

**Part 1:** **TITLE, AUTHORS, APPROVALS, etc**

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| **Code assigned:** | ***2022.051B*** |  |
| **Short title:** Create a new genus (*Midgardsormrvirus)* with a single species (*Caudoviricetes*) | | |
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**Author(s) and email address(es)**

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**Corresponding author**

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| Andrew M. Kropinski |

**List the ICTV Study Group(s) that have seen this proposal**

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| Bacterial Viruses Subcommittee, Caudoviricetes Study Group |

**ICTV Study Group comments and response of proposer**

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**ICTV Study Group votes on proposal**

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| **Study Group** | **Number of members** | | |
| **Votes support** | **Votes against** | **No vote** |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |

**Authority to use the name of a living person**

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| --- | --- |
| **Is any taxon name used here derived from that of a living person (Y/N)** | N |

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Taxon name** | **Person from whom the name is derived** | **Permission attached (Y/N)** |
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**Submission dates**

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| --- | --- |
| Date first submitted to SC Chair | May 2022 |
| Date of this revision (if different to above) |  |

**ICTV-EC comments and response of the proposer**

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**Part 2:** **NON-TAXONOMIC PROPOSAL**

**Text of proposal**

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**Part 3:** **TAXONOMIC PROPOSAL**

**Name of accompanying Excel module**

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| 2022.051B.N.v1.Midgardsormrvirus\_ng.xlsx |

**Abstract**

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| The siphovirus Midgardsormr38 forms unstable lysogens in its host *Erwinia persicina* and is a genomic orphan for which we propose the creation of a single genus and species. |

**Text of proposal**

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| |  | | --- | | **Species demarcation criteria:** Two phages are assigned to the same species if their genomes are more than 95% identical over their genome length for isolates.  These values can be calculated by a number of tools, such as BLASTn [1] – usually calculated using intergenomic distance calculator VIRIDIC [2].  **Genus demarcation criteria:** In search for criteria that create cohesive and distinct genera that are reproducible and monophyletic, the Bacterial Viruses Subcommittee has established 70% nucleotide identity of the genome length as the cut-off for genera. Genus-level groupings should always be monophyletic in the signature genes, as tested with a phylogenetic tree. [8] | |

**Supporting evidence**

**Origin of the name of this taxon:** This taxon is named after Erwinia phage Midgardsormr38

**Historical aspects:** This phage was isolated against Erwinia persicina from a suspension of locally collected mixed dead insects: houseflies (*Musca domestica*), lady beetles (*Coccinellidae*), and green lacewings (*Chrysopidae*). This siphovirus phage had a non-contractile tail of 170.0 nm length attached to an icosahedral head with the diameter of 59.4 nm [11]. The phage is classified as temperate but the prophage state is unstable.

**Electron micrograph:** N/A

**Genome summary: N.B. Genomic orphan**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Phage name | RefSeq No. | INSDC | Size (Kb) | GC% | Protein | Overall % DNA sequence identity (\*) | Overall % homologous proteins (\*\*) |
| Erwinia phage Midgardsormr38 |  | [MN602881.1](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/nuccore/MN602881.1) | 50.49 | 50.9 | [93](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/genome/browse/#!/proteins/85384/740785|Erwinia phage Midgardsormr38/viral segment/) | 100 | 100 |

**(\*) determined using BLASTn [1] or VIRIDIC [2]**

**(\*\*) determined using CoreGenes 3.5 [5]**

**VIRIDIC heat map:** VIRIDIC (Virus Intergenomic Distance Calculator; VIRIDIC (Virus Intergenomic Distance Calculator; [2]; http://rhea.icbm.uni-oldenburg.de/VIRIDIC/) computes pairwise intergenomic distances/similarities amongst phage genomes. The black box delineates strains.

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**Phylogeny:** The phylogenetic tree was constructed using the TerL proteins from Midgardsormr38 and related phages with phylogeny.fr in “one click” mode [6]. "The "One Click mode" targets users that do not wish to deal with program and parameter selection. By default, the pipeline is already set up to run and connect programs recognized for their accuracy and speed (MUSCLE for multiple alignment and PhyML for phylogeny) to reconstruct a robust phylogenetic tree from a set of sequences." It also includes the use of Gblocks to eliminate poorly aligned positions and divergent regions. "The usual bootstrapping procedure is replaced by a new confidence index that is much faster to compute. See: Anisimova M., Gascuel O. Approximate likelihood ratio test for branches: A fast, accurate and powerful alternative [7] for details." The members of the *Midgardsormrvirus* are indicated with a **blue rectangle**.

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