

Author(s) with e-mail address(es) of the proposer:

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ICTV-EC or Study Group comments and response of the proposer:

MODULE 5: NEW SPECIES

Code 2008.053B		(assigned by ICTV officers)		
To create no		new species assigned	Fill in all that apply. Ideally, species	
Genus:		unassigned Autographivirinae Podoviridae		should be placed within a genus, but it is acceptable to propose a species that is within a Subfamily or Family but not assigned to an existing genus (in which
Subfamily:				
Family:				
O	Order: <i>Caudovirales</i>			case put "unassigned" in the genus box)

Name(s) of proposed new species:

Synechococcus phage P60

Argument to justify the creation of the new species:

If the species are to be assigned to an existing genus, list the criteria for species demarcation and explain how the proposed members meet these criteria.

The genome of cyanophage P60, a lytic virus which infects marine Synechococcus WH7803, was sequenced (<u>NC_003390</u>) by Chen and Lu (2002). Although this genome may still contain sequencing errors, the P60 genome has 80 potential open reading frames that were mostly similar to the genes found in lytic phages like T7, phi-YeO3-12, and SIO1. Strikingly high sequence similarities in the regions coding for nucleotide metabolism were found between cyanophage P60 and marine unicellular cyanobacteria.

References:

** Chen F, Lu J. (2002) Genomic sequence and evolution of marine cyanophage P60: a new insight on lytic and lysogenic phages. Appl Environ Microbiol. 68(5):2589-94.

Annexes:

Taxonomic proposal to the ICTV Executive Committee

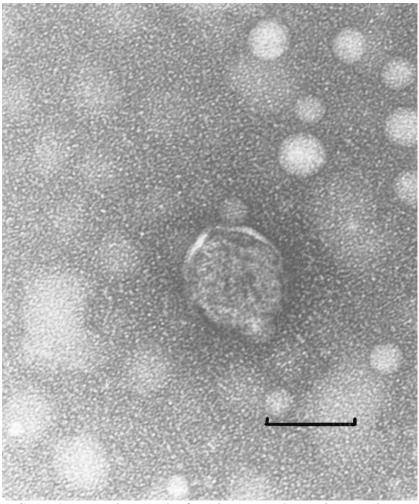


FIG. 1. Electron micrograph of marine cyanophage 60. Bar, 50 nm.