

What do we need to model changes in global biodiversity

Jorge Soberon, Department of
Ecology and Evolutionary Biology
and Biodiversity Institute



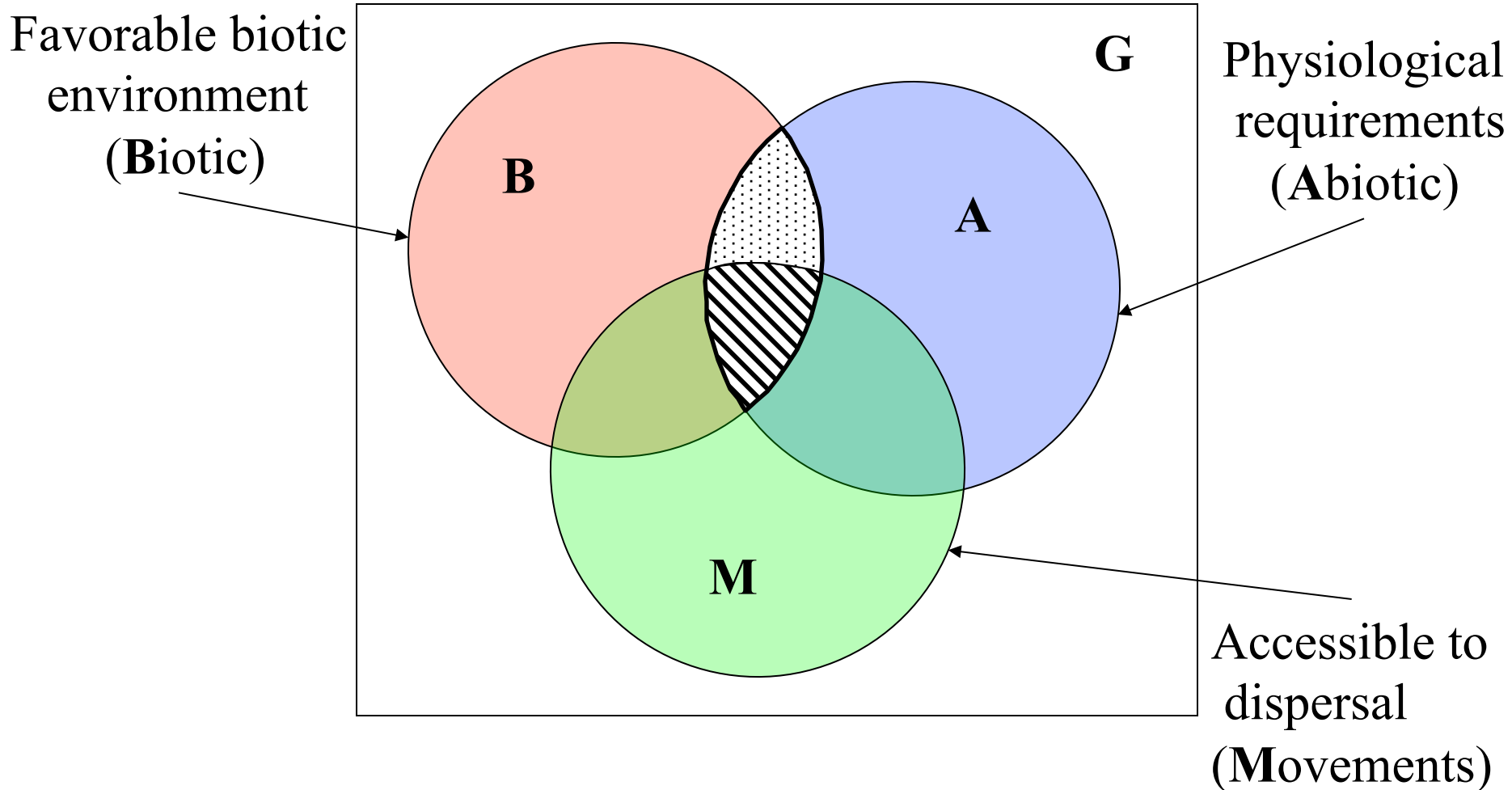
Biodiversity...

- All manifestations of life on earth
- It is about “points of view”
- Ecosystem view
- Taxonomic view
- Phylogenetics view
- Morphologic view...

Species view

- Question is: how climate change drives “biodiversity” = aggregate of species.
- Biodiversity as “a group of species”
- This can be modeled using specimen-based data to estimate something called the niche, which is essentially a description of tolerance to extreme conditions and preferences for optimal ones.

The area of distribution



“Niche Modeling”

- It is used to model climate change all the time. Hundreds of papers
- Requires simple and very abundant data, but these databases are out there
 - Climate (Petabytes)
 - Occurrences (Terabytes)
- Software (about 20 methods, R packages, free programs...)

CLIMATE CHANGE DIVERSITY BASE

MARTIN
Natural History Museum

Global Change Biology (2006) 12, 2272–2281, doi:10.1111/j.1365-3113.2006.01111.x

The ability of climate environments to predict the effect of climate change on species diversity

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*Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, University of California, 3101 Valley Life Sciences Building, Davis, CA 95616
†Department of Ecology and Evolution, Stony Brook University, 636 Life Sciences Building, Stony Brook, NY 11794

Niches, models, and climate change: Assessing the assumptions and uncertainties in future projections for Mexican faunas under global climate change scenarios

John A. Wiens^{a,1}, Diana Stralberg^a, Dennis Jongsomjit^a, Christine A. Howell^a, and Mark A. Snyker^b
^aPRBO Conservation Science, 3820 Cypress Drive #11, Petaluma, CA 94954; and ^bClimate Change and Impacts Laboratory, Department of Biology, University of California, 1156 High Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95064

Wendy Peterson*, Miguel A. Ortega-Huerta†, Robert H. Buddemeier†, R. B. Stockwell†, and Jorge Solís

†Miguel A. Ortega-Huerta†, Robert H. Buddemeier†

Birds track their Grinnellian niche through climate change

Morgan W. Tingley^{a,b,1}, William B. Monahan^c, Steven R. Beissinger^{a,b}, and Craig Moritz^{b,d}

Departments of ^aEnvironmental Science, Policy, and Management and ^dIntegrative Biology, and ^bMuseum of Vertebrate Zoology, University of California, Berkeley, CA 94720; and ^cAudubon California, 4225 Hollis Street, Emeryville, CA 94608

Manuscript Accepted 1 September 2006

Partitioning and mapping uncertainties in ensembles of forecasts of species turnover under climate change

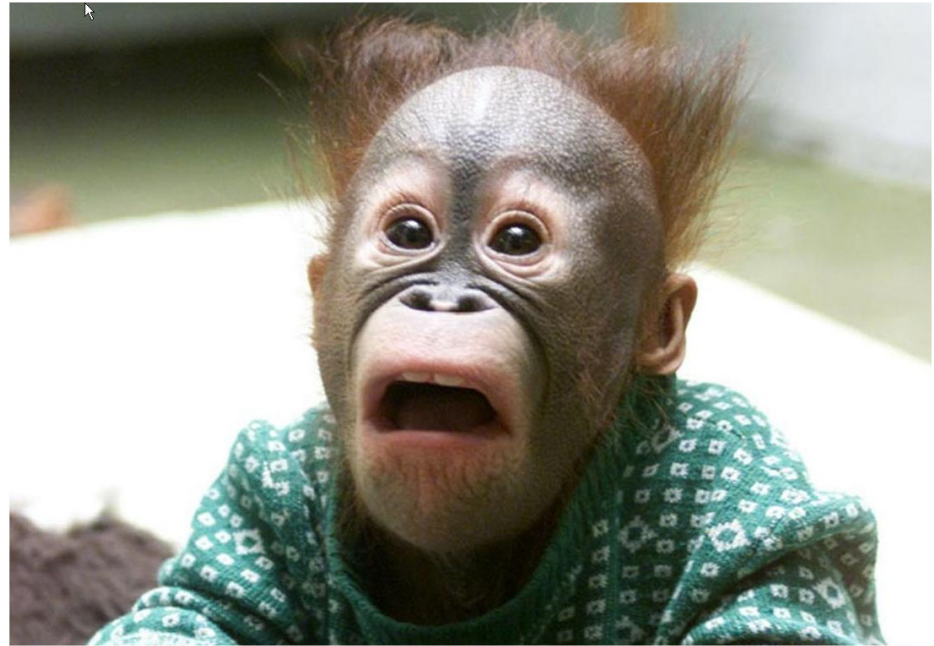
José Alexandre F. Diniz-Filho, Luis Mauricio Bini, Thiago Fernando Rangel, Rafael D. Loyola, Christian Hof, David Nogués-Bravo and Miguel B. Araújo

Validation of species–climate impact models under climate change

MIGUEL B. ARAÚJO*¹, RICHARD G. PEARSON*², WILFRIED THUILLERS³ and MARKUS ERHARD†
*Biodiversity Research Group, School of Geography and Environment, University of Oxford, Mansfield Road, Oxford OX1 3TD, UK; †Biogeography and Conservation Laboratory, Natural History Museum, Cromwell Road, London SW7 5BD, UK; ²Macroeology and Conservation Unit, University of Évora, Estrada dos Lóes, 7000-730 Évora, Portugal; ³Climate Change Research Group, Kirstenbosch Research Centre, South African National Biodiversity Institute, Private Bag x7, Claremont 7735, Cape Town, South Africa; ⁴Institute for Meteorology and Climate Research, Forschungszentrum Karlsruhe, Postfach 3640, 76021 Karlsruhe, Germany

However....

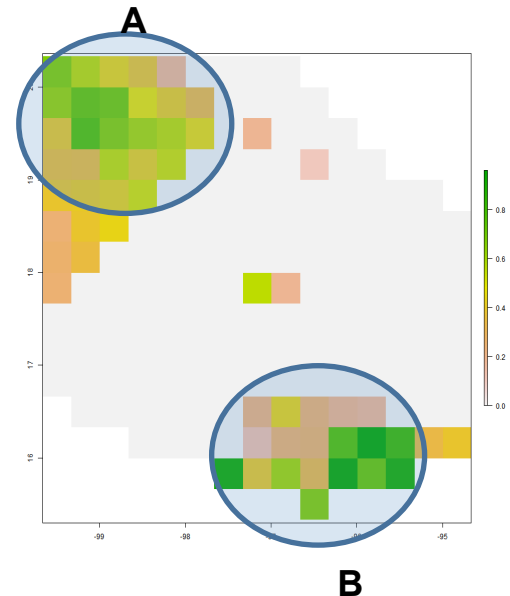
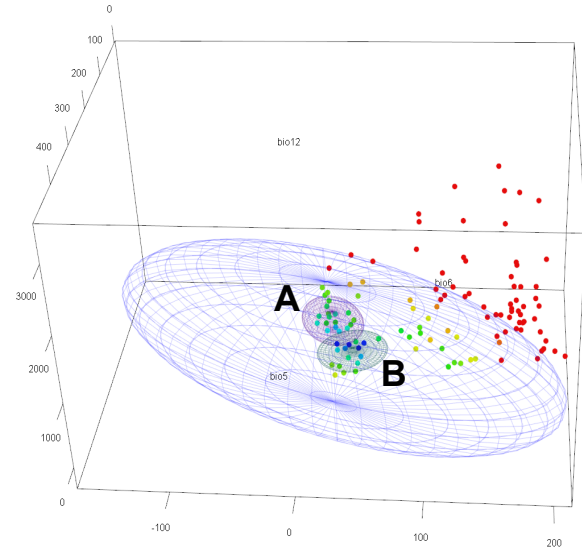
- Current ENM is correlational
- It is static
- It ignores interactions
- It ignores history
- It ignores evolution
- It is coarse-grained (no habitat)



What a disaster!!

All is not lost

- We have a growing amount of data (iDigBio, GBIF, eBird, SANBI, CONABIO...)
- We have a much better theoretical understanding that ten years ago
- We have faster computers and better software
- We can keep improving on all the above



Some natural next steps

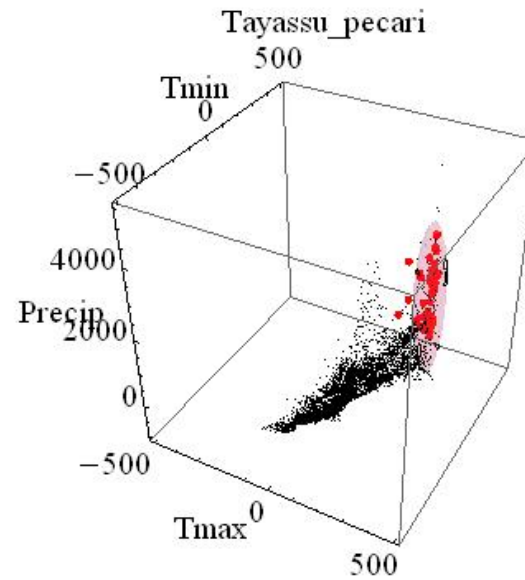
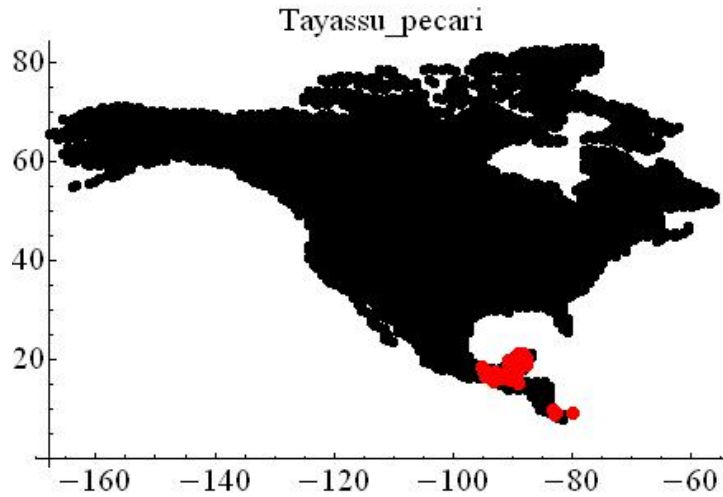
- First, the static models can be “forced” by climate
- This is based on “Hutchinson’s Duality”
- Assumes the world is entirely accessible
- And there are no interactions (Gleasonian Ecology)
- And there is no evolution (Kansas Model)



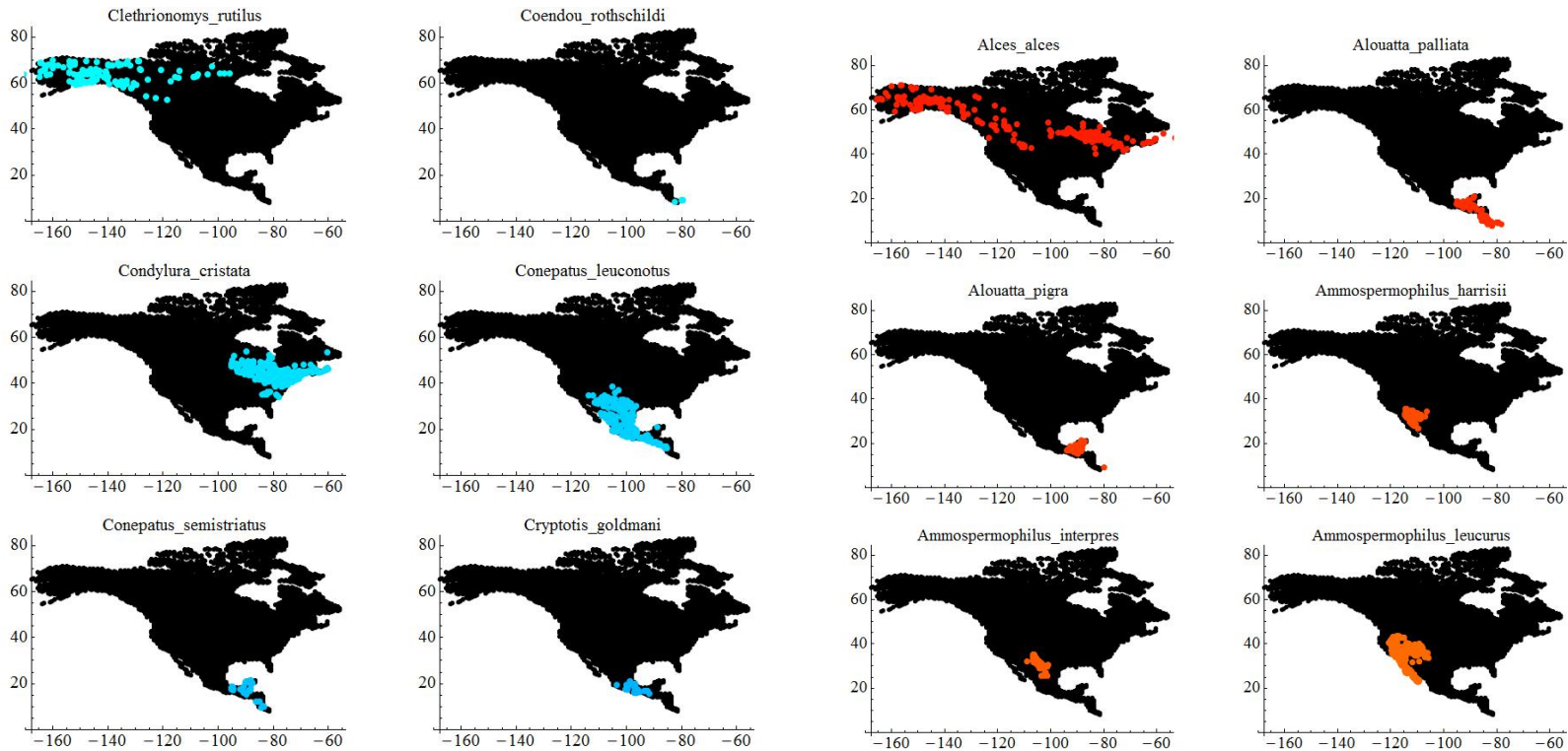
Marco Antonio Pineda Maldonado/CONABIO

White-lipped peccary image from CONABIO's image bank.

Hutchinson's Duality

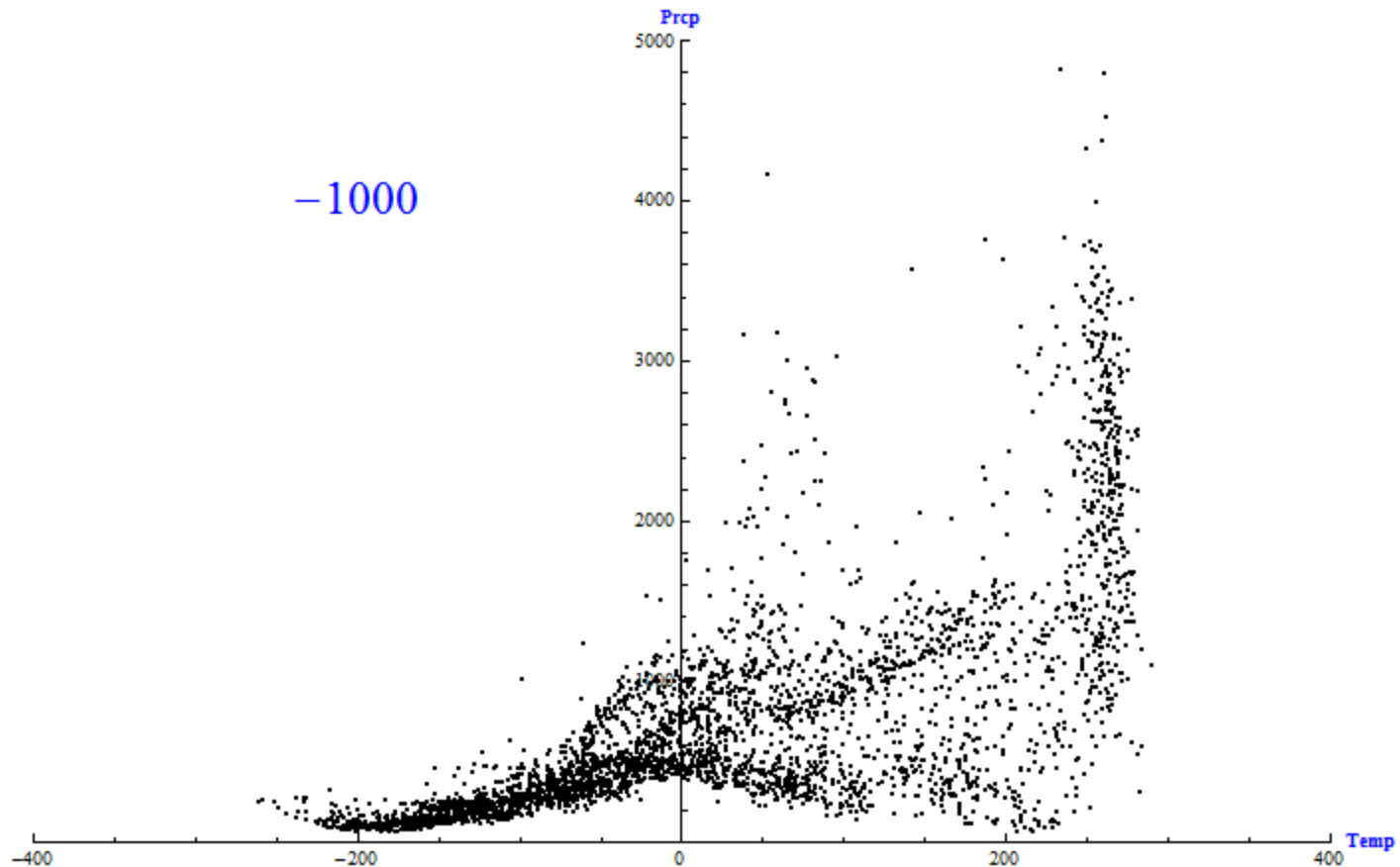


An example using $\sim 10^5$ occurrence data points, for the mammals of North America (lot of debugging)



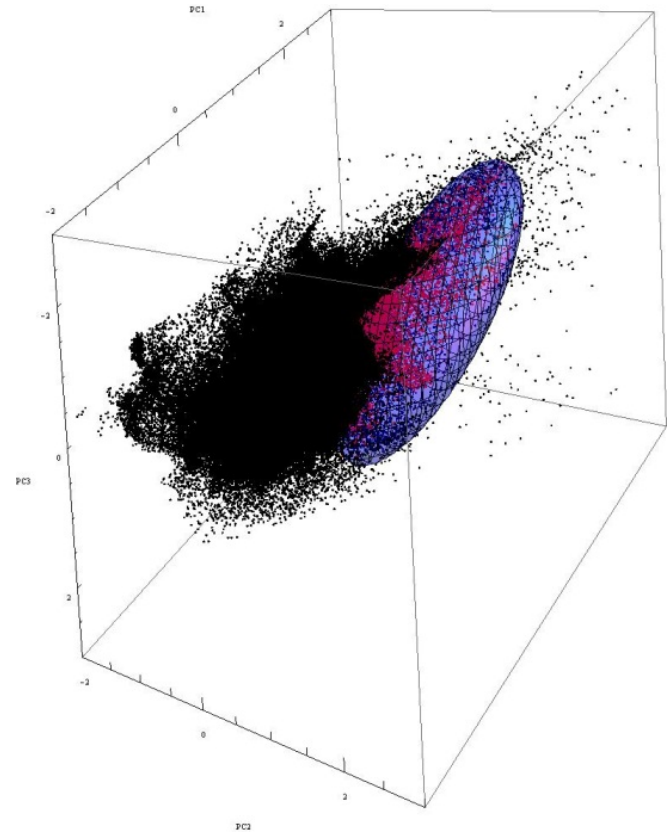
Soberon & Lira, in preparation

And GCMs for North America, present to 120,000 years BP (GCMs courtesy of Hadley, via Erin Saupe, formatted by Qiao & Osorio)



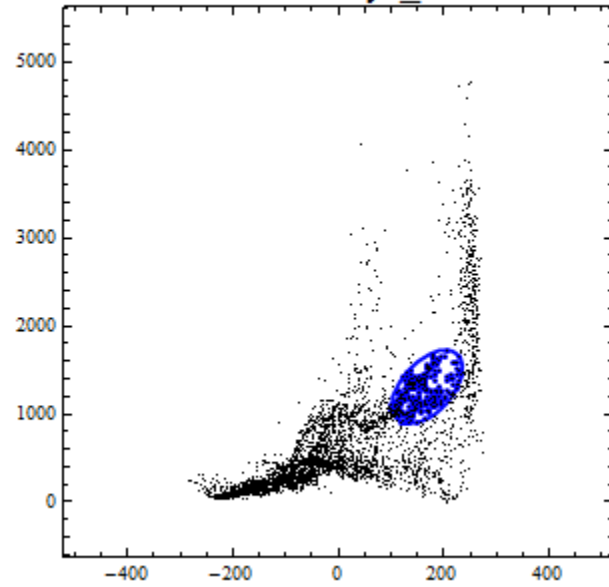
Somehow you estimate a niche

- Tons of software (Maxent, GAMs, GLIMs, BRUTO, OpenModeller...)
- Plenty of traps for the unwary (wrong names, poor or faulty georeference, wrong covariates, overfitting...)



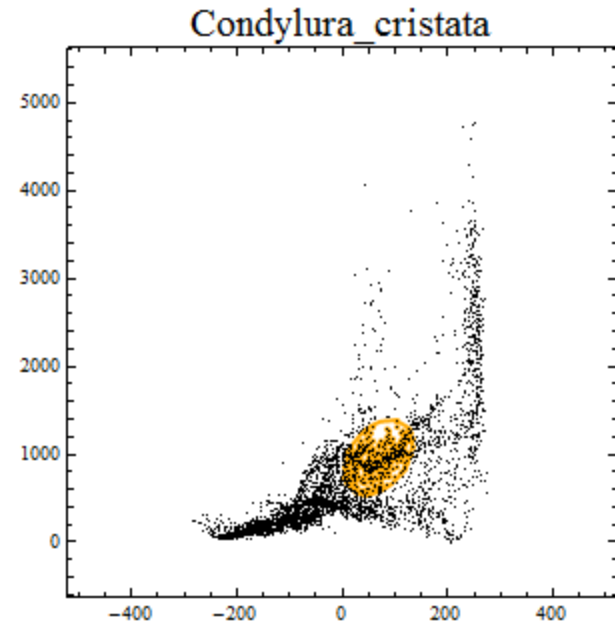
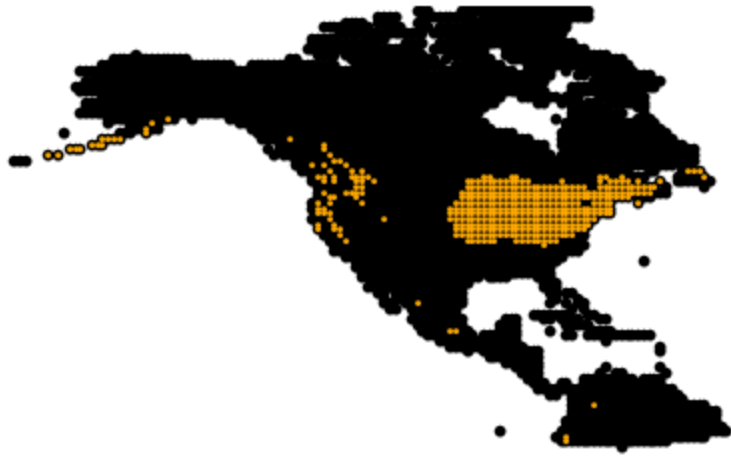


Reithrodontomys humulis



Reithrodontomys humulis
Smithsonian NMNH

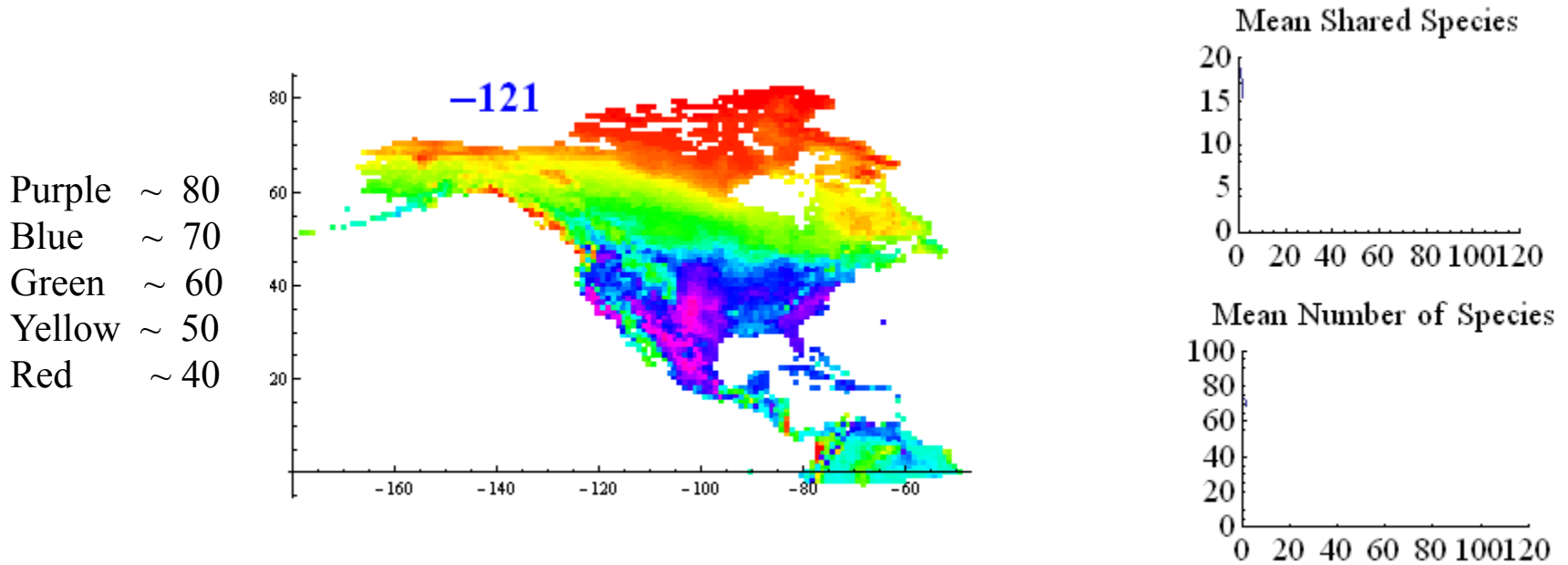




Condylura cristata
Smithsonian NMNH



Mammal **potential** numbers since Interglacial (120,000 BP)



The above is nice but it is simply a bunch of ENM projected using climate change.

How to add **M** and **B**?

The **A**, **B** and **M** circles. Autoecology, interactions, migration patterns, historical factors operating with different strengths at different spatiotemporal scales.

There are equations (nasty) describing this.

The diagram shows the following equation with two labels and arrows:

$$\frac{1}{x_i^j} \frac{dx_i^j}{dt} = r_i(\vec{e}^j) - \varphi_i^j(x_i^j; \vec{R}_i^j) + \psi^j(\vec{x}; \mathbf{T})$$

- A box labeled "Species" has an arrow pointing to the x_i^j term in the denominator of the left-hand side.
- A box labeled "Grid cell" has an arrow pointing to the x_i^j term in the numerator of the left-hand side.

Several antecedents

Journal of Biogeography (J. Biogeogr.) (2012)

SPECIAL
ISSUE

RESEARCH
PAPER

How to understand species' niches and range dynamics: a demographic research agenda for biogeography

Frank M. Schurr^{1,2,3*}, Jörn Pagel^{1,4}, Juliano Sarmiento Cabral⁵,
Groeneveld^{6,7}, Olga Bykova⁸, Robert B. O'Hara⁴, Flor
W. Daniel Kissling⁹, H. Peter Linder¹⁰, Guy F. Mitchell
Schröder^{13,14}, Alexander Singer⁶ and Niklaus F.

Global Ecology and Biogeography, (Global Ecol. Biogeogr.) (2010) 19, 85–97

Estimating demographic models for the range dynamics of plant species

Juliano S. Cabral* and Frank M. Schurr

SAUPE, Erin E., et al. "ASSESSING THE CONTRIBUTION OF ABIOTIC NICHES AND DISPERSAL LIMITATIONS TO SPECIATION AND EXTINCTION UNDER CLIMATE CHANGE USING SIMULATION STUDIES." 2014 GSA Annual Meeting in Vancouver, British Columbia. 2014. (2010) 37, 411–422

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Subject Editors: Núria Roura-Pascual and

ORIGINAL
ARTICLE

Integrating species distribution models and interacting particle systems to predict the spread of an invasive alien plant

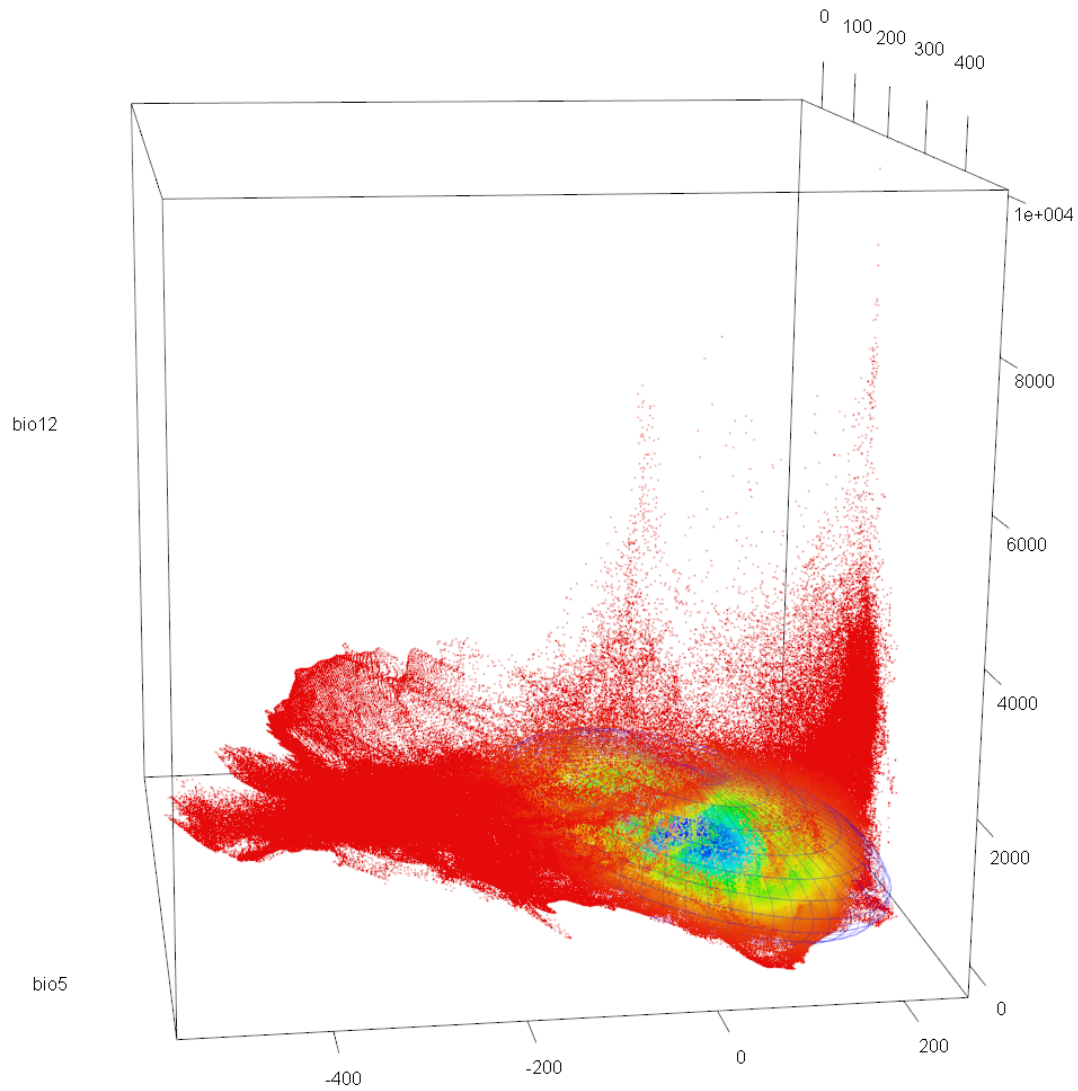
M.G. Smolik¹, S. Dullinger^{2,3*}, F. Essl⁴, I. Kleinbauer², M. Leitner¹, J. Peterseil⁴, L.-M. Stadler^{1,5} and G. Vogl¹

Niche and area of distribution modeling: a population ecology perspective

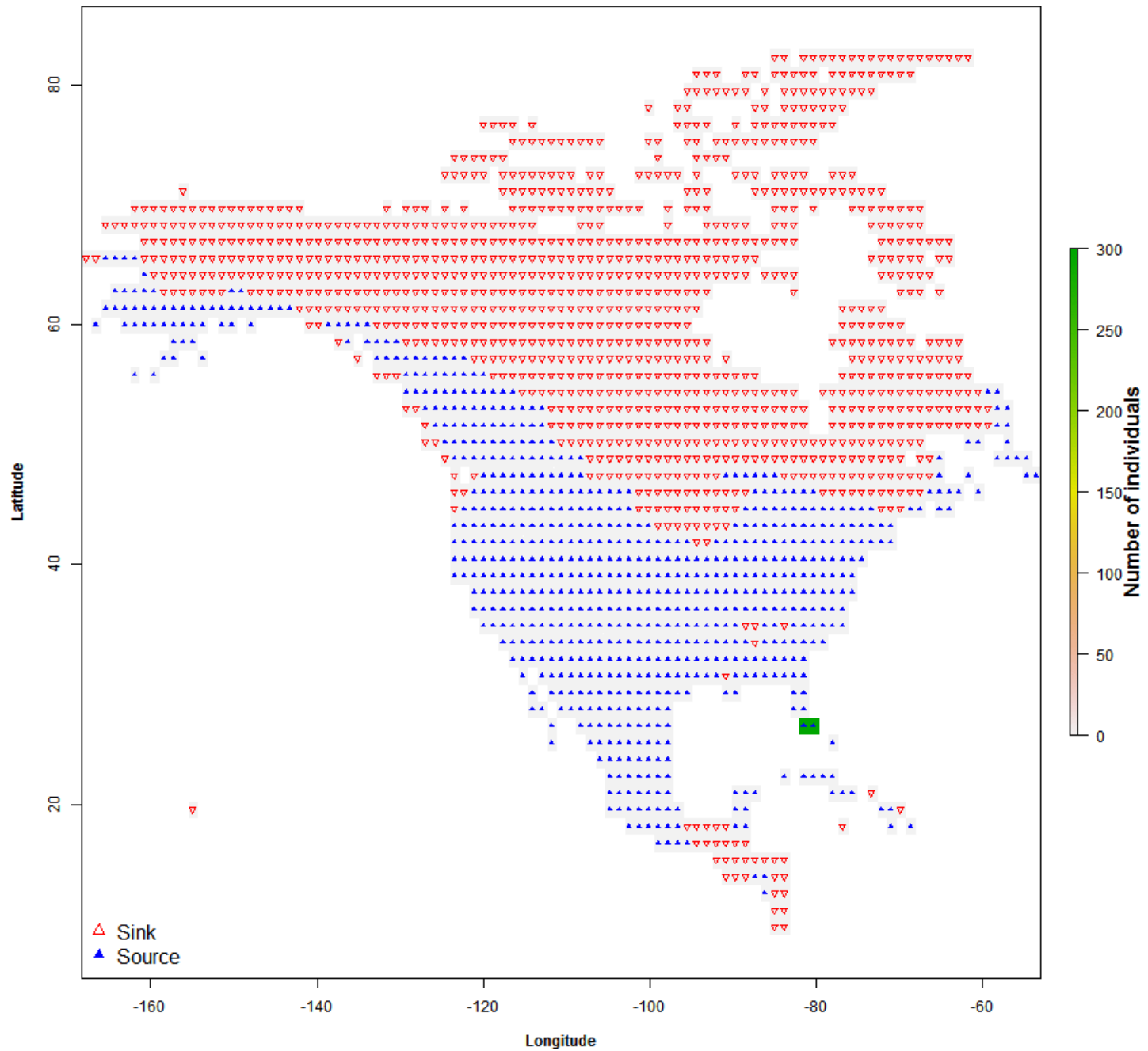
Jorge M. Soberón

J. M. Soberón (jsoberon@ku.edu), Museum of Natural History and Dept of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Univ. of Kansas, Dyche Hall 1345 Jayhawk Blvd., Lawrence, KS 66045, USA.

Niche of the Eurasian Collar Dove in the climatic space of the world



Species abundace in Go (invasion year 0)



To do the above...

- One needs to parameterize a complicated model.
- There are no databases comparable to GBIF's although things are changing (for demography,
- <http://www.compadre-db.org>
<http://www.compadre-db.org/Comadre/Home>
- For movements, no public database (one in progress)

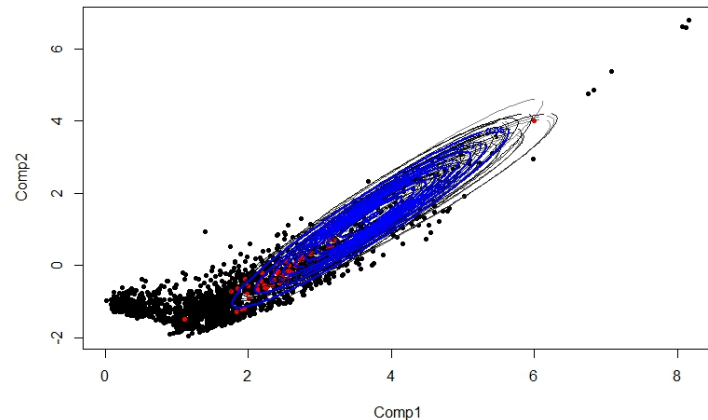
How to add evolution?

- Adaptation and speciation
- What evolves is the fundamental niche. We do not know too much about the fundamental
- Is it possible to estimate N_F ?

Maybe some “lower bound”:

1. Postulating its shape
2. Considering \mathbf{E}
3. Some *a priori* information

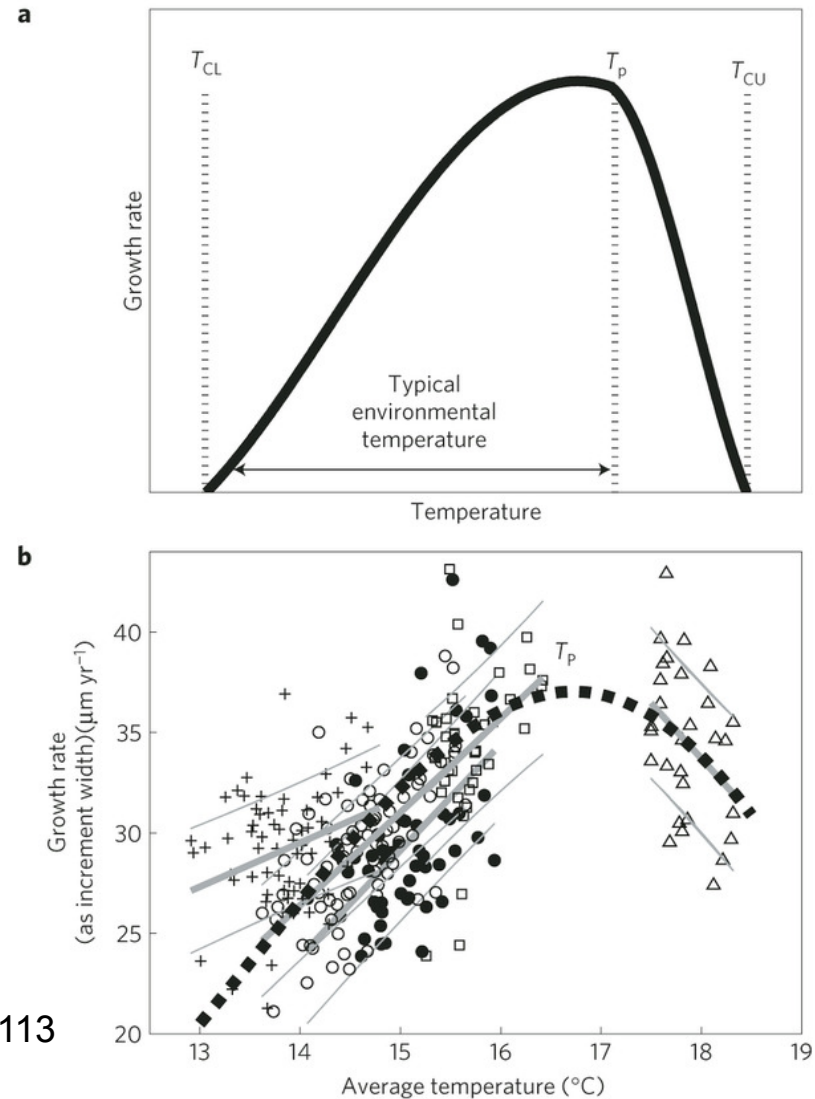
$$\mathcal{L}(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma} | \mathbf{D}) \propto \prod_{i=1}^n \left\{ \frac{\exp \left[-\frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{x}_i - \boldsymbol{\mu})^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1} (\mathbf{x}_i - \boldsymbol{\mu}) \right]}{\left(\sum_{\mathbf{y} \in \mathbf{E}(t; \mathbf{G})} \exp \left[-\frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu})^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1} (\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}) \right] \right)} \mathbf{1}(\mathbf{x}_i \in \mathbf{E}(t; \mathbf{G})) \right\}^{w_i}$$



$$f(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma} | \mathbf{D}, \mathbf{E}(t; \mathbf{G})) \propto \mathcal{L}(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma} | \mathbf{D}) g_1(\boldsymbol{\mu}) g_2(\boldsymbol{\Sigma}),$$

Where is the data for the priors?

- No databases of physiology.
- Most available data only for temperature
- A handful of literature on temperature & water stress.
- Huge data gap here



With that one can add adaptation and model the evolution of the \mathbf{N}_F

$$\mathbf{G}(t+1) \leftarrow \mathbf{S}(t) \times \mathbf{M} \times \mathbf{G}(t)$$

$$\mathbf{S}(t) = f_1[\mathbf{N}_F(t), \mathbf{E}_g(t)]$$

$$\mathbf{N}_F(t+1) = [\mathbf{x}(t) - \boldsymbol{\mu}(t)] \mathbf{A}(t) [\mathbf{x}(t) - \boldsymbol{\mu}(t)]^T - 1$$

$$\boldsymbol{\mu}(t+1) = f_2[\mathbf{H}^2, \Phi(t), \boldsymbol{\mu}(t), \bar{\mathbf{X}}(t), \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_M, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_S, \mathbf{n}(t)]$$

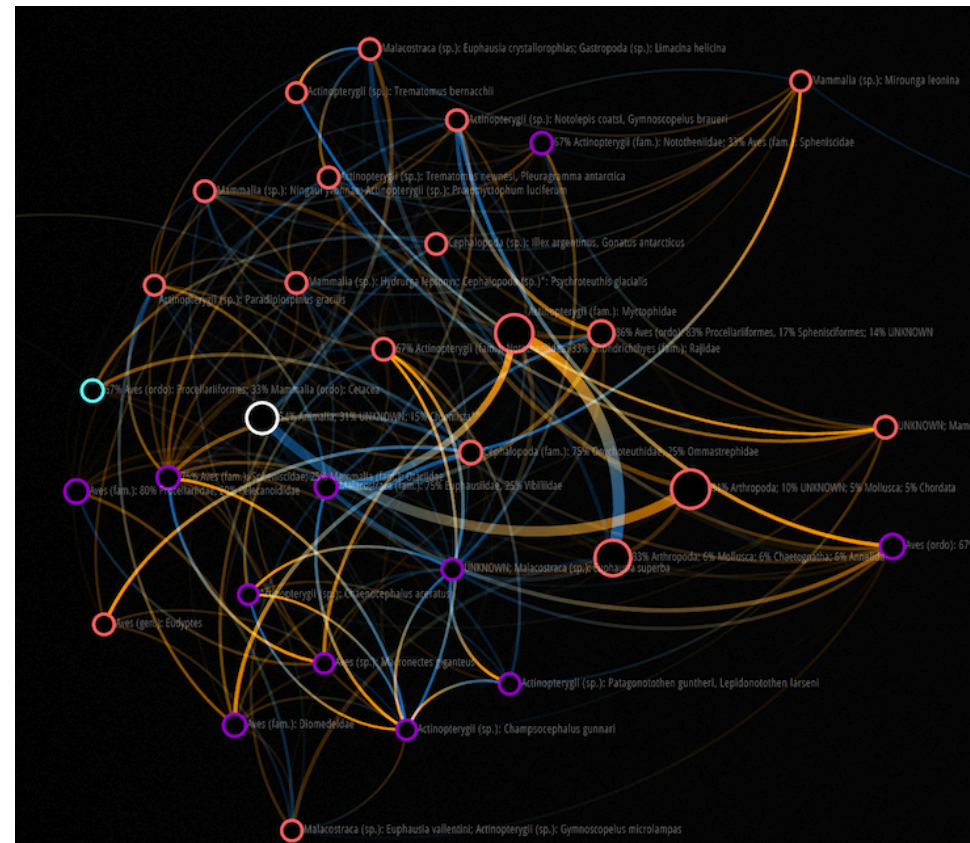
$$\mathbf{A}(t+1) = f_3[\mathbf{H}^2, \Phi(t), \boldsymbol{\mu}(t), \bar{\mathbf{X}}(t), \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_M, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_S, \mathbf{n}(t)]$$

Soberon & Miller, in prep.

What about interactions? ...

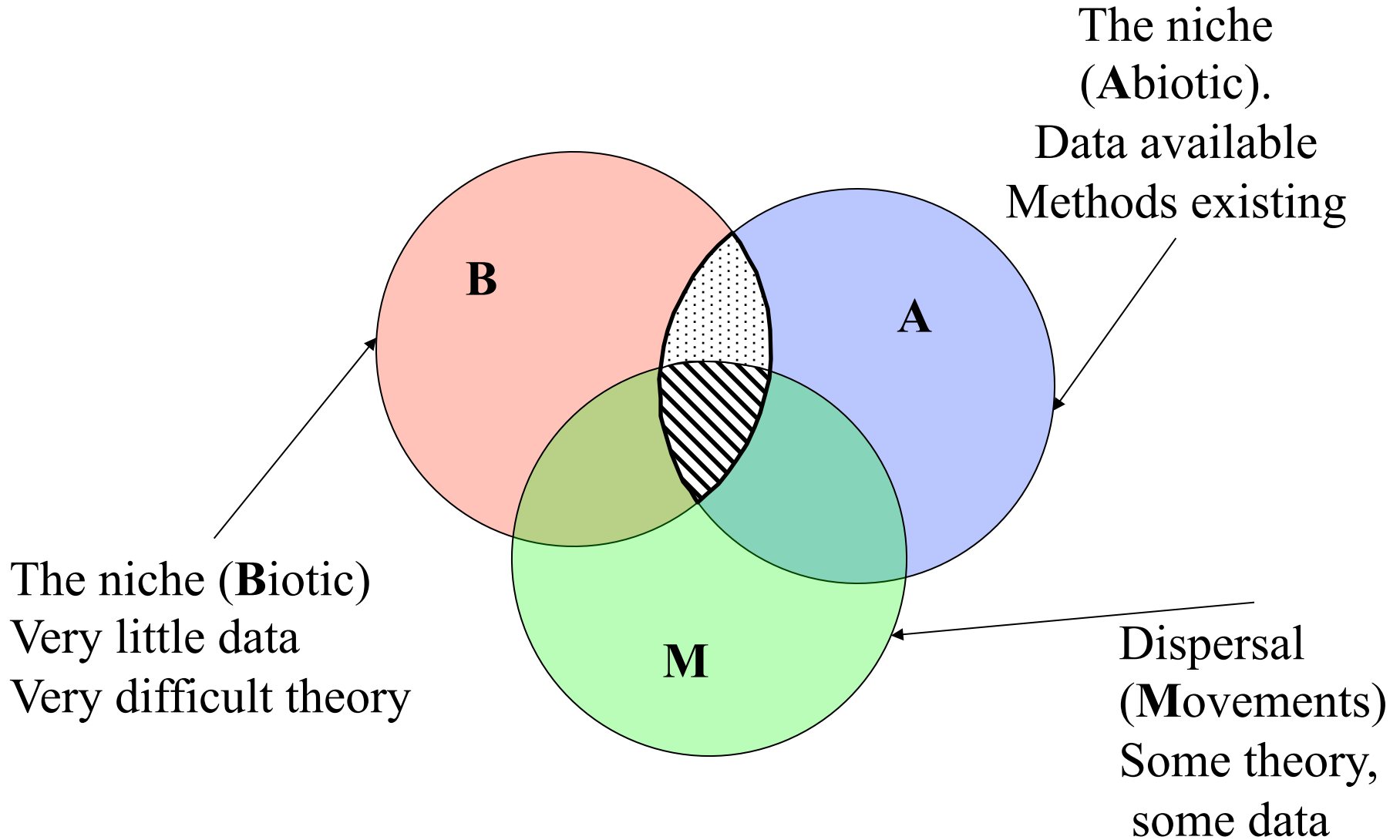
- Very little theory (Vandermeer, 1973; Pulliam, 2000; Soberon, 2010; Wisz et al., 2013; Godsoe et al. 2015)
- Very, very few data (review: Hargreaves et al. 2014)
- Some coming

[http://
www.globalbioticinteractions.org
/index.html](http://www.globalbioticinteractions.org/index.html)



http://figshare.com/articles/Global_Biotic_Interactions_food_web_map/1297762

To summarize

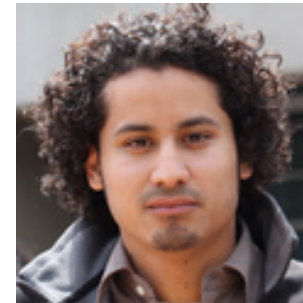
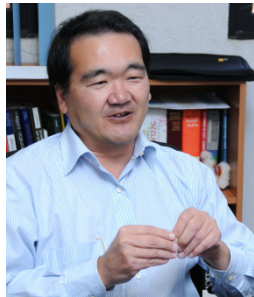


Conclusions

- In order to model distributions under climate change we need several things:
 1. **Models of the mechanisms** (correlative models are bound to fail: they cannot be extrapolated reliably)
 2. **Data to parameterize** such models. Preferably in open databases (DAK).
 3. And data **to test** (paleodata, automated data capture)
- And software of course. The community is kind of on its way...

Thanks to...

- iDigBio
- Jeff Cavner, A. Christen, H. Arita, P. Rodriguez, A. Lira, F. Villalobos, coworkers in the biodiversity perspectives stuff
- A. T. Peterson, for endless conversations on this.
- And the money folks



Conclusion

- But people keeps advancing our understanding, adding data, improving software
- We already can provide zero-order hypotheses about climate change using occurrence data
- Soon our hypotheses will include first, second and maybe even third order effect.

The area of distribution



The A,B and M circles

A

- A refers to the “Fundamental Niche”
- Physiological requirements
- Non-reactive variables.

Uncoupled

B

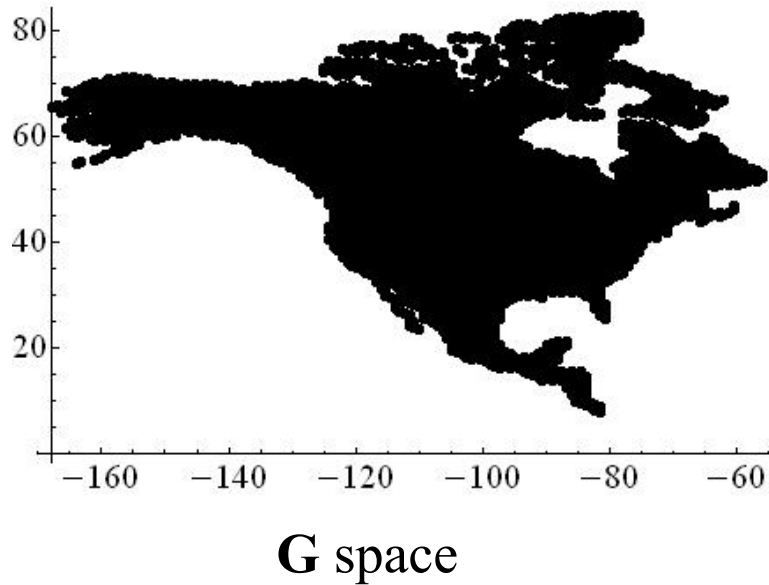
- B refers to interactions
- Biotic requirements and impacts. Resource consumption, interactions, competitors, predators...
- Variables interactive, dynamically coupled

M

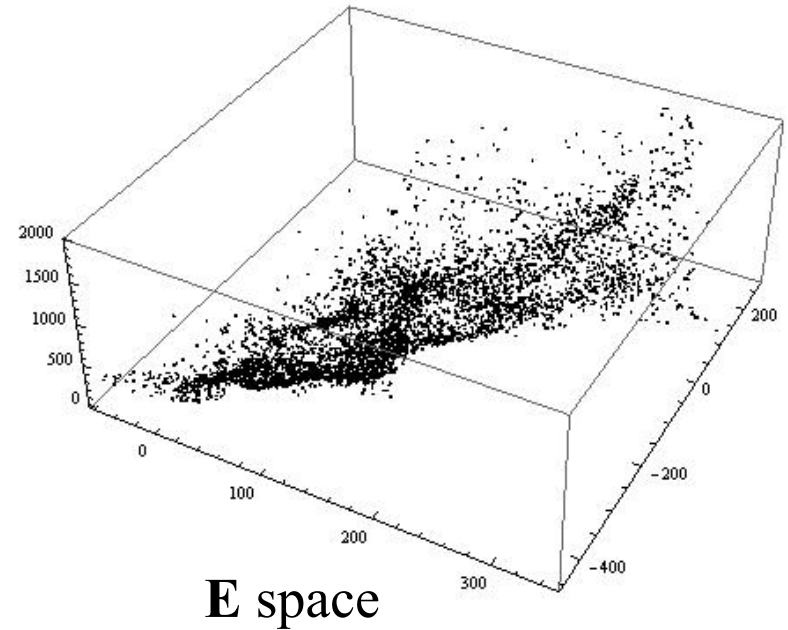
- M refers to dispersal and other movements
- Begs the question of initial conditions

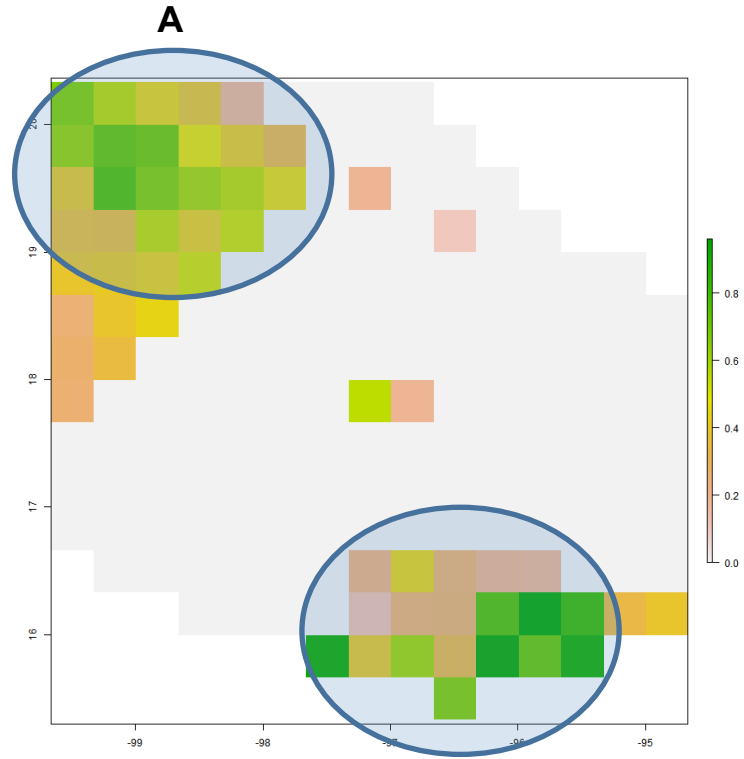
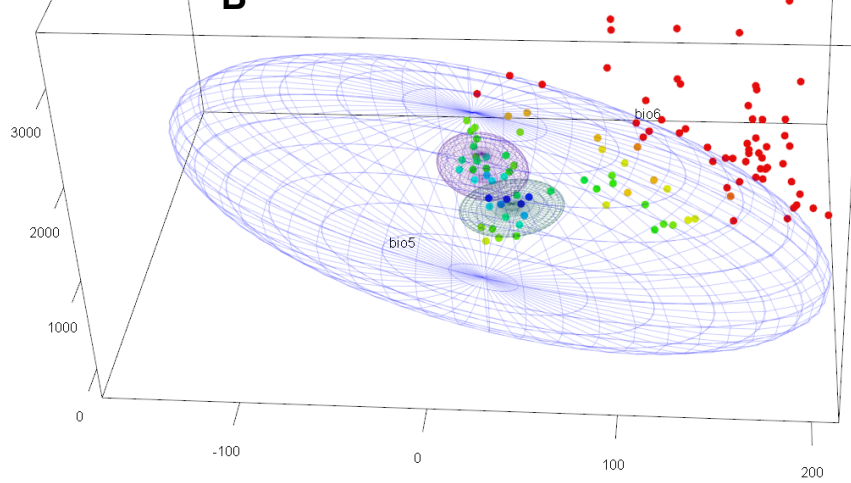
Hutchinson's Duality

To every cell in \mathbf{G} one can establish a correspondence to its environments, and viceversa:

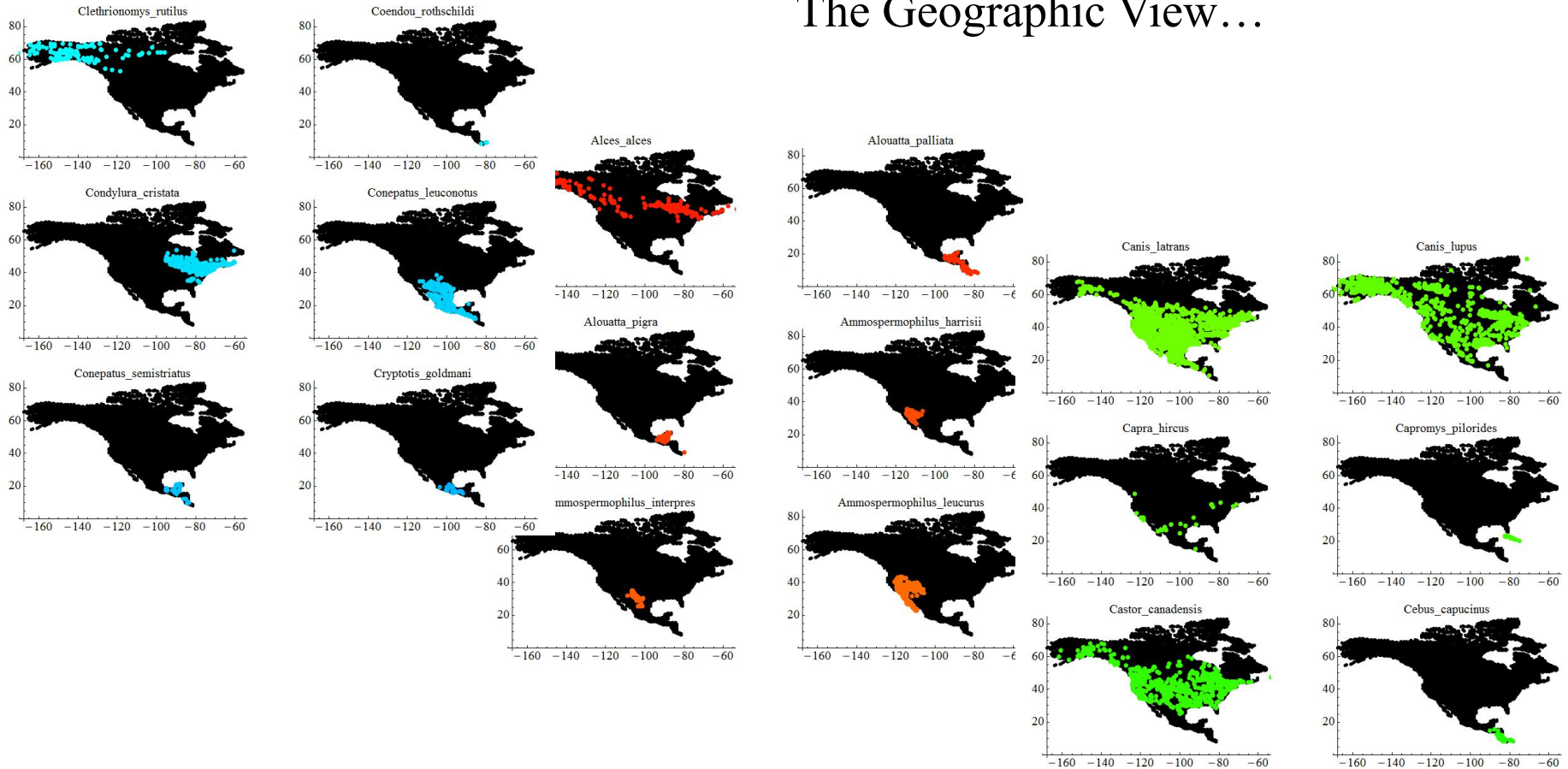


Generally speaking, $|\mathbf{G}| = |\mathbf{E}|$, but in a continuous space some regions in \mathbf{E} are dense and others very sparse



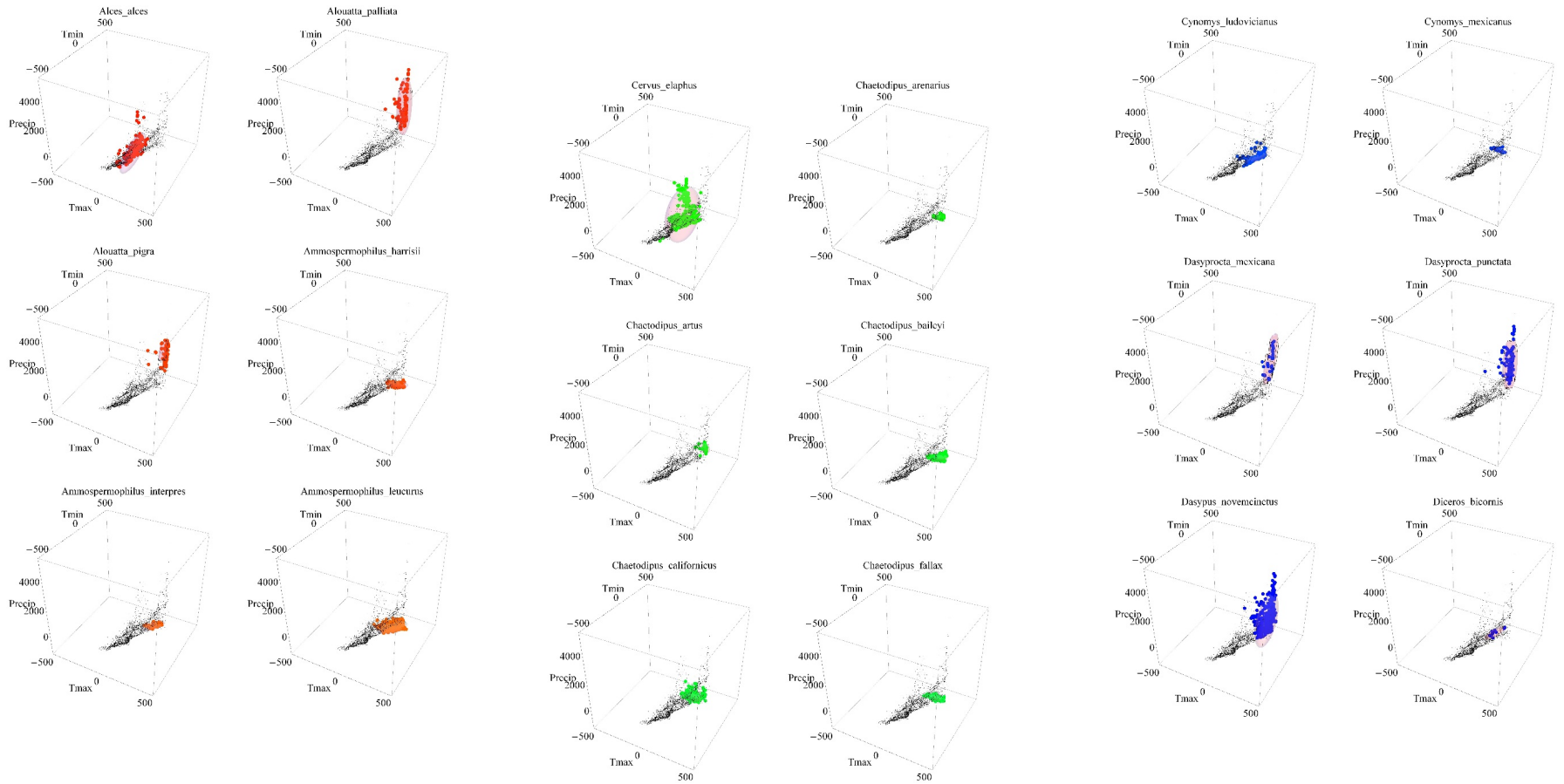


The Geographic View...



Soberon & Lira, in preparation

And the niche view



III. Hutchinson's Inequalities

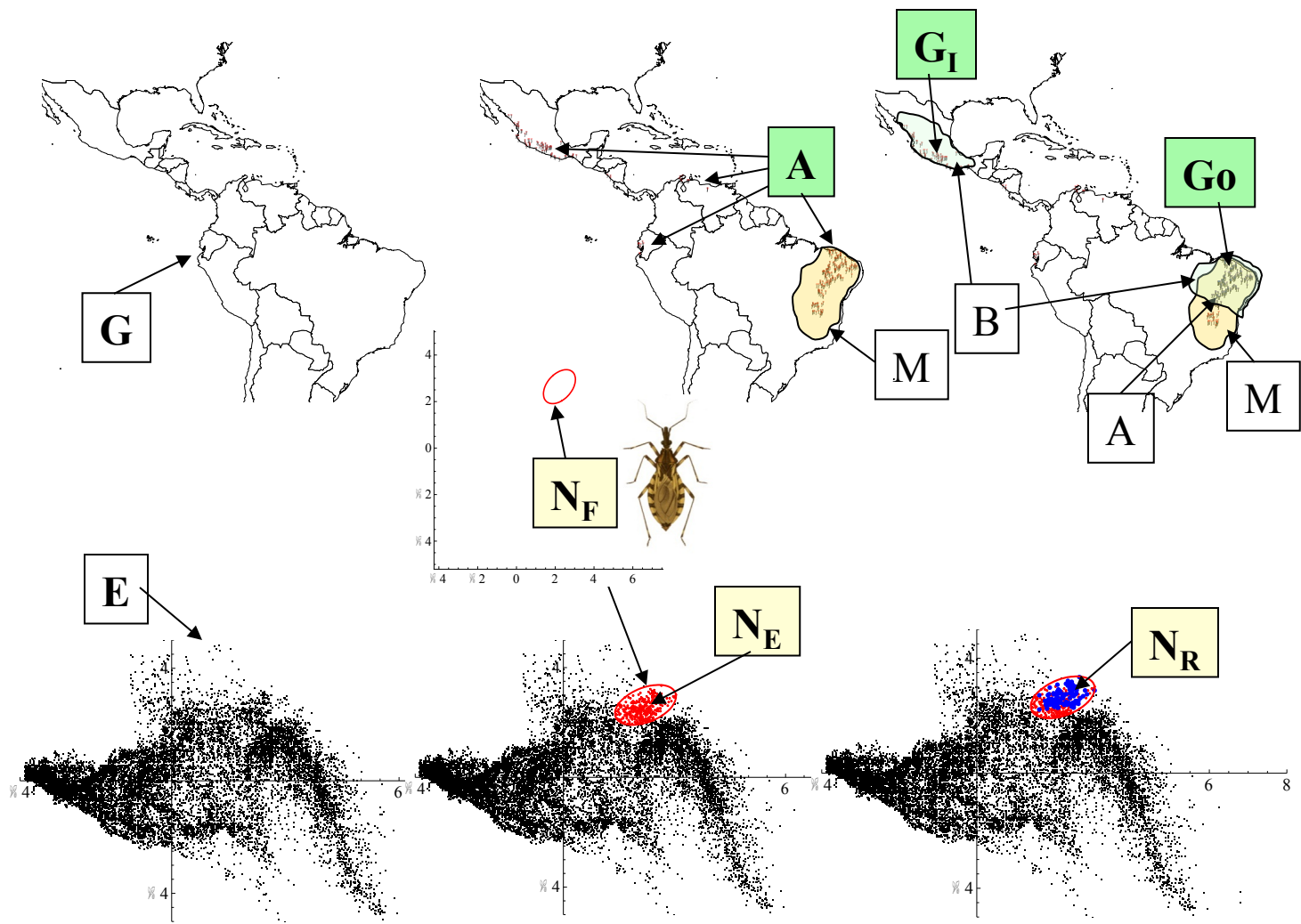
$$\mathbf{N}_F \supseteq \mathbf{N}^*(t, G) = \mathbf{N}_F \cap \mathbf{E}(t, \mathbf{G}) \supseteq \mathbf{N}_R(t, \mathbf{G})$$

Fundamental

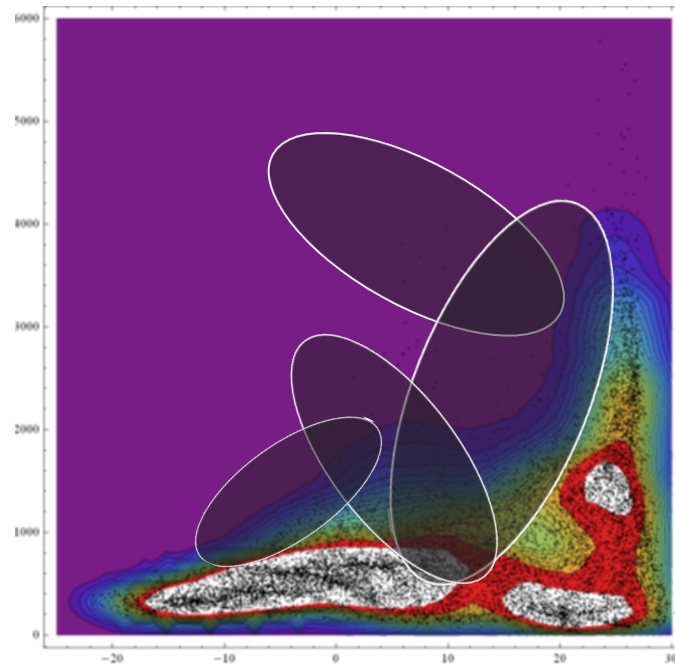
Existing

Realized

- Fundamental: Physiology
- Existing: actual climate
- Realized: what is available where the species can be observed
 - Every ecologist (almost: see Pulliam, 2000) assumes that the fundamental niche is “larger” than the realized.
 - Hutchinson others (Colwell and Futuyma) hinted at the “existing niche” (Jackson & Overpeck, 2000).
 - These inequalities set the limits to niche modelling, what ultimately limits ranges, and hints to a substantial role of environmental change

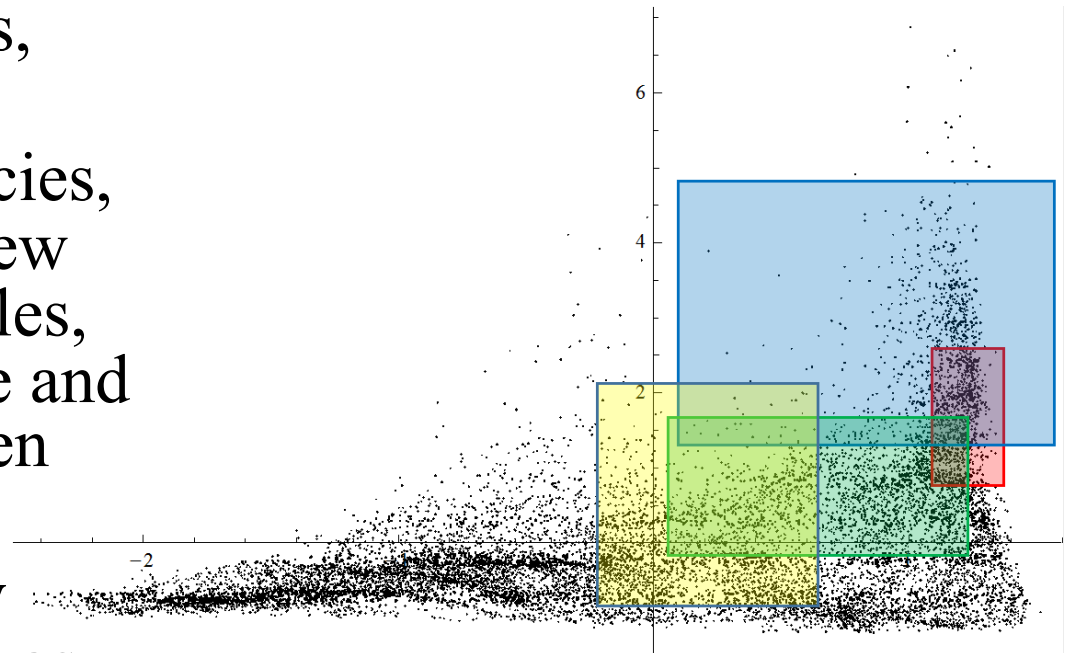


To test Hutchinson's Inequalities one needs to know the fundamental niche



Data for the Fundamental Niches, courtesy of the United Nations

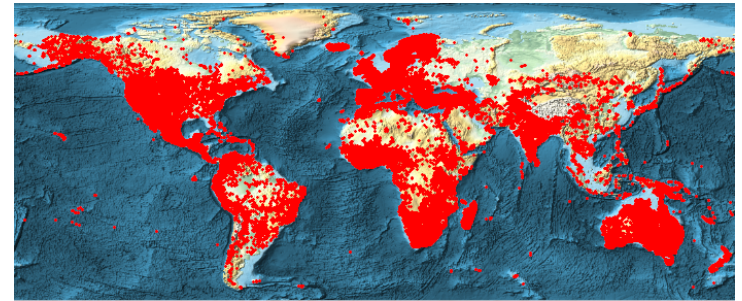
- 1710 species, mostly trees, cultivars, weeds, and medicinal plants
- For each of these species, extreme limits for a few environmental variables, including temperature and precipitation have been obtained
- These extremes allow approximating the N_F as 2D “boxes”



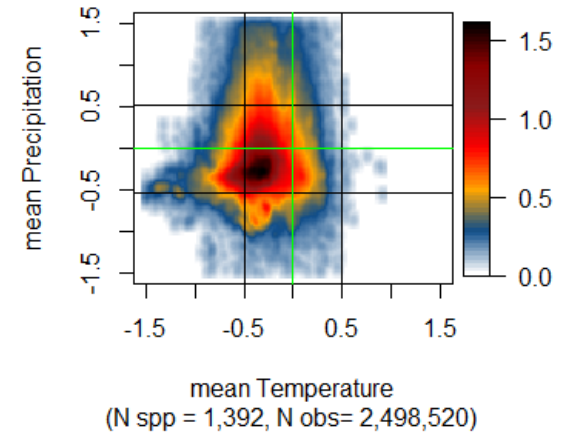
Data for the Realized Niches

- From GBIF, we extracted 2,498,081, non-redundant, non-inconsistent records. The environments in these points represent the realized niches
- Essentially, most points are inside the N_{FS} ($\sim 70\%$).
- Which means that Hutchinson's inequalities are basically valid for the FAO dataset.

Soberon & Arroyo, submitted



Density of GBIF presence records



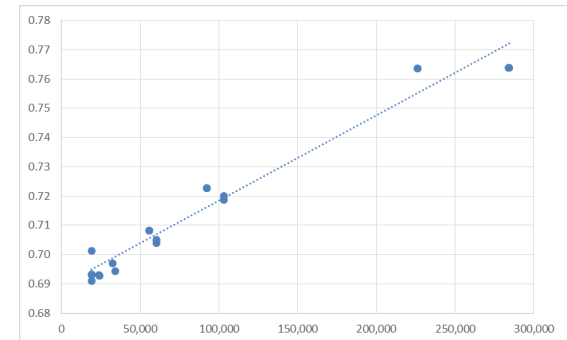
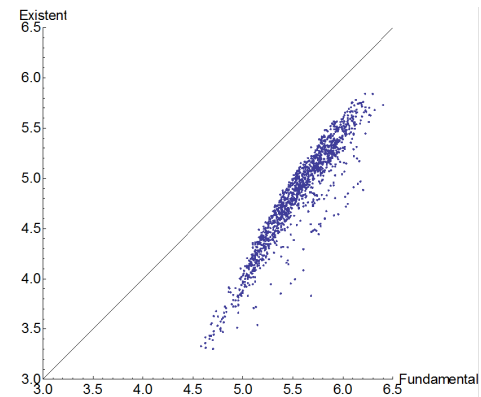
Some consequences

$$\mathbf{N}_F \supseteq \mathbf{N}^*(t, \mathbf{G})$$

This relationship is very much a matter of definition, but studying how much bigger than \mathbf{N}^* is \mathbf{N}_F is an empirical question, and a very interesting one since it determines how much room there is for a niche to change without evolving.

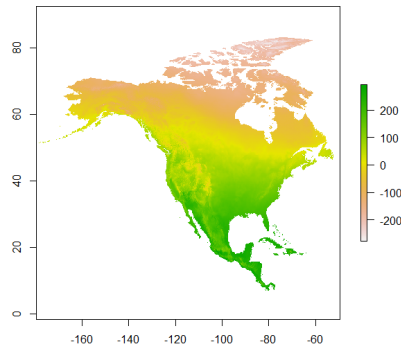
$$\mathbf{N}_F \supseteq \mathbf{N}_R(t, \mathbf{G})$$

For the FAO data, an overwhelming majority of species fulfill the relationship. This means that for such species, natural or anthropogenic facilitation is the exception.

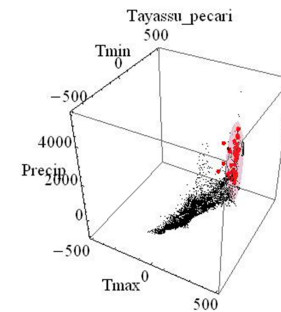
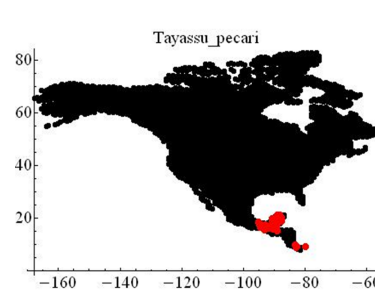


So, we have building blocks:

What variables to use (scenopoetic),
with Petabytes of data



Operations between niche and geography (niches to
areas and viceversa), with Terabytes of data



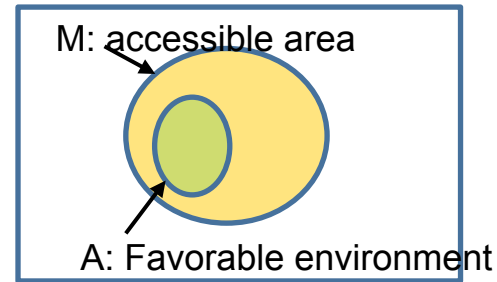
Consistent relationships among the major concepts (N_F , N^* and N_R)

$$N_F \supseteq N^*(t, G) = N_F \cap E(t, G) \supseteq N_R(t, G)$$

But some assumptions are also required

- Gleasonian Ecology (no interactions) $\alpha_{i,j} \approx 0; \alpha_{j,i} \approx 0 \forall i \neq j$

- Hutchinson World (all geography available)



- Kansas Model (no evolution) $\frac{\partial \mu}{\partial t} = 0; \frac{\partial \Sigma}{\partial t} = 0$

Two more assumptions:

1. Fundamental niches are convex shapes
2. Environmental space can be represented by continuous kernels

Their product is a measure of how much an environment both exists and it is suitable to a given species $E(t, \mathbf{v}) N_F(\mathbf{v})$

$$N_F(\mathbf{v})$$

$$E(t; \mathbf{v})$$

