E-ARTICLE

Quantifying Phylogenetic and Nonphylogenetic Patterns in the Richness, Frequency, and Identity of Links in a Herbivore-Parasitoid Interaction Network

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ABSTRACT: Uncovering the patterns and structure in species interactions is central to understanding community assembly and dynamics. Species interact via their phenotypes, but identifying and quantifying the traits that structure species-specific interactions (links) can be challenging. Where these traits show phylogenetic signal, link properties (such as which species interact and how often) may be predictable using models that incorporate phylogenies in place of trait data. However, quantification of phylogenetic patterns in link properties is conceptually and methodologically challenging because it requires coestimation of multiple phylogenetic and nonphylogenetic pattern types in interaction data for multiple sites while controlling for confounding effects and making biologically plausible assumptions about which species can interact. Here we show how this can be done in a Bayesian mixed modeling framework, using data for trophic interactions between oak cynipid galls and parasitoid natural enemies. We find strong signatures of cophylogeny (i.e., related parasitoids attack related host galls) in both link incidence (presence/absence) and link frequency data, alongside patterns in link incidence/richness and identity across sites that are independent of either parasitoid or gall wasp phylogeny. Our results are robust to substantially reduced sample completeness and are consistent with structuring of trophic interactions by a combination of phylogenetically conserved and phylogenetically labile traits in both trophic levels. We show that incorporation of phylogenetic relationships into analyses of species interactions has substantial explanatory power even in the absence of trait data, with potential applied use in prediction of natural enemies of invading pests and nontarget hosts of biocontrol agents.

Keywords: trophic interaction network, cynipid, parasitoid, phylogenetic structure, community assembly.

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Introduction

Biological communities comprise sets of species that interact via processes along a continuum from antagonism (e.g., predation, parasitism, competition) to mutualism (e.g., pollination, seed dispersal, parasite removal; Bascompte et al. 2006; Cagnolo et al. 2011; Peralta 2016; Caves 2021).

Revealing why some species interact but not others is central to understanding community structure, assembly, and dynamics and remains a fundamental goal of ecology (Cattin et al. 2004; Singer and Stireman 2005; Cavender-Bares et al. 2009; Yeakel et al. 2012; Bramon Mora et al. 2020). This is particularly true for tritrophic communities of plants, insect herbivores, and insect natural enemies that, among them, comprise more than 50% of terrestrial biodiversity (Smith et al. 2008; Novotny et al. 2010). At the community level, interactions can be summarized as networks of pairwise (bipartite) species links (Bascompte et al. 2006; Cagnolo et al. 2011). Species vary in three attributes of their link distribution: richness (how many species each is linked to), identity (which species they are linked to), and frequency (how often a link is realized, a measure of interaction strength; Memmott et al. 1994; Yeakel et al. 2012; Maia et al. 2019; Braga et al. 2020; Heimpel et al. 2021). Species interact via phenotypes, and links are mediated by phenotypic traits (Ehrlich and Raven 1964; Thompson 2005; Blasco-Costa et al. 2021). Well-studied examples include pollinator tongue length and floral structure in pollination mutualisms (Darwin 1862; Whittall and Hodges 2007; Anderson and Johnson 2008) and plant chemical defenses and herbivore countermeasures in herbivory (Ehrlich and Raven 1964; Janz 2011). Identifying such traits is fundamental to studying the impacts of natural selection and coevolution in community assembly (Thompson 2005; Rezende et al. 2007a; Pearse and Hipp 2009; Janz 2011; Fontaine and Thébault 2015; Endara et al. 2018) and allows modeling of network structures based on traits rather than species (Blasco-Costa et al. 2021). This enhances mechanistic understanding of structuring processes and should improve predictive power (McGill et al. 2006; Truitt et al. 2019; Marjakangas et al. 2022; Pinilla-Gallego et al. 2022).

In all but a few systems, however, the key traits that structure species interactions are either unknown or quantified only for a subset of interacting species (Belshaw et al. 2003; Pakeman 2014; Penone et al. 2014; Gripenberg et al. 2019). If phylogeny is a valid proxy for functional trait variation, then species' link properties may be predictable from phylogenetic relationships in each trophic level (Ives and Godfray 2006; Rezende et al. 2007b; Ives and Helmus 2011; Peralta 2016; Poisot and Stouffer 2018; Gripenberg et al. 2019; Gallinat and Pearse 2021; Perez-Lamarque et al. 2022; Benadi et al. 2022). Where this is true, more closely related predators, for example, will be more similar in traits that structure their links with herbivores and vice versa (Ives and Godfray 2006; Losos 2008; Poulin et al. 2011; Stouffer et al. 2012; Naisbit et al. 2012; Ives 2022). While our study is framed in terms of interactions between natural enemies and host defensive phenotypes, the same rationale applies to other bipartite interactions, such as pollen transfer links in flower visitation networks (Ballantyne

et al. 2015) and competition between species (Carvalheiro et al. 2014; Lemos-Costa et al. 2024).

Where phylogenetic effects are strong, statistical frameworks incorporating them may be valuable in predicting the identity and strength of links for unsampled species (Ives and Godfray 2006; Pearse and Altermatt 2013, 2015). Potential applications include predicting native natural enemies of invading plants or animal pests, predicting potential nontarget victims of imported biocontrol agents (Pearse and Altermatt 2013, 2015; Davies 2021; Heimpel et al. 2021), and predicting (co)extinction risk (Rezende et al. 2007b). A major attraction of phylogeny-based prediction is that addition of a missing species to an existing model only requires adding it to a phylogeny. For a molecular phylogeny, this requires only a single DNA sample from a single example of any life stage. This is often possible from archival material and is substantially less labor intensive than measurement of trait values, which requires identification of structuring traits followed by measurements from multiple living examples of a specific life stage (Albert et al. 2011; Wong and Carmona 2021).

In addition to the predictive value of statistical patterns (Pearse and Altermatt 2013, 2015; Ives 2022), there is considerable interest in the extent to which phylogenetic and other patterns in link properties can be used to infer underlying structuring processes (Forister and Feldman 2010; Althoff et al. 2014; Russo et al. 2018; Harmon et al. 2019; Hembry and Weber 2020; Blasco-Costa et al. 2021; Dismukes et al. 2022; Perez-Lamarque and Morlon 2024). For example, in antagonistic bipartite networks (plant-herbivore, herbivore-enemy) a strong cophylogenetic pattern—in which related species in one trophic level are often linked to related species in another trophic level (fig. 1D)—can indicate phylogenetic conservatism in structuring traits. This pattern is (to varying extents) associated with escape-and-radiate coevolution and with herbivore tracking of preexisting plant traits through preferential host switching (Janz 2011; Perez-Lamarque and Morlon 2024). Additional information on the relative timing and spatial distribution of events in each phylogeny is required to discriminate between these and alternative scenarios, such as shared vicariance events (Althoff et al. 2014; Perez-Lamarque and Morlon 2024). In contrast, demonstration that links between species are highly nonrandom but not associated with phylogenetic relationships in one or both trophic levels is compatible with community assembly by processes that reduce phylogenetic signal in structuring trait distributions, such as convergent or divergent evolution (Janz 2011; Endara et al. 2017, 2018; Ward et al. 2024), bounded evolution (Boucher and Démery 2016), or evolution toward an attractor (e.g., an Ornstein-Uhlenbeck process; Boucher et al. 2018). Associating specific phylogenetic and nonphylogenetic patterns
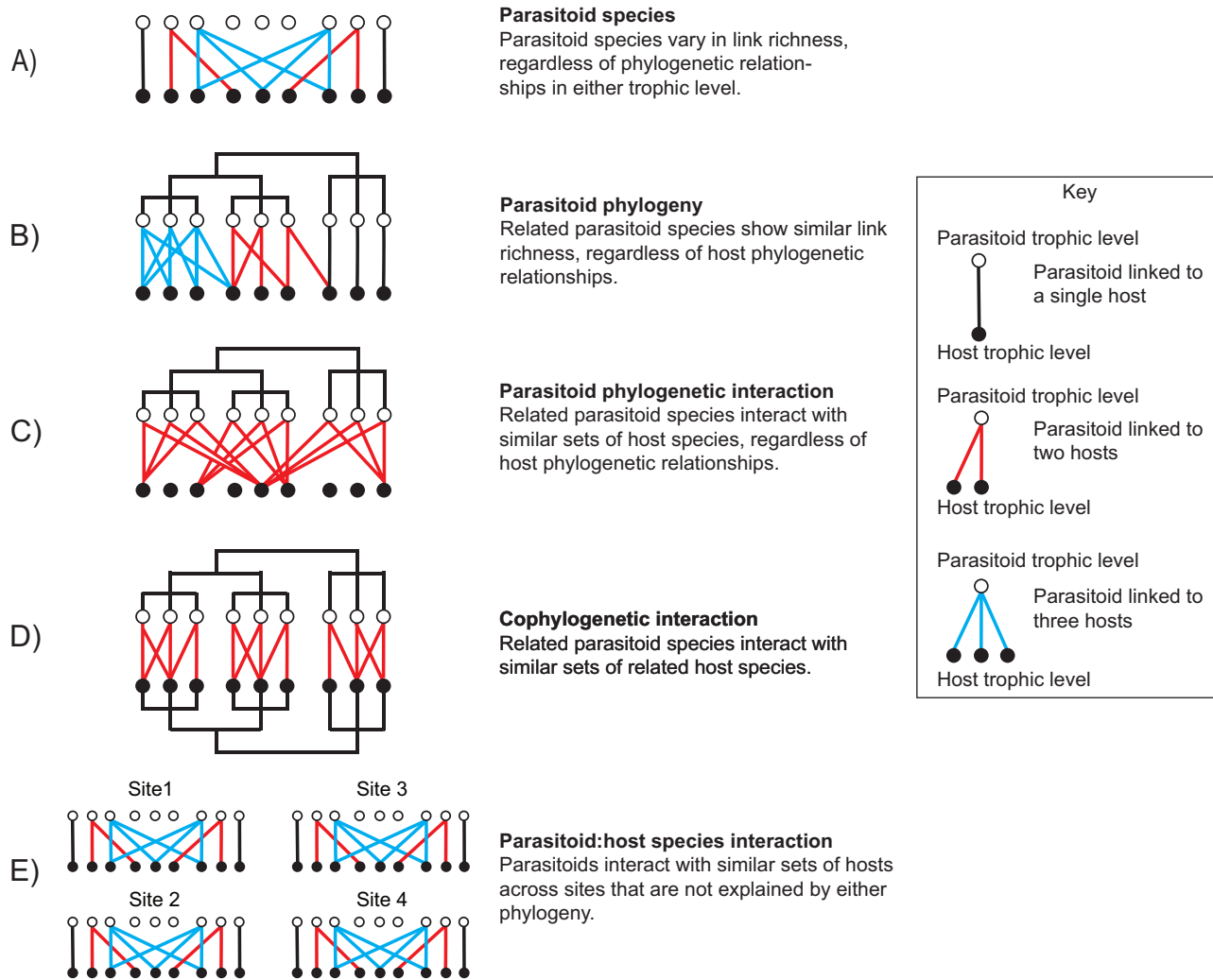
Figure 1: Conceptual representations of variation among taxa in link richness (*A*, *B*; species vary in how many taxa they interact with) and link identity (*C–E*; species [co]vary in which taxa they interact with) in a bipartite interaction network. Each diagram shows links (colored lines) between an upper parasitoid trophic level and a lower herbivore trophic level. Patterns in *B–D* incorporate phylogenetic information for one or both trophic levels. Patterns in *A–C* are illustrated in terms of the upper (parasitoid) trophic level, but analogous patterns also exist for the herbivore trophic level. Colors show variation in link richness from the parasitoid trophic-level perspective (see key). The title in boldface type for each pattern is the name of the relevant model term in our models. For clarity, links for some parasitoid taxa in *A* and *E* have been omitted.

in link properties with specific underlying processes (or combinations of processes) nevertheless remains inherently difficult (Losos 2011; Hembry and Weber 2020).

Whatever their application, quantification of alternative patterns in link properties (fig. 1) is a conceptual and methodological challenge (Pearse and Altermatt 2013; Pearse and Altermatt 2015; Russo et al. 2018; Harmon et al. 2019; Dismukes et al. 2022; Ives 2022). Most methods and empirical analyses have focused on estimating cophylogenetic effects (fig. 1*D*) without incorporating potential contributions of multiple alternative phylogenetic and non-

phylogenetic patterns (fig. 1; Legendre et al. 2002; Hommola et al. 2009; Leppänen et al. 2013; Eklöf and Stouffer 2016; Poisot and Stouffer 2018; Russo et al. 2018; Braga et al. 2020; Cruz-Laufer et al. 2022). However, accurate estimation of the contribution of any single pattern (and hence any prediction or pattern-based inference of associated processes) requires a modeling framework that simultaneously estimates terms capturing alternative link richness and identity patterns while controlling for potential confounding effects (Rafferty and Ives 2013; Hadfield et al. 2014; Gallinat and Pearse 2021).

Several linear mixed modeling (LMM) approaches and their generalized extensions (GLMM)—here collectively termed two-phylogeny mixed models (2PhyGLMMs)—have been developed that allow such coestimation and have been applied to links recorded in terms of incidence (a binary response, whether two species interact or not; Hadfield et al. 2014; Endara et al. 2018) and counts (how frequently two species interact; Rafferty and Ives 2013; Hadfield et al. 2014). Advantages of generalized linear model–based approaches include the ability to incorporate alternative error structures associated with different data types and additional variables representing species traits or spatial structure in the data (Rafferty and Ives 2013; Hadfield et al. 2014). The individual bipartite interactions that contribute signal to each model term (and hence to each type of link pattern) can also be identified (Hadfield et al. 2014). To date, however, very few interaction networks have been analyzed using 2PhyGLMMs (for examples, see Rafferty and Ives 2013; Hadfield et al. 2014; Endara et al. 2018; Galen et al. 2019; Lajoie and Kembel 2021). It also remains unclear how sample sizes (i.e., number of trophic link records for each species at each trophic level) and data completeness affect statistical power (Bersier et al. 2002; Olesen et al. 2011; Rivera-Hutinel et al. 2012; Hadfield et al. 2014; de Aguiar et al. 2019).

One of the most striking plant-herbivore interactions involves galling, which is a parasitic or mutualistic life history strategy in which nonplant organisms manipulate plant development to create novel gall structures (Giron et al. 2016; Harris and Pizschke 2020). An estimated 21,000–211,000 insect species induce galls, and this life history has evolved multiple times in multiple insect orders (Espírito-Santo and Fernandes 2007). Insect galls commonly harbor other (noninducer) insects, which exploit gall tissues (gallivores, herbivorous inquilines), other insects (predators, parasitoids), or both (Raman et al. 2005). Because these noninducer assemblages are often specialists in particular gall types, galls represent convenient natural microcosms for the study of traits and processes structuring species interactions. Gall phenotypes are under inducer control, and a question attracting attention across many galling systems is the extent to which patterns in galler-controlled traits structure associated animal communities (e.g., Farache et al. 2018; Oliveira et al. 2020; de Araújo and Maia 2021). Candidate structuring traits in many galling systems are poorly known, and an informative step in their identification is to quantify the relative strengths of (co)phylogenetic and nonphylogenetic patterns in links between gall-inhabiting guilds.

Here we use 2PhyGLMMs to model link properties in an antagonistic bipartite network comprising galls induced by oak gall wasps (Hymenoptera: Cynipidae; Cynipini) and chalcid parasitoids (Hymenoptera: Chalcidoidea; fig. 2).

Oak gall wasps are herbivores that develop inside galls that they induce on oaks and related Fagaceae. Most have a life cycle with strict alternation between a single spring (sexual) and a single summer/autumn (asexual) generation, each of which develops in a gall with a specific structural phenotype on a specific organ (acorn, bud, catkin, leaf, root) on specific host plant taxa (fig. 2). The two generations support species-rich assemblages of chalcid parasitoids, which in Europe belong to the families Eulophidae, Eupelmidae, Eurytomidae, Megastigmidae, Ormyridae, Pteromalidae, and Torymidae (Bailey et al. 2009; Askew et al. 2013). The parasitoids attacking the two gall generations of a single host species are typically very different, while those attacking the same generation of related species are often similar (Askew et al. 2013). This suggests that although the two generations of the same gall wasp necessarily share the same evolutionary history, their associated parasitoid communities have assembled largely independently (Askew 1961b; Bailey et al. 2009). This feature of gall wasp biology means that differences in patterns between gall wasp generations cannot be caused by shared phylogenetic and biogeographical history and hence may be attributable to contrasting patterns in the evolution of structuring traits between generations (Moran 1994; Hood and Ott 2017).

The gall wasp system has several attributes that make it well suited for analysis of patterns in network structure. First, the parasitoids that attack oak cynipid galls are almost all specialists in this system (Askew et al. 2013), allowing it to be considered in ecological isolation (Bailey et al. 2009). Second, both trophic levels show wide variation in link properties, including richness (also termed the degree, specialization, or generality of a parasitoid species and the vulnerability of a host; Schoener 1989; Bersier et al. 2002), identity (also termed host range or host repertoire; Braga et al. 2020; Heimpel et al. 2021), and frequency (Askew et al. 2013). Both attributes are shared with parasitoid communities centered on other herbivore guilds (Askew 1980; Stireman and Singer 2003; Leppänen et al. 2013; Santos et al. 2022). Third, there are good reasons to predict both phylogenetic and nonphylogenetic patterns in link properties in this system. Previous research on oak gall communities has identified traits that structure trophic links by influencing the ability of parasitoids to exploit specific host gall types (Bailey et al. 2009). These include parasitoid ovipositor toughness and length (fig. 2I–2K), which determine the depth to which a female parasitoid can exploit hosts in target galls (Askew 1965; Quicke et al. 1998; Egan and Ott 2007), and a suite of gall wasp traits that, for parasitoids, influence their availability (phenology, host plant association, gall location on the host plant), accessibility (gall structural defenses), and resource quality (host size; Bailey et al. 2009). For both trophic levels, some
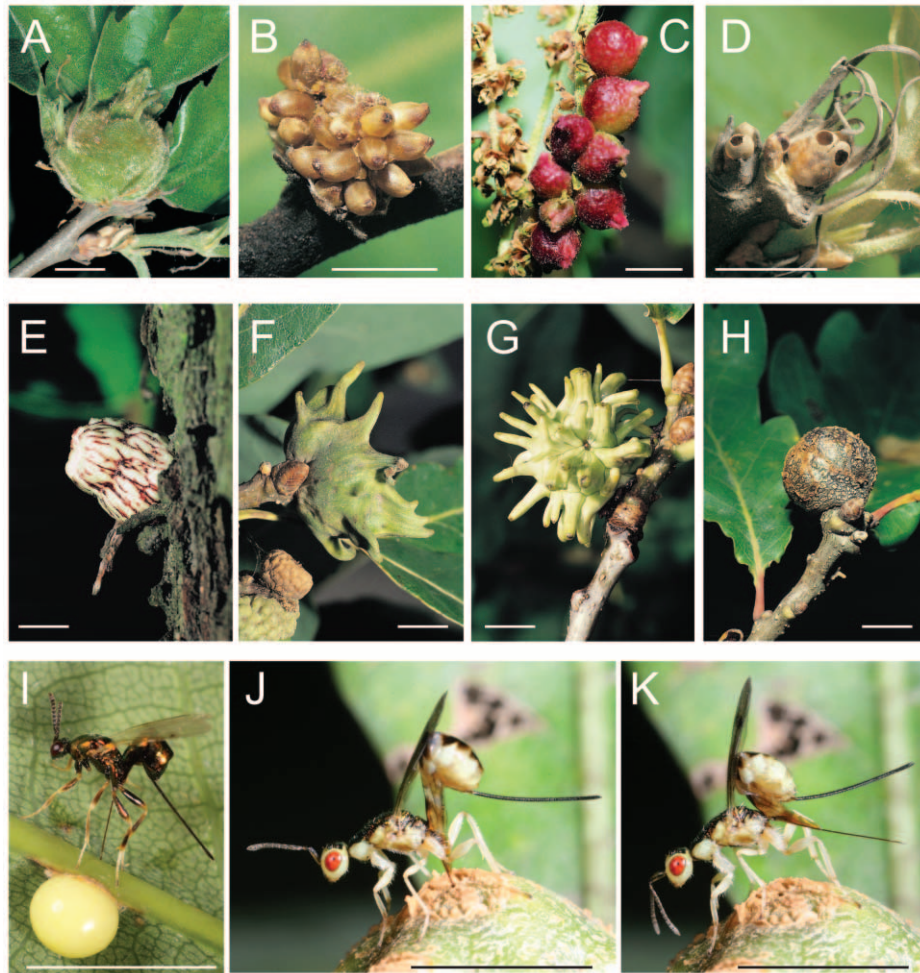
Figure 2: Examples of the diverse gall structures induced by sexual and asexual generations of oak gall wasps in this study. *A–H,* Sexual generation galls (*A–D*) and asexual generation galls (*E–H*) of the same set of species (*A, E, Andricus conificus*; *B, F, A. coriarius*; *C, G, A. grossulariae*; *D, H, A. lignicolus*). *I,* Female *Torymus* parasitoid using its long ovipositor to drill through a leaf midrib and gall tissues to lay an egg on a concealed insect host in an asexual generation gall of *Neuroterus anthracinus.* *J,* Female *Bootanomyia stigmatizans* ovipositing directly into an asexual generation gall of *Andricus infectorius. K,* The same female *B. stigmatizans,* showing the length of the withdrawn ovipositor. The scale bar in all images is 5 mm. Image credit: *A–H, J, K,* G. Csóka; *I,* Darren Obbard.

link-structuring traits are phylogenetically conserved (e.g., gall wasp–oak associations, some gall defenses, ovipositor length in some parasitoid lineages), while others appear multiple times independently across the phylogeny (e.g., gall location on the oak, some gall defenses, ovipositor length across parasitoid lineages; Quicke and Belshaw 1999; Cook et al. 2002; Stone and Schönrogge 2003; Stone et al. 2009; Nicholls et al. 2018; Elias et al. 2018).

Our aim in this study is to assess the extent to which gall-parasitoid links show phylogenetic and nonphylogenetic patterns in the gall wasps and parasitoids and hence are structured by phylogenetically conserved versus nonphylogenetically-conserved species traits in these guilds.

We address the following questions. First, do we see a strong signature of cophylogeny, consistent with simultaneous codiversification or sequential radiation (Nyman et al. 2007)? Second, does the strength of phylogenetic patterns differ for gall wasps and parasitoids? Peralta (2016) suggests that we might expect stronger phylogenetic signal in hosts than in parasitoids because traits determining enemy ability to exploit hosts/prey evolve faster than traits determining host/prey vulnerability, which should thus have a stronger phylogenetic signal in network structure (Rossberg et al. 2006; Fontaine and Thébault 2015). We also might expect stronger phylogenetic patterns for galls than for parasitoids because while the inducing cynipids

are a single radiating lineage, the parasitoids attacking each gall comprise representatives of several chalcidoid families that diverged before the origin of Cynipini (see "Discussion"). Third, are patterns in link identity stronger than patterns in link richness or frequency? We might also expect weaker patterns in link richness or frequency because these are strongly influenced by site-specific distribution and population dynamic effects on a range of temporal and spatial scales in gall wasp communities (Washburn and Cornell 1981; Bunnefeld et al. 2018) and other systems (Berlow et al. 2004). Fourth, do we see similar patterns in assemblages associated with the two gall wasp generations? While similar patterns could in principle be explained by processes (such as vicariance) that are necessarily shared by both generations, substantial differences suggest shaping by contrasting evolutionary processes (Moran 1994; Hood and Ott 2017).

We identify the links contributing to significant patterns and use the flexibility inherent in a 2PhyGLMM modeling framework to explore the robustness of our inference and predictive power to key aspects of network sampling: use of incidence versus frequency data and variation in sampling completeness (Goldwasser and Roughgarden 1997; Jordano 2016), sampling effort (Gotelli and Colwell 2011; Chao et al. 2020), and spatial scale (Thompson and Townsend 2005; Brimacombe et al. 2023). We also explore alternative approaches to identifying sets of species potentially able to form links (Hadfield et al. 2014).

Material and Methods

Gall Wasp–Parasitoid Community Networks

Our analysis uses 27,445 records of 54 parasitoid species reared from 38,638 galls of 78 generations of 60 cynipid species, sampled from four oak species (*Quercus cerris* L., *Q. pubescens* Willd., *Q. robur* L., *Q. petraea* (Matt.) Liebl.) at six sites in Hungary (for locations, see fig. S1; figs. S1–S4 are available online) between 2000 and 2003. The datasets include 26,679 parasitoid records for 53 parasitoid species reared from 26,847 galls of 45 generations of 36 gall wasp species published in Bailey et al. (2009) for five sites, with additional data for further gall wasp species and generations from these sites and for a sixth site (Köszeg) sampled in 2000. At each site, we collected galls from >100 individual trees of available oak species at fortnightly intervals between April and October, with each gall type harvested as far as possible across the full site area. Galls were collected haphazardly with respect to height and aspect from branches sampled to a height of 8 m with a long-handled pruner. Galls were always harvested in their first year of development, across a range of dates to allow full development of gall inhabitants but prior to their emergence.

Resulting sample sizes varied across sites and gall types. All galls were identified to generation and species, reared individually, and monitored for emerging insects for 2.5 years. Images of gall phenotypes are available at https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pbio.1000179.s002 and in Roskam (2019). The specific host(s) of the parasitoids within each gall were not determined—they could have attacked the gall inducer, herbivorous cynipid inquilines, or (much less frequently) each other (Askew 1961*b*; Askew et al. 2013); our data therefore represent association networks (links between parasitoids and host galls) rather than a true trophic network (links between parasitoids and specific insect hosts). Because the associations in our data are based primarily on trophic interactions between parasitoids and herbivores, we refer to trophic levels as a convenient shorthand and consider implications of this aspect of our data in the discussion section.

All sampled parasitoids are in the superfamily Chalcidoidea and were identified to species by expert taxonomists using morphological keys (Bailey et al. 2009). Full lists of sampled gall wasp and parasitoid taxa and an additional comment on taxonomic resolution are provided in section S1 of the supplemental PDF and tables S1 and S2 (tables S1–S9 are available online). As in Bailey et al. (2009), we analyzed data for sexual and asexual generations separately. Gall-parasitoid interaction matrices are shown for each generation in figure 3. Summaries of sample sizes, link richness, and link frequency for all gall generations and parasitoid taxa are provided in tables S1 and S2, and the link datasets are available in the Edinburgh DataArchive (Sinclair et al. 2024). The sexual generation dataset comprises 255 distinct link types identified from rearing 18,210 adult parasitoids of 46 species from 11,791 galls of 26 cynipid species, while the asexual generation dataset comprises 439 link types identified from rearing 9,235 adult parasitoids of 43 species from 26,847 galls of 52 cynipid species.

For both generation datasets, we analyzed link properties using incidence and frequency data. Incidence data incorporate no information on interaction strength (Berlow et al. 2004) and thus cannot discriminate between alternative scenarios in which a parasitoid species attacks two alternative hosts at ratios of 99:1 and 50:50. In contrast, frequency data allow detection of cross-species variation in interaction strength. When designing sampling experiments, a valid question is whether additional inferences are possible from count data that justify the additional sampling effort required. The same phylogenetic and nonphylogenetic effects can be estimated in incidence and frequency models, although the interpretation of terms differs between them. For example, for incidence data the parasitoid phylogeny effect (fig. 1*B*) increases as related parasitoids attack an increasingly similar richness of host species,
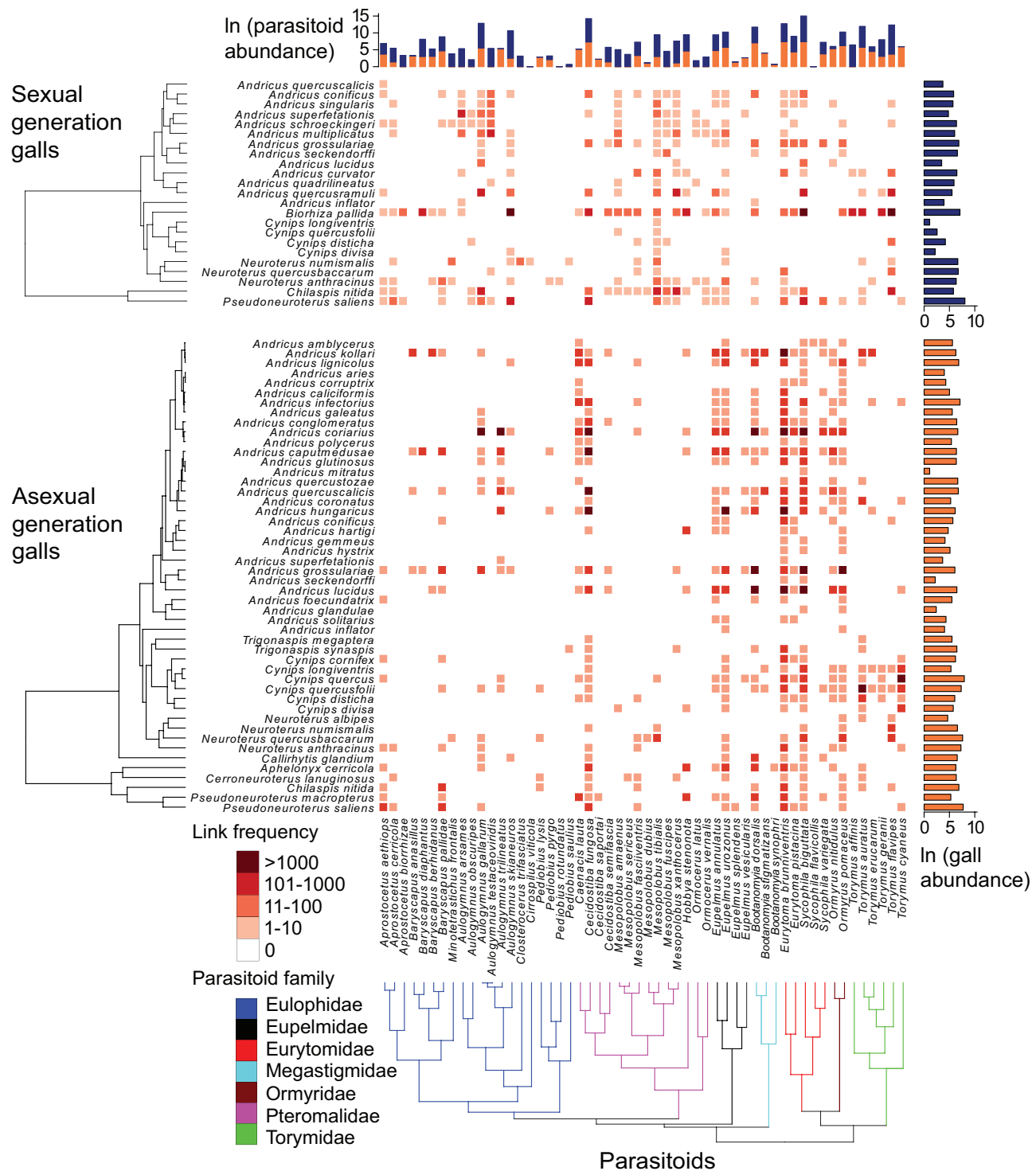
Figure 3: Heat maps showing bipartite link frequencies between parasitoids and sexual generation (*top*) and asexual generation (*bottom*) cynipid galls, pooled across sampling sites. Bar plots summarize sample sizes for host galls (*right*) and parasitoids (*top*) in the datasets for the sexual generation (blue) and asexual generation (orange). Phylogenies with node ages and branch support information are shown in figures S2 and S3.

while for count data this occurs as related parasitoids inflict increasingly similar average attack rates on hosts. Although in this case the incidence-based interpretation is more straightforward, by not discriminating between weak and strong links (Berlow et al. 2004) the presence/absence approach is less informative about patterns of enemy richness.

Gall Wasp and Parasitoid Phylogenies

We generated gall wasp and parasitoid phylogenies using partial sequences of one mitochondrial coding locus (cytochrome *b* for gall wasps and cytochrome *c* subunit 1 for parasitoids) and one nuclear noncoding locus (28S D2 for both trophic groups), totaling 999 and 1,304 base pairs for gall wasps and parasitoids, respectively. Full molecular and phylogenetic methods are provided in section S2 of the supplemental PDF and tables S2–S5, and GenBank accession numbers for all sequences are provided in table S7. To incorporate phylogenetic information into a GLMM, all root-tip distances are scaled to 1, and the inverse of the phylogenetic covariance matrix is generated for the gall wasp and parasitoid ultrametric trees (Hadfield 2010; Hadfield and Nakagawa 2010). To allow us to place observed phylogenetic patterns in a temporal context, we inferred node ages for both trophic levels (see the supplemental PDF, sec. S2). The phylogenies for each generation dataset used in MCMCglmm analyses are shown in simplified form in figure 3 and are provided for all taxa in each trophic level and with full node age and branch support information in figures S2 and S3.

Two-Phylogeny Mixed Models

In 2014, Hadfield et al. developed and applied a GLMM approach to the analysis of incidence data for links between fleas and their mammalian hosts. Independently, Rafferty and Ives (2013) developed and applied an equivalent LMM to link frequency (count) data for insect visitors to flowering plants. Both approaches combine bipartite community interaction data with a phylogeny for each trophic level and allow simultaneous estimation of variance components for link richness and link identity model terms, all of which are fitted as random effects. Frequentist forms (e.g., penalized quasi likelihood) of 2PhyGLMMs can be fitted in software such as ASReml (Butler et al. 2017) or the R package phyr (Li et al. 2020). However, while these are several thousand times faster than equivalent Bayesian approaches such as MCMCglmm, they behave poorly for Bernoulli data (as for incidence networks) where the grouping factors include phylogenetic or pedigree data, with likely downward bias in estimation of variance components (Gilmour et al. 1985;

Hadfield et al. 2014). We therefore used the Bayesian Markov chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) framework incorporated in the package MCMCglmm (ver. 2.32; Hadfield 2010) in R (ver. 4.1.0; R Core Team 2021). R code for our analyses (including intraclass correlation calculations and figure plotting) is available the Edinburgh DataArchive (Sinclair et al. 2024). We summarize the terms fitted in our MCMCglmm models below, largely following Hadfield et al. (2014), and give their biological interpretation in the context of host-parasitoid systems. Selected terms are illustrated diagrammatically for an incidence model in figure 1, and all terms are described in full for both incidence and frequency models in the appendix. The patterns expected in a host-parasitoid link matrix when each term is substantial are illustrated in Hadfield et al. (2014).

Patterns in Link Richness. Patterns in link richness (species degree, for incidence data) and average link frequency (interaction strength, for count data) are captured by four main (i.e., noninteraction) random effects. These terms capture variance partitions for each of gall hosts and parasitoids with and without phylogenetic patterning. Explained variance in richness/frequency across parasitoid and host species that lacks any phylogenetic pattern is allocated to a parasitoid species effect (fig. 1*A*) and a host species effect, respectively. The equivalent phylogenetically patterned effects are the parasitoid phylogeny effect (fig. 1*B*) and the host phylogeny effect, which in incidence models capture, respectively, the extent to which related sets of parasitoids attack a similar richness of hosts and the extent to which sets of related hosts are attacked by a similar richness of parasitoids. In frequency models, these effects capture among-species variation in average link frequency (average interaction strength; i.e., the extent to which parasitoids are rare to abundant across host species, and the extent to which hosts are rarely to heavily attacked across parasitoid species). Incorporation of datasets for multiple discrete samples (sites in our analysis) allows estimation of additional model terms. A site main effect captures among-site variation in the proportion of realized links (equivalent to unweighted connectance) in an incidence model and in average link frequency in a frequency model. The site × parasitoid and site × host interaction effects capture among-site variation in the richness of parasitoid and host species in incidence models and in average link frequency in frequency models.

Patterns in Link Identity. Patterns in link identity (i.e., the identity of the species forming links) are captured by four random effect interaction terms between hosts and parasitoids. The parasitoid × host species interaction captures the extent to which specific sets of parasitoids attack (incidence model) or have similar link frequency with (frequency

model) specific sets of hosts across samples, regardless of phylogenetic relationships in either trophic level (fig. 1*E*). This is equivalent to the species interaction of Hadfield et al. (2014), renamed here to underline the involvement of both trophic levels, and can be directly estimated only in models that utilize information from patterns in species interactions across samples (here, across sites). Three additional terms capture the extent to which variation in link identity is predicted by one or both phylogenies. For the incidence model, the parasitoid phylogenetic interaction captures the extent to which related parasitoids attack similar sets of unrelated hosts (fig. 1*C*), the host phylogenetic interaction captures the extent to which related hosts are attacked by similar sets of unrelated enemies, and the cophylogenetic interaction captures the extent to which related taxa in one trophic level link with sets of related taxa in the other (fig. 1*D*). For the frequency model, the same phylogenetic interactions are instead framed in terms of average link frequency (interaction strength). These three types of phylogenetic interactions are equivalent to the parasite evolutionary interaction, host evolutionary interaction, and coevolutionary interaction of Hadfield et al. (2014). We prefer our terminology because we are referring only to patterns in data, while use of the term "coevolutionary" implies additional demonstration of reciprocal adaptation (Althoff et al. 2014; Poisot and Stouffer 2018), which is not what we are testing and would require experimental validation. The cophylogenetic interaction captures cophylogenetic signal, as defined by Perez-Lamarque and Morlon (2024).

Model Fitting

Our study focuses on four core analyses: of incidence and frequency data, in both sexual and asexual generation bipartite networks. Our modeling of the above terms followed Hadfield et al. (2014), as detailed in their equation (3) for phylogenetic terms (i.e., parasitoid phylogeny effect, host phylogeny effect, parasitoid phylogenetic interaction, host phylogenetic interaction, and cophylogenetic interaction) and their equation (5) for nonphylogenetic equivalents (i.e., parasitoid species effect, host species effect, and parasitoid × host species interaction). Modeling of sample sites followed treatment of regions by Hadfield et al. (2014), with site included as a random effect (as exemplified in their eq. [7]). We included two additional random effect terms not mentioned in Hadfield et al. (2014)—the site × parasitoid interaction and the site × host interaction—to account for variation in the richness (incidence models) and mean link frequency (frequency models) of hosts and parasitoids among sites. For ease of reference, interpretations of all fitted terms for incidence- and count-based models are summarized in the appendix.

We modeled the sets of species available to form links at each site in each of two ways. In option 1, we assumed that the species recorded at each site in each gall generation represented all species available to interact locally and that the absence of a species is uninformative about species traits and biological processes governing community assembly (e.g., absence may be due to biogeographic processes). Host and parasitoid links that did not occur because the two species were not present in the same site and generation were identified as structural zeros and removed from the dataset (Hadfield et al. 2014). In option 2, we assumed that the full set of parasitoid species recorded in a given generation across all six sites was available to interact at each site, such that the absence of an interaction is informative about the focal processes underpinning community assembly. In this version of the dataset, all links absent from a single site and generation were given a value of zero (i.e., structural zeros were included). Our rationale is that the ecological reality is somewhere between these two models, such that by fitting both we can assess the sensitivity of our inference to which one is true. In practice, the two options produced very similar results for three of the four datasets (tables S8, S9), although option 2 models took much longer to run. We therefore report results using option 1 and highlight differences between options where they arise. For each dataset, we also fitted a model in which the six site datasets were pooled into a single regional dataset. This requires option 2 and necessarily prevents fitting of model terms dependent on between-site variation. Comparison of these models with their full option 2 equivalents allows assessment of the sensitivity of other model terms to whether site-level variation in link properties is accounted for.

We used a binomial model with logit-link function for incidence data and a Poisson model with log-link function for frequency (count) data. For the incidence models, we followed Hadfield et al. (2014) and fitted the logarithms of site-specific sample sizes for both hosts and parasitoids as fixed effects to account for the expectation that larger sample sizes for a species would lead to more of its links being observed. These terms were not included for the count-based models, which focus on the relative frequencies of different links rather than their presence/absence (Hadfield et al. 2014).

Parameter expanded priors were used for random effects in all models, with numerator and denominator degrees of freedom set to 1 and a scale parameter of 10^3. This technique is known to improve MCMC chain mixing in situations with complex random effect structures by placing a noncentral scaled F-distribution prior on the random effect variance parameters (Hadfield 2010). For incidence-based models a residual parameter (see also description below) was fixed at 1, and for frequency-based Poisson

models it was estimated from the data with a prior following an inverse Wishart distribution with $\nu = 0.002$. Chains were run for 5 million iterations with a burn-in of 1 million and a thinning interval of 2,000, resulting in 2,000 sets of parameter estimates.

We assessed the relative importance and statistical support for model terms using intraclass correlation coefficients (ICCs) on the latent scale (Nakagawa and Schielzeth 2010). ICCs are statistical measures that quantify the proportion of total variance in a dataset attributable to differences among groups or classes. For a given model term (or set of terms), the ICC represents the proportion of variance that it explains and is calculated as its variance parameter (or the sum of a set of variance parameters) divided by a denominator comprising the total variance—that is, the sum of all term variance parameters and the residual variance. We report the median and mode for ICC posterior distributions of model terms, based on 2,000 posterior samples for each model, and interpret a term as significant where the lower bound of the 95% credible interval (CI) is removed from zero (defined here as >0.01, as in Hadfield et al. 2014).

Following Nakagawa and Schielzeth (2010), the residual variance in both types of model is the sum of a residual parameter and a distribution-specific variance. For binomial models, the residual parameter was fixed at 1, and the distribution-specific variance was $\pi^2/3$. This fixing approach is recommended by Hadfield (2017) to anchor the latent scale and aid the identifiability of other model parameters. For Poisson models, the residual parameter was estimated from the data as an observation-level random effect with nonparameter expanded priors (see previous but one paragraph), and the distribution-specific variance was $\ln(1/\exp(\text{intercept})) + 1$ to reflect the relationship between overall mean (i.e., intercept) and variance on the latent scale. Although binomial models included fixed effects to control for sample sizes, the ICCs were "adjusted" in that the fixed effect variances were not included in the ICC denominator (Nakagawa et al. 2017).

To explore how different gall and parasitoid species contributed to each term's ICC, we calculated the posterior modes of the predicted MCMCglmm solutions either for individual species (as appropriate for the host species, parasitoid species, host phylogeny, and parasitoid phylogeny terms) or for pairwise links (as appropriate for the parasitoid × host species interaction, host phylogenetic interaction, parasitoid phylogenetic interaction, and cophylogenetic interaction terms). These solutions, also sometimes called true effect sizes, are similar to the best linear unbiased predictors (BLUPs) from frequentist mixed models (Sorensen 2009; Silva et al. 2013).

We also used ICCs to summarize the overall explanatory power of our models (ICC_{GLMM}), the magnitude of the three phylogenetic effects in link identity combined (ICC_{PHY}), and the relative magnitude of phylogenetic versus nonphylogenetic link identity effects ($\text{ICC}_{\text{REL-PHY}}$). For ICC_{GLMM}, following Nakagawa et al. (2017) the numerator for each of the 2,000 posterior samples was the sum of variance parameters for all fitted random effect terms and the denominator was the numerator plus a residual. For ICC_{PHY}, the numerator was the sum for each set of posterior samples of the relevant phylogenetic link identity model terms (i.e., parasitoid phylogenetic interaction, host phylogenetic interaction, and cophylogenetic interaction), and the denominator was the sum of all fitted random effect terms plus a residual. For $\text{ICC}_{\text{REL-PHY}}$, the numerator was the sum of the relevant phylogenetic link identity model terms, and the denominator was the numerator plus the nonphylogenetic link identity term (i.e., the parasitoid × host species interaction).

Sensitivity of Inference to Sample Size

To assess the extent to which incorporation of sample size information influences the magnitude of model random effects, we compared the results of our full incidence models with alternatives without site-specific sample sizes as a covariate. This matters because in some systems, nonphylogenetic and/or phylogenetically conserved variation in species abundance is thought to have causal impacts on associated link richness (Vazquez et al. 2005). It is thus unclear to what extent variation in gall sample sizes represents variation in sampling effort versus variation in a biologically relevant host trait. Where the latter is true, controlling for sampling effort using link frequency could reduce support for MCMCglmm random effects capturing patterns in link richness (Hadfield et al. 2014).

Subsampling and Sample Completeness

All empirical trophic link datasets are likely to suffer from incomplete sampling, in that additional sampling could result in changed estimates of link incidence and/or frequency (Chao et al. 2020). Most common network metrics are sensitive to sampling completeness, although those incorporating interaction strength are usually less affected than those based on incidence (Nielsen and Bascompte 2007; Chacoff et al. 2012; Rivera-Hutinel et al. 2012; Vizentin-Bugoni et al. 2016; Falcão et al. 2016; Henriksen et al. 2019). A key question is then the extent to which results and inferences are sensitive to variation in sampling effort. We hypothesize that two-phylogeny mixed models should show reduced ability to detect patterns in undersampled networks (i.e., higher type II error) because of reduced host and parasitoid richness in incidence models and that, as for network metrics, the inferences from

count-based models should be less sensitive to reduced sampling than their incidence equivalents.

To quantify the impact of sample completeness on our inference, we generated datasets comprising 5%, 10%, 25%, 50%, and 75% subsets of the total number of sexual and asexual generation galls, based on a random draw process without replacement. These correspond to sample sizes of 590, 1,180, 2,948, 5,895, and 8,843 galls for the sexual generation datasets and 1,342, 2,685, 6,712, 13,424, and 20,135 for the asexual generation datasets. To retain the methods and scope of the study but simulate a reduction in collecting effort, random draws treated each individual gall as a distinct sample without regard to species, site, or year of collection. At each subsampling level we generated 60 subsampling replicates that were used to fit 30 replicate incidence models and 30 replicate frequency models for both the sexual generation and asexual generation gall datasets, applying the same model structures used for the full models. As previously, the only zeros included in the resulting dataset were those for host-parasitoid species pairs that were both present in the same site and generation in the subsample. To assess the completeness of our sampling and to summarize the impacts of reduced sampling on the datasets, we calculated the Chao-2 and first-order Jackknife (Jack-1) richness estimators (Gotelli and Colwell 2011; Chao et al. 2020) for host gall types, parasitoid species, and pairwise interactions at each level of subsampling. Sampling completeness of subsampled datasets was summarized as the value of the metric obtained as a proportion of the estimated total richness for the full dataset. Both estimators give very similar results, and for brevity we present results for the Jack-1 estimator.

Results

Results for our four core analyses—incidence and frequency models for sexual and asexual generation gall communities—are summarized in table 1. Incidence and frequency model results for the same dataset were very similar, so we present them in parallel and highlight contrasts. All four models have substantial explanatory power on the latent scale, with median ICC_{GLMM} values ranging from 0.753 (95% CI: 0.671–0.860) for asexual generation frequency data to 0.829 (95% CI: 0.752–0.903) for sexual generation incidence data (table 1). In what follows, we identify the model term relevant to each inference in parentheses, and in all cases inference is conditional on the other terms fitted in the model.

Patterns in Link Richness and Frequency

Neither nonphylogenetic (host species effect, parasitoid species effect) or phylogenetic (host phylogeny effect,

parasitoid phylogeny effect) model terms for link richness and frequency were significant. While intraclass correlations (ICCs) were substantial for the host phylogeny effect in the sexual generation dataset (median ICC = 0.179 for incidence data, 0.314 for frequency data; table 1), the lower bound of the 95% CI in both cases abutted zero and was nonsignificant by our threshold criterion. There was little evidence of among-site variation in the proportion of realized links or average link frequency (site effect) or in parasitoid richness or average abundance (site × parasitoid interaction in all four core models). However, host galls showed significant idiosyncratic among-site variation in richness for asexual generation galls (site × host interaction, incidence data) and in average abundance for both generations (site × host interaction, frequency data).

Patterns in Link Identity

Phylogenetic effects in link identity were substantial in all four core models, with median values of ICC_{PHY} for combined phylogenetic terms ranging from 0.118 (95% CI: 0.033–0.261) in the sexual generation frequency model to 0.457 (95% CI: 0.295–0.600) in the asexual generation incidence model (table 1). Point estimates for ICC_{PHY} (i.e., overall phylogenetic signal) were greater for asexual than for sexual generation models ($P = .051$) and greater for incidence than for frequency models (although ICC values in these different models cannot be formally compared). The contribution of phylogenetic terms to the ICC for combined phylogenetic and nonphylogenetic link identity effects, $ICC_{REL-PHY}$, was always high but greater in the asexual generation than in the sexual generation for both incidence models (0.832 [95% CI: 0.690–0.957] vs. 0.561 [95% CI: 0.311–0.763]; $P = .011$) and frequency models (0.900 [95% CI: 0.807–0.987] vs. 0.460 [95% CI: 0.186–0.699]; $P = .0005$; table 1).

Cophylogenetic interaction effects were large and significant in the asexual generation, indicating that closely related parasitoids commonly associate with (incidence) or are similarly abundant on (frequency) closely related host galls. This contrasts markedly with the pattern in the sexual generation, in which the cophylogenetic interaction term was nonsignificant (point estimate < 0.01) in both incidence and frequency models. The trophic links that make a strong contribution to cophylogenetic effects in the asexual generation are identified in figure 4*C* and 4*E*. Hotspots (red) and coldspots (blue) correspond to phylogenetically related sets of parasitoids whose presence (incidence models) or frequency (frequency models) is predicted to be high or low, respectively, on phylogenetically related sets of hosts. Examples in our asexual generation data of hotspots include sets of links between (i) *Andricus* gall wasps and a clade of generalist *Sycophila*, *Eurytoma*, and *Ormyrus*

Table 1: Intraclass correlations (ICCs) for terms in the four core models (incidence- and frequency-based models of sexual and asexual generation gall datasets)

Term	Sexual generation galls		Asexual generation galls	
	Incidence model	Frequency model	Incidence model	Frequency model
Site	.014/.000	.027/.016	.021/.001	.037/.023
	(.000–.096)	(.000–.134)	(.000–.126)	(.002–.159)
Site × host interaction	.030/.031	**.064/.055**	**.033/.029**	**.122/.127**
	(.006–.069)	**(.025–.122)**	**(.012–.059)**	**(.072–.175)**
Site × parasitoid interaction	.001/.000	.002/.000	.001/.000	.003/.000
	(.000–.006)	(.000–.009)	(.000–.005)	(.000–.007)
Host species	.031/.001	.024/.001	.030/.030	.061/.069
	(.000–.142)	(.000–.157)	(.000–.075)	(.000–.122)
Parasitoid species	.007/.000	.040/.039	.008/.000	.032/.001
	(.000–.049)	(.000–.099)	(.000–.052)	(.000–.093)
Host phylogeny	.179/.002	.314/.340	.042/.001	.061/.002
	(.000–.471)	(.000–.579)	(.000–.202)	(.000–.306)
Parasitoid phylogeny	.019/.000	.015/.001	.011/.001	.013/.000
	(.000–.106)	(.000–.099)	(.000–.086)	(.000–.104)
Parasitoid × host species interaction	**.207/.224**	**.143/.159**	**.092/.080**	.035/.040
	(.095–.329)	**(.068–.230)**	**(.025–.164)**	(.009–.068)
Host phylogenetic interaction	.013/.000	.009/.000	.024/.001	.099/.001
	(.000–.077)	(.000–.070)	(.000–.175)	(.000–.231)
Parasitoid phylogenetic interaction	.133/.123	.047/.000	.040/.000	.022/.014
	(.000–.268)	(.000–.110)	(.000–.106)	(.000–.049)
Cophylogenetic interaction	.089/.002	.038/.001	**.367/.392**	**.185/.142**
	(.000–.281)	(.000–.192)	**(.178–.537)**	**(.026–.329)**
Residual	.171/.161	.185/.237	.244/.258	.246/.268
	(.097–.248)	(.052–.299)	(.172–.319)	(.140–.333)
ICC denominator	25.157/22.228	30.150/27.075	17.549/16.641	26.895/24.711
	(16.192–40.403)	(18.451–49.273)	(12.996–24.187)	(19.63–37.80)
ICC_{GLMM}	**.829/.839**	**.815/.763**	**.756/.742**	**.754/.732**
	(.752–.903)	**(.701–.948)**	**(.681–.828)**	**(.667–.860)**
ICC_{PHY}	**.263/.291**	**.118/.076**	**.457/.450**	**.315/.335**
	(.098–.443)	**(.033–.261)**	**(.295–.600)**	**(.195–.432)**
$ICC_{REL-PHY}$	**.561/.581**	**.460/.445**	**.832/.845**	**.900/.912**
	(.311–.763)	**(.186–.699)**	**(.690–.957)**	**(.807–.976)**

Note: Values are presented as median/mode (and 95% credible interval) over 2,000 Markov chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) point estimates. Significant terms (i.e., where the lower bound of the 95% credible interval is >0.01) are shown boldface type for each model. ICC_{GLMM} is the ICC for all fitted model terms (i.e., excluding the residual), analogous to an R^2 for the model. ICC_{PHY} is the combined ICC for phylogenetic interaction terms in link identity, and $ICC_{REL-PHY}$ is the relative contribution of these terms to the ICC for all interaction terms in link identity.

parasitoids; (ii) *Andricus* gall wasps and *Eupelmus annulatus* and *E. urozonus*; (iii) *Cynips* gall wasps and *Torymus* parasitoids; and (iv) *Pseudoneuroterus* gall wasps and *Aprostocetus* parasitoids. In examples i and iii, the parasitoids diversified substantially before the clade of host galls they attack (figs. S2, S3). The parasitoid clade containing *Sycophila*, *Eurytoma*, and *Ormyrus* (median age of most recent common ancestor [MCRA] = 50.1 [95% posterior credibility interval (PCI): 35.0–59.7] million years) is substantially older than the *Andricus* clade whose galls they attack (MRCA = 10.2 [95% PCI: 8.3–12.7] million years). Similarly, the *Torymus* clade (MRCA = 33.4 [95% PCI: 26.3–42] million years) is substantially older than the

Cynips clade whose galls they attack (MRCA = 5.7 [95% PCI: 4.1–7.6] million years). In examples ii and iv, the divergence of interacting host and parasitoid lineages is broadly contemporary. Divergence date estimates for *Eupelmus annulatus* and *E. urozonus* (MRCA = 14.8 [95% PCI: 0–27] million years) encompass those for the *Andricus* clade they interact with (see above), and the same is true for *Aprostocetus* parasitoids (MRCA = 3.0 [95% PCI: 0–12.0] million years) attacking *Pseudoneuroterus* galls (MRCA = 7.1 [95% PCI: 4.1–11.0]). Coldspots (blue) indicate links whose absence (incidence models) or low frequency (frequency models) shows a strong phylogenetic pattern. Examples (particularly visible for frequency
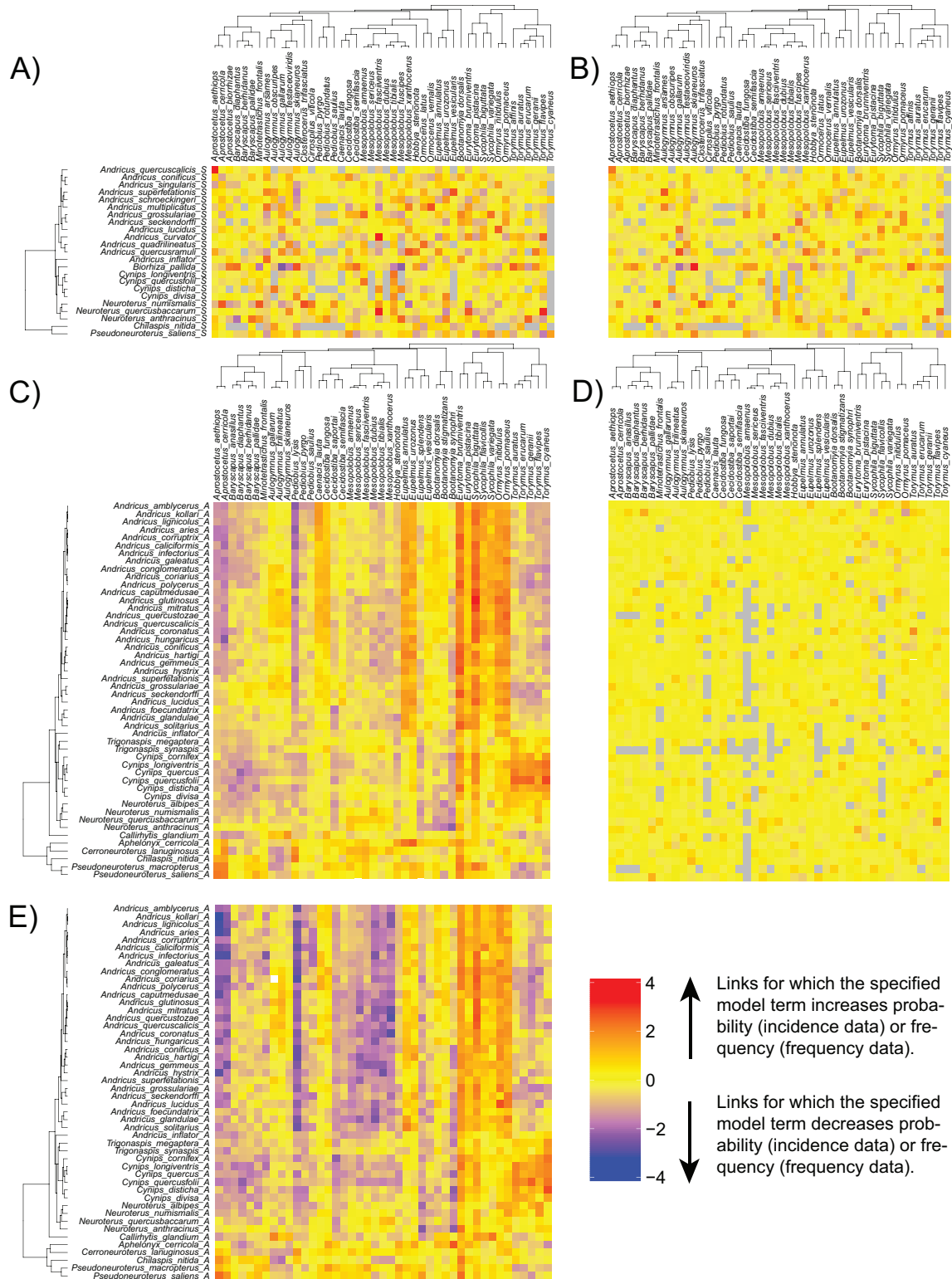
Figure 4: Heat maps showing the extent to which specified model terms increase (red) or decrease (blue) link probability (incidence model) or frequency (frequency model). Gray cells indicate host and parasitoid links whose solution was not estimated because the two species were not present in the same site and generation (i.e., structural zeros; see "Methods"). Cell values are posterior modes of the predicted MCMCglmm solutions (see "Methods"). In all plots, parasitoid taxa are arranged across the top, and cynipid gall generations are arranged down the side. *A*, Sexual generation incidence model parasitoid × host species interaction term. *B*, Sexual generation frequency model parasitoid × host species interaction term. *C*, Asexual generation incidence model cophylogenetic interaction term. *D*, Asexual generation incidence model parasitoid × host species interaction term. *E*, Asexual generation frequency model cophylogenetic interaction term. Gall taxon lists omitted from *B* and *D* are the same as those in panels to the left, and the parasitoid taxon list omitted from *E* is the same as for the panel above.

E13

data in fig. 4*E*) include low levels of interaction between *Andricus* gall wasps and each of (i) *Aprostocetus* parasitoids, (ii) *Pediobius lysis*, and (iii) a clade of pteromalid parasitoids in the genera *Cecidostiba* and *Mesopolobus.*

The two other phylogenetic effects in link identity (parasitoid phylogenetic interaction and host phylogenetic interaction; table 1) were nonsignificant for all four core models. While ICCs were substantial for the parasitoid phylogenetic interaction in the sexual generation incidence model (median ICC = 0.133) and for the host phylogenetic interaction in the asexual generation frequency model (median ICC = 0.099), in both cases the lower bound of the 95% CI abutted zero, and thus neither was significant by our threshold criterion (table 1). The asexual generation frequency model including structural zeros for unsampled taxa (option 2; see the "Model fitting" section in "Methods") provided stronger support for a host phylogenetic interaction (table S9), indicating (in addition to a significant cophylogenetic interaction) a further tendency for related hosts to be attacked by similar sets of unrelated parasitoids. The lack of individually significant phylogenetic terms in the sexual generation models despite high and significant ICC_{PHY} values suggests that while there is substantial phylogenetic signal, it is not possible with our data to allocate it consistently to specific model terms.

Both generations showed additional patterning in link identity that was not associated with phylogenetic relationships in either trophic level (parasitoid × host species interaction). This nonphylogenetic effect was supported in both incidence and frequency models and had higher ICC values for the sexual than for the asexual generation (table 1; the effect was marginally nonsignificant for the asexual generation frequency model by our threshold criterion). As we would expect for a nonphylogenetic effect, the strongly contributing links (dark red or blue in fig. 4*A*, 4*B*, 4*D*) are not phylogenetically clustered. We find many more strongly contributing links in models for the sexual generation (fig. 4*A*, 4*B*) than for the asexual generation (fig. 4*D*). The taxa involved in the strongly contributing links in the sexual generation are taxonomically diverse in both trophic levels and again are very similar in incidence and frequency models (fig. 4*A*, 4*B*).

Sensitivity of Inference to Sampling Effort and Pooling of Data across Sites

Removal of sampling effort as a covariate in incidence models did not change the most strongly supported model terms in either generation dataset. Models without sampling effort had generally higher ICCs for link richness model terms (e.g., in the sexual generation the median ICC for the host phylogeny effect increased from 0.179 [95% CI: 0.00–0.47] to 0.316 [95% CI: 0.00–0.59]), al-

though these terms remained nonsignificant (see the supplemental PDF, sec. S3, and tables S8, S9).

For all four datasets, models in which data were pooled across sites showed elevated ICCs for most phylogenetic model terms relative to the equivalent full model (option 2; tables S4, S5) but no change in which of these were significant. Reallocation of site-associated variance to other terms in the pooled models was primarily apparent in elevated link richness terms. In the sexual generation frequency model, the ICC for the parasitoid species effect increased from a mean/mode of 0.054/0.047 (95% CI: 0.008–0.116; nonsignificant) to 0.112/0.084 (95% CI: 0.026–0.227; significant). In the asexual generation frequency model, the ICC for the host species effect increased from 0.047/ 0.034 (95% CI: 0.000–0.098; nonsignificant) to 0.141/ 0.132 (95% CI: 0.077–0.227; significant).

Sensitivity of Model Results to Sampling Intensity

Our full datasets incorporated near-complete sampling of the regional species pool for host galls (observed sexual and asexual generation richnesses are 100% and 98%, respectively, of the Jack-1 predicted values) but were less complete for parasitoid richness (86%) and interaction richness (75%; see fig. S4). We used analyses of in silico subsampled datasets to assess the possible impact of incomplete sampling on our inference. Subsampling to 75%, 50%, 25%, 10%, and 5% of the complete datasets had little effect on host gall richness, which even for the 5% subsamples exceeded 80% and 88% of Jack-1 estimates for the complete sexual and asexual generation datasets, respectively. The effects of subsampling were more pronounced for parasitoid richness and link richness, which in the 5% subsamples (590/1,342 galls for the sexual/asexual generation datasets) fell to around 50% and 20% of Jack-1 estimates for the complete data, respectively (fig. S2).

For most model terms identified as significant in the complete dataset, increasing levels of data reduction were associated with increasing variance in modal ICC estimates across replicate subsamples (fig. 5*B*), lack of significance in a growing proportion of them (fig. 5*A*), and hence an increasing type II (false negative) error rate. While the impact of data reduction on ICC variance was generally stronger in incidence than frequency models (as predicted), for most terms the consequences for significance, and hence inference, were similar for both data types (fig. 5*A*).

For both generations and data types, the same model terms identified as significant in the full datasets remained significant in >80% of subsampling replicates with 50% data reduction (fig. 5*A*). For the sexual generation, power to detect a significant parasitoid × host species interaction in both datasets remained >75% even down to 5%
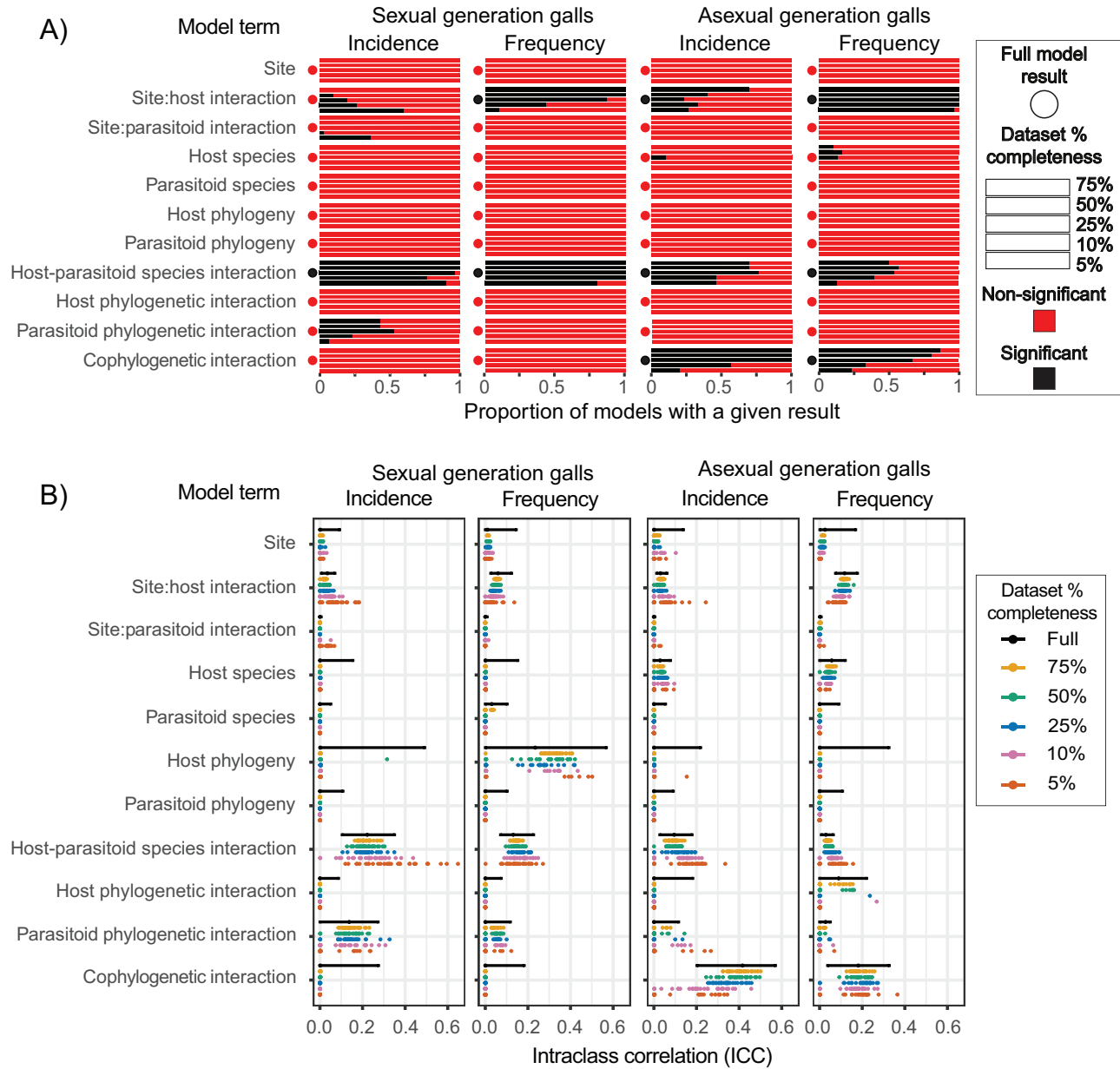
Figure 5: *A*, Proportion of models for each generation and data type in which a given model term was significant (black bars; i.e., the lower bound of the 95% credible interval for intraclass correlation coefficient [ICC] greater than 0.01) or nonsignificant (red bars) for different levels of data reduction. Filled circles to the left of each panel indicate the outcome for the model of the full dataset. Bars in each panel represent the proportion of significant and nonsignificant outcomes for each model term over 30 replicate data subsets for levels of data completeness (75%, 50%, 25%, 10%, and 5%). *B*, ICCs for models of parasitoid incidence and frequency on sexual and asexual generation galls. For models of full datasets, black circles and bars represent the posterior mode and 95% credible intervals for ICC estimates. For subsampled datasets, colored circles represent the posterior modes for each of 30 replicate data subsets.

subsampling. For the asexual generation, power to detect a significant cophylogenetic interaction and host-parasitoid species interaction was more sensitive to data reduction in frequency rather than incidence models; power to detect the cophylogenetic interaction with incidence data re-

mained 100% down to 25% sampling. Power to detect the site × host interaction term (variation in host richness or average abundance between sites), significant in three of the four core full data models, declined in the sexual generation frequency and asexual generation incidence models

but remained close to 100% even at 5% subsampling in the asexual generation frequency model. In contrast, while the site × host interaction term was not significant in the sexual generation incidence model for the full dataset, the number of model replicates in which it was significant increased with reduced sampling, reaching 50% for the 5% dataset.

Discussion

Bipartite interaction networks are inherently parameter-rich datasets, varying in the richness and composition of interacting taxa and in the strength and distribution of links between these. Considerable effort continues to be invested in characterizing patterns in these parameters, both to identify signatures of underlying drivers of network structure (Russo et al. 2018; Harmon et al. 2019; Hembry and Weber 2020; Blasco-Costa et al. 2021; Strydom et al. 2021; Dismukes et al. 2022; Perez-Lamarque and Morlon 2024) and to develop predictive models of link properties for unsampled species (Pearse and Altermatt 2013, 2015; Heimpel et al. 2021; Strydom et al. 2021, 2022, 2023). Two-phylogeny GLMMs (2PhyGLMMs) provide a powerful and flexible framework for coestimation of these multiple-parameter patterns. In particular, when applied to multisite data, 2PhyGLMMs allow partitioning of patterns into components with and without phylogenetic structure and hence the extent to which link properties are predictable from phylogenetic information alone. To date, 2PhyGLMMs have been used in only a small number of studies encompassing host-parasite interactions (mammals and fleas [Hadfield et al. 2014], sawflies and their host plants [Endara et al. 2018], birds and malaria [Galen et al. 2019]), plant-bacteria associations (Lajoie and Kembel 2021), and insect visits to flowers (Rafferty and Ives 2013). Our analysis provides the first application to host-parasitoid interactions and joins Hadfield et al. (2014) and Endara et al. (2018) in using spatially structured sampling to separate phylogenetic and nonphylogenetic effects.

Our overarching question is whether associations between cynipid galls and chalcid parasitoids have a strong phylogenetic signal (in host galls, parasitoids, or both) or show strong spatially consistent structure independent of phylogeny in either group. Our rationale is that these patterns reflect alternative distributions of the phenotypic traits that structure parasitoid-gall associations and hence suggest alternative selective and/or sorting processes acting on these traits. Separate models for communities associated with the two generations in the gall wasp life cycle had substantial explanatory power, suggesting that some network properties in this system are statistically predictable. Phylogenetic signal was substantial—strongest in the asexual generation community (expressed us-ing the summary statistic ICC_{PHY}) and much stronger for link identity than for link richness or frequency. Signal for significant model terms was contributed by specific subsets of gall-parasitoid associations, facilitating future targeted research on structuring traits. Our results are robust to whether we use incidence (link presence/absence) or frequency (link abundance) data, whether or not we include sample size as a measure of sampling effort, and to alternative approaches to modeling available pools of interacting species.

Interpreting Patterns in Association Networks

The association networks in this study represent interactions between parasitoids and unknown concealed hosts in three guilds: cynipid gall inducers, herbivorous cynipid inquilines, and other parasitoids (Askew 1961*b*, 1965, 1975). Some parasitoid species that contribute signal to significant model terms in our study (red cells in fig. 4) are only known to attack the gall inducer (*Aulogymnus* and *Pediobius* species, *Sycophila* species, *Torymus cyaneus*), while others feed on two or all three host guilds (*Bootanomyia dorsalis*, *Eupelmus urozonus*, *Eurytoma brunniventris*, *Hobbya stenonota*, *Mesopolobus fasciiventris*, *M. jucundus*, *Torymus auratus*, *T. erucarum*, and *T. geranii*; Askew 1961*a*, 1961*b*, 1961*c*, 1965, 1975; Schönrogge et al. 1995). We do not know the relative contributions of links with alternative host guilds to the associations in our data. Observed patterns in link properties could thus reflect direct impacts of the inducer's extended gall phenotype on gall wasp–parasitoid links or indirect impacts on links between parasitoids and noninducer hosts. Thus, a cophylogenetic interaction in our data could indicate either that related parasitoids feed on related gall inducing wasps or that related parasitoids feed on similar sets of noninducer hosts that occupy the galls of related gall wasps. Similarly, low support for a link identity term could arise either because no pattern exists or because parasitoid links with galls are a poor proxy for links with noninducer hosts within the galls. The main alternative hosts for parasitoids in this system are cynipid inquilines (Askew 1961*a*, 1961*b*, 1961*c*; Schönrogge et al. 1995). Discovery of multiple cryptic inquiline taxa means that much of the western palaearctic data on inquiline–gall inducer links needs to be verified (Ács et al. 2010). In American communities, cynipid inquilines show a significant (but weak and phylogenetically patchy) signal of cophylogeny with inducing gall wasps (Ward et al. 2024). It is thus possible that indirect effects could in principle contribute to the patterns observed in our study. A key aspect of this system is that regardless of host taxon, all parasitoid attack takes place through gall tissues, which are an extended phenotype of the inducing gall wasp. It is thus of interest to consider impacts

of gall inducer identity and phylogeny on parasitoid link properties. Similar logic would apply to analysis of species associations in other phenotypic microcosms harboring specialized communities, such as pitcher plants (Bittleston et al. 2018) or the nests of ants (Parmentier et al. 2020) and birds (Hanzelka et al. 2023).

Link Richness and Frequency

Link richness and frequency are influenced both by species traits (Ollerton et al. 2007; Stokke et al. 2018; Pichler et al. 2019) and by temporal and spatial variation that can obscure trait-related patterns (Askew 1980; Berlow et al. 2004; Tylianakis and Morris 2017). Some mutualistic pollination and fruit dispersal networks (Rezende et al. 2007*a*; Tedersoo et al. 2013) and antagonist parasite-host networks (Poulin et al. 2011) show phylogenetic signal in link richness, but much less is known in general about patterns in link frequency (Bailey et al. 2009). We found significant nonphylogenetic spatial patterns in link richness (species degree) and average link frequency (interaction strength) for host galls but no significant tendency for related host galls to be attacked by a similar richness of parasitoids or to experience a similar mean parasitoid attack rate. Parasitoids showed neither significant spatial nor phylogenetic patterns, with little evidence that related parasitoids are similarly specialist or generalist or attack hosts at similar average rates. Our results suggest that gall traits have a stronger impact on variation in link richness and frequency than parasitoid traits and/or that any impact of parasitoid traits is more strongly masked by incomplete host information or other ecological and population dynamic effects (Washburn and Cornell 1981; Tylianakis and Morris 2017). Either way, our dataset shows limited potential for phylogeny-based prediction of these parameters.

Link Identity

We found strong phylogenetic and nonphylogenetic patterns in link identity (table 1). Phylogenetic signal was greater than nonphylogenetic signal overall, but only significantly so (i.e., lower confidence limits for $ICC_{REL-PHY} > 0.5$) in the asexual generation dataset. Phylogenetic signal (ICC_{PHY}) was greater for the asexual generation network but was also substantial and significantly nonzero for the sexual generation dataset. Lack of significance for any single phylogenetic effect in the sexual generation dataset is likely a consequence of insufficient informativeness (lack of orthogonality) in the data for separating out the many random effect predictors in the model.

The dominant cophylogenetic signature in the asexual generation network parallels similar signatures in other host-parasitoid networks (Ives and Godfray 2006; Nyman

et al. 2007; Leppänen et al. 2013; Wang et al. 2023), host-pathogen interactions (Clark and Clegg 2017), marine food webs (Eklöf and Stouffer 2016), and mutualistic plant-pollinator and plant-frugivore networks (Rezende et al. 2007*b*). The strongest pattern in the sexual generation network, however, was nonphylogenetic: similar sets of unrelated parasitoids tend to attack (and show similar attack rates on) similar sets of unrelated host galls across sites. This same nonphylogenetic effect was also present, although less strongly, in asexual generation galls. To our knowledge, this is the first study of herbivore-parasitoid communities to reveal such spatially consistent patterns in link identity, having controlled for phylogenetic and sample size effects.

Previous studies have found greater phylogenetic conservatism in link identity for hosts/prey than for their parasites/predators (Ives and Godfray 2006; Naisbit et al. 2012; Peralta 2016; Cruz-Laufer et al. 2022), perhaps reflecting more rapid evolution of traits determining enemy ability to exploit hosts/prey than of traits determining host/prey vulnerability (Peralta 2016). In our particular case, we might also expect stronger phylogenetic effects for host galls than parasitoids because the parasitoids attacking each gall comprise representatives of phylogenetically diverse chalcidoid families that diverged before the origin of oak gall wasps and associated inquiline cynipids (see below). If there were stronger phylogenetic signal in link identity for galls than for parasitoids, we would expect ICC support for the host phylogenetic interaction having controlled for the cophylogenetic interaction. While we found no evidence of this in models for associations at the site level (option 1), this prediction was supported for models in which gall-parasitoid associations at any single site were assumed to be possible at all sites (option 2; table S9). There is thus some evidence that the pattern in oak gall communities parallels that seen in other systems.

Host-Parasitoid Community Assembly

The patterns discussed above suggest that parasitoid-gall associations are shaped at least in part by the distributions across each trophic level of phenotypic traits predicting species overlap in space and time (such as habitat, host plant, phenology, population size, and geographic distribution; Plantard and Hochberg 1998; Lindenfors et al. 2007; Slove and Janz 2011; Slatyer et al. 2013; Nicholls et al. 2018; Warren et al. 2022) and the outcome of encounters between species. For parasitoids, candidate traits for successful exploitation of a host within a gall include behavioral and physiological traits (such as chemosensory systems) that allow detection of the gall and of hosts concealed within it, morphological traits (such as ovipositor length) that allow successful oviposition through gall and nongall

plant tissues (fig. 2*I*–2*K*), and the ability to develop on the resources a host provides (Askew 1965, 1980; Quicke et al. 1998; Egan and Ott 2007; Bailey et al. 2009). Candidate traits in host galls that are under inducer control and influence the probability of parasitoid attack include morphological (Bailey et al. 2009; Egan et al. 2011) and chemical (Guiguet et al. 2023) defenses and nectar-based recruitment of ant bodyguards (Abe 1992; Inouye and Agrawal 2004; Warren et al. 2022). Our contrasting results for sexual and asexual generation datasets could indicate structuring by different sets of gall and parasitoid traits, contrasting evolutionary histories of the same (or overlapping) sets of traits in each gall generation, or contrasting impacts of trait-independent population processes.

All of the inducer-controlled gall traits above thought to mediate gall-parasitoid interactions appear able to evolve independently in sexual and asexual gall generations and show examples of both convergent evolution and phylogenetic conservatism within gall wasp lineages (Stone and Cook 1998; Cook et al. 2002; Stone et al. 2009; Nicholls et al. 2017; Ward et al. 2022). While little is known about patterns of evolution in traits associated with host location behavior in chalcidoid parasitoids, ovipositor length shows both phylogenetic conservatism and convergent evolution (Al Khatib et al. 2016; Maletti et al. 2021). The significant patterns in link identity in both gall generations that are uncorrelated with either phylogeny are compatible with ecological sorting of associations by convergently evolved traits in galls and parasitoids. In contrast, the dominant cophylogenetic interaction in asexual generation galls confirms a major role for structuring by traits that are phylogenetically conserved in both trophic levels. Cophylogenetic patterns can arise through (*a*) coevolutionary codiversification, driven by arms race–type reciprocal adaptive change in gall defenses and parasitoid countermeasures (Currie et al. 2003); (*b*) phylogenetic host tracking, in which parasitoids radiate across an existing diversity of hosts; or (*c*) trait-based sorting of existing parasitoid lineages over a later radiation of hosts (ecological sorting; Janz 2011; Althoff et al. 2014). The chalcid parasitoid lineages in our study diversified more than 125 million years ago (Cruaud et al. 2024), long before cynipid gall wasp or associated inquiline hosts were available (Blaimer et al. 2020). Assembly of this community has thus involved independent shifts onto gall wasp hosts by multiple parasitoid lineages over tens of millions of years, implying an initial role for ecological sorting (the same is true for parasitoids attacking sawfly hosts; Leppänen et al. 2013). Concordant ages for some gall wasp and parasitoid divergence events (e.g., for *Eupelmus* parasitoids attacking *Andricus* galls and for *Aprostocetus* parasitoids attacking *Pseudoneuroterus* galls) are more compatible with simultaneous diversification (codiversification).

One way to improve our models and better understand underlying processes would be to incorporate candidate traits for both trophic levels as additional variables in our models (Ives 2022). Our heat maps of predicted model solutions (fig. 4) identify which species associations contribute most to observed patterns, providing a hypothesis for the cross-species distribution of structuring traits. A strength of MCMCglmm and similar model-based approaches (Rafferty and Ives 2013; Ives 2022) is that incorporation of trait data is straightforward in principle, although the models may take a very long time to run. Persistently strong phylogenetic or nonphylogenetic model terms after inclusion of known candidate traits would imply either that the candidate traits have been correctly identified but incorrectly quantified or that additional important structuring traits remain to be discovered. Endara et al. (2018) provide an example of this approach, incorporating plant defensive chemistry traits into a 2PhyGLMM analysis of interactions between *Inga* tree and insect herbivores across multiple sites in South America.

Food Web Prediction in the Absence of Trait Data

High values of ICC_{PHY} in our models indicate high power to predict associations involving specific gall types or parasitoid species based on phylogenetic position in the absence of trait data (Ives and Godfray 2006; Poisot and Stouffer 2018; Braga et al. 2020, 2021; Strydom et al. 2022). High phylogenetic signal in our models could reflect the fact that our network involves a single clade of gall inducers and representatives of a single parasitoid superfamily. Other trophic networks (and many flower visitation networks) involve sets of species in much more distantly related lineages. In MCMCglmm, phylogenetic covariance between a pair of taxa is modeled as the proportion of total tree height that is shared from the root of the phylogeny to their most recent common ancestor. The greater this proportion, the greater the expected covariance (Hadfield 2010; Hadfield and Nakagawa 2010). One potential consequence of incorporating sets of species in phylogenetically distant lineages is that long basal branches compress the informative component of branch length information toward the tips, resulting in very high expected covariance in each major lineage, which gives lower power to estimate phylogenetic effects. This is an issue amenable to exploration using simulated datasets. One potential solution would be to estimate model terms separately for each phylogenetically distant lineage.

For our data, ICC_{PHY} and $ICC_{REL-PHY}$ values also indicate greater power to predict link identity in models based on incidence data rather than frequency data. Given the substantial effort required to sample interaction data, the extent to which interactions can be accurately predicted by

trait-free phylogenetic models is an important question (Pearse and Altermatt 2013; Strydom et al. 2021). In networks with strong phylogenetic signal, such an approach has high potential applied value in relatively low-cost prediction of interactions involving invasive species, introduced control agents, and species of conservation concern. A potential focus for such approaches includes prediction of the native natural enemies attacking the pest chestnut gall wasp *Dryocosmus kuriphilus* and prediction of risk to non-target gall wasp hosts associated with widespread release of its biological control agent, *Torymus sinensis* (Gil-Tapetado et al. 2023). The strong nonphylogenetic effects we observed can also have predictive power, but only for the specific species and sites present in the tested dataset. An interesting avenue for future research is to survey the variation in ICC_{PHY} and $ICC_{REL-PHY}$ values across different types of interaction networks. Such a comparative approach should be helpful in identifying key drivers of phylogenetic signal, having controlled for other effects.

Critique of Our Data and Approach

Inference from two-phylogeny mixed models is potentially sensitive to multiple aspects of the data used to construct the network and phylogenies, as well as the sampling design. We therefore assessed potential impacts of sampling completeness (Goldwasser and Roughgarden 1997; Jordano 2016), modeling of sample size (Gotelli and Colwell 2011; Chao et al. 2020), available species pools (Hadfield et al. 2014), and spatial structure (Thompson and Townsend 2005; Brimacombe et al. 2023). Here we consider these in turn, together with potential impacts of phylogenetic uncertainty (Perez-Lamarque et al. 2022).

Sampling Completeness. Analyses of simulated networks show that the sampling effort required to adequately estimate network properties is strongly dependent on sampling design and underlying network topology (de Aguiar et al. 2019). The same considerations are likely to influence MCMCglmm model-based inference. Our analyses of replicate subsampled datasets showed that power to identify the same sets of significant model terms was largely resilient to at least 50% data reduction (fig. 5*A*). Such stability of inference implies that the patterns we observe in the full datasets are unlikely to be artifacts of undersampling. While this resilience may reflect the large size of our multisite dataset, it also suggests that robust inference may be possible from analyses of other networks with substantially lower sampling than this study.

Sample Size. We incorporated sample size as a covariate in incidence models to capture the potential impact of the numbers of each species sampled on the detection of links involving them (Nyman et al. 2007; Bailey et al. 2009; Hadfield et al. 2014; Endara et al. 2018). However, interspecific variation in sample size likely reflects underlying variation in population size, a biological trait that can covary with phylogeny or niche (Vazquez et al. 2005). Incorporation of sampling effort thus has the potential to reduce support for other model terms (Hadfield et al. 2014). We assessed potential for this effect by comparing models with and without incorporation of sample size. For both generation incidence datasets, exclusion did not change the dominant (i.e., highest ICC) model term, although a significant parasitoid × host species interaction was lost for the asexual generation (table S5).

Phylogenetic Uncertainty. We expect ability to accurately resolve phylogenetic patterns in link properties to depend on the strength of those patterns, the topology of the true phylogeny, and the accuracy with which empirically derived phylogenies capture true relationships (Ives and Godfray 2006; Hadfield et al. 2014; Ives 2022; Perez-Lamarque et al. 2022). Errors that distort the relative phylogenetic distances between taxa distort the covariance matrix used by MCMCglmm and hence potentially influence model results and inference. Uncertainty over relationships basal to the most recent common ancestor of a pair of taxa does not alter the branch length they share and so has no direct impact on MCMCglmm models. We have high confidence in our gall wasp phylogeny (fig. S2), which has high congruence in topology with a previous analysis using larger samples of taxa and hundreds of genes (Blaimer et al. 2020). Resolving chalcid parasitoid relationships is much more challenging, due to a widely recognized signature of rapid radiation (short internal branch lengths) toward the root of the phylogeny (Munro et al. 2011; Cruaud et al. 2024). We therefore used information from recent phylogenomic analyses to inform construction of our parasitoid phylogeny (app. 2, fig. A2). Our phylogeny resolves the same monophyletic families as a recent genome-level analysis with high support (Cruaud et al. 2024). Because our phylogenetic uncertainty for parasitoids largely concerns support for short internal branches deep in the phylogeny, we suggest that impacts on estimates of variance-covariance, and hence on our inference, will be small. One could quantify the impact of phylogenetic uncertainty by fitting MCMCglmm models to sets of alternative phylogenies for one or both trophic levels (Healy et al. 2014). However, the computational effort required to do this in MCMCglmm would be prohibitive—it would take more than 25 core years on the machine used in this study to do only a hundred replicates of each of the core models.

Available Species Pools. A potentially important issue in modeling of species interactions concerns the interpretation

of links that are present at some sites but not others. Each unobserved link could be genuinely absent or be present but undetected (Olesen et al. 2011; Terry and Lewis 2020). We fitted alternative models for these situations in MCMCglmm (our options 1 and 2). For our data, the two options gave the same dominant effects—the main difference being the significant support for a host phylogenetic interaction in addition to a significant cophylogenetic interaction only for option 2 in the asexual generation frequency model. In the Western Palaearctic, the oak gall wasp system is characterized both by short-term patchiness in distributions and frequencies of interaction of individual species (captured by our option 1; Askew 1980; Washburn and Cornell 1981) and by geographically wide distributions and records of species interaction (captured by option 2; Askew et al. 2013; Bunnefeld et al. 2018). In each study system the truth is likely to lie somewhere between these two models, and the extent to which their results are concordant provides an indication of how sensitive inference is to model choice.

Spatial Structure. Incorporation of site-level information is fundamental to estimating nonphylogenetic patterns in link properties in our full MCMCglmm models because this effect is estimated through consistency of interactions across replicate samples. Incorporation of site-level information was particularly important for our sexual generation models—we would have detected no significant patterns in link identity without it. Incorporation of site-level information also allows controlling for spatial variation in abundance in both trophic levels, with the possibility of scoring unsampled interactions as structural zeros rather than real data zeros (see preceding paragraph). The effect this can have on inference suggests that spatial structure should be incorporated where possible (Hadfield et al. 2014).

Conclusions

This study shows how a rigorous statistical methodology can disentangle multiple patterns in link properties. Oak gall–parasitoid associations show substantial cophylogenetic signal in link identity, suggesting structuring by phylogenetically conserved traits in both galls and parasitoids and utility in predicting associations for unsampled species. Strong link identity patterns that are not associated with either the gall or the parasitoid phylogeny are potentially attributable to convergent evolution in traits associated with gall defense and parasitoid attack. Further analyses, such as simulations of coevolution followed by examination of resulting patterns, are needed to more closely examine links between pattern and process. It remains to be seen how strong these and other patterns are in other antagonistic and mutualistic interaction networks.

Statement of Authorship

G.N.S., A.B.P., and K.S. conceptualized the research and raised the funding. R.I.B. and G.L.C. designed the field sampling, collected the field samples, identified the galls, and reared the gall inhabitants. G.M. and J.-L.N.-A. identified gall inhabitants and provided samples for DNA extraction. C.-T.T., J.A.N., and Y.M.Z. generated and analyzed the DNA sequence data. F.H.S. led the statistical modeling, data visualization, and data management, with assistance from A.B.P., K.S., and R.I.B. The lead writers of the article were G.N.S. and F.H.S., with editorial input from R.I.B., A.B.P., A.R., K.S., C.-T.T., and Y.M.Z.

Data and Code Availability

R code for our analyses (including intraclass correlation calculations and figure plotting) and the link datasets are available in the Edinburgh DataArchive (https://doi.org/10.7488/ds/7760; Sinclair et al. 2024).

APPENDIX

Table A1 provides interpretations and potential causal processes for significant terms in MCMCglmm models for incidence and frequency data. A link in table A1 is defined as a bipartite association between specific host gall and parasitoid taxa. Host here refers to the gall from which a parasitoid emerged rather than its trophic host. In incidence models, link richness (how many taxa a focal taxon is linked to) is also termed the degree, specialization, or generality of a parasitoid species and the vulnerability of a host. In frequency models, the equivalent terms capture variation in the mean frequency with which a focal taxon interacts with others and are measures of interaction strength. Link identity (which species interact) is also termed host range or host repertoire. For the site random effect, which links are considered possible depends on whether unsampled links are modeled as totally absent (structural zeros, option 1) or present but unrecorded (data zeros, option 2; see "Methods").

Table A1: Model terms and the corresponding interpretations if substantiated in incidence- or frequency-based MCMCglmm models

Term	Description	Interpretation	
		Incidence models	Frequency models
Fixed effect terms:			
ln(no. hosts sampled)	Natural log of number of galls of a particular type from a site, fitted as a fixed effect	Controls for interspecies and intersite variation in the number of host galls sampled	Not fitted
ln(no. parasitoids sampled)	Natural log of number of parasitoids of a particular species from a site, fitted as a fixed effect	Controls for interspecies and intersite variation in the number of parasitoids sampled	Not fitted
Random effect terms:			
Site	Random factor with a level for each sampling site[†]	Estimates among-site variation in the proportion of realized links between parasitoids and hosts (of those considered possible in the model)	Estimates among-site variation in the average frequency of parasitoids per host (of those considered possible in the model)
Site × host interaction	Random factor with a level for each observed site/host taxon combination[†]	Estimates among-site variation in host richness	Estimates variation among site × host combinations in the average frequency of parasitoids
Site × parasitoid interaction	Random factor with a level for each observed site/parasitoid taxon combination[†]	Estimates among-site variation in parasitoid richness	Estimates variation among site × parasitoid combinations in the average frequency of hosts
Host species (r_h)	Random factor with a level for each host taxon[†]	Estimates among-host-species (nonphylogenetic) variation in link richness	Estimates among-host-species (nonphylogenetic) variation in average link frequency
Parasitoid species (r_p)	Random factor with a level for each parasitoid taxon[†]	Estimates among-parasitoid-species (nonphylogenetic) link richness	Estimates among-parasitoid-species (nonphylogenetic) variation in average link frequency
Host phylogeny ($r_{[h]}$)[a]	Random factor with a level for each host taxon and variance-covariance between levels based on the inverse of the host phylogeny	Estimates among-host-species (phylogenetic) variation in link richness; tests whether related hosts show similar link richness	Estimates among-host-species (phylogenetic) variation in link frequency; tests whether related hosts show similar average link frequency
Parasitoid phylogeny ($r_{[p]}$)[b]	Random factor with a level for each host taxon and variance-covariance between levels based on the inverse of the parasitoid phylogeny	Estimates among-parasitoid-species (phylogenetic) variation in link richness; tests whether related parasitoids show similar link richness	Estimates among-parasitoid-species (phylogenetic) variation in link frequency; tests whether related parasitoids show similar average link frequency
Parasitoid × host species interaction (r_{ph})[c]	Random factor with a level for each observed host-parasitoid link[†]	Estimates the variation in link probability across host (nonphylogenetic) and parasitoid (nonphylogenetic) pairs; tests whether parasitoids have sets of hosts that are not explained by either phylogeny but are consistent across sites	Estimates the variation in link frequency across host (nonphylogenetic) and parasitoid (nonphylogenetic) pairs; tests whether parasitoids have similar frequencies on particular sets of hosts that are not explained by either phylogeny but are consistent across sites
Host phylogenetic interaction ($r_{p[h]}$)[d]	Random factor with a level for each observed host-parasitoid link, with variance-covariance between levels based on the Kronecker product of the inverted host phylogeny and a parasitoid identity matrix	Estimates the variation in link probability across host (phylogenetic) and parasitoid (nonphylogenetic) pairs; tests whether related hosts have similar sets of parasitoids (independent of parasitoid phylogeny)	Estimates the variation in link frequency across host (phylogenetic) and parasitoid (nonphylogenetic) pairs; tests whether related hosts have similar frequencies of particular parasitoids (independent of parasitoid phylogeny)

Table A1 (*Continued*)

Term	Description	Interpretation	
		Incidence models	Frequency models
Parasitoid phylogenetic interaction ($r_{[p]h}$)[e]	Random factor with a level for each observed host-parasitoid link, with variance-covariance between levels based on the Kronecker product of the inverted parasitoid phylogeny and a host identity matrix	Estimates the variation in link probability across host (nonphylogenetic) and parasitoid (phylogenetic) pairs; tests whether related parasitoids have similar sets of hosts (independent of host phylogeny)	Estimates the variation in link frequency across host (nonphylogenetic) and parasitoid (phylogenetic) pairs; tests whether related parasitoids have similar frequencies on particular hosts (independent of host phylogeny)
Cophylogenetic interaction ($r_{[ph]}$)[f]	Random factor with a level for each observed host-parasitoid link, with variance-covariance between levels based on the Kronecker product of the inverted host and parasitoid phylogenies	Estimates the variation in link probability across host (phylogenetic) and parasitoid (phylogenetic) pairs; tests whether related parasitoids attack related hosts	Estimates the variation in link frequency across host (phylogenetic) and parasitoid (phylogenetic) pairs; tests whether related parasitoids are similarly frequent on related hosts
Residual	Random factor with a level for each unique combination of host and parasitoid taxa and site, plus an additional distribution-specific variance	Estimates the variation in incidence across observations (i.e., an interaction at a site); note that for incidence models, the random factor is not fitted but is fixed at 1, and the distribution-specific variance is $\pi^{2/3}$	Estimates variation in parasitoid frequency across observations (i.e., an interaction at a site); note that the distribution-specific variance is estimated as $\ln(1/\exp(\text{intercept})) + 1$.

Note: Abbreviations in parentheses after a term name are as used by Hadfield et al. (2014). Nonphylogenetic random effect terms that are marked with a dagger (†) incorporate an identity matrix for variance-covariance between levels. Footnotes attached to model terms indicate a process or processes that could generate significant signal for that term. NB: a significant model term does not imply that all host and/or parasitoid links contribute to signal for that term but that at least a subset do.

[a] A significant host phylogeny effect implies that host traits substantially correlated with link richness or average link frequency are phylogenetically conserved.

[b] A significant parasitoid phylogeny effect implies that parasitoid traits substantially correlated with link richness or average link frequency are phylogenetically conserved.

[c] A significant parasitoid × host species interaction implies that traits substantially correlated with link identity are phylogenetically labile in both hosts and parasitoids.

[d] A significant host phylogenetic interaction implies that traits substantially correlated with link identity are phylogenetically conserved in hosts but are more labile in parasitoids.

[e] A significant parasitoid phylogenetic interaction implies that traits substantially correlated with link identity are phylogenetically conserved in parasitoids but are more labile in hosts.

[f] A significant cophylogenetic interaction has multiple possible causes, not all of which are trait related: (1) simultaneous codiversification of hosts and parasitoids; (2) delayed host tracking (radiation of parasitoids across an existing radiation of hosts, where the ability to utilize a host depends on host and parasitoid traits, both of which are phylogenetically conserved); and (3) geographic vicariance–driven speciation of hosts and their parasitoids, followed by secondary sympatry in both trophic levels.

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Photograph of the asexual generation galls of a European cynipid gallwasp, *Dryocosmus cerriphilus*. These galls develop in a gregarious mass on the stems of European Turkey oak, *Quercus cerris*, and they secrete nectar to recruit ants. These *Formica gegates* ants drive away (and sometimes catch and eat) parasitoid wasps that attempt to lay their eggs inside the *Dryocosmus* galls. Nectar secretion has evolved repeatedly in cynipids and is discussed in another article in *The American Naturalist* (J. A. Nicholls, G. Melika, and G. N. Stone. 2016. Sweet tetra-trophic interactions: multiple evolutions of nectar secretion, a defensive extended phenotype in cynipid gallwasps. *American Naturalist* 189:67–77). Photo credit: György Csóka.