Introduction to Phylogenetic Analysis

8-9 September, 2015

Overview

This workshop will provide an introduction to phylogenetic analysis, including practical exercises based on the software *MEGA* and *BEAST*. It is suitable for graduate students, postdoctoral researchers, and academics at all levels of experience. Prior knowledge of basic phylogenetics is helpful but not essential.

The workshop will be run by Rob Lanfear (Macquarie University) and Simon Ho (University of Sydney), with assistance from Charles Foster and Jun Tong (University of Sydney).

Programme

The workshop will comprise a series of lectures and practical exercises. The first day will cover interpreting phylogenetic trees, sequence alignment, evolutionary models, and phylogenetic methods. The second day will focus on Bayesian phylogenetic analysis and will include molecular clocks, estimating timescales, coalescent theory, and demographic reconstruction.

The practical exercises will involve basic analyses of a prepared data sets. We will be using free software that can be installed on PC, Mac, and UNIX platforms.

Workshop Programme

8 September: Introduction to phylogenetic analysis (Rob Lanfear)

09.00 - 09.10	Welcome
09.10 - 10.00	Lecture 1: Introduction to phylogenetic analysis
10.00 - 10.30	Lecture 2: Alignment
10.30 – 11.00	Practical: Automated sequence alignment
	Morning tea
11.15 – 12.00	Practical: Manual refining the alignment
12.00 - 13.00	Lecture 3: Phylogenetic methods
	Lunch break
14.00 - 16.00	Practical: Phylogenetic analysis

9 September: Bayesian phylogenetic analysis (Simon Ho)

09.30 – 10.15	Lecture 4: Bayesian phylogenetic analysis
10.15 – 11.00	Lecture 5: Rates and timescales
	Morning tea
11.15 – 13.00	Practical 2: Molecular-clock analysis
	Lunch break
14.00 - 14.30	Lecture 6: Analysing populations
14.30 – 16.00	Practical 3: Inferring population history

Useful References

Reference books

- Bayesian Phylogenetics: Methods, Algorithms, and Applications Chen, Kuo, & Lewis (2014) Chapman & Hall / CRC.
- Molecular Evolution: A Statistical Approach Yang (2014) Oxford University Press.
- 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 clocks and calibrations

- Estimating evolutionary timescales using the molecular clock
 Ho & Duchêne (2014) Mol Ecol 23: 5947–5965.
- The changing face of the molecular evolutionary clock Ho (2014) Trends Ecol Evol 29: 496–503.
- 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.

