

**Supplementary table S2.** Overview of the six ToL / species tree projects.

Species tree project	Abbreviation	Species range*	Nb species	Root	Method	Comment	Publication year	Reference
NCBI Taxonomy	NCBI tax	BAE	425,755	Rooted	Literature	Manual	2014	(Federhen 2011)
Opentree of Life	Opentree	BAE	2,227,481	Rooted	NCBI-based, Phylogenetic analysis, Literature	Automated	2014	<a href="http://biorxiv.org/content/early/2014/12/15/012260">http://biorxiv.org/content/early/2014/12/15/012260</a>
sToL	sToL	BAE	1,711	Rooted	Phylogenetic analysis of a domain-based binary dataset	Automated	2014	(Fang, et al. 2013)
Huerta-Cepas et al	Tree-HC	E	216	Unrooted	Nested phylogenetic reconstruction	Automated	2014	<a href="http://peerj.com/preprints/223/">peerj.com/preprints/223/</a>
Ciccarelli et al	ToL-C	BAE	191	Unrooted	Phylogenetic analysis of 31 concatenated universal genes	Automated	2006	(Ciccarelli, et al. 2006)
16S rRNA	16S rRNA	BA	10,271	Rooted	Phylogenetic analysis	Manual	2013	(Yilmaz, et al. 2013)

\* B = Bacteria, A = Archaea, E = Eukaryota