An empirical example: Rhynoclemmys data.

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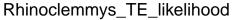
We read the data, distribution and tree.

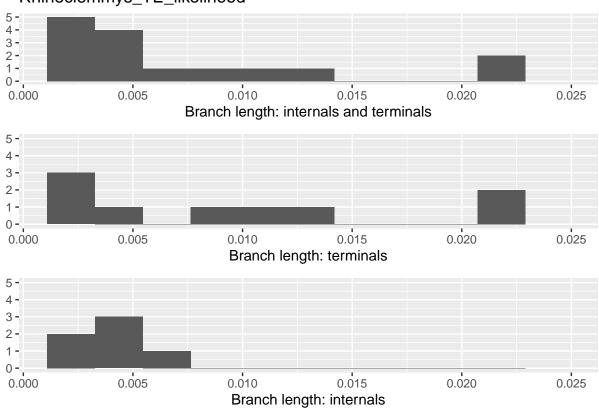
Analyses made with blepd version: 0 1 7 2020 10 19

Rhinoclemmys_TE_likelihood **Distributions** R_rubida R_areolata R_funerea ·R_melanosterna R_punctularia R_diademata -R_pulcherrima R_annulata -R_nasuta Ы Ph An-As Cho Nsa Nuh 0.00 0.01 0.02 0.03 Area

We want to test whether the branch lengths will have any effect in the area(s) chosen for conservation using a Phylogenetic Diversity (PD) analysis.

The topology corresponds to a Total Evidence analysis for the *Rhynoclemmys* genus, from R-Alarcon and Miranda-Esquivel (2020), and the distribution is taken and modified from Le and McCord (2008).





The branch length histogram and the tree plot, show the internal length branches are similar, nad different to terminals'; there are two longer branches, *R. aerolata* (inhabiting Al) and *R. rubida* (Pl), while Al and Cho are the richest areas.

Fist we calculate the PD value for the tree, we save the values as a table and later we convert the table to a matrix.

```
##
              [,1]
         0.044127
## Al
  An-As 0.020853
  Cho
         0.054150
##
         0.019937
## Nsa
         0.034323
## Nuh
## Ph
         0.032655
## Pl
         0.041646
```

Now, we test the efect of branch length swapping, terminal and internal branch lengths.

```
## model to test simpleswap reps 100
##
## Tree= Rhinoclemmys_TE_likelihood
                                          Model= simpleswap
                                                               Branchs swapped= terminals
##
## BestInitial:Cho
     AreaSelected Freq Percent
##
## 1
               Al
                     13
                             13
## 2
              Cho
                     86
                             86
## 3
               Pl
                      1
                              1
##
```

```
##
##
## model to test simpleswap reps 100
## Tree= Rhinoclemmys_TE_likelihood
                                     Model= simpleswap Branchs swapped= internals
##
## BestInitial:Cho
   AreaSelected Freq Percent
## 1
           Cho 100
##
##
##
## model to test allswap reps 100
## Tree= Rhinoclemmys_TE_likelihood Model= allswap Branchs swapped= terminals
##
## BestInitial:Cho
## AreaSelected Freq Percent
## 1
             Al 34
## 2
                          54
             Cho
                 54
## 3
             Nuh 10
                          10
## 4
             P1 2
                          2
##
##
##
## model to test allswap reps 100
## Tree= Rhinoclemmys_TE_likelihood Model= allswap Branchs swapped= internals
##
## BestInitial:Cho
   AreaSelected Freq Percent
            Cho 100
## 1
                         100
##
##
## model to test uniform reps 100
## Tree= Rhinoclemmys_TE_likelihood Model= uniform Branchs swapped= terminals
##
## BestInitial:Cho
## AreaSelected Freq Percent
             Al 59
## 1
                          59
## 2
             Cho
                 38
                          38
## 3
            Nuh
                 3
                           3
##
##
## model to test uniform reps 100
## Tree= Rhinoclemmys_TE_likelihood
                                     Model= uniform Branchs swapped= internals
##
## BestInitial:Cho
## AreaSelected Freq Percent
## 1
     Cho 100 100
```

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 depend heavily on the longest branches that inhabit the area.

But first, let us see if the number of replicates has any effect.

```
## model to test allswap reps 10
##
## BestInitial:Cho
##
     AreaSelected Freq Percent
## 1
                Al
                       5
                               50
               Cho
                       5
                               50
## 2
## model to test allswap reps 100
##
## BestInitial:Cho
##
     AreaSelected Freq Percent
## 1
                Al
                      41
                               41
## 2
               Cho
                      43
                               43
## 3
                                1
               Nsa
                       1
## 4
               Nuh
                      11
                               11
## 5
                Pl
                       4
                                4
## model to test allswap reps 1000
##
## BestInitial:Cho
     AreaSelected Freq Percent
##
## 1
                Al
                    379
                            37.9
## 2
             An-As
                      13
                             1.3
                     429
                            42.9
## 3
               Cho
## 4
                       9
                             0.9
               Nsa
## 5
               Nuh
                     148
                            14.8
## 6
                Pl
                      22
                             2.2
```

Roughly speaking from 1000 - 10000 the results are alike, and the largest difference is in 10 - 100. As a rule of thumb, we most use at least 100 replicates, but 1000 will be better.

now, let's see if the possible difference in results could be assigned to both of our longest branches.

```
##
## Terminal: R_annulata, has NO effect on branch length == 0 or Max
## Terminal: R_pulcherrima, has NO effect on branch length == 0 or Max
## Terminal: R_diademata, has NO effect on branch length == 0 or Max
## Terminal: R punctularia, has NO effect on branch length == 0 or Max
## Terminal: R_melanosterna, has NO effect on branch length == 0 or Max
## Terminal: R_funerea, has NO effect on branch length == 0 or Max
## Terminal: R_areolata, has NO effect on branch length == 0 or Max
## Terminal: R_rubida, has NO effect on branch length == 0 or Max
##
## Delta (%)
                Terminal
                            Initial Selected
                                                 Evaluating lower
## -47.1751
                 R nasuta
                            Cho Al
## 0
         R_annulata
                        Cho Cho
## 0
         R_pulcherrima
                        Cho Cho
## 0
                        Cho Cho
         R_diademata
## 0
         R_punctularia
                        Cho Cho
## 0
         R melanosterna
                            Cho Cho
## 0
         R funerea Cho Cho
```

```
## 0
         R areolata
                         Cho Cho
## 0
         R rubida
                     Cho Cho
## Terminal: R_nasuta, has NO effect on branch length == 0 or Max
## Terminal: R_annulata, has NO effect on branch length == 0 or Max
## Terminal: R_melanosterna, has NO effect on branch length == 0 or Max
## Delta (%)
                 Terminal
                             Initial Selected
                                                  Evaluating upper
## 0
         R_nasuta
                     Cho Cho
         R_{annulata}
                         Cho Cho
             R_pulcherrima Cho Pl
## 116.077
## 1819.587
                 R_{diademata}
                                 Cho Nsa
## 1202.589
                  R_punctularia Cho An-As
                             Cho Cho
         R_melanosterna
## 391.0172
                  R_{\text{funerea}}
                             Cho Al
                             Cho Al
## 84.9473
             R_areolata
                         Cho Pl
## 61.3246
             R_rubida
```

The area selected depends heavily in the branch length of *R. aerolata* and *R. rubida*, if the branch length is just a little shorter, the area selected will change from area A to area B.

To test whether internal branches have more impact than terminal branches, we can use the function eval-TerminalysInternal.

```
## model to test allswap reps 100
## Evaluated: All equal
                            Branch swapped: terminals
##
## BestInitial:AlCho
     AreaSelected Freq Percent
            AlCho 100
## 1
## Evaluated: All equal
                            Branch swapped: internals
## BestInitial:AlCho
     AreaSelected Freq Percent
            AlCho 100
                           100
## Evaluated: Terminals
                            Branch swapped: terminals
##
## BestInitial:AlCho
     AreaSelected Freq Percent
            AlCho 100
## Evaluated: Terminals
                            Branch swapped: internals
##
## BestInitial:AlCho
     AreaSelected Freq Percent
## 1
               Al
                    40
## 2
                            52
            AlCho
                    52
              Cho
## Evaluated: Internals
                            Branch swapped: terminals
```

```
##
## BestInitial:Cho
##
     AreaSelected Freq Percent
## 1
                     43
                             43
               Al
## 2
              Cho
                     40
                             40
## 3
              Nuh
                     17
                             17
## Evaluated: Internals
                             Branch swapped: internals
##
## BestInitial:Cho
##
     AreaSelected Freq Percent
## 1
              Cho 100
```

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.

R-Alarcon, L. Viviana, and Daniel Rafael Miranda-Esquivel. 2020. "A Total-Evidence Phylogeny of the Crown and Stem-Groups of Turtles (Pantestudines: Testudinata)." Cladistics: Submitted.