Thesis proposal

Michael D. Catchen [1,2]

[1] McGill University; [2] Québec Centre for Biodiversity Sciences

Correspondance to:
Michael D. Catchen — `michael.catchen@mail.mcgill.ca`

The proposal for my thesis, *Simulation models for predictive ecology*

Forecasting in ecology. Forecasting in weather, introduce computers.

Future is uncertain, how do we best act given a forecast?

We have some goal state for the future, and some estimate of what the state of the world will be given a set of actions.

Brief summary of decision theory.

Transition to theme of optimization given unknown information. In face of uncertainty, decision making is an optimization problem. Frame optimization problem mathematically an introduce concept of solution-space and constraint.

Transition to how this is applied in ecology. Introduce idea of monitoring network. Transition to specifics of this thesis.

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CH1 optimizing sampling of species distributions

1.1. Methods

- simulate species distribution and efficacy of detection given a set of observation points where the dist from observation site decays.
- optimize set of repeated sampling locations L for a *known* distribution D.
- address SDM not being the territory

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CH2 optimizing sampling of interactions

2.1. Methods

- the missing link paper, turn this into optimizing with two different SDMs
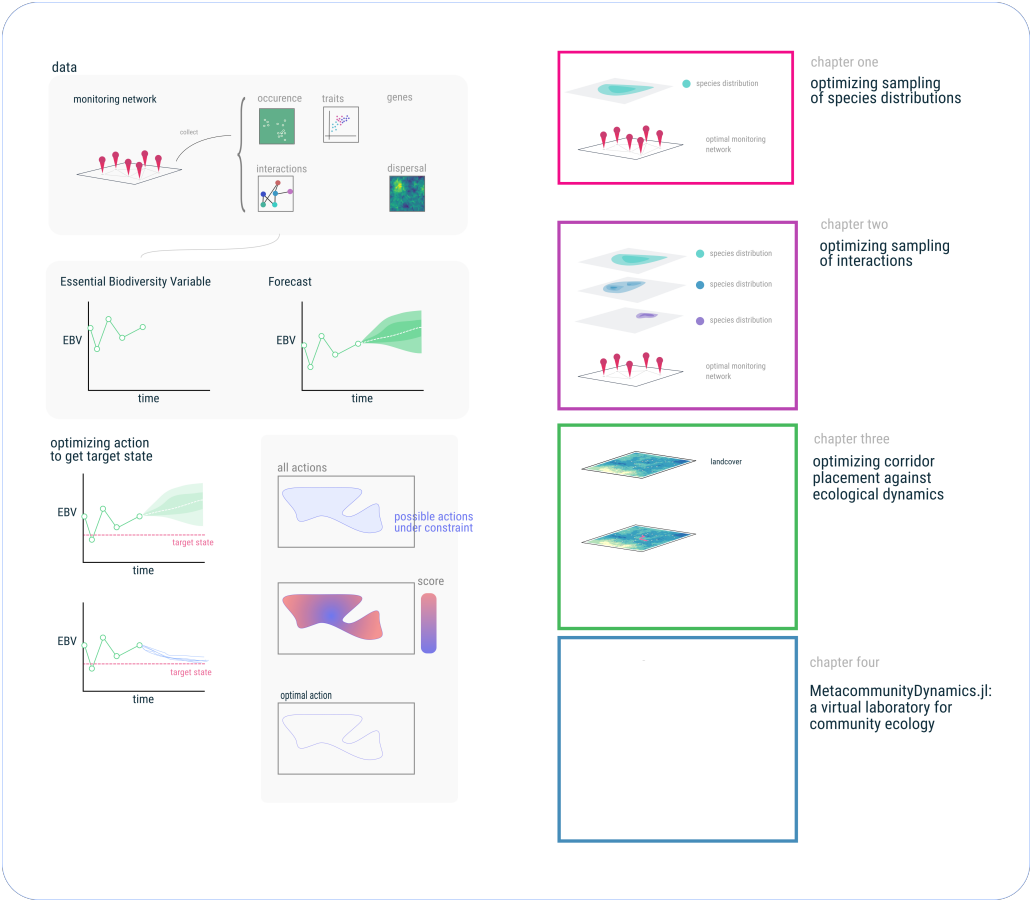
Figure 1 thesis concept

CH3 optimizing corridor placement

- land cover -> resistance -> extinction time
- simulated annealing to optimize landscape optimization

CH4 a software note on the resulting packages.

- `Observatories.jl`, `Corridors.jl`, `MCD.jl`