Defining the limits of taxonomic conservatism in host–plant use for phytophagous insects: Molecular systematics and evolution of host–plant associations in the seed-beetle genus *Bruchus* Linnaeus (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae: Bruchinae)

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Abstract

In this study, we have investigated the limits of taxonomic conservatism in host–plant use in the seed-beetle genus *Bruchus*. To reconstruct the insect phylogeny, parsimony and multiple partitioned Bayesian inference analyses were conducted on a combined data set of four genes. Permutation tests and both global and local maximum-likelihood optimizations of host preferences at distinct taxonomic levels revealed that host-fidelity is still discernible beyond the host–plant tribe level, suggesting the existence of more important than previously thought evolutionary constraints, which are further discussed in details. Our tree topologies are also mostly consistent with extant taxonomic groups. Through the analysis of this empirical data set we also provide meaningful insights on two methodological issues. First, Bayesian inference analyses suggest that partitioning by using codon positions greatly increase the accuracy of phylogenetical reconstructions. Regarding reconstruction of ancestral character states through maximum likelihood, the present study also highlights the usefulness of local optimizations. The issue of over-parameterization is also addressed, as the optimizations with the most parameter-rich models have returned the most counterintuitive results.

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1. Introduction

Taxonomic conservatism in host–plant use, where phylogenetically related insects feed on phylogenetically related plants, is one of the most recognized patterns of insect host–plant interactions (e.g., see Ehrlich and Raven, 1964; Farrell, 2001; Farrell and Mitter, 1990; Janz and Nylin, 1998; Kergoat et al., 2004, 2005a; Silvain and Delobel, 1998). According to Ehrlich and Raven (1964), this conservatism in host association could be accounted for by the strong influence of plant secondary compounds since related host–plants generally share the same toxic compounds. Although several studies have established the influence of host–plant chemistry on the evolution of host use in several insect groups (Becerra, 1997; Futuyma and McCafferty, 1990; Kergoat et al., 2005b; Termonia et al., 2002), it has also become obvious that numerous other factors (e.g., behavioral factors, geographic distribution, genetic constraints or phenology of host–plants) may influence the evolution of
insect host–plant associations (Becerra and Venable, 1999; Bernays, 2001; Dobler and Farrell, 1999; Futuyma et al., 1993; Kawecki and Mery, 2003; Morse and Farrell, 2005; Siemens et al., 1991; Thompson, 1993; Tuda et al., 2005, 2006) and thus explain the more or less pronounced extant patterns of taxonomic conservatism. Although various hierarchical levels of specialization onto particular plant lineages (e.g., family, tribe or genus) do exist (Johnson, 1980; Odendaal et al., 2005; Scheffer and Wiegmann, 2000), few studies have investigated their boundaries when testing for possible patterns of taxonomic conservatism (but see Wahlberg, 2001; Yotoko et al., 2005). In this study, we specifically address the question of the limits of taxonomic conservatism by investigating the phylogenetic relationships and host–plant use in a highly specialized genus of seed-beetles (Coleoptera, Bruchinae).

Among the large (40,000 species) family Chrysomelidae, the seed-beetles constitute a homogeneous group of 1700 species (Johnson et al., 2004). In this study, we follow the view of many authors who lowered seed-beetles to subfamily level (Lingafelter and Pakaluk, 1997; Reid, 1996; G.E. Morse, pers. comm.; but see also Kingsolver, 1995; Schmitt, 1998; Verma and Saxena, 1996). This change in taxonomy is supported by recent phylogenetic studies which have confirmed the inclusion of seed-beetles within the family Chrysomelidae and the position of chrysomelid subfamily Sagrinae as sister-group of Bruchinae (Duckett et al., 2003; Farrell, 1998; Farrell and Sequeira, 2004). As indicated by their common name, seed-beetles are characterized by a strong plant tissue specialization as their larvae only develop inside seeds even though a few species may complete their development in other plant parts (Hoffmann, 1945). They also show a high trend toward host-specialization: (i) they are generally monophagous or oligophagous; (ii) most bruchine tribes are affiliated to specific plant families: Bruchini on Fabaceae, Megacerini on Convulvulaceae, Pachymerini on Arceaceae, Spermaphagini on Convulvulaceae and Malvaceae (Borowiec, 1987; Johnson, 1981). Interestingly, some bruchine genera exhibit stronger trends toward specialization as they are only associated with specific plant subfamilies, tribes or genera (Borowiec, 1987). For instance, species of Sennius (with the exception of a sole species) only develop on seeds of Cassia (Fabaceae, Caesalpinioideae) (Johnson, 1980). Another good example is given by the genus Bruchus which is almost exclusively associated with the tribe Vicieae of the Fabaceae (Delobel and Delobel, 2003, 2005).

As currently circumscribed the genus Bruchus Linnaeus, 1767 is composed of 36 valid species (summarized by Lukjanovitch and Ter-Minasian, 1957; revised by Anton, 2001; Borowiec, 1988; Wendt, 1993; new species added by Anton, 1999; Decelle, 1975, 1979; Ter-Minasian, 1968; Zampetti, 1993) divided into seven species groups by Borowiec (1988). Bruchus species are found predominantly in the Palearctic Region with only few species occurring in North Africa and Asia (Arora, 1977; Borowiec, 1987, 1988). Several species have been also accidentally introduced in North America, tropical Africa, Australia, and Japan (Borowiec, 1987; Lukjanovitch and Ter-Minasian, 1957; Morimoto, 1990). Species of Bruchus are well-defined by the following combinations of characters: (i) pronotum square or trapezoidal, emarginate on lateral margins near middle and with a denticle before the emargination in most species (see Lukjanovitch and Ter-Minasian, 1957 for details); (ii) middle tibia modified in male with apical spines or plates. Due to these distinctive external morphological characters, this genus has been erected in a specific subtribe, the subtribe Bruchina. Bruchus species are also characterized by unique male genitalia which distinguish themselves from other Bruchinae (Borowiec, 1987).

As in the case of most seed-beetles of temperate zones, the biology of Bruchus species is characterized by a univoltine life cycle (Huignard et al., 1990; Lukjanovitch and Ter-Minasian, 1957). Adults generally lay eggs on young pods from spring to summer (Huignard et al., 1990; N’Diyaye and Labeyrie, 1990), and the subsequent larval development always occurs within a single seed (N’Diyaye and Labeyrie, 1990; N’Diyaye et al., 1992; Szentesi and Jermy, 1995). After their emergence, adults entered a period of reproductive diapause during autumn and winter (Huignard et al., 1990). This reproductive diapause lasts until spring and its termination is generally induced by both photoperiod variations and pollen consumption (Tran et al., 1993; Tran and Huignard, 1992). Due to their strict univoltine life cycle, Bruchus are not granary pests of stored legume seeds (Southgate, 1979). However, the following species do cause major crop losses in the field: B. lentis on Lens esculenta (lentils); B. pisorum on Pisum sativum (field peas); and B. rufimanus on Vicia faba (broad beans) (Delobel and Tran, 1993; Lukjanovitch and Ter-Minasian, 1957; Smith, 1990).

Phylogenetic relationships of a representative sample of Bruchus species have been investigated by using the mitochondrial 12s rRNA (12S), cytochrome b (Cyt b), and cytochrome c oxidase subunit I (COI) genes, as well as the nuclear 28s rDNA (28S) gene. For the latter, we have sequenced a fragment which encompasses a small part of the extension segment D1 and most of the extension segment D2. The resulting phylogenetic hypotheses will allow us: (i) to test the monophyly of extant taxonomic groups using statistical tests; (ii) to study the evolution of host–plant use and the limits of taxonomic conservatism in Bruchus through multiple methods of optimization. In addition, this study will provide an opportunity to compare several recent methods (e.g., partitioning strategies in Bayesian inference; global and local optimizations under a maximum likelihood framework) using an empirical data set.

2. Materials and methods

2.1. Taxon sampling and species identification

Most of the specimens used in this study were reared from pods collected in the field from 2001 to 2004, and later preserved in 95–100% ethanol. Dried specimens were...
also used to encompass the largest taxon sampling (30 of the 36 known Bruchus species were thus sampled). Unfortunately, we were unable to recover suitable DNA templates for five species (B. ervi, B. ibericus, B. lugubris, B. perezi and B. ulcisc) for which only dried specimens were available. Nonetheless, the remaining 25 species include members of the seven recognized taxonomic groups (see Table 1). In addition, species from several bruchine genera were assessed for use as outgroups: Pachymerus cardo a member of the tribe Pachymerenini, and three members of the tribe Bruchini, subtribe Acanthoscelidina; Acanthoscelides obtectus, Gibbobruchus sp. and Paleoacanthoscelides gilvus. The choice of the latter species as valid outgroups was based both on morphological data and on the results from previous studies (Borowiec, 1987; Kergoat et al., 2004, 2005b; Kergoat and Silvain, 2004; Poinar, 2005; Silvain and Delobel, 1998). Identification of species was conducted by K.-W. Anton and A. Delobel, who are recognized authorities in Old World bruchine taxonomy.

### Table 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Taxon sampling</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Taxonomic Groups</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acanthoscelides obtectus (Say, 1831)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bruchus affinis Frölich, 1799</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bruchus alticus Fahraeus, 1839</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bruchus atomarius (Linnaeus, 1761)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bruchus brachialis Fahraeus, 1839</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bruchus brisouii Kraatz, 1868</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bruchus canariensis Decelle (1975)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bruchus dentipes (Baudi, 1886)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bruchus emarginatus Allard, 1868</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bruchus griseomaculatus Gyl., 1833</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bruchus hamatus Miller, 1881</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bruchus laticollis Boheman, 1833</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bruchus lenticolli Boheman, 1833</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bruchus libanensis Zampetti, 1993</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bruchus loti Paykull, 1800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bruchus luteicornis Illiger, 1794</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bruchus occidentalis Luk.&amp;K.T., 1957</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bruchus pisorum (Linnaeus, 1758)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bruchus rufipes Boheman, 1833</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bruchus rufipes Herbst, 1783</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bruchus sibiricus Germar, 1824</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bruchus signatoronicis Gyl., 1833</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bruchus tristis Fahraeus, 1839</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bruchus tristis Boheman, 1833</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bruchus venustus Fahraeus, 1839</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bruchus vicieae Olivier, 1795</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Prior to DNA extractions, genitalia were removed from adults, mounted on microscope slide, and kept as vouchers in the Evolution, Génomes and Spéciation laboratory (LEGS) (CNRS UPR-9034, Gif/Yvette, France) (formerly Populations, Génétique et Evolution (PGE) laboratory). Whole individuals or just forelegs (for the large P. cardo and some rare dried specimens) were ground in phosphate buffered saline (PBS) buffer, and total DNA was extracted using the Quiagen DNAeasy tissue kit (Quiagen, Inc.). Polymerase chain reaction (PCR) amplifications were conducted as described previously (see Kergoat et al., 2004, 2005b for cycling conditions). All primer sequences are given in Table 2. PCR products were purified using Quiagen’s PCR purification kit. Sequencing was carried out with an ABI 3100 automated sequencer (Applied Biosystems) with both strands sequenced for all taxa to minimize PCR artifacts and ambiguities. Further reading of the sequences was

2.2. DNA extraction and polymerase chain reaction

Names of countries were abbreviated as follows: Azerbaijan (Az.); Egypt (Eg.); France (Fr.); Italy (It.); Kasakhstan (Ka.); Morocco (Mo.); Spain (Sp.); and Turkey (Tu.).
conducted through Sequencing Analysis (ABI) software and the new sequences generated in this study were deposited in GenBank (see Table 1 for accession numbers and voucher information). Unlike the sequences of coding genes (i.e., Cyt b and COI), the sequences of ribosomal genes (i.e., 12S and 28S) presented some variations in length. Their alignment was performed using ClustalX (Thompson et al., 1997) with default option settings. The alignment produced by ClustalX was then reviewed by eye in Seaview (Galtier et al., 1996). The resulting combined data set (2945 bp in length) was deposited to Treebase under accession number SN2588-10051. No significant base composition heterogeneity was detected between taxa for the four genes (12S: \( \chi^2 = 43.11, df = 84, P = 0.99 \); Cyt b: \( \chi^2 = 50.12, df = 84, P = 0.99 \); COI: \( \chi^2 = 44.81, df = 84, P = 0.99 \); 28S: \( \chi^2 = 4.82, df = 84, P = 1.00 \). With gaps treated as fifth position, 569 positions were informative under parsimony (see Table 3 for more detailed information on the molecular data set).

2.3. Phylogenetic analyses and hypothesis testing

Parsimony (MP) and Bayesian inference (BI) methods were used to reconstruct phylogenetic relationships among taxa. Among the four possible outgroups, we used P. cardo as an outgroup for all analyses. This choice was based on results from previous studies (Kergoat and Silvain, 2004), as well as on both morphological and paleontological data that indicate a basal position of tribe Pachymerini within the subfamily Bruchinae (Borowiec, 1987; Kingsolver, 1965; Poinar, 1999, 2005). In addition, an analysis (not figured) of an extended data set (with multiple specimens of the same species) was performed. No species-level paraphyly was detected for the five species for which additional specimens (from distinct localities) were included.

2.3.1. Maximum parsimony

All MP analyses were performed using PAUP* version 4.0b10 (Swofford, 2003). Heuristic searches were conducted using tree-bisection-reconnection (TBR) branch swapping, 1000 random-addition replicates, and a MaxTrees’s value of 500. To test the heterogeneity between the four genes, we used the incongruence length difference test (ILD; Farris et al., 1994), as implemented in PAUP*, with all invariant characters excluded (Cunningham, 1997). Since the result of the partition-homogeneity test was not significant \((P > 0.05)\), we chose to perform an analysis of the combined data set. The latter approach was preferred over separate analyses for two reasons: (i) all gene sequences were not obtained for all species, thus limiting the scope of separate analyses; (ii) in absence of data heterogeneity, adding in more data from distinct sources generally increase phylogenetic accuracy estimates (Bull et al., 1993; Huelsenbeck et al., 1996; Soltis et al., 1998; Wheeler et al., 1993), even if several sequences are missing (Wiens, 1998, 2003 and

**Table 3**

Distribution of invariant (INV) and parsimony informative (PI) characters among the four genes (with gaps treated as fifth position)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gene</th>
<th>Length</th>
<th>INV sites</th>
<th>% INV</th>
<th>PI sites</th>
<th>% PI</th>
<th>A→T bias</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12S</td>
<td>402</td>
<td>260</td>
<td>64.67</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>14.92</td>
<td>76.84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cyt b</td>
<td>782</td>
<td>490</td>
<td>62.65</td>
<td>206</td>
<td>26.34</td>
<td>69.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COI</td>
<td>1018</td>
<td>670</td>
<td>65.81</td>
<td>276</td>
<td>27.11</td>
<td>67.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28S</td>
<td>743</td>
<td>656</td>
<td>88.29</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>3.63</td>
<td>41.58</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Table 2**

Names, sequences, and references of primers used

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gene</th>
<th>Name of primer</th>
<th>Sequence of primer (5’ → 3’)</th>
<th>Reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12S</td>
<td>SR-J-14233</td>
<td>AAG AGC GAC GGG CGA TGT GT</td>
<td>Simon et al. (1994)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SR-N-14588</td>
<td>AAA CTA GGA TTA GAT ACC CTA TTA T</td>
<td>Simon et al. (1994)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cyt b</td>
<td>CP1</td>
<td>GAT GAT GAA ATT TTG GAT C</td>
<td>Harry et al. (1998)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CB-J-10933</td>
<td>TAT GTA CTA CCA TGA GGA CAA ATA TC</td>
<td>Simon et al. (1994)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CB-N-11367</td>
<td>ATT ACA CCT CCT AAT TTA GTA AT</td>
<td>Simon et al. (1994)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COI</td>
<td>CI-J-1751</td>
<td>GGA TCA CCT GAT ATA CCA TTC CC</td>
<td>Simon et al. (1994)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CI-N-2191</td>
<td>CCC GGT AAA ATT AAA ATA TAA ACT TC</td>
<td>Simon et al. (1994)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>TONYA</td>
<td>GAA GTT TAT ATT TTA ATT TTA CCG GG</td>
<td>Monteiro and Pierce (2001)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>HOBSES</td>
<td>AAA TGT TGN GGR AAA AAT GTT A</td>
<td>Monteiro and Pierce (2001)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28S</td>
<td>28S-01</td>
<td>GAC TAT CCC CTG AAT TTA AGC AT</td>
<td>Choong-Gon et al. (2000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>28SR-01</td>
<td>GAC TCC TTG GTC GTT TCA AG</td>
<td>Choong-Gon et al. (2000)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*With modifications.

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especially Wiens, 2006 for a review of this issue). Relative support of nodes for MP analyses was assessed by non-parametric bootstrap (Felsenstein, 1985a) procedures (1000 pseudoreplicates of 100 random-addition replicates were used), as implemented in PAUP*. Here, we have considered the nodes supported by bootstrap values \( \geq 70\% \) as strongly supported following Hillis and Bull (1993). In addition, Bremer support (BS; Bremer, 1988, 1994) and partitioned Bremer support (PBS) values (Baker and DeSalle, 1997) were estimated, using TreeRot version 2.0 (Sorenson, 1999). Given the lack of clear statistical interpretations for the BS (Debry, 2001), a somewhat arbitrarily threshold (BS \( \geq 4; \) Felsenstein, 1985b) was used to identify well-supported nodes using BS values.

2.3.2. Bayesian inference

BI analyses were carried out using MrBayes version 3.11 (Huelsenbeck and Ronquist, 2001). For data sets consisting of multiple genes, the use of partition-specific models of evolution is advocated (Nylander et al., 2004; Yang, 1996), as it increases the fit of the evolutionary models with the data. By allowing subsets of the data (e.g., codon positions) to evolve under distinct models and parameters, an increase in both phylogenetic accuracy and posterior probability estimates is expected. However, the choice of partitions can be problematic, as countless partitioning strategies are envisageable. In addition, the use of smaller partitions increases the risk of random error associated with the estimation of model parameters (Brandley et al., 2005; Nylander et al., 2004) who propose the use of the Bayes factor (B) as an objective criterion to choose among several partitioning strategies in partitioned BI analyses. The Bayes factor is given by the ratio of the harmonic means of the likelihoods (sampled from the posterior distributions) of the two analyses (respectively \( H_0 \) and \( H_1 \)) in competition (Brandley et al., 2005; Nylander et al., 2004). Harmonic means of the likelihoods can be estimated by using the samp option in MrBayes (with the burnin period specified). In the study of Brandley et al. (2005), a fixed threshold was used to determine whether a given strategy was better than another (i.e., \( 2 \ln (B_F) \geq 10 \)); see also Kass and Raftery, 1995 for more details). At the end of their study, the former authors have nonetheless indicated that this criterion of \( 2 \ln (B_F) \geq 10 \) was likely not stringent enough because all the observed positive values were generally well above this value. Here, we propose the use of a more stringent threshold which takes into account the difference in number of parameters between each competing strategy, in a similar way to the likelihood ratio test (LRT) statistic. In our study, degrees of freedom are equal to the numbers of additional parameters which are required by the most complex strategies. When comparing two strategies (\( H_0 \) and \( H_1 \)), this variable (i.e., the number of additional parameters of the more complex strategy) is used to determine the critical value of the \( \chi^2 \) distribution and Raftery, 1995 for more details). At the end of their study, the former authors have nonetheless indicated that this criterion of \( 2 \ln (B_F) \geq 10 \) was likely not stringent enough because all the observed positive values were generally well above this value. Here, we propose the use of a more stringent threshold which takes into account the difference in number of parameters between each competing strategy, in a similar way to the likelihood ratio test (LRT) statistic. In our study, degrees of freedom are equal to the numbers of additional parameters which are required by the most complex strategies. When comparing two strategies (\( H_0 \) and \( H_1 \)), this variable (i.e., the number of additional parameters of the more complex strategy) is used to determine the critical value of the \( \chi^2 \) distribution test statistic from standard statistical tables (with \( \alpha = 0.05 \)). In addition, for comparisons involving strategies with the same number of parameters, we chose to use in a more conservative way the lowest critical value found in the statistical tables (i.e., 3.84). The alternative partitioning strategy (\( H_1 \)) is rejected if the value of \( 2 \ln (B_F) \) is above the critical value corresponding to the estimated degree of freedom. Ultimately, the optimal strategy will be the strategy not rejected in any comparison and with the fewest number of partitions (to limit the risk of random error). For this study, we have compared eight partitioning strategies (summarized in Table 4), for which partitions were defined with reference to gene identity (12S, Cyt b, COI and 28S), codon positions (for the coding genes) and secondary structures (for the ribosomal genes). To identify stem and loop regions, secondary structure models (Clark et al., 1984; Gillespie et al., 2004; Page, 2000) were used. Results of the above strategies will be further compared and discussed to see if an increase in resolution and branch support is obtained through the use of specific partitions. Best-fit models of evolution for each gene of the combined data set were determined by using the Akaike information criterion (AIC), as implemented in Modeltest version 3.06 (Posada and Crandall, 1998). Since the results from the AICs indicated that the GTR+I+G model (Gu et al., 1995; Yang, 1994) was the best-fit model for all genes, this model was applied to each data partition. Two independent BI runs were carried out to identify whether convergence of clade posterior probabilities has been reached (Huelsenbeck and Ronquist, 2001).

### Table 4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Partitioning strategy</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>P1</td>
<td>Non-partitioned data set</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P4a</td>
<td>12S + Cyt b + COI + 28S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P4b</td>
<td>Cyt b + COI + stems (12S + 28S) + loops (12S + 28S)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P5a</td>
<td>12S + 28S + lst pos. (Cyt b + COI) + 2nd pos. (Cyt b + COI) + 3rd pos. (Cyt b + COI)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P5b</td>
<td>Stems (12S + 28S) + loops (12S + 28S) + lst pos. (Cyt b + COI) + 2nd pos. (Cyt b + COI) + 3rd pos. (Cyt 6 + COI)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P6</td>
<td>12S + 28S + lst pos. (Cyt b) + 2nd pos. (Cyt b) + 3rd pos. (Cyt b) + lst pos. (COI) + 2nd pos.(COI) + 3rd pos.(COI)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P8</td>
<td>Stems (12S) + loops (12S) + stems (28S) + loops (28S) + lst pos. (Cyt b) + 2nd pos. (Cyt b) + lst pos. (COI) + 2nd pos. (COI) + 3rd pos. (COI)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P10</td>
<td>Stems (12S) + loops (12S) + stems (28S) + loops (28S) + lst pos. (Cyt b) + 2nd pos. (Cyt b) + lst pos. (COI) + 2nd pos. (COI) + 3rd pos. (COI)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

beck et al., 2002; Miller et al., 2002). Each run consisted of four Markov chains (with incremental heating) of \(2 \times 10^6\) generations, with random starting trees, default priors and trees sampled every 100 generations (branch lengths were also saved). A burn-in period of \(1 \times 10^5\) generations was defined for all BI runs (stationarity was assessed graphically, by plotting likelihood scores against generations of the chains). For each partitioning strategy, BI results were generated using the pooled tree samples from the stationary phases of the two independent runs. Support of nodes for BI analyses was given by clade posterior probability (CPP) estimates. Since recent studies have suggested that Bayesian posterior probabilities are less conservative than non-parametric bootstrap values, especially for short internodes (Alfaro et al., 2003; Erixon et al., 2003), only clades with posterior probabilities \(\geq 90\%\) were considered as well supported in BI analyses.

### 2.3.3. Hypothesis testing

A priori hypotheses (i.e., the monophyly of each *Bruchus* taxonomic group) were compared statistically with a posteriori phylogenetic hypotheses (i.e., the trees obtained through MP and BI analyses). Here, we have chosen to use the likelihood-based nonparametric Shimodaira–Hasegawa test (SH; Shimodaira and Hasegawa, 1999), because it can be properly applied to compare a priori and a posteriori hypotheses (Buckley et al., 2001; Goldman et al., 2000). The constrained trees (in which *Bruchus* taxonomic groups were monophyletic) were built using Treeview version 1.66 (Page, 2001). For both a priori and a posteriori hypotheses, branch lengths were further reestimated in PAUP* using a GTR+I+G model. The reestimated log likelihoods (RELL) method (Kishino et al., 1990), as implemented in PAUP*, was used to resample the log likelihoods (1000 replicates) in the SH tests.

### 2.4. Host–plant information

As emphasized by numerous authors (e.g., Delobel and Delobel, 2003; Jermy and Szentesi, 2003; Johnson et al., 2004), available literature on bruchines often includes doubtful host–plant records. Misidentifications and non rigorous observations in the field (e.g., when catching adults on various flowering plants with the assumption that these plants are their host–plants) are generally responsible for these erroneous records. When possible, it is thus preferable to use data from studies in which host–plant associations are determined by extensive sampling of potential host–plant seeds in the field and further monitoring of adult emergences. Here, we have based our study on unequivocal data from three studies in which adults were reared from pods (Delobel and Delobel, 2003, 2005; Jermy and Szentesi, 2003). In addition, we have performed a critical examination of the major review of Lukjanovitch and Ter-Minasyan (1957) to complete the host–plant records of most species (Table 5). Accurate additional host–plant records were also found in Anton (1998) and Morimoto (1990), for *B. altaicus* and *B. loti*, respectively. When necessary, host–plant names from the literature were updated by using the International Legume Database and Information Services database (ILDIS; http://www.ildis.org). Detailed information on host–plant taxonomy were also included using Kupicha (1983) and the Germplasm Resources Information Network database (GRIN; http://www.ars-grin.gov). Regarding taxonomy, Cracca PETERM. 1847 was used as a correct name of the subgenus following Jaaska (2005). Despite an exhaustive review of the existing literature, we were unable to recover host–plant records for three species (*B.brisouti*, *B. canariensis* and *B. sibiricus*) for which host–plants are still unknown. The latter finding underlines the fact that the majority of studies on the evolution of host–plant associations in phytophagous insects have to rely on potentially incomplete information, and caution must be therefore be taken to avoid hasty conclusions in such studies.

### 2.5. Data categorization and ancestral state estimation

To examine the evolution of host–plant associations in *Bruchus*, host–plant ancestral character states were mapped onto the seed-beetle phylogeny using distinct hierarchical taxonomical levels.

#### 2.5.1. Data categorization

Since all species of *Bruchus* are known to feed on plants belonging to the tribe Vicieae (some species have also been reported to feed on the phylogenetically related tribe Ciceræae, but reliable records are still lacking), various subtribal levels were used to investigate possible conservatism of host–plant use on lower taxonomic levels. From a review of recent systematic studies (Jaaska, 2005; Kenicer et al., 2005; Steele and Wojciechowski, 2003), the following assumptions were made on tribe Vicieae phylogenetic relationships: (i) the monophyly of the tribe Vicieae is strongly supported by both molecular and morphological data; (ii) genera *Lathyrus*, *Lens* and *Pisum* are monophyletic, whereas preliminary analyses (Steele and Wojciechowski, 2003) suggest that the genus *Vicia* is paraphyletic with respect to the other genera in tribe Vicieae; (iii) within *Lathyrus*, current subgeneric (subgen. *Lathyrus* and *Orobus*) and sectional classifications are mostly retrieved with some notable exceptions (e.g., the placement of the section *Lathyrostylos*); (iv) within *Vicia*, while most of the species do cluster in two clades which correspond to the two subgenera (i.e., *Cracca* and *Vicia*), there is no evidence of a strong support of current sectional classifications (with the exception of some sections). With reference to the above information, first we have categorized host–plant information at the genus level. The genus *Vicia* was coded as a single character, in spite of its possible paraphyletic status. Five character states were thus used: (i) genus *Lathyrus*; (ii) genus *Lens*; (iii) genus *Pisum*; (iv) genus *Vicia*; (v) non-Vicieae genera. Second, we have categorized host–plant information at the subgenus level (for the genera
which includes sections Clymenum, Lathyrus, Lathyrostylis, Lathyrus, and a subgenus Orobus (the changes in taxonomic nomenclature made in this study are indicated by asterisks). Numbers in this column refer to the following articles: (1) Anton (1998); (2) Delobel and Delobel (2003); (3) Delobel and Delobel (2005); (4) Jermy and Szentesi (2003); (5) Lukjanovitch and Ter-Minasian (1957); (6) Morimoto (1990).

Lathyrus and Vicia only). Given the fact that extant classifications of Lathyrus exhibit major discrepancies at the subgenus level (Asmussen and Liston, 1998), we have used the results of Kenicer et al. (2005) to redefine the two Lathyrus subgenera. Here, we have considered a subgenus Lathyrus which includes sections Clymenum, Lathyrus, Lathyrostylis, Linearicarpus, Neurolobus and Nissolia, and a subgenus Oorbus which includes the sections Aphaca, Notolathyrus, Orobus and Pratensis (clade A in Kenicer et al., 2005).

Six character states were used: (i) subgen. Lathyrus; (ii) subgen. Orobus; (iii) subgen. Cracca; (iv) subgen. Vicia; (v) other Vicieae; (vi) non-Vicieae. It was also critical to
deal with the issue of optimization of multiple associations, as several species of *Bruchus* were able to develop on plants belonging to distinct genera and/or subgenera. This finding underlines the fact that extant patterns of host-plant association may result from a progressive expansion of host range (Kergoat et al., 2005a). Interestingly, the corresponding *Bruchus* species were generally strongly associated with a specific genera and/or subgenera. Consequently, we chose to only consider the majority host-plant genera and/or subgenera in the coding of the corresponding character states. Although being not entirely satisfactory, this treatment of data was preferred over alternative methods (e.g., Janz and Nylin, 1998; Wahlberg, 2001) which generally involve parsimonious optimizations and have their own bias (Lopez-Vaamonde et al., 2003). Optimizations at the section level were not performed because *Bruchus* species with more than one host-plant were generally able to feed on plants belonging to distinct sections without exhibiting strong preferences for specific sections. In addition, the data categorization of *Bruchus* host-plant information at the section level is a problematic issue since several sections are likely paraphyletic (Asmussen and Liston, 1998; Steele and Wojciechowski, 2003).

2.5.2. Ancestral state estimation

Maximum-likelihood (ML) models were used to infer ancestral character states because, in sheer contrast with MP optimizations, likelihood-based optimizations can take into account branch lengths (more changes are expected on long branches if branch lengths are time proportional), and they allow the assessment of uncertainty in ancestral trait reconstruction (Belshaw and Quickie, 2002; Pagel, 1999; Schluter et al., 1997). For comparison purposes, we conducted global and local ML optimizations (Pagel, 1999), using Mesquite version 1.06 (Maddison and Maddison, 2005) and Multistate version 0.8 (Pagel, 2003), respectively. In global optimizations, ancestral character states at all nodes are reconstructed using a sole estimate for the parameters of the model of evolution whereas local optimizations estimate parameters separately for each possible ancestral character states at a node (Mooers and Schluter, 1999; Pagel, 1999). As a consequence, local optimizations are supposed to outperform global optimizations as they maximize likelihoods and result in the best fit of the model (Pagel, 1999). Given that both programs require trees with no missing data and given the fact that host-plant records were unavailable for three *Bruchus* species, a subset of our original data set (with *B. brisouti*, *B. canariensis* and *B. sibiricus* excluded) was analyzed. The analysis of this data set was carried out through BI (to include branch length estimates), by using the partitioning scheme which has been considered as optimal in previous analyses of the complete data set. For all analyses, we considered that the support of one state over another (at a given node) was significant if the difference between their log-likelihoods was superior or equal to 2.0 (Schluter et al., 1997; Pagel, 1999).

The first global optimizations were performed using the one-parameter Markov *k*-state model (G10; Lewis, 2001), as implemented in Mesquite. In this generalization of the Jukes-Cantor model, the rates of change parameter are constrained to be equal (Maddison and Maddison, 2005). Subsequently, we have used Multistate to carry out additional global optimizations using more complex models which are detailed below. The choice of a model of trait evolution (and the estimation of the associated transition rates) is indeed a critical issue because complex models generally require a lot of data (i.e., large trees) to provide accurate ancestral character state estimates (Mooers and Schluter, 1999; Schluter et al., 1997). For both global and local optimizations under Multistate, we thus followed the view of several authors (Mooers and Schluter, 1999; Pagel, 1999) who advocated the use of simpler models when possible (i.e., if the latter do not lead to a significant reduction in the likelihood). To study the evolution of character traits with *n* states, up to *n* (*n* − 1) parameters can be estimated through Multistate (Pagel, 2003). Consequently, we have used default models with 20 parameters (for the first character with five states) and 30 parameters (for the second character with six states) in some of our optimizations (i.e., local optimizations which are abbreviated as L20 and L30). Since no significant reduction in the likelihood was found when constraining forward and backward rates to be equal, simpler models (with twice less parameters; 10 or 15) were used in addition to the default models with a view to compare their respective results. For global optimizations these models were abbreviated as G10 and G15 whereas L10 and L15 were used to name the models which were used in local optimizations.

Finally, permutation tail probability tests (PTP; Faith and Cranston, 1991), as implemented in PAUP*, were performed as an alternative way to investigate whether host-plant association is correlated with phylogeny of *Bruchus*. host-plant association character states were randomized across the tips of the phylogeny 10,000 times. Within-character randomization was only applied to the ingroup taxa (i.e., *Bruchus* species) to avoid misleading PTP scores (Trueeman, 1996). The resulting frequency distribution of tree lengths was then used to estimate whether the observed tree length was significantly shorter than expected under a random model (Maddison and Slatkin, 1991). Following Kelley and Farrell (1998), we have also performed additional PTP tests by adding to the phylogeny two non sequenced species for which accurate host-plant records are known (*Lens culinaris* for *B. ervi* and *Vicia cirrhosa* for *B. hierroensis*). Their respective placements on the existing phylogeny were supported by numerous morphological characters which indicate close relationships of *B. ervi* with *B. lentis* (Borowiec, 1988; Hoffmann, 1945), and of *B. hierroensis* with *B. canariensis* (Decelle, 1979).
3. Results

3.1. Phylogenetic analyses and hypothesis testing

3.1.1. Maximum parsimony

The analysis of the combined data set yielded nine most-parsimonious trees (2215 steps; CI = 0.534; RI = 0.593) that differed among themselves only in the position of *B. canariensis* (one of the nine most-parsimonious trees is shown on Fig. 1). On average, MP trees are well supported by bootstrap values (bootstrap ≥ 70% for 18 of the 26 nodes), whereas BS values provided a lesser support (BS ≥ 4 for 14 of the 26 nodes). All basal nodes are strongly supported, and the genus *Bruchus* is recovered monophyletic with a high support (bootstrap of 96%, BS of 15). Within *Bruchus* species, groups *affinis*, *atomarius*, *pisorum*, and *tristis* are recovered monophyletic, whereas groups *brachialis* and *rufipes* are found paraphyletic. The examination of PBS values indicated a low level of conflicting data (only 3 of the 104 values were negatives), in accordance with the result of the ILD test. Almost all positive values came from the three mitochondrial genes, whereas a negligible contribution of the 28S gene is suggested by the PBS values. The latter result could be likely accounted for by missing sequences and the relative low number of PI characters of this gene (as indicated in Table 3).

3.1.2. Bayesian inference

For each partitioning strategy, the two independent runs converged on similar likelihood scores and reached stability around 4 to 5 × 10^5 generations. According to the Bayes factor criterion, the most complex strategy (i.e., involving the greatest number of partitions) was optimal (Table 6). Interestingly, partition-rich strategies were not always the best ones, since in some cases less complex strategies have performed better (i.e., P5a vs P6, P5b vs P6 and P5a vs P8).

Fig. 1. Phylogenetic relationships of *Bruchus* species. The tree on the left corresponds to one of the nine most-parsimonious trees (2215 steps; CI = 0.534; RI = 0.593) from the parsimony analysis of the combined data set. The tree of the right corresponds to the result of the partitioned BI analyses conducted using the most optimal strategy (P10). For the MP tree, numbers at nodes indicate both bootstrap values (left) and BS values (right). In addition PBS values are given for each node, on the bottom left of the figure (all nodes are labelled accordingly). On the left, a pruned consensus tree of the nine most-parsimonious trees is also figured. For the BI tree, numbers at nodes indicate the CPP values of the P10 strategy. Additional values (under bracket) correspond to the CPP values of an alternative strategy (P4a). Identical CPP were recovered for both strategies when no additional values are given.

Table 6

Comparisons of all partitioning strategies using Bayes factors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Harmonic Mean CPP</th>
<th>Mean H1</th>
<th>PI</th>
<th>P4a</th>
<th>P4b</th>
<th>P5a</th>
<th>P5b</th>
<th>P6</th>
<th>P8</th>
<th>P10</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14111.94</td>
<td>92.61</td>
<td>P1</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>50.99</td>
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<td>79.08</td>
<td>106.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13872.10</td>
<td>88.62</td>
<td>P4a</td>
<td>479.68</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>3.84</td>
<td>21.02</td>
<td>21.02</td>
<td>36.41</td>
<td>65.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13991.13</td>
<td>89.19</td>
<td>P4b</td>
<td>241.62</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>238.06</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>21.02</td>
<td>21.02</td>
<td>36.41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13246.22</td>
<td>89.58</td>
<td>P5a</td>
<td>1731.44</td>
<td>1251.76</td>
<td>1489.82</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>3.84</td>
<td>21.02</td>
<td>50.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13347.11</td>
<td>89.12</td>
<td>P5b</td>
<td>1529.66</td>
<td>1049.98</td>
<td>1288.04</td>
<td>1201.78</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>21.02</td>
<td>50.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13387.57</td>
<td>88.31</td>
<td>P6</td>
<td>548.74</td>
<td>69.06</td>
<td>307.12</td>
<td>1182.70</td>
<td>980.92</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>36.41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>90.04</td>
<td>P8</td>
<td>1766.38</td>
<td>1286.70</td>
<td>1524.76</td>
<td>34.94</td>
<td>236.72</td>
<td>1217.64</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13193.53</td>
<td>90.62</td>
<td>P10</td>
<td>1836.82</td>
<td>1357.14</td>
<td>1595.20</td>
<td>105.38</td>
<td>307.16</td>
<td>1288.08</td>
<td>70.44</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2 ln (Bp) values are figured on the left side of the data matrix; bold values indicate the 2 ln (Bp) comparisons used in determining the optimal partitioning strategy whereas italic values indicate comparisons in which partition-rich strategies are rejected in favor of less complex ones. Critical values of the χ² distribution are figured on the right side of the data matrix. In addition, for each partitioning strategy, both mean clade posterior probabilities (CPP) and harmonic mean -In L values are given. Four partitioning strategies indicated by asterisks yield a similar alternative topology.

The four analyses with the highest mean likelihood scores (i.e., P5a, P5b, P8 and P10) yielded the same topology (Fig. 1). A very similar topology (not shown), with an alternative placement of *B. canariensis*, was recovered by the four other partitioning strategies. BI topologies were mostly congruent with MP trees, only differing in the positions of *B. loti* and *B. canariensis* (not in all MP trees for the latter species). Furthermore, the similarity between the results of both inference methods was also statistically supported by non significant SH tests (e.g., P = 0.463 for the two topologies shown in Fig. 1). Overall, the BI topology corresponding to the optimal partitioning strategy (P10) is well supported (CPP ≥90% for 19 of the 26 nodes). Likewise to MP trees, basal nodes are strongly supported (CPP of 100% for most basal nodes), and a monophyletic genus *Bruchus* is recovered with a strong support (100%). Regarding the monophyly of *Bruchus* taxonomic groups, the same groups (*brachialis* and *rufipes*) are also found paraphyletic under BI. Unexpectedly, the non-partitioned analysis (P1) yielded the highest arithmetic mean CPP value (92.61), followed by the three best strategies (mean CPP of 90.62, 90.04 and 89.58 for P10, P8 and P5b, respectively; see Table 5 for details).

3.1.3. Hypothesis testing

Constrained trees were built to specifically address the monophyly of groups *brachialis* and *rufipes*. SH tests failed (P = 0.274 and P = 0.304 when using unconstrained MP and BI trees, respectively) to reject the alternative hypothesis of a monophyletic group *brachialis*. On the contrary, SH tests significantly rejected the alternative hypothesis of a monophyletic group *rufipes* (P < 0.001 for both tests).

3.2. Ancestral state estimation

3.2.1. Global vs local ML optimizations

For more clarity, focus has been given to the results of the global optimizations performed using a simple model (i.e., the Mk1 model), and the results of the local optimizations performed by constraining forward and backward rates to be equal (i.e., L10 and L15 optimizations). The results of the other optimizations (i.e., G10 and G15: global optimizations with 10- and 15-parameters; L20 and L30: local optimizations with 20- and 30-parameters) will be further discussed in the text. Overall, a similar evolution of host–plant associations is suggested by the two methods of optimization, both at the host–plant genus (Figs. 2 and 3) and subgenus level (Figs. 4 and 5), as the global estimates are generally consistent with the local estimates (see Supplementary material for details). This finding is supported by a highly significant Pearson’s correlation which is found between the estimates provided by the two methods (R = 0.91, P < 0.001 at the genus level; R = 0.85, P < 0.001 at the subgenus level). Nonetheless, some discrepancies are noticeable when comparing the results of the two optimization methods. First, in contrast with local optimizations, global optimizations with a Mk1 model yield ambiguous and puzzling ancestral character state values at the base of the tree (nodes 24, 23 and 22). As opposed to the character states exhibited by the outgroups, a very low probability is found for the preference for non-Vicieae host–plants in the three deepest nodes. Second, the two methods yield contradictory results for some nodes in which the most likely ancestral character states are different (nodes 5, 10 and 21 for the first character, and node 17 for the second character), thus suggesting distinct patterns of evolution. Finally, a greater number of significantly supported ancestral characters are recovered by global ML optimizations using a Mk1 model (nine vs five), when only considering the ingroup taxa (i.e., the *Bruchus* species).

The use of more complex models (with 10- and 15-parameters) in global optimizations result in reconstructions which are between those obtained previously: (i) intermediate values are recovered for the probabilities associated with each ancestral character states; (ii) at the base of the tree, the ancestral character state values for two of the three nodes (nodes 24 and 23) are consistent with the result of the previous local optimizations (with a high probability associated to non-Vicieae feeding); (iii) a greater number of significantly supported ancestral characters (nine) is recovered by the these global optimizations in comparison with previous local optimizations, when only considering the
ingroup taxa. As expected a more important correlation is also found between the previous local estimates and the newer global estimates ($R = 0.95$ at the genus level and $R = 0.93$ at the subgenus level). In general, the corresponding evolutionary pattern is in agreement with those obtained using the methods detailed beforehand. In contrast, it is not the case for the local optimizations performed using 20- and 30-parameter models. For the latter analyses, we found numerous counterintuitive values which obviously overestimate the probabilities of having a preference toward genera *Lens* and *Pisum*. For example, at the host–plant genus level, a summed probability of 36.57% is found for the node 14 (for which the corresponding clade does not include species which feed on *Lens* spp. or *Pisum* spp.) whereas unexpectedly high probabilities are also found for some nodes at the subgenus level (e.g., see nodes 2 and 9 in Fig. 5). In addition, puzzling values are recovered at the base of the tree (node 24) for both optimizations (host–plant genus and subgenus level; see Figs. 3 and 5).

### 3.2.2. Host–plant genus level

The mapping of the evolution of host–plant associations does not recover a clear pattern at the basal and intermediate levels of the *Bruchus* phylogeny (Figs. 2 and 3), as most values are not statistically supported. On the other hand, in most terminal levels of the tree there is some evidence for a trend toward taxonomic conservatism, as related species generally share the same ancestral character states (with significant statistical support). Species belonging to groups *affinis* and *tristis* are thus clearly associated with *Lathyrus* spp., whereas species belonging to groups *atomarius*, *brachialis* and *rufipes* are generally associated with *Vicia* spp. Having said that, various loss and gain events are also suggested in several cases (e.g., in the clade which groups *B. laticollis*, *B. lentis*, *B. emarginatus* and *B. pisorum*), thus indicating a more dynamic pattern. For the default data set, no significant phylogenetic signal was recovered by the PTP test at the host–plant genus level ($P = 0.268$). Interestingly, a nearly significant value ($P = 0.052$) was found for the data set with a larger taxon sampling.

### 3.2.3. Host–plant subgenus level

As expected given the results of the previous optimizations, the assignment of ancestral character states was unclear at the basal and intermediate level of the tree (Figs. 4 and 5). Regarding the terminal level of the tree, the same
nodes are found significantly supported by the comparison of likelihood scores. It is interesting to note that a trend toward taxonomic conservatism is still suggested at the subgenus level, because most of the closely-related Bruchus species are found to feed on plants belonging to the same subgenus (with the obvious exceptions of the species exclusively associated with Lens and Pisum). At this hierarchical level of optimization, the PTP tests yield significant values for both data sets ($P = 0.016$ for the default data set and $P = 0.002$ for the extended data set).

4. Discussion

4.1. Methodological issues

4.1.1. Partitioned analyses

Several useful findings can be drawn from the results of the partitioned analyses of the combined data set. For our data set, only the use of codon positions in partitioning strategies has systematically led to a significant increase of the mean likelihood scores (and presumably of phylogenetic accuracy as well). In contrast, using only the secondary structure of ribosomal genes (strategies P4b and P6) did not lead to such an increase and yielded a presumably suboptimal topology. Interestingly, these observations are consistent with those obtained in the study of Brandley et al. (2005). Collectively, these empirical results therefore suggest that partitioned analyses which use codon positions may likely outperform analyses which use standard “one partition per gene” or “secondary structure-based” strategies. Finally, our partitioned analyses yield a somewhat counterintuitive result, as the highest mean CPP value was recovered by the non-partitioned analysis (P1). A likely explanation can be found in Nylander et al. (2004) who have suggested that there is general tendency for oversimplified models to be associated with excessive credibilities in topologies that may not be correct.

4.1.2. Global vs local ML optimizations

With the exception of the most parameter-rich optimizations, namely the local optimizations with 20- and 30-parameter models, global and local optimizations recover similar patterns of evolution of host-plant preferences, at both the genus and subgenus level. Nonetheless, due to their incorrect assessments of character state estimates for basal nodes, global optimizations appear as less reliable estima-
tors in comparison with local optimizations, in agreement with Pagel (1999). The counterintuitive results which were obtained using optimizations with 20- and 30-parameters can be likely accounted for by an over-parameterization. Since parameter-rich models obviously require more data per parameter, the use of models with 20- and 30-parameters for our data set was certainly limited by the number of terminal taxa which were used (Mooers and Schluter, 1999).

4.2. Bruchus systematics

4.2.1. Phylogenetic relationships within Bruchus

As detailed before, both MP and BI analyses yield very similar and well-supported phylogenetic hypotheses which are mostly consistent with the taxonomic groupings of Borowiec (1988). Although tree topologies from each analysis differ in some details (i.e., the positions of B. loti and B. canariensis), the differences are in no case statistically significant. Under MP, the position of B. loti within group rufipes is rather weakly supported (bootstrap of 61%, BS of 4). In contrast, BI analyses recover a more basal position for this species (i.e., a sister group relationship with a clade composed of four members of group rufipes) with high support (CPP of 100%). Since there is no strong support (under MP) for the inclusion of B. loti within members of group rufipes, and since this alternative position is not found to be statistically significant, we are more inclined to favor the results of BI analyses regarding the phylogenetical placement of B. loti. The position of B. canariensis is not clearly resolved in our analyses (although an apical position within group brachialis is suggested), not only in MP (the nine most-parsimonious trees are not in agreement for the placement of this species), but also in BI (results of distinct partitioned analyses only differ in the position of B. canariensis). This lack of resolution can likely be accounted for by the missing sequences for this species. Under BI, the four most optimal strategies indicate a close and relatively well-supported relationship of B. canariensis with B. brachialis (CPP of 81%, 78, 80 and 76% for P10, P8, P5b and P5a, respectively) whereas the four less optimal strategies suggest a sister-group relationship of B. canariensis with the clade which groups B. brachialis and B. venustus (CPP of 63, 63, 62 and 35% for P6, P4b, P4a and P1, respec-

Fig. 4. Mirror image of the ML global optimizations at the subgenus level (using both the topology and branch lengths obtained under BI). On the left cladogram, ancestral character states are reconstructed under Mesquite using global optimizations and a Mk1 model. On the right cladogram, ancestral character states are reconstructed under Multistate using global optimizations and a 15-parameter model (G15 model). Probabilities of character states are figured at the nodes with pie diagrams (see Supplementary material for detailed values). Asterisks indicate nodes with significantly supported character states.
tively). The same two alternative positions were also recovered in several of the most-parsimonious trees, also supporting in a convincing way the supposed apical position of *B. canariensis* within group *brachialis*.

### 4.2.2. Taxonomic groups

Our phylogenetical analyses (see Fig. 1) strongly support the monophyly of groups *affinis*, *atomarius*, *pisorum* and *tristis* as currently defined (Borowiec, 1988). Unfortunately, no conclusions can be drawn on the status of group *loti*, because we were not able to obtain sequences for *B. lugubris* (therefore *B. loti* was the sole representative of the group *loti* in our molecular data set). In our phylogenetical analyses *B. laticollis* appears as the sister-species of members of group *pisorum*, thus suggesting a paraphyletic group *brachialis*. Nonetheless this placement is weakly supported (bootstrap of 45%, BS of 3 and CPP of 68%) and not statistically significant according to the SH tests. As a consequence, we still favor the null hypothesis of a monophyletic group *brachialis*. Another group whose monophyly is questioned by our results is the group *rufipes*. This group is rendered paraphyletic by the position of *B. griseomaculatus* (under MP and BI) and the position of *B. loti* (under MP only). As underlined in the precedent paragraph, the inclusion of *B. loti* within group *rufipes* was not supported in a convincing way (bootstrap of 61%, SH test not significant). On the contrary, constraining a monophyletic group *rufipes* by moving *B. griseomaculatus* results in a highly significant SH test (P < 0.001). The latter result was not so surprising, because some morphological evidences (e.g., differences in the shape of parameres, absence of a characteristic sclerite in the distal part of the internal sac) have already suggested that *B. griseomaculatus* is somewhat unrelated to other members of group *rufipes*. Based on both molecular and morphological evidences, we therefore reject the monophyly of group *rufipes* as currently defined. *B. griseomaculatus* is also not closely related to members of group *brachialis* because it does not possess the specific features of this group, like the enlarged fore tibiae in males. Since this species is also morphologically quite distinct from members of other extant taxonomic groups, we propose to assign this species to a group of its own (with the obvious consequence of recovering a monophyletic group *rufipes*).
4.3. Limits of taxonomic conservatism

In this study, we have investigated the limit of taxonomic conservatism in a specialized genus of phytophagous beetle, finding evidence for a trend toward taxonomic conservatism at both host–plant genus and subgenus level. However, this trend is not so obvious when examining the reconstruction of ancestral character states under ML. In order to discuss that discrepancy, we have to take into account two important factors. First, as underlined in previous studies (Pagel, 1999; Morse and Farrell, 2005), the difference in 2.0 log units (which was used to determine whether a character state was significantly supported or not) appears as a very conservative criterion in our analyses. As a consequence several nodes with a high support (e.g., as high as 85.83%) in a given character state were not significantly supported in the ML optimizations (see the Supplementary material for details). Second, as illustrated by the results of the PTP tests, the inclusion of non sequenced species for which host–plants are accurately known (i.e., B. ervi and B. hierroensis) will likely increase the discernible trend toward taxonomic conservatism in the various ML optimizations. It is also important to note that though the results of ML optimizations were ambiguous for deeper nodes, they nonetheless suggested an ancestral association with either genera Lathyrus or Vicia. Having said that, our analyses have been likely influenced (in both directions) by the way we have treated multiple host–plant associations. Indeed, in our treatment of these associations, the information associated with the wider host–plant range exhibited by some species was lost (e.g., for B. atomarius). The latter observation underlines the fact that taxonomic conservatism in host–plant use is not the sole important feature in the evolution of host–plant associations in Bruchus. Host shifts are likely under multiple evolutionary constraints and must be rather viewed as progressive processes in which some species are able to expand and/or reduce their host-range over-time (Bernays, 1998). While we did not test specifically for a trend toward so-called generalist or specialist species in Bruchus, preliminary analyses (not shown) have suggested that there was no clear apical distribution for neither specialists (here defined as species which were associated with a sole genus) nor generalist species.

4.4. Factors influencing Bruchus host–plant associations

The results of our study are interesting in the light of determining which factors better explain the observed patterns of host–plant associations in the Bruchus—Vicieae model. Indeed, our finding of a trend toward taxonomic conservatism below the host–plant tribe level suggests the influence of strong constraints on the evolution of Bruchus host–plant associations. Although the genus as a whole is specialized on plants from the tribe Vicieae, each Bruchus species is thus restricted to a given set of host–plants. Several factors may be advocated to explain the far from random pattern of host–plant associations in the Bruchus—Vicieae model.

4.4.1. Host-selection behavior

In bruchines, host-selection behaviors are likely decisive to understand why potential hosts are not fed upon when present (Siemens et al., 1991). In Bruchus, the host-selection behavior tends to be determined by the females’ oviposition behavior rather than visual cues (e.g., NDiaye and Labeurie, 1990). It has been also shown that females are sensitive to deterrent chemical stimuli when selecting an oviposition site (Annis and O’Keeffe, 1984; Jermy and Szentesi, 1978). As phylogenetically related plants likely share more similar chemical compounds, we can thus suppose that both host range and potential host shift of Bruchus species are likely influenced by the evolution of the females’ chemoreception system. In a recent study, Jermy and Szentesi (2003) suggested that the evolution of host specialization (and host-switches) in seed-beetles may result primarily from the evolution of the nervous system (with reference to chemoreception). While we agree with them in recognizing the importance of host-selection behavior (see also the recent review of Bernays in 2001), we also think that the lack of related experimental studies (on both the evolution of the females’ chemoreception system and the nature of plant chemicals of young pods) do not allow the assessment of the relative importance of this factor in the evolution of host–plant use in Bruchus.

4.4.2. Host-suitability

First of all, and as underlined by Szentesi and Jermy (1995), host-suitability for Bruchus is limited by seed morphology. Since all Bruchus species develop to adults within a single seed, they are not able to develop in flat or very small seeds in contrast with other species of seed-beetles which are able to feed on several seeds. Second, multiple plant defense mechanisms are also involved which undoubtedly influence host-suitability. For instance, in response to oviposition or egg hatch, several species of Lathyrus are known to stimulate cell divisions and callus development on pods to impede the larval development (Annis and O’Keeffe, 1984). Interestingly, this unique form of induced resistance is specifically mediated by a novel class of natural products, the bruchines, which have been found up to now only in seed-beetles (Doss et al., 1997). In this spectacular example, the plants have apparently developed a specific defense versus their seed-beetle predators. Finally, numerous chemical defenses (e.g., non-protein and pyrimidine amino acids, protease inhibitors) with well-known or supposed toxic effects on the development of seed-beetle larvae (e.g., Bleiler and Rosenthal, 1988; Huignard et al., 1996; Janzen et al., 1977) are found in the seed-coats and in the cotyledons of the seeds. The non-protein amino acid L-canavanine is found in several Vicia species within the subgenus Cracca (Bell et al., 1978), whereas Bowman–Birk inhibitors are found in all Vicieae genera (e.g., Weder and Kahleyss, 1998). Regarding pyrimidine amino acids, three distinct compounds are found: (i) lathyrine in species of Lathyrus and in several Lens species excluding Lens culinaris (Bell, 1962; Rozan...
et al., 2001); (ii) vicine and convicine in several Vicia species within the subgenus Vicia (Ramsay and Griffiths, 1996); (iii) willardine and isowillardine in P. sativum (Brown and Turan, 1995). Collectively, these defenses have been shown to be effective against the majority of seed-beetles, as only very few species outside the genus Bruchus are able to develop on Vicieae seeds (Johnson, 1981; Kergoat et al., 2005a). Since all these defenses are not uniformly distributed throughout Vicieae (e.g., several toxic compounds are only found in specific subgenera), we can suppose that their absence/presence play a decisive role in determining Bruchus host–plant specificity, restricting host–plant use and limiting potential host shifts (thus accounting for the observed pattern of taxonomic conservatism). The resulting specialization in host–plant use will likely occur because of evolutionary trade-offs (Cornell and Hawkins, 2003): a species that excels in bypassing a given defense (e.g., using detoxifying pathways) will conversely lose the ability to bypass other defenses as well.

4.4.3. Perspectives

While experimental data on the determinism of host–plant selection behavior in seed-beetles are still lacking, a few studies have already provided meaningful insights with reference to genetic determinism in host-suitability. For instance in the seed-beetle Callosobruchus maculatus, Huignard et al. (1996) have demonstrated that the ability to develop in seeds with high level of vicine and convicine was under the control of a major dominant gene which controls the activity of a β-glucosidase. In the absence or non-activity of this β-glucosidase (in recessive homozygous individuals), vicine and convicine are not hydrolyzed in a toxic aglycone, thus permitting the adaptation of some individuals (e.g., using detoxifying pathways) to conversely lose the ability to bypass other defenses as well.

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Appendix A. Supplementary data

Supplementary data associated with this article can be found, in the online version, at doi:10.1016/j.ympev.2006.11.026.

References


