Phylogenetic least squares estimation without genetic distances

Extended Vignette

2024-06-12

Preliminaries

First, two packages need to be installed:

- robustDist
- phyloLSnoDist

Installation of robustDist can be accomplished with the following:

You may also need to include the option INSTALL_opts = c('--no-lock').

Then, the easiest way to install phyloLSnoDist will be to use install_github from the devtools package:

```
install.packages("devtools") # if not already installed
library(devtools)
install_github("vnminin/phyloLSnoDist")
```

Phylogenetic Inference: Simple Example

Let us generate some data on which to perform phylogenetic inference. We now load the phyloLSnoDist package, which should also load its dependencies:

```
library(phyloLSnoDist)
```

4-taxon tree

We generate a 4-taxon tree which we will use for demonstration:

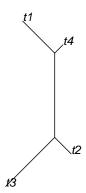
```
set.seed(100)
my_tree <- rtree(4)
plot(my_tree, type='u')</pre>
```



With this tree, let us generate some DNA nucleotide sequence data, and convert it to phyDat format for usage by the phylo.ls.nodist function:

```
my_DNA <- simSeq(my_tree, 2000)
my_DNA_pD <- as.phyDat(my_DNA)</pre>
```

Then, we run our phylo.ls.nodist function to run phylogenetic inference with our new loss function. Since there are only three unrooted topologies, we do an exhaustive search by setting search.all = TRUE:

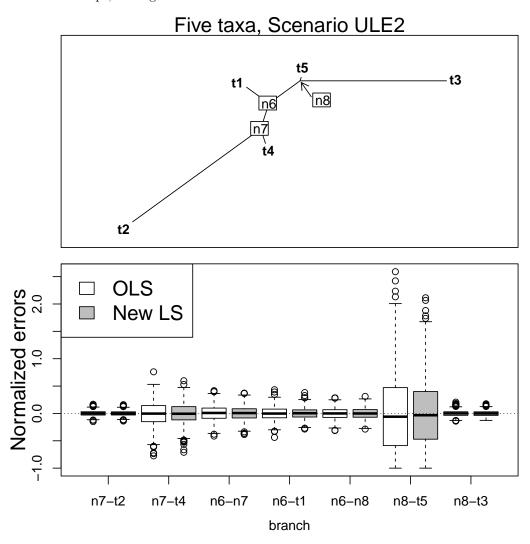


Manuscript Analysis Replication

We will now demonstrate some of the analyses from our manuscript (Chi and Minin 2024).

Figure 2: Branch Length estimation on a fixed 5-taxon tree

In the manuscript, this figure is shown:



The full code to run the simulations to create this figure are in the file called Fig_errors_5taxa.R in the analysis directory of our github repository (https://github.com/vnminin/phyloLSnoDist). We walk through an abbreviated version below.

Setup

First, we load the appropriate 5-taxon tree file, contained in the tree_files subdirectory within the analysis directory in the github repository, or also in the Vignette directory. We also get things set up for simulations:

Run simulation

In the manuscript, we simulate nucleotide sequences with a length of 2000 independent sites:

```
for(i in 1:reps){
  # Simulate sequence alignment
  my.align <- as.character(simSeq(my.tree, 2000))</pre>
  data.bin<-as.DNAbin(as.alignment(my.align))</pre>
  # Run ordinary least squares
  ols.tree <- nnls.tree(as.matrix(dist.dna(data.bin,model="JC69")),unroot(my.tree),trace=0)
  # Extract branch lengths from ordinary least squares
  # Re-order to match output from our routine (below)
  for(j in 1:n.br){
    edge<-unroot(my.tree)$edge[j,]</pre>
    ind<-which(apply(apply(ols.tree$edge,1,`==`,edge),2,sum)==2)</pre>
    reg.brlen[i,j]<-ols.tree$edge.length[ind]</pre>
  }
  # Run branch length estimation with new loss function
  optim.out <- new.ls.fit.optimx(unroot(my.tree), as.phyDat(my.align), rep(0.1, n.br))</pre>
  new.brlen[i,] <- optim.out$par.est</pre>
```

At this point, the simulations are complete. The following code is all for recreating the side-by-side boxplots shown in the figure, from the simulation output.

```
# Extract branch names
br.names<-rep(NA,n.br)
n.tips<-length(my.tree$tip.label)

for(k in 1:n.br){
   nodes<-unroot(my.tree)$edge[k,]
   first<-ifelse(nodes[1]<=n.tips,my.tree$tip.label[nodes[1]],paste("n",nodes[1],sep=""))
   second<-ifelse(nodes[2]<=n.tips,my.tree$tip.label[nodes[2]],paste("n",nodes[2],sep=""))
   br.names[k]<-paste(first,second,sep="-")
}

# Calculate normalized errors, order them side-by-side for figure
true<-unroot(my.tree)$edge.length</pre>
```

```
all.errors<-matrix(NA,nrow=reps,ncol=14)

for(i in 1:reps){
    all.errors[i,c(1,3,5,7,9,11,13)]<-(reg.brlen[i,]-true)/true
    all.errors[i,c(2,4,6,8,10,12,14)]<-(new.brlen[i,]-true)/true
}

# reorder them to match manuscript figure
br.names<-br.names[c(2,3,1,7,4,6,5)]
errors.reord<-as.data.frame(all.errors[,c(3,4,5,6,1,2,13,14,7,8,11,12,9,10)])

boxplot(errors.reord, col=c("white", "gray"),xlab="",ylab="",xaxt="n")
# legend("topleft",c(expression(L[1]),expression(L[2])),fill=c("white","gray"))
legend("topleft",c("OLS", "New LS"),fill=c("white","gray"), cex=1.5)
axis(1,line=0,at=c(1.5,3.5,5.5,7.5,9.5,11.5,13.5),br.names)
mtext("Normalized errors",side=2,line=2, cex=1.5)
abline(h=0,lty=3)
mtext("branch",side=1,line=2.5)</pre>
```

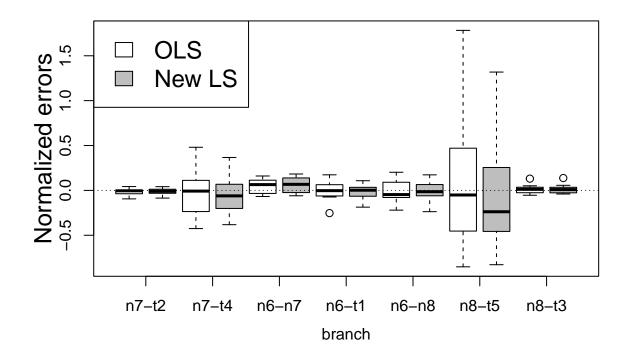
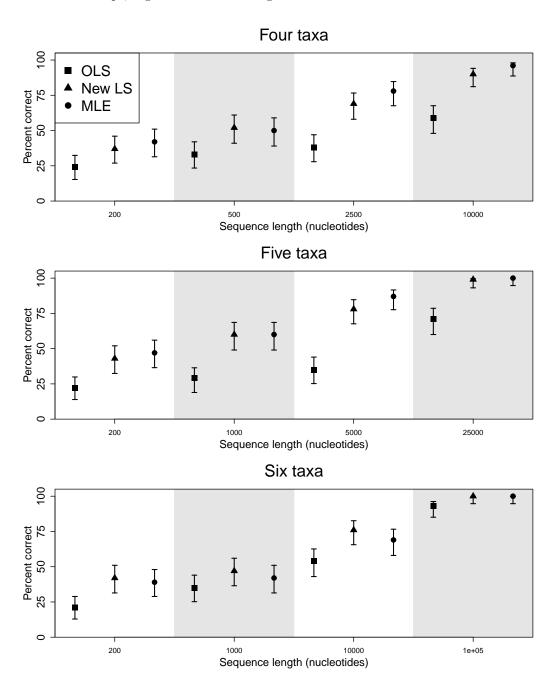


Figure 4: Accuracy of Topology Estimation

In the manuscript, Figure 4 is the following:



The code to run the simulations for this figure is included in the files called Fig_topol_4taxa.R, Fig_topol_5taxa.R and Fig_topol_6taxa.R, all in the analysis directory of our github repository (https://github.com/vnminin/phyloLSnoDist). We walk through the 4-taxa simulations below.

First we set the number of reps and create some items for storage of the results:

```
reps<-10 # This can be bumped up; 10000 reps will take about 11 hours
# Number of nucleotide sites to consider
```

```
n.sites<-c(200,500,2500,10000)

# Create storage vectors
n.scen <- length(n.sites)
correct.tp.ls<-rep(0,n.scen)
correct.tp.nodist<-rep(0,n.scen)
correct.tp.ml<-rep(0,n.scen)</pre>
```

Then we load the tree used for simulations:

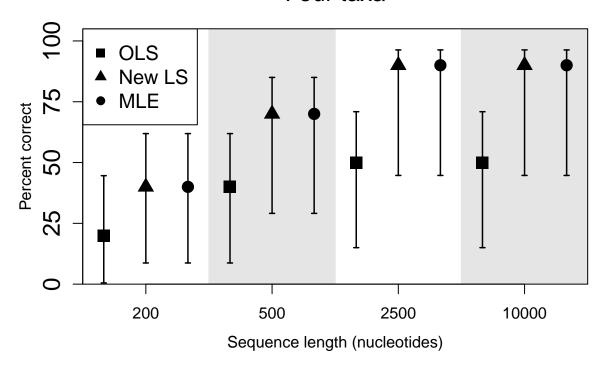
```
my.tree<-unroot(read.tree("sim_phylo4-6.tree"))</pre>
```

Finally we run simulations through each sequence length:

The code to create the figure from these results is Fig_topol.R. An abbreviated version is below:

```
rect(9.5,-1,12.5,1.05,border="gray90",col="gray90")
bxp(res4.box,outline=F,medpch=rep(c(15,17,16),4),medcex=1.7,medlty="blank",whisklty=1,whisklwd=1.5,stap
axis(2,at=seq(0,1,by=0.25),label=c(0,25,50,75,100), cex.axis=1.5)
axis(1,at=seq(2,13,by=3),label=n.sites)
mtext("Percent correct",line=2.5,side=2)
mtext("Sequence length (nucleotides)",side=1,line=2.5)
mtext("Four taxa",cex=1.5,line=1.25)
legend("topleft",pch=c(15,17,16),c("OLS", "New LS","MLE"), cex=1.25)
box()
```

Four taxa



For all analyses in the manuscript not demonstrated above, the full code are provided in the github repository within the manuscript directory:

- Figure 3: Fig_min3_5taxa.R, Fig_min3_6taxa.R and Fig_min3_7taxa.R run the simulations, then Fig_min3.R within the figures subdirectory makes Figure 3, with file name Fig_min3.pdf.
- Figure 5: Fig_kappa_4taxa.R and Fig_kappa_5taxa.R run the simulations, then Fig_kappa.R within the figures subdirectory makes Figure 5, with file name Fig_kappa.pdf.
- Figure 6: Belgium2014_newBS.R runs the analysis along with bootstrapping, and creates the figure with file name Fig_env_2014.pdf.