

Figure A. Correlation between pooled plasmid sizes and chromosome sizes of *Rickettsia* species. The coefficient of determination is $R^2 = 0.76$ and the coefficient of correlation of Pearson is $R = 0.91$, P -value < 0.05 .

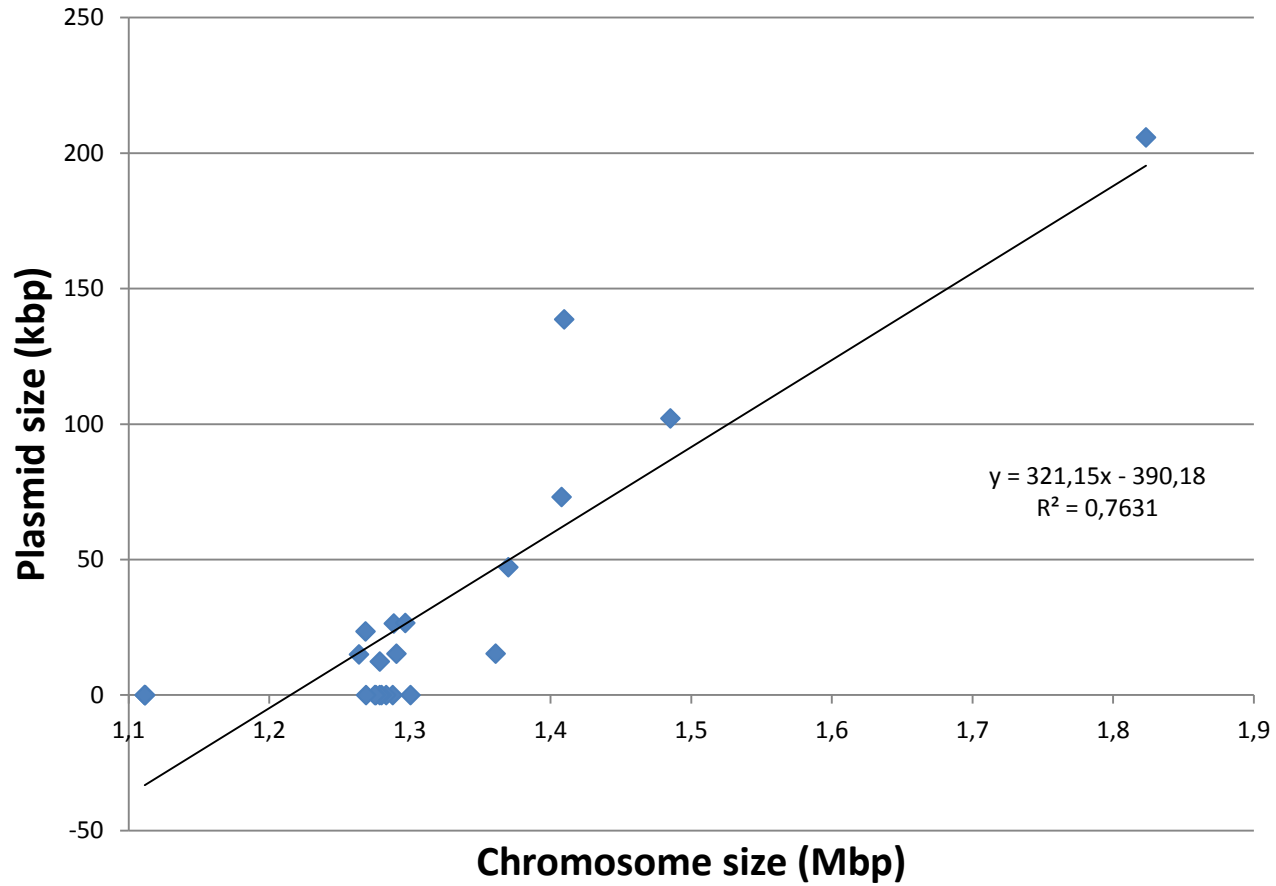
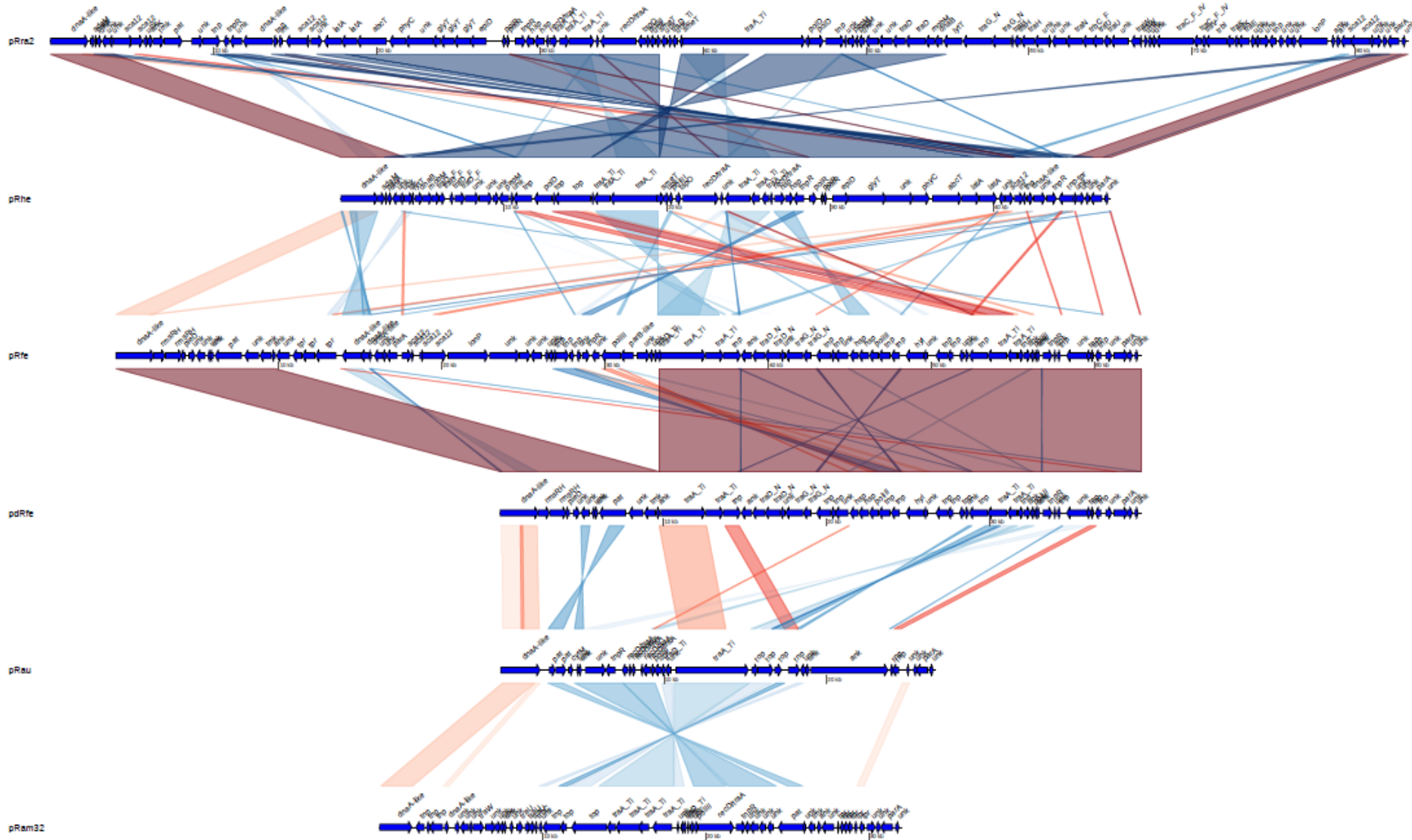
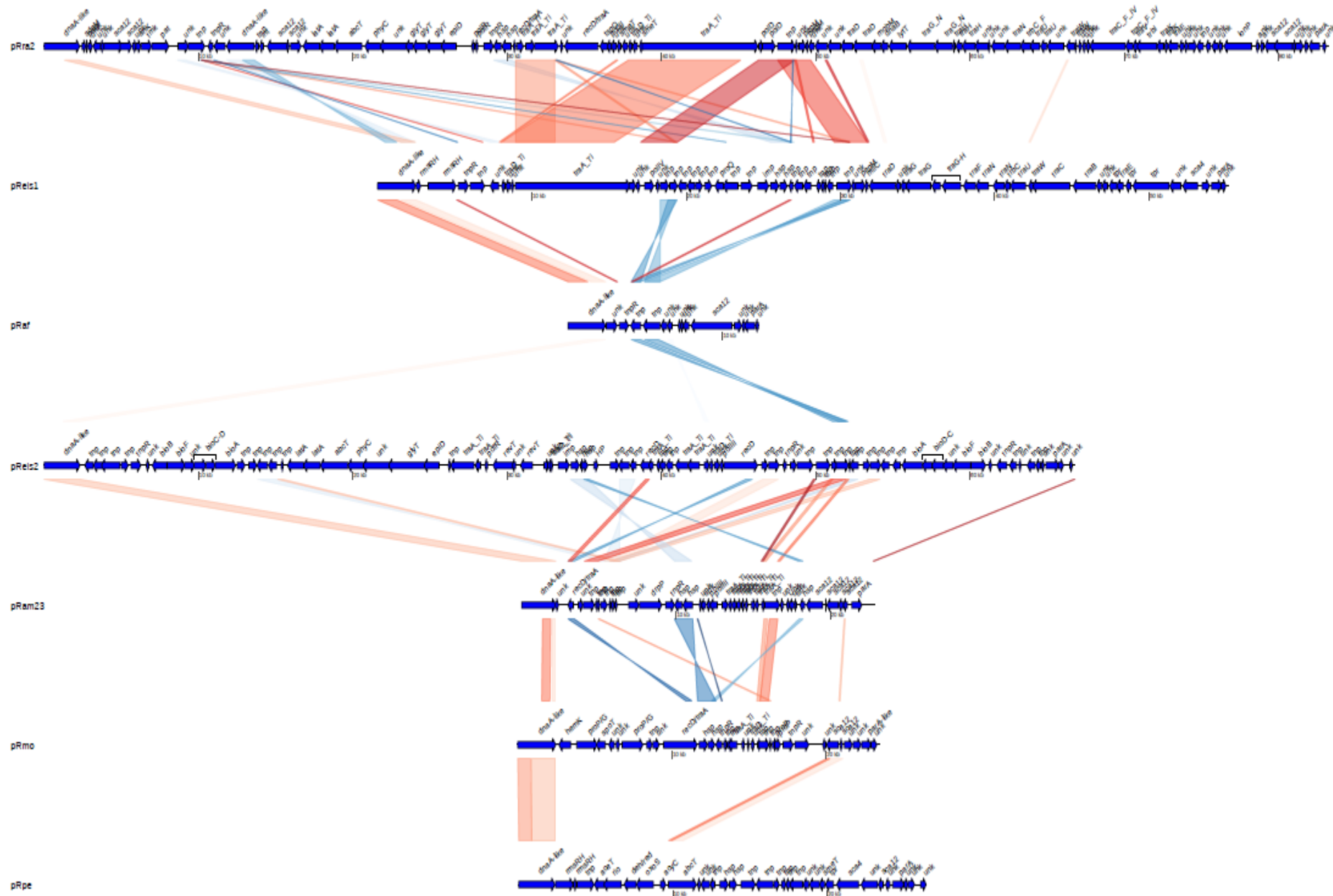


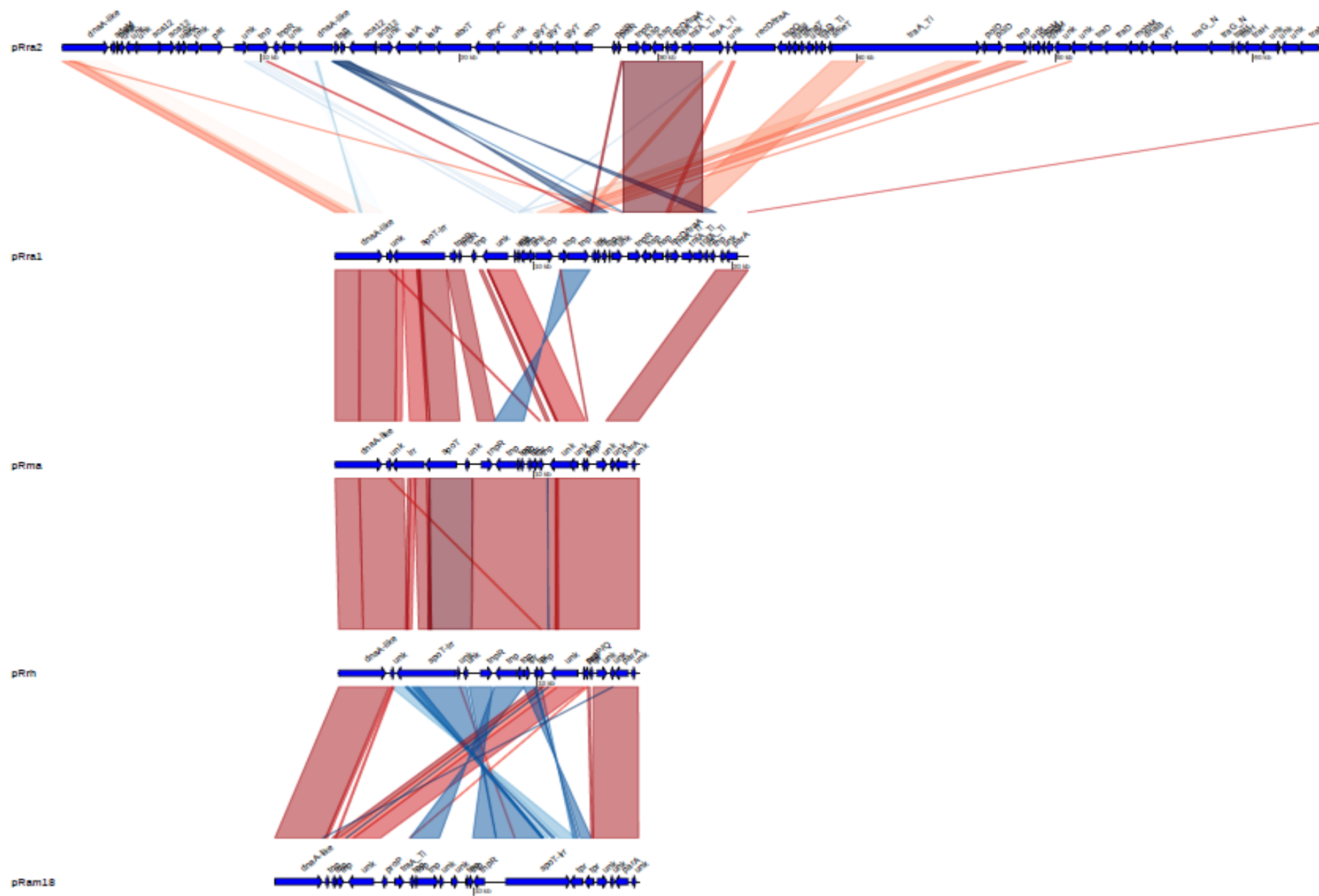
Figure B. Pairwise alignments of complete sequences of the four major groups I (A), II (B), III (C) and IV (D) of *Rickettsia* plasmids as well as of intra-cellular plasmid of *R. raoultii* (E), *R. endosymbionte* of *I. scapularis* (F) and *R. amblyomii* (G). The plasmid pRra2 was used as reference for all alignments. All sequences started with *dnaA*-like gene and ended with *parA* and some unknown genes.

A

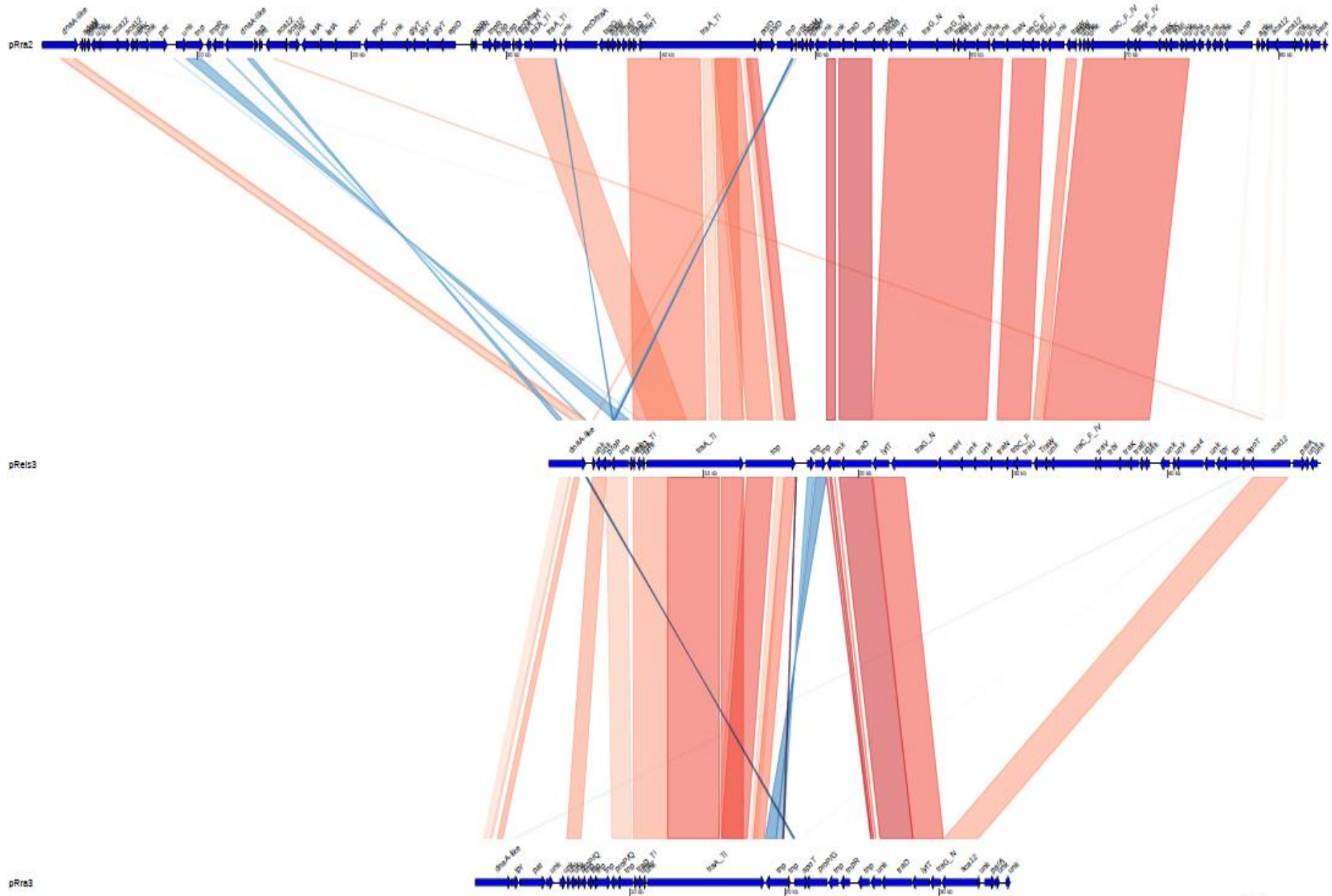


B

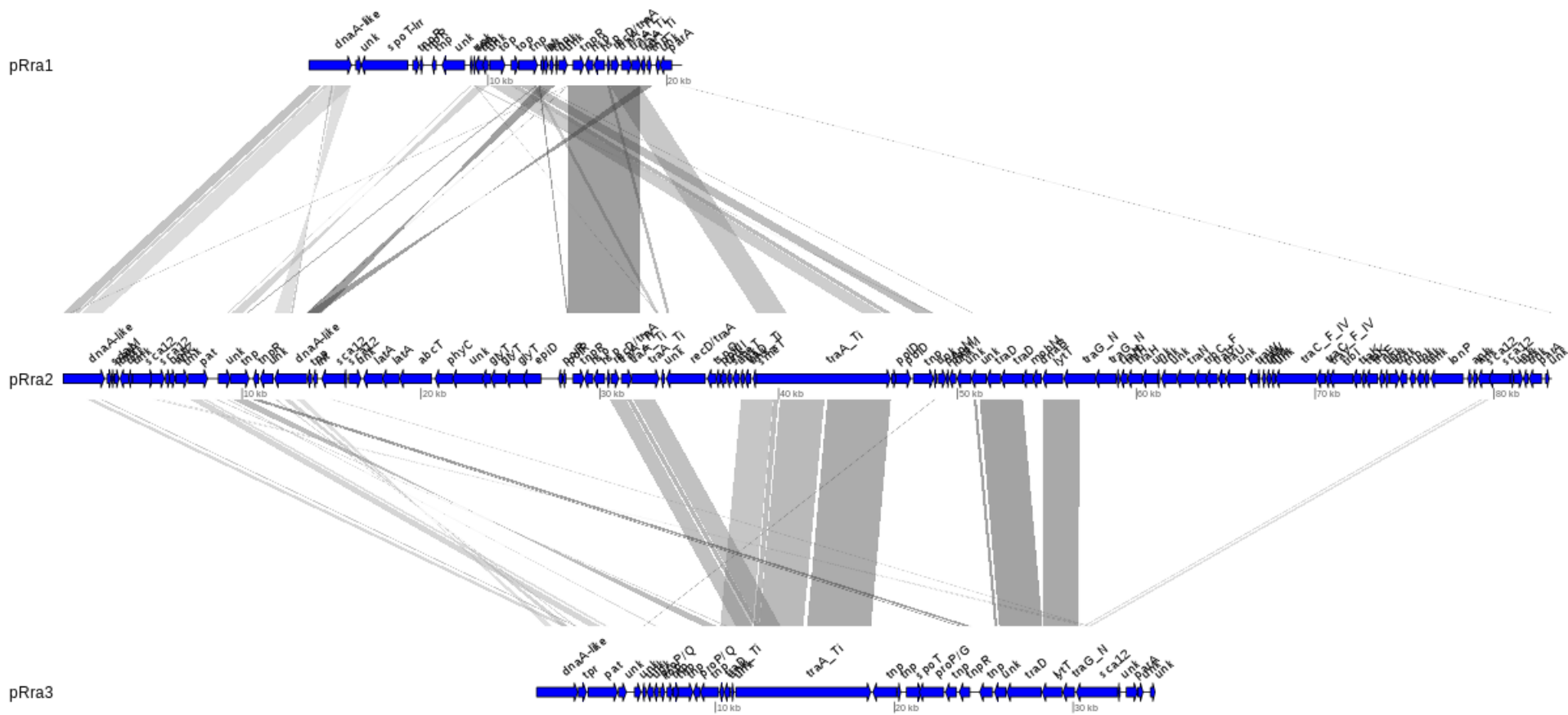
C



D



E



10 kb

G

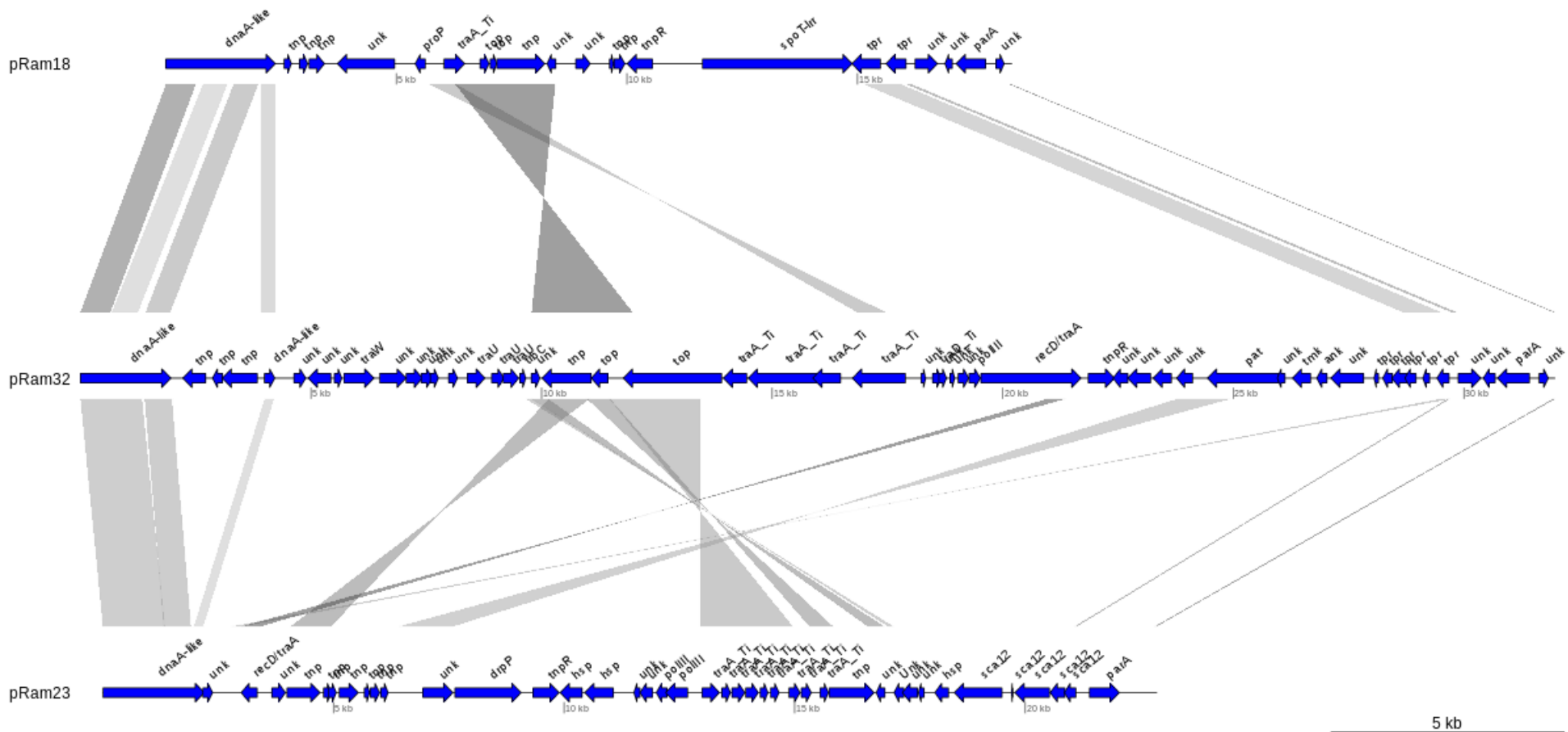


Figure C. Horizontal gene transfers occurred between *R. raoultii* chromosome, *R. peacockii* plasmid and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* chromosome.

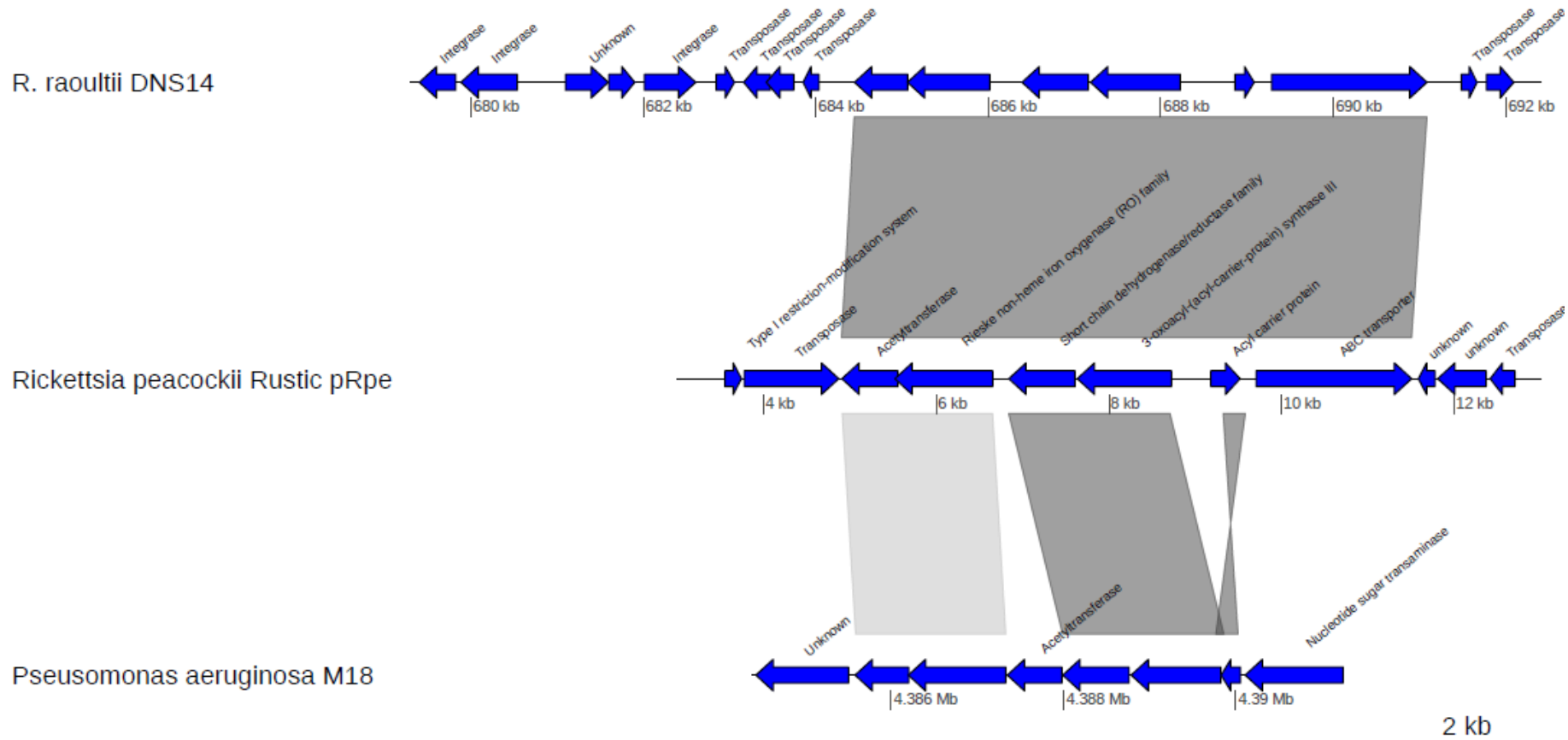


Figure D. Species details of evident HGT2 and 3 events occurred between rickettsial plasmids and non-*Rickettsia/Orientia* genomes, as inferred from best BLAST homology and phylogenetic relationships ($50 \geq \text{aa identity} \leq 100$ and $\text{BP} \geq 60$). Colors of species correspond to α -proteobacteria (blue), γ -proteobacteria (yellow), β -proteobacteria (cyan), δ -proteobacteria (beige), Bacteroidetes (red), Planctomycetes (green) and Other bacteria (white).

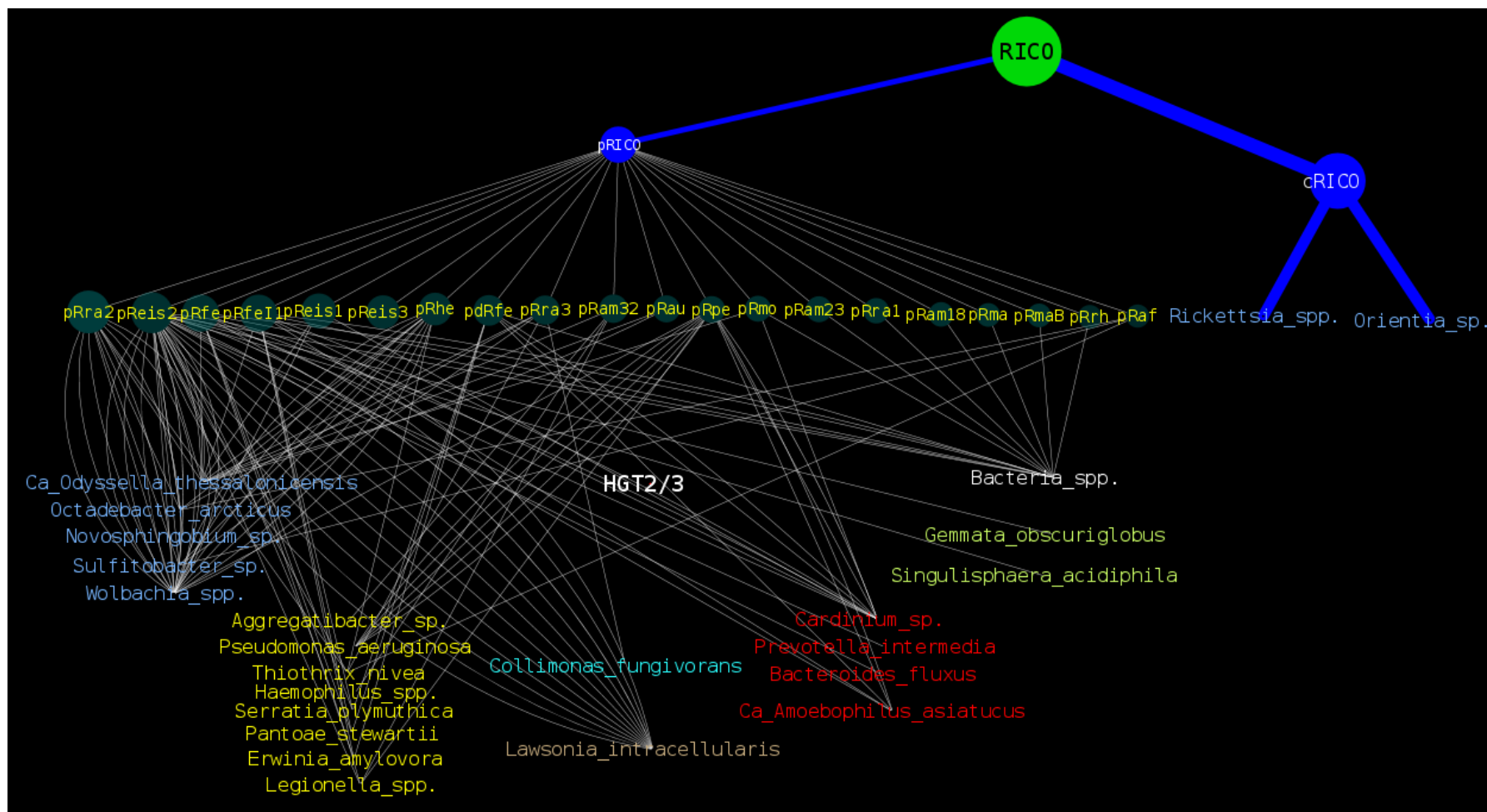


Figure E. Genus detail of putative HGT2 events occurred between rickettsial plasmids and unknown non-*Rickettsia/Orientia* genomes, as inferred from best BLAST homology ($25 \geq \text{aa identity} < 80$). Colors of species correspond to α -proteobacteria (blue), γ -proteobacteria (yellow), β -proteobacteria (cyan), Bacteroidetes (red), Deferribacteres (yellow), Cyanobacteria (silver), Chlamydiae (white), Firmicutes (grey), Spirochaetes (white), Archaea (brown) and Eukaryota (turquoise).

