

ROLE OF VECTOR PHENOTYPIC PLASTICITY IN DISEASE TRANSMISSION AS ILLUSTRATED BY THE SPREAD OF DENGUE VIRUS BY *AEDES* *ALBOPICTUS*



Dominic Brass,
Christina Cobbold,
Bethan Purse, David
Ewing, Amanda
Callaghan, Steven
White



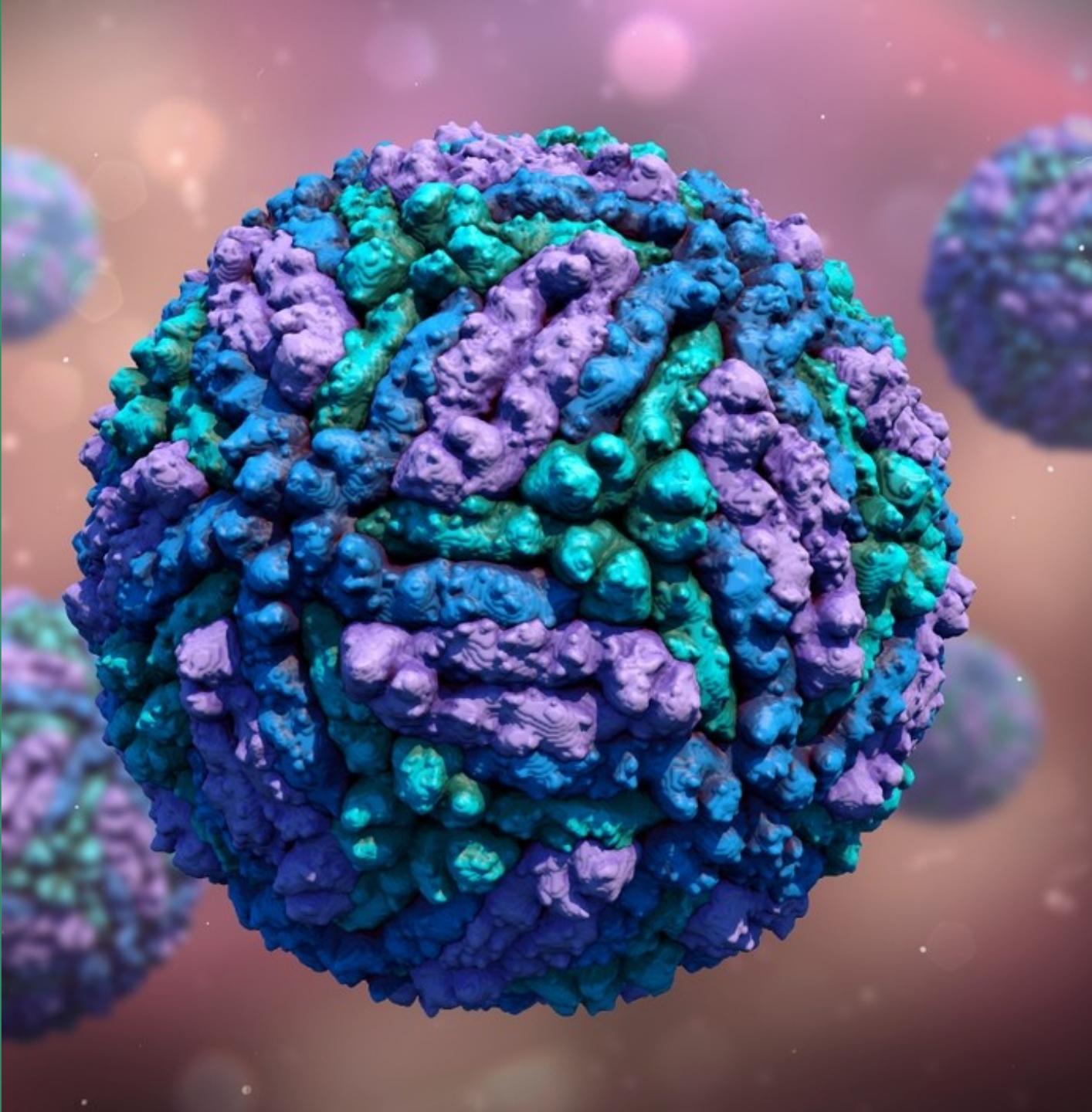
UK Centre for
Ecology & Hydrology



MODEL AIMS

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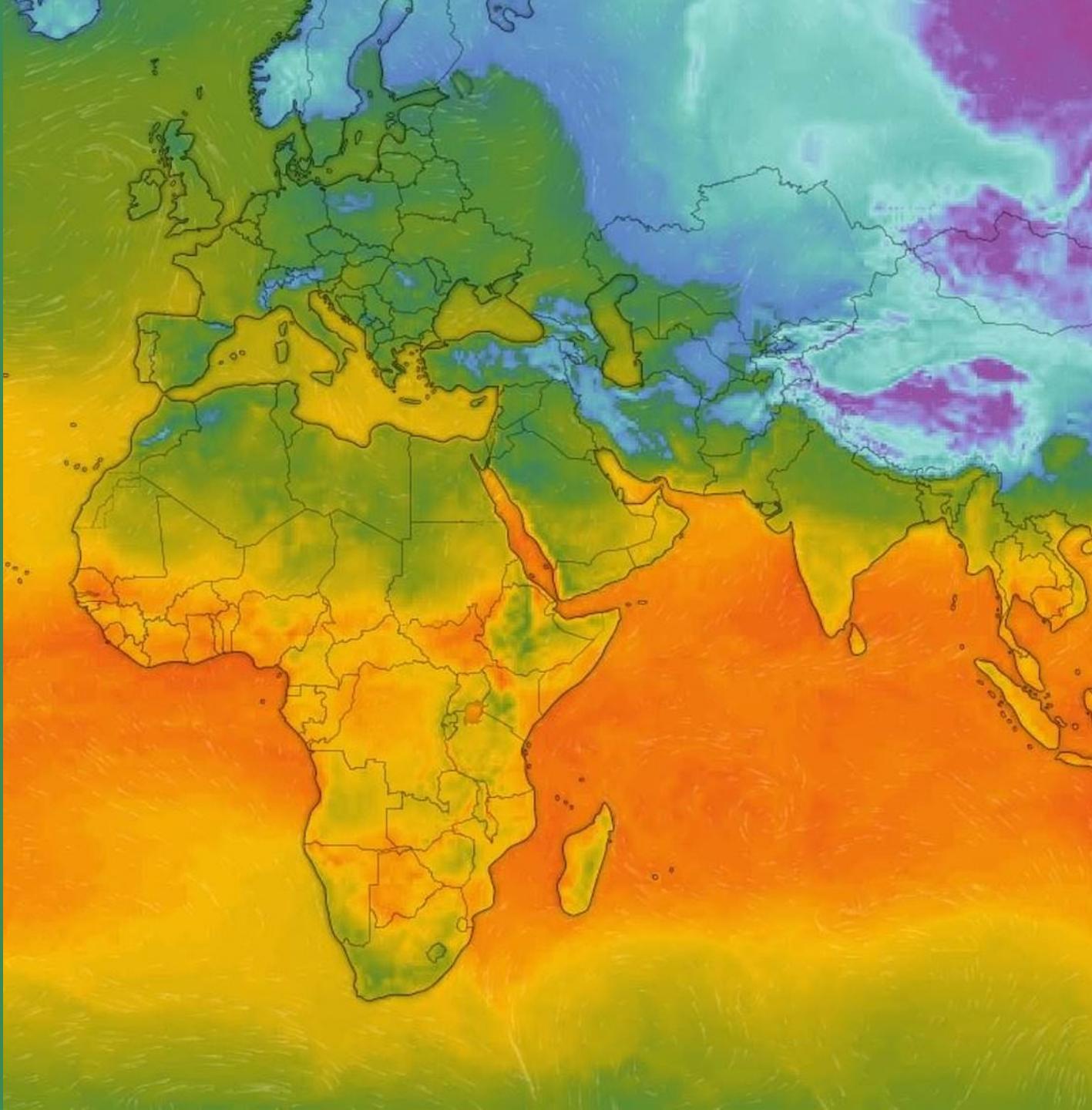
Understand patterns in
Aedes albopictus driven
dengue risk



MODEL AIMS

Understand patterns in
Aedes albopictus driven
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This requires
understanding
differences in global
vector dynamics

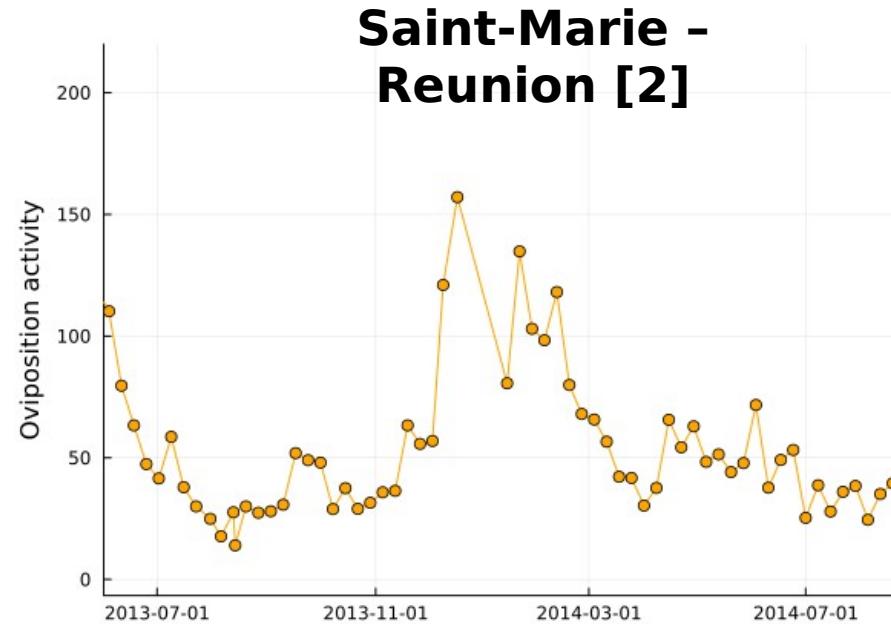


MODEL AIMS

Understand patterns in
Aedes albopictus driven
dengue risk

This requires
understanding
differences in global
vector dynamics

We need a model that
makes predictions that
generalise between
environments



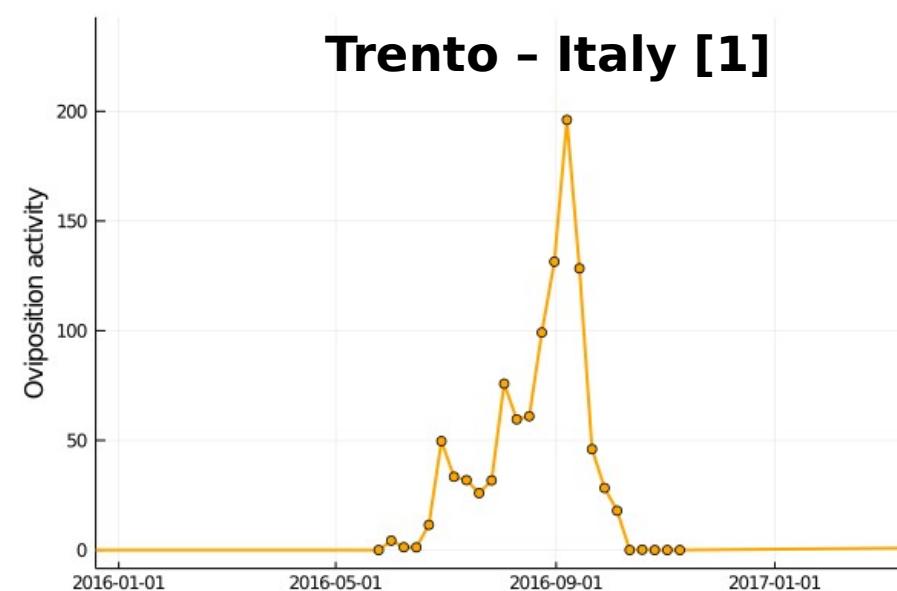
[1] Lencioni, V. et al. Multi-year dynamics of the *Aedes albopictus* occurrence in two neighbouring cities in the alps. *The European Zoological Journal* **90**, 101–112 (2023).

[2] Gouagna, L. C. et al. Strategic approach, advances, and challenges in the development and application of the SIT for area-wide control of *Aedes albopictus* mosquitoes in Reunion island. *Insects* **11**, 1–24 (2020).

THE IDEA

Accounting for density-dependence

Trento - Italy [1]



Saint-Marie - Reunion [2]



[1] Lencioni, V. et al. Multi-year dynamics of the *Aedes albopictus* occurrence in two neighbouring cities in the alps. *The European Zoological Journal* **90**, 101–112 (2023).

[2] Gouagna, L. C. et al. Strategic approach, advances, and challenges in the development and application of the SIT for area-wide control of *Aedes albopictus* mosquitoes in Reunion island. *Insects* **11**, 1–24 (2020).

THE IDEA

Accounting for density-dependence

Traits important for disease transmission exhibit delayed density-dependence

Larval conditions

Temperature Competition



Adult traits

Wing length

Fecundity Survival



THE IDEA

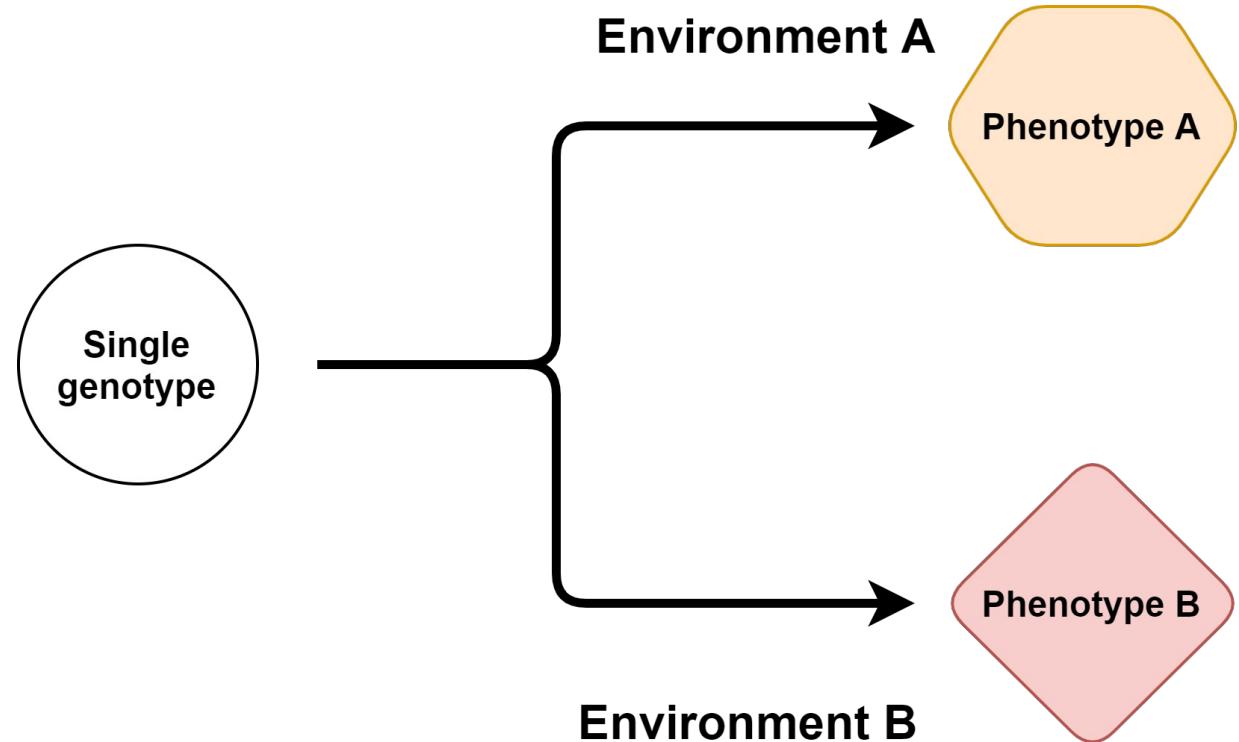
Accounting for density-dependence

Traits important for disease transmission exhibit delayed density-dependence

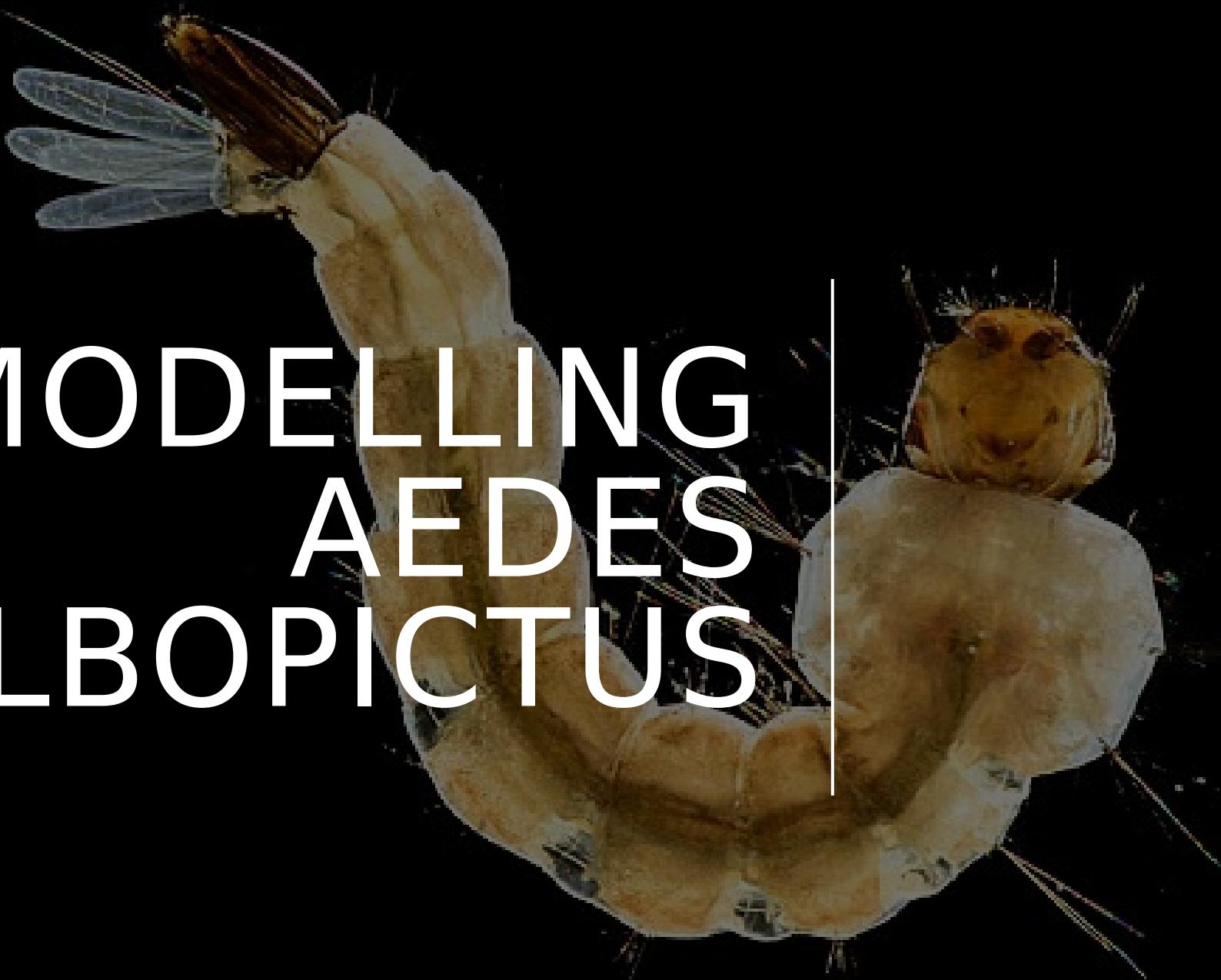
We consider the effect of developmental plasticity on disease dynamics

Definition - Phenotypic plasticity

produce multiple phenotypes when exposed to different environmental conditions



MODELLING Aedes ALBOPICTUS



MODEL FOR AEDES ALBOPICTUS

Developed a stage-phenotypically structured system of delay-differential equations

The Systematic Formulation of Population Models for Insects with Dynamically Varying Instar Duration

R. M. NISBET AND W. S. C. GURNEY

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LETTER

ECOLOGY LETTERS  WILEY

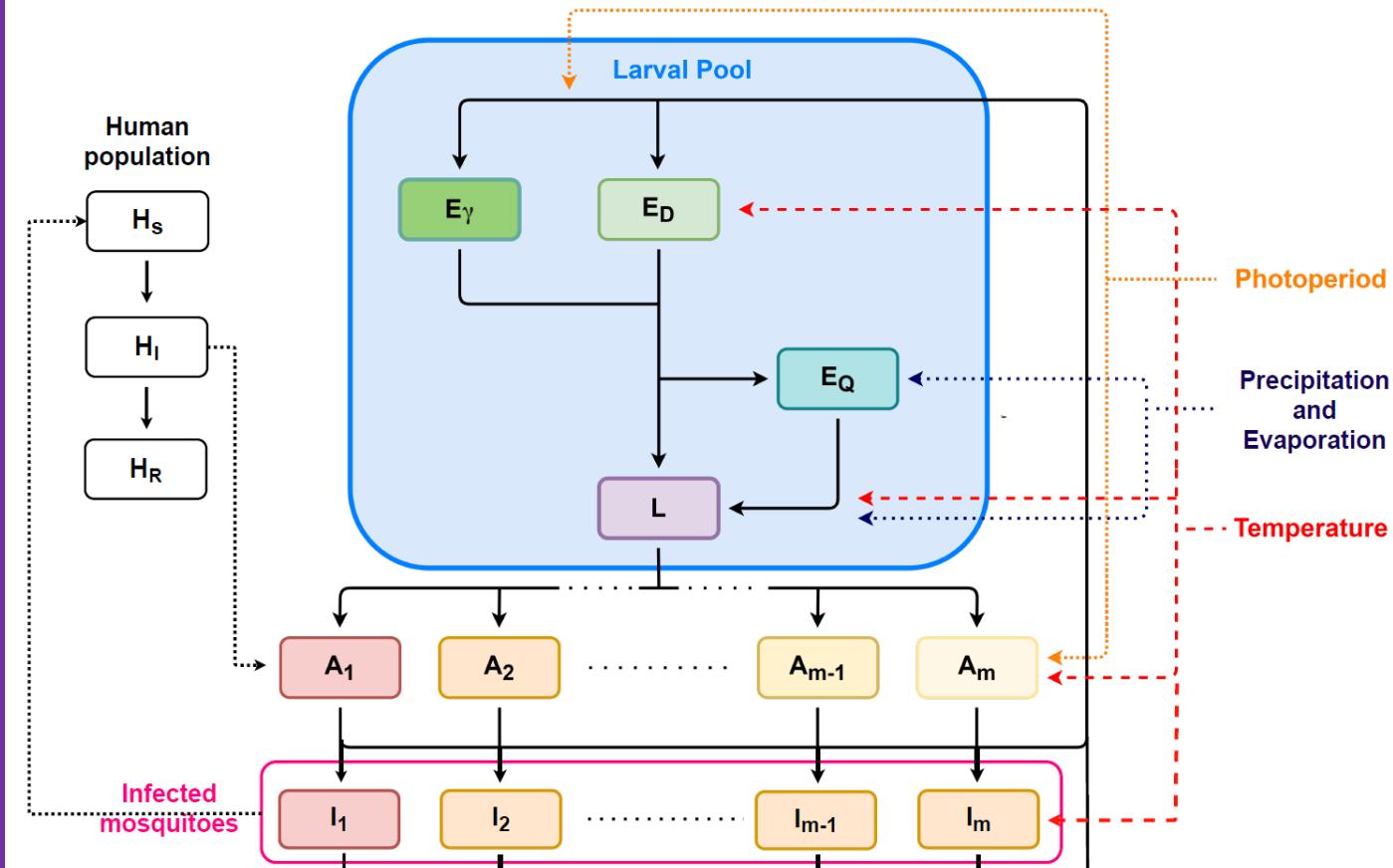
Phenotypic plasticity as a cause and consequence of population dynamics

Dominic P. Brass^{1,2}  | Christina A. Cobbold³  | David A. Ewing⁴  |
Bethan V. Purse¹  | Amanda Callaghan²  | Steven M. White¹ 

MODEL FOR AEDES ALBOPICTUS

Developed a stage-phenotypically structured system of delay-differential equations

Adult population structured by infection status and wing-length

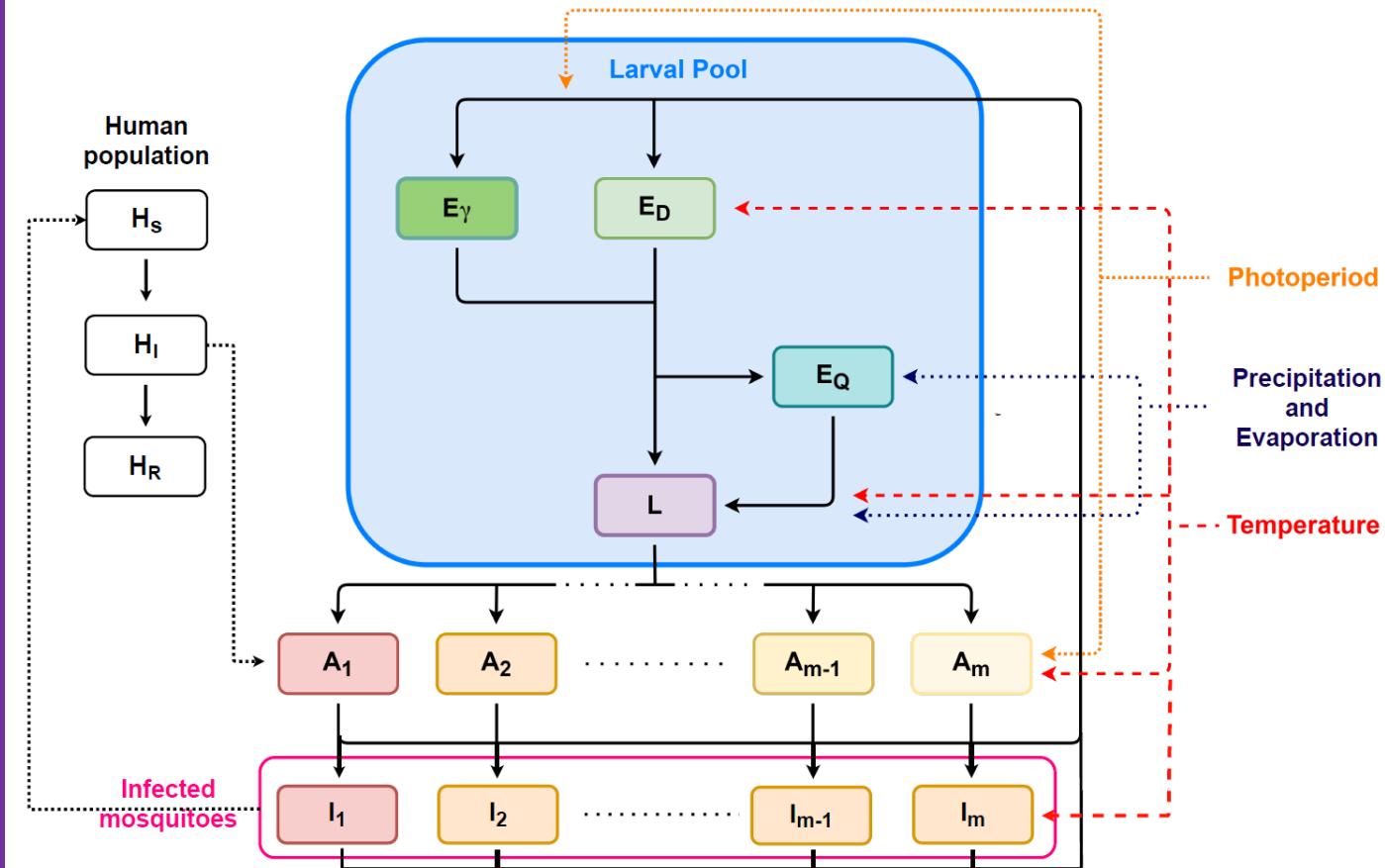


MODEL FOR AEDES ALBOPICTUS

Developed a stage-phenotypically structured system of delay-differential equations

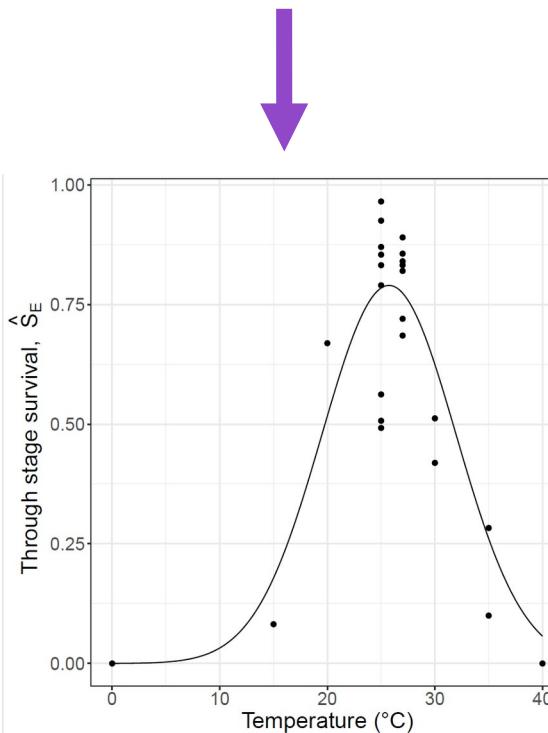
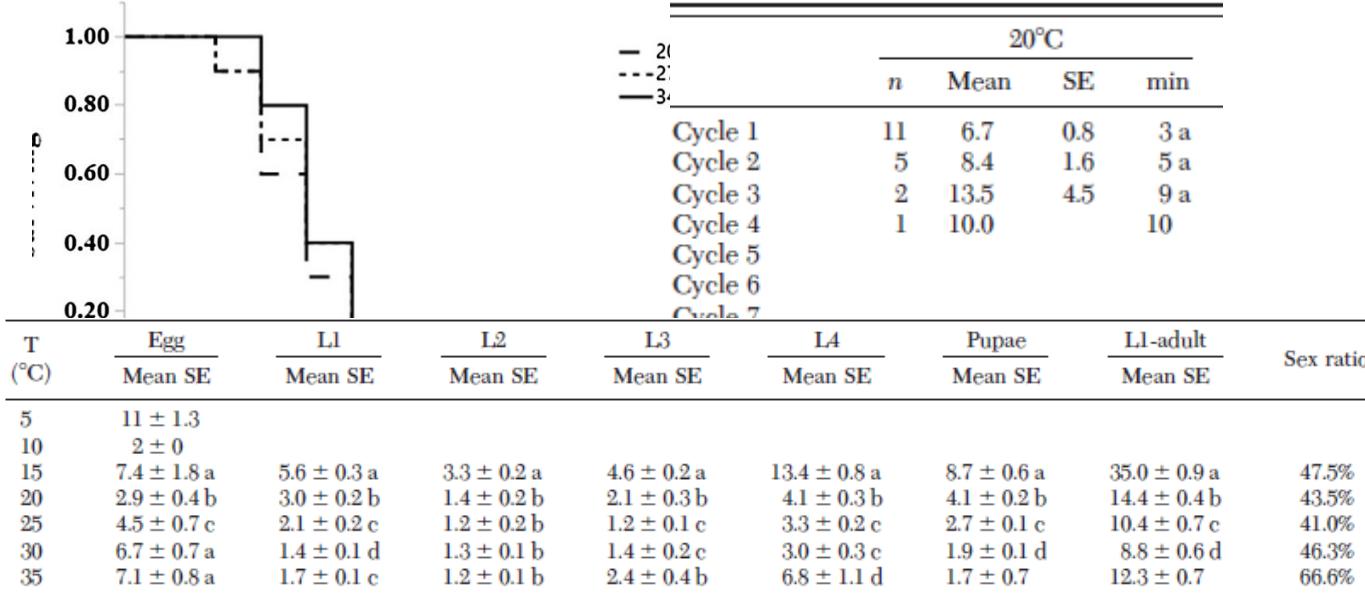
Adult population structured by infection status and wing-length

Use historic experience of larval competition to determine the wing-length of emerging adults



REACTION NORMS

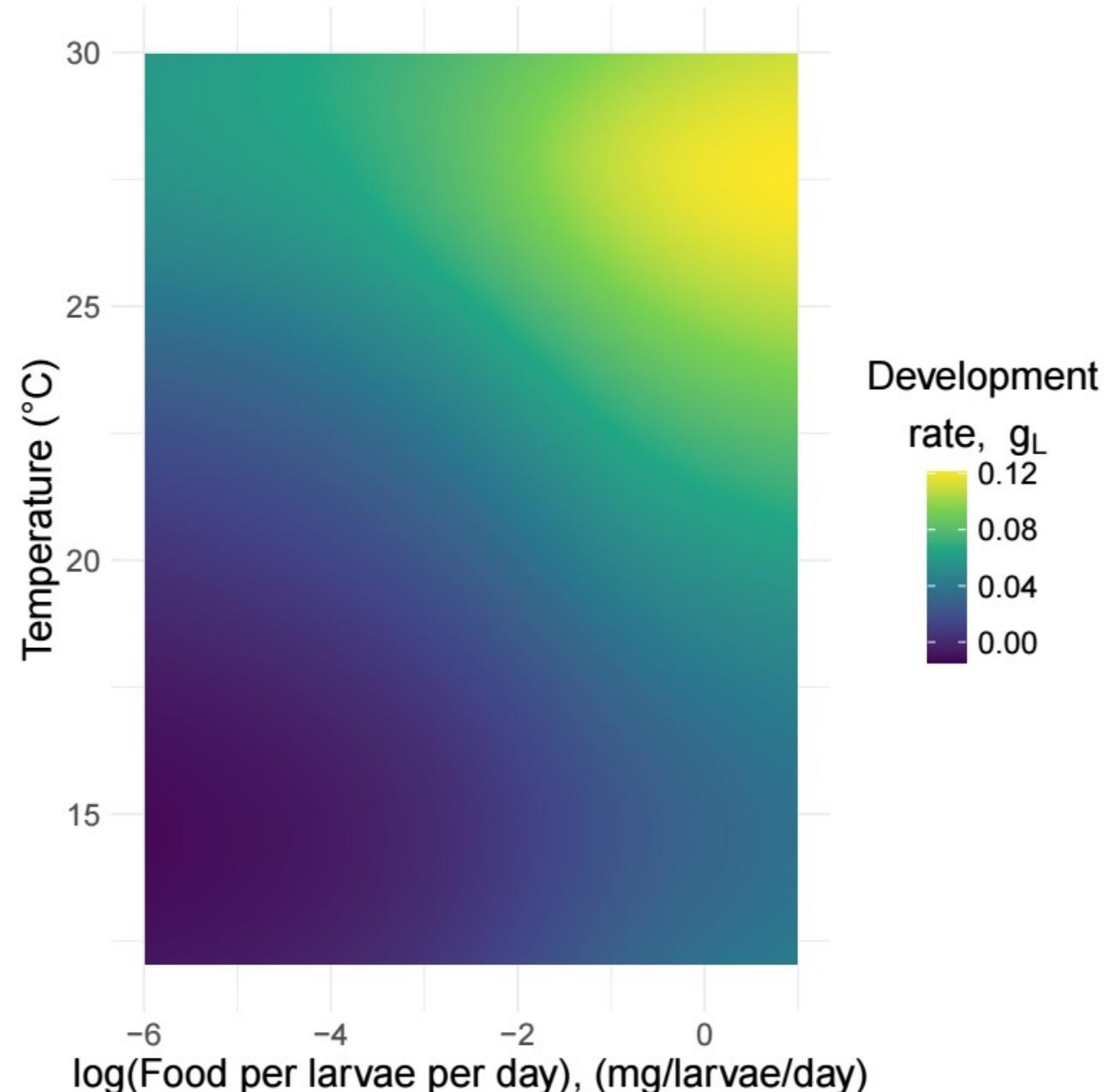
Parametrise reaction norms linking environmental drivers to trait value using laboratory data



REACTION NORMS

Parametrise reaction norms linking environmental drivers to trait value using laboratory data

Density and temperature dependent variable time delays

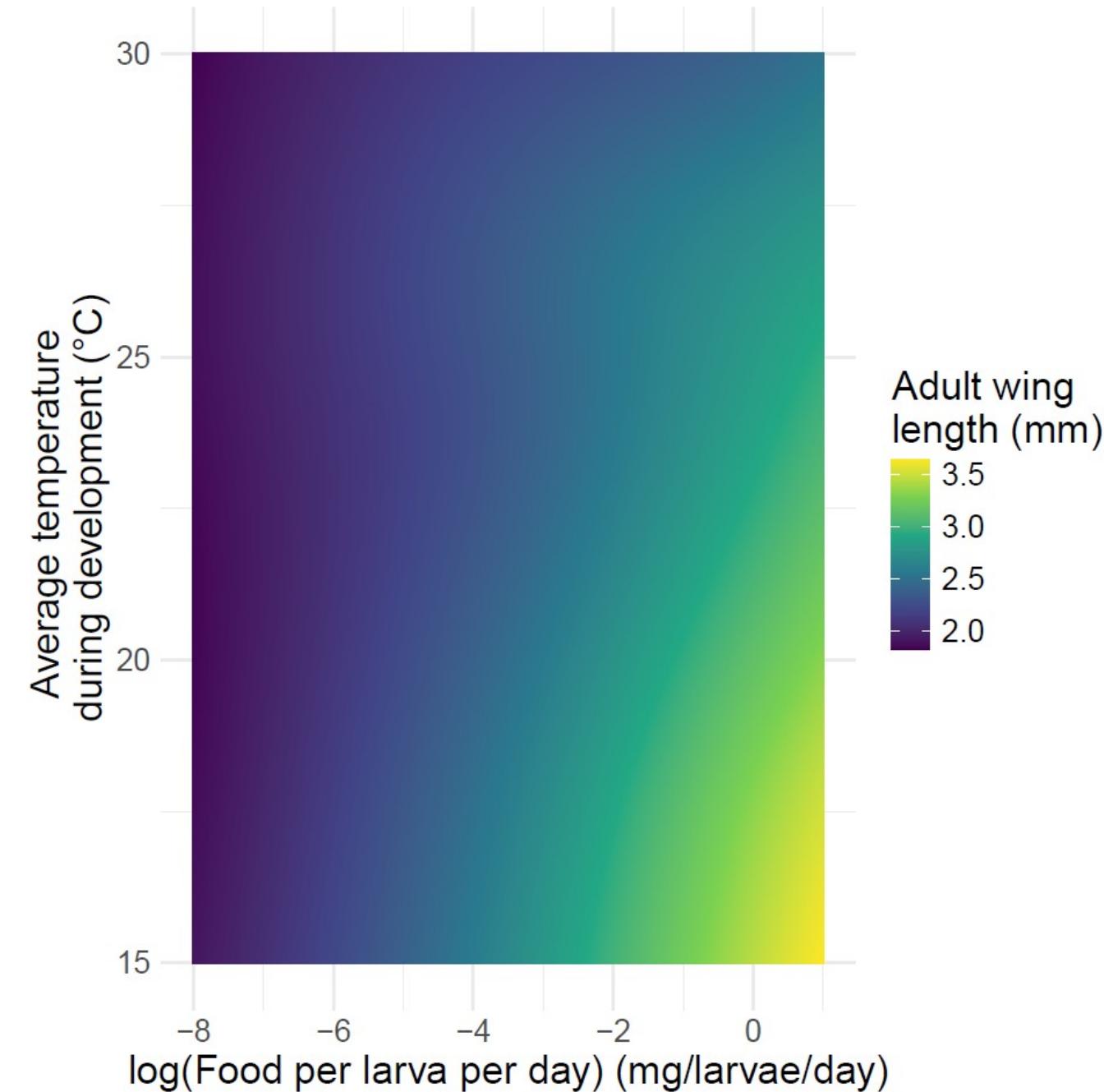


REACTION NORMS

Parametrise reaction norms linking environmental drivers to trait value using laboratory data

Density and temperature dependent variable time delays

Relationship between average larval temperature and average food per larvae per day and adult wing length

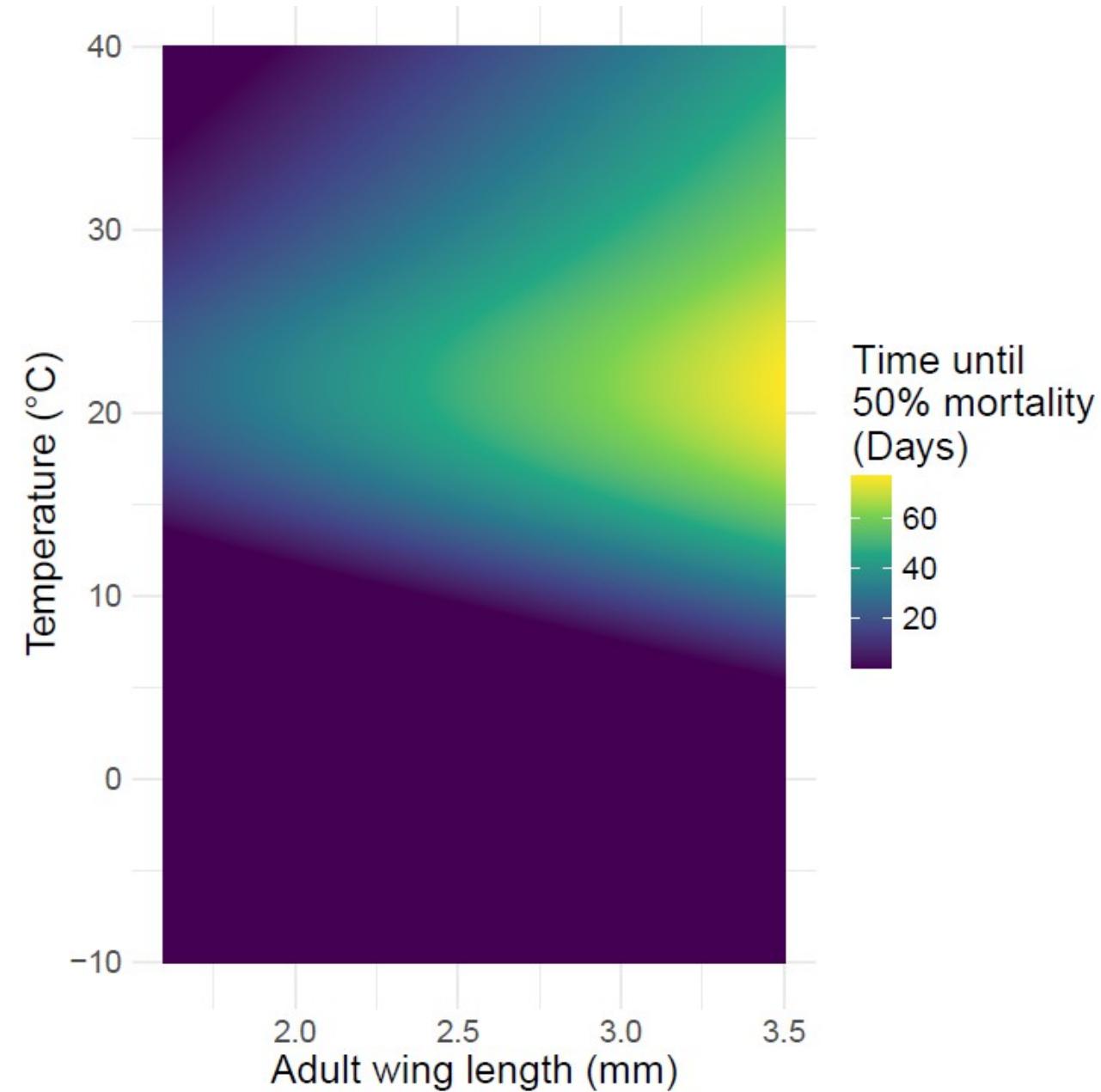


REACTION NORMS

Parametrise reaction norms linking environmental drivers to trait value using laboratory data

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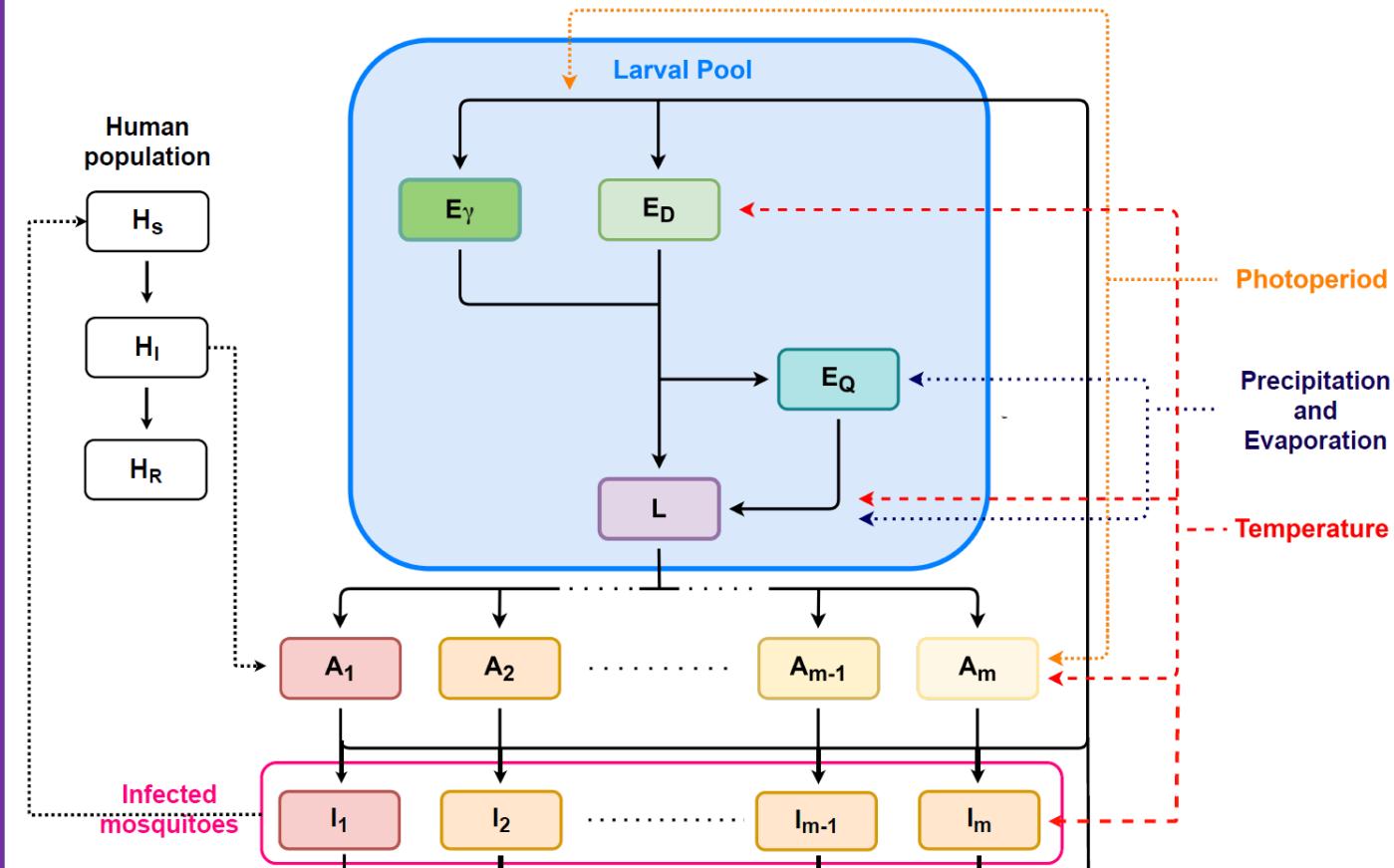
MODEL FOR AEDES ALBOPICTUS

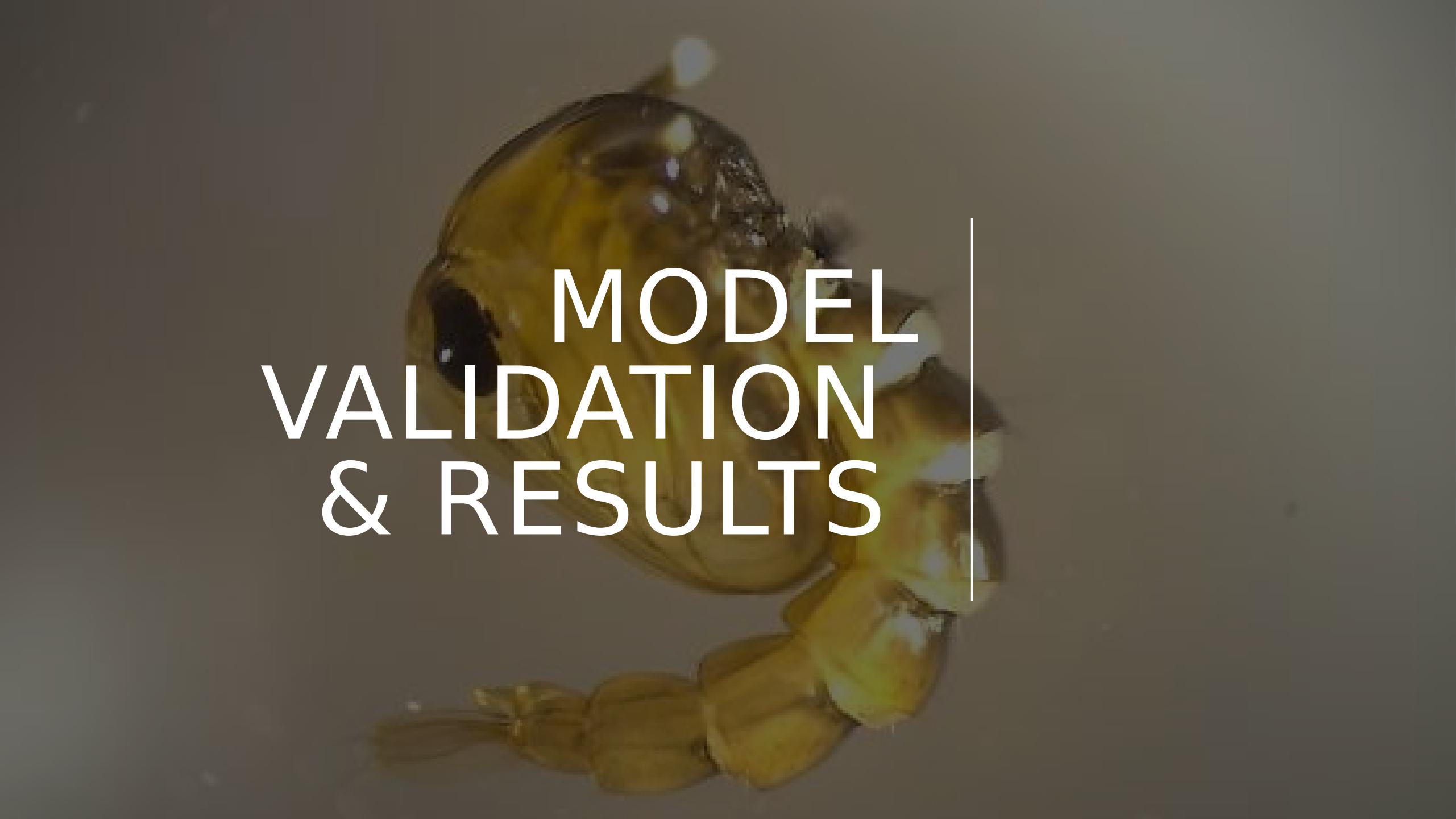
Stage-phenotypically
structured delay-
differential equations

Input environmental
variables

Output population &
disease dynamics

No backfitting





MODEL VALIDATION & RESULTS

CARRIERI ET
AL. (2011)

Rimini, Italy



CARRIERI ET AL. (2011)

Rimini, Italy

Temperate climate



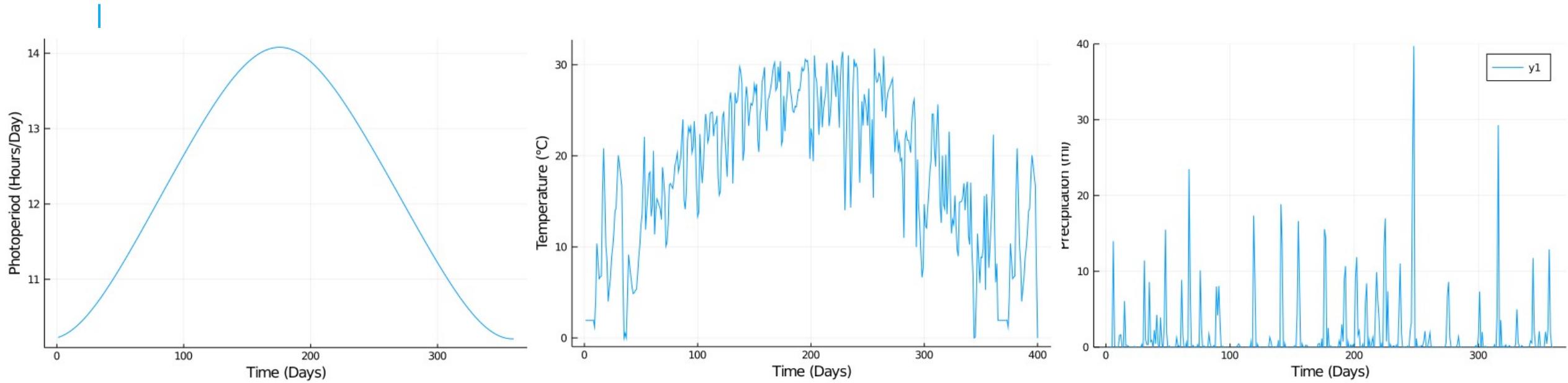
CARRIERI ET AL. (2011)

Rimini, Italy

Temperate climate

Oviposition activity
monitored in 2008





Photoperio
d

Temperatur
e

Precipitatio
n

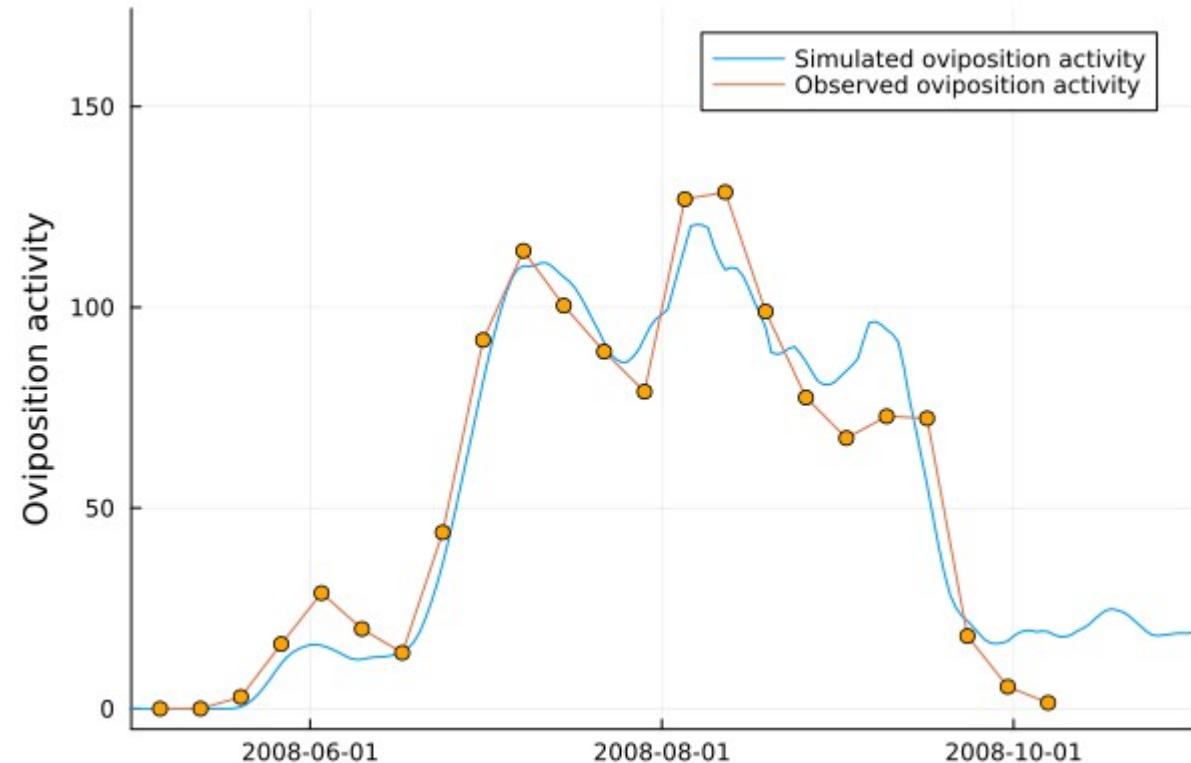
ENVIRONMENTAL CUES

CARRIERI ET AL. (2011)

Rimini, Italy

Temperate climate

Oviposition activity
monitored in 2008

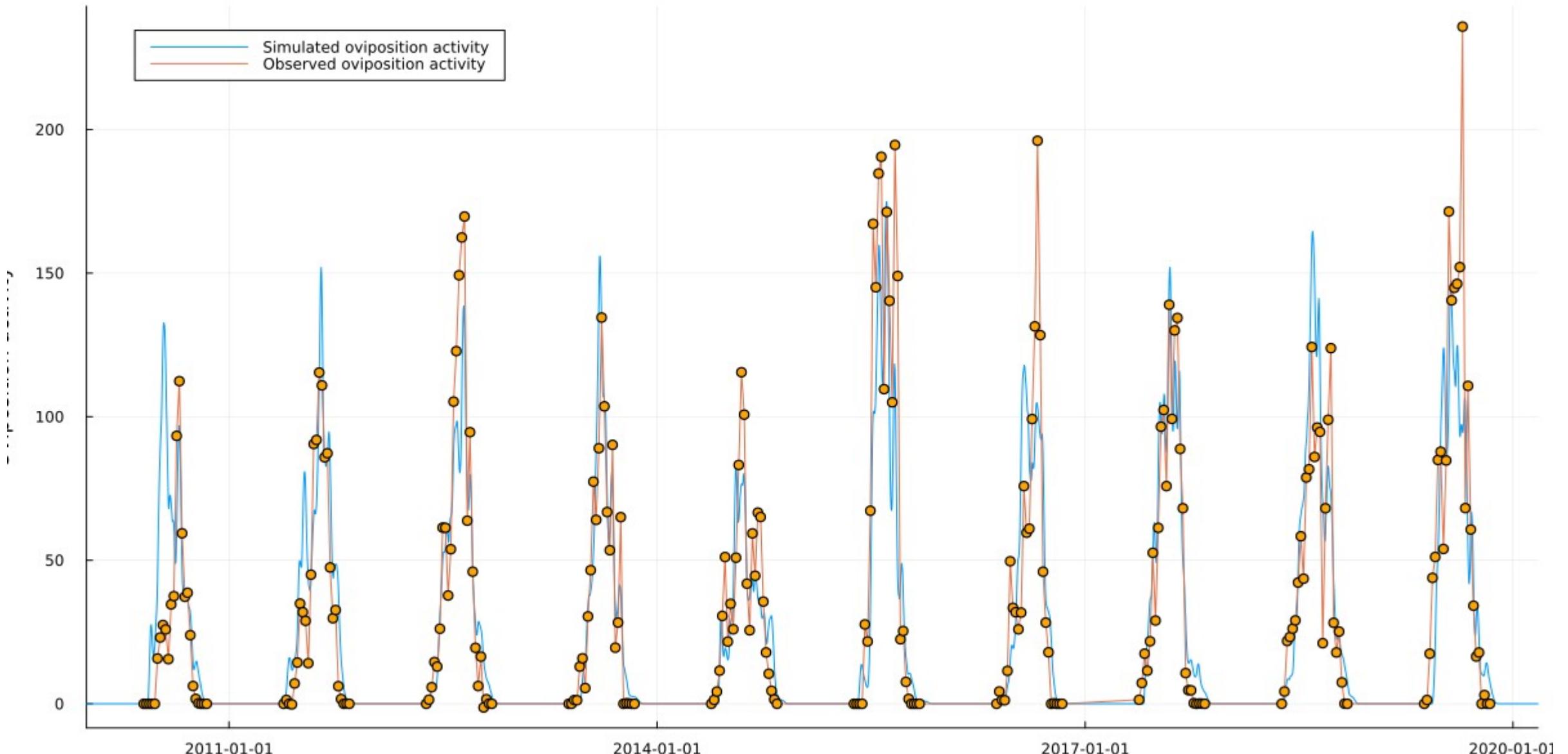


Carrieri, M., Angelini, P., Venturelli, C., Maccagnani, B. & Bellini, R. *Aedes albopictus* (Diptera: Culicidae) Population size survey in the 2007 Chikungunya outbreak area in Italy. II: Estimating epidemic thresholds. *Journal of Medical Entomology* (2012).

TRENTO, ITALY

Oviposition activity
monitored over 10
years



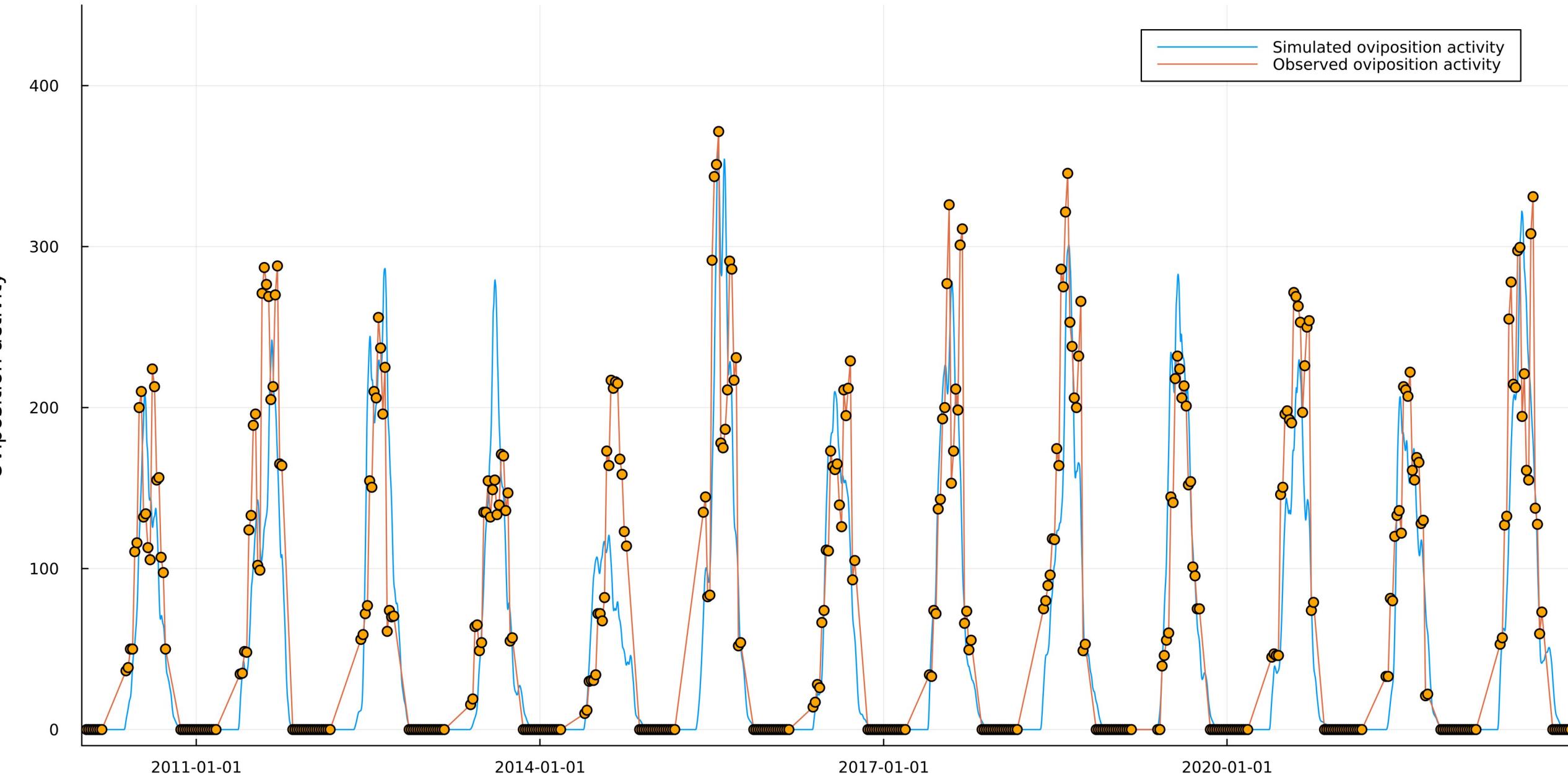


Lencioni, V. et al. Multi-year dynamics of the *Aedes albopictus* occurrence in two neighbouring cities in the alps. *The European Zoological Journal* **90**, 101–112 (2023).

BOLOGNA, ITALY

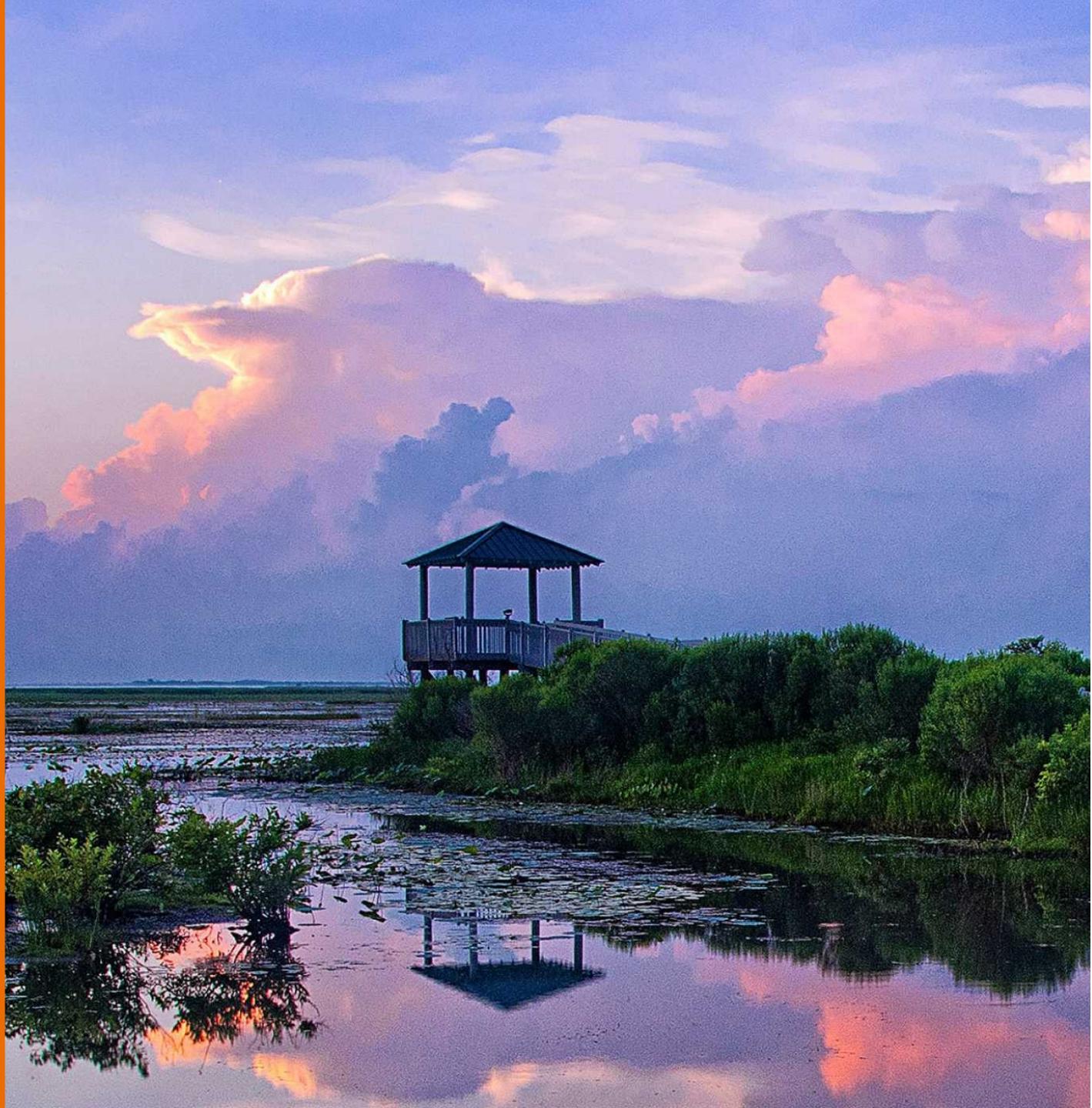
Oviposition activity
monitored over 10
years (taken from
VectAbundance)





WILLIS AND NASCI (1994)

Lake Charles,
Louisiana



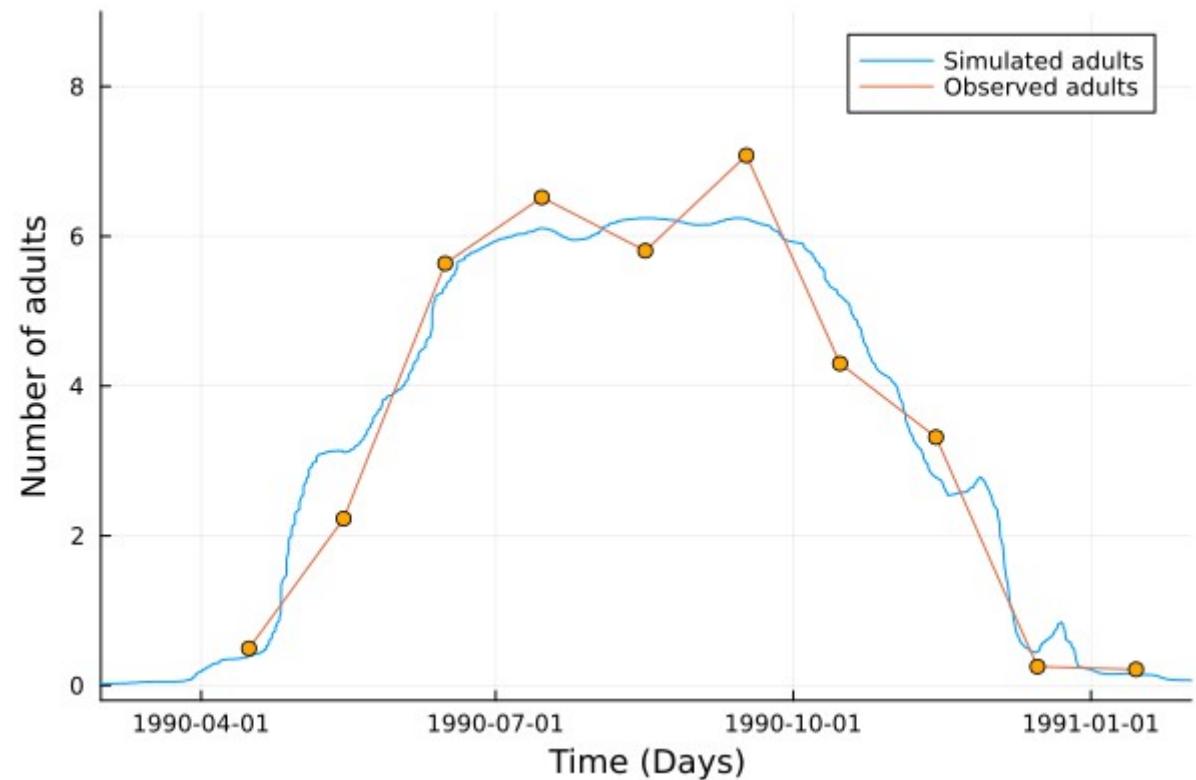
WILLIS AND NASCI (1994)

Lake Charles,
Louisiana
Subtropical climate



WILLIS AND NASCI (1994)

Lake Charles,
Louisiana
Subtropical climate
Adults trapped



Willis, F. S. & Nasci, R. S. *Aedes albopictus* (Diptera: Culicidae) population density and structure in southwest Louisiana. *Journal of Medical Entomology* **31**, 594–599 (1994).

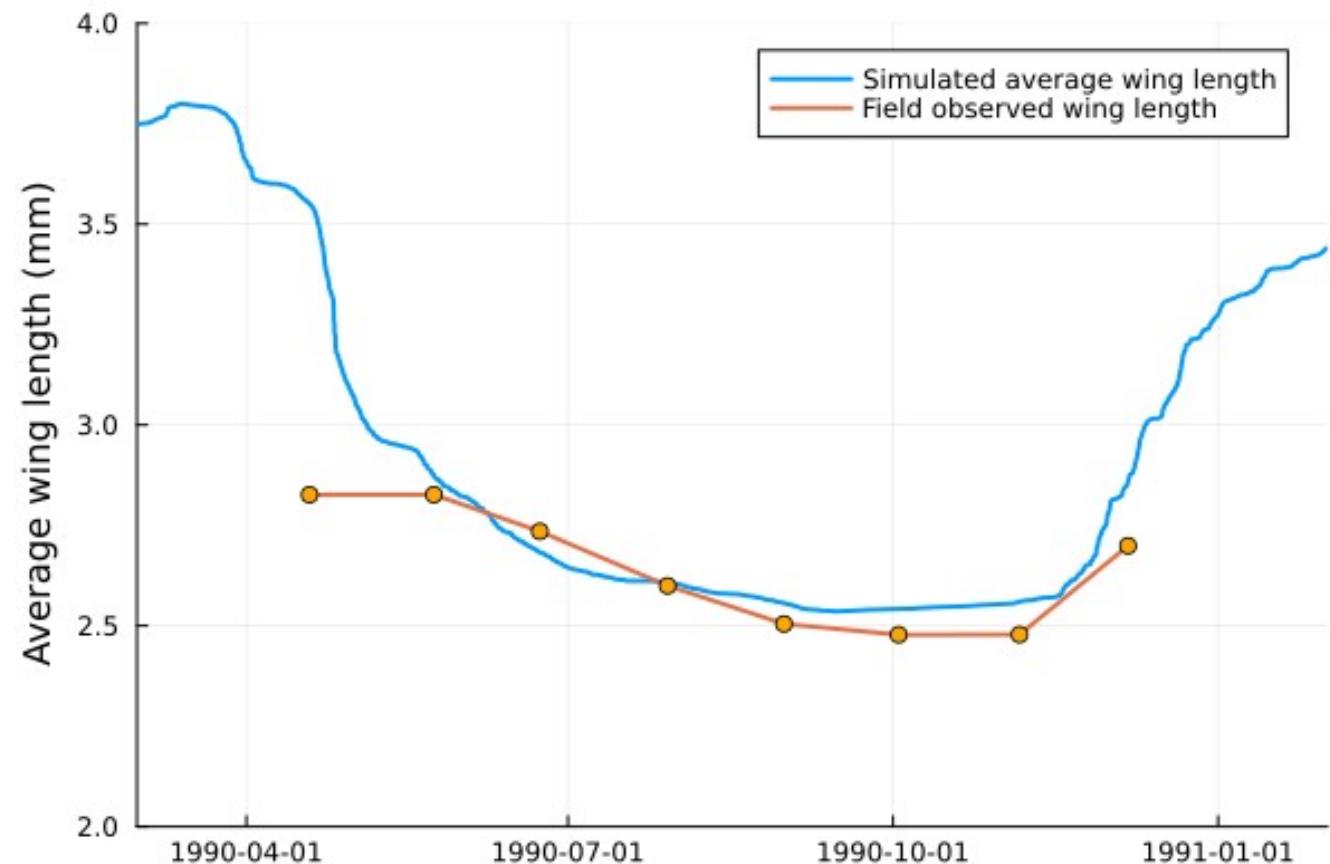
WILLIS AND NASCI (1994)

Lake Charles,
Louisiana

Subtropical climate

Adults trapped

Average wing-length of
adults measured



Willis, F. S. & Nasci, R. S. *Aedes albopictus* (Diptera: Culicidae) population density and structure in southwest Louisiana. *Journal of Medical Entomology* **31**, 594–599 (1994).

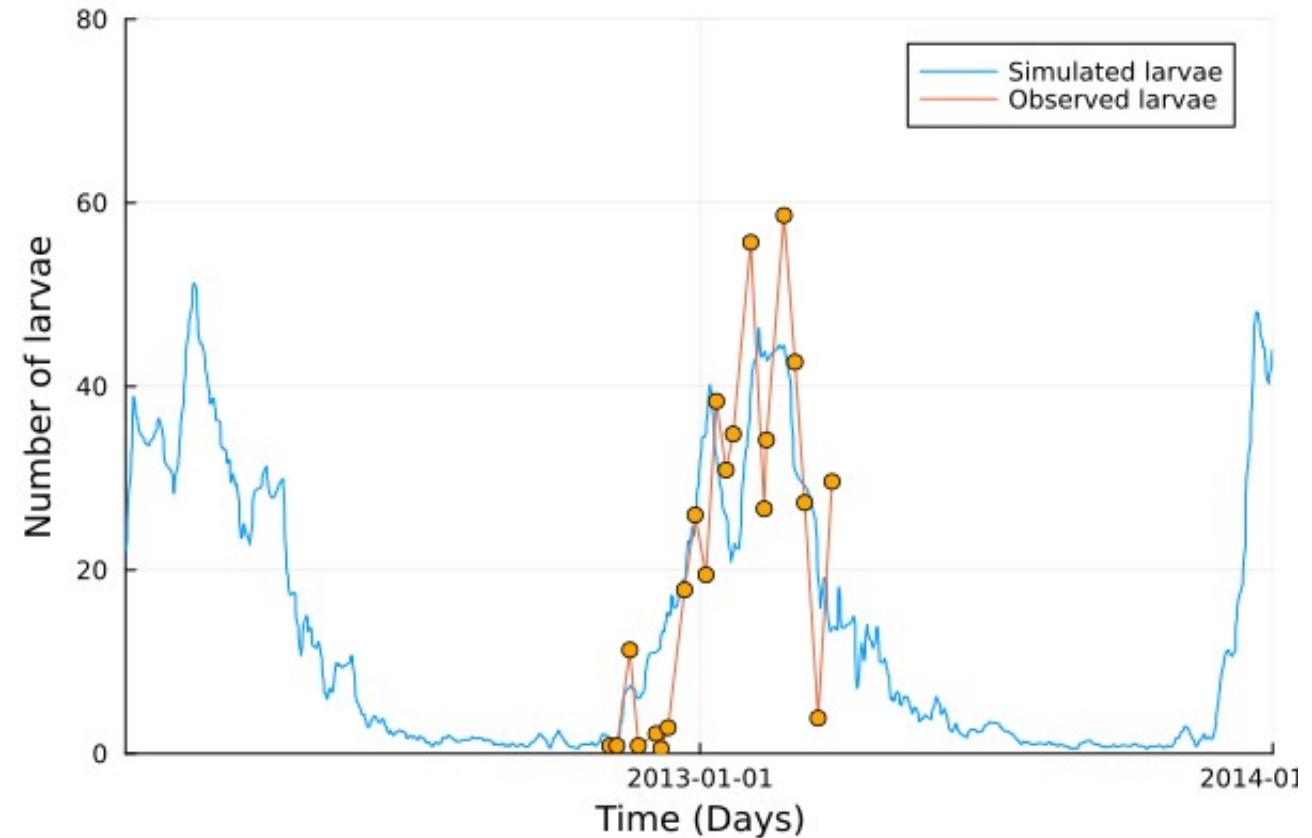
GOUGNA ET AL. (2020)

Saint Paul, Reunion
Tropical climate
Larvae sampled



GOUGNA ET AL. (2020)

Saint Paul, Reunion
Tropical climate
Larvae sampled



Gouagna, L. C. et al. Strategic approach, advances, and challenges in the development and application of the SIT for area-wide control of *Aedes albopictus* mosquitoes in Reunion island. *Insects* **11**, 1–24 (2020).

Model prediction

Field observation

Oviposition activity

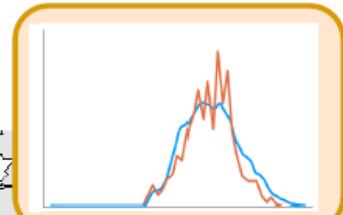
Number of larvae

Number of adults

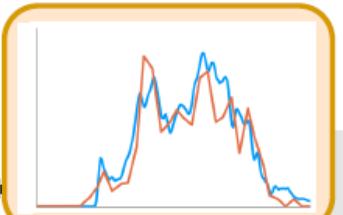
Average wing length

Location of field data

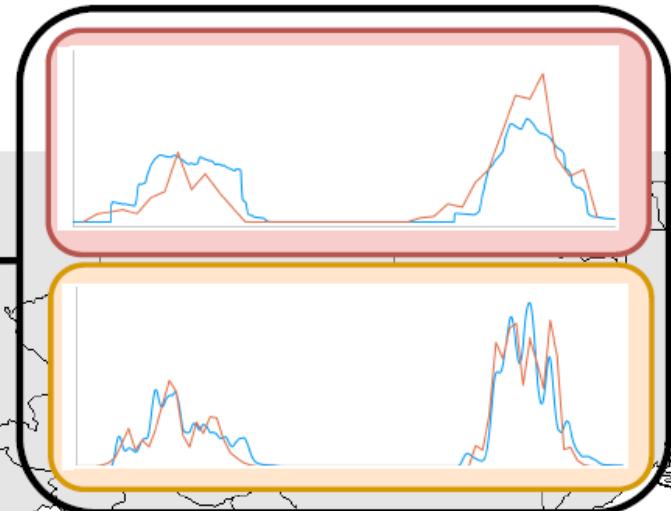
Catalonia [1]
(Average from
2004- 2014)



Cagnes-sur-Mer [2]
(2011)



Trento [3,4]
(2014-2015)



[1] Collantes, F. et al. Review of ten-years presence of *Aedes albopictus* in Spain 2004-2014: known distribution and public health concerns. *Parasites and Vectors* **8** (2015).

[2] Lacour, G., Chanaud, L., L'Ambert, G. & Hance, T. Seasonal synchronization of diapause phases in *Aedes albopictus* (Diptera: Culicidae). *PLoS ONE* **10**, 1-16 (2015).

[3] Lencioni, V. et al. Multi-year dynamics of the *Aedes albopictus* occurrence in two neighbouring cities in the alps. *The European Zoological Journal* **90**, 101-112 (2023).

[4] Marini, G. et al. The effect of interspecific competition on the temporal dynamics of *Aedes albopictus* and *Culex pipiens*. *Parasites and Vectors* (2017).

[5] Carrieri, M., Angelini, P., Venturelli, C., Maccagnani, B. & Bellini, R. *Aedes albopictus* (Diptera: Culicidae) Population size survey in the 2007 Chikungunya outbreak area in Italy. II: Estimating epidemic thresholds. *Journal of Medical Entomology* (2012).

[6] Žitko, T. & Merdić, E. Seasonal and spatial oviposition activity of *Aedes albopictus* (Diptera: Culicidae) in Adriatic Croatia. *Journal of Medical Entomology* **51**, 760-768 (2014).

[7] Pajovic, I., Petrić, D., Bellini, R., Dragićević, S. & Pajović, L. *Stegomyia albopicta* skuse, 1894 (Diptera: Culicidae) on Luštica peninsula 2011-2012 (Montenegro). *Archives of Biological Sciences* **65**, 829-838 (2013).

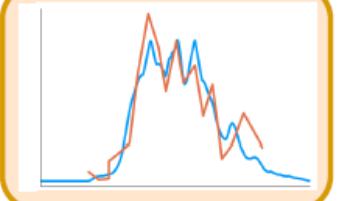
Rimini (2008) [5]



Split (2009-2010) [6]



Budva (2012) [7]



Model prediction

Field observation

Oviposition activity

Number of larvae

Number of adults

Average wing length

Location of field data

[8] Álvarez Jarreta, J. et al. Veupathdb: the eukaryotic pathogen, vector and host bioinformatics resource center in 2023. *Nucleic Acids Research* **52** (2023).

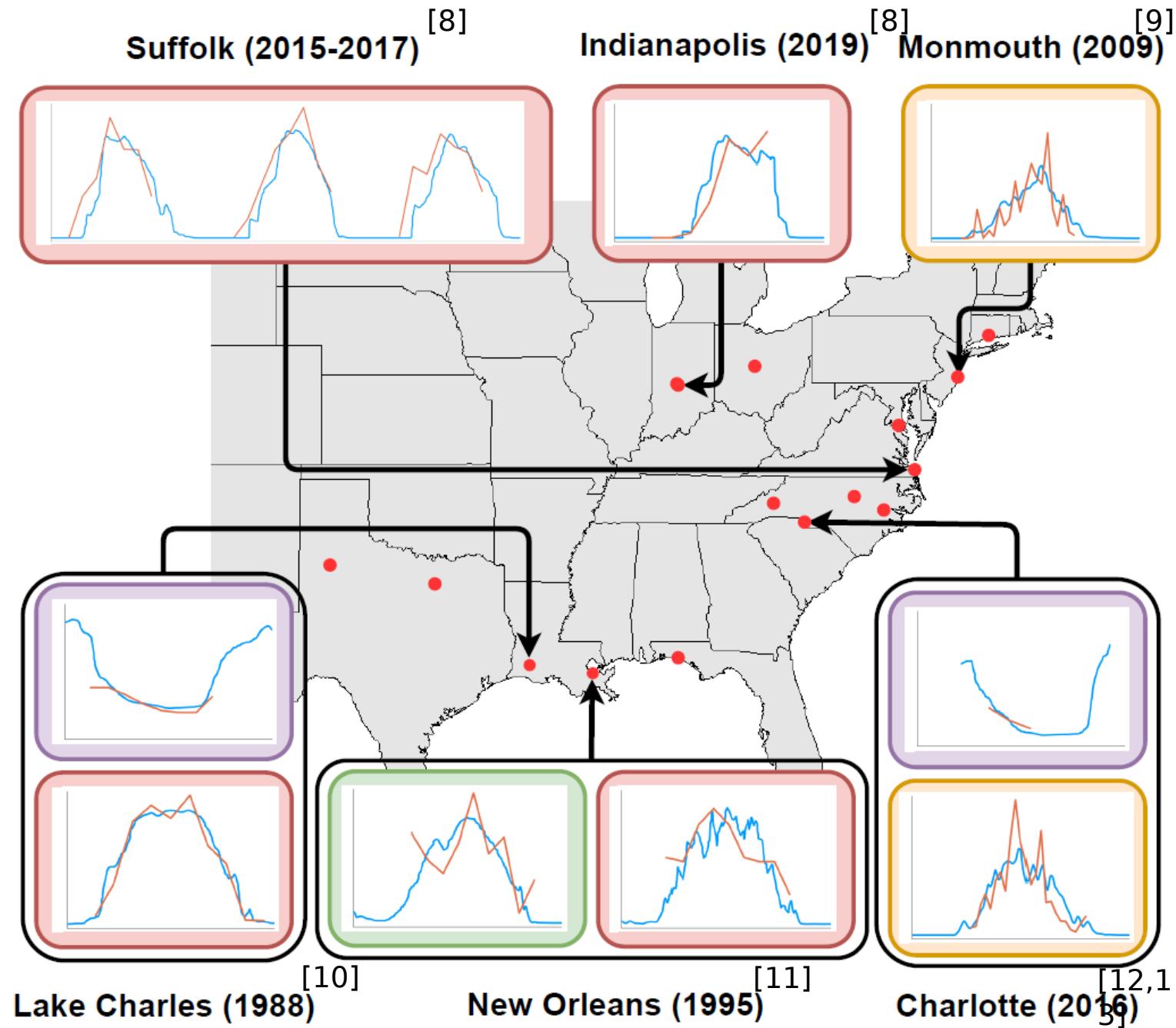
[9] Fonseca, D. M. et al. Area-wide management of *Aedes albopictus*. Part 2: Gauging the efficacy of traditional integrated pest control measures against urban container mosquitoes. *Pest Management Science* **69**, 1351–1361 (2013).

[10] Willis, F. S. & Nasci, R. S. *Aedes albopictus* (Diptera: Culicidae) population density and structure in southwest Louisiana. *Journal of Medical Entomology* **31**, 594–599 (1994).

[11] Comiskey, N. M., Lowrie, R. C. & Wesson, D. M. Role of habitat components on the dynamics of *Aedes albopictus* (Diptera: Culicidae) from New Orleans. *Journal of Medical Entomology* **36**, 313–320 (1999).

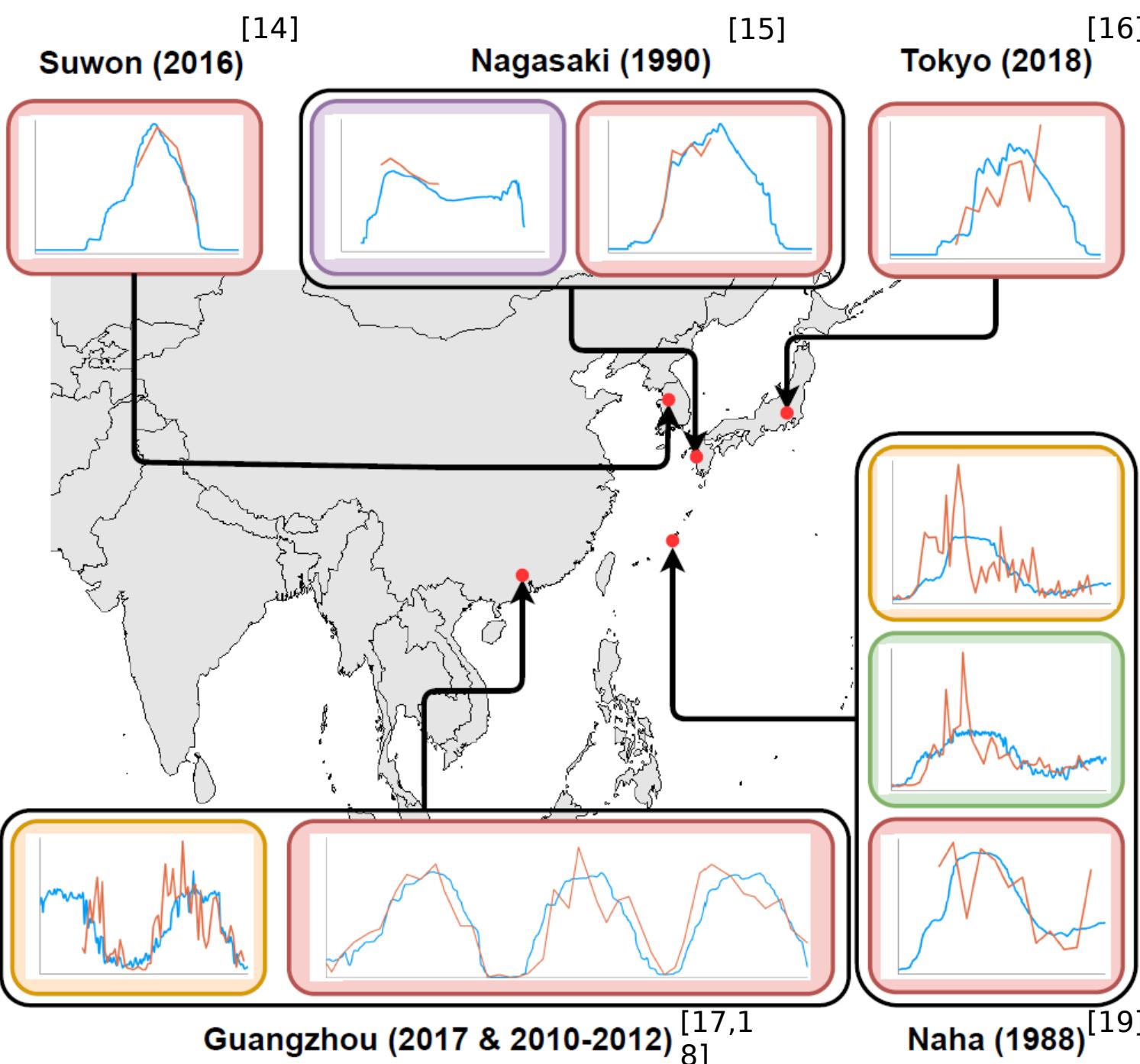
[12] Reed, E. M. X. et al. A statewide survey of container *Aedes* mosquitoes (Diptera: Culicidae) in North Carolina, 2016: A multiagency surveillance response to Zika using ovitraps. *Journal of Medical Entomology* **56**, 483–490 (2019).

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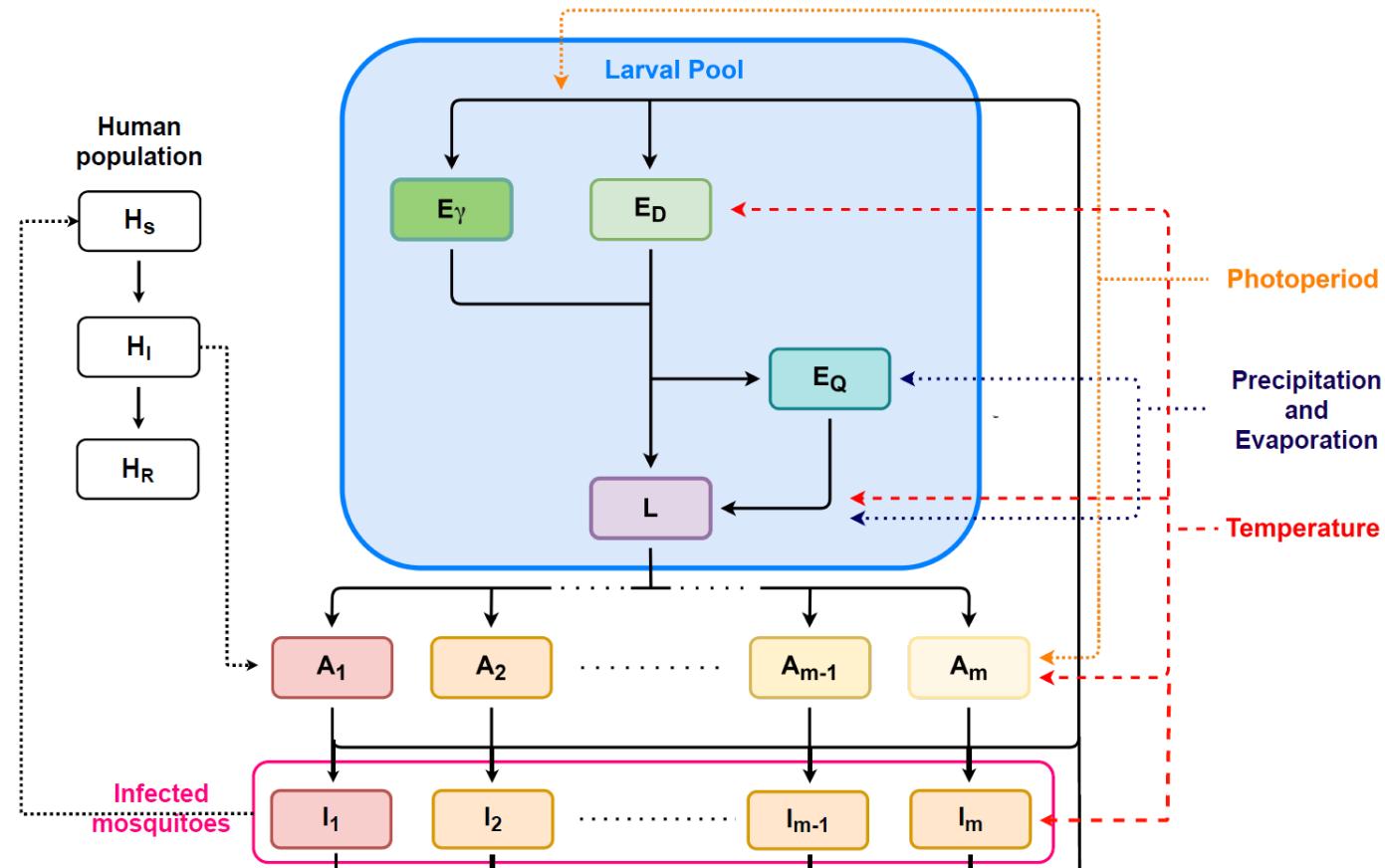
- Model prediction**
- Field observation**
- Oviposition activity**
- Number of larvae**
- Number of adults**
- Average wing length**
- Location of field data**

- [14] Hwang, M. J. et al. Temporal trend of *Aedes albopictus* in local urban parks of the Republic of Korea. *Journal of Medical Entomology* **57**, 1082–1089 (2020).
- [15] Suzuki, A., Tsuda, Y., Takagi, M. & Wada, Y. Seasonal observation on some population attributes of *Aedes albopictus* females in Nagasaki, Japan, with emphasis on the relation between the body size and the survival. *Tropical Medicine* **35**, 91–99 (1993).
- [16] Kori, M. et al. The 2014 autochthonous dengue fever outbreak in Tokyo: A case series study and assessment of the causes and preventive measures. *Respiratory Medicine Case Reports* **31**, 101246 (2020).
- [17] Xia, D. et al. Photoperiodic diapause in a subtropical population of *Aedes albopictus* in Guangzhou, China: Optimized field-laboratory-based study and statistical models for comprehensive characterization. *Infectious Diseases of Poverty* **7**, 1–13 (2018).
- [18] Xu, L. et al. Climate variation drives dengue dynamics. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America* **114**, 113–118 (2017).
- [19] Toma, T., Sakamoto, S. & Miyagi, I. The seasonal appearance of *Aedes albopictus* in Okinawajima, the Ryukyu archipelago, Japan. *Mosquito News* **42**, 179–183 (1982).



SEIR MODEL

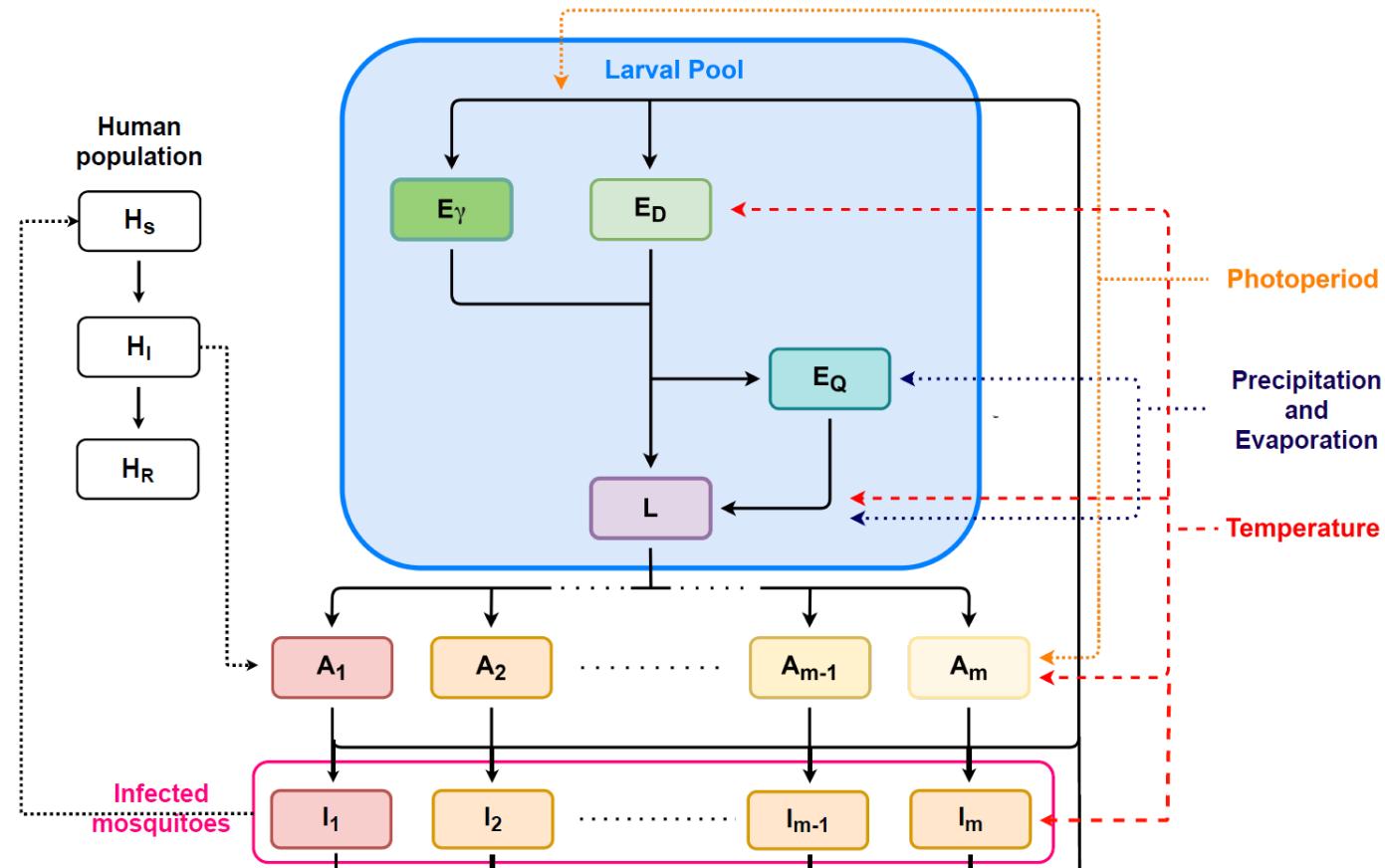
Validate disease dynamics by comparing predictions to historic dengue outbreaks



SEIR MODEL

Validate disease dynamics by comparing predictions to historic dengue outbreaks

We select plausible introduction scenarios for dengue cases based on case reports

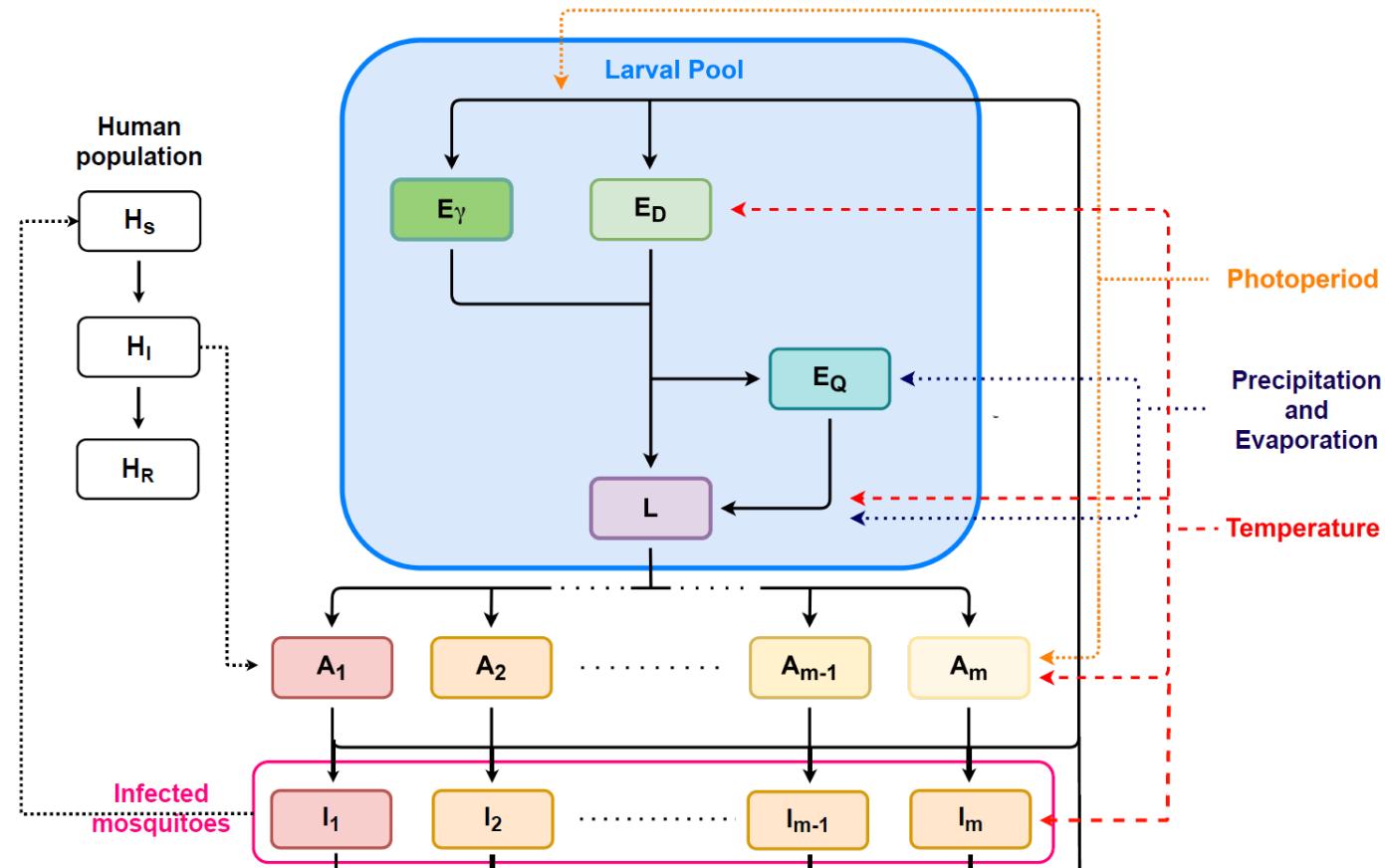


SEIR MODEL

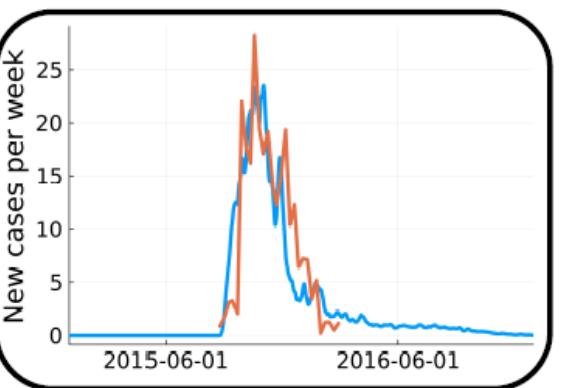
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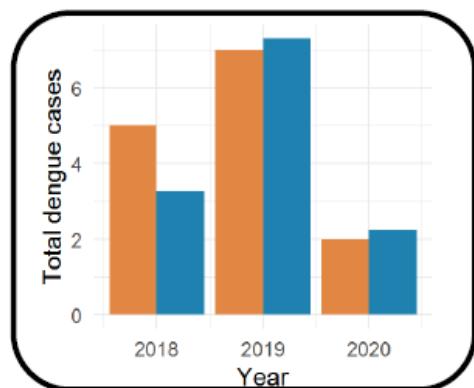
These are often uncertain



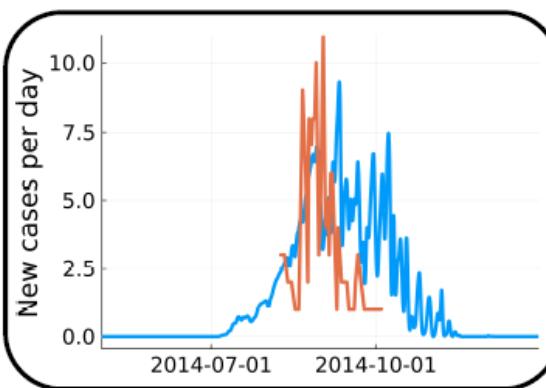
Hawai'i, USA (2015-2016)^[20]



Alpes Maritimes Department, [21]
France (2018-2020)



Tokyo, Japan (2014)^[22]



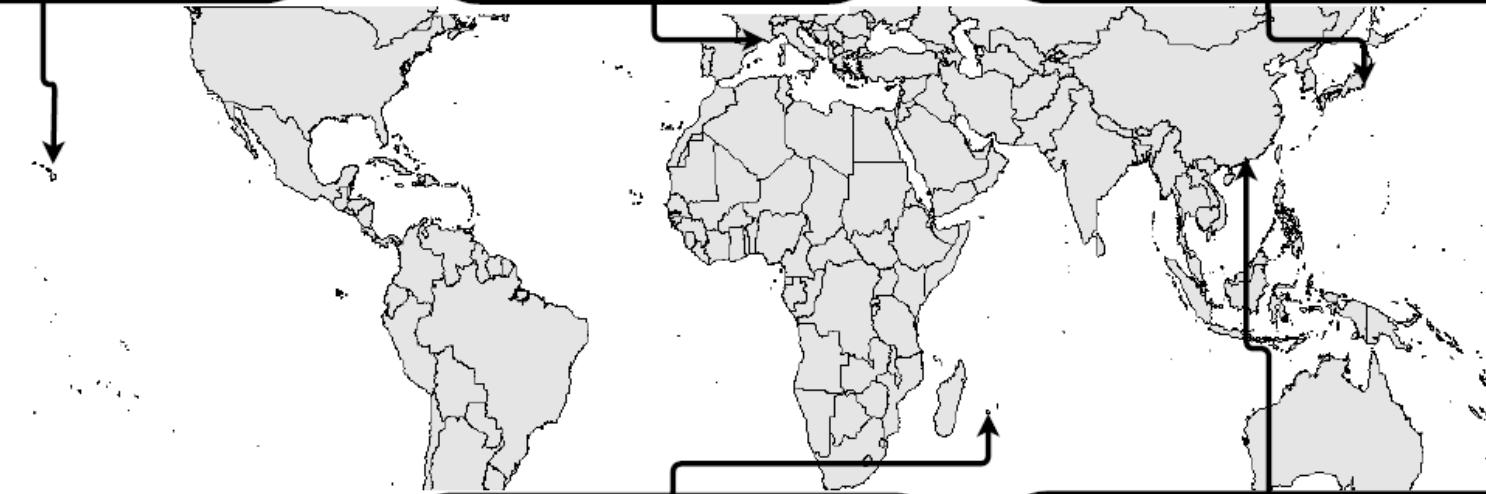
[20] Johnston, D. et al. Investigation and response to an outbreak of dengue: Island of hawaii, 2015-2016. *Public Health Reports* **135**, 003335492090406 (2020).

[21] ECDC. European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control and European Food Safety Authority. Mosquito maps. (2022). URL <https://ecdc.europa.eu/en/disease-vectors/surveillance-and-disease-data/mosquito-maps>.

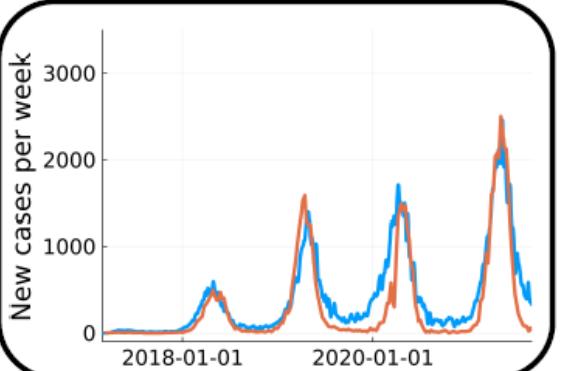
[22] Yuan, B., Lee, H. & Nishiura, H. Assessing dengue control in Tokyo, 2014. *PLoS Neglected Tropical Diseases* **13**, 1-17 (2019).

[23] Vincent, M. et al. From dengue outbreaks to endemicity: Reunion island, france, 2018 to 2021. *European Communicable Disease Bulletin* **28** (2023).

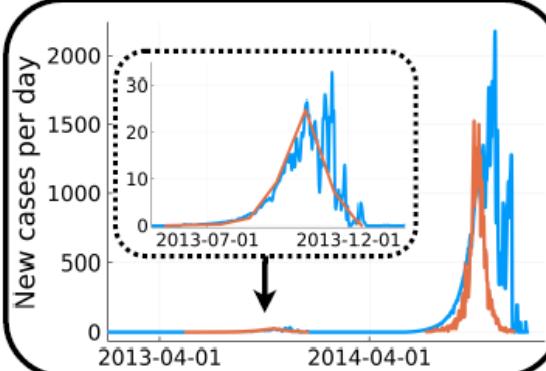
[24] Luo, L. et al. The dengue preface to endemic in mainland china: The historical largest outbreak by *Aedes albopictus* in guangzhou, 2014. *Infectious Diseases of Poverty* **6** (2017).



Observed dengue cases
Predicted dengue cases



[23]
La Réunion, France (2017-2020)



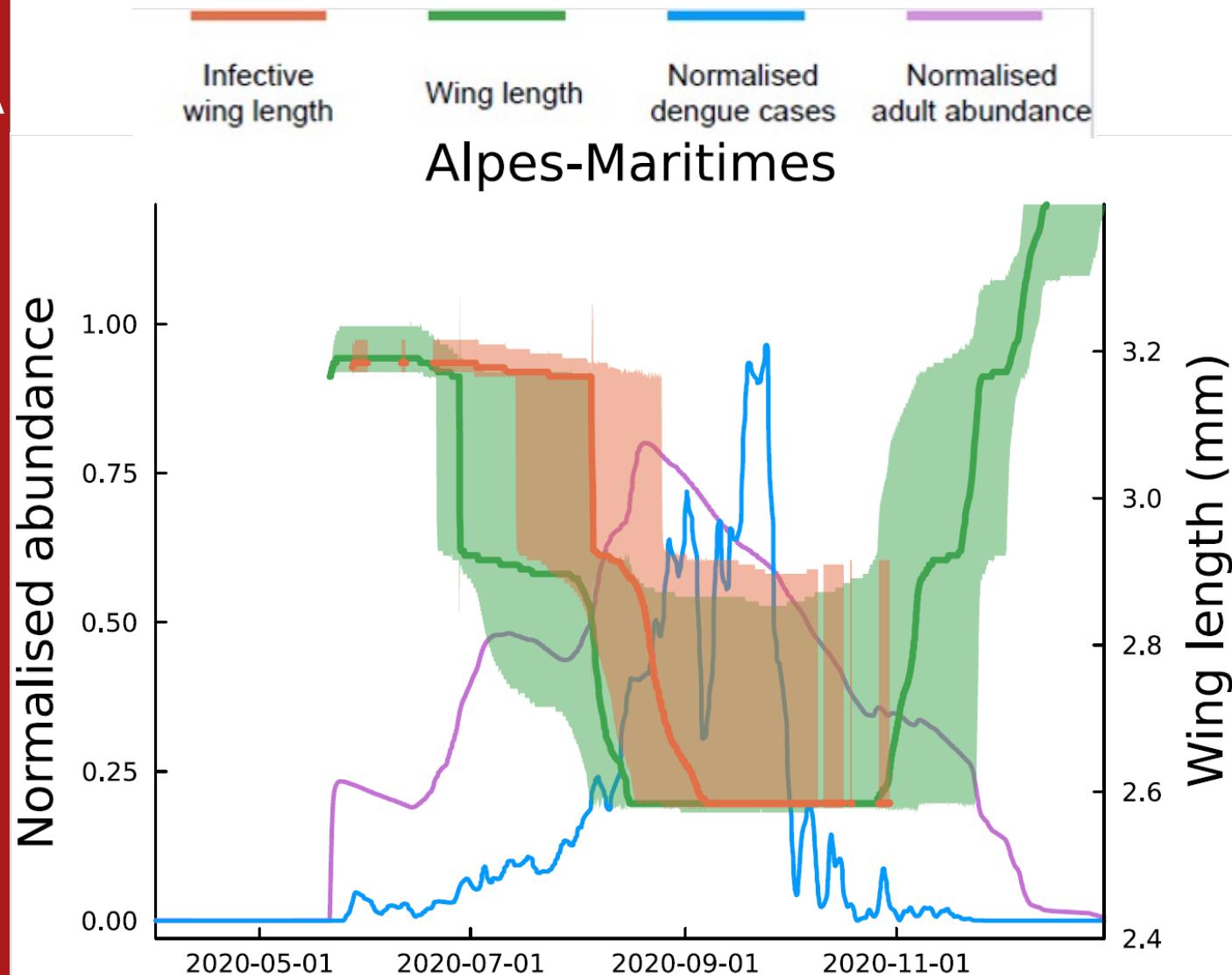
[24]
Guangzhou, China (2013-2014)



RESULTS

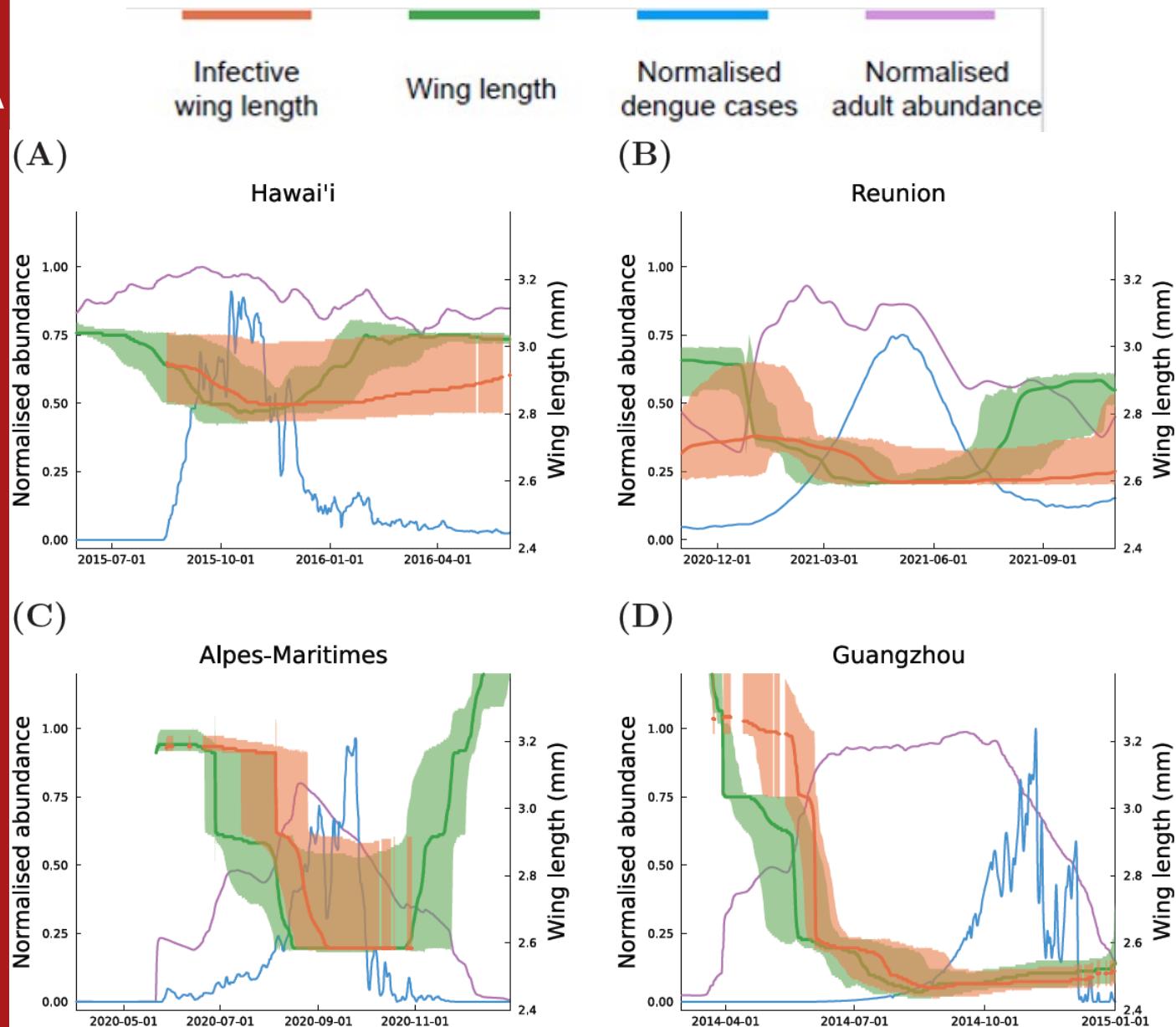
ROLE OF TRA VARIATION

The wing-length distribution of infected and uninfected mosquitoes are different



ROLE OF TRA VARIATION

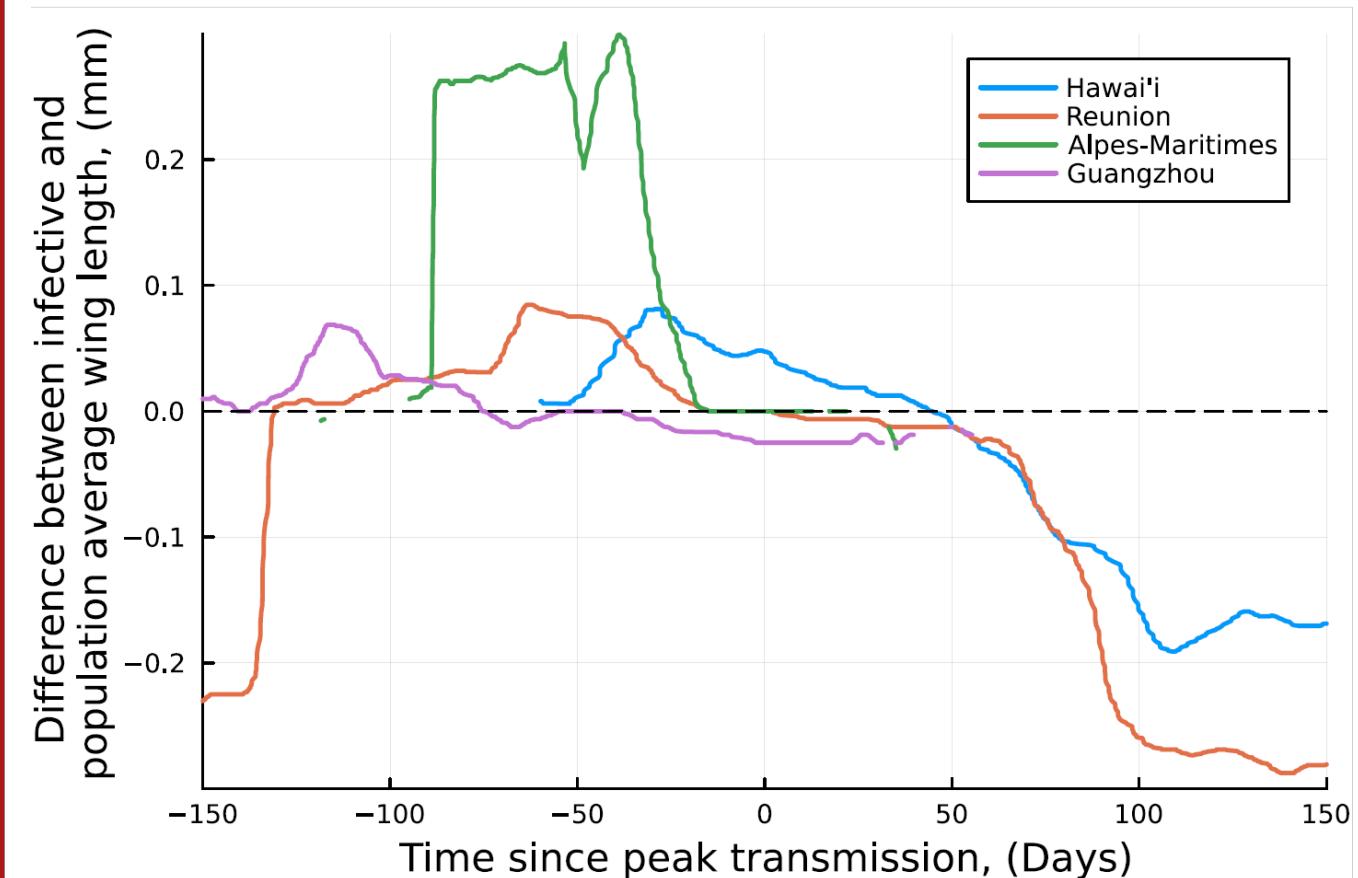
The wing-length distribution of infected and uninfected mosquitoes are different



ROLE OF TRA VARIATION

The wing-length distribution of infected and uninfected mosquitoes are different

Large mosquitoes drive increase in dengue case numbers before peak infection

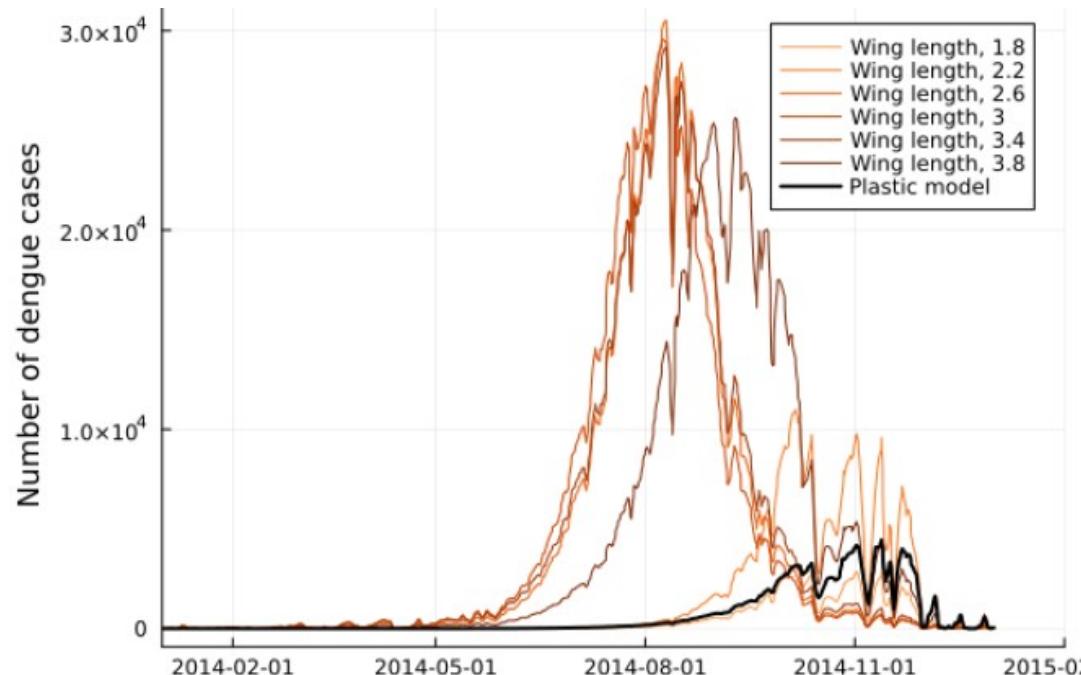
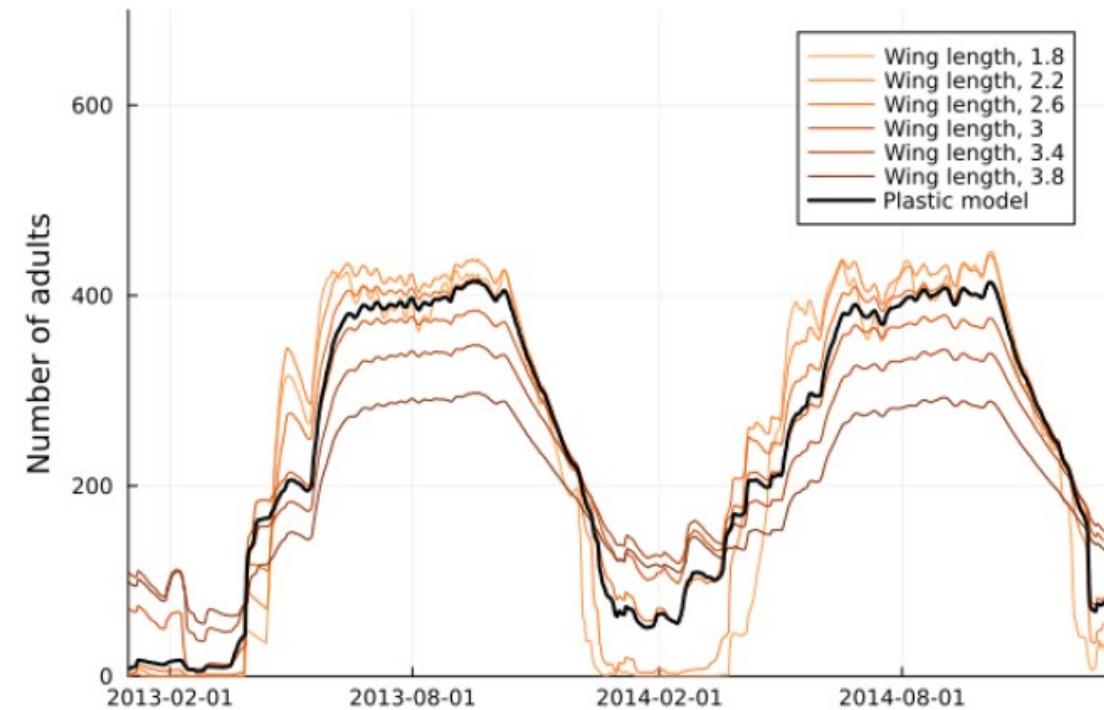


ROLE OF TRA VARIATION

The wing-length distribution of infected and uninfected mosquitoes are different

Large mosquitoes drive increase in dengue case numbers before peak infection

Phenotypic plasticity alters disease dynamics



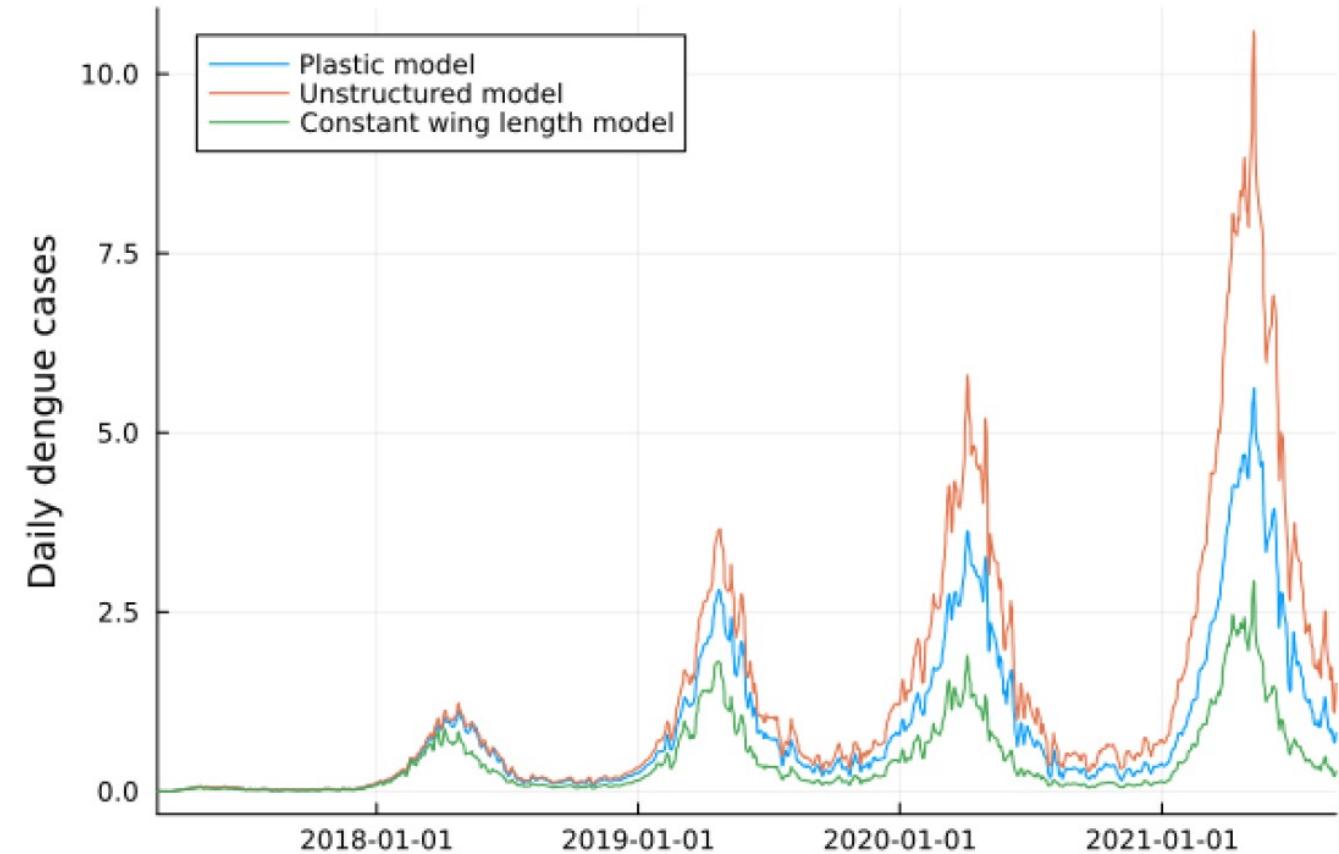
ROLE OF TRA VARIATION

The wing-length distribution of infected and uninfected mosquitoes are different

Large mosquitoes drive increase in dengue case numbers before peak infection

Phenotypic plasticity alters disease dynamics

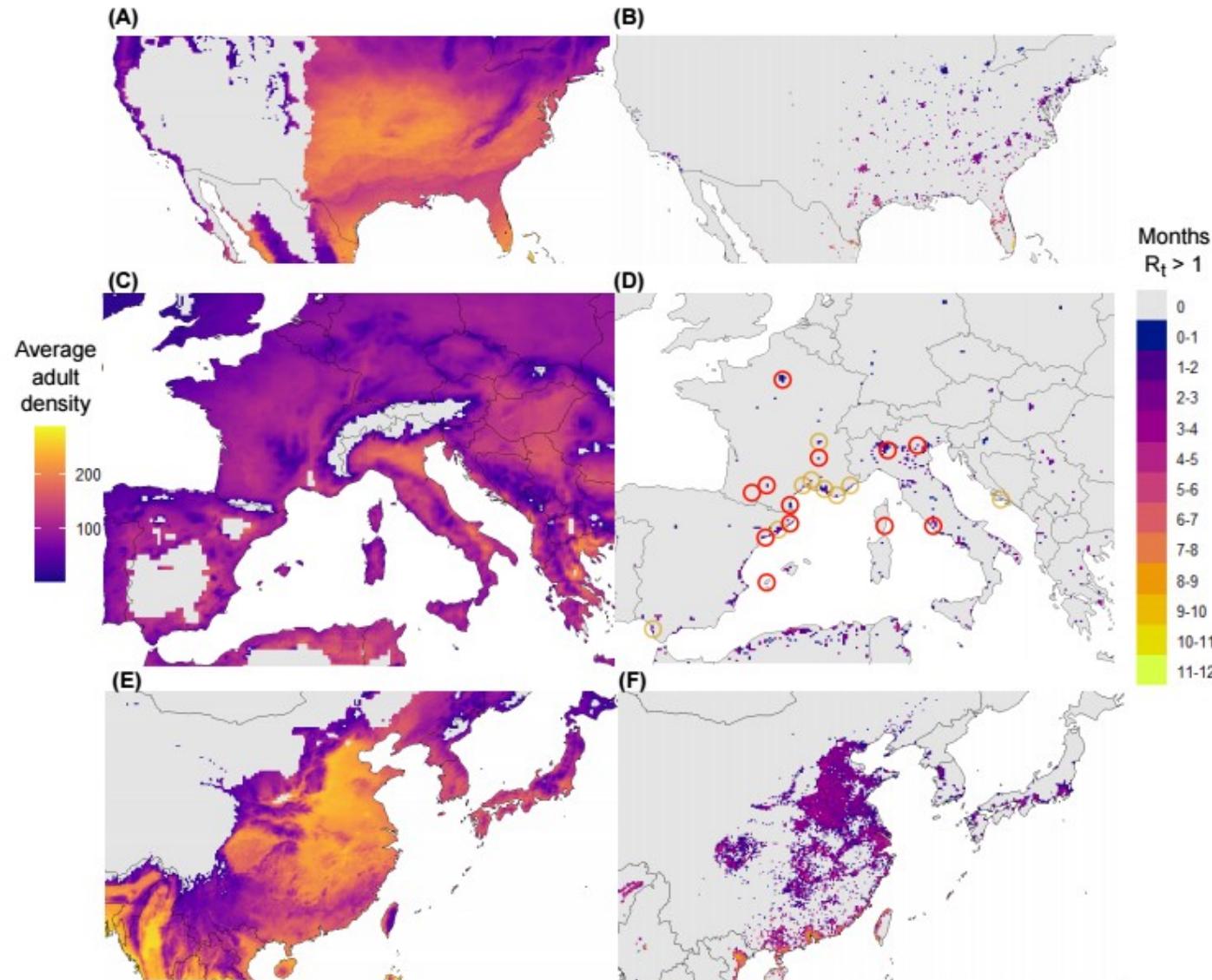
Trait structure alters disease dynamics



GLOBAL RISK

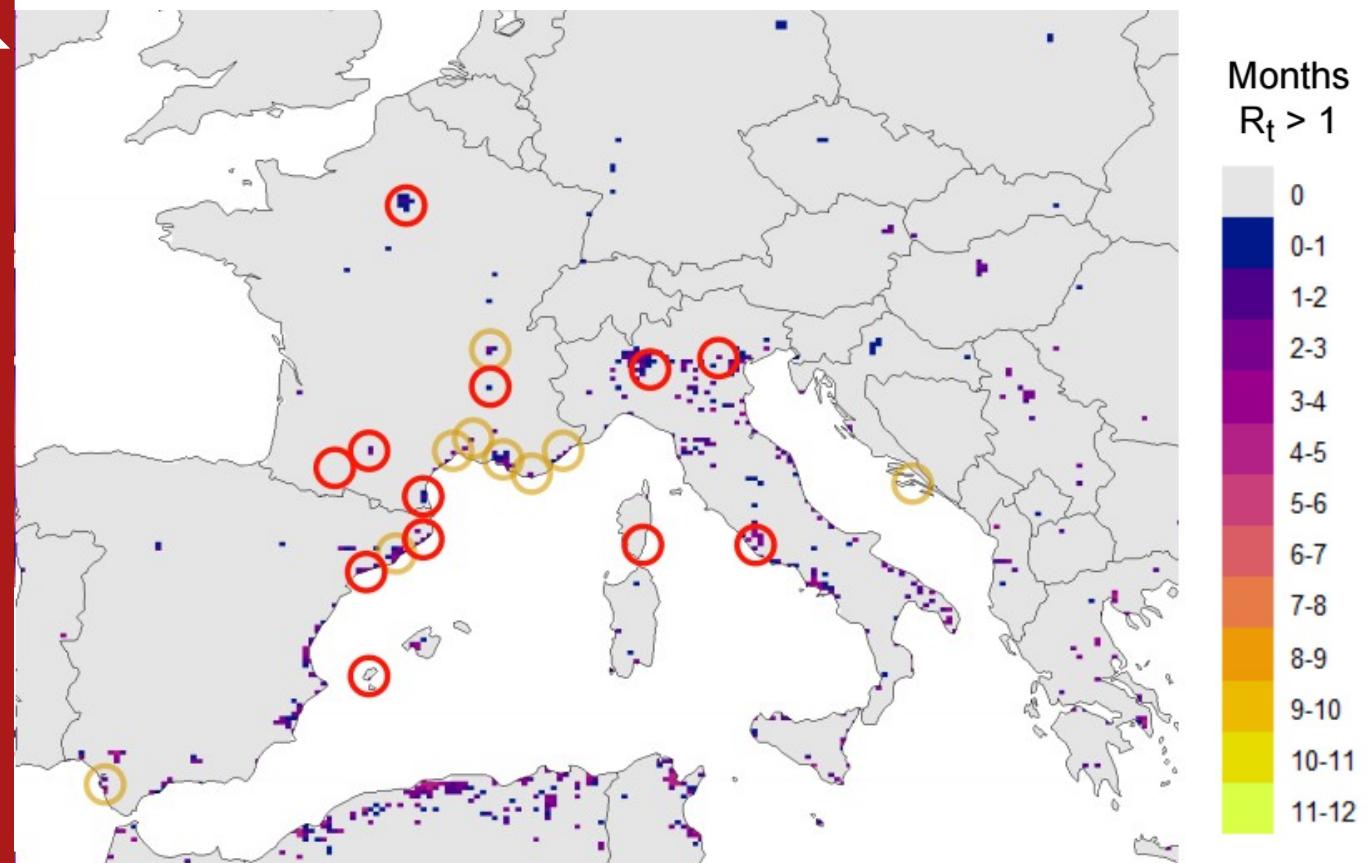
We simulate the model from 2015-2019 and output average months $R_t > 1$

$$R_{t-\tau_{\text{EIP}}(t)} = \left[\sum_{j=1}^m \left(\int_t^{t+\tau_{\text{REC}}} \frac{\frac{g_{\text{EIP}}(s)}{g_{\text{EIP}}(s-\tau_{\text{EIP}}(s))} b(s - \tau_{\text{EIP}}(s)) h_v(s - \tau_{\text{EIP}}(s)) 2\kappa A_j(s - \tau_{\text{EIP}}(s)) S_{\text{EIP}_j}(s)}{H_T} \times \right. \right.$$
$$\left. \left. \left(\int_s^{s+1/\delta_{A_j}(s)} \frac{b(u) v_h(u) H_s(u)}{H_T} du \right) ds \right) \right]^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$



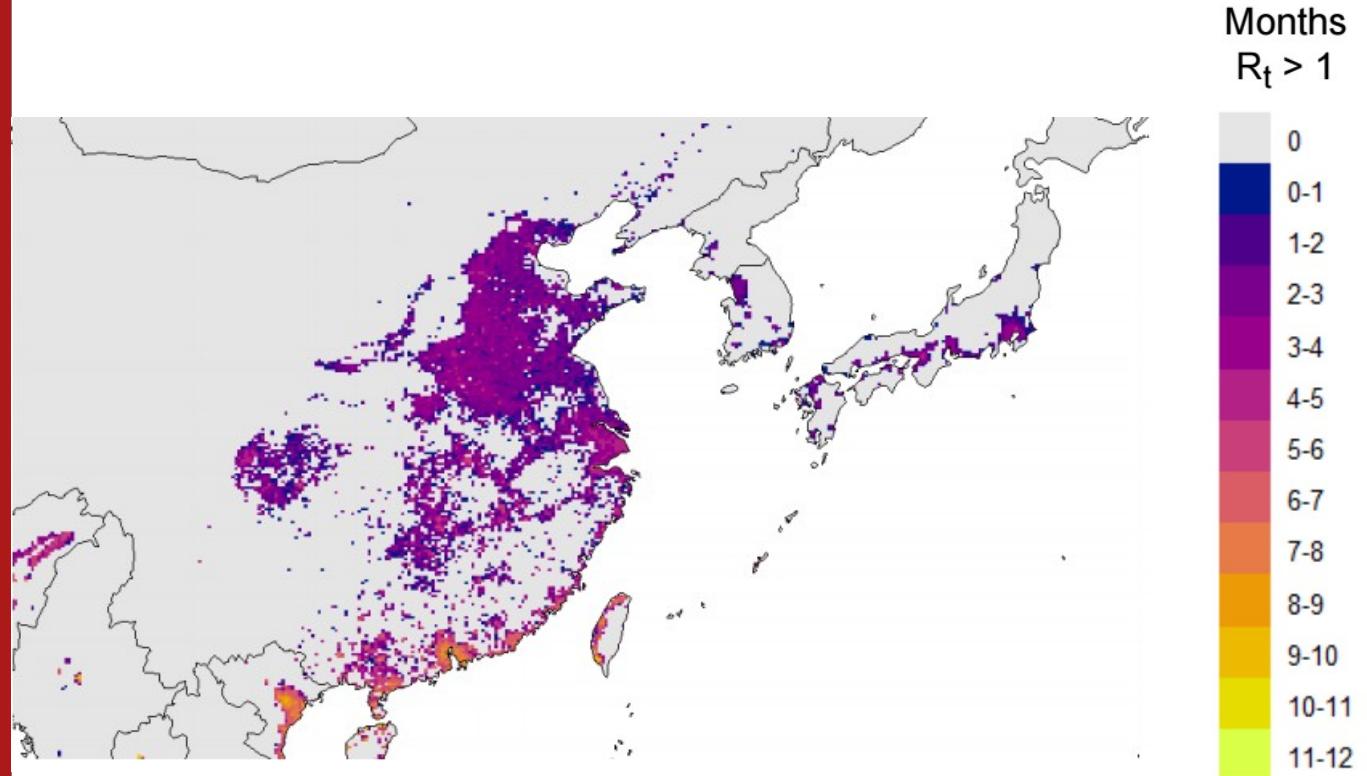
GLOBAL RISK

We simulate the model from 2015-2019 and output average months $R_t > 1$



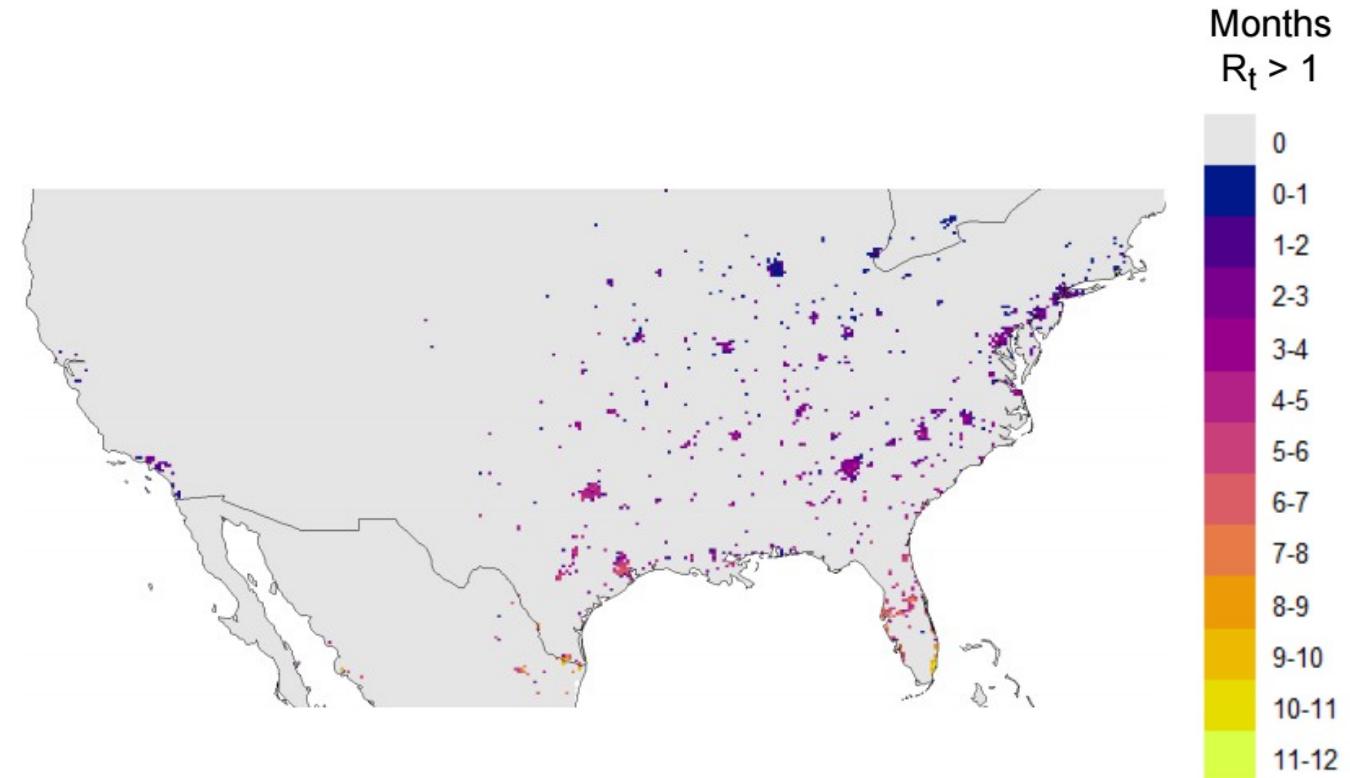
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We have produced a
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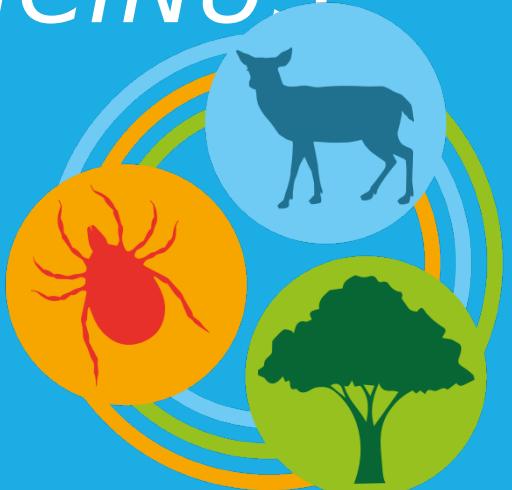
This can be used to produce accurate predictions of relative disease risk

Mosquito trait variation in response to developmental environmental experience alters disease dynamics



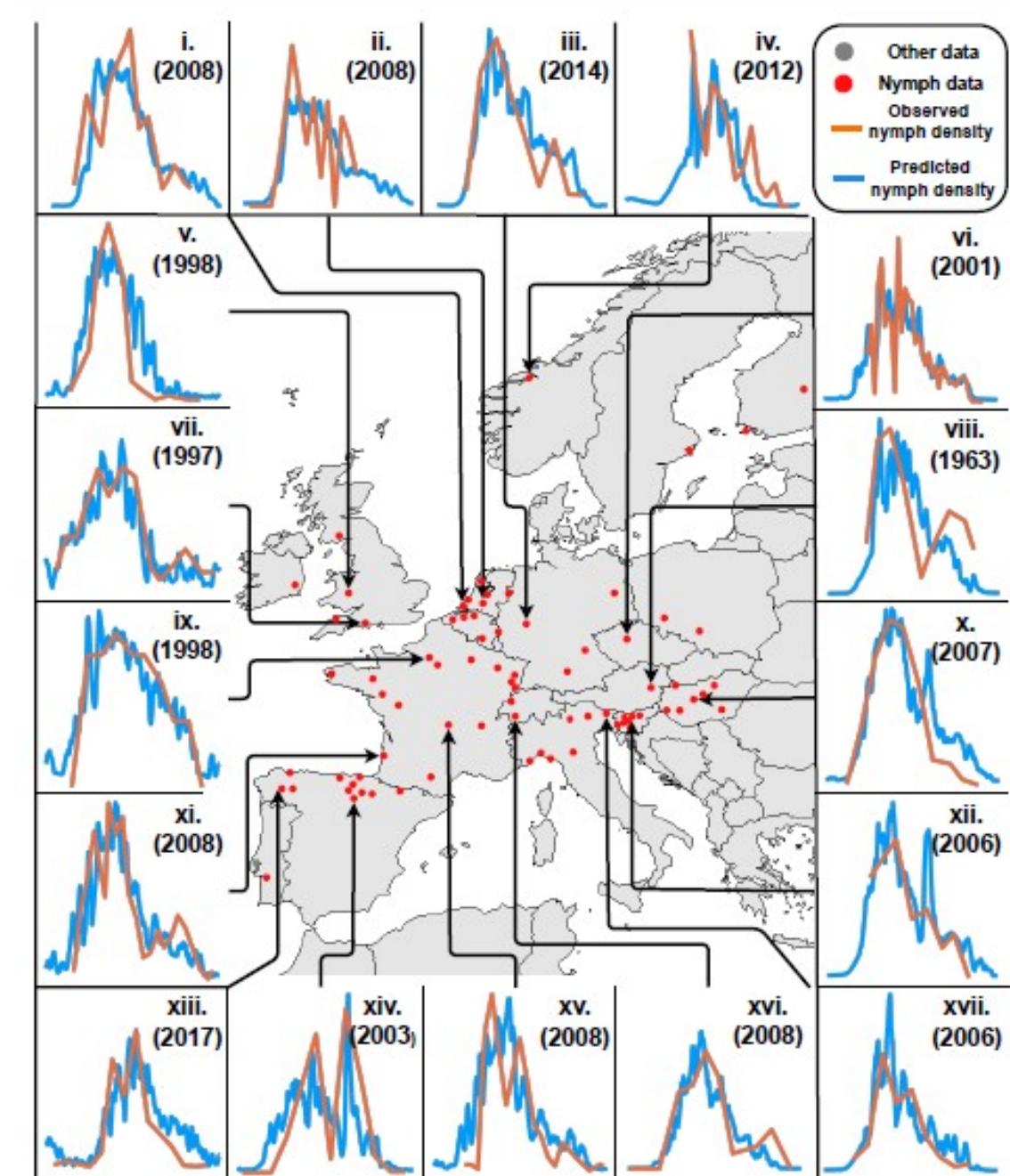
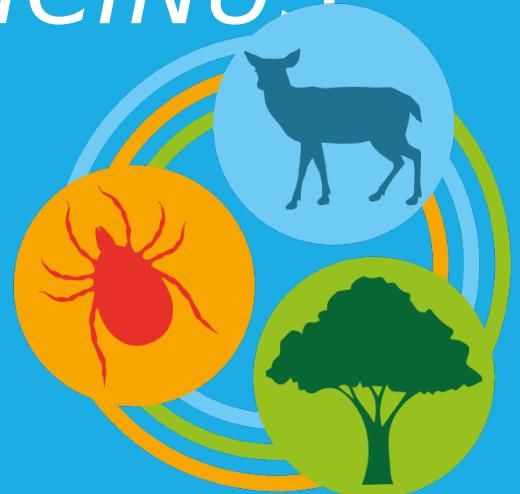
TICKSOLVE

STAGE-STRUCTURED DELAY-DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS FOR *IXODES RICINUS*



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STAGE-STRUCTURED DELAY-DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS FOR *IXODES RICINUS*





THANKS FOR LISTENING!

Dominic Brass,
Christina Cobbold,
Bethan Purse, David
Ewing, Amanda
Callaghan, Steven
White



UK Centre for
Ecology & Hydrology

THE MODE

$E_y(t)$ – Active eggs

$E_D(t)$ – Diapausing eggs

$E_Q(t)$ – Quiescent eggs

$L(t)$ – Larvae

$A_j(t)$ – Adults in environmental class j

R – Recruitment terms

M – Maturation terms

P – Survival

δ – Mortality rate

τ – Stage duration

$$\frac{dE_y(t)}{dt} = R_{E_y}(t) - M_{E_y}(t) - \delta_{E_y}(t)E_y(t),$$

$$\frac{dE_D(t)}{dt} = R_{E_D}(t) - M_{E_D}(t) - \delta_{E_D}(t)E_D(t),$$

$$\frac{dE_Q(t)}{dt} = R_{E_Q}(t) - M_{E_Q}(t) - \delta_{E_Q}(t)E_Q(t),$$

$$\frac{dL(t)}{dt} = R_L(t) - M_L(t) - \delta_L(t)L(t),$$

$$\frac{dA_j(t)}{dt} = R_{A_j}(t) - M_{A_j}(t) - \delta_{A_j}(t)A_j(t), \text{ for } j \in 1, \dots, m$$

$$\frac{dI_j(t)}{dt} = M_{A_j}(t) - \delta_{I_j}(t)I_j(t), \text{ for } j \in 1, \dots, m.$$

RATE OF DEVELOPMENT

$$\frac{d\tau_{E_\gamma}(t)}{dt} = 1 - \frac{g_{E_\gamma}(t)}{g_{E_\gamma}(t - \tau_{E_\gamma}(t))},$$

$$\frac{d\tau_L(t)}{dt} = 1 - \frac{g_L(t)}{g_L(t - \tau_L(t))},$$

$$\frac{d\tau_P(t)}{dt} = 1 - \frac{g_P(t)}{g_P(t - \tau_P(t))},$$

$$\frac{d\tau_{\text{EIP}}(t)}{dt} = 1 - \frac{g_{\text{EIP}}(t)}{g_{\text{EIP}}(t - \tau_{\text{EIP}}(t))}.$$

SURVIVAL EQUATIONS

$$\frac{dS_{E_\gamma}(t)}{dt} = S_{E_\gamma}(t) \left(\frac{g_{E_\gamma}(t)\delta_{E_\gamma}(t - \tau_{E_\gamma}(t))}{g_{E_\gamma}(t - \tau_{E_\gamma}(t))} - \delta_{E_\gamma}(t) \right),$$

$$\frac{dS_L(t)}{dt} = S_L(t) \left(\frac{g_L(t)\delta_L(t - \tau_L(t))}{g_L(t - \tau_L(t))} - \delta_L(t) \right),$$

$$\frac{dS_P(t)}{dt} = S_P(t) \left(\frac{g_P(t)\delta_P(t - \tau_P(t))}{g_P(t - \tau_P(t))} - \delta_P(t) \right), \quad (63)$$

$$\frac{dS_{\text{EIP}_j}(t)}{dt} = S_{\text{EIP}_j}(t) \left(\frac{g_{\text{EIP}}(t)\delta_{A_j}(t - \tau_{\text{EIP}}(t))}{g_{\text{EIP}}(t - \tau_{\text{EIP}}(t))} - \delta_{A_j}(t) \right), \quad \text{for } j \in 1, \dots, m.$$

TRANSITION FUNCTIONS

$$\bar{\alpha}(t) = \frac{\int_{t-\tau_p(t)-\tau_L(t-\tau_p(t))}^{t-\tau_p(t)} \frac{F(s)}{L(s)} ds}{\tau_L(t - \tau_p(t))}.$$

$$w_j(T_{avg}(t), \bar{\alpha}(t)) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } g(w(T_{avg}(t), \bar{\alpha})(t)) = w_j \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

RT

$$R_{t-\tau_{\text{EIP}}(t)} = \left[\sum_{j=1}^m \left(\int_t^{t+\tau_{\text{REC}}} \frac{\frac{g_{\text{EIP}}(s)}{g_{\text{EIP}}(s-\tau_{\text{EIP}}(s))} b(s-\tau_{\text{EIP}}(s)) h_v(s-\tau_{\text{EIP}}(s)) 2\kappa A_j(s-\tau_{\text{EIP}}(s)) S_{\text{EIP}_j}(s)}{H_T} \right. \right. \\ \times \left. \left. \left(\int_s^{s+1/\delta_{A_j}(s)} \frac{b(u) v_h(u) H_s(u)}{H_T} du \right) ds \right) \right]^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$