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6 Phylogenetic diversity of Amazonian tree communities

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Understanding the distribution of phylogenetic diversity is critical to conservation 88 89 prioritization and determining the origins of high species richness. We calculated the phylogenetic diversity (PD) present in 283 ~1 ha forest inventory plots from across 90 91 Amazonia. We show that PD has a non-random spatial distribution. PD, measured as the sum of phylogenetic branch length in plots (PD sensu stricto, PDss), was highest in tree 92 communities of central and western Amazonia. Because PDss is strongly correlated with 93 94 species richness (SR), this is unsurprising. However, western Amazonian communities have higher PDss than predicted by SR alone, while central communities have lower than expected 95 PDss. The Brazilian and Guiana Shields, while species poor and thus having low PDss, also 96 97 have PDss greater than predicted by SR. We suggest that the excess PD in western Amazonia may be due to an easy-to-colonize environment (fertile, aseasonal), while the high values in 98 99 the Shields may be due to their great age. Meanwhile, some particularly stressfull 100 environments (white-sand and seasonally dry tropical forests) have lower than expected 101 PDss, perhaps because the adaptations required in such environments present difficult to 102 surmount evolutionary barriers. Conservation planning in Amazonia should consider PD and 103 SR in future assessments.

105	Keywords:	Amazon bas	in, phy	logenetic	diversity.	savannas.	seasonally	dry t	ropical	forests.
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- 106 species richness, white-sand forest
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111 **1. Introduction**

112 A central task of biology is to quantify biodiversity and how it varies geographically [1]. 113 Elucidating and understanding the dominant patterns of diversity is particularly important within the tropics, because of their high species richness and the pressing need to develop and 114 apply effective conservation strategies in the face of massive habitat alteration. While the 115 species diversity of specific areas can be measured using different indices (e.g. species 116 richness, Shannon-Wiener Index, Fisher's alpha), these ecological metrics may fail to account 117 for the evolutionary, or lineage, diversity of communities. As a result, some authors have 118 advocated developing and implementing metrics, such as phylogenetic diversity, that quantify 119 the lineage diversity of communities [2, 3]. 120

Phylogenetic diversity (PD) is generally estimated as the total branch length of a phylogeny representing species in a community [2]. This metric tends to be correlated with species richness (SR; the total number of species in a community), and thus SR can sometimes be used as a proxy for PD [4, 5]. However, some areas contain significantly greater or less PD than expected given their SR [6, 7], a pattern that could add complementary information about the evolutionary history and conservation significance of a site [8]. Some researchers have advocated other metrics that show less dependence on species richness, such as the 128 mean phylogenetic distance between species in a community, as alternative metrics to 129 represent the evolutionary diversity in communities [9-11]. The availability of different PD 130 metrics, in conjunction with the recent developments of standardized floristic sampling across 131 Amazonia [12, 13] and of a robust angiosperm phylogeny [14], now make it possible to 132 examine how PD and its covariance with species richness vary at large spatial scales across 133 the world's most species-rich tropical forest [see also 15]. By examining the PD of tree communities throughout Amazonia, we aim to provide insights into its biogeographical 134 135 history and inform conservation prioritization.

136 Previous research [16] has shown tree species diversity in 1 ha plots across the Amazon to be 137 highest in the western and central portions and lowest in the Guianan and Brazilian shields. Assuming that PD is correlated with SR, we would therefore expect that PD will be greatest 138 in the western and central Amazon. However, numerous factors may drive spatial variation in 139 PD and whether communities show greater or less PD than expected given their SR. For 140 example, based on variation in substrate age, one might hypothesize that tree communities on 141 the Guiana and Brazilian Shields, which overlay sediments of Pre-Cambrian origin [17], 142 would have had the opportunity to accumulate lineage diversity over many millions years, 143 and thus might have higher PD than expected given their low SR. In contrast, tree 144 communities of western Amazonia overlying Pliocene and Pleistocene sediments from the 145 Andes [17, 18] might be expected to show lower than expected PD because of the dominance 146 147 of recent evolutionary radiations within certain clades [19, 20]. The branches leading to 148 recently derived species should be short in comparison to the deep branches separating 149 species from older diversification events [21]. Gentry [22] suggested that the Andean 150 orogeny could have promoted high recent species diversification on the western Amazon 151 fringe through repeated creation of new habitats and large-scale rearrangement of complex, 152 dissected landscapes [see also 18]. Recent phylogenetic evidence has supported this notion,

showing that radiations of some diverse Andean and pre-Andean genera apparently coincidewith the uplift of the Andes [19, 20, 23].

155 Soil fertility and seasonality also vary across Amazonia. Overall, the relatively young soils of 156 western Amazonia are fertile in comparison with the highly weathered soils of central and 157 eastern Amazonia and the Guianan and Brazilian Shields, while the poorest soils are found beneath white-sand forests that occur sporadically in small to large patches throughout the 158 159 northern part of the basin [17]. In addition, the dry season varies from being essentially 160 absent in the northwest to lasting 5-6 months in the southeast and some northern areas [24], where moist forests give way to savannas and seasonally dry tropical forest (SDTF). Some of 161 162 these environmental conditions may represent stressful ecophysiological barriers that few 163 lineages have been able to overcome [25, 26]. Thus an alternative hypothesis to the one above, based on substrate age, is that tree communities in areas of the Amazon with more 164 potential ecophysiological barriers to entry (i.e. white-sand forests in north-western 165 Amazonia and the Guiana Shield, savannas in south-western Amazonia, SDTF in the 166 northern Andes and south-western Amazonia) will show the greatest negative deviation from 167 expected PD given their SR [27]. 168

169 We used a network of 283 forest inventory plots [RAINFOR; 28] to quantify the PD of tree communities and examine its spatial variation across Amazonia. We rarefied all plots to the 170 same number of trees, and then calculated (i) the total phylogenetic branch length of all 171 172 species occurring in each plot, PD sensu stricto [PDss; 2], (ii) the deviation from expected 173 PD given SR [PDres; 6], and (iii) the mean pairwise phylogenetic distance among co-174 occurring species [MPDt; 11, 29]. We first tested the assumption that PDss largely depends 175 on SR. We then tested the hypothesis, based on substrate age, that tree communities in the 176 Guiana and Brazilian Shields will show the greatest PDres, while those in the western

177 Amazon will show the lowest PDres. While our sample sizes in savanna, SDTF, and white-

178 sand forests are limited, we conducted a preliminary test of the hypothesis that tree

179 communities in these stressful environments will show the lowest PDres. As MPDt is

180 putatively independent of SR, we expected it to show the same patterns as PDres.

181

182 **2. Methods**

183 (a) Tree community plot data

In this study, we used a total of 283 inventory plots of the RAINFOR forest plot network 184 [Date of extraction: 28/01/2013; 30; see supplementary material, Table S1]. Plots are 185 generally one hectare in size (mean \pm SD = 1.1 \pm 0.6 ha) and sample all trees \ge 10 cm 186 diameter at breast height (DBH). We restricted analyses to old-growth forest plots. Each plot 187 was treated as a community and classified into three main biomes (Figure 1): tropical moist 188 forest, TMF (n = 267 plots), SDTF (n = 11), and savannas, S (n = 5). Fourteen plots were 189 from the northern Andes (Colombia and Venezuela), outside the Amazon basin, but were 190 included because of their close phytogeographical connection to Amazonia. 191

192 The 267 tropical moist forest plots were further classified by the maximum age of the 193 underlying geological formation. The Guiana and Brazilian Shields represent the oldest geological formations in Amazonia (TMF.o: > 500 Ma), followed by formations of central 194 195 and eastern Amazonia (TMF.i: 20-100 Ma) located between the Shields, while areas near to 196 the Andes (western Amazonia and northern Andes) are dominated by younger sediments [TMF.y: < 20 Ma; 17] deposited mainly during the Pliocene and the Pleistocene [18] (Figure 197 198 1). All TMF plots were also classified by forest types: flooded forest (affected by the flooding 199 of rivers or with a shallow water table), montane forest (at 1650 - 3000 m a.s.l.), terra firme

forest (in the interfluvial plain on clayed or brown-sand soils), and white-sand forest (on white-sand soils). Note that, in our data set, not all of the forest types are represented for each of the geological formations (e.g. there were no communities of white-sand forests sampled overlaying the geological formations of intermediate age).

204 In total, the dataset included 183,908 individual trees sampled in Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, French Guiana, Guyana, Peru, Surinam, and Venezuela. To ensure a standardized 205 206 nomenclature across plots based on the APG-III classification [14], the Taxonomic Name Resolution Service version 3.0 was used (http://tnrs.iplantcollaborative.org; accessed on 207 01/03/2013). Tree ferns and gymnosperms only occur in significant numbers in montane 208 209 plots, and they are exceedingly rare in lowland forest, which is the focus of this study. These 210 very rare species represent 0.018 % of all individual trees in our lowland plots and are essentially stochastically sampled in any given 1 ha plot (they were found in a total of 11 211 plots). Given this stochasticity and the strong effect of tree ferns and gymnosperms on 212 phylogenetic diversity metrics (they are subtended by very long phylogenetic branches; [15, 213 31, 32]), we excluded them from phylogenetic diversity calculations. We also excluded all 214 individuals not identified to species (13.6 %), while testing for the effect of doing so in the 215 analyses (see below). The final dataset contained a total of 157,340 individuals, belonging to 216 217 3,868 species, 732 genera and 126 families of angiosperms.

218 (

(b) Phylogenetic tree and diversity metrics

A phylogenetic tree of the whole species pool (see supplementary material, Figure S1) was generated using Phylomatic in PHYLOCOM version 4.2 [33]. This tool provides a phylogenetic hypothesis for the relationships among taxa by matching the list of species with up-to-date family and genus names, and tip labels of a provided megatree [34]. In this case, the topology of R20120829.new provided at http://phylodiversity.net/phylomatic/ was used. 224 An ultrametric phylogeny including branch length in millions of years (Ma) was obtained 225 using bladi in PHYLOCOM. This command fixes the root node (angiosperms, 179 Ma) and 226 other nodes to specified ages based on Wikström et al. [35]. Inconsistencies in syntax 227 between internal node labels of the phylogeny and the ages file were modified manually to ensure a better performance of the node calibration using bladi [36]. 228 Three metrics were used to evaluate the evolutionary history present in communities, (i) 229 230 phylogenetic diversity sensu stricto [PDss; 2], that is the total phylogenetic branch length of all species occurring in a given community, (ii) deviation from expected PDss given species 231 richness (SR), that is a measure of the residuals from the relationship between PDss and SR 232 [PDres: 6], and (iii) mean pairwise phylogenetic distance among co-occurring species [MPDt; 233 11, 29]. While other phylogenetic diversity metrics exist [e.g. 9, 10], these were chosen 234

- because of their simplicity and history of use in the literature [e.g. 6, 37, 38].
- 236 (c) Data assessment and analysis

To minimize the effects of sampling effort (i.e. plot size) and variation in tree density, we 237 238 used a rarefaction procedure that standardized all plots to 249 individuals, which was the lowest observed number of individuals amongst all plots. Values for PDss, PDres, and MPDt 239 for each rarefacted community were calculated using the package PICANTE [39] in the R 240 241 Statistical Software version 2.15.1. SR was calculated as the total number of taxa in each rarefacted community. Each taxon was classified into one of the three major angiosperm 242 243 clades (Magnoliids including Chloranthales, Monocots, and Eudicots) and the percentages of 244 species and individuals in each clade were estimated. The mean of the phylogenetic diversity 245 metrics, SR, and the proportion of major clades across 100 rarefactions were used for further 246 analyses.

The relationship between the phylogenetic diversity metrics measured as PDss and MPDt were assessed against SR and the proportion of major clades. The level of significance of the deviations from the relationship of PDss on SR was tested for different biomes using a *t* test. The values of all three phylogenetic diversity metrics were compared among the different biomes using F-tests and Tukey tests. We also assessed the correlation of the phylogenetic diversity metrics with the latitude and longitude of plots.

- 253 We assessed if there was any bias to the phylogenetic diversity metrics with respect to
- unidentified individuals by examining the correlation between percentage of unidentified
- individuals in plots and the PD metrics. Finally, we also re-analysed a subset of the data (n =
- 256 117 plots with large sample size) rarefying the plots to 500 individuals per sampling unit, to
- test the effect of sample size in the rarefaction procedure on estimating phylogenetic
- diversity.
- 259

260 **3. Results**

261 (a) Species richness and major angiosperm clades

Terra firme moist forests of intermediate and young geological formations have the highest species richness (SR), with an average of 88 and 72 species respectively (for 249 rarefacted individuals; Table 1). Flooded moist forest communities in western and central Amazonia had greater SR than flooded and terra firme forests on the Guiana and Brazilian Shields, while the lowest SR was found in white-sand forests of the Guiana Shield and Andean montane forests (Table 1). SDTF and savannas show intermediate values of SR, resembling values of forest types on old geological formations. 269 On average, 85.8 % of species per plot belong to Eudicots, 11.1 % to Magnoliids, and 3.1 % 270 to Monocots. These values were similar when comparing percentages of individuals, except 271 for Monocots, which tend to be more abundant in the western Amazon (Table 1). Early 272 diverging clades such as Magnoliids and Monocots tend to have a higher percentage of 273 species and individuals on young geological formations than on intermediate and old 274 formations, while Eudicots show the opposite pattern (Table 1). SDTF shows the lowest percentage of Magnoliid and Monocot species, and the greatest of Eudicots, but the 275 276 abundance of these clades in savannas is more similar to the values typical of the moist forest 277 plots.

278 **(b) Phylogenetic diversity metrics**

279 Species richness strongly positively correlates with PDss (r = 0.98, p < 0.001; Figure 2a),

following a power relationship (log (PD) ~ log (SR) \approx PD = 230.6 x SR^{0.7}), which was a

better fit than a linear relationship (PD ~ SR \approx PD = 1160.0 + 37.1 x SR; r = 0.92, p < 0.001).

282 We used the residuals of the power relationship as our measure of PDres (= PD_{observed} -

283 PD_{expected}). A much weaker correlation was observed between species richness and MPDt (r =

0.38, p < 0.001; see supplementary material, Figure S2). In contrast, the percentage of species

in Magnoliids + Monocots (i.e. = 1- Eudicots) correlates strongly with MPDt (r = 0.88, p < 0.88,

286 0.001; Figure 2b), which is driven mostly by variation in the relative abundance of

Magnoliids (r = 0.88, p < 0.001) rather than Monocots (r = 0.27, p < 0.001). The correlation

of the percentage of species in major clades with PDss was mostly weaker ($r_{1-Eudicots} = 0.52$,

289 $r_{Magnoliids} = 0.48$, $r_{Monocots} = 0.26$, all p < 0.001; see supplementary material, Figure S2).

290 (c) Spatial patterns

291 Our PD metrics show non-random spatial distributions across Amazonia (Figure 3). MPDt

shows a strong longitudinal gradient, increasing from east to west ($r_{Longitude} = -0.45$, p < -0.45, p

293	0.001), while PDss ($r_{Latitude} = 0.14$, $p < 0.05$; $r_{Longitude} = -0.16$, $p < 0.05$) and PDres ($r_{Latitude} = -0.16$, $p < 0.05$) and PDres ($r_{Latitude} = -0.16$, $p < 0.05$) and PDres ($r_{Latitude} = -0.16$, $p < 0.05$) and PDres ($r_{Latitude} = -0.16$, $p < 0.05$) and PDres ($r_{Latitude} = -0.16$, $p < 0.05$) and PDres ($r_{Latitude} = -0.16$, $p < 0.05$) and PDres ($r_{Latitude} = -0.16$, $p < 0.05$) and PDres ($r_{Latitude} = -0.16$, $p < 0.05$) and PDres ($r_{Latitude} = -0.16$, $p < 0.05$) and PDres ($r_{Latitude} = -0.16$, $p < 0.05$) and PDres ($r_{Latitude} = -0.16$, $p < 0.05$) and PDres ($r_{Latitude} = -0.16$, $p < 0.05$) and PDres ($r_{Latitude} = -0.16$, $p < 0.05$) and PDres ($r_{Latitude} = -0.16$, $p < 0.05$) and $r_{Latitude} = -0.16$, $p < 0.05$) and $r_{Latitude} = -0.16$, $p < 0.05$) and $r_{Latitude} = -0.16$, $p < 0.05$) and $r_{Latitude} = -0.16$, $p < 0.05$) and $r_{Latitude} = -0.16$, $p < 0.05$) and $r_{Latitude} = -0.16$, $p < 0.05$) and $r_{Latitude} = -0.16$, $p < 0.05$, $r_{Latitude} = -0.16$, r_{Lat
294	0.15, $p < 0.01$; $r_{\text{Longitude}} = -0.14$, $p < 0.05$) show weaker, but still significant correlations with
295	both latitude and longitude. PDss was greatest in communities on young and intermediate
296	aged geological formations (Figure 3a), while PDres was greatest in communities on young
297	and old geological formations (Figure 3b). MPDt was greatest in young geological
298	formations (Figure 3c). These spatial patterns are conserved among forest types of the moist
299	forest biome (Table 1). For all metrics, PD values of savannas were similar to moist forest
300	communities, while SDTF consistently showed low phylogenetic diversity (Figure 3d-f).
301	PDss shows no relationship with the percentage of unidentified individuals excluded per plot
302	$(r^2 = 0.002, p = 0.20)$, while PDres $(r^2 = 0.02, p < 0.05)$ and MPDt $(r^2 = 0.02, p < 0.05)$ show
303	weak relationships (see also supplementary material, Figure S3). In addition, for plots with
304	sufficient sample size to assess, we found a strong 1:1 relationship between phylogenetic
305	diversity metrics (PDres and MPDt) calculated with rarefactions of 500 versus 249

306 individuals (see supplementary material, Figure S4).

307

308 **4. Discussion**

309 Our results illustrate the non-random spatial distribution of phylogenetic diversity of tree communities across Amazonia. Consistent with previous studies (in savannas of North 310 311 America [40] and in the Cape flora of South Africa [6]), phylogenetic diversity sensu stricto (PDss) in the Amazon shows a strong correlation with species richness (SR). Thus, 312 313 communities of the most species-rich areas, central and western Amazonia [16], show the 314 greatest PDss (Figure 3a). Interestingly, once the relationship between PDss and SR is taken 315 into account, we found that western and central Amazonia show strikingly different patterns. 316 Western Amazonian tree communities show significantly greater PDss than expected given

their SR (i.e. strong positive PDres), while central Amazonian tree communities show
significant negative PDres (Figure 3b). Among moist forests, communities of the Brazilian
and Guianan Shields have the lowest values of PDss, but high PDres, on par with that found
in western Amazonia. Among the drier biomes found on the edges of Amazonia, savannas
have moderate PDss and high values of PDres, while seasonally dry tropical forests (SDTFs)
have consistently low PDss and PDres (Figure 3d,e).

323 We found that the mean pairwise phylogenetic distance among co-occurring species (MPDt) does not correlate well with species richness, suggesting that it could be a better metric of 324 phylogenetic diversity than PDss. However, we found that MPDt values depend primarily on 325 how evenly taxa are distributed amongst the three major angiosperm clades (Magnoliids 326 including Chloranthales, Monocots, and Eudicots), which is shown by the strong positive 327 correlation between the MPDt values and the proportion of taxa in plots that are Magnoliids 328 and Monocots (the two rarer clades; see Figure 2b). Thus, areas that have many Magnoliids 329 and Monocots present (in our case western Amazonia), perhaps due simply to environmental 330 conditions favourable to these early divergent taxa, show the greatest MPDt values. While it 331 is important to have a measure of how evenly distributed taxa are across the major clades of a 332 phylogeny, it is uncertain if MPDt is a useful metric upon which to make conservation 333 334 decisions.

335 (a) Has the greatest phylogenetic diversity been accumulated in communities overlaying 336 old geological formations?

Communities on old geological substrates in the Brazilian and Guianan Shields and
communities on young geological substrates showed equally high PDres (Figure 3e; TMF.o
and TMF.y). Thus, the prediction that PDres would be positively correlated with substrate
age was rejected. Nevertheless, we suggest that the high PDres found in the Guiana and

341 Brazilian Shields may be explained by their long-term geological history. Recent

phylogenetic studies have shown that some of the most diverse and characteristic clades of
the Shields are very old (e.g. *Licania*, ca. 46 Ma, [41]; *Pouteria*, ca. 60 Ma, Richardson, pers.
comm.), and it seems diversity has been accumulating in these regions for many millions of
years.

Rather, to understand the rejection of the hypothesis that geologically older substrates show 346 347 the greatest PDres, we need to consider why tree communities of western Amazonia show such high PDres. That communities of western Amazonia show high PDss is unsurprising, as 348 we have shown PDss to be strongly correlated with SR, and SR is substantially higher in the 349 350 western Amazon [16]. However, much of this diversity is due to recently-radiated species-351 rich genera [22] such as Inga [19] and Guatteria [20], and short branches do not greatly increase phylogenetic diversity [21]. Another exceptional aspect of western Amazonian tree 352 353 communities that must be considered is that they are occupied by lineages from the entirety of the angiosperm phylogeny. We propose that the fertile and aseasonal environments in the 354 west may be easier for various lineages with diverse evolutionary backgrounds to invade. 355 Moreover, the ability of diverse lineages to establish in the western Amazon may also be 356 related to the high rates of disturbance and turnover in the region [42]. Finally, the complex 357 358 geological configuration of western Amazonia [18, 43] may also contribute to high PDres by 359 creating an environment suitable to maintaining high phylogenetic diversity.

360 (b) Do areas with more potential ecophysiological barriers show the lowest PD in their 361 tree communities?

We expected that more extreme ecological conditions in seasonality and soil fertility may represent potential evolutionary barriers that few lineages have been able to overcome [25-27]. Both savannas and SDTF have a stressful dry season, but they show contrasting 365 phylogenetic diversity patterns. While phylogenetic diversity metrics of savannas were similar to those of nearby communities in tropical moist forest. SDTF has consistently low 366 367 phylogenetic diversity by all metrics (Figure 3d-f). Savannas and tropical moist forest 368 communities may share similar lineages across the angiosperm phylogeny, a pattern that 369 supports previous studies that suggested that savannas in south-western Amazonia are formed 370 by the colonisations of lineages from nearby biomes that managed to adapt to fire around 4-10 Ma [44, 45]. Conversely, the low phylogenetic diversity values shown for SDTF 371 communities suggest that fewer clades have succeeded in colonizing SDTF, and that 372 consequently, SDTF is occupied principally by close relatives. However, our conclusions 373 must be taken as preliminary given the low sample size and limited geographic extent of our 374 375 savanna and SDTF plots.

Previous studies have indicated a strong habitat specialization in white-sand communities as 376 indicated by the high number of individuals that belong to white-sand specialist species [46], 377 and by the distinct herbivore and ecophysiological defences that these species have evolved 378 to live in such poor-fertile soils [47]. Therefore, we also expected that white-sand forests 379 would have a high frequency of closely related species and low phylogenetic diversity. Our 380 results showed that only white-sand communities of the Guiana Shield have low PDres 381 values (comparable to SDTF; Table 1). In contrast, higher values of PDres were found in the 382 383 small patches of white-sand forests of north-western Amazonia, which may indicate a higher 384 influence by the regional pool (i.e. species present in the surrounding terra firme forest) than in the larger, more contiguous white-sand patches of the Guiana Shield. 385

388 Our study has revealed a non-random spatial distribution of phylogenetic diversity across 389 Amazonia, with some areas holding significantly more, or less, phylogenetic diversity than 390 expected from their species richness alone. These results indicate that species richness may 391 not give sufficient information to establish conservation priorities for evolutionary diversity 392 in Amazonia. Other metrics, in particular PDres, should be considered [6, 8]. For example, 393 the PDres differs between forests of central and western Amazonia, both of which have 394 communities that are exceptionally species rich. Communities of central Amazonia are 395 occupied by phylogenetically close relatives, while more distantly related taxa occur in western Amazonian forests. Moreover, the Brazilian and Guiana Shields, while species poor, 396 also have great PDres. We suggest that the high PDres of the Shields is due to the 397 accumulation of many lineages over their long history, while the high PDres of the western 398 399 Amazon is due to the easy-to-colonize fertile and aseasonal environments present there. In addition, specific habitats elsewhere in the Amazon basin (e.g. white-sand and seasonally dry 400 401 tropical forests) may require adaptations that are more difficult to evolve, and thus are dominated by close relatives from fewer lineages. If we are to preserve the full spectrum of 402 lineage diversity and the evolutionary processes that led to the exceptional biodiversity of 403 Amazonian communities, regional conservation planning may need to incorporate 404 405 phylogenetic information in order to explicitly account for the deviation of phylogenetic diversity from expectations based on species richness. 406

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430 Data accessibility: Dataset of the RAINFOR forest plot network is available at
431 <u>https://www.forestplots.net/</u>

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579 **Table and figure captions**

- Table 1. Community composition and diversity across forest types, showing proportional representation of major clades and mean values of species richness (SR) and phylogenetic diversity (Phylogenetic diversity *sensu stricto* (PDss), deviations from expected PDss accounting for species richness (PDres), and mean pairwise phylogenetic distance among cooccurring species (MPDt) are given in millions of years (Ma)).
- 585 Figure 1. Location of 283 permanent RAINFOR plots indicating geological formations and 586 biomes in South America. Geographical regions used in the text are indicated in bold.
- 587 Figure 2. Relationship between (a) phylogenetic diversity sensu stricto and species richness,
- and between (b) mean pairwise phylogenetic distance among co-occurring species and the
- 589 proportion of species of Magnoliids and Monocots (= 1 Eudicots). Tropical moist forest
- 590 biome is classified based on maximum age of geological formations [young: < 20 Ma;
- 591 intermediate: 20-100 Ma, old: > 500 Ma; 17].

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592 Figure 3. (a-c) Variation in the spatial distribution and (d-f) among biomes of phylogenetic 593 diversity in South America. Phylogenetic diversity sensu stricto (PDss), deviations from 594 expected PDss accounting for species richness (PDres), and mean pairwise phylogenetic 595 distance among co-occurring species (MPDt) are provided in different columns. Maps show 596 mean values of PD for tree inventories in one-degree grid. Tropical moist forest biome is 597 classified based on maximum age of geological formations [TMF.y: < 20 Ma; TMF.i: 20-100 Ma, TMF.o: > 500 Ma; 17]. Savanna and seasonally dry tropical forest are indicated as S and 598 599 SDTF, respectively. Letters in boxplots indicate significant difference among mean values (Tukey's HSD; p < 0.05). Asterisks indicate the level of significance of PDres (t test; * p < 0.05). 600 0.05, ** p < 0.01, *** p < 0.001), i.e. communities with higher or lower PDss values than 601

602 expected by their species richness.

Diama	Forest type	N° of plots	Sample area (ha)	Indiv. ID to spp (%)*	S	Species & individuals (r				nean, %) Mean diversity value				
(max. geological age)					Mag	noliids	Monc	cots	Eudic	cots	SR	PDss (Ma)	PDres (Ma)	MPDt (Ma)
Tranical maist forest	Floodad	12	17	96	spp 16	1nd 15	spp	10	spp 70	<u>ind</u>	72	2 062	(Ma)	(Ivia) 260
$(< 20 \text{ M}_{\odot})$	Flooded	12	1/	80	10	10	0	10	/0 07	0/	20	3,903 2,190	83 79	200
(< 20 Ma)	Torra firma	10	07	80 85	14	10	5	14	01	72	29 77	2,160	70 55	255
	White cand	00	97	0 <i>3</i>	14	5	5	14 5	01	2_{01}^{72}	42	4,101	102	250
Tranical maist forest	Flooded	4	4 2	85 72	10	5	5	3	00	91	42 72	2,839	192	234
$(20, 100 \text{ M}_{\odot})$	Torra firma	2	2 5.4	73 95	12	5	1		90	95	00	3,478	-409	242
(20 - 100 Ma)	Flooded	39 17	54 16	80	12	9	1		07	09	00 24	4,200	-235	240
$(> 500 M_{\odot})$	Torra firma	17 85	04	87	10	4 10-	2	6	95 87	92	56	2,308	54	238
(> 500 Wia)	White sand	05 1	24 1	87	7	10	0	0	03	00	20	1,608	178	247
Savanna	Savanna	+ 5	4	100	5		2	2	03	99	47	3 105	-170	235
Sovanna	Dry forest	11	12	96	\sim 2	1	2	2	95	96	35	2 214	-183	239
ΤΟΤΑΙ	Dry lotest	283	320	86		10	3	8	86	82	63	3 510	-105	223
* The mean proportion o	of individuals ide	entified to	species.	X										
	Ċ	3	or											

* The mean proportion of individuals identified to species.





628 Figure 3

