A scenic view of a tropical forest landscape with misty mountains and dense green vegetation. The foreground shows some branches with large green leaves, and the background features rolling hills and valleys covered in forest, with a layer of mist or low clouds hanging between the ridges.

The role of phenotypic plasticity for plant functional traits in tropical forests

Florian Hofhansl, Eduardo Chacón-Madriral, Åke Brännström, Ulf Dieckmann and Oskar Franklin

Introduction – Geographic range size

Geographical range size varies greatly between species

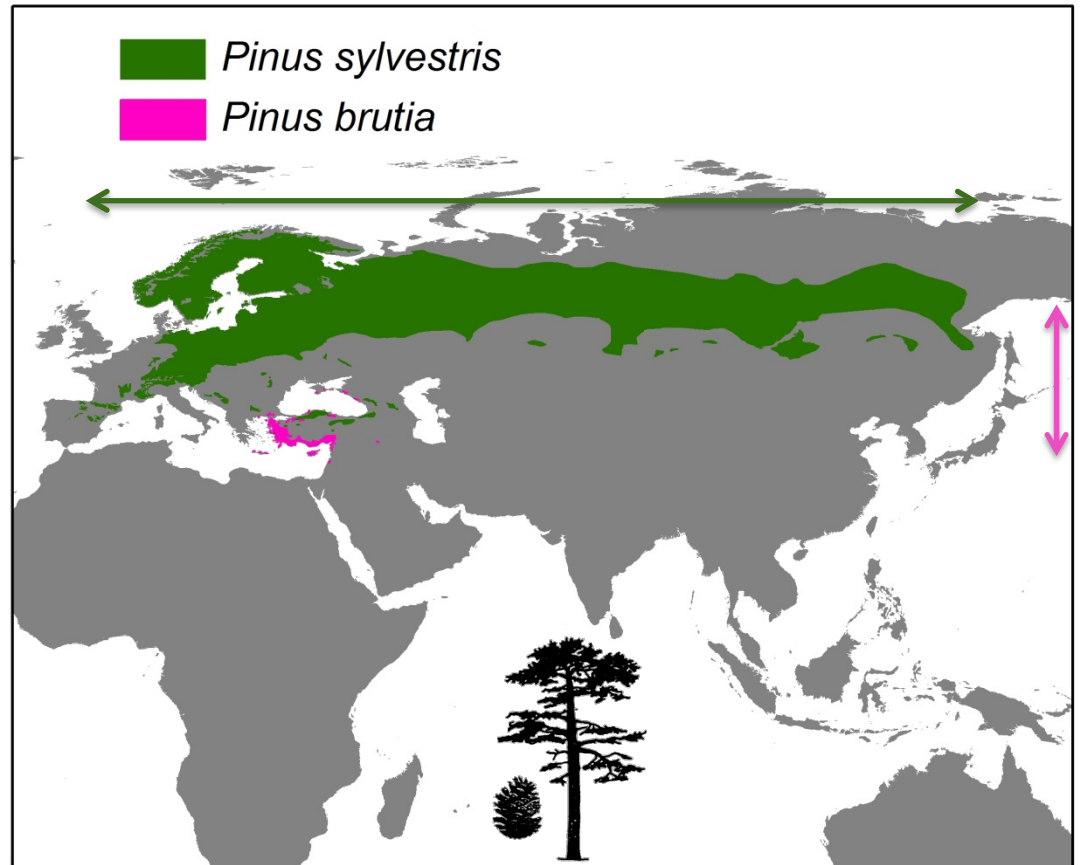
Range of sizes of species' geographical distribution

100 m² ↔ 300 000 000 Km²



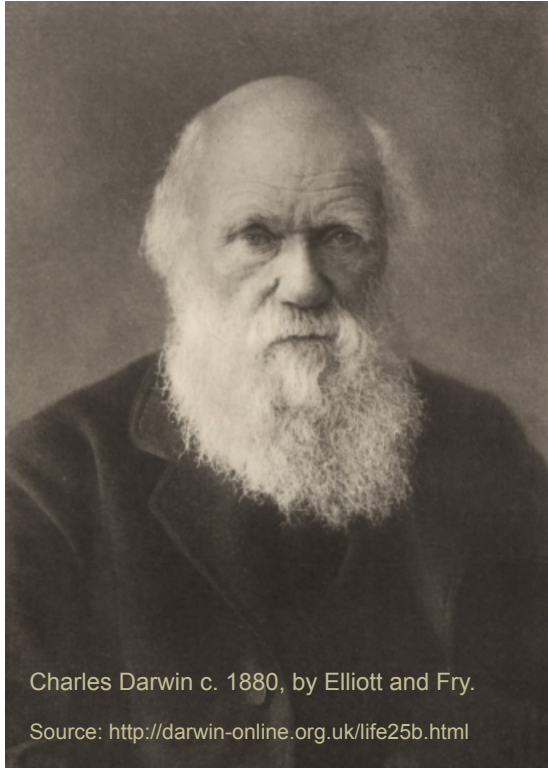
Genetic heritability ?

Phenotypic plasticity ?



Source: EUFORGEN:http://www.euforgen.org/distribution_maps.html

Introduction – Species range size

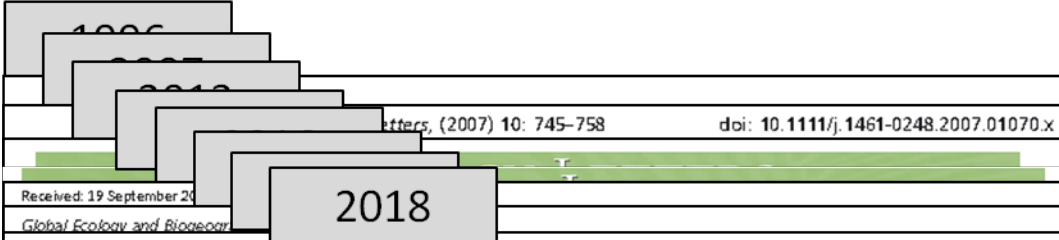


Charles Darwin c. 1880, by Elliott and Fry.

Source: <http://darwin-online.org.uk/life25b.html>

*“Who can explain why one **species ranges widely and is very numerous, and why another allied species has a narrow range and is rare?**”*

Charles Darwin, *The Origin of Species* (1856)



Received: 19 September 2018
Global Ecology and Biogeography

Parasitology
cambridge.org/par

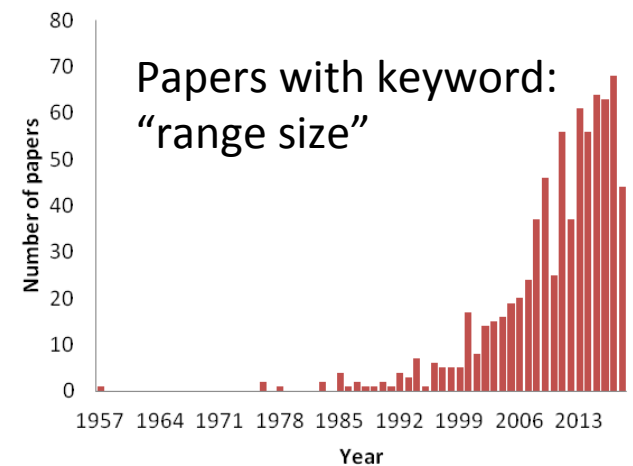
Research Article

Phylogenetic heritability of geographic range size in haematophagous ectoparasites: time of divergence and variation among continents

Boris R. Krasnov¹, Georgy I. Shenbrot¹, Luther van der Mescht^{1,2}, Elizabeth M. Warburton¹ and Irina S. Khokhlova²

¹Mitrani Department of Desert Ecology, Swiss Institute for Dryland Environmental and Energy Research, Jacob Blaustein Institutes for Desert Research, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Midreshet Ben-Gurion 8499000, Israel and ²Wiyler Department of Dryland Agriculture, French Associates Institute for Agriculture and Biotechnology of Drylands, Jacob Blaustein Institutes for Desert Research, Ben-Gurion, University of the Negev, Midreshet Ben-Gurion 84990, Israel

Cite this article: Krasnov BR, Shenbrot GI, van der Mescht L, Warburton EM, Khokhlova IS (2018). Phylogenetic heritability of geographic range size in haematophagous ectoparasites: time of divergence and variation among continents. *Parasitology* 1–10. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0031182018000550>



Introduction – Tropical plant species

Why there are striking differences in the geographical range size of close related tropical plant species?



(Delphine Ramond/AFP/Getty Images)

Introduction – Plant economics spectrum



Fast strategy

Slow strategy

Plants with different forms and from different biomes present a **coordination in their traits:**

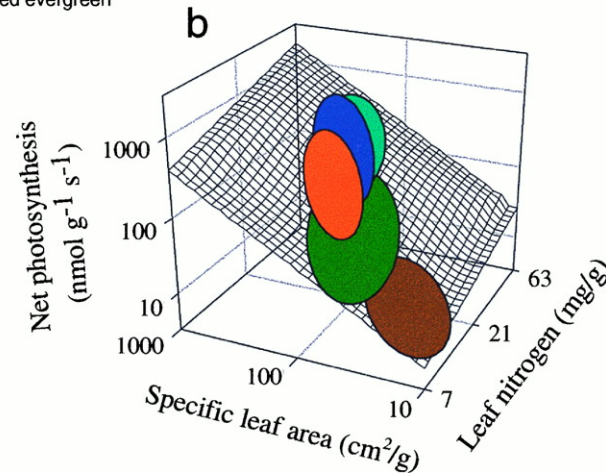
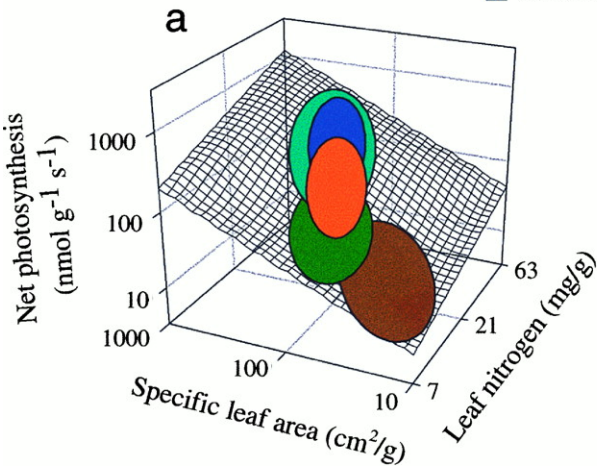
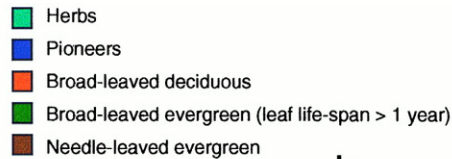
e.g. plants achieving high photosynthetic rates:

→ high leaf N content

→ high specific leaf area
(relation leaf area /mass)

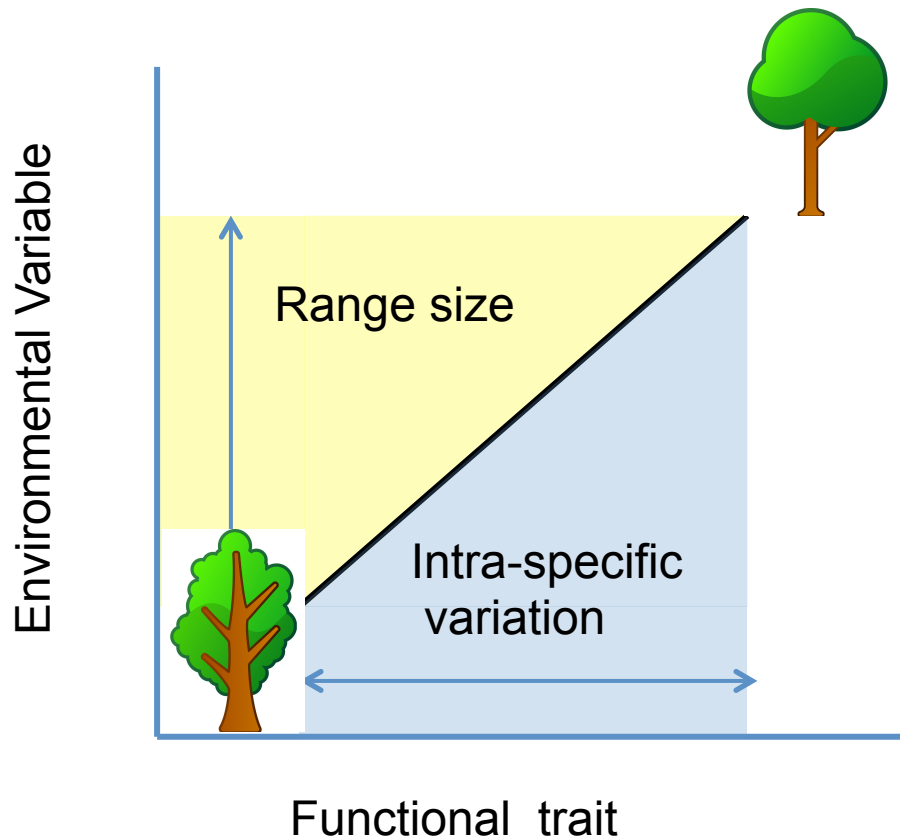
→ low leaf lifespan.

Species with slow life history traits and conservative resource use should have smaller ranges than 'fast living' pioneers.

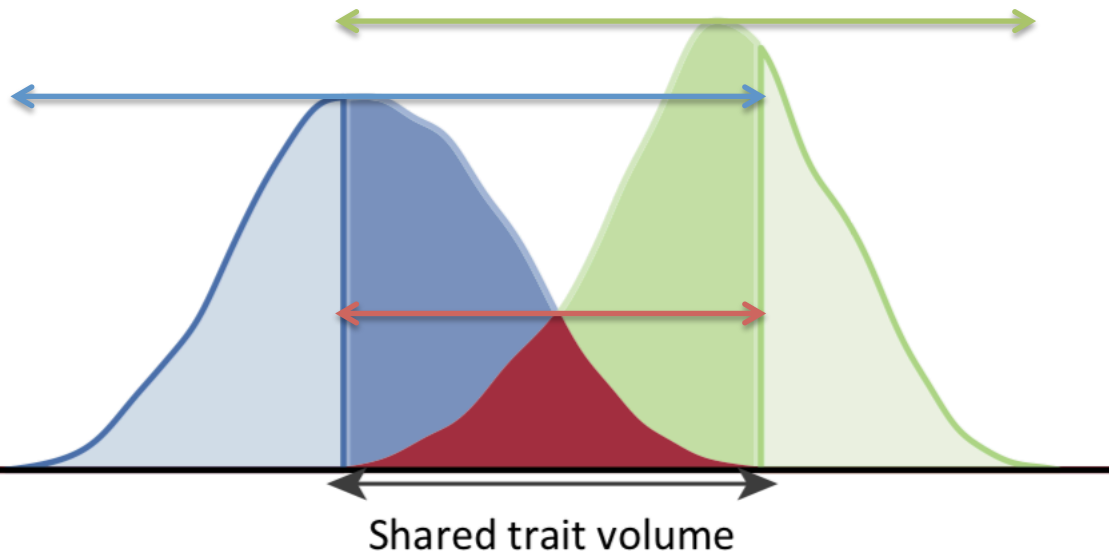


Introduction – Intraspecific variability

Intraspecific trait variation is related to niche breadth



Introduction – Interspecific variability



At the **species level**, trait combinations exhibit **trade-offs** representing different ecological strategies

At the **community level** trait combinations are expected to be **decoupled from trade-offs**

because different strategies can facilitate co-existence within communities.

under similar macro-environmental conditions, **communities can vary greatly in trait means and variances**, consistent with high local variation in species' trait values.

- trait combinations seem to be predominantly
- filtered by local-scale factors such as disturbance,
- fine-scale soil conditions, niche partitioning and biotic interactions.

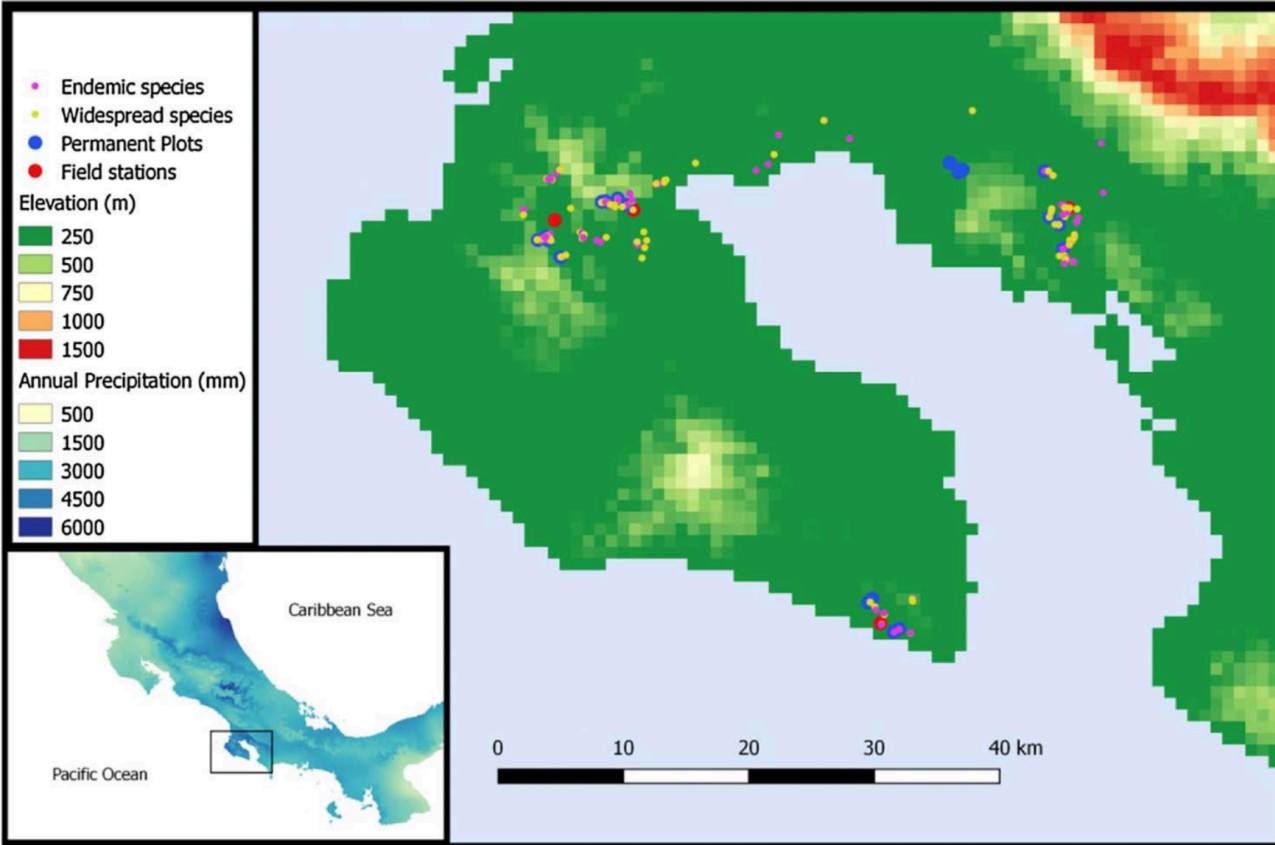
Local study – Plant functional trait data

Range size/functional traits:

Study sampled 345 trees from 35 species in 14 genera and analysed functional traits

**specific leaf area (SLA),
leaf thickness (LT),
leaf dry matter (LDMC),
leaf nitrogen (N),
leaf phosphorus (P),
leaf potassium (K),
leaf N:P ratio (NP),
wood specific gravity (WSG)**

Compare functional traits among narrow range **endemic species** and **widespread congeners**



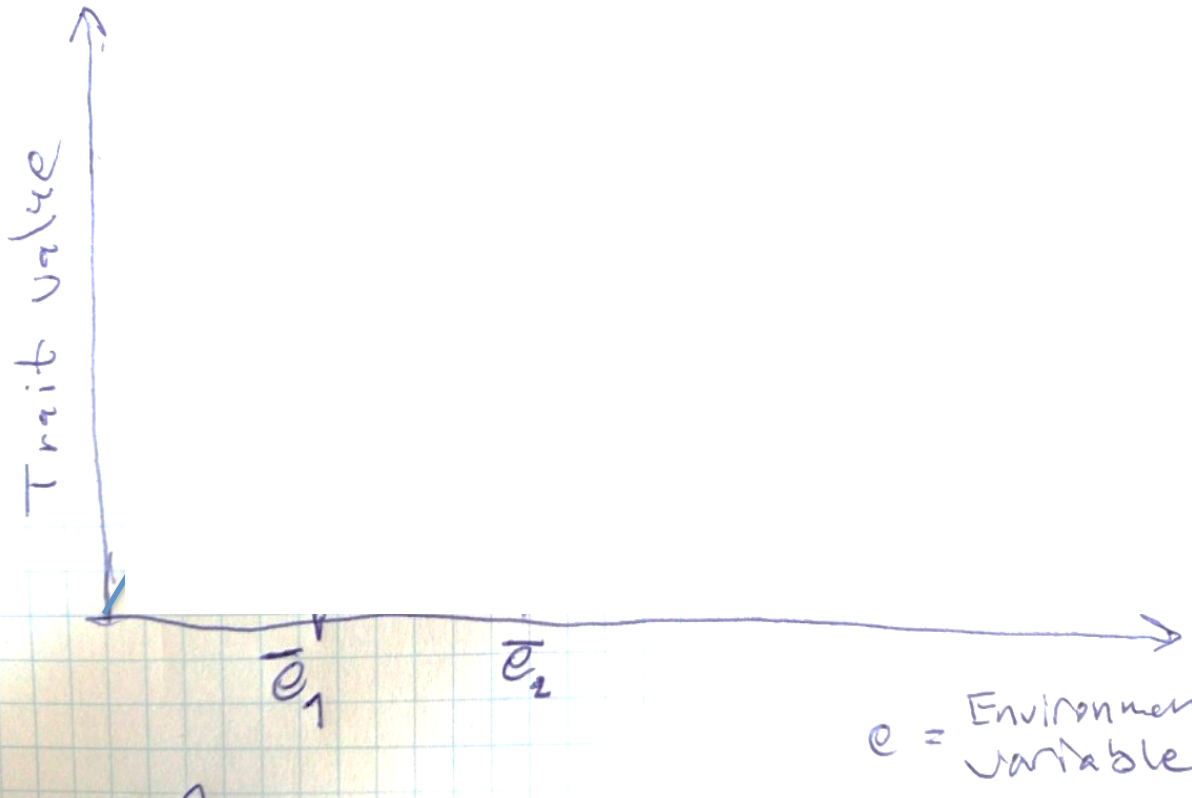
Hypothesis – Individual variation

Tropical tree communities & associated trait components

(1) individual trait variation allows a species to adjust to spatial gradients in local environmental conditions.

(2) non-plastic component increases with geographic distance due to local adaptation to different environments.

(3) plastic component increases with environmental distance among sites and thus with the range size of species.



Functional traits – components

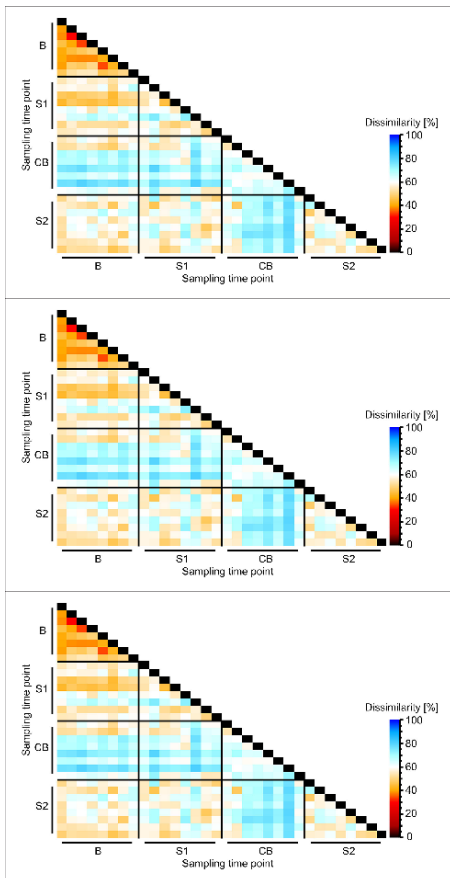
Distance Matrices:

- 1) Geographic distance
- 2) Environmental distance
- 3) Trait distance (i.e. variation)

Fixed component
 $= (T * D) - E$

Plastic component
 $= (T * E) - D$

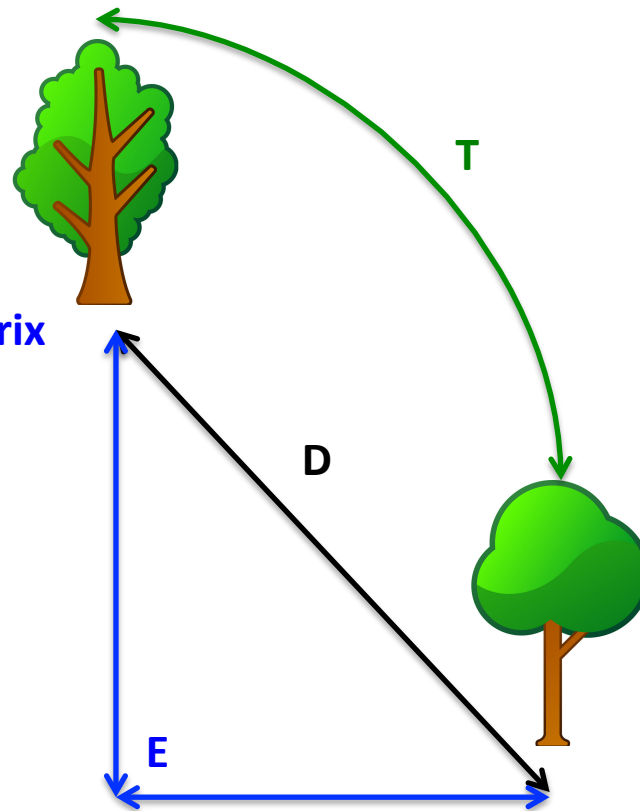
Spatial component
 $= (D * E) - T$



D .. Distance matrix

E .. Environment matrix

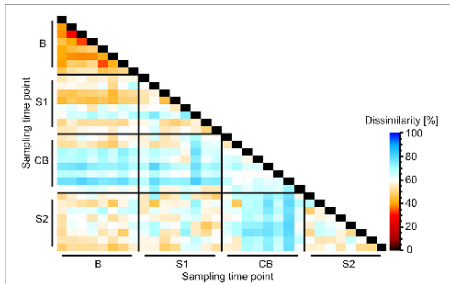
T .. Trait matrix



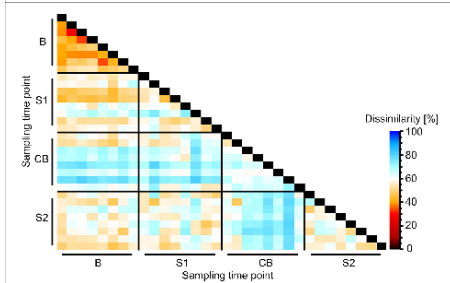
Functional traits – community

Analysis	Matrix 1	Matrix 2	Matrix 3	SCALED data	
Mantel test	x	y	Z	r	p
	trait	distance		0.06	0.006
	trait	environment		-0.03	0.966
Partial Mantel	distance	environment		0.44	0.001
	x	y	Z	r	p
	trait	distance	environment	0.08	0.001
HERITABLE	trait	environment	distance	-0.06	0.998
PLASTIC	distance	environment	trait	0.44	0.001
SPATIAL					

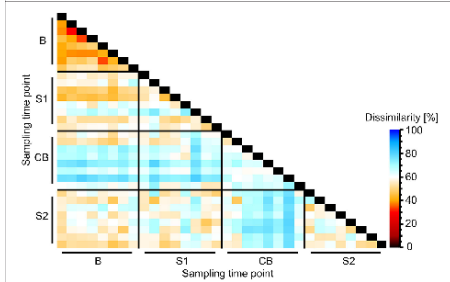
Trait / COMPONENT		HERITABLE		PLASTIC		SPATIAL	
		r	p	r	p	r	p
ENVI PC1							
	WSG	-0.01	0.707	0.01	0.33	0.45	0.001
	Height	0.04	0.073	-0.03	0.866	0.45	0.001
	SLA	0.08	0.012	-0.02	0.693	0.45	0.001
	LA	0.02	0.32	-0.03	0.793	0.45	0.001
	LT	0.03	0.138	-0.01	0.618	0.45	0.001
	LDMC	0.08	0.002	-0.07	1	0.45	0.001
	N	0.08	0.011	-0.02	0.795	0.45	0.001
	P	0.06	0.05	-0.02	0.687	0.45	0.001



$(D * E) - T$



$(T * E) - D$

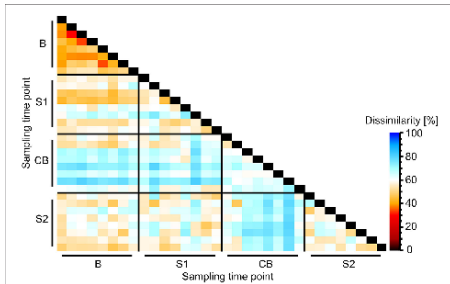


$(T * D) - E$

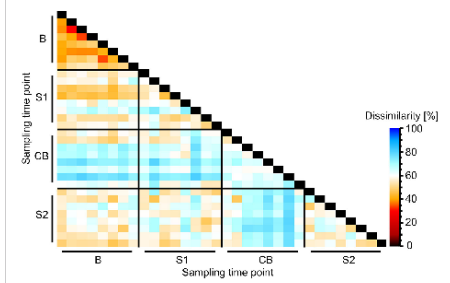


Functional traits – species

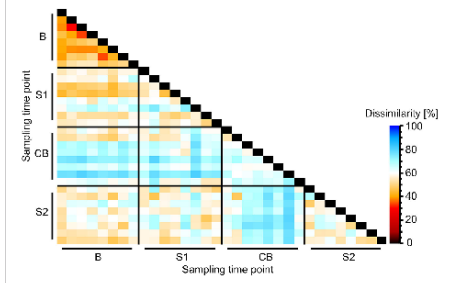
Analysis	Matrix 1	Matrix 2	Matrix 3	SCALED data	
Mantel test	x	y	Z	r	p
	trait	distance		0.06	0.006
	trait	environment		-0.03	0.966
Partial Mantel	distance	environment		0.44	0.001
	x	y	Z	r	p
HERITABLE	trait	distance	environment	0.08	0.001
PLASTIC	trait	environment	distance	-0.06	0.998
SPATIAL	distance	environment	trait	0.44	0.001



$$(D^*E)-T$$



$$(T^*E)-D$$



$$(T^*D)-E$$

Fixed component

ARCOM	-0.13	0.11	0.21	0.18	0.2	0.19	-0.44	0.09
ARDUN	-0.01	-0.03	0.24	-0.05	0.12	0.08	-0.09	-0.03
CHGLA	0.29	-0.22	-0.06	-0.08	0.51	-0.15	0.27	0.28
CHSKU	0.1	-0.03	0.37	0.39	0.52	-0.12	0.03	0.02
COCYM	0.14	0.6	-0.19	0.17	0.06	-0.17	-0.15	-0.07
COLIE	-0.01	-0.08	0.05	-0.13	0.22	-0.06	0.41	0.27
DEARB	-0.02	0.42	0.12	-0.32	-0.03	0.05	0.02	-0.11
DERAV	0.47	-0.18	0.04	-0.14	-0.04	0.21	-0.16	-0.14
FAOCC	0.3	0.2	0.03	-0.03	0.48	-0.07	0.07	-0.18
FAPER	0.05	-0.07	-0.02	0.01	0.03	0.36	-0.08	0.21
GAAGU	0.21	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	-0.23	-0.22	0.23	-0.12
GAMAG	-0.17	0.15	0.25	0.21	0.75	-0.12	0	-0.13
GUAMP	0.01	-0.01	-0.11	-0.01	-0.19	0.07	-0.21	0.3
GUCHI	0.31	-0.19	0.04	0.14	-0.06	0.13	0.05	0.08
GUPUD	0.14	0.03	0.21	0.28	0.1	-0.16	-0.26	-0.02
GUROS	0.08	0.18	0.08	0.07	0.05	0.08	0.16	-0.07
INSKU	0.21	-0.19	0.48	0.16	0.03	0.04	0.26	0.74
INSPE	-0.18	0.08	-0.01	-0.06	-0.09	0	-0.31	-0.35
MIDIS	-0.15	-0.1	-0.12	-0.2	-0.03	-0.03	-0.01	-0.32
MIDON	0.19	0.12	-0.04	-0.12	0.3	0.29	-0.16	0.08
MIOSA	0.51	0.07	-0.04	0.11	0.11	0.21	-0.16	-0.02
MITRI	0.07	-0.18	-0.09	-0.16	-0.02	-0.07	0.01	-0.05
OCMOL	-0.02	0.12	0.07	-0.08	0.07	-0.16	-0.08	-0.09
OCRIV	-0.21	0.25	-0.29	-0.08	-0.22	-0.1	0.54	0.48
POLEC	-0.01	-0.07	0.05	0.07	-0.06	0.14	0.37	0.38
POSUB	0.09	0.28	0.15	-0.03	0.36	-0.18	0.31	-0.13
POTOR	-0.15	0.01	0.45	0.24	0.1	-0.02	0.61	0.78
POTRI	-0.2	-0.28	-0.19	-0.37	0.56	-0.13	0.01	-0.29
PRPAN	0.65	-0.08	-0.04	0.18	-0.12	0.05	-0.23	0.06
PRPEC	0.18	-0.06	0.15	-0.05	0.37	0.06	0.5	-0.06
SAALL	0	0.17	0.02	-0.12	0.23	-0.01	-0.17	-0.18
SAGLA	0.1	0.12	0.47	-0.26	0.41	0.14	-0.19	0.22
UNOSA	-0.09	0.13	-0.13	0.55	0.16	-0.03	-0.01	-0.13
UNTHE	-0.02	-0.09	0	-0.24	0.13	0	0.18	0.32

Plastic component

ARCOM	0.2	-0.11	-0.26	-0.22	-0.26	-0.21	0.49	0.03
ARDUN	-0.16	-0.24	-0.21	0.22	0.06	0.09	-0.17	0.14
CHGLA	0.11	-0.28	0.1	-0.11	0.23	-0.19	0.29	0.23
CHSKU	-0.21	0.23	-0.18	0.4	0.11	-0.1	-0.04	-0.1
COCYM	-0.2	-0.01	0.53	-0.28	0.08	0.44	0.37	0.51
COLIE	0.25	0.26	0.08	-0.01	-0.19	0.02	0.23	-0.29
DEARB	-0.01	-0.12	-0.1	0.4	-0.01	-0.12	-0.06	0.19
DERAV	-0.39	0.12	0	0.05	0.33	-0.1	0.33	0
FAOCC	0.14	-0.2	-0.16	0.09	-0.27	0.7	0.38	0.15
FAPER	0.16	0.23	0.24	0.02	0.17	0	-0.03	-0.08
GAAGU	0.28	0.46	-0.07	-0.17	-0.1	-0.2	0.01	-0.08
GAMAG	0	0.14	0.14	-0.02	0.32	-0.07	-0.02	-0.1
GUAMP	-0.07	-0.12	0.13	-0.18	0.26	-0.3	0.08	-0.24
GUCHI	-0.25	0.03	-0.09	0.12	0.04	-0.12	0.05	-0.03
GUPUD	-0.06	0	0.08	0.15	-0.04	0.09	0.01	0
GUROS	0	0.13	-0.27	-0.08	-0.16	0.01	-0.35	-0.09
INSKU	0.28	0.15	-0.18	-0.22	-0.2	0.16	-0.23	-0.28
INSPE	0.04	0.07	0.54	-0.07	0.52	0.13	0.68	0.4
MIDIS	-0.01	0.06	-0.01	0.17	0.05	0.07	0.15	0.31
MIDON	-0.23	-0.01	0.15	0.41	-0.16	-0.11	0.58	-0.11
MIOSA	-0.39	0.41	-0.04	-0.1	0.13	-0.12	0.05	0.1
MITRI	-0.23	0.15	0.01	0.49	-0.07	0.07	-0.03	0.06
OCMOL	-0.03	-0.12	0	-0.04	0.03	0.1	0.03	0.01
OCRIV	0.25	-0.13	0.29	0.24	0.3	0.41	0.21	0.04
POLEC	0.01	0.17	-0.07	-0.15	0.1	-0.18	-0.3	-0.31
POSUB	-0.2	-0.01	-0.1	0.19	-0.02	0.04	-0.19	0
POTOR	0.42	0.4	-0.08	-0.07	-0.07	-0.16	-0.57	-0.71
POTRI	-0.01	0.14	0.28	0.07	0.19	0.09	0.39	0.59
PRPAN	0.55	-0.2	0.54	-0.28	0.32	0.07	0.16	0.51
PRPEC	-0.15	0.31	-0.07	0	-0.3	0.16	-0.13	0.03
SAALL	0.02	-0.21	-0.06	0.29	-0.1	0.08	0.21	0.24
SAGLA	-0.06	-0.13	0.44	0.14	0.5	0.13	0.05	-0.18
UNOSA	0.23	0.12	0.17	0	-0.13	0.04	-0.05	0.01
UNTHE	-0.06	0.21	-0.18	0.52	0.09	-0.2	-0.25	-0.26

Spatial component

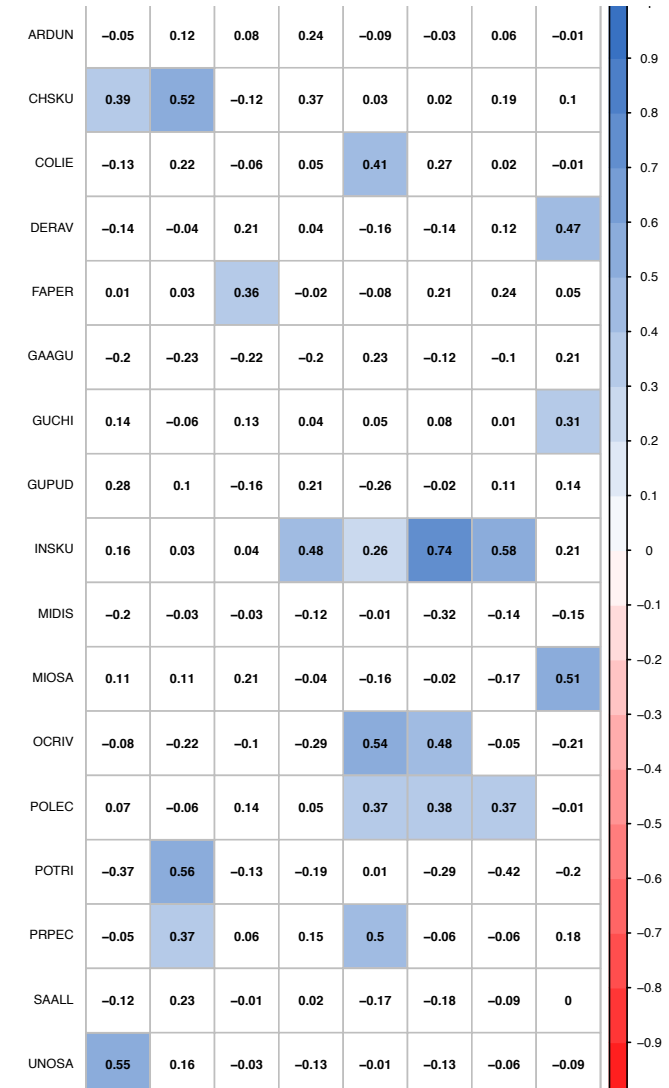
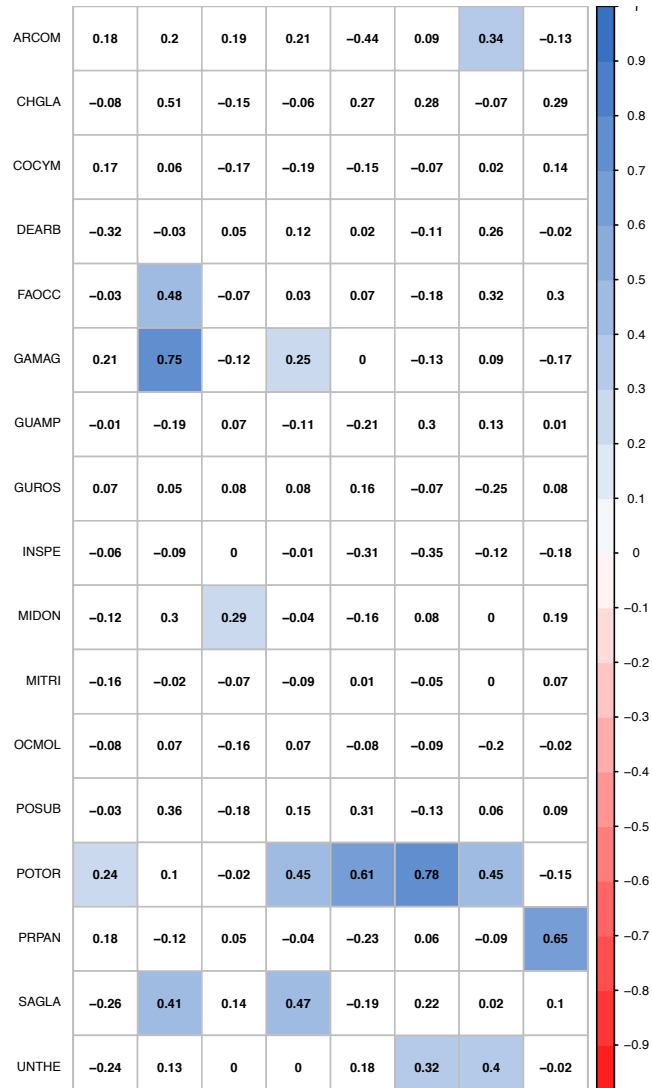
ARCOM	0.87	0.87	0.87	0.87	0.87	0.87	0.89	0.86
ARDUN	0.14	0.14	0.19	0.16	0.14	0.14	0.13	0.15
CHGLA	-0.28	-0.31	-0.25	-0.27	-0.34	-0.28	-0.32	-0.31
CHSKU	0.43	0.42	0.45	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.29	0.29
COCYM	0.57	0.45	0.57	0.57	0.55	0.57	0.57	0.52
COLIE	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.62	0.61	0.45	0.64
DEARB	0.79	0.77	0.8	0.82	0.79	0.79	0.79	0.8
DERAV	0.79	0.75	0.74	0.74	0.71	0.74	0.74	0.73
FAOCC	0.04	0.12	0.09	0.09	0.2	0.11	0.2	0.26
FAPER	0.8	0.81	0.8	0.82	0.8	0.76	0.86	0.86
GAAGU	-0.01	0.14	0.04	0.01	0.03	0	0.05	0.04
GAMAG	0.45	0.43	0.4	0.45	0.05	0.45	0.46	0.44
GUAMP	0.8	0.8	0.81	0.79	0.81	0.79	0.8	0.82
GUCHI	0.67	0.63	0.64	0.61	0.64	0.65	0.64	0.64
GUPUD	0.47	0.46	0.44	0.39	0.46	0.47	0.29	0.3
GUROS	0.44	0.41	0.45	0.45	0.45	0.44	0.44	0.4
INSKU	0.27	0.37	0.39	0.38	0.35	0.34	0.39	0.44
INSPE	0.44	0.43	0.37	0.43	0.42	0.44	0.47	0.46
MIDIS	0.61	0.62	0.61	0.63	0.62	0.62	0.58	0.62
MIDON	0.6	0.57	0.58	0.57	0.59	0.58	0.56	0.58
MIOSA	0.66	0.44	0.52	0.52	0.5	0.53	0.52	0.52
MITRI	0.71	0.72	0.71	0.7	0.71	0.72	0.72	0.72
OCMOL	0.66	0.66	0.66	0.65	0.65	0.66	0.66	0.66
OCRIV	0.85	0.84	0.85	0.83	0.85	0.81	0.58	0.72
POLEC	0.83	0.83	0.83	0.83	0.83	0.83	0.85	0.85
POSUB	0.75	0.72	0.75	0.74	0.71	0.74	0.76	0.74
POTOR	0.55	0.49	0.52	0.54	0.55	0.53	0.7	0.79
POTRI	0.79	0.81	0.82	0.78	0.55	0.81	0.75	0.8
PRPAN	-0.25	0.15	0.16	0.21	0.2	0.17	0.2	0.12
PRPEC	0.85	0.82	0.84	0.84	0.86	0.82	0.79	0.84
SAALL	0.58	0.6	0.58	0.59	0.59	0.58	0.63	0.64
SAGLA	0.62	0.62	0.28	0.63	0.29	0.59	0.62	0.63
UNOSA	0.48	0.45	0.48	0.39	0.48	0.47	0.47	0.47
UNTHE	0.69	0.7	0.68	0.7	0.68	0.68	0.71	0.72

Functional traits – fixed component

Widespread

<<<

Endemic

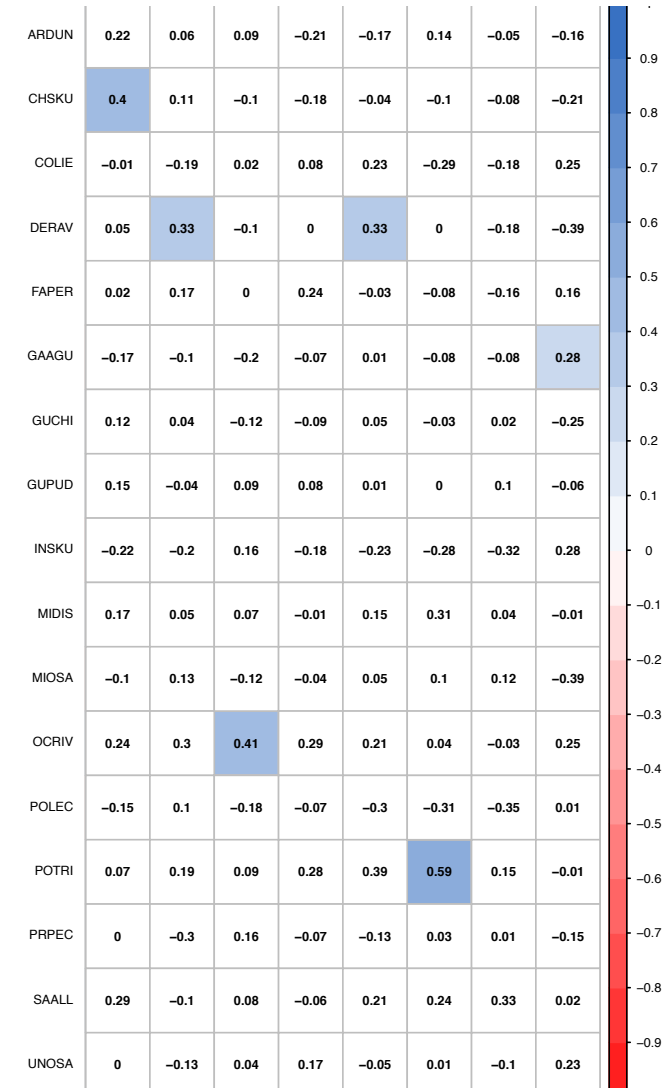
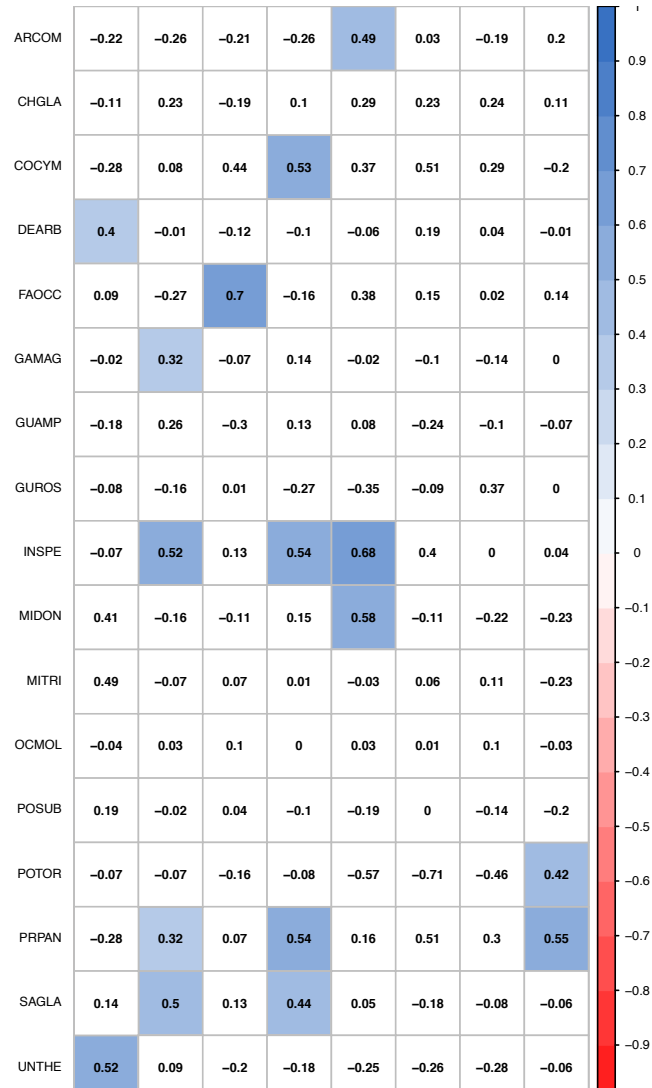


Functional traits – plastic component

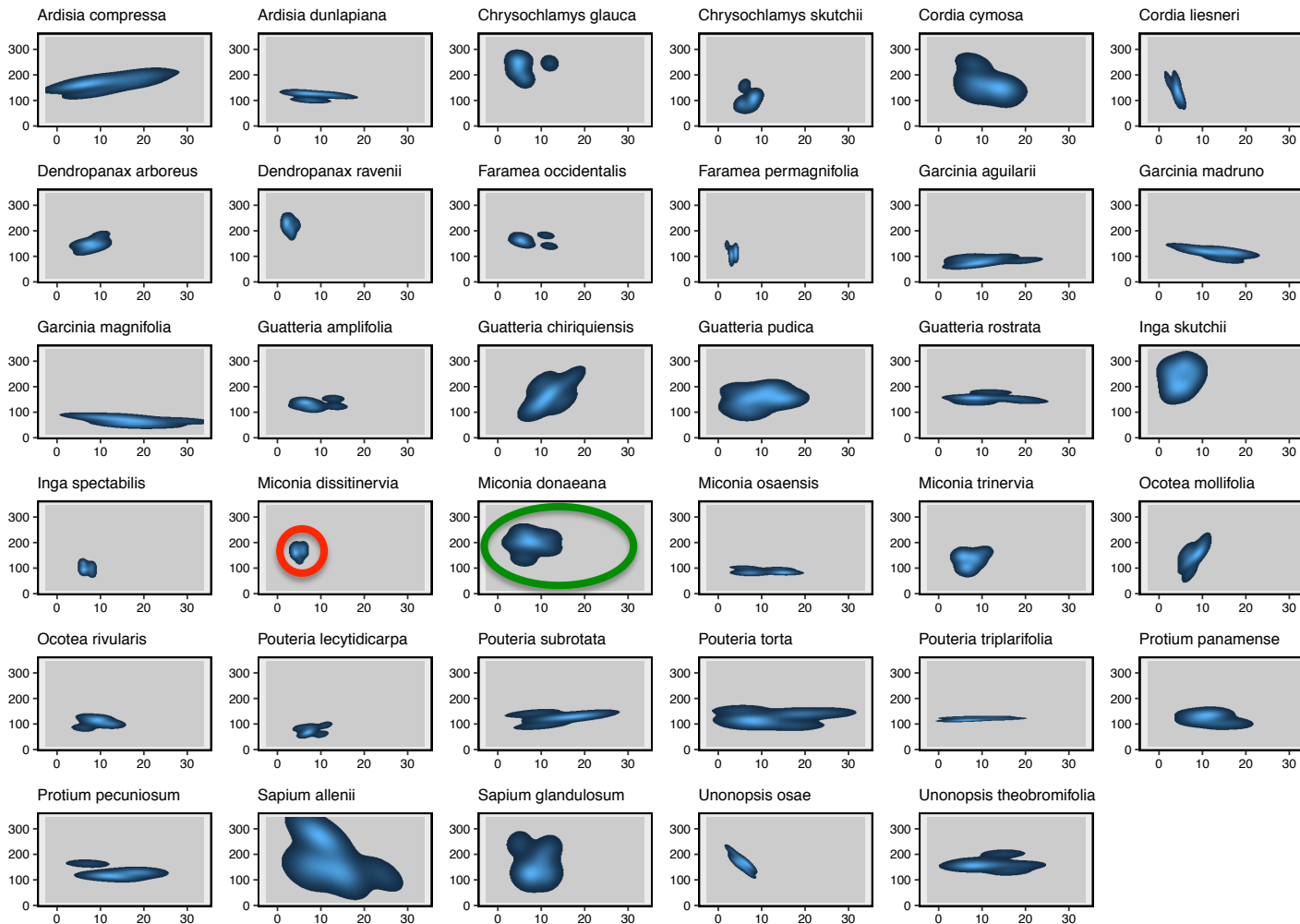
Widespread

>>>

Endemic



Outlook – multidimensional trait space



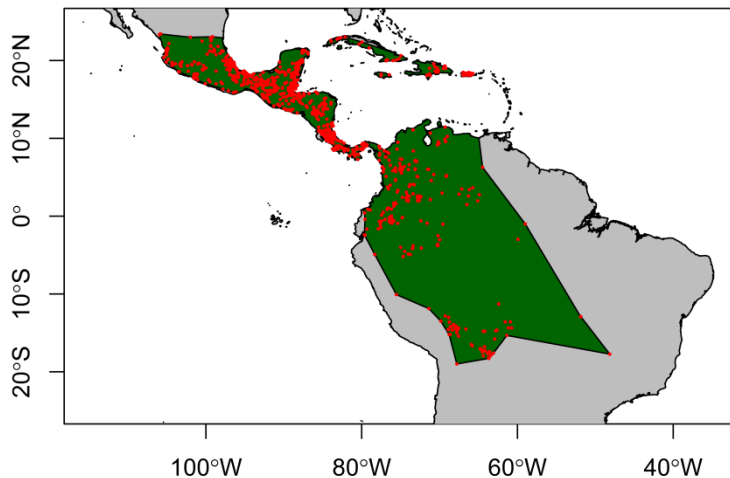
Functional traits and environmental niche space differs among tropical tree species:

- Differences in niche space
- Distinct **plasticity** among **tree species**
- Account for multi-dimensional trait-space in models
- Project response of ecosystem function

Functional traits – niche space

Species range size and trait space

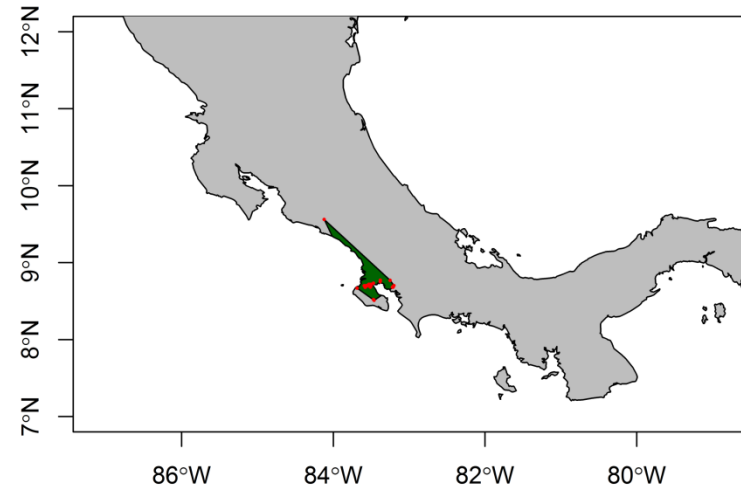
Dendropanax arboreus



n=3064

Widespread species

Dendropanax ravenii



n=54

Endemic species

- Need to account for **trait plasticity** and **species composition** to project ecosystem responses under future scenarios

Databases – data availability

- 1) **TRY** – Plant Trait Database <https://www.try-db.org/TryWeb/Home.php>
- 2) **BIEN** – Botanical Information and Ecology Network <http://bien.nceas.ucsb.edu/bien/>
- 3) **FOS** – Forest Observation System <https://forest-observation-system.net/>



PLOT INFORMATION

BDEF-LG-RAV (1)

Costa Rica

Network: IIASA

Institutions: Uni Wien

Link: <http://www.univie.ac.at/bdef>

PIs: Wolfgang Wanek, Florian Hofhansl

Established: 2012

Plot area: 0.25 ha

Altitude: 135 m Slope: 11 %

Census: 2012

Measurements:

AGB Local HD : 277 t/ha

H Lorey Local: 24.8 m

H Max Local: 47.6 m

Min DBH : 10 cm

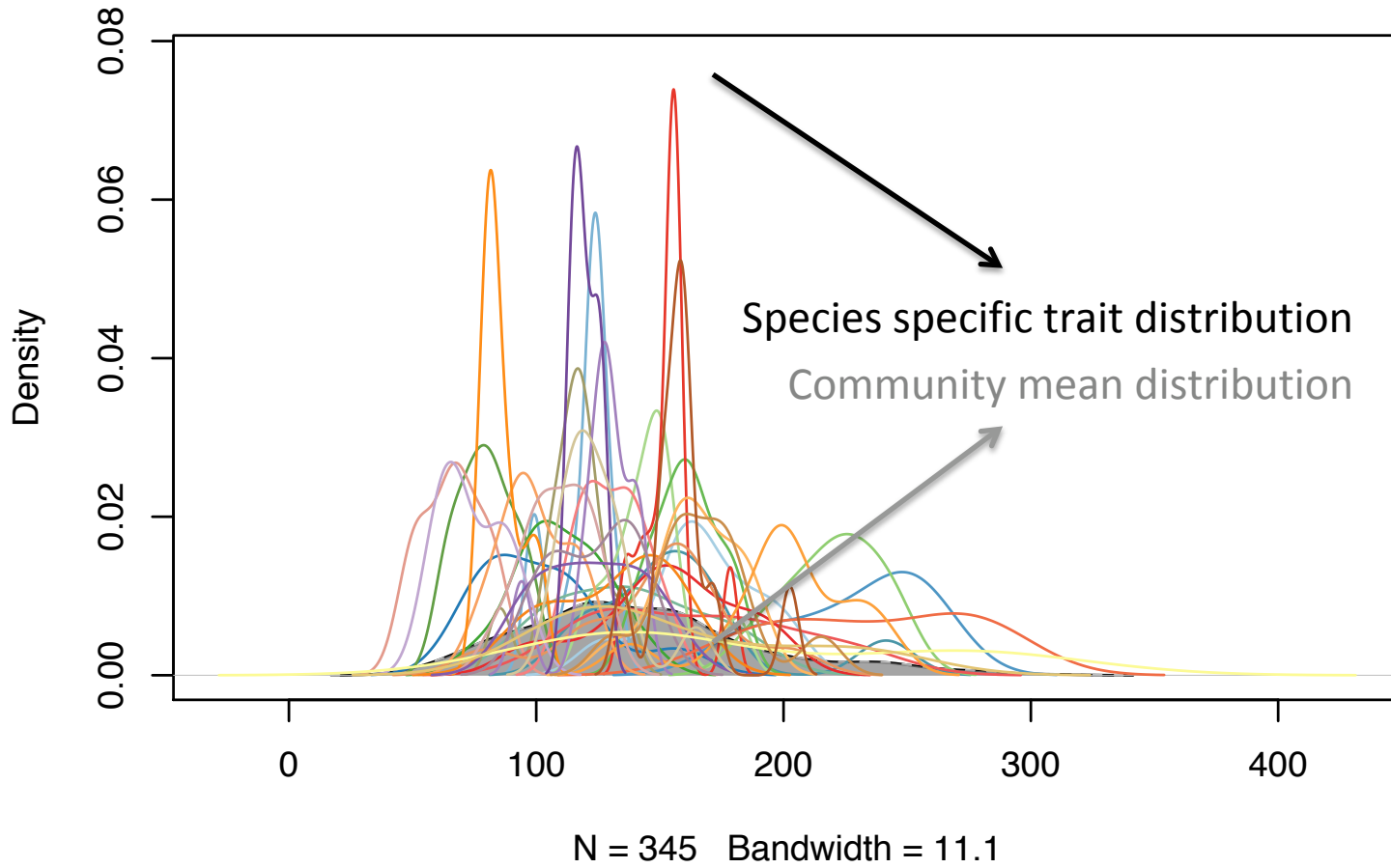
Wood Density : 0.535 t/m³

Reference: Taylor, P., Asner, G., Dahlin, K., Anderson, C., Knapp, D., Martin, R., Mascaro, J., Chazdon, R., Cole, R., Wanek, W., Hofhansl, F., Malavassi, E., Vilchez-Alvarado, B. & A.

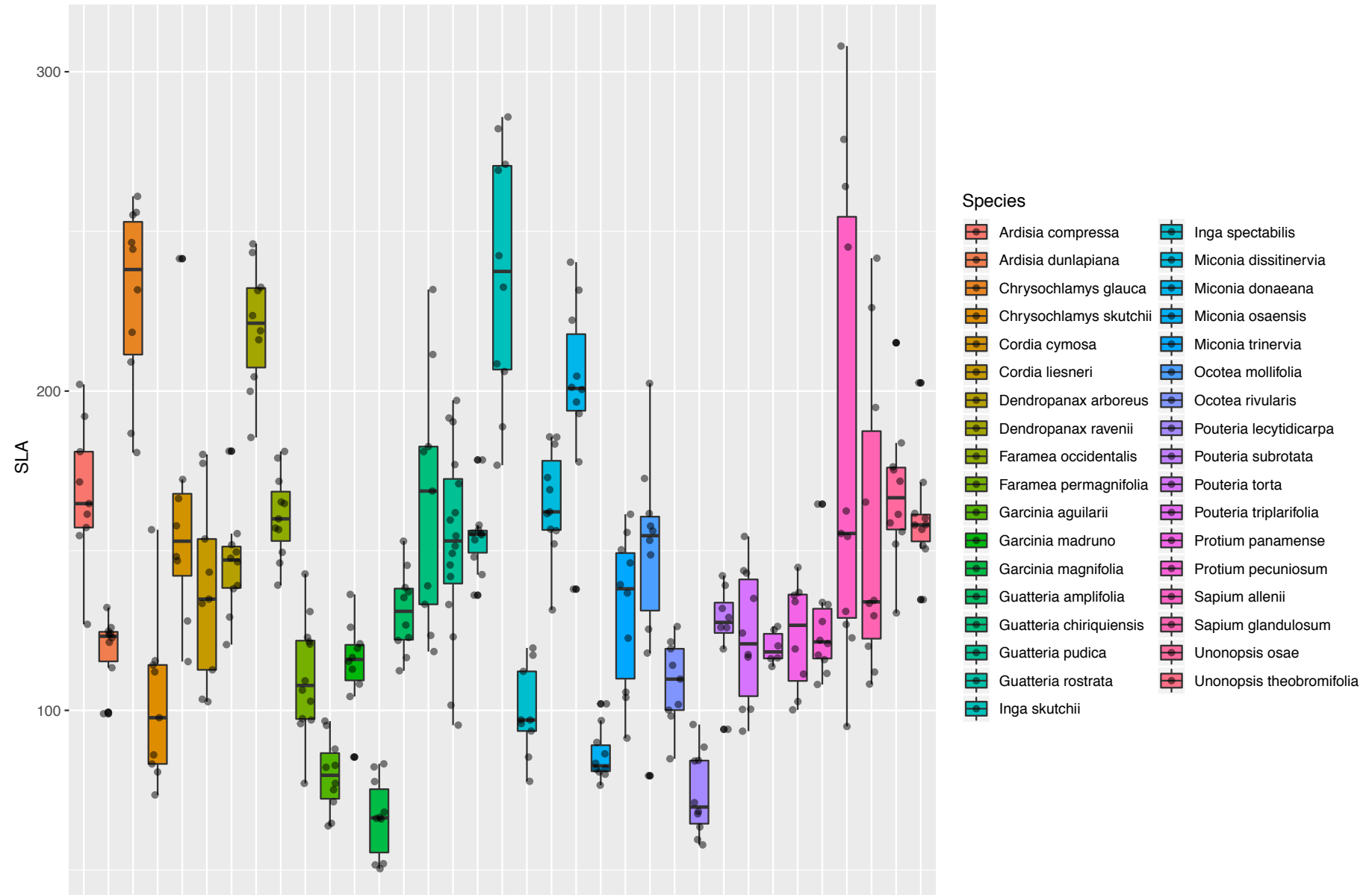
Townsend (2015). Landscape-Scale Controls on Aboveground Forest Carbon Stocks on the Osa Peninsula, Costa Rica. *PLoS ONE*. 10. e0126748.

Results – Trait variation

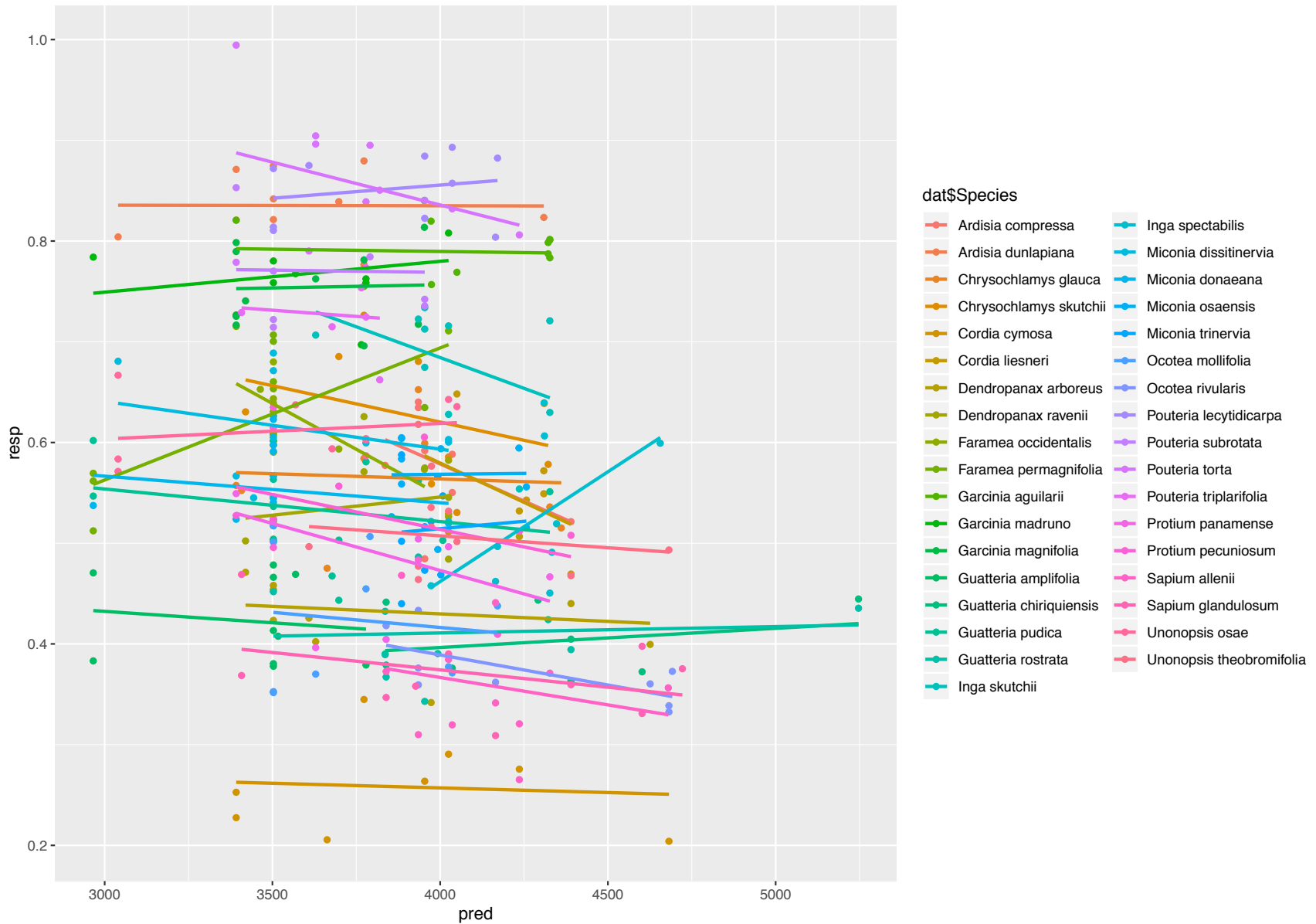
Trait variation (Specific leaf area)



Results – Trait variation among species



Results – Trait reaction norm - species



Results – Trait reaction norm - sites

