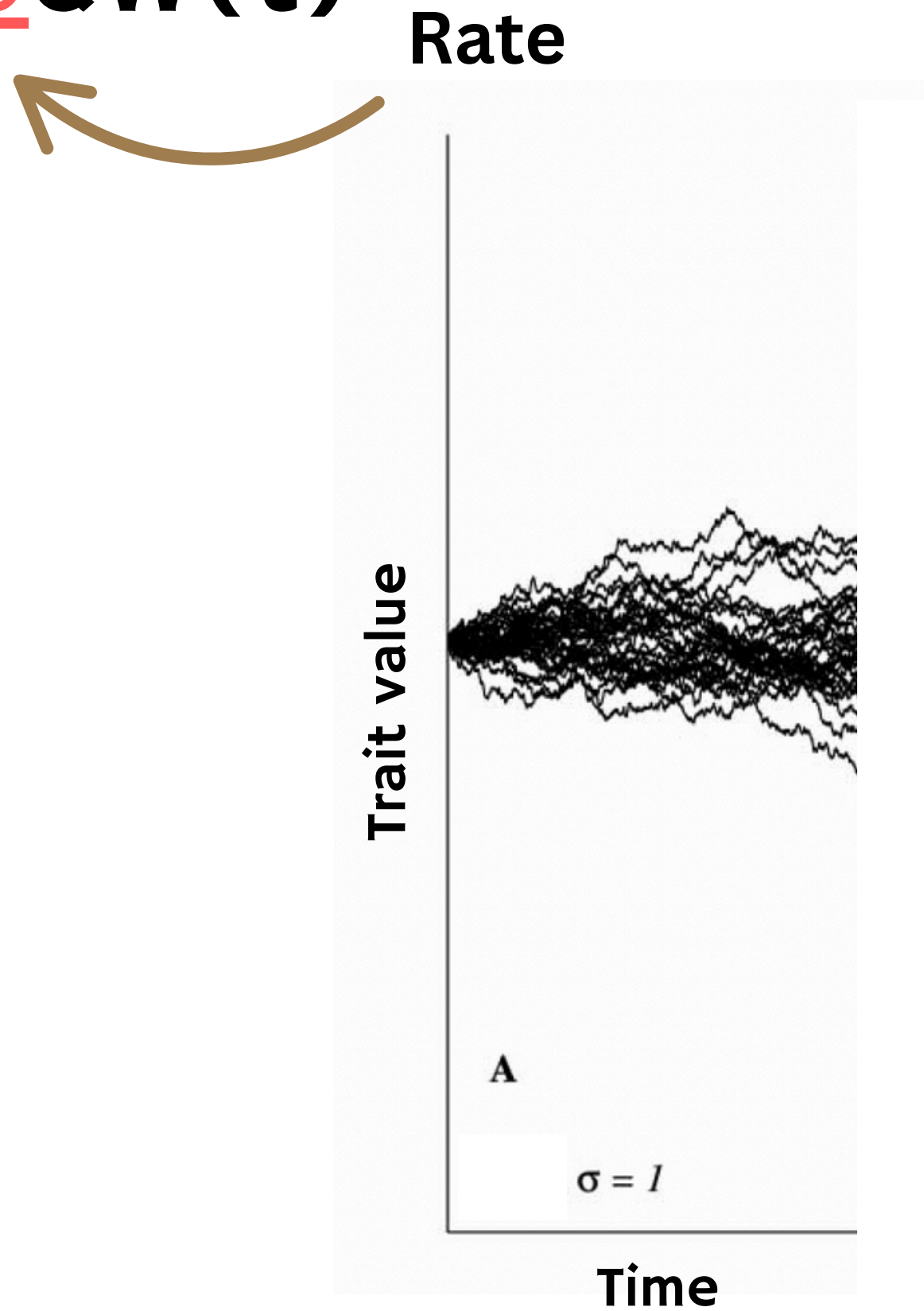


Adaptation, Constraint, and Convergence (on Trees)

Brownian motion:

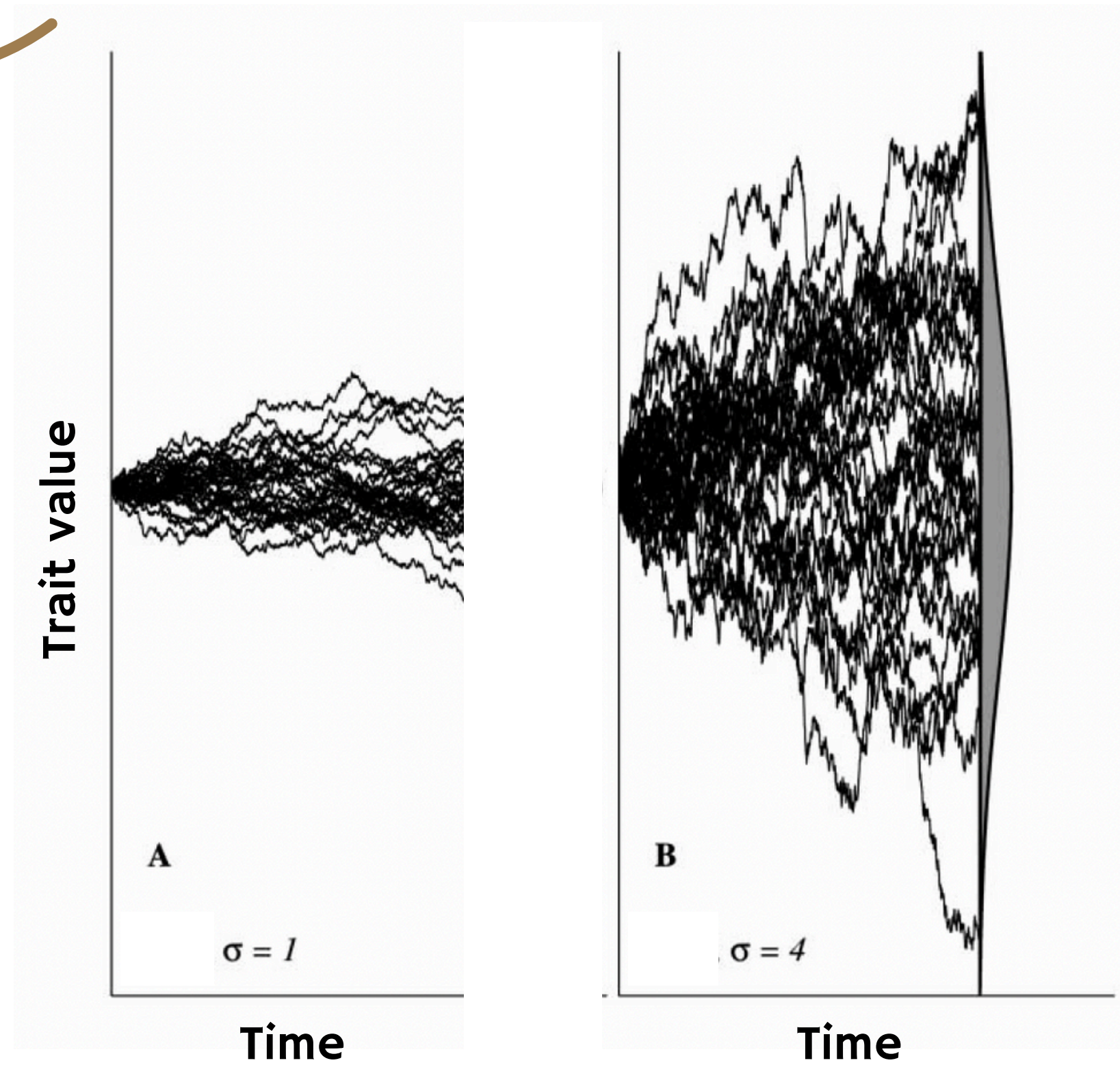
$$dX(t) = \underline{\sigma} dW(t)$$



Brownian motion:

$$dX(t) = \underline{\sigma} dW(t)$$

Rate



Ornstein-Uhlenbeck (OU):

$$dX(t) = \alpha(\theta - X(t))dt + \sigma dW(t)$$

BM

Ornstein-Uhlenbeck (OU):

$$dX(t) = \underline{\alpha}(\underline{\theta} - X(t))dt + \sigma dW(t)$$

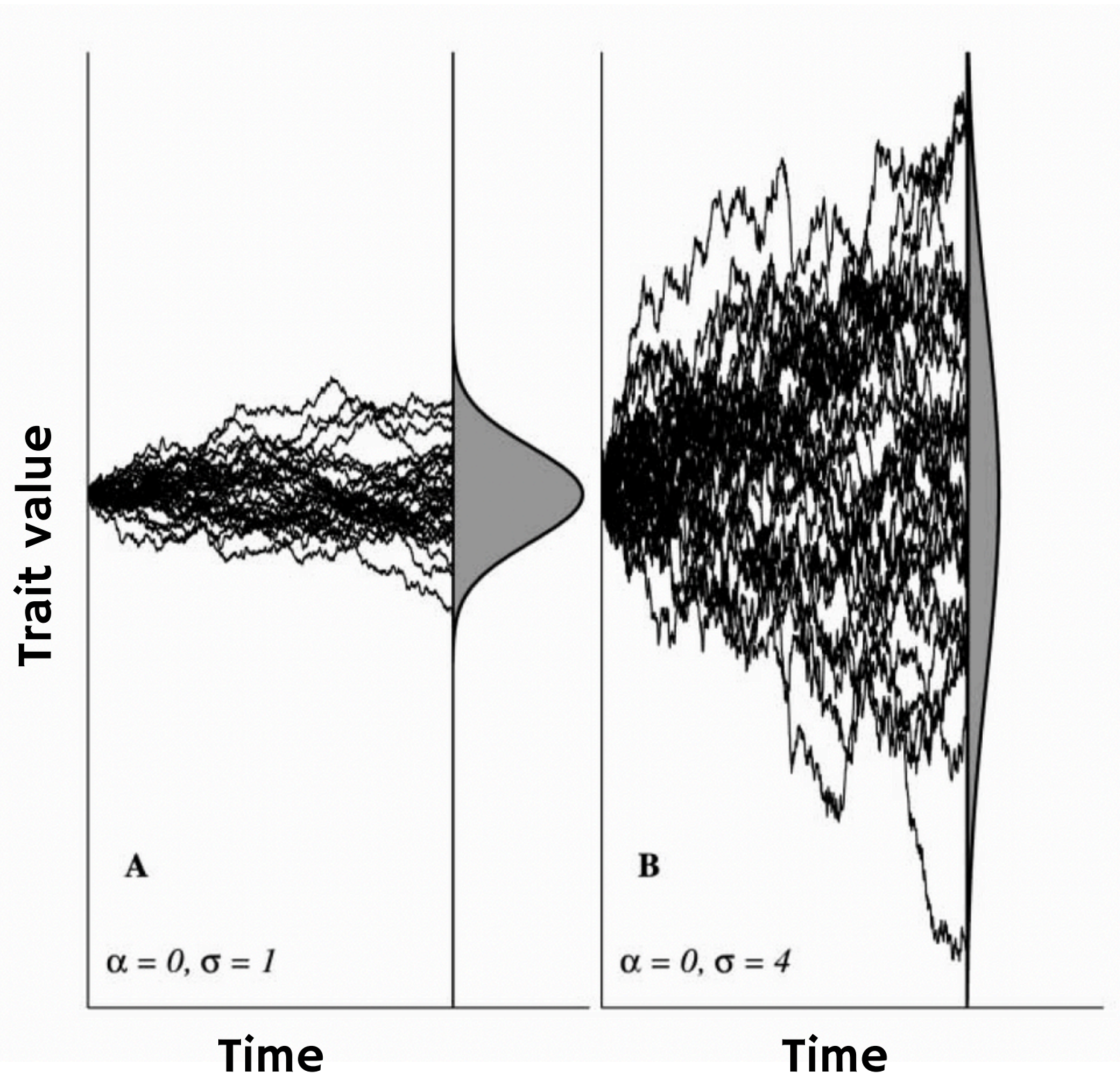
Trait optimum
Strength of selection



The diagram consists of two brown curved arrows. One arrow originates from the text 'Trait optimum' and points to the underlined parameter θ in the equation. The other arrow originates from the text 'Strength of selection' and points to the underlined parameter α in the equation.

Ornstein-Uhlenbeck (OU):

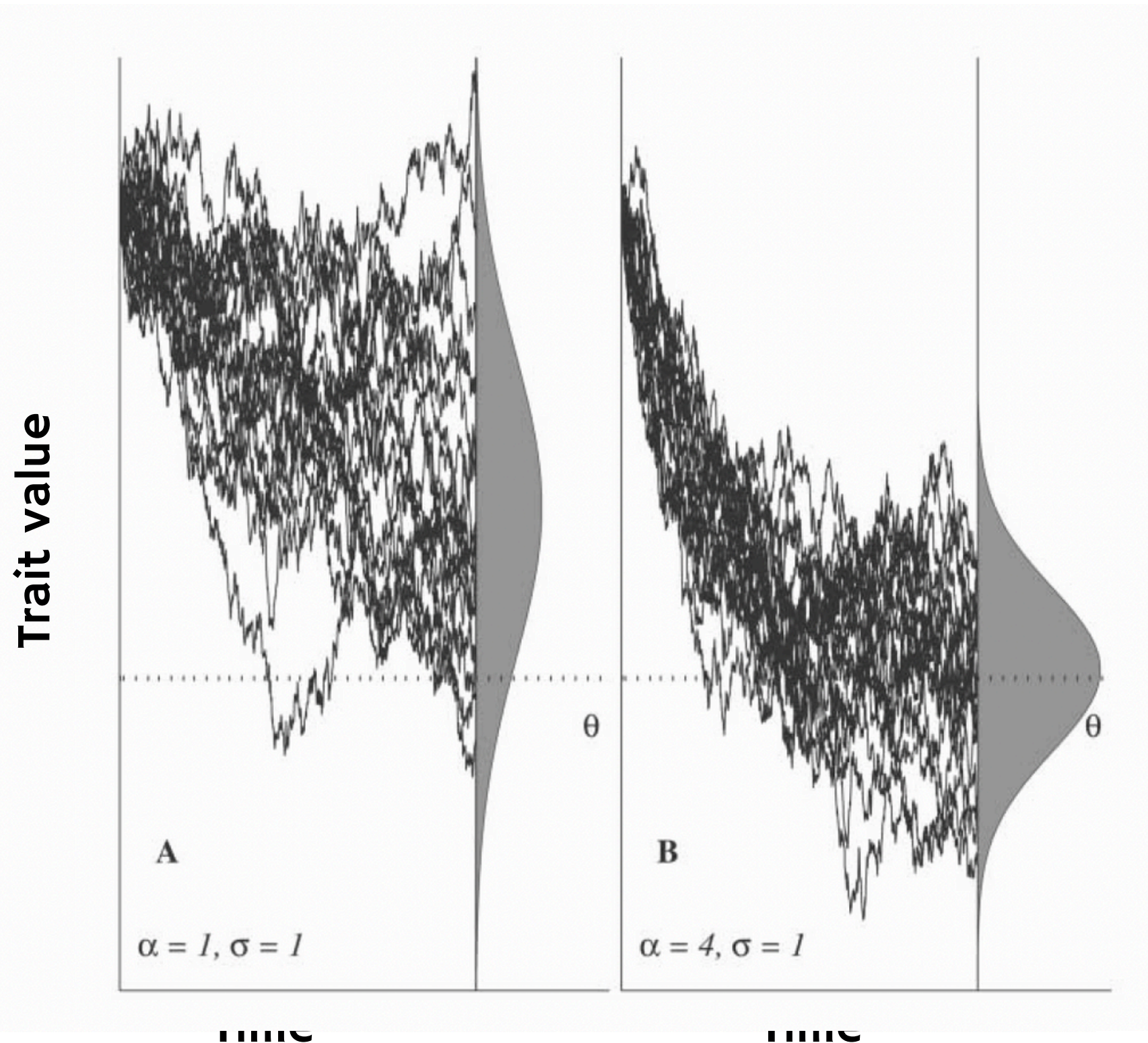
$$dX(t) = \alpha(\theta - X(t))dt + \sigma dW(t)$$



When **alpha = 0**, the model reduces to Brownian motion

Ornstein-Uhlenbeck (OU):

$$dX(t) = \alpha(\theta - X(t))dt + \sigma dW(t)$$

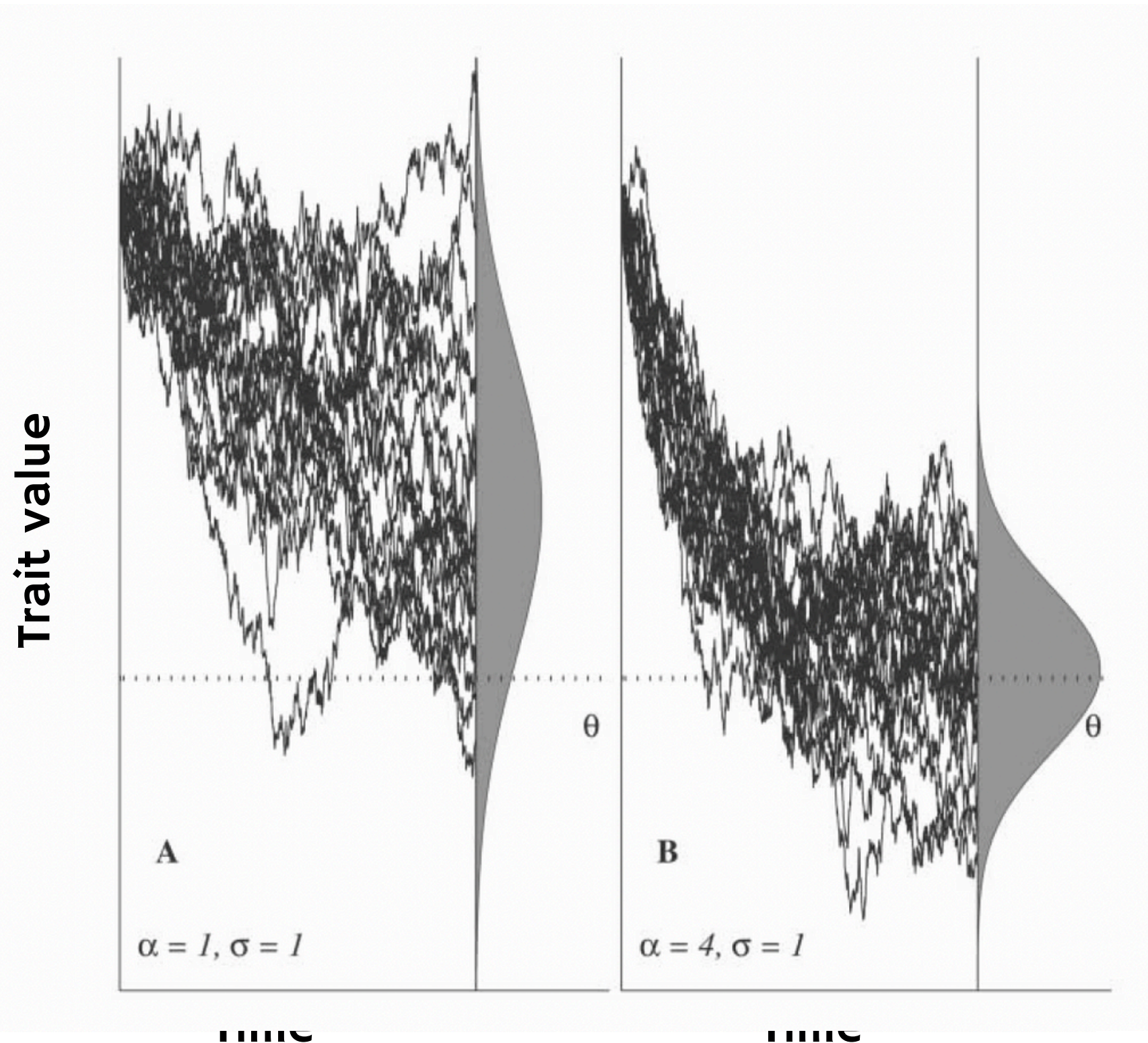


When **alpha** > 0, how fast the trait evolves toward the optimum

Strong/weak constraint
Strong/weak selective pressures
Fast/slow adaptation

Ornstein-Uhlenbeck (OU):

$$dX(t) = \alpha(\theta - X(t))dt + \sigma dW(t)$$



A useful way to interpret **alpha** is through the phylogenetic half-life:

$$\text{Phylogenetic half-life} = \ln(2) / \alpha$$

This is the time it takes for a lineage to move halfway toward the trait optimum (θ) from its ancestral state.

**WHAT DOES THE OU MODEL
TELL US ABOUT
EVOLUTION?**

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WHAT DOES THE OU MODEL TELL US ABOUT EVOLUTION?

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Shifts in the optima or adaptive peaks: different lineages might be evolving toward different optima

Convergence: distant related lineages evolving toward the same optima

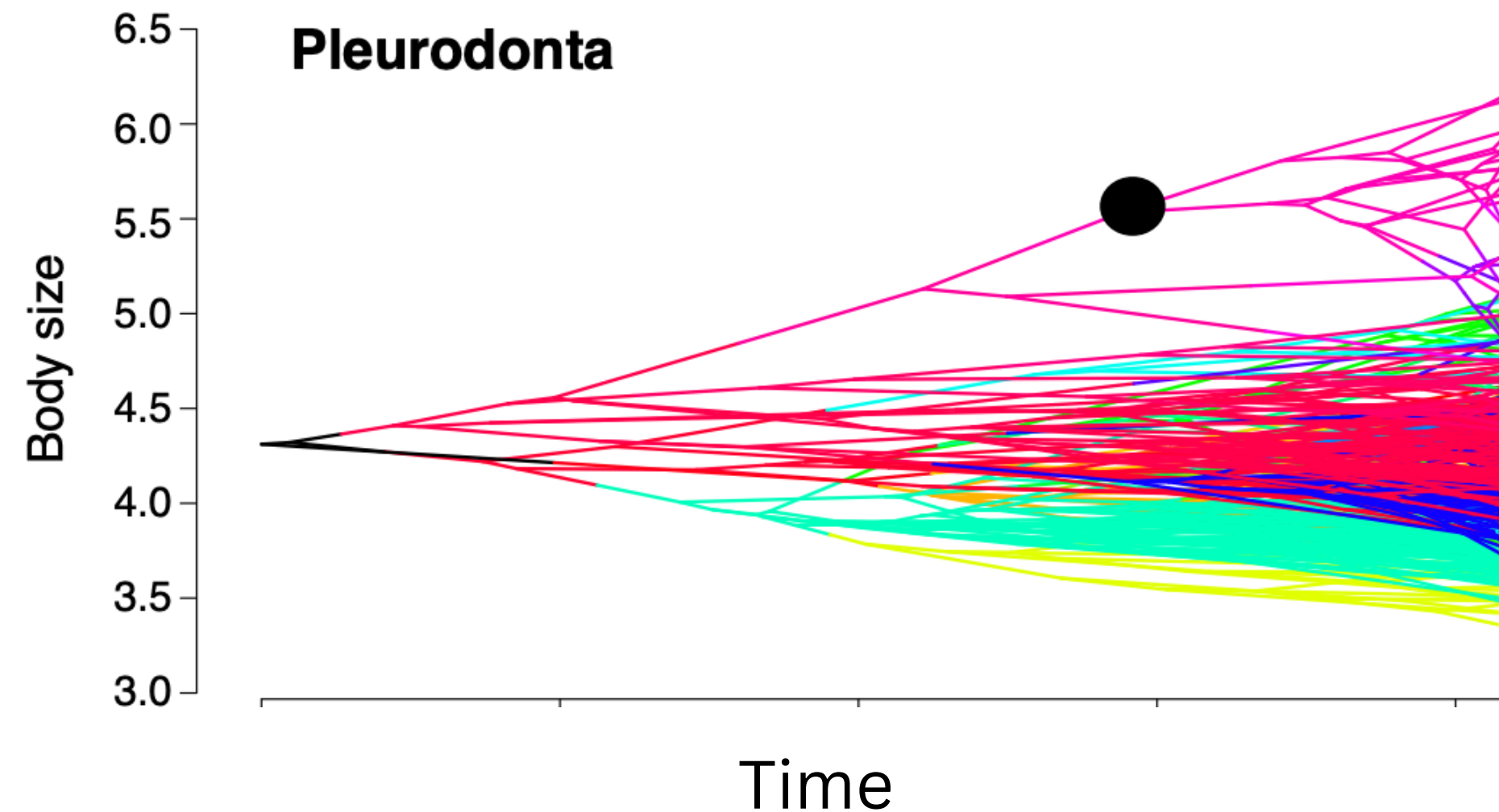
WHAT DOES THE OU MODEL TELL US ABOUT EVOLUTION?

Stabilizing selection



Phymaturus lizards

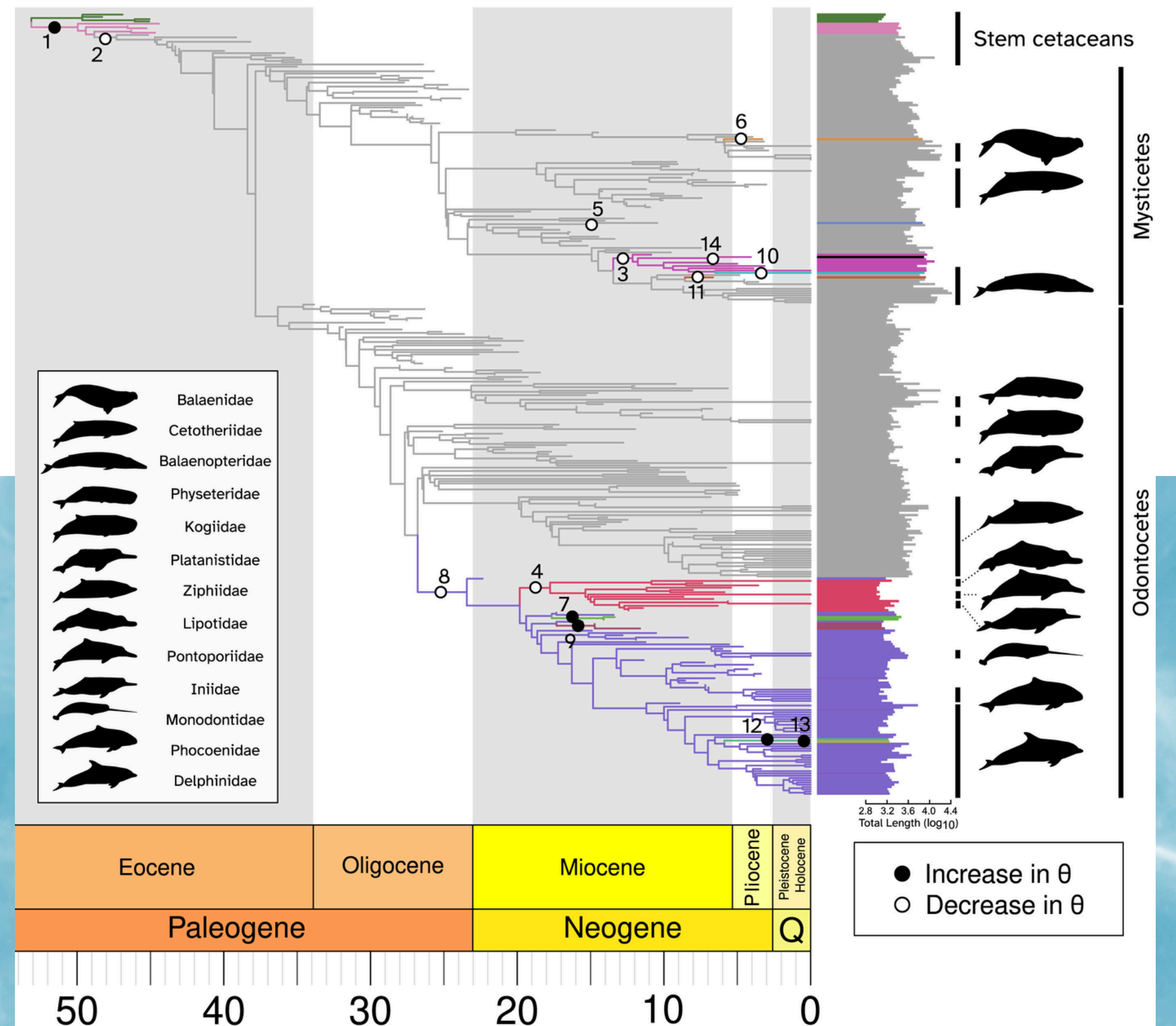
Dry environments?
Viviparity?



WHAT DOES THE OU MODEL TELL US ABOUT EVOLUTION?

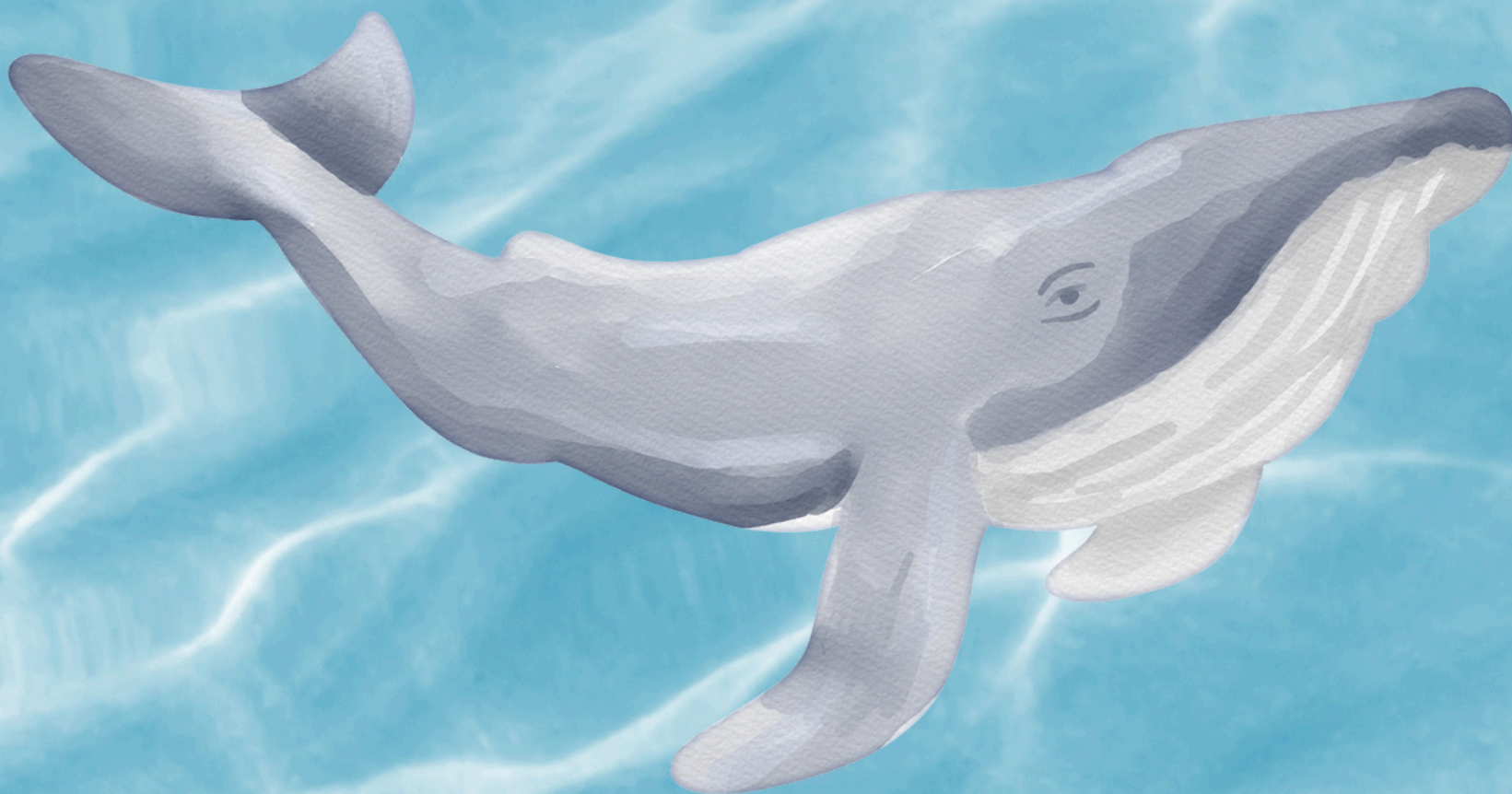


Shifts in optima

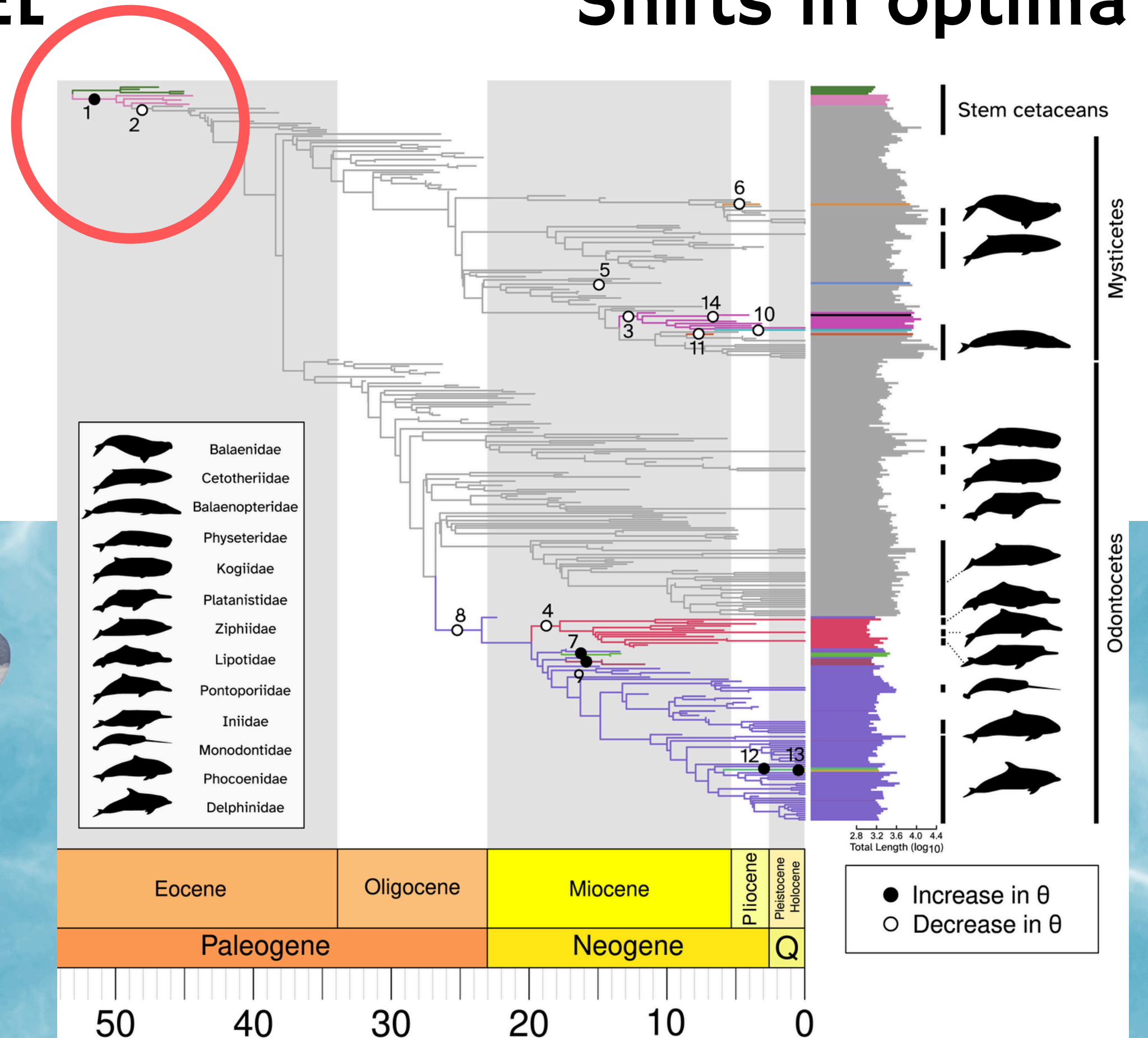


WHAT DOES THE OU MODEL TELL US ABOUT EVOLUTION?

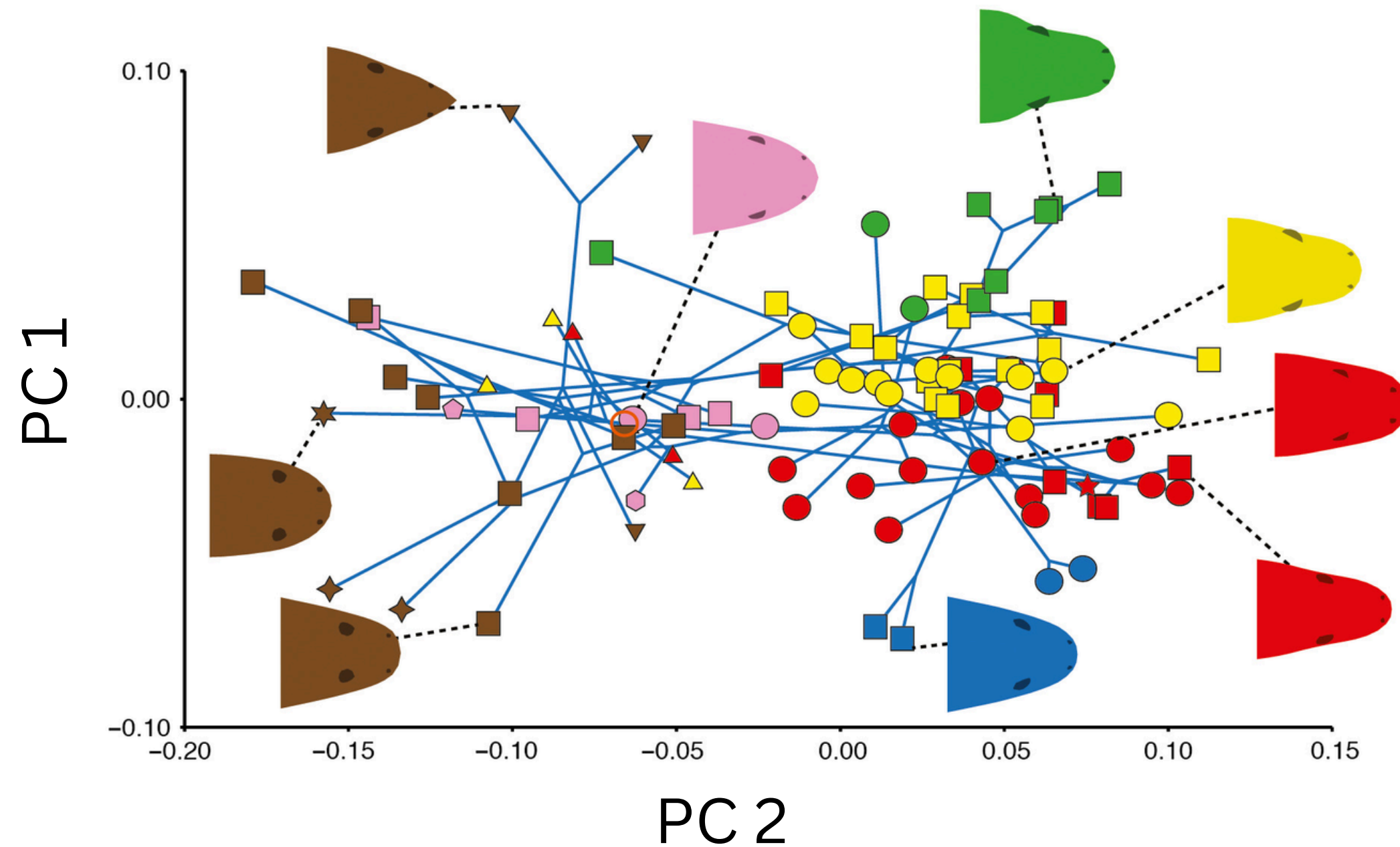
- Buoyancy reduces size constraints
- Thermoregulation might favor larger body size



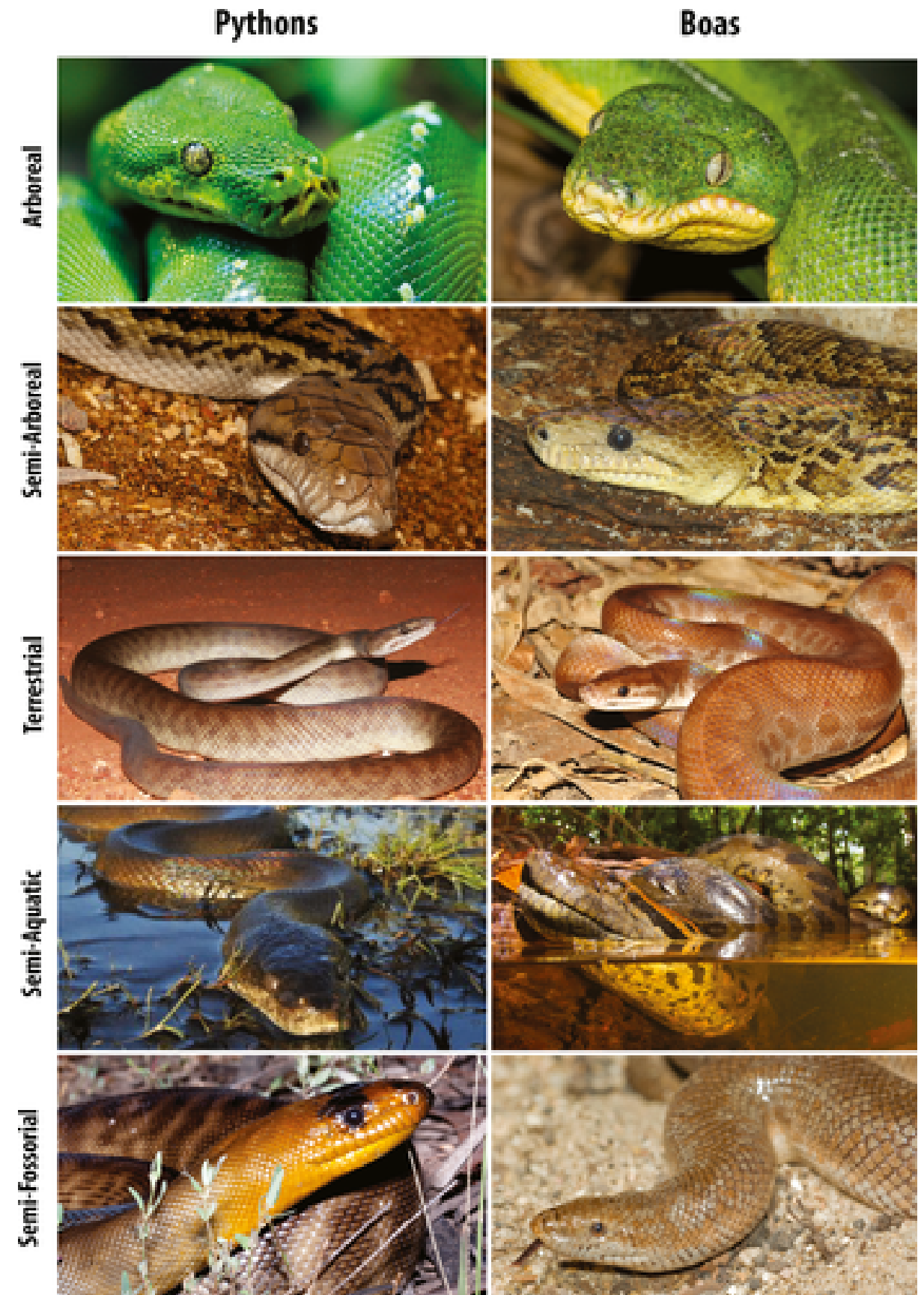
Shifts in optima



WHAT DOES THE OU MODEL TELL US ABOUT EVOLUTION?



Convergence



EXTENSIONS OF OU MODELS

- We can relax the assumption of a single OU process and allow different regimes with distinct α , σ^2 , or θ across the tree.

EXTENSIONS OF OU MODELS

	Single rate BM (BM)	Multi-rate BM (BMS)	Single-optimum OU (OU1)	Multi-optima OU (OUM)
sigma	Do not vary	Vary	Do not vary	Do not vary
alpha	0	0	Do not vary	Do not vary
Theta	NA	NA	Do not vary	Vary

EXTENSIONS OF OU MODELS

	Single rate BM (BM)	Multi-rate BM (BMS)	Single-optimum OU (OU1)	Multi-optima OU (OUM)	Multi-optima & rate OU (OUMV)	Multi-optima & alpha OU (OUMA)	Multi-optima & alpha & rate OU (OUMVA)
sigma	Do not vary	Vary	Do not vary	Do not vary	Vary	Do not vary	Vary
alpha	0	0	Do not vary	Do not vary	Do not vary	Vary	Vary
Theta	NA	NA	Do not vary	Vary	Vary	Vary	Vary

EXTENSIONS OF OU MODELS

	Single rate BM (BM)	Multi-rate BM (BMS)	Single-optimum OU (OU1)	Multi-optima OU (OUM)	Multi-optima & rate OU (OUMV)	Multi-optima & alpha OU (OUMA)	Multi-optima & alpha & rate OU (OUMVA)
sigma	Do not vary	Vary	Do not vary	Do not vary	Vary	Do not vary	Vary
alpha	0	0	Do not vary	Do not vary	Do not vary	Vary	Vary
Theta	NA	NA	Do not vary	Vary	Vary	Vary	Vary

MODELING STABILIZING SELECTION: EXPANDING THE ORNSTEIN–UHLENBECK MODEL OF ADAPTIVE EVOLUTION

[Jeremy M. Beaulieu](#) , [Dwueng-Chwuan Jhwueng](#) , [Carl Boettiger](#) , [Brian C. O’Meara](#)

Evolution, Volume 66, Issue 8, 1 August 2012, Pages 2369–2383,

R Package OUwie

Study case

Arboreality as an adaptive zone in vipers



Alencar et al. 2017 Proc B

The arboreal environment

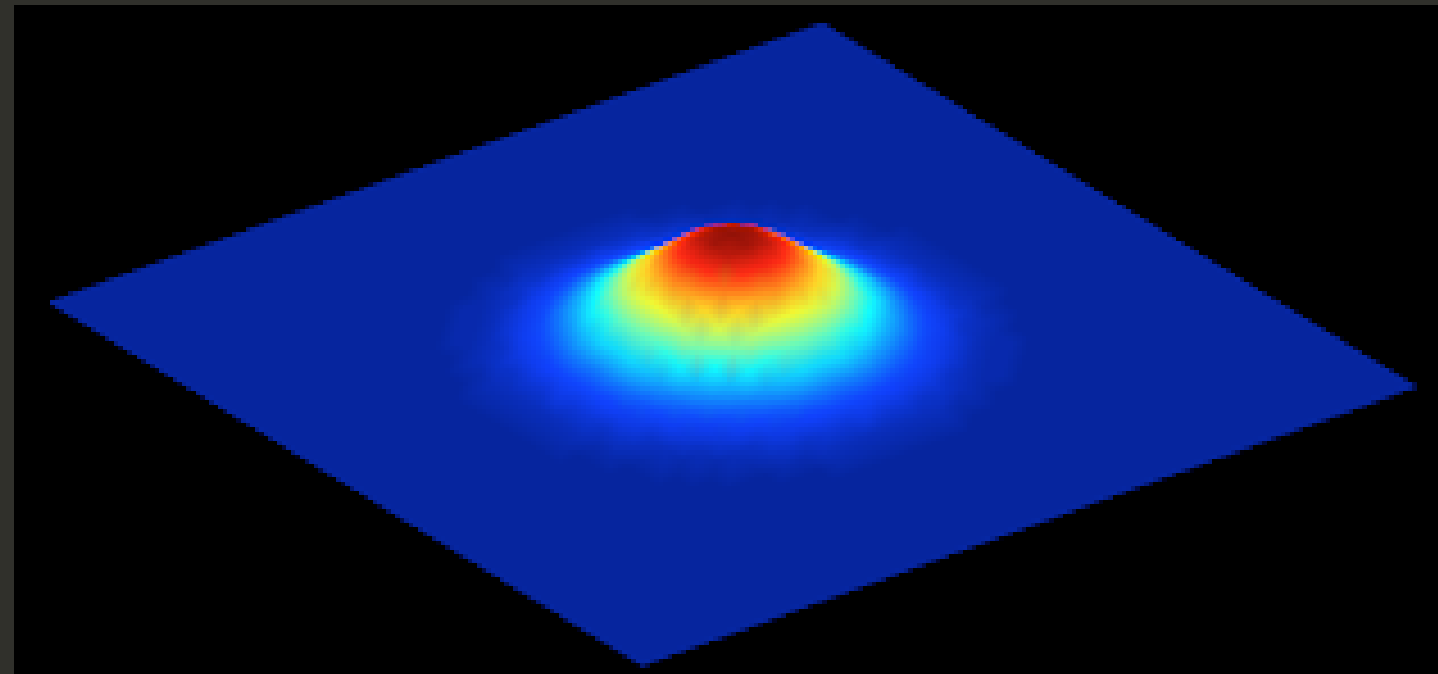


Arboreal



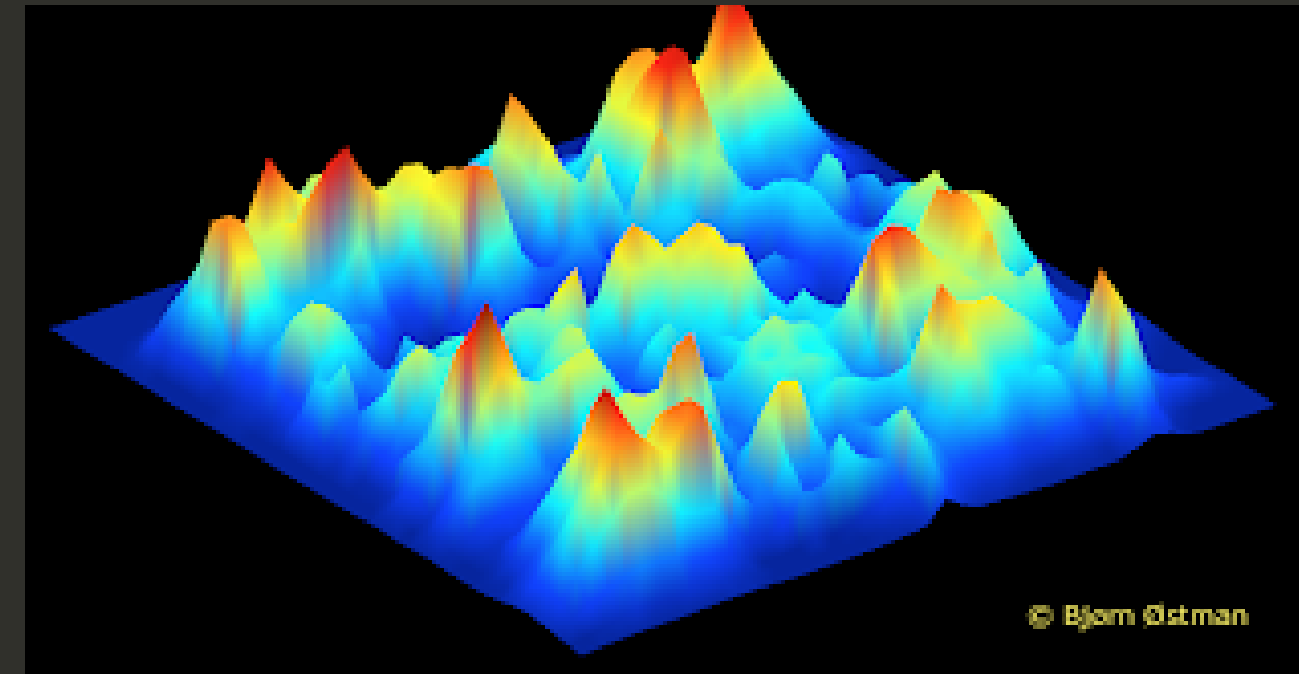
Terrestrial

Hypotheses



ARBOREAL

"restricted" adaptive zone



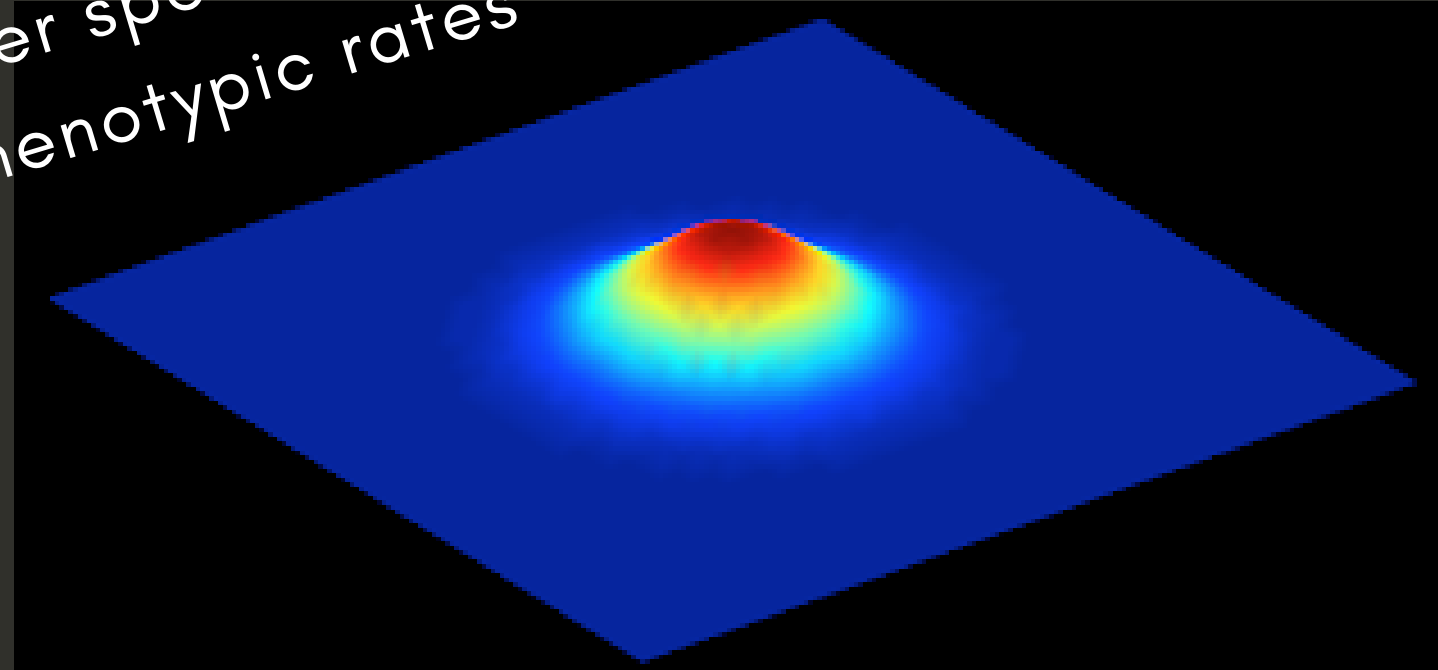
TERRESTRIAL

Full of ecological opportunities



Hypotheses

Lower speciation &
phenotypic rates

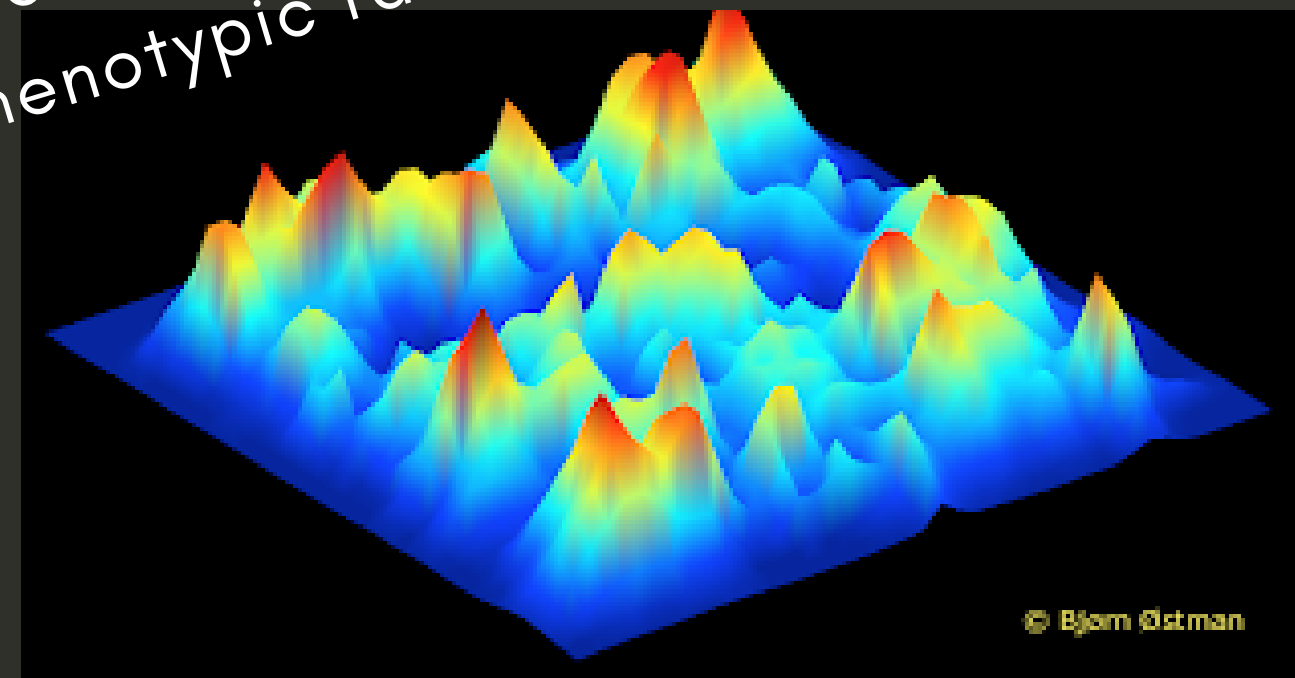


ARBOREAL

"restricted" adaptive zone



Higher speciation &
phenotypic rates



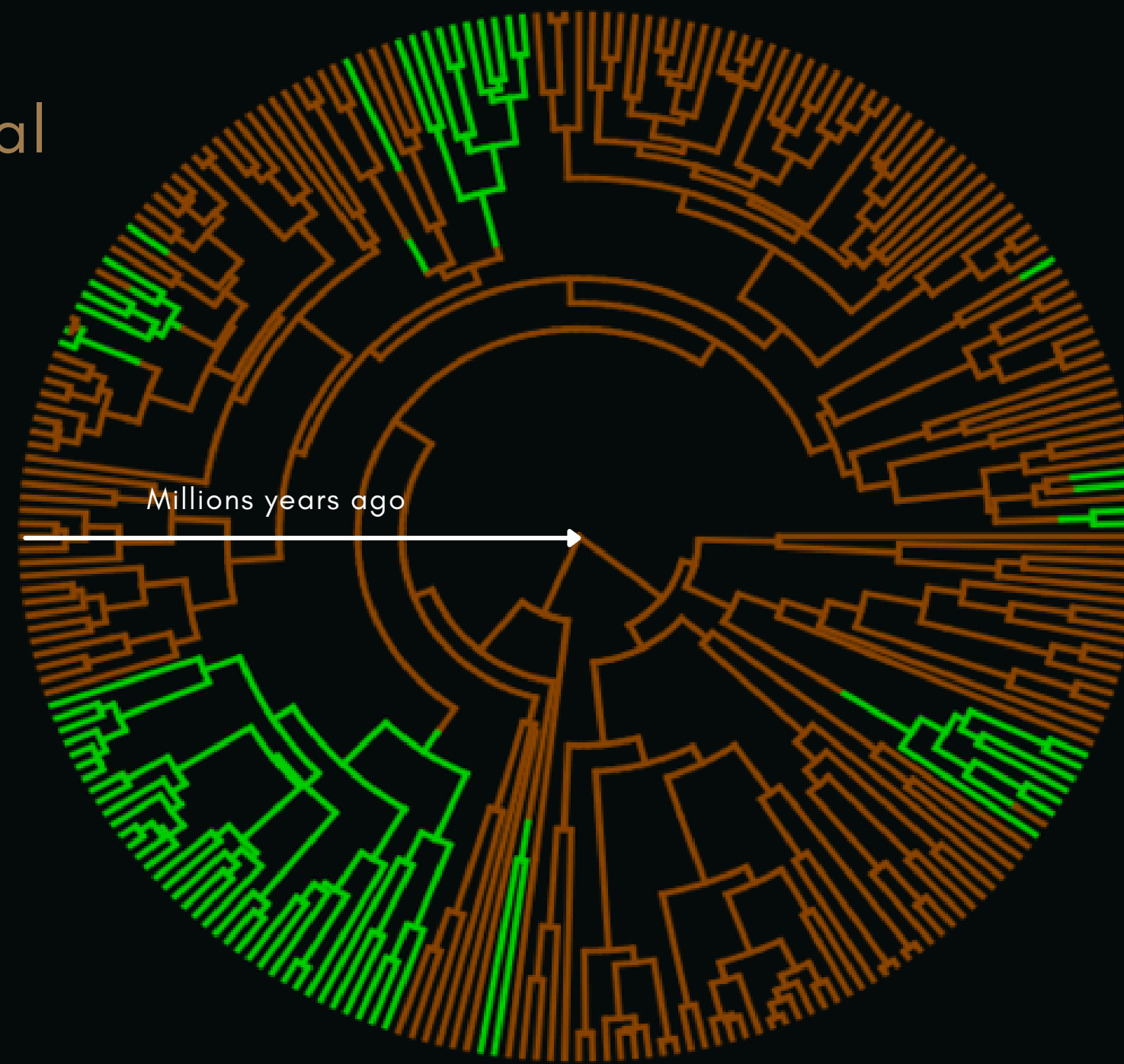
TERRESTRIAL

Full of ecological opportunities



Arboreality evolved several times in vipers

Arboreal
Terrestrial



To test that...

✓ MOLECULAR PHYLOGENY

Alencar et al. 2016 Mol. Phy. Evol.

✓ COMPARATIVE METHODS

Trait evolution models and species diversification methods

✓ SCIENTIFIC COLLECTIONS

Morphological data



To test that...

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✓ COMPARATIVE METHODS

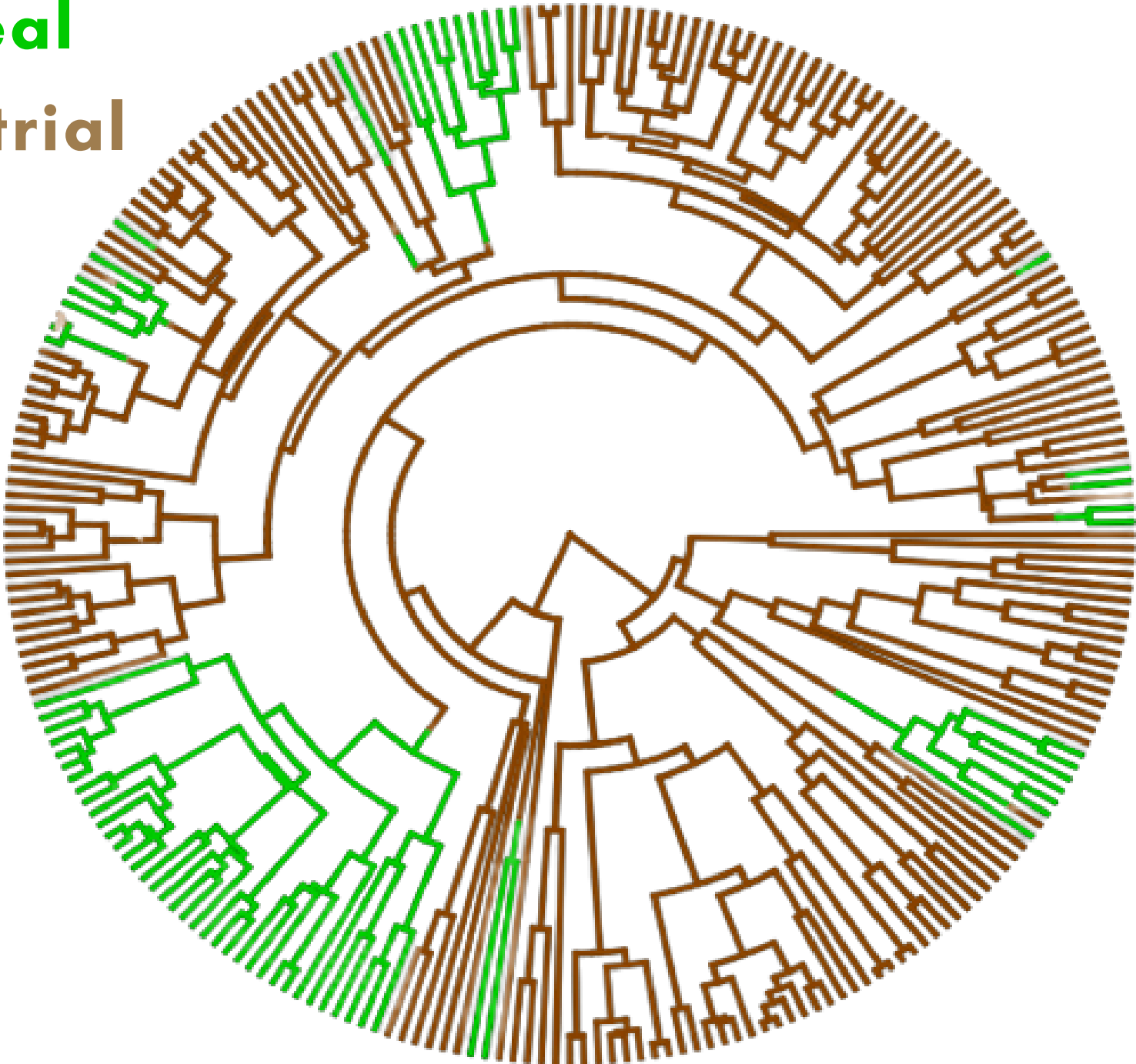
Trait evolution models and species diversification methods

- Stochastic Character Mapping (habitat use)
- R package OUwie

Stochastic Character Mapping x 1000

Arboreal

Terrestrial

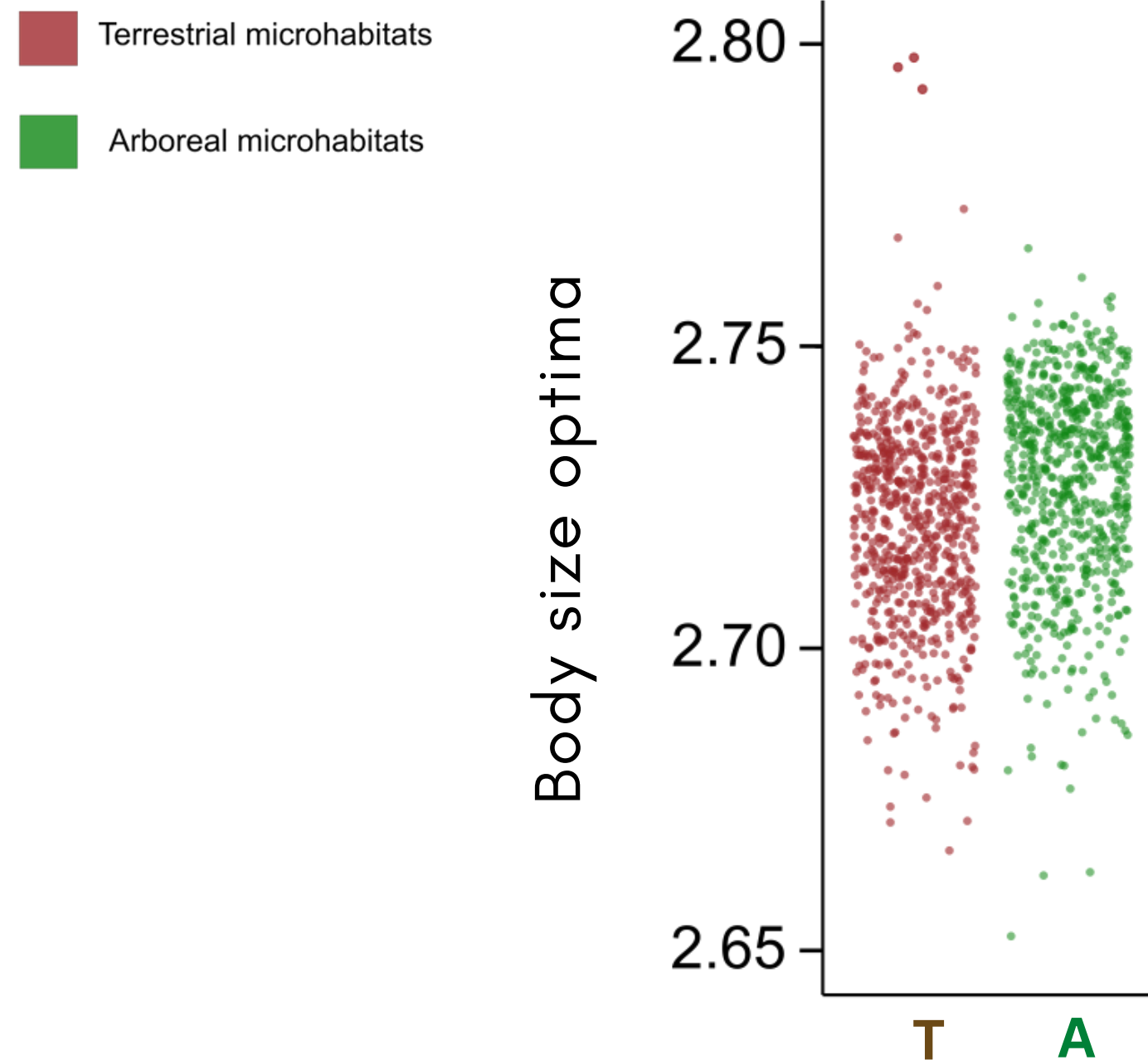


R Package OUwie

	Single rate BM (BM)	Multi-rate BM (BMS)	Single-optimum OU (OU1)	Multi-optima OU (OUM)	Multi-optima & rate OU (OUMV)	Multi-optima & alpha OU (OUMA)	Multi-optima & alpha & rate OU (OUMVA)
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alpha	0	0	Do not vary	Do not vary	Do not vary	Vary	Vary
Theta	NA	NA	Do not vary	Vary	Vary	Vary	Vary

What we found

Arboreal and terrestrial vipers are evolving toward similar body sizes

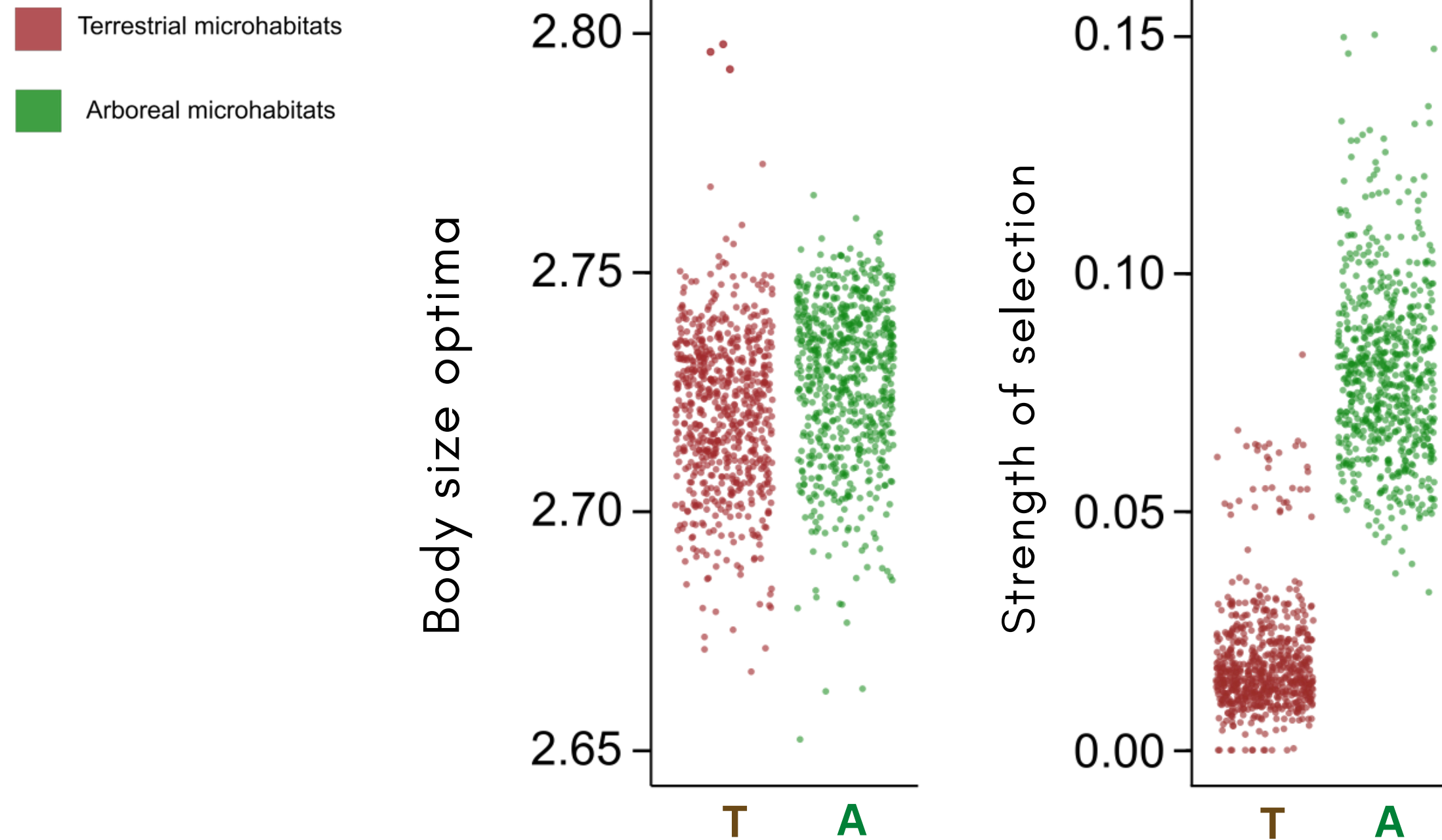


Multi-optima & alpha & rate (OUMVA)

$$dX(t) = \alpha(\theta - X(t))dt + \sigma dW(t)$$

What we found

Body size in arboreal vipers is evolving under stronger selective forces

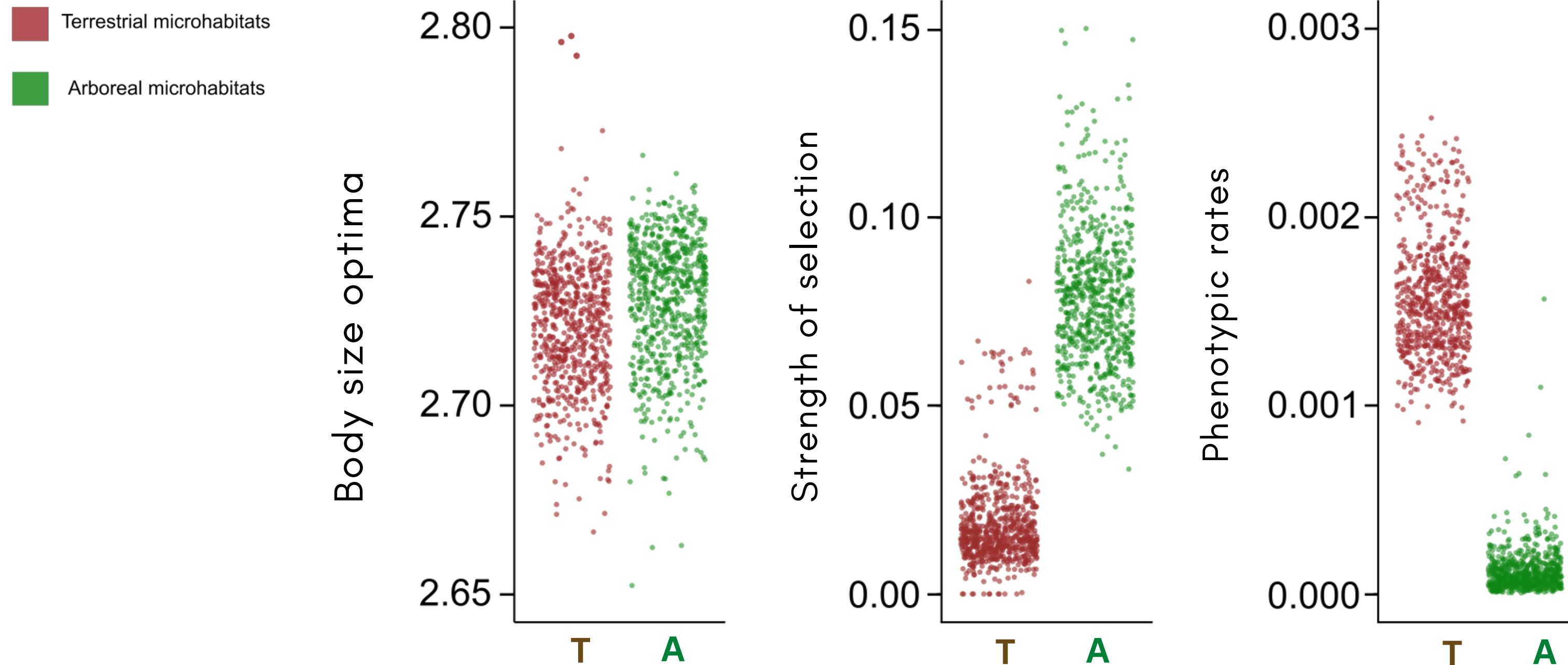


Multi-optima & alpha & rate (OUMVA)

$$dX(t) = \alpha(\theta - X(t))dt + \sigma dW(t)$$

What we found

Body size in arboreal vipers is evolving under a more constrained trajectory

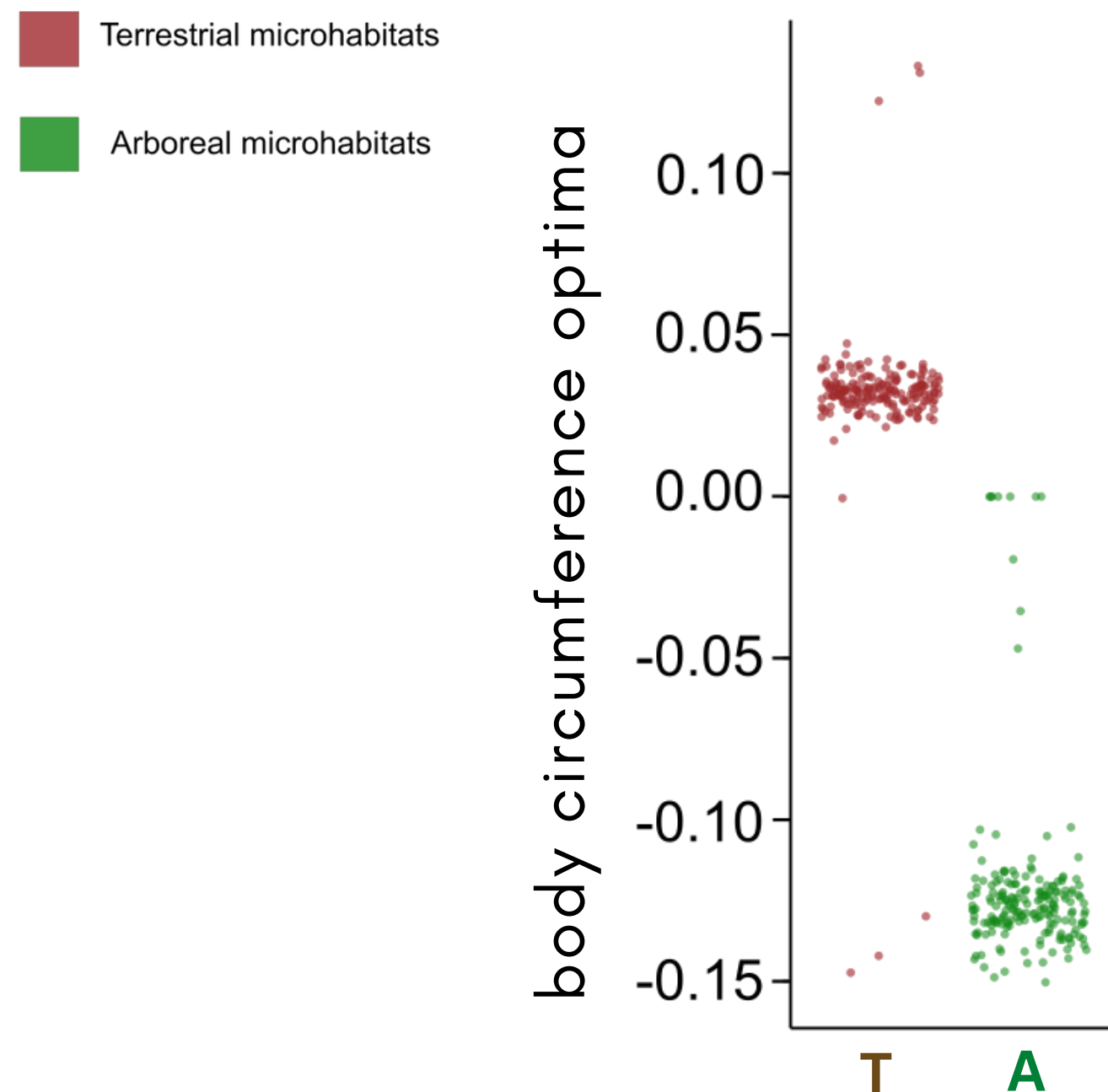


Multi-optima & alpha & rate (OUMVA)

$$dX(t) = \alpha(\theta - X(t))dt + \sigma dW(t)$$

What we found

Arboreal vipers are evolving toward smaller body_circumference

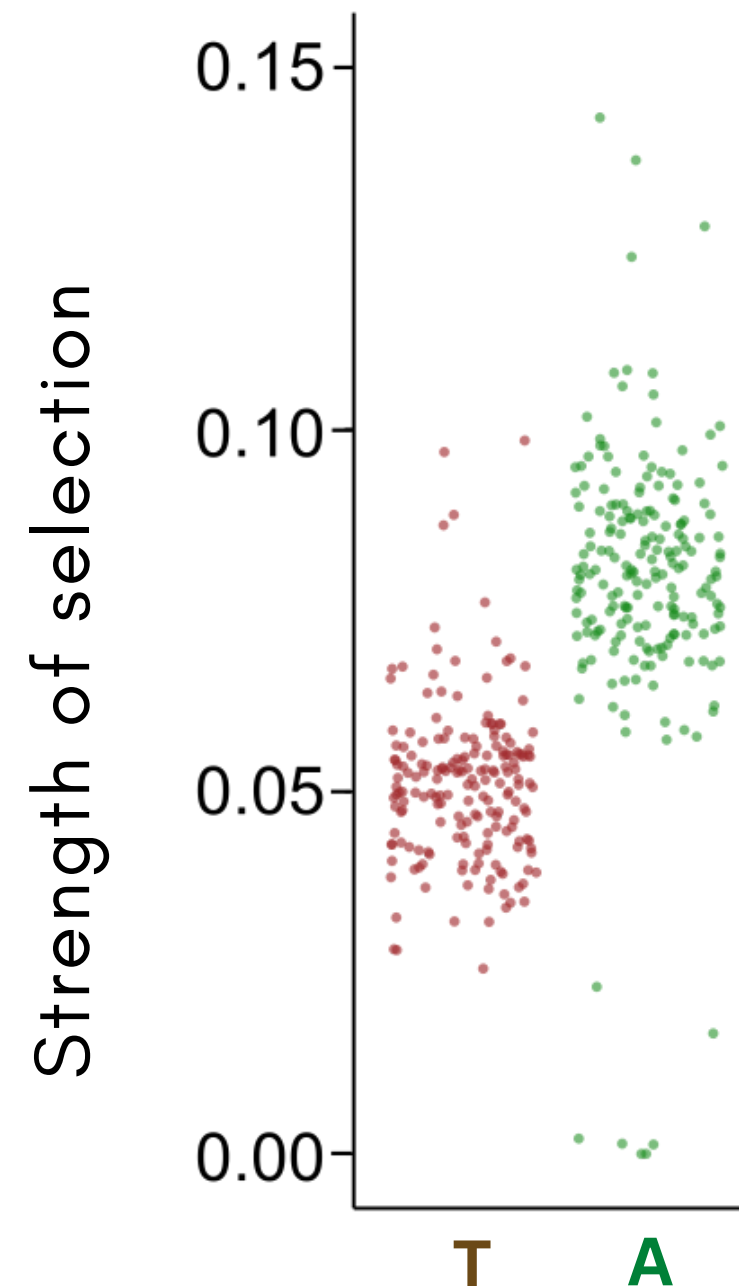
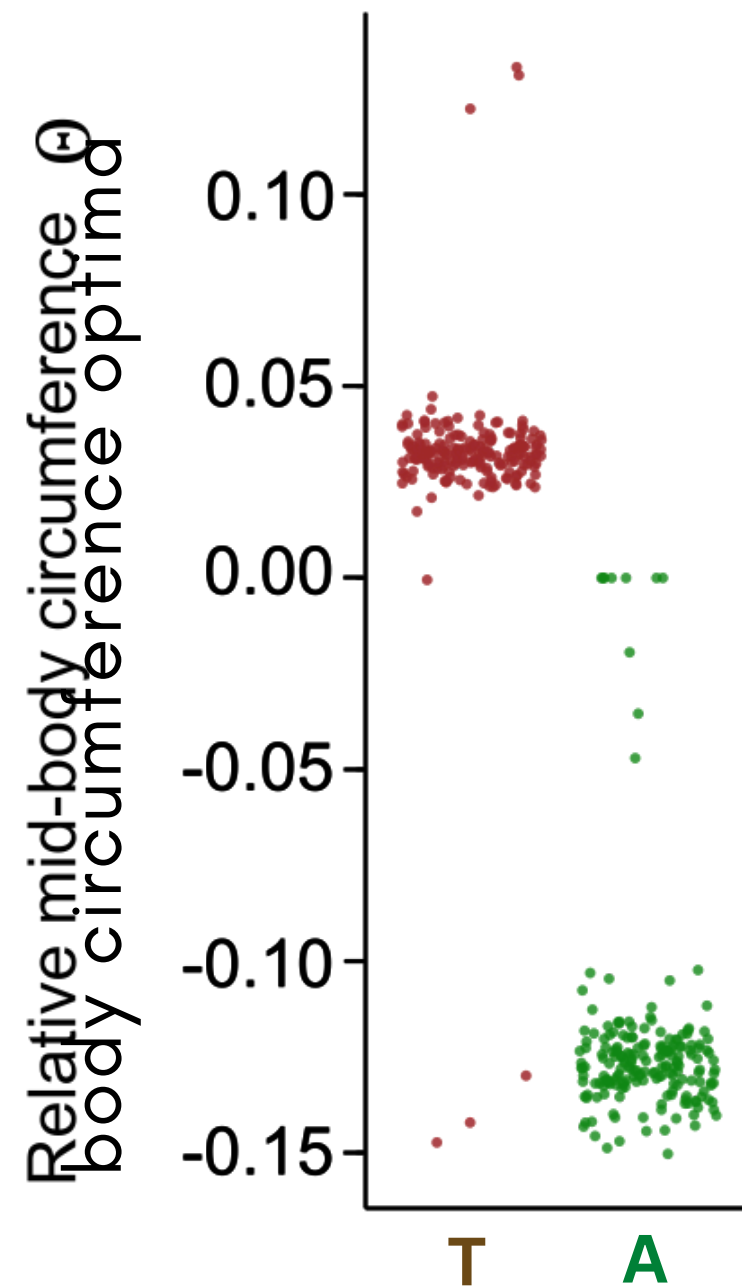
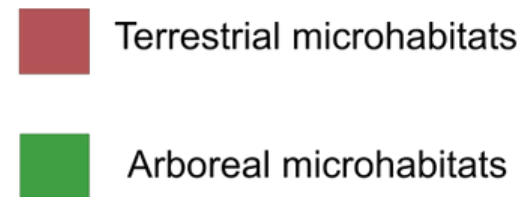


Multi-optima & alpha & rate (OUMVA)

$$dX(t) = \alpha(\theta - X(t))dt + \sigma dW(t)$$

What we found

Body circumference in arboreal vipers is evolving under stronger selective forces

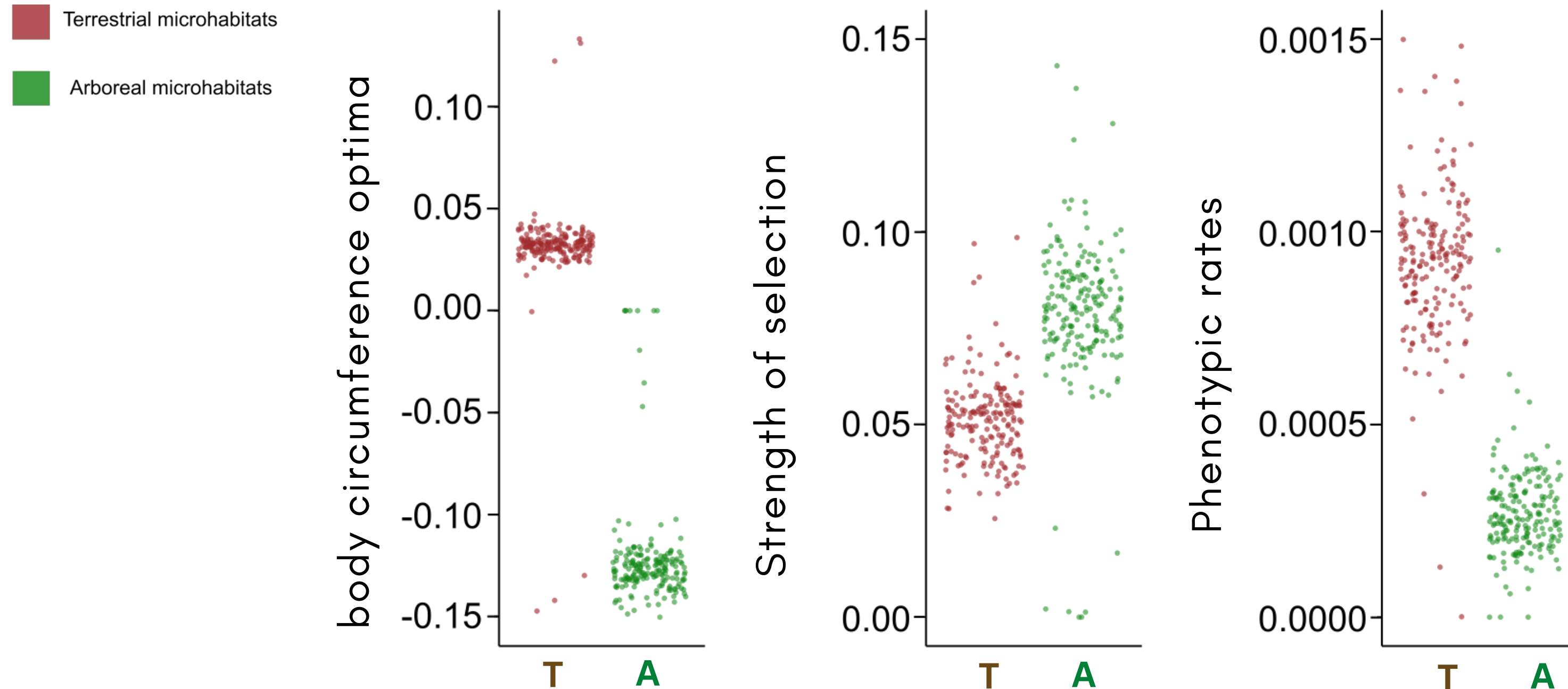


Multi-optima & alpha & rate (OUMVA)

$$dX(t) = \alpha(\theta - X(t))dt + \sigma dW(t)$$

What we found

Body circumference in arboreal vipers is evolving under a more constrained trajectory



Multi-optima & alpha & rate (OUMVA)

$$dX(t) = \alpha(\theta - X(t))dt + \sigma dW(t)$$

Simulations

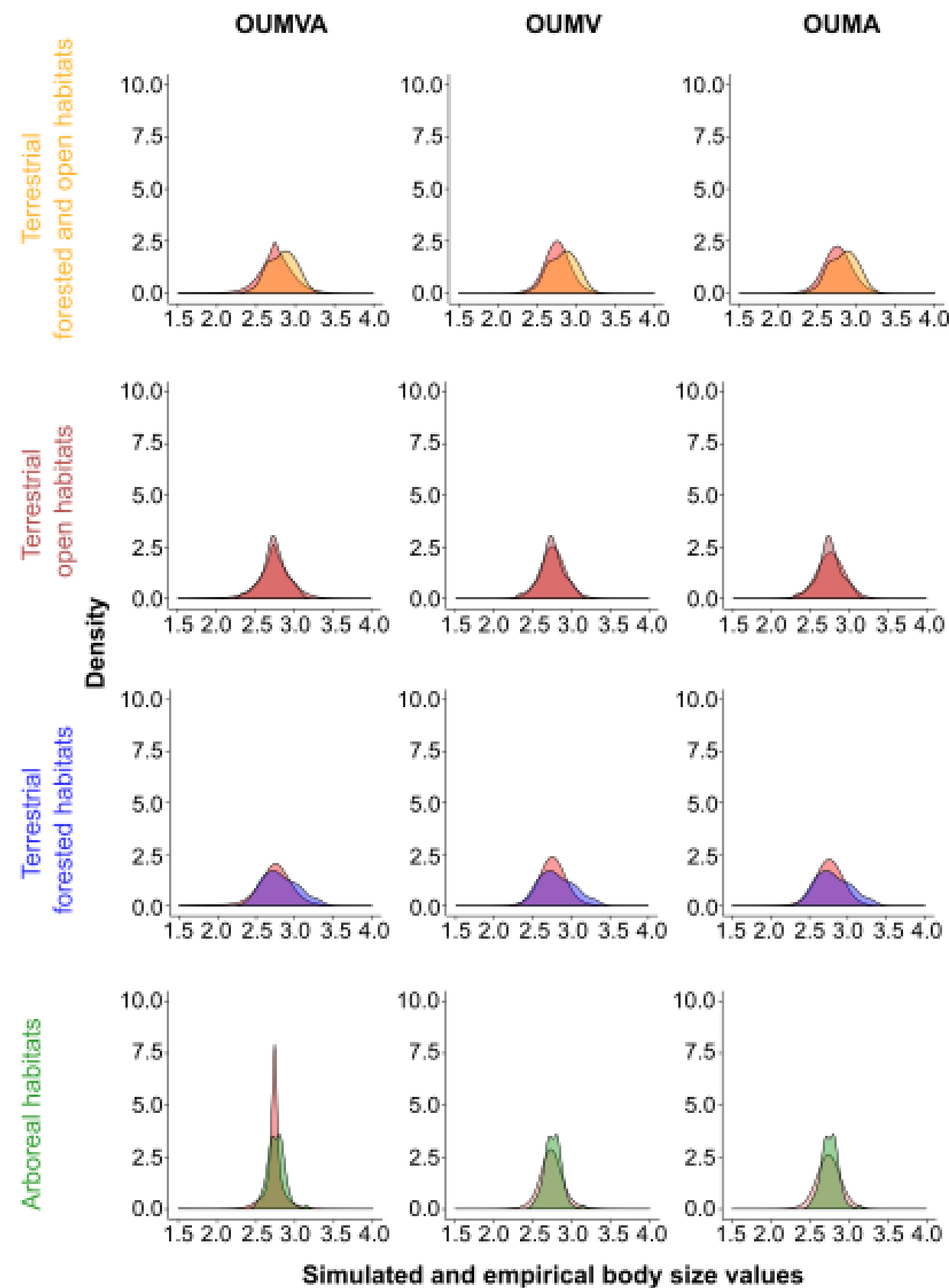
The best model isn't always a good model.

Simulations

The best model isn't always a good model.

OUwie.sim function

OUwie uses the function `OUwie.sim()` to simulate trait data under a specified evolutionary model, using parameters provided, typically the ones estimated under your best-fitting model.



Simulated and empirical values show substantial overlap, suggesting that the best model is a good fit to the data.

Simulations

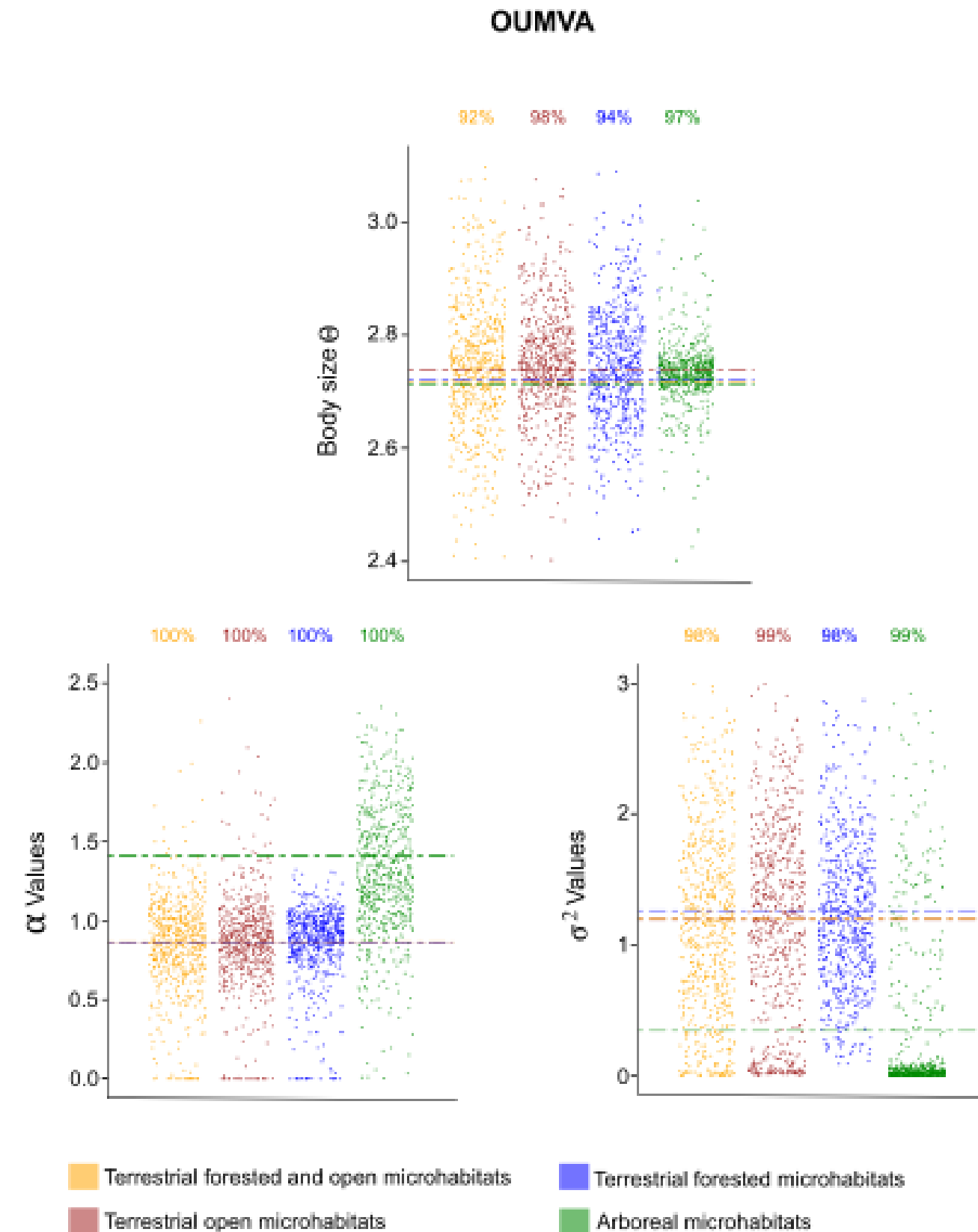
OUwie.boot function

Simulates trait data under your fitted model (using OUwie.sim) and refits the same model to each simulated dataset.

Allows to assess:

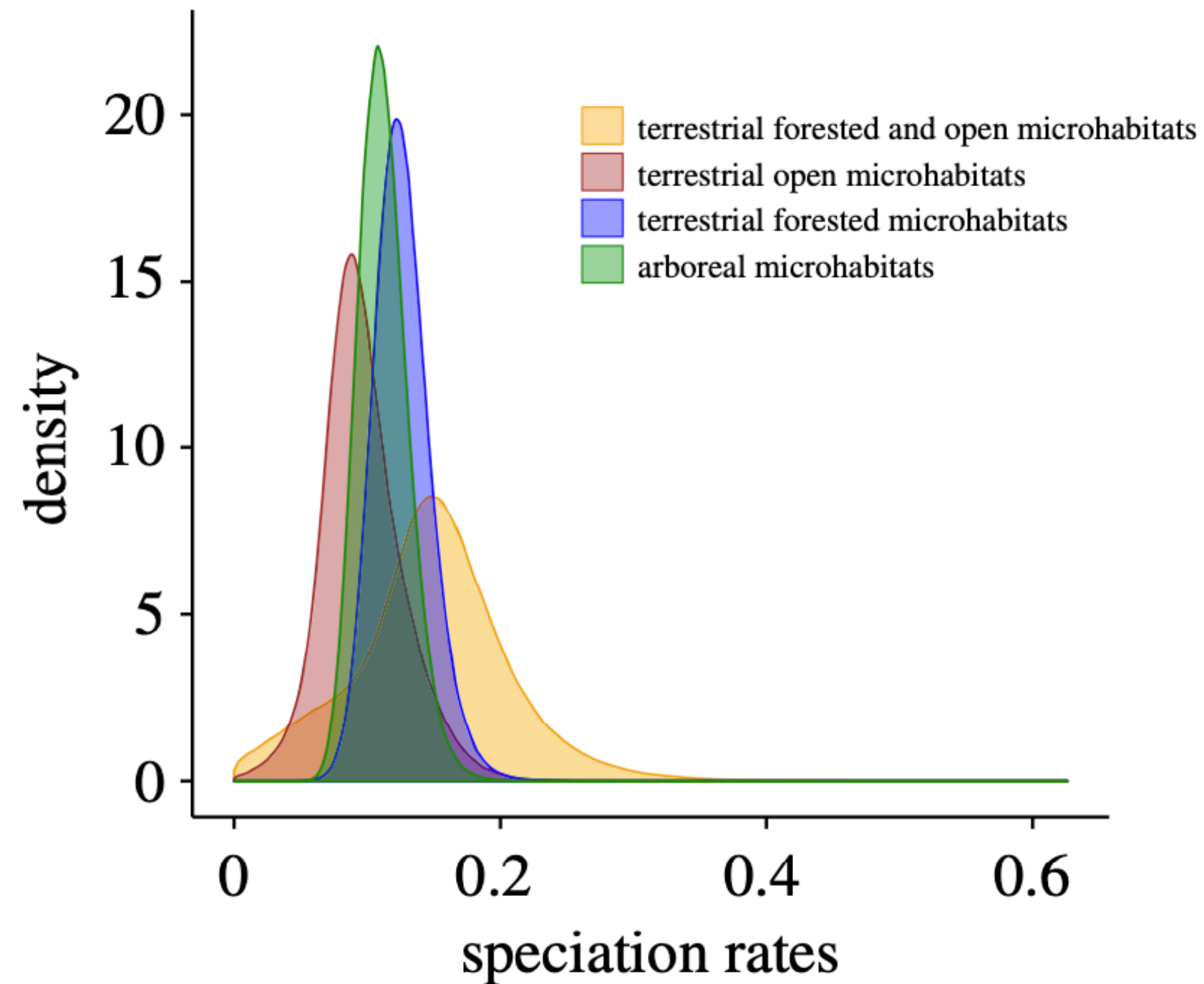
- How stable the parameter estimates are
- Whether the model can recover parameters similar to the original estimates

In general, parameter estimates based on the simulated traits showed the same pattern as the empirical analyses suggested.



What we found

Speciation rates do not differ between
arboreal and terrestrial vipers



Conclusions

- ✓ Smaller morphological variability does not affect the pace of species formation in vipers
- ✓ Morphological evolution and species diversification are decoupled
- ✓ Adaptive zones can constrain instead of promote diversification

OVERVIEW OF OU METHODS FOR TRAIT EVOLUTION

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Modelling OU process
without a priori
expectations

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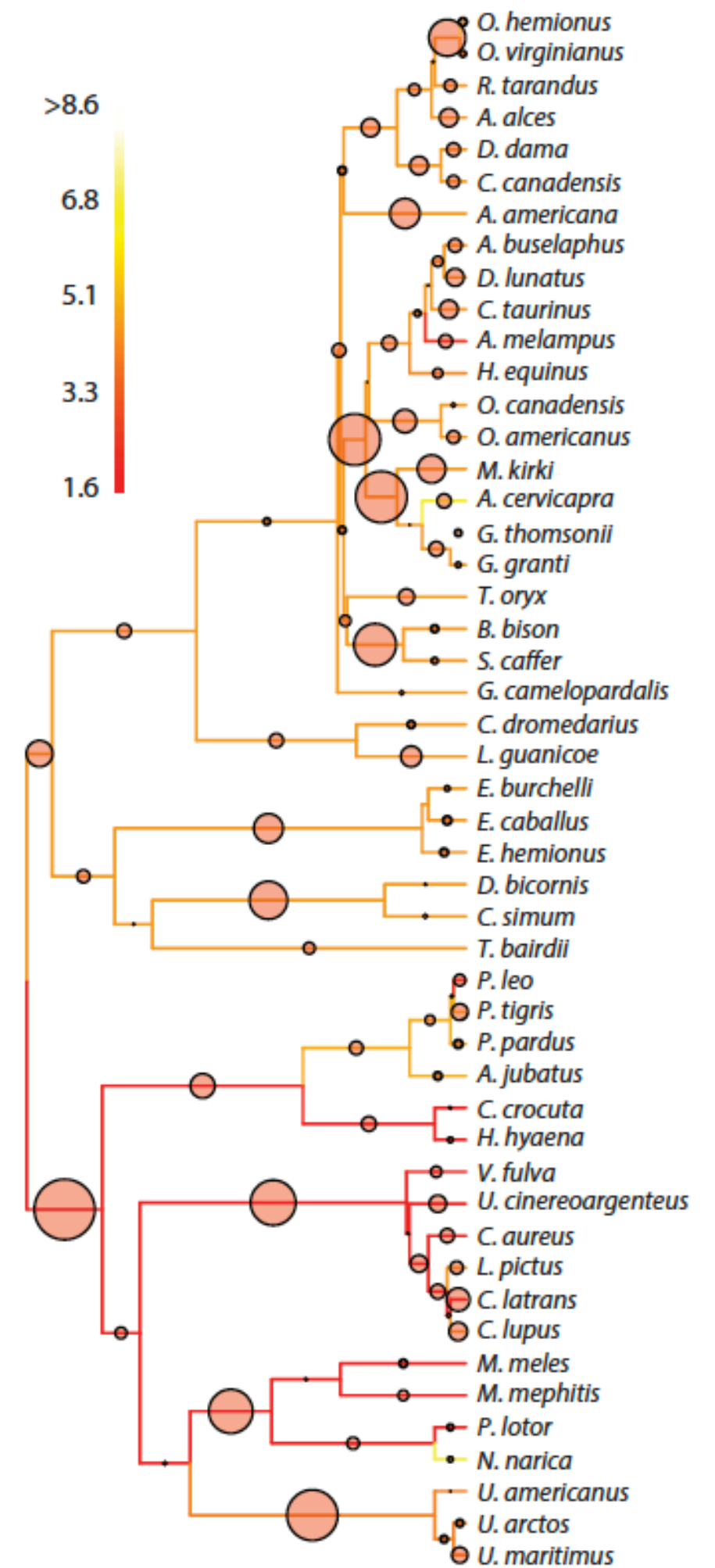
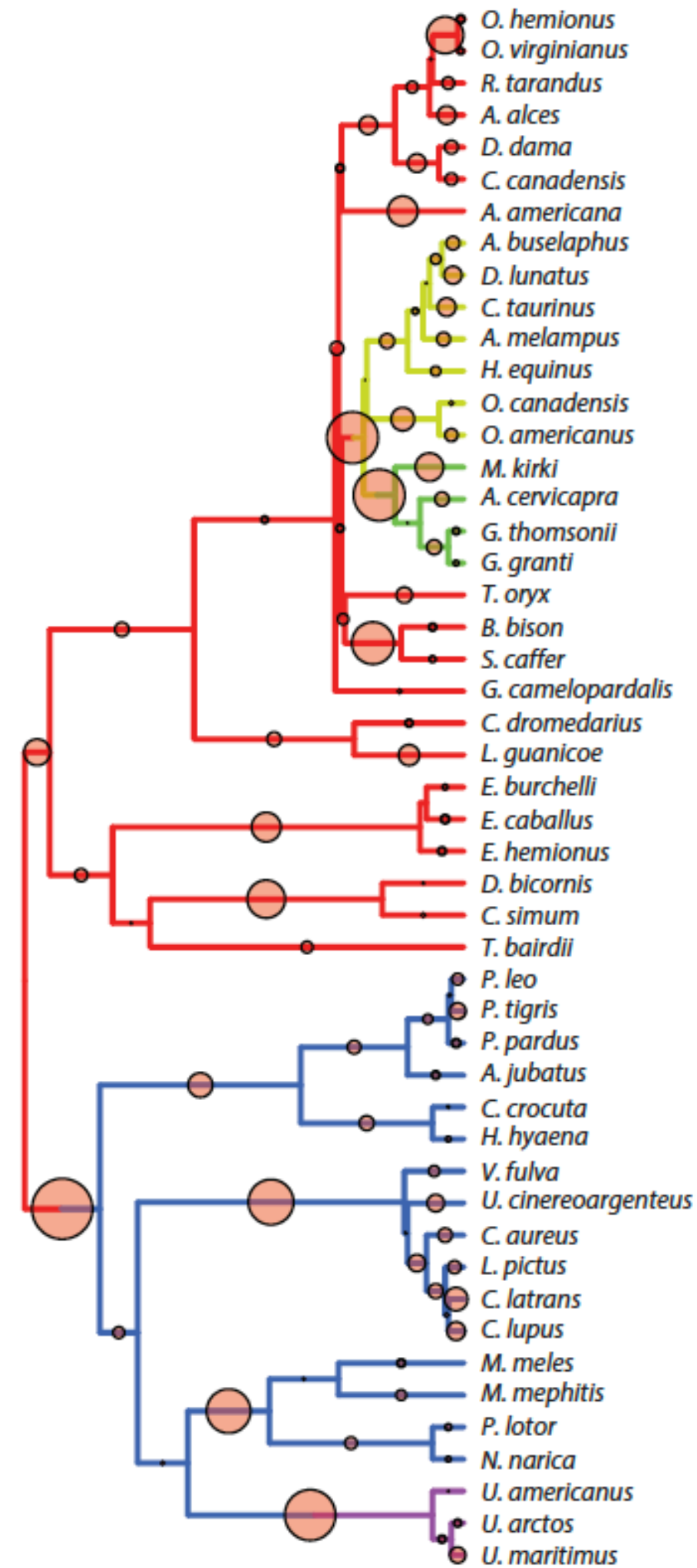
A Novel Bayesian Method for Inferring and Interpreting the Dynamics of Adaptive Landscapes from Phylogenetic Comparative Data

[Josef C. Uyeda](#) ✉, [Luke J. Harmon](#) [Author Notes](#)

Systematic Biology, Volume 63, Issue 6, November 2014, Pages 902–918,

- Usually vary theta (optimum) but assumes single alpha/sigma
- Flexible
- Bayesian
- Model Relationships between traits
- Computational intensive

OVERVIEW OF OU METHODS FOR TRAIT EVOLUTION



OVERVIEW OF OU METHODS FOR TRAIT EVOLUTION

Modelling OU process
without a priori
expectations

l1OU

Methods in Ecology and Evolution



Methods in Ecology and Evolution 2016, 7, 811–824

doi: 10.1111/2041-210X.12534

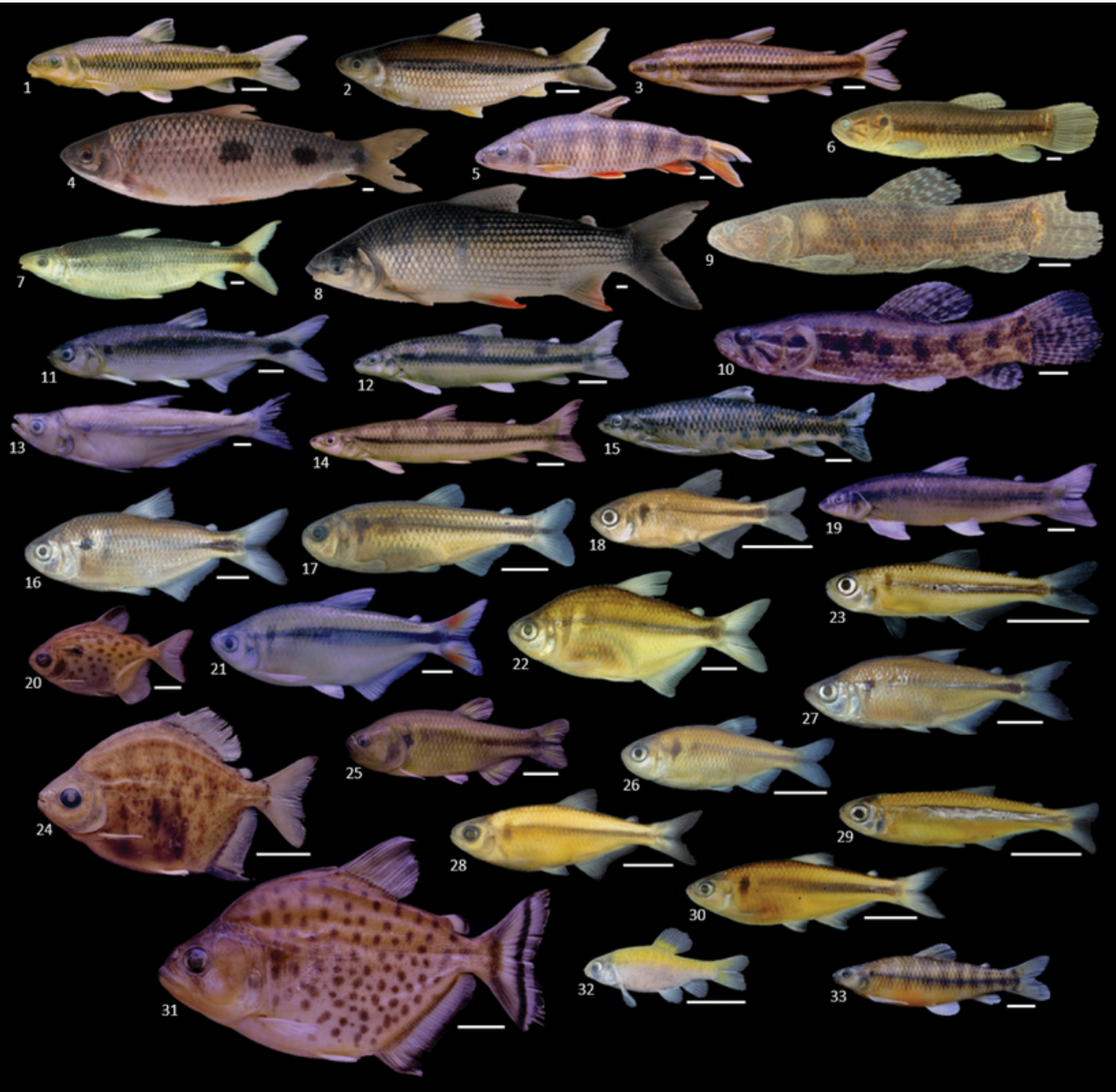
Fast and accurate detection of evolutionary shifts in Ornstein–Uhlenbeck models

Mohammad Khabbazian¹, Ricardo Kriebel², Karl Rohe³ and Cécile Ané^{2,3*}

- Vary theta (optimum) and assumes single alpha/sigma
- ML
- Fast

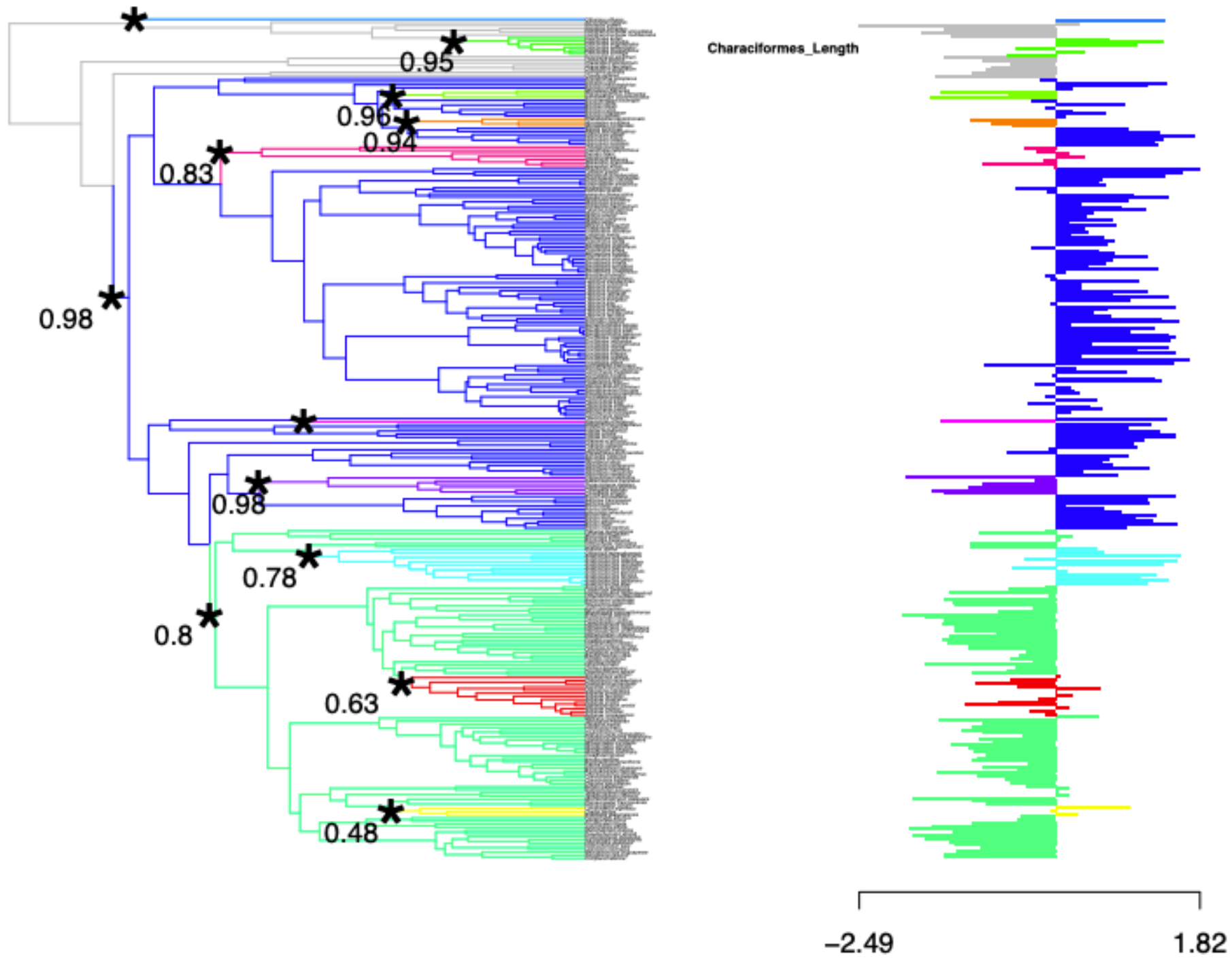
OVERVIEW OF OU METHODS FOR TRAIT EVOLUTION

OU



Order: Characiformes

Modelling OU process
without a priori
expectations



Alencar et al. 2022 Evol Evol

OVERVIEW OF OU METHODS FOR TRAIT EVOLUTION

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expectations

Methods in Ecology and Evolution



Methods in Ecology and Evolution 2013, **4**, 416–425

doi: 10.1111/2041-210X.12034

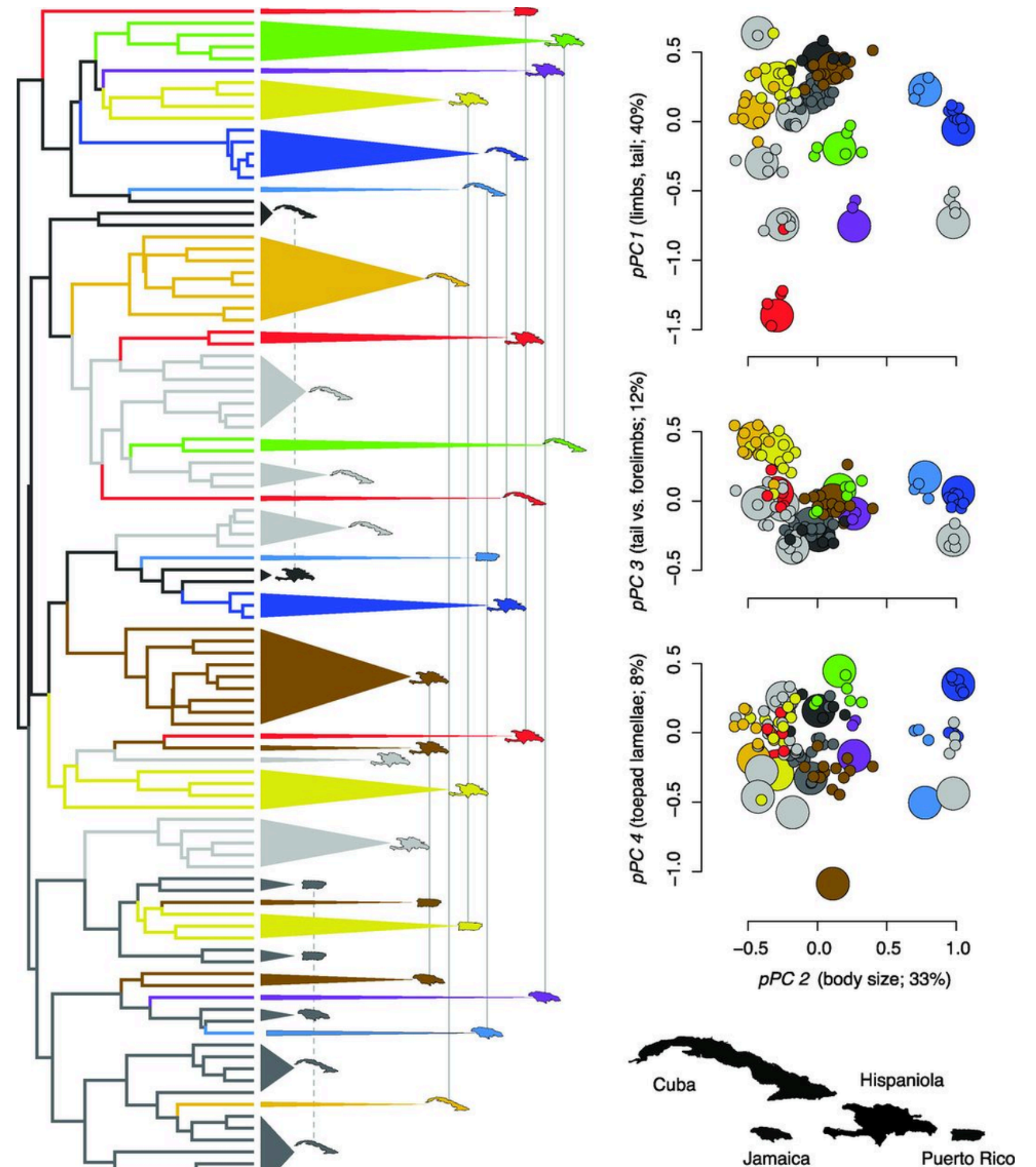
**SURFACE: detecting convergent evolution from
comparative data by fitting Ornstein-Uhlenbeck models
with stepwise Akaike Information Criterion**

Travis Ingram^{1*} and D. Luke Mahler²

- Vary theta (optimum) and assumes single alpha/sigma
- ML, Stepwise AIC
- Convergence
- Fast?

OVERVIEW OF OUR METHODS FOR TRAIT EVOLUTION

SURFACE



OVERVIEW OF OU METHODS FOR TRAIT EVOLUTION

Modelling OU process
without a priori
expectations

Automatic generation of evolutionary
hypotheses using mixed Gaussian
phylogenetic models

Venelin Mitov  , Krzysztof Bartoszek, and Tanja Stadler [Authors Info & Affiliations](#)

PCMFit

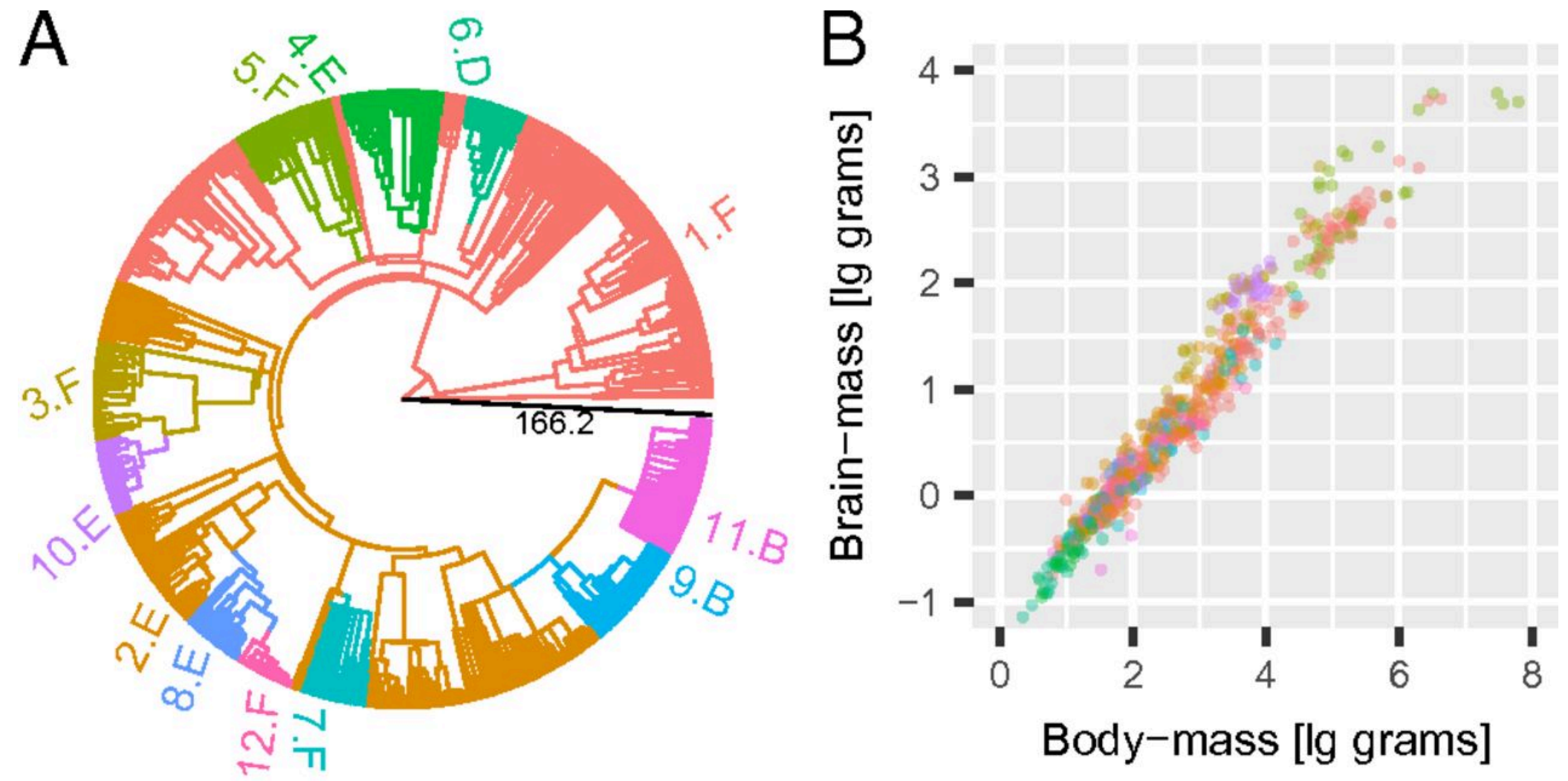
- Vary everything
- Different lineages can evolve under BM or OU
- Model Relationships between traits
- ML

OVERVIEW OF OU METHODS FOR TRAIT EVOLUTION



PCMFit

Modelling OU process
without a priori
expectations



CHOOSING THE RIGHT METHOD:

- Type of question (exploratory vs. hypothesis-driven)
- Available data (number of taxa, traits)
- Computational resources

SAMPLING:

- OU methods/models can be sensitive to taxon sampling :

Small sample sizes can affect the ability of the method to distinguish between, for example, BM and OU models.

- OU methods/models can be sensitive to sampling across clades or regimes:

Parameter estimates can be biased if you don't have enough species across the distinct regimes

TUTORIAL 2