Supplementary Information for
Biological Species in the Viral World
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22 Figure S1. Flow chart depicting each analytical step in defining biological species. Steps are

- numbered one to six and correspond to those described in the Methods section. Numbers of viral
   and bacteriophage clades remaining after each filtering step are indicated within each box, and
- numbers in parentheses are the total number of viral and bacteriophage genomes at each step.





27 Figure S2. Patterns of gene flow in bacteriophages infecting Mycobacterium smegmatis. For

each cluster, gene flow was estimated by the ratio of homoplasic to non-homoplasic alleles (h/m)

29 with a re-sampling strategy. For each number *i* of genomes, 100 combinations of *i* genomes were

30 randomly sampled and h/m was computed for each combination. Within the bivariate plots, black

31 dots are medians and the grey-shaded region is the standard deviation for the indicated number

- 32 of subsampled combinations of strains, and red dots and pink-shaded regions denote median h/m
- 33 values and standard deviation for simulations in which all homoplasies are introduced by
- 34 convergent mutations, as described in the text. Differences between the distributions of observed
- and simulated h/m values indicate the extent to which homoplasies are introduced by
- 36 recombination.





**Figure S3. Redefining species membership in bacteriophage cluster C1.** The discontinuity

39 detected in the graph for the entire set of genomes classified in bacteriophage cluster C1

40 indicated the presence of multiple species (left). After removal of the sexually isolated genome

41 (bacteriophage *Tonenili*), the graph was rebuilt (right). Black dots represent the median and the

42 grey area indicates the standard deviation of h/m for the different combinations of genomes.



- **Figure S4.** Phylogenetic networks of viral species. Phylogenetic networks were built using the core genome of each biological species of viruses with SplitsTree (1). The scale beside each
- phylogenetic network indicates substitution rate.



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49 Figure S5. Phylogenetic networks of bacteriophages species. Phylogenetic networks were

50 built using the core genome of each biological species of bacteriophages with SplitsTree (1). The

51 scale beside each phylogenetic network indicates substitution rate.



Figure S6. Patterns of gene flow in subclades of viral genera. Subclades within the three viral genera *Simplexvirus*, *Betacoronavirus* and *Deltacoronavirus* that each presented low signals of gene flow were tested independently for a signal of gene flow. Subclades were defined from phylogenetic trees that included all members of a genus, and analyses proceeding progressively examining smaller subclades, such that subclade 3 is included in subclade 2, which is included in subclade 1. Black dots represent the median and the grey area indicates the standard deviation of

h/m of the different combinations of genomes.







63 Average nucleotide identity (ANI) was computed along the entire core genome for members of

64 the same biological species. Shown are numbers of groupings (ANI-species) obtained at various

sequence-identity thresholds, selected as follows: 95%, threshold recommended for defining
bacterial species; 90%, threshold recommended for defining bacterial genera; 75%, threshold

bacterial species; 90%, threshold recommended for defining bacterial genera; 75%, threshold
representing the maximal divergence observed in biological species of bacteria. Note that the

68 different sequence-identity thresholds do not partition each biological species in a uniform

69 manner and that the maximal divergence observed between members of some viral species

realized and that the maximal divergence observed between members of sol
 exceeds that observed in bacteria.



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73 analyzed for pairs of clusters with large numbers of shared homologs ( $n \ge 16$ ). Black dots

represent the median and the grey area indicates the standard deviation of h/m of the different

75 combinations of genomes.

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## 77 SI References

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79	1.	Huson DH, Bryant D (2006) Application of phylogenetic networks in evolutionary
80		studies. Mol Biol Evol 23(2):254-267.