

1 **North Andean origin and diversification of the largest ithomiine butterfly genus**

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31 The Neotropics harbour the most diverse flora and fauna on Earth. The Andes are a major centre of
32 diversification and source of diversity for adjacent areas in plants and vertebrates, but studies on insects
33 remain scarce, even though they constitute the largest fraction of terrestrial biodiversity. Here, we
34 combine molecular and morphological characters to generate a dated phylogeny of the butterfly genus
35 *Pteronymia* (Nymphalidae: Danainae), which we use to infer spatial, elevational and temporal
36 diversification patterns. We first propose six taxonomic changes that raise the generic species total to 53,
37 making *Pteronymia* the most diverse genus of the tribe Ithomiini. Our biogeographic reconstruction
38 shows that *Pteronymia* originated in the Northern Andes, where it diversified extensively. Some lineages
39 colonized lowlands and adjacent montane areas, but diversification here remained scarce. The recent
40 colonization of lowland areas was reflected by an increase in the rate of evolution of species elevational
41 ranges towards present. By contrast, speciation rate decelerated with time, with no extinction. The
42 geological history of the Andes and adjacent regions have likely contributed to *Pteronymia*
43 diversification by providing compartmentalized habitats and an array of biotic and abiotic conditions, and
44 by limiting dispersal between some areas while promoting interchange across others.

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48 **Introduction**

49 The Neotropical region is the most biologically diverse area on Earth for most organisms and
50 numerous studies have identified the world's longest mountain range, the Andes, as a major centre of
51 biodiversity¹ and source for adjacent areas in groups as diverse as birds², reptiles³, insects⁴⁻⁶ and plants^{7,8}.
52 The Andes, has been proposed as a major driver of diversification⁹. For instance, studies of some Andean
53 plants have found some of the fastest diversification events reported, such as in the Andean Bellflowers,
54 whose 550 species arose in the last 5 million years⁸. The Andes may have affected diversification rates in
55 different ways, by offering scope for vicariant speciation due to the complex and intricate topography of
56 the mountains, as well as by providing a large array of new environmental niches, thereby promoting
57 adaptive speciation.

58 The timing of diversification within the Neotropical region is keenly debated and is linked to
59 competing hypotheses about which biogeographic events have primarily driven speciation, extinction and
60 dispersal events during the Cenozoic. However, the rate and geographic extent of surface uplift in the
61 Andes is contentious, having varied through time and among different cordilleras^{10,11}, and assessing the
62 role of the Andes and the different phases of uplift on the timing of diversification is complex. The
63 closure of the Panamanian Isthmus during the last 5 million years may have allowed substantial biotic
64 interchange between Central and South America (but see¹²) or the Pebas system, a large network of
65 shallow lakes and wetlands, which occupied the upper Amazon region, may have constrained dispersal
66 and promoted local diversification until its drainage around 10-7 million years ago^{13,14}. It is also
67 suggested that climatic instability during the Pleistocene drove the diversification of extant Neotropical
68 species, however, the importance of this mechanism remains controversial^{9,15-19}.

69 Insects represent the largest fraction of terrestrial biodiversity but analyses of insect diversification
70 remain scarce compared to other groups such as vertebrates and plants. Butterflies are one of the best
71 studied insect groups and around 7800 Neotropical species have so far been documented²⁰. Over the last
72 decade, an increasing number of studies have used molecular phylogenetic trees to investigate the timing
73 and mode of diversification in a variety of butterfly groups. Such works provide scope for comparative
74 approaches that can help decipher whether common drivers or distinct processes have shaped patterns of
75 diversification. They also allow us to assess the extent to which inferred patterns of diversification match
76 those found in other organisms, particularly well-studied plants²¹⁻²³ and birds^{2,24}. Many butterfly studies
77 indicate an important role for the Andes in the origin and diversification of new species. In some groups,
78 diversification occurs mostly within the same elevational range, consistent with adaptation onto new
79 resources (e.g., *Hypanartia*²⁵, *Lymanopoda*²⁶, some ithomiine butterflies^{6,27}), whereas others show
80 speciation across the elevational gradient (e.g., *Ithomiola*²⁸). Even within some predominantly lowland
81 groups the Andes have apparently played an important role, causing diversification contemporaneous

82 with the Andean uplift and consequent major changes in climate and geography in the Neotropical region
83 (e.g., *Taygetis*²⁹, *Dione*³⁰, *Heliconius*³¹). By contrast, the Andes seem to have had a limited impact on the
84 diversification of some other groups, such as neotropical Troidini³²

85 The Neotropical butterfly tribe Ithomiini (Nymphalidae: Danainae) is a diverse group with ca. 48
86 genera and 390 species, which are ubiquitous in humid forest throughout the Neotropical region from sea
87 level to around 3000 m elevation. Commonly known as the clearwing butterflies because of the
88 transparent wings in many species, they are well-known because of their involvement in Mullerian
89 mimicry rings, whereby co-occurring unpalatable species converge in wing colour pattern amongst
90 themselves, other Lepidoptera and some other insects³³. Their diversity and broad distribution makes
91 them a relevant study system to investigate patterns of spatial and temporal diversification in the
92 Neotropics and they have previously been the focus of a number of diversification studies^{4,6,34,35}. Most
93 ithomiine clades have been found to show a peak of species richness in the Andes³⁶, but the
94 biogeographic histories that have led to this pattern are surprisingly diverse. The genus *Napeogenes*
95 originated in the Andes and subsequently dispersed out of the mountains into the Amazon Basin⁶,
96 whereas rates of colonization into the Andes from adjacent areas were found to be higher in the subtribe
97 Godyrina³⁴. The genus *Oleria* contains two main subclades, one of which diversified mainly in lowland
98 Amazonian forests while the other diversified almost exclusively in high elevation Andean cloud forests⁴.

99 The genus *Pteronymia* Butler & Druce 1872, which belongs to the largest ithomiine subtribe, the
100 Dircennina, is one of the most speciose ithomiine genera. The genus contains some 50 species (Lamas,
101 2004), although the species taxonomy has been highly confused in the past and is undergoing revision.
102 *Pteronymia* butterflies occur throughout the Neotropics, with the most diverse communities found in east
103 Andean cloud forests²⁷. As part of our on-going effort to document patterns of spatial and temporal
104 diversification of butterflies in the Neotropics, here we reconstruct a comprehensive, time calibrated
105 phylogeny for the *Pteronymia* using multi-locus molecular data and morphological characters. We first
106 assess whether *Pteronymia* is monophyletic and whether do species boundaries require re-definition. We
107 then time-calibrate the phylogeny using a combination of larval host plant ages (Solanaceae) as maximal
108 age constraints³⁷ and estimates of divergence time between nymphalid butterfly genera from Wahlberg et
109 al. (2009)³⁸ to investigate biogeographical of diversification of *Pteronymia* in relation with the Andean
110 uplift. Specifically, we addressed the following questions: (1) Have the Andes acted as a centre of origin
111 and a centre of diversification for the genus *Pteronymia*? (2) Has there been many interchanges between
112 the different regions of the Neotropics, particularly between the Andes and other regions, and between
113 the central and northern Andes? (3) How has the elevational niche of *Pteronymia* species evolved through
114 time, and is there evidence for adaptive radiation across elevation ranges? (4) How has *Pteronymia*
115 diversified through time?

116

117 **Results**

118 We obtained sequence data for a total of 166 *Pteronymia* specimens, representing 41 of the species
119 recognized prior to our revision, and 47 of the species recognized after our revision (Table 1; see
120 Supplementary Table S1 online). Species with no molecular data were *P. alcmena*, *P. alicia*, *P. calgiria*,
121 *P. fumida*, *P. glauca* and *P. peteri*. A total of 87 morphological characters were coded for 52 species
122 (after taxonomic revision, see below).

123 *Taxonomy*

124 Molecular phylogenies of all *Pteronymia* specimens generated by maximum likelihood and Bayesian
125 inference were largely congruent (see Supplementary Figs. S1-S2 online), and showed that the genus
126 *Pteronymia* is monophyletic. Several internal nodes had moderate to low support.

127 The molecular data suggested that several changes to the species-level taxonomy were warranted.
128 Four cases concern species occurring on both slopes of the Andes, where the molecular data suggest that
129 east and west Andean subspecies are not sister taxa, instead grouping with other related species. In all
130 cases there are no genitalic characters that exclusively support the former classification, which was
131 instead based on attempts to group similar allopatric phenotypes as subspecies of more widespread
132 species²⁰. We therefore split each of the original four species into east and west Andean species.

133 ***Pteronymia zerlina*** Hewitson, 1856. This species formerly included taxa from both east and west of
134 the Andes^{20,39}, ranging from Venezuela to western Ecuador and Bolivia. Sequenced material comes from
135 eastern and western Ecuador, representing the taxa formerly known as *P. zerlina pronuba* Hewitson,
136 1870 (west) and *P. zerlina machay* T. & L. Racheli, 2003 (east). *Pteronymia zerlina zerlina* Hewitson,
137 1856 was described from 'New Granada' and the original illustrations and type material in the BMNH
138 match specimens from the Cauca valley in west Colombia. Their smaller size and broad white forewing
139 translucent band are similar to *P. zerlina pronuba* and it thus seems likely that these two taxa are
140 conspecific. In the eastern Andes, populations throughout Peru apparently link east Ecuadorian *P. zerlina*
141 *machay* with the Bolivian *P. zerlina alina* Haensch, 1909, and thus we treat *P. alina* as a distinct species
142 (**rev. stat.**) and transfer to it the following Peruvian and Ecuadorian taxa: *P. a. machay*, *P. a. mielkei*
143 Lamas, 2003 (**rev. stat.**). The status of Venezuelan and central Colombian populations is currently
144 unknown, so for the moment we retain them in *P. zerlina*. The molecular results are consistent with
145 significant differences in the immature stages of *P. zerlina zerlina* and *P. zerlina machay* (now *P. alina*
146 *machay*) described by⁴⁰, who also suggested the likelihood that these taxa were not conspecific.

147 ***Pteronymia veia*** Hewitson, 1853. This species formerly included taxa from both east and west of the
148 Andes^{20,39}, ranging from Venezuela to western Ecuador and northeastern Peru. Sequenced taxa include an
149 undescribed taxon from western Ecuador and *P. veia linzera* Herrich-Schäffer, 1865 from eastern

150 Ecuador. As with *P. zerlina*, the status of Venezuelan and Colombian populations is unknown, but
151 unfortunately there are no described west Colombian taxa which can be reliably associated with the
152 undescribed west Ecuadorian taxon. We treated east and west Ecuadorian taxa as distinct species, but for
153 the moment do not make any nomenclatural changes.

154 ***Pteronymia alissa*** Hewitson, 1869. This species formerly included taxa from both east and west of
155 the Andes^{20,39}, ranging from Venezuela to western Ecuador and Bolivia. Sequenced taxa include the
156 nominate subspecies from western Ecuador, and *P. alissa andreas* Weeks, 1901 from eastern Ecuador.
157 The status of Venezuelan taxa is currently uncertain, so for the moment we retain them in *P. alissa* and
158 just separate the east Andean *P. andreas* (**rev. stat.**) as a separate species, except for the subspecies
159 *dorothyae*, which clusters with *P. andreas* in the phylogenetic trees (see Supplementary Figs. S1-S2
160 online).

161 ***Pteronymia teresita*** Hewitson, 1863. This species formerly included taxa from both east and west of
162 the Andes^{20,39}, occurring in western Ecuador and from eastern Colombia to Bolivia. Sequenced taxa
163 include west Ecuadorian *P. teresita teresita* and east Ecuadorian *P. teresita thabena* (Hewitson, 1869).
164 We here separate out east Andean populations as a separate species, which both share a distinctive female
165 with colorless translucent hindwing and yellow translucent forewing, including the following: *P. thabena*
166 *thabena*, *P. thabena denticulata* Haensch, 1905 (**rev. stat.**).

167 ***Pteronymia oneida*** Hewitson, 1855. This species formerly included taxa from western Colombia to
168 Venezuela and along the eastern Andes to northern Peru^{20,39}. *Pteronymia oneida asopo* (C. & R. Felder,
169 1865) occurs in the Cordillera de la Costa in northern Venezuela, and appeared distantly related to east
170 Ecuadorian *P. oneida oneida* in the molecular tree. As with related species (*P. zerlina*, *P. veia*), there are
171 no genitalic characters that group *asopo* with *oneida*, and we therefore treat it as a distinct species, *P.*
172 *asopo* (**rev. stat.**). The status of several other recently described³⁹ Venezuelan taxa of *P. oneida* remains
173 to be determined, and for the moment they are retained in *P. oneida*.

174 ***Pteronymia picta*** Salvin, 1869. This species formerly included taxa ranging from Costa Rica to
175 central and western Colombia. Specimen locality data from Colombia are too imprecise and unreliable to
176 confirm whether the Colombian *P. picta dispar* Haensch, 1905, apparently restricted to the northern
177 Cordilleras Occidental and Central, is sympatric or not with *P. picta picta*, the range of which appears to
178 broadly encompass that of *dispar* in Colombia. The molecular data suggest that *P. dispar* (**rev. stat.**) is
179 not closely related to *P. picta picta* and Central American *P. picta notilla* Butler & H. Druce, 1872.

180 After our taxonomic changes the genus *Pteronymia* now comprises 53 species, making it the most
181 diverse ithomiine genus.

182

183 *Morphological phylogeny*

184 We performed a cladistic analysis of 87 adult and larval morphological traits, which resulted in a
185 relatively poorly resolved tree, within which only several clades received moderate to strong support (see
186 Supplementary Fig. S3 online). Notable clades include one containing six typically rare Andean species
187 (*alida* clade: *P. alida*, *P. sp. nov. 3*, *P. inania*, *P. lonera*, *P. teresita* and *P. thabena*), supported by a
188 number of genitalic characters. The immature stages (i. e., larvae and pupae) of this clade are also
189 remarkably different in coloration and morphology from those of other *Pteronymia* species, and the
190 distinctiveness of the genitalia and immature stages previously led to the description of a new genus,
191 *Talamancana*, to include *P. lonera*⁴¹. A second, large and apparently well-defined clade contains *P.*
192 *zerlina* and relatives, all of which have a very distinctive synapomorphy, a keel-like spine on the dorsal
193 side of the aedeagus near the posterior tip (character 1:1). Genitalia barely differ among any of the eleven
194 species in this clade, although the adult mimetic wing patterns and the immature stage morphology and
195 biology show striking differences.

196 197 *New calibration of the Solanaceae phylogeny*

198 To calibrate the phylogeny of *Pteronymia*, we used a combination of secondary calibrations of
199 Nymphalidae ages³⁸ and maximum age constraints based on host-plant lineage ages (Solanaceae). To
200 extract those ages, we used the molecular matrix of a previous Solanaceae phylogeny⁴² to generate a new
201 phylogeny, which was calibrated with the stem age of the family extracted from a dated phylogeny of
202 Angiosperms⁴³. Our Solanaceae phylogeny shows similar node support and topology to those of the latest
203 published phylogeny of Solanaceae⁴². Median lineage ages are on average about 25% older and have
204 wider 95% credibility intervals (Table 2, see Supplementary Fig. S4 online). In most lineages the 95%
205 credibility intervals presented here span the median age of the published phylogeny of Solanaceae⁴², but
206 the median ages themselves fall almost always outside the 95% credibility intervals of the previous
207 phylogeny (Table 2). The wider credibility intervals in our study are due to the use of the more
208 conservative uniform prior on the calibration point as compared to the previous phylogeny of Solanaceae,
209 which implemented a log-normal prior that tends to drive ages towards the mode of the prior
210 distribution⁴². Consequently, the ages of the lineages used for calibrating the phylogeny of *Pteronymia*
211 are older than those inferred previously⁴² (Table 2).

212 213 *Dated combined Pteronymia phylogeny*

214 We combined morphological and molecular data to generate a species-level phylogeny that was
215 calibrated using secondary calibrations from a published Nymphalidae phylogeny³⁸, and from Solanaceae
216 lineage ages estimated in this study, using BEAST 1.7.5⁴⁴. The combination of morphological and
217 molecular data generated a phylogeny comprising all known extant species (Fig. 1). Many nodes were

218 poorly supported, and this was mostly caused by the species represented only by morphological
219 characters, whose placement was uncertain. Our calibration strategy that combined butterfly- and host-
220 plant-derived secondary calibrations resulted in ages that were about 30 to 50% older than those inferred
221 in a recent time-calibrated phylogeny of Ithomiini genera that relied on previous minimum age estimate
222 of Solanaceae lineages³⁷. By contrast, our ages were often slightly younger, but well within the credibility
223 interval of the ages estimated in the Nymphalidae phylogeny³⁸. Notably, the stem age of *Pteronymia*
224 inferred in our study is 14.4 million years (my) [12.3 – 16.3], while it was 7.5 my [6.0 – 9.0] in the higher
225 level Ithomiini phylogeny³⁷ and 15.7 my [11.5 – 18.5] in the Nymphalidae phylogeny³⁸. We repeated this
226 analysis without the Solanaceae calibrations and this had little impact on most nodes of the phylogeny.
227 The greatest difference was found for the divergence between the outgroup genera *Athesis* and *Patricia*
228 (22.9 million years ago (mya) [20.0 – 24.0] under the combined calibration scheme, 25.4 mya [21.8 –
229 27.5] with Nymphalidae calibrations only). For the genus *Pteronymia*, ages under the two calibration
230 schemes were extremely similar (regression ages Nymphalidae calibration only (N) versus combined
231 Nymphalidae and Solanaceae (S): $N = 0.989 * S$, $r^2 = 0.997$). Trees generated under the combined
232 calibration scheme were used in all subsequent analyses.

233 After splitting from its sister lineage (the clade composed of the genera *Episcada*, *Ceratinia*, and
234 *Haenschia*) 14.4 mya [12.3 – 16.3], the genus *Pteronymia* started diversifying about 10.6 mya [9.0 –
235 12.2], when it split into two major, but poorly supported, clades: the *P. sao* clade, 17 species, and the *P.*
236 *oneida* clade, 36 species. The two main clades appearing in the morphological phylogeny were also
237 recovered in the combined analysis, with the exception that *P. latilla* and *P. tucuna* grouped with two
238 species in the *P. zerlina* clade. The male genitalia of both of the former species are rather different to
239 remaining members of the *P. zerlina* clade, lacking the distinctive male genitalic synapomorphy of that
240 clade in addition to also lacking a gnathos, the loss of which occurs within the genus only in *P. latilla*, *P.*
241 *tucuna*, *P. sao* and *P. obscuratus*. Otherwise, none of the relationships implied in the combined
242 phylogeny seem to contradict any strong morphological evidence.

243 Because of topological uncertainty of the *Pteronymia* phylogeny, we performed subsequent
244 analyses both on the MCC tree and on a random subset of 100 trees from the posterior distribution.

245 246 *Spatial patterns of diversification*

247 We used georeferenced records (Supplementary Fig. S5) to analyse the spatial patterns of
248 diversification of *Pteronymia* across nine biogeographic areas (Fig. 2). We performed biogeographical
249 analyses using the software RASP 2.1⁴⁵. The analyses on the MCC tree and on the 100 trees yielded very
250 similar results (Fig. 3, see Supplementary Fig S6 online), and only the analyses on the MCC tree are
251 presented here. Our biogeographic reconstruction suggests that the most likely ancestral area for the

252 genus *Pteronymia* is the Western/Central Northern Andes (hereafter, Northern Andes), i.e., the area
253 comprising the slopes of the Western and Central cordillera of Colombian (and Ecuadorian) Andes (Fig.
254 3), although there is uncertainty as to whether the origin of the genus was limited to this area, or also
255 spanned neighbouring regions (see Supplementary Fig S7 online). The two main clades (*P. oneida* and *P.*
256 *sao* clades) also originated and started diversifying in the same area, with some uncertainty as to whether
257 ancestral lineages spanned larger regions for the *P. oneida* clade (see Supplementary Fig. S6 online). A
258 large proportion (55%) of speciation events occurred within the Northern Andes. In particular, the most
259 likely ancestral area for the young and diverse *P. zerlina* clade was the slopes of the Northern Andes.
260 Rapid diversification subsequently occurred within the last 3.6 my [3.0 – 4.3] in this clade, which is
261 coincident with the final uplift of the Eastern Cordillera of Colombia and the Venezuelan Cordilleras c. 5-
262 2 mya⁹. The Central Andes appear relatively species poor compared to the Northern Andes; only 13
263 species occur in the Central Andes. These are the result of multiple independent colonization events (10
264 events), and to a much lesser extent from local diversification (e. g., the clade encompassing *P. hara* and
265 its sister clade, three species in this region). The oldest colonizations of the Central Andes were recovered
266 in the *P. sao* clade (in the last 5.8 my [4.4 – 7.0]), where such colonizations happened at least five times.

267 A small number of lineages colonized the Upper and Lower Amazon regions. Only one dispersal
268 event was followed by local diversification in Amazonia, in the *vestilla* clade (the clade encompassing *P.*
269 *dispar* and its sister clade). Three other colonizations of Amazonia occurred independently throughout
270 the phylogeny, resulting in an overall very low Amazonian diversity, particularly in the lower Amazon.
271 All these events happened within the last 5.6 mya [4.8 – 6.7]. The two species that colonized the Atlantic
272 Forest arose from Amazonian lineages, and did not result in local diversification. Conversely, a high
273 number of independent colonization events (15, according to the maximum likelihood estimates)
274 occurred from the Andes to Central America. Most of those colonizations occurred within the last 5.0 my
275 [4.0 – 5.9]. Colonization time of Central America was highly uncertain for *P. fumida* and *P. spnov 4*,
276 because these species split from their sister lineages 10.6 mya [9.0 – 12.2] and 7.0 mya [5.6 – 8.3],
277 respectively, and may have therefore colonized Central America any time during those periods.
278 Colonization of Central America was sometimes, but rarely given the high number of colonizations,
279 followed by local speciation (e.g. *P. lonera* and *P. teresita*, *P. alcmena* and *P. gertschi*).

280

281 *Evolution of elevational range*

282 We investigated the evolution of the elevational range and mean elevation of *Pteronymia* species on
283 the MCC tree and on 100 trees from the posterior distribution. The phylogenetic signal and the tempo of
284 evolution of the elevational range and mean elevation were assessed by estimating simultaneously the
285 maximum likelihood values of the λ and δ branch scaling parameters⁴⁶, respectively. A λ value of one

286 indicates that the phylogeny correctly represents the trait covariance among species (Brownian motion
287 model of evolution), while $\lambda < 1$ indicates that the phylogeny overestimates the trait covariance among
288 species. A δ value of one means that the trait evolves at a constant pace along branches of the tree; $\delta < 1$
289 indicates early changes in the character values followed by a slowing down of the evolution rate; while δ
290 > 1 indicates accelerated evolution rate and species-specific adaptation. For the mean elevation and the
291 elevational range, estimates of λ across all trees from the posterior distribution and for the MCC tree were
292 not significantly different from one, meaning that trait evolution does not differ from a Brownian motion
293 model. Estimates of δ for the mean elevation were also not significantly different from one (Table 3). For
294 the lower and upper boundaries of the elevational range, the estimates of δ were significantly higher than
295 one in $>50\%$ of the trees of the posterior distribution (Table 3). The MCC tree showed significantly higher
296 estimates of δ for the lower boundary of the elevational range, but only marginally significant for the
297 upper boundary (Table 3). Values of δ higher than one indicate an acceleration of the rate of evolution of
298 elevation range and species elevational specialisation. Results differ between the mean elevation and
299 elevational range perhaps because the mean is less variable than the range (e.g., species with different
300 elevational ranges may have similar elevation mean). Reconstructions of ancestral mean elevation and
301 range boundaries accounting for the inferred δ values are depicted on Fig. 4.

302

303 *Temporal patterns of diversification*

304 We first investigated heterogeneity among clades for speciation and extinction rates using
305 MEDUSA⁴⁷ on the MCC tree and on 100 trees from the posterior distribution. No significant shift of
306 diversification rates was found on the MCC tree. Five trees of the posterior distribution (5%) had at least
307 one significant shift of diversification rates. Each of those shifts was found in less than 5% of the trees, and
308 therefore considered as non-significant. We then investigated whether diversification rates varied through
309 time by fitting time-dependent models of speciation and extinction rates⁴⁸. The best fitting model was an
310 exponential time-dependent speciation rate without extinction (Table 4). According to this model
311 speciation rate decreased from 0.646 event per lineage per million year for the MCC tree and 0.538 ± 0.024
312 for the 100 trees at the origin of the genus (crown) to 0.148 for the MCC tree and 0.159 ± 0.002 for the 100
313 trees at present (Fig. 5). All other models, including the constant speciation rate model, were rejected at the
314 threshold of $\Delta AIC > 2$, strengthening the support for a decreasing speciation rate through time.

315

316 **Discussion**

317 Our extensive molecular sampling of the genus *Pteronymia* encompassing multiple subspecies and
318 combined with morphological and distributional data enabled us to redefine species boundaries in the
319 genus, resulting in six additional recognized species in the genus. The resulting taxonomic changes now

320 make *Pteronymia* the most species-rich ithomiine genus, with 53 species. Morphological characters that
321 are typically useful in diagnosing ithomiine species, such as in the genitalia and wing androconia, were
322 clearly unhelpful in these cases, although mimetic wing pattern and life histories, where known, often did
323 show significant variation. As knowledge of the biology of different populations and more material for
324 molecular study become available, additional changes to the species taxonomy may be needed in future.
325 At deeper levels of the phylogeny, despite *Pteronymia* showing some of the greatest diversity within the
326 Ithomiini in terms of the male and female genitalia, wing venation and androconia, immature stage
327 morphology and biology, this variation proved remarkably unhelpful in resolving the phylogeny, perhaps
328 due to high rates of morphological character evolution. The combination of morphological and molecular
329 characters obviously increased the resolution of the phylogeny compared to morphology alone, but many
330 clades were still surprisingly poorly supported, and in any case the phylogeny of *Pteronymia* was less
331 resolved than those of other ithomiine genera^{6,27,49,50}, even when considering only molecular characters.
332 This may be due to incomplete lineage sorting, rapid diversification or hybridization. While hybridization
333 and introgression seem common in other mimetic butterflies, such as *Heliconius*⁵¹⁻⁵³, nothing is known
334 about such processes in ithomiine butterflies. Future genomic data may shed light on demographic
335 processes and gene flow between species, which may have contributed to the poor support seen in some
336 nodes in the *Pteronymia* phylogeny.

337 Our calibration strategy, based on a combination of secondary calibration derived from host-plant
338 and Nymphalidae phylogenies, required the recalibration of a published Solanaceae phylogeny⁴² (host-
339 plants of most Ithomiini) because original ages were biased toward present, which precludes using those
340 data as maximum calibrations. Our new calibration scheme, based on a secondary calibration extracted
341 from a fossil-dated phylogeny of Angiosperms⁴³, inferred ages of Solanaceae lineages that were about
342 25% older than previous estimates⁴², but mostly within the 95% confidence range of those estimates. The
343 host-plant ages used in this study as maximum constraints are based on one of the ‘youngest’ hypothesis
344 for Angiosperm diversification and recent studies suggest older ages of Solanaceae. A phylogenetic
345 inference using genomic data found a much older origin of Angiosperms⁵⁴, but this had a moderate
346 impact on the stem age of the order containing Solanaceae (Solanales: ca. 92 mya⁵⁴ versus 85.9 mya⁴³,
347 with overlapping 95% confidence ranges⁵⁴) and presumably on that of Solanaceae (not inferred in that
348 study). The recent description of a 52.2 my old *Physalis* fossil⁵⁵, a solanaceous genus that is inferred to be
349 9.1 [5.9 – 12.9] my old in our study (stem age), is much more challenging for the ages of Solanaceae and
350 Angiosperms as a whole. It is possible that this recently described *Physalis* fossil represents an earlier
351 lineage of Solanaceae. The inflated calyx is found in many genera throughout the ‘berry’ clade of
352 Solanaceae (i. e., the subfamily Solanoideae, where the stem is the MRCA of *Nicotiana* and *Solanum*
353 and the crown the MRCA of *Latua* and *Solanum*⁵⁶) and transcription factors governing this character

354 appear to be plesiomorphic in the family⁵⁷⁻⁵⁹. Placement of the fossil at an earlier diverging node, such as
355 that of the berry clade, within Solanaceae is less contradictory in terms of Angiosperm evolution as a
356 whole, and would not have a major effect in pushing back the stem and crown node age of Solanaceae. In
357 terms of our findings here, older Solanaceae age estimates does not affect our time-calibrated *Pteronymia*
358 tree given that butterfly clades appear to be much younger than their corresponding host-plant groups
359 even when host-plant ages were inferred from one of the 'youngest' Angiosperm time-calibrated
360 phylogenies⁴³.

361 Our combined calibration strategy therefore resulted in ages that were consistent with those inferred
362 in the Nymphalidae phylogeny³⁸, but older than those inferred in the higher-level Ithomiini phylogeny³⁷.
363 This difference stems from several factors. The new ages of the Solanaceae lineages (this paper) used as
364 maximum calibration were 25% older than the previous estimates used in the higher-level Ithomiini
365 phylogeny³⁷, and we used the oldest boundary of the 95% credibility interval as the (hard) maximum age
366 of corresponding ithomiine lineages, instead of the mean as in the higher-level Ithomiini phylogeny³⁷.
367 The rationale for this is that minimum (such as fossil-based) and maximum (such as host-plant-based)
368 calibrations ought to be conservative and therefore account for uncertainty in calibration age⁶⁰. In our
369 case, where we implemented conservative uniform priors between maximum ages and present, node ages
370 in the *Pteronymia* phylogeny were not necessarily attracted towards maximum ages, they were just
371 allowed to go as far as those ages. Since host-plant ages provide maximum calibrations, they need to be
372 combined with minimum calibrations, in a way similar to fossil-based minimum calibrations that need to
373 be combined with at least one maximum calibration point⁶⁰. Given the absence of fossils for Danainae,
374 here we supplemented the host-plant-derived calibrations with secondary calibrations extracted from the
375 Nymphalidae phylogeny³⁸, which was calibrated with a combination of fossils and host-plant constraints.
376 These calibrations provided both minimum and maximum ages, and therefore imposed a stronger prior on
377 ithomiine ages than the host-plant-derived calibrations, but to be as conservative as possible we used a
378 uniform prior spanning the 95% credibility interval of the Nymphalidae ages that were used for
379 calibration.

380 Our results based on the biogeographic reconstruction of the genus *Pteronymia* and evolution of
381 elevational range were consistent across trees of the posterior distribution despite the relatively poor
382 resolution of the MCC phylogeny, and revealed the fundamental roles played by the Northern Andes in
383 the diversification of the group, in multiple ways. The Northern Andes have probably been (1) the area of
384 origin of the group (although the inference for the root is not well resolved, this region appears in all the
385 potential ancestral areas); (2) the centre of early and sustained local diversification; and (3) a source of
386 recent colonizations to lowland areas and to Central America, that led to an accelerated evolution of the
387 elevational range.

388 The biogeographical pattern of diversification, where the Andes play a central role, resembles those
389 found in other Andean ithomiine genera, such as *Hypomenitis*³⁴, and to a lesser extent *Napeogenes*⁶ and a
390 clade of *Oleria*⁴. These groups originated and diversified in the Northern Andes during the last 10 million
391 years, a period during which the Northern Andes experienced different phases of intense uplift⁹. This
392 period of orogeny involved great landscape transformations that may have affected the dynamics of
393 Andean lineages, by isolating populations within deep valleys or on both sides of the Andes, but also in
394 modifying the climatic conditions. Also, the slopes of the Andes offer a great number of opportunities for
395 ecological speciation due to significant environmental turnover resulting in high habitat, host-plant and
396 predator diversity. In the genus *Pteronymia*, the observed decrease of speciation rate with time and the
397 low support for basal nodes may indicate a rapid diversification driven by adaptive factors. Elevations up
398 to 2000m probably already existed by 10 million years ago in the Northern Andes⁶¹. Given the timing of
399 diversification of the genera *Hypomenitis*, *Napeogenes* and *Pteronymia* in the last 15 to 5 million years,
400 the majority of speciation events have likely not coincided with the appearance of newly available
401 elevations. Instead, speciation was probably facilitated by an already well-established and diverse
402 ecosystem. The slopes of the Andes harbour not only a diversity of habitats and host-plant
403 communities^{62,63}, but also a diversity of mimicry rings²⁷. *Pteronymia* is one of the most diverse ithomiine
404 genera in terms of mimetic wing colour patterns. Shifts in colour pattern are known to drive speciation in
405 other mimetic butterflies such as *Heliconius*^{64,65}, where colour pattern is considered as a ‘magic’ trait, i.
406 e., a trait that is both under disruptive selection and associated with assortative mating^{64,66,67}. Mimetic
407 butterflies often harbour multiple geographic races with different colour patterns, and it has been shown
408 in *Heliconius* butterflies that interracial hybrids that display an intermediate, non-mimetic colour pattern
409 suffer higher predation⁶⁵. Shifts in colour pattern may therefore cause postzygotic reproductive isolation.
410 In addition, *Heliconius* butterflies tend to prefer mates with their own colour pattern over conspecifics
411 with a different colour pattern^{64,66,67}, thereby driving prezygotic reproductive isolation. In this case, loci
412 involved in mate preference and in colour pattern are tightly linked⁶⁸. In Ithomiini, experimental evidence
413 for the role of colour pattern as a mating cue is absent due to the difficulty of maintaining and rearing
414 Ithomiini in captivity, but observation suggests that this may be the case⁶⁹. Moreover, shifts in colour
415 patterns have been shown to be statistically associated with cladogenesis in phylogenies^{35,70}, consistent
416 with a role of colour pattern in reproductive isolation. Shifts in colour pattern may therefore have
417 contributed to Andean diversification in the genus *Pteronymia*.

418 In contrast with other ithomiine clades^{4,6,34}, little local diversification in *Pteronymia* occurred outside
419 of the Northern Andes. An exception to this is the *P. vestilla* clade, which expanded into and partly
420 diversified in lowland areas. According to our reconstructions, this lineage dispersed into the Upper
421 Amazon from the Northern Andes and started diversifying locally around 5.6 mya [4.8 – 6.7]. Local

422 diversification was then followed by expansions or dispersal into other areas, including the lower
423 Amazon and Guiana shield, the Atlantic forest, and Western lowlands of Colombia and Ecuador. Only
424 two extant lineages of this clade occur in Amazonia. The Upper Amazon region has experienced
425 important environmental changes since the Miocene. During most of the Miocene, the region was
426 covered by the large lake and shallow swamps of the Pebas system, which was connected northward to
427 the Caribbean Sea and potentially westward to the Pacific Ocean⁹. This particular ecosystem may have
428 had a major influence on the diversification of clades restricted to forest habitats^{14,22} by limiting
429 occurrence and therefore speciation to the margins of this region, but probably also by preventing
430 dispersal between Amazonia and the Andes and between the Northern and the Central Andes (via the
431 West Andean Portal, a low elevation gap between the Northern and Central Andes⁷¹). The demise of the
432 Pebas system started around 10-8 mya and it was rapidly drained eastward, leading to the establishment
433 of the modern Amazon basin, probably around 7 mya⁹. Our results suggest that dispersal and
434 diversification in Amazonia did not occur simultaneously with the drainage of Pebas, but later on. The
435 diversification of the *P. vestilla* clade in the Upper Amazon occurred fairly recently (5.6 mya [4.8 – 6.7]),
436 as did the independent colonizations of the Upper Amazon by the ancestor of *P. veia*_WEST and *P.*
437 *tucuna* (1.5 mya [0.9 -2.2]), and the ancestor of *P. sao* and *P. obscuratus* (2.7 mya [1.8 – 3.6]). The
438 timing of the colonization of the Upper Amazon by *P. forsteri*, which split from its sister clade 8.3 mya
439 [6.8 -10], is much less precise, since it could have happened any time during this period.

440 Because little local diversification in *Pteronymia* occurred outside of the Northern Andes, most of
441 the diversity in non-Andean regions is due to colonization out of the Andes. Species diversity in the
442 Central Andes and Central America built up through the accumulation of independent dispersal events,
443 rarely followed by speciation events. Many of these events occurred without strong elevational shifts
444 suggesting that dispersal may have been facilitated by the existence of similar ecological conditions in
445 montane areas. By contrast, dispersal toward lowland areas, such as the Upper Amazon, may have
446 entailed more adaptations to fit different bioclimatic conditions or host-plants, which likely explains the
447 rare occurrence of such events.

448 There is a debate surrounding the timing of the closure of the Panama Isthmus. The hypothesis
449 that it occurred very recently (5-3 mya) has been widely adopted in the literature (see¹². However, both
450 geological and paleontological findings suggest a possible much earlier appearance of land masses,
451 possibly as early as the early or middle Miocene (e.g.^{12,72-74}. In our biogeographical analysis, although
452 interchanges between Central America and South America were allowed earlier, most of the colonization
453 events of *Pteronymia* lineages toward Central America have occurred during the last 5.0 [4.0 – 5.9]
454 million years, in agreement with the first hypothesis. However, the colonization time of Central America

455 by *P. fumida* and *P. spnov* 4, two species with long branches, is uncertain, and may have happened much
456 earlier.

457 The pattern of diversification inferred for *Pteronymia* is very similar to biogeographic patterns of
458 other taxa described in the literature. For example, in vertebrates, the Northern Andes were a major centre
459 of diversification for glassfrogs (Allocentroleniinae), which subsequently fed the adjacent areas through
460 dispersal, including the Central Andes and the non-Andean regions³. A similar conclusion was reached in
461 the Thraupini tanagers, which also diversified during the last 10 million years, with higher rates of
462 colonization out of the Northern Andes (mostly toward the Central-Andes) rather than into that region⁷⁵.
463 The bat genus *Sturnina* also diversified during the last 10 million years, from the Northern Andes toward
464 the rest of the Neotropical region⁷⁶. Similarly, in plants, many studies report the Northern Andes as a
465 centre of diversification and a source for adjacent areas²³. The Rubiaceae subfamily Cinchonoideae
466 originated and mostly diversified in the Northern Andes, with subsequent colonization of both lowland
467 and highland adjacent areas⁷¹. Extremely high rates of diversification were reported in the Andes for the
468 genus *Lupinus*⁷. The Campanulaceae experienced higher rates of diversification in the Andes that were
469 correlated with paleoelevations of the Andes⁸, suggesting that the Andes have directly affected
470 diversification in this family. Taken together, these findings are consistent with the idea that, at least
471 during the last 10 million years, the Northern Andes have been an important source of biodiversity in the
472 Neotropics probably due to geological, climatic and biotic factors, with local diversification followed by
473 lineage dispersal throughout other Neotropical regions.

474

475 **Methods**

476 *Morphological characters and phylogeny*

477 Prior to our study, 47 species were listed in the genus *Pteronymia*, but this figure increased to 53 after
478 taxonomic revision based on new data (Table 1). Forty-six adult and 41 immature (i.e., larval and pupal)
479 morphological characters were examined in 52 *Pteronymia* species (after our revision, see Supplementary
480 Methods S1, Supplementary Table S2, Supplementary Figs. S8-S9 online; *P. dispar* **rev. stat.** was not
481 coded) and two outgroup species (*Episcada apuleia* and *Dircennina adina*).

482 A Maximum Parsimony topology was estimated in TNT v. 1.5-beta⁷⁷ using the New Technology
483 Search, with all four search methods – ratchet, tree-fusing, tree-drifting and sectorial, with default
484 parameters, 100 random additional sequences and random seed equal 0, with all characters equally
485 weighted. The majority-rule consensus tree, consistency index (CI) and the retention index (RI) were
486 computed in Winclada⁷⁸. The stability of each branch was estimated using the non-parametric bootstrap
487 test, with 1,000 replicates and 100 random taxon additions, and Bremer support, using the script
488 Bremer.run in TNT.

489

490 *Molecular characters and phylogeny*

491 We used a total of 166 *Pteronymia* specimens for molecular analyses, representing 41 of the species
492 recognized prior to our revision, and 47 of the species recognized after our revision (Table 1; see
493 Supplementary Table S1 online). Species with no molecular data were *P. alcmena*, *P. alicia*, *P. calgria*,
494 *P. fumida*, *P. glauca* and *P. peteri*.

495 We used *de novo* (ca. 85%) and published (ca. 15%) sequences from five gene regions to infer a
496 molecular phylogeny (see Supplementary Table S1 online): the mitochondrial region spanning the
497 mitochondrial genes *cytochrome oxidase c subunit 1*, *leucine transfer RNA* and *cytochrome oxidase c*
498 *subunit 2* (CO1, tRNA^{Leu}, CO2, 2356 bp), and the nuclear genes *tektin* (735 bp) and *Elongation Factor 1*
499 *alpha* (EF1A, 1259 bp). Species coverage was 98% for the mitochondrial fragment, 73% for *tektin* and
500 63% for EF1A. Primers and PCR conditions followed previously described conditions⁶. In addition, 52
501 ithomiine and danaine outgroup species were selected³⁴ (see Supplementary Table S1 online). The dataset
502 was then partitioned by gene and codon positions and the best models of substitution for optimized sets of
503 nucleotides were selected over all models implemented in (1) RAxML⁷⁹ and (2) MrBayes⁸⁰, using the
504 ‘greedy’ algorithm and linked rates implemented in PartitionFinder 1.1.1⁸¹ (see Supplementary Table S3
505 online).

506 We performed a maximum likelihood phylogenetic inference using RAxML⁷⁹ on the Cipres server⁸².
507 In addition, we performed a Bayesian inference of the phylogeny using MrBayes 3.2.2⁸⁰ on the Cipres
508 server⁸². Substitution models of each partition were re-estimated in MrBayes 3.2.2 using the reversible-
509 jump MCMC⁸³. Two independent analyses were run for 10 million generations, with four Monte Carlo
510 Markov chains each and a sampling frequency of one out of 10,000 generations (resulting in 1,000
511 posterior trees). After checking for convergence, the posterior distributions of the two runs were
512 combined, with a burnin of 10%. The maximum clade credibility tree with median node ages was
513 computed using TreeAnnotator 1.6.2⁴⁴. The resulting tree was used to investigate topology and species
514 boundaries.

515

516 *Molecular dating*

517 In order to estimate a time-calibrated phylogeny of *Pteronymia*, we combined two types of time
518 constraints: the age of larval host-plants and age estimates from higher-level phylogenies of butterflies.
519 Host-plant ages can be used as maximum age constraints in phylogenies of mono- or oligophagous
520 herbivores^{37,38}, assuming that such herbivorous taxa diversified only after the emergence of their host-
521 plant lineages. Most Ithomiini feed on Solanaceae, which represents a host-plant shift from the ancestral
522 host-plants of Danainae (Apocynaceae⁸⁴). In a previous study aiming at dating a higher-level phylogeny

523 of the tribe Ithomiini³⁷, ages of several Solanaceae lineages inferred from a dated phylogeny of
524 Solanaceae⁴² were used as maximum calibrations for Ithomiini clades feeding on specific Solanaceae
525 lineages. The ages of clades in the Solanaceae phylogeny⁴² were minimum age estimates because
526 Solanaceae fossils known at that time were placed conservatively at the stem ages of lineages with which
527 they shared morphological synapomorphies, and because fossils in general can only provide minimum
528 age estimates for clades. Therefore, using those minimum Solanaceae ages as maximum calibrations for
529 Ithomiini lineages may strongly underestimate the ages of the butterfly lineages, especially when using
530 mean or median age estimates instead of older bounds. Here, we took advantage of a recent calibration of
531 the family-level phylogeny of the angiosperms based on 151 fossils⁴³ to recalibrate the Solanaceae
532 phylogeny using the inferred stem age of Solanaceae, i.e., 66.6 mya, as a calibration point in a Bayesian
533 framework (Supplementary Methods S1.2). Due to the recent description of a 52.2 my old Solanaceae
534 fossil placed in the extant genus *Physalis*⁵⁵ that could have dramatic consequences on the age estimates of
535 Solanaceae and Angiosperms as a whole, we also ran an analysis without calibration based on host-plant
536 ages. Indeed, much older ages of Solanaceae lineages as those implied by this discovery would have
537 hardly any impact on the ages of Ithomiini, and removing host-plant derived calibrations is therefore a
538 conservative way of testing the influence of older host-plant ages. Since the two calibration strategies
539 yielded almost the same ages (see results) we performed the biogeographic and diversification analyses
540 on the tree calibrated using the combined calibration strategy detailed below. For further discussion on
541 the recently described Solanaceae fossil and its potential effect on host plant age estimates, see
542 Discussion above.

543 We extracted the new maximum ages of several Solanaceae lineages from our newly calibrated
544 phylogeny in order to provide maximum calibrations for Ithomiini lineages that feed on them⁸⁴. The
545 choice of the host-plant calibrations (Fig. 1) followed that of the genus-level Ithomiini phylogeny study³⁷,
546 with the following exceptions. We excluded the *Solanum* calibration, because the two lineages feeding
547 exclusively on *Solanum* (the Mechanitina and the clade comprising the Oleriina, Dircennina, Godyridina,
548 Ithomiina and Napeogeneina) do not have a sister relationship in our and in other Ithomiini
549 phylogenies^{27,34}. We also excluded the *Cestrum* calibration (ithomiine subtribe Godyridina, excluding the
550 genera *Veladyris* and *Velamysta*) because this highly diverse genus had a low sampling fraction of 20%
551 in the Solanaceae phylogeny and was not resolved as monophyletic⁴². Finally, for simplicity we excluded
552 the calibrations based on Solanaceae genera *Brunfelsia* and *Lycianthes*, because they apply to young
553 butterfly lineages (the subtribe Methonina and the clade comprising the genera *Oleria* and *Ollantaya*,
554 respectively^{37,38}) and would have no effect on the age estimates. A uniform prior was used for host-plant-
555 derived calibrations. The upper boundary of the prior was set to the upper boundary of the 95%

556 credibility interval of the age of the host-plant lineage and the lower boundary of the prior was set to 0
557 (present) (Fig. 1).

558 As a second source of calibration points we used age estimates from Wahlberg *et al.*'s³⁸ dated
559 Nymphalidae phylogeny. We defined seven secondary calibrations points which were set to a uniform
560 prior bounded by the upper and lower boundaries of the 95% HPD of the ages inferred in the
561 Nymphalidae phylogeny³⁸ (Fig. 1).

562 Sequences of all *Pteronymia* specimens were combined into a consensus sequence for each species to
563 maximize sequence coverage for each species³⁴. We used PartitionFinder 1.1.1⁸¹ to select the best
564 partition scheme applying to this new dataset, where only the models implemented in BEAST were tested
565 (see Supplementary Table S5 online). A time-tree was generated in BEAST 1.7.5⁴⁴ under an uncorrelated
566 lognormal relaxed clock using the same outgroups as previously, and the dating procedure described
567 above. To select the tree prior (Yule versus Birth-Death), we ran analyses with each type of prior and
568 used Stepping Stone sampling⁸⁵ to estimate marginal likelihood (MLE). This method is not implemented
569 in BEAST 1.7.5, thus we performed this analysis on BEAST 1.8.2 on the molecular dataset only (BEAST
570 1.8.2 cannot handle morphological characters). The MLE were then used to compute Bayes Factors (BF),
571 which supported the Yule model (BF=4.44). We also ran analyses on the total evidence on BEAST 1.7.5
572 under the Yule and the Birth-Death model to compare age estimates. Both types of analyses yielded
573 virtually identical ages (regression of ages under Birth-Death (BD) on ages under Yule (Y): $BD =$
574 $0.9985*Y$, $r^2=0.999$). Analyses with and without morphological data also produced very similar ages
575 (regression of ages with molecular data only (M) on ages with the combined evidence (C): $M =$
576 $0.9892*C$, $r^2=0.997$). Analyses were run for 100 million generations each on the Cipres server⁸² and on a
577 desktop computer depending on the version of BEAST, and trees and parameters were sampled every
578 100,000 generation. After checking for parameter ESS, a 10% burnin was applied to the posterior
579 distribution and the maximum clade credibility tree with median node ages (hereafter, MCC tree) was
580 computed using TreeAnnotator 1.6.2⁴⁴. Given the results on the tree prior (Yule versus Birth-Death, see
581 above), subsequent analyses were performed on the trees generated under a Yule prior. Because many
582 nodes of the phylogeny had moderate or poor support, we conducted most of the analyses outlined below
583 on the MCC tree and on a random subset of 100 trees extracted from the post burnin posterior distribution
584 of trees obtained from the BEAST run.

585

586 *Spatial patterns of diversification*

587 Geographic distribution and elevational range for all extant species were obtained from our own
588 records, museum collections and collaborators (Table 1, Supplementary Fig. S5). The biogeographic
589 history of *Pteronymia* was estimated using the Maximum Likelihood Dispersal-Extinction-Cladogenesis

590 (DEC) model⁸⁶ on the MCC tree, and its extension for multiple trees (Statistical DEC, or S-DEC) on the
591 100 trees extracted from the posterior distribution, using the software RASP 2.1⁴⁵. We defined nine
592 biogeographical areas (Fig. 2): Central America (A), Western lowlands (B), Slopes of the
593 Western/Central Cordillera of Ecuador and Colombia (C), Central Andes (D), Slopes of the Eastern
594 Cordillera of Colombia and Venezuela (E), Upper Amazon (F), Lower Amazon (G), Atlantic Forest (H),
595 and Guiana Shield (I), and the maximum number of ancestral areas in our analyses was set to four
596 reflecting the maximum number of areas occupied by extant species. We implemented three time slices
597 (11-8, 8-5, 5-0 million years ago, Fig. 1) with different dispersal probabilities, which took into
598 consideration major geological events through time⁹.

599

600 *Ancestral state reconstruction and evolution of elevational range*

601 Elevational range (elevation range, i.e., boundaries of the elevational interval containing 95% of the
602 records and mean elevation) for all extant species were extracted from the distributional database
603 computed above (Table 1). Evolution of elevational range was investigated on both the MCC tree and the
604 subset of 100 trees as follows. The phylogenetic signal and the tempo of evolution of the mean elevation
605 and the boundaries of the elevational range were assessed by estimating simultaneously the values of the
606 λ and δ scaling parameters⁴⁶ that maximized the likelihood of the data using BayesTraits v2⁸⁷. A λ value
607 of one indicates that the phylogeny correctly represents the trait covariance among species, while a value
608 of 0 indicates that the trait evolution is independent of the phylogeny. A value of λ smaller than one
609 indicates that the phylogeny overestimates the trait covariance among species. A δ value of one means
610 that the trait evolves at a constant pace along the branches of the tree; $\delta < 1$ indicates early changes in the
611 character values followed by a slowing down of the evolution rate, such as that entailed by an adaptive
612 radiation; while $\delta > 1$ indicates accelerated evolution rate and species-specific adaptation. The MCC tree
613 was then rescaled with the corresponding δ and λ values inferred for the mean elevation and the upper
614 and lower boundaries of elevational range, when those differed from 1, such that the evolutionary rate of
615 the elevation attributes on the transformed tree was constant. The resulting trees were used to infer
616 ancestral values of the attributes (assuming a constant evolution rate), using the function *contMap* of the
617 R package *phytools*⁸⁸.

618

619 *Temporal patterns of diversification*

620 To investigate the pattern of speciation and extinction rate variations through time and across lineages, we
621 chose not to use BAMM 2.5.0⁸⁹ because of recent criticisms on uninformative priors and biased estimates
622 of diversification rates⁹⁰. Instead, we implemented a two-step procedure. We first used MEDUSA⁴⁷
623 implemented in the R package *geiger*⁹¹ to detect shifts on the selection of 100 random trees of the posterior

624 distribution, and on the MCC tree. MEDUSA has also been criticised because of its inflated false discovery
625 rate and biased estimates of diversification rates⁹². To overcome these shortcomings and to implement time-
626 dependent models of diversification, we used the method developed by Morlon et al. (2011)⁴⁸, a maximum
627 likelihood approach that accommodates time dependent birth-death processes and enables to test for rate
628 shifts. We used as a rule that if a shift was present in at least 5% of the trees of the posterior distribution in
629 the MEDUSA analysis, this shift was tested with Morlon et al.(2011)'s method⁴⁸. Shifts detected in less
630 than 5% of the posterior distribution were considered non-significant and not tested with Morlon et al.
631 (2011)'s method⁴⁸. We fitted 6 models of diversification⁴⁸: constant speciation without extinction, time-
632 dependent speciation without extinction, constant speciation with constant extinction, time-dependent
633 speciation and constant extinction, constant speciation and time-dependent extinction, time-dependent
634 speciation and time-dependent extinction. Time-dependency was modelled using an exponential function.
635 Models were compared using AIC scores. The root of the tree was always excluded from the analyses. Our
636 phylogeny included all known species so we set the sampling fraction to 1. All models were fitted on the
637 MCC tree and on the 100 trees sampled from the posterior distribution.

638

639 **References**

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660

661 **Author Contributions**

662 D.L.D.S., L.L.M., N.C., K.R.W. and M.E. conceived the study, with contributions from A.V.L.F., G.L.,
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664 S.U., C.D.J., K.R.W. and M.E. provided *Pteronymia* specimens and sequences. L.L.M., A.V.L.F. and
665 K.R.W. generated the morphological dataset. T.S. and S.K. provided the Solanaceae dataset. D.L.D.S.,
666 N.C., K.L.S-B. and M.E. performed the analyses. D.L.D.S., N.C., K.R.W. and M.E. wrote the paper,
667 with contributions from all co-authors.

668

669 **Additional Information**

670 **Supplementary information**

671 Accompanies this paper at <http://www.nature.com/srep>

672

673 **Competing financial interests:**

674 The authors declare no competing financial interests.

675 Table 1. List of the species in the genus *Pteronymia*, including revised status. Availability of molecular
 676 and morphological data, distribution area and elevation mean and 95% range are reported for each
 677 species.

<i>Pteronymia</i> species	Previous name	Molecular data	Morphological data	Biogeographical area	Mean elevation [95% range] (m)
<i>Pteronymia alcmena</i>			x	A	1100 [1050 - 1200]
<i>Pteronymia aletta</i>		x	x	ABCE	693 [50 - 1450]
<i>Pteronymia alicia</i>			x	I	1235 [1100 - 1490]
<i>Pteronymia alida</i>		x	x	CDE	1933 [800 - 3000]
<i>Pteronymia andreas</i> (rev. stat.)	<i>alissa</i>	x	x	CDI	1337 [750 - 1860]
<i>Pteronymia alissa</i>		x	x	CE	1227 [300 - 2000]
<i>Pteronymia artena</i>		x	x	ACDE	1365 [900 - 2060]
<i>Pteronymia calgiria</i>			x	D	1719 [1300 - 2970]
<i>Pteronymia carlia</i>		x	x	H	910 [100 - 1700]
<i>Pteronymia cotytto</i>		x	x	AE	776 [80 - 1455]
<i>Pteronymia donella</i>		x	x	AB	386 [20 - 825]
<i>Pteronymia euritea</i>		x	x	H	553 [30 - 1250]
<i>Pteronymia forsteri</i>		x	x	F	632 [182 - 1350]
<i>Pteronymia fulvimargo</i>		x	x	A	1455 [1110 - 2060]
<i>Pteronymia fumida</i>			x	AC	870 [450 - 1000]
<i>Pteronymia gertschi</i>		x	x	C	950 [500 - 1000]
<i>Pteronymia glauca</i>			x	C	1230 [800 - 1400]
<i>Pteronymia granica</i>		x	x	C	1929 [1500 - 2250]
<i>Pteronymia hara</i>		x	x	ACDE	1474 [600 - 2400]
<i>Pteronymia inania</i>		x	x	CE	1659 [1200 - 2100]
<i>Pteronymia latilla</i>		x	x	ACE	1012 [170 - 1925]
<i>Pteronymia laura</i>		x	x	CE	1088 [800 - 1400]
<i>Pteronymia lonera</i>		x	x	A	1198 [500 - 1575]
<i>Pteronymia medellina</i>		x	x	C	1707 [1380 - 2000]
<i>Pteronymia obscuratus</i>		x	x	AB	257 [30 - 700]
<i>Pteronymia olimba</i>		x	x	D	1403 [1000 - 1525]
<i>Pteronymia oneida</i>		x	x	CE	1992 [1250 - 2650]
<i>Pteronymia asopo</i> (rev. stat.)	<i>oneida</i>	x	x	E	900 [900 - 900]
<i>Pteronymia ozia</i>		x	x	CDE	1446 [600 - 2500]
<i>Pteronymia parva</i>		x	x	A	842 [200 - 2060]
<i>Pteronymia peteri</i>			x	I	1040 [1040 - 1040]
<i>Pteronymia picta</i>		x	x	ACE	1104 [350 - 2060]
<i>Pteronymia dispar</i> (rev. stat.)	<i>picta</i>	x		C	1500 [1300 - 1800]
<i>Pteronymia primula</i>		x	x	BFG	389 [65 - 1050]
<i>Pteronymia rufocincta</i>		x	x	A	998 [210 - 1500]
<i>Pteronymia sao</i>		x	x	FG	332 [100 - 800]
<i>Pteronymia serrata</i>		x	x	CD	2091 [1700 - 2300]
<i>Pteronymia sexpunctata</i>		x	x	D	1265 [635 - 1500]
<i>Pteronymia simplex</i>		x	x	A	1544 [1100 - 2300]

<i>Pteronymia tamina</i>		x	x	CD	1667 [800 - 2075]
<i>Pteronymia thabena</i> (rev. stat.)	<i>teresita</i>	x	x	CDE	1670 [790 - 2400]
<i>Pteronymia teresita</i>		x	x	C	1184 [1000 - 1350]
<i>Pteronymia ticida</i>		x	x	CDE	1784 [1200 - 2400]
<i>Pteronymia tucuna</i>		x	x	F	777 [100 - 1350]
<i>Pteronymia veia</i> _EAST	<i>veia</i>	x	x	CE	1662 [1000 - 2400]
<i>Pteronymia veia</i> _WEST	<i>veia</i>	x	x	C	1729 [1300 - 2150]
<i>Pteronymia vestilla</i>		x	x	F	398 [100 - 900]
<i>Pteronymia alina</i> (rev. stat.)	<i>zerlina</i>	x	x	CD	1784 [700 - 2500]
<i>Pteronymia zerlina</i>		x	x	CE	1473 [635 - 2000]
<i>Pteronymia spnov 1</i>		x	x	E	1730 [1730 - 1730]
<i>Pteronymia spnov 2</i>		x	x	C	1765 [850 - 2530]
<i>Pteronymia spnov 3</i>		x	x	C	1898 [1700 - 2030]
<i>Pteronymia spnov 4</i>		x	x	A	656 [500 - 700]

678

679 Table 2. Comparison of our estimates of ages of Solanaceae lineages with those of Särkinen et al.
680 (2013)⁴². *ages used as calibration in the *Pteronymia* phylogeny.

681

Solanaceae clades	Age estimates This study	Age estimates Särkinen et al. (2013)
Stem of Solanaceae*	64.0 my [48 – 83]	49my [46 -54]
Crown of Solanaceae	42.2 my [26.8-55.2]	30.3 my [26.3-34.0]
Crown of “x=12” clade (MRCA <i>Solanum</i> and <i>Nicotiana</i>)	39.5 my [21.9-44.4]	23.7 my [23.0-25.7]
Crown of <i>Solanum</i>	20.9 my [14.5-29.5]	15.6 my [13.1-17.5]
Stem of <i>Capsicum</i> *	19.0 my [11.5 - 25]	13 my [10 – 16]
stem of <i>Schultesianthus</i> *	17.0 my [7 – 24]	13 my [9 – 19]
stem of <i>Brugmansia</i> *	10.5 my [5 – 14]	7 my [4 – 10]

682

683

684 Table 3. Maximum likelihood estimates of δ for the mean and boundaries of the 95% elevational range,
685 for the 100-tree posterior distribution (average values \pm standard deviation), and for the MCC tree.

686 Likelihood Ratio Tests values when compared with the null model ($\delta = 1$), corresponding p-values and
687 fraction of trees for which δ is significantly different from 1 are reported.

688

Trees		Mean Elevation	95% lower boundary	95% upper boundary
	δ	1.85 \pm 0.60	2.96 \pm 0.17	2.89 \pm 0.23
Posterior	LRT	1.36 \pm 1.63	5.72 \pm 1.89	5.26 \pm 2.62
distribution	p-value	0.377 \pm 0.250	0.028 \pm 0.044	0.045 \pm 0.048

	% trees p-value < 0.05	4	87	70
MCC	δ	1.55	2.99	2.86
	LRT	0.625	5.16	3.10
	P-value	0.429	0.023	0.078

689

690 Table 4. Models of time-dependent diversification fitted on 100 trees from the posterior distribution, ranked
 691 by increasing AIC score. Mean values of parameters are indicated followed by the standard deviation in
 692 brackets. BCST=constant speciation, BVAR=time-dependent speciation, DCST=constant extinction,
 693 DVAR time-dependent extinction. logL = likelihood of the model, AIC = AIC score, Δ AIC = difference
 694 of AIC between the each model and the best fitting model, λ =speciation rate at present, α =coefficient of
 695 time variation of the speciation rate, μ =extinction rate at present, β =coefficient of time variation of the
 696 extinction rate.

697

Model	Par	logL	AIC	Δ AIC	λ	α	μ	β
BVAR	2	-122.93 (0.286)	249.86 (0.571)	0.00	0.161 (0.001)	0.110 (0.003)		
BVAR - DCST	3	-122.93 (0.286)	251.86 (0.571)	2.00	0.161 (0.001)	0.110 (0.003)	5.00E-08 (5.00E-08)	
BCST	1	-125.39 (0.258)	252.79 (0.516)	2.93	0.233 (0.001)			
BVAR - DVAR	4	-122.93 (0.286)	253.86 (0.571)	4.00	0.161 (0.001)	0.110 (0.003)	5.00E-08 (5.00E-08)	-0.004 (0.003)
BCST - DCST	2	-125.39 (0.258)	254.79 (0.516)	4.93	0.233 (0.001)		<1.00E-08 (<1.00E-08)	
BCST - DVAR	3	-125.39 (0.258)	256.79 (0.516)	6.93	0.233 (0.001)		<1.00E-08 (<1.00E-08)	0.005 (2.00E-04)

698

699

700

701 Figure 1: BEAST dated species-level phylogeny of the genus *Pteronymia*, based on molecular and
702 morphological characters. Main clades and secondary calibration points based on butterfly (red circles)
703 and host-plant ages (green circles) are indicated and corresponding age priors are shown in the table
704 inserted in the figure. The figure was generated with FigTree (<http://tree.bio.ed.ac.uk/software/figtree/>)
705 and edited with Adobe Illustrator 4 (<http://www.adobe.com/uk/products/illustrator.html>). Butterfly
706 pictures were taken by Keith Willmott and edited in Adobe Photoshop CS4
707 (www.adobe.com/products/photoshop/).

708
709 Figure 2: Biogeographical regions used in the DEC and SDEC models for reconstruction of ancestral
710 areas and the dispersal probability matrices for the different time slices. Species richness in each areas are
711 shown in the circles. The map was generated using ArcGIS 9.3 (<http://www.edit.com/software/arcgis/>),
712 and edited with Adobe Illustrator 4 (<http://www.adobe.com/uk/products/illustrator.html>).

713
714 Figure 3: RASP historical biogeography inference (best maximum likelihood estimates on the MCC tree).
715 Major paleoenvironmental events are indicated by large coloured rectangle (light pink: drainage of te
716 Pebas system; light yellow: hypothesized closure of the Isthmus of Panama). The figure was generated
717 with R (<https://cran.r-project.org/>) and edited with Adobe Illustrator 4
718 (<http://www.adobe.com/uk/products/illustrator.html>).

719
720 Figure 4: Ancestral reconstruction of the mean and boundaries of the 95% elevational range (left: lower
721 boundary, middle: upper boundary, right: mean). For the lower and upper boundaries of the elevational
722 range, trees were rescaled according to the δ value inferred (Table 2). The figure was generated with R
723 (<https://cran.r-project.org/>).

724
725 Figure 5. Speciation rate through time estimated by the best fitting model of diversification (Table 4). The
726 model was fitted on the MCC tree and on 100 trees. The dotted line corresponds to the speciation rate of
727 the MCC tree. The plain line corresponds to the mean speciation rate according of the 100 trees, and dashed
728 lines correspond to the 95% confidence interval. The figure was generated with R (<https://cran.r-project.org/>).

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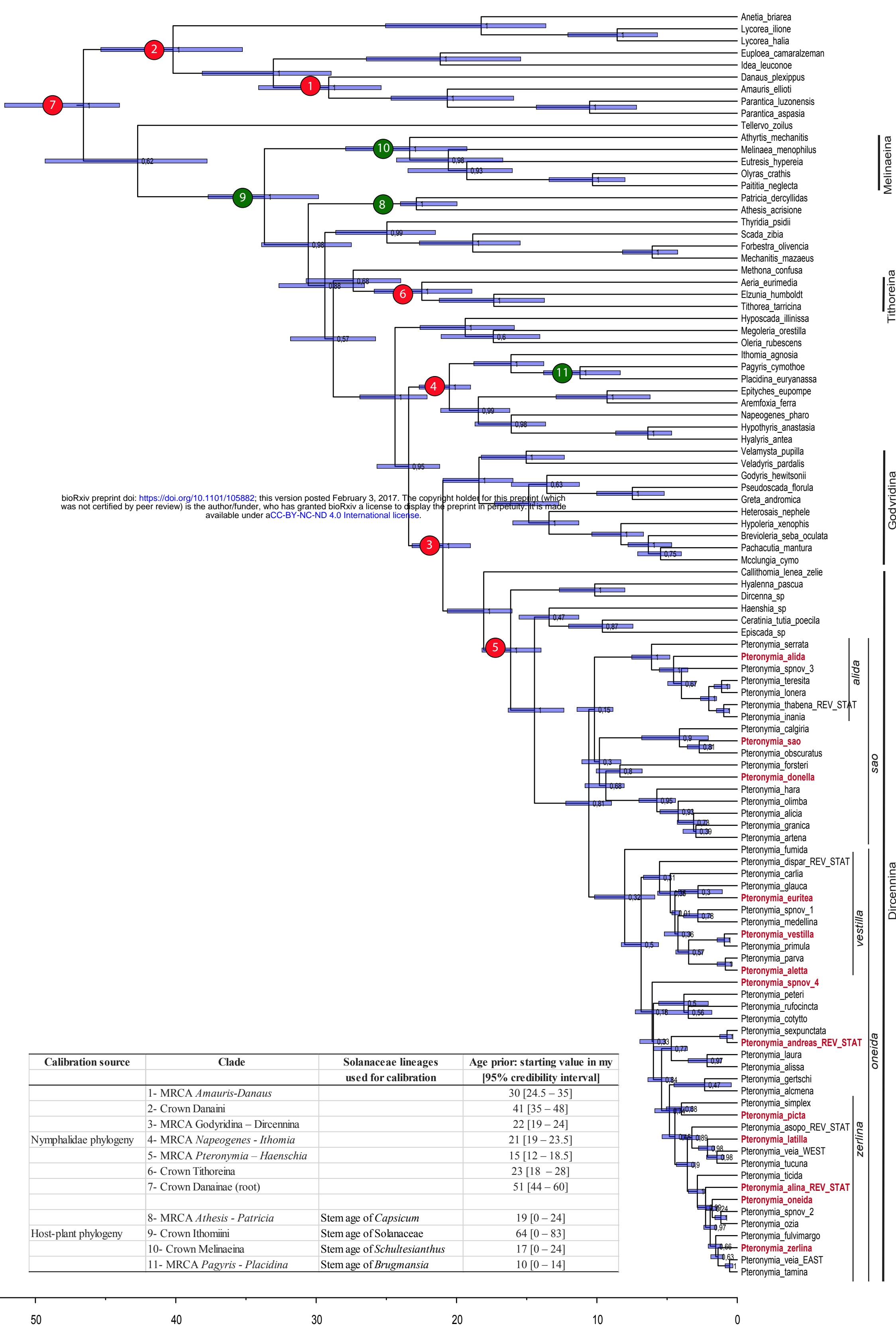
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Calibration source	Clade	Solanaceae lineages used for calibration	Age prior: starting value in my [95% credibility interval]
	1- MRCA <i>Amauris-Danaus</i>		30 [24.5 – 35]
	2- Crown Danaini		41 [35 – 48]
	3- MRCA Godyridina – Dircennina		22 [19 – 24]
Nymphalidae phylogeny	4- MRCA <i>Napeogenes - Ithomia</i>		21 [19 – 23.5]
	5- MRCA <i>Pteronymia – Haenschia</i>		15 [12 – 18.5]
	6- Crown Tithoreina		23 [18 – 28]
	7- Crown Danainae (root)		51 [44 – 60]
	8- MRCA <i>Athesis - Patricia</i>	Stem age of <i>Capsicum</i>	19 [0 – 24]
Host-plant phylogeny	9- Crown Ithomiini	Stem age of Solanaceae	64 [0 – 83]
	10- Crown Melinaeina	Stem age of <i>Schultesianthus</i>	17 [0 – 24]
	11- MRCA <i>Pagyris - Placidina</i>	Stem age of <i>Brugmansia</i>	10 [0 – 14]

Danaini

Melinaeina

Tithoreina

Godyridina

Ithomiini

alida

sao

Dircennina

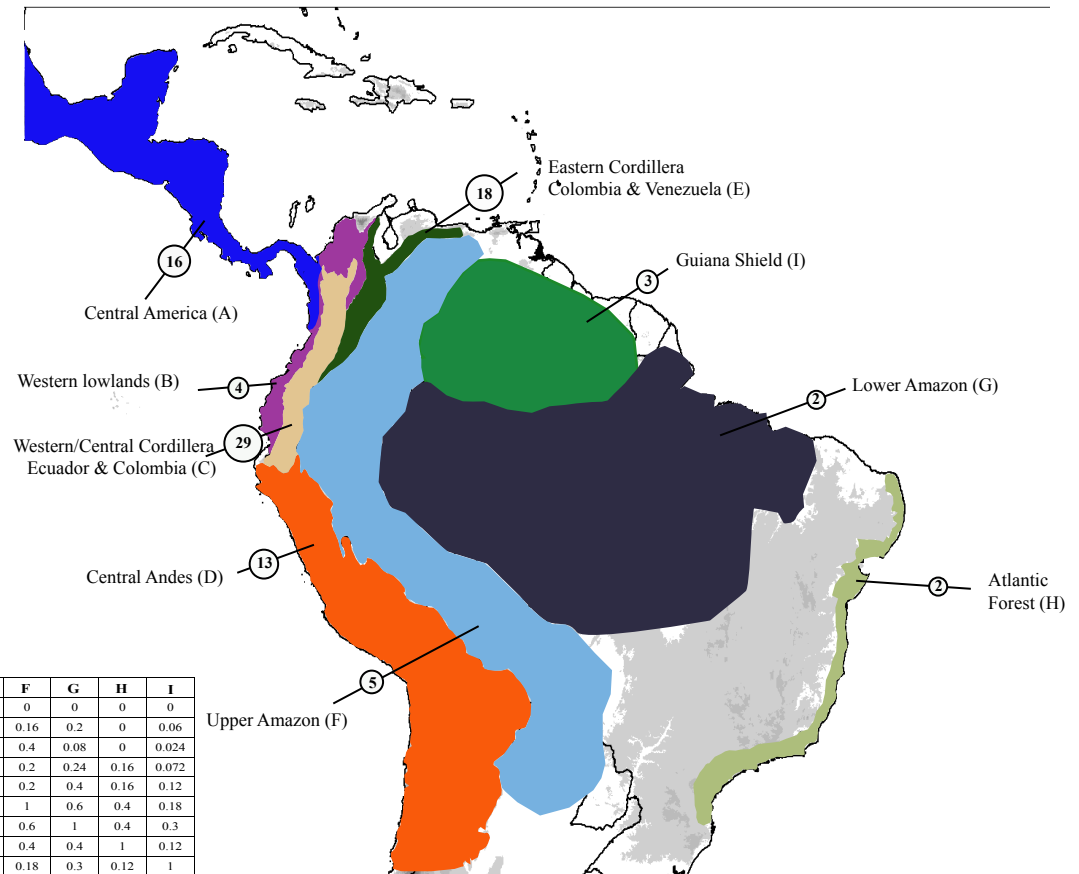
vestilla

oneida

zerlina



50 40 30 20 10 0



14 - 8 mya

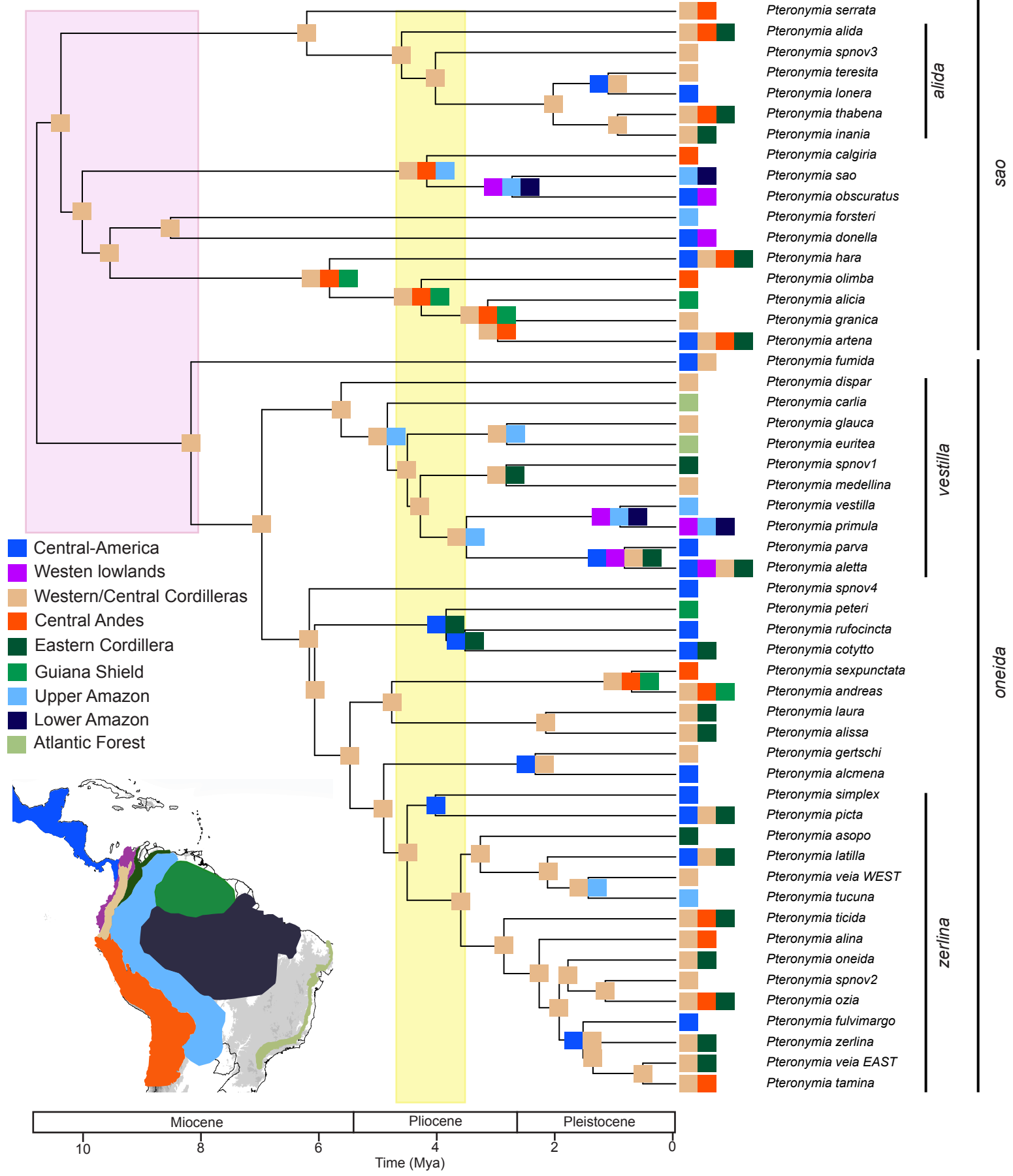
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
A	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
B	0	1	0.4	0.24	0.4	0.16	0.2	0	0.06
C	0	0.4	1	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.08	0	0.024
D	0	0.24	0.6	1	0.36	0.2	0.24	0.16	0.072
E	0	0.4	0.6	0.36	1	0.2	0.4	0.16	0.12
F	0	0.16	0.4	0.2	0.2	1	0.6	0.4	0.18
G	0	0.2	0.08	0.12	0.4	0.6	1	0.4	0.3
H	0	0	0	0.08	0.16	0.4	0.4	1	0.12
I	0	0.06	0.024	0.072	0.12	0.18	0.3	0.12	1

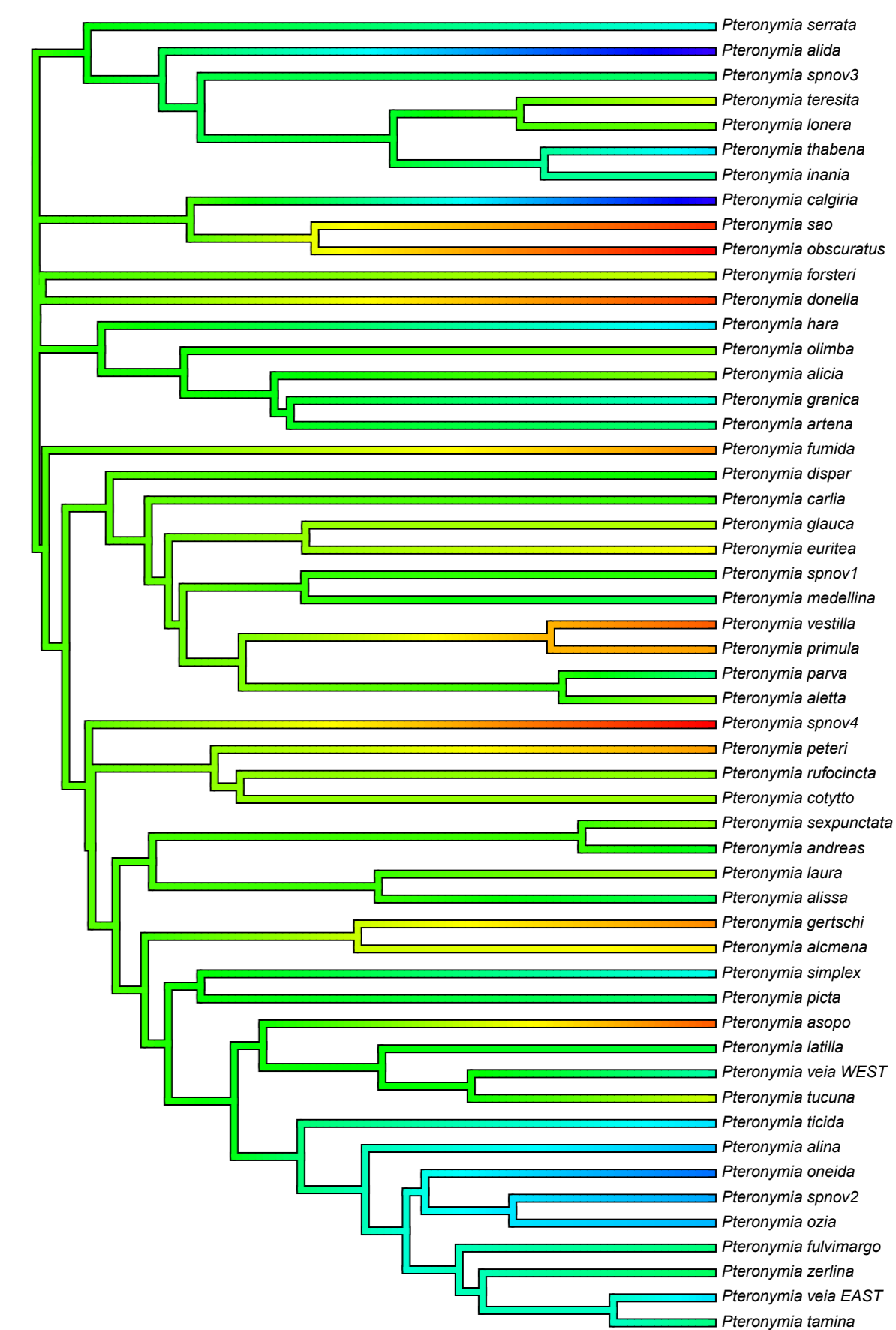
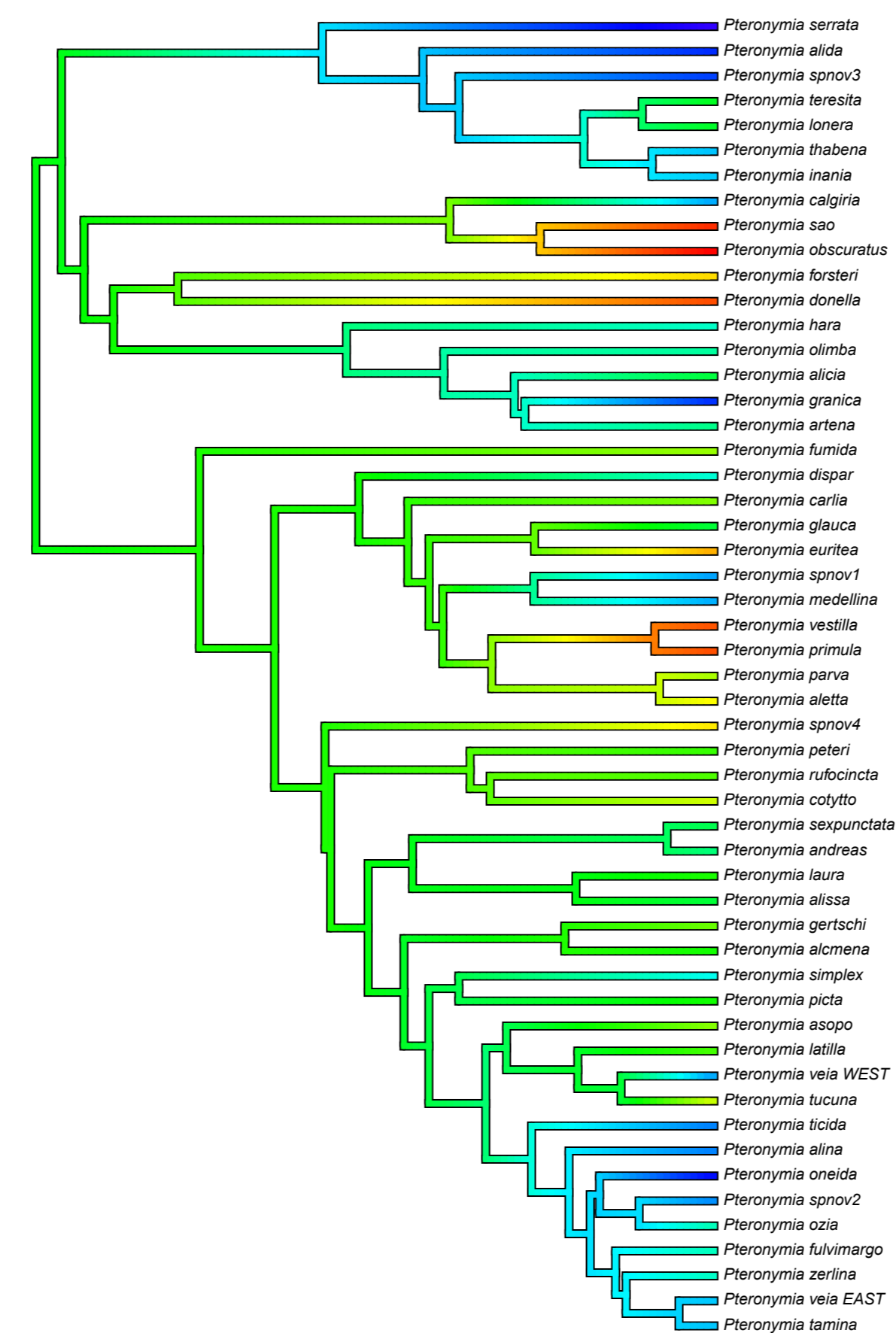
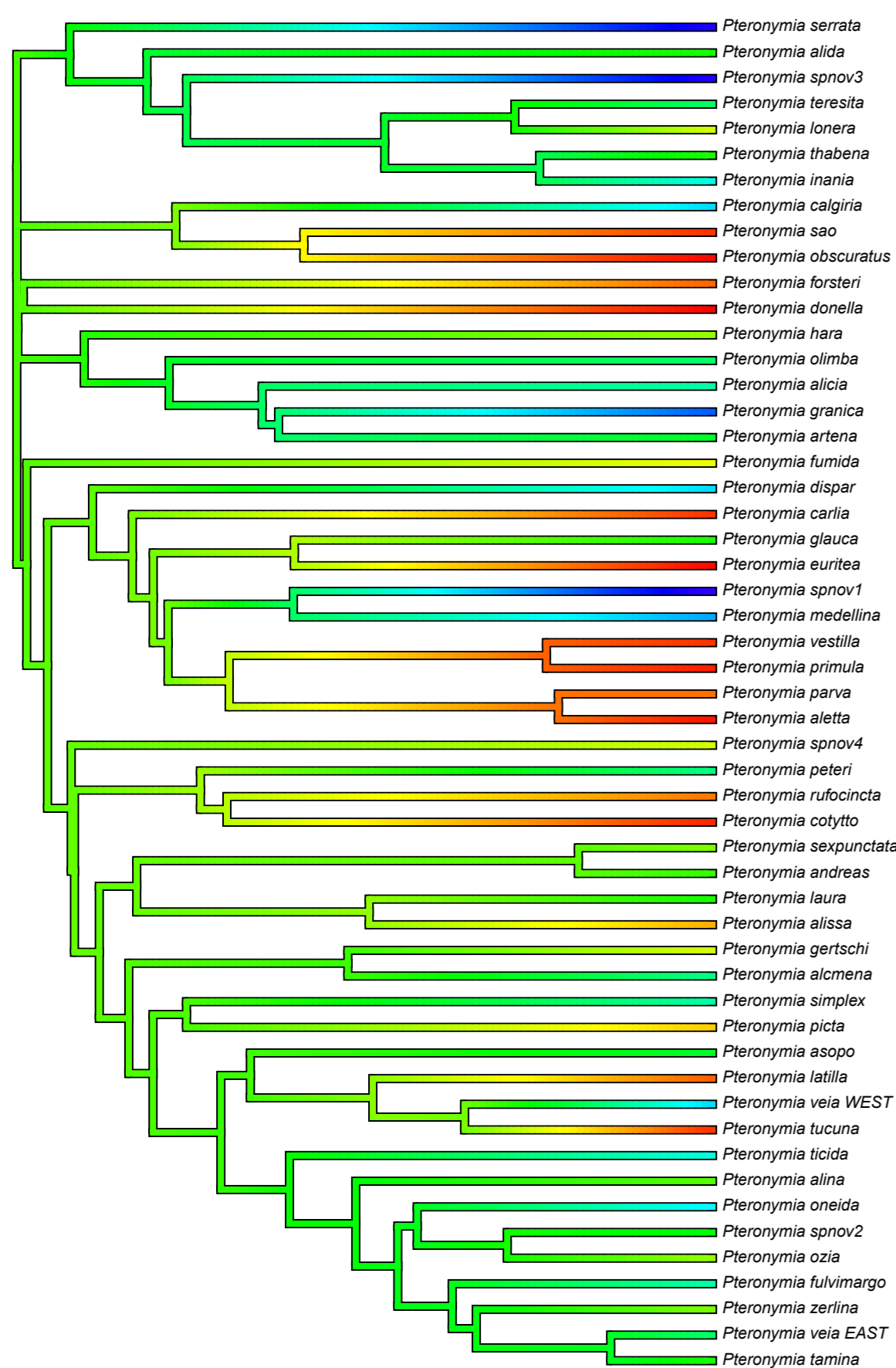
8 - 5 mya

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
A	1	0.2	0.1	0	0	0	0	0	0
B	0.2	1	0.2	0.12	0.2	0.04	0.008	0	0.0024
C	0.1	0.2	1	0.6	0.6	0.2	0.12	0.08	0.036
D	0	0.12	0.6	1	0.36	0.2	0.12	0.08	0.036
E	0	0.2	0.6	0.36	1	0.2	0.2	0.08	0.06
F	0	0.04	0.2	0.2	0.2	1	0.6	0.4	0.18
G	0	0.008	0.12	0.12	0.2	0.6	1	0.4	0.3
H	0	0	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.4	0.4	1	0.12
I	0	0.0024	0.036	0.036	0.06	0.18	0.3	0.12	1

5 - 0 mya

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
A	1	0.6	0.3	0	0.06	0	0	0	0
B	0.6	1	0.1	0.06	0.1	0.01	0.001	0	0.0003
C	0.3	0.1	1	0.6	0.6	0.1	0.06	0.04	0.018
D	0	0.06	0.6	1	0.36	0.1	0.06	0.04	0.018
E	0.06	0.1	0.6	0.36	1	0.1	0.1	0.04	0.03
F	0	0.01	0.1	0.1	0.1	1	0.6	0.4	0.18
G	0	0.001	0.06	0.06	0.1	0.6	1	0.4	0.3
H	0	0	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.4	0.4	1	0.12
I	0	0.0003	0.018	0.018	0.03	0.18	0.3	0.12	1





20 trait value 1730
length=7.402

257 trait value 2091
length=7.402

700 trait value 3000
length=7.402

