

# CLIMATIC EFFECTS ON DYNAMICS OF BEE-FLOWER INTERACTIONS

Imperial College  
London

Jia Le, Lim  
Department of Life Sciences, Silwood Park Campus, Imperial College London



## Do bee-flower interactions change over time?

Previous studies assume that the temperature dependence of ecosystem function is a simple scaling up of all the component species' thermal responses. In this case, predicting the effects of climatic warming or cooling on ecosystem function would be a relatively straightforward task.

### Data

We combine new theory and data on the temperature dependence of key metabolic traits at both:

- *Species level*: more than 300 different species of terrestrial plants (*Biotraits Database*)
- *Ecosystem level*: 118 local terrestrial ecosystems across the world (*Fluxnet Database*)

We present a preliminary analysis of intraspecific data, to get the patterns necessary for parameterizing a model, and ecosystem flux data for validation.

### Calculating turnover rates

A simple equation to map individual metabolism to ecosystem flux on a daily scale is:

$$F = F_0 \left( \sum_{i=1}^k x_i \right)$$

where:

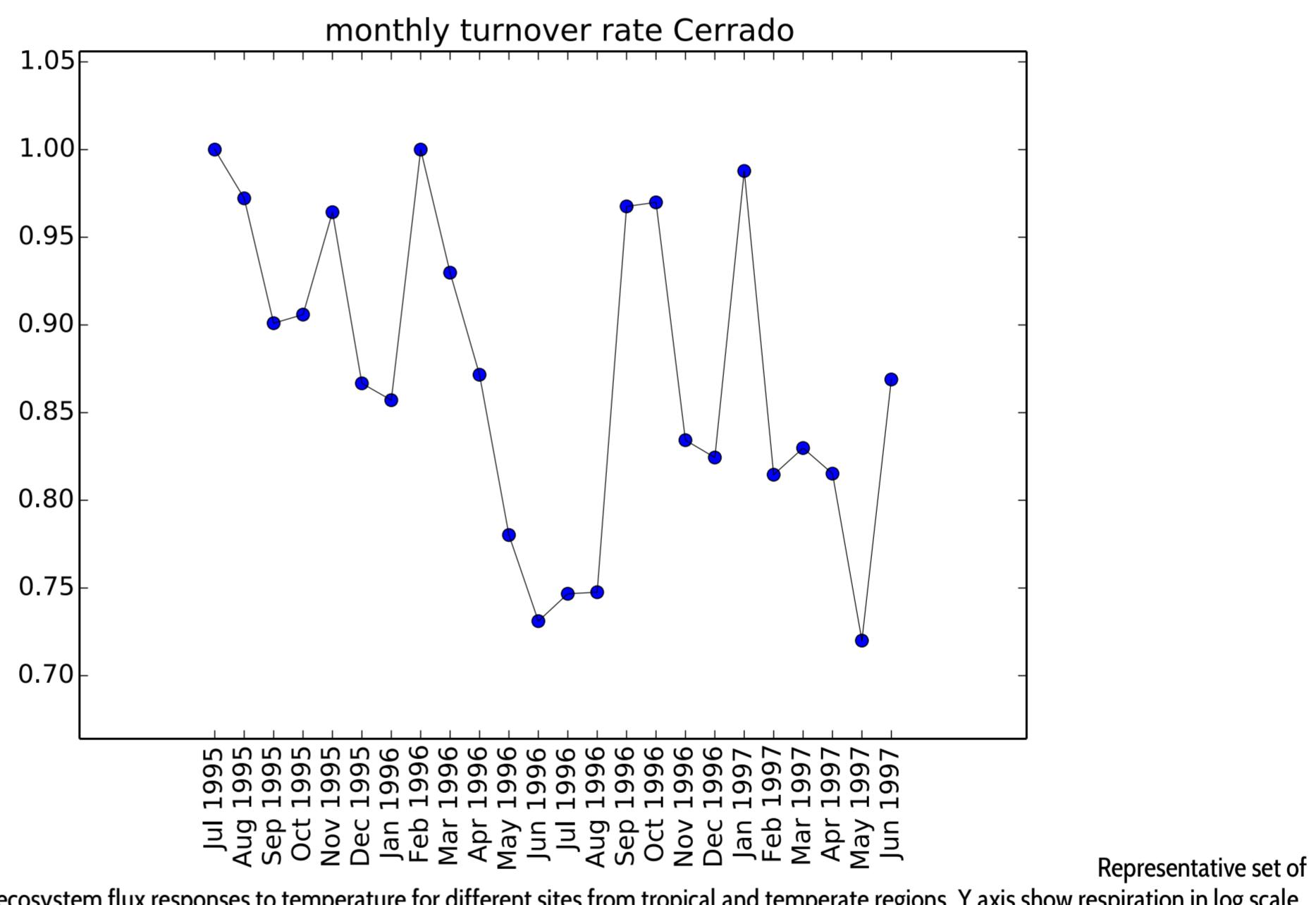
- $k$  is an autotroph and  $j$  is a heterotroph species
- $\sum_{i=1}^k x_i$  is the total biomass of the ecosystem

A general form for the distribution of biomasses across species is:

$$x_i = h(m_i)$$

that is,  $x_i$  is a function  $h$  of the body mass of the species.

### Preliminary Results



### Conclusions and Ongoing work

- At the intra-specific level,  $E_a$  and  $T_{peak}$  for  $R$  are usually higher than for  $P$ .
- $T_{peak}$ 's are usually much higher than the "characteristic" adaptive environment of the organism, so the full unimodal thermal response doesn't matter for mapping individual TPCs to ecosystem-level fluxes.

### Possible challenges

- What role might acclimation of intraspecific TPCs play on the ecosystem response?
- What is an appropriate distribution for species-level biomass abundances  $x_i$ ?
- Which is the effect of non-linear interactions between species?

#### References:

- Enquist, B. J., Economo, E. P., Huxman, T. E., Allen, A. P., Ignace, D. D. and Gillooly, J. F. 2003. Scaling metabolism from organisms to ecosystems. – Nature 423(6940): 639–42.
- Savage, V. M. 2004. Improved approximations to scaling relationships for species, populations, and ecosystems across latitudinal and elevational gradients. – J. Theor. Biol. 227(4): 525–534.
- Yvon-Durocher, G. and Allen, A. P. 2012. Linking community size structure and ecosystem functioning using metabolic theory. – Philos. Trans. R. Soc. Lond. B. Biol. Sci. 367(1605): 2998–3007.
- Yvon-Durocher, et al. 2012. Reconciling the temperature dependence of respiration across timescales and ecosystem types. – Nature 487(7408): 472–6.

Acknowledgements: This work used eddy covariance data acquired by the FLUXNET community (<http://fluxnet.fluxdata.org>).