1	The complete mitochondrial genome of the Indochinese jackal (Canis aureus cruesemanni)
2	and its relationship to other subspecies of golden jackal
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24 Abstract

25 The Indochinese jackal (Canis aureus cruesemanni) is a subspecies of the golden jackal (Canis 26 *aureus*) found in Southeast Asia. While this species has been genetically studied in Europe, the 27 Middle East, and India, current research is lacking on the population(s) in Southeast Asia. Using 28 a genome skimming approach, we assembled the first complete mitochondrial genome for an 29 Indochinese jackal from Thailand. The mitogenome contained 37 annotated genes and is 16,729 30 bps in length. Phylogenetic analysis with 21 additional canid mitogenomes, along with analyses 31 of a cytochrome b gene-only data set, supports the Indochinese jackal as a distinct lineage, and 32 therefore subspecies, among golden jackals.

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Keywords: Canis aureus; subspecies; phylogeny; mitochondrial genome; golden jackal

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1. Introduction

37 The golden jackal, *Canis aureus* (Linnaeus, 1758), a member of the family Canidae, is found 38 across southern Eurasia and is generally thriving (Krofel et al., 2017). It has been designated as a 39 species of Least Concern by the IUCN Red List and has received CITES Appendix III protection 40 in India (Hoffmann et al., 2018). The taxonomy of this species has been in flux in recent years 41 due to genetic and genomic evidence supporting the recognition of golden jackal populations in 42 Africa as a distinct species, the African wolf, *Canis lupaster* (Hemprich and Ehrenberg, 1832; 43 Koepfli et al., 2015; Krofel et al., 2022). Within Eurasia, up to eight subspecies have been 44 described, although their delimitations are not well defined (Moehlman and Hayssen, 2018). 45 Among these is the Indochinese jackal, Canis aureus cruesemanni (Matschie, 1900), first 46 described by German zoologist Paul Matschie from living specimens in the Berlin Zoological 47 Garden that came from southwest Siam (now Thailand). In Thailand, this jackal inhabits dry

48 dipterocarp forests and other open landscapes, and like other golden jackals, it is omnivorous and
49 active at twilight and night (Parr, 2003).

50

51 Recent studies on golden jackals employing microsatellites and/or partial mitochondrial DNA 52 sequences have focused on analyzing genetic diversity and structure within regional populations 53 (e.g., India, Yumnam et al., 2015; Iran, Yusefi et al., 2021) or across multiple populations, often 54 with the aim to understand the origin of the population(s) that have been rapidly expanding in 55 western Europe (Fabbri et al., 2014; Rutkowski et al., 2015; Spassov and Acosta-Pankov, 2019). Phylogeographic analyses have generally revealed only little to moderate genetic structuring, 56 57 depending on the scale of the geographic sampling. However, none of these studies have so far 58 included samples from the part of the species' range in Southeast Asia. The Indochinese jackal 59 likely represents the easternmost population of the golden jackal (Moehlman and Hayssen, 60 2018). Therefore, we predicted that it may be genetically differentiated from western populations 61 in the species' range. To test this, we report the sequencing, assembly, and annotation of the first 62 complete mitochondrial genome of an Indochinese jackal from Thailand.

- 63
- 64 **2. Materials and Methods**

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2.1 Indochinese jackal (Thailand) sample collection and preparation

As part of a field expedition investigating the ecology of wild canid species in Thailand, a male
Indochinese jackal was live-trapped in the Salakpra Wildlife Sanctuary, Kanchanaburi Province,
Thailand (latitude = 14.309912, longitude = 99.256454). A capture permit was given by the
Department of National Park, Wildlife and Plant Conservation (permit#0907.4/17810). The
jackal was estimated to be 1-2 years old based on dental evaluation. A 3 ml whole blood sample

71	was collected and stored at -80°C (NZCBI acuc # 14-01) in the personal collection of N.
72	Songsasen (SongsasenN@si.edu) at the Smithsonian's National Zoo and Conservation Biology
73	Institute (https://nationalzoo.si.edu/center-for-species-survival). An aliquot of whole blood was
74	delivered to Psomagen, Inc. (Rockville, MD) for DNA extraction, library preparation, and
75	sequencing. Genomic DNA was extracted using the Mag-Bind Blood and Tissue Kit (Omega
76	Bio-Tek Inc., Norcross, GA) and evaluated for quality and concentration with a Picogreen and
77	Victor X2 fluorometry assay (Life Technologies, Carlsbad, CA), an Agilent 4200 Tapestation
78	(Agilent Technologies, Santa Clara, CA), and 1% gel electrophoresis. DNA was sheared into 350
79	bp fragments with a Covaris S220 ultrasonicator (Woburn, MA) and used to prepare a genomic
80	library with the TruSeq DNA PCR-free library kit (Illumina, San Diego, CA). The library was
81	quality checked on an Agilent 4200 Tapestation, quantitated via quantitative PCR using a
82	Lightcycler (Roche Life Science, St. Louis, MO), and then paired-end sequenced (2 x 150 bp) on
83	an Illumina NovaSeq 6000 instrument to a depth of 20x. A total of 374,172,520 reads were
84	generated, 92.2% of which had a \geq Q30 score.
85	
86	2.2 Indochinese jackal (Canis aureus cruesemanni) mitogenome assembly
87	Raw reads were evaluated using FastQC (Andrews, 2010) and then subsampled to 40 million
88	reads using BBMap version 38.96 (Bushnell, 2014). Subsampled reads were trimmed and
89	filtered using AdapterRemoval (Lindgreen, 2012) within PALEOMIX version 1.3.6 (Schubert et
90	al, 2014). The read set was then mapped to the reference mitochondrial genome of the gray wolf
91	(Canis lupus, Björnerfeldt et al., 2006; GenBank: DQ480505) with the Geneious mapper using
92	medium-low sensitivity and five iterations of fine-tuning in Geneious Prime version 2022.0.2

93 (<u>https://www.geneious.com</u>). Annotation of the mitogenome assembly was performed using the

MITOS2 webserver (Donath et al., 2019) and yielded 22 tRNA regions, 2 rRNA regions, 13 protein-coding gene regions, and a control region containing the D-loop (Figure 1). The Codon Usage webserver (https://www.bioinformatics.org/sms/index.html) was used to calculate the number and frequency of each codon type for the 13 protein-coding genes in the Indochinese jackal in comparison to the gray wolf reference mitogenome. Specifically, protein coding gene sequences were extracted from mitogenomes using Geneious Prime, edited to remove incomplete stop codons, and then concatenated before being analyzed in the webserver.

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102 2.3 Collection and sequencing of golden jackal (Canis aureus) sample from Turkey 103 We also sequenced the complete mitochondrial genome of a female young adult golden jackal from Dagbeli, Antalya, Turkey (N 37°15'26.04'' – E 30° 29' 36.89'', altitude 785 meters), 104 105 representing the subspecies C. a. moreotica. This sample was obtained via muscle tissue 106 collected from a road-killed specimen on 26 July 2021 (Ericeyes University collection number 107 1886). Since the specimen was road-killed, ethical approval is not necessarily required, but the 108 sample was still approved by the Local Ethical Committee of Laboratory Animal 109 Experimentation at Ercives University (Protocol Nr.: 14/126, Date: September 10, 2014). The 110 mitogenome was generated following the same methods described in Ibis et al. (2020) using 111 mitogenome-specific primers. A total of 542,318 raw reads with 88.1% having a score over Q30 112 were generated. Read processing, mapping, and assembly were performed using the same 113 methods described above for the Indochinese jackal, except 25 iterations of fine-tuning were 114 used during mapping in Geneious Prime.

116 *2.4 Multiple sequence alignment*

117 Mitogenomes of 18 other canid species and two golden jackals putatively representing *Canis* 118 aureus syriacus (Israel) and Canis aureus indicus (India) were downloaded from GenBank 119 (Table 1) and imported into Geneious Prime 2022.0.2, along with the mitogenomes of the 120 Indochinese jackal and golden jackal from Turkey. Putative subspecies designations of golden 121 jackals used in this study followed Moehlman and Hayssen (2018). We generated a multiple 122 sequence alignment using MAFFT version 7.450 (Katoh and Standley, 2013) with default 123 options (algorithm = AUTO, scoring matrix = 200 PAM/k=2, gap open penalty = 1.53, offset 124 value = 0.123). Due to poor alignment in the repetitive regions, we trimmed the control region from the alignment. The resulting 15,958 bp alignment was used to construct a maximum-125 126 likelihood phylogeny with RAxML version 8.2.11 (Stamatakis, 2014) using the rapid hill-127 climbing algorithm and GTR+GAMMA model of substitution. One hundred (100) bootstrap 128 replicates were subsequently employed to calculate node support (bootstrapping using rapid hill-129 climbing, random seed = 1 setting in Geneious Prime).

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2.5 CYTB sequence alignment and analysis

To place the Indochinese jackal into a wider phylogeographic context, we also analyzed a data set comprised of complete cytochrome *b* (*CYTB*) gene sequences. A total of 18 *CYTB* sequences were downloaded from GenBank (Table 2) and imported into Geneious Prime. The final taxon set included *Canis aureus* (n=13), with sequences representing animals sampled from Afghanistan, Egypt, India, Israel, and Serbia, plus the *CYTB* sequences from the jackals from Thailand and Turkey; *Canis lupaster* (n=4), and *Canis lupus* (n=3). As with the mitogenome sequences, the *CYTB* sequences were aligned with MAFFT version 7.450 (Katoh and Standley, 2013) using default settings. We employed RAxML version 8.2.11 (Stamatakis, 2014) using the
rapid hill-climbing algorithm and GTR+GAMMA model of substitution to estimate the
maximum-likelihood phylogeny from the 1,140 bp alignment. Node support was calculated
using 100 bootstrap replicates as described above for the mitogenome data set. Finally, we used
the *CYTB* sequences to construct a haplotype network using TCS with the program PopART
(Leigh and Bryant, 2015).

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146 **3. Results and Discussion**

147 *3.1 Mitogenome information*

148 For the mitogenome of the Indochinese jackal from Thailand, we extracted a 16,729 bp 149 consensus sequence, which had an average coverage of 231x. For the golden jackal from Turkey, 150 a 16,669 bp consensus sequence was extracted with an average coverage of 4,125x. The 151 difference in length between the two mitogenomes is accounted for by differing numbers of 152 repetitive elements in the control region, a common feature in all vertebrate mitogenomes 153 (Formenti et al., 2021). Annotation of both mitogenome assemblies resulted in 13 protein-coding 154 genes, 2 rRNAs, 22 tRNAs, and the control region, which is the standard composition for 155 mammalian mitogenomes (Gibson et al., 2005). Table 3 further specifies each annotation shown 156 in Figure 1 by providing information regarding annotation length, start and stop nucleotide 157 position, and replication strand. The majority of the genes are replicated on the plus (heavy) 158 strand, including the protein-coding genes, with the exception of *ND6*, which is replicated on the 159 minus (light) strand. Table 4 expands upon this by providing the codon usage of protein coding 160 genes in the Canis aureus cruesemanni sample as well as the Canis lupus mitogenome used for 161 reference. The two mitogenomes are mostly similar in codon usage, as the number of each codon only differed by a maximum of 10. The fractions were also very similar, differing by a maximum
of 0.1. Interestingly, only the *Canis lupus* sequence included a GTG start codon.

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- 165

3.2 Phylogenetic and haplotype network analysis

166 The sample from Thailand yielded approximately 89.8% to 97.3% similarity when compared to 167 the other canid samples included in the 15,958 bp multiple sequence alignment. The golden 168 jackal sample from Turkey yielded approximately 89.1% to 99.9% similarity when compared 169 with the same canid samples, with its highest similarity corresponding to a *Canis aureus* sample 170 from India. The phylogenetic tree in Figure 2 based on the mitogenome alignment shows that the 171 Indochinese jackal is grouped with other golden jackals with 100% bootstrap support. The four 172 golden jackal sequences comprise four unique haplotypes. The Indochinese jackal forms a 173 distinct lineage and shows a maximum of 2.8% sequence divergence from other putative 174 subspecies of golden jackal, supporting the former's distinctiveness. The golden jackal from 175 Turkey is shown to be most closely related to other *Canis aureus* samples, specifically those 176 from India and Israel. The phylogenetic tree in Figure 3 based on the CYTB alignment shows a 177 similar pattern of relationships despite the larger number of sequences and wider geographic 178 representation, with the Indochinese golden jackal forming the earliest branching lineage and 179 showing a 4.1% sequence divergence from other golden jackals, including the sample from 180 Turkey which is on its own branch between the sample from India and a cluster of several others 181 from Israel and other countries. The grouping of sequences from India and more western regions 182 is consistent with the results reported by Yumnam et al. (2015). Interestingly, the topology 183 within golden jackals shows a pattern of branching from east to west, suggesting that Southeast 184 Asia may be the region of origin for this species. However, additional studies using more

185 samples and data from the nuclear genome are needed to test this hypothesis. The haplotype 186 network analysis of the CYTB gene sequences in Figure 4 places the Indochinese jackal sample 187 separately from the remaining golden jackal samples by 46 substitutions, which is only slightly 188 less that the number of substitutions (57) separating golden jackals from the African wolf. The 189 figure also demonstrates that the Indochinese jackal shares a common ancestor with other 190 populations of golden jackal, further supporting the information obtained from the phylogenetic 191 trees. Furthermore, this figure places the Turkey sample amongst other *Canis aureus* samples, 192 confirming that it is indicative of a golden jackal that is phylogenetically separate from *Canis* 193 aureus cruesemanni.

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195 **4.** Conclusions

Southeast Asia is home to some of the most threatened biodiversity in the world, and this includes populations such as the Indochinese jackal. Our research produced the first-ever complete mitogenome assembly for this animal. It also demonstrated through phylogenetic analysis and comparison with other golden jackals and Canidae species that it may be classified as a distinct subspecies of the golden jackal (*Canis aureus*). Ultimately, our results provide a foundation for further studies of the Indochinese jackal, which will help inform the evolutionary history and conservation status of this little-known subspecies.

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211	
212	Declaration of Competing Interest
213	The content of this paper was developed solely by the authors. We declare no competing interest.
214	
215	Data Availability Statement
216	The raw read data for the Indochinese jackal from Thailand were deposited in the NCBI Short
217	Read Archive under a BioProject (accession: PRJNA847318) with a BioSample ID of
218	SAMN29334461 and an SRA accession number of SRX15907383. The new mitogenomes
219	sequenced and assembled from golden jackals from Thailand and Turkey were deposited into
220	NCBI's GenBank under the accession numbers ON986207 and OP345200, respectively.
221	
222	Credit authorship contribution statement
223	Medhini Sosale: assembled and annotated the mitogenome of the golden jackal from
224	Thailand, analyzed the data, interpreted the data, and drafted the initial manuscript. Nucharin
225	Songsasen: performed the field work and collected the sample of the golden jackal from
226	Thailand. Osman İbiş: collected the sample of the golden jackal from Turkey, performed the
227	experiments to generate the mitogenome sequences, assembly, and annotation of this
228	sample. Henrique V. Figueiró and Cody W. Edwards: conceived and designed the study and
229	assisted in the interpretation of the data. Klaus-Peter Koepfli: conceived and designed the
230	study, assisted with data interpretation, and revised the initial manuscript draft. All authors read
231	and approved the final manuscript and agree to be accountable for all aspects of the work.

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382 Figures



Figure 1: Complete annotated mitogenome of the Indochinese jackal (*Canis aureus*

cruesemanni). Colored bars correspond to the different classes of genes: green = protein-coding genes (CDS), red = rRNA genes, magenta = tRNA genes, and orange = the control region. Gene arrows indicate transcription on the plus (right direction) or minus (left direction) strand. Black outer ring shows the relative nucleotide position of the different genes of the mitogenome.

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390

Figure 2: Maximum-likelihood phylogenetic tree based on the 15,958 bp mitogenome alignment showing the relationship of the Indochinese jackal (*Canis aureus*, Thailand) to other golden jackals and species within the genus *Canis*. African painted dog (*Lycaon pictus*) and dhole (*Cuon alpinus*) were used to root the tree. Numbers represent bootstrap values (%) and the GenBank accession number for each sequence is shown in parentheses





Figure 3: Maximum-likelihood phylogenetic tree based on the 1,140 bp *CYTB* alignment. The

398 Indochinese jackal from Thailand is shown in bold blue font. Gray wolf (*Canis lupus*) and

399 domestic dog (*Canis lupus familiaris*) samples were used to root the tree. Numbers represent

400 bootstrap values (%) and the GenBank accession number for each file is shown in parentheses.



403 **Figure 4:** Haplotype network based on the 1,140 bp *CYTB* alignment. The Indochinese jackal

- 404 from Thailand is shown in bold blue font. Each individual haplotype and/or ancestor is
- 405 represented by a black dot, and each dash in between the dots corresponds to a substitution. Dot
- 406 size corresponds to the frequency of a particular haplotype.

408 Data Tables

Table 1: List of species and GenBank accession numbers used in the mitogenome phylogenetic

410 analysis (Figure 2).

Species Name	GenBank Accession Number	Reference
Cuon alpinus	NC013445	(Chen, L. & Zhang, H. H., 2009)
Cuon alpinus	GU063864	(Chen, L. & Zhang, H. H., 2009)
Lycaon pictus	KT598692	(Hwang, KC. et al., 2015)
Lycaon pictus	NC028427	(Hwang, KC. et al., 2015)
Canis latrans	MZ042356	(Scheible, M. K. et al., 2021)
Canis latrans	MZ042357	(Scheible, M. K. et al., 2021)
Canis simensis	MT793779	(Jie, Z., 2022)
Canis simensis	NC062616	(Jie, Z., 2022)
Canis simensis	MZ433371	(Hennelly, L. M. et al., 2021)
Canis aureus	MZ433379	(Hennelly, L. M. et al., 2021)
Canis aureus	KT448274	(Koepfli, KP. et al., 2015)
Canis lupaster	NC027956	(Urios, V. et al., 2015)
Canis lupaster	KT378606	(Urios, V. et al., 2015)
Canis lupaster	KT448272	(Koepfli, KP. et al., 2015)
Canis lupaster	KT448273	(Koepfli, KP. et al., 2015)
Canis lupus familiaris	KF907307	(Jia, Q. H. et al., 2016)
Canis lupus	DQ480505	(Bjornerfeldt, S., Webster, M. T., &
		Vila, C., 2006)
Canis lupus familiaris	MW549038	(da Silva Coehlo, F. A. et al., 2021)
Canis lupus	MT796489	(Meachen, J. et al., 2021)
Canis lupus	KT901460	(An, J., 2016)

Table 2: List of species and GenBank accession numbers used in the *CYTB* analyses (Figures 3

421 and 4).

Species Name	GenBank Accession Number	Reference
Canis lupus familiaris	KJ637119	(Verscheure, S., Backeljau, T., &
		Desmyter, S., 2014)
Canis lupus	DQ480505	(Bjornerfeldt, S., Webster, M. T., &
		Vila, C., 2006)
Canis lupus	MK937015	(Loog, L. et al., 2020)
Canis lupaster	KT447759	(Koepfli, KP. et al., 2015)
Canis lupaster	MZ433368	(Hennelly, L. M. et al., 2021)
Canis lupaster	KT447761	(Koepfli, KP. et al., 2015)
Canis lupaster	KT378607	(Donat-Torres, M. P. et al., 2015)
Canis aureus	MZ433379	(Hennelly, L. M. et al., 2021)
Canis aureus	KT447726	(Koepfli, KP. et al., 2015)
Canis aureus	KT447727	(Koepfli, KP. et al., 2015)
Canis aureus	KT447728	(Koepfli, KP. et al., 2015)
Canis aureus	KT447748	(Koepfli, KP. et al., 2015)
Canis aureus	KT447731	(Koepfli, KP. et al., 2015)
Canis aureus	KT447758	(Koepfli, KP. et al., 2015)
Canis aureus	KT447724	(Koepfli, KP. et al., 2015)
Canis aureus	KT447725	(Koepfli, KP. et al., 2015)
Canis aureus	KT447732	(Koepfli, KP. et al., 2015)
Canis aureus	KT447719	(Koepfli, KP. et al., 2015)

424	Table 3: An	notation and	l arrangement	of genes	in the	mitochondrial	genome of	Canis aureus
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425 cruesemanni.

Name	Туре	Start	Stop	Strand	Length
tRNA-Phe	tRNA	1	69	+	69
12S rRNA	rRNA	70	1023	+	954
tRNA-Val	tRNA	1024	1090	+	67
16S rRNA	rRNA	1091	2670	+	1580
tRNA-Leu	tRNA	2671	2745	+	75
ND1	Gene	2748	3704	+	957
tRNA-Ile	tRNA	3704	3772	+	69
tRNA-Gln	tRNA	3769	3843	-	75
tRNA-Met	tRNA	3845	3914	+	70
ND2	Gene	3915	4958	+	1044
tRNA-Trp	tRNA	4957	5024	+	68
tRNA-Ala	tRNA	5038	5106	-	69
tRNA-Asn	tRNA	5108	5179	-	72
tRNA-Cys	tRNA	5214	5280	-	67
tRNA-Tyr	tRNA	5281	5348	-	68
COXI	Gene	5350	6894	+	1545
tRNA-Ser	tRNA	6892	6962	-	71
tRNA-Asp	tRNA	6967	7034	+	68
COX2	Gene	7035	7718	+	684
tRNA-Lys	tRNA	7736	7802	+	67
ATP8	Gene	7804	8007	+	204
ATP6	Gene	7965	8645	+	681
COX3	Gene	8645	9428	+	784
tRNA-Gly	tRNA	9429	9496	+	68
ND3	Gene	9497	9842	+	346
tRNA-Arg	tRNA	9843	9911	+	69
ND4L	Gene	9914	10210	+	297
ND4	Gene	10204	11581	+	1378
tRNA-His	tRNA	11582	11650	+	69
tRNA-Ser	tRNA	11651	11710	+	60
tRNA-Leu	tRNA	11711	11780	+	70
ND5	Gene	11781	13601	+	1821
ND6	Gene	13585	14112	-	528
tRNA-Glu	tRNA	14113	14181	-	69
СҮТВ	Gene	14186	15325	+	1140
tRNA-Thr	tRNA	15326	15395	+	70

tRNA-Pro	tRNA	15395	15460	-	66
control region D-loop	D-loop	15464	16729	+	1266

Table 4: Comparison of codon usage in protein-coding genes of the mitogenomes of *Canis*

		Canis au	reus cru	esemanni	Canis lupus			
Amino Acid	Codon	Number	/1000	Fraction	Number	/1000	Fraction	
	GCA	90	23.68	0.36	91	23.93	0.36	
A10	GCC	84	22.11	0.34	87	22.88	0.35	
Ala	GCG	13	3.42	0.05	12	3.16	0.05	
	GCT	61	16.05	0.25	61	16.04	0.24	
Cys	TGC	19	5	0.76	21	5.52	0.84	
	TGT	6	1.58	0.24	4	1.05	0.16	
A are	GAC	36	9.47	0.54	40	10.52	0.58	
Asp	GAT	31	8.16	0.46	29	7.63	0.42	
Chu	GAA	71	18.68	0.76	75	19.73	0.8	
Glu	GAG	23	6.05	0.24	19	5	0.2	
Dha	TTC	127	33.42	0.54	126	33.14	0.54	
Plie	TTT	108	28.42	0.46	109	28.67	0.46	
	GGA	95	25	0.44	93	24.46	0.43	
Clas	GGC	60	15.79	0.28	53	13.94	0.25	
Gly	GGG	26	6.84	0.12	27	7.1	0.13	
	GGT	34	8.95	0.16	43	11.31	0.2	
ILa	CAC	61	16.05	0.63	57	14.99	0.6	
HIS	CAT	36	9.47	0.37	38	9.99	0.4	
II.	ATC	159	41.84	0.46	168	44.19	0.49	
lle	ATT	185	48.68	0.54	175	46.03	0.51	
Leva	AAA	82	21.58	0.82	80	21.04	0.8	
Lys	AAG	18	4.74	0.18	20	5.26	0.2	
	СТА	231	60.79	0.39	231	60.76	0.39	
	CTC	86	22.63	0.15	91	23.93	0.15	
T an	CTG	30	7.89	0.05	33	8.68	0.06	
Leu	CTT	98	25.79	0.17	95	24.99	0.16	
	TTA	116	30.53	0.2	117	30.77	0.2	
	TTG	29	7.63	0.05	27	7.1	0.05	
	ATA	207	54.47	0.82	202	53.13	0.81	
Met	ATG	44	11.58	0.18	45	11.84	0.18	
	GTG				1	0.26	0	
A	AAC	93	24.47	0.58	92	24.2	0.59	
Asn	AAT	67	17.63	0.42	65	17.1	0.41	
Dr	CCA	61	16.05	0.31	60	15.78	0.31	
Pro	CCC	61	16.05	0.31	62	16.31	0.32	

aureus cruesemanni (this study) and *Canis lupus* (GenBank: DQ480505).

	CCG	9	2.37	0.05	7	1.84	0.04
	CCT	63	16.58	0.32	64	16.83	0.33
Gln	CAA	68	17.89	0.76	69	18.15	0.78
	CAG	21	5.53	0.24	20	5.26	0.22
Arg	CGA	44	11.58	0.68	45	11.84	0.69
	CGC	9	2.37	0.14	10	2.63	0.15
	CGG	5	1.32	0.08	4	1.05	0.06
	CGT	7	1.84	0.11	6	1.58	0.09
Ser	AGC	31	8.16	0.11	33	8.68	0.12
	AGT	18	4.74	0.06	17	4.47	0.06
	TCA	79	20.79	0.28	76	19.99	0.27
	TCC	70	18.42	0.25	75	19.73	0.27
	TCG	13	3.42	0.05	13	3.42	0.05
	TCT	71	18.68	0.25	68	17.89	0.24
Thr	ACA	111	29.21	0.37	120	31.56	0.39
	ACC	95	25	0.31	90	23.67	0.3
	ACG	20	5.26	0.07	18	4.73	0.06
	ACT	78	20.53	0.26	76	19.99	0.25
Val	GTA	93	24.47	0.5	86	22.62	0.47
	GTC	32	8.42	0.17	28	7.36	0.15
	GTG	16	4.21	0.09	23	6.05	0.13
	GTT	45	11.84	0.24	47	12.36	0.26
Trp	TGA	90	23.68	0.87	93	24.46	0.89
	TGG	14	3.68	0.13	11	2.89	0.11
Tyr	TAC	69	18.16	0.49	75	19.73	0.52
	TAT	73	19.21	0.51	69	18.15	0.48
Stop	AGA	1	0.26	0.13	1	0.26	0.1
	AGG	0	0	0	0	0	0
	TAA	7	1.84	0.88	8	2.1	0.8
	TAG	0	0	0	1	0.26	0.1