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Comparing evolutionary distances via adaptive distance functions

Yanir Damti, Ilan Gronau, Shlomo Moran, Irad Yavneh

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**Highlights**

- Analysis of the basic problem of comparing the lengths of two K2P paths
- A method for comparing two paths based on “adaptive distance”, which is nearly as accurate as maximum-likelihood, but much more efficient
- Extension of distance comparison methods to quartet inference
- Characterization of topological bias and possible causes

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