Introduction to Phylogenetic Analysis

Tuesday 24 – Wednesday 25 July, 2012

School of Biological Sciences



Overview

This free workshop provides an introduction to phylogenetic analysis, with a focus on the Bayesian methods and models implemented in the software *BEAST*. The workshop is run by the *Molecular Ecology, Evolution, and Phylogenetics* (MEEP) lab and is hosted by the School of Biological Sciences, University of Sydney.

Lectures

The workshop will include 6 lectures given over 2 days. The first day will include introductory lectures on phylogenetic analysis, sequence alignment, maximum likelihood, and Bayesian methods. The second day will include advanced lectures on Bayesian phylogenetic analysis, including estimating timescales, demographic reconstruction, and species trees.

Practical

Practical sessions will be held on both days of the workshop. They will involve basic analyses of a prepared data sets using desktop PCs, but participants are encouraged to bring their own laptops. We will be using free software that can be installed on PC, Mac, and UNIX platforms.

Location

The workshop will be held in the School of Biological Sciences at the University of Sydney. Lectures will be held in the DT Anderson Lecture in the Heydon-Laurence Building (A08). Practical classes will be held in the Robert Brown Laboratory in the Macleay Building (A12). Both of these buildings are adjacent to Parramatta Rd and are within reasonable walking distance (20-25 minutes) or a short bus ride from Central Station. Please refer to the campus map at the end of this programme.

Tuesday 24 July: Introductory topics

9.30 – 9.35 Welcome *Simon Ho*

9.35 – 10.00 Introduction to Phylogenetic Analysis

Nathan Lo

- Introduction to phylogenetic analysis
- DNA sequence alignment

10.15 – 11.00 Phylogenetic Methods

Nathan Lo

- Maximum parsimony
- Distance-based methods
- Maximum likelihood
- Evolutionary models

11.15 – 12.00 Bayesian Phylogenetic Analysis

Simon Ho

- The Bayesian paradigm
- Markov chain Monte Carlo sampling
- Advantages and disadvantages

13.00 - 17.00 Practical: The evolution of ratite birds

Simon Ho, Martyna Molak, & Sebastián Duchêne

Wednesday 25 July: Advanced topics

9.30 – 10.15 Bayesian Phylogenetics: Rates and Timescales Simon Ho

- The molecular clock
- Relaxed molecular clocks
- Calibrating the molecular clock

10.30 – 11.15 Bayesian Phylogenetics: Analysing Populations Simon Ho

- Interspecific vs intraspecific data
- Coalescent theory
- Skyline-plot methods
- Bayesian phylogeography

11.30 – 12.00 Bayesian Phylogenetics: Gene Trees and Species Trees

- Inferring species trees from gene trees
- Bayesian inference of species trees

13.00 – 17.00 Practical: A mysterious hominin from Siberia Simon Ho, Martyna Molak, & Sebastián Duchêne

Optional post-workshop practical

Practical: The extinction of the cave bear

Useful references

Introductory books

- The Phylogenetic Handbook Lemey, Salemi, & Vandamme (2009) Cambridge University Press.
- Reading the Story in DNA Bromham (2008) Oxford University Press.
- Inferring Phylogenies
 Felsenstein (2003) Sinauer Associates.
- Molecular Evolution: A Phylogenetic Approach Page & Holmes (1998) Wiley-Blackwell.

Bayesian phylogenetic analysis

- Bayesian inference of phylogeny: a non-technical primer Archibald, Mort, & Crawford (2003) Taxon 52: 187-191.
- BEAST: Bayesian evolutionary analysis by sampling trees Drummond & Rambaut (2007) BMC Evol Biol 7: 214.

Molecular clocks and calibrations

- The modern molecular clock
 Bromham & Penny (2003) Nature Rev Genet 4: 216-224.
- Relaxed phylogenetics and dating with confidence
 Drummond, Ho, Phillips, & Rambaut (2006) PLoS Biol 4: e88.
- Accounting for calibration uncertainty in phylogenetic estimation of evolutionary divergence times
 Ho & Phillips (2009) Syst Biol 58: 367-380.

Demographic reconstruction

- Skyline-plot methods for estimating demographic history from nucleotide sequences Ho & Shapiro (2011) Mol Ecol Res 11: 423-434.
- Bayesian inference of population size from multiple loci Heled & Drummond (2008) BMC Evol Biol 8: 289.
- Bayesian coalescent inference of past population dynamics from molecular sequences
 Drummond, Rambaut, Shapiro, & Pybus (2005) Mol Biol Evol 22: 1185-1192.

Gene trees and species trees

• Gene tree discordance, phylogenetic inference and the multispecies coalescent Degnan & Rosenberg (2009) Trends Ecol Evol 24: 332-340.

During the workshop

Places to eat

On campus

- Courtyard Café (Holme Building)
- Taste (New Law Building)
- Various food outlets (Manning Building)

Near campus

- Uni Thai (Broadway)
- Clipper Café (Glebe Point Rd)
- La Banette Patisserie (Glebe Point Rd)
- Various Japanese, Chinese, SE Asian (Broadway, Glebe Point Rd)
- Little Devil Bakery (Broadway)
- Food court (Broadway Shopping Centre)

Things to do on campus

Macleay Museum

The Macleay Museum had its origins in the collection of insects begun by Alexander Macleay in the late eighteenth century. It has developed into an extraordinary collection of natural history specimens, ethnographic artifacts, scientific instruments and historic photographs. Admission is free. Open 10-4.30 Monday-Friday.

Nicholson Museum

The Nicholson Museum contains the largest and most prestigious collection of antiquities in Australia. It is also the country's oldest university museum, and features masterpieces of ancient art and objects of daily life from Egypt, the Middle East, Greece, Rome, Cyprus and Mesopotamia. Admission is free. Open 10-4.30 Monday-Friday.

University Art Gallery

Founded in the 1860s, the University of Sydney Art Collection now holds more than 3,000 paintings, sculptures and works on paper by Australian, Asian and European artists. The University Art Gallery showcases changing exhibitions of works from the collection as well as high quality exhibitions of both contemporary and historical works. Admission is free. Open 10-4.30 Monday-Friday.

