1 Global cooling & the rise of modern grasslands: Revealing cause & effect of 2 environmental change on insect diversification dynamics

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8 Abstract

9 Utilising geo-historical environmental data to disentangle cause and effect in complex natural
10 systems is a major goal in our quest to better understand how climate change has shaped life on
11 Earth. Global temperature is known to drive biotic change over macro-evolutionary time-scales but
12 the mechanisms by which it acts are often unclear. Here, we model speciation rates for Orthoptera
13 within a phylogenetic framework and use this to demonstrate that global cooling is strongly
14 correlated with increased speciation rates. Transfer Entropy analyses reveal the presence of one or
15 more additional processes that are required to explain the information transfer from global
16 temperature to Orthoptera speciation. We identify the rise of C₄ grasslands as one such mechanism
17 operating from the Miocene onwards. We therefore demonstrate the value of the geological record
18 in increasing our understanding of climate change on macro-evolutionary and macro-ecological
19 processes.

20 Introduction

21 Global environmental change has played a major role through geological time in shaping the
22 diversity of life on Earth we see today (Vermeij, 1978; Vrba, 1980; Benton, 2009; Kozak & Wiens,
23 2010), and in the face of indisputable climate change, there is increasing focus on how this past
24 change can inform our understanding of the ongoing biodiversity crisis. Increasingly, research is

25 focussing on how we can bridge the gap between palaeontology and ecology to best utilise the
 26 information held within the geological record (Lyons & Wagner 2009; Willis et al. 2010; Escarguel
 27 et al. 2011; Fritz et al. 2013; Dietl et al. 2014). Palaeobiology and palaeoecology also have much to
 28 offer the field of biodiversity informatics, which seeks to answer many of the same questions in
 29 understanding the history of life of Earth and how it has been shaped by environmental forces
 30 (Peterson et al. 2010).

31 The geological record bears witness to many instances of climate change and subsequent biotic
 32 change and yet remains a largely untapped resource. The Cenozoic Era (66Ma – present) alone has
 33 experienced a dramatic shift from greenhouse to icehouse conditions. Recognisably modern fauna
 34 and flora arose during the Oligocene and Miocene (Kraatz & Geisler 2010); a period of
 35 environmental transition in which previously dominating forest habitats began to fragment with the
 36 expansion of modern grassland ecosystems (Strömberg 2005; Edwards et al. 2010; Strömberg
 37 2011). This period was characterised by significant global cooling after the tropical, greenhouse
 38 conditions that dominated following the Palaeocene-Eocene Thermal Maximum (PETM) (Mudelsee
 39 et al. 2014). This cooling trend continued with a descent into icehouse conditions after the Eocene
 40 Optimum, culminating in the onset of Antarctic glaciation at the Eocene-Oligocene transition (Ivany
 41 et al. 2000; Barker et al. 2007; Liu et al. 2009). This transitional period also resulted in extinctions
 42 and large-scale faunal turnover in marine invertebrates and mammals at the Eocene-Oligocene
 43 boundary (Sun et al. 2014). During the Oligocene forests still dominated but C₄ grasses began to
 44 radiate and open grassland habitats became more widespread (Strömberg 2005; Edwards et al.
 45 2010; Strömberg 2011). Fully modern ecosystems originated following the Middle Miocene
 46 Disruption (~14 Ma); a period characterised by further global cooling, and the widespread
 47 replacement of forests with open grassland (Strömberg 2005). Fully modern C₄ grasslands became
 48 established between 3-8 Ma (Edwards et al. 2010). These environmental shifts were accompanied
 49 by major changes to the terrestrial fauna; most notably the mammalian fauna, which radiated to take

50 advantage of the widespread grassland habitats (Cerling et al. 1998; Codron et al. 1998; Janis et al.
51 2002; Bobe & Behrensmeyer 2004). Recent research suggests that climate change and the opening
52 up of grassland habitats at this time may also have played a role in shaping insect evolution (e.g.,
53 Peña & Wahlberg 2008; Voje et al. 2009; Toussaint et al. 2012; Lo et al. 2017).

54 The development of modern numerical modelling techniques have now been utilised to demonstrate
55 a correlation between environmental change and diversification within a statistical framework (e.g.,
56 Figueirido et al. 2011; Martin et al. 2014; Claramunt & Cracraft 2015; Mannion et al. 2015; Davis
57 et al. 2016). Showing a correlation, however, does not necessarily show causation and the
58 mechanisms by which climate change affects biological diversification can be more difficult to
59 elucidate, though various explanations have been proposed including habitat fragmentation, new
60 habitat availability and adaptive radiation (e.g., Peña & Wahlberg 2008; Voje et al. 2009; Claramunt
61 & Cracraft 2015; Davis et al. 2016; Davis et al. 2018). Information Theory is a statistical tool that
62 has been successfully utilised to identify cause and effect between time series in geological and
63 palaeontological data sets (e.g., Dunhill et al. 2014; Liow et al. 2015). The idea of using time series
64 as a tool to predict relationships was first proposed in 1956 (Wiener 1956), whilst Hannisdal (2011)
65 was the first to introduce the use of information theory to detect directionality between
66 palaeontological time series. These methods have been primarily developed for short, irregularly
67 spaced data series; where continuous time series are available, such as those obtained from
68 environmental proxy time series and speciation rate curves, it is possible to utilise a measure that
69 makes fewer assumptions of the data series. Transfer Entropy (TE) (Schreiber 2000) is a type of
70 Information Theory that does not assume linearity in the linking process; it is therefore a powerful
71 method in cases where the exact linking processes are unknown.

72 The insect order Orthoptera includes grasshoppers, locusts, crickets, katydids and wetas; they
73 inhabit a diverse array of habitats from tropical rainforest to grasslands to desert. The first definitive
74 orthopteran fossil is the 300 million year old *Oedischia williamsoni* from the Permian of France

(Song et al. 2015). Further fossil evidence suggests that the two suborders Ensifera (crickets, katydids, weta) and Caelifera (grasshoppers) had diverged by around 260 Ma but little is known about how Orthoptera diversified to produce 27,000 extant species or the processes driving their evolution. As a species-rich clade with a long geological history there are undoubtedly a variety of factors that have shaped their extant diversity but here, we ask whether past environmental change had an impact on orthopteran diversification. In particular, we ask whether the Miocene origin of modern grasslands drove adaptive radiation in grassland species. We achieve this by using supertree methods to build a new time-calibrated phylogenetic hypothesis for Orthoptera. We use this phylogeny to explore orthopteran diversification dynamics through time then test for causality between past environmental change and speciation rates using Transfer Entropy. We find that speciation rates in Orthoptera are strongly correlated with global cooling and that significant increases in net diversification occurred during global cooling events and coincident with the origin and spread of C₄ grasslands. Trait-based analyses show that speciation rates recovered for species associated with grasslands and other open-habitats are an order of magnitude higher than those of species found in forests and other habitats. Considering just the last 17 Ma (Miocene – Recent) we find that speciation rates are strongly correlated with both global cooling and C₄ grassland expansion. Our Transfer Entropy analyses reveal that over this period, grassland expansion is the mechanism via which global cooling stimulated biological diversification.

Methods

Data collection and processing

The Web of Knowledge Science Citation Index (wok.mimas.org) was used to identify all papers containing, or potentially containing, phylogenetic trees for Orthoptera. The years 1980-2015 were searched using the search terms: phylog*, taxonom*, systematic*, divers*, cryptic and clad* in conjunction with all scientific and common names for Orthoptera from sub-order to family level.

99 All source trees and meta-data were digitised in their published form using TreeView (Page 1996)
100 and the Supertree Toolkit (STK – Davis & Hill 2010; Hill & Davis 2014). Along with the tree string
101 in Newick format, meta-data were stored including: bibliographic information, character type, and
102 phylogenetic inference. No corrections were made for synonyms or any other apparent errors or
103 inconsistencies in the source trees at this stage. See Supporting Appendices SA1 and SA2 for source
104 trees and source tree references.

105 Data processing prior to supertree construction was carried out in a consistent and clearly
106 documented manner. We followed the protocol as previously used in other supertree analyses (e.g.,
107 Davis & Page 2014; Davis et al. 2015) and outlined here as follows. All included phylogenies were
108 required to fulfil three criteria before inclusion in the data set: 1) be presented explicitly as a
109 reconstruction of evolutionary relationships; 2) be comprised of clearly identifiable species, genera
110 or higher taxa and clearly identifiable characters; 3) be derived from the analysis of a novel,
111 independent dataset. All taxon names, including higher taxa, were standardised following the
112 Orthoptera Species File (Cigliano et al. 2018). Taxonomic overlap was set such that each source tree
113 was required to have a minimum of at least two taxa in common with at least one other source tree
114 (Sanderson et al. 1998). The data set did not satisfy the overlap requirements and after removal of
115 “islands” of unconnected source trees the taxa number was reduced from 2,258 to 1,748.

116 **Supertree construction**

117 Despite ongoing active development of new methods (Akanni et al. 2014; Oliveira Martins et al.
118 2016), Matrix Representation with Parsimony (MRP – Baum & Ragan 2004) is still the most
119 tractable supertree method for large datasets. We therefore utilised MRP to infer a phylogenetic
120 supertree from a total data set of 261 source trees taken from 124 papers published between 1991
121 and 2015. A down-weighted (weight=0.1) taxonomy tree was included to improve performance and
122 data cohesion (Bininda-Emonds & Sanderson 2001). Source trees were encoded as a series of group

inclusion characters using standard Baum and Ragan coding (Baum & Ragan 2004), and automated within the STK software (Davis & Hill 2010; Hill & Davis 2014). All taxa subtended by a given node in a source tree were scored as "1", taxa not subtended from that node were scored as "0", and taxa not present in that source tree were scored as "?". Trees were rooted with a hypothetical, "all zero" outgroup. Large taxon numbers greatly increase computational time and reduce chances of finding the shortest trees, therefore the data set was split into two partitions representing the two reciprocally monophyletic suborders: Caelifera (1,377 included species) and Ensifera (789 included species). The resulting MRP matrices were analysed using standard parsimony algorithms in TNT (Goloboff et al. 2008). We used the "xmult=10" option, and ran 1,000 replicates for the analysis, each using a different random starting point for the heuristic search. This improved exploratory coverage of the tree space, potentially avoiding local minima in the solutions. We computed a Maximum Agreement Subtree (MAST) using PAUP* (Swofford 2002) to remove conflicting leaves, reducing the total number across both data partitions from 1,748 to 1,293. Although not limited to supertree methods, one disadvantage of the MRP method is that it can lead to the creation of spurious clades and relationships that are not present in any of the source trees (Bininda-Emonds & Bryant 1998; Davis & Page 2014). These misplaced taxa are generally referred to as "rogue taxa" and are usually a result of either poorly constrained or poorly represented taxa within the source trees. Studies have shown that identifying and removing rogue taxa *a priori* can create further problems, as rogues still have the potential to phylogenetically constrain the positions of other taxa (Trautwein et al. 2011). Hence *a priori* removal often creates new rogue taxa. We identified a small number of rogue taxa (~2%) in the resulting tree. It is important that these novel clades are not interpreted as biologically meaningful and therefore should be removed before undertaking further analysis (Pisani & Wilkinson, 2002). We provide a list of removed taxa in Appendix SA3. To maximise taxon coverage, an additional 226 taxa were added to the tree based on their positions in source trees excluded at the data overlap stage (see Appendices SA4 and SA5 for source trees and

148 references). This resulted in a final supertree comprising 1,519 taxa, as compared to the previous
149 largest orthopteran phylogeny that contained 274 taxa (Song et al. 2015).

150 **Supertree time-calibration**

151 Phylogenies derived from parsimony analyses do not have meaningful branch lengths that can be
152 used to infer the absolute diversification times and rates in the tree, they can only inform on the
153 relative times of divergence. It is necessary, therefore, to use external reference points to time-
154 calibrate trees inferred using parsimony. We used a combination of fossil calibrations supplemented
155 by biogeographic calibrations to time-scale our tree. Forty-three nodes were calibrated using fossil
156 first occurrence data downloaded from Fossilworks (Data available from the Fossilworks database:
157 fossilworks.org). These fossils were assigned phylogenetically to either the stem or crown of clades
158 using the taxonomy assigned in Fossilworks. An additional seven geological calibration points were
159 obtained from published molecular phylogenetic analyses (see Appendix ST1 for node numbers and
160 calibration dates and Appendix SF1 for the tree with the calibrated nodes labelled as in the CSV
161 file). The R package “paleotree” (Bapst 2012) was used to scale the tree and to extrapolate dates to
162 the remaining nodes. To extend node calibrations to the whole tree, we used the “equal” method,
163 with minimum branch lengths set to 0.1 Myr. See Appendix SA6 for the time-calibrated supertree.

164 **Environmental correlations**

165 Correlation analyses were carried out via DCCA: detrended cross-correlation analysis, which is
166 designed for correlating non-stationary time series (Kristoufek 2014). Speciation rate time series
167 were correlated against both palaeo-temperature and palaeo-vegetation to assess whether a
168 statistically significant correlation exists. All analyses were carried out in R 3.2.2 (R Core Team
169 2017).

170 Speciation rate curves were obtained from BAMM (Bayesian Analysis of Macroevolutionary
171 Mixtures), which implements a Metropolis Coupled Monte Carlo (MCMC) approach to calculate

172 diversification rates and significant rate shifts along lineages (Rabosky 2014). Four chains were
 173 executed for the analysis, each with a total of 30 million generations executed, with a minimum
 174 clade size of five taxa used to aid convergence. Ten thousand of the results were stored, with 1,000
 175 discarded as "burn-in", leaving 9,000 samples for subsequent analysis with regards to temperature
 176 correlation. The analysis also accounted for non-complete coverage of taxa in the tree by specifying
 177 a clade-dependent sampling bias factor derived from the taxonomy in Orthoptera Species File
 178 (Cigliano et al. 2018).

179 The palaeo-temperature data were obtained from oxygen isotope ($\delta^{18}\text{O}$) records (Veizer *et al.* 1999;
 180 Zachos 2001) and the $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ curve was first smoothed to remove autocorrelation. The speciation rate
 181 curves from BAMM consist of 9,000 individual curves (10,000 minus 10% burn in), therefore a
 182 total of 9,000 correlations per test were carried out with each DCCA coefficient saved. The saved
 183 DCCA coefficients were then plotted as a distribution and a Wilcoxon rank sum test was used to test
 184 if the mean of the distribution was non-zero. Global palaeo-temperature correlations were carried
 185 out for both the full evolutionary history of Orthoptera and also partitioned at 17 Ma to allow direct
 186 comparison with the palaeo-vegetation time series.

187 Palaeo-vegetation data for the last 17 Ma were extracted from Osborne (2008). Three regions were
 188 considered: Pakistan, the Great Plains (USA) and East Africa. The first two used palaeosol data,
 189 whilst the latter used tooth enamel to obtain $\delta^{13}\text{C}$; where higher $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ is a proxy for increased C_4
 190 biomass. After checking location data held in GBIF for the species in our tree we discarded the East
 191 Africa and Pakistan data as this showed a significant geographic bias towards Europe and the USA
 192 with very few species from East Africa and Pakistan represented (Appendix SF2). In order to obtain
 193 a continuous time series a cubic smooth spline was used to interpolate the point data. These time
 194 series were then correlated against the 9,000 BAMM simulations, and plotted as a distribution, in
 195 the same manner as for the palaeo-temperature correlations.

196 **Temporal-diversification analyses**

197 TreePar (Stadler 2011) was used to assess changes in net diversification rates across the tree
198 through time. The “bd.shifts.optim” function was used, together with a 1 million year grid, allowing
199 rate changes to be assessed at 1 million year intervals. The analyses were run across the whole tree
200 starting from the present day, back to the root node. Net diversification rates were allowed to be
201 negative and we set TreePar to look for up to 10 temporal changes in net diversification rate.

202 **Trait-diversification analyses**

203 MUSSE (MultiState Speciation and Extinction) was implemented in Diversitree (Fitzjohn 2012) to
204 model diversification rates based on habitat trait data. Broadly defined habitat types for as many
205 species as possible were collected via an exhaustive literature search (Appendix ST2). Taxa were
206 designated as having habitat preferences as follows: “open”, “closed”, or “mixed”; where open =
207 grassland, desert etc, closed = forest, woodlands etc, and mixed = found in both open and closed
208 habitats. Habitat trait data were obtained for 377 out of 1,519 species in the phylogeny, the
209 remainder were coded as “NA”.

210 **Information transfer**

211 Transfer entropy (TE) is a directional information flow method that quantifies the coherence
212 between continuous variables in time (Schreiber 2000). It is an extension of the mutual information
213 method, but can take into account the direction of information transfer using an assumption that the
214 processes can be described by a Markov model. Transfer Entropy reduces to a linear Granger
215 causality process, whereby a signal in one time series gives a linear response to the second time
216 series, when the two time series can be linked via autoregressive processes (Granger 1969; Amblard
217 & Michel 2012). However, TE makes fewer assumptions on the linearity of the processes involved
218 and hence is more suitable for analysing causality when the processes involved are unknown
219 (Lungarella et al. 2007; Ver Steeg & Galstyan 2012). Transfer Entropy is calculated using:

$$T_{X \rightarrow Y} = \sum p(Y_{n+1}, Y_n^{(k)}, X_n^{(l)}) \log \left(\frac{p(Y_{n+1} \vee Y_n^{(k)}, X_n^{(l)})}{p(Y_{n+1} \vee Y_n^{(k)})} \right)$$

where $T_{X \rightarrow Y}$ is the TE from time series X to time series Y , both of which have data at time n , and k and l are the embedding dimensions of the two time series respectively. We used the R (R Core Team 2017) package "TransferEntropy" (Torbati & Lawyer 2016) which implements the above equation using a nearest neighbour algorithm (Kraskov et al. 2003). This function returns a numeric value where 0 indicates no information transfer, positive numbers indicate information transfer, and negative numbers indicate misinformation transfer which indicates the presence of other processes in operation (Bossomaier et al. 2016). The embedding dimensions of the time series were estimated using the R package "nonlinearTseries" (Garcia & Sawitzki 2015).

We calculated TE for two time series over the full tree: speciation rate and $\delta^{18}\text{O}$, and for three time series for the last 17 Ma: speciation rate, $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ and $\delta^{13}\text{C}$; where $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ represents the palaeo-temperature proxy and $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ represents the palaeo-vegetation proxy. We therefore derived two TE values for the full tree - speciation - $\delta^{18}\text{O}$, and vice versa; and six TE values for the truncated Miocene data: speciation - $\delta^{18}\text{O}$, speciation - $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ and $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ - $\delta^{13}\text{C}$, in both directions of transfer. Significance was tested by creating 250 surrogate time series by randomising the "source" time series, leaving the "target" time series unchanged. If the transfer entropy value was outside the 95% interval of the surrogate transfer entropy values it was deemed significant (Chávez et al. 2003).

Results

Supertree construction

Our final supertree (Fig. 1) contained 1,519 taxa and is broadly consistent with recent orthopteran phylogenies (e.g., Flook et al. 1999; Sheffield et al. 2010; Zhou et al. 2010; Song et al. 2015). All 15 superfamilies are represented and 41 out of 44 families, as defined by the Orthoptera Species File (Cigliano et al. 2018). All superfamilies were recovered as monophyletic. Families were largely

recovered as monophyletic with the notable exception of Romaleidae and Dericorythidae, which are split and nested within Acrididae. This finding is, however, reflected in the source data (e.g., Li et al. 2011; Song et al. 2015).

Environmental correlations

Using the 9,000 sets of speciation rate time series extracted from BAMM for the full tree (Rabosky 2014; Rabosky et al. 2014) we found that speciation rate was strongly correlated with global palaeo-temperature (Fig. 2). For each set of extracted speciation rates a correlation coefficient was calculated between -1 (speciation rate increases with cooler temperatures) and 1 (speciation rate increases with warmer temperature). For a correlation coefficient of zero, temperature has no effect on speciation rate. The distribution was not normally distributed, therefore we used a Wilcoxon signed rank test to test whether the distribution of all 9,000 correlation coefficients differed from the null hypothesis of a zero mean correlation coefficient (i.e. no temperature correlation). We found a strong negative mean correlation of $r = -0.3801$ (SD = 0.0161, $p < 2.2e-16$ detrended cross-correlation analysis). For the truncated 17 Ma time series we also found a strong negative correlation between speciation rate and global temperature of $r = -0.4220$ (SD = 0.0094, $p < 2.2e-16$ detrended cross-correlation analysis) (Fig. 2).

The palaeo-vegetation correlation analyses using the US vegetation data (Osborne 2008) also utilised the truncated speciation rate time series. For these, the correlation coefficient was calculated between -1 (speciation rate decreases with C_4 biomass) and 1 (speciation rate increases with C_4 biomass). For a correlation coefficient of zero, grassland abundance has no effect on speciation rate. Again, the distributions recovered were not normally distributed; we therefore used a Wilcoxon signed rank test to test whether the distribution of all 9,000 correlation coefficients differed from the null hypothesis of a zero mean correlation coefficient (i.e. no grassland abundance correlation). We

found a very strong positive correlation of $r = 0.7972$ ($SD = 0.0736$, $p < 2.2e-16$ detrended cross-correlation analysis) (Fig. 2).

Temporal-diversification analyses

Our TreePar (Stadler 2011) analyses rejected a constant rate diversification model. The best fit model, as identified by AICc and LRT (AICc=11602.76, $p=0.0003$), recovered seven rate shifts (Table 1). A model allowing eight shifts did not significantly improve the likelihood. Three of these shifts represent increases in net diversification rate and correspond directly to the following global cooling events (Fig 3); the Albian-Aptian “cold snap” (113 Ma – Mutterlose et al. 2009), the Eocene-Oligocene transition (34 Ma – Liu et al. 2009), and the Middle Miocene disruption (12 Ma – Shevenell et al. 2004). The last of these also corresponds to a burst of C_4 grassland evolution (Osborne 2008; Edwards et al. 2010), whilst the Eocene-Oligocene transition is closely coincident with the origins of C_4 grasses (Edwards et al. 2010). Finally, we detect a decrease in net diversification rate at the Cretaceous-Palaeogene boundary (66 Ma).

Trait-diversification analyses

Trait-based analyses, implemented in MUSSE (FitzJohn 2012) rejected a null model whereby speciation, extinction and net diversification rates are unrelated to habitat (Fig. 4). Our analyses found that speciation rates in open habitats were an order of magnitude higher than those found for closed or mixed habitats with no overlap of the confidence intervals (open: mean = 3.5065, $SD = 1.541988$; closed: mean = 0.3906, $SD = 0.0246$, mixed: mean = 0.4991, $SD = 0.2657$). Extinction rates reveal a similar pattern though the 2.5% confidence interval for open habitats overlaps with those for closed and mixed habitats (open: mean = 3.028975, $SD = 1.618406$; closed: mean = 0.3696197, $SD = 0.02499524$, mixed: mean = 0.308759, $SD = 0.2997$). Net diversification reveals highest rates in open habitats, with an overlap of the 2.5% confidence interval with mixed habitats.

289 Closed habitats have the lowest net diversification rates (open: mean = 0.4775, SD = 0.0866;
290 closed: mean = 0.0210, SD = 0.0017, mixed: mean = 0.1903, SD = 0.0397).

291 **Information transfer**

292 The results from the TE analysis for the full tree shows a mis-information signal (negative value for
293 TE) from temperature to speciation rate (-0.7485), indicating the presence of one or more hidden
294 drivers (Bossomaier et al. 2016). There is no information transfer from speciation rate to
295 temperature (-0.0028). The Miocene data set again shows a flow of mis-information from
296 temperature to speciation rate (-0.1134) with no information flow in the reverse direction (-0.0522).
297 When the palaeo-vegetation data are introduced we recover information flow from temperature to
298 vegetation (0.1359) with a mis-information signal from vegetation to temperature (-0.1254). We
299 also recover a signal from vegetation to speciation rate (0.1697) but no signal in the reverse
300 direction (-0.004). All the Transfer Entropy results were significant at the 95% confidence interval
301 (Table 2).

302 **Discussion**

303 Disentangling past cause and effect in complex natural systems through geological time is a major
304 goal in palaeobiology. The use of the geological record to inform our understanding of the effects of
305 present day climate change on biodiversity is an ever-growing field of research but if
306 palaeobiologists intend to make an impact and contribution to conservation efforts, it is vitally
307 important that we are able to describe not only the *how* and *when*, ie. the nature of the relationship
308 between large-scale biotic and abiotic changes through Earth's history but also to address *why* these
309 changes arose.

310 When it comes to the *how* and *when* it is widely recognised that global climate change has had an
311 impact on the biota over geological time scales (Vermeij 1978; Vrba 1980; Benton 2009; Kozak &
312 Wiens 2010). Mean global temperature, in particular, has been demonstrated to show a strong

313 correlation with diversification rates in taxa as diverse as hermit crabs and squat lobsters (Davis et
314 al. 2016), crocodiles (Mannion et al. 2015), and birds (Claramunt & Cracraft 2015). Erwin (2009)
315 suggested that the positive association between biodiversity and global temperature at the spatial
316 scale would predict a positive relationship between biodiversity and global temperatures temporally.
317 While this has been supported by some studies (e.g., Figueirido et al. 2011; Mannion et al. 2015),
318 others have found the opposite (Claramunt & Cracraft 2015); Davis et al. 2016) or even no
319 relationship (Mannion et al. 2015). Identifying the *why*, ie. the underlying mechanisms by which
320 climate change drives biotic turnover is more difficult but the cross-field application of Information
321 Theory allows us to test for correlations between ecological and palaeontological time series (e.g.,
322 Dunhill et al. 2014; Liow et al. 2015).

323 In this paper we show *how* climate change has impacted on biological diversification in orthopteran
324 insects through geological time. Our analyses reveal a consistent pattern in which global cooling
325 through geological time contributed to shaping the evolutionary history of Orthoptera. Two different
326 models – clade and temporal - of diversification dynamics support this, revealing a picture in which
327 speciation rates are correlated with global cooling and that significant increases in net
328 diversification occurred during global cooling events. For the Miocene to Recent we are also able to
329 demonstrate *why* climate change impacted upon speciation rates in Orthoptera, by showing that
330 vegetation change (in the form of increased C₄ biomass) was one mechanism by which global
331 cooling drove speciation in Orthoptera. We suggest that this took place via forest fragmentation and
332 the expansion of open C₄ grasslands providing vacant niche space into which adaptive radiation
333 could take place in the absence of competition. This is congruent with the presence of an increase in
334 net diversification rate at 12 Ma, coincident with the Middle Miocene disruption cooling event and
335 with palaeobotanical evidence for a burst of C₄ grassland evolution (Osborne 2008; Edwards et al.
336 2010). Our trait analyses further support this by revealing that species living in open habitats have
337 significantly higher speciation rates than species living in closed or mixed habitats.

At present, the underlying mechanism(s) by which global cooling promotes speciation through deeper geological time remain unknown, though we conjecture that climate change induced habitat change is a plausible explanation. The largest increase in net diversification was found at the Eocene-Oligocene transition (34 Ma), a period defined by the onset of Antarctic glaciation (Pound & Salzmann 2017). Phytolith assemblages from the central Great Plains indicate that open habitat C₃ grasses first migrated into subtropical, closed forest at this time (Strömberg 2011). The trigger for this opening up and expansion of grasslands is not well understood (Strömberg 2011) but we suggest that global cooling driven habitat fragmentation may again be one possible mechanism. The further back in time we look, the harder it becomes to explain the observed patterns and the earliest evidence we have for an increase in net diversification took place during the Cretaceous. Though widely held to have experienced a consistent greenhouse climate, evidence from sedimentology reveals a brief icehouse interlude in the mid-Cretaceous – the Albian-Aptian “cold snap” (Mutterlose et al. 2009), at which our first diversification increase is exactly coincident (113 Ma). The Cretaceous was also a time of major biotic turnover and ecosystem reorganisation, known as the Cretaceous Terrestrial Revolution (KTR) in which the previously dominant coniferous forests were rapidly replaced by angiosperms (Lloyd et al. 2008). This period, dating to 125-80 Ma, is characterised by a burst of diversification in angiosperms, insects, reptiles, birds and mammals. It is therefore possible that the signal recovered by our analysis at 113 Ma represents the impact of the KTR on orthopteran diversification. Though we present evidence indicating that global cooling driven forest fragmentation and the expansion of open grasslands may be one plausible driver of speciation throughout their evolutionary history, it is important to note that Orthoptera are an old, diverse group, and geological processes such as plate tectonics and orogenesis, as well as evolutionary processes such as sexual selection acting on acoustic signal are likely to have played a role in their evolution.

Understanding the mechanisms and drivers of macroecological change over geological time scales is a major goal for palaeobiologists who aim to bridge the gap between palaeontology and ecology. Insights may be gained by taking a multi-pronged approach and combining differing diversification dynamics models with environmental data from the geological record. Using large data sets such as these also allows us to feed into the “big data” questions that are asked by biodiversity informaticians. Peterson et al. (2010) identified five big questions for biodiversity informatics; under the approach taken here we are able to contribute to the second of these – a “biota-wide picture of diversification and interactions”. The effects of climate change on the biota are clearly complex and multi-variate. Much data on past climate change and biotic interactions are held within the geological record; and analyses such as these are the first step towards a better understanding of how present day biota might interact and respond to further environmental change. A full global assessment of extinction risk is yet to be carried out for Orthoptera, but the IUCN (2018) has found that more than a quarter of European species are threatened with extinction due to habitat loss. Insects are a vital component of ecosystems, particularly as a food source for vertebrates such as reptiles and birds, and their loss would have cascading ecosystem effects. Combining a macroevolutionary approach to macroecology with present day risk assessments is one way in which we might begin to address another of the aforementioned “big questions” - synthetic conservation planning – where we can integrate knowledge of the past with the present to understand the broader context in which ecosystems and their constituent species evolved, and to help guide conservation efforts.

Statement of authorship

KED designed the study, carried out the analyses and wrote the manuscript. JH performed the Transfer Entropy analyses. AB & HS contributed data. HS & PM suggested additional analyses. All authors contributed to manuscript revisions.

386

387 **Acknowledgements**

388 This work was supported by the Leverhulme Trust, project grant no. RPG-2016-201 awarded to
 389 KED, JH and PM. The authors would also like to thank David Chesmore and Edward Baker
 390 (University of York) for their respective roles in obtaining the funding that led to this research.
 391 Finally, the authors would like to thank Graeme Lloyd (University of Leeds) for comments that
 392 helped to improve this manuscript.

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580 **Figures**

581 **Figure 1:** Phylogenetic supertree of Orthoptera Maximum Agreement Subtree (MAST) from MRP
582 analyses shown. Superfamilies are labelled on the right hand side along with representative line
583 drawings (line drawings from Song *et al.* 2015).

584 **Figure 2:** Speciation rates, extracted from BAMM (Rabsook *et al.* 2014) plotted against
585 environmental correlations. Top panel (A): main figure – histogram showing the frequency
586 distribution of correlation coefficients between speciation rate and global temperature proxy for the
587 whole tree, showing that there is a negative correlation between speciation rates and temperature;
588 inset – speciation rates plotted against global temperature proxy, showing that speciation rates
589 increases as global temperatures decrease, blue represents cooler temperatures and red represents
590 warmer temperatures. Bottom panel: (B) histogram showing the frequency distribution of
591 correlation coefficients between speciation rate and global temperature proxy for the 17 Ma –
592 Recent partition, showing that there is a negative correlation between speciation rates and
593 temperature; (C) histogram showing the frequency distribution of correlation coefficients between
594 speciation rate and the C₄ biomass proxy for the 17 Ma – Recent partition, showing that there is a
595 positive correlation between speciation rates and C₄ biomass.

596 **Figure 3:** TreePar best fit model of rate shifts (black line) plotted against palaeo-temperature (blue
597 line) and palaeo-vegetation (green line) and scaled to geological time. Geological time scale was
598 added using the R package “strap” (Bell & Lloyd 2015). Global events labelled as C1: Albian-
599 Aptian cold snap; C2 = Eocene-Oligocene transition; C3 = Middle Miocene disruption; K/Pg =
600 Cretaceous-Palaeogene mass extinction event.

601 **Figure 4:** Trait diversification rates. Rates modelled in MUSSE (Fitzjohn 2012) and probability
602 density plotted for speciation rate (top panel), extinction rate (middle panel) and net diversification

rate (bottom panel). Blue = open habitat-associated species; yellow = closed habitats; red = mixed habitat associations.

Tables

Model	0 shifts	1 shift	2 shifts	3 shifts	4 shifts	5 shifts	6 shifts	7 shifts	8 shifts	9 shifts	10 shifts
logL	5855.483	5820.809	5808.46	5802.315	5796.107	5792.356	5785.832	5778.008	5773.815	5770.954	5768.563
AIC	11714.97	11651.62	11632.92	11626.63	11620.21	11618.71	11611.66	11602.02	11599.63	11599.91	11601.13
AICc	11714.97	11651.66	11633.02	11626.81	11620.49	11619.12	11612.22	11602.76	11600.57	11601.08	11602.55

Table 1: Results from TreePar analysis. For each model the AIC and corrected AIC were calculated. The lowest AICc was for eight rate shifts, but this was not significantly different from seven shifts (highlighted), which we therefore consider the optimum model. All significant AICc are **bold**.

Time period	S → T	T → S	V → T	T → V	S → V	V → S
17Ma → 0Ma	-0.052 (-0.039 - 0.025)	-0.113 (-3.009 - -2.917)	-0.125 (-0.514 - -0.198)	0.136 (-0.266 - 0.122)	-0.004 (-0.002 - 0.227)	0.170 (-1.609 - -1.245)
220Ma → 0Ma	-0.003 (-0.021 - 0.016)	-0.749 (-3.006 - -2.914)				

Table 2: Results of the Transfer Entropy analysis. For each of the three time periods used, the TE score is given along with the 95% confidence interval in parentheses below. Significant results in **bold**. V: Vegetation proxy, S: Speciation rate, T: Temperature proxy. Arrows indication direction of information flow.

Figure 1

Figure 2

Figure 3

Figure 4