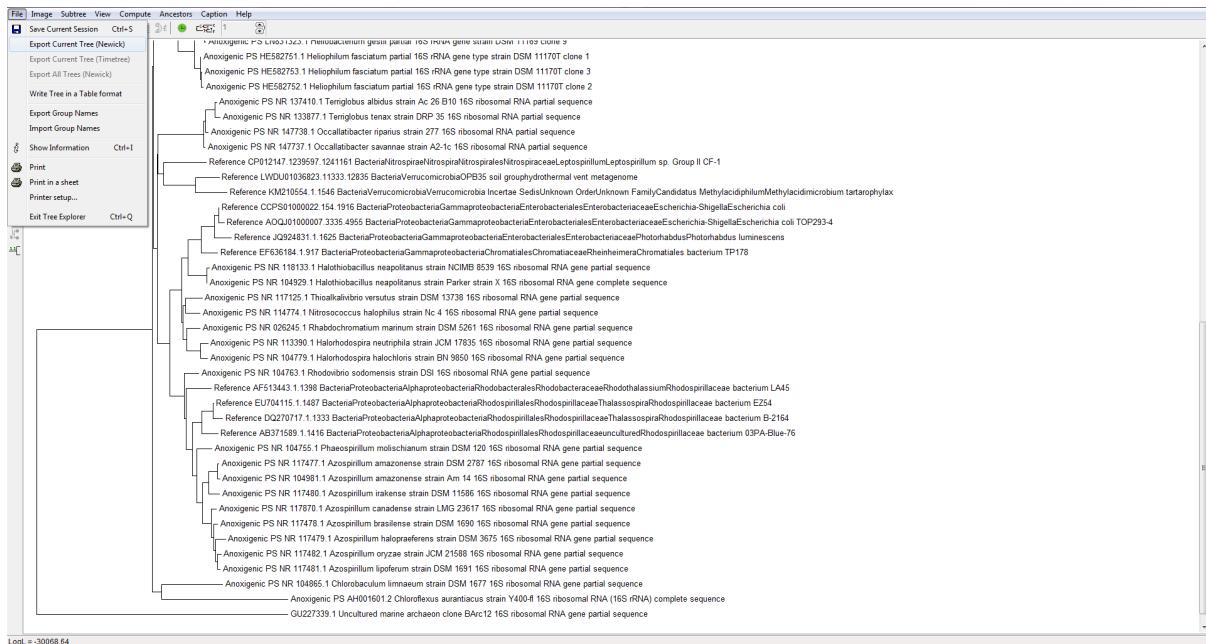


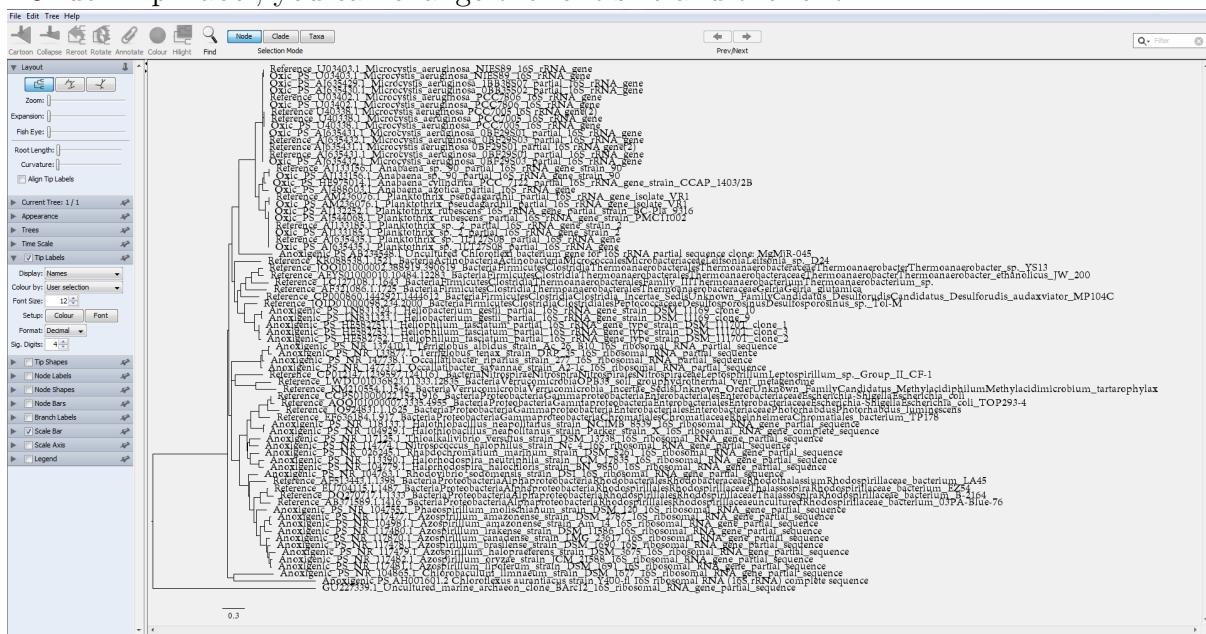
FigTree Tutorial

- Once the tree is finished in MEGA, save the output as a Newick (.nwk) file, under File → Export Current Tree (Newick)

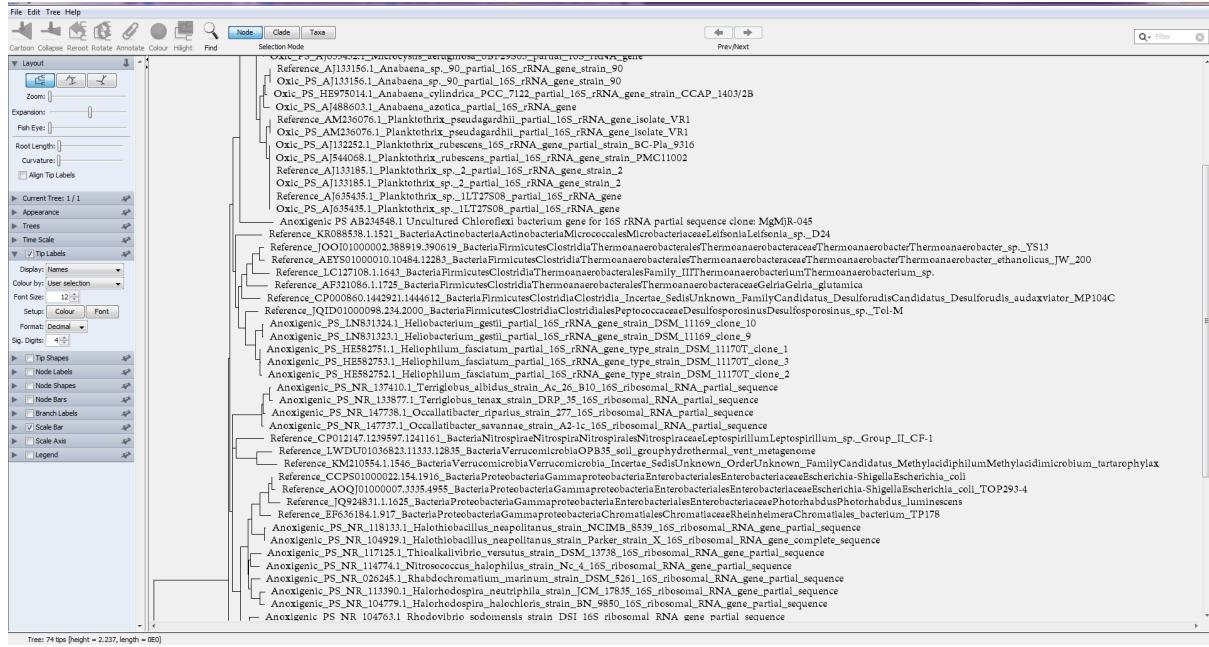


- Open FigTree, click File → Open to open the .nwk file saved previously

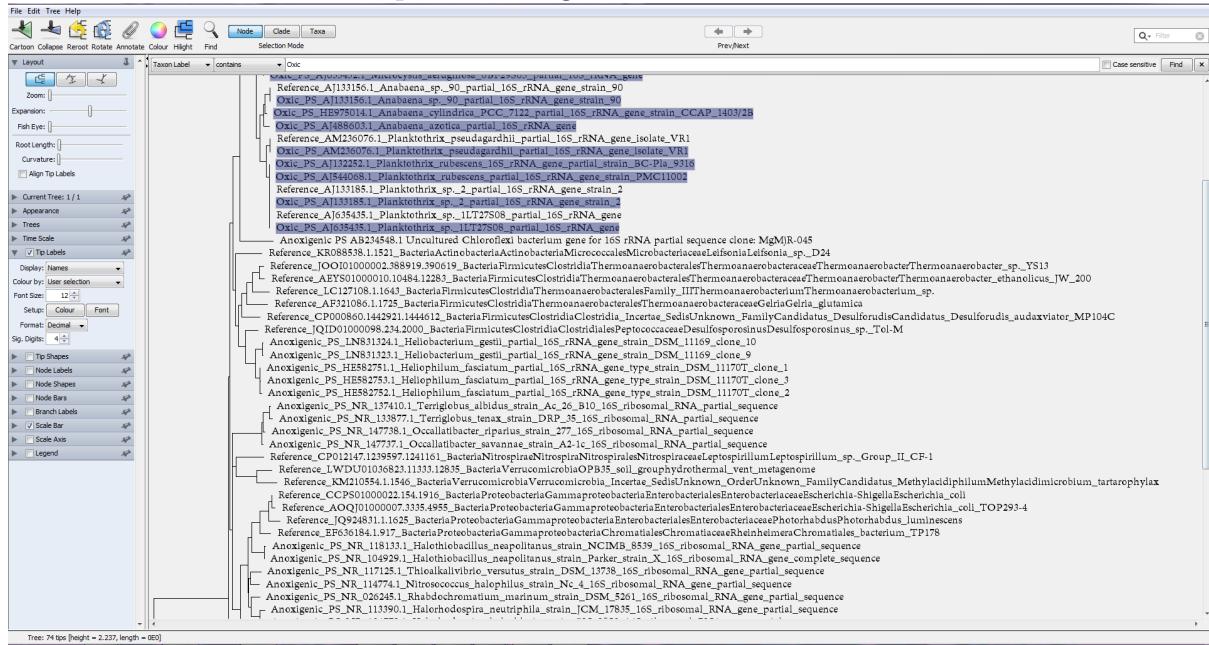
- Under Tip Label, you can change the font size and the font.



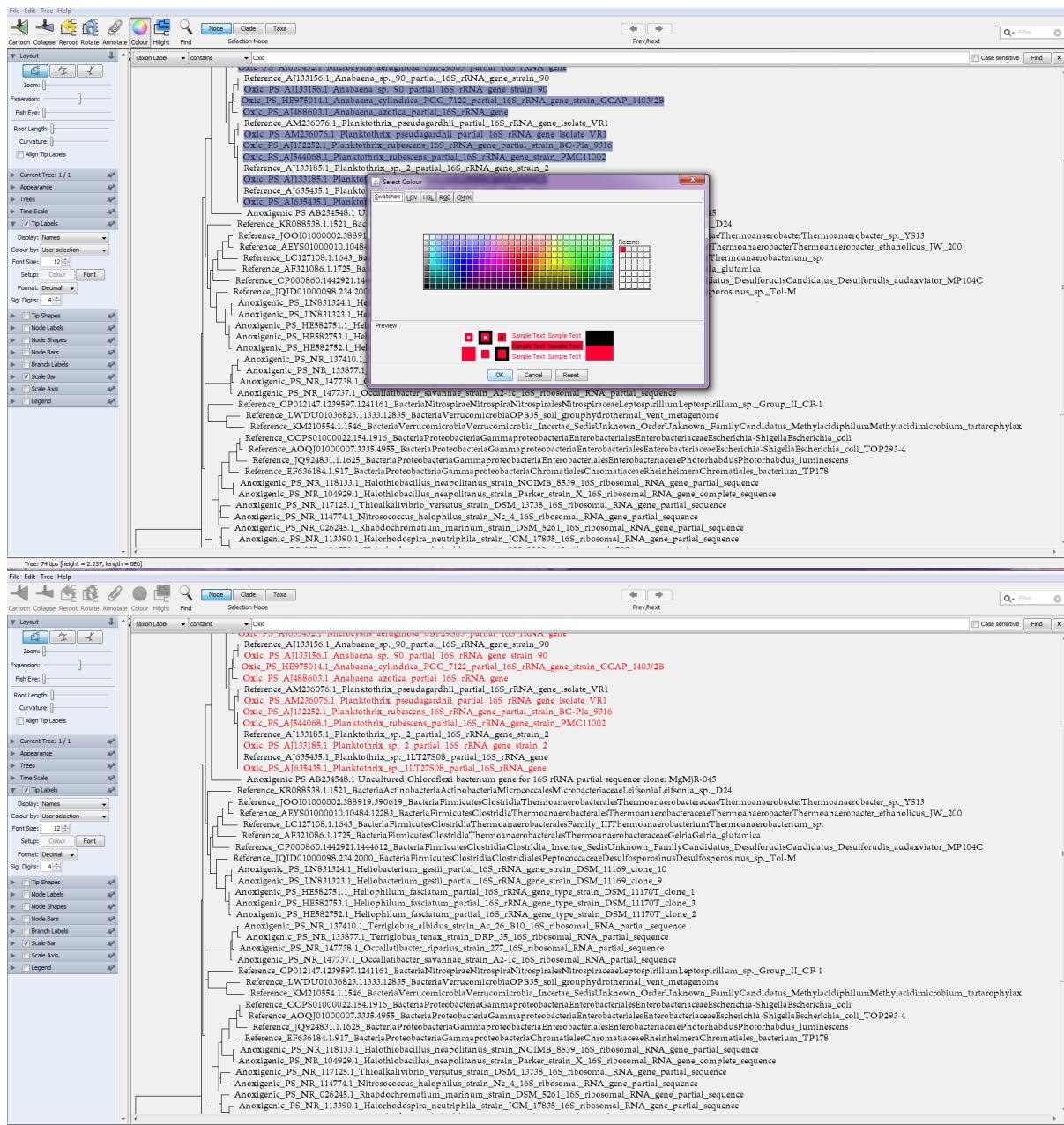
4. You can change how closed together the text and branches are using the slider Expansion under Layout



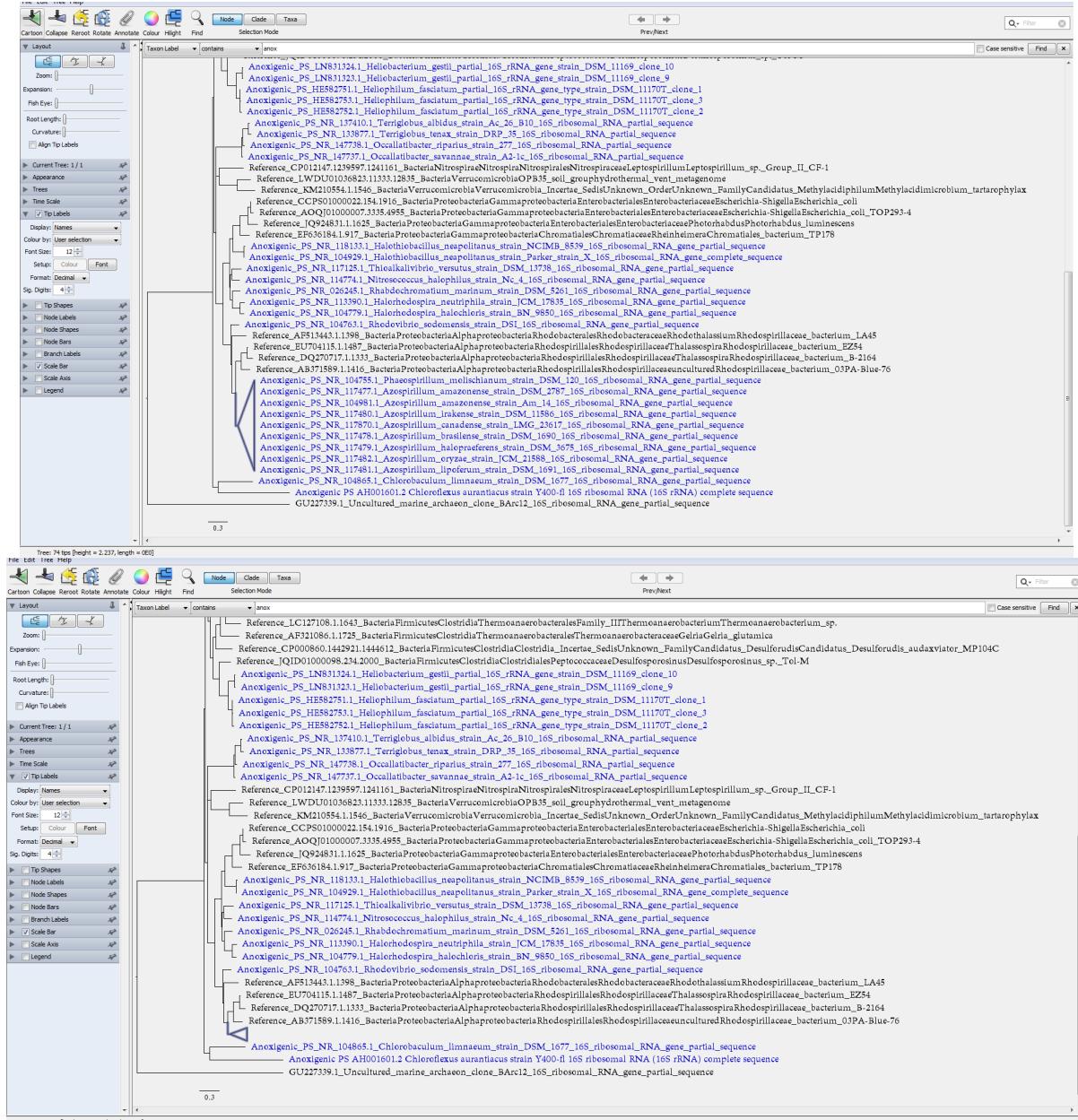
5. You can find and select sequences using the Find tool.



6. Then we can colour the selected sequences, or highlight them using the Colour wheel or Highlight Option

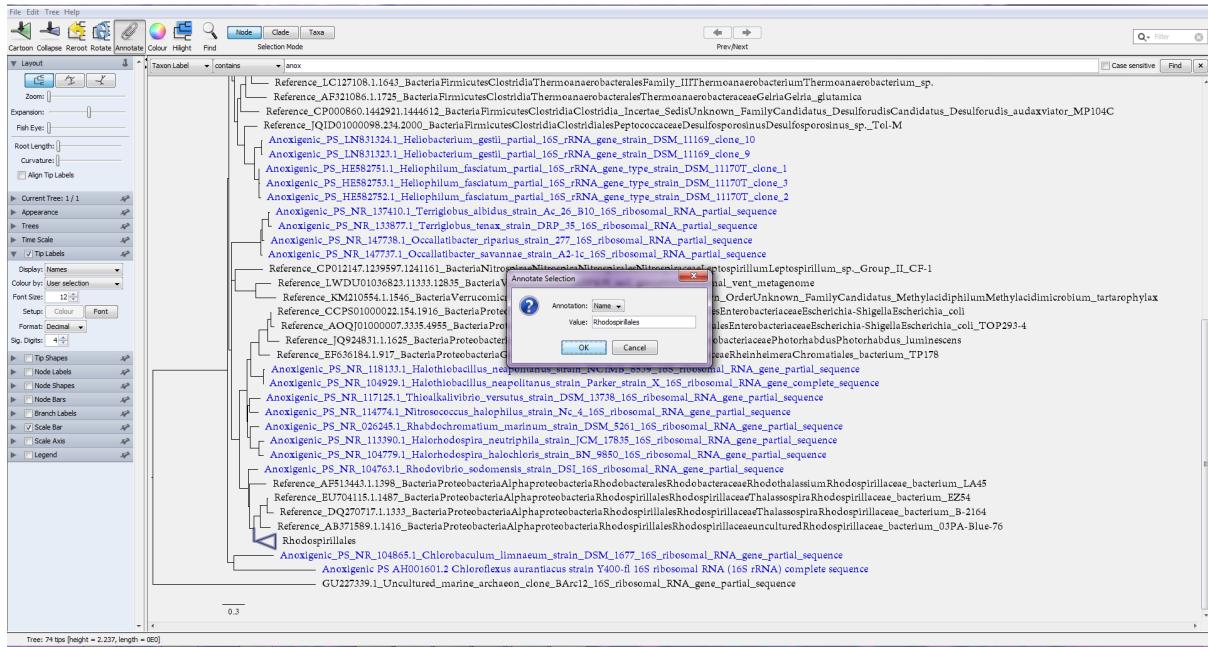


7. Sometimes, we can simplify the look of the tree by collapsing branches. Use your mouse to select a branch node.

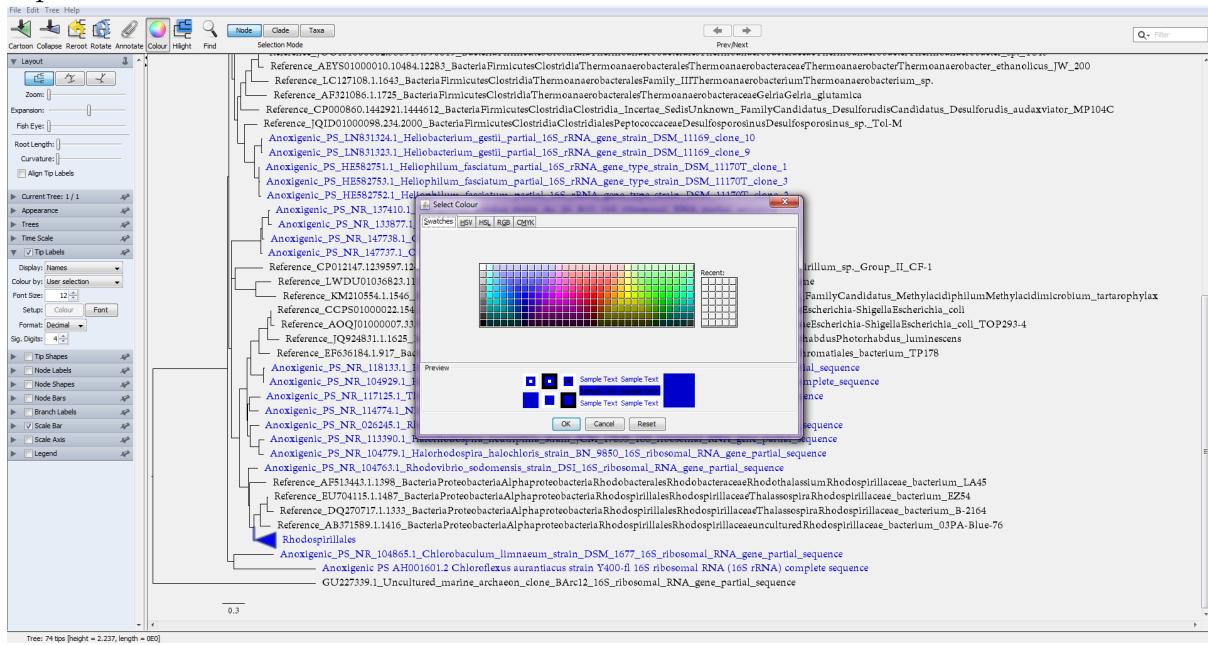


To uncollapse a group, select the branch and click Collapse again.

8. Once you have collapsed the group you can annotate it by giving it a name (for example, the rank)



9. Collapsed branched can also be coloured.



10. When selecting branches to annotate, you can select the node, the clade or the taxa. Note the difference between the 3 options.

11. We can simplify the name of taxa or taxon by selecting the taxa, then Annotate, then renaming it. Click OK.



12. When you are satisfied with the look of the tree, click File → Export PDF. There are other file format options, but PDF is a good format for publication and presentations because it can be scaled without losing resolution (blurry). It can also be resized, modified for aesthetics in Illustrator or Inkscape.

Things to play around with:

- You can visualize your tree as a classic rectangular tree layout, but also as a circular view (polar tree layout), or Radial tree layout. These views have their advantages and disadvantages. For example, in a classic layout you can see the details and information. In a polar tree layout, you can visualize general patterns but they often contain less information (name, etc.) since those informations will make the tree cluttered.
- In the Layout panel, play around with the curvature of the branches.
- You can also align the tip labels, which gives the tree a cleaner look.
- Another interesting feature is the Tip Shape panel. For example, instead of having the full-length name, you could represent the tip as a circle, and color it based on different taxa group, treatments, etc.