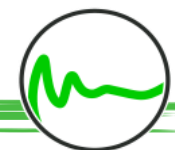


# Welcome to the Science School on Quantitative Ecology!

## Species Distribution Modelling I & II

Dr. Anna Walentowitz

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biogeografie  
uni bayreuth

**Bayceer**  
Bayreuth Center of Ecology  
and Environmental Research

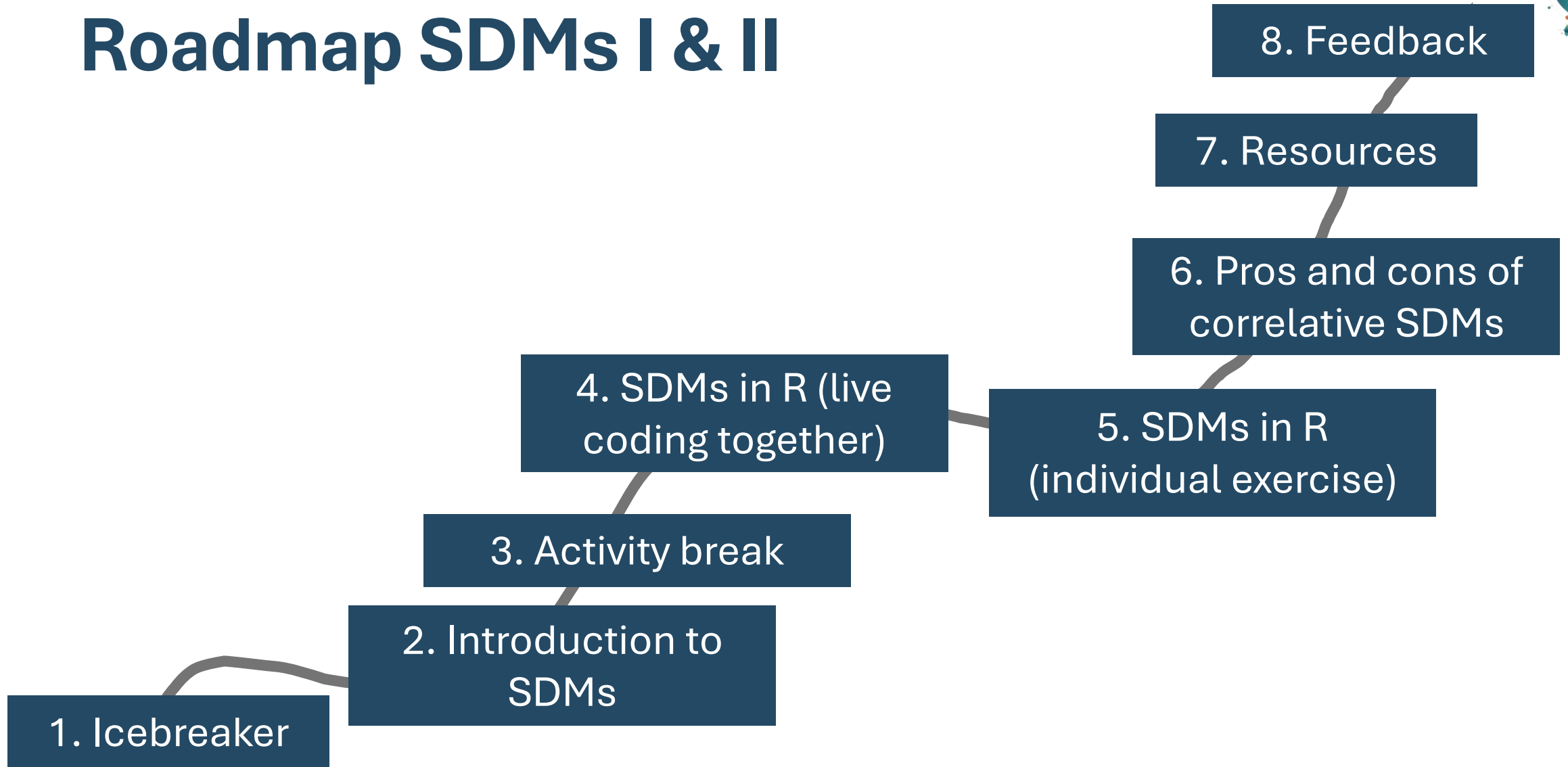


# Aims of SDM I & II

1. Understand the basic functioning and the application of SDMs.
2. Get a feeling for the variability of SDMs.
3. Learn how to build a simple correlative SDM in R.
4. Learn about resources for future SDM building.



# Roadmap SDMs I & II

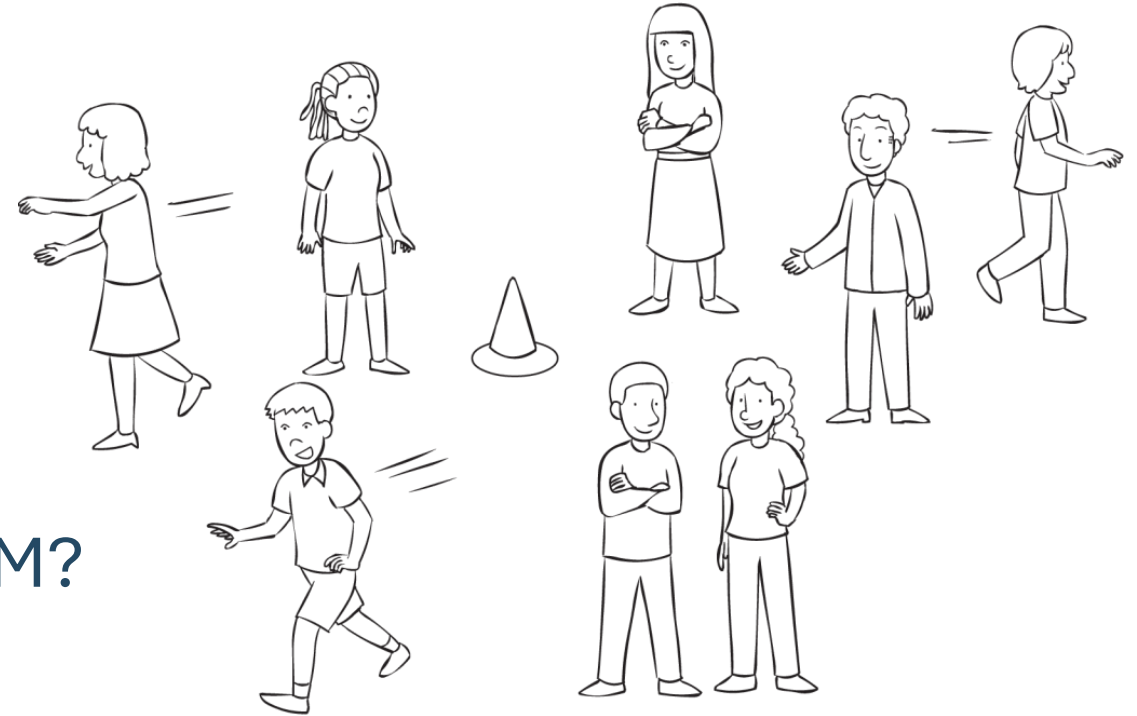




# Icebreaker – group map

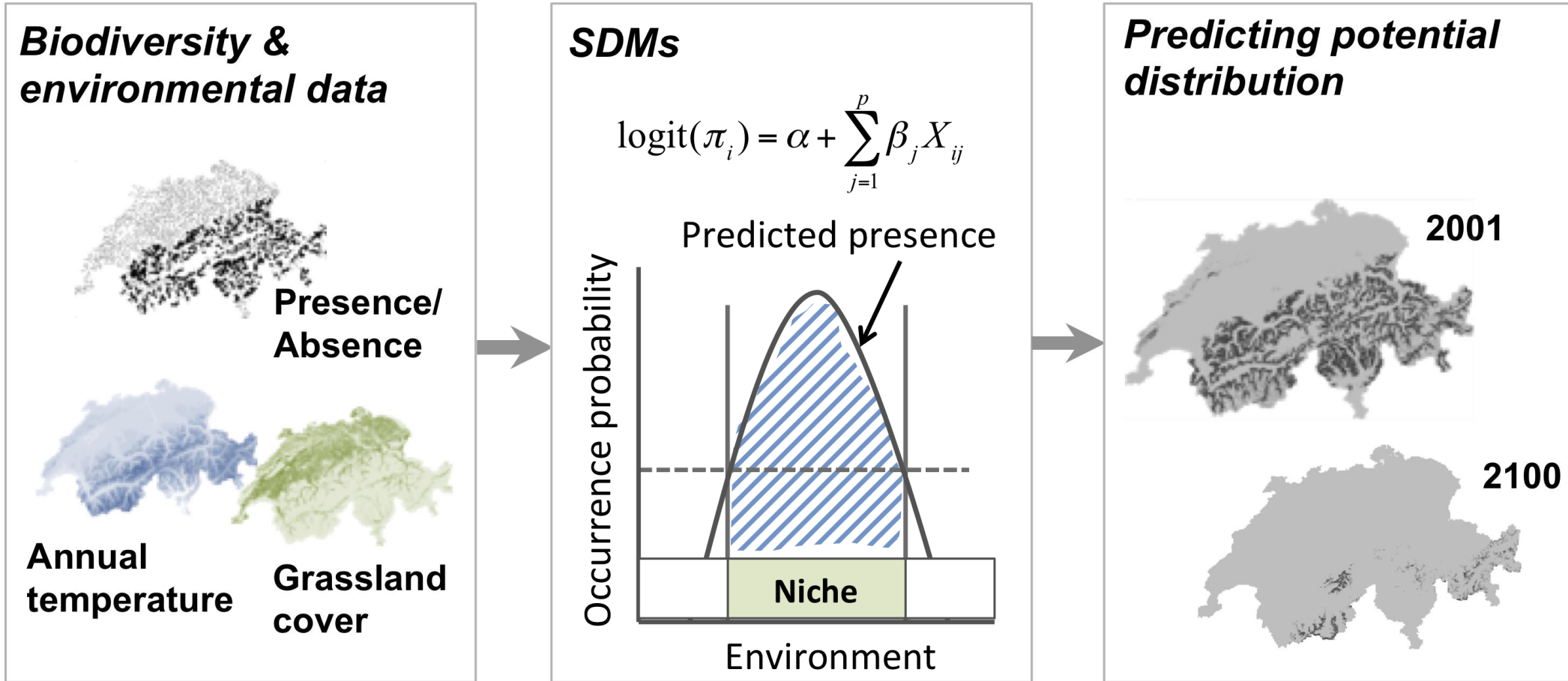
**Activity: move in the room**

- Where do you come from?
- How much do you know about SDM?
- How would you rate your experiences in building SDMs in R?





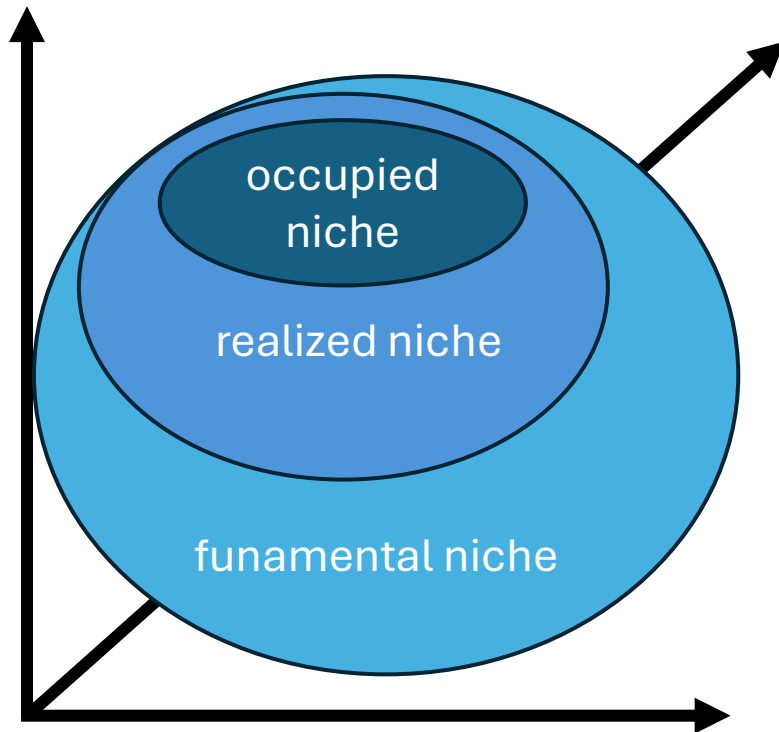
# Main components of a SDM (correlative)



Zurell, 2022



# Underlying niche theory



- SDMs are rooted in niche theory
- **Fundamental niche:** abiotic conditions under which a species survives
- **Realised niche:** Species survives despite presence of competitors
- **Occupied niche:** Presence of species considering dispersal limitations
- Ongoing debate which niche SDMs represent
- **Be aware what your model represents!**

Zurell, 2020



## 2. Introduction to SDMs

# The variability of SDMs - examples

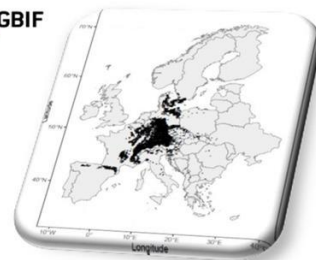
Predicting into the future

71 herbaceous plant species with affinity to *Fagus sylvatica* forests

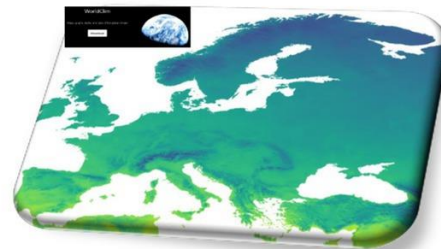


Species distribution modelling (ensemble approach)

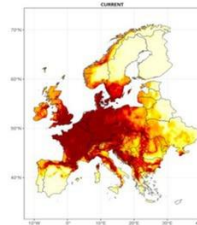
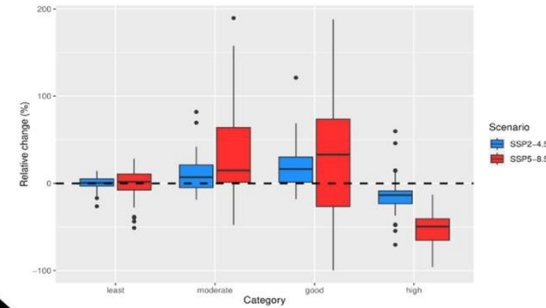
Occurrence records from GBIF database



Bioclimatic variables from WorldClim database



Climatic suitability is predicted to decrease in the future



strong northward shift



changes depend on biogeographic attributes of species

- Climatic suitability for European beech forest herbs under climate change

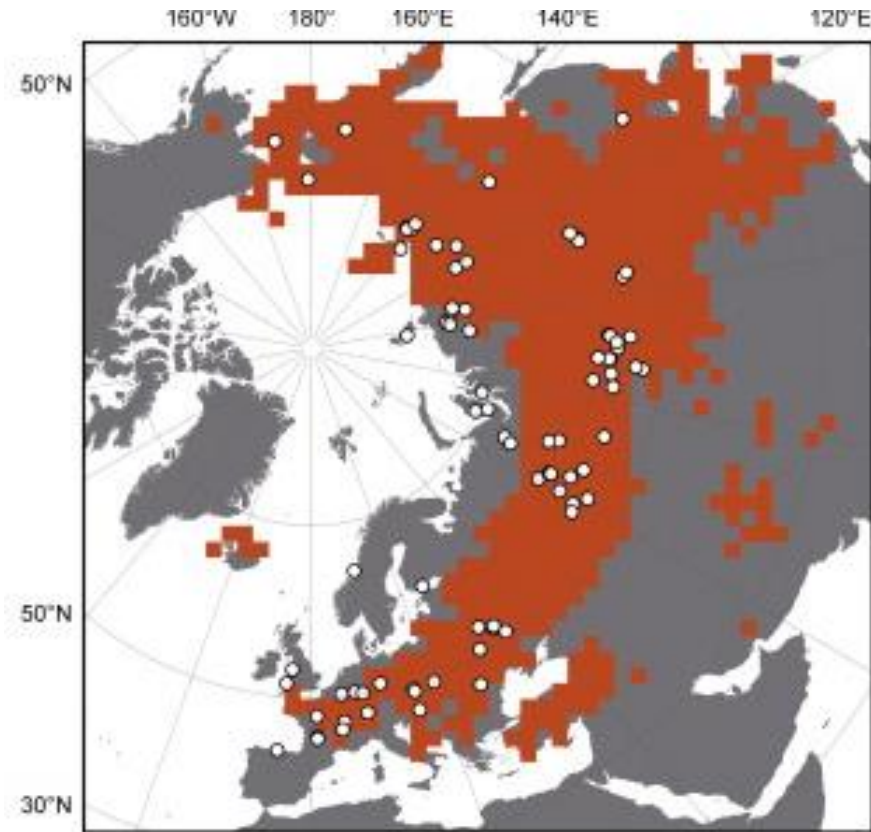
Kermavnar et al., 2023





# The variability of SDMs - examples

Predicting into the past



- SDM applied to palaeobiology
  - Here: SDM-estimated potential LGM distribution in Eurasia (red area) of woolly mammoth (*M. primigenius*) using fossils (dots) dated to the LGM (c. 21,000 ka BP)

Svenning et al., 2011



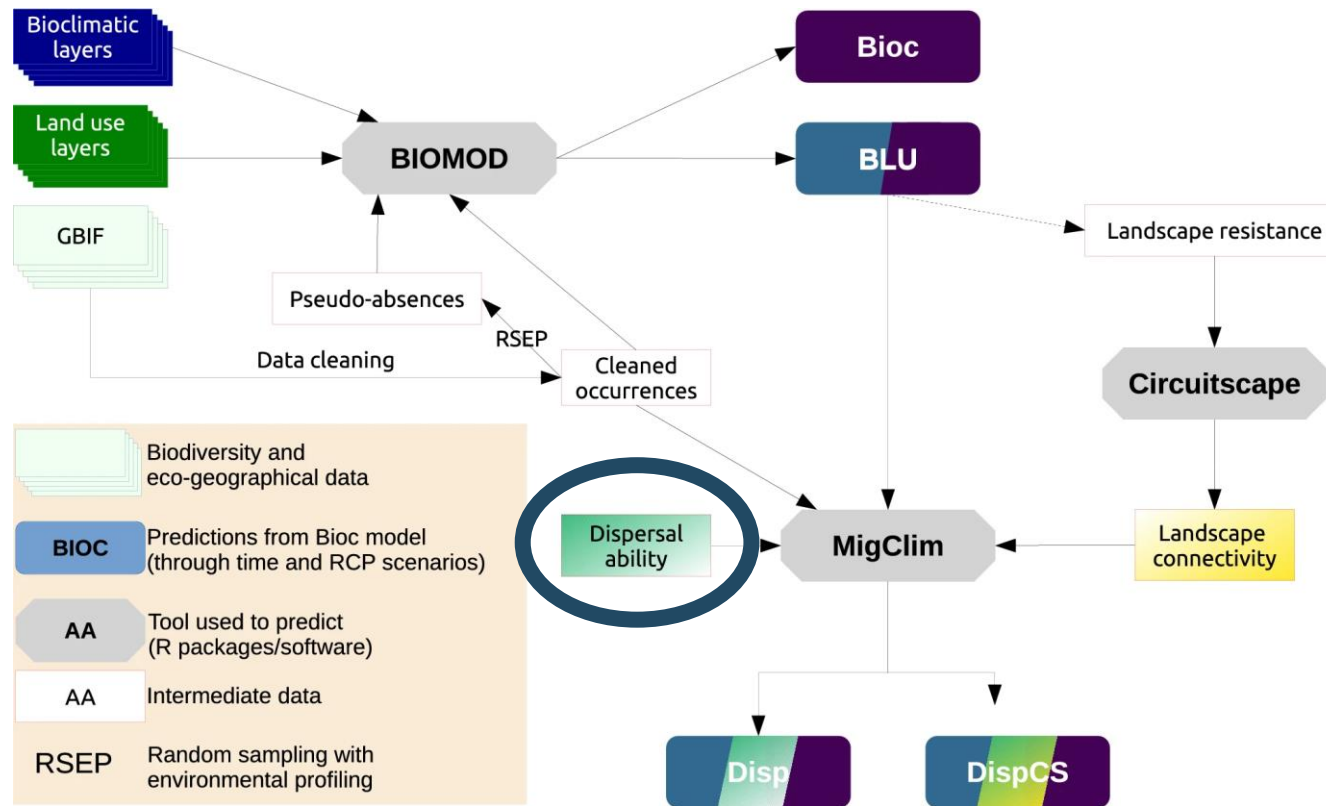


## 2. Introduction to SDMs

# The variability of SDMs - examples

Including dispersal

- Predictions of SDM in predatory arthropods in Europe

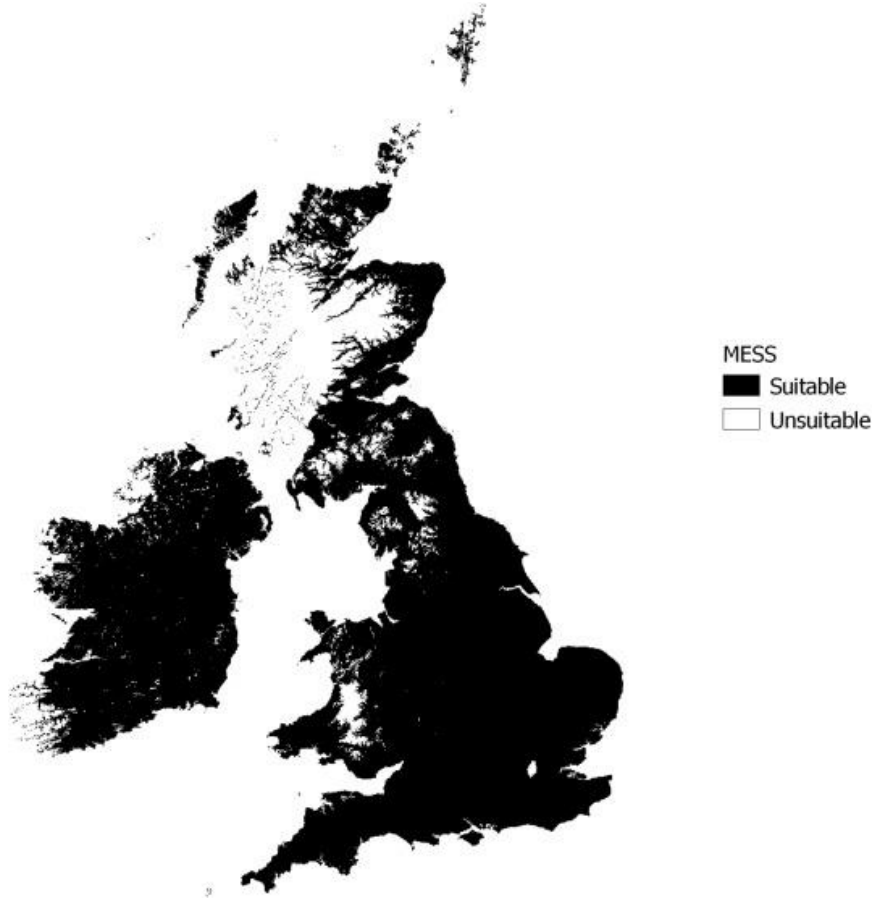


Monsimet et al., 2020



# The variability of SDMs - examples

iSDM (invasive species distribution model)



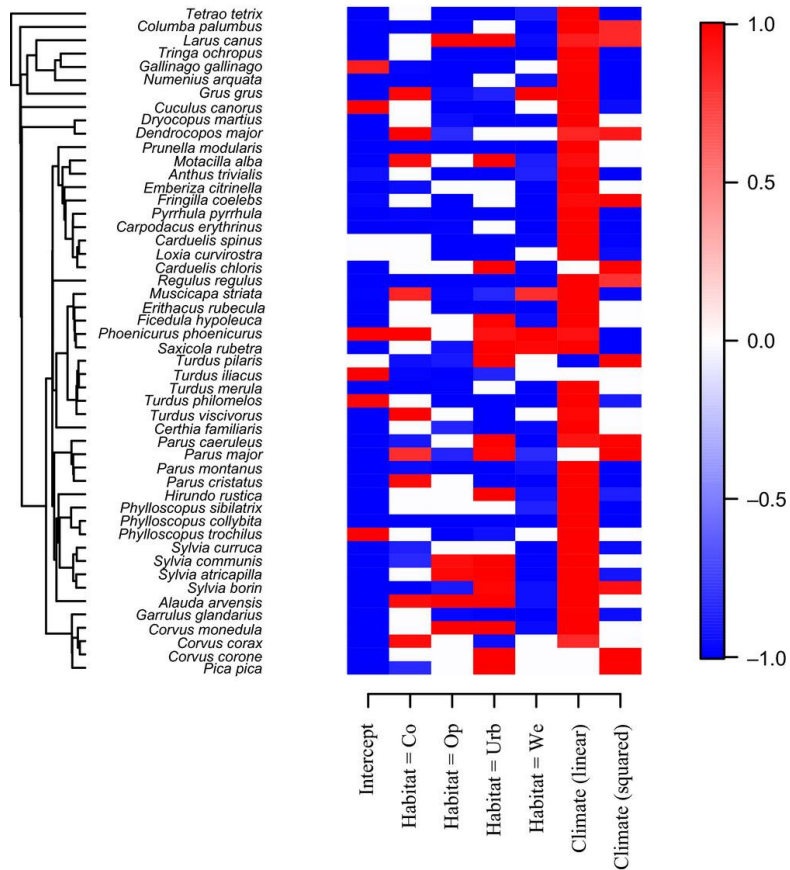
- Predicting the range of muntjac deer in Britain and Ireland
- Incorporation of non-equilibrium bias and survey effort in presence-only iSDM



# The variability of SDMs - examples

jSDM

(a)



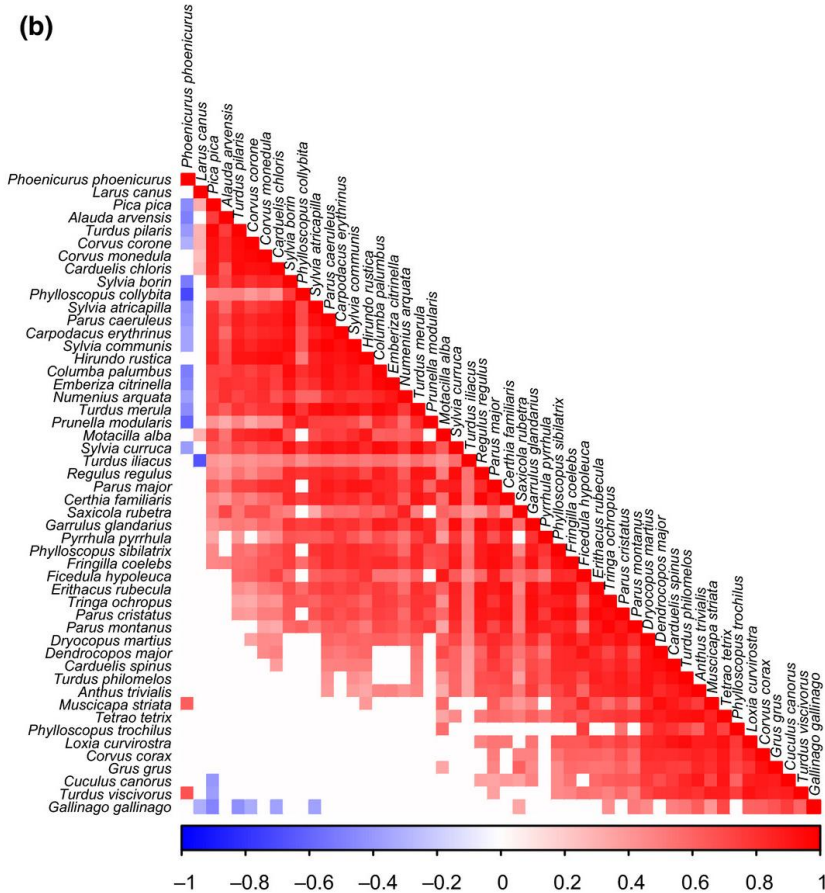
Include species responses to  
environmental covariates...



# The variability of SDMs - examples

jSDM

(b)

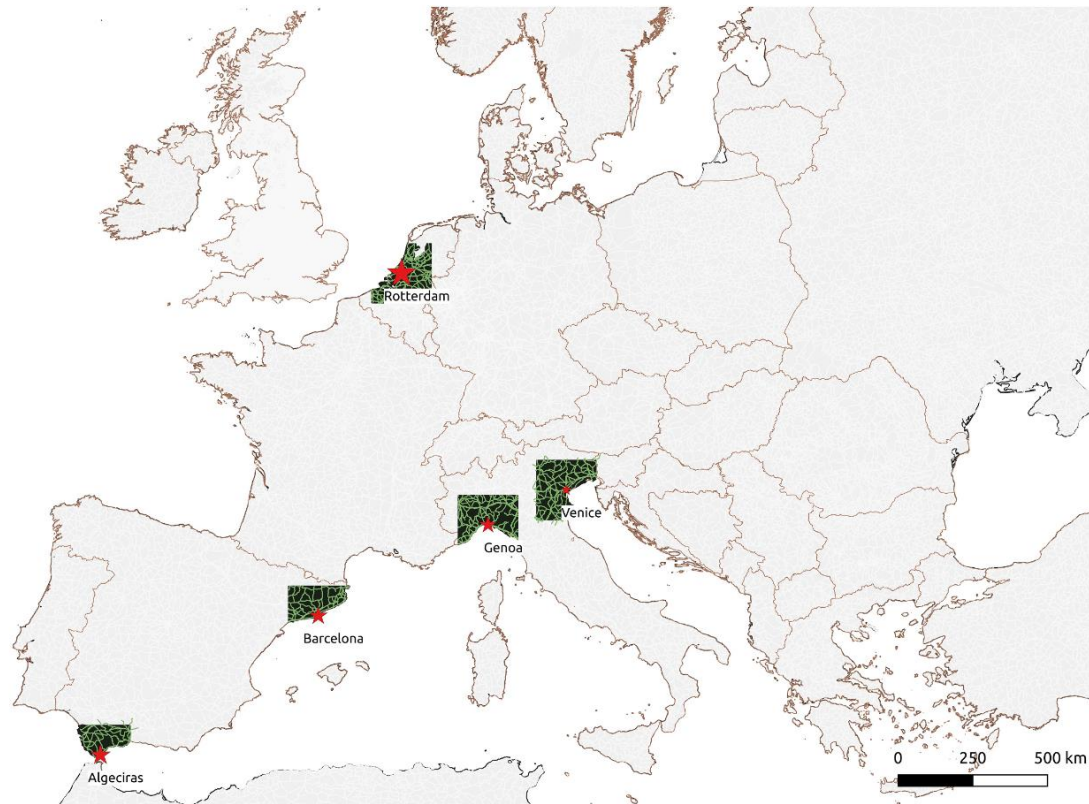


... and species' associations based on residuals.



# The variability of SDMs - examples

process-based model



*Aedes aegypti*



Modeling of *Ae. aegypti* population dynamics in European ports.

*Ae. aegypti* is a potential vector of yellow fever.

Da Re et al., 2021

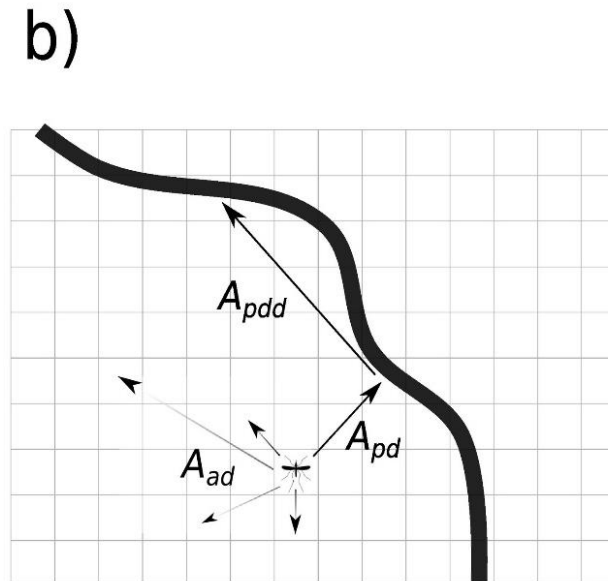
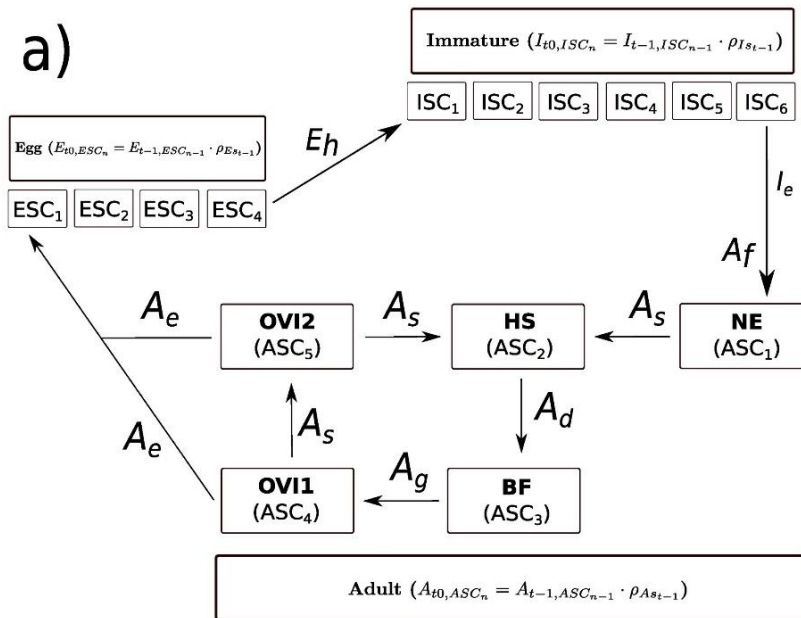




## 2. Introduction to SDMs

# The variability of SDMs - examples

process-based model



Modeling the life cycle...

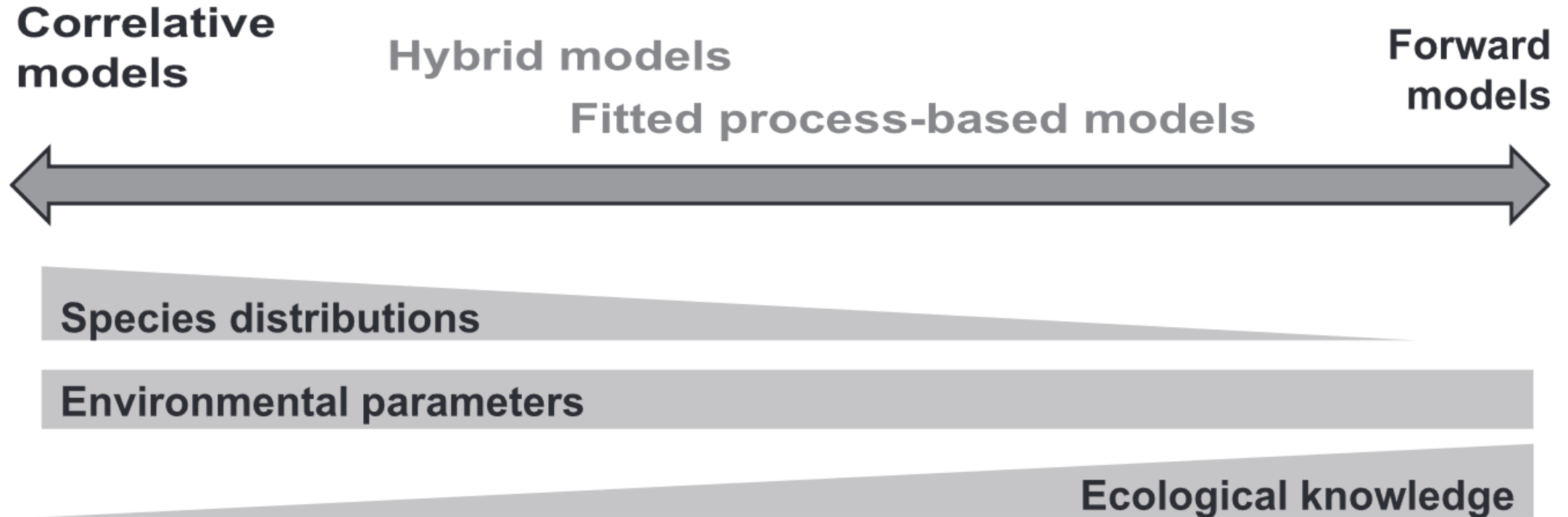
... and dispersal.

Da Re et al., 2021





# Correlative vs. process-based models

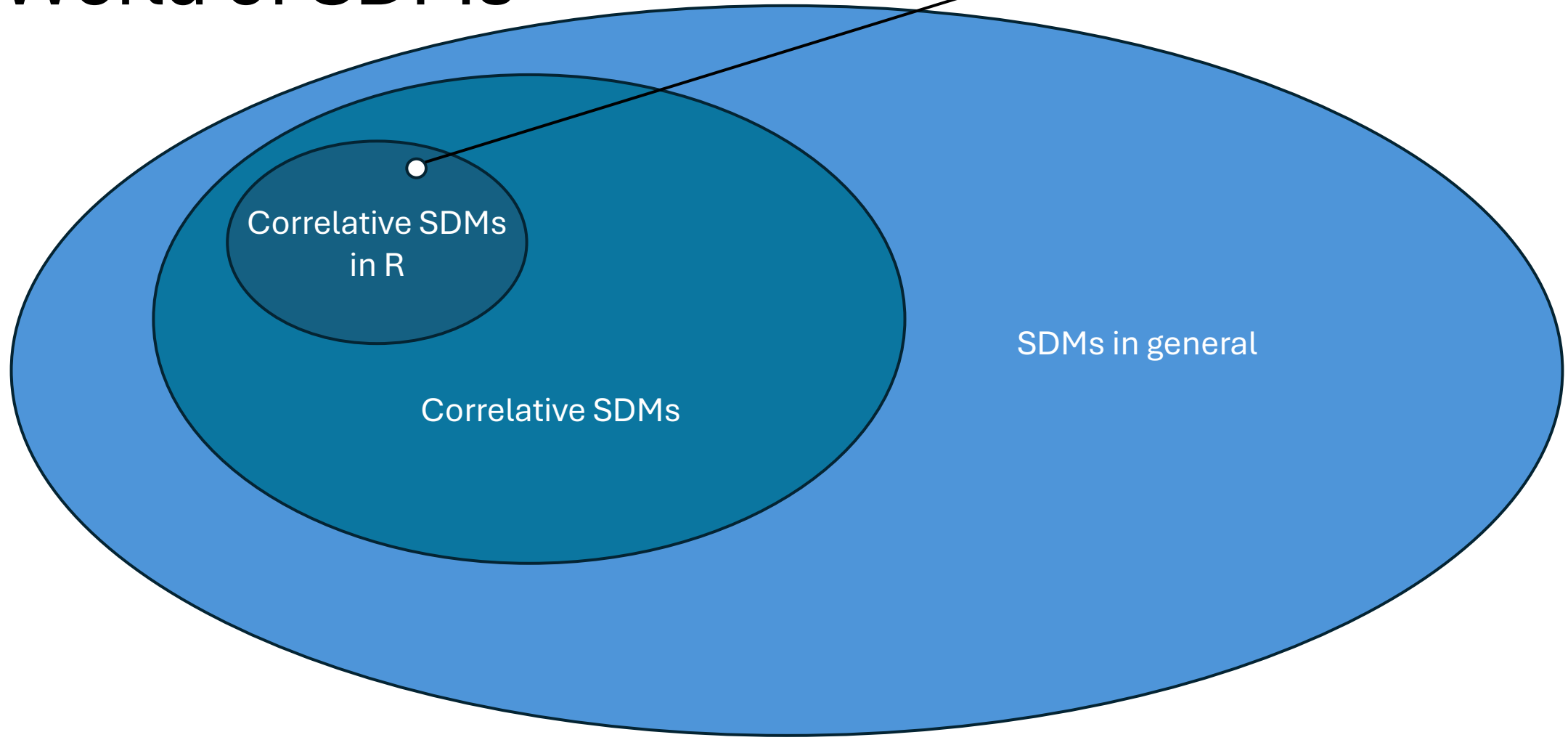


Dormann et al., 2011



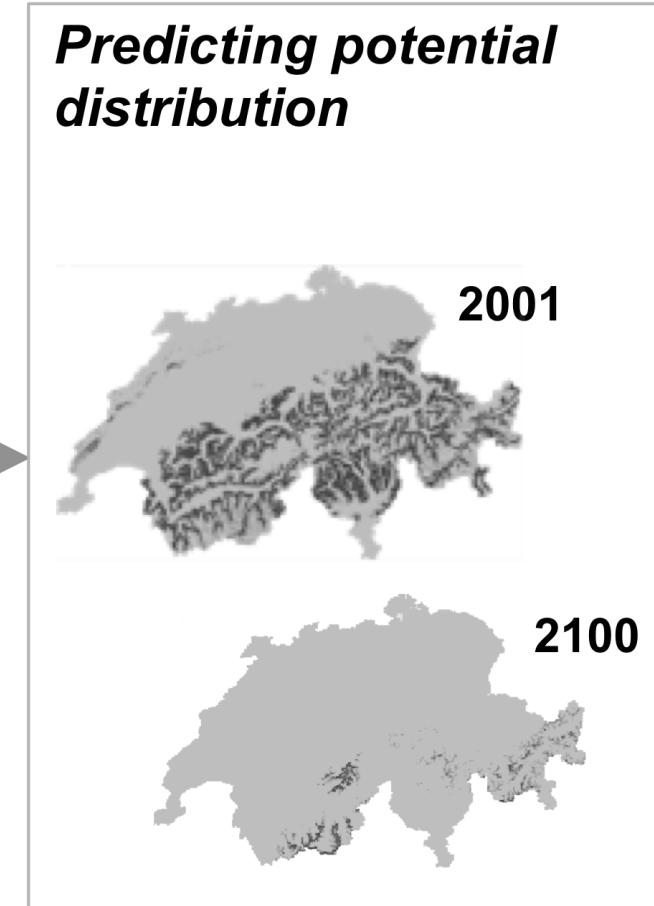
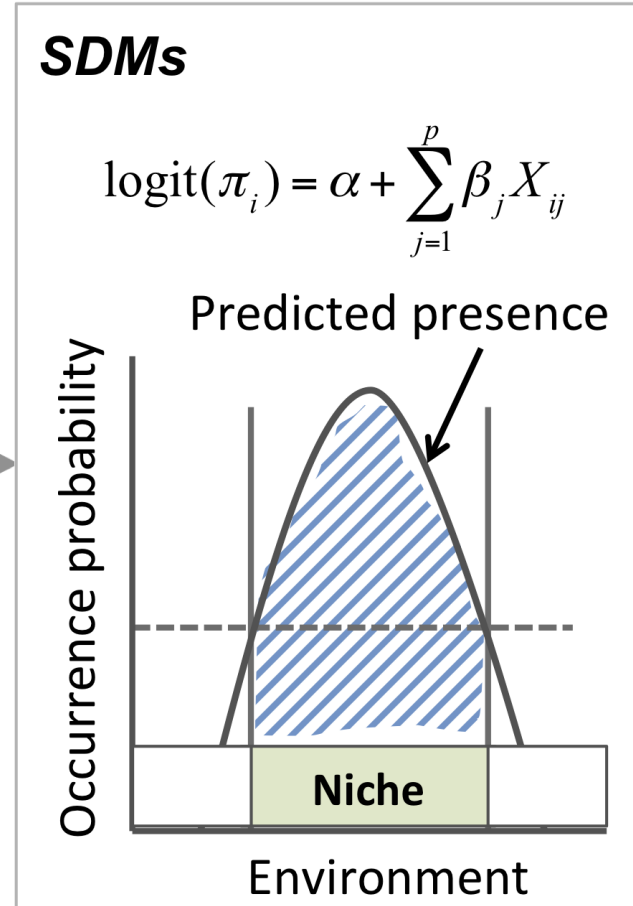
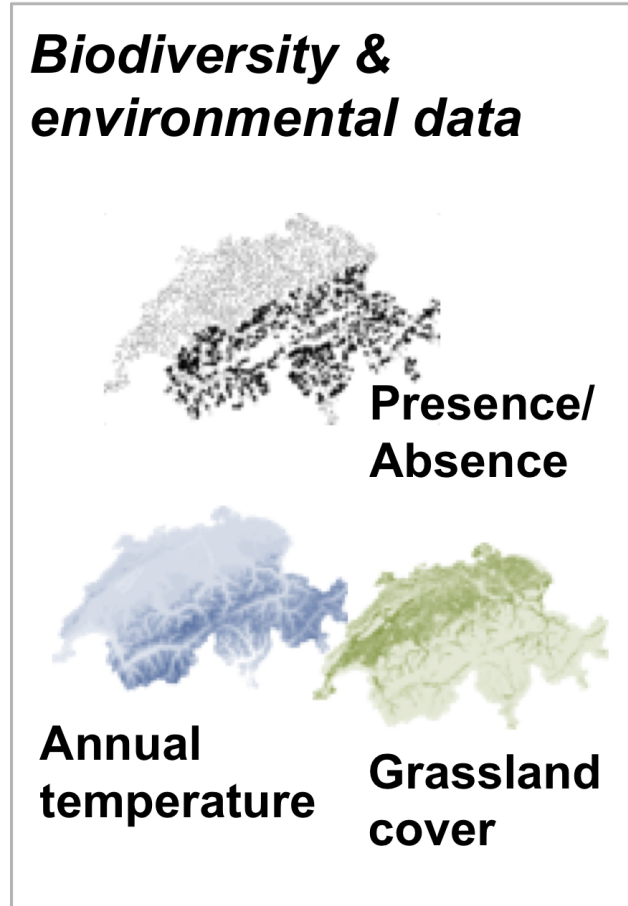
# World of SDMs

What we will cover today





# Our goal: build simple correlative SDM



Zurell, 2022

# Questions?



## 5 minutes activity break?



ARE YOU READY  
TO MOVE?

## 4. SDMs in R (live coding together)



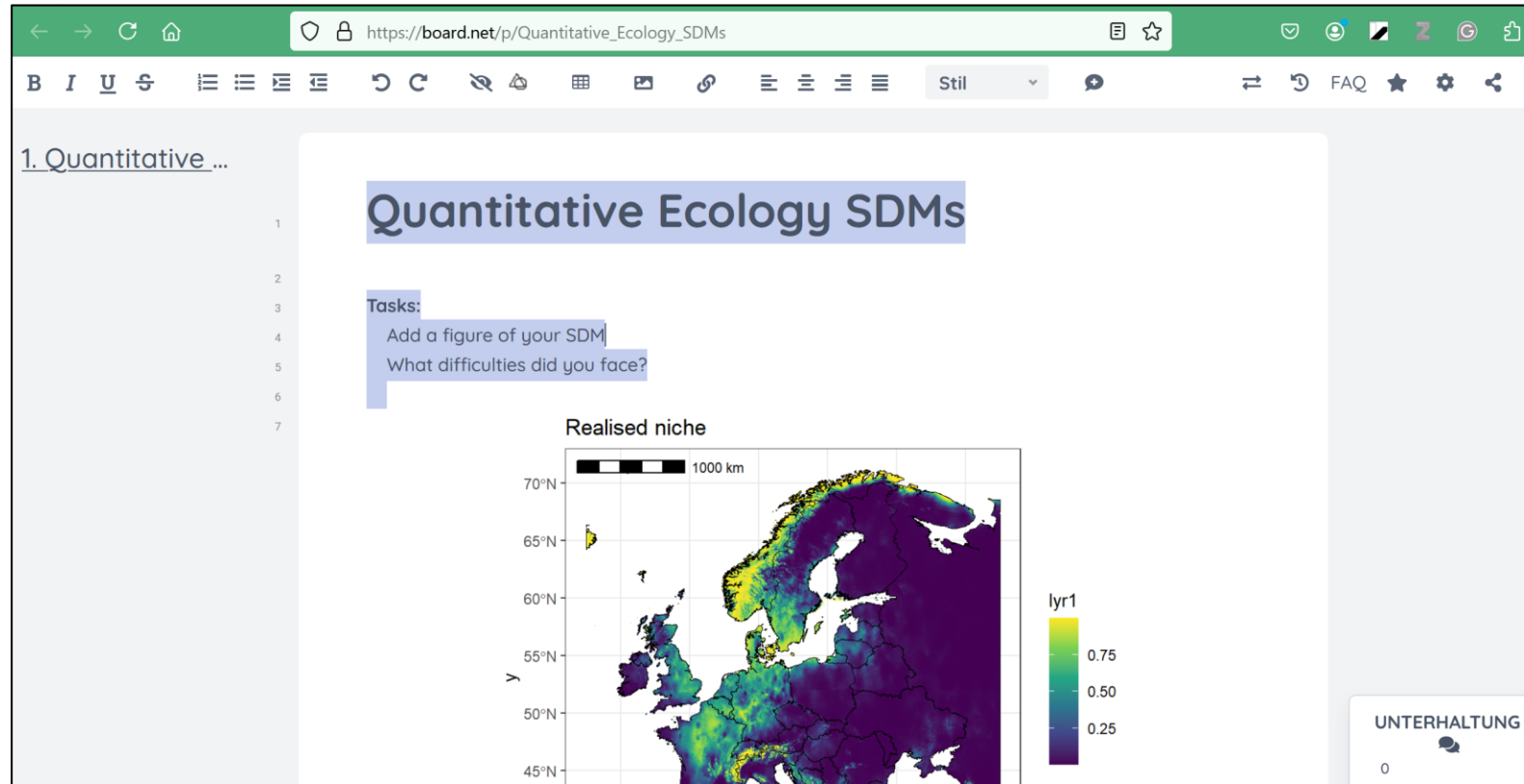
You  turn!





## 4. SDMs in R (live coding together)

# Your SDMs



[https://board.net/p/Quantitative\\_Ecology\\_SDMs](https://board.net/p/Quantitative_Ecology_SDMs)

## Pros cons correlative SDMs

### Think per share

1. Take **5 minutes** to think about the pros and cons of correlative SDMs **individually**.
2. Take **10 minutes** to discuss the topic in **groups of 2-3 people**.
3. Share your results in the **plenary**

**Please note down your group results in the following etherpad:**

**[https://board.net/p/Quantitative\\_Ecology\\_SDMs\\_pros\\_cons](https://board.net/p/Quantitative_Ecology_SDMs_pros_cons)**

# Tutorials

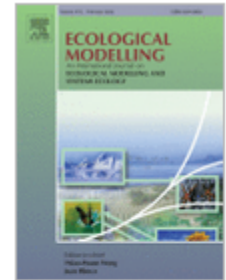
- **A very brief introduction to species distribution models in R** by Jeff Oliver: <https://jcoliver.github.io/learn-r/011-species-distribution-models.html>
- **Introduction to species distribution modelling (SDM) in R** by Damaris Zurell: <https://damariszurell.github.io/SDM-Intro/>
- **Downloading and cleaning GBIF data with R** by A.M. Barbosa: <https://www.r-bloggers.com/2021/03/downloading-and-cleaning-gbif-data-with-r/>
- **Accessing, handling, and referencing open biodiversity data using the Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF)** by Eric Kusch: <https://www.erikkusch.com/courses/gbif/>
- **Joint Species Distribution Modeling in R with Hmsc**: <https://earthlab.colorado.edu/blog/joint-species-distribution-modeling-r-hmsc>

# R packages





Ecological Modelling

Volume 476, February 2023, 110242



## A curated list of R packages for ecological niche modelling

Neftalí Sillero <sup>a</sup>  , João Carlos Campos <sup>a</sup>, Salvador Arenas-Castro <sup>b</sup>, A.Márcia Barbosa <sup>a</sup>

Sillero, 2023

# Questions?



# Thank you!