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The Molecular Characterization and Phylogenetic Reconstruction of Penaeid Shrimps from Mumbai Coast, Maharashtra

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Abstract

The commercial Penaeid shrimp *Fenneropenaeus indicus* H. Milne-Edwards, 1837, *Parapenaeopsis stylifera* H. Milne-Edwards, 1837 and *Solenocera crassicornis* H. Milne-Edwards, 1837 were collected to estimate phylogenetic relationships and taxonomic status amongst other members of Family Penaeidae from Fishing Area 51. The present results suggest that *Fenneropenaeus indicus*, *Parapenaeopsis stylifera* and *Solenocera crassicornis* from different locations or countries from Fishing Area 51 belong to the same genetic population. This study revealed the identification of shrimp species based on the molecular approach using mitochondrial COI gene marker. Sequence of Penaeid shrimps, *Fenneropenaeus indicus* (MK488093), *Parapenaeopsis stylifera* (MH724294) and *Solenocera crassicornis* (MK511444) from Mumbai, western coast of Maharashtra were published in NCBI. This result will be useful for obtaining the intraspecific and interspecific genetic distance, genetic biodiversity of the population structure and for the conservation and management of these resources. *P. stylifera* and *S. crassicornis* shows close relation with each other and *F. indicus* form different clade.

Keywords: DNA barcoding, COI gene, penaeid shrimps, intraspecific and interspecific relationship, phylogenetic analysis

1. Introduction

The penaeid shrimps form varied group of marine decapods with more than 400 species globally. Their habitat is both shallow waters and abyssal zone under 5000 m. Family Penaeidae is a diversified, miscellaneous and worldwide scattered family of shrimps. Most of the shrimps from the family are served as delicacy in many countries which increases its economic status. This made family Penaeidae as the most important family amongst commercial crustaceans. As in most penaeid genera, species diversification is mainly based on morphological character such as rostrum structure, shapes of the genital organ i.e., thelycum in female and petasma in male. Identification of species by morphological structures many a times is insufficient and ambiguous may be because larval stages of some group cannot be assigned to the correct species^[1]. Morphological identification becomes much difficult when specimens are damaged due to rough handling. As these are commercially important shrimps and can lead to fish fraud and economy loss. Shrimps have unique colour system and are capable to change body colour according to age, background and presence of sun or moon^[2,3]. Thus, morphological classification of shrimp species almost leads to the unsuccessful and inconclusive assignment of correct species^[1,4].

Molecular biology in recent years has become a tool to overcome the difficulties associated with morphological recognition, which requires knowledge to observe specific morphological characteristics. Molecular identification or DNA Barcoding technique was introduced for rapid, accurate and authenticate identification of biological specimens^[1]. It also provides an opportunity to understand and evaluate genetic variability and diversity of species. In this technique, universally accepted mitochondrial cytochrome c oxidase subunit I (mt COI) gene is used as molecular marker. This gene is conserved as changes in its amino acid sequence happen comparative slowly and less subjected to external forces^[5-7]. Molecular approaches are often predicted to offer a new and more specific method for species identification and generation of phylogenetic relationships among species.

Molecular evolutionary relationships between major penaeid shrimp lineages have been studied using mitochondrial gene [8]. Molecular phylogenetics relationship of superfamily Penaeoidea was studied with respect to 16S rRNA gene [9-11]. The DNA barcoding technique was used to reveal genetic diversity of shrimps of Alaska, Turkish and Japanese waters [12-14]. The molecular phylogeny of the genus *Penaeus* of marine shrimp was reconstructed using mitochondrial DNA sequences [15].

Though there is economic significance, only few studies have been done from Indian waters. The marine penaeid shrimps and freshwater prawn species were morphologically described and molecularly identified from Tamil Nadu using mt COI gene [16, 17]. Kundu *et al.*, (2018) had generated DNA barcode of morphologically identified six penaeid shrimps, *Penaeus monodon*, *Fenneropenaeus indicus*, *Litopenaeus vannamei*, *Metapenaeus monoceros*, *Metapenaeus ensis* and *Metapenaeus dobsoni* from Chilika Lake [18]. The sequences were phylogenetically compared with the database and the genetic variation describes different population with different collection sites. Purushothaman *et al.* 2019, studied the taxonomy of 14 commercially important deep water penaeid prawn from the south-eastern Arabian Sea and Bay of Bengal [19]. Karuppasamy *et al.* 2020 discloses the efficacy of mt COI genes in the reconstructing Penaeidean and Caridean phylogeny [20].

DNA barcode has become one of the most critical elements of molecular phylogeny and it is an upcoming branch of scientific research. In this study we used partial sequences of cytochrome c oxidase subunit I (COI) from mitochondrial genome to elucidate both taxonomy and phylogenetic relationships amongst almost all the taxa and forms in family Penaeidae. It can be further studied to define the grouping clades and to infer the origin, evolution and dispersal patterns of these commercially important shrimps from fishing area 51.

2. Materials and Method

2.1 Sample collection and morphological identification

Fresh samples of *Fenneropenaeus indicus* and *Parapenaeopsis styliifera* *Solenocera crassicornis* were collected from three major fishing centres of Mumbai, viz. New Ferry Wharf (Bhaucha Dhakka) located - 18° 57' 22.97" N, 72° 50' 57.34" E from southeast Mumbai; Sassoon Dock, located 18° 54' 41.81" N, 72° 49' 34.11" E, the terminal point of the Mumbai suburban. They were morphologically identified with the help of field identification key (Fischer, Bianchi 1984) and later on authenticated by CMFRI, Mumbai [21].

2.2 Molecular Identification

DNA from the fresh muscle tissues was extracted using modified CTAB method [22, 23]. Agarose Gel Electrophoresis (AGE) technique was used to check the purity of extracted DNA. The polymerase chain reaction (PCR) technique was used to amplify mitochondrial COI gene by using forward primer LCO1490(5'-GGTCAACAAATCATAAAGATATTGG-3') and reverse primer HCO2198(5'-TAAACTTCAGGGTGACCAAAAAATCA-3') in the GeneAmp 9700 Applied Biosystem thermal cycler [24]. The optimized PCR parameters was 5 min at 96°C, 35 cycles of 30 sec at 95 °C, 30 sec at 50 °C annealing, 30 sec at 72°C and final extension for 10 min at 72 °C [22, 25]. DNA Sequencing

was carried out using Sanger's Sequencing Method. The raw sequencing output data of *F. indicus* and *P. styliifera* were analysed and modified by various bioinformatic tools and software. Chromas Version 2.6.6 (<http://technelysium.com.au/>) software was used to trimmed, Multiple Alignment online software (<http://multalin.toulouse.inra.fr/multalin/>) used to align and merged by online tool Emboss Merger. The algorithm Basic Local Alignment Search Tool (BLAST) and BLASTx search were used to compare nucleotide and protein sequences from GenBank. The partial mitochondrial COI gene sequences of *F. indicus*, *P. styliifera* and *S. crassicornis* were deposited in International database NCBI BankIt/GenBank and allotted with Accession numbers MK488093 and MH724294 respectively and were published in NCBI.

2.3 Statistical Analyses

Multiple Alignment online software was applied to compare protein sequences of *F. indicus*, *P. styliifera* and *S. crassicornis* from various location from fishing area 51 to infer intraspecific relations.

To study interspecific relations, partial sequences of mt COI gene of 16 other family members of Penaeidae found in F.A.51, were downloaded from GenBank. The phylogenetic tree was built with the help of Pairwise Distance matrix. The cladogram was generated by protein sequence translated from DNA sequences in MEGA version 7.0.26 1993-2020 [26] using Neighbor-joining method [27]. The tree was built by bootstrap method [28] with 500 replications.

3. Results and Discussion

The extracted genomic DNA was analyzed on 0.8% agarose gel and it was found to be free of contaminants (Fig 1). This genomic DNA was used for PCR amplification. Amplified COI gene was visible at 700 bp on 1.5% agarose gel (Fig 2). DNA sequences of *F. indicus*, *P. styliifera* and *S. crassicornis* COI gene from various sites were successfully submitted to NCBI and published in GenBank with Accession No. MK488093, MH724294 and MK511444 respectively.

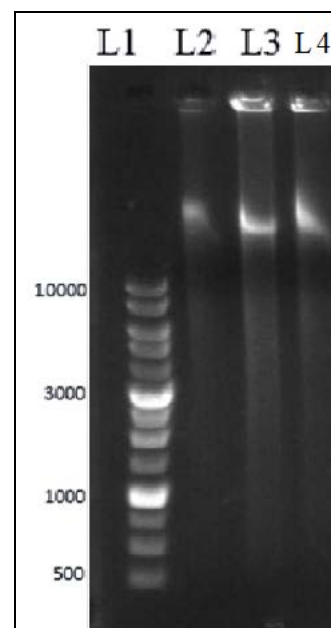


Fig 1: Gel image represents pure genomic DNA. L1 signifies 1 kb DNA Ladder. L2, L3 and L4 stand for species *F. indicus*, *P. styliifera* and *S. crassicornis* respectively.

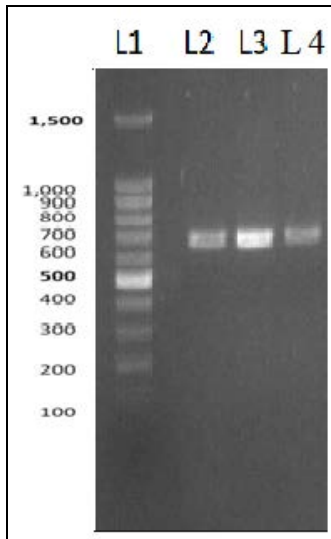


Fig 2: Gel image signified an amplified COI gene at 700 bp. L1 denote 100 bp DNA Ladder. L2, L3 and L4 stand for species *F. indicus*, *P. stylifera* and *S. crassicornis* respectively.

3.1 Intra specific relationship

Multiple alignment online tool compares protein sequences derived from GenBank database and depicts the relation between geographically isolated species. The homologous COI protein sequence of *F. indicus* from various places, MK488093 (Mumbai) India, KP688365 Mozambique, KU324636 Egypt were found to be from the same gene pool (Fig 3). The homologous COI protein sequence of *P. stylifera* from different places MH724294 Mumbai, India; MH712489 Ratnagiri, India; KU324661 Egypt and KR261594 Iran were found to be from the same gene pool (Fig 4). The homologous COI protein sequence of *S. crassicornis* from different places KP136603 Turkey, KJ879309 Spain, LC477205 Egypt, KX584723 Kerala India, MN340982 Gujarat India, AY264902 China, MK511444 Mumbai India, MT178734 Taiwan, MN205325 Pakistan were found to be from same gene pool (Fig 5).

The aligned species sequences were realized to be from the same population and genetic diversity was not seen with respect to mt COI gene. This is probably due to the reason that presently there is no isolation of water mass on the globe.

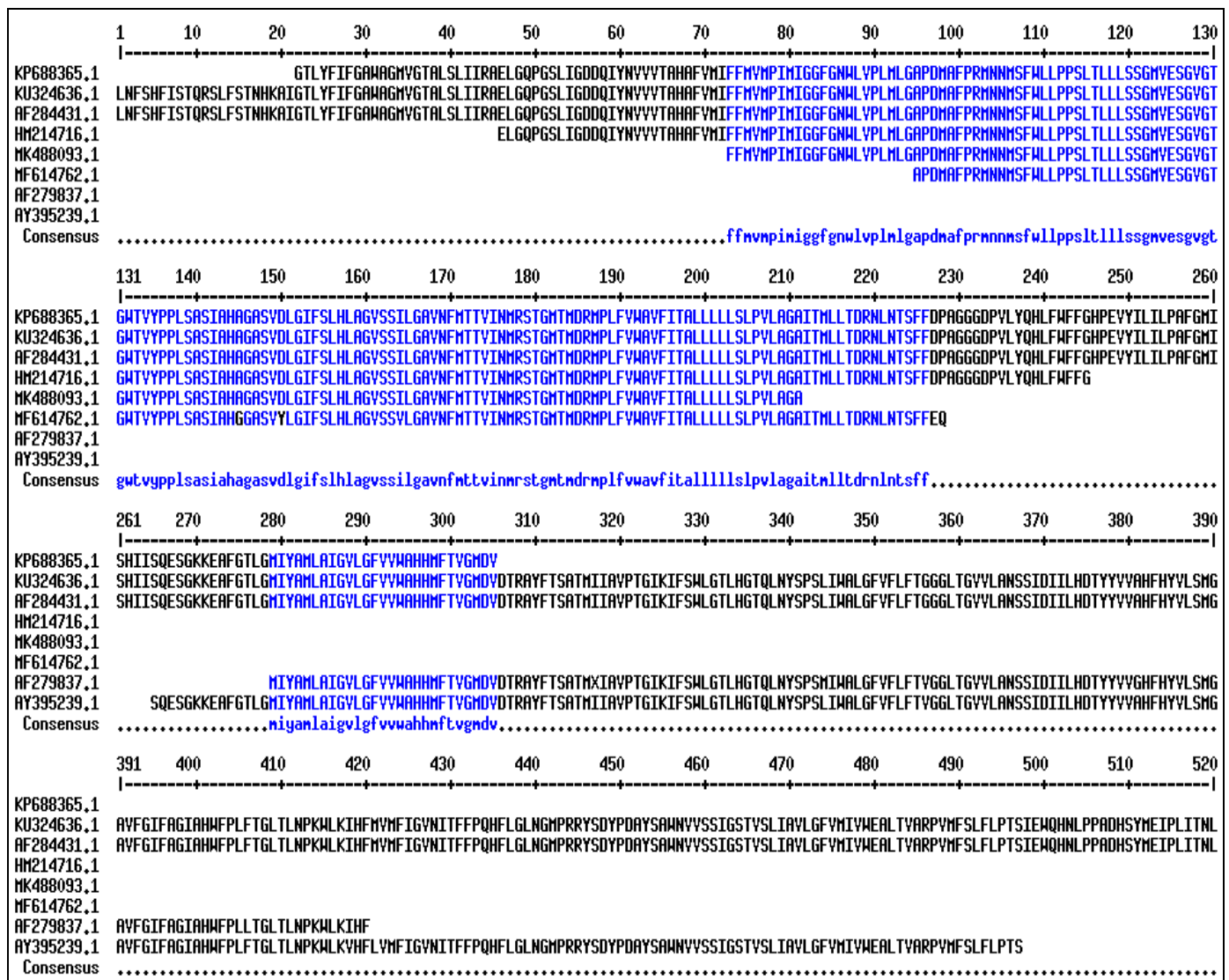


Fig 3: Protein sequences alignment of *Fenneropenaeus indicus* KP688365.1 Mozambique, KU324636.1 Egypt, AF284431.1 Thailand, HM214716.1 Sri Lanka, MK488093.1 (Mumbai) India, MF614762.1 Bangladesh, AF279837.1 China, AY395239.1 South Africa.

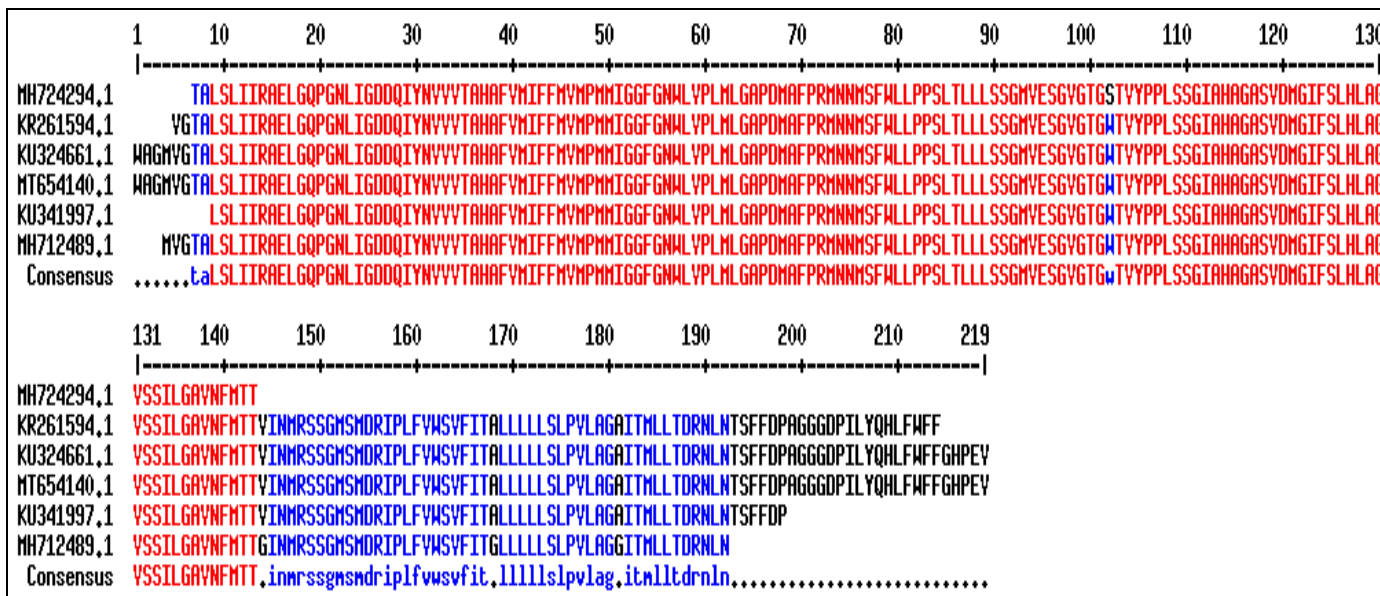


Fig 4: Protein sequences alignment of *Parapenaeopsis stylifera* found MH724294.1 (Mumbai) India, KR261594.1 Iran, KU324661.1 Egypt, MT654140.1 (Tamil Nadu) India, KU341997.1 (Kerala) India, MH712489.1 (Ratnagiri) India.

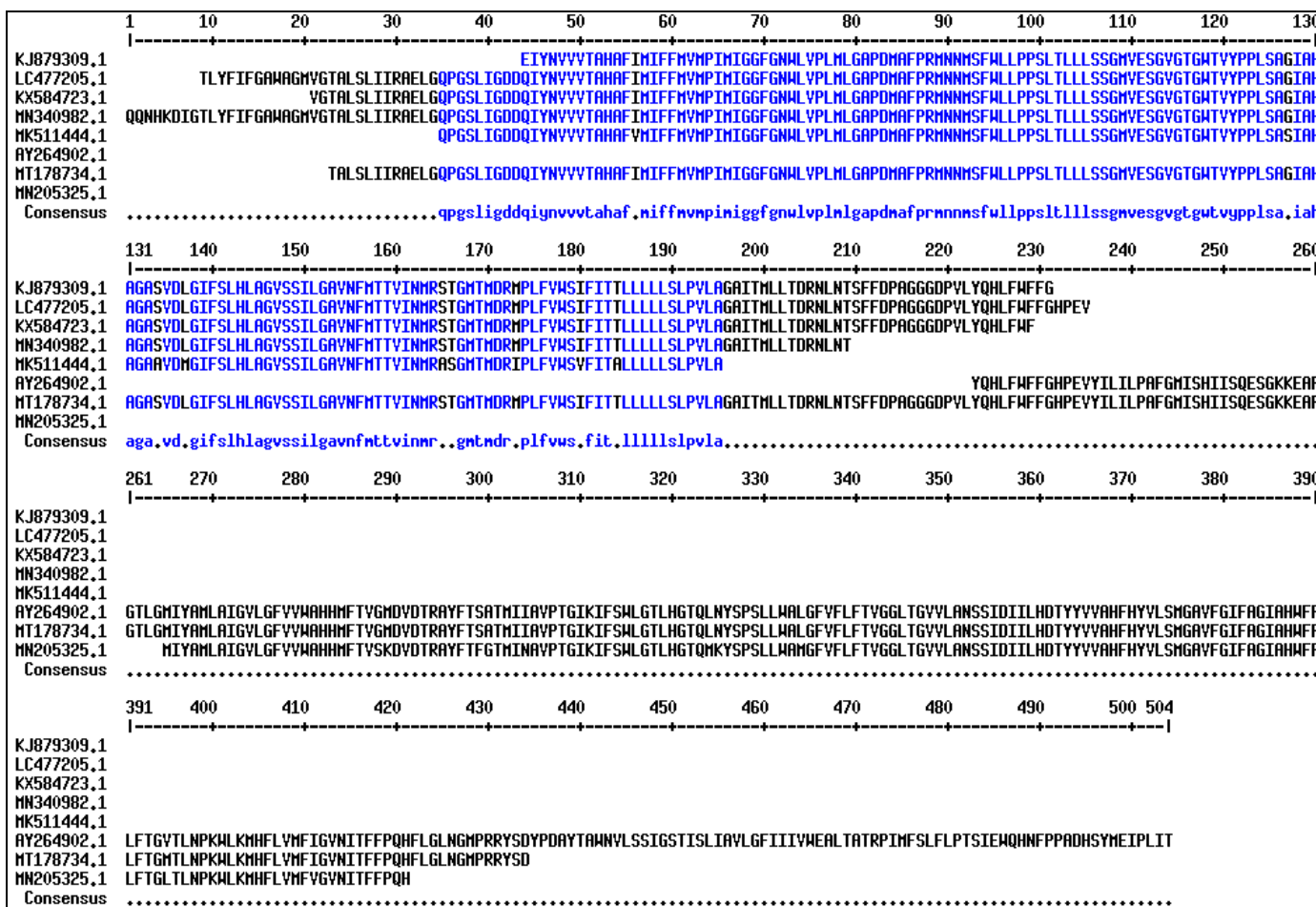


Fig 5: Represents the protein sequences alignment of *Solenocera crassicornis*, KJ879309.1 Spain, LC477205.1 Egypt, KX584723.1 (Kerala) India, MN340982.1 (Gujarat) India, AY264902.1 China, MK511444.1 (Mumbai) India, MT178734.1 Taiwan, MN205325.1 Pakistan.

3.2 Inter specific relationship

The phylogenetic tree was built with the help of Pairwise Distance matrix of *F. indicus*, *P. stylifera* and *S. crassicornis* (Fig 6). Cladograms are tree like diagrams generated to study molecular phylogenetics which represents genetic evolutionary history of organisms. It expresses ancestries of organisms by using molecular data i.e. DNA or protein sequences (Xiong 2006). Gene phylogenetic study expresses

the evolution of that particular gene. The evolutionary cladogram acquired from the gene/protein sequences can be contradictory from species evolutionary history. Therefore, the species evolution may not link with the gene evolutionary line.

The cladogram was generated by protein sequence translated from DNA sequences in MEGA version 7.0.26 1993-2020. The constructed tree illustrates that *F. indicus*, *P. stylifera* and

S. crassicornis found in different area belongs to their respective common genetic population and they make common clade with their groups. The sequence divergence of genera *Parapenaepsis* and genera *Solenocera* is 0.04-2.0; genera *Fenneropenaeus* and *Parapenaepsis* is 0.05-2.0 and genera *Fenneropenaeus* and *Solenocera* is 0.03-1.95. The

pairwise distance of *F. indicus* from Mumbai and other areas is 0.02-1.9; *P. stylifera* from Mumbai and other areas is 0.01; *S. crassicornis* from Mumbai area and other areas is 0.04-1.9. Tree shows three major clades, one with group *P. stylifera* make close relation with group *S. crassicornis* whereas group *F. indicus* make outgroup.

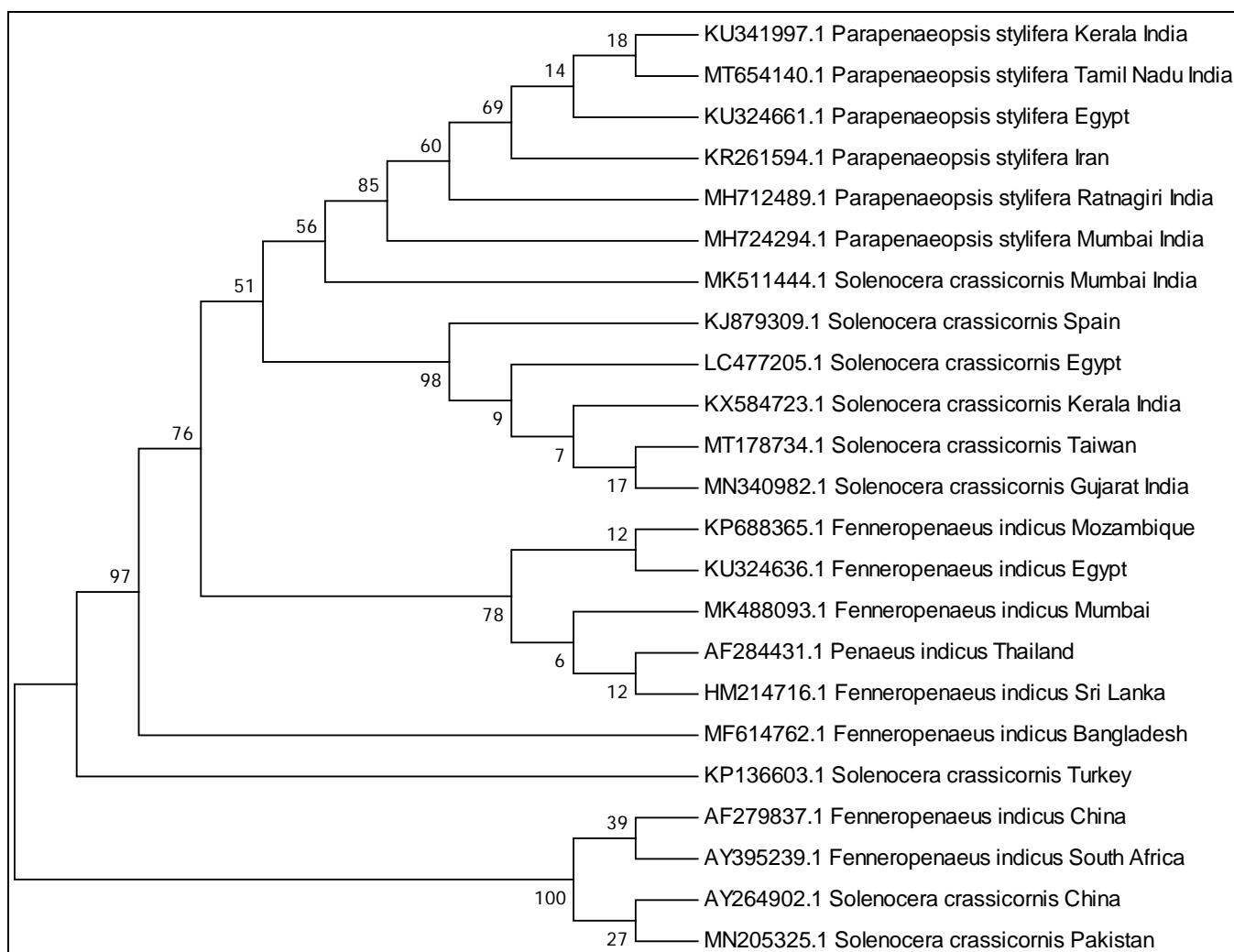


Fig 6: Phylogenetic tree representing relationship between *F. indicus* *P. stylifera* and *S. crassicornis* associated to COI gene protein sequences using NJ method.

Table 1: Phylogenetic tree between *F. indicus* *P. stylifera* and *S. crassicornis* associated to COI gene protein sequences using NJ method

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
1	KP688365.1_Fenneropenaeus indicus Mozambique																							
2	KU324636.1_Fenneropenaeus indicus Egypt	0.000																						
3	AF279837.1_Fenneropenaeus indicus China	1.946	1.946																					
4	MK488093.1_Fenneropenaeus indicus Mumbai	0.000	0.000	1.946																				
5	AF284431.1_Penaeus indicus Thailand	0.000	0.000	1.946	0.000																			
6	HM214716.1_Fenneropenaeus indicus Sri Lanka	0.000	0.000	1.946	0.000	0.000																		
7	MF614762.1_Fenneropenaeus indicus Bangladesh	0.029	0.029	1.821	0.029	0.029	0.029																	
8	AY395239.1_Fenneropenaeus indicus South Africa	1.900	1.900	0.032	1.900	1.900	1.900	1.773																
9	MH724294.1_Parapenaepsis stylifera Mumbai India	0.052	0.052	1.936	0.052	0.052	0.052	0.095	1.946															
10	KR261594.1_Parapenaepsis stylifera Iran	0.065	0.065	1.946	0.065	0.065	0.065	0.099	1.900	0.010														
11	KU324661.1_Parapenaepsis stylifera Egypt	0.065	0.065	1.946	0.065	0.065	0.065	0.099	1.900	0.010	0.000													
12	MH712489.1_Parapenaepsis stylifera Ratnagiri India	0.082	0.082	2.003	0.082	0.082	0.082	0.120	1.954	0.010	0.016	0.016												

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