

## **Methods**

- and *BHMT-2* genes from 37 species in and vertebrates), were obtained in sequences as queries.
- ipmaker.bx.psu.edu/cgi-bin/ o identify the genic and intergenic and *BHMT-2* genes within and erate dot plots
- m (http://www.geneious.com/) as used to align sequences and
- ring the evolution of *BHMT* and d by single likelihood ancestor ffects likelihood (REL) fixed

amphibians, reptiles and birds exact that the *BHMT* gene had been duple of mammals from other living verter divergence of extant mammalian structures.

- The evolutionary rate of change a for *BHMT-2* relative to the rate for especially between the time that a in the appearance of *BHMT-2* in th the time of the appearance of crow mammals.
- Based on the ratio of non-synony mutation rates, the highest degree selection occurred following gene d the mammalian lineage (Figure 4).
- Seven amino acids (139, 142, 14 in the alignment) showed evidence (Table 1). Two amino acids (149 an two methods as having undergone