

AI For The Environment, week 9

From AI to ecological models

Ella Browning and Rory Gibb

People & Nature Lab / Centre for Biodiversity and Environment Research, UCL

Introductions

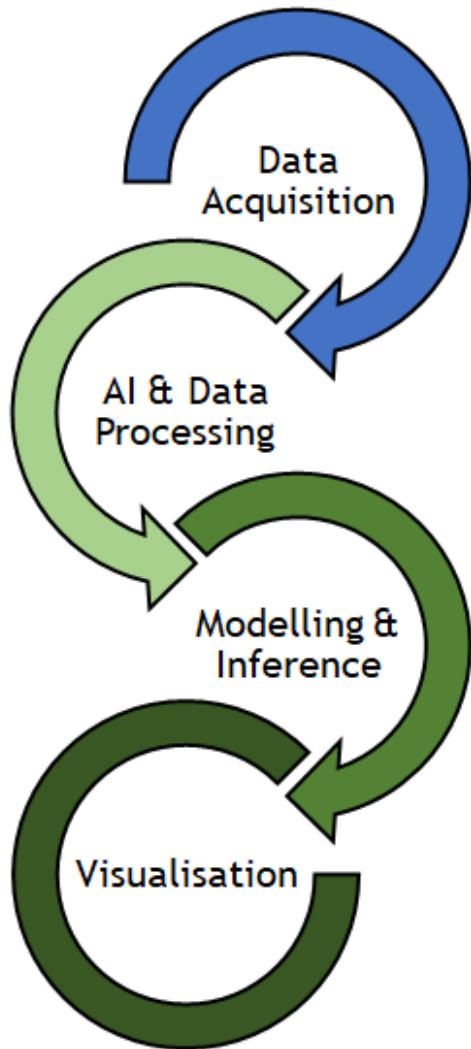


Dr Rory Gibb - UCL



Dr Ella Browning - UCL

Today's session



BIOS0031 -
Tech for Nature

BIOS0032-
AI4Environment

Sessions 1-7

Sessions 8-9

Session 10

Session 9:

- Linking research questions, to hypotheses, to data, to models.
- Environmental data and GIS in R.
- Principles of statistical modelling in ecology.
- Widely used methods and techniques.

Session 10:

- Explanatory (causal) and predictive modelling.
- Confounding and sampling bias.
- Autocorrelation in space, time and phylogeny.
- Spatial and temporal models.

Today's session

Research question

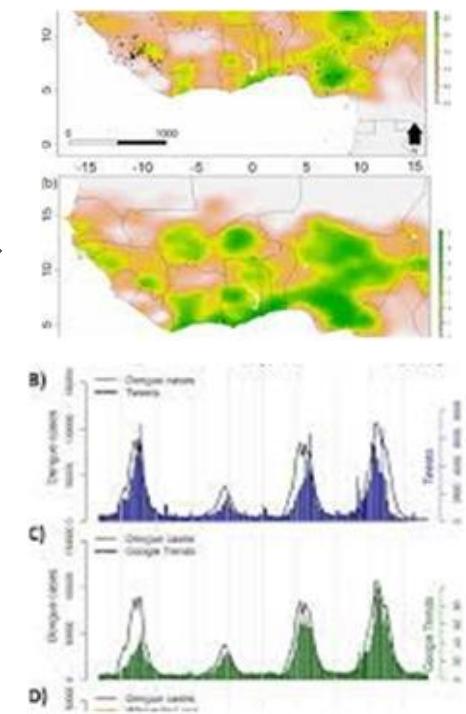


Data collection & processing (sensors and AI)



Data in space and time

| image | xmin | ymin | xmax | ymax | label |
|-------------------|----------|----------|----------|-------|------------|
| 2018_MNI_3.944241 | 643.3269 | 518.6676 | 1469.309 | 309 | shoats |
| 2018_MNI_2246.483 | 0 | 2688 | 1468.581 | 1 | human |
| 2018_MNI_1251.482 | 811.6431 | 1251.482 | 811.6431 | blank | |
| 2018_MNI_714.2798 | 513.2842 | 903.2953 | 724.1063 | 1 | domestic_ |
| 2018_MNI_1633.806 | 36.36486 | 1917.777 | 725.2297 | 1 | human |
| 2018_MNI_972.9326 | 489.3484 | 1821.326 | 702.222 | 2 | shoats |
| 2018_MNI_475.5233 | 547.0431 | 833.658 | 738.0326 | 2 | shoats |
| 2018_MNI_0 | 419.7168 | 238.7565 | 604.7378 | 2 | shoats |
| 2018_MNI_1185.244 | 668.954 | 1187.216 | 668.954 | 1 | blank |
| 2018_MNI_1931.392 | 336.0405 | 2100.608 | 472.2568 | 2 | shoats |
| 2018_MNI_2339.844 | 322.4189 | 2563.52 | 431.3919 | 2 | shoats |
| 2018_MNI_210.0608 | 540.3649 | 552.3821 | 734.9595 | 2 | shoats |
| 2018_MNI_579.3553 | 268.9991 | 610.6718 | 292.4612 | 1 | zebra |
| 2018_MNI_639.3786 | 263.7853 | 666.7806 | 289.8543 | 1 | zebra |
| 2018_MNI_444.9553 | 274.2129 | 503.6738 | 314.6198 | 1 | zebra |
| 2018_MNI_666.7806 | 257.2681 | 702.0117 | 291.1578 | 1 | zebra |
| 2018_MNI_241.3981 | 306.7991 | 277.934 | 335.475 | 1 | gazelle_th |



Ecological inference and prediction

Learning objectives for week 9

By the end of today you will...

- Understand the importance of clearly defined research questions and hypotheses for answering ecological questions.
- Understand the fundamentals of spatial data processing and GIS in R.
- Understand key principles of statistical modelling in ecology.
- Be familiar with common data and model types in ecological research, as well as important sources of bias impacting ecological data.

Structure of the day

Lecture 1 AM ~45min

- Defining a research question and hypotheses
- Combining ecological with spatial and temporal environmental data

Workshop 1 AM ~1hr

- Introduction to geographical and spatial data processing and analysis in R

Lecture 2 PM ~ 45min

- Linking ecological questions to models
- Widely-used modelling tools for ecological inference and prediction

Workshop 2 PM ~2hr

- Combining camera trap and spatial environmental data to understand species occurrence
- Generalised linear and mixed effects models in R

Morning lecture

From research question to ecological and environmental data

Basic Principles for Ecological Modelling



Start with a question

Research question

- A good research question should be **F**easible, **I**nteresting, **N**ovel, **E**thical and **R**elevant (the FINER criteria) Hulley et al. (2007). Designing clinical research. Lippincott Williams & Wilkins
- If appropriate, define hypotheses ***a priori***
 - fundamental to robust experimental study design and causal inference.

ACADEMIC PRACTICE IN ECOLOGY AND EVOLUTION

Ecology and Evolution
Open Access

WILEY

When are hypotheses useful in ecology and evolution?

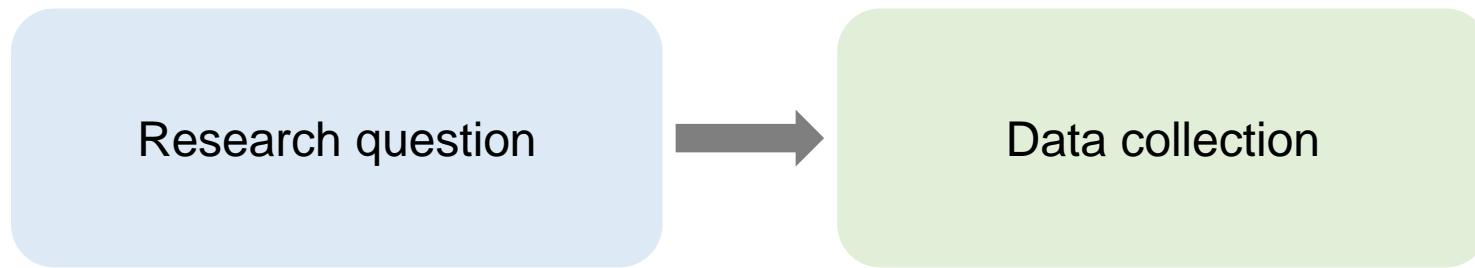
Matthew G. Betts¹  | Adam S. Hadley¹ | David W. Frey¹ | Sarah J. K. Frey¹ |
Dusty Gannon¹ | Scott H. Harris¹  | Hankyu Kim¹ | Urs G. Kormann¹ |
Kara Leimberger¹ | Katie Moriarty² | Joseph M. Northrup^{1,3} | Ben Phalan¹ |
Josée S. Rousseau¹ | Thomas D. Stokely¹ | Jonathon J. Valente¹ | Chris Wolf¹ |
Diego Zárrate-Charry¹



> Pers Soc Psychol Rev. 1998;2(3):196-217. doi: 10.1207/s15327957pspr0203_4.

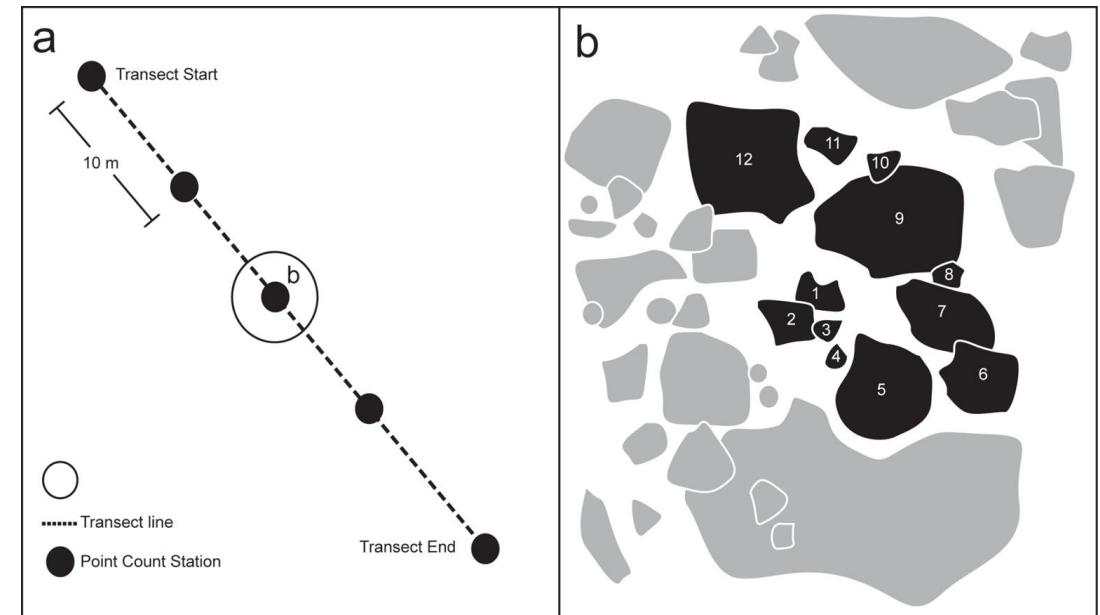
HARKing: hypothesizing after the results are known

Data collection



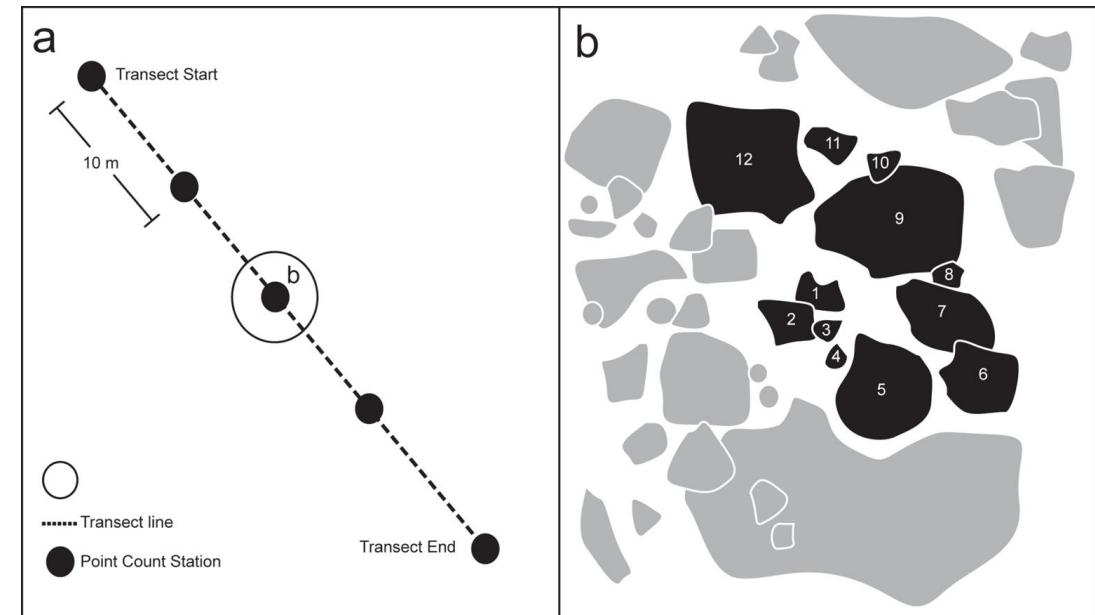
Types of ecological data: Structured data

- Collected using a well defined, randomised, stratified sampling strategy
- Representative sample to reflect the patterns & characteristics of the target population/ community
- Repeatable data collection methods
- Unbiased (?)



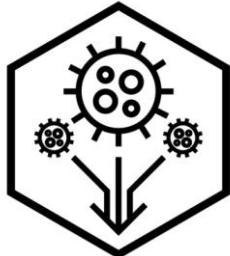
Types of ecological data: Structured data

- Collected using a well defined, randomised, stratified sampling strategy
- Representative sample to reflect the patterns & characteristics of the target population/ community
- Repeatable data collection methods
- Unbiased (?)
- Smaller quantities of these data available
- Expensive - resources & infrastructure

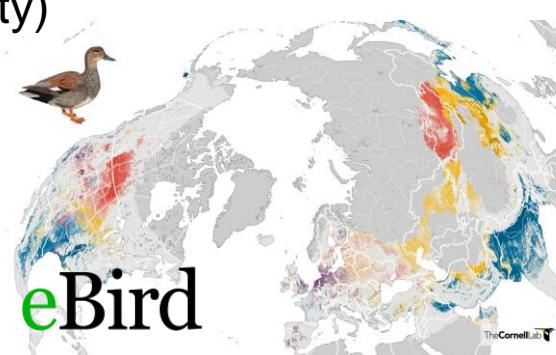


Types of ecological data: Unstructured data

- Non-representative sampling
- Often much larger quantities available
- Often combine observations or data from numerous sources
 - (many different data generating processes in the same dataset!)
- Typical of many citizen science datasets (some exceptions)
- Subject to many biases (taxonomic, geographical, detectability)
 - modelling can attempt to account for these



The Global Virome, in One Network



Understanding the data-generating process

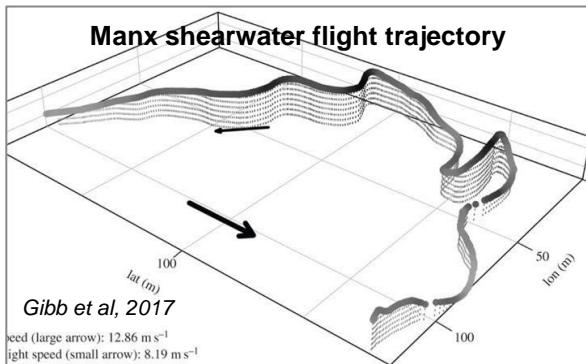
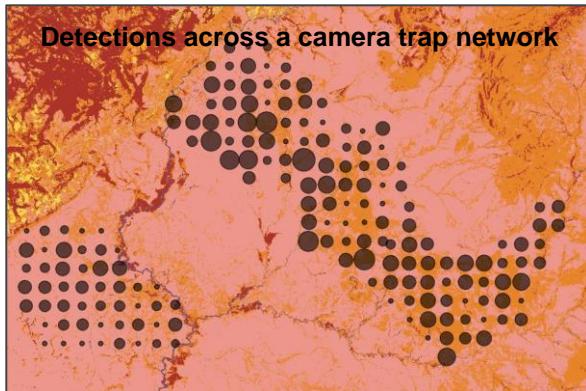
- How the data were generated affects the kind of questions that can be answered, and analysis approach
- Unstructured data are *typically* the lowest common denominator - e.g. presence only data
- Structured data are *typically* richer in their information - e.g. abundance data

| Unstructured data | Structured |
|--|--|
| Ecologically information poor - e.g. presence only | Ecologically information rich - e.g. abundance |
| Unrecorded sampling effort | Sampling effort well recorded |
| Non-systematic sampling | Systematic sampling |
| Not stratified | Stratified |
| No controls | Controls included (if appropriate) |

From AI to ecological data, across space, time and phylogeny

Species detections, abundance or movement trajectories

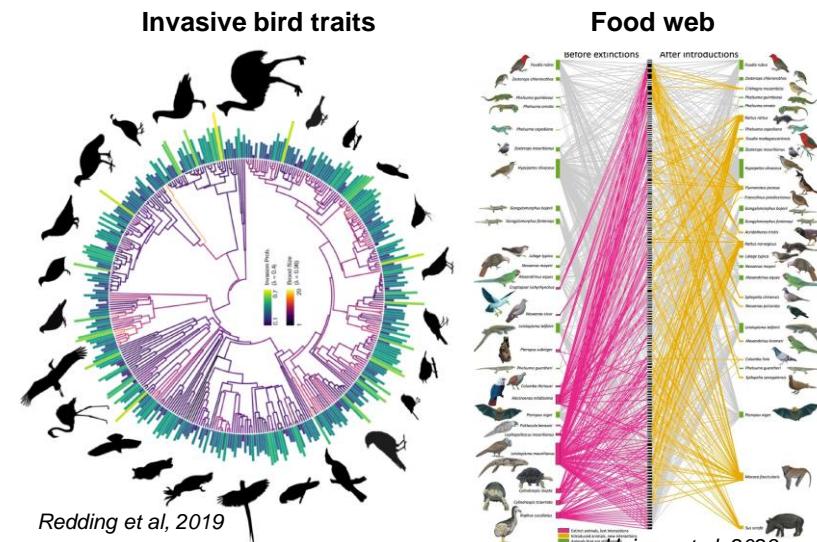
(e.g. via camera trap; bioacoustic sensor; GPS logger)



Precise and explicit in space and time

Species or population level traits or interaction networks

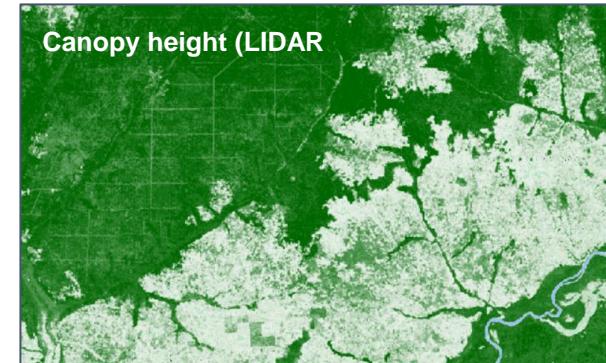
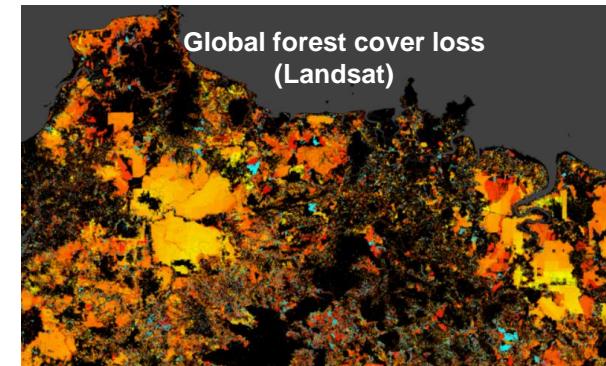
(e.g. via text mining of scientific literature or databases; derived from survey data)



Often coarser or implicit in space and time

Gridded eco-environmental conditions

(e.g. via processing satellite imagery, drone footage or LIDAR)



Precise and explicit in space and/or time

Linking ecological with environmental
data in space and time

Linking ecological to environmental data

- What are the environmental and biotic factors that cause or are associated with a particular ecological pattern or process?
- Location in space/time enables the linking of our observations to other sources of environmental or social data.



<https://nedc.nz/>

Spatial data types

Point



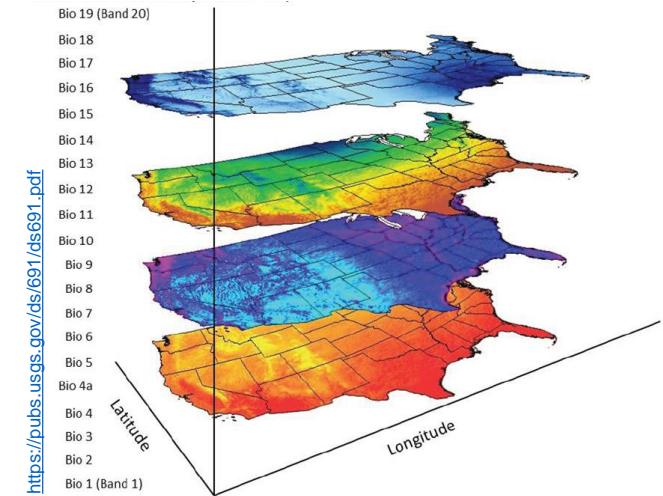
Discrete georeferenced locations of phenomena in space with XY coordinates
(e.g. species occurrence; sensor location; GPS locations)

Polygon



Two-dimensional bounded areas
(e.g. country or administrative boundaries; protected areas; habitat types/ecoregions)

Raster



Grid cells over space with values representing continuous or discrete phenomena
(e.g. land cover types; climatic variables; population density; pesticide input)

Spatial structures in ecological data

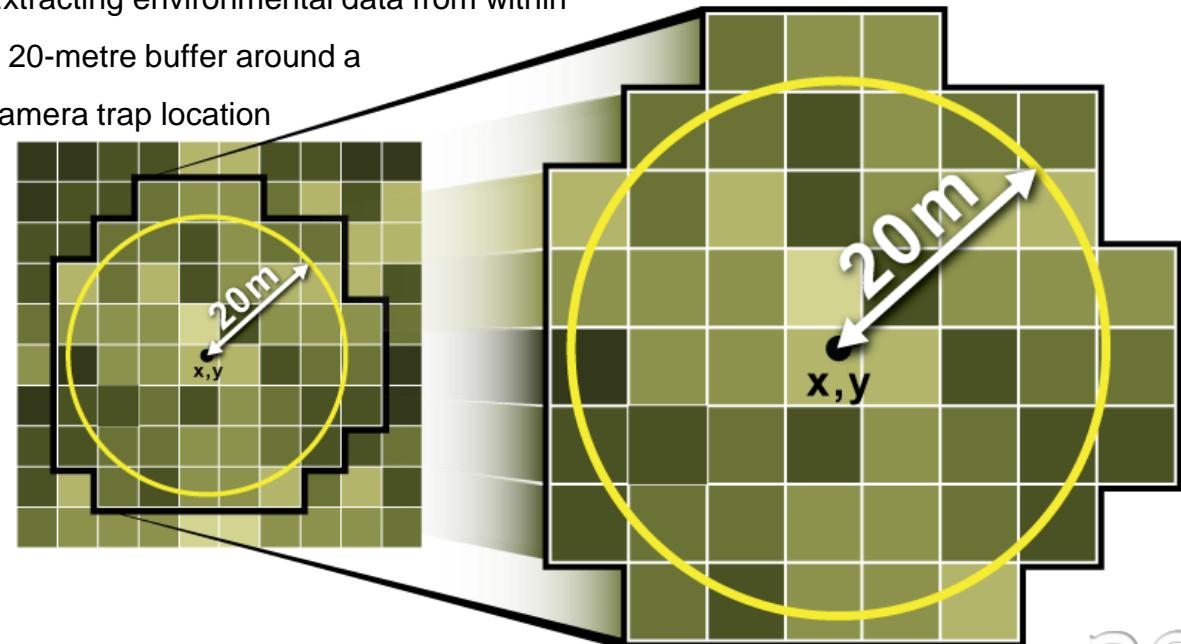


Ecological data are *often* associated in space with point locations or polygon boundaries (because we can't feasibly sample every grid cell of a raster!)

Linking survey observations to raster data

- The location and date/time of ecological observations, can be linked these to raster data about the local socio-environmental conditions.
- A wealth of raster data sources are openly-available on land-cover, vegetation, climate, socioeconomic factors, human pressure...

Extracting environmental data from within a 20-metre buffer around a camera trap location

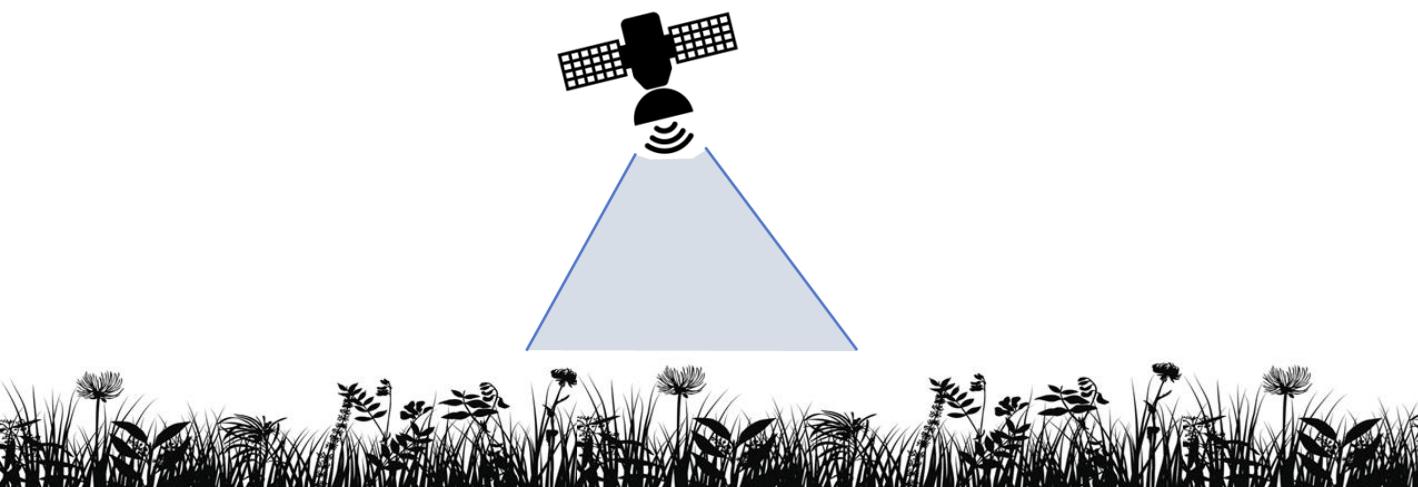


<https://www.neonscience.org/resources/learning-hub/tutorials/extract-values-rasters-r>

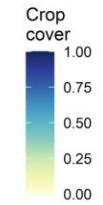
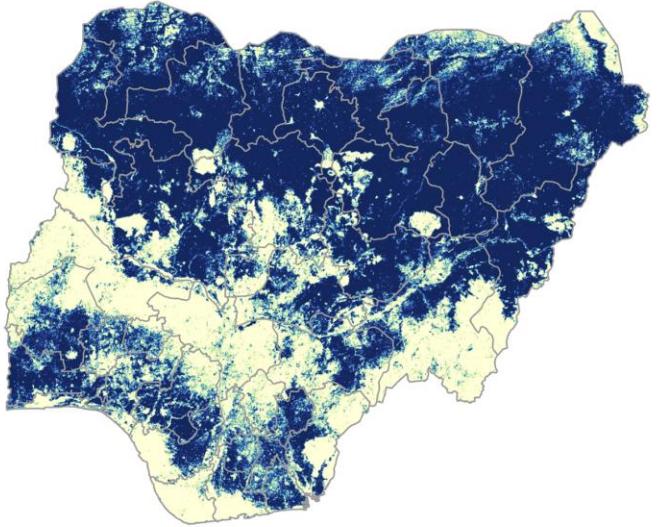
neon

Land cover and land use

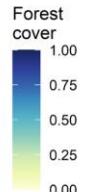
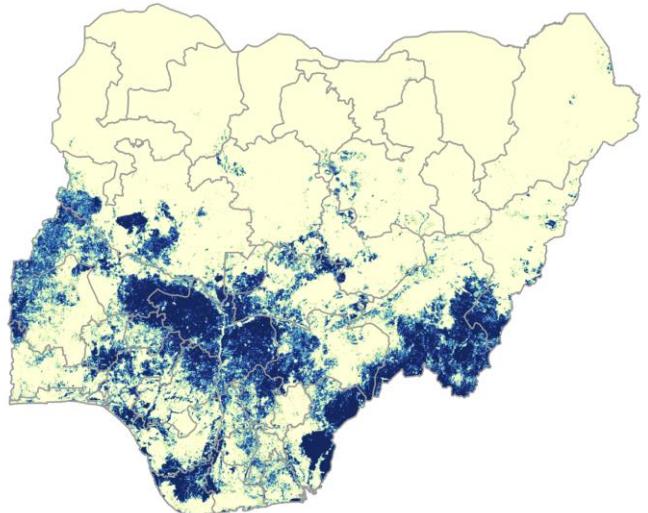
- Gridded data products describing aspects of land cover, derived from satellite imagery
- Quality affected by classification uncertainty or environmental factors such as cloud cover
- Discrete (e.g. habitat type) or continuous (e.g. NDVI, proportion vegetation cover)
- Vary in spatial (from 30m to >10km) and temporal resolutions (from weekly to decadal)



Land cover and land use



Nigeria cropland 2018
(ESA-CCI)

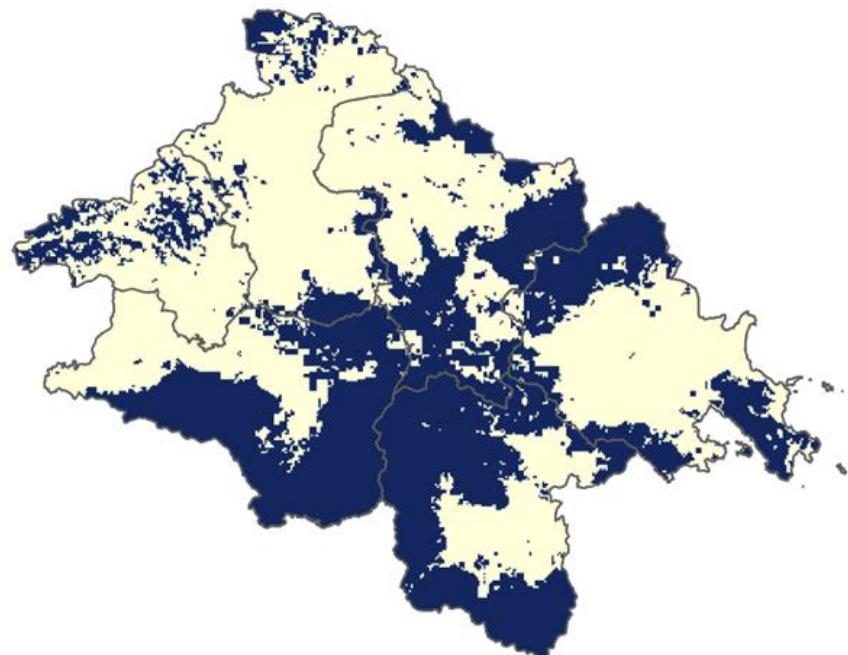


Nigeria forest 2018
(ESA-CCI)

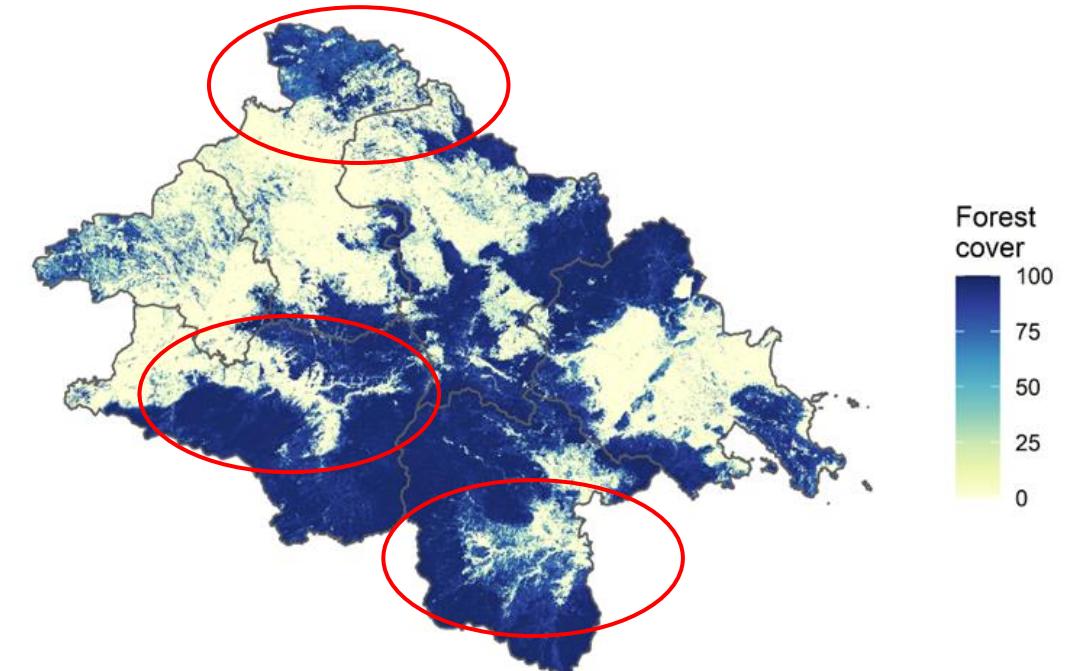


Why resolution matters: two views of the same area

ESA-CCI (300-metre grid cells)



Global Forest Change (30-metre grid cells)



The lower spatial resolution and discrete land cover class scheme of ESA-CCI data classifies many areas with substantial tree cover as “non forest”

Climate data

- Temperature, precipitation, humidity, wind, potential evapotranspiration, drought/flood indicators, El Nino...
- Diverse sources: weather station observations, interpolation, downscaling, satellite sensors, climate models, reanalysis...
- Range of temporal resolutions, from **hourly** to **multi-decadal**
 - often feasible to match ecological observations to existing climate conditions



Climatologies at high resolution for the earth's land surface areas



National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce

Google Earth Engine

A planetary-scale platform for
Earth science data & analysis

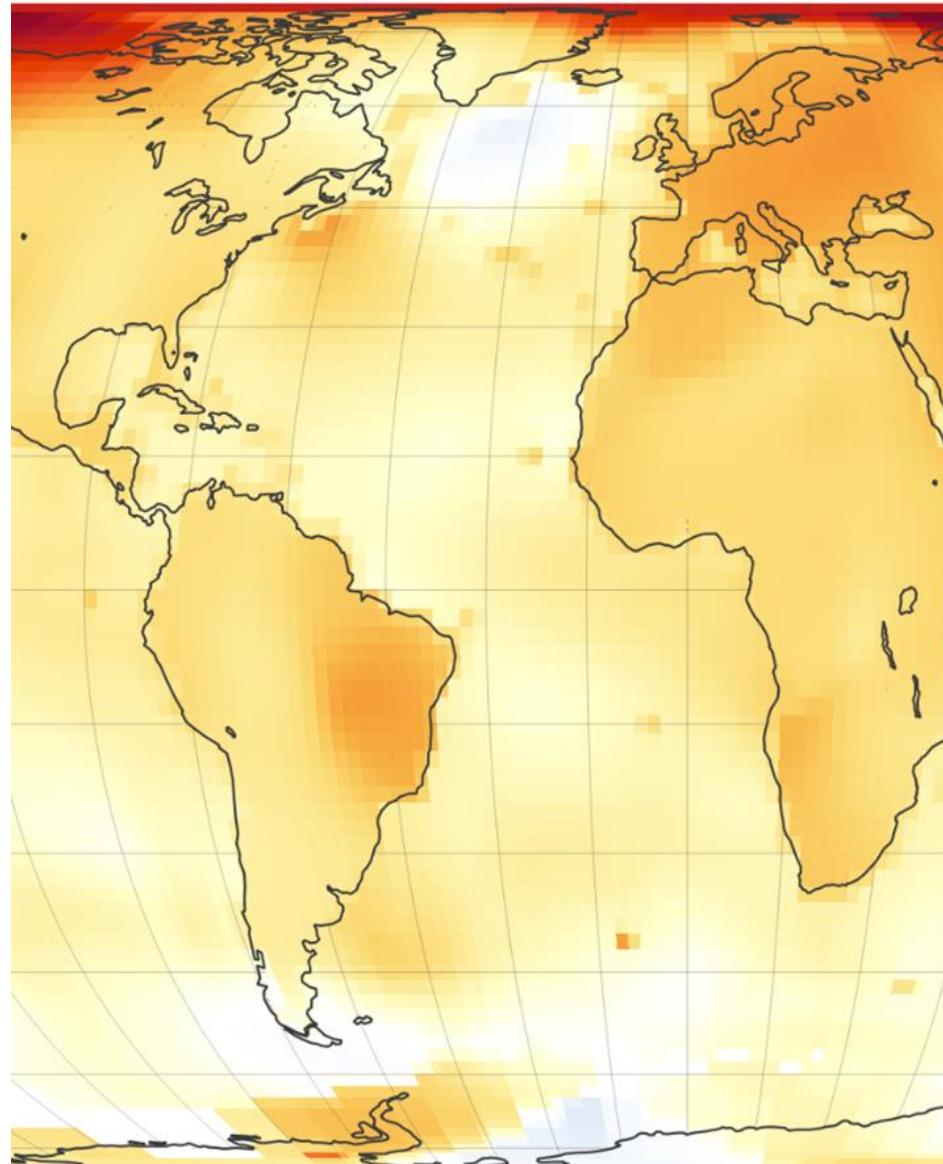
Powered by Google's cloud infrastructure



EARTHDATA
OPEN ACCESS FOR OPEN SCIENCE

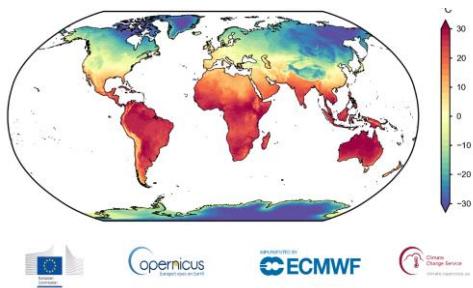
Copernicus
Europe's eyes on Earth

Climate Change
Service



Daily or monthly climatic conditions

- **Interpolated weather station** observations (e.g. CRU, CHIRPS)
- **Satellite products** (e.g. MODIS daily rainfall or temperature)
- **Climate reanalysis** (e.g. ERA5) - powerful emerging approaches combining observations with physical models of the climate system



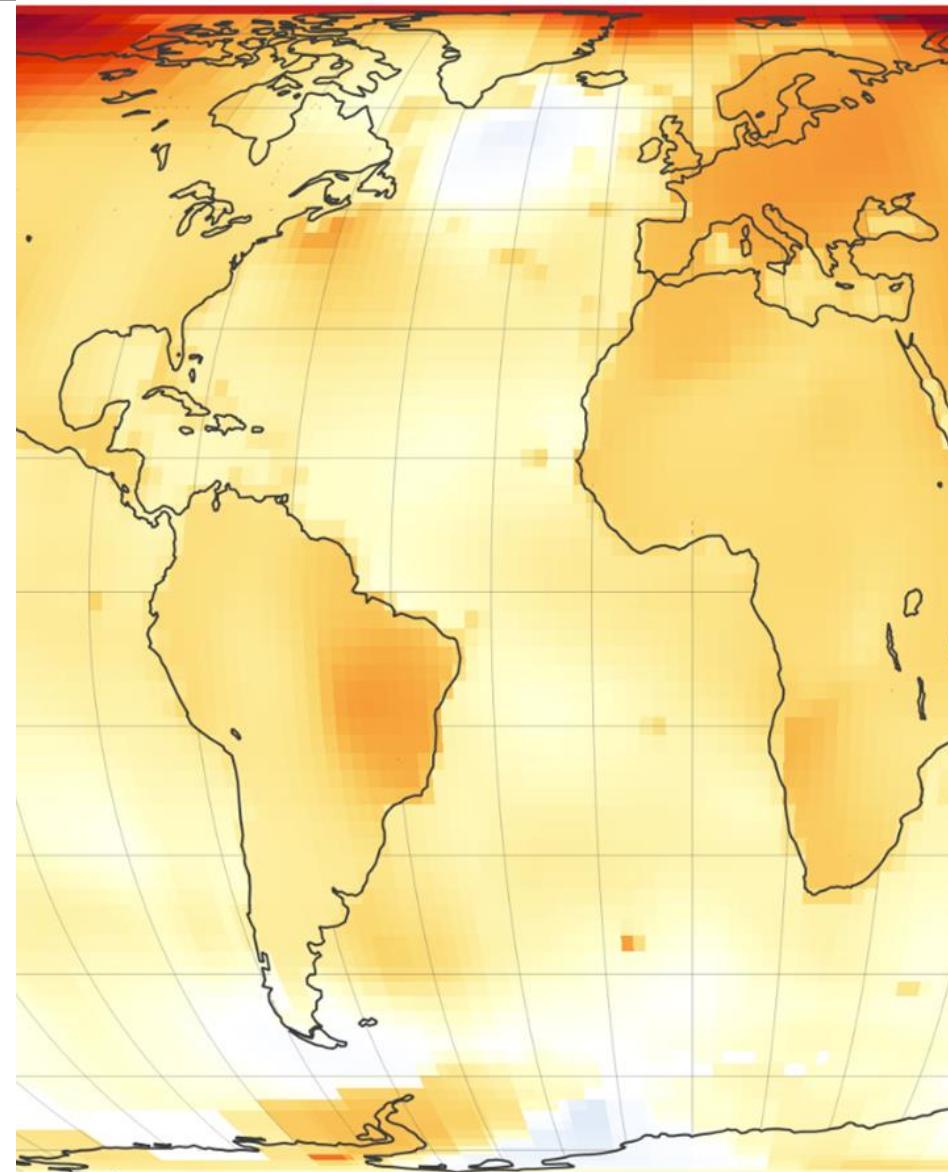
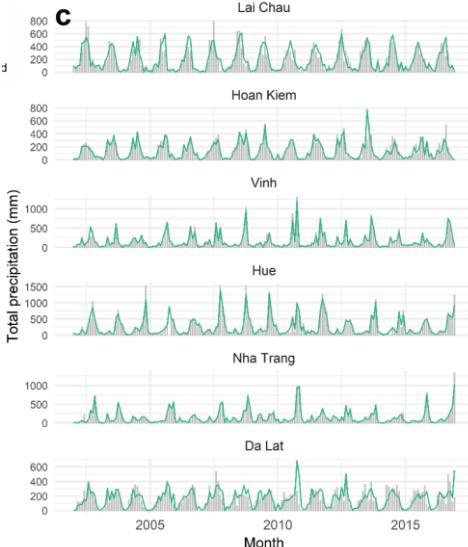
Survey locations



Monthly ERA5
rasters

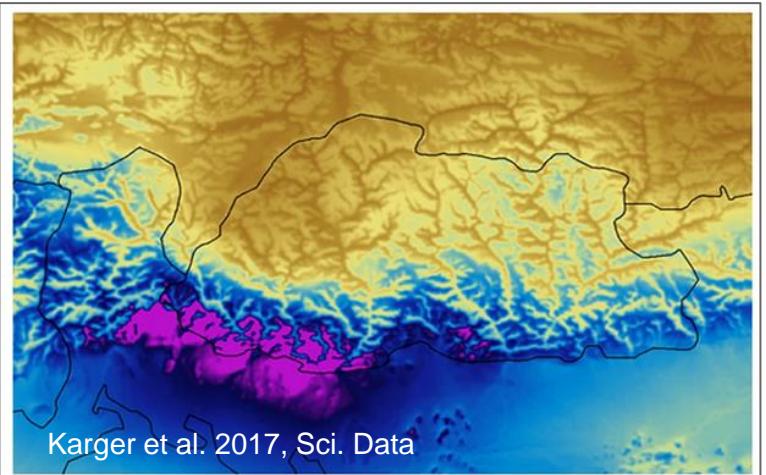


Time series of
precipitation at
survey locations

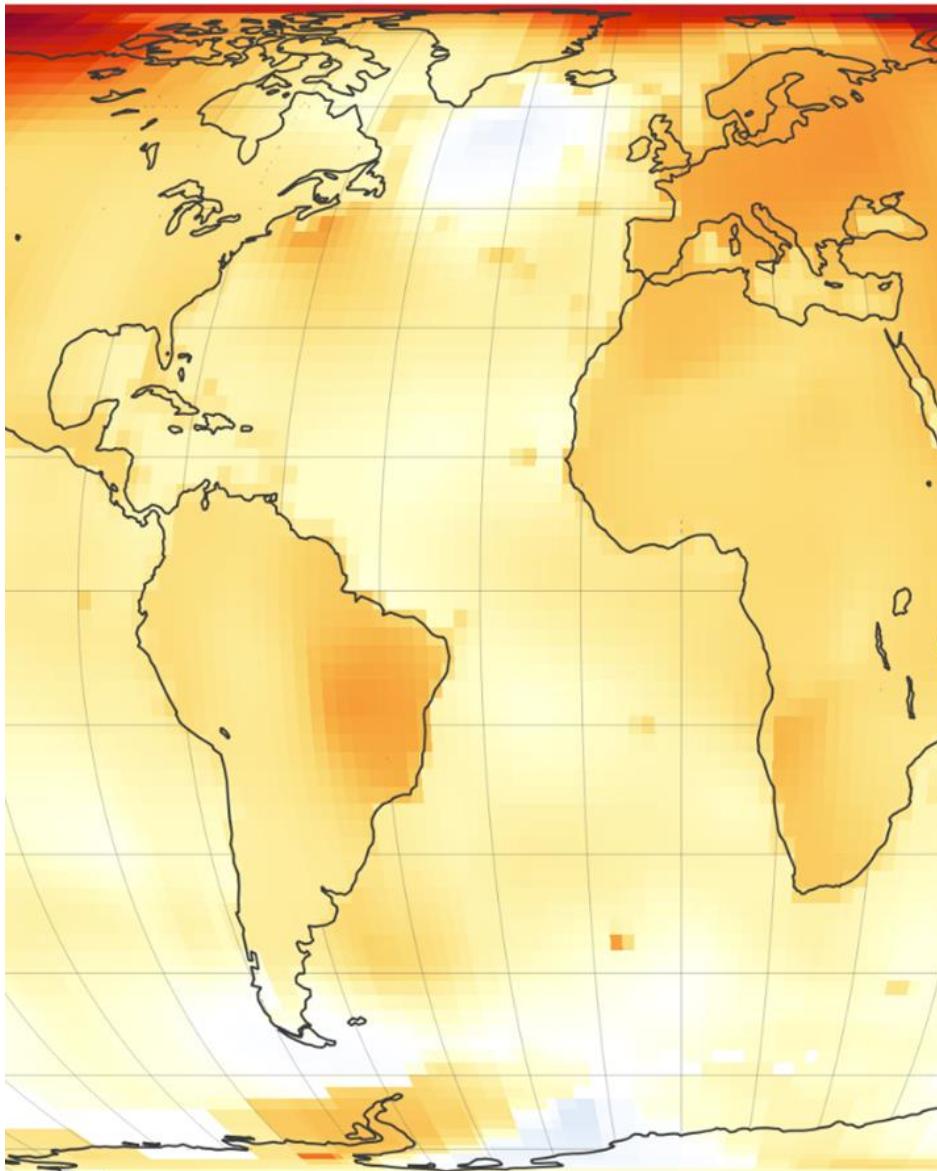


Climatologies

- Averaged climate conditions in each location, typically calculated over multi-decadal periods (e.g. 1970-2010).
- “Bioclimatic variables” describe how average climatic characteristics vary over space
- Often used in species distribution modelling to capture the climatic limits of a species range (a proxy for its climatic tolerances/“niche”)

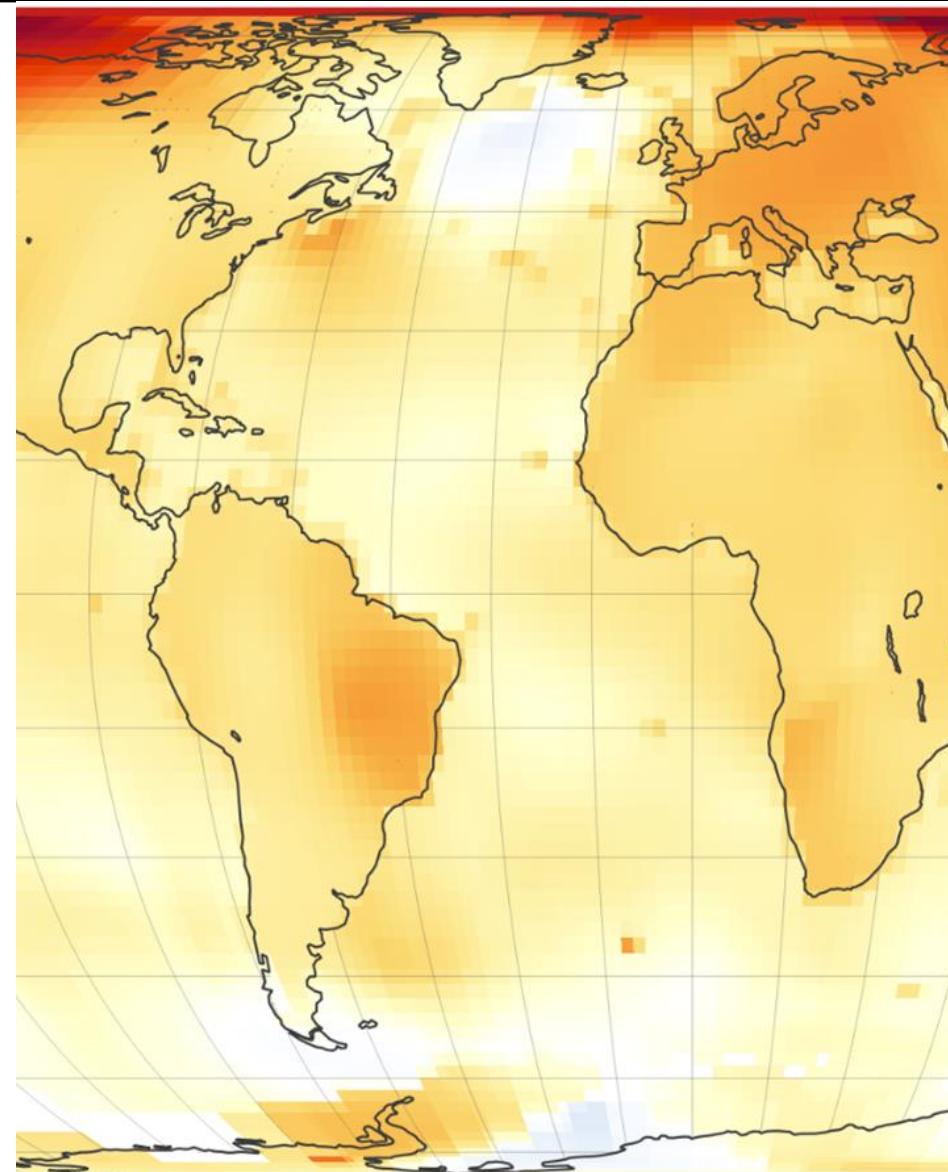
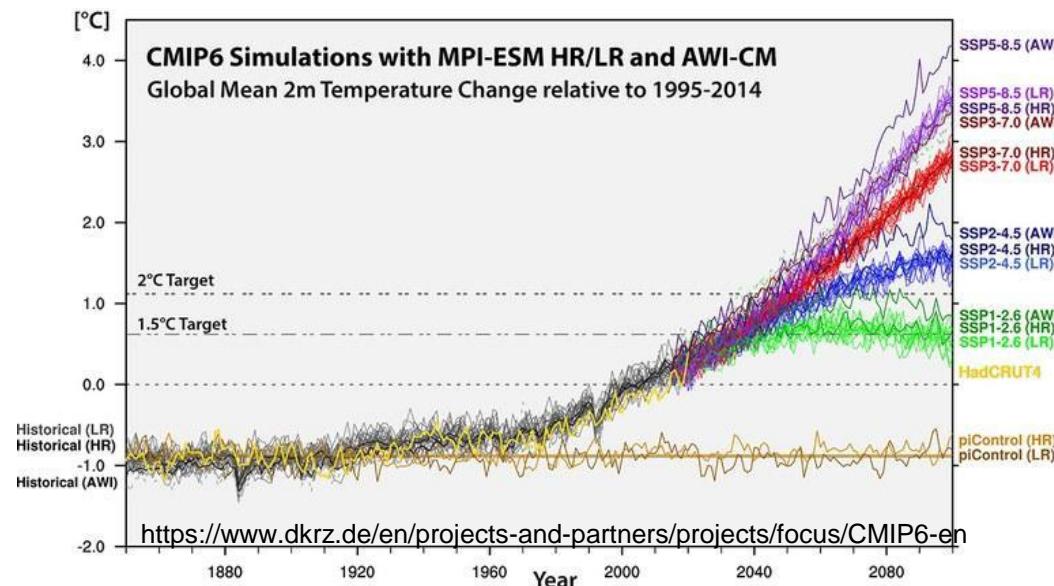


Mean annual
precipitation, Bhutan
*(high-resolution downscaled
climatology from CHELSA)*



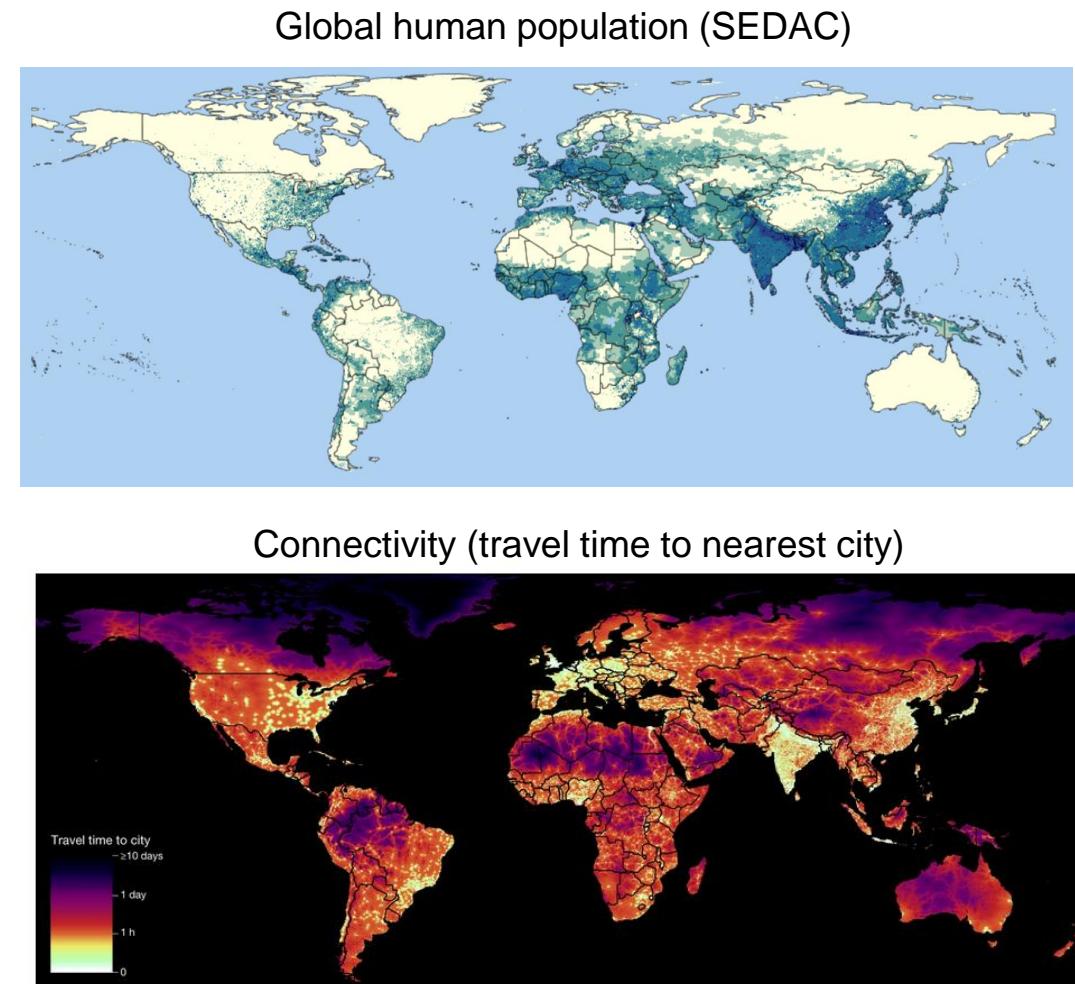
Future climates under emissions scenarios

- **General circulation models (GCMs)** - models of the climate system under different future emissions (RCP) and socioeconomic (SSP) scenario pathways.
- Projections form the basis for the IPCC Assessment Reports on climate change.
- Downscaled future climatologies provide data for ecological/biodiversity impact studies.



Demographic and socioeconomic data

- A wealth of data on human demographic and socioeconomic indicators over space and time.
- Important to account for the human dimension in (socio-)ecological analyses, as well as other types of analysis (e.g. health and disease)
- Often originally based on census or survey data, but gridded products also developed for many indicators.



SOCIOECONOMIC DATA AND APPLICATIONS CENTER (SEDAC)
A Data Center in NASA's Earth Observing System Data and Information System ([EOSDIS](#)) — Hosted by [CIESIN](#) at Columbia University

Useful resources for spatial & environmental data

- Coordinate reference systems
 - <https://www.spatialreference.org/>
- Climatologies/ weather
 - <https://chelsa-climate.org/>
 - <https://www.worldclim.org/>
 - <https://www.earthdata.nasa.gov/>
 - <https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/research/climate/maps-and-data/data/index>
 - <https://openweathermap.org/>
- Satellite derived land-cover/ vegetation/ hydrological
 - <https://www.earthdata.nasa.gov/>
 - <https://earth.esa.int/eogateway/catalog>
 - <https://www.ceh.ac.uk/data>
- Demographic/ socioeconomic
 - <https://www.worldpop.org/>
 - <https://sedac.ciesin.columbia.edu/>

Google Earth Engine



Spatial data processing and analysis in R

- Ever-growing ecosystem of R packages for reproducible GIS workflows, analysis and visualisation (e.g. *sf*, *terra*, *raster*, *exactextractr*), as well as ecology-specific applications.
- Rspatial.org is a good start for core principles and approaches to geographic data (including fiddly concepts like map projections).

We will be exploring some of these topics in today's workshops.

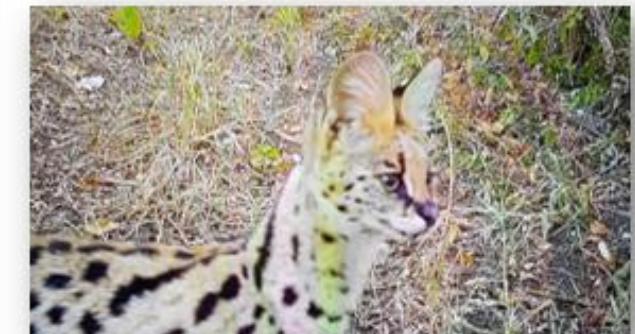
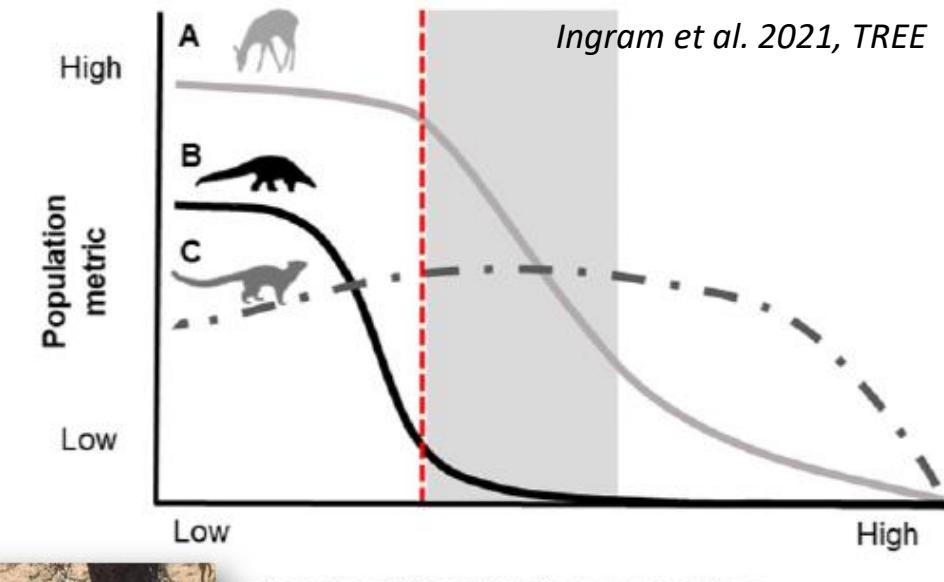
<https://rspatial.org/index.html>

The screenshot shows the Rspatial.org homepage. On the left, there is a sidebar with navigation links: Spatial Data Science (highlighted in yellow), Search docs (in a search bar), Spatial data with *terra*, Spatial data analysis, Remote Sensing with *terra*, Processing MODIS data, Case studies (with sections 1. Introduction, 2. The length of a coastline, and 3. Analyzing species distribution data), and References. The main content area features a map of the Americas colored by species richness, with a legend on the right ranging from 1-5 (light pink) to 40-90 (dark green). Above the map is a snippet of R code:

```
spc <- tapply(v$SPECIES, sp$COUNTRY, function(x)length(unique(x)) )
spc <- data.frame(COUNTRY=names(spc), nspp = spc)
# merge with country SpatVector --- fix the names in the polygons this time
cn$COUNTRY[cn$COUNTRY=="UNITED STATES, THE"] <- "UNITED STATES"
cn$COUNTRY[cn$COUNTRY=="BRASIL"] <- "BRAZIL"
cns <- merge(cn, spc, by="COUNTRY", all.x=TRUE)
plot(cns, "nspp", col=rev(terrain.colors(25)), breaks=c(1,5,10,20,30,40,90))
```

Workshops: camera trap data from the Masai Mara

- Camera trap data collected in the Masai Mara, Kenya, in 2018.
- Part of the WWF-funded **Biome Health Project**, focused on understanding biodiversity responses to landscape pressures.
- **Key pressure = livestock grazing.**
- We will analyse a subset of these data to answer questions about spatial drivers of species occurrence.



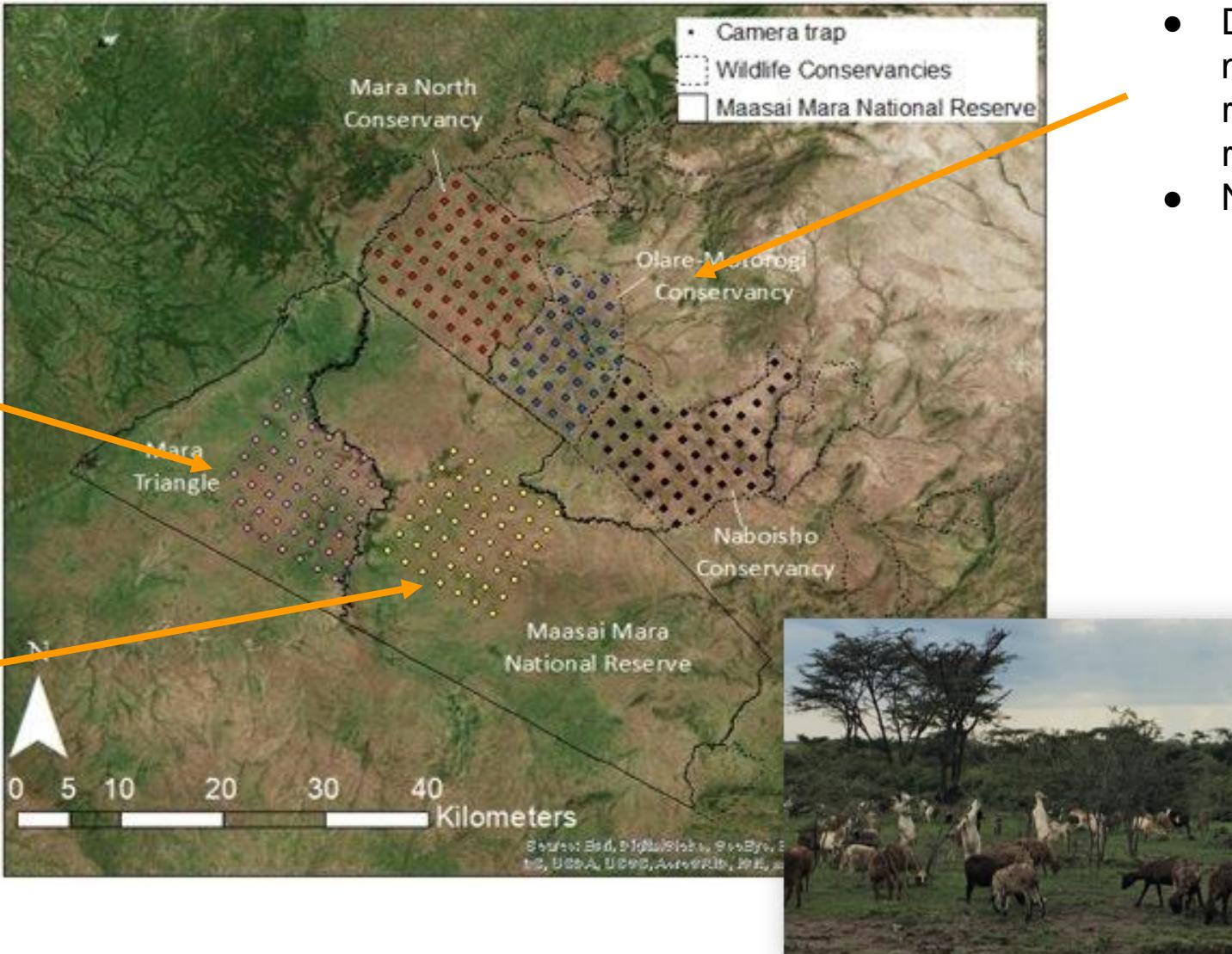
Workshops: camera trap data from the Masai Mara

Mara Triangle

- Most strict
- Periodic grazing
- No burning

Mara Reserve

- Allowed grazing until recently; may be illegal grazing
- Recently started burning



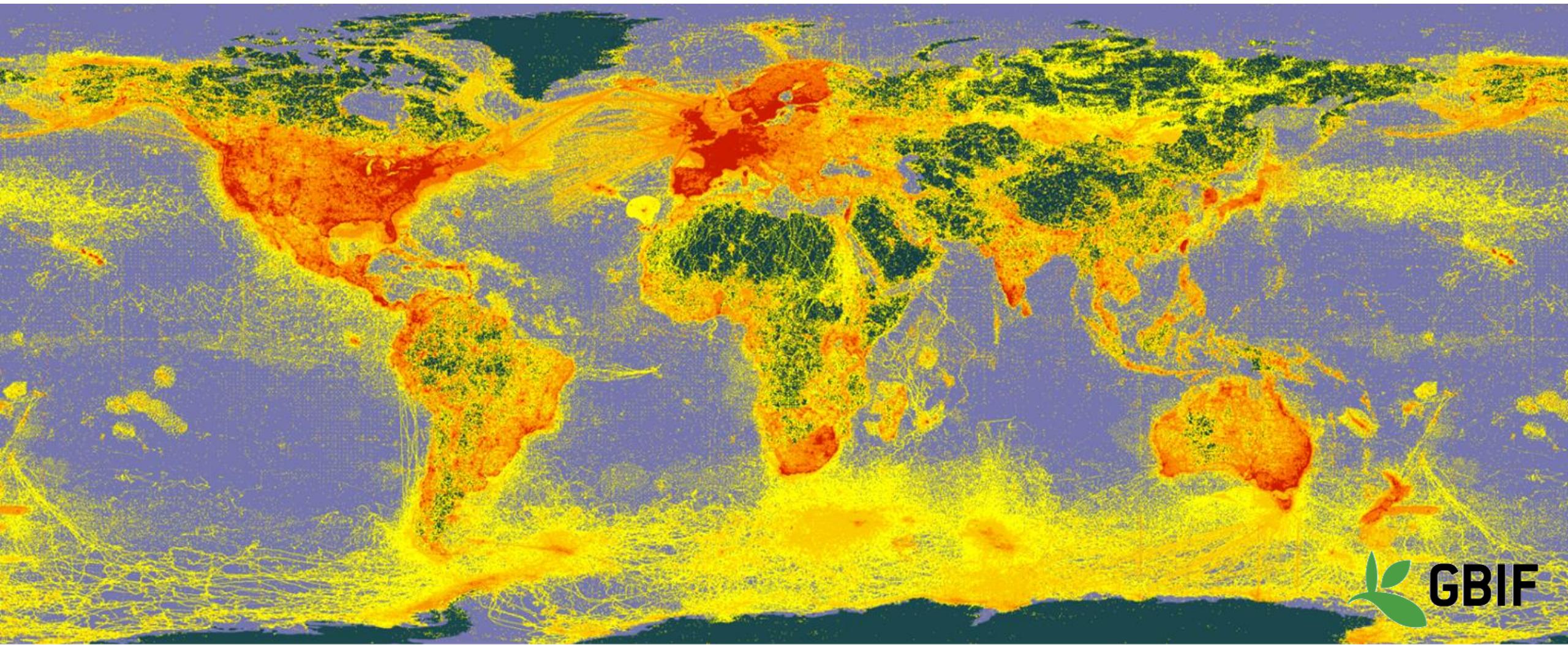
Conservancies

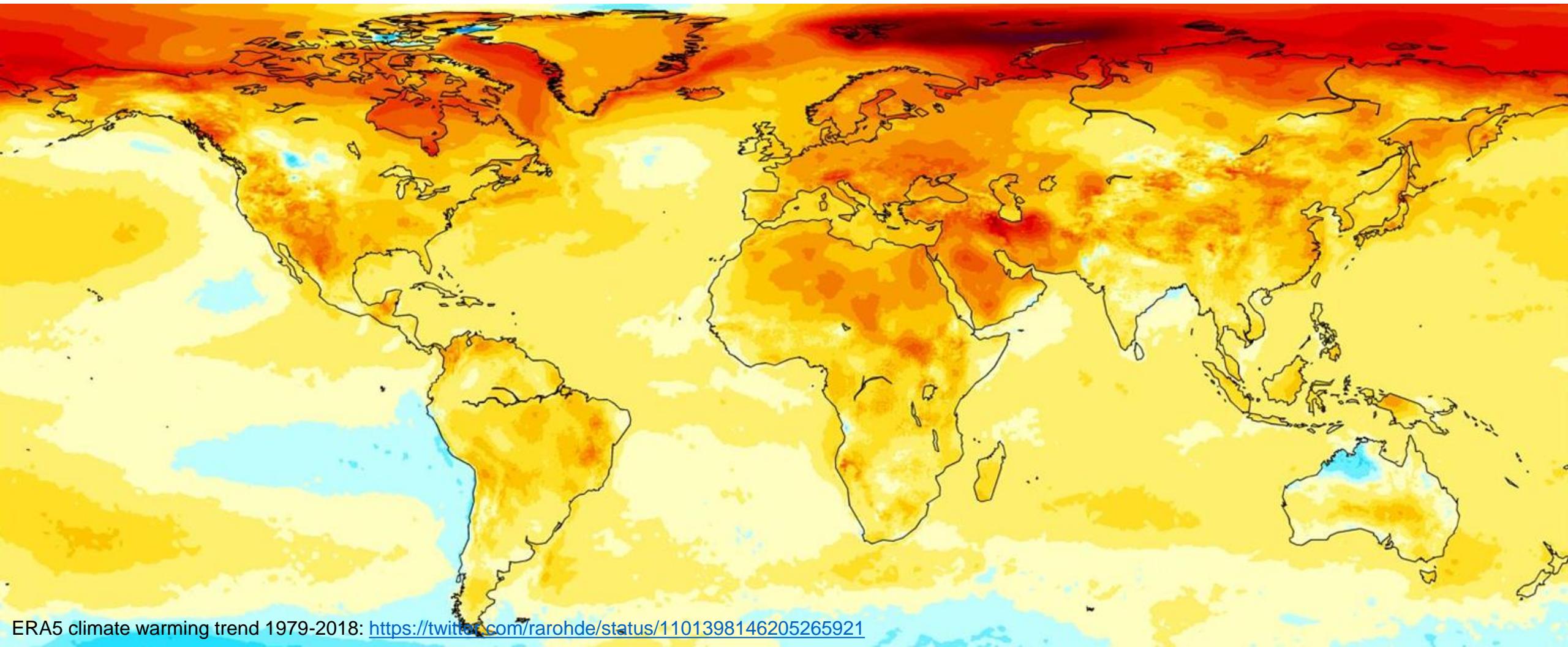
- Different grazing management regimes (e.g. rotational grazing)
- No burning



Afternoon lecture

Principles of statistical modelling in ecology



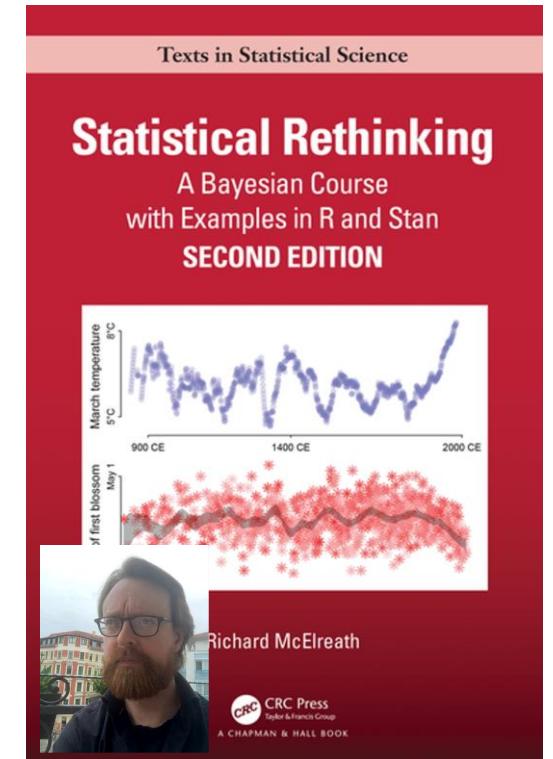


ERA5 climate warming trend 1979-2018: <https://twitter.com/rarohde/status/1101398146205265921>

How to *think* about modelling analyses



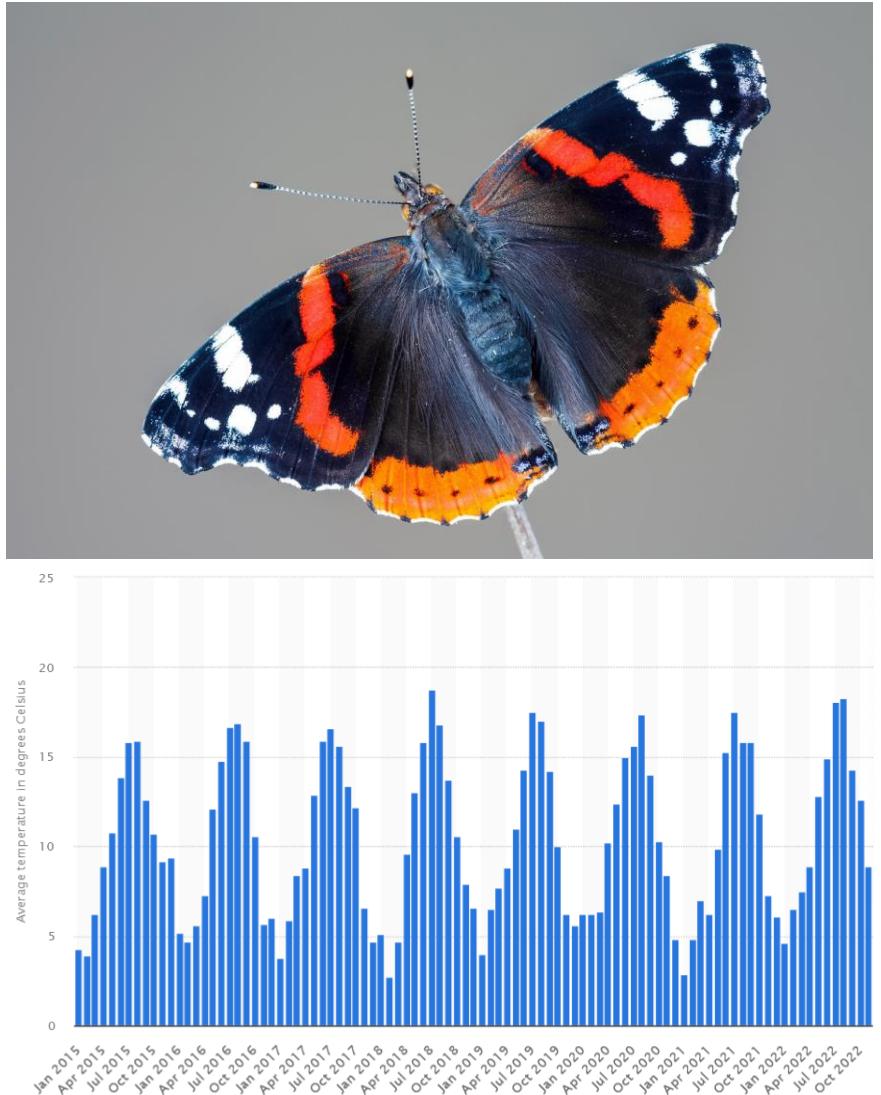
- There is no “correct way” to model any data - a huge range of general and ecology-specific modelling tools and softwares are out there (many in R and Python)
- **Focus on the scientific question and on how your data were generated**



Richard McElreath -
Statistical Rethinking lectures
and “Science Before Statistics”

Three types of question

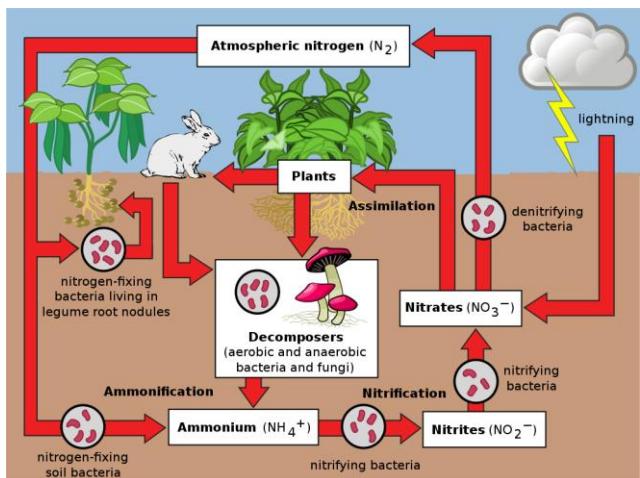
- **Descriptive (exploratory):** “*What winter weather variables are associated with springtime abundance of the Red Admiral butterfly?*”
- **Causal (hypothesis-led):** “*Do warmer temperatures between November-January lead to higher Red Admiral abundance in the following spring?*”
- **Predictive:** “*Can springtime Red Admiral abundance be accurately predicted based on winter weather variables?*”



What is a model?

What is a model?

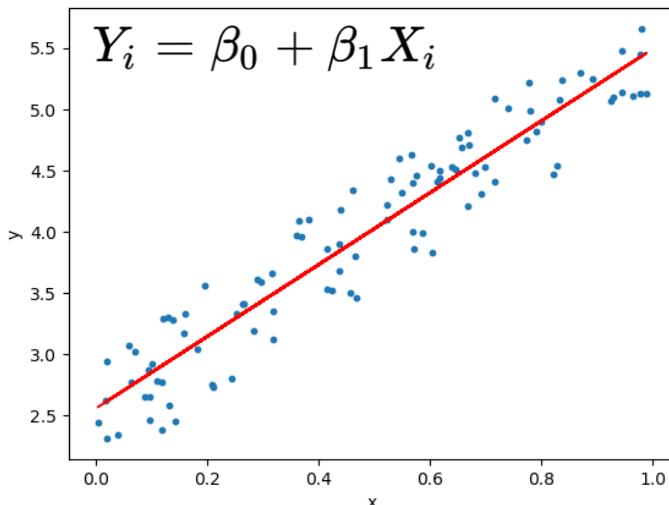
Conceptual



Conceptual representation of known/ hypothesised relationships in a system

Can make qualitative/ quantitative predictions about a system's expected behaviour

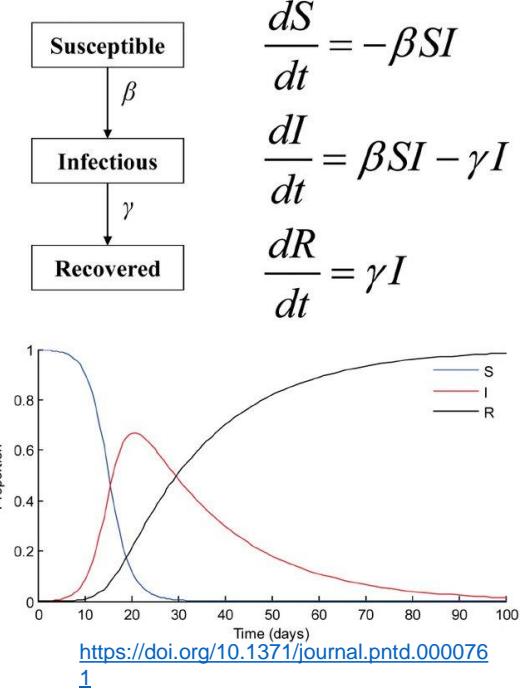
Statistical



Estimation of parameters of interest through fitting to observed data

Examples: linear regression; GL(M)Ms/GAMs

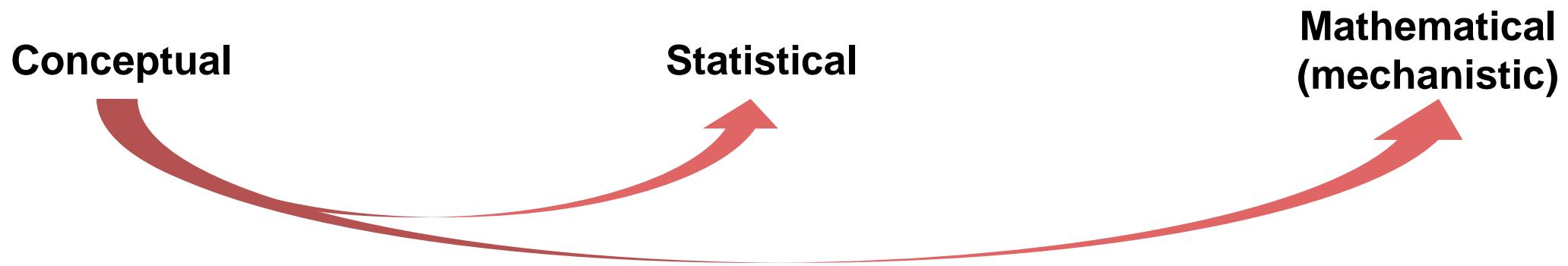
Mathematical (mechanistic)



Mathematical description of a system used to explore and predict system behaviour

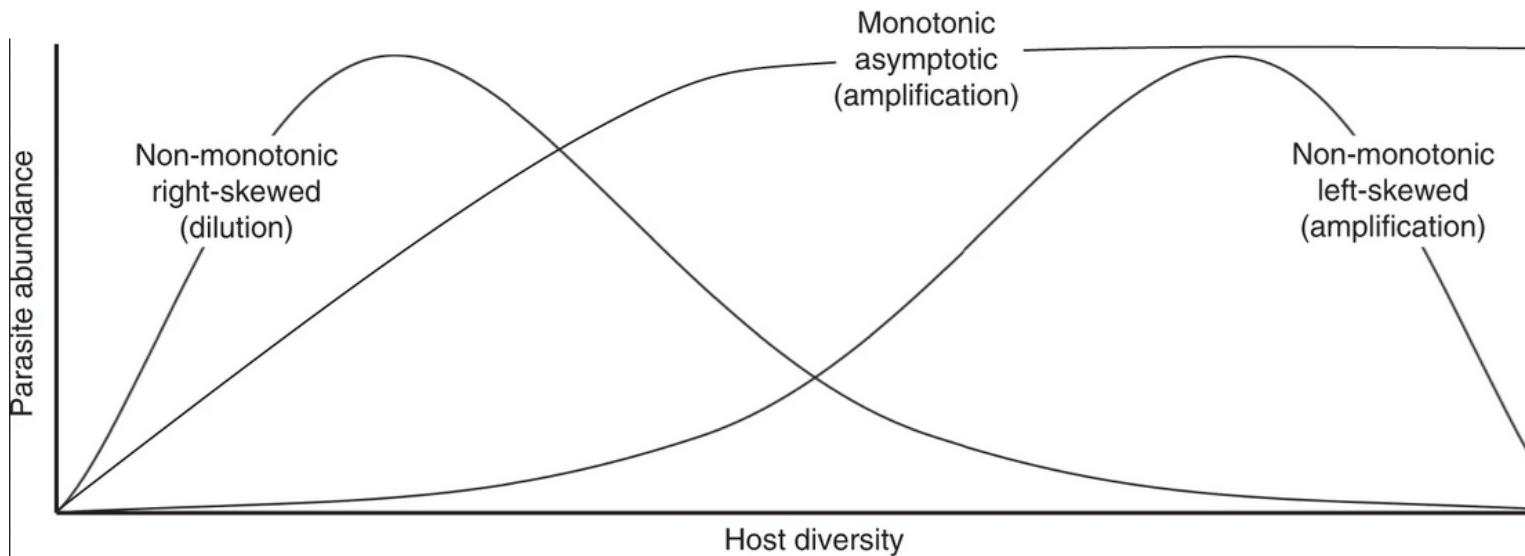
Examples: SIR model (disease dynamics); Lotka-Volterra (population dynamics)

What is a model?



From conceptual to statistical: the dilution effect model

- “Dilution effect” theory proposes that parasite prevalence increases as local species diversity is lost, vs. “amplification effects” which propose the opposite.
(Rohr et al. 2020, *Nat Eco Evo*)
- Either might be possible depending on the system, and results have often been conflicting.
- Conceptual model outlines 3 hypotheses for the nonlinear shape of this relationship - these can be challenged with data!



<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-019-13049-w>

OPEN

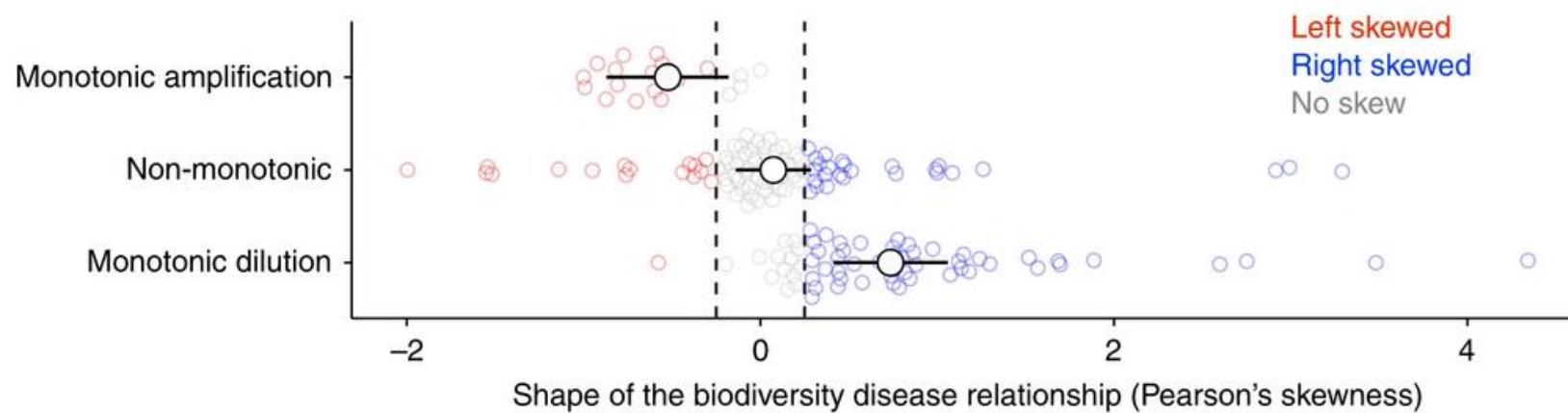
Measuring the shape of the biodiversity-disease relationship across systems reveals new findings and key gaps

Fletcher W. Halliday^{1*} & Jason R. Rohr²



From conceptual to statistical: the dilution effect model

- Meta-analysis of the shape of the diversity-disease relationship across 205 studies - do real-world observations follow the predictions of the conceptual model?
- Systems with dilution effects are significantly right skewed, and vice versa, as predicted by the conceptual model - the analysis estimates *parameters* to describe this shape.



<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-019-13049-w>

OPEN

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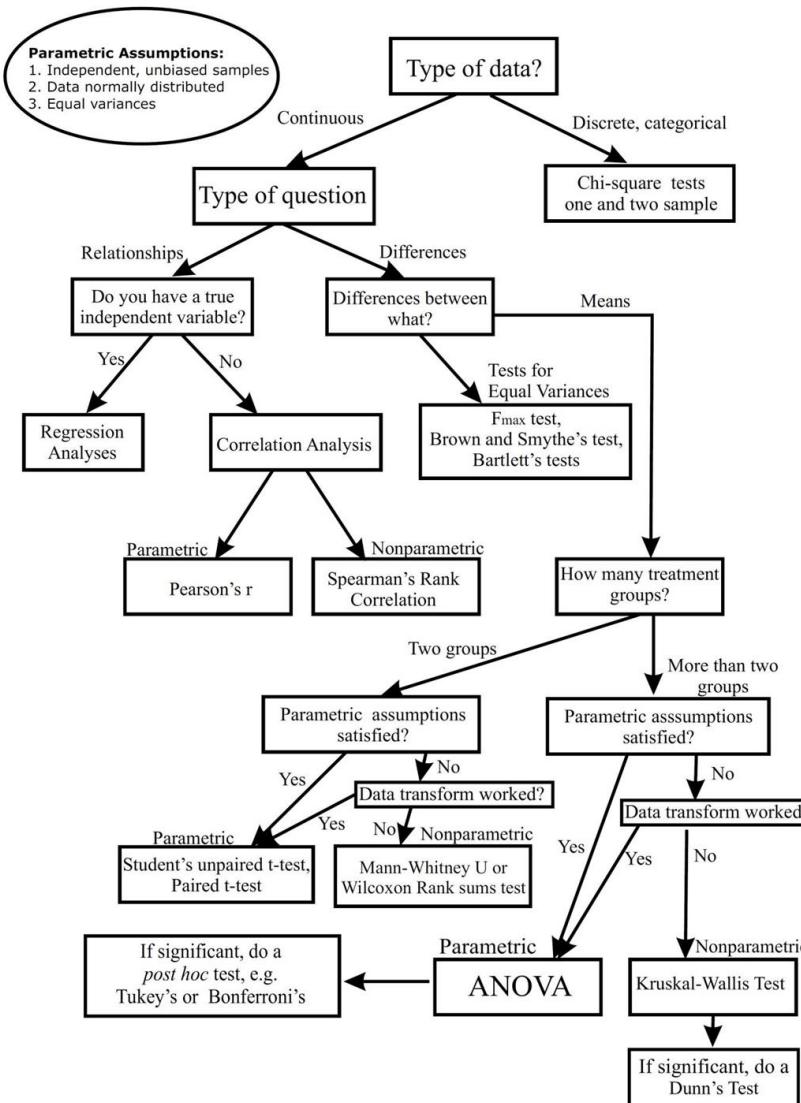
What is our conceptual model of the world?

Conceptual **Statistical**



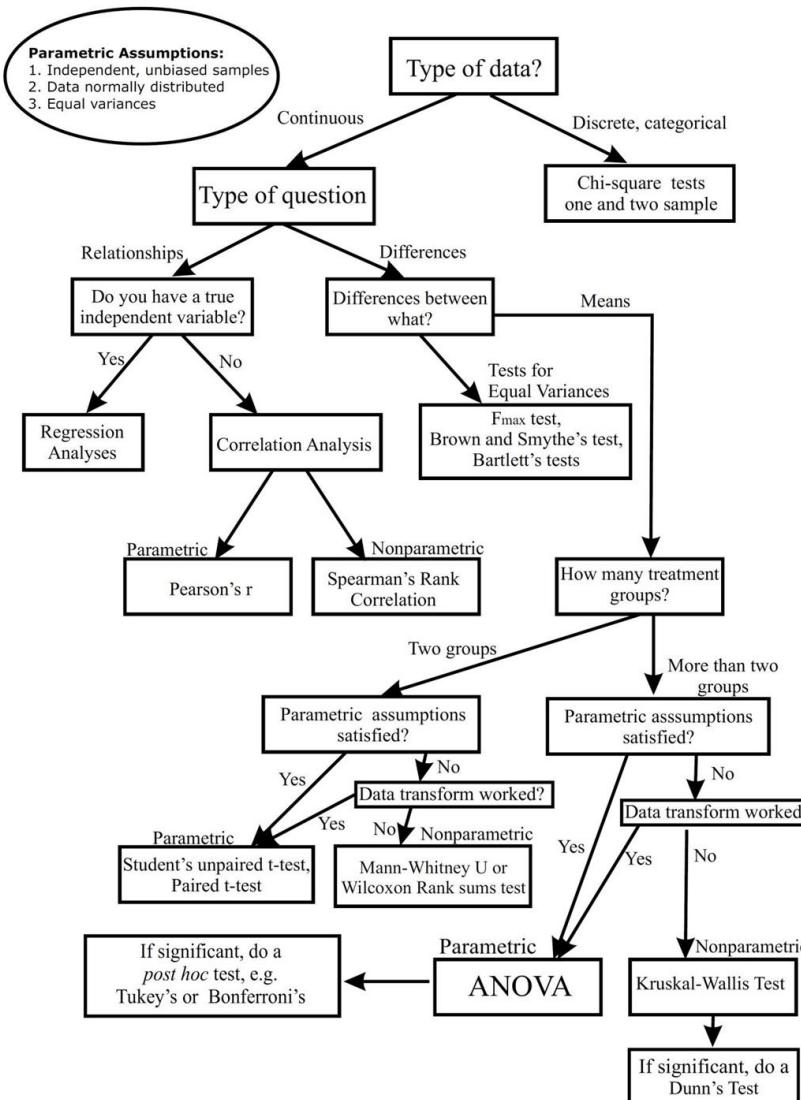
The ‘cookbook’ approach to teaching statistics

Flow Chart for Selecting Commonly Used Statistical Tests



The ‘cookbook’ approach to teaching statistics

Flow Chart for Selecting Commonly Used Statistical Tests

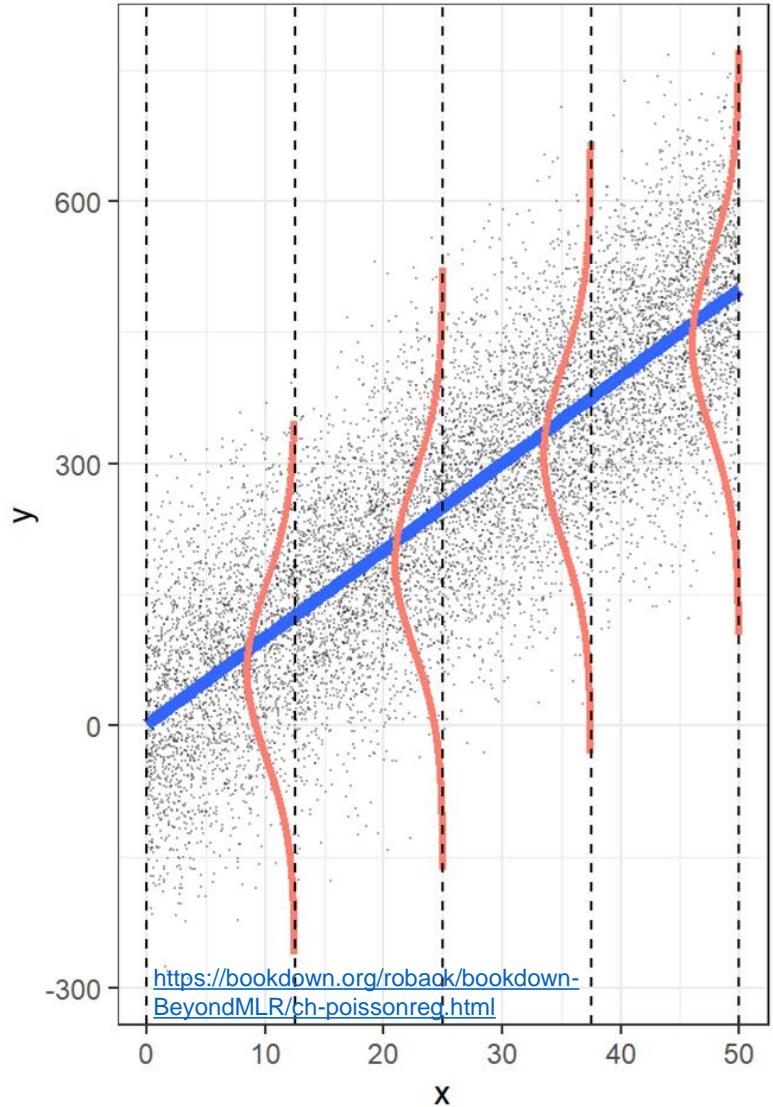


This approach ignores the most important things that help us ask the right question!

- (1) Our scientific understanding of the system (the specific conceptual model)
- (2) How the data were generated

Building blocks of a statistical model

Linear regression



General formula for linear regression

$$Y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_{i1} + \varepsilon_i$$

Intercept

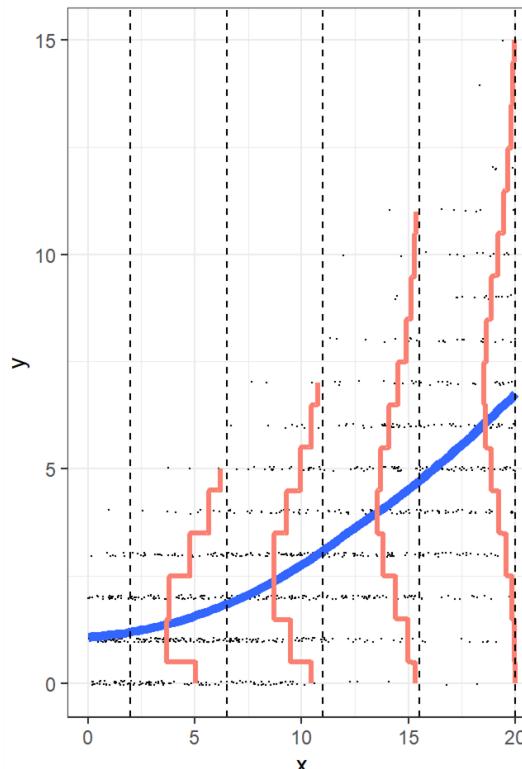
Slope(s) for
covariates X

Residual error -
*assumed independent,
normally distributed
and homoscedastic
conditional on the
model*

Generalised linear models

- Likelihood and link function relax assumptions around linearity and error distribution
- Still assume errors are independent conditional on the model!
- **Poisson regression:** count data, Poisson likelihood (*error variance equal to expected value*), log link function (*assume exponential relationship between X and Y*)

Poisson
(e.g. butterfly counts)



Likelihood function
(describes error distribution)



$$Y_i \sim \text{Pois}(\lambda_i)$$

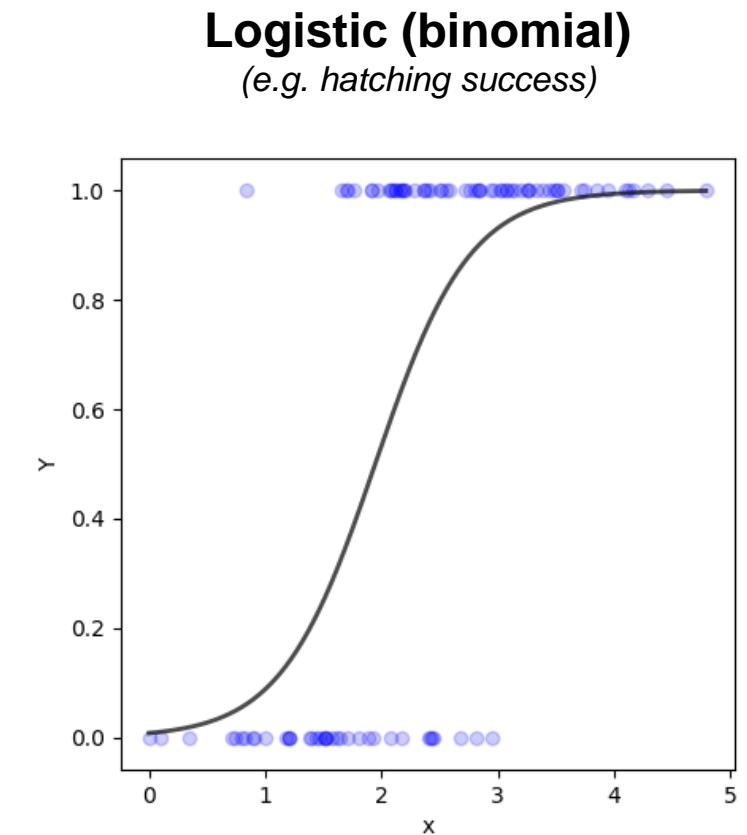
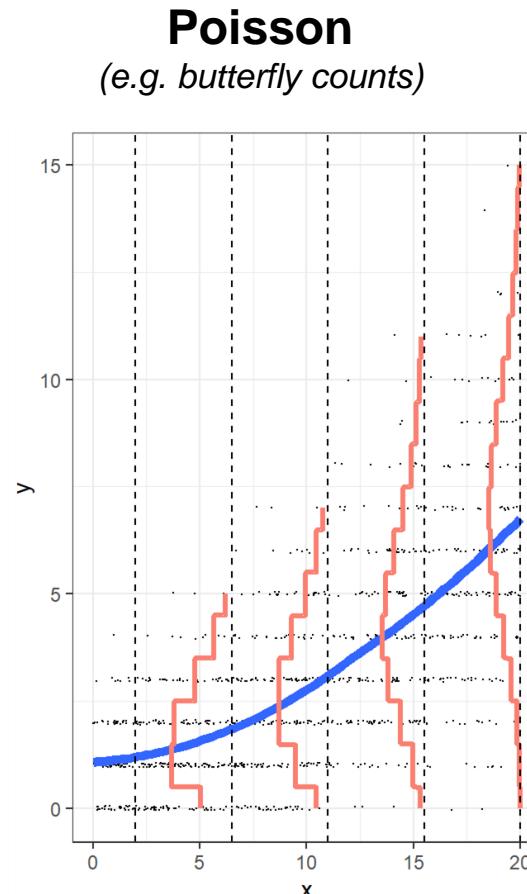
Link function
(describes shape of relationship between X and Y)



$$\log(\lambda_i) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_{i1}$$

Generalised linear models

- Likelihood and link function relax assumptions around linearity and error distribution
- Still assume errors are independent conditional on the model!
- **Poisson regression:** count data, Poisson likelihood (*error variance equal to expected value*), log link function (*assume exponential relationship between X and Y*)
- **Logistic regression:** binary outcome (1/0), binomial likelihood (*probability of success*), logit link (*assume linear relationship between X and log odds of Y*)



Likelihood function
(describes error distribution) → $Y_i \sim Pois(\lambda_i)$

Link function
(describes shape of relationship between X and Y) → $\log(\lambda_i) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_{i1}$

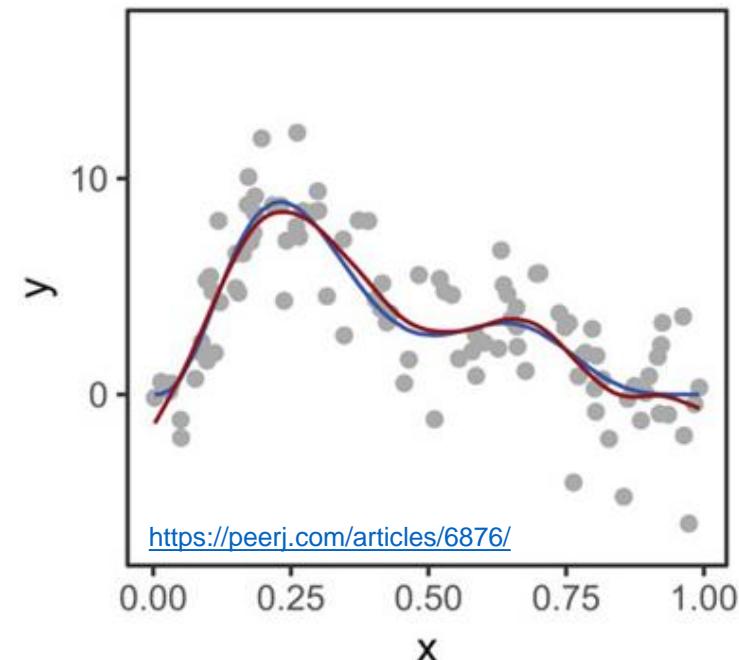
$$Y_i \sim Binom(p_i)$$

$$\log\left(\frac{p_i}{1 - p_i}\right) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_{i1}$$

Extensions to nonlinearity, multilevel data, space and time

Nonlinear

(e.g. generalised additive models)



$$Y_i = f(\eta_i) = \beta_0 + f(X_{i1})$$

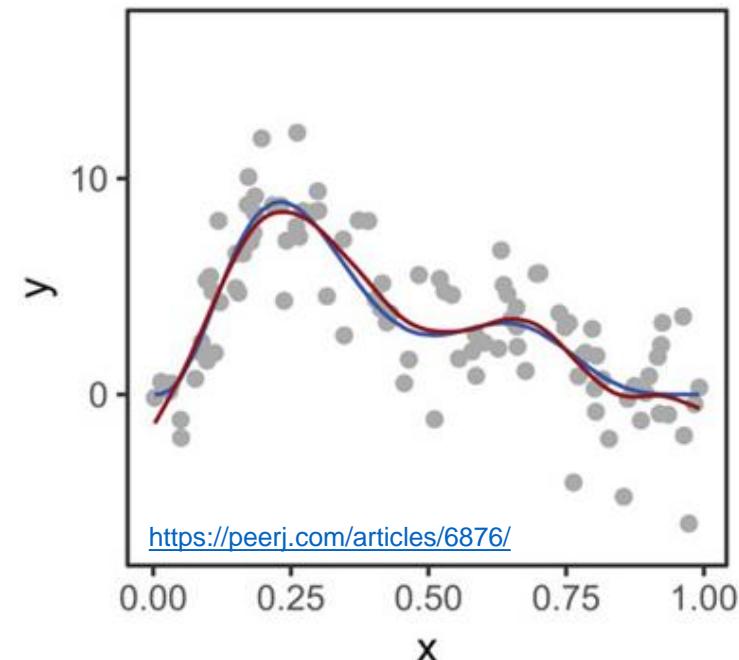


Nonlinear function of covariates X
(e.g. penalised splines)

Extensions to nonlinearity, multilevel data, space and time

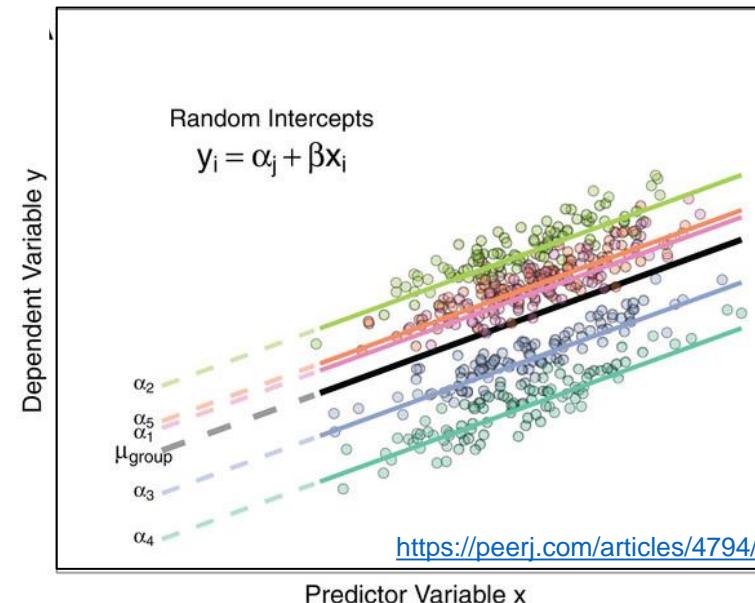
Nonlinear

(e.g. generalised additive models)



Multilevel (mixed effects)

(e.g. GLMMs; random slopes or intercepts)



$$Y_i = f(\eta_i) = \beta_0 + f(X_{i1})$$

↑
Nonlinear function of covariates X
(e.g. penalised splines)

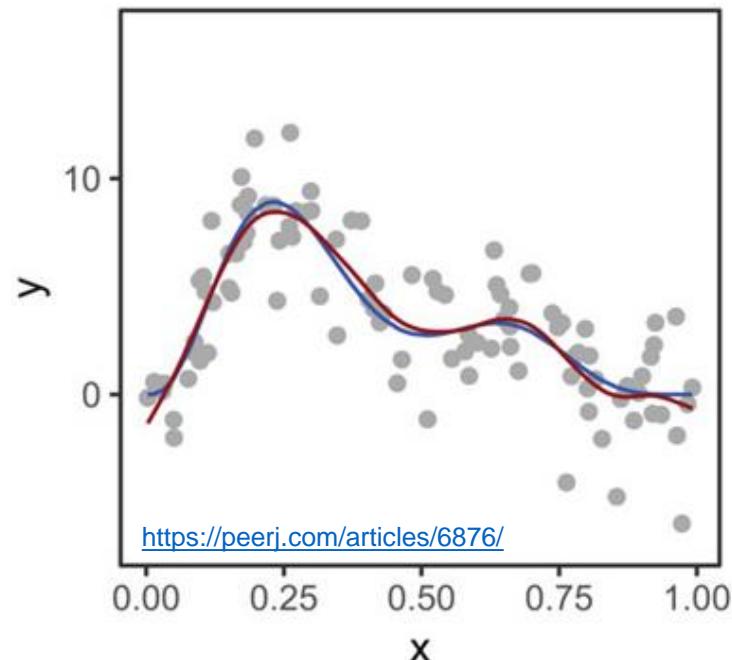
$$Y_i = f(\eta_i) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_{i1} + \alpha_{s(i)}$$

↑
Random intercept for study site S
(intercepts vary to account for hierarchical structure; pools information across sites)

Extensions to nonlinearity, multilevel data, space and time

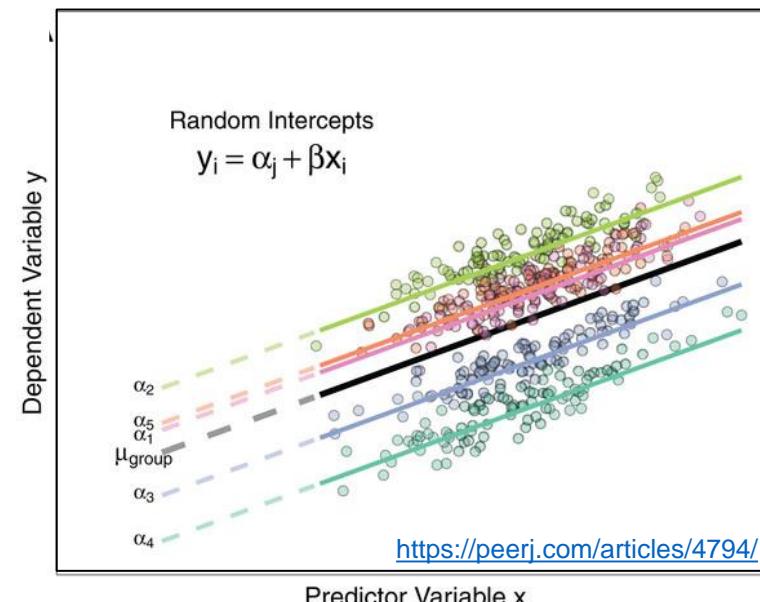
Nonlinear

(e.g. generalised additive models)



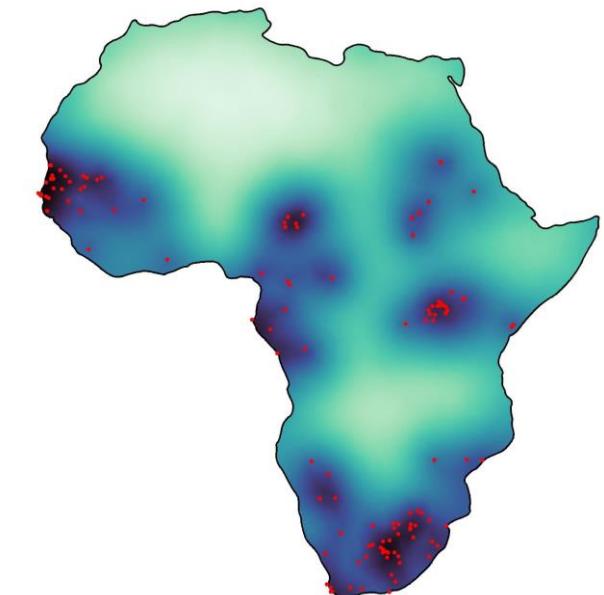
Multilevel (mixed effects)

(e.g. GLMMs; random slopes or intercepts)



Spatial/temporal

(e.g. conditional autoregressive; ARIMA; Gaussian processes)



$$Y_i = f(\eta_i) = \beta_0 + f(X_{i1})$$

↑
Nonlinear function of covariates X
(e.g. penalised splines)

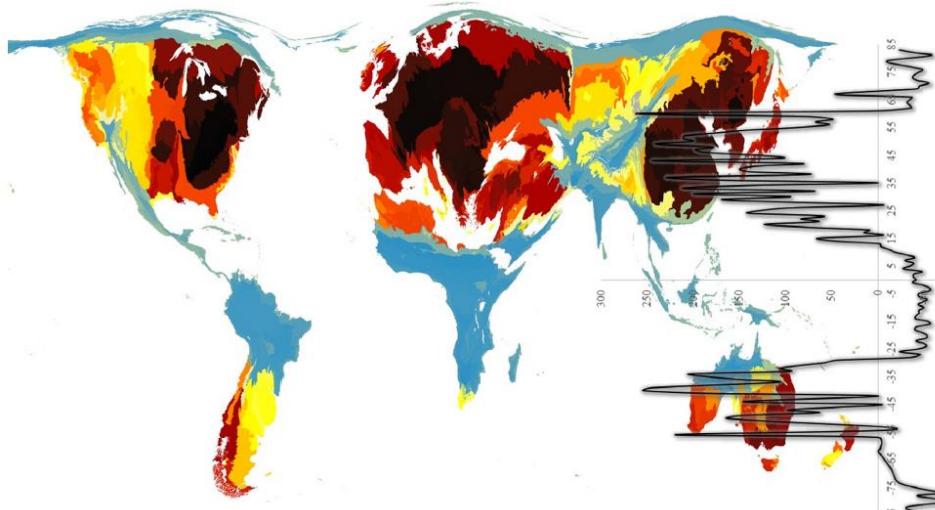
$$Y_i = f(\eta_i) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_{i1} + \alpha_{s(i)}$$

↑
Random intercept for study site S
(intercepts vary to account for hierarchical structure; pools information across sites)

$$Y_i = f(\eta_i) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_{i1} + s_i$$

↑
Spatially or temporally-structured effect
(observations that are closer together are more closely related)

Real worlds are noisy (and so are data)



Sampling biases shape our view of the natural world

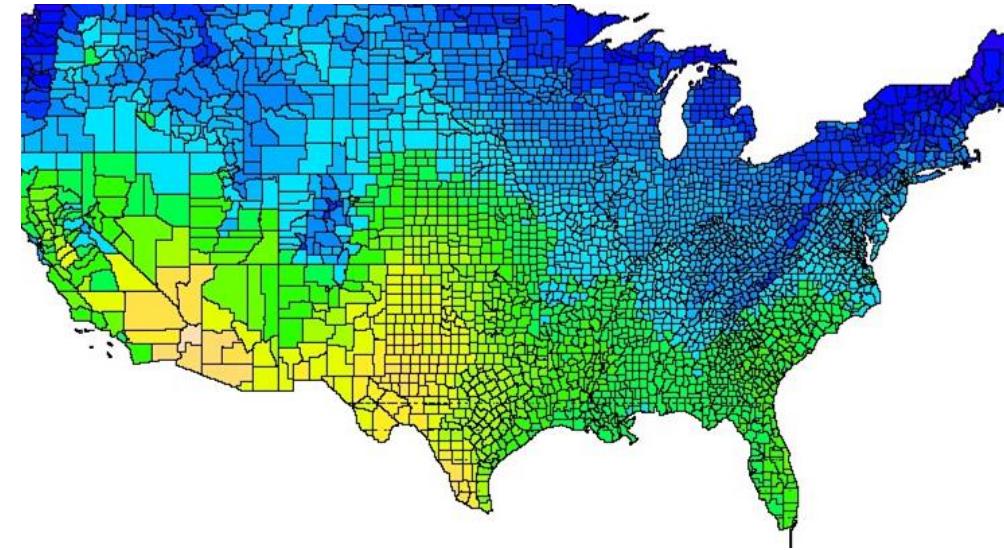
Alice C. Hughes, Michael C. Orr, Keping Ma, Mark J. Costello, John Waller,
Pieter Provoost, Qinmin Yang, Chaodong Zhu and Huijie Qiao

Sampling biases shape our understanding

(historical and evolving biases in survey effort confound our knowledge of pattern and process in ecology)

Dependency in space and time

(observations closer together are more closely related)

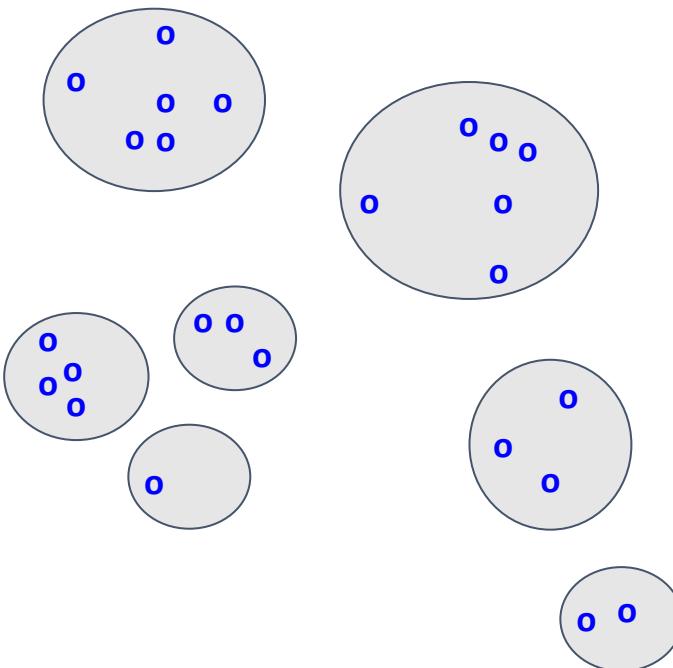


Observation is imperfect

(ecological data often contain a mixture of true and false zeroes, and we often do not measure key variables acting on the system)

Mixed-effects (multilevel/hierarchical models)

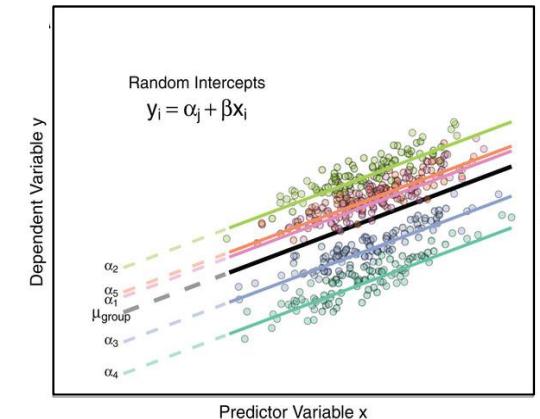
Ecological study of bird abundance across an island archipelago



○ = Abundance record of bird species X
Sampled across 7 islands s ($s = 1 \dots 7$)

- Data often contain some clustered/nested structure (e.g. space, time, phylogeny, individual, population)
- **Observations within each cluster may be non-independent** - account for this by allowing intercepts/slopes to vary across levels (“*random effects*”)

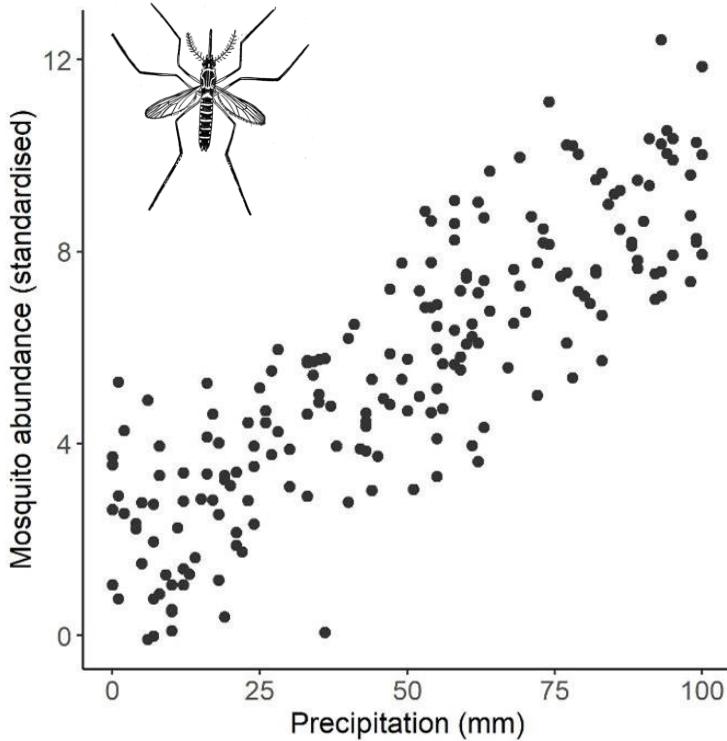
$$Y_i \sim Pois(\lambda_i)$$
$$\log(\lambda_i) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \alpha_s$$
$$\alpha_s \sim N(0, \sigma)$$



Island-level intercepts are modelled as a population described by a normal distribution with variance σ (how variable between islands?)

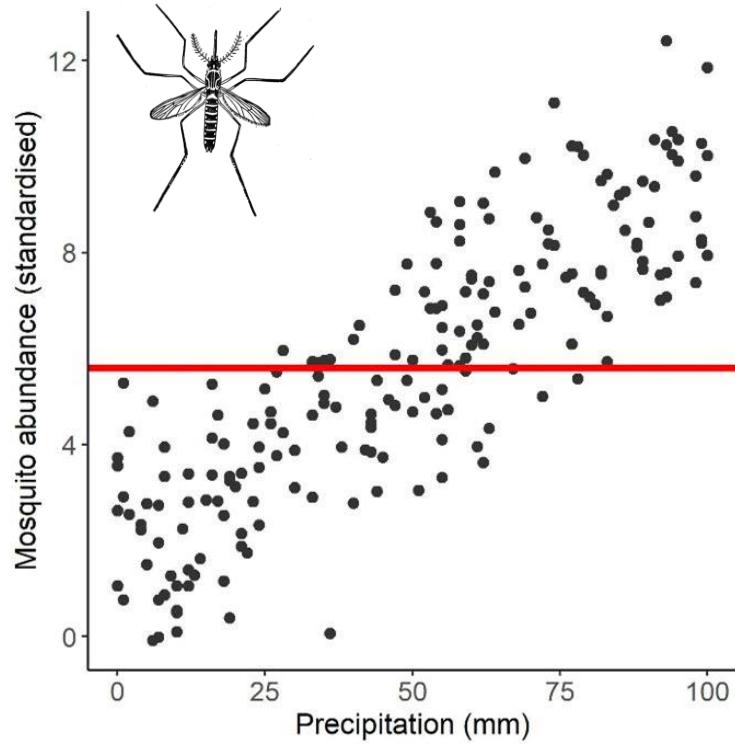
A model within a model - hence “hierarchical”!
(σ is a ‘hyperparameter’)

What do we mean by “good” model fit?



- Toy example: we have surveyed mosquito abundance in relation to the previous month's precipitation.
- **How do we model these data to gain generalisable knowledge about this relationship?**
- *(e.g. if we want to predict abundance next month based on this historical pattern?)*

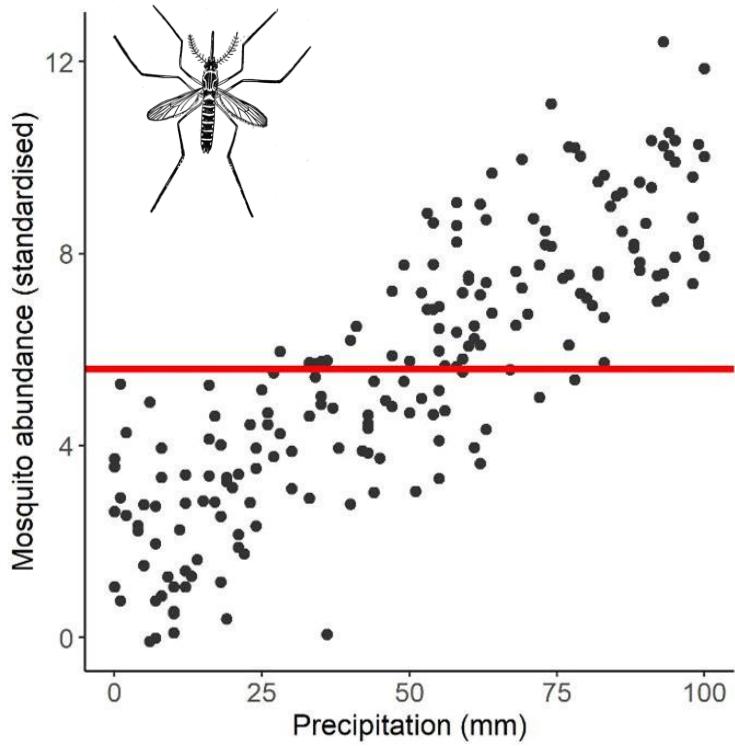
What do we mean by “good” model fit?



Simplest possible model (‘null’ model)

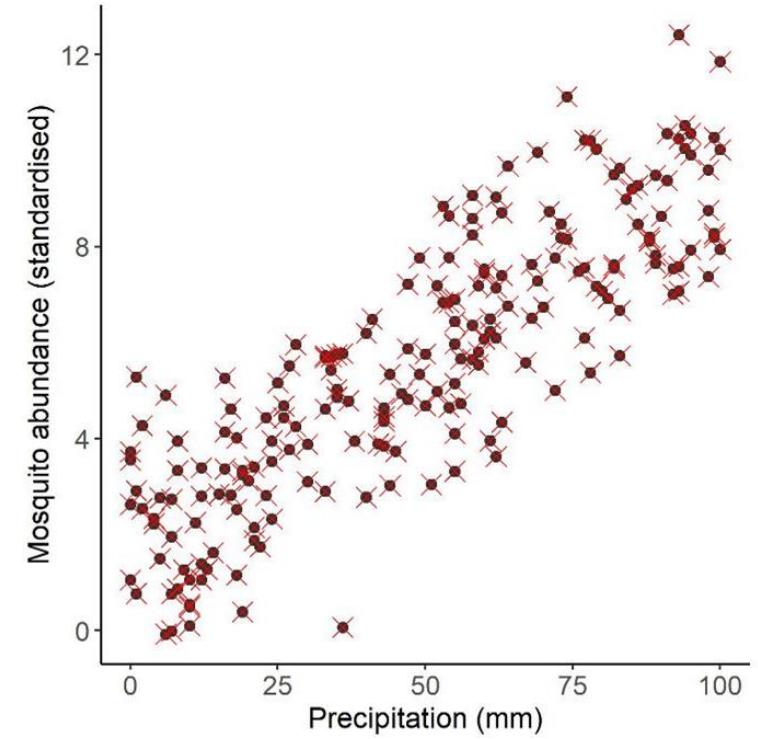
- 1 parameter (intercept)
- Maximum residual error
- Learning very little from the data
so not generalisable

What do we mean by “good” model fit?



Simplest possible model
(‘null’ model)

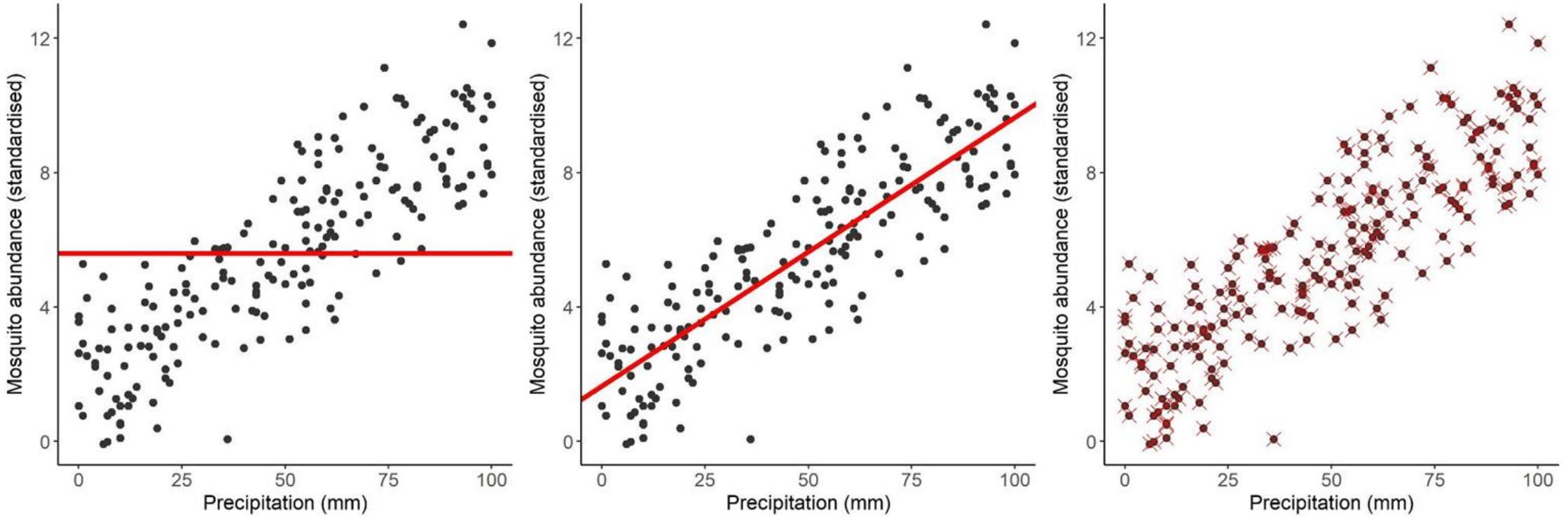
- 1 parameter (intercept)
- Maximum residual error
- Learning very little from the data so not generalisable



Most complex model
(‘saturated model’)

- 1 parameter per observation
- No residual error
- Learning too much from this specific dataset - not generalisable

What do we mean by “good” model fit?



‘Goldilocks’ model

(not too simple, not too complex)

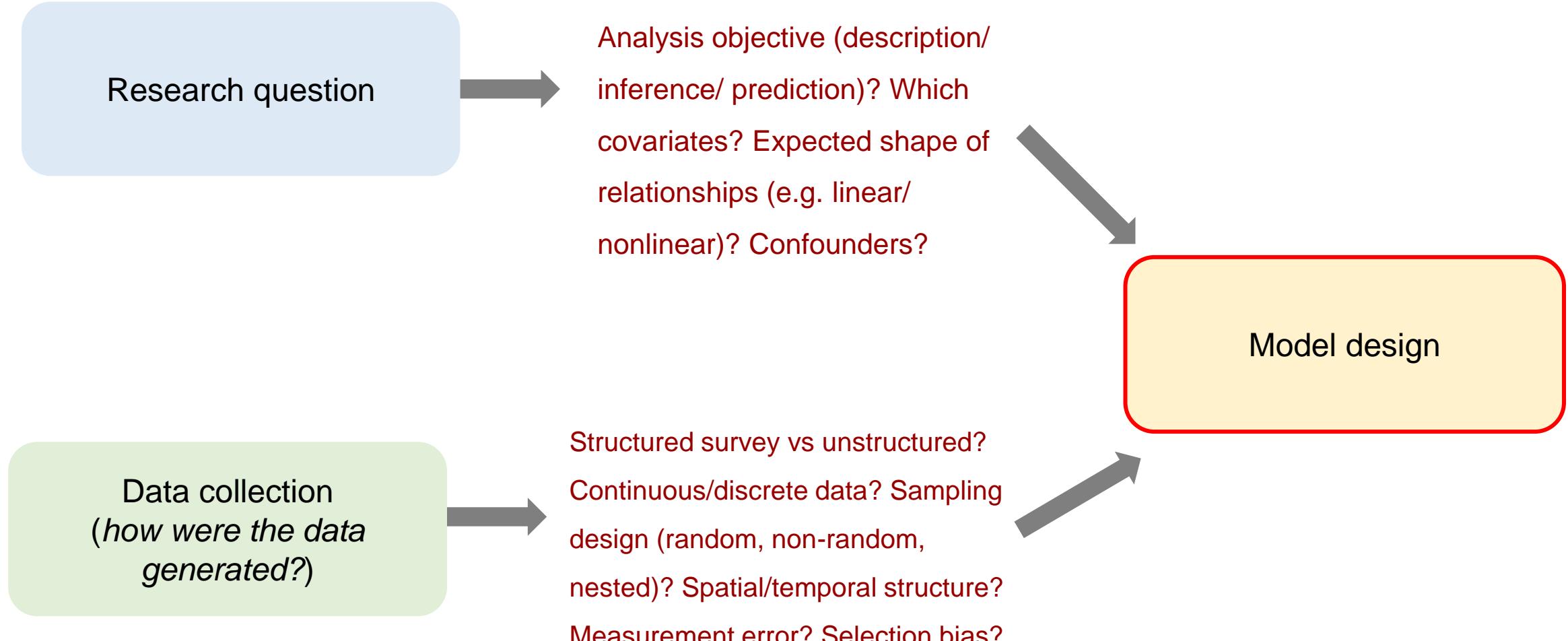
Underfitting



Overfitting

- Learned enough from the data for (potentially) generalisable inference

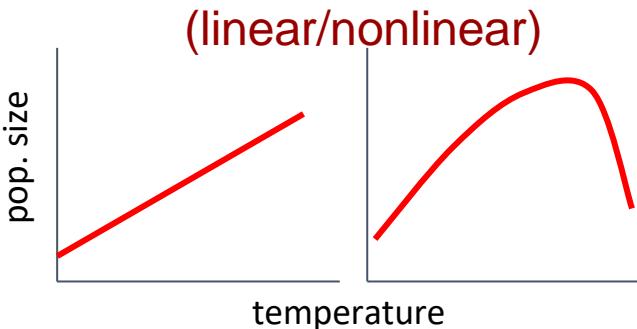
From question, to data, to model design



Using scientific understanding to inform model design

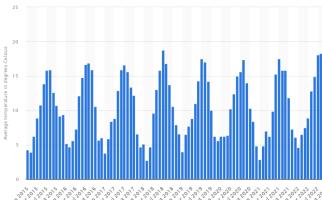
“What winter weather variables are associated with springtime abundance of the Red Admiral butterfly?”

What shape of relationships
do we expect?



What variables?
(temperature, precip,
humidity...?)

What timescale of climate -
multi-month averages?
Transient extremes?

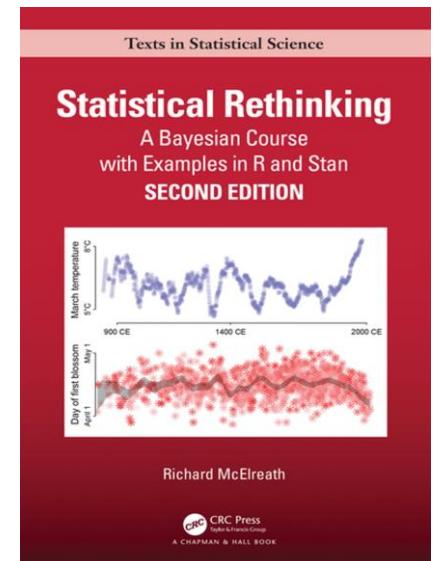


What other factors might be
impacting abundance, or
interacting with weather?

Models are powerful but unaware

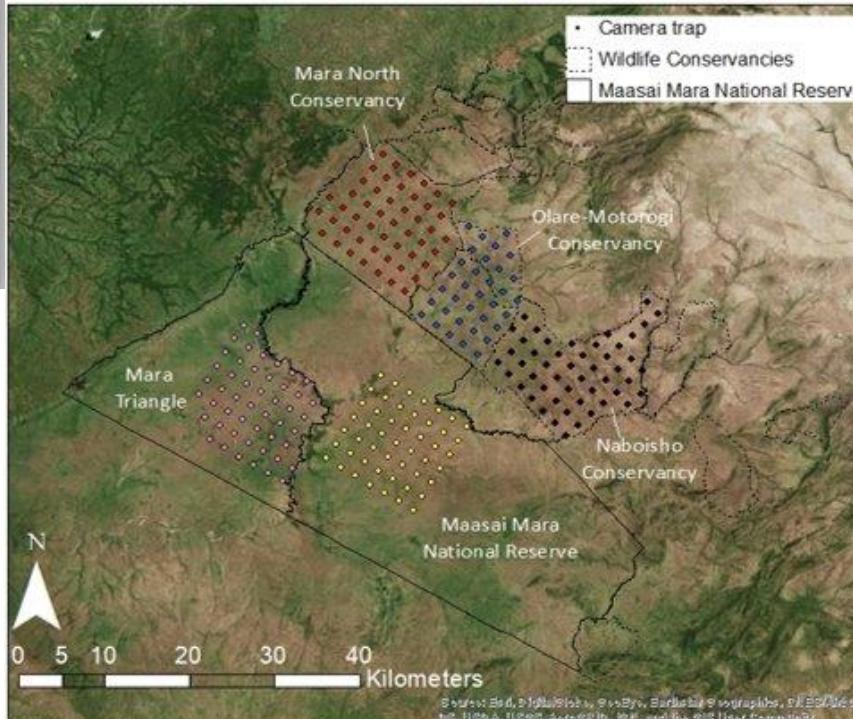


- Statistical models are powerful machines for helping us to understand and predict the world, but lack insight.
- The model only knows what you tell it!



<https://xcelab.net/rm/statistical-rethinking/>

Afternoon workshop: effects of grazing on hare occurrence



Cape hare (*Lepus capensis*)

