June 30, 2020

Dear Dr. Araujo,

Attached please find a revision of manuscript ECOG-05176 for consideration for inclusion as an original research paper in *Ecography*. The revised manuscript is entitled “*Improving estimates of species distribution change by incorporating local trends*.” We have responded to all reviewer comments with improvements to the manuscript. Particularly substantial changes include two sets of additional simulations demonstrating that the model is robust to variation in all parameters and that the correct model (the one most consistent with the data-generating process) can be recovered by standard model selection approaches. We added additional methods details to the main text and appendix to improve repeatability and the ability of the reader to assess the validity of our approach. Furthermore, we greatly revised the introduction to make it more accessible and clearly applicable to a general audience. We also improved the interpretability of the figures and provided more context and statistics to support the interpretation of the cluster analysis (however, we believe that the main contributions of the manuscript do not depend greatly upon the details of the clustering analysis). These revisions requested by the reviewer and handling editor have resulted in the main text exceeding the word limit for the journal, despite our efforts to consolidate, so we hope that this is acceptable under these circumstances.

This work represents fresh and distinctive research, and has not been submitted for publication in any other form or place. Thank you for considering this manuscript for publication.

Sincerely,



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