Utilizing digitized specimen data to trace the history and predict the future for an economically important pest of commercial fruits



Eudocima Billberg, 1820

- Genus of fruit-piercing moths found across the Old and New World tropics
- Use saw-like proboscis to pierce over 50 varieties of fruits and nuts
- A single species can cause crop losses of more than 50%, 80-90% loss when ranges overlap (Fay 1996)
- Disagreement about classification and species delineation is persistant





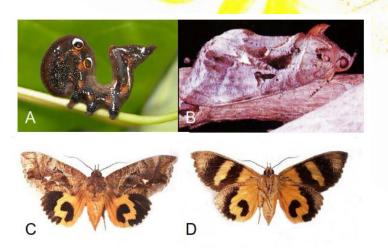


Photos courtesy of the Home Bug Garden, Damon Ramsey, Julia Snyder



Eudocima phalonia Linn., 1763

- Most notorious species in terms of agricultural significance
- High economic impact, current methods of control have low effectiveness
 - Bagging or netting fruit
 - Smoking orchards
 - Hand-netting with flashlights
 - Pheromone trapping



E. phalonia female, Davis et al. 2005



E. phalonia male

E. phalonia

- Widely distributed across Old World
 - African and Oriental tropics, SE Palearctic, Australia and Pacific
- Strongly suspected species complex
 - High morphological variability, many regional biotypes
 - Several close relatives recently characterized based on morphology







Photos courtesy of Julia Snyder



E. phalonia

E. lequeuxi Brou & Zilli 2016

*E. oliveri*Zilli et al. in press

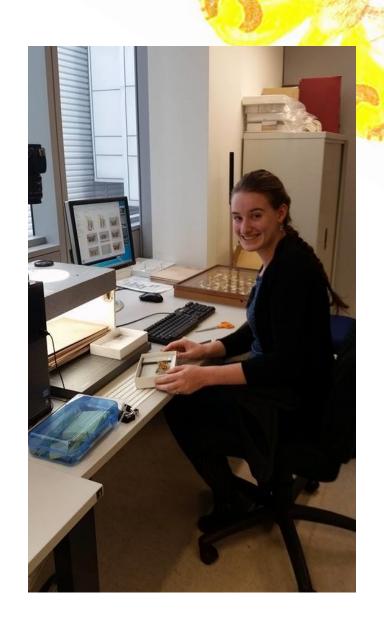
E. steppingstonia Zilli et al. in press

Needs

- Further clarification of the species complex could achieved by resolution of the group with molecular methods
- With at least 30 occurrences per location, meaningful inferences can be made for ecological niche modeling
 - http://symbiota4.acis.ufl.edu/scan/lepnet/portal/index.php
- Despite agricultural significance, no detailed range information is available for the *E. phalonia*-complex

Materials and Methods

- Collections visit to NHM, London
 - Approximately 2,000 pinned specimens digitized
 - iCollectionsequipment andworkflow
 - http://www.nhm.ac.uk/ourscience/our-work/digitalmuseum/digital-collectionsprogramme/digitising-butterflymoth-collections.html

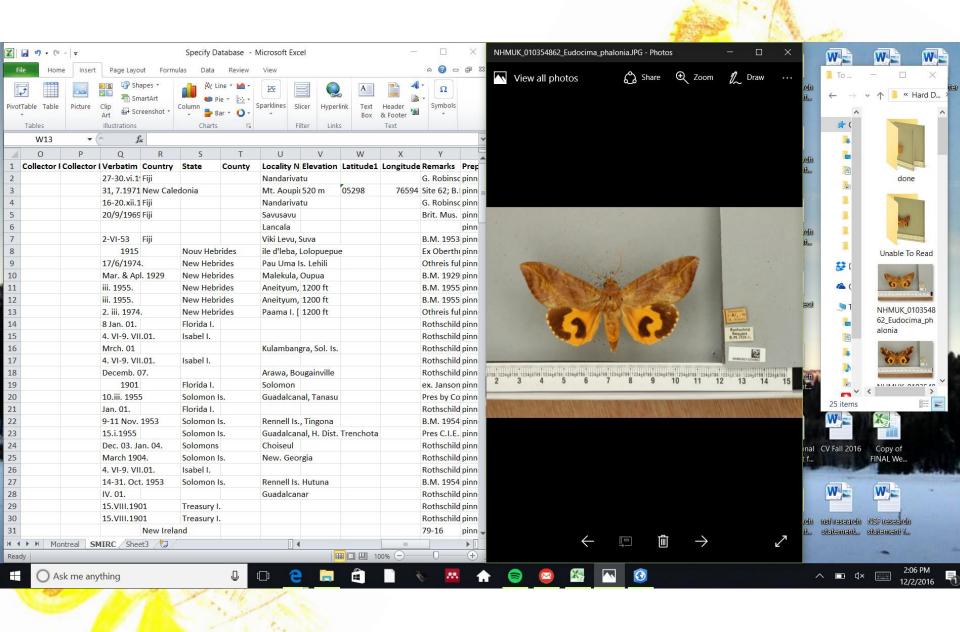


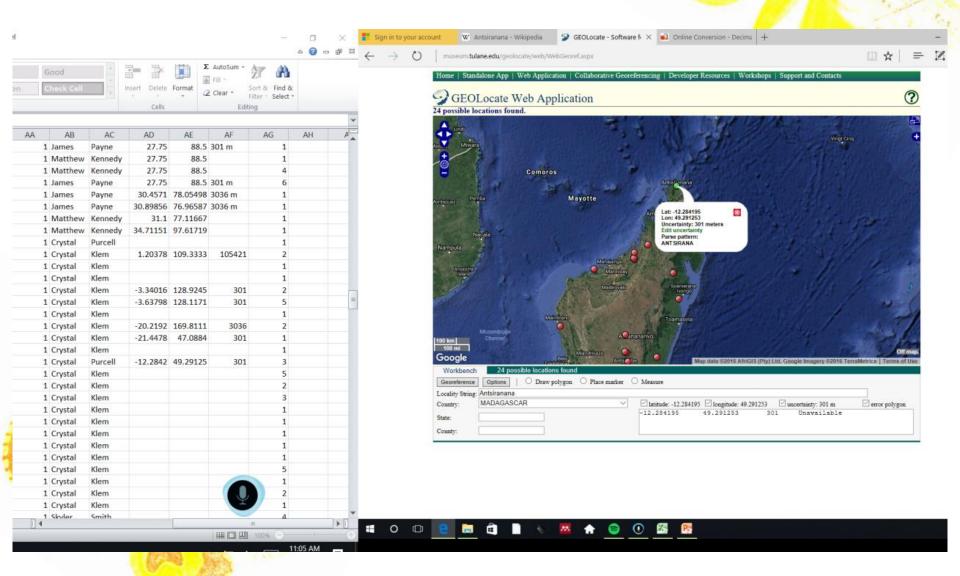


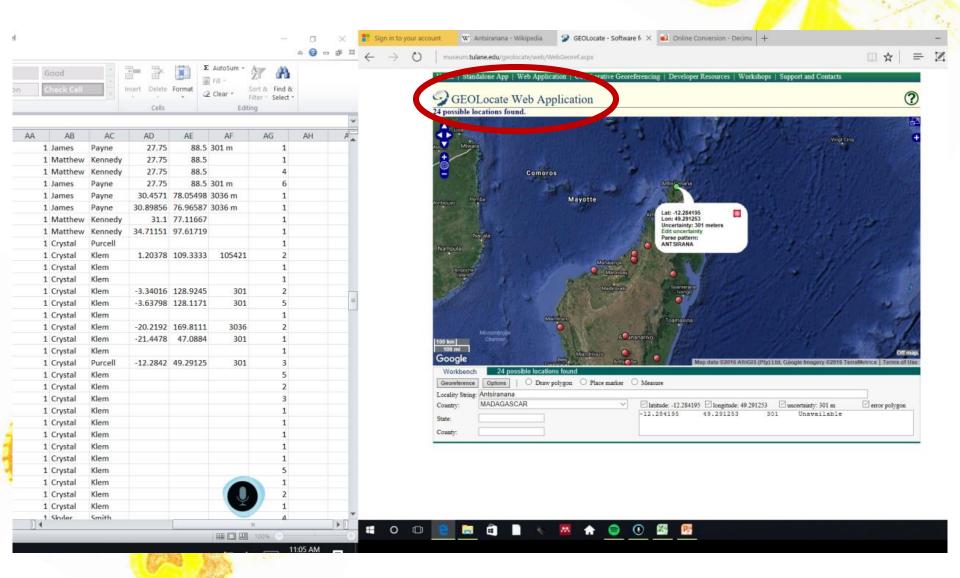


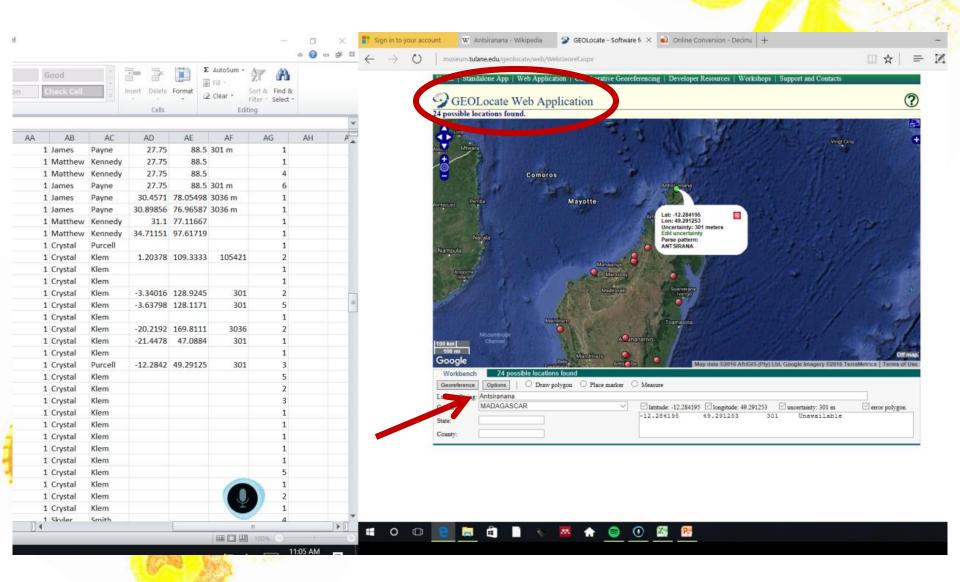


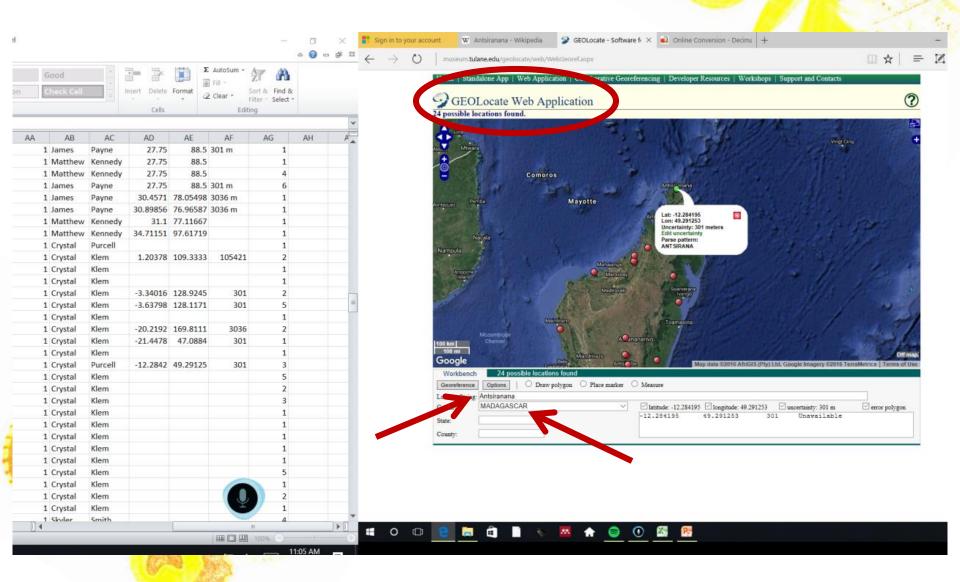


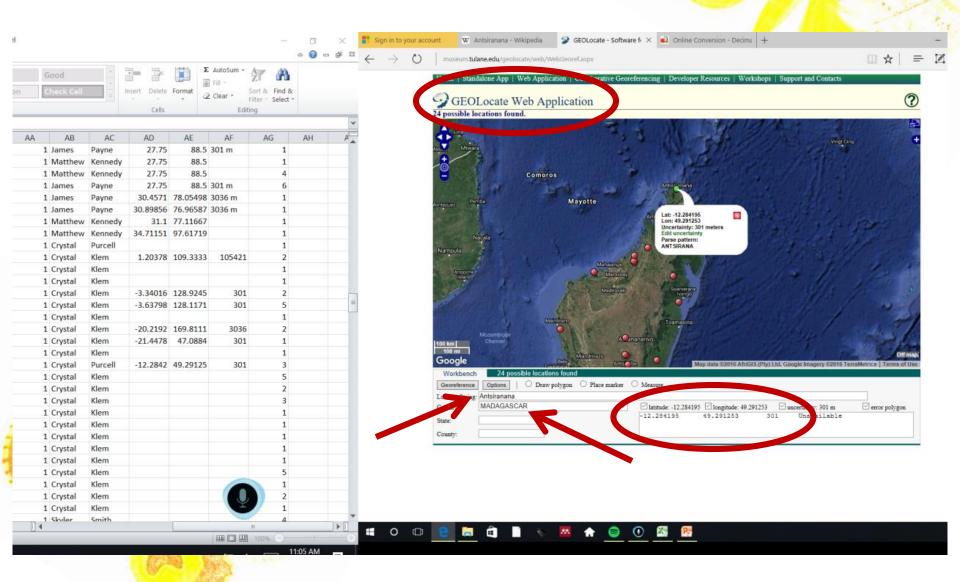




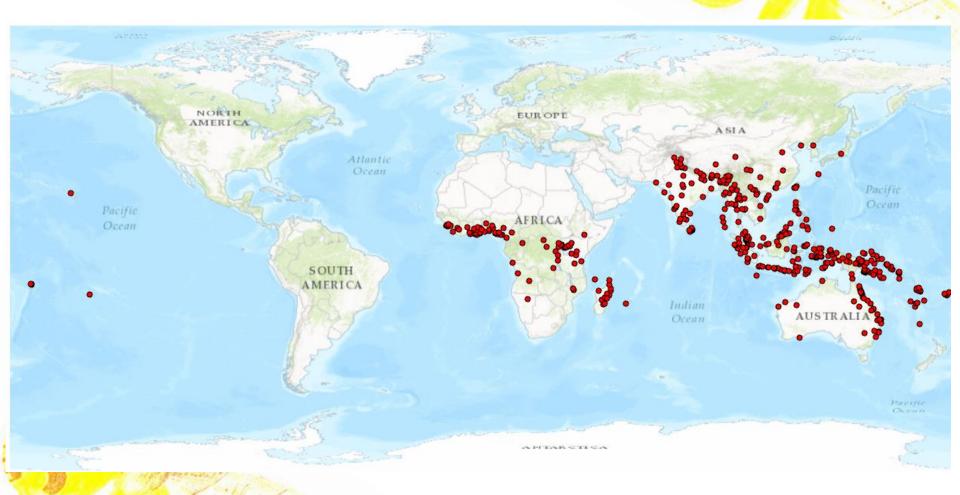








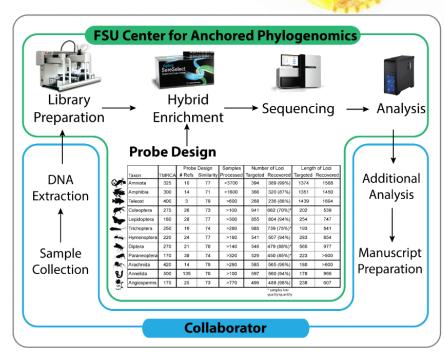
E. phalonia Range Map



Klem et al. in prep

Molecular phylogeny using next-generation sequencing techniques

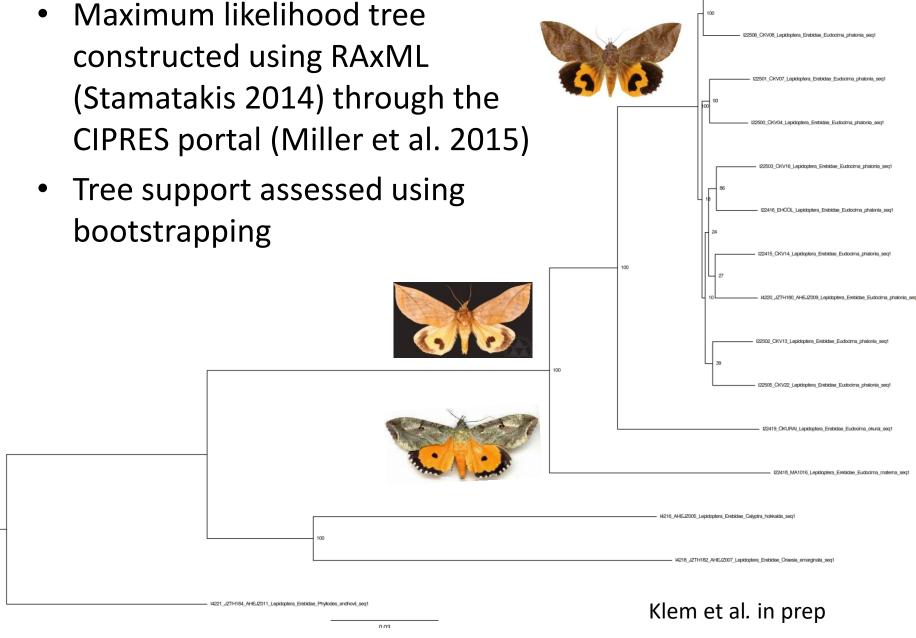
- Recently collected E.
 phalonia tissues from
 across the range
 obtained from
 fieldwork, collaborators,
 and private collection of
 Vernon Brou Jr.
- DNA extractions
 performed using Qiagen
 DNeasy kits



Courtesy of anchoredphylogeny.com

Molecular phylogeny using next-generation sequencing techniques

- Purified genomic DNA sent to Center for Anchored Phylogenomics at Florida State University (Lemmon et al. 2012)
- Nested probe design for Erebid moths utilized (Zaspel et al. in prep)
 - Shallow and deep level phylogenetic questions
 - Approximately 200 informative anonymous nuclear loci (ANL) will be sampled for up to 60 terminals



E. okurai image courtesy of Taiwan biodiversity Information Facility

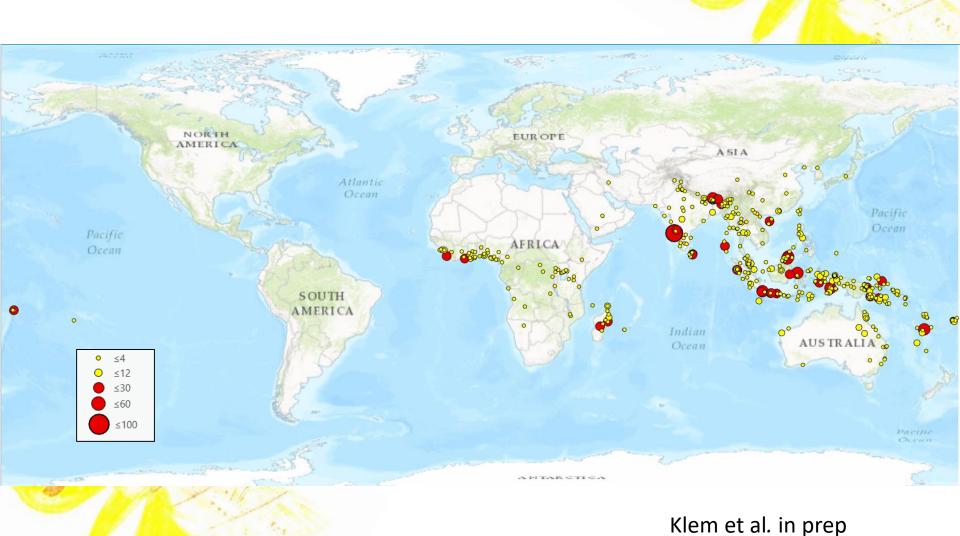
122417 OPhal Lepidoptera Erebidae Eudocima phalonia seg

E. phalonia Range Map

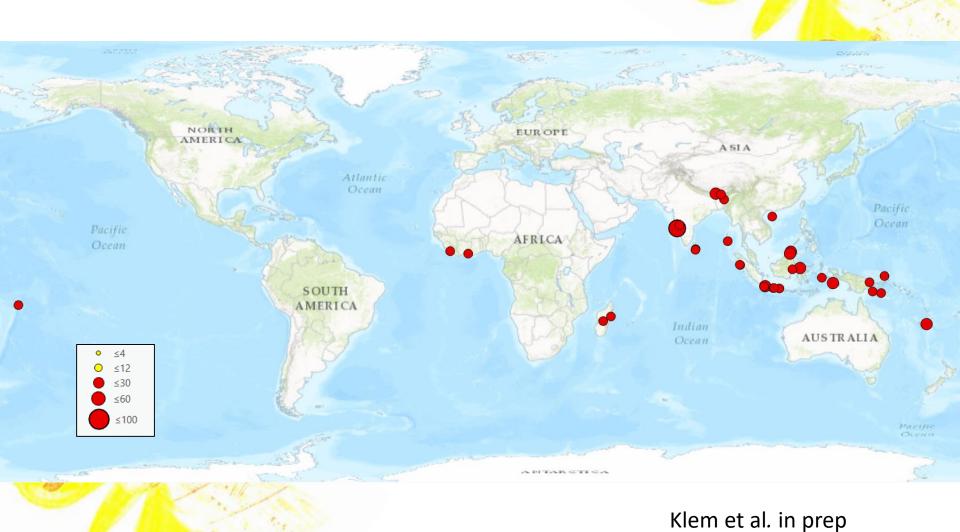


Klem et al. in prep

Range Symbolized by Specimen Occurrence



Range Symbolized by Specimen Occurrence



Next Steps

- Build a MaxEnt model
 - Climatic variables from WorldClim
- Use co-occurrence data from closely related species E. lequeuxi, E. oliveri, and E. steppingstonia to construct a joint species distribution model (JSDM) to evaluate niche overlap and competition (Clark et al. 2014)
 - Could also be used to test competition or exclusion between related clades from molecular phylogeny

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Digitising Lepidoptera of the British Isles: iCollections





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- United States National Museum of Natural History (USNMNH)
- Purdue Entomological Research Collection (PERC)











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