Visualizing reticulate evolution with planar split networks

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Outer-labeled split networks



- Network generated in SplitsTree using NeighborNet
- 80 mitochondrial DNA-sequences used in a study of geographic range expansions in a species of oak gallwasp [Stone et al. 2001, 2007]

From sequence data to split network



Non-outerlabeled split networks



 Network generated using SplitDecomposition presented in a study of the SARS coronavirus [Stavrinides and Guttman, 2004]

Planar split networks and flat split systems



- Flat split systems were originally defined in terms of oriented matroids of rank 3. [Bryant and Dress, 2007]
- Intuitively: a split system Σ is *flat* if it can be displayed by a planar split network
- Open: Is there a polynomial time algorithm to decide whether a split system is flat?

You are flat? Make sure you can prove it to me!



• Σ flat — splits in Σ correspond to faces in a wiring diagram.

Okay, but where do I get the wiring diagram from?



 For any circular split system one can easily construct a suitable wiring diagram. And we can also get "non-circular" wiring diagrams



- ➤ *affine* map X to a set of points in the plane that need not be in convex position
- point $p = (a, b) \longrightarrow$ straight line y = ax b
- This could be interesting in phylogeographic applications where geographic coordinates of sampling locations are often known.

Transforming the wiring diagram into a split network



- Approach is similar to computing the dual of an arrangement of pseudolines [Agarwal and Sharir, 2005]
- ▶ We maintain a path *P* in the network constructed so far.

Processing the labels from bottom to top



Do we need all those boxes?



- Box β_1 conveys important information about the splits.
- Box β₂ is not needed the two corresponding splits S = A|B and S' = A'|B' are compatible, that is, at least one of the intersections is empty:

$$A \cap A', A \cap B', B \cap A', B \cap B'$$

Just cut it off!



 Sometimes the box (and even some more vertices) can easily be removed.

And if this doesn't work?



▶ There might be splits that share a box with both *S* and *S*′.

Modify the network locally



Perform a flip around a vertex.

Find a sector



In the sector we can always perform at least one flip.



Keep on flipping...



Keep on flipping...



Keep on flipping...



- ...until the sector disappeared completely.
- Then the number of "white" vertices is strictly smaller than before.

And then?



- Either we can just cut it off...
- ...or we find and clear another sector.

Run time

- Given m splits on a set X with n elements represented by an allowable sequence.
- The initial split network can be computed in $O(mn + m^2)$ time.
- ► The transformation into a minimal network can be done in $O(nm^2 + m^6)$ time.
- The network has $O(m^2)$ vertices and edges.

Gall wasp data set: Flat split systems via multidimensional scaling



Gall wasp data set: Flat split systems from geographic locations



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