1	A phylogenomic perspective on the robust capuchin monkey (Sapajus) radiation
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#### 23

24	Graphical Abstract
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26	Highlights
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28	• Phylogenomic analyses support Sapajus and Cebus clades within capuchin mon-
29	keys
30	• Molecular data support Sapajus nigritus, S. robustus and S. xanthosternos as
31	species
32	• UCE phylogeny lumps <i>Sapajus</i> Amazonian and grassland morphospecies
33	• SNP data separate S. flavius and S. libidinosus as sister species
34	• We recommend collapsing <i>S. apella</i> , <i>S. macrocephalus</i> and <i>S. cay</i> as one species
35	
36	Abstract
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38	Phylogenetic relationships among robust capuchin monkeys (Sapajus) are poorly under-
39	stood. Taxonomies for this group based on morphology have considered from one to
40	twelve different species. Current IUCN classification lists eight robust capuchins: S.
41	xanthosternos, S. nigritus, S. robustus, S. flavius, S. libidinosus, S. cay, S. apella and S.
42	macrocephalus. Here we assembled the first phylogenomic data set for robust capuchin
43	monkeys using ultra-conserved elements (UCEs) to construct a robust capuchin phylog-
44	eny using RAxML. We extracted SNPs from the UCE data set, and created SNP phy-
45	logenies using Bayesian and Maximum Likelihood methods. We estimated a species
46	tree using SVDquartets analyses. All phylogenomic analyses strongly supported Sapa-

47 jus and Cebus clades within capuchin monkeys, and Sapajus nigritus, S. robustus and S. 48 *xanthosternos* as species. However, the UCE phylogeny lumped morphospecies S. cay, 49 flavius, libidinosus, apella, macrocephalus, and flavius together as a single widespread evolutionary lineage. The Bayesian SNP phylogeny was better resolved, and recovered 50 51 S. flavius and S. libidinosus as sister species, together as sister to an S. apella + macro-52 cephalus + cay clade; S. apella, S. cay, and S. apella individuals were interspersed together in the topology with no evidence for monophyly for any of these three morpho-53 54 logical species. The species tree topology differed from the UCE and SNP topologies in 55 that it reconstructed two major clades for robust capuchin monkeys: one Atlantic Forest 56 clade (S. robustus, S. xanthosternos, and S. nigritus) and one widely distributed clade 57 (S. flavius, S. libidinosus, plus north and south Amazonian robust capuchins). As mor-58 phological and molecular subdivisions of the Amazonian group + southern grasslands 59 group (currently recognized as S. cay, S. apella and S. macrocephalus) are discordant, 60 we recommend lumping all Amazonian plus southern grassland robust capuchin taxa as 61 S. apella without subspecies.

62

#### 63 Keywords

Neotropical primates, phylogeny, single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs), species
tree, Ultraconserved elements (UCEs)

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# 67 **1. Introduction**

68

69 Robust capuchin monkeys (Sapajus) comprise a widespread Neotropical primate 70 genus found across cis-Andean Latin America, from the Colombian Llanos to the Gui-71 anas and throughout the Amazon basin as well as in the Atlantic Forest, Cerrado, 72 Caatinga and Central Grasslands of South America, as far south as northern Argentina 73 (Rylands et al., 2013). These primates as a group are true habitat generalists, with an 74 incredible diet breadth compared to other Neotropical primates. While fruit and insects 75 form the bulk of their diets, their robust jaw morphology coupled with behavioral adap-76 tations for tool use and manipulative and extractive foraging together allow for the ex-77 ploitation of encased and hidden foods unavailable to most other non-human animals 78 (Fragaszy et al., 2004; Lynch Alfaro et al., 2012b).

79 Taxonomists have disagreed about the proximity of the relationship of robust 80 capuchins to gracile capuchins. Elliot (1913) created a taxonomic key that divided the 81 genus Cebus into tufted and non-tufted groups on the basis of the presence or absence of 82 hair tufts on the frontal region of the head. However, only after Hershkovitz (1949) was 83 there a general consensus about this division, with just one species (Cebus apella Lin-84 naeus, 1758) recognized among the tufted group. Hill (1960) also considered all robust 85 capuchins as one cosmopolitan species, Cebus apella, placed within the gracile capu-86 chin genus, Cebus. Groves (2001, 2005) considered capuchins to form two species 87 groups: (1) C. capucinus group with C. capucinus, C. albifrons, C. olivaceus, and C. 88 kaapori; and (2) C. apella group with C. apella, C. libidinosus, C. nigritus, and C. xan-89 thosternos (Table 1). Silva-Júnior (2001) separated robust capuchins as a different sub-90 genus (Sapajus) from gracile capuchins (Cebus) on the basis of distinct cranial, post-91 cranial and pelage morphology. Subsequently, genetic research validated the separation 92 of robust and gracile capuchins as two distinct and equally diverse clades using mito-93 chondrial (Lynch Alfaro et al., 2012a; Lima et al., 2017) and a combination of mtDNA

and nuclear (Perelman et al., 2011) markers. Two Alu elements provide strong evidence
for the monophyly of robust *versus* gracile capuchins: Alu element S49P is present in *Sapajus* but not *Cebus* (Viana et al., 2015) and the AluSc8 insertion is found in *Cebus*but not *Sapajus* (Martins Jr. et al., 2015). A recent review justified the splitting of robust and gracile capuchins into two genera (*Cebus* for gracile capuchins and *Sapajus* for
robust capuchins) based on the distinct morphology, biogeographic history, behavior,
and ecology of each type (Lynch Alfaro et al., 2012b).

101 Taxonomists have also disagreed about the number of species encompassed by 102 extant robust capuchins based on morphology (Table 1). Elliot (1913) recognized 103 twelve species of robust capuchins, but Cabrera (1957) and Hill (1960) placed all robust 104 forms into one species, Cebus apella, while retaining 11 and 16 subspecies, respective-105 ly. For the four decades between 1960 and 2000, most researchers lumped all robust 106 capuchins as one species irrespective of place of origin, usually without regard for sub-107 species designations (e.g. Cole, 1992; Daegling, 1992; Ford and Hobbs, 1996; Master-108 son, 1997; Wright, 2005a; 2005b, 2007), leading to obfuscation of species or population 109 differences within the robust capuchin literature (see Lynch Alfaro et al., 2014 for dis-110 cussion). However, Torres de Assumpção (1983) pointed to distinct geographical varia-111 tion in morphology among robust capuchin populations within Brazil, and especially 112 within the Atlantic Forest. More recent morphological analyses have provided evidence 113 for multiple Sapajus species (Groves, 2001, 2005; Silva-Júnior, 2001, 2002, 2005; 114 Rylands et al., 2005, 2012, 2013; Rylands and Mittermeier, 2009). The robust capuchin 115 group is now considered by most taxonomists to be comprised of four to eight species 116 (Silva-Júnior., 2001; Groves, 2001; Rylands and Mittermeier, 2009; Rylands et al., 117 2005, 2012, 2013). The IUCN (2015) currently recognizes eight species: Sapajus fla-118 vius, the blonde capuchin; S. xanthosternos, the yellow-breasted capuchin; S. robustus,

the robust tufted capuchin; *S. nigritus*, the black-horned capuchin; *S. apella*, the brown
capuchin; *S. macrocephalus*, the large-headed capuchin; *S. cay*, Azara's capuchin; and *S. libidinosus*, the bearded capuchin.

122 Recent biogeographic analyses based on mitochondrial DNA suggest that the 123 time depth of the radiation of extant robust capuchins is about 2.5 My of diversification, 124 with diversity accumulating first in the Atlantic Coastal Forest of Brazil, and a recent 125 expansion of robust capuchins throughout the Amazon Basin and Cerrado, Caatinga and 126 Central Grasslands in the last 500,000 years (Lynch Alfaro et al., 2012a; Lima et al., 127 2017). These analyses suggest that while the Atlantic Forest populations are relatively 128 old and distinct, and can be separated as up to four different species, the Ama-129 zon/Grasslands radiation is better considered a highly polymorphic single species or 130 species complex (Lima et al., 2017). If our current nuclear data set is congruent with the 131 mtDNA data, we would expect to see evidence for four to five species: S. nigritus, S. 132 robustus, and S. xanthosternos each as reciprocally monophyletic clades, with S. flavius 133 either nested within or as the sister group to a single clade that extends across the Ama-134 zon and grasslands habitats in South America (and encompasses S. apella, S. libidino-135 sus, S. macrocephalus and S. cay morphospecies) (Lima et al., 2017).

136 Here we use phylogenomic markers, ultraconserved elements (UCEs), to infer 137 the phylogeny for robust capuchin monkeys, and to assess the evidence for congruence 138 with species assignment by morphology and by mitochondrial and Alu markers. The 139 UCE-based approach enriches DNA libraries for hundreds or thousands of UCEs and 140 their flanking regions; then employs massively parallel sequencing for these libraries, 141 and informatic tools to assemble, align and analyze the data (Faircloth et al., 2013). The 142 UCE approach has been used successfully to resolve historically contentious taxonomi-143 cal questions (McCormack et al., 2012; Crawford et al., 2012) including Pleistocene

144 radiations (McCormack et al., 2015). Previous studies using nuclear markers for capu-145 chin phylogeny have utilized a limited number of taxa and used captive individuals 146 from unknown provenance as species exemplars (i.e. Perelman et al., 2011, Springer et 147 al., 2012). The present study marks the first test of robust capuchin phylogeny using 148 phylogenomic markers to analyze genetic relationships across species-representative 149 individuals from known provenance and assigned morphologically to each of the eight 150 currently recognized Sapajus species. Based on the most comprehensive mtDNA analy-151 sis for the capuchin monkey radiation (Lima et al., 2017) we expect that much of the 152 diversification within the Sapajus genus has occurred relatively recently, within the 153 Pleistocene. We use SNP (Single Nucleotide Polymorphisms) data recovered within the 154 UCE results in order to refine our understanding of robust capuchin diversification, as 155 this technique was successful recently in elucidating the scrub-jay phylogeny across a 156 similar geologic time frame (McCormack et al., 2015).

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#### 158 **2. Material and methods**

#### 159 2.1. Samples, DNA extraction and sequencing

160 We sampled 67 individuals from 8 species of the genus Sapajus and 4 species of 161 the genus Cebus from 62 localities distributed throughout the Atlantic Forest, Amazon, 162 Central Grasslands habitats and Central America (Figure 1 and Table 2). The total ge-163 nomic DNA was extracted from muscle and blood samples using the Oiagen DNeasy 164 Blood & Tissue Kit, according to the manufacturer's protocol. Library preparation, se-165 quence capture and sequencing of ultraconserved elements were performed by RAPiD 166 Genomics (Gainesville, FL, USA). Samples were quantified, normalized and sheared to 167 an average fragment length of 350 base pairs (bp) for library preparation. Samples were

dual-indexed with unique i5 and i7 8bp indexes. Libraries were then pooled with
equimolar concentrations and the target sequence was captured using a custom set of
4715 probes targeting approximately 2300 UCE loci and 46 exons. Capture libraries
were then pooled with equimolar concentrations for multiplexed dual-end (2x100bp)
sequencing on an Illumina HiSeq 2500 v4 machine.

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### 174 2.2. Sequence read quality control, assembly and UCE identification

175 We performed quality control using the trimming tool Trimmomatic 0.32.1 176 (Bolger et al., 2014) which trimmed sequences for adapter contamination, barcodes and 177 low-quality regions using the parallel wrapper script in Illumiprocessor 2.0.6 (Faircloth, 178 2013) (https://github.com/faircloth-lab/illumiprocessor). We assembled the contigs for 179 each sample using Trinity software package (vers. 2-25-2013) with default parameters 180 using Phyluce 1.5.0 (Faircloth, 2016). We matched our assembled contigs to 4715 UCE 181 loci custom-designed probe set using phyluce\_assembly\_match\_contigs\_to\_probes in-182 tegrating LASTZ 1.02.00 (Harris, 2007) from the Phyluce 1.5.0 (Faircloth, 2016) to 183 remove any contigs that did not match probes or that matched multiple probes designed 184 from different UCE loci. We performed in Phyluce 1.5.0 (Faircloth, 2016) the align-185 ment of the contigs using the program phyluce align seqcap align with MAFFT 7.271 186 (Katoh and Standley, 2013).

187

### 188 2.3. Phylogenetic analyses

For the phylogenetic analyses, we used a concatenated data set in a single
alignment constructed in Phyluce 1.5.0 (Faircloth et al., 2012; Faircloth, 2016). We

191 used two data sets of UCE alignments that included greater than 95% of taxa present for 192 each UCE locus (5% missing) and greater than 75% of taxa present for each UCE locus 193 (25% missing), totaling 1838 UCEs with five exons (RAPGEF1, NAT15, GRIA21, 194 CLOCK e BDNF) and 1388 UCEs with two exons (NAT15, GRIA21) respectively. We 195 performed phylogenetic tree reconstruction under maximum likelihood (ML) in 196 RAxML 8.0.19 (Stamatakis, 2014), using a GTRCAT model of nucleotide substitution, 197 1000 replicate searches to identify the optimal tree and we generated non-parametric 198 bootstrap replicates using the autoMRE option of RAxML. To find the best partitioning 199 scheme, we used PartitionFinder (Lanfear et al., 2012). We considered each UCE as a 200 data block and enabled hcluster (Lanfear et al., 2014) with equal weights. To evaluate 201 the fit of each model we used the Bayesian information criterion (BIC).

202

#### 203 2.4. SNPs Analyses

204 Upon identifying the target UCE loci, we computed the coverage at each base of 205 each contig using a python wrapper included in Phyluce

206 (phyluce\_assembly\_get\_trinity\_coverage\_for\_uce\_loci). We then employed a de novo

207 SNPs calling approach by aligning all raw reads against our sample of S. robustus, the

208 reference sample with the highest coverage across all UCE loci enriched. This method

209 integrated BWA (v 0.7.7-1) and PICARD (v 1.106-0) to output de novo aligned align-

210 ments in BAM format, repair any formatting violations, add read group header infor-

211 mation, and mark duplicates in each BAM. We then merged all resulting BAMs into

212 one file, realigning the data and calling SNPs and indels using GATK (v 3.5-0-

213 g36282e4). To ensure high-quality SNPs in downstream analyses, we hierarchically

214 filtered the data according to stringent quality and validation parameters, excluding

SNPs with QUAL under 25, low variant confidence, and poor validation. Finally, the
resulting VCF was passed through VCFTOOLS (v 0.1.14) to remove all loci that
missed SNP calls for over 25% of all 67 samples.

218 On a parallel track, we passed our SNP data through a recently developed auto-219 matic pipeline called SNPhylo (Lee et al. 2014), designed to efficiently reconstruct trees 220 based on genome wide SNPs. We modified our filtered VCF file by manually filling in 221 autosomal chromosome positions for each SNP call, a necessary condition in order to 222 run the program. We then set the Minor Allele Frequency threshold to 0.04 and negated 223 the LD threshold to enable a more inclusive dataset for phylogenetic inference. We also 224 bypassed the default low-quality data removal step, because the dataset had already un-225 dergone quality filtration with GATK. As a final step, the SNPhylo pipeline employs 226 DNAML to generate a maximum likelihood hypothesis and passes the tree through 227 PHANGORN, which generates 1000 bootstrap replicates for the final result.

Additionally, in ExaBayes 1.4.1 (Aberer et al., 2014), we performed two independent runs, each with four chains (three heated and one cold), from random starting topologies for 10 million generations with a sampling frequency of 500 generations. Posterior distributions of trees were summarized with the consensus script and combined with the postProcParam script. Convergence and stationarity of parameter estimates were verified using Tracer 1.6.0 (Rambaut et al., 2013).

We estimated a species tree using SVDquartets analyses (Singular Value Decomposition Scores for Species Quartets; Chifman and Kubatko, 2014) implemented in PAUP\* v4.0a147 (Swofford, 2002). This method infers quartets based on summaries of SNPs in a concatenated sequence matrix species using a coalescent model. We randomly sampled 10 million quartets from the data matrix to infer a species tree and we measured uncertainty in relationships using nonparametric bootstrapping with 1000 replicates. For this analysis, we did not include the samples from the widely distributed
clade that did not form a part of the Northern Amazon or Southern Amazon subclades in
the Bayesian (Exabayes) and maximum likelihood (SNPhylo) trees.

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### 244 2.5. Divergence dating analyses

For the purposes of divergence time estimation, the 75% complete dataset was re-analyzed in PartitionFinder 2 (Lanfear et al., 2017) using the *k*-means algorithm described by Frandsen et al. (2015) and the BIC as the model selection method. We identified the fastest-evolving partition based on the rate multipliers reported in auxiliary files generated using the "--save-phylofiles" flag. This partition, totaling 10,316 sites, was then used to conduct a time tree analysis in BEAST 1.8.2 (Drummond et al., 2012).

251 We used the birth-death branching process (Gernhard 2008) with default hyper-252 priors placed on the growth rate and relative death rate hyperparameters to generate the 253 joint prior distribution on tree topology and node heights. The uncorrelated lognormal 254 relaxed clock was used to model the distribution of branch rates across the tree. In order 255 to constrain the branch rate distribution to biologically realistic values, we placed a 256 lognormal hyperprior with a mean of 0.005 (in real space) and a standard deviation of 1 257 on the ucld.mean hyperparameter (initial value of 0.005), and assigned a truncated ex-258 ponential distribution with support from 0 to 1 and a mean of 0.3 to the ucld.stdev hy-259 perparameter (initial value of 0.1). GTR+ $\Gamma$  was specified as the nucleotide substitution 260 model; all of its free parameters were assigned default priors, the base frequencies were 261 estimated rather than fixed, and the gamma rate heterogeneity distribution was discre-262 tized into 4 categories.

263 We ran the analysis under the fixed topology operator mix as specified in 264 BEAUTi v1.8.4 (Drummond et al., 2012), with the tuning of the ucld.mean and 265 ucld.stdev operators set to 0.9 and their weight increased to 6.0. All remaining operators 266 were kept at their default values. The topological constraint we employed (Supplemen-267 tary Figure 1) was based on the species tree inferred with SVDquarters (see below), 268 with one callitrichid and seven catarrhine outgroups manually added to the tree based on 269 the generally accepted phylogeny of the Simiiformes (Perelman et al., 2011; Springer et 270 al., 2012). The data for outgroup species were generated from Faircloth et al. 2012. 271 Since most of the calibration points we used were concentrated within the catarrhine 272 part of the tree, we pruned the capuchin taxon sample down to 4 species, with 2 repre-273 sentatives of the genus Cebus (C. capucinus and C. olivaceus) and 2 representatives of 274 Sapajus (S. apella and S. xanthosternos) in order to increase the ratio of calibrated to 275 uncalibrated nodes, as well as to achieve a more uniform placement of fossil data 276 throughout the tree.

277 To calibrate the tree, we used all of the fossil dates previously employed by 278 Springer et al. (2012) that were applicable to our restricted taxon sample (Table 3). To 279 assess the sensitivity of the posterior node age distribution to the root age prior, we also 280 ran an additional analysis using an older root calibration derived from the age of Pe-281 rupithecus (Bond et al., 2015). Each calibration point was assigned an offset exponen-282 tial density such that the upper bound specified by Springer et al. (2012) corresponded 283 to the 95th percentile of the distribution. In contrast to the uniform densities utilized by 284 Springer et al. (2012), exponential distributions have the advantage of concentrating 285 most probability mass close to the lower bound. As single-parameter distributions, ex-286 ponentials are also less arbitrary than lognormal priors commonly used in BEAST time

tree analyses, which can render the posterior overly sensitive to the choice of calibrationdensity hyperparameters (Warnock et al., 2012).

The Markov chain Monte Carlo analysis was run for 400 million generations, sampling every 1000 generations and removing the initial 10% of samples as burnin. We assessed convergence of the chain using the effective sample sizes (ESS) reported for each parameter in Tracer 1.6.0 (Rambaut et al., 2013) by ensuring that all the ESS values exceeded 200. The posterior distribution of time trees was summarized into a maximum clade credibility tree using TreeAnnotator 1.8.3 (Rambaut and Drummond, 2015a).

296

297 **3. Results** 

*298 3.1. Quality control* 

299 We sequenced a total of 178 million read pairs (mean = 2,661,695.4) for all 300 samples. An average of 3309 contigs per sample (min = 1162, max = 6170) was assem-301 bled from 67 individuals (Table 2). After alignment and trimming as described above, 302 we got an average of 1882 unique contigs matching UCE loci from each sample. We 303 produced a 75% complete data matrix containing 1843 alignments of UCE loci, which 304 produced a concatenated matrix of 550,515 bp (average length: 298.70 bp per align-305 ment) and a 95% complete data matrix containing 1390 alignments of UCE loci, which 306 produced a concatenated matrix of 439,190 bp (average length: 315.96 bp per align-307 ment).

308

309 3.2. Phylogenomic analyses

310 We recovered strong support in the tree topology from our RAxML (75% and 311 95%) analyses for reciprocal monophyly between the *Sapajus* and *Cebus* clades (Figure 312 2 and Supplementary Figure 2). Our analyses show strong molecular support for three 313 of the morphological species within the genus Sapajus: S. robustus, S. xanthosternos 314 and S. nigritus, all within the Atlantic Forest of Brazil. All other morphologically de-315 fined species within the genus (S. flavius, S. libidinosus, S. apella, S. cay, and S. macro-316 *cephalus*) group together with high support in a widely distributed clade (from the At-317 lantic Forest to the Amazon), but there is no support for any subclades within this group 318 in either the 75% or 95% taxa sets. Thus, the RAxML tree suggests four species of Sap-319 ajus: S. robustus, S. xanthosternos and S. nigritus from the Atlantic Forest of Brazil, 320 and a widespread species that encompasses morphotypes S. flavius, S. libidinosus, S. 321 apella, S. cay, and S. macrocephalus.

322

### 323 *3.3. SNPs Analyses*

After filtering out low quality SNPs, we retained a total of 19,583 SNPs across all samples. We then filtered for missing data and included only the SNPs that were parsimony-informative sites, generating a 75% complete matrix with a total of 11,462 informative high quality SNPs.

Similar to the RAxML analyses, our Maximum Likelihood and Bayesian trees
using SNPs from the UCE data recover *S. xanthosternos* and *S. nigritus* as monophyletic clades, with the single *S. robustus* sample as the sister group to *S. xanthosternos*(Figure 3). However, within the widely distributed clade in the SNP trees, there are two
distinct subclades. One subclade recovers monophyly of the species *Sapajus flavius* and
also contains all *S. libidinosus* samples in a clade with *S. apella* specimens from Tucu-

ruí. The other subclade contains *S. cay*, *S. apella*, and *S. macrocephalus*; clusters within
this subclade are geographically coherent but do not correspond to the current morphological taxonomy of the genus *Sapajus*. There is a clear division between Amazonian *Sapajus* north and south of the Amazon River, with some exceptions. Thus, our phylogenomic SNP data provides some support for six distinct species within *Sapajus*: *S. nigritus*, *S. robustus*, *S. xanthosternos*, *S. flavius*, *S. libidinosus* and a widespread Amazonian and southern grasslands species.

341 While the ExaBayes and SNPhylo had similar topologies, the two trees differed 342 in the strength of their support for particular clades. For example, the SNPhylo tree re-343 solved S. nigritus as the sister group to the widespread Sapajus clade (98), and S. ro-344 bustus as sister to S. xanthosternos (96). SNPhylo also resolved S. flavius + (S. libidino-345 sus + Tucuruí S. apella) clade as the sister group to S. apella + S. macrocephalus + S. 346 cay (100). On the other hand, the ExaBayes tree provided higher support for the S. fla-347 vius + (S. libidinosus + Tucuruí S. apella) clade (0.99) and for the S. cay + Rondônia S. 348 apella clade (0.99). Within the widespread Amazonian S. apella + S. macrocephalus + 349 S. cay clade, ExaBayes recovered a northwestern S. macrocephalus subclade (0.99) and 350 a northeastern S. apella subclade (0.99) that were strongly supported as sister to each 351 other (0.97). ExaBayes also supported the sister relationship (0.95) between the S. cay +352 Rondônia S. apella subclade and a south-central Amazonian S. macrocephalus clade 353 (Atalaia, Purus, Jirau, Canutama, Cujubim, Mamiraua, Japura, Jamari; 0.91). In con-354 trast, the internal topology for the subclades of the S. apella + S. macrocephalus + S. 355 cay clade was less well-supported in SNPhylo.

In the species tree recovered using SVDquartets analyses (Figure 4), we found strong support (100) in the tree topology for reciprocal monophyly between *Sapajus* and *Cebus*. The internal topology differed in some regards for *Sapajus* when compared to

359	our RAxML, ML and Bayesian trees using SNPs from the UCE data. As in other anal-
360	yses, Sapajus xanthosternos and S. robustus were strongly supported as sister taxa
361	(100), but here S. nigritus was weakly supported (77) as sister to S. xanthosternos + S.
362	robustus. While in the other trees, S. apella, S. macrocephalus, S. cay, S. flavius, and S.
363	libidinosus formed a subclade nested within the Atlantic forest robust capuchin clade
364	and sister to S. nigritus, here this widespread group forms a second and well-supported
365	(100) clade distinct from the Atlantic forest clade, with S. flavius supported (90) as sis-
366	ter to S. libidinosus, and Northern Amazonian and Southern Amazonian robust capu-
367	chins together forming a clade (100).

OND

- 368
- 369 3.4. Divergence time analyses

370 While the BEAST run with the younger root calibration (based on Aegypto-371 pithecus at 28.3 Ma) reached convergence after the specified number of generations 372 (ESS values  $\geq$  250 for all parameters), the analysis employing the *Perupithecus*-derived 373 36 Ma minimum on the age of the root failed to converge, as indicated by an effective 374 sample size of <200 for the age of the hominoid-cercopithecid divergence (node 6). An 375 additional run of 100 million generations was performed and combined with the first 376 chain using LogCombiner 1.8.3 (Rambaut and Drummond, 2015b); however, the result-377 ing ESS values were lower than those obtained from the first run alone, suggesting that 378 the two chains had sampled from different distributions. To overcome this problem, a 379 third chain of 500 million generations was run in BEAST under the same settings. The 380 ESS values for both the third run alone and the total combined run of 900,000 samples 381 exceeded 200 for all parameters.

382 Regardless of the choice of root prior, the 95% highest posterior density (HPD) 383 intervals of all calibrated nodes were well within the bounds used to construct the re-384 spective calibration densities (compare Tables 3 and 4). Use of the Perupithecus cali-385 bration shifted the marginal posterior distribution of the root age from the Late to Mid-386 dle Eocene but exercised comparatively little influence on the estimated ages of shal-387 lower divergences (Table 4). The intrageneric divergences within both *Cebus* and *Sapa*-388 *jus* (Table 4; nodes 7 and 8) were consistently older and less precise (marked by wider 389 95% HPD intervals) when estimated under the Perupithecus-derived root age prior. The 390 mean estimated split between robust and gracile capuchins (Table 4; node 9) shifted 391 from 5.4 to 6.8 Ma when Perupithecus was used to calibrate the platyrrhine-catarrhine 392 divergence, while the width of the corresponding 95% HPD interval remained un-393 changed.

394

### 395 **4. Discussion**

396 Together our analyses provide genetic support for six distinct species within 397 Sapajus: five morphological species (strong support for S. robustus, S. xanthosternos, S. 398 nigritus, and more equivocal support for S. libidinosus and S. flavius) and one morpho-399 logically diverse Amazonian + Central Grasslands species that contains two major 400 clades separated by distributions in Northern versus Southern Amazonia. Recent mito-401 chondrial studies provide some additional support for the species status of S. robustus, 402 S. xanthosternos and S. nigritus though the exact relationships among species varies 403 (Lima et al., 2017; Ruiz-Garcia et al., 2012). S. flavius is recovered as a monophyletic 404 group with mitochondrial data, but is embedded within the widespread clade, or posi-405 tioned as sister to the widespread clade (Lima et al., 2017), whereas the nuclear results

406 here place S. flavius and S. libidinosus as sister taxa. Both the mtDNA and the nuclear 407 DNA topologies are discordant with Groves' (2001) taxonomic hypothesis that S. robustus is a subspecies of S. nigritus, because S. nigritus and S. robustus do not group 408 409 together as sister taxa within *Sapajus*. In the previous studies employing large numbers 410 of concatenated loci to elucidate primate relationships (Perelman et al., 2011; Springer 411 et al., 2012), S. robustus and S. xanthosternos are recovered as sister taxa to the exclu-412 sion of S. apella. In Springer et al. (2012) S. apella is recovered as sister to S. libidino-413 sus, consistent with our present phylogeny.

414 While all Sapajus libidinosus samples with light yellow pelage phenotype found 415 across S. libidinosus distribution in the relatively dry biomes of Caatinga and Cerrado 416 cluster together in one clade, that clade also includes samples that present standard S. 417 apella pelage at the border of the two species distributions, near Tucuruí, Pará, on the 418 eastern side of the lake that was formed by the damming of the Tocantins River for a 419 Hydroelectric Plant (Figure 5b). These same individuals with S. apella morphotypes 420 from Tucuruí cluster genetically with all sampled individuals with S. libidinosus pelage 421 from within S. libidinosus distribution when using mitochondrial markers (Lima et al., 422 2017). Tucuruí capuchins have darker pelage and live in tropical forest habitat, while 423 nearby S. libidinosus are adapted to open Cerrado and Caatinga habitats, and have light-424 er pelage. S. libidinosus has also been shown to have cranial and post-cranial adapta-425 tions to increased ground use and encased fruit extraction (Wright et al., 2015). Mor-426 phometric data are not available for the Tucuruí specimens, to determine if their cranial 427 and post-cranial characteristics cluster with S. libidinosus or S. apella. Their external 428 coloration should also be studied in detail to compare with other *Sapajus* specimens. 429 The unexpected topology leaves us with various possibilities; it may be that the S. libid-430 inosus lineage has expanded from the Cerrado biome to make inroads into the Amazon,

431 and that S. libidinosus populations living in forested areas evolve darker pelage, so that 432 they converge in appearance with S. apella. This could be a result of genetic adaptation, or it could be that capuchins have a developmental response with coat color adjusting to 433 434 habitat conditions. Either way, this suggests ecological forces may be driving coat color 435 and morphological characteristics. A second possibility is that S. apella east of the To-436 cantins River became isolated from other robust Amazonian capuchins, and over time 437 gave rise to the Caatinga and Cerrado populations of S. libidinosus. A third possibility is 438 that S. apella and S. libidinosus have come into secondary contact at the borders of their 439 distribution, and that despite significant gene flow, the two populations maintain their 440 pelage characteristics. More morphological, genetic and ecological data will need to be collected in the Cerrado-Amazon transition zone in order to better understand relation-441 442 ships among capuchin populations here.

443 Note that *Sapajus libidinosus* + Tucuruí samples formed a clade with *S. flavius*.
444 For this study, we sampled across western Caatinga and Cerrado for *S. libidinosus*, but
445 we do not have samples here for eastern Caatinga where *S. libidinosus* is found close to
446 *S. flavius* in northeastern Brazil (Figure 5b). More data from the Cerrado-Amazon tran447 sition zone and the Caatinga-Atlantic Forest transition zone could resolve if *S. flavius*448 and *S. libidinosus* are geographical variants of the same species, two distinct species, or
449 are best lumped within the widespread *S. apella* group described below.

The molecular distinctiveness of the other morphological species currently assigned to *Sapajus* is not supported. Within the widespread *Sapajus* clade recovered in the SNP tree, there were strong indications for shared evolutionary history among morphotypes *S. cay*, *S. apella* and *S. macrocephalus*. There was no reciprocal monophyly between any of these morphologically defined species; instead, we observed geographic coherence for recovered lineages that did not correspond to current species hypotheses

456 for Amazonian and grassland Sapajus. The pattern is more concordant with an isolation-457 by-distance model across the entire 'widespread Sapajus' clade, and morphological variation driven by habitat type. The samples designated as S. cay formed a clade with ge-458 459 ographically proximate *S. apella* samples, indicating either a high index of gene flow 460 between the two, or that the two types actually are within the same species and have 461 evolved phenotypic variation related to habitat type. Another possibility is that there is 462 more than one taxon encompassed within the current taxonomic classification of S. cay. 463 Some studies have already indicated that S. cay from the Brazilian Pantanal and from 464 Paraguay may not be a monophyletic group (Casado et al., 2010; Lima et al., 2017), but 465 in this study, we do not have samples from both areas. S. macrocephalus as defined by 466 Rylands et al. (2013) is also paraphyletic in our study, with two distinct lineages, one 467 found north of the Solimões and Japurá rivers and south of the Rio Negro (recovered as 468 sister to S. apella north of the Amazon River: Figure 5c) and the other in south-central 469 Amazon south of the Amazon and Solimões rivers (recovered as the sister group to 470 south Amazonian S. apella and S. cay: Figure 5d). Note that our study extends the S. 471 macrocephalus morphotype east of the Madeira River, into the Brazilian state of Ron-472 dônia. S. apella appears in multiple places across the topology of both the RAxML and 473 SNP trees, divided among various lineages which do not form a monophyletic group, 474 but instead are interspersed with clades of *S. libidinosus*, *S. macrocephalus*, and *S. cav*.

It is important to note that the geographic boundaries and taxonomic affinities
for *S. apella, S. cay, S. libidinosus* and *S. macrocephalus* are disputed by the two predominant morphological authorities (Groves 2001, 2005; Silva-Júnior, 2001, 2002). For
example, Groves (2001) considers *S. cay* as two distinct subspecies of *S. libidinosus*(called *Cebus libidinosus paraguayanus* and *Cebus libidinosus pallidus*), and *S. macro- cephalus* as a subspecies of *S. apella* (*Cebus apella macrocephalus*). Neither mitochon-

481 drial (Lynch Alfaro et al., 2012a; Lima et al., 2017) nor nuclear data from the present 482 study recovered reciprocal monophyly for S. cay, S. apella, or S. macrocephalus. Com-483 bining genetic and morphological data, we interpret that these morphotypes are not 484 clearly defined and discrete species, but instead form one morphologically diverse, re-485 cently evolved pan-Amazonian plus grassland clade of robust capuchins. If we collapse 486 these three taxa into one species, the taxonomic name would be *Sapajus apella*, which 487 has priority over the other names because it was given first by Linnaeus in 1758. We do 488 not recommend the use of subspecies within this cosmopolitan species, because molecu-489 lar and morphological subdivisions are discordant with one another suggesting a high 490 index of morphological plasticity and convergence within the species.

491 We also note that while the two major Sapajus clades within the Amazon are di-492 vided roughly by the Amazon River (see Figures 5c and d), that some samples within 493 the Northern clade were from individuals south of the Amazon, and vice versa. In most 494 cases these were individuals that were very close geographically to the Amazon River 495 itself, and may be the result of human-mediated transport across the rivers in recent or 496 modern times. It is also possible that capuchins cross the Amazon at low frequency in 497 areas where there are many seasonal islands. Squirrel monkeys show a similar pattern in 498 the eastern Amazon basin, where the Amazon River forms the border for the distribu-499 tions of Saimiri sciureus and S. collinsi, with some cases of limited dispersal to the op-500 posite bank of the Amazon River for each species in the Juruti and Faro regions of Pará 501 State, Brazil (Mercês et al., 2015).

502 The time trees based generated from our BEAST analysis placed the mean esti-503 mated divergence time for gracile and robust capuchins at 5.4 Ma using the *Aegypto-*504 *pithecus* tree root prior, or 6.8 Ma, using the *Perupithecus* tree root prior. These com-505 pare to previous mean estimates for divergence between *Cebus* and *Sapajus* at 5.8 Ma,

506	using mitochondrial data (Lima et al., 2017), at 6 Ma using a BEAST analysis for 54
507	nuclear genes (Perelman et al. 2011), and 6.6 Ma for the MCMC tree in PAML utilizing
508	autocorrelated rates and soft-bounded constraints for a supermatrix of both nuclear and
509	mitochondrial genes (Springer et al., 2012). In other words, all analyses converge on a
510	late Miocene divergence time for robust and gracile capuchin monkeys. This timing is
511	consistent with the formation of the savanna-like Cerrado leading to vicariance of a
512	widespread capuchin ancestor previously spanning the Amazon to the Atlantic Forest
513	(Lynch Alfaro et al., 2015; Lima et al., 2017).

514

529

#### 515 **5. Conclusions**

516 Our phylogenomic data provided strong support for Cebus and Sapajus as two 517 reciprocally monophyletic clades. This is concordant with morphological evaluations of 518 distinctiveness between robust and gracile capuchins (Elliott, 1913; Hershkovitz, 1949; 519 Groves, 2001, 2005; Silva-Júnior, 2001, 2002; Lynch Alfaro et al., 2012b), and mito-520 chondrial and Alu element data that also point to this split (Lynch Alfaro et al., 2012a; 521 Lima et al., 2017; Martins Jr. et al., 2015; Viana et al., 2015). We recovered a late Mio-522 cene split for robust and gracile capuchins, concordant with previous molecular studies. 523 The timetree mean estimate for the initial diversification of robust capuchins was at 2.1 524 Ma (using the Aegyptopithecus root calibration) or 2.6 Ma (using the Perupithecus root 525 calibration); this early Pleistocene diversification is also consistent with previous stud-526 ies using mitochondrial data (Lynch Alfaro et al. 2012a; Lima et al., 2017). 527 In general, our phylogenies based on ultraconserved elements were congruent 528 with mitochondrial phylogenies for robust capuchins (Lynch Alfaro et al., 2012; Lima

et al., 2017), although the placement of S. robustus as sister to S. xanthosternos was

530 unique to the nuclear phylogenomic data, as was the recovery of a sister relationship 531 between S. flavius and S. libidinosus. Our UCE tree distinguished only four Sapajus 532 species, but the ExaBayes SNP tree provided more support for six robust capuchin spe-533 cies, S. xanthosternos, S. robustus, S. nigritus, S. flavius, S. libidinosus, and S. apella 534 (which subsumes S. cay and S. macrocephalus), although S. apella morphotypes from 535 Tucuruí were found within the S. libidinosus clade. The major division for Amazonian 536 capuchins according to molecular data is a North-South division (both in the present 537 work and from mitochondrial data in Lima et al., 2017), whereas the morphological 538 division of S. macrocephalus and S. apella has been described as more of an East-West 539 division, with the Madeira and Negro rivers as the suggested dividing line (Groves, 540 2001, 2005; Silva-Júnior, 2001, 2002). As morphological and molecular subdivisions of 541 the Amazonian group are discordant, we recommend lumping all Amazonian plus 542 southern grassland robust capuchin taxa as S. apella without subspecies. However, this 543 does not discount the importance of populational differences in behavior, morphology 544 and ecology in S. apella across the Amazon and southern grasslands; these populational 545 differences may serve as a model for understanding the rapid evolution of populational 546 differences across diverse habitats in other highly polymorphic species, such as humans.

547 The taxonomic relationship of S. nigritus to other capuchins is not well support-548 ed, with the species tree placing it as the sister group to S. xanthosternos + S. robustus, 549 but the gene trees placing it as the sister group to the widespread clade of robust capu-550 chins (S. flavius, S. libidinosus, S. apella as above). In contrast, mitochondrial phyloge-551 netic reconstructions have placed S. nigritus as the sister to all other Sapajus (Lima et 552 al., 2017). More work needs to be done delineating the relationship and geographical 553 boundaries between S. nigritus nigritus from Minas Gerais to Sao Paulo, Brazil and S. 554 n. cucultatus from southern Brazil and Argentina, and their relationships to other capu-

- chins. Future work is also needed to determine the relationship of Critically Endangered *S. apella margaritae* endemic to Margarita Island, Venezuela to the other Amazonian
- 557 and Guianan robust capuchins.
- 558

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# 756 Tables

# **Table 1:** Taxonomies of robust capuchins.

<b>Elliot (1913)</b>	Hershkovitz (1949)	<b>Cabrera</b> (1957)	Hill (1960)	Groves (2001, 2005)
Cebus apella	Cebus apella	Cebus apella	Cebus apella	Cebus apella
Cebus fatuellus		C. a. apella	C. a. apella	C. a. apella
C. f. fatuellus		C. a. margaritae	C. a. margaritae	C. a. fatuellus
C. f. peruanus		C. a. macrocephalus	C. a. fatuellus	C. a. macrocephalus
Cebus macrocephalus		C. a. libidinosus	C. a. peruanus	C. a. peruanus
Cebus libidinosus		C. a. paraguayanus	C. a. tocantinus	C. a. tocantinus
Cebus azarae		C. a. pallidus	C. a. macrocephalus	C. a. margaritae
C. a. azarae		C. a. xanthosternos	C .a. libidinosus	Cebus libidinosus
C. a. pallidus		C. a. versutus	C. a. cay	C. l. libidinosus
Cebus frontatus		C. a. nigritus	C. a. pallidus	C. l. pallidus
Cebus variegatus		C. a. vellerosus	C. a. frontatus	C. l. paraguayanus
Cebus versuta		C. a. robustus	C. a. xanthosternos	C. l. juruanus
Cebus cirrifer			C. a. nigritus	Cebus nigritus
Cebus crassiceps			C. a. robustus	C. n. nigritus
Cebus caliginosus			C. a. magnus	C. n. robustus
Cebus vellerosus			C. a. juruanus	C. n. cucullatus
			C. a. maranonis	Cebus xanthosternos

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# **Table 2:** List of samples, locality data and resulting for UCE data.

Code	Species	Latitude	Longitude	Trimmed reads	Contigs Assem- bled
1	S. xanthosternos	-15.17	-39.07	2681597	3274
2	S. xanthosternos	-15.41	-39.5	2843593	3661
3A	S. xanthosternos	-14.79	-39.05	3196673	3802
3B	S. xanthosternos	-14.79	-39.05	3521726	4275
4	S. robustus	-19.95	-43.85	4538948	5198
5	S. nigritus	-23.86	-46.14	2762021	3471
6	S. nigritus	-23	-49.32	946881	1937
7	S. flavius	-6.56	-35.13	2713906	3096
8	S. flavius	-7.01	-34.96	4787966	5150
9	S. flavius	-7.02	-35.09	2877922	3601
10	S. libidinosus	-2.77	-41.81	2764451	3430
11	S. libidinosus	-2.8	-41.87	4348317	5094
12	S. libidinosus	-5.09	-42.43	2612178	3208
13	S. libidinosus	-7.93	-44.2	3068523	3551
14	S. libidinosus	-5.28	-48.3	3303530	3885
15	S. libidinosus	-14.14	-48.17	3381894	3603
16	S. libidinosus	-16.6	-49.26	3301692	3884
17A	S. apella	-3.83	-49.64	3541159	3793
17B	S. apella	-3.83	-49.64	2980533	3534

18	S. apella	-6.15	-49.56	1908769	2828
19	S. apella	-3.36	-51.74	3391742	3723
20	S. apella	-2.61	-51.54	5485708	6170
21	S. apella	-0.58	-52.33	1311929	2137
22	S. apella	3.22	-52.03	1757726	2338
23	S. apella	0.83	-53.93	2781762	2805
24	S. apella	1.29	-58.7	2130450	2604
25	S. apella	-1.49	-56.8	1572934	2413
26	S. apella	-2.47	-58.4	3571090	3780
27	S. apella	-2.6	-56.18	2394355	3227
28	S. apella	-3.18	-55.8	1890413	2709
29	S. apella	-3.88	-56.78	1276241	2039
30	S. apella	-4.71	-56.44	1746336	2515
31	S. apella	-10	-56.04	1791793	2450
32	S. apella	-9.2	-59.06	2103015	2895
33	S. apella	-12.03	-60.67	2339872	3027
34	S. apella	-12.56	-63.44	3883141	4558
35	S. cay	-16.06	-57.72	1624662	2588
36	S. cay	-13.52	-60.43	2361492	2991
37	S. macrocephalus	-12.45	-62.92	2986344	3335
38	S. macrocephalus	-8.67	-62.37	2962283	3477
39	S. macrocephalus	-9.1	-62.88	2222218	2882
40	S. macrocephalus	-8.89	-63.24	3054313	3411
41	S. macrocephalus	-8.8	-63.95	1459387	2148
42	S. macrocephalus	-8.19	-64.02	2196025	2741
43	S. macrocephalus	-5.69	-63.24	3840307	4395
44A	S. macrocephalus	-4.99	-62.96	3199632	3780
44B	S. macrocephalus	-4.99	-62.96	1163783	2218
45	S. macrocephalus	-4.75	-61.28	2351064	3072

46	S. macrocephalus	-4.44	-60.32	2219015	2938
47	S. macrocephalus	-3.37	-60.48	1876035	2707
48	S. macrocephalus	-1.05	-62.89	2044899	2699
49	S. macrocephalus	-0.48	-64.41	2723327	3234
50	S. macrocephalus	-0.61	-64.92	3169376	3983
51	S. macrocephalus	-0.23	-66.85	2105443	2681
52	S. macrocephalus	-2.47	-64.83	3117247	3756
53	S. macrocephalus	-2.59	-64.89	2484843	2946
54	S. macrocephalus	-2.45	-65.36	1918138	2692
55	S. macrocephalus	-1.84	-69.03	2085573	2716
56	S. macrocephalus	-4.4	-70.14	3522837	4000
57	S. macrocephalus	-4.94	-68.17	4107017	4659
-	C. unicolor	-9.22	-66.74	2057387	3279
-	C. o. castaneus	-0.58	-52.33	2107696	3145
-	C. o. castaneus	1.84	-52.74	1401630	2151
-	C. kaapori	-2.33	-46.08	2885841	3593
-	C. capucinus	10.95	-84.55	3954729	4702
-	C. capucinus	10.88	-85.78	508807	1162
-	C. albifrons	-2.59	-64.89	3111458	3951

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- **Table 3:** Fossil calibrations used for divergence time estimation (see Supplementary
- Figure 1 for node labels).

Calibrated node	Divergence	Fossil	Reference
1	Hominina / Pan	Ardipithecus kadabba	Springer et al., 2012
4 5	Hominini / Gorilla Papio / Macaca	Sivapithecus sp. Macaca libyca	Springer et al., 2012 Springer et al., 2012
6	Hominoidea / Cercopithecidae	Afropithecus turkanensis	Springer et al., 2012

	10	Callitrichidae / Cebidae ( <i>sensu</i> Rylands et al., 2012)	Patasola magdalenae; Lagonimico conclucatus	Kay, 2015 (minimum); Springer et al., 2012 (maxin
	11	Catarrhini / Platyrrhini	Aegyptopithecus zeuxis / Perupithecus ucayaliensis	Springer et al., 2012 / Bond et al., 2015
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vising BEAST (see Supplementary Figure 1 for node labels).

Node	Springer et al. root calibration			
	Median	Mean	95% HPD	Median
1	5.6	5.8	5.1–7.3	5.7
2	7.9	8.2	5.7–11.1	8.6
3	14.2	14.5	10.1–19.5	11.4
4	17.4	17.7	12.1–23.2	15.5
5	6.5	6.9	5.5–9.6	6.3
6	23.6	24.4	20.6–30.8	25.8
7	1.7	1.8	0.4–3.4	2.2
8	1.9	2.1	0.6–4.0	2.4
9	5.2	5.4	3.2-8.0	6.6
10	17.0	17.4	13.4–22.1	14.9

	11	34.1	35.4	28.3–46.7	41.4
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### **Figure Captions**

Graphical Abstract. (a) Maximum likelihood and (b) Bayesian inference for robust capuchin phylogeny based on SNP data.

Figure 1. Map showing the sampled localities for Sapajus

Figure 2. Maximum likelihood (RAxML) 75% phylogeny for UCE data.

Figure 3. (a) Maximum likelihood and (b) Bayesian inference for robust capuchin phylogeny based on SNP data.

Figure 4. Species tree for robust capuchins using SNP quartets.

**Figure 5.** (a) Map with minimum convex polygons to show geographic distribution of major subclades within the widespread *Sapajus* clade, (b) Minimum convex polygon for range distribution for *S. flavius* and *S. libidinosus* clades within the ExaBayes phylogeny, (c) Minimum convex polygon for range distribution for the Northern Amazonian *Sapajus* clade within the ExaBayes phylogeny and (d). Minimum convex polygon for range distribution for the Southern Amazonian *Sapajus* clade within the ExaBayes phylogeny. Larger map depicts sub-clades of south central Amazonian *S. macrocephalus* and southern Amazonian + grasslands *S. apella* + *cay*.

Supplementary Figure 1. Topological constraint used for divergence time estimation in BEAST.

Supplementary Figure 2. Maximum likelihood (RaxML) 95% phylogeny for UCE data.

#### **Graphical Abstract.**





Figure 1.

Figure 2.



## Figure 3.





## Figure 4.





**Supplementary Figure 1.** 



## **Supplementary Figure 2.**

