

Register list for *Asgardarchaeum abyssi* gen. nov. sp. nov. and their lineage

Submitted by Appler, Kathryn

Phylum *Asgardarchaeota*

Etymology

[As.gar.dar.chae.o'ta] N.L. neut. n. *Asgardarchaeum*, referring to the type genus *Asgardarchaeum*; *-ota*, ending to denote a phylum; N.L. neut. pl. n. *Asgardarchaeota*, the *Asgardarchaeum* phylum

Nomenclatural type

Genus *Asgardarchaeum*

Description

Asgardarchaeota, commonly referred to as *Asgard archaea*, are a candidatus phylum-level archaeal clade that includes the closest archaeal relatives of eukaryotes. Metagenomic discovery of new microbial life continues to expand our understanding of the diversity and evolutionary history of life on Earth. The *Asgard archaea* have garnered significant attention due to their close relatedness to the nucleocytoplasmic lineage of eukaryotes, offering invaluable insights into eukaryogenesis, i.e., the evolutionary transition from prokaryotic to eukaryotic cellular life (Zaremba-Niedzwiedzka et al., 2017; Williams et al., 2020; Eme et al., 2023; Vosseberg et al., 2024). Discovered first with environmental 16S rRNA sequencing in 1999 (Vetriani et al., 1999), the group was named Marine Benthic Group B (MBG-B) and later referred to as Deep-Sea Archaeal Group (DSAG) (Inagaki et al., 2003). The first draft genome was obtained 16 years later when a metagenomics survey recovered a metagenome assembled genome (MAG) from marine sediments sampled from the Arctic Ocean, next to a hydrothermal system named Loki's Castle (Spang et al., 2015), prompting the candidate name *Lokiarchaeum* as its first genus and *Lokiarchaeota* for its associated candidate phylum. Soon after, genomes of close relatives of *Lokiarchaeum* were obtained from multiple environments around the world, founding the candidate phyla *Thorarchaeota* (Seitz et al., 2016), *Heimdallarchaeota* and *Odinarchaeota* (Zaremba-Niedzwiedzka et al., 2017). These lineages formed a monophyletic group tentatively described as a superphylum, receiving the name *Asgard archaea* (Zaremba-Niedzwiedzka et al., 2017). More recently, efforts to align genome diversity within standardized taxonomic ranks (Rinke et al., 2021) led to a reclassification of the *Asgard archaea* as the phylum *Asgardarchaeota* and its constituent subgroups as classes.

Classification

Archaea » *Asgardarchaeota*

References

Effective publication: Tamarit et al., 2024 [1]
Assigned taxonomically: Da Cunha et al., 2017 [2]

Registry URL

<https://seqco.de/i:33331>

Class *Asgardarchaeia*

Etymology

[As.gar.dar.chae'i.a] N.L. neut. n. *Asgardarchaeum*, referring to the type genus *Asgardarchaeum*; *-ia*, ending to denote a class; N.L. neut. pl. n. *Asgardarchaeia*, the *Asgardarchaeum* class

Nomenclatural type

Genus *Asgardarchaeum*

Description

Based on protein content and compositional features, we infer that Asgardarchaeia is an acetogenic chemoheterotroph, possibly a facultative lithoautotroph, and is adapted to a thermophilic lifestyle. Utilizing genomes from Asgard archaea, TACK, and Euryarchaea, we perform phylogenomic reconstructions using the GTDB archaeal marker genes, the current reference set for taxonomic classification. Calibrating relative evolutionary divergence (RED) values for Asgardarchaeota using established Thermoproteota lineages in the GTDB r207 reference tree, we establish a robust classification and propose Asgardarchaeum as the type genus for the family Asgardarchaeaceae, the order Asgardarchaeales, the class Asgardarchaeia and the phylum Asgardarchaeota.

Classification

Archaea » *Asgardarchaeota* » *Asgardarchaeia*

References

Effective publication: Tamarit et al., 2024 [1]

Registry URL

<https://seqco.de/i:44140>

Order *Asgardarchaeales*

Etymology

[As.gar.dar.chae.a'les] **N.L. neut. n.** *Asgardarchaeum*, referring to the type genus Asgardarchaeum; *-ales*, ending to denote an order; **N.L. fem. pl. n.** *Asgardarchaeales*, the Asgardarchaeum order

Nomenclatural type

Genus *Asgardarchaeum*

Description

Based on protein content and compositional features, we infer that Asgardarchaeia is an acetogenic chemoheterotroph, possibly a facultative lithoautotroph, and is adapted to a thermophilic lifestyle. Utilizing genomes from Asgard archaea, TACK, and Euryarchaea, we perform phylogenomic reconstructions using the GTDB archaeal marker genes, the current reference set for taxonomic classification. Calibrating relative evolutionary divergence (RED) values for Asgardarchaeota using established Thermoproteota lineages in the GTDB r207 reference tree, we establish a robust classification and propose Asgardarchaeum as the type genus for the family Asgardarchaeaceae, the order Asgardarchaeales, the class Asgardarchaeia and the phylum Asgardarchaeota.

Classification

Archaea » *Asgardarchaeota* » *Asgardarchaeia* » *Asgardarchaeales*

References

Effective publication: Tamarit et al., 2024 [1]

Registry URL

<https://seqco.de/i:44141>

Family *Asgardarchaeaceae*

Etymology

[As.gar.dar.chae.a'ce.ae] **N.L. neut. n.** *Asgardarchaeum*, referring to the type genus Asgardarchaeum; *-aceae*, ending to denote a family; **N.L. fem. pl. n.** *Asgardarchaeaceae*, the Asgardarchaeum family

Nomenclatural type

Genus *Asgardarchaeum*

Description

Based on protein content and compositional features, we infer that Asgardarchaeia is an acetogenic chemoheterotroph, possibly a facultative lithoautotroph, and is adapted to a thermophilic lifestyle. Utilizing genomes from Asgard archaea, TACK, and Euryarchaea, we perform phylogenomic reconstructions using the GTDB archaeal marker genes, the current reference set for taxonomic classification. Calibrating relative evolutionary divergence (RED) values for Asgardarchaeota using established Thermoproteota lineages in the GTDB r207 reference tree, we establish a robust classification and propose Asgardarchaeum as the type genus for the family Asgardarchaeaceae, the order Asgardarchaeales, the class Asgardarchaeia and the phylum Asgardarchaeota.

Classification

Archaea » *Asgardarchaeota* » *Asgardarchaeia* » *Asgardarchaeales* » *Asgardarchaeaceae*

References

Effective publication: Tamarit et al., 2024 [1]

Registry URL

<https://seqco.de/i:44142>

Genus *Asgardarchaeum*

Etymology

[As.gar.dar.chae'um] **N.L. neut. n.** *Asgard*, from the Old Norse Asgard, named after the Realm of Æsir goddesses and gods in Norse mythology; **N.L. neut. n.** *archaeum*, [from Gr. adj. archaios, -e, -on] ancient, archaeon; **N.L. neut. n.** *Asgardarchaeum*, an archaeal genus named for Asgard

Nomenclatural type

Species *Asgardarchaeum abyssi*^{Ts}

Description

Based on protein content and compositional features, we infer that Asgardarchaeia is an acetogenic chemoheterotroph, possibly a facultative lithoautotroph, and is adapted to a thermophilic lifestyle. Utilizing genomes from Asgard archaea, TACK, and Euryarchaea, we perform phylogenomic reconstructions using the GTDB archaeal marker genes, the current reference set for taxonomic classification. Calibrating relative evolutionary divergence (RED) values for Asgardarchaeota using established Thermoproteota lineages in the GTDB r207 reference tree, we establish a robust classification and propose Asgardarchaeum as the type genus for the family Asgardarchaeaceae, the order Asgardarchaeales, the class Asgardarchaeia and the phylum Asgardarchaeota.

Classification

Archaea » *Asgardarchaeota* » *Asgardarchaeia* » *Asgardarchaeales* » *Asgardarchaeaceae* » *Asgardarchaeum*

References

Effective publication: Tamarit et al., 2024 [1]

Registry URL

<https://seqco.de/i:41248>

Species *Asgardarchaeum abyssi*^{Ts}

Etymology

[a.bys'si] **L. gen. n.** *abyssi*, abyss of the Guaymas Basin.

Nomenclatural type

[NCBI Assembly: GCA_040225955.1](#)^{Ts}

Description

Asgardarchaeum abyssi has a genome size of about 2.64 Mbp with average GC% of 33.96%. Metagenomic analyses indicate this novel archaeal class has been primarily extracted from the Guaymas Basin sediment and other deep-sea sites within the Gulf of California. *Asgardarchaeum* 16S shares only 63-83% 16S similarity with previously described *Asgardarchaeota* classes. *A. abyssi* is an acetogenic chemoheterotroph like other *Asgardarchaeota*, including *Freyarchaeia* and *Sifarchaeia*.

Classification

Archaea » *Asgardarchaeota* » *Asgardarchaeia* » *Asgardarchaeales* » *Asgardarchaeaceae* » *Asgardarchaeum* » *Asgardarchaeum abyssi*^f_s

References

Effective publication: Tamarit et al., 2024 [1]
Assigned taxonomically: Tamarit et al., 2024 [1]

Registry URL

<https://seqco.de/i:44143>

References

1. Tamarit et al. (2024). Description of *Asgardarchaeum abyssi* gen. nov. spec. nov., a novel species within the class *Asgardarchaeia* and phylum *Asgardarchaeota* in accordance with the SeqCode. *Systematic and Applied Microbiology*. DOI:10.1016/j.syapm.2024.126525
2. Da Cunha et al. (2017). Lokiarchaea are close relatives of Euryarchaeota, not bridging the gap between prokaryotes and eukaryotes. *PLOS Genetics*. DOI:10.1371/journal.pgen.1006810

Register List Certificate of Validation

On behalf of the *Committee on the Systematics of Prokaryotes Described from Sequence Data* (SeqCode Committee), we hereby certify that the Register List seqco.de/r:xmz83je1 submitted by **Appler, Kathryn** and including 6 new names has been successfully validated.

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