

# Bacterial taxonomy: Current developments

George M. Garrity

**MICHIGAN STATE**  

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**U N I V E R S I T Y**



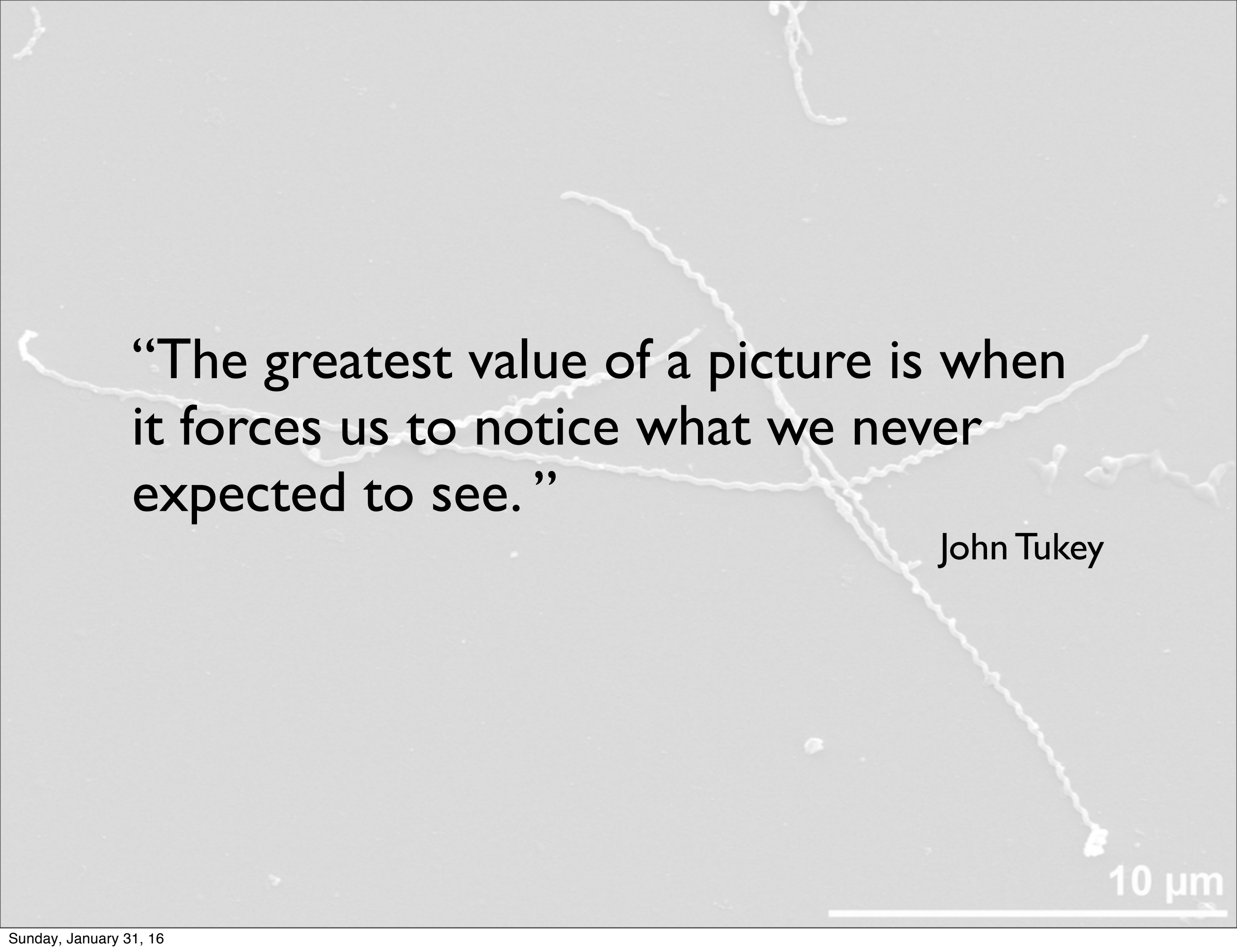
**John W. Tukey**  
1915 - 2000



**Peter H.A. Sneath**  
1923 - 2011



**Samuel T. Cowan**  
1905 - 1976

A grayscale micrograph showing several thin, branching, and somewhat irregular white structures against a dark gray background. The structures appear to be biological, possibly fungal hyphae or similar filamentous organisms. One prominent structure runs diagonally from the upper center towards the lower right. Another structure runs horizontally across the middle. There are several smaller, more complex structures on the right side. The overall appearance is that of a microscopic view of a complex, interconnected network of fine fibers.

“The greatest value of a picture is when it forces us to notice what we never expected to see.”

John Tukey

10  $\mu\text{m}$

“Certainly many systematists (with the exception of microbiologists, who had few preconceptions about bacterial evolution) gave me the impression that because our proposal did not presuppose phylogenetic judgements, they must be anti-evolutionary. They seldom understood that these proposals could lead to techniques by which one could actively explore phylogeny.”

Peter Sneath

10  $\mu\text{m}$

“Sam Cowan was determined to show that it was possible to distribute cultures that were authentic, pure and typical: the fact that this is now broadly accepted as the normal practice is a measure of his success.”

“The proposal to make a new start for bacterial names in 1980 gave Cowan much quiet satisfaction.”

“He had the unusual ability to make taxonomy interesting to other people.”

Peter Sneath

10  $\mu\text{m}$



# Crowdsourcing the global prokaryotic taxonomy

The current 16S rRNA based taxonomy

In development for 35 years

Work product of > 17,500 authors

> 20,600 taxonomic description

12,195 effective publications

Earliest taxa > 175 yrs

Average age 16.8 yrs

13.8% synonyms

7.8% explicitly emended

# Dispelling commonly held perceptions

Taxonomic proposals and names

Hypotheses, not facts

Falsifiable

Valid taxa, valid names and an official taxonomy

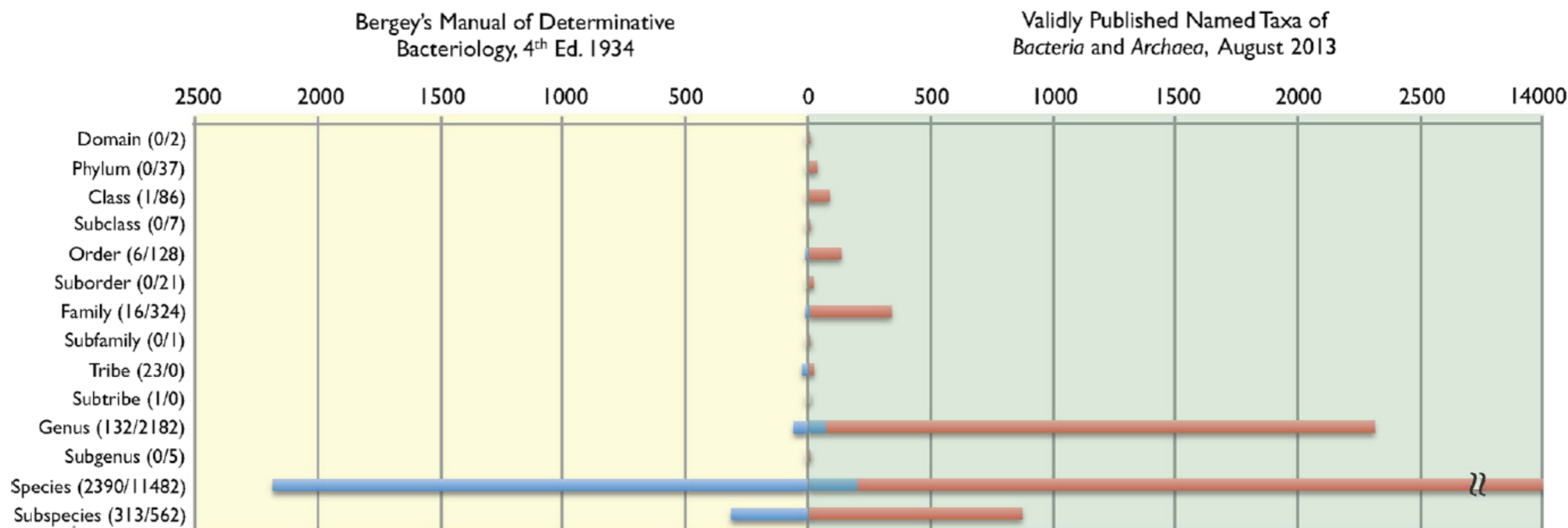
Only nomenclature is governed

The concept of validly published names

0.5  $\mu$ m

# Then and now: a systematic review of the systematics of prokaryotes in the last 80 years

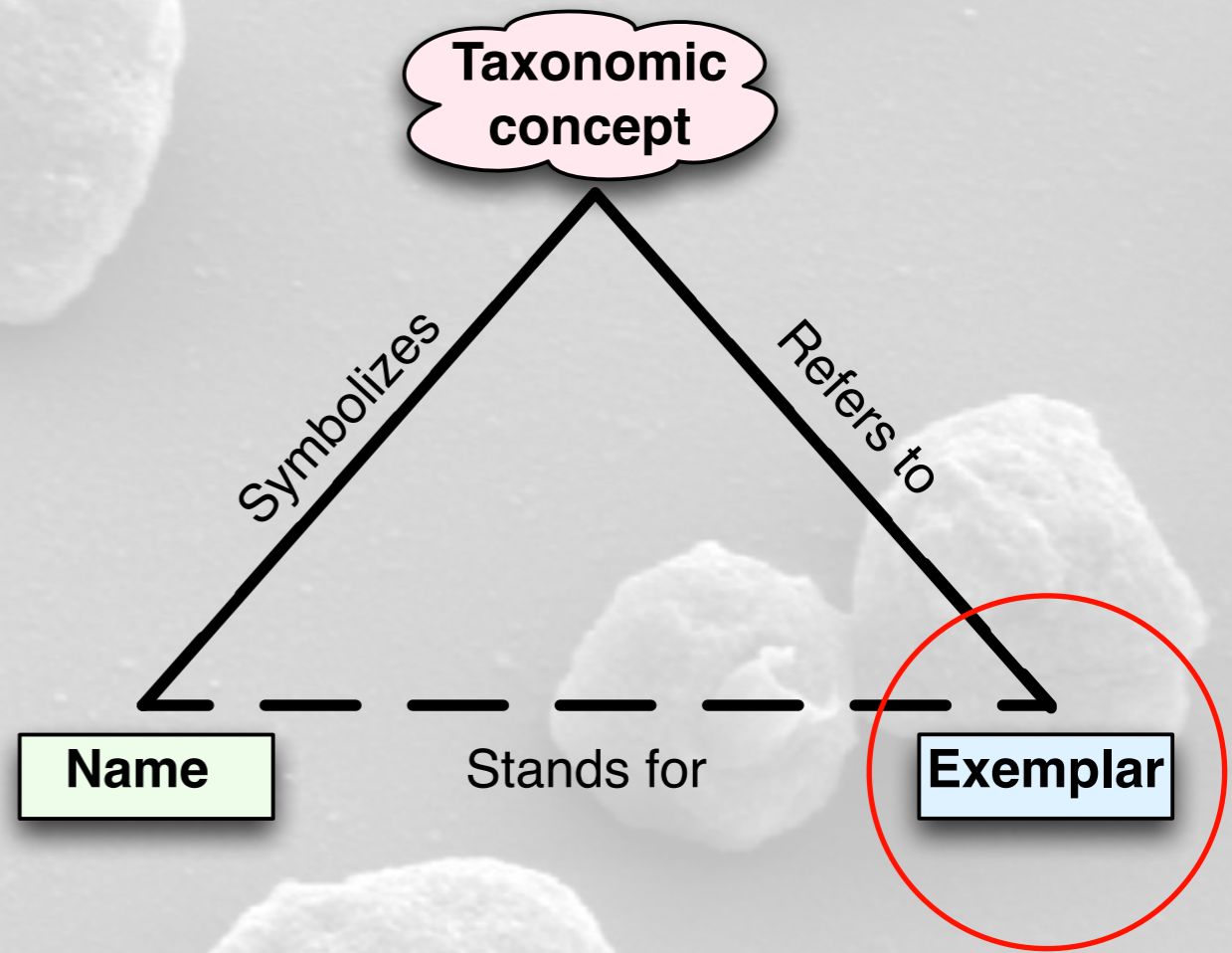
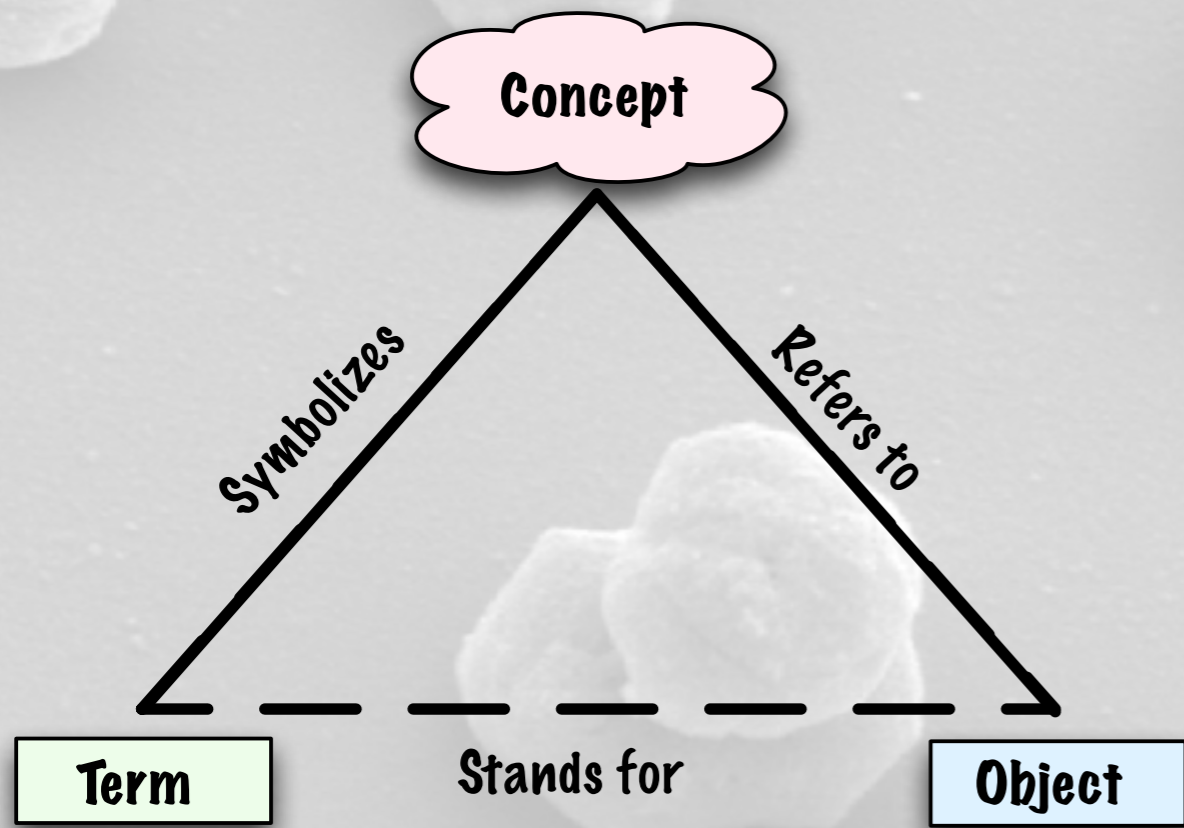
Aharon Oren · George M. Garrity

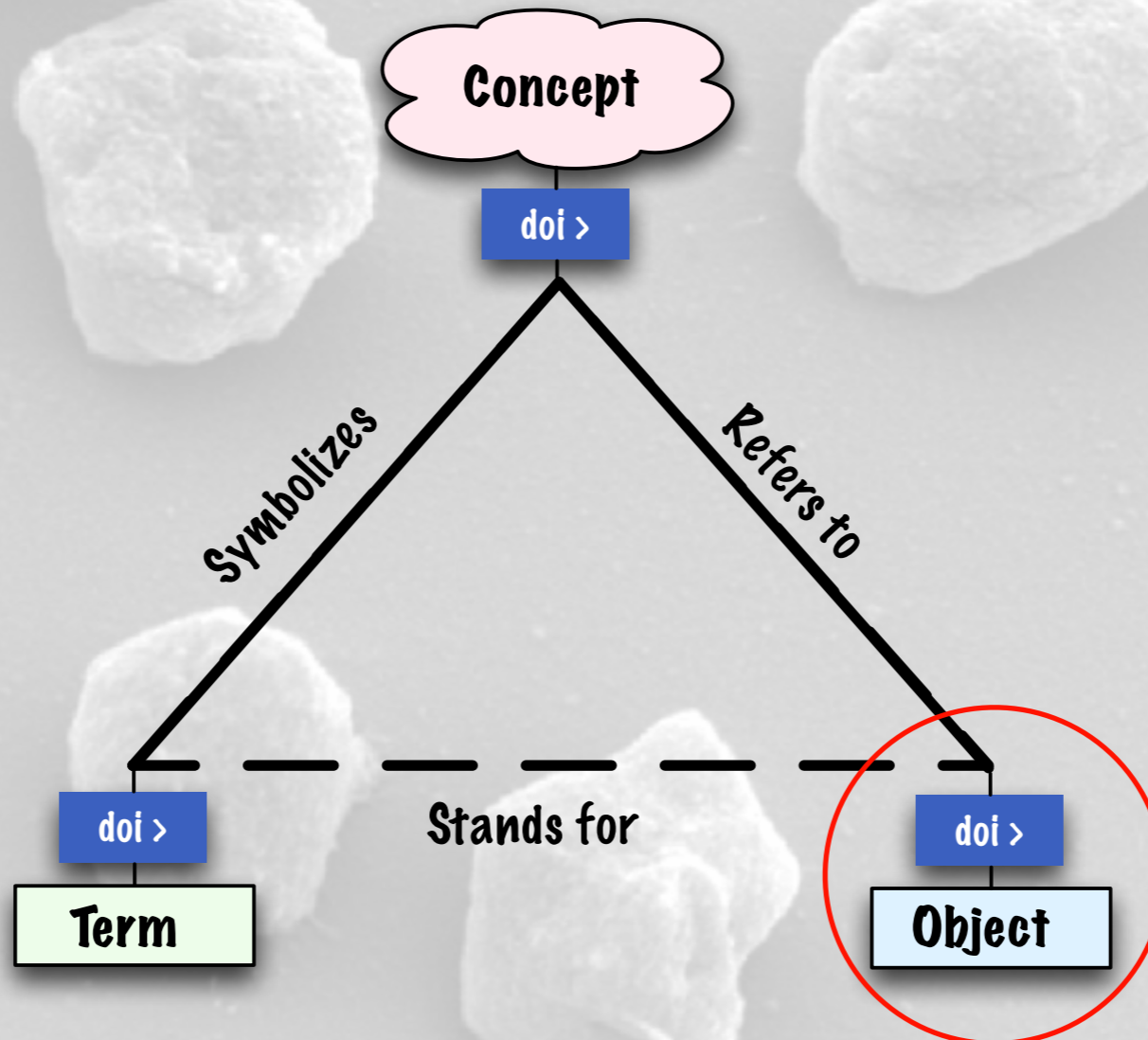
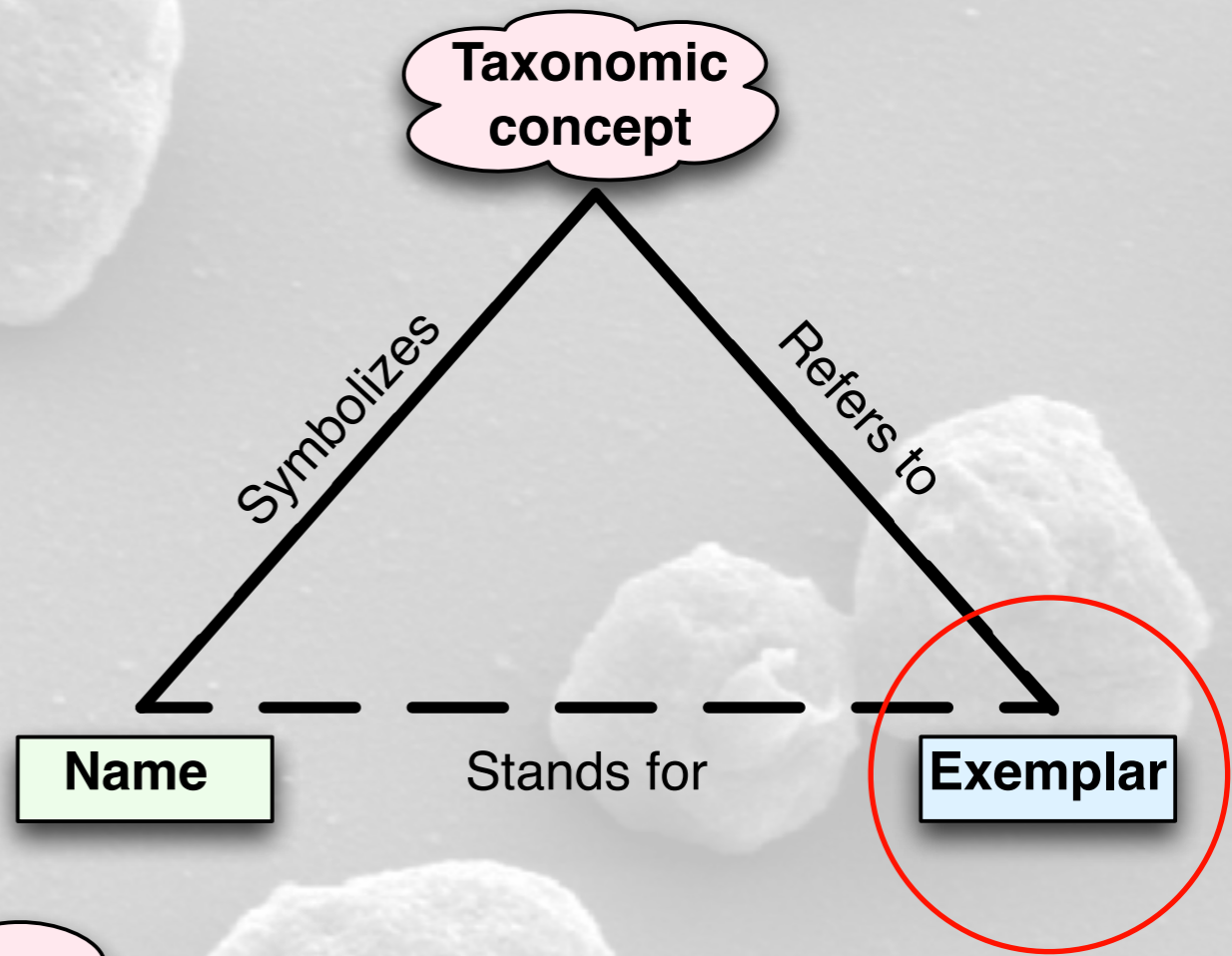
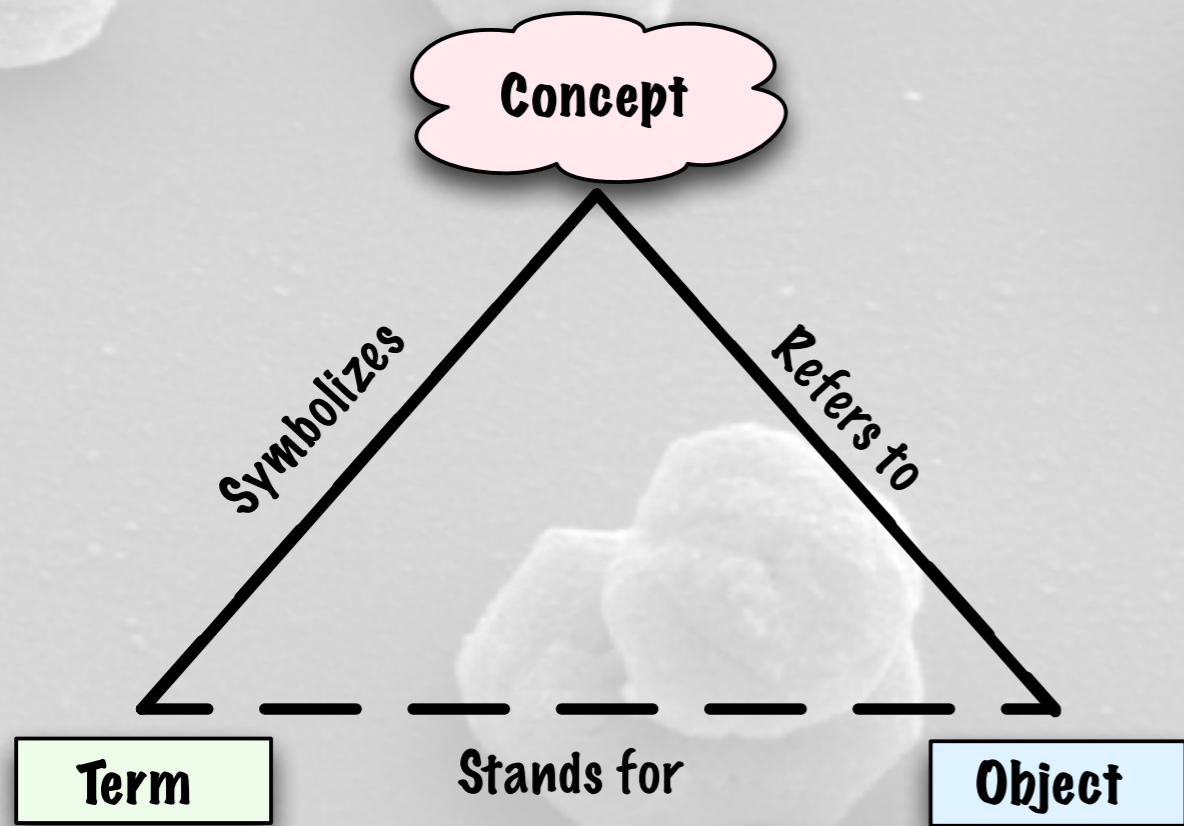


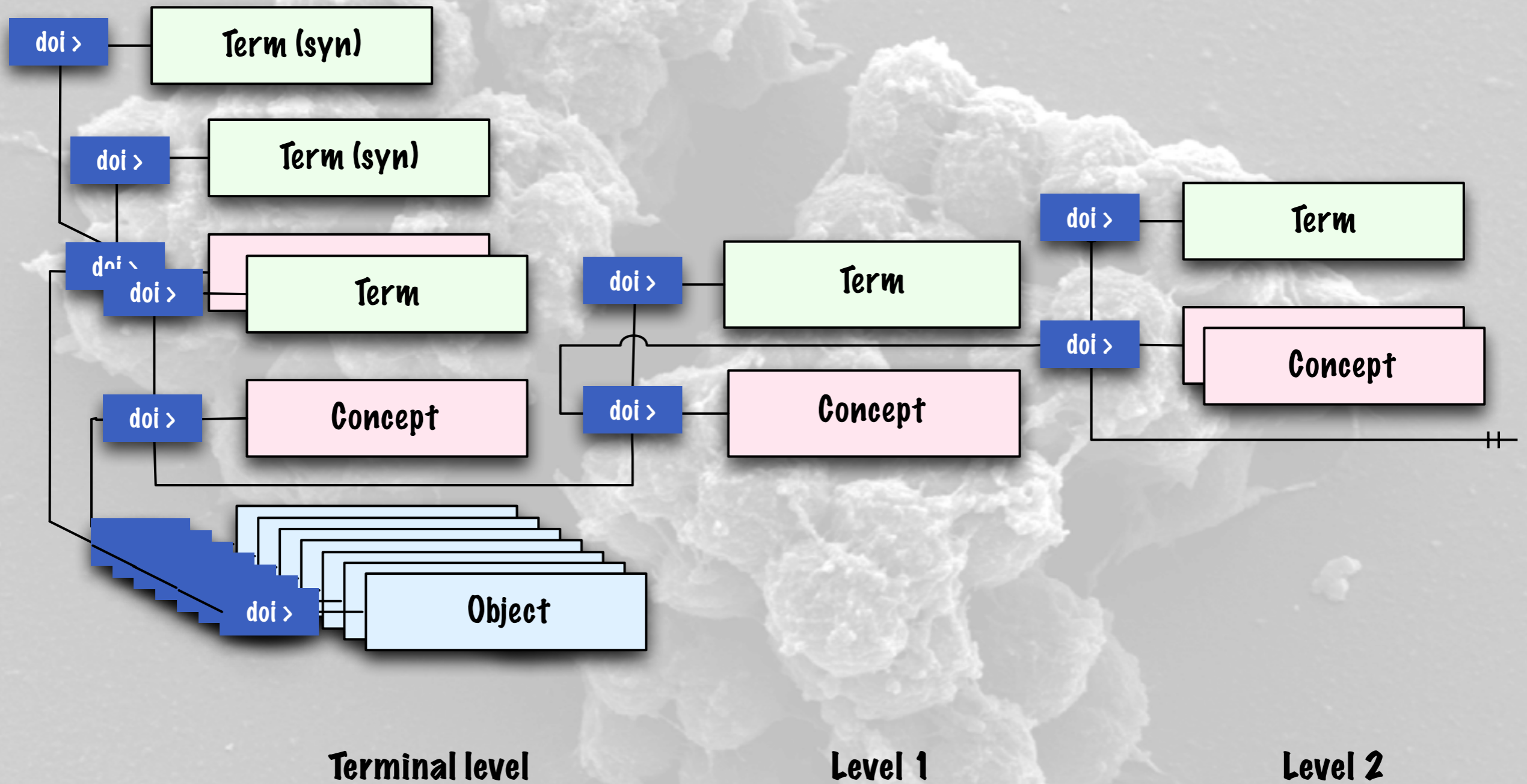
**Fig. 1** Then and now. A comparison of the accepted taxonomies in use at the time of the first and current issues of *Antonie van Leeuwenhoek*. Printed with permission. Copyright, NamesforLife, LLC 2013. All rights reserved

2  $\mu$ m



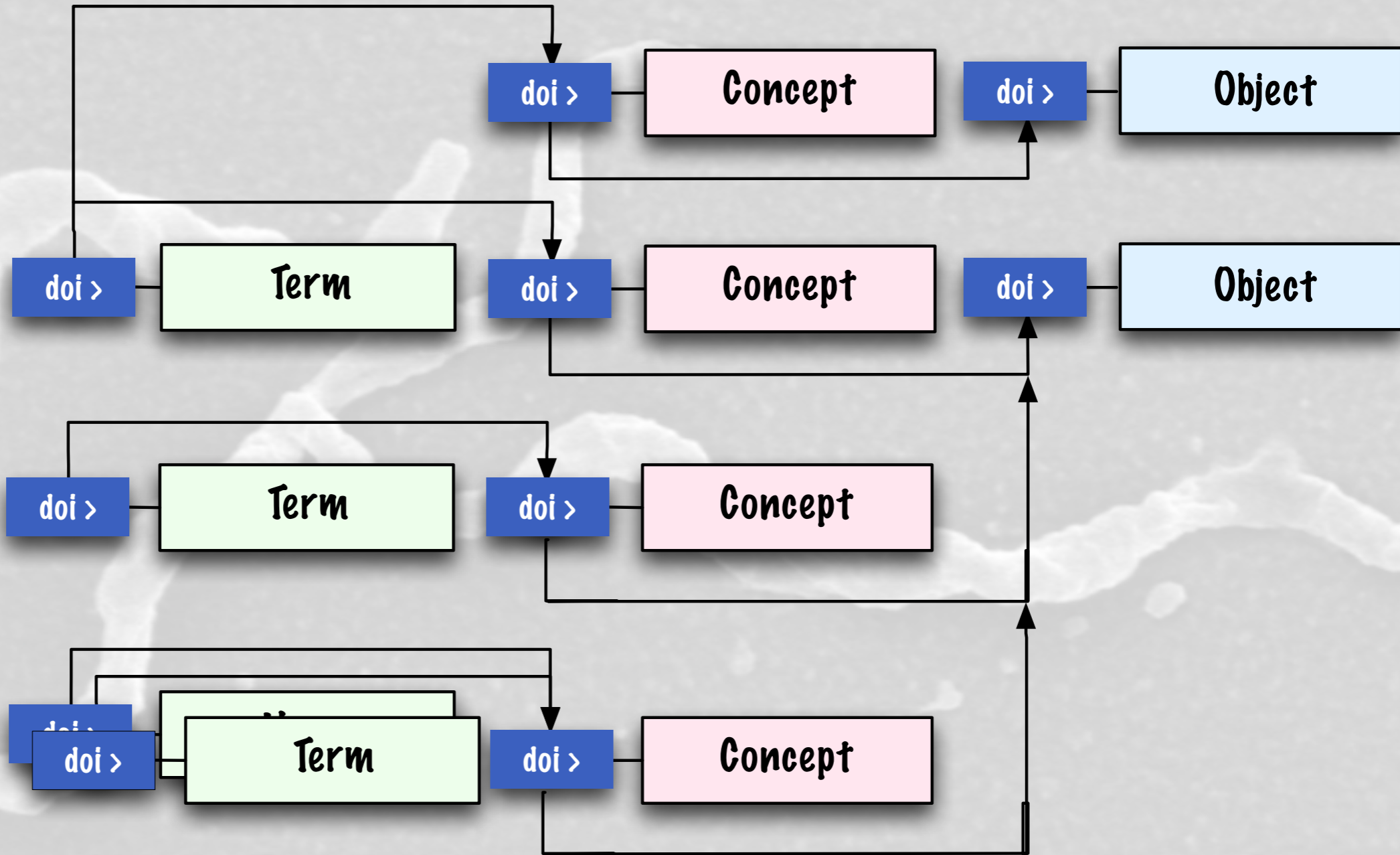


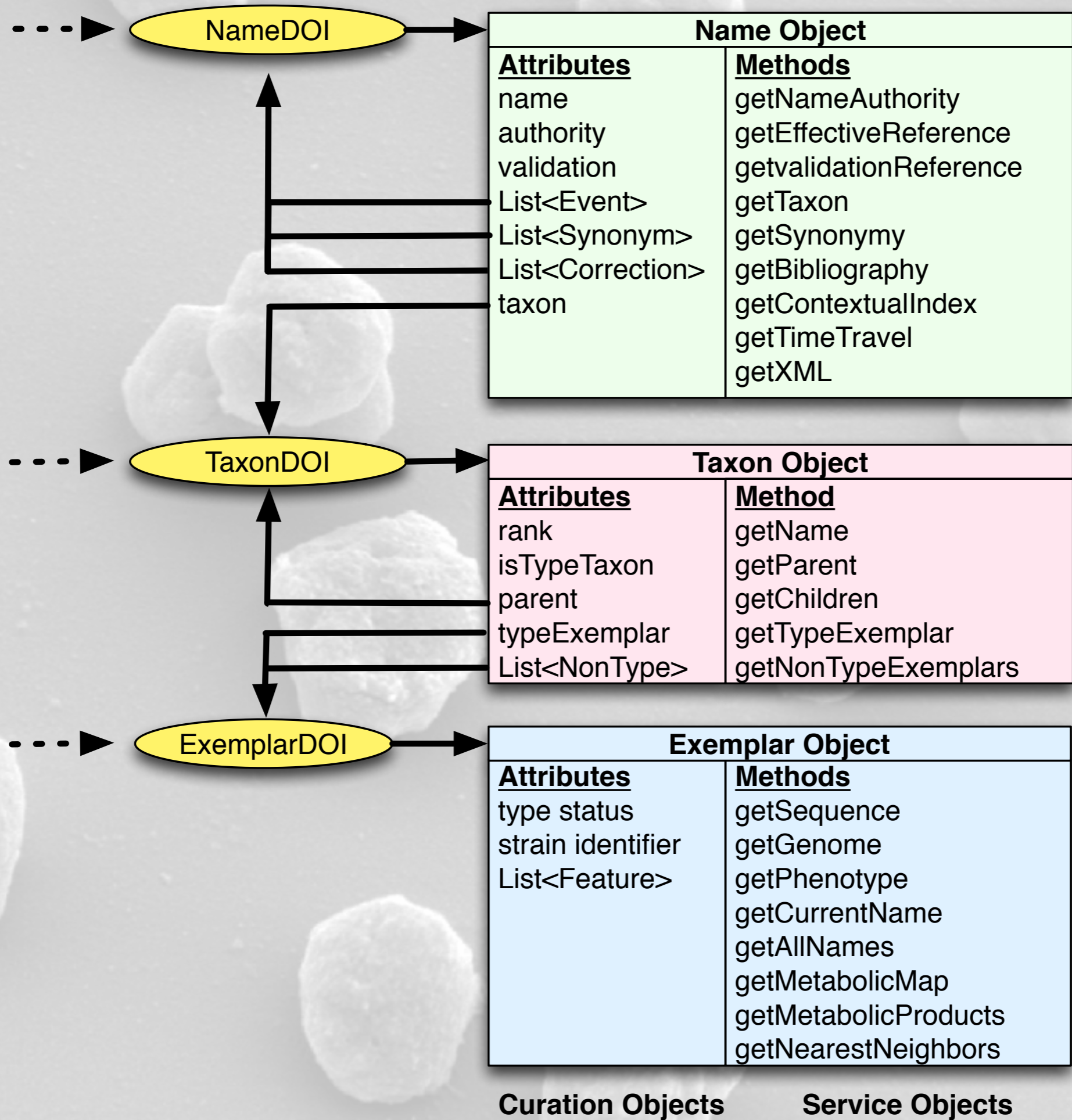




**Time**

**Synonym Polyseme**





**Curation Objects**

**Service Objects**

Prokaryotic Names (NamesforLife)    Sequence Accessions  
 Plant Names (Kew, USDA, NCBI)    Culture Accessions  
 Scientific Names (other) (NCBI Taxonomy)

**DATA SOURCES**

**N4L Scribe**

**Annotation Options**

- Embed semantic links
- Summarize Content
- Add Comments

**DOCUMENT**  
(XML, Word, ODF)

**'SCRIBE'd DOCUMENT**  
(XML, Word, ODF)

**Comments**

**Comment [N4L2]:** 'Sinorhizobium current name for this taxon. The current name is Ensifer <http://dx.doi.org/10.1601/nm.1328> Consider revising the document to re current name.

**Comment [N4L3]:** External link: <http://www.atcc.org/Products/All/>

**Annotation Summary**

**Annotation Summary**

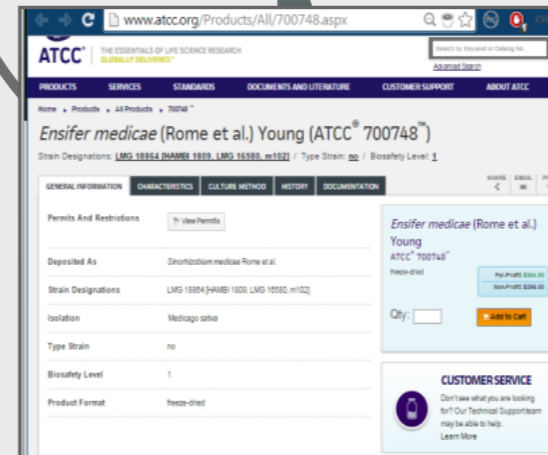
Count	References	Comments
4	J.M. Young: The genus name <i>Ensifer</i> Casida 1982 takes priority over <i>Sinorhizobium</i> Chen et al. 1988, and <i>Sinorhizobium morelense</i> Wang et al. 2002 is a later synonym of <i>Ensifer adhaerens</i> Casida 1982. Is the combination <i>Sinorhizobium adhaerens</i> (Casida 1982) Willems et al. 2003 legitimate? Request for an Opinion. International Journal of Systematic and Evolutionary Microbiology 2003, 53: 2107-2110.	

**Annotation**

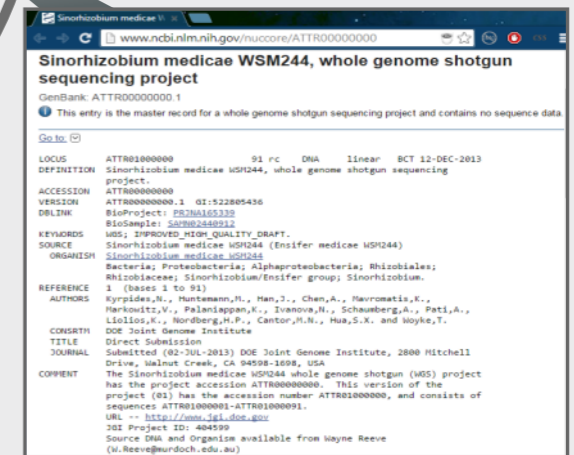
nitrogen in association with annual a  
 culture. Some of the most important associatio  
 the *Ensifer* (*Sinorhizobium*)-*Medicago* symbioses  
*Medicago* is a genus within tribe *Trifolieae*, which is inclu  
 "onoid" Inverted Repeat Lacking Clade (IRLC) legume  
 ally specific: nearly all studied species are nodulated by st  
*Ensifer medicae* [ATCC700748](#) (GenbankID [ATTR00000000](#)  
 ted species *E. meliloti* [4, 5].



**Taxonomy**



**Strain Resolution**



**Sequence Data**

## A phylogeny-driven genomic encyclopaedia of Bacteria and Archaea

Dongying Wu<sup>1,2</sup>, Philip Hugenholtz<sup>1</sup>, Konstantinos Mavromatis<sup>1</sup>, Rüdiger Pukall<sup>3</sup>, Eileen Dalin<sup>1</sup>, Natalia N. Ivanova<sup>1</sup>, Victor Kunin<sup>1</sup>, Lynne Goodwin<sup>4</sup>, Martin Wu<sup>5</sup>, Brian J. Tindall<sup>3</sup>, Sean D. Hooper<sup>1</sup>, Amrita Pati<sup>1</sup>, Athanasios Lykidis<sup>1</sup>, Stefan Spring<sup>3</sup>, Iain J. Anderson<sup>1</sup>, Patrik D'haeseleer<sup>1,6</sup>, Adam Zemla<sup>6</sup>, Mitchell Singer<sup>2</sup>, Alla Lapidus<sup>1</sup>, Matt Nolan<sup>1</sup>, Alex Copeland<sup>1</sup>, Cliff Han<sup>4</sup>, Feng Chen<sup>1</sup>, Jan-Fang Cheng<sup>1</sup>, Susan Lucas<sup>1</sup>, Cheryl Kerfeld<sup>1</sup>, Elke Lang<sup>3</sup>, Sabine Gronow<sup>3</sup>, Patrick Chain<sup>1,4</sup>, David Bruce<sup>4</sup>, Edward M. Rubin<sup>1</sup>, Nikos C. Kyrpides<sup>1</sup>, Hans-Peter Klenk<sup>3</sup> & Jonathan A. Eisen<sup>1,2</sup>

## A phylogeny-driven genomic encyclopaedia of Bacteria

Standards in Genomic Sciences(2014) **9**:1278-1296

DOI:10.4056/sigs.5068949

### **Genomic Encyclopedia of Type Strains, Phase I: The one thousand microbial genomes (KMG-I) project**

Nikos C. Kyrpides<sup>1</sup>, Tanja Woyke<sup>1</sup>, Jonathan A. Eisen<sup>2</sup>, George Garrity<sup>3,4</sup>, Timothy G. Lilburn<sup>5</sup>, Brian J. Beck<sup>5</sup>, William B. Whitman<sup>6</sup>, Phil Hugenholtz<sup>7</sup>, and Hans-Peter Klenk<sup>8</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> University of California, Davis, CA

<sup>3</sup> Department of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan, USA

<sup>4</sup> NamesforLife, LLC, East Lansing, MI, USA

<sup>5</sup> American Type Culture Collection, Manassas, VA

<sup>6</sup> Department of Microbiology, University of Georgia, Athens, GA

<sup>7</sup> Australian Centre for Ecogenomics, The University of Queensland, Brisbane QLD 4072, Australia

<sup>8</sup> Leibniz Institute DSMZ — German Collection of Microorganisms and Cell Cultures, Braunschweig, Germany



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### Genomic Encyclopedia of Bacteria and Archaea: Sequencing a Myriad of Type Strains

Nikos C. Kyrpides<sup>1,2\*</sup>, Philip Hugenholtz<sup>3</sup>, Jonathan A. Eisen<sup>4</sup>, Tanja Woyke<sup>1</sup>, Markus Göker<sup>5</sup>, Charles T. Parker<sup>6</sup>, Rudolf Amann<sup>7</sup>, Brian J. Beck<sup>8</sup>, Patrick S. G. Chain<sup>9</sup>, Jongsik Chun<sup>10</sup>, Rita R. Colwell<sup>11,12</sup>, Antoine Danchin<sup>13</sup>, Peter Dawyndt<sup>14</sup>, Tom Dedeurwaerdere<sup>15</sup>, Edward F. DeLong<sup>16</sup>, John C. Detter<sup>9</sup>, Paul De Vos<sup>14,17</sup>, Timothy J. Donohue<sup>18</sup>, Xiu-Zhu Dong<sup>19</sup>, Dusko S. Ehrlich<sup>20</sup>, Claire Fraser<sup>21</sup>, Richard Gibbs<sup>22</sup>, Jack Gilbert<sup>23</sup>, Paul Gilna<sup>24</sup>, Frank Oliver Glöckner<sup>7,25</sup>, Janet K. Jansson<sup>26</sup>, Jay D. Keasling<sup>26,27</sup>, Rob Knight<sup>28</sup>, David Labeda<sup>29</sup>, Alla Lapidus<sup>30,31</sup>, Jung-Sook Lee<sup>32</sup>, Wen-Jun Li<sup>33</sup>, Juncai MA<sup>34</sup>, Victor Markowitz<sup>1,26</sup>, Edward R. B. Moore<sup>35</sup>, Mark Morrison<sup>36</sup>, Folker Meyer<sup>37</sup>, Karen E. Nelson<sup>38</sup>, Moriya Ohkuma<sup>39</sup>, Christos A. Ouzounis<sup>40,41</sup>, Norman Pace<sup>42</sup>, Julian Parkhill<sup>43</sup>, Nan Qin<sup>44</sup>, Ramon Rossello-Mora<sup>45</sup>, Johannes Sikorski<sup>5</sup>, David Smith<sup>46</sup>, Mitch Sogin<sup>47</sup>, Rick Stevens<sup>37</sup>, Uli Stingl<sup>48</sup>, Ken-ichiro Suzuki<sup>49</sup>, Dorothea Taylor<sup>6</sup>, Jim M. Tiedje<sup>50</sup>, Brian Tindall<sup>5</sup>, Michael Wagner<sup>51</sup>, George Weinstock<sup>52</sup>, Jean Weissenbach<sup>53</sup>, Owen White<sup>21</sup>, Jun Wang<sup>44,54</sup>, Lixin Zhang<sup>19,55</sup>, Yu-Guang Zhou<sup>34</sup>, Dawn Field<sup>56</sup>, William B. Whitman<sup>57</sup>, George M. Garrity<sup>6,50</sup>, Hans-Peter Klenk<sup>5\*</sup>

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### Genomic Encyclopedia of Bacteria and Archaea:

Sci

Whitman *et al.* *Standards in Genomic Sciences* (2015) 10:26

Nik DOI 10.1186/s40793-015-0017-x

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Standards in  
Genomic Sciences

COMMENTARY

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### Genomic Encyclopedia of Bacterial and Archaeal Type Strains, Phase II: the genomes of soil and plant-associated and newly described type strains

William B Whitman<sup>1\*</sup>, Tanja Woyke<sup>2</sup>, Hans-Peter Klenk<sup>3</sup>, Yuguang Zhou<sup>4</sup>, Timothy G Lilburn<sup>5,11</sup>, Brian J Beck<sup>5,10</sup>, Paul De Vos<sup>6</sup>, Peter Vandamme<sup>6</sup>, Jonathan A Eisen<sup>7</sup>, George Garrity<sup>8</sup>, Philip Hugenholtz<sup>9</sup> and Nikos C Kyrpides<sup>2</sup>

# Validly published named prokaryotes used in the analyses

Rank	Validly Published	Coverage (16S) <sup>a</sup>	Genomes	Outliers	Singleton	2 to 3	4 to 9	≥10
species	12,981	11,800	4092 <sup>d</sup>	274	11,800	0	0	0
genus	2,716	2422	1333	131	1,166	616	437	203
family	389	451 <sup>b</sup>	343	86	121	71	79	180
order	174	202 <sup>b</sup>	161	47	52	28	34	90
class	83	85 <sup>b</sup>	69	19	23	13	14	35
phylum	0	34 <sup>c</sup>	33	9	4	4	6	20
domain	0	2	2	2	0	0	0	2

Source - NamesforLife, LLC, based on validly published named prokaryotic species, subspecies and higher taxa as of August 5, 2015; adjusted for synonyms, basonyms, orthographic corrections and rejected names arising from Judicial Opinions.

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## F International Code of Nomenclature of Prokaryotes

Authors: [Charles T Parker](#)<sup>1</sup>, [Brian J Tindall](#)<sup>2</sup>, [George M Garrity](#)<sup>3</sup>

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**Published Ahead of Print:** 20 November, 2015 International Journal of Systematic and Evolutionary Microbiology doi: [10.1099/ijsem.0.000778](https://doi.org/10.1099/ijsem.0.000778)

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*International Journal of Systematic and Evolutionary Microbiology* (2015), 65, 4284–4287

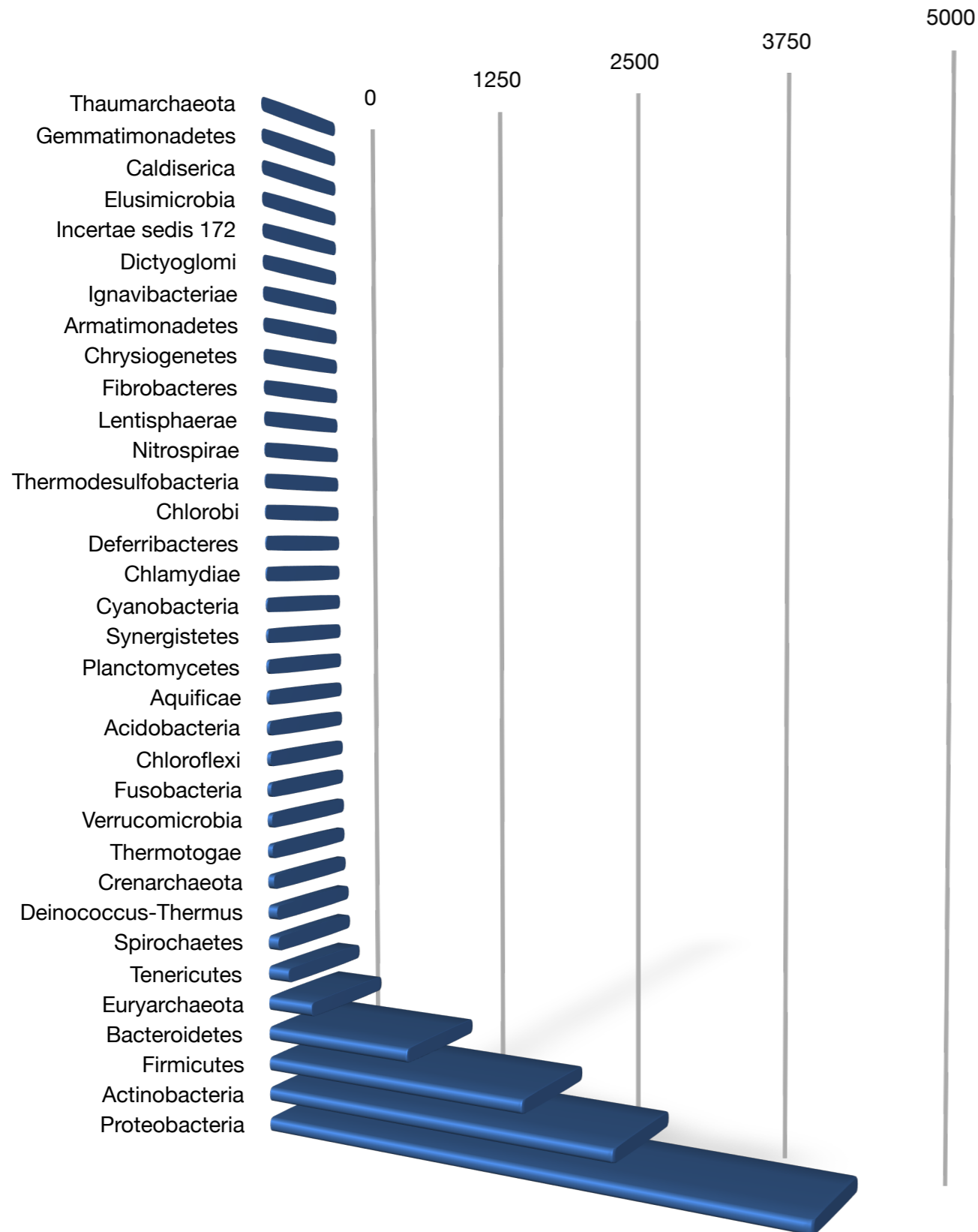
DOI 10.1099/ijsem.0.000664

### Taxonomic Note

## Proposal to include the rank of phylum in the International Code of Nomenclature of Prokaryotes

Aharon Oren,<sup>1</sup> Milton S. da Costa,<sup>2</sup> George M. Garrity,<sup>3</sup> Fred A. Rainey,<sup>4</sup> Ramon Rosselló-Móra,<sup>5</sup> Bernhard Schink,<sup>6</sup> Iain Sutcliffe,<sup>7</sup> Martha E. Trujillo<sup>8</sup> and William B. Whitman<sup>9</sup>

# The cultivated bacterial and archaeal phyla



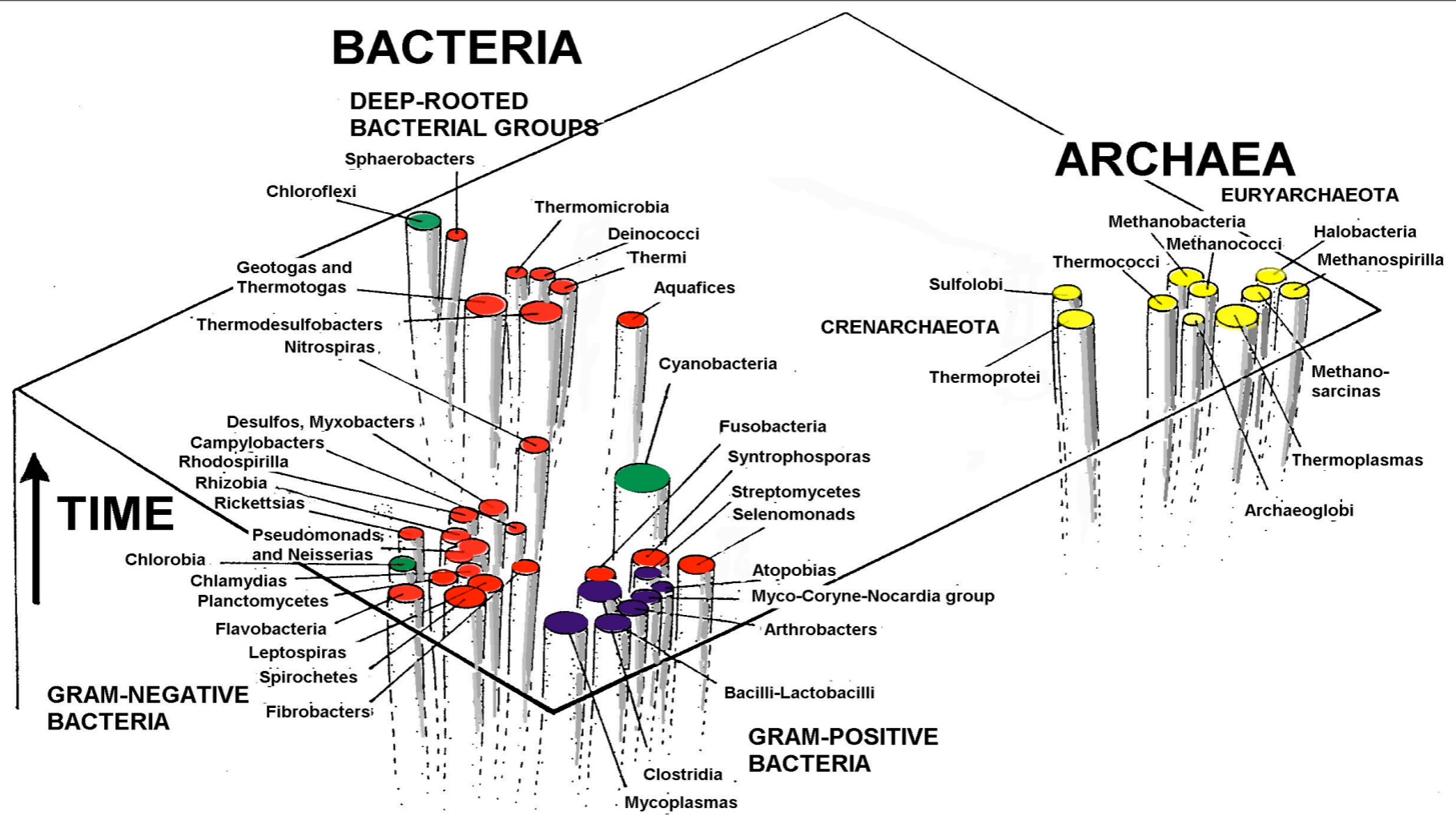
## CRUCIAL QUESTIONS

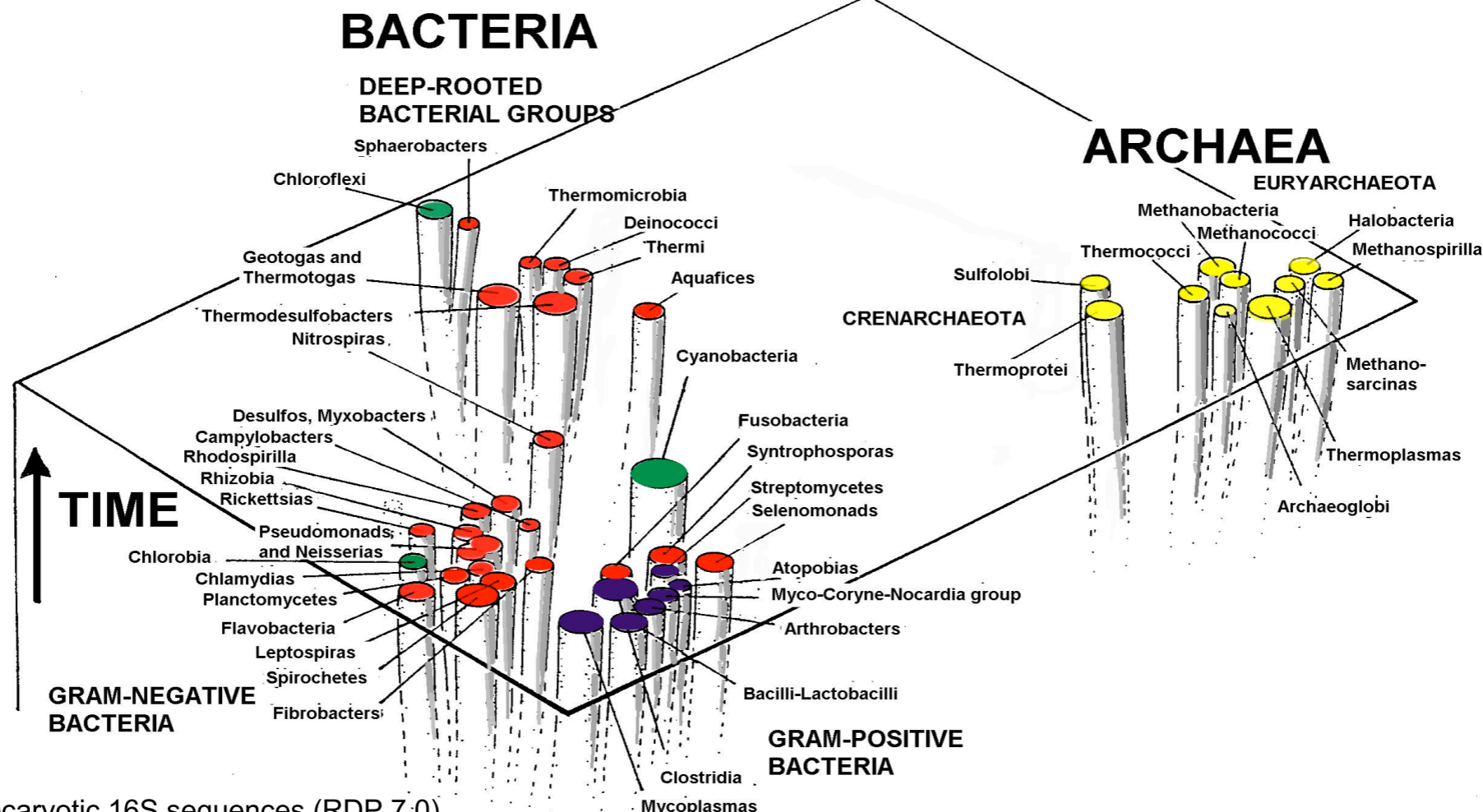
Here are five questions that anyone conducting or evaluating this research should ask to keep from getting carried away by hype.

**Can experiments detect differences that matter?** Profiling a microbiome could produce a catalogue at the level of phyla, species or genes. Much work relies on analysis of *16S rRNA*, an ancient gene that tolerates little variation and so is reliably found across the bacterial kingdom. But this allows only a coarse sorting. For example, microbiomes associated with obesity have been distinguished by different ratios of bacterial phyla, which encompass a staggering range of diversity. If this criterion were used to characterize animal communities, an aviary of 100 birds and 25 snails would be considered identical to an aquarium with 8 fish and 2 squid, because each has four times as many vertebrates as molluscs. Even within a single species, strains often differ greatly in the genes they contain.

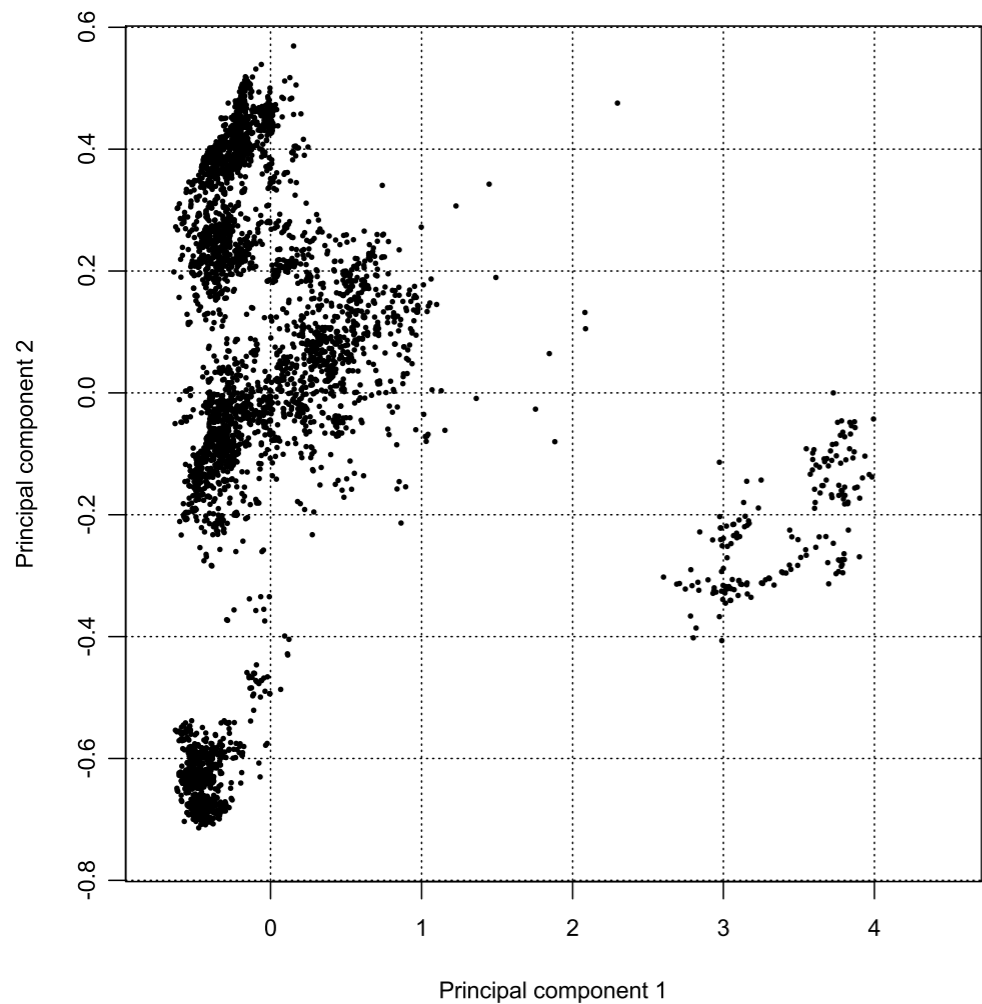
William P. Hanage

Nature 512, 247–248 (21 August 2014)  
doi:10.1038/512247a

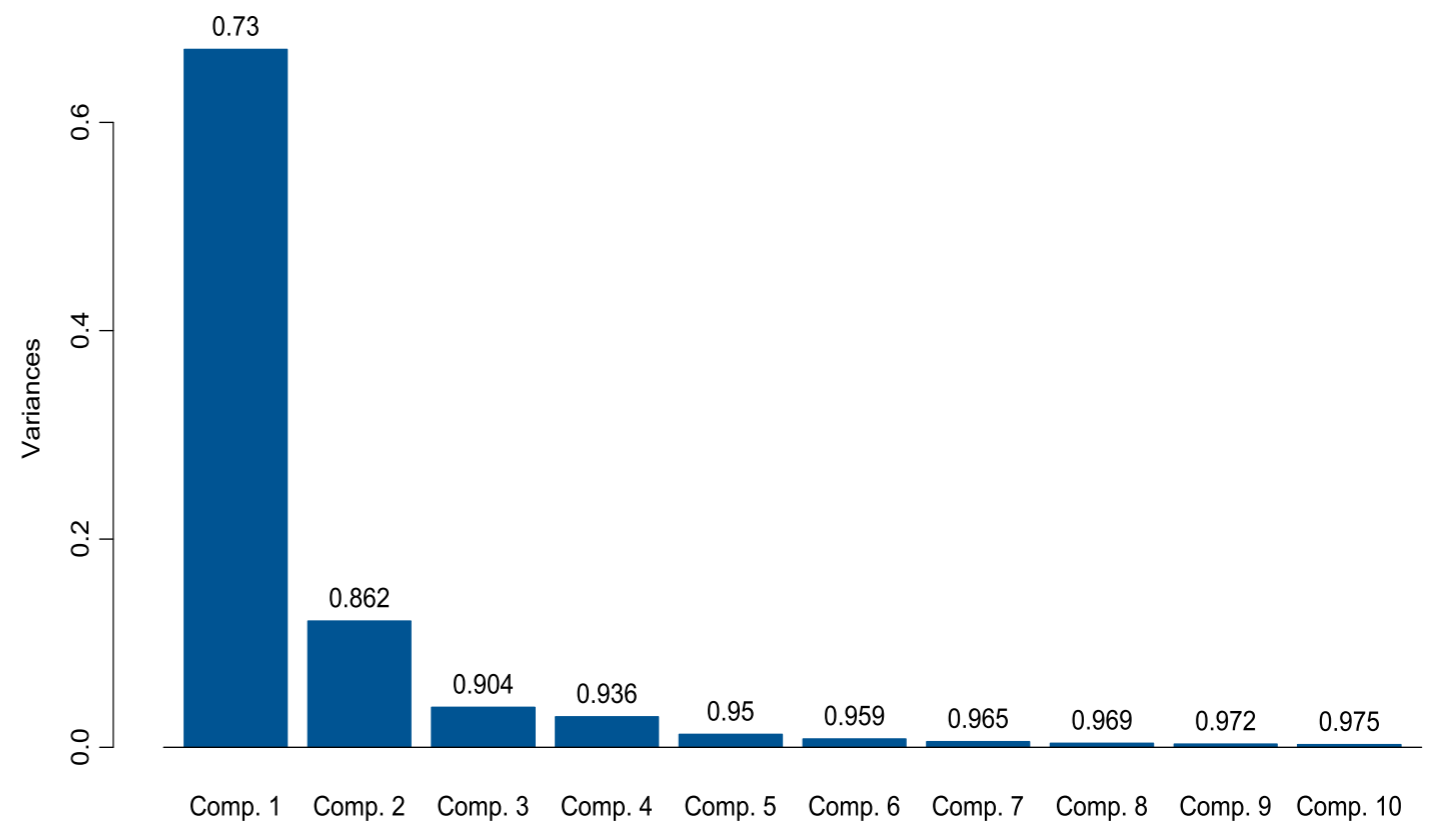




Map of the procaryotic 16S sequences (RDP 7.0)

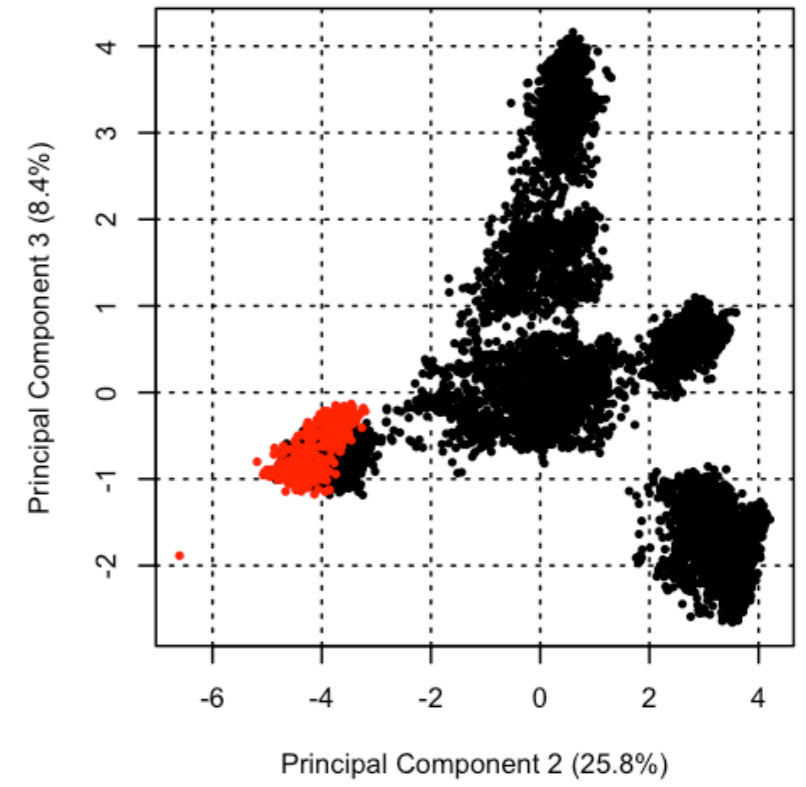
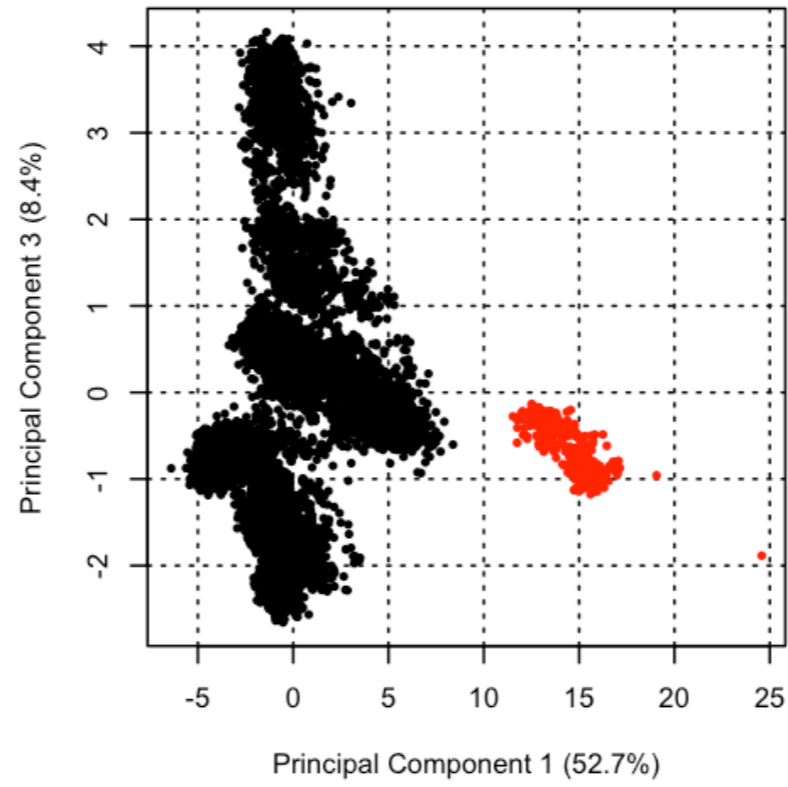
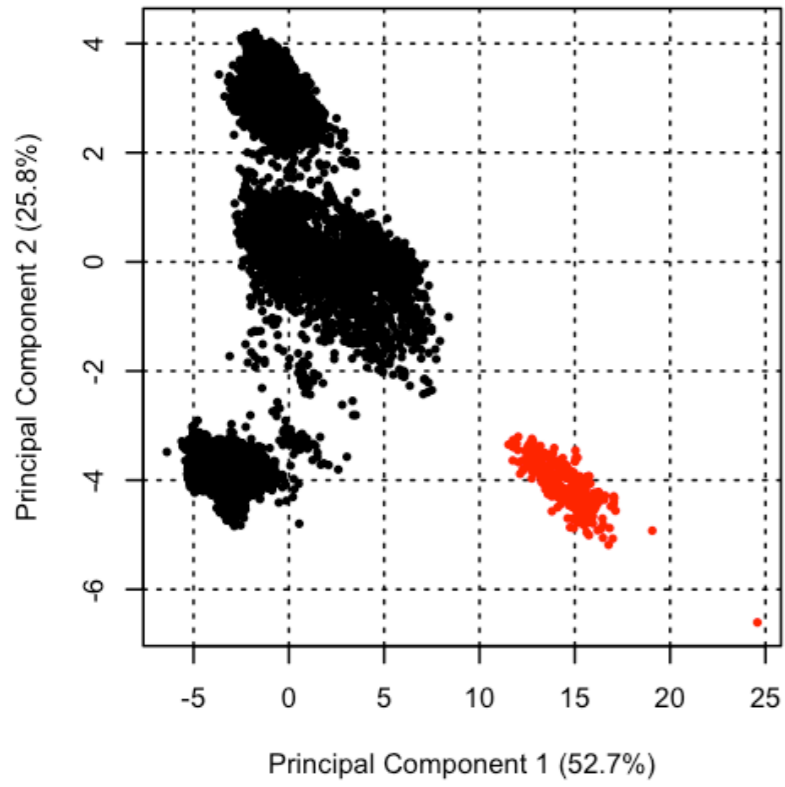


Scree plot for 16S sequences (n=4405)

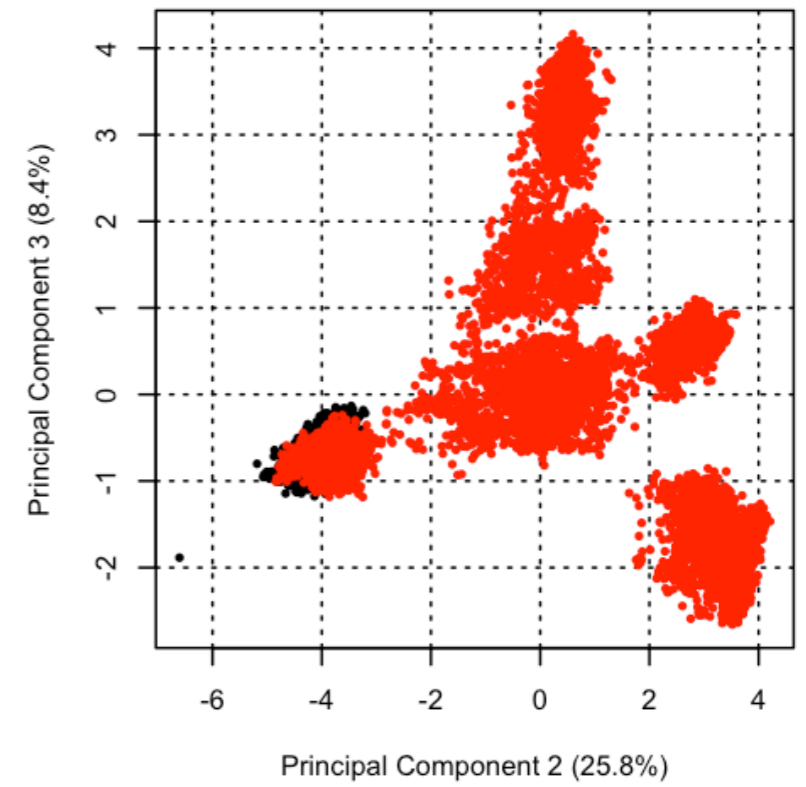
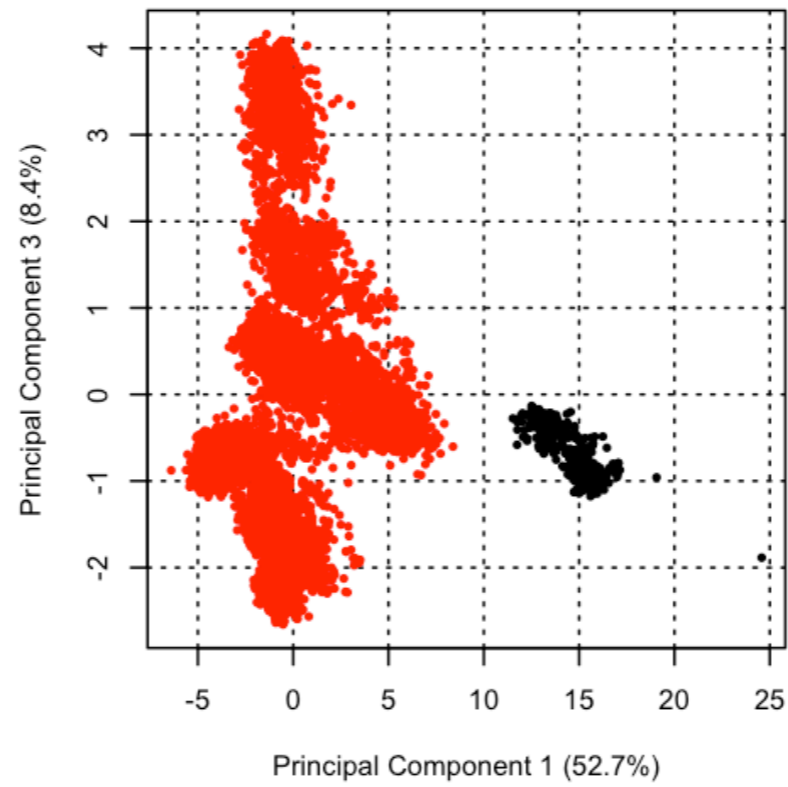
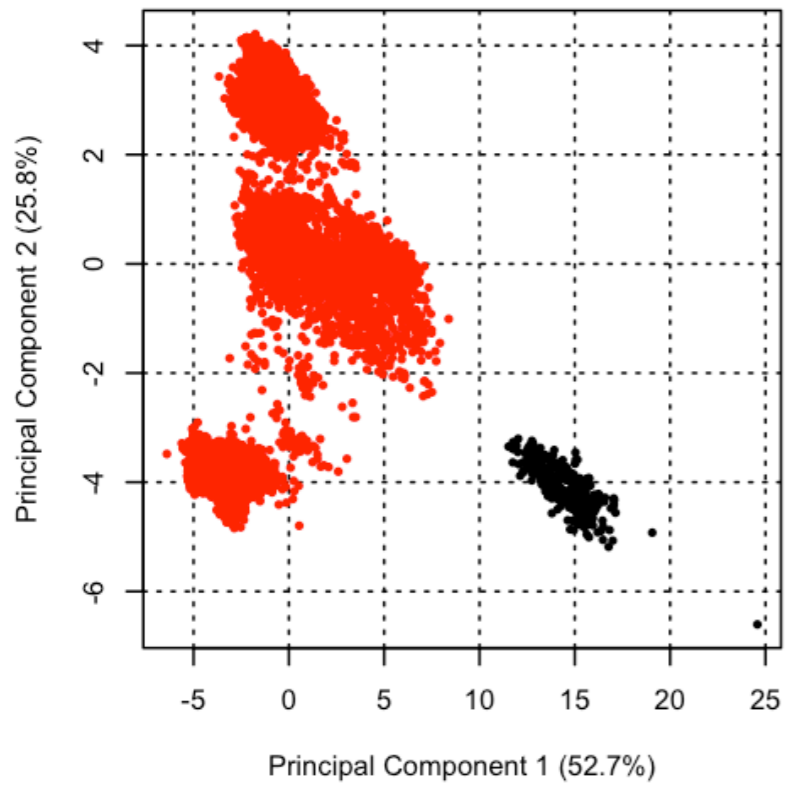


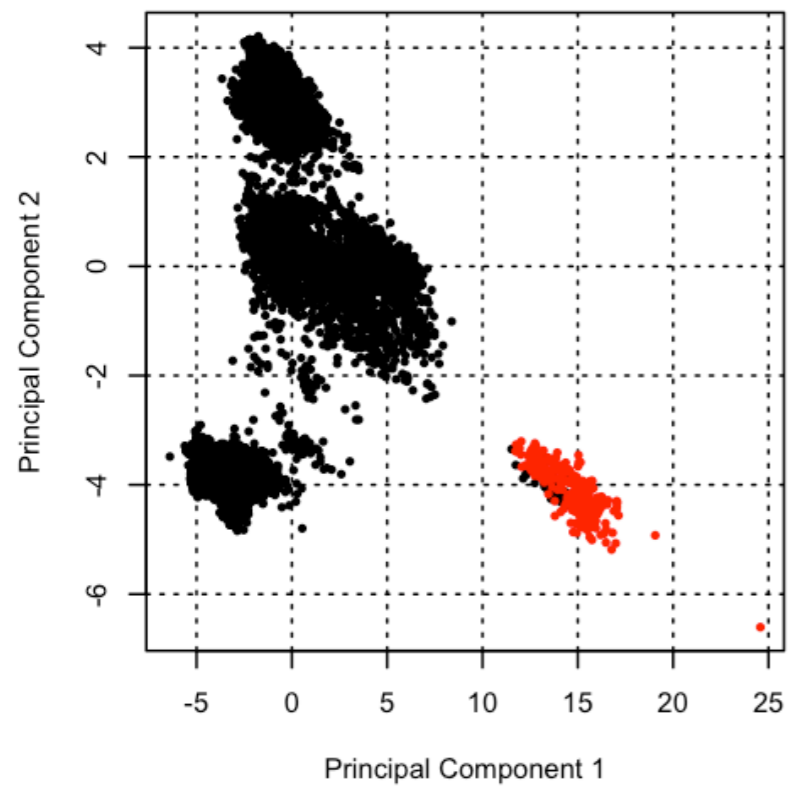


## Archaea

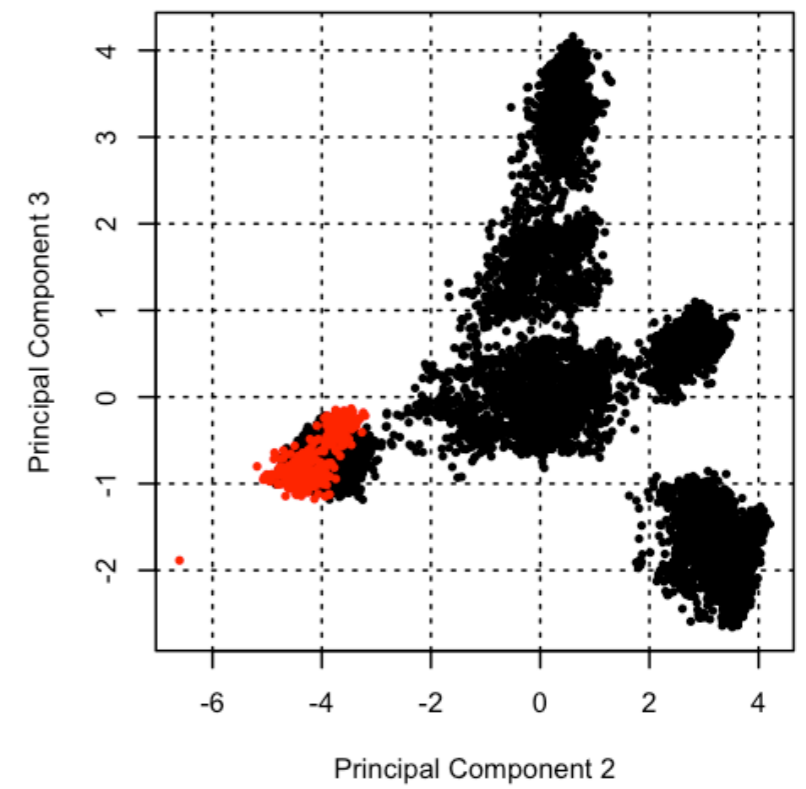
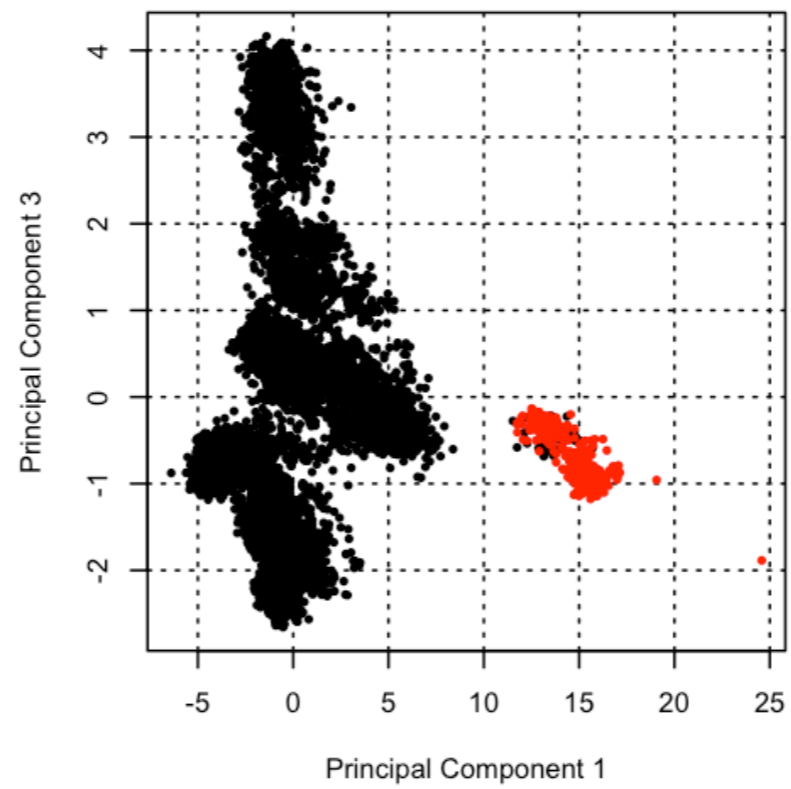


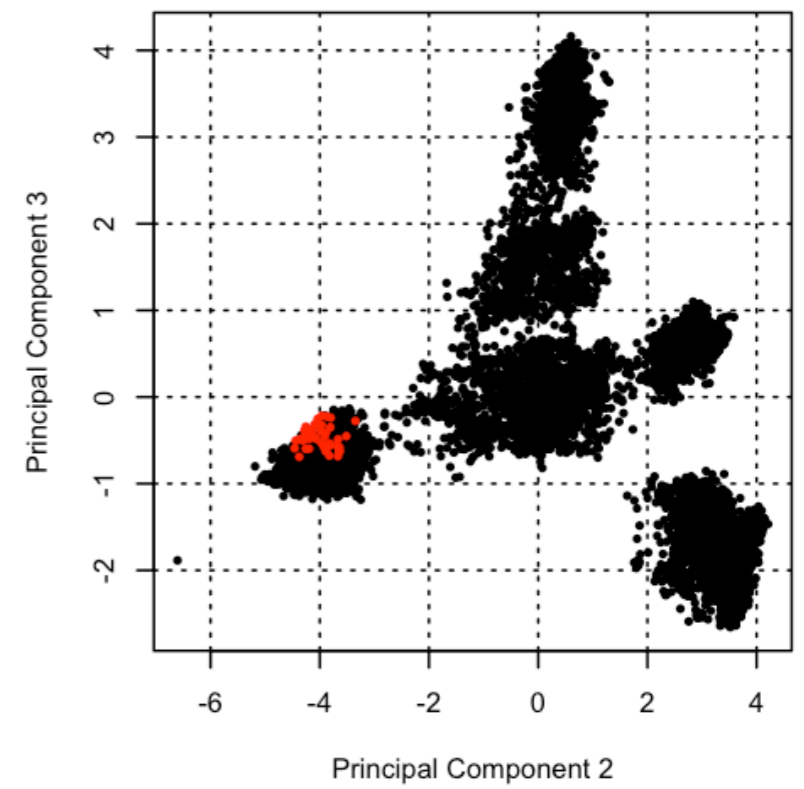
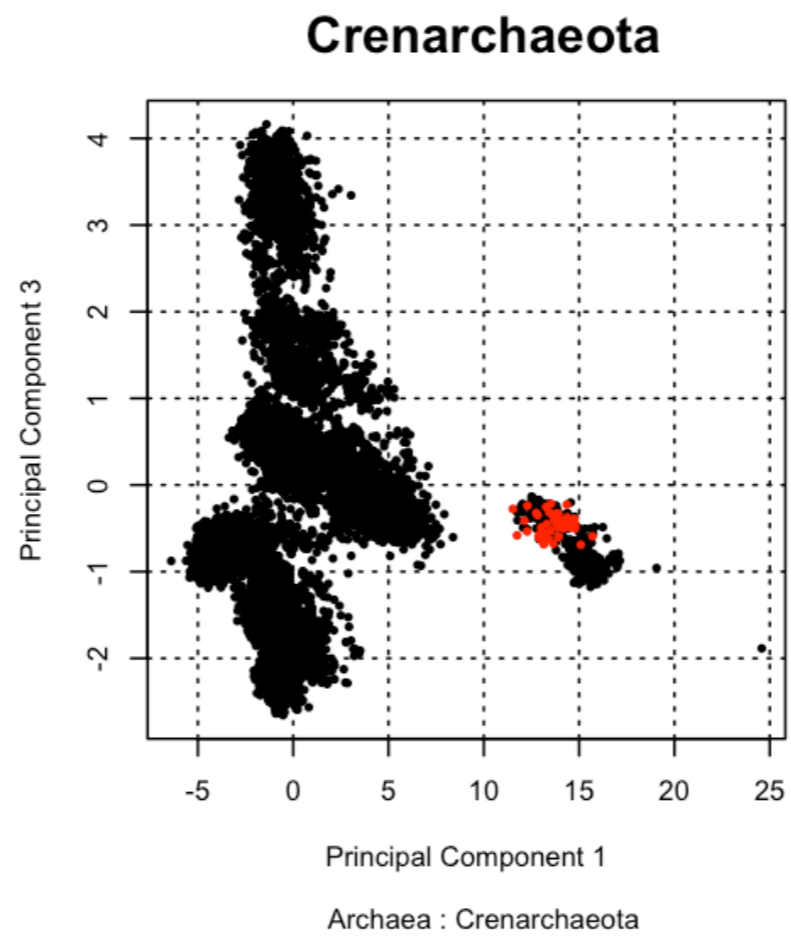
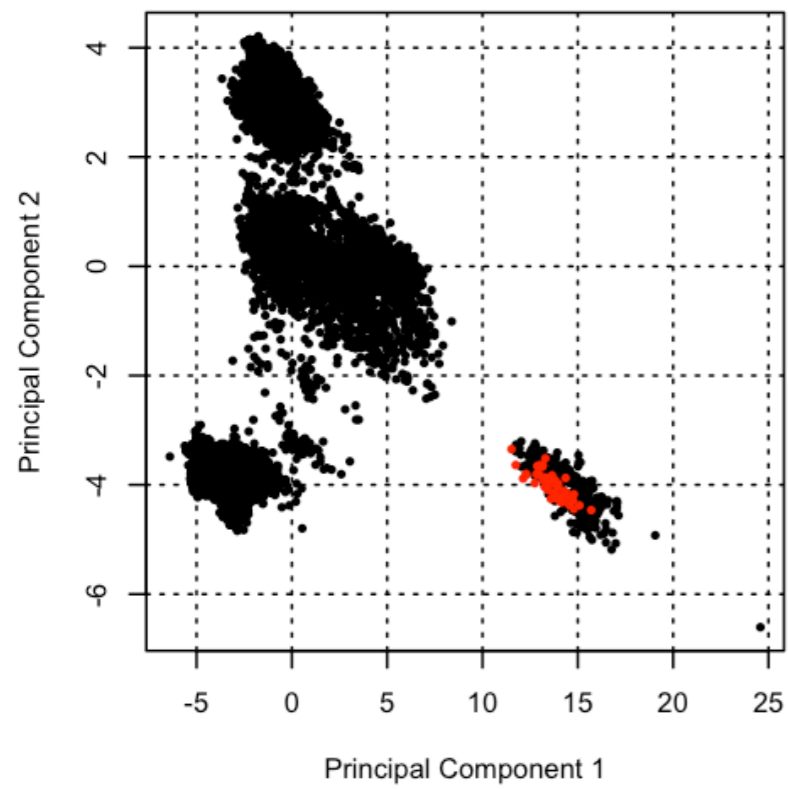
## Bacteria

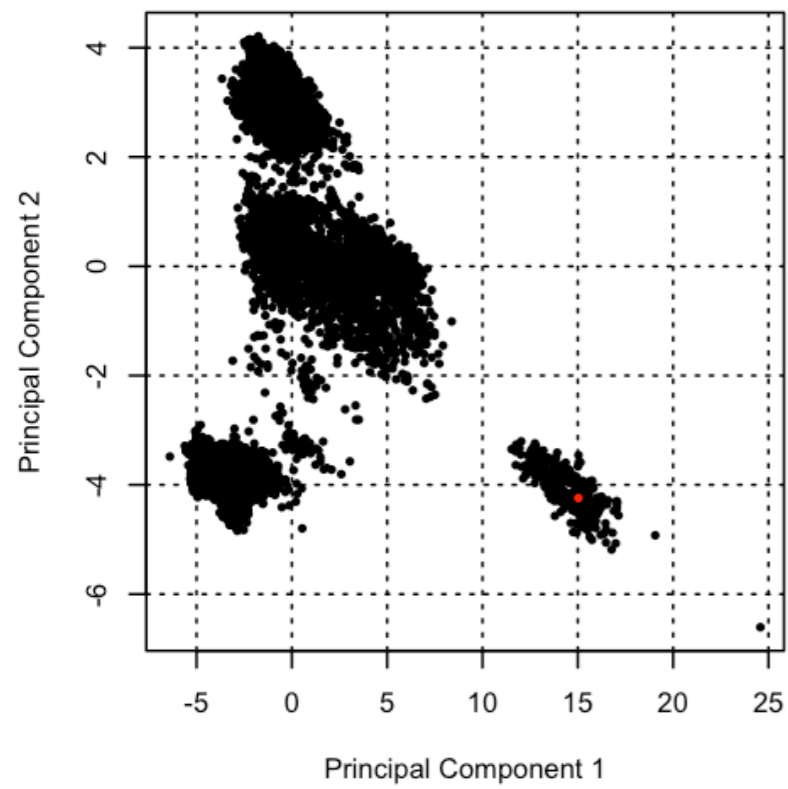




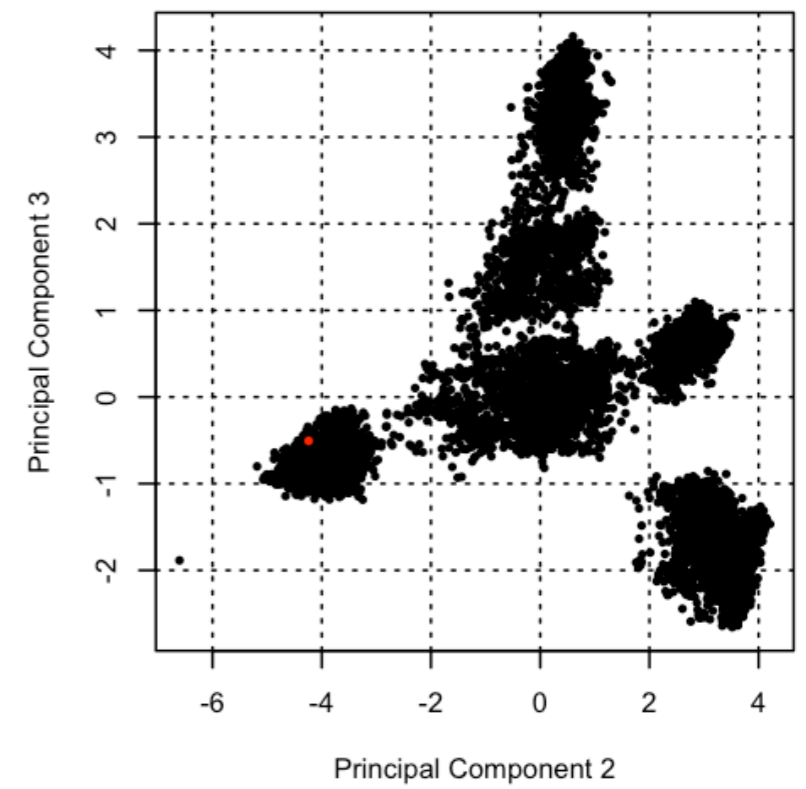
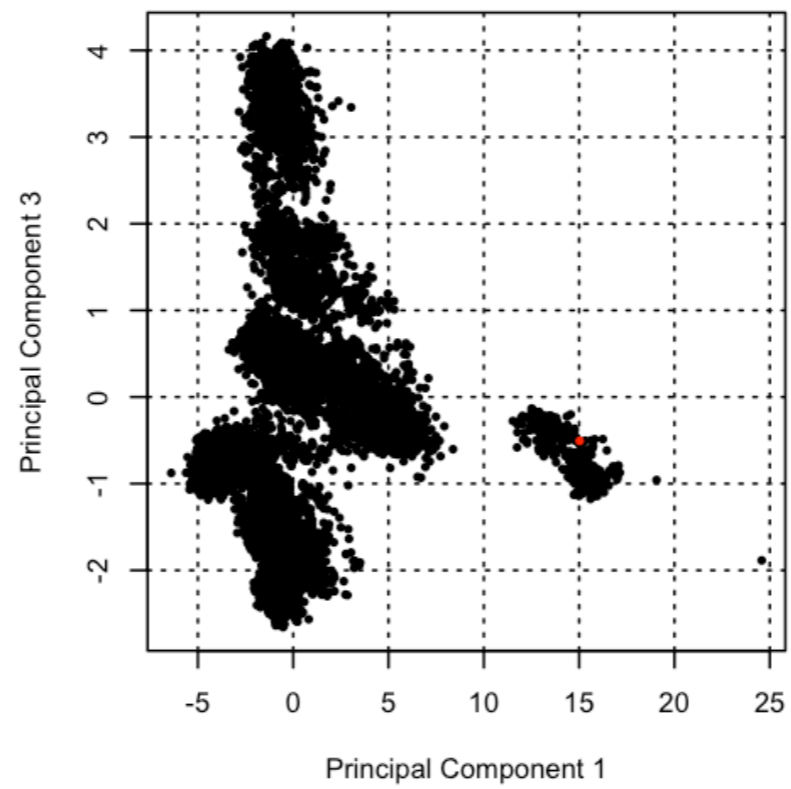
## Euryarchaeota



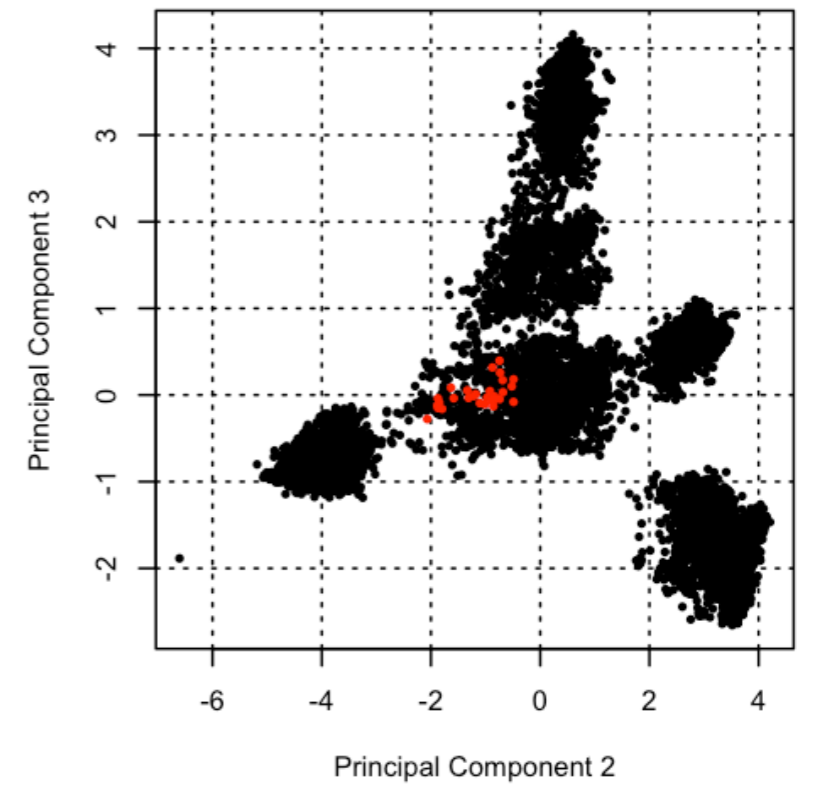
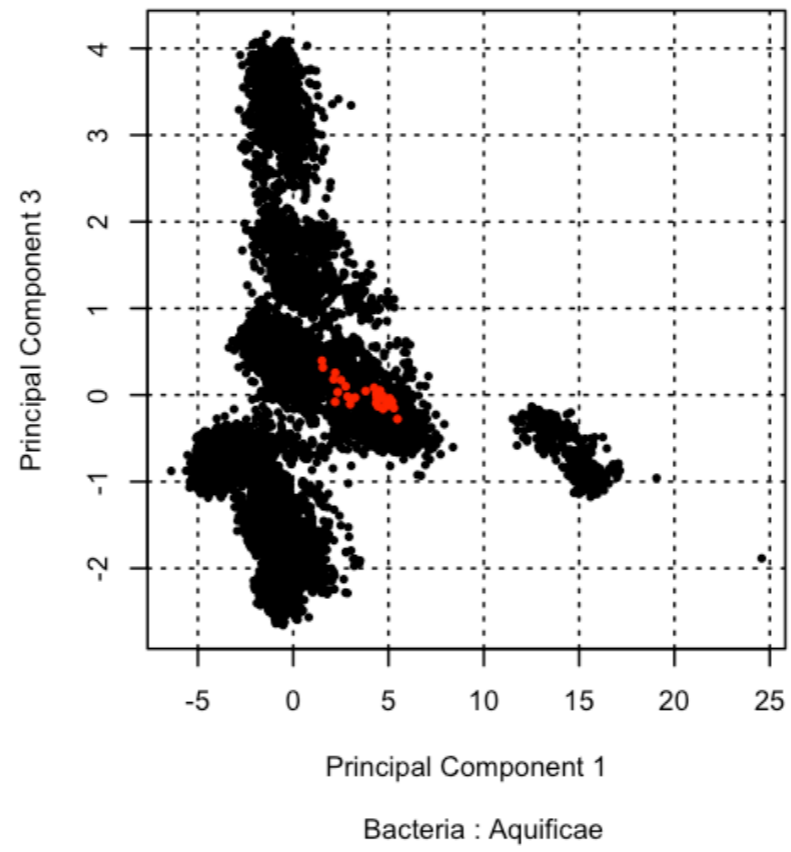
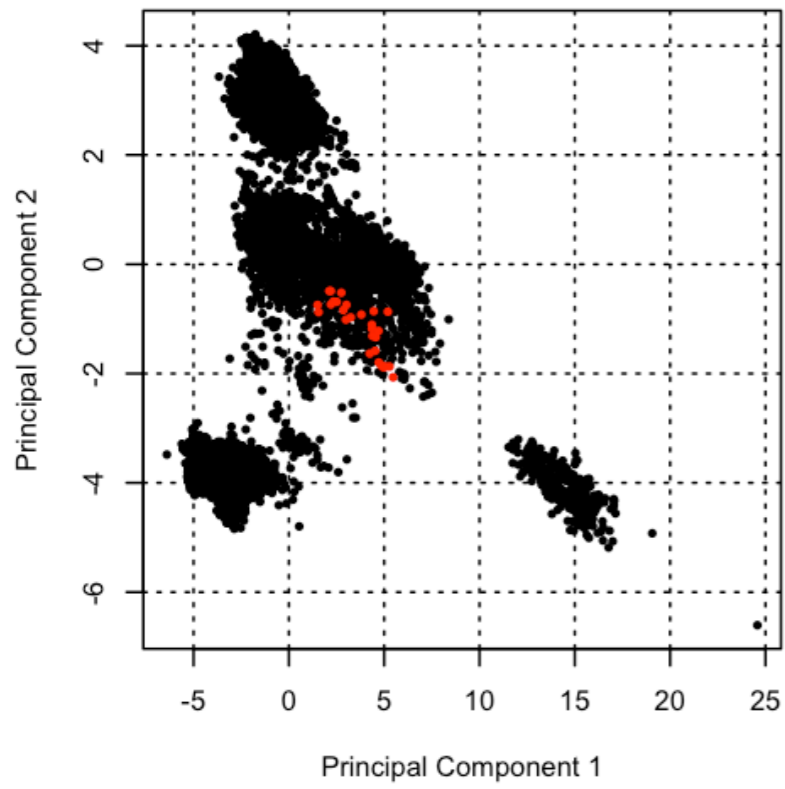


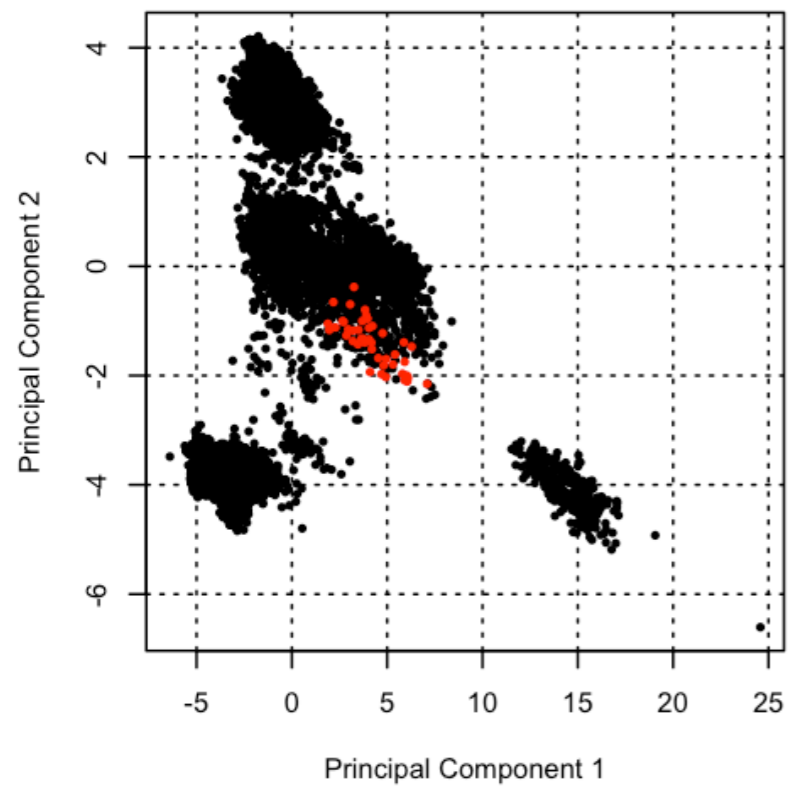


### Thaumarchaeota

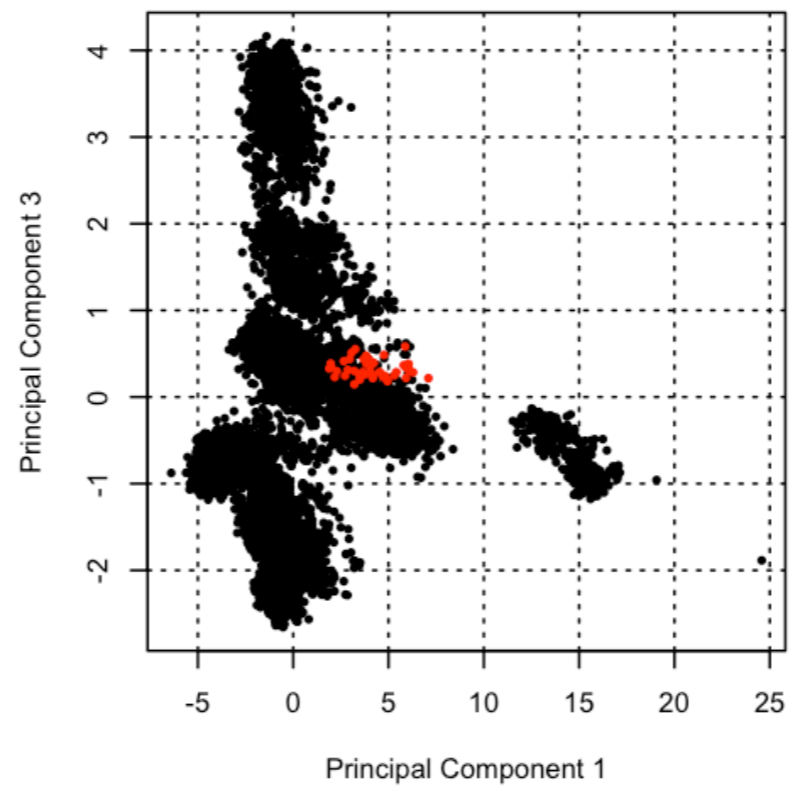


# Aquificae

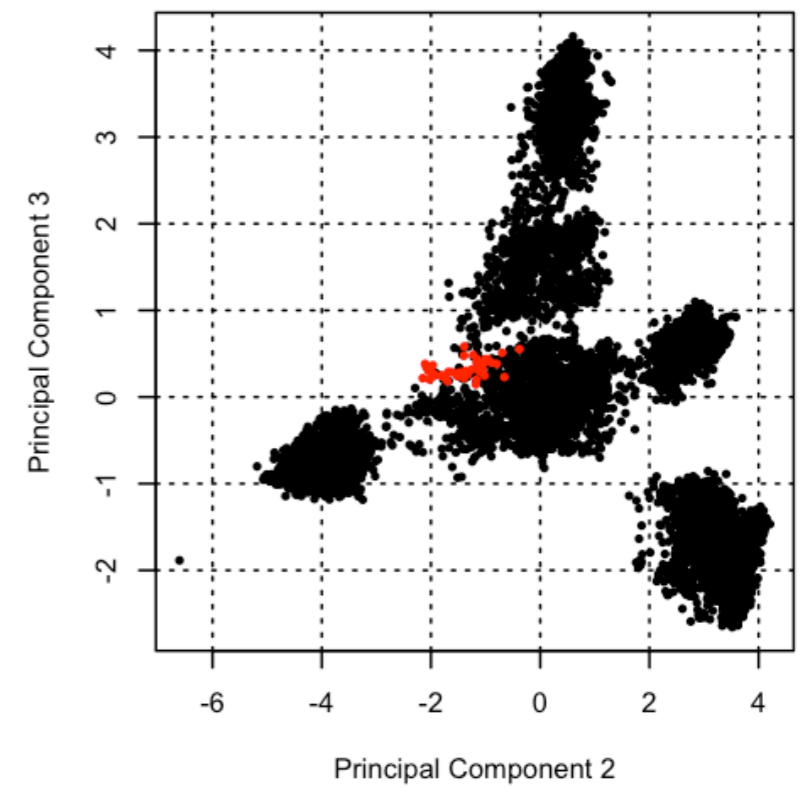


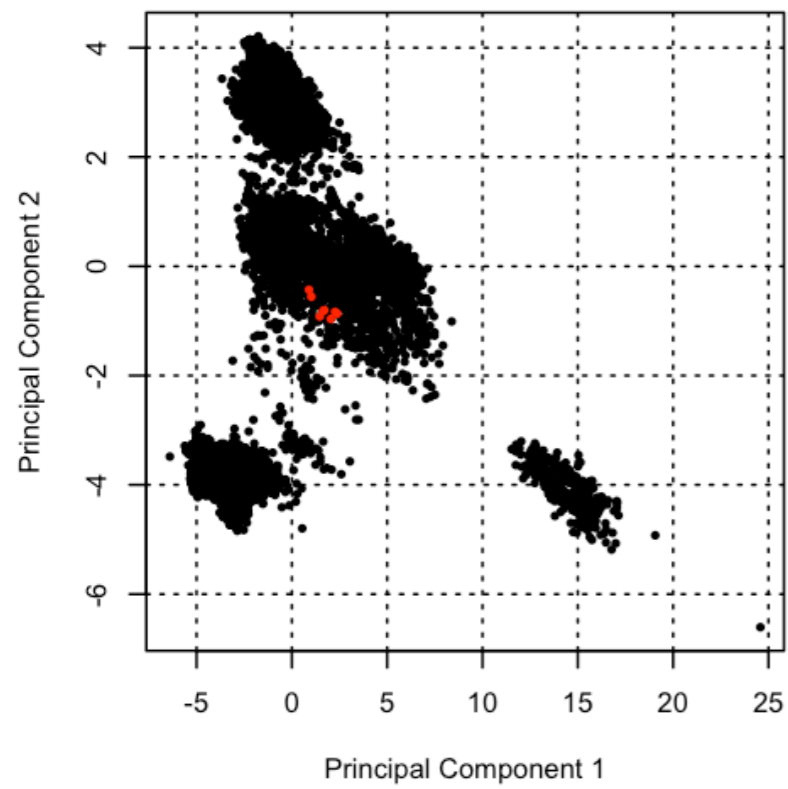


### Thermotogae

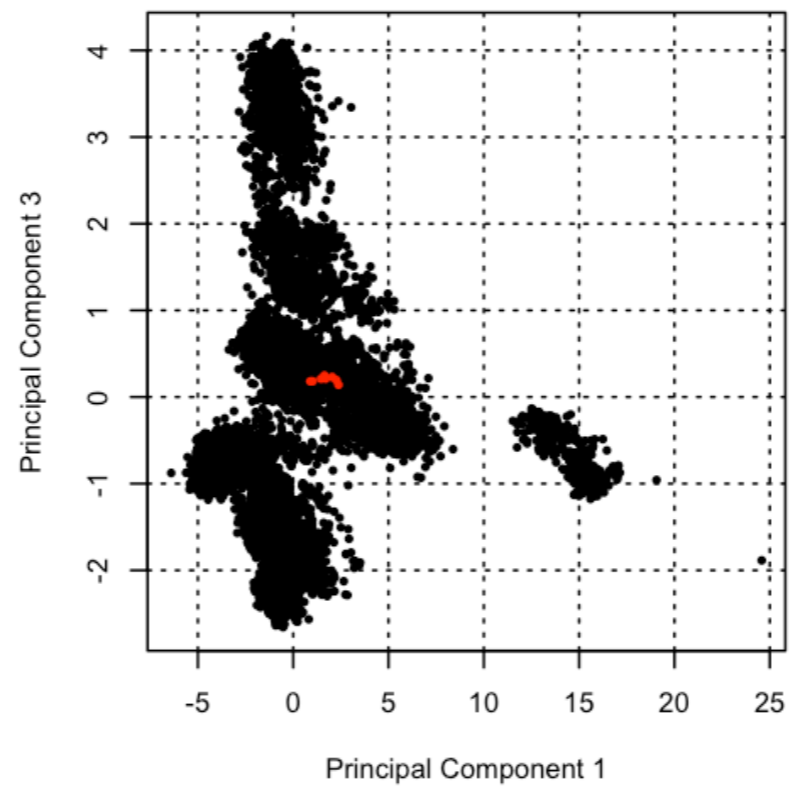


Bacteria : Thermotogae

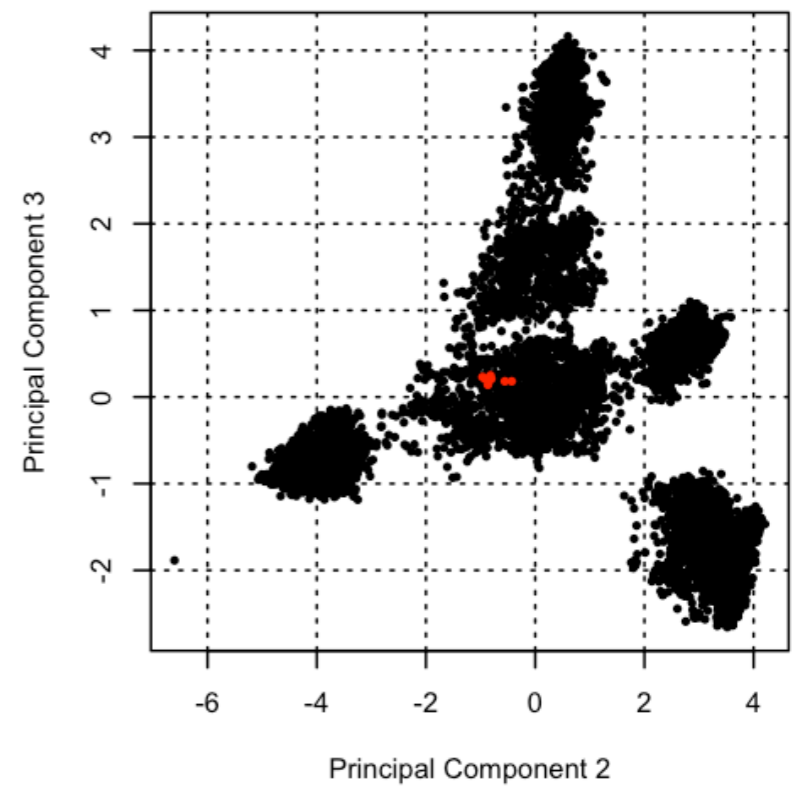


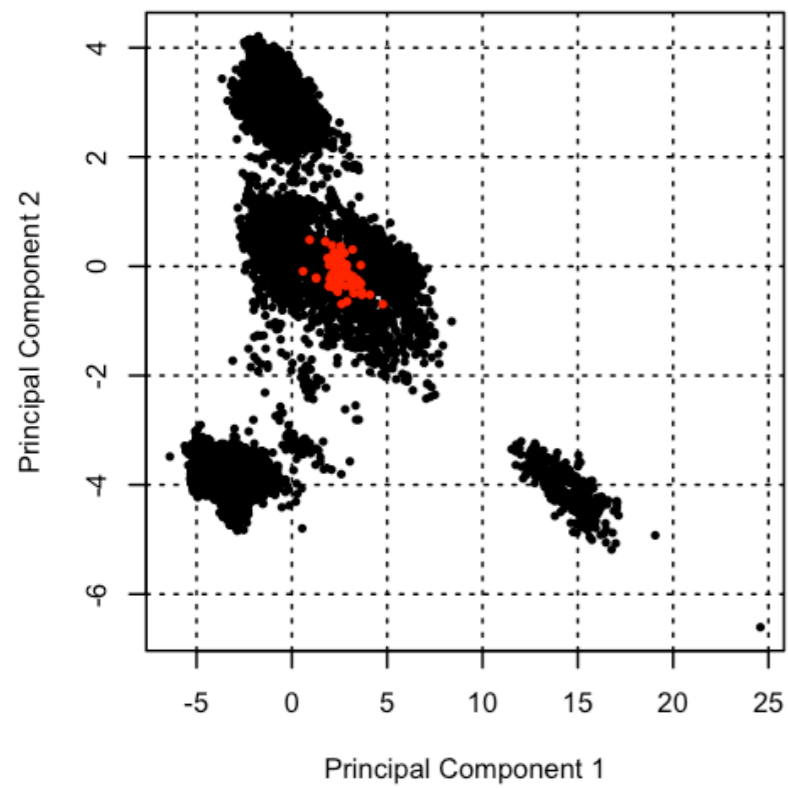


### Thermodesulfobacteria

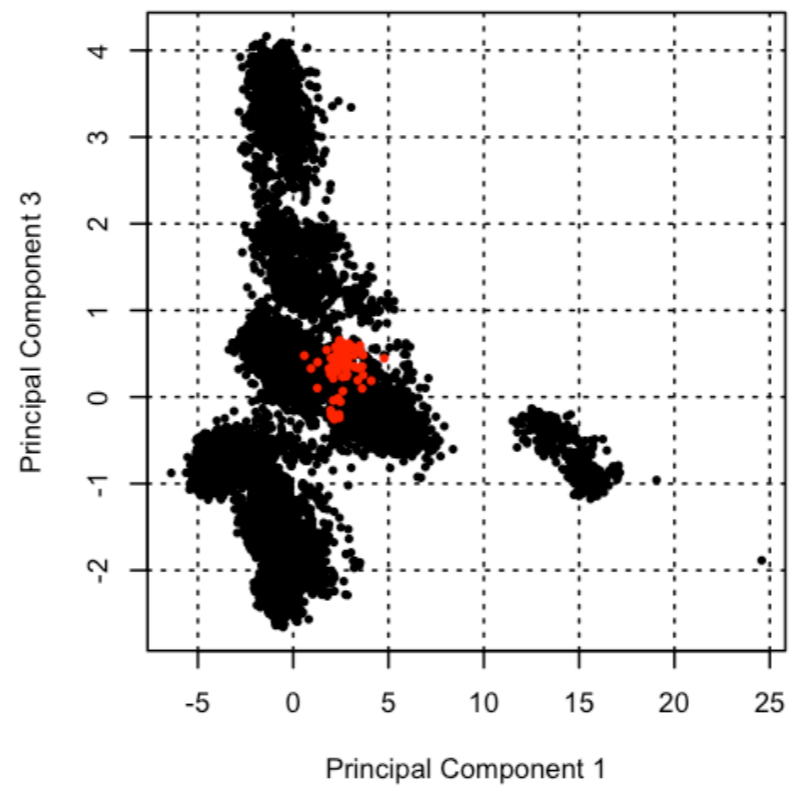


Bacteria : Thermodesulfobacteria

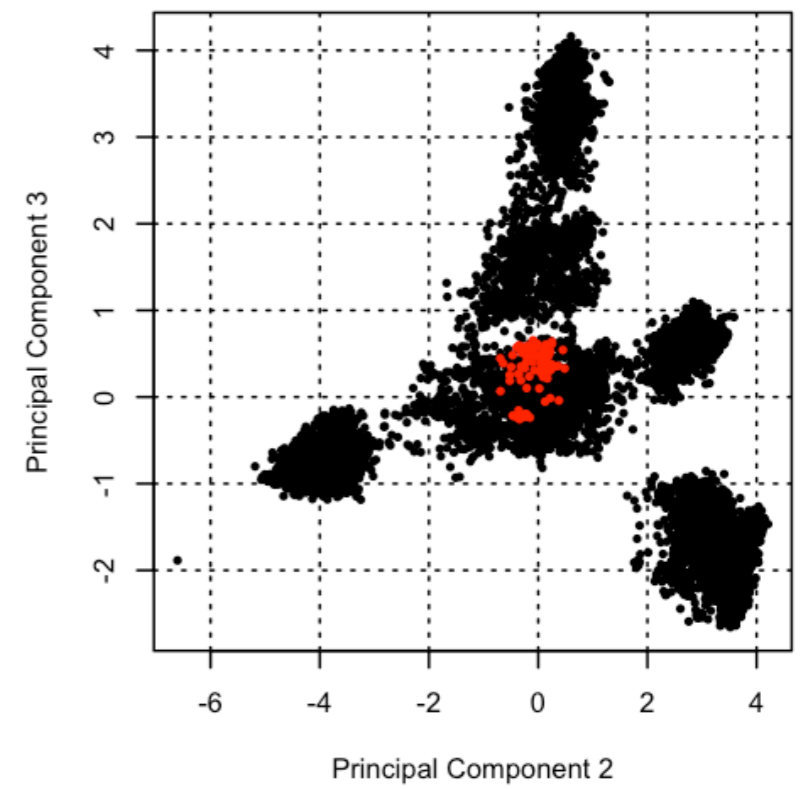




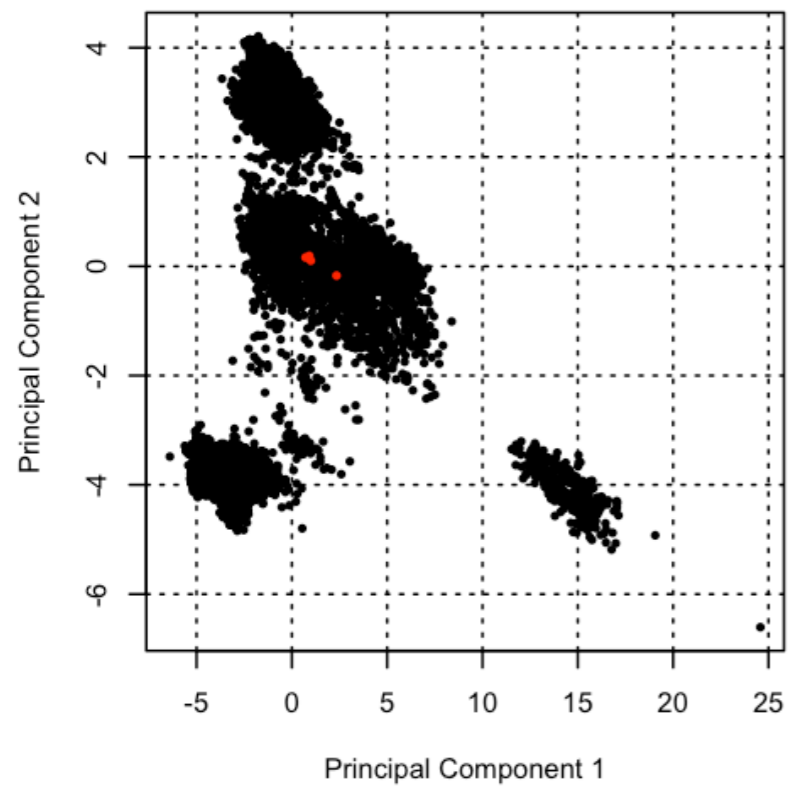
## Deinococcus-Thermus



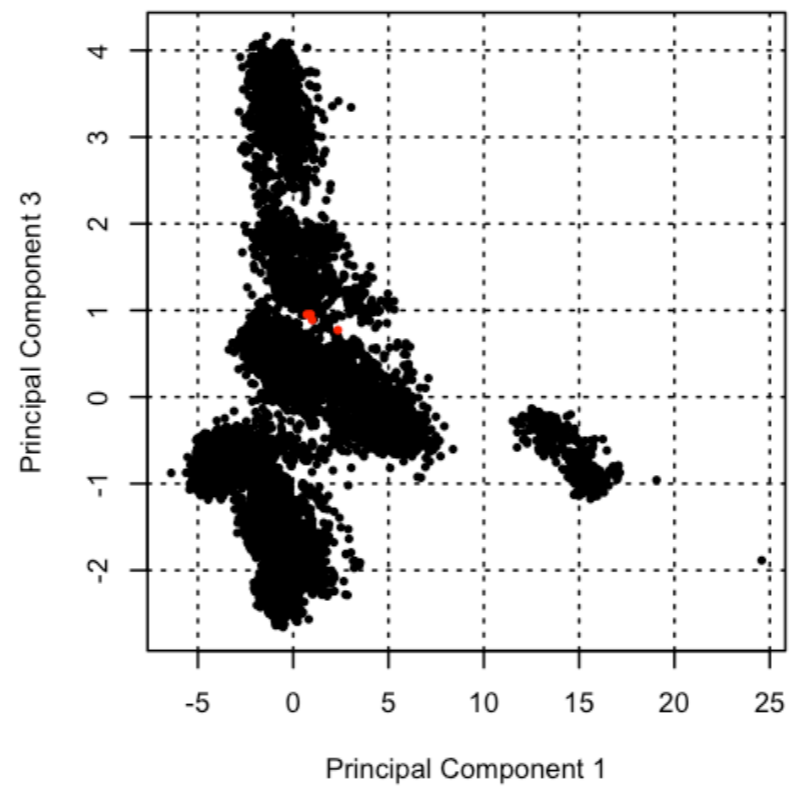
Bacteria : Deinococcus-Thermus



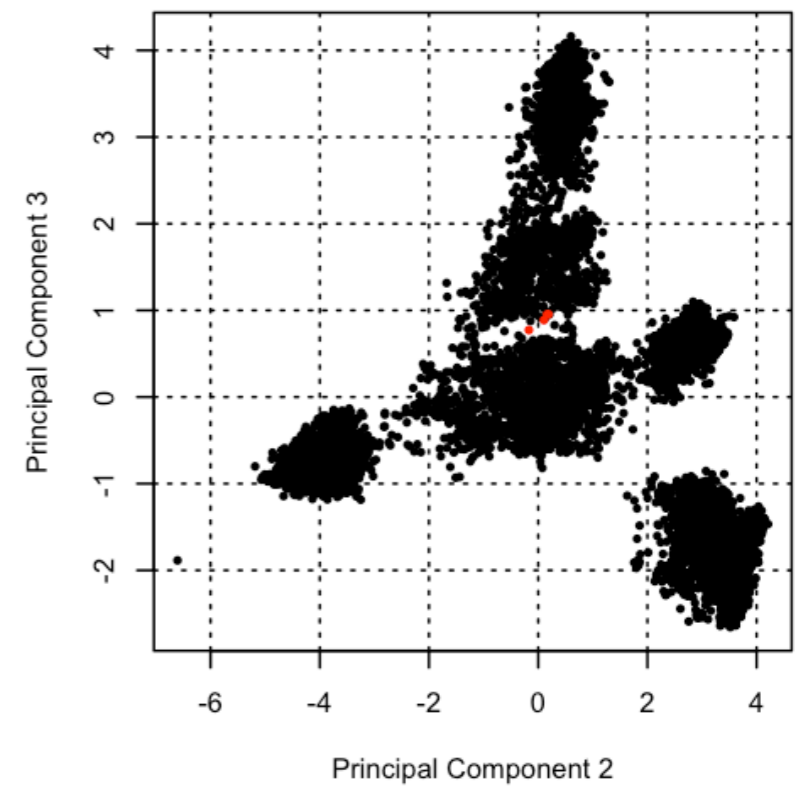


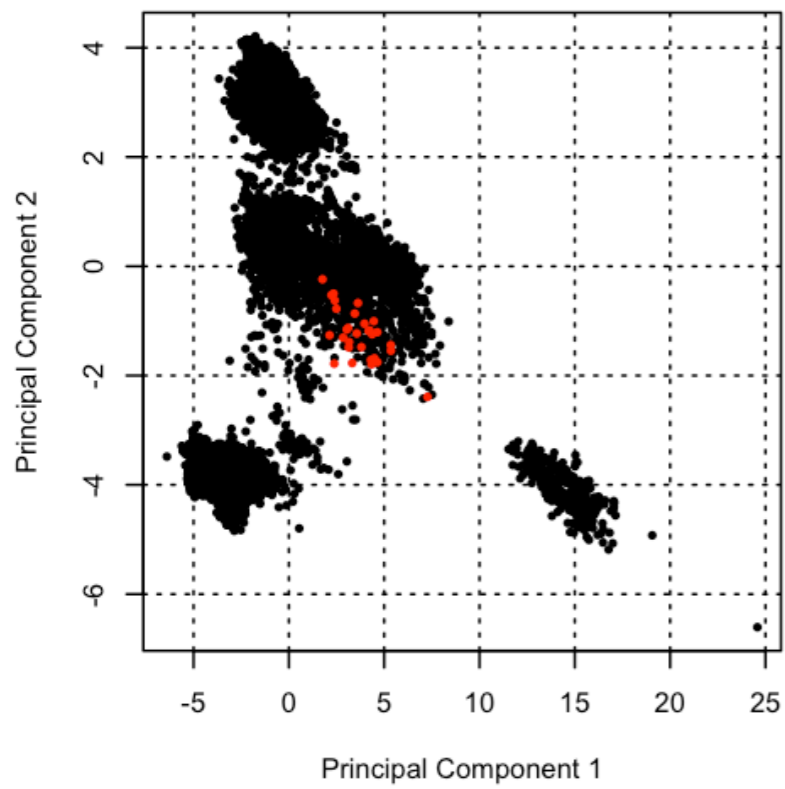


### Chrysiogenetes

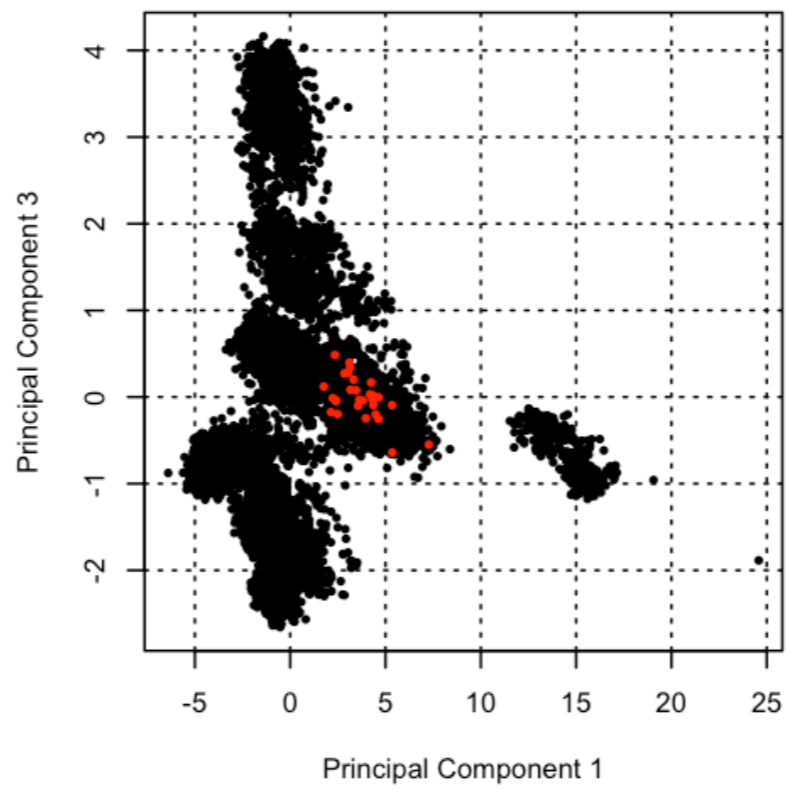


Bacteria : Chrysiogenetes

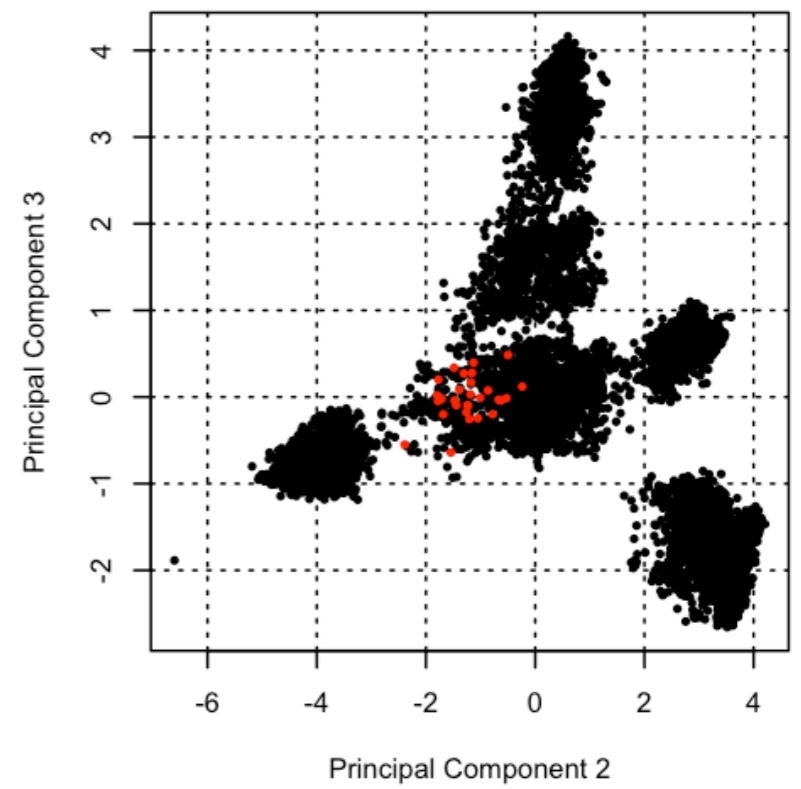


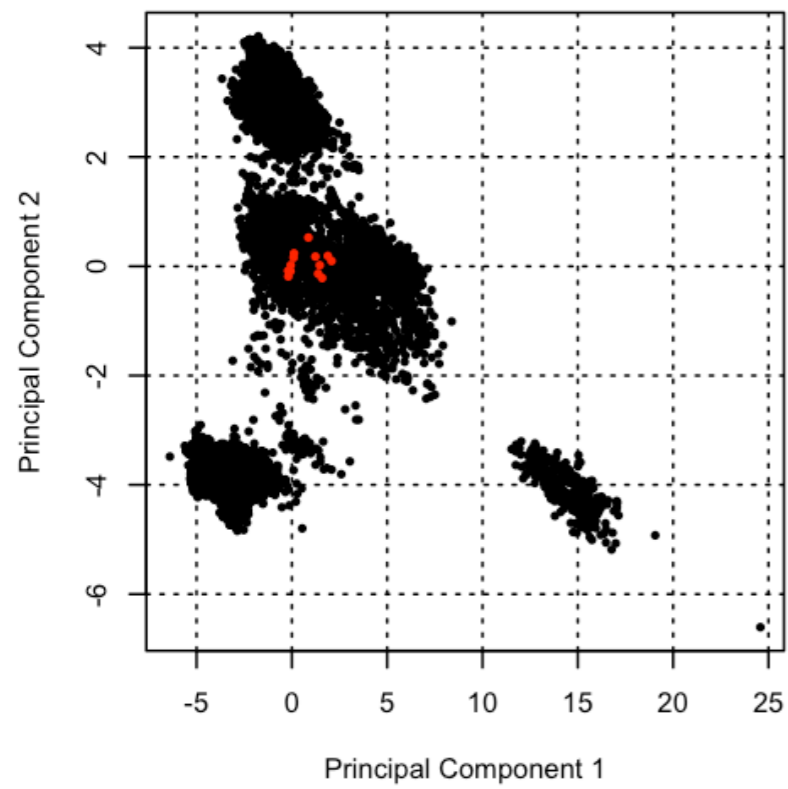


### Chloroflexi

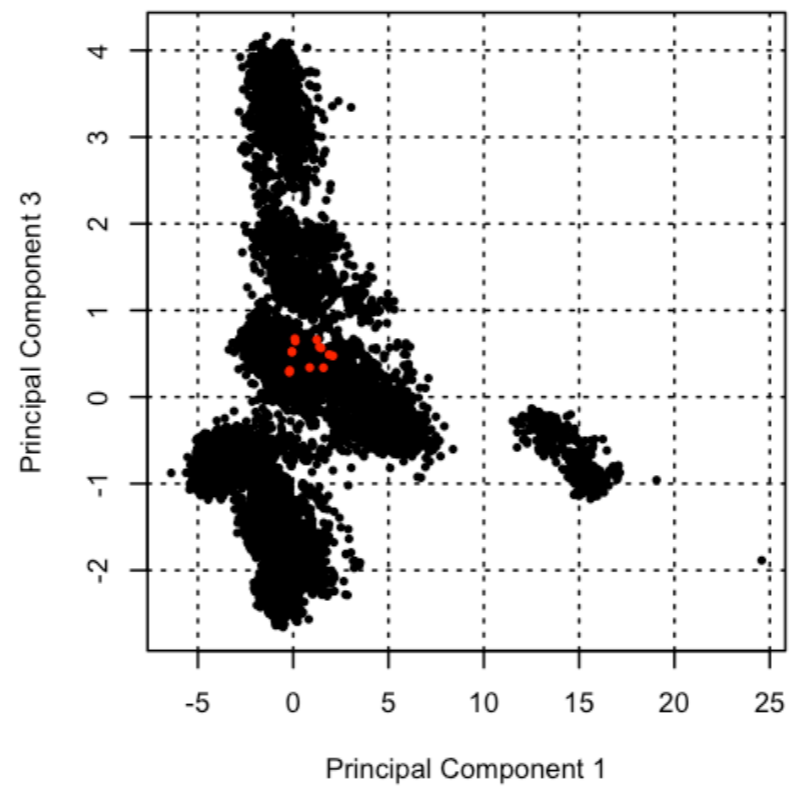


Bacteria : Chloroflexi

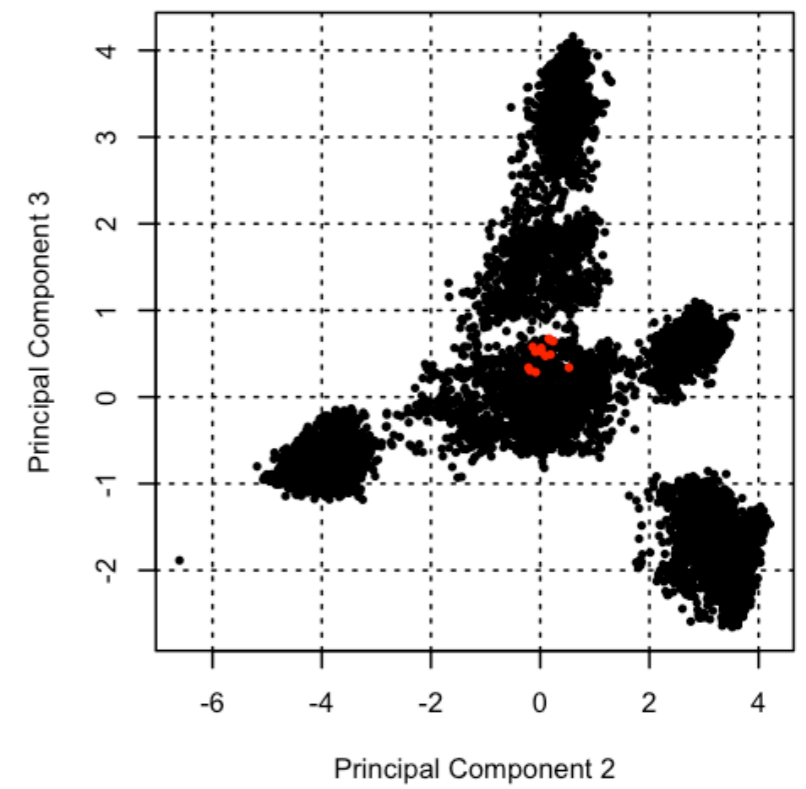


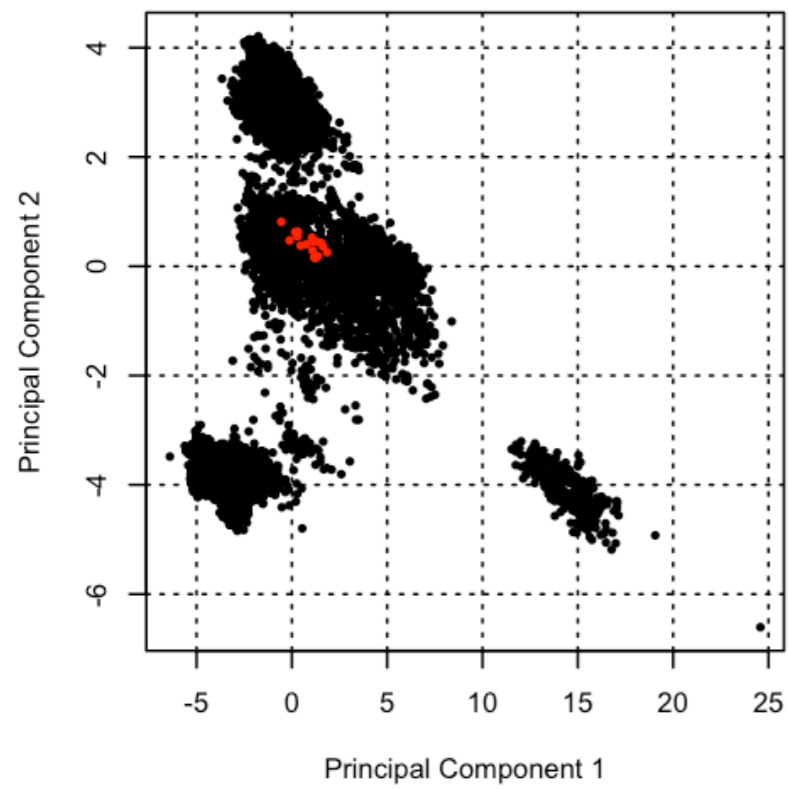


## Deferribacteres

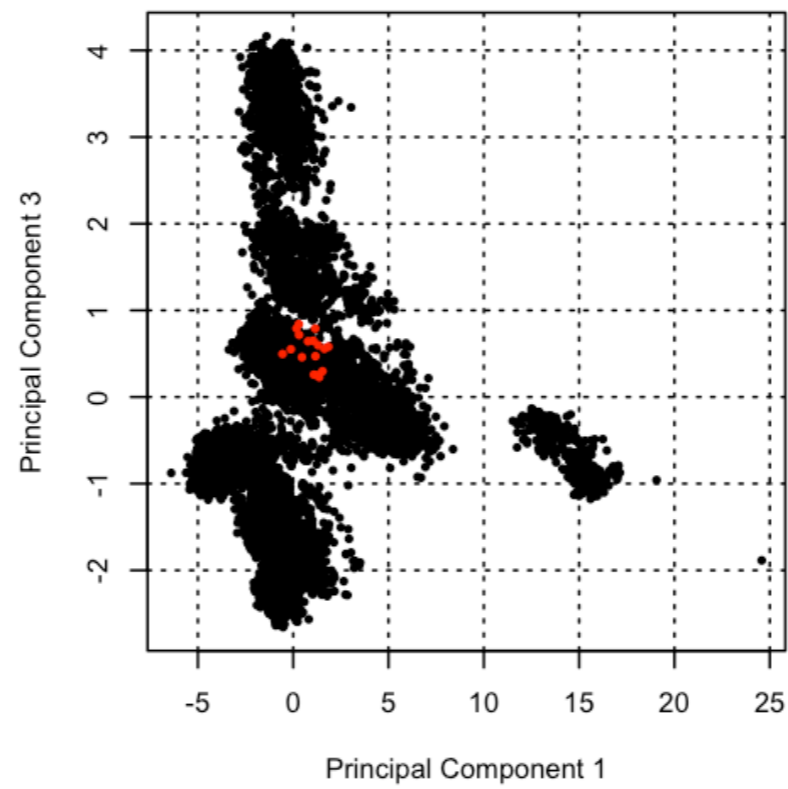


Bacteria : Deferribacteres

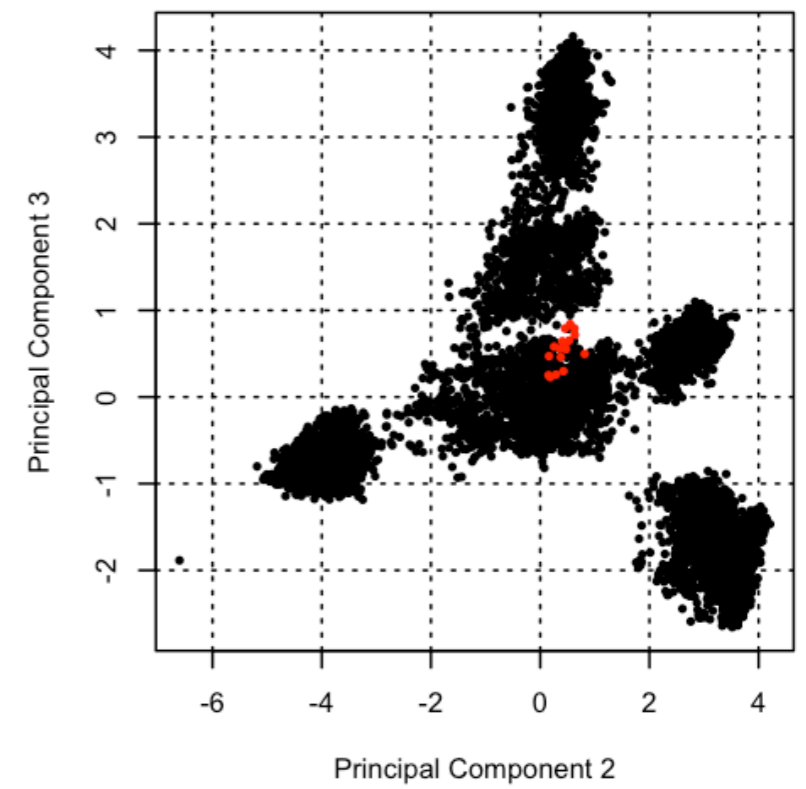


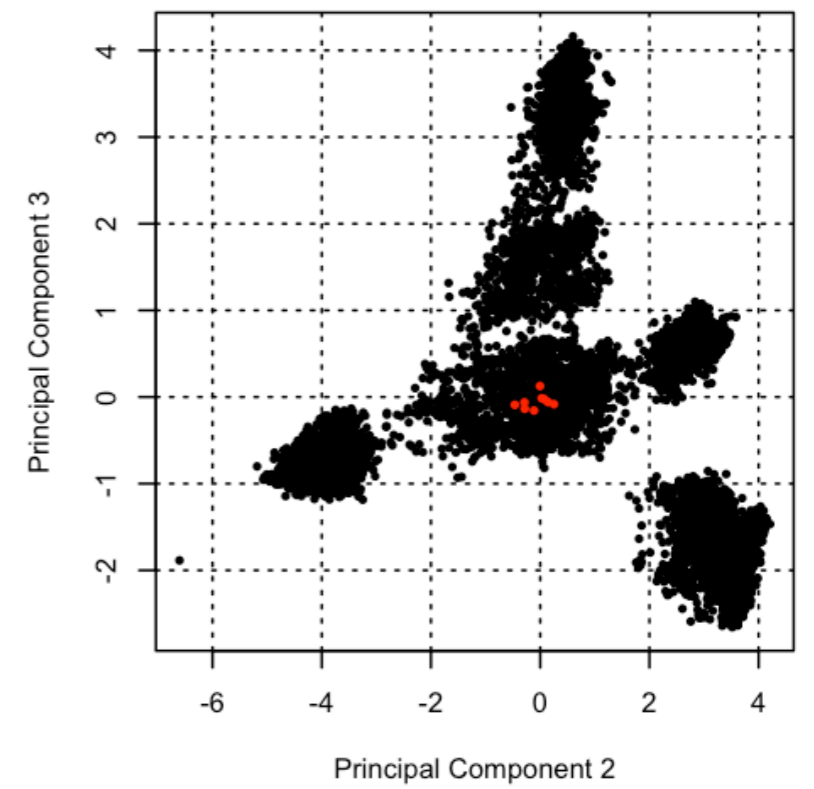
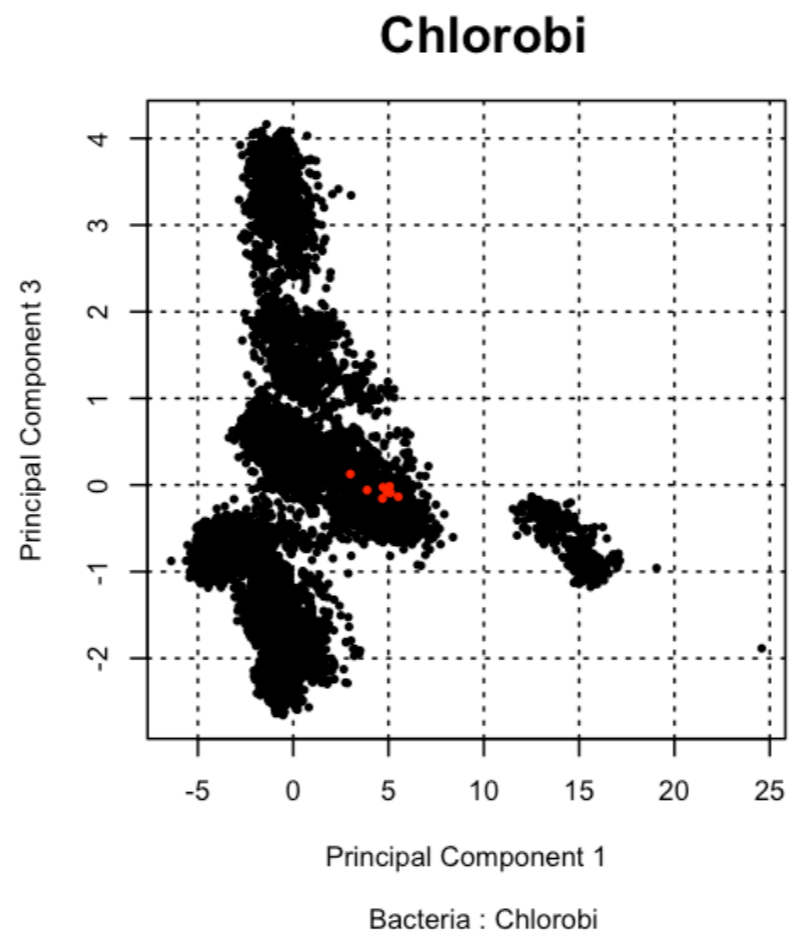
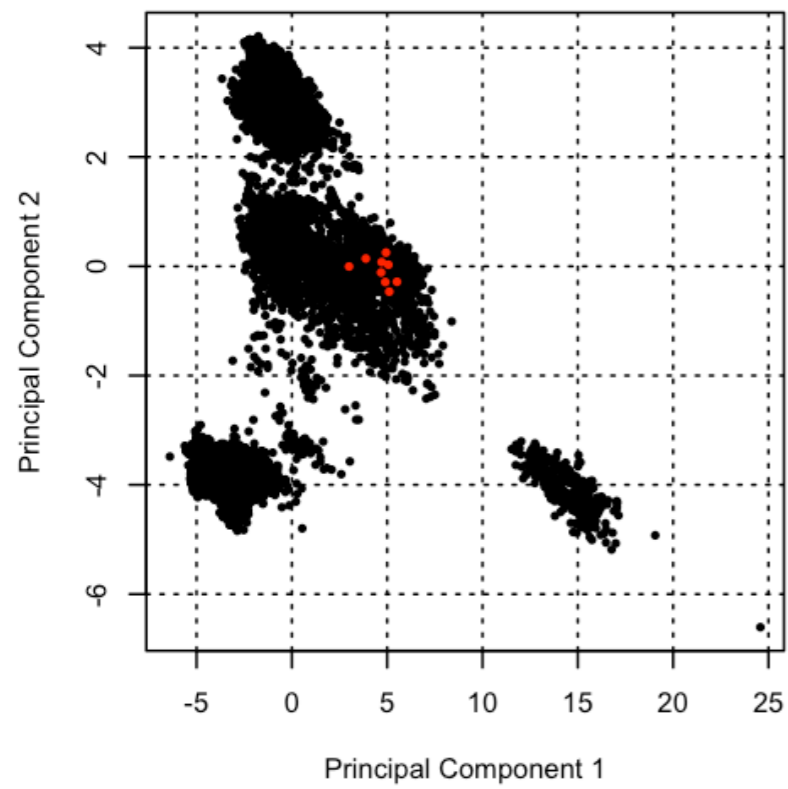


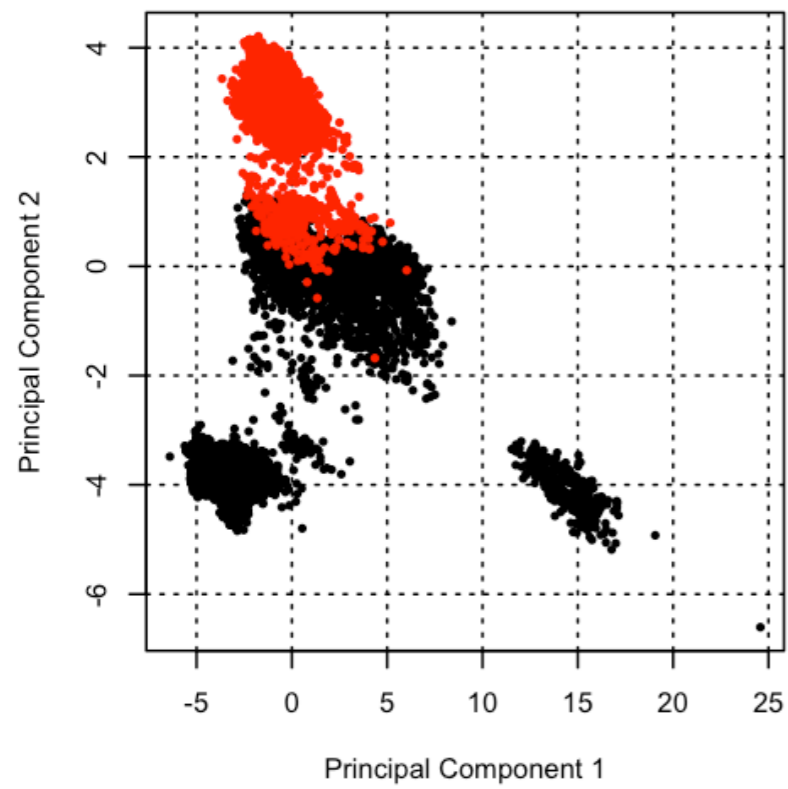
### Cyanobacteria



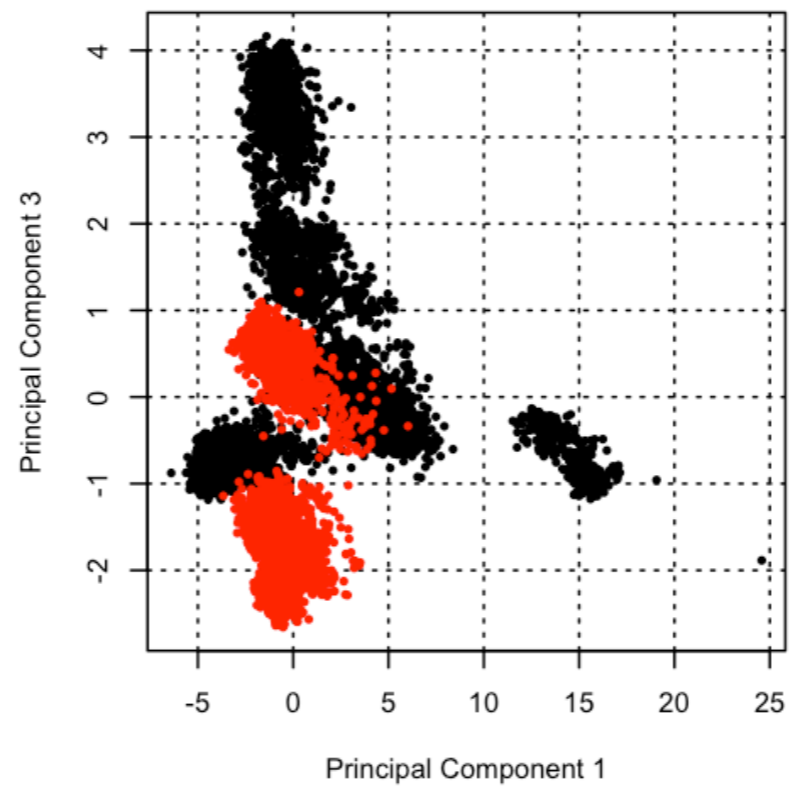
Bacteria : Cyanobacteria



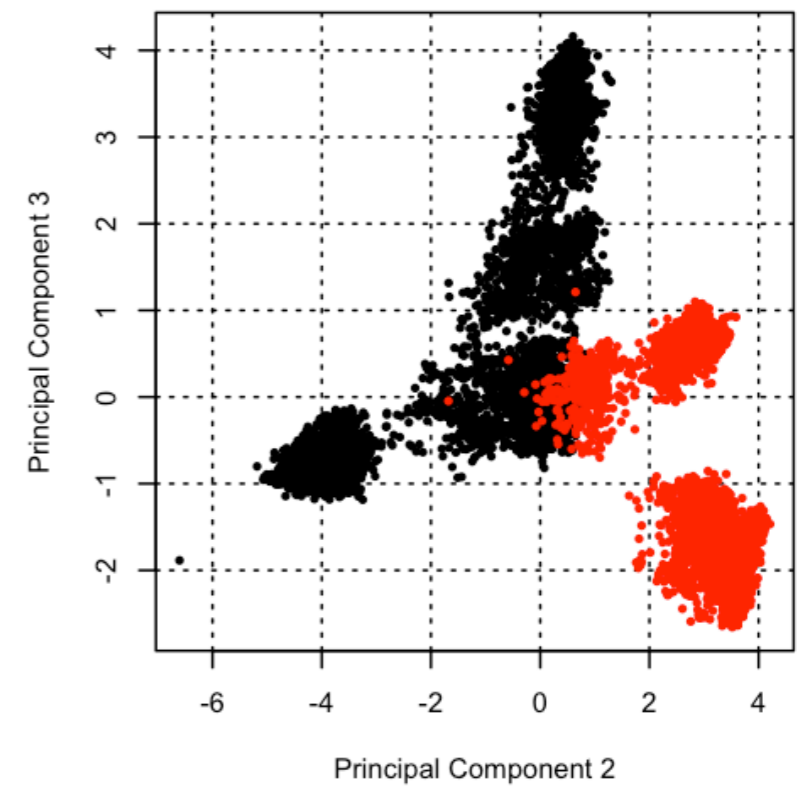


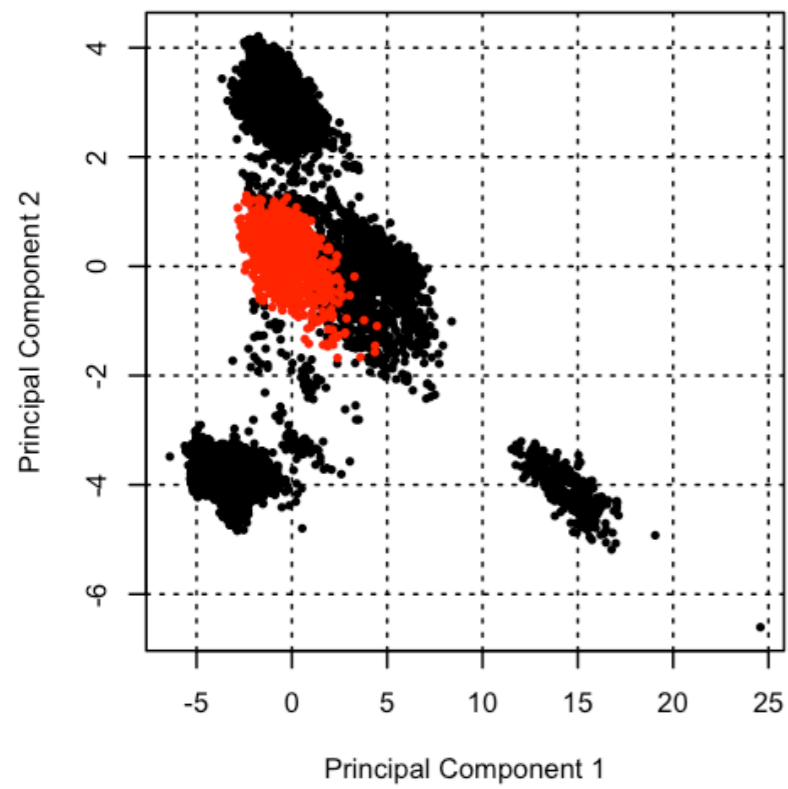


### Proteobacteria

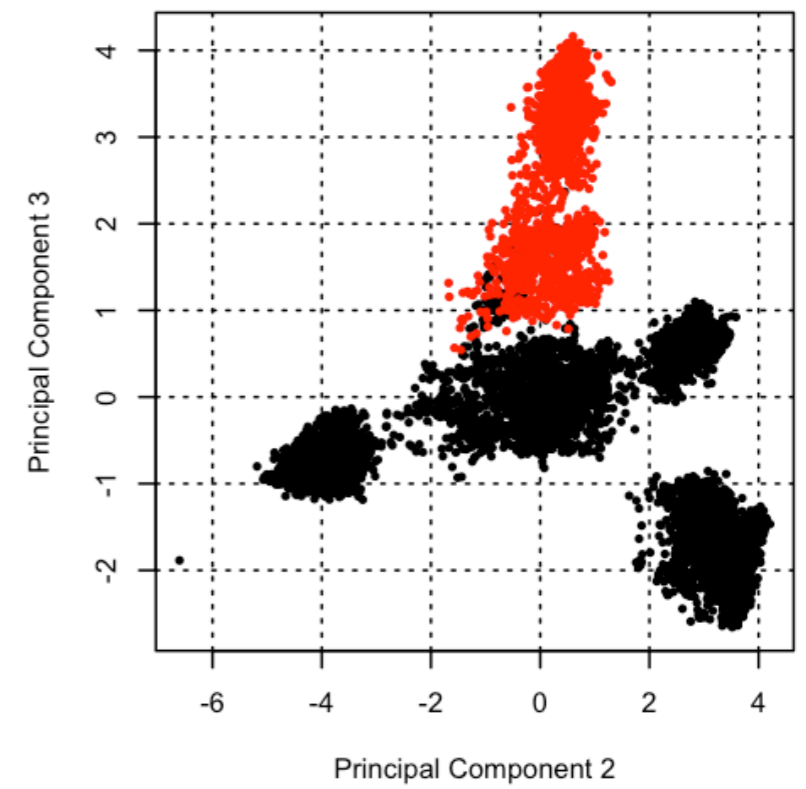
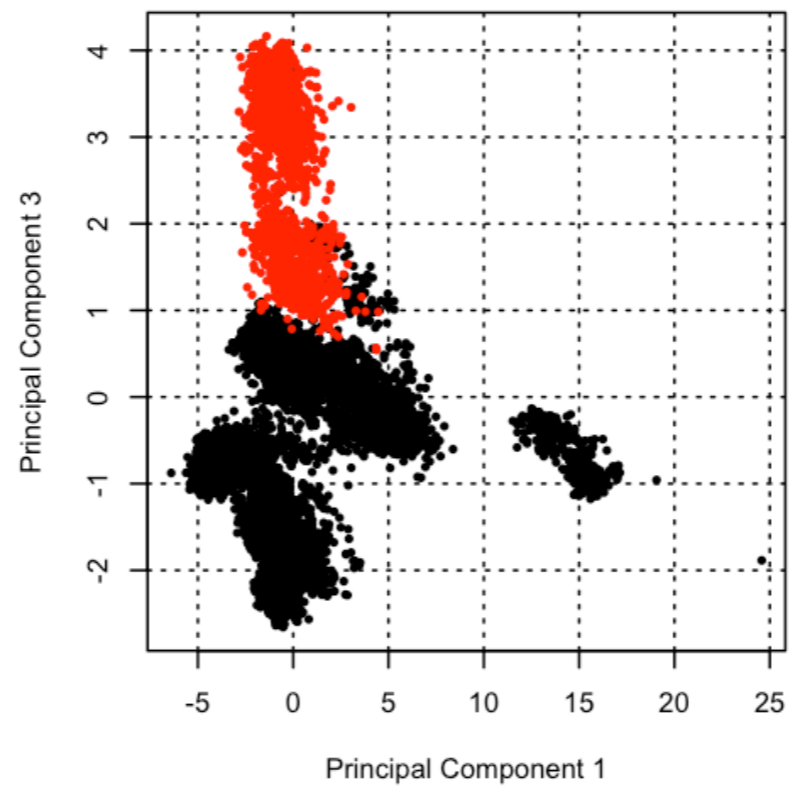


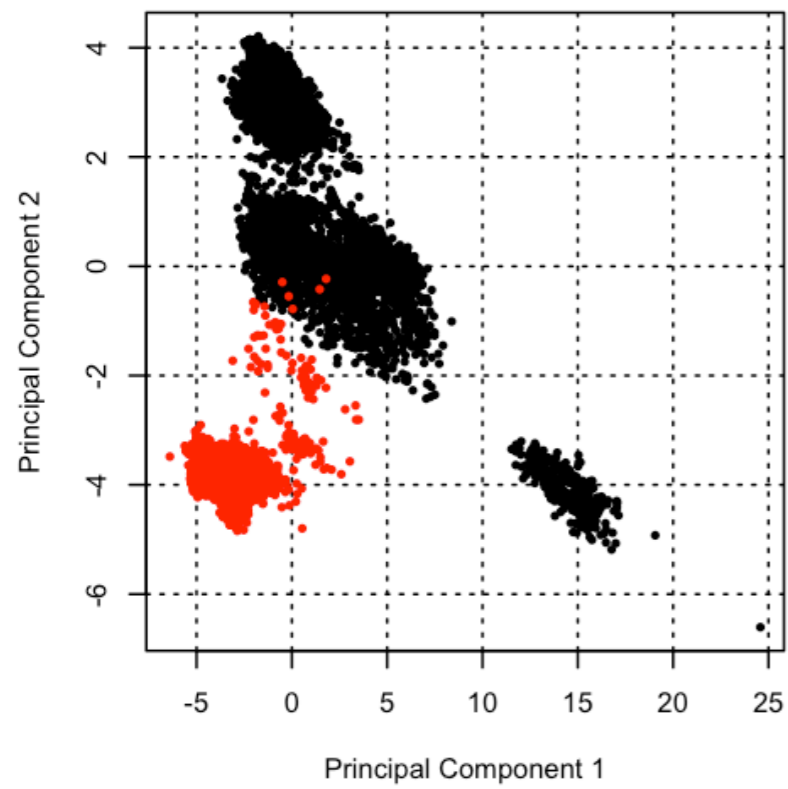
Bacteria : Proteobacteria



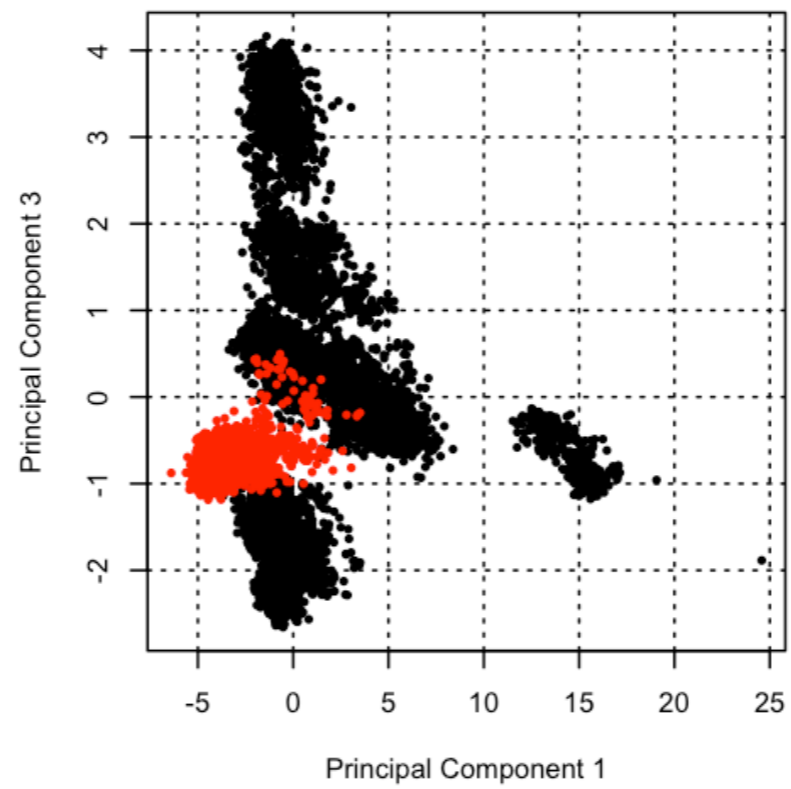


### Firmicutes

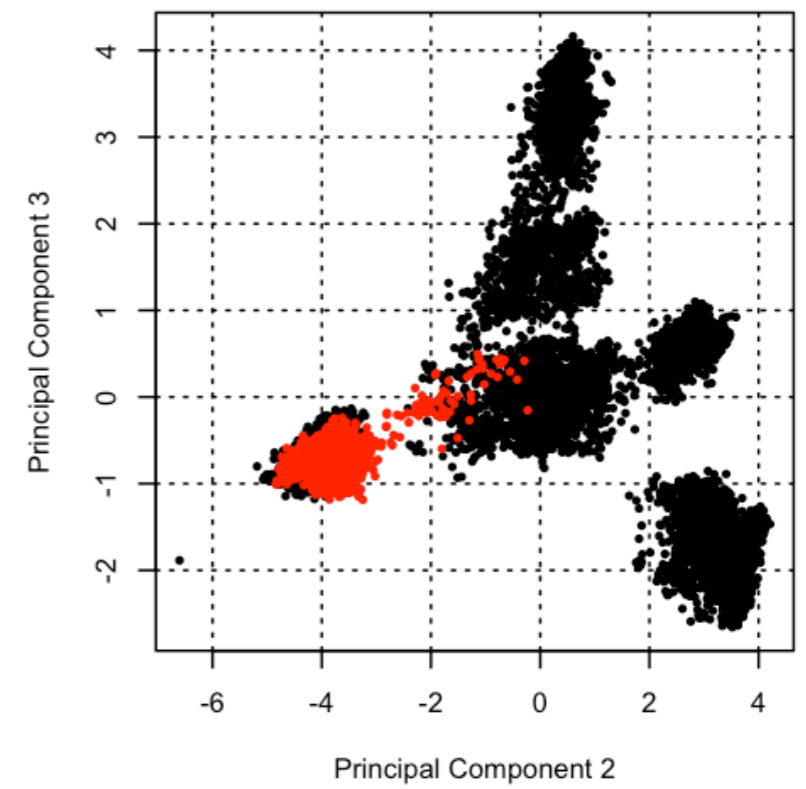




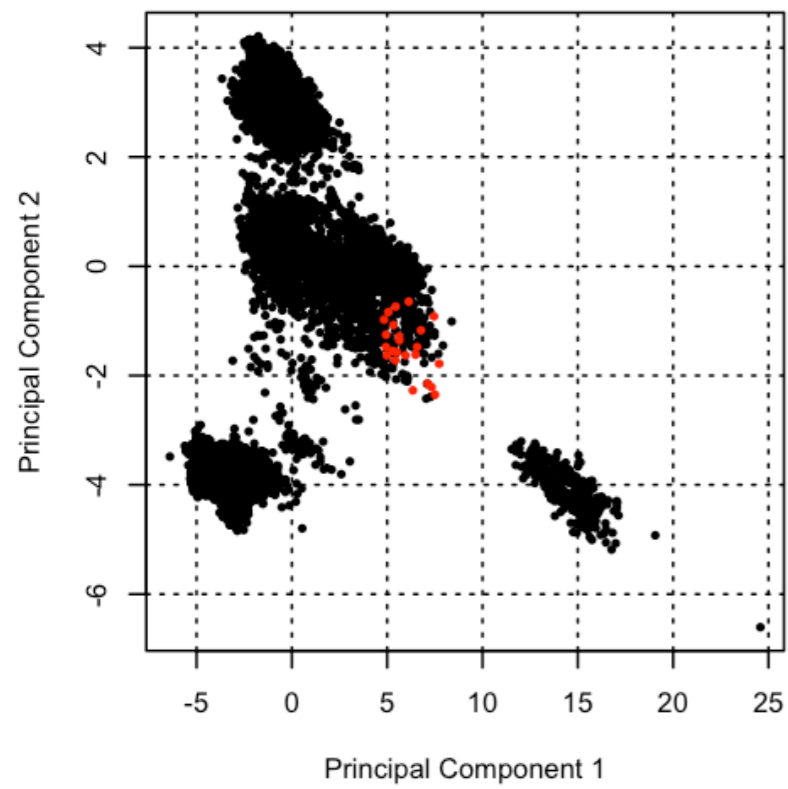
## Actinobacteria



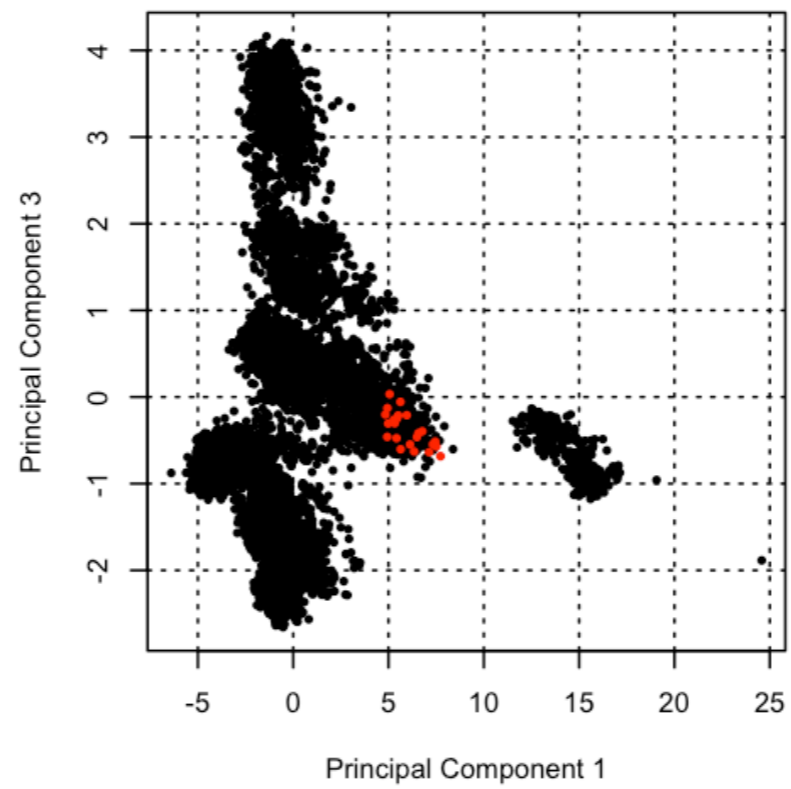
Bacteria : Actinobacteria



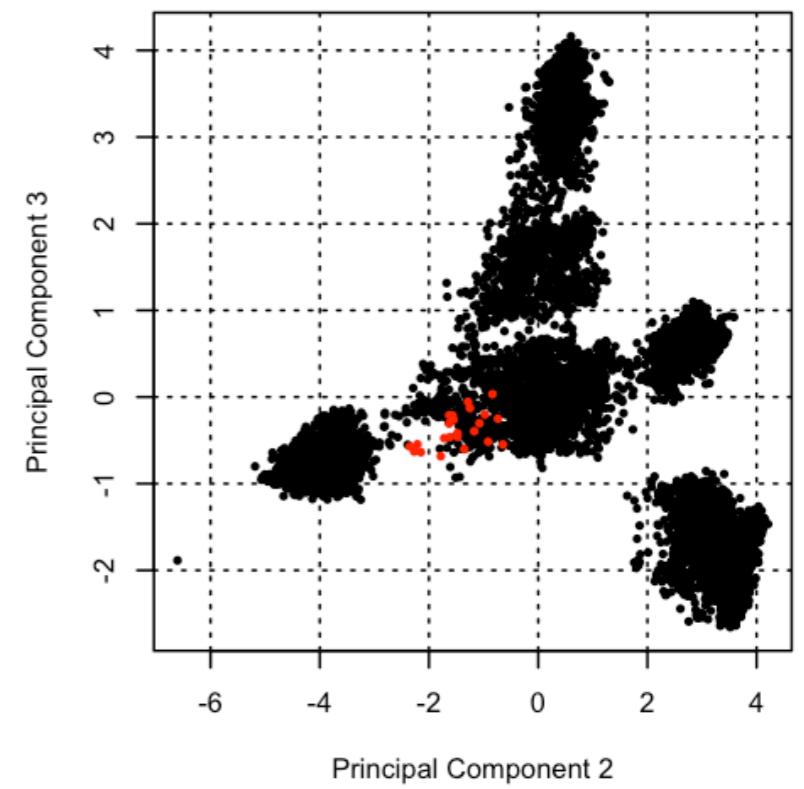


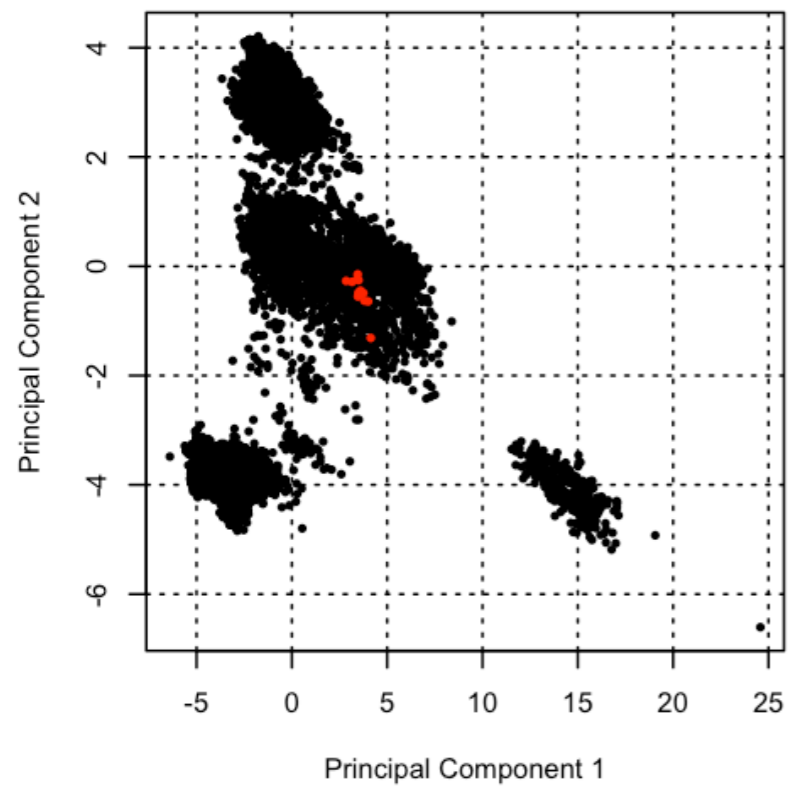


## Planctomycetes

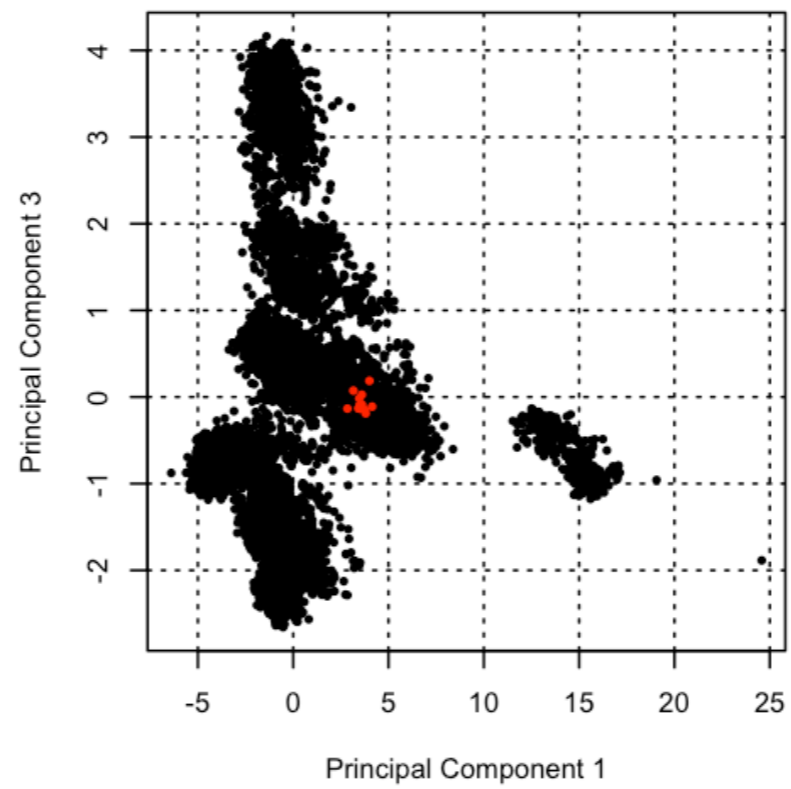


Bacteria : Planctomycetes

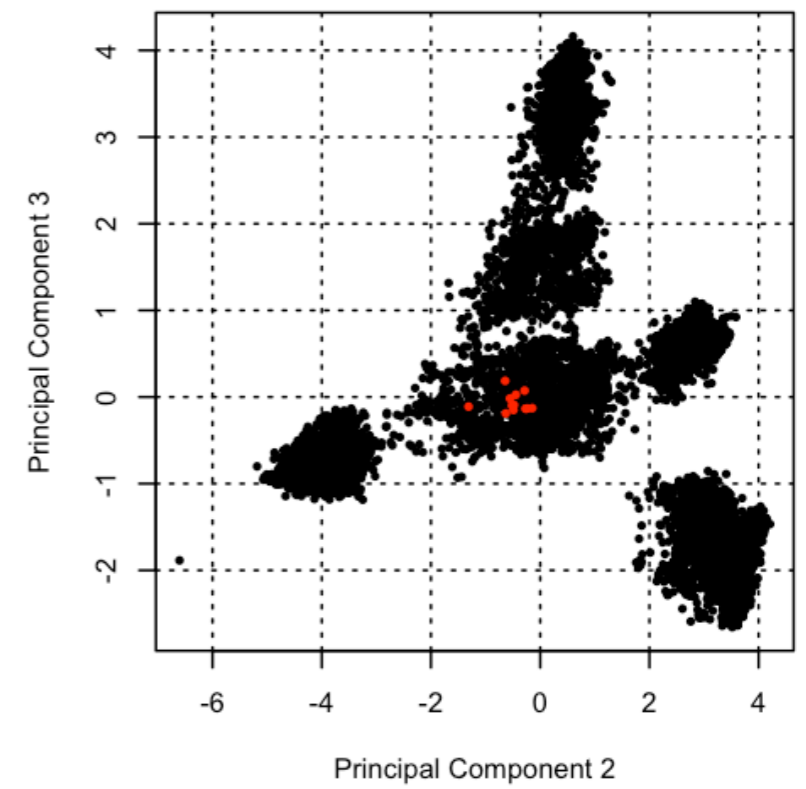


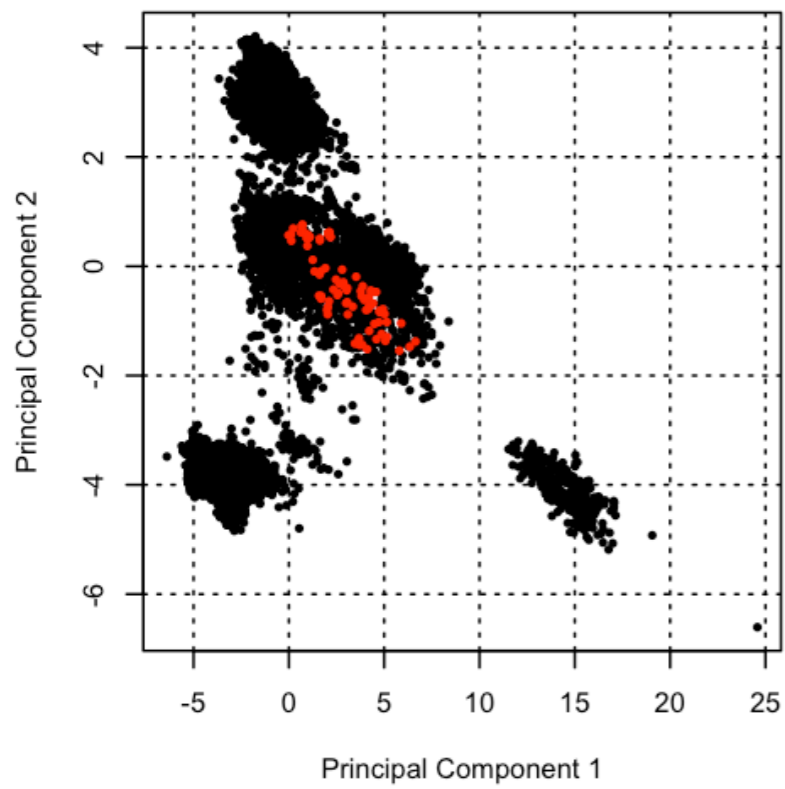


## Chlamydiae

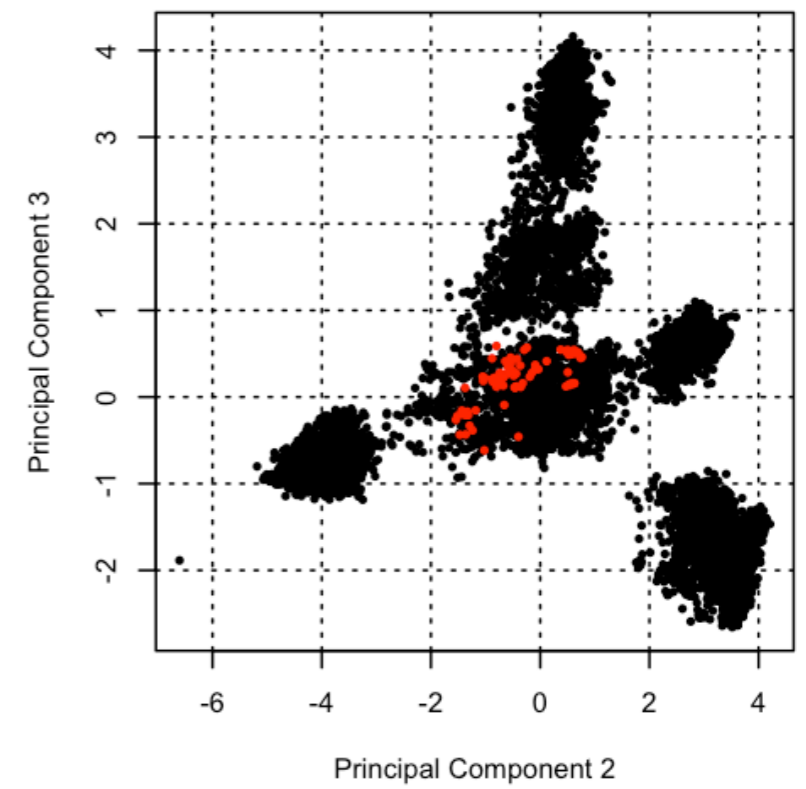
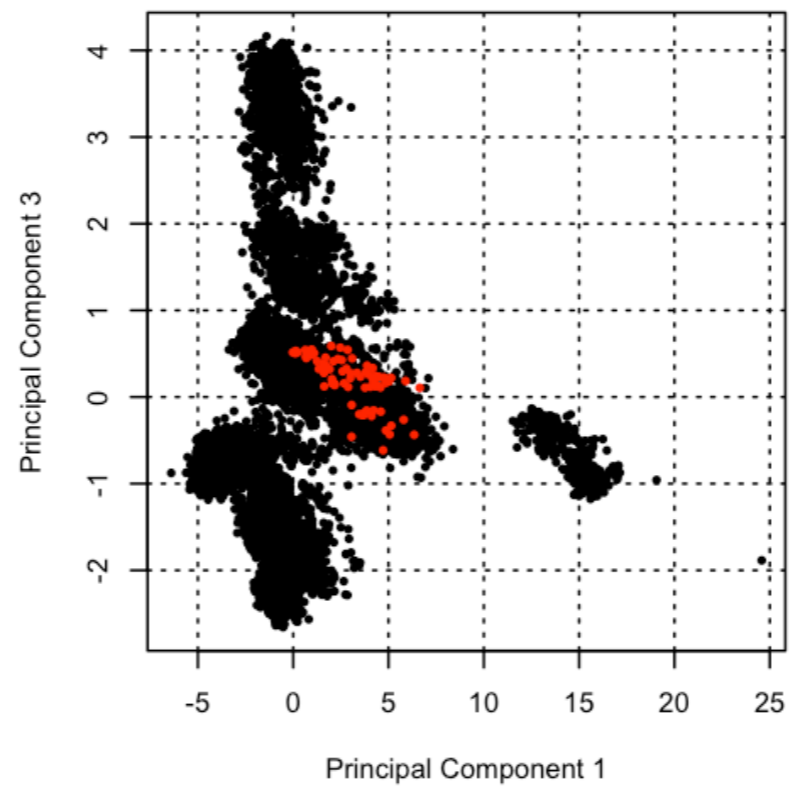


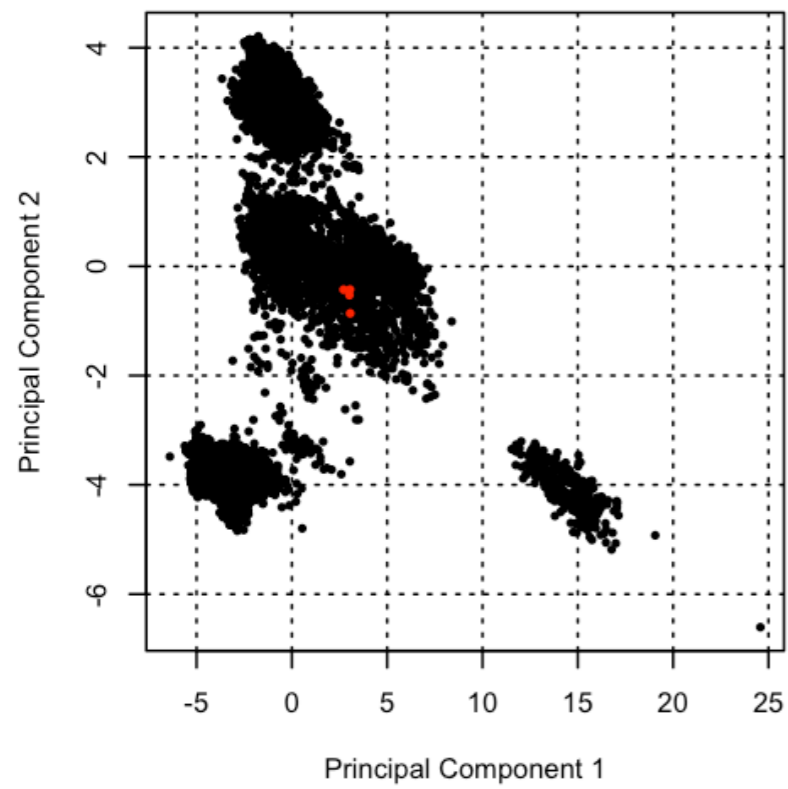
Bacteria : Chlamydiae



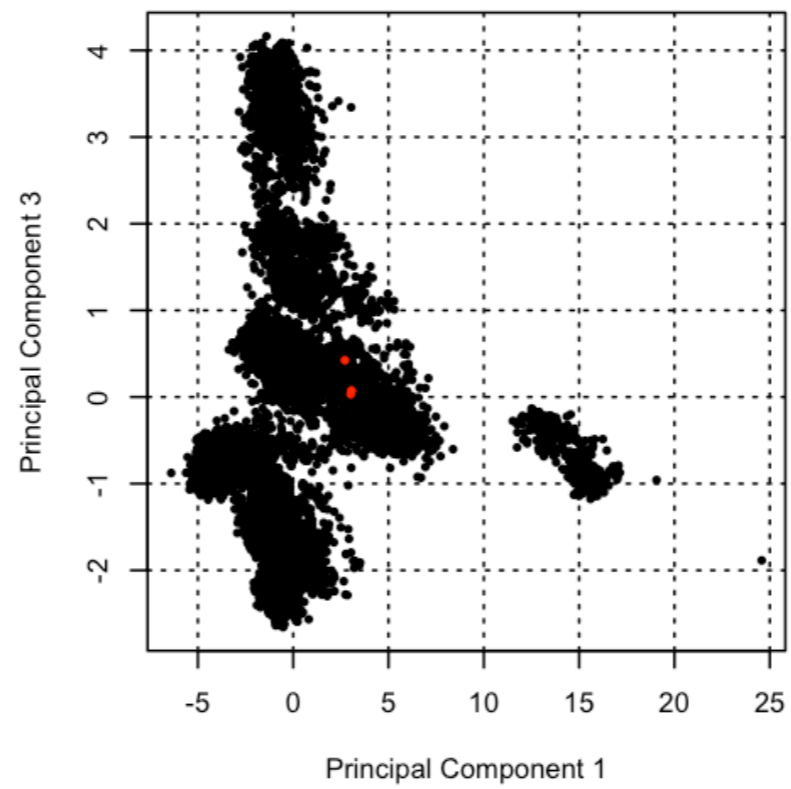


## Spirochaetes

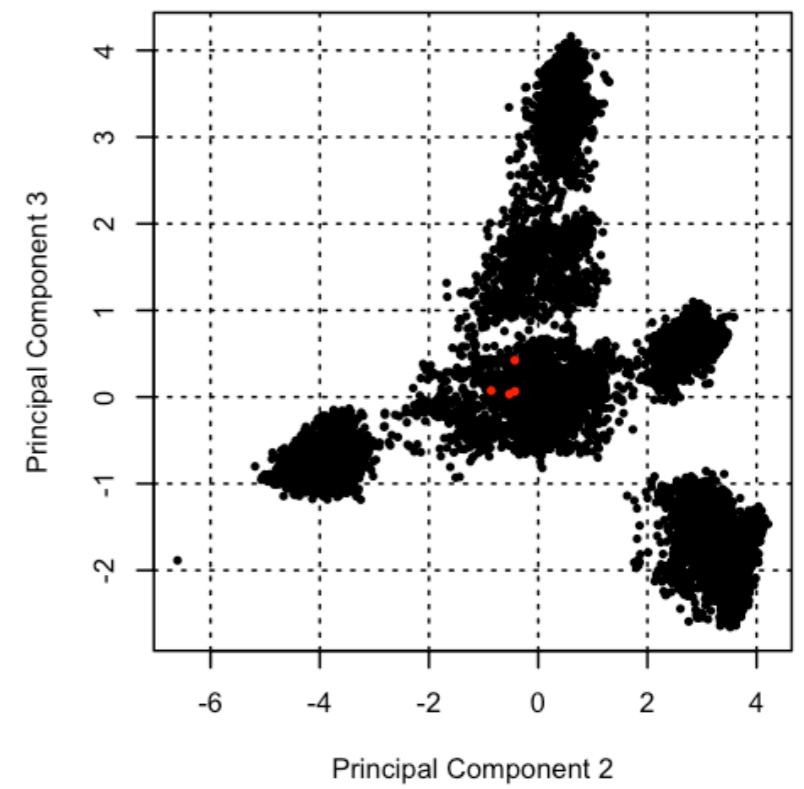


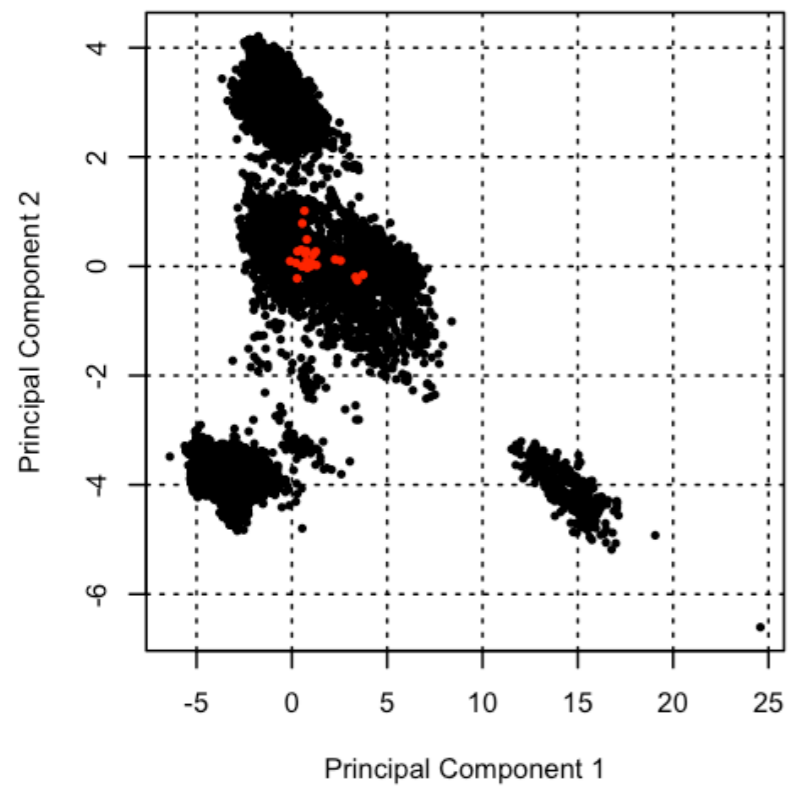


## Fibrobacteres

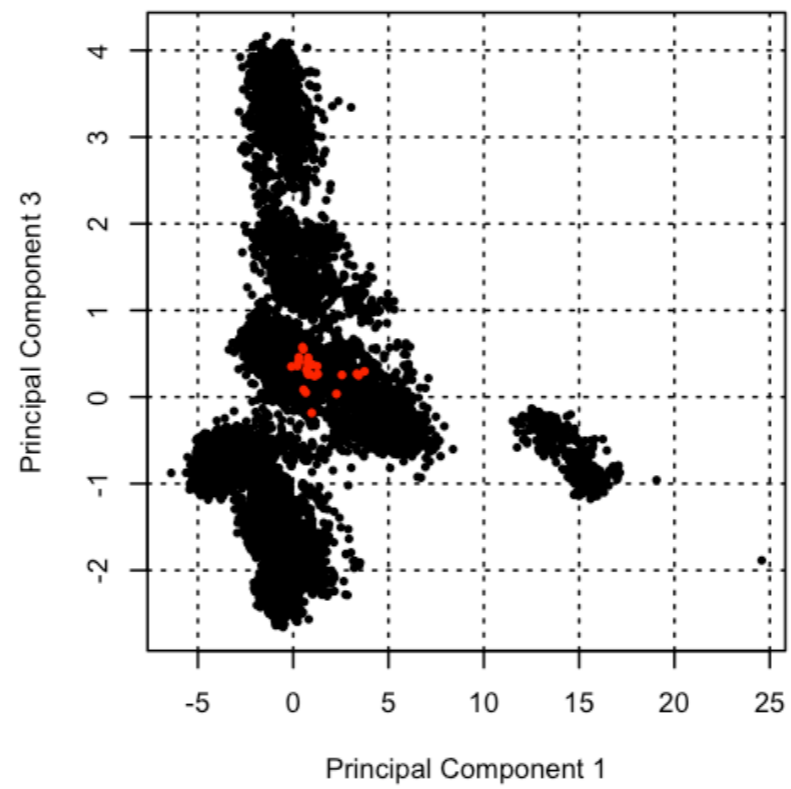


Bacteria : Fibrobacteres

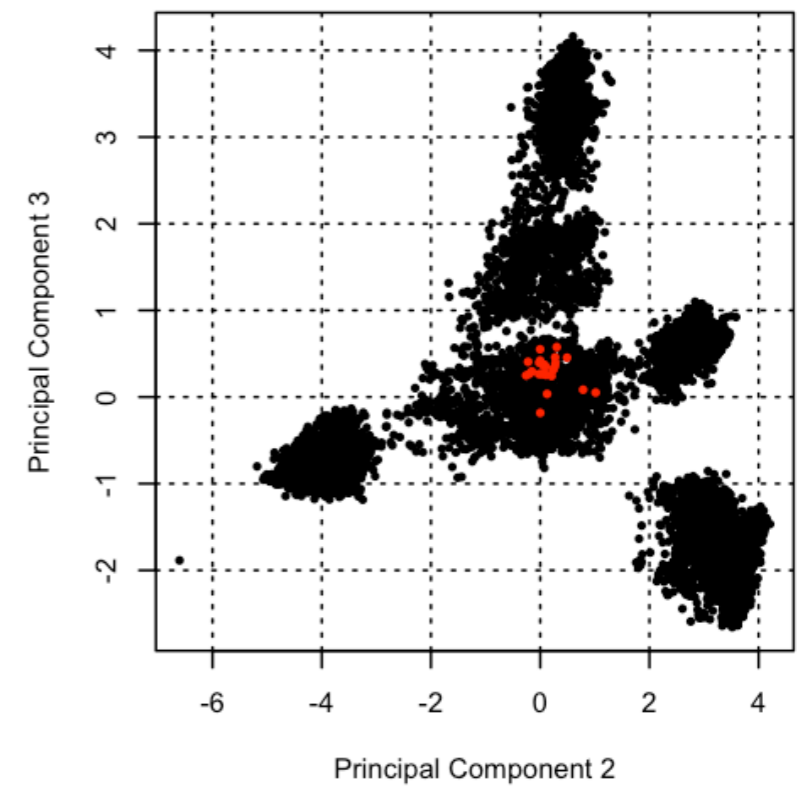


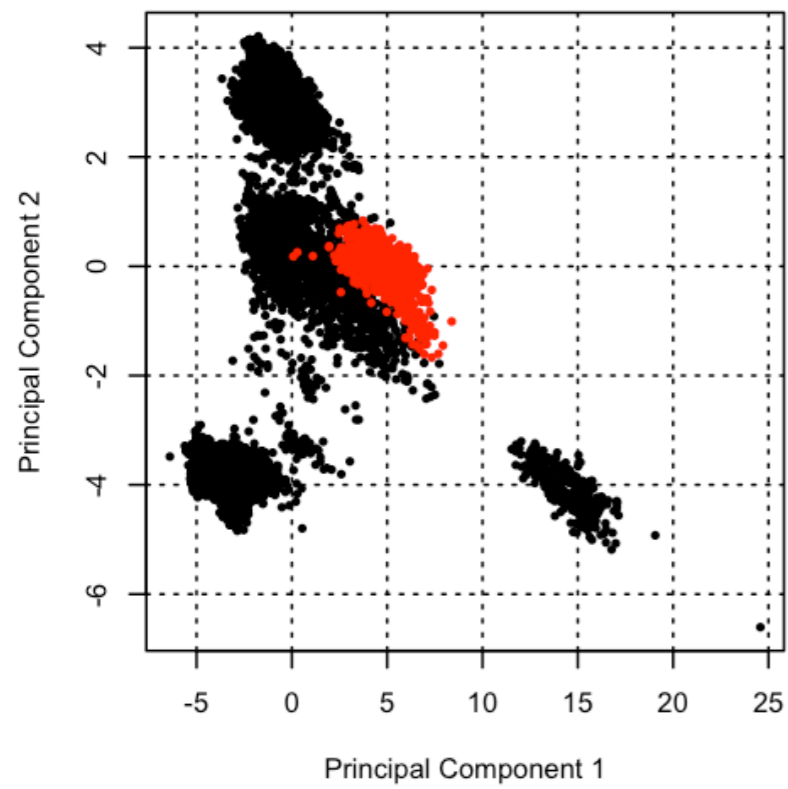


## Acidobacteria

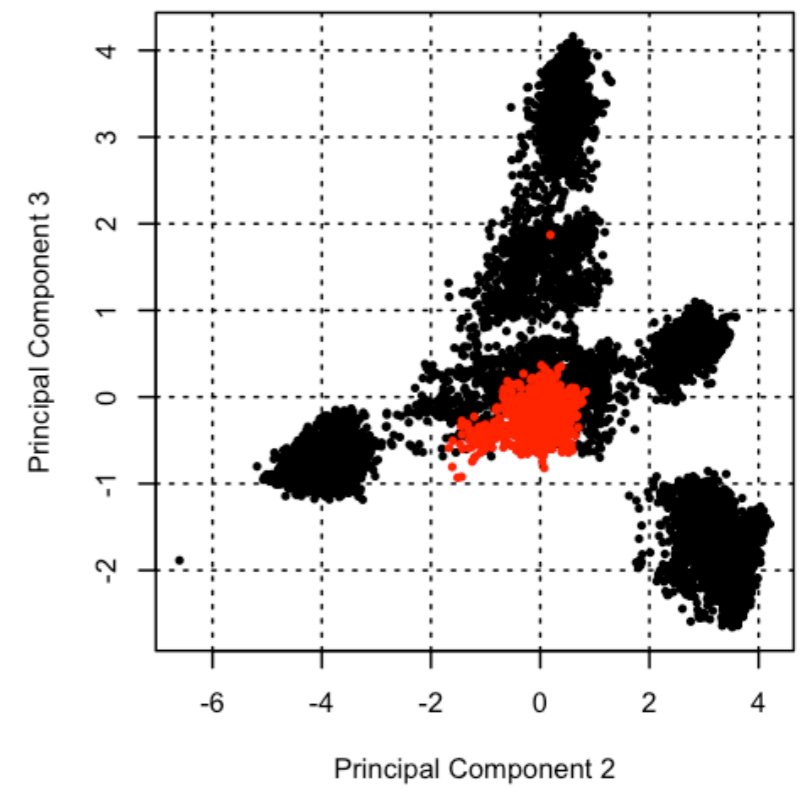
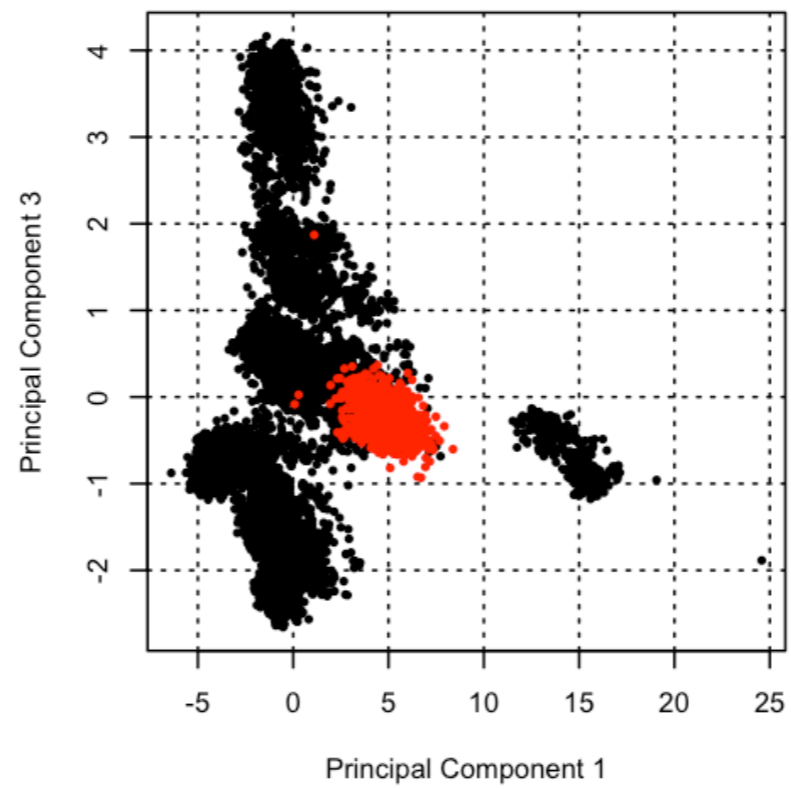


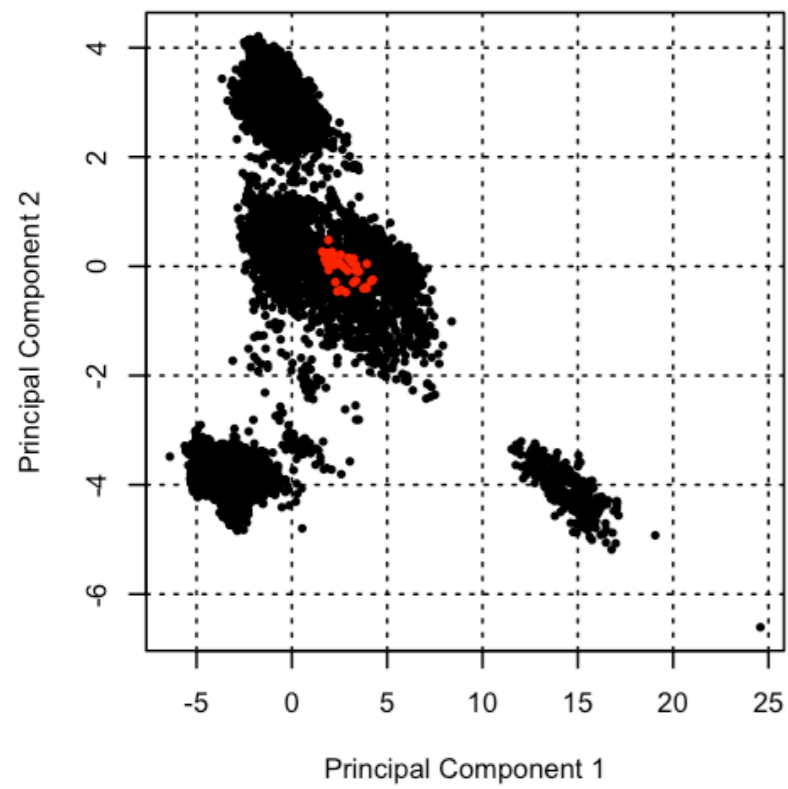
Bacteria : Acidobacteria



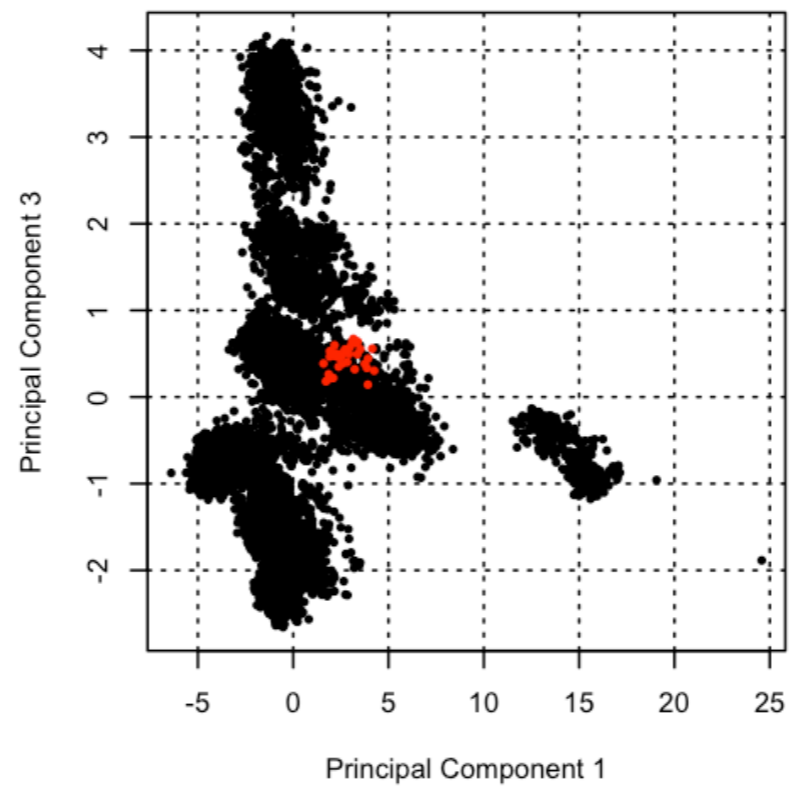


## Bacteroidetes

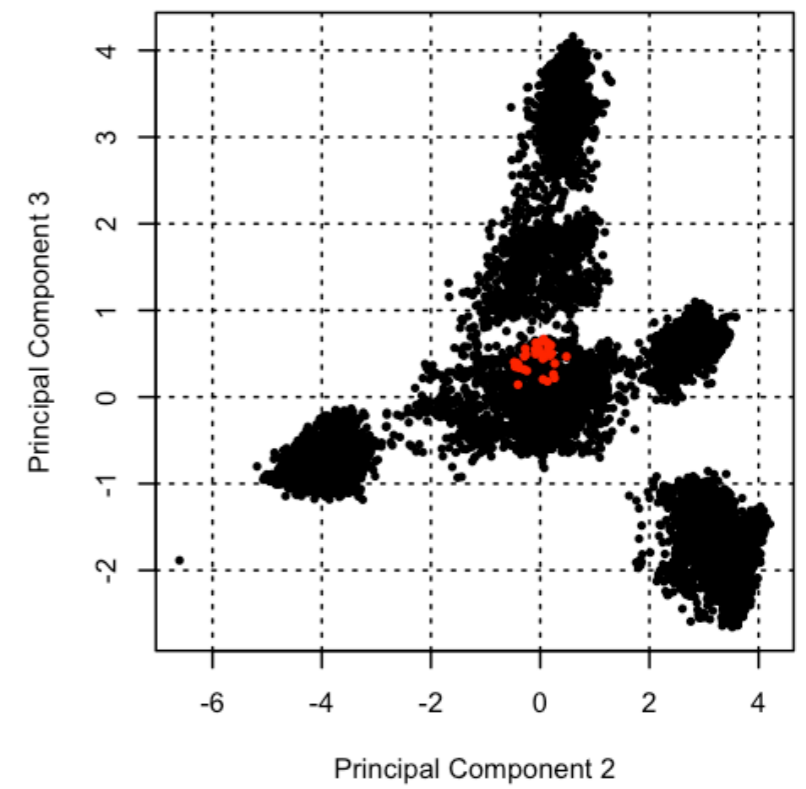


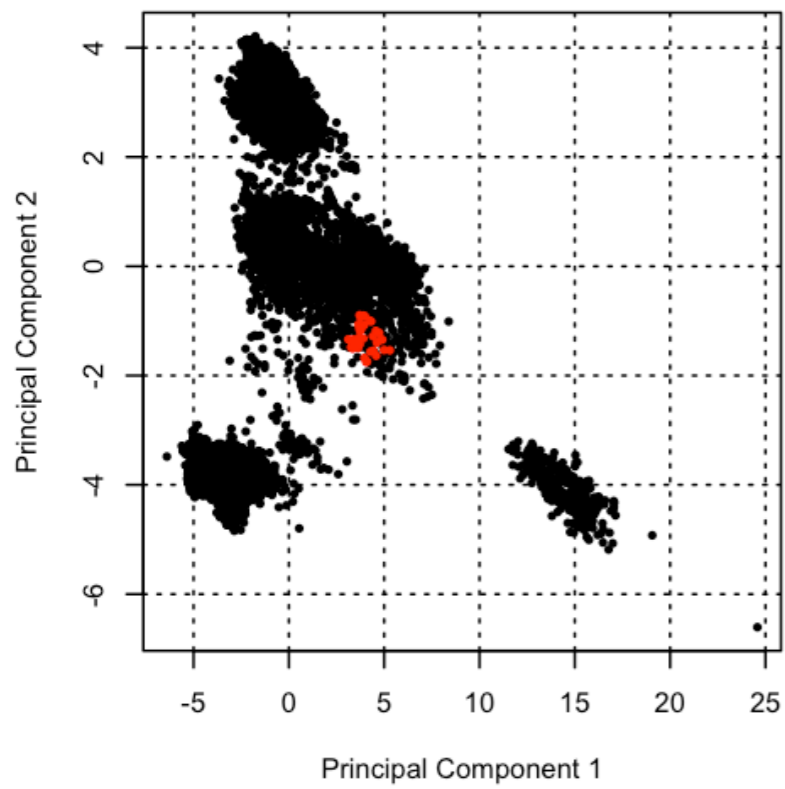


## Fusobacteria

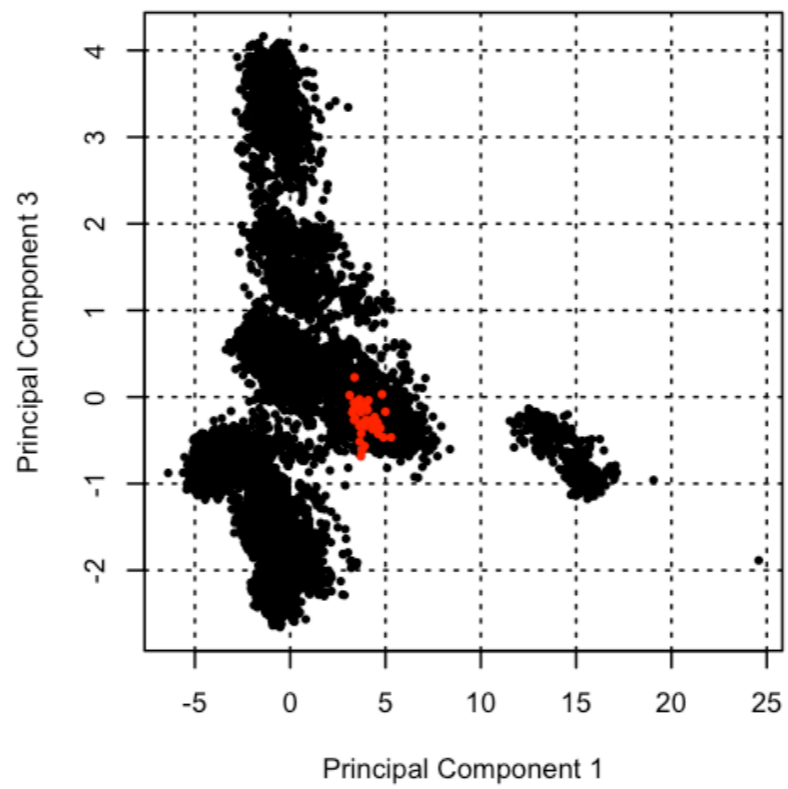


Bacteria : Fusobacteria

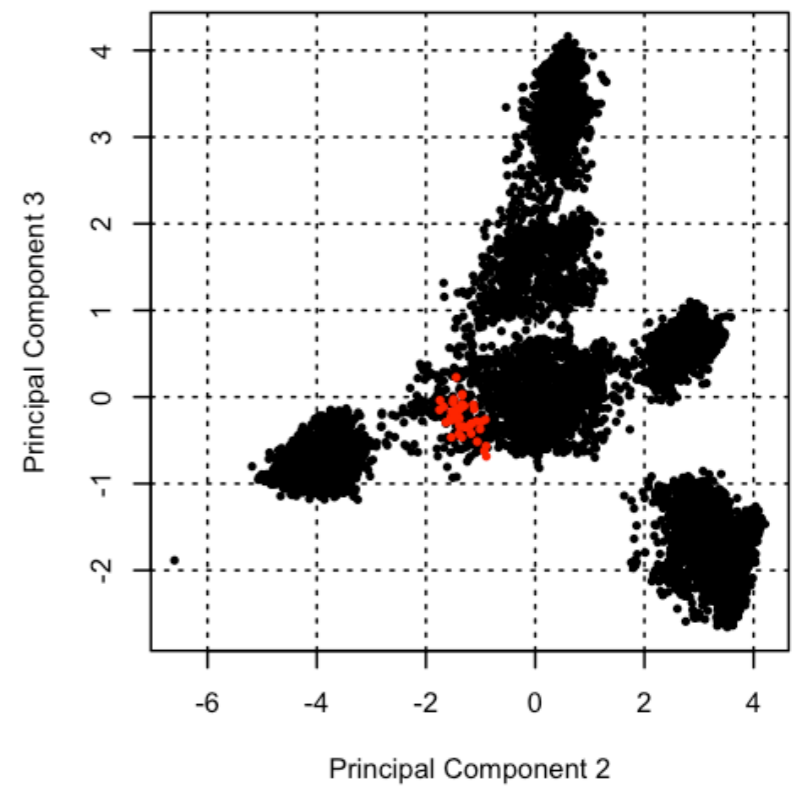




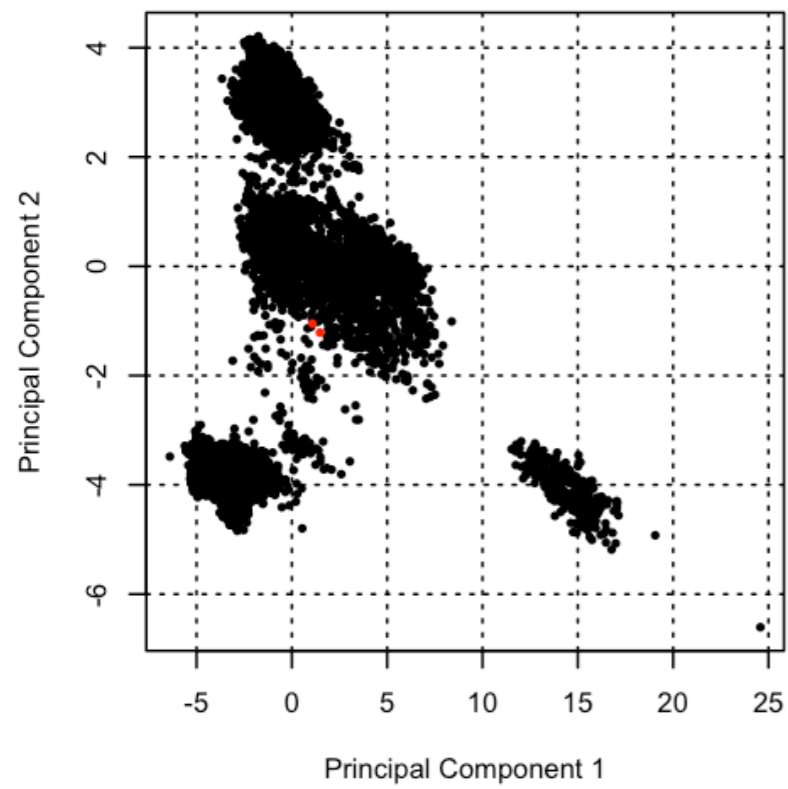
### Verrucomicrobia



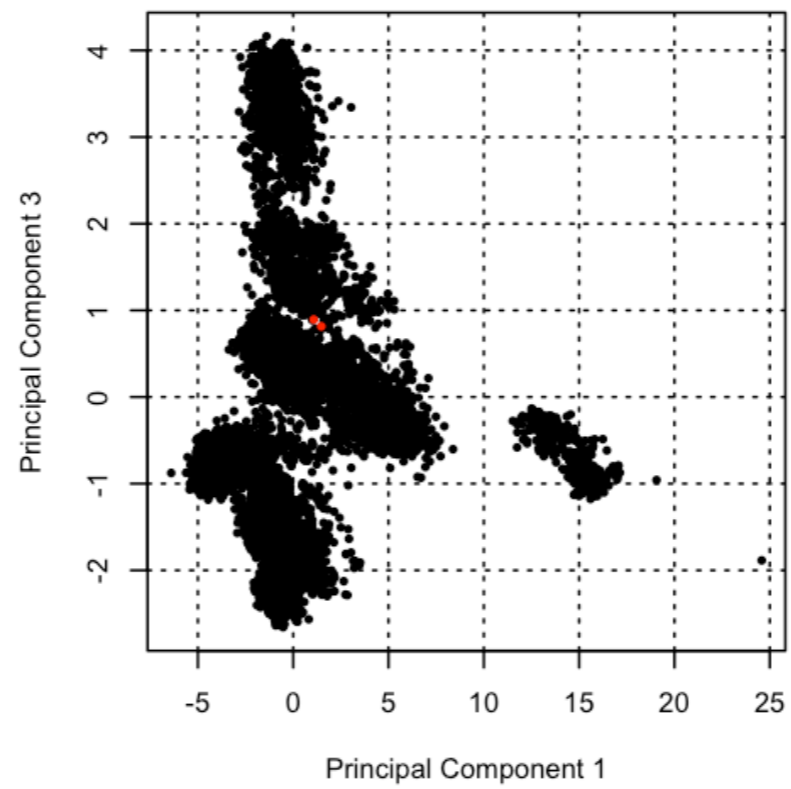
Bacteria : Verrucomicrobia



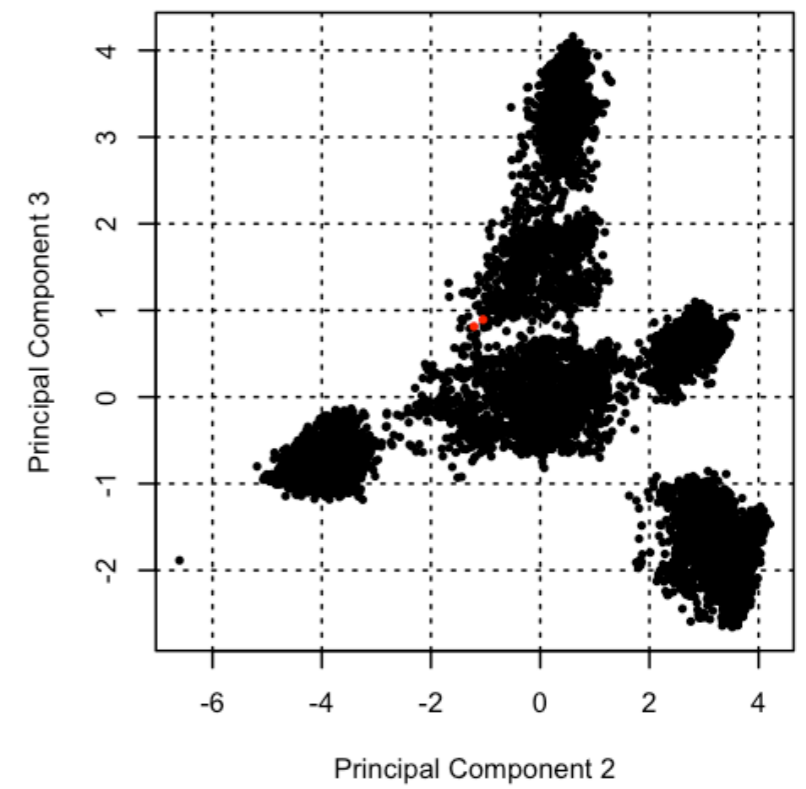


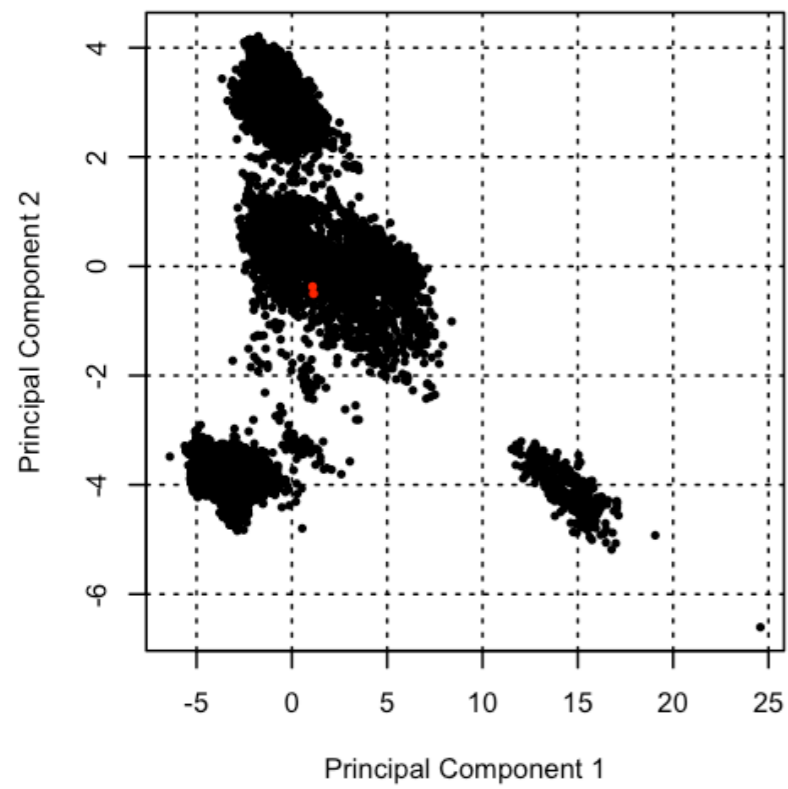


## Dictyoglomi

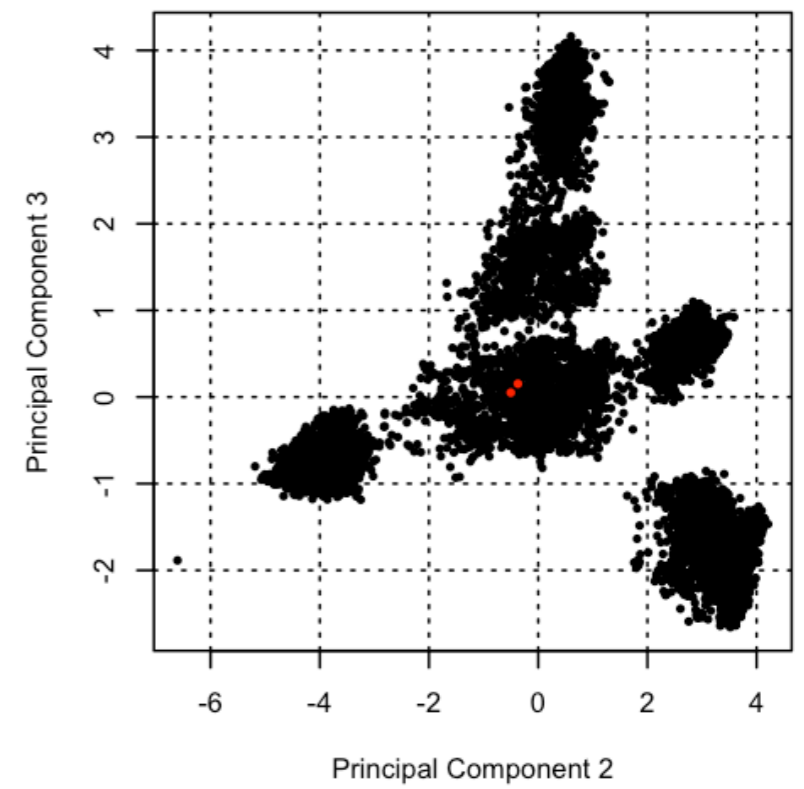
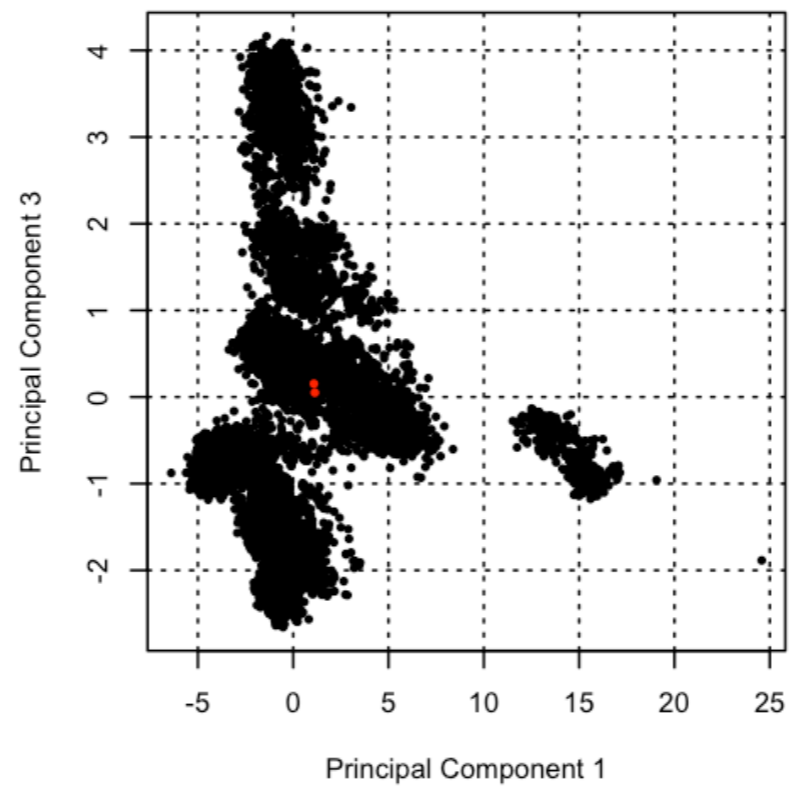


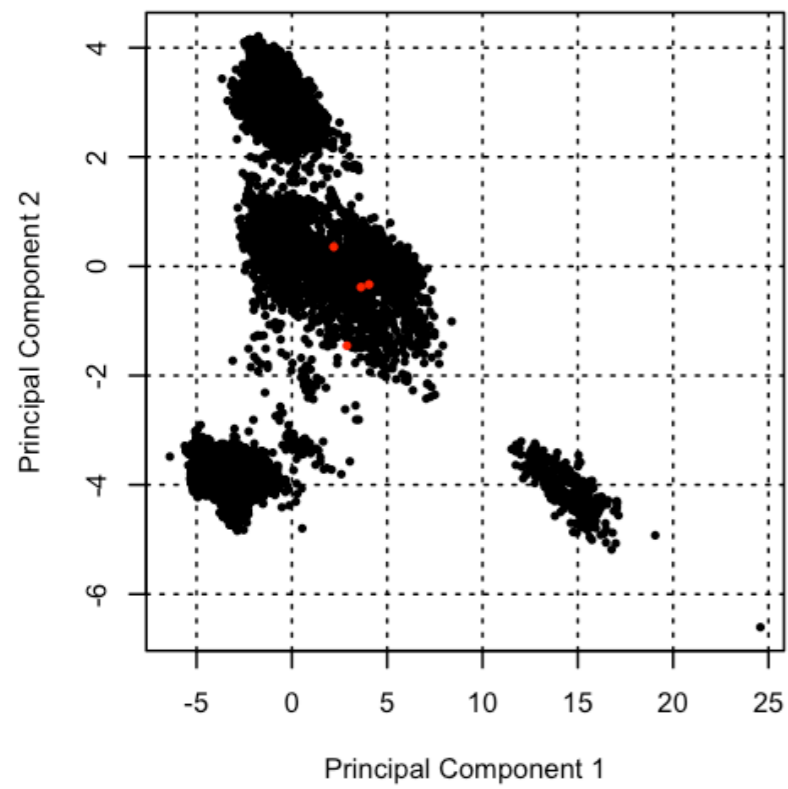
Bacteria : Dictyoglomi



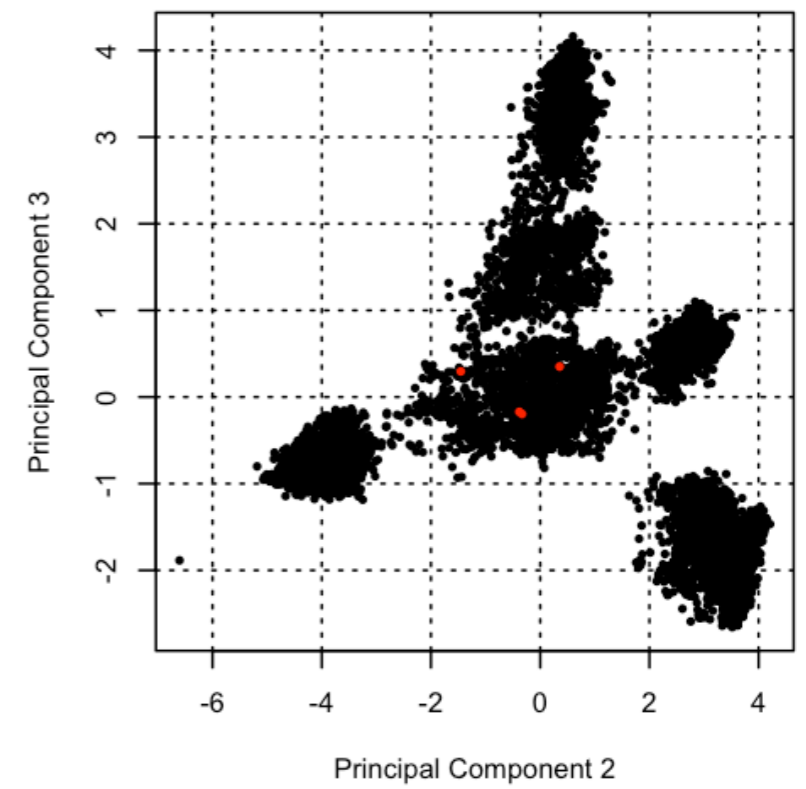
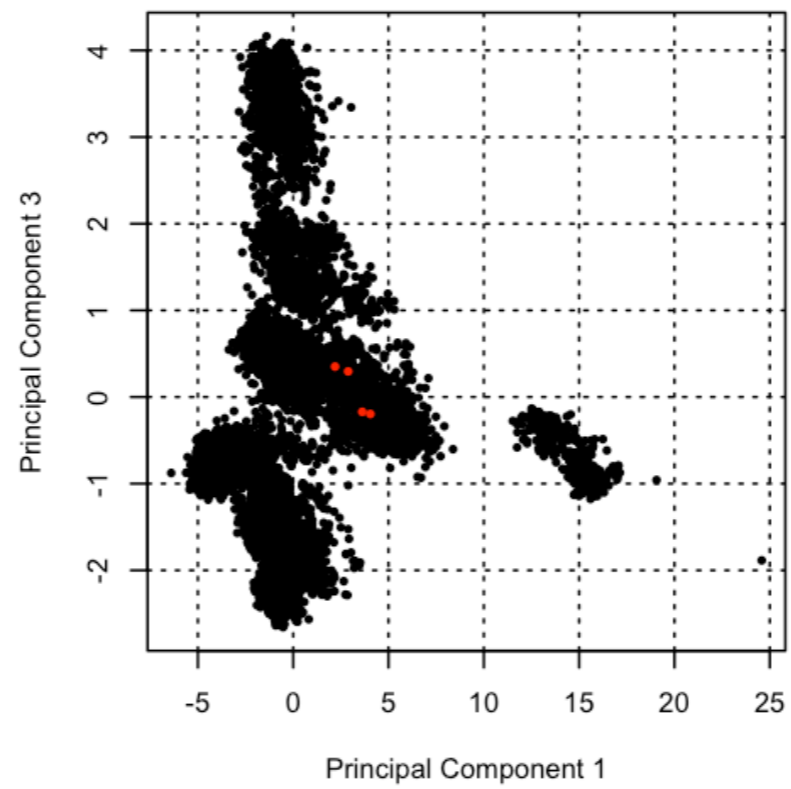


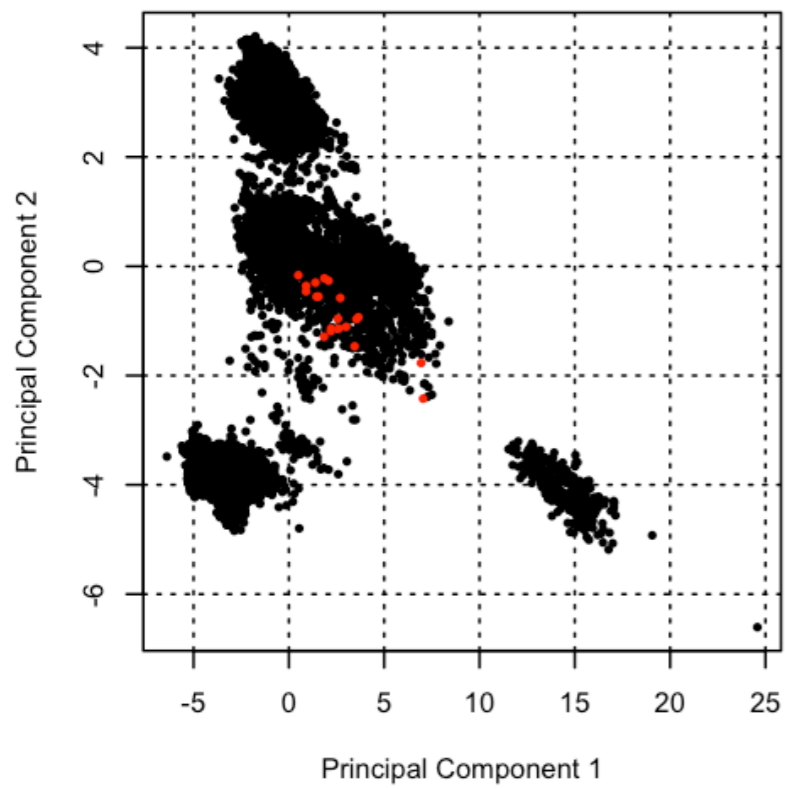
## Gemmatimonadetes



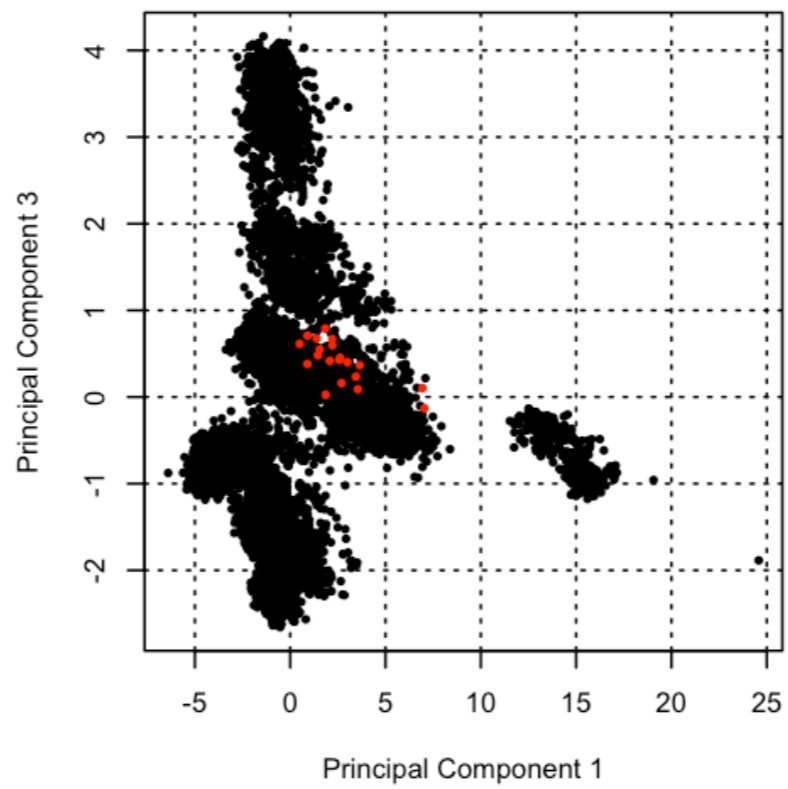


## Lentisphaerae

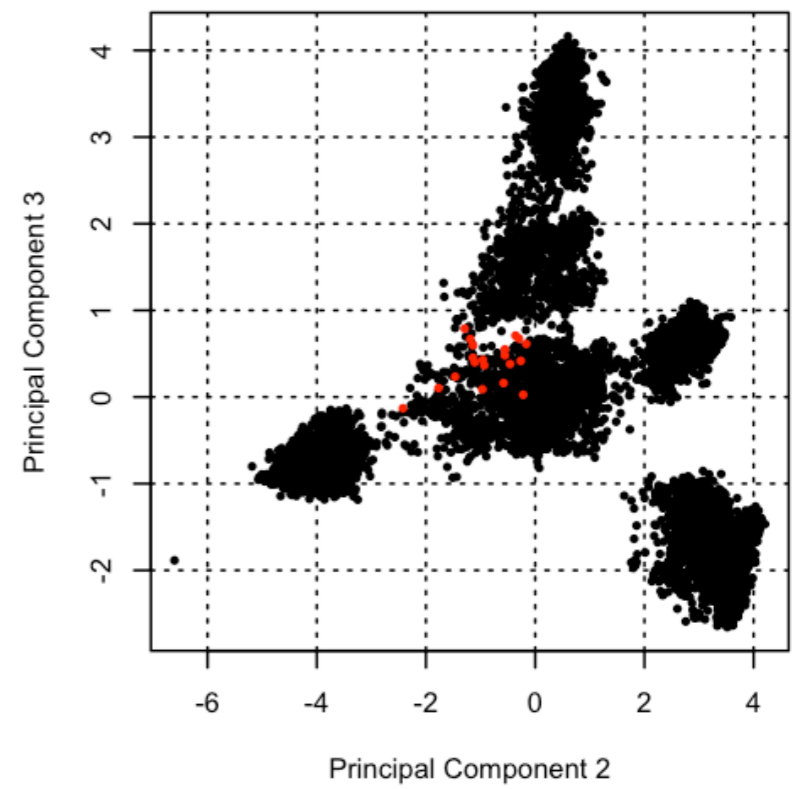


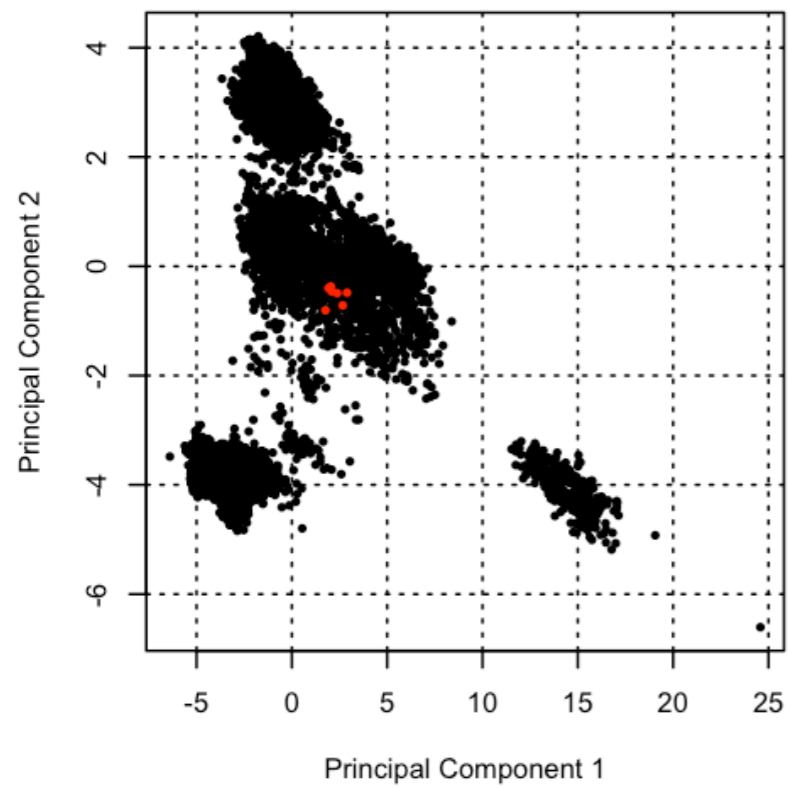


### Synergistetes

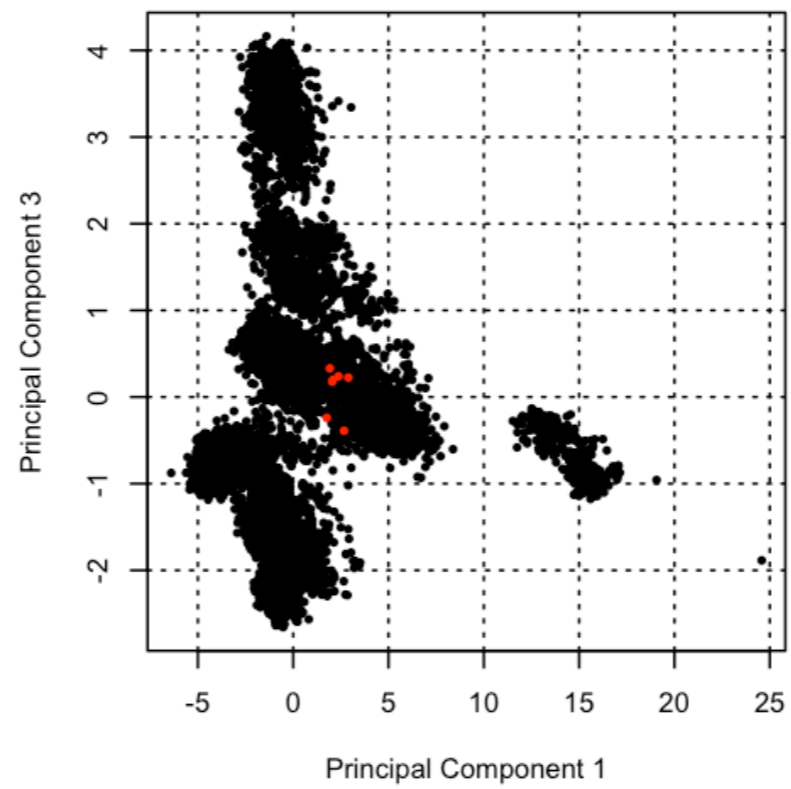


Bacteria : Synergistetes

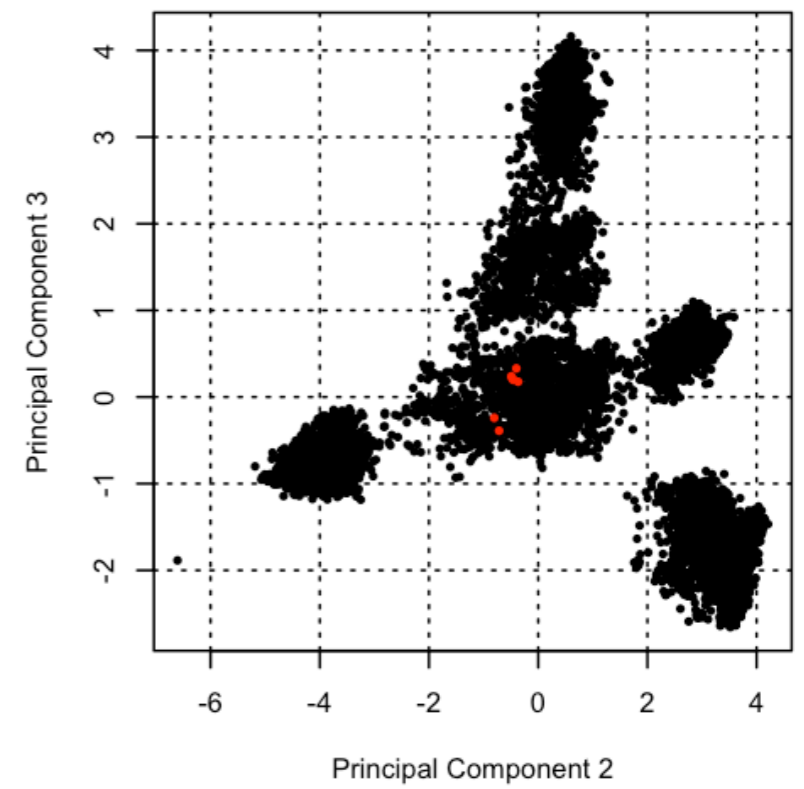




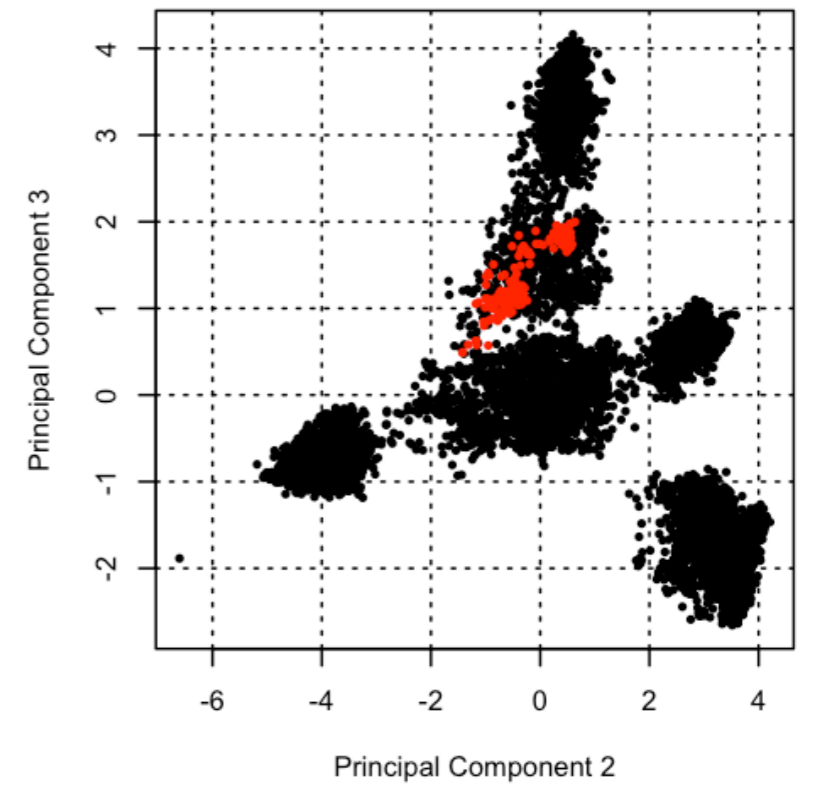
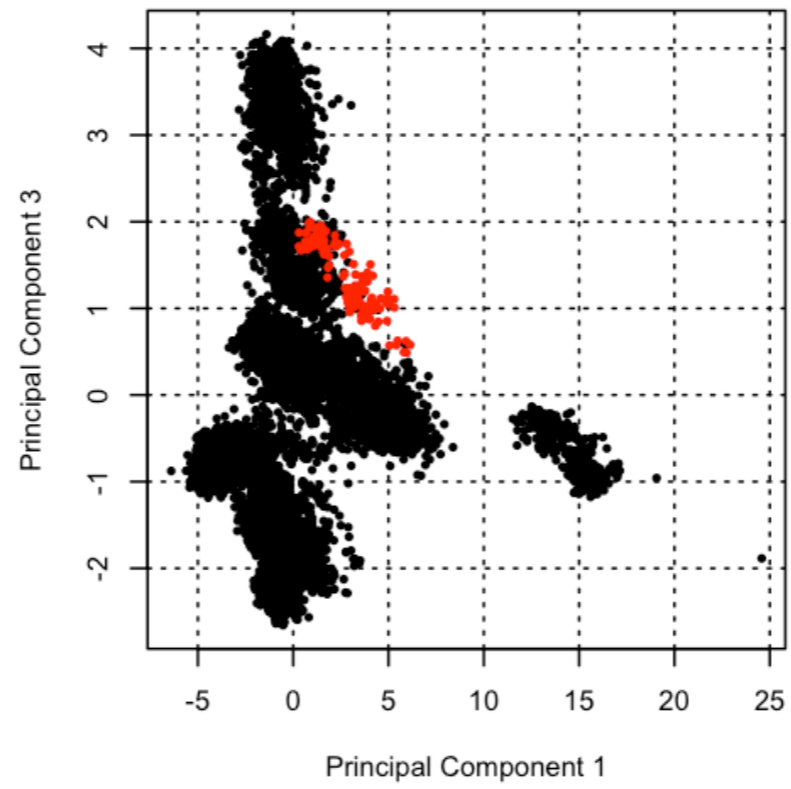
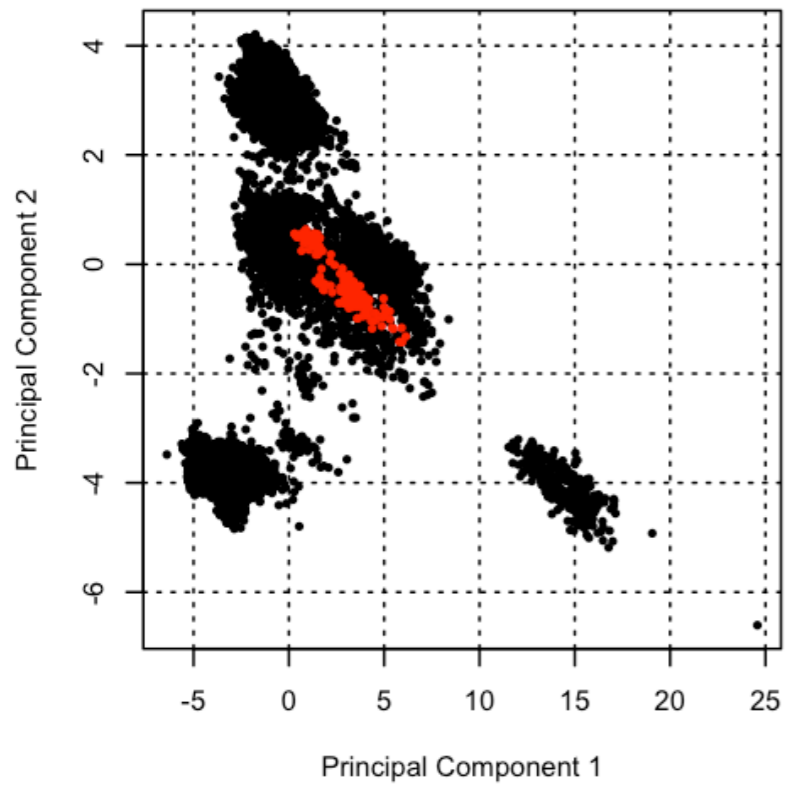
### Nitrospirae

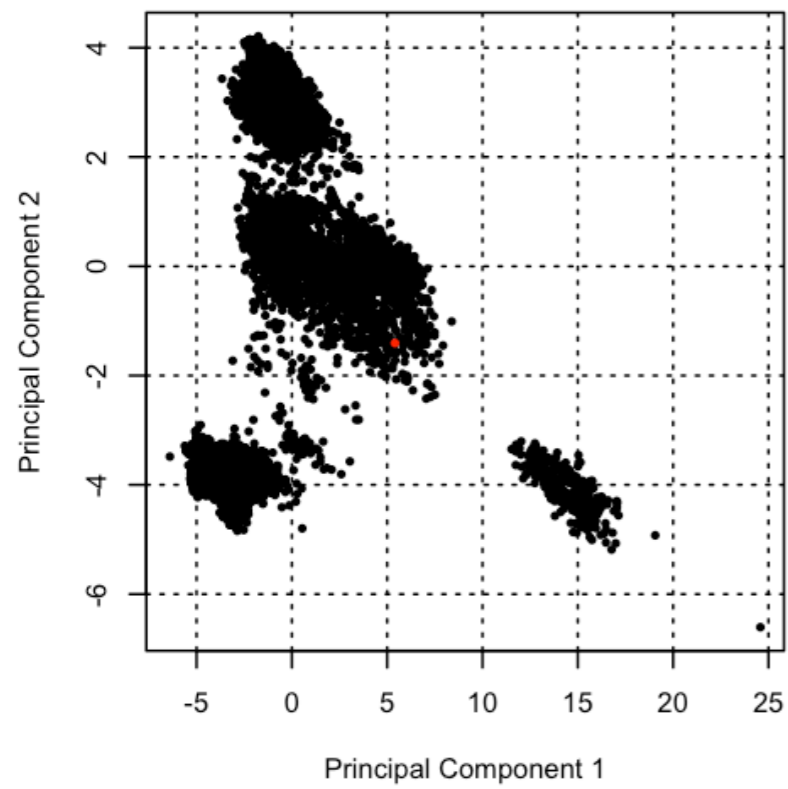


Bacteria : Nitrospirae

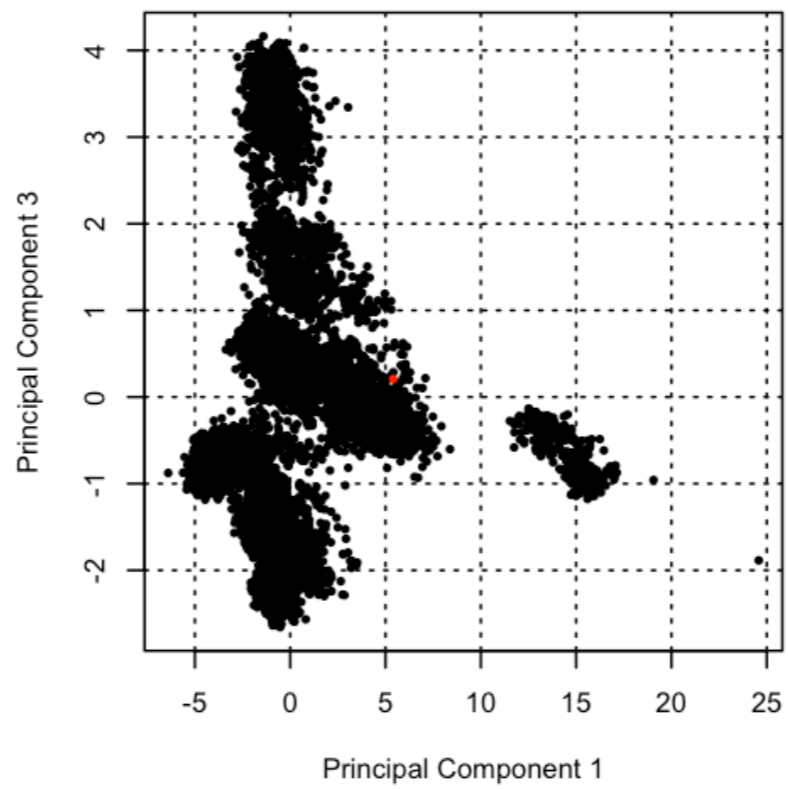


# Tenericutes

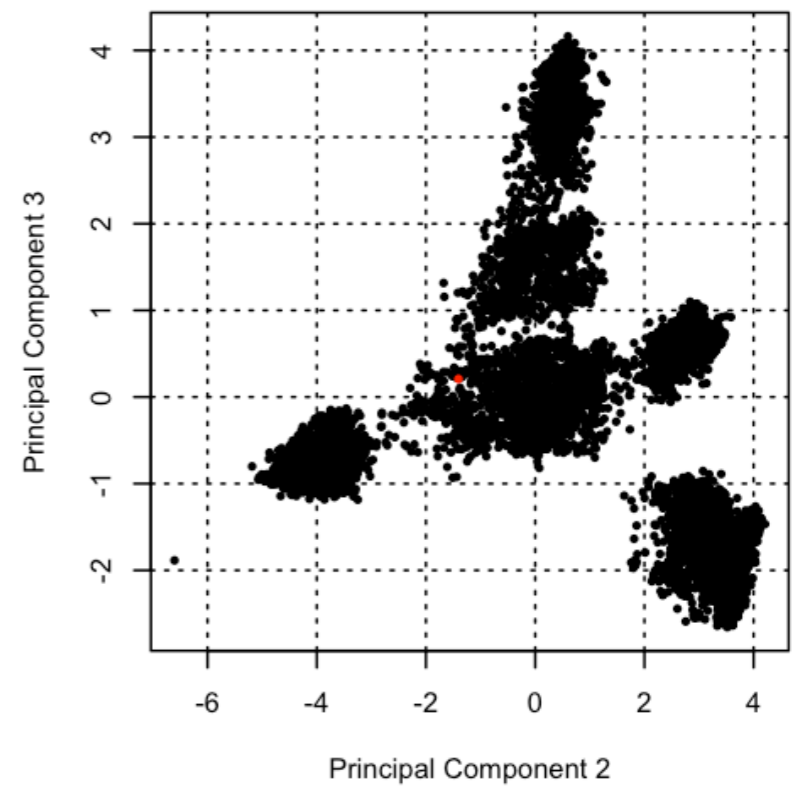


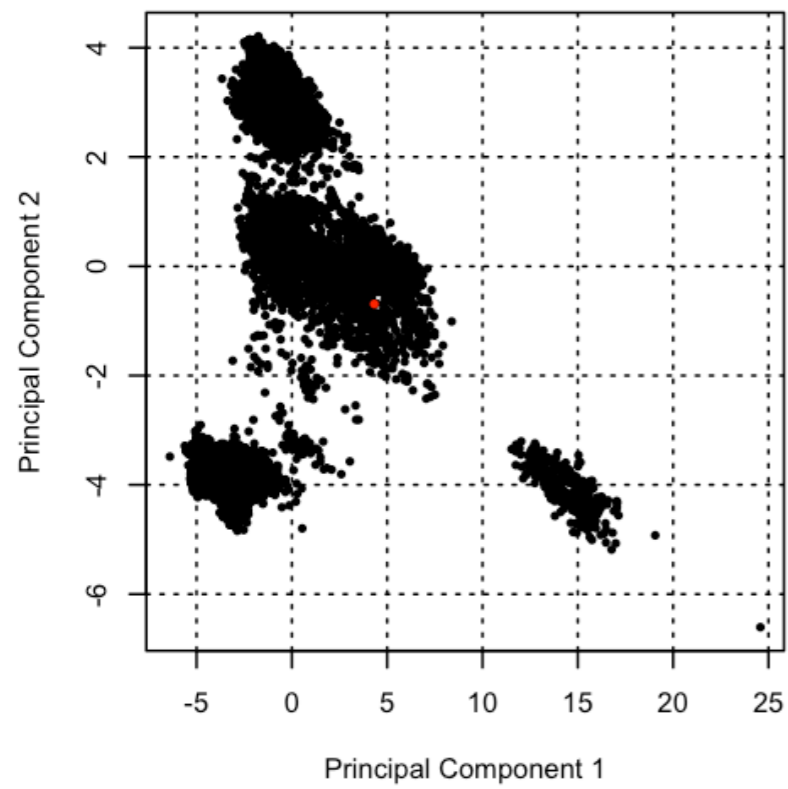


### Caldiserica

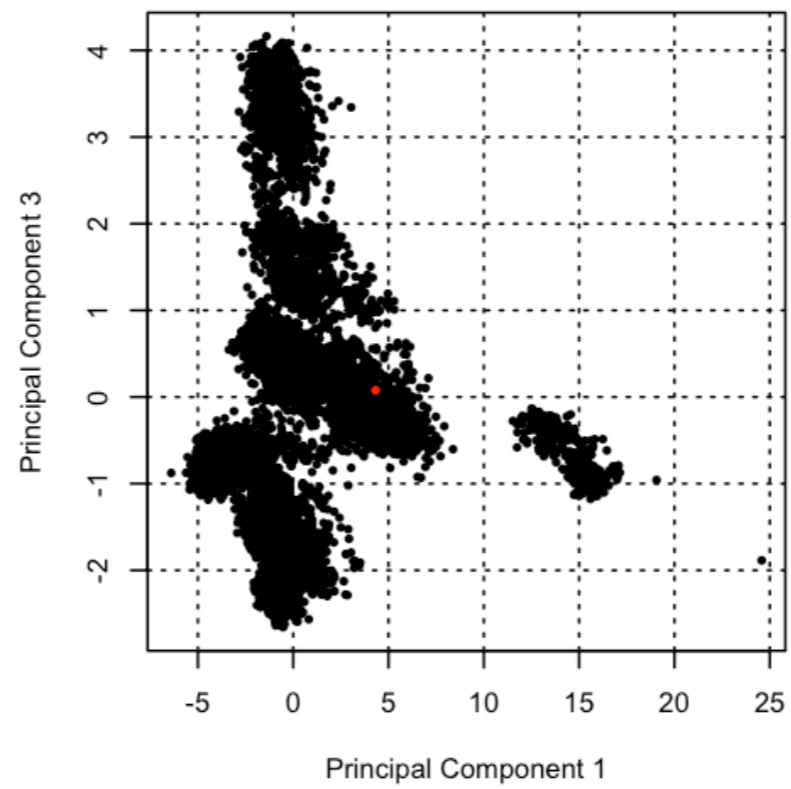


Bacteria : Caldiserica

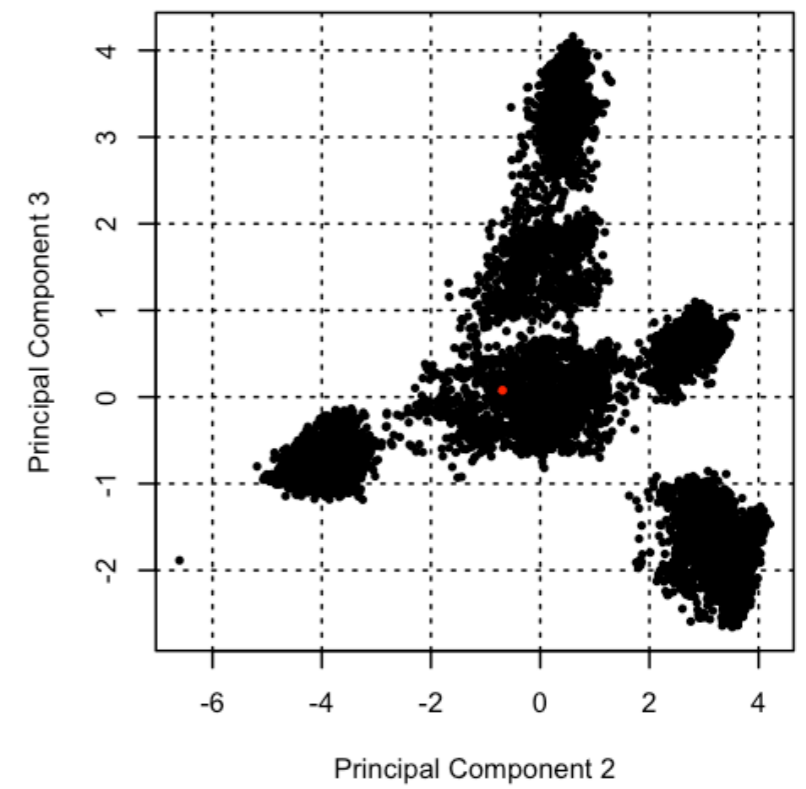




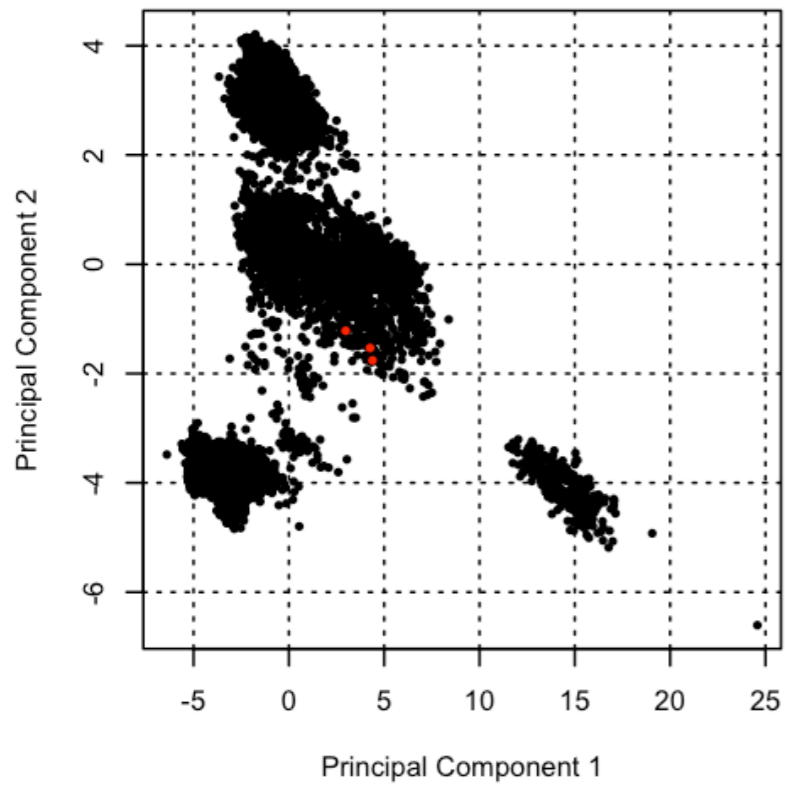
## Elusimicrobia



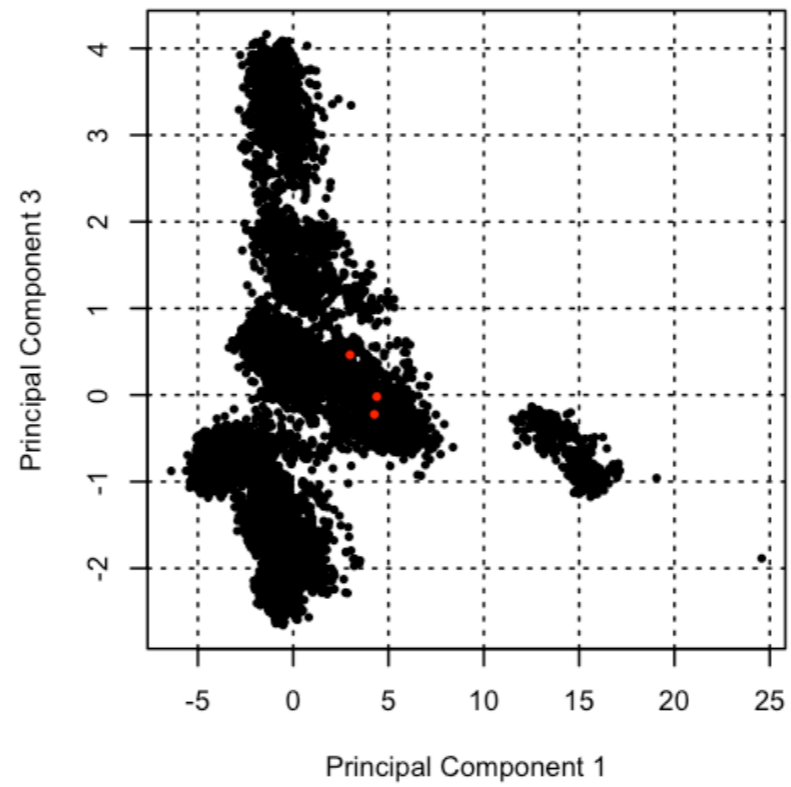
Bacteria : Elusimicrobia



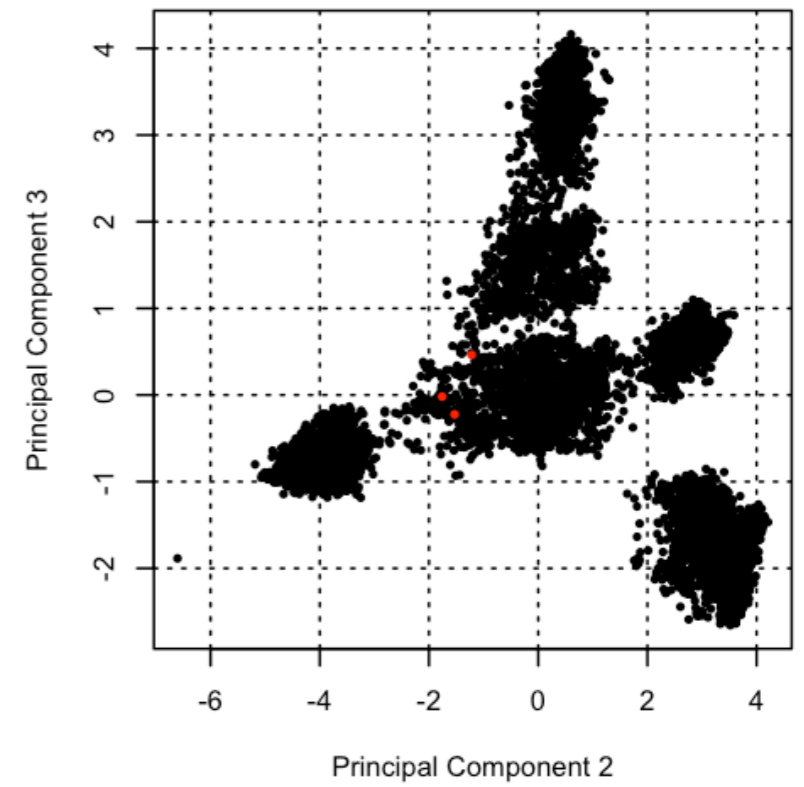


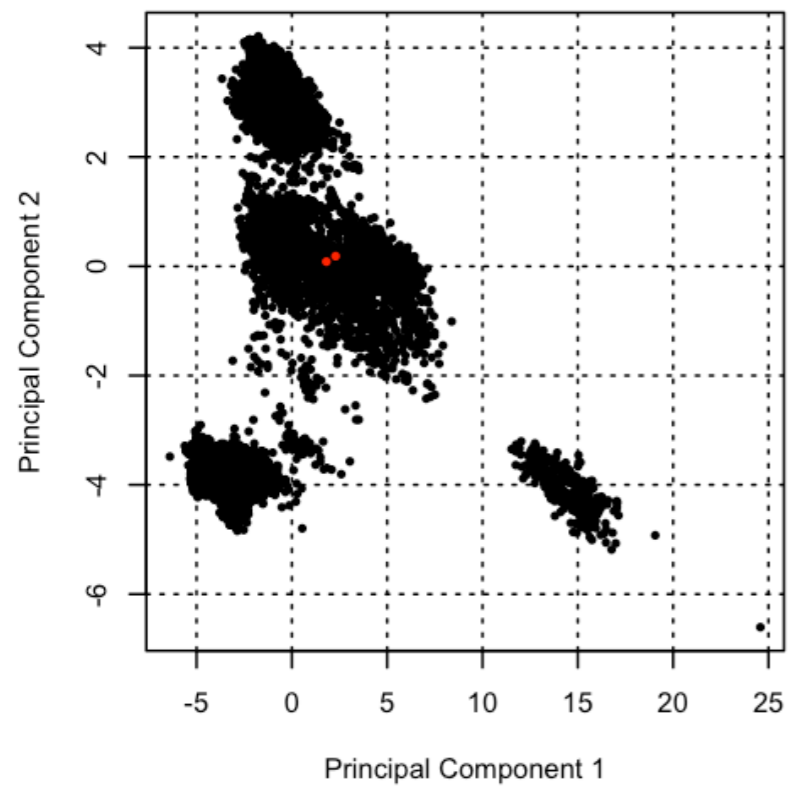


## Armatimonadetes

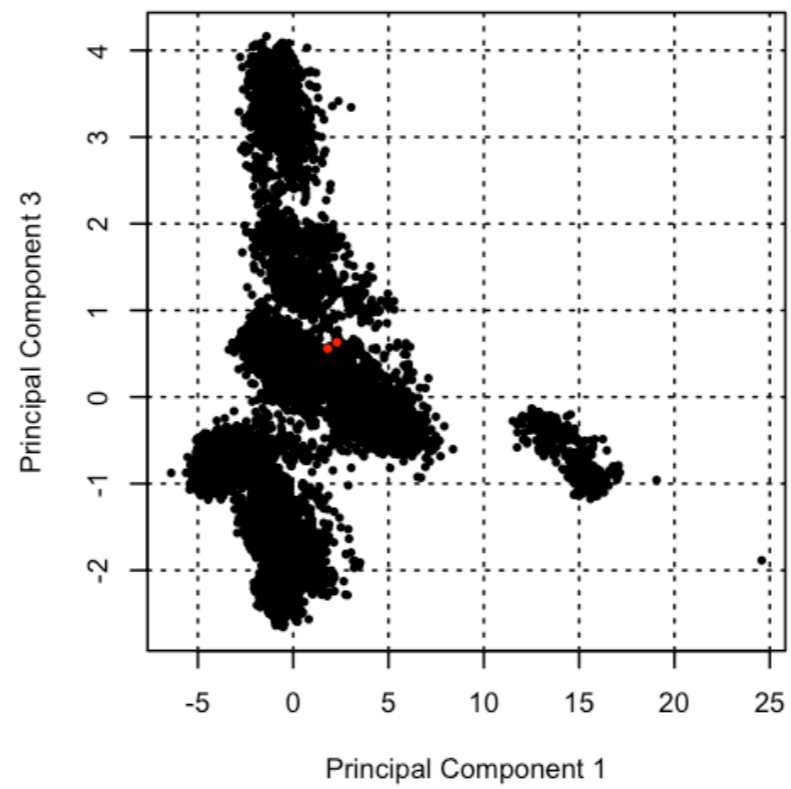


Bacteria : Armatimonadetes

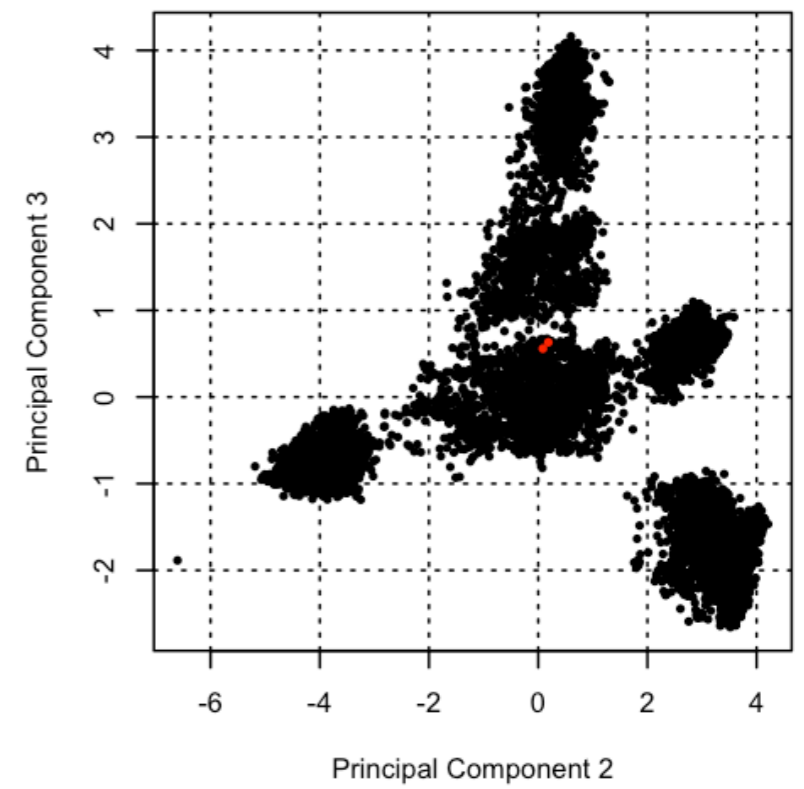


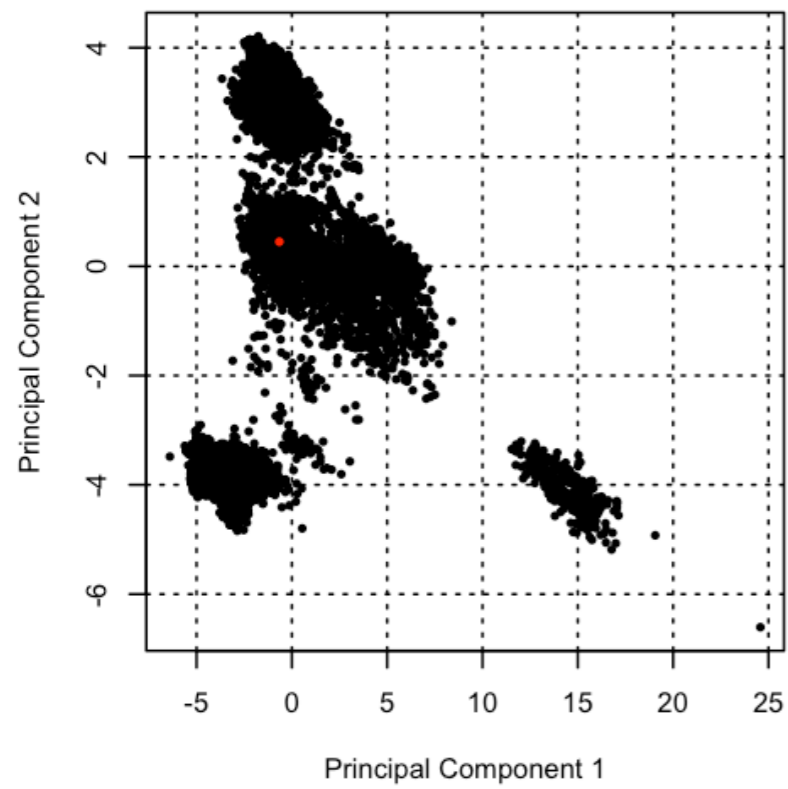


### Ignavibacteriae

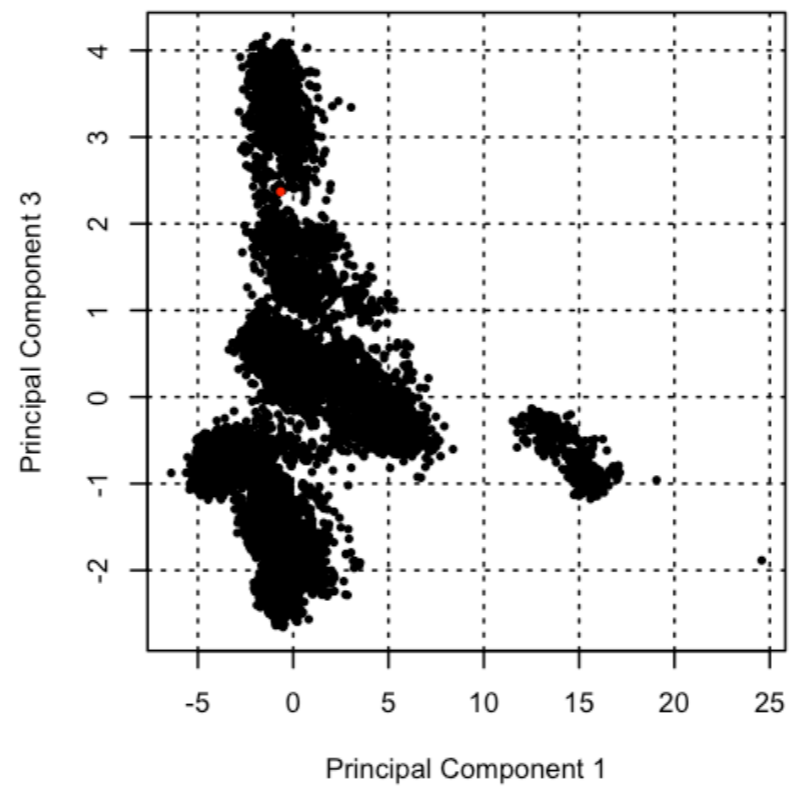


Bacteria : Ignavibacteriae

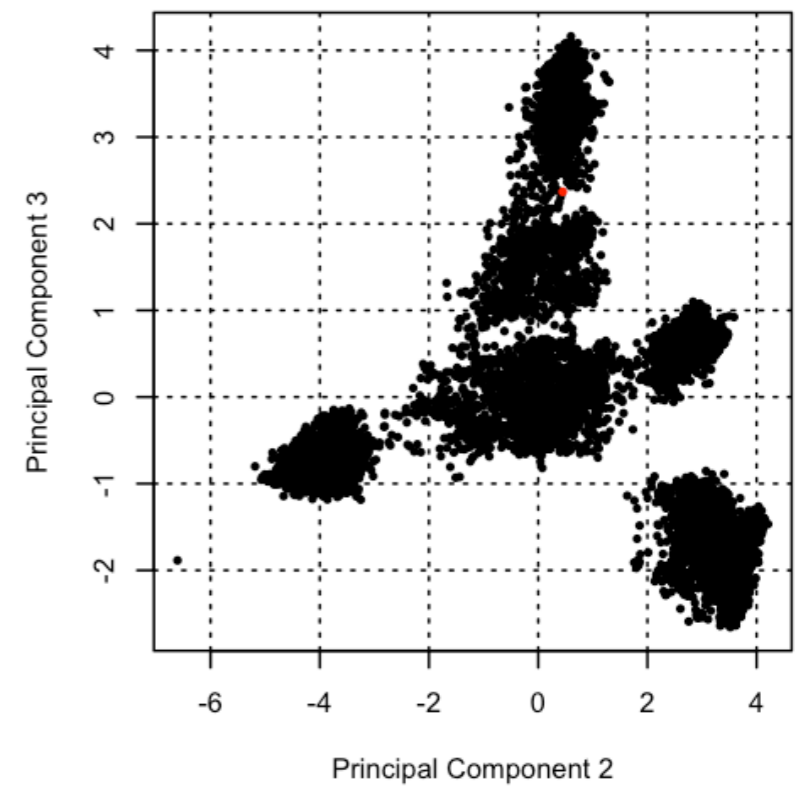




### Incertae sedis 172



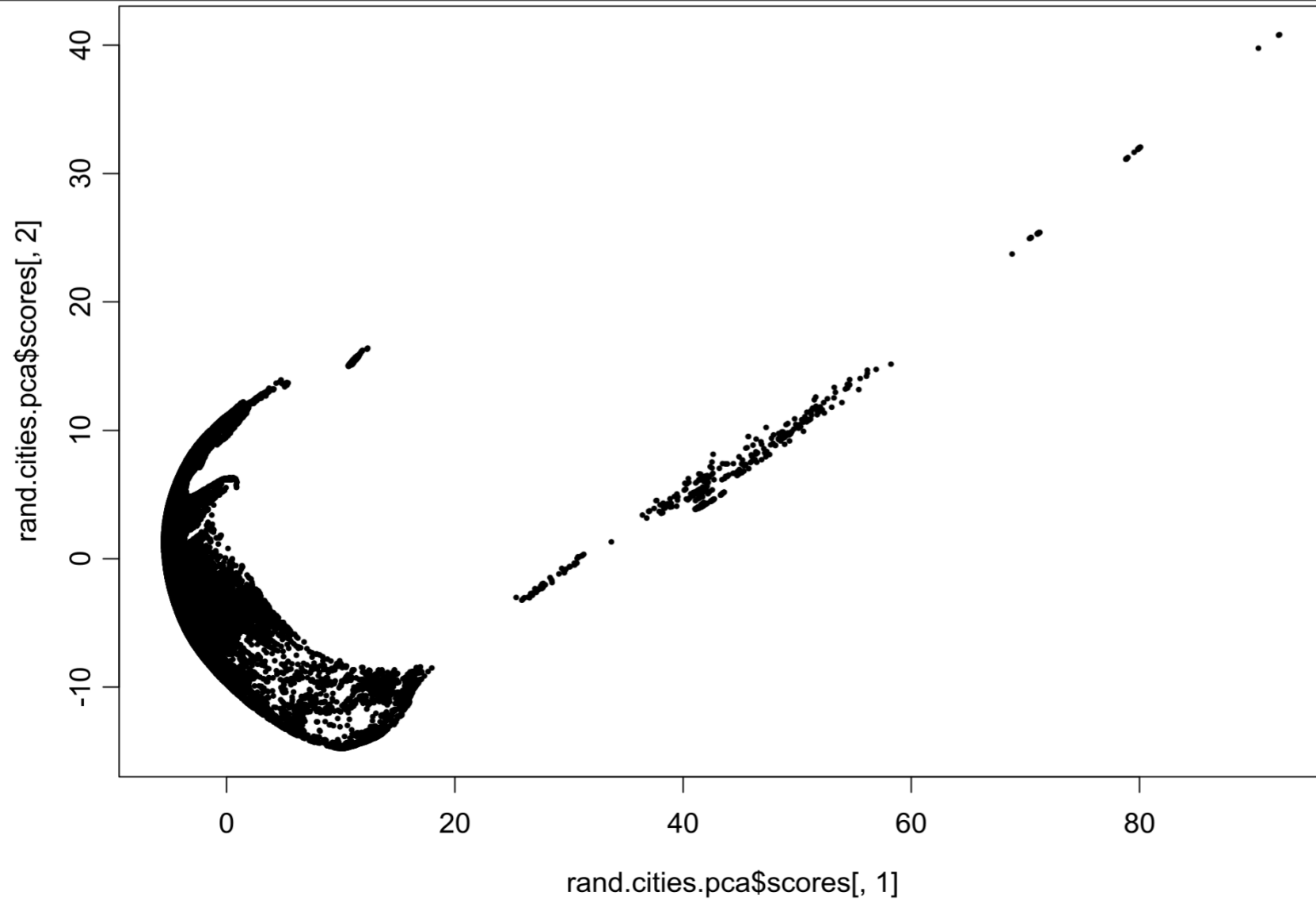
Bacteria : Incertae sedis 172

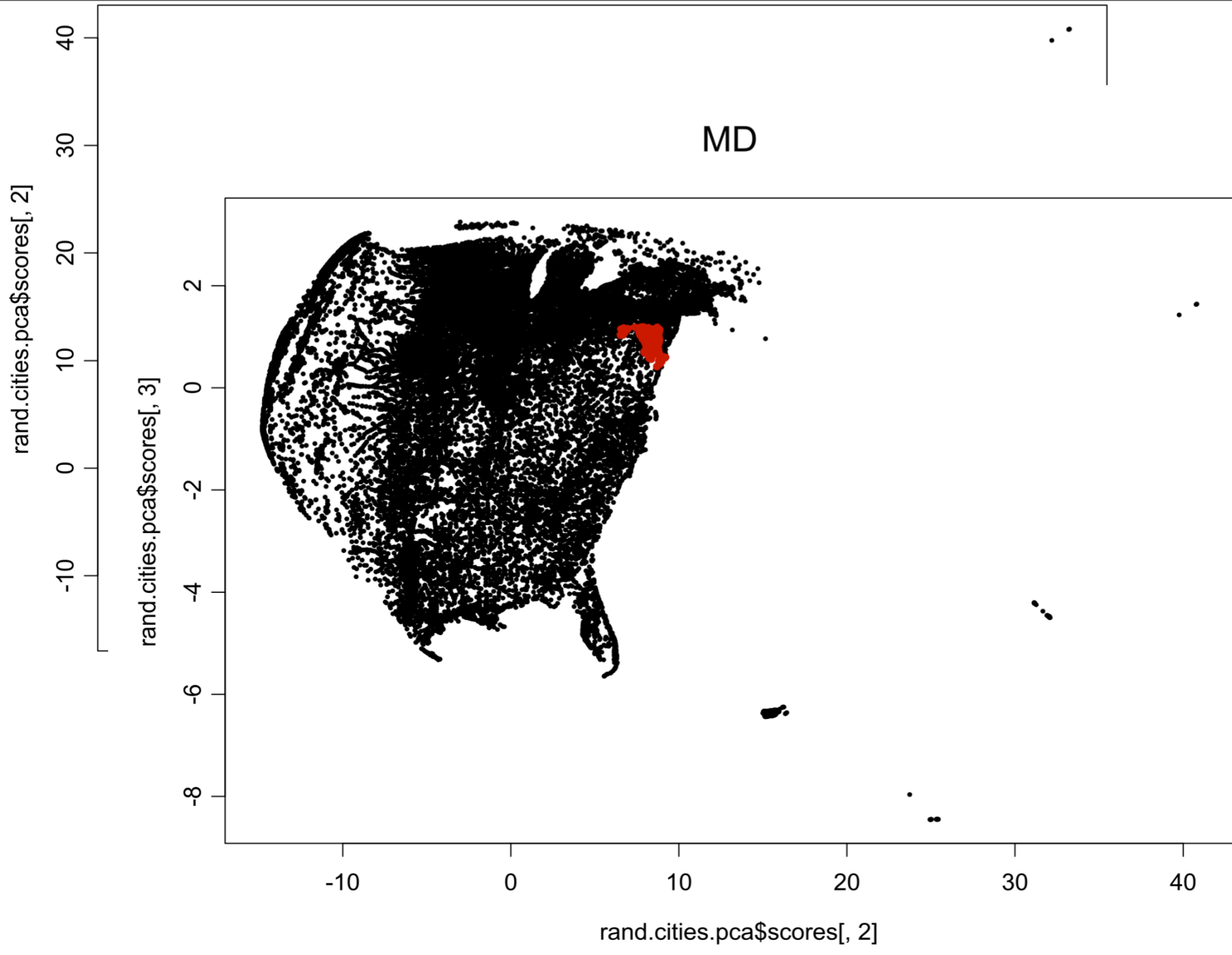


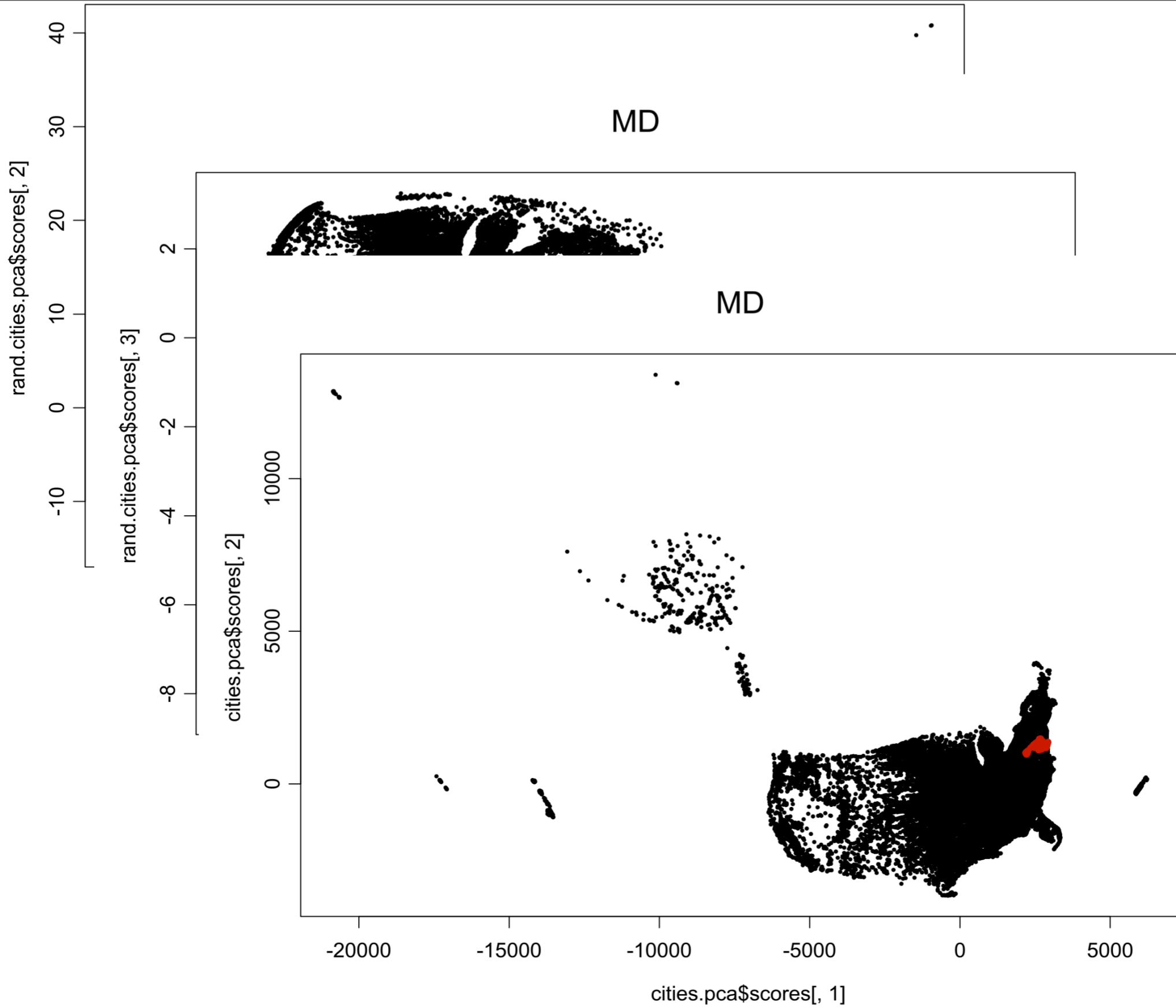
A scanning electron micrograph (SEM) showing numerous small, irregular, and elongated biological structures, possibly cells or microorganisms, scattered across a dark background. The structures vary in shape, including some that are roughly circular, some elongated and curved, and some that appear to be branching or interconnected. The surface of these structures is highly textured and appears to have fine, hair-like projections or filaments extending from them. The overall appearance is that of a complex, porous, or fibrous material.

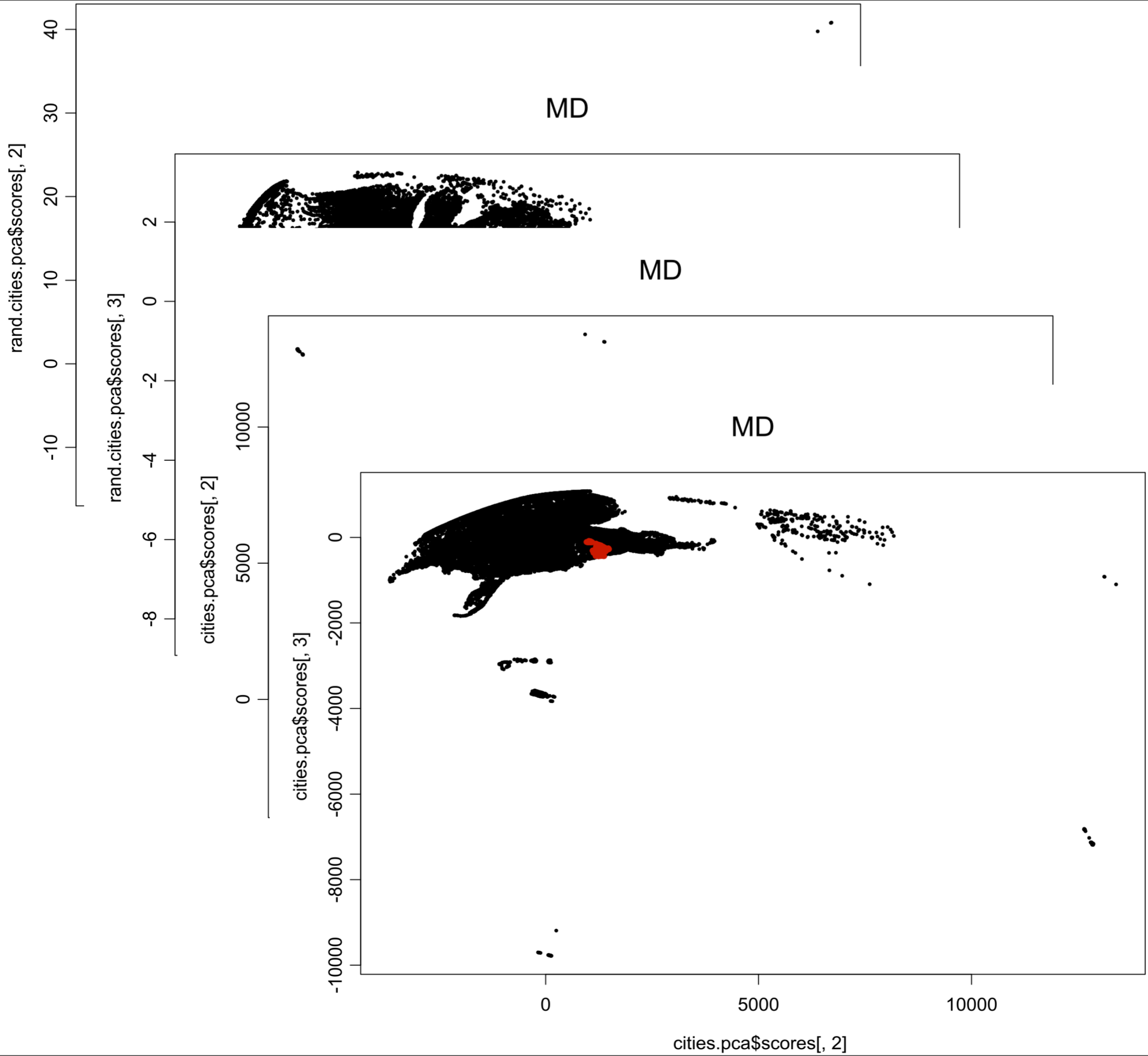
# Recovering shapes from data

1  $\mu\text{m}$

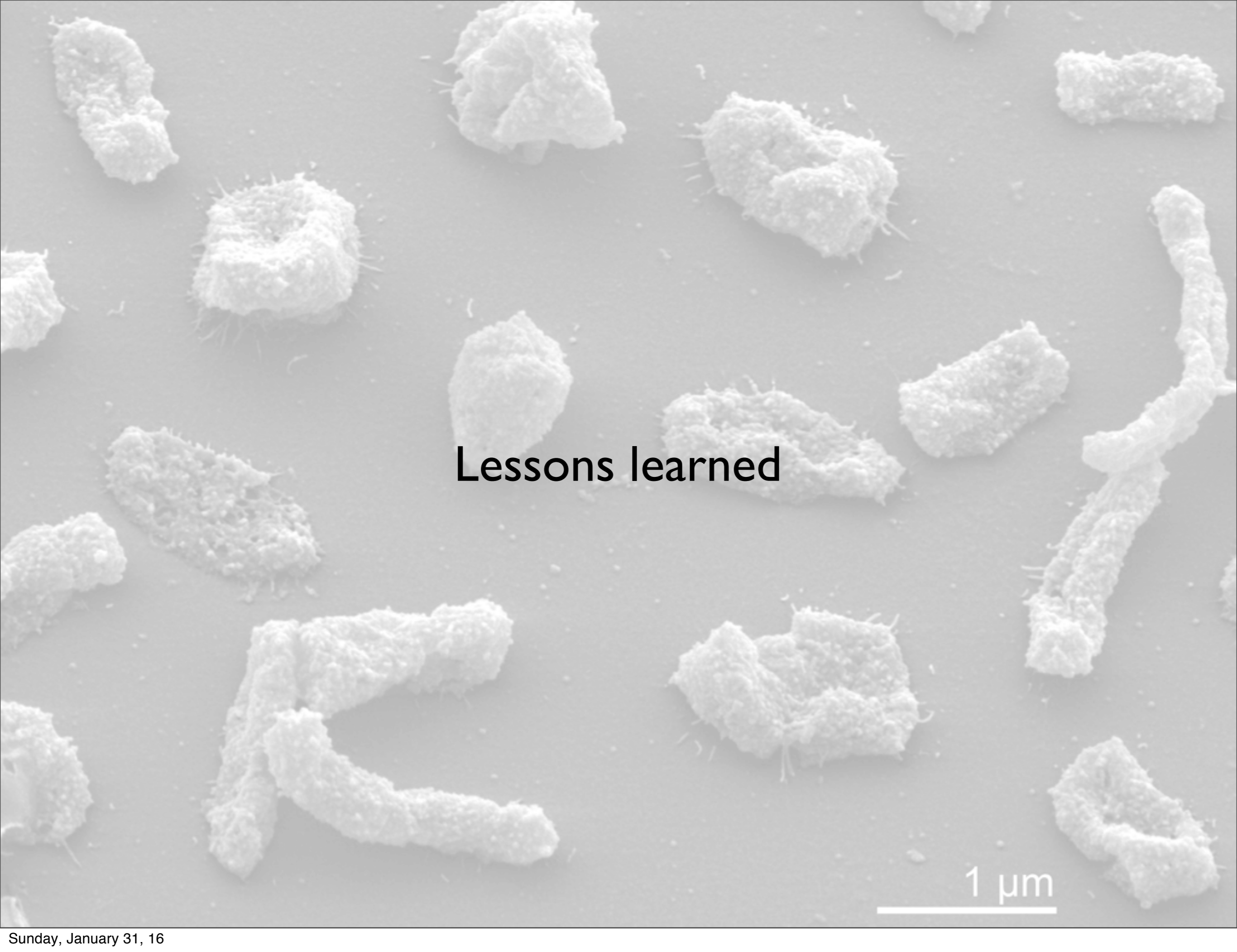












Lessons learned

1 μm

	ex.23951	ex.23950	ex.23955	ex.23954	ex.23952	ex.23958	ex.23956	ex.23942	ex.23941	ex.23948	ex.23949	ex.23977	ex.23975	ex.23973	ex.23972
ex.23951	0.00000	0.23080	0.19270	0.37520	0.23210	0.24350	0.18670	0.22590	0.2916	0.2231	0.23060	0.23490	0.25210	0.24480	0.23490
ex.23950	0.23080	0.00000	0.24450	0.40430	0.25600	0.12620	0.22950	0.21780	0.3092	0.2101	0.03252	0.11290	0.14340	0.10040	0.08921
ex.23955	0.19270	0.24450	0.00000	0.38580	0.21000	0.24910	0.04436	0.23530	0.2803	0.2424	0.23980	0.23830	0.25600	0.24090	0.23480
ex.23954	0.37520	0.40430	0.38580	0.00000	0.39740	0.40540	0.37360	0.39770	0.4142	0.3965	0.40110	0.39980	0.40260	0.39200	0.39250
ex.23952	0.23210	0.25600	0.21000	0.39740	0.00000	0.26840	0.20090	0.26200	0.3188	0.2624	0.25420	0.25750	0.27280	0.26210	0.24970
ex.23958	0.24350	0.12620	0.24910	0.40540	0.26840	0.00000	0.23730	0.22740	0.3128	0.2224	0.12480	0.13770	0.16860	0.13780	0.13740
ex.23956	0.18670	0.22950	0.04436	0.37360	0.20090	0.23730	0.00000	0.23340	0.2751	0.2298	0.22090	0.22610	0.24630	0.22970	0.22240
ex.23942	0.22590	0.21780	0.23530	0.39770	0.26200	0.22740	0.23340	0.00000	0.3105	0.1135	0.21530	0.22500	0.23500	0.22940	0.22180
ex.23941	0.29160	0.30920	0.28030	0.41420	0.31880	0.31280	0.27510	0.31050	0.0000	0.3238	0.30880	0.30470	0.30670	0.30800	0.29930
ex.23948	0.22310	0.21010	0.24240	0.39650	0.26240	0.22240	0.22980	0.11350	0.3238	0.0000	0.21010	0.21490	0.23140	0.21920	0.21530
ex.23949	0.23060	0.03252	0.23980	0.40110	0.25420	0.12480	0.22090	0.21530	0.3088	0.2101	0.00000	0.11410	0.14940	0.09621	0.08075
ex.23977	0.23490	0.11290	0.23830	0.39980	0.25750	0.13770	0.22610	0.22500	0.3047	0.2149	0.11410	0.00000	0.16150	0.11860	0.12180
ex.23975	0.25210	0.14340	0.25600	0.40260	0.27280	0.16860	0.24630	0.23500	0.3067	0.2314	0.14940	0.16150	0.00000	0.14400	0.14460
ex.23973	0.24480	0.10040	0.24090	0.39200	0.26210	0.13780	0.22970	0.22940	0.3080	0.2192	0.09621	0.11860	0.14400	0.00000	0.09775
ex.23972	0.23490	0.08921	0.23480	0.39250	0.24970	0.13740	0.22240	0.22180	0.2993	0.2153	0.08075	0.12180	0.14460	0.09775	0.00000
ex.23970	0.23930	0.12770	0.24930	0.39490	0.27130	0.14660	0.22720	0.22450	0.3095	0.2336	0.12470	0.12030	0.15240	0.13700	0.12700
ex.23978	0.26380	0.14950	0.26680	0.41030	0.27380	0.17180	0.24700	0.25390	0.3279	0.2525	0.14520	0.15460	0.17280	0.13020	0.14680
ex.23963	0.23310	0.21570	0.25540	0.38970	0.26170	0.23280	0.24060	0.24440	0.3103	0.2315	0.20980	0.22670	0.23160	0.21830	0.20950
ex.23966	0.23910	0.11270	0.24080	0.38830	0.25230	0.13940	0.22250	0.22150	0.3167	0.2126	0.10640	0.12380	0.12330	0.11740	0.10730
ex.23965	0.23860	0.11590	0.24070	0.38900	0.25440	0.13590	0.22260	0.22620	0.3104	0.2150	0.11000	0.12380	0.11690	0.12240	0.10340
ex.23968	0.23640	0.12410	0.24200	0.39660	0.25820	0.13770	0.22470	0.22330	0.3098	0.2151	0.11750	0.13540	0.12320	0.12100	0.11100
ex.23967	0.24300	0.11550	0.24090	0.39410	0.25240	0.14200	0.22350	0.22700	0.3137	0.2177	0.11140	0.13000	0.12650	0.11720	0.10960
ex.23994	0.23640	0.23730	0.26230	0.40450	0.27350	0.24250	0.25360	0.21710	0.3192	0.2154	0.23110	0.22980	0.24250	0.23880	0.23490
ex.23995	0.23860	0.24790	0.25460	0.39950	0.27470	0.25740	0.24130	0.16880	0.3214	0.1895	0.25070	0.24190	0.25440	0.24540	0.25380
ex.23993	0.23820	0.24350	0.24730	0.40750	0.25980	0.24790	0.24360	0.22500	0.3092	0.2209	0.24690	0.24440	0.25600	0.25050	0.25450
ex.23998	0.16820	0.24340	0.21560	0.38700	0.24320	0.25820	0.21010	0.22790	0.3070	0.2255	0.24370	0.24530	0.26720	0.24790	0.24000
ex.23999	0.20430	0.22770	0.16040	0.39280	0.17130	0.24240	0.15430	0.22060	0.2875	0.2356	0.22550	0.23140	0.24720	0.23830	0.22020
ex.23996	0.21400	0.25170	0.18490	0.37910	0.17360	0.26350	0.17580	0.24330	0.2889	0.2543	0.25000	0.25030	0.26040	0.25210	0.24140
ex.23997	0.21760	0.24910	0.18910	0.37940	0.17570	0.26580	0.18030	0.24980	0.2926	0.2617	0.24680	0.24910	0.26130	0.24810	0.23820
ex.23991	0.23550	0.23640	0.24100	0.40290	0.25870	0.24830	0.23740	0.19100	0.2952	0.2011	0.23200	0.22640	0.24040	0.23840	0.23440
ex.23989	0.22650	0.21900	0.25000	0.39350	0.27370	0.23060	0.23760	0.14130	0.3177	0.1475	0.21980	0.22190	0.24220	0.22310	0.22210
ex.23981	0.24440	0.12400	0.23860	0.39250	0.25860	0.14520	0.22370	0.22720	0.3038	0.2255	0.11820	0.14100	0.12540	0.12770	0.11130
ex.23982	0.21900	0.23550	0.24010	0.39820	0.26620	0.24050	0.22900	0.14570	0.3107	0.1698	0.23480	0.23600	0.24700	0.24190	0.23330
ex.23983	0.22950	0.22570	0.24710	0.40180	0.27570	0.22850	0.23270	0.13760	0.3215	0.1343	0.22420	0.23120	0.23420	0.22560	0.21820
ex.23984	0.23530	0.22950	0.23900	0.39730	0.26940	0.23420	0.22940	0.11950	0.3169	0.1398	0.22330	0.23260	0.23320	0.23180	0.22380
ex.23985	0.22600	0.21650	0.22740	0.39690	0.24390	0.23290	0.21670	0.18110	0.2968	0.1803	0.21730	0.22340	0.24390	0.21770	0.20720
ex.23986	0.23150	0.24090	0.25100	0.40810	0.27630	0.25290	0.23280	0.13010	0.3317	0.1717	0.23800	0.24490	0.25710	0.24690	0.24630
ex.23987	0.23070	0.24380	0.23770	0.39830	0.25020	0.25730	0.22720	0.16080	0.3129	0.1782	0.24320	0.24530	0.25360	0.23280	0.24200
ex.23988	0.22960	0.23530	0.23660	0.39440	0.26660	0.24060	0.22070	0.10400	0.3211	0.1477	0.23000	0.23320	0.24060	0.24030	0.23050
ex.23980	0.24000	0.11390	0.25440	0.39670	0.26540	0.14120	0.24250	0.23340	0.3057	0.2288	0.12110	0.12680	0.14240	0.13090	0.13580
ex.11460	0.22490	0.22270	0.21720	0.40000	0.23960	0.23480	0.20690	0.24070	0.2988	0.2318	0.21550	0.22550	0.26030	0.23300	0.21820
ex.11465	0.15710	0.22370	0.20850	0.37640	0.23350	0.22820	0.20710	0.21090	0.2912	0.2017	0.21920	0.22860	0.24090	0.22630	0.22450
ex.11466	0.14810	0.22360	0.20360	0.37380	0.22730	0.23240	0.20180	0.20580	0.2922	0.2066	0.21980	0.22630	0.23890	0.22550	0.22370

Showing 1 to 44 of 13,125 entries

Console

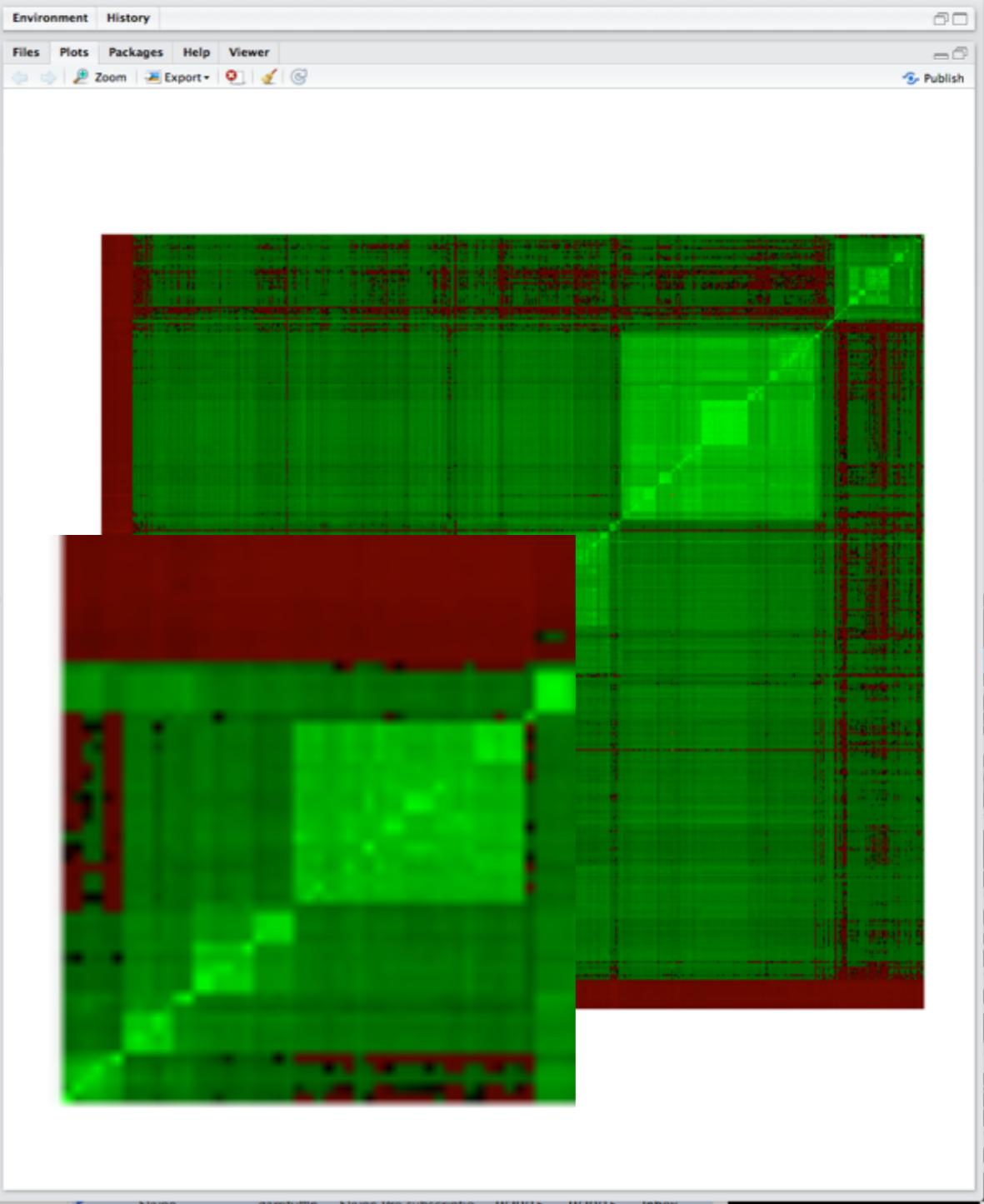




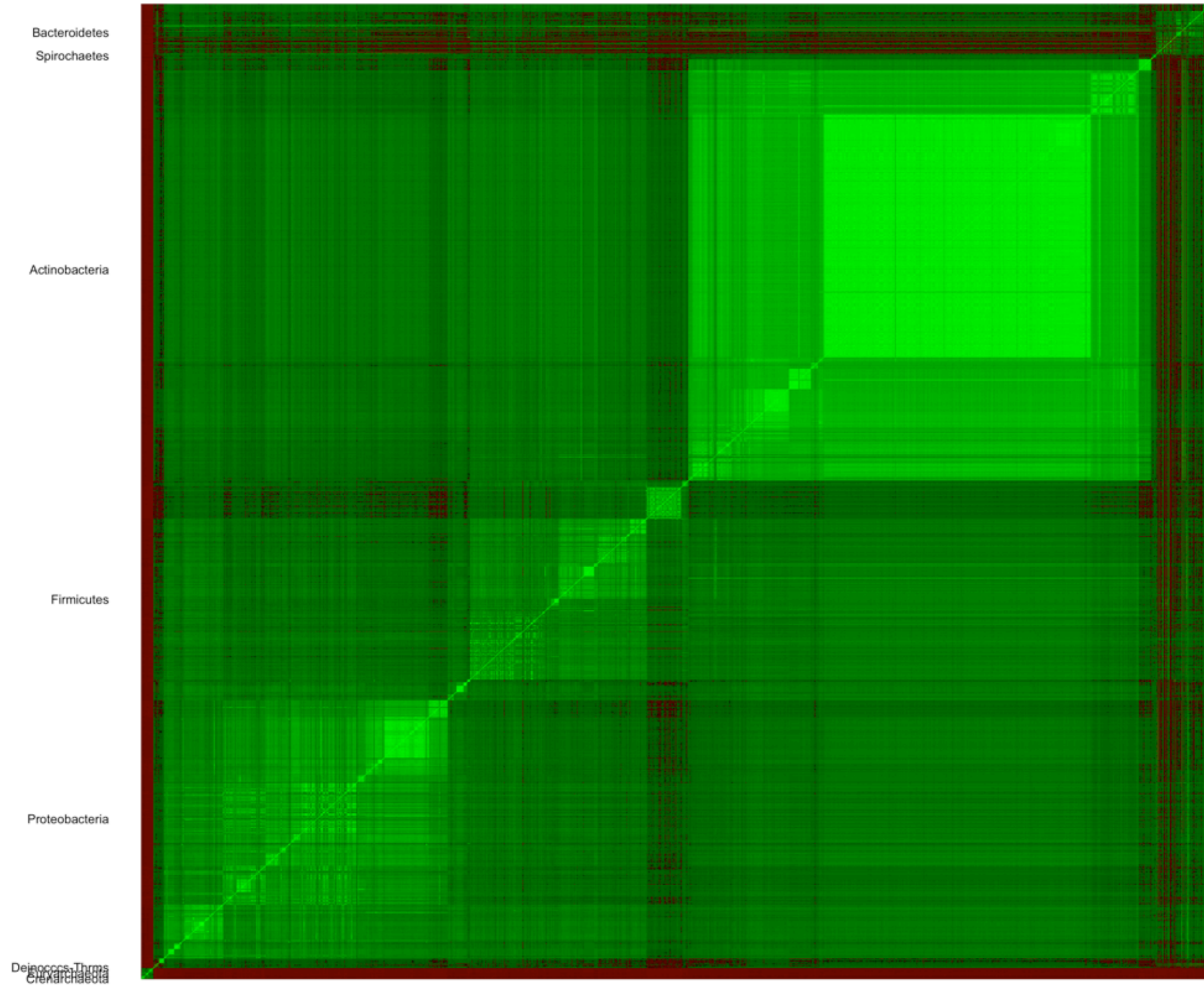
	ex.7	ex.11	ex.13	ex.14	ex.15	ex.16	ex.17	ex.33	ex.34
ex.7	0.00000	0.3601	0.066310	0.24430	0.2449	0.046190	0.04949	0.16150	0.19560
ex.11	0.36010	0.0000	0.368000	0.60360	0.6137	0.366100	0.36420	0.39130	0.41890
ex.13	0.06631	0.3680	0.000000	0.23860	0.2367	0.009129	0.04490	0.18080	0.20320
ex.14	0.24430	0.6036	0.238600	0.00000	0.2821	0.241400	0.24280	0.33280	0.36960
ex.15	0.24490	0.6137	0.236700	0.28210	0.0000	0.233400	0.22470	0.34090	0.36820
ex.16	0.04619	0.3661	0.009129	0.24140	0.2334	0.000000	0.02449	0.16690	0.20080
ex.17	0.04949	0.3642	0.044900	0.24280	0.2247	0.024490	0.00000	0.17270	0.20770
ex.33	0.16150	0.3913	0.180800	0.33280	0.3409	0.166900	0.17270	0.17050	0.20590
ex.34	0.19560	0.4189	0.203200	0.36960	0.3682	0.200800	0.20770	0.20550	0.24610
ex.9405	0.17190	0.4178	0.193500	0.34890	0.3462	0.177900	0.18270	0.17110	0.20220
ex.14460	0.16810	0.3935	0.188800	0.33830	0.3476	0.175200	0.18010	0.15520	0.15050
ex.39	0.38240	0.4002	0.404200	0.68730	0.6984	0.390400	0.38230	0.36430	0.35650
ex.40	0.37960	0.4162	0.398300	0.63270	0.6397	0.388200	0.38310	0.35820	0.36660
ex.42	0.17980	0.4012	0.181700	0.34380	0.3523	0.179700	0.18700	0.16070	0.15360
ex.43	0.15610	0.4004	0.154900	0.33680	0.3373	0.153200	0.16090	0.12630	0.13140
ex.10785	0.16140	0.4014	0.171700	0.33050	0.3324	0.157000	0.16100	0.13080	0.13410
ex.45	0.19890	0.4346	0.211200	0.32780	0.3157	0.204700	0.20940	0.17220	0.19060
ex.46	0.13940	0.3932	0.161200	0.32260	0.3208	0.145600	0.14770	0.11540	0.11470
ex.48	0.15370	0.4047	0.153200	0.34060	0.3339	0.152700	0.15340	0.13380	0.14300
ex.50	0.16010	0.3903	0.165100	0.33310	0.3358	0.163200	0.16790	0.14330	0.14980
ex.52	0.17140	0.4001	0.174700	0.33550	0.3330	0.172300	0.17580	0.15880	0.15280
ex.54	0.16290	0.3899	0.177900	0.33790	0.3392	0.171200	0.17340	0.14760	0.14630
ex.10019	0.17210	0.3926	0.187900	0.33120	0.3406	0.178000	0.17620	0.16680	0.16100
ex.57	0.14780	0.3916	0.168000	0.31970	0.3261	0.155800	0.15810	0.14710	0.14680
ex.58	0.19350	0.4439	0.199700	0.34650	0.3325	0.197700	0.19970	0.18970	0.19500
ex.59	0.07143	1.0000	0.081080	0.09091	0.2500	0.200000	0.10340	0.37500	0.12730
ex.61	0.16110	0.4036	0.163700	0.35090	0.3463	0.161600	0.16740	0.14620	0.16520
ex.63	0.14730	0.4012	0.154800	0.32220	0.3159	0.149100	0.15330	0.13290	0.14050
ex.67	0.18860	0.4327	0.200700	0.33840	0.3465	0.189400	0.19300	0.20150	0.19990
ex.70	0.21920	0.4368	0.212300	0.35940	0.3648	0.207200	0.21340	0.21880	0.19970
ex.71	0.17260	0.4138	0.189100	0.32680	0.3420	0.177500	0.17840	0.18770	0.17160
ex.72	0.17960	0.4145	0.186500	0.33930	0.3431	0.177000	0.18080	0.18780	0.17700
ex.73	0.17150	0.4179	0.184900	0.32970	0.3437	0.172500	0.17420	0.18220	0.17350

Showing 1 to 44 of 11,952 entries

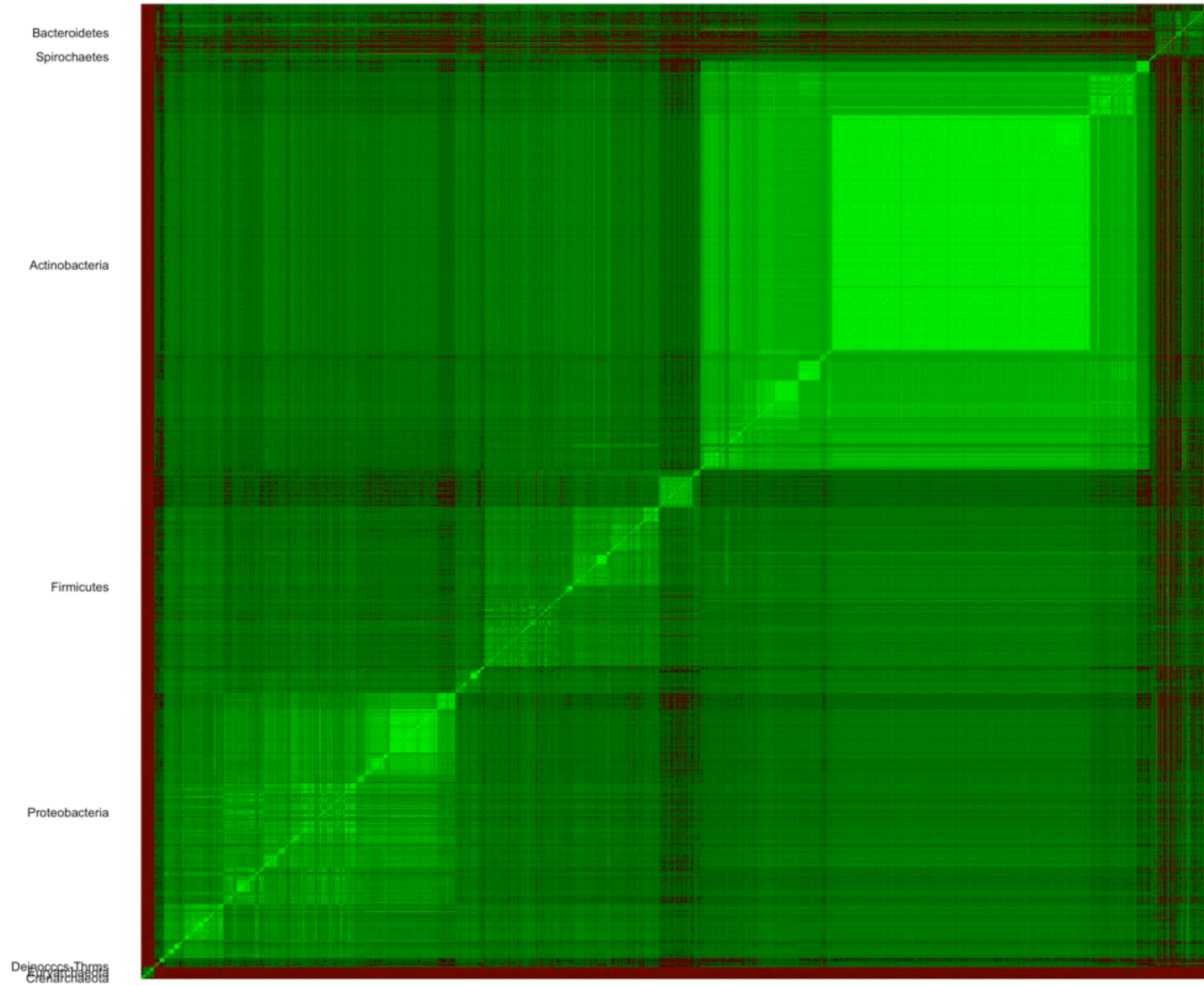
Console



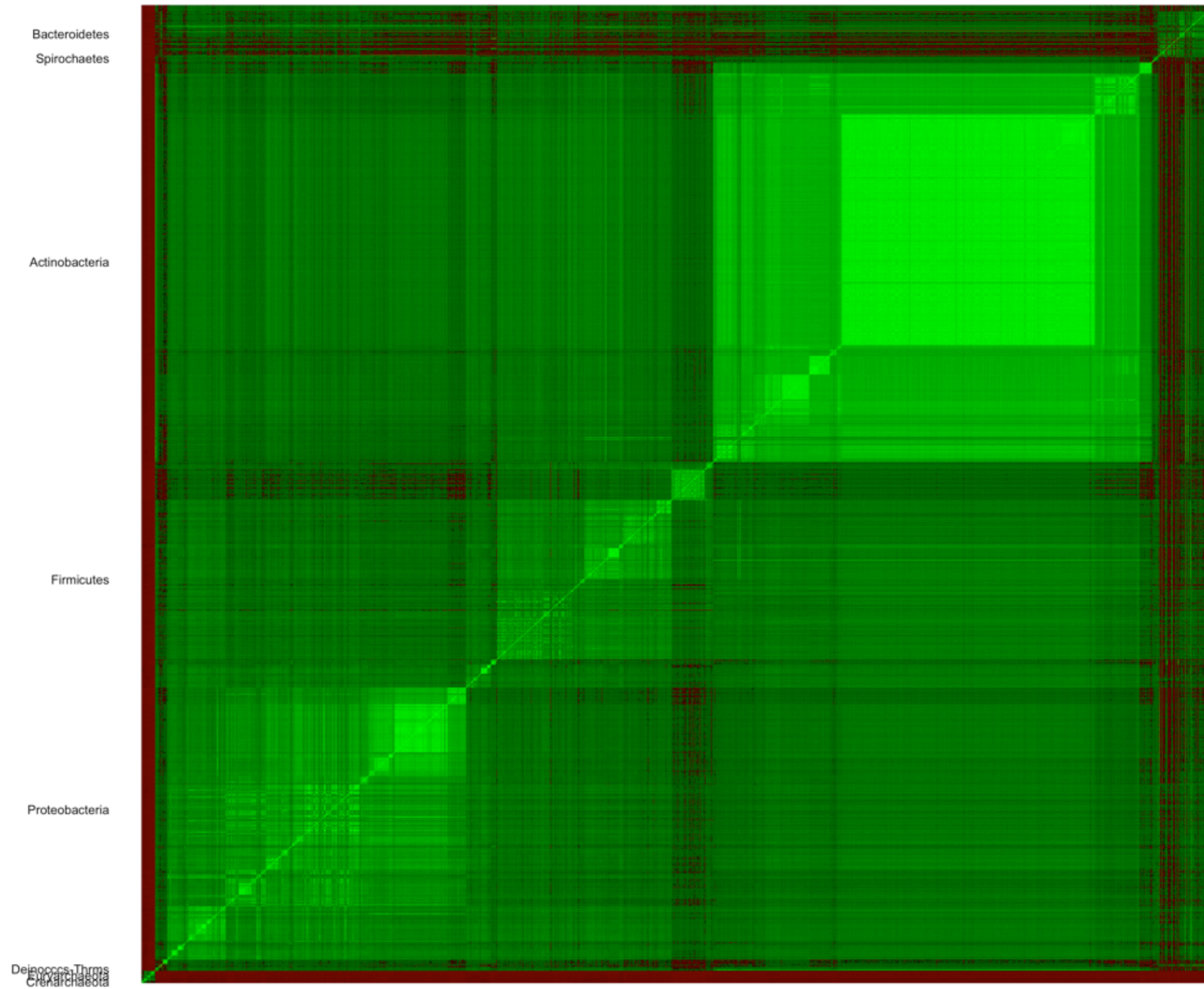
# 16S rRNA similarity of type strains of Bacteria and Archaea 1980



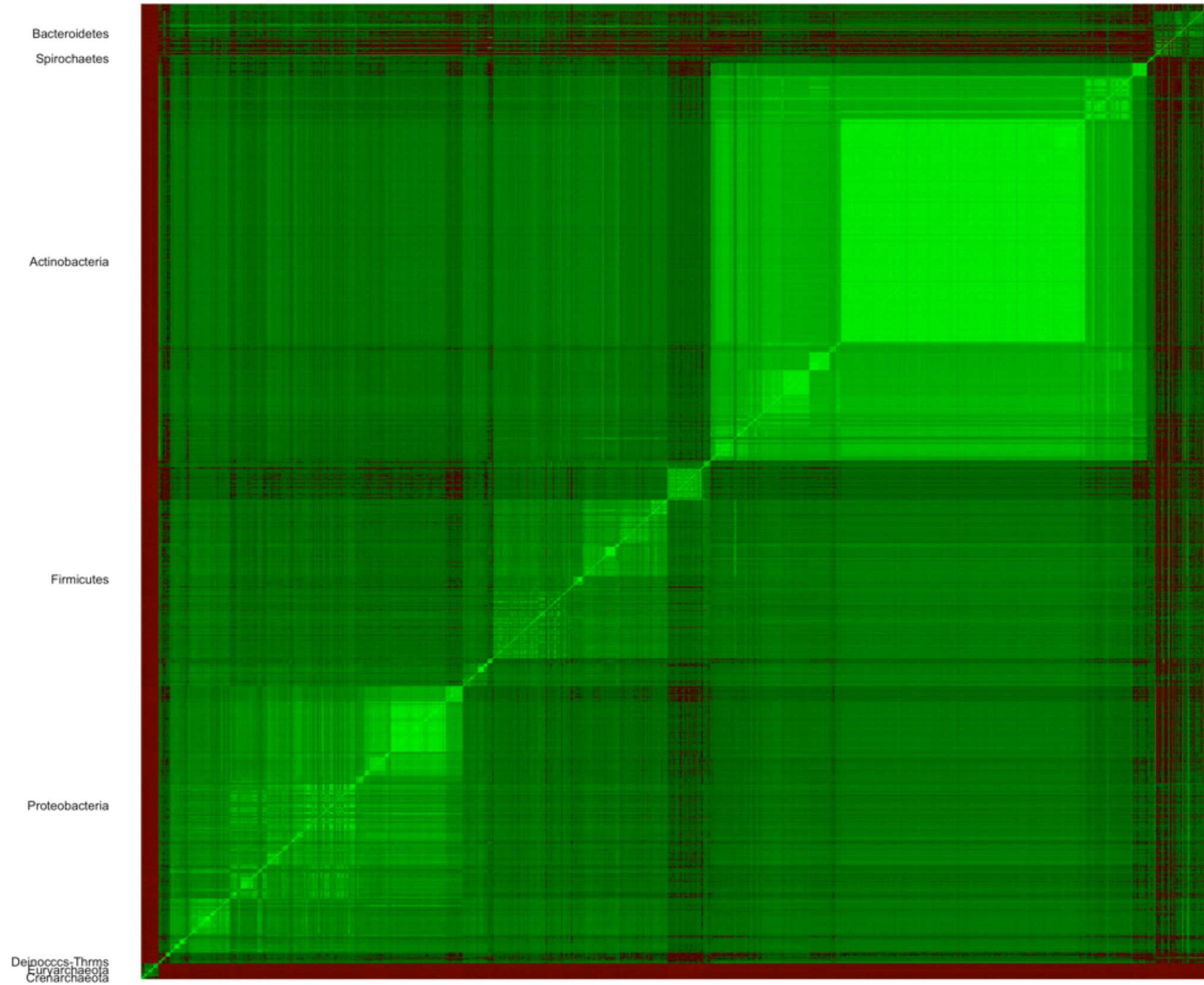
# 16S rRNA similarity of type strains of Bacteria and Archaea 1981



# 16S rRNA similarity of type strains of Bacteria and Archaea 1982

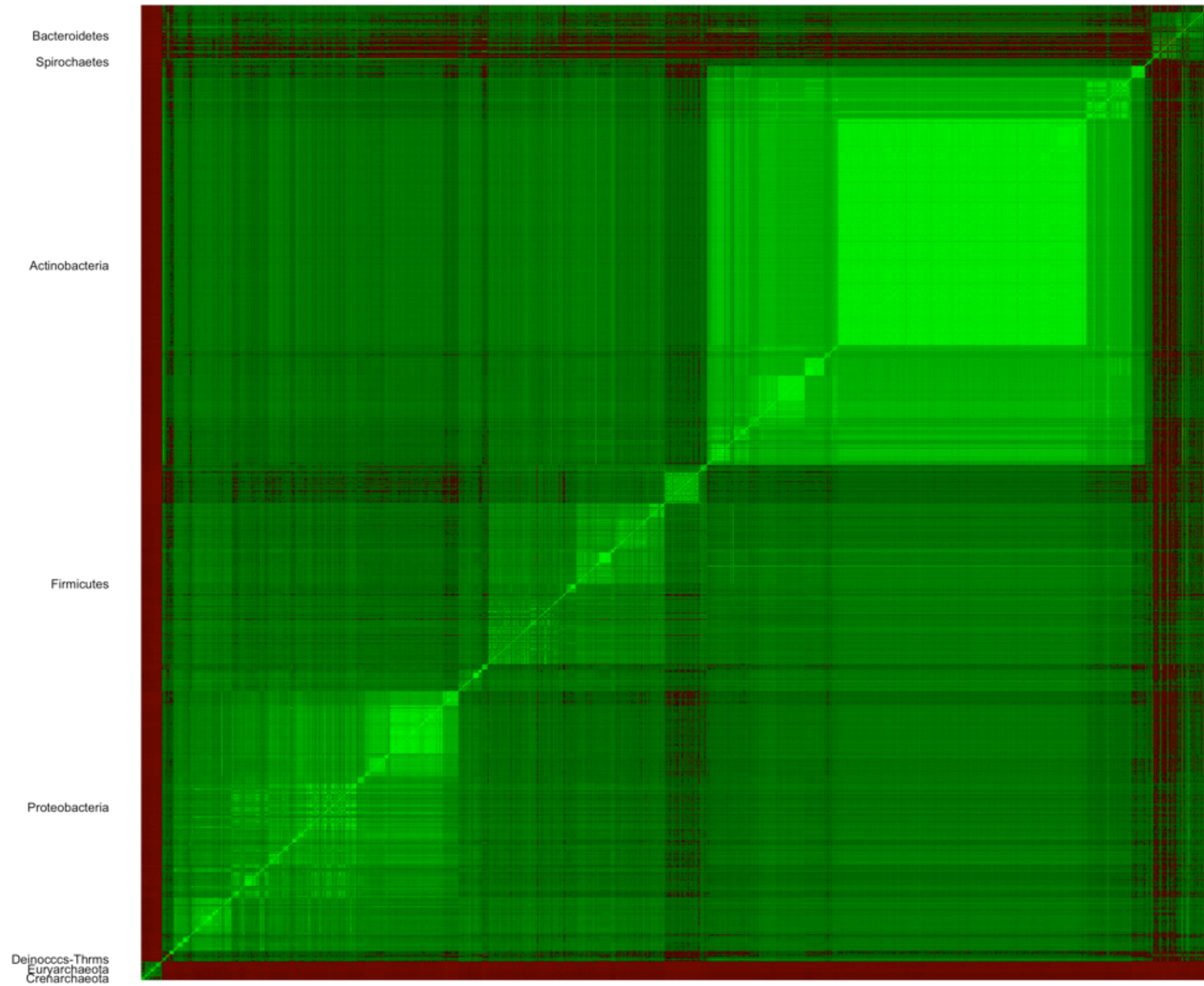


# 16S rRNA similarity of type strains of Bacteria and Archaea 1983

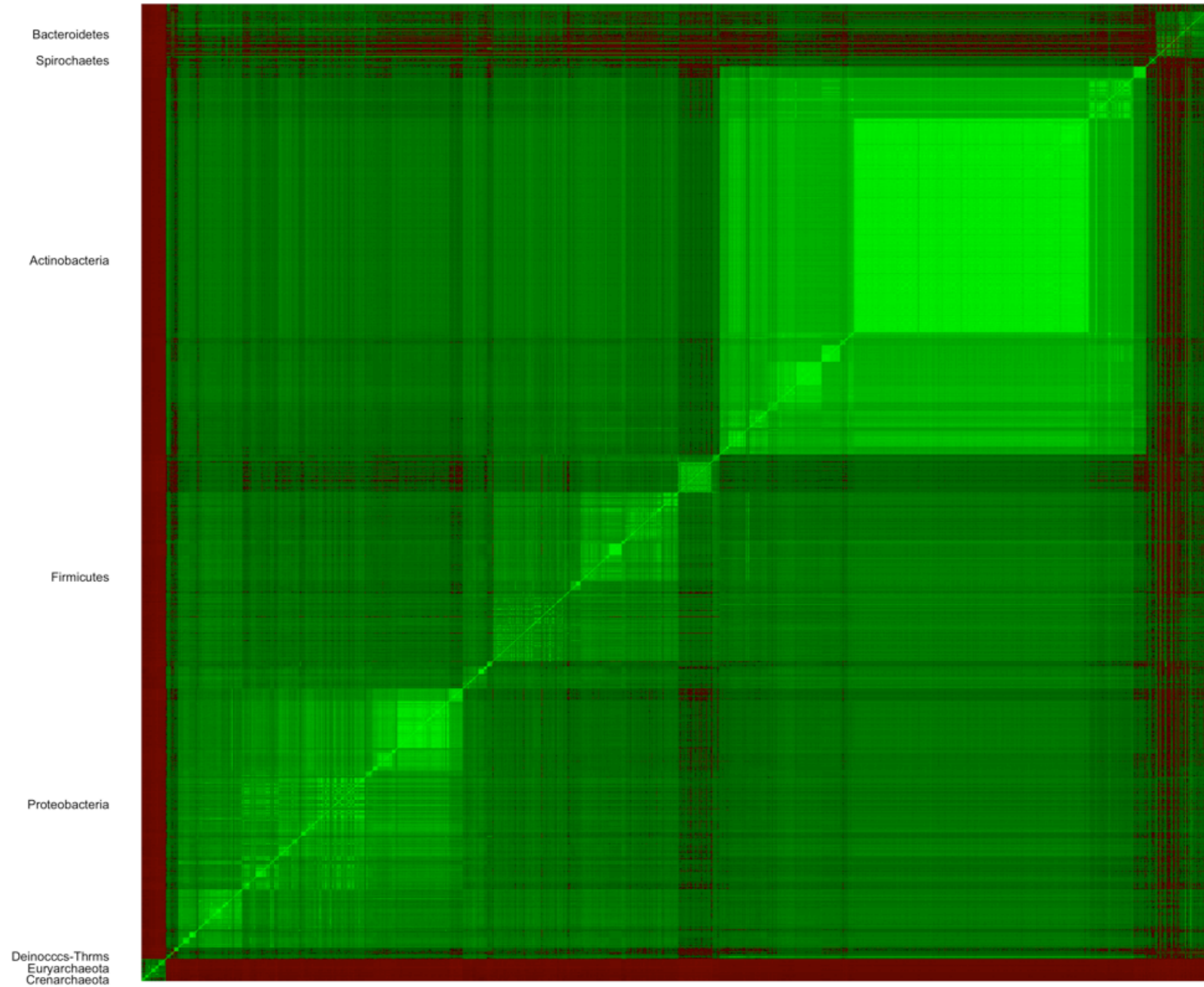




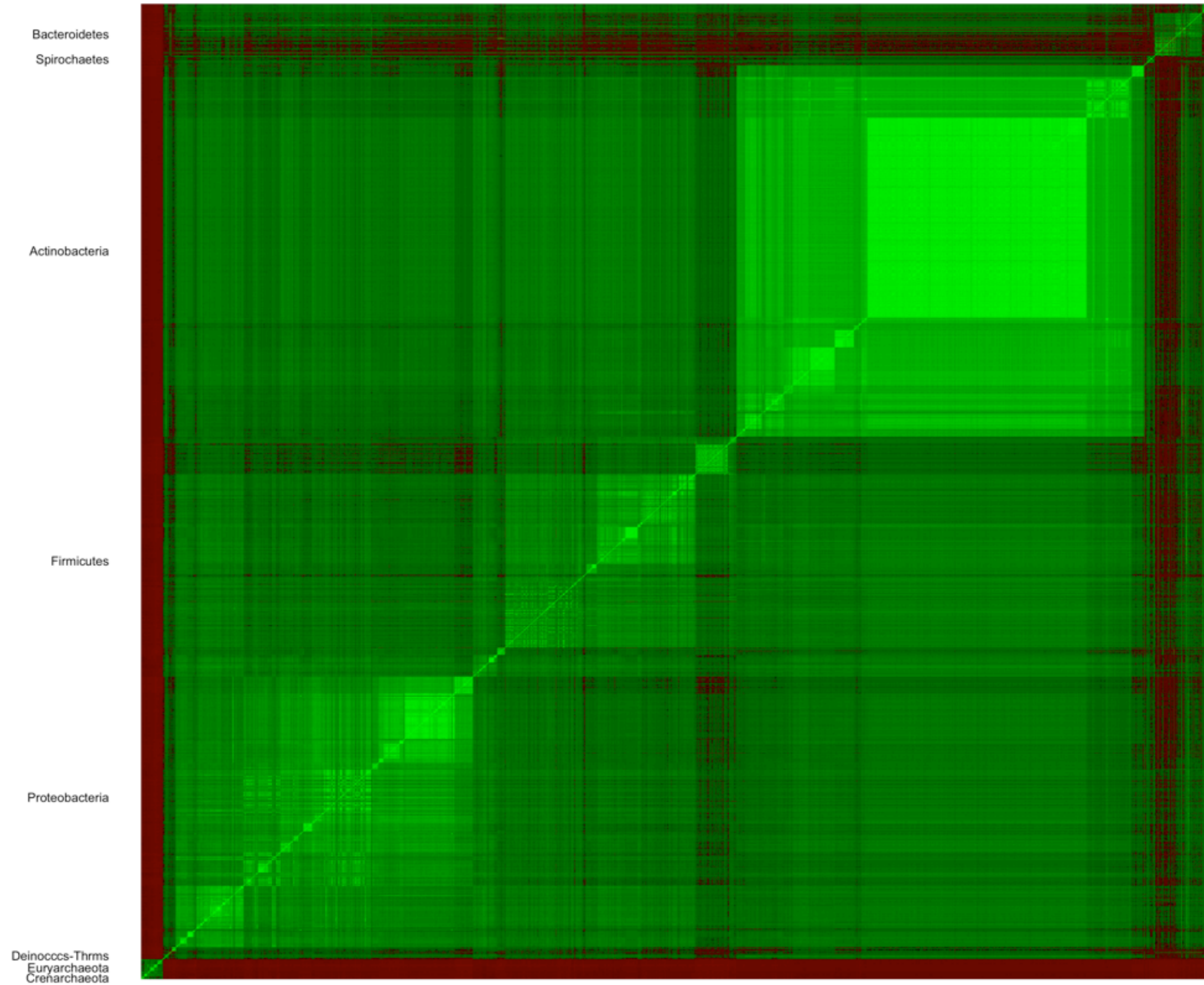
# 16S rRNA similarity of type strains of Bacteria and Archaea 1984



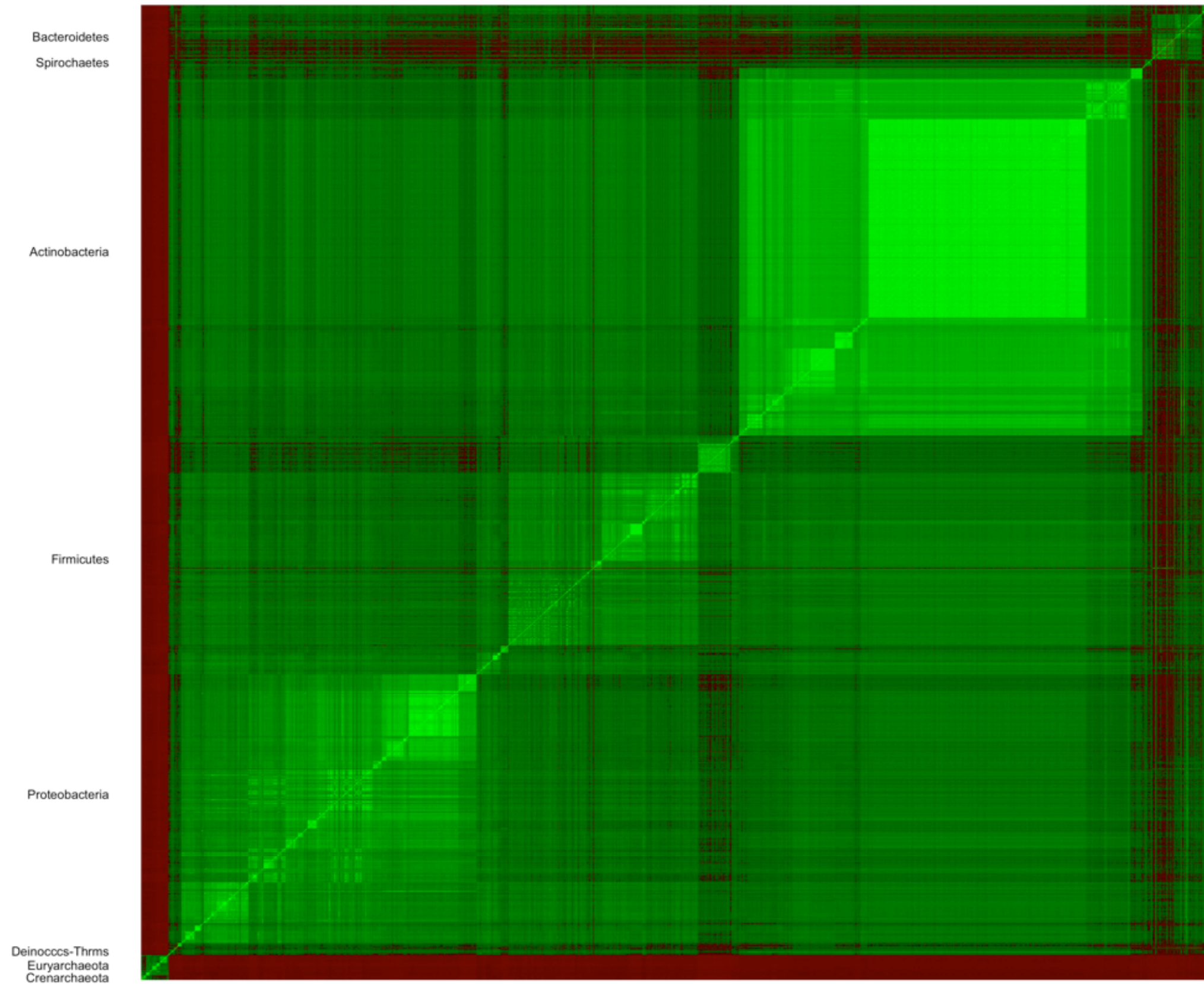
# 16S rRNA similarity of type strains of Bacteria and Archaea 1985



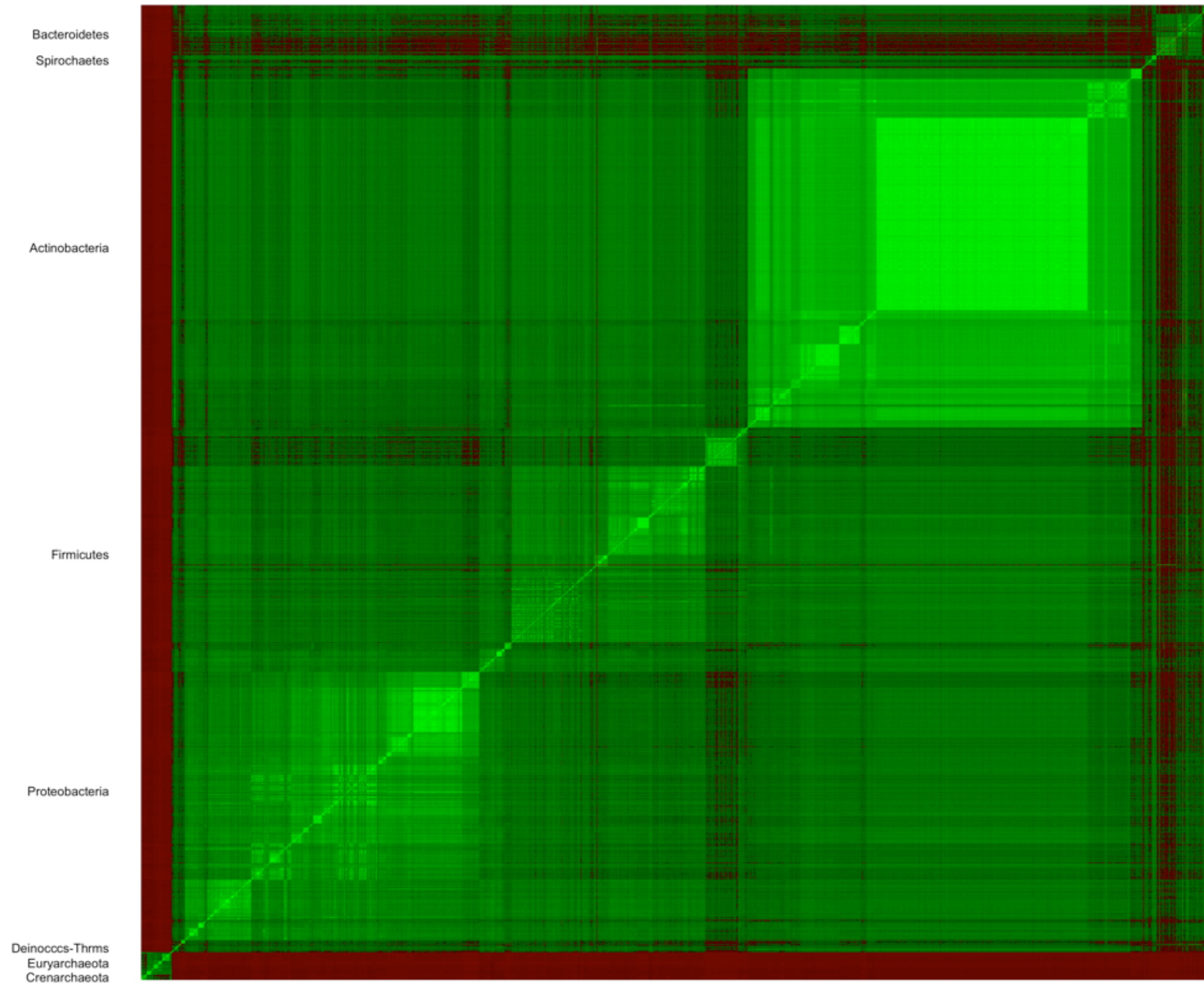
# 16S rRNA similarity of type strains of Bacteria and Archaea 1986



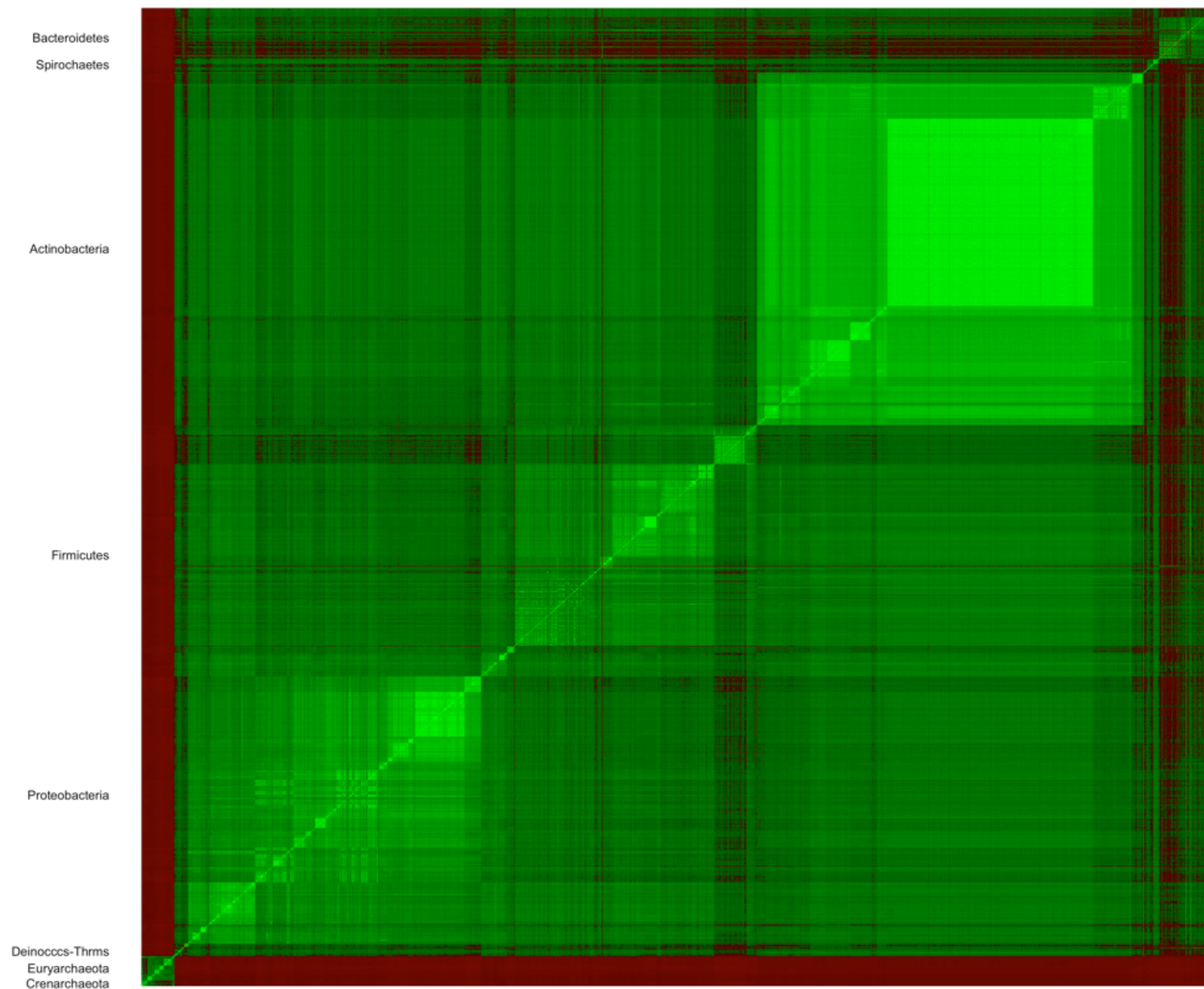
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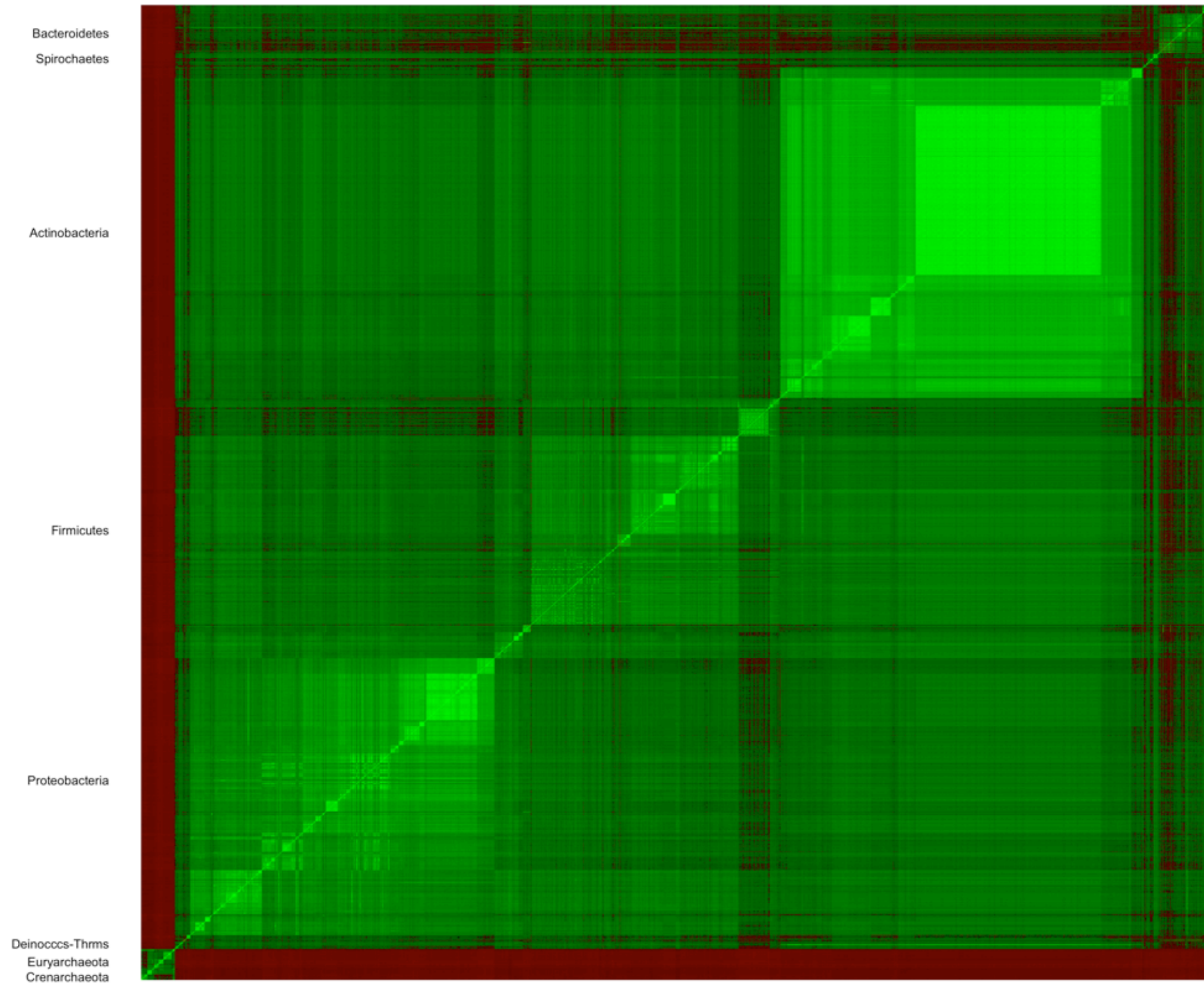
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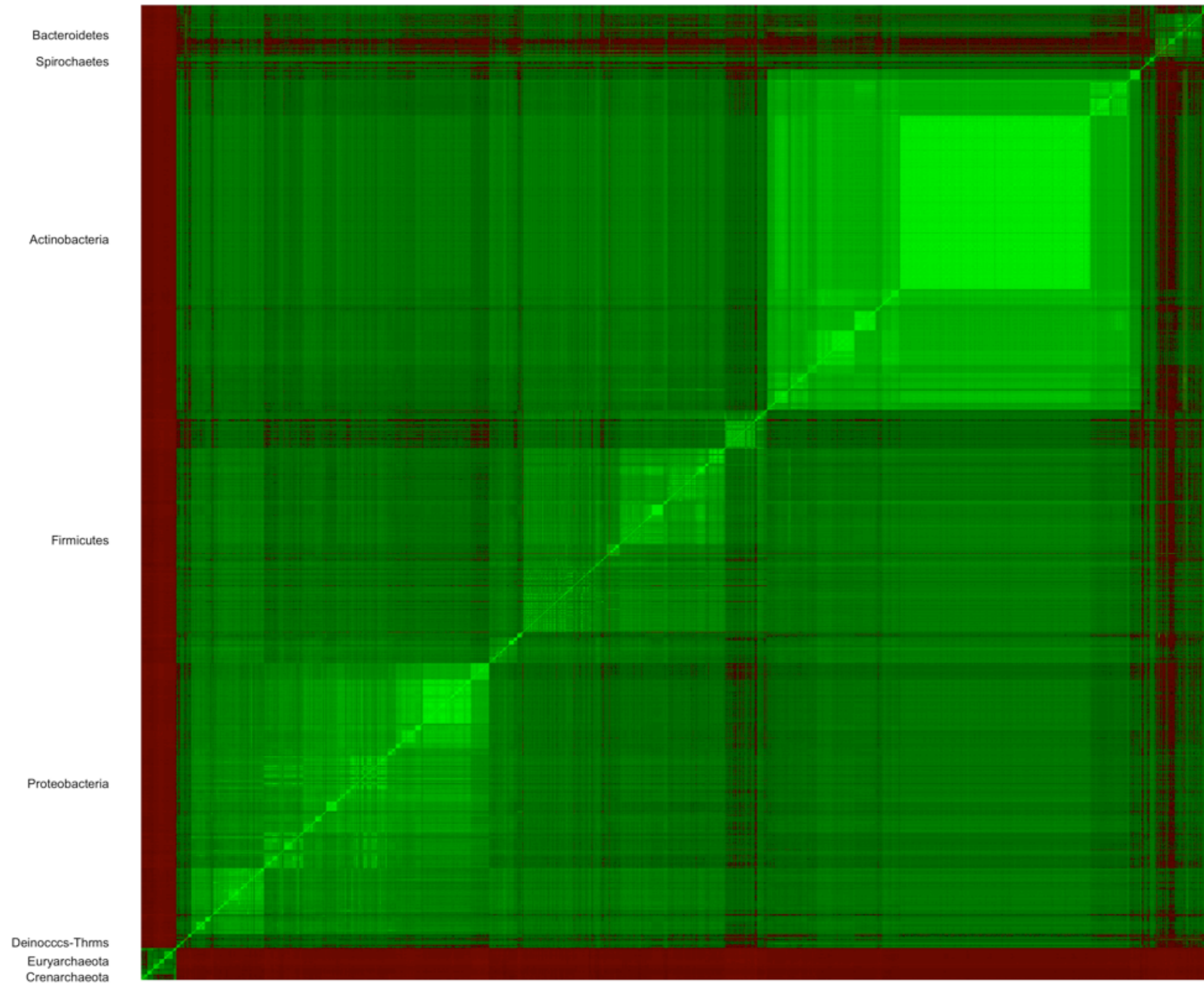
# 16S rRNA similarity of type strains of Bacteria and Archaea 1989



# 16S rRNA similarity of type strains of Bacteria and Archaea 1990

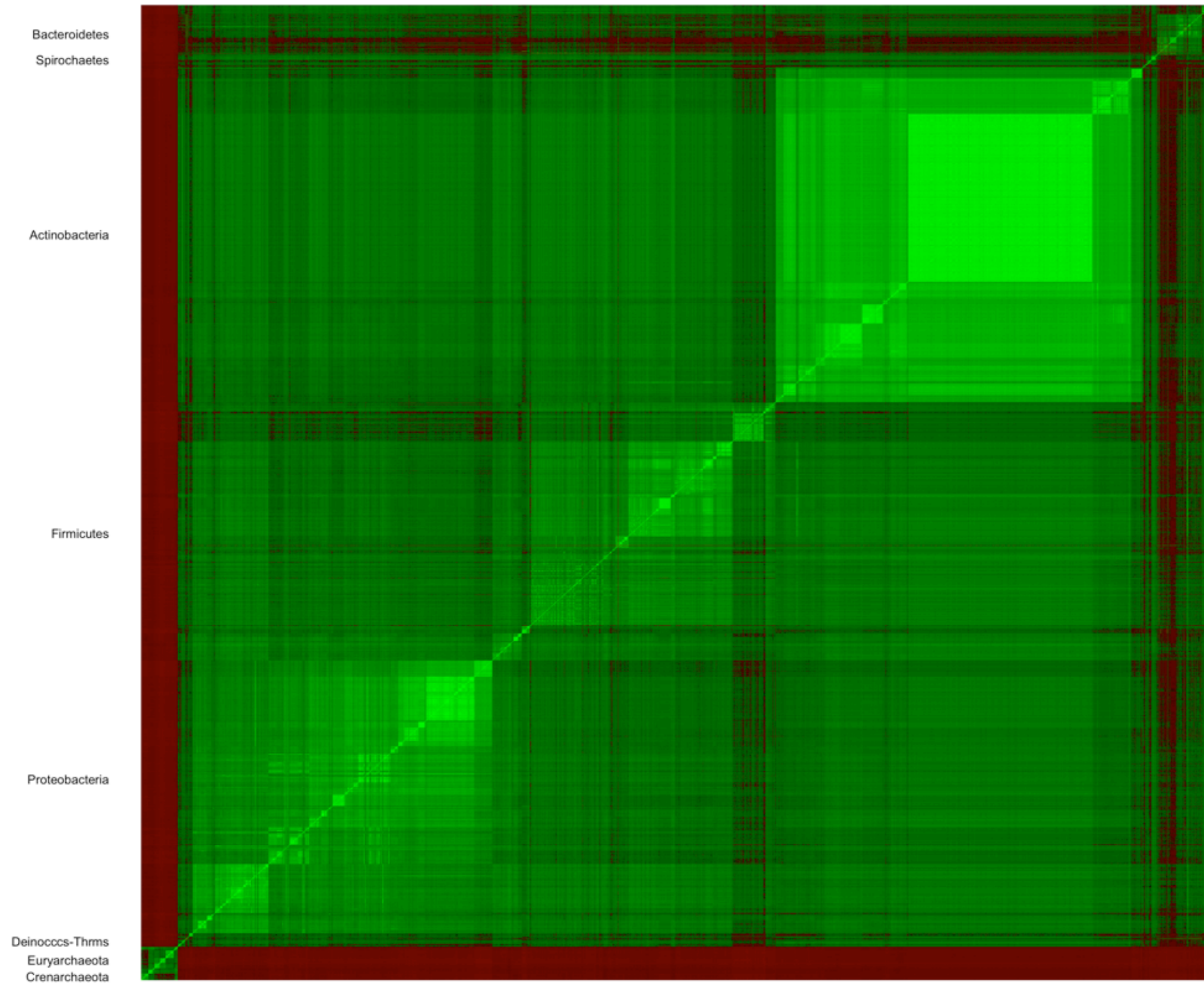


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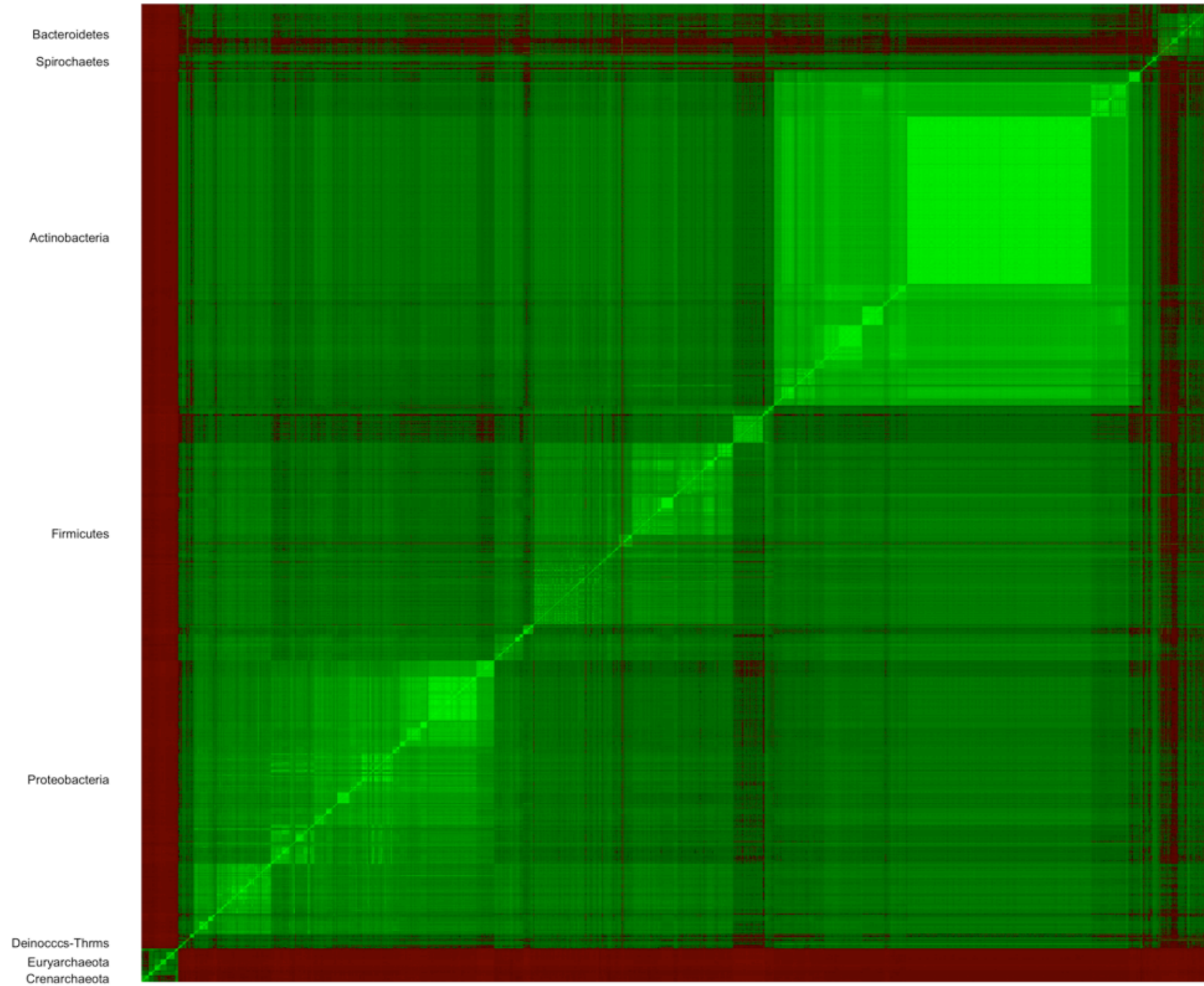




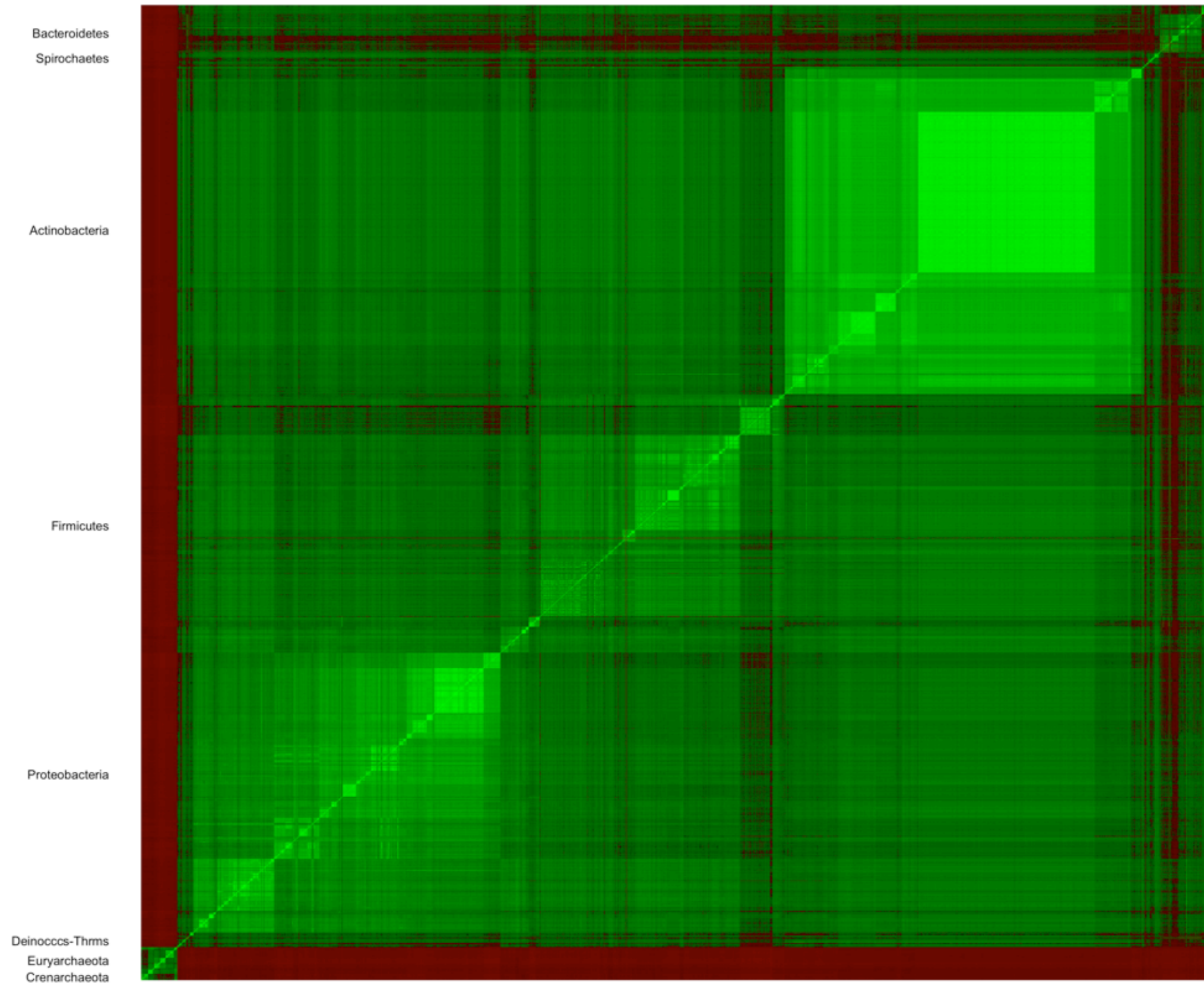
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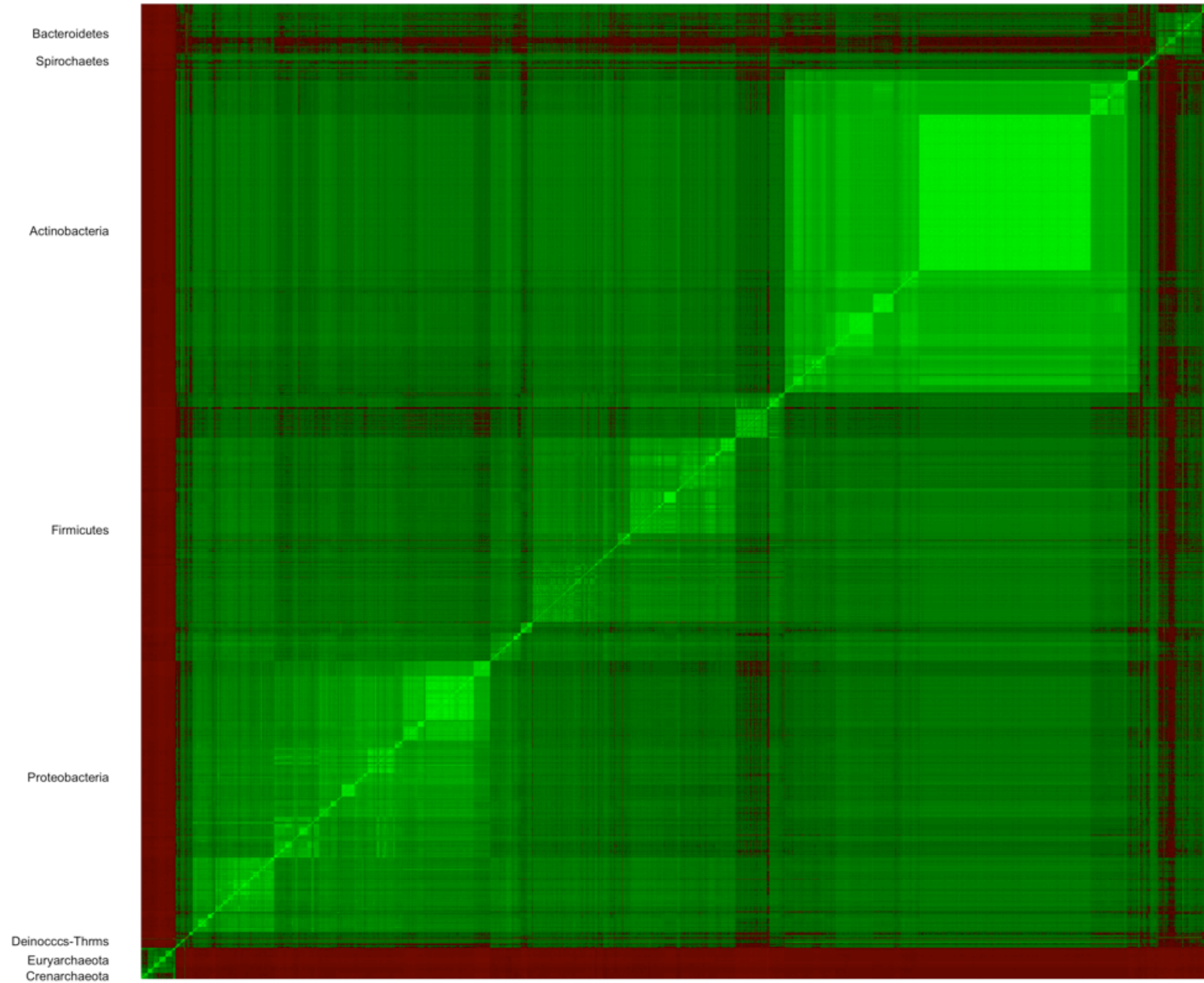
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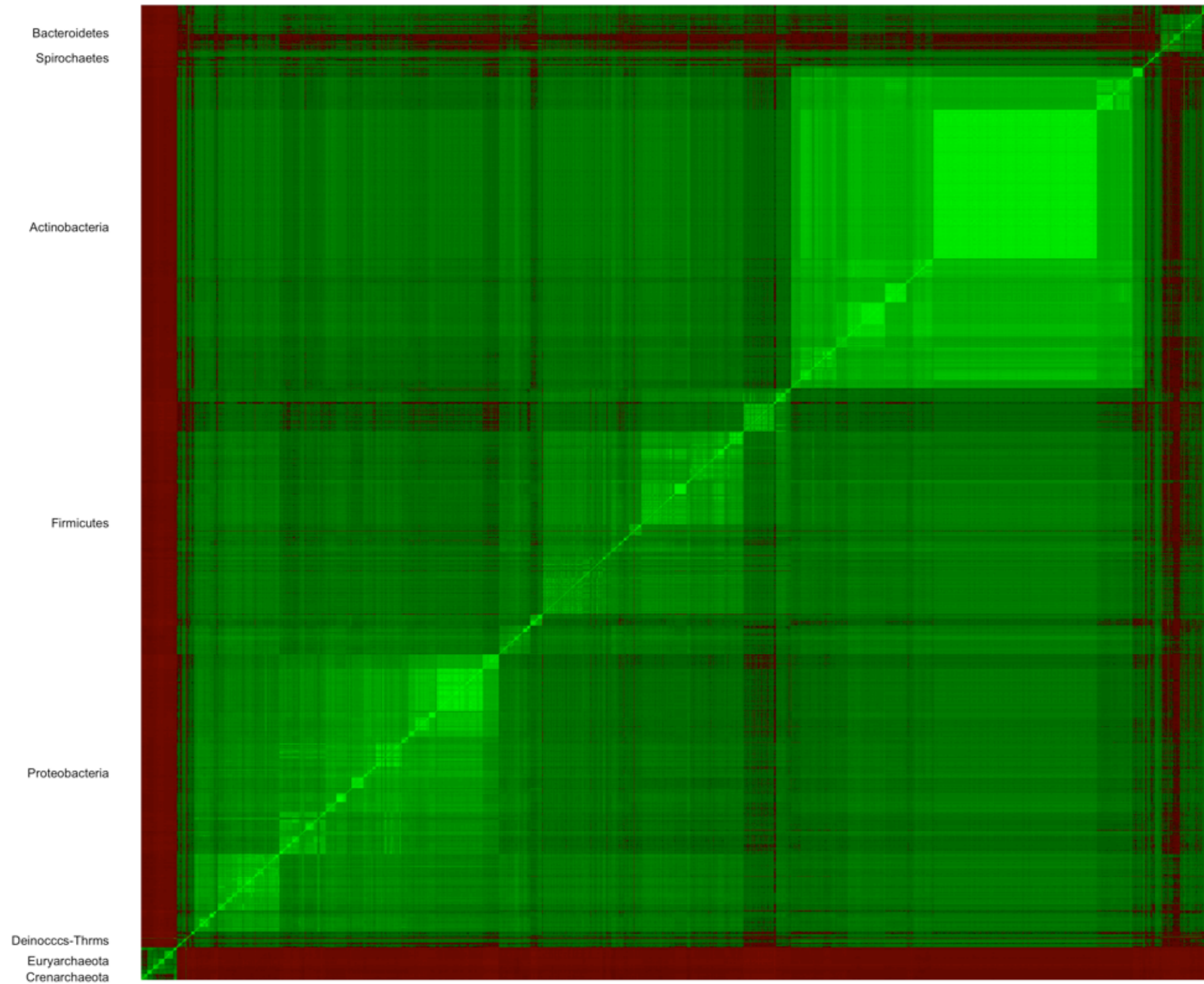
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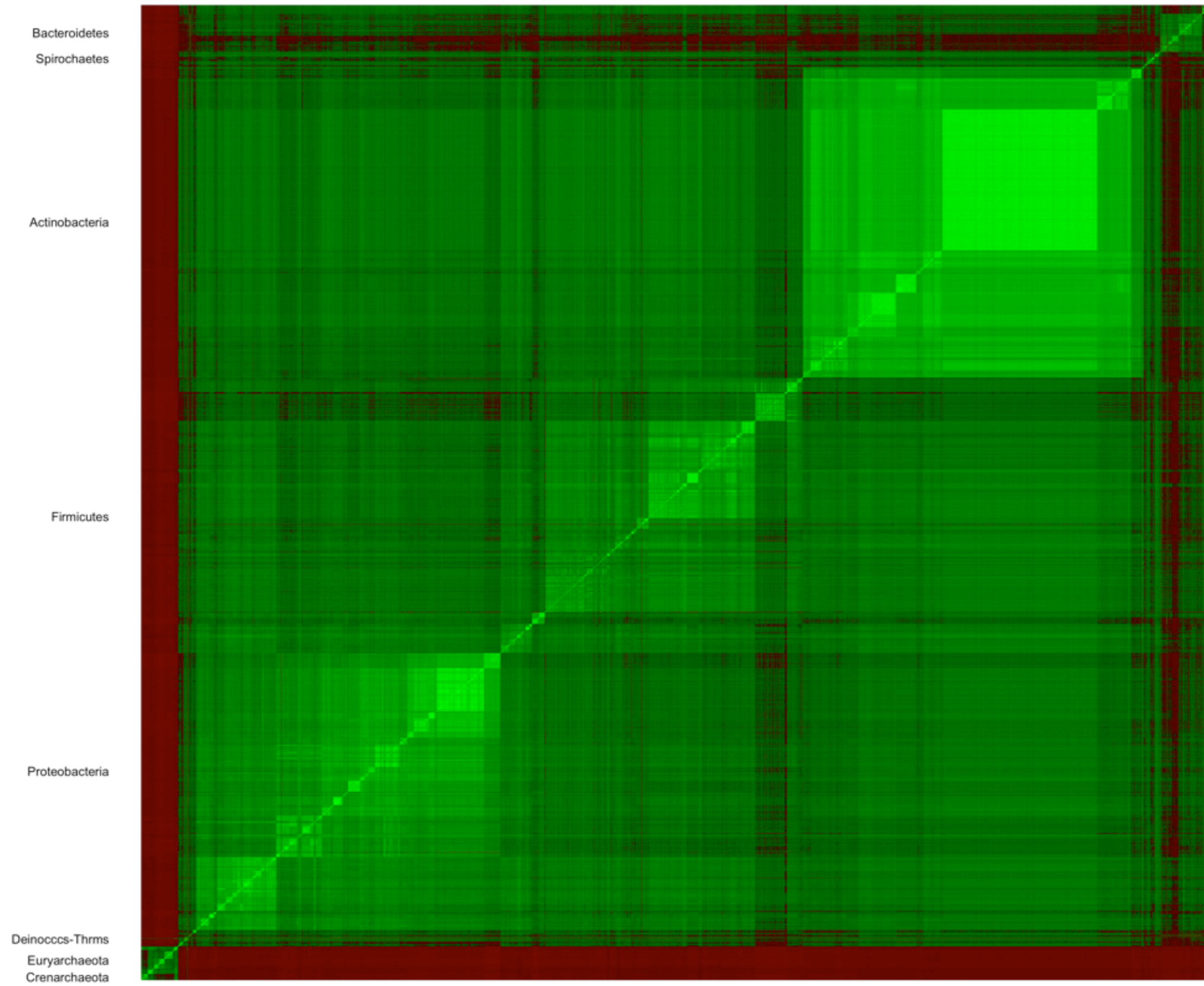
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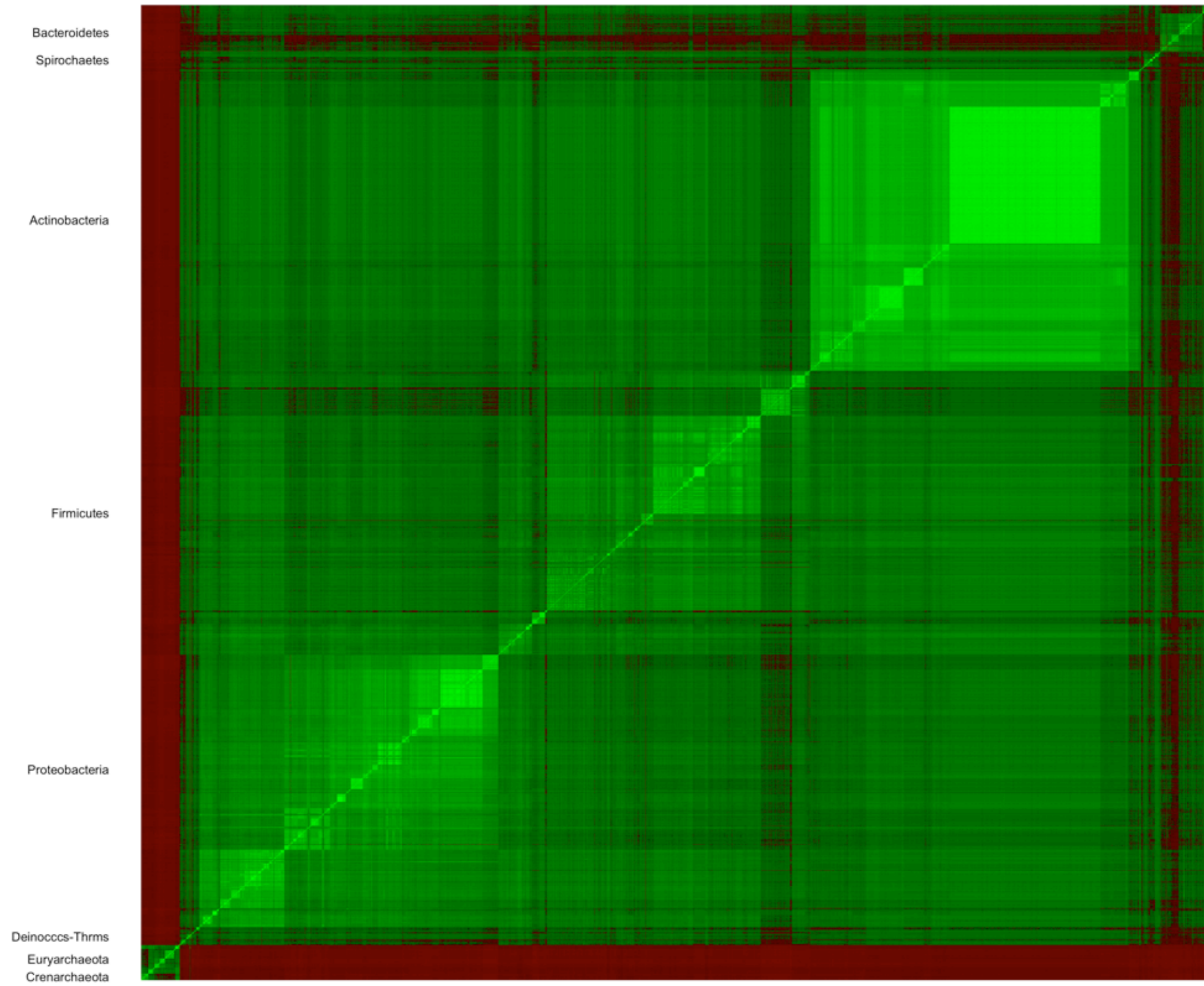
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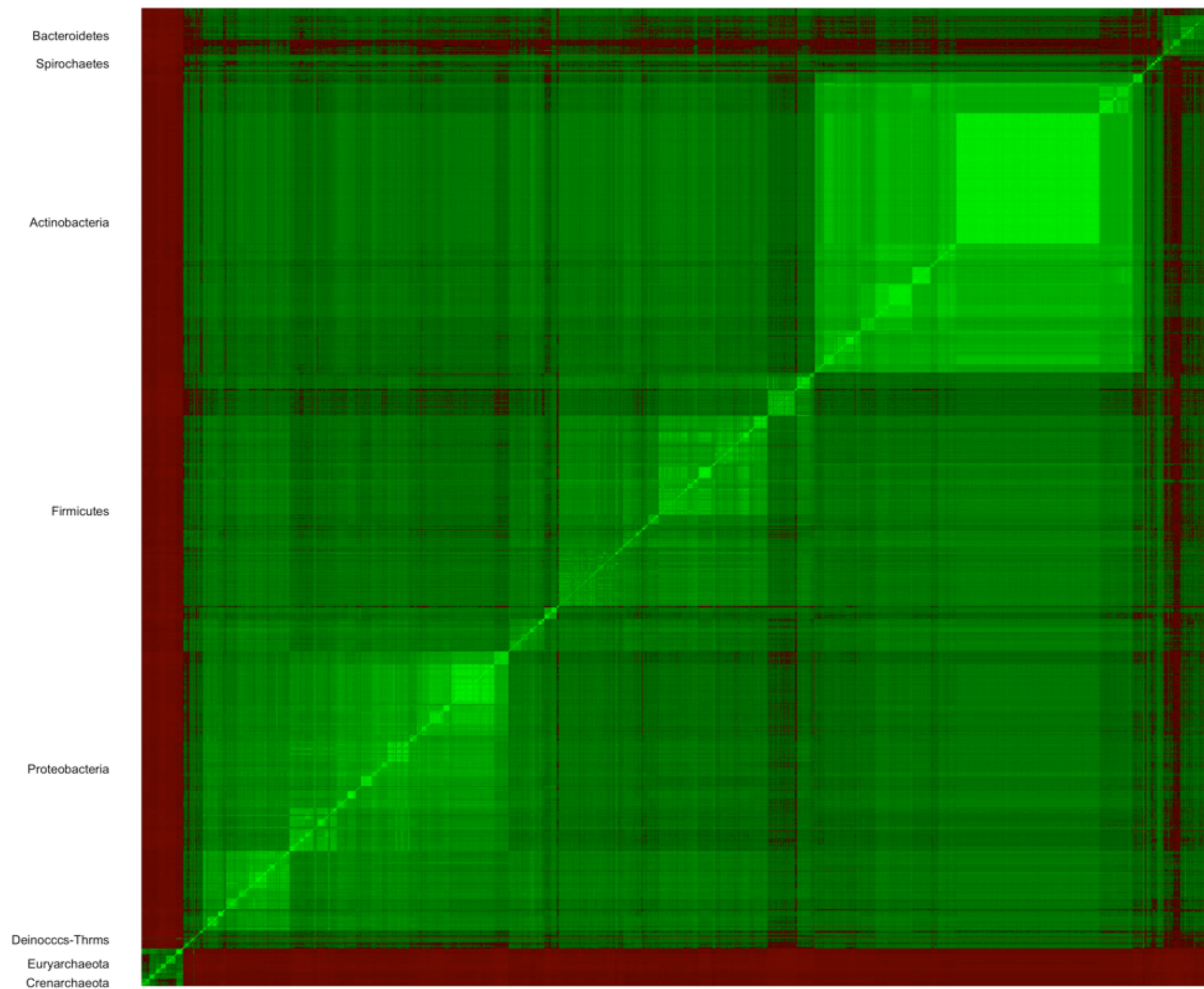
# 16S rRNA similarity of type strains of Bacteria and Archaea 1997



# 16S rRNA similarity of type strains of Bacteria and Archaea 1998

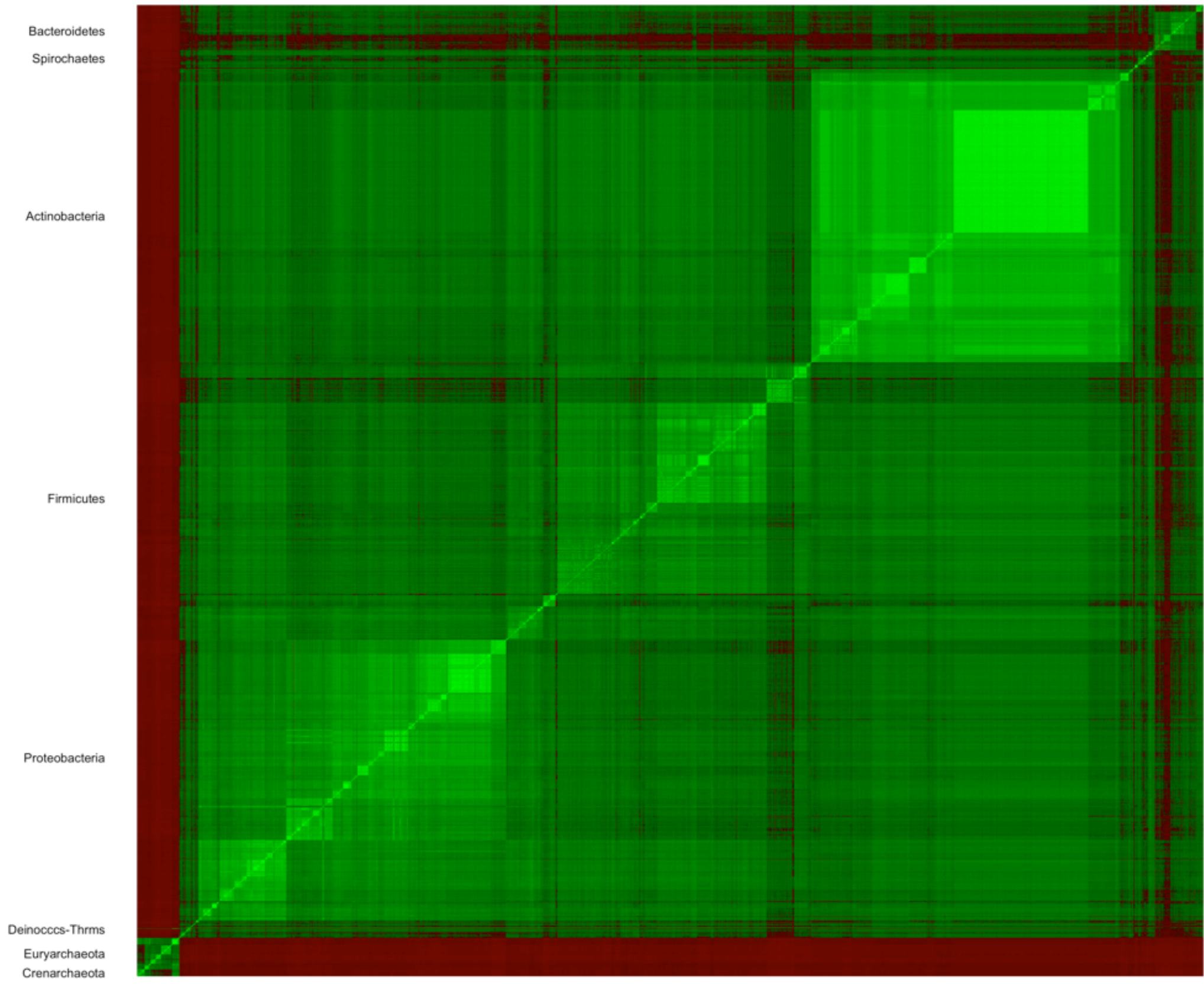


# 16S rRNA similarity of type strains of Bacteria and Archaea 1999

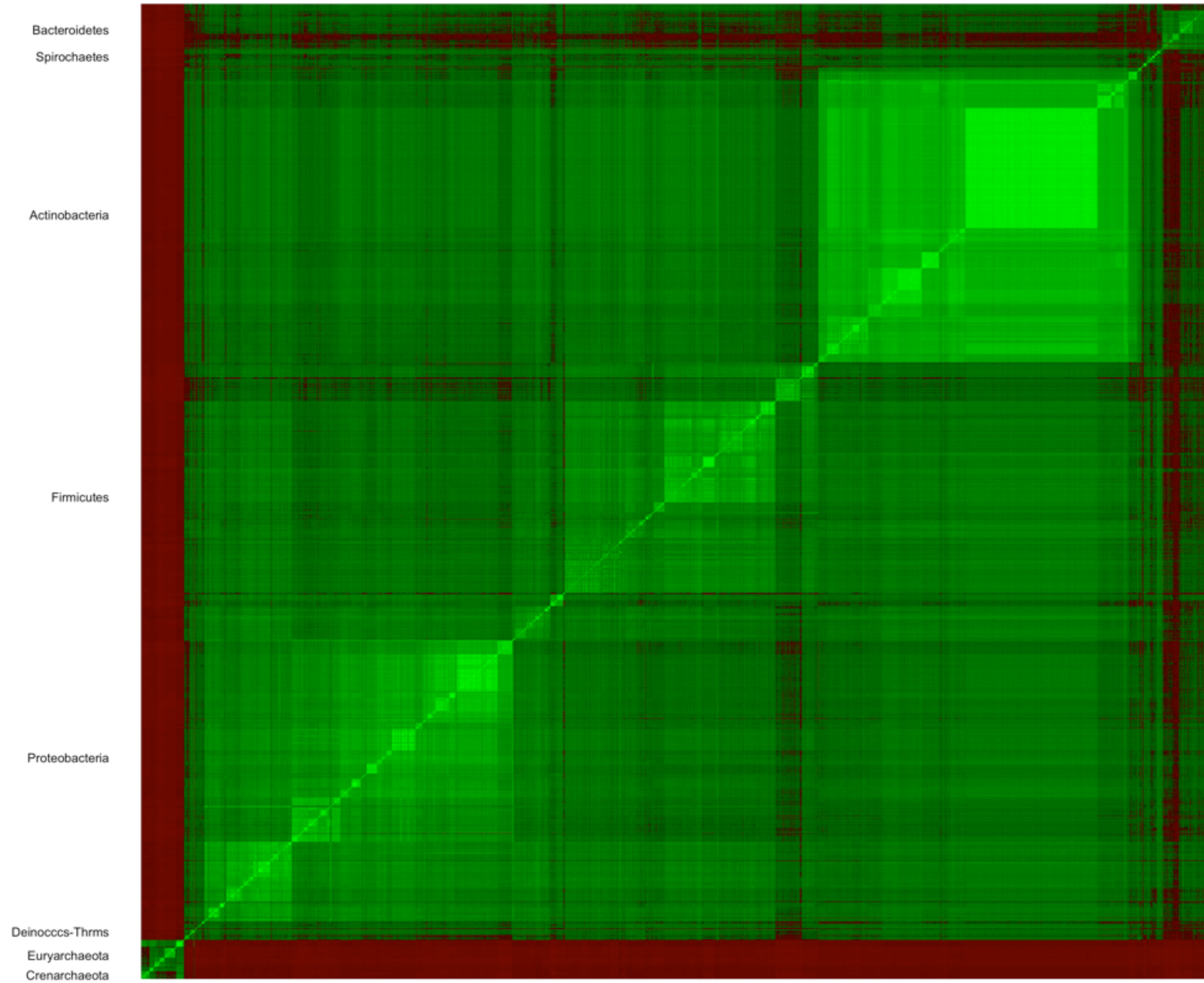




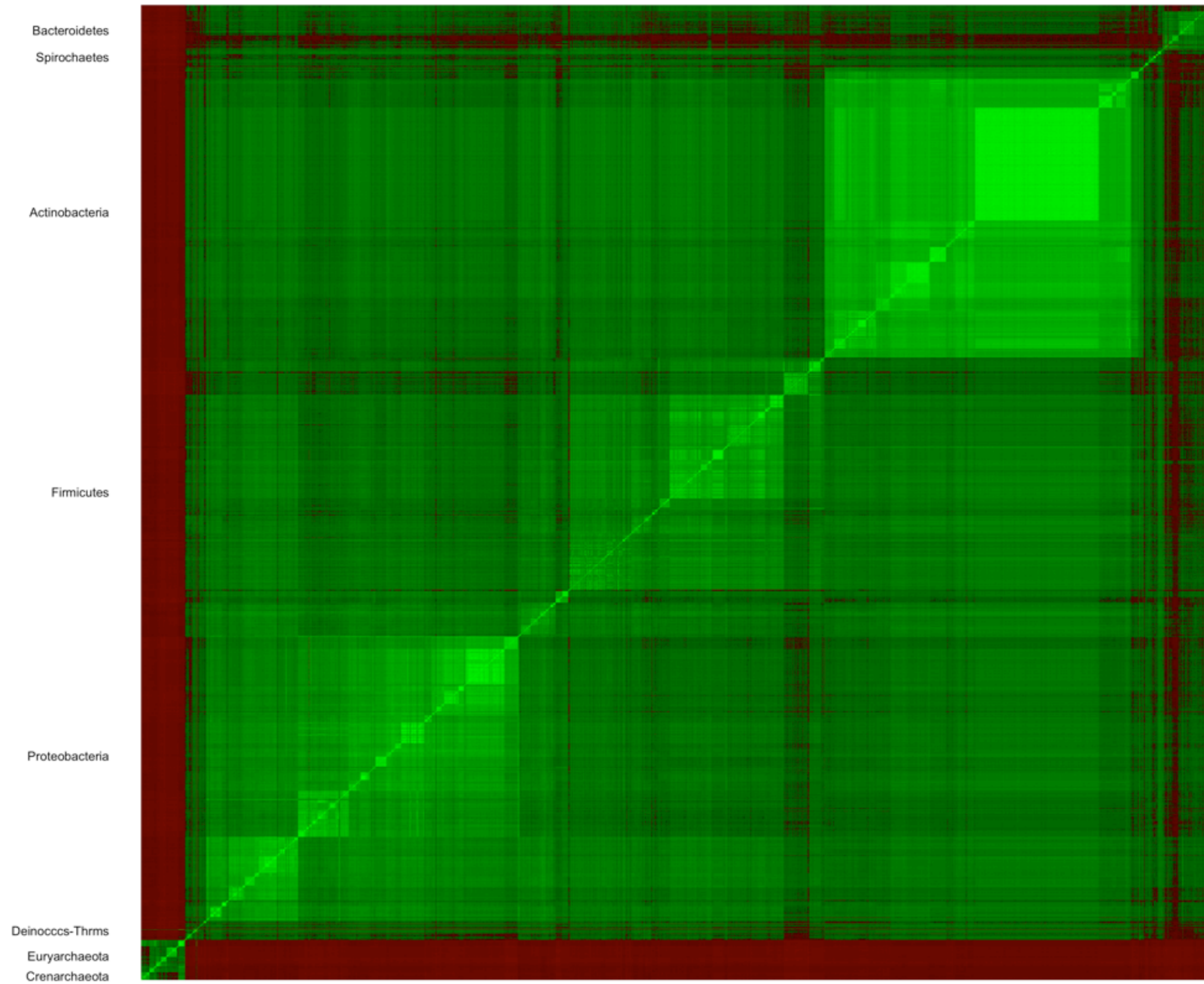
# 16S rRNA similarity of type strains of Bacteria and Archaea 2000



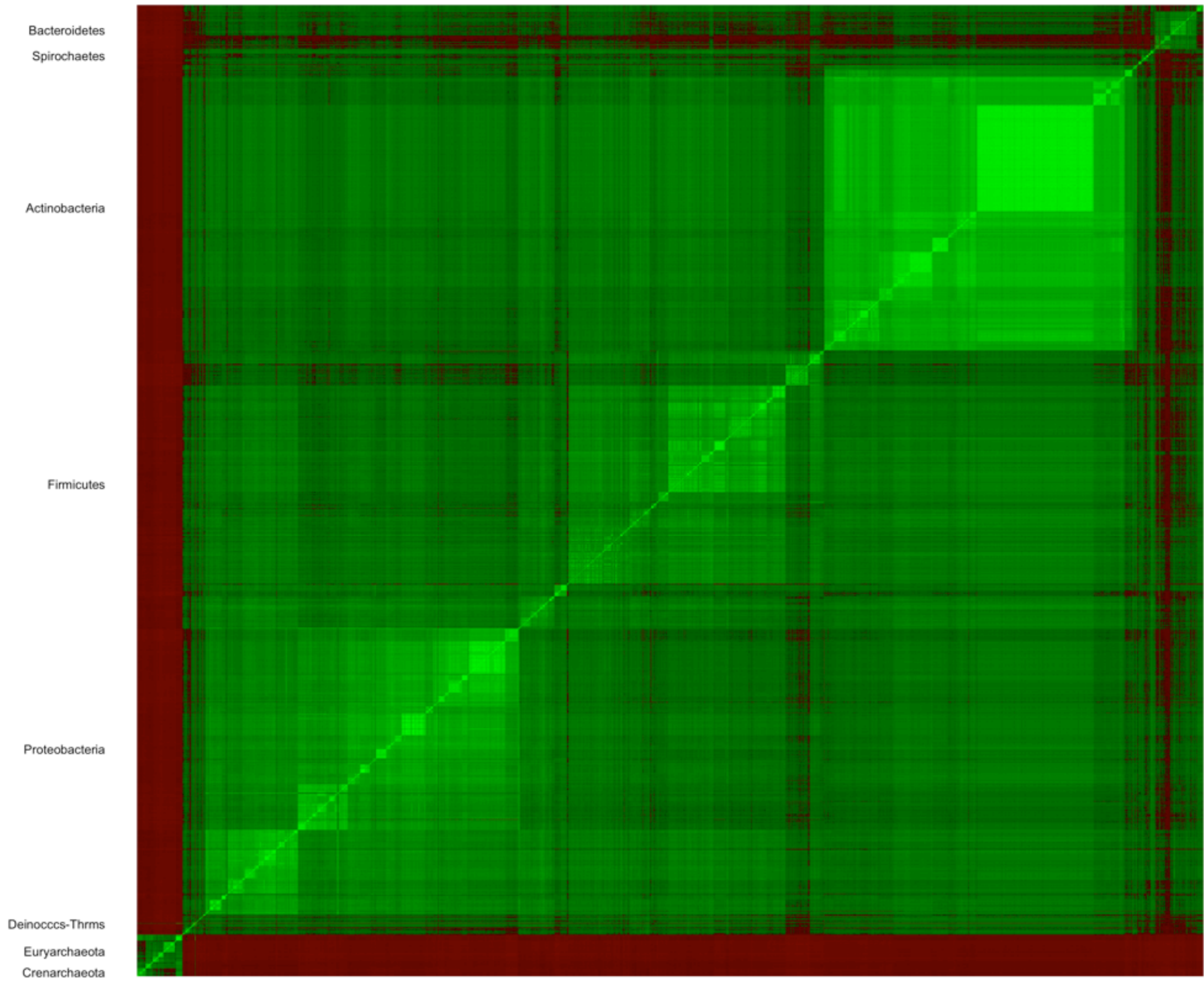
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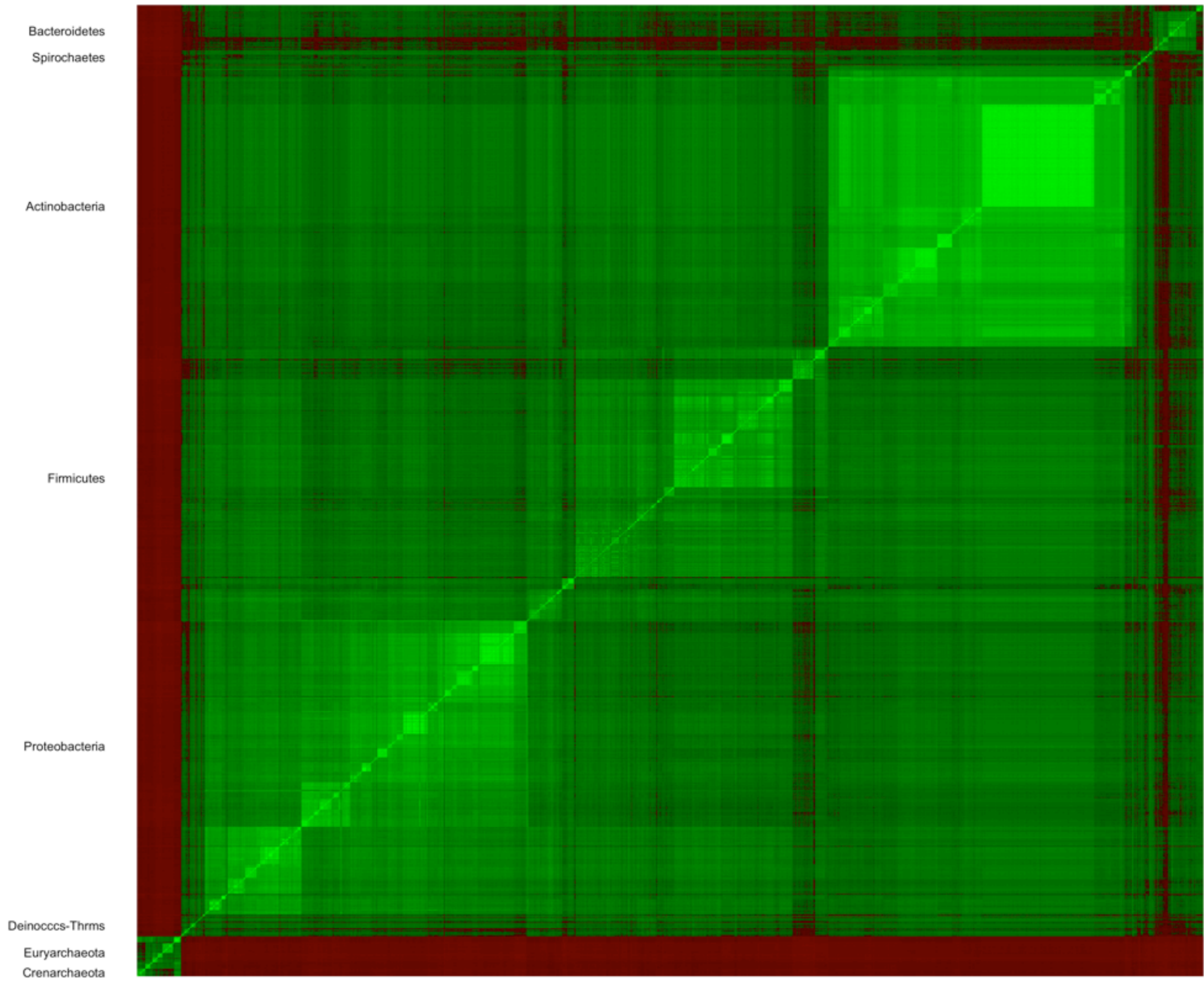
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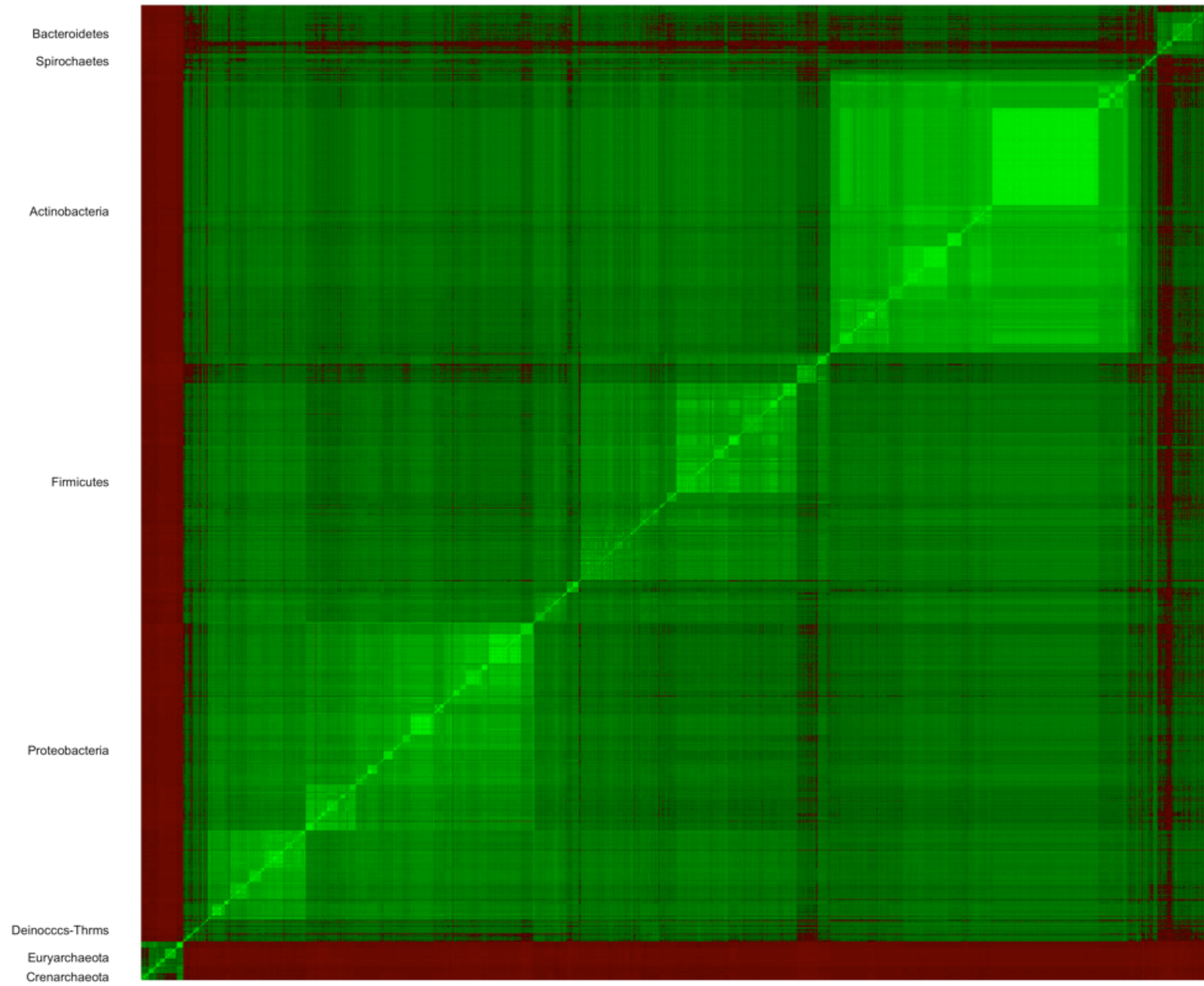
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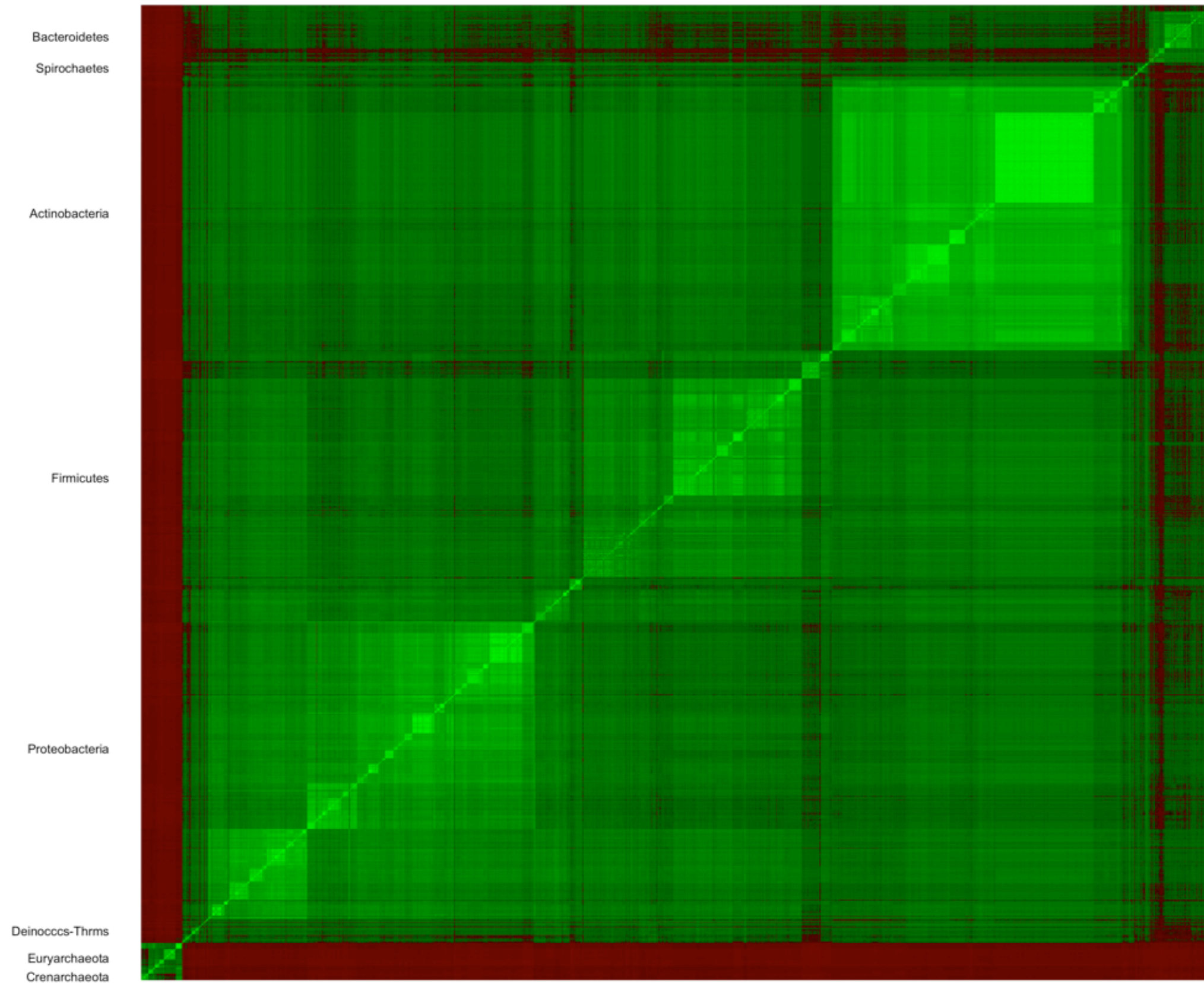
# 16S rRNA similarity of type strains of Bacteria and Archaea 2004



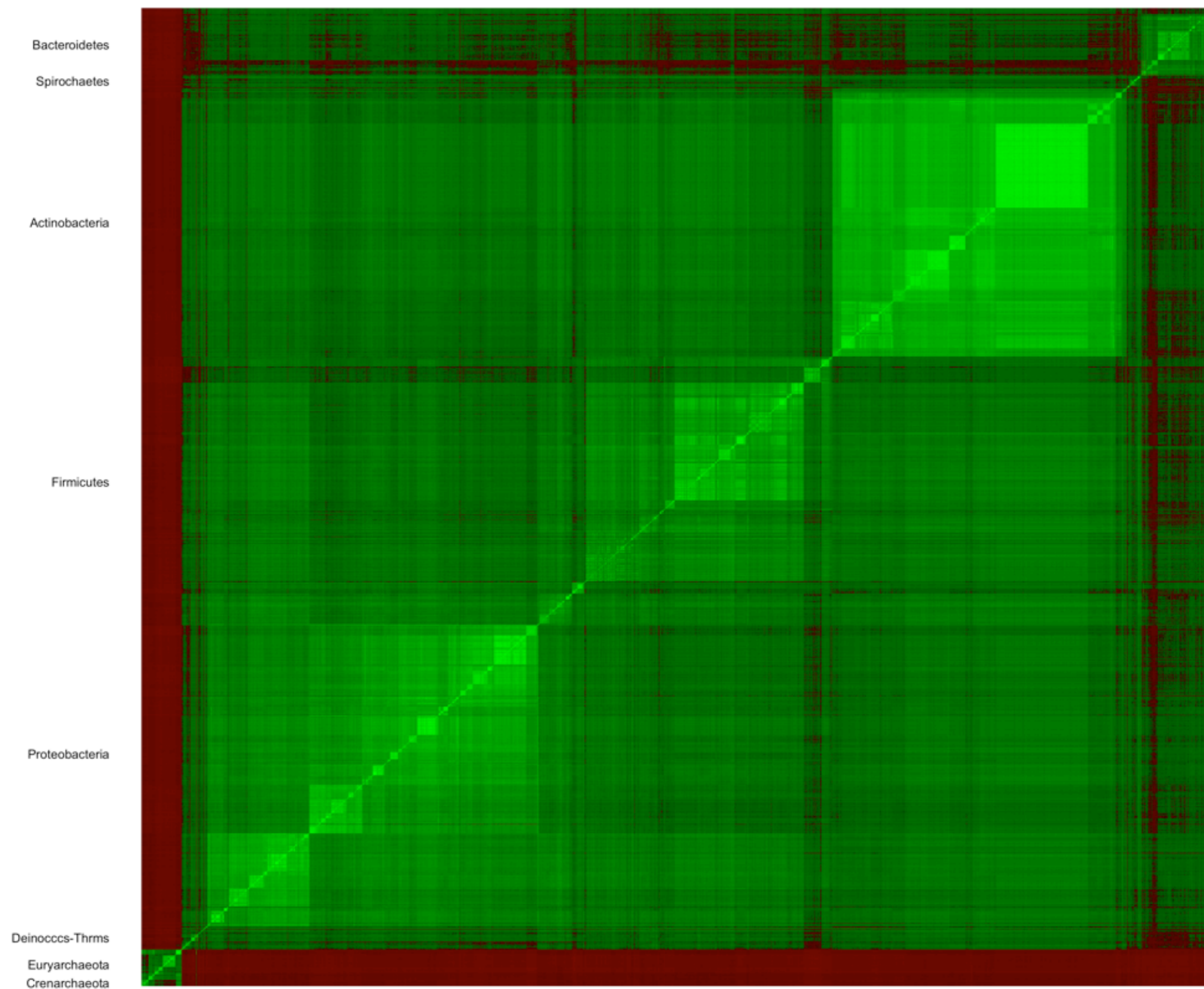
# 16S rRNA similarity of type strains of Bacteria and Archaea 2005



# 16S rRNA similarity of type strains of Bacteria and Archaea 2006

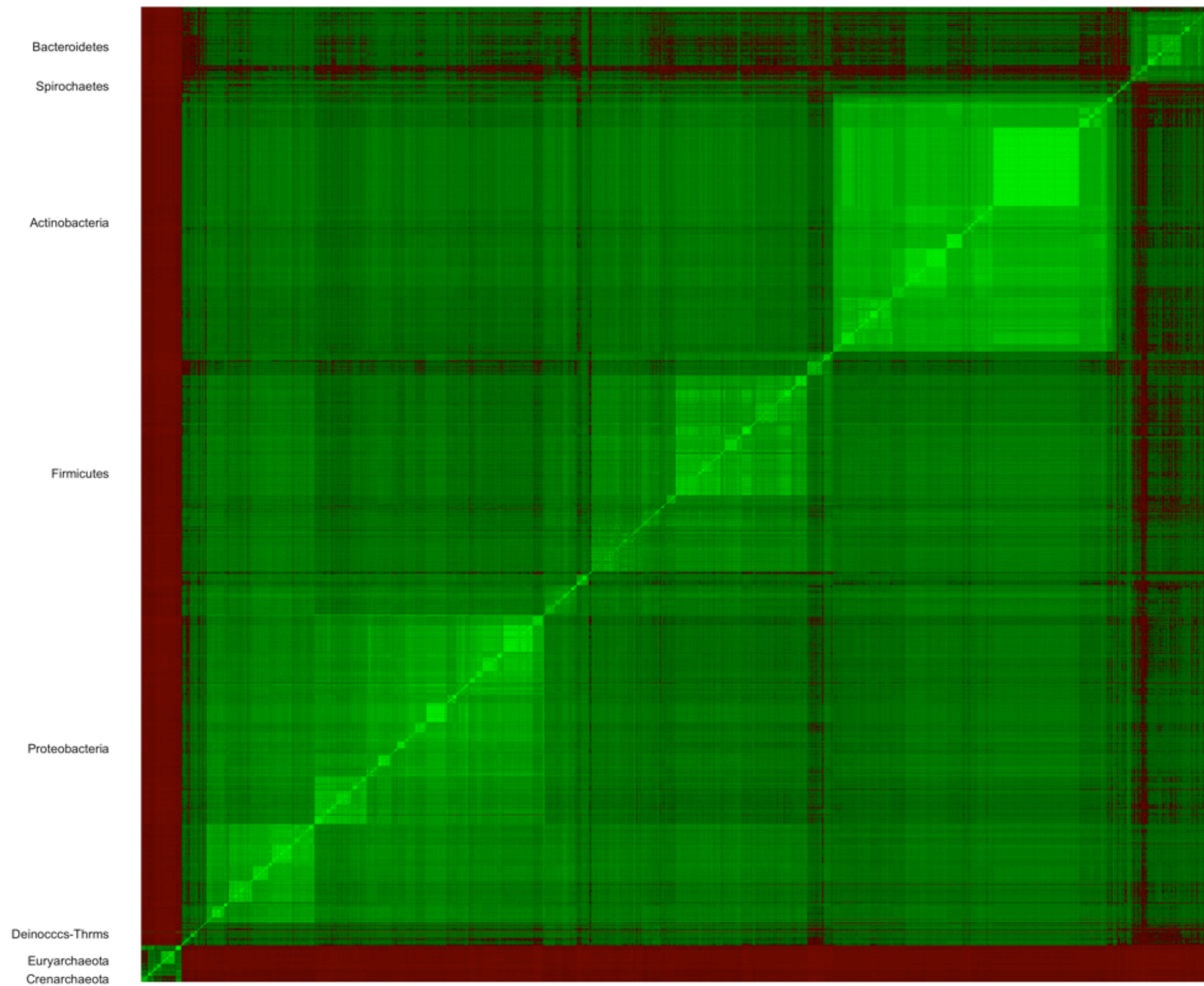


# 16S rRNA similarity of type strains of Bacteria and Archaea 2007

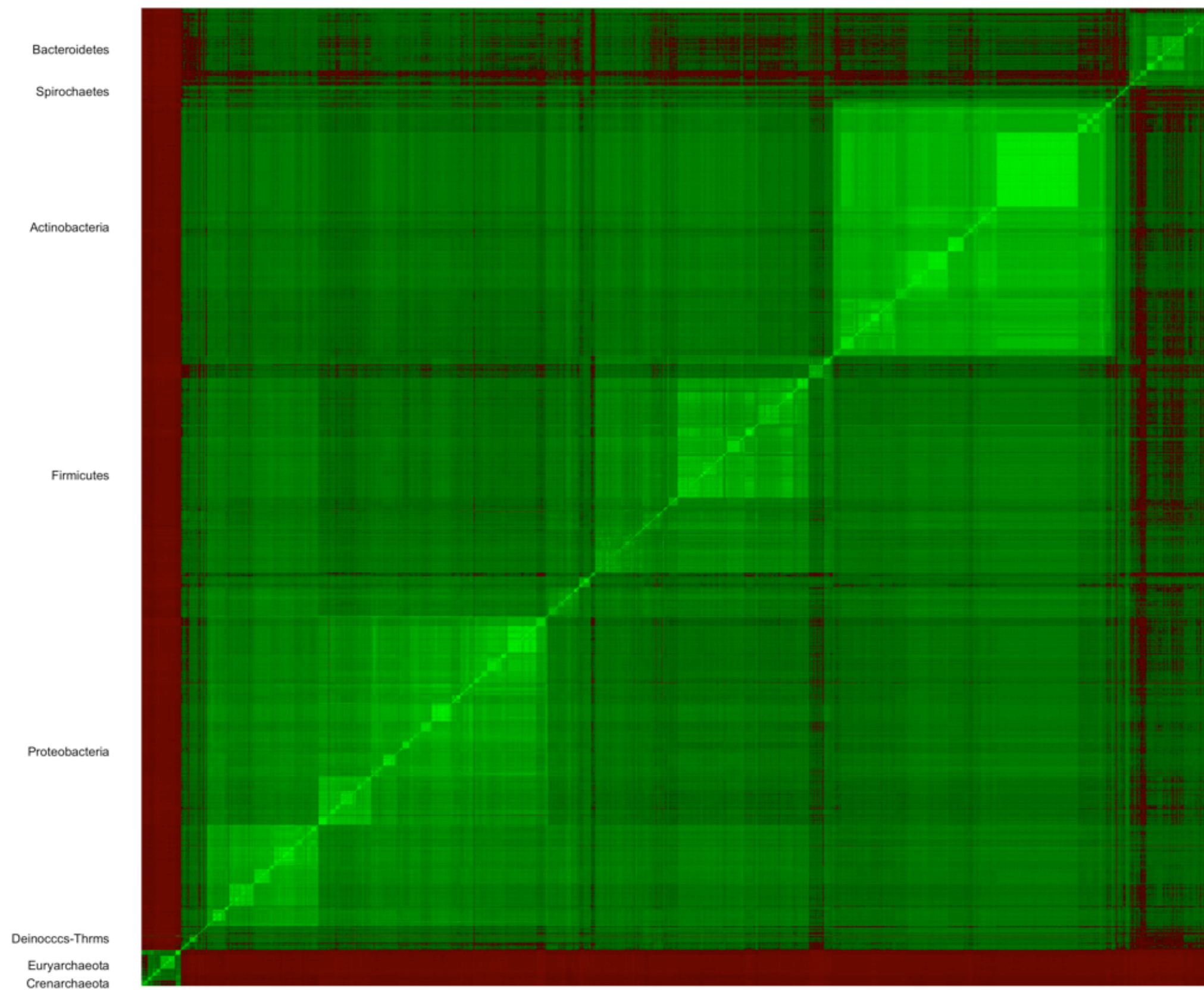




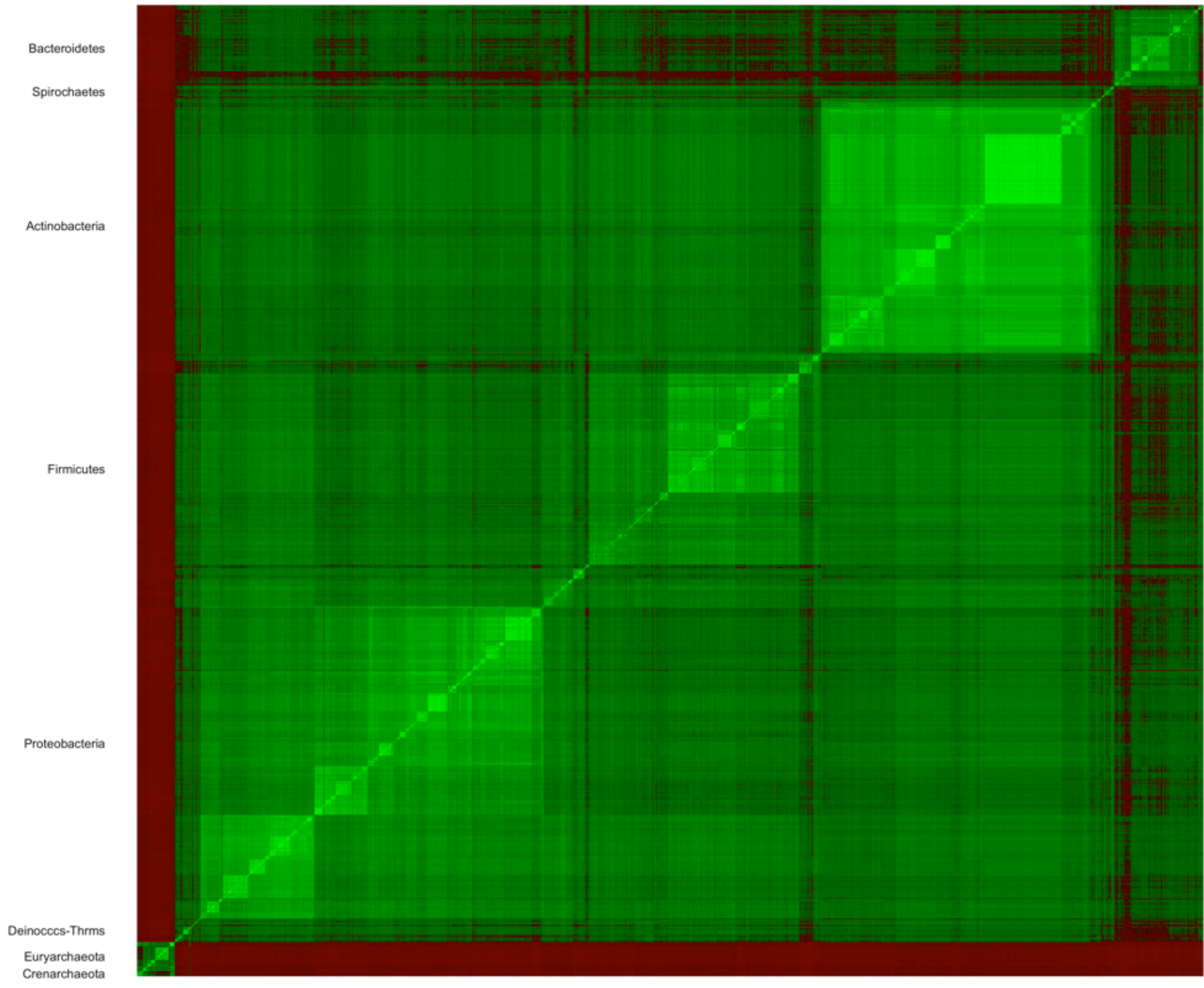
# 16S rRNA similarity of type strains of Bacteria and Archaea 2008



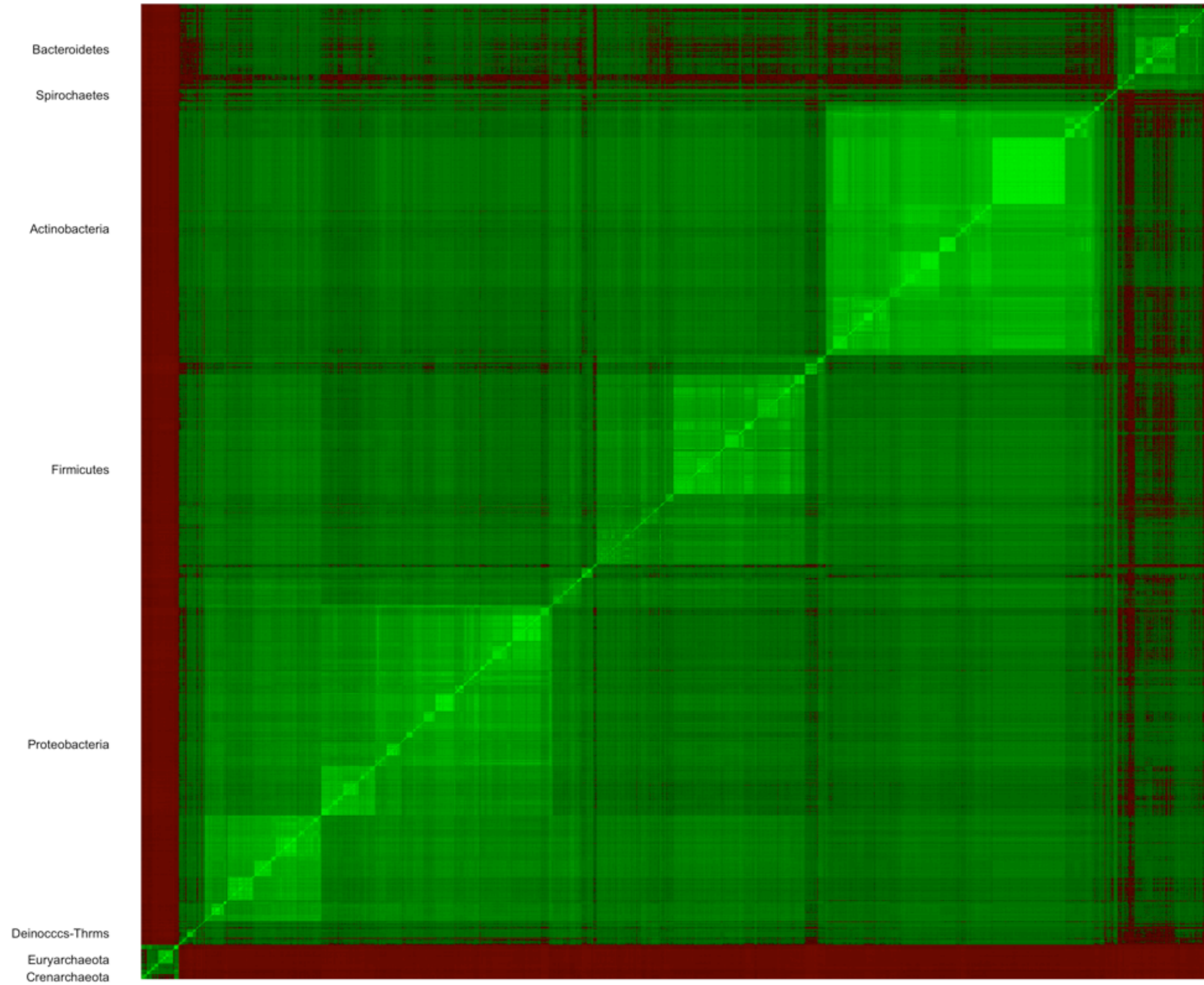
# 16S rRNA similarity of type strains of Bacteria and Archaea 2009



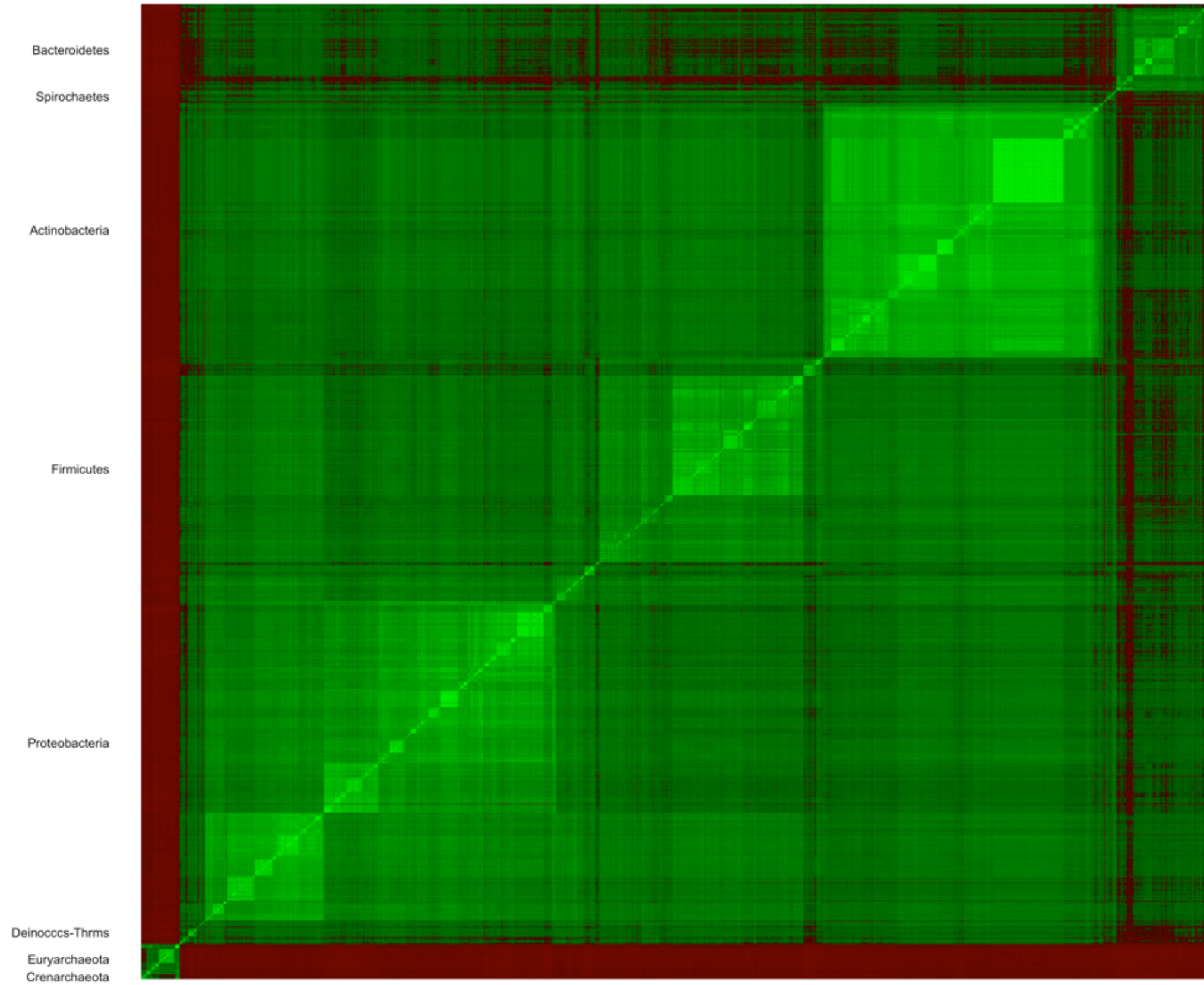
# 16S rRNA similarity of type strains of Bacteria and Archaea 2010



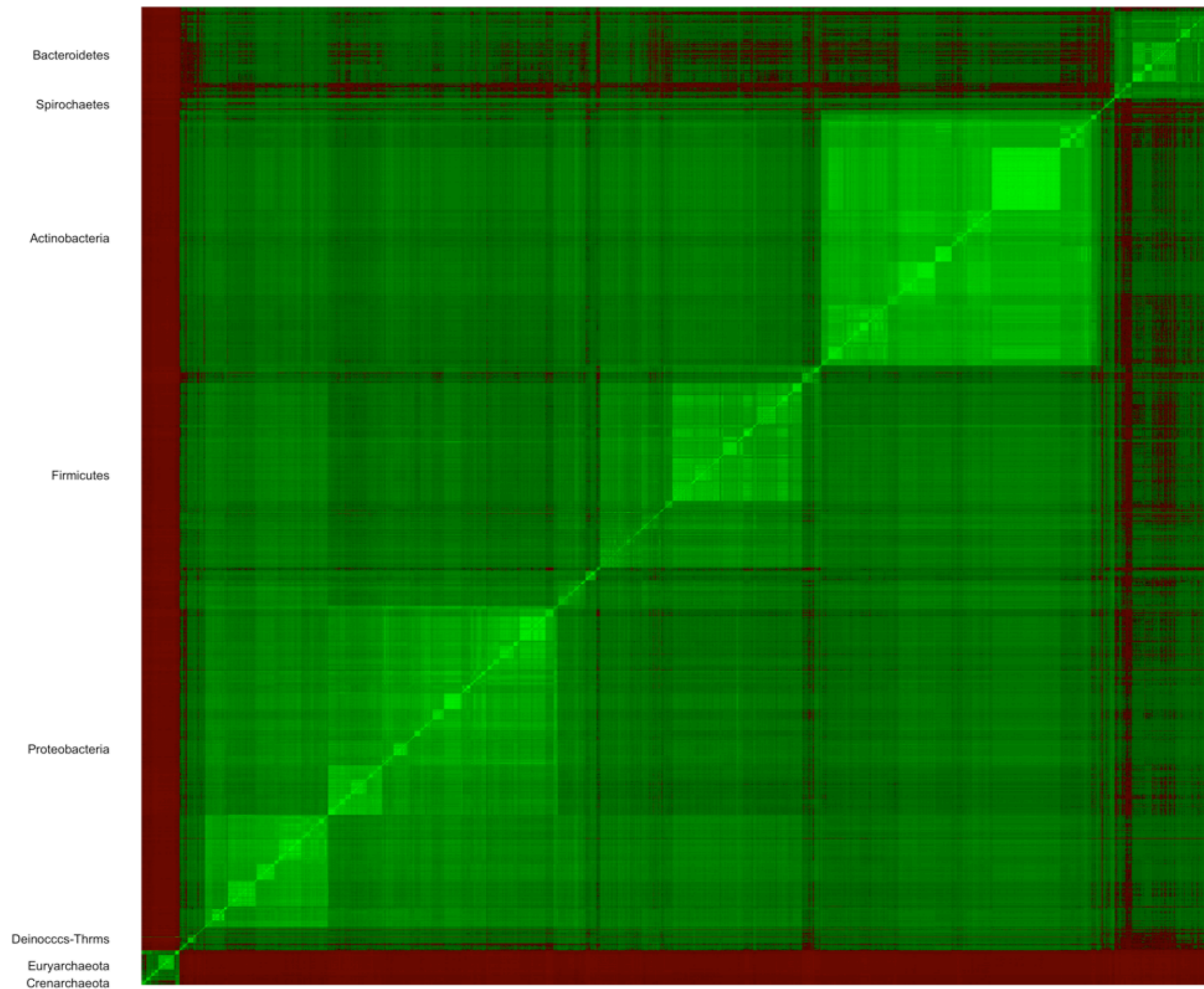
# 16S rRNA similarity of type strains of Bacteria and Archaea 2011



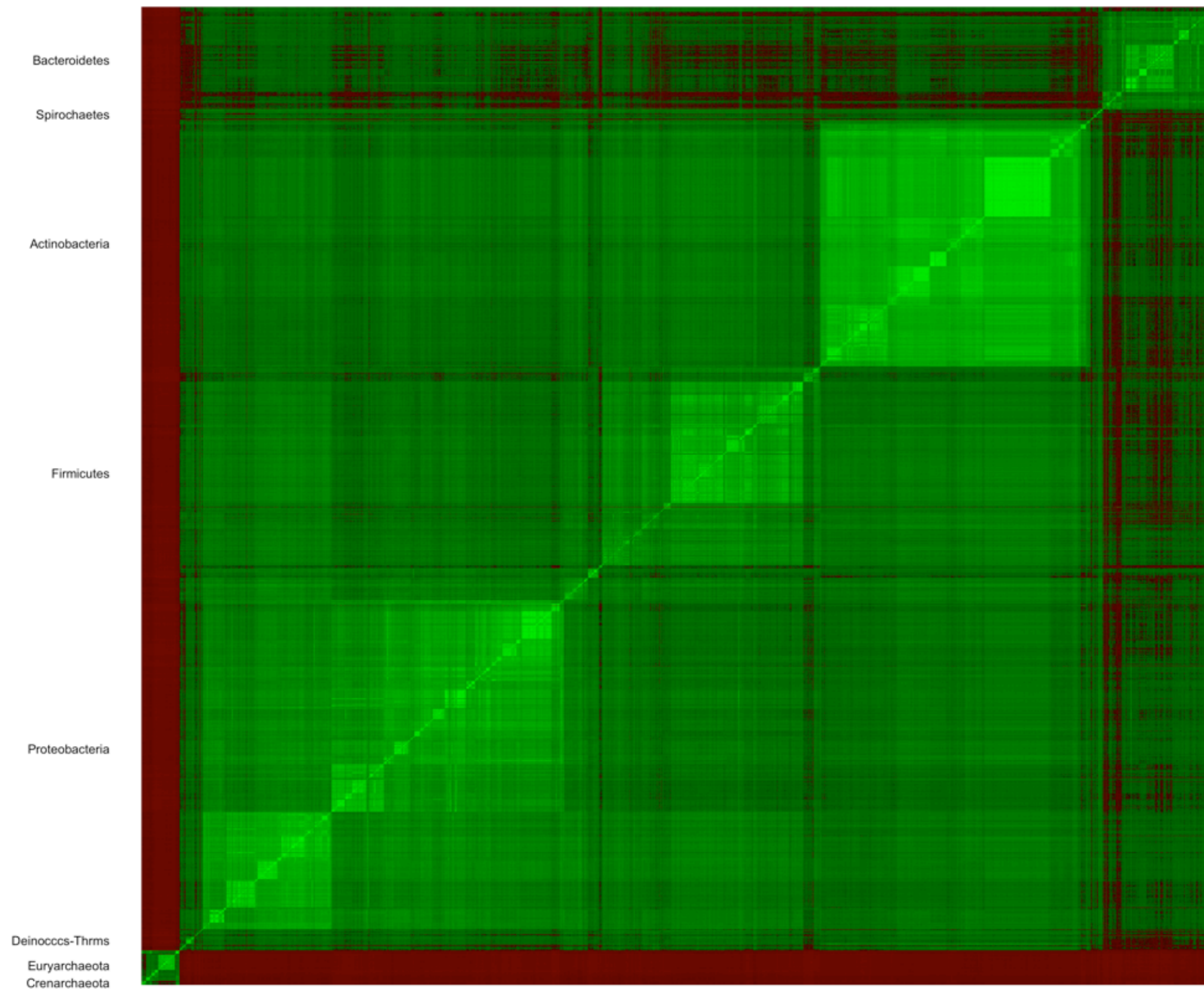
# 16S rRNA similarity of type strains of Bacteria and Archaea 2012



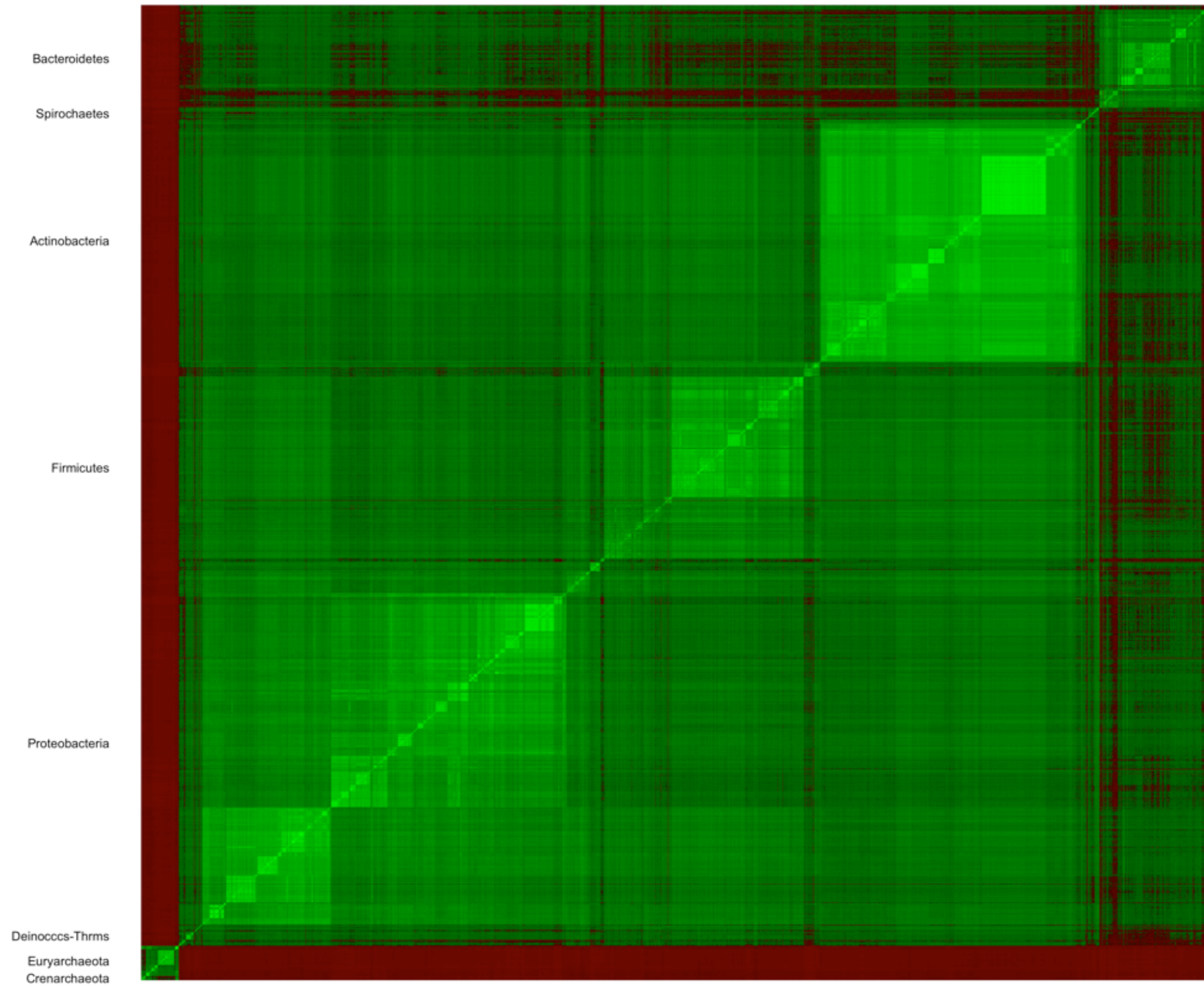
# 16S rRNA similarity of type strains of Bacteria and Archaea 2013



# 16S rRNA similarity of type strains of Bacteria and Archaea 2014



# 16S rRNA similarity of type strains of Bacteria and Archaea 2015





# Refinement of the underlying taxonomy

Improved version of the Self-Organizing Self Correcting Classifier

Goal - smooth classification while protecting taxonomic structure

## Input

13,125 HQ full-length 16S rRNA sequences

Aligned to Greengenes alignment (Release 13.5)

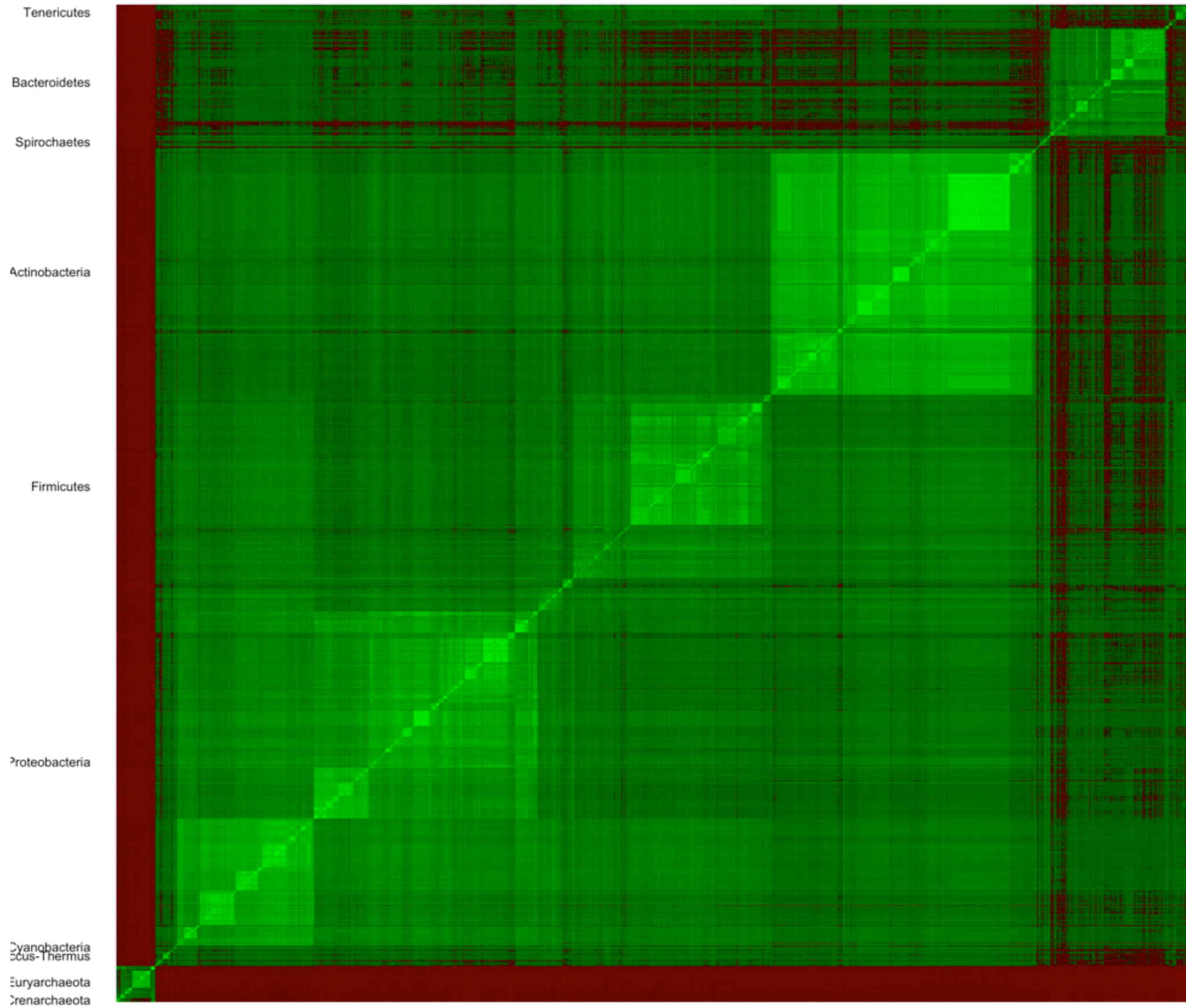
Jukes-Cantor model, computed using Mothur

Output filtered to N4L-exemplar DOIs to select for validly published named species/subspecies

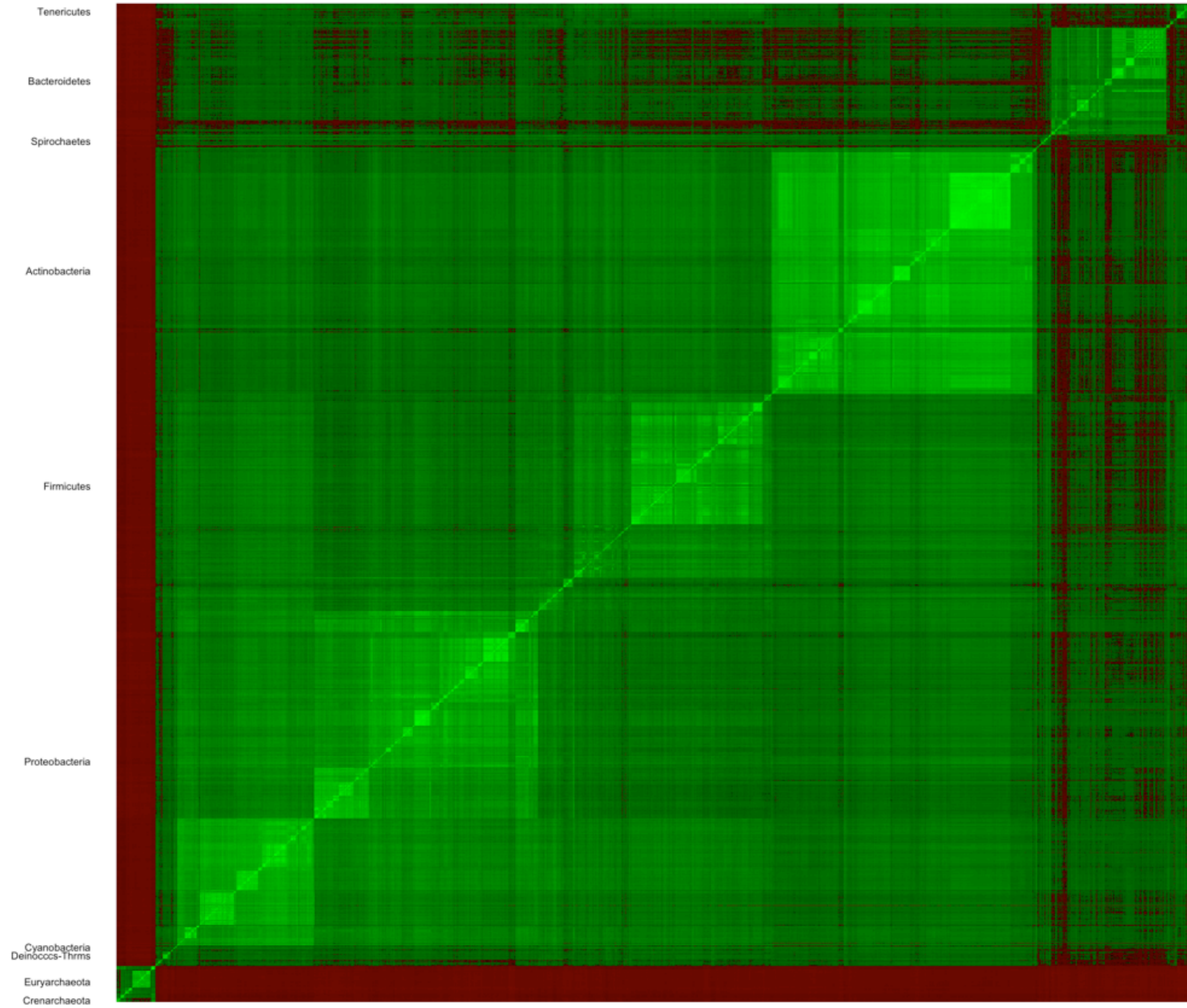
Outliers are identified at species level for members with four or more members based on within group distribution as represented in the lower triangle of each corresponding sub-matrix ( $2\sigma$ ), output visualized as heatmaps, phylograms, (APE) and histograms.

207/11,800 HQ 16S sequences were were flagged as outliers and excluded from further analysis

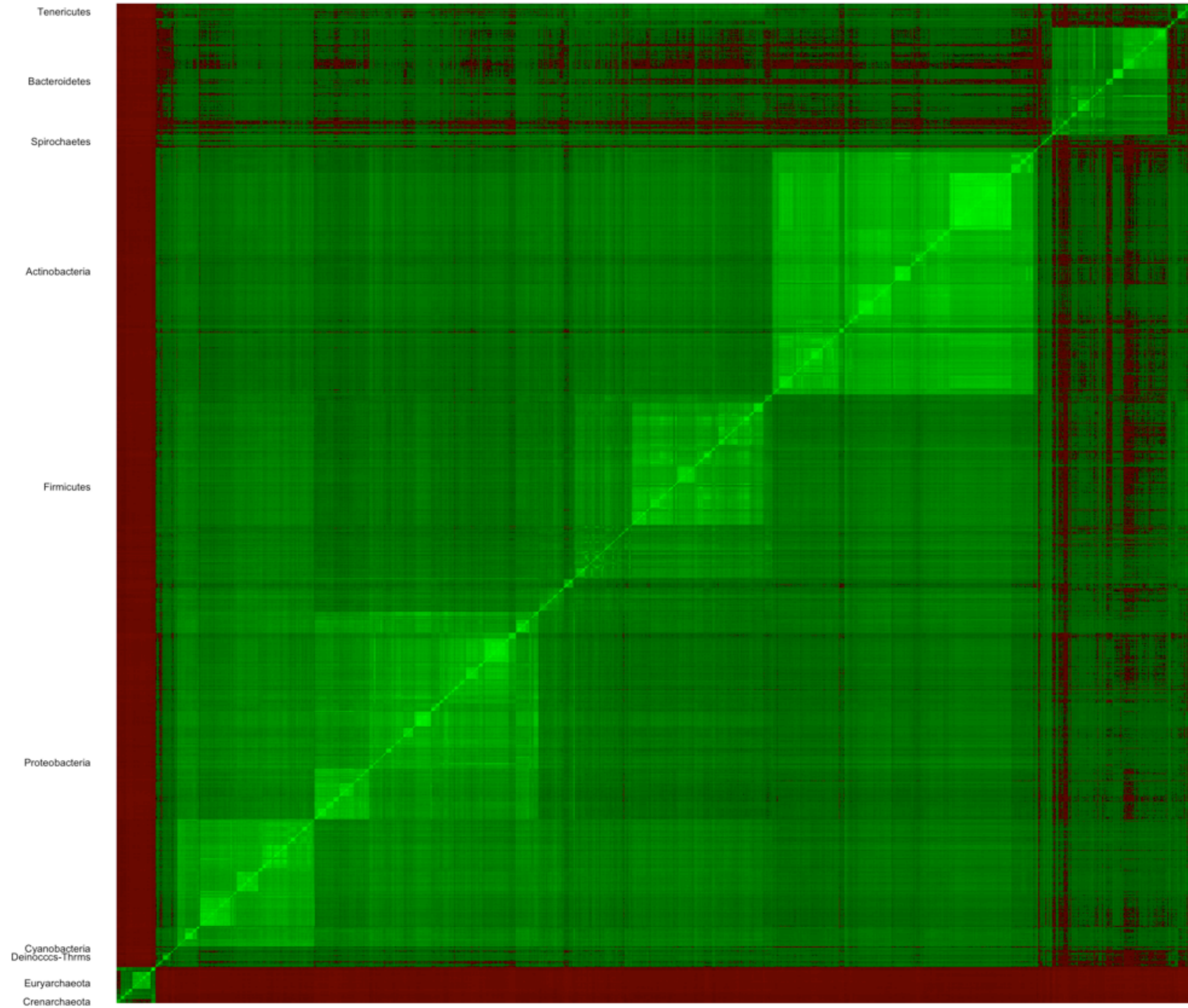
# Species level rearrangement



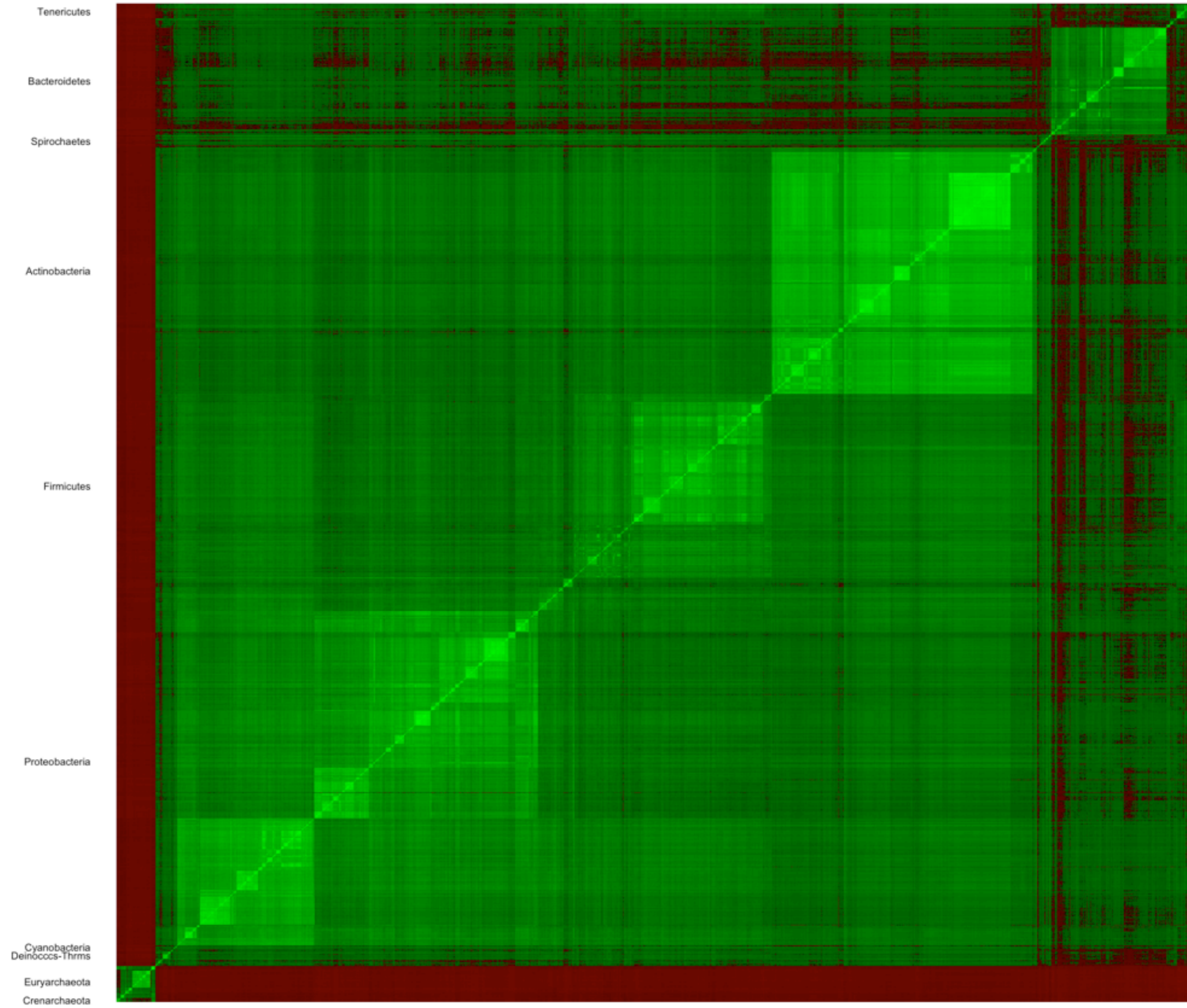
# Genus level rearrangement



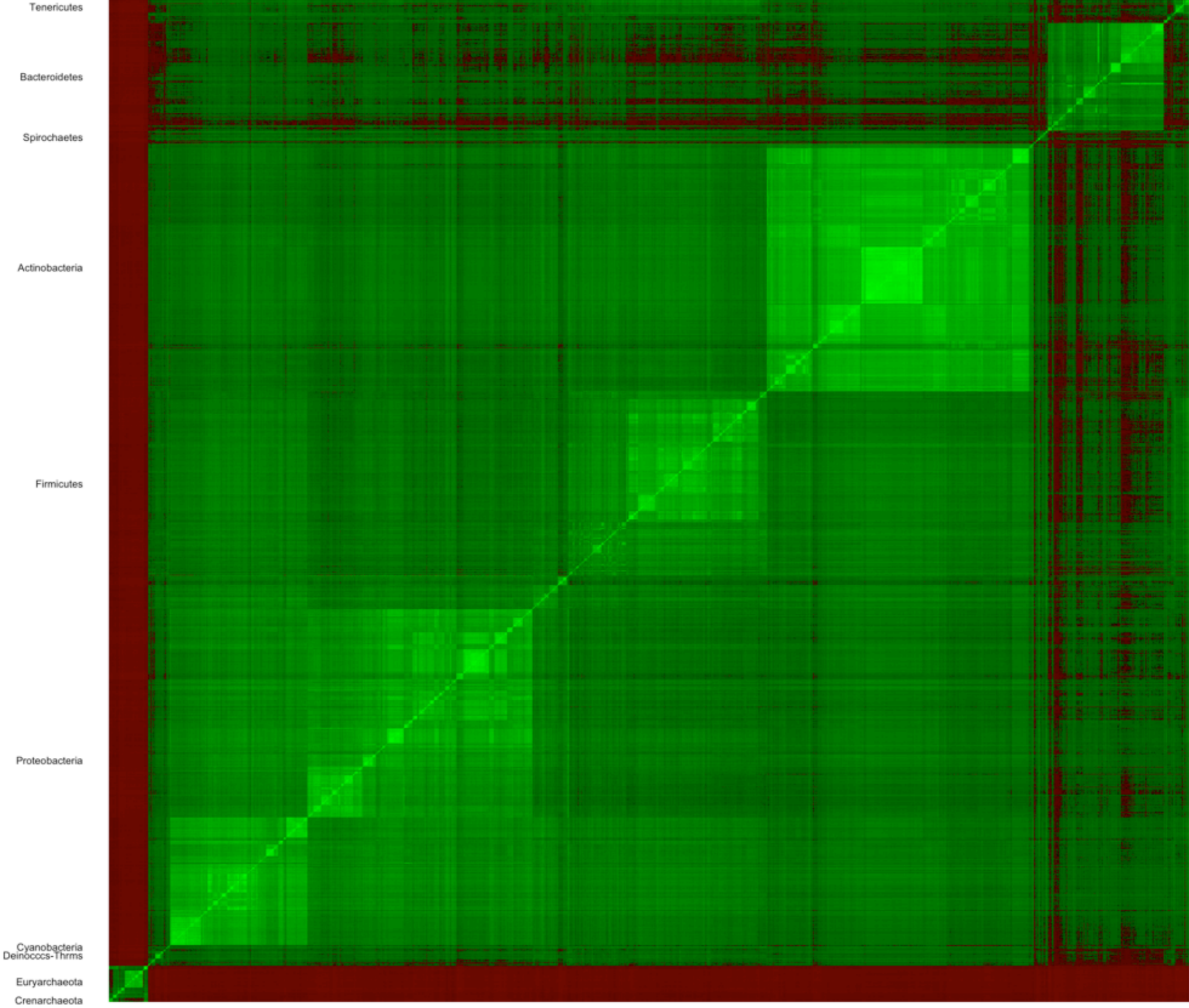
# Family level rearrangement



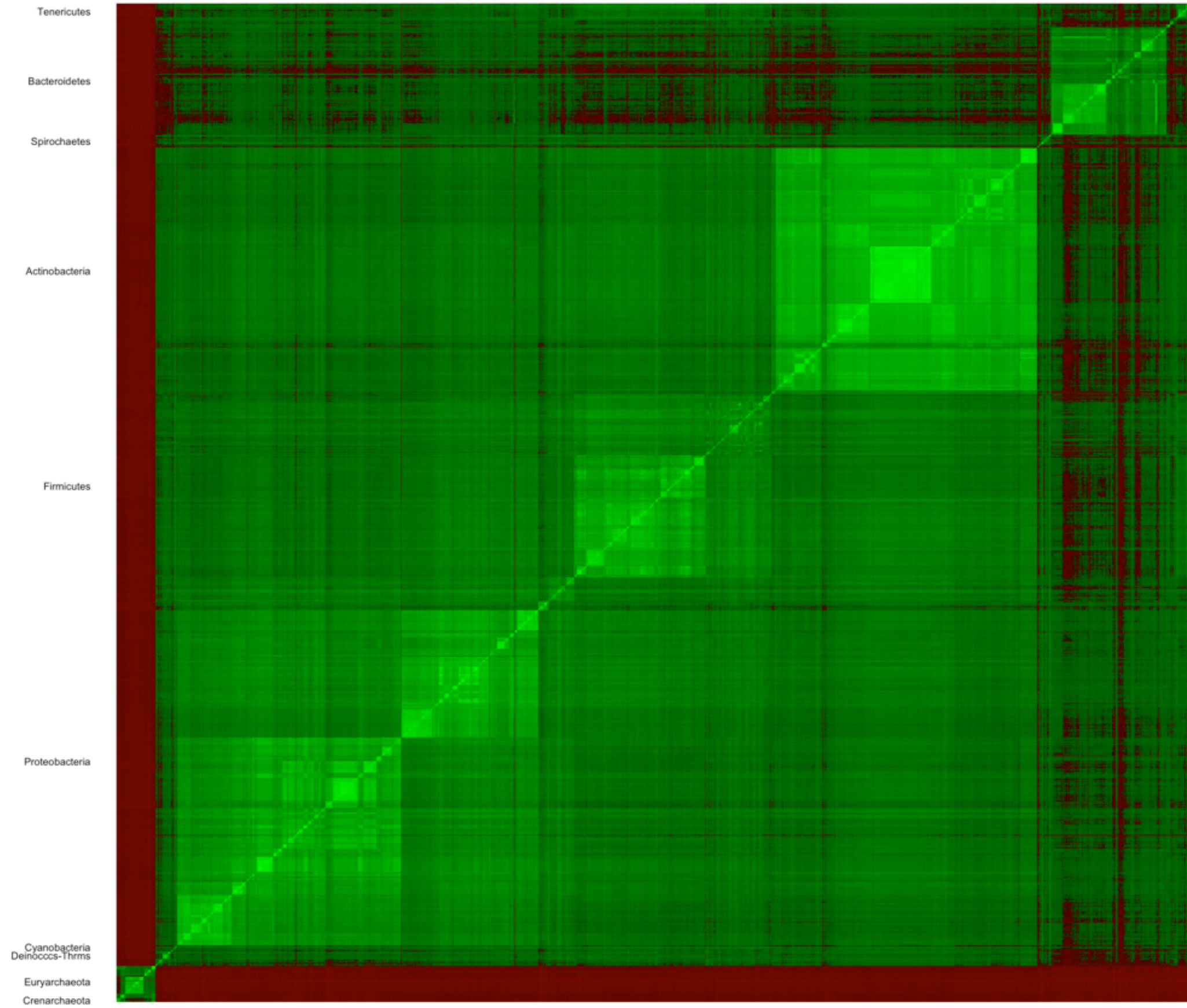
# Order level rearrangement



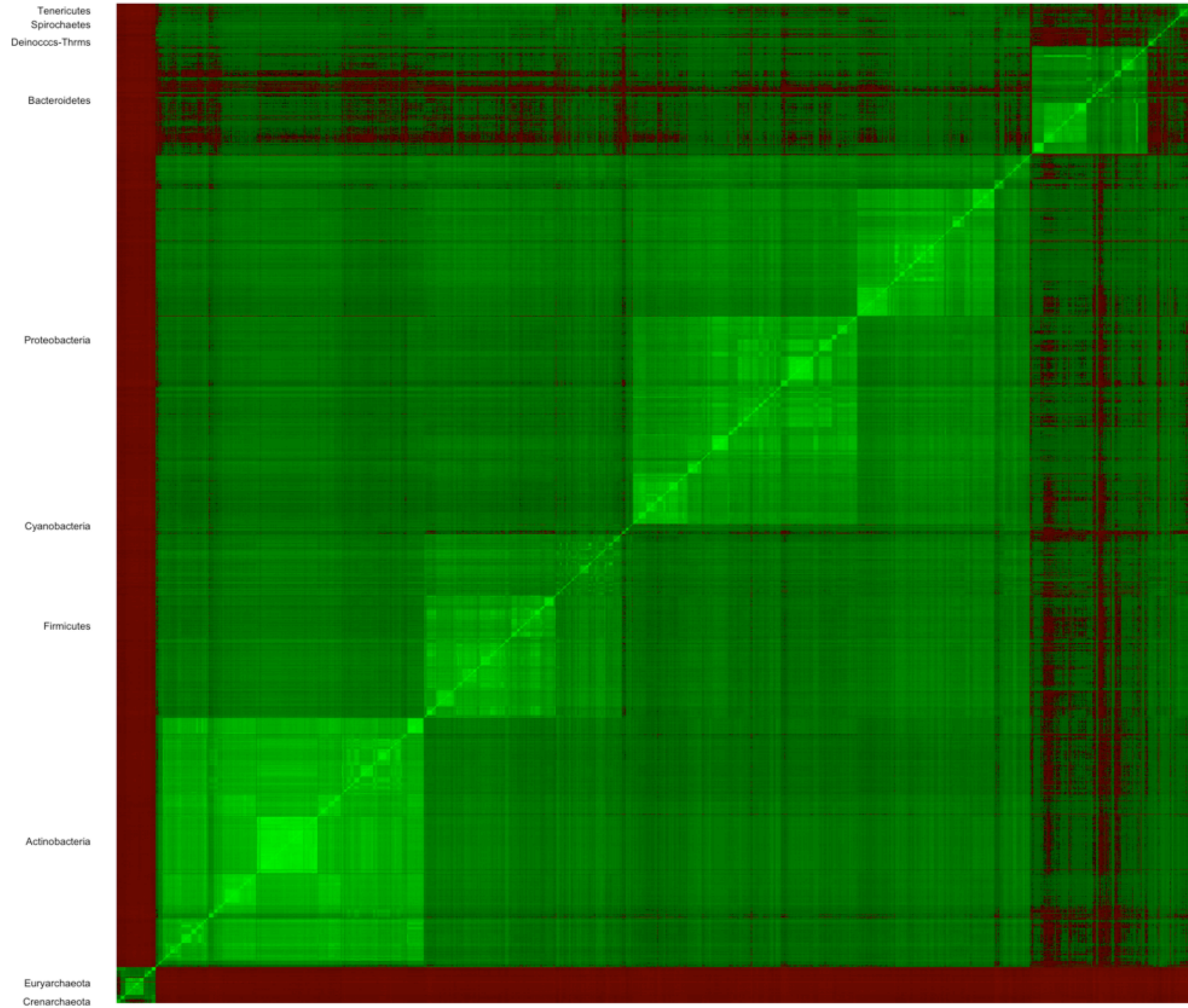
# Class level rearrangement



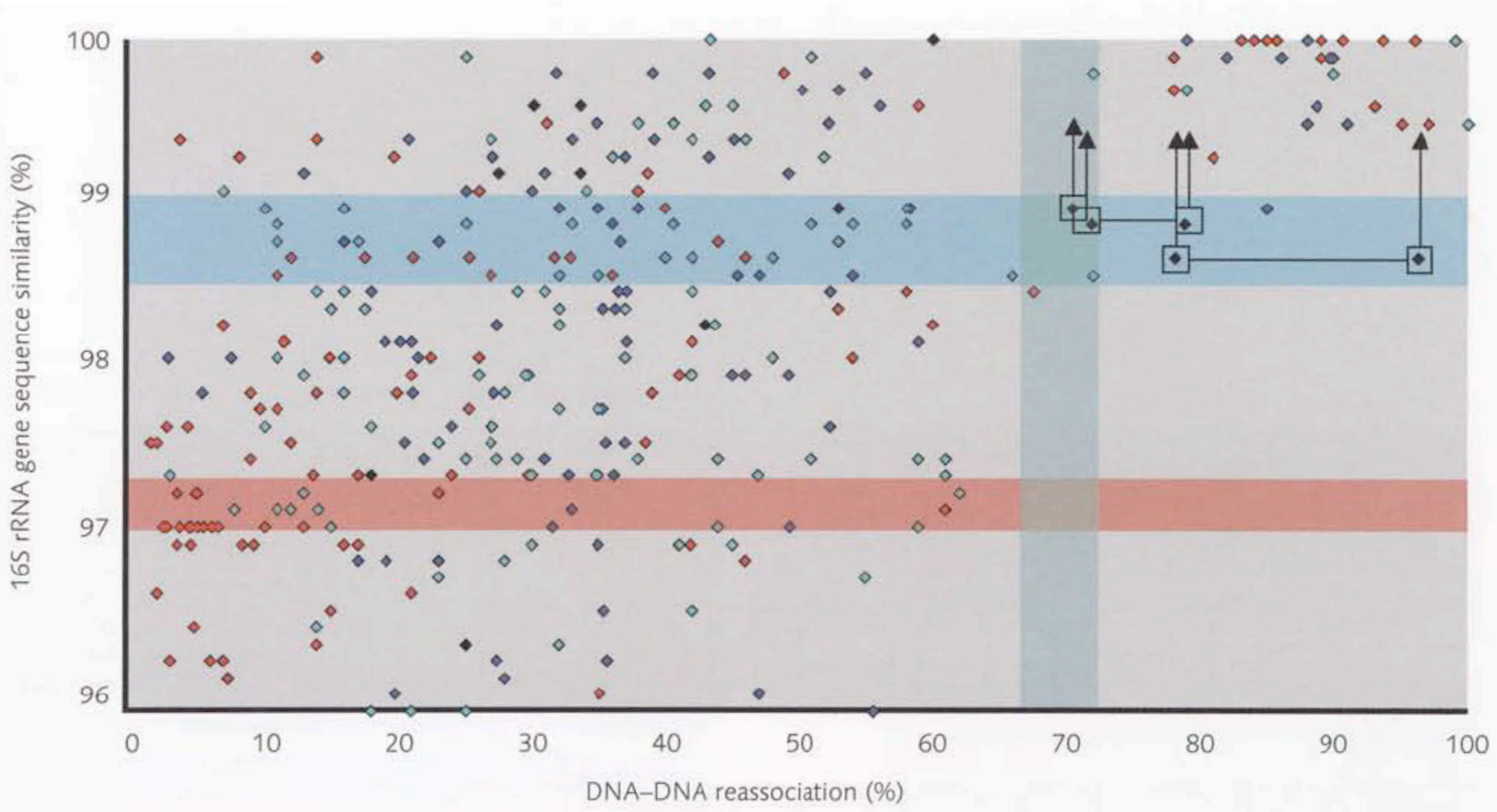
# Phylum level rearrangement



# Domain level rearrangement

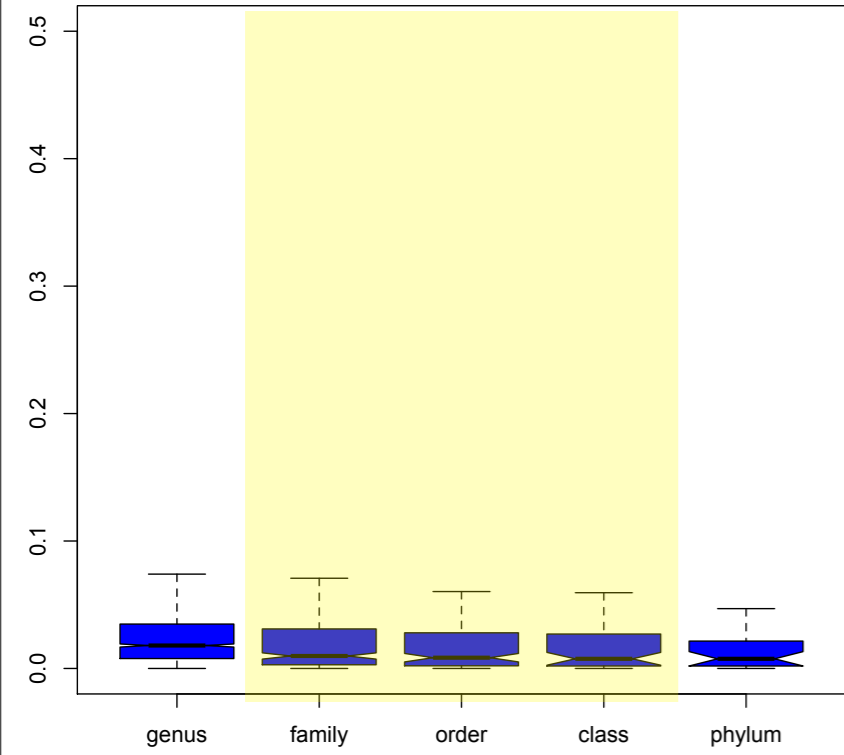




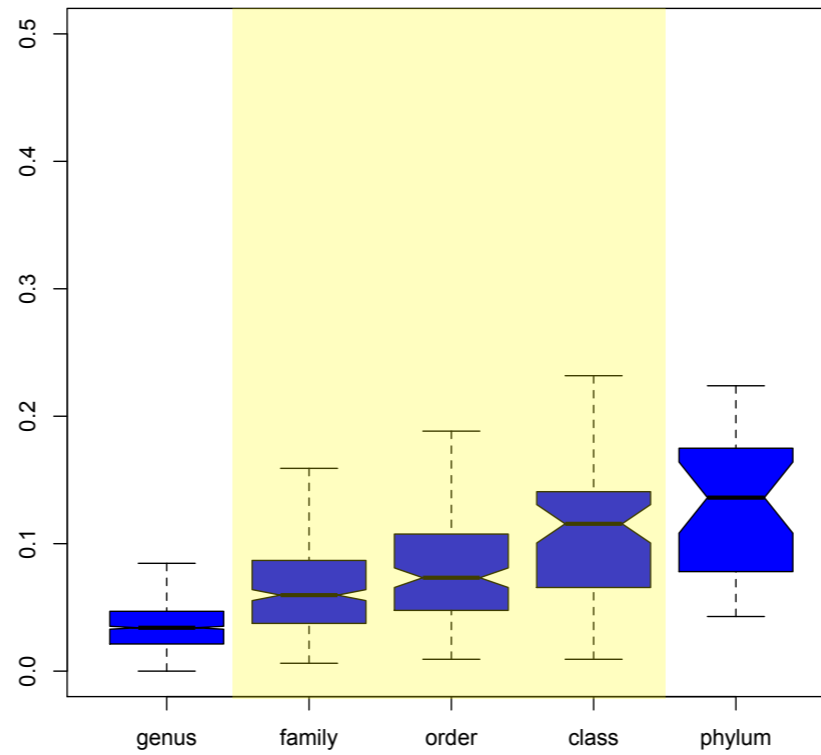


Taxonomic parameters revisited: Tarnished Gold Standards, Stackebrand, E. and Ebbers, J. Micro , may 06, 152-157

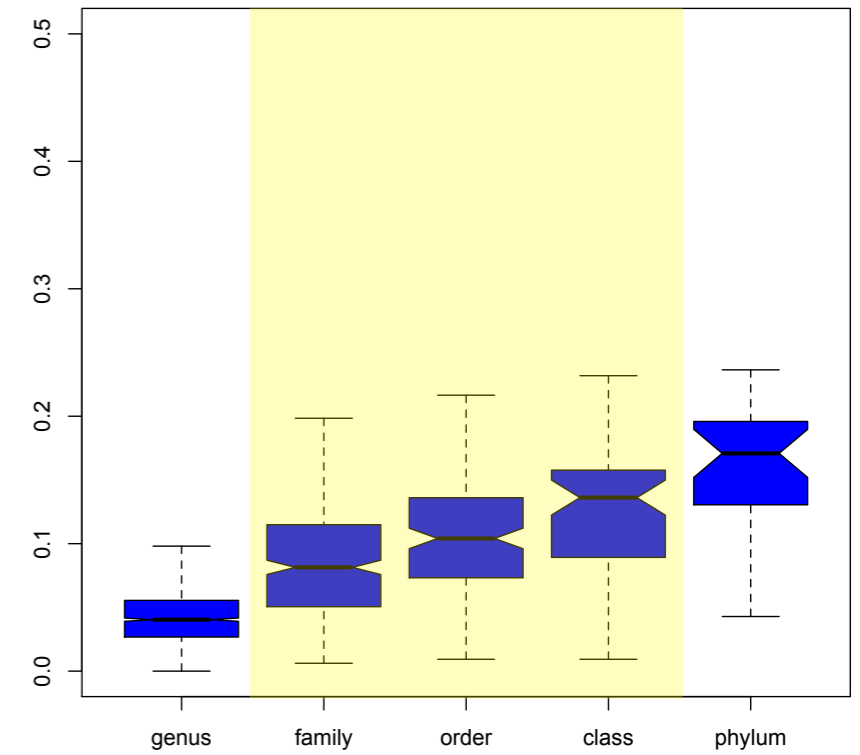
Minimum taxon boundaries



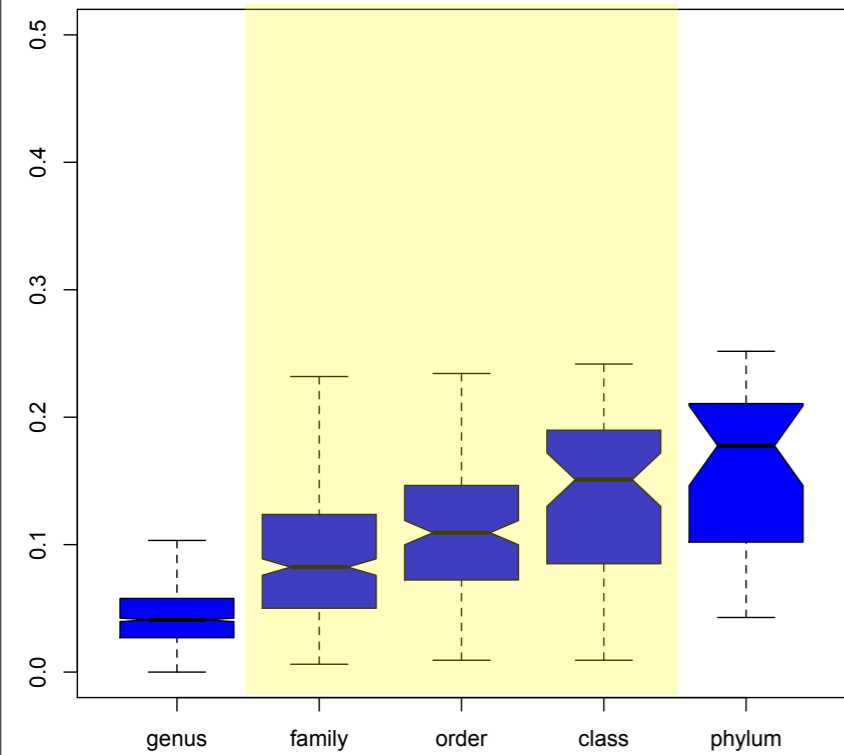
First quartile taxon boundaries



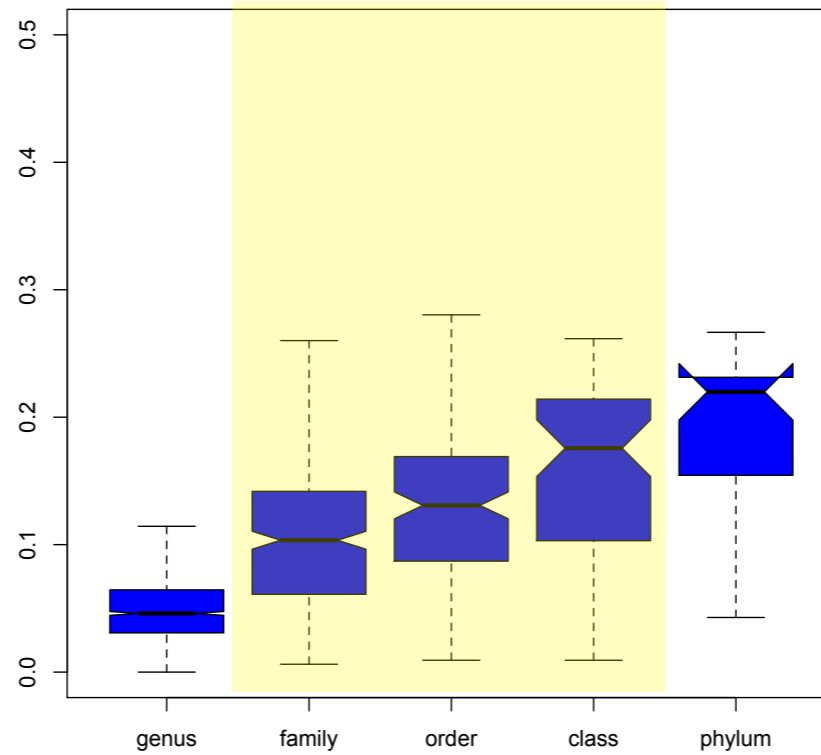
Mean taxon boundaries



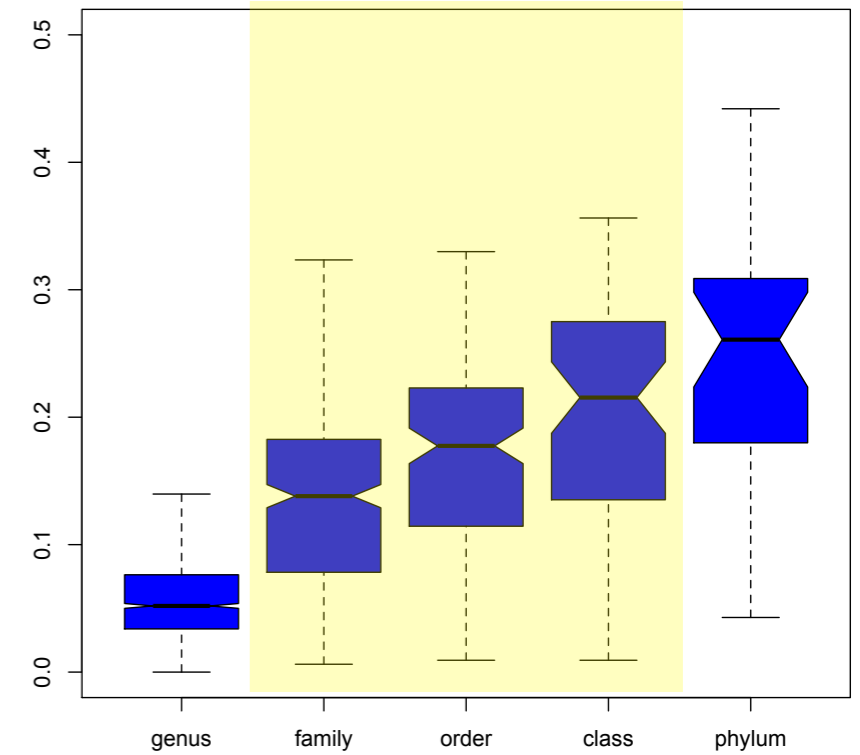
Median taxon boundaries



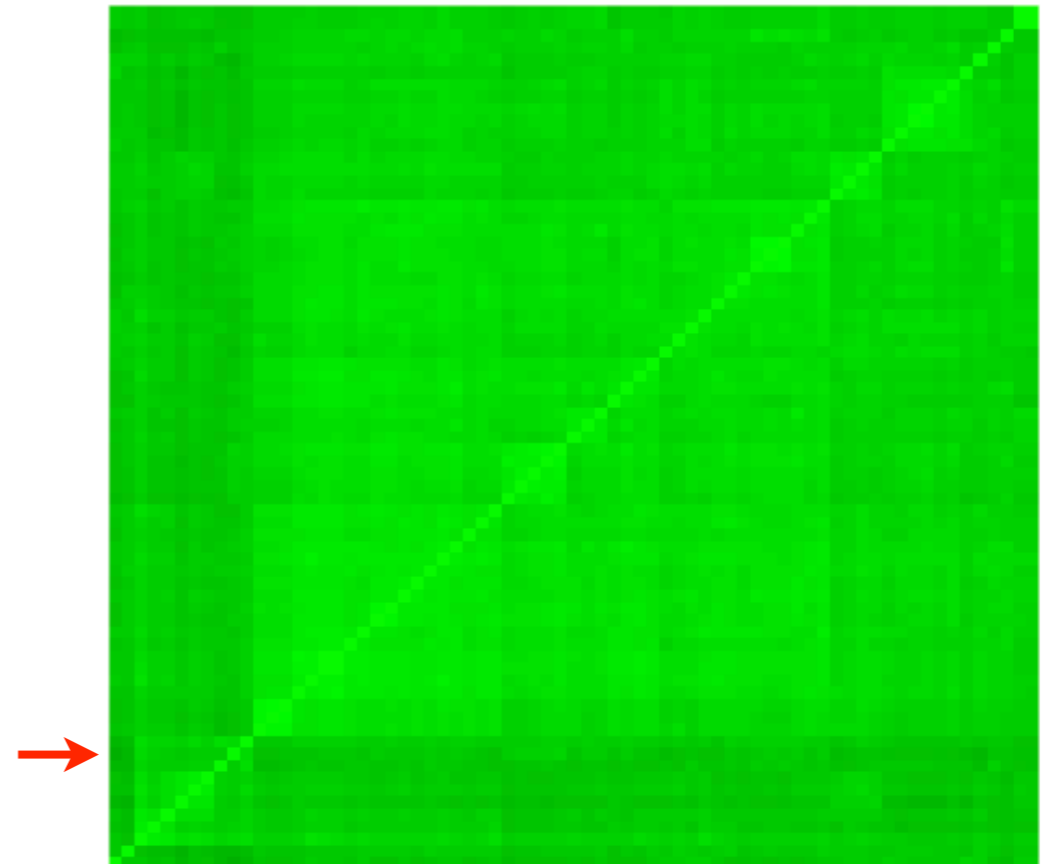
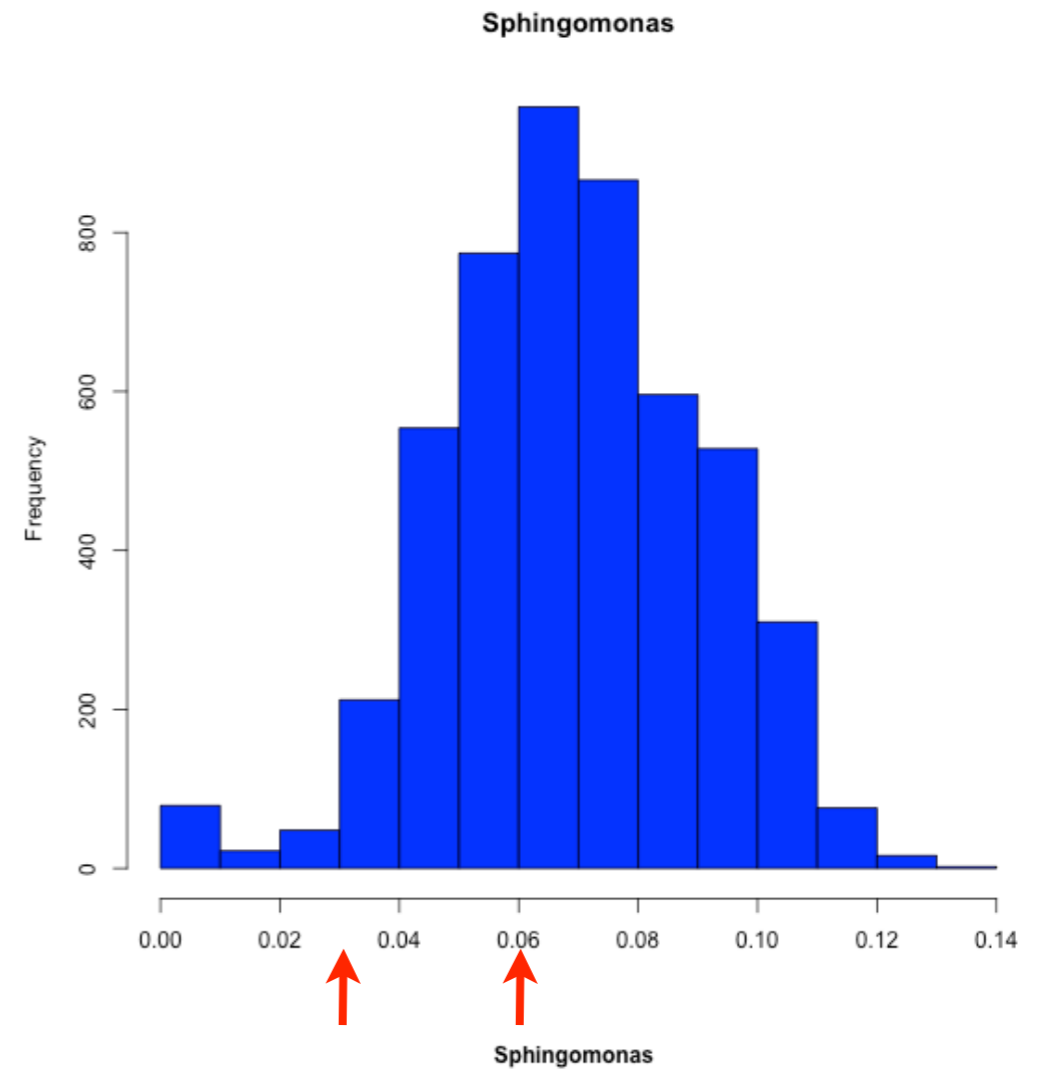
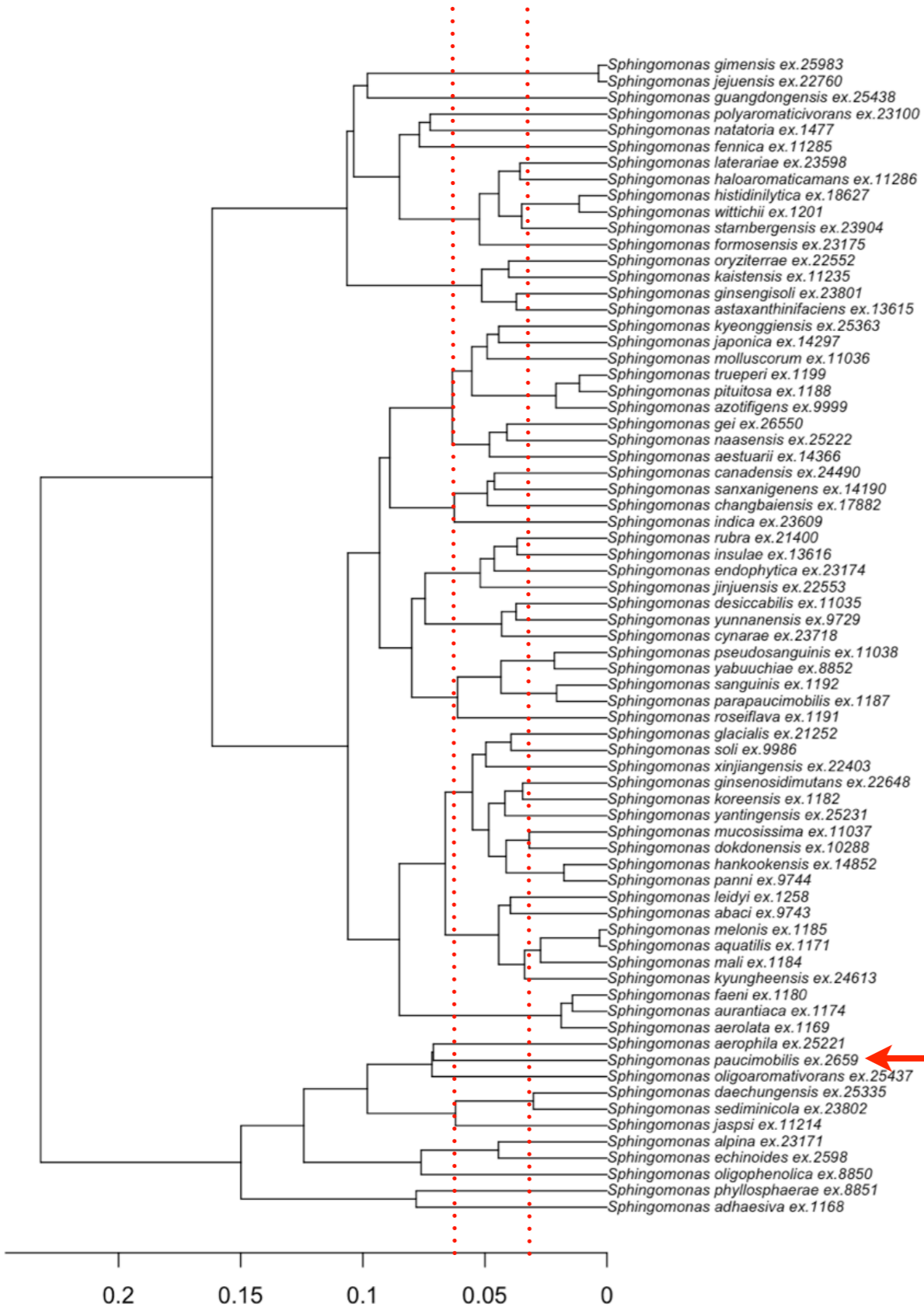
Third quartile taxon boundaries



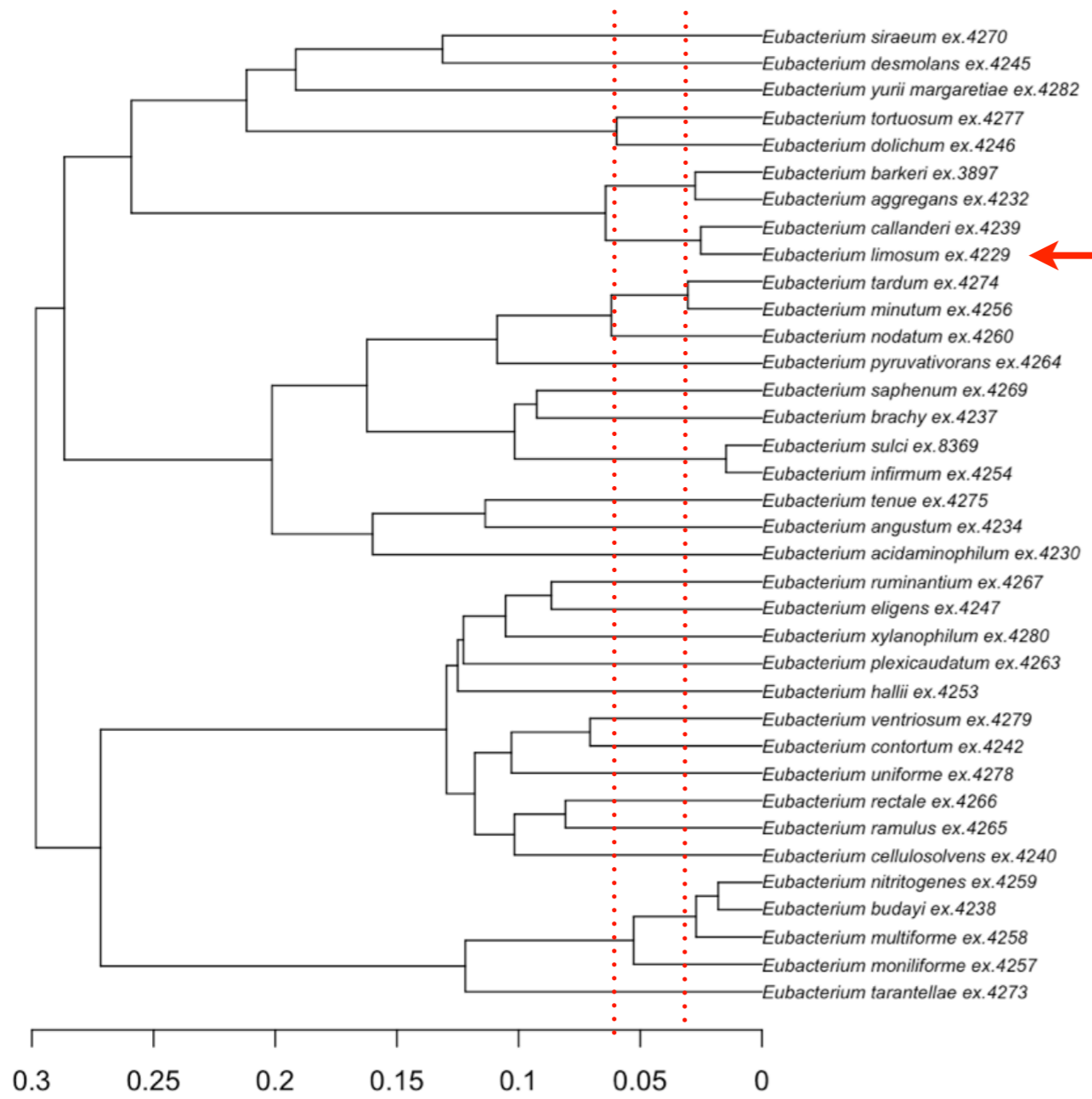
Maximum taxon boundaries



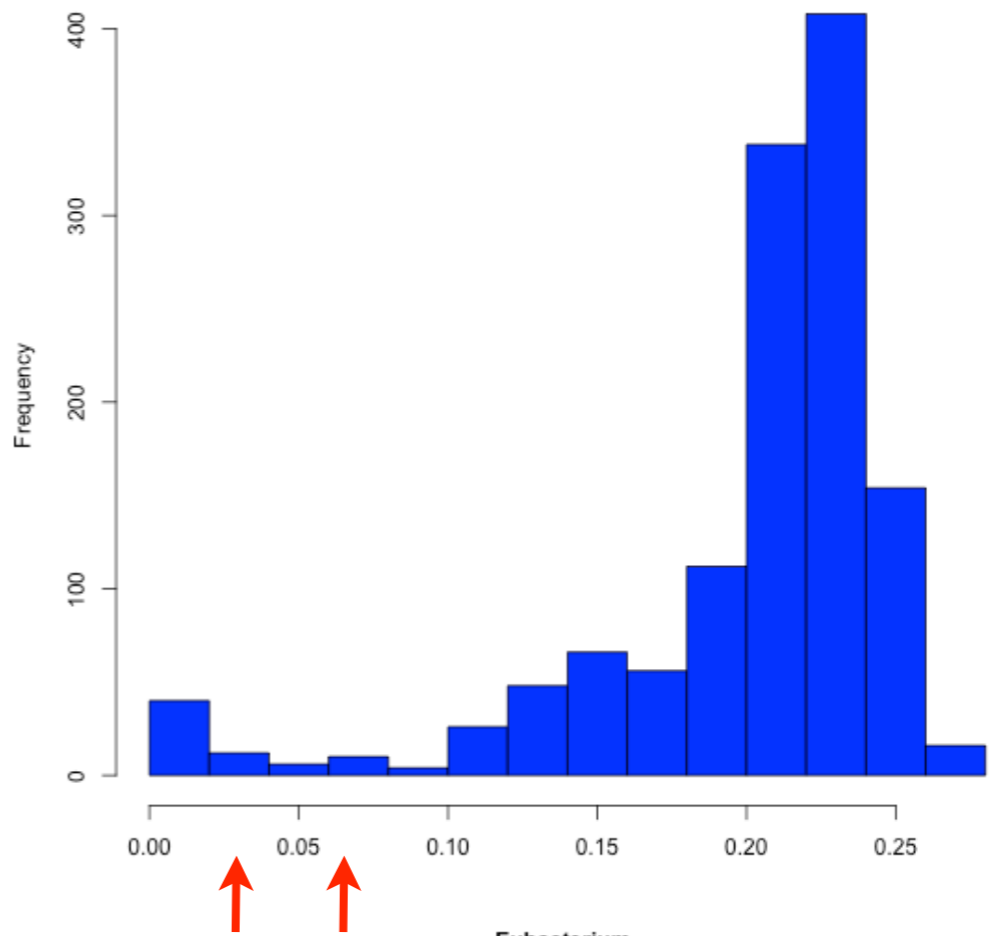
# Sphingomonas



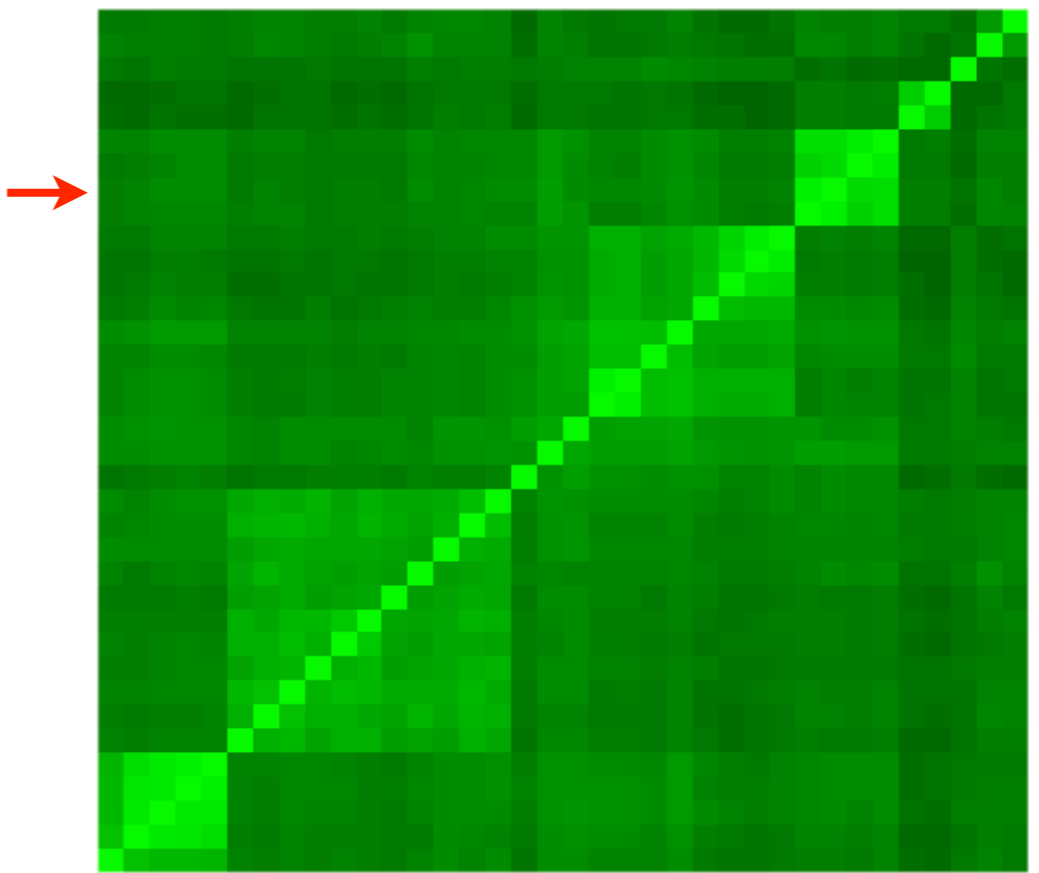
### Eubacterium



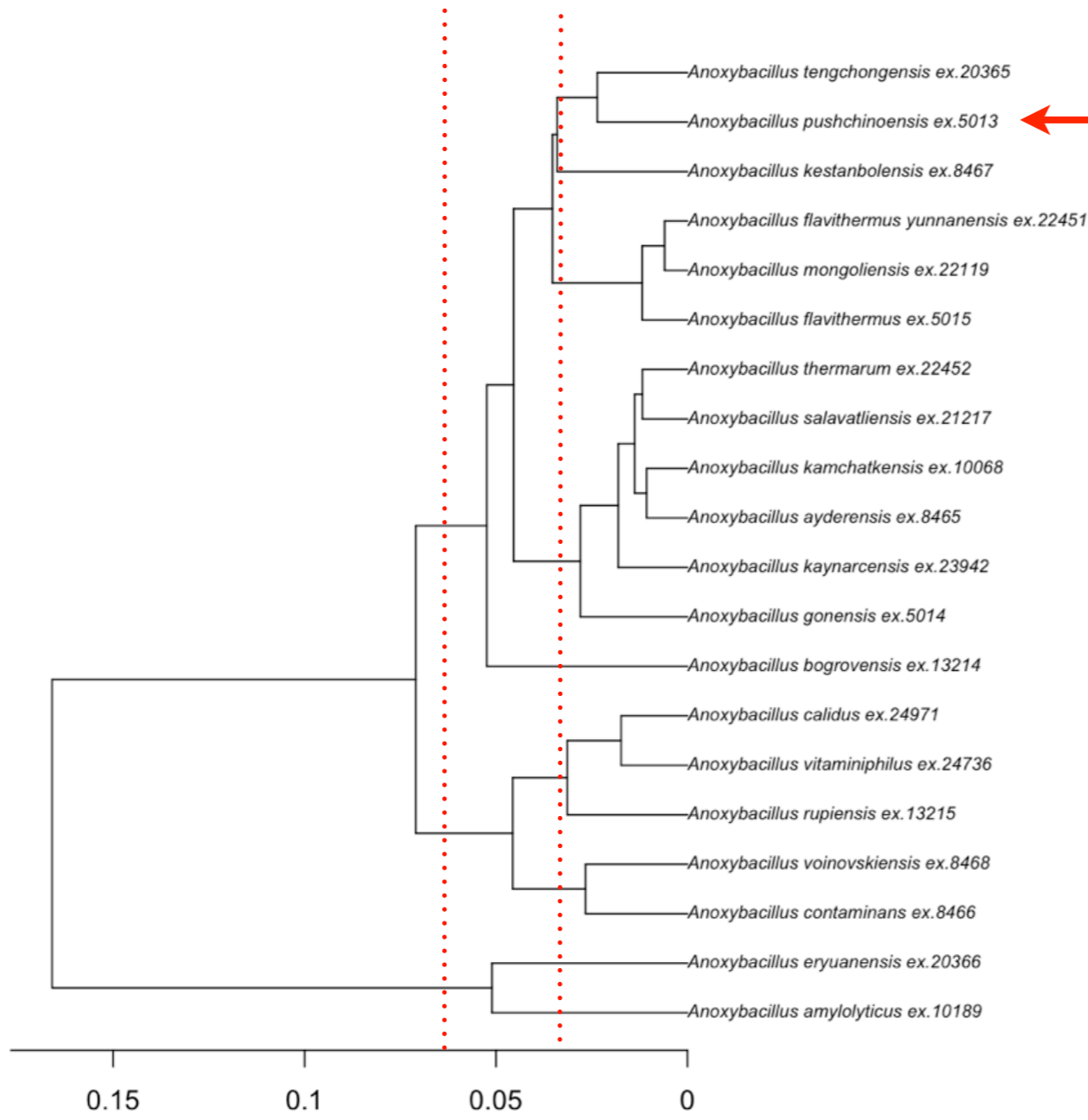
### Eubacterium



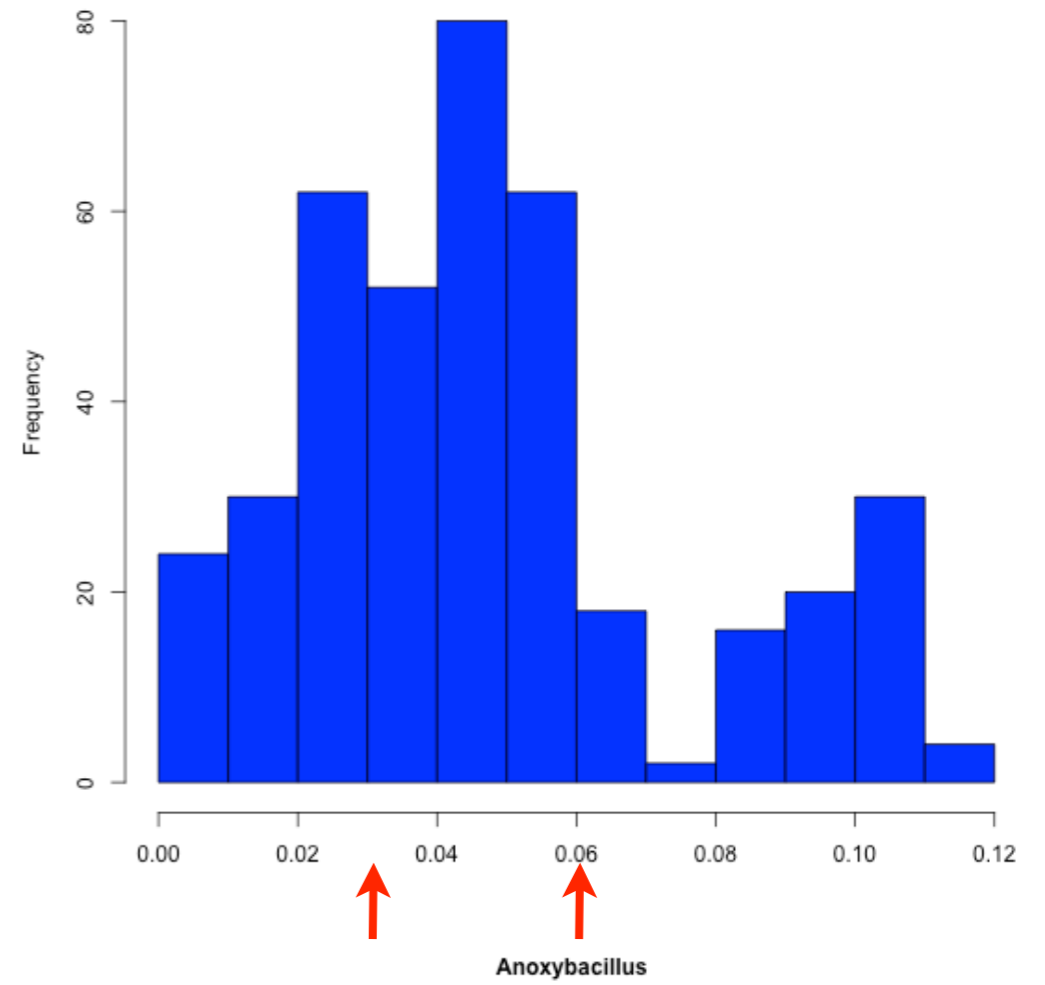
### Eubacterium



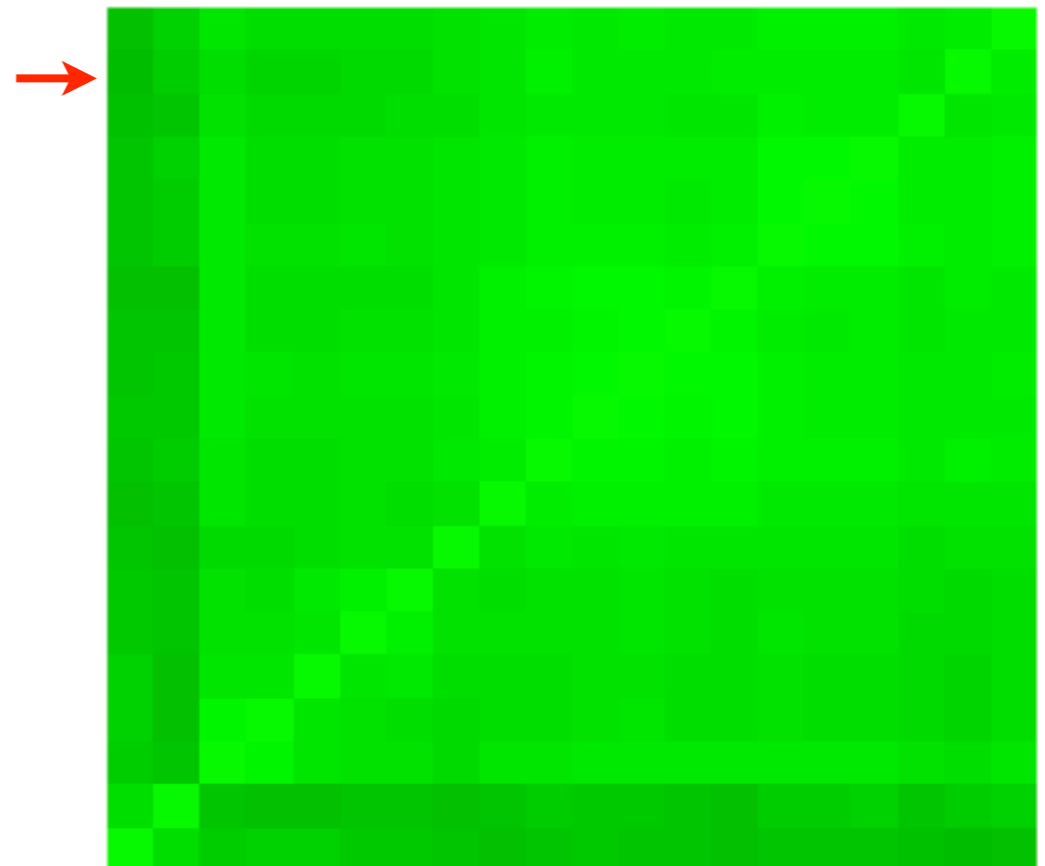
### Anoxybacillus



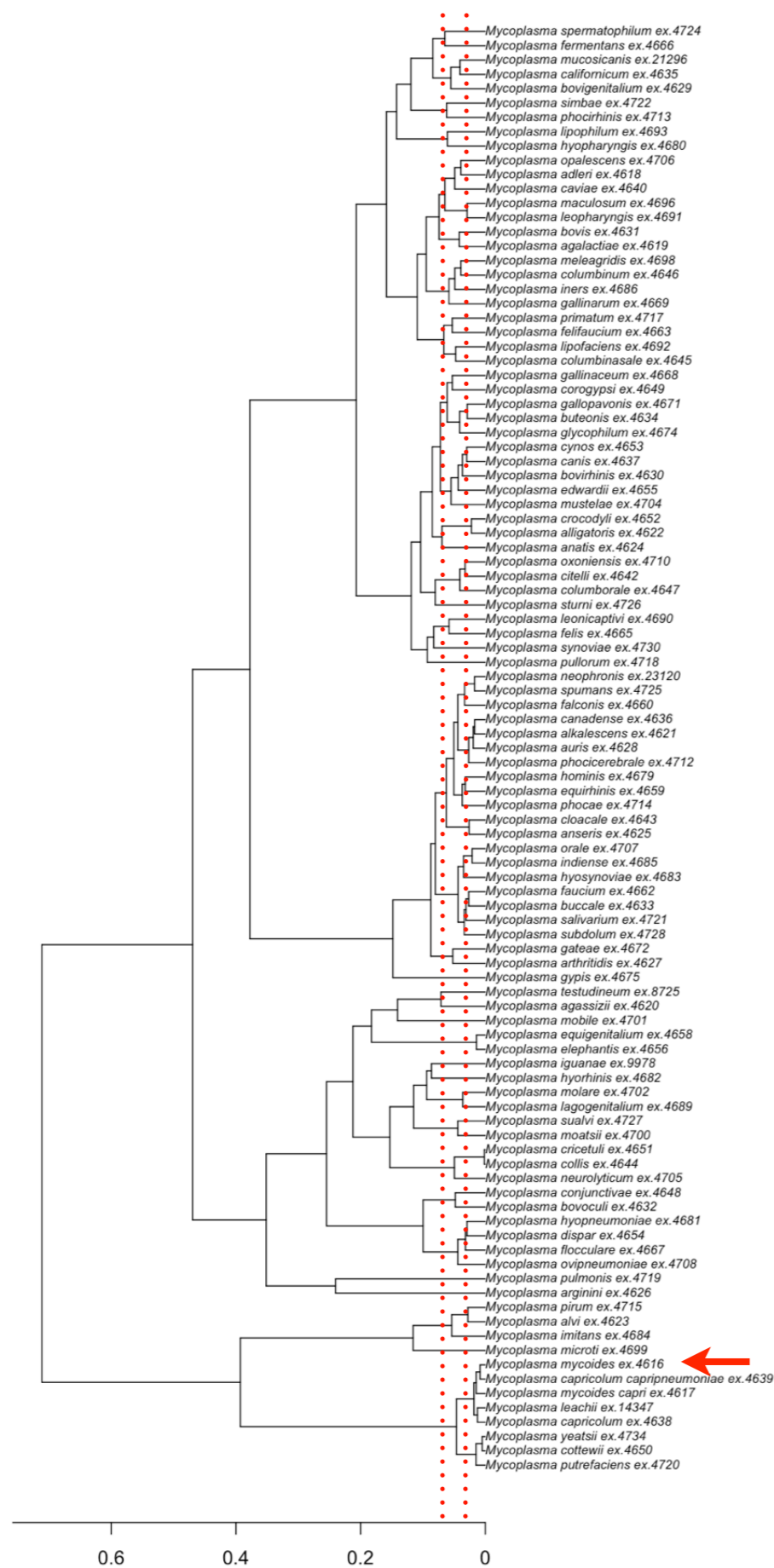
### Anoxybacillus



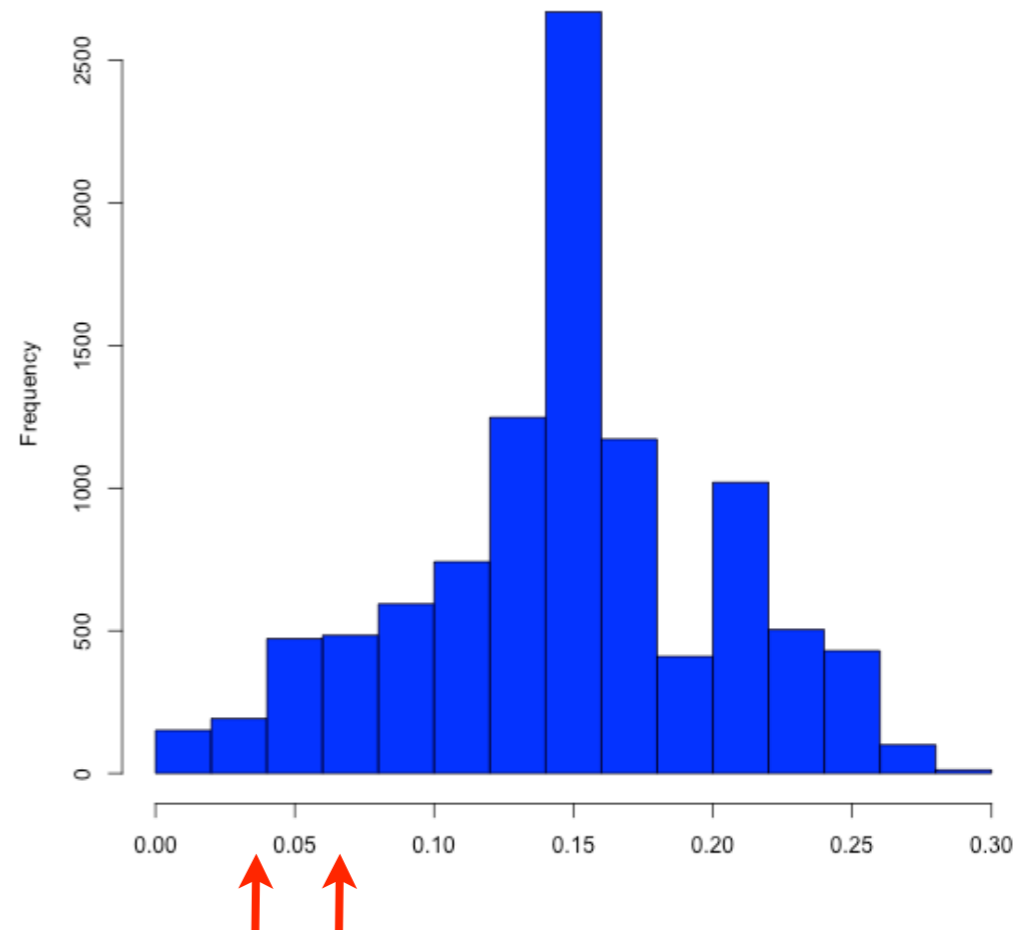
### Anoxybacillus



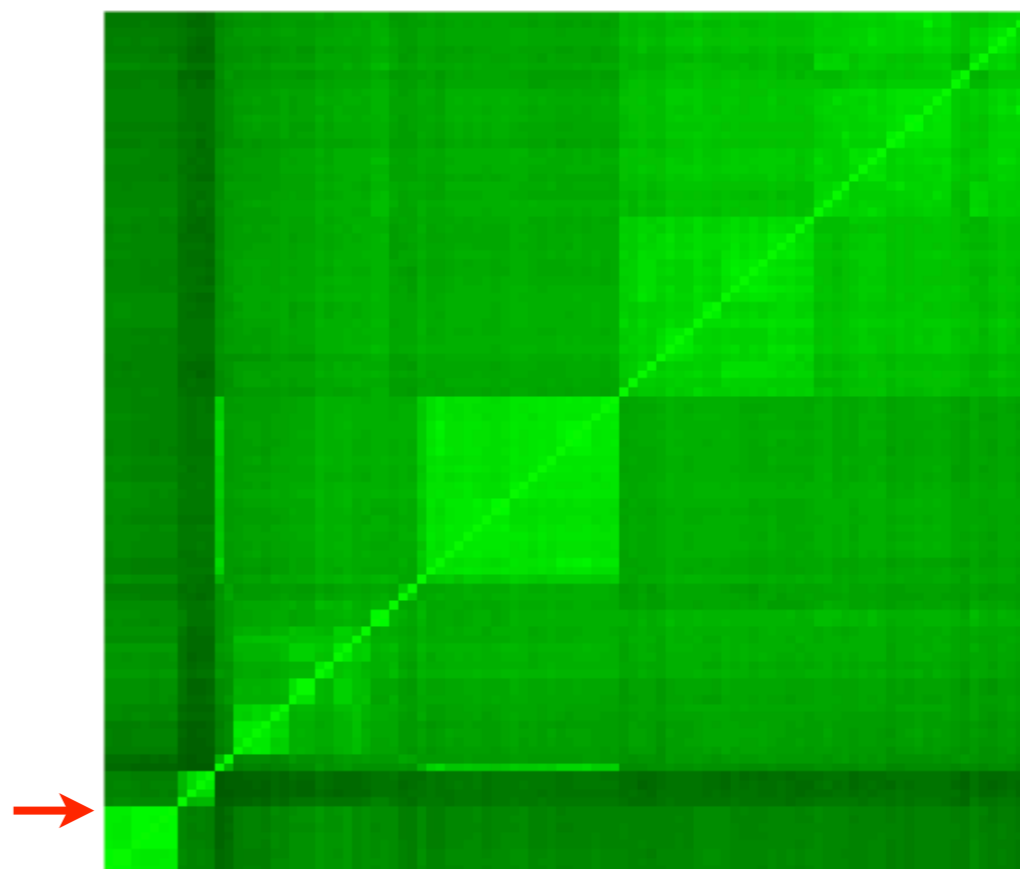
# Mycoplasma



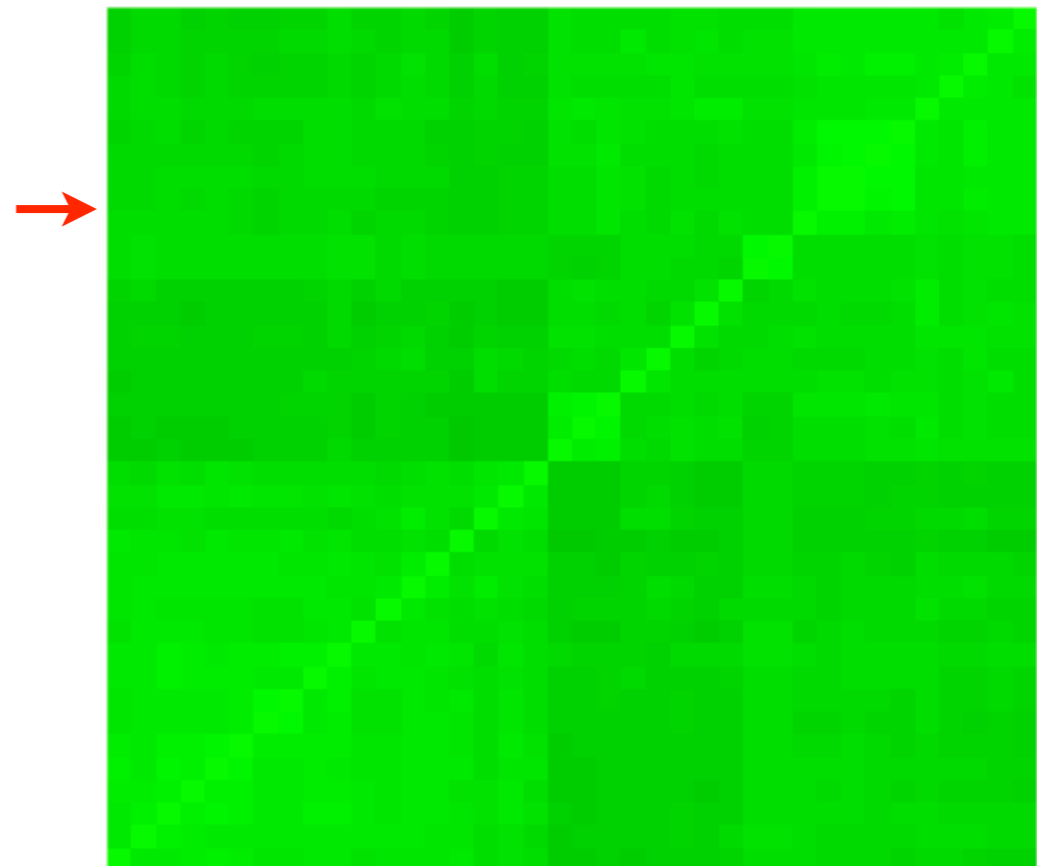
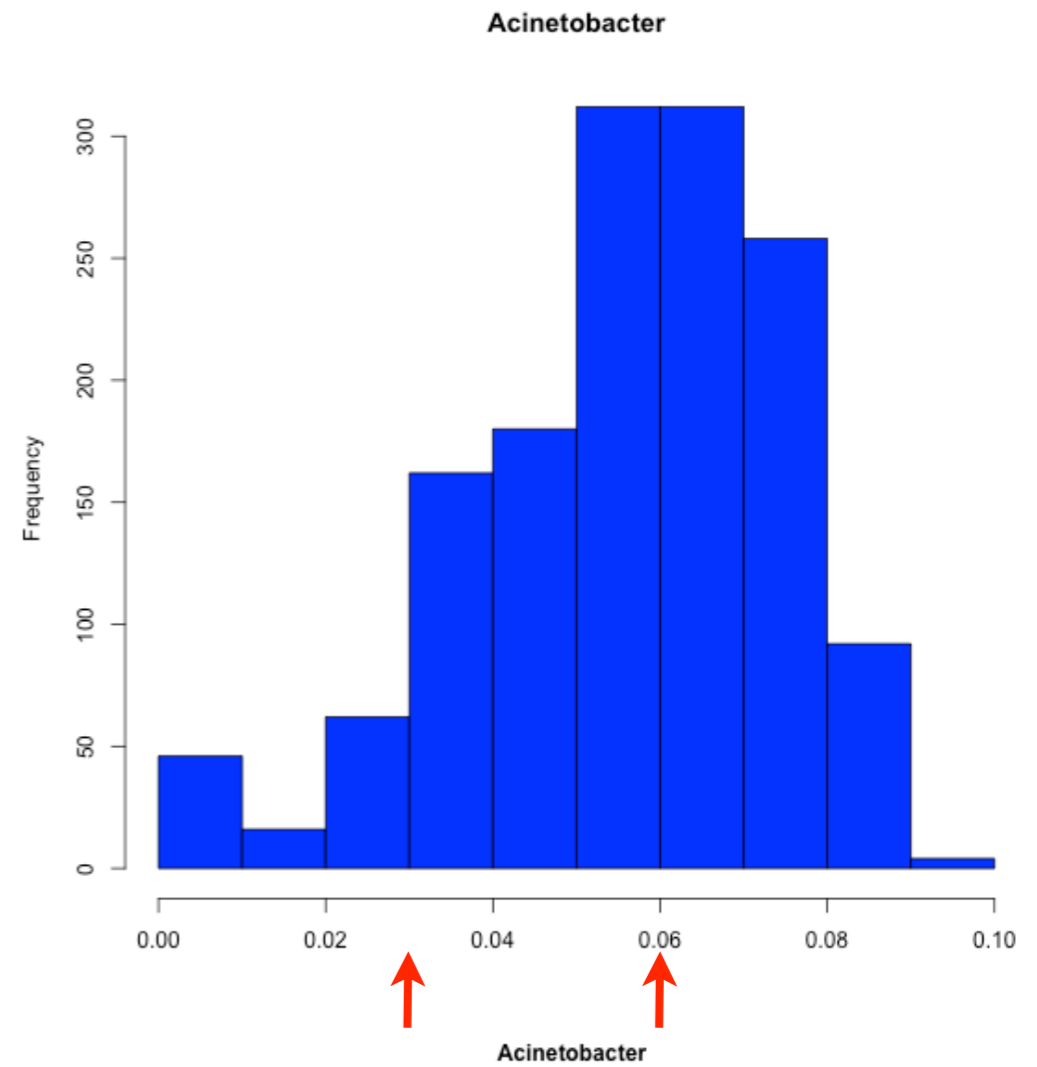
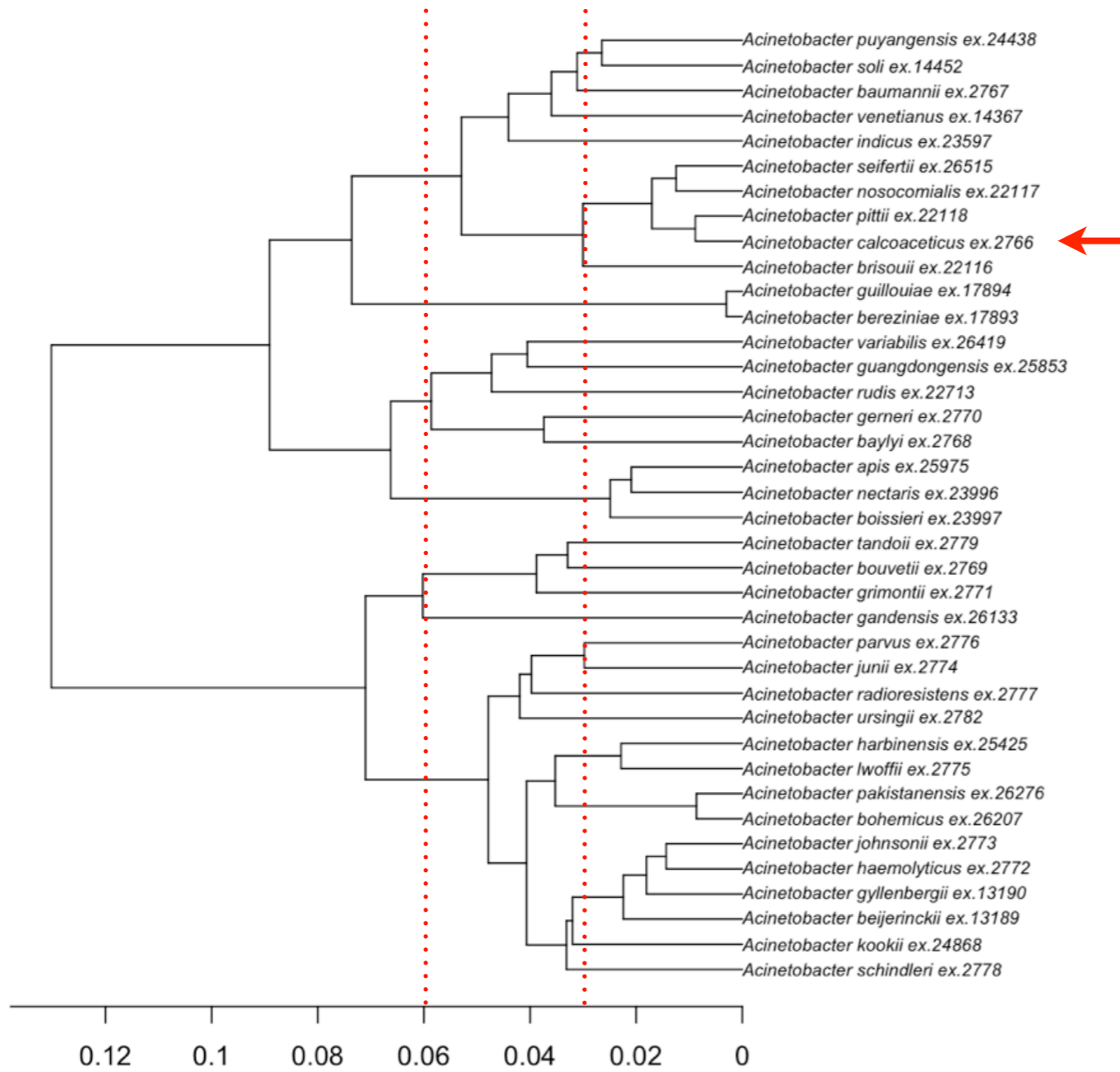
# Mycoplasma



# Mycoplasma



### Acinetobacter



# Challenges

Taxonomic ranks in current use based on 16S rRNA similarity

Significantly overlap

Validly named taxa may be over-specified

Rank of order may not be justifiable by a single measure

Reclassification and re-naming of at least species may be justified

One or more additional measures could help resolve taxa above the genus level

Projection along orthogonal axis or plane

Obvious candidates

Methods that classify on other genes, sequences, amino acids or proteins

Candidates

Average nucleotide identity

Average amino acid identity

K-mers

Latent semantic analysis of DNA sequences

Operational limits

1  $\mu\text{m}$



## Experimental plan

Assemble a reasonable sized collections of type strains with sequenced genomes

Strains representing the type (genus) of 170/202 validly named orders

Varying quality (finished, high quality draft, draft)

Sequenced/assembled by different groups

Collaborators perform analysis using preferred method for all strains

Visualized against 16S sequence similarly data for same strains

NamesforLife - Charles Parker

DOE JGI - Nikos Kyrpides, Neha Varghese

ORNL - Dave Ussery, Miriam Land, Se-Ran Jun, Intewat

Nookaew, Visanu Wanchai

Univ. Nebraska, Lincoln - Khalid Sayood, Ufuk Ubantagalu

# Trends between gene content and genome size in prokaryotic species with larger genomes

Konstantinos T. Konstantinidis\*<sup>†</sup> and James M. Tiedje\*<sup>†‡§</sup>

\*Center for Microbial Ecology and Departments of <sup>†</sup>Crop and Soil Sciences and <sup>‡</sup>Microbiology and Molecular Genetics, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI 48824-1325

Contributed by James M. Tiedje, December 24, 2003

# Trends between gene content and genome size

## Genomic insights that advance the species definition for prokaryotes

Konstantinos T. Konstantinidis\*<sup>†</sup> and James M. Tiedje\*<sup>†‡§</sup>

\*Center for Microbial Ecology, and Departments of <sup>†</sup>Crop and Soil Sciences and <sup>‡</sup>Microbiology and Molecular Genetics, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI 48824

Contributed by James M. Tiedje, December 24, 2004

**To help advance the species definition for prokaryotes, we have compared the gene content of 70 closely related and fully se-**

**informative, with respect to the species definition, because it concerns genes that largely determine the organism's phenotype.**

niversity,

# Trends between gene content and genome size

## Genomic insights that advance the species definition

JOURNAL OF BACTERIOLOGY, Sept. 2005, p. 6258–6264  
0021-9193/05/\$08.00+0 doi:10.1128/JB.187.18.6258–6264.2005

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Vol. 187, No. 18

## Towards a Genome-Based Taxonomy for Prokaryotes

Konstantinos T. Konstantinidis<sup>1,2</sup> and James M. Tiedje<sup>1,2,3\*</sup>

*Center for Microbial Ecology<sup>1</sup> and Departments of Crop and Soil Sciences<sup>2</sup> and Microbiology and Molecular Genetics,<sup>3</sup> Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan*

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0099-2240/06/\$08.00+0 doi:10.1128/AEM.01398-06

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Vol. 72, No. 1

## Toward a More Robust Assessment of Intraspecies Diversity, Using Fewer Genetic Markers<sup>∇†</sup>

Konstantinos T. Konstantinidis,<sup>\*¶</sup> Alban Ramette,<sup>§¶</sup> and James M. Tiedje

*Center for Microbial Ecology, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan*

Received 16 June 2006/Accepted 5 September 2006

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PHILOSOPHICAL  
TRANSACTIONS  
— OF —  
THE ROYAL  
SOCIETY **B**

*Phil. Trans. R. Soc. B* (2006) 361, 1929–1940

doi:10.1098/rstb.2006.1920

Published online 11 October 2006

## The bacterial species definition in the genomic era

Konstantinos T. Konstantinidis\*, Alban Ramette† and James M. Tiedje

*Center for Microbial Ecology, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI 48824, USA*

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Published online 11 October 2006

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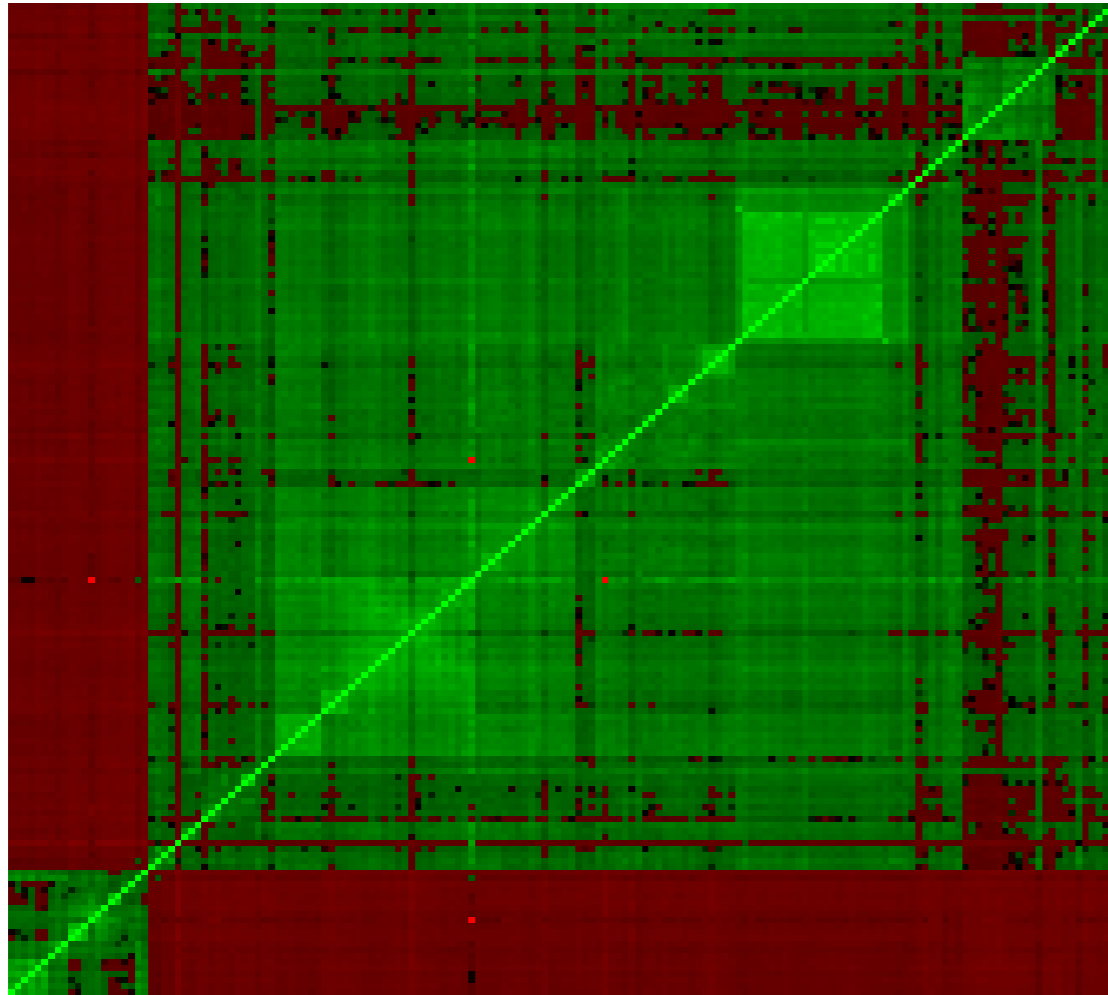
Standards in Genomic Sciences (2009) 2:117-134

DOI:10.4056/sigs.531120

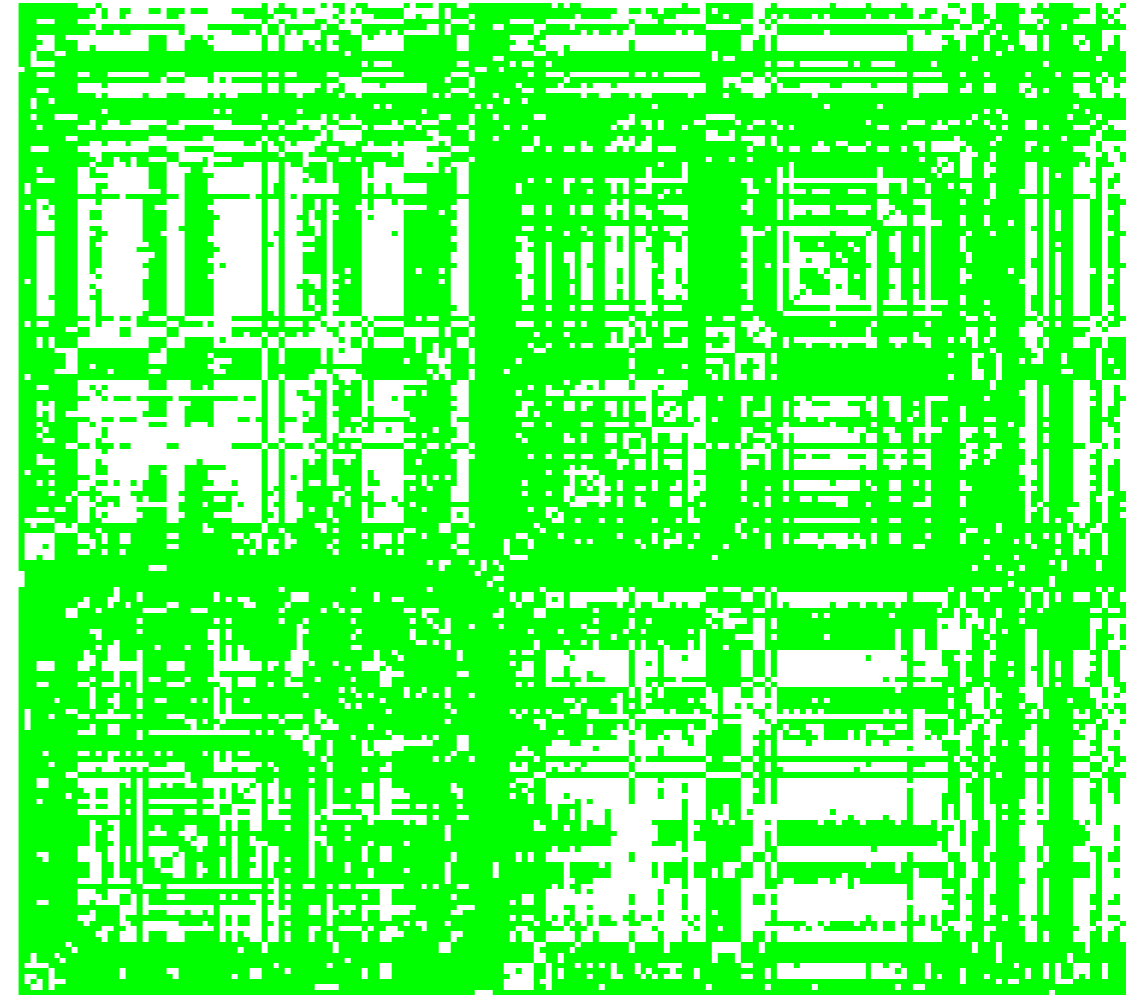
## Digital DNA-DNA hybridization for microbial species delineation by means of genome-to-genome sequence comparison

Alexander F. Auch<sup>1</sup>, Mathias von Jan<sup>2</sup>, Hans-Peter Klenk<sup>2\*</sup>, Markus Göker<sup>2</sup>

16S rRNA sequence subset

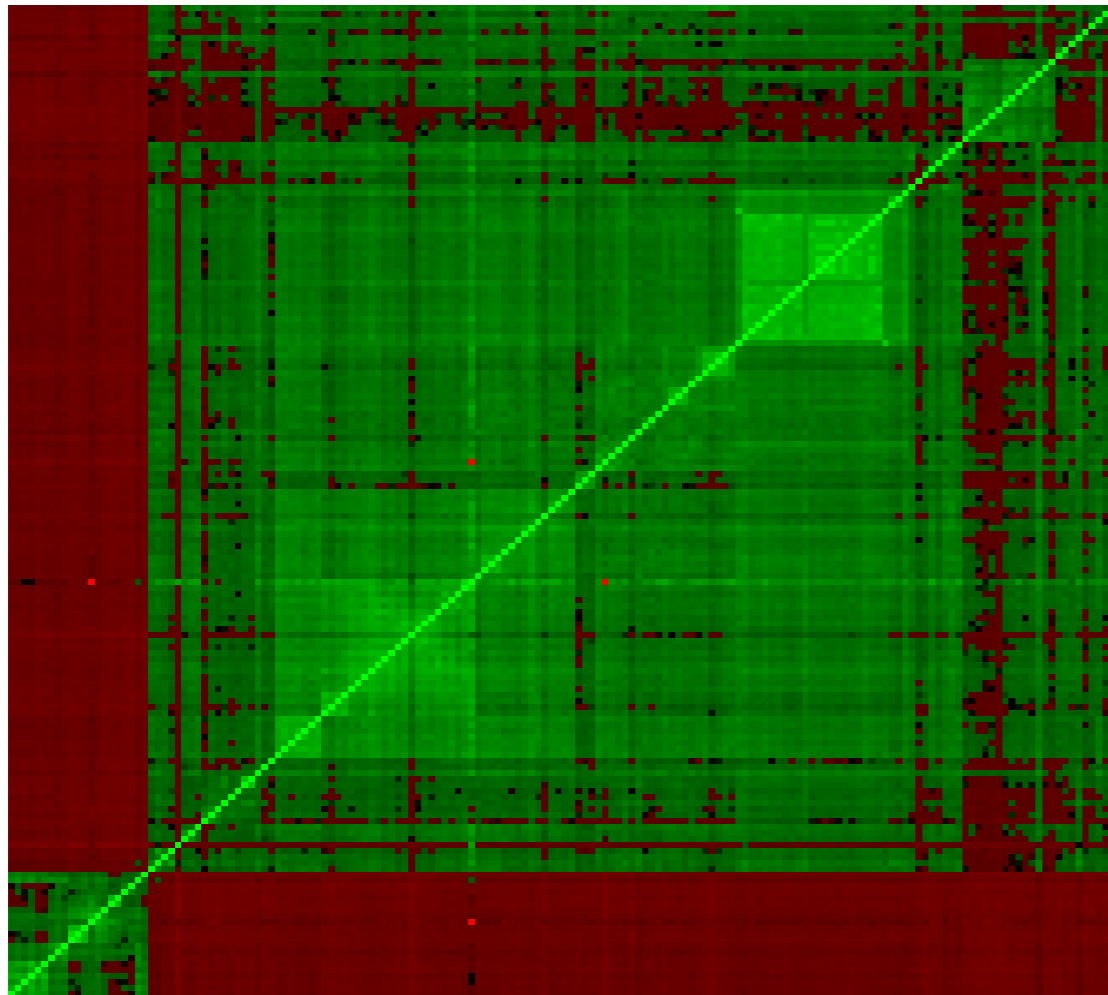


ANIa, JGI, n=187

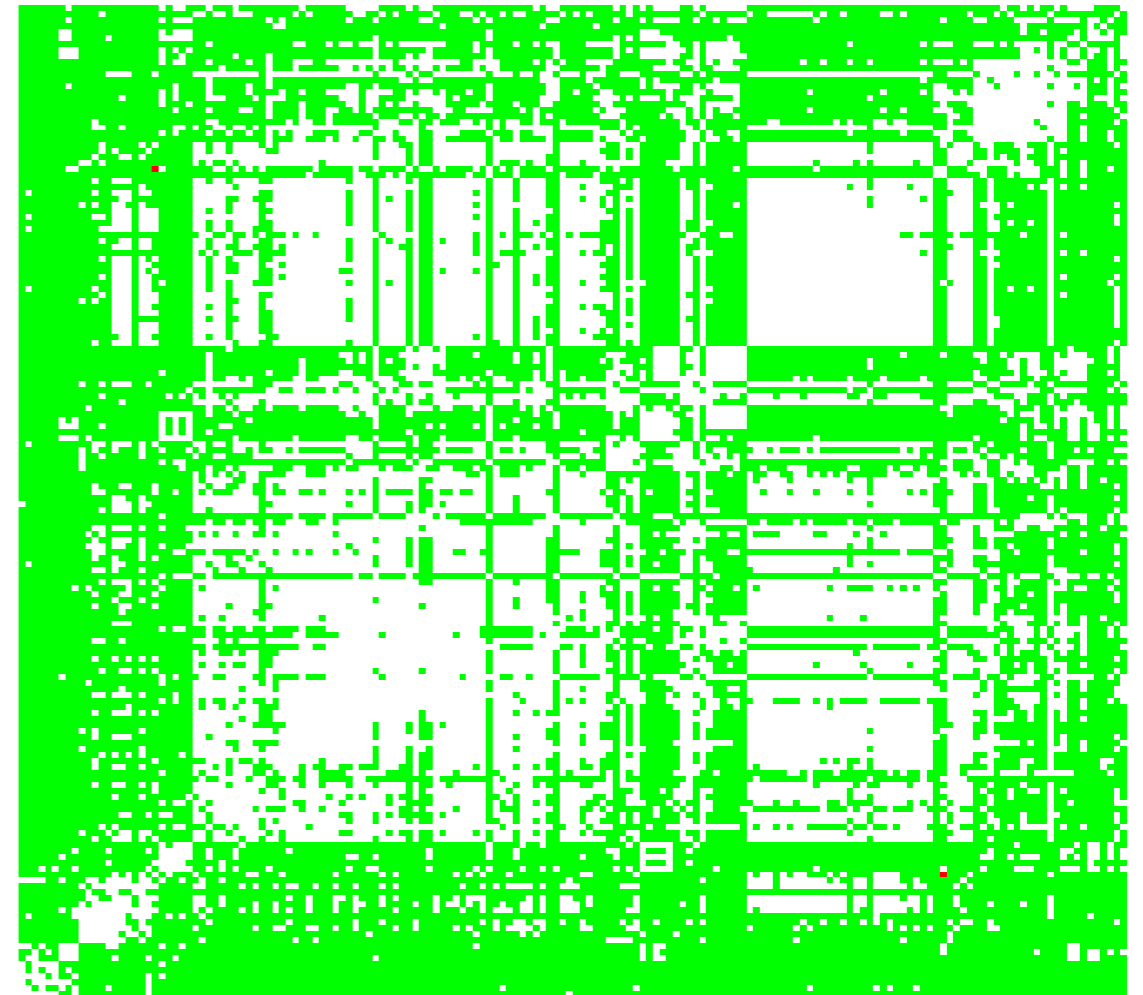




16S rRNA sequence subset

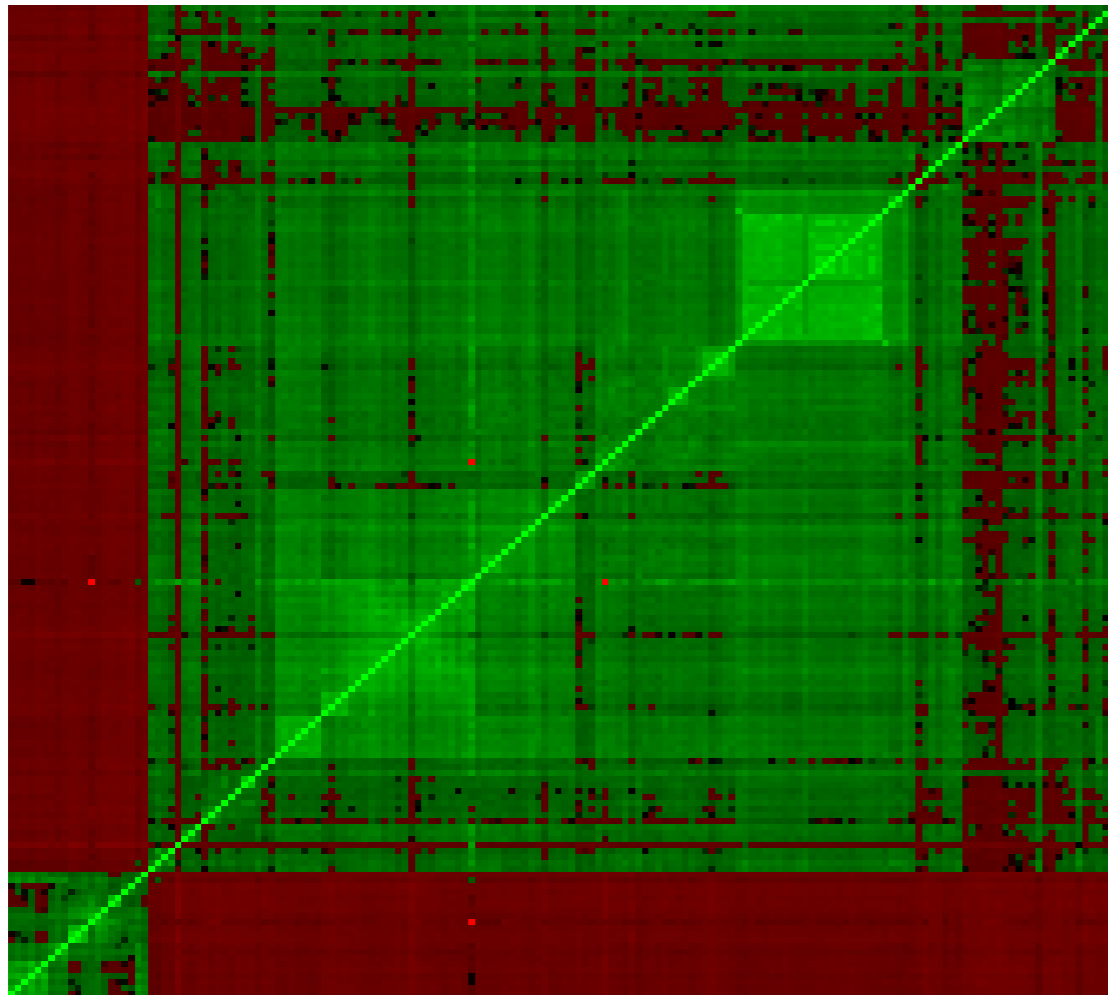


ANI, Oak Ridge National Laboratories

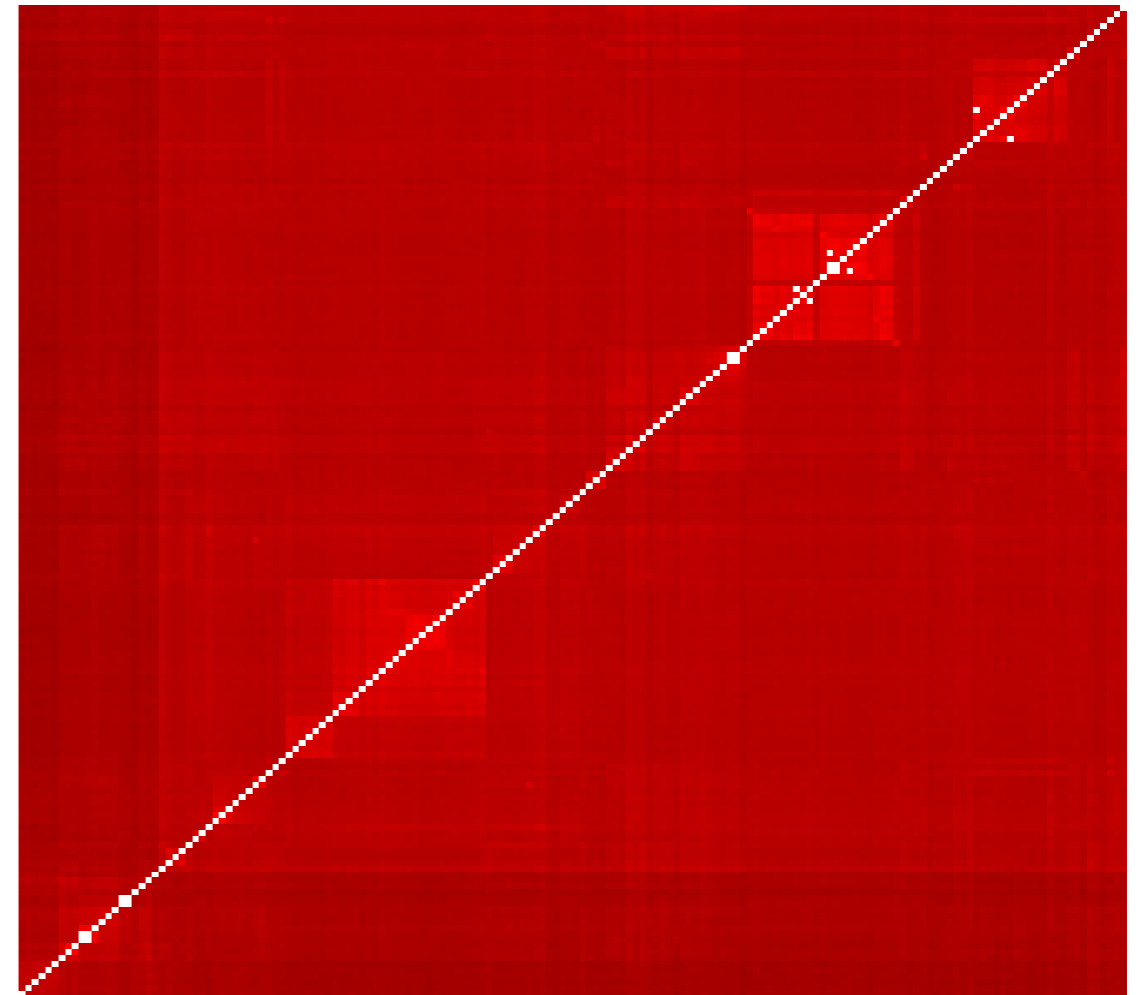


166 type strains, with conditioning of AAI signal  
cor = -0.46807

16S rRNA sequence subset

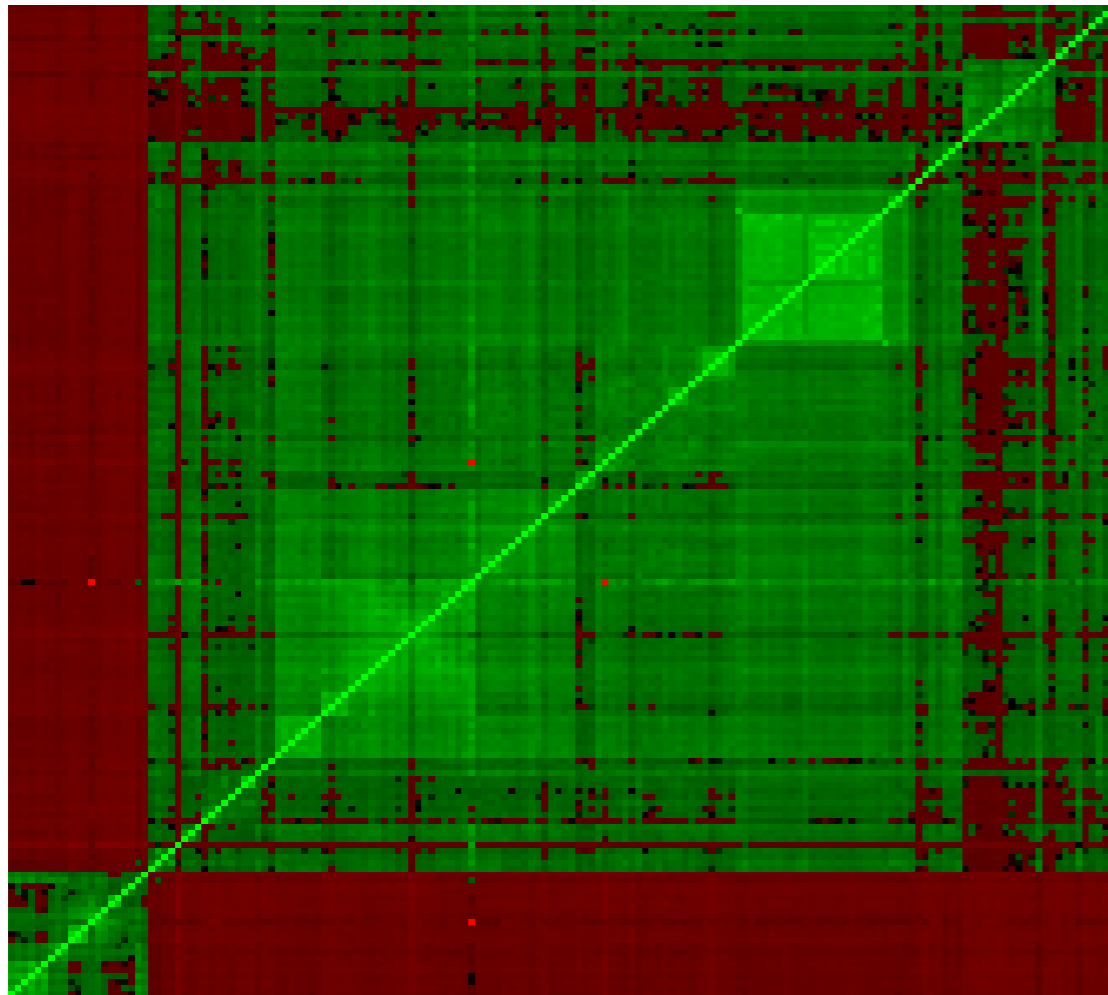


AAI, Oak Ridge National Laboratories

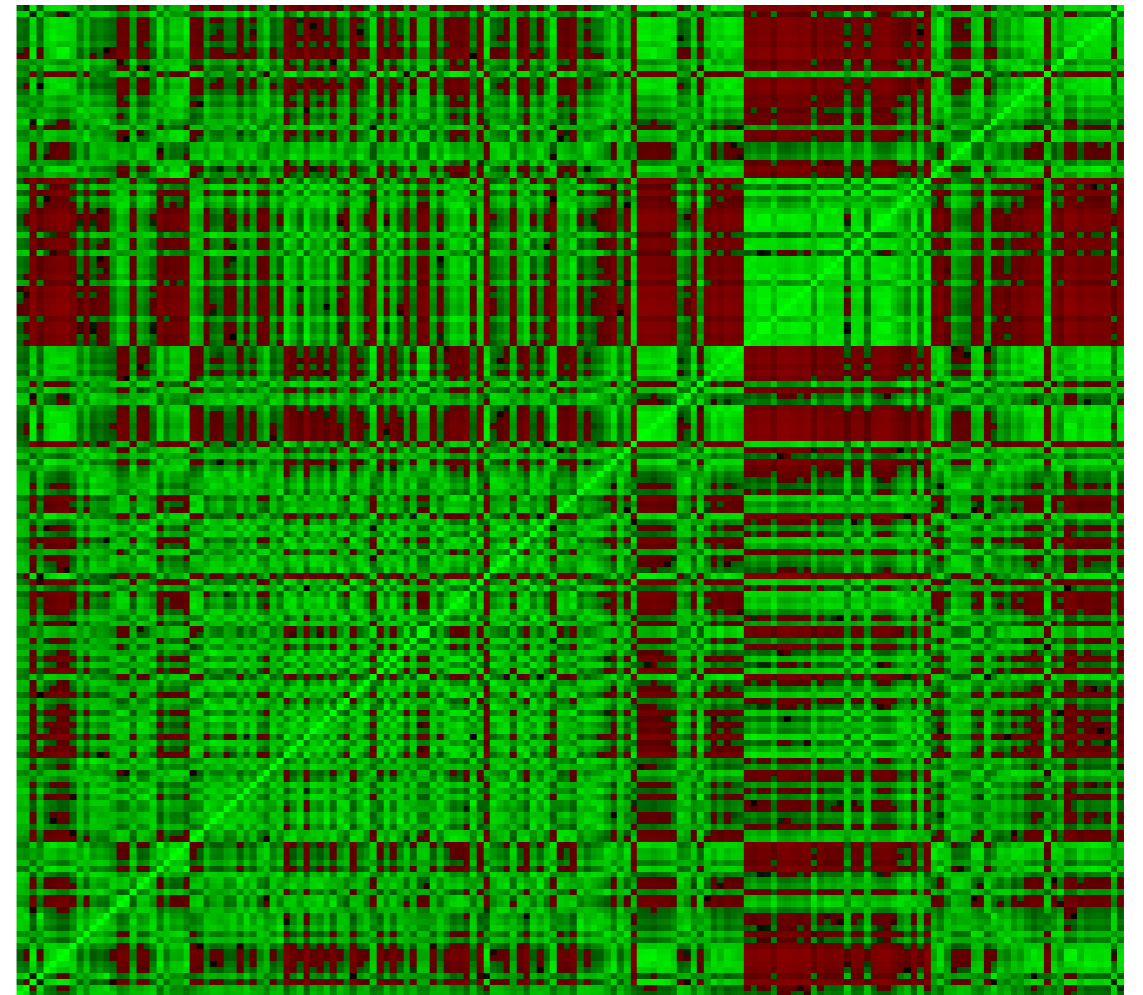


166 type strains, with conditioning of AAI signal  
cor = -0.6631114

16S rRNA sequence subset

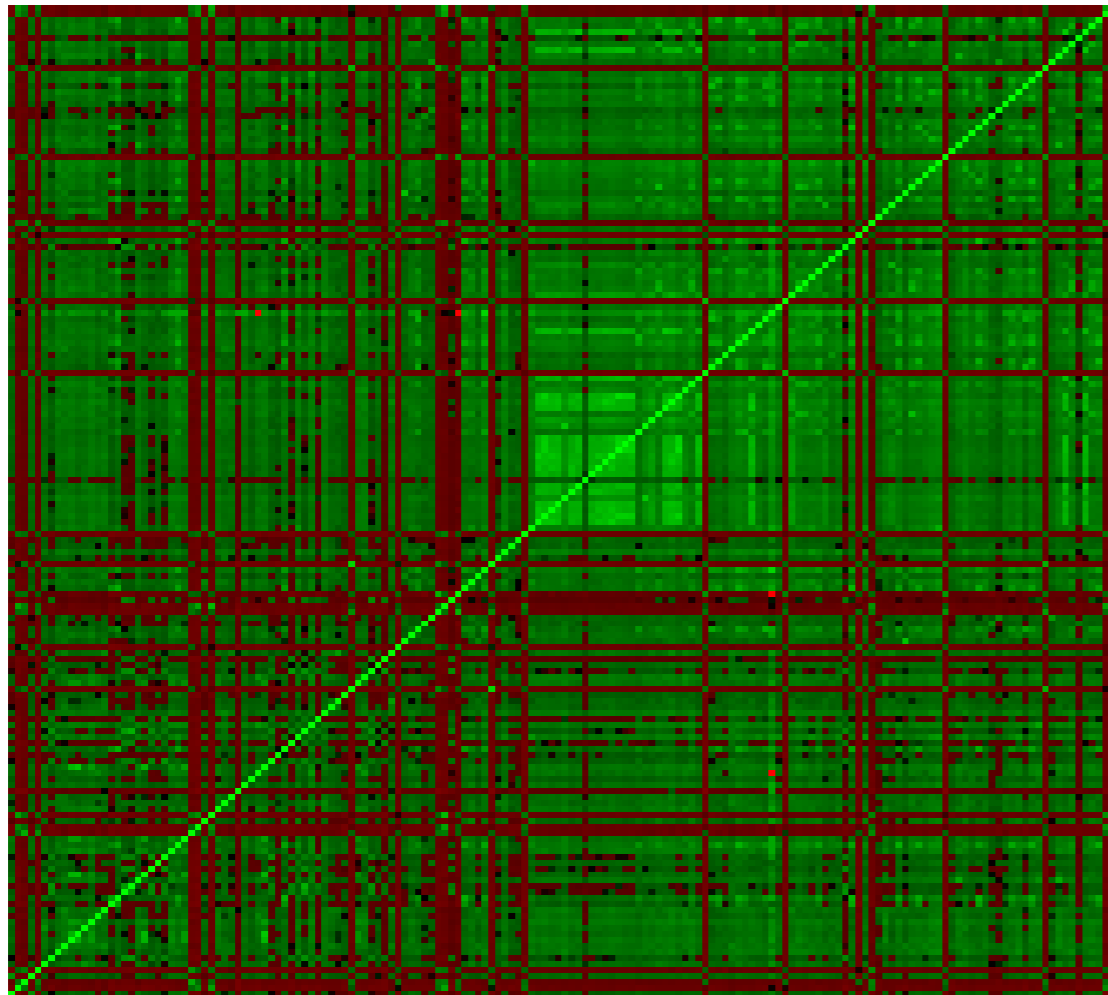


Latent Semantic analysis, 50 words.  
Univ. Nebraska and NamesforLife

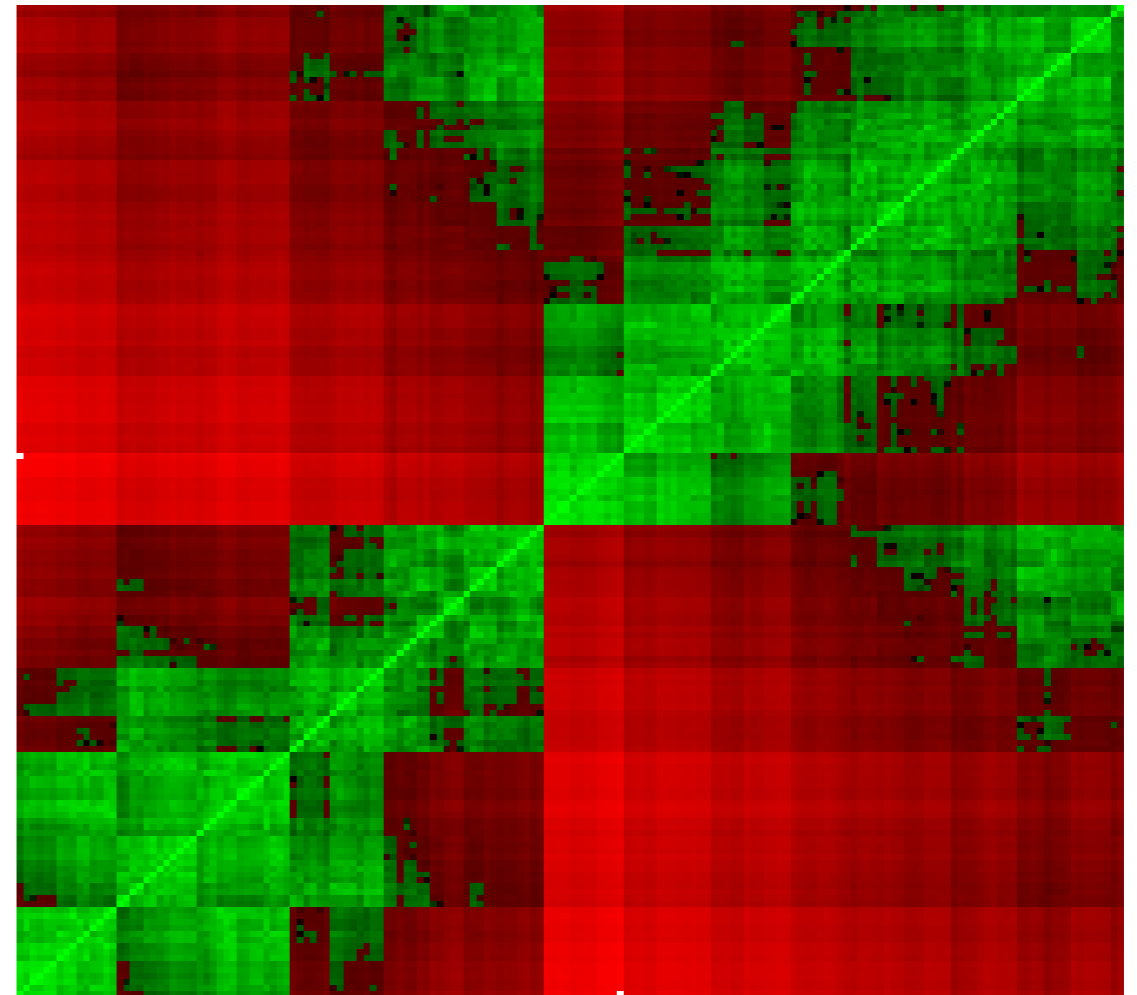


166 type strains, with conditioning of LSA signal  
 $cor = -0.02849482$

Type strains reordered according to LSA classification



Type strain genomes reordered according to LSA



## Results

Taxonomic resolving power of 16S rRNA

Taxonomic resolving power of ANI, AAI and LSA

Operational details

Adequacy of metadata for downstream analyses/  
interpretation

Surprises

Standards

Naming and taxon calling

Persistence and linked to relevant literature

Data quality

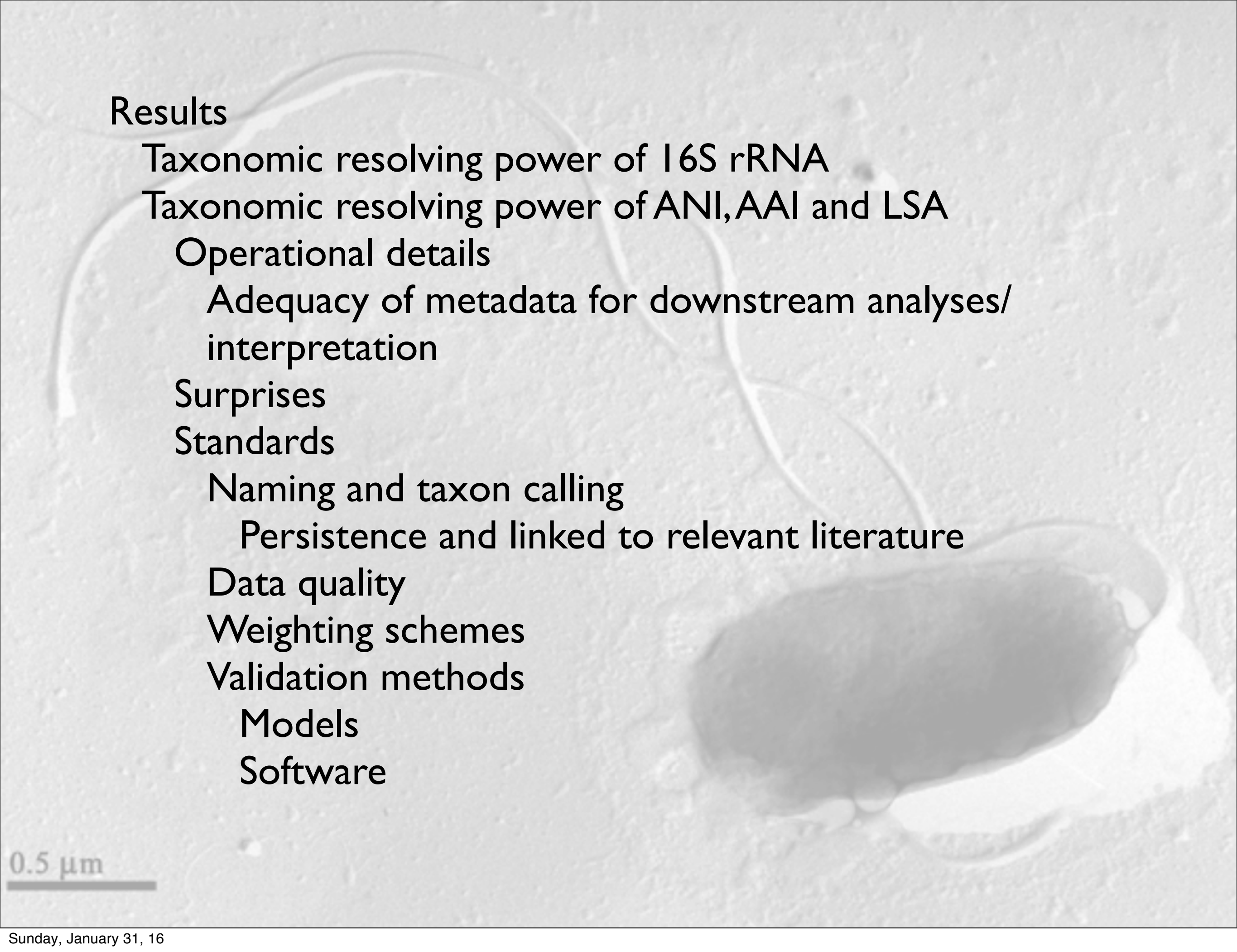
Weighting schemes

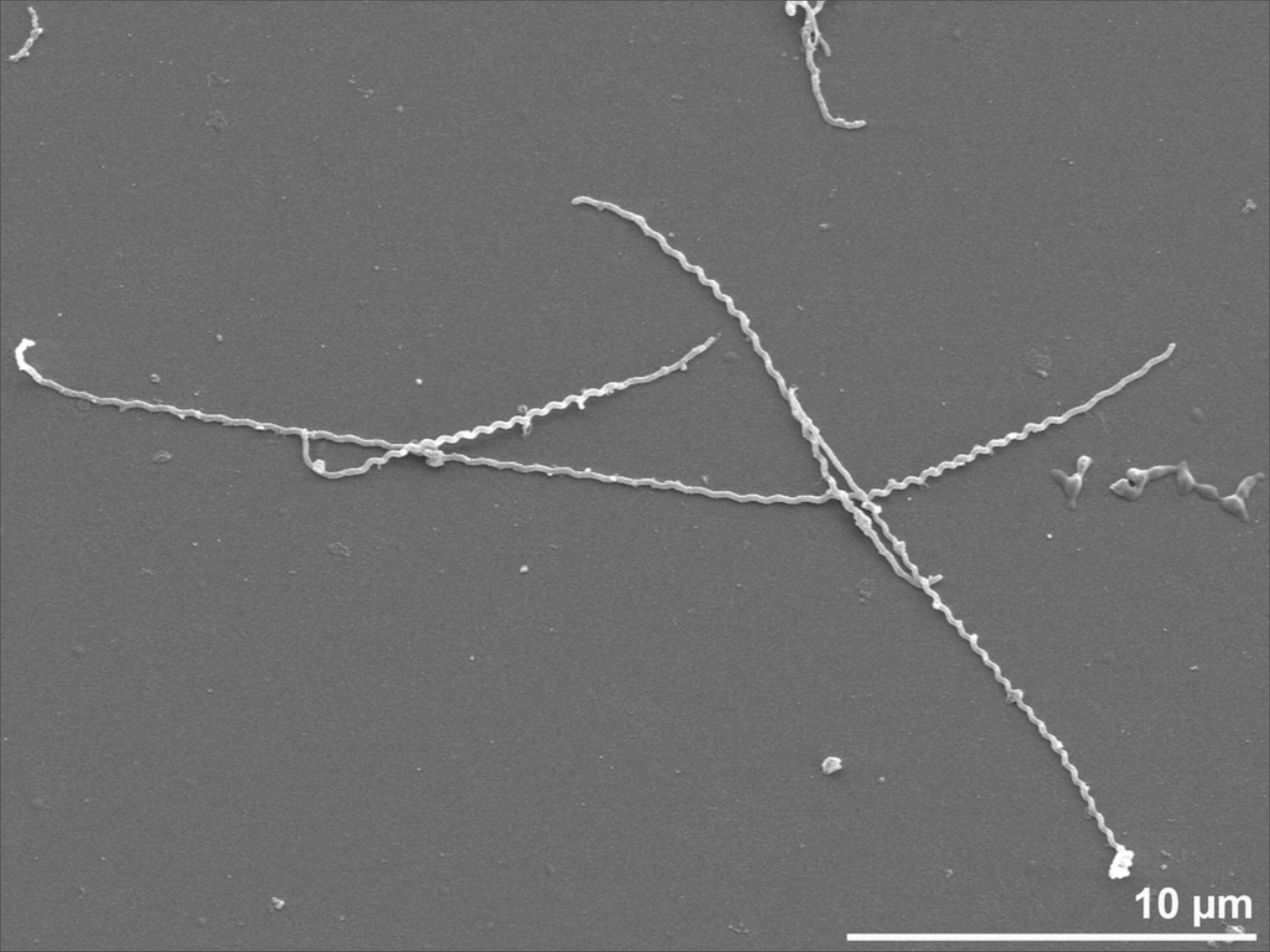
Validation methods

Models

Software

0.5  $\mu\text{m}$

A grayscale micrograph of a bacterium, likely a rod-shaped species, shown in a cross-section. The bacterium is elongated and has a textured surface. A scale bar in the bottom left corner indicates a length of 0.5 micrometers. The background is a light, grainy texture.



10 μm



Charles T. Parker  
 Vo Phan Chuong  
 Dorothea Taylor  
 Sarah Wigley  
 Nicole Osier  
 Grace Rodriguez



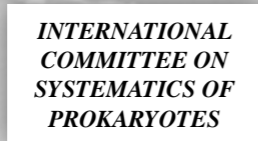
Ron Fraser  
 Robin Dunford  
 Karen Rowlett  
 Sue Andrews  
 Rachel Walker  
 Leighton Chipperfield



Kevin Petersen  
 Nenad Krdzavac



Khalid Sayood  
 Ufuk Nalbantoglu  
 Sam Way



Brian Tindall  
 Aharon Oren  
 David Labeda



Timothy G. Lilburn



David Labeda



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 intewat Nookaew  
 Visanu Wanchai

10 μm



Ed Pence



Norman Paskin



Gerry Roston  
Kurt Riegger



This work was funded through the Small Business technology transfer program of the United States Department of Energy under grants number DE-FG02-07ER86321 and DE-SC0006191. Funding for business development was provided through grants and loans from the Michigan Economic Development Corporation and the Michigan Universities Commercialization Initiative. NamesforLife semantic resolution technology is covered under US Patent 7,925,444 B2. The SOSCC systems and methods is covered under US Patent 8,036,997. Semiotic fingerprinting is covered under US 8,903,824. Semantic tagging, indexing, equivalency mapping, and latent semantic analysis of molecular sequence data are the subjects of pending US and EPO patent applications.

