

Trip 11 June-4 August 2006, Mike Steel

Talks, meetings (in chronological order)

JUNE

- CWI Amsterdam – gave two talks to the combinatorics group of Prof. Leen Stougie, and held discussions with investigators there.
- Prof. Bill Martin, Dusseldorf – talk to Dusseldorf bioinformatics group, and discussions over 2 days with Dr Mike Russell and Bill Martin on their pioneering origin of life research. Bill will visit NZ for the next 3 years as a Julius von-Haast fellow.
- DIMACS, Rutgers University, New Brunswick – seminar (2 hours), plus research talk at the meeting Phylogenetic Trees and Rapidly Evolving Pathogens (jointly organized by Prof. Allen Rodrigo and me).
- Evolution conference 2006, University of Stony Brook, New York -1500 participants. Gave a talk attended by approx. 200 people. Attended editorial board meeting of the journal *Systematic Biology*.
- University College London – discussions with Dr Ziheng Yang.
- Oxford University – talk to statistics department, plus informal seminar. Visiting Prof. Jotun Hein (bioinformatics). Met briefly with Prof. Peter Donnelly (Statistics), Dr Oliver Pybus, Dr Geoff Nicholls and Dr Andrew Rambaut.
- University of East Anglia – conference – gave two talks, as part of a European Union workshop on biogeography and biodiversity. Worked with Prof. Vincent Moulton and Dr Kathi Huber, with one papers currently in preparation (Moulton, Semple, Steel) and a second under discussion (Huber, Moulton, Steel).
- University of Cambridge – met with administrators of *Isaac Newton Institute for Mathematical Sciences* to discuss arrangements for Phylogenetics Workshop (Oct-Dec. 2007).
- Visited Genomics centre in Hixton – met with Dr Nick Goldman and his PhD student Fabio Pardi, and discussed our parallel work on phylogenetic diversity.

JULY

- University of Hamburg – gave a talk to the combinatorics group of the mathematics department. Gave a second talk to the bioinformatics group there. Extensive discussions with Prof. Hans-Jurgen Bandelt.
- University of Bielefeld – talk to FSP (mathematics) and discussions with Prof Michael Baake, Prof. Ellen Baake, Dr. Sven Rahmann and students. Plans to build further links between the groups (starting with web-page links).
- Greifswald – gave a talk to the biomathematics group and discussions with Prof. Dietmar Ceislik, Prof. Georg Fullen and Dr Volkmar Liebscher.

- Munich – meeting with PhD student Tanja Gernhard (who completed her diplom degree with us in NZ), re. her future PhD plans (with Prof. Anuch Tarach) and planned visit to NZ.
- Vienna – meeting with Prof. Arnd von Haesler (recently moved from U. Dusseldorf) and his group at the Centre for Integrative Bioinformatics, Vienna, (also met with postdocs Dr Greg Ewing, Dr Steffen Klaire, Dr Heiko Schmidt, and with PhD students Tanja Gesell, Ricardo de Matos Simoes).
- Traveled to Feucht, Nurnburg to visit Dr Olaf Bininda-Emonds (now based in Jena) to discuss recent developments in supertree analysis.

AUGUST

- Universitat Tuebingen – meeting with Prof. Daniel Huson, and his PhD student Tobias Dezulian who visited us in 2004.
- Mannheim, meeting with possible PhD candidate (Beatte Fellar).

Referee reports undertaken and completed during trip

“Groves of phylogenetic trees” by Ane, Eulenstein, Piaggio-Talice and Sanderson for *Annals of Combinatorics*.

“Maximum Likelihood of Phylogenetic Networks” Guohua Jin Luay Nakhleh Sagi Snir Tamir Tuller, for *Bioinformatics*

“Unique determination of some homoplasies at hybridization events” Stephen J. Willson to *Bulletin of Mathematical Biosciences*.

“Quasi-median hulls in hamming space are Steiner Hulls,” Hans-Jurgen Bandelt and Arne Rohl, for *Discrete Applied Mathematics*

“Translating DNA data tables into quasi-median networks for parsimony analysis and error detection.” Hans-Jurgen Bandelt and A. Duer, for *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution*.

“Short Quartet Puzzling: A New Quartet-based Phylogeny Reconstruction Algorithm” to *Molecular Biology and Evolution*. Sagi Snir, Tandy Warnow and Satish Rao.

“Dated ancestral trees from binary trait data, Geoff K Nicholls and Russell D. Gray,” for *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society (Series B)*.

Survey chapter on FPT results in computational biology by J. Lagergren et al. for computer science proceedings volume.

Other activities: Ran the Stubai Howenweg (5-day high alpine hike in the Austrian alps) as a long day run (55km, 4000 m height gain/loss), and traverse of the 3 peaks of Watzmann in German alps.

