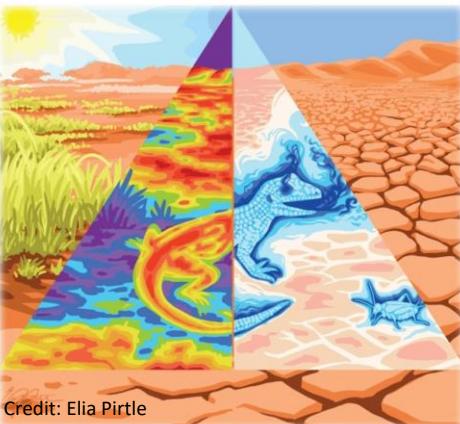


Using DEB to model environmental limits

Michael Kearney

School of BioSciences



Credit: Elia Pirtle

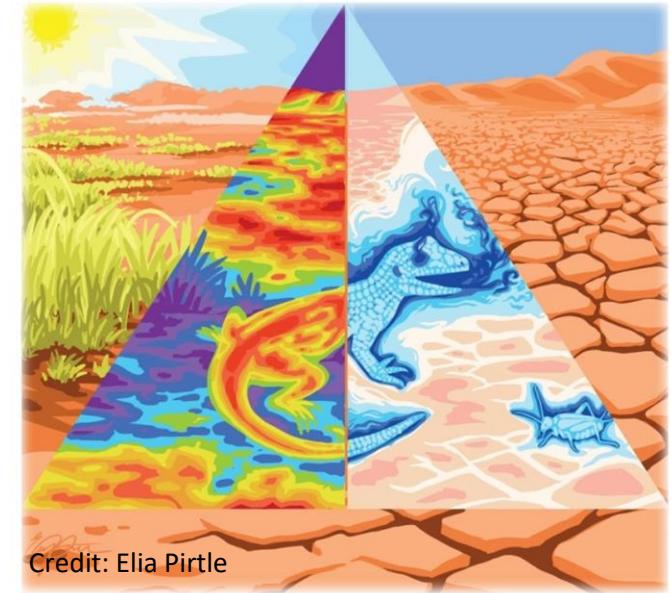
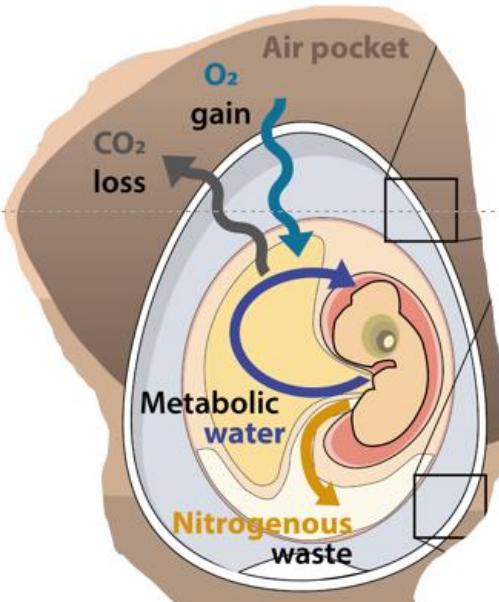


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Topics

- egg water exchange
- thermal vs hydric limits in two widespread lizards
- lifecycle constraints on a butterfly



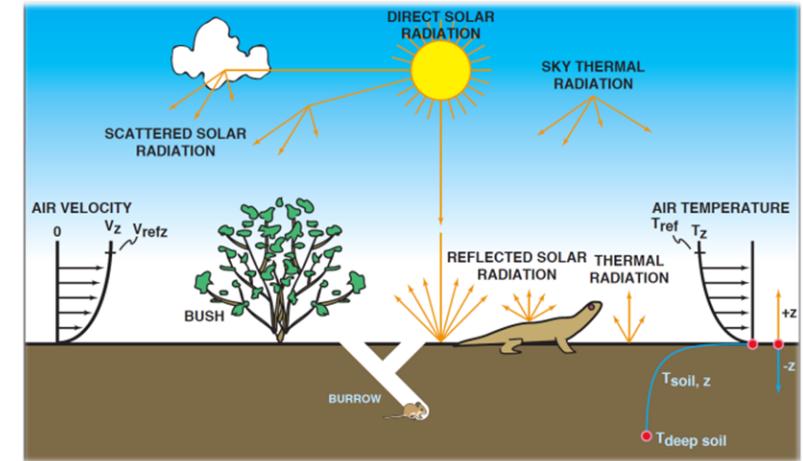
NicheMapR Ectotherm Model

ECOGRAPHY

Software note

NicheMapR – an R package for biophysical modelling: the ectotherm and Dynamic Energy Budget models

Michael R. Kearney and Warren P. Porter



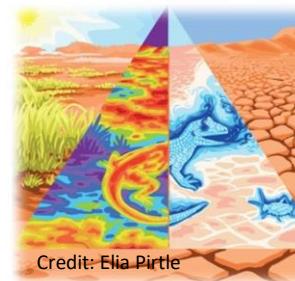
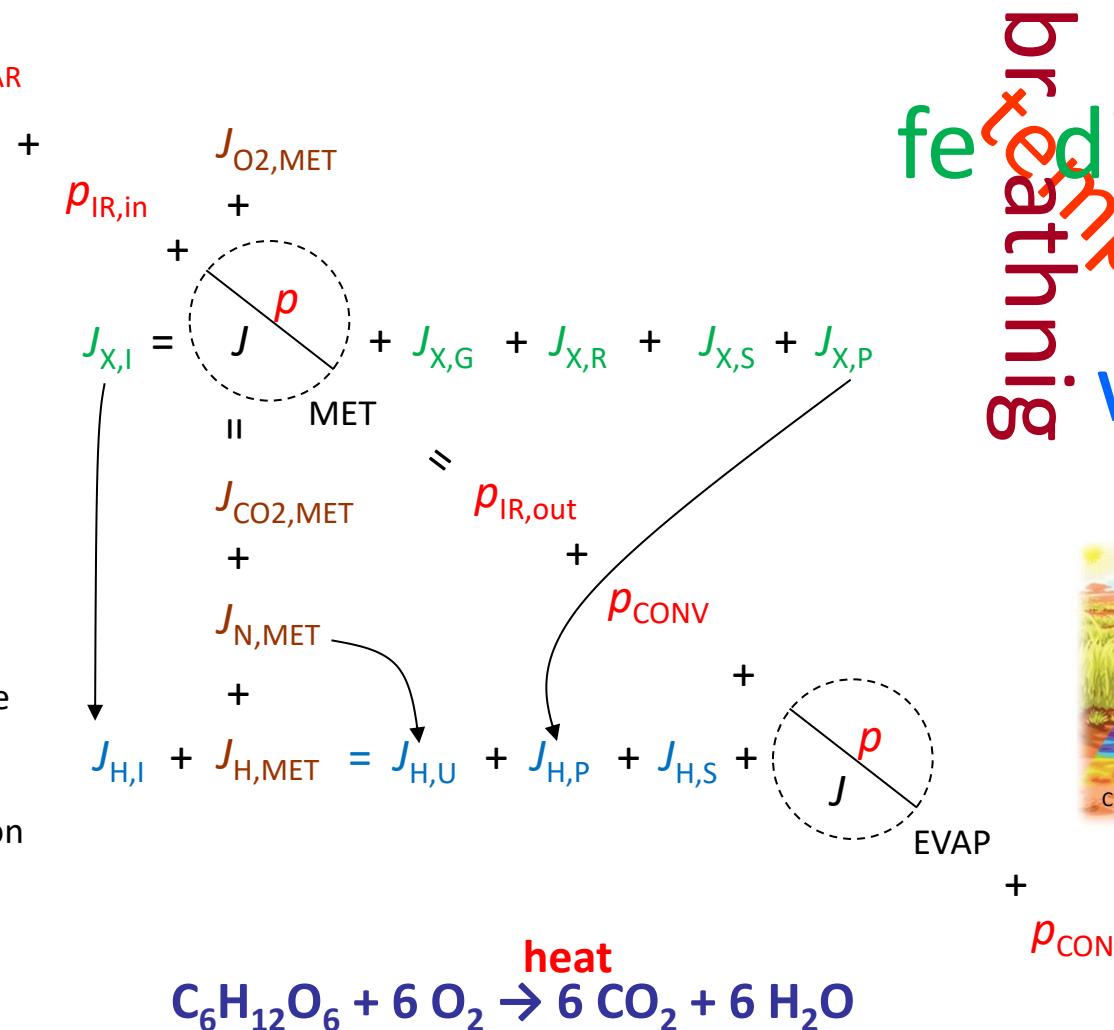
M. R. Kearney (<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-3349-8744>)✉ (mrke@unimelb.edu.au), School of BioSciences, The Univ. of Melbourne, Parkville, VIC, Australia. – W. P. Porter, Dept of Zoology, The Univ. of Wisconsin, Madison, WI, USA.

Ecography
43: 85–96, 2020
doi: 10.1111/ecog.04680

Mechanistic niche models characterise the fundamental niche of an organism by determining thermodynamic constraints on its heat, water and nutritional budget, and the consequences of this for growth, development and reproduction. They can thus quantify constraints on survival, activity and, ultimately, the vital rates that deter-

Thermodynamic basis to the niche

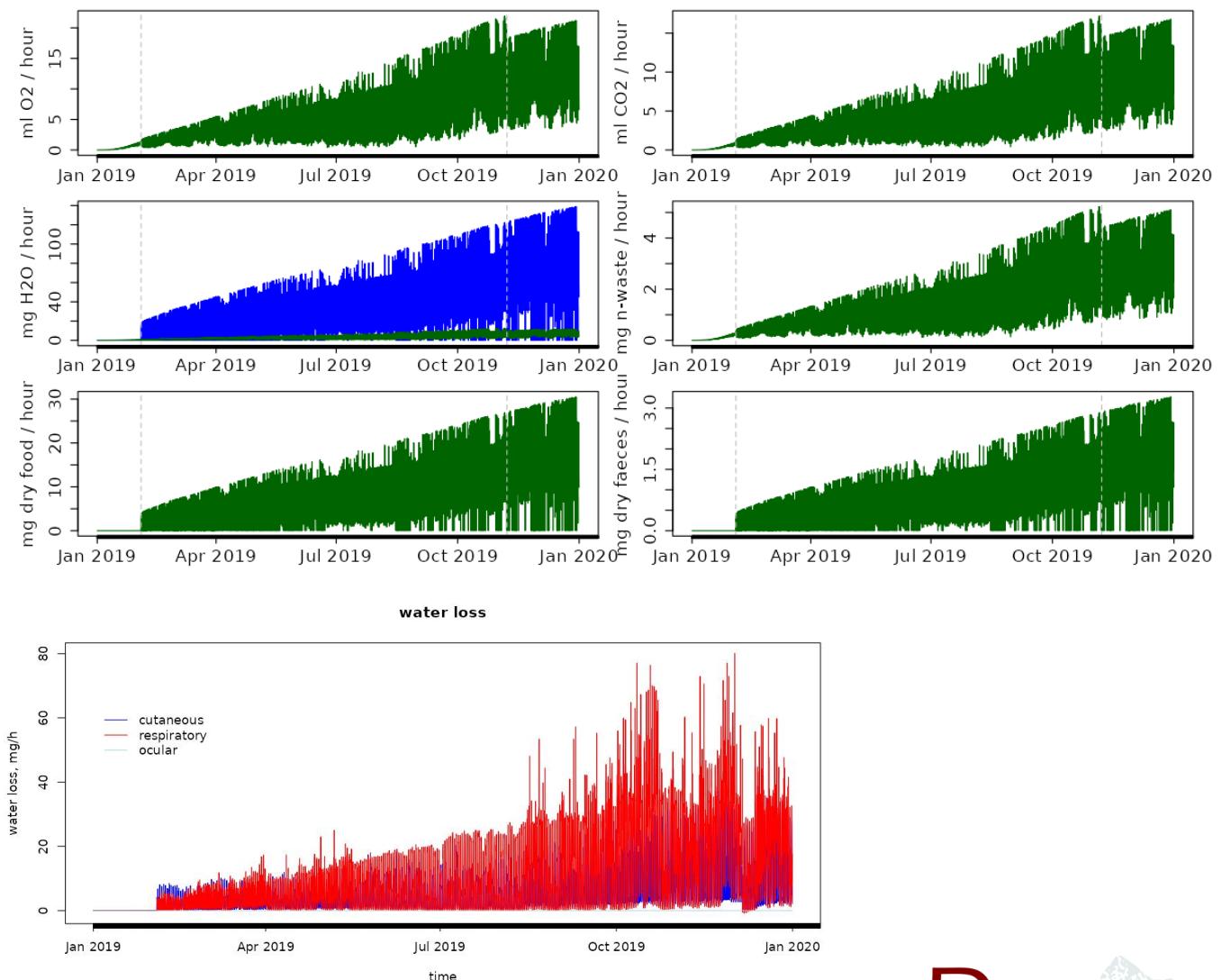
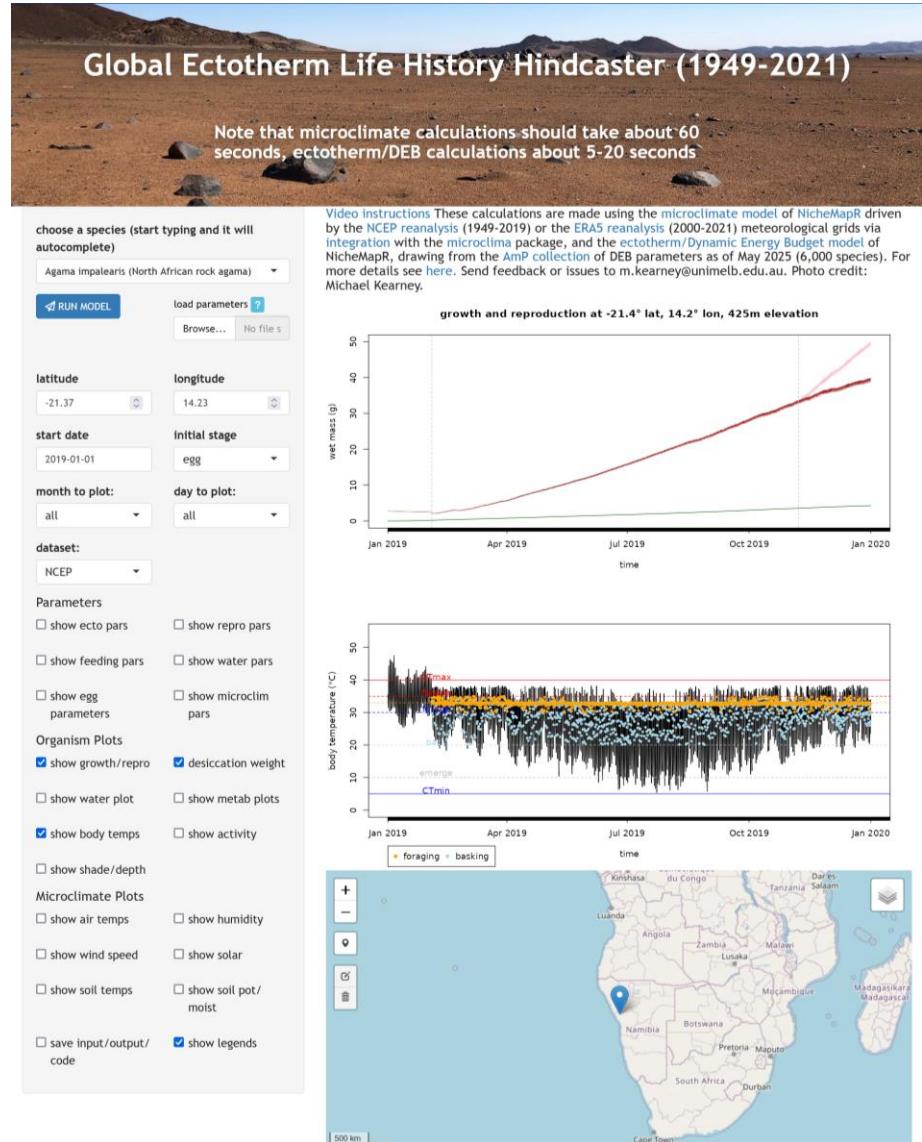
p = heat flux
 J = mass flux
 X = food
 H = water
 I = ingested
 P = product (faeces)
 U = urinated
 G = growth
 R = reproduction
 S = stored
 O_2 = oxygen
 CO_2 = carbon dioxide
 N = nitrogenous waste
 MET = 'metabolism'
 $EVAP$ = evaporation
 $SOLAR$ = solar radiation
 IR = infrared radiation
 $CONV$ = convection
 $COND$ = conduction



Credit: Elia Pirtle

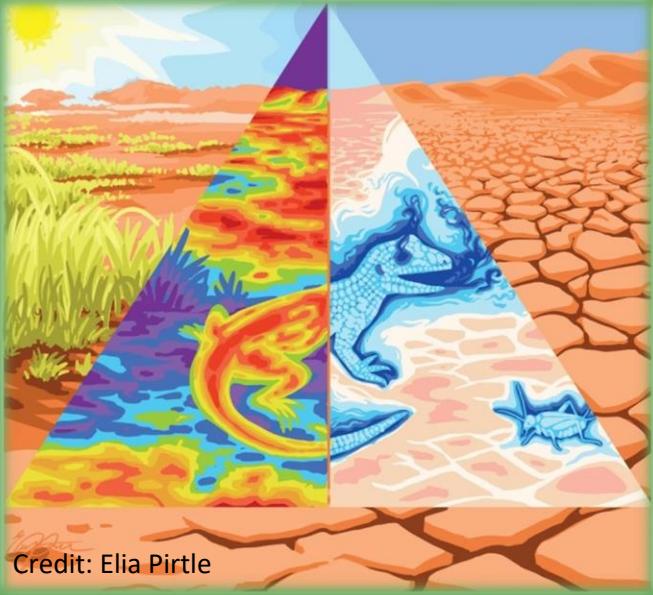
p_{COND}





http://bioforecasts.science.unimelb.edu.au/app_direct/ecto_deb_ncep/

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Credit: Elia Pirtle

1. Egg water exchange

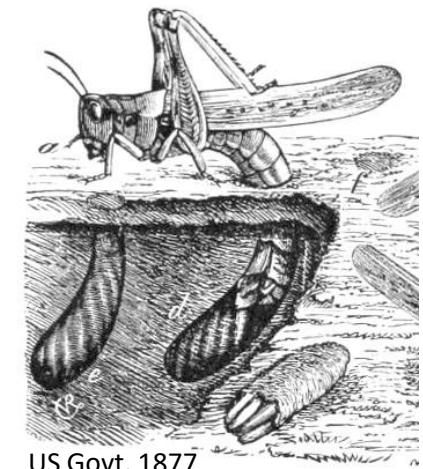
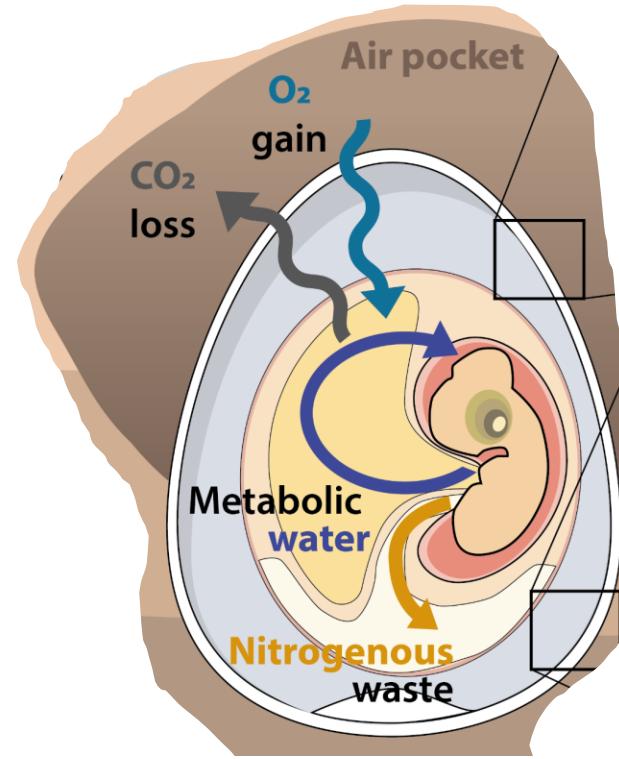
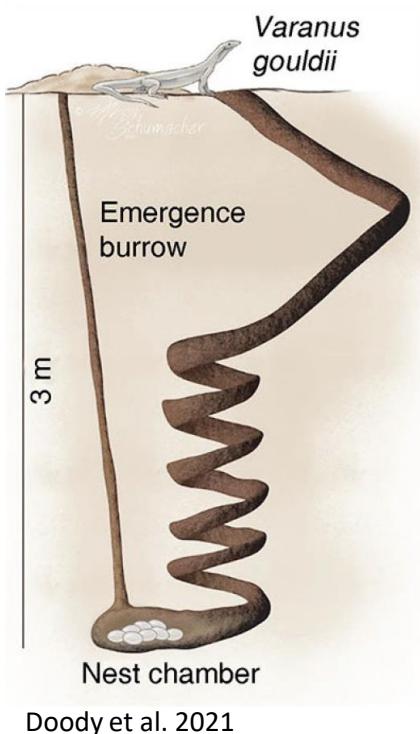
Power of combining
heat, water and
energy budgets



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University of Crete, Heraklion, Greece

A general framework for jointly modelling thermal and hydric constraints on developing eggs



Michael R. Kearney¹ and Urtzi Enriquez-Urzelai²

¹School of BioSciences, The University of Melbourne, Victoria 3010, Australia;

²Czech Academy of Sciences, Institute of Vertebrate Biology, Květná 8, 60365 Brno, Czech Republic

Methods in Ecology and Evolution, early view. <https://doi.org/10.1111/2041-210X.14018>



@ecophys

Water exchange theory

egg water balance with environment

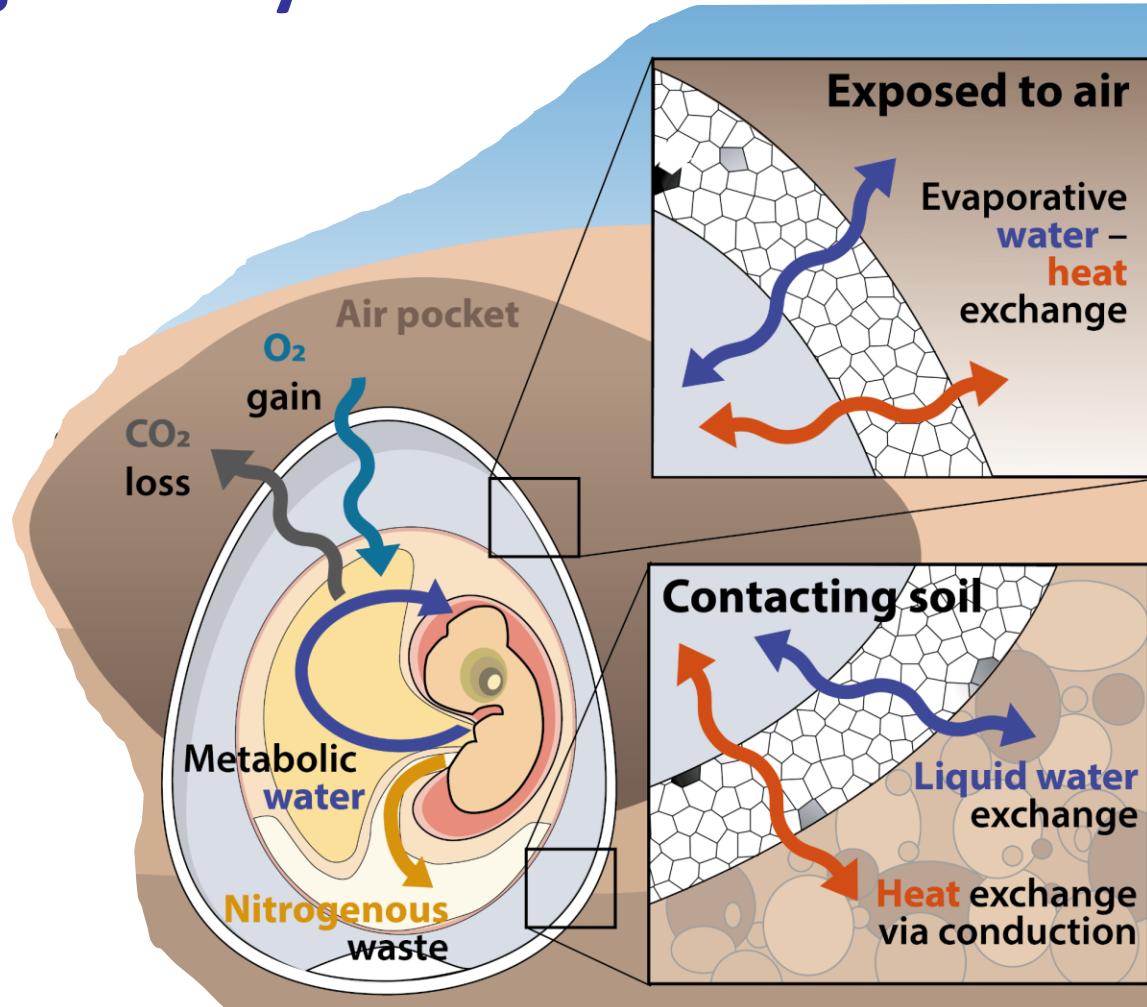
$$\dot{m}_{st} = \dot{m}_s - \dot{m}_a$$

Fick's law

$$\dot{m}_a = \frac{\rho_e - \rho_a}{\underbrace{1/(A_e h_d)}_{\text{boundary layer resistance}} + \underbrace{1/(A_e K_v)}_{\text{eggshell resistance}}} \quad \text{water vapour density gradient}$$

Darcy's law

$$\dot{m}_s = \frac{\psi_s - \psi_e}{\underbrace{1/(A_s K_e)}_{\text{egg hydraulic resistance}} + \underbrace{1/[(2\pi A_s)^{1/2} k_s]}_{\text{soil hydraulic resistance}}} \quad \text{water potential gradient}$$



Water exchange theory

WATER RELATIONS OF CHELONIAN EGGS¹

C. RICHARD TRACY, GARY C. PACKARD, AND MARY J. PACKARD

1978, *Physiological Zoology*, 51(4), 378–387.

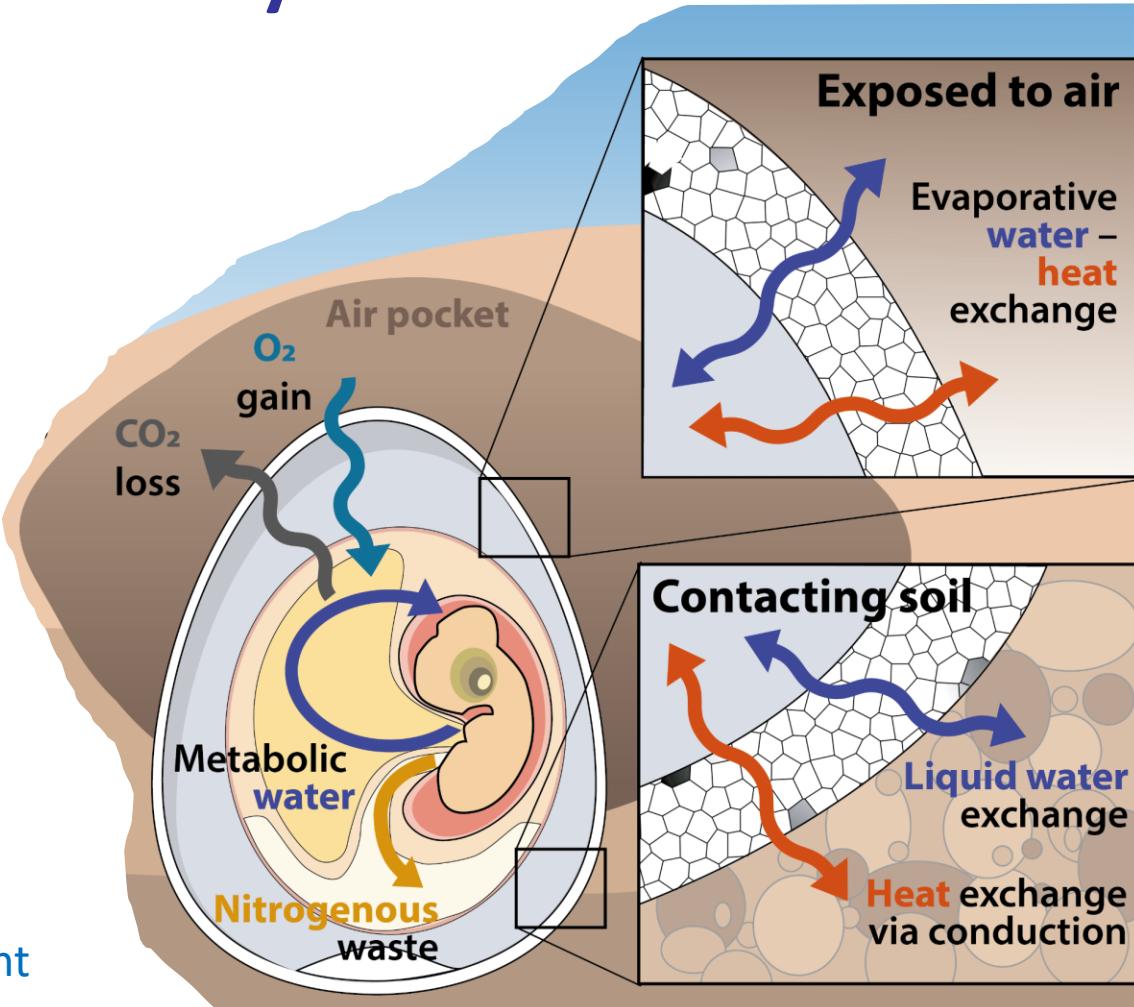
“Water exchanges are especially sensitive to such factors as substrate water potential ... hydraulic conductance of the egg shell”

Copeia, 1985(3), pp. 703–711

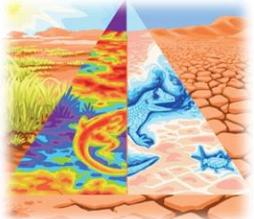
Water and Heat Exchange between Parchment-shelled Reptile Eggs and Their Surroundings

RALPH A. ACKERMAN, RICHARD C. SEAGRAVE, RAZI DMI'EL AND AMOS AR

“Exchange of water vapor rather than liquid water appears to account for the observed changes in egg mass. The thermal conductivity of the substrate can be shown to have an important effect on the exchange of heat and water by the eggs”



Credit: Elia Pirtle

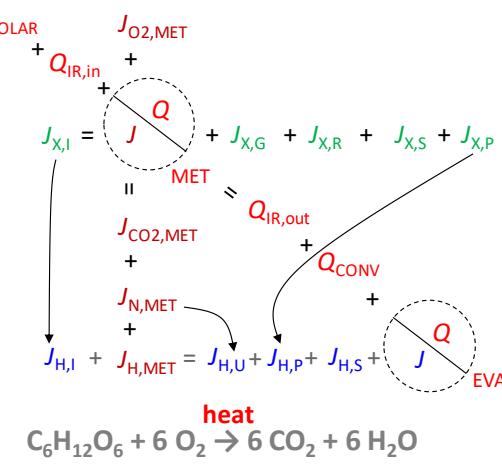


Software note

NicheMapR – an R package for biophysical modelling: the ectotherm and Dynamic Energy Budget models

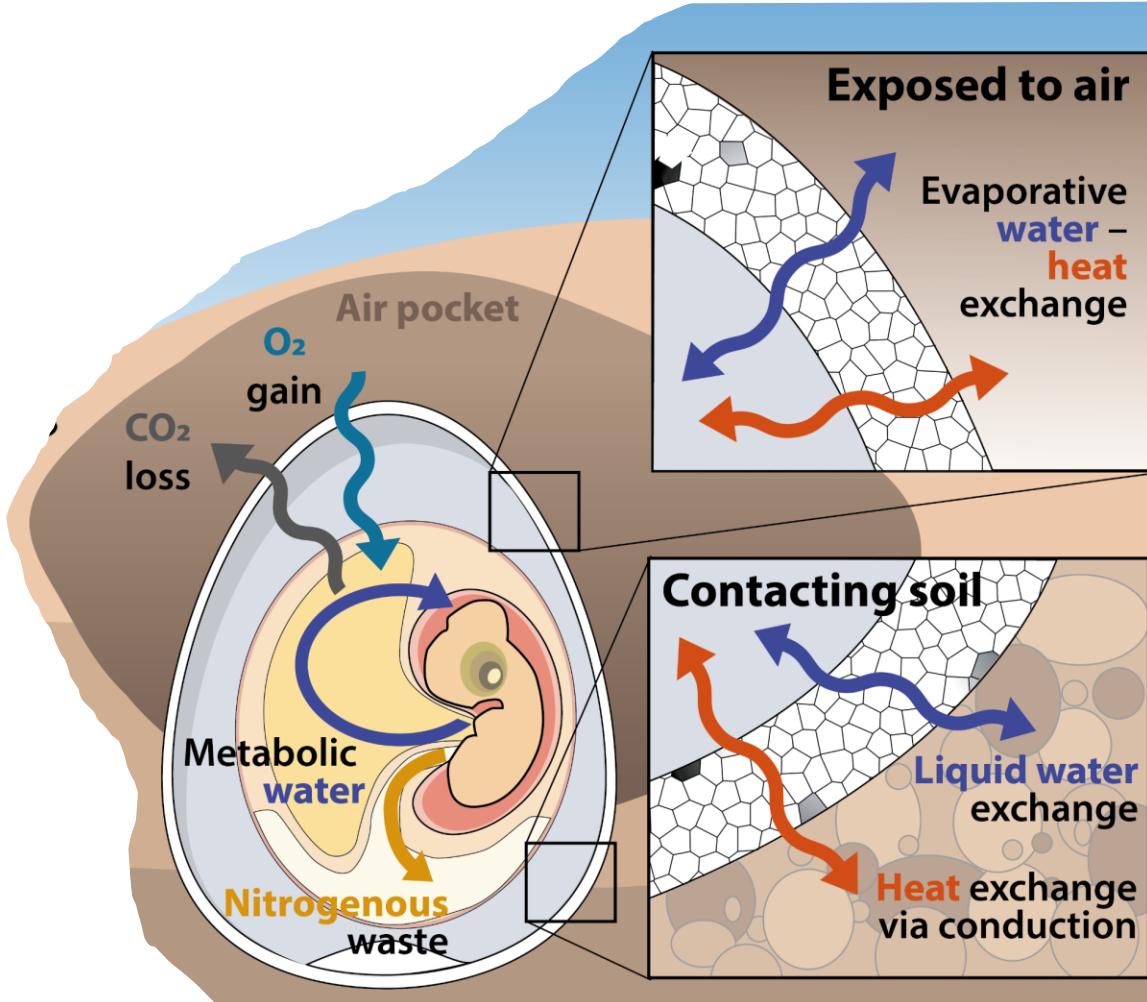
Michael R. Kearney and Warren P. Porter

Ecography
43: 85–96, 2020
doi: 10.1111/ecog.04680

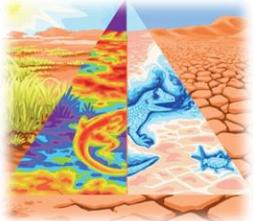


breathing
feeding
temperature
water

NicheMapR implementation



Credit: Elia Pirtle



Software note

NicheMapR – an R package for biophysical modelling: the ectotherm and Dynamic Energy Budget models

Michael R. Kearney and Warren P. Porter

Ecography
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Fick's law

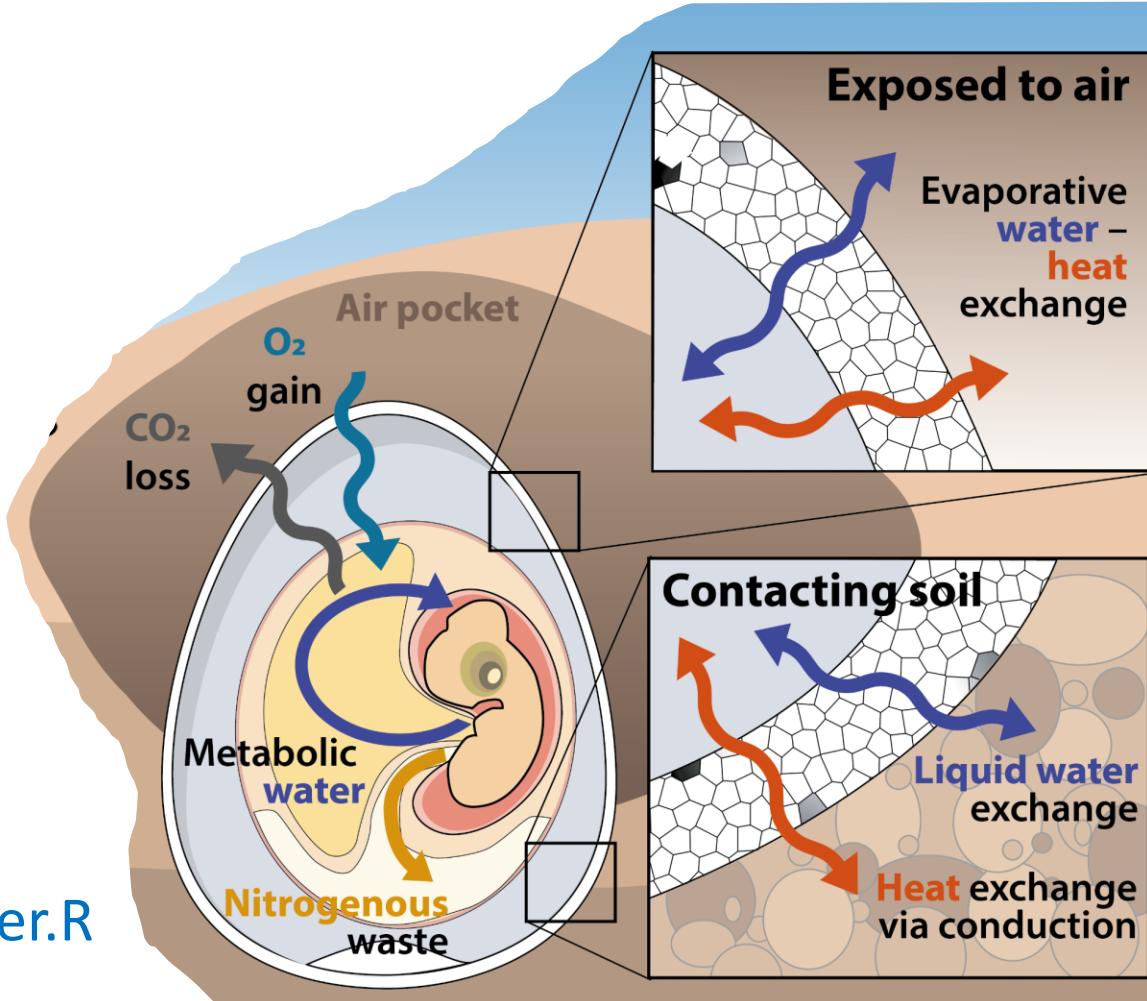
$$\dot{m}_a = \frac{\rho_e - \rho_a}{1/(A_e h_d) + 1/(A_e K_v)}$$

Darcy's law

$$\dot{m}_s = \frac{\psi_s - \psi_e}{1/(A_s K_e) + 1/[(2\pi A_s)^{1/2} k_s]}$$

} egg_water.R

NicheMapR implementation



Tracy et al. 1978 egg water budget model (requires the deSolve package)

Description

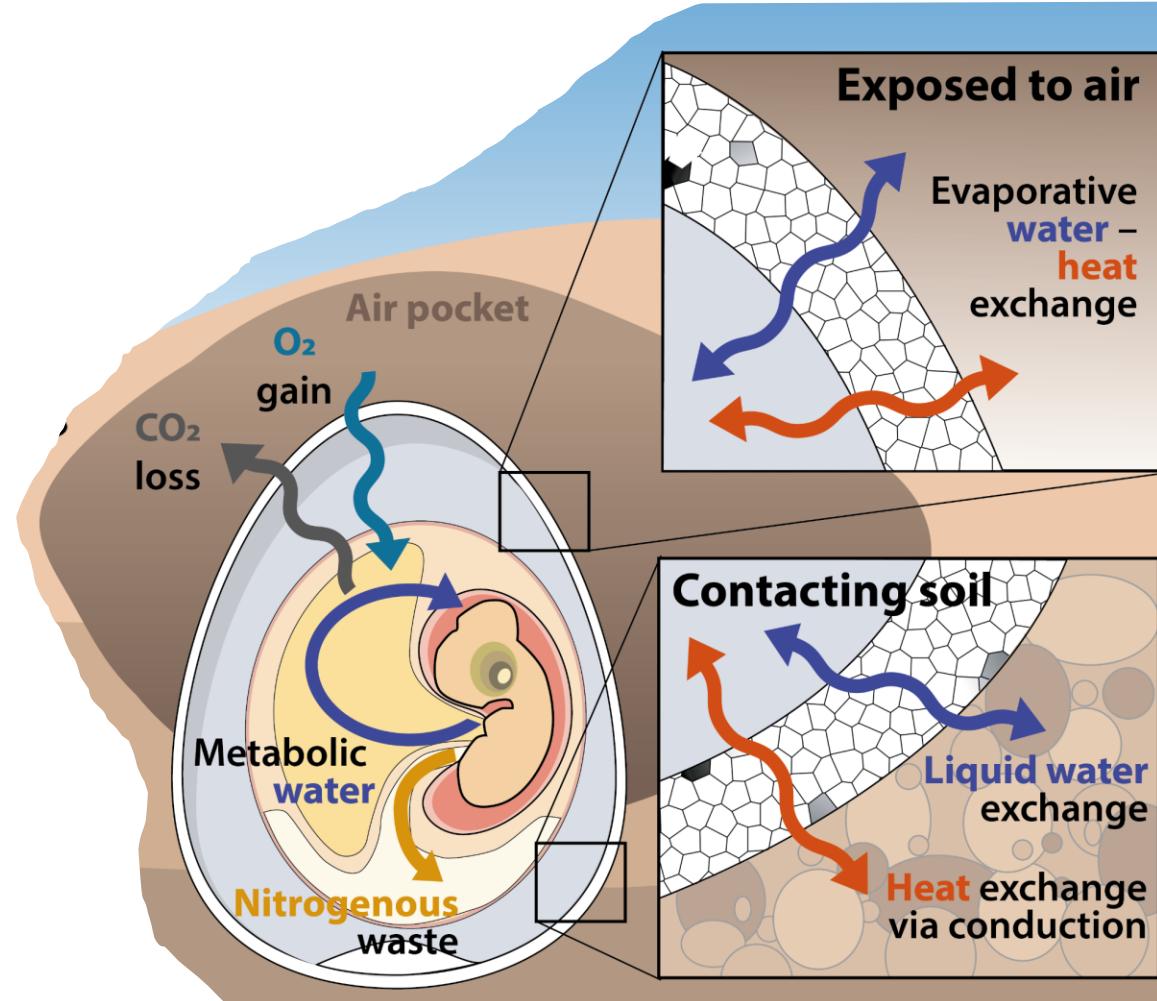
Function for computing the exchange of gaseous and liquid water between an egg and soil under environmental conditions that vary with time, using interpolation functions to estimate environmental conditions at particular time intervals. Michael Kearney developed this R function based on Tracy, C. R., Packard, G. C., and Packard, M. J. (1978). Water relations of chelonian eggs. *Physiological Zoology* 51, 378–387. Parameter examples come from this paper.

Usage

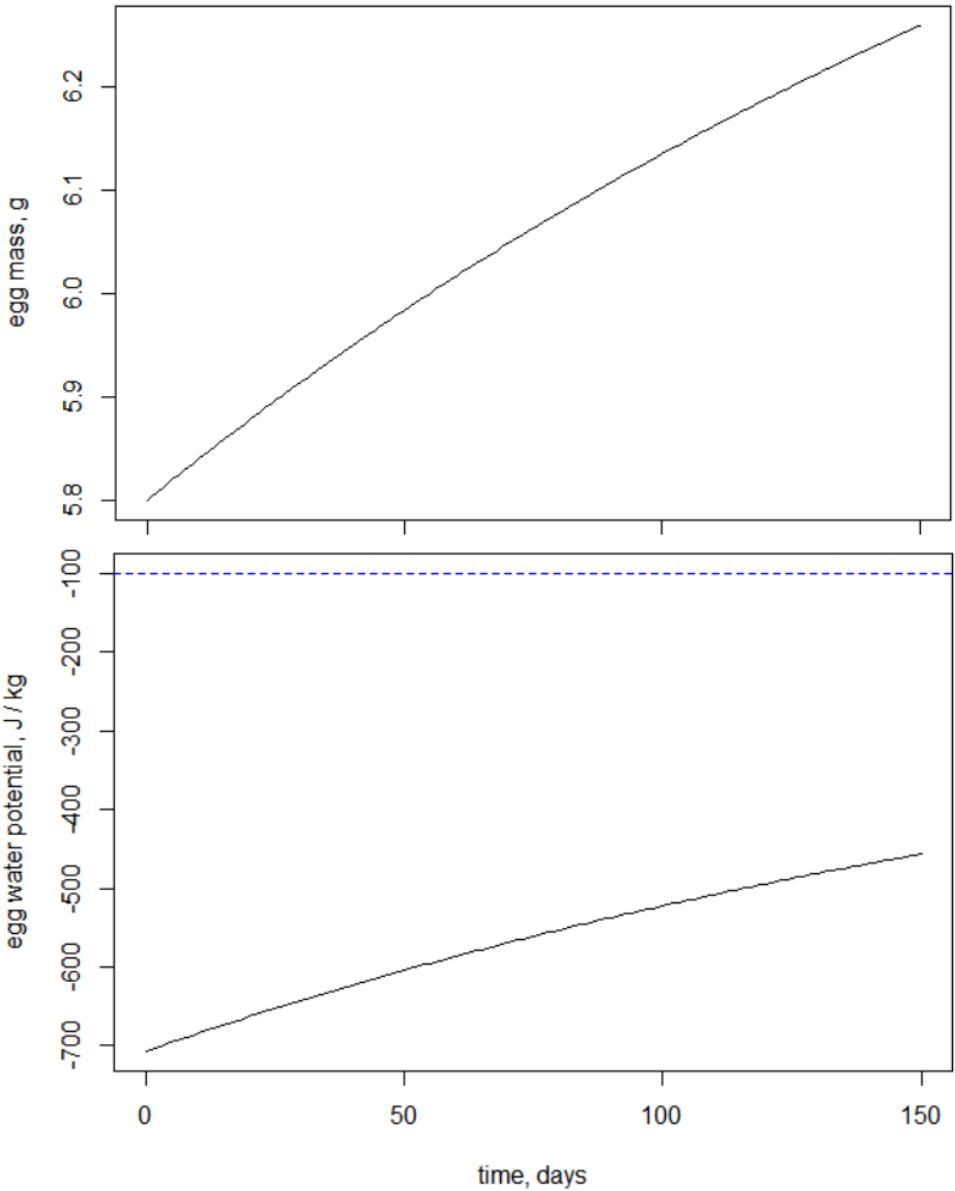
```
ode(y = c(m_init, psi_e_init), times = t, func = egg_water, parms = indata)
```

Arguments

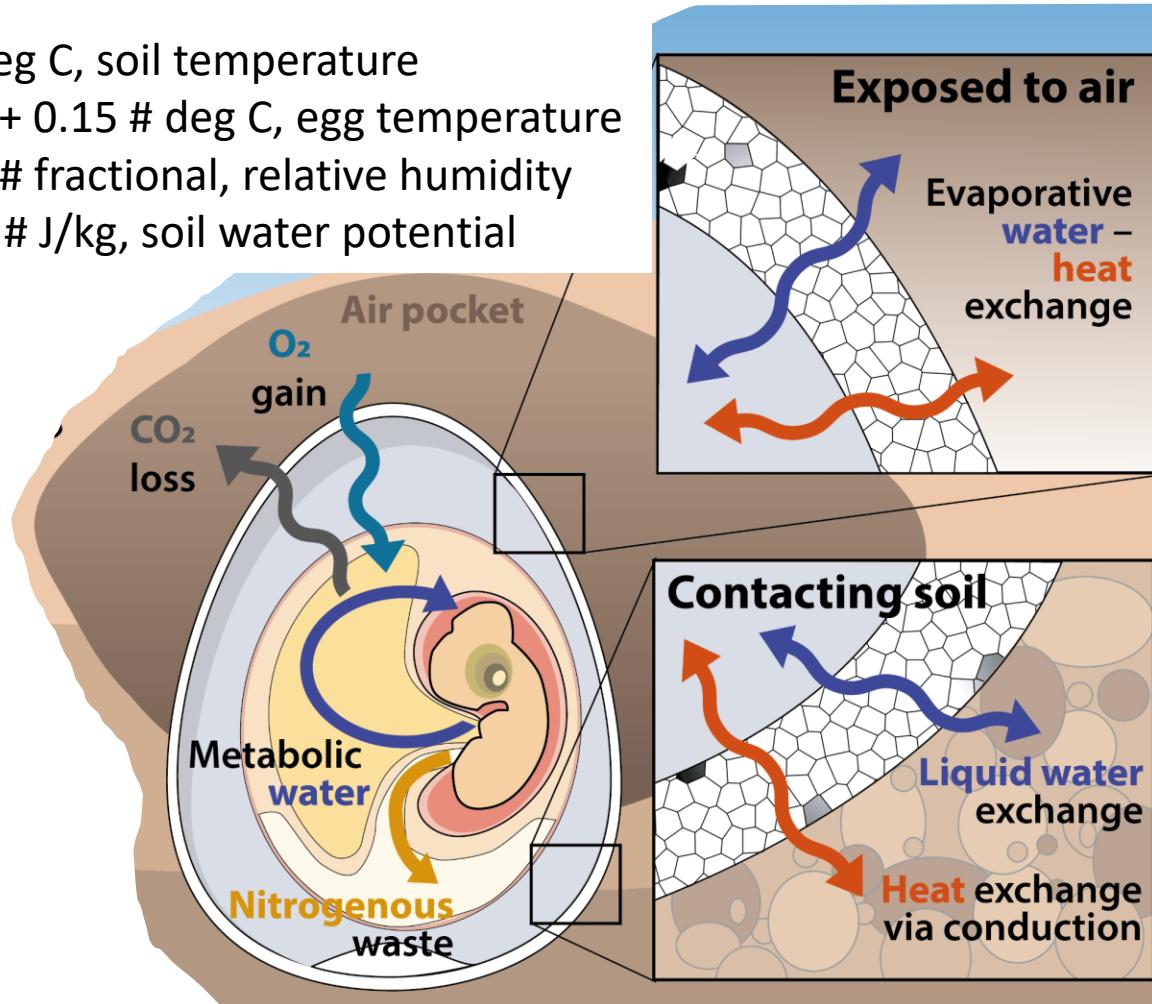
t	time intervals (s) at which output is required
m_init	= 5.8 / 1000, mass of freshly laid egg (kg)
psi_e_init	= -707, water potential of freshly laid egg (J/kg)
shape	= 0.6, ratio of minor axes major axis of ellipsoid (-)
f_air	= 0.5, fraction of egg surface exposed to air
K_e	= $1.12 * 60 * 24 / 1e6 / (3600 * 24 * 10)$, hydraulic conductance of egg ($\text{kg m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1} (\text{J/kg})^{-1}$), converted from original $\mu\text{g cm}^{-2} \text{min}^{-1} \text{bar}^{-1}$
spec_hyd	= 0.5, water potential-specific hydration ($\text{m}^3 \text{m}^{-3} (\text{J/kg})^{-1}$)
pct_wet	= 0.24, percent of surface area acting as a free-water surface for evaporation (%)
P_e	= -0.5052209, soil air entry potential (J/kg), derived from soil texture data via the function 'pedotransfer' and used to get soil hydraulic conductivity
b	= 1.41005, Campbell's b parameter (-), derived from soil texture data via the function 'pedotransfer' and used to get soil hydraulic conductivity
K_sat	= 0.003733307, soil saturated hydraulic conductivity ($\text{kg m}^{-1} \text{s}^{-1} (\text{J/kg})^{-1}$) derived from soil texture data via the function 'pedotransfer' and used to get soil hydraulic conductivity
elev	= 0, elevation (m), needed for properties of air
vel	= 0.001, wind speed (m/s)
Tsoilf	soil temperature function with time, generated by 'approxfun' (°C)
Tbf	body temperature function with time, generated by 'approxfun'(°C)
RHsoilf	relative humidity function with time, generated by 'approxfun' (fractional)
PSIsoilf	soil water potential with time, generated by 'approxfun' (J/kg)

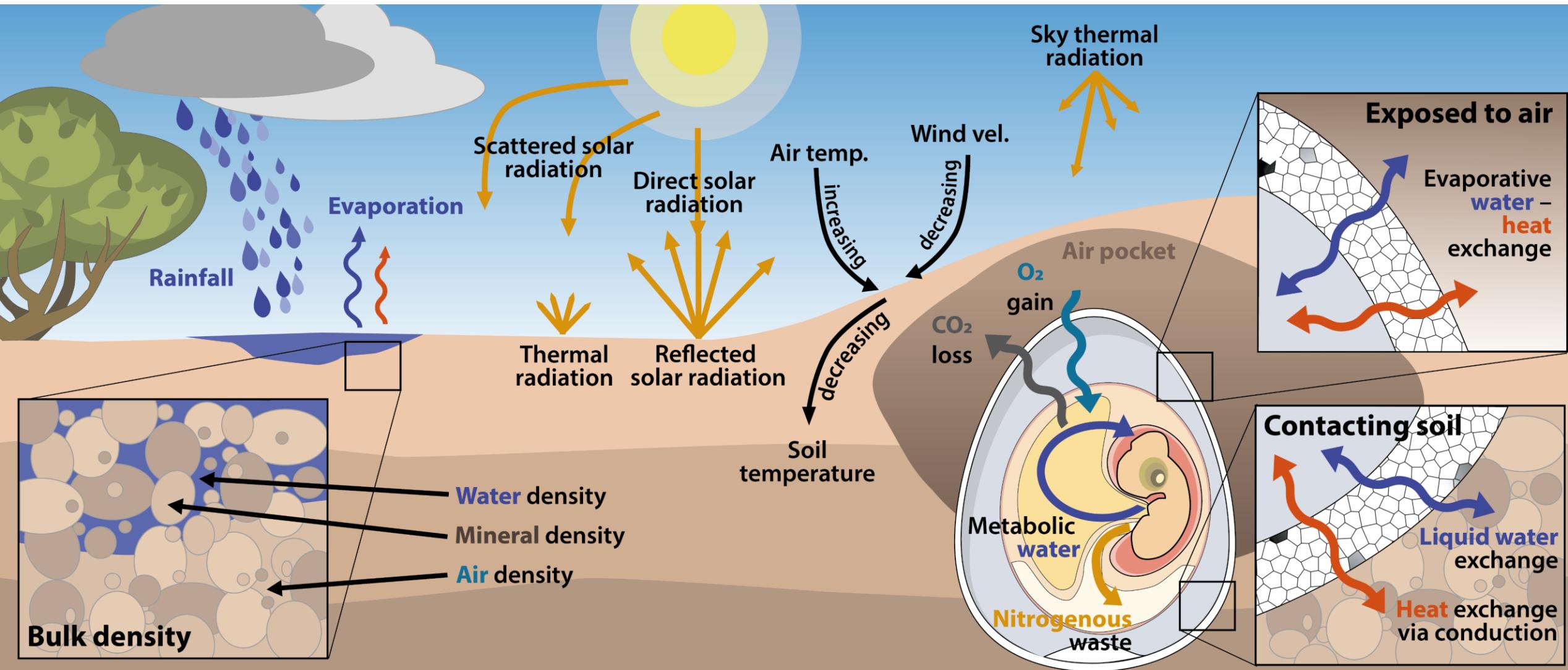


NicheMapR implementation



```
T_soil <- 29 # deg C, soil temperature  
T_egg <- T_soil + 0.15 # deg C, egg temperature  
RH_soil <- 0.99 # fractional, relative humidity  
PSI_soil <- -100 # J/kg, soil water potential
```



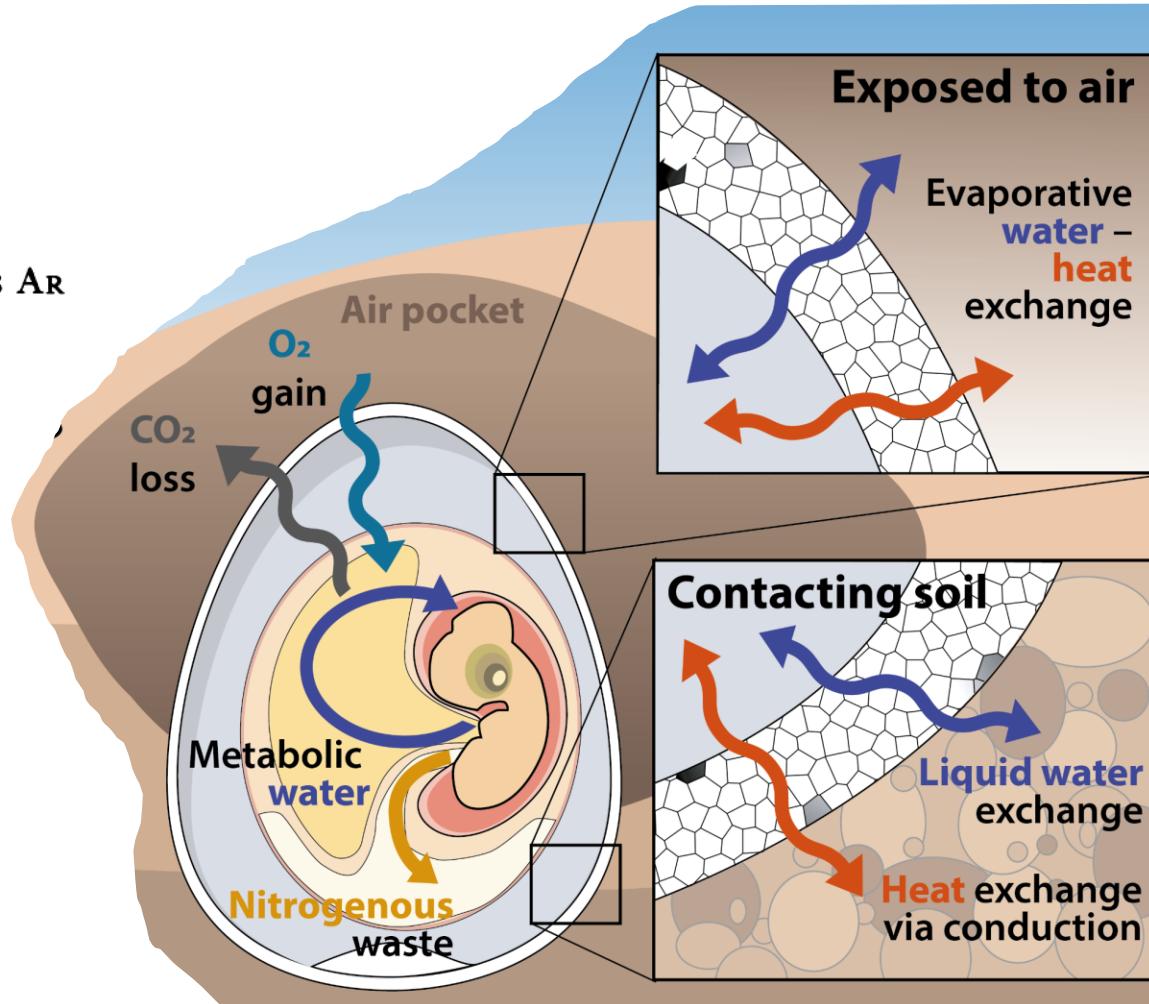
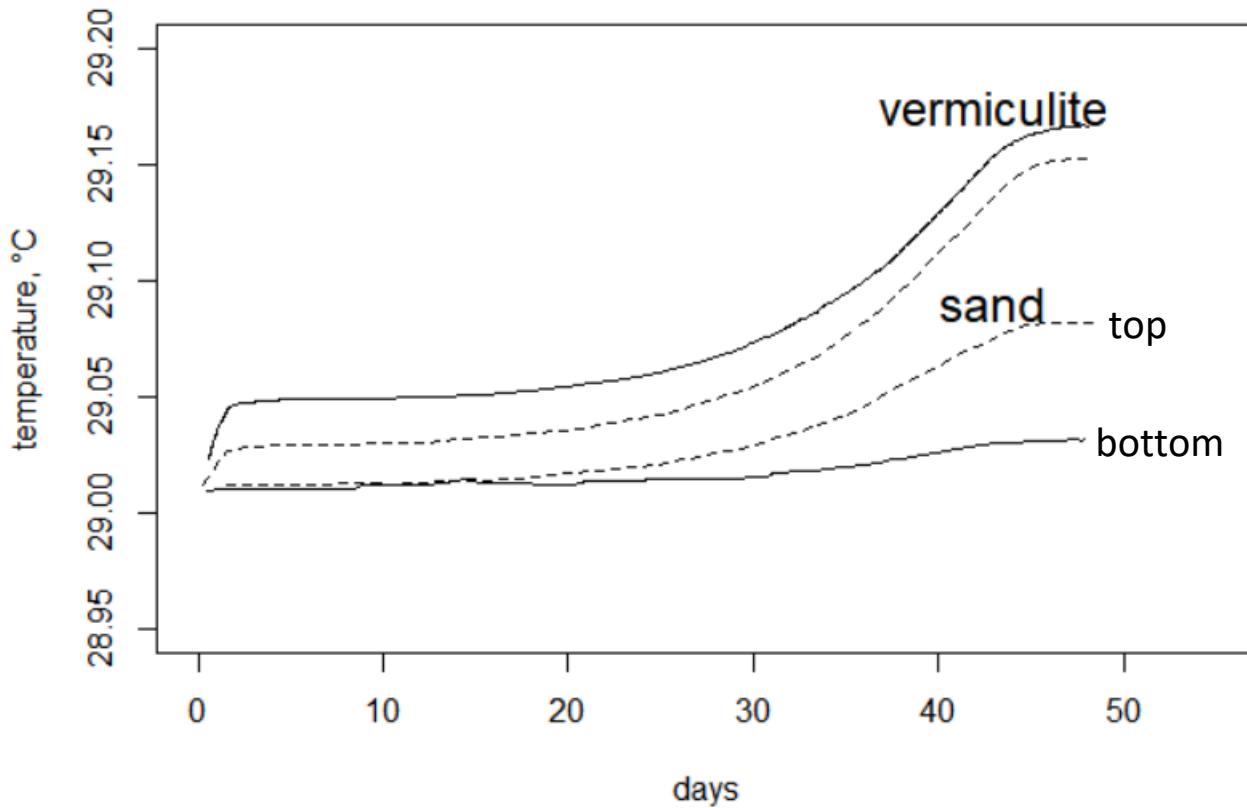


NicheMapR implementation

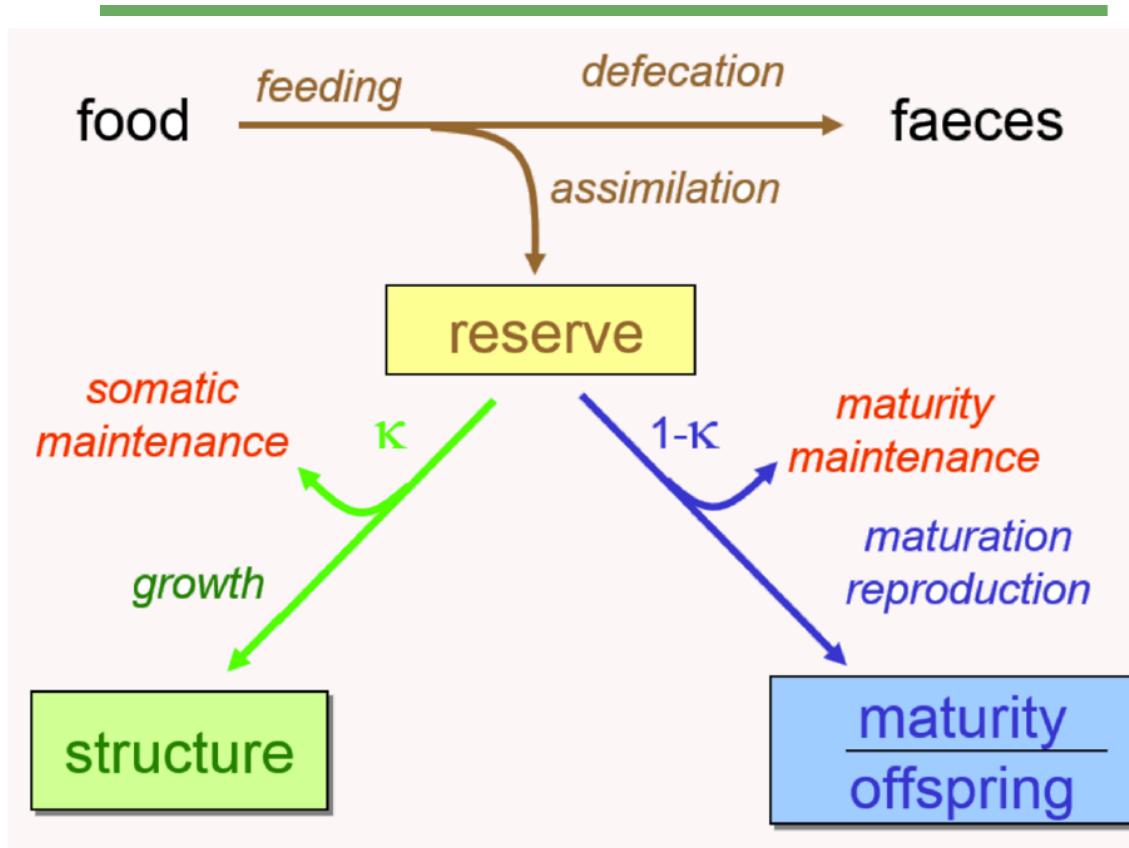
Copeia, 1985(3), pp. 703–711

Water and Heat Exchange between Parchment-shelled Reptile Eggs and Their Surroundings

RALPH A. ACKERMAN, RICHARD C. SEAGRAVE, RAZI DMI'EL AND AMOS AR

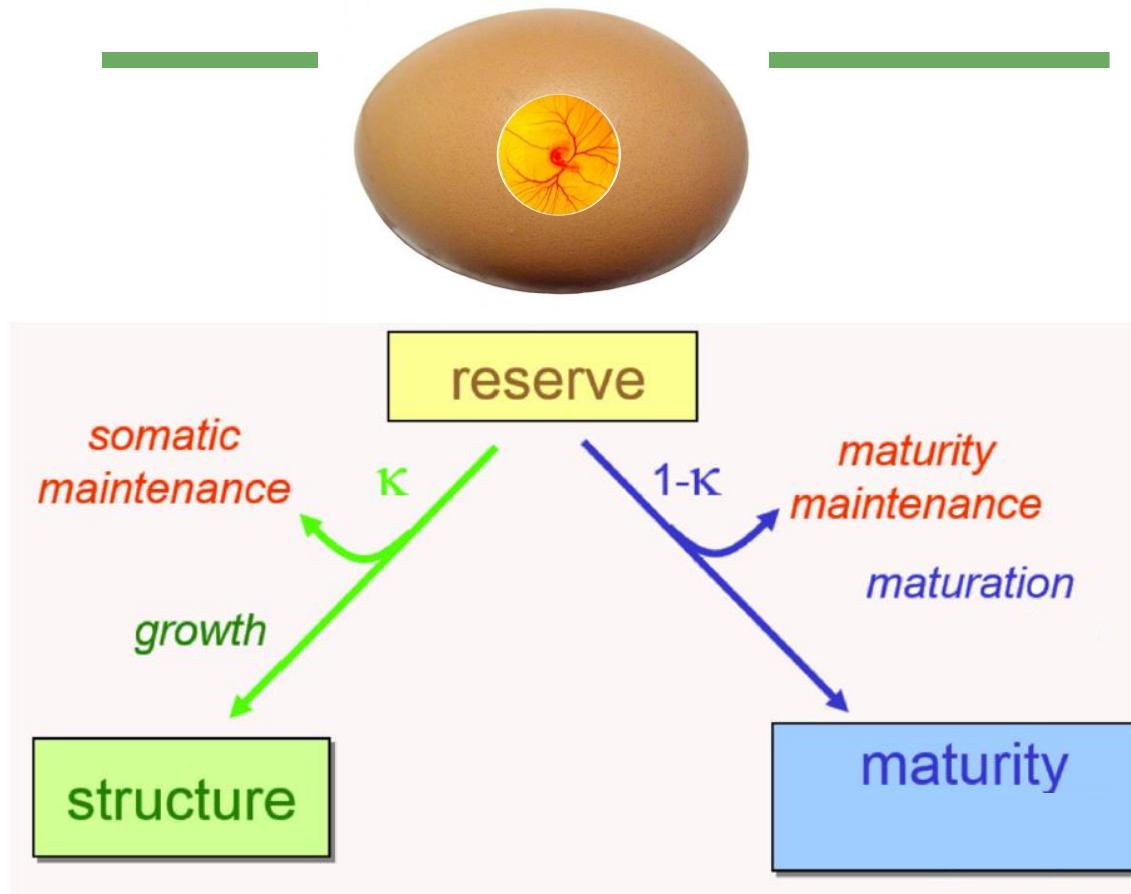


Integrating metabolic theory



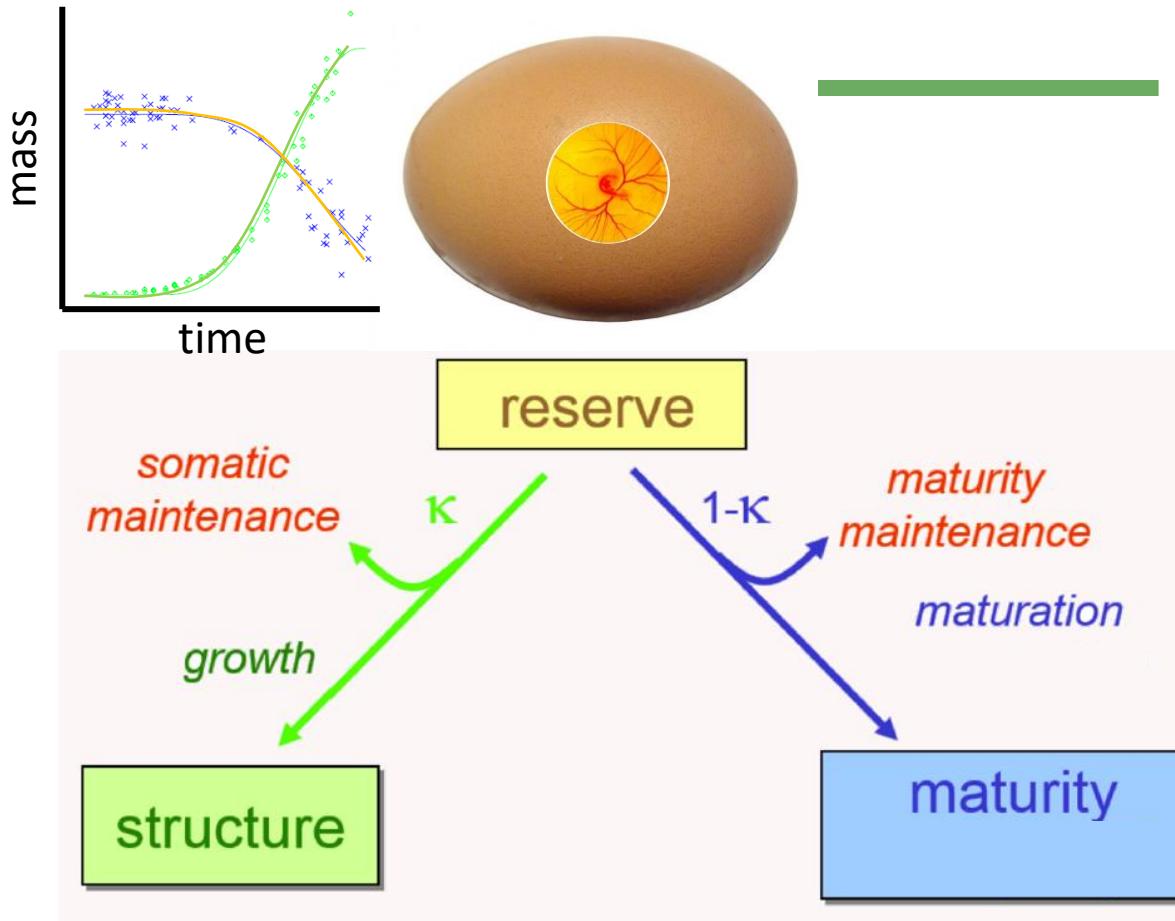
Dynamic Energy Budget theory

Integrating metabolic theory



Dynamic Energy Budget theory

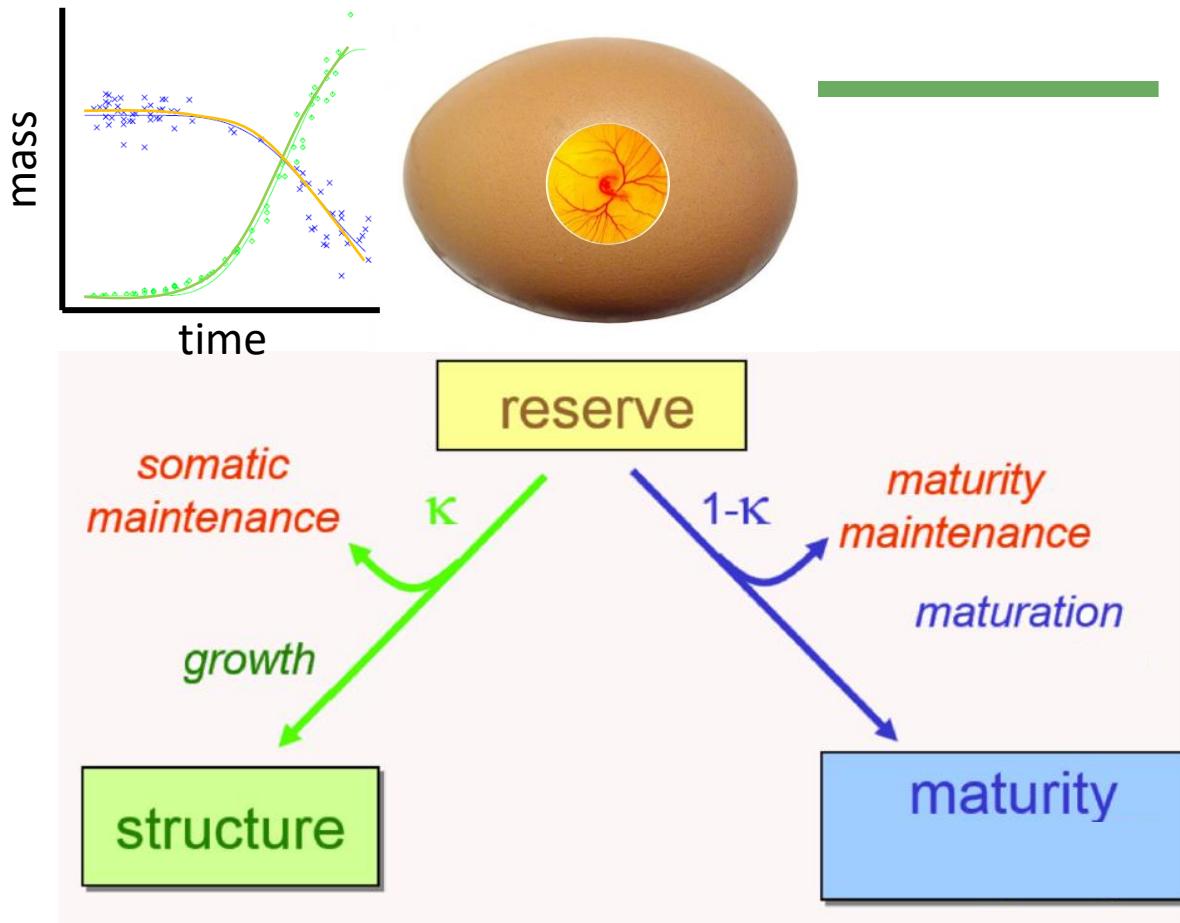
Integrating metabolic theory



Dynamic Energy Budget theory

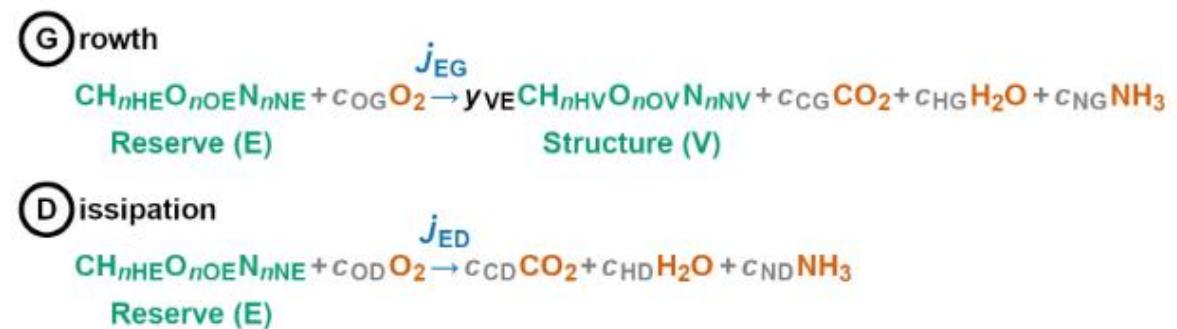


Integrating metabolic theory

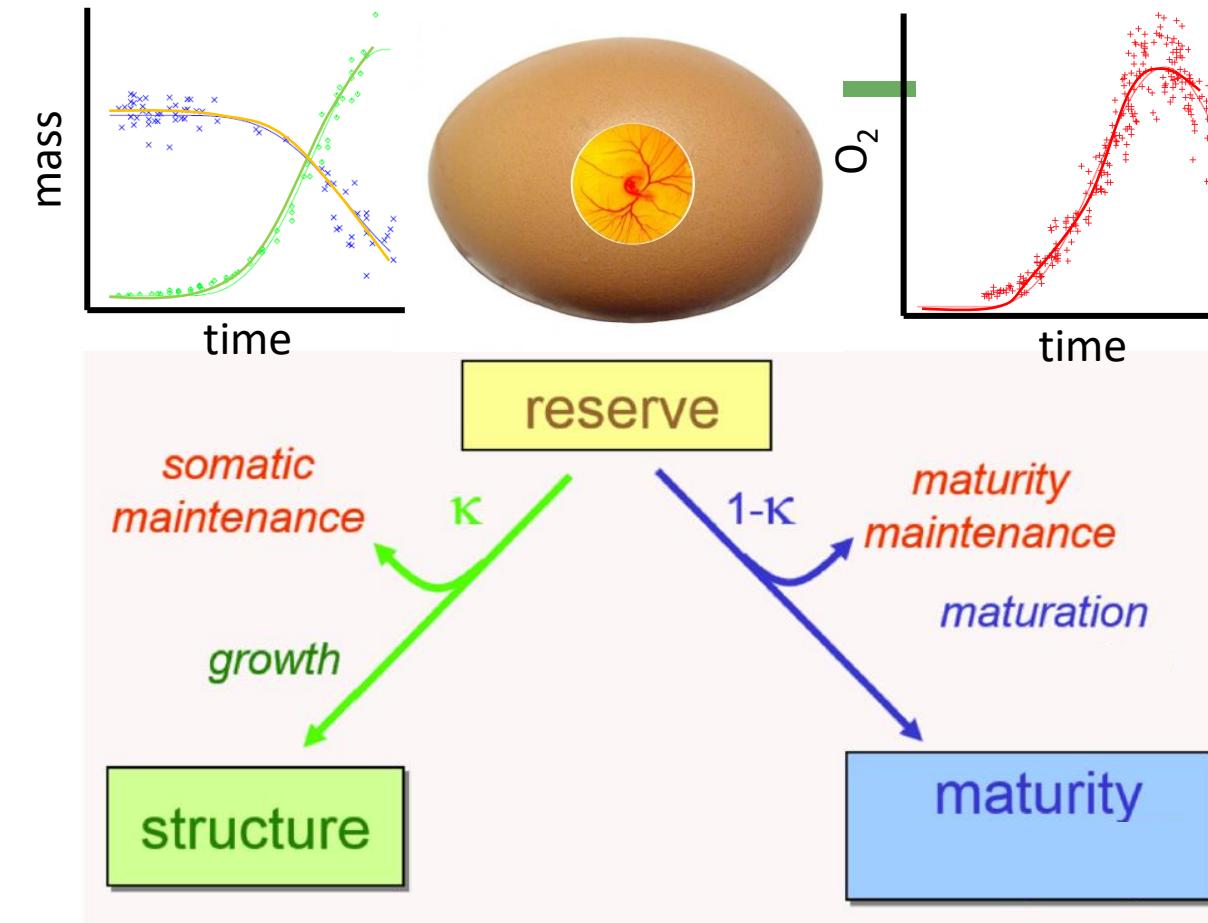


Dynamic Energy Budget theory

$$\mathbf{N}_{\text{org}} = \begin{pmatrix} X & E & V & P \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ n_{HX} & n_{HE} & n_{HV} & n_{HP} \\ n_{OX} & n_{OE} & n_{OV} & n_{OP} \\ n_{NX} & n_{NE} & n_{NV} & n_{NP} \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{C} \quad \mathbf{N}_{\text{met}} = \begin{pmatrix} \text{CO}_2 & \text{H}_2\text{O} & \text{O}_2 & \text{NH}_3 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & 3 \\ 2 & 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{C}$$



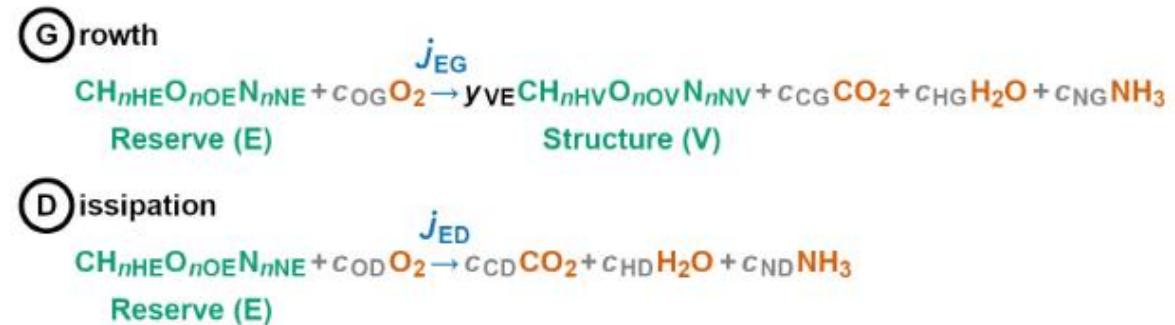
Integrating metabolic theory



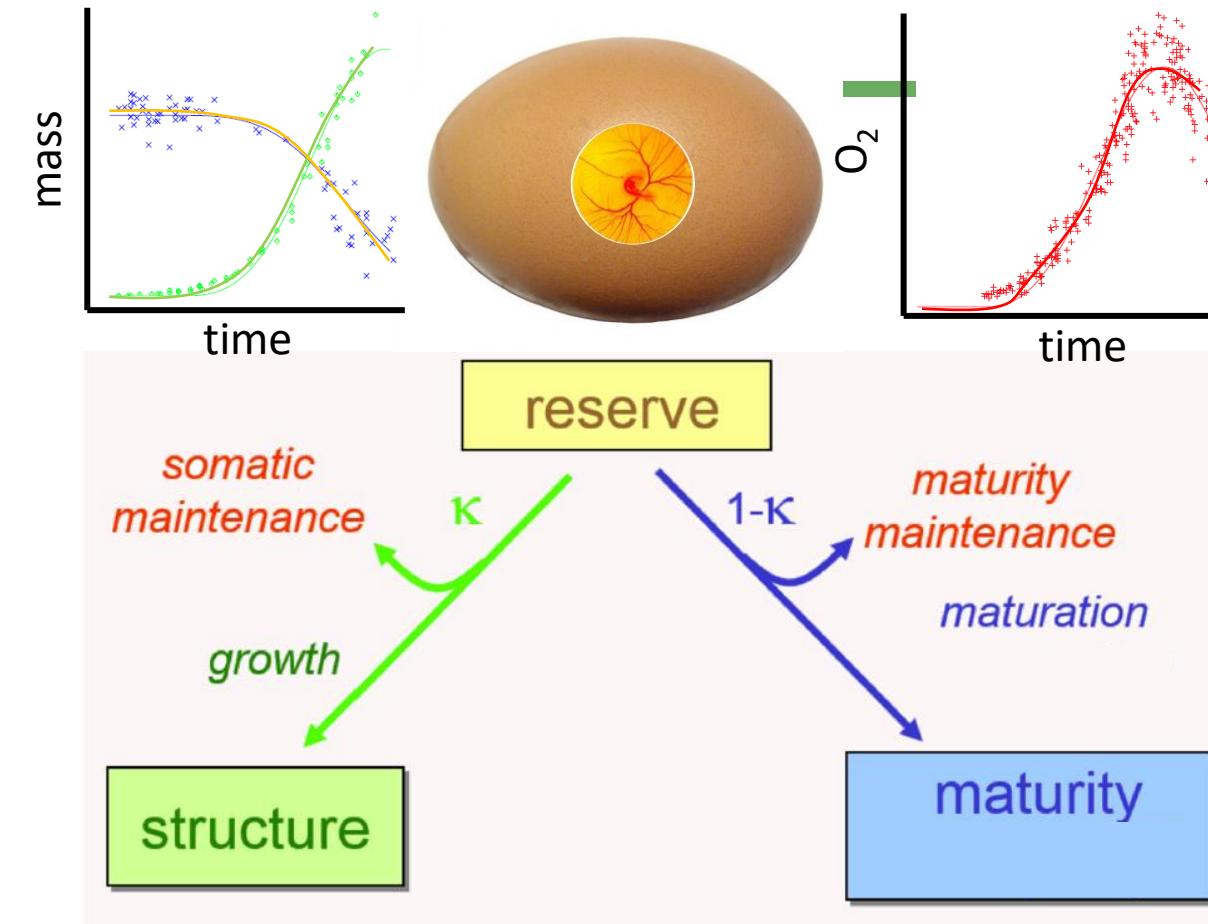
Dynamic Energy Budget theory

$$\mathbf{N}_{\text{org}} = \begin{pmatrix} X & E & V & P \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ n_{HX} & n_{HE} & n_{HV} & n_{HP} \\ n_{OX} & n_{OE} & n_{OV} & n_{OP} \\ n_{NX} & n_{NE} & n_{NV} & n_{NP} \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{C}$$

$$\mathbf{N}_{\text{met}} = \begin{pmatrix} \text{CO}_2 & \text{H}_2\text{O} & \text{O}_2 & \text{NH}_3 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & 3 \\ 2 & 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{C}$$



Integrating metabolic theory



Dynamic Energy Budget theory

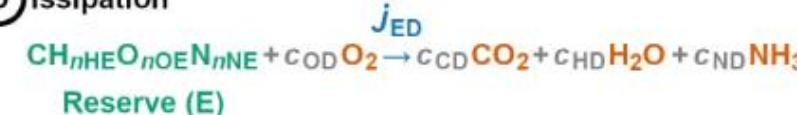
Stoichiometry

$$\mathbf{N}_{\text{org}} = \begin{pmatrix} X & E & V & P \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ n_{HX} & n_{HE} & n_{HV} & n_{HP} \\ n_{OX} & n_{OE} & n_{OV} & n_{OP} \\ n_{NX} & n_{NE} & n_{NV} & n_{NP} \end{pmatrix} \left| \begin{array}{c} C \\ H \\ O \\ N \end{array} \right. \quad \mathbf{N}_{\text{met}} = \begin{pmatrix} \text{CO}_2 & \text{H}_2\text{O} & \text{O}_2 & \text{NH}_3 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & 3 \\ 2 & 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \left| \begin{array}{c} C \\ H \\ O \\ N \end{array} \right.$$

Growth



Dissipation



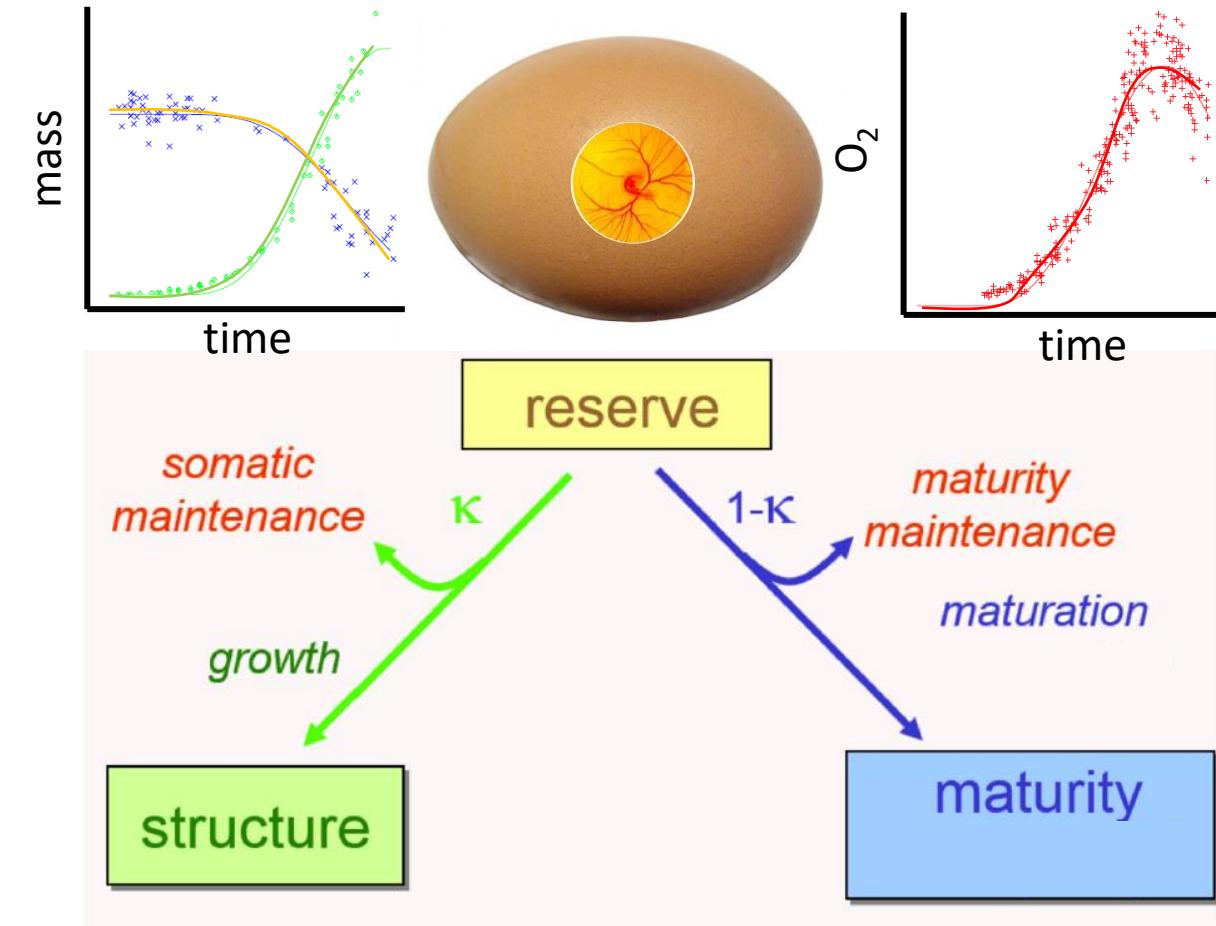
Heat

$$-\dot{Q} = \dot{W} - \mathbf{h}_{\text{org}}^T \mathbf{j}_{\text{org}} - \mathbf{h}_{\text{met}}^T \mathbf{j}_{\text{met}}$$

$$= \dot{W} - (\mathbf{h}_{\text{org}}^T - \mathbf{h}_{\text{met}}^T \mathbf{N}_{\text{met}}^{-1} \mathbf{N}_{\text{org}}) \mathbf{Y} \mathbf{j}_E$$



Integrating metabolic theory



Dynamic Energy Budget theory

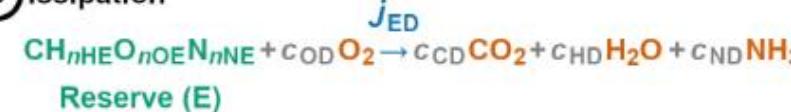
Stoichiometry

$$\mathbf{N}_{\text{org}} = \left(\begin{array}{cccc|c} X & E & V & P & C \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & C \\ n_{HX} & n_{HE} & n_{HV} & n_{HP} & H \\ n_{OX} & n_{OE} & n_{OV} & n_{OP} & O \\ n_{NX} & n_{NE} & n_{NV} & n_{NP} & N \end{array} \right) \quad \mathbf{N}_{\text{met}} = \left(\begin{array}{cccc|c} \text{CO}_2 & \text{H}_2\text{O} & \text{O}_2 & \text{NH}_3 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & C \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & 3 & H \\ 2 & 1 & 2 & 0 & O \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & N \end{array} \right)$$

Growth



Dissipation



Metabolic rates

$$\mathbf{j}_E = \begin{pmatrix} j_{EA} \\ j_{EG} \\ j_{ED} \end{pmatrix}$$

Heat

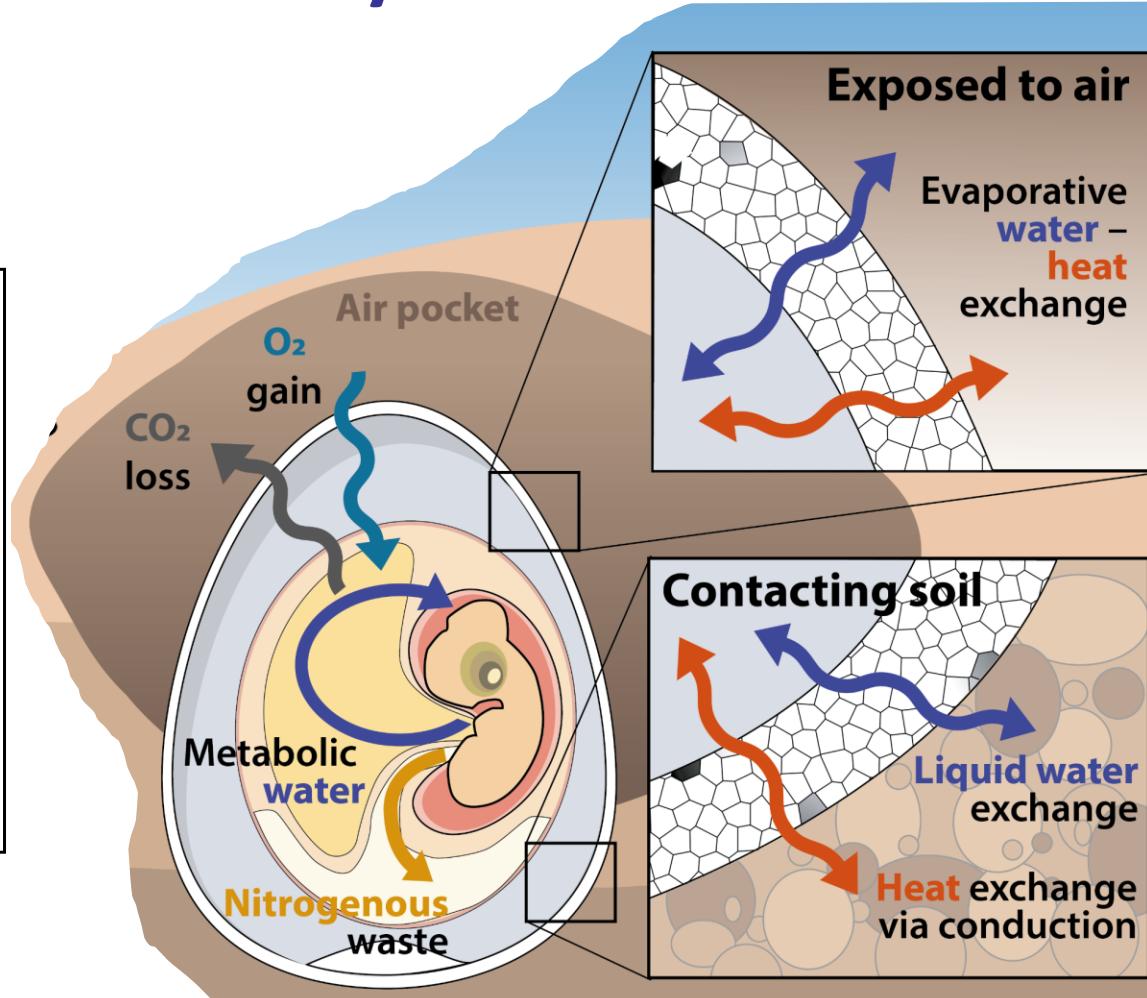
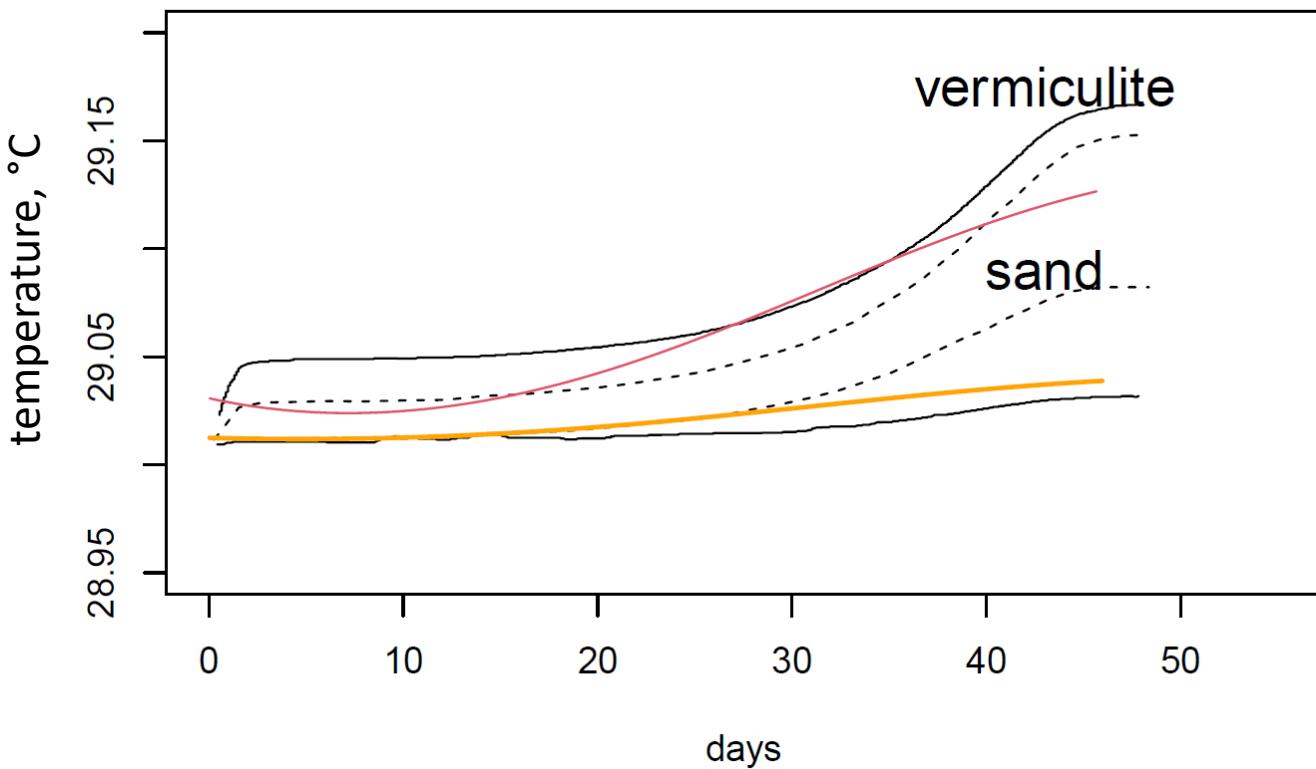
$$-\dot{Q} = \dot{W} - \bar{\mathbf{h}}_{\text{org}}^T \mathbf{j}_{\text{org}} - \bar{\mathbf{h}}_{\text{met}}^T \mathbf{j}_{\text{met}}$$

$$= \dot{W} - (\bar{\mathbf{h}}_{\text{org}}^T - \bar{\mathbf{h}}_{\text{met}}^T \mathbf{N}_{\text{met}}^{-1} \mathbf{N}_{\text{org}}) \mathbf{Y} \mathbf{j}_E$$

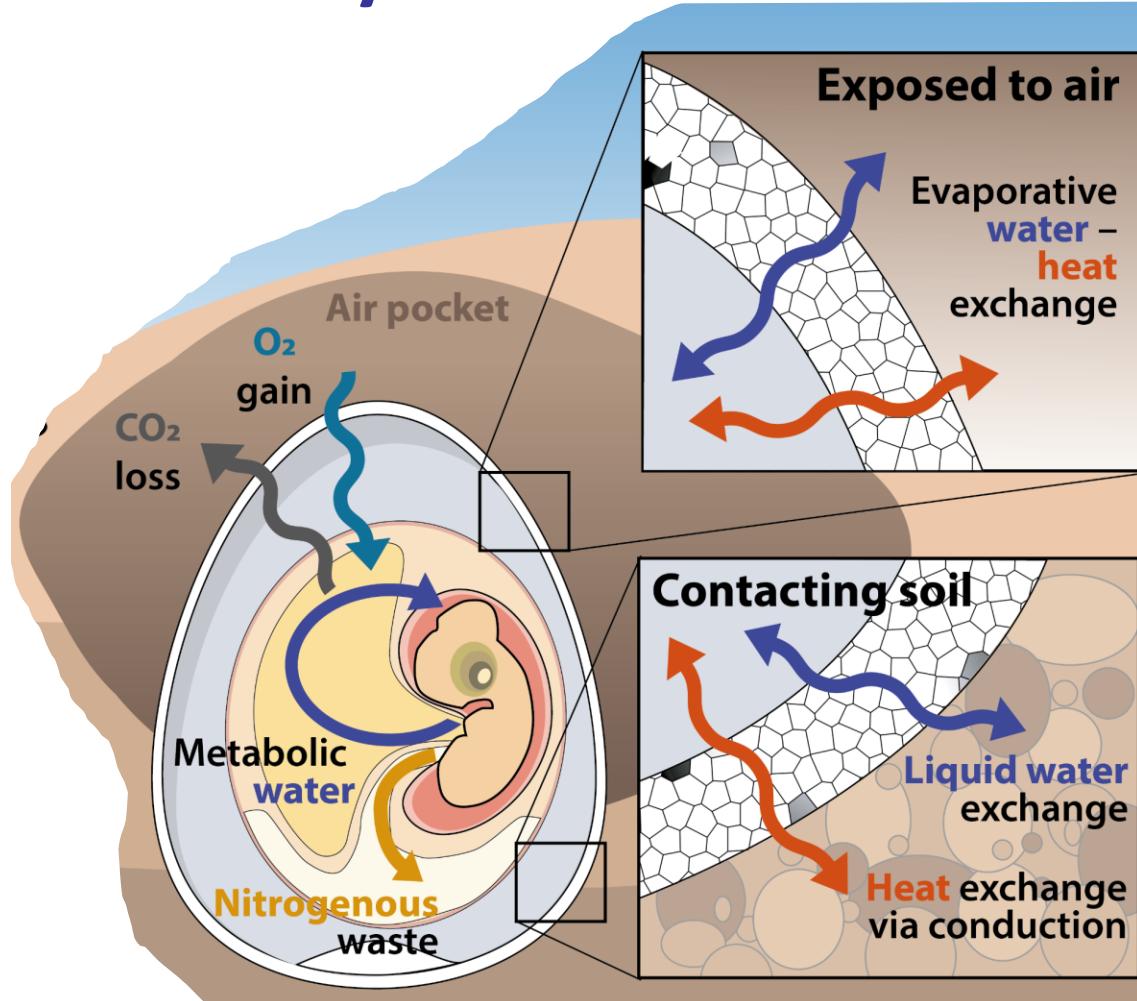
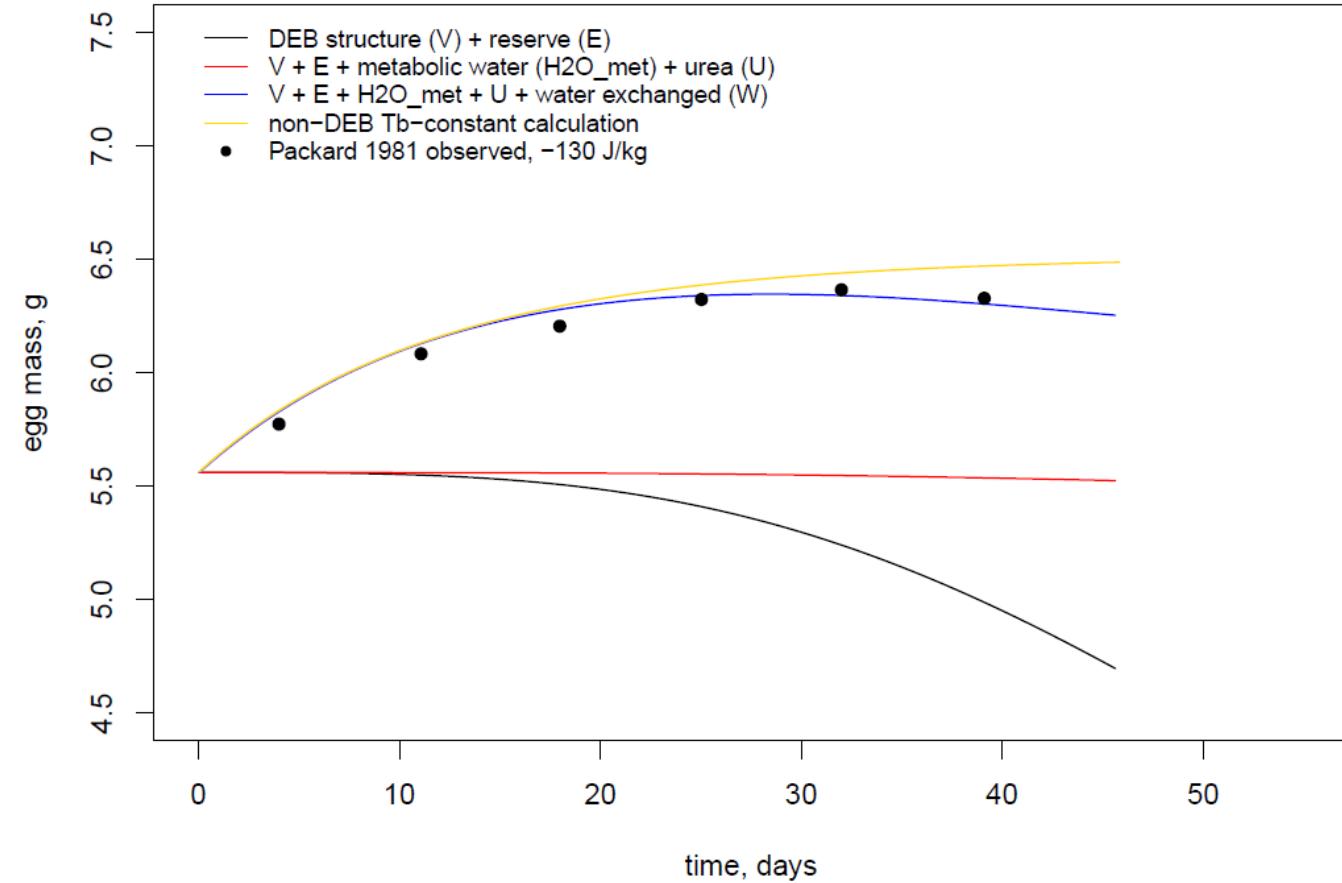
Metabolic black box

$$Y = \begin{vmatrix} A & G & D \\ -y_{XE} & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & -1 & -1 \\ 0 & y_{VE} & 0 \\ y_{PE} & 0 & 0 \end{vmatrix} \begin{matrix} X \\ E \\ V \\ P \end{matrix}$$

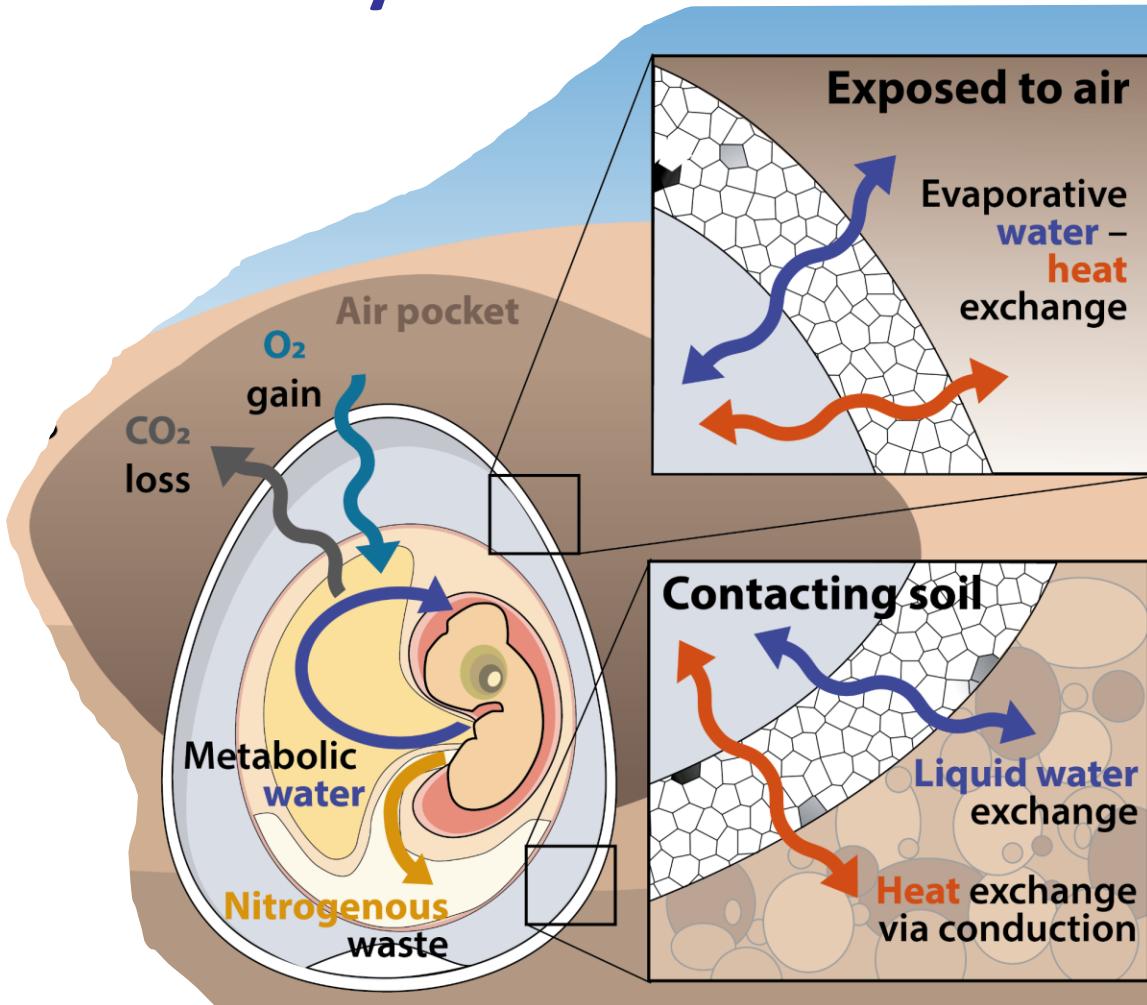
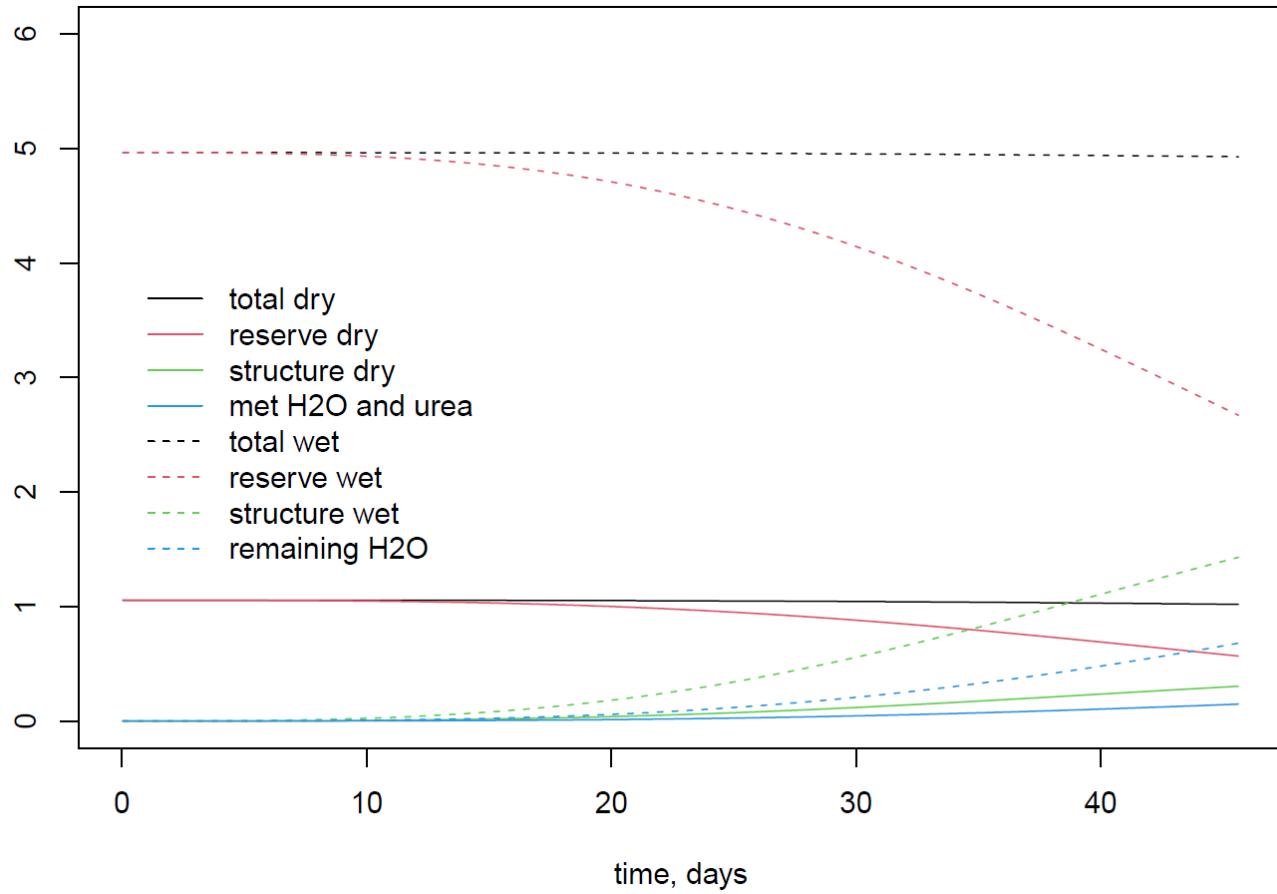
Integrating metabolic theory

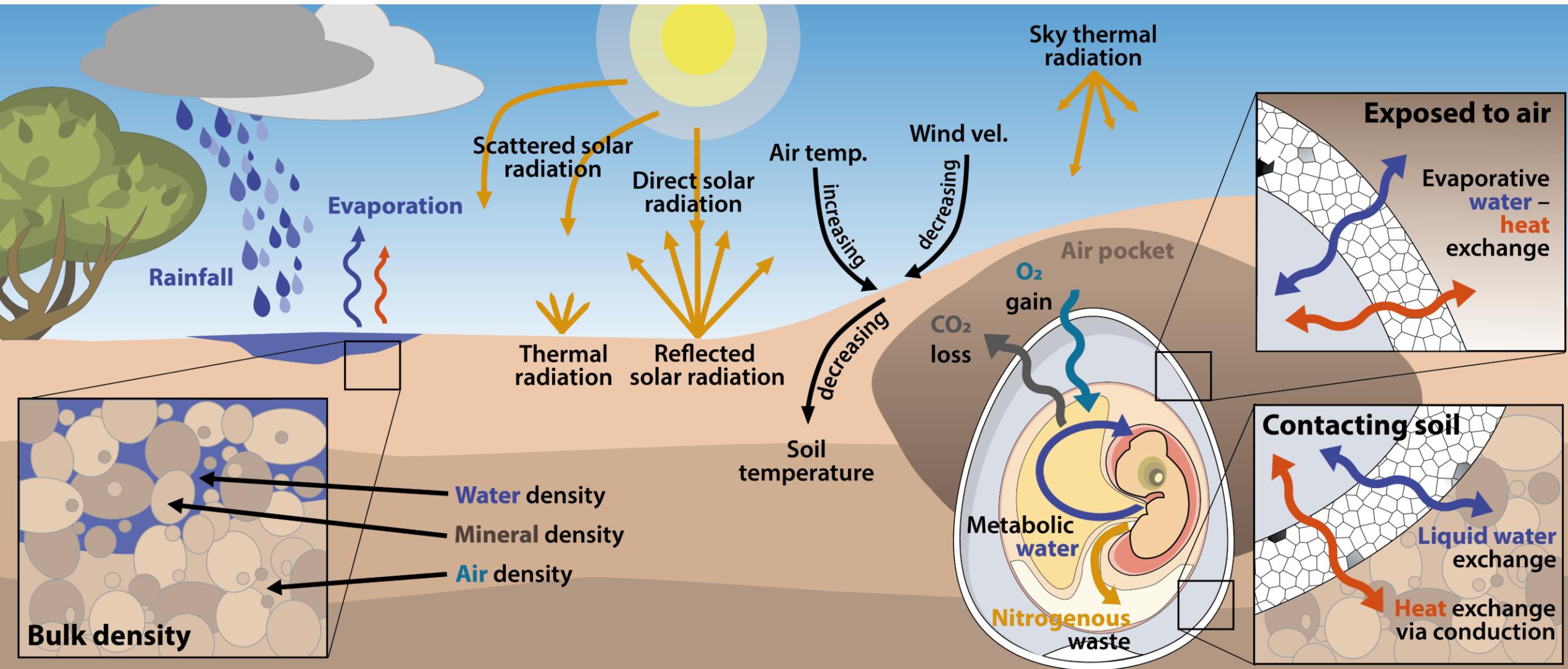


Integrating metabolic theory



Integrating metabolic theory





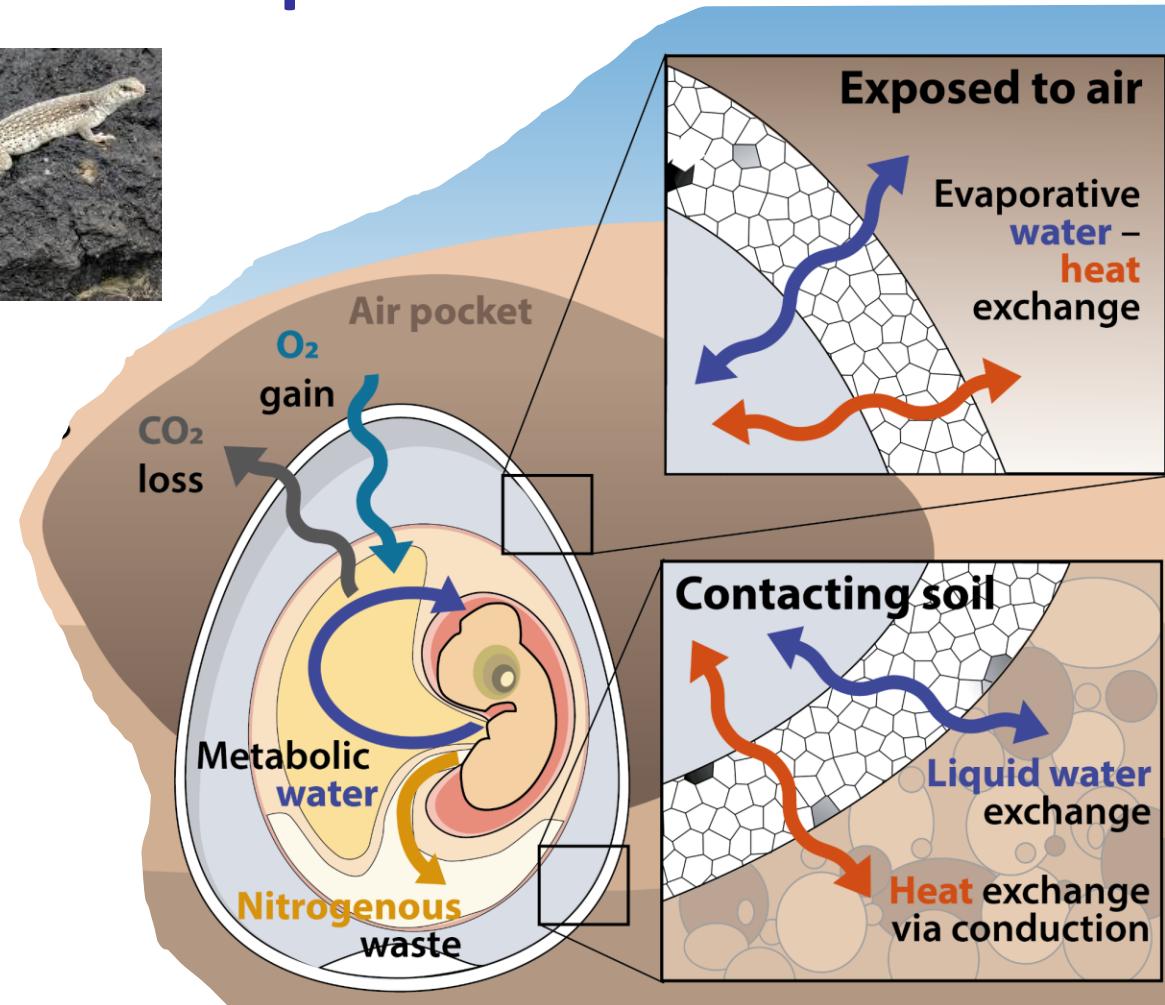
Mapping to the landscape

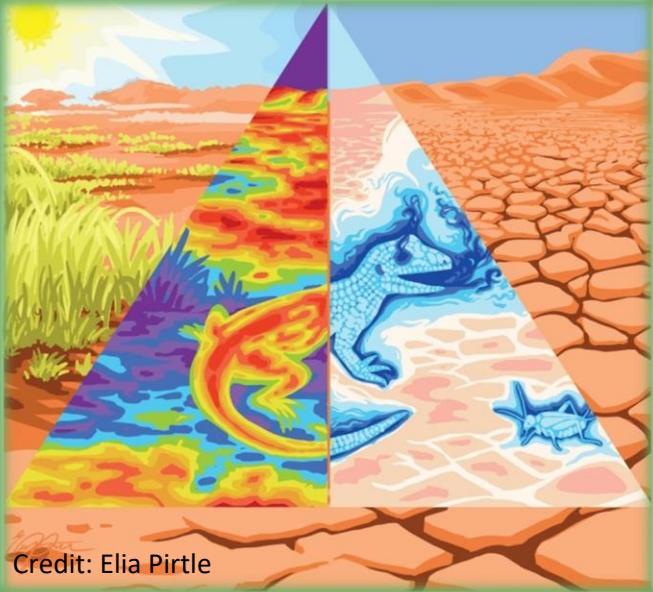
c) final development (fraction)



Desert Iguana

d) final mass (g)





Credit: Elia Pirtle

2.

Lizard distribution limits I

Life history variation
and distribution
limits



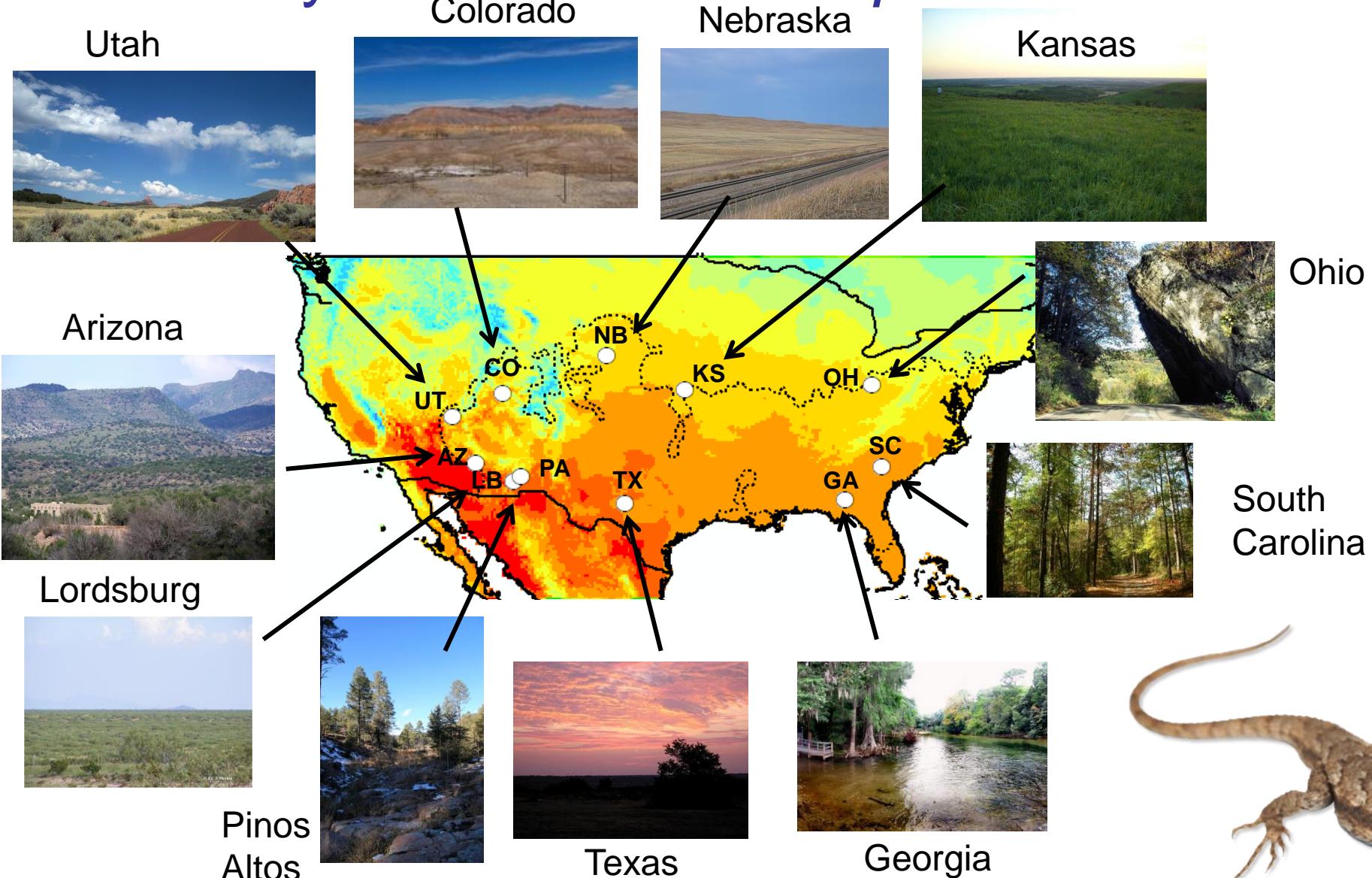
School: 26 May - 2 Jun 2025

University of Crete, Heraklion, Greece

An example application in Mechanistic Niche Modelling



Life history variation in *Sceloporus undulatus*

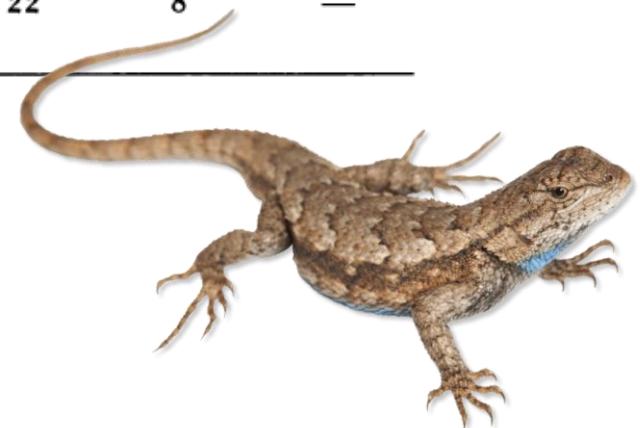


Life history variation in *Sceloporus undulatus*

TABLE 6. COMPARISON OF LIFE HISTORY VARIABLES AMONG DIFFERENT POPULATIONS OF *Sceloporus undulatus*. Habitat classes follow Ferguson et al. (1980) and are C = canyonland, G = grassland and W = eastern woodland. Habitat abbreviations are: T = terrestrial, A = arboreal, S = saxicolous and T/A = semi-arboreal. Sources: (1) Tinkle, 1972 (2) Tinkle and Ballinger, 1972 (3) Vinegar, 1975a, b (4) Ferguson et al., 1980 (5) Ballinger et al., 1981 (6) Crenshaw, 1965.

	Arizona (this study)	Utah ¹	Colorado ²	Pinos Altos ³ New Mexico	Lorsburg ⁵ New Mexico	Kansas ⁴	Nebraska ⁵	Texas ²	Ohio ²	South ² Carolina	Georgia ⁶
Habitat type	C	C	C	C	G	G	G	G	W	W	W
Habitat	T	A	S	S	T	T	T	T/A	T/A	T/A	A
Mean clutch size	8.3	6.3	7.9	7.2	9.9	7.0	5.5	9.5	11.8	7.4	7.6
Clutch frequency	3	3	2	2-3	4	1-2	2	3	2	3	2-3
Egg wet mass (g)	.29	.36	.42	.29	.24	.26	.23	.22	.35	.33	—
RCM	.22	.21	.23	.21	.21	.28	.33	.27	.25	.23	—
Hatching SVL (mm)	25-29	25	27-30	—	25	23-24	—	21-23	24-26	21-25	21-23
Minimum SVL of mature females	60	58	58	53	54	47	45	47	66	55	52
Average SVL of adult females	65	69	70	63	68	57	55	57	75	63	62
Average age at maturity (mo)	11.5	22.8	20.5	18	12	12	9.5	12	20	12	12
Survival to first reproduction	.07	.05	.11	.02	.03	.10	—	.06	.08	.11	—
Average survival of adult females	.24	.48	.37	.32	.20	.27	—	.11	.44	.49	.07
Mean density (animals/ha)	29 (8-36)	35	14	35 (26-42)	9 (8-10)	48	—	2	22	8	—

Tinkle D.W. & Dunham A.E. (1986). *Copeia*, 1986, 1-18.



Environmental effects on life history

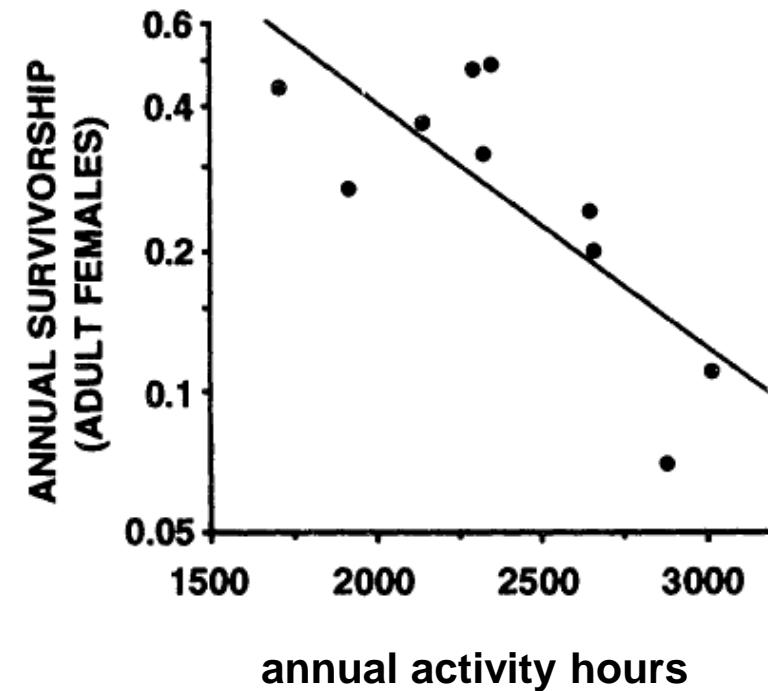
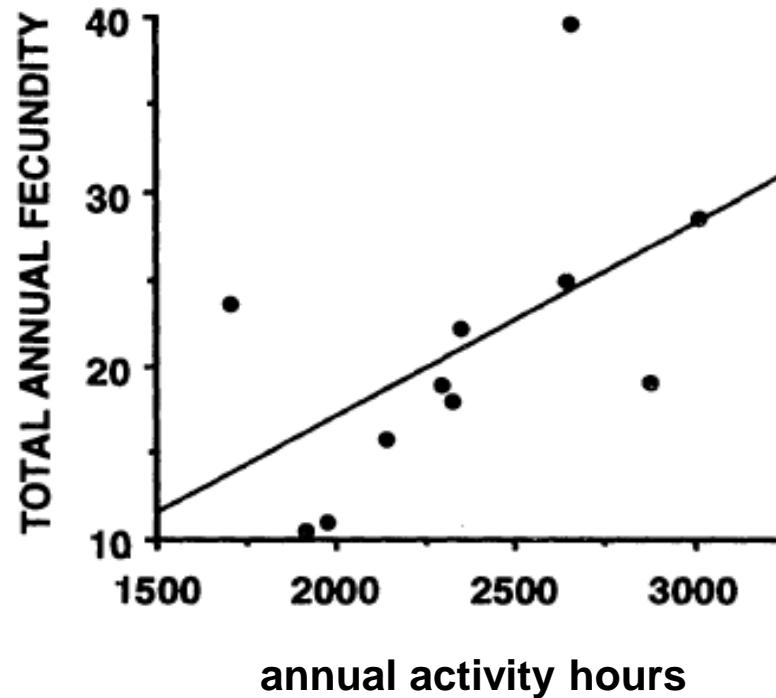
Vol. 142, No. 2

The American Naturalist

August 1993

TEMPERATURE, ACTIVITY, AND LIZARD LIFE HISTORIES

STEPHEN C. ADOLPH AND WARREN P. PORTER

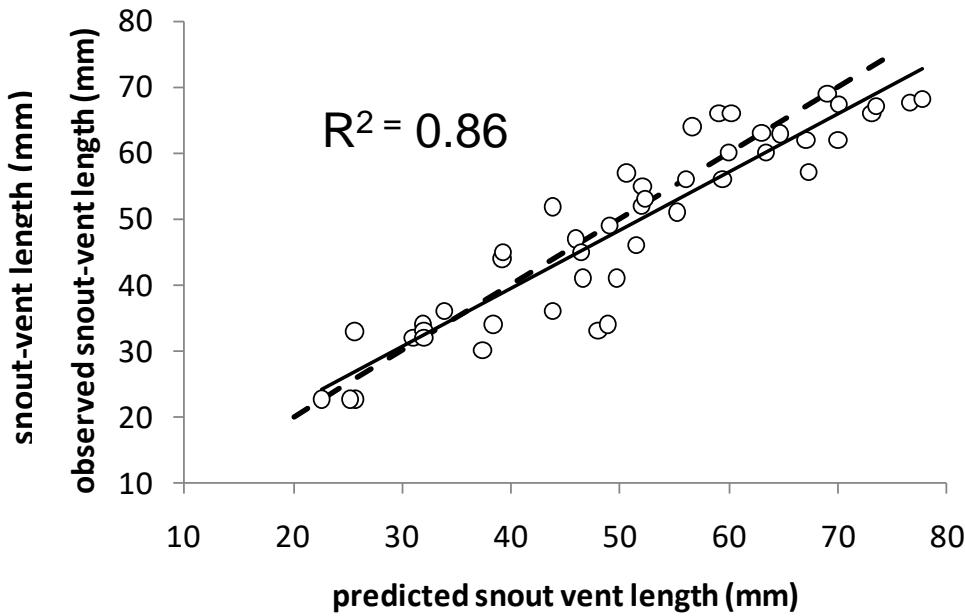
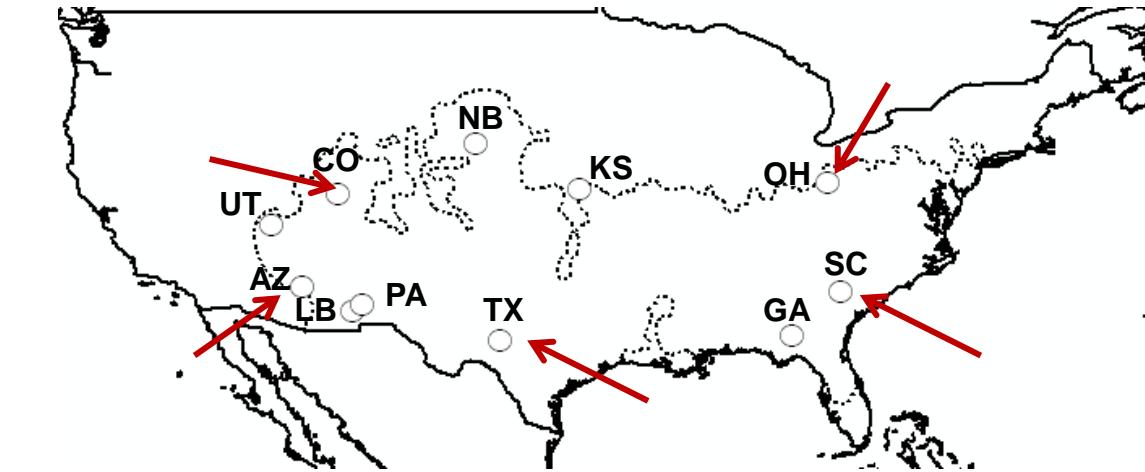


Example 3: Eastern Fence Lizard

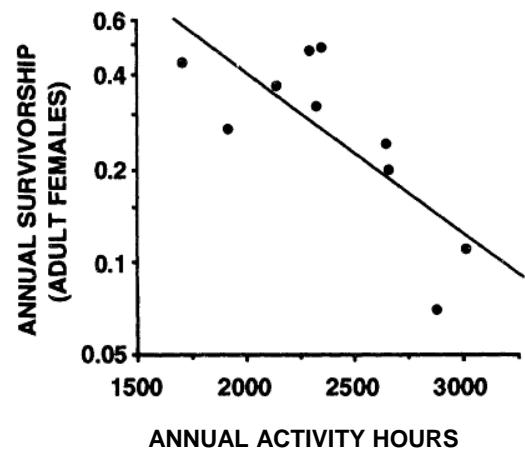
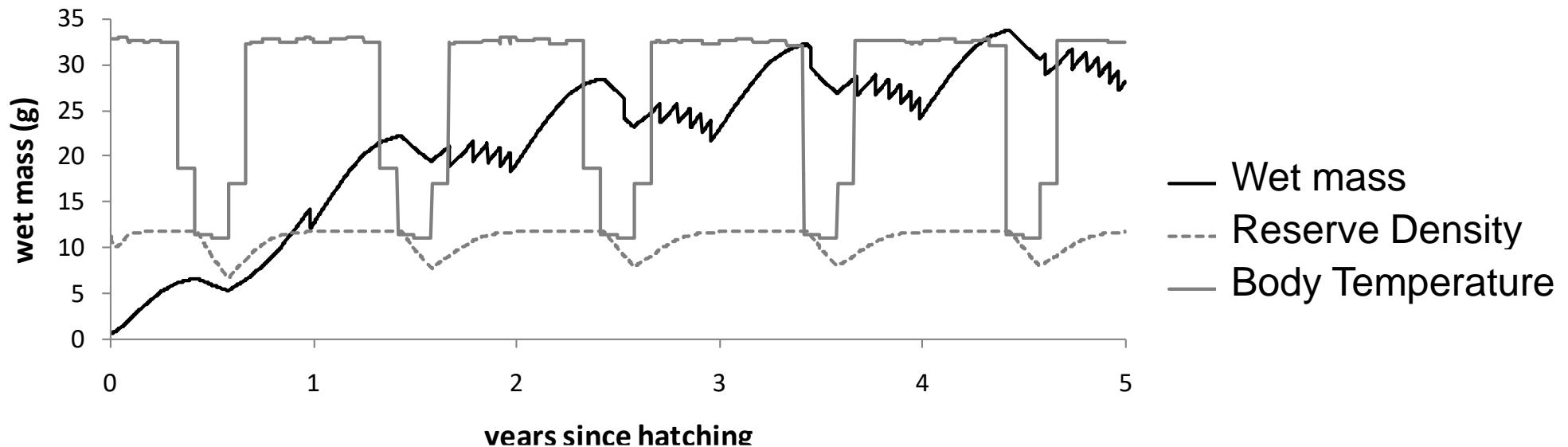
A year in the life of the Fence Lizard in Utah



Predicting field growth rates with DEB theory



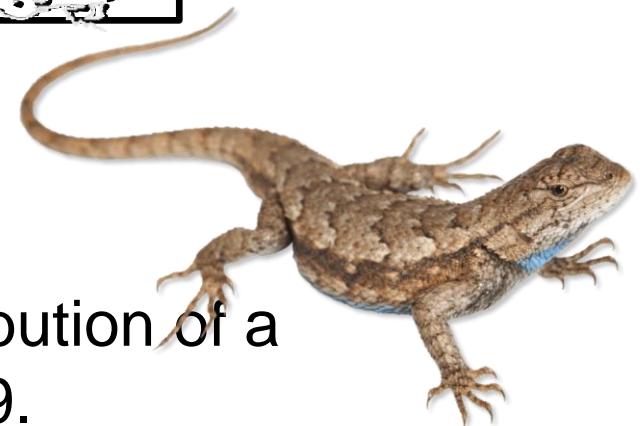
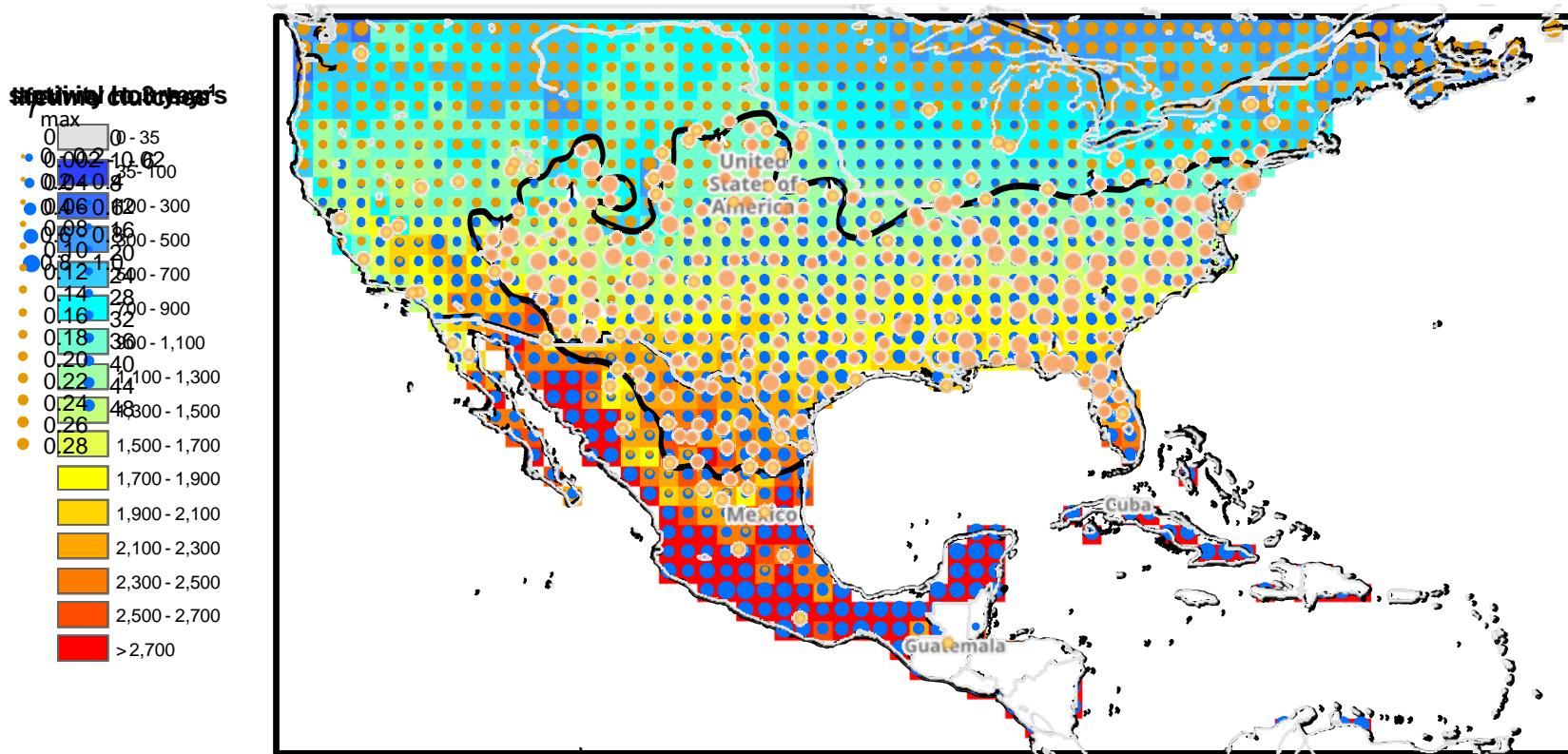
DEB predictions of timing of reproduction



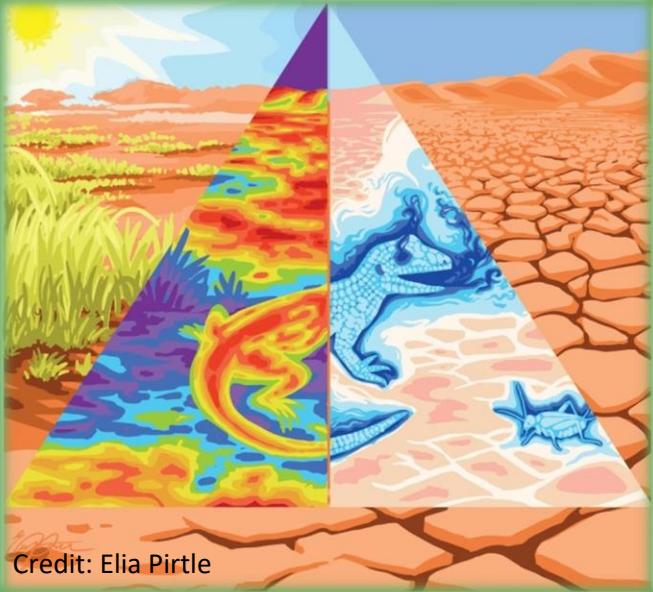
x	lx	mx	lxmx
0	1.00	0.0	0.000
1	0.23	3.2	0.732
2	0.05	15.8	0.760
3	0.01	22.0	0.209
4	0.00	22.0	0.041
R0		1.74	
r _{max}		0.376	



Predicting geographic range



Kearney, M. (2012). Metabolic theory, life history and the distribution of a terrestrial ectotherm. *Functional Ecology*, 26, 167–179.



Credit: Elia Pirtle

3.

Lizard distribution limits II

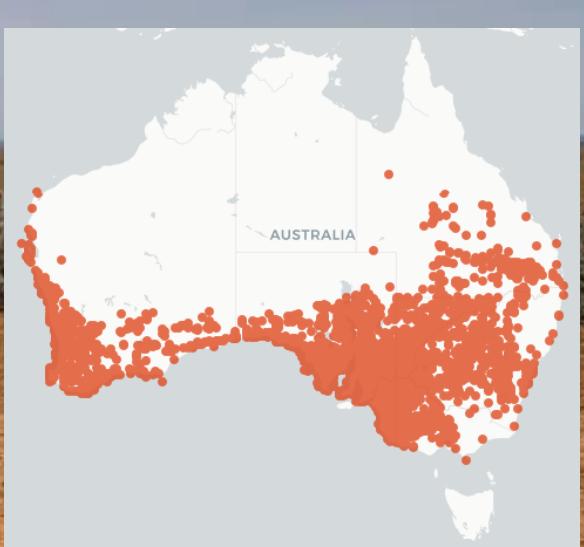
What are the relative
roles of temperature
and water?



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The Sleepy Lizard *Tiliqua rugosa*

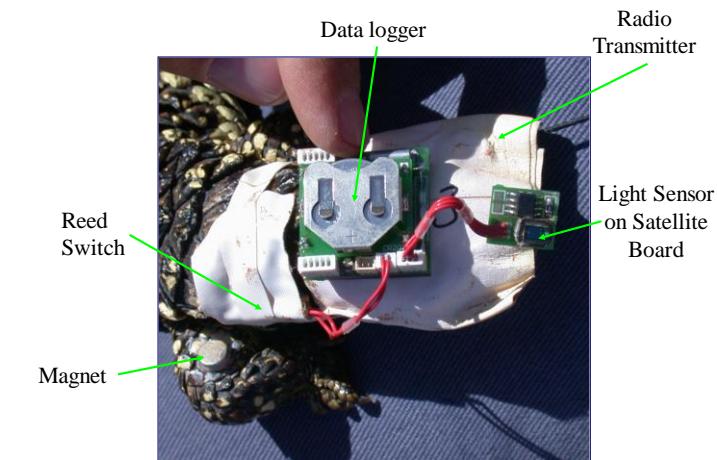


Ecological Monographs, 88(4), 2018, pp. 672–693
© 2018 by the Ecological Society of America

Field tests of a general ectotherm niche model show how water can limit lizard activity and distribution

MICHAEL R. KEARNEY,^{1,7} SUZANNE L. MUNNS,² DANAЕ MOORE,^{3,4} MATTHEW MALISHEV,^{1,5} AND C. MICHAEL BULL⁶

Thermal biology: the ‘waddleometer’



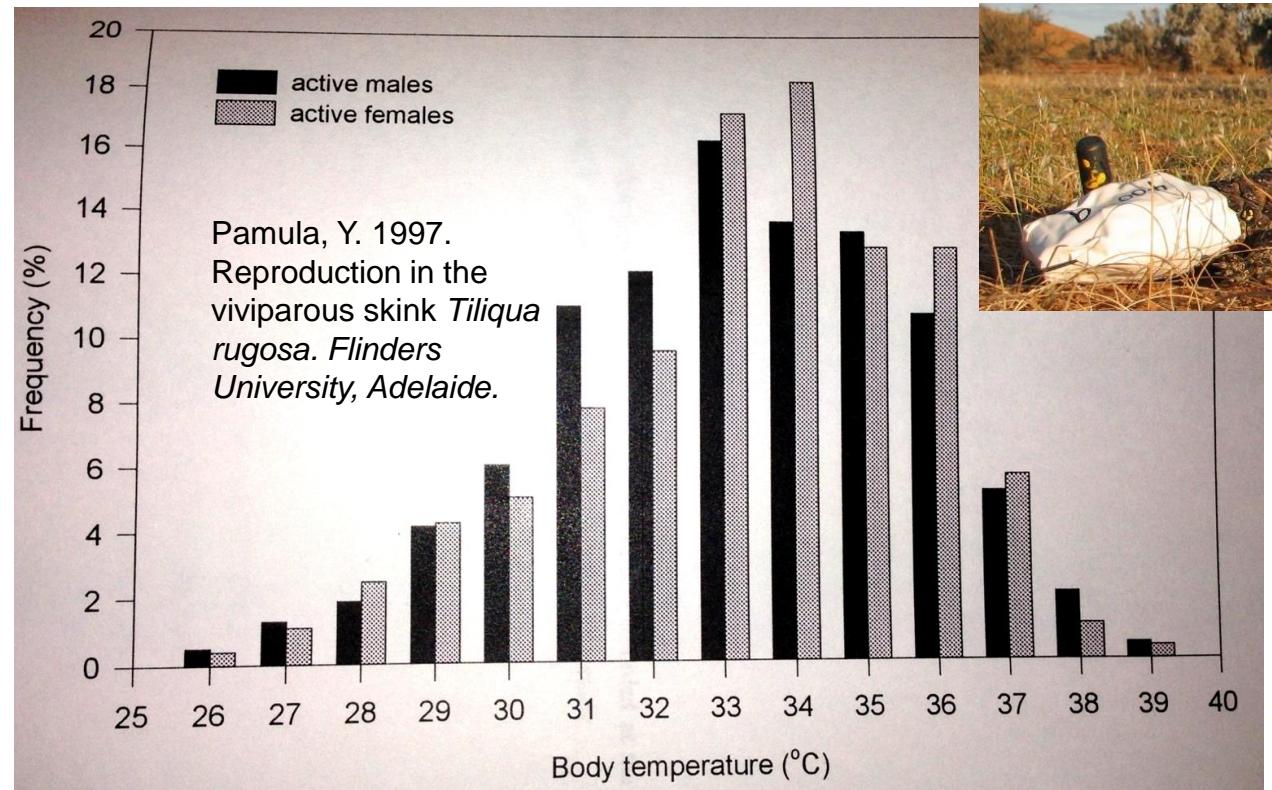
Prof. Mike Bull



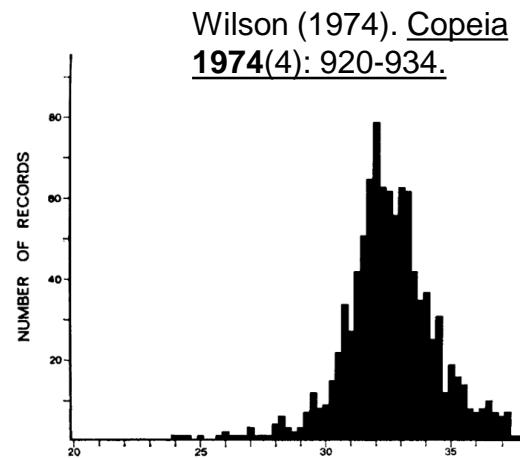
School: 26 May - 3 Jun 2025
University of Crete, Heraklion, Greece

Thermal biology: the ‘waddleometer’

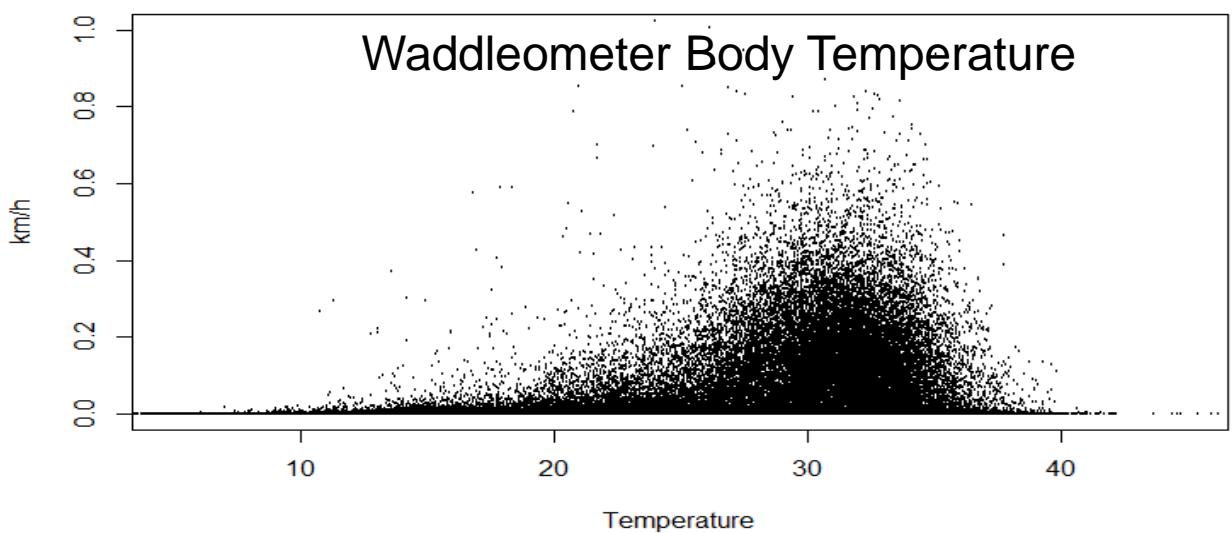
Field Active Body Temperature



Lab Gradient Body Temperature

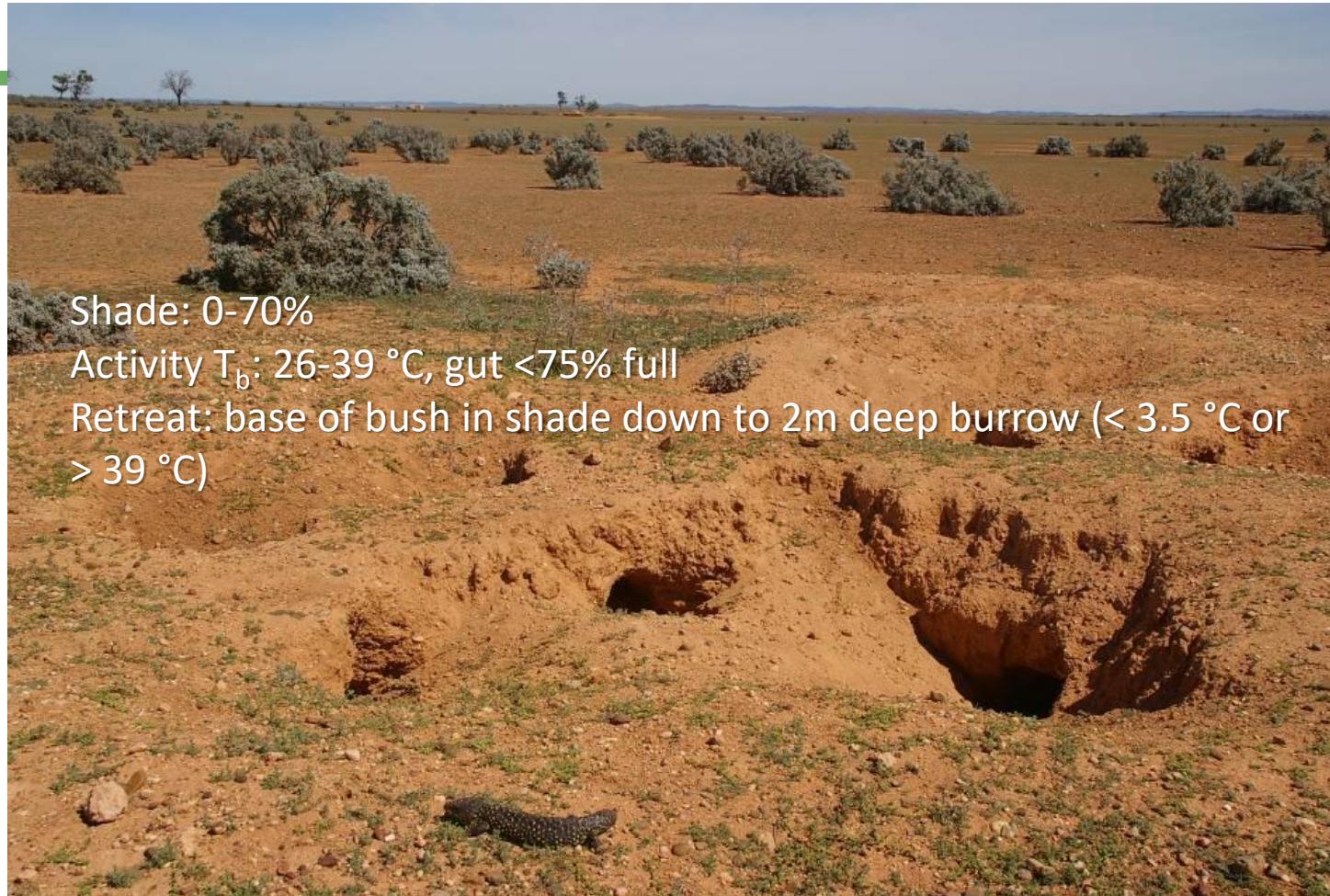


Wilson (1974). Copeia 1974(4): 920-934.



Thermal biology: modelling with NicheMapR

SLEEPY LIZARD

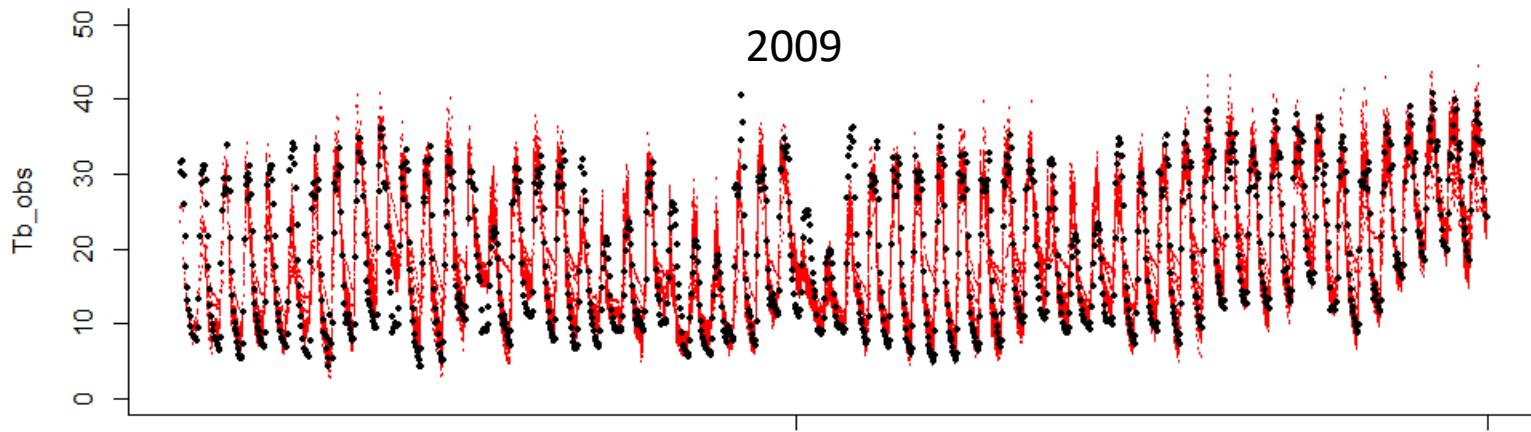


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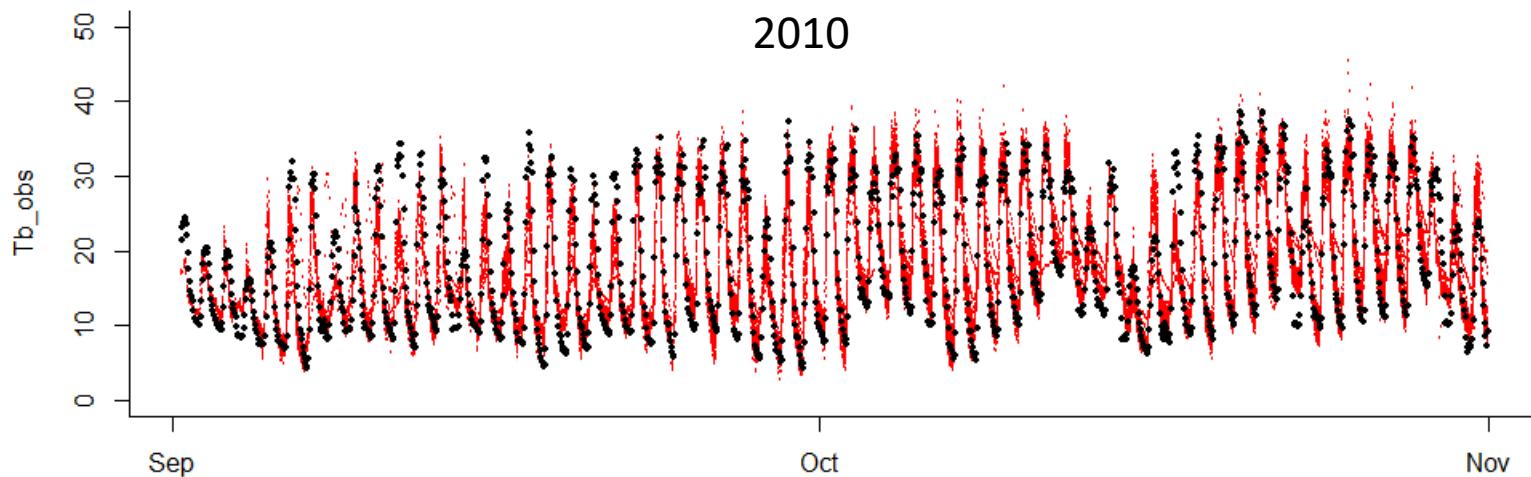
Thermal biology: modelling with NicheMapR



Prof.
Mike
Bull



2009



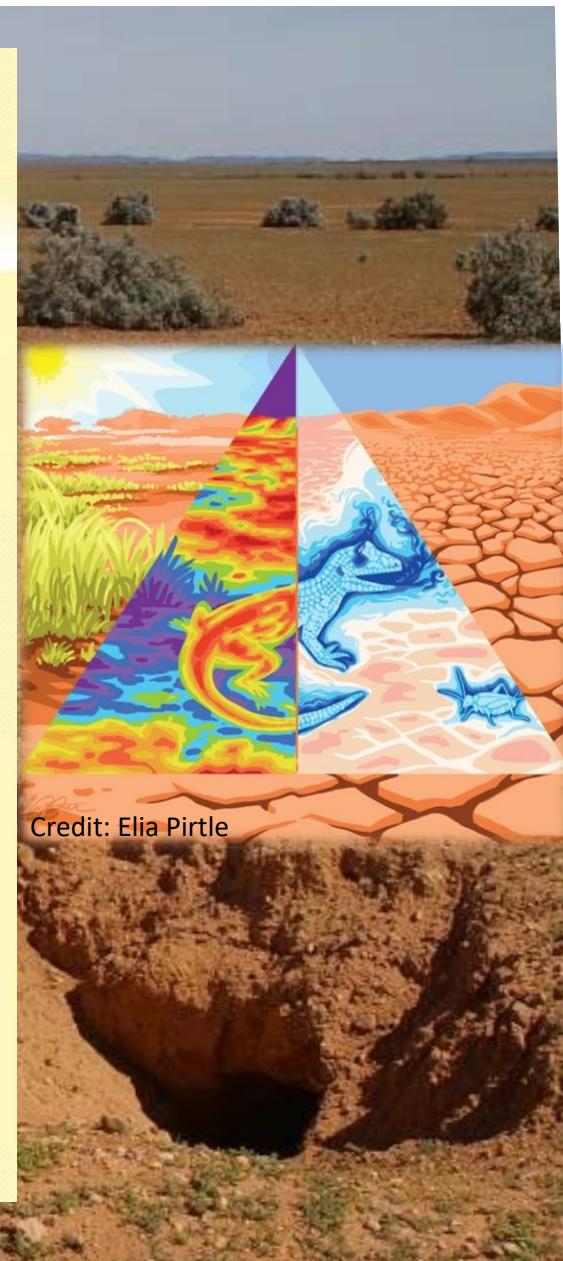
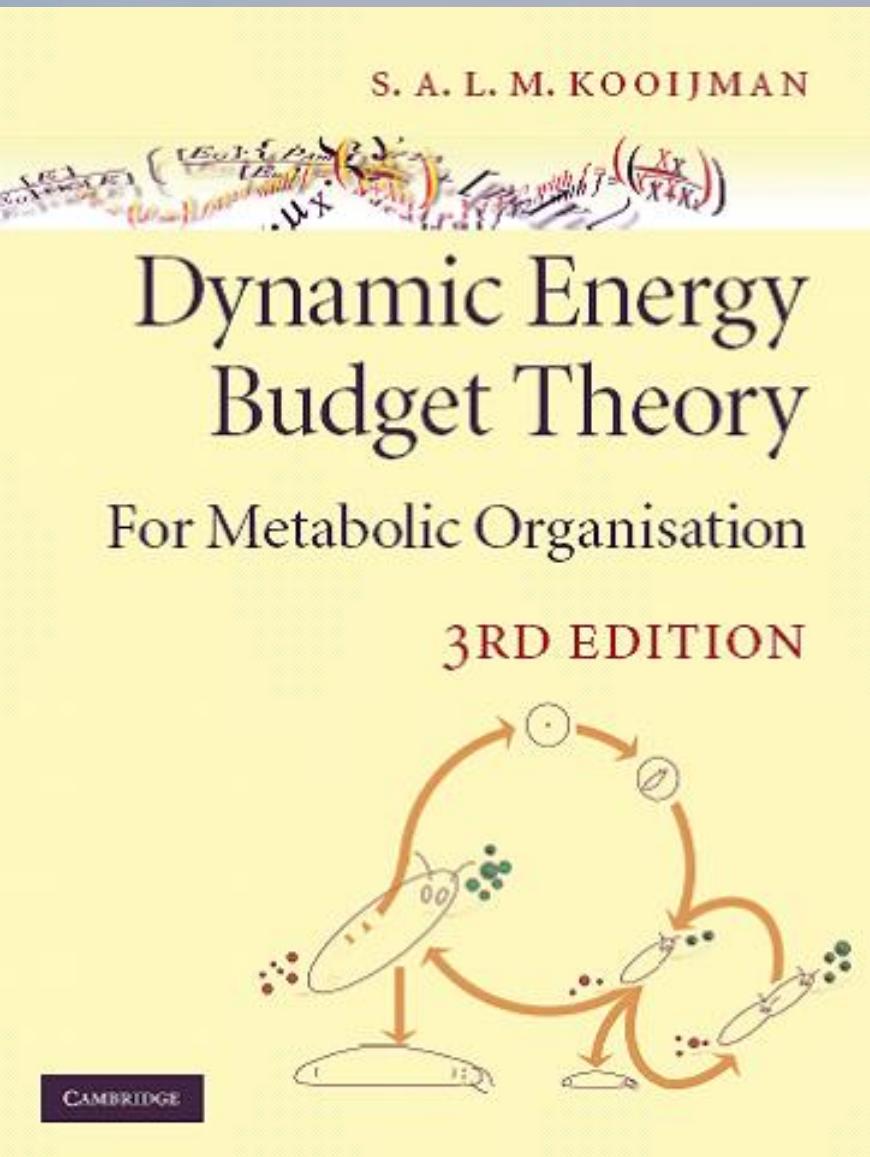
2010

Sep

Oct

Nov

Incorporating water and energetics with DEB

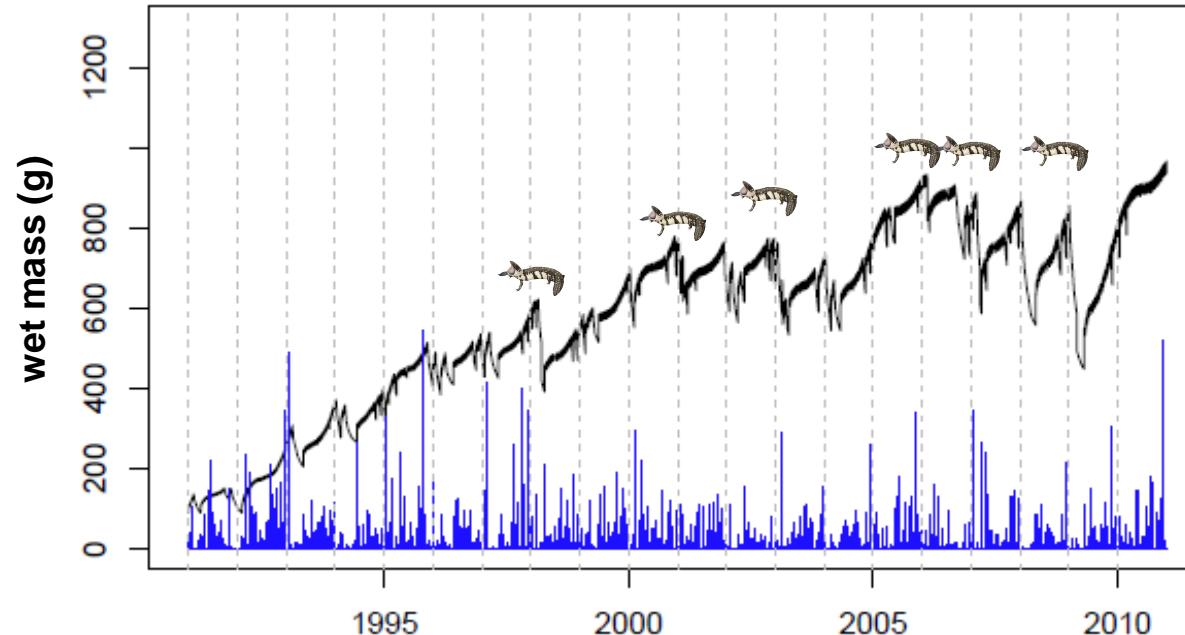


Incorporating water and energetics with DEB



Suzy Munns
James Cook
University

growth (mass) and reproduction



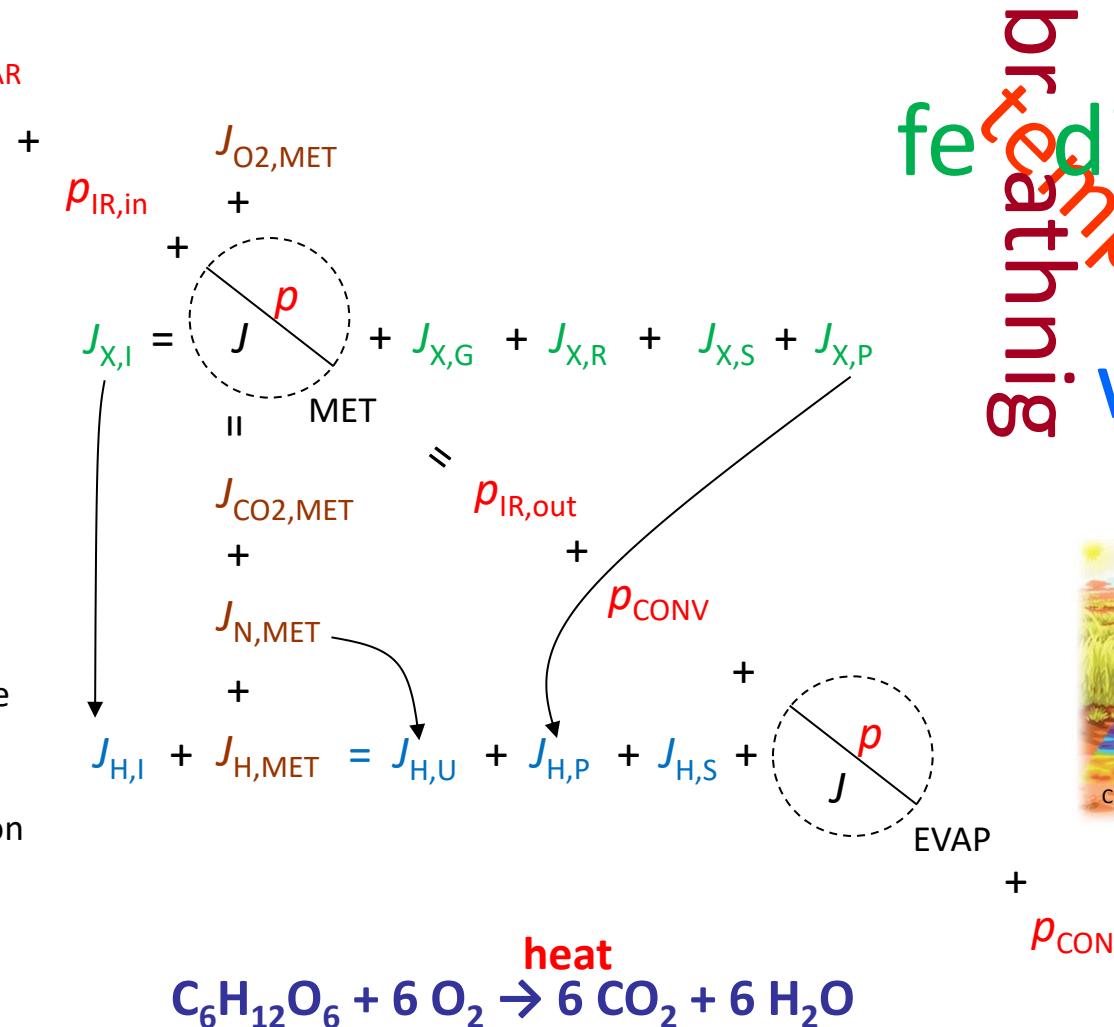
$$\begin{array}{cccc} \text{Food} & \text{Structure} & \text{Reserve} & \text{Faeces} \\ \left(\begin{array}{cccc} n_{CX} & n_{CV} & n_{CE} & n_{CP} \\ n_{HX} & n_{HV} & n_{HE} & n_{HP} \\ n_{OX} & n_{OV} & n_{OE} & n_{OP} \\ n_{NX} & n_{NV} & n_{NE} & n_{NP} \end{array} \right) & \left(\begin{array}{c} j_X \\ j_V \\ j_E + j_{ER} \\ j_P \end{array} \right) & \begin{array}{c} \text{Food} \\ \text{Structure} \\ \text{Reserve} \\ \text{Faeces} \end{array} & = \left(\begin{array}{cccc} \text{CO}_2 & \text{H}_2\text{O} & \text{O}_2 & \text{N waste} \\ \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & n_{CN} \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & n_{HN} \\ 2 & 1 & 2 & n_{ON} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & n_{NN} \end{pmatrix} & \left(\begin{array}{c} j_C \\ j_H \\ j_O \\ j_N \end{array} \right) & \begin{array}{c} \text{CO}_2 \\ \text{H}_2\text{O} \\ \text{O}_2 \\ \text{N waste} \end{array} \end{array}$$



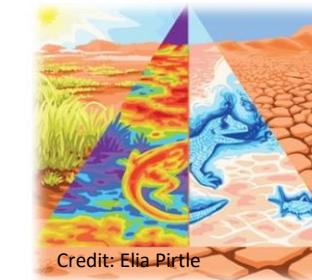
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University of Crete, Heraklion, Greece

Incorporating water and energetics with DEB

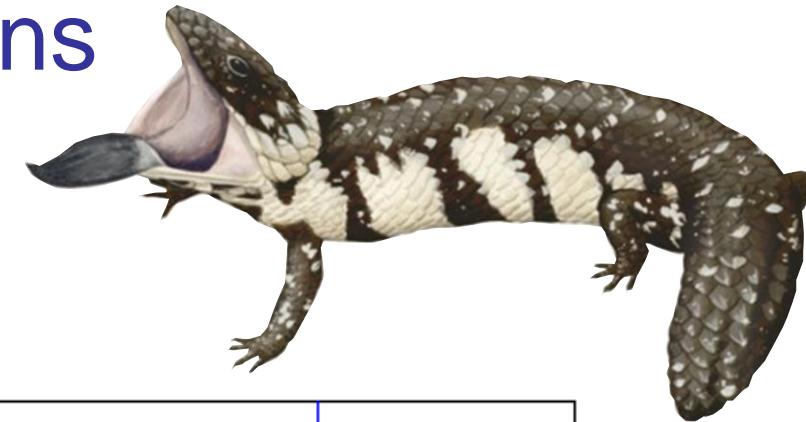
p = heat flux
 J = mass flux
 X = food
 H = water
 I = ingested
 P = product (faeces)
 U = urinated
 G = growth
 R = reproduction
 S = stored
 O_2 = oxygen
 CO_2 = carbon dioxide
 N = nitrogenous waste
 MET = 'metabolism'
 $EVAP$ = evaporation
 $SOLAR$ = solar radiation
 IR = infrared radiation
 $CONV$ = convection
 $COND$ = conduction



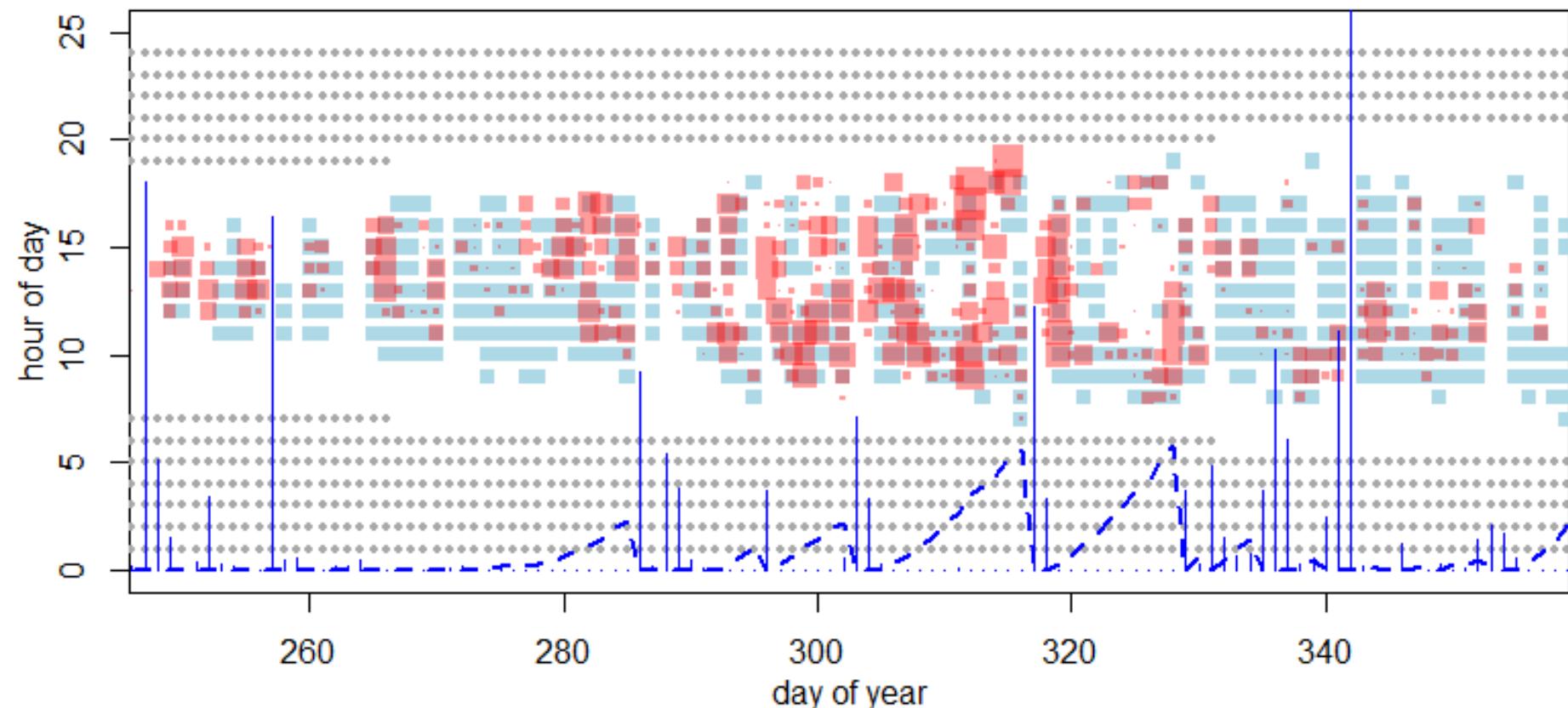
breeding temperature water



Predicting activity patterns



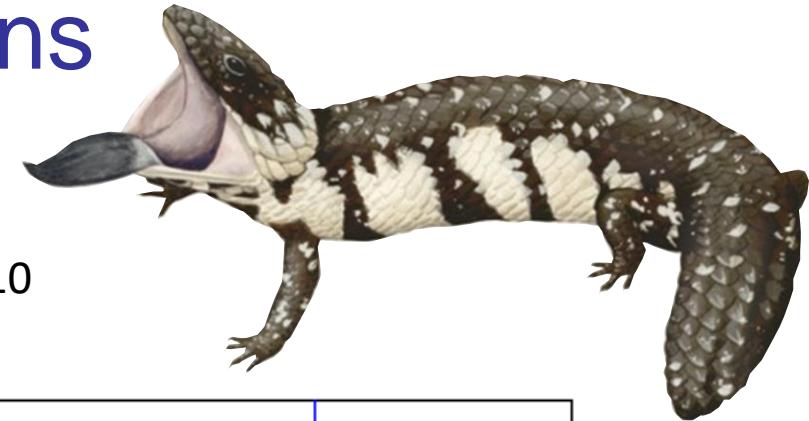
Male 11885 observed activity vs. potential foraging, 2010



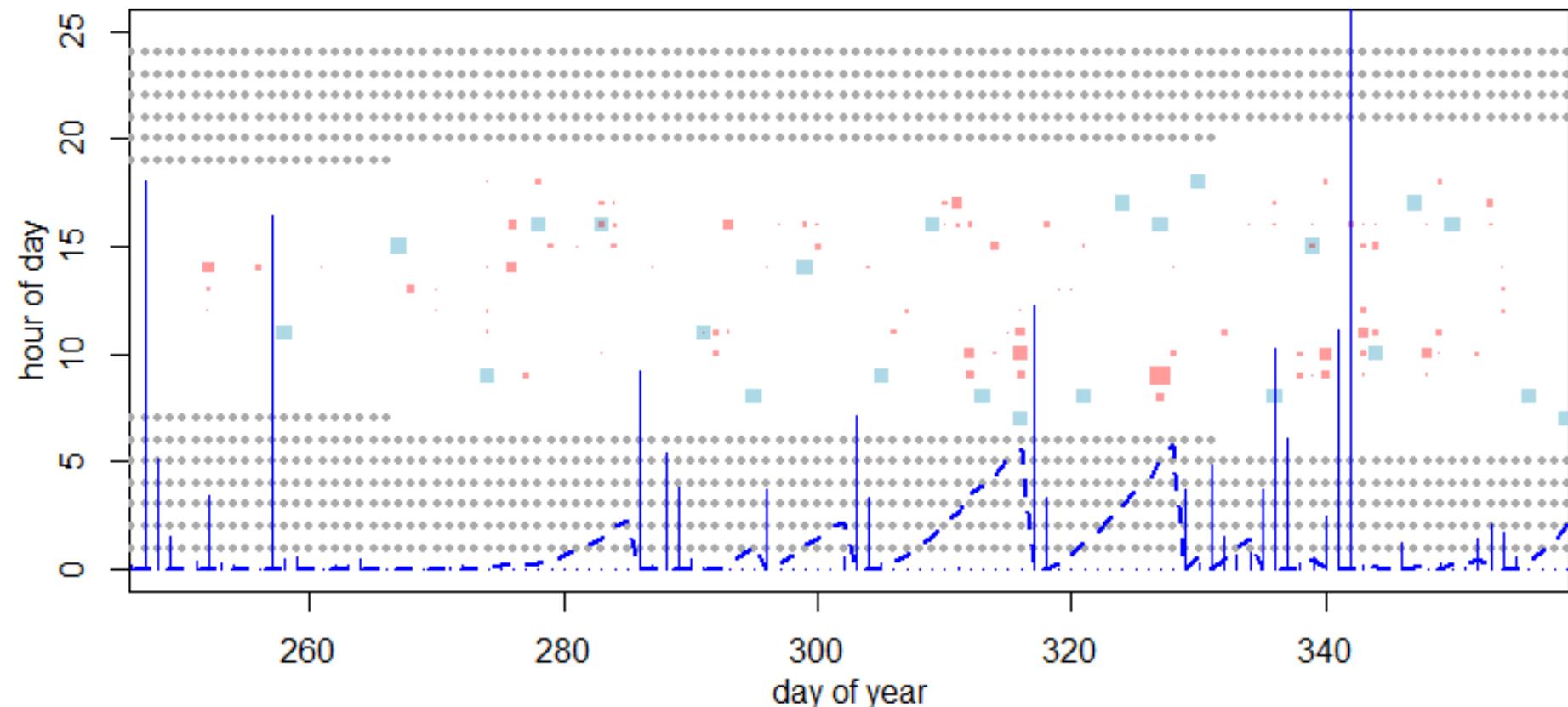
Kearney et al. 2018. Field tests of a general ectotherm niche model show how water can limit lizard activity and distribution. Ecological Monographs 88:672–693.

Predicting activity patterns

SLEEPY LIZARD



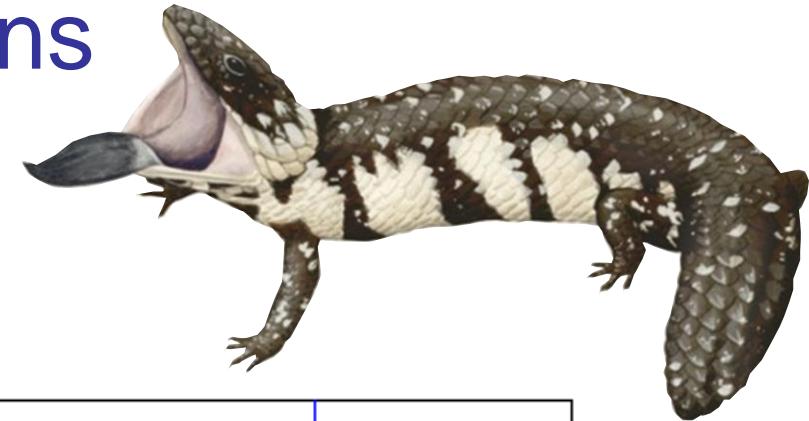
Female 11533 observed activity vs. modelled feeding events, 2010



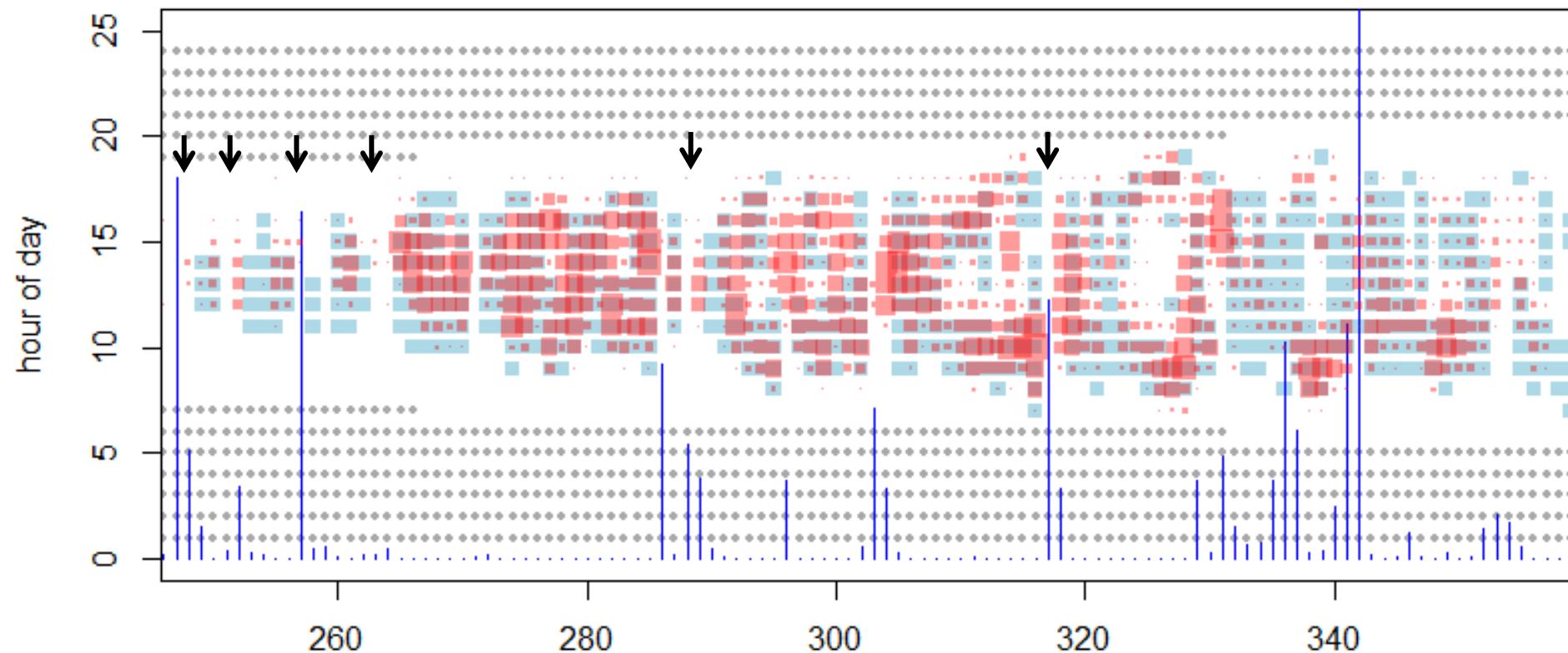
Kearney et al. 2018. Field tests of a general ectotherm niche model show how water can limit lizard activity and distribution. Ecological Monographs 88:672–693.

Predicting activity patterns

SLEEPY LIZARD



All observed activity vs. potential foraging, 2010



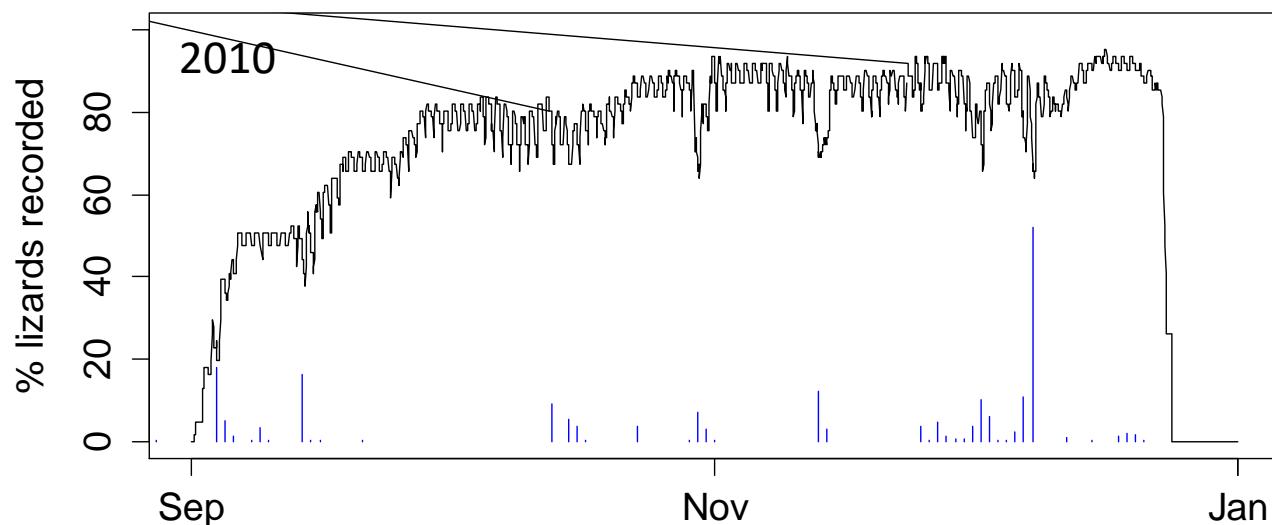
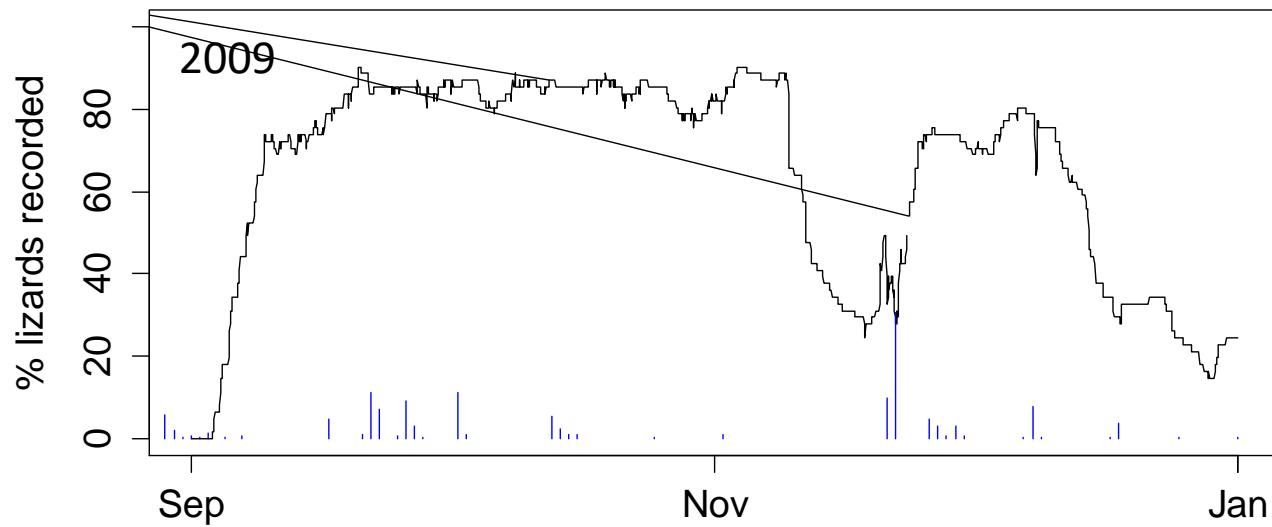
Kearney et al. 2018. Field tests of a general ectotherm niche model show how water can limit lizard activity and distribution. Ecological Monographs 88:672–693.

5

2025

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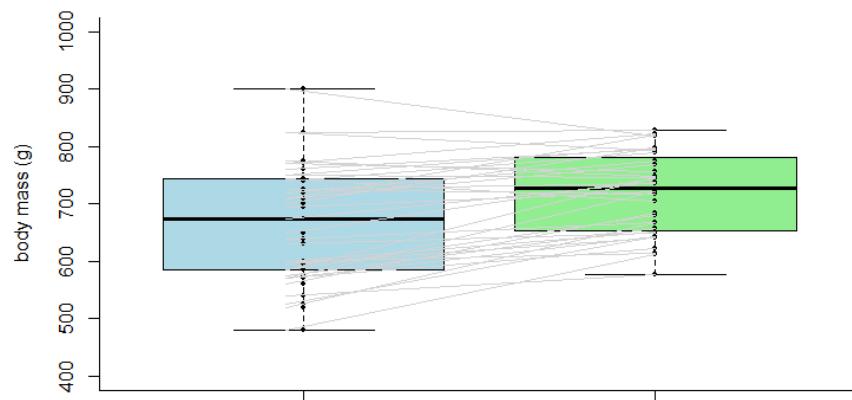
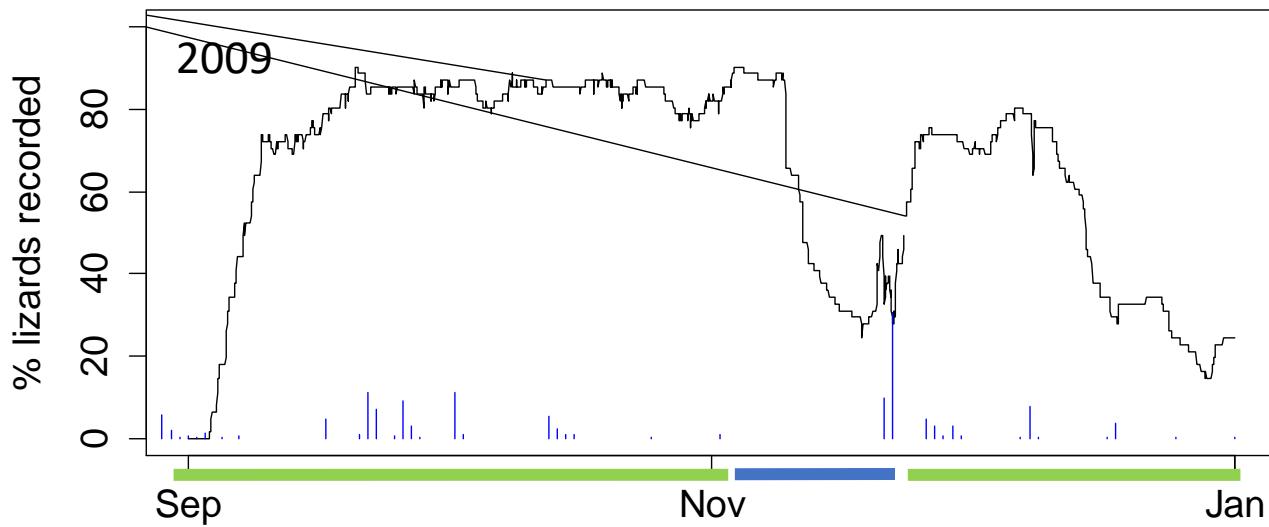
Predicting activity patterns



School: 26 May - 3 Jun 2025

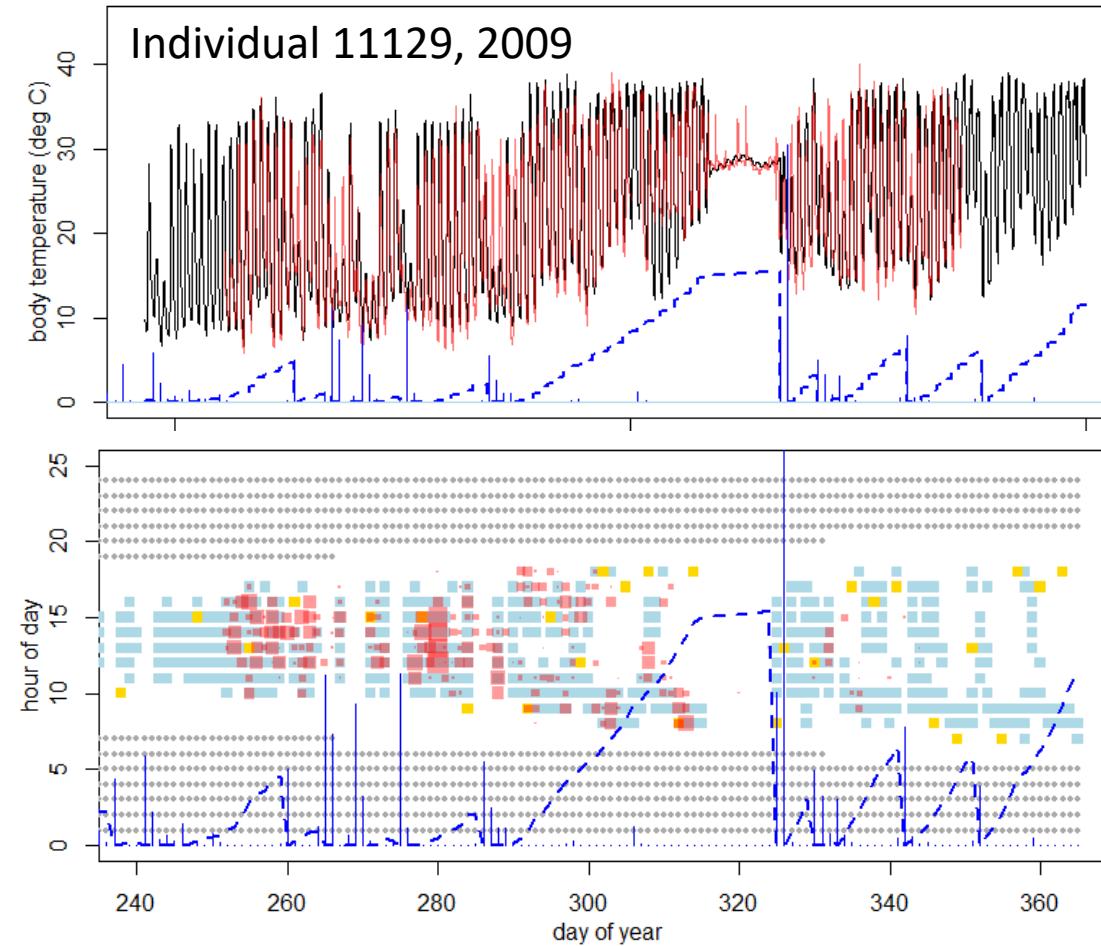
University of Crete, Heraklion, Greece

Predicting activity patterns



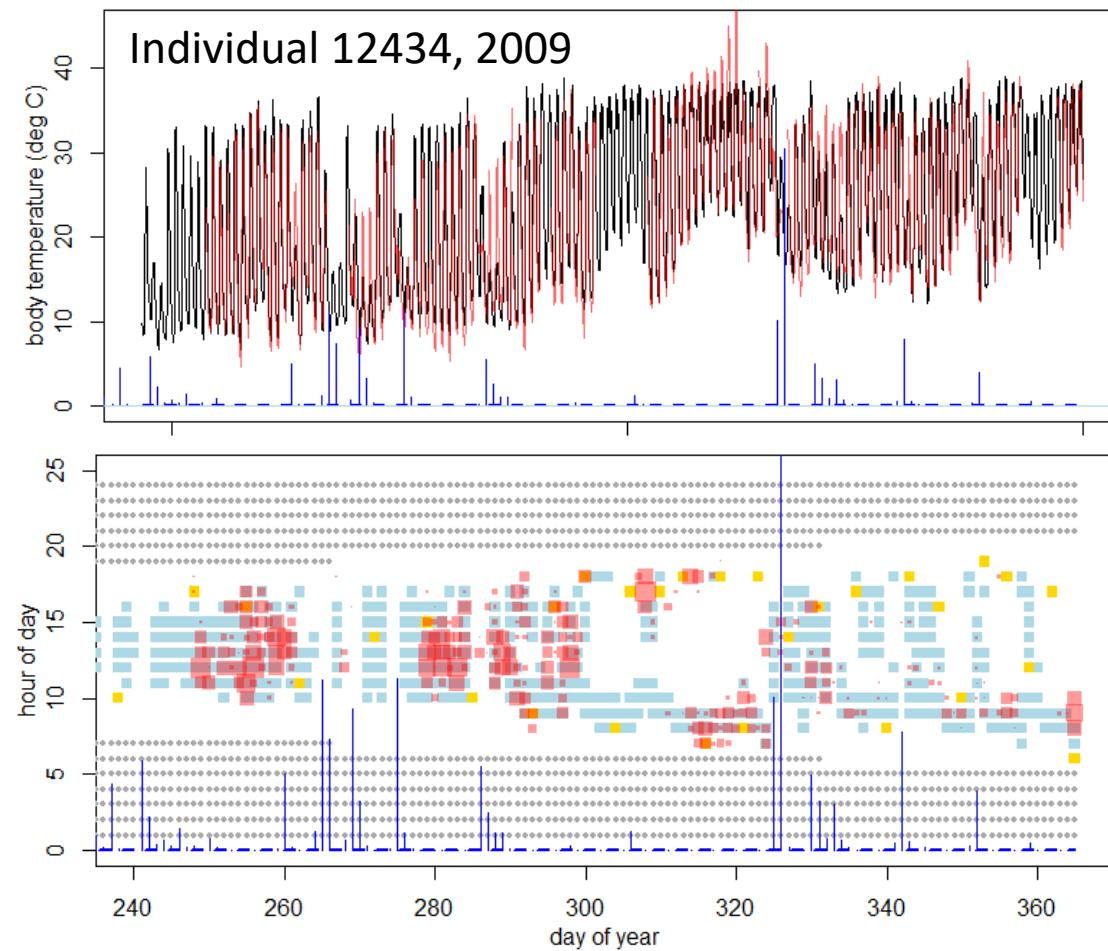
School: 26 May - 3 Jun 2025
University of Crete, Heraklion, Greece

Predicting activity patterns

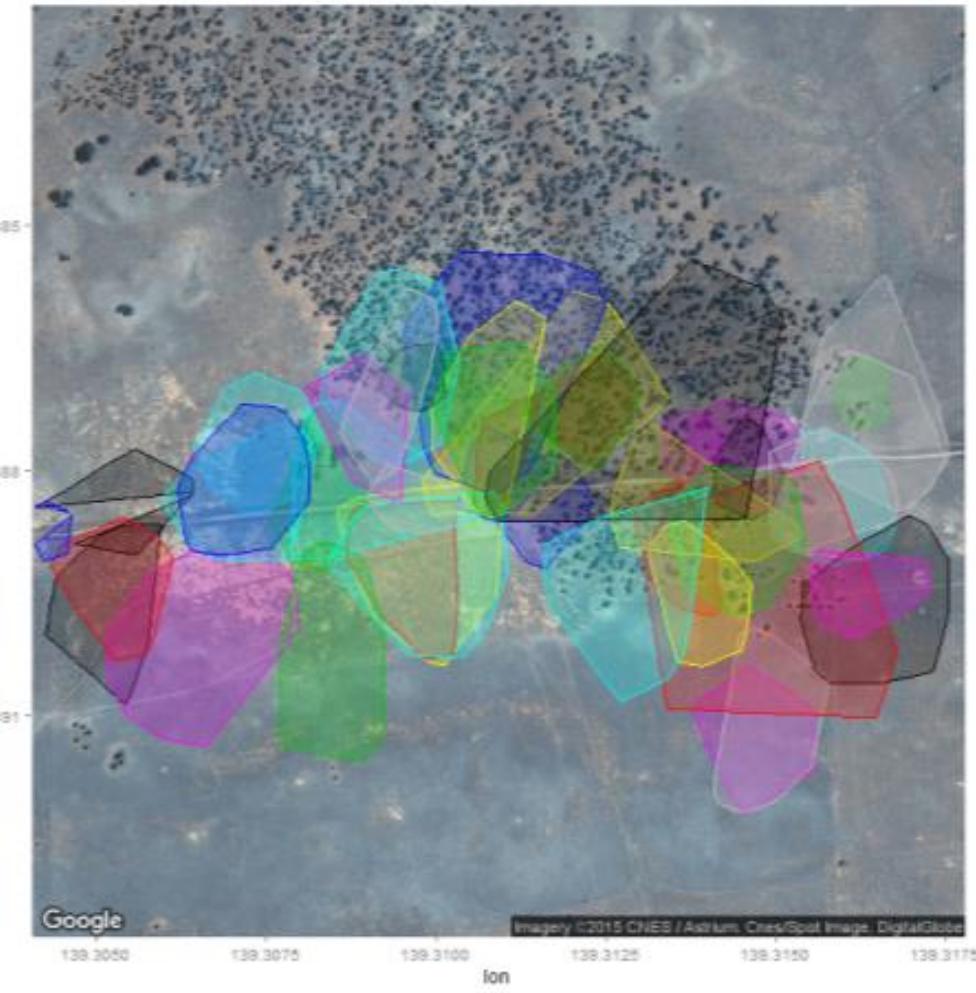


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Predicting activity patterns



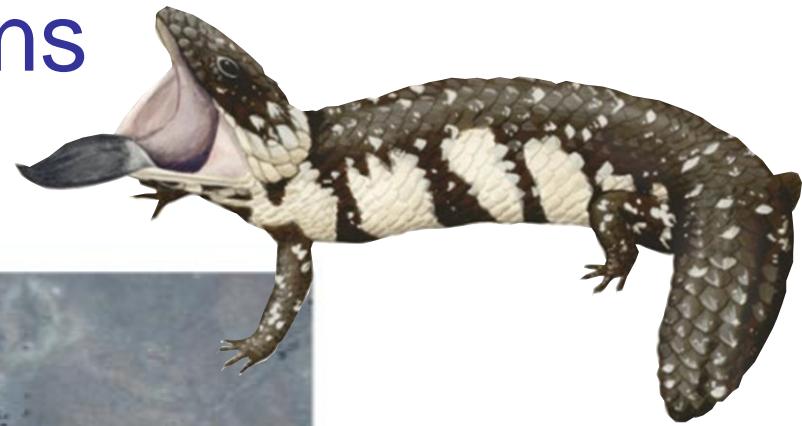
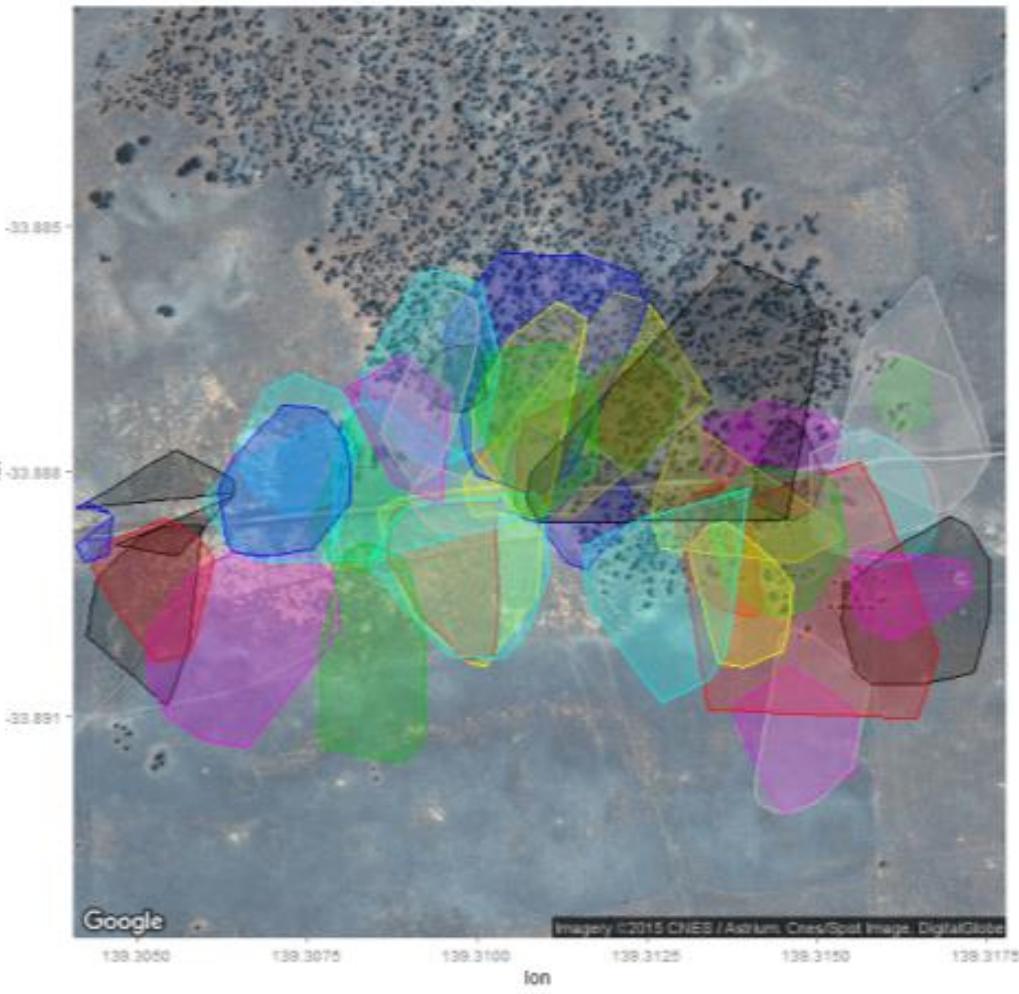
Predicting activity patterns



School: 26 May - 3 Jun 2025

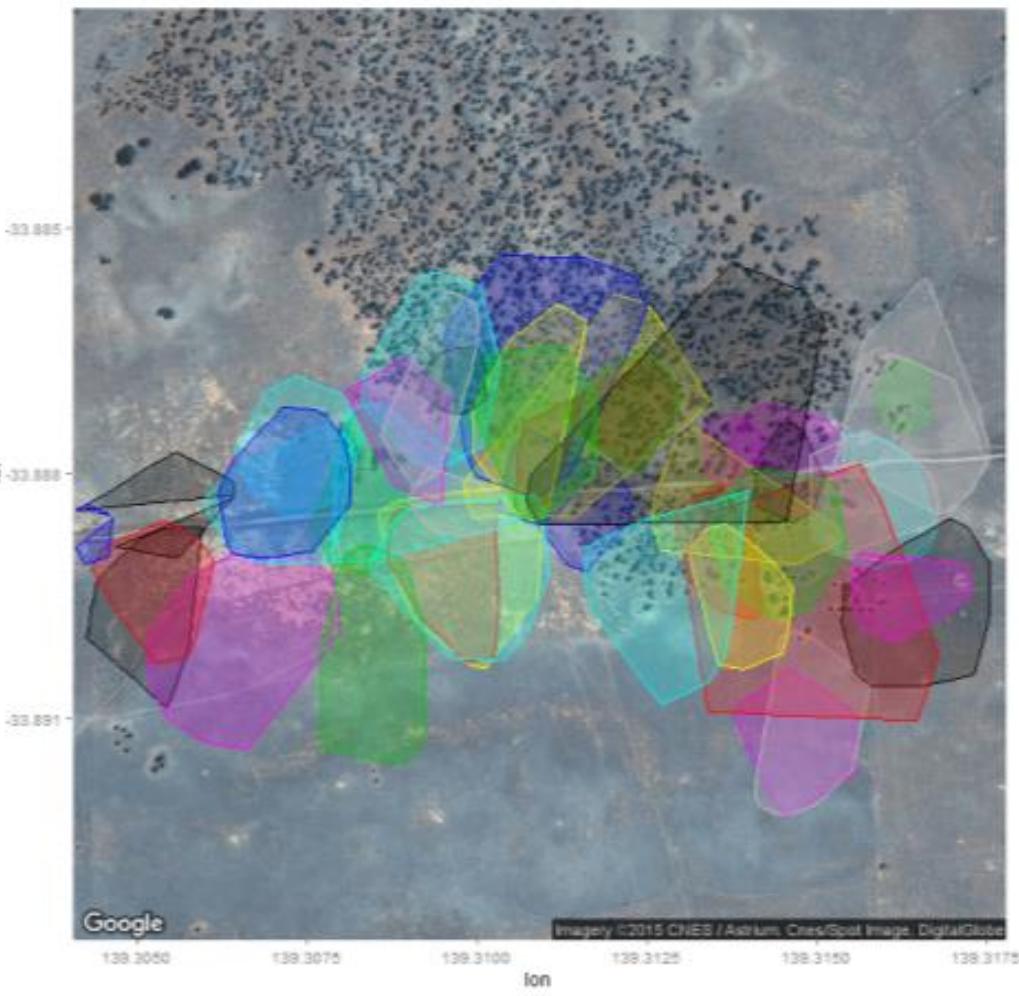
University of Crete, Heraklion, Greece

Predicting activity patterns



School: 26 May - 3 Jun 2025
University of Crete, Heraklion, Greece

Predicting activity patterns

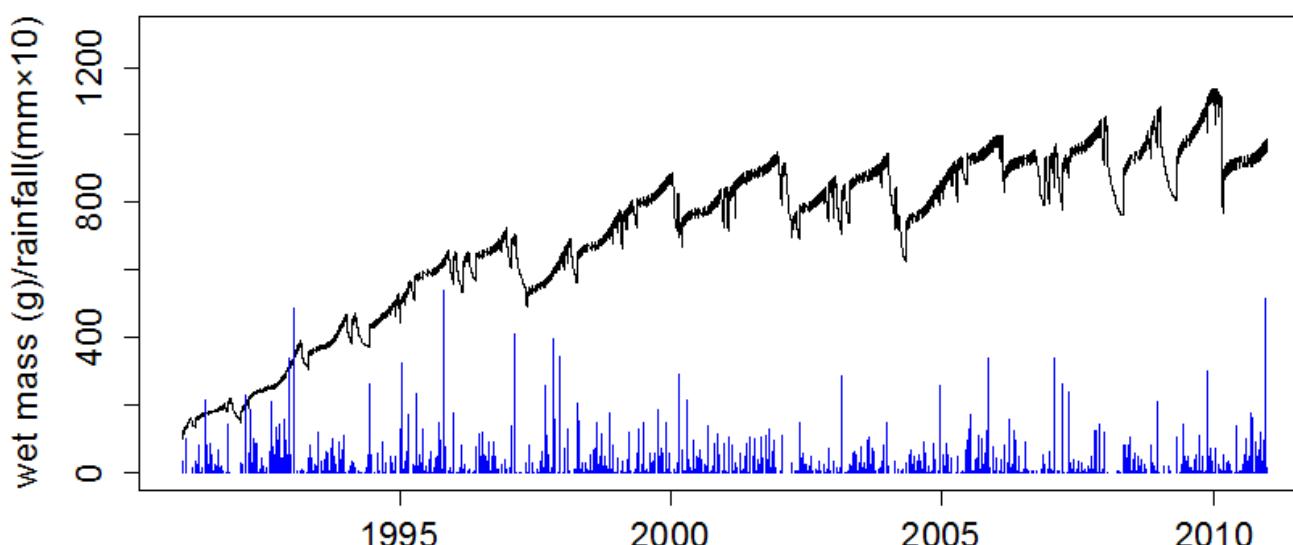
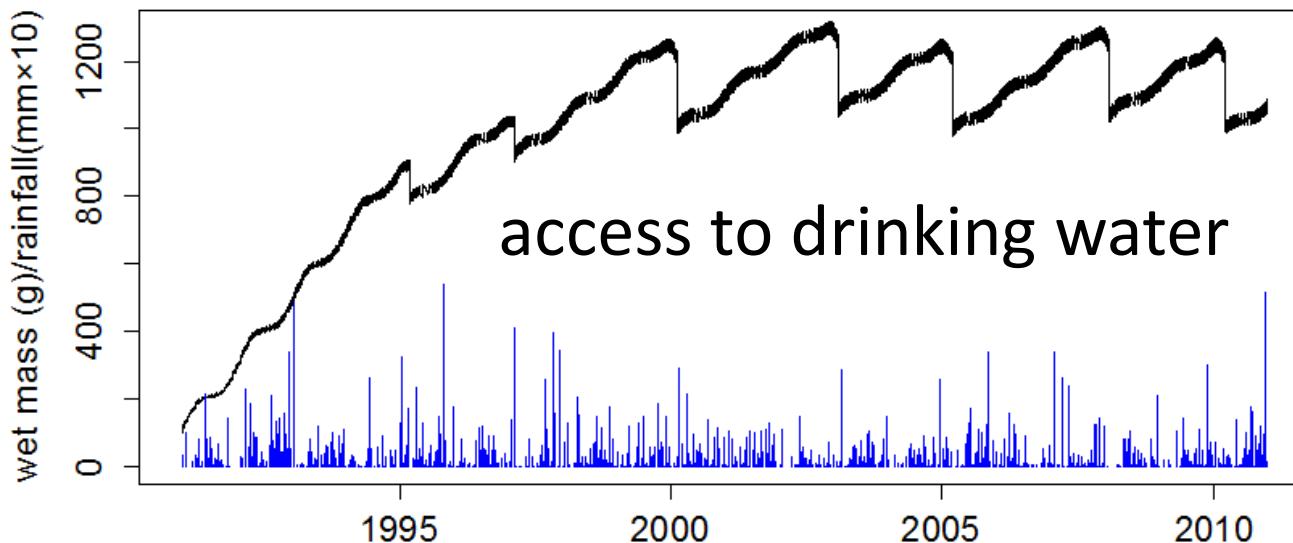


Predicting activity patterns



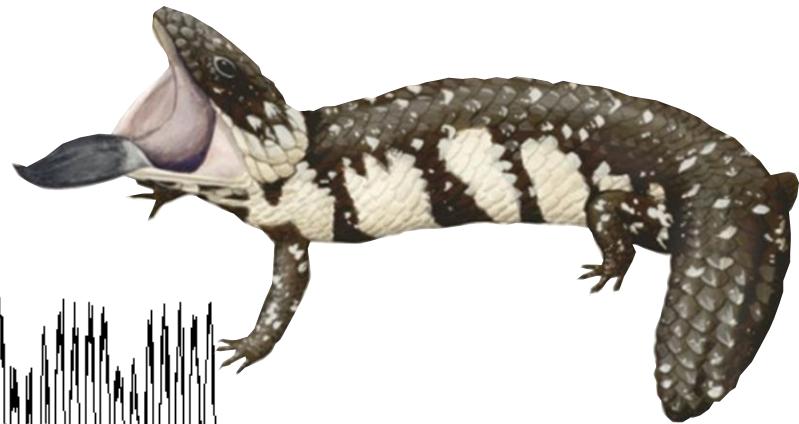
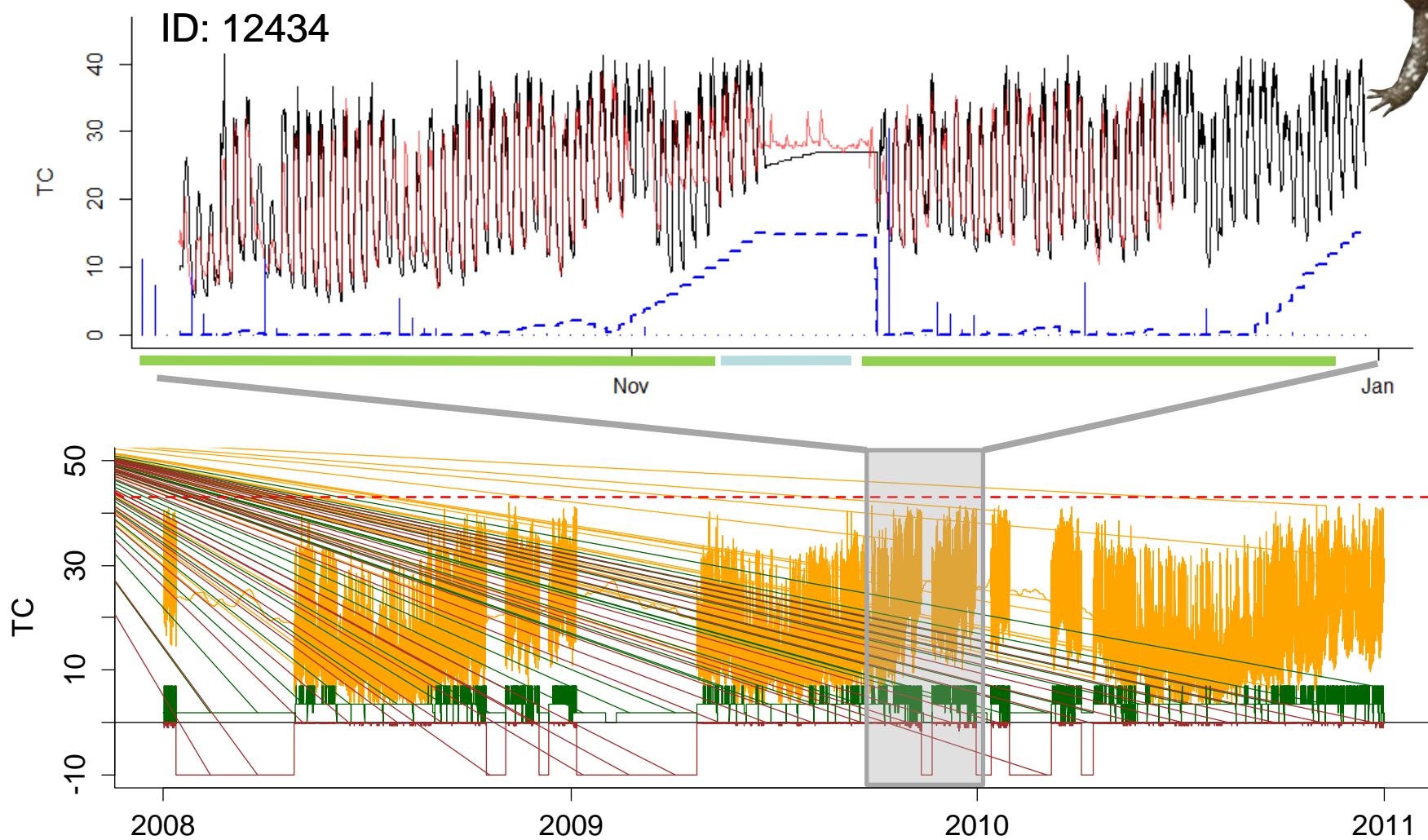
Water matters!

SLEEPY LIZARD

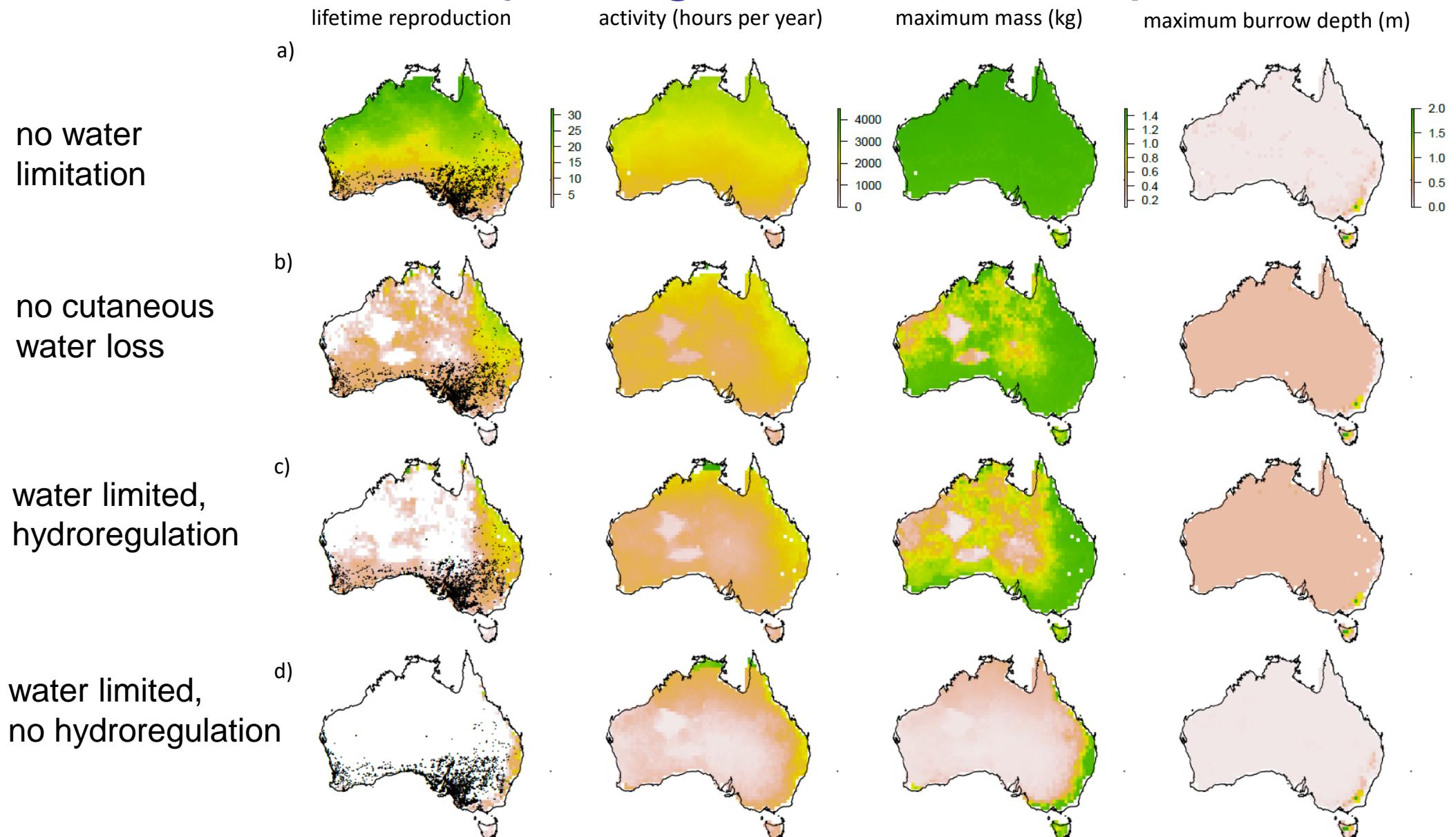


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Water matters!

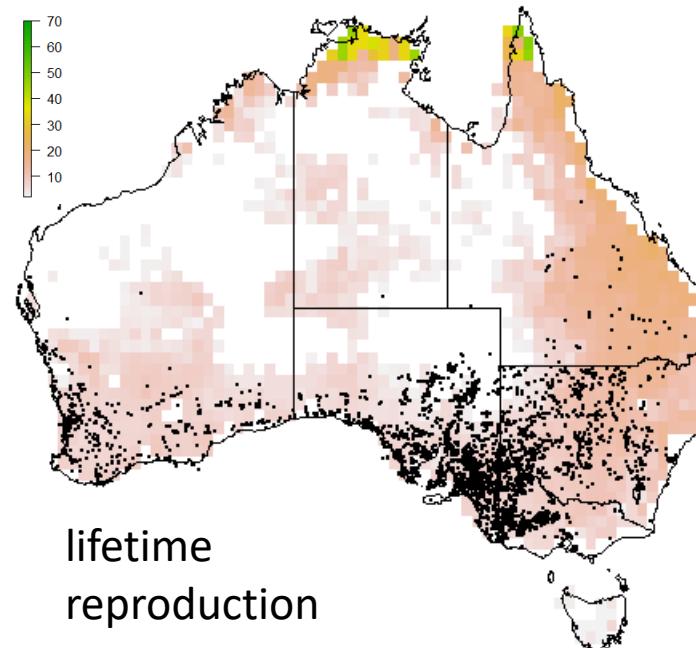


Projecting to the landscape



Projecting to the landscape

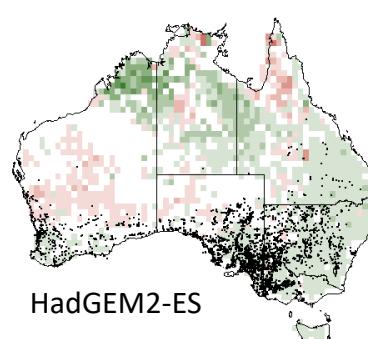
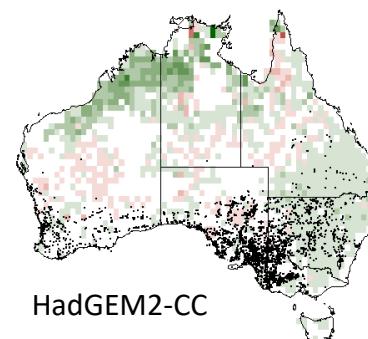
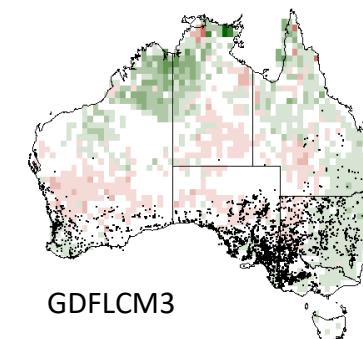
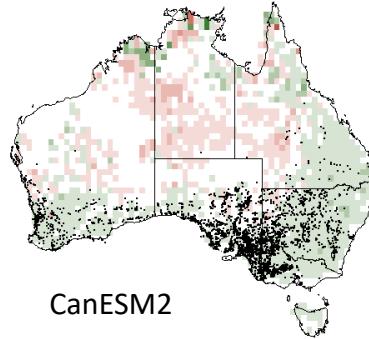
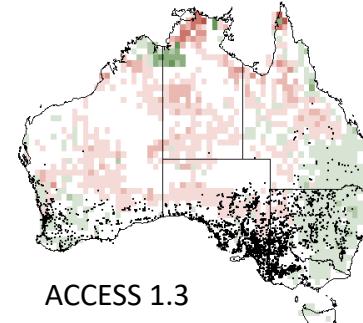
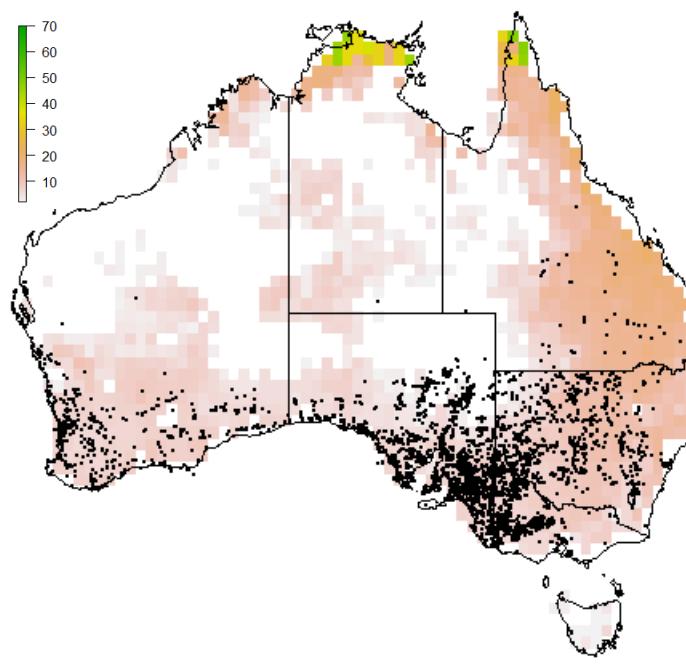
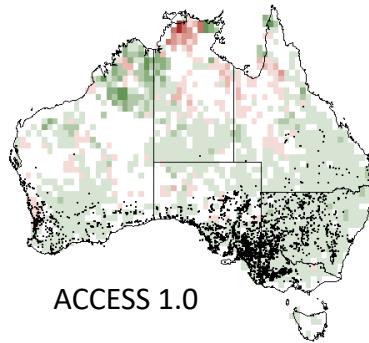
1990-2009



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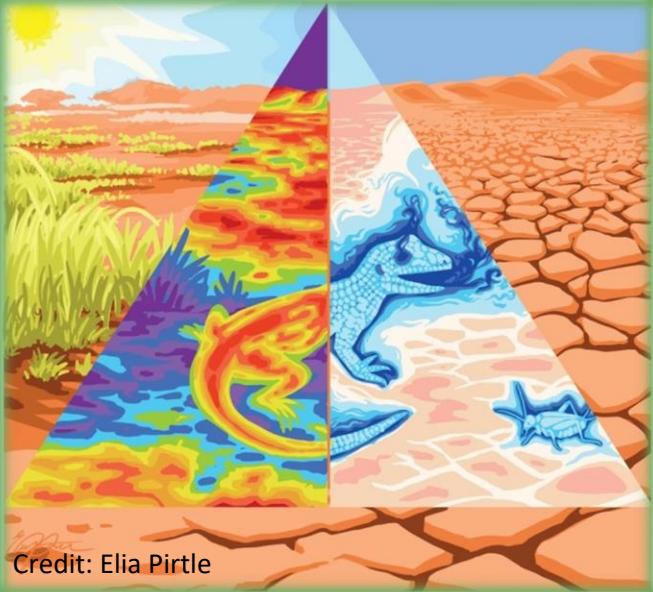
Projecting to the future

2060-2080



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Credit: Elia Pirtle

4. Butterfly life cycle model

Capturing a complex
life cycle
Multiple limiting
factors through
space



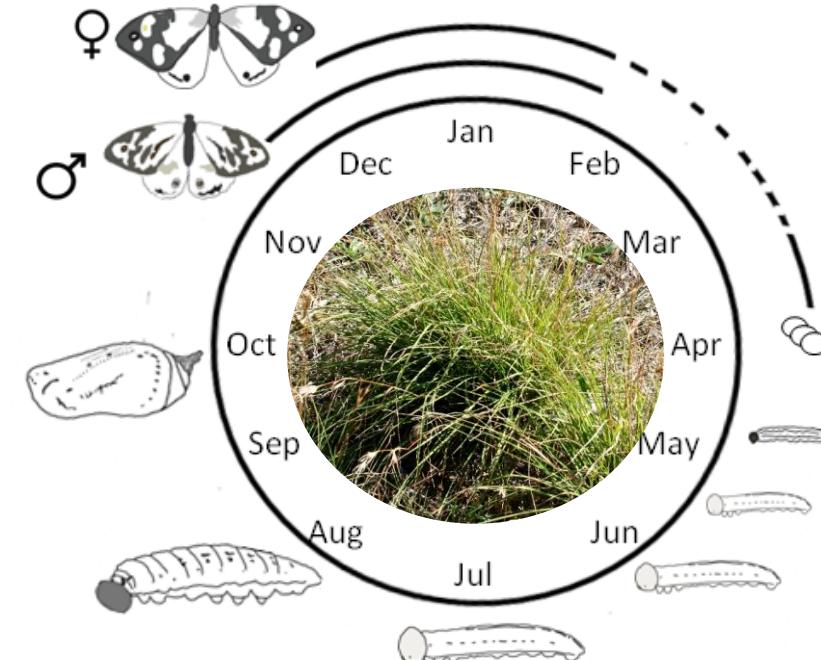
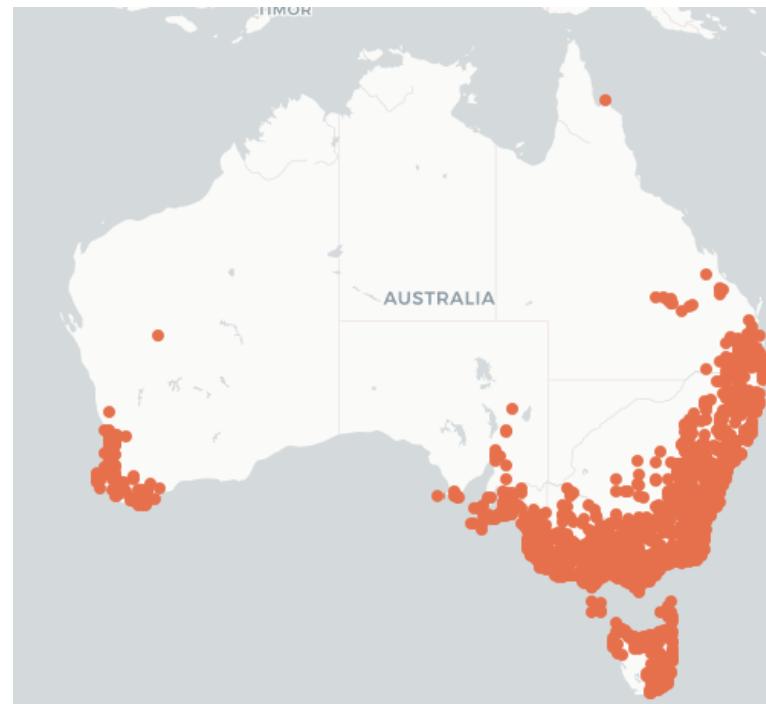
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Common Brown Butterfly *Heteronympha merope*



Photo: Trevor Rowe/Roger Gund



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Common Brown Butterfly *Heteronympha merope*

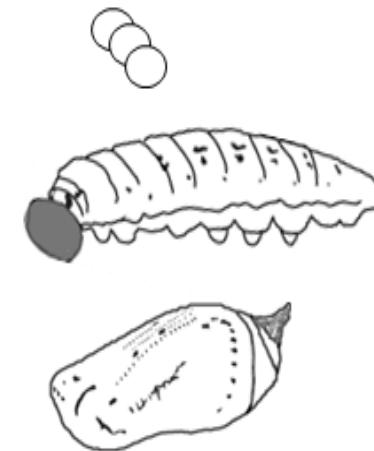


Body size
Flight at low
temperatures
Survival
(Longevity)

Timing of oviposition

Development time
Growth rate
Body size
Survival
(acute heat stress,
chronic cold stress,
starvation)

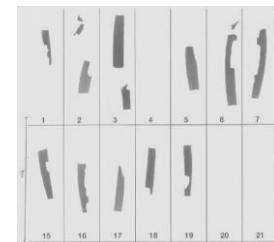
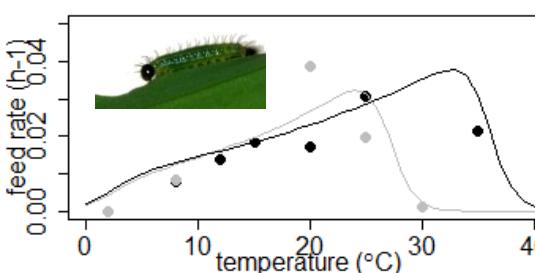
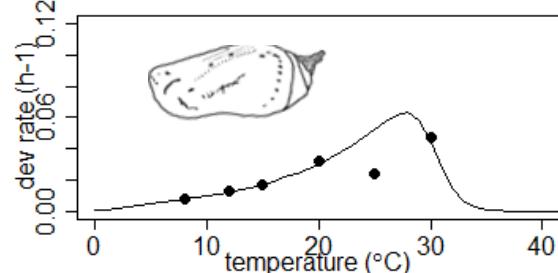
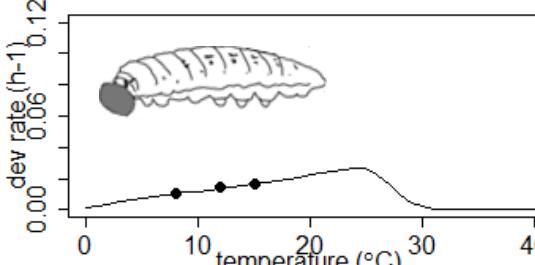
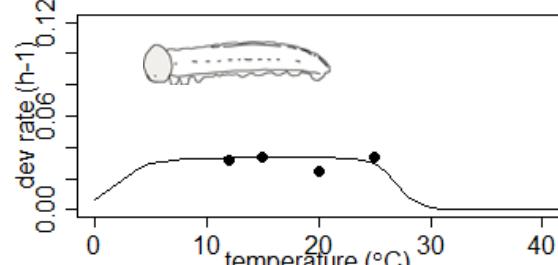
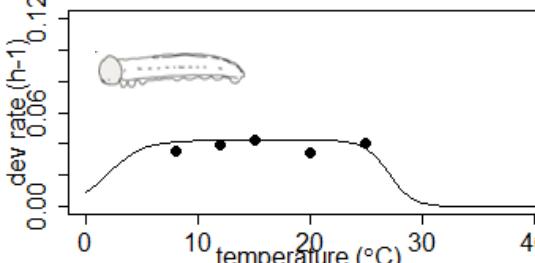
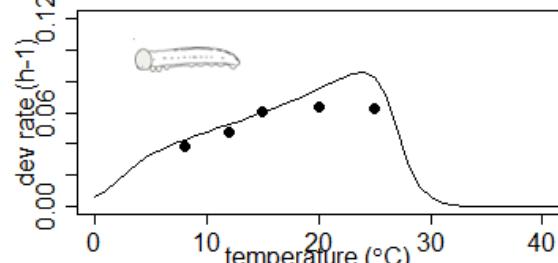
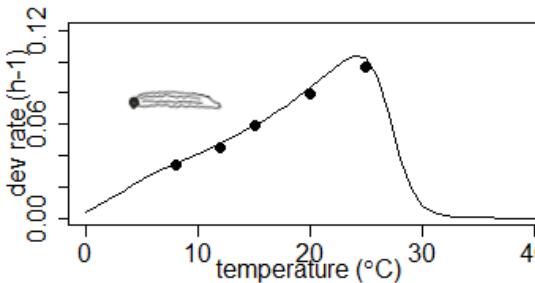
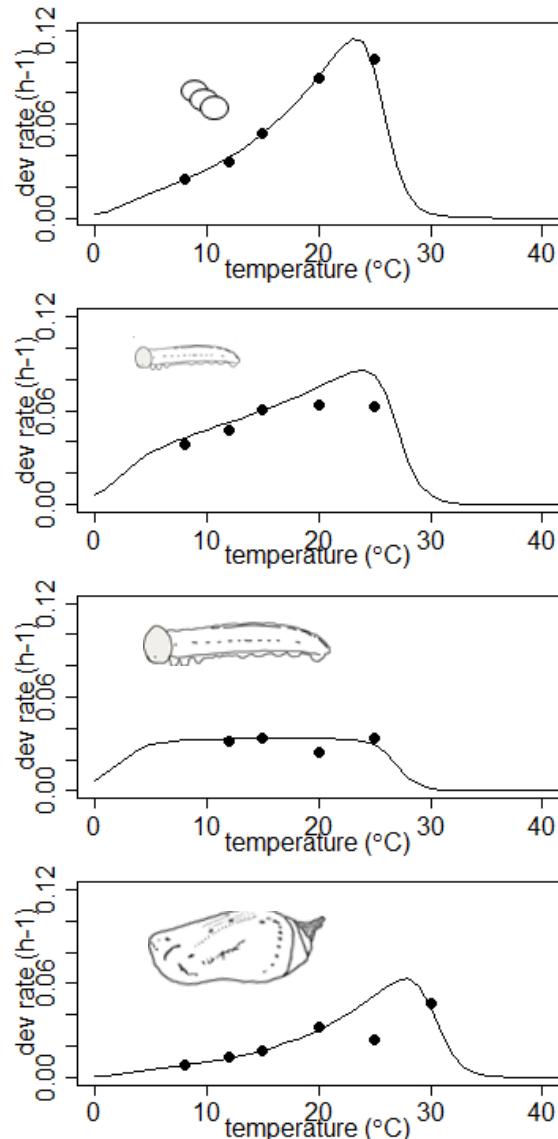
Timing of eclosion



Stage-dependent thermal responses

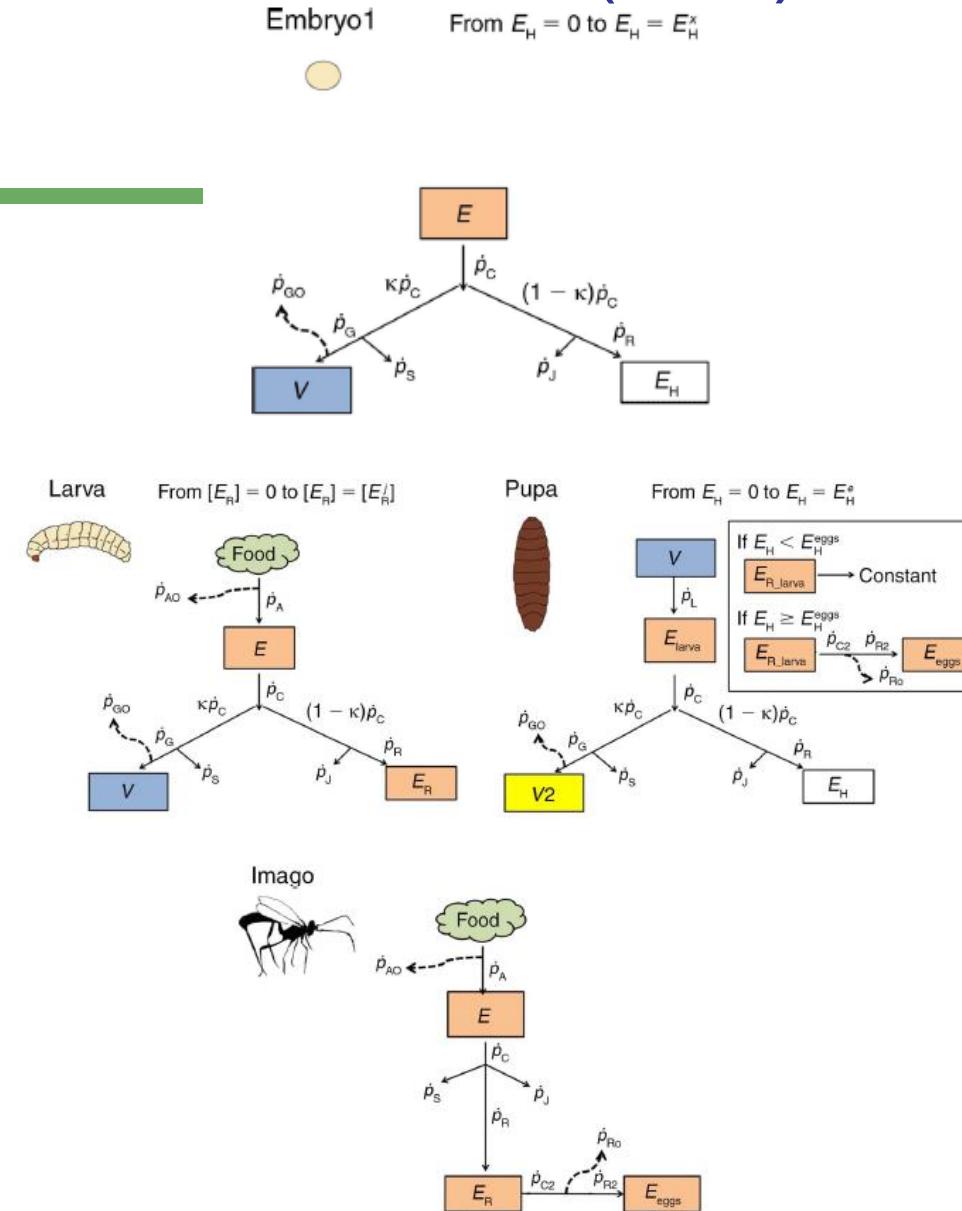
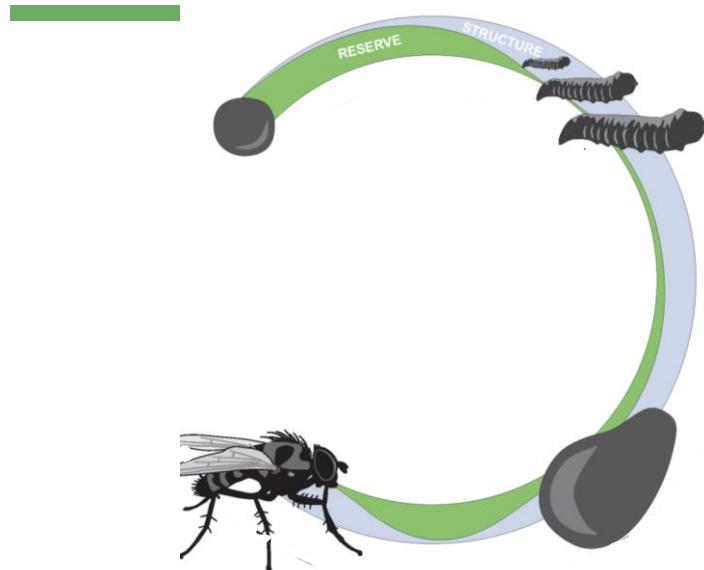


Dr Natalie
Briscoe



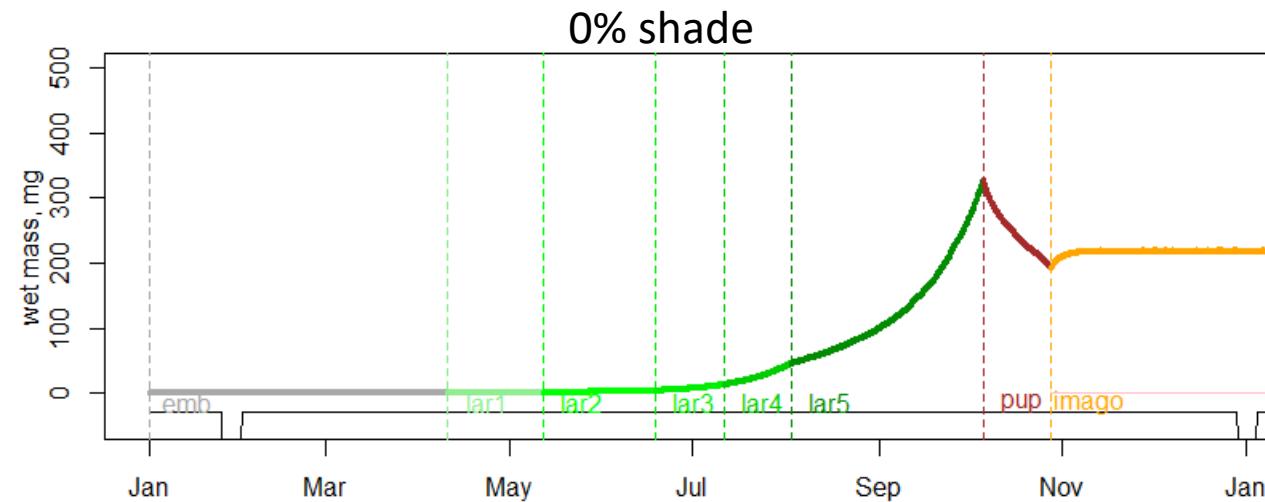
Briscoe et al. 2012. Stage-dependent physiological responses in a butterfly cause non-additive effects on phenology. Oikos 121:1464–1472.

DEB holometabolous (hex) model

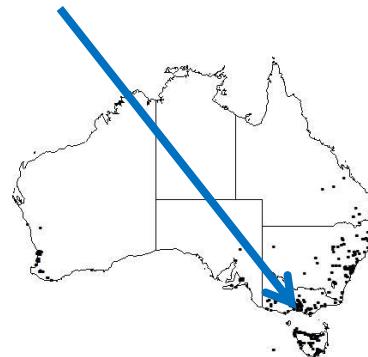


Llandres et al. (2015). A dynamic energy budget for the whole life-cycle of holometabolous insects. *Ecological Monographs* **85**, 353–371.

Simulating lifecycle trajectories



Melbourne



B 2025

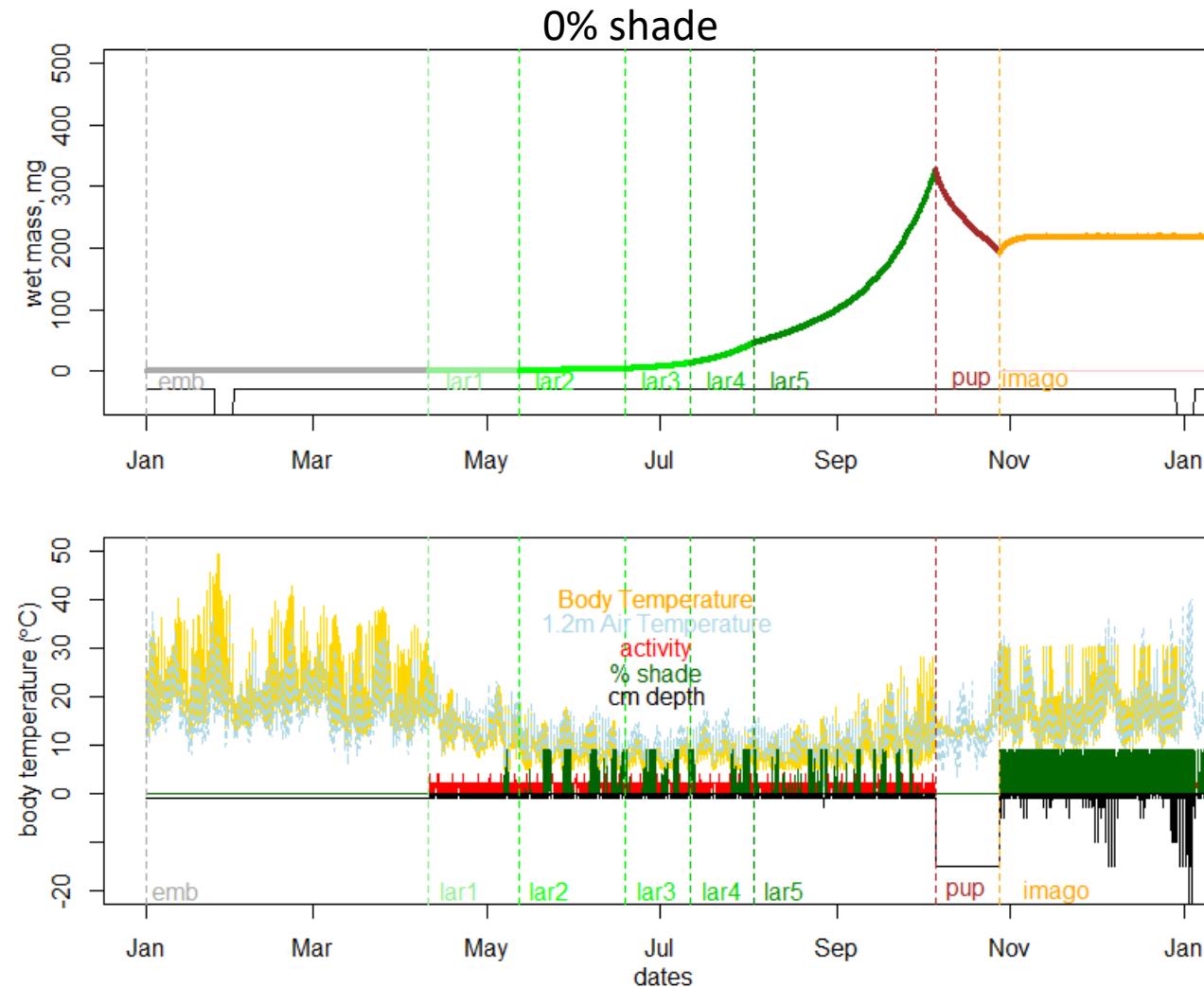
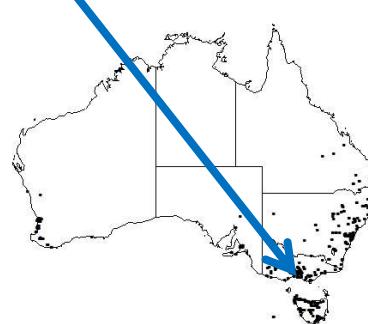


May - 3 Jun 2025
Crete, Heraklion, Greece

Simulating lifecycle trajectories



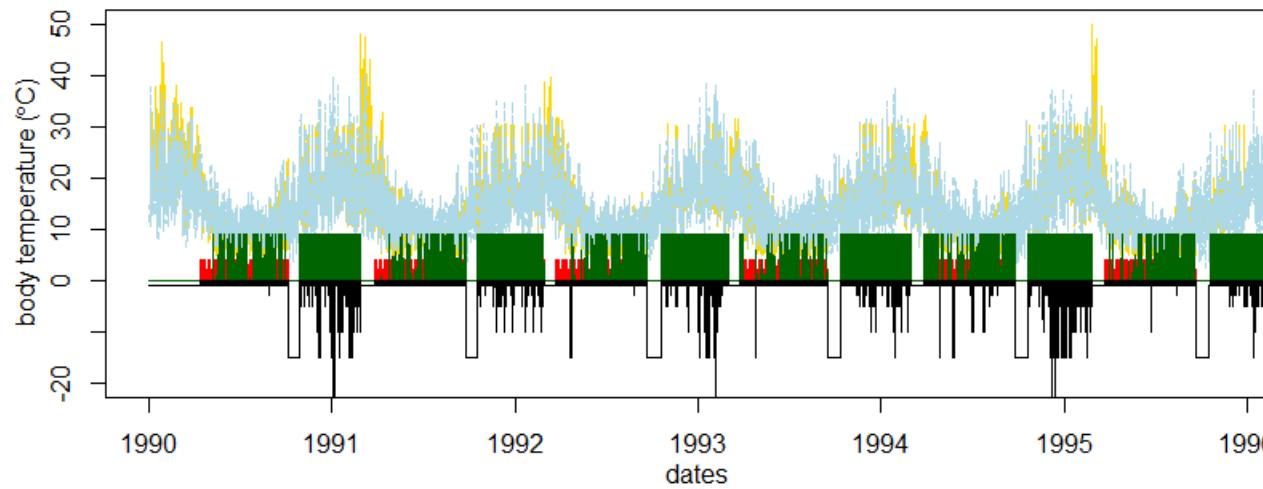
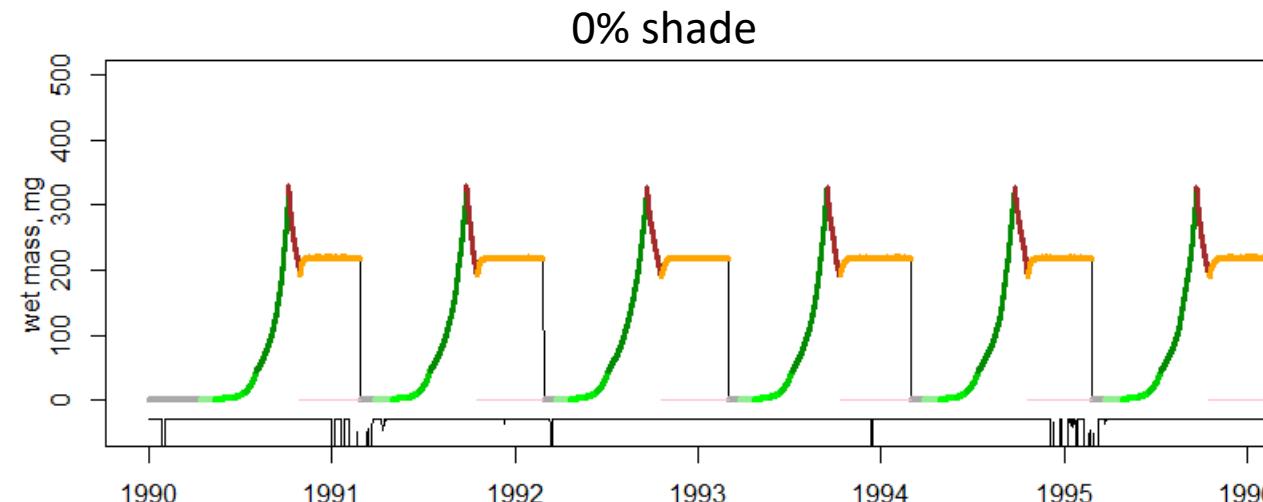
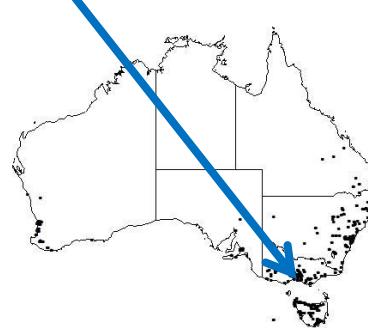
Melbourne



Simulating lifecycle trajectories



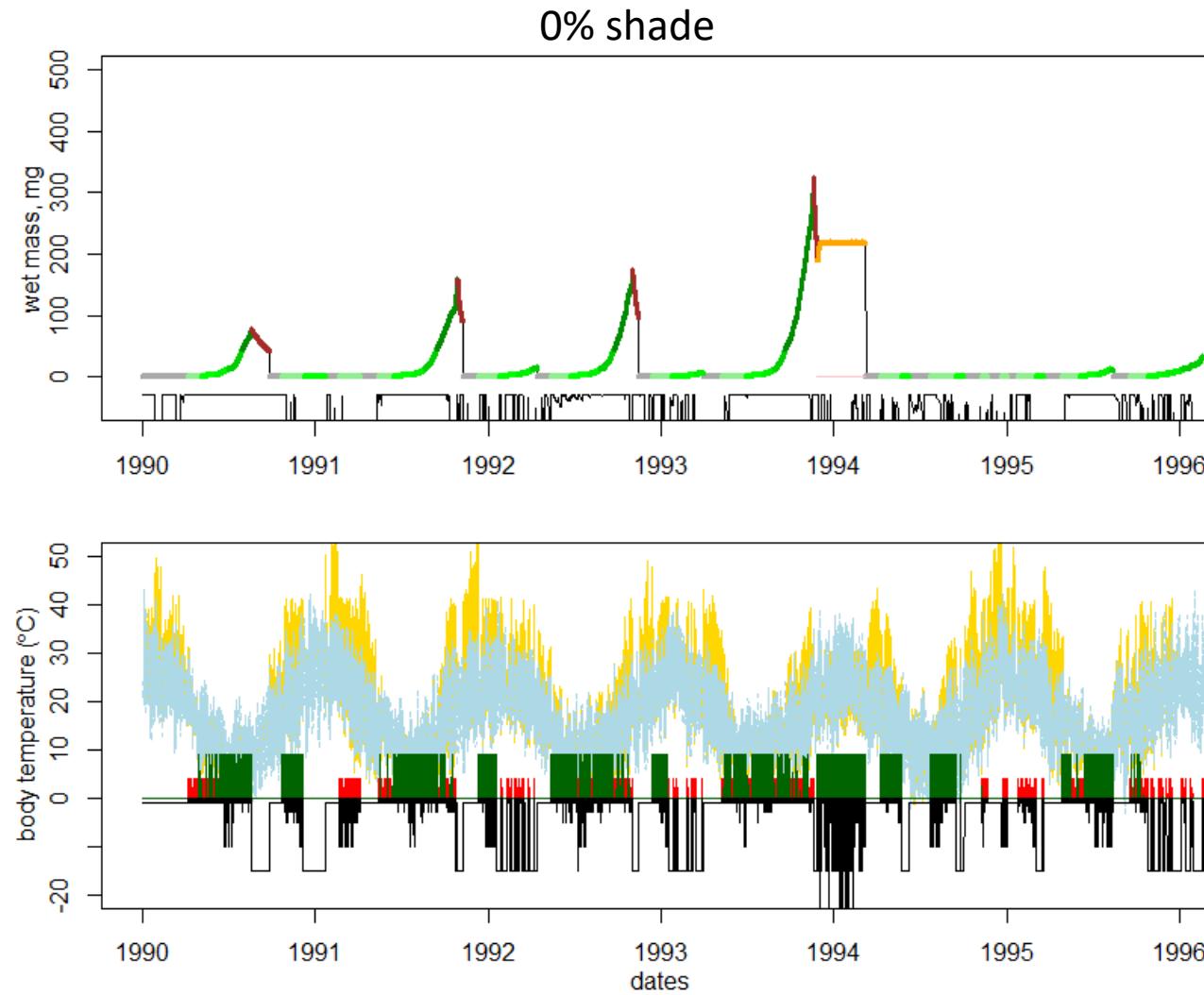
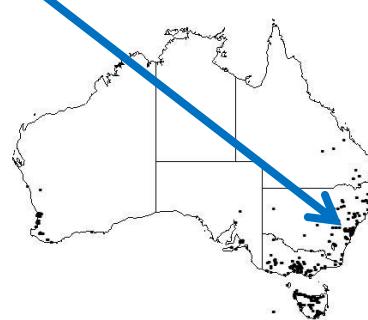
Melbourne



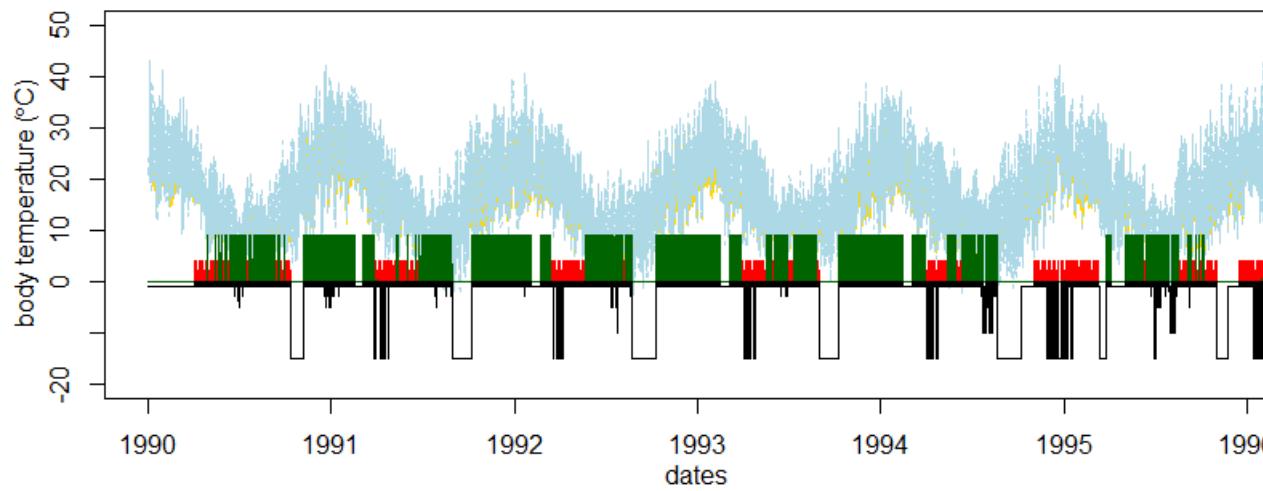
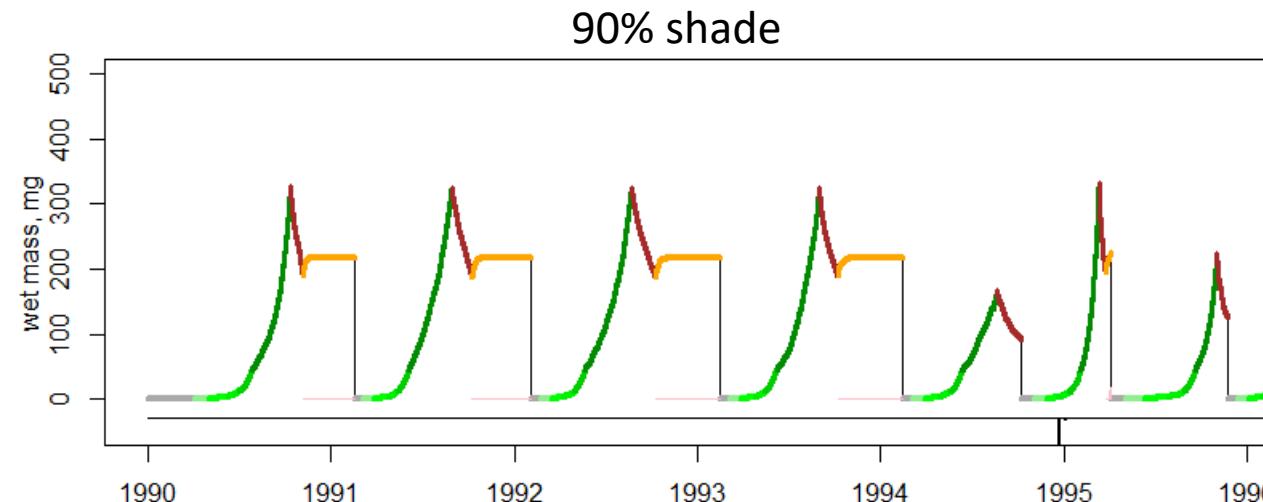
Simulating lifecycle trajectories



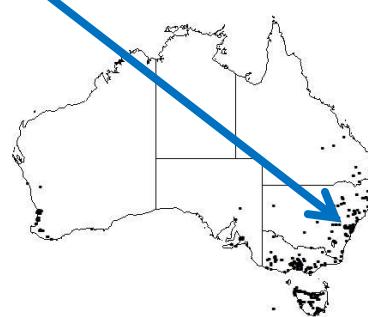
Dubbo



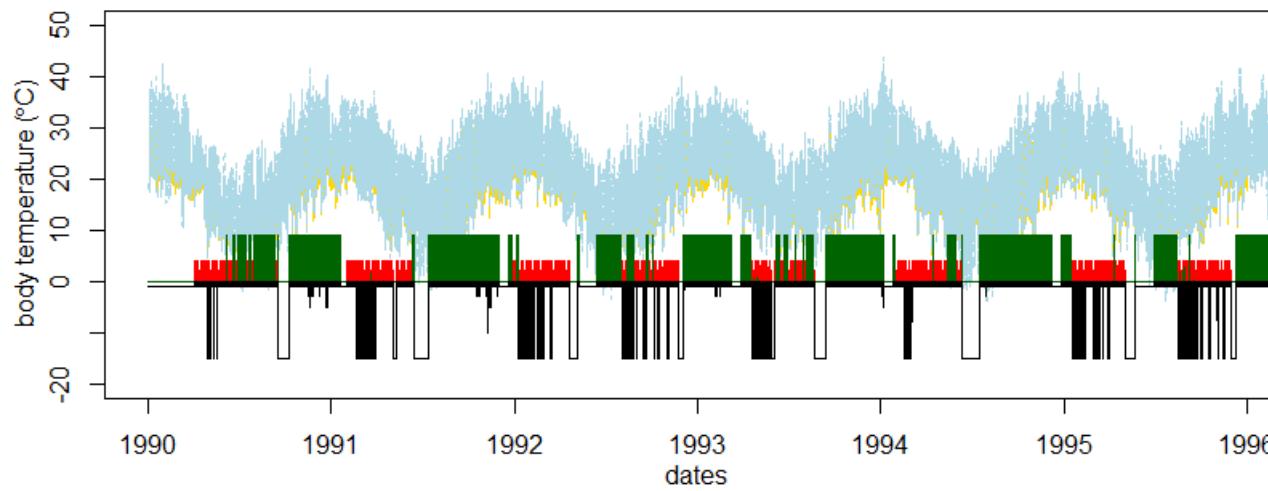
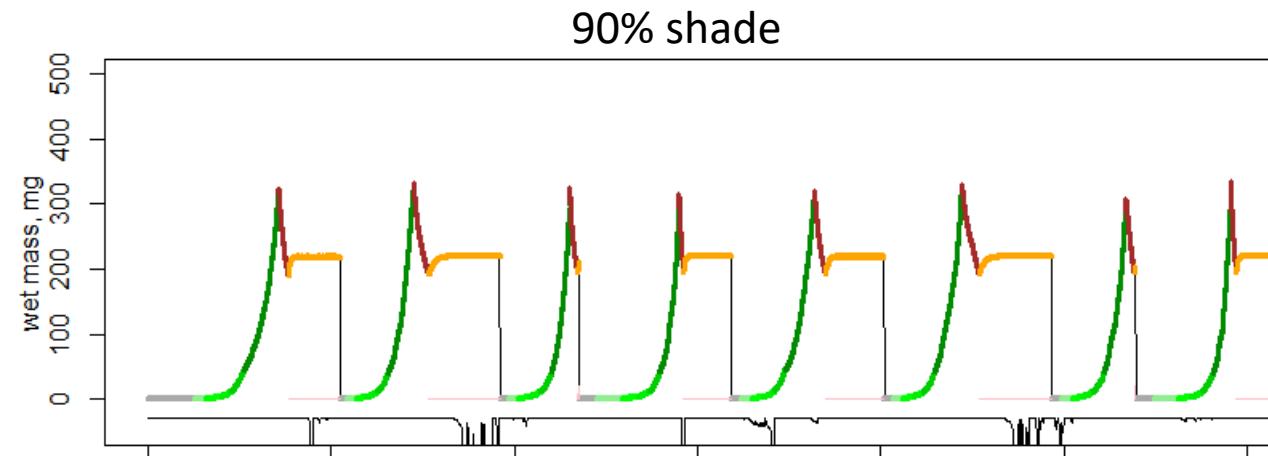
Simulating lifecycle trajectories



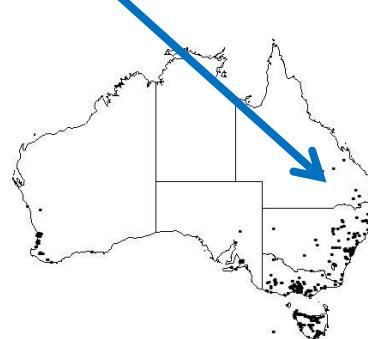
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Simulating lifecycle trajectories



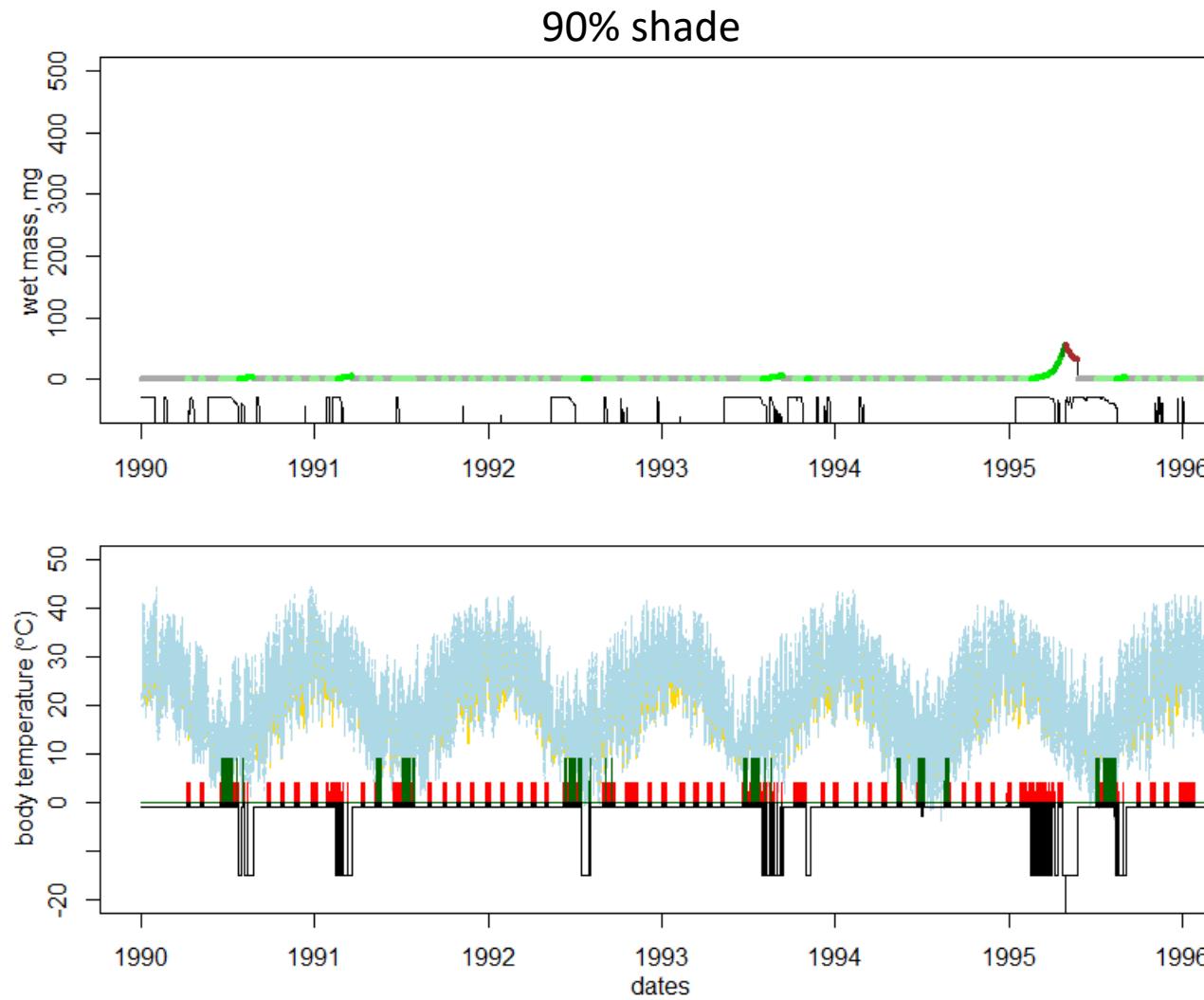
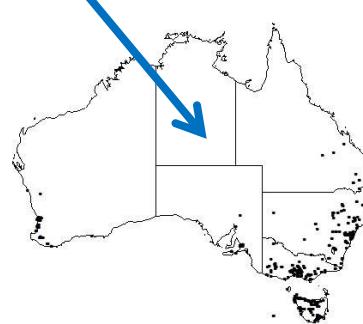
Carnarvon Gorge



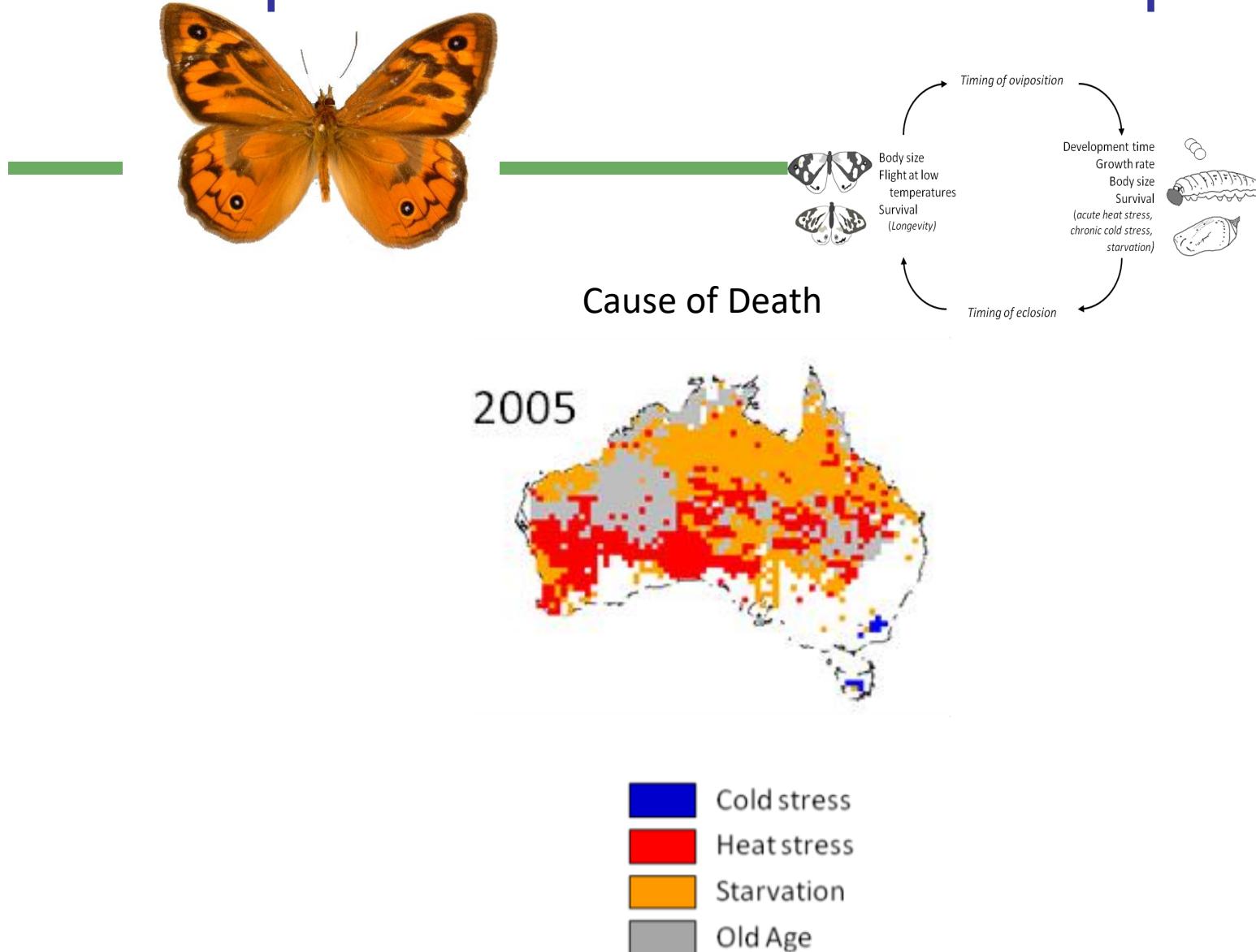
Simulating lifecycle trajectories



Alice Springs



Species distribution model post-mortem

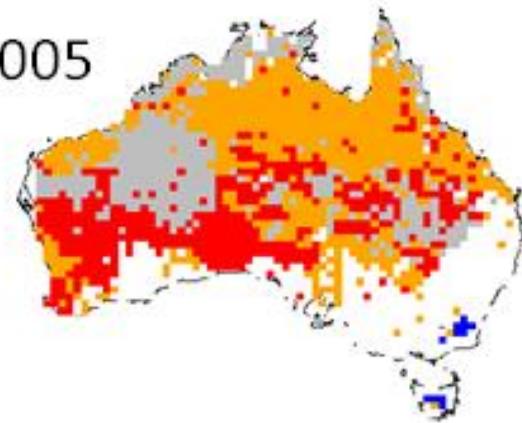


Species distribution model post-mortem



Cause of Death

2005



- █ Cold stress
- █ Heat stress
- █ Starvation
- █ Old Age

Timing of oviposition

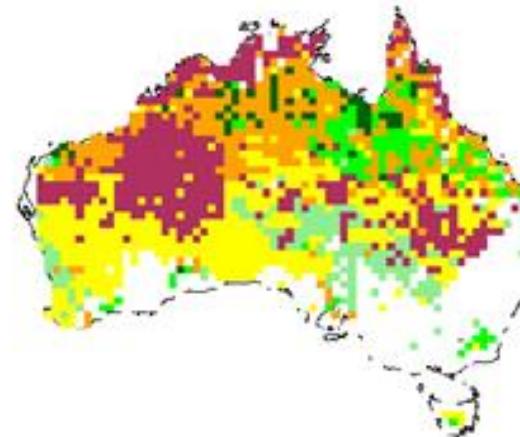


Body size
Flight at low
temperatures
Survival
(Longevity)

Development time
Growth rate
Body size
Survival
(acute heat stress,
chronic cold stress,
starvation)



Stage of Death



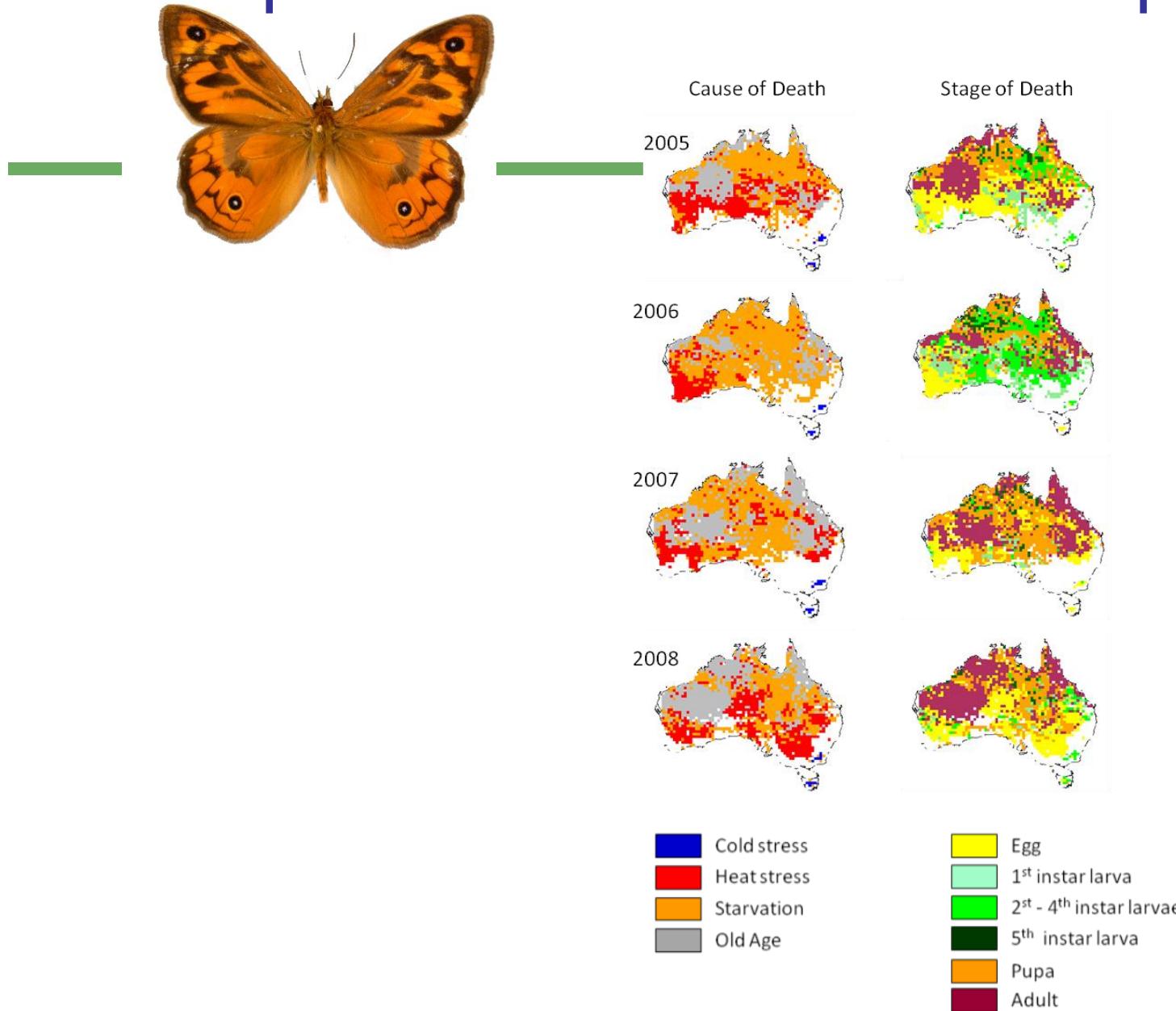
- █ Egg
- █ 1st instar larva
- █ 2nd - 4th instar larvae
- █ 5th instar larva
- █ Pupa
- █ Adult



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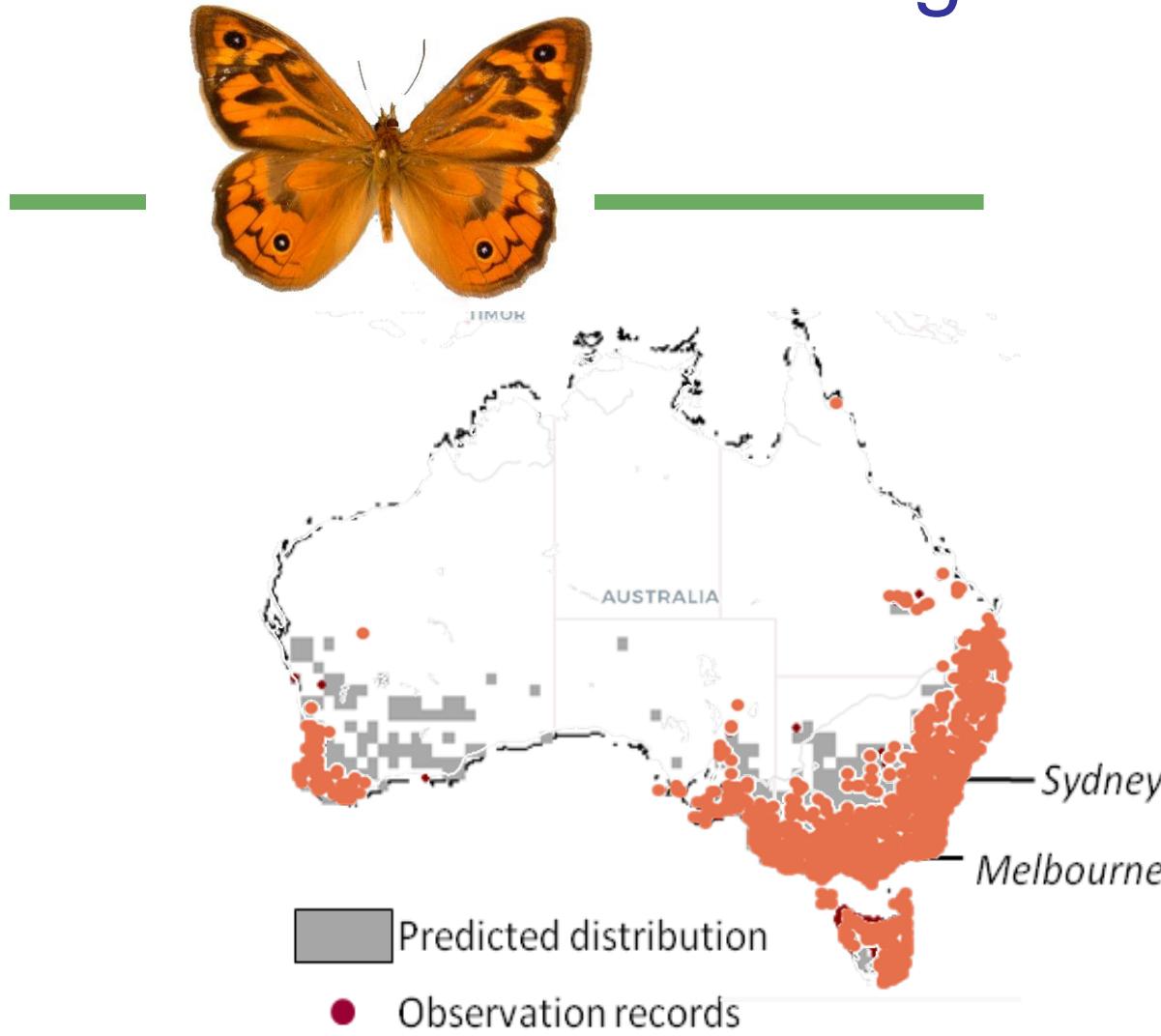
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Species distribution model post-mortem

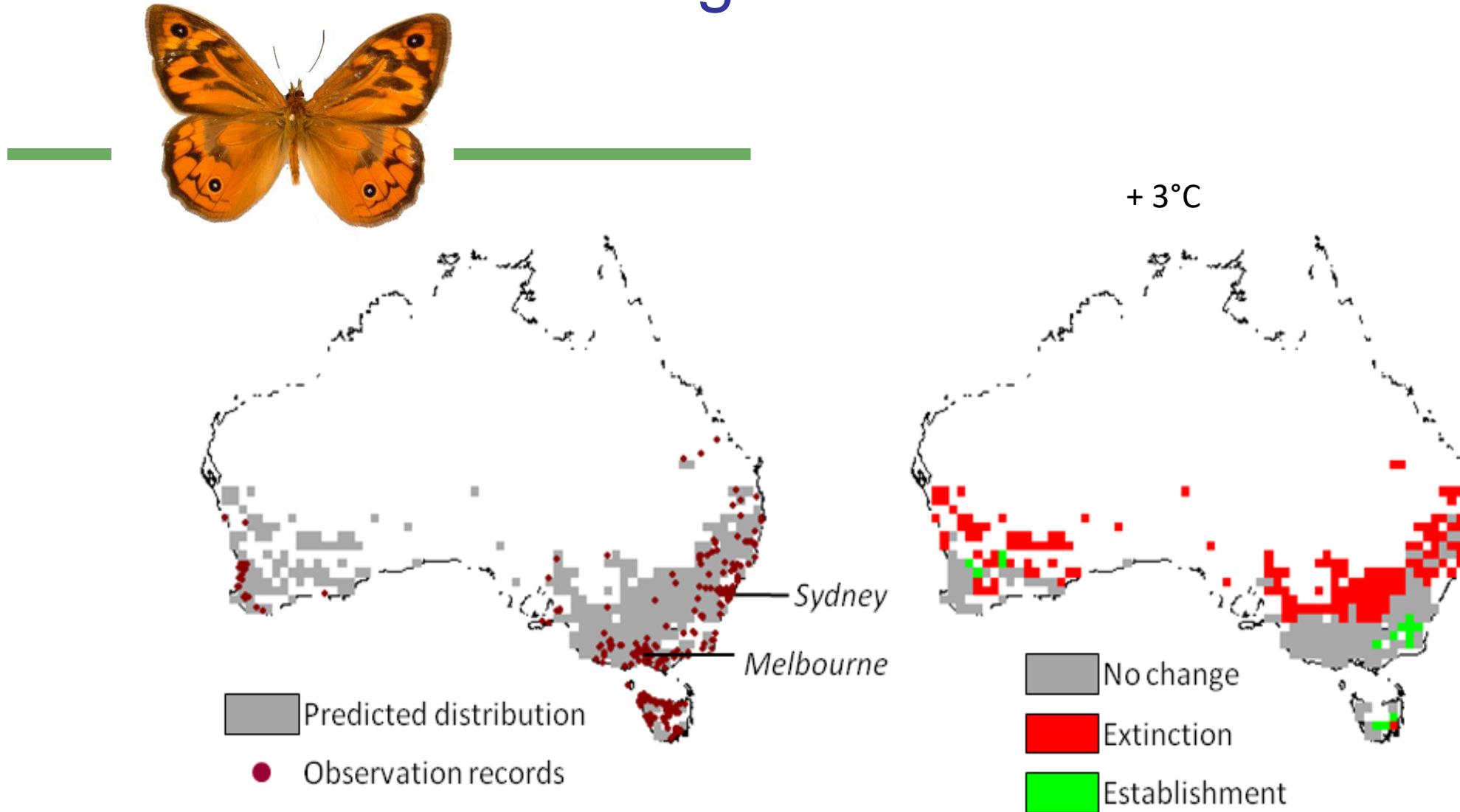


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Predicting the distribution



Predicting the distribution

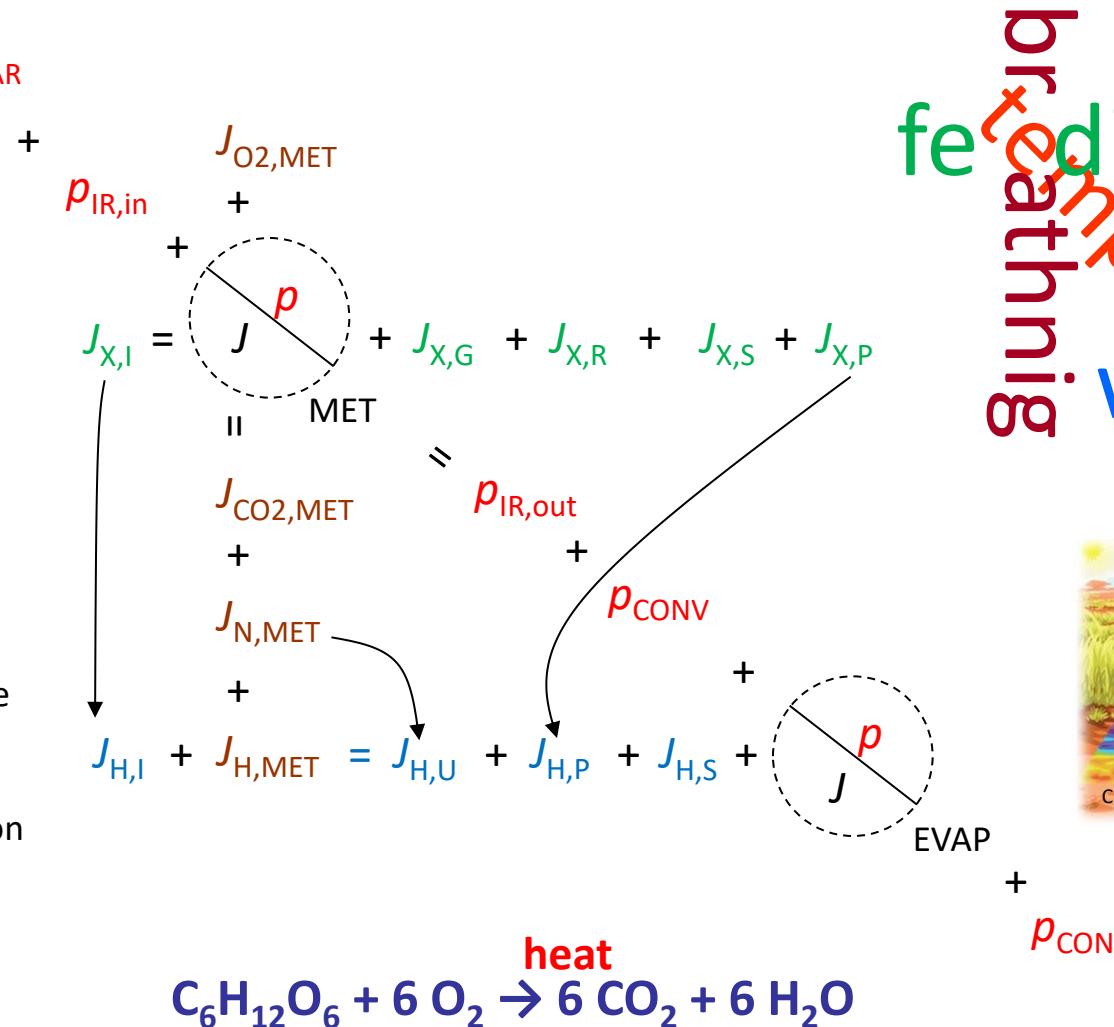


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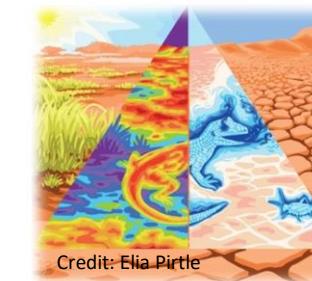


Thermodynamic basis to the niche

p = heat flux
 J = mass flux
 X = food
 H = water
 I = ingested
 P = product (faeces)
 U = urinated
 G = growth
 R = reproduction
 S = stored
 O_2 = oxygen
 CO_2 = carbon dioxide
 N = nitrogenous waste
 MET = 'metabolism'
 $EVAP$ = evaporation
 $SOLAR$ = solar radiation
 IR = infrared radiation
 $CONV$ = convection
 $COND$ = conduction



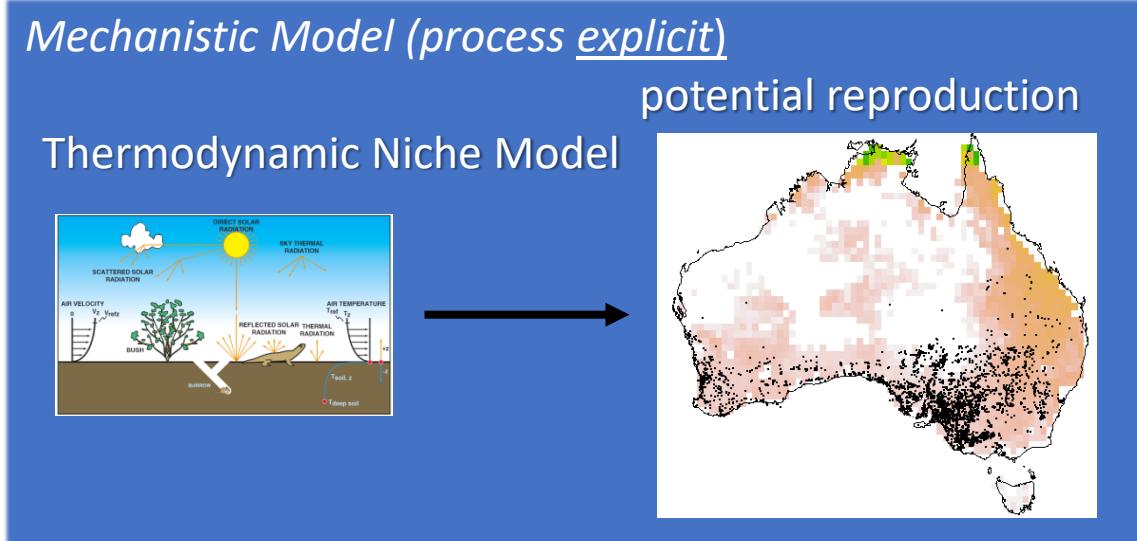
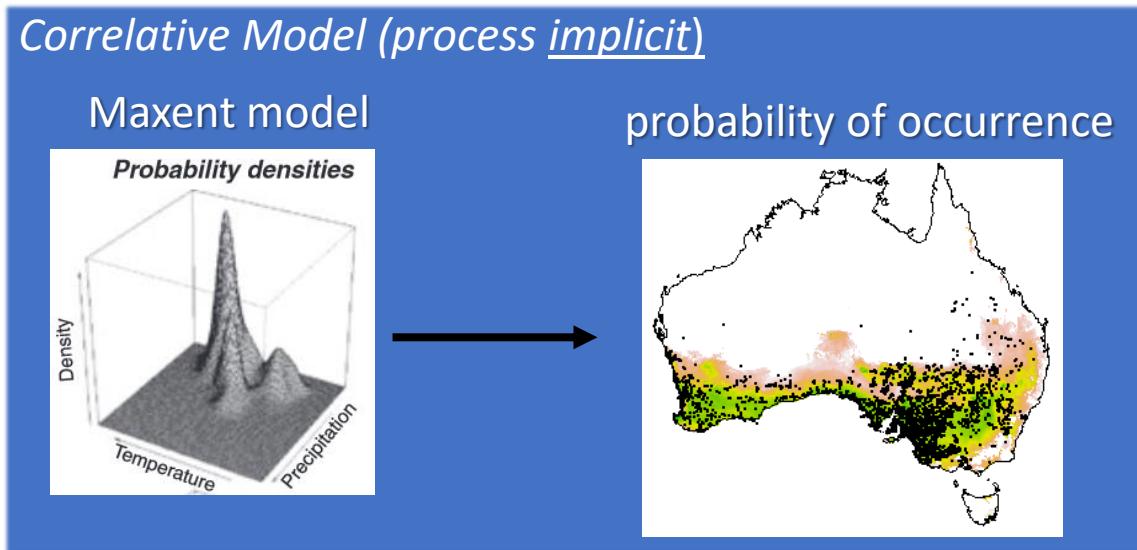
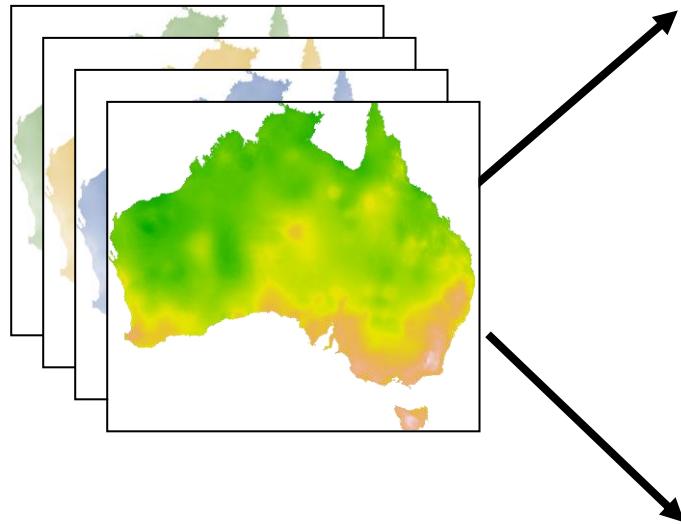
breathing
feeding
temperature
water



Credit: Elia Pirtle



Ecological Niche Modelling



Thank you for your
attention

m.kearney@unimelb.edu.au



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