

# Biodiversity & Spatial Analysis

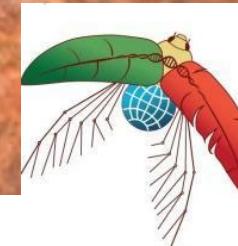
Dan Rosauer

Research School of Biology – Australian National University  
Centre for Biodiversity Analysis

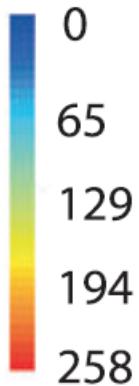
Genomes & Biodiversity Workshop 21 November 2019



*Gehyra koira*  
Photo: Matt Summerville



Centre for  
Biodiversity  
Analysis



Terrestrial Mammal Species Richness

Hawkins *et al.* (2012) Journal of Biogeography

Biodiversity is distributed  
unequally between areas

*Cavia intermedia*

Extent of occurrence: 0.04 km<sup>2</sup>

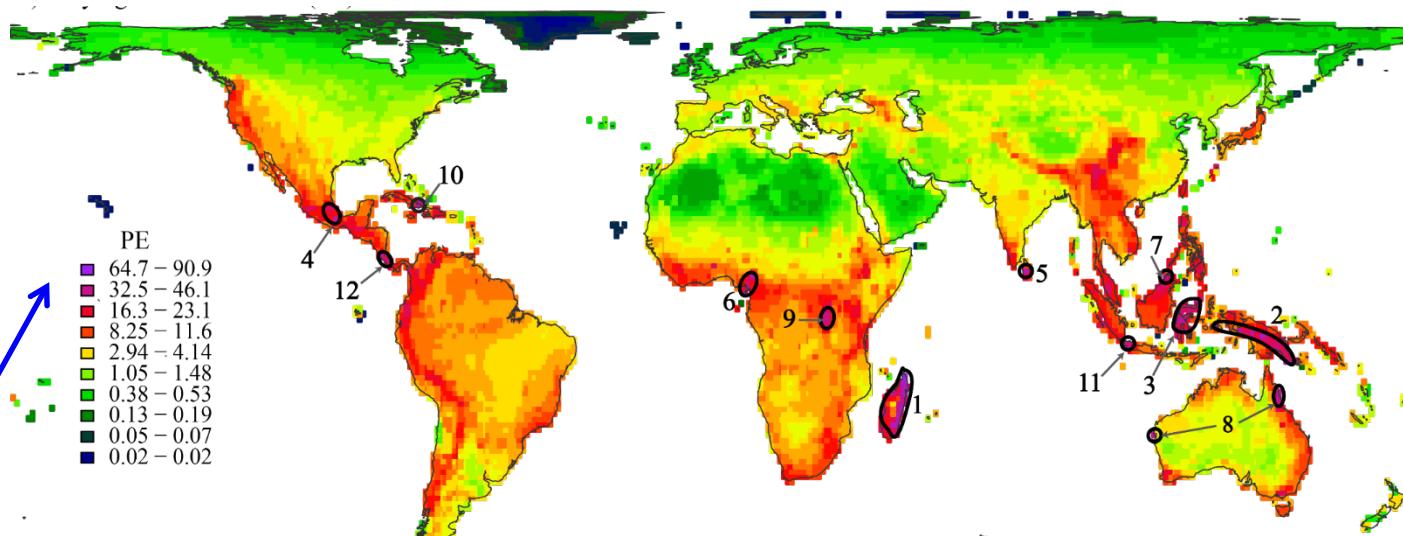


*Vulpes vulpes*

Extent of occurrence: ~70,000,000km<sup>2</sup>



# Phylogenetic Endemism of Terrestrial Mammals



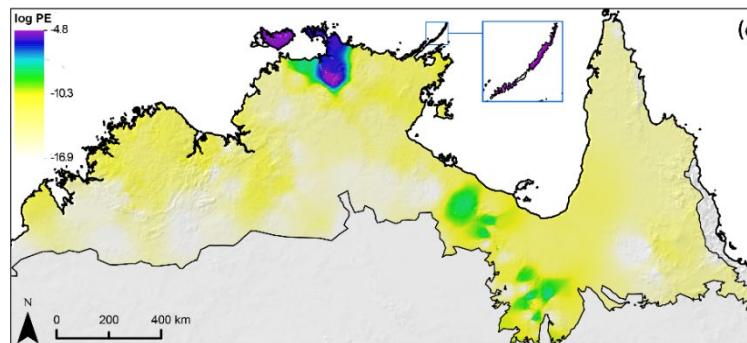
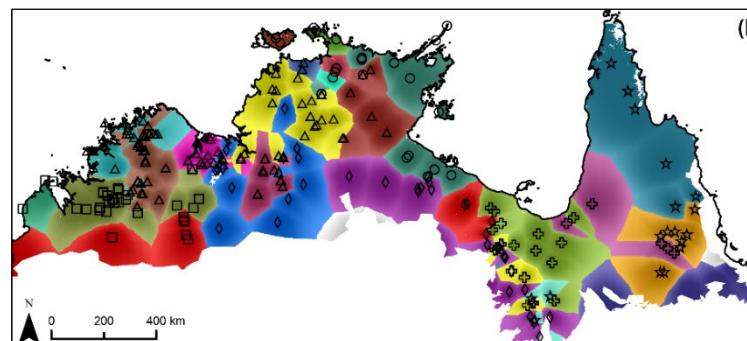
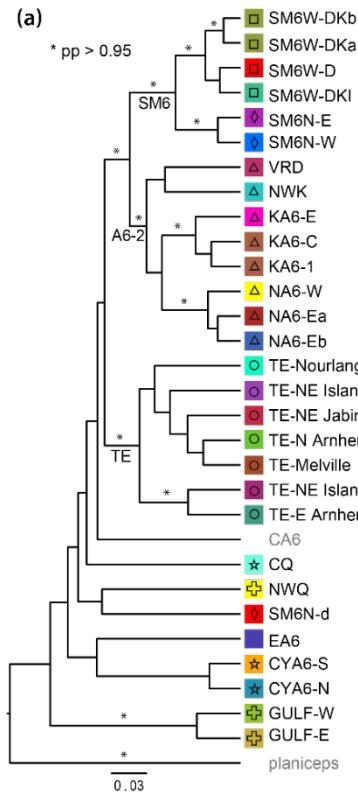
Rosauer & Jetz (2015) Global Ecology & Biogeography

A score of 90 is equivalent to:

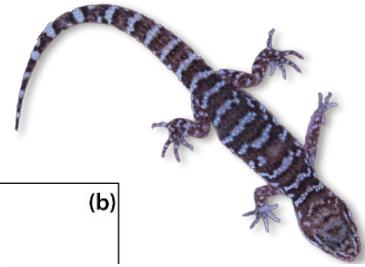
- \* 90 million years of evolutionary history restricted a single cell,
- \* 180 million years spread across 2 cells...
- ... or any additive combination like this

# *Phylogeny matters for conservation*

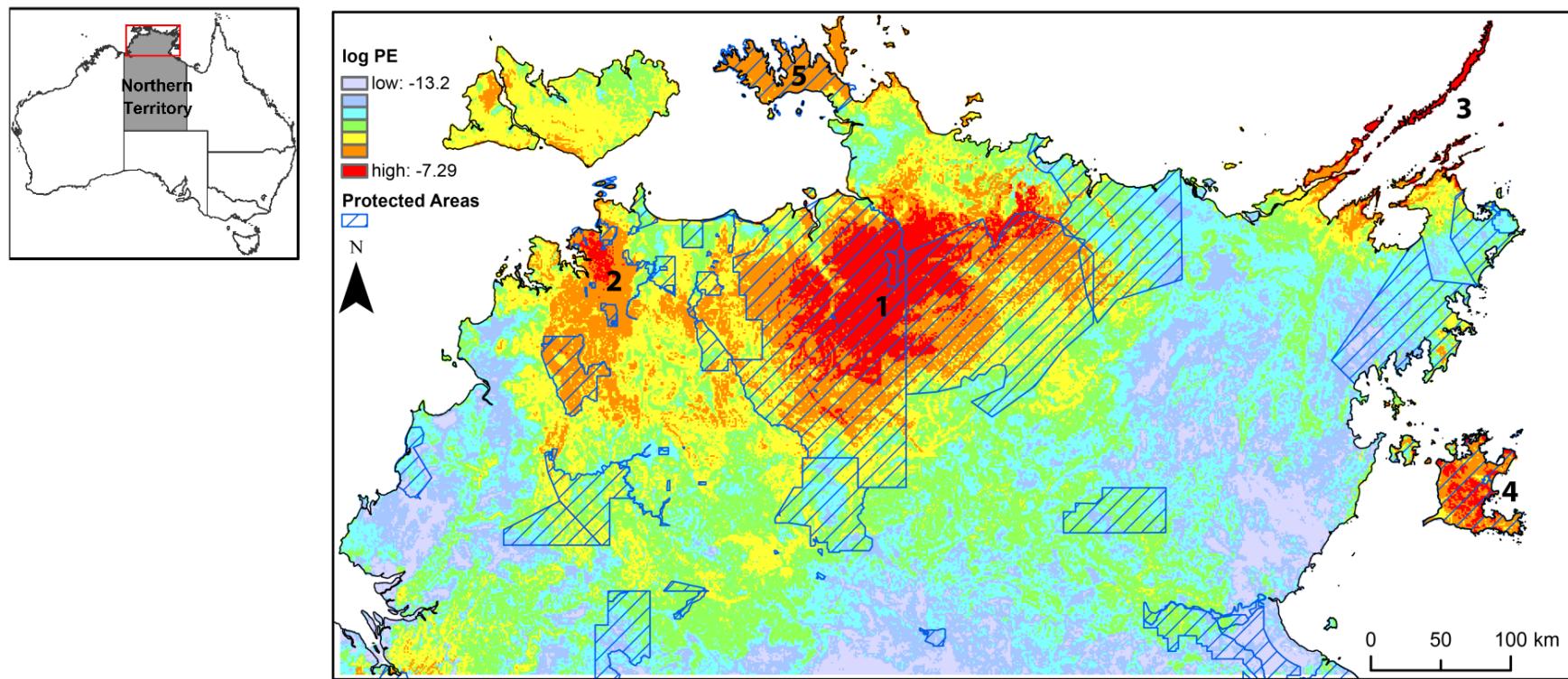
... because it can detect patterns independent of named taxa



Moritz et al (2016) Molecular Ecology

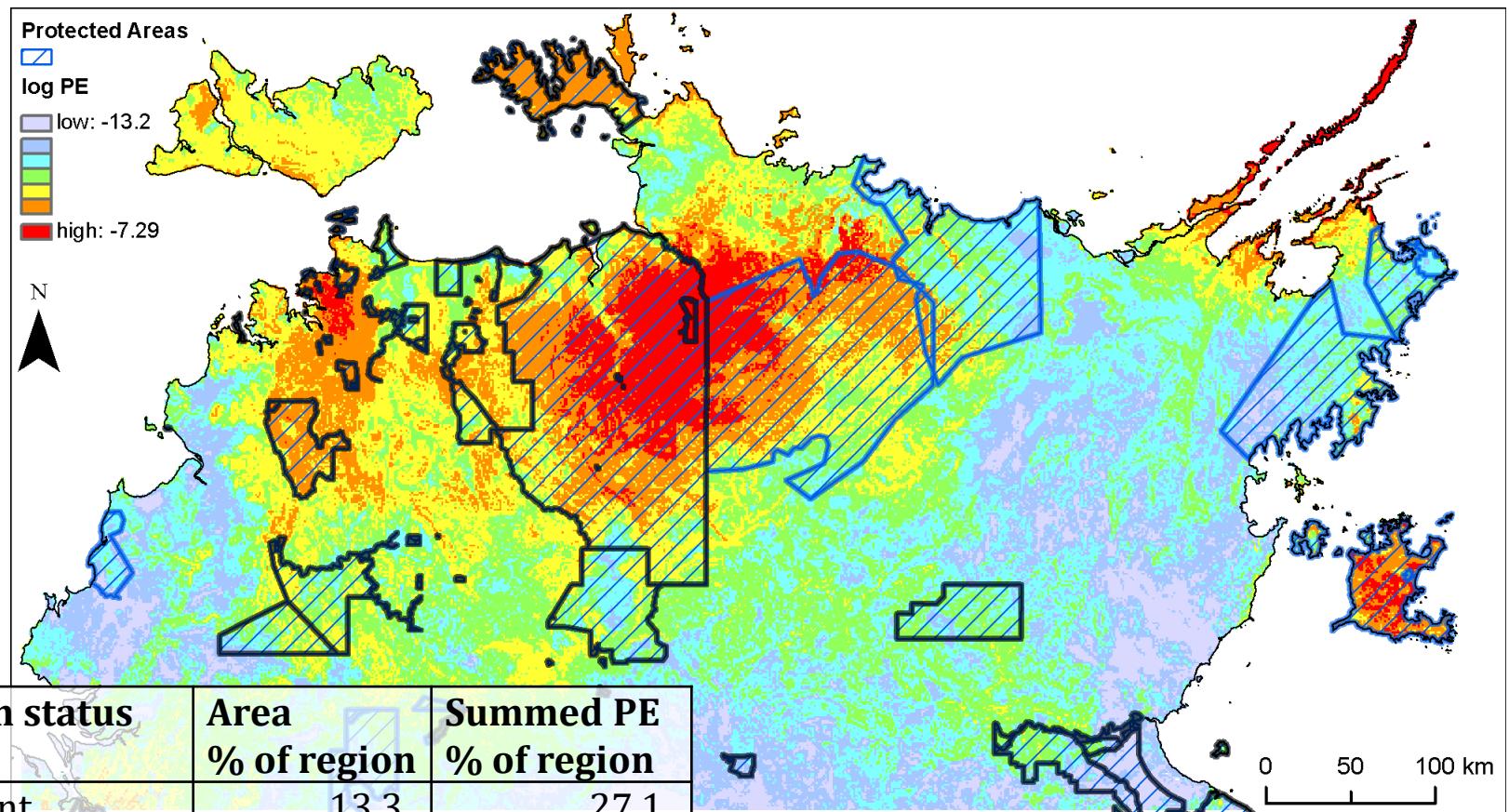


# Phyloendemism in the Top End for 10 lizard genera



Rosauer *et al.* (2016) Biological Conservation

# Phyloendemism in the Top End for 10 lizard genera

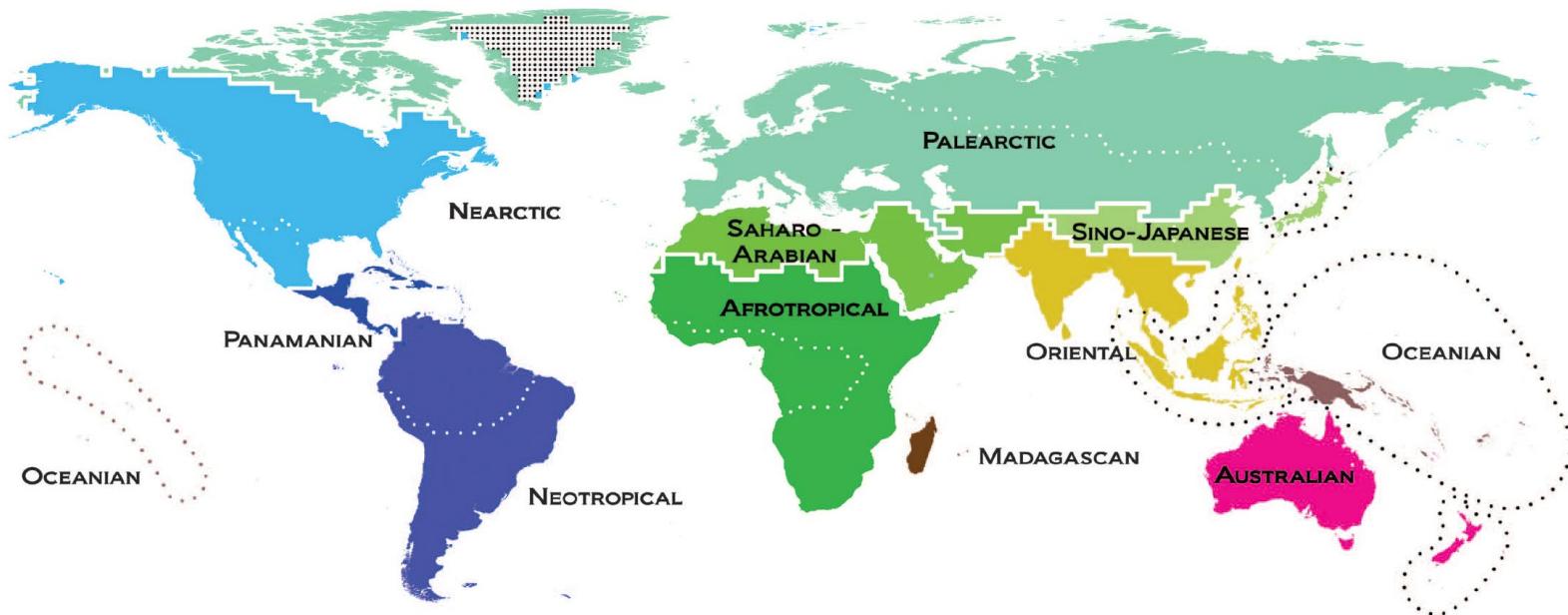


Protection status	Area % of region	Summed PE % of region
Government	13.3	27.1
Indigenous	12.8	17.9
Conservation NGO	1.5	1.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>27.6</b>	<b>46.1</b>

Rosauer et al. (2016) Biological Conservation

# An Update of Wallace's Zoogeographic Regions of the World

Ben G. Holt,<sup>1\*</sup> Jean-Philippe Lessard,<sup>1\*†</sup> Michael K. Borregaard,<sup>1</sup> Susanne A. Fritz,<sup>1,2</sup>  
Miguel B. Araújo,<sup>1,3,4</sup> Dimitar Dimitrov,<sup>5</sup> Pierre-Henri Fabre,<sup>5</sup> Catherine H. Graham,<sup>6</sup>  
Gary R. Graves,<sup>1,7</sup> Knud A. Jønsson,<sup>5</sup> David Nogués-Bravo,<sup>1</sup> Zhiheng Wang,<sup>1</sup>  
Robert J. Whittaker,<sup>1,8</sup> Jon Fjeldså,<sup>5</sup> Carsten Rahbek<sup>1</sup>



Holt *et al.* (2013) Science

# Getting practical basics of mapping biodiversity

- Getting practical – basics of mapping biodiversity
  - Types of species location data - knowing what lives where
  - Resolution (spatial units of analysis)
  - Metrics
  - Units of biodiversity (species or phylogenetic)

# Types of species distribution data

## Specimen & survey records



Collection	<a href="#">Museum Victoria Mammalogy Collection</a>
Catalogue number	C 22667
Basis of record	Preserved Specimen
Preparations	Skeleton
Collecting date	1965-06-02
Sex	Female
Individual count	1
Scientific Name	<i>Acrobates pygmaeus</i>
Common name	Feathertail glider
Locality	Trawalla forest reserve
Latitude	-37.45
Longitude	143.42



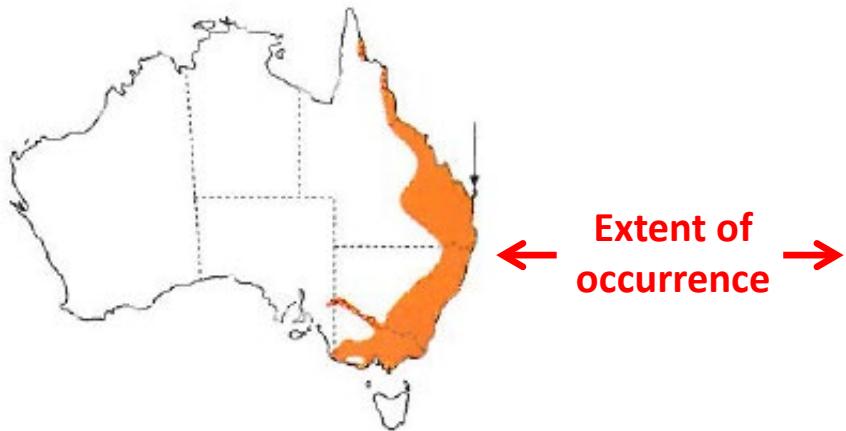
Atlas of Living Australia  
[ala.org.au](http://ala.org.au)



- Specific location and date
- Does not extrapolate beyond known location
- Fine spatial resolution
- Can relate species occurrence to conditions at site
- Physical evidence
- **Underestimates species occurrence**

# Types of species distribution data

## Expert range maps



### Feathertail Glider *Acrobates pygmaeus*

hb 65–80 mm; t 70–80 mm; wt 10–14 g

World's smallest gliding mammal—size of small mouse. Tail unique among Aust mammals—almost hairless except for fringe of long stiff hairs on either side giving feather-like appearance. Gliding membrane between elbows and knees. Upperparts uniform mid-grey; often with white patch behind ears; blackish around eyes. Underparts whitish, including face below eyes. **Distribution, habitat and status** Widespread in cool-temperate and tropical eucalypt forests of e. Aust to se. SA. Needs high diversity of trees and shrubs to provide year-round nectar. More common in wet and old-growth forest than dry or regenerating

Menkhorst & Knight (2001) A Field Guide to Mammals of Australia



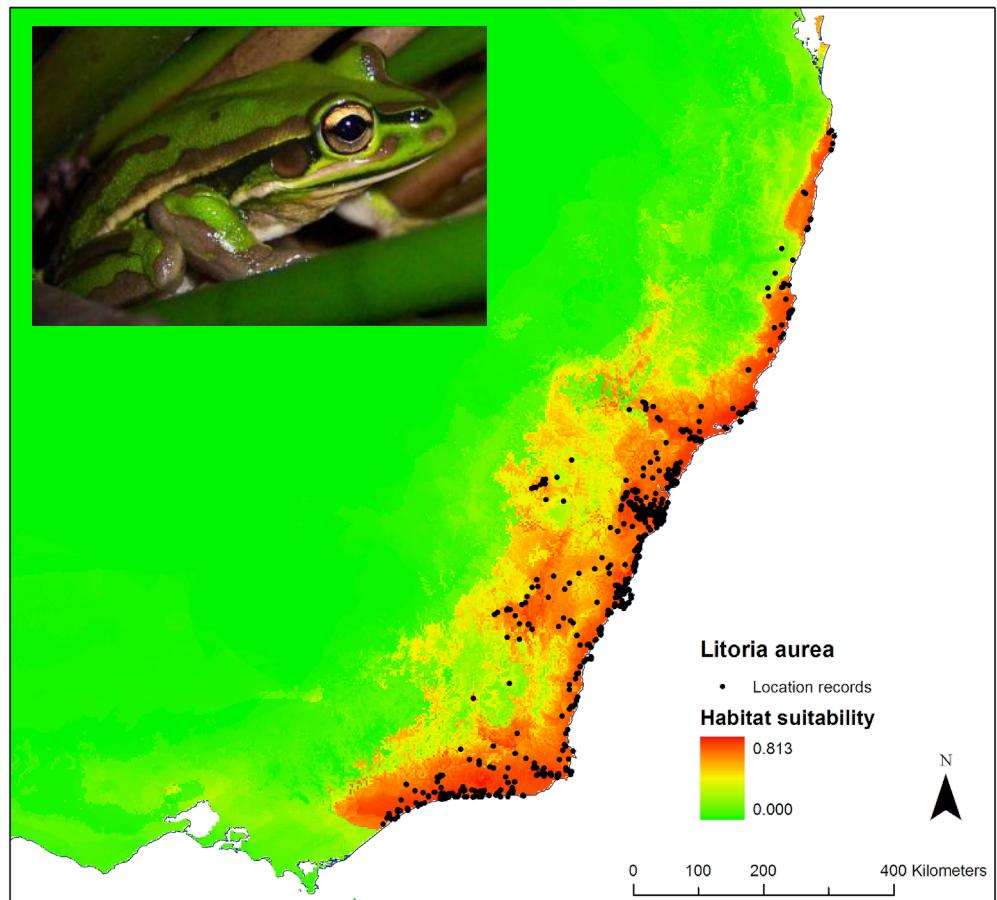
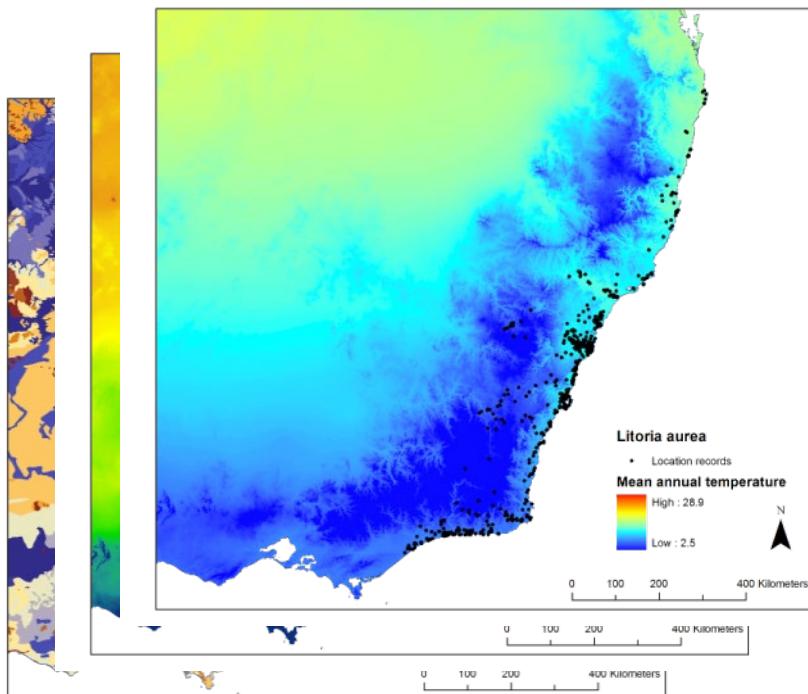
IUCN Global Mammal  
Assessment



- Less affected by sample bias
- Can benefit from expert knowledge as well as data
- No fine scale information about where the species occurs within its range
- Overestimates species occurrence

# Species Distribution Models

use environmental data to estimate areas of suitable habitat



# Measuring richness: effect of data type and resolution

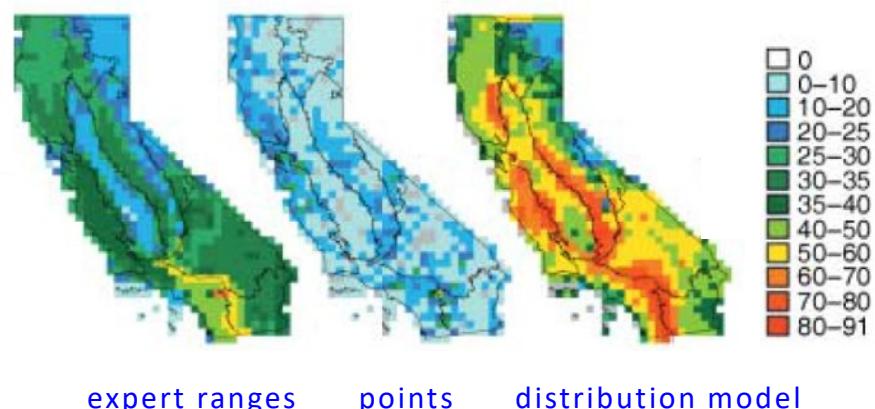
Data Type	Richness	Resolution
Survey point records	<i>lowest</i>	
Expert ranges	<i>intermediate</i>	The richness difference between points and expert ranges is greater for fine scale analyses
Modelled ranges <i>highest</i>		Herbert & Jetz (2007) PNAS

Global Ecology and Biogeography, (Global Ecol. Biogeogr.) (2006) 15, 578–587

RESEARCH  
PAPER

## A comparison of methods for mapping species ranges and species richness

Catherine H. Graham<sup>1\*</sup> and Robert J. Hijmans<sup>2</sup>



Graham & Hijmans (2006) Global Ecology & Biogeography

# Endemism

## Centres of endemism

- Concentration of species with small range sizes
- Causes
  - Isolation (by physical or environmental barriers)
  - Habitat heterogeneity
  - Range contraction

## Why is endemism important?

- Conservation
- Biogeography

# Measuring endemism

## What defines endemism?

- **Absolute endemism** - fixed boundary
- **Relative endemism** - continuous function

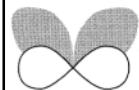


## Weighted endemism (WE)

$WE = \frac{1}{\text{range}}$  (for each species)

total of endemism scores for species recorded  
in the cell

Journal of Biogeography, 28, 183–198



### Endemism in the Australian flora

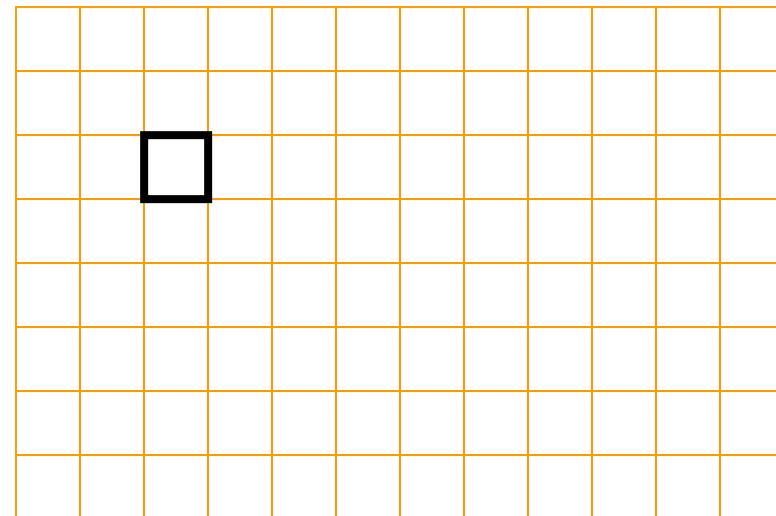
M. D. Crisp<sup>1\*</sup>, S. Laffan<sup>2</sup>, H. P. Linder<sup>3</sup> and A. Monro<sup>1</sup> <sup>1</sup>Division of Botany and Zoology,

<sup>2</sup>Department of Geography, Australian National University, Canberra ACT 0200, Australia  
and <sup>3</sup>Department of Botany, University of Cape Town, Rondebosch 7700, South Africa

# How weighted endemism is calculated?

Consider an area where 3 species are found:

Species	Range
<i>Callionima denticulata</i>	
<i>Dirphia avia</i>	
<i>Sphinx merops</i>	

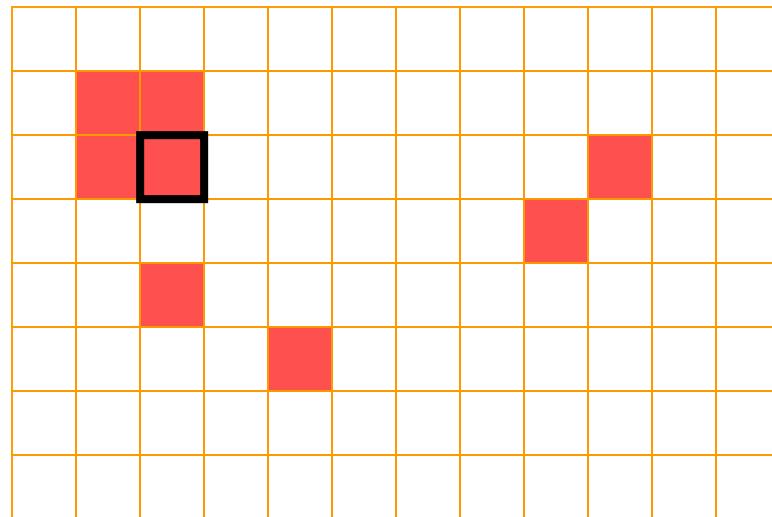


# How weighted endemism is calculated?



Species	Range
<i>Callionima denticulata</i>	8
<i>Dirphia avia</i>	
<i>Sphinx merops</i>	

$$\frac{1}{8}$$

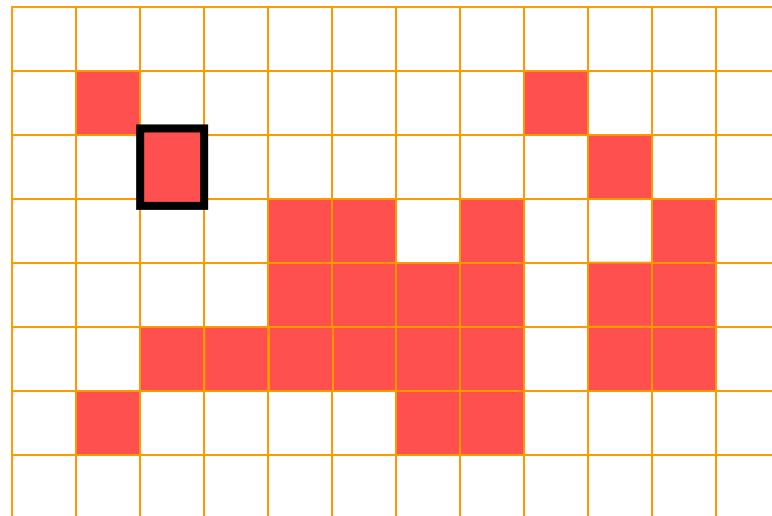


# How weighted endemism is calculated?



Species	Range
<i>Callionima denticulata</i>	8
<i>Dirphia avia</i>	25
<i>Sphinx merops</i>	

$$\frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{25}$$

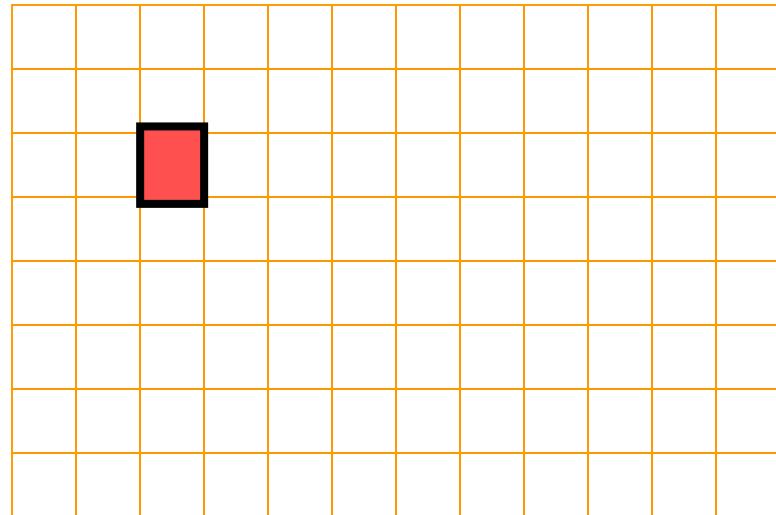


# How weighted endemism is calculated?

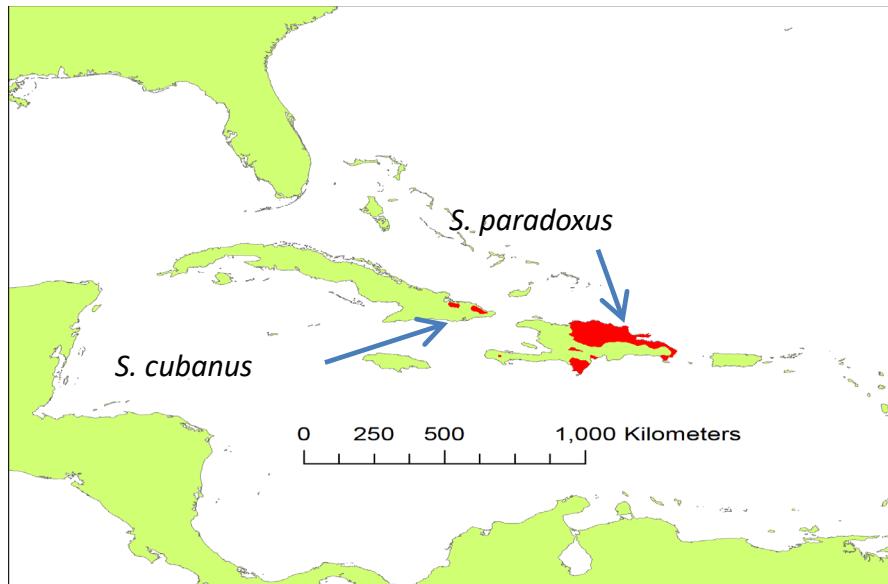


Species	Range
<i>Callionima denticulata</i>	8
<i>Dirphia avia</i>	25
<i>Sphinx merops</i>	1

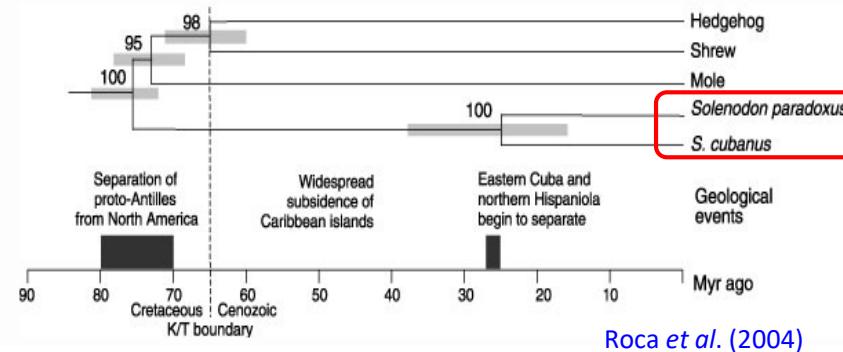
$$\frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{25} + \frac{1}{1} = 1.16$$



Biological diversity is distributed unequally between species as well as between areas



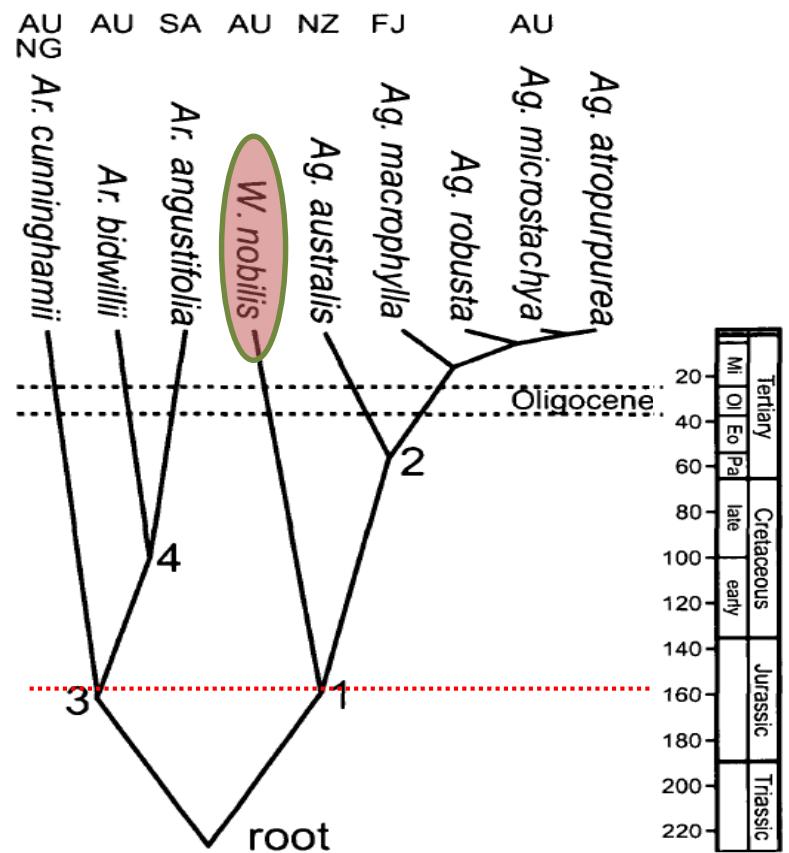
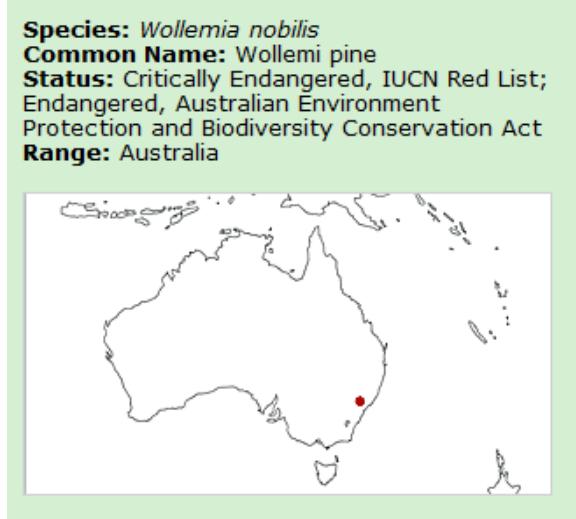
*Solenodon paradoxus*



Roca et al. (2004)

# Biological diversity is distributed unequally between species as well as between areas

## The Wollemi Pine



Knapp et al. 2007 Sys. Biol.

# Improving conservation decisions

NATURE · VOL 348 · 6 DECEMBER 1990

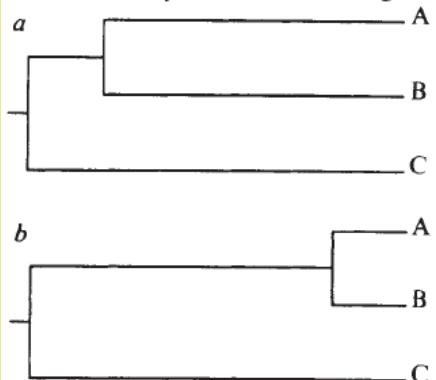
STEPHEN F. ALTSCHUL

DAVID J. LIPMAN

## Equal animals

SIR—May in News and Views<sup>1</sup> discusses the question of whether all species should be equally valued from the perspective of conservation biology. He and others have concluded that some animals must be considered more equal than others<sup>2</sup> when assigning spaces in a shrinking—if not sinking—ark.

But how can one assess the relative worth of, for example, two different species of lemur? If diversity is the goal the key seems to lie in taxonomy, with species for which no close relatives exist receiving greater weight. May described several weighting schemes based on the branching order, or topology, of an evolutionary tree relating the species in question. The length of the branches of such a tree, corresponding to degrees of change between evolutionary diversions, should also be taken into account. The two evolutionary trees shown in the figure,



for example, are topologically identical. Yet the three species in tree *a*, having diverged at nearly the same time, should

## Economy as destiny

M. May

*Econometrica*, Vol. 66, No. 6 (November, 1998), 1279–1298

## THE NOAH'S ARK PROBLEM

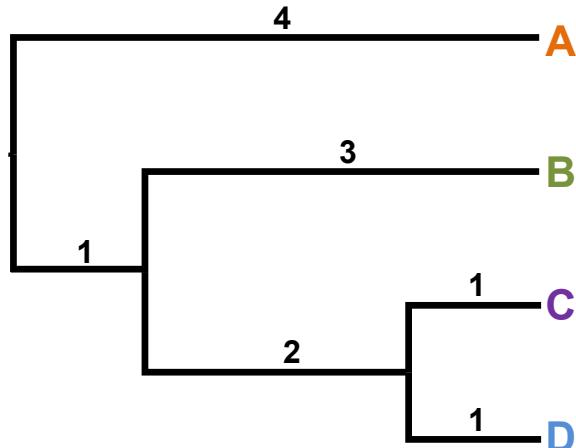
BY MARTIN L. WEITZMAN

This paper is about the economic theory of biodiversity preservation. A cost-effectiveness methodology is constructed, which results in a particular formula that can be used as a criterion to rank projects. The ranking criterion is sufficiently operational to be useful in suggesting what to look at when determining actual conservation priorities among endangered species. At the same time, the formula is firmly rooted in a mathematically rigorous optimization framework, so that its theoretical underpinnings are clear. The underlying model, called the “Noah’s Ark Problem,” is intended to be a kind of canonical form that hones down to its analytical essence the problem of best preserving diversity under a limited budget constraint.

KEYWORDS: Biodiversity, endangered species, diversity theory.

points in the tree.

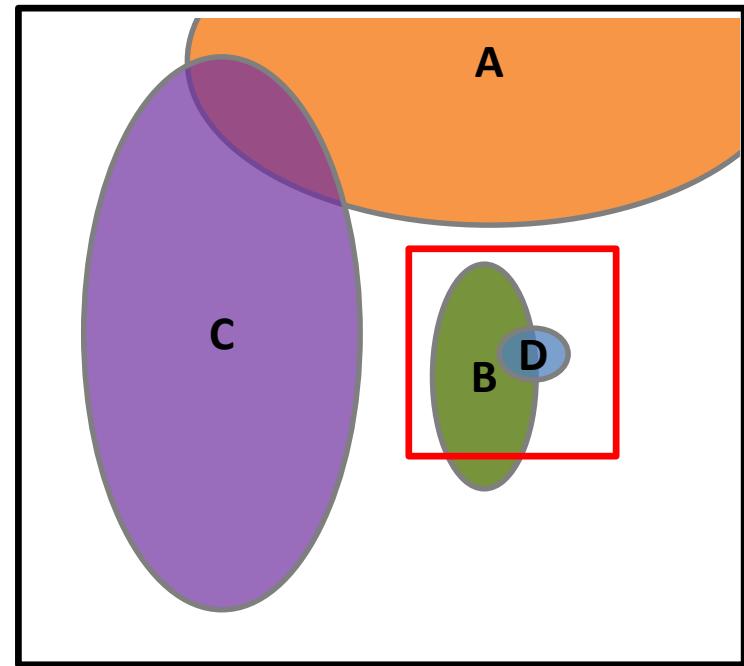
# Calculating phylogenetic diversity and endemism



Phylogenetic Diversity (PD)

Faith (1992)

$$PD = 1 + 3 + 2 + 1 = 7$$

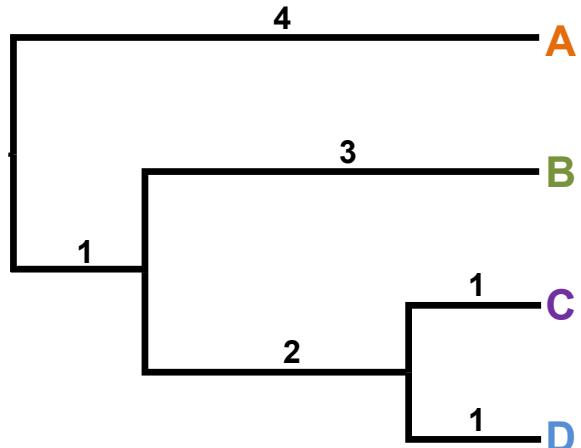


## Advantages of PD

- captures more information on diversity
- robust to taxonomic uncertainty
- doesn't even require taxonomy

$$PD = \sum_{\{c \in C\}} L_c$$

# Calculating phylogenetic diversity and endemism



Phylogenetic Diversity (PD)

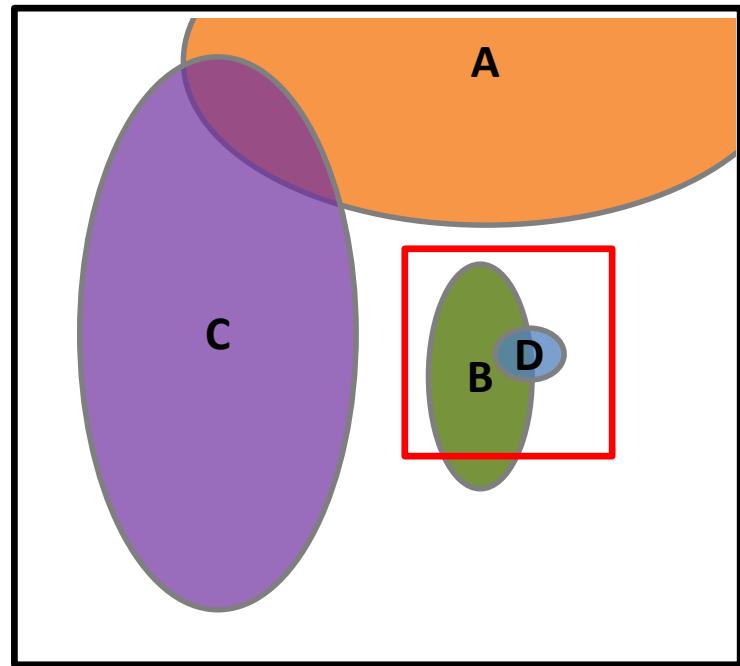
Faith (1992)

$$PD = 1 + 3 + 2 + 1 = 7$$

Phylogenetic Endemism (PE)

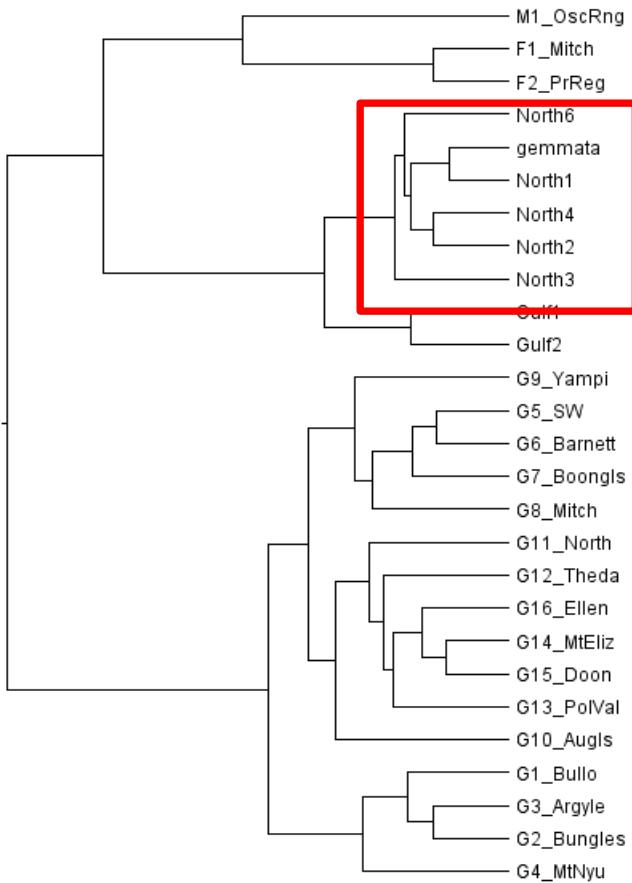
Rosauer et al (2009)

$$PE = (1 * 1) + (3 * 0.8) + (2 * 0.2) + (1 * 0.25) = 4.05$$



$$PE = \sum_{c \in C} \frac{L_c}{R_c}$$

PE is the proportion of the range of each unit of diversity, that is found in a given area.



# Oedura

