

To start out I downloaded the raxmlGUI so that I could process my tree. I used this program because I use a pc and it was the easiest thing to run on my computer. I would have used BEAST but it takes more time and is more difficult to get good data out of. Next I downloaded my data from canvas so that I could proceed with the homework. I then fiddled around with the raxmlGUI trying to get what I needed. I also download Figtree so that I could see an accurate representation of my tree. I then rerouted my tree to show who is the most distantly related.

I found out from my tree that we humans are most closely related to chimpanzees. We are primates and are part of the great apes. I also learned the most distantly related members of this tree are lemurs and tarsius.

This whole process was relevant because it showed us how to put together a phylogenetic tree. It also shows us how different and how similar we are to other chimps, apes, and monkey's. It shows us how far away our relation is to these other creatures and how similar our DNA is. Overall this was a good learning experience and it shows us how great technology is and what it can be used for.

