# Towards a Reliability Index for Clades: an Application on Acantomorph Teleosts

Blaise Li and Guillaume Lecointre



## UMR 7138 Département Systématique et Évolution Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle - Paris

ASIH annual meeting - 11 July, 2005

## How to measure a result's quality ?

- Does it resist data perturbation (robustness) ?
- What is the credit given to a statement about relationships among species (**reliability**) ?

## How to measure reliability ?

Use multiple data sets

Combine the data into a single matrix or keep it separate ?

### **Combined analysis (« Total Evidence »)**



Drawback: a marker-specific bias can influence the inference from the whole data during the optimization process

### Separate analysis



Biological background knowledge is needed to justify delineation and independence of the data sets

Drawbacks: higher stochastic effects full expression of marker-specific biases

## How to measure reliability ?

Consider corroboration between **independent parts** of the data (with **partial data combination**)

## About independent data

Choose basic markers you postulate to evolve independently

Thus, if a marker is subject to some bias, you would expect that bias not to exist for the other markers also

It increases the chance that **repeated results** are caused by a shared feature of the data sets: the history of the taxa represented by the markers

## Partial combinations...



(a,b). Is it true historical signal ?

## ... to reduce stochastic effects



B+C corroborates (a,b). Partial combination overcame some stochastic effects that prevented (a,b) from appearing.

# A repeatability index for clades: a way to formalize reliability

The more a clade is found by the analysis of independent data, the more reliable it is

• Separate the data into non-overlapping **parts** and analyze each part with the same method



One of the possible partitioning schemes with 3 parts (1, 2, 3)

# A repeatability index for clades: a way to formalize reliability

The more a clade is found by the analysis of independent data, the more reliable it is

- Separate the data into non-overlapping **parts** and analyze each part with the same method
- Count the occurrences of the clades among non-overlapping parts
- Repeat the process with each possible **partitioning scheme**
- For each clade, retain the highest number of occurrences over all the partitioning schemes

A partitioning scheme with 3 parts

data sets: A, B, ...



clade	occurrences
α:	3 occurrences
β:	3 occurrences
<i>y</i> :	2 occurrences
$\delta$ :	2 occurrences
ε:	1 occurrence
ζ:	1 occurrence

. . .

Another partitioning scheme with 3 parts



clade occurrences

- $\alpha$ : 2 occurrences
- $\beta$ : **3** occurrences
- $\gamma$ : 1 occurrence

 $\delta$ :

*ϵ*:

ζ:

- 2 occurrences
- 3 occurrences
  - 2 occurrences

Taking into account probabilities for clades to appear at random

- Clades appear also from data containing no signal
- Therefore one must measure the probability of a clade to appear purely at random for a given program:
  - give random data to the program
  - analyze that data
  - repeat the process and compute the frequency of each clade

#### data sets



# Taking into account contradiction among clades

• First order reliability of clade  $\alpha$ :

 $R_1(\alpha) = Max_{partitioning schemes}(\sum_{parts}(Occurrences-P))$ 

• Second order reliability of clade  $\alpha$ :

 $\mathbf{R}_{2}(\alpha) = \mathbf{R}_{1}(\alpha) - \mathbf{R}_{1}(\beta_{1})$ 

- $\beta_1$  being the highest  $R_1 \alpha$  contradictor
- Etc...

$$\mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{n}}(\alpha) = \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{n}}(\alpha) - \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{n}}(\beta_{\mathbf{n}})$$

## An application on Acanthomorpha

- 5 basic data sets:
  - mitochondrial markers: partial 12S+16S (828 bp)
  - nuclear markers: partial 28S (801 bp), partial Rhodopsin (759 bp), partial MLL (552 bp), partial IRBP (713 bp)
- 73 taxa shared by all data sets
- 31 ways to combine the 5 independent data sets (allowing to compose 51 partitioning schemes), each analyzed with Paup 4 under Maximum Parsimony

### Total evidence majority rule consensus tree



## Majority-rule bootstrap tree for the total data combination



## Tree constructed to include the highest reliability inter-compatible clades





## Reliability is not robustness

high reliability, neither present in the total evidence tree, nor in the bootstrap consensus



Total evidence



#### Best repeatability scores



Bootstrap

## Reliability is not robustness



Total evidence



#### Best repeatability scores



# A short conclusion because it's time to finish

- Some non-robust clades have been identified as reliable by our method (Psenopsis, Pampus)
- Some clades with high boostrap support are not considered reliable by our method (Dactylopterus, Aulostomus)
- Works with completely shared taxonomic samplings

## Acknowledgements

- G. Lecointre, W.-J. Chen and A. Dettaï
- Service de Systématique Moléculaire (MNHN)
- École Normale Supérieure and French Ministry of Research
- Free software programers





## Reliability is not robustness (2)



## Limits of the method



General long-branch attraction is still a problem

Best repeatability scores



# Taking into account probabilities of clades to appear by chance

- One must measure them for a given tree reconstruction program:
  - produce data without signal (randomly chosen character states)
  - analyze it and count the clades
  - reproduce the experiment many times
- Problem: it takes a lot of time

# Estimating probabilities of clades knowing their sizes

- All groups of the same size are equivalent
  - random data
  - random addition sequence
  - work on unrooted trees
- Shift to rooted trees
  - clades that appear in rooted trees were there before rooting
  - but clades present in unrooted trees may disappear at rooting if there are 4 outgroups or more -> one overestimates probabilities of clades containing outgroup taxa

#### \* : outgroup taxon



The clade is in the unrooted tree and in the rooted one

The clade is in the unrooted tree but not in the rooted one

### taxon 1 ATCCGTGGCAATCGG... taxon 2 CCTAGGTGGCGAAAT... taxon 3 AACATTGCGAACCTC...



This is a black box

#### Frequencies of the clades:

...

1 1.0
2 0.0128452241715
3 0.00225390436877
4 0.000548933608531
5 0.000169633642931
6 7.05808639245e-05
7 3.73445397052e-05
8 2.46185158724e-05
9 2.01545100926e-05
10 2.01545100926e-05
11 2.46185158724e-05
12 3.73445397052e-05
13 7.05808639245e-05
14 0.000169633642931
15 0.000548933608531
16 0.00225390436877
17 0.0128452241715
18 1.0
19 1.0



## From counts to probabilities

N(t): number of clades including t taxa

T: number of trees examined

N(t)/T = mean number of clades including t taxa per tree

**n**: number of taxa in the trees

n!/t!(n-t)!: number of possible clades including t taxa when there are n taxa in the study

P(t) = (N(t)/T)/(n!/t!(n-t)!)