



How much are wild vertebrate populations evolving right now?

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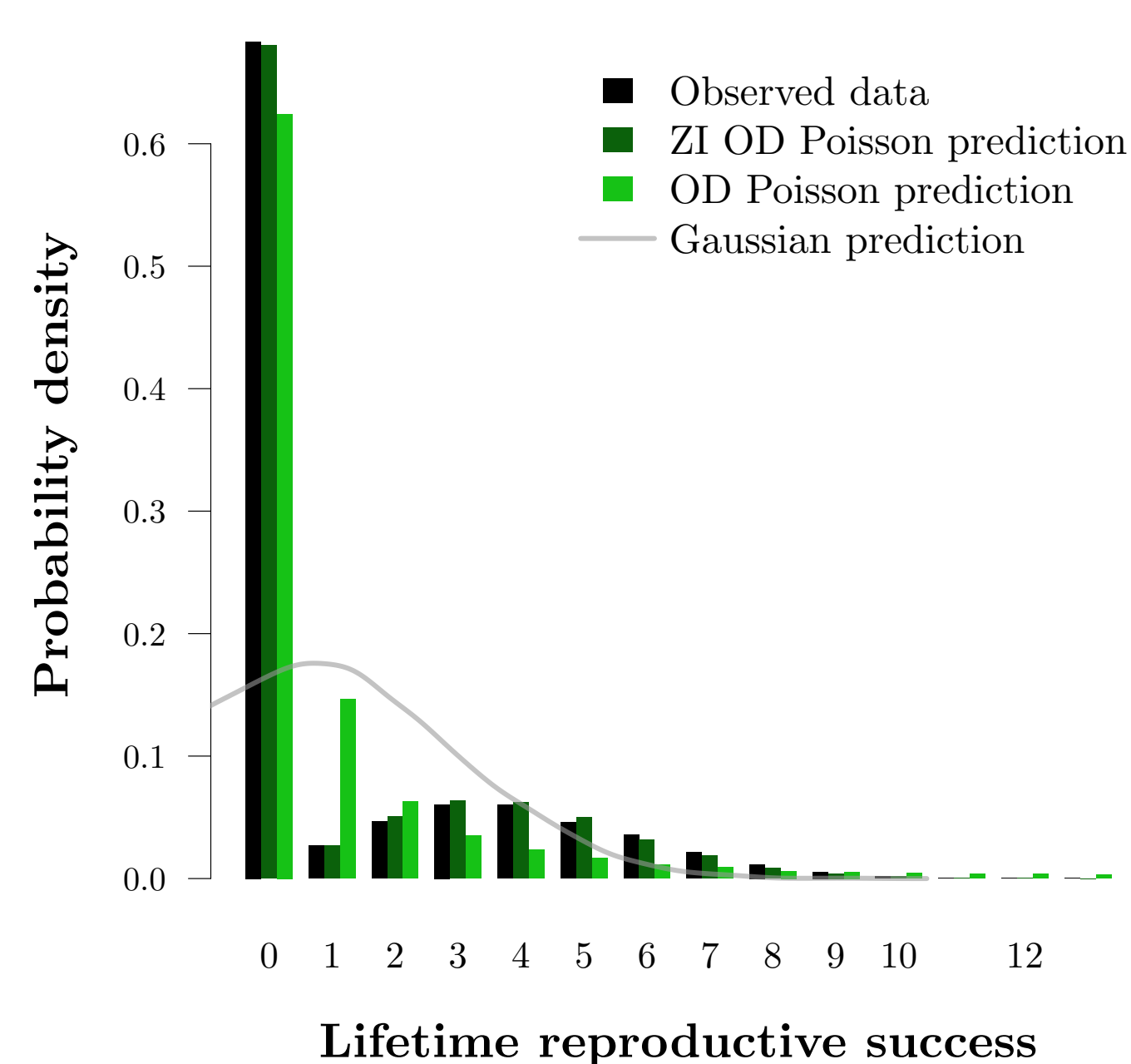


THE BIG PROBLEM: We do not know how much wild organisms are currently evolving!

Fisher's fundamental theorem of natural selection states that **additive genetic variation in fitness measures evolution across all traits and all the genome**. That is just what we need*! Yet, there are few estimates in free-ranging populations, and most may be unreliable. Indeed, it is difficult to measure fitness, difficult to estimate genetic variance, statistical models tend not to fit the data, and it is unclear how to interpret estimates from generalized linear models. We assemble data from the monitoring of a dozen pedigreed populations,

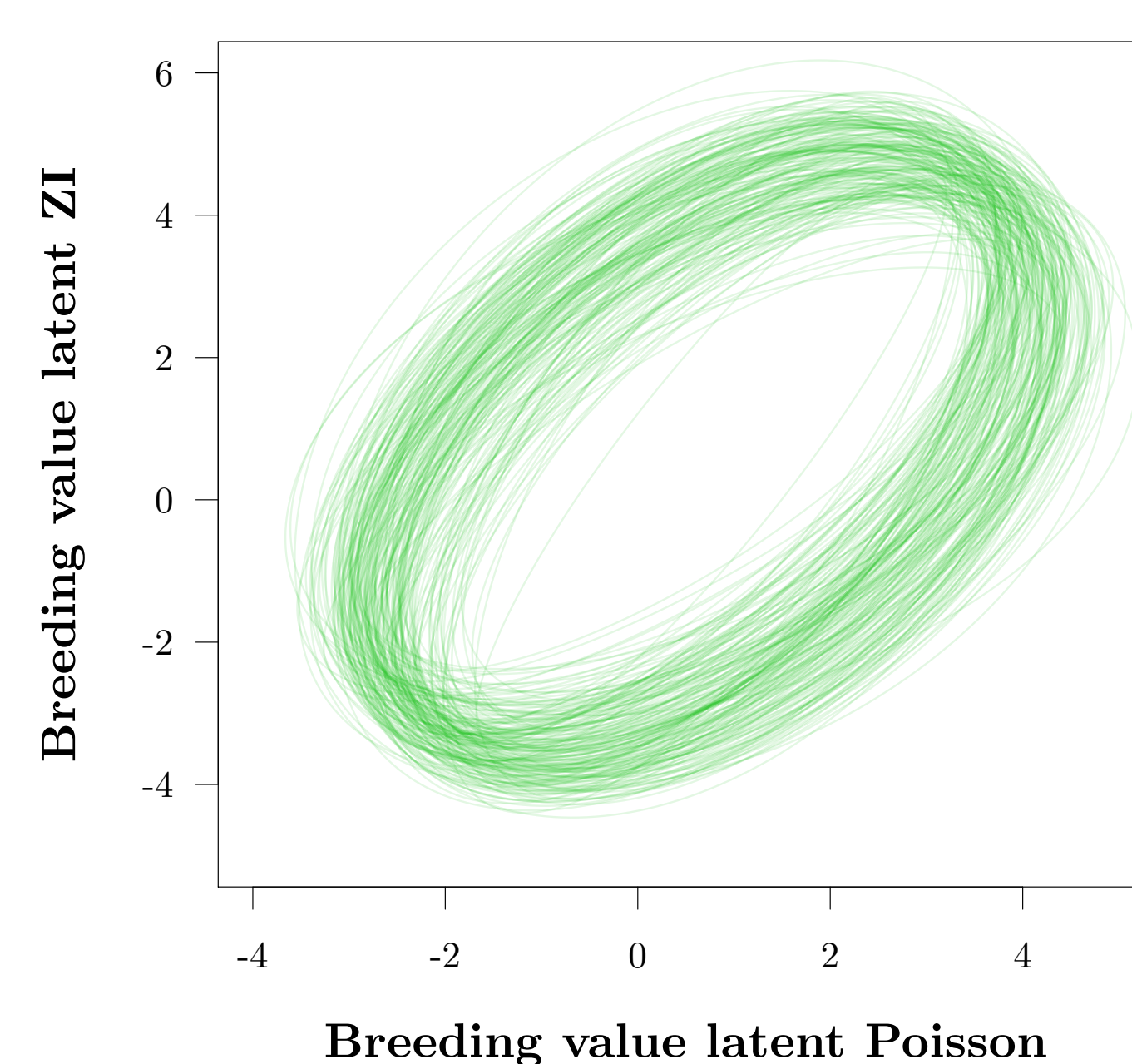
THEORY: How to estimate additive genetic variance in relative fitness ($V_A(\omega)$) ?

HOW TO MODEL FITNESS?



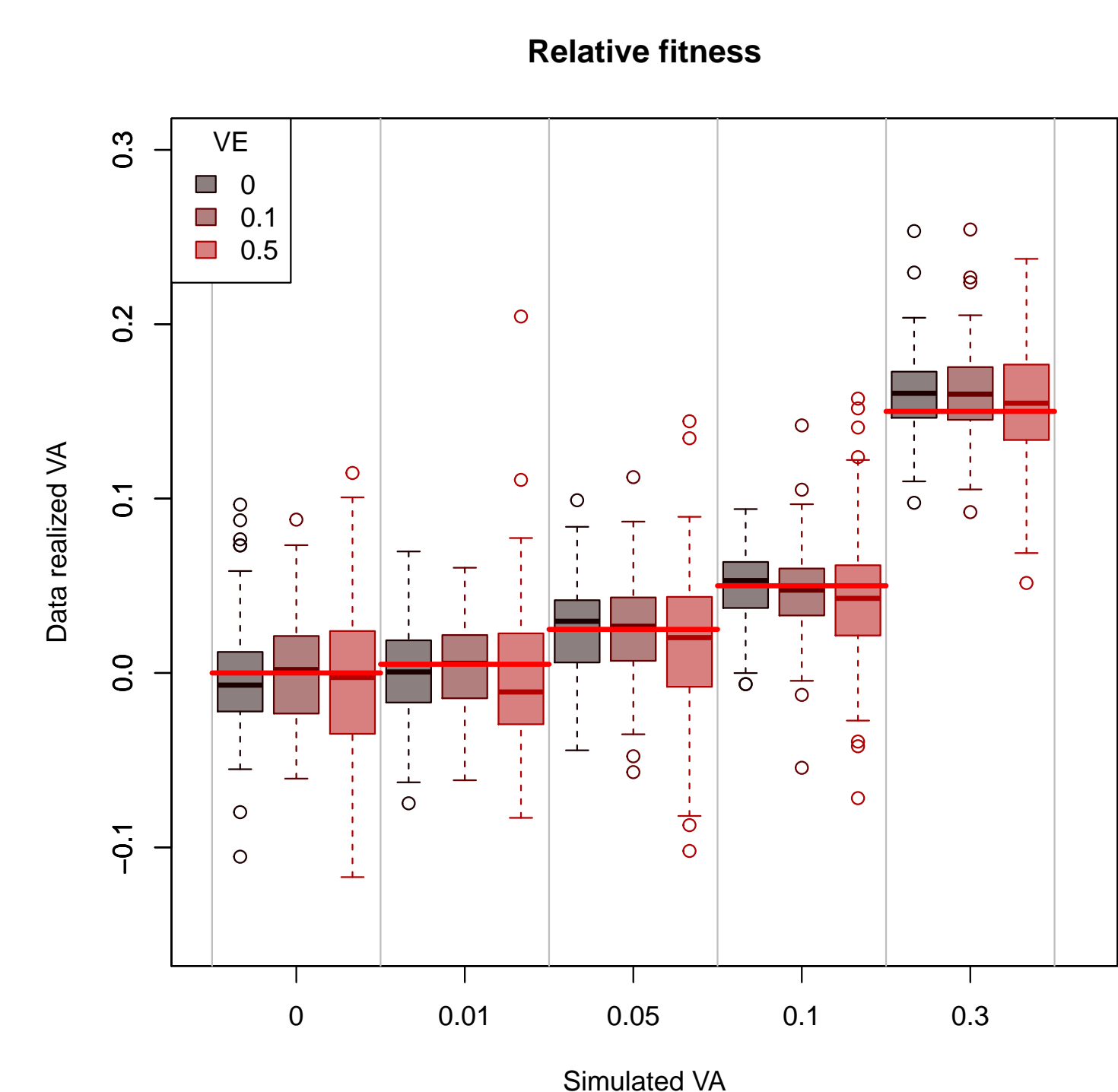
Zero-Inflated Over-Dispersed Poisson models tend to fit well lifetime fitness data. Quantitative genetic estimates may be more precise than with Gaussian or Poisson models.

HOW TO ESTIMATE GENETIC VARIATION?



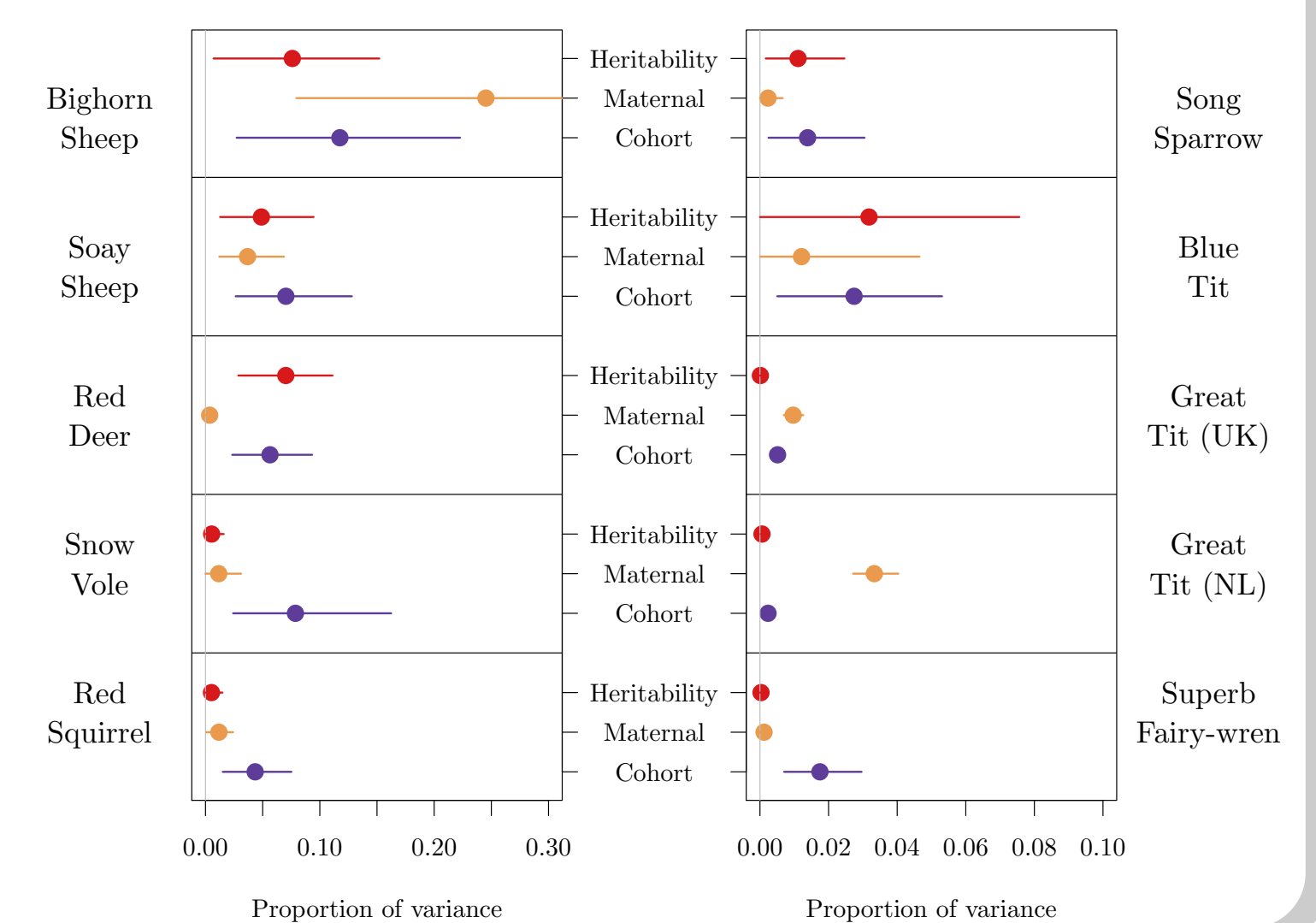
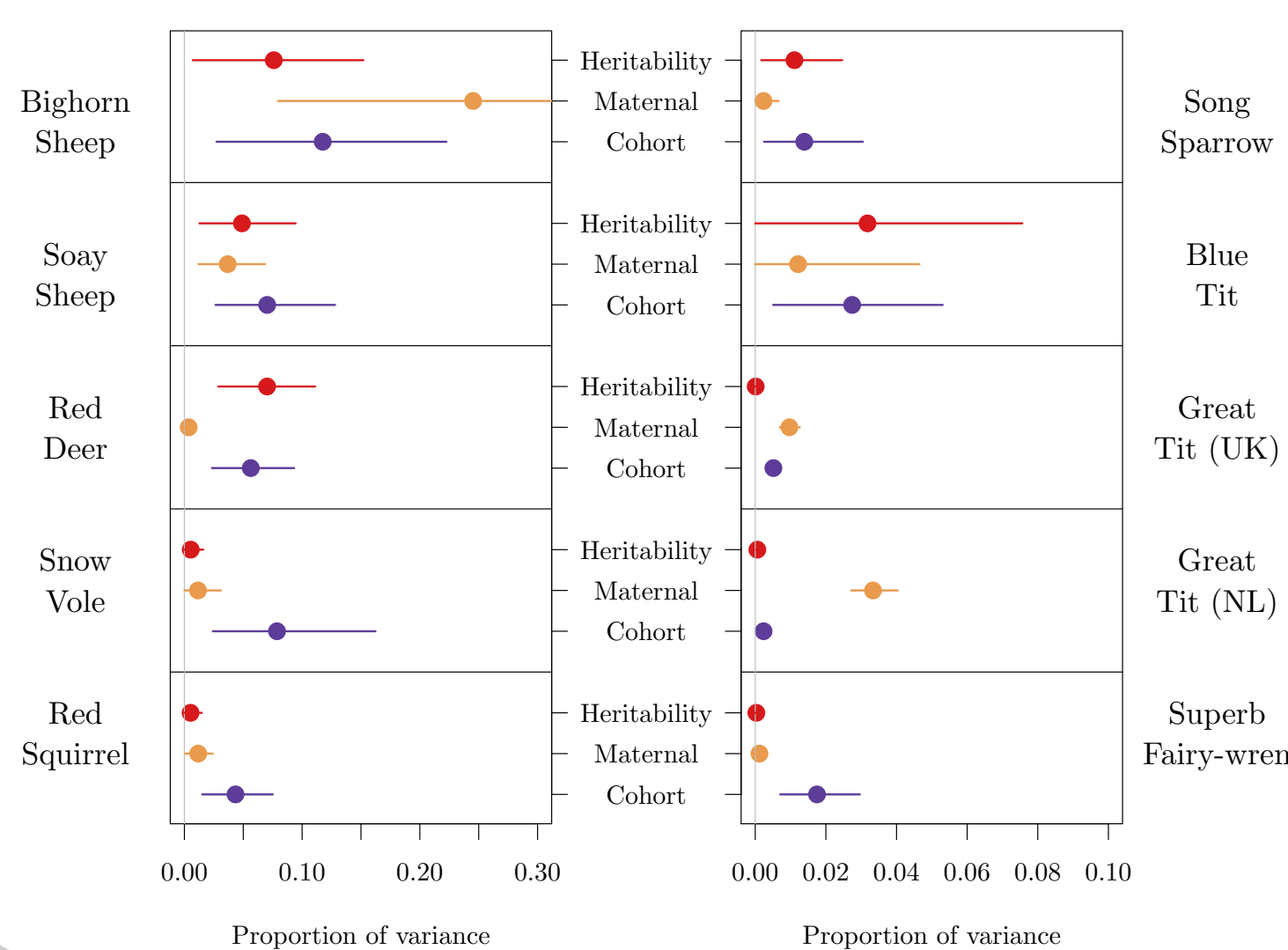
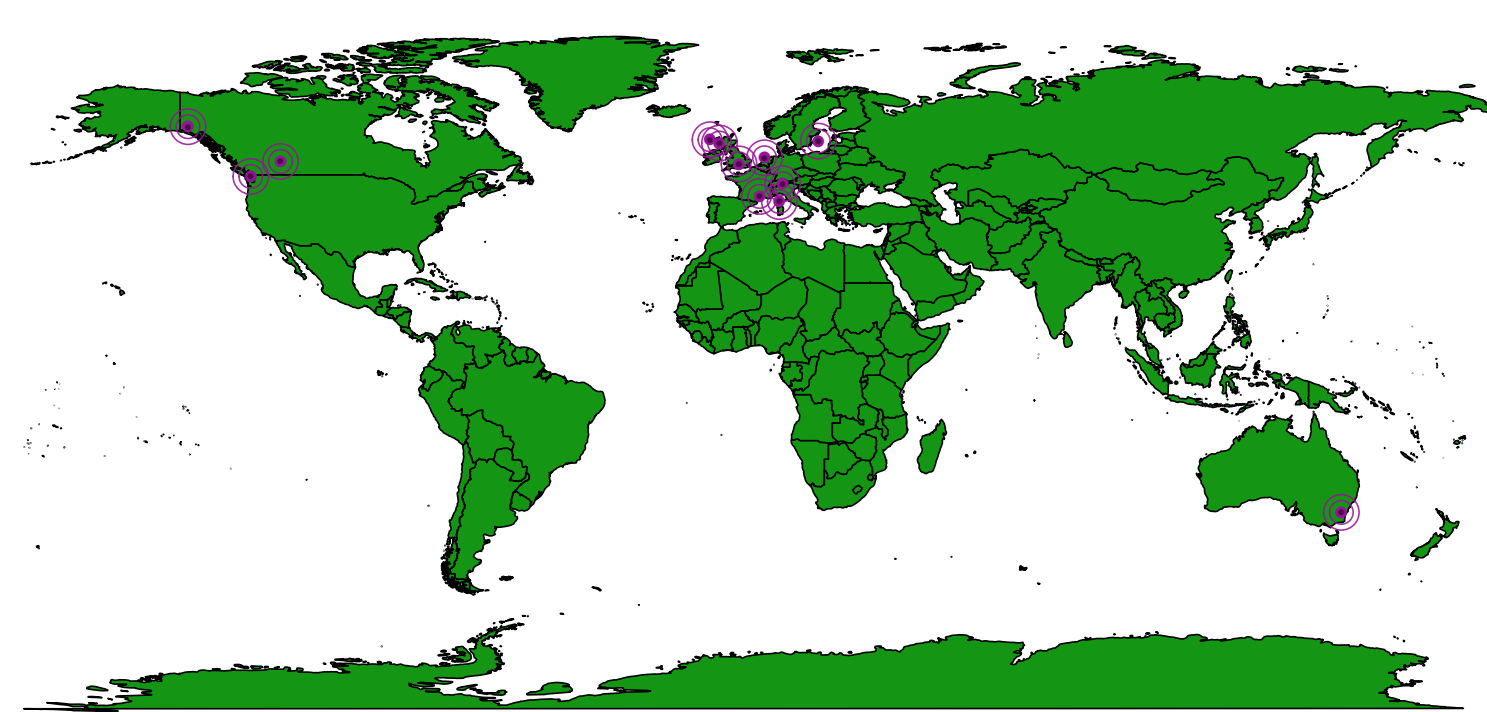
Quantitative genetic ANIMAL MODELS from relatedness matrix. Estimate G-matrix for the zero-inflation and the over-dispersed Poisson. BLALLALA

HOW TO CONVERT ESTIMATES TO $V_A(\omega)$

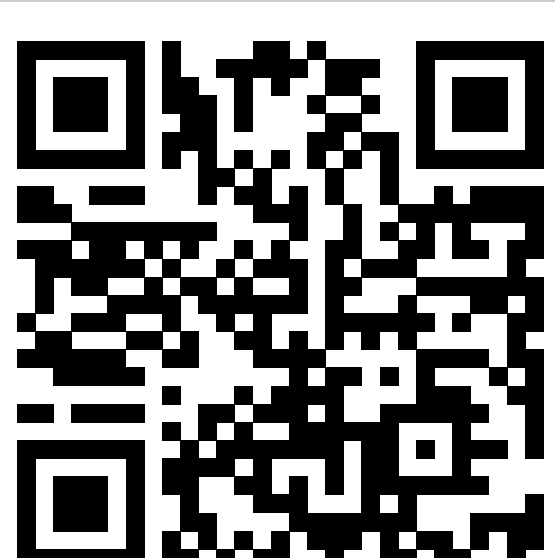


Monte-Carlo integration of latent breeding values to the scale of data. Back-transformation works: with simulations $V_A(\omega)$ equals the increase in population growth rate.

EMPERICAL RESULTS:



Website



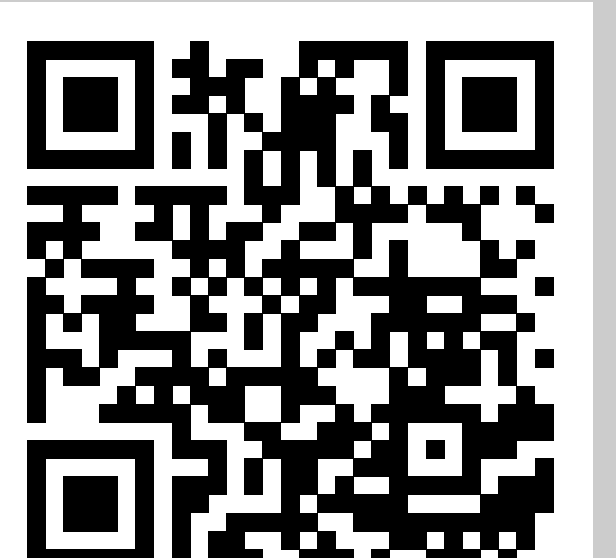
timotheenivalis.github.io

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* Fisher's theorem relies on stringent assumptions, or alternatively on a specific meaning of evolution. In the absence of competition and gene-by-environment interactions, $V_A(\omega)$ is the increase in expected population growth rate. This clean link between evolution and demography probably doesn't apply (for long) in nature.

R and \LaTeX code



github.com/timotheenivalis/VAWisWOW