

April 19, 2020

Dear Prof. Dr. Rudolf Meier, Editor, *Cladistics*

In March of this year, we resubmitted a revised article “Genetic Capitalism and Stabilizing Selection of Antimicrobial Resistance Genotypes in *Escherichia coli*” for your consideration. We appreciate your reviewers’ thorough assessment of our work and have addressed the concerns and questions from the reviewers in a table on the last few pages of the manuscript.

Note that for each of the responses from the reviewers, we denote each item with an "Edit:" and/or a "Comment:" to indicate our action. One major concern from reviewers that has been brought up in both reviews of this work is in the tree generation method used here. The tree in our analysis was created by NCBI. While our work in this article is downstream from the tree generation, we reached out to NCBI about the tree methodology and we have added their response to the reviewers’ concerns at the end of the article. In addition, we have now archived the additional files that NCBI has sent us related to PDG000000004.1024 (such as the distance matrix). This is included among all the supplementary materials which are publicly available at https://github.com/supramap/ecoli_amr_persistence.

On behalf of all authors, we thank you for considering our manuscript for publication.

Sincerely,



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