Algorithmic issues in (co)phylogenetic analysis

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Motivation

Different systems "coevolve"

- hosts and their parasites or pathogens
- whole organisms and their genes
- geographical areas and the species which inhabit them.
- cultural traditions and populations

Host-Parasite associations

- about 75% of emergent human diseases are zoonoses, that is, they switched hosts from other species into humans
- determine the rates of evolution in hosts and parasite
- determine how long is the association between host and parasite





The instance of the problem



Reconciliation method

Co-phylogeny reconstruction problem



State-of-art: reconciliation method



The mapping function



Selecting the best solution: assign a cost to each of the four types of events and then minimize the total cost.

The mapping f induces a partition of V(P) into three sets:

- $\Sigma \rightarrow$ co-speciations
- $\Delta \rightarrow$ duplications
- $\Theta \rightarrow$ host-switches

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lca($f(p_1), f(p_2)$) = f(p)and $f(p_1)$ and $f(p_2)$ are incomparable.

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Duplication



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lca (f(p₁), f(p)) ≠f(p)

We can define a function $\alpha(f)$ that gives the number losses induced by the mapping f.



the edge (p, p_1) contributes with 1 loss.







Finding an optimal reconciliation is NP-hard.

The complexity arises from the difficulty of separating possible from impossible host switches combinations.



Generate all the optimal reconciliations.

- The number of optimal reconciliations increases rapidly even for small trees.
- The size of the trees can be large.



Real data

A sample with hundreds of arthropods and the Wolbachia infecting them. Data from Patricia Simões, collected in Tahiti, Moorea, Raiatea.



Wolbachia in Moorea

Our contribution so far

A **polynomial delay** algorithm for generating all the optimal reconciliations.

Basic idea:

 Fill a dynamic programming matrix with additional information for the exhaustive traceback.

Problems

- No time-feasible solutions
- Too many time-feasible solutions



Bounded switch problem

k-switch Problem:

Given H, P, φ , <u>c</u>, and an integer k find an optimal reconcilation in which all the host switches have a distance bounded by k.

JCAL



Bounded switch problem

k-switch Problem:

Given H, P, φ , <u>c</u>, and an integer k find an optimal reconcilation in which all the host switches have a distance bounded by k.

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- host-switches only between closely related species.
- No time-feasible solutions \Rightarrow decrease k.
- Too many time-feasible solutions ⇒ decrease k maintaining the same optimal cost.

Open Problem

What is the complexity of the k-switch problem in the acyclic case?

Exercise 2

 Given two phylogenetic trees is it possible to find a reconciliation without host-switches? Without duplications?

Current work

Other types of events





Open Problems

More realistic models

- the cost values influence the optimal solution
- multiple hosts multiple parasites (communities)



Sequential speciation

Leaf cutter ants



phylogenetic forests

Sequential speciation

Leaf cutter ants

