## Chapter III

# Molecular Characterization of Agriculturally Important Pests of Vadodara

#### **3.1 Introduction**

The roots of insect systematics go back to the sixteenth, seventeenth, and eighteenth centuries. Influential pioneers of entomology were the Italian naturalist Ulisse Aldrovandi (1522–1605), the Dutch doctor, and microscopist Jan Swammerdam (1637–1680), and the German naturalist August Johann Rösel von Rosenhof (1705–1759). The names of insects refer to the characteristics of the wings, e.g., Heteroptera (heterogeneous forewing), Hymenoptera (membranous wings), and Coleoptera (sheath-like forewing), etc. Insects are ancient (>450 million years ago) and taxonomically diverse group having a worldwide distribution and a complex evolutionary history (Speight, 2008; Sahney et al., 2010) Many of them are considered agricultural pests, major disease vectors, pollinator of crops, parasites of other insects, and bioindicator of environmental changes (Price et al., 2013; Mandal, 2014). Identification of insects is crucial to managing endangered species, protected species, and invasive species. This management is essential for environmental quality indicators, basic research on evolutionary biology and ecology, agricultural pests/beneficial species and disease vectors/pathogens, and biodiversity study and conservation research.

The benefit of phylogenetic classification is that it reveals the underlying biological processes responsible for organism diversity. Via phylogenetics, scientists were able to trace the genetic history of different species and thus proved that the speciation process (Wiens *et al.*, 2003). Previously the phylogenetic classification was based on the morphological identification; due to the advancement of technology. There is a paradigm change in the classification where several research groups classify the DNA barcode method based on the insects. Moreover, the identification of organisms based on morphological characters often represents a challenging task requiring

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experienced taxonomists. These morphology-based procedures are usually time-consuming and may not always provide resolution to the species level (Cywinska *et al.*, 2007; Rindi *et al.*, 2008; Packer 2009) and there is substantial phenotypic plasticity of that has to lead to the misidentification of insects (Nekola *et al.*, 2000; Gutiérrez *et al.*, 2013). Different molecular studies have discovered the existence of cryptic insect species that have built up genetic divergence without accompanying morphological disparities and, thus, cannot be identified using the conventional morphological species concept. The recognition of such morphologically cryptic species poses a significant challenge for modern taxonomy (Heinrichs *et al.*, 2011).

Therefore to overcome this, scientists have developed nucleotide-based taxonomic classification, which was termed as DNA barcoding (Hebert *et al.*, 2003, 2004). This approach is much more efficient than the conventional morphological approach as it relies on a change in nucleotide sequence (mutations) that arouse due to environmental adaptability. So, DNA barcoding is a multidimensional system that identifies the insects in a robust approach. Insect species-level identification is critical in many applications of the economic and social importance of the nation. In such cases, rapid identification is a need of an hour. The insinuation of DNA barcoding has proven a wide range of success in several rapid biodiversity assessment studies (Valentini et al., 2009), biomonitoring (Hajibabaei et al., 2011; Sweeney et al., 2011) including the monitoring of pathogen, spread and their associated vectors (Azpurua *et al.*, 2010) in forensics (Dawnay et al., 2007), in the investigation of the illegal trade of endangered species and their products (Baker et al., 2000; Muellner-Riehl et al., 2011, Pečnikar and Buzan, 2014), in studies on feeding ecology (Rollo et al., 2002), medicinal and poisonous plants (Phua et al., 2008; Baker et al., 2012; Fišer Pečnikar and Buzan, 2014), conservation initiatives (Smith et al., 2005), developmental stages, castes polymorphism in social insects, sexually dimorphic, polyphenic and polymorphic individuals (Colgan et al., 2011). DNA barcoding tackles many of the problems inherent to morphological taxonomy. With the number of taxonomists decreasing and the number of named species increasing, molecular tools have become a mainstay of modern taxonomic

analysis. Only a small amount of tissue (one single cell at best) is required for species determination, as it gives the advantage to analyse the specimen without any prior knowledge and can be applied to all stages of development (Floyd *et al.*, 2002; Hebert *et al.*, 2003; Savolainen *et al.*, 2005).

Therefore, molecular methods provide a better in-depth understanding of insects' variations and similarities and even provide evolutionary explanations among different species. Molecular analyses and phylogenetic analysis using molecular markers can explain the relationships between different Molecular phylogenetics using molecules' structure and function and how they change over time to infer these evolutionary relationships. In recent years, a considerable amount of sequence information is available in publically accessible online databases that enabled molecular phylogenetics to grow and find new applications (Sanderson *et al.*, 2008). Different types of mitochondrial and nuclear DNA markers are available for phylogenetic analysis of insects. However, the choice of a molecular marker in a particular analysis is crucial since a sequence fragment, whose rate of substitution is inappropriate for the level of divergence understudy, can be a source of misleading data). The choice of markers lays its five main characteristics; for instance, firstly, in the study group, it needs to be suitably variable to discriminate among most species, but sufficiently conserved to be less variable within than between species. Second, priming sites need to be sufficiently conserved to permit a reliable amplification without the risk of false results when the study is done from the pooled samples, e.g., when the total of small insects from a sample is to be studied without separating individuals or of environmental DNA such as subfossil DNA remains from the soil (Rondon et al., 2000; Willerslev et al., 2004). Third, the gene should convey sufficient phylogenetic information to allocate species to major taxa using simple phenetic approaches. Fourth, its amplification and sequencing should be as robust as possible and under different lab conditions and protocols. Fifth, sequence alignment should be achievable also among distantly related taxa. The ideal barcoding gene should have a noticeable gap between intra- and interspecific levels of divergence and, most important, correctly identify species (Hebert et al., 2004; Meyer and Paulay, 2005; Kohler et al., 2008). Carefully planning is, therefore, necessary before any DNA barcoding experiments of

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insects. In a phylogenetic study, mitochondrial DNA has many advantages. They possess strict maternal transmission (Carelli *et al.*, 2011; Carelli, 2015) with a high mutation rate due to a limited repair system (5-10 times that of nuclear DNA) and a simple conserved structure.

These unique properties allow the development of universal primers and easy recovery from the small or degraded biological sample due to its high copy number in most cells with a different evolution rate in different regions of mitochondrial DNA. However, to overcome PCR biases and increase the detection of species, lots of metabarcoding studies employ multiple markers (Rossetto and Verbruggen, 2016). Therefore, more studies directly compare the utility of different markers for DNA barcoding and investigate its taxonomic implications in insects' species-rich groups.

#### **COI as the Phylogenetic Marker**

In 2003, a standardized 658 bp fragment of the mitochondrial cytochrome C oxidase subunit I gene (cox1 or COI) was proposed as a universal marker for species identification - to be used as a "DNA barcode" tagging any taxon in the animal kingdom (Hebert et al., 2003). Following this idea, the number of partial COI gene sequences available in public data repositories has reached its apex. Till 2016, about 4.7 million COI barcodes are sequenced and stored in the Barcode of Life Data Systems database (BOLD, http://www.boldsystems.org/), and more than 3000 papers have been published on the application of COI barcodes to identification and discovery of animal species (Pentinsaari et al., 2014). Due to sequencing advancements, COI is now the most extensively used in constructing the animal kingdom's phylogeny. Notably, most DNA barcoding studies published to date treat this gene region as a mere identification tag - in exact accordance with the concept of a conveniently readable "barcode." Therefore, the 5' region of mitochondrial cytochrome c oxidase subunit I (COI) gene is recommended as the universal and standard barcoding marker for most animals (Hebert et al., 2004 Ward et al., 2005; Hajibabaei et al., 2007; Ratnasingham and Hebert, 2007; Hebert et al., 2016). In particular, for metazoans and insects, the popular "Faviolmer region," a 648 basepair fragment at the 5 ' end of the mitochondrial CO1 gene, was historically applied as a universal DNA barcoding region.

#### 16s rRNA as a Phylogenetic Marker

Mitochondrial ribosomal RNA sequence has been widely used for phylogenetic studies. Mitochondrial rRNA gene sequences invertebrates appear to be as less conserved in evolution than their nuclear counterparts. Insect mitochondria contain two ribosomal RNA (rRNA) genes, 12S rDNA and 16S rDNA. 12s rDNA is highly conserved in insects and used to study genetic diversity in phyla, but the large subunit of ribosomal RNA (16S rDNA) is often used for low and intermediate studies families or genera (De Mandal *et al.*, 2014). Mitochondrial 16S rRNA has been used to reveal the evolutionary relationship of different castes of termite and has been well explored for their foraging behavior (Legendre *et al.*, 2008) and their genetic relationship (Singla *et al.*, 2013; Jadhav, 2019).

Further, a molecular phylogeny of cockroaches and related insects based on 16S rRNA is presented by Vaishampayan *et al.*, 2007. A study on 16S rRNA gene sequences from different taxa of Hymenoptera showed that the 16S rRNA gene is most informative for phylogenetic analysis among closely related species or populations, and among tribes, subfamilies, and families (Arévalo *et al.*, 2004; Wei *et al.*, 2010; Mao *et al.*, 2014). According to Chandish Ballal, Director ICAR-NBAIR (2016), 40 percent of insect species are likely to become extinct globally in the coming years. Indian entomologists agree that India is already witnessing a slump in insect numbers. More than 59,000 insect species have been described in India, of which only 4.6% barcodes have been generated from the known species, while the global record is about 16% of the described species (Jalali and Ojha, 2015).

After making an inventory on the diversity of Insects in the agriculture fields and observing the pest status of Vadodara and its surrounding (Chapter I and II), DNA barcoding will be employed for identification of insect pests belonging to four significant orders, i.e., Coleoptera, Orthoptera, Hemiptera, and Lepidoptera by using mitochondrial sequence information from COI and 16sRNA genes to shed light on molecular systematics of insect pests affecting the economically important vegetable crops. This will evaluate the determinants or the various sequence parameters of accuracy to study their divergences and phylogenetic relationships.

### **3.2 Materials and Methods**

#### **Procedure for DNA isolation**

The collected pest species from all the study sites were preserved in 100% ethanol and stored at -80°C in the laboratory and used for DNA isolation. Each specimen's femoral muscles were dissected out and used for Genomic DNA extraction using HiPurA® Insect DNA Purification Kit method (Cat.no. MB529).

- 1. The insect tissue (50 mg) was pulverized using sterilized mortar and pestle in 180  $\mu$ l of Lysis Solution (AL) (DS0015) and 20  $\mu$ l of the Proteinase K solution (20 mg/ml).
- 2. The minced tissue was then transferred to an autoclaved capped 2.0 ml microcentrifuge tube and was incubated at 55°C for 1- 3 hours.
- 3. As RNA-free genomic DNA was required, 20 μl of RNase (DS0003) was added and incubated for 2 minutes at room temperature (15-25°C).
- Further, 200 μl of Lysis Solution (C1) (DS0010) was added to the sample. Was Vortex thoroughly for 15 seconds, and a homogeneous mixture was obtained, which was incubated at 70°C for 10 minutes.
- The lysate was loaded onto HiShredder (DSCA02), placed in an uncapped 2.0 ml collection tube, and centrifuged for 2 minutes at 13,000 x g (≈14,000 rpm).
- 6. The flow-through fraction was transferred to a new 2.0 ml collection tube, taking care of not disturbing the cell debris pellet.
- 200 μl of ethanol (96-100 %) was added to the lysate and was mixed thoroughly by vortexing for 5-10 seconds.
- 8. The lysate was loaded onto HiElute Miniprep Spin Column (Capped)[DBCA03] and centrifuged at ≥6,500 x g (≈10,000 rpm) for 1 minute. The

flows-through liquids were discarded and placed in the column of the same 2.0 ml collection tube.

- 500 µl of diluted Wash Solution was added to the column and centrifuged at ≥6,500 x g (≈10,000 rpm) for 1 minute. The flow-through liquid was discarded.
- 10. 500 µl of diluted Wash Solution was added to the HiElute Miniprep Spin Column and centrifuge at 12,000-16,000 x g (≈10,000 rpm) for 3 minutes to dry the column. The flow-through was discarded. The column was centrifuged for 1 minute at the same speed for the complete removal of the ethanol.
- 11. 80 µl of the Elution Buffer (ET) (DS0040) was added directly into the column, taking care of not spilling to the sides, and was incubated for 5minutes at room temperature and centrifuged at 6,500 x g (≈10,000 rpm) for 1 minute to elute the DNA.
- 12. The eluate was transferred to an autoclaved capped 2ml collection tube for more extended DNA storage.

The integrity of DNA was checked by using 0.8% agarose gel electrophoresis. The isolated DNA samples were quantified to find out the amount of DNA using a Nanodrop Spectrophotometer. The quantification was done taking the  $A_{260}/A_{280}$  ratio, as it reveals contaminants' presence and gives evidence of possible degradation. An  $A_{260}/A_{280}$  ratio of 1.8 was considered acceptable for DNA.

The DNA product was then amplified for COI and 16s rRNA using PCR (prima-96, HiMedia, India) and primer, as shown in Table 3.1.

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DNA marker	Primer sequence (5' to 3')	Referenc e	Amplicon Size							
Cytochrome c oxidase subunit 1										
LCO- 1490	5'-GGTCAACAAATCATAAAGATATTGG -3'	Folmer <i>et al.</i> , 1994	720bn							
HCO- 2198	5'-TAAACTTCAGGGTGACCAAAAAATCA- 3'	Folmer <i>et al.</i> , 1994	7200p							
	16s rRNA									
16Sar		Simon <i>et</i> <i>al.</i> , 1994	620hn							
16Sbr	5'- GCTCAGAACGAACGCTATC-3'	Simon <i>et</i> <i>al.</i> , 1994	0200p							

Table 3. 1: PCR primers for COI and 16s rRNA

#### **PCR Conditions**

The DNA product was then amplified in PCR for COI at 94 °C denaturation for 1 min, 5 cycles of 94°C for 1:00 min, 45 °C annealing for 1:30 min, 72°Cfor 1:30 min, followed by 35 cycles of 94°C for 1:00 min, 50 °C for 1:30 min and 72 °C for 1:00 min, and extension was carried out 72 °C for 7 min. A total of 40 cycles were performed using primers given in Table 3.2. For amplification of 16s rRNA 94°C denaturation for 3 min, 98 °C annealing for 0:10 min and 50 °C for 1:30 min, and extension was carried out 72 °C for7 min. A total of 35 cycles were performed (Table 3.3) using primers 16Sar- 5'-CCGGTCTGAACTCAGATCACGT-3', 16Sbr-5'GCTCAGAACGAACGCTATC-3' (Simon *et al.*, 1994).

Stage 1 (1 cycle)	Stage 1 (5 cycles)	Stage 2 (35 cycles)	Stage 3 (1 cycle )
	94°C	94°C	72°C
	1:00 min	1:00 min	10:00 min
94° C	45°C	50°C	
1:30 min	1:30 min	1:30 min	4.0°C stop for
	72°C	72°C	$\infty$ time
	1:30 min	1:00 min	

Table 3. 2: PCR cycles for COI

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Stage 1 (1 cycle)	Stage 2 (35 cycles)	Stage 3 (1 cycle)
	98°C	72°C
	0:10 min	08:00 min
94° C	50°C	
3.00 min	0:30 min	4.0°C stop for $\infty$
	72°C	time
	1:30 min	

Table 3. 3: PCR cycles for 16s rRNA

Amplification of DNA was then checked by running the samples on 2% agarose gel using a 720bp DNA ladder and visualized in gel dock. The amplified products were then sent to commercial sequencing at Chromos Biotech Pvt. Ltd. and Eurofins Pvt Ltd, Bangalore, India, where the chain termination method was used for sequencing.

#### Sequencing

The DNA sample was divided into four separate sequencing reactions, containing all four standard deoxynucleotides (dATP, dGTP, dCTP, and dTTP) and the DNA polymerase. To each reaction, added only one of the four dideoxynucleotides (ddATP, ddGTP, ddCTP, or ddTTP), while the other added nucleotides were ordinary ones. The dideoxynucleotide was added to be approximately 100-fold lower in concentration than the corresponding deoxynucleotide, allowing for enough fragments to be produced while still transcribing the complete sequence. Following rounds of template DNA extension from the bound primer, the resulting DNA fragments were heatdenatured and separated by size using gel electrophoresis. This was frequently performed using a denaturing polyacrylamide-urea gel with each of the four reactions run in one of four individual lanes (lanes A, T, G, C). The DNA bands may then be visualized by autoradiography or UV light, and the DNA sequence can be directly read off the X-ray film or gel image. The sequences were trimmed, validated, and edited using Bio Edit v7.2.5 software. The assembled sequences were compared with Gene Bank data to confirm the morphometric identification, and the sequences were submitted to NCBI Gene Bank for acquiring Accession Number.

#### **Bioinformatics Analysis**

- > %GC content analysis was done for each sequence.
- > AT and GC skew analysis

The sequenced data were subjected to strand asymmetric analysis, which was calculated using the formula(s) AT-skew = (A-T)/(A C T), GC skew = (G-C)/(G C C).

#### **Rate of Synonymous and Non-synonymous Probability**

The numbers of synonymous and non-synonymous differences between sequences were estimated using the Nei-Gojobori method. The significance for noted at p<0.05 for the synonymous and non-synonymous occurrence of nucleotides.

#### **Phylogenetic Analysis**

It was also subjected to tree construction using a statistical neighbourhood joining distance where the phylogeny test was performed with 500 replicates using the bootstrap method and was subjected to nucleotide type substitution. The maximum composite probability method and Gamma rate (G) were used to determine the diversity, and complete deletion was applied to obtain the full sequence. This was achieved by phyloT and presented in the interactive tree of life (iTOL) and re-confirmed in the program of MEGA X.

#### 3.3 Result

A total of 163 insect pest species belonging to 45 families of 4 orders (Coleoptera, Hemiptera, Lepidoptera, and Diptera) were recorded from Vadodara's agricultural fields (Chapter II), from which 51 pest species were chosen based on its infestation economically important crops. The quality of the genomic DNA indicated an appreciable amplification process with an approximate 720 bp and 620 bp size for COI and 16s rRNA, respectively. The rate of amplification attainment was higher in pests belonging to Coleoptera and Orthoptera over Lepidoptera and Hemiptera. The sequences' similarity was checked using BLAST, and the identity ranged between 95 and 100%. A total of 102 samples were send for sequencing from which 97 sequences were obtained (51 COI and 46 16s rRNA) and out of it 91 sequences (47 COI and 44 16s rRNA) has obtained the Accession Number from NCBI out of which 5 (COI) sequences and 18 (16s rRNA) sequence of species were novel and first time recorded in the NCBI GenBank database (Table 5 and 4). The sequence with its Accession Number submitted to NCBI are presented in respective tables of four Orders.

		NCBI Accession
Order	Species	No.
		16s rRNA
	Monolepta signata	MT726206
	Aulacophora foveicollis	MT934448
	Oxycetonia versicolor	MT724791
	Myllocerus undecimpustulatus	MT154251
Coloontono	Niphona picticornis	MT548060
Coleoptera	Chiloloba orientalis	MT725616
	Myllocerus dorsatus	MT934779
	Synhoria maxillosa	MT773627
	Mylabris pustulata	MT934445
	Lanelater fuscipes	MT603573
	Acrida ungarica	MT994522
Outhonton	Choroedocus robustus	MT773626
Orthoptera	Hieroglyphus nigrorepletus	MT994558
	Acrida Conica	MT994552
	Nezara mendax	MT994695
Hemipera	Leptocentrus taurus	MT994692
	Coridius janus	MT774554
Lepidoptera	Olene mendosa	MT603575
Table 3. 4: Accessi	on No. of first-time recorded species' n	ucleotide (16s rRNA)
in NCBI	[	

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Orden	Smootag	NCBI Accession No.
Order	Species	COI
	Chiloloba orientalis	MT707357
Coloontono	Myllocerus dorsatus	MT863617
Coleoptera	Synhoria maxillosa	MT765071
	Lanelater fuscipes	MT547190
Hemiptera	Nezara mendax	MT707352

Table 3. 5: Accession No. of first-time recorded species' nucleotide (COI) in NCBI

#### **Bioinformatics analysis**

#### GC Content and AT – GC Skew analysis of Order Coleoptera

A genomics analysis order wise GC% resulted that GC content of Coleoptera was recorded maximum in *Lanelater fuscipes* (42.7%) and minimum *Monolepta signata* (30%) (Table 3. 4)

Further, each order sequence was analyzed for GC and AT skews, where the GC skew of Coleoptera has resulted in maximum in *Myllocerus dorsatus* (0.13), whereas the minimum was found in *Lanelater fuscipes* (-0.26) among the selected species. AT skew of Coleoptera was computed the maximum in *Aulacophora indica* (0.16), whereas the minimum was found in *Aulacophora foveicollis* and *Mylabris pustulata* (- 0.18) among the selected species. (Table 3. 4 and Figure 3.1). We also did the AT and GC content of individual orders, where AT bias of 64.7 and GC of 35.3 for COI and 72.2 and 27.7 for 16 sRNA were demonstrated in Coleoptera. The estimated Transition/Transversion bias (*R*) for COI and 16srRNA was found to be 0.962 and 3.114 respectively. The nucleotide frequencies of COI were 30.74% (A), 33.49% (T/U), 18.73% (C), and 17.05% (G) and that of 16s RNA were 36.63% (A), 35.73% (T/U), 14.47% (C), and 13.17% (G). Table 3. 4 represents the Accession number for Order Coleoptera obtained after sequence submitted to NCBI. Molecular Characterization of Agriculturally Important Pests of Vadodara Chapter III

Coleoptera	NCBI Acc	ession No.	AT Skew	GC Skew	GC %	AT %
	COI 16s rRNA					
Monolepta signata	MT707359	MT726206	-0.10	0.06	30	70.05
Aulacophora foveicollis	MT863615	MT934448	-0.18	0.02	32.7	67.31
Oxycetonia versicolor	MT707356	MT724791	-0.15	-0.05	33.1	66.95
Altica cyanea	MT707358	MT726041	-0.07	-0.09	33.4	66.58
Aulacophora indica	MT863614	MT934447	0.16	0.06	33.6	66.36
Myllocerus undecimpustulatus	MT547192	MT154251	-0.14	-0.07	34.3	65.67
Niphona picticornis	MT547191	MT548060	0.15	0.05	34.6	65.42
Chiloloba orientalis	MT707357	MT725616	-0.14	-0.02	34.7	65.27
Myllocerus dorsatus	MT863617	MT934779	0.08	0.13	34.8	65.24
Monochamus scutellatus	MT913389		-0.13	-0.10	34.9	65.13
Protaetia aurichalcea	MT863616	MT934778	-0.09	-0.15	35.2	64.77
Sitophilus oryzae	MT731601		-0.01	-0.16	36.1	63.86
Synhoria maxillosa	MT765071	MT773627	-0.07	-0.08	36.6	63.38
Mylabris pustulata	MT863613	MT934445	-0.18	-0.14	39.3	60.65
Myllocerus viridanus	MT863618		-0.01	-0.10	40.7	59.32
Lanelater fuscipes	MT547190	MT603573	0.004	-0.26	42.7	57.25

Table 3. 6: Order Coleoptera with Accession no., AT-GC- Skew and AT- GC content





Codon-based analysis of neutrality between Coleoptera sequences was performed, and 16 nucleotide sequences were involved. It eliminated all unclear positions for each pair of sequences. The final dataset included a total of 136 places. A total of 20 significant (p<0.05) synonymous and non- synonymous rate was determined between the Coleopteran species for COI, shown in Table 3.7. 16s rRNA, 181 data position for 16 sequences were analyzed, and there was no significance noted in Table 3.8.

Coleoptera species	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Lanelater fuscipes																
Oxycetonia versicolor	0.61															
Mylabris pustulata	0.83	0.66														
Niphona picticornis	0.96	0.06	0.77													
Monochamus scutellatus	0.41	0.06	0.34	0.22												
Synhoria maxillosa	0.02	0.03	0.77	0.59	0.03											
Chiloloba orientalis	0.71	0.00	0.99	0.13	0.12	0.01										
Myllocerus undecimpustulatus	0.37	0.90	0.85	0.45	0.00	0.32	0.92									
Altica cyanea	0.52	0.00	0.18	0.04	0.17	0.02	0.00	0.23								
Aulacophora indica	0.18	0.16	0.01	0.61	0.08	0.01	0.29	0.04	0.53							
Monolepta signata	0.68	0.24	0.97	0.02	0.69	0.02	0.79	0.08	0.41	0.22						
Aulacophora foveicollis	0.31	0.07	0.74	0.25	0.92	0.42	0.01	0.34	0.48	0.17	0.01					
Protaetia aurichalcea	0.80	0.00	0.80	0.37	0.11	0.05	0.07	0.40	0.26	0.50	0.06	0.32				
Myllocerus_dorsatus	0.69	0.51	0.00	0.94	0.42	0.92	0.52	0.22	0.62	0.70	0.73	0.16	0.42			
Myllocerus viridanus	0.24	0.01	0.29	0.45	0.36	0.79	0.24	0.92	0.01	0.19	0.16	0.73	0.05	0.12		
Sitophilus oryzae	0.67	0.67	0.80	0.01	0.55	0.66	0.14	0.23	0.21	0.27	0.68	0.69	0.02	0.19	0.40	

 Table 3. 7: Codon-based Test of Neutrality analysis between COI sequences of Coleoptera

Coleoptera species	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Lanelater fuscipes														
Oxycetonia versicolor	1.00													
Mylabris pustulata	1.00	1.00												
Niphona picticornis	0.54	1.00	1.00											
Synhoria maxillosa	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00										
Chiloloba orientalis	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.49	1.00									
Myllocerus undecimpustulatus	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00								
Altica cyanea	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00							
Aulacophora indica	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.54	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00						
Monolepta signata	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.58	1.00	0.50	1.00	1.00	1.00					
Aulacophora foveicollis	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00				
Protaetia aurichalcea	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.19	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.55	1.00			
Myllocerus dorsatus	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.18	1.00	0.43		
Sitophilus oryzae	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.57	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.34	1.00	0.20	0.56	

 Table 3. 8: Codon-based Test of Neutrality analysis between 16s rRNA sequences of Coleoptera

Similarly, the A+T contents of the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd codons were 56.68, 57.72, and 79.65%, respectively, and G+C contents of the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd codons were 43.32, 42.28, and 20.34% respectively percentage was calculated. The overall mean pairwise distance for Coleoptera was calculated to be 2.94 and 7.46 for COI and 16s rRNA, respectively. The pairwise distance between *Sitophilus\_oryzae and Niphona picticornis* (6) was found to be maximum, and *Chiloloba orientalis* and *Oxycetonia versicolor* (0.14) was found to be least for COI (Table 3.9). The pairwise distance of 16s rRNA sequences were found maximum between *Protaetia aurichalcea* and *Myllocerus undecimpustulatus* (11.83) and was found a minimum between *Altica cyanea* and *Oxycetonia versicolor* (3.52) (Table 3.10).

Coleoptera species	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Lanelater fuscipes																
Oxycetonia versicolor	2.94															
Mylabris pustulata	3.97	2.78														
Niphona picticornis	2.46	2.17	3.27													
Monochamus scutellatus	2.65	2.59	2.60	1.79												
Synhoria maxillosa	2.10	2.44	2.46	2.21	2.02											
Chiloloba orientalis	2.90	0.14	3.01	2.60	3.08	2.44										
Myllocerus																
undecimpustulatus	2.91	2.74	2.80	2.52	0.24	2.64	3.21									
Altica cyanea	2.66	0.23	2.75	2.37	3.76	2.50	0.29	3.09								
Aulacophora indica	2.99	1.91	3.04	2.35	2.99	2.91	2.10	3.08	1.88							
Monolepta signata	2.91	2.77	2.59	4.11	1.74	2.58	2.75	1.70	2.62	3.20						
Aulacophora foveicollis	4.08	2.86	2.27	3.03	3.20	3.02	2.18	3.08	4.37	2.76	2.51					
Protaetia aurichalcea	2.44	2.64	3.78	2.80	1.85	2.68	2.56	1.99	2.97	1.77	2.11	2.72				
Myllocerus_dorsatus	4.76	3.12	3.36	4.42	3.88	5.06	2.74	3.84	4.18	3.16	4.88	3.87	4.60			
Myllocerus viridanus	4.14	2.42	2.16	2.08	1.96	2.04	2.83	2.41	2.14	2.27	2.22	2.27	3.78	4.40		
Sitophilus oryzae	4.75	3.25	4.10	6.00	3.88	4.62	4.35	4.09	4.10	2.99	4.62	4.70	4.05	4.61	3.02	

 Table 3. 9: Pairwise distance analysis COI sequences of Coleoptera

Coleoptera species	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Lanelater fuscipes														
Oxycetonia versicolor	7.02													
Mylabris pustulata	5.14	6.82												
Niphona picticornis	9.66	9.84	8.59											
Synhoria maxillosa	5.39	7.83	5.21	7.41										
Chiloloba orientalis	6.75	5.78	10.06	9.51	7.82									
Myllocerus undecimpustulatus	9.14	9.67	6.36	6.53	9.77	6.76								
Altica cyanea	6.97	3.52	7.27	11.42	7.21	4.96	7.01							
Aulacophora indica	8.69	9.17	5.97	6.28	6.86	6.73	6.88	7.12						
Monolepta signata	7.53	6.92	5.51	7.67	6.16	7.54	9.56	6.08	8.89					
Aulacophora foveicollis	9.19	6.30	5.54	4.47	3.98	6.56	6.28	7.99	5.93	6.32				
Protaetia aurichalcea	7.85	9.56	9.42	4.98	9.64	9.04	6.25	8.59	7.26	6.51	8.25			
Myllocerus dorsatus	6.57	6.25	6.92	9.76	6.94	6.30	11.83	9.29	8.93	10.32	9.68	7.34		
Sitophilus oryzae	8.17	6.65	6.94	6.17	7.12	6.78	7.56	6.90	7.11	7.09	6.65	8.66	9.74	

Table 3. 10: Pairwise distance analysis 16s rRNA sequences of Coleoptera

#### Phylogenetic analysis of Order Coleoptera

Further, we tried to look into the phylogeny of individual species considering only barcoded species using the NJ method. Bootstrap analysis was used with 500 replicates to understand the phylogeny of different species of insect orders. The study showed that in order Coleoptera, a representative of six families were in the order of (Chrysomelidae + (Cerambycidae + (Curculionidae + Meloidae+ (Scarabaeidae + Elateridae)))). Thus, the result suggests that Chrysomelidae was closest to Cerambicidae, while Curculionidae was closest to Meloidae, and Scarabidae was with Elateridae. A total of 16 species phylogeny was resolved, and the results showed that in the family Chrysomelidae, Aulacophora foveicollis and A. indica were were found to be monophyletic while it was paraphyletic to Monolepta signata. Together they had a common ancestor and polyphyletic sister clade of *Alitica cyanea*. While in Cerambycidae, the species Monochamus scutellate and Niphona picticornis were found to be monophyletic. The Curculionidae family's phylogeny revealed the least distance was in *Millocerus* dorsatus, M. viridanus, and M. undecimpustulatus, and they were monophyletic to each other. While the closest sister taxa found was *Sitophilus oryzae*, and it was paraphyletic to it. In the family Meloidae, two species were found: Mylabris *pustulata* and *Synhoria maxillosa*, which had the closest distance. While the family Scarabaeidae, three pest species were found where, Protaetia aurichalcea, Chiloloba orientalis, and Oxycetonia versicolor was monophyletic to each other. In Elateridae, we only found one pest species: Lanelater fuscipes, which had its closest relative, *P. aurichalcea* (Figure 3.2).



Figure 3. 2 : Phylogenetic tree of order Coleoptera with its species

The following are the sequences (COI and 16s rRNA) which are obtained through Sanger Sequencing

#### > Lanelater fuscipes - MT547190 (COI)

#### Lanelater fuscipes - MT603573 (16s rRNA)

> Oxycetonia versicolor - MT707356 (COI)

AGCTAAATCGACTGAAGCTCCATTATGAGCAATATTTGCTGCTAAAGGGGGGATATA CAGTTCAAGTTCCAGCCCCCTTTTCTACAATTCTTCTATTAAAAGAAGGGTTAA TGAAGGAGGTAAAAGTCAAAATCTTATATTATTTATTCGAGGGAAGGCTATGTCTGG AGCTCCTAATATTAAAGGAACTAATCAATTACCAAACCCGCCAATTATAATTGGCAT

#### Niphona picticornis - MT547191 (COI)

AATTATTCATGAGACAGTTATTTCCTCATCCGACCATTCATACCAGCTTCCAATTAA AAAACTAATGATTATGCTACCTTTGCACAGTCAAAATACTGCGGCTATTCAATTAAT CATCATTGAGCAGGCCAGACCTTAAACAATTCACAAAAAGCCATGTTTTTGTAAAAC AGGGGAAAGGGTTTGAAAACGGACT ATAAAATTTACAGCGCCTAGAATAGAGGAGACTCCAGCTAAATGAAGACTAAAAAT

AAAGTCGAACAGACTCAATATCCTAGCTTCTGCACCAAGAATTAACTTTAATCCAAC ATCGAGGTCGCAATCCCTTTCATCGATTAGAACTCTCTGAAAAGATAACGCTGTTAT CCCTAAGGTAATTTTTTCTTTTAATCTTCAATAAAGGATCAATTAATCATTAATCAAT ATACAAAAAACTTAAATCCAAAATCCTTATATATTTTAGTCTATTAAACTCTATAGG GTCTTCTCGTCTTTATATAAAATTTAAGCTTTTTTACTTAAAAAATAAAATTCAATTCA

CCAGTCCCCTTAGGCCACGTCCCGGTCCGGTTGAACTCAGATCATGTAAAGTTTCA

#### > Mylabris pustulata (16s rRNA)

TACAATGTTATTGTTACAGCCCATGCATTTATCATAATTTTCTTTATGGTAATACCTA TCATGATTGGCGGCTTTGGGAATTGGCTTGTACCCTTAATGTTAGGGGGCCCCTGATA TAGCCTTTCCTCGTATAAACAATATAAGATTTTGATTACTTCCACCTTCATTAACACT TCTAATCATAAGAAGAATTGTAGAAAATGGTGCAGGAACTGGATGAACGGTGTACC CTCCACTCTCATCTAATATTGCCCATGATGGTTCTTCTGTAGATTTAGCCATCTTTAG CCTCCACTTAGCCGGGGTTTCTTCTATCCTGGGAGCAGTCAATTTCATTTCTACTGTC ATCAACATACGCCCAGCTGGAATAACATTCGATCGTATACCCTTATTTGTATGAGCA GTTGTTATTACTGCTCTCCTCCTTCTATTATCATTACCTGTCCTTGCAGGTGCAATTA

## Mylabris pustulata - MT863613 (COI)

TCAGATCATGTAAAATTTTAAAGGTCGAACAGACCTAACCTTTTAGCTTCTACACCA AAAGTTAATTTTAATCCAACATCGAGGTCGCAAACTCTTTTTTCGATAAGAACTCTC AAAAAAATTACGCTGTTATCCCTAAGGTAATTTAATCTTTTAATCGTAAATAACGG ATCAACTACTCATAAATCAATGTAAATATACAAAAAAAGTTTCACTAATTTTCCTGT CACCCCAACAAAATAATTATTAATATATAAAATTCAAAACATTCTAAATTATAAATAT ACTAATAAAATATAAAACTCTATAGGGTCTTCTCGTCTTTTAAAATCATTTAAGCTTTT TTACTTAAAAATAAAGTTCTAATTAAAATTAAAATTGAGACAGTCATTTTCTCGTCCG ACCATTCATACCAGCTTTCAATTAAAAAACTAATGATTATGCTACCTTTGCACGGTC AAAATACCGCGGCCATTCAAATACTCATTGGGCAGGCCAGACTTTAAATTATACTCA AAAAGACATGTTTTTG

# Oxycetonia versicolor - MT724791 (16s rRNA)

GATTATTGCCTCCATCATTAACTTTACTTTTAATAAGAAGAATAGTAGAAAGAGGGG CAGGAACTGGATGAACTGTCTATCCGCCTCTTTCAAGAAATATTGCTCATAGAGGAG CATCTGTTGATTTAGCTATTTTTAGACTTCATCTTGCAGGTATTTCATCAATTTTAGG TGCTGTTAATTTAATTACTACTGTAATTAACATACGATCTGCAGGAATAACTTTTGAT CGAATACCTTTATTTGTTTGATCTGTTGCTCTTACTGCCTTATTACTTTTATTATCCTT ACCTGTCTTAGCAGGAGCTATTACAATACTACTACAGATCGAAATATTAATACTTC CTTCTTTGACC

AACTATGAAAAAAATTATGATGAAGGCGTGAGCAGTAACGATAACATTATAAATTT GGTCATT

> Niphona picticornis - MT548060 (16s rRNA)

#### > Monochamus scutellatus - MT913389 (COI)

#### > Synhoria maxillosa - MT765071 (COI)

GGAGCCTGATCAGGAATTCTAGGAACCTCACTAAGAGTTCTAATTCGACTAGAACTT GGTAATCCTGGATCATTCATTGGAAACGATCAAATTTATAATGTAATTGTACAGCC CATGCTTTCGTAATAATTTTCTTTATAGTTATACCGATTGTTATTGGAAGGATTTGGAA ATTGACTTGTACCATTAATGCTAGGAGCCCCTGATATAGCATTCCCACGAATAAACA ATATAAGATTTTGATTACTACCCCCCTCCCTTACTCTTCTCATTATAAGAAGAATTGT AGAAAATGGAGCTGGTACTGGATGAACTGTTTATCCCCCACTTTCATCCAATATTGC TCATAGAGGATCTTCTGTAGACCTAGCTATTTTTAGTCTTC

#### > Synhoria maxillosa - MT773627 (16s rRNA)

#### Chiloloba orientalis - MT707357 (COI)

#### > Chiloloba orientalis - MT725616 (16s rRNA)

#### > Myllocerus undecimpustulatus - MT547192 (COI)

#### > Myllocerus undecimpustulatus - MT154251 (16s rRNA)

#### > Altica cyanea - MT707358 (COI)

GCAGGAACTGGATGAACGGTTTATCCCCCCCTATCATCCAATCTTGCCCATAATGGG CCATCTGTGGATTTAGCTATTTTAGCCTTCATTTAGCAGGAATTTCATCAATTCTAG GTGCTATTAATTTTATTACTACAATAATCAATATCGACCTAAAGGAATATCTATAG ATCAAATACCTTTATTTGTATGAGCTGTCCTTATTACAGCAATTCT

#### > Altica cyanea - MT726041 (16s rRNA)

#### > Aulacophora indica - MT863614 (COI)

TCTGTTAATAATATTGTAATGGCTCCAGCTAAAACTGGTAGAGATAATAATAATAAT ACAGCTGTAATAACAACAGCTCATACAAATAGTGGTATTCGGTCTAGGGTTATTCCT TTAGGACGCATATTAATTACGGTTGTGATAAAATTAATTGCTCCTAAAATTGAAGAA ATTCCGGCTAAATGTAAACTGAAAATTGCTAAATCAACAGAAGAACCTCCATGGGC AATATTTGAAGAAAGAGGAGGGTACACAGTTCAACCAGTTCCAGCCCCTCTTTCAA CAACTCTACTTATAATTAATAAAAATAGAGAAGGAGGAAGTAAT

#### > Monolepta signata - MT707359 (COI)

#### > Monolepta signata - MT726206 (16s rRNA)

#### > Aulacophora foveicollis - MT863615 (COI)

TTGGGGCTCCTGATATAGCTTTCCCTCGTATAAATAATAATAAGATTTTGATTACTTCC TCCTTCTATTTTATTAATTAAAGTAGAGTTGTTGAAAGAGGGGCTGGAACTGG CTGAACTGTGTACCCTCCTCTTTCTTCAAATATTGCCCATGGAGGTTCTTCTGTTGAT TTAGCAATTTTCAGTTTACATTTA

### > Aulacophora foveicollis (16s rRNA)

#### > Protaetia aurichalcea - MT863616 (COI)

ATCCGAGCCGAACTAGGAAACCCTGGATCTTTAATTGGCGACGACCAAATTTATAAT GTAATTGTTACAGCTCACGCTTTCATCATAATTTTTTCATAGTAATACCAATCATAA TTGGTGGATTTGGAAATTGACTTGTCCCTCTAATACTTGGGGCACCAGATATAGCTT TCCCACGAATAAACAACATAAGTTTTTGACTTCTCCCCCCCTTCACTAACTTTACTTCT AATAAGAAGAATAGTTGAAAGAGGAGGAGCAGGAACTGGATGAACTGTTTATCCCCCCT TATCTAGAAATATTGCTCATAGTGGAGGCTTCAGTAGACCTAGCTATTTCAGATTAC ATCTAGCTGGAATTTCCTCAATTTTAGGTGGCTGTTAATTTTATTACTACTGTAATTAA TATACGATCAACAGGAATAACATTCGATCGAATACCTTTATTGTTTGATCTGTTGCT TTAACTGCTTTACTTCTTCTACTTTCACTTCCTGTCTTAGCTGGAGCAATTACTATTT TTTAACTGATCGAAATATTAATACCTC

> Protaetia aurichalcea (16s rRNA)

> Myllocerus dorsatus - MT863617 (COI)

TGATGTATTAATATTACGATCAGTTAAAAGTATGGTGATTGCTCCTGCTAATACTGG GAGGGAAAGAAGAAGAAGAATGGCAGTAATTTTACAGCTCATACAAATAAAGGA AGACGGTCAAAAGATATTCCTGAAGGACGTATATTAATAACTGTAGAGATAAAATT AACTGCTCCTAGGATTGAAGATACCCCAGCTATATTAAGACTAAAAATTGCTAGATC TACAGAAGATCCTTCATGGGCGATGTTAGCTGATAAAGGTGGGTAAACCGTTCATCC TGTTCCTGCTCCTTTATCAACAATTCTTCTTATTAATAGAAGAGAGATAATGAAGGGGG TAAAAGTCAGAATCTTATATTATTAAGACGTGGAAAAGCTATATCTGGTGCCCCTAA TATTAAAGGTACTAGTCAGTTTCCGAATCCTCCGATTATTATGGGTATAACTATAAA AAAAATTATAATAAAAGCATGTGCTGTTACAATAACGTTGTAAATTTGGTCGTCTCC AATTAGGGATCCTGGGTTTCCTAATTCA

#### > Myllocerus dorsatus (16s rRNA)

#### > Myllocerus viridanus - MT863618 (COI)

#### > Sitophilus oryzae - MT731601 (COI)

TACCAATTATAATTGGAGGATTTGGAAACTGATTAATCCCATTAATATTAGGAGCCC CAGATATAGCATTCCCCCGTTTAAATAATAATAAGATTTTGATTACTTCCACCCTCCTT AACTCTTTTACTAATAAGAAGATTTATTGAAAAGGGAGCAGGAACAGGATGAACCG TCTACCCCCGGCTCTCATCCAATATTGCCCATGAAGGAGCTTCTGTTGATCTGGCCAT TTTCAGTTTACATATAGCAGGAATTTCATCTATTCTAGGAGCTATTAATTTTATTACA ACAGCCTATAATATACGACCCTCAGGAATATTAT

### Sitophilus oryzae (16s rRNA)



Figure 3. 3: Electrophoresis gel image of DNA, PCR product of COI and 16s rRNA of Coleoptera species representatives

#### GC Content and AT – GC Skew analysis of Order Orthoptera

The order wise genomic analysis of GC% of Orthoptera was shown highest with *Choroedocus robustus* (37.6%) and lowest with *Aiolopus thalassinus* (31.3%) and AT content was maximum with *Acrida exaltata* (68.7%) and minimum with *Oxya hyla hyla* (62.4%). Table 3. 11 represents the Accession number for Orthoptera obtained after sequence submitted to NCBI. Further, each order's sequence was analyzed for GC and AT skews, where the GC skew of Orthoptera was calculated the maximum in *Aiolopus thalassinus tamulus* (0.21), whereas the minimum was seen in *Hieroglyphus nigrorepletus* (-0.14) among the selected species. Computed AT skew was maximum in *Atractomorpha sinensis* (0.06), whereas the minimum was found in *Choroedocus robustus* (-0.11) among the selected species. (Table 3.11 and Figure 3.4).

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Orthoptera	NCBI Acc	cession No.	AT Skew	GC Skew	GC %	AT %
	COI	16s rRNA				
Acrida ungarica	MT859408	MT994522	-0.06	0.15	36.6	63.3
Choroedocus robustus	MT707353	MT773626	-0.11	-0.07	37.6	62.4
Aiolopus thalassinus	MT731611	MT994517	0.05	-0.10	31.3	68.7
Aiolopus thalassinus tamulus	MT859409	MT994525	-0.01	0.21	35.8	64.1
Trilophidia annulata	MT859410	MT994526	-0.10	-0.11	35.7	64.3
Acrida willemsei	MT547193	MT102740	0.01	-0.11	33.3	66.6
Acheta domesticus	MT859331	MT994502	-0.02	-0.05	33.1	66.9
Hieroglyphus nigrorepletus	MT859411	MT994558	-0.04	-0.14	36.5	63.5
Chorthippus curtipennis	MT709100		-0.04	-0.02	33.1	66.8
Acrida Conica		MT994552	-0.04	-0.05	34.9	65.0
Locusta migratoria		MT994524	-0.01	-0.07	33	67.0
Hieroglyphus banian		MT994520	-0.07	-0.08	35.7	64.3
Acrida exaltata			-0.03	0.07	32.7	67.3
Oxya hyla hyla	MT994515		-0.05	-0.04	31.5	68.4
Atractomorpha sinensis	MT994515	MT994587	0.6	-0.11	32.7	67.2

Table 3. 11: Order Orthoptera with Accession no., AT-GC- Skew and AT- GC content

The AT and GC content of individual orders, where in Orthoptera, demonstrated AT bias of 66.2 and GC of 33.8 for COI and 68.6 and 31.4 for 16s rRNA. The estimated Transition / Transversion bias (R) for COI and 16s rRNA was found to be 0.841 and 0.473, respectively. The nucleotide frequencies of COI were 31.76% (A), 33.74% (T/U), 17.62% (C), and 16.88% (G) and that of 16s rRNA were 38.50% (A), 38.78% (T/U), 12.53% (C), and 10.19% (G).



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Nei-Gojobori analysis of the Orthopteran sequence involved 15 nucleotide sequences. All ambiguous positions were removed for each sequence pair for considering the probability of synonymous and non- synonymous. There was a total of 287 positions in the final dataset. A total of 20 significant mutations (p<0.05, p<0.01) rate was found for COI (Table.3.12). And for 16s rRNA, 78 positions were validated where the significance (p<0.05, p<0.01) was reported among the seven species Table 3.13.

Orthoptera species	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Acrida ungarica															
Choroedocus															
robustus	0.112														
Aiolopus thalassinus	1.000	1.000													
Aiolopus thalassinus															
tamulus	0.010	0.254	0.304												
Trilophidia annulata	0.001	0.157	0.555	0.088											
Acrida_willemsei	0.389	1.000	1.000	0.311	0.204										
Acheta domesticus	0.208	0.372	1.000	0.012	0.214	0.045									
Hieroglyphus															
nigrorepletus	0.304	0.002	1.000	0.251	0.075	0.139	0.001								
Chorthippus															
curtipennis	0.171	1.000	1.000	0.123	0.523	1.000	0.064	1.000							
Acrida Conica	0.178	1.000	1.000	0.406	1.000	0.221	0.000	0.180	1.000						
Locusta migratoria	0.204	1.000	1.000	0.148	0.563	1.000	0.122	1.000	0.000	1.000					
Hieroglyphus_banian	0.191	1.000	1.000	0.092	1.000	1.000	0.034	1.000	0.000	1.000	0.000				
Acrida_exaltata	0.085	1.000	0.335	0.278	0.298	0.412	0.370	1.000	1.000	0.483	1.000	1.000			
Oxya_hyla hyla	0.089	0.059	0.330	0.092	0.021	0.001	0.006	0.023	1.000	0.003	1.000	1.000	1.000		
Atractomorpha															
sinensis	0.374	0.082	1.000	0.129	1.000	0.007	0.002	0.001	1.000	0.006	1.000	1.000	0.315	0.070	

 Table 3. 12: Codon-based Test of Neutrality analysis between COI sequences of Orthoptera

	Orthoptera species	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	Acheta domesticus												
2	Hieroglyphus nigrorepletus	1.000											
3	Aiolopus_thalassinus_tamulus	1.000	0.484										
4	Trilophidia annulata	0.092	1.000	0.110									
5	Acrida ungarica	1.000	0.282	1.000	1.000								
6	Atractomorpha sinensis	0.549	0.003	0.025	0.136	0.383							
7	Aiolopus thalassinus	0.502	0.209	0.298	0.444	1.000	0.272						
8	Locusta migratoria	1.000	0.412	0.161	0.547	0.532	0.021	0.088					
9	Acrida conica	0.414	0.011	1.000	1.000	0.293	1.000	0.081	1.000				
10	Hieroglyphus Banian	0.253	0.076	0.015	1.000	0.004	0.139	0.078	0.480	1.000			
11	Acrida_willemsei	1.000	0.359	0.513	0.316	0.285	0.186	0.560	0.275	0.472	0.173		
12	Choroedocus robustus	1.000	0.534	0.243	1.000	0.354	0.522	0.039	0.305	1.000	0.293	0.576	

Table 3. 13: Codon-based Test of Neutrality analysis between 16s rRNA sequences of Orthoptera

Similarly, the A+T contents of the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd codons were 56.68, 57.72and 79.65%, respectively, and G+C contents of the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd codons were 43.32, 42.28, and 20.34% respectively percentage was calculated. The overall mean pairwise distance for Orthoptera was calculated to be 3.82, and 2.8 for COI and 16s rRNA, respectively. The pairwise distance for *Hieroglyphus banian* and *Trilophidia annulata* (6.5) was found to be maximum, and *Hieroglyphus banian* and *Hieroglyphus nigrorepletus* (0.16) was found to be least for COI (Table.3.14). The pairwise distance of 16s rRNA sequences were found maximum between *Acrida willemsei* and *Acheta\_domesticus* (4.32) and was found a minimum between *Aiolopus thalassinus* and *Acrida ungarica* (3.52) (Table.3.15).

	Orthoptera species	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
1	Acrida ungarica															
2	Choroedocus robustus	3.13														
3	Aiolopus thalassinus	2.85	4.48													
4	Aiolopus thalassinus tamulus	2.50	2.33	4.41												
5	Trilophidia annulata	4.92	2.87	5.57	3.35											
6	_Acrida willemsei	4.89	2.48	4.58	3.21	2.42										
7	Acheta domesticus	2.25	2.12	5.08	4.34	3.00	1.94									
8	Hieroglyphus nigrorepletus	3.84	2.77	5.21	2.25	2.11	1.98	2.95								
9	Chorthippus curtipennis	3.82	5.26	1.91	4.04	5.95	6.43	5.77	6.17							
10	Acrida Conica	3.20	3.32	5.08	2.96	2.14	1.98	2.96	2.01	5.68						
11	Locusta migratoria	4.06	6.34	1.96	4.05	5.91	6.33	4.46	5.94	0.21	5.53					
12	Hieroglyphus_banian	4.36	5.07	1.93	4.30	5.74	6.50	5.12	5.97	0.16	5.59	0.20				
13	Acrida_exaltata	5.86	4.19	3.36	5.93	5.52	5.34	4.24	3.20	2.98	3.48	3.38	3.35			
14	Oxya_hyla hyla	5.71	1.85	5.77	2.71	2.29	2.16	1.72	2.09	4.48	1.45	4.90	5.00	5.43		
15	Atractomorpha sinensis	3.59	3.14	6.04	3.79	1.70	2.07	2.18	2.39	6.10	2.03	5.96	6.14	5.06	2.16	

Table 3. 14: Pairwise distance analysis COI sequences of Orthoptera

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	Orthoptera species	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	Acheta domesticus												
2	Hieroglyphus nigrorepletus	2.25											
3	Aiolopus_thalassinus_tamulus	2.95	2.98										
4	Trilophidia annulata	3.28	2.53	3.26									
5	Acrida ungarica	2.73	2.65	2.67	2.43								
6	Atractomorpha sinensis	3.08	3.38	2.45	2.20	2.45							
7	Aiolopus thalassinus	2.65	2.97	2.12	2.95	0.66	3.37						
8	Locusta migratoria	2.88	2.66	3.10	1.98	2.25	2.65	2.82					
9	Acrida conica	3.27	2.88	2.06	2.41	3.12	2.39	2.98	3.87				
10	Hieroglyphus Banian	3.94	3.19	1.95	2.44	2.64	2.29	1.93	2.56	1.18			
11	Acrida_willemsei	4.32	2.91	2.75	3.12	3.77	2.80	3.57	2.88	3.71	3.88		
12	Choroedocus robustus	2.24	2.41	2.54	3.01	3.33	3.08	2.40	3.12	4.07	2.53	2.66	

Table 3. 15: Pairwise distance analysis 16s rRNA sequences of Orthoptera

#### Phylogenetic analysis of Order Orthoptera

For Orthoptera, three representative families, namely Acrididae. Pyrgomorphidea, and Gryllidae sequences, were obtained, which were representing 15 species. Among all the genus, Acrida species dominated five members and had minimum pairwise distance compared to others (Figure 3. 5). In comparison, the other representative members were showing closeness among themselves. In order to Orthoptera, the sequencing of three families representing the pest species was obtained, namely, Acrididae, Pyrgomorphidea, and Gryllidae. Acrididae was representing five sub-families, which was having 14 species. Acrida genus was dominating among all, and the representatives A. ungarica, A. exaltata, A. willensei, A. conica were found to be monophyletic to each other. While species H. nigrorepletus and H. banian were having the closest distance and O. hyla hyla was found to be paraphyletic to it. Further, the A. thalassinus had its closest relative, A. thalassinus tamulus, and both were paraphyletic to T. annulate and L. migratoria. The closest distance-related taxa of L migratoria was found to be C. curtipennis followed by C. robustus. The Pyrgomorphidea and Gryllidae families had a single representative of each, A. sinensis and A. domesticus, respectively, polyphyletic to the Acrididae family, and the closest distant relative was found to be *C. robustus*.



Figure 3. 5: Phylogenetic tree of Orthoptera species

The following are the sequences (COI and 16s rRNA) which are obtained through Sanger Sequencing

#### > Acrida ungarica - MT859408 (COI)

#### > Acrida ungarica - MT994522 (16s rRNA)

#### > Choroedocus robustus - MT707353 (COI)

#### > Choroedocus robustus - MT773626 (16s rRNA)

#### > Aiolopus thalassinus - MT731611 (COI)

TGATAATGGAGTTGGTACTGGTTGAACAGTATACCCCCCACTTGCAGGAGCAATTGC TCATAGAGGAGTATCCGTTGATCTAGCAATTTTTTCATTACACCTAGCAGGTATTTC ATCTATTCTAGGAGCAATTAACTTCATTACCACAACAATCAACATACGATCTGAAAG AATAACTATAGACCAAACACCCCTATTTGTTTGATCAGTAGCAATTACAGCACTGCT ATTATTATCATTACCAGTACTAGCAGGAGCTATTACAATATTATTAACAGACCG AAACTTAAATACATCATTCTTTGACCCTGCTGGTGGAGGTGATCCAATTTTATATCA ACACTTATTTTGATTTTTGGACACCCAGAAGTATATATTTTAATTTTACCAGGATTT GGTATTATCTCTCATATTGTATGTCAAGAAAGAGGAAAACTTGAATCATTTGGAACA TTAGGTATAATTTATGCAATACTTTCAATTGGATTAATAGGATTTATTGTATGAGCA CACCATATATTCACAGTAGGAATAGACGTTGACACACGAGCATACTTTACATCAGC AACCATAATTATTGCAGTACCAACAGGAATTAAAGTATTTAGATGAATAGCAACAC TATATGGAACCAAATTCAAATTCAACCCACCATTATTATGAGCATTAGGATTCATTT TCCTATTTACTATAGGAGGATTAACAGGATTAATTTTAGCTAATTCATCACTTGATAT TGTATTACACGATACATATTATGTAGTAGCACACTTCCACTATGTATTATCCATAGG AGCAGTATTTGCAATTATAGGAGGAATTATTCAATGATACCCTTTATTCACAGGATT AACAATAAATAAATGATTAAAAAATTCAATTTCTATTATATTCATTGGAGTAAA TATAACATTCTTCCCTCAACACTTCCTTGGATTAGCTGGAATACCACGACGATATTCT GATTATCCAGATGCATATACATCATGAAACGTAATTTCTAGAATTGGATCTACCATT CGAACAATTATATTCAGAACAAATATAAGAAGATCAACAGAATGATTACAAAAATAA **CCCACCA** 

#### > Aiolopus thalassinus - MT994517 (16s rRNA)

#### > Aiolopus thalassinus tamulus - MT859409 (COI)

GTAATAGCTCCTGCTAGTACTGGTAATGATAATAATAATAGCAGTGCTGTAATTGCT ACTGATCAAACAAATAGGGGTGTTTGGTCTATAGTTATTCTTTCAGATCGTATGTTG ATTGTTGTGGTAATGAAGTTAATTGCTCCTAGAATAGATGAAATACCTGCTAGGTGT AATGAAAAAATTGCTAGATCAACGGATACTCCTCTATGAGCAATTGCTCCTGCAAGT GGGGGGTATACTGTTCAACCAGTACCAACTCCATTATCAGTTATTGATGATGAAATA AGTAAAATTAATGCTGGTGGTAAAA

#### > Aiolopus thalassinus tamulus – MT994525 (16s rRNA)

AAAAATTAGGTCCTTTTCCAACTTAATTCTTCGCCTGTTTTTACAAAAACATGTCTTC TTGATAATATTTTGAAGTCTAACCTGCTCACTGATATTATATAAATAGCCGCGGTA TTTTGACCGTGCAAAGGTAGCATAATCATTAGTCTTTTAATTGTGGACTGGAATGAA TGGTTTAACGAGAAATTAACTGTCTCTTAATAATTTTTAGAATTTAACTTTTGAGGTTA AAAGGCTTAAATTTTTCTTTAGGACGAGAAGACCCTATAGATCTTTACATTTAAATT TTTATATTTTTTTTAGTTAATCTTTTTATATTAAATTTTAATGTTTTGTGGGGTGACA TGAAGAATAGTTAAACTCTTCATTATTAAATCATTTATTATGATTATTTGATCCATA ATTTATGATCATAAGATTAAGTTACCTTAGGGATAACAGCGTAATTATTATGAGAG TTCATATCGACATAATAGTTTGCGACCTCGATGTTGGATTAAGATTAATTTTAGGTG TAGTAGCTTAAAAATTAGGTCTGTTCGACCTTTAGATTCTTACATGATCTGAGGTTCA ACCGGAAGAAAAATTTTGAAAGTCTAACCTGC

#### > Trilophidia annulata - MT859410 (COI)

#### > Trilophidia annulata - MT994526 (16s r RNA)

#### Acrida willemsei - MT547193 (COI)

#### Acrida willemsei - MT102740 (16s rRNA)

CCCCAACCAAACAAAATAAAAAAATCATTTAACAATATACTAAAACTGTTAACCTC AATTGGGTCTTCTCGTCCGGGTCATAACTTCCAACCTTTAAATTTAAACCTTTTATTC AAAAATTTAATTTCAAAAACTTAATTTTACCTCGTTGCTTTCTCTCCAACCTCTTATT TCAAGCCTCCAGTTAAAGCACCCTTTGTACGGTCACCTTTGCGCGGGCCCTTTAACAT GGGTCCTTGAACATTTCTCACTTAGCACGCCATACCTAAAAAAACATGATTAAGATAA ACTGTTGATGAAAAAGAGGCGT

#### > Acheta domesticus - MT859331 (COI)

TTAATTCGAACTGAACTTGGACAACCAGGATATTTAATTGGAGATGATCAAACCTAT AATGTAATTGTAACTGCACACGCATTTATTATGATTTTTTATAGTTATGCCAATTA TAATTGGAGGATTTGGAAATTGACTTGTACCTTTAATATTAGGAGCTCCTGATATAG CATTTCCACGAATAAATAACATAAGTTTTTGATTATTACCACCATCATTAATTCTCCT ACTAACCAGAAGAATAGTCGAAAATGGAGCAGGTACTGGATGAACAGTCTACCCAC CTTTATCTACAGGAATTGCACATGCTGGAGCATCAGTAGATTTAGCAACTTTATTACCACCATCA TCCATCTTGCAGGAATTTCATCAATTTTAGGAGCCGTAAACTTTATTACTACAATAA TTAATATACGAACCCCAGGAATATCTTTAGATCAAACACCCTTATTTGTATGAGCAG TAGGAATTACTGCTTTATTATTATTATTATTATTACTACCAGTGCAAATTAC AATATTATAACCGATCGAAAATTAAATACATCATTCTTTGATCGGCTGGAGGAGG TGATCCTA

#### > Acheta domesticus - MT994502 (16s rRNA)

#### Hieroglyphus nigrorepletus - MT859411 (COI)

#### Hieroglyphus nigrorepletus - MT994558 (16s rRNA)

TTCCTCGCCTTGTTTTTCAAAAACATGTCCTTTTGATTAATATTTTAAGGTCTGGCCT GCTCACTGACAAGGTTTTAAAGAGCCGCGGGTATTTTGACCGTGCAAAGGTAGCATA ATCATTAGTCTCTTAATTAGAGGCTGGAATGAATGGCTTGACGAGAAATCATCTGTC 

#### > Chorthippus curtipennis - MT709100 (COI)

#### Acrida conica (COI)

#### > Acrida conica- MT994552 (16s rRNA)

#### Locusta migratoria (COI)

#### Locusta migratoria - MT994524 (16s rRNA)

#### Hieroglyphus banian (COI)

#### Hieroglyphus Banian - MT994520 (16s rRNA)

CTAATAATTAGGTCTTGTTCGACACTTCGCCCTGTTTTATCAAAAACATGTCCTTTTG ATTAATATTTTAAGGTCCGGCCTGCTCACTGACAAGGTTTTAAAGAGCCGCGGAATT 

#### Acrida exaltata (COI)

TGGTCAAATAGGATCACCACCTCCTGCTGGGTCAAAGAATGATGTATAATAAGGAT TTAAATTTCGATCTGTTAATAGTATTGTAATTGCTCCTGCTAATACAGGTAATGATA GTAATAATAATGCAGTAATTGCTACAGATCAAACAAATAAAGGTGTGGCATCT AATGATATATTTTTTGATCGTATATTGATTCTAGTTGTAATGAAGTTAATTGCTTCTA AAATTGAAGATACACCTGCTAAATGAAGTGAAAAAATTGCAAGATCTACTGATGAT CCTCTATGTGCAATAATTGGCCCGCATCATGCTCCTTAATAAGGATAATGGTGGGTA AACTGTTCATCCTGTACCTACTCCTGTATTTACTAATGATGATCAATATTAATAAGGT TAATGAGGGTGGTAAAAGTCAGAATCTTATATTATTATTCGAGGGCTATATCTGGC ATTGAAGTTCCTATTATTCCTGGGCTCCAATTATTAAAGGTACTAATCAATTTCCAA ACCCTCCAATTATAATTGGTATTACTATAAAGAAAATTATGATAAATGCGTGGGATG TGATGATTACATATATAATGGCCTAATTTGGTCAAATAGGCCATCAACACCTCCTGC TGGCCCTAATTCAGAATCGGATGTATTTAAATTCTCGATCTGAAGTTAATAGTATTC CTAATCATGCTCCTGCTAATACAGGTAATGATAGTAATAATTTTAATGCAGTAATTG CTACAGATCAAACAAATAAAGGTGTGGGGCCTAATGATATTTTTTGATCGTATATT GATTCTAGTTGTAATGAAGTTAATTGCTTGAAGATACACCTGCTAAATGAAGTGATT TTATTGCAAGATCTACTCTAATTTGTTCATCGGCCATTAAATTTCCTGGTTGCCCTAA TTCTGCTCGGATTATTATTCT

#### > Oxya hyla hyla – MT994515 (COI)

#### Atractomorpha sinensis - MT994515 (COI)

GGTATACCCCCCATTAGCAAGATCTATTGCACATAGAGGTACATCAGTAGATCTTGC AATTTTTCTCTCTCATCTAGCAGGAGTATCTTCAATTCTAGGAGCAGTAAATTTATT ACAACTAGAATCAATATACGATCAAAAAAACATATACCTAGATCAAACACCTTTATTT GTATGATCAGTAACAATCACTGCATTACTATTATTATTATCACTACCTGTATTAGCA GGAGCAATTACAATACTATTAACAGACCGAAATTTAAAATACATCATTCTTTGATCCA GCAGGAGGAGGTGATCCAAT

#### Atractomorpha sinensis – (MT994587)16s rRNA



Figure 3. 6: Electrophoresis gel image of DNA, PCR product of COI and 16s rRNA of Orthoptera species representatives

# Chapter III Molecular Characterization of Agriculturally Important Pests of Vadodara

#### GC Content and AT – GC Skew analysis of Order Hemiptera

A genomics analysis order wise GC% resulted that the GC content of Hemiptera resulted in maximum with *Cletus punctiger* (36.4%) and minimum with *Melanaphis sacchari* (21.5%) and AT content was maximum with *Nezara antennata* (78.5%) and minimum with *Leptocentrus Taurus* (63.6%) (Table 3.16).

	Homintono	NCBI Acc	ession No.	AT	GC		A T 0/
	Hemiptera	COI	16s rRNA	Skew	Skew	GC%	A1 %
1	Melanaphis sacchari	MT707350	MT994694	-0.06	-0.17	21.5	78.5
2	Dysdercus cingulatus	MT765073	MT994689	-0.07	-0.08	31.4	68.63
3	Carbula insocia	MT707346		-0.03	-0.04	32.9	67.05
4	Halyomorpha halys	MT707347		-0.003	-0.14	33.5	66.49
5	Nezara mendax	MT707352	MT994695	-0.02	-0.07	33.8	66.2
6	Leptocentrus taurus	MT707350	MT994692	-0.04	-0.13	33.9	66.14
7	Nezara viridula	MT707348	MT994699	-0.02	-0.04	34.2	65.78
8	Nezara antennata	MT707349	MT994693	0	-0.04	34.4	65.52
9	Coridius janus	MT765072	MT774554	-0.01	-0.09	35	65.03
10	Cletus punctiger	MT568728	MT102349	-0.07	-0.10	36.4	63.56

 Table 3. 16: Order Hemiptera with Accession no., AT-GC- Skew and AT- GC content

The AT and GC content of individual orders, where in Hemiptera, demonstrated AT bias of 67.4 and GC of 32.6 for COI and 72.3 and 27.7 for 16 sRNA. The estimated Transition/Transversion bias (*R*) for COI and 16srRNA was found to be 0.577 and 0.566 respectively. The nucleotide frequencies of COI were 32.40% (A), 34.66% (T/U), 17.62% (C), and 15.32% (G) and that of 16s RNA were 32.97% (A), 39.63% (T/U), 12.38% (C), and 15.02% (G). Table 3. 16 represents the Accession number obtained after sequence submitted to NCBI.



Figure 3.7: AT - GC Skew Analysis of Hemiptera species

Ten nucleotide sequences involved the possibility of synonymous or nonsynonymous analysis. All uncertain positions were removed for each pair of sequences, and the final dataset contained 135 positions. The probability rate was found to be between 18 species (p<0.05, p<0.01) for COI (Table.3.17); on the other hand, for 16s rRNA, the analysis involved 9 nucleotide sequences (Table.3.18) and a total of 102 positions were analyzed in the final dataset. The probability rate was significant (p<0.05, p<0.01) between the six species.

Similarly, the A+T contents of the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd codons were 60.45, 60.47, and 81.18 %, respectively, and G+C contents of the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd codons were 39.55, 39.54, and 18.82% respectively percentage was calculated. The overall mean pairwise distance for Hemiptera was calculated to be 2.77, and 1.77 for COI and 16s rRNA respectively, the pairwise distance for *Nezara antennata* and *Cletus punctiger* (4.67) was found to be maximum, and *Nezara mendax* and *Nezara viridula* (0) was found to be least (Table 3.19). The pairwise distance of 16s rRNA sequences were found maximum between *Melanaphis sacchari* and *Carbula insocia* (2.09) and was found minimum between *Melanaphis sacchari* and *Dysdercus cingulatus* (1.41) (Table 3.20).

	Hemiptera species	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	Coridius janus										
2	Carbula insocia	0.000									
3	Halyomorpha_halys	0.542	0.225								
4	Dysdercus cingulatus	0.004	0.011	1.000							
5	Nezara viridula	0.005	0.002	1.000	0.007						
6	Cletus punctiger	0.007	0.081	1.000	0.270	0.200					
7	Nezara antennata	0.108	1.000	0.021	1.000	1.000	0.293				
8	Melanaphis sacchari	0.055	0.004	1.000	0.016	1.000	0.244	0.037			
9	Leptocentrus_taurus	0.064	0.233	1.000	0.035	0.016	0.103	0.412	0.004		
10	Nezara mendax	0.004	0.002	1.000	0.001	1.000	0.200	1.000	1.000	0.016	

 Table 3. 17: Codon-based Test of Neutrality analysis between COI sequences of Hemiptera

	Hemiptera species	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	Coridius janus									
2	Carbula insocia	0.333								
3	Dysdercus_cingulatus	0.094	1.000							
4	Nezara viridula	1.000	1.000	0.066						
5	Cletus punctiger	0.467	0.048	0.198	0.044					
6	Nezara antennata	0.462	0.283	0.079	0.141	1.000				
7	Melanaphis sacchari	1.000	1.000	1.000	0.032	0.462	0.548			
8	Leptocentrus_taurus	1.000	0.327	1.000	0.118	0.010	0.248	0.024		
9	Nezara mendax	1.000	0.353	0.529	0.001	1.000	0.434	0.466	0.424	

 Table 3. 18: Codon-based Test of Neutrality analysis between 16s rRNA sequences of Hemiptera

	Hemiptera species	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	Coridius janus									
2	Carbula insocia	3.29								
3	Halyomorpha_halys	4.21	3.80							
4	Dysdercus cingulatus	2.06	1.73	3.98						
5	Nezara viridula	2.36	1.87	2.71	2.00					
6	Cletus punctiger	1.94	2.75	3.40	2.76	2.39				
7	Nezara antennata	4.45	4.61	3.32	3.71	4.54	4.67			
8	Melanaphis sacchari	2.80	1.68	1.91	1.71	0.40	2.12	4.52		
9	Leptocentrus_taurus	2.48	2.62	4.18	2.04	2.83	2.52	4.41	2.57	
10	Nezara mendax	2.45	1.93	2.72	2.08	0.00	2.39	4.55	0.40	2.83

 Table 3. 19: Pairwise distance analysis COI sequences of Hemiptera

	Hemiptera species	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	Coridius janus									
2	Carbula insocia	1.96								
3	Dysdercus_cingulatus	1.76	1.81							
4	Nezara viridula	1.67	1.79	1.35						
5	Cletus punctiger	2.00	1.98	1.88	1.84					
6	Nezara antennata	1.88	1.84	1.44	1.62	1.79				
7	Melanaphis sacchari	1.89	2.09	1.41	1.53	1.64	1.70			
8	Leptocentrus_taurus	1.95	1.83	1.65	1.75	1.99	1.52	1.59		
9	Nezara mendax	1.89	1.97	1.73	1.93	1.70	1.75	1.56	1.94	

Table 3. 20: Pairwise distance analysis 16s rRNA sequences of Hemiptera

#### Phylogenetic analysis of Order Hemiptera

Hemiptera, five representative family sequences were obtained-Pentatomidae, Coreidae, Pyrrhocoridae, Aphididae, and Membracidae. The phylogenetic pair wise closes distance was found in the manner of (Pentatomidae + (Coreidae + (Pyrrhocoridae + (Aphididae + Membracidae))))) representing nine species. The highest no of species representation was observed in Pentatomidae. *N. antennata, N. mendax* and *N. viridula* were monophyletic to each other, having a paraphyletic sister clade of *C. insocia* and *C. janus*. Family Coreidae, Pyrrhocoridae, Aphididae and Membracidae were having *C. punctiger, D. cingulatus, M. sacchari*, and *L. taurus* respectively as the represented species. The Coreidae and Pyrrhocoridae were having the least distance and were paraphyletic to each other; on the other hand, they were found to be polyphyletic to Aphididae and Membracidae (Figure 3.8).



Figure 3. 8: Phylogenetic tree of Hemiptera species

The following are the sequences (COI and 16s rRNA) which are obtained through Sanger Sequencing

#### Coridius janus - MT765072 (COI)

```
ATCGGTGATGATCAAATTTATAATGTTATTGTAACAGCACATGCATTTGTAATAATTT
TCTTTATAGTTATACCTATTATAATTGGAGGAGTTTGGTAACTGATTAGTACCACTAATA
ATTGGAGCACCAGATATAGCATTCCCCCCGAATAAATAATATAAGATTTTGACTTCTAC
```

#### Coridius janus - MT774554 (16s rRNA)

#### > Carbula insocia - MT707346 (COI)

#### > Carbula insocia (16s rRNA)

#### > Halyomorpha halys - MT707347 (COI)

ACTAATTATCCGAATTGAATTAGGACAACCAGGAAGATTTATTGGAGATGATCAAAT TTATAATGTAGTAGTTACAGCCCACGCATTCATTATAATTTTTTTATAGTTATACCTA TTATAATTGGGGGGATTTGGTAATTGACTTGTACCTTTAATAATTGGAGCCCCTGATAT AGCTTTCCCTCGAATAAATAATAATAAGATTTTGACTATTACCCCCATCACTAACATTA CTAATAATAAGAAGACTAACAGAATCTGGAGCAGGAACTGGATGAACAGTTTACCCC CCTTTATCAAGTAATATTTCACACAGAGGATCATCAGTAGATTTAGCAATCTTTAGTC TTCACTTAGCAGGAATCTCTTCTATCTTAGGTGCAGTAAATTTCATTTCAACAATCATT AATATACGCCCAGCAGGAATAATTCCTGAACGAATTCCATTATTTGTATGATCAGTAG GAATTACTGCCTTACTTCTACTTCTATCCTTGTATCCTGTATTAGCAGGAGCCATTACAATA CTATTAACAGACCGAAACTTTAATACATC

#### > Dysdercus cingulatus - MT765073 (COI)

#### > Dysdercus cingulatus - MT994689 (16s rRNA)

#### > Nezara viridula - MT707348 (COI)

#### > Nezara viridula - MT994699 (16s rRNA)

#### > Cletus punctiger - MT568728 (COI)

#### > Cletus punctiger - MT102349 (16s rRNA)

#### > Nezara antennata - MT707349 (COI)

#### Nezara antennata - MT994693 (16s rRNA)

#### > Melanaphis sacchari - MT707350 (COI)

#### > Melanaphis sacchari - MT994694 (16s rRNA)

#### > Leptocentrus Taurus - MT707350 (COI)

CCTGACATAGCATTCCCCCGACTAAATAATAATAAGATTTTGACTTTTACCACCTTCATT AATAATACTGATATTAAGATCAAGAATTGAGTCTGGAGTAGGCACTGGGTGAACTAT ATACCCTCCACTTTCATCAAATGTGGCTCACTCATCACCTAGAGTGGATATAGCAATT TTCTCCCTCCATTTAGCTGGTATTTCATCAATTTTAGGAGCCATTAATTTTATTACAAC AGTTATTAATATACGAGCAAATGGGATAAAGATAGATCAAACACCTTTATTTGTGTGA TCAGTATTGATTACAGCTTTTCTATTACTTCTGTCACTACCAGTATTAGCAGGTGCTAT TACTATGTTATTAACAGATCGAAATATTAAC

#### Leptocentrus Taurus - MT994692 (16s rRNA)

#### > Nezara mendax - MT707352 (COI)

#### > Nezara mendax - MT994695 (16s rRNA)



Figure 3. 9: Electrophoresis gel image of DNA, PCR product of COI and 16s rRNA of Hemiptera species representatives

#### GC Content and AT – GC Skew analysis of Order Lepidoptera

A genomics analysis order wise GC% resulted that GC content of Lepidoptera was recorded highest with *Olene mendosa* (32.6%) and lowest with *Spodoptera litura* (27.1%) and AT content was maximum with *Spodoptera frugiperda* (72.9%) and minimum with *Spoladea recurvalis* (67.4%) (Table 3.19). Further, each order's sequence was analyzed for GC and AT skews, where GC skew of Lepidoptera was found the maximum in *Spoladea recurvalis* (0.01%), whereas the minimum was found in *Ariadne merione* and *Helicoverpa armigera* (-0.10%) among the selected species. AT skew of Hemiptera was found the maximum in *Spodoptera litura* (0.23%), whereas the minimum was found in *Ariadne merione* (-0.18%) among the selected species. (Table 3.19 and Figure 3. 10). Table 3. 19 also represents the Accession number obtained after sequence submitted to NCBI.

Lonidontoro	NCBI Acc	cession No.	AT	GC		
Lepidoptera	COI	16s rRNA	Skew	Skew	GC %	A1%
Spodoptera litura	MT568729	MT570012	0.23	-0.02	27.1	72.89
Spodoptera frugiperda	MT765070	MT774213	-0.17	-0.09	28.3	71.66
Ariadne merione	MT568733	MT603574	-0.18	-0.10	28.8	71.22
Helicoverpa zea	MT707354	MT774552	-0.12	-0.06	29.1	70.92
Helicoverpa armigera	MT568731	MT774154	-0.11	-0.10	29.3	70.72
Spodoptera sunia	MT707355	MT774553	-0.17	-0.08	29.4	70.6
Spoladea recurvalis	MT568730	MT102741	-0.07	0.01	30	70
Plutella xylostella	MT568735	MT570013	-0.16	-0.03	30.2	69.76
Spilarctia obliqua	MT568732	MT937230	-0.13	-0.07	30.4	69.63
Olene mendosa	MT568734	MT603575	-0.17	-0.06	32.6	67.36

 Table 3. 21: Order Lepidoptera with Accession no., AT-GC- Skew and AT- GC content







We also did the AT and GC content of individual orders, where Lepidoptera demonstrated AT bias of 70.4 and GC of 29.6 for COI and 77 and 23.02 for 16s rRNA. The estimated Transition/Transversion bias (*R*) for COI and 16s rRNA was found to be 5.195 and 0.549, respectively. The nucleotide frequencies of COI were 31.79% (A), 38.42% (T/U), 15.65% (C), and 14.14% (G) and G = 16.57% and that of 16s rRNA was 38.50% (A), 38.78% (T/U), 12.53% (C), and 10.19% (G). The probability rate for synonymous to-nonsynonymous mutation was tested and the analysis involved 10 nucleotide sequences. A total of 153 positions in the final dataset was compared and 13 interspecies significance (p<0.05, p<0.001) for the mutation rate was obtained for 108 positions in the final dataset (Table 3.21).

	Lepidoptera species	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	Spodoptera frugiperda										
2	Spodoptera litura	0.082									
3	Spoladea recurvalis	0.130	0.008								
4	Helicoverpa zea	0.000	0.098	0.470							
5	Spilarctia obliqua	0.012	0.065	0.117	1.000						
6	Ariadne merione	0.008	0.007	0.030	1.000	1.000					
7	Olene mendosa	0.044	0.196	1.000	0.159	0.079	0.062				
8	Helicoverpa armigera	0.000	0.098	0.470	1.000	1.000	1.000	0.217			
9	Plutella xylostella	0.004	0.060	0.033	1.000	1.000	1.000	0.001	1.000		
10	Spodoptera sunia	0.004	0.112	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	0.035	1.000	1.000	

Table 3. 22: Codon-based Test of Neutrality analysis between COI sequences of Lepidoptera

	Lepidoptera species	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	Spodoptera_frugiperda										
2	Spodoptera_litura	0.353									
3	Spoladea_recurvalis	0.082	0.138								
4	Helicoverpa zea	1.000	0.259	0.112							
5	Spilarctia obliqua	0.073	0.013	0.251	0.010						
6	Ariadne merione	1.000	0.032	0.260	0.326	0.003					
7	Olene mendosa	1.000	1.000	0.040	0.064	0.553	0.207				
8	Helicoverpa armigera	1.000	0.263	0.127	1.000	0.010	0.378	0.037			
9	Plutella_xylostella	0.160	0.296	0.125	0.112	0.210	0.243	0.295	0.194		
10	Spodoptera sunia	1.000	0.549	0.112	0.218	0.023	0.528	0.196	0.212	0.116	

 Table 3. 23: Codon-based Test of Neutrality analysis between 16s rRNA sequences of Lepidoptera

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	Lepidoptera species	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	Spodoptera frugiperda										
2	Spodoptera litura	13.95									
3	Spoladea recurvalis	9.05	8.38								
4	Helicoverpa zea	7.10	6.53	8.45							
5	Spilarctia obliqua	8.22	6.68	7.77	0.19						
6	Ariadne merione	7.22	6.28	7.56	0.18	0.16					
7	Olene mendosa	6.53	9.67	0.17	7.09	7.55	6.29				
8	Helicoverpa armigera	7.42	6.53	8.45	0.00	0.20	0.18	7.21			
9	Plutella xylostella	7.68	7.74	8.38	0.28	0.32	0.26	6.76	0.29		
10	Spodoptera sunia	7.91	7.48	8.94	0.14	0.13	0.17	6.77	0.14	0.27	

 Table 3. 24: Pairwise distance analysis COI sequences of Lepidoptera

	Lepidoptera species	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	Spodoptera_frugiperda										
2	Spodoptera_litura	3.44									
3	Spoladea_recurvalis	3.17	2.07								
4	Helicoverpa zea	0.48	3.39	4.40							
5	Spilarctia obliqua	2.21	3.49	2.55	3.04						
6	Ariadne merione	3.32	3.16	2.74	3.19	3.36					
7	Olene mendosa	4.52	2.76	3.36	3.48	3.31	4.25				
8	Helicoverpa armigera	0.46	3.24	3.66	0.01	3.15	3.05	4.26			
9	Plutella_xylostella	3.24	2.41	2.30	2.74	2.94	3.09	2.77	2.80		
10	Spodoptera sunia	1.66	2.83	3.30	0.96	3.42	4.21	4.17	0.99	2.33	

Table 3. 25: Pairwise distance analysis 16s rRNA sequences of Lepidoptera

#### Phylogenetic analysis of Order Lepidoptera

Lepidoptera was represented by five families with 10 species barcoded sequences. The most dominant was found to be Noctuidae with three species of barcode data. The pairwise distance was minimal in Noctuidae and Erabidae, while Crambidae, Nymphalidae, and Plutellinidae showed related closeness (Figure 3. 11). Therefore, the resolved phylogeny for order Lepidoptera was found to be (Noctuidae + (Erabidae + (Crambidae + (Nymphalidae + Plutellinidae)))). In Lepidoptera, five families were found: Noctuidae, Erabidae, Crambidae, Nymphalidae, and Plutellinidae. The prominent sequenced representatives belonged to Noctuidae, and the three species of Spodoptera *S. sunia, S. frugiperda, S. littura* were monophyletic to each other. In comparison, it was paraphyletic to *H. armigera* and *H. zea*. This family was found to be paraphyletic to Erabidae, having two representatives. *S. obliqua* and *O. mendosa*. This was having the closest distance and was found to be sister clades of each other. Similarly, Crambidae had a single representative, *S. recurvalis*, having the closest *A. merione* of family Nymphalidae. The family Plutellinidae also had a single representation of *P. xylostella*, which was also closely related to *A. merione*.



#### Figure 3. 11: Phylogenetic tree of Lepidoptera species

The following are the sequences (COI and 16s rRNA) which are obtained through Sanger Sequencing

#### > Spodoptera frugiperda - MT765070 (COI)

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#### > Spodoptera frugiperda - MT774213 (16s rRNA)

#### > Spodoptera litura - MT568729 (COI)

ATAGTAATAGCTCCAGCTAAAACAGGTAAAGATAATAATAATAAAAAATGCAGTAATTCCT ACAGCTCAAACAAATAAAGGTATTTGATCAAATGATAAATTATTTAATCGTATATTAATAA TAGTAGTAATAAAGTTAATAGCTCCTCCTAAAATAGATGAAATTCCAGCTAGATGAAGGG AAAAAATAGCTAAATCTACTGATCTTCCACCATGAGCAATATTA

#### > Spodoptera litura - MT570012 (16s rRNA)

#### > Spoladea recurvalis - MT568730 (COI)

#### > Spoladea recurvalis - MT102741 (16s rRNA)

TCTAATCTGCCCACTGATGAAATATTAAAGGGCTGCAGTATATTGACTGTACAAAGGTAG CATAATCAATAGTCTCTTAATTGGTGACTTGTATGAAAGATTGGATGAGATATAAACTGTC

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#### Helicoverpa zea - MT707354 (COI)

#### Helicoverpa zea - MT774552 (16s rRNA)

#### > Spilarctia obliqua - MT568732 (COI)

#### > Spilarctia obliqua -

#### > Ariadne merione - MT568733 (COI)

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#### > Ariadne merione - MT603574 (16s rRNA)

#### Olene mendosa - MT568734 (COI)

#### Olene mendosa - MT603575 (16s rRNA)

#### Helicoverpa armigera - MT568731 (COI)

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#### Helicoverpa armigera - MT774154

#### Plutella xylostella - MT568735 (COI)

#### > Plutella xylostella - MT570013 (16s rRNA)

#### Spodoptera sunia - MT707355 (COI)

#### > Spodoptera sunia - MT774553 (16s rRNA)





Figure 3. 12: Electrophoresis gel image of DNA, PCR product of COI and 16s rRNA of Lepidoptera species representatives

The overall Phylogeny of four Orders where green clades represents Coleoptera, orange one represents Lepidoptera, blue represents Orthoptera and red represents Hemiptera (Figure 3. 13).



Figure 3. 13: Overall phylogeney Tree of four Orders

#### **3.4 Discussion**

In the present study, an attempt has been made to correlate the identification and assess the diversity of Coleoptera, Orthoptera, Hemiptera, and Lepidoptera of Vadodara genetically. The research on molecular ecology on pest insects of agricultural importance may lead to identifying new species (Armstrong and Ball, 2005) biotypes and cryptic species (Toda and Murai, 2007; Karthika et al., 2016). The vast number of insect species is often challenging to identify using only a morphological approach (Witt, et al., 2006) and thus presents an insurmountable obstacle for cataloging total biodiversity only through conventional taxonomy (Blaxter, 2004; Pentinsaari et al., 2014), for which morphological recognition has fallen short and the barcoding of DNA has filled the void (Bourke et al., 2013). Different scientists are now using DNAsequencing to understand and resolve insects' phylogeny (Hebert et al., 2003; Hajibabaei et al., 2007). DNA sequences are characterized by length and base composition. To compare the nucleotide sequences in phylogenetic analysis, several additional parameters such as the overall nucleotide substitution rate, the ratio of two unique instantaneous substitution rate rates at which transitions and transversions occur, and the site rate variance play an essential role. They are essential for accurate phylogeny reconstruction, (DeWoody and Avise 2000; Karthika et al., 2016; Singhal et al., 2018). Thus, the current inventory was designed to unravel the phylogeny of different pest species of Coleoptera, Orthoptera, Hemiptera, and Lepidoptera using COI and 16s rRNA sequencing regime. The selection of this marker is based on its low rate of mutation caused by adaptive habitat-specific radiation (Raupach et al., 2010) and for the construction of a concrete phylogenetic tree of the selected species using standard models.(Lanfear et al., 2014).

Results indicated that the COI and 16s rRNA based insect pests identification was exceptionally sufficient because all the species were accurately and successfully identified based on the marker profile. Most of the phylogenetic information has been derived from mitochondrial DNA variations (DeWoody and Avise, 2000), and recently, DNA barcoding data have been used successfully to elucidate the relationships of many groups of insect species at the generic level (Wang *et al.*, 2009). The composition of the COI and 16s rRNA gene sequence in the present study was expectedly AT biased for all the orders and is generally observed in different previous studies reported (Zhang *et al.*, 2012; Karthika *et al.*, 2016) Overall, the frequency of transitional substitutions is

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known to be higher than transversional substitutions in the genome (Karthika, *et al.*, 2016) saturation possibly occurs when the plot shows no further increase in the observed number of transitions despite increasing genetic distances.

Thus, it has been found that saturation of transitions at high levels of sequence divergence indicates saturation in the data. Conversely, in the present study, the transversions rate was higher than that of transitions for COI and 16s rRNA for all the orders analysed. These substitutions perhaps lead to substantial saturation of the sequences. Analysing the transitions and transversions showed that transversions contain stouter phylogenetic signals compared to transitions and are capable of masking the distorted signals coming from the saturated transitions sites that may be misleading, which is reported by Karthika *et al.*, (2016), where they have studied pest insects in Southern India. Moreover, too divergent datasets are still usable, as the phylogenetic information is not entirely lost and maybe retained using sites that have experienced more rate of transversions mutations (Dwivedi and Gadagkar, 2009).

In the present study, the probability change is synonymous to non-synonymous was calculated for all the four orders. The available evidence suggests that nonsynonymous point mutations have more significant fitness impacts than synonymous or noncoding mutations (Cuevas et al., 2012). Significant fitness effects from synonymous substitutions are more often observed with massive scale changes than discrete mutations, such as a complete change in a gene's codon usage (Lyons and Lauring, 2017). Estimation of non-synonymous (Ka) and synonymous (Ks) substitution rates is of great significance in reconstructing phylogeny and understanding evolutionary dynamics of protein-coding sequences across closely related and yet diverged species(Fay and Wu, 2003). Previous studies reported that the usage of statistical methods in evolutionary genetics could evaluate the strength of selection operating on individual codons over particular branches or regions of a phylogenetic tree (Delport et al., 2010; Motyka et al., 2017; Bocak et al., 2018). Thus, we found the significant change in the rate of synonymous to non-synonymous mutation rate for COI sequence for all the orders, while for 16s rRNA, the significance was noted for Orthoptera, Hemiptera, and Lepidoptera. Hence, the null hypothesis of neutral selection was rejected since the p-values <0.05 were considered significant.

The average genetic distance among insects' different orders reported in this study showed higher values at the 1<sup>st</sup> codon position revealing the evolutionary nearness among the related group. (Baldwin *et al.*, 2001; Jørgensen *et al.*, 2007; Song *et al.*, 2019). Maximum-likelihood and Baysian analyses produced broadly similar topologies to the MP analyses without 3rd codon positions. Concordant results between the different analytical approaches has provide some assurance in the sub-ordinal structure obtained for coleoptera: (Chrysomelidae + (Cerambycidae+ (Curculionidae+ Meloidae+ (Scarabaeidae + Elateridae)))). Thus, the result suggests that Chrysomelidae was closest to Cerambicidae, while Curculionidae was closest to Meloidae, and Scarabidae with Elateridae. The monophyly of Coleoptera is well supported by nucleotide sequences of protein-coding genes, which shows that mitogenome data are very effective in resolving relationships within this group (Singhal *et al.*, 2018).

In order Orthoptera, sequencing of three families representing the pest species were obtained namely, Acrididae, Pyrgomorphidea and Gryllidae. Concordant results between the different analytical approaches provide some confidence in the subordinal structure for Orthoptera: (Acrididae + (Pyrgomorphidae+ Gryllidae)). Overall, our data confirm the phylogenetic affinity of Orthoptera, and it shows the clear phylogenetic pattern of basal relationships between the Orthoptera clade and its potential sister group. Our these observations are in the accordance with the previous studies ( Chintauan-Marquier *et al.*, 2016; Song *et al.*, 2018), where they have reported strong support for monophyletic suborders (Ensifera and Caelifera) as well as the families and their results corroborate most of the higher-level relationships .

For Hemiptera, the COI and 16sRNA sequence of five families were obtained. The highest number of species representation was observed in Pentatomidae. The concordant findings between the various analytical approaches affords confidence in the subordinate framework for Hemiptera: (Pentatomidae + (Pyrrhocoridae+ (Coreidae + (Memracidae + Aphididae)))), and endows with strong confirmation for understanding the phylogenetic relationships among all major lineages of ecologically diversified Hemipterans The present finding is in accordance with the previous studies (Foottit *et al.*, 2009; Song and Liang, 2013; Misof *et al.*, 2014; Havemann *et al.*, 2018; Johnson *et al.*, 2018) where they have confirmed the influence of phylogenomic

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approaches in deciphering difficult-to-resolve phylogenetic relationships regarding the evolutionary history of the aphids, planthoppers, bugs and water bugs.

In Lepidoptera, five families were found which were: (Noctuidae+ (Erebidae+ Lymantriidae + (Crambidae + (Nymphalidae +Plutellidae)))). The Bayesian phylogenetic analysis resulted in a topological closely resembling that of the ML analysis and short internodes linking the basal splits are which are a common feature of deep divergences in insect phylogenies (Whitfield and Kjer, 2008); their relative consistency can be seen as a support per se for their consequence even in the absence of significant bootstrap values, especially as there is much congruence with a published morphology-based phylogeny (Kaila, 2004; Van Nieukerken *et al.*, 2011; Kaila *et al.*, 2011; Sohn *et al.*, 2016).

Earlier molecular studies on species have explored the distinction whether belonging to a single genus, family, or species level in the neighbouring of individuals (Koch, 2010; da Silva et al., 2013; Singhal et al., 2018). On the contrary, for the present molecular identification of individuals was based on the rate of infestation of vegetable crops which stands out among the studies that have been performed so far. Moreover, it is important for the groups to accurately identify the species with maximum uniqueness for elucidating the DNA sequences' that can be precisely studied and sub essentially utilized for inferring the evolutionary data and the genetic divergence for properly congruency (Caeiro-Dias et al., 2018; Liu et al., 2019). Therefore, the present study had potentially provided more in-depth insights into pests' knowledge of Vadodara's major vegetable crops based on nucleotide sequences of COI and 16s rRNA. However, further research based on employing different species-specific primers is needed to yield qualitative amplified products upon which the success of sequencing is dependent. The studies should be more focused on the metagenome analysis of different insect pest species' mitochondria to better insight into the phylogeny and evolutionary ambiguity among the species.

#### 3.5 Conclusion

Regardless of complimentary views, the taxonomic impairment remains the chief concern and thus stresses an urgent need for comprehensive biodiversity assessments due to biodiversity catastrophes: the risk of human activities causing mass extinction. Thus, sequencing can accelerate the process of taxonomic inventory. In conclusion, the present study incorporates the advanced analyzed genetic data that determines the nucleotide content and specificity in two candidate markers COI and 16s rRNA. It also resolves the taxonomy and the phylogeny and the status of unknown species of Coleoptera, Orthoptera, Hemiptera, and Lepidoptera:

#### > Coleoptera-

(Chrysomelidae+(Cerambycidae+(Curculionidae+Meloidae+(Scarabaeidae+ Elateridae)))).

#### > Orthoptera-

(Acrididae + (Pyrgomorphidae + Gryllidae))

#### > Hemiptera-

(Pentatomidae + (Coreidae + (Pyrrhocoridae + (Aphididae + Membracidae)))))

#### > Lepidoptera-

(Noctuidae + (Erabidae + (Crambidae + (Nymphalidae + Plutellinidae)))).

Overall, this study has added basic knowledge to molecular phylogeny of important insect pests in the agricultural fields of Vadodara and this investigation could potentially be applied in agricultural researches to rapid identification of pests. However, further studies are necessitated to comprehend ecophysiological role of the cryptic pest species.