An empirical example: Rhynoclemmys data

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We want to test whether the branch lengths have any effect in the area(s) chosen for conservation, based on a Phylogenetic Diversity (PD) analysis for the *Rhynoclemmys* genus. The topology corresponds to a Total Evidence analysis from Romero-Alarcon (2020), and the distribution is modified from Le and McCord (2008).

We read the distribution and the tree

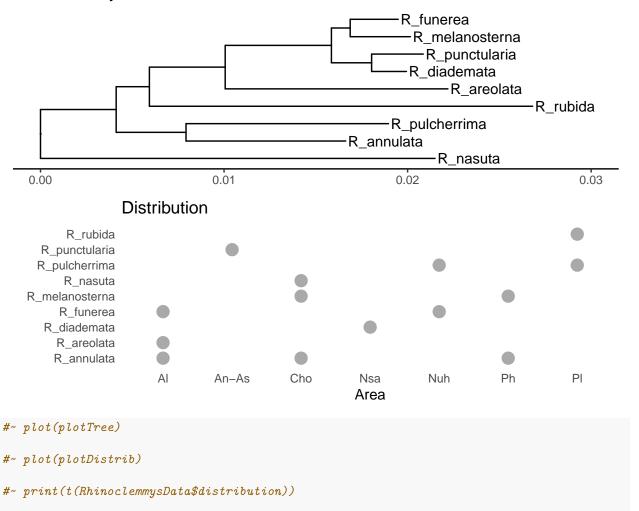
```
## For reproductibility purposes
set.seed(121)
options(warn=-1)
suppressMessages(library(ggtree))
#~ library(ape)
suppressMessages(library(blepd))
library(ggplot2)
#~ library(ggtree)
## Version
cat("Analyses made with blepd version:",unlist(packageVersion("blepd")))
## Analyses made with blepd version: 0 1 97 2022 4 14
## Create an object to place the distribution and the tree
RhinoclemmysData <- list()</pre>
## Read data
## distribution is a labeled csv file, areas by terminals
#setwd("./csv/")
getwd()
```

```
## [1] "/home/rafael/disco2/proyectosDRME/indices/blepd/docs"
csvFile <- list.files(pattern="csv")</pre>
##csvFile
### the functions use a matrix object for the distributions
RhinoclemmysData$distribution <- as.matrix(read.table(csvFile,</pre>
                                stringsAsFactors=FALSE,
                                header=TRUE,
                                row.names=1,
                                sep=",")
print(t(RhinoclemmysData$distribution))
                 Al An-As Cho Nsa Nuh Ph Pl
##
## R_annulata
                      0
                                  0 1 0
                          1
               1
                                 0 0 0
## R_areolata
                       0
                           0
                               0
## R_diademata 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 ## R_funerea 1 0 0 0 1 0 0
## R_melanosterna 0 0 1 0 0 1 0
            0 0 1 0 0 0 0
## R_nasuta
## R_pulcherrima 0 0 0 0 1 0 1
## R_punctularia 0 1 0 0 0 0 0
## R_rubida
             0 0 0 0 0 0 1
## tree(s) in nexus or newick format
##setwd("../tree/")
treeFiles <- list.files(pattern=".tre")</pre>
##treeFiles
RhinoclemmysData$tree <- read.tree(treeFiles)
## name of tree(s)
treeFiles <- gsub(".tre","",treeFiles)</pre>
## Plotting
\#par(mfrow=c(2,1))
```

```
## The tree
## using ggtree
# RhinoclemmysData$tree <- reorder(RhinoclemmysData$tree, order = "cladewise")
plotTree <- ggtree(RhinoclemmysData$tree, ladderize=TRUE,</pre>
                    color="black", size=0.51, linetype="solid") +
             geom_tiplab(size=4, color="black") +
             xlim(0,0.030) +
             theme_tree2() +
             ggtitle(treeFiles[1])
##print(plotTree)
#~ Alternatively, we can plot the trees using APE
## plot.phylo(RhinoclemmysData$tree)
####nodelabels()
####tiplabels()
## to plot the distribution, we must transform it into a data.frame
## object
distXY <- matrix2XY(RhinoclemmysData$distribution)</pre>
## We could reorder the data.frame following the names on the trees
terminals <- colnames(RhinoclemmysData$distribution)</pre>
realOrder <- match(terminals,RhinoclemmysData$tree$tip.label)</pre>
equivalencias <- data.frame(terminals,realOrder)</pre>
dXY2 <- distXY
for(cambiar in terminals){
    dXY2$Terminal[distXY$Terminal == cambiar]
    equivalencias$realOrder[equivalencias$terminals==cambiar]
}
```

```
distGraficar <- distXY</pre>
#~ distGraficar <- dXY2
## plot using ggplot
plotDistrib <- ggplot(distGraficar,</pre>
                      aes(x= Area, y=Terminal), size =30) +
               geom_point(shape=19, fill="white",
                          color="darkgrey",
                          size=4) +
               labs(title = "Distribution",
                    y = "",
                    x = "Area") +
               theme(axis.line=element_blank(),
                         # axis.text.y=element_blank(),
                     axis.ticks=element_blank(),
                        # axis.title.y=element_blank(),
                     legend.position="none",
                     panel.background=element_blank(),
                     panel.border=element_blank(),
                     panel.grid.major=element_blank(),
                     panel.grid.minor=element_blank(),
                     plot.background=element_blank()
                     )
#~
cowplot::plot_grid(plotTree,plotDistrib, ncol=1)
```

Rhinoclemmys_TotalEvidence_ML



Now we plot the branch lengths

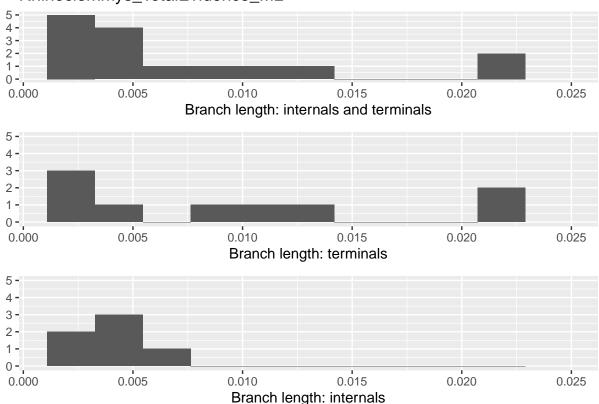
##dev.off()

```
bins=12,
    #main=treeFiles,
    xlab="Branch length: terminals") +
    xlim(c(0.001,0.025)) +
    ylim(c(0,5))

c <- qplot(RhinoclemmysData$tree$edge.length[!terminals],
    bins=12,
    #main=treeFiles,
    xlab="Branch length: internals") +
    xlim(c(0.001,0.025)) +
    ylim(c(0,5))</pre>
###

cowplot::plot_grid(a, b, c, nrow=3)
```

Rhinoclemmys_TotalEvidence_ML



```
##
##
#cat("Terminals, with BL larger than 0.02 = ",findTerminalgivenLength(RhinoclemmysData$tree,0.02))
#
##
##
##
##
##
###dev.off()
```

The branch length histograms and the tree plot show that the internal length branches are similar among each other, and different to terminals'; there are two longer branches (larger than 0.02), *R. nasuta* (inhabiting Cho) and *R. rubida* (Pl), while the areas Al and Cho are the richest.

PD values

First, we calculate the PD value for the areas, given this tree.

```
## Cho 21.86

## Al 17.82

## Pl 16.81

## Nuh 13.86

## Ph 13.18

## An-As 8.42

## Nsa 8.05
```

The highest PD is for area Cho, followed by Al, the two richest areas, and the difference in PD value is not given by the richness but the species inhabiting each area.

#Effect of branch lengths in the PD

We test the effect of the branch length on the PD values by swapping terminal and/or internal branch lengths, using the three available models.

```
cat( "\n\t Tree=",treeFiles,"\n\t Model=",modelo,
             "\n\t Branchs swapped=",rama,"\n" )
        print.blepd(val)
         cat( "\n\n" )
     }
  }
## model to test simpleswap reps 100
##
##
     Tree= Rhinoclemmys_TotalEvidence_ML
##
     Model= simpleswap
##
     Branchs swapped= terminals
##
## BestInitial:Cho
     AreaSelected Freq Percent
## 1
              Al
                    13
                            13
## 2
              Cho
                    86
                            86
              Pl
## 3
                    1
                            1
##
##
##
## model to test simpleswap reps 100
##
     Tree= Rhinoclemmys_TotalEvidence_ML
##
##
     Model= simpleswap
##
     Branchs swapped= internals
##
## BestInitial:Cho
     AreaSelected Freq Percent
          Cho 100
## 1
##
##
##
## model to test simpleswap reps 100
##
##
     Tree= Rhinoclemmys_TotalEvidence_ML
##
     Model= simpleswap
##
     Branchs swapped= all
##
## BestInitial:Cho
##
     AreaSelected Freq Percent
## 1
              Al
                     8
                             8
## 2
              Cho
                    91
                            91
## 3
               Pl
                     1
                             1
##
##
## model to test allswap reps 100
##
##
     Tree= Rhinoclemmys_TotalEvidence_ML
```

```
##
    Model= allswap
    Branchs swapped= terminals
##
##
## BestInitial:Cho
## AreaSelected Freq Percent
## 1
             Al
                   35
## 2
             Cho
                   53
## 3
            Nuh
                   10
                           10
## 4
              Pl
                    2
##
##
##
## model to test allswap reps 100
##
##
    {\tt Tree=\ Rhinoclemmys\_TotalEvidence\_ML}
##
    Model= allswap
##
    Branchs swapped= internals
##
## BestInitial:Cho
## AreaSelected Freq Percent
           Cho 100
## 1
                          100
##
##
## model to test allswap reps 100
##
##
    Tree= Rhinoclemmys_TotalEvidence_ML
##
    Model= allswap
##
    Branchs swapped= all
##
## BestInitial:Cho
    AreaSelected Freq Percent
## 1
           Al 37
## 2
                            4
          An-As
                    4
## 3
            Cho
                  33
                           33
## 4
             Nsa
                    4
                            4
## 5
             Nuh
                  19
                           19
## 6
              Pl
                    3
                            3
##
##
##
## model to test uniform reps 100
##
##
    Tree= Rhinoclemmys_TotalEvidence_ML
##
    Model= uniform
##
     Branchs swapped= terminals
## BestInitial:Cho
    AreaSelected Freq Percent
## 1
             Al
                   46
## 2
             Cho
                  50
                           50
## 3
             Nuh
                    4
##
##
```

```
##
## model to test uniform reps 100
##
##
     Tree= Rhinoclemmys_TotalEvidence_ML
##
     Model= uniform
     Branchs swapped= internals
##
##
## BestInitial:Cho
##
     AreaSelected Freq Percent
## 1
              Cho 100
                            100
##
##
##
## model to test uniform reps 100
##
##
     Tree= Rhinoclemmys_TotalEvidence_ML
##
     Model= uniform
##
     Branchs swapped= all
##
## BestInitial:Cho
##
     AreaSelected Freq Percent
## 1
               Al
                     38
## 2
                              1
            An-As
                     1
## 3
              Cho
                     53
                             53
## 4
              Nsa
                      1
                              1
              Nuh
```

The terminal branch length is critical in the decision taken, if we swap all terminal branch lengths (model="allswap"), or if we replace them with a uniform distribution (model="uniform"), the area selected might change from Cho to Al.

As the terminal branch lengths are distributed unequally, we might suspect that the results could depend on the longest branches that inhabit the areas Cho/Al.

But first, we test if the number of replicates has any effect.

```
## model to test allswap reps 10
##
## BestInitial:Cho
##
     AreaSelected Freq Percent
## 1
               Al
                      1
                              10
## 2
              Cho
                      6
                              60
## 3
              Nuh
                      3
                              30
```

```
## model to test allswap reps 100
##
## BestInitial:Cho
##
     AreaSelected Freq Percent
## 1
               Al
                     39
## 2
                     40
                             40
              Cho
## 3
              Nsa
                     1
                              1
## 4
              Nuh
                     19
                             19
## 5
               Pl
                      1
                               1
```

Roughly speaking, from 1000 on the results are alike, and the largest difference is using 10 or 100 replicates. As a rule of thumb, we must use at least 100 replicates, but 1000 will be better.

```
Now, let us see if the difference in results could be assigned to the longest branches (or not).
## we could use a single command (*evalBranch*)
AllTerminals <- evalBranch(tree=RhinoclemmysData$tree,
                           distribution=RhinoclemmysData$distribution,
                           branchToEval="terminals",
                           approach="all")
## Loading required package: maps
##
## Attaching package: 'phytools'
## The following object is masked from 'package:vegan':
##
##
       scores
print.evalBranchAll(AllTerminals)
##
## BranchNumber initArea
                            Mod-upper
                                         Delta% Mod-lower
                                                             Delta%
## [R_nasuta]
                Cho Cho O
                            Al -47.18
## [R_annulata] Cho Cho O
                            Cho 0
## [R_pulcherrima]
                    Cho Pl 116.08 Cho 0
## [R_diademata]
                    Cho Nsa 1819.58 Cho 0
                                1202.58 Cho 0
## [R_punctularia]
                    Cho An-As
## [R_melanosterna] Cho Cho O
                                Cho 0
## [R_funerea] Cho Al 391.02 Cho 0
## [R_areolata] Cho Al 84.95
                                Cho 0
## [R_rubida]
                Cho Pl 61.32
                                Cho 0
AllInternals <- evalBranch(tree=RhinoclemmysData$tree,
                           distribution=RhinoclemmysData$distribution,
                           branchToEval="internals",
                           approach="all")
print.evalBranchAll(AllInternals)
##
## BranchNumber initArea
                            Mod-upper
                                         Delta% Mod-lower
                                                             Delta%
## 11
        Cho Cho O
                    Cho 0
## 12
        Cho Cho O
                    Cho 0
## 13
        Cho Cho O
                    Cho 0
        Cho Cho O
## 14
                    Cho 0
```

```
## 15 Cho Cho 0 Cho 0
## 16 Cho An-As 1529.13 Cho 0
## 17 Cho Cho 0 Cho 0
```

The area selected depends on the branch length. While the internal terminals had almost no impact, if the terminal branch length of R. nasuta is -47.18% shorter, or if the terminal branch length is 84.95% larger for R. areolata, the area selected will change from Cho to Al, and if the terminal branch length of R. rubida is 61.32% larger, the area selected will change from Cho to Pl.

Literature cited

Le, Minh, and William P. McCord. 2008. "Phylogenetic relationships and biogeographical history of the genus Rhinoclemmys Fitzinger, 1835 and the monophyly of the turtle family Geoemydidae (Testudines: Testudinoidea)." Zoological Journal of the Linnean Society 153 (4): 751–67. https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1096-3642.2008.00413.x.

Romero-Alarcon, L. Viviana. 2020. "A total-evidence phylogeny of the crown and stem-groups of turtles (Pantestudines: Testudinata)." Master's thesis, Colombia: Escuela de Biología, UIS.