MORPHOMETRICS FOR EVODEVO

Studying developmental variation with geometric morphometric image analysis



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ONTOGENETIC DEVELOPMENT

change of shape in developing embryos quantitative change of existing features

emergence of novel structures and tissue properties qualitative change



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How to jointly quantify both of these processes? Why do we need quantification? variation of development in a population connect developmental biology to evolutionary theory



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MORPHOMETRICS



GEOMETRIC MORPHOMETRICS

powerful tools to measure organismal form analysis of shape change

Limitations

- specification of homologous traits (landmarks) (e.g., Bookstein 1991)
- all traits have to be present and measurable in all individuals
- not possible to deal with the emergence of novel traits



VOXEL-BASED MORPHOMETRY



suite of image analysis techniques in biomedicine (e.g., Ashburner & Friston 2000) analysis of tissue properties "automatic" image registration based on all voxels statistical analysis of resulting gray values of voxels



VOXEL-BASED MORPHOMETRY



suite of image analysis techniques in biomedicine (e.g., Ashburner & Friston 2000)

- analysis of tissue properties
- "automatic" image registration based on all voxels statistical analysis of resulting gray values of voxels

Limitations

- no prior specification of homologous structures
- imperfect registration leads to strong signals at the edges of structures (Bookstein 2001)
- averages & variance-covariance patterns may not be biologically interpretable



combining modern morphometrics & image analysis

- parametrization of homologous structures by Procrustes shape coordinates (e.g., Rohlf & Slice 1990)
- non-affine registration (using thin-plate spline interpolation) of the 2D or 3D images based on the measured landmarks





































- form of homologous structures is parameterized by Procrustes shape coordinates & centroid size
- tissue properties are parameterized by registered images



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- tissue properties are parameterized by registered images

two different mathematical spaces Procrustes form space Image space



ADVANTAGES

- information on homology is maintained
- means and variances can be computed
- observe spatial patterns of tissue densities
- observe emergence of novel structures
- visualization of statistical results









DEPARTMENT OF THEORETICAL BIOLOGY

Shape





Tissue density

O. mykiss 21 dpf



O. mykiss 40 dpf



O. mykiss 56 dpf





Shape and Tissue density

O. mykiss 21 dpf



O. mykiss 40 dpf



O. mykiss 56 dpf





Change of shape and tissue density between

21 dpf \rightarrow 40 dpf





Change of shape and tissue density between

21 dpf \rightarrow 40 dpf







Variances of tissue density





Variances of tissue density





PCA of fin shape





PCA of tissue density





Ordination of fin shape and tissue density





QUANTIFYING DEVELOPMENTAL VARIATION OF ZEBRAFISH

2D images of living anesthetized zebrafish fin morphology





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3D MicroCT images of fixed and stained zebrafish fin and cranium





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at least three developmental stages



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

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