Phylogenetic Inference using RevBayes

Episodic Diversification Rate Estimation

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1 Overview: Diversification Rate Estimation

Models of speciation and extinction are fundamental to any phylogenetic analysis of macroevolutionary processes (e.g., divergence time estimation, diversification rate estimation, continuous and discrete trait evolution, and historical biogeography). First, a prior model describing the distribution of speciation events over time is critical to estimating phylogenies with branch lengths proportional to time. Second, stochastic branching models allow for inference of speciation and extinction rates. These inferences allow us to investigate key questions in evolutionary biology.

Diversification-rate parameters may be included as nuisance parameters of other phylogenetic models—i.e., where these diversification-rate parameters are not of direct interest. For example, many methods for estimating species divergence times—such as BEAST (Drummond et al. 2012), MrBayes (Ronquist et al. 2012), and RevBayes (Höhna et al. 2016)—implement 'relaxed-clock models' that include a constant-rate birth-death branching process as a prior model on the distribution of tree topologies and node ages. Although the parameters of these 'tree priors' are not typically of direct interest, they are nevertheless estimated as part of the joint posterior probability distribution of the relaxed-clock model, and so can be estimated simply by querying the corresponding marginal posterior probability densities. In fact, this may provide more robust estimates of the diversification-rate parameters, as they accommodate uncertainty in the other phylogenetic-model parameters (including the tree topology, divergence-time estimates, and the other relaxed-clock model parameters). More recent work, e.g., Heath et al. (2014), uses macroevolutionary models (the fossilized birth-death process) to calibrate phylogenies and thus to infer dated trees.

In these tutorials we focus on the different types of macroevolutionary models to study diversification processes and thus the diversification-rate parameters themselves. Nevertheless, these macroevolutionary models should be used for other evolutionary questions, when an appropriate prior distribution on the tree and divergence times is needed.

1.1 Types of Hypotheses for Estimating Diversification Rates

Many evolutionary phenomena entail differential rates of diversification (speciation – extinction); e.g., adaptive radiation, diversity-dependent diversification, key innovations, and mass extinction. The specific study questions regarding lineage diversification may be classified within three fundamental categories of inference problems. Admittedly, this classification scheme is somewhat arbitrary, but it is nevertheless useful, as it allows users to navigate the ever-increasing number of available phylogenetic methods. Below, we describe each of the fundamental questions regarding diversification rates.

(1) Diversification-rate through time estimation What is the (constant) rate of diversification in my study group? The most basic models estimate parameters of the stochastic-branching process (i.e., rates of speciation and extinction, or composite parameters such as net-diversification and relative-extinction

rates) under the assumption that rates have remained constant across lineages and through time; *i.e.*, under a constant-rate birth-death stochastic-branching process model (Nee et al. 1994). Extensions to the (basic) constant-rate models include diversification-rate variation through time (Stadler 2011; Höhna 2015). First, we might ask whether there is evidence of an episodic, tree-wide increase in diversification rates (associated with a sudden increase in speciation rate and/or decrease in extinction rate), as might occur during an episode of adaptive radiation. A second question asks whether there is evidence of a continuous/gradual decrease in diversification rates through time (associated with decreasing speciation rates and/or increasing extinction rates), as might occur because of diversity-dependent diversification (*i.e.*, where competitive ecological interactions among the species of a growing tree decrease the opportunities for speciation and/or increase the probability of extinction, *e.g.*, Höhna (2014)). Third, we can ask whether changes in diversification rates are correlated with environmental factors, such as environmental CO₂ or temperature (Condamine et al. 2013). A final question in this category asks whether our study tree was impacted by a mass-extinction event (where a large fraction of the standing species diversity is suddenly lost, *e.g.*, May et al. (2016)). The common theme of these studies is that the diversification process is tree-wide, that is, all lineages of the study group have the exact same rates at a given time.

- (2) Diversification-rate variation across branches estimation Is there evidence that diversification rates have varied significantly across the branches of my study group? Models have been developed to detect departures from rate constancy across lineages; these tests are analogous to methods that test for departures from a molecular clock—i.e., to assess whether substitution rates vary significantly across lineages (Alfaro et al. 2009; Rabosky 2014). These models are important for assessing whether a given tree violates the assumptions of rate homogeneity among lineages. Furthermore, these models are important to answer questions such as: What are the branch-specific diversification rates?; and Have there been significant diversification-rate shifts along branches in my study group, and if so, how many shifts, what magnitude of rate-shifts and along which branches?
- (3) Character-dependent diversification-rate estimation Are diversification rates correlated with some variable in my study group? Character-dependent diversification-rate models aim to identify overall correlations between diversification rates and organismal features (binary and multi-state discrete morphological traits, continuous morphological traits, geographic range, etc.). For example, one can hypothesize that a binary character, say if an organism is herbivorous/carnivorous or self-compatible/self-incompatible, impact the diversification rates. Then, if the organism is in state 0 (e.g., is herbivorous) it has a lower (or higher) diversification rate than if the organism is in state 1 (e.g., carnivorous) (Maddison et al. 2007).

2 Models

We begin this section with a general introduction to the stochastic birth-death branching process that underlies inference of diversification rates in RevBayes. This primer will provide some details on the relevant theory of stochastic-branching process models. We appreciate that some readers may want to skip this somewhat technical primer; however, we believe that a better understanding of the relevant theory provides a foundation for performing better inferences. We then discuss a variety of specific birth-death models, but emphasize that these examples represent only a tiny fraction of the possible diversification-rate models that can be specified in RevBayes.

2.1 The birth-death branching process

Our approach is based on the reconstructed evolutionary process described by Nee et al. (1994); a birth-death process in which only sampled, extant lineages are observed. Let N(t) denote the number of species at time

t. Assume the process starts at time t_1 (the 'crown' age of the most recent common ancestor of the study group, t_{MRCA}) when there are two species. Thus, the process is initiated with two species, $N(t_1) = 2$. We condition the process on sampling at least one descendant from each of these initial two lineages; otherwise t_1 would not correspond to the t_{MRCA} of our study group. Each lineage evolves independently of all other lineages, giving rise to exactly one new lineage with rate b(t) and losing one existing lineage with rate d(t) (Figure 1 and Figure 2). Note that although each lineage evolves independently, all lineages share both a common (tree-wide) speciation rate b(t) and a common extinction rate d(t) (Nee et al. 1994; Höhna 2015). Additionally, at certain times, $t_{\mathbb{M}}$, a mass-extinction event occurs and each species existing at that time has the same probability, ρ , of survival. Finally, all extinct lineages are pruned and only the reconstructed tree remains (Figure 1).

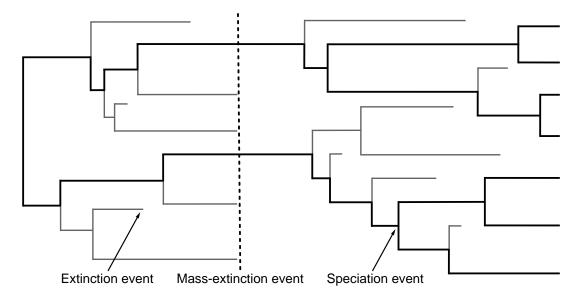


Figure 1: A realization of the birth-death process with mass extinction. Lineages that have no extant or sampled descendant are shown in gray and surviving lineages are shown in a thicker black line.

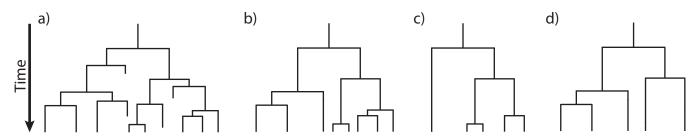


Figure 2: **Examples of trees produced under a birth-death process.** The process is initiated at the first speciation event (the 'crown-age' of the MRCA) when there are two initial lineages. At each speciation event the ancestral lineage is replaced by two descendant lineages. At an extinction event one lineage simply terminates. (A) A complete tree including extinct lineages. (B) The reconstructed tree of tree from A with extinct lineages pruned away. (C) A *uniform* subsample of the tree from B, where each species was sampled with equal probability, ρ . (D) A *diversified* subsample of the tree from B, where the species were selected so as to maximize diversity.

To condition the probability of observing the branching times on the survival of both lineages that descend from the root, we divide by $P(N(T) > 0 | N(0) = 1)^2$. Then, the probability density of the branching times,

 \mathbb{T} , becomes

$$P(\mathbb{T}) = \underbrace{\frac{P(N(T) = 1 \mid N(0) = 1)^2}{P(N(T) > 0 \mid N(0) = 1)^2}}_{\text{both initial lineages survive}} \times \prod_{i=2}^{n-1} \underbrace{i \times b(t_i)}_{\text{initial lineages survive}} \times \underbrace{P(N(T) = 1 \mid N(t_i) = 1)}_{\text{both initial lineages survive}}$$

and the probability density of the reconstructed tree (topology and branching times) is then

$$P(\Psi) = \frac{2^{n-1}}{n!(n-1)!} \times \left(\frac{P(N(T) = 1 \mid N(0) = 1)}{P(N(T) > 0 \mid N(0) = 1)}\right)^{2}$$
$$\times \prod_{i=2}^{n-1} i \times b(t_{i}) \times P(N(T) = 1 \mid N(t_{i}) = 1)$$
(1)

We can expand Equation (1) by substituting $P(N(T) > 0 \mid N(t) = 1)^2 \exp(r(t,T))$ for $P(N(T) = 1 \mid T)$ N(t) = 1), where $r(u, v) = \int_u^v d(t) - b(t)dt$; the above equation becomes

$$P(\Psi) = \frac{2^{n-1}}{n!(n-1)!} \times \left(\frac{P(N(T) > 0 \mid N(0) = 1)^2 \exp(r(0,T))}{P(N(T) > 0 \mid N(0) = 1)}\right)^2$$

$$\times \prod_{i=2}^{n-1} i \times b(t_i) \times P(N(T) > 0 \mid N(t_i) = 1)^2 \exp(r(t_i,T))$$

$$= \frac{2^{n-1}}{n!} \times \left(P(N(T) > 0 \mid N(0) = 1) \exp(r(0,T))\right)^2$$

$$\times \prod_{i=2}^{n-1} b(t_i) \times P(N(T) > 0 \mid N(t_i) = 1)^2 \exp(r(t_i,T)). \tag{2}$$

For a detailed description of this substitution, see Höhna (2015). Additional information regarding the underlying birth-death process can be found in (Thompson 1975; Equation 3.4.6) and Nee et al. (1994) for constant rates and Höhna (2013; 2014; 2015) for arbitrary rate functions.

To compute the equation above we need to know the rate function, $r(t,s) = \int_t^s d(x) - b(x) dx$, and the probability of survival, P(N(T) > 0 | N(t) = 1). Yule (1925) and later Kendall (1948) derived the probability that a process survives (N(T) > 0) and the probability of obtaining exactly n species at time T(N(T) = n)when the process started at time t with one species. Kendall's results were summarized in Equation (3) and Equation (24) in Nee et al. (1994)

$$P(N(T) > 0 | N(t) = 1) = \left(1 + \int_{t}^{T} \left(\mu(s) \exp(r(t, s))\right) ds\right)^{-1}$$
(3)

$$P(N(T) = n|N(t) = 1) = (1 - P(N(T) > 0|N(t) = 1) \exp(r(t,T)))^{n-1} \times P(N(T) > 0|N(t) = 1)^{2} \exp(r(t,T))$$
(4)

An overview for different diversification models is given in Höhna (2015).

Sidebar: Phylogenetic trees as observations

The branching processes used here describe probability distributions on phylogenetic trees. This probability distribution can be used to infer diversification rates given an "observed" phylogenetic tree. In reality we never observe a phylogenetic tree itself. Instead, phylogenetic trees themselves are estimated from actual observations, such as DNA sequences. These phylogenetic tree estimates, especially the divergence times, can have considerable uncertainty associated with them. Thus, the correct approach for estimating diversification rates is to include the uncertainty in the phylogeny by, for example, jointly estimating the phylogeny and diversification rates. For the simplicity of the following tutorials, we take a shortcut and assume that we know the phylogeny without error. For publication quality analysis you should always estimate the diversification rates jointly with the phylogeny and divergence times.

3 Estimating Character-Dependent Speciation & Extinction Rates

3.1 Outline

This tutorial describes how to specify a character-dependent branching-process models in RevBayes; a birth-death process where diversification rates are dependent on the state of a discrete character (Maddison et al. 2007; FitzJohn 2012; Beaulieu and O'Meara 2016). The probabilistic graphical model is given for this tutorial. Finally, you will estimate character-dependent speciation and extinction rates using Markov chain Monte Carlo (MCMC).

3.2 Requirements

We assume that you have read and hopefully completed the following tutorials:

- Getting started
- Rev basics
- Basic Diversification Rate Estimation

Note that the Rev basics tutorial introduces the basic syntax of Rev but does not cover any phylogenetic models. You may skip the Rev basics tutorial if you have some familiarity with R. We tried to keep this tutorial very basic and introduce all the language concepts and theory on the way. You may only need the Rev basics tutorial for a more in-depth discussion of concepts in Rev.

4 Data and files

We provide the data file(s) which we will use in this tutorial. You may want to use your own data instead. In the data folder, you will find the following files

- primates_tree.nex: Dated primates phylogeny including 233 out of 367 species from Magnuson-Ford and Otto (2012).
- primates_morph.nex: A set of discrete morphological characters from Magnuson-Ford and Otto (2012). The type of characters are described in the file primates morph description.txt.

→ Open the tree data/primates_tree.nex in FigTree. Open the character data file data/primates_morph.nex in a text editor.

5 Character-dependent diversification rates

5.1 Read the tree

Begin by reading in the observed tree and the morphological data. We have both stored in separate nexus files.

```
observed_phylogeny <- readTrees("data/primates_tree.nex")[1]
data <- readCharacterData("data/primates_solitariness.nex")</pre>
```

Note, the character-dependent birth-death process currently uses always the first character/site in the alignment file. We have therefore split the morphological dataset into several small files that include only one morphological character each.

From the tree, we can get some helpful variables:

```
taxa <- observed_phylogeny.taxa()</pre>
```

Additionally, we can initialize an iterator variable for our vector of moves and monitors:

```
mvi = 0
mni = 0
```

Finally, we create a helper variable that specifies the number of states that the morphological character has.

```
NUM_STATES = 2
```

Using this variable we can easily change our script to use a different morphological character with a different number of states. We will also use this variable in our second example on hidden-state speciation and extinction model.

5.2 Specifying the model

The basic idea behind the model in this example is that speciation and extinction rates are dependent on a binary character (Maddison et al. 2007).

5.2.1 Priors on rates

We start by specifying prior distributions on the diversification rates. We will assume here an identical prior distribution on the speciation and extinction rate. Furthermore, we will use a normal distribution as the prior distribution on the log of the speciation and extinction rate. Hence, we will use a mean of $\frac{\ln(\frac{\#Taxa}{2})}{\text{tree-age}}$ which is the expected net-diversification rate.

```
rate_mean <- ln( ln(367.0/2.0) / observed_phylogeny.rootAge() )
rate_sd <- 2.0</pre>
```

```
for (i in 1:NUM_STATES) {

    ### Create a lognormal distributed variable for the diversification rate
    log_speciation[i] ~ dnNormal(mean=rate_mean,sd=rate_sd)
    speciation[i] := exp( log_speciation[i] )
    moves[++mvi] = mvSlide(log_speciation[i],delta=0.20,tune=true,weight=3.0)

### Create a lognormal distributed variable for the turnover rate
    log_extinction[i] ~ dnNormal(mean=rate_mean,sd=rate_sd)
    extinction[i] := exp( log_extinction[i] )
    moves[++mvi] = mvSlide(log_extinction[i],delta=0.20,tune=true,weight=3.0)
}
```

Create a rate-matrix for the relative-rate of change between categories. Here we simply use equal rates, that is, a Jukes-Cantor rate-matrix with NUM_STATES states.

```
rate_matrix <- fnJC( NUM_STATES )
```

Create a constant variable with the prior probabilities of each rate category at the root.

```
# Each transition rate between observed states are drawn
# from an exponential distribution with a mean of 10
# character state transitions over the tree.
rate_pr := observed_phylogeny.treeLength() / 10
rate_12 ~ dnExp(rate_pr)
rate_21 ~ dnExp(rate_pr)

moves[++mvi] = mvScale( rate_12, weight=2 )
moves[++mvi] = mvScale( rate_21, weight=2 )
rate_matrix := fnFreeBinary( [rate_12, rate_21 ], rescaled=false)
```

5.2.2 Prior on the root state

Create a constant variable with the prior probabilities of each rate category at the root.

```
rate_category_prior ~ dnDirichlet( rep(1,NUM_STATES) )
moves[++mvi] = mvDirichletSimplex(rate_category_prior,tune=true,weight=2)
```

5.2.3 Incomplete Taxon Sampling

We know that we have sampled 233 out of 367 living primate species. To account for this we can set the sampling parameter as a constant node with a value of 233/367

```
rho <- observed_phylogeny.ntips()/367
```

5.2.4 Root age

The birth-death process requires a parameter for the root age. In this exercise we use a fix tree and thus we know the age of the tree. Hence, we can get the value for the root from the Magnuson-Ford and Otto (2012) tree.

```
root <- observed_phylogeny.rootAge()</pre>
```

5.2.5 The time tree

Now we have all of the parameters we need to specify the full episodic birth-death model. We initialize the stochastic node representing the time tree.

```
timetree ~ dnCDBDP( rootAge
                                   = root,
                  speciationRates = speciation,
                  extinctionRates = extinction,
                  Q
                                   = rate_matrix,
                                   = rate_category_prior,
                  рi
                  delta
                                   = 1.0,
                                   = rho,
                  rho
                                   = "survival",
                  condition
                  taxa
                                   = taxa )
```

And then we attach data to it.

```
timetree.clamp( observed_phylogeny )
timetree.clampCharData( data )
```

Finally, we create a workspace object of our whole model using the model() function.

```
mymodel = model(rate_matrix)
```

The model() function traversed all of the connections and found all of the nodes we specified.

5.3 Running an MCMC analysis

5.3.1 Specifying Monitors

For our MCMC analysis, we set up a vector of *monitors* to record the states of our Markov chain.

5.3.2 Initializing and Running the MCMC Simulation

With a fully specified model, a set of monitors, and a set of moves, we can now set up the MCMC algorithm that will sample parameter values in proportion to their posterior probability. The mcmc() function will create our MCMC object:

```
mymcmc = mcmc(mymodel, monitors, moves)
```

First, we will run a pre-burnin to tune the moves and to obtain starting values from the posterior distribution.

```
mymcmc.burnin(generations=5000,tuningInterval=200)
```

Now, run the MCMC:

```
mymcmc.run(generations=20000)
```

5.3.3 Summarizing ancestral states

5.3.4 Plotting ancestral states

5.3.5 Plotting diversification rates

```
library(coda)
library(ggplot2)
source("scripts/multiplot.R")

data <- read.table("output/primates_BiSSE.log",header=TRUE)

dat_ext <- data.frame(dens = c(data$extinction.1, data$extinction.2), Type = rep(c ("1", "2"), each = length(data$extinction.1)))

dat_spec <- data.frame(dens = c(data$speciation.1, data$speciation.2), Type = rep(c ("1", "2"), each = length(data$extinction.1)))

dat_div <- data.frame(dens = c(data$speciation.1-data$extinction.1, data$speciation.2-data$extinction.2), Type = rep(c("1", "2"), each = length(data$extinction.1)))</pre>
```

```
dat_rel <- data.frame(dens = c(data$extinction.1/data$speciation.1, data$extinction.2/
    data$speciation.2), Type = rep(c("1", "2"), each = length(data$extinction.1)))

pdf("RevBayes_BiSSE_Results.pdf")

p1 <- ggplot(dat_spec, aes(x = dens, fill = Type)) + labs(title = "Speciation", x="
    Rate", y="Posterior Density") + geom_density(alpha = 0.5)

p2 <- ggplot(dat_ext, aes(x = dens, fill = Type)) + labs(title = "Extinction", x="Rate
    ", y="Posterior Density") + geom_density(alpha = 0.5)

p3 <- ggplot(dat_div, aes(x = dens, fill = Type)) + labs(title = "Net-Diversification
    ", x="Rate", y="Posterior Density") + geom_density(alpha = 0.5)

p4 <- ggplot(dat_rel, aes(x = dens, fill = Type)) + labs(title = "Relative Extinction
    ", x="Rate", y="Posterior Density") + geom_density(alpha = 0.5)

multiplot(p1, p2, p3, p4)
dev.off()</pre>
```

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