**Supplemental Material for “Heterogeneous rates of molecular evolution and diversification could explain the Triassic age estimate for angiosperms”**

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*with incomplete sampling*

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I. *Divergence time estimation of land plants*

Four highly conserved chloroplast genes were chosen for the dating analysis: 18S, *atp*B, *psb*B, and *rbc*L. These genes were selected because they provide generally good information about relationships among the major clades of land plants (Soltis et al. 2002; Pryer et al., 2001; Magallón 2010; Smith et al. 2010). Taxonomic sampling included all the major lineages of the Tracheophyta: 91 taxa from Angiospermae, 20 from Acrogymnospermae, seven from Monilophyta, and one from Lycopodiophyta, all *sensu* Cantino et al. (2007). A single taxon from Marchantiophyta (*Marchantia*) was included as an outgroup. The use of several outgroups to seed plants allowed inferences about the timing of angiosperm origin in the context of land plant diversification as a whole. Sampling within Angiospermae includes every major “order” of flowering plants, with expanded sampling for the Nymphaeales, Austrobaileyales, and Magnoliidae to allow for a more precise placement of several fossil calibrations. Representative sampling for the four other lineages of acrogymnosperms included every major “family” of Coniferae, Gnetophyta, and Cycadophyta.

Sequences for each gene region were aligned separately with MAFFT (Katoh et al. 2002) within five partitions: angiosperms, acrogymnosperms, monilophytes, lycopodophytes, and *Marchantia*. These separate alignments were then combined using profile alignment techniques (Edgar 2004; Smith et al. 2009), and the aligned gene regions were concatenated using *phyutility* (Smith and Dunn 2008). Dating analyses were conducted using Markov chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) methods implemented in BEAST (Ver. 1.75; Drummond et al. 2006; Drummond and Rambaut 2007). BEAST allows for uncertainty in divergence time estimation by simultaneously incorporating uncertainty in both tree topology and the age of multiple fossil calibrations. Age estimates for fossil calibrations were treated as probabilistic priors, rather than point estimates. The marginal posterior distributions of land plant divergence times were inferred using an uncorrelated lognormal model (UCLN). Both the GTR+Γ nucleotide substitution model and the UCLN clock model were partitioned by gene. We also assumed a birth-death branching prior for branching rates in the phylogeny.

The topology was fixed to reflect the most current understanding of relationships among land plants (Stevens 2012). This fixed topology was generated from a maximum likelihood analysis of the data using RAxML (Stamatakis 2006) with branch lengths smoothed to time in r8s (Sanderson 2002). Three independent MCMC runs of 40 million generations were carried out, with the first 10 million generations discarded as burn-in for each run. Post burn-in samples from the marginal posterior distribution were combined using LogCombiner v1.7.5 (Drummond and Rambaut 2007). Trees were summarized with TreeAnnotator v1.7.5 and the results represent the maximum clade credibility trees with the consensus ages being the median estimate.

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II. *Description and placement of* *fossil calibrations*

Since the publication of recent studies dating angiosperm origins and diversification based on molecular data (Smith et al. 2010; Magallón 2010; Bell et al. 2010; Clark et al. 2011), several additional calibration points have been suggested among early-branching angiosperm lineages (Doyle and Endress 2010). These hypotheses place several fossil flowers from the Early Cretaceous into currently accepted angiosperm relationships. Of particular interest are ideas regarding the phylogenetic position of fossil Nymphaeales, Austrobaileyales, and Chloranthales. Notwithstanding the assumptions and uncertainties inherent in these hypotheses, for present purposes, we added these new calibrations to a set of key fossil calibrations selected from the 33 used by Smith et al. (2010). Brief summaries of the fossils used as calibration points are provided below. Numbers correspond to those in Figure S1, which show the placement of these fossils.

1. *Caryanthus triasseris*

Fossil type: Flower

Source: Knobloch and Mai (1983)

Locality/Stratigraphy: Peruc-sequence Bohemia, Czech Republic

Age: late Cenomanian 93.6 Ma

Node: crown Fagales

Discussion: *Caryanthus triasseris* is the earliest known fossil flower of the Normapolles group, although probable Normapolles pollen occurs slightly earlier in the middle Cenomanian (Friis et al. 2011). *Caryanthus* flowers are common in Late Cretaceous fossil floras from Europe. Flowers are bisexual and subtended by a small bract and two lateral bracteoles. Flowers are epigynous with four tepals, six to eight stamens, and an inferior, bicarpellate, unilocular ovary with two styles. Pollen is similar to dispersed Normapolles pollen that has been assigned to the genus *Plicapollis.* Comparison of floral characters of *Caryanthus* and otherNormapolles flowers with extant taxa suggests complex relationships to families of core Fagales (Friis et al. 2006; Friis et al. 2011). *Caryanthus* is especially similar to extant Rhoipteleaceae (Friis et al. 2011). Conservative interpretation of the fossil record of *Caryanthus* and other Normapolles fossil suggests that crown core Fagales were in existence by the late Cenomanian.

2. *Esgueiria* sp.

Fossil type: Flower

Source: Takahashi et al. (1999)

Locality/Stratigraphy: Kamikitaba locality, Ashizawa Formation, Fukushima Prefecture, northeastern Japan

Age: Early Coniacian 89.3 Ma

Node: Combretaceae-Rest of Myrtales split.

Discussion: *Esgueiria* is an extinct genus based on flowers, fruits, and inflorescence fragments that were first described from two localities (Esgueira, Mira) the Late Cretaceous of Portugal (Friis et al. 1992). Flowers are bisexual and epigynous, with five petals, a basically pentamerous androecium, and a trilocular inferior ovary with three free styles. Older material (early Coniacian) has been described subsequently from Japan (Takahashi et al. 1999). Relationships of *Esguieria* are clearly with Myrtales and especially with extant Combretaceae (Friis et al. 1992, 2011). *Esgueiria* may be on the Combretaceaae stem (Friis et al. 2011)

3. *Ilexpollenites* sp.

Fossil type: Pollen

Source: Martin (1977)

Locality/Stratigraphy: *Clarifera triplex* zone southeastern Australia

Age: Turonian 89.3 Ma

Node: *Ilex*-rest of the Aquifoliaceae

Discussion: Dispersed *Ilex*-like pollen, typically assigned to the form genus *Ilexpollenites* is common the Cenozoic (Muller 1981). Pollen is prolate to oblate and tricolporate with poorly defined pores. Especially distinctive is the ornamentation of the pollen wall with conspicuous gemmae and clavae of variable sizes (Martin 1977). Muller (1981) notes that the earliest records of *Ilexpollenites* are from the Turonian and Coniacian of Australia, and this is confirmed by observations by Martin and Partridge from the *Clarifera triplex* zone in southeastern Australia (unpublished, Martin pers. comm.)

4. *Hironoia fusiformis*

Fossil type: Fruit

Source: Takahashi et al. (2002)

Locality/Stratigraphy: Kamikitaba locality, Ashizawa Formation, Fukushima Prefecture, northeastern Japan

Age: Early Coniacian 89.3 Ma

Node: crown Cornales

Discussion: Fruits of *Hironoia fusiformis* comprise the earliest unequivocal record for the Cornales. Fruits are fusiform in shape and develop from an epigynous flower with four to six tepals. Each fruit has three to four locules, each which contains a single seed that is shed through a distinctive dorsal germination valve. These features of *Hironoia* indicate an unequivocal relationship to the *Nyssa* and *Mastixia* lineages of extant Cornales.

5. *Friisicarpus brookensis* (pistillate inflorescences), *Aquia brookensis* (staminate inflorescences), and *Sapindopsis* (leaves).

Fossil type: Flowers, inflorescences and leaves

Source: Crane et al. (1993)

Locality/Stratigraphy: Potomac Group, “Bank near Brooke”, Virginia, USA

Age: middle Albian 105.8 Ma

Node: Platanaceae-Nelumbonaceae split

Discussion: Pinnatifid leaves in the Early to Middle Albian of the Potomac Group are among the earliest occurrences of *Sapindopsis* leaves. Leaf architecture (Hickey and Doyle 1977) and cuticle (Upchurch 1984) both imply a relationship between *Sapindopsis* and the platanoid leaves that are common in many Albian floras. Several lines of evidence suggest that *Friisicarpus brookensis* (formerly *Platanocarpus* *brookensis*; Maslova and Herman 2006) and *Aquia brookensis* are the reproductive structures of *Sapindopsis*. Pollen grains found *in situ* within *A. brookensis* are found on the distal portions of *F. brookensis* carpels, and the cuticular structure of the leaves and tepals of *F. brookensis* is similar to that of the cuticle of *Sapindopsis*. Doyle and Endress (2010) follow Crane et al. (1993) in treating *F. brookensis*, *A. brookensis* and *Sapindopsis* as a single species, and analyzed its relationships to extant *Platanus* and another Early Cretaceous (Late Albian) platanoid (“the West Brothers platanoid”). The most parsimonious arrangement either placed *Sapindopsis* as basal to a clade comprised of the “West Brothers platanoid” and extant *Platanus*, or placed *Sapindopsis* and the “West Brothers platanoid” as a clade, which was then sister to *Platanus*. Synapomorphies that link these fossils to extant *Platanus* include the infructescence heads, sessile flowers, polymerous perianth, and H-valvate anther deshiscence (Doyle and Endress 2010).

6. Tricolpate pollen grains

Fossil type: Stems with attached leaves and flowers preserved at fruiting stage.

Source: Leng and Friis (2003, 2006).

Locality/Stratigraphy: Yixian Formation, Dawangzhangzi Villeage, western Liaoning, China

Age: Barremian-Aptian 125 Ma

Node: crown *Eudicotyledonae*

Discussion: The first appearance of tricolpate pollen in the Late Barremian-Early Aptian (~125.0 Ma) is generally taken as the first record of stem *Eudicotyledonae* (Friis et al. 2011: eudicots; Cantino et al. 2007). The most securely dated record is from Phase 4 of the Wealden sequence in the UK (latest Barremian; Hughes and McDougall 1990; Hughes 1994), but there are also scattered reports of tricolpate grains of approximately the same age from northern and equatorial Africa, as well as North America (Doyle 1992; Brenner 1996). There are several putative eudicot macrofossil reproductive structures that could be Early Aptian in age (e.g., *Sinocarpus*; Leng and Friis 2003, 2006; *Leefructus* Sun et al. 2011). There are also leaves of similar age (*Potomacapnos* Jud and Hickey 2013) that have been attributed to crown eudicots. Unequivocal early eudicot flowers are known from slightly younger deposits that are of Late Aptian-Early Albian age (Friis et al. 2011).

7. *Typha* sp.

Fossil type: Inflorescence

Source: Grande (2013)

Locality/Stratigraphy:

Age: Eocene 40.4 Ma

Node: *Typha*-*Sparganium* split

Discussion: The fossil record of Typhaceae-Sparganiaceae is well documented from the Eocene onwards. Infructescences similar to those of *Sparganium* are known from the Eocene Golden Valley Formation of North Dakota (Hickey 1977) and a single distinctive infructescence of *Typha* is know from the Eocene, Green River Formation of Wyoming (Grande 2013). *Typha*-like seeds (*Typhaspermum*) have been reported from the latest Eocene to early Oligocene of Australia (Dettmann and Clifford 2000). Subsequently, from about the Eocene-Oligocene boundary onwards, dispersed fruits of *Typha* are abundant (Collinson 1988).

8. *Sabal magothiensis*

Fossil type: Leaves

Source: Berry (1911); Daghlian (1981)

Locality/Stratigraphy: Magothy Formation, New Jersey, USA.

Age: Late Coniacian-Early Santonian 85.8 Ma

Node: crown Arecales

Discussion: Leaves of *Sabal magothiensis* are the first unequivocal occurrence of palms in the fossil record. The leaves are costa-palmately compound and are superficially similar to the leaves of the modern genus *Sabal*. Putative palm pollen also appears in the fossil record at about the same time (Friis et al. 2011).

9. *Mayoa portugalica*

Fossil type: Pollen

Source: Friis et al. 2004

Locality/Stratigraphy: Almargem Formation, northeast Torres Vedras, Portugal

Age: Barremian-Aptian 125 Ma

Node: crown Araceae

Discussion: Pollen of *Mayoa portugalica*, described from the Barremian-Early Aptian of Portugal (Friis et al. 2004), is inaperturate with a distinctly striate surface that is composed of uniform, straight, and closely spaced ribs separated by narrow grooves. The two sets of ribs on the different sides of the pollen grain run somewhat perpendicular to one another, and each covers approximately half the grain. The grains are most similar to those of some extant Araceae in the subfamilies Monsteroideae and Aroideae, but are especially similar to pollen of extant *Holochlamys beccarii*. We treat *Mayoa* conservatively as the first unequivocal fossil occurrence of Araceae in the Cretaceous. There are also unequivocal aroid inflorescences from the Late Aptian– Early Albian of Portugal (Friis et al. 2010)

10. *Walkeripollis gabonensis*

Fossil type: Pollen

Source: Doyle et al. (1990a, b)

Locality/Stratigraphy: Elf-Aquitaine Well TM.1, near N’Toum in northern Gabon.

Age: Barremian-Aptian 125 Ma

Node: Winteraceae-Canellaceae split

Discussion: Pollen of the *Walkeripollis* type has long been assigned to the extant angiosperm family Winteraceae, which also produce reticulate, monoporate grains that adhere together in tetrads (Walker et al. 1983). Both *Walkeripollis* and tetrads of extant Winteraceae have an annulate ulcus bordered by a ring of darker endexine (Doyle et al. 1990a,b). Doyle and Endress (2010) find that the most parsimonious position of *W. gabonensis* (with only weak support) is sister to extant Winteraceae. However, the analysis is limited by the small number of characters available (Doyle and Endress 2010). Nevertheless these distinctive grains are clearly more closely related to extant Winteraceae than to any other extant group.

11. *Mauldinia mirabilis*

Fossil type: Flowers and inflorescences

Source: Drinnan et al. (1990)

Locality/Stratigraphy: Elk Neck Beds, Mauldin Mountain, Maryland, USA

Age: Late Cenomanian 99.6 Ma

Node: Monimiaceae-Lauraceae+Hernandiaceae split

Discussion: *Mauldinia mirabilis* is known from well-preserved inflorescences and bisexual flowers. Flowers are trimerous with two trimerous whorls of tepals. The androecium is also trimerous with three whorls of stamens and a whorl of staminodes. The gynoecium is unicarpellate. *Mauldinia* wasoriginally assigned to Lauraceae based on the strong similarities to flowers of extant Lauraceae, including the details of stamens and their associated glands. However, phylogenetic analysis suggests that *M. mirabilis* may be the sister group to both Lauraceae and Hernandiaceae (Doyle and Endress 2010). However, a complicating factor is that the relationship between Lauraceae and Hernandiaceae is not well supported by molecular data (Renner 2005; Soltis et al. 2011), with Monimiaceae, rather than Hernandiaceae often supported as the sister group to Lauraceae, raising the question of whether *Mauldinia* may be better placed as sister to a clade comprised of Hernandiaceae-Lauraceae-Monimiaceae. Here we treat *Mauldinia* conservatively as a providing a mimimum age for the divergence of Monimiaceae from Lauraceae+Hernandiaceae.

12. *Virginianthus calycanthoides*

Fossil type: Flower

Source: Friis et al. (1994)

Locality/Stratigraphy: Puddledock locality, Potomac Group, Virginia, USA.

Age: Early –Middle Albian 105.8 Ma

Node: Calycanthaceae-rest of Laurales

Discussion: *Virginianthus calycanthoides* is known from a single flower that has numerous helically arranged tepals, stamens, inner staminodes on the rim of a deep hypanthium that surrounds the carpels. Based on these features Friis et al. (1994) assigned *Virginianthus* to Calycanthaceae, the earliest diverging lineage within the Laurales. Doyle and Endress (2010) and Friis et al. (2011) place *V. calycanthoides* as a probable stem relative of extant Calycanthaceae. Here we use *V. calycanthoides* to provide a minimum age for the origin of Laurales.

13. *Endressinia brasiliana*

Fossil type: A shoot bearing several flowers and leaves

Source: Mohr and Bernardes-de-Oliveira (2004)

Locality/Stratigraphy: Crato formation, Araripe Basin, Nova Olinda, Brazil

Age: Late Aptian 114 Ma

Node: Magnoliaceae-Annonaceae+Degeneriaceae+Eupomatiaceae+Himantandraceae

Discussion: *Endressinia brasiliana* from the Late Albian of Brazil has been assigned to Magnoliales based on a suite of features, including the presence of oil glands in the leaves and floral parts, alternate leaves, solitary flowers, broad tepals and apocarpous gynoecium consisting of many plicate carpels. Especially distinctive is the multiparted androecium with inner staminodes bearing stalked multicellular structures along their margins (Mohr and Bernardes-de-Oliveira 2004). This initial assignment is consistent with the results of Doyle and Endress (2010) who suggest that the presence of glands on the staminodes favors a placement along the branch leading to Annonaceae-Degeneriaceae-Eupomatiaceae-Himantandraceae.

14. *Anacostia teixeirae*

Fossil type: Fruits and seeds

Source: Friis et al. (1997)

Locality/Stratigraphy: Vale de Agua, Portugal

Age: Barremian-Aptian 125 Ma

Node: Trimeniaceae-Schisandraceae split

Discussion: *Anacostia* is based on small, unilocular, single seeded fruiting units that are sometimes borne in cone-like structures (Friis et al. 1997, 2011).Initial studies suggested an affinity with both Canellaceae and Schisandraceae (including *Illicium*), which at that time were considered a monophyletic group (see Donoghue and Doyle 1989). However, there is now clear molecular evidence that Canellaceae and Schisandraceae are not closely related, making exact placement of this fossil unclear. Recent analyses (Doyle and Endress 2010; Friis et al. 2011) suggest that *Anacostia* may be sister to Schisandraceae (including *Illicium*). Although the pollen is very different, the cone-like structures of *Anacostia teixeirae* resemble the aggregated or elongated heads of baccate fruitlets that occur in extant Schisandraceae.

15. *Archaefructus liaoningensis*

Fossil type: Axes with attached leaves and flowers

Source: Sun et al. (2002)

Locality/Stratigraphy: Yixian formation, Beipiao and Lingyuan, western Liaoning, China

Age: Barremian-Aptian 125 Ma

Node: Hydatellaceae-Nymphaeaceae+Cabombaceae

Discussion: *Archaefructus* was described originally (Sun et al. 2002) as a member of a new angiosperm family, Archaefructaceae, thought to be the sister group to all other angiosperms. *Archaefructus* was interpreted as a small, herbaceous, and branched aquatic plant with axillary shoots bearing strongly dissected leaves and terminal reproductive structures. Reproductive axes were interpreted as a solitary flowers without a perianth, with stamens borne in pairs on short helically arranged stalks, and with numerous carpels borne helically or in whorls (Sun et al. 2002). The interpretation of the reproductive axes as a single flower was based solely on the absence of bracts and/or bract scars below the individual organs. Friis et al. (2003) noted that there are extant examples of taxa with flowers that lack subtending bracts, and that paired carpels and stamens are unknown in multiparted angiosperm flowers. Reproductive axes of *Archaefructus* are more likely to be inflorescences consisting of unisexual flowers, with staminate flowers near the base and pistillate flowers distally. Interpreted in this way, current phylogenetic hypotheses suggest a sister relationship to Hydatellaceae (Endress and Doyle 2009; Doyle and Endress 2010).

16. *Palaeotaxus rediviva*

Fossil type: Seed-bearing leafy shoots

Source: Florin (1958)

Locality/Stratigraphy: Upper coal bed, Skromberga Colliery, Scania, Sweden

Age: earliest Jurassic 197 Ma

Node: Taxaceae–Cupressaceae split.

Discussion: *Palaeotaxus rediviva* is known from leafy shoots bearing spirally arranged, bifacially flattened leaves with a single midvein. The leaves are twisted during growth into distichous rows. Some axillary short shoots have sterile scales and terminate in a single ovule that is surrounded by an aril. As in *Austrotaxus* and *Taxus* the scales are helically arranged (in *Amentotaxus* and *Torreya* they are decussate). Florin hesitated to include *Paleotaxus* in extant Taxaceae because of differences in cuticular morphology. However, *Paleotaxus* provides a minimum age for the divergence between Taxaceae (including *Cephalotaxus*) and Cupressaceae *sensu lato*. Molecular data suggest that *Cephalotaxus* is nested among genera traditionally included in Taxaceae, either as sister to a *Torreya*-*Amentotaxus* clade or sister to the *Taxus* clade (Hao et al. 2008).

17. *Araucarites rudicula*

Fossil type: Cone

Source: Axsmith and Ash (2006)

Locality/Stratigraphy: Chinle Formation, Arizona, US

Age: late Triassic 213 Ma

Node: Podocarpaceae-Araucariaceae split

Discussion: *Araucarites rudicula* is known from a cone with attached cone scales, but that is not attached to a leafy shoot. The cone scale has a markedly constricted base unlike any living Araucariaceae, and unlike other fossil Araucariaceae does not appear to have a ligule. The cone scale is interpreted as completely fused to the bract, as in modern *Agathis* or *Wollemia*. Assignment of *Araucarites rudicula* to Araucariaceae is based on its single ovule and its reduced, presumably fused, ovule scale. Divergence of the Araucariaceae by the Late Triassic is also supported by the abundance of *Araucaria*-like wood, foliage and pollen, although none of these fossils are unequivocally diagnostic of the family.

18. *Cratonia cotyledon*

Fossil type: Cotyledons

Source: Rydin et al. (2003)

Locality/Stratigraphy: Crato formation, Araripe Basin, Brazil

Age: late Aptian 114 Ma

Node: Welwitschiaceae-Gnetaceae split

Discussion: *Cratonia cotyledon* is a fossil seedling with two large ovate cotyledons that exhibit distinctive “Y” venation similar to that seen in the cotyledons of extant *Welwitschia*. There is also a lateral “feeder” arising from the hypocotyl region perpendicular to the axis of the plant. The presence of a “feeder” is characteristic of seedlings of extant *Gnetum* and *Welwitschia*. The “Y” venation suggests that *C. cotyledon* is more closely related to *Welwitschia* rather than to *Gnetum*. *Cratonia* suggests that the split between Welwitschiaceae and Gnetaceae occurred by at least the Late Aptian.

19. *Primocycas chinensis*

Fossil type: Megasporophyll

Source: Zhu and Du (1981)

Locality/Stratigraphy: Lower Shihezi formation, Shanxi, China

Age: Permian 270 Ma

Node: Cycadaceae-Zamiaceae split

Discussion: *Primocycas chinensis* is known from a palmate megasporophyll that bears two rows of ovules borne on the proximal portion of the stalk. The form of this megasporophyll is similar to that of extant *Cycas*, which is the sister genus to all other extant cycads. We treat this fossil conservatively providing a minimum age for the split between Cycadaceae and Zamiaceae.

20. *Stachypteris spicans*

Source: Harris (1961)

Locality/Stratigraphy: Yorkshire Beds, Lower Deltaic Series

Age: Middle Jurassic, Bajocian 172-168 Ma

Node: *Lygodium*–rest of the Schizaeaceae

Discussion: *Stachypteris spicans* is a fern with a distinctive fertile “spike”. Resin transfers suggest that *Stachypteris spicans* has an arrangement of sporangia similar to the situation in *Lygodium* in there are two rows of individual sporangia on each fertile pinnule, and each sporangium is borne between the fertile pinnule lamina and a small flap of indusium-like laminar tissue. The whole structure is strobilus-like (“fertile spike”). Such a spike-like arrangement is unique to *Lygodium* among the schizeoid ferns and among ferns more generally.

21. *Pekinopteris auriculata*

Source: Axsmith and Skog (2009)

Locality/Stratigraphy: Pekin Formation, North Carolina

Age: Upper Triassic, Carnian 235-228 Ma

Node: Schizaeoids–Core Leptosporangiates split

Discussion: *Pekinopteris auriculata* is known from leaves with attached sporangia that are not born in sori. Sporangia have an apical annulus, which is common among extant schizaeoid ferns, but not diagnostic. Among other fossils, *Klukia exilis* (Harris 1961) from the Middle Jurassic of Yorkshire, U.K. (Bajocian, 172-168 Ma) also produces schizaeoid spores and the characteristic reproductive features: apical annulus, lack of sori, fertile pinnules.

22. *Palaeosmunda* sp.

Source: Gould (1970)

Locality/Stratigraphy: Burngrove Formation, Rangal Coal Measures, Bowen Basin Coal Measures, Queensland, Australia

Age: latest Permian 251 Ma

Node: Osmundaceae–rest of the leptosporangiates

Discussion: The stelar anatomy of the species of fern stem assigned to *Palaeosmunda* from the Bowen Basin of Queensland strongly suggests they are osmundaceous. They have an ectophloic siphonostele with large leaf gaps and C-shaped leaf traces. The leaf traces have thickened cortical sclerenchyma and the petioles are clustered around the stem axis in a mantle. These features are all seen in extant Osmundaceae. Stems of Osmundaceae are also reported from the Upper Permian of Russia, although the exact stratigraphy is not usually reported in the second-hand sources. These stems appear to be uniformly protostelic and lack leaf gaps. While they could very well be Osmundaceous, *Palaeosmunda* is much more similar to extant species. Bowen Basin Coals are generally considered Permian in age, and the Rangal Coal Measures are considered Late Permian.

23*. Rellimia thomsonii*

Source: Dannenhoffer and Bonamo (1989)

Locality/Stratigraphy: Panther Mountain Formation, New York State, U.S.A.

Age: Middle Givetian 388 Ma

Node: Spermatophyta–Monilophyta split

Discussion: *Rellimia* the earliest known progymnosperm, is first recorded in the early Eifelian (Beck 1976), although the younger specimens from the Givetian are more informative. *Rellimia*, and progymnosperms in general, possess a bifacial cambium that produced both secondary xylem and secondary phloem, a feature that unites progymnosperms and extant seed plants (i.e., the lignophyte clade) to the exclusion of all other groups of vascular plants. *Rellimia* therefore provides a minimum age for the split between seed plants and extant monilophytes.

24. *Baragwanathia longifolia*

Fossil type: Axes with microphylls and sporangia

Source: Lang and Cookson (1935); Garratt (1978)

Locality/Stratigraphy: Dargile/Yea formations, Victoria, Australia

Age: Silurian (Ludlow) 423 Ma

Node: Lycopodiophyta-Monilophyta+Spermatophyta split

Discussion: *Baragwanathia longifolia* is known from branching axes bearing long narrow parallel-sided microphylls. Reniform sporangia are also borne on the axes interspersed among the microphylls. A close relationship between *Baragwanathia* andmodern homosporous lycopods has long been recognized (Lang and Cookson, 1935; Kenrick and Crane 1997a,b). Formal cladistic analysis resolves *Baragwanathia* on the stem group to all extant homosporous and heterosporous lycopods. There has been much debate regarding the exact age of *Baragwanathia* (Hueber, 1983; Garratt et al. 1984). The Ludlow age used here reflects the identification of associated graptolites (*Monograptus unicinatus*), which are restricted to the Gorstian stage of the Ludlow in the Silurian (see Rickards 2000 for detailed discussion).

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Table S1. Summary of the minimum age and associated lognormal prior-probability distribution parameters for the fossils used as calibrations in our divergence time analysis of land plants (the mean and sd follows from Smith et al. 2010). The number next to each name corresponds to Figure S1.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Fossil | Min. age | Mean (SD) |
| 1. *Carynathus triasseris* | 93.6 | 1.5 (0.5) |
| 2. *Esgueria* sp. | 89.3 | 1.5 (0.5) |
| 3. *Ilexpollenites* sp. | 89.3 | 1.5 (0.5) |
| 4. *Hironoia fusiformis* | 89.3 | 1.5 (0.5) |
| 5. *Platanocarpus bookensis* | 105.8 | 1.5 (0.5) |
| 6. Tricolpate pollen | 125.0 | 1.5 (0.5) |
| 7. *Typhaspermum* sp. | 40.4 | 1.5 (0.5) |
| 8. *Sabal magothiensis* | 85.8 | 1.5 (0.5) |
| 9. *Mayoa portugalica* | 125.0 | 1.5 (0.5) |
| 10. *Walkeripollis gabonensis* | 125.0 | 1.5 (0.5) |
| 11. *Mauldinia mirabilis* | 99.6 | 1.5 (0.5) |
| 12. *Virginianthus calycanthoides* | 105.8 | 1.5 (0.5) |
| 13. *Endressinia brasiliana* | 114.0 | 1.5 (0.5) |
| 14. *Anacostia teixerae* | 125.0 | 1.5 (0.5) |
| 15. *Archaefructus liaoningensis* | 125.0 | 1.5 (0.5) |
| 16. *Paleotaxus jurassica* | 197.0 | 1.5 (0.5) |
| 17. *Araucites rudicula* | 213.0 | 1.5 (0.5) |
| 18. *Cratonia cotyledon* | 114.0 | 1.5 (0.5) |
| 19. *Primocycas chinensis* | 270.0 | 1.5 (0.5) |
| 20. *Stachypteris spicans* | 168.0 | 1.5 (0.5) |
| 21. *Pekinopteris auriculata* | 228.0 | 1.5 (0.5) |
| 22. *Paleosmunda* sp. | 251.0 | 1.5 (0.5) |
| 23. *Rellimia thomsonii* | 388.0 | 2.0 (0.5) |
| 24. *Baragwanathia longifolia* | 423.0 | 2.0 (0.5) |



Figure S1. A cladogram (right) and a molecular tree (left). The molecular tree shows the raw substitutions per site (top left). The cladogram shows the placement of fossil calibrations used in the divergence time analysis (branch lengths are scaled by diversity). Numbers correspond to the fossil descriptions in II above. Black dots indicate fossils also used by Smith et al. (2010). Red dots indicate hypothesized positions of fossils based onDoyle and Endress (2010).

III. *Simulations involving Gnetales*

We simulated data sets under a three-rate scenario to reflect the different rates of molecular evolution among acrogymnosperms, woody angiosperms, and herbaceous angiosperms. We also conducted simulations that involved applying different angiosperm-based molecular rate distributions to Gnetales. The Gnetales are an enigmatic clade nested within acrogymnosperms that seem to exhibit elevated substitution rates relative to the rest of the acrogymnosperms. However, whether rates for Gnetales were drawn from the rate distributions of woody or herbaceous angiosperms it had little affecting on the predicted age of the angiosperm crown. For example, when rates were drawn from the herbaceous angiosperm rate distribution and applied to branches within Gnetales, the average bias was 237.7 Ma (95% CI = 195.5 – 280.4 Ma; Figure S2), very similar to, but slightly less than, the bias of subsuming the Gnetales into the rate distribution of all acrogymnosperms. Similarly, when rates for branches within Gnetales were drawn from the woody angiosperm rate distribution, the age remained 237.8 Ma (95% CI = 203.3 – 275.14 Ma; Figure S2).



Figure S2. Simulation results for the three-rate scenarios that involved applying the herbaceous angiosperm (top) and woody angiosperm rates distributions to Gnetales (bottom). The biases under these simulation scenarios were very similar to the bias of subsuming the Gnetales into the rate distribution of all acrogymnosperms (see Figure 4 in the main text).

IV. *Simulation results using a calibration at the root*

We conducted a complimentary analysis to the set described in the main text, where we applied a calibration to the root of the seed plant phylogeny. The minimum age for crown seed plants was set to 317.0 Ma, based on results of our r8s smoothing, and we attached a lognormal prior with a mean 1.5 and a standard deviation of 0.5. The simulations were then run as described in the main text. Results from these simulations are broadly consistent with results that did not include the calibration for crown seed plants, although the mean of the distributions were slightly younger in most cases (Table S2).

Table S2. Summary of simulation results that included calibration for the root of seed plants. The lower and upper represent the 2.5% and 97.5% quantiles, respectively.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Simulation scenario | Mean (SD) | Lower | Upper |
| 3:1 herbaceous to woody | 207.9 (15.1) | 184.3 | 242.9 |
| 6:1 herbaceous to woody | 244.5 (20.4) | 205.1 | 283.7 |
| 4:1 angio. to gymno.; 3:1 herbaceous to woody angio. | 235.7 (16.0) | 210.6 | 267.5 |
| 4:1 angio. to gymno.; 3:1 herbaceous to woody angio.; Gnetales herbaceous angio. | 229.7 (17.7) | 192.5 | 260.6 |
| 4:1 angio. to gymno.; 3:1 herbaceous to woody angio.; Gnetales woody angio. | 233.1 (16.4) | 198.3 | 261.4 |

V. *Divergence time estimation using a birth-death prior with incomplete sampling*

As a complimentary analysis to the land plant divergence time analysis discussed in the main text, we applied a birth-death prior that assumes incomplete sampling. With this approach, the normal birth-death parameters are estimated using a third variable, ρ, that scales the birth and death estimates to compensate for the sampling fraction (see Gernhard 2008). However, as Figure S3 shows, applying this prior assumption does little to impact the estimated age of angiosperms.

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Figure S3. Divergence time estimates for land plants using the UCLN and a birth-death prior that assumes incomplete sampling. The age of angiosperms is identical to the ages inferred using a normal birth-death prior (see Figure 1 in the main text).