

How to present SEMs?

Exercice

We have now analysed the model.

How would you draw the model output to represent the minimum information required in order to reproduce this model?

Draw your idea

What can you expect to see out in nature?

Journal of Experimental Child Psychology 167 (2018) 93–116



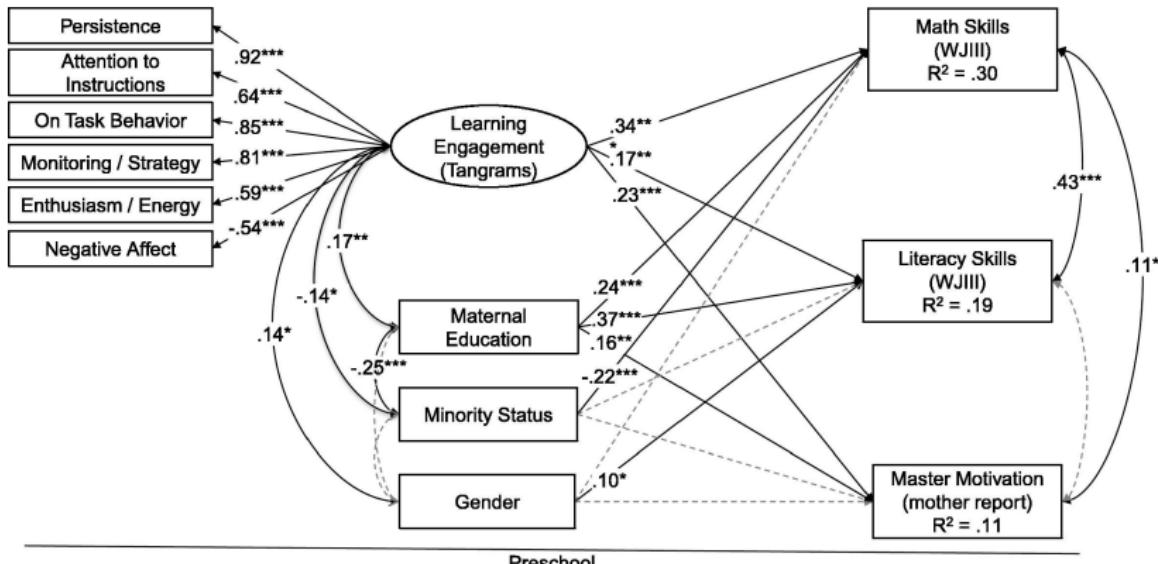
Measuring preschool learning engagement in the laboratory



Simone E. Halliday ^{a,*}, Susan D. Calkins ^b, Esther M. Leerkes ^b

^aDepartment of Psychology, The University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Greensboro, NC 27412, USA

^bDepartment of Human Development and Family Studies, The University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Greensboro, NC 27412, USA



What can you expect to see out in nature?

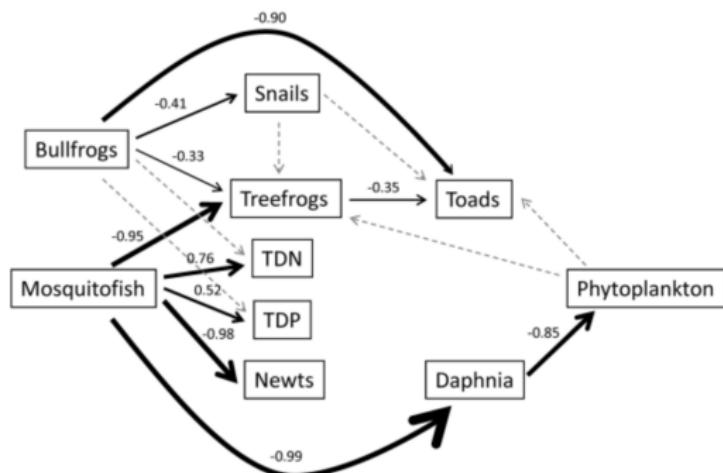
Ecology, 93(6), 2012, pp. 1254–1261
© 2012 by the Ecological Society of America

Community ecology of invasions: direct and indirect effects of multiple invasive species on aquatic communities

DANIEL L. PRESTON,^{1,3} JEREMY S. HENDERSON,² AND PIETER T. J. JOHNSON¹

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²Department of Zoology, Oregon State University, 3029 Cordley Hall, Corvallis, Oregon 97331 USA



What can you expect to see out in nature?

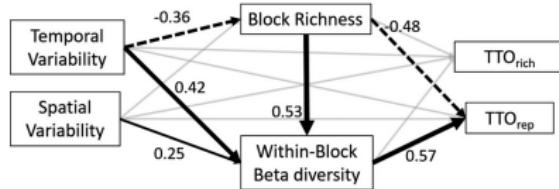
ECOLOGY LETTERS

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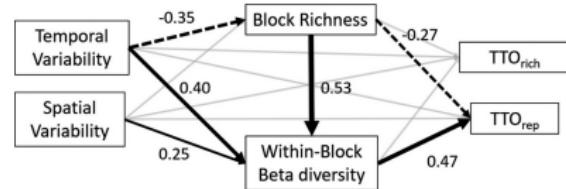
Spatial heterogeneity in species composition constrains plant community responses to herbivory and fertilisation

Dorothee Hodapp , Elizabeth T. Borer, W. Stanley Harpole, Eric M. Lind, Eric W. Seabloom, Peter B. Adler, Juan Alberti, Carlos A. Arnillas, Jonathan D. Bakker, Lori Biederman ... See all authors 

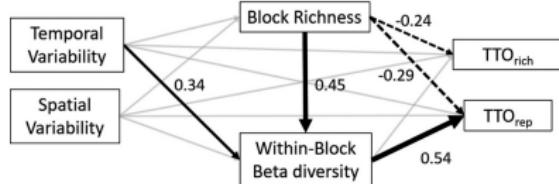
(a) Control (96)



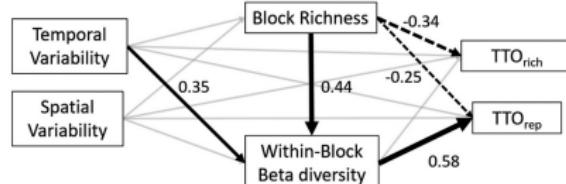
(b) NPK (95)



(c) Fence (79)



(d) NPK+Fence (80)



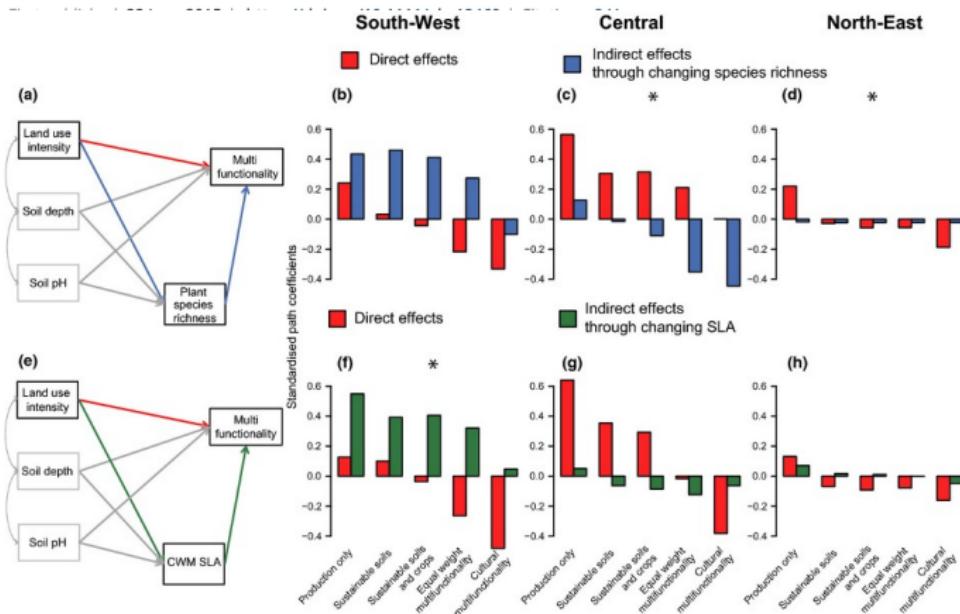
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ECOLOGY LETTERS

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Land use intensification alters ecosystem multifunctionality via loss of biodiversity and changes to functional composition

Eric Allan, Pete Manning, Fabian Alt, Julia Binkenstein, Stefan Blaser, Nico Blüthgen, Stefan Böhm, Fabrice Grassein, Norbert Hözel, Valentin H. Klaus, Till Kleinebecker ... See all authors



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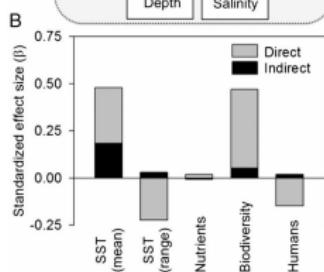
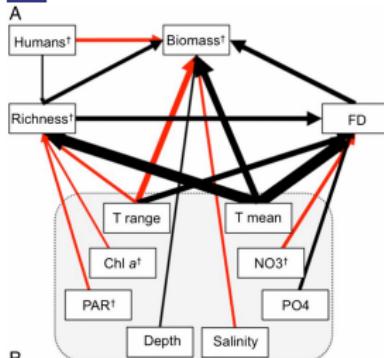


Biodiversity enhances reef fish biomass and resistance to climate change

J. Emmett Duffy^{a,1}, Jonathan S. Lefcheck^b, Rick D. Stuart-Smith^c, Sergio A. Navarrete^d, and Graham J. Edgar^c

^aTennenbaum Marine Observatories Network, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC 20013-7012; ^bDepartment of Biological Sciences, Virginia Institute of Marine Science, The College of William & Mary, Gloucester Point, VA 23062; ^cInstitute for Marine and Antarctic Studies, University of Tasmania, Hobart, TAS 7001 Australia; and ^dEstación Costera de Investigaciones Marinas and Center for Marine Conservation, LINC-Global, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, Casilla 114-D, Santiago, Chile

Edited by James A. Estes, University of California, Santa Cruz, CA, and approved April 13, 2016 (received for review December 11, 2015)



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ARTICLE

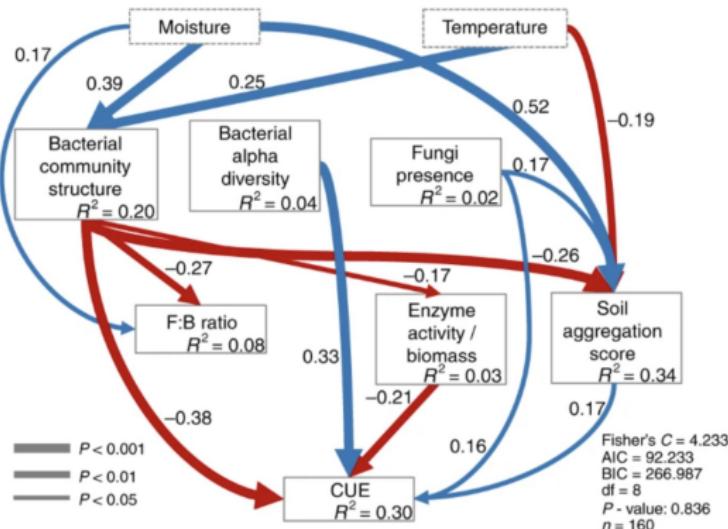
Check for updates

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-020-17502-z> OPEN

Microbial diversity drives carbon use efficiency in a model soil

Luiz A. Domeignoz-Horta¹, Grace Pold², Xiao-Jun Allen Liu³, Serita D. Frey³, Jerry M. Melillo⁴ & Kristen M. DeAngelis¹

Fig. 4: Structural equation model showing the relative influence of soil abiotic and biotic factors on CUE.



What can you expect to see out in nature?

The ISME Journal (2018) 12:1817–1825
https://doi.org/10.1038/s41396-018-0096-y



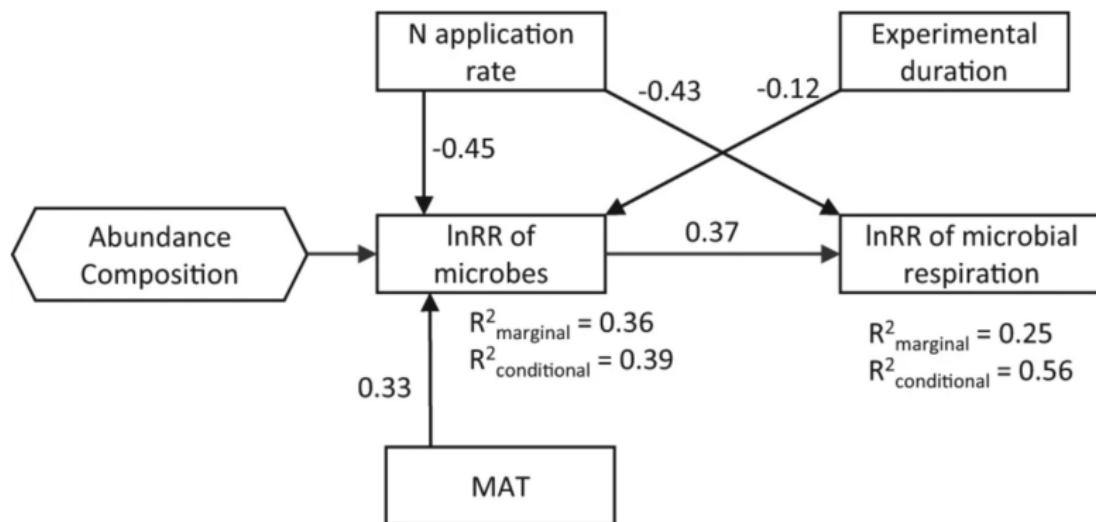
ARTICLE



Global negative effects of nitrogen deposition on soil microbes

Tian'an Zhang¹ · Han Y. H. Chen ² · Honghua Ruan¹

Received: 24 October 2017 / Revised: 13 February 2018 / Accepted: 20 February 2018 / Published online: 27 March 2018
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PNAS

Long-term nutrient reductions lead to the unprecedented recovery of a temperate coastal region

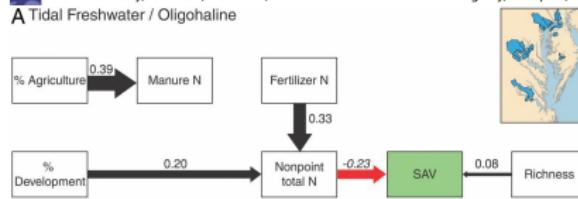
Jonathan S. Lefcheck^{a,b,1}, Robert J. Orth^b, William C. Dennison^c, David J. Wilcox^b, Rebecca R. Murphy^d, Jennifer Keisman^e, Cassie Gurbisz^{f,g}, Michael Hannam^h, J. Brooke Landryⁱ, Kenneth A. Moore^b, Christopher J. Patrick^j, Jeremy Testa^k, Donald E. Weller^h, and Richard A. Batiuk^l

^aCenter for Ocean Health, Bigelow Laboratory for Ocean Science, East Boothbay, ME 04544; ^bDepartment of Biological Sciences, Virginia Institute of Marine Science, The College of William & Mary, Gloucester Point, VA 23062; ^cUniversity of Maryland Center for Environmental Science, Cambridge, MD 21613;

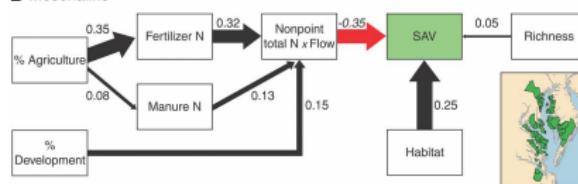
^dUniversity of Maryland Center for Environmental Science, Chesapeake Bay Program Office, Annapolis, MD 21403; ^eUS Geological Survey, Baltimore, MD 21228; ^fNational Socio-Environmental Synthesis Center, Annapolis, MD 21401; ^gEnvironmental Studies Program, St. Mary's College of Maryland, St. Mary's City, MD 20686; ^hSmithsonian Environmental Research Center, Edgewater, MD 21037; ⁱMaryland Department of Natural Resources, Annapolis, MD 21401;

^jTexas A&M University Corpus Christi, Corpus Christi, TX 78412; ^kUniversity of Maryland Center for Environmental Science, Chesapeake Biological Laboratory, Solomons, MD 20688; and ^lUS Environmental Protection Agency, Annapolis, MD 21403

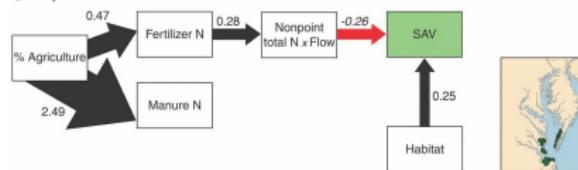
A Tidal Freshwater / Oligohaline



B Mesohaline



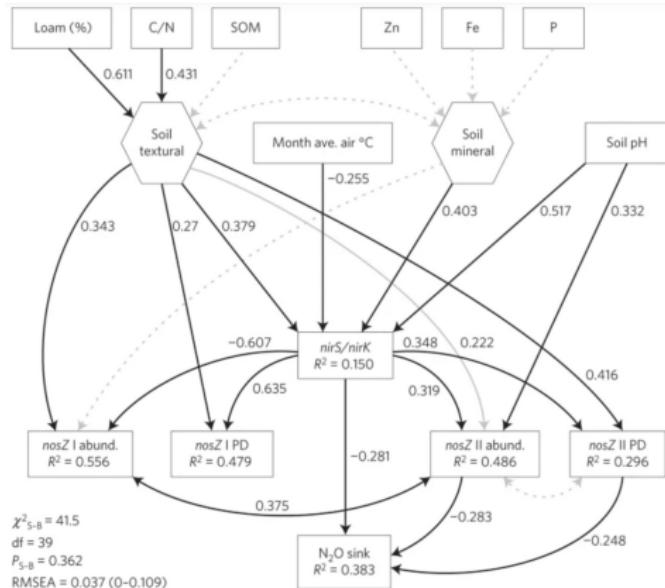
C Polyhaline



What can you expect to see out in nature?

Recently identified microbial guild mediates soil N_2O sink capacity

Christopher M. Jones^{1,2†}, Aymé Spor^{†‡}, Fiona P. Brennan^{1,3,4}, Marie-Christine Breuil¹, David Bru¹, Philippe Lemanceau¹, Bryan Griffiths^{3,5}, Sara Hallin^{2*} and Laurent Philippot¹



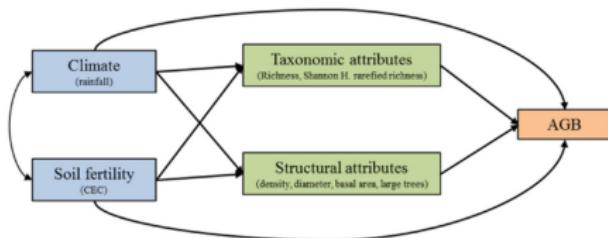
What can you expect to see out in nature?

Diversity enhances carbon storage in tropical forests

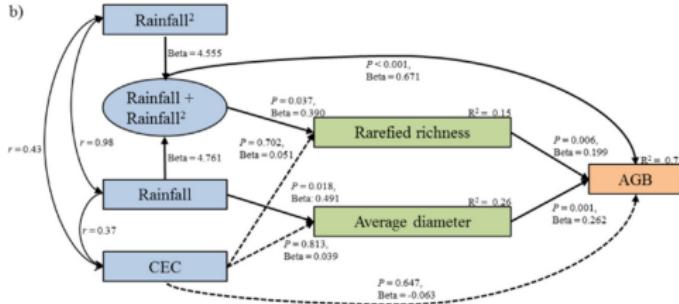
L. Poorter , M. T. van der Sande, J. Thompson, E. J. M. M. Arets, A. Alarcón, J. Álvarez-Sánchez, N. Ascarrunz, P. Balvanera, G. Barajas-Guzmán, A. Boit, F. Bongers, F. A. Carvalho ... See all authors 

Environmental drivers Forest attributes Carbon

a)



b)



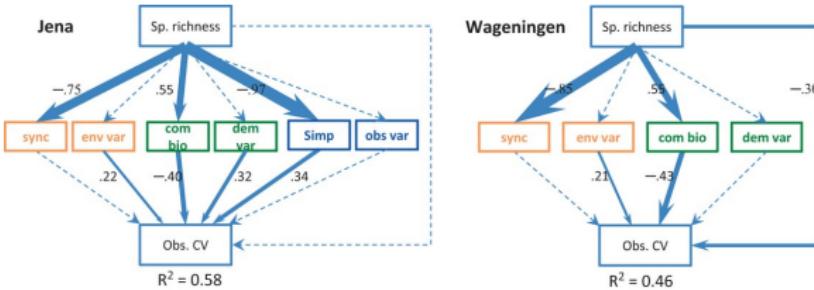
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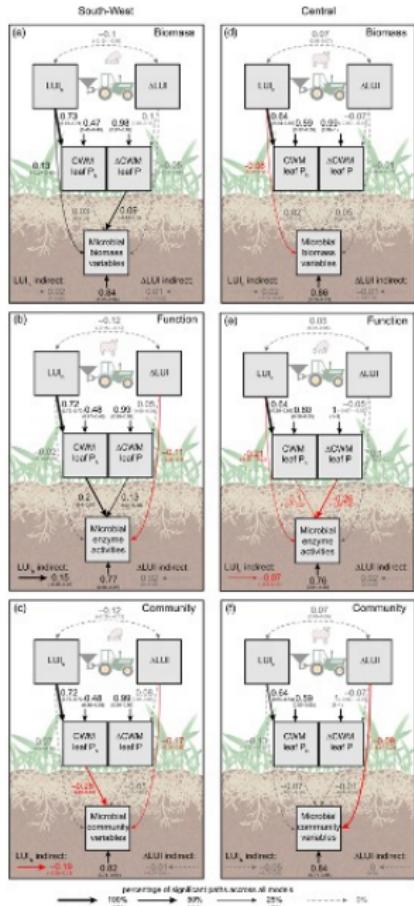
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Predicting ecosystem stability from community composition and biodiversity

Claire de Mazancourt , Forest Isbell, Allen Larocque, Frank Berendse, Enrica De Luca, James B. Grace, Bart Haegeman, H. Wayne Polley, Christiane Roscher, Bernhard Schmid ... See all authors 



What can you expect to see out in nature?



RESEARCH ARTICLE

Journal of Ecology



Plant functional trait shifts explain concurrent changes in the structure and function of grassland soil microbial communities

Runa S. Boeddinghaus¹ | Sven Marhan¹ | Doreen Berner¹ | Steffen Boch^{2,3} |
Markus Fischer^{3,4} | Norbert Hölzel⁵ | Jens Kattge^{6,7} | Valentin H. Klaus^{5,8} |
Till Kleinebecker^{5,9} | Yvonne Oelmann¹⁰ | Daniel Prati³ | Deborah Schäfer³ |
Ingo Schöning⁶ | Marion Schrumpf⁶ | Elisabeth Sorkau^{10,11} | Ellen Kandeler¹ |
Peter Manning⁴

What can you expect to see out in nature?

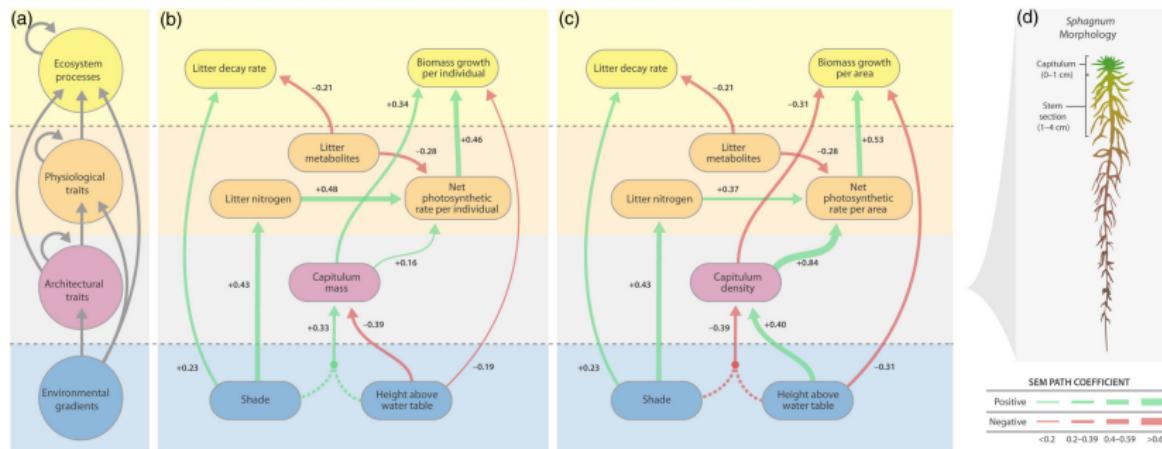
Journal of Ecology



RESEARCH ARTICLE | Open Access |

Scaling functional traits to ecosystem processes: Towards a mechanistic understanding in peat mosses

Adriano Mazziotta , Gustaf Granath, Håkan Rydin, Fia Bengtsson, Jon Norberg



What can you expect to see out in nature?

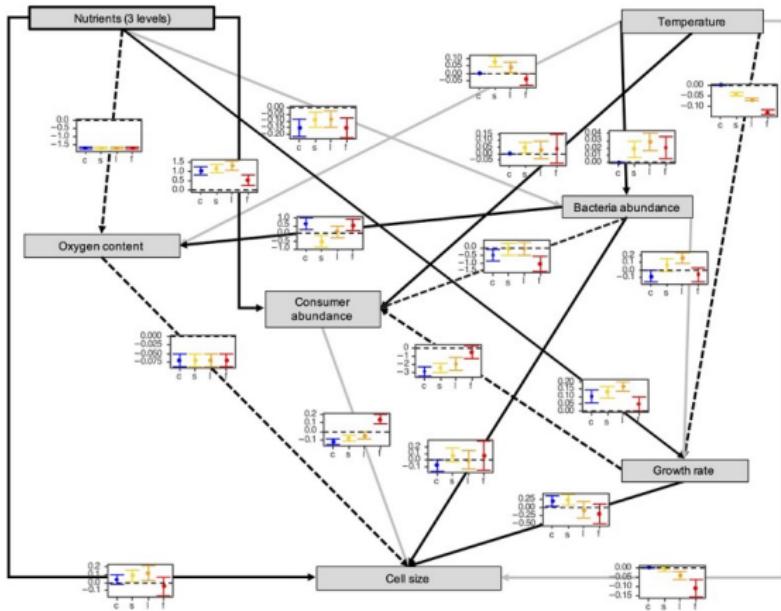
RESEARCH ARTICLE

Functional Ecology

B
RITISH
ECOLOGICAL
SOCIETY

Testing multiple drivers of the temperature-size rule with nonlinear temperature increase

Andrea Tabi^{1,2} | Aurélie Garnier^{1,3} | Frank Pennekamp¹



Discussion

What makes a good data visualization?

Theory

*Maybe one slide drawing on theory from people like Edward Tufte
Information/ink ratio*

What is a good SEM drawing

Discussion:

Starting from what you draw and what you just saw, what is the minimum necessary information to include in an SEM?

What is missing in your drawing?

Necessary information

There are no rules. Here are our guidelines to help drawing a good/reproducible/interpretable SEM diagram.

- 1) Represent your variables
- 2) Represent your coefficients
- 3) Represent all paths
- 4) Report model goodness of fit
- 5) Report explanatory power for endogenous variables
- 6) Include important tables

Necessary information

1) Represent your variables

Squares are data

Circles are latent variables

Hexagon (?) for composite variables

insert illustration

Necessary information

2) Represent your coefficients

Magnitude, direction, and significance

- ▶ Change the path

Color for direction

Dashed vs solid for significance

- ▶ Change the size

Write the numbers

insert illustration

Necessary information

3) Represent all paths

Represent causal paths included in your model regardless of significance. Not necessarily in the same figure.

Represent important correlations

- ▶ Exogenous can or can not be included
- ▶ Always include correlations among the errors of endogenous variables

Necessary information

4) Report model goodness of fit

- ▶ Covariance-based approaches

Chi-squared

SRMR

RMSEA

- ▶ Local estimation

D-sep test

Necessary information

5) Explanatory power for endogenous variables

Residual error or R²

Necessary information

6) Include important tables

Coefficient table

Local estimation: basis set?

Mediation analysis?

Room for artistry

This will depend on the audience and support:

Is this a paper?

Is this a presentation?

What is the narrative structure?

Key thing here is that one structure might not work in every case.
Not advocating for anything in particular, but note that the same
model for a paper might not be the right presentation for an SEM.

Room for artistry

Interactions, multigroup models, composites, etc.

Color, size, etc.

Organizing variables in space in a way that is useful to your reader rather than distracting:

- ▶ Top to bottom, or left to right?
- ▶ Mediator relative placement

Composite variable: do we need to show everything?

Breaking up complicated models into several panels or several figures

Moving information to a supplement

Room for artistry

Meta models, apriori models, etc

- ▶ Start with something abstract (metamodel concept)
- ▶ shows the core concepts and their relationships, ignoring the data.
- ▶ The most abstracted vision of the causal process you are trying to capture

Room for artistry

Showing the underlying data

Partial plots

Raw correlations:

- ▶ Shows linearity assumption, shows distribution of data, etc
- ▶ Correlation tables

Building the plot

This can be done in R. But it is generally done in external software like powerpoint, illustrator, or Inkscape.

In R, it can be useful to visualise your code and your model output.

Resources for drawing in R:

<https://statistics.ohlsen-web.de/sem-path-diagram/>