

Open  
Slides



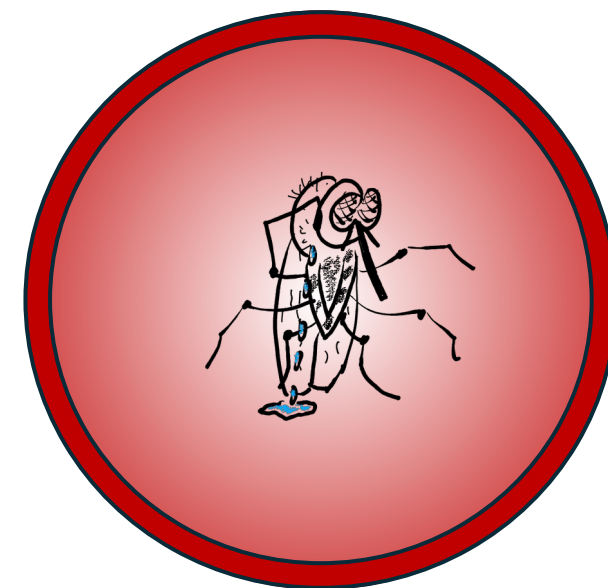
Impact of  
climate and weather on  
*Aedes albopictus* in  
Italy

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# Outline

- 1 Introduction: the VECTRI model
- 2 Parametrization and calibration of *Aedes albopictus*
- 3 Objectives
  - 3.1 Validate the model against ovitrap data
  - 3.2 Assess the geographical distribution and activity in Italy
  - 3.3 Study the effect of heatwaves on the population of *Aedes albopictus*
- 4 Results
- 5 Conclusion and future perspectives

# 1 Introduction: the VECTRI model

The **VE**Ctor-borne disease community model of ICTP, **TRI**este, is

- A **multi-species** dynamical model, currently describing the life cycle of
  - *Anopheles gambiae* s.s. (original, see e.g., [Tompkins et al. 2013](#), [Asare et al. 2016](#) ), malaria is parameterized
  - *Anopheles funestus* (in development, not evaluated)
  - *Anopheles sacharovi* ([Karypidou et al. 2020](#))
  - *Aedes aegypti* (in development, not evaluated)
  - *Aedes albopictus* ([Garrido Zornoza et al. 2024](#), under review), dengue is **not** parameterized
- **Climate-aware**: air temperature at two-metre height, , and daily rainfall,
- **Open source**: <http://users.ictp.it/~tompkins/vectri/>
  - Install *Aedes* version: 

```
git clone https://gitlab.com/tompkins/vectri.git
```

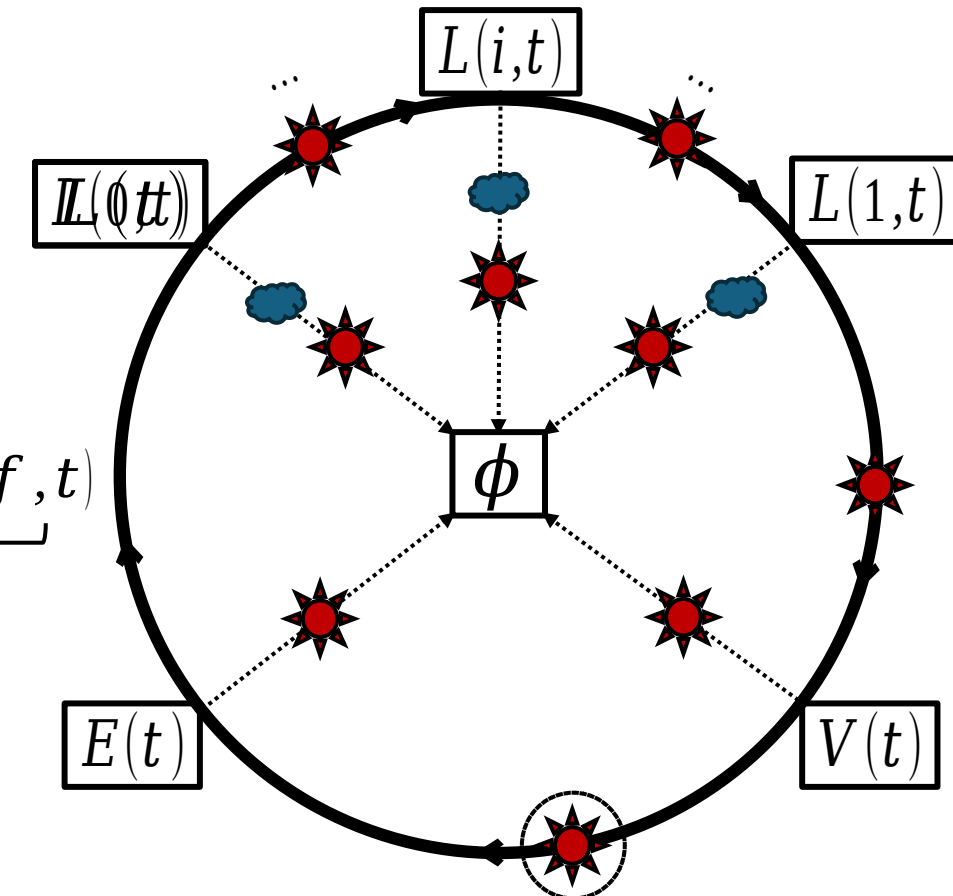
```
git checkout tags/v1.11.3
```
  - Run example in OSF repository <https://osf.io/3gcfb/>

# 1 Introduction: the VECTRI model

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{dE(t)}{dt} &= \underbrace{N_{egg} \cdot R_{gono}(T_{2m}) \cdot V(t)}_{\text{hatching}} - \underbrace{\delta_{mortality}(T_{wat}) \cdot E(t)}_{\text{mortality}} \\
 \frac{\partial L(f,t)}{\partial t} &= \underbrace{q_{eng} \cdot E(t)}_{\text{hatching}} + \underbrace{R_L(T_{wat}) \cdot \frac{\partial L(f,t)}{\partial f}}_{\text{development (advection)}} - \underbrace{\delta_{mortality}(f,t)}_{\text{mortality}} \\
 &\quad - \underbrace{\delta_{crowd} \left( R_d, L \right) \cdot L(f,t)}_{\text{predation and overcrowding}} \\
 \frac{dV(t)}{dt} &= \underbrace{R_L(T_{wat}) \cdot \left. \frac{\partial L(f,t)}{\partial f} \right|_{f=1}}_{\text{emergence}} - \underbrace{\delta_{mortality}(T_{wat}) \cdot V(t)}_{\text{mortality}}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$f = f(T_{2m}) \text{ or } f(T_{wat}) \equiv \text{star icon}$$

$$f = f(R_{2d}) \equiv \text{cloud icon}$$



- Temperature-driven decay rates fitted from lab. and obs. data
- Fixed time step,
- (when no hydro)
- No vector mobility across grid boxes

$$R_{gono}(T_{2m}) = \frac{T_{2m} - T_{gono}}{K_{gono}} \in [0,1]$$

## 2 Parameterization and calibration of *Aedes albopictus*

### Parameterization

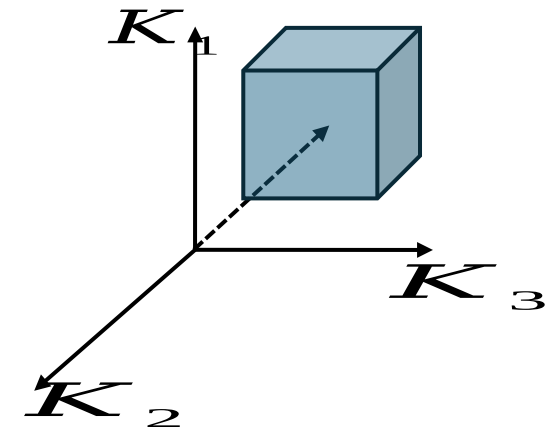
- Temperature mortality scheme for and *i.e.*, [Metelmann et al. 2019](#)
- Life cycle parameters, *e.g.*, or from literature (referenced in the manuscript)

### Calibration

- Life cycle **parameters**, , are constrained by field and lab. studies but nevertheless **uncertain**
- **Search** within this uncertainty “window” for the best, yet **realistic, solution**
- Constrained optimization using the **Genetic Algorithm** (GA) from [Tompkins et al. 2018](#)

$$\vec{K} \text{ s.t. } \vec{z}(x, t) - \vec{S}(x, t; \vec{K}) \rightarrow \vec{0}$$

- **Emilia-Romagna** ovitrap data from [Carrieri et al. 2011](#), [2017](#), [2021](#)



## 4 Results

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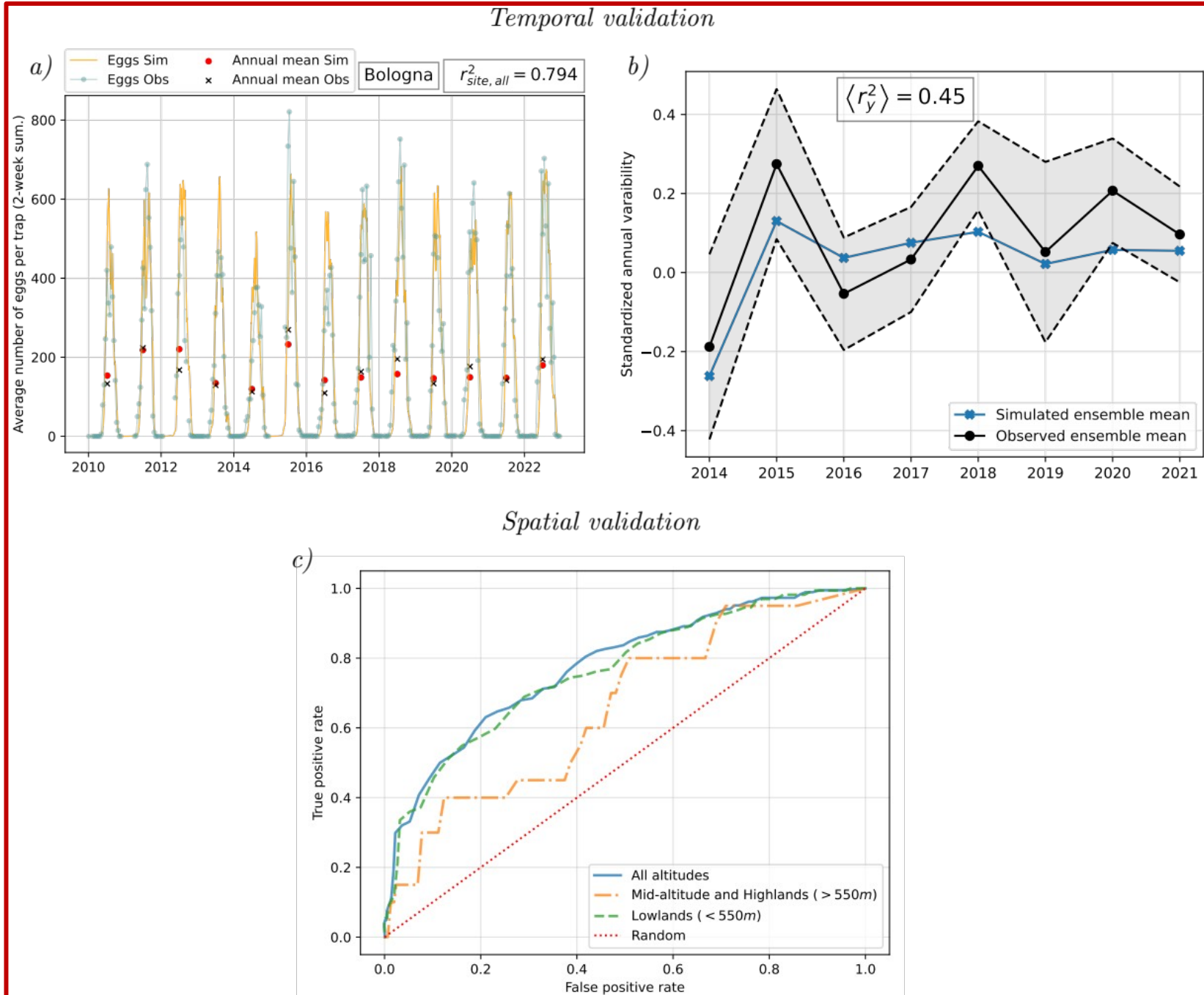
### 4.1 Model validation

a) Seasonality

b) Inter-annual ensemble

c) ROC curves (AUC )

Garrido Zornoza et al. 2024  
(in review for JRSI)



## 4 Results

### 4.2 Geographical distribution and activity in Italy

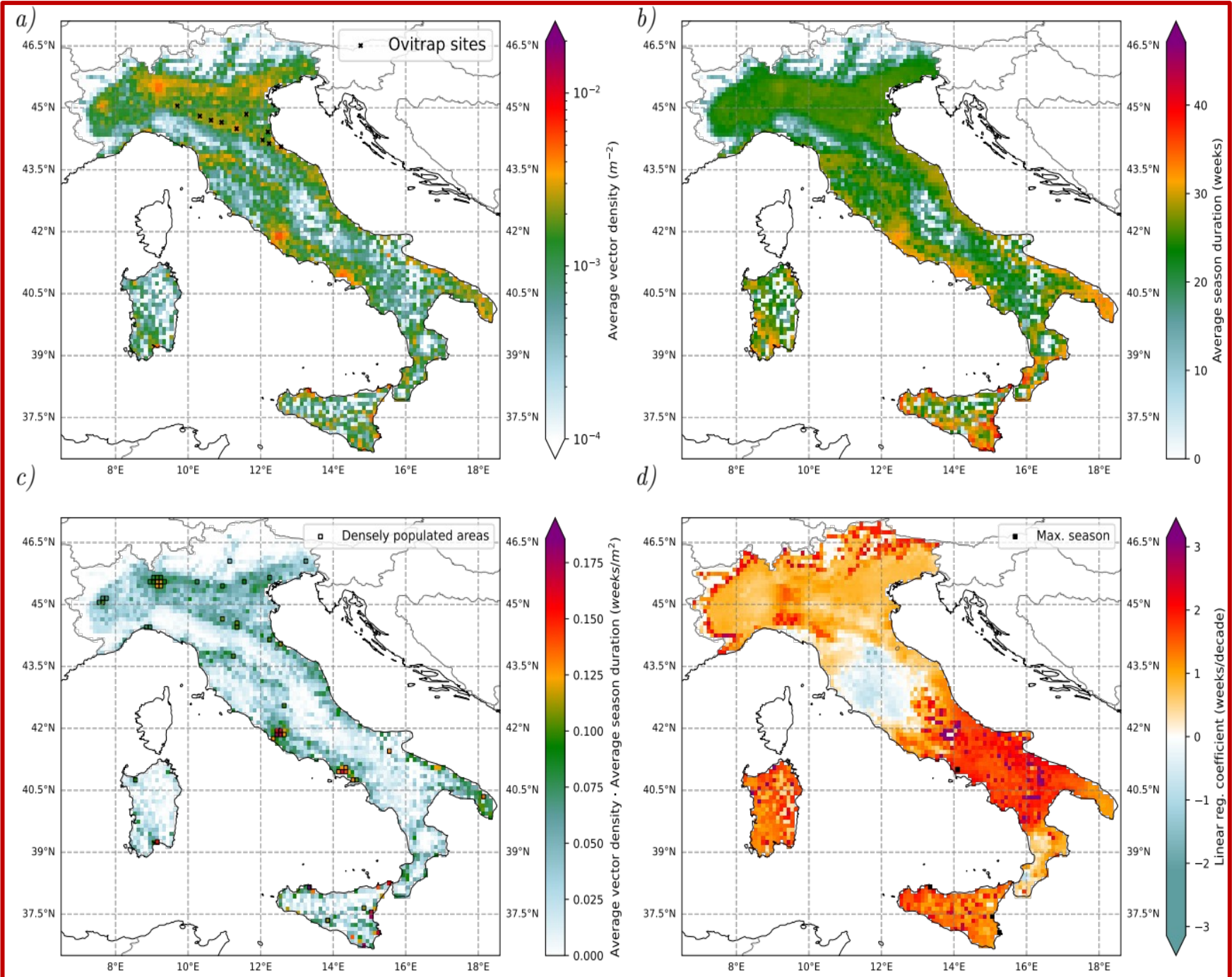
a) Average density 1980-2022

b) Average session duration

c) Risk estimate

d) Increase in season length of weeks per decade

Garrido Zornoza et al. 2024  
(in review for JRSI)



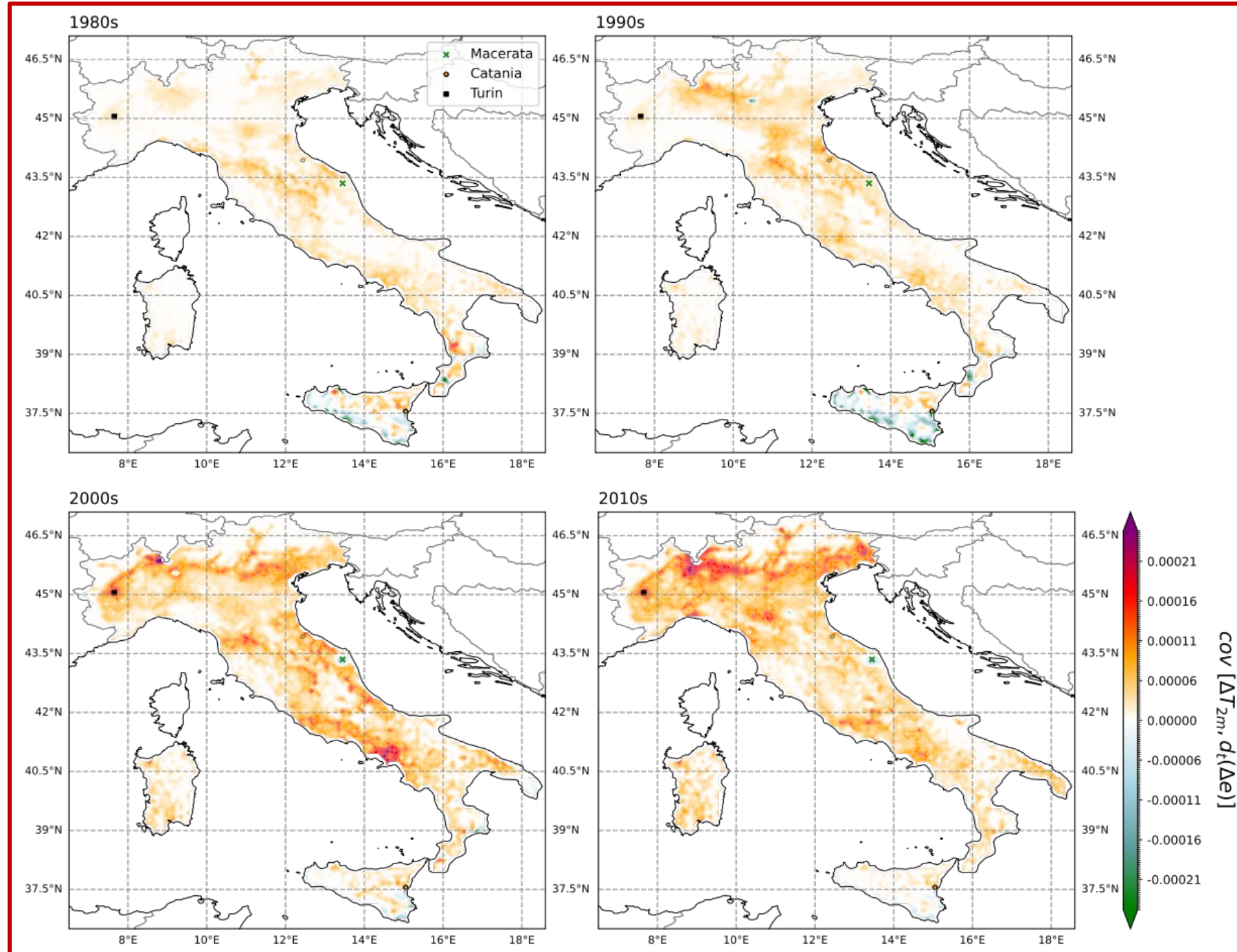


## 4 Results

### 4.3 Heatwaves

- Decadal increase
  - Mostly positive
  - Can be negative in southern areas

Garrido Zornoza et al. 2024  
(in review for JRSI)



## 4 Results

### 4.3 Heatwaves

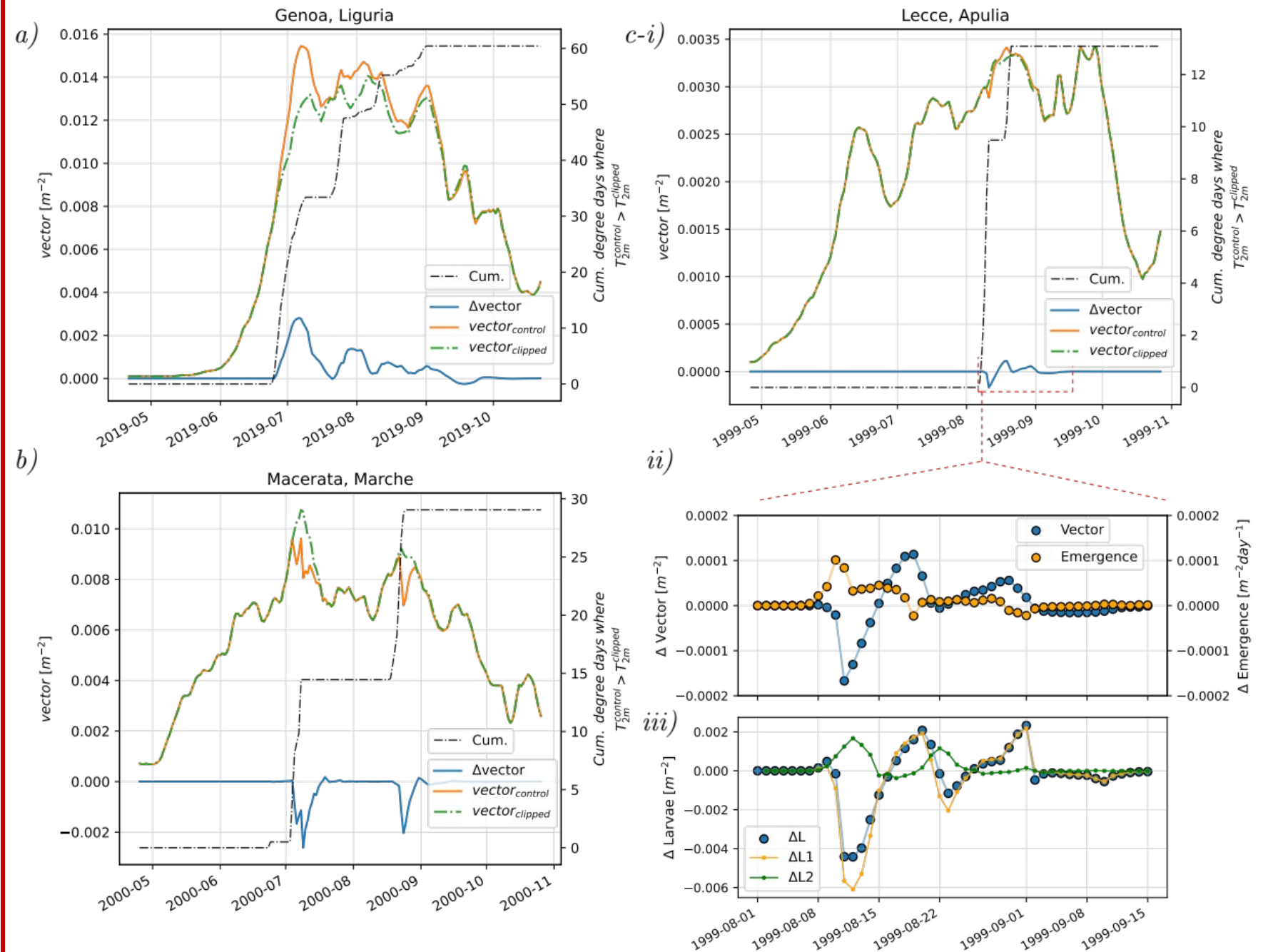
a) Beneficial

b) Detrimental

c-i) Temporarily detrimental

c-ii,iii) Differential impact on  
larval age structure

Garrido Zornoza et al. 2024  
(in review for JRSI)



## 5 Conclusion and future perspectives

### Summary

- VECTRI as a multi-species **climate-aware** mechanistic model
- Adapted VECTRI to *Aedes albopictus* parameterization + calibration
- **Validated** the model for Italy (Emilia-Romagna ovitrap data)
- Model reproduces **seasonality** and **inter-annual** variability of observed ovitrap data
- Densely populated areas are hotspots
  - Rome, Milan, Naples, Foggia, Catania, Palermo, Lecce, ...
- Modelled **increase** of vector **activity** of weeks per decade between 1980-2022
- Heatwave impact on simulated *Ae. albopictus* population can be **detrimental** in warmest regions but is **beneficial** over most areas during summer

### Future perspectives

- Include **diapause** parameterization, larval **cannibalism** and **dengue** transmission dynamics

Thank you for the attention

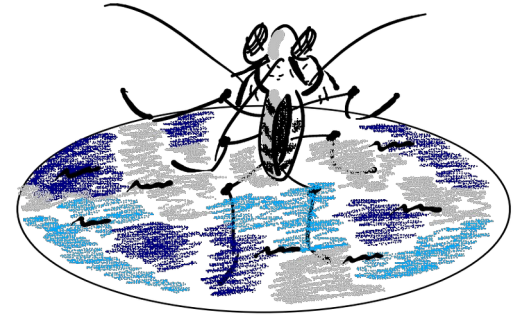


## S.1 Introduction: the VECTRI model

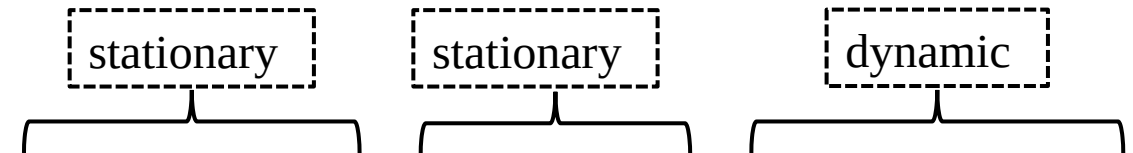
### Breeding model for larval development

$$\frac{\partial L(f, t)}{\partial t} = \underbrace{+}_{\text{hatching}} + \underbrace{-}_{\text{mortality}} + \underbrace{-}_{\text{predation and overcrowding}} + \underbrace{+}_{\text{emergence}}$$

$$- \underbrace{\delta_{\text{crowd}}(R_d, L)}_{\underbrace{1 - P_{L, \text{surv}}(R_d, L)}_{\underbrace{P_{L, \text{surv}} \cdot P_{\text{flush}}(R_d) \cdot P_{\text{crowd}}(R_d, L)}}} \cdot L(f, t)$$



- Logistic



- Fractional water coverage of potential breeding sites
- are vector-specific **usage coefficients**