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1 Original Article

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29 **ABSTRACT**

30 **Aim** The aim of this study was to test the link between climatic niche dynamics  
31 and species diversification in *Anolis* on islands and on the mainland. We tested  
32 the hypotheses that lineages in warmer climates and with narrow climate niches  
33 diversified more than lineages in cold climates and with broad climate niches. We  
34 also tested the hypothesis that species-rich clades exhibit greater niche diversity  
35 than species-poor clades.

36 **Location** Neotropics

37 **Methods** We collated occurrence records for 328 *Anolis* species to estimate niche  
38 breadth, niche position and occupied niche space (as a proxy for niche diversity).  
39 We compared niche breadth between insular and mainland *Anolis* species and  
40 among *Anolis* clades, controlling for the potential confounding effect of range size.  
41 Using two approaches (clade-based and QuaSSE) we explore the association  
42 between niche metrics and diversification rates in *Anolis* lizards.

43 **Results** We found that Caribbean *Anolis* had a narrower niche breadth and niche  
44 space occupation compared to mainland anoles after controlling for range size  
45 differences. There was a significant association between niche traits (mean niche  
46 position and niche breadth) and diversification in anoles. Anole lineages with  
47 narrow niche breadths and that occupy warmer areas exhibited higher speciation  
48 rates than those with broader niche breadths that occupy cold areas. In the same  
49 way, clades with higher total diversification exhibit more niche diversity than  
50 clades with lower total diversification.

51 **Main conclusions** Climatic niche attributes play a role in anole diversification with  
52 some differences between mainland and insular anole lineages. Climatic niche  
53 differences between regions and clades likely are related to differences in niche  
54 evolutionary rates. This also suggest that climate plays a strong role in shaping  
55 species richness between and within mainland and islands.

56 **Keywords** *Anolis*, climate constraints, climatic space, evolution, Neotropics, niche  
57 breadth, niche diversification, niche specialization, lizards, species richness

58

59

## 60 INTRODUCTION

61 Species richness in a clade or region results from the interplay of ecological and  
62 evolutionary factors operating at different spatial and temporal scales (Wiens,  
63 2011; Cornell, 2013). Species richness in a region can ultimately be explained by  
64 differences in diversification rates (i.e., speciation minus extinction) and dispersal  
65 events (Wiens & Donoghue, 2004; Wiens, 2011). Although species diversification  
66 is known to be influenced by ecological factors within a particular region (Wiens,  
67 2011; Cornell, 2013; Machac *et al.*, 2013), there is still little understanding of how  
68 variation in ecological factors affects species diversification, and thus species  
69 richness, across phylogenetic and geographic scales.

70 Ecology, diversification, and species richness are linked through the niche  
71 concept (Hutchinson, 1957; Soberón & Nakamura, 2009; Ricklefs, 2012). For  
72 instance, some recent studies have shown that speciation rates are coupled with  
73 rates of niche evolution (Rabosky, 2012a; Rabosky & Adams, 2012; Rabosky *et*  
74 *al.*, 2013). Accordingly, clades displaying a high degree of species richness are  
75 expected to have greater niche diversity than clades with low species richness  
76 (Rabosky, 2012a; Ricklefs, 2012; Rabosky *et al.*, 2013). This prediction is an  
77 expected outcome during adaptive radiation where slowdowns in diversification  
78 occur as ecological space is filled and species' niches become narrow due to  
79 competition (Schluter, 2000; Rabosky, 2009). In this way, niche divergence can  
80 drive cladogenesis. Alternatively, diversification may not be ecologically  
81 constrained but rather, time or area dependent (Wiens, 2011). In cases where  
82 cladogenesis is decoupled from niche evolution, we would expect lineages to

83 have greater niche similarity and large niche breadths (Cornell, 2013). The above  
84 scenarios have been explored mostly using phenotypic traits related to habitat use  
85 (Schluter, 2000; Harmon *et al.*, 2003). Only recently have some studies explored  
86 the role of coarse-grain climatic niche attributes in clade diversification (Kozak &  
87 Wiens, 2010; Pyron & Burbrink, 2012; Schnitzler *et al.*, 2012; Machac *et al.*, 2013;  
88 Wiens *et al.*, 2013; Kostikova *et al.*, 2014).

89         The climatic niche is defined as the set of climatic variables at a coarse-  
90 resolution with an influence on the intrinsic and instantaneous population growth  
91 rates of a species at a geographic scale (Soberón, 2007; Peterson *et al.*, 2011). It  
92 is useful to establish whether climatic niche requirements can explain differences  
93 in species richness and diversification among regions and clades. This definition  
94 considers climatic niche as a population-level trait and not as an individual-level  
95 trait, which is implicit in definitions incorporating critical physiological boundaries.  
96 Accordingly, several studies have explored the link between climatic niche  
97 attributes and diversification (Kozak & Wiens, 2010; Schnitzler *et al.*, 2012). For  
98 instance, Kozak & Wiens (2010) suggested that high rates of climatic-niche  
99 evolution might promote increases in diversification rates. However, a causal link  
100 between diversification rate and climatic niche evolution is difficult to establish  
101 (Schnitzler *et al.*, 2012). In order to clarify the link between niche dynamics,  
102 diversification and species richness, clear predictions about how climatic niche  
103 attributes (e.g., niche space and niche breadth) facilitate increases or slowdowns  
104 in diversification rates are needed.

105           In this paper, first, we hypothesize a link between climatic niche metrics  
106 (i.e., niche position and niche breadth) and diversification in *Anolis* lizards. For  
107 niche position, we predict that lineages occupying warmer and drier areas (where  
108 anole diversity is higher; Algar & Losos, 2011; Losos, 2009) tend to diversify more  
109 than lineages adapted to cold and very humid conditions (where their diversity is  
110 lower). For niche breadth, we predict that clades composed of climatic niche  
111 specialist species (i.e., with narrow niche breadths) will have higher diversification  
112 rates than lineages composed of climatic niche generalist species (i.e., wide niche  
113 breadths) (Futuyma & Moreno, 1988; Cantalapiedra *et al.*, 2011; Cadena *et al.*,  
114 2012; Wiens *et al.*, 2013). This hypothesis predicts a negative relationship  
115 between diversification rates and niche breadth, a relationship that likely is  
116 mediated by climatic niche conservatism (Gómez-Rodríguez *et al.*, 2015). Second,  
117 we hypothesize that clades with high species richness (and likely high  
118 diversification rates) will have a high degree of niche diversity (i.e., more occupied  
119 niche space) than clades poor in species (Ricklefs, 2012). This is consistent with a  
120 scenario where cladogenesis is driven by niche evolution rates (Harmon *et al.*,  
121 2003; Rabosky *et al.*, 2013).

122           We test these hypotheses for *Anolis* lizards, which occur mainly in the  
123 Caribbean islands and on the mainland from Mexico to southern Brazil. They are  
124 species-rich on both the islands (~160 species) and the mainland (~230 species;  
125 Table 1). The evolutionary history of Caribbean *Anolis* has been subjected to  
126 intense research in the last several decades (Losos, 2009). There is evidence that  
127 their diversification in the Greater Antilles is related to island size and colonizing



128 time, with speciation rates declining over time as a function of area (Rabosky &  
129 Glor, 2010). This pattern suggests that regional species richness in the Greater  
130 Antilles is controlled by area and potentially by competitive interactions (Losos &  
131 Schluter, 2000; Rabosky & Glor, 2010). Specifically, we predict that *Anolis* lizards  
132 with narrow climatic niches and specialization toward particular climate regimes  
133 have diversified more than those that tolerate a wide range of climate conditions  
134 (Kozak & Wiens, 2010).

135 In this paper, we compare climatic niche attributes in *Anolis* between  
136 regions and clades, to assess whether niche position and specialization have  
137 driven diversification in these lizards. We evaluate the available climatic space in  
138 each region to explore patterns of niche occupation in *Anolis* clades inhabiting the  
139 islands and the mainland. Although there are substantial niche differences  
140 between insular and mainland anoles, niche traits were associated with  
141 cladogenesis in both anole faunas.

## 142 **MATERIALS AND METHODS**

### 143 ***Anolis* records**

144 We mapped 13,580 georeferenced locality records for 328 *Anolis* species from the  
145 Caribbean islands (145 species, 3,134 locality records) and the mainland (183  
146 species, 10,445 locality records), drawn from the Global Biodiversity Information  
147 Facility (GBIF, <http://gbif.org>), HerpNet (<http://www.herpNet.org/>), Algar and  
148 Losos (2011), Ochoa-Ochoa & Flores-Villela (2006) and other databases not  
149 publicly available (e.g., GK database). Some herpetological collections for which  
150 *Anolis* locality data is not available via the Internet (e.g., GBIF or HerpNet), namely

151 ICN (Colección de Anfibios y Reptiles, Instituto de Ciencias Naturales, Bogotá  
152 Colombia), MHUA (Museo de Herpetología de la Universidad de Antioquia,  
153 Medellín, Colombia), and QCAZ (Colección de Anfibios y Reptiles, Pontificia  
154 Universidad Católica de Ecuador, Quito, Ecuador) were georeferenced using  
155 national gazetteers and the point-georeferencing method with a spatial precision  
156 of ~1 km (Chapman & Wieczorek, 2006). We carefully revised each record in our  
157 database and eliminated erroneous, doubtful and duplicate records (i.e., identical  
158 records from two or more sources).

159

#### 160 **Climatic niche metrics in *Anolis* lizards**

161 We estimated the climatic niche represented by temperature and precipitation  
162 variables drawn from the WorldClim database (Hijmans *et al.*, 2005) using the  
163 occurrence records of 328 species. Our climatic niche estimates encompass the  
164 realized niche as is common in GIS approaches (Peterson *et al.*, 2011). To  
165 estimate the niche breadth for each *Anolis* species, we used maximum  
166 Mahalanobis distances (Rotenberry *et al.*, 2006); a statistical technique for  
167 ecological niche modelling based on presence-only records (Peterson *et al.*,  
168 2011). The Mahalanobis distance measures the space between two points in a  $n$ -  
169 dimensional coordinate system accounting for unequal variances and correlation  
170 between variables (Xian *et al.*, 2008). Distances are simply calculated as a  
171 standardized difference between the value of any point (i.e., a species' record)  
172 and the mean values from all points from the climate space (Rotenberry *et al.*,

173 2006). Also, we estimated niche breadth using Euclidean distances and ran a  
174 correlation of niche breadth between both distance methods, which was highly  
175 significant ( $p < 0.0001$ ).

176 We characterized the available climatic space for each region in which each  
177 clade occurs. For each island in the Greater Antilles we extracted values for  
178 bioclimatic variables for all pixels (1 km<sup>2</sup> pixel size). For the mainland, we  
179 generated a minimum convex polygon for Middle American and South American  
180 anole records with a buffer of 1,000 km in each area. Note that here Middle  
181 America refers to the countries of Central America and Mexico. This polygon  
182 potentially represents at least the dispersal or movement area for mainland anole  
183 species (Peterson & Soberón, 2012; Saupe *et al.*, 2012). We clipped all bioclimatic  
184 rasters using this polygon and extracted values for all 19 variables from a random  
185 set of pixels (>100,000 pixels of 1 km<sup>2</sup> each for South America, and >25,000 pixels  
186 of 1 km<sup>2</sup> each for Middle America). We conducted a Principal Components  
187 Analysis (PCA) with all 19 bioclimatic variables from species records and points  
188 from each region (see Appendix S1 in Supporting Information). For each anole  
189 species we calculated the mean of the scores of the first PC as an estimate of  
190 niche position. Finally, we calculated range size for each species as the area  
191 within the minimum convex polygon (MCP) enclosing all records for individual  
192 species and for anole clades. The MCP was only used to calculate range sizes,  
193 which were used as covariates for comparisons of niche breadth between clades  
194 and regions.

195

## 196 **Phylogenetic estimation**

197 We generated a time-calibrated phylogeny using an *Anolis* dataset extracted from  
198 a recent Squamata phylogeny (Pyron *et al.*, 2013). Our anole tree comprises 207  
199 anole species, representing 53% of the total number of recognized anole species  
200 (Uetz, 2014). Although sampling was very complete for the Caribbean anole  
201 species (87%, 19 species missing), and was very incomplete for the mainland  
202 species (76 species, 32% of all known species). We also included 32 outgroups  
203 based on the topological position of *Anolis* in the Iguania phylogeny (Townsend *et*  
204 *al.*, 2011). The assembled matrix included 233 taxa and 12,896 sites  
205 corresponding to 9 genes included in Pyron *et al.* (2013). We used their alignment  
206 to maintain consistency among studies. We used only two calibration points due  
207 to the low availability of fossil samples. First, using a normal distribution prior we  
208 calibrated the root with the crown-group pleurodont iguanian *Saichangurvel*  
209 (Conrad & Norell, 2007) from the Late Campanian ( $70.6 \pm 0.6$  Ma; Townsend *et al.*,  
210 2011). Second, a lognormal prior with a minimum age of 23 Ma was used to  
211 calibrate the *Anolis chlorocyanus* group based on an unnamed fossil from the  
212 Dominican Republic putatively assigned to this clade (de Queiroz *et al.*, 1998). We  
213 placed this anole fossil at the stem of the *chlorocyanus* group (*A. aliniger*, *A.*  
214 *chlorocyanus*, *A. coelestinus*, *A. singularis*) following Nicholson *et al.* (2012). We  
215 implemented a relaxed clock method with uncorrelated rates among branches  
216 using the software BEAST 1.8.0 (Drummond *et al.*, 2012). We did not implement a  
217 highly parameterized partitioned analysis as the ingroup (*Anolis*) is represented  
218 almost entirely by one single gene (ND2). As suggested by jModeltest v.2

219 (Guindon & Gascuel 2003; Darriba *et al.*, 2012) we used the GTRGI model of  
220 evolution for the entire dataset. We initiated two runs starting from a random tree  
221 and ran these for 40 million generations sampling every 1,000 following a burn-in  
222 of 2 million generations. The number of generations required to reach stationarity  
223 was determined by examining marginal probabilities in Tracer v1.6 (Rambaut *et*  
224 *al.*, 2014). For each run, the posterior sampling of trees yielded an effective  
225 sample size (ESS) of >200 for all parameter models. Both runs were combined as  
226 they gave similar results, and node and branch parameters were summarized on  
227 the maximum clade credibility tree (see Fig. S1 in Appendix S2). The resulting tree  
228 was very similar in topology to recent phylogenetic estimates of *Anolis* lizards  
229 using the same datasets (Mahler *et al.*, 2010; Nicholson *et al.*, 2012; Gamble *et al.*,  
230 2014; Prates *et al.*, 2015). In particular, Prates *et al.* (2015) generated a calibrated  
231 tree for a subset of *Anolis* species (some species from *Dactyloa* clade, *Anolis*  
232 *carolinensis* and some species from *Norops* clade) using three fossils as  
233 calibration points and lying outside of the *Anolis* ingroup (one in the root, and two  
234 inside the outgroup). Their estimated dates for the most recent common ancestor  
235 (MRCA) of *Anolis* are very similar to our estimated dates (see Prates *et al.*, 2015).

236

### 237 **Climatic niche attributes and diversification in *Anolis* lizards**

#### 238 *i) The clade-based approach*

239 We implemented a clade-based approach to correlate occupied climatic niche  
240 space with species richness. Nicholson *et al.* (2012, their figure 4) recognized  
241 eight clades in the *Anolis* phylogeny and raised them to the rank of genus (but see

242 Poe, 2013). We used these same names as clades to compare niche attributes.  
243 Although the criteria to delimit these clades is arbitrary, the same problem occurs  
244 with the use of recognized taxa of a given rank (e.g., family or genus level);  
245 additionally, some of these clade names for anoles have been used by some  
246 herpetologists for almost three decades (Guyer & Savage, 1986; Savage, 2002).  
247 We separated the *Norops* clade into three: Cuban *Norops*, Jamaican *Norops* and  
248 mainland *Norops*, and also split the *Dactyloa* clade: Lesser Antillean *Dactyloa* and  
249 mainland *Dactyloa* (Table 1). We obtained species richness data for each clade  
250 from Nicholson *et al.* (2012). For each clade, we calculated occupied niche space  
251 as the summed variances of the first four PC scores (see above). This measure of  
252 occupied niche space can be considered a proxy for niche diversity, analogous to  
253 the measures of morphological variance used in studies of morphological disparity  
254 (Foote, 1997; Wainwright, 2004; Ricklefs, 2012). We can use the species richness  
255 (ln species richness) of anole clades as a direct estimator of the total  
256 diversification in each clade (the  $\Omega$  estimator in Rabosky, 2009) because anole  
257 clade diversity was not correlated with age ( $R^2 = 0.30$ ,  $p = 0.124$ ) (Rabosky, 2009,  
258 2012b; Rabosky & Adams, 2012). In addition, we calculated net diversification  
259 rates for each anole clade using the method-of-moments estimator (Magallón &  
260 Sanderson, 2001), based on the crown-group age (obtained from our calibrated  
261 tree) and the total number of described species for each clade, and using two  
262 values for relative extinction rate (0.9 and 0.1). We tested for a relationship  
263 between occupied niche space, clade area (log<sub>10</sub> geographical area) and species  
264 richness (ln species richness) and net diversification rates in *Anolis* clades using a

265 path analysis. We repeated the same analysis using only insular clades. This  
266 approach allowed us to incorporate all of the anole species for which we had  
267 compiled climate data.

268 *ii) The QuaSSE approach*

269 We implemented a quantitative-state speciation and extinction model (QUASSE;  
270 FitzJohn, 2012) to correlate niche attributes (mean niche position and niche  
271 breadth) with diversification rates (FitzJohn, 2010). The QuaSSE approach uses a  
272 maximum likelihood method to evaluate whether a distribution of continuous  
273 character states is associated with higher or lower speciation rates (FitzJohn,  
274 2010). This method has been used previously to find associations between climate  
275 and diversification rates in other taxonomic groups (Pyron & Wiens, 2013;  
276 Kostikova *et al.*, 2014). We explored whether mean niche position and niche  
277 breadth were associated with speciation rates in *Anolis* lizards. These niche metrics  
278 describe the ecological niche of a species across a set of environmental axes  
279 (Schoener, 1989; Thuiller *et al.*, 2005). The QuaSSE approach identifies whether  
280 lineages exhibiting lower or higher niche positions/broader or narrower niche  
281 breadths are correlated with higher speciation rates in *Anolis*.

282 We generated four models in which speciation rates were fitted according to a  
283 particular function: (i) constant function (trait variation has no influence on  
284 speciation rate); (ii) linear function (a linear increase in a trait is associated with a  
285 linear increase in speciation rate); (iii) a sigmoid function (there is an association  
286 between speciation rates and a continuous trait exhibiting a sigmoidal function),

287 and (iv) a modal function (where intermediate values for a trait are associated with  
288 a higher speciation rate). In addition, we generated another set of models, but  
289 assuming a directional trend in the evolution of the particular trait (FitzJohn, 2012).  
290 We kept extinction rates constant among models because QuaSSE is known for  
291 its difficulty detecting differences in extinction rates (FitzJohn, 2010). We  
292 conducted the same analysis but only for the Caribbean species by pruning all  
293 mainland species from the phylogeny. We did not conduct a specific analysis for  
294 mainland species only due to the limited taxon sampling for these species (see  
295 above). Models were compared using the Akaike Information Criterion (Burnham &  
296 Anderson, 2002) and we selected as the best models those with the lowest AIC  
297 scores (Burnham & Anderson, 2002). As QuaSSE calculations are quite complex  
298 and computationally extensive (FitzJohn, 2012), we only performed a QuaSSE  
299 analysis for each variable with the best topology selected from our BEAST  
300 analysis. Therefore, we were not able to evaluate the potential effects of  
301 phylogenetic uncertainty on correlations between speciation rates and niche traits.  
302 Finally, we performed a rarefaction analysis for the Caribbean anole tree to  
303 evaluate the impact of missing species on the QuaSSE analysis. We randomly  
304 pruned species in a sequence of percentages (10%, 15%, 20%, 25%, 30%, 35%,  
305 40%, 45% and 50%) and generated a QuaSSE analysis for each dataset with  
306 these pruned trees. The aim was to evaluate whether QuaSSE is sensitive to  
307 missing species and therefore to explore the potential impact of taxon  
308 incompleteness on the association between traits and diversification (see  
309 Appendix S3).



## 310 **RESULTS**

### 311 **Anole climatic niches**

312 The first two axes of the PCA explained 46.6% and 22.4% of the total variance of  
313 climatic variables in *Anolis* lizards (69% in total). Both axes were mainly related to  
314 temperature variables (see Appendix S1). The first axis was mainly associated with  
315 the minimum temperature of the coldest month (bio 6) and the second axis was  
316 mainly associated with the maximum temperature of the warmest month (bio 5;  
317 see Appendix S1). We used the mean PC scores of the first axis for each species  
318 as a metric of average niche position.

319

### 320 **Niche breadth between insular and mainland *Anolis* lizards and among *Anolis*** 321 **clades**

322 Caribbean *Anolis* species did not have lower niche breadth values than their  
323 mainland counterparts (Fig. 1a;  $F_{1,330} = 3.32, p < 0.069$ ). However, after  
324 controlling for geographical range size effects, niche breadths do differ between  
325 regions (ANCOVA;  $F_{1,308} = 4.24, p < 0.040$ ). Furthermore, we did not find any  
326 differences in niche breadth between clades (Fig. 1b;  $F_{10,321} = 1.57, p < 0.114$ ),  
327 but we did detect differences after controlling for range size differences (ANCOVA;  
328  $F_{10,299} = 2.35, p = 0.011$ ).

329

### 330 **Occupied niche space in *Anolis* clades and available climate space**

331 Comparisons of occupied niche space with available climate conditions across  
332 regions revealed that the occupation of niche space differed strikingly between

333 insular and mainland lineages (Fig. 2 and 3). Insular anole clades seem to occupy  
334 almost all climate conditions available on each of the Greater Antilles islands,  
335 except Jamaica (Fig. 2). In contrast, mainland anoles occupy only a portion of all  
336 available climate conditions both in Middle America and South America. The  
337 *Norops* clade occupies a larger thermal and water niche space than *Dactyloa*  
338 does in Middle America, but in South America both clades occupy similar portions  
339 of the niche space (Fig. 3).

340

#### 341 **The clade-based approach**

342 Path analysis revealed a significant correlation between species richness (total  
343 diversification) and occupied niche space for all anole clades ( $R=0.71$ ,  $p=0.015$ ;  
344 Fig. 4a). Furthermore, occupied niche space had an indirect influence on species  
345 richness through clade area (partial  $r = 0.79$ ). Average niche breadth was not  
346 correlated with species richness ( $R=0.02$ ,  $p=0.950$ ; Fig. 4b), nor did it have any  
347 indirect influence on species richness through clade area (partial  $r = 0.22$ ). For  
348 insular clades, niche attributes (occupied niche space and average niche breadth)  
349 were not correlated with species richness (Fig. 4c,d). Similar results were obtained  
350 using net diversification rates for *Anolis* clades (see Fig. S2 in Appendix S2). This  
351 suggests that our results are robust to differences in the diversification metrics  
352 used (i.e., total diversification and net diversification rates).

#### 353 **The QuaSSE approach**

354 We found an association between niche attributes (niche position and niche  
355 breadth) and speciation rates for all *Anolis* lizards (Table 2). For niche position and

356 niche breadth, we found that the best model was one with a humped directional  
357 trend (Table 2, Fig. 5 upper; though according to AIC values for niche breadth this  
358 model had no more support than the linear model with a directional trend). This  
359 suggests that speciation rates are higher in lineages occupying warmer areas and  
360 for lineages with very narrow niches and some with large niches. For Caribbean  
361 anoles, we found that the best model for niche position was one with a directional  
362 linear trend (Table 2, Fig. 5 bottom left; again, comparing AIC values for this model  
363 had no more support than the hump model with a directional trend). The best  
364 model for niche breadth for Caribbean anoles was one with a humped directional  
365 trend (Table 2; Fig. 5 bottom right). This suggests that speciation rates are higher  
366 in Caribbean anole lineages occupying warmer regions and with very small niches  
367 than in lineages occupying cold climates and with large niches. Finally, the  
368 association between niche traits and speciation rates for Caribbean *Anolis* lizards  
369 found here was stable to the different percentage of random taxon pruning (see  
370 Appendix S3). Therefore our QuaSSE analyses were robust to the taxonomic  
371 incompleteness in our dataset.

## 372 **DISCUSSION**

373 In this study, we found evidence of an association between niche traits and  
374 cladogenesis in *Anolis* lizards. First, we found that anole species occurring in  
375 warmer and drier regions tend to diversify more than species in humid and cold  
376 regions. This result was consistent for mainland and Caribbean anole species. In  
377 particular, Caribbean anole clades tend to occupy all available climate space in

378 comparison with mainland anoles. This suggests that Caribbean clades are not  
379 likely constrained by an inability to expand their climatic niche limits, but rather, by  
380 the limited Caribbean climate space (Algar & Mahler, 2015). In fact, Caribbean  
381 species might not be prevented from inhabiting cold conditions by evolutionary  
382 constraints on cold tolerance, which can evolve quickly (Leal & Gunderson, 2012;  
383 Muñoz *et al.*, 2014), but rather by climatic availability in the region (Algar & Mahler,  
384 2015). The limited climatic space, coupled with the high species richness of these  
385 clades, suggests substantial niche overlap in insular species, though this may be  
386 mediated in part by narrower niche breadths. Furthermore, the high degree of  
387 similarity in niche traits for Caribbean anoles, suggests that climate niche  
388 convergence might be a widespread phenomenon across the Greater Antilles, as  
389 found for phenotypic traits (Losos *et al.*, 1998; Mahler *et al.*, 2013). This pattern  
390 might be the result of a combination of reduced climatic space in the region and a  
391 strong effect of stabilizing selection on climatic niches (Sedio *et al.* 2013; Wüest *et*  
392 *al.*, 2015).

393 Mainland clades occupy only a portion of the climatic space within their  
394 accessible area (Peterson *et al.*, 2011), but these clades still exhibited greater  
395 niche breadth and broader niche space values than insular clades. Mainland  
396 clades may have been prevented from exploiting the complete available climate  
397 space either because of insufficient time for niche diversification (though this is  
398 unlikely for the *Dactyloa* clade given its age: 30 Ma; see Table 1), inability to adapt  
399 to extreme climate conditions, strong biotic interactions, or dispersal constraints.  
400 As mainland anole species tend to be absent from regions with extreme

401 temperatures (e.g., mountaintops exceeding 3,000 m or desert areas) anoles may  
402 have physiological constraints that prevent them from inhabiting regions with  
403 these extreme climate conditions. However, whether mainland anoles are more  
404 limited in range by current climate, dispersal limitations or biotic interactions than  
405 Caribbean anoles are (Algar *et al.*, 2013), remains unknown.

406         We found strong evidence of a negative relationship between niche breadth  
407 and diversification rates. This suggests that niche specialization, particularly  
408 toward warmer and drier climates, has driven anole diversification. This  
409 association between niche specialization and cladogenesis suggest a strong role  
410 of climate in anole diversification. Similar results have been found in lampropeltine  
411 snakes, for which lineages occurring in warm conditions had higher speciation  
412 rates (Pyron & Burbrink, 2012). Finally, we found that clades with higher species  
413 richness tend to exhibit more niche diversity (occupied niche space) than species-  
414 poor clades. These results support the hypothesis that cladogenesis is coupled  
415 with climate niche divergence in *Anolis* lizards (Rabosky 2012a, Rabosky *et al.*,  
416 2013). Recently, Gómez-Rodríguez *et al.* (2015) suggested that a negative  
417 relationship between niche width and diversification rates would be expected  
418 under a scenario of niche conservatism (Wiens, 2004). In contrast, they suggested  
419 that a positive relationship would be expected under a scenario of climatic niche  
420 divergence (Moritz *et al.*, 2000). However, it is not clear how these niche  
421 conservatism or niche divergence patterns can shape diversification dynamics at  
422 regional scales. In our opinion, the evolutionary mechanisms underlying the

423 correlation between climatic niche traits and speciation dynamics are still  
424 unknown.

425         Our study is the first to examine how climatic niches vary among *Anolis*  
426 lizards at large phylogenetic and geographical scales, and how climatic niche  
427 traits are related to species diversification. We found that Caribbean and mainland  
428 anoles exhibit striking differences in niche traits (after controlling for range size  
429 effects) and these are correlated with speciation rates. Specifically, we found that  
430 lineages with narrow niches and that are specialized to warmer areas have  
431 diversified more than lineages with large niches and specialized to cold regions.  
432 Niche differences in insular and mainland anoles suggest that different  
433 evolutionary processes (niche divergence or niche conservatism) might be  
434 operating between regions, as in the case of ecomorphological traits (Pinto *et al.*,  
435 2008). However, it is crucial that a more comprehensive phylogeny for mainland  
436 anoles be incorporated to corroborate these findings using comparative  
437 phylogenetic methods. Finally, our study found interesting macroecological and  
438 macroevolutionary patterns, but more research is necessary to identify the  
439 potential evolutionary mechanisms driving these patterns.

440

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451

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649 **Supporting Information**

650 Additional Supporting Information may be found in the online version of this article:

651

652 **Appendix S1** Results of the Principal Components Analysis for 19 bioclimatic  
653 variables.

654

655 **Appendix S2** Supplementary figures.

656 **Appendix S3** Effects of missing species on the QuaSSE analysis.

657

658

659

660 **Biosketch**

661 **Julián A. Velasco** is carrying out his Ph.D studies at the Instituto de Biología,  
662 Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México. His doctoral research focuses on  
663 understanding the ecological and evolutionary processes responsible for species  
664 richness gradients and diversification in *Anolis* lizards. He addresses several  
665 evolutionary and ecological topics using a combination of conceptual and  
666 methodological approaches including niche modelling, geospatial analysis,  
667 historical biogeography and macroecology.

668

669 **Author contributions:** JAV conceived the ideas and analysed the data; EMM,  
670 OFV and AGA, and ACA provided feedback and contributed ideas; ACA, GK and  
671 OFV collected the occurrence records for *Anolis* species; JMD performed the  
672 phylogenetic analysis; JAV led the writing and had the approval of all the authors.

673

674 Editor: Kostas Triantis

675 Tables

676 Table 1. Clades recognized in *Anolis* radiation, species richness, range size (log<sub>10</sub> km<sup>2</sup>), age, net diversification rates (Net  
 677 div. rates; extinction fraction 0.9/0.1), occupied niche space (Occ. niche space), niche breadth (log<sub>10</sub>) and distribution.  
 678

Clade	Species richness	Range size	Age (Ma)	Net divers. rates	Occ. niche space	Niche breadth	Distribution
<i>Anolis</i>	44	5.095	30.090	0.054/0.102	3.076	1.542	Bahamas, Cayman islands, Cuba, Hispaniola, south of Florida.
Lesser Antilles <i>Dactyloa</i>	9	3.210	25.510	0.021/0.059	1.34	1.513	Southern Lesser Antilles.
Mainland <i>Dactyloa</i>	83	7.053	30.980	0.072/0.122	16.496	2.640	Lower Central America and South America.
<i>Audantia</i>	9	4.921	22.860	0.023/0.059	7.968	1.779	Hispaniola and satellite islands.
<i>Chamaelinorops</i>	16	4.863	30.850	0.028/0.067	7.432	1.704	Hispaniola and satellite islands.
<i>Ctenonotus</i>	36	4.945	30.870	0.047/0.093	5.2	1.779	Bahamas, Hispaniola, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, Northern Lesser Antilles.
<i>Deiroptyx</i>	21	5.270	32.100	0.033/0.073	4.861	1.704	Cuba, Hispaniola, Puerto Rico.
<i>Xiphosurus</i>	11	5.170	30.030	0.021/0.057	4.199	1.736	Cuba, Hispaniola, Puerto Rico and satellite islands.



Cuban <i>Norops</i>	18	5.110	28.950	0.029/0.068	1.986	2.640	Cuba. Jamaica. Middle and South America.
Jamaican <i>Norops</i>	7	4.090	25.270	0.016/0.049	2.575	1.382	
Mainland <i>Norops</i>	150	7.140	32.310	0.090/0.142	14.148	2.707	

679

680

681 Table 2. QuaSSE models of the relationship between climatic niche metrics (niche position and niche breadth) and  
 682 speciation rates in all *Anolis* and only Caribbean *Anolis* lizards. Best-fitting models according to delta AIC (Akaike  
 683 information criterion) values are in bold. Pars: Number of parameters; lnL: ln Likelihood; AIC: Akaike Information Criterion;  
 684  $\Delta$ AIC: Delta AIC; Weights: model weights.

Model	Pars	Niche position					Niche breadth			
		lnL	AIC	$\Delta$ AIC	Weights	lnL	AIC	$\Delta$ AIC	Weig	
Minimal	3	-937.95	1881.9	48	0.00	-683.31	1372.6	45	0.0	
Linear	4	-937.89	1883.8	50	0.00	-683.22	1374.5	47	0.0	
Sigmoidal	6	-937.06	1886.1	52	0.00	-682.91	1377.8	51	0.0	
<i>All Anolis</i> Hump	6	936.28	1884.5	51	0.00	-682.81	1377.6	50	0.0	
Linear (drift)	<b>5</b>	-917.36	1844.7	11	0.00	<b>-659.16</b>	<b>1328.3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0.2</b>	
Sigmoidal (drift)	7	-917.92	1849.8	16	0.00	-662.35	1338.7	12	0.0	
Hump (drift)	<b>7</b>	<b>-909.91</b>	<b>1833.8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.38</b>	<b>-656.58</b>	<b>1327.2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.3</b>	

	Minimal	3	-652.3	1310.5	24	0.00	-391.7	789.5	16	0.0
	Linear	4	-652.2	1312.5	26	0.00	-391.7	791.4	18	0.0
	Sigmoidal	6	-651	1314	27	0.00	-391.7	795.3	22	0.0
Caribbean <i>Anolis</i>	Hump	6	-649.4	1310.8	24	0.00	-391.7	795.3	22	0.0
	Linear (drift)	<b>5</b>	<b>-638.4</b>	<b>1286.8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.38</b>	-391.4	792.7	20	0.0
	Sigmoidal (drift)	<b>7</b>	-641.2	1296.3	9	0.00	<b>-379.5</b>	<b>773.1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.3</b>
	Hump (drift)	<b>7</b>	<b>-637.2</b>	<b>1288.3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0.23</b>	-391.7	797.3	24	0.0

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## 688 Figure Legends

689 Figure 1. Box plots of niche breadth values for Caribbean and mainland *Anolis* species  
690 (a) and *Anolis* clades (b). Niche breadth was estimated using maximum Mahalanobis  
691 distances to the niche centroid for 19 bioclimatic variables in a multidimensional  
692 climatic niche space. *Dactyloa* LA: *Dactyloa* Lesser Antilles.

693 Figure 2. Occupied climate niche space for Caribbean anole clades in each one of the  
694 Greater Antilles islands. Light grey points represent the available climate conditions in  
695 each island extracted from each pixel (see text for details).

696 Figure 3. Occupied climate niche space for mainland anole clades in Middle America  
697 and South America. Light grey points represent the available climate conditions in each  
698 mainland region extracted from a random sample of pixels (see text for details)

699 Figure 4. Direct and indirect effects of climatic niche traits (occupied niche space and  
700 niche breadth) on species richness for all anole clades (a,b), and only for insular clades  
701 (c,d). Statistically significant correlation coefficients are in bold ( $p < 0.05$ ).

702 Figure 5. Relationships between niche traits (mean niche position and niche breadth)  
703 and speciation rates for all anoles lizards (upper) and Caribbean anoles only (bottom)  
704 using the QuaSSE approach. Dotted lines represent alternative models according to  
705 delta AIC values (see table 2).

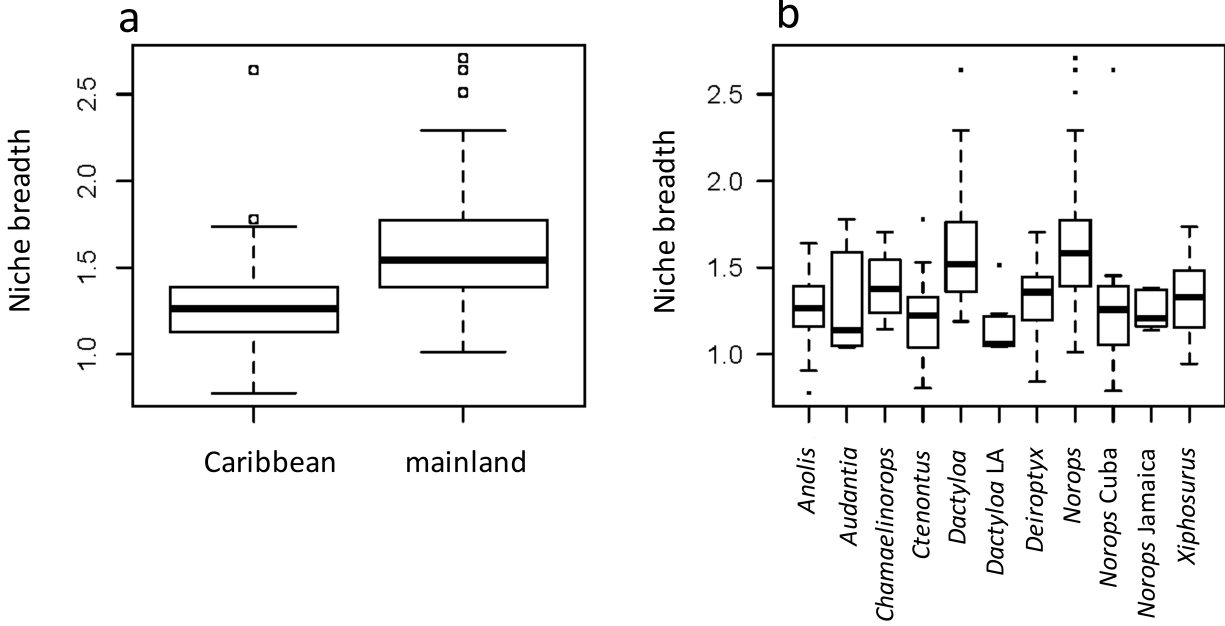
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709 Figure 1

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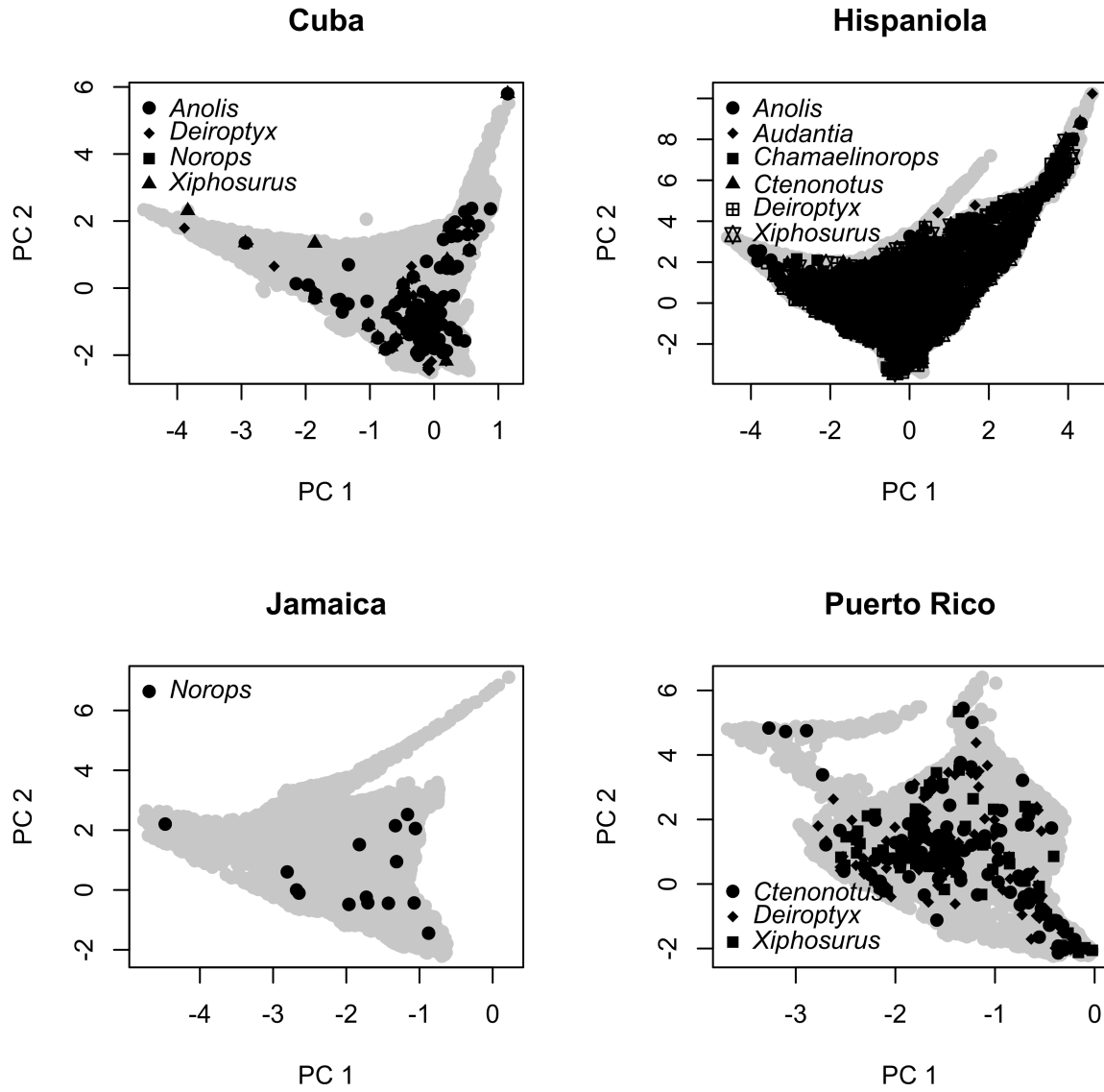
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715 Figure 2

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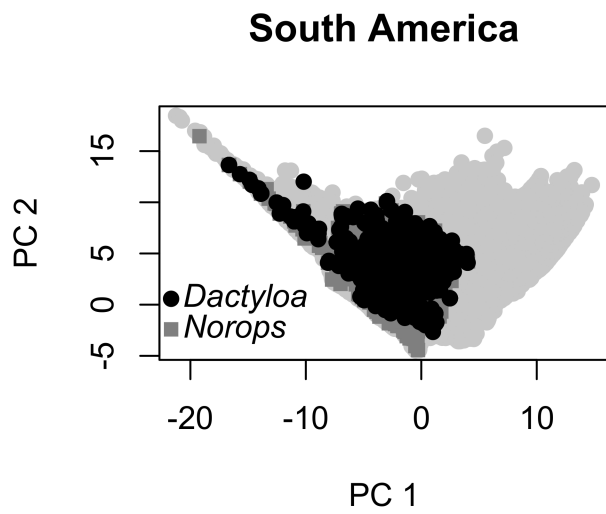
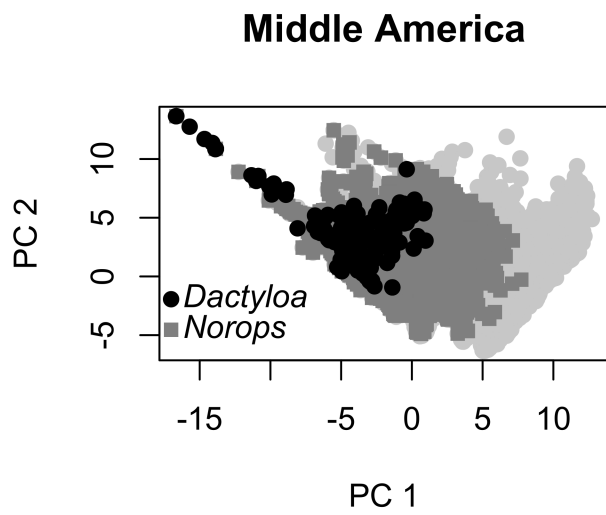
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720 Figure 3

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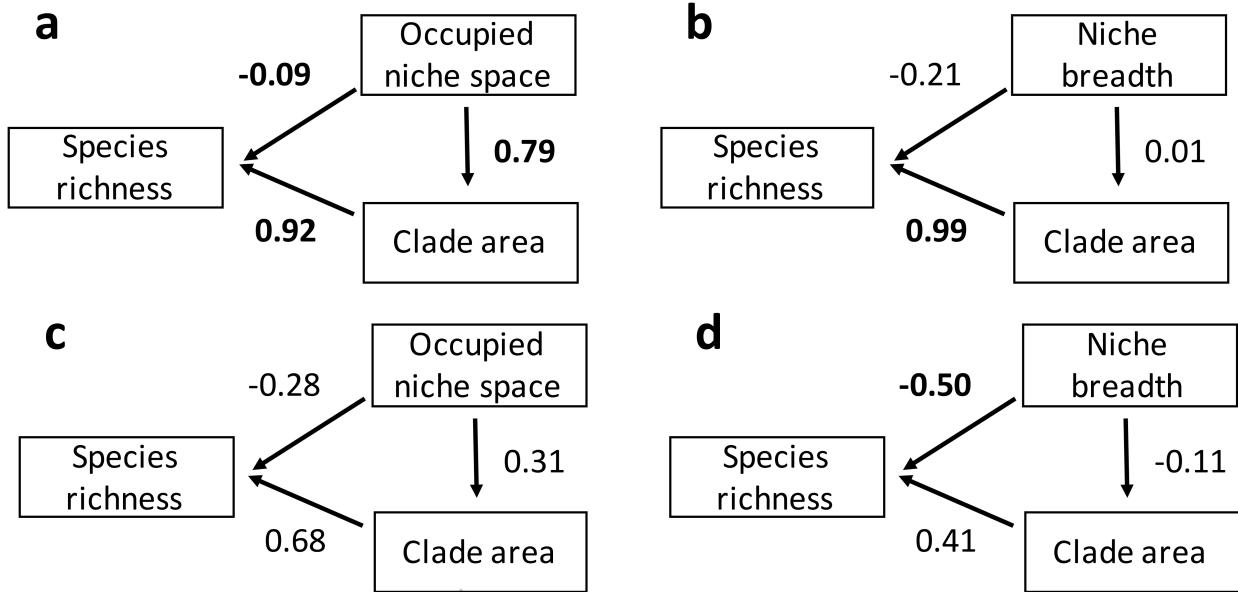
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725 Figure 4

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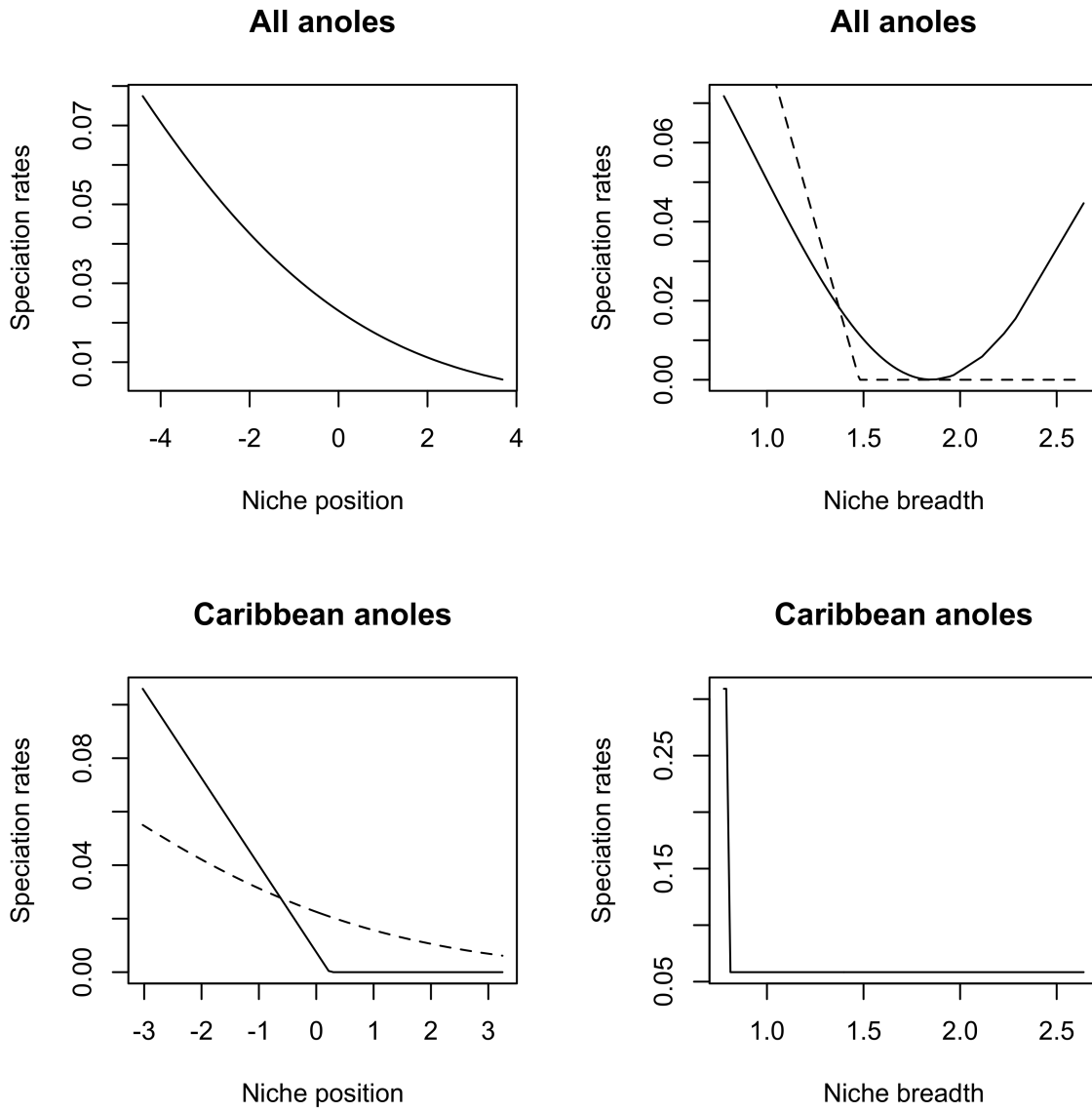
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731 Figure 5



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