Correction

After the publication of “Quantifying uncertainty in estimation of tropical arthropod species richness” by Andrew J. Hamilton et al. (American Naturalist 176:90–95), the authors found two errors.

First, on the vertical axis in figure 2, \( p_c \) and \( p_a \) need to be switched. Consequently, the accompanying text in the “Results” should read as follows: “A sensitivity analysis showed that uncertainty in the proportion of arthropods that are found in the canopy had the greatest impact on uncertainty in species estimation (fig. 2). However, other parameters (the number of beetle species effectively specialized on a tree species or genus, the proportion of canopy arthropod species that are beetles, and the proportion of beetles that are nonherbivores) also had influence.”

Second, A.J.H. made an error (incorrect cell reference) in the programming of the bootstrapping procedure, which led to a slight underestimate of parameter \( x \). The corrected version of model A yields a median estimate of 6.1 million species, with a 90% confidence interval of [3.6, 11.4] (cf. 3.7 [2.0, 7.4] for the original). Similarly, the correction yielded a median estimate for model B of 7.8 [3.9, 13.7] million species (cf. 2.5 [1.1, 5.4] for the original). It is worth noting that for both models the 90% confidence intervals of the original and corrected versions overlapped, and for model A the original median estimate of 3.7 million was encompassed by the confidence interval of the corrected model. Furthermore, the statement that the model predicts the probability of there being 30 million species or more to be \(<0.0001\) still holds true. Having rerun the model to correct for the bootstrapping error, we found that the correlation coefficients for the sensitivity analysis are as follows: for model A, \( x = 0.163, c = 0.321, p_c = -0.774, p_a = -0.478, n_s = 0.116; \) for model B, \( y = 0.208, c = 0.467, p_c = -0.712, p_a = -0.441. \)

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