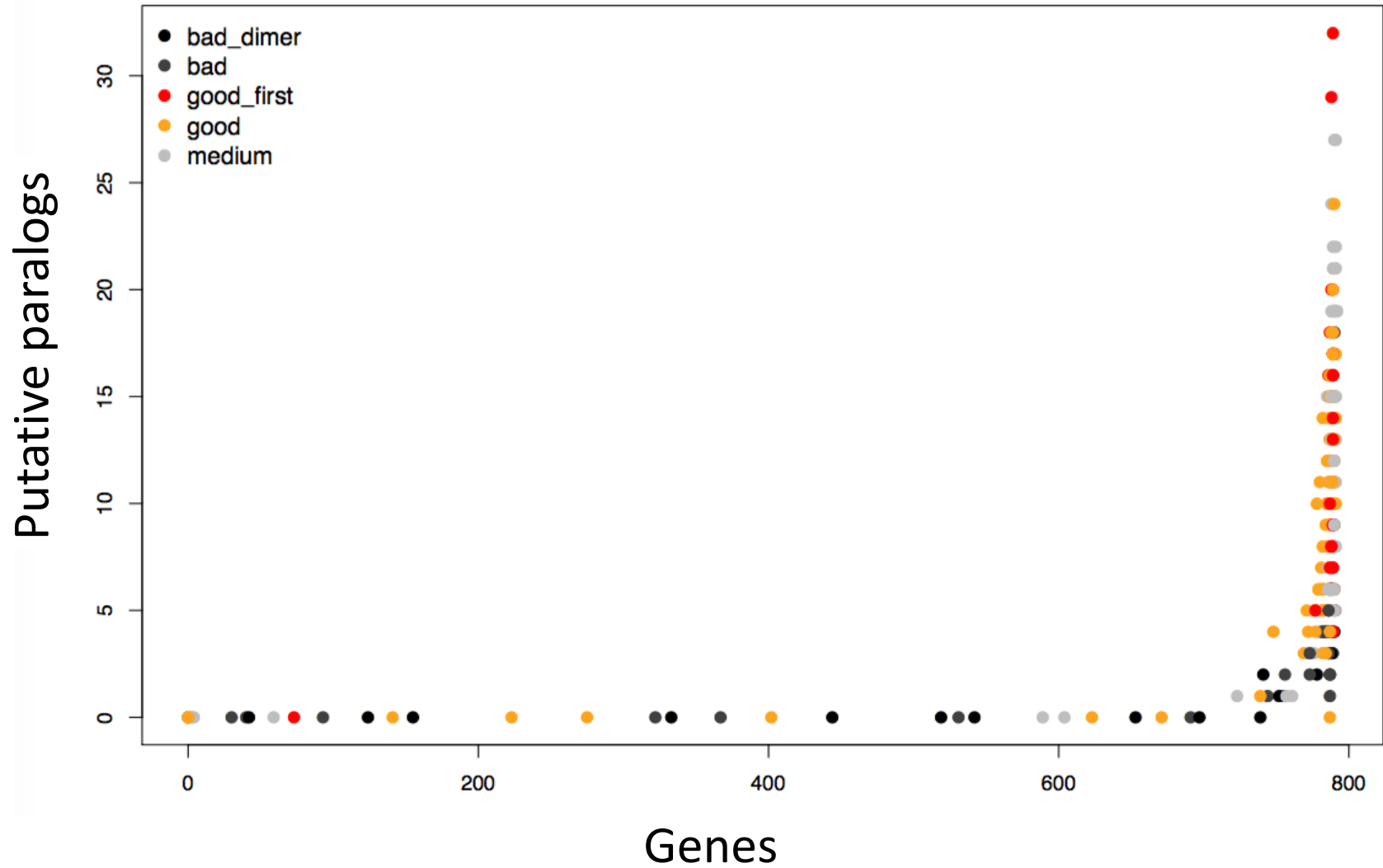


# Gene capture efficiency: and introns



● Silicagel samples ● Herbarium samples

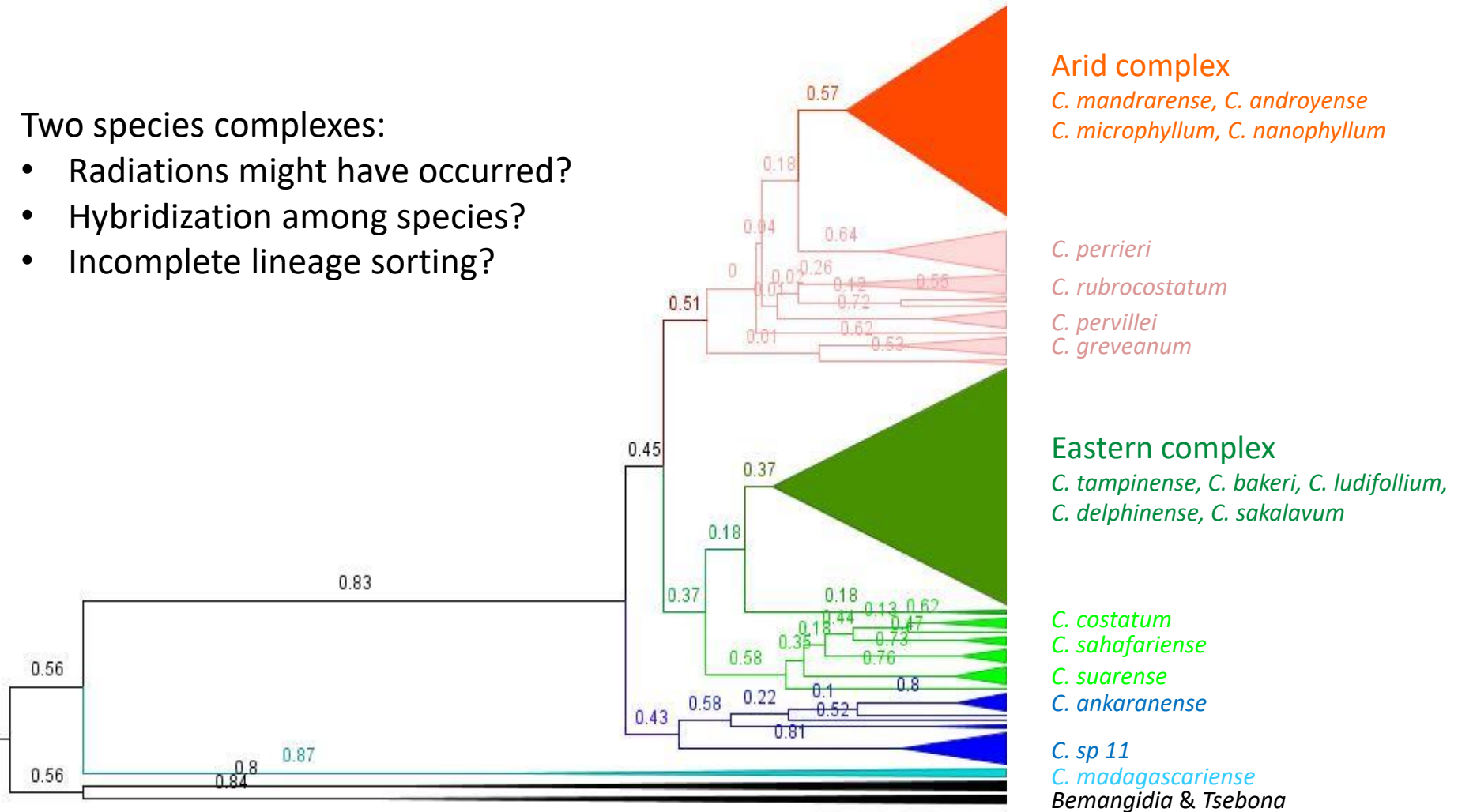
# Gene capture efficiency: putative paralogs



# Species delimitation using sequence data

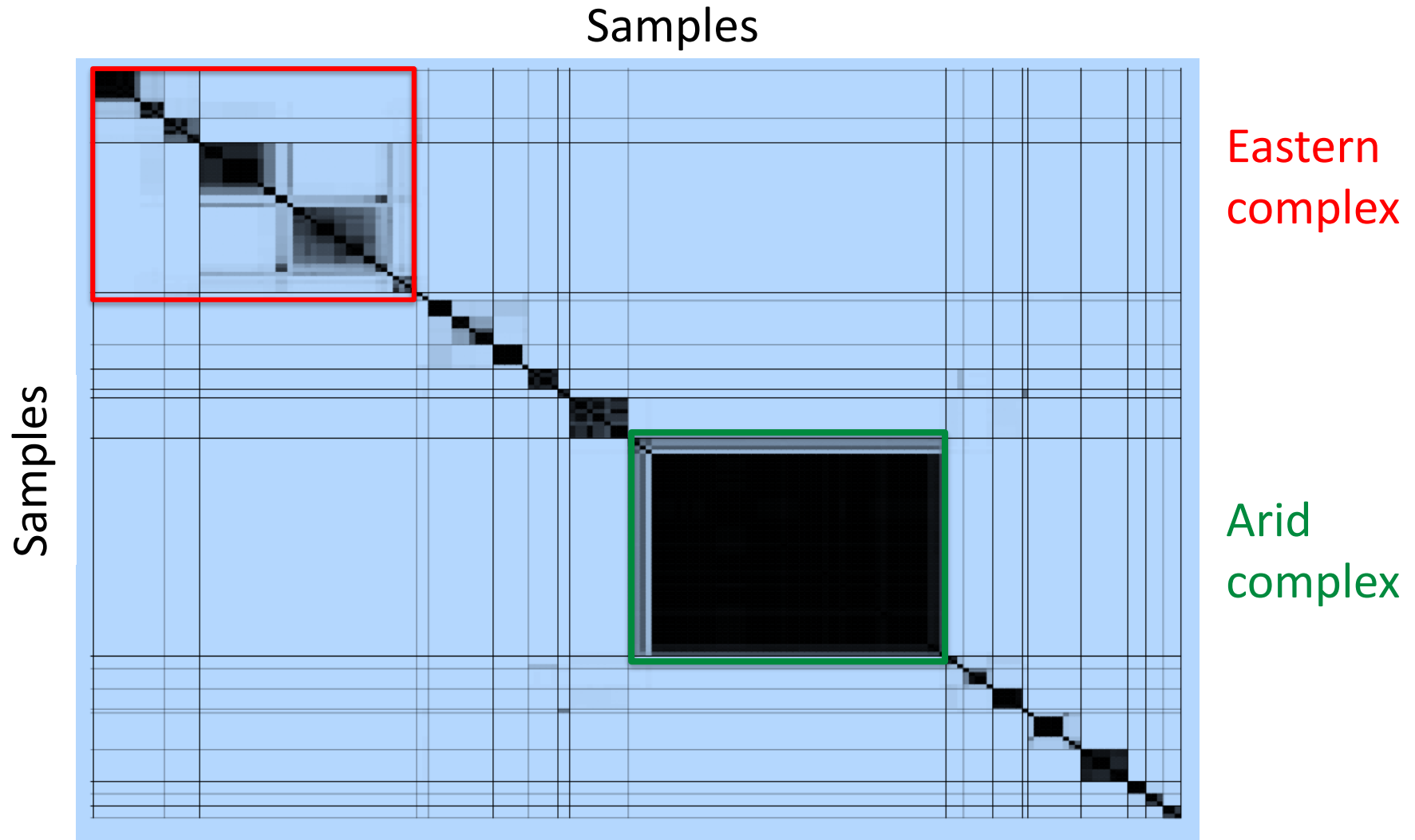
Two species complexes:

- Radiations might have occurred?
- Hybridization among species?
- Incomplete lineage sorting?



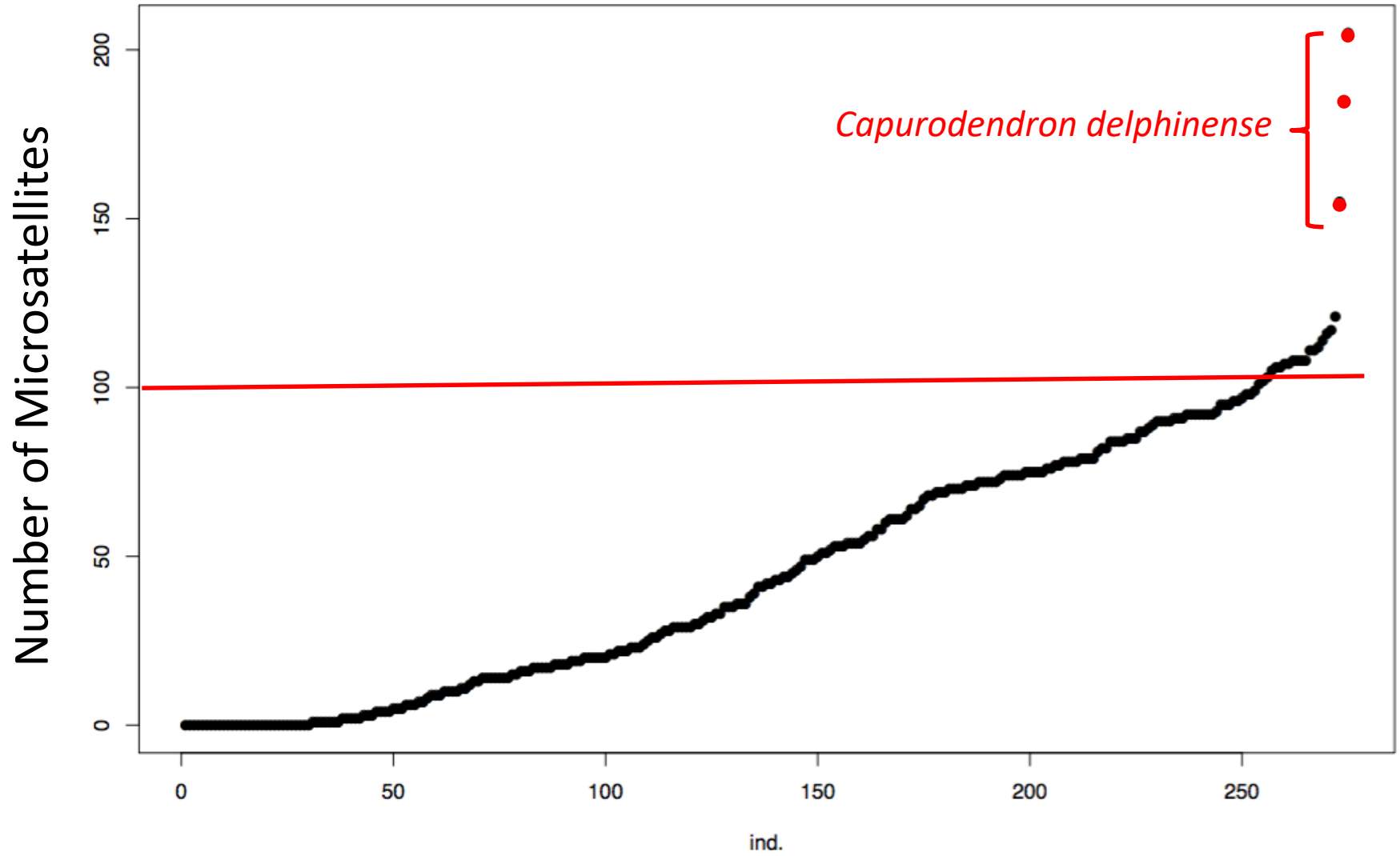
Multi-Species coalescent model, 2 curated genes, 8400bp

# Species delimitation using sequence data



Black squares = very high probability of sample pairs to cluster together

# Microsatellite capture efficiency

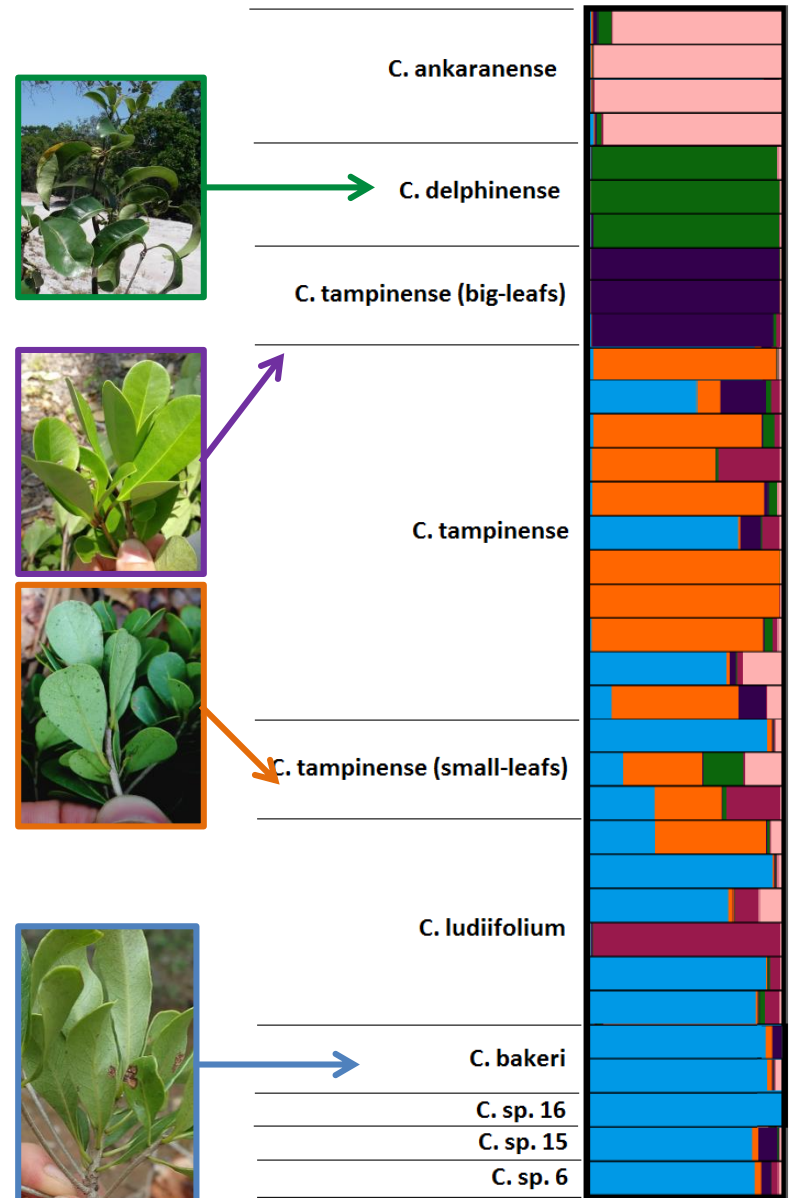




# Species delimitation using microsatellite data

Using 30 microsatellites and Bayesian analyses:

- Only one group was found so far in the Arid complex despite contrasting morphologies
- Different putative species in the Eastern complex with high levels of admixture



# Conclusions

- Gene capture works well with herbarium specimens
- Microsatellites might not be as useful as expected
- Some species are well delimited while others are not.  
Hybridization or incomplete lineage sorting seem to be pervasive
- At least two (recent?) radiations are suspected
- Much more species than initially thought
- Very preliminary results that need to be confirmed



# Thank you for your attention



Carlos Boluda



Camille Christe



Laurent Gautier

Richard Randrianaivo



Aina Randriarisoa

## Funding bodies



# New species described by scientists working in Switzerland



*Capurodendron sahafariense* L. Gaut. & Naciri



Species of the year 2019

Gautier & Naciri (2018) Three Critically Endangered new species of *Capurodendron* (Sapotaceae) from Madagascar. *Candollea* 73(1):121-129



# Future directions

- Curate the genes (not all genes will be usable because of missing data, paralogous sequences, highly conserved sequences, etc...)
- Obtain a robust phylogeny and test biogeographic hypotheses
- Microsatellites might be usable, but in the Eastern complex only
- Model species distributions & assign conservation status

