# Evolutionary paleoecology and the biology of extinction

Peter D Smits

Committee on Evolutionary Biology, University of Chicago

January 7, 2014

#### Introduction and theory

Brachiopods, environmental preference, and extinction

Ecology and survival in Cenozoic mammals

Community connectedness in Cenozoic mammals

#### Introduction and theory

Brachiopods, environmental preference, and extinction

Ecology and survival in Cenozoic mammals

Community connectedness in Cenozoic mammals

### Framework

### Questions

- Why do certain taxa go extinct while others do not?
- ▶ How is emergence "formed?" When should it be invoked?
- Is extinction risk taxon-age independent?
- When should we expect global, regional, or local processes to dominate?

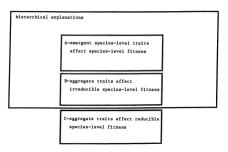
### Evolutionary paleoecology

... the consequences of distinct ecological factors on differential rate dynamics, particularly rates of faunal turnover and diversification.

(Kitchell 1985 Paleobiology)

environmental interactions  $\rightarrow$  macroevolution

### **Emergent properties**



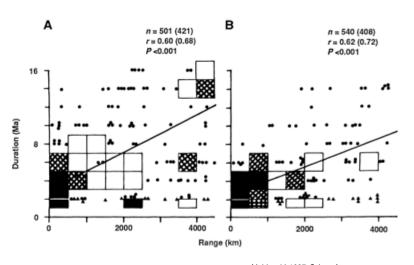
(Grantham 1995 Ann. Rev. Ecol. Syst.)

### Species level

Trait that cannot be reduced to organismal level

Product of one or more traits/factors

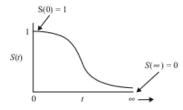
# Range size



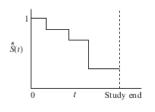
(Jablonski 1987 Science)

# Probability of survival

#### Theoretical S(t):



### $\hat{S}(t)$ in practice:



(Kleinbaum and Klein 2012)

### Survival function

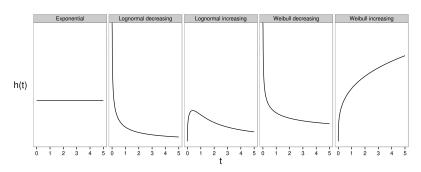
$$S(t) = P(T > t)$$

- ightharpoonup T: survival time ( $\geq 0$ )
- t: specified time

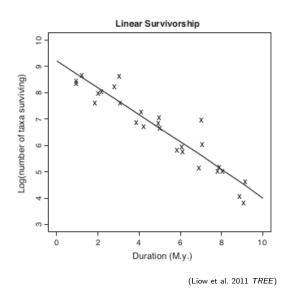
# Instantaneous potential of failure (extinction)

Hazard function  $\equiv$  conditional failure rate

$$h(t) = \lim_{\Delta t \to 0} \frac{P(t \le T < t + \Delta t | T \ge t)}{\Delta t}$$



### Van Valen's observation of survival



### Law of Constant Extinction

#### Definition

Extinction risk in a given adaptive zone is taxon-age independent.

(Van Valen 1973 Evol. Theory)

translation: hazard is constant with respect to time (exponential survival)

$$h(t) = \lambda \iff S(t) = \exp^{-\lambda t}$$



# Brachiopods and mammals: a comparison

### brachiopods

- ► Permian (~ 47 My)
- marine
- Australasia
- global warming
- sessile

#### mammals

- ► Cenozoic (~ 65 My)
- terrestrial
- North America, Europe,
   South America
- global cooling
- motile

### Series of related questions

- generic level survival in brachiopods
  - ecological traits re. environmental pref. (emergence)
  - survival distribution
- specific level survival in mammals
  - ecological traits re. range size (emergence)
  - generic versus specific survival
  - anagenesis/species:genus simulation
  - survival distribution
- community connectedness in mammals
  - global versus regional versus local scale processes
  - ecological traits (trophic/locomotion)

### Introduction and theory

### Brachiopods, environmental preference, and extinction

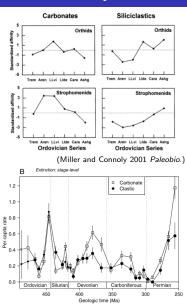
Ecology and survival in Cenozoic mammals

Community connectedness in Cenozoic mammals

# Traits relating to environment and range size

- substrate affinity
  - physical, chemical
  - availability
- habitat preference
  - energetics
  - availability
- affixing strategy
  - energetics
  - optimality

### Substrate affinity



(Foote 2006 Paleobio.)

- carbonates, clastics, mixed
- lithology/deposition environment
- Pharenozoic decrease in carbonates:clastics

# Habitat preference

- on-shore, off-shore, none
- sea-level and energetics
- ► Pharenozoic decrease in on-shore:off-shore

# Affixing strategy

- pedunculate, reclining, cementing
- pedunculate:on-shore, reclining:off-shore
- environmental energetics

# Assigning substrate and habitat

### Probability of assignment

$$P(H_1|E) = \frac{P(E|H_1)P(H_1)}{P(E|H_1)P(H_1) + P(E|H_2)P(H_2)}$$

$$P(E|H) = \binom{n}{k} p^k (1-p)^{n-k}$$

- ▶ n: total # of occ
- ▶ k: # (e.g.) carbonate occ

(Simpson and Harnik 2009 Paleobiology)

# Models

# Preliminary results: model comparison

# Preliminary results: best substrate

# Preliminary results: best habitat

### Introduction and theory

Brachiopods, environmental preference, and extinction

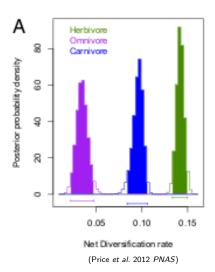
### Ecology and survival in Cenozoic mammals

Community connectedness in Cenozoic mammals

# Ecological traits

- dietary category
  - energetics
  - availability
- locomotor category
  - availability
  - dispersal
- body size
  - energetics
  - ▶ home range size

### Predictions: dietary category

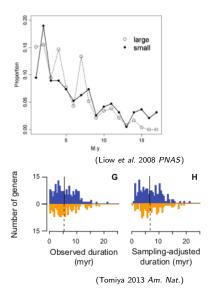


- trophic hierarchy (stability → duration)
  - herb: most stable, longest duration
  - carni: least stable, shortest duration
  - omni: avg. stability, avg. duration
- † diversification
  - ightharpoonup  $\uparrow$  origination;  $\simeq$  extinction
  - ightharpoonup  $\simeq$  origination;  $\downarrow$  extinction

# Predictions: locomotor category

- ightharpoonup Paleogene ightarrow Neogene
  - ▶ open → closed environment

### Predictions: body size



- ↑ body size, ↑ energy req, ↑ range size, ↓ extinction
- Europe
- North America
  - ▶ generic body size:≃ extinction

# Methodology

# Biases to survival: a simulation study

- ▶ bias away from  $h(t) = \lambda$ 
  - species:genus
  - anagenesis/cryptic speciation
- time-homogeneous birth-death model
  - common phylogenetic model
  - constant p, b
  - expected  $S(t) = \exp^{-\lambda t}$
  - vary (cryptic) anagenesis

### Introduction and theory

Brachiopods, environmental preference, and extinction

Ecology and survival in Cenozoic mammals

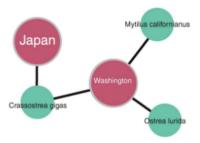
Community connectedness in Cenozoic mammals

# Community connectedness

### Definition

The degree to which localities are composed of endemic versus cosmopolitan taxa, and how similar this ratio is across localities.

# Biogeographic networks



(Vilhena et al. 2013 Sci. Reports)

- taxa: species
- locality: 2x2 equal—area map projection grid
- 2 My intervals
- PBDB, NOW, museum collections, compilations

# Average relative number of endemics

$$E = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{L} \frac{u_i}{n_i}}{L}$$

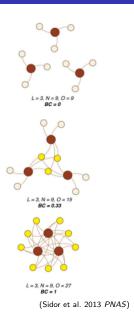
- L: number of localities
- u: number of taxa unique to a locality
- n: number of taxa at a locality
- ▶ 0 ≤ *E* ≤ 1

# Average relative occupancy per taxon

$$Occ = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{N} \frac{l_i}{L}}{N}$$

- N: total number of taxa
- I: number of localities a taxon occurs at
- L: number of localities
- 0 ≤ Occ ≤ 1

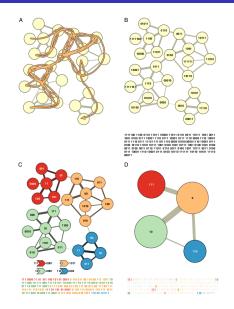
### Biogeographic connectedness



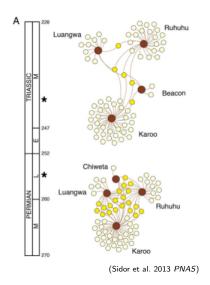
$$BC = \frac{O - N}{LN - N}$$

- O: number of occurrences
- N: total number of taxa
- L: number of localities
- ▶  $0 \le BC \le 1$

## Code length



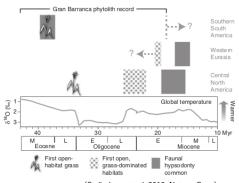
### Global versus regional versus local scale processes



global

- corr w/ global climate
- multiple regions corr
- regional
  - ↓ E, ↑ Occ,
     ↑ BC, ↑ code
- local
  - ↑ E, ↓ Occ, ↓ BC, ↓ code
- not mutually exclusive

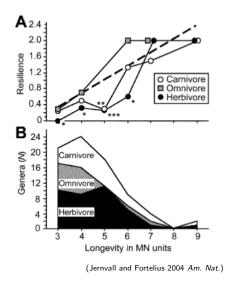
#### Expectations: locomotor category



(Strömberg et al. 2013 Nature Com.)

- arboreal
  - ▶  $\uparrow E$ ,  $\uparrow$  code
  - **▶** ↓ *BC*, ↓ *Occ*
- ► ground dwelling
  - ▶  $\downarrow E$ ,  $\downarrow$  code
  - ↑ BC, ↑ Occ
- scansorial
  - ▶ constant ∨ random

#### Expectations: dietary category



herbivore

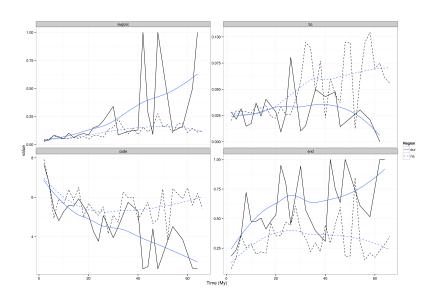
- most like all taxa
- carnivore
  - ▶ constant ∨ corr w/ herbivores
- omnivore
  - ▶ constant ∨ random

## Community connectedness of North America

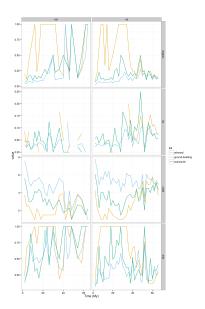
## Community connectedness of Europe

## Community connectedness of South America

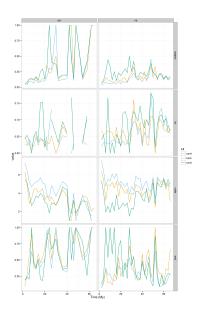
# Preliminary results: NA, Eur



# Preliminary results: locomotor category



## Preliminary results: dietary category



#### Questions

#### Questions

- Why do certain taxa go extinct while others do not?
- ▶ How is emergence "formed?" When should it be invoked?
- Is extinction risk taxon-age independent?
- When should we expect global, regional, or local processes to dominate?

## Summary of proposed research

#### **Studies**

- Permian brachiopod trait based survival
- Cenozoic mammal trait based survival
- Cenozoic mammal community connectedness

## Acknowledgements

#### Committee

- Kenneth D. Angielczyk (co-advisor)
- Michael J. Foote (co-advisor)
- P. David Polly
- Richard H. Ree

#### Discussion

- David Bapst, Megan Boatright, Ben Frable, Colin Kyle, Darcy Ross, Liz Sander
- John Alroy, Graeme Lloyd, Carl Simpson, Graham Slater

