**Supplementary File 10.** Scrambled pointers are more conserved than nonscrambled pointers.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | *Oxytricha* | *Tetmemena* |
|  | scrambled | nonscrambled | scrambled | nonscrambled |
| Conserved | 1442 | 2715 | 1412 | 2549 |
| Unconserved | 611 | 6091 | 801 | 8046 |
| chi-square test*p*-value | 1e-239 | 5e-296 |