## Trait evolution and ancestral state reconstruction

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#### Interspecific data are not independent





Simpson 1946

# The relationship between phylogeny, classification and traits



### Axis of biodiversity

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### Phylogenetic methods can be used to





### Outline

- Definitions and some assumptions
- Models of evolution
  - Continuous
    - Brownian, Early Burst, Ornstein-Uhlenbeck, Trend
  - Discrete
    - Mk model, extended Mk models (SYM, ARD), threshold model
  - Phylogenetic signal
- Ancestral-state reconstructions
  - Parsimony

- Maximum-likelihood
- Stochastic mapping

#### Heritable and reliable species-specific characteristics

- morphology
- behavior
- physiology
- life-history
- gene sequence
- Continuous vs. discrete



(a) Relationship of basal metabolic rate (BMR) to body size for various mammals

- · Discretely-coded traits
  - Intrinsically discrete traits





Wings



Aquatic



No wings



Terrestrial

Discretely-coded traits



- Continuous traits
  - Ordinal
  - Interval



Parameter	Description	Score
Appearance (Also note if abdominal	N: bright eyes; shiny, well- groomed hair coat	2
distention is present)	Abn: Unkempt hair coat, dull fur	1
	Abn: Hunching, piloerection	0
Natural behavior	N: Active; interactive in environment	3
	Slight decrease in activity; less interactive	2
	Abn: Pronounced decrease in activity; isolated	1
	Abn: Possible selfmutilation; hyperactive or immobile	0
Provoked behavior	N: Quickly moves away	3
	Slow to move away or exaggerated response	2
	Abn: Moves away after short period of time	1
	Abn: Does not move or reacts with excessively exaggerated response	0
Body condition score	1, emaciated; 2, thin; 3, normal; 4, overweight; 5, obese	1–5
Total score		1–13

#### Heritable and reliable species-specific characteristics

- morphology
- behavior
- physiology
- life-history
- gene sequence
- Continuous vs. discrete
- Often measured with error
  - Within-species variance
  - Use of proxies
  - Apple / orange problem
- Original vs. log transformed scale



(a) Relationship of basal metabolic rate (BMR) to body size for various mammals

A phylogenetic tree is the hierarchical classification of taxa that reflects their evolutionary relationships



### Terminology



Phylogram of primate-infecting malaria

Time scaled phylogenies are ultrametric

# Evolutionary trees measure time.



### Ultrametricity

All tips are an equal distance from the root.



### Evolution of continuous traits

### Brownian motion



$$dX_{(t)} = \sigma^2 * t$$
  
t = the step over which BM occurs  
 $\sigma^2 =$  Brownian rate

stochastic, "random walk": changes of movements occur randomly and independently, in both direction and distance, at any time interval

 $E[\bar{z}(t)] = \bar{z}(0)$ 

 $\bar{z}(t) \sim N(\bar{z}(0), \sigma^2 t)$ 

Robert Brown (1773 – 1858)



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### Brownian motion on a phylogeny



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### Brownian motion on a phylogeny



O'Meara et al. 2006

### Brownian motion on a phylogeny



















	Human	Pan	Gorilla	Pongo	Gibbon
Human	4	3	2	1	0
Pan	3	4	2	1	0
Gorilla	2	2	4	1	0
Pongo	1	1	1	4	0
Gibbon	0	0	0	0	4

E(disparity) = 
$$\sigma^2 \left[ \frac{1}{N} \operatorname{tr}(\mathbf{C}) - \frac{1}{N^2} \mathbf{1}' \mathbf{C} \mathbf{1} \right]$$
  
**4**

average distance from tips to the root (tree length)

	Human	Pan	Gorilla	Pongo	Gibbon
Human	4	3	2	1	0
Pan	3	4	2	1	0
Gorilla	2	2	4	1	0
Pongo	1	1	1	4	0
Gibbon	0	0	0	0	4

E(disparity) = 
$$\sigma^2 \left[ \frac{1}{N} \operatorname{tr}(\mathbf{C}) - \frac{1}{N^2} \mathbf{1'C1} \right]$$
  
 $\begin{bmatrix} 4 & - & 1.6 \end{bmatrix}$ 

average amount of shareddistance (average entry of **C**)

	Human	Pan	Gorilla	Pongo	Gibbon
Human	4	3	2	1	0
Pan	3	4	2	1	0
Gorilla	2	2	4	1	0
Pongo	1	1	1	4	0
Gibbon	0	0	0	0	4

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O'Meara et al. 2006
### Alternatives to Brownian motion

- Variable rates over the tree
- Declining rates through time (Early Burst, EB/AC)
- Accelerating rates through time (Late Burst, LB/DC)
- A single stable adaptive peak (Ornstein-Uhlenbeck, OU)
- Variable adaptive peaks (Ornstein-Uhlenbeck, OU)
- > Trends in the mean trait value (BM with a trend)
- Mixtures of the above, and more

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## Tree transformations: altering rate of evolution

- Longer branches, higher rate
- Pagel's transformations
- Alteration of the **C** matrix





#### Tree Transformations

 $\lambda = 0.3$ 

 $\delta = 0.3$ 

к = 0.3







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Lambda = 0 Avahi laniger Callicebus moloch Cebus apella Cebus albifrons Callithrix penicillata Callithrix jacchus Aotus trivirgatus Ateles paniscus Ateles geoffroyi Ateles fusciceps Ateles belzebuth Alouatta seniculus Alouatta pigra



- Shortens the internal branches relative to the tips
- λ = 0: no relationship between trait and phylogeny =
   star phylogeny
- λ = I: trait values are as expected under Brownian
   motion = phylogeny is unchanged
- Measure of PHYLOGENETIC SIGNAL

Phylogenetic signal

statistical non-independence among species trait values due to their phylogenetic relatedness OR

the tendency for related species to resemble each other more than expected by chance

Note this is a pattern not a process

## Phylogenetic signal

- Theory vs. real world > phylogenetic signal is an empirical issue
  - Convergent evolution (distantly related species are similar)
  - Character displacement (closely related species are dissimilar)
- Phylogenetic signal in the data can be lower than expected

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#### Quantifying phylogenetic signal



e.g. Freckleton et al. 2002; Bllomberg et al. 2003

Phylogenetic signal

Many measures have been suggested.
The two most popular are:

Pagel's λ
Blomberg's K (K not kappa)

$$K = observed \frac{MSE_0}{MSE} / expected \frac{MSE_0}{MSE}$$

(Very simply) MSE = mean squared error = variance in trait







Therefore we divide observed value by the expected value under Brownian motion so we can compare trees  $K = observed \frac{MSE_0}{MSE} / expected \frac{MSE_0}{MSE}$ 

•K = 1: trait values are as expected under BM ( =  $\lambda$  = 1)

 K > 1: trait values more similar than expected under BM

•K = 0: no relationship between phylogeny and trait ( =  $\lambda$  = 0)

## Blomberg's K: Summary

- Ratio of variance in trait relative to phylogenetic mean and variance in trait relative to phylogeny
- K = 0: no relationship between trait and phylogeny
- 3) K = 1: trait values are as expected under Brownian motion
- 4) K > 1: trait values more similar than expected under Brownian motion

## Phylogenetic signal: $\lambda$ versus $K^*$

- Ranges from 0 to just above 1 (though most functions in R fix lambda to be <=1)</li>
- The maximum possible value is set by the tree in question
- Ranges from 0 to some trait dependent maximum
- Useful for looking at phylogenetic signal in traits showing a lot of conservatism (PNC: see Losos 2008, Cooper et al 2010)

### Other methods

- Nested analysis of variance
- Autocorrelation coefficient (ρ)

(Harvey & Pagel 1991)

(Cheverud et al. 1985, Gittleman & Kot 1990 see also Grafen 1990)

(Cheverud et al. 1985, (Gittleman & Kot 1990)

- (Gittleman & Kot 1990)
- Randomization for discrete characters (Maddison & Slatkin 1991)
- Quantitative covergence index (QCI)
- Fritz and Purvis' D

(Fitz & Purvis 2010)

(Ackerly & Donoghue 1998)

• • • •

 $\mathbf{R}^2$ 

Moran's /







- Scales overall path lengths in the phylogeny (node height)
- Can be used to test for accelerated evolution versus adaptive radiation
  - δ < 1 shorter paths (earlier evolution in the phylogeny) contribute disproportionately to trait evolution (adaptive radiation)
  - δ > 1 longer paths contribute more to trait evolution (accelerated evolution)
- Delta is a parameter that detects differential rates of evolution over time and re-scales the phylogeny to a basis in which the rate of evolution is constant









- Differentially stretches or compresses individual phylogenetic branch lengths
- Can be used to test for a punctuational versus gradual mode of trait evolution
  - $\kappa < 1$  compresses longer branches more than shorter ones
  - $\kappa > 1$  stretches longer branches more than shorter ones
  - κ ~ o evolution is independent on branch length (punctuational evolution)
  - κ ~ 1 gradual evolution
- Captures patterns of "speciational" change in tree
  - character change is more or less concentrated at speciation events

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## Alternatives to Brownian motion

- Variable rates over the tree
- Declining rates through time (Early Burst, EB/AC)



Mixtures of the above, and more

## Early Burst (EB/AC) - Late Burst (LB/DC)

- EB: BM with a declining rate parameter, most of the phenotypic divergence occurs early in the phylogeny
- LB: BM with an accelerating rate parameter, most of the phenotypic divergence occurs late in the phylogeny



Harmon et al. 2010

## Early Burst (EB/AC) - Late Burst (LB/DC)



Harmon et al. 2010
### Early Burst (EB/AC) - Late Burst (LB/DC)

- Consistent with the adaptive radiation hypothesis
  - Clades entering into new niches should diversify quickly
  - Rates slow down as the niches fill

The adaptive radiation of the bird clade Vanginae



#### Alternatives to Brownian motion

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#### The Ornstein-Uhlenbeck process



$$dX_{(t)} = \alpha [\Theta - X_{(t)}]dt + \sigma dB_{(t)}$$

X(t): current	θ: body size
dX(t): change in body size	α: strength of selection
dB(t): random variation	σ: intensity of random drift



Bayesian walk under the influence of friction: tendency to move back towards a central location (rubber band effect)



George Uhlenbeck (1900 – 1988)

#### The Ornstein-Uhlenbeck process





Brownian motion



Bayesian walk under the influence of friction: tendency to move back towards a central location (rubber band effect)



Leonard Ornstein (1880 – 1941)

George Uhlenbeck (1900 – 1988)



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 $dX_{(t)} = \alpha \left[ \Theta - X_{(t)} \right] dt + \sigma dB_{(t)}$ 

if  $\alpha = 0$ , it defines a diversifying process (BM), if  $\alpha > 0$  it becomes an equilibrium process (OU)



 $dX_{(t)} = \alpha \left[ \Theta - X_{(t)} \right] dt + \sigma dB_{(t)}$ 

The higher the attraction parameter α the more quickly the optima is reached and the lower the variance



 $dX_{(t)} = \alpha \left[ \Theta - X_{(t)} \right] dt + \sigma dB_{(t)}$ 

### The higher the optimal value Θ the greater the trait value



 $dX_{(t)} = \alpha \left[ \Theta - X_{(t)} \right] dt + \sigma dB_{(t)}$ 

#### The higher the rate parameter $\sigma$ the greater the variance





#### Alternatives to Brownian motion

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#### BM with trend





time



#### Alternatives to Brownian motion

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#### How to choose from so many models?



#### Model selection methods

#### Empirical Adjusted R-squared Bootstrap Cross-validation Generalized cross-validation k-fold crossvalidation leave-one-out crossvalidation Jacknife Linear regression Shibata' s model selector signal-to-noise ratio test set validation



#### Theoretical

Akaike information criterion (AIC, AICc, QAIC) Bayesian information criterion (BIC) CP (Mallow's Cp) Deviance information criterion (DIC) Focused Information criterion (FIC) Final prediction error (FPE) Geweke and Meese criterion Generalized prediction error (GPE) Hannan and Quinn criterion (HQ) Kullback information criterion (KIC, KICc) Minimum description length (MDL) Minimum message length (MML) Predicted squared error (PSE) Predicted Residual Sum of. Squares criterion Schwarz information criterion (SIC) Structural risk minimization (SRM) Takeuchi's information criterion (TIC) **VC-dimension** 

### Model selection methods

- Model comparison
  - evaluate multiple hypotheses in competition with one another
    - nested models
      - □likelihood ratio tests ("old tool")
    - non-nested models
      - model comparison based on information
        theory (IT)

- Likelihood: probability of obtaining the observed data under a given hypothesis (model and its parameters)
   Pr(D|H) (but not Pr(H<sub>0</sub>|D)!)
- The multivariate normal likelihood for BM



- Likelihood: probability of obtaining the observed data under a given hypothesis (model and its parameters)
   Pr(D|H) (but not Pr(H<sub>0</sub>|D)!) model and line observed data
- The multivariate normal likelihood for BM

model and its parameters: (starting value, strenght and direction of trend..)

tip values expected tip values  

$$log(\mathbf{L}) = log \left[ exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{X}))' (\mathbf{V}^{-1} (\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{X})) \right\} \right]$$

$$\sqrt{(2\pi)^N \times det(\mathbf{V})}$$
rate-scaled **C**

 Maximum likelihood: the value of one or more parameters for a given model, which maximizes the likelihood



- Likelihood ratio: model fit of one model relative to another
- Likelihood ratio test (LRT): a statistical test of the goodness-of-fit between two models
  - ▶ LRT = 2 \*  $[\ln(L_1) \ln(L_2)]$
  - approximates a chi-square distribution
  - with df = nr. of parameters differing between models

#### Information theoretic approach



Akaike 1974

### Information theoretic approach

Candidate models	AIC	∆AIC	Akaike weight
BM	-51.49	0.00	0.867
BM with κ = 0	-47.72	3.77	0.132
BM with trend	-37.59	13.90	0.001
EB	-32.95	18.54	0.000
OU	-32.06	19.43	0.000



#### Information theoretic approach

- More than one models are selected
- Δ values, model likelihoods, model weights and evidence ratios (instead of *P* values)
  - hypothesis  $H_4$  is 22 times more likely than  $H_2$
  - the probability of  $H_4$  is 0.78, while the probability of  $H_2$  is 0.015
  - significant, strong, robust....
- Model averaging
- Uncertainty is inherent to biological data

#### Evolution of body size in Anolis lizards





#### Butler and King 2004

#### Evolution of discrete traits

#### Discrete trait models

- The *Mk* model
- The extended Mk model
- Models accommodating changes in the rate of evolution
- The threshold model

- Evolutionary changes between k > 1 states of a character
- Markov process: change depends on current state only
- Every state is equally likely



Instantaneous rate of change parameter: q

• number of changes of character over t when  $t \sim 0$ 

• 
$$q_{12} = q_{21}, q_{12} = q_{13} \dots$$
  
• Transition matrix, **Q**  
 $\mathbf{Q} = \begin{bmatrix} q_{00} & q_{01} \\ q_{10} & q_{11} \end{bmatrix}$   
 $\mathbf{Q} = \begin{bmatrix} q_{00} & q_{01} \\ q_{10} & q_{11} \end{bmatrix}$   
 $\mathbf{Q} = \begin{bmatrix} q_{00} & q_{01} \\ q_{k1} & q_{k2} & \dots & -d_k \end{bmatrix}$   
 $\mathbf{Q} \Rightarrow d_1 = \sum_{i=2}^{k} q_{1i}$ 

- Probability distributions of traits after t
  - $\blacktriangleright P(t) = e^{Qt}$

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#### Discrete trait models

#### • The *Mk* model

#### The extended Mk model

- Models accommodating changes in the rate of evolution
- The threshold model

#### Discrete trait models

#### ► The *Mk* model

#### The extended Mk model

SYM

#### > ARD

- Models accommodating changes in the rate of evolution
- The threshold model
## The extended *Mk* model

• The Mk model assumes:  $q_{12} = q_{21} q_{12} = q_{13} \dots$ 

- Memoryless: a character that changes state from 0 -> 1 has an equal probability of reverting back  $\begin{bmatrix} -q & q \\ q & -q \end{bmatrix}$
- Homogeneous: same rate among all states
- SYM only assumes:  $q_{12} = q_{21}$
- ARD: all rates can be different

 $\begin{vmatrix} -q_1 & q_1 \\ q_2 & -q_2 \end{vmatrix}$ 

- more parameters
- $\triangleright$  **Q** and **P**(t) matrices can be redefined
- can lead to different states at the nodes and the tips

### The extended *Mk* model



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- The *Mk* model
- The extended *Mk* model
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- The threshold model

#### ► The *Mk* model

- The extended *Mk* model
- Models accommodating changes in the rate of evolution
  - Mk is more suitable for sequence data (protein, DNA)
    - extensions exists (e.g. adding heterogeneity across sites)
    - incorporate characters evolving under a shared model
  - Morphological character evolution
    - shared model across characters is unjustified
    - each character require specific parameters

The threshold model

- The Mk model
- The extended *Mk* model
- Models accommodating changes in the rate of evolution
  - Pagel's model
  - Other *Mk* models that allows parameters vary across clades and/or time
- The threshold model

# Tree transformations: altering rate of evolution

- Longer branches, higher rate
- Pagel's transformations
- Alteration of the **C** matrix





#### Tree Transformations

 $\lambda = 0.3$ 

 $\delta = 0.3$ 

к = 0.3







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# Tree transformations: altering rate of evolution

- Longer branches, higher rate
- Pagel's transformations

Alteration of the **C** matrix

#### Starting tree



#### Tree Transformations

 $\lambda = 0.3$ 

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к = 0.3







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# Tree transformations: altering rate of evolution

- Longer branches, higher rate
- Pagel's transformations

Alteration of the **C** matrix

Starting tree



Tree Transformations

 $\lambda = 0.3$   $\delta = 0.3$   $\kappa = 0.3$ 



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- The *Mk* model
- The extended Mk model
- Models accommodating changes in the rate of evolution
  - Pagel's model
  - Other Mk models that allows parameters vary across clades and/or time
    - rate of evolution varies between clades (multi-rate discrete models)
    - different Q matrix for different branches
    - rate parameters in **Q** varies with time

- The *Mk* model
- The extended *Mk* model
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- The *Mk* model
- The extended *Mk* model
- Models accommodating changes in the rate of evolution
- The threshold model
  - the effective rate of change depends on the amount of time that a lineage has been in that state (while Mk is memoryless)
  - more realistic for some biological characters
  - allows variation in in transition rates without more

## The threshold model

- liability: the value of the discrete phenotype is determined by a latent continuous trait, if it crosses a fixed threshold value, the character changes state (Wright 1934)
  - unobserved, unmeasured (e.g. hormone) with multivarate normal distribution
  - can follow a BM (or OU) motion model of evolution (Felsenstein 2005, 2012)
  - Proxy for the complex, multilocus genetic changes that are likely to underlie a shift in a discretely measured ecological trait (Revell 2013).

### The threshold model

if a character changed state recently from A -> C, it is much more likely to change back immediately (when near the threshold) than far in the future.



Cybis et al 2015





Revell 2013

- The Mk model
- The extended Mk model
  - > SYM
  - ARD
- Models accommodating changes in the rate of evolution
  - Pagel's model
  - Other Mk models that allows parameters vary across clades and/or time
- The threshold model

# How to choose from so many models?



# What is the likelihood for a change 0->1?











# Evolution of reproductive modes in frogs



Gomez-Mestre et al 2012



# Evolution of reproductive modes in frogs



#### Ancestral state reconstructions

## Ancestral state estimation

#### Given

- the tree
- the character (continuous vs. discrete)
- the model of evolution
- one can provide estimates for character states at the nodes or along the branches of the phylogeny
- these are associated with uncertainty
- different approaches exists
  - provide very nice graphs, but hard to check if they are true
  - just to name some of them...

Parsimony







2 Changes



### Parsimony

- Unordered (Fitch)
- Ordered (Wagner)
- Irreversible (Camin-Sokal)
- Dollo

Step matrix





 $0 \rightarrow 1 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 3 \rightarrow 4$ 



# Parsimony

#### Limitations:

- Does not care about branch lengths (one change per branch regardless of how long)
- Performs poorly with rapidly evolving traits, favors divergence toward the tips of the tree
  - the parsimony reconstruction will only accurately reflect the evolutionary process for our character when Q is very small
- Does not provide errors, and does not say anything about less supported models

# Maximum likelihood

- Uses the Mk model for evolution of discrete traits
- Uses maximum likelihood
  - to estimate rates
  - to reconstruct ancestral states in a form of probability
- Incorporate branch lengths
- Works well with fast rates
- Confidence/error around estimates
- It has its own limitations
  - requires a model
  - local optima problem for non-convex surfaces



# Felsenstein's (1973) pruning algorithm



# Felsenstein's (1973) pruning algorithm



# Maximum likelihood

- Joint reconstruction: finding the set of character states at all nodes that (jointly) maximize the likelihood
- Marginal reconstruction: finding the state at the current node that maximizes the likelihood independently of the reconstruction of all other ancestral states



http://blog.phytools.org/2015/05/about-how-acemarginaltrue-does-not.html

# Stochastic character mapping

- Sampling character histories in direct proportion to their posterior probability under a model
  - sample a transition matrix Q
  - sample ancestral states
  - simulate character histories along all the edges of the tree conditioned on Q and node states

### Stochastic character mapping



**Figure.** True history (above) & sample of stochastic character maps from the empirical Bayes posterior distribution (right).



Revell 2012

### Stochastic character mapping



**Figure.** True history with posterior probabilities from stochastic mapping.

**Figure.** Posterior density map from stochastic mapping.

# Ancestral state estimation of continuous characters

Maximum likelihood: need to find set of ancestral states that maximize the probability of data & tree

$$L(\mathbf{a}, a_0, \sigma^2 | \mathbf{T}, \mathbf{x}) = \frac{\exp[-\frac{1}{2}([\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{a}] - a_0 \mathbf{1})'(\sigma^2 \mathbf{T})^{-1}([\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{a}] - a_0 \mathbf{1})]}{\sqrt{(2\pi)^{n+m-1}} \sigma^2 \mathbf{T}}$$



Revell 2012
## Ancestral state estimation of continuous characters



http://www.phytools.org/eqg2015/asr.html

Revell 2012

## Ancestral state estimation of continuous characters

**Uncertainty** 

**B**ias



http://www.phytools.org/eqg2015/asr.html

Revell 2012