This Word module should be used for all taxonomic proposals.

Please complete **Part 1** and:

either **Part 3** for proposals to create new taxa or change existing taxa

or **Part 2** for proposals of a general nature.

Submit the completed Word module, together with the accompanying Excel module named in Part 3, to the appropriate ICTV Subcommittee Chair.

The Word module explains and justifies your proposal. The Excel module is a critical document that will be used to implement the proposed taxonomic changes once they are approved and ratified. If proposals presented in the Word module are not presented accurately in the Excel module, the taxonomic changes cannot proceed.

For guidance, see the notes written in blue, below, and the Help Notes in file Taxonomic\_Proposals\_Help\_2019.

**Part 1:** **TITLE, AUTHORS, etc**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Code assigned:** | ***2019.046B*** | |  |
| **Short title:** Create one new genus (*Appavirus*) including one new species in the family *Siphoviridae* | | | |
|  | | | |
| **Author(s) and email address(es):** | | | |
| List authors in a single line *Archives of Virology* citation format (e.g. Smith AB, Huang C-L, Santos, F) | | Provide email address for each author in a single line separated by semi-colons | |
| Kropinski AM, Adriaenssens EM | | [Phage.Canada@gmail.com](mailto:Phage.Canada@gmail.com); [Evelien.Adriaenssens@](mailto:Evelien.Adriaenssens@)quadram.ac.uk | |
| **Author(s) institutional address(es) (optional):**   |  | | --- | | Provide institutional addresses, each on a single line followed by author(s) initials (e.g. University of Woolloomooloo [SAB, HCL]) | | University of Guelph, Canada [AMK]  Quadram Institute Bioscience, UK [EMA] | | | | |
| **Corresponding author** | | | |
| Andrew M. Kropinski | | | |
| **List the ICTV study group(s) that have seen this proposal:** | | | |
| A list of study groups and contacts is provided at <http://www.ictvonline.org/subcommittees.asp> . If in doubt, contact the appropriate subcommittee chair (there are six virus subcommittees: animal DNA and retroviruses, animal ssRNA-, animal ssRNA+, fungal and protist, plant, bacterial and archaeal) | | **Bacterial and Archaeal Viruses Subcommittee** | |
| **ICTV Study Group comments (if any) and response of the proposer:** | | | |
|  | | | |
|  | | | |
| Date first submitted to ICTV: | | |  |
| Date of this revision (if different to above): | | |  |

|  |
| --- |
| **ICTV-EC comments and response of the proposer:** |
|  |

**Part 2:** **NON-STANDARD**

Template for any proposal regarding ICTV procedures, rules or policy, not involving the creation of new taxonomy.

| **Text of proposal:** |
| --- |
|  |

**Part 3:** **PROPOSED TAXONOMY**

|  |
| --- |
| **Name of accompanying Excel module:** 2019.046B.A.v1.Appavirus\_1gen.xlsx |

The taxonomic changes you are proposing should be presented on an accompanying Excel module, 2019\_TP\_Template\_Excel\_module. Please enter the file name of the completed module in this box.

**Supporting material:**

| additional material in support of this proposal |
| --- |
| Please explain the reasons for the taxonomic changes you are proposing and provide evidence to support them. The following information should be provided, where relevant:   * **Species demarcation criteria**: Explain how new species differ from others in the genus and demonstrate that these differences meet the criteria previously established for demarcating between species. If no criteriahave previously been established, and if there will now be more than one species in the genus, please state the demarcation criteria you are proposing. * **Higher taxa**:   + There is no formal requirement to state demarcation criteria when proposing new genera or other higher taxa. However, a similar concept should apply in pursuit of a rational and consistent virus taxonomy.   + Please indicate the **origin of names** assigned to new taxa at genus level and above.   + For each new genus a **type species** must be designated to represent it. Please explain your choice. * **Supporting evidence**: The use of Figures and Tables is strongly recommended (note that copying from publications will require permission from the copyright holder). For phylogenetic analysis, please provide a tree where branch length is **proportional to genetic** distance, generated using an appropriate algorithm (Neighbour-Joining, Maximum Likelihood, or Bayesian) and provide evidence of the reliability of the branching (e.g., by bootstrapping).   Please refer to the Help Notes file (Taxonomic\_Proposals\_Help\_2019) for more information. |

| **References:** |
| --- |
| None |

**Species demarcation criteria** We have chosen 95% DNA sequence identity as the criterion for demarcation of species in this new genus. Each of the proposed species differs from the others with more than 5% at the DNA level as confirmed with the BLASTN algorithm.

**Source of the name of this taxon:** The name of this genus is derived from the name of the first phage of its type, Microbacterium phage Appa.

**History:** Phage Appa was isolated in 2016 from soil using Microbacterium foliorum NRRL B-24224 SEA as the host bacterium. It was isolated by Aleem Mohamed (Howard Hughes Medical Institute, USA) as part of the Science Education Alliance-Phage Hunters Advancing Genomics and Evolutionary Science Program. The genome of this lytic virus possesses undetermined termini. It is classified to Cluster GA in the Actinobacteriophage Database (<https://phagesdb.org/phages/Appa/>).

**GenBank Summary:**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Phage name | RefSeq No. | INSDC | Size (Kb) | GC% | Protein | tRNA |
| Microbacterium phage Appa |  | [MH153799.1](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/nuccore/MH153799.1) | 38.68 | 68.0 | 65 | 1 |

**BLASTN homologs:** Genomic orphan. The next most closely related phage is Microbacterium phage Goodman which shares 13.2% DNA sequence relatedness.

**Electron micrograph:** None available

**Phylogeny:** The phylogenetic tree was constructed using the large subunit terminase protein homologs of Appa and related phages with phylogeny.fr in “one click” mode. "The "One Click mode" targets users that do not wish to deal with program and parameter selection. By default, the pipeline is already set up to

run and connect programs recognized for their accuracy and speed (MUSCLE for multiple

alignment and PhyML for phylogeny) to reconstruct a robust phylogenetic tree from a set of

sequences." It also includes the use of Gblocks to eliminate poorly aligned positions and divergent

regions. "The usual bootstrapping procedure is replaced by a new confidence index that is much

faster to compute. See: Anisimova M., Gascuel O. Approximate likelihood ratio test for branches:

A fast, accurate and powerful alternative (Syst Biol. 2006;55(4):539-52.) for details."

