**Supplementary File 9.** Presence of conserved pointers in three species, with Monte Carlo simulations

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | *Oxytricha* vs. *Tetmemena* | *Oxytricha* vs. *Euplotes* | *Tetmemena* vs. *Euplotes* |
| Observed # of conserved pointers | Number of orthologs | 1345 | 51 | 52 |
| Number of pointer pairs | 4448 | 56 | 58 |
| Pointers conserved in 3 species | 23 | | |
| Expectations (Monte Carlo simulations) | Number of orthologs | 697 | 52 | 57 |
| *p*-value | <0.001 | 0.59 | 0.738 |
| Number of pointer pairs | 1781 | 57 | 62 |
| *p*-value | <0.001 | 0.6 | 0.783 |
| Pointers conserved in 3 species | 6.7 | | |
| *p*-value | <0.001 | | |