

1. BORAL MODEL

site i

species j

latent factor k

Y_{ij} is true occurrence, assuming perfect detection

Φ : CDF of standard normal

$$Y_{ij} \sim \text{Bern}(\Phi(v_{ij}))$$

$$v_{ij} = \eta_i \lambda_{j,k}$$

$$\eta_i \sim \text{MVN}(0, I_K)^*$$

$$\lambda_{j,k} \sim N(0, 10)$$

*considered the random effects

Think of $\lambda_{k,j}$ as species-specific coefficients for unobserved covariates η_i at the site level. They introduce correlation between species: $v_{i.} \sim \text{MVN}(0, \Lambda \Lambda')$.

Note: ignoring fixed effects of observable covariates for now