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What lies beneath?

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WHAT LIES BENEATH?

How patterns in ecology and evolution inform us about
underlying processes

Thijs Janzen

1. Nothing in ecology and evolution makes sense, except in the light of stochasticity.

2. Diversification rates should not be estimated based on phylogenetic trees which were constructed with other aims in mind than estimating diversification rates.

3. For all practical purposes, Approximate Bayesian Computation need not be approximate at all.

4. Never trust estimates obtained with a model that was not validated.

5. The extent to which diversification models describe evolutionary history is largely unknown.

6. Cichlid fish communities are just like savanna tree communities.

7. Finding a process that generates a matching pattern is the first step in understanding what lies beneath the pattern.

8. Any sufficiently advanced bug is indistinguishable from a feature.
   Rich Kulawiec.

9. Everything we know is only some kind of approximation.
   The Feynman Lectures on Physics, 1964, Richard Feynman.