Sydney Phylogenetics Workshop

Monday 23 – Tuesday 24 July, 2018



Overview

This free 2-day workshop will provide an introduction to phylogenetic analysis, including practical exercises based on the software *MEGA* and *BEAST*. It is suitable for graduate students and postdoctoral researchers. Prior knowledge of basic phylogenetics is helpful but not essential.

The workshop will comprise a series of lectures and practical exercises. The first day will cover interpreting phylogenetic trees, molecular data, sequence alignment, evolutionary models, and phylogenetic methods. The second day will provide an introduction to Bayesian phylogenetic analysis and will include models and priors, molecular clocks, and estimating timescales.

Instructors

The workshop will be run by members of the **Molecular Ecology, Evolution, and Phylogenetics Laboratory** in the School of Life and Environmental Sciences, University of Sydney. The lead organisers are Simon Ho and David Duchêne. The teaching team also includes Nate Lo, Zoe Patterson Ross, Cara Van Der Wal, and Perry Beasley-Hall.

Venue

The workshop will be held in Learning Studio 3090 on the third floor of the Abercrombie Building at the University of Sydney. This building is a short walk from Redfern Station and is on the corner of Abercombie St and Codrington St.

Tea, coffee, biscuits, and fruit will be available during the workshop. Lunch will not be provided, but the building has a café on the ground floor. The teaching team will be happy to provide suggestions for nearby cafés and restaurants.

Computing

The practical exercises will involve basic analyses of prepared data sets. You will need to bring your own laptop. Please download and install *MEGA* (version 6 or 7), *BEAST* 2 (version 2.4.8 or above), *Tracer*, and *FigTree* prior to the workshop.

Registration

The workshop is free to attend, but there will be a limit of 35 participants. To express your interest in attending the workshop, please contact Simon Ho (simon.ho@sydney.edu.au).

Workshop Programme

Monday 23 July: Introduction to phylogenetic analysis

| 09.15 – 09.30 | Arrival and set-up | |
|---------------|---|--------------------|
| 09.30 - 09.40 | Welcome | Simon Ho |
| 09.40 - 10.30 | Lecture 1.1: Introduction to molecular phylogenetics | Nate Lo |
| 10.30 – 11.00 | Practical 1a: Sequence alignment in MEGA | Nate Lo |
| | Break | |
| 11.15 – 12.00 | Lecture 1.2: Evolutionary models | Simon Ho |
| 12.00 – 12.30 | Lecture 1.3: Phylogenetic data | Zoe Patterson Ross |
| | Lunch break | |
| 13.15 – 14.00 | Lecture 1.4: Phylogenetic methods | Simon Ho |
| 14.00 - 17.00 | Practical 1b: Model selection and phylogenetics in MEGA | Cara Van Der Wal |

Tuesday 24 July: Bayesian phylogenetics and molecular dating

| 09.15 – 09.30 | Arrival | |
|---------------|--|--------------------|
| 09.30 - 10.30 | Lecture 2.1: Bayesian phylogenetic analysis | Simon Ho |
| 10.30 – 11.00 | Lecture 2.2: Models and priors | David Duchêne |
| | Break | |
| 11.15 – 12.30 | Practical 2a: Bayesian analysis using BEAST | David Duchêne |
| | Lunch break | |
| 13.15 – 14.00 | Lecture 2.3: Molecular dating | Simon Ho |
| 14.00 – 14.30 | Lecture 2.4: Calibrating the molecular clock | David Duchêne |
| 14.30 – 17.00 | Practical 2b: Molecular dating using BEAST | Perry Beasley-Hall |

Useful Readings

Reference books

- An Introduction to Molecular Evolution and Phylogenetics Bromham (2016) Oxford University Press.
- Molecular Evolution: A Statistical Approach Yang (2014) Oxford University Press.
- The Phylogenetic Handbook
 Lemey, Salemi, & Vandamme (2009) Cambridge University Press.
- Bayesian Phylogenetics: Methods, Algorithms, and Applications Chen, Kuo, & Lewis (2014) Chapman & Hall / CRC.

Molecular phylogenetics and Bayesian inference

- Molecular phylogenetics: principles and practice
 Yang & Rannala (2012) Nat Rev Genet 13: 303–314.
- State-of-the-art methodologies dictate new standards for phylogenetic analysis Anisimova et al. (2013) BMC Evol Biol, 13: 161.
- Bayesian phylogenetics with BEAUti and the BEAST 1.7
 Drummond et al. (2012) Mol Biol Evol 29:1969-1973.

Molecular dating

- A practical guide to molecular dating Sauquet (2013) C R Palevol, 12: 355–367.
- Bayesian molecular clock dating of species divergences in the genomics era dos Reis, Donoghue, & Yang (2016) Nat Rev Genet 17: 71–80.
- Estimating evolutionary timescales using the molecular clock
 Ho & Duchêne (2014) Mol Ecol 23: 5947–5965.
- Bayesian molecular dating: opening up the black box Bromham et al. (2018) Biol Rev, 93: 1165–1191.

