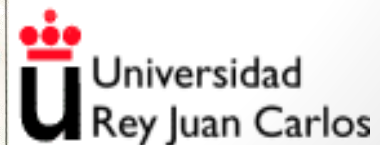


Biodiversity: responses to global change and the challenge of long term monitoring



Pechiazul (*Luscinia svecica*)

Fernando Valladares





- Biodiversity change
 - Factor of global change
- Impact on “ecosystem functioning” and the delivery of “ecosystem services”?
- **“Does biodiversity matter?”**

Ecosystem functioning

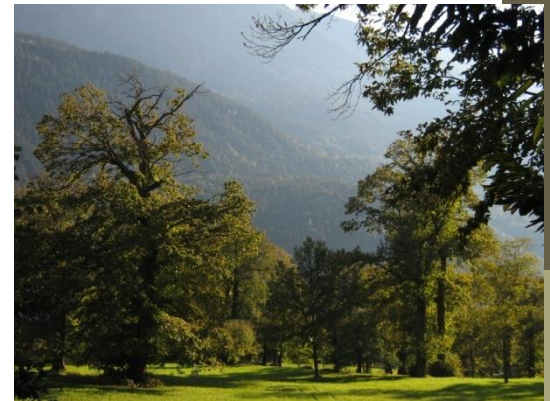
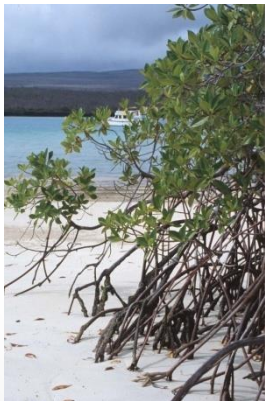
- “Activities, processes or properties of ecosystems that are influenced by its biota”



- “The benefits people obtain from ecosystems”
- “Provisioning Services”
 - Ecosystem goods
 - Food, wood and fibre, biofuels, pharmaceutical products, genetic resources, clean water, ...



- “The benefits people obtain from ecosystems”
 - “Regulating Services”
 - Protection against flooding and erosion, pollination, water purification, climate regulation, disease regulation, ...



- “The benefits people obtain from ecosystems”
 - “Cultural Services”
 - Spiritual and aesthetic values, recreation, tourism, science, ...



- “The benefits people obtain from ecosystems”
- “Supporting Services”
 - Primary production, nutrient and water cycling, soil formation, ...
 - Ecological processes
 - Basis for the provision of other services



Outline

- It has long been recognized that biodiversity involves not only different species but also different life forms and functional strategies.



Outline

- Species can thus be seen as alternative solutions to changing challenges.
- Biodiversity also encapsulates the notion of intraspecific variability and population differentiation so the portfolio of responses includes a range of alternatives on local adaptation and plasticity that we are just beginning to uncover.



Outline

- In a rapidly changing world, species respond differently to environmental changes, which prevents generalization and introduces uncertainties in community composition and dynamics in future scenarios.



Research opportunities

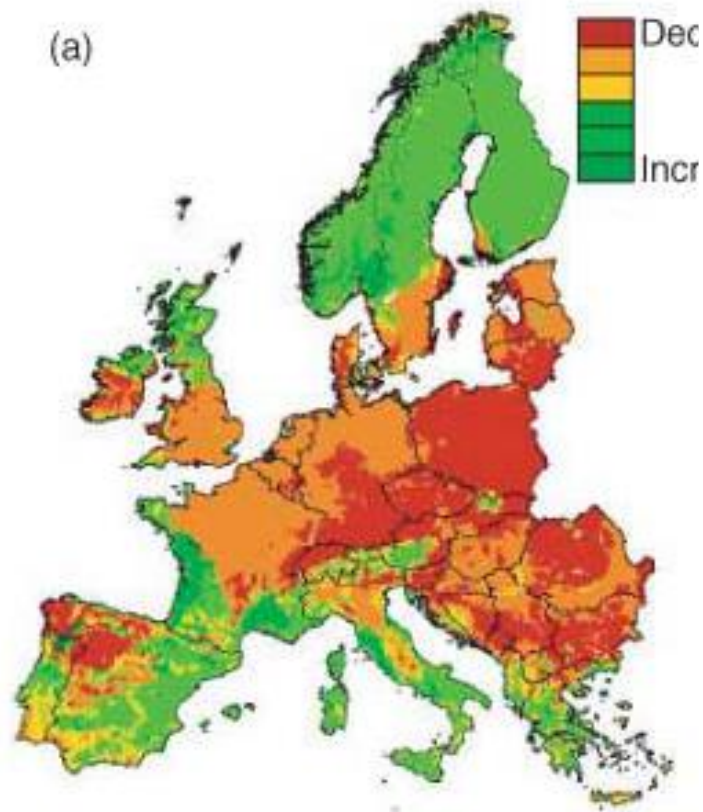
- Understanding species coexistence
- Unveiling mechanisms of species response
- Quantifying species interactions
- Estimating threats
- Predicting future distributions and scenarios
- Suggesting actions



The case of forest trees

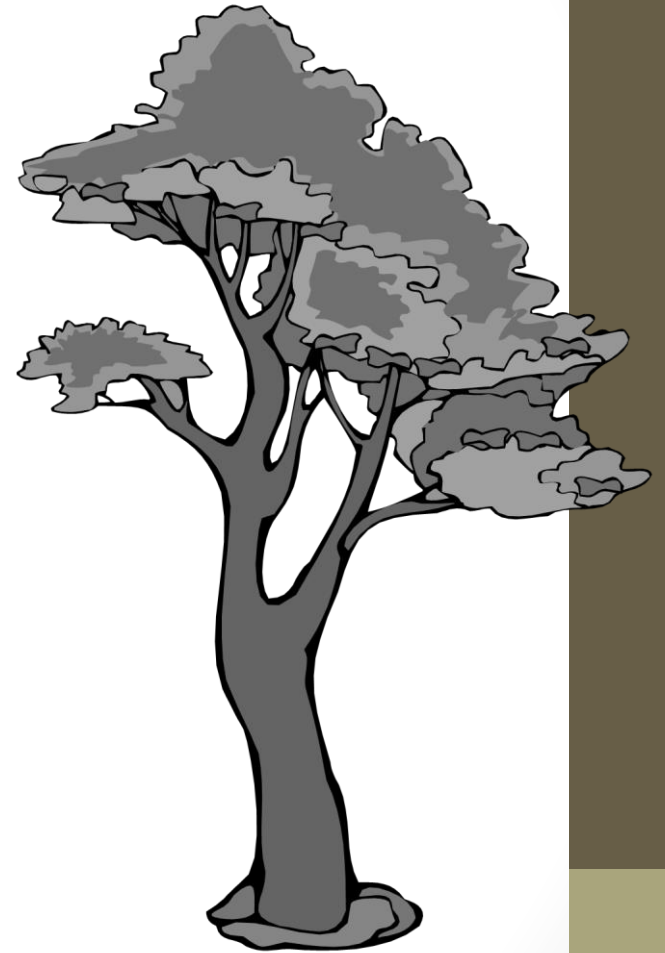
Focus in Europe

Probably applies to many groups of organisms



Trees

- From an evolutionary point of view, trees have at least one intriguing feature: they tend to have high levels of genetic diversity, but at the same time, they are known for their low evolutionary rates.
- Thus, trees are characterized by a counterintuitive combination of rapid micro-evolutionary change and a low macro-evolutionary change.

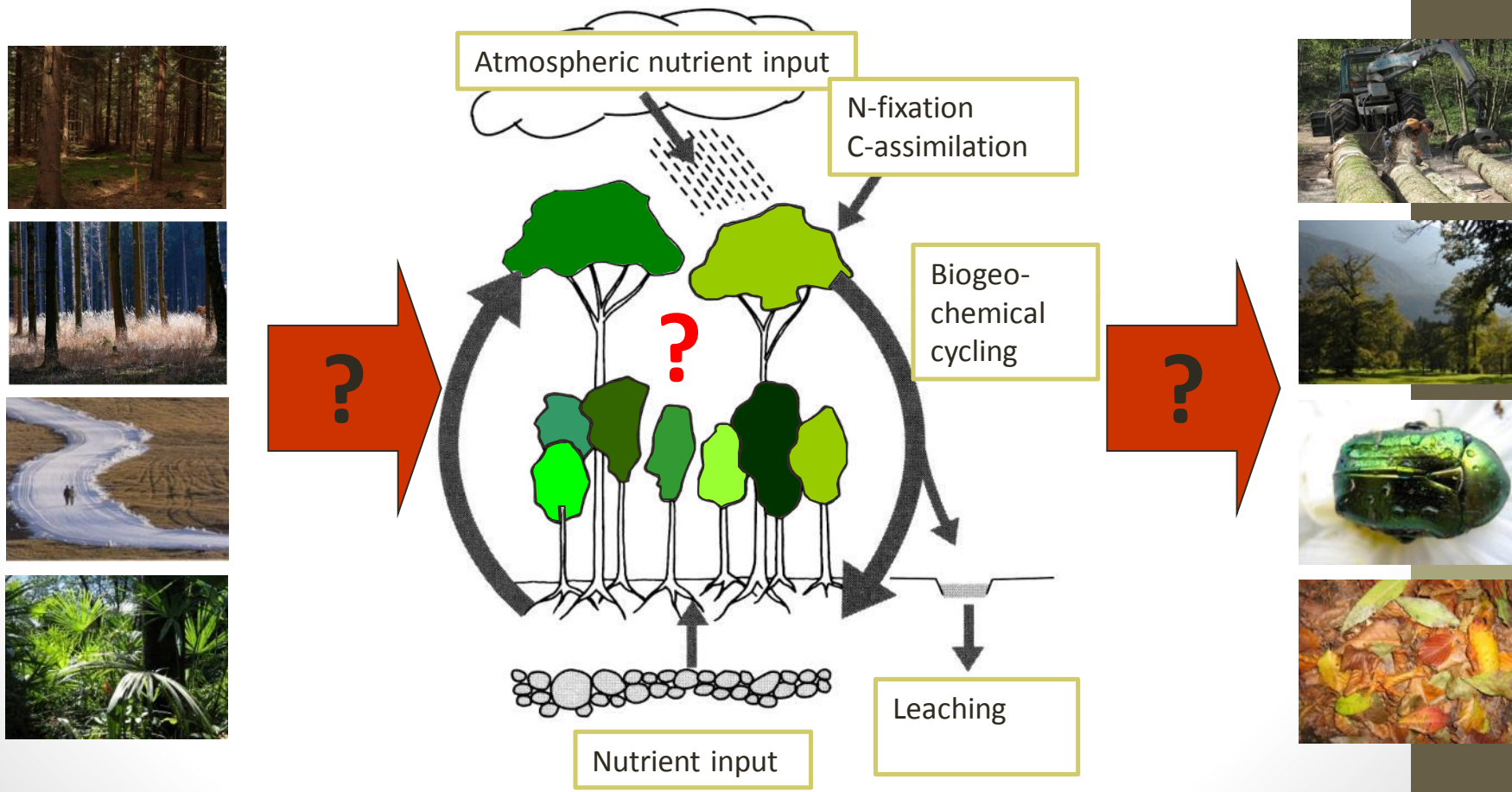


Trees

- Trees are exposed to highly heterogeneous environmental conditions within their lifetime and across their ranges of distribution, which contributes to the maintenance of their genetic diversity.
- Trees are not only highly diverse but also highly fecund, allowing them to respond to high selection intensity and to adapt quickly to local conditions.



- What are the impacts of global changes for forest biodiversity and ecosystem functioning?
- What is the functional role of biodiversity in forests?
- What are the consequences for ecosystem services?



Insurance function of biodiversity

- High biodiversity ensures ecosystem stability in face of environmental changes, because
 - some species are able to resist to disturbances,
 - the loss of some species and their functions might be compensated by others,
 - species can adapt to environmental changes.
- Analogy to economics: the portfolio effect
 - long-standing principle in economics that more diversified portfolios are less volatile, because the sum of many items is less variable than the average item.

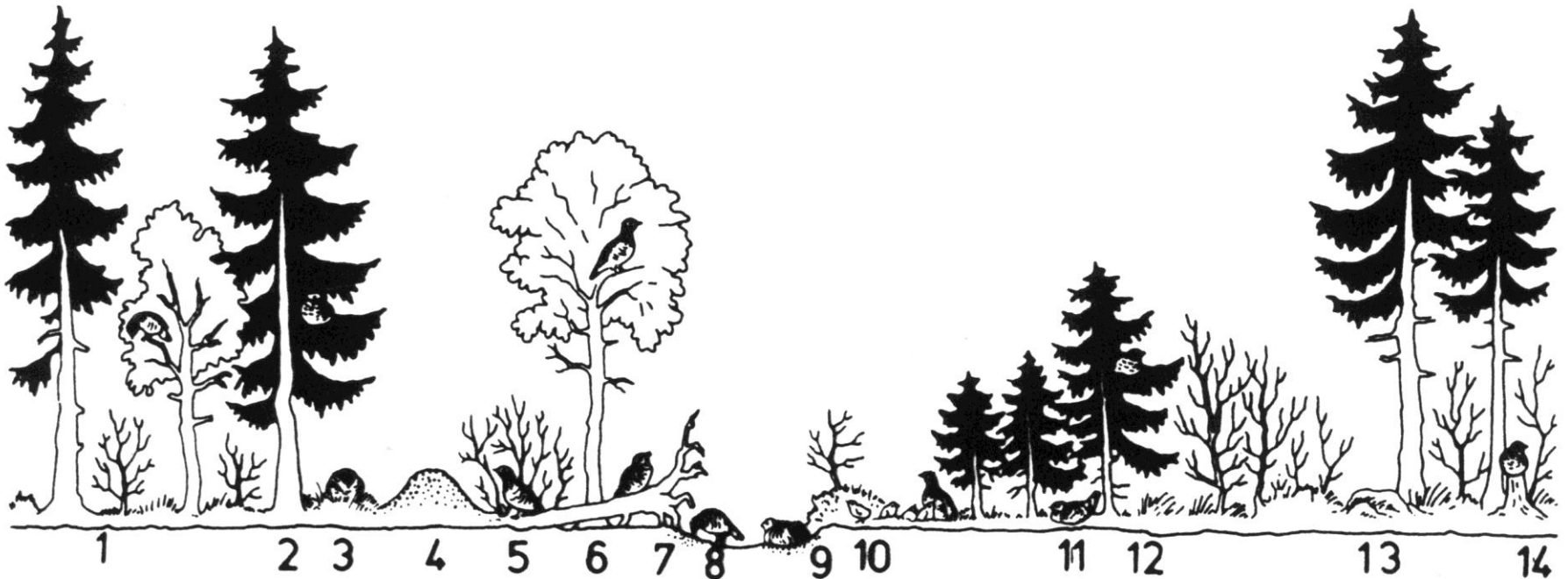
Niche complementarity

- Each species plays a specific role in the ecosystem (has its own niche)
 - Differences in above- and belowground architecture, sun- and shade-adapted species, early- and late-successional species
 - in sum they are more efficient than each individual species



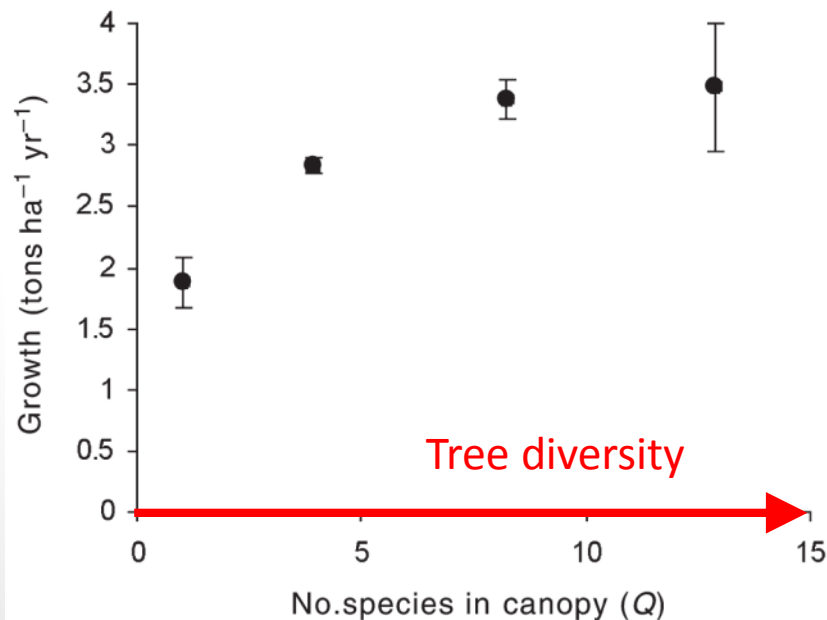
Habitat provisioning

- The more tree species in an ecosystem, the more opportunities for other organisms to coexist
 - Structural diversity
 - Different requirements of associated flora and fauna

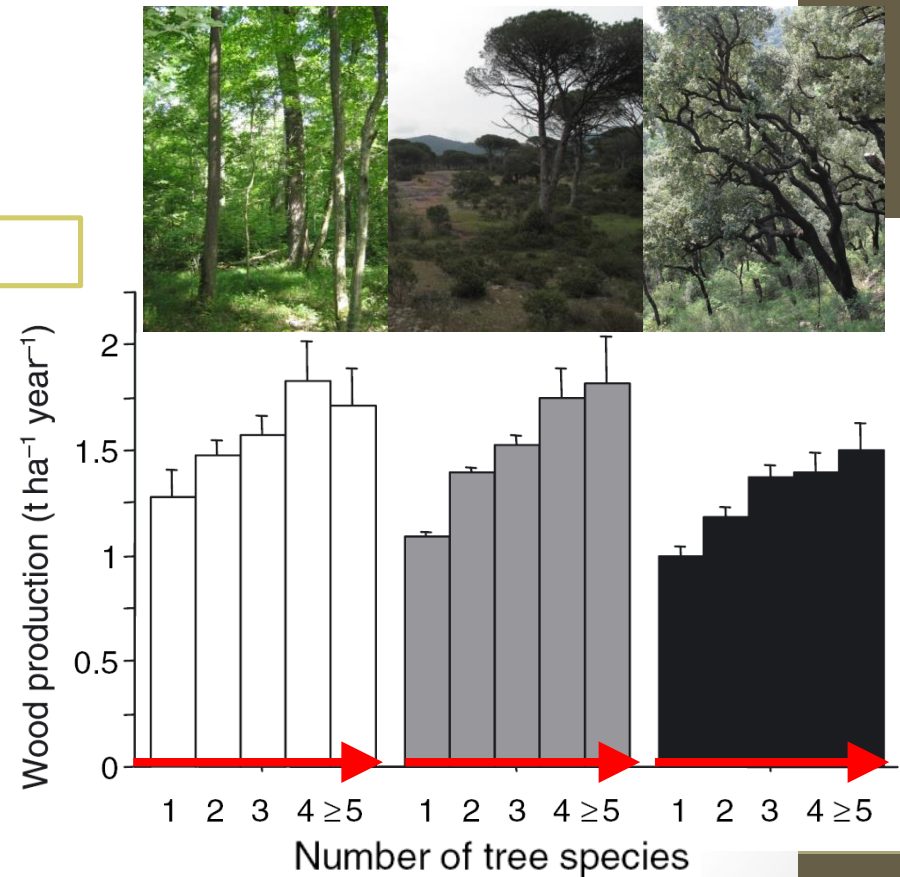


Analysing large datasets: forest inventories

- Positive diversity-production relationship



Caspersen & Pacala 2001 *Ecological Research*

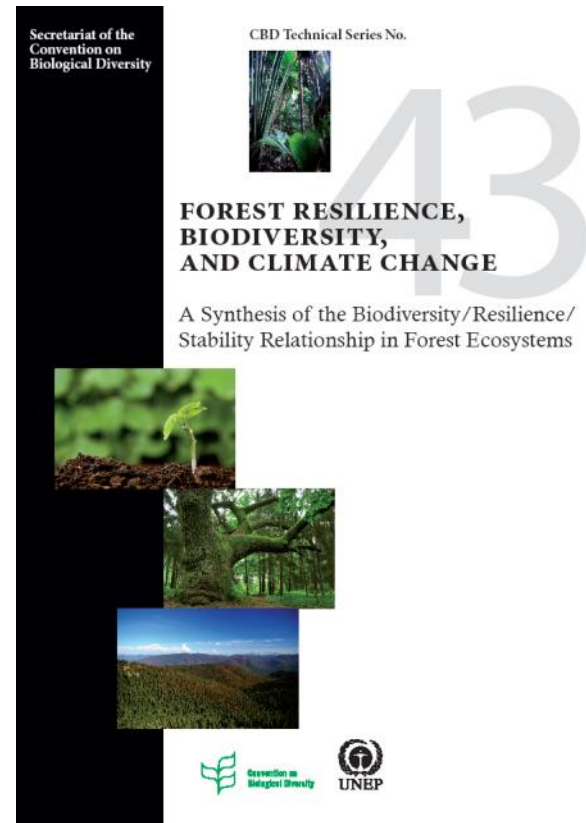


Vilà et al. 2007 *Ecology Letters*

Important syntheses

- Effects of tree species richness on stand production :
 - Neutral: 5
 - Positive: 15
- Tree diversity may increase resilience towards climate-induced disturbances

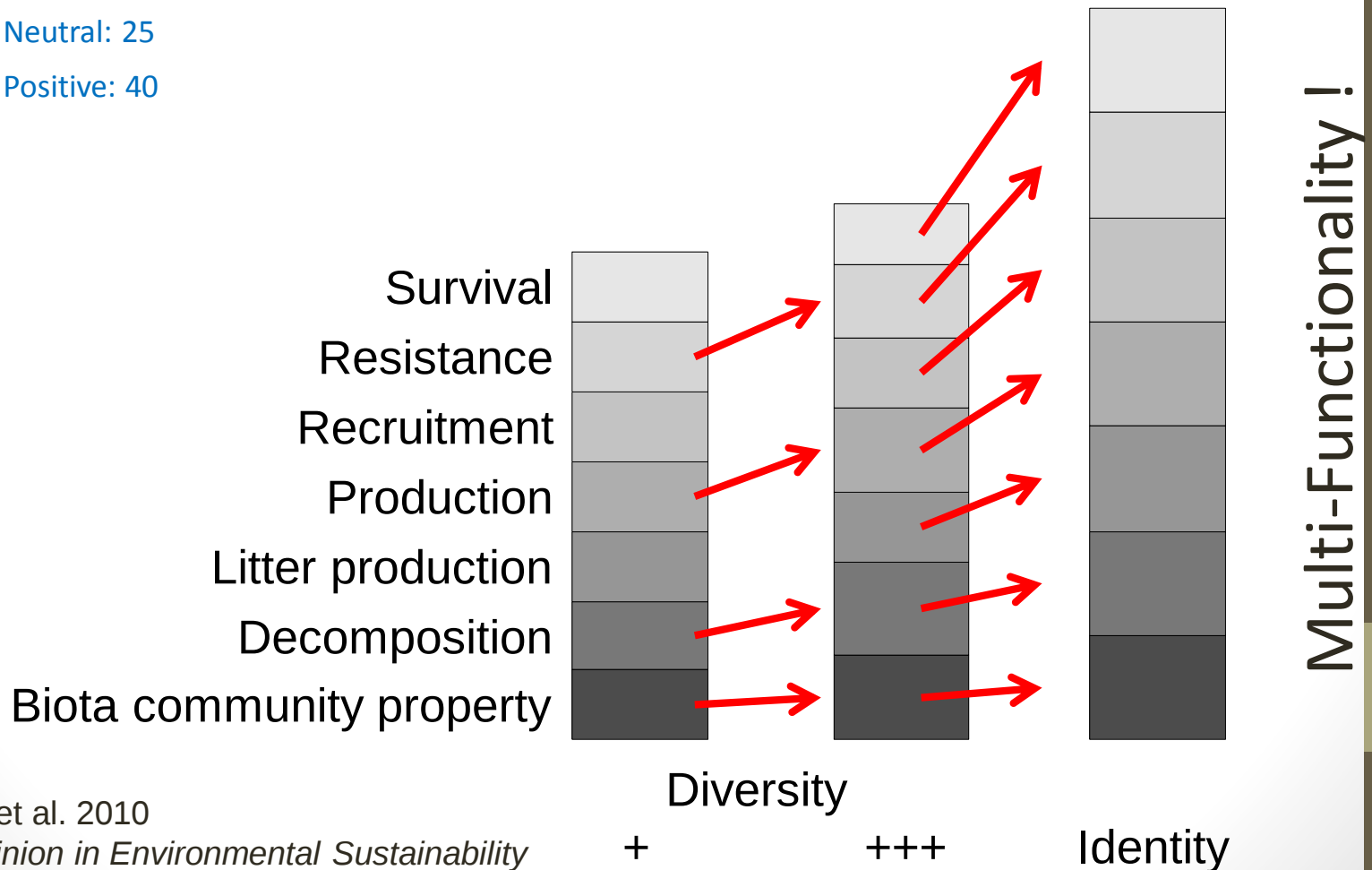
Thompson et al. 2009 *CBD*



Important syntheses

- Effects of tree diversity on ecosystem functions:

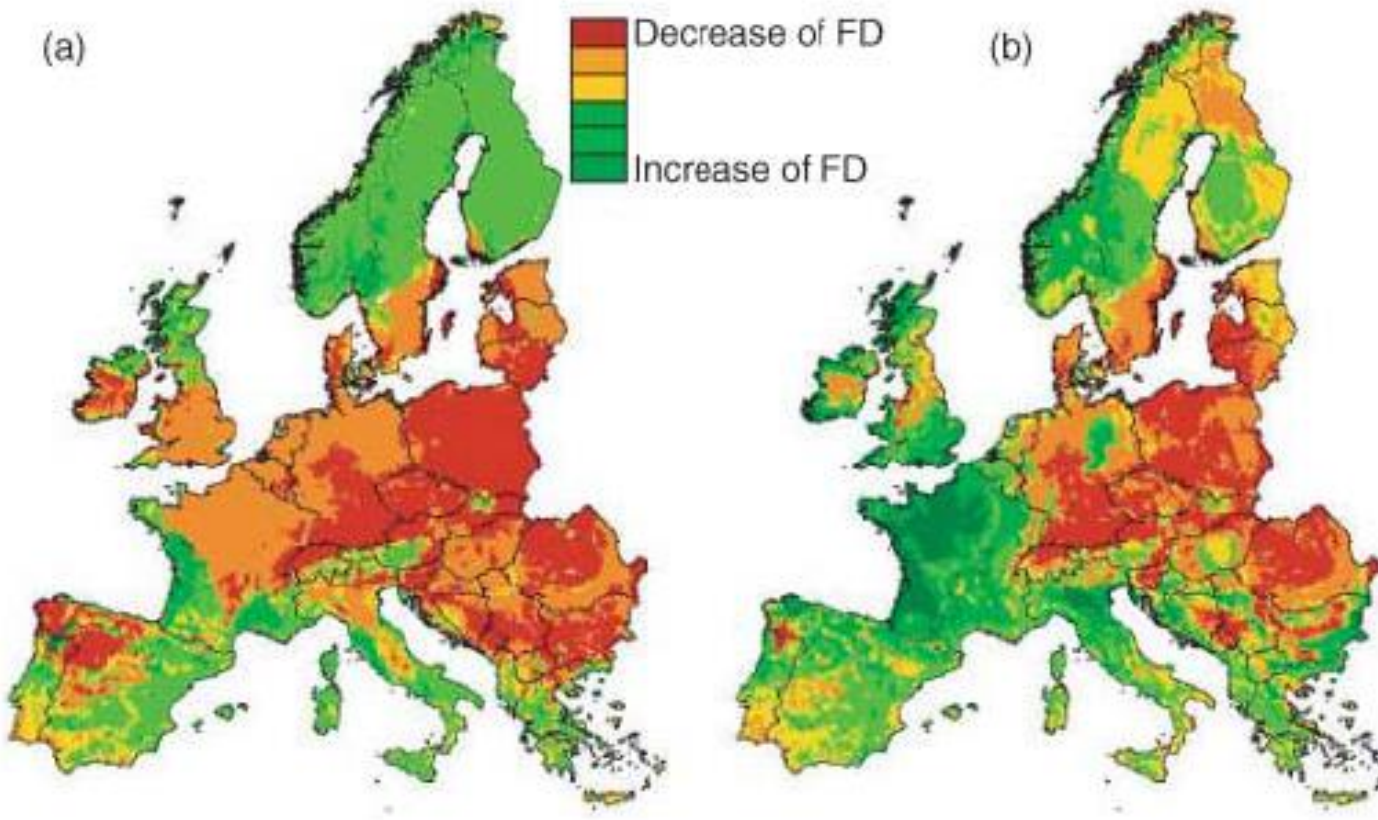
- Negative: 5
- Neutral: 25
- Positive: 40



Climate change and functional diversity of European forests

2050 (no dispersal)

2050 (with dispersal)

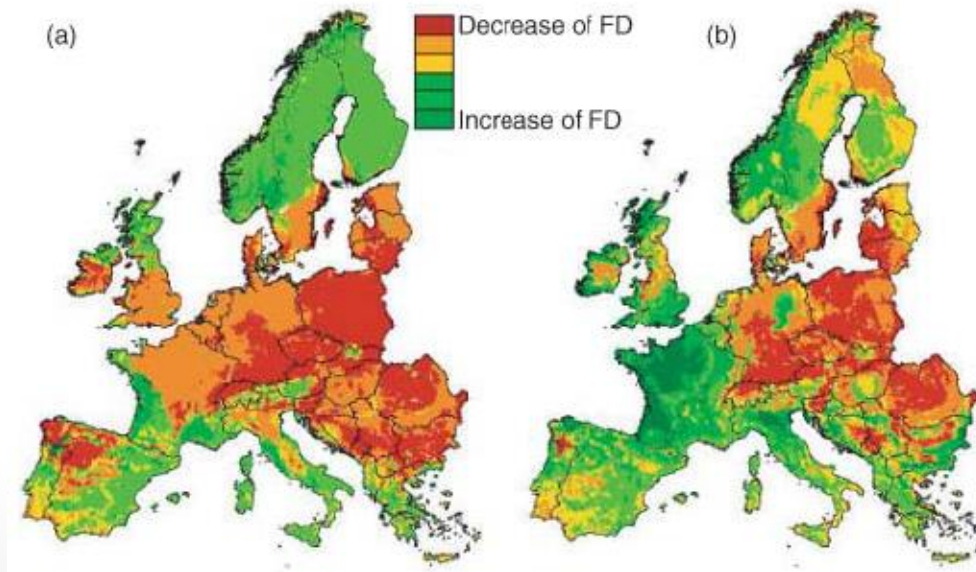


Thuiller et al. 2006



Are these maps realistic? (I)

Is species future distribution simply a projection of current distribution as a function of climate?



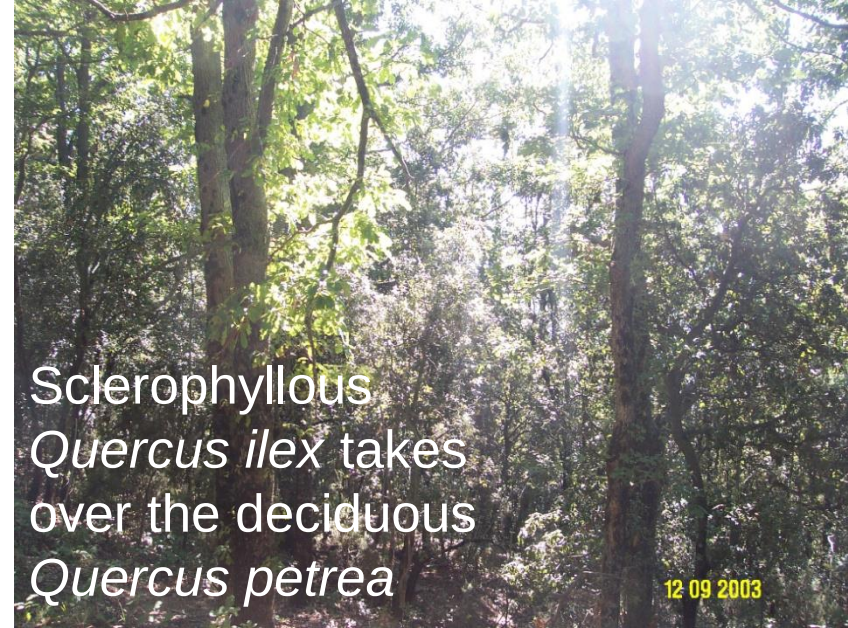
1969

2001



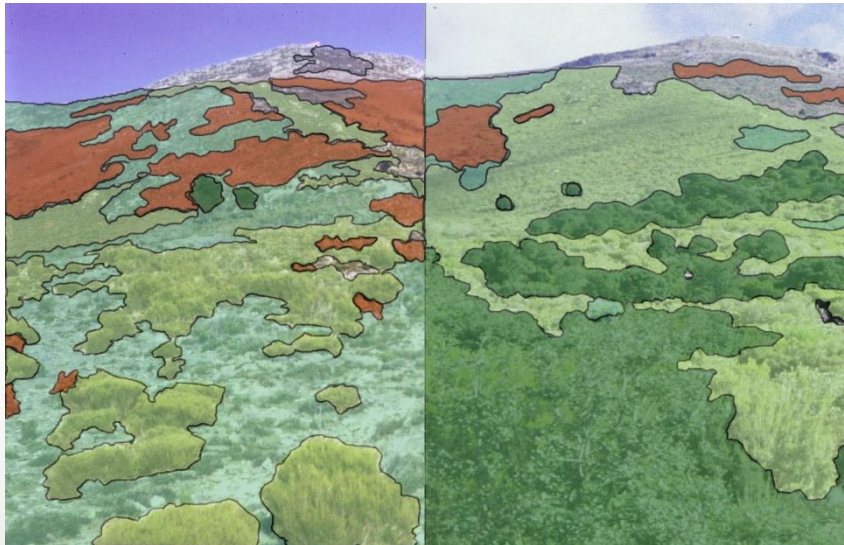
1400 m

1200 m



Sclerophyllous
Quercus ilex takes
over the deciduous
Quercus petraea

12 09 2003



Altitudinal shift of *Quercus ilex*

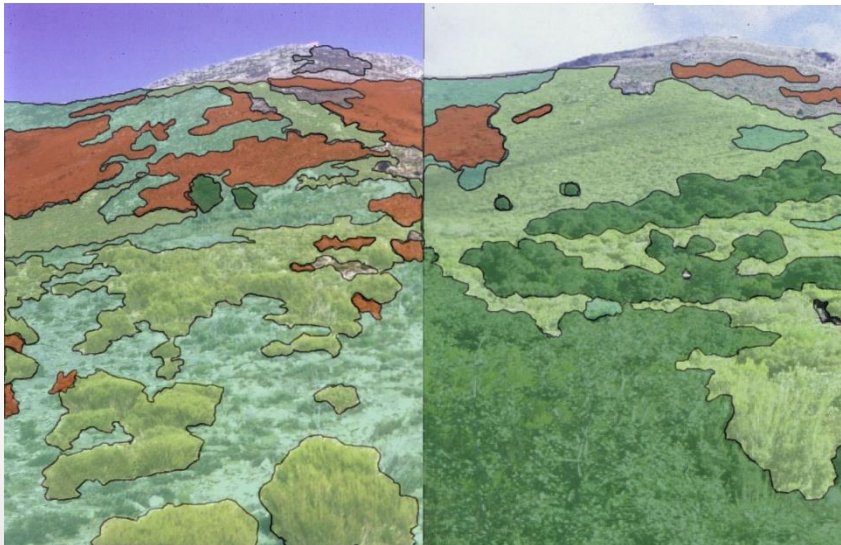
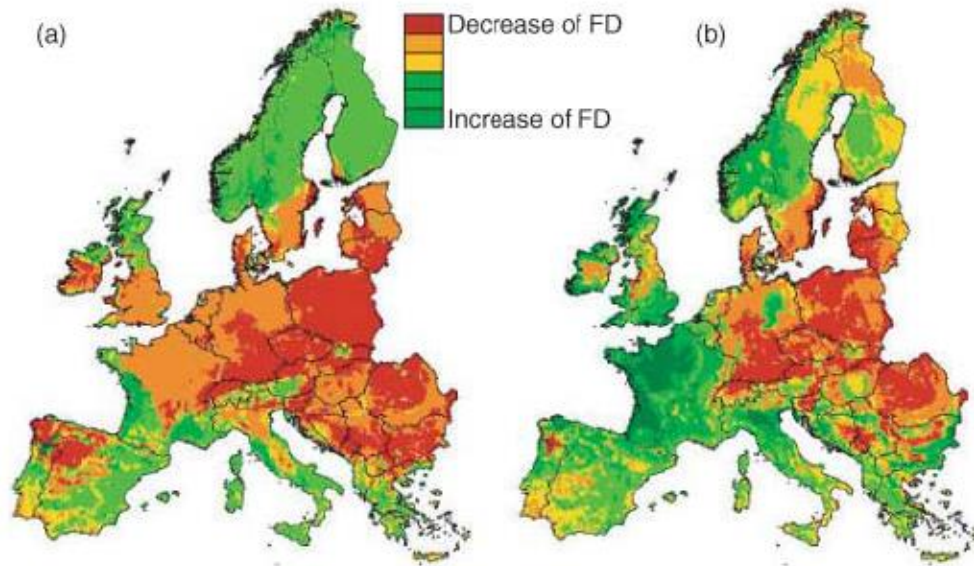
- Quercus ilex* young forest
- Erica scoparia* heathland
- Calluna vulgaris* heathland
- Pteridium aquilinum* fernland
- Grassland and *Cytisus scoparius*
- MS** Meteorological station

Peñuelas and Boada, 2003 *Global Change Biol*, 9, 131-140

Peñuelas et al. 2007 *Ecography*, 30,
830-838

Do these maps match?

Observation and local/regional maps less pessimistic scenarios than models over large areas



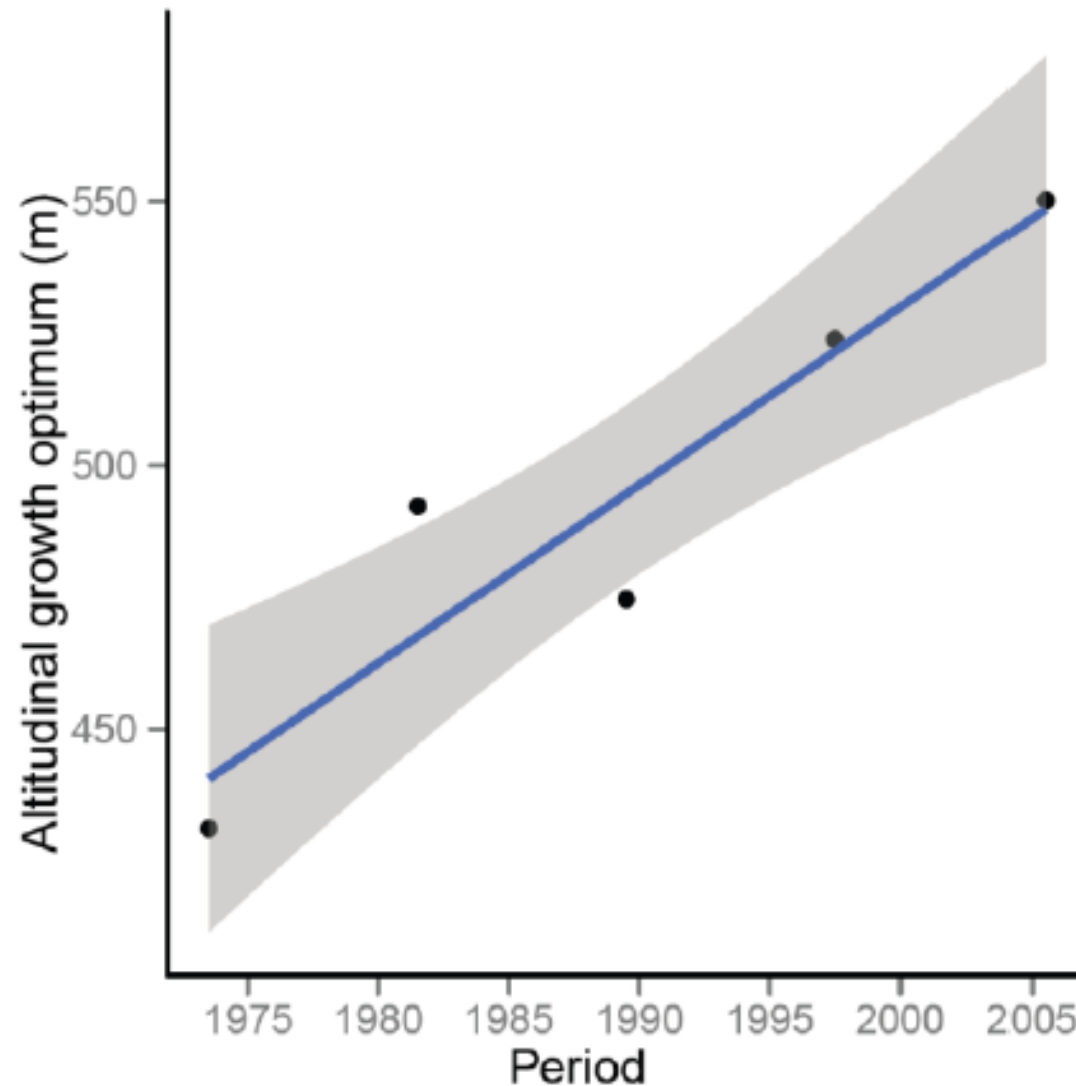
Extinctions that are not seen... movements that are less extreme

DENDROECOLOGY

Cores along elevation gradients



Beech (*Fagus sylvatica*)

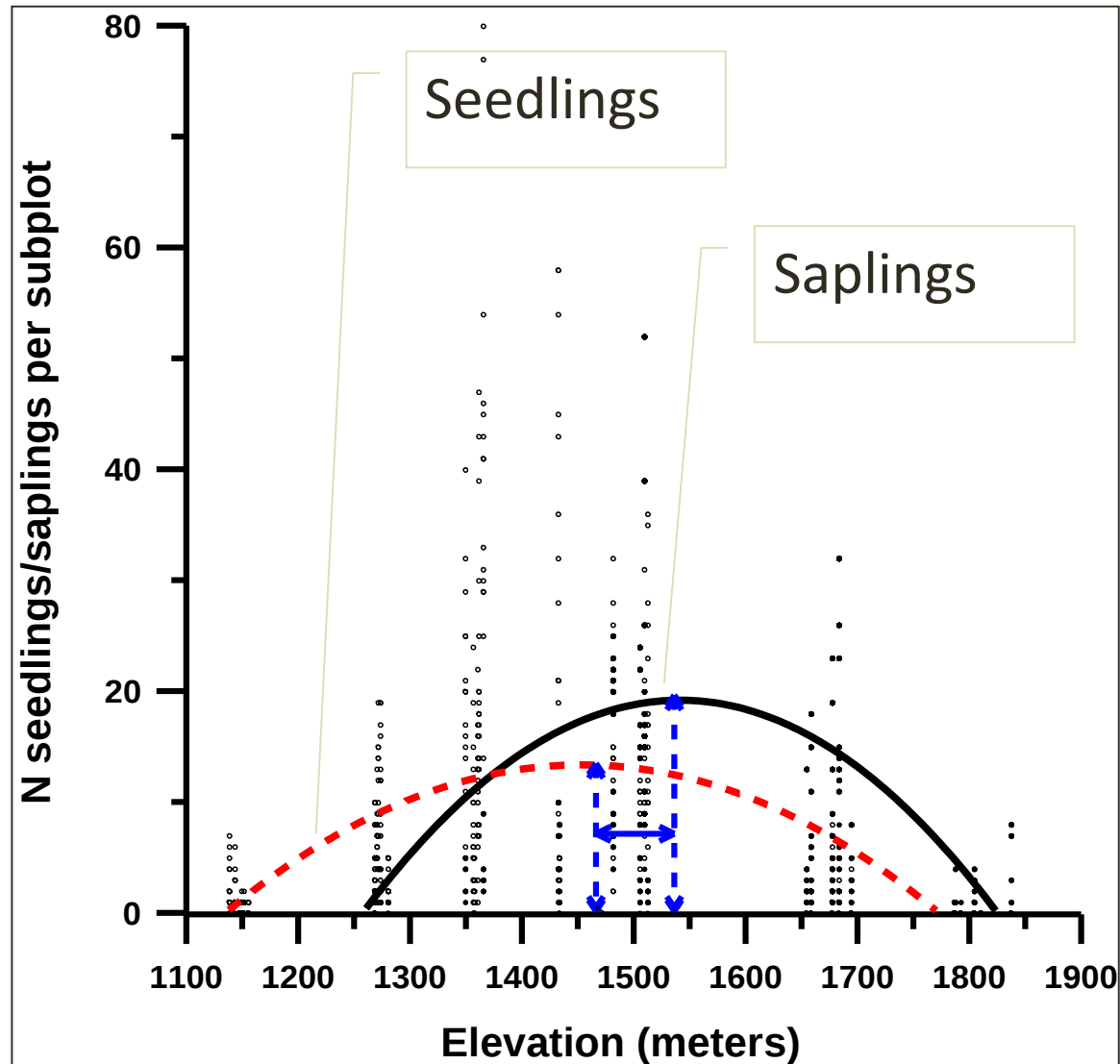


DEMOGRAPHY

Age classes along elevation gradients



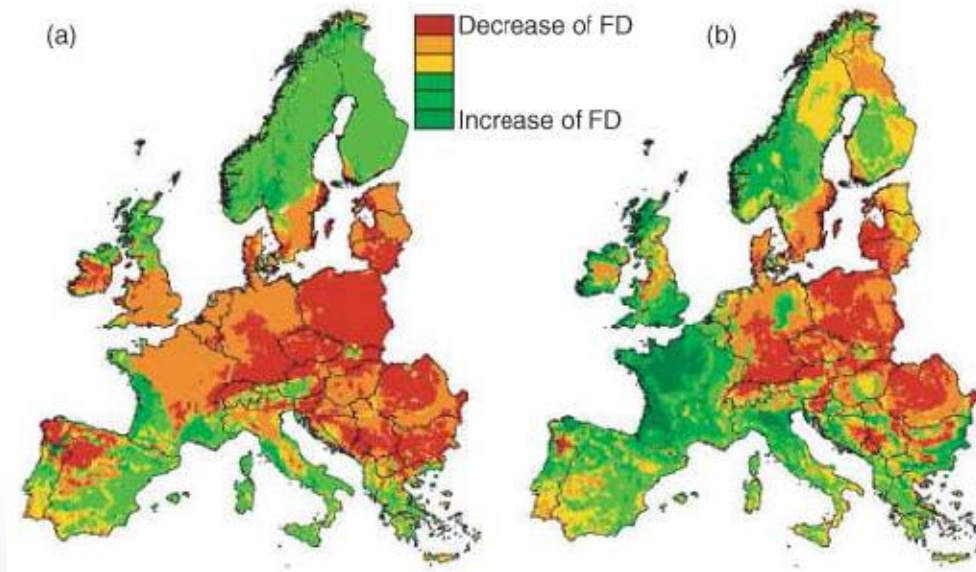
Pinus sylvestris



Are these maps realistic? (II)

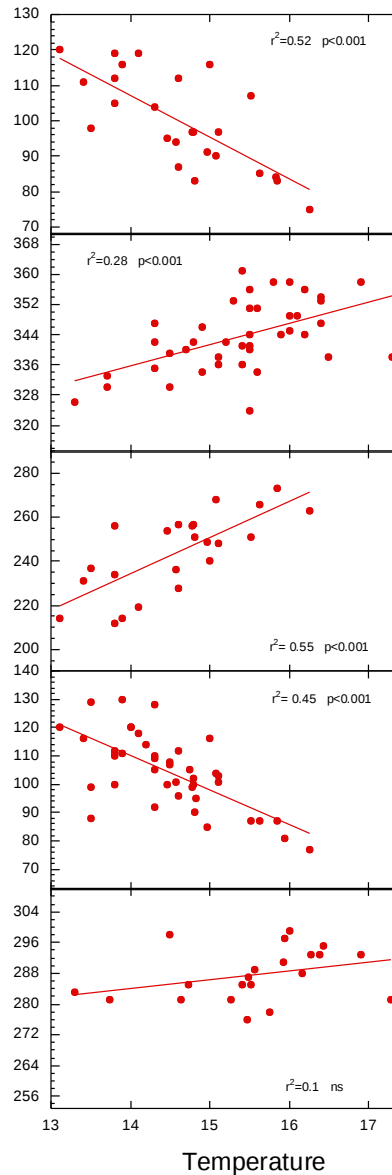
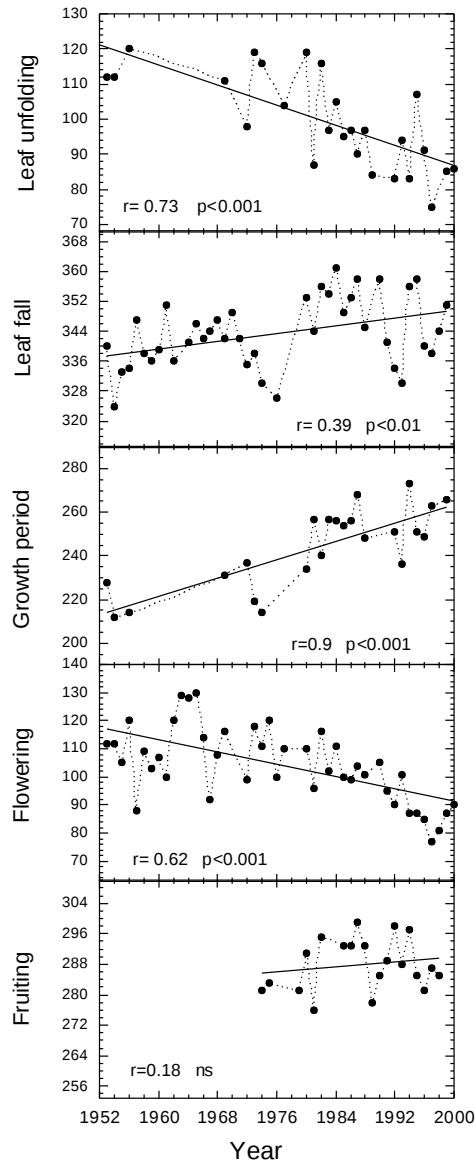
What about the acclimation capacity
of trees ?

What about their plasticity ?



Phenology Montseny, NE Spain

Malus domestica



Leaf unfolding

Leaf fall

Growth period

Flowering

Fruit maturation

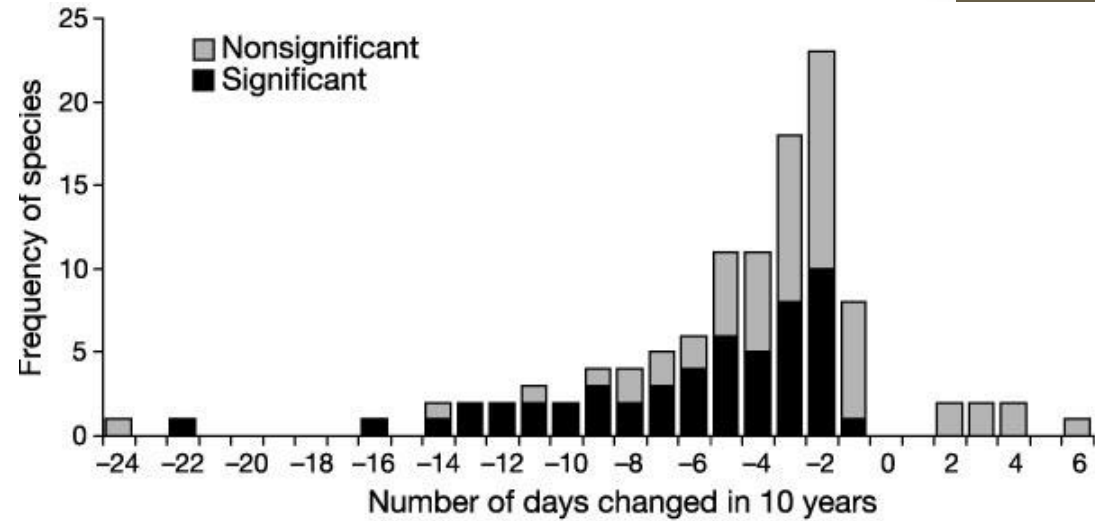
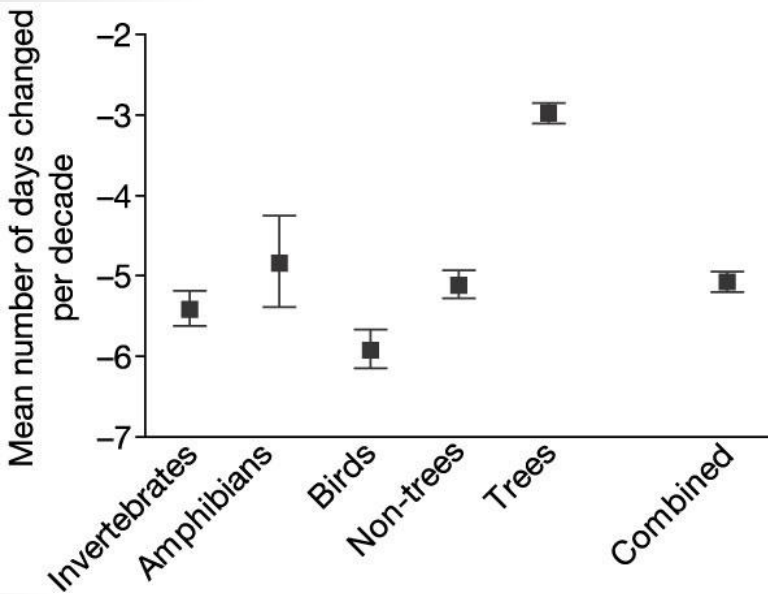


Phenology, a global response



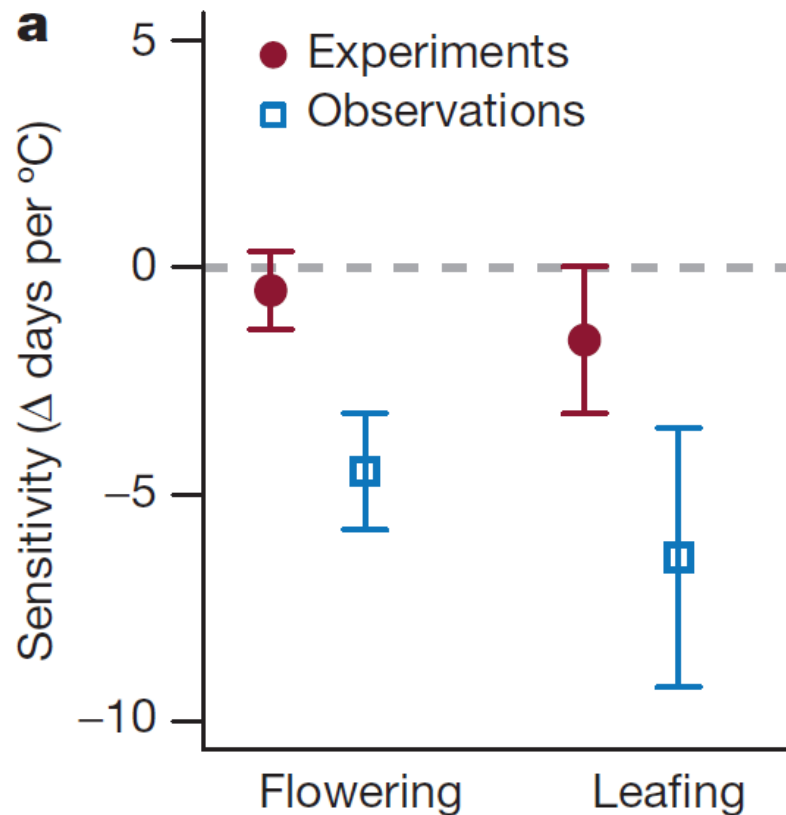
©<http://www.adhvan.net>

A global phenomenon



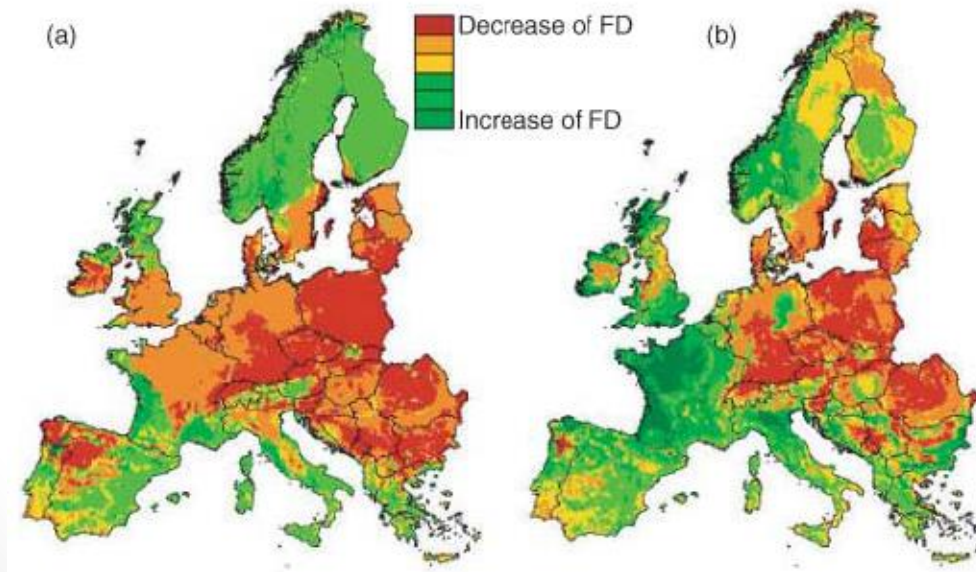
Phenology is complex

Mismatches between experiments and observations

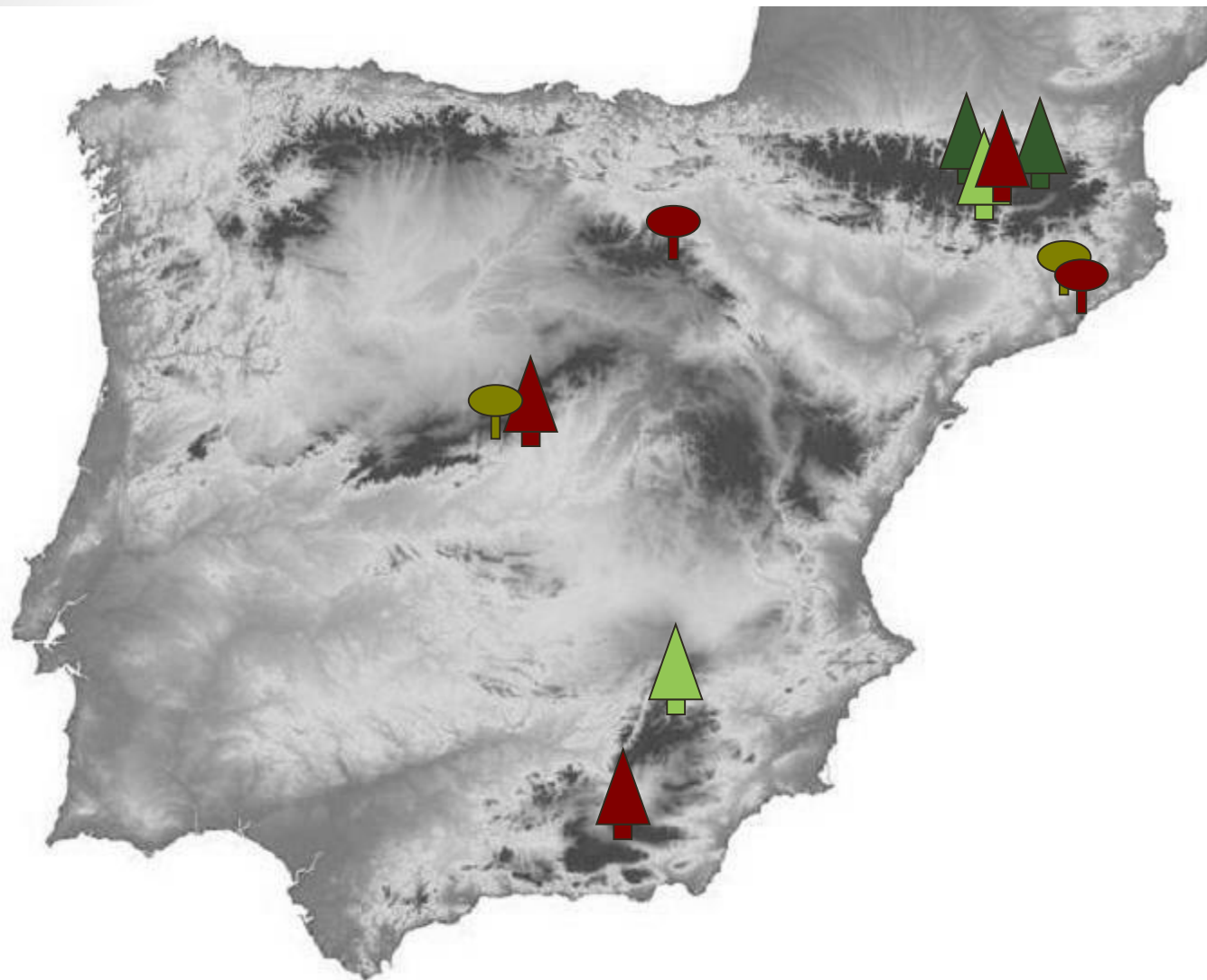


Are these maps realistic? (III)

Are all species responding
equally to a change in climate?

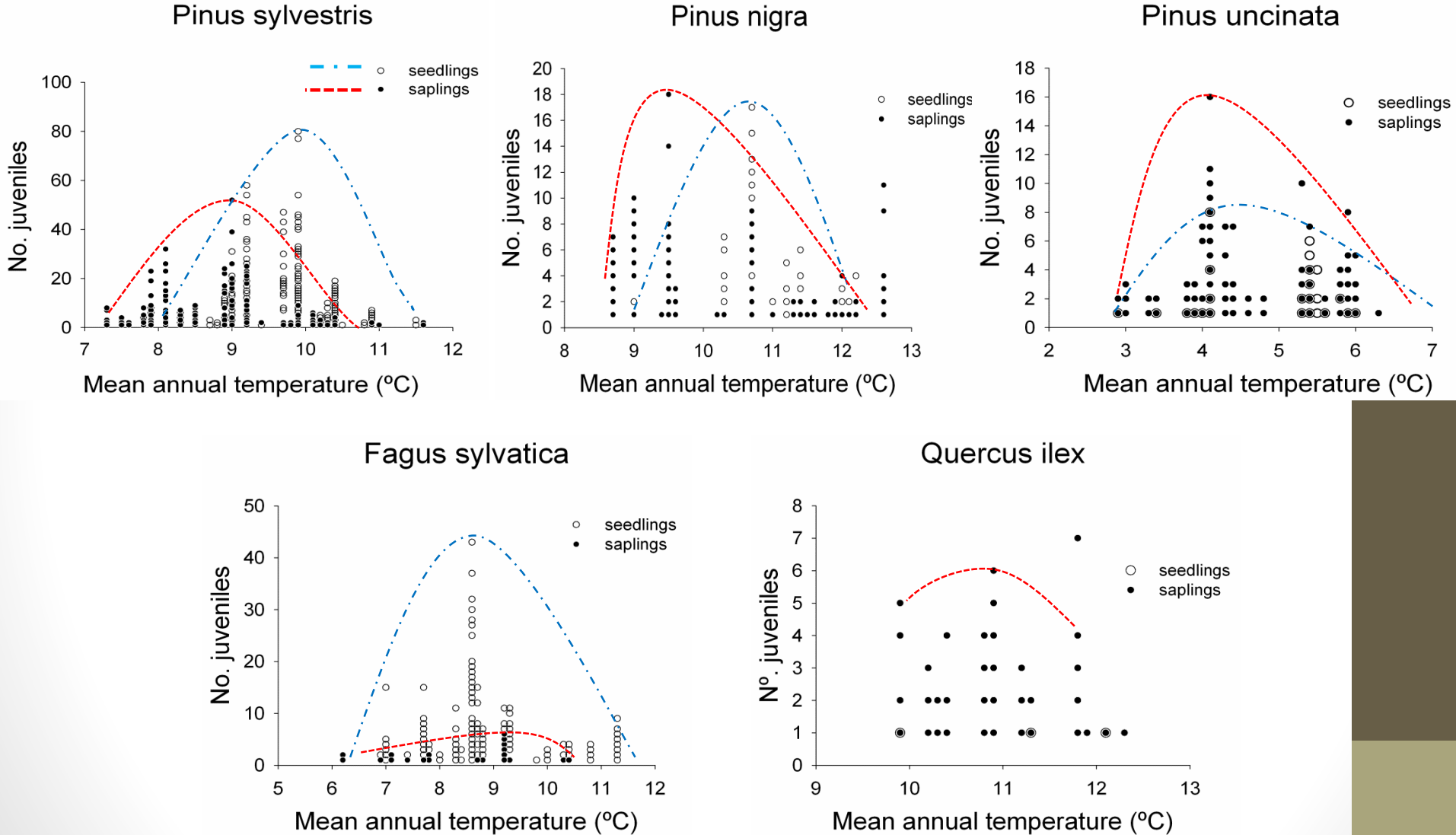


Sampling sites (CONSOLIDER-MONTES)

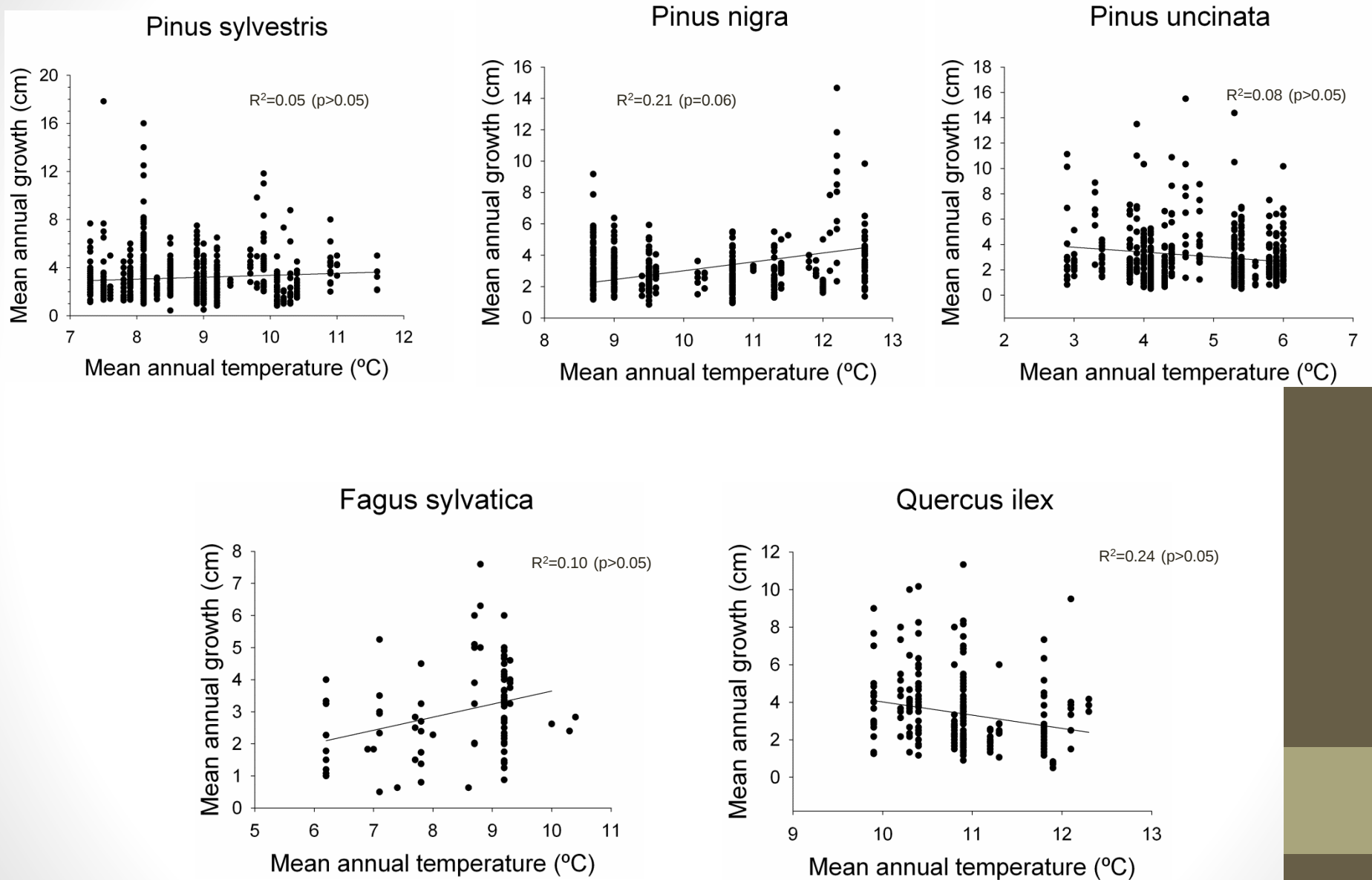


-  *Pinus sylvestris*
Sort
Guadarrama
Sierra Nevada
-  *Fagus sylvatica*
Montseny
Sierra Cebollera
-  *Pinus nigra*
Solsona
Sierra Segura
-  *Pinus uncinata*
Cerdanya
Aigüetortes
-  *Quercus ilex*
Guadarrama
Montseny

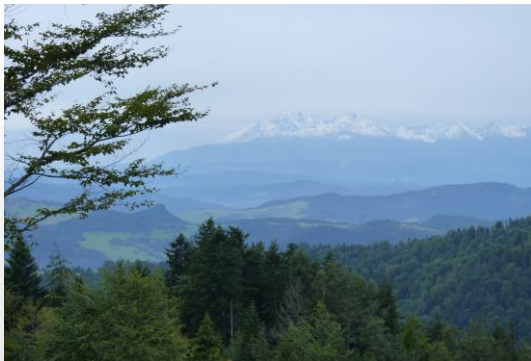
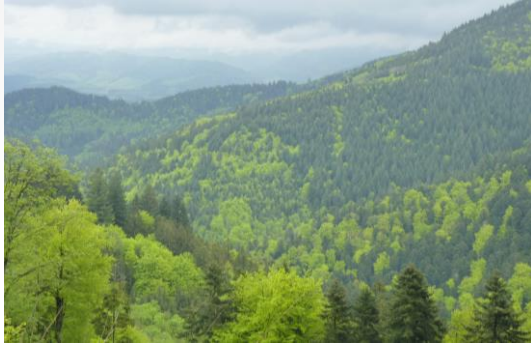
Distribution of juveniles according to mean annual temperature



Mean annual growth according mean annual temperature



Expanding the study to Europe

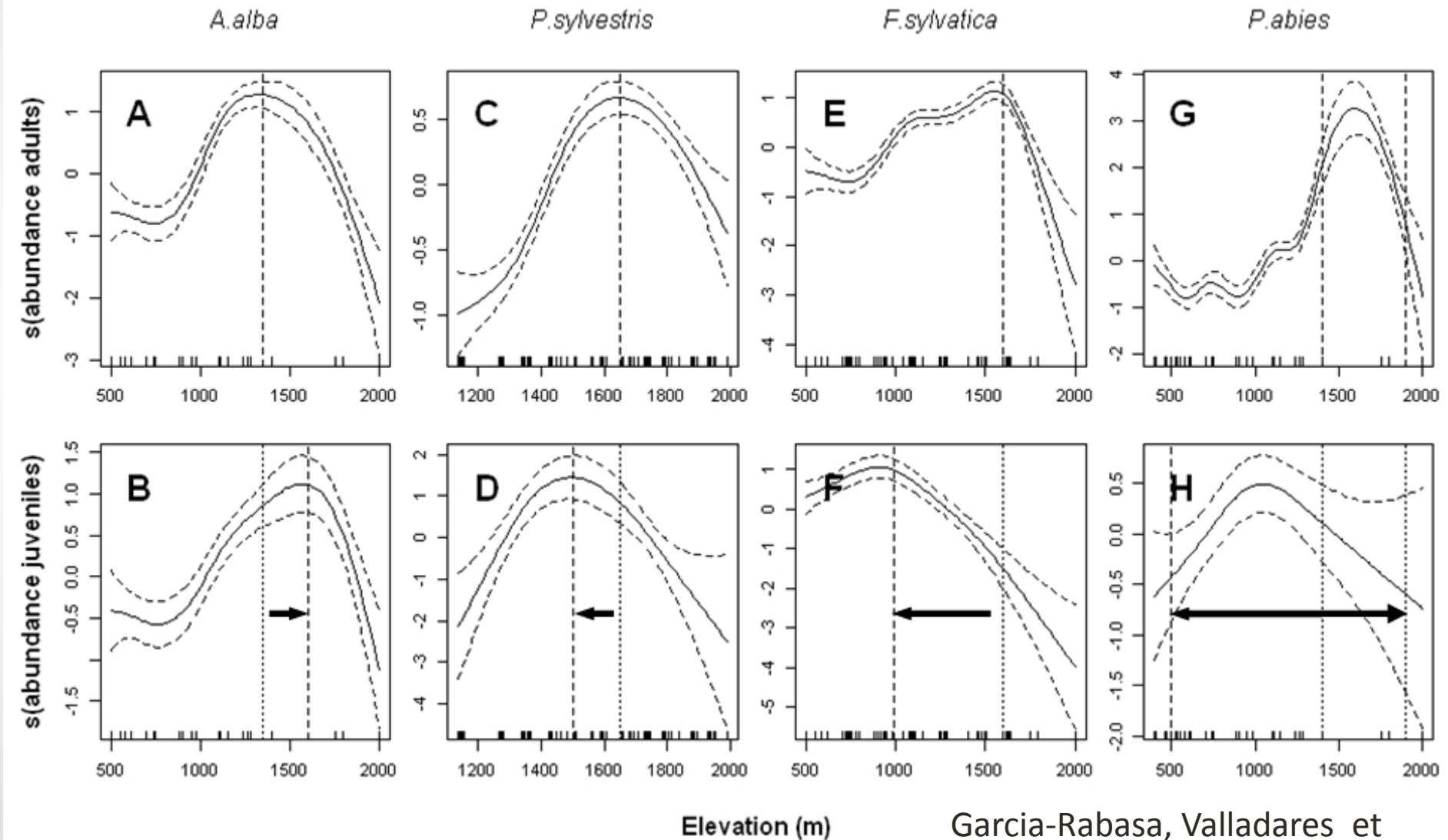


Expanding the study to Europe

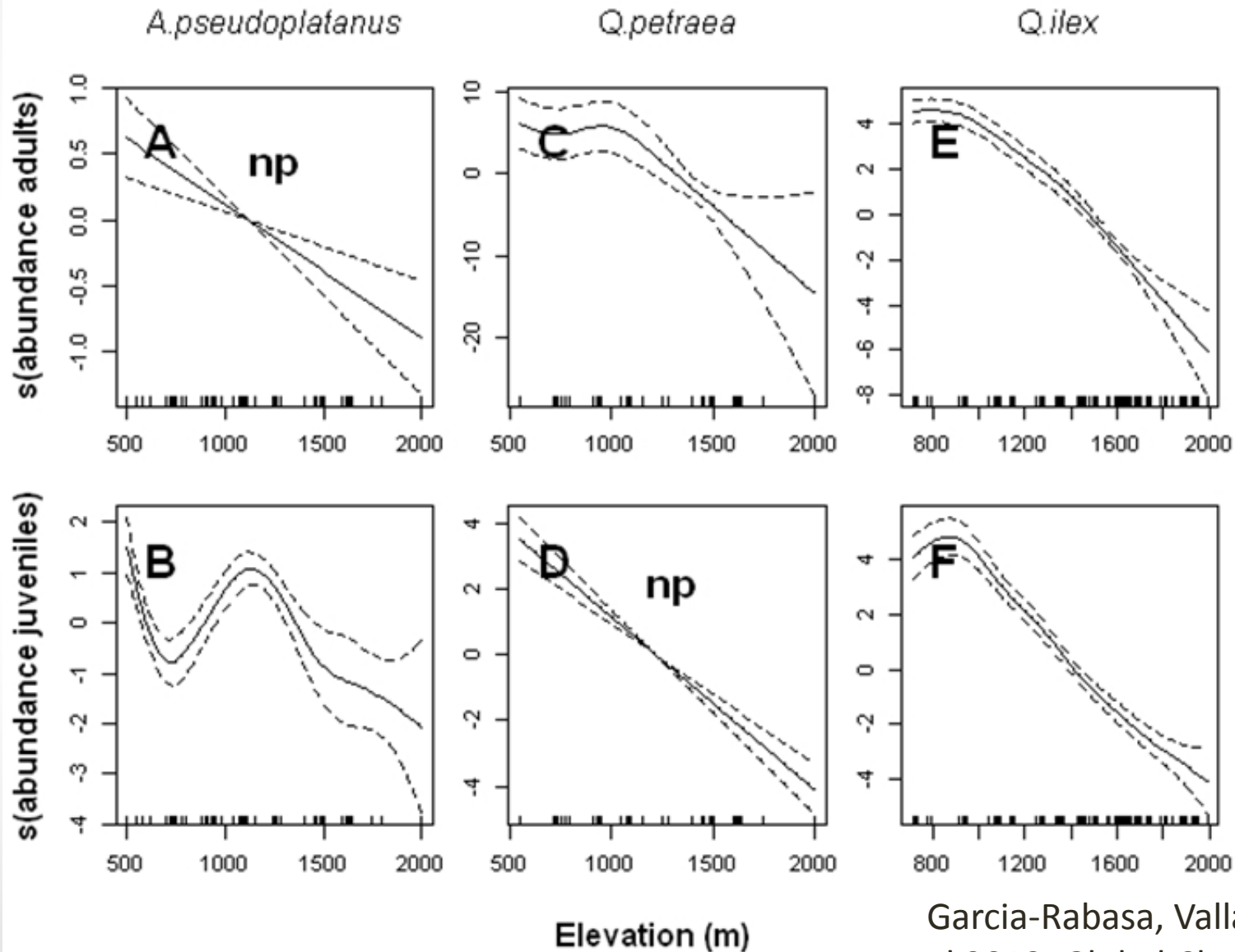


Sierra Nevada (Spain)
Valsain (Spain)
Montseny (Spain)
Belledone (France)
Black Forest
(Germany)
Dundret (Sweden)
Kroscienko (Poland)

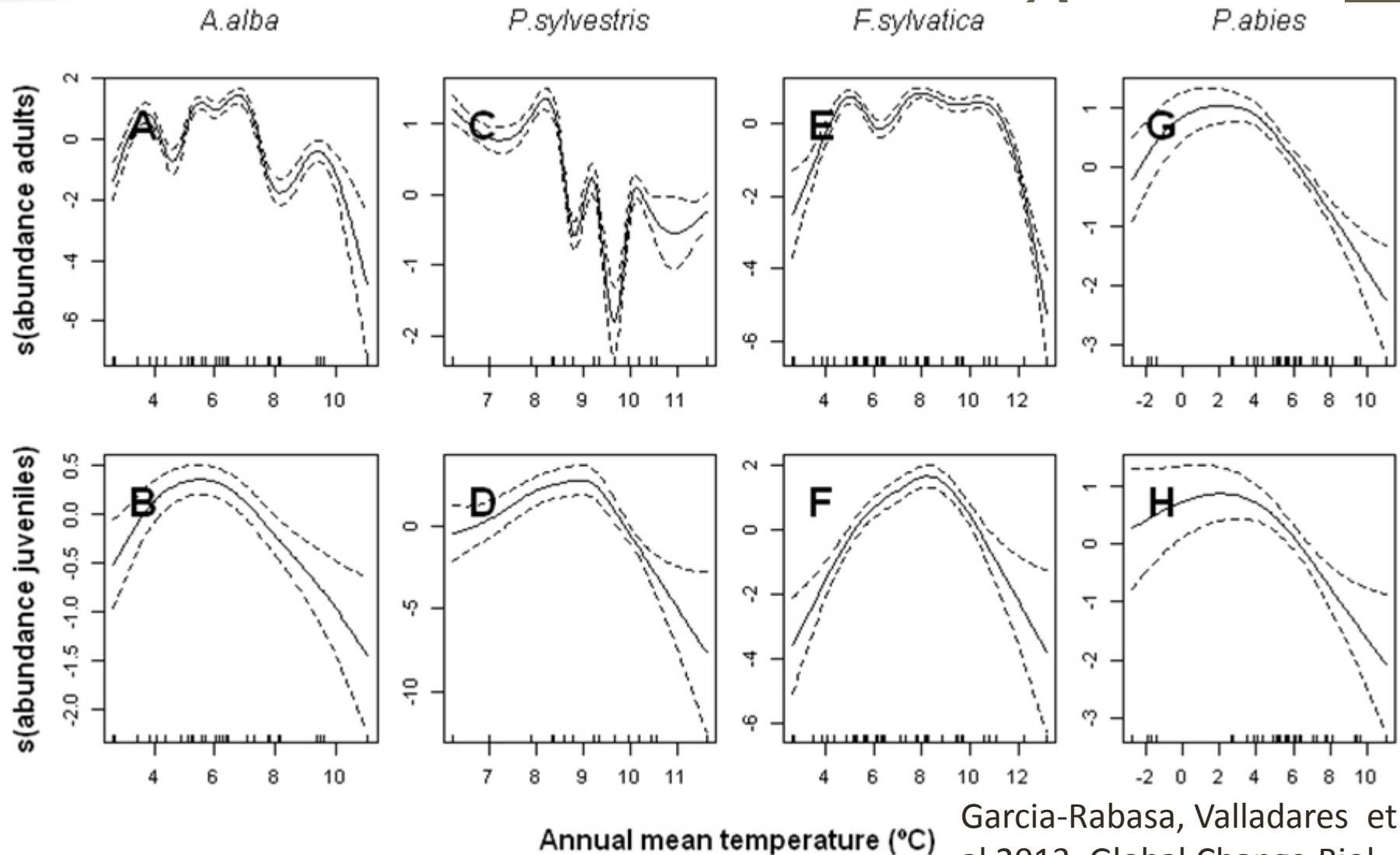
GAMM modelling



GAMM modelling (sps no change)



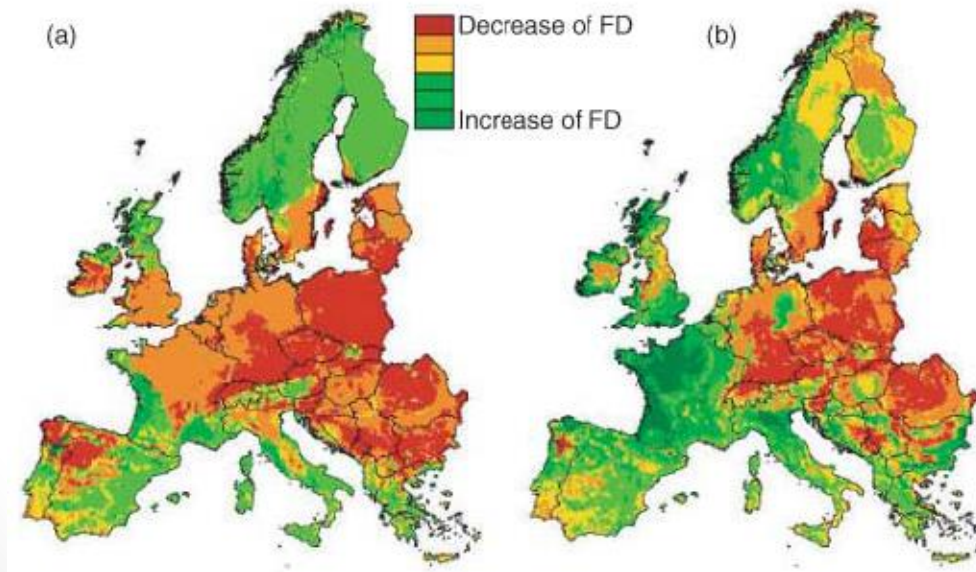
Temperature explains most but not all the observed change



Garcia-Rabasa, Valladares et al 2013. Global Change Biol

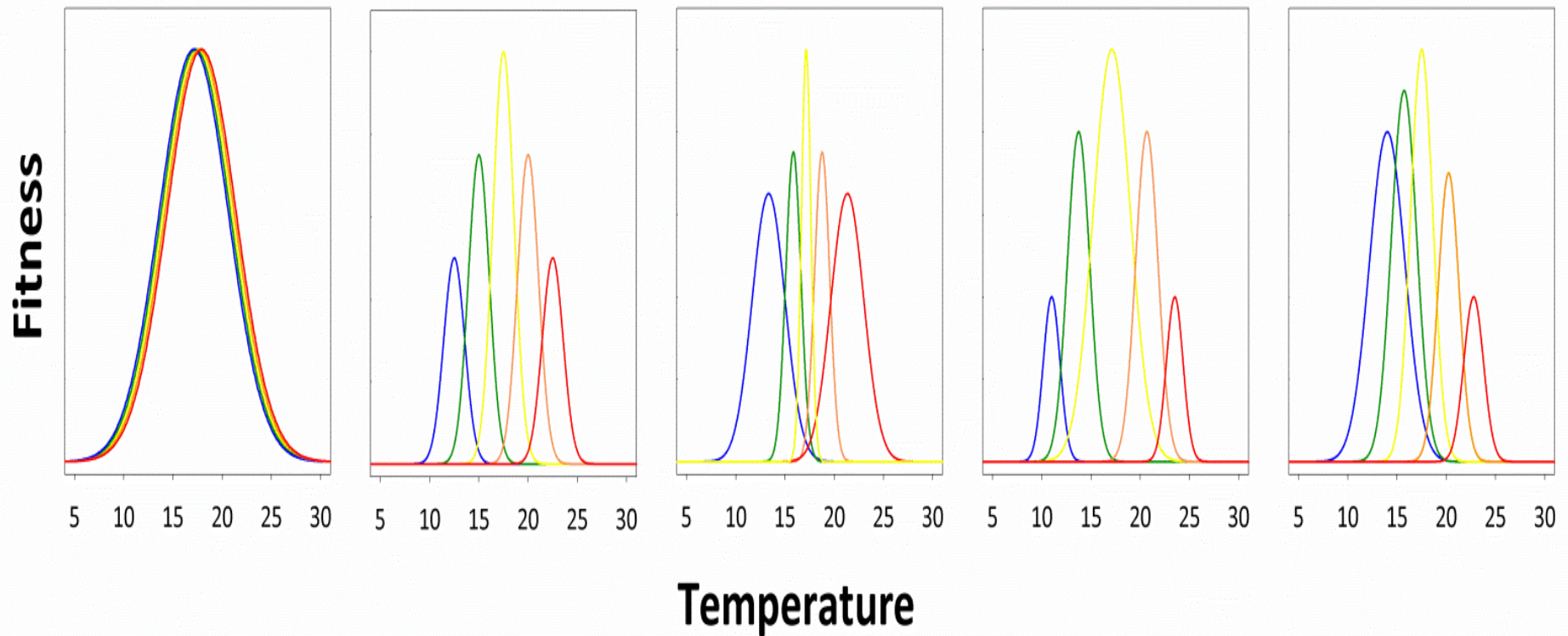
Are these maps realistic? (IV)

Are species composed by
homogeneous populations?
What about local adaptation?



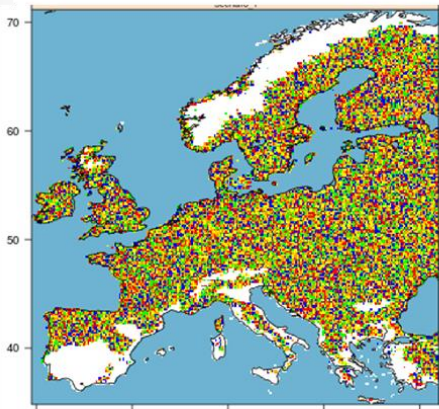
Population differentiation (5 scenarios)

Fitness-environment curves

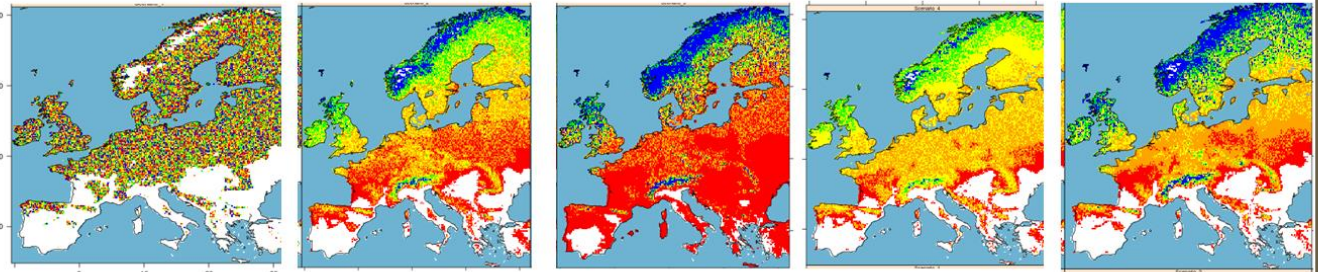


Implications for modelled distribution

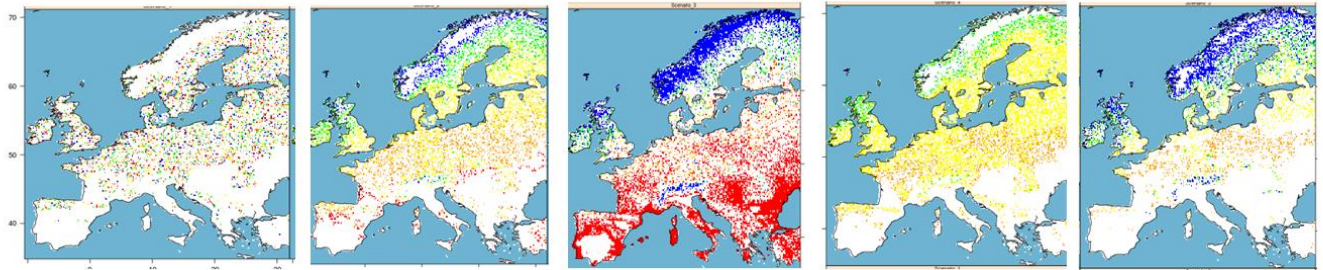
Current distribution



Predicted distribution -Unlimited dispersal



Predicted distribution -No dispersal



Intrasp. scenario 1

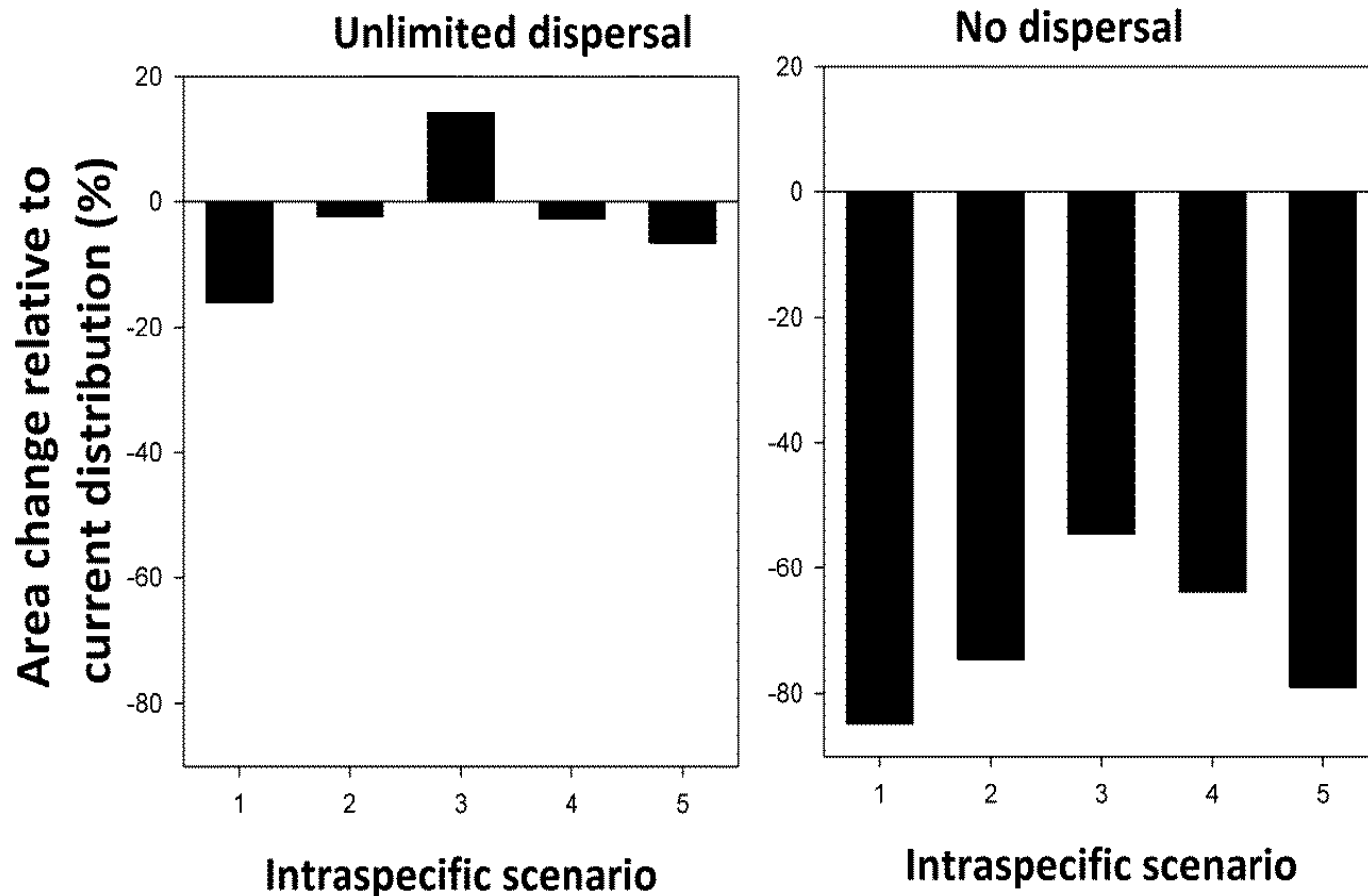
Intrasp. scenario 2

Intrasp. scenario 3

Intrasp. scenario 4

Intrasp. scenario 5

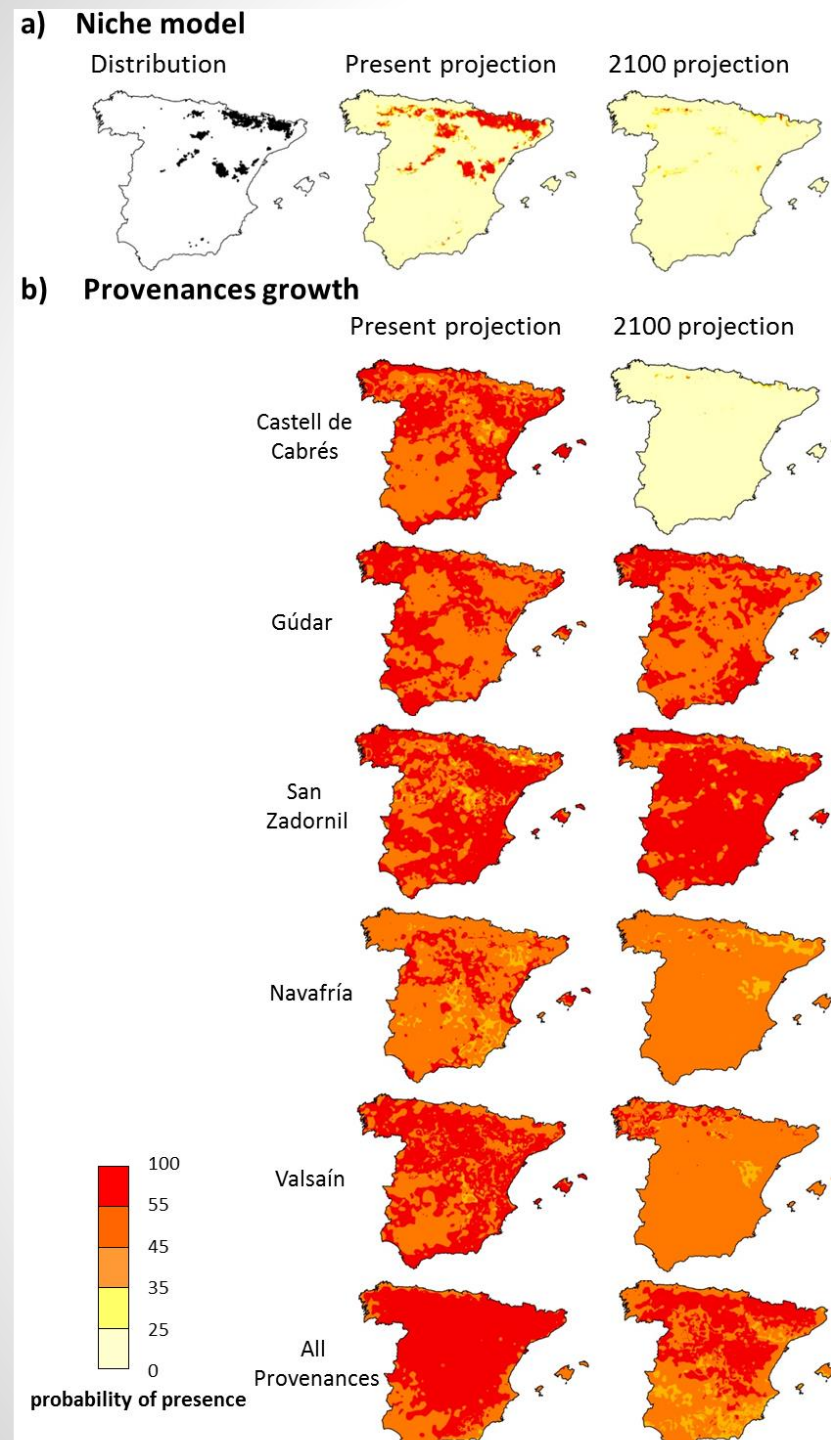
Implications for modelled distribution



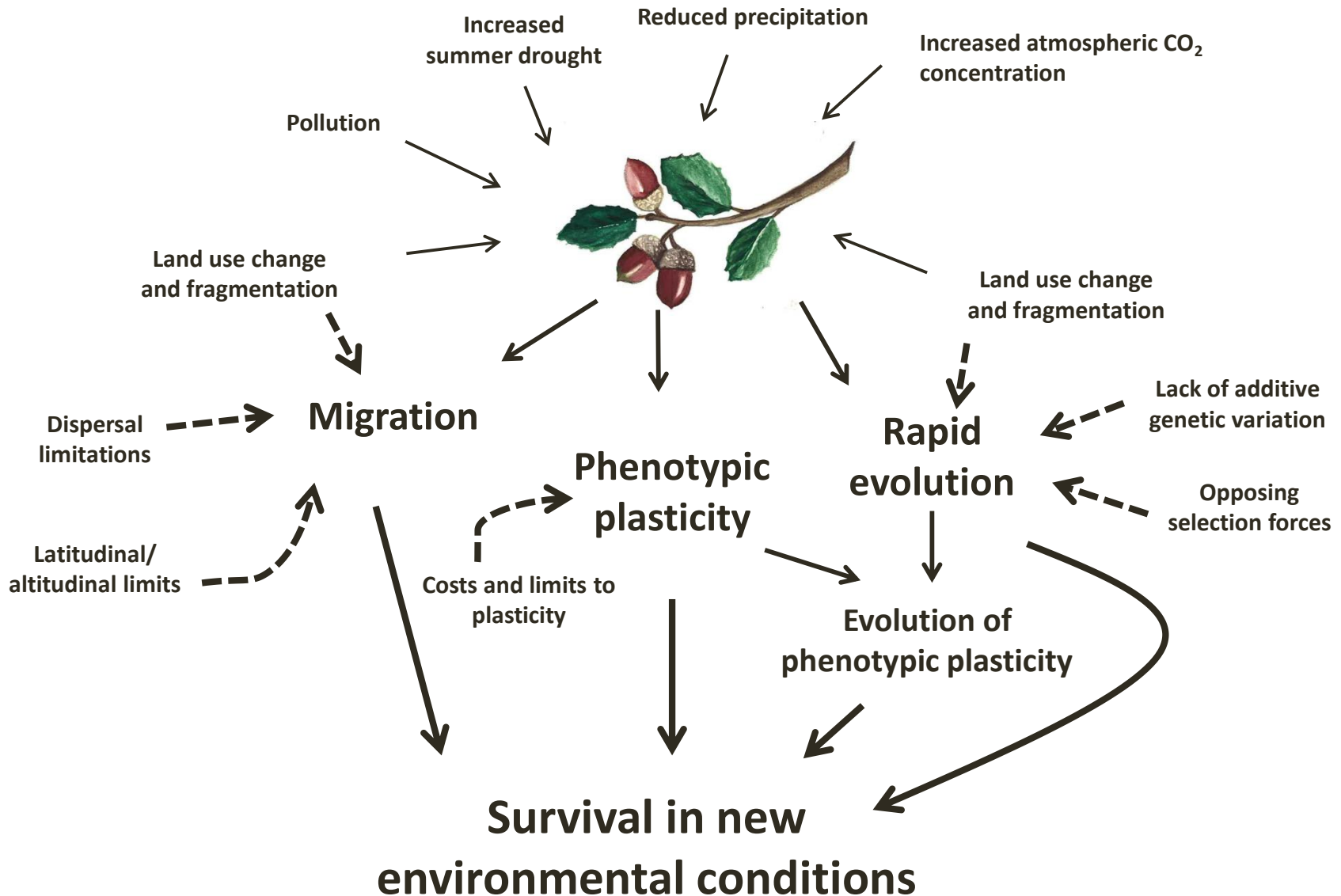
Modelling provenance data

Pinus sylvestris

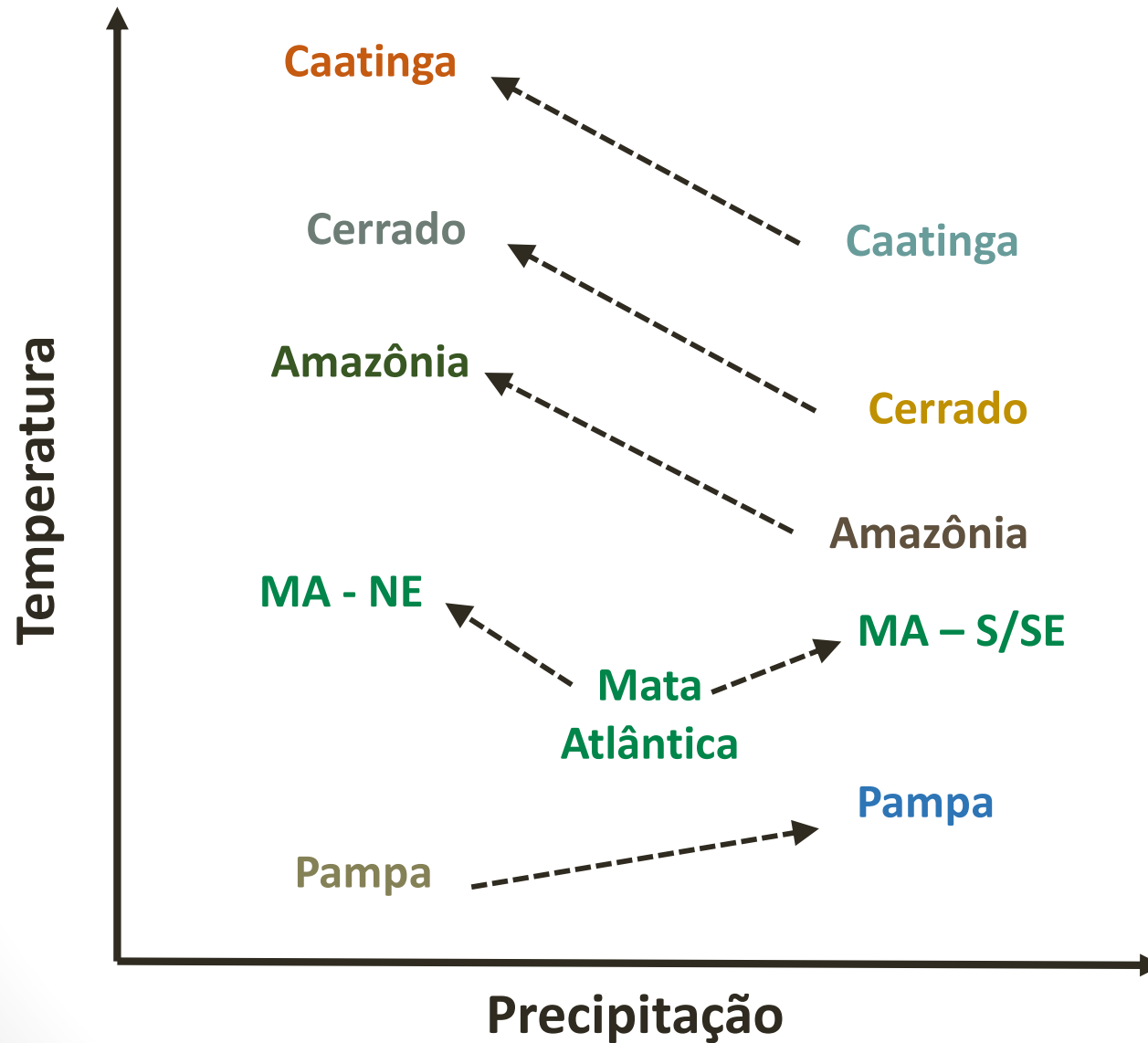
Valladares et al 2012 (in prep)



Global change



Biomassas do Brasil



Processo de savanização da Amazônia



Amazonian Deforestation and Regional Climate Change

CARLOS A. NOBRE,* PIERS J. SELLERS AND JAGADISH SHUKLA

Center for Ocean–Land–Atmosphere Interactions–COLA, University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland

(Manuscript received 7 December 1990, in final form 29 April 1991)

VOLUME 4

JOURNAL OF CLIMATE

OCTOBER 1991



Available online at www.sciencedirect.com



Theor Appl Climatol (2012) 109:73–79
DOI 10.1007/s00704-011-0560-3

ORIGINAL PAPER

'Tipping points' for the Amazon forest

Carlos Afonso Nobre and Laura De Simone Borma

Tropical land savannization: impact of global warming

Sergio H. Franchito • V. Brahmananda Rao •
J. Pablo R. Fernandez

PHILOSOPHICAL
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Testing the Amazon savannization hypothesis: fire effects on invasion of a neotropical forest by native cerrado and exotic pasture grasses

Divino V. Silvério^{1,2}, Paulo M. Brando^{2,3,4}, Jennifer K. Balch⁵, Francis E. Putz⁶,
Daniel C. Nepstad², Claudinei Oliveira-Santos² and Mercedes
M. C. Bustamante¹

100
YEARS

Journal of Ecology



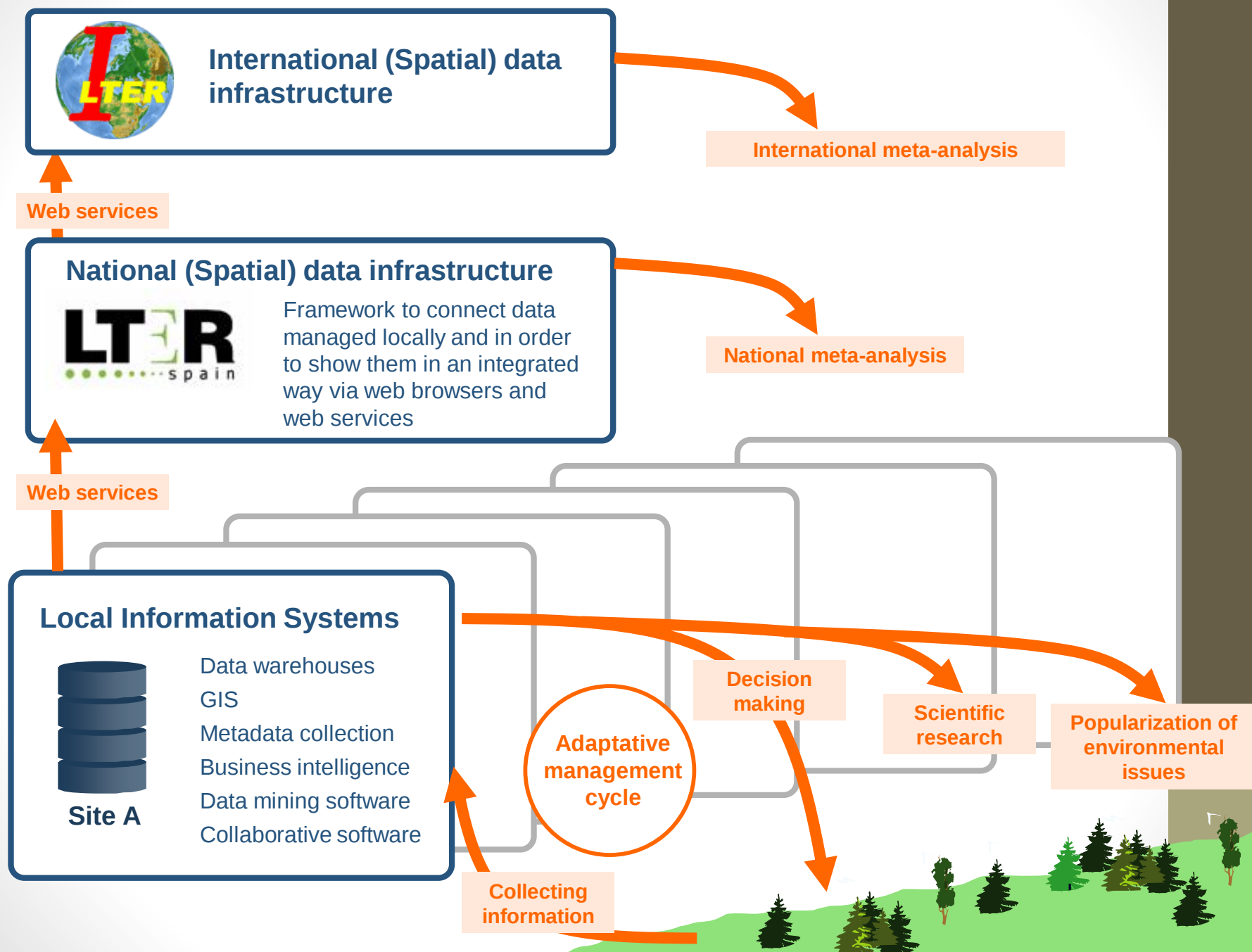
Climate change will increase savannas at the expense of forests and treeless vegetation in tropical and subtropical Americas

José D. Anadón^{1,2*}, Osvaldo E. Sala^{2,3} and Fernando T. Maestre⁴

The challenge for long term monitoring

- It is very important to ensure a long term monitoring, even if not very detailed
- It is challenging to maintain and fund long term monitoring: creative strategy and coordination
- Learning by doing
- Learning from others





3. Proposed network of sites and platforms

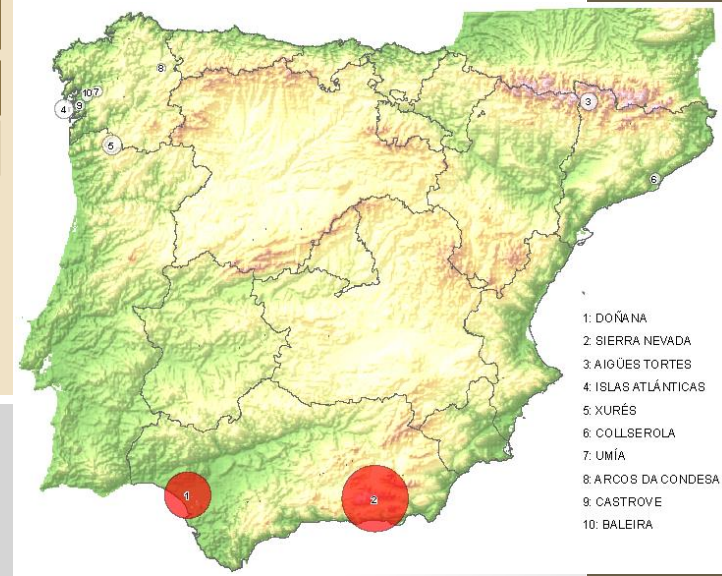
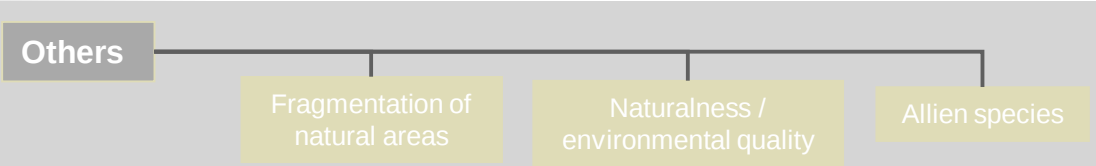
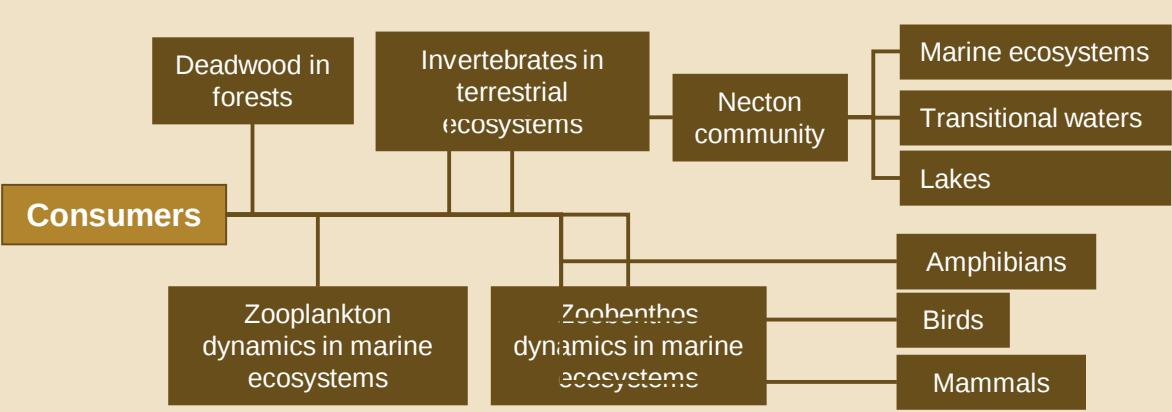
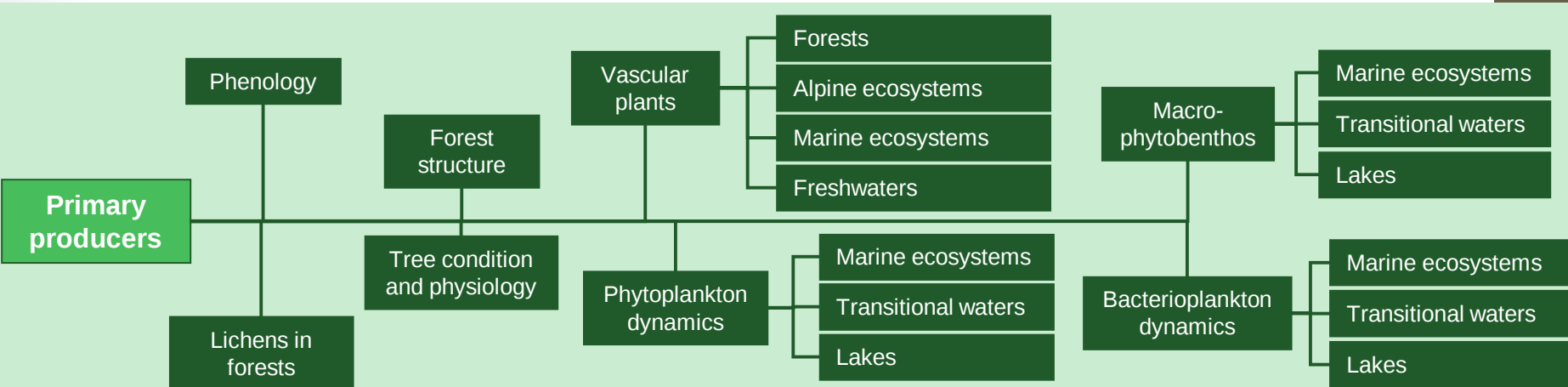
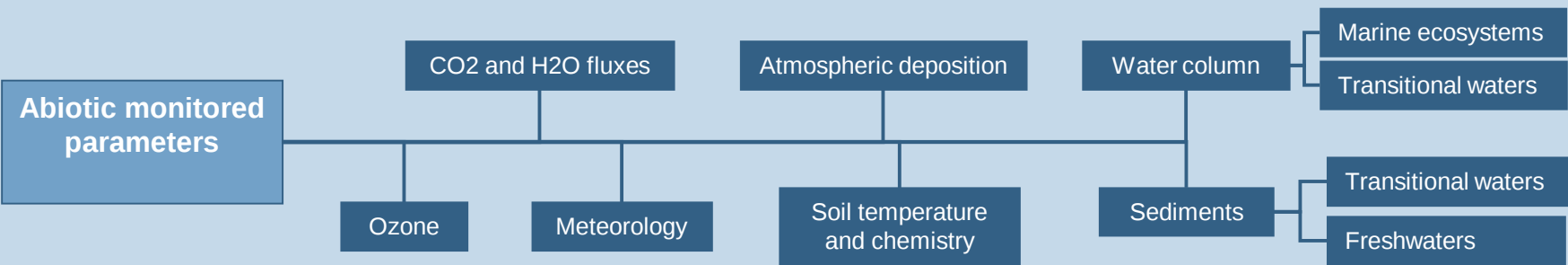


2. Representativity of Spanish Ecosystems

Biodiversity threats

Massive Urbanization
Land use intensification
Fragmentation
Water and Air Pollution
Wetlands drainage
Large Wildfires
Overgrazing
Overfishing
Water supply shortages
Spread of Exotic Ssp...





Abiotic monitored parameters

CO₂ and H₂O fluxes

Atmospheric deposition

Water column

Marine ecosystems

Transitional waters

Ozone

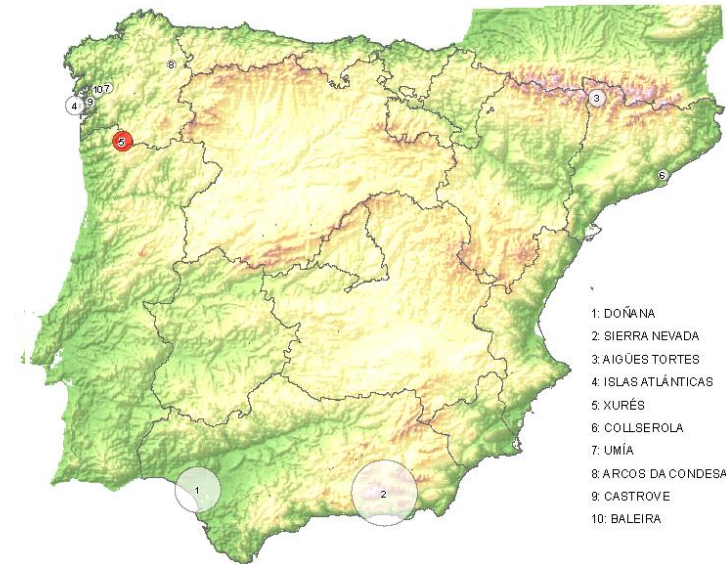
Meteorology

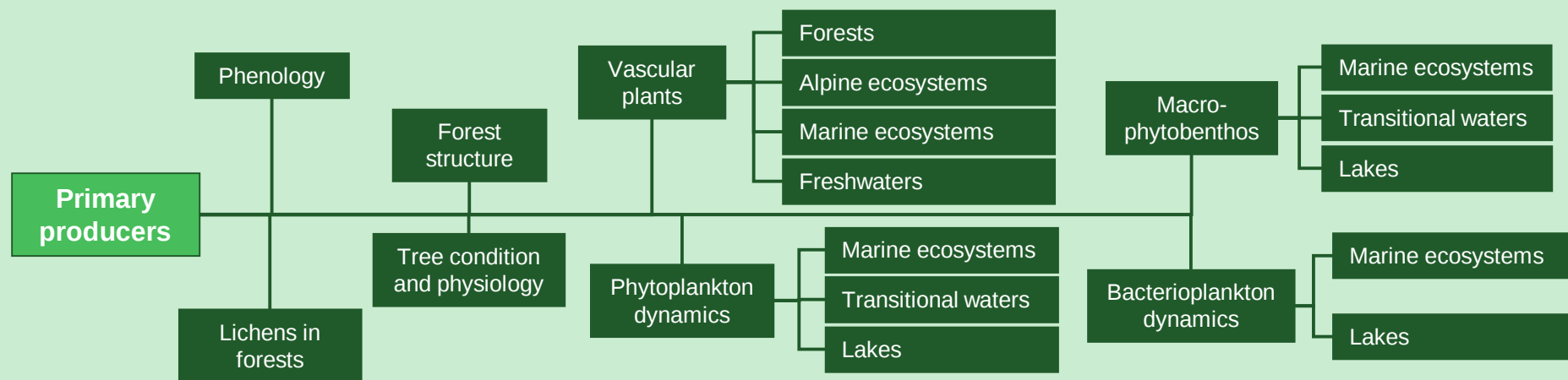
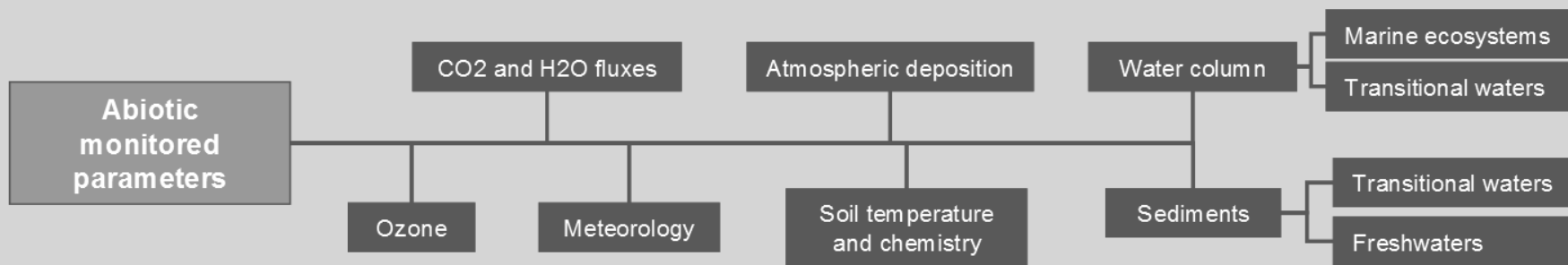
Soil temperature
and chemistry

Sediments

Transitional waters

Freshwaters





Coordinated LTER-Spain monitoring

According to LTER-Europe recommended parameters
Abiotic component

PARAMETERS ASSESSED IN PARTICIPATING LTER SITES	Doñana	Sierra Nevada	Aigüestortes	Illes Atlàntiques	Xures	Collserola	ROAGA Río Um	ROAGA Arcos d Condesa	ROAGA Monte Castrove	ROAGA Baleira
Meteorology (Air temperature and humidity,	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Soil temperature and chemistry	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓
Athmospheric deposition (N,S etc)	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓
Water column (temp, salinity, nutrients etc)				✓						
Water column (temp, salinity, nutrients etc)	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓		
Water column (temp, salinity, nutrients etc)	✓	✓	✓							
Sediments (texture, redox, nutrients etc) in										
Sediments (texture, redox, nutrients etc) in							✓			
Sediments (texture, redox, nutrients etc) in		✓	✓		✓					
Ozone	✓	✓								

Sites & platforms common monitoring

Primary Producers

PARAMETERS ASSESSED IN PARTICIPATING LTER SITES	Doñana	Sierra Nevada	Aigüestortes	Illes Atlàntica	Xures	Collserola	ROAGA Rio Umia	ROAGA Arco da Condese	ROAGA Mont Castrove	ROAGA Baleia
Tree condition & Physiology (*)	✓ (○)	✓ (○)	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Forest structure	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Plant vascular species in forests	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Plant vascular species in rural ecosystems										
Plant vascular species in alpine ecosystems		✓	✓							
Plant vascular species in marine ecosystems				✓						
Plant vascular species in freshwaters	✓		✓		✓		✓			
Plant vascular species in transitional waters	✓									
Phytoplankton dynamics in marine ecosystems				✓						
Phytoplankton dynamics in transitional waters	✓	✓				✓	✓			
Phytoplankton dynamics in lakes			✓							
Bacterioplankton dynamics in marine				✓						
Bacterioplankton dynamics in transitional										
Bacterioplankton dynamics in lakes			✓				✓			
Macrophytobenthos in marine ecosystems				✓						
Macrophytobenthos in transitional waters	✓						✓			
Macrophytobenthos in lakes			✓							
Phenology	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓
Lichens in forests						✓				

Sites & platforms common monitoring

Consumers

PARAMETERS ASSESSED IN PARTICIPATING LTER SITES	Doñana	Sierra Nevada	Aigüestortes	Illes Atlàntiques	Xures	Collserola	ROAGA Río Umia	ROAGA Arco da Condosa	ROAGA Mont Castrove	ROAGA Balears
Zooplankton dynamics in marine ecosystems				✓						
Zooplankton dynamics in transitional waters										
Zooplankton dynamics in lakes										
Zoobenthos in marine ecosystems				✓						
Zoobenthos in transitional waters										
Zoobenthos in lakes										
Invertebrates in terrestrial ecosystems	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Necton community in marine ecosystems				✓						
Necton community in transitional waters	✓				✓		✓			
Necton community in lakes			✓							
Amphibians				✓				✓	✓	✓
Birds	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Mammals			✓			*				
Deadwood in forests				✓				✓	✓	✓

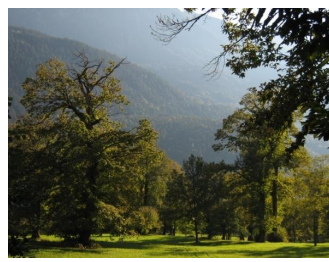
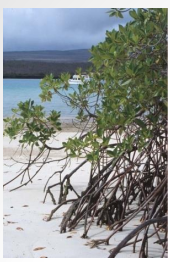
Others

Alien species	✓			✓		*		✓	✓	✓
Naturalness / Environmental quality	✓	✓				✓				
Fragmentation of natural areas	✓	✓	✓			✓				

Conclusions

1. We have moved too quickly to future species scenarios without a sound understanding of population-level processes
2. The response of trees to changing environments is likely to be determined by population responses at range margins.
3. Our knowledge on genetic diversity, phenotypic plasticity, and ecophysiological performance of fragmented populations of key tree species is still very limited, particularly in the rear edge (low latitudes and low elevations), where climate change is expected to have a large impact
4. Models are a crucial tool for evaluating the impact of climate change in European forests but they must incorporate more detail and attain greater biological realism
5. Monitoring is crucial but really challenging (economics, coordination, long term)





Biodiversity:

grasping its
implications in a
changing world....



Pechiazul (*Luscinia svecica*)