

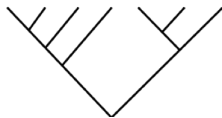
*TODO: Add Powerpoint coverslide  
manually*

Ruan van Mazijk

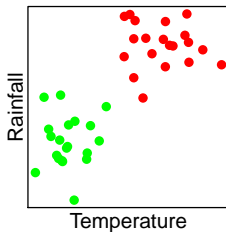
2018-12-27

# Species richness ( $S$ )

Speciation along ecological gradients



Co-existence within ecological space



# Species richness ( $S$ )

Environmental heterogeneity<sup>12</sup>

*TODO: expand*

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<sup>1</sup>Kreft & Jetz 2007. *PNAS* 104(14)

<sup>2</sup>Thuiller et al. 2006. *Ecography* 29(5)

# The Cape & SWA

*TODO: maps of regions*

# The Cape & SWA

- Similar

- Environments
  - Plant ecologies

*mediterranean, winter rainfall*  
*serotiny, sclerophylly*

- Different

- $S$  per unit area
  - Topographies

*Cape > SWA*  
*mountainous vs flat*

# The Cape & SWA

- Wide range of environmental conditions → supports diverse flora.
- Environmental stability through evolutionary time
  - (Pleistocene LGM in Cape, ??? in SW Australia).
  - This means that the ecological gradients have persisted longer, facilitating greater degrees of ecological speciation, and thus species richness, along those gradients and barriers to gene flow.

# The Cape & SWA

Thus, spatially heterogeneous that is stable through deep time → support and produce more diverse biota.

Environmental heterogeneity then has roles in the ecological present and over evolutionary time in stimulating species richness<sup>123</sup>.

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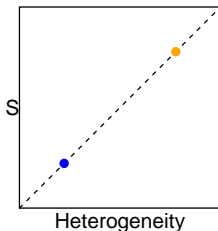
<sup>1</sup>Cramer & Verboom 2016. *J. Biogeography* 44(3)

<sup>2</sup>Kreft & Jetz 2007. *PNAS* 104(14)

<sup>3</sup>Thuiller et al. 2006. *Ecography* 29(5)

# Hypotheses

- Cape richness previously shown to depend on heterogeneity<sup>1</sup>
- Does this extend to SWA?



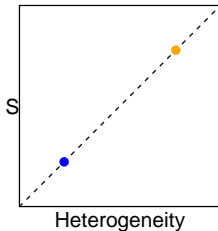
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<sup>1</sup>Cramer & Verboom 2016. *J. Biogeography* 44(3)



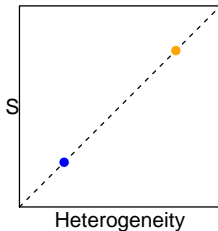
# Hypotheses

- i. The Cape has  $\uparrow$  environmental heterogeneity (EH),
- ii. and at a finer spatial scale



# Hypotheses

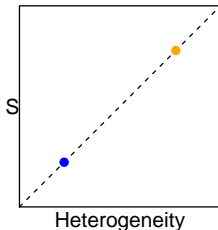
iii. The Cape has  $\uparrow$  species turnover



# Hypotheses

- iv.  $S$  and turnover are explained by EH
- v. Different axes of EH are NB in the Cape and SWA

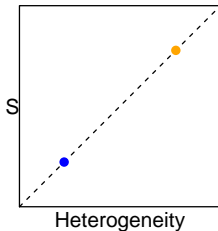
(Soil?)



# Hypotheses: Summary

i–iii. The Cape should be more environmentally heterogeneous

iv–v. Different forms of heterogeneity should matter in the Cape and SWA



# Data sources

- Each region's boundaries
- Environmental data

NASA MODIS  
CHIRPS  
SoilsGrid250m

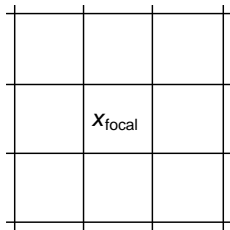
- Vascular plant occurrence records

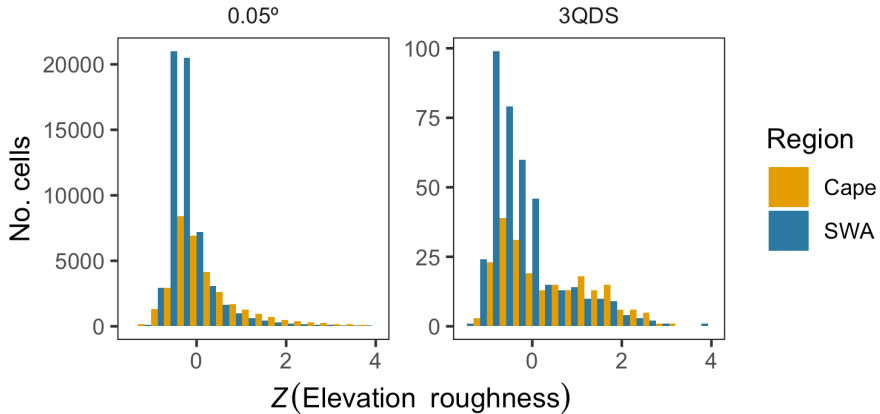
GBIF

# Environmental heterogeneity

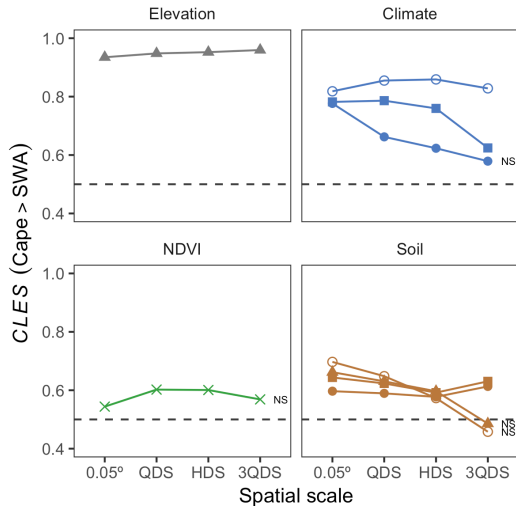
Local neighbourhood  $N$  about cell  $x_{focal}$

$$Roughness(N) = SD_{focal}(N)$$





- Roughness varies with scale
- And differently so for the Cape and SWA



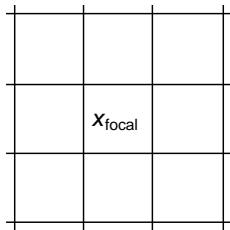
- Different forms of roughness scale differently
- And differently so for the Cape and SWA

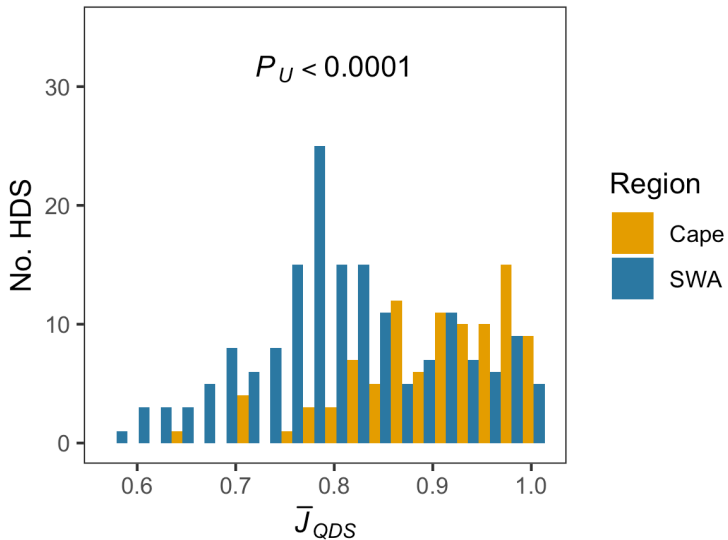


# Species turnover

Local neighbourhood  $N$  about cell  $x_{focal}$

$\overline{J}(N)$  = average Jaccard distance between cells





- The Cape has  $\uparrow$  species turnover

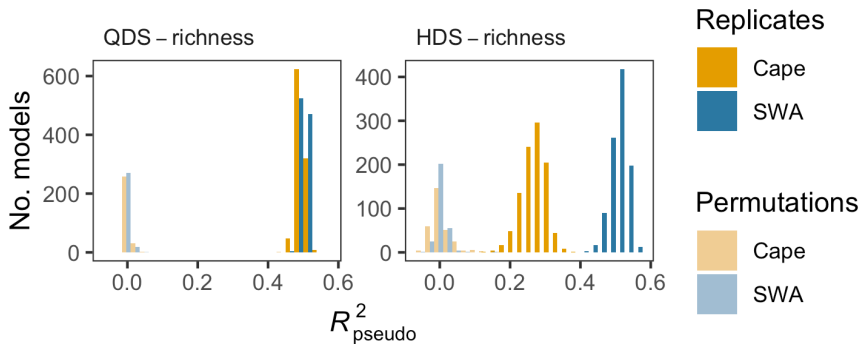
# BRT-modelling

- Machine-learning
- Non-linear, complex and multivariate datasets

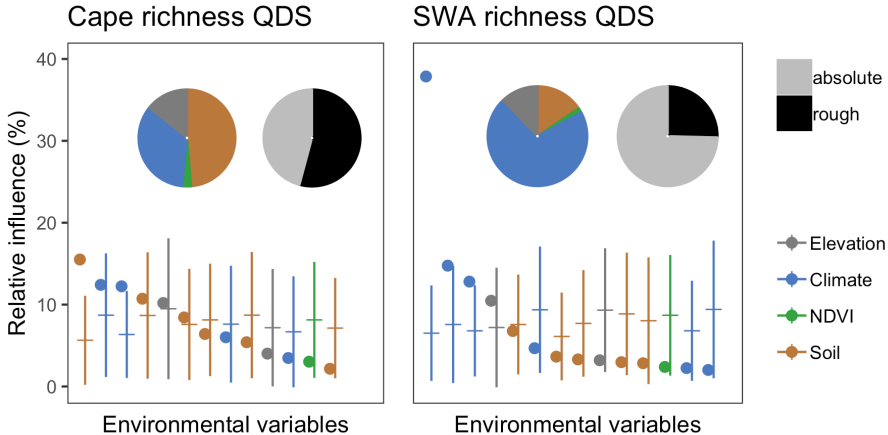
$$\hat{S} = w_1 t_1 + w_2 t_2 + w_3 t_3 + \cdots + w_n t_n$$

where  $t_i = \text{TODO: Insert regression-tree image}$

*TODO: Change  $\hat{S}$ -equation to version from Protea-SDMs slides*



- Patterns different from chance (permuted null) ✓
- Cape patterns breakdown at coarser scales ✓
- SWA patterns do not ✓



- Broad suite of variables vs MAP
- Roughness and soil vs absolute and climate

# Conclusions

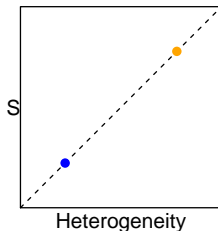
- i. The Cape has  $\uparrow$  EH, ✓
- ii. and at a finer spatial scale ✓
- iii. The Cape has  $\uparrow$  species turnover ✓
- iv.  $S$  and turnover are explained by EH ✓
- v. Different axes of EH ✓

# Conclusions: Summary

i–iii. The Cape **is** more environmentally heterogeneous



iv–v. Different forms of heterogeneity **do** matter in the Cape and SWA



Soil?



Thank you<sup>1</sup>!

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<sup>1</sup>And an extra thank you to Mike and Tony