1 Phylogenetic approaches reveal biodiversity threats under climate change

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Predicting the consequences of climate change for biodiversity is critical to conservation efforts^{1,2,3}. Extensive range losses have been predicted for thousands of individual species⁴, but less is known about how climate change might impact whole clades¹ and landscape-scale patterns of biodiversity⁵. Here, we show that climate change scenarios imply significant changes in phylogenetic diversity and phylogenetic endemism at a continental scale in Australia using the hyper-diverse clade of eucalypts. We predict that within the next 60 years the vast majority of species distributions (91%) across Australia will shrink in size (on average by 51%) and shift south based on projected suitable climatic space. Geographic areas currently with high phylogenetic diversity and endemism are predicted to change substantially in future climate scenarios.

Approximately 90% of the current areas with concentrations of paleo-endemism⁶ (i.e. places with old evolutionary diversity) are predicted to disappear or shift their location. These findings show that climate change threatens whole clades of the phylogenetic tree, and can be used to forecast areas of biodiversity losses and continental scale impacts of climate change.

By combining species distribution models (SDMs) with measures of evolutionary diversity, we can predict how climate change might impact the tree of life in the future ^{1,7,8}. Preserving the tree of life is increasingly recognised as an important consideration for conservation in Australia; globally, this evolutionary heritage provides a storehouse of unanticipated benefits for future generations, and locally it helps ensure resilient ecosystems and ongoing delivery of their services ^{9,10,11,12}. The most commonly used metric to quantify the diversity represented by the tree of life is phylogenetic diversity (PD), which represents the shared evolutionary history of species present in a region and is measured as the sum of branch lengths in the phylogenetic tree linking the species present ¹⁰. PD does not include information on rarity of lineages, which is another important concern for conservation

priorities. Phylogenetic endemism (PE) addresses this problem by incorporating the degree of spatial restriction of phylogenetic branches found in an area, relative to all other areas¹³. This useful property means that PE can be used to identify areas that host relatively unique diversity, such as range-restricted "long branch" lineages (i.e., *paleoendemics* - species or clades with no living close relatives such as the reptile Tuatara, *Sphenodon*, or the fish Coelacanth, *Latimeria*).

In addition to preserving past evolutionary heritage, protecting areas that hold rapidly diversifying, range-restricted lineages (i.e., *neoendemics*) is a priority, because those lineages hold the key to future evolutionary potential. Previous studies have considered how climate change will impact the evolutionary heritage represented by PD^{1,7,8}. PD is expected to be correlated with species richness. Therefore we applied a spatial randomization to evaluate departures of PD and PE from expectations⁶. Consequently, our PD-based metrics are decoupled from their corresponding species-based metrics. Here we present the first analysis describing how both the past and future of evolution might be impacted by climate change using model predictions and newly-developed phylogenetic metrics that take into account relative branch lengths.

We explored our approach for a key taxonomic group, Australian eucalypts (genera *Eucalyptus, Corymbia*, and *Angophora*). Australian eucalypts are an appropriate biological model because they are a hyper-diverse group (> 800 species) that dominate forest canopies and ecosystems across much of the continent. Eucalypts are mostly endemic to Australia and have a broad biogeographical diversity¹⁴. They are of global interest due to their widespread use in forestry¹⁵. They form a monophyletic lineage within the Myrtaceae family ^{16,17,18,19}, including the few eucalypt species that occur outside of Australia. Here we examine the expected shift in the geographic ranges of 657 species of eucalypt across Australia, comparing present ranges to those under forecast climate change scenarios for the years 2025,

2045, 2065 and 2085. We used SDMs to predict changes in geographic ranges and the direction in which ranges are likely to shift under future climate scenarios. SDMs have limitations when predicting responses to climate change²⁰ in species (e.g., climatic adaptability) and communities (e.g., species interactions). We accounted for some of the well-known weaknesses of SDMs by explicitly considering spatial bias and over-fitting, and comparing models with and without dispersal. The dispersal and non-dispersal scenarios produced very similar patterns, so we report only the results from the dispersal scenario.

Our study's novel findings regarding effects of climate change on phylogenetic diversity are grounded in our descriptions of impacts at the species level that corroborate previous findings. Eucalypt species are known to be threatened by climate change in Australia with previous results suggesting 53% of all *Eucalyptus* species predicted to be outside of their current climate conditions by 2070 under a 3°C warming scenario²¹. More recent SDM modelling for eucalypts suggests species ranges across the continent will contract and shift in both lateral and poleward directions, and the central desert areas will be particularly affected²². Our models predicted that by 2085, the current geographic range of 91% of the 657 eucalypt species will shrink by an average of 51%, with 2.4% of species predicted to become extinct because their climate space will disappear entirely. Relatively few species (9%) are predicted to expand their geographic range (Fig. 1; see also SI_2 for range size, % change, type of shift, shift magnitude and shift direction; and SI_4 for maps for each of the 657 species).

To understand how these losses in species will manifest as changes in evolutionary diversity across the landscape, we calculated present and future PD^{10} and PE^{13} for all grid cells (~25km × 25km). These analyses predict that on average 2% of PD (decline in PD grid cells) will be lost across Australia by 2085 (Extended Data Fig. 1). Losses will occur in places recognised as national 14 and global biodiversity hotspots 23. Additionally, we found that

the rate of turnover of PD increases over time, with a higher proportion of major changes occurring in southern Australia (Extended Data Fig. 9). Specifically, Mediterranean, temperate, and grassland ecosystems will face the greatest proportional change in clades present over time. This trend is accompanied by an increasing homogenization over the landscape. The average rate of phylogenetic turnover between all pairs of cells within a given year will decrease from 0.58 in the present to 0.50 in 2085 (Extended Data Table 1), suggesting an increase in average spatial homogeneity of phylogenetic composition (or phylogenetic homogenization) in the future. This spatial homogenization of PD has been documented previously for diverse groups in Europe¹, and is suggested by past and current climate-driven plant extinctions for Thoreau's woods in the US and some temperate tree floras in Europe^{24,25}. Here, for the first time, we show the potential effects of climate-change leading to PD loss in the future for a significant biological group of the southern hemisphere.

In contrast, PE is predicted to increase spatially in some of the areas of key diversity hotspots. In general, species endemism and PE are measures of rarity, and therefore, endemism tends to increase in the areas that hold the remaining portions of species ranges. The increase in PE is a result of lineages becoming more range-restricted. For example, in southwestern Western Australia, an internationally recognized biodiversity hotspot, species are predicted to retract toward the coast causing some coastal cells to have high PE in the future (Extended Data Fig. 1e). Predicting the location of high PE areas in the future is important from a conservation standpoint because these locations are likely to be the sites of concentrations of rare elements of diversity in the future, and, therefore, will be strategic areas for preventing further PD losses.

Two derived metrics, relative phylogenetic diversity (RPD) and relative phylogenetic endemism (RPE)⁶, can be used to better understand anticipated impacts on unusually long or short branches. These metrics reveal information about the underlying evolutionary processes

that we seek to understand and conserve⁶ and also because they store old and highly unique lineages that, once lost, will significantly reduce the breadth of biodiversity. Sites with many very long branches are important repositories of unique evolutionary history and trait diversity²⁶; sites with many short branches might indicate places with the potential for generating evolutionary adaptation and speciation in the future.

The RPD and RPE metrics reveal these patterns through an assessment that asks whether the contribution of unusually long or short branches to PD or PE in a grid cell is greater or less than expected by chance. RPD (or RPE) is the ratio of PD (or PE) measured using the set of species in that grid cell on the observed tree of the 657 eucalypt species to that measured on a comparison tree with the same topology but with all branches adjusted to be of equal (average) length⁶, with significant large or small ratios determined by a spatial randomization test (see Methods for details of randomization test)²⁷. We find both areas of significantly high and significantly low RPD are predicted to decline in size (~10%) by 2085 (Extended Data Fig. 2), indicating that unusually long- and short-branch lineages will disappear within sites.

Endemism can result either from younger lineages that have yet to expand their range or from older lineages that are relicts of a previously broader distribution. RPE allows the identification of centres of paleo-endemism (range-restricted long branches), centres of neo-endemism (range-restricted short branches), or both (centres of mixed endemism, termed "super endemism"), through a recently-developed method called CANAPE (Categorical Analysis of Neo- And Paleo-Endemism; see methods)⁶. We find that the current areas of paleo-, neo-, and super-endemism are predicted to significantly shrink (~50%) in size by 2085 (Fig. 2; Extended Data Fig. 3a-e). This suggests that current areas of significant phylogenetic endemism may decline as lineages either go extinct or move to different locations (Figs. 2 and 3) with climate change.

Areas of paleo-endemism are particularly impacted; $\geq 90\%$ of the current areas with significantly high paleo-endemism will disappear or shift to new places by 2085 (Fig. 2 ellipses). Most of the large loss of paleo-endemism is due to shrinking geographic range of lineages (Extended Data Fig. 4). This large loss of paleo-endemism is a loss in the number of grid cells falling into that category. Shrinking ranges can increase the paleo-endemism of a cell that retains those long branches, but overall decreases of paleo-endemism areas reflects the loss of those branches from areas. For example, between the present and 2085, 64.6% of species' geographic ranges within current paleo-endemism areas will shrink (Extended Data Fig. 4), thus impacting their contribution to overall PE of these areas. There are currently 73 grid cells with significant eucalypt paleo-endemism in Australia, containing 240 species. By 2085, 52 of these species are predicted to go extinct or migrate elsewhere (Fig. 3). Consequently, most of these grid cells will cease to be areas of paleo-endemism by 2085. Declines of paleo-endemic areas tended to be even larger in the no-dispersal scenario, which otherwise gave similar results to the dispersal scenario reported in the text (Extended Data Fig. 3 f-j). These results show that areas of paleo-endemism are not necessarily places of long-term stability, but instead may be highly threatened and mobile.

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We also found that, in a few cases, new areas of paleo-endemism (Fig. 2, squares) are predicted to form. The main reason that paleo-endemic sites appear is because current widespread long-branch lineages become more range-restricted under climate change. These predicted new centres of paleo-endemism will be important for future conservation because they represent predicted areas that have the potential to harbour rare long branches.

Lineages are also predicted to disappear from places where new concentrations of paleo-endemism will form (see the square in central Australia and the larger rectangle in the far top-left in Fig. 2b). These sites currently contain 70 and 57 species and we predict that

23.3% and 7% of those species, respectively, will be locally extinct by 2085 (Fig. 2; Extended Data Fig. 5c, d).

Overall, the extinction of whole lineages is likely to occur as a result of severe reductions of climatic space (Extended Data Fig. 5a-d; and species list in SI_1, Tables 1-4). The effect on the phylogeny was not evenly distributed as has been previously reported in some cases²⁴, and we identified potential extinction of five species of *Eucalyptus* in Southwest Australia and three of *Corymbia* in southeast Queensland. This could be considered as an early sign of phylogenetic extirpation²⁵ or extinction of lineages of eucalypts (Fig. 3).

Few studies have addressed the impact of climate change on PD²⁸ and ours is the first to take the additional step of showing how climate change might affect PE including centres of paleo- (old) and neo- (young) -endemism across a continental-scale landscape. Our approach can be considered as an early warning system for forecasting biodiversity loss across the landscape, critically expressed as loss of evolutionary heritage and evolutionary potential. Here we show that the contraction of lineage ranges expected with climate change is likely to reduce diversity at most locations, homogenise the landscape, and particularly impact rare long- and short-branch lineages, which might cause significant losses to the tree of life and reduce genetic adaptive potential of eucalypts under climate change^{29,30}. Faced with substantial losses to biodiversity with climate change, our approach allows the identification of areas that are key to preventing further biodiversity loss.

Specifically, we found major shifts in eucalypts' modelled distributions which, if realized, would lead to a shrinkage of current areas of high phylogenetic endemism for the species group along all the southwest, southeast, and southern coastal regions of Australia. We find that Tasmania, due to its lower latitude and more temperate climate, might become a very important refugium, while Victoria is more prone to losing areas of neo-endemism.

Current hotspots of paleo-endemism in southeast Queensland, northern coastal NSW, and central Australia are also predicted to be impacted severely. Conversely, new concentrations of paleo-endemism are predicted to occur in the Kimberley and northern coastal region demonstrating the potential of our methods to identify key areas that might be important refugia in the future.

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297	All authors contributed to project conception. C.G-O, L.J.P, A.H.T, N.K, B.G and S.W.L.
298	conducted analyses. A.H.T, M.D, C.K and J.T.M developed the phylogeny. A.H.T, N.K,
299	C.G-O, L.J.P and N.B compiled and corrected species spatial data records. C.G-O wrote the
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301	final paper.
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310 Methods

Spatial Data and Species Distribution Modelling

We modelled present and future distributions of current and four future time points (2025, 2045, 2065 and 2085) for all 766 eucalypt species (~163,000 occurrence records) found in Australia (only 16 are endemic to another country) at a 5-km pixel resolution using a dispersal and a no-dispersal scenario. Data (presence-only) were extracted from Australia's Virtual Herbarium database [AVH] accessed in October 2011 (http://avh.chah.org.au/). Species names were rectified using the current species list found in Euclid Version 3.0³¹ and experts were consulted in particular cases when naming history was difficult to reconstruct. Latitudinal biases were corrected by spatial geo-rectifications. Points outside the known natural range were removed for each species based on range maps and expert opinion, and pre-1950 records were removed to limit spatial uncertainty³².

We used the Representative Cost Pathway (RCP) 6.0 scenario for the Hadley global climate model (hadcm3, http://wallaceinitiative.org/). We focused on this moderate climate scenario because of its fit with the Australian strategy on emission reductions, and because the literature suggests that eucalypts will be significantly affected under a 3°C warming by 2070²¹. Strictly our predictions are therefore only valid for this scenario, but as it is an intermediate scenario our predicted responses are most likely also of the intermediate type. In case there is a reason in the future to suggest a different scenario to be more likely our approach can be easily adapted to such a scenario. We used a simplified set of predictor variables that we believe to be physiologically relevant (maximum temperature and dry season rainfall) with strong predictive power²², spatial variables (latitude and longitude) and one edaphic variable (median % clay content derived from the 1:2 M Atlas of Australian Soils^{33,34}). Spatial predictors were included in the models because they help constrain the

modelled distributions to a more realistic spatial extent based on an initial trial of 20 species with good distribution data.

The AVH dataset is heavily influenced by road-based sampling, which was accounted for by including distance-to-roads as a predictor in each model, then setting distance-to-roads to zero for prediction (for present and future scenarios). Models were fitted using MaxEnt³⁵ in the R package 'dismo' with a random background sample of 20,000 records (the same sample for each species), randomly distributed across Australia and uniform for all species. We used only 'hinge features' because they tend to increase model performance without increasing model complexity³⁶. Hinge features provide smoother response curves, which may more closely approximate the species' fundamental niche³⁷. Model fit was evaluated with Area Under the ROC Curve from a 5-fold cross-validation for each species (see AUC values in SI_3). A Maxent logistic threshold (maximum training sensitivity plus specificity) for each species was applied to convert habitat suitability into presences and absences for present and future scenarios.

In the no-dispersal scenario, we used the same set of modelling parameters described above, but prevented colonization. The present distributions are identical in the dispersal and no-dispersal scenario. In each subsequent time period, species are not allowed to disperse to cells not occupied in the previous time step.

Molecular data

DNA data for the study was gathered by using existing and newly generated nuclear (ITS and ETS) and chloroplast sequences (*matK* and *psba-trnH*) that were successfully amplified for 711 eucalypt species (See Table in SI_5 for GenBank accessions). Leaves for DNA extraction were sourced from numerous field trips, botanical gardens, arboreta, and herbaria from multiple locations around Australia. In total 2560 gene sequences were used in the

study, 237 were mined from GenBank, and 2323 were newly generated for this project. These sequences represented the 711 eucalypt species and 21 taxa from other Myrtaceae tribes which were used to root the phylogeny (Extended Data Fig. 6). Individual locus alignments were constructed using Muscle³⁸ and adjusted manually in Se-Al³⁹.

The phylogenetic analysis was performed on the concatenated alignment using maximum likelihood in the CIPRES Portal (www.phylo.org), utilising the RAxML HPC BlackBox tool with a partition model set for each locus, with bootstrapping set to automatically halt, which occurred after 550 replicates. The ML tree with bootstrap values is shown in Extended Data Fig. 7. Extended Data figure 8 is a bi-plot of branch length vs, bootstrap score, and shows that low bootstrap scores were restricted to very short branches. The uncertainty in these short branches did not affect the analyses presented here, since the better supported long branches contribute most of the PD.

Species range shift analyses

The mean centre of distributional area using the Maxent habitat suitability maps under present and future scenarios was estimated for the 657 species with matching phylogenetic data and SDMs following established methods⁴⁰. This analysis showed the magnitude and direction of change of the mean centre of the climate space for each species between the present and 2085. Species were grouped according to their distribution change from the present, namely into "expanding" or "shrinking" if the predicted suitable climate space of a species increased or decreased between the present and 2085, respectively. Species whose suitable climate space was predicted to become extinct by 2085 were classified as "extinct". The 'dispersal' scenario assumes all species can disperse across the landscape. However, the use of spatial variables in the models indirectly accounts for some dispersal limitation, effectively limiting the potential of species to disperse to distant sites. We believe

this spatial dispersal limitation is realistic given the biology of eucalypts, with most species having relatively heavy seeds without specialized dispersal mechanisms that simply drop to the ground when shed. Given the tree height, seed weights, and average wind speeds, most eucalypt species would not be expected to disperse beyond a single grid cell during the time period in this study without a rare long-distance dispersal event⁴¹.

Spatial phylogenetic analyses of modelled distributions

The SDM suitability values were aggregated at ~25km × 25km to a total of 12,813 grid cells and used to calculate Species Richness (SR), Weighted Endemism (WE), Phylogenetic Diversity (PD)¹⁰, Phylogenetic Endemism (PE)¹³, Relative Phylogenetic Diversity (RPD) and Relative Phylogenetic Endemism (RPE) in the Biodiverse software⁴² for 657 species. SR and WE results reported in Extended Data Fig. 1 were calculated on the basis of all 766 species because they did not require a phylogenetic tree. All phylogenetic metrics were calculated on the basis of the 657 species that are in the phylogeny. A spatial randomization based on 999 trials was applied to these metrics⁶. The purpose of the randomization is to identify whether the observed values were significantly different from a random selection of the same number of terminal taxa from the tree.

RPE is applied in a two-step test called categorical analysis of neo- and paleoendemism (CANAPE) using the same spatial randomization⁶. The first step of CANAPE
determines whether a location is a center of high phylogenetic endemism by applying a onetailed test (for large values) to both the numerator and denominator of RPE (i.e., PE measured
on the observed tree in the numerator and PE measured on a comparison tree where all
branches are of equal (average) length in the denominator). Then, for grid cells passing this
test, the second step applies a two-tailed test to the RPE ratio to identify cells dominated by
unusually short range-restricted branches (centres of neo-endemism), unusually long range-

- 407 restricted branches (centres of paleo-endemism), or both (centres of mixed endemism, termed
- "super endemism" if both the numerator and denominator of RPE are highly significant)⁶.

409 Phylogenetic turnover analyses of modelled distributions

- Two spatial turnover analyses using the Phylo Sørenson index⁴³ were conducted in
- Biodiverse⁴² for 657 species to cross validate the observed patterns of the modelled PD
- distribution results: (1) a mean pair-wise rate of turnover between all pairs of cells within
- each time period, summarised using the mean and standard deviation for each year; and (2)
- the rate of phylogenetic turnover from the present to each modelled time period for each cell.
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Figure 1 Variation in the predicted distribution of the suitable climate space of 657
Australian eucalypt species from 2014 to 2085. a, Shift in the predicted species
distribution where arrows present the magnitude and direction of change in distribution at the
centroid of the climatic space. b , plots showing the general direction of the distributional
change for species that have shrinking distributions, expanding distributions or go extinct at
the last time point.
Figure 2 Areas of phylogenetic endemism using Categorical Analysis of Neo- And
Paleo-Endemism (CANAPE) for 657 species of eucalypts in Australia for projected
climate change scenarios at 2014 and 2085. a, CANAPE map for 2014, and b, 2085.
Ellipses indicate places where current areas of paleo-endemism disappear; rectangles indicate
places where new areas of paleo-endemism appear; triangles indicate where current areas of
paleo or neo-endemism weaken. Beige areas do not depart significantly from random
expectation.
Figure 3 Effects of projected climate change scenarios, between 2014 and 2085, on
species of eucalypts found in current areas of paleo-endemism across Australia.
Highlighted branches in the phylogenetic tree are present in the 73 grid cells that had
significant paleo-endemism in Australia in 2014 (blue grid cells in ellipses Fig 2a).
Branches predicted to be lost from the 73 grid cells by 2085 are shown in blue, branches
predicted to immigrate by 2085 are shown in green, and branches common to both periods
are shown in red. Clades marked with an asterisk refer to places in the phylogeny
corresponding to paleo-endemism where individual branches were removed from the
phylogeny consistently over time.





