

Adaptive dating and fast proposals: revisiting the phylogenetic relaxed clock model

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S1 Appendix: Tree operators for rate quantiles

Zhang and Drummond 2020 introduced several tree operators for the *real* parameterisation – including Constant Distance, Simple Distance, and Small Pulley [1]. In this appendix, these three operators are extended to the *quant* parameterisation. Following the notation presented in the main article, let t_i be the time of node i , let $0 < q_i < 1$ be the rate quantile of node i , and let $r_i = F^{-1}(q_i)$ be the real rate of node i where F^{-1} is the inverse cumulative density function (i-CDF).

Constant Distance

Let \mathcal{X} be a uniformly-at-random sampled internal node on tree \mathcal{T} . Let \mathcal{L} and \mathcal{R} be the left and right child of \mathcal{X} , respectively, and let \mathcal{P} be the parent of \mathcal{X} . Under the *quant* parameterisation, the `ConstantDistance` operator works as follows:

Step 1. Propose a new height for $t_{\mathcal{X}}$:

$$t_{\mathcal{X}'} \leftarrow t_{\mathcal{X}} + s\Sigma \quad (1)$$

where Σ is drawn from a proposal transition distribution (Uniform or Bactrian), and s is a tunable step size. Ensure that $\max\{t_{\mathcal{L}}, t_{\mathcal{R}}\} < t_{\mathcal{X}'} < t_{\mathcal{P}}$, and if the constraint is broken then reject the proposal.

Step 2. Recalculate $q_{\mathcal{X}}$ as:

$$\begin{aligned} q_{\mathcal{X}'} &\leftarrow F(r_{\mathcal{X}'}') \\ &\leftarrow F\left(\frac{t_{\mathcal{P}} - t_{\mathcal{X}}}{t_{\mathcal{P}} - t_{\mathcal{X}'}} r_{\mathcal{X}}\right) \\ &\leftarrow F\left(\frac{t_{\mathcal{P}} - t_{\mathcal{X}}}{t_{\mathcal{P}} - t_{\mathcal{X}'}} F^{-1}(q_{\mathcal{X}})\right). \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

This ensures that the genetic distance between \mathcal{X} and P remains constant after the operation by enforcing the constraint:

$$r_{\mathcal{X}}(t_{\mathcal{P}} - t_{\mathcal{X}}) = r_{\mathcal{X}'}(t_{\mathcal{P}} - t_{\mathcal{X}'}). \quad (3)$$

Step 3. Similarly, propose new rate quantiles for the two children $\mathcal{C} \in \{\mathcal{L}, \mathcal{R}\}$:

$$\begin{aligned} q_{\mathcal{C}'} &\leftarrow F(r_{\mathcal{C}'}) \\ &\leftarrow F\left(\frac{t_{\mathcal{X}} - t_{\mathcal{C}}}{t_{\mathcal{X}'} - t_{\mathcal{C}}} \times r_{\mathcal{C}}\right) \\ &\leftarrow F\left(\frac{t_{\mathcal{X}} - t_{\mathcal{C}}}{t_{\mathcal{X}'} - t_{\mathcal{C}}} \times F^{-1}(q_{\mathcal{C}})\right). \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

Ensure that $0 < q_i' < 1$ for all proposed nodes $i \in \{\mathcal{X}, L, R\}$, and if the constraint is broken then reject the proposal. This constraint can only be broken from numerical issues.

Step 4. Finally, in order to calculate the Metropolis-Hastings-Green ratio, return the determinant of the Jacobian matrix:

$$\begin{aligned} J &= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial t_{\mathcal{X}'}}{\partial t_{\mathcal{X}}} & \frac{\partial t_{\mathcal{X}'}}{\partial q_{\mathcal{X}}} & \frac{\partial t_{\mathcal{X}'}}{\partial q_{\mathcal{L}}} & \frac{\partial t_{\mathcal{X}'}}{\partial q_{\mathcal{R}}} \\ \frac{\partial q_{\mathcal{X}'}}{\partial t_{\mathcal{X}}} & \frac{\partial q_{\mathcal{X}'}}{\partial q_{\mathcal{X}}} & \frac{\partial q_{\mathcal{X}'}}{\partial q_{\mathcal{L}}} & \frac{\partial q_{\mathcal{X}'}}{\partial q_{\mathcal{R}}} \\ \frac{\partial t_{\mathcal{X}'}}{\partial q_{\mathcal{L}}} & \frac{\partial q_{\mathcal{X}'}}{\partial q_{\mathcal{L}}} & \frac{\partial q_{\mathcal{L}'}}{\partial q_{\mathcal{L}}} & \frac{\partial q_{\mathcal{R}'}}{\partial q_{\mathcal{L}}} \\ \frac{\partial t_{\mathcal{X}'}}{\partial q_{\mathcal{R}}} & \frac{\partial q_{\mathcal{X}'}}{\partial q_{\mathcal{R}}} & \frac{\partial q_{\mathcal{L}'}}{\partial q_{\mathcal{R}}} & \frac{\partial q_{\mathcal{R}'}}{\partial q_{\mathcal{R}}} \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial t_{\mathcal{X}'}}{\partial t_{\mathcal{X}}} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{\partial q_{\mathcal{X}'}}{\partial t_{\mathcal{X}}} & \frac{\partial q_{\mathcal{X}'}}{\partial q_{\mathcal{X}}} & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{\partial q_{\mathcal{L}'}}{\partial t_{\mathcal{X}}} & 0 & \frac{\partial q_{\mathcal{L}'}}{\partial q_{\mathcal{L}}} & 0 \\ \frac{\partial q_{\mathcal{R}'}}{\partial t_{\mathcal{X}}} & 0 & 0 & \frac{\partial q_{\mathcal{R}'}}{\partial q_{\mathcal{R}}} \end{bmatrix}. \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

As J is triangular, its determinant $|J|$ is equal to the product of diagonal elements:

$$\begin{aligned} \ln |J| &= \ln \left\{ \frac{\partial t_{\mathcal{X}'}}{\partial t_{\mathcal{X}}} \times \frac{\partial q_{\mathcal{X}'}}{\partial q_{\mathcal{X}}} \times \frac{\partial q_{\mathcal{L}'}}{\partial q_{\mathcal{L}}} \times \frac{\partial q_{\mathcal{R}'}}{\partial q_{\mathcal{R}}} \right\} \\ &= \ln 1 + \ln DF\left(\frac{t_{\mathcal{P}} - t_{\mathcal{X}}}{t_{\mathcal{P}} - t_{\mathcal{X}'}} \times F^{-1}(q_{\mathcal{X}})\right) + \ln \frac{\partial}{\partial q_{\mathcal{X}}} \frac{t_{\mathcal{P}} - t_{\mathcal{X}}}{t_{\mathcal{P}} - t_{\mathcal{X}'}} F^{-1}(q_{\mathcal{X}}) \\ &\quad + \ln DF\left(\frac{t_{\mathcal{X}} - t_{\mathcal{L}}}{t_{\mathcal{X}'} - t_{\mathcal{L}}} \times F^{-1}(q_{\mathcal{L}})\right) + \ln \frac{\partial}{\partial q_{\mathcal{L}}} \frac{t_{\mathcal{X}} - t_{\mathcal{L}}}{t_{\mathcal{X}'} - t_{\mathcal{L}}} F^{-1}(q_{\mathcal{L}}) \\ &\quad + \ln DF\left(\frac{t_{\mathcal{X}} - t_{\mathcal{R}}}{t_{\mathcal{X}'} - t_{\mathcal{R}}} \times F^{-1}(q_{\mathcal{R}})\right) + \ln \frac{\partial}{\partial q_{\mathcal{R}}} \frac{t_{\mathcal{X}} - t_{\mathcal{R}}}{t_{\mathcal{X}'} - t_{\mathcal{R}}} F^{-1}(q_{\mathcal{R}}) \\ &= \ln DF\left(\frac{t_{\mathcal{P}} - t_{\mathcal{X}}}{t_{\mathcal{P}} - t_{\mathcal{X}'}} \times F^{-1}(q_{\mathcal{X}})\right) + \ln DF^{-1}(q_{\mathcal{X}}) + \ln \frac{t_{\mathcal{P}} - t_{\mathcal{X}}}{t_{\mathcal{P}} - t_{\mathcal{X}'}} \\ &\quad + \ln DF\left(\frac{t_{\mathcal{X}} - t_{\mathcal{L}}}{t_{\mathcal{X}'} - t_{\mathcal{L}}} \times F^{-1}(q_{\mathcal{L}})\right) + \ln DF^{-1}(q_{\mathcal{L}}) + \ln \frac{t_{\mathcal{X}} - t_{\mathcal{L}}}{t_{\mathcal{X}'} - t_{\mathcal{L}}} \\ &\quad + \ln DF\left(\frac{t_{\mathcal{X}} - t_{\mathcal{R}}}{t_{\mathcal{X}'} - t_{\mathcal{R}}} \times F^{-1}(q_{\mathcal{R}})\right) + \ln DF^{-1}(q_{\mathcal{R}}) + \ln \frac{t_{\mathcal{X}} - t_{\mathcal{R}}}{t_{\mathcal{X}'} - t_{\mathcal{R}}}. \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

The derivatives DF and DF^{-1} can be computed using numerical approximations. As its final step, the operator returns $\ln |J|$.

Simple Distance

While **ConstantDistance** proposes internal node heights, **SimpleDistance** operates on the root. Let \mathcal{X} be the root node and let \mathcal{L} and \mathcal{R} be its two children.

Step 1. Propose a new height for $t_{\mathcal{X}}$:

$$t_{\mathcal{X}}' \leftarrow t_{\mathcal{X}} + s\Sigma \quad (7)$$

Ensure that $\max\{t_{\mathcal{L}}, t_{\mathcal{R}}\} < t_{\mathcal{X}}'$, and if the constraint is broken then reject the proposal.

Step 2. Propose new rate quantiles for the two children $\mathcal{C} \in \{\mathcal{L}, \mathcal{R}\}$:

$$\begin{aligned} q_{\mathcal{C}}' &\leftarrow F(r_{\mathcal{C}}') \\ &\leftarrow F\left(\frac{t_{\mathcal{X}} - t_{\mathcal{C}}}{t_{\mathcal{X}}' - t_{\mathcal{C}}} \times r_{\mathcal{C}}\right) \\ &\leftarrow F\left(\frac{t_{\mathcal{X}} - t_{\mathcal{C}}}{t_{\mathcal{X}}' - t_{\mathcal{C}}} \times F^{-1}(q_{\mathcal{C}})\right). \end{aligned} \quad (8)$$

These proposals ensure that the genetic distance between \mathcal{X} and its children \mathcal{C} remain constant after the operation by enforcing the constraint:

$$r_{\mathcal{C}}(t_{\mathcal{X}} - t_{\mathcal{C}}) = r_{\mathcal{C}}'(t_{\mathcal{X}}' - t_{\mathcal{C}}). \quad (9)$$

Ensure that $0 < q_{\mathcal{C}}' < 1$, and if the constraint is broken then reject the proposal.

Step 3. Finally, in order to calculate the Metropolis-Hastings-Green ratio, return the determinant of the Jacobian matrix:

$$\begin{aligned} J &= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial t_{\mathcal{X}}'}{\partial t_{\mathcal{X}}} & \frac{\partial t_{\mathcal{X}}'}{\partial q_{\mathcal{L}}} & \frac{\partial t_{\mathcal{X}}'}{\partial q_{\mathcal{R}}} \\ \frac{\partial q_{\mathcal{L}}'}{\partial t_{\mathcal{X}}} & \frac{\partial q_{\mathcal{L}}'}{\partial q_{\mathcal{L}}} & \frac{\partial q_{\mathcal{L}}'}{\partial q_{\mathcal{R}}} \\ \frac{\partial q_{\mathcal{R}}'}{\partial t_{\mathcal{X}}} & \frac{\partial q_{\mathcal{R}}'}{\partial q_{\mathcal{L}}} & \frac{\partial q_{\mathcal{R}}'}{\partial q_{\mathcal{R}}} \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial t_{\mathcal{X}}'}{\partial t_{\mathcal{X}}} & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{\partial q_{\mathcal{L}}'}{\partial t_{\mathcal{X}}} & \frac{\partial q_{\mathcal{L}}'}{\partial q_{\mathcal{L}}} & 0 \\ \frac{\partial q_{\mathcal{R}}'}{\partial t_{\mathcal{X}}} & 0 & \frac{\partial q_{\mathcal{R}}'}{\partial q_{\mathcal{R}}} \end{bmatrix}. \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

As J is triangular, its determinant $|J|$ is equal to the product of diagonal elements:

$$\begin{aligned}
\ln |J| &= \ln \left\{ \frac{\partial t_{\mathcal{X}'}}{\partial t_{\mathcal{X}}} \times \frac{\partial q_{\mathcal{L}'}}{\partial q_{\mathcal{L}}} \times \frac{\partial q_{\mathcal{R}'}}{\partial q_{\mathcal{R}}} \right\} \\
&= \ln \frac{\partial t_{\mathcal{X}'}}{\partial t_{\mathcal{X}}} + \ln \frac{\partial q_{\mathcal{L}'}}{\partial q_{\mathcal{L}}} + \ln \frac{\partial q_{\mathcal{R}'}}{\partial q_{\mathcal{R}}} \\
&= \ln 1 \\
&\quad + \ln DF \left(\frac{t_{\mathcal{X}} - t_{\mathcal{L}}}{t_{\mathcal{X}'} - t_{\mathcal{L}}} \times F^{-1}(q_{\mathcal{L}}) \right) + \ln \frac{\partial}{\partial q_{\mathcal{L}}} \frac{t_{\mathcal{X}} - t_{\mathcal{L}}}{t_{\mathcal{X}'} - t_{\mathcal{L}}} F^{-1}(q_{\mathcal{L}}) \\
&\quad + \ln DF \left(\frac{t_{\mathcal{X}} - t_{\mathcal{R}}}{t_{\mathcal{X}'} - t_{\mathcal{R}}} \times F^{-1}(q_{\mathcal{R}}) \right) + \ln \frac{\partial}{\partial q_{\mathcal{R}}} \frac{t_{\mathcal{X}} - t_{\mathcal{R}}}{t_{\mathcal{X}'} - t_{\mathcal{R}}} F^{-1}(q_{\mathcal{R}}) \\
&= \ln DF \left(\frac{t_{\mathcal{X}} - t_{\mathcal{L}}}{t_{\mathcal{X}'} - t_{\mathcal{L}}} \times F^{-1}(q_{\mathcal{L}}) \right) + \ln DF^{-1}(q_{\mathcal{L}}) + \ln \frac{t_{\mathcal{X}} - t_{\mathcal{L}}}{t_{\mathcal{X}'} - t_{\mathcal{L}}} \\
&\quad + \ln DF \left(\frac{t_{\mathcal{X}} - t_{\mathcal{R}}}{t_{\mathcal{X}'} - t_{\mathcal{R}}} \times F^{-1}(q_{\mathcal{R}}) \right) + \ln DF^{-1}(q_{\mathcal{R}}) + \ln \frac{t_{\mathcal{X}} - t_{\mathcal{R}}}{t_{\mathcal{X}'} - t_{\mathcal{R}}}. \tag{11}
\end{aligned}$$

As its final step, the operator returns $\ln |J|$.

Small Pulley

Just like the previous operator, **SmallPulley** operates on the root. Let \mathcal{X} be the root node and let \mathcal{L} and \mathcal{R} be its two children. However, unlike **SimpleDistance**, this operator alters the two genetic distances $d_{\mathcal{L}} = r_{\mathcal{L}}(t_{\mathcal{X}} - t_{\mathcal{L}}) = F^{-1}(q_{\mathcal{L}})(t_{\mathcal{X}} - t_{\mathcal{L}})$ and $d_{\mathcal{R}} = r_{\mathcal{R}}(t_{\mathcal{X}} - t_{\mathcal{R}}) = F^{-1}(q_{\mathcal{R}})(t_{\mathcal{X}} - t_{\mathcal{R}})$, while conserving their sum $d_{\mathcal{L}} + d_{\mathcal{R}}$.

Step 1. Propose new genetic distances for $d_{\mathcal{L}}$ and $d_{\mathcal{R}}$:

$$d_{\mathcal{L}'} \leftarrow d_{\mathcal{L}} + s\Sigma \tag{12}$$

$$d_{\mathcal{R}'} \leftarrow d_{\mathcal{R}} - s\Sigma \tag{13}$$

Ensure that $0 < d_{\mathcal{L}'} < d_{\mathcal{L}} + d_{\mathcal{R}}$, and if the constraint is broken then reject the proposal.

Step 2. Propose new rate quantiles for the two children \mathcal{L} and \mathcal{R} :

$$\begin{aligned}
q_{\mathcal{L}'} &\leftarrow F\left(\frac{d_{\mathcal{L}'}}{t_{\mathcal{X}} - t_{\mathcal{L}}}\right) \\
&\leftarrow F\left(\frac{F^{-1}(q_{\mathcal{L}})(t_{\mathcal{X}} - t_{\mathcal{L}}) + \Sigma}{t_{\mathcal{X}} - t_{\mathcal{L}}}\right) \tag{14}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
q_{\mathcal{R}'} &\leftarrow F\left(\frac{d_{\mathcal{R}'}}{t_{\mathcal{X}} - t_{\mathcal{R}}}\right) \\
&\leftarrow F\left(\frac{F^{-1}(q_{\mathcal{R}})(t_{\mathcal{X}} - t_{\mathcal{R}}) - \Sigma}{t_{\mathcal{X}} - t_{\mathcal{R}}}\right). \tag{15}
\end{aligned}$$

Step 3. Return the determinant of the Jacobian matrix:

$$\begin{aligned}
J &= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial q_{\mathcal{L}}'}{\partial q_{\mathcal{L}}} & \frac{\partial q_{\mathcal{L}}'}{\partial q_{\mathcal{R}}} \\ \frac{\partial q_{\mathcal{R}}'}{\partial q_{\mathcal{L}}} & \frac{\partial q_{\mathcal{R}}'}{\partial q_{\mathcal{R}}} \end{bmatrix} \\
&= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial q_{\mathcal{L}}'}{\partial q_{\mathcal{L}}} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{\partial q_{\mathcal{R}}'}{\partial q_{\mathcal{R}}} \end{bmatrix}
\end{aligned} \tag{16}$$

As J is triangular/diagonal, its determinant $|J|$ is equal to the product of diagonal elements:

$$\begin{aligned}
\ln |J| &= \ln \left\{ \frac{\partial q_{\mathcal{L}}'}{\partial q_{\mathcal{L}}} \times \frac{\partial q_{\mathcal{R}}'}{\partial q_{\mathcal{R}}} \right\} \\
&= \ln \frac{\partial q_{\mathcal{L}}'}{\partial q_{\mathcal{L}}} + \ln \frac{\partial q_{\mathcal{R}}'}{\partial q_{\mathcal{R}}} \\
&= \ln DF \left(\frac{F^{-1}(q_{\mathcal{L}})(t_{\mathcal{X}} - t_{\mathcal{L}}) + \Sigma}{t_{\mathcal{X}} - t_{\mathcal{L}}} \right) + \ln \frac{\partial q_{\mathcal{L}}'}{\partial q_{\mathcal{L}}} \frac{F^{-1}(q_{\mathcal{L}})(t_{\mathcal{X}} - t_{\mathcal{L}}) + \Sigma}{t_{\mathcal{X}} - t_{\mathcal{L}}} \\
&\quad + \ln DF \left(\frac{F^{-1}(q_{\mathcal{R}})(t_{\mathcal{X}} - t_{\mathcal{R}}) - \Sigma}{t_{\mathcal{X}} - t_{\mathcal{R}}} \right) + \ln \frac{\partial q_{\mathcal{R}}'}{\partial q_{\mathcal{R}}} \frac{F^{-1}(q_{\mathcal{R}})(t_{\mathcal{X}} - t_{\mathcal{R}}) - \Sigma}{t_{\mathcal{X}} - t_{\mathcal{R}}} \\
&= \ln DF \left(\frac{F^{-1}(q_{\mathcal{L}})(t_{\mathcal{X}} - t_{\mathcal{L}}) + \Sigma}{t_{\mathcal{X}} - t_{\mathcal{L}}} \right) + \ln DF^{-1}(q_{\mathcal{L}}) \\
&\quad + \ln DF \left(\frac{F^{-1}(q_{\mathcal{R}})(t_{\mathcal{X}} - t_{\mathcal{R}}) - \Sigma}{t_{\mathcal{X}} - t_{\mathcal{R}}} \right) + \ln DF^{-1}(q_{\mathcal{R}}).
\end{aligned} \tag{17}$$

Thus, as its final step, the operator returns $\ln |J|$.

References

- [1] Zhang R, Drummond A. Improving the performance of Bayesian phylogenetic inference under relaxed clock models. *BMC Evolutionary Biology*. 2020;20:1–28.