

# Linking Heterogeneous Data in Biodiversity Research

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University of Florida



# Biodiversity Research

The screenshot shows the homepage of the iDigBio website. At the top left is the iDigBio logo with the tagline "Integrated Digitized Biocollections". The top navigation bar includes links for "About iDigBio", "Research", "Technical Information", "Education", "Google Custom Search", and "Log In | Sign Up". The main content area features a large image of a caterpillar on the left, with text overlay: "Making data and images of millions of biological specimens available on the web". To the right, there are three large statistics boxes: "104,661,524 Specimen Records", "21,241,288 Media Records", and "1,632 Recordsets". Below these is a green button labeled "Search the Portal". To the right, there is a yellow section titled "WHY DIGITIZE?" featuring a video player icon and a link to "Why digitization matters". At the bottom, there are five colored boxes with icons and text: "Digitization" (green), "Sharing Collections" (light green), "Working Groups" (light blue), "Proposals" (light teal), and "Citizen Scientists" (light blue).

**iDigBio**  
Integrated Digitized Biocollections

About iDigBio | Research | Technical Information | Education

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Making data and images of millions of biological specimens available on the web

104,661,524 Specimen Records  
21,241,288 Media Records  
1,632 Recordsets

Search the Portal

**WHY DIGITIZE?**

Why digitization matters  
More about what we do and why

**Digitization**  
Learn, share and develop best practices

**Sharing Collections**  
Documentation on data ingestion

**Working Groups**  
Join in, contribute, be part of the community

**Proposals**  
New tool and workshop ideas

**Citizen Scientists**  
How can you help biological collections?

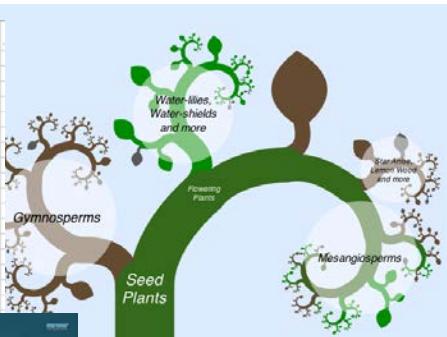
# Biodiversity Research

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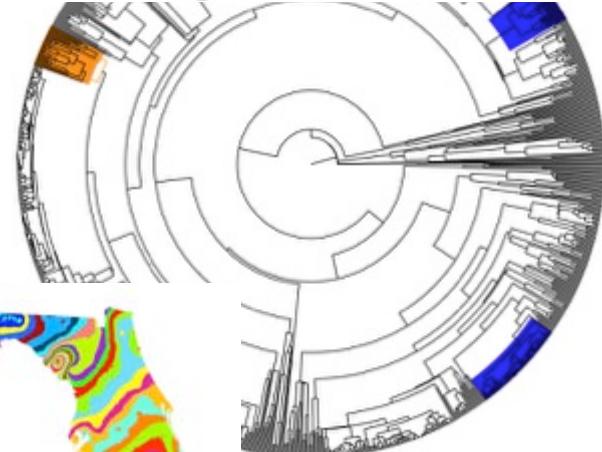
- Heterogeneous data
- Challenges
- Examples
- Solutions
- Summary

# Heterogeneous Data

Genus	Species	Scientific name	Sample date	SLA dry mass (g)	leaf_area_cm2	SLA_cm2.g <sup>-1</sup>	LMA_g.m <sup>-2</sup>	d13C(‰)
Chionanthi	virginicus	<i>Chionanthus virginicus</i>	5/6/15	1.6	489.778	306.1	32.7	-33.17
Chionanthi	virginicus	<i>Chionanthus virginicus</i>	5/6/15	2.36	462.018	195.8	51.1	-31.96
Chionanthi	virginicus	<i>Chionanthus virginicus</i>	5/6/15	1.94	383.707	197.8	50.6	-32.69
Castanea	pumila	<i>Castanea pumila</i>	5/6/15	0.84				-32.91
Castanea	pumila	<i>Castanea pumila</i>	5/7/15	1.843	399.395	216.7	46.1	-32.08
Castanea	pumila	<i>Castanea pumila</i>	5/7/15	1.676	368.592	219.9	45.5	-30.83
Castanea	pumila	<i>Castanea pumila</i>	5/7/15	1.452	326.529	224.9	44.5	-31.42
Castanea	pumila	<i>Castanea pumila</i>	5/7/15	1.249	304.058	243.4	41.1	-30.76
Castanea	pumila	<i>Castanea pumila</i>	5/7/15	1.433	383.797	267.8	37.3	-33.07
Carrema	americana	<i>Carrema americana</i>	5/7/15	2.11	339.297	160.8	62.2	-30.79
Carrema	americana	<i>Carrema americana</i>	5/7/15	2.68	378.94	141.4	70.7	-31.52
Carrema	americana	<i>Carrema americana</i>	5/7/15	3.4	379.952	111.8	89.5	-30.74
Chionanthi	virginicus	<i>Chionanthus virginicus</i>	5/7/15	2.866	393.473	137.3	72.8	-30.03
Diospyros	virginiana	<i>Diospyros virginiana</i>	5/7/15	2.085	383.958	184.2	54.3	-29.8
Quercus	laevis	<i>Quercus laevis</i>	5/7/15	1.445	134.457	93.0	107.5	-29.59
Cornus	florida	<i>Cornus florida</i>	5/8/15	1.546	229.312	148.3	67.4	-29.63
Cornus	florida	<i>Cornus florida</i>	5/8/15	2.136	262.992	132.5	75.5	-29.58



PhotosyntheticPathway  
Respiration LeafArea NfixationCapacity  
SLA RegenerationCapacity PlantLifespan  
WoodDensity GrowthForm  
PhenologyType LeafN  
LeafP LeafLongevity PhotosyntheticCapacity  
PlantHeight SeedMass



# Challenges in Linking Heterogeneous Data

- Assembling data
- Data management and sharing
- Taxonomic names
- Patchy data
- Issues of scale: resolution, analysis
- Data integration

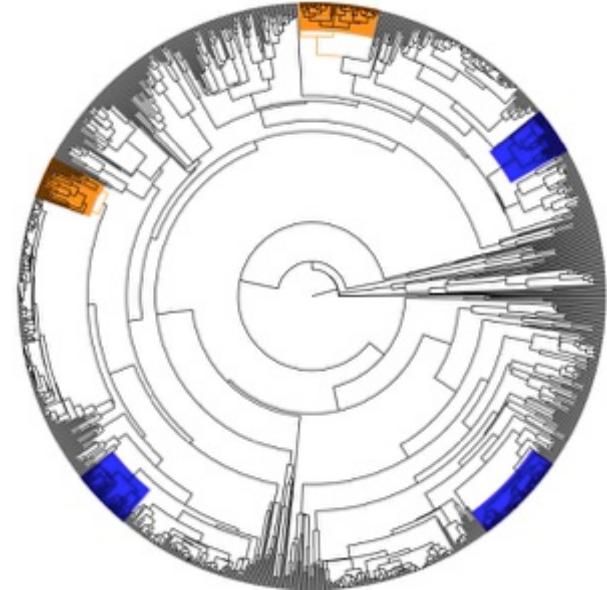
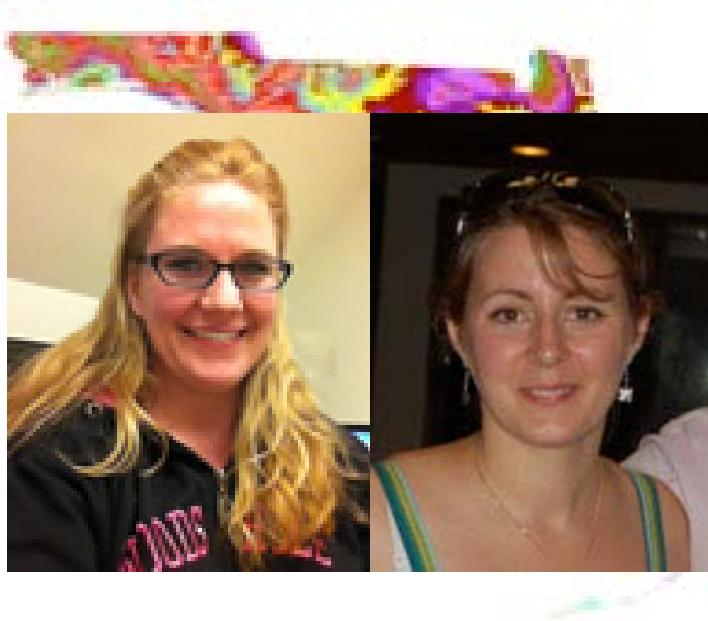
# Examples

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- Florida phylogenetic diversity
- Niche evolution in polyploids
- Ancient hybridization
- Phenology
- Traits from labels and images
- Spatial distribution of genome sizes

# Florida Phylogenetic Diversity

Integrating herbarium specimen data,  
ENM, and phylogeny



**Julie Allen, Charlotte Germain-Aubrey,**

K. Neubig, L. Majure, R. Abbott, M. Whitten, N. Barve, H. Owens,  
J. M. Ponciano, B. Mishler, S. Laffan, R. Guralnick, D. Soltis

# Florida Phylogenetic Diversity

## Modeling the Distribution of Species

- Location information and environmental data
- Maxent to model the range of each species
- For Florida plants:
  - 1,490 plant species (of 4100 species)
  - >511,000 georeferenced points (GPS)
  - Environmental features: temperature, precipitation, soil, etc.



# Florida Phylogenetic Diversity

## Florida Plant Phylogeny

1,490 species (37%)

685 genera (44%)

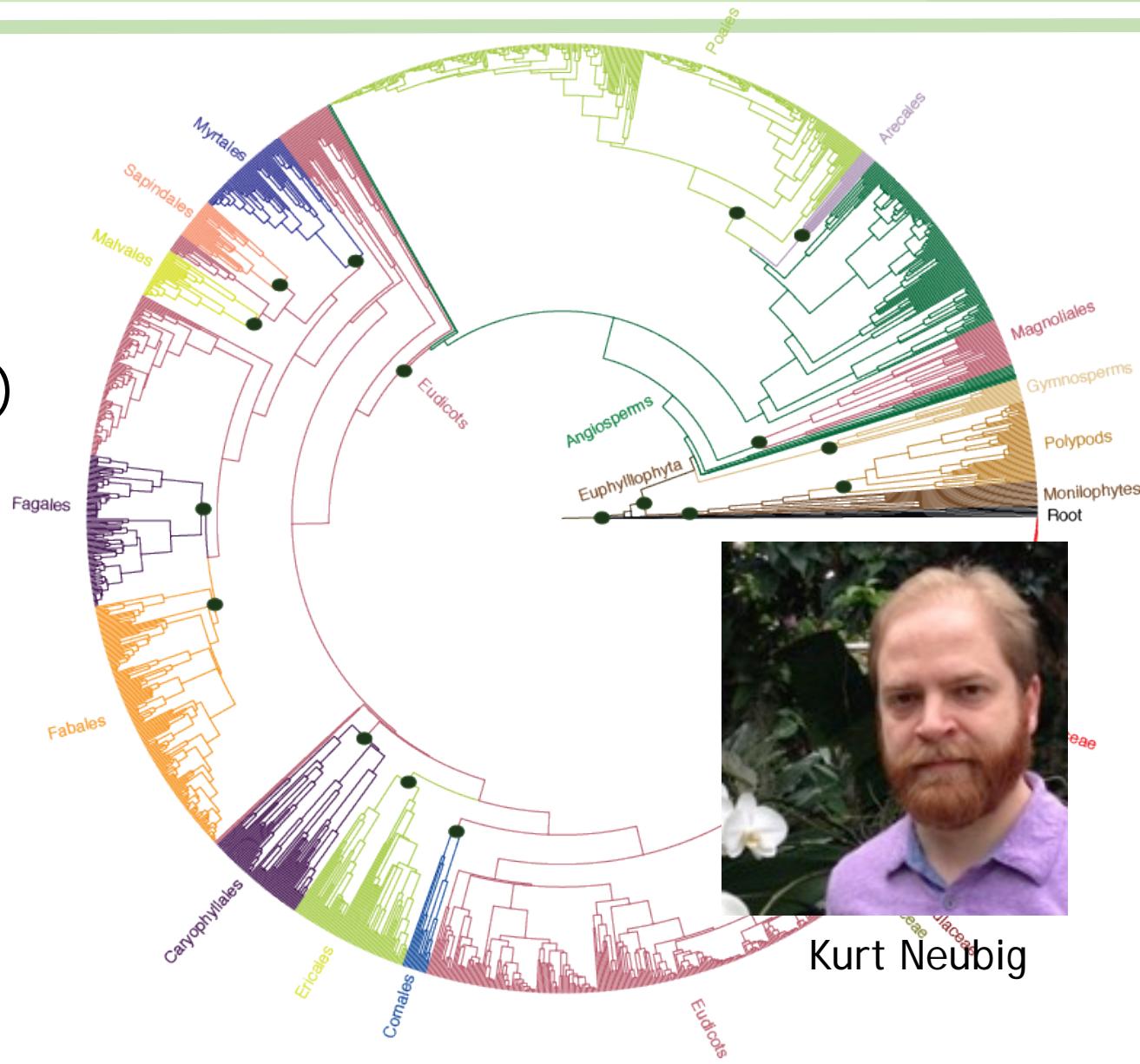
185 families (78%)

*rbcL, matK*

GenBank & new

RAXML

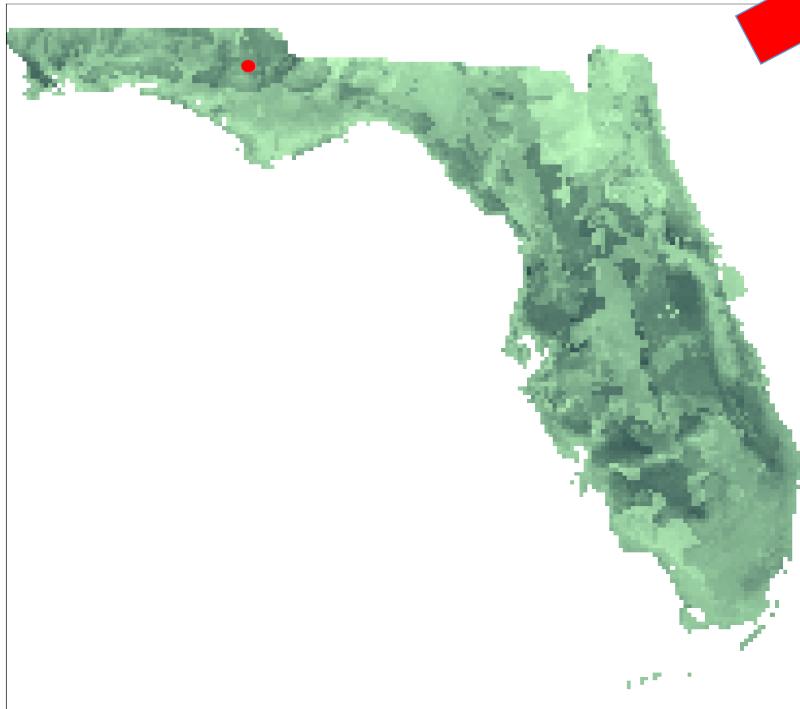
Dated with r8s



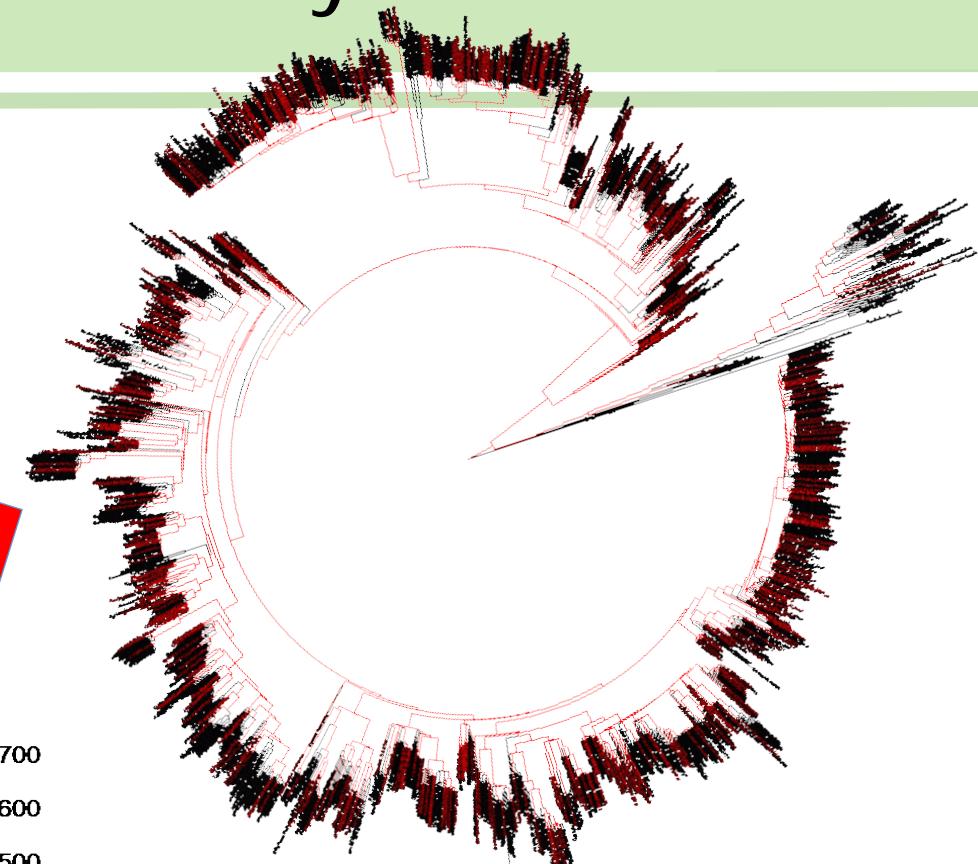
# Florida Phylogenetic Diversity

Phylogenetic Diversity:  
≈ sum of branch lengths

Species list at each pixel  
Generated from ENMs



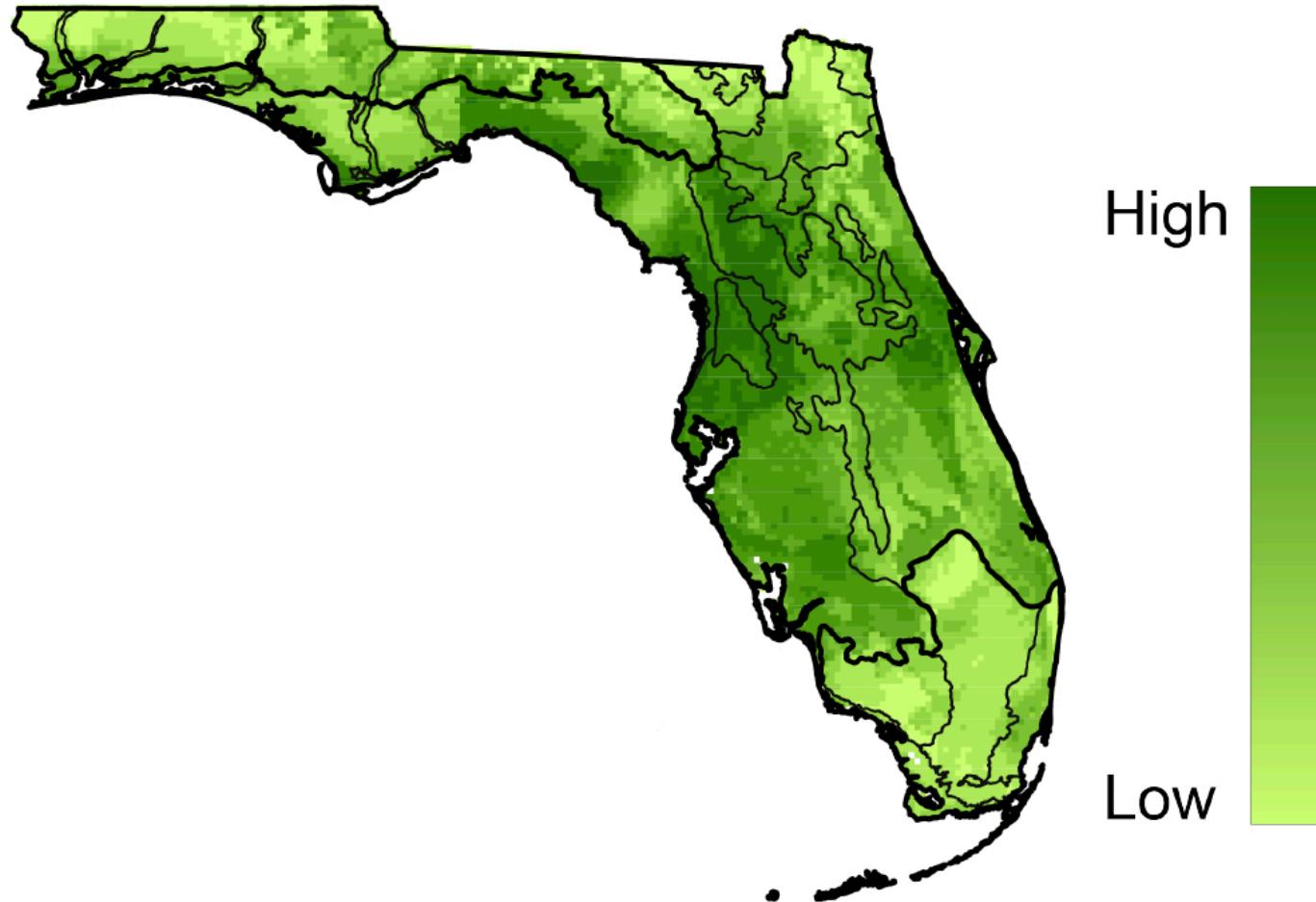
700  
600  
500  
400  
300  
200  
100



8,045  
pixels/communities

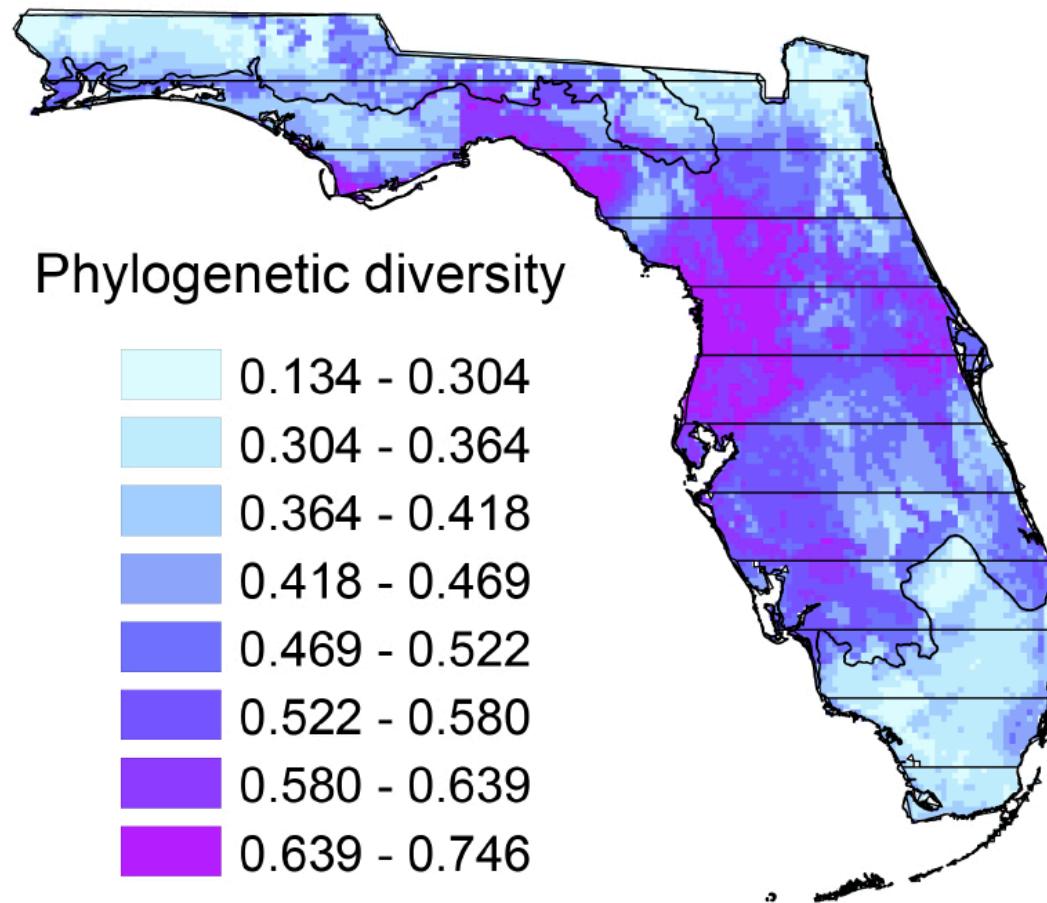
16 km<sup>2</sup> per pixel

# Florida Phylogenetic Diversity



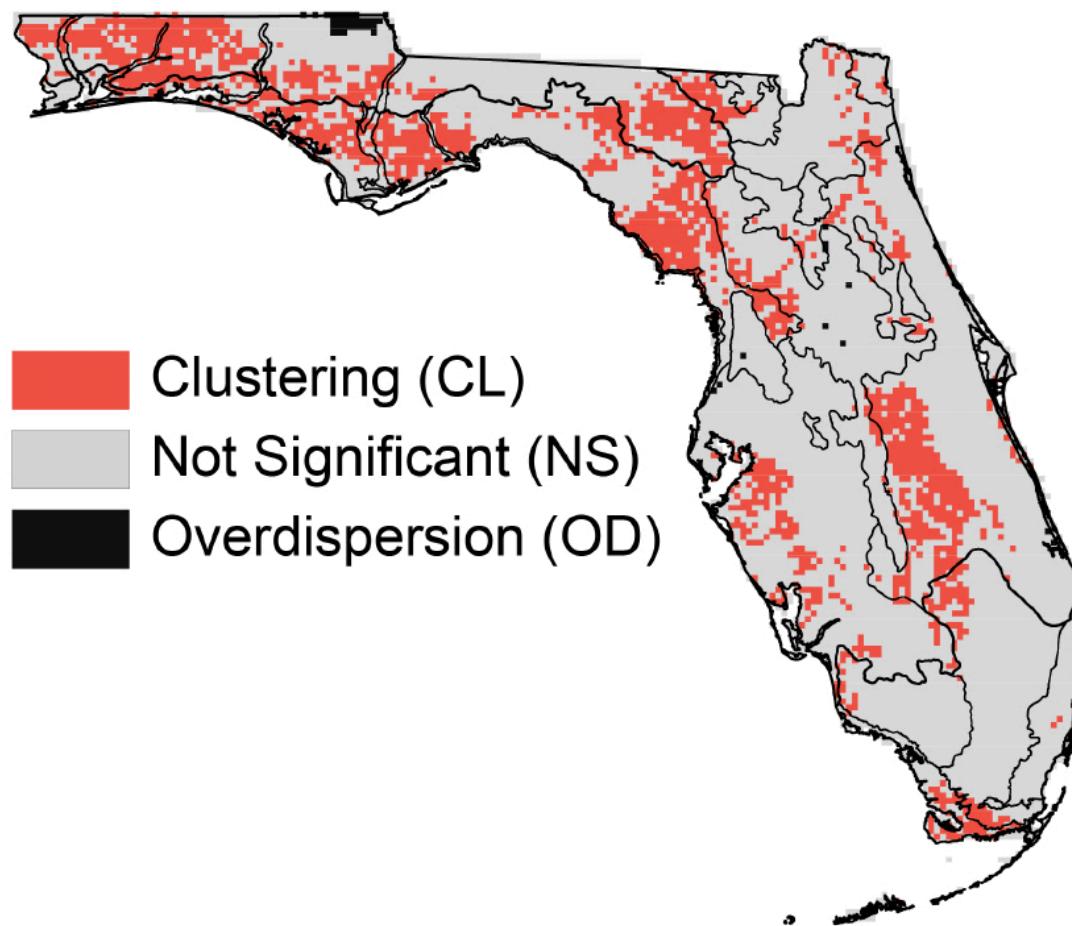
# Florida Phylogenetic Diversity

## Latitudinal patterns



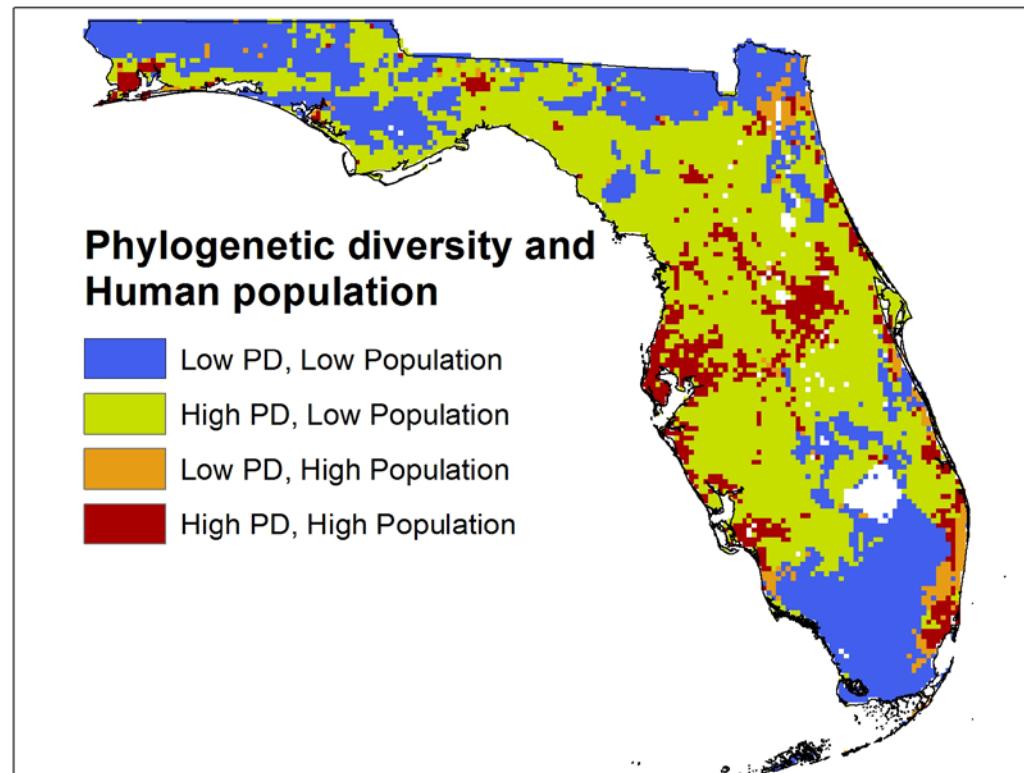
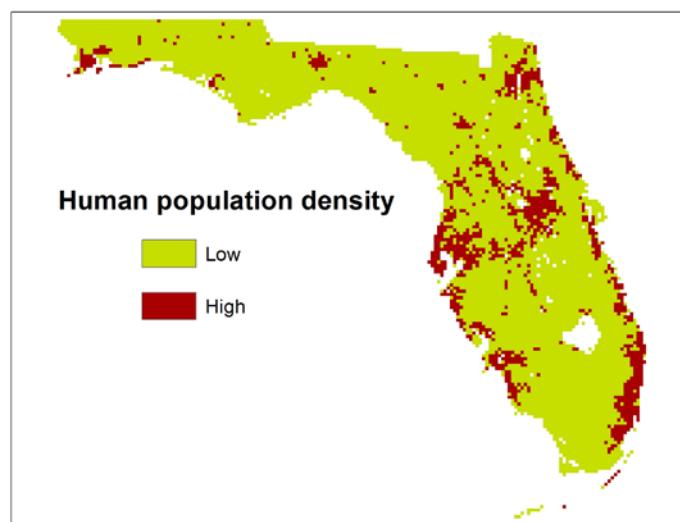
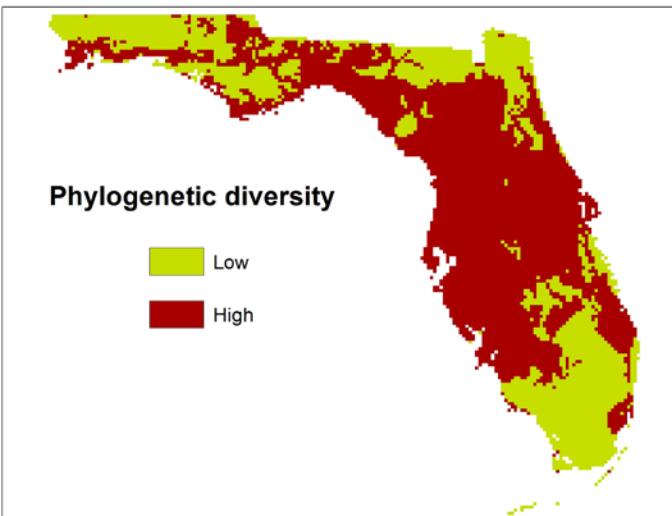
# Florida Phylogenetic Diversity

## Clustering vs. overdispersion



# Florida Phylogenetic Diversity

## Human population density

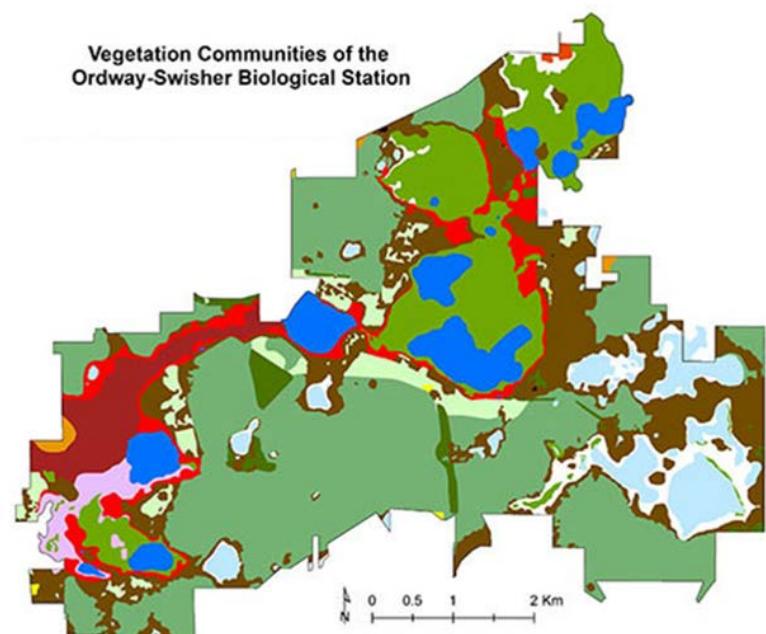


# Florida Phylogenetic Diversity: Communities

Do levels of phylogenetic diversity vary among communities?



Johanna Jantzen



# Florida Phylogenetic Diversity: Communities

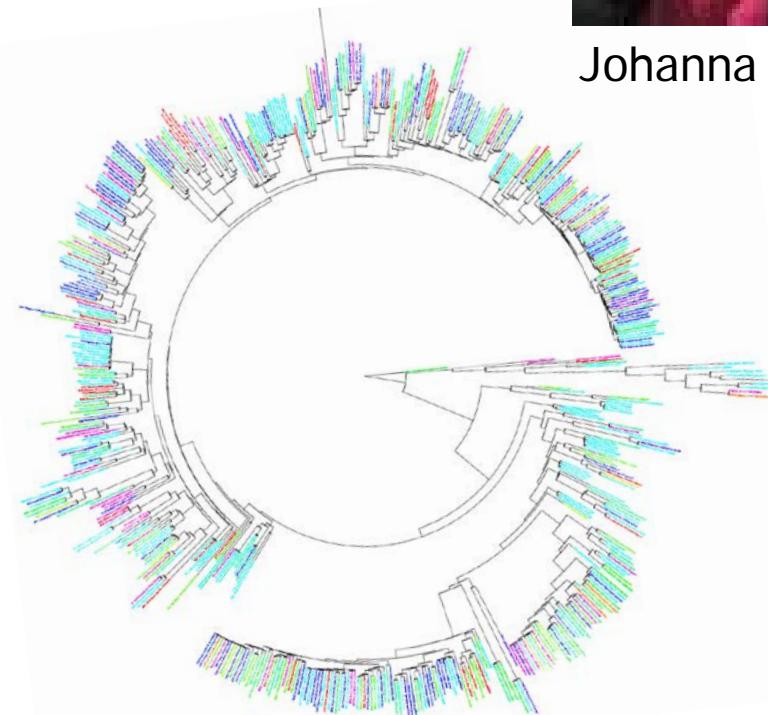
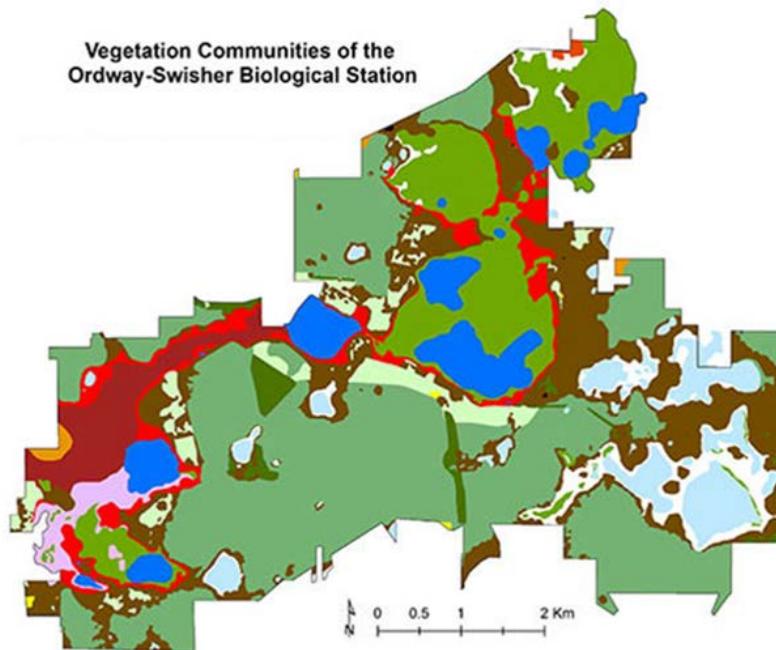


572 plant taxa

*matK* and *rbcL*

ML phylogeny  
reconstruction (RAxML)

PD calculations for 14  
communities (Biodiverse)

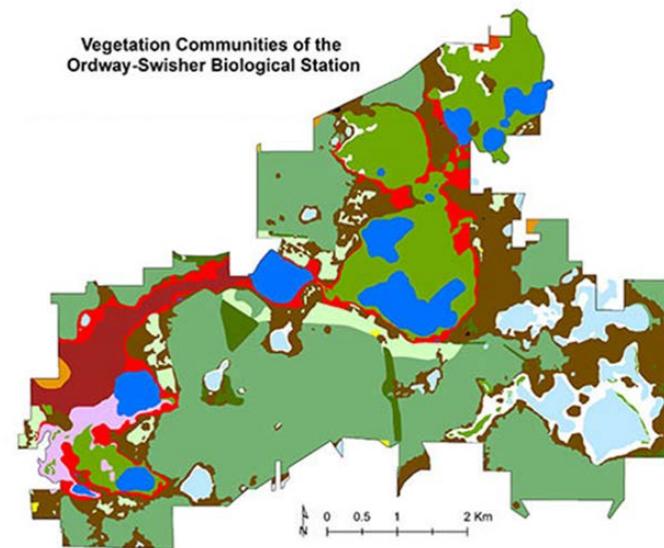
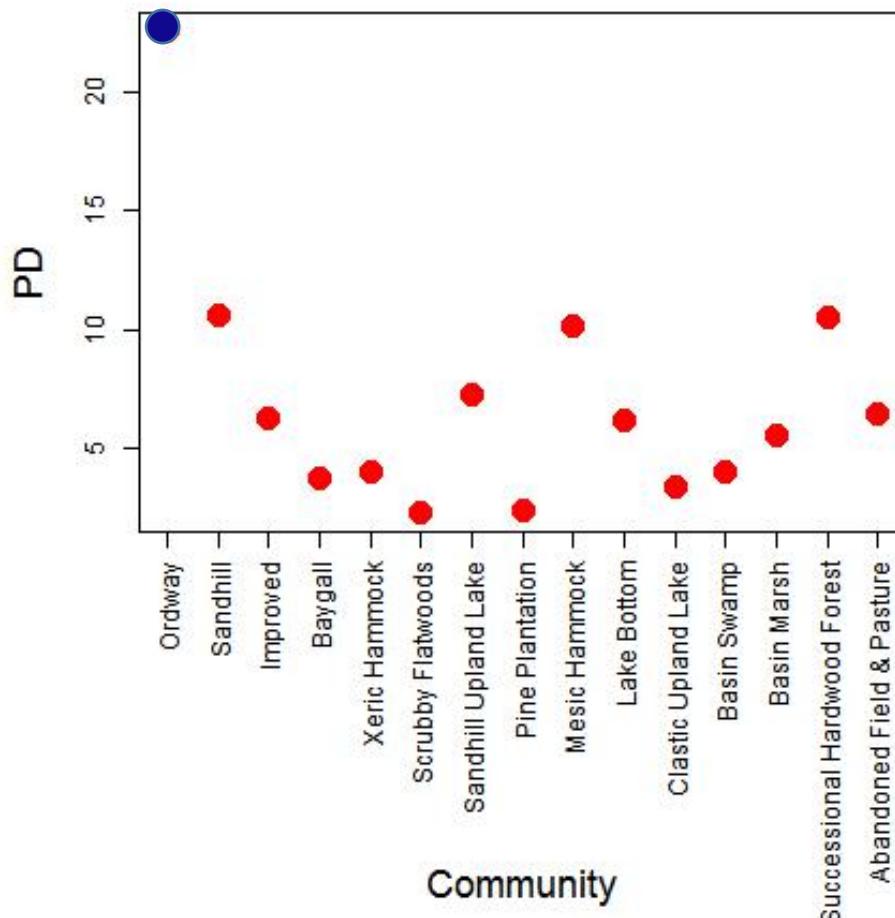


# Florida Phylogenetic Diversity: Communities

Phylogenetic diversity for 14 communities at OSBS: PD varies among communities



Johanna Jantzen



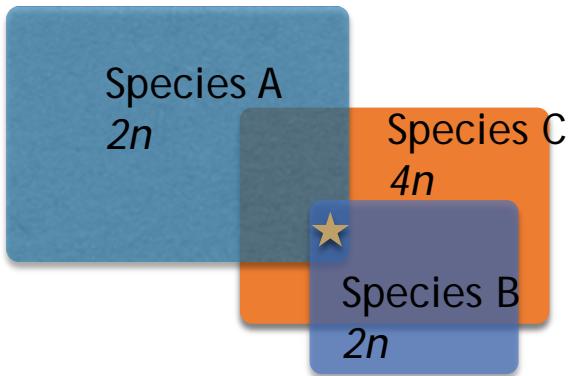
ORDWAY-SWISHER  
BIOLOGICAL STATION



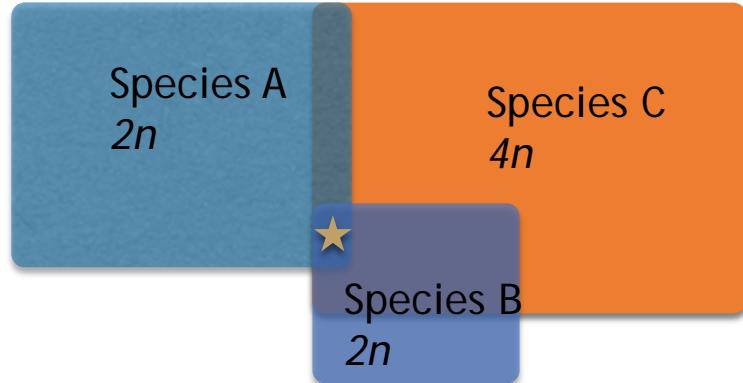
# Niche Evolution in Allopolyploids



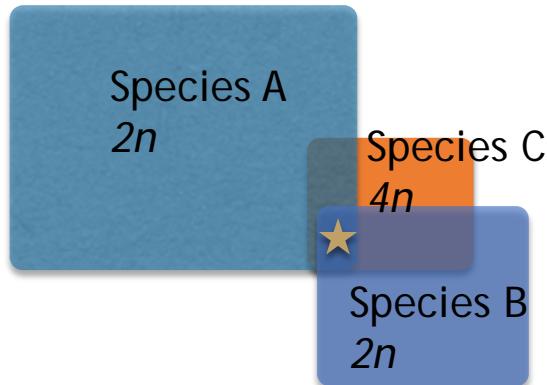
## Niche Intermediacy



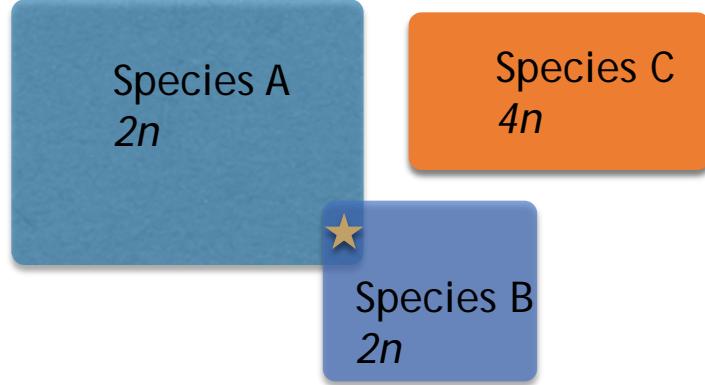
## Niche Expansion



## Niche Contraction



## Niche Novelty



Blaine Merchant





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Making data and images of millions of biological specimens available on the web

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Specimen Records

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Media Records

1,632

Recordsets

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### Sharing Collections

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### Working Groups

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### Proposals

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### Citizen Scientists

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# Niche Evolution in Allopolyploids

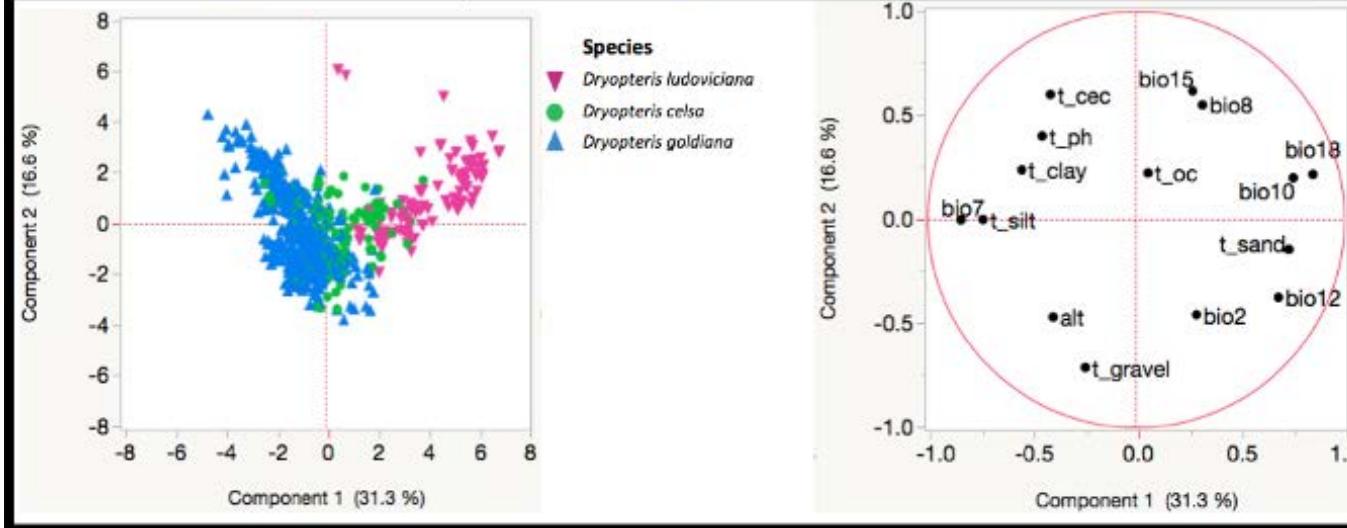


## Niche Intermediacy

Breadth: Parent < Polyploid < Parent

Overlap: Polyploid > 0.3

Blaine Merchant



*Dryopteris celsa*

Nickrent, D.L. et al. 2006 onwards. *Phytoimages*.  
<http://www.phytoimages.siu.edu>

Marchant et al. 2016

# Niche Evolution in Allopolyploids



Blaine Marchant

- 13 allopolyploids & parents
  - Niche intermediacy: 8
  - Niche contraction: 2
  - Niche expansion: 2
  - Niche novelty: 1
- 
- More cases are needed!



# Ancient Hybridization: *Heuchera*



Ryan Folk

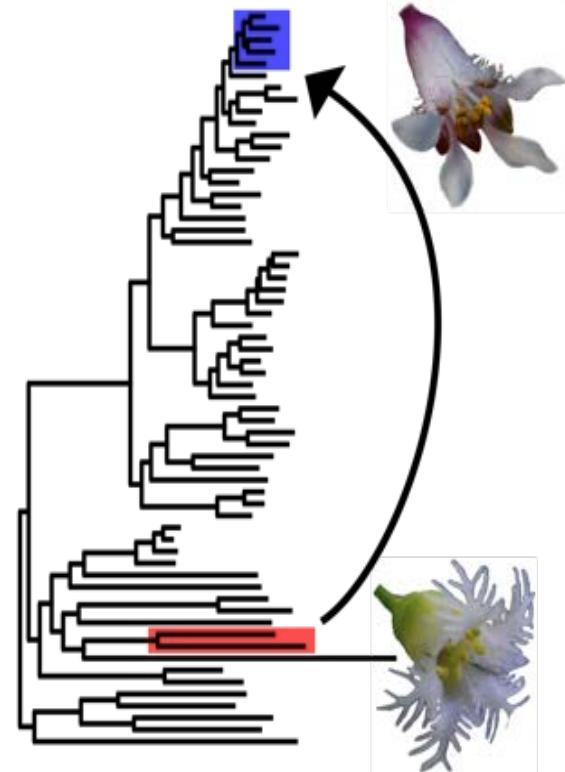
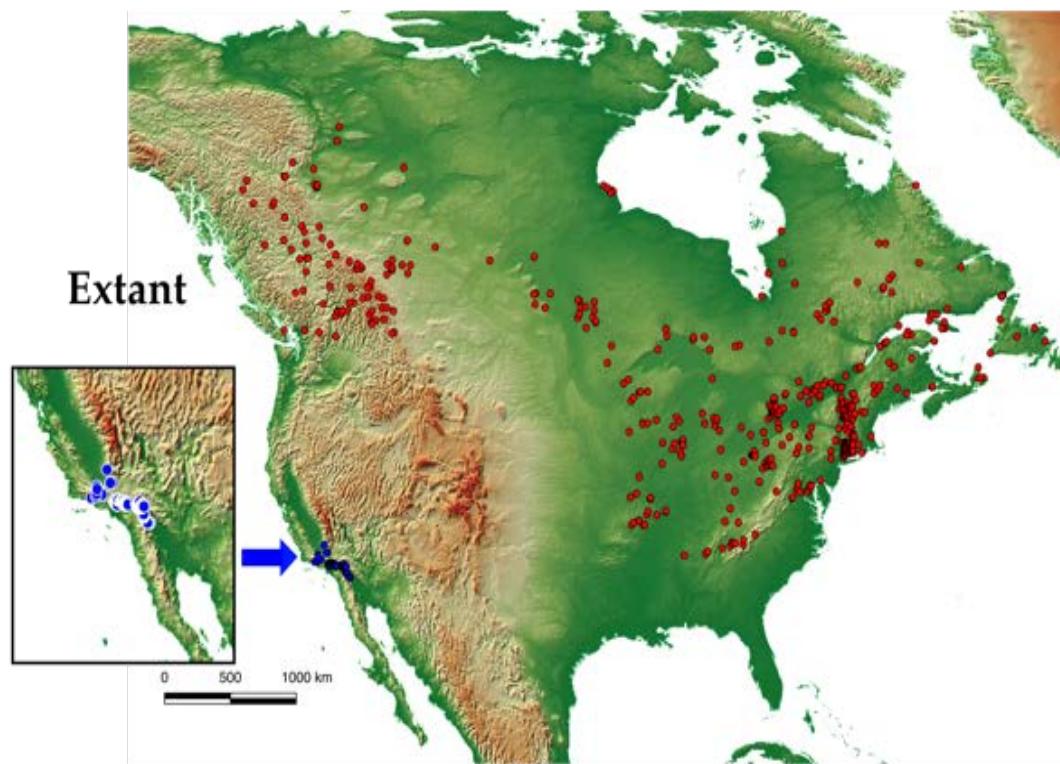


# Ancient Hybridization: *Heuchera*

- Ancient chloroplast transfer: *Mitella* to *Heuchera*
- Species groups are currently allopatric
- How was hybridization/cp transfer accomplished?



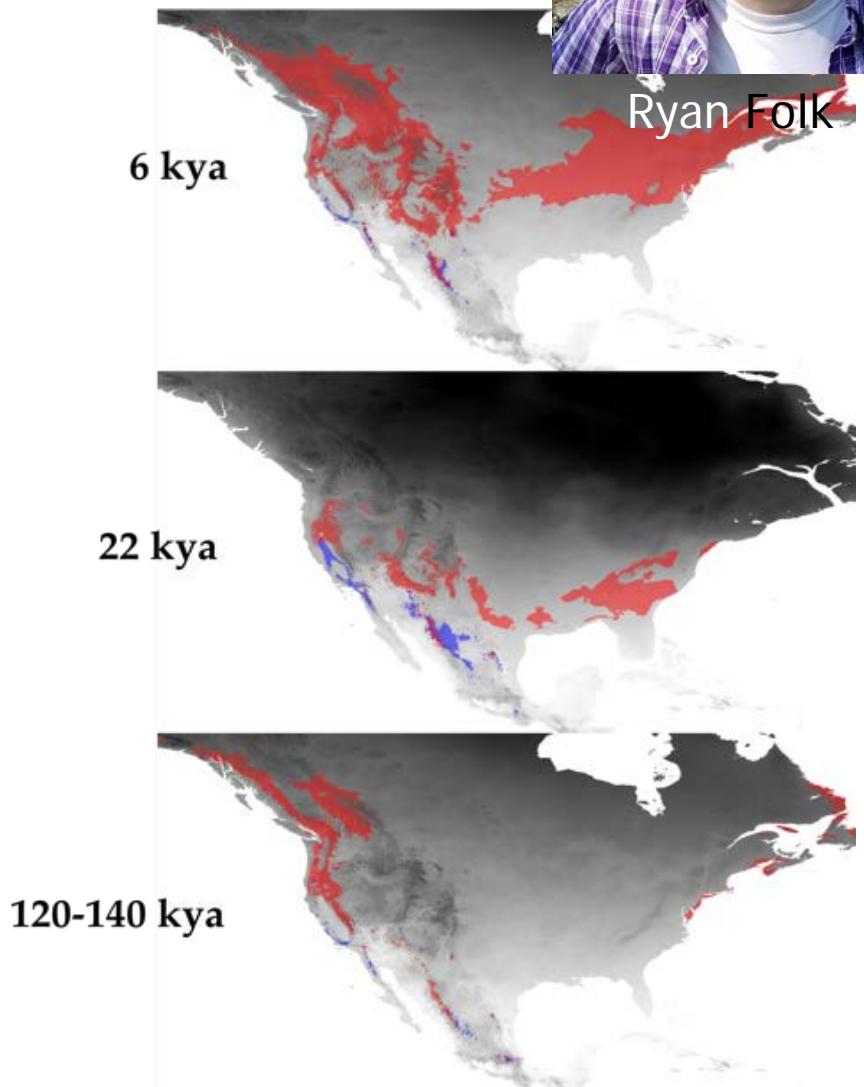
Ryan Folk



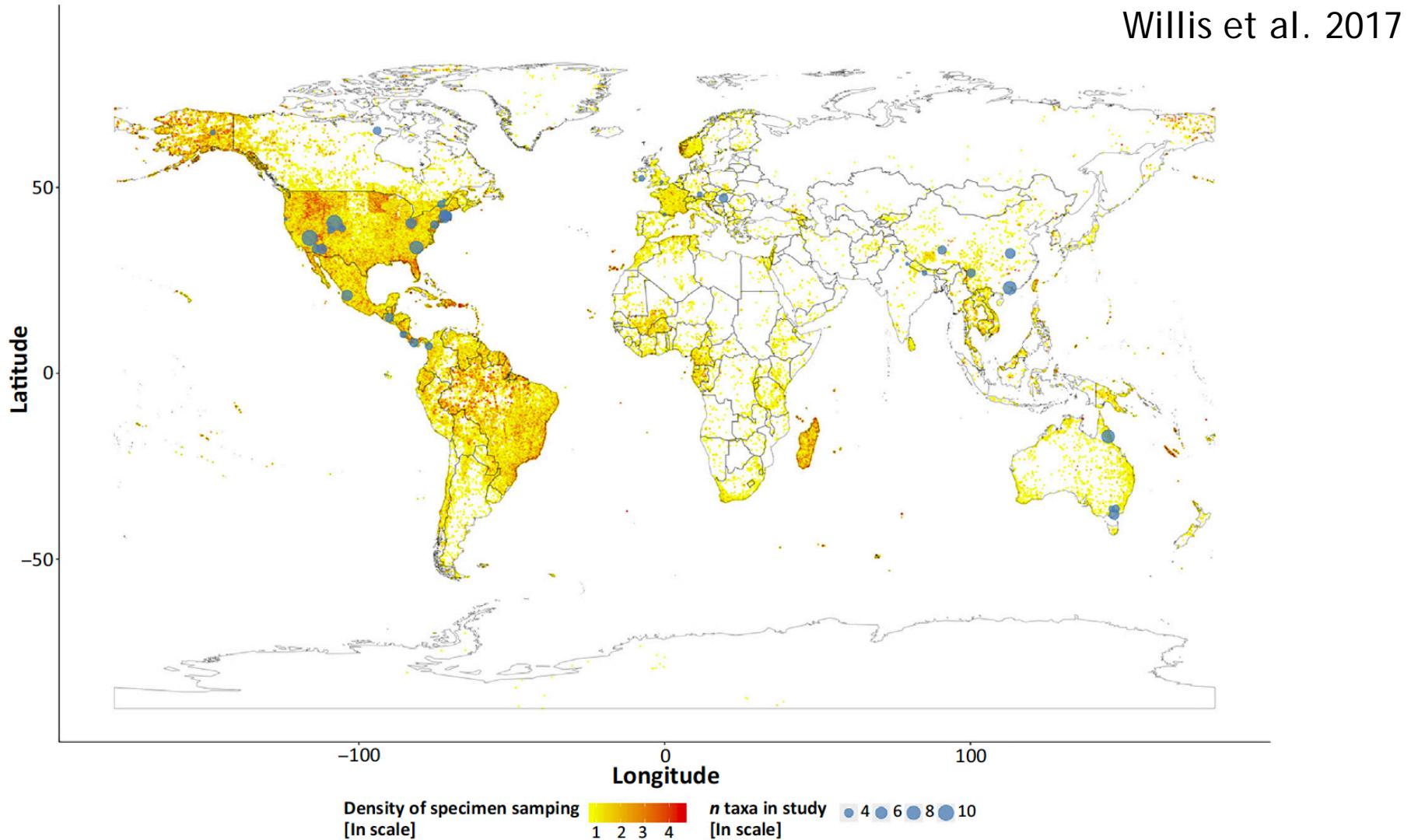
# Ancient Hybridization: *Heuchera*



- Abiotic niches:
    - 12 climatic & environmental variables
  - Ancestral niche reconstructions
  - Projected niches into the past
  - Biogeographic analyses
- 
- Northern California the most likely region of overlap
  - Pleistocene, LGM

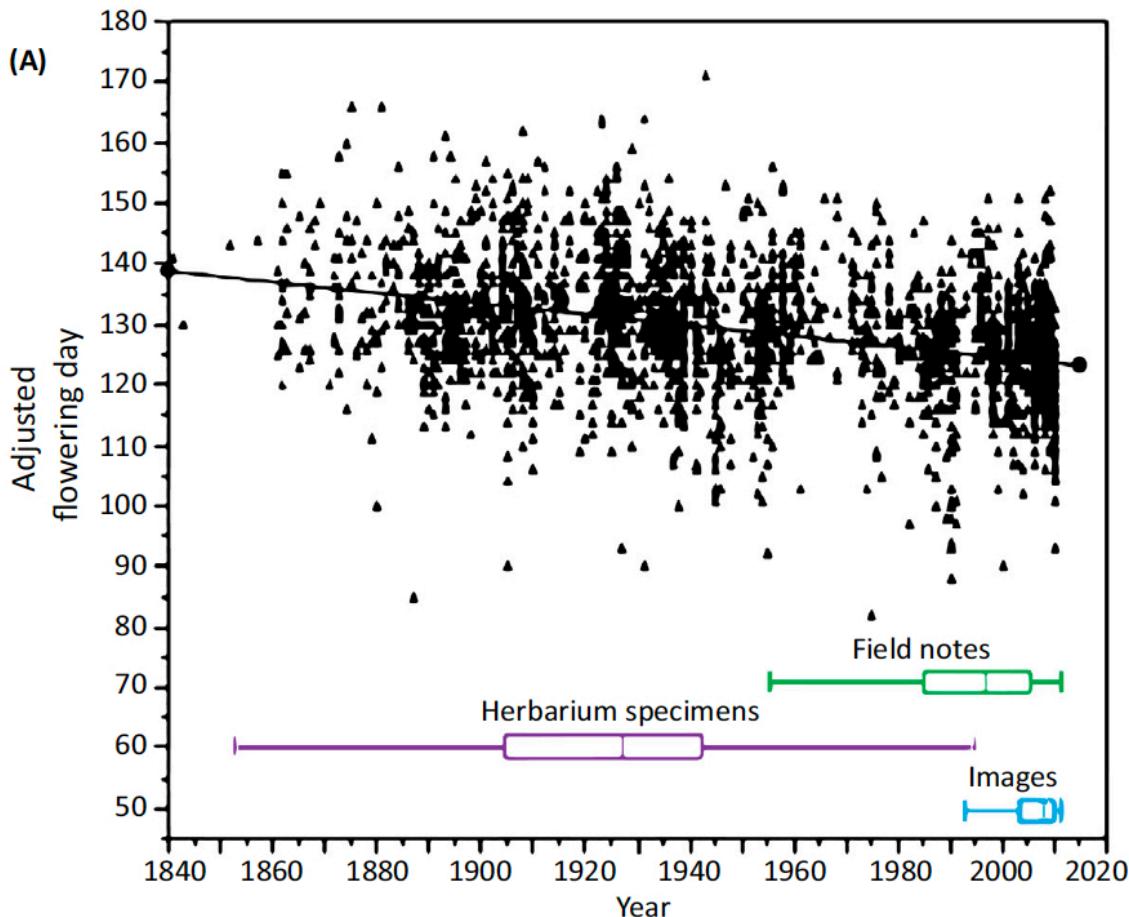


# Phenology: Flowering, Fruiting, Bud Burst



# Phenology

Integrating herbarium specimens with field notes, images, etc.

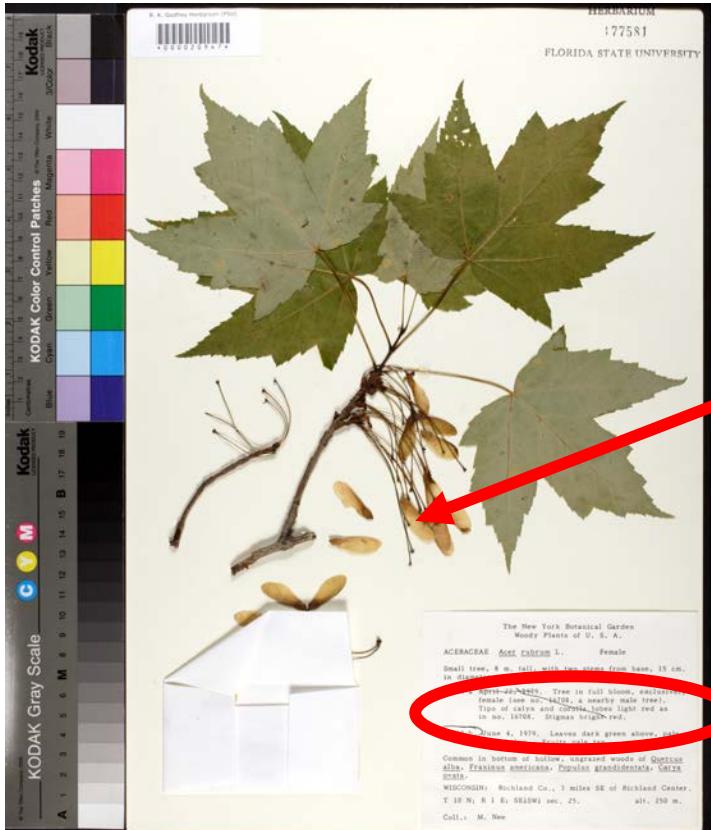


# Traits from Labels and Images

Phenological data - as described in label notes

"tree in full flower..."

or from image itself:



CrowdCurio, in Willis et al. 2017

Classify the following:

- Bud ?
- Flower ?
- Fruit 10

Submit

179431

Fruits

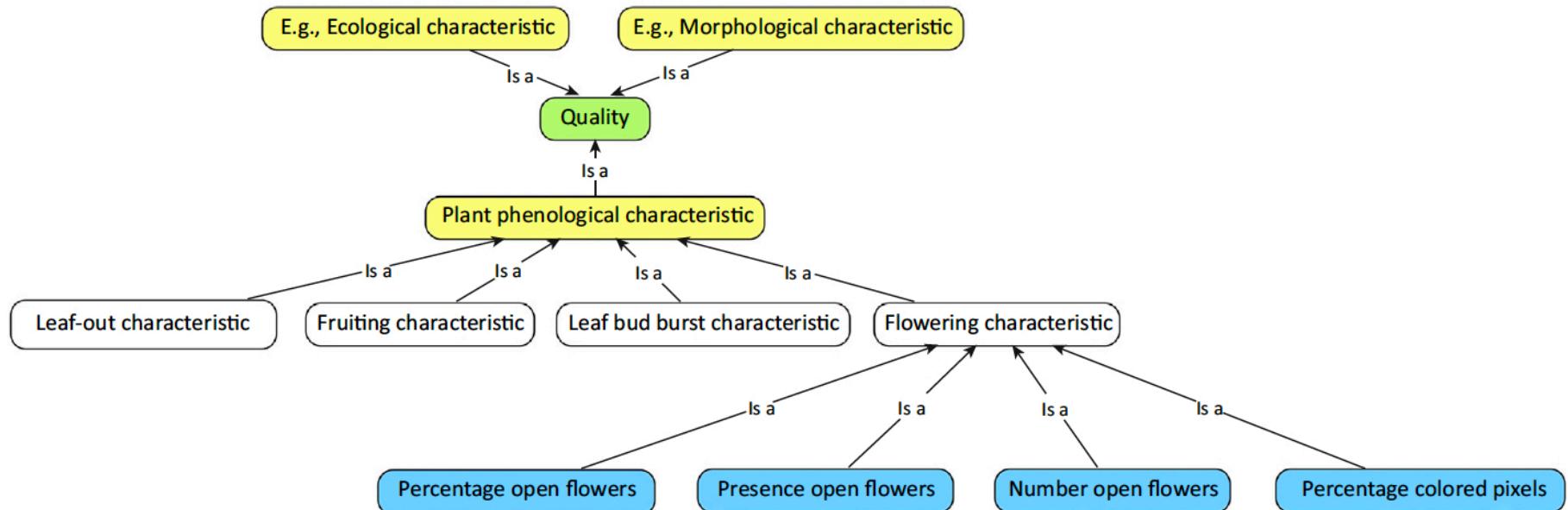
A digital herbarium specimen showing a branch with dark green leaves and clusters of small, round, blue berries. Yellow circles highlight specific features on the leaves and berries. The specimen is labeled "Fruit".

# Traits from Labels and Images

The need for standards and ontologies...

## Plant Phenology Ontology

Willis et al. 2017



Trends in Ecology & Evolution

**Figure I. Simplified Representation of Ontological Classes and Logical Structure.** In a complete ontology, each term or 'class' has a specific definition and is linked to any and all related classes via 'relation terms' such as 'is\_a' or 'part\_of'. These structured linkages between classes allow integration among different methods of measuring a class (represented in blue), different subclasses within a class (white), and other types of data (yellow), which are subclasses of the general term 'quality' currently defined by the Phenotypic Quality Ontology.

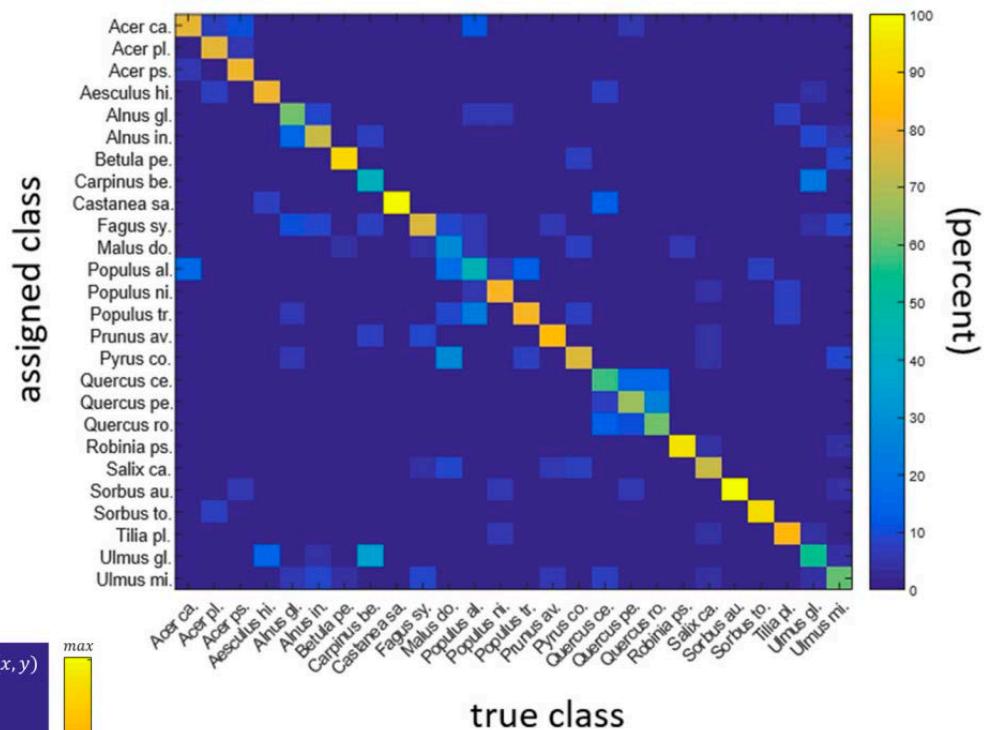
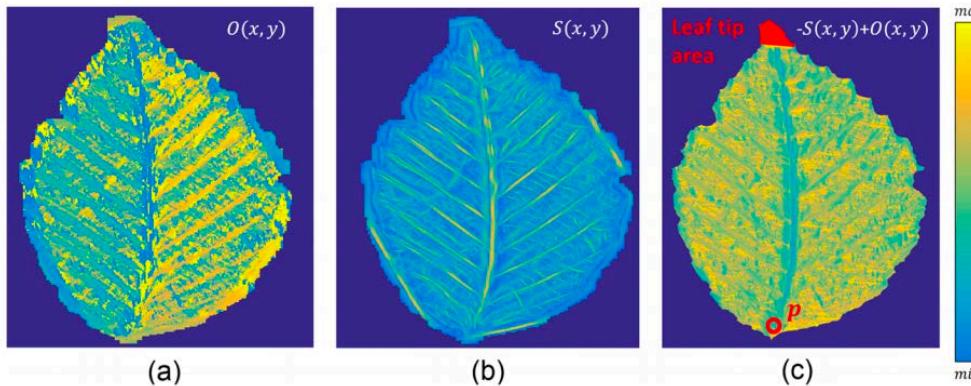
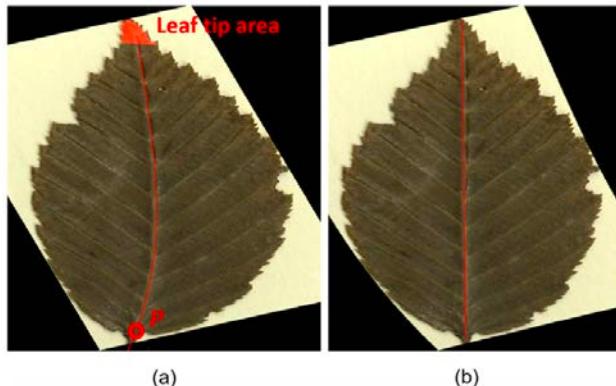
# Traits from Labels and Images

Machine Learning: Herbarium specimens

Classifying German trees to species

Leaf shape, venation

85% accuracy

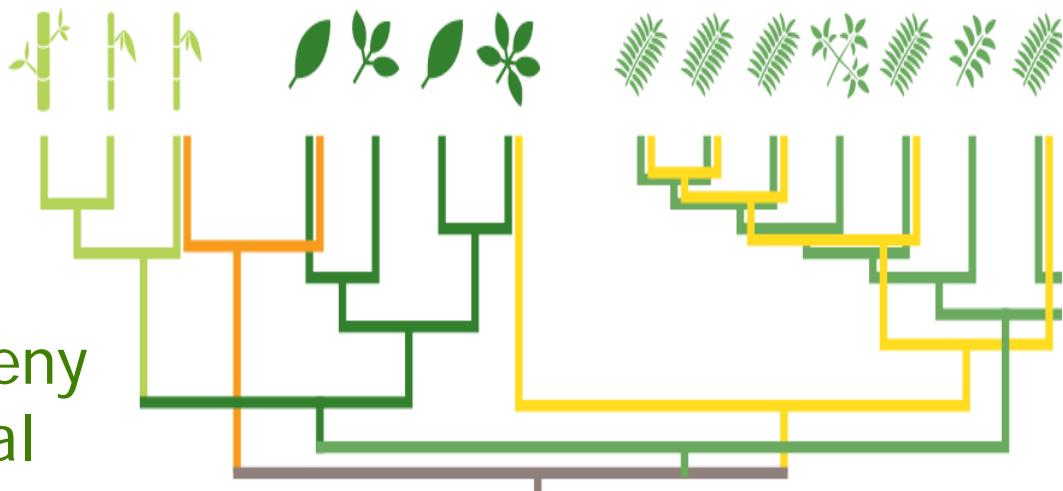


Unger et al. 2016

# Traits from Labels and Images

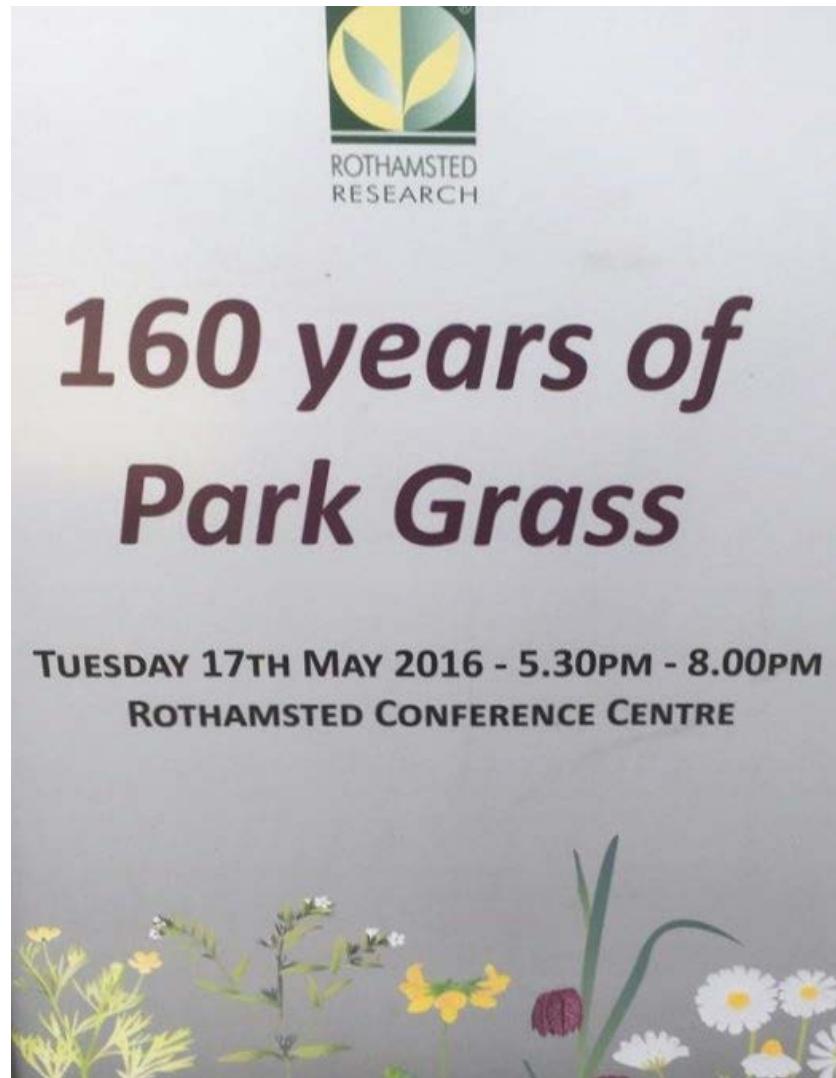


PhotosyntheticPathway  
Respiration LeafArea NfixationCapacity  
SLA RegenerationCapacity PlantLifespan  
WoodDensity GrowthForm  
PhenologyType LeafN  
LeafP LeafLongevity PhotosyntheticCapacity  
MaxPlantHeight SeedMass



Connect to ecology/phylogeny  
Evolution of plant functional  
traits

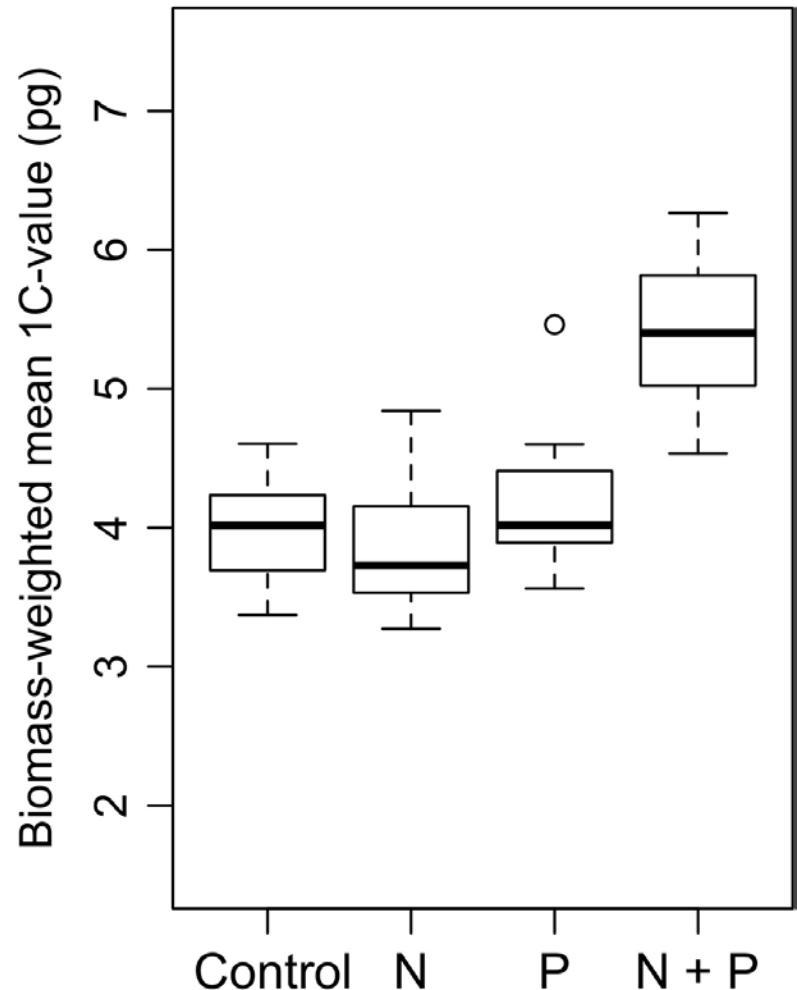
# Spatial Distribution of Genome Sizes



From Tilman & Isbell 2015

# Spatial Distribution of Genome Sizes

- Nucleic acids require large amounts of N and P; large genomes costly to build
- Plants with large genomes should be selected against on N- and P-poor soil, favored on high-N/P soil
- Park Grass Experiment used to test this hypothesis:
  - GS of plants in high N+P plots higher than in control, N, P plots
- Continental scale, GS related to soil geochemistry?

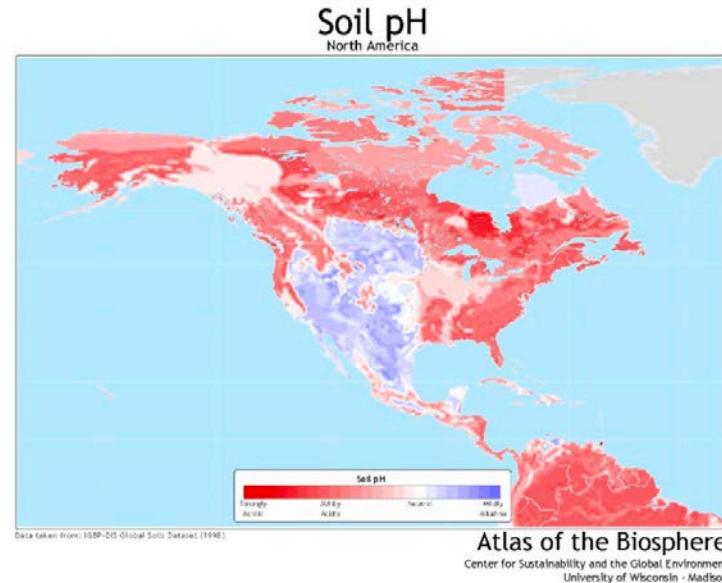
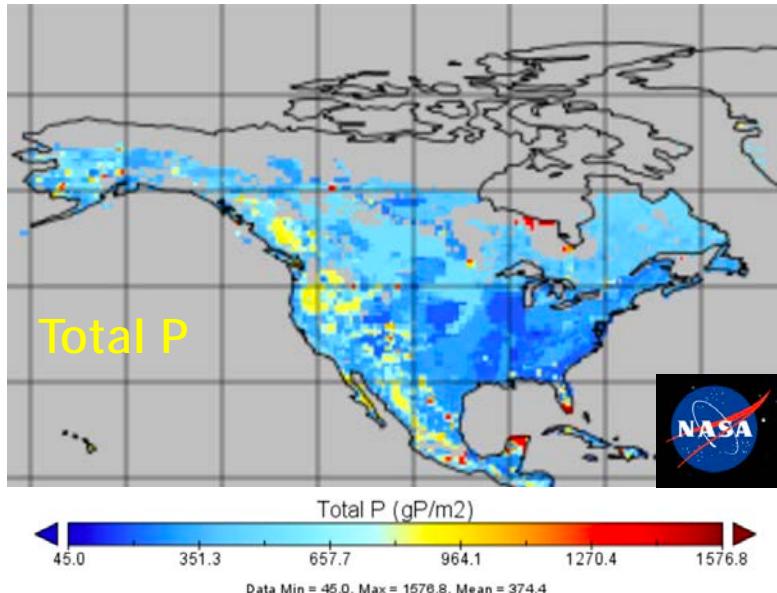


Guignard et al. 2016

# Spatial Distribution of Genome Sizes



GeoEcoEvo:  
USGS Powell Center Working Group  
E. Bui, M. Goldhaber, PIs



# Challenges in Linking Heterogeneous Data

- Assembling data
- Data management and sharing
- Taxonomic names
- Patchy data
- Issues of scale: resolution, analysis
- Data integration

# Linking Heterogeneous Data: Connecting Specimens, Trees, Tools



## ABI Innovation: BiotaPhy Project

Connecting resources

to enable large-scale biodiversity analyses



D. Soltis, P. Soltis, J. Fortes,  
J. Beach, J. Soberon, S. Smith

### RESOURCES:



Lifemapper

- ecological niche modeling
- biodiversity and range analysis
- visualization



Arbor

- evolutionary models
- comparative methods
- visualization



Lifemapper



Open Tree of Life

- phylogenies
- taxonomy / names
- visualization



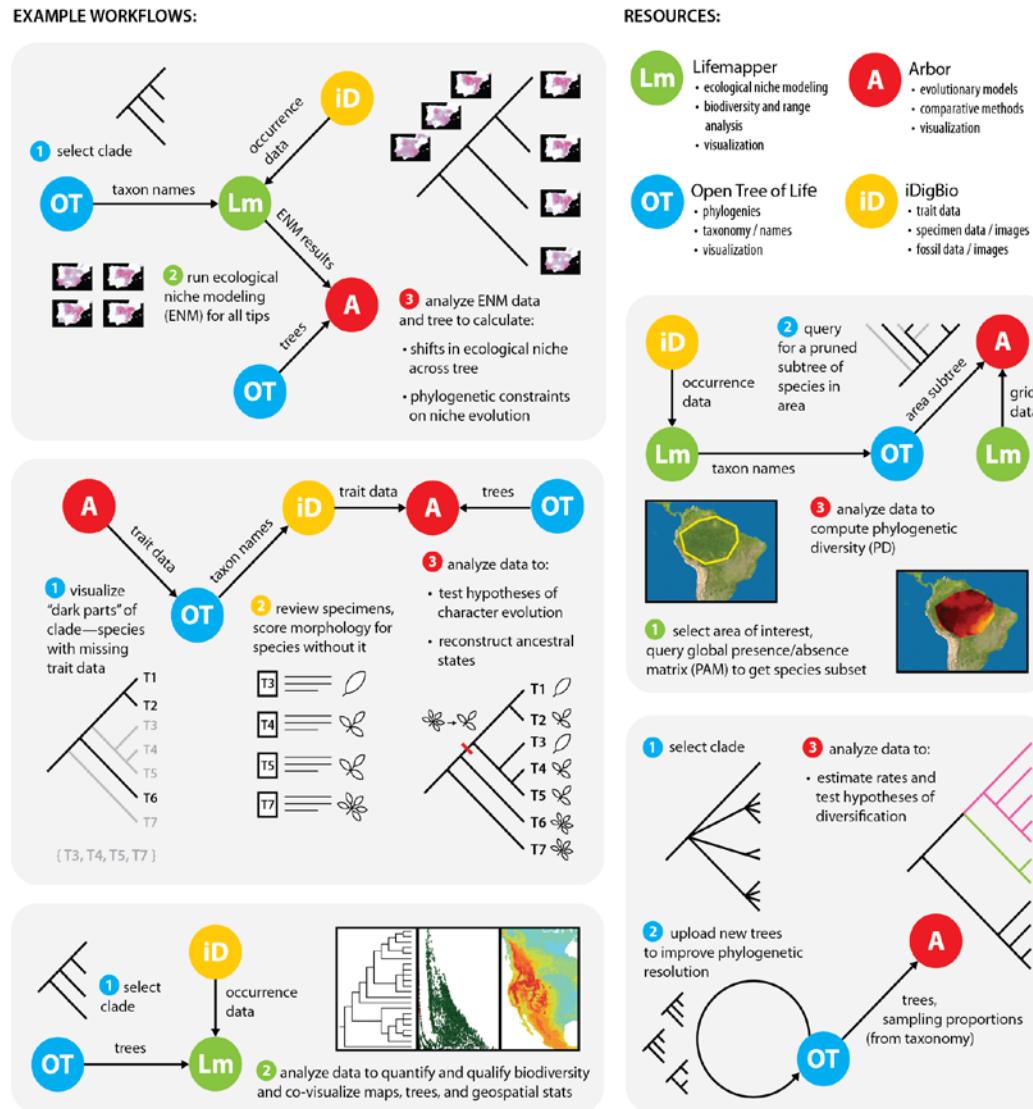
iDigBio

- trait data
- specimen data / images
- fossil data / images



# Linking Heterogeneous Data: Connecting Specimens, Trees, Tools

## 5 Possible Workflows



# Linking Heterogeneous Data: Connecting Specimens, Trees, Tools

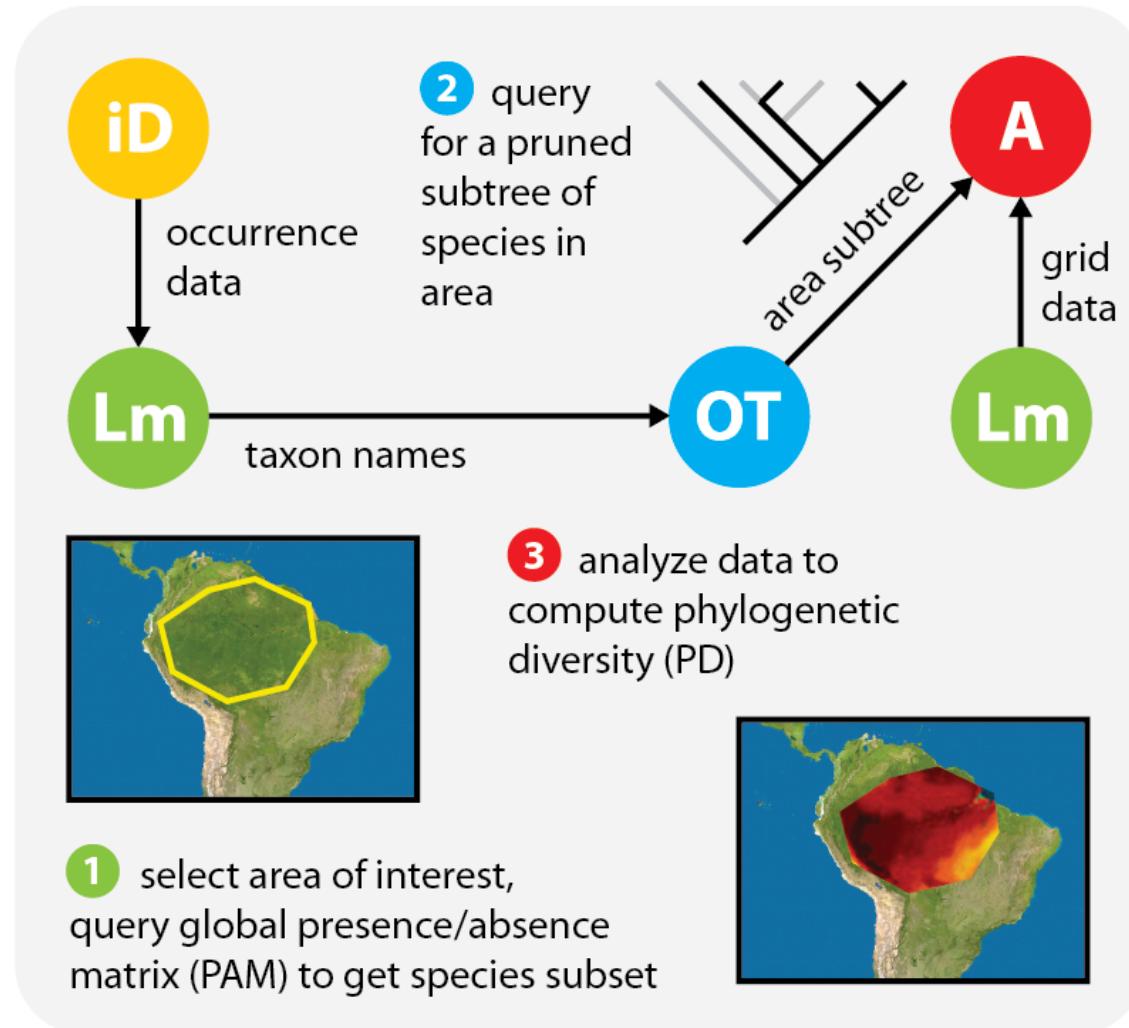
## RESOURCES:

**Lm** Lifemapper  
• ecological niche modeling  
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**A** Arbor  
• evolutionary models  
• comparative methods  
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**OT** Open Tree of Life  
• phylogenies  
• taxonomy / names  
• visualization

**iD** iDigBio  
• trait data  
• specimen data / images  
• fossil data / images



# Linking Heterogeneous Data: Connecting Specimens, Trees, Tools

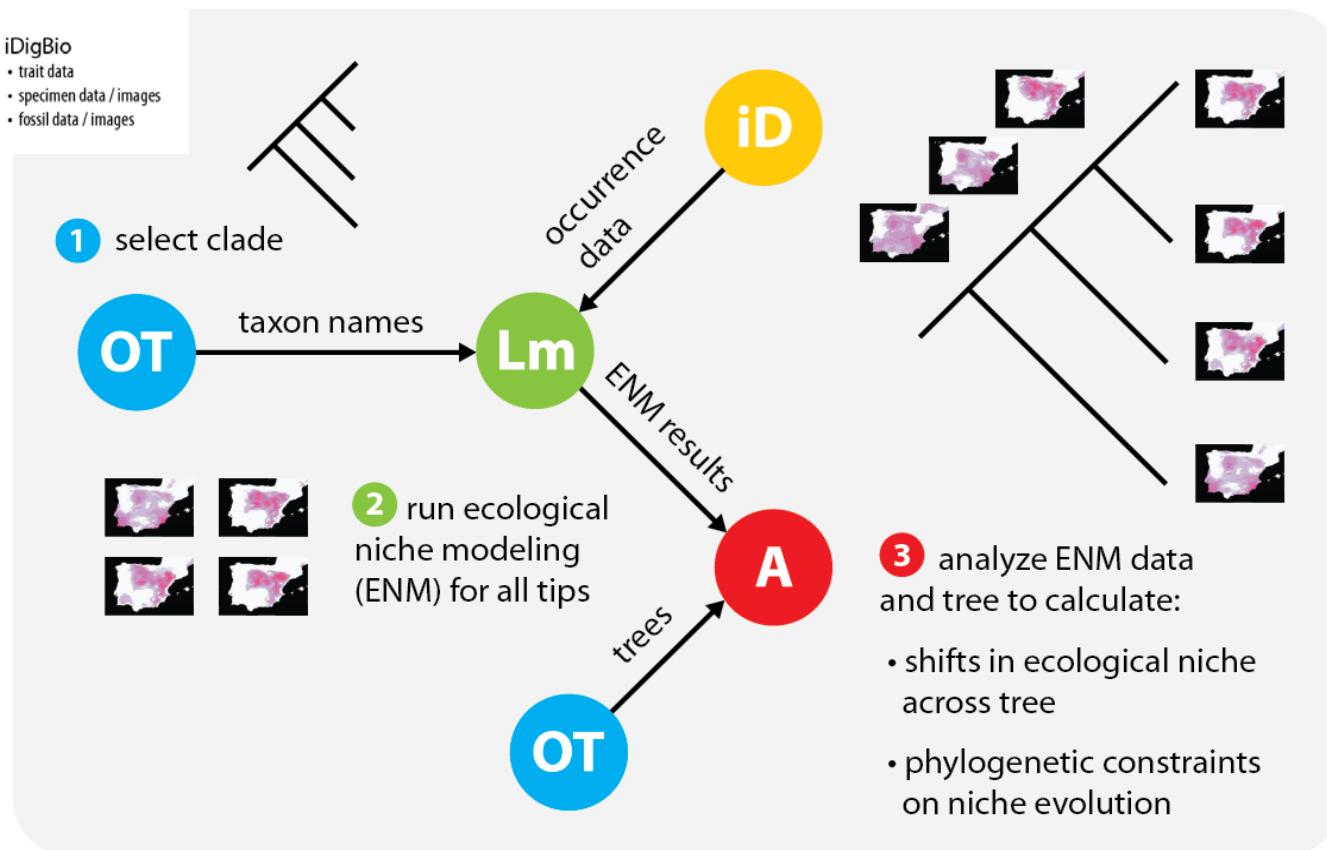
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**ID** iDigBio  
• trait data  
• specimen data / images  
• fossil data / images



# Summary

- Linking heterogeneous data challenging
  - Assembling data
  - Data management and sharing
  - Taxonomic names
  - Patchy data
  - Issues of scale: resolution, analysis
  - Data integration
- Value of spatial data from specimens
- Promise of images
- Need for tools, workflows
- Data-driven and hypothesis-driven research

# Acknowledgments



## iDigBio Team:

L. Page, J. Fortes, B. MacFadden, G. Riccardi, A. Mast, G. Nelson, D. Paul, S. James, C. Germain-Aubrey, B. Marchant

## ABI Innovation: BiotaPhy Project:

Connecting resources to enable large-scale biodiversity analyses

D. Soltis, R. Folk, J. Fortes, A. Thompson, J. Beach, A. Stewart, J. Soberon, S. Smith

## Florida Phylogenetic Diversity:

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## GeoEcoEvo Working Group, Powell Center, USGS:

E. Bui, M. Goldhaber, V. Funk, J. Miller, B. Edwards, C. Mason, B. Annaker, I. Pearse, J. Cartwright, J. Thompson, T. Nauman, M. Helmus

## Genome Size & Geochemistry:

A. Leitch, I. Leitch, D. Soltis, A. Thompson, A. Stewart

