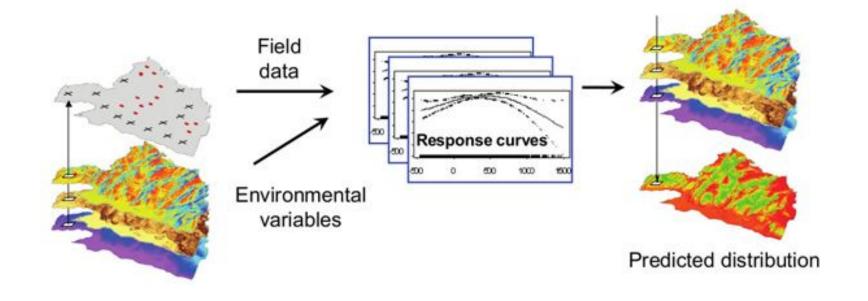
IUCN Interdisciplinary Summer School

Species Distribution Models Practical Session





Luca Bütikofer Spatial-Agro- Macro- Ecologist

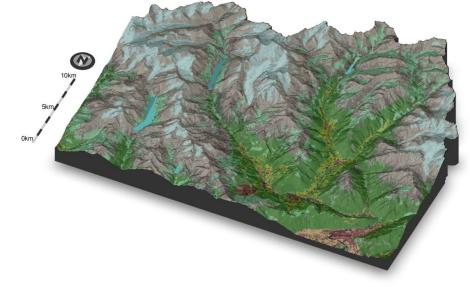
Undergrads 🖘

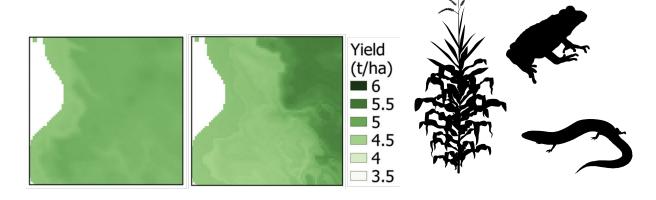
Italy

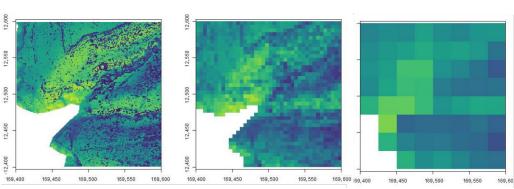
PhD 🖘

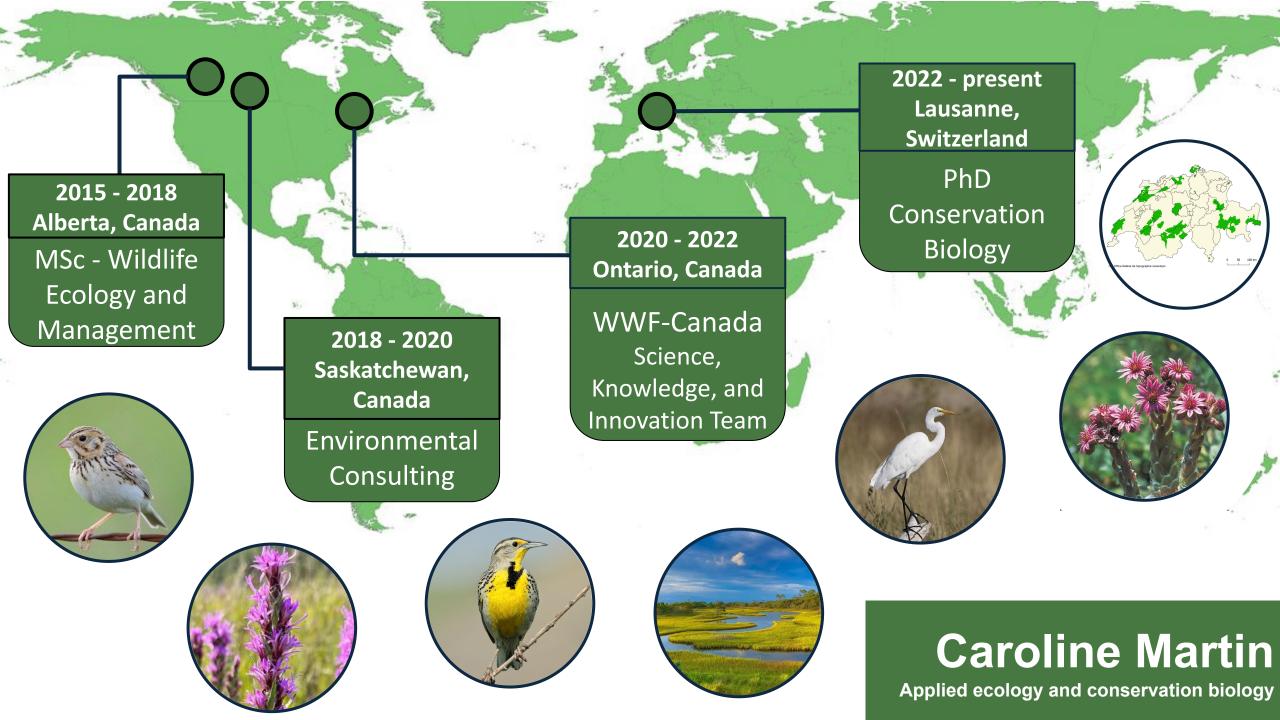
New Zealand

PostDocs UK, Switzerland









Practical Session on SDMs



Objective

Learn how to prepare data, build and fit models, visualize outputs, and interpret results of species distribution models

In R:

- > install.packages("wallace")
- > library("wallace")
- > run_wallace()

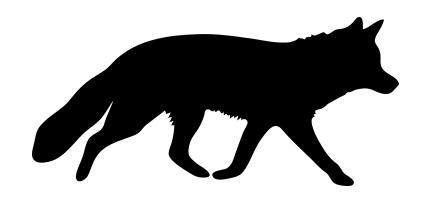
Occ Data

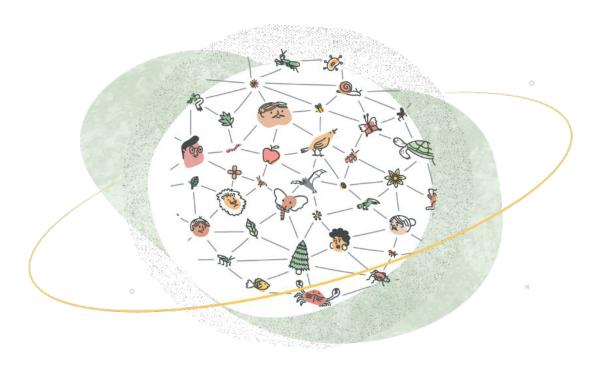
Occurrence data: Vulpes vulpes

- Query Database: **KGBIF**



- Max. 1000 observations





Env Data

- Associate species occurrences with environmental predictor variables
- Typically in raster format (pixelated/gridded data that has been georeferenced)

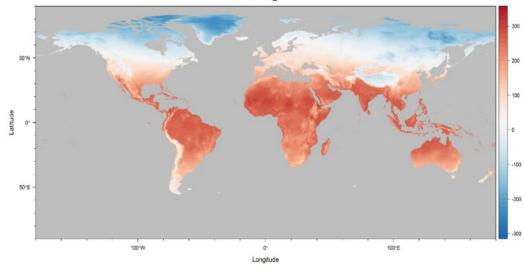
Biodiversity Informatics, 10, 2015, pp. 1-21

ECOCLIMATE: A DATABASE OF CLIMATE DATA FROM MULTIPLE MODELS FOR PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE FOR MACROECOLOGISTS AND BIOGEOGRAPHERS

MATHEUS S. LIMA-RIBEIRO¹, SARA VARELA^{2,3}, JAVIER GONZÁLEZ-HERNÁNDEZ⁴, GUILHERME DE OLIVEIRA⁵, JOSÉ ALEXANDRE F. DINIZ-FILHO⁶, LEVI CARINA TERRIBILE¹

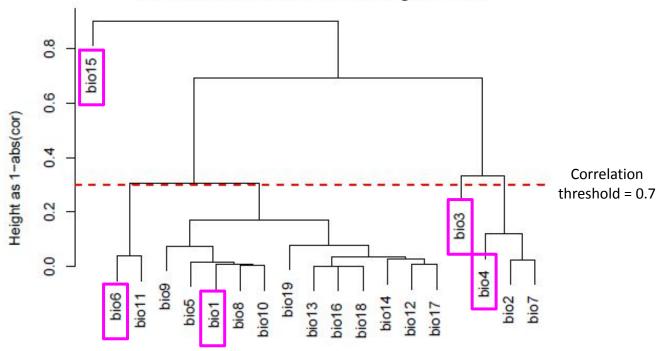
0.5° resolution (~ 55km x 55km raster grid)

e.g., Mean Annual Temperature (°C)



Env Data

Cluster of the correlations among variables



- Biol1: Annual mean temperature (°C)
- Biol3: Isothermality (%)
- Biol4: Temperature seasonality (%)
- Biol6: Min temperature of coldest month (°C)
- Biol15: Precipitation seasonality (%)

- ecoClimate data
- Global Circulation Model: CCSM
- Temporal scenario: Present
- Bioclimatic variables:
 - biol1, biol3, biol4, biol6, biol15

Process Occs

Exclude introduced range (Australia) to test later on.

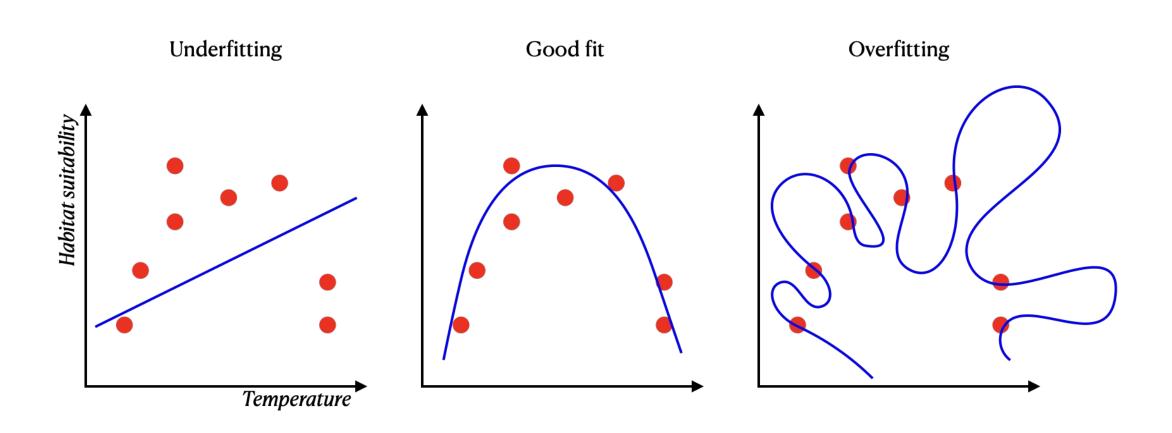


Process Envs

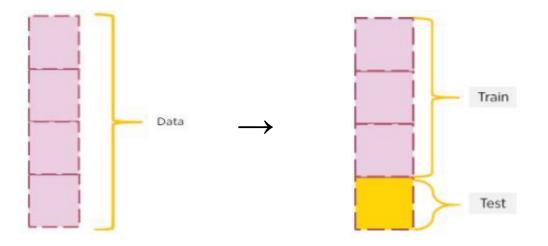
- Selection of study area by cropping predictor variables
- Sample environmental conditions where species are not recorded
 - background points or "pseudoabsence" (not a true absence)

- Select Study Region:
 - 20° point buffer around points
- Sample Background Points
 - 1000 points

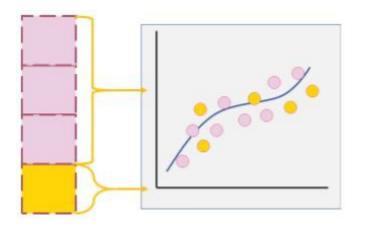
Model fit:



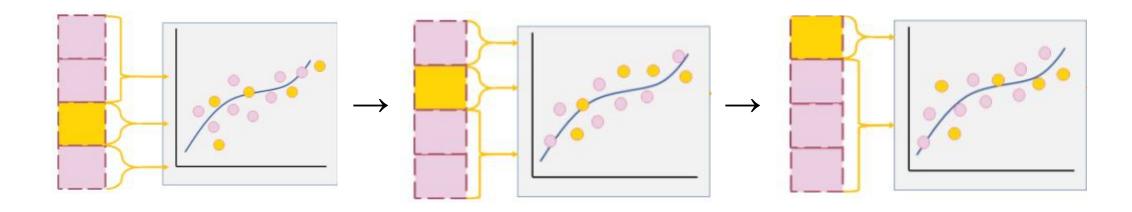
Cross-validation:



Cross-validation:



Cross-validation:

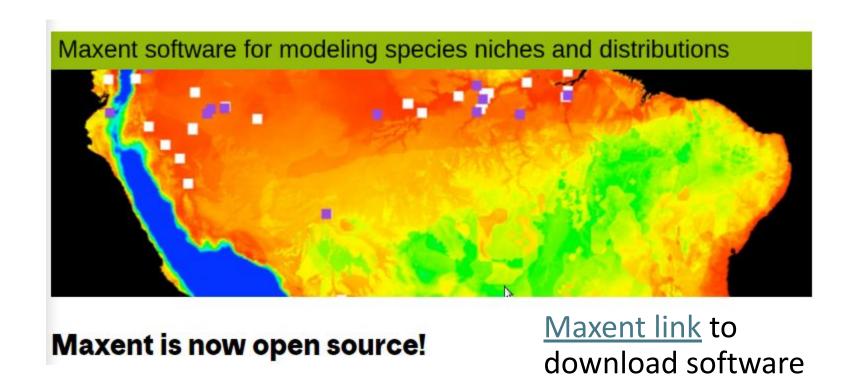


Cross-validation in Wallace:

- Non-spatial Partition
- Random k-folds
- 4 partitions

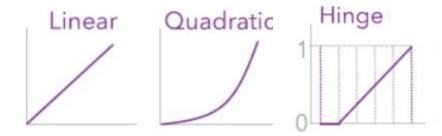
Model

- Many approaches and algorithms exist to build and evaluate models for species niches/distributions
 - presence/background algorithm Maxent



Model

- Choose Maxent module, then maxnet algorithm
- Feature classes:
 - L and LQH



- Regularization multiplier penalization of model complexity
 - Multiplier of 1 and 4 (step value = 3)
- Categorical variables = NO
- Clamping = FALSE
- Parallel = TRUE

Model

Selecting the "best" model out of our 4 candidate models

- 2 feature classes x 2 regularization multipliers = 4 models
- Evaluation metrics
 - AUC (Area Under the Curve)
 - OR (Omission Rate)
 - CBI (Continuous Boyce Index)

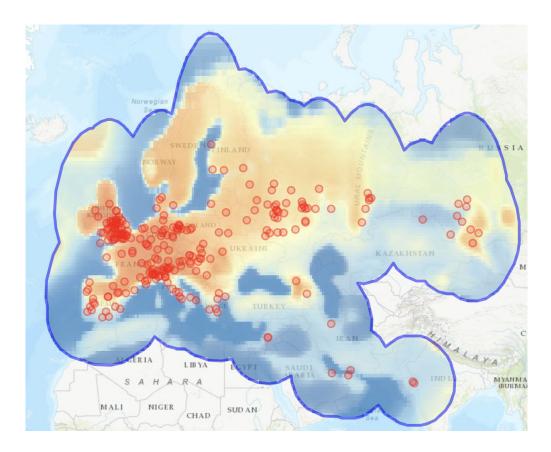
Calculated and averaged across all partitions

- AICc (corrected Akaike Information Criterion)
- Maxent Lambdas: weights for feature classes of each variable for each of the models

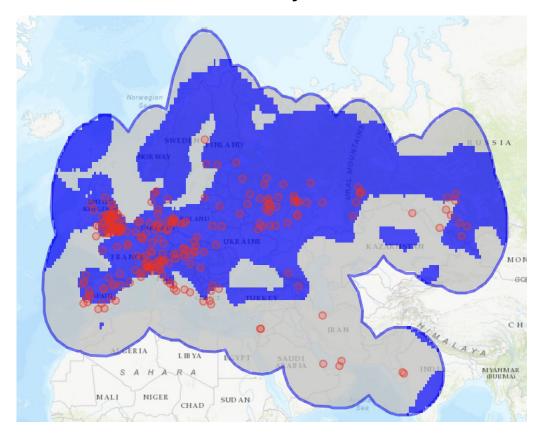
Visualize

Map predictions

Continuous



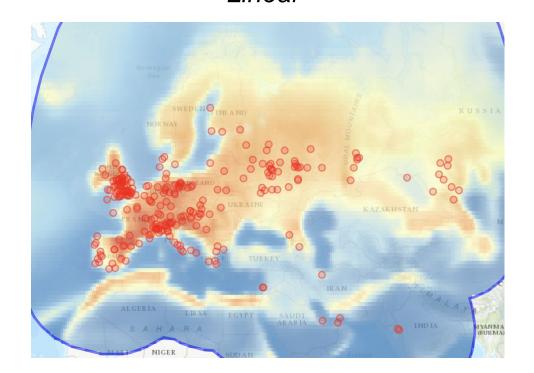
Binary



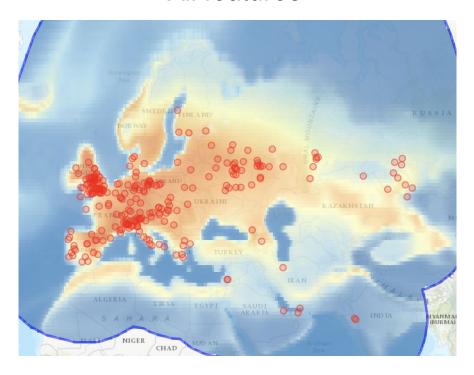
Visualize

Map predictions

Linear

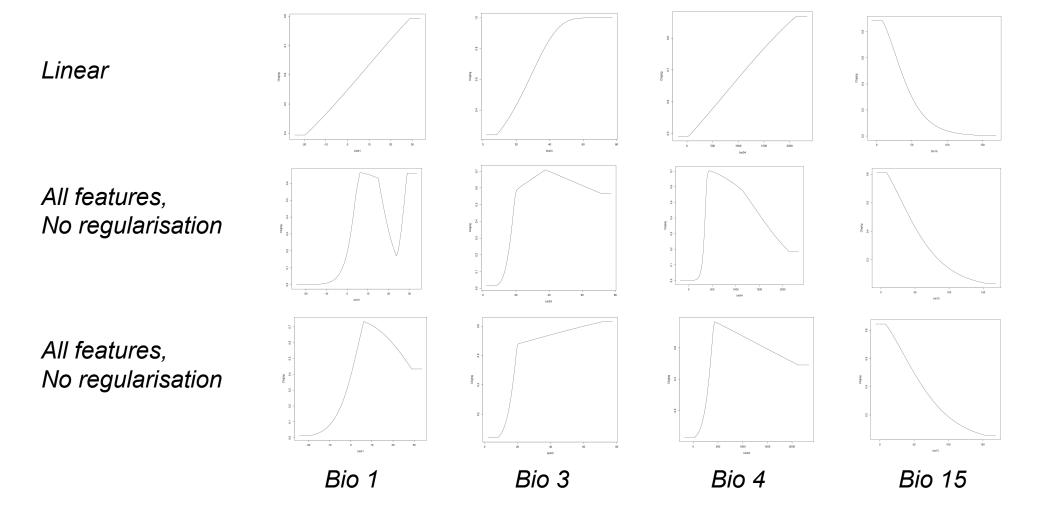


All features



Visualize

Response curves

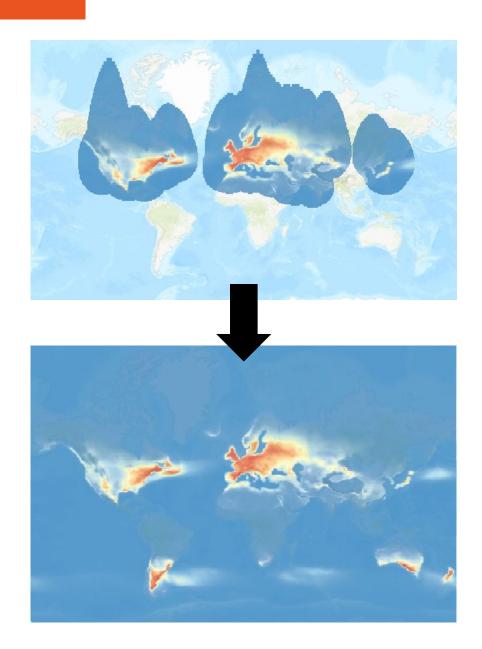


Transfer

- Predicting model in other geographic regions or time periods
 - e.g., for invasive/introduced species or effects of climate change



- Draw polygon to include Australia (entire world)
- 0 degree buffer distance
- Transfer
 - No threshold: continuous



Reproduce

Download code

- Repeat analysis in one click with RStudio





For reference:

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- Feng, X., Park, D. S., Walker, C., Peterson, A. T., Merow, C., & Papeş, M. (2019). A checklist for maximizing reproducibility of ecological niche models. Nature Ecology & Evolution, 3(10), 1382–1395. https://www.nature.com/articles/s41559-019-0972-5
- Merow, C., Smith, M. J., & Silander, J. A., Jr. (2013). A practical guide to MaxEnt for modeling species' distributions: what it does, and why inputs and settings matter. Ecography, 36(10), 1058–1069. https://nsojournals.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1600-0587.2013.07872.x
- Zurell, D., Franklin, J., König, C., Bouchet, P. J., Dormann, C. F., Elith, J., Fandos, G., Feng, X., Guillera-Arroita, G., Guisan, A., Lahoz-Monfort, J. J., Leitão, P. J., Park, D. S., Peterson, A. T., Rapacciuolo, G., Schmatz, D. R., Schröder, B., Serra-Diaz, J. M., Thuiller, W., ... Merow, C. (2020). A standard protocol for reporting species distribution models. Ecography, 43(9), 1261–1277. https://nsojournals.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/epdf/10.1111/ecog.04960

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GitHub page:

https://github.com/lucabutikofer/IUCN_SDM_Course