Species traits and environmental context: the changing functional composition of the North American species pool

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Abstract

The set of species in a region changes over time as new species enter through speciation or 2 immigration and as species leave the system through extinction and extirpation. How a regional species pool changes over time is the product of many processes acting at multiple levels of organization. Changes in the functional composition of a regional species pool are changes that occur across all local communities drawn from that species pool. While a species presence in a local community is due to the availability of the necessary biotic-biotic or biotic-abiotic interactions that enable coexistence, a species' presence in a regional species pool just requires that at least one local community has that set of necessary interactions. The goal of this analysis is to understand when, and possibly for what reasons, mammal ecotypes are enriched or 10 depleted relative to their average diversity. Here, I analyze the diversity history of North American mammals ecotypes for most of the Cenozoic (the last 65 million years). This analysis 12 frames mammal diversity in terms of both their means of interacting with the biotic and abiotic environment (i.e. functional group or ecotype) as well as their regional and global environmental 14 context. Using two hierarchical Bayesian hidden Markov models of diversity, I find that changes to mammal diversity are driven more by the influx of new species than by selective extinction. I 16 also find that the only ecotypes which experience a near constant increase in diversity over time are digitigrade and unguligrade herbivores, while arboreal ecotypes become increasingly rare and 18 in many cases disappear entirely from the species pool over the Cenozoic. Additionally, I find that global temperature is only associated with the origination of some mammal ecotypes but, 20 in almost all cases, does not affect the extinction of mammal ecotypes.

22 Introduction

Changes to species diversity are the result of evolutionary and ecological processes acting both in concert and continually. Local communities are shaped by dispersal and local ecological processes such as resource competition and predator-prey relationships. The constituent species of these community are drawn from a regional species pool, or the set of all species that are present in at least one community within a region (Harrison and Cornell, 2008; Mittelbach and Schemske, 2015; Urban et al., 2008). Species dispersal from the regional species pool to the local communities is a

- sorting process shaped by biotic and abiotic environmental filters which are mediated by those
- species' traits (Cottenie, 2005; Elith and Leathwick, 2009; Harrison and Cornell, 2008; Loeuille and Leibold, 2008; Shipley et al., 2006; Urban et al., 2008). Regional species pools are shaped by
- speciation, extinction, migration, and extirpation. The gain or loss of regional diversity is the result of macroevolutionary dynamics which, in turn, shape the downstream macroecological dynamics of
- the regional species pool and its constituent local communities (Harrison and Cornell, 2008;
 Mittelbach and Schemske, 2015; Urban et al., 2008). In turn, the distribution of species within
- regional species pool represents the expected distribution of local communities under a purely diffusive process of community assembly.
- Fundamentally, all species respond differently to climate and environmental change (Blois and Hadly, 2009). Similarities in ecological roles of species within a regional species pool can be
- described as a collection of guilds or functional groups (Bambach, 1977; Brown and Maurer, 1989; Simberloff and Dayan, 1991; Valentine, 1969; Wilson, 1999). Species within the same functional
- group are expected to have more similar macroecological dynamics to each other than to species of a different functional group. By focusing on the relative diversity of functional groups, changes to
- diversity are interpretable as changes to the set of ways species within a species pool could interact with the biotic and abiotic environment.
- A key question when comparing communities or regional species pools based on their functional composition is whether specific functional groups are enriched or depleted and why; what are the
- processes that led to a species pool having the functional composition it does (Blois and Hadly, 2009; Brown and Maurer, 1989; McGill et al., 2006; Smith et al., 2008; Weber et al., 2017)?
- Comparisons of contemporaneous regional species pools only determines if a functional group is enriched or depleted in one species pool relative to other species pools CITATION. These types of
- comparison do not take into account if a functional group is enriched or depleted relative to its diversity over time (Blois and Hadly, 2009). While a species pool may be depleted of a functional
- group relative to other contemporaneous species pools, that same functional group may be actually be enriched in that species pool relative to its historical diversity. Because the processes which
- shape regional species pool diversity (e.g. origination, extinction) operate on much longer time

scales than is possible for studies of the Recent, paleontological data provides a unique opportunity

 $_{58}$ to observe and estimate the changes to functional diversity and how species functional traits and

environmental context can shape the enrichment or depletion of functional groups within a regional

species pool (Blois and Hadly, 2009; Smith et al., 2008). Being able to identify which if the diversity

of any functional groups are depleted relative to their long term average diversity in the species

62 pool is particularity useful in conservation settings; species in depleted groups are most likely more

at risk of extinction than species in enriched groups, even if those enriched groups are relatively

rare when compared to the functional composition of other contemporaneous species pools.

The paleontological record of North American mammals for the Cenozoic (~ 66 million years ago to

present) provides one of the best opportunities for understanding how regional species pool

functional diversity changes over time. The North American mammal record is a relatively complete

temporal sequence for the entire Cenozoic which primarily, but not exclusively, based on fossil

localities from the Western Interior of North America (Alroy, 1996, 2009; Alroy et al., 2000).

⁷⁰ Additionally, mammal fossils preserve a lot of important physiological information, such as teeth, so

that functional traits like the dietary/trophic category of species are easy to estimate (Eronen et al.,

72 2010; Polly et al., 2011, 2015).

The goals of this study are to understand when are unique functional groups enriched or depleted

in the North American mammal regional species pool and to estimate the relationship between

changes to regional ecotypic diversity and changes to their environmental context.

76 Background

The history of standing diversity for all mammals along with that some individual clades of North

American mammals for the Cenozoic has been the focus of considerable study (Alroy, 1996, 2009;

Alroy et al., 2000; Badgley and Finarelli, 2013; Blois and Hadly, 2009; Figueirido et al., 2012;

Fraser et al., 2015; Janis, 1993; Janis and Wilhelm, 1993; Pires et al., 2015; Quental and Marshall,

2013; Silvestro et al., 2015; Slater, 2015; Smits, 2015). Previous approaches to understanding

mammal diversity, both in North America and elsewhere, fall into a number of overlapping

categories: total diversity (Alroy, 1996; Alroy et al., 2000; Figueirido et al., 2012; Liow et al., 2008),

- with/between guild comparisons (Janis et al., 2004; Janis, 2008; Janis et al., 2000; Janis and Wilhelm, 1993; Jernvall and Fortelius, 2004; Pires et al., 2015), within/between clade comparisons
- (Cantalapiedra et al., 2017; Fraser et al., 2015; Quental and Marshall, 2013; Silvestro et al., 2015; Slater, 2015), and estimating the impact of environmental process on total diversity (Alroy et al.,
- 2000; Badgley and Finarelli, 2013; Badgley et al., 2017; Blois and Hadly, 2009; Eronen et al., 2015; Fraser et al., 2015; Janis, 1993; Janis and Wilhelm, 1993). Each of these individual perspectives
- provide an overall limited perspective on the macroevolutionary and macroecological processes shaping diversity and diversification. Integration across perspectives is necessary for producing a
- holistic and internally consistent picture of how the North American mammal species pool has changed through time. One of the goals of this study is to present a framework for approaching
- hypotheses about diversity and diversification through multiple lenses simultaneously so that our inferences are better constrained and the relative importance of species' ecological function,
- taxonomic affinities, and environmental context may be better elucidated.

The narrative of the diversification of North American mammals over the Cenozoic is one of
gradual change. There is little convincing evidence that there have been any major or sudden
cross-functional or cross-taxonomic group turnover events in mammal diversity at any point in the
Cenozoic record of North America (Alroy, 1996, 2009; Alroy et al., 2000; Eronen et al., 2015; Janis,
1993). Instead of being concentrated at specific time intervals, species turnover has been found to
be distributed through time. It is then expected then that, for this analysis, turnover events or
periods of rapid diversification or depletion should not occur simultaneously for all functional
groups under study. Additionally, changes to mammal diversification seem to be primarily driven by
changes to origination rate and not to extinction (Alroy, 1996, 2009; Alroy et al., 2000). An
unresolved aspect of the general history of mammal diversification is whether that diversity is
limited or self-regulating; namely, to what extent is mammal diversification diversity-dependent
(Alroy, 2009; Harmon and Harrison, 2015; Rabosky, 2013; Rabosky and Hurlbert, 2015). Similarity,
this question can also be asked of specific functional groups (Jernvall and Fortelius, 2004; Quental
and Marshall, 2013; Silvestro et al., 2015; Van Valkenburgh, 1999).

Within the overall narrative of mammal diversity, the histories of some functional and taxonomic groups are better understood than others. These groups include ungulate herbivores and Neogene carnivores which have particularity good fossil records and have been the focus of previous analyses.

The diversity history of ungulate herbivores has been characterized by more recently originating taxa having longer legs, higher crowned teeth, and a shift from graze-dominated to

browse-dominated diets than their earlier originating counterparts (Cantalapiedra et al., 2017;
Fraser et al., 2015; Janis et al., 2004; Janis, 1993, 2008; Janis et al., 2000). The mechanisms which
drive this pattern are theorized to be some combination of tectonic activity driving environmental
change such as the drying of the western interior of North America due mountain building and
global temperature and environmental change such as the formation of polar icecaps (Badgley et al.,
2017; Blois and Hadly, 2009; Eronen et al., 2015; Janis, 2008).

In contrast, the origination of modern cursorial carnivore forms was not until later in the Cenozoic; this is not to say that carnivore diversity only grew in the late Cenozoic, but that those forms were late entrants (Janis and Wilhelm, 1993). Instead, the diversity history of carnivores is reflective of density-dependence or some other form of self-regulation (Silvestro et al., 2015; Slater, 2015; Van Valkenburgh, 1999). Specifically, it has been proposed that different canid clades have replaced each other as the dominate members of their functional group within the species pool (Silvestro et al., 2015; Van Valkenburgh, 1999). It is then expected that, for this analysis, the diversity of digitigrade and plantigrade carnivores (i.e. the "carnivore" guild of Van Valkenburgh (1999)) should be relatively constant for the Cenozoic or at least have plateaued by the Neogene.

In a relevant study, Smits (2015) found that functional traits such as a species dietary or locomotor category structure differences in mammal extinction risk. In particular, arborel taxa were found to have a shorter duration on average than species from other locomotor categories (Smits, 2015). Two possible scenarios that could yield this pattern were proposed: the extinction risk faced by arboreal species is constant and high for the entire Cenozoic or the Paleogene and Neogene represent different regimes and extinction risk increased in the Neogene, thus driving up the Cenozoic average extinction risk. These two possible explanations have clear and testable predictions with respect to

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the diversity history of arboreal taxa: 1) if arboreal taxa always have an elevated extinction risk when compared to other taxa, then the diversity history of arboreal taxa is expected to be constant with time, albeit possibly at low diversity; and 2) if the Paleogene and Neogene represent difference selective regimes with the former being associated with lower extinction risk than the latter, then the diversity history of arboreal taxa are expected to be present in the Paleogene but depleted or absent from the species pool during the Neogene.

There is some uncertainty and a lack of consensus as to the effect of species body size on mammal diversity and aspects of the diversification processes, specifically extinction (Liow et al., 2008, 2009; Smits, 2015; Tomiya, 2013). Species body size is frequently framed as an important biological descriptor because of its correlation with other important and relevant ecological traits such as metabolic rate and home range size (Brown, 1995). It is also relatively easy to estimate for extinct species using proxy measures and regression equations, as was done in this study (see below).

However, body size is normally analyzed without simultaneous reference to other relevant species traits (Huang et al., 2017; Liow et al., 2008; Raia et al., 2012; Smith et al., 2004), but see (Smits,

2015); this combined with the high amount of correlation between life history traits and body size limits processed-based inference, because the actual causal mechanisms underlying an observed pattern are obscured or missing.

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The climate history of the Cenozoic can be broadly described as a gradual cooling trend, with polar ice-caps forming in the Neogene (Cramer et al., 2011; Zachos et al., 2008, 2001). There are of course exceptions to this pattern such as the Eocene climatic optimum, the mid-Miocene climatic optimum, and the sudden drop in temperature at the Eocene/Oligocene boundary (Zachos et al., 2008, 2001). In terms of the North American biotic environment, the Cenozoic is additionally characterized by major transition from having closed, partially forested biomes being common in the Paleogene to the landscape being dominated by savannah and grasslands biomes by the Neogene (Blois and Hadly, 2009; Janis, 1993; Janis et al., 2000; Strömberg, 2005). Additionally, the landscape structure and topology of North America changed substantially over the Cenozoic with mountain uplift and other tectonic actives in Western North America (Badgley and Finarelli, 2013; Blois and Hadly, 2009; Eronen et al., 2015; Janis, 2008). This type of geological activity affects both local climates as

well as continental weather patterns while also mobilizing increased grit into the environment, something which may be responsible for increasing trend of hyposodony (high crowned teeth) among herbivores (Damuth and Janis, 2011; Jardine et al., 2012; Jernvall and Fortelius, 2002). 168 The Eocene-Oligocene transition has been observed to be associated with extinction of many ungulate taxa (Janis, 2008). This boundary also marks the transition from the Paleogene to the Neogene and from herbivores being browsing dominated to grazing dominated, though not concurrently (Janis, 1993; Strömberg, 2005). Additionally, the Paleogene-Neogene boundary marks the approximate start of Antarctic ice sheets, which were previously absent (Zachos et al., 2008). There is an observed stability in estimates of global temperature from the E/O transition till the end of the Miocene called the Mid-Miocene climatic optimum (Zachos et al., 2008, 2001). The Mid-Miocene climatic optimum is bookended by periods of temperature decline. We would then expect that, for the Miocene, turnover and other diversification events would most likely be due to biological interactions or immigration and not biotic-abiotic interactions because of the constancy of the climate, and that those groups that are driven primarily by environmental factors, the Miocene would be a period of marked by an absence of major changes to diversity or the

The effect of climate on mammal diversity and its accompanying diversification process has been the focus of considerable research with a slight consensus favoring mammal diversification being more biologically-mediated than climate-mediated when considering the entire Cenozoic (Alroy et al., 2000; Clyde and Gingerich, 1998; Figueirido et al., 2012). However, differences in temporal and geographic scale seem to underly the contrast between these two perspectives. For example when the mammal fossil record analyzed at small temporal and geographic scales a correlation between diversity and climate is observable (Clyde and Gingerich, 1998). However, when the record is analyzed at the scale of the continent and most of the Cenozoic this correlation disappears (Alroy et al., 2000). This result, however, does not go against the idea that there may be short periods of correlation between diversity and climate and that this relationship can change or even reverse direction over time; this type result means that there is no single direction or longterm correlation between diversity and climate (Figueirido et al., 2012).

diversification process.

In the case of a fluctuating correlation between diversity and climate it is hard to make the argument for an actual causal link between the two without modeling the underlying ecological differences between species; after all, species respond differently based on their individual ecologies (Blois and Hadly, 2009). When analysis is based on diversity or taxonomy alone no mechanisms are possible to infer. Taxonomy, like body size, stands in for many important species traits to the point that mechanistic or process based inference is impossible. While emergent patterns might correspond to taxonomic grouping, this itself is an emergent phenomenon. Instead, by framing hypotheses in terms of species traits and their environmental context, these emergent phenomena can be observed and analyzed rather than assumed.

Foreground

- The fourth-corner problem is conceptual and statistical framework to explaining the patterns of either species abundance or presence/absence in a community as a product of species traits,

 environmental factors, and the interaction between traits and environment (Brown et al., 2014;

 Jamil et al., 2013; Pollock et al., 2012; Warton et al., 2015); effectively uniting climate-based species

 distribution modeling (SDMs) with trait-based community assembly models (CATS, MaxEnt). The

 fourth-corner problem is normally phrased in modern ecological studies as understanding how traits

 and environment interact to predict the occurrence of species at localities distributed across a

 region (Jamil et al., 2013; Pollock et al., 2012).
- This conceptual framework can be extended to include time when considering occurrence as a
 three-dimensional: species at localities in space over time. This extension changes the goal of
 predicting just occurrence to one of predicting species gain and loss at localities. However, the
 temporal limitations of modern ecological studies limit studying species over their entire durations,
 where speciation and extinction govern the occurrence of species. By considering the patterns of
 fossil occurrences in the geological record the macroevolutionary processes governing species'
 (macro)ecology can be better understood. One limitation of the fossil record, however, is a lack of
 spatial resolution for most taxonomic groups and periods of time. As such, paleontological data

- "looks" at a different side of the three-dimensional occurrence matrix of the extended fourth-corner problem than modern ecological data.
- In this study, the fourth-corner problem is phrased as understanding how mammal functional groups respond to environmental change in order to predict the origination and survival of species over time (Fig. 1). Additionally, I also consider the incompleteness of the fossil record and the static effect of other species descriptors not related to functional group on origination and survival.

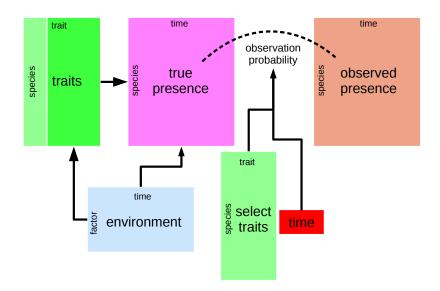


Figure 1: Conceptual diagram of the paleontological fourth corner problem. The observed presence matrix (orange) is the empirical presence/absence pattern for all species for all time points; this matrix is an incomplete observation of the "true" presence/absence pattern (purple). The estimated true presence matrix is modeled as a function of both environmental factors over time (blue) and multiple species traits (green). Additionally, the effects of environmental factors on species traits are also modeled, as traits are expected to mediate the effects of a species environmental context. This diagram is based partially on material presented in Brown et al. (2014) and Warton et al. (2015).

- My approach to delimiting and assigning mammal functional groups is inspired on the ecocube heuristic used to classify marine invertebrate species by three functional traits (Bambach et al.,
- 2007; Bush and Bambach, 2011; Bush et al., 2007; Bush and Novack-Gottshall, 2012;

 Novack-Gottshall, 2007; Villéger et al., 2011). Unique combinations of traits represent functional

 groups, which are equivalent to functional groups defined by species functional traits instead of a

holistic understanding how a taxon interacts with its environment. In this study, the two functional traits used to define a species' functional group are dietary (e.g. herbivore, carnivore, etc.) and locomotor category (e.g. arboreal, unguligrade, etc.). Species body mass was also included as a species trait in this analysis, but not as a functional trait for defining functional groups; instead, its inclusion is principally to control for differences in species dynamics that driven by mass and not functional group.

The environmental covariates included in this study are estimates of the mean and range of global temperature as well as which of three high-level North American plant taxonomic phases corresponds to that temporal unit (Cramer et al., 2011; Graham, 2011). These covariates were chosen because they provide a characterizations of the environmental context of the entire North American regional species pool for most of the Cenozoic. Importantly, the effects of a species functional group on diversity are themselves modeled as functions of environmental factors (Fig. 1) allowing for inference as to how a species ecology can mediate selective pressures do to its environmental context.

All observations, paleontological or modern, are made with uncertainty. With presence/absence
data this uncertainty comes from not knowing if an absence is a "true" absence or just a failure to
observe (Foote, 2001; Foote and Sepkoski, 1999; Lloyd et al., 2011; Royle and Dorazio, 2008; Royle
et al., 2005; Wang and Marshall, 2016). For paleontological data, the incomplete preservation and
sampling of species means that the true times of origination or extinction may not be observed
(Foote, 2001; Foote and Sepkoski, 1999; Wang et al., 2016; Wang and Marshall, 2016). The model
used in this analysis is a translation of the conceptual framework described above (Fig. 1) into a
statistical model in order to estimate the relative diversity of mammal functional groups over time
and how those functional groups respond to changes to environmental context while taking into
account the fundamental incompleteness of the fossil record.

Ultimately, the goals of this analysis are to understand when are different functional groups
enriched or depleted in the North American mammal regional species pool and how these changes
in ecotypic diversity are related to changes in species' environmental context. In the analyses done

here, I consider multiple covariates which describe a species' macroecology and its environmental context. In order to analyze this complex and highly structured question and accompanying data
 set, I developed a hierarchal Bayesian model combing the fourth-corner modeling approach with a model of an observation-occurrence or observation-origination-extinction process.

Materials and Methods

Taxon occurrences and species-level information

Database (PBDB). The initial download restricted occurrences to Mammalia observed in North

America between the Maastrichtian (72-66 Mya) and Gelasian (2.58-1.8 Mya) stages (Cohen et al.,

2015). Taxonomic, stratigraphic, and ecological metadata for each occurrence and species was also

downloaded. A new download for a raw, unfiltered PBDB datafile following the same criterion used

All fossil occurrence information used in this analysis was downloaded from the Paleobiology

- here is available at http://goo.gl/2slgeU. The raw datafile used as a part of this study, along
 with all code for filtering and manipulating this download is available at
 - http://github.com/psmits/coping.
- After being downloaded, the raw occurrence data was then sorted, cleaned, and manipulated programmatically before analysis. Occurrences were restricted to those occurring between 64 and 2 million years ago (Mya); this age restriction was to insure that observation time series lines up with the temperature time series (Cramer et al., 2011). All taxa whose life habit was classified as either volant (i.e. Chiroptera) or aquatic (e.g. Cetacea) were excluded from this analysis because of their lack of direct applicability to the study of terrestrial species pools.
- Many species taxonomic assignments as present in the raw PBDB data were updated for accuracy and consistency. Species present in the PBDB have some taxonomic information, including possible
- Family and Order assignments. In order to increase consistency between species and reflect more recent taxonomic assignments, each species taxonomic assignments updated as follows: 1) species
- family and order assignemnts as present in the Encyclopedia of life (http://eol.org) was

downloaded using the *taxize* package for R; 2) for species not present in the EoL or not assigned order, their taxonomic inforation was further updated based on whatever family information was recorded in the PBDB or EoL; 3) for species still missing order assignemnts, their genus information was used to assign either an order or family, which was then used to assign an order. This procedure is similar to that used in Smits (2015) and is detailed in the code repository associated with this study.

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Species ecotype is defined based on a combination of locomotor and diet categories; the goal is to classify species based on the manner with which they interact with their environment. Mammal species records in the PBDB have life habit (i.e. locomotor category) and dietary category assignments. In order to simplify interpretation, analysis, and per-ecotype sample size these classifications were coarsened in a similar manner to Smits (2015) (Table 1). The life history category was then further edited to better reflect the diversity of mammal locomotor modes and our knowledge of species' ecologies. Ground dwelling species locomotor categories were reassigned based on the ankle posture associated with their taxonomic group, as described in Table 2 (Carrano, 1999). Ankle posture was assumed uniform for all species within a taxonomic group except for those species assigned a non-ground dwelling locomotor category by the PBDB, which 298 retained their non-ground dwelling assignment. All species for which it was possible to assign a locomotor category had one assigned, including species for which post-crania are unknown but for which a taxonomic grouping is known. Ground dwelling species which were unable to be reassigned based on ankle posture were excluded from analysis. Finally, ecotype categories with less than 10 total species were excluded, yielding a total of 18 observed ecotypes out of a possible 24.

Table 1: Species trait assignments in this study are a coarser version of the information available in the PBDB. Information was coarsened to improve per category sample size.

This study		PBDB categories			
	Carnivore	Carnivore			
Diet	Herbivore	Browser, folivore, granivore, grazer, herbivore.			
Diet	Insectivore	Insectivore.			
	Omnivore	Frugivore, omnivore.			
	Arboreal	Arboreal.			
Locomotor	Ground dwelling	Fossorial, ground dwelling, semifossorial, saltatorial.			
	Scansorial	Scansorial.			

Table 2: Ankle posture assignment as based on taxonomy. Assignments are based on (Carrano, 1999). Taxonomic groups are presented alphabetically and without reference for their relatedness.

Family	Stance
Ailuridae	plantigrade
Allomyidae	plantigrade
Amphicyonidae	plantigrade
Amphilemuridae	plantigrade
${\bf Anthracotheriidae}$	digitigrade
Antilocapridae	unguligrade
Apheliscidae	plantigrade
Aplodontidae	plantigrade
Apternodontidae	scansorial
Arctocyonidae	unguligrade
Barbourofelidae	digitigrade
Barylambdidae	plantigrade
Bovidae	unguligrade
Camelidae	unguligrade
Canidae	digitigrade
Cervidae	unguligrade
Cimolodontidae	scansorial
Coryphodontidae	plantigrade
Cricetidae	plantigrade
Cylindrodontidae	plantigrade
Cyriacotheriidae	plantigrade
Dichobunidae	unguligrade
Dinocerata	unguligrade
Dipodidae	digitigrade
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Table 2 – continued from previous page

Family	Stance
Elephantidae	digitigrade
Entelodontidae	unguligrade
Eomyidae	plantigrade
Erethizontidae	plantigrade
Erinaceidae	plantigrade
Esthonychidae	plantigrade
Eutypomyidae	plantigrade
Felidae	digitigrade
Florentiamyidae	plantigrade
Gelocidae	unguligrade
Geolabididae	plantigrade
Glyptodontidae	plantigrade
Gomphotheriidae	unguligrade
Hapalodectidae	plantigrade
Heteromyidae	digitigrade
Hyaenidae	digitigrade
Hyaenodontidae	digitigrade
Hypertragulidae	unguligrade
Ischyromyidae	plantigrade
Jimomyidae	plantigrade
Lagomorpha	digitigrade
Leptictidae	plantigrade
Leptochoeridae	unguligrade
Leptomerycidae	unguligrade
Mammutidae	unguligrade
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Table 2 – continued from previous page

Family	Stance
Megalonychidae	plantigrade
Megatheriidae	plantigrade
Mephitidae	plantigrade
Merycoidodontidae	digitigrade
Mesonychia	unguligrade
Mesonychidae	digitigrade
Micropternodontidae	plantigrade
Mixodectidae	plantigrade
Moschidae	unguligrade
Muridae	plantigrade
Mustelidae	plantigrade
Mylagaulidae	fossorial
Mylodontidae	plantigrade
Nimravidae	digitigrade
Nothrotheriidae	plantigrade
Notoungulata	unguligrade
Oromerycidae	unguligrade
Oxyaenidae	digitigrade
Palaeomerycidae	unguligrade
Palaeoryctidae	plantigrade
Pampatheriidae	plantigrade
Pantolambdidae	plantigrade
Periptychidae	digitigrade
Perissodactyla	unguligrade
Phenacodontidae	unguligrade
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Table 2 – continued from previous page

Family	Stance
Primates	plantigrade
Procyonidae	plantigrade
Proscalopidae	plantigrade
Protoceratidae	unguligrade
Reithroparamyidae	plantigrade
Sciuravidae	plantigrade
Sciuridae	plantigrade
Simimyidae	plantigrade
Soricidae	plantigrade
Suidae	digitigrade
Talpidae	fossorial
Tayassuidae	unguligrade
Tenrecidae	plantigrade
Titanoideidae	plantigrade
Ursidae	plantigrade
Viverravidae	plantigrade
Zapodidae	plantigrade

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Estimates of species mass used in this study were sourced from multiple databases and papers, especially those focusing on similar macroevolutionary or macrecological questions (Brook and Bowman, 2004; Freudenthal and Martín-Suárez, 2013; McKenna, 2011; Raia et al., 2012; Smith et al., 2004; Tomiya, 2013); this is similar to what was done in Smits (2015). When species mass was not available, proxy measures were used and then transformed into estimates of mass. For example, given a measurement of a mammal tooth size, it is possible and routine to estimate its mass given some regression equation. The PBDB has one or more body part measures for many species. These

- were used as body size proxies for many species, as was the case in Smits (2015). Mass was log-transformed and then rescaled by first subtracting mean log-mass from all mass estimates, then dividing by two-times its standard deviation; this insures that the magnitude of effects for both continuous and discrete covariates are directly comparable (Gelman, 2008; Gelman and Hill, 2007).
- In total, 1400 mammal species occurrence histories were included in this study after applying all of the restrictions above.

Table 3: Regression equations used in this study for estimating body size. Equations are presented with reference to taxonomic grouping, part name, and reference.

Group	Equation	log(Measurement)	Source
General	$\log(m) = 1.827x + 1.81$	lower m1 area	Legendre (1986)
General	$\log(m) = 2.9677x - 5.6712$	mandible length	Foster (2009)
General	$\log(m) = 3.68x - 3.83$	skull length	Luo et al. (2001)
Carnivores	$\log(m) = 2.97x + 1.681$	lower m1 length	Van Valkenburgh (1990)
Insectivores	$\log(m) = 1.628x + 1.726$	lower m1 area	Bloch et al. (1998)
Insectivores	$\log(m) = 1.714x + 0.886$	upper M1 area	Bloch et al. (1998)
Lagomorph	$\log(m) = 2.671x - 2.671$	lower toothrow area	Tomiya (2013)
Lagomorph	$\log(m) = 4.468x - 3.002$	lower m1 length	Tomiya (2013)
Marsupials	$\log(m) = 3.284x + 1.83$	upper M1 length	Gordon (2003)
Marsupials	$\log(m) = 1.733x + 1.571$	upper M1 area	Gordon (2003)
Rodentia	$\log(m) = 1.767x + 2.172$	lower m1 area	Legendre (1986)
Ungulates	$\log(m) = 1.516x + 3.757$	lower m1 area	Mendoza et al. (2006)
Ungulates	$\log(m) = 3.076x + 2.366$	lower m2 length	Mendoza et al. (2006)
Ungulates	$\log(m) = 1.518x + 2.792$	lower m2 area	Mendoza et al. (2006)
Ungulates	$\log(m) = 3.113x - 1.374$	lower toothrow length	Mendoza et al. (2006)

- All fossil occurrences from 64 to 2 million years ago (Mya) were binned into the 19 North American Land Mammal Ages (NALMA) covered by this interval CITATION. The choice of binning by

 NALMA reflects the belief that these represent distinct communities or periods of mammal evolution, something that is central to this study. Additionally, because of the inherently discrete nature of the fossil record it can be hard to re-bin fossils by temporal interval because of the
- inherent uncertainty in their ages CITATION.

Table 4: Definitions of the start and stop times of the three plant phases used this study as defined by Graham (2011).

Plant phase	Phase code	Start	Stop
Paleocene-Eocene	Pa-Eo	66	50
Eocene-Miocene	Eo-Mi	50	16
Miocene-Pleistocene	Mi-Pl	16	2

Environmental and temporal covariates

The environmental covariates used in this study are collectively referred to as group-level covariates

because they predict the response of a "group" of individual-level observations (i.e. species

occurrences of an ecotype). Additionally, these covariates are defined for temporal bins and not the

species themselves; as such they predict the parts of each species occurrence history. The

group-level covariates in this study are two global temperature estimates and the Cenozoic "plant

phases" defined by Graham (2011).

Global temperature across most of the Cenozoic was calculated from Mg/Ca isotope record from
deep sea carbonates (Cramer et al., 2011). Mg/Ca based temperature estimates are preferable to
the frequently used δ¹⁸O temperature proxy (Alroy et al., 2000; Figueirido et al., 2012; Zachos
et al., 2008, 2001) because Mg/Ca estimates do not conflate temperature with ice sheet volume and
depth/stratification changes. The former is particularly important to this analysis as the current
polar ice-caps appeared and grew during the second half of the Cenozoic. These properties make
Mg/Ca based temperature estimates preferable for macroevolutionary and macroecological studies
(Ezard et al., 2016). Two aspects of the Mg/Ca-based temperature curve were included in this
analysis: mean and range. Both were calculated as the mean of all respective estimates for each of
the NALMA units. The distributions of the temperature mean and range estimates were then
rescaled by subtracting their respective means from all values and then dividing by twice their
respective standard deviations.

The second set of environmental factors included in this study are the Cenozoic plant phases defined in Graham (2011). Graham's plant phases are holistic descriptors of the taxonomic composition of 12 ecosystem types, which plants are present at a given time, and the relative

	State at $t+1$			
		0_{never}	1	$0_{extinct}$
	0_{never}	$1-\pi$	π	0
State at t	1	0	ϕ	$1-\phi$
	$0_{extinct}$	0	0	1

Table 5: Transition matrix for the birth-death model (Eq. 1). Note that while there are only two state "codes" (0, 1), there are in fact three states: never having originated 0_{never} , present 1, extinct $0_{extinct}$ (Allen, 2011).

modernity of those plant groups with younger phases representing increasingly modern taxa (Graham, 2011). Graham (2011) defines four intervals from the Cretaceous to the Pliocene, though only three of these intervals take place during the time frame being analyzed. Graham's plant phases was included as a series of "dummy variables" encoding the three phases included in this analysis (Gelman and Hill, 2007); this means that the first phase is synonymous with the intercept and subsequent phases are defined by their differences from the first phase. The temporal boundaries of these plant phases are defined in Table 4.

Modelling species occurrence

At the core of the model used in this study is hidden Markov process where the latent process has an absorbing state; this can also be refered to as a discrete-time birth-death model (Allen, 2011).

While there are only two state "codes" in a presence-absence matrix (i.e. 0/1), there are in fact three states in a birth-death model: not having originated yet, extant, and extinct. The last of these is the absorbing state, as once a species has gone extinct it cannot re-originate (Allen, 2011). Thus, in the transition matrices the probability of an extinct species changing states is 0 (Table 5). See below for parameter explanations (Tables 6, 7, and 8).

Basic model

I will begin defining the model used in this study by focusing on the basic machinery of the hidden Markov process at the model's core. This basic model is similar to the Jolly-Seber capture-mark-recapture model CITATION. The basic model has three characteristic probabilities:

Table 6: Parameters associated with the observation process part of the hidden Markov model.

Parameter	dimensions	explanation
\overline{y}	$N \times T$	observed species presence/absence
z	$N \times T$	"true" species presence/absence
p	$N \times T$	probability of observing a species at time t if it is present
ϕ	$N \times T$	probability of species originating from time t to $t+1$ if it is not present
π	$N \times T - 1$	probability of species surviving at time t , given that it is already originated

probability p of observing a species given that it is present, probability π of a species surviving

from one time to another, and probability ϕ of a species first appearing (Royle and Dorazio, 2008)

(Table 6). In this formulation, the probability of a species becoming extinct is $1 - \pi$. The inclusion

of species and temporal information means that all three of these probabilities are defined for every species at every time point (Table 6; how this is accomplished is described below. Importantly, only

origination can occur during the first time step as nothing is present in order to survive.

$$y_{i,t} \sim \text{Bernoulli}(p_{i,t}z_{i,t})$$

$$z_{i,1} \sim \text{Bernoulli}(\phi_{i,1})$$

$$z_{i,t} \sim \text{Bernoulli}\left(z_{i,t-1}\pi_{i,t} + \sum_{x=1}^{t} (1 - z_{i,x})\phi_{i,t}\right)$$

$$(1)$$

The parameters associated with Equation 1 are described in Table 6; this formulation is identical to that described in where individual covariates are included for all parameters (Royle and Dorazio, 2008). The product term that appears when calculating values of z not at t = 1 ensures that once a species goes extinct it does not re-originate. The basic model described here (Eq. 1) does not include the additional, necessary prior information.

Expanding on the basics

Expanding on the basic model involves modeling the observation, origination and survival as independent multi-level logistic regressions. Origination and survival probabilities share the same covariates and model structure, but observation probability is modeled as a function of a smaller selection of covariates.

The probability of observing a species given that it is present (logit p) is modeled as a logistic regression with a time-varying intercept with an additional zero-centered varying effect for species' functional group, respectively. The effect of species mass was also included through a slope term.

- The log-odds of a species originating (logit pi) or surviving (logit ϕ) are modeled independently but take the same form: a regression with an intercept that varies by both time and functional group,
 an additional taxonomic order varying-intercept term, and the slope term for species mass.
- Importantly, the time and functional group varying-intercept is itself modeled such that each the intercept for each functional group is a time series with it's own group-level covariates (described below).
- The expanded model incorporating these regression models is written as

$$y_{i,t} \sim \text{Bernoulli}(p_{i,t}z_{i,t})$$

$$p_{i,t} = \text{logit}^{-1}(u_t + f_{j[i]})$$

$$z_{i,1} \sim \text{Bernoulli}(\phi_{i,1})$$

$$z_{i,t} \sim \text{Bernoulli}\left(z_{i,t-1}\pi_{i,t} + \sum_{x=1}^{t} (1 - z_{i,x})\phi_{i,t}\right)$$

$$\phi_{i,t} = \text{logit}^{-1}(f_{j[i],t}^{\phi} + o_{k[i]}^{\phi} + \beta^{\phi}m_{i}).$$

$$\pi_{i,t} = \text{logit}^{-1}(f_{j[i],t}^{\pi} + o_{k[i]}^{\pi} + \beta^{\pi}m_{i})$$
(2)

How the priors for the varying-effects and coefficients in this expanded model are described below along with the complete model.

Complete model

- The expanded model (Eq. 2) is still incomplete as it is missing the group-level covariates such as global temperature, and it is missing all of the necessary priors.
- Here I describe how the effects of mammal functional group on origination and survival are modeled. f^{ϕ} and f^{π} are modeled as the responses from a multivariate normal distribution, the

Table 7: Parameters for the first expansions

Parameter	dimensions	explanation
\overline{u}	T	time-varying intercept
f	J	effect of functional group on observation
f^{ϕ}	$J \times T - 1$	intercept of log-odds ϕ , varies by time and functional group
f^{π}	$J \times T$	intercept of log-odds π , varies by time and functional group
o^{ϕ}	K	effect of species' order on log-odds of ϕ
o^{π}	K	effect of species' order on log-odds of π
$eta^{oldsymbol{\phi}}$	1	effect of species' mass on log-odds of ϕ
eta^{π}	1	effect of species' mass on log-odds of π

means of which are modeled as independent regressions. The time-series structure of these regressions is represented as a random-walk prior for the time-varying intercept of these group-level regression. The effects of group-level covariates are included for each functional group as a vector regression coefficients. The expansion to include this group-level regression is decribed in Equation

3. The parameters for these group-level regressions are described in Table 8.

$$f^{\phi} \sim \text{MVN}(\mu^{\phi}, \Sigma^{\phi})$$

$$f^{\pi} \sim \text{MVN}(\mu^{\pi}, \Sigma^{\pi})$$

$$\mu^{\phi}_{j,t} = \alpha^{\phi}_{j,t} + U * \gamma^{\phi}_{j}$$

$$\mu^{\pi}_{j,t} = \alpha^{\pi}_{j,t} + U * \gamma^{\pi}_{j}$$

$$\alpha^{\phi}_{j,t} \sim \begin{cases} \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^{\phi}_{j}) & \text{if } t = 1\\ \mathcal{N}(\alpha^{\phi}_{j,t-1}, \sigma^{\phi}_{j}) & \text{if } t > 1 \end{cases}$$

$$\alpha^{\pi}_{j,t} \sim \begin{cases} \mathcal{N}(0, 1) & \text{if } t = 1\\ \mathcal{N}(\alpha^{\pi}_{j,t-1}, \sigma^{\pi}_{j}) & \text{if } t > 1 \end{cases}$$

In hierarchical models like the one developed here (Eq. 2, 3) there is very little difference between the likelihood and prior as data can enter the model through many different parameters CITATION. For example, in Equation 2 the model of z can be considered a prior and the parameterizations in Equation 3 are priors on many of the parameters which predict ϕ and π . The remaining priors,

Table 8: Parameters for the group-level regressions.

dimensions	explanation
$J \times T$	group-level time-series of the mean log-odds of ϕ for each functional group
$J \times T$	group-level time-series of the mean log-odds of π for each functional group
$J \times J$	covariance matrix of group-level time-series of the mean log-odds of ϕ for each function
$J \times J$	covariance matrix of group-level time-series of the mean log-odds of ϕ for each function
$J \times T$	time-varying intercept of μ^{ϕ}
$J \times T$	time-varying intercept of μ^{π}
J	scale of random-walk prior for α^{ϕ}
J	scale of random-walk prior for α^{π}
D	group-level regression coefficients for μ^{ϕ}
D	group-level regression coefficients for μ^{π}
$U \times J$	group-level covariates
	$J \times T$ $J \times T$ $J \times J$ $J \times J$ $J \times T$ $J \times T$ J D D

however, are not based on parameter expansion but are prior estimates for the remaining unmodeled parameters. These prior choices are expressed in Equation 4 and are explained below.

For the regression coefficients, such as β^{ϕ} and γ^{ϕ} , these priors are weakly informative and concentrate most of their probability density between -2 and 2. Similarly, for the scale parameters, such as τ^{ϕ} and σ^{ϕ} , are given weakly informative priors which concentrate of their probability density between 0 and -2. The covariance matrices such as Σ^{ϕ} decomposed into a vector of scale terms (e.g. τ^{ϕ}) and correlation matrices (e.g. Ω^{ϕ} which were then given weakly informative priors.

CITATION.

$$\beta^{\phi} \sim \mathcal{N}(0,1)$$

$$\beta^{\pi} \sim \mathcal{N}(0,1)$$

$$\Sigma^{\phi} = \operatorname{diag}(\tau^{\phi})\Omega^{\phi}\operatorname{diag}(\tau^{\phi})$$

$$\Sigma^{\pi} = \operatorname{diag}(\tau^{\pi})\Omega^{\pi}\operatorname{diag}(\tau^{\pi})$$

$$\tau^{\phi} \sim \mathcal{N}^{+}(1)$$

$$\tau^{\pi} \sim \mathcal{N}^{+}(1)$$

$$\Omega^{\phi} \sim \operatorname{LKJ}(2)$$

$$\Omega^{\pi} \sim \operatorname{LKJ}(2)$$

$$\sigma^{\phi} \sim \mathcal{N}^{+}(1)$$

$$\sigma^{\pi} \sim \mathcal{N}^{+}(1)$$

$$\tau^{\phi} \sim \mathcal{N}^{+}(1)$$

$$\tau^{\phi} \sim \mathcal{N}^{+}(1)$$

$$\tau^{\phi} \sim \mathcal{N}^{+}(1)$$

$$\tau^{\phi} \sim \mathcal{N}^{+}(1)$$

The total model is the sampling statement is expressed as the combination of equations 2, 3, and 4.

These statements form a complete generative model from which posterior inference of parameter

values is possible.

Posterior inference and model adequacy

- A computer program that implements joint posterior inference the model described above (Eqs. 2, 3, and 4) was written in the probabilistic programming language Stan (Stan Development Team,
- ⁴²² 2016). All methods for posterior inference implemented in Stan are derivative-based; this causes complications for actually implementing the above models, because integers do not have derivatives.
- In order to infer the values of the matrix of latent discrete parameters z (Tables 6) the log posterior probabilities of all possible states of the unknown values of z were calculated and summed (i.e.
- marginalized) (Stan Development Team, 2016).

Species durations at minimum range through from a species first appearance to their last
appearance in the fossil record, but the incompleteness of all observations means that the actual
times of origination and extinction are unknown. The marginalization approach used here means
that the probabilities of all possible histories for a species are calculated, from the end members of
the species having existed for the entire study interval and the species having only existed between
the directly observed first and last appearances to all possible intermediaries (Fig 2) (Stan
Development Team, 2016). This process is identical, language-wise, to assuming range-through and
then estimating the possibility of all possible range extension due to incomplete sampling.

	Time Bin							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Observed	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0
Certain								
Potential		0		1		1	1	0
Potential	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	0
Potential	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	0
Potential	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0
Potential	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1
Potential	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1
Potential	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Potential	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

Figure 2: Conceptual figure of all possible occurrence histories for an observed species. The first row represents the observed presence/absence pattern for a single species at eight time points. The second row corresponds to the known aspects of the "true" occurrence history of that species. The remaining rows correspond to all possible occurrence histories that are consistent with the observed data. By marginalizing over all possible occurrence histories, the probability of each potential history is estimated. The process of parameter marginalization is described in the text.

The combined size of the dataset and large number of parameters (Eqs. 2, 3, and 4), specifically the total number of latent parameters that are the matrix z, means that stochastic approximate posterior inference is computationally slow even using NUTS based HMC as implemented in Stan (Stan Development Team, 2016). Instead, an approximate Bayesian approach was used: variational

inference. A recently developed automatic variational inference algorithm called "automatic differention variational inference" (ADVI) is implemented in Stan and was used here (Kucukelbir et al., 2015; Stan Development Team, 2016). ADVI assumes that the posterior is Gaussian but still yields a true Bayesian posterior; this assumption is similar to quadratic approximation of the likelihood function commonly used in maximum likelihood based inference (McElreath, 2016). The principal limitation of assuming the joint posterior is Gaussian is that the true topology of the log-posterior isn't estimated; this is a particular burden for scale parameters which are bounded to be positive (e.g. standard deviation).

Of additional concern for posterior inference is the partial identifiability of observation parameters $p_{t=1}$ and $p_{t=T}$ (Royle and Dorazio, 2008). This issue means that the estimates of sampling probabilities at the "edges" of the time series cannot fully be estimated because there are no known "gaps" in species occurrence histories that are guaranteed to be filled. Instead, the values of the first and final columns of the "true" presence-absence matrix z for thos observations that do not already have presences in the observed presence-absence matrix y cannot be estimated (Royle and Dorazio, 2008). The hierarchical modeling approach used here helps mitigate this problem by pulling the values of $p_{t=1}$ and $p_{t=T}$ towards the overall mean of p (Gelman et al., 2013), and in fact this approach might be more analytically sound than the more ad-hoc approaches that are occasionally used to overcome this hurdle (Royle and Dorazio, 2008). Additionally, because $p_{t=1}$ and $p_{t=T}$ are 456 only partially identifiable, estimates of occurrence θ and origination ϕ at t=1 and estimates of θ , ϕ and survival π at t=T may suffer from similar edge effects. Again, the hierarchical modeling approach used here may help correct for this reality by drawing these estimates towards the overall means of those parameters. 460

After obtaining approximate posterior inference using ADVI, model adequacy and quality of fit were assessed using a posterior predictive check (Gelman et al., 2013). By simulating 100 theoretical data sets from the posterior estimates of the model parameters and the observed covariate information the congruence between predictions made by the model and the observed empirical data can be assessed. These datasets are simulated by starting with the observed states of the presence-absence matrix at t = 1; from there, the time series roll forward as stochastic processes

with covariate information given from the empirical observations. Importantly, this is fundamentally different from observing the posterior estimates of the "true" presence-absence matrix z. The posterior predictive check used in this study is to compare the observed average number of observations per species to a distribution of simulated averages; if the empirically observed value sits in the middle of the distribution then the model can be considered adequate in reproducing the observed number of occurrences per species.

The ADVI assumption of a purely Gaussian posterior limits the utility and accuracy of the

posterior predictive checks because parameter estimates do not reflect the true posterior
distribution and are instead just an approximation (Gelman et al., 2013). Because of this, posterior

predictive estimates are themselves only approximate checks of model adequacy. The posterior
predictive check that is used in this study focuses on mean occurrence and not to any scale

parameters that might be most affected by the ADVI assumptions.

Given parameter estimates, diversity and diversification rates are estimated through posterior

predictive simulations. Given the observed presence-absence matrix y, estimates of the true

presence-absence matrix z can be simulated and the distribution of possible occurrence histories

can be analyzed. This is conceptually similar to marginalization where the probability of each

possible occurrence history is estimated (Fig. 2), but now these occurrence histories are generated

relative to their estimated probabilities.

The posterior distribution of z gives the estimate of standing diversity N_t^{stand} for all time points as

$$N_t^{stand} = \sum_{i=1}^{M} z_{i,t}.$$
 (5)

Given estimates of N^{stand} for all time points, the estimated number of originations O_t is estimated as

$$O_t = \sum_{i=1}^{M} z_{i,t} = 1 | z_{i,t-1} = 0$$
(6)

and number of extinctions E_t estimated as

$$E_t = \sum_{i=1}^{M} z_{i,t} = 0 | z_{i,t-1} = 1.$$
 (7)

Per-capita growth D^{rate} , origination O^{rate} and extinction E^{rate} rates are then calculated as

$$O_t^{rate} = \frac{O_t}{N_{t-1}^{stand}}$$

$$E_t^{rate} = \frac{E_t}{N_{t-1}^{stand}}$$

$$D_t^{rate} = O_t^{rate} - E_t^{rate}.$$
(8)

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