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The apparent exponential radiation of Phanerozoic land vertebrates is an artefact of spatial sampling biases

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Abstract: There is no consensus about how terrestrial biodiversity was assembled through deep time, and in particular whether it has risen exponentially over the Phanerozoic. Using a database of 60,859 fossil occurrences, we show that the spatial extent of the worldwide terrestrial tetrapod fossil record itself expands exponentially through the Phanerozoic. Changes in spatial sampling explain up to 67% of the change in known fossil species counts and, because these changes are decoupled from variation in habitable land area that existed through time, this therefore represents a real and profound sampling bias that cannot be explained as redundancy. To address this bias, we estimate terrestrial tetrapod diversity for palaeogeographic regions of approximately equal size. We find that regional-scale diversity was constrained over timespans of tens to hundreds of millions of years, and similar patterns are recovered for major subgroups, such as dinosaurs, mammals, and squamates. Although Cretaceous/Paleogene mass extinction catalysed an abrupt two- to three-fold increase in regional diversity 66 million years ago, no further increases occurred, and recent levels of regional diversity do not exceed those of the Paleogene. These results parallel those recovered in analyses of local community-level richness. Taken together, our findings strongly contradict past studies that suggested unbounded diversity increases at local and regional scales over the last 100 million years.

Keywords: Biodiversity, Tetrapoda, Phanerozoic, terrestrial, diversification, palaeontology, palaeobiology, macroecology

1. Introduction

Life on land today is spectacularly diverse, accounting for 75–85% of all species [1,2]. Understanding how terrestrial diversity was assembled through deep time is crucial for settling fundamental debates about the diversification process, such as whether it is constrained by ecological limits [3,4]. However, there is no consensus about the long-term
Trajectory of terrestrial diversity – in particular, whether or not exponential increases through the Phanerozoic have led to diversity being higher today at local, regional, and global scales than at any point in the geological past [3,5-11].

Tetrapods today comprise >30,000 extant species and include many of the most iconic and intensely studied groups of animals. Curves of global Phanerozoic tetrapod palaeodiversity have been widely used as exemplars of terrestrial diversification [3,7,9]. In particular, they have been used to argue for an ‘expansionist’ model of diversification, characterised by unconstrained and apparently exponential increases in diversity at a variety of spatial scales, perhaps even driving a tenfold rise in species richness during the last 100 million years [7,8]. Within this paradigm, mass extinctions act only as short-term setbacks within a trend of ever-increasing diversity. This expansionist interpretation of terrestrial diversity through deep time has been cited as evidence that contradicts a role for ecological limits in constraining diversification [3], and to propose fundamentally different diversification processes in the marine and terrestrial realms [8].

However, the only diversity curves spanning the entire Phanerozoic evolutionary history of tetrapods are based on first and last appearance data for families, drawn from compilations that are now decades old [5,9]. Families are defined inconsistently [12,13], and may not reflect patterns of diversity at the species level. Moreover, these curves do not account for pervasive and long-established spatial and temporal sampling biases [14-16], since they pre-date the widespread use of sampling standardisation methods.

Most problematically of all, ‘global’ palaeodiversity curves based on the worldwide fossil record are not truly global, because the spatial extent of the fossil record varies substantially through intervals of geological time [10,11]. In reality, the ‘global’ fossil record comprises a heterogeneous set of regional assemblages, with palaeogeographic regions that vary markedly in number, identity, and extent (both within and between continental regions) through intervals of geological time. Critically, the palaeogeographic spread (=spatial extent) of the terrestrial fossil record grows exponentially through the Phanerozoic (Figs 1B and Fig. 2; see also Figs S1 and S2), and is decoupled from the actual terrestrial area that existed through time (see Results). Such changes in the geographic extent of the sampled fossil record will substantially bias patterns of diversity through time, even when using sampling-standardised richness estimators [17].

Patterns inconsistent with expansionism are recovered by analyses applying rigorous sampling standardisation to estimate regional diversity of more restricted groups of tetrapods [6,18-20], or over shorter intervals of time (the Mesozoic–early Paleogene; [10,11]). Analyses of Phanerozoic tetrapod diversity at the local-community scale [21] also contradict the expansionist model of diversification. However, it remains unclear how terrestrial tetrapod diversity at regional spatial scales changed through the entirety of the Phanerozoic, especially from the Paleogene to the present, when the most substantial increases in face-value ‘global’ curves are observed.

Here, we present the first regional-scale diversity patterns for terrestrial tetrapods that cover their entire Phanerozoic evolutionary history, while adequately correcting for key biases. In doing so, we interpret the structure of the fossil record as an array of well-sampled palaeogeographic regions that contain useful information about regional palaeodiversity, but which are only indirectly informative about true global palaeodiversity. To achieve this, we extend and substantially improve our recently-developed approach for addressing large-scale spatial sampling biases [11]. We conduct our analyses at the species level, and compare our results to different models of the diversification process. Our results demonstrate that diversity curves based on face-value counts of taxa from the ‘global’ fossil record primarily reflect...
major increases in the geographic spread of fossil localities towards the present day. After controlling for these biases, we find no evidence for expansionist diversification in regional assemblages. The similarity of this regional pattern to patterns of local richness [21] suggests that beta diversity is unlikely to have changed substantially over the Phanerozoic, although further work is needed to confirm this. These results imply that the global diversity present in terrestrial ecosystems today may be similar to that of the early Cenozoic.

2. Methods

Overview of analytical procedure. We estimated diversity and other variables for palaeogeographic regions with approximately equal sizes. To achieve this, our analysis implemented the following steps (each described in more detail below):

1. We downloaded occurrence data for Phanerozoic non-flying tetrapods and key subgroups from the Paleobiology Database (Fig. 3A; Figs S1), removed unsuitable records, and binned the remaining records within equal-length time intervals.

2. We used a spatial subsampling algorithm (described below) to identify all nested subsets of adjacent fossil localities (=subsampled palaeogeographic regions) for each time interval, using the set of palaeocoordinates for all collections yielding non-flying terrestrial tetrapods (Fig. 3C).

3. We computed variables of interest (diversity, spatial metrics, etc.) for each subsampled palaeogeographic region.

4. We standardised the spatial extent of sampling in the fossil record by identifying subsampled palaeogeographic regions that simultaneously met a set of criteria related to spatial extent (summed MST length) and other spatial and sampling-related metrics (see below). This was performed at several distinct spatial scales.

5. We identified clusters of overlapping palaeogeographic regions (Fig. 3D; see below). This is necessary because palaeogeographic regions identified via the exhaustive search algorithm implemented in Step 2 may share many of the same underlying fossil localities.

6. All variables computed for palaeogeographic regions were summarised for each spatial cluster by computing medians and interquartile ranges.

Dataset. We downloaded fossil occurrence data for Phanerozoic Tetrapodomorpha from the Paleobiology Database [22] on 27 February 2019. We also downloaded occurrences for key tetrapod subgroups (Dinosauria,Probainognathia, Squamata, Pseudosuchia, Testudinata, and Lissamphibia), and used the ‘occurrence_no’ fields from these downloads to filter records from the main occurrence dataset. All occurrence datasets were downloaded using the Paleobiology Database API [23], using function calls executed within the analysis R scripts (URLs used to perform these data downloads, together with all analysis scripts, are available on Dryad [XXX]).

We removed unsuitable records from the occurrence dataset largely following the procedures outlined in Close et al. [11]. Contrary to that study, however, we did not exclude collections from deposits that were unliothified or partially-liothified and sieved (this is because lithification biases more severely affect the face-value estimates of local richness analysed Close et al. [11]). The patterns we document here are therefore conservative with respect to lithification biases, which manifest primarily from the Late Cretaceous onwards and become more profound towards the present. Flying tetrapods (Aves, Pterosauria, and Chiroptera) were excluded because their fossil record is inadequate in most intervals and regions, and Lagerstätten-dominated. After cleaning, the dataset comprised 17,323
collections (broadly equivalent to fossil localities; see discussion in [21] for more detail),
yielding 60,859 occurrences of 14,023 non-flying, non-marine tetrapod species.

Following previous studies (e.g. [11]), we used composite time bins of approximately equal
length (~10 myr; Table S1). Occurrences were assigned to a bin if that bin contained over
50% of the geologic time range associated with that occurrence (defined by the early and late
bounds recorded by the ‘min_ma’ and ‘max_ma’ fields in the Paleobiology Database, in Ma).
A total of 4,056 occurrences were dropped because they did not meet these binning criteria
(72,413 before and 68,357 after).

**Identifying subsampled palaeogeographic regions.** To control for the pervasive spatial
sampling biases affecting the terrestrial fossil record, we estimated diversity and other key
variables for approximately equally-sized palaeogeographic regions, which we defined by
drawing spatial subsamples of adjacent fossil localities (on a per-interval basis). To define
these palaeogeographic regions, we used a spatial subsampling algorithm that identifies all
nested sets of adjacent spatial points [24]. Spatial points were defined by binning the
palaeocoordinates for all collections in our cleaned occurrence dataset into equal-size
hexagonal/pentagonal grid cells with 100 km spacings (Fig. 3A–B), using the R package
dggridR [25]. Spatial points used in our spatial subsampling algorithm are therefore 100 km
grid cells containing at least one fossil occurrence.

The spatial subsampling algorithm works by: 1) selecting a random spatial point as a starting
location; 2) identifying the closest spatial point, choosing at random if there are two or more
equidistant points; 3) saving these two points as a palaeogeographic region; 4) identifying the
closest point to those two points; 5) saving this set as a palaeogeographic region, and 6)
continuing this procedure until all spatial points have been added. The algorithm is then
repeated for every possible starting location, and any duplicate palaeogeographic regions are
discarded. Distances were calculated from midpoints of 100 km dggridR cells. This
procedure results in a database of palaeogeographic regions (sets of directly-adjacent or
nearest-neighbour fossil localities) covering all possible sizes (Fig. 3C).

Palaeogeographic regions were identified using the set of fossil localities for the most
inclusive taxon set that we analysed (i.e. non-flying, non-marine tetrapods). Diversity
estimates for individual tetrapod subclades were also derived from these same
palaeogeographic regions, because these represent areas in which tetrapod subclades could
potentially be sampled.

Each palaeogeographic region was then characterised by computing a wide range of different
metadata (e.g. variables relating to diversity, spatial factors, or sampling metrics). Spatially-
standardised sets of palaeogeographic regions were obtained by simultaneously applying sets
of filtering criteria (e.g. relating to spatial extent, numbers of occupied grid cells, etc.; see
below).

**Variables calculated for subsampled palaeogeographic regions.** We calculated a wide variety
of metadata for each palaeogeographic region. Spatial variables include counts of occupied
equal-area grid cells (i.e. cells yielding fossil occurrences) spanning a range of sizes (100,
200, 500, 1,000 and 5,000 km spacings, calculated using the R package dggridR [25]); our
primary measure of palaeogeographic spread, minimum-spanning tree (MST) length (= the
minimum total length of all the segments connecting spatial points in a region [26]; see Close
et al. [11] for justification); the distance of the longest branch in each MST (used to identify
spatial regions with widely-separated clusters of localities). Sampling variables include
counts of literature references reporting the fossil occurrences in each spatial region (used as

http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/prsb
a proxy for research effort) and measures of sample coverage (Good’s u [27] and the multiton ratio [28]).

We estimated species richness within palaeogeographic regions using four very different methods: face-value counts of species within regions (= raw or uncorrected richness; i.e. not sampling standardised), Shareholder Quorum Subsampling (SQS [26,29,30], also known as coverage-based rarefaction [31]); and the asymptotic extrapolators ‘squares’ [32] and Chao 2 [33].

We focus primarily on patterns estimated using SQS, which provides an objective, frequency-dependent measure of diversity that is insensitive to variation in sampling [31]. Standardising to equal sample coverage may increase the signal of evenness at lower quorum levels [17]. Nonparametric asymptotic richness extrapolators, on the other hand, are less sensitive to evenness, but are downward biased when sample sizes are insufficient for estimates to have asymptoted [17]. We therefore present estimates using both approaches. Face-value counts of species within palaeogeographic regions, meanwhile, facilitate direct comparison with existing face-value ‘global’ curves.

We implemented SQS using the analytical solutions in the R package iNEXT [34]), which allows seamless integration of interpolated (=subsampled), observed and extrapolated coverage-standardised species richness estimates. We used quorum levels of 0.4, 0.6 and 0.8.

**Grid-cell rarefaction algorithm.** To additionally control for variation in the ‘packing density’ or spatial coverage of fossil localities within equal-sized palaeogeographic regions, we used a grid-cell rarefaction (GCR) procedure prior to calculating our focal measure of diversity, SQS (other estimators were not subject to this procedure due to heavy computational demands). When using GCR, SQS was estimated for each palaeogeographic region at a range of subsampled grid-cell quotas (we present GCR results using quotas of 3, 5 and 8 occupied 200 km equal-area grid-cells with per 1,000 km of MST length, calculated using 50 subsampling trials). SQS richness was also estimated without GCR (GCR = ‘off’). To compare different richness estimators on an equal footing, our focal results do not use SQS with grid-cell rarefaction.

**Standardising spatial sampling.** To standardise spatial sampling, we identified subsampled palaeogeographic regions that simultaneously met the following criteria:

1. Seven distinct spatial scales, comprising minimum-spanning tree (MST) lengths of 1,000 km, 1,500 km, 2,000 km, 2,500 km, 3,000 km, 3,500 km and 4,000 km (±10%; Fig. 3C and S3). We quantified palaeogeographic spread using MSTs for reasons outlined by Close et al. [11];
2. MSTs for which the length of the longest branch was no more than 40% of the total MST size (in order to exclude clusters of localities separated by large gaps);
3. At least 20 literature references, to ensure a minimum level of study;
4. A multiton ratio [28] of at least 0.25, to exclude palaeogeographic regions with very poor sample completeness (sometimes estimates of Good’s $u$ may spuriously appear high for small sample sizes, and the multiton ratio offers a more conservative and partially-independent measure of sample completeness).

We also excluded palaeogeographic regions that crossed geographic barriers, based on the combined presence of countries or continental regions at particular points in time (South America and Africa after 120 Ma; Australia and New Zealand after 70 Ma; Europe and Africa after 66 Ma).
Spatial clustering algorithm. Because our spatial subsampling algorithm finds all nested sets
of adjacent spatial points, the full set of palaeogeographic regions will invariably include
some regions that share underlying spatial points to a greater or lesser degree (ranging from
no overlap to almost complete overlap). To address potential issues with non-independence
between data points inflating apparent sample size, we identified clusters of similar
palaeogeographic regions based on the fraction of spatial points they shared (samples were
added to a spatial cluster if they shared >25% of the spatial points with another sample in the
cluster; Figs 3D and S4). Key variables such as diversity and spatial or sampling metrics
were then summarised for each cluster of palaeogeographic regions by computing median
values and interquartile ranges.

Model Comparisons. We used linear model comparisons to examine whether patterns of
spatially-standardised diversity are more consistent with diversification that is unconstrained
(‘expansionist’, with steady increases through time) or constrained (i.e. with long-lived
diversity equilibria, separated by phase-shifts). Our linear models included combinations of
three explanatory variables: (1) absolute time, representing continuous per-lineage
diversification; (2) an intercept, representing a null model in which diversity is static through
time; and (3) a diversification-phase variable in which the intercept and/or slope are allowed
to differ before and after the Cretaceous/Paleogene (K/Pg) mass extinction (66 Ma). Phase
was included both as a covariate (allowing the intercept to vary independently between
phases) and an interaction term (allowing the intercept and slope to vary between phases; see
Table 1 for full list of models). These models were compared against an intercept-only null
model. Richness estimates were log-transformed. Models were ranked using Akaike
Information Criteria with the adjustment for small sample sizes (AICc) [35].

Interactive data explorer. Patterns of spatially-standardised diversity and other variables can
be explored interactively using a Shiny web application, available as a gist on GitHub. The
application can be run within RStudio by executing the following command:

shiny::runGist('https://gist.github.com/rclose/URL-to-come-after-acceptance')

[Note to reviewers: to make access to the interactive Shiny application easier during peer-
review, we have made it available as an online web application accessible at
https://factsaboutgiraffes.shinyapps.io/test-plot/. The free tier for shinyapps.io permits 25
hours of use per month, which should suffice for review purposes. However, it would
probably not be enough for post-publication usage, so we will use the Gist described above
instead.]

The interactive data explorer allows exploration of spatially-standardised diversity results for
all taxon sets, richness and other variables. Clicking on a data point plots the underlying data
on a palaeomap and displays tables of the underlying occurrence data in that
palaeogeographic region.

3. Results

The palaeogeographic spread (=spatial extent) of the terrestrial fossil record grows
exponentially through the Phanerozoic (Figs 1B and Fig. 2; see also Figs S1 and S2), and is
decoupled from the actual terrestrial area that existed through time. Although the
palaeogeographic spread of the sampled fossil record increases fourfold through the
Cenozoic, increases in actual terrestrial area over the same interval are much smaller (~15%;
[36]; Fig. 1B; Fig. S5). Changes (i.e., first differences) in the palaeogeographic extent of the
‘global’ fossil record of terrestrial tetrapods explain approximately 24–67% of changes in
face-value species counts, and 31–34% of the changes in subsampled richness estimates,
depending on the measure of palaeogeographic spread used (Figs 1C–D and S6). By contrast, changes in the palaeogeographic spread of the fossil record are not significantly correlated with changes in continental area (Figs 1E–F and S7). The strong correlations observed between diversity and spatial sampling therefore represent real and profound sampling biases [10,11,17,21] that cannot be explained by ‘redundancy’ or ‘common cause’ effects [37,38].

The non-marine sedimentary rock record also decays exponentially with increasing age due to the progressive loss of sediments to erosion and burial, and is therefore likely to exert some influence on the palaeogeographic spread of fossil localities through time [16,39,40]. Surprisingly, though, we find that neither changes in ‘global’ diversity nor the palaeogeographic spread of the fossil record are significantly correlated with changes in extent of non-marine sediments (Fig. S8). This indicates that the rock record is not the primary factor controlling spatial sampling in the terrestrial fossil record, and further justifies our direct use of the palaeogeographic distribution of the tetrapod fossil record to estimate spatially-standardised diversity patterns. Generalised least-squares models (GLS) of ‘global’ diversity, as a function of the palaeogeographic spread of the worldwide fossil record, continental area and non-marine sediment extent (modelling temporal autocorrelation using a first-order autoregressive structure), recover a strong, statistically significant explanatory role only for palaeogeographic spread (Table 2).

Because pervasive spatial bias prevents us from estimating meaningful time series of global diversity through the Phanerozoic, we recommend that studies must instead focus on estimating regional-scale diversity for well-sampled palaeogeographic regions. The patterns of spatially-standardised regional richness that we recover are broadly consistent across spatial scales and for different richness estimators (Fig. 4). Surprisingly, results are highly congruent even when using face-value counts of species from spatially-standardised regions (in other words, when spatial sampling is standardised, but sampling intensity is not; Fig. 4). This suggests that variation in the spatial scope of the terrestrial fossil record has a more pronounced effect on apparent species richness than does variation in intensity or completeness of sampling within those regions.

Although data are insufficient to estimate regional diversity for much of the Paleozoic, levels during the latest Permian (~255 Ma) appear to have been similar to those of the Early Triassic (~250 Ma; Fig. 4). Similar regional diversity estimates are maintained up until the latest Cretaceous (~70 Ma), spanning a total interval exceeding 180 million years. Linear regressions of diversity on time for this extended interval return non-significant slopes, indicating a long-term static pattern of standing regional diversity (Fig. S9). This is true despite substantial faunal turnover throughout, including the Permian/Triassic (P/T) mass extinction (252 Ma), and the initial origins of groups that are speciose today during the Jurassic and Cretaceous [41]. Nevertheless, there are two clear intervals when regional-scale tetrapod diversity apparently increased substantially. All tetrapods share a single ancestor species that lived no later than the Late Devonian [42]. Although the data are insufficient to obtain diversity estimates during the Carboniferous, early increases in terrestrial tetrapod diversity must therefore have occurred within the Carboniferous to mid-Permian. A large apparent increase in maximum regional diversity also occurred later, in the aftermath of the K/Pg mass extinction [10,11,21]. This primarily results from the fossil record of mammals, which shows an abrupt three- to fourfold increase in regional diversity (Fig. 5). There is no evidence in our data for substantial increases in maximum regional diversity through the remainder of the Cenozoic, either in tetrapods as a whole, or in major subclades (Figs 4 and 5). In fact, linear regressions of regional diversity on time for the Cenozoic recover significant trends towards lower
richness through time, driven by lower diversity in bins Ng3 and Ng4 (approximately the last 10 million years; Fig. S9).

Model selection using information criteria demonstrates that the best explanations of regional diversity include the passage of time and a phase-shift across the K/Pg boundary. Across all spatial standardisation criteria, the model including time and phase as an interaction term receives greatest support (Table 1). This is because there is a shift to a higher regional diversity equilibrium across the K/Pg boundary, but this is followed by a significant decrease in regional diversity towards the present (Table S2; Fig. S9). For other richness estimators, see Supplementary Results.

Grid-cell rarefaction results highlight that the density of spatial coverage inside standardised palaeogeographic regions increases towards the present: when higher quotas of occupied grid cells are imposed, many more data points are excluded from the Paleozoic–Mesozoic than from the Cenozoic (Fig. S10).

4. Discussion

Although long under-appreciated, variable spatial sampling represents a fundamental fossil record bias, and one that must be accounted for. Our results show that previous interpretations of exponential increases in tetrapod diversity through the Phanerozoic are an artefact of the increasing spatial extent of the ‘global’ fossil record (Fig. 1A–B). Between one and two thirds of the changes through time seen in ‘global’ diversity curves can be explained by changes in the palaeogeographic extent of sampled fossil localities (Figs 1B, D and S6), and this covariation is not explained by changes in the actual amount of habitable land area (Fig. S7E–H) or the extent of non-marine sediments (Fig. S8F–J). Although changes in continental area and the extent of non-marine sediments through time likely do exert some influence on the worldwide palaeogeographic spread of the terrestrial fossil record (particularly the extent of non-marine sediments, which decreases exponentially with increasing age [40]), other factors appear to be at least as important.

Estimating truly representative ‘global’ diversity curves for terrestrial tetrapods is, therefore, almost certainly not possible based on our current knowledge of the fossil record, and diversity analyses must focus on local and regional scales. We present the first spatially-standardised regional richness estimates spanning the entire evolutionary history of tetrapods. By estimating diversity for comparably-sized palaeogeographic regions through time, we recover fundamentally different patterns of diversity change to those found by previous studies of face-value ‘global’ trends [5,9], even when we consider only face-value species counts that do not control for variation in sampling intensity (Fig. 4). Most notably, variation in regional diversity within individual time bins is usually on par with variation through time, leading to patterns that are constrained over timescales of up to ~180 million years. We find no support for large sustained increases over the last 100 million years.

We do, however, observe an abrupt increase in regional-scale terrestrial tetrapod diversity during the earliest Cenozoic, consistent with recent work at local to continental spatial scales [10,11,21]. The precise reasons for this step-change are currently uncertain. It may support a fundamental role for the K/Pg mass extinction in disrupting and reorganising terrestrial ecosystems, consistent with a role for ecological limits in regulating diversification [4]. Mammals certainly experienced a large increase in richness in the early Cenozoic. However, the relative contribution of mammals to overall tetrapod diversity patterns – and thus the magnitude of the increase itself – is likely exaggerated, due to their high preservation potential and the ease of diagnosing species from isolated teeth: in the Cenozoic fossil record,
mammal diversity is more than twice that of squamates (Fig. 5), yet the reverse is true for extant species richness. In contrast, the P/T extinction, the largest in Earth history, does not at present appear to have played a similar role in elevating long-term diversity (although sparse Paleozoic data limits interpretations). The reasons for the differing long-term impacts of the P/T and K/Pg extinctions on standing terrestrial diversity are unclear, but may reflect differences in the timescales over which the two events took place, or variation in the biology and preservation potential of the groups that flourished in the aftermath of each event.

Meanwhile, we find no evidence for effects on regional diversity of other events in evolutionary history of terrestrial tetrapods that have been hypothesised to have catalysed diversity increases, including the initial expansion of angiosperms during the middle and Late Cretaceous [7], and the breakup of the supercontinent Pangea [43]. This does not rule out a role for events in plant evolution as drivers of tetrapod diversification. Instead, it is possible that floral state-changes across the K/Pg boundary (e.g. increases in seed sizes [44]) might have been more important for mammalian species richness than events within the Cretaceous itself, a hypothesis that requires further investigation. Neither do our analyses of regional diversity rule out some increase in global richness due to continental fragmentation (although we have shown that global diversity cannot currently be estimated). Modelling of species-area relationships suggests that this effect could have approximately doubled global terrestrial tetrapod biodiversity between the Triassic and Late Cretaceous, during the main interval of Pangean fragmentation [43]. Pangean fragmentation was largely complete by the end of the Cretaceous, and it seems unlikely that the comparatively minor continental rearrangements that occurred during the Cenozoic could have driven the proposed ten-fold increase in global diversity recovered by influential previous work [5,9].

Our results are consistent with a growing body of evidence from the fossil record for constrained diversification within the terrestrial realm [6,10,11,18,21,32,45,46]. Moreover, the regional-scale patterns we document for Phanerozoic tetrapods are highly congruent with those observed at smaller spatial scales, such as for local richness [21], which also show minimal increases from the late Paleozoic–Mesozoic, a step-change across the K/Pg boundary, and no increase through the Cenozoic. The similarity between patterns of diversity at local (alpha) and regional (gamma) scales suggests an absence of systematic long-term trends in tetrapod beta diversity within regions through the Phanerozoic, although studies of the long-term patterns of beta diversity are needed to confirm this. Although limitations of the fossil record prohibit us from analysing regional-scale flying tetrapod diversity here, within-community patterns suggest these groups (birds, bats, pterosaurs) were also subject to long-term constraints [21]. These patterns suggest that the early diversification of birds resulted in the stepwise addition of substantial species richness to terrestrial ecosystems [10], with limited subsequent increases [21] that mirror the patterns of tetrapod richness documented here.

The diversity patterns we present are for regional spatial scales, and thus not directly comparable with global patterns. Furthermore, our results suggest that truly global estimates of tetrapod diversity through geological time are inaccessible based on our current knowledge of the fossil record. Nevertheless, barring substantial and as-yet-unquantified increases in global-scale faunal provinciality (i.e. between continental regions), previous findings of sustained, expansionist increases in ‘global’ standing diversity over the last 100 million years [5,7,9] are most likely artefactual, resulting from a failure to account for exponential increases in the spatial extent of terrestrial sampling over the same interval. Our results provide further evidence to overturn the previous paradigm of unconstrained, expansionist diversification, instead indicating long periods of relative stasis, disrupted by rare, geologically-rapid rises in maximum standing diversity.
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Fig. 1. Spatial bias and the global fossil record of Phanerozoic terrestrial tetrapods. (A) Face-value (red) and sampling-standardised (SQS [29,31] using quorum = 0.6; blue) ‘global’ species richness of Phanerozoic terrestrial tetrapods. (B) Spatial sampling (occupied equal-area grid cells with 500 km spacings, green) and habitable area (terrestrial area as a percentage of Earth’s surface [36], purple). Counts of occupied grid cells increase steeply through the Cenozoic, and accelerate towards the present. (C, D) Relationships between changes in (B) face-value and (D) sampling-standardised species richness (using SQS, quorum = 0.6) and changes in counts of occupied grid cells per equal-length bin (all variables log-transformed). (E, F) Relationships between (E) changes in face-value and (F) sampling-standardised species richness (using SQS, quorum = 0.6) and changes in continental area through time. Datapoints for C1 and C2 removed as outliers.
Fig. 2. Spatial sampling in the Phanerozoic record of terrestrial tetrapods. Per-bin counts of equal-area grid cells with 200 km spacings, broken down by (A) hemisphere, (B) absolute palaeolatitude zone (low = 0–30°, mid = 30–60°, high = 60–90°), and (C) continental region. Spatial sampling rises steeply through the Phanerozoic, and is especially limited outside of North America, Europe and Asia, in the southern hemisphere, and at low and high palaeolatitudes.
**Fig. 3.** Key steps in the spatial standardisation procedure used in this study, showing samples for the early–middle Triassic (Tr1 time bin). (A) Palaeocoordinates of fossil localities. (B) Fossil localities binned within 100 km equal-size hexagonal/pentagonal grid cells (using dggridR). (C) Palaeogeographic regions delineated using convex hulls, with samples meeting spatial standardisation criteria for 2000 km MST distance highlighted in red. (D) Clusters of highly similar palaeogeographic regions.
Fig. 4. Patterns of spatially-standardised regional-scale species richness of non-flying terrestrial tetrapods through the Phanerozoic, for regions 2000 km in size (minimum-spanning tree [MST] distance). Patterns depicted using face-value (but spatially standardised) species counts, squares [32] and Chao 2 extrapolated richness [33], and SQS [29,31] (using quorum = 0.6). Grid-cell rarefaction algorithm not used (GCR = off). Colours correspond to dominant continental regions of palaeogeographic regions. Data points represent median richness estimates for clustered palaeogeographic regions.
Fig. 5. Patterns of spatially-standardised regional-scale species richness for major subclades of non-flying terrestrial tetrapods (non-avian dinosaurs, non-flying mammals, squamates, pseudosuchians, turtles and lissamphibians), for regions 2000 km in size (minimum-spanning tree [MST] distance). Species richness estimates extrapolated using SQS (quorum = 0.6, GCR = off). Colours represent dominant continental regions of palaeogeographic regions. Silhouettes courtesy of Phylopic (http://www.phylopic.org). Image credits for Phylopic silhouettes: non-avian dinosaur by Ian Reid, CC BY-SA 3.0; non-flying mammal by FunkMonk/Michael B. H. (CC BY-NC-SA 3.0); squamate by Ghedo and T. Michael Keesey (CC BY-SA 3.0); pseudosuchian by Phylopic (Public Domain Mark 1.0); turtle by Phylopic (Public Domain Dedication 1.0); lissamphibian by Nobu Tamura (CC BY 3.0).
**Table 1.** Model selection using the second-order Akaike information criterion (AICc) to compare fits of linear models of spatially-standardised non-flying terrestrial species richness (SQS, quorum = 0.6; 1000–4000 km MST distance, GCR = off) as a function of time and diversification phase.

| model                  | df | logLik | AICc | delta AICc | weights | cumulative weights | evidence ratio |
|------------------------|----|--------|------|------------|---------|--------------------|----------------|
| **1000 km summed MST distance** |    |        |      |            |         |                    |                |
| Time * Phase           | 4  | -71.6  | 154  | 0.00       | 5.86e-01| 0.586              | 1.00           |
| Phase Only             | 2  | -74.5  | 155  | 1.47       | 2.81e-01| 0.867              | 2.09           |
| Time + Phase           | 3  | -74.2  | 157  | 3.08       | 1.25e-01| 0.992              | 4.69           |
| Time Only              | 2  | -78.1  | 162  | 8.68       | 7.64e-03| 1.000              | 76.70          |
| Intercept Only         | 1  | -82.5  | 169  | 15.40      | 2.66e-04| 1.000              | 2200.00        |
| **1500 km summed MST distance** |    |        |      |            |         |                    |                |
| Time * Phase           | 4  | -86.3  | 183  | 0.00       | 9.29e-01| 0.929              | 1.00           |
| Phase Only             | 2  | -91.7  | 189  | 6.30       | 3.99e-02| 0.969              | 23.30          |
| Time + Phase           | 3  | -91.0  | 190  | 7.05       | 2.74e-02| 0.996              | 33.90          |
| Time Only              | 2  | -94.4  | 195  | 11.70      | 2.63e-03| 0.999              | 353.00         |
| Intercept Only         | 1  | -96.2  | 196  | 13.30      | 1.22e-03| 1.000              | 761.00         |
| **2000 km summed MST distance** |    |        |      |            |         |                    |                |
| Time * Phase           | 4  | -90.4  | 191  | 0.00       | 7.99e-01| 0.799              | 1.00           |
| Time + Phase           | 3  | -93.6  | 195  | 4.05       | 1.05e-01| 0.904              | 7.61           |
| Phase Only             | 2  | -95.2  | 197  | 5.26       | 5.76e-02| 0.962              | 13.90          |
| Intercept Only         | 1  | -97.0  | 198  | 6.78       | 2.69e-02| 0.988              | 29.70          |
| Time Only              | 2  | -96.9  | 200  | 8.51       | 1.13e-02| 1.000              | 70.70          |
| **2500 km summed MST distance** |    |        |      |            |         |                    |                |
| Time * Phase           | 4  | -68.5  | 148  | 0.00       | 9.92e-01| 0.992              | 1.00           |
| Time + Phase           | 3  | -74.9  | 158  | 10.40      | 5.38e-03| 0.997              | 184.00         |
| model          | df | logLik | AICc  | delta AICc | weights | cumulative weights | evidence ratio |
|---------------|----|--------|-------|------------|---------|--------------------|----------------|
| Phase Only    | 2  | -76.7  | 160   | 12.00      | 2.45e-03| 1.000              | 405.00         |
| Intercept Only| 1  | -81.5  | 167   | 19.50      | 5.74e-05| 1.000              | 17300.00       |
| Time Only     | 2  | -80.5  | 167   | 19.70      | 5.35e-05| 1.000              | 18500.00       |

**3000 km summed MST distance**

| model          | df | logLik | AICc  | delta AICc | weights | cumulative weights | evidence ratio |
|---------------|----|--------|-------|------------|---------|--------------------|----------------|
| Time * Phase  | 4  | -59.4  | 129   | 0.00       | 9.45e-01| 0.945              | 1.00           |
| Time + Phase  | 3  | -63.6  | 136   | 6.10       | 4.47e-02| 0.990              | 21.10          |
| Phase Only    | 2  | -66.1  | 138   | 9.00       | 1.05e-02| 1.000              | 90.00          |
| Time Only     | 2  | -71.4  | 149   | 19.50      | 5.45e-05| 1.000              | 17300.00       |
| Intercept Only| 1  | -73.4  | 151   | 21.40      | 2.12e-05| 1.000              | 44600.00       |

**3500 km summed MST distance**

| model          | df | logLik | AICc  | delta AICc | weights | cumulative weights | evidence ratio |
|---------------|----|--------|-------|------------|---------|--------------------|----------------|
| Time * Phase  | 4  | -51.6  | 114   | 0.00       | 9.63e-01| 0.963              | 1.00           |
| Time + Phase  | 3  | -56.3  | 121   | 7.21       | 2.61e-02| 0.989              | 36.90          |
| Phase Only    | 2  | -58.3  | 123   | 8.96       | 1.09e-02| 1.000              | 88.30          |
| Time Only     | 2  | -63.5  | 133   | 19.30      | 6.08e-05| 1.000              | 15800.00       |
| Intercept Only| 1  | -65.6  | 135   | 21.40      | 2.12e-05| 1.000              | 45400.00       |

**4000 km summed MST distance**

| model          | df | logLik | AICc  | delta AICc | weights | cumulative weights | evidence ratio |
|---------------|----|--------|-------|------------|---------|--------------------|----------------|
| Time * Phase  | 4  | -52.9  | 116   | 0.00       | 9.64e-01| 0.964              | 1.00           |
| Phase Only    | 2  | -59.0  | 124   | 7.81       | 1.94e-02| 0.983              | 49.70          |
| Time + Phase  | 3  | -58.1  | 125   | 8.12       | 1.66e-02| 1.000              | 58.10          |
| Time Only     | 2  | -63.5  | 133   | 16.80      | 2.22e-04| 1.000              | 4340.00        |
| Intercept Only| 1  | -66.3  | 137   | 20.30      | 3.83e-05| 1.000              | 25200.00       |
Table 2. Coefficients for variables included in generalised least-squares models of ‘global’ species richness (face-value and sampling standardised, using SQS at a quorum of 0.6) as a function of the palaeogeographic spread of the fossil record (counts of occupied equal-area grid cells with 500 km spacings), continental area and non-marine sediment extent (counts of columns in Macrostrat database). Temporally-correlated errors modelled using a first-order autoregressive structure. Palaeogeographic spread and non-marine sediment extent variables log-transformed to achieve normality. When all three explanatory variables are included in a linear model, only palaeogeographic spread (MST distance) is a significant (at p ≤ 0.01) and strong explanation of variation in ‘global’ species richness.

| term                        | estimate | std.error | statistic | p.value |
|-----------------------------|----------|-----------|-----------|---------|
| Face-value Global Species Richness |          |           |           |         |
| Intercept                   | -2.1600  | 1.8300    | -1.1900   | n.s.    |
| Occupied Grid Cells         | 0.8340   | 0.0960    | 8.6900    | < 0.01  |
| Non-marine Sediment Extent  | -0.0256  | 0.1720    | -0.1490   | n.s.    |
| Continental Area            | 0.1820   | 0.0785    | 2.3100    | n.s.    |
| SQS Global Richness         |          |           |           |         |
| Intercept                   | 2.4500   | 1.6600    | 1.4700    | n.s.    |
| Occupied Grid Cells         | 0.5010   | 0.1240    | 4.0400    | < 0.01  |
| Non-marine Sediment Extent  | -0.0143  | 0.1880    | -0.0761   | n.s.    |
| Continental Area            | 0.0413   | 0.0777    | 0.5310    | n.s.    |
Supplementary Information

Supplementary Methods

**Note on spatial subsampling procedure.** We use the spatial distribution of fossil localities with well-defined palaeocoordinates to quantify the palaeogeographic extent of the known fossil record for each interval. The strength of the correlation between geographic spread and estimated richness is very great (Figs 1 and S6), and is unlikely to be the result of errors. Minor errors would primarily arise from recording modern-day geographic coordinates inaccurately in the Paleobiology Database, and from tectonic rotations used to recover paleocoordinates. However, for most of the standardised palaeogeographic regions that we analyse (i.e., subsamples of fossil localities with approximately equal geographic extents), the localities come from regions of the globe that are linked on a single tectonic plate that moves as a rigid unit. Therefore, the error associated with these estimates are, for our purposes, negligible.

Supplementary Results

**Model-fitting with additional richness estimators.** Model-selection and fitting results for other richness estimators are given in Tables S3–S4 (SQS with GCR), S5–S6 (face-value species counts), S7–S8 (squares) and S9–S10 (Chao 2). Results are highly congruent for all richness estimators, with the “Time * Pre/Post-K/Pg phase” model receiving highest support. In all models that include phase and time as an interaction term, this is due to a significant decrease in richness through the Cenozoic (Tables S6, S8 and S10; Fig. S9).
Fig. S1. Distribution of non-flying tetrapod fossil localities through the Phanerozoic, using equal-length time bins.
**Fig. S2.** Distribution of equal-sized hexagonal/pentagonal grid cells with 500 km spacings (between cell midpoints) containing occurrences of non-flying tetrapod fossils through the Phanerozoic, using equal-length time bins. Colours represent face-value species counts per cell.
Fig. S3. Distribution of subsampled spatial regions sampling non-flying tetrapod fossils through the Phanerozoic, using equal-length time bins. Spatial regions meeting spatial standardisation criteria for 2000 km MST lengths (see Methods for full list of criteria) are in red, and those not meeting these criteria are in grey.
Fig. S4. Clusters of subsampled spatial regions (2000 km MST length) for non-flying tetrapods through the Phanerozoic, using equal-length time bins. Colours differentiate clusters.
**Fig. S5.** Time series (scaled to unit variance and centred) for the palaeogeographic spread of the worldwide non-flying terrestrial tetrapod fossil record (occupied equal-area grid cells with 500 km spacings), and estimates of continental area (from Cao et al. [36]) and non-marine sediment extent (derived from Macrostrat by [40]). Only non-marine sediment extent mirrors palaeogeographic spread in rising sharply during the Neogene–Recent, and increases in continental area over the same interval are much smaller.
Fig. S6. Bivariate relationships between the palaeogeographic spread of the worldwide non-marine, non-flying tetrapod fossil record, quantified using per-bin counts of occupied equal-area grid cells with 500 km spacings ([36]) and other key variables. (A–B) Raw (i.e. not detrended or differenced) relationships between time series occupied grid cell counts and “global” tetrapod species richness estimates (face-value counts of species, and sampling standardised SQS richness at quorum = 0.6). (D–E) Corresponding first-differenced relationships. (G–H) Corresponding relationships for time series detrended with ARIMA models (using the R function auto.arima() in the package forecast [47]). (C, F, I) Relationships between palaeogeographic spread quantified using occupied grid cells, and using MST length. All variables log-transformed. Datapoints for C1 and C2 removed as outliers.
Fig. S7. Bivariate relationships between an estimate of continental area through the Phanerozoic ([36]) and other key variables. (A–D) Raw (i.e. not detrended or differenced) relationships between time series of continental area, “global” tetrapod species richness estimates, and the palaeogeographic spread of their fossil record. (E–H) Corresponding first-differenced relationships. (I–L) Corresponding relationships for time series detrended with ARIMA models (using the R function auto.arima() in the package forecast [47]). Datapoints for C1 and C2 removed as outliers. Although relationships using ‘raw’ time series are significant, accounting for spurious time series effects renders them non-significant.
**Fig. S8.** Bivariate relationships between non-marine sediment extent (derived from the Macrostrat database [http://www.macrostrat.org], via Peters and Husson [40]) and other key variables. (A–E) Raw (i.e. not detrended or differenced) relationships between time series of non-marine sediment extent and diversity, palaeogeographic spread and continental area. (F–J) Corresponding first-differenced relationships. (K–O) Corresponding relationships for time series detrended with ARIMA models (using the R function auto.arima() in the package forecast [47]). Datapoints for C1 and C2 removed as outliers. Although relationships using ‘raw’ time series are significant, accounting for spurious time series effects renders them non-significant.
**Fig. S9.** Linear models of ln richness as a function of time within pre- and post-K/Pg diversification phases, for face-value species counts (= raw or uncorrected richness; i.e., not sampling-standardised), squares’ extrapolated species richness and SQS richness (quorum = 0.6). No grid-cell rarefaction used (GCR = off). Shaded envelopes denote 95% confidence intervals for regression slopes. Regressions for the pre-K/Pg phase are never significant, but those for the post-K/Pg phase are sometimes significant, with a positive slope (indicating a statistically significant decline in diversity towards the present).
Fig. S10. Effects of using a grid-cell rarefaction procedure (using quotas of 3, 5 and 8 occupied cells per 1000 km of summed MST distance) prior to computing SQS richness estimates (quorum = 0.6) on spatially-standardised regions. GCR algorithm not used for “GCR quota = off”. As the GCR quota is raised, increasingly fewer suitable regions are available from pre-Cenozoic intervals.
Supplementary Tables

Table S1.

Definitions of composite time bins of approximately equal length.

| bin  | stages                                      | LAD  | FAD  | midpoint    | duration  |
|------|---------------------------------------------|------|------|-------------|-----------|
| Ng4  | Calabrian, Middle Pleistocene, Late Pleistocene | 0.0117 | 1.806 | 0.90885    | 1.7943    |
| Ng3  | Messinian, Zanclean, Piacenzian, Gelasian    | 1.806 | 7.246 | 4.52600    | 5.4400    |
| Ng2  | Langhian, Serravallian, Tortonian           | 7.246 | 15.970| 11.60800   | 8.7240    |
| Ng1  | Aquitanian, Burdigalian                      | 15.970| 23.030| 19.50000   | 7.0600    |
| Pg5  | Chattian, Rupelian                           | 23.030| 33.900| 28.46500   | 10.8700   |
| Pg4  | Bartonian, Priabonian                        | 33.900| 41.300| 37.60000   | 7.4000    |
| Pg3  | Lutetian                                     | 41.300| 47.800| 44.55000   | 6.5000    |
| Pg2  | Ypresian                                     | 47.800| 56.000| 51.90000   | 8.2000    |
| Pg1  | Selandian, Thanetian                         | 56.000| 61.600| 58.80000   | 5.6000    |
| Pg0  | Danian                                       | 61.600| 66.000| 63.80000   | 4.4000    |
| K8   | Maastrichtian                                | 66.000| 72.100| 69.05000   | 6.1000    |
| K7   | Campanian                                    | 72.100| 83.600| 77.85000   | 11.5000   |
| K6   | Coniacian, Santonian, Turonian               | 83.600| 93.900| 88.75000   | 10.3000   |
| K5   | Cenomanian                                   | 93.900| 100.500| 97.20000 | 6.6000    |
| K4   | Albian                                       | 100.500| 113.000| 106.75000 | 12.5000   |
| K3   | Aptian                                       | 113.000| 125.000| 119.00000 | 12.0000   |
| K2   | Barremian, Hauterivian                       | 125.000| 132.900| 128.95000 | 7.9000    |
| K1   | Berriasian, Valanginian                      | 132.900| 145.000| 138.95000 | 12.1000   |
| J6   | Kimmeridgian, Tithonian                      | 145.000| 157.300| 151.15000 | 12.3000   |
| J5   | Callovian, Oxfordian                         | 157.300| 166.100| 161.70000 | 8.8000    |
| J4   | Bajocian, Bathonian                          | 166.100| 170.300| 168.20000 | 4.2000    |
| J3   | Aalenian, Toarcian                           | 170.300| 182.700| 176.50000 | 12.4000   |
| J2   | Pliensbachian                                | 182.700| 190.800| 186.75000 | 8.1000    |
| J1   | Hettangian, Sinemurian                       | 190.800| 201.300| 196.05000 | 10.5000   |
| Tr5  | Rhaetian                                     | 201.300| 208.500| 204.90000 | 7.2000    |
| Tr4  | Norian                                       | 208.500| 228.000| 218.25000 | 19.5000   |
| Tr3  | Carnian                                      | 228.000| 237.000| 232.50000 | 9.0000    |
| Tr2  | Ladinian                                     | 237.000| 242.000| 239.50000 | 5.0000    |
| Tr1  | Anisian, Olenekian, Induan                   | 242.000| 252.170| 247.08500 | 10.1700   |
| P5   | Changhsingian, Wuchiapingian                 | 252.170| 259.900| 256.03500 | 7.7300    |
| P4   | Capitanian, Wordian                          | 259.900| 268.800| 264.35000 | 8.9000    |
| P3   | Kungurian, Roadian                           | 268.800| 279.300| 274.05000 | 10.5000   |
| P2   | Artinskian                                   | 279.300| 290.100| 284.70000 | 10.8000   |
| P1   | Asselian, Sakmarian                          | 290.100| 298.900| 294.50000 | 8.8000    |
|   |  |  |  |  |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| C5 | Gzhelian, Kasimovian | 298.9000 | 307.000 | 302.95000 | 8.1000 |
| C4 | Moscovian | 307.0000 | 315.200 | 311.10000 | 8.2000 |
| C3 | Bashkirian, Serpukhovian | 315.2000 | 330.900 | 323.05000 | 15.7000 |
| C2 | Visean | 330.9000 | 346.700 | 338.80000 | 15.8000 |
| C1 | Tournaisian | 346.7000 | 358.900 | 352.80000 | 12.2000 |
**Table S2.** Parameter estimates for coefficients in linear models fitted to spatially-standardised terrestrial tetrapod species richness data (SQS, quorum = 0.6; 1000–4000 km MST distance; GCR quota = off). All models fitted to each palaeogeographic spread level are shown, regardless of Akaike weight, and ordering does not reflect importance.

| Model                          | Intercept | Time | Time : Phase (Pre-K/Pg) | Phase (Pre-K/Pg) |
|-------------------------------|-----------|------|-------------------------|------------------|
|                              | estimate  | std.error | statistic | p.value | estimate  | std.error | statistic | p.value | estimate  | std.error | statistic | p.value |
| 1000 km summed MST distance   |           |         |           |         |           |         |           |         |           |         |           |         |
| Intercept Only                | 3.90      | 0.0534  | 73.1      | < 0.05  |           |         |           |         |           |         |           |         |
| Phase Only                    | 4.02      | 0.0557  | 70.0      | < 0.05  | -0.471    | 0.114    | -4.12     | < 0.05  |           |         |           |         |
| Time Only                     | 4.01      | 0.0636  | 63.0      | < 0.05  | -0.002    | 0.000665 | -3        | < 0.05  | -0.599    | 0.215    | -2.79     | < 0.05  |
| Time + Phase                  | 4.00      | 0.0617  | 64.9      | < 0.05  | 0.00851   | 0.00121  | 0.705     | n.s.    | -0.599    | 0.215    | -2.79     | < 0.05  |
| Time * Phase                  | 3.89      | 0.0764  | 51.0      | < 0.05  | 0.00662   | 0.0028   | 2.37      | < 0.05  | -0.823    | 0.314    | -2.62     | < 0.05  |
| 1500 km summed MST distance   |           |         |           |         |           |         |           |         |           |         |           |         |
| Intercept Only                | 3.95      | 0.0710  | 55.7      | < 0.05  |           |         |           |         |           |         |           |         |
| Phase Only                    | 4.06      | 0.0762  | 53.3      | < 0.05  | -0.515    | 0.169    | -3.05     | < 0.05  |           |         |           |         |
| Time Only                     | 4.04      | 0.0834  | 48.4      | < 0.05  | -0.00184  | 0.000969 | -1.9      | n.s.    |           |         |           |         |
| Time + Phase                  | 4.02      | 0.0810  | 49.7      | < 0.05  | 0.00204   | 0.00176  | 1.16      | n.s.    | -0.823    | 0.314    | -2.62     | < 0.05  |
| Time * Phase                  | 3.84      | 0.0981  | 39.2      | < 0.05  | 0.0135    | 0.00412  | 3.28      | < 0.05  | -0.0138   | 0.00452  | -3.05     | < 0.05  |
| 2000 km summed MST distance   |           |         |           |         |           |         |           |         |           |         |           |         |
| Intercept Only                | 3.93      | 0.0754  | 52.1      | < 0.05  |           |         |           |         |           |         |           |         |
| model                | estimate | std.error | statistic | p.value | estimate | std.error | statistic | p.value | estimate | std.error | statistic | p.value | estimate | std.error | statistic | p.value |
|----------------------|----------|-----------|-----------|---------|----------|-----------|-----------|---------|----------|-----------|-----------|---------|---------|-----------|-----------|---------|
| Phase Only           | 4.01     | 0.0861    | 46.6      | < 0.05  |          |           |           |         | -0.323   | 0.17      | -1.9      | n.s.    |         |           |           |         |
| Time Only            | 3.96     | 0.0938    | 42.2      | < 0.05  | -0.000599| 0.001     | -0.596    | n.s.    |          |           |           |         |         |           |           |         |
| Time + Phase         | 3.95     | 0.0910    | 43.4      | < 0.05  | 0.00323  | 0.00178   | 1.82      | n.s.    | -0.791   | 0.307     | -2.57     | < 0.05  |         |           |           |         |
| Time * Phase         | 3.78     | 0.1130    | 33.4      | < 0.05  | 0.0128   | 0.00423   | 3.03      | < 0.05  | -0.0115  | 0.00464   | -2.48     | < 0.05  | -0.302   | 0.357     | -0.846   | n.s.    |

**2500 km summed MST distance**

| model                | estimate | std.error | statistic | p.value | estimate | std.error | statistic | p.value | estimate | std.error | statistic | p.value | estimate | std.error | statistic | p.value |
|----------------------|----------|-----------|-----------|---------|----------|-----------|-----------|---------|----------|-----------|-----------|---------|---------|-----------|-----------|---------|
| Intercept Only       | 3.98     | 0.0655    | 60.8      | < 0.05  |          |           |           |         | -0.431   | 0.137     | -3.15     | < 0.05  |         |           |           |         |
| Phase Only           | 4.11     | 0.0743    | 55.3      | < 0.05  |          |           |           |         | -0.00111 | 0.000798  | -1.39     | n.s.    |         |           |           |         |
| Time Only            | 4.05     | 0.0802    | 50.5      | < 0.05  | -0.00174 | 0.00087   | -2        | < 0.05  | -0.789   | 0.23      | -3.42     | < 0.05  |         |           |           |         |
| Time + Phase         | 4.07     | 0.0759    | 53.6      | < 0.05  | 0.00247  | 0.00129   | 1.92      | n.s.    | -0.789   | 0.23      | -3.42     | < 0.05  |         |           |           |         |
| Time * Phase         | 3.86     | 0.0915    | 42.2      | < 0.05  | 0.0158   | 0.00389   | 4.06      | < 0.05  | -0.0147  | 0.00409   | -3.6      | < 0.05  | -0.354   | 0.247     | -1.43    | n.s.    |

**3000 km summed MST distance**

| model                | estimate | std.error | statistic | p.value | estimate | std.error | statistic | p.value | estimate | std.error | statistic | p.value | estimate | std.error | statistic | p.value |
|----------------------|----------|-----------|-----------|---------|----------|-----------|-----------|---------|----------|-----------|-----------|---------|---------|-----------|-----------|---------|
| Intercept Only       | 4.05     | 0.0707    | 57.2      | < 0.05  |          |           |           |         | -0.576   | 0.146     | -3.94     | < 0.05  |         |           |           |         |
| Phase Only           | 4.20     | 0.0758    | 55.4      | < 0.05  |          |           |           |         | -0.00174 | 0.00087   | -2        | < 0.05  |         |           |           |         |
| Time Only            | 4.14     | 0.0851    | 48.7      | < 0.05  | -0.00174 | 0.00087   | -2        | < 0.05  | -1.07    | 0.264     | -4.07     | < 0.05  |         |           |           |         |
| Time + Phase         | 4.15     | 0.0775    | 53.5      | < 0.05  | 0.00329  | 0.00147   | 2.24      | < 0.05  | -1.07    | 0.264     | -4.07     | < 0.05  |         |           |           |         |
| Time * Phase         | 3.98     | 0.0946    | 42.0      | < 0.05  | 0.014    | 0.00396   | 3.53      | < 0.05  | -0.0122  | 0.00423   | -2.89     | < 0.05  | -0.648   | 0.292     | -2.22    | < 0.05  |
| model               | estimate | std.error | statistic | p.value | estimate | std.error | statistic | p.value | estimate | std.error | statistic | p.value |
|--------------------|----------|-----------|-----------|---------|----------|-----------|-----------|---------|----------|-----------|-----------|---------|---------|
| **3500 km summed MST distance** |          |           |           |         |          |           |           |         |          |           |           |         |         |
| Intercept Only     | 4.13     | 0.0650    | 63.5      | < 0.05  | 4.29     | 0.0718    | 59.7      | < 0.05  | -0.509   | 0.129     | -3.96     | < 0.05  |         |
| Phase Only         | 4.22     | 0.0795    | 53.1      | < 0.05  | -0.00151 | 0.000736  | -2.06     | < 0.05  | -0.876   | 0.225     | -3.88     | < 0.05  |         |
| Time Only          | 4.25     | 0.0732    | 58.0      | < 0.05  | 0.00237  | 0.00121   | 1.96      | n.s.    | -0.877   | 0.262     | -3.35     | < 0.05  |         |
| Time * Phase       | 4.07     | 0.0895    | 45.5      | < 0.05  | 0.013    | 0.00364   | 3.58      | < 0.05  | -0.877   | 0.262     | -3.35     | < 0.05  |         |
| **4000 km summed MST distance** |          |           |           |         |          |           |           |         |          |           |           |         |         |
| Intercept Only     | 4.17     | 0.0751    | 55.5      | < 0.05  | 4.35     | 0.0824    | 52.8      | < 0.05  | -0.583   | 0.147     | -3.97     | < 0.05  |         |
| Phase Only         | 4.30     | 0.0912    | 47.2      | < 0.05  | -0.00197 | 0.000824  | -2.39     | < 0.05  | -0.877   | 0.262     | -3.35     | < 0.05  |         |
| Time Only          | 4.32     | 0.0852    | 50.7      | < 0.05  | 0.00186  | 0.00138   | 1.35      | n.s.    | -0.877   | 0.262     | -3.35     | < 0.05  |         |
| Time * Phase       | 4.10     | 0.1060    | 38.8      | < 0.05  | 0.015    | 0.00425   | 3.53      | < 0.05  | -0.418   | 0.283     | -1.48     | n.s.    |         |
**Table S3.** Model selection using the second-order Akaike information criterion (AICc) to compare fits of linear models of spatially-standardised non-flying terrestrial species richness (SQS, quorum = 0.6; GCR quota = 5 occupied grid cells/1000 km MST length) as a function of time and diversification phase.

| model                  | df | logLik | AICc | delta AICc | weights | cumulative weights | evidence ratio |
|------------------------|----|--------|------|------------|---------|-------------------|----------------|
| **1000 km summed MST distance** |    |        |      |            |         |                   |                |
| Time * Phase           | 4  | -69.7  | 150.0| 0.00       | 8.76e-01| 0.876             | 1.00           |
| Phase Only             | 2  | -74.3  | 155.0| 4.82       | 7.88e-02| 0.955             | 11.10          |
| Time + Phase           | 3  | -73.8  | 156.0| 5.97       | 4.44e-02| 0.999             | 19.70          |
| Time Only              | 2  | -79.0  | 164.0| 14.20      | 7.08e-04| 1.000             | 1240.00        |
| Intercept Only         | 1  | -84.0  | 172.0| 22.10      | 1.40e-05| 1.000             | 62600.00       |
| **1500 km summed MST distance** |    |        |      |            |         |                   |                |
| Time * Phase           | 4  | -82.4  | 175.0| 0.00       | 9.49e-01| 0.949             | 1.00           |
| Phase Only             | 2  | -88.0  | 182.0| 6.95       | 2.94e-02| 0.978             | 32.30          |
| Time + Phase           | 3  | -87.5  | 183.0| 8.00       | 1.74e-02| 0.996             | 54.50          |
| Time Only              | 2  | -90.3  | 187.0| 11.60      | 2.89e-03| 0.999             | 328.00         |
| Intercept Only         | 1  | -92.2  | 188.0| 13.30      | 1.24e-03| 1.000             | 765.00         |
| **2000 km summed MST distance** |    |        |      |            |         |                   |                |
| Time * Phase           | 4  | -79.8  | 170.0| 0.00       | 9.67e-01| 0.967             | 1.00           |
| model               | df | logLik | AICc | delta AICc | weights | cumulative weights | evidence ratio |
|--------------------|----|--------|------|------------|---------|--------------------|----------------|
| Time + Phase       | 3  | -85.0  | 178.0| 8.17       | 1.63e-2 | 0.983              | 59.30          |
| Phase Only         | 2  | -86.4  | 179.0| 8.86       | 1.15e-2 | 0.995              | 84.10          |
| Intercept Only     | 1  | -88.7  | 181.0| 11.30      | 3.41e-3 | 0.998              | 284.00         |
| Time Only          | 2  | -88.3  | 183.0| 12.60      | 1.78e-3 | 1.000              | 543.00         |

2500 km summed MST distance

| model               | df | logLik | AICc | delta AICc | weights | cumulative weights | evidence ratio |
|--------------------|----|--------|------|------------|---------|--------------------|----------------|
| Time * Phase       | 4  | -56.2  | 123.0| 0.00       | 9.98e-01| 0.998              | 1.00           |
| Phase Only         | 2  | -65.5  | 137.0| 14.20      | 8.16e-04| 0.999              | 1220.00        |
| Time + Phase       | 3  | -64.6  | 137.0| 14.50      | 7.00e-04| 1.000              | 1430.00        |
| Intercept Only     | 1  | -67.4  | 139.0| 15.90      | 3.47e-04| 1.000              | 2880.00        |
| Time Only          | 2  | -67.1  | 140.0| 17.30      | 1.71e-04| 1.000              | 5840.00        |

3000 km summed MST distance

| model               | df | logLik | AICc | delta AICc | weights | cumulative weights | evidence ratio |
|--------------------|----|--------|------|------------|---------|--------------------|----------------|
| Time * Phase       | 4  | -42.3  | 95.3 | 0.00       | 9.95e-01| 0.995              | 1.00           |
| Time + Phase       | 3  | -49.3  | 107.0| 11.60      | 3.03e-03| 0.998              | 328.00         |
| Phase Only         | 2  | -50.9  | 108.0| 12.60      | 1.81e-03| 1.000              | 550.00         |
| Time Only          | 2  | -54.8  | 116.0| 20.50      | 3.45e-05| 1.000              | 28800.00       |
| Intercept Only     | 1  | -56.5  | 117.0| 21.80      | 1.87e-05| 1.000              | 53200.00       |
| model              | df | logLik | AICc | delta AICc | weights | cumulative weights | evidence ratio |
|--------------------|----|--------|------|------------|---------|--------------------|----------------|
| **3500 km summed MST distance** |    |        |      |            |         |                    |                |
| Time * Phase       | 4  | -35.6  | 82.0 | 0.00       | 9.69e-01 | 0.969              | 1.00           |
| Time + Phase       | 3  | -40.8  | 90.1 | 8.13       | 1.67e-02 | 0.986              | 58.00          |
| Phase Only         | 2  | -42.2  | 90.7 | 8.72       | 1.24e-02 | 0.998              | 78.10          |
| Time Only          | 2  | -45.0  | 96.2 | 14.20      | 7.91e-04 | 0.999              | 1230.00        |
| Intercept Only     | 1  | -46.1  | 96.4 | 14.40      | 7.32e-04 | 1.000              | 1320.00        |
| **4000 km summed MST distance** |    |        |      |            |         |                    |                |
| Time * Phase       | 4  | -34.2  | 79.3 | 0.00       | 8.46e-01 | 0.846              | 1.00           |
| Time + Phase       | 3  | -37.6  | 83.8 | 4.47       | 9.04e-02 | 0.936              | 9.36           |
| Phase Only         | 2  | -39.3  | 84.8 | 5.47       | 5.48e-02 | 0.991              | 15.40          |
| Intercept Only     | 1  | -42.8  | 89.7 | 10.40      | 4.73e-03 | 0.996              | 179.00         |
| Time Only          | 2  | -41.8  | 89.9 | 10.60      | 4.24e-03 | 1.000              | 200.00         |
Table S4. Parameter estimates for coefficients in linear models fitted to spatially-standardised terrestrial tetrapod species richness data (SQS, quorum = 0.6; GCR quota = 5 occupied grid-cells/1000 km MST length). All models fitted to each palaeogeographic spread level are shown, regardless of Akaike weight, and ordering does not reflect importance.

| model                        | Intercept | std.err | statistic | p.value | Time | std.err | statistic | p.value | Time : Phase (Pre-K/Pg) | std.err | statistic | p.value | Phase (Pre-K/Pg) | std.err | statistic | p.value |
|------------------------------|-----------|---------|-----------|---------|------|---------|-----------|---------|--------------------------|---------|-----------|---------|-------------------|---------|-----------|---------|
| 1000 km summed MST distance  |           |         |           |         |      |         |           |         |                          |         |           |         |                   |         |           |         |
| Intercept Only               | 3.7       | 0.0579  | 64.0      | < 0.05 |      |         |           |         |                          |         |           |         |                   |         |           |         |
| Phase Only                   | 3.85      | 0.0615  | 62.6      | < 0.05 |      |         |           |         | -0.546                   | 0.119   | -4.58     | < 0.05 |                   |         |           |         |
| Time Only                    | 3.83      | 0.0685  | 55.9      | < 0.05 | -0.00224 | 0.000701 | -3.2     | < 0.05 |                          |         |           |         |                   |         |           |         |
| Time + Phase                 | 3.82      | 0.0653  | 58.5      | < 0.05 | 0.00123 | 0.00126  | 0.977    | n.s.   |                          |         |           |         |                   |         |           |         |
| Time * Phase                 | 3.69      | 0.0790  | 46.7      | < 0.05 | 0.00898 | 0.00297  | 3.02     | < 0.05 | -0.00929                 | 0.00326 | -2.85     | < 0.05 | -0.335            | 0.257   | -1.3      | n.s.    |
| 1500 km summed MST distance  |           |         |           |         |      |         |           |         |                          |         |           |         |                   |         |           |         |
| Intercept Only               | 3.80      | 0.0703  | 54.1      | < 0.05 |      |         |           |         |                          |         |           |         |                   |         |           |         |
| Phase Only                   | 3.89      | 0.0748  | 52.0      | < 0.05 |      |         |           |         | -0.509                   | 0.173   | -2.94     | < 0.05 |                   |         |           |         |
| Time Only                    | 3.88      | 0.0818  | 47.5      | < 0.05 | -0.00185 | 0.000952 | -1.94    | n.s.   |                          |         |           |         |                   |         |           |         |
| Time + Phase                 | 3.86      | 0.0802  | 48.2      | < 0.05 | 0.00186 | 0.00181  | 1.03     | n.s.   |                          |         |           |         | -0.807            | 0.337   | -2.39     | < 0.05 |
| Time * Phase                 | 3.68      | 0.0959  | 38.4      | < 0.05 | 0.0136 | 0.00403  | 3.37     | < 0.05 | -0.0143                 | 0.00446 | -3.21     | < 0.05 | -0.161            | 0.379   | -0.425    | n.s.    |
| 2000 km summed MST distance  |           |         |           |         |      |         |           |         |                          |         |           |         |                   |         |           |         |
| Intercept Only               | 3.87      | 0.0825  | 47.0      | < 0.05 |      |         |           |         |                          |         |           |         |                   |         |           |         |
| model                  | estimate | std.error | statistic | p.value | estimate | std.error | statistic | p.value | estimate | std.error | statistic | p.value | estimate | std.error | statistic | p.value |
|------------------------|----------|-----------|-----------|---------|----------|-----------|-----------|---------|----------|-----------|-----------|---------|---------|-----------|-----------|---------|
| Phase Only             | 3.98     | 0.0948    | 42.0      | < 0.05  |          |           |           |         | -0.386   | 0.181     | -2.13     | < 0.05   |         |           |           |         |
| Time Only              | 3.93     | 0.1020    | 38.5      | < 0.05  | -0.000934| 0.00105   | -0.892    | n.s.    |          |           |           |         |         |           |           |         |
| Time + Phase           | 3.93     | 0.0986    | 39.8      | < 0.05  | 0.00315  | 0.00188   | 1.67      | n.s.    |          | -0.856    | 0.333     | -2.57    | < 0.05   |         |           |         |
| Time * Phase           | 3.69     | 0.1190    | 30.9      | < 0.05  | 0.0179   | 0.00489   | 3.67      | < 0.05  | -0.0171  | 0.00525   | -3.25     | < 0.05   | -0.241   | 0.367     | -0.658   | n.s.    |

**2500 km summed MST distance**

| model                  | estimate | std.error | statistic | p.value | estimate | std.error | statistic | p.value | estimate | std.error | statistic | p.value | estimate | std.error | statistic | p.value |
|------------------------|----------|-----------|-----------|---------|----------|-----------|-----------|---------|----------|-----------|-----------|---------|---------|-----------|-----------|---------|
| Intercept Only         | 3.97     | 0.0666    | 59.6      | < 0.05  |          |           |           |         | -0.308   | 0.158     | -1.95     | n.s.    |         |           |           |         |
| Phase Only             | 4.04     | 0.0741    | 54.5      | < 0.05  |          |           |           |         | -0.00077 | 0.000936  | -0.823    | n.s.    |         |           |           |         |
| Time Only              | 4.01     | 0.0800    | 50.1      | < 0.05  | -0.00215 | 0.0016    | 1.35      | n.s.    |          | -0.612    | 0.275     | -2.23    | < 0.05   |         |           |         |
| Time + Phase           | 4.00     | 0.0780    | 51.3      | < 0.05  | 0.0016   | 0.00374   | 4.46      | < 0.05  | -0.0171  | 0.00406   | -4.21     | < 0.05   | 0.0199   | 0.29      | 0.0685   | n.s.    |
| Time * Phase           | 3.77     | 0.0894    | 42.2      | < 0.05  | 0.0167   | 0.00374   | 4.46      | < 0.05  | -0.0171  | 0.00406   | -4.21     | < 0.05   | 0.0199   | 0.29      | 0.0685   | n.s.    |

**3000 km summed MST distance**

| model                  | estimate | std.error | statistic | p.value | estimate | std.error | statistic | p.value | estimate | std.error | statistic | p.value | estimate | std.error | statistic | p.value |
|------------------------|----------|-----------|-----------|---------|----------|-----------|-----------|---------|----------|-----------|-----------|---------|---------|-----------|-----------|---------|
| Intercept Only         | 4.02     | 0.0737    | 54.5      | < 0.05  |          |           |           |         | -0.555   | 0.161     | -3.45     | < 0.05   |         |           |           |         |
| Phase Only             | 4.15     | 0.0778    | 53.3      | < 0.05  |          |           |           |         | -0.00173 | 0.00095   | -1.83     | n.s.    |         |           |           |         |
| Time Only              | 4.11     | 0.0873    | 47.0      | < 0.05  | -0.00173 | 0.00095   | -1.83     | n.s.    |          | -0.987    | 0.29      | -3.41    | < 0.05   |         |           |         |
| Time + Phase           | 4.10     | 0.0807    | 50.8      | < 0.05  | 0.00286  | 0.00161   | 1.78      | n.s.    |          | -0.987    | 0.29      | -3.41    | < 0.05   |         |           |         |
| Time * Phase           | 3.89     | 0.0923    | 42.1      | < 0.05  | 0.0163   | 0.00382   | 4.27      | < 0.05  | -0.0158  | 0.00413   | -3.81     | < 0.05   | -0.39    | 0.305     | -1.28    | n.s.    |
| model                     | 3500 km summed MST distance | 4000 km summed MST distance |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Intercept                |                             |                             |
| Time                     |                             |                             |
| Time : Phase (Pre-K/Pg)  |                             |                             |
| Phase (Pre-K/Pg)         |                             |                             |
| Intercept Only           | 4.18 (0.0695)               | 4.17 (0.0792)               |
| Phase Only               | 4.28 (0.0743)               | 4.30 (0.0876)               |
| Time Only                | 4.25 (0.0821)               | 4.25 (0.0959)               |
| Time + Phase             | 4.24 (0.0772)               | 4.25 (0.0959)               |
| Time * Phase             | 4.07 (0.0883)               | 4.09 (0.1060)               |
|                         |                             |                             |
Table S5. Model selection using the second-order Akaike information criterion (AICc) to compare fits of linear models of spatially-standardised non-flying terrestrial species richness (face-value species counts) as a function of time and diversification phase.

| model                  | df | logLik | AICc | delta AICc | weights | cumulative weights | evidence ratio |
|------------------------|----|--------|------|------------|---------|--------------------|----------------|
| **1000 km summed MST distance** |    |        |      |            |         |                    |                |
| Time * Phase           | 4  | -76.2  | 163  | 0.00       | 8.20e-01| 0.820              | 1.00e+00       |
| Phase Only             | 2  | -80.2  | 166  | 3.65       | 1.32e-01| 0.952              | 6.21e+00       |
| Time + Phase           | 3  | -80.2  | 169  | 5.77       | 4.57e-02| 0.998              | 1.79e+01       |
| Time Only              | 2  | -84.1  | 174  | 11.60      | 2.52e-03| 1.000              | 3.25e+02       |
| Intercept Only         | 1  | -93.0  | 190  | 27.20      | 1.00e-06| 1.000              | 8.12e+05       |
| **1500 km summed MST distance** |    |        |      |            |         |                    |                |
| Time * Phase           | 4  | -78.9  | 168  | 0.00       | 9.81e-01| 0.981              | 1.00e+00       |
| Phase Only             | 2  | -85.4  | 177  | 8.69       | 1.28e-02| 0.994              | 7.66e+01       |
| Time + Phase           | 3  | -85.2  | 179  | 10.50      | 5.20e-03| 0.999              | 1.89e+02       |
| Time Only              | 2  | -88.4  | 183  | 14.80      | 5.90e-04| 1.000              | 1.66e+03       |
| Intercept Only         | 1  | -92.5  | 189  | 20.80      | 2.99e-05| 1.000              | 3.28e+04       |
| **2000 km summed MST distance** |    |        |      |            |         |                    |                |
| Time * Phase           | 4  | -79.5  | 169  | 0.00       | 8.34e-01| 0.834              | 1.00e+00       |
| Model            | df | logLik | AICc | delta AICc | weights | cumulative weights | evidence ratio |
|------------------|----|--------|------|------------|---------|--------------------|----------------|
| Phase Only       | 2  | -83.7  | 174  | 4.23       | 1.00e-01| 0.934              | 8.34e+00       |
| Time + Phase     | 3  | -83.2  | 175  | 5.22       | 6.15e-02| 0.995              | 1.36e+01       |
| Time Only        | 2  | -87.1  | 180  | 10.90      | 3.50e-03| 0.999              | 2.38e+02       |
| Intercept Only   | 1  | -89.7  | 183  | 14.00      | 7.49e-04| 1.000              | 1.11e+03       |

**2500 km summed MST distance**

| Model            | df | logLik | AICc | delta AICc | weights | cumulative weights | evidence ratio |
|------------------|----|--------|------|------------|---------|--------------------|----------------|
| Time * Phase     | 4  | -79.5  | 169  | 0.00       | 9.73e-01| 0.973              | 1.00e+00       |
| Phase Only       | 2  | -85.5  | 177  | 7.79       | 1.98e-02| 0.993              | 4.91e+01       |
| Time + Phase     | 3  | -85.5  | 179  | 9.85       | 7.07e-03| 1.000              | 1.38e+02       |
| Time Only        | 2  | -90.0  | 186  | 16.70      | 2.32e-04| 1.000              | 4.19e+03       |
| Intercept Only   | 1  | -95.9  | 196  | 26.50      | 1.70e-06| 1.000              | 5.66e+05       |

**3000 km summed MST distance**

| Model            | df | logLik | AICc | delta AICc | weights | cumulative weights | evidence ratio |
|------------------|----|--------|------|------------|---------|--------------------|----------------|
| Time * Phase     | 4  | -70.4  | 151  | 0.00       | 9.77e-01| 0.977              | 1.00e+00       |
| Phase Only       | 2  | -76.7  | 159  | 8.12       | 1.68e-02| 0.994              | 5.82e+01       |
| Time + Phase     | 3  | -76.6  | 162  | 10.20      | 5.88e-03| 1.000              | 1.66e+02       |
| Time Only        | 2  | -80.1  | 166  | 14.90      | 5.54e-04| 1.000              | 1.76e+03       |
| Intercept Only   | 1  | -85.9  | 176  | 24.60      | 4.40e-06| 1.000              | 2.20e+05       |
| model                        | df | logLik | AICc  | delta AICc | weights | cumulative weights | evidence ratio |
|-----------------------------|----|--------|-------|------------|---------|--------------------|----------------|
| **3500 km summed MST distance** |    |        |       |            |         |                    |                |
| Time * Phase                | 4  | -68.5  | 147   | 0.00       | 9.56e-01| 0.956              | 1.00e+00       |
| Phase Only                  | 2  | -74.1  | 154   | 6.91       | 3.02e-02| 0.986              | 3.17e+01       |
| Time + Phase                | 3  | -73.8  | 156   | 8.45       | 1.40e-02| 1.000              | 6.83e+01       |
| Time Only                   | 2  | -80.3  | 167   | 19.20      | 6.41e-05| 1.000              | 1.49e+04       |
| Intercept Only              | 1  | -86.9  | 178   | 30.40      | 2.00e-07| 1.000              | 4.00e+06       |
| **4000 km summed MST distance** |    |        |       |            |         |                    |                |
| Time * Phase                | 4  | -68.1  | 147   | 0.00       | 8.84e-01| 0.884              | 1.00e+00       |
| Phase Only                  | 2  | -72.6  | 151   | 4.74       | 8.28e-02| 0.967              | 1.07e+01       |
| Time + Phase                | 3  | -72.5  | 153   | 6.65       | 3.18e-02| 0.999              | 2.78e+01       |
| Time Only                   | 2  | -76.8  | 160   | 13.10      | 1.26e-03| 1.000              | 7.02e+02       |
| Intercept Only              | 1  | -82.1  | 168   | 21.50      | 1.89e-05| 1.000              | 4.68e+04       |
Table S6. Parameter estimates for coefficients in linear models fitted to spatially-standardised terrestrial tetrapod species richness data (face-value species counts). All models fitted to each palaeogeographic spread level are shown, regardless of Akaike weight, and ordering does not reflect importance.

| model                      | Intercept | std.error | statistic | p.value | Time | estimate | std.error | statistic | p.value | Time : Phase (Pre-K/Pg) | estimate | std.error | statistic | p.value | Phase (Pre-K/Pg) | estimate | std.error | statistic | p.value |
|----------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------|------|----------|-----------|-----------|---------|-------------------------|----------|-----------|-----------|---------|---------------|----------|-----------|-----------|---------|
| 1000 km summed MST distance|           |           |           |         |      |          |           |           |         |                         |          |           |           |         |               |          |           |           |         |
| Intercept Only             | 4.44      | 0.0591    | 75.2      | < 0.05  |      |          |           |           |         |                         |          |           |           |         |               |          |           |           |         |
| Phase Only                 | 4.61      | 0.0607    | 75.9      | < 0.05  |      |          |           |           |         | -0.645                  | 0.121    | 5.34      | < 0.05    |         |               |          |           |           |         |
| Time Only                  | 4.62      | 0.0675    | 68.4      | < 0.05  | -0.00307 | 0.000706 | -4.35     | < 0.05   |         |                         |          |           |           |         |               |          |           |           |         |
| Time + Phase               | 4.61      | 0.0654    | 70.5      | < 0.05  | -1.59e-05 | 0.00128   | -0.0124   | n.s.     |         | -0.643                  | 0.227    | -2.83     | < 0.05    |         |               |          |           |           |         |
| Time * Phase               | 4.47      | 0.0799    | 55.9      | < 0.05  | 0.00746 | 0.00293   | 2.55      | < 0.05   | -0.0091 | 0.00323                  | -2.82    | < 0.05    | -0.231    | 0.264   | -0.875        | n.s.     |           |           |         |
| 1500 km summed MST distance|           |           |           |         |      |          |           |           |         |                         |          |           |           |         |               |          |           |           |         |
| Intercept Only             | 4.56      | 0.0682    | 66.8      | < 0.05  |      |          |           |           |         |                         |          |           |           |         |               |          |           |           |         |
| Phase Only                 | 4.68      | 0.0712    | 65.7      | < 0.05  |      |          |           |           |         | -0.61                   | 0.158    | -3.87     | < 0.05    |         |               |          |           |           |         |
| Time Only                  | 4.68      | 0.0783    | 59.8      | < 0.05  | -0.00261 | 0.000909 | -2.87     | < 0.05   |         |                         |          |           |           |         |               |          |           |           |         |
| Time + Phase               | 4.67      | 0.0762    | 61.3      | < 0.05  | 0.000948 | 0.00165   | 0.575     | n.s.     |         | -0.754                  | 0.296    | -2.55     | < 0.05    |         |               |          |           |           |         |
| Time * Phase               | 4.47      | 0.0905    | 49.3      | < 0.05  | 0.0135 | 0.00381   | 3.54      | < 0.05   | -0.015 | 0.00417                  | -3.6     | < 0.05    | -0.137    | 0.326   | -0.421        | n.s.     |           |           |         |
| 2000 km summed MST distance|           |           |           |         |      |          |           |           |         |                         |          |           |           |         |               |          |           |           |         |
| Intercept Only             | 4.55      | 0.0695    | 65.4      | < 0.05  |      |          |           |           |         |                         |          |           |           |         |               |          |           |           |         |
| model                     | intercept | std.error | statistic | p.value | time          | std.error | statistic | p.value | time : phase (pre-k/pg) | std.error | statistic | p.value | phase (pre-k/pg) | std.error | statistic | p.value |
|---------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------|---------------|-----------|-----------|---------|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|---------|---------------------|-----------|-----------|---------|
| Phase Only                | 4.68      | 0.0758    | 61.8      | < 0.05  | -0.529        | 0.15      | -3.53     | < 0.05  |
| Time Only                 | 4.66      | 0.0842    | 55.4      | < 0.05  | -0.00206      | 0.000901  | -2.28     | < 0.05  |
| Time + Phase              | 4.65      | 0.0811    | 57.3      | < 0.05  | 0.00168       | 0.00158   | 1.06      | n.s.    |
| Time * Phase              | 4.48      | 0.1000    | 44.7      | < 0.05  | 0.00375       | 2.93      | < 0.05    | -0.111  | 0.0041      | -2.72     | < 0.05    | -0.3    | 0.316    | -0.947   | n.s.    |

**2500 km summed MST distance**

| model                     | intercept | std.error | statistic | p.value | time          | std.error | statistic | p.value | time : phase (pre-k/pg) | std.error | statistic | p.value | phase (pre-k/pg) | std.error | statistic | p.value |
|---------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------|---------------|-----------|-----------|---------|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|---------|---------------------|-----------|-----------|---------|
| Intercept Only            | 4.51      | 0.0772    | 58.4      | < 0.05  | -0.724        | 0.151     | -4.79     | < 0.05  |
| Phase Only                | 4.72      | 0.0821    | 57.5      | < 0.05  | -0.00313      | 0.000888  | -3.53     | < 0.05  |
| Time Only                 | 4.69      | 0.0892    | 52.6      | < 0.05  | 0.000427      | 0.00145   | 0.294     | n.s.    |
| Time + Phase              | 4.71      | 0.0856    | 55.0      | < 0.05  | 0.00427       | 0.00145   | 0.294     | n.s.    |
| Time * Phase              | 4.48      | 0.1040    | 43.3      | < 0.05  | 0.0151        | 0.00441   | 3.43      | < 0.05  | -0.0163      | 0.00463   | -3.51     | < 0.05  | -0.305   | 0.28     | -1.09     | n.s.    |

**3000 km summed MST distance**

| model                     | intercept | std.error | statistic | p.value | time          | std.error | statistic | p.value | time : phase (pre-k/pg) | std.error | statistic | p.value | phase (pre-k/pg) | std.error | statistic | p.value |
|---------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------|---------------|-----------|-----------|---------|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|---------|---------------------|-----------|-----------|---------|
| Intercept Only            | 4.67      | 0.0830    | 56.3      | < 0.05  | -0.724        | 0.167     | -4.52     | < 0.05  |
| Phase Only                | 4.88      | 0.0867    | 56.2      | < 0.05  | -0.00342      | 0.000972  | -3.52     | < 0.05  |
| Time Only                 | 4.87      | 0.0951    | 51.2      | < 0.05  | 0.000422      | 0.00173   | 0.243     | n.s.    |
| Time + Phase              | 4.87      | 0.0916    | 53.2      | < 0.05  | 0.000422      | 0.00173   | 0.243     | n.s.    |
| Time * Phase              | 4.63      | 0.1090    | 42.5      | < 0.05  | 0.0157        | 0.00456   | 3.44      | < 0.05  | -0.0174      | 0.00487   | -3.58     | < 0.05  | -0.212   | 0.336    | -0.632    | n.s.    |
| model                  | estimate | std.error | statistic | p.value | estimate | std.error | statistic | p.value | estimate | std.error | statistic | p.value |
|-----------------------|----------|-----------|-----------|---------|----------|-----------|-----------|---------|----------|-----------|-----------|---------|
| **3500 km summed MST distance** |          |           |           |         |          |           |           |         |          |           |           |         |
| Intercept Only        | 4.72     | 0.0858    | 55.0      | < 0.05  |          |           |           |         |          |           |           |         |
| Phase Only            | 4.99     | 0.0882    | 56.5      | < 0.05  | -0.859   | 0.158     | -5.44     | < 0.05  |          |           |           |         |
| Time Only             | 4.94     | 0.0989    | 50.0      | < 0.05  | -0.00344 | 0.000915  | -3.76     | < 0.05  | -0.00344 | 0.000915  | -3.76     | < 0.05  |
| Time + Phase          | 4.97     | 0.0918    | 54.1      | < 0.05  | 0.00117  | 0.00151   | 0.775     | n.s.    | -0.00117 | 0.00151   | 0.775     | n.s.    |
| Time * Phase          | 4.73     | 0.1110    | 42.5      | < 0.05  | 0.0154   | 0.00454   | 3.39      | < 0.05  | -0.0157  | 0.00478   | -3.3      | < 0.05  |
| **4000 km summed MST distance** |          |           |           |         |          |           |           |         |          |           |           |         |
| Intercept Only        | 4.75     | 0.0941    | 50.5      | < 0.05  |          |           |           |         |          |           |           |         |
| Phase Only            | 5.01     | 0.1000    | 50.1      | < 0.05  | -0.819   | 0.178     | -4.59     | < 0.05  |          |           |           |         |
| Time Only             | 4.97     | 0.1100    | 45.1      | < 0.05  | -0.00331 | 0.000997  | -3.32     | < 0.05  | -0.00331 | 0.000997  | -3.32     | < 0.05  |
| Time + Phase          | 5.00     | 0.1050    | 47.7      | < 0.05  | 0.000864 | 0.00169   | 0.51      | n.s.    | 0.000864 | 0.00169   | 0.51      | n.s.    |
| Time * Phase          | 4.74     | 0.1310    | 36.2      | < 0.05  | 0.0159   | 0.00527   | 3.01      | < 0.05  | -0.0166  | 0.00553   | -2.99     | < 0.05  |
**Table S7.** Model selection using the second-order Akaike information criterion (AICc) to compare fits of linear models of spatially-standardised non-flying terrestrial species richness (squares extrapolated species richness) as a function of time and diversification phase.

| model                              | df | logLik | AICc | delta AICc | weights | cumulative weights | evidence ratio |
|------------------------------------|----|--------|------|------------|---------|--------------------|----------------|
| **1000 km summed MST distance**    |    |        |      |            |         |                    |                |
| Time * Phase                       | 4  | -74.3  | 159  | 0.00       | 9.73e-01| 0.973              | 1.00e+00       |
| Phase Only                         | 2  | -80.6  | 167  | 8.43       | 1.44e-02| 0.987              | 6.76e+01       |
| Time + Phase                       | 3  | -79.7  | 168  | 8.75       | 1.22e-02| 1.000              | 7.98e+01       |
| Time Only                          | 2  | -85.1  | 176  | 17.40      | 1.65e-04| 1.000              | 5.90e+03       |
| Intercept Only                     | 1  | -88.5  | 181  | 22.20      | 1.50e-05| 1.000              | 6.49e+04       |
| **1500 km summed MST distance**    |    |        |      |            |         |                    |                |
| Time * Phase                       | 4  | -77.1  | 165  | 0.00       | 9.82e-01| 0.982              | 1.00e+00       |
| Phase Only                         | 2  | -84.0  | 174  | 9.35       | 9.16e-03| 0.991              | 1.07e+02       |
| Time + Phase                       | 3  | -83.1  | 174  | 9.67       | 7.81e-03| 0.999              | 1.26e+02       |
| Time Only                          | 2  | -86.9  | 180  | 15.30      | 4.76e-04| 0.999              | 2.06e+03       |
| Intercept Only                     | 1  | -88.6  | 181  | 16.60      | 2.41e-04| 1.000              | 4.07e+03       |
| **2000 km summed MST distance**    |    |        |      |            |         |                    |                |
| Time * Phase                       | 4  | -76.8  | 164  | 0.00       | 8.65e-01| 0.865              | 1.00e+00       |
| model       | df | logLik | AICc  | delta AICc | weights | cumulative weights | evidence ratio |
|-------------|----|--------|-------|------------|---------|-------------------|----------------|
| Time + Phase| 3  | -80.3  | 169   | 4.88       | 7.54e-02| 0.940             | 1.15e+01       |
| Phase Only  | 2  | -81.9  | 170   | 5.95       | 4.42e-02| 0.985             | 1.96e+01       |
| Intercept Only| 1 | -84.4  | 173   | 8.85       | 1.04e-02| 0.995             | 8.32e+01       |
| Time Only   | 2  | -84.0  | 174   | 10.10      | 5.46e-03| 1.000             | 1.58e+02       |

2500 km summed MST distance

| model       | df | logLik | AICc  | delta AICc | weights | cumulative weights | evidence ratio |
|-------------|----|--------|-------|------------|---------|-------------------|----------------|
| Time * Phase| 4  | -75.0  | 160   | 0.00       | 9.95e-01| 0.995             | 1.00e+00       |
| Phase Only  | 2  | -82.9  | 172   | 11.50      | 3.21e-03| 0.998             | 3.10e+02       |
| Time + Phase| 3  | -82.5  | 173   | 12.70      | 1.70e-03| 1.000             | 5.85e+02       |
| Time Only   | 2  | -87.0  | 180   | 19.80      | 5.09e-05| 1.000             | 1.95e+04       |
| Intercept Only| 1 | -90.2  | 184   | 24.00      | 6.00e-06| 1.000             | 1.66e+05       |

3000 km summed MST distance

| model       | df | logLik | AICc  | delta AICc | weights | cumulative weights | evidence ratio |
|-------------|----|--------|-------|------------|---------|-------------------|----------------|
| Time * Phase| 4  | -67.1  | 145   | 0.00       | 9.95e-01| 0.995             | 1.00e+00       |
| Phase Only  | 2  | -75.0  | 156   | 11.30      | 3.50e-03| 0.998             | 2.84e+02       |
| Time + Phase| 3  | -74.8  | 158   | 13.10      | 1.45e-03| 1.000             | 6.86e+02       |
| Time Only   | 2  | -77.5  | 161   | 16.30      | 2.85e-04| 1.000             | 3.49e+03       |
| Intercept Only| 1 | -80.3  | 165   | 19.90      | 4.66e-05| 1.000             | 2.14e+04       |
| model            | df | logLik | AICc | delta AICc | weights | cumulative weights | evidence ratio |
|------------------|----|--------|------|------------|---------|--------------------|----------------|
| 3500 km summed MST distance |    |        |      |            |         |                    |                |
| Time * Phase     | 4  | -61.8  | 134  | 0.00       | 9.92e-01| 0.992              | 1.00e+00       |
| Time + Phase     | 3  | -68.4  | 145  | 11.10      | 3.87e-03| 0.996              | 2.56e+02       |
| Phase Only       | 2  | -69.5  | 145  | 11.10      | 3.86e-03| 1.000              | 2.57e+02       |
| Time Only        | 2  | -75.2  | 156  | 22.40      | 1.35e-05| 1.000              | 7.35e+04       |
| Intercept Only   | 1  | -78.8  | 162  | 27.60      | 1.00e-06| 1.000              | 1.01e+06       |
| 4000 km summed MST distance |    |        |      |            |         |                    |                |
| Time * Phase     | 4  | -64.2  | 139  | 0.00       | 9.49e-01| 0.949              | 1.00e+00       |
| Phase Only       | 2  | -69.8  | 146  | 6.80       | 3.17e-02| 0.981              | 2.99e+01       |
| Time + Phase     | 3  | -69.3  | 147  | 7.94       | 1.79e-02| 0.999              | 5.30e+01       |
| Time Only        | 2  | -73.2  | 152  | 13.50      | 1.10e-03| 1.000              | 8.63e+02       |
| Intercept Only   | 1  | -75.7  | 155  | 16.50      | 2.53e-04| 1.000              | 3.75e+03       |
Table S8. Parameter estimates for coefficients in linear models fitted to spatially-standardised terrestrial tetrapod species richness data (squares extrapolated species richness). All models fitted to each palaeogeographic spread level are shown, regardless of Akaike weight, and ordering does not reflect importance.

|                   | Intercept | Time          | Time : Phase (Pre-K/Pg) | Phase (Pre-K/Pg) |
|-------------------|-----------|---------------|--------------------------|------------------|
|                   |           |               |                          |                  |
| model             | estimate  | std.error     | statistic                | p.value          |
| 1000 km summed MST distance |           |               |                          |                  |
| Intercept Only    | 4.97      | 0.0566        | 87.8                     | < 0.05           |
| Phase Only        | 5.09      | 0.0609        | 83.6                     | < 0.05           |
| Time Only         | 5.08      | 0.0681        | 74.5                     | < 0.05           |
| Time + Phase      | 5.06      | 0.0651        | 77.8                     | < 0.05           |
| Time * Phase      | 4.90      | 0.0784        | 62.5                     | < 0.05           |
| 1500 km summed MST distance |           |               |                          |                  |
| Intercept Only    | 5.09      | 0.0654        | 77.9                     | < 0.05           |
| Phase Only        | 5.19      | 0.0701        | 74.0                     | < 0.05           |
| Time Only         | 5.17      | 0.0770        | 67.2                     | < 0.05           |
| Time + Phase      | 5.16      | 0.0744        | 69.3                     | < 0.05           |
| Time * Phase      | 4.97      | 0.0888        | 55.9                     | < 0.05           |
| 2000 km summed MST distance |           |               |                          |                  |
| Intercept Only    | 5.10      | 0.0655        | 77.8                     | < 0.05           |
| model                | estimate | std.error | statistic | p.value | estimate | std.error | statistic | p.value | estimate | std.error | statistic | p.value | estimate | std.error | statistic | p.value |
|---------------------|----------|-----------|-----------|---------|----------|-----------|-----------|---------|----------|-----------|-----------|---------|---------|----------|-----------|---------|
| Phase Only          | 5.18     | 0.0743    | 69.8      | < 0.05  | -0.329   | 0.147     | -2.24     | < 0.05  |
| Time Only           | 5.14     | 0.0813    | 63.2      | < 0.05  | -0.000777| 0.000871  | -0.893 n.s.|
| Time + Phase        | 5.13     | 0.0786    | 65.3      | < 0.05  | 0.00273  | 0.00153   | 1.78 n.s. |
| Time * Phase        | 4.97     | 0.0973    | 51.1      | < 0.05  | 0.00115  | 0.00364   | 3.17 < 0.05|
|                     |          |           |           |         | -0.0106  | 0.00398   | -2.65     | < 0.05  |
|                     |          |           |           |         | -0.276   | 0.307     | -0.9 n.s. |
| 2500 km summed MST distance |        |           |           |         |          |           |          |         |
| Intercept Only      | 5.08     | 0.0723    | 70.2      | < 0.05  | -0.579   | 0.147     | -3.95     | < 0.05  |
| Phase Only          | 5.25     | 0.0797    | 65.8      | < 0.05  | -0.00218 | 0.000859  | -2.54     | < 0.05  |
| Time Only           | 5.21     | 0.0863    | 60.3      | < 0.05  | 0.00113  | 0.0014    | 0.923 n.s.|
| Time + Phase        | 5.23     | 0.0827    | 63.2      | < 0.05  | 0.00419  | 0.0044    | -3.94     | < 0.05  |
| Time * Phase        | 4.98     | 0.0985    | 50.6      | < 0.05  | 0.0017   | 0.00417   | -0.174    | < 0.05  |
|                     |          |           |           |         |          |           |          |         |
| 3000 km summed MST distance |        |           |           |         |          |           |          |         |
| Intercept Only      | 5.20     | 0.0772    | 67.3      | < 0.05  | -0.548   | 0.164     | -3.35     | < 0.05  |
| Phase Only          | 5.35     | 0.0849    | 63.0      | < 0.05  | -0.00226 | 0.00094   | -2.41     | < 0.05  |
| Time Only           | 5.33     | 0.0919    | 57.9      | < 0.05  | 0.00105  | 0.00169   | 0.618 n.s.|
| Time + Phase        | 5.33     | 0.0894    | 59.6      | < 0.05  | 0.00437  | 0.00467   | -4 < 0.05 |
| Time * Phase        | 5.07     | 0.1040    | 48.5      | < 0.05  | 0.0174   | 0.0187    | -0.0546   | < 0.05  |

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|                | Intercept Only | Phase Only | Time Only | Time + Phase | Time * Phase |
|----------------|----------------|------------|-----------|--------------|--------------|
| **3500 km summed MST distance** |                |            |           |              |              |
| model          | estimate       | std.error  | statistic | estimate     | std.error    |
| Intercept      | 5.27           | 0.0773     | 68.3      | < 0.05       |              |
| Phase          | 5.48           | 0.0831     | 66.0      | < 0.05       | -0.675       |
| Time           | 5.42           | 0.0926     | 58.6      | < 0.05       | -0.00235     |
| Time + Phase   | 5.45           | 0.0856     | 63.7      | < 0.05       | 0.00205      |
| Time * Phase   | 5.21           | 0.1020     | 51.0      | < 0.05       | 0.0167       |
| **4000 km summed MST distance** |                |            |           |              |              |
| Intercept      | 5.33           | 0.0859     | 62.1      | < 0.05       |              |
| Phase          | 5.52           | 0.0960     | 57.5      | < 0.05       | -0.605       |
| Time           | 5.48           | 0.1050     | 52.4      | < 0.05       | -0.00214     |
| Time + Phase   | 5.50           | 0.0999     | 55.0      | < 0.05       | 0.00163      |
| Time * Phase   | 5.23           | 0.1240     | 42.2      | < 0.05       | 0.0169       |
**Table S9.** Model selection using the second-order Akaike information criterion (AICc) to compare fits of linear models of spatially-standardised non-flying terrestrial species richness (Chao 2 extrapolated species richness) as a function of time and diversification phase.

| model                        | df | logLik | AICc | delta AICc | weights | cumulative weights | evidence ratio |
|------------------------------|----|--------|------|------------|---------|--------------------|----------------|
| **1000 km summed MST distance**                          |     |        |      |            |         |                    |                |
| Time * Phase                 | 4  | -71.9  | 154  | 0.00       |         | 8.40e-01          | 1.00e+00       |
| Phase Only                   | 2  | -76.2  | 159  | 4.44       | 0.931   | 9.19e+00          |                |
| Time + Phase                 | 3  | -75.5  | 159  | 5.07       | 0.998   | 1.27e+01          |                |
| Time Only                    | 2  | -80.1  | 166  | 12.30      | 1.000   | 4.62e+02          |                |
| Intercept Only              | 1  | -83.3  | 171  | 16.40      | 1.000   | 3.70e+03          |                |
| **1500 km summed MST distance**                          |     |        |      |            |         |                    |                |
| Time * Phase                 | 4  | -72.1  | 155  | 0.00       | 0.991   | 1.00e+00          |                |
| Time + Phase                 | 3  | -78.7  | 166  | 10.90      | 0.995   | 2.35e+02          |                |
| Phase Only                   | 2  | -79.8  | 166  | 11.00      | 0.999   | 2.43e+02          |                |
| Time Only                    | 2  | -82.4  | 171  | 16.10      | 1.000   | 3.20e+03          |                |
| Intercept Only              | 1  | -83.5  | 171  | 16.30      | 1.000   | 3.49e+03          |                |
| **2000 km summed MST distance**                          |     |        |      |            |         |                    |                |
| Time * Phase                 | 4  | -71.2  | 153  | 0.00       | 0.943   | 1.00e+00          |                |
| model                | df | logLik | AICc | delta AICc | weights | cumulative weights | evidence ratio |
|----------------------|----|--------|------|------------|---------|--------------------|----------------|
| Time + Phase         | 3  | -75.8  | 160  | 7.05       | 2.77e-02| 0.971              | 3.40e+01       |
| Phase Only           | 2  | -77.4  | 161  | 8.13       | 1.62e-02| 0.987              | 5.82e+01       |
| Intercept Only       | 1  | -79.0  | 162  | 9.23       | 9.36e-03| 0.996              | 1.01e+02       |
| Time Only            | 2  | -78.9  | 164  | 11.00      | 3.78e-03| 1.000              | 2.49e+02       |

**2500 km summed MST distance**

| model                | df | logLik | AICc | delta AICc | weights | cumulative weights | evidence ratio |
|----------------------|----|--------|------|------------|---------|--------------------|----------------|
| Time * Phase         | 4  | -67.5  | 146  | 0.00       | 9.99e-01| 0.999              | 1.00e+00       |
| Time + Phase         | 3  | -76.2  | 161  | 15.00      | 5.45e-04| 1.000              | 1.83e+03       |
| Phase Only           | 2  | -77.3  | 161  | 15.10      | 5.23e-04| 1.000              | 1.91e+03       |
| Time Only            | 2  | -81.3  | 169  | 23.30      | 8.90e-06| 1.000              | 1.12e+05       |
| Intercept Only       | 1  | -83.1  | 170  | 24.80      | 4.20e-06| 1.000              | 2.39e+05       |

**3000 km summed MST distance**

| model                | df | logLik | AICc | delta AICc | weights | cumulative weights | evidence ratio |
|----------------------|----|--------|------|------------|---------|--------------------|----------------|
| Time * Phase         | 4  | -64.4  | 139  | 0.00       | 9.88e-01| 0.988              | 1.00e+00       |
| Phase Only           | 2  | -71.6  | 149  | 9.97       | 6.76e-03| 0.995              | 1.46e+02       |
| Time + Phase         | 3  | -70.9  | 150  | 10.80      | 4.41e-03| 0.999              | 2.24e+02       |
| Time Only            | 2  | -74.6  | 155  | 16.00      | 3.29e-04| 0.999              | 3.00e+03       |
| Intercept Only       | 1  | -76.8  | 158  | 18.20      | 1.11e-04| 1.000              | 8.90e+03       |
| model                     | df | logLik | AICc | delta AICc | weights | cumulative weights | evidence ratio |
|---------------------------|----|--------|------|------------|---------|-------------------|----------------|
| **3500 km summed MST distance** |    |        |      |            |         |                   |                |
| Time * Phase              | 4  | -53.3  | 117  | 0.00       | 9.94e-01| 0.994             | 1.00e+00       |
| Time + Phase              | 3  | -60.3  | 129  | 11.60      | 2.96e-03| 0.997             | 3.36e+02       |
| Phase Only                | 2  | -61.5  | 129  | 11.90      | 2.59e-03| 1.000             | 3.84e+02       |
| Time Only                 | 2  | -67.3  | 141  | 23.50      | 7.70e-06| 1.000             | 1.29e+05       |
| Intercept Only            | 1  | -70.9  | 146  | 28.60      | 6.00e-07| 1.000             | 1.62e+06       |
| **4000 km summed MST distance** |    |        |      |            |         |                   |                |
| Time * Phase              | 4  | -57.8  | 126  | 0.00       | 9.43e-01| 0.943             | 1.00e+00       |
| Phase Only                | 2  | -63.4  | 133  | 6.79       | 3.17e-02| 0.975             | 2.97e+01       |
| Time + Phase              | 3  | -62.6  | 134  | 7.33       | 2.42e-02| 0.999             | 3.90e+01       |
| Time Only                 | 2  | -67.0  | 140  | 14.00      | 8.71e-04| 1.000             | 1.08e+03       |
| Intercept Only            | 1  | -69.2  | 142  | 16.20      | 2.87e-04| 1.000             | 3.29e+03       |
**Table S10.** Parameter estimates for coefficients in linear models fitted to spatially-standardised terrestrial tetrapod species richness data (Chao 2 extrapolated species richness). All models fitted to each palaeogeographic spread level are shown, regardless of Akaike weight, and ordering does not reflect importance.

| model                      | estimate | std.error | statistic | p.value | estimate | std.error | statistic | p.value | estimate | std.error | statistic | p.value | estimate | std.error | statistic | p.value | estimate | std.error | statistic | p.value |
|----------------------------|----------|-----------|-----------|---------|----------|-----------|-----------|---------|----------|-----------|-----------|---------|---------|-----------|-----------|---------|----------|-----------|-----------|---------|
| 1000 km summed MST distance|          |           |           |         |          |           |           |         |          |           |           |         |          |           |           |         |          |           |           |         |
| Intercept Only             | 5.07     | 0.0538    | 94.2      | < 0.05  |          |           |           |         |          |           |           |         |          |           |           |         |          |           |           |         |
| Phase Only                 | 5.18     | 0.0584    | 88.7      | < 0.05  |          |           |           |         |          |           |           |         |          |           |           |         |          |           |           |         |
| Time Only                  | 5.16     | 0.0649    | 79.5      | < 0.05  | -0.00171 | 0.000679  | -2.51    | < 0.05  |          |           |           |         |          |           |           |         |          |           |           |         |
| Time + Phase               | 5.15     | 0.0624    | 82.5      | < 0.05  | 0.00147  | 0.00122   | 1.2      | n.s.    |          |           |           |         |          |           |           |         |          |           |           |         |
| Time * Phase               | 5.03     | 0.0766    | 65.6      | < 0.05  | 0.00831  | 0.00281   | 2.96     | < 0.05  | -0.00832 | 0.0031    | -2.68    | < 0.05  | -0.292   | 0.253     | -1.15    | n.s.    |          |           |           |         |
| 1500 km summed MST distance|          |           |           |         |          |           |           |         |          |           |           |         |          |           |           |         |          |           |           |         |
| Intercept Only             | 5.19     | 0.0619    | 83.8      | < 0.05  |          |           |           |         |          |           |           |         |          |           |           |         |          |           |           |         |
| Phase Only                 | 5.27     | 0.0671    | 78.6      | < 0.05  |          |           |           |         |          |           |           |         |          |           |           |         |          |           |           |         |
| Time Only                  | 5.25     | 0.0733    | 71.6      | < 0.05  | -0.00128 | 0.000852  | -1.5     | n.s.    |          |           |           |         |          |           |           |         |          |           |           |         |
| Time + Phase               | 5.23     | 0.0710    | 73.7      | < 0.05  | 0.00226  | 0.00154   | 1.47     | n.s.    |          |           |           |         |          |           |           |         |          |           |           |         |
| Time * Phase               | 5.05     | 0.0842    | 59.9      | < 0.05  | 0.0141   | 0.00354   | 3.99     | < 0.05  | -0.0142  | 0.00388   | -3.67    | < 0.05  | -0.166   | 0.303     | -0.546   | n.s.    |          |           |           |         |
| 2000 km summed MST distance|          |           |           |         |          |           |           |         |          |           |           |         |          |           |           |         |          |           |           |         |
| Intercept Only             | 5.16     | 0.0617    | 83.6      | < 0.05  |          |           |           |         |          |           |           |         |          |           |           |         |          |           |           |         |
| model                  | estimate | std.error | statistic | p.value | estimate | std.error | statistic | p.value | estimate | std.error | statistic | p.value |
|------------------------|----------|-----------|-----------|---------|----------|-----------|-----------|---------|----------|-----------|-----------|---------|
| Phase Only             | 5.23     | 0.0707    | 73.9      | < 0.05  | -0.249   | 0.14      | -1.78     | n.s.   |
| Time Only              | 5.19     | 0.0768    | 67.5      | < 0.05  | -0.000429| 0.000822  | -0.521    | n.s.   |
| Time + Phase           | 5.18     | 0.0748    | 69.3      | < 0.05  | 0.0026   | 0.00146   | 1.78      | n.s.   |
| Time * Phase           | 5.00     | 0.0914    | 54.7      | < 0.05  | 0.0121   | 0.00342   | -3.54     | < 0.05 |
|                        |          |           |           |         |          |           |           |        |          |           |           |         |
| 2500 km summed MST distance |
| Intercept Only        | 5.16     | 0.0667    | 77.3      | < 0.05  | -0.482   | 0.138     | -3.51     | < 0.05 |
| Phase Only            | 5.30     | 0.0748    | 70.8      | < 0.05  | -0.00153 | 0.000805  | -1.9      | n.s.   |
| Time Only             | 5.25     | 0.0809    | 64.8      | < 0.05  | 0.00193  | 0.00131   | 1.48      | n.s.   |
| Time + Phase          | 5.27     | 0.0770    | 68.4      | < 0.05  | 0.00385  | 0.00405   | -4.26     | < 0.05 |
| Time * Phase          | 5.03     | 0.0905    | 55.5      | < 0.05  | 0.0175   | 0.00385   | -3.67     | < 0.05 |
|                        |          |           |           |         |          |           |           | n.s.   |
| 3000 km summed MST distance |
| Intercept Only        | 5.26     | 0.0738    | 71.3      | < 0.05  | -0.514   | 0.157     | -3.28     | < 0.05 |
| Phase Only            | 5.40     | 0.0813    | 66.4      | < 0.05  | -0.00188 | 0.000907  | -2.07     | < 0.05 |
| Time Only             | 5.36     | 0.0886    | 60.5      | < 0.05  | 0.00182  | 0.00161   | 1.13      | n.s.   |
| Time + Phase          | 5.37     | 0.0851    | 63.1      | < 0.05  | 0.0163   | 0.00422   | -3.67     | < 0.05 |
| Time * Phase          | 5.14     | 0.1010    | 59.9      | < 0.05  | 0.0163   | 0.00422   | -3.67     | < 0.05 |

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### 3500 km summed MST distance

| model             | estimate | std.error | statistic | p.value | estimate | std.error | statistic | p.value | estimate | std.error | statistic | p.value |
|-------------------|----------|-----------|-----------|---------|----------|-----------|-----------|---------|----------|-----------|-----------|---------|
| Intercept Only    | 5.37     | 0.0697    | 77.1      | < 0.05  |          |           |           |         |          |           |           |         |
| Phase Only        | 5.56     | 0.0748    | 74.3      | < 0.05  | -0.611   | 0.134     | -4.55     | < 0.05  |          |           |           |         |
| Time Only         | 5.51     | 0.0836    | 65.9      | < 0.05  | -0.00209 | 0.000773  | -2.71     | < 0.05  | -0.00209 | 0.000773  | -2.71     | < 0.05  |
| Time + Phase      | 5.53     | 0.0770    | 71.8      | < 0.05  | 0.00196  | 0.00127   | 1.54      | n.s.    | -0.00196 | 0.00127   | 1.54      | n.s.    |
| Time * Phase      | 5.31     | 0.0916    | 58.0      | < 0.05  | 0.0154   | 0.00373   | 4.13      | < 0.05  | -0.0149  | 0.00393   | -3.79     | < 0.05  |

### 4000 km summed MST distance

| model             | estimate | std.error | statistic | p.value | estimate | std.error | statistic | p.value | estimate | std.error | statistic | p.value |
|-------------------|----------|-----------|-----------|---------|----------|-----------|-----------|---------|----------|-----------|-----------|---------|
| Intercept Only    | 5.43     | 0.0783    | 69.4      | < 0.05  |          |           |           |         |          |           |           |         |
| Phase Only        | 5.60     | 0.0877    | 63.9      | < 0.05  | -0.546   | 0.156     | -3.49     | < 0.05  |          |           |           |         |
| Time Only         | 5.55     | 0.0959    | 57.9      | < 0.05  | -0.00181 | 0.000867  | -2.09     | < 0.05  | -0.00181 | 0.000867  | -2.09     | < 0.05  |
| Time + Phase      | 5.57     | 0.0909    | 61.3      | < 0.05  | 0.00186  | 0.00147   | 1.26      | n.s.    |          |           |           |         |
| Time * Phase      | 5.34     | 0.1130    | 47.2      | < 0.05  | 0.0154   | 0.00455   | 3.37      | < 0.05  | -0.0149  | 0.00478   | -3.11     | < 0.05  |

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