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## Metahyphopichia laotica gen. nov., sp. nov., a novel polymorphic yeast related to Hyphopichia

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<b>Abstract:</b>	Four strains alternating between yeast and filamentous growth morphologies were isolated from flowers in two regions of Laos. In liquid environment the isolates propagated by budding and developed irregularly shaped pseudohyphae. On solid media their yeast cells switched to hyphal growth which could return to the yeast phase by developing lateral blastoconidia. The sequences of the D1/D2 domains of the large subunit (LSU) 26S rRNA genes, the internal transcribed spacer (ITS) regions and the small subunit (SSU) 18S rRNA genes were identical in the four strains and differed from the corresponding sequences of other yeast species available in databases by at least 11% (D1/D2), 13% (ITS) and 7% (SSU). In an independent project, two strains with D1/D2 and ITS sequences very similar to those of the Laotian strains were found in bark samples collected in Brazil. The six strains also differed from the closest yeast species in physiological properties, indicating that they represented a hitherto undescribed species. The phylogenetic analysis of the D1/D2 sequences, and the concatenated sequences of the SSU rRNA genes, D1/D2 domains of LSU rRNA genes as well as the protein-encoding genes ACT1 and TEF1 placed them close to Hyphopichia. To reflect this position, the novel genus name Metahyphopichia and the novel species name Metahyphopichia laotica are proposed for them. The type strain is 11-1006T (=CBS 13022T = CCY 092-001-001T = NCAIM Y.02126T) isolated in Luang Prabang (Laos). Mycobank registration numbers are MB 808253 (Metahyphopichia) and MB 808254 (M. laotica).

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***Metahyphopichia laotica* gen. nov., sp. nov., a novel polymorphic yeast related to *Hyphopichia***

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(Footnote)

The GenBank/EMBL/DDBJ accession numbers for the D1/D2 domain of the LSU rRNA gene, the ITS1-5.8S-ITS2 region and the 18S SSU rRNA gene of 11-1006<sup>T</sup> are JX515975, JX515976 and JX515977, respectively.

26 (Abstract)

27 Four strains alternating between yeast and filamentous growth morphologies were isolated  
28 from flowers in two regions of Laos. In liquid environment the isolates propagated by  
29 budding and developed irregularly shaped pseudohyphae. On solid media their yeast cells  
30 switched to hyphal growth which could return to the yeast phase by developing lateral  
31 blastoconidia. The sequences of the D1/D2 domains of the large subunit (LSU) 26S rRNA  
32 genes, the internal transcribed spacer (ITS) regions and the small subunit (SSU) 18S rRNA  
33 genes were identical in the four strains and differed from the corresponding sequences of  
34 other yeast species available in databases by at least 11% (D1/D2), 13% (ITS) and 7% (SSU).  
35 In an independent project, two strains with D1/D2 and ITS sequences very similar to those of  
36 the Laotian strains were found in bark samples collected in Brazil. The six strains also  
37 differed from the closest yeast species in physiological properties, indicating that they  
38 represented a hitherto undescribed species. The phylogenetic analysis of the D1/D2  
39 sequences, and the concatenated sequences of the SSU rRNA genes, D1/D2 domains of LSU  
40 rRNA genes as well as the protein-encoding genes *ACT1* and *TEF1* placed them close to  
41 *Hyphopichia*. To reflect this position, the novel genus name *Metahyphopichia* and the novel  
42 species name *Metahyphopichia laotica* are proposed for them. The type strain is 11-1006<sup>T</sup>  
43 (=CBS 13022<sup>T</sup> = CCY 092-001-001<sup>T</sup> = NCAIM Y.02126<sup>T</sup>) isolated in Luang Prabang (Laos).  
44 Mycobank registration numbers are MB 808253 (*Metahyphopichia*) and MB 808254 (*M.*  
45 *laotica*).

46 Alternation between yeast and filamentous growth phases is a widespread phenomenon in all  
47 larger taxonomic groups of Basidiomycota and Ascomycota. The ability to switch between  
48 growth phases helps the di- and polymorphic fungi adapt to changes in the environment. For  
49 example species are known that propagate by producing yeast cells in liquid substrates and by  
50 forming hyphae or pseudohyphae (or both) on/in solid substrates (e.g. Sipiczki *et al.*, 1998).  
51 In pathogenic species, the morphological transitions are usually associated with changes in  
52 pathogenicity (for a review, see Nemecek *et al.*, 2006). The signals that induce phase  
53 transitions and the mechanisms by which the organisms reprogramme themselves are poorly  
54 understood in most species. Detailed molecular analyses have been performed in a limited  
55 number of species (for reviews see, Han *et al.*, 2011; Gancedo, 2001) and revealed  
56 considerable diversity. In a recent bioinformatics analysis (Nagy *et al.*, 2014), we found that  
57 the diversification of Zn-cluster transcription factors may play an important role in the yeast-  
58 filamentous transitions. Identification and characterisation of novel species with di- or  
59 polymorphic growth cycles could contribute to a better understanding of the phenomenon.  
60 Motivated by these perspectives, we isolated yeasts capable of switching to filamentous  
61 growth from plant material collected in various geographical localities. Certain isolates turned  
62 out to represent novel species of various ascomycetous or basidiomycetous genera (e.g.  
63 Sipiczki & Kajdacs, 2009; Sipiczki, 2011, 2012, 2013). Here we report on another group of  
64 strains (Table 1) capable of alternation between yeast and filamentous morphologies. The  
65 strains represent a novel species related to *Hyphopichia* and *Danielozyma*.

66 To isolate yeasts capable of morphological transitions, plant material was collected in  
67 various localities in Laos in 2008. The samples were macerated in sterile water and aliquots  
68 were streaked on YEA (1% yeast extract, 2% glucose, 2 % agar, w/v). After incubation at 25  
69 °C for 10 days, yeast colonies fringed with mycelia were isolated. Three samples (fallen small  
70 flowers of uncertain origin) collected in the outskirts of the town Luang Prabang and one

71 sample from Vientiane (fallen Dok Champa [*Plumeria alba*] flower) produced colonies with  
72 wrinkled surface and mycelium. Representatives of colonies were isolated from each sample  
73 and restreaked on fresh YEA plates to select pure clones. The colonies of the Luang Prabang  
74 strains were more wrinkled and occasionally segregated into sectors with smoother surface  
75 (Fig. 1a,b). Both the more wrinkled and the smoother parts consisted of mixtures of budding  
76 yeast cells and pseudohyphae (Fig. 1c) but the proportion of pseudohyphae was lower in the  
77 sectors with smoother surfaces. On nutrient-poor media such as corn-meal agar (van der Walt  
78 & Yarrow, 1984), the yeast colonies of all isolates were thinner and released rapidly growing  
79 mycelium into the medium. Consistent with this colony morphology, all strains developed a  
80 mesh of branched hyphae in thin YEA films sandwiched between a glass slide and a cover  
81 slip (a modified Dalmau-plate method; Sipiczki, 2011) (Fig. 1e,f). On older parts of the  
82 hyphae, blastoconidia were formed which then divided by budding and established satellite  
83 yeast colonies along the hyphae (Fig. 1g). In the liquid medium YEL (YEA without agar),  
84 budding yeasts and pseudohyphae of irregular shape and size were observed. Blastoconidia  
85 were also formed on the pseudohyphae (Fig. 1d). Similar morphological transitions have been  
86 observed in many other dimorphic species (Kurtzman *et al.*, 2011).

87 For molecular analysis, genomic DNA was extracted from overnight cultures of three  
88 Luang Prabang isolates and one Vientiane isolate grown in YEL broth as described previously  
89 (Sipiczki, 2003). The purified DNA was used for the amplification of the D1/D2 domains of  
90 the large subunit (LSU) rRNA genes of the isolates with the primers NL-1 and NL-4  
91 (O'Donnell, 1993). The amplified DNA was purified and sequenced using the amplification  
92 primers. The D1/D2 sequences of the isolates were identical. The sequences of the ITS1-5.8S-  
93 ITS2 regions and the small subunit (SSU) rRNA genes of one isolate from Luang Prabang  
94 (11-1006<sup>T</sup>) and one isolate from Vientiane (11-516) were also determined and found identical.  
95 The primers used for amplification and sequencing were ITS1 and ITS4 for the ITS regions

96 (White *et al.*, 1990) and Fungi-18S-up and ITS4 for the 18S rRNA gene (Sipiczki & Kajdacsi,  
97 2009). The results of the sequence comparisons indicated that the isolates were conspecific.  
98 The GenBank accession number of the ITS1-5.8S-ITS2 sequence of 11-1006<sup>T</sup> is JX515976,  
99 the other accession numbers are listed in Table 1S.

100 The MEGABLAST similarity search with these sequences in the GenBank database  
101 (<http://blast.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/Blast.cgi>) found no identical sequences. The most similar  
102 D1/D2 sequence was from *Candida silvanorum* NRRL Y-7782 (U71068): 11% nucleotide  
103 difference (22 substitutions and 16 indels). Many D1/D2 sequences of taxonomically  
104 uncharacterized yeasts and strains of the *Danielozyma* (Kurtzman & Robnett, 2014),  
105 *Hyphopichia* (Groenewald & Smith, 2010; Limtong *et al.*, 2012), *Metschnikowia* (Lachance,  
106 2011) and *Pichia* (Kurtzman, 2011b) clades as well as the *C. haemulonii* species complex  
107 (Cendejas-Bueno *et al.*, 2012) showed 82-88 % identity. The most similar ITS sequences (85-  
108 87 % identity) and 18S sequences (92-93 % identity) were also from species belonging to  
109 these clades or from taxonomically uncharacterized strains. The significant sequence  
110 differences indicated that the Laotian polymorphic isolates represented a hitherto undescribed  
111 novel yeast species.

112 Recently, a D1/D2 sequence (KC206086) was deposited in the database which showed  
113 99% identity with those of the Laotian strains. The very strong similarity suggested that it was  
114 from a yeast most probably conspecific with the Laotian strains. This yeast (UFMG-CM-  
115 Y6070) was isolated from bark of the tree *Tapirira guianensis* (Anacardiaceae) collected in  
116 the Protected Ecological Reserve of Serra do Lajeado, in the city of Taquaruçu, state of  
117 Tocantins, Brazil in October 2011, together with the strain UFMG-CM-Y6069, which had an  
118 identical D1/D2 sequence. For yeast isolation, the bark samples were inoculated in tubes  
119 containing 15 ml of Yeast Nitrogen Base (YNB, Difco, USA) supplemented with 1%  
120 raffinose, 8% ethanol and 0.02% chloramphenicol, as described by Sampaio & Gonçalves

121 (2008). DNA extraction, PCR reactions and sequencing of the D1/D2 domains were done as  
122 described by Safar *et al.* (2013). Both Brazilian strains produced both pseudohyphae and  
123 mycelium. The ITS1-5.8S-ITS2 sequence (KP262069) of UFMG-CM-Y6070 differed from  
124 that of 11-1006<sup>T</sup> at 10 positions which is close to the average intraspecific variability (2.51%  
125 with a standard deviation of 4.57) determined by Nilsson *et al.* (2008) for fungi but higher  
126 than the usual variability within ascomycetous yeast species (e.g. Chen *et al.*, 2001;  
127 Kurtzman, 2012). To further examine the relationship of 11-1006<sup>T</sup> and UFMG-CM-Y6070,  
128 we amplified and sequenced regions of their genes coding for actin (*ACT1*), the RNA  
129 polymerase II (*RPB2*) and the translation elongation factor 1-alpha (*TEF1*) using the primer  
130 pairs CA1 and CA5R (for *ACT1*), RPB2-6F and fRPB2-7cR (for *RPB2*) and YTEF-1 and  
131 YTEF-6A (for *TEF1*) with the enzyme DreamTaq (Thermo) (Kann, 1993; Kurtzman &  
132 Robnett, 2003). The amplification parameters were: initial denaturation step at 95°C for 5  
133 min, 30 cycles at 95°C for 50 s, 55°C for 50 s, 72°C for 70 s and a final elongation step at  
134 72°C for 5 min. The same primers were used for sequencing the amplified fragments (see  
135 Table 1S for GenBank accession numbers). The differences found in their blast2 alignments  
136 (1 substitution and 1 indel for *ACT1*, 2 substitutions for *RPB2*, and 10 substitutions and 1  
137 indel for *TEF1*) confirmed the close relationship detected between their D1/D2 domains.

138 Both the Laotian and the Brazilian groups of isolates were tested for physiological  
139 properties and sporulation using standard taxonomic methods (van der Walt & Yarrow, 1984)  
140 and found to differ in numerous traits from the type strain of *C. silvanorum*, the most closely  
141 related species in terms of rDNA sequence similarity (Table 2). No variability was detected  
142 among the isolates. Mating and sporulation was tested both in pure cultures and in mixed  
143 cultures with other strains by cultivation on acetate agar, malt-extract agar and corn-meal agar  
144 at 17 °C and 25 °C for 4 weeks. Neither mating nor sexual sporulation was observed in the  
145 cultures.

146 To determine the phylogenetic position of the strains of the new species, phylogenetic  
147 analyses were carried out with the D1/D2 domain sequences of strains 11-1006<sup>T</sup> (JX515975),  
148 UFMG-CM-Y6070 (KC206086) and the type strains of species of related genera. Sequences  
149 which did not overlap the entire variable regions of the domain (Sipiczki *et al.*, 2013) were  
150 not involved in the analysis. For multiple alignment of sequences, the CLUSTAL W 1.7  
151 (Thompson *et al.*, 1994) and the MAFT version 6 (Kato & Toh, 2008) algorithms were used.  
152 After the first alignment, the overhangs of the sequences that did not overlap with all other  
153 sequences were removed and a new alignment was produced for the phylogenetic analysis.  
154 The alignments were then analysed with Bayesian (Mr Bayes 3.2: Ronquist *et al.*, 2012),  
155 maximum-likelihood (PHYML 3.0: Guindon *et al.*, 2010), neighbour-joining, and maximum  
156 parsimony (PHYLIP version 3.67 software package: Felsenstein, 2007) methods. The  
157 Bayesian tree was generated with the General-Time-Reversible (GTR) substitution model for  
158 nucleotide sequences (Saccone *et al.*, 1990) and gamma-shaped rate variation with a  
159 proportion of invariable sites. The MCMC processes were set so that four chains were run  
160 simultaneously for 3,000,000 generations. The average standard deviation of split frequencies  
161 was: 0.004469, indicating a convergence. Bayesian posterior probability of the branches was  
162 estimated from 1937 trees. In the maximum-likelihood analysis, settings were made according  
163 to the best model suggested by the Akaike Information Criterion (AIC) in jModelTest version  
164 2.0.2 (Posada, 2008). In the neighbour-joining analysis, the F84 model of nucleotide  
165 substitutions (Felsenstein & Churchill, 1996) was used for computing distance matrices.  
166 Confidence limits for this and the parsimony analysis were estimated by bootstrapping based  
167 on 1000 replications using the SEQBOOT and CONSENCE (majority-rule) programmes of  
168 the PHYLIP package. Trees were visualized with the TreeView (Page, 1996) and FigTree  
169 (<http://tree.bio.ed.ac.uk/>) programmes.



170 In all analyses, the Laotian and Brazilian strains shared a branch clearly separated  
171 from the type strains of all species whose strains were identified in the database search as  
172 having similar D1/D2 sequences, confirming that they constitute a distinct species. All  
173 methods identified *C. silvanorum* as their closest relative and placed them close to the genera  
174 *Hyphopichia*, *Danielozyma* and *Metschnikowia* (the PhyML tree is shown in Fig. 1S).

175 In all trees the joint branch of the new strains and the *C. silvanorum* type strain  
176 separated from the *Hyphopichia* lineage, but the statistical support of this node was always  
177 very weak. Hence, we conducted an analysis with more chromosomal regions of  
178 representatives of a broader spectrum of genera. For multilocus tree inference we  
179 concatenated D1/D2, 18S SSU (small subunit rRNA), *ACT1* (coding for actin) and *TEF1*  
180 (coding for translation elongation factor 1-alpha) gene sequences. As such sequences were not  
181 available for all related type strains, we first sequenced their missing genes (Table 1S) using  
182 the primers and methods described above and in Kurtzman and Robnett (2003). Sequence  
183 alignment and tree inference were performed as described above. The analysis of the  
184 concatenated sequences placed 11-1006<sup>T</sup> and UFMG-CM-Y6070 near *Hyphopichia* (Fig. 2)  
185 on a well-separated branch with strong statistical support. The 11-1006<sup>T</sup> sequences differed in  
186 Blast alignments from the corresponding sequences of the type strain (CBS 2352) of *H.*  
187 *burtonii*, the type species of *Hyphopichia* at 35 (D1/D2), 84 (SSU rRNS), 78 (*ACT1*), 107  
188 (*TEF1*), and 121 (*RPB2*) positions. Within the ITS1-5.8S-ITS2 segment, similarity (95%) was  
189 detected only in the 5.8S gene. These results indicate that the Laotian and Brazilian strains  
190 represent a novel species of a novel genus. To accommodate them in the taxonomic system of  
191 yeasts, we propose the new genus name *Metahyphopichia* gen. nov. and the species name  
192 *Metahyphopichia laotica* sp. nov. which refers to the geographical location of the site, from  
193 where the type strain (11-1006<sup>T</sup>) was isolated.

194 *M. laotica* is a morphologically variable yeast like its closest relative, the dimorphic  
195 *C. silvanorum* originally identified in beetle infestations (van der Walt *et al.*, 1971) and  
196 numerous *Hyphopichia* species (Kurtzman, 2011a; Limtong *et al.*, 2012). It can switch from  
197 yeast morphology to filamentous morphology, and its hyphae penetrate into solid substrates  
198 where they establish satellite yeast colonies during their extension. A similar colonizing  
199 strategy was recently observed in a *Pichia* species (Sipiczki, 2013). It is likely that other  
200 dimorphic *Pichia* and *Hyphopichia* species also make use of morphological transitions for  
201 more effective colonization of solid and semisolid substrates.

202 The occurrence of *M. laotica* associated with flowers and tree barks suggests that these  
203 substrates could be its ecological niche. Probably, insects that visit these substrates are the  
204 vectors of this new yeast species. Several recently described yeast species, such as *C.*  
205 *golubevii*, *Moniliella fonsecae*, *Saccharomycopsis fodiens* and *Kodamaea transpacificica*, are  
206 reported to occur in South America and Asia (Rosa *et al.*, 2009, 2010; Lachance *et al.*, 2012;  
207 Freitas *et al.*, 2013). Freitas *et al.* (2013) suggesting that the dispersion of some of these  
208 species may be linked to the activity of ancient human populations. The occurrence of *M.*  
209 *laotica* in Asia and South America could also be linked to the dispersion of plants with their  
210 indigenous microbiota by these ancient populations, however, this hypothesis needs further  
211 studies to be proven.

212

### 213 **Description of *Metahyphopichia* Sipiczki & Pfliegler gen. nov.**

214

215 *Metahyphopichia* (Me.ta.hy.pho.pi'chi.a. Gr. prep. meta, close by; N.L. fem. n. *Hyphopichia* a  
216 fungal genus; N.L. fem. n. *Metahyphopichia*, indicating that this genus occurs on the  
217 phylogenetic trees adjacent to the *Hyphopichia* clade).

218 The genus is phylogenetically related to the genera *Hyphopichia* and *Danielozyma*. Colonies  
219 are polymorphic with initial yeast growth. Yeast cells divide by multilateral budding. Among  
220 the yeast cells, pseudohyphae of irregular shape are frequently formed which produce lateral  
221 and terminal blastoconidia. Invasive, branching septate hyphae are developed below the yeast  
222 colonies. The hyphae can produce lateral blastoconidia that establish satellite yeast colonies.

223

224 The type species is *Metahyphopichia laotica* Sipiczki, Pfliegler, Safar, Morais & Rosa

225

226 **Description of *Metahyphopichia laotica* Sipiczki, Pfliegler, Safar, Morais &**

227 ***Rosa* sp. nov.**

228

229 *Metahyphopichia laotica* (la.o'ti.ca N.L. nom.fem. adj. *laotica* pertaining to Laos from where  
230 the type strain was isolated).

231

232 In the liquid medium YEL, after 2 days of incubation at 25°C, cells are round to long oval, 1-  
233 3 x 1.5-4.5 µm, occur singly or in pairs and propagate by budding (Fig. 1c). Surface ring and  
234 sparse sediment are present. On YEA, after 1 month at 25 °C, the colonies are white to cream  
235 coloured, with venose to wrinkled surface and eroded margin but also with smoother sectors  
236 (Fig. 1a,b). Pseudohyphae consisting of irregularly elongated and curved cells are produced  
237 both in liquid and on solid media (Fig. 1c,d). Invasive mycelium is formed in the solid  
238 medium under and around the yeast colonies. In thin films of YEA sandwiched between glass  
239 slides (modified Dalmou plates), elaborate branching mycelium (Fig. 1e,f) of septate hyphae  
240 and pseudohyphae is formed. Ovoid to elongate (2-3 x 3-6 µm) blastoconidia develop on the  
241 hyphae. The blastoconidia propagate by budding and establish yeast colonies along the  
242 extending hypha (Fig. 1g). No ascospores are produced on YEA, acetate agar, malt-extract

243 agar or corn-meal agar (for the description of media, see van der Walt & Yarrow, 1984) after  
244 4 weeks of incubation at 17 °C and 25 °C. For description of the biochemical and  
245 physiological characteristics, see Table 2. *M. laotica* differs from the most closely related  
246 species in numerous properties which allow their differentiation by conventional taxonomic  
247 tests.

248

249 The type strain is 11-1006<sup>T</sup>, isolated from fallen flower in Luang Prabang, Laos. It has been  
250 deposited in the culture collection of the Centraalbureau voor Schimmelcultures, Utrecht, The  
251 Netherlands, as CBS 13022<sup>T</sup> (= CCY 092-001-001<sup>T</sup> = NCAIM Y.02126<sup>T</sup>).

252

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262

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386

387 **Table 1.** List of strains

Strain	Substrate from which the strain was isolated	Location of sample collection	Date of sample collection
11-516	Fallen Dok Champa [ <i>Plumeria alba</i> ] flower	Vientiane, Laos	2008
11-1006 <sup>T</sup>	Fallen flowers of uncertain origin	Luang Prabang, Laos	2008
12-511	Fallen flowers of uncertain origin	Luang Prabang, Laos	2008
12-777	Fallen flowers of uncertain origin	Luang Prabang, Laos	2008
UFMG-CM-Y6070	Bark of the tree <i>Tapirira guianensis</i>	Protected Ecological Reserve of Serra do Lajeado, Taquaruçu, Tocantins state, Brazil	2011
UFMG-CM-Y6070	Bark of the tree <i>Tapirira guianensis</i>	Protected Ecological Reserve of Serra do Lajeado, Taquaruçu, Tocantins state, Brazil	2011

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 392 **Table 2.** Physiological properties of *Metahyphopichia laotica* strains 11-1006<sup>T</sup> and UFMG-  
 393 CM-Y6070. Comparison with *Candida silvanorum* CBS 6274<sup>T</sup>. All strains are positive for  
 394 fermentation of D-glucose; assimilation of D-glucose, D-galactose, D-ribose, D-xylose, L-  
 395 arabinose, L-rhamnose, sucrose, maltose, trehalose, methyl- $\alpha$ -D-glucoside, cellobiose, salicin,  
 396 arbutin, raffinose, melezitose, glycerol, meso-erythritol, ribitol, xylitol, D-glucitol, D-  
 397 mannitol, succinate, L-lysine and growth at 50% glucose, 25 °C and 30 °C. All strains are  
 398 negative for fermentation of lactose and melezitose; assimilation of D-glucosamine (as carbon  
 399 source), lactose, galactitol, myo-inositol, D-glucuronate, methanol, propane-1,2-diol, butane-  
 400 2,3-diol, nitrite, imidazole and growth at 0.01% cycloheximide, 1% acetic acid and 60%  
 401 glucose. No physiological differences were detected among the Laotian strains and between  
 402 the Brazilian strains. +, growth; -, no growth; v, variable; w, weak growth; d, delayed growth;  
 403 <sup>T</sup>, type strain.

Property	<i>Metahyphopichia laotica</i> 11-1006 <sup>T</sup>	<i>Metahyphopichia laotica</i> UFMG-CM-6070	<i>Candida silvanorum</i> CBS 6274 <sup>T,*</sup>
Fermentation of carbon sources			
D-Galactose	+	+	w
Maltose	-	-	w
Sucrose	-	-	w
Trehalose	+	+	w
Melibiose	-	-	w
Cellobiose	-	-	-
Raffinose	w	w	w
Assimilation of carbon compounds			
L-Sorbose	-	-	d
D-Arabinose	w	-	d
Melibiose	-	-	+
Inulin	-	-	-
Starch	w	w	+
L-Arabinitol	w	w	+
Citrate	+	+	+
Ethanol	-	-	+
Quinic acid	+	+	-
Assimilation of nitrogen compounds			
Nitrate	w	-	-

Ethylamine	-	-	+
Cadaverine	-	-	+
Creatine	+	+	-
Creatinine	+	+	-
Glucosamine	+	+	-
D-Tryptophan	+	+	-
Other tests			
Growth in vitamin-free medium	v	w	-
Acid production 37 °C	+	+	-
	-	w	+

404 \* CBS (Centraalbureau voor Schimmelcultures):

405 <http://www.cbs.knaw.nl/collections/BioloMICS.aspx> and Barnett *et al.* (1990)

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410 (legends)

411

412 **Fig. 1.** Morphology of *Metahyphopichia laotica*. Colony morphology of strains (a) 11-1006<sup>T</sup>  
413 and (b) 11-516 on YEA after incubation for 1 month at 25 °C. (c) Yeast cells and  
414 pseudohyphae in an overnight culture of 11-1006<sup>T</sup> growing in YEL at 25 °C. (d) A  
415 pseudohypha of 11-1006<sup>T</sup> with a blastoconidium (star) and scars (arrows), where conidia were  
416 developed. (e) Formation of mycelium in YEA film sandwiched between a glass slide and a  
417 cover slip. (f) Branching hyphae in the mycelium. (g) Blastoconidia (arrow) and satellite yeast  
418 colonies formed along a hypha. Bar, 5 µm for (c) and (d), 20 µm for (f) and 25 µm for (g).

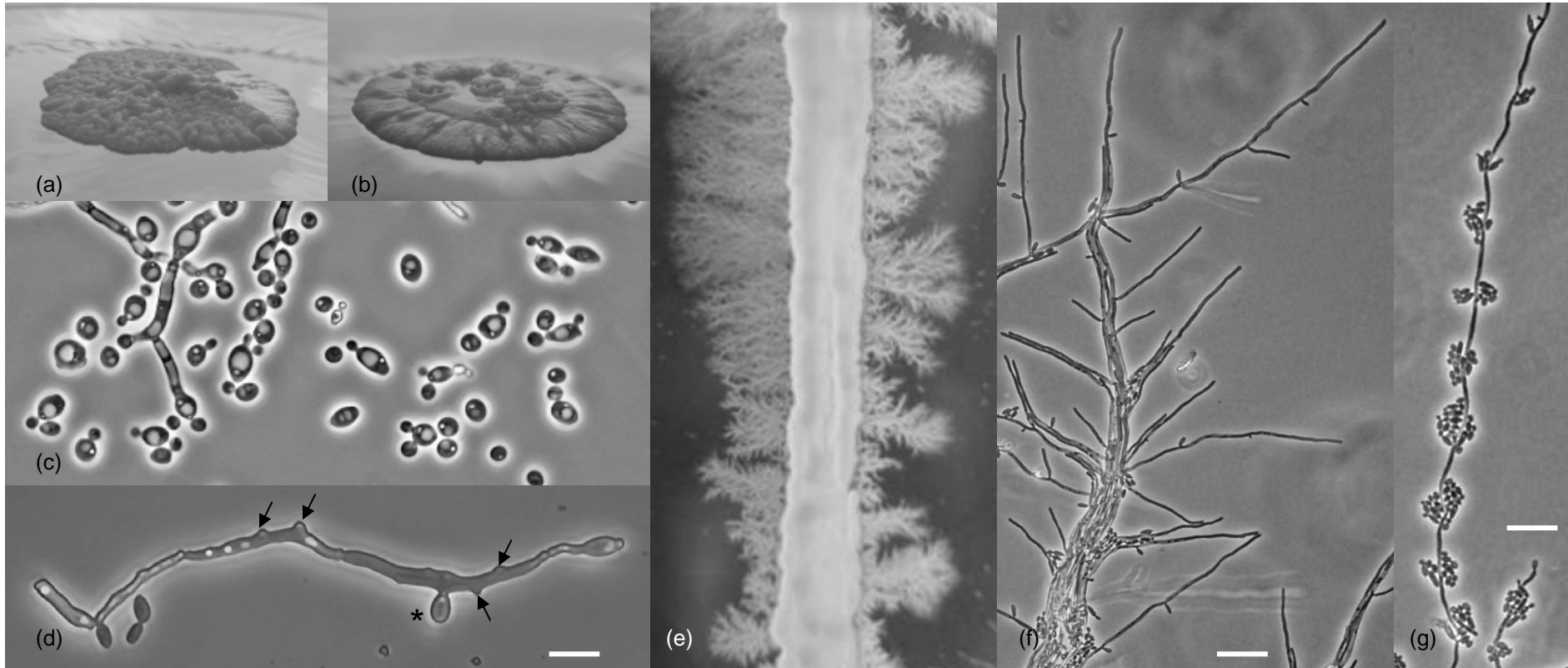
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420 **Fig. 2.** Phylogenetic relationships of *Metahyphopichia laotica* 11-1006<sup>T</sup> and UFMG CM-  
421 Y6070 with related species and genera determined from Bayesian analysis of concatenated  
422 chromosomal sequences of SSU rRNA, D1/D2 domains of LSU rRNA, *ACT1* and *TEF1*. The  
423 type strain of *Schizosaccharomyces pombe* was the outgroup in the analysis. Posterior  
424 probability values are given at branch nodes. See Table 1S for sequence accession numbers.  
425 For concatenation, Clustal X alignments were prepared for each gene separately and the  
426 terminal regions not overlapping with the shortest sequence were removed from all  
427 sequences. The shortened sequences were then concatenated and aligned with Clustal X. This  
428 alignment was used in the Bayesian analysis.

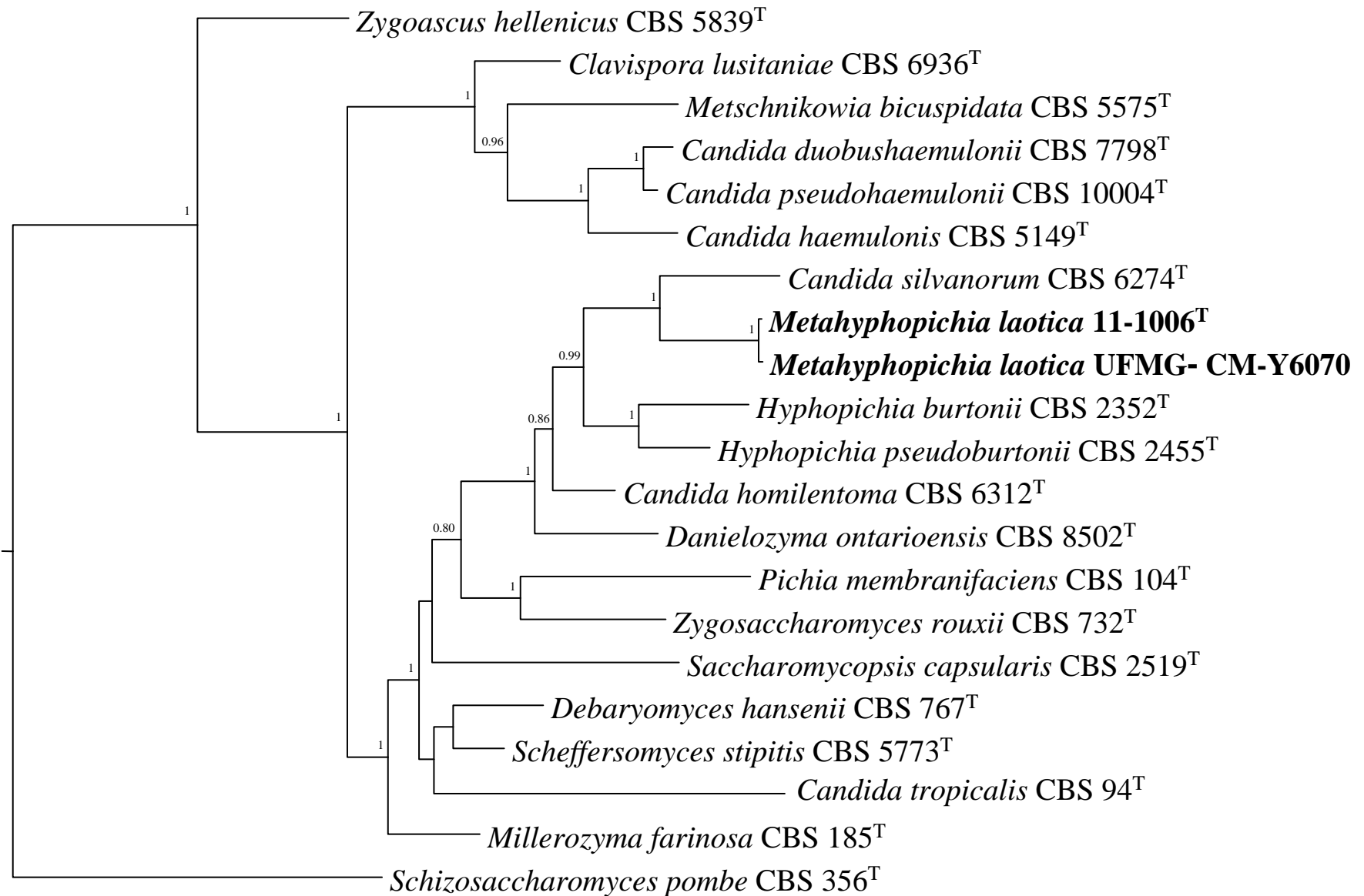
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(Fig. 1)



(Fig. 2)



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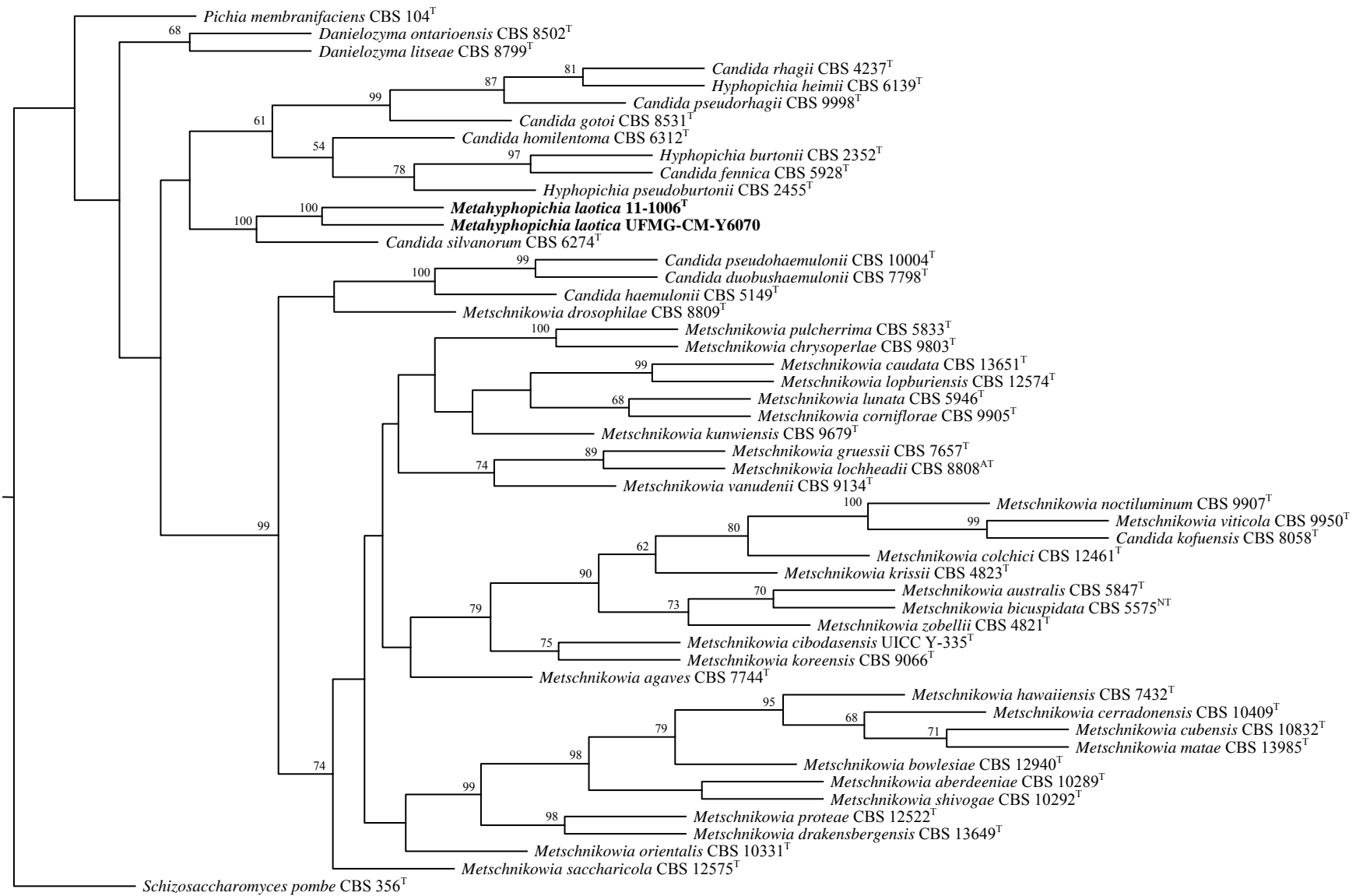


**Table 1S.** Accession numbers of sequences

Species	CBS*	SSU†	LSU†	ACT1†	TEF1†
<i>Candida duobushaemulonii</i>	7798 <sup>T</sup>	KU557488	JX459765	AJ508472	KU746855
<i>Candida haemulonis</i>	5149 <sup>T</sup>	AB013572	U44812	KU705473	KU705474
<i>Candida homilentoma</i>	6312 <sup>T</sup>	AB018166	U45716	KU728670	KU841443
<i>Candida pseudohaemulonii</i>	10004 <sup>T</sup>	KU570385	AB118792	KU841444	KU841445
<i>Candida silvanorum</i>	6274 <sup>T</sup>	AB018174	U71068	KU728669	KU728668
<i>Candida tropicalis</i>	94 <sup>T</sup>	EU348785	U45749	AJ508499	AY497660
<i>Clavispora lusitaniae</i>	6936 <sup>T</sup>	JQ689030	JQ698900	AJ389065	JQ699057
<i>Danielozyma ontarioensis</i>	8502 <sup>T</sup>	AY500849	AF017244	KU746856	KF964132
<i>Debaromyces hansenii</i>	767 <sup>T</sup>	JQ698910	JQ689041	AJ508505	JQ699068
<i>Hyphopichia burtonii</i>	2352 <sup>T</sup>	AB018177	U45712	AJ508512	KU609071
<i>Hyphopichia pseudoburtonii</i>	2455 <sup>T</sup>	KU557487	GQ389650	KU609072	KU705472
<i>Metahyphopichia laotica</i> 11-1006 <sup>T</sup>	13022 <sup>T</sup>	JX515977	JX515975	KM986114	KM986115
<i>Metahyphopichia laotica</i> UFMG-CM-Y6070		KU609070	KC206086	KP316405	KP316406
<i>Metschnikowia bicuspidata</i>	5575 <sup>T</sup>	JQ698902	U44822	AJ745130	FJ238407
<i>Millerozyma farinosa</i>	185 <sup>T</sup>	AB054281	JQ689046	AJ508514	JQ699073
<i>Pichia membranefaciens</i>	107 <sup>T</sup>	JQ698896	EF550227	AJ389088	JQ699053
<i>Saccharomycopsis</i> <i>capsularis</i>	2519 <sup>T</sup>	JQ698884	JQ689010	AJ389092	JQ699034
<i>Scheffersomyces stipitis</i>	5773 <sup>T</sup>	Q698912	JQ689044	AJ508520	JQ699071
<i>Schizosaccharomyces</i> <i>pombe</i>	356 <sup>T</sup>	JQ698936	AY048171	Y00447	EF552572
<i>Zygoascus hellenicus</i>	5839 <sup>T</sup>	GU597328	JQ689060	AJ508498	GU597340
<i>Zygosaccharomyces rouxii</i>	732 <sup>T</sup>	X90758	JQ689016	AJ878414	JQ699040

\*Strain number in the culture collection Centraalbureau voor Schimmelcultures (CBS), Utrecht, The Netherlands

†Gene sequences. SSU, nuclear small subunit rRNA gene; LSU, D1/D2 domain of the nuclear large subunit rRNA gene; *ACT1*, actin gene; *TEF1*, translation elongation factor 1- $\alpha$  gene.



**Fig. 1S.** A phylogenetic tree based on the PhyML analysis of the sequences of the D1/D2 domains of the large subunit rRNA genes. Bootstrap values >50% based on 1000 resamplings are shown at branch nodes. Outgroup: *Schizosaccharomyces pombe*. GenBank accession numbers of the sequences are shown in brackets.