1 Maternal investment evolves with larger body size and higher diversification

2 rate in sharks and rays

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- 16 Running head: Reproductive Mode Evolution of Sharks
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18 Abstract

- 19 Across vertebrates, live-bearing has evolved at least 150 times from the ancestral
- 20 state of egg-laying into a diverse array of forms and degrees of prepartum maternal
- 21 investment. A key question is how this diversity of reproductive modes arose and
- 22 whether reproductive diversification underlies species diversification? To test these
- 23 questions, we evaluate the most basal jawed vertebrates, Chondrichthyans, which
- 24 have one of the greatest ranges of reproductive and ecological diversity among
- 25 vertebrates. We reconstructed the sequence of reproductive mode evolution across a
- time-calibrated molecular phylogeny of 610 chondrichthyans. We find that egg-laying
- 27 is ancestral, and that live-bearing evolved at least seven times. Matrotrophy (i.e.
- additional maternal contributions) evolved at least 15 times, with evidence of one

29	reversal. In sharks, transitions to live-bearing and matrotrophy are more prevalent in
30	larger-bodied species in the tropics. Further, the evolution of live-bearing is
31	associated with a near-doubling of the diversification rate, but, there is only a small
32	increase in diversification associated with the appearance of matrotrophy. The
33	chondrichthyan diversification and radiation, particularly throughout the shallow
34	tropical shelf seas and oceanic pelagic habitats, appears to be associated with the
35	evolution of live-bearing and the proliferation of a wide range of maternal investment
36	in their developing offspring.
37	
38	Keywords: Live-bearing; Matrotrophy; Chondrichthyan; Shark; Trait Evolution;
39	Diversification
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51 reduced foraging ability due to pregnancy (Goodwin et al. 2002; Shine 2004). Body

52	size is important as internal body cavity space can limit female reproductive output.
53	Hence, live-bearing should be correlated with increasing maternal body size and the
54	space required to carry developing offspring to term in larger species (Qualls and
55	Shine 1995; Goodwin et al. 2002). In addition to body size, temperature may strongly
56	influence the evolution of reproductive modes in ecotherms (Shine 1995). In reptiles,
57	viviparity has evolved in cold climates because of the risk of freezing and lower
58	survival of eggs (Shine 2004).
59	Sister to all jawed vertebrates, the Class Chondrichthyes (hereafter 'shark and
60	rays'), exhibit live-bearing and varying modes of maternal investment (Wourms
61	1981; Dulvy and Reynolds 1997; Reynolds et al. 2002). Similar to reptiles,
62	reproductive transitions in chondrichthyans may be temperature-dependent but
63	potentially for different reasons (Compagno 1990). Sharks and rays that nourish
64	embryos solely via the yolk-sac (e.g. egg-laying or lecithotrophic live-bearing) are
65	predominantly found in colder habitats either in deep water or high latitude seas.
66	Whereas matrotrophic live-bearing, with maternal contribution beyond the yolk-sac,
67	is more prevalent in shallow tropical habitats, potentially reflecting temperature
68	effects on the rate and efficiency of development (Yampolsky and Scheiner 1996;
69	Dulvy 1998; Gillooly et al. 2002). Under this hypothesis, low maternal investment
70	strategies, such as lecithotrophic live-bearing, are more likely in colder environments
71	where metabolic rate (and hence maintenance costs) are lower, leaving a greater
72	fraction of energy available for embryonic growth. By contrast, the greater metabolic
73	maintenance costs in warmer environments may require additional maternal
74	investment through increased ovum size or post-fertilization trophic input to produce

a similar-sized offspring (Dulvy 1998). This temperature dependent – reproductive
investment hypothesis is consistent with thermal physiology (Gillooly et al. 2002),
but remains untested, simply because – until now – suitable molecular phylogenies
necessary for ancestral state reconstruction have been unavailable (Dulvy and
Reynolds 1997; Musick and Ellis 2005).

80 Reproductive mode evolution has the potential to influence speciation and 81 diversification dynamics through colonization of novel habitats (Yoder et al. 2010) 82 and / or parent-offspring conflicts (Zeh and Zeh 2000; Crespi and Semeniuk 2004). 83 Live-bearing sharks and rays tend to have larger geographic range sizes, potentially 84 spanning a greater range of habitats compared to smaller species (Goodwin et al. 85 2005). Speciation and diversification can also be driven by conflict between maternal 86 and offspring genomes in live-bearing species (Zeh and Zeh 2000), whereby conflict 87 over resource allocation during gestation drives antagonistic coevolution between 88 maternal and paternal genomes increasing the rate of species divergence. It is in the 89 father's best interest to have large, well-provisioned offspring, whereas it is in the 90 mother's best interest to weigh current offspring investment against her own survival 91 and future reproductive success (Zeh and Zeh 2000). Live-bearing provides an arena 92 in which this conflict can arise, and morphological adaptations for matrotrophic 93 nutrient transfer also provide an opportunity for embryos to influence maternal input 94 during gestation (Crespi and Semeniuk 2004). This resulting conflict over resources 95 could increase the rate of genetic divergence within populations, ultimately resulting 96 in speciation (Zeh and Zeh 2000). Hence, the potential for parent-offspring conflict in 97 live-bearing species may drive higher rates of diversification that may vary over the

range of maternal investment mechanisms. Increased rates of diversification
associated with live-bearing have been noted in squamate lizards (Pyron and Burbrink
2014) and teleost fishes (Helmstetter et al. 2016), although within live-bearers, the
degree to which matrotrophy versus lecithotrophy is related to species diversification
has yet to be tested.

103 Sharks and rays are an ideal group for studying the evolution of reproductive 104 mode and maternal investment. Sharks and rays exhibit egg-laying, live-bearing, and 105 multiple forms of matrotrophy along a continuum of maternal post-fertilization input 106 with yolk-sac live-bearing (lecithotrophy) at one end of the spectrum, with lipid 107 histotrophy, oophagy, and placentotrophy representing the extreme forms of 108 matrotrophy at the other. There remains considerable debate on whether the first 109 chondrichthyan laid eggs (Dulvy and Reynolds 1997) or gave birth to live young 110 (Musick and Ellis 2005).

111 The availability of a new molecular phylogeny of 610 chondrichthyan species 112 (Stein et al. 2018) with complete information on reproductive mode and habitat 113 provides a new opportunity to reconstruct the evolutionary history of reproductive 114 mode in chondrichthyans. We test the following predictions: (1) that the most recent 115 common ancestor of sharks and rays laid eggs based on the basal position of 116 Chimaeriformes; the evolution of live-bearing and varying forms of matrotrophy is 117 related to (2) larger body size, and (3) a radiation into shallow-water tropical habitats 118 (Compagno 1990). Finally, (4) that the evolution of live-bearing and matrotrophy is 119 associated with increasing rates of species diversification.

120

121 Methods

122 Trait Data and Phylogeny

123 Data on the reproductive mode and habitat type were collected for the 610 124 chondrichthyan species in our phylogeny, from primary literature and species 125 catalogues (Ebert et al. 2013; Dulvy et al. 2014; IUCN 2014). Chondrichthyans 126 exhibit eight distinct reproductive modes (Dulvy and Reynolds 1997), though we 127 focus the evolution of live bearing and maternal investment, therefore species were 128 categorized into three distinct modes: egg-laying, lecithotrophic live-bearing, and 129 matrotrophic live-bearing where embryos are nourished via the initial yolk-sac 130 investment and additional maternal contributions during gestation (oophagy, 131 histotrophy, and placentotrophy). We note that lecithotrophic live-bearing has also 132 been called yolk-sac viviparity, aplacental viviparity, or ovoviparity (Wourms 1981). 133 We collected data on maximum body size and depth ranges (minimum, mean, 134 median, and maximum) from species field guides and catalogues and primary 135 literature. Minimum and maximum latitudinal range was collected from species 136 Extent Of Occurrence geographic range maps from the International Union for the 137 Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List of Threatened Species database (IUCN 138 2014). Median latitude was calculated as the midpoint between minimum and 139 maximum latitude, and was expressed as an absolute value to represent distance north 140 or south from the equator. All continuous trait values were standardized, centered, 141 and divided by two standard deviations, using the rescale function in the arm 142 (version 1.9-3) (Gelman and Su 2016) package prior to analyses to facilitate 143 comparison of coefficients.

144	We conducted all analyses using a distribution of trees from a new 610 species
145	chondrichthyan molecular phylogeny (Stein et al. 2018). This phylogeny covers 51%
146	of all known species from every order, 98% of families, 88% of genera, and all
147	described character states are represented. Because the distribution of trees represents
148	a gradient of variation in root and node dating for the maximum likelihood tree, we
149	sequentially selected 21 trees, every 25th tree from one to 500 to account for the full
150	range of temporal calibrations. Results were pooled across all trees.
151	
152	Ancestral State Reconstruction and Diversification
153	We reconstructed the evolutionary origins and sequence of reproductive mode and
154	habitat while estimating state dependent diversification rates using the multistate
155	speciation and extinction (MuSSE) method with maximum likelihood implemented
156	with musse (Pagel 1994) in the diversitree (version 0.9-9) package in R
157	(Fitzjohn 2012). Rabosky and Goldberg (2015) pointed out that state dependent
158	diversification models (including MuSSE) are susceptible to inflated false positives
159	when there is unmodeled heterogeneity in diversification rates – thereby associations
160	can be falsely detected between rates and states even when the diversification
161	dynamics are unrelated to the traits being considered. To minimize false positives, we
162	adopted the analytical approach of Uyeda et al. (2017) and integrated a hypothesis-
163	testing approach (i.e., MuSSE) with a more data-driven approach (what Uyeda et al.
164	refer to as "phylogenetic natural history"); in this way, we are able to tease out the
165	signal for our hypotheses that our focal traits are influencing diversification rates

while conditioning on the fact that there is likely substantial background variation inthese rates across the tree.

168	More specifically, we first used the medusa algorithm (as implemented in Geiger
169	v2.0.6; Pennell et al. 2014) to detect background variation in diversification rates
170	unrelated to our traits of interest. First, we infilled those species missing from the
171	molecular phylogeny ($n = 582$) using taxonomic constraints so that tips represented
172	unresolved clades. Importantly for earlier divergences, our sampling did not miss any
173	variability in reproductive mode (e.g. there are no live-bearing chimaeras) so missing
174	samples will not affect our conclusions. Under some circumstances, medusa may not
175	reliably correctly identify the placement of shifts (May and Moore 2016). However,
176	this issue does not pertain to our analysis because we are not making any inferences
177	about specific events or specific clades and are only interested in detecting broad-
178	scale differences in diversification dynamics. Our Medusa analysis only revealed
179	three clades with consistent increases in diversification rates across all trees: skates
180	(Rajiformes), South American freshwater stingrays (Potamotrygonidae), and ground
181	sharks (Carcharhiniformes). For the MuSSE analyses, we then partitioned the tree
182	into four diversification regimes (these three known radiations plus the background)
183	and fit a MuSSE model in which the diversification rate parameters were allowed to
184	vary among these four partitions. We also assigned each partition its own sampling
185	fraction based on the most up-to-date taxonomic treatment (Weigmann 2016; Stein et
186	al. 2018). Ideally, we would have fit an integrated model that included heterogeneity
187	in rates due to both the trait and to unmodeled "background" variation (Beaulieu and

188 O'Meara 2016; Uyeda et al. 2017) but unfortunately no such approach is available formulti-state traits.

190	As we described above, speciation (λ), extinction (μ), and transition rates (q) were
191	estimated for each of the four partitions separately. Because the estimations of
192	extinction rates from molecular phylogenies can be difficult (Rabosky 2010), we ran
193	two models: with state dependent extinction rates (1) unconstrained ($\mu_{egg-laying} \neq \mu_{live-}$
194	$\mu_{\text{bearing}} \neq \mu_{\text{matrotrophic}}$ and (2) constrained to be equal ($\mu_{\text{egg-laying}} = \mu_{\text{live-bearing}} = \mu_{\text{matrotrophic}}$).
195	We report findings from the unconstrained model as there was no significant
196	difference between models, and we are interested in how variation in this rate may
197	affect overall diversification. Additionally, the main difficulty with estimating
198	extinction rates arises from unaccounted for diversification rate heterogeneity, which
199	we have minimized by a priori identification with medusa and subsequent
200	partitioning. We report speciation (λ), extinction (μ), net diversification ($r = \lambda - \mu$),
201	and transition rates (q) . We treated reproductive mode as an ordinal multistate
202	character and accordingly did not allow unlikely transitions such as directly between
203	egg-laying and matrotrophic live-bearing. Models were run for 10,000 generations
204	with the first 1,000 generations discarded as burn-in, using an exponential prior with
205	a rate of $1/(2r)$ where r is the character state independent diversification rate (Fitzjohn
206	2012). We checked that all parameter estimates had effective sample sizes (ESS: the
207	number of independent draws from an MCMC chain) greater than 200. To account
208	for autocorrelation in the estimates of state dependent diversification, we also
209	examined the posterior distribution of differences in state dependent rates across all
210	chains.

211

212 Evolutionary Covariation with Ecological Traits

213	We used a threshold model to test for the evolutionary covariation between
214	reproductive mode and continuous ecological traits. The threshold model assumes
215	that state changes in an ordinal variable (e.g. egg-laying to live-bearing to
216	matrotrophy) occur when a threshold value of an underlying continuous latent
217	variable, such as body size, is reached. Thus, it can be used to model the evolutionary
218	covariation between ordinal and continuous traits (Felsenstein 2012). Accurate
219	estimation of evolutionary covariation requires a suitable number of transitions and
220	distribution of traits across the phylogeny (Maddison and Fitzjohn 2015). We focus
221	on sharks (superorders Galeomorphii and Squalomorphii; $n = 292$) to evaluate
222	evolutionary covariance between reproductive transitions and three ecological traits
223	(body size, depth, and latitude), because there is only one transition in parity and few
224	appearances of matrotrophy within Chimaeriformes and rays (Batoideii). We
225	estimated the evolutionary covariance using Bayesian methods, sampling from the
226	posterior distribution using a special Reduced Animal Model implemented in a mixed
227	effects modeling framework while accounting for phylogeny, using the package
228	MCMCglmmRAM (version 2.24) in R (Hadfield 2015). This approach is equivalent to
229	estimating evolutionary covariance using the threshold model (Felsenstein 2012;
230	Revell 2014). These models are a special case of generalized linear mixed effects
231	models where heritability, akin to Pagel's λ , is set to a value of one corresponding to
232	Brownian motion with respect to the phylogenetic tree (Freckleton et al. 2002;
233	Housworth et al. 2004). Twenty chains were run for 2 million generations with the

234	first 200,000 iterations discarded as burn-in, using priors with an inverse-Wishart
235	distribution and the residual covariance matrix set to zero (Hadfield 2015). Samples
236	were drawn every 500 iterations to avoid temporal autocorrelation in parameter
237	estimates. Chains were visually inspected to ensure convergence using coda (version
238	0.19-4) (Plummer et al. 2006), and posterior samples were summarized to generate
239	mean and 95% highest posterior densities (HPD) with effective samples sizes greater
240	than 1000. Models were run using three different treatments of reproductive mode
241	with the threshold family: binary parity mode (egg-laying versus live-bearing), binary
242	embryo trophic mode (lecithotrophic versus matrotrophic), and ordinal multi-state
243	reproductive mode (egg-laying, lecithotrophic live-bearing, and matrotrophic live-
244	bearing).

245

246 **Results**

247 (1) Ancestral chondrichthyans laid eggs

248 The first chondrichthyans almost certainly laid eggs, as there is a high level of 249 support for egg-laying as the ancestral state of reproductive mode in chondrichthyans 250 (>99% probability; Figure 1). There are multiple independent origins of live-bearing (seven) and matrotrophy (15), from the superordinal to subgeneric level, with few 251 252 instances of reversals (one reversal from matrotrophy to lecithotrophic live-bearing; 253 Figure 2). Specifically, live-bearing appears to have evolved from egg-laying at: (a) 254 base of Rhinopristiformes and Myliobatiformes, (b) base of Squalomorphii, (c) base 255 of clade encompassing Brachaeluridae, Orectolobidae, and Rhincodontidae, (d) base 256 of Ginglymostomatidae, (e) within the genus Bythaelurus, (f) in Galeus polli, and (g)

257 basal to clade encompassing Pseudotriakidae, Triakidae, Hemigaleidae, and

258 Carcharhinidae (Figure 1). We found no evidence of reversals from live-bearing to

- egg-laying (Figure 2A).
- 260 Matrotrophy appears to have evolved independently from lecithotrophic live-
- bearing at least 15 times with one reversal: (a-c) one to three origins within guitarfish
- and wedgefish (Rhinopristiformes), (d) basal to stingrays (Myliobatiformes), (e-f) one
- 263 to three origins within sleeper sharks (Somniosidae), (g) great lanternsharks
- 264 (Etmopterus princeps), (h) tawny nurse shark (Nebrius ferrugineus), (i) mackerel
- sharks (Lamniformes), (j) Pseudotriakidae, (k-m) one to three origins within

266 houndsharks (Triakidae), and (n) base of requiem sharks (Carcharhinidae). There was

267 evidence of a single instance of reversal from matrotrophy to lecithotrophic live-

268 bearing in the sharptooth houndshark (*Triakis megalopterus*). Overall transitions from

egg-laying to live-bearing and to matrotrophy occurred at higher rates then reversals

- across all partitions that contained multiple reproductive modes (Figure 2B,C).
- 271
- 272 *(2) Live-bearing and matrotrophy evolve with increasing maternal size*

273 Reproductive mode was related to body size, such that larger bodied species had a

higher probability of live-bearing and matrotrophic investment (Figure 3A). We

found positive covariation with body size, using the threshold model to test for

276 evolutionary covariance between discrete values of reproductive mode and

277 continuous ecological traits, (median = 0.16, 95% CI = 0.09 to 0.22; Effective Sample

278 Size = 3351) indicating transitions in reproductive mode are more prevalent in

279 lineages with larger body size (Figure 3A). The relationship with larger body size was

slightly stronger for the transition from egg-laying to live-bearing (0.37 [0.17 to

0.55]; ESS = 3332) than for lecithotrophy to matrotrophy (0.3 [0.14 to 0.48]; ESS =

282 3600).

283

284	(3) Live-bearing and matrotrophy evolve in wide-ranging species at low latitudes
285	Live bearing species are more prevalent in the tropics, specifically transitions
286	from egg-laying to live-bearing are more prevalent in lineages at lower latitudes
287	(minimum latitude: -0.68 [-1.25 to -0.01], ESS = 2915, Figure 3C; median latitude: -
288	0.46 [-0.9 to -0.03]; ESS = 3189; Figure 3D). However, there was little evidence that
289	transitions in reproductive mode are related to either median latitude (-0.06 [-0.16 to
290	0.04], ESS = 3600) or median depth (0.06 [-0.04 to +0.15]; ESS = 3600; Figure 3
291	B,D). Transitions to live-bearing and in reproductive mode were more prevalent in
292	lineages with larger latitudinal ranges (0.058 [0.08 to 1.0], ESS = 2580; 0.11 [0.04 to
293	0.18], ESS = 3956; Figure 3E).
294	

295 (4) Diversification rate is highest in matrotrophic lineages

Overall, the evolution of live-bearing and matrotrophy is associated with greater diversification (Figure 4A-C), mainly due to a high relative extinction rate in egglaying species (Figure 4A,B). The evolution of matrotrophy is associated with greater diversification than egg-laying (2.4 times), and there is weak evidence for higher diversification than lecithotrophic live-bearing lineages (1.27 times; Figure 5A). Egglaying lineages have high turnover driven by high extinction rates because speciation rate is highest in egg-laying lineages (mean 0.046 lineages/MY) compared with

303 lecithotrophic live-bearing (mean 0.03 lineages/MY) and matrotrophic lineages

304 (0.026 lineages/MY; Figure 4A-C).

305	Within the three radiations, the connection between reproductive mode and
306	diversification is more nuanced. Within the ground sharks (Carcharhiniformes), egg-
307	laying lineages have a higher diversification rate than lecithotrophic live-bearing
308	lineages (Figure 4D-F, Figure 5B), driven by high speciation in egg-laying cat sharks
309	that are found mainly in deepwater. Speciation is particularly high in both the skate
310	radiation (0.078 lineages/MY; Figure 4G) and the South American freshwater
311	stingray radiation (0.070 lineages/MY; Figure (4J), potentially reflecting their
312	colonization of novel deep-water and freshwater habitats, respectively.

313

314 **Discussion**

315 Here, we reveal the first chondrichthyan was an egg-layer and there have been 316 numerous transitions toward live-bearing and matrotrophy. The evolution of live-317 bearing and matrotrophy covaries with increasing body size and is more prevalent in 318 shallow waters of tropical latitudes. Further, the evolution of live-bearing, and to a 319 lesser extent matrotrophy, appears to have resulted in greater species diversification. 320 Next, we consider three questions: What is the sequence of reproductive mode 321 evolution? What ecological factors have driven the evolution of live-bearing and 322 matrotrophy? Is chondrichthyan speciation and diversification explained by 323 viviparity-driven conflict or by novel ecological opportunity? 324

325 *The sequence of reproductive mode evolution*

326	We find support for egg-laying as the ancestral reproductive state, with numerous
327	independent origins of live-bearing and matrotrophy with few instances of reversals.
328	Previous analyses of reproductive evolution in chondrichthyans have been limited by
329	the available morphological phylogenetic hypotheses, particularly on the
330	phylogenetic position of rays (Shirai 1992; Naylor et al. 2012). Some morphological
331	analyses placed the rays as a highly derived group within the Squalimorph sharks, but
332	the emerging consensus from molecular data is that rays and sharks are sister taxa
333	(Naylor et al. 2012; Stein et al. 2018). With this new molecular tree, we find
334	transitions in reproductive mode are generally toward live-bearing or matrotrophy
335	though this not a strictly linear progression as reversals are infrequent though
336	plausible. We expect that improved biological sampling and phylogenetic
337	reconstructions may yield further examples, particularly in groups displaying
338	subgeneric transitions that are currently poorly phylogenetically resolved (e.g. within
339	catsharks, Scyliorhinidae). We find no support for live-bearing being ancestral nor
340	evidence of a high rate of reversals to egg-laying from live-bearing that this would
341	necessitate, as suggested previously (Musick and Ellis 2005). Interestingly, a similar
342	controversy has occurred in squamates, a group with highly labile reproductive
343	modes. The most likely model suggested an early origin of viviparity with a high rate
344	of reversals (Pyron and Burbrink 2014), though this result has been questioned based
345	on the choice of phylogenetic hypotheses and morphological features of live-bearing
346	lineages (Blackburn 2015a,b; Wright et al. 2015). Consequently, support remains for
347	the conventional hypothesis that the ancestral state was oviparity (Blackburn 2015b).
348	Live-bearing chondrichthyans, particularly lecithotrophic live-bearers, develop within

349 an egg envelope or candle which is similar to, but thinner than, that found in egg-350 laying species (Castro 2009; Conrath and Musick 2012). This retention of the 351 morphological machinery for egg production could make reversals to egg-laying 352 feasible, and may allow for some of the subgeneric reproductive diversity seen within 353 catsharks (Scyliorhinidae). But these data, along with the emerging consensus in 354 reptiles, suggests that egg-laying is the ancestral vertebrate condition. 355 Transitions between matrotrophic modes can also occur, for example in hound 356 sharks (Family Triakidae) muccoid histotrophy can be used in lieu of, or in concert 357 with, placentotrophy (Hamlett et al. 2005) - resulting in intergeneric reproductive 358 diversity (López et al. 2006). Similarly, lecithotrophic live-bearing and some forms 359 of matrotrophy, particularly muccoid histotrophy found in Rhinopristiformes and 360 some sharks, may not represent discrete character states but rather a continuum that 361 will be revealed only with more detailed histological work in this lineage. Muccoid 362 histotrophy can be difficult to distinguish due to a paucity of uterine morphological 363 specializations and accurate measurements of ash-free dry weight of embryos and 364 ova. In several species of squaliform sharks the change in organic mass from ovum to 365 embryo has been used to identify muccoid histotrophy (Paiva et al. 2011; Cotton et al. 366 2014), though there is uncertainty given the exact threshold value of change in mass 367 that should be used to distinguish between modes (Frazer et al. 2012). Thus, large 368 groups predominantly composed of lecithotrophic live-bearing species (i.e. 369 Rhinopristiformes, Squalimorphii) may actually contain a greater diversity of 370 maternal investment than currently measurable or dealt with in this analysis. Despite 371 this uncertainty, chondrichthyans still exhibit remarkably labile reproductive modes

372 compared with other vertebrate groups, more similar to the transition rates seen in the
373 much larger clade Squamata (~10,000 species with >150 origins of live-bearing and 6
374 origins of matrotrophy) (Blackburn 2015a).

375

Evolutionary correlates of reproductive mode

377 Here we show that in sharks live-bearing and maternal investment has evolved in 378 association with larger body size, tropical latitudes, and increasing latitudinal range, 379 while there is little evidence of association with depth. We speculate that body size 380 may, in effect, be capturing allometric differences in predation pressure and access to 381 food resources, which have been hypothesized as drivers of reproductive evolution in 382 smaller more tractable freshwater livebearers (Trexler and Deangelis 2003; Marsh-383 Matthews and Deaton 2006; Van Dyke et al. 2014). It seems that, in chondrichthyans 384 at least, the origin of live-bearing necessitates an increase in body size to 385 accommodate retained embryos throughout gestation in limited internal body space, if 386 larger offspring size is optimal (Blackburn 2015a). As a result, lecithotrophic live-387 bearing sharks and rays typically have fewer, but larger, pups that are presumably 388 subject to less predation pressure and juvenile mortality as a result (Conrath and 389 Musick 2012; Kindsvater et al. 2016). 390 Despite detecting a relationship between reproductive mode and body size and 391 latitude in extant chondrichthyans (Rigby and Simpfendorfer 2013), our ability to test 392 for evolutionary covariation is hindered by the phylogenetic clustering of traits and 393 the use of depth and latitude as proxies for environmental temperature and resource

availability. As a result, it is currently difficult to disentangle evolutionary

395	hypotheses, as large lineages with similar character states may reflect a single origin
396	and subsequent coinheritance rather than a functional evolutionary covariation
397	(Maddison and Fitzjohn 2015). Rays exhibit an interesting transition – consistent with
398	the relationship we have revealed in sharks – from deep egg-laying skates to shallow
399	shelf and coastal live-bearing lineages, including: electric rays (Torpediniformes),
400	guitarfishes, wedgefishes, and sawfishes (Rhinopristiformes), and matrotrophic
401	stingrays (Myliobatiformes). However, our power to test for plausible correlations
402	between reproductive evolution and depth or latitude due to thermal physiology
403	(Dulvy 1998), predation (Harper and Peck 2016), and productivity are limited
404	because the batoids lineage contains a single origin of live-bearing and only one
405	certain origin of matrotrophy.
406	
407	Viviparity-driven conflict versus novel ecological opportunity
408	At the large, coarse scale there appears to be evidence that radiations into novel

409 deepwater (Sorenson et al. 2014) or novel and highly dynamic fragmented freshwater 410 habitats (Lovejoy 1996; Lovejoy et al. 1998, 2006), rather than of reproductive mode 411 generally affecting diversification rates across all chondrichthyans. While 412 diversification rates are higher in live-bearing and matrotrophic lineages across the 413 main partition of the tree, resulting genomic conflicts may be a weak driver of 414 diversification compared to ecological forces in chondrichthyans. 415 The elevated diversification rates seen in skates (Rajiformes), South American 416 Freshwater stingrays (Potamotrygonidae), and ground sharks (Carcharhiniformes) 417 appear to be related to colonization of new ecological space. However, in each case,

418	the ecological space is different – skates radiated into deepwater habitats with the
419	opening up of the Atlantic Ocean (McEachran and Miyake 1990), subsequent
420	isolation of ocean basins (Long 1994), limited egg and adult dispersal ability
421	(McEachran and Miyake 1990), and a high degree of spatial niche differentiation
422	(Bizzarro et al. 2014; Humphries et al. 2016). By contrast the Neotropical
423	potamotrygonid stingrays (and other fish lineages) colonized freshwater upon the
424	closure of the isthmus of Panama (Lovejoy 1996, 1997; Lovejoy et al. 1998; de
425	Carvalho and Lovejoy 2011), radiating into novel and highly fragmented freshwater
426	habitat potentially facilitated by the emergence of unique morphological adaptations
427	(Kolmann et al. 2016). The increased diversification in ground sharks is driven by
428	both reinvasion of deepwater by catsharks (Scyliorhinidae) and the colonization of
429	shallow water coastal habitats (coral reefs and associated inshore and estuarine
430	habitats) by requiem sharks (Carcharhinidae) (Sorenson et al. 2014). At present, the
431	weight of evidence suggests that clade-specific increases in diversification rate are
432	associated with new ecological space, rather than being systematically driven by
433	reproductive evolution per se – nevertheless, we await stronger tests of this
434	hypothesis when more extensive phylogenies become available. Future investigations
435	of genomic conflict-driven speciation may require refined measurements of
436	ecological variation (Burin et al. 2016) or life history (Marki et al. 2015) as drivers of
437	diversification with tests restricted to smaller groups.
438	

Conclusions

440	The evolution of chondrichthyan reproductive modes, ranging from egg-laying to
441	live-bearing and matrotrophy, appears strongly related to body size and temperature-
442	related biogeography. While patterns of species diversification in three major
443	radiations appear to be more strongly driven by colonization of novel habitats, the
444	evolution of the diversity of reproductive modes remains a fruitful area of research.
445	Parent-offspring conflict over resources during development and subsequent
446	antagonistic coevolution is an intriguing potential driver of reproductive mode
447	evolution worthy of further investigation. Chondrichthyans are an ideal group to test
448	for this given the diversity of reproductive modes and the frequency of polyandry,
449	though this requires a better understanding of maternal-fetal interactions across a
450	wider range of species. Future research could focus on improved measures of
451	maternal investment, particularly for identifying the continuum on which
452	lecithotrophic live-bearing and histotrophic matrotrophy may be expressed.
453	Combined with further refinement of phylogenetic hypotheses with more extensive
454	taxon sampling will help to clarify patterns of energetic investment, the degree of
455	income breeding in live-bearing species, and inter and intra specific plasticity. More
456	generally, we anticipate that this taxon will yield profound insights into the interplay
457	between reproductive life history evolution, ecology, and the biogeographic
458	patterning of species diversity across the Earth's oceans.
459	
460	

461 Ethics Statement

462 No live animals or human subjects were used in this study.

463	
464	Data Availability
465	All phylogenetic trees are available at www.vertlife.org/sharktree.
466	
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474	
475	Author Contributions
476	CGM, KEY and NKD conceived the study; CGM and MWP designed the
477	analytical approach; CGM performed the analyses; CGM, MWP, KEY and NKD
478	drafted the manuscript. All authors gave final approval for publication.
479	
480	Competing Interests
481	We have no competing interests.
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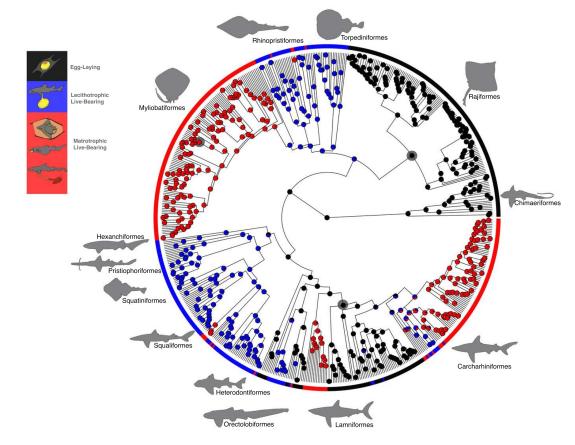
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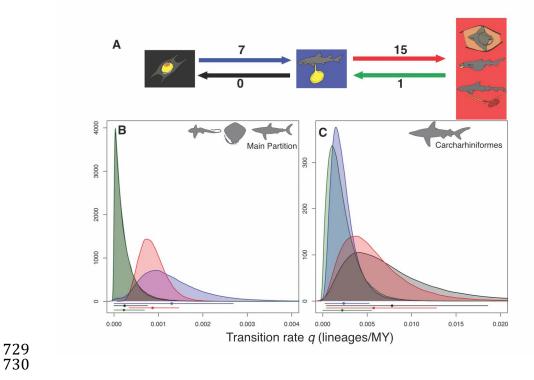
688 Figure Legends

689 Figure 1. Ancestral state reconstruction reproductive mode on a representative tree of 690 610 species of chondrichthyans. Pie symbols represent the likelihood of the character 691 state for each node being egg-laying (black), live-bearing (blue), or matrotrophic 692 (red). Dark grev symbols denote the partitions encompassing diversification rate 693 shifts. Silhouettes depict representative species from the major orders. 694 695 Figure 2. The number (A) evolutionary transitions in reproductive mode across 696 chondrichthyans and transition rates between modes in (B) main partition of the tree 697 and (C) within Carcharhiniformes. Origins of live-bearing from egg-laying are 698 depicted in blue with reversals in black, and origins of matrotrophy from 699 lecithotrophic live-bearing are depicted in red with reversals in green. Bars and 700 shaded regions in represent the 95% posterior density of transition rate estimates. 701 702 Figure 3. Coefficient plots of evolutionary covariation between (A) body size, (b) 703 median depth, (c) minimum latitude, (d) median latitude, and (e) latitudinal range 704 from MCMCglmm models. Black circles denotes egg-laying vs. live-bearing, grey 705 circles denote live-bearing vs matrotrophy, and open circles denote reproductive 706 mode as an ordinal variable with all three character states. Horizontal bars represent 707 the 95% confidence intervals of the mean posterior estimate. 708 709 Figure 4. Posterior densities of parameter estimates from MuSSE model showing 710 state dependent speciation (λ), extinction (μ), and net diversification rate (r) from the 711 main partition of the tree (A-C), within the order Carcharhiniformes (D-F), within the 712 order Rajiformes (G-I), and within the family Potamotrygonidae (J-L). Egg-laying is 713 depicted in black, live-bearing in blue, and matrotrophy in red. Bars and circles 714 represent the mean and 95% confidence interval of the posterior mean estimate. 715 716 Figure 5. Differences between posterior densities of parameter estimates from 717 MuSSE model showing the differences in reproductive mode dependent net 718 diversification rates (r) from the main partition of the tree (A), and within the order 719 Carcharhiniformes (B). Live-bearing relative to egg-laying is depicted in black, 720 matrotrophy relative to live-bearing in blue, and matrotrophy relative to egg-laying in red. Bars and circles represent the mean and 95% confidence interval of the posterior 721 722 mean estimate. The vertical lines denote no difference between the diversification 723 rates for the reproductive modes being compared.

Figure 1.



728 Figure 2.



731 Figure 3.

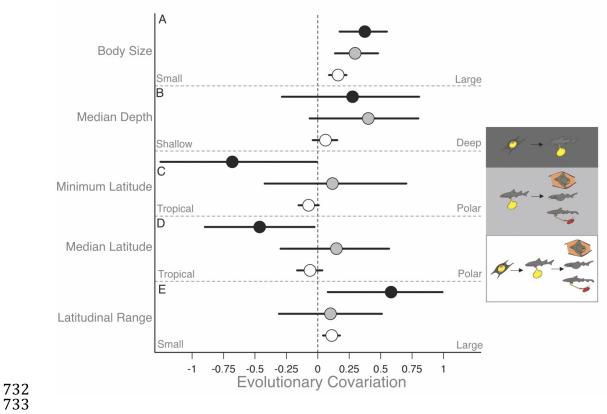


Figure 4.

