Supplementary Information

References for the illustrations depicted in figures 1, 4 and 5 of the main manuscript. The numbers in brackets in the figure indicate an association, the pubmed id and the reference.

(1)|12967653 (Caldecott 2003), (2)|21979916 (Malewicz et al. 2011), (3)|15456891 (Zhang et al. 2004), (4)|15468306 (Poinsignon et al. 2004), (5)|17334224 (Jeong et al. 2007), (6)|22586264 (Peng et al. 2012), (6a) (Sharma et al. 2010), (7)|21149730 (Ming et al. 2010), (8)|16595695 (Raynard et al. 2006), (9)|21252998 (Stracker and Petrini 2011), (10)|21325134 (Nimonkar et al. 2011), (11)|15141202 (Ostermeier et al. 2004), (12)|20655466 (Ye et al. 2010), (13)|18469862 (Bae et al. 2008), (14)|19596236 (Fekairi et al. 2009), (15)|12686547 (Ogrunc and Sancar 2003), (16)|18923083 (Singh et al. 2008), (17)|17289582 (Ciccia et al. 2007), (18)|17589526 (Potts and Yu 2007), (19)|19287395 (Kim et al. 2009), (20)|18594563 (Cimprich and Cortez 2008), (21)|19793861 (Bansbach et al. 2009), (22)|19230643 (Reinhardt and Yaffe 2009), (22)|19230643 (Reinhardt and Yaffe 2009), (23)|21278446 (Allen et al. 2011), (24)|21945648 (Gardino and Yaffe 2011), (25)|16600864 (Guardavaccaro and Pagano 2006), (26)|17084694 (Gewurz and Harper 2006), (27)|17344412 (Arias and Walter 2007), (28)|11714696 (Honda et al. 2002), (29)|18157157 (Li 2008), (30)|19596235 (Svendsen et al. 2009), (31)|16141325 (Sun et al. 2005), (32)|20010693 (Lee et al. 2010), (33)|9488723 (Rogakou et al. 1998), (34)|16427009 (Lou et al. 2006), (35)|19230794 (Panier and Durocher 2009), (36)|20023648 (Bekker-Jensen et al. 2010), (37)|19203579 (Doil et al. 2009), (38)|19396164 (Huang et al. 2009), (39)|15456759 (Jowsey et al. 2004), (40)|19124460 (Gong et al. 2009), (41)|22064073 (Yan et al. 2011), (42)|11877377 (Yazdi et al. 2002), (42)|19414588 (Wu et al. 2009), (43)|20016603 (Galanty et al. 2009), (44)|17525341 (Sobhian et al. 2007), (44)|19261746 (Shao et al. 2009), (44)|19261748 (Feng et al. 2009), (45)|20016594 (Morris et al. 2009), (46)|15279791 (Ahn et al. 2004), (47)|16163388 (Chen et al. 2005), (48)|19234109 (Pan et al. 2009), (49)|16360036 (Moumen et al. 2005), (50)|19412162 (Santra et al. 2009), (51)|15314155 (Schoenfeld et al. 2004), (52)|20233726 (Wiltshire et al. 2010), (53)|20126263 (van Vugt et al. 2010), (54)|16818604 (Yu et al. 2006), (55)|22615860 (Kelsall et al. 2012), (56)|22576881 (Heo et al. 2012), (57)|22884692 (Gudjonsson et al. 2012), (58)|16357213 (Kennedy and D'Andrea 2005), (59)|15800615 (Esashi et al. 2005), (60)|15665856 (Sorensen et al. 2005).

Supplementary Table 1. Summary of the results: table indicating the features assigned to each gene. Only complete information is provided for human sequences.

Supplementary Table 2. Summary of the 84 genomes used in this study. In the Organism ID column, NA indicates that although these prokaryotic genomes might have

been included in the screening, the findings can be represented by a smaller set and thus, they weren't included in the subsequent analyses.

Supplementary Table 3. Table indicating the orthologues found for *H. sapiens*, *A. thaliana*, *S. cerevisiae* and *E. coli*, using InParanoid and 4-way pairwise searches to examine the 47 proteomes.

Supplementary Table 4. Summary of the post-translational modifications collected for human proteins.

Supplementary figure legends

Supplementary Figure 1. Species tree. Only 11 prokaryotes out of 52 (Supplementary Table 2) are shown in the tree for clarity as these results are representative of the larger set. Left: Dashed black lines indicate the uncertainties when resolving the deep branches and the arrow at the bottom indicates the age in Millions of Years: green, bacteria; blue, *Archaea*; and black, *Eukaryota*. The red rectangles represent the age groups defined in this study, while the dashed boxes are the groups of genes defined elsewhere (Wolf et al. 2009): pink, endosymbionts (where only nucleomorph sequences are available); purple, parasites; orange, pathogens. # indicates complete sequence, while * indicates drafts. The species divergence times were extracted from http://www.treetime.org, using consensus estimates from the literature due to the fact that dates are not available for all the species.

Supplementary Figure 2. Phylogenetic trees of selected protein families. In all the trees the names in the boxes indicate the position of nematodes and arthropods, which always group outside the rest of the animals. A. Family 35 (ATR/ATM/PRKDC) illustrating how the phylogenies generated using only the common parts of the family (FAT-PI3 PI5 kin-FATC) serve to discriminate the overall domain architecture present in the other families. For instance, A. thaliana of ATM is the only representative containing a PWWP protein domain (indicated by *). The ATR and ATM of C. elegans do not contain additional domains, and they are grouped outside the expected placements, suggesting horizontal gene transfer. While *PKRDC* is missing in *C. elegans* it is present in other worms and basal organisms. B. Family 02 (MSH2/3/6). This example illustrates the evolutionary models that differ from the species tree and between each other (dashed lines and triangles), as well as cases of domain shuffling, such as that of the PWWP protein domain present in the MSH6 animals alone, except arthropods and nematodes (red arch), or in O. sativa (which could be an artifact due to it being a partial sequence). C. Family 43 (PARP1/2). This example illustrates protein domain shuffling in specific lineages, such as the SAP protein domain for PARP2 in plants (indicated by *). D. Family 41. This example illustrates how automatic methods incorrectly identify orthologues. KAT5 orthologues were identified as KAT8 (boxed names). E. Family 40.

The inclusion of paralogues helps to identify real orthologues: *DCLRE1B* sequences for some species are in fact *DCLRE1A* (red lines).

Supplementary Figure 3. Phylogenetic analyses of proteins belonging to the same complex. The tree topologies are similar but distinct from the species tree. The boxed names indicate the situation in arthropods and nematodes: A and B are the *XRCC5/6* proteins from the NHEJ complex; D and C are *RAD17 and TOPB1* from the replication fork; and E is a multigene tree including the *PMS2* and *MLH1* proteins that dimerize in the mismatch repair pathway. Red arcs indicate misplacements.

Supplementary Figure 1







Supplementary Figure 3

Supplementary Figure 3



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