



Eco-evolutionary Data Across Time to Infer Biodiversity Dynamics

Acute relevance of biodiversity data across diverse disciplines & sectors

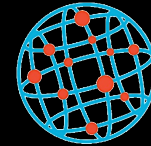
Rosemary Gillespie
University of California, Berkeley, USA

nature.berkeley.edu/evolab

nature.berkeley.edu/hawaiidimensions

Collections in Biodiversity Dynamics

Museum specimens for understanding change - *Museum collections provide physical record of environments – both past and present*



HOLOS
BERKELEY ECOINFORMATICS ENGINE

Grinnell Resurvey MVZ, UC Berkeley



Tamias alpinus Alpine Chipmunk

- High elevation specialist
- Range contracted at lower limit
- Reduced genetic diversity in modern era.



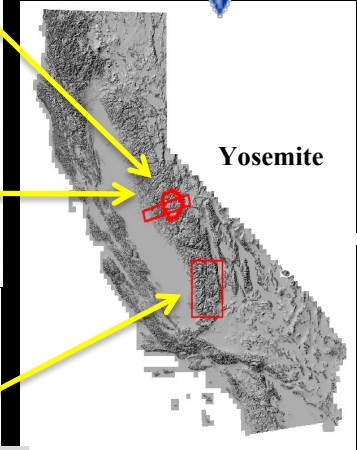
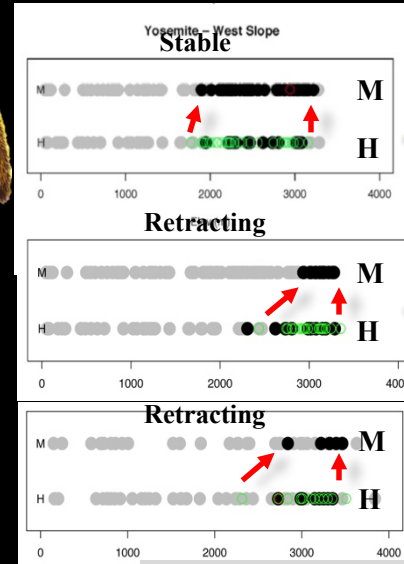
T. speciosus



T. alpinus



T. alpinus

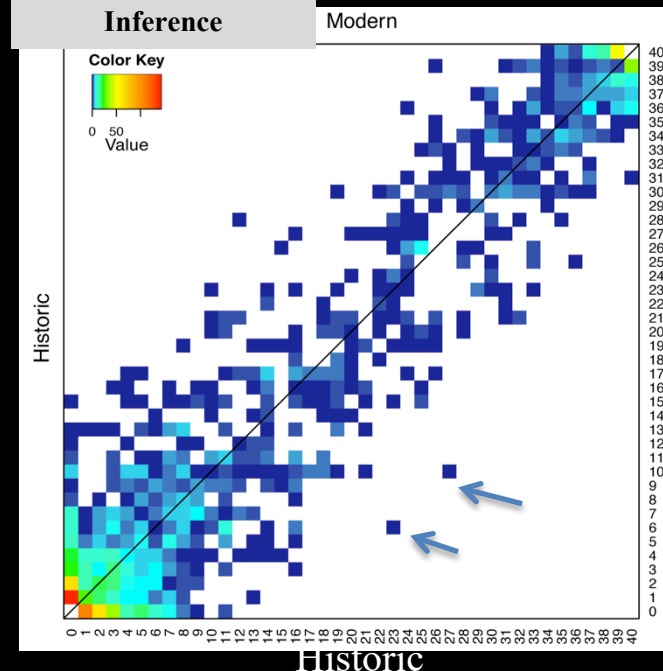


Tamias speciosus Lodgepole Chipmunk

- Overlaps with *T. alpinus* at upper range limit.
- No change in elevational range
- Current genetic diversity is the same as in historic era.



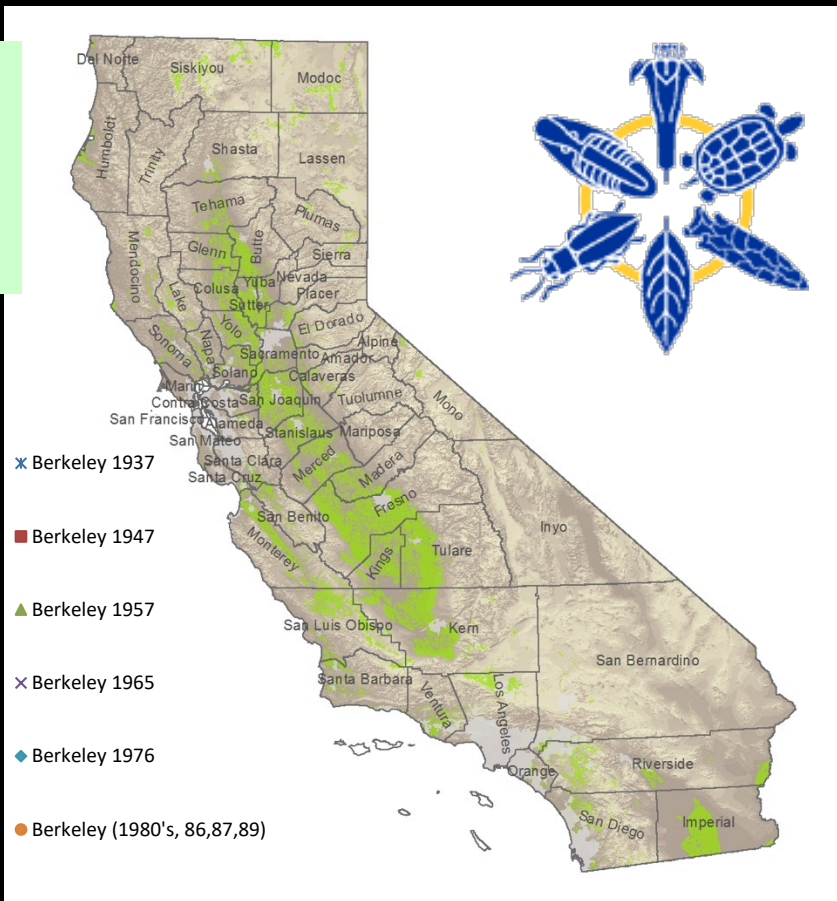
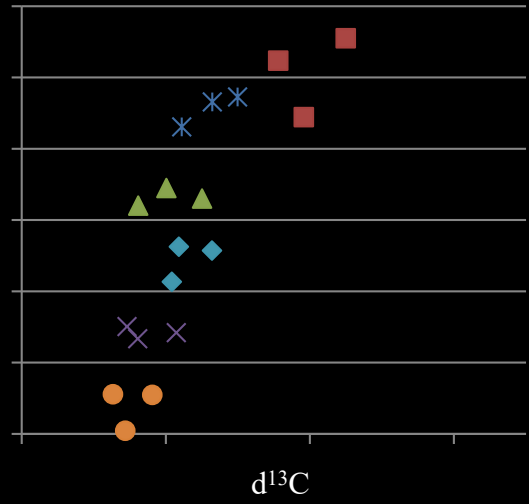
T. alpinus



Genomics, isotopes and pollen: California bees



Carbon ($d^{13}C$) and Nitrogen ($d^{15}N$) of Honey Bees over time



Reconstructing historical ecological interactions by identifying pollen on preserved bees.

Tracking the impacts of ecological, climate, and land use change by quantifying stable isotope ratios.

Analysis of historical collections to document how honey bees, native bees, plants, and pollination activities have changed over the last ~100 years in response to urbanization, agricultural land conversion, etc.

T. Dawson, Julie Truong (2012, unpubl)



But for most organisms, we have no information from the past

- **For many, we have no information even of identity**
- **How, then, do we understand response to change?**

Photos David Liittschwager

First, do we really need to?



The New York Times Magazine

The Insect Apocalypse Is Here

What does it mean for the rest of life on Earth?

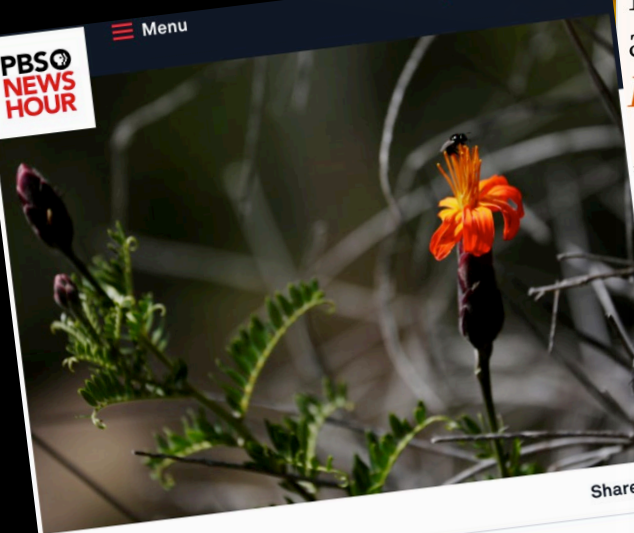


One million species at risk of extinction, UN report warns, and we are mostly to blame

By Lexi Metherell
Updated 6 May 2019, 5:19pm



Full Episodes

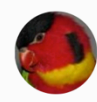


9 comments
By Seth Borenstein, Associated Press

Biodiversity loss accelerates with 1 million species at risk of extinction, UN report finds

9,498 views | May 9, 2019, 10:13am

UN Report: 1 Million Animal And Plant Species At Risk Of Extinction



GrrlScientist Contributor
Science
Evolutionary & behavioural ecologist, ornithologist & science writer

Loss of biodiversity is just as catastrophic as climate change

Robert Watson

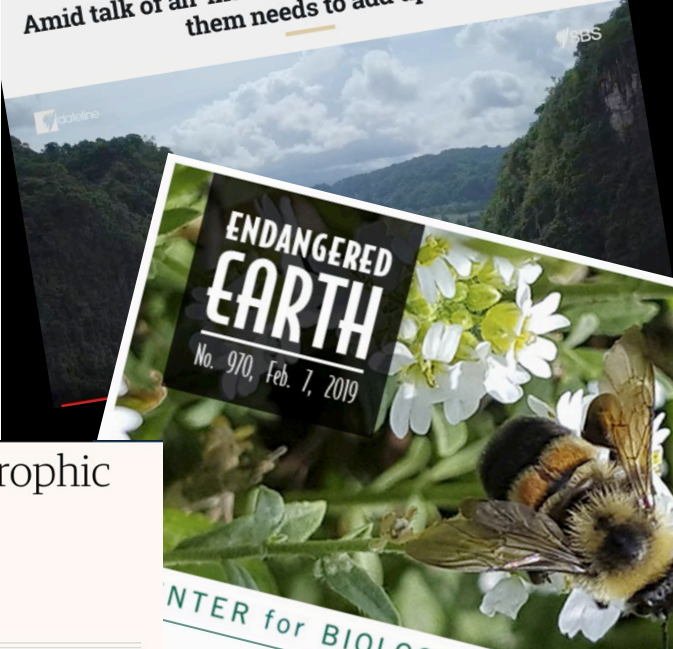
Nature is being eroded at rates unprecedented in human history but we still have time to stave off mass extinctions



WWF demonstration for biodiversity in Paris on Saturday. Photograph: Kenzo Tribouillard/AFP/Getty Images

My colleague recently described how fish would swim into her clothing when she was a child bathing in the ocean off the coast of

Amid talk of an 'insect apocalypse', how we count them needs to add up



ENDANGERED EARTH
No. 970, Feb. 7, 2019

Center for Biological Diversity: How to Curb the Insect Apocalypse?

...about stemming the catastrophic decline of insects, we must drastically re...
...by findings of a major new scientific study in *Biological C...*
...insects worldwide are on a fast track...

1/24

An ensatina salamander (*Ensatina eschscholtzii eschscholtzii*).
PHOTOGRAPH BY JOEL SARTORE, NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

ANIMALS

Half of all amphibian species face extinction

A new study finds that more than 1,000 amphibian species are likely facing extinction, adding to the

Threats to the world's ecosystems ... complex mix of habitat destruction, climate change, disease, invasive species....

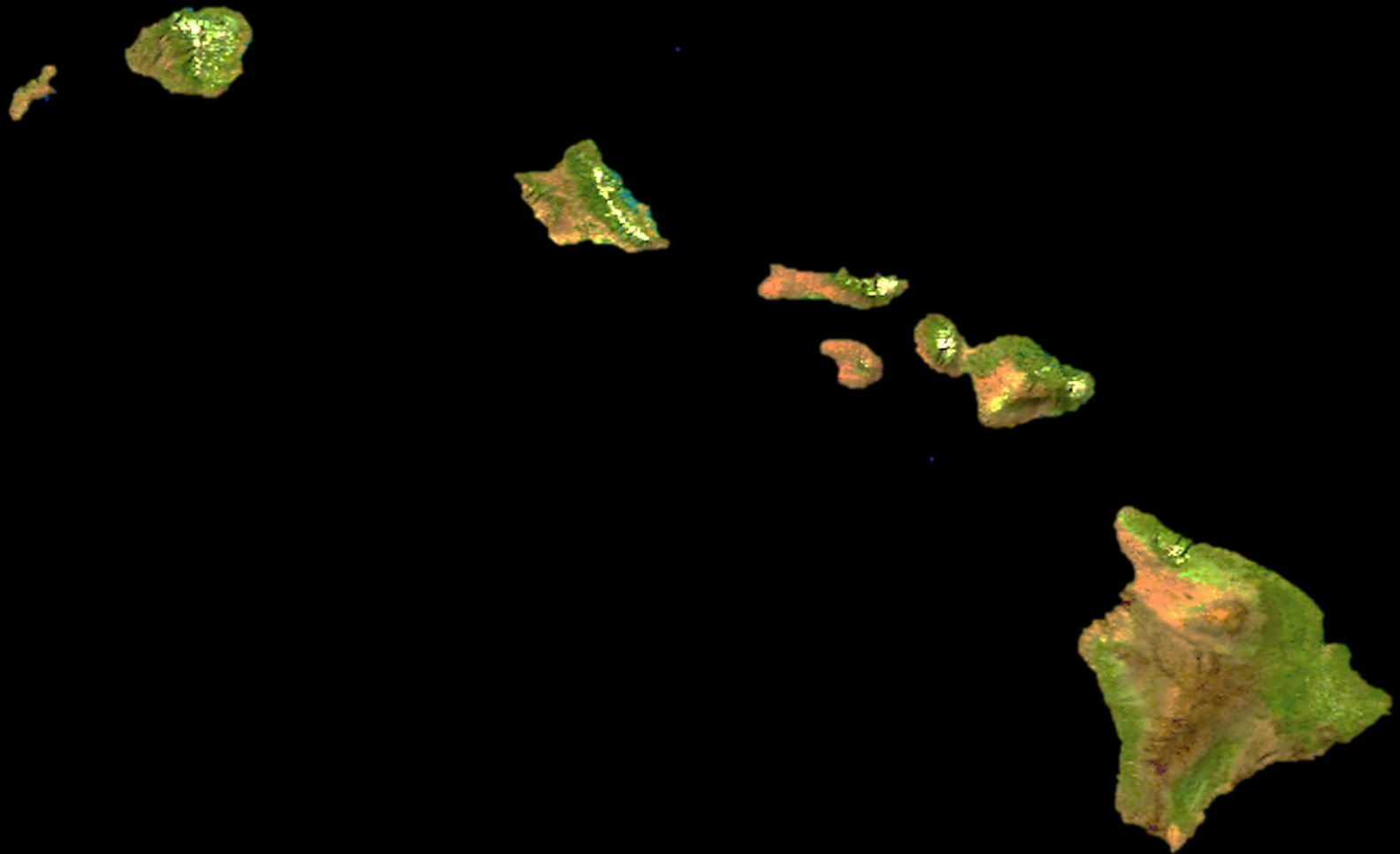


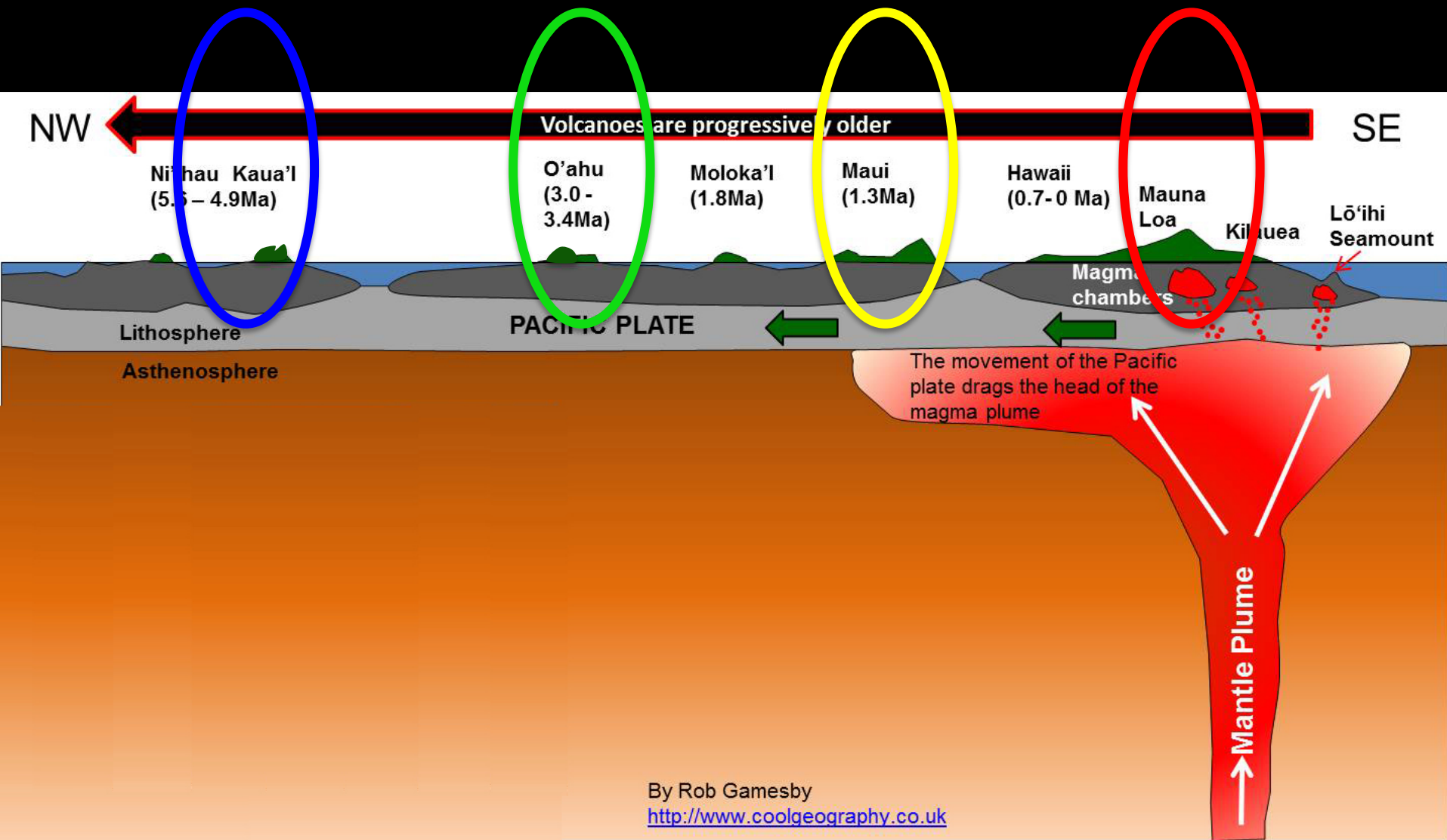
- No reliable way to quantify the overall health of an ecosystem.
- Much needed are metrics that encapsulate the “status” of the biological component of an ecosystem and allows comparison across space and time, yet is agnostic to species identity.

Islands allow development & testing of these ideas

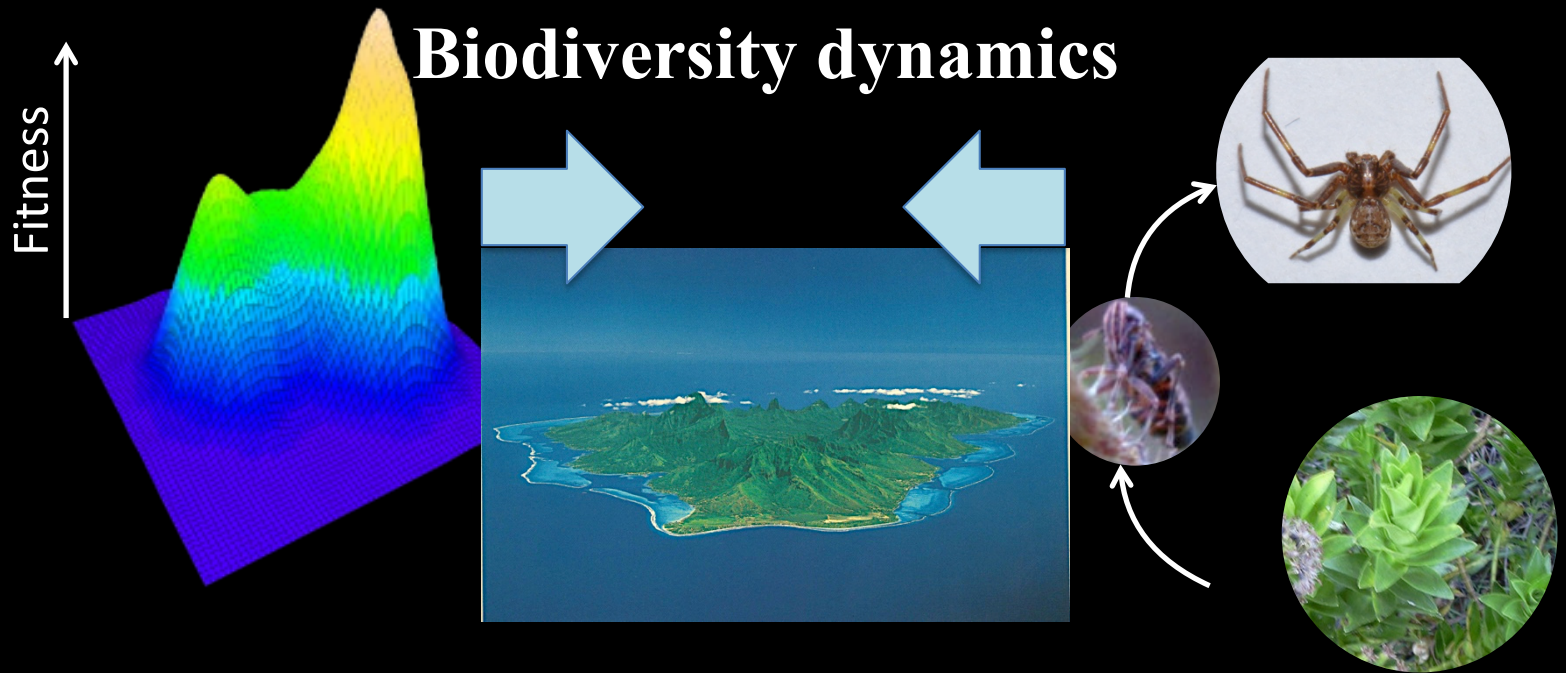
Photo: George Roderick

Signatures of ecosystem change through time –
Using islands as microcosms to test theory

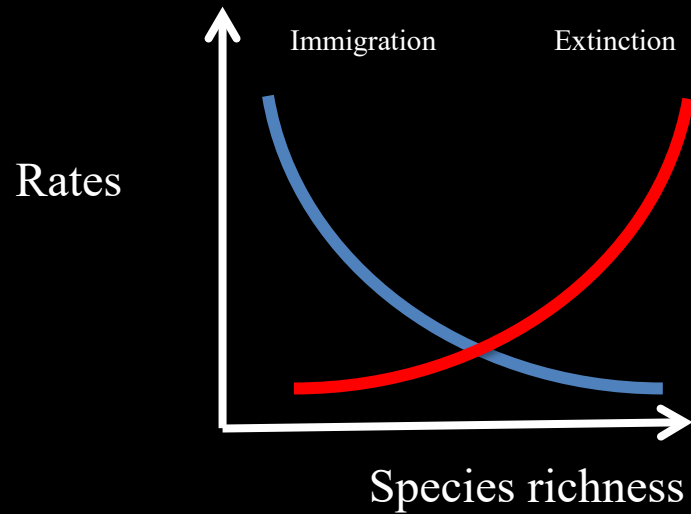
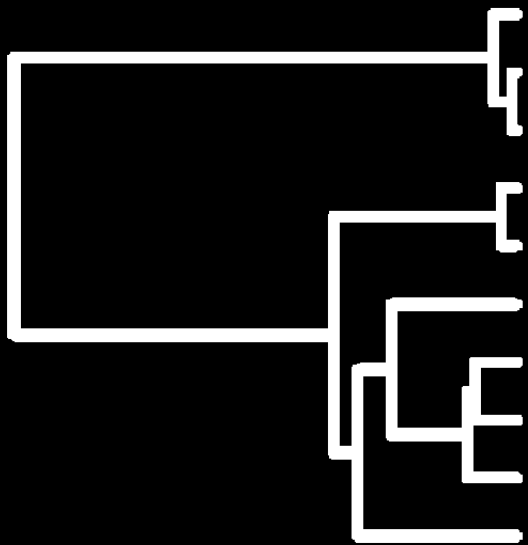




Provide a time series

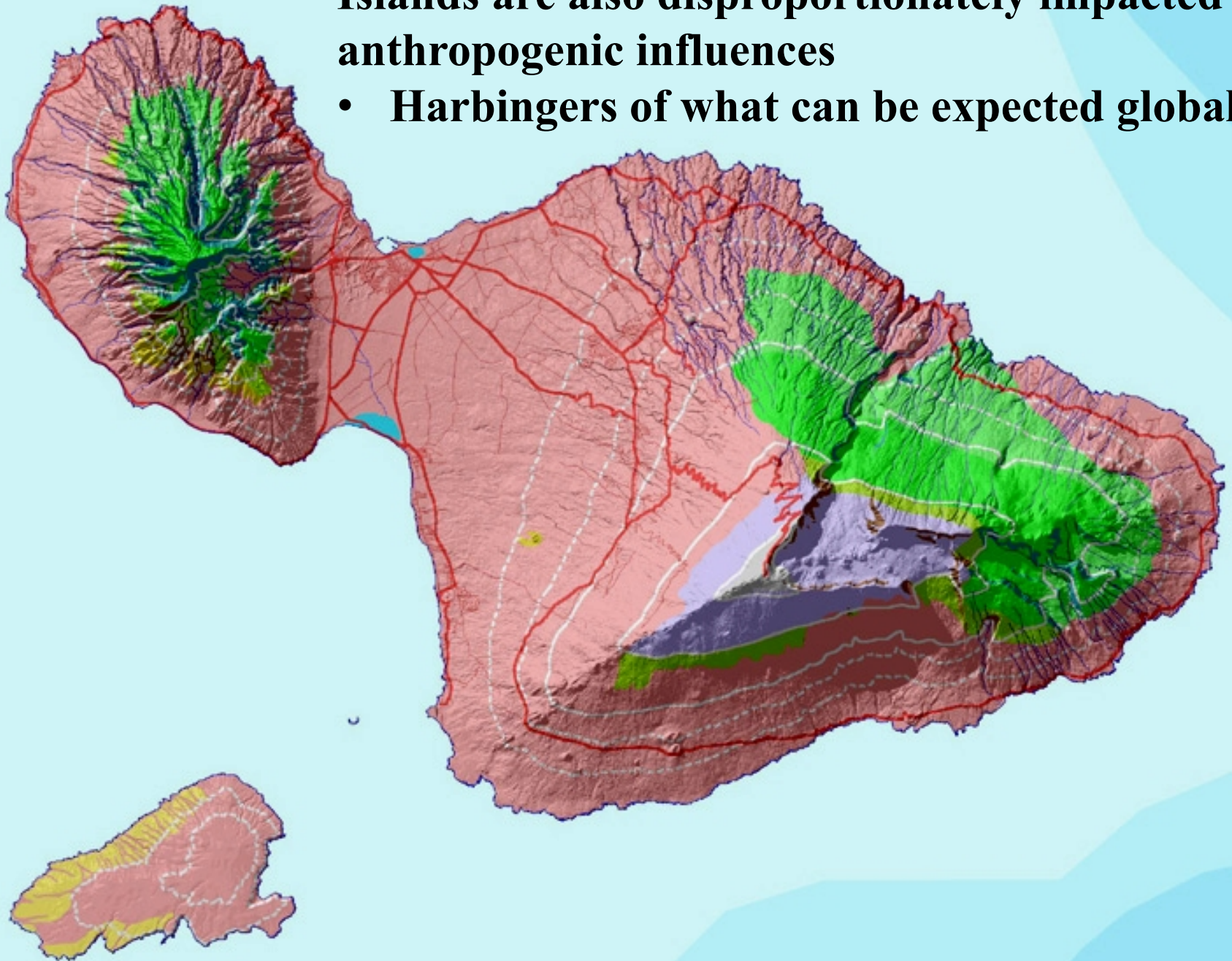


Information on organisms over gradients of space & time



Islands are also disproportionately impacted by anthropogenic influences

- **Harbingers of what can be expected globally**





Ginger Invasion!

Waikamoi Preserve, Maui, March 2015

Photo: Kari Goodman



Auwahi, Maui – “museum forest”

<http://www.auwahi.org>

Photo: Art Medeiros



Two advances

- **Empirical data – metabarcoding.**
- **Integrative and predictive theoretical framework.**

Together, these approaches can be used for

– **Biodiversity forecasting**

- **Abundance distributions**
- **Networks**

Linking back to specimens is then essential to understand the process

Can use these island systems to



Andy Rominger



Henrik Krehenwinkel



Photo : George Roderick

- **Identify “functionality”**
- **“Robustness” or resilience**

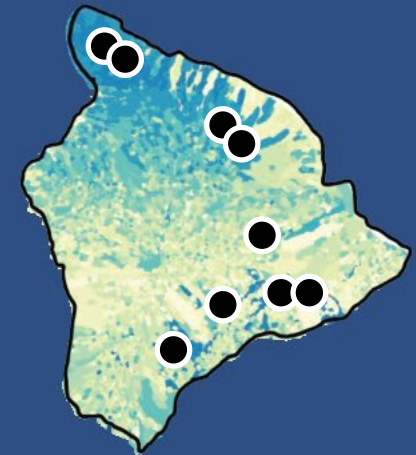
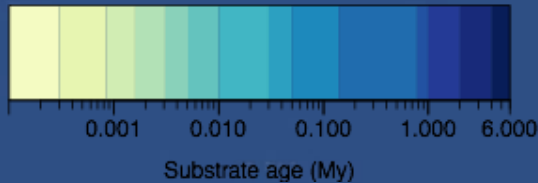
How to get “signatures” of community



Looking at sites of similar elevation,
precipitation; all in *Metrosideros* forest



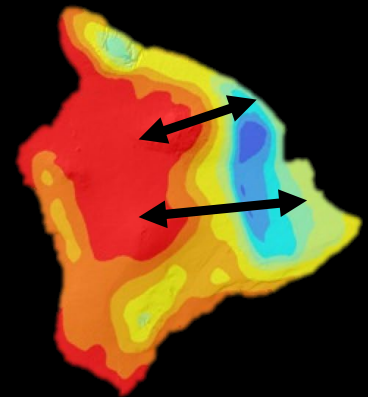
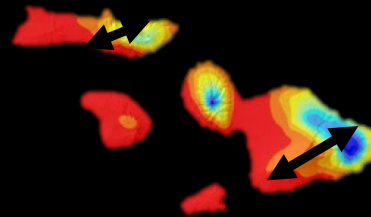
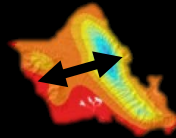
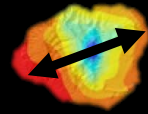
Across sites that
vary in age alone



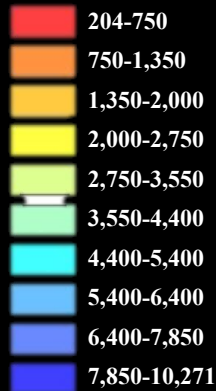
Community Dynamics Across a Chronosequence

How to get “signatures” of community

Across sites that vary in
elevation/ precipitation



Annual rainfall (mm)

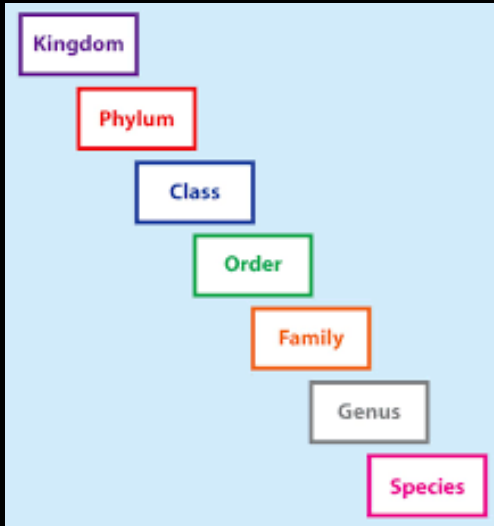


Precipitation & Temperature gradients

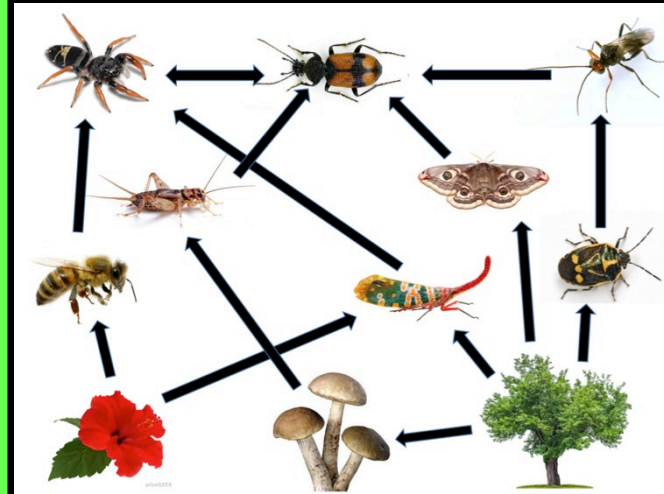
Community Dynamics Across a Chronosequence

Signatures of Community Status

Identity & abundance



Networks & interactions



Invasion impact & vulnerability



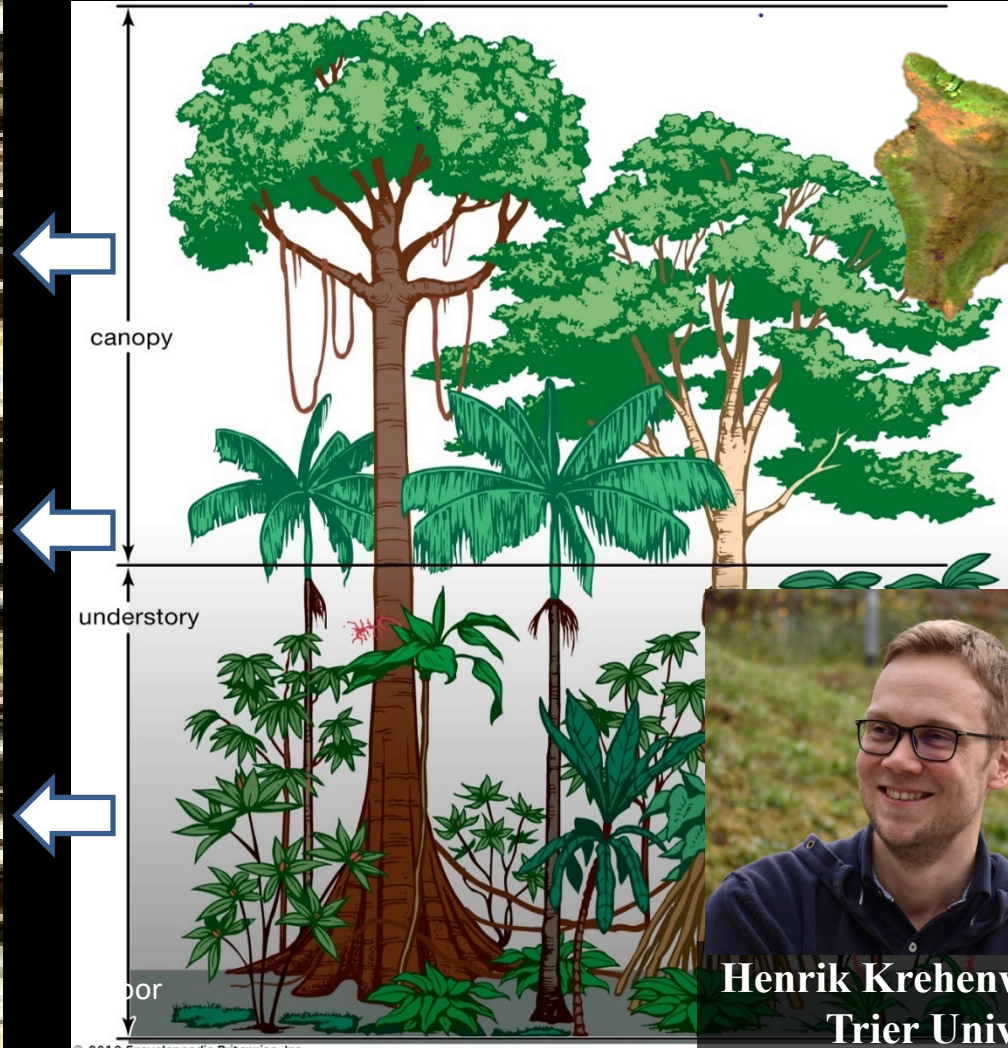


For full videos, see https://nature.berkeley.edu/hawaiidimensions/?page_id=191

Community Assembly Across the Chronosequence

Metabarcoding

Changes in Community Structure & Dynamics



Problems with Metabarcoding



- Need information on
 - Abundance - abundance distributions can provide information on the “status” of a community
 - Identity of species in the sample

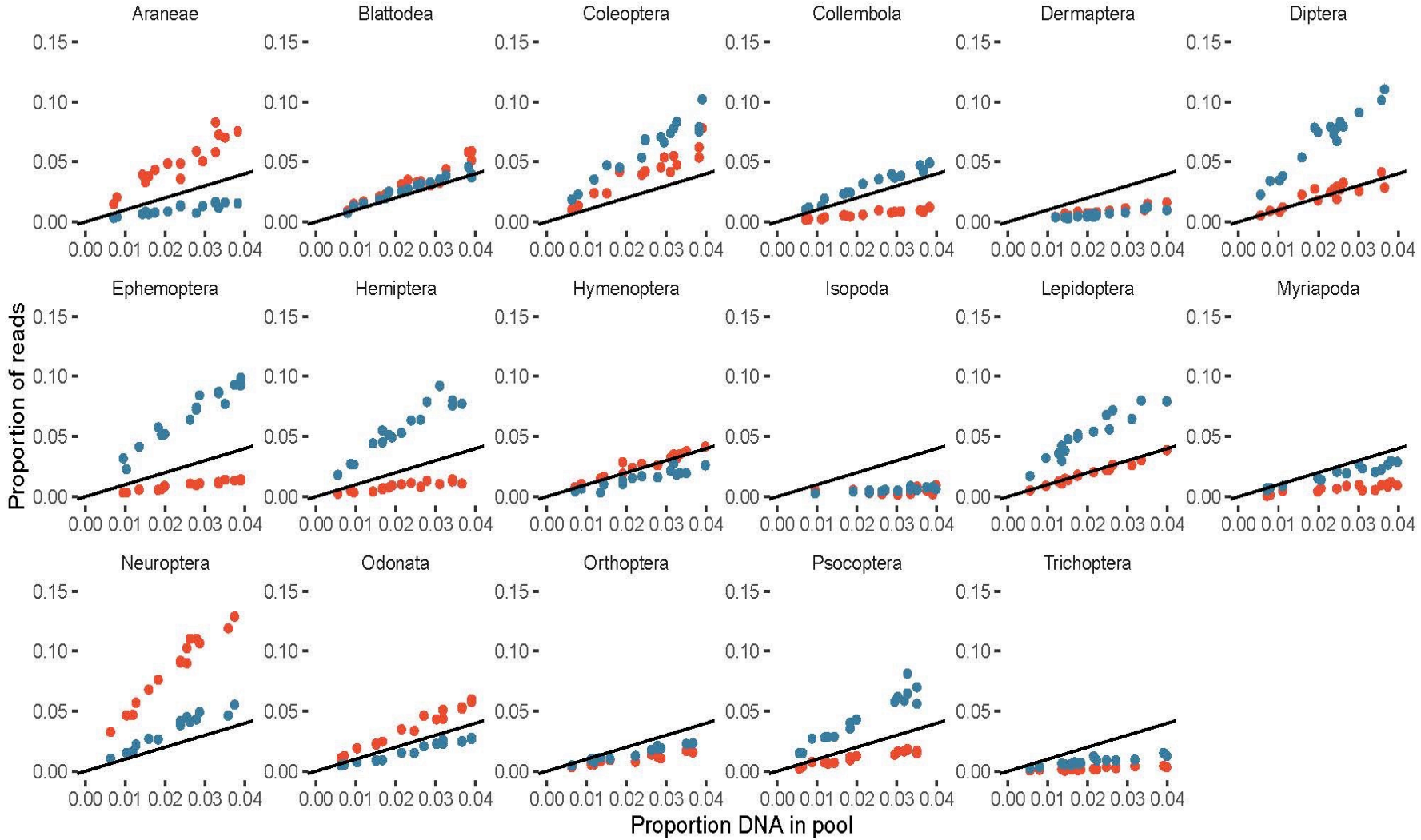
Krehenwinkel et al. . 2018. *PloS one* 13: e0189188

Krehenwinkel et al. 2019. *GigaScience*, 8, p.giz006

Krehenwinkel et al. 2018. *Methods in Ecology and Evolution* 9, 2181-2193

Abundance

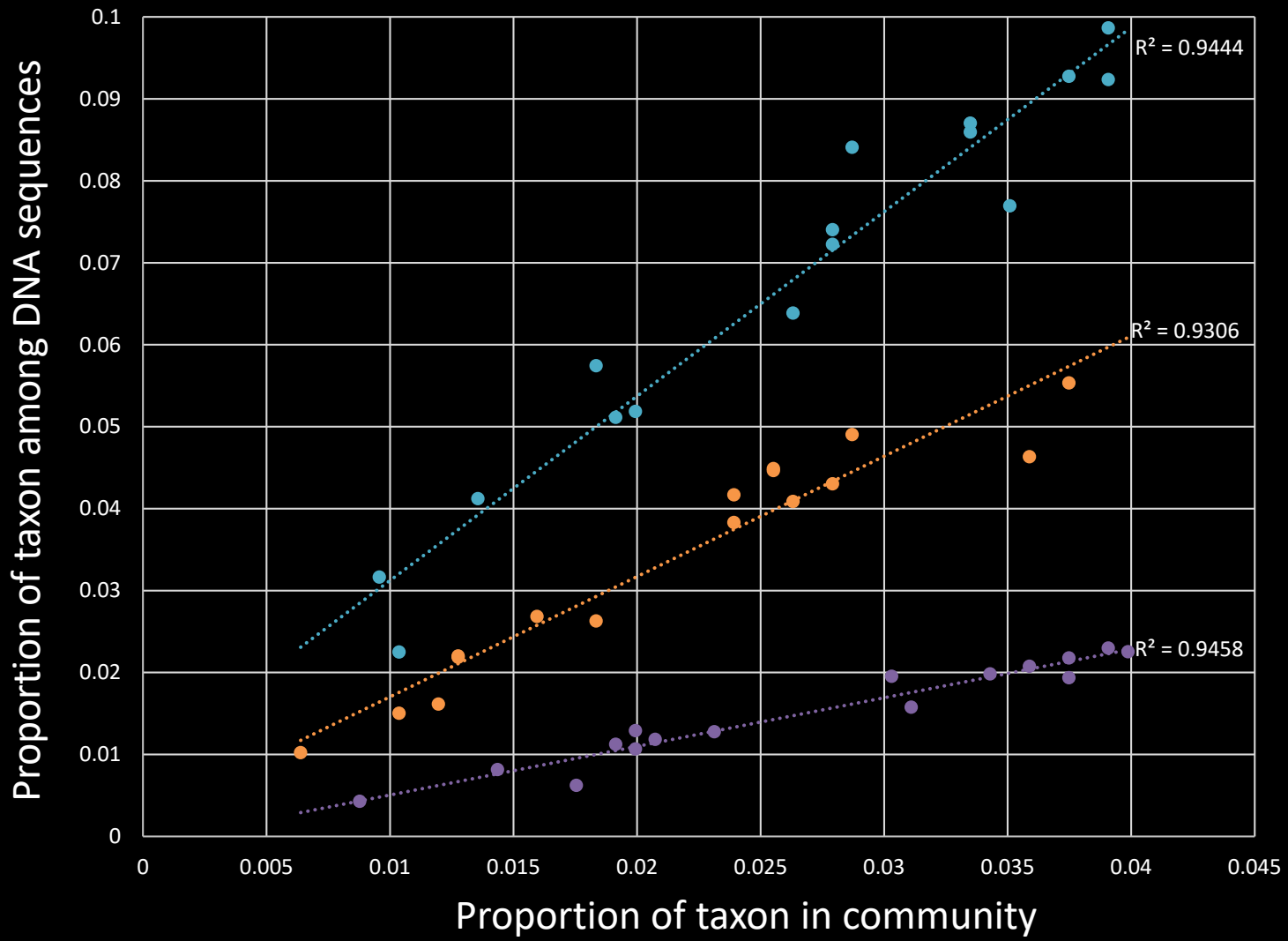
Multilocus amplification bias



Primer • 18sSSU • MCOHCO

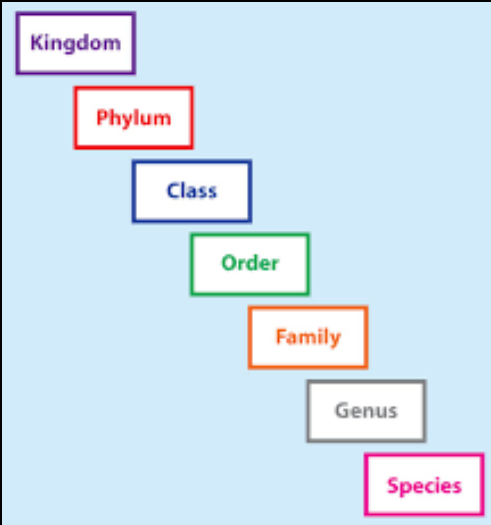
Abundance

PCR amplification bias

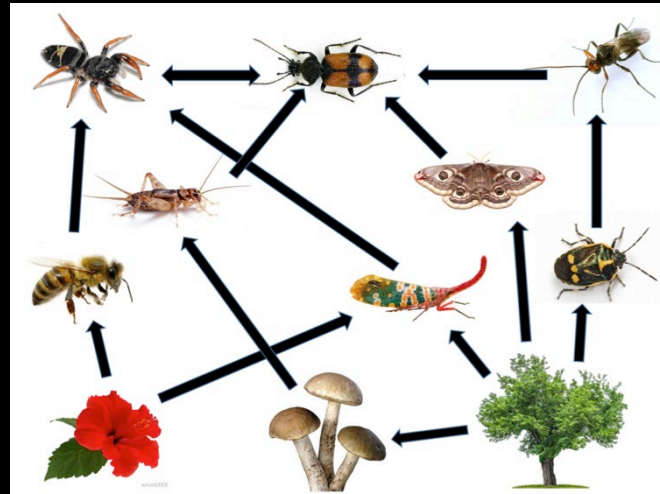


Signatures of Community Status

Identity & abundance of all members



Network & interactions



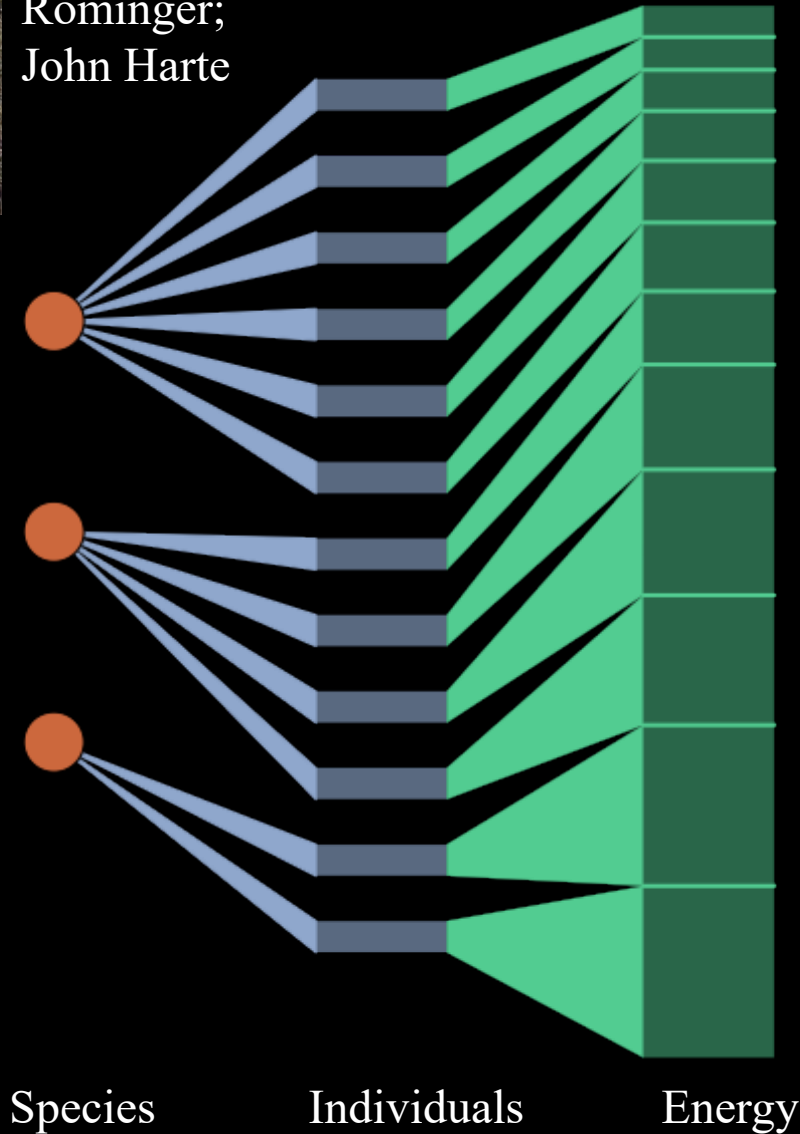
Invasion impact & vulnerability



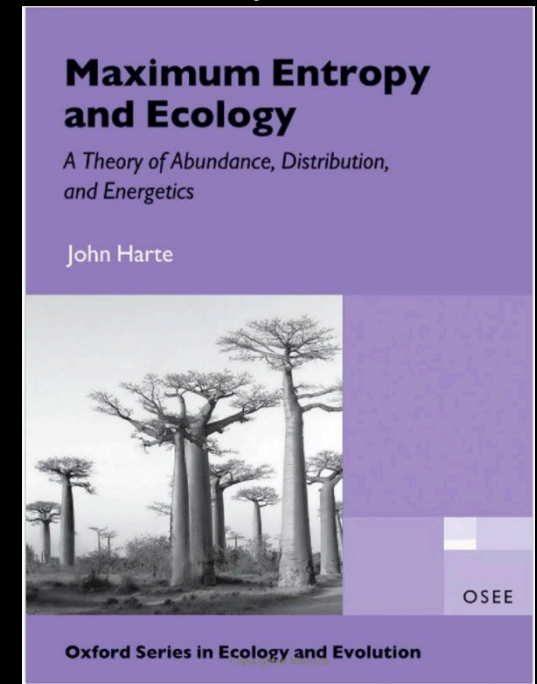
Maximum Entropy Theory of Ecology



Andy
Rominger;
John Harte

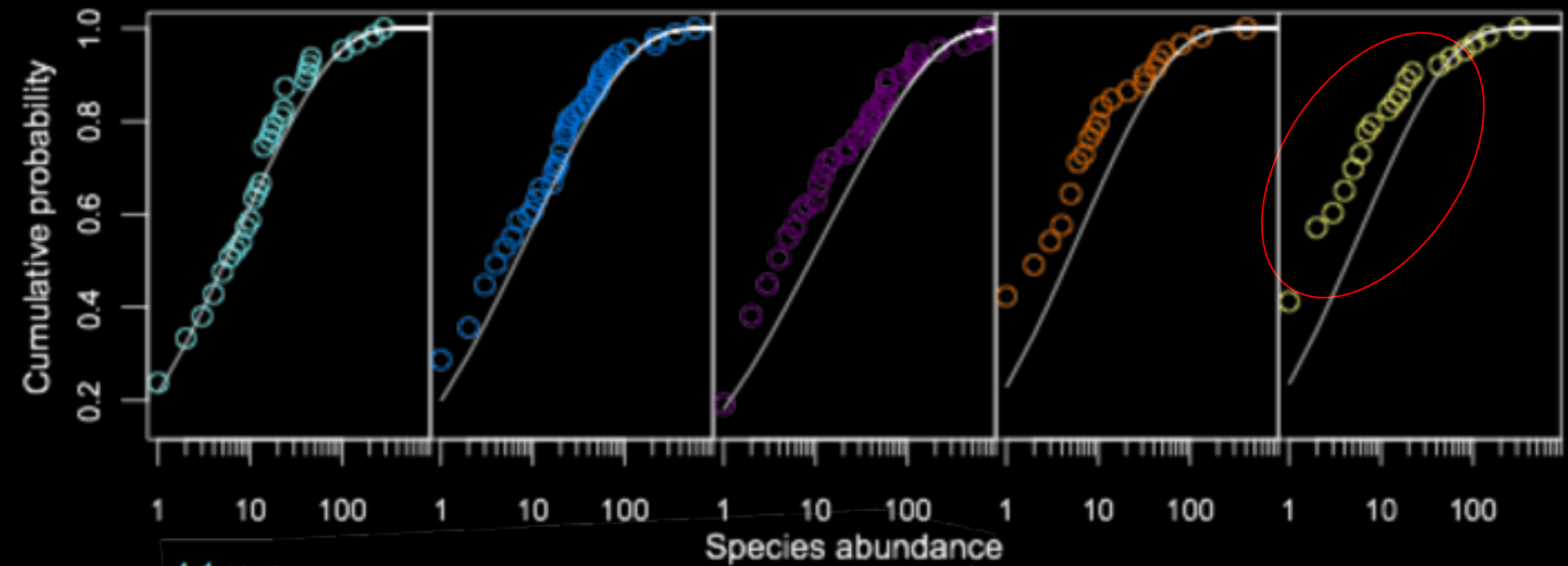


- Community-wide genetic divergence across space, environment and time (chronosequence)
- Testing novel theory



Harte (2011) Oxford University Press.

Fitting species abundance data to METE predictions



4.1 mya

1.4 mya

0.15 mya

0.005 mya

0.0003 mya

Deviation from predictions on youngest substrates may indicate that community has not yet reached steady state

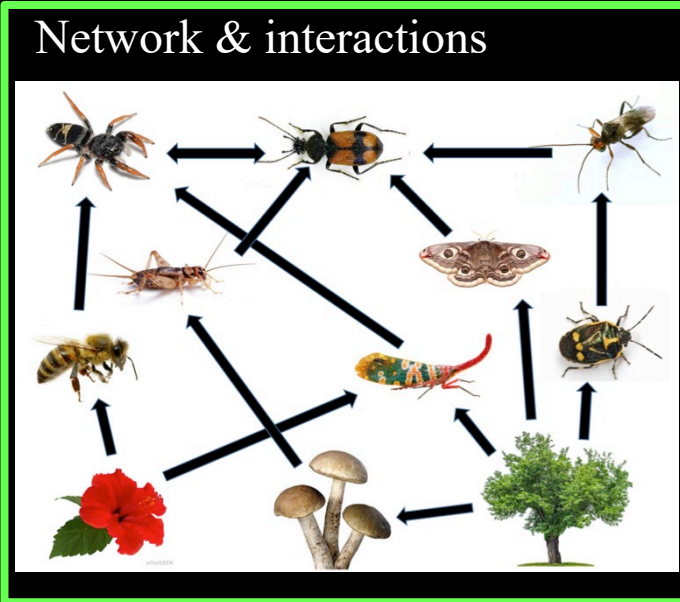
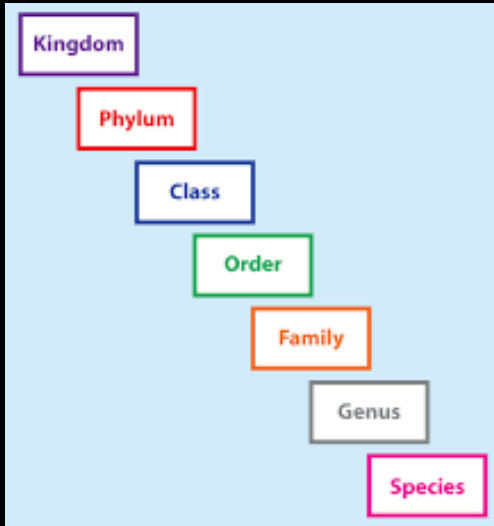
- Allows identification of non steady state community
- Does not inform us on the cause



Andy Rominger

Signatures of Community Status

Identity & abundance
of all members



Invasion impact &
vulnerability

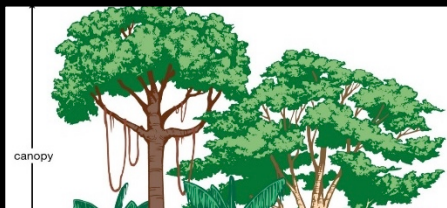
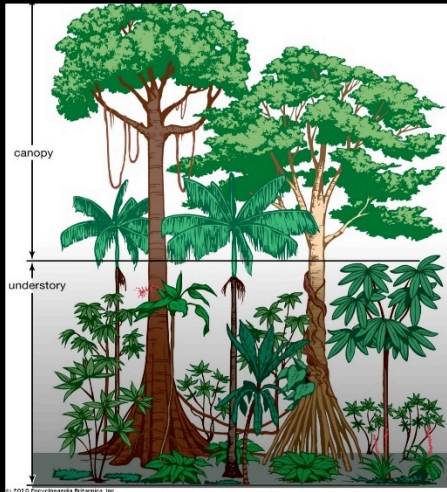
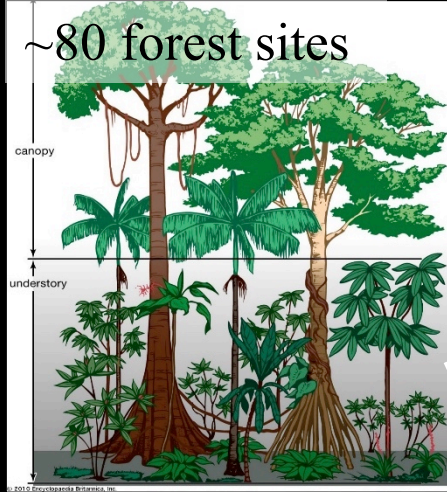


Interactions

Changes in Community Structure & Dynamics



Henrik Krehenwinkel
Trier University



Plant 1

Plant 2

Plant 3

Plant 4

Plant N

4 size classes
per sample

Size 0-2

Size 2-4

Size 4-7

Size >7

Amplicon 1

Amplicon 2

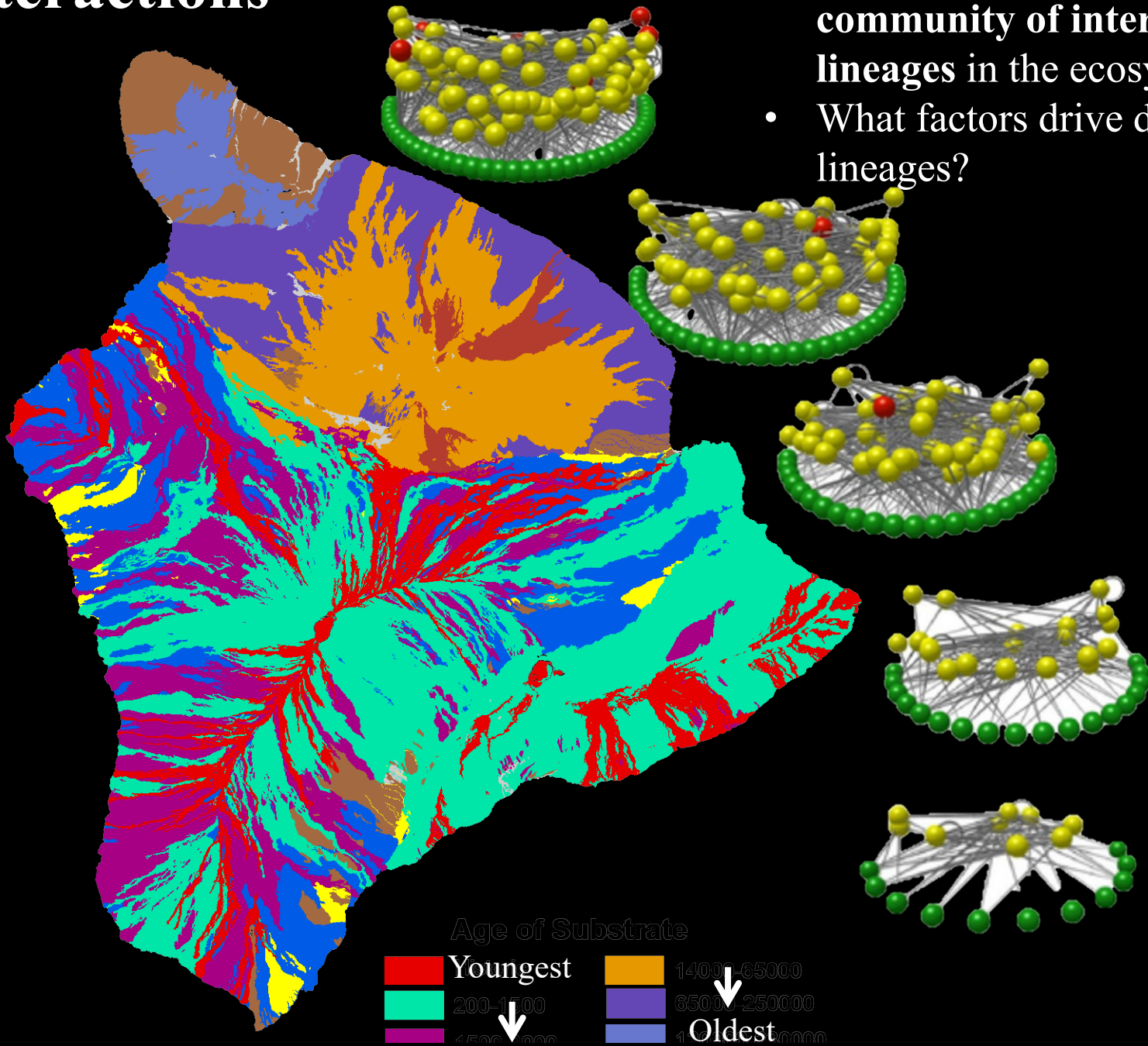
Two amplicons
per size class

~10 arthropod
samples by plant

Data structure

Interactions

- Genetic structure of **entire community of interacting lineages** in the ecosystem
- What factors drive divergence of lineages?

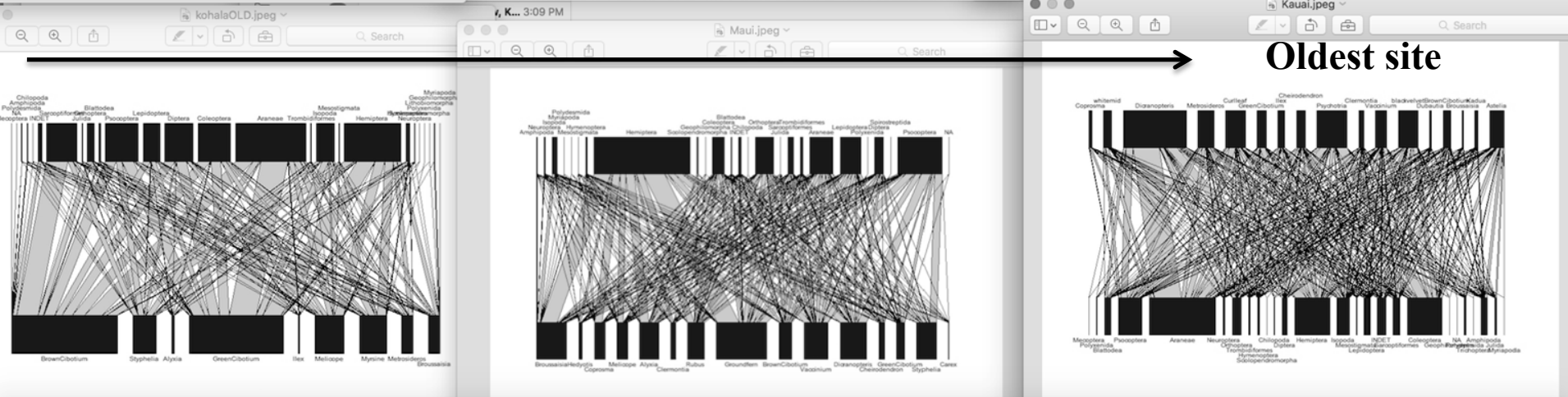


Changes in Network Structure Across the Chronosequence

To understand the processes,
need the identity of the players

Very first pass!!

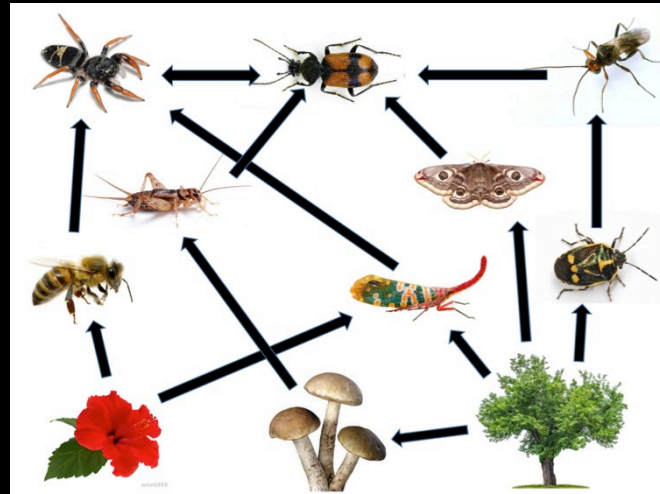
Youngest site



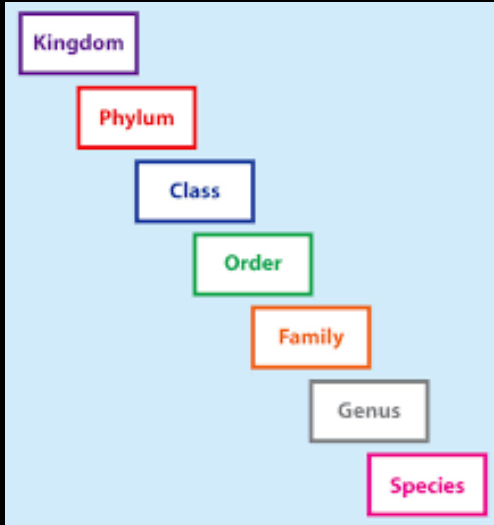
Oldest site

Signatures of Community Status

Networks & interactions



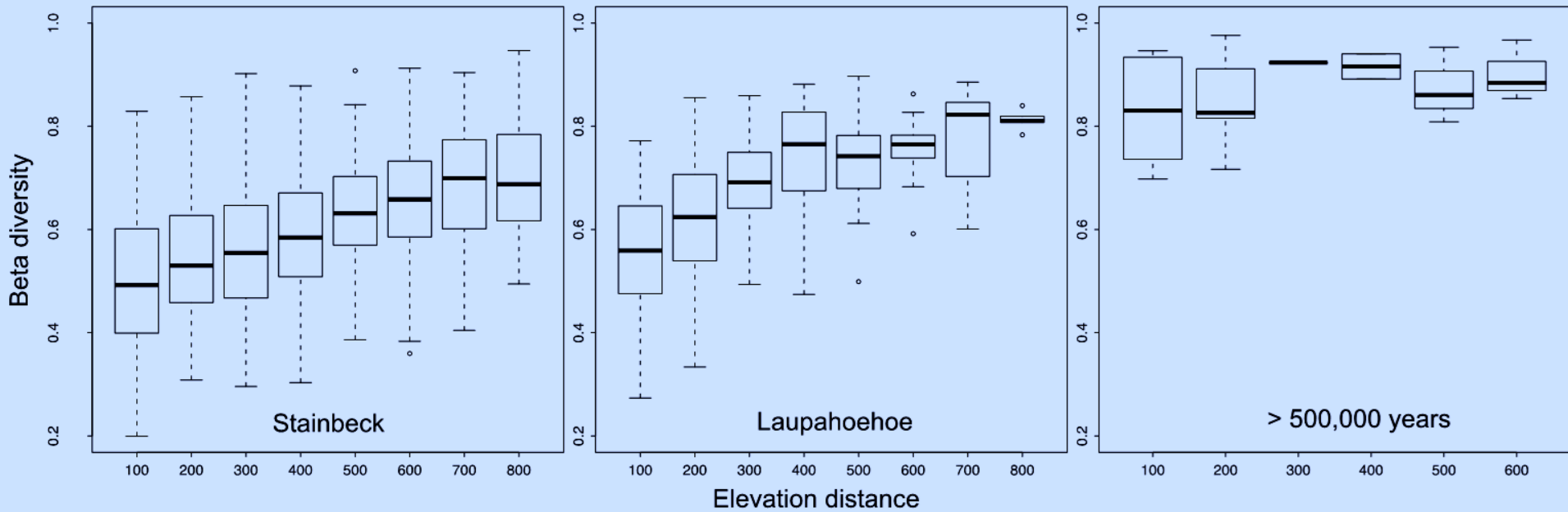
Identity & abundance of all members



Invasion impact & vulnerability



Elevational community turnover



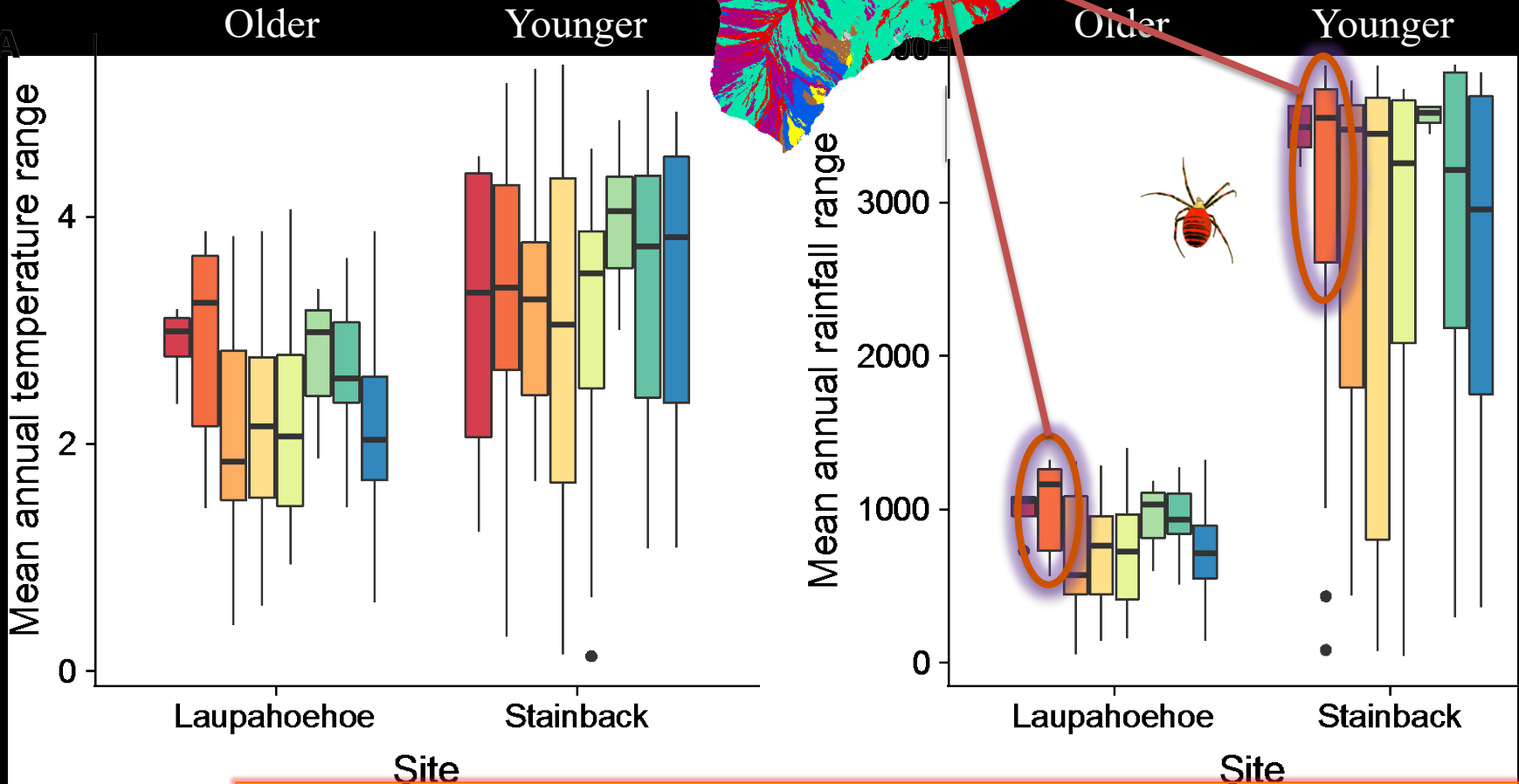
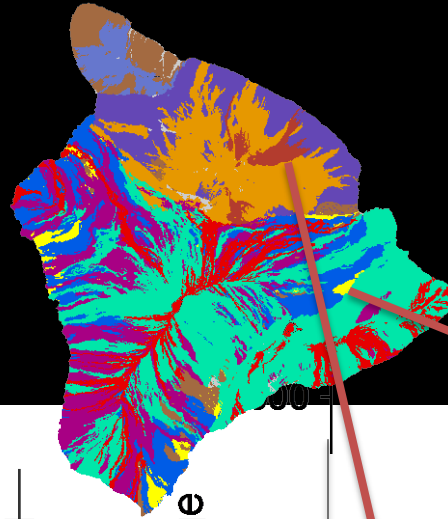
Young



Old

Ranges Occupied on Younger vs Older Sites

Prediction: younger sites more easily invaded



Younger substrates – broader range, less specialized

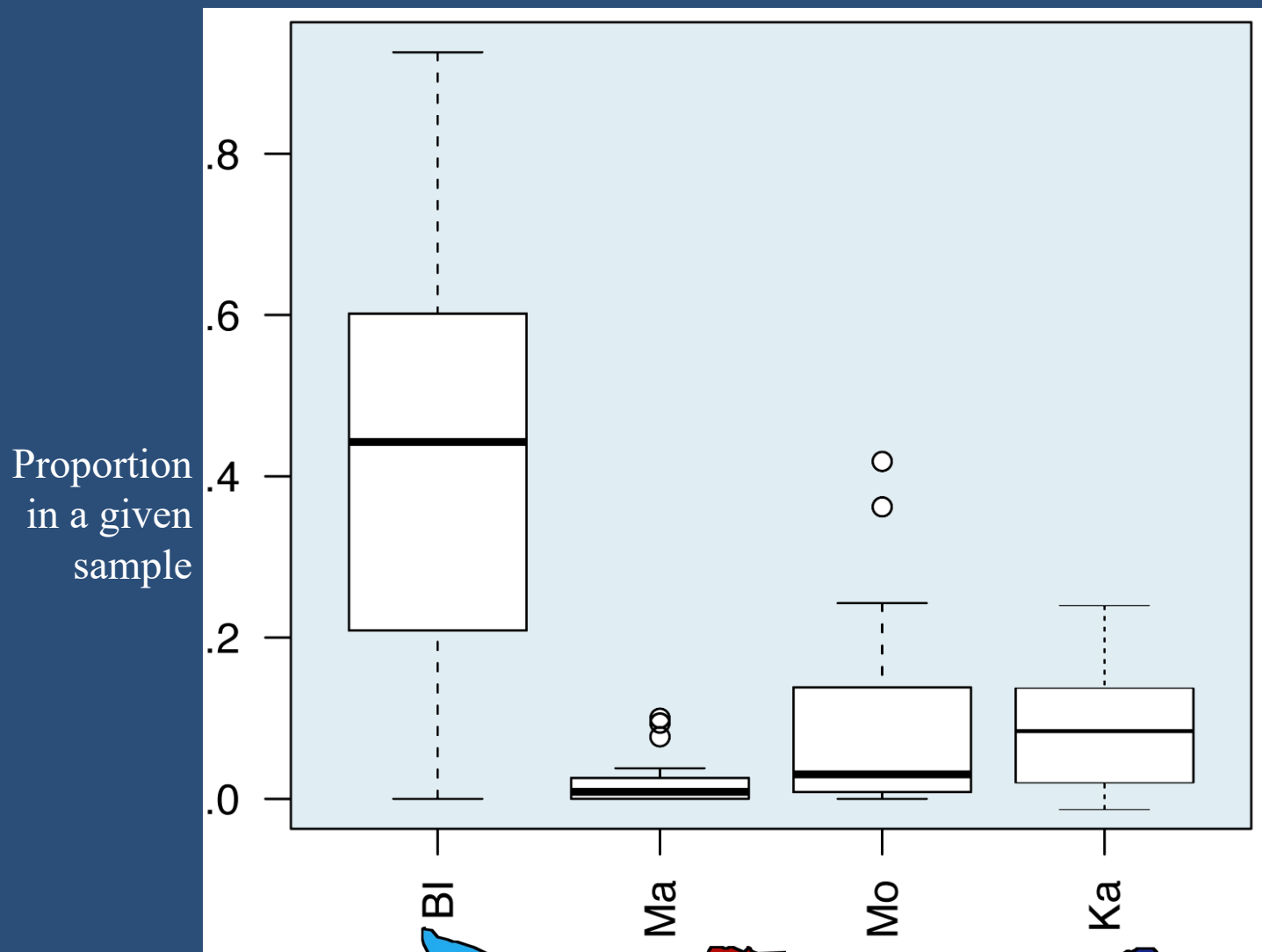
- | | | | | |
|-------|---------|------------|-------------|------------|
| Order | Acari | Coleoptera | Lepidoptera | Orthoptera |
| | Araneae | Hemiptera | Neuroptera | Psocoptera |

Collembolan invasions



44 % of all arthropods on average

Invasive Collembola Across Chronosequence



Preliminary inference: Biotic resilience

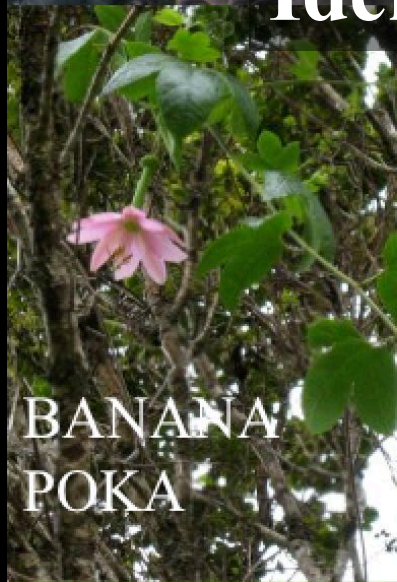
PIGS



MELASTOMES



Identifying Non Natives?



**BANANA
POKA**



GUAVA

GOATS



FROGS



ANTS



GINGER

Categorization of species as native or non-native using DNA sequence signatures without a complete reference library

Signatures of evolution over the geological chronosequence very different from signatures of invasive species

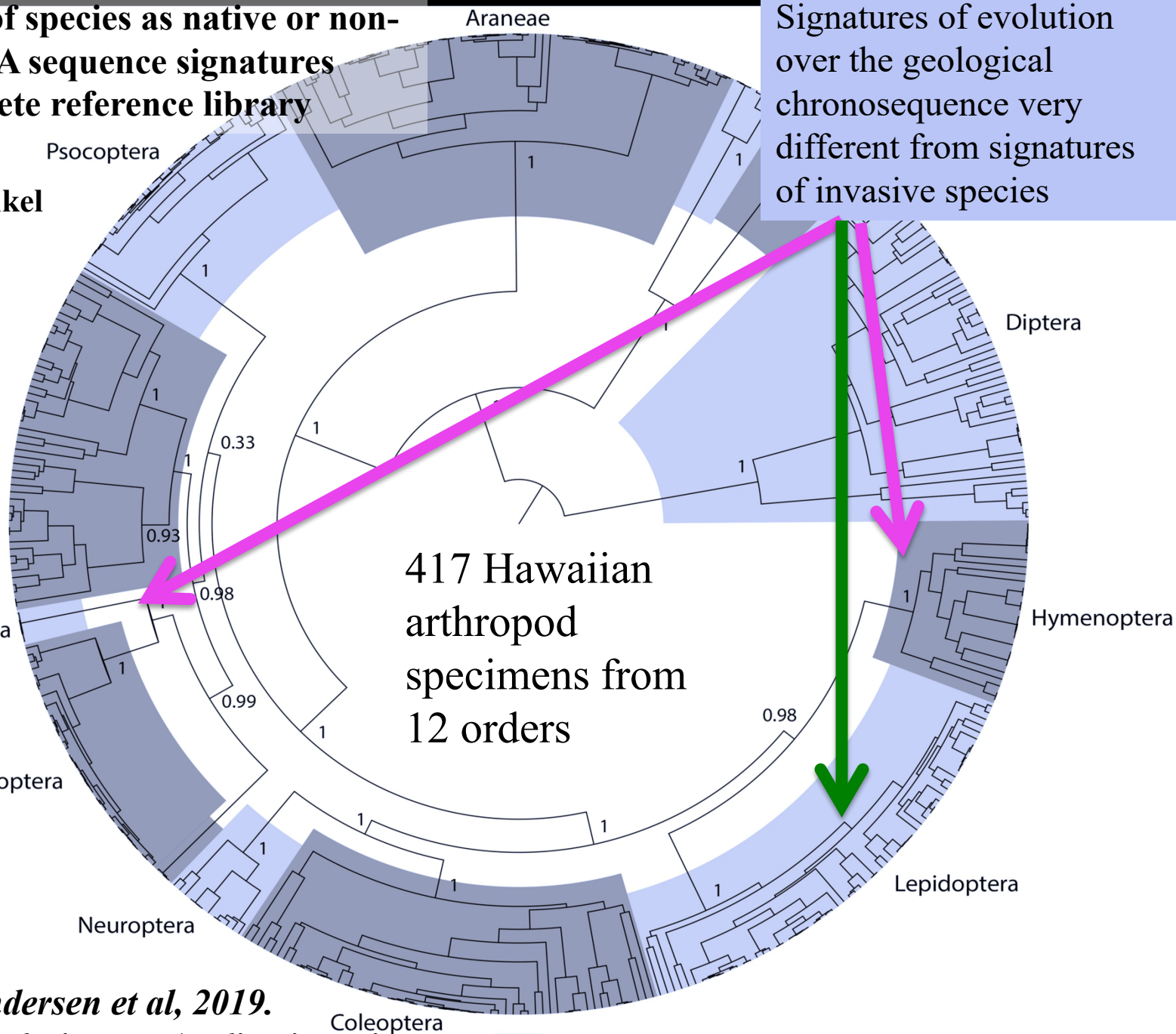
Henrik Krehenwinkel



Noriyuki Suzuki



Jeremy Anderson

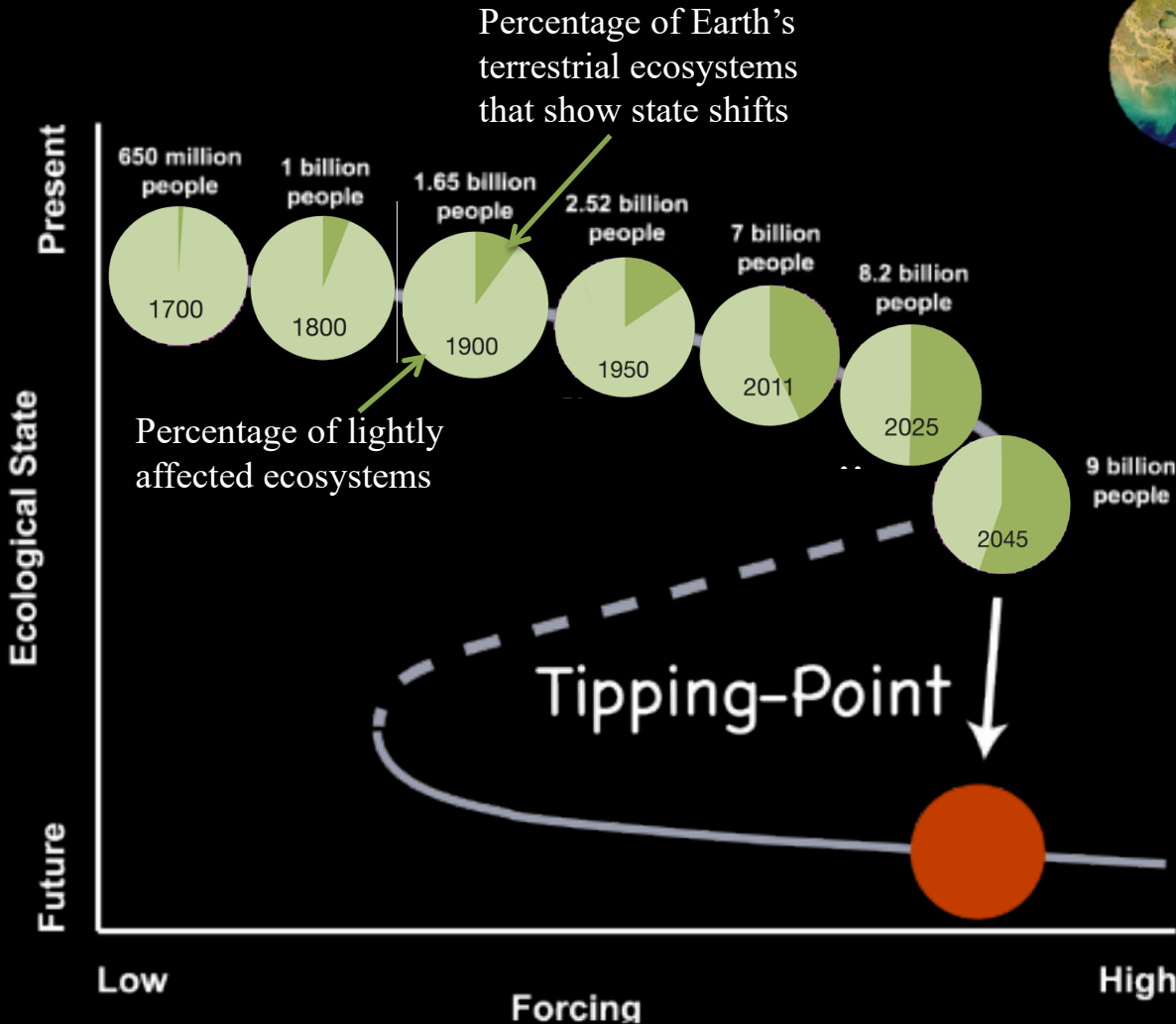
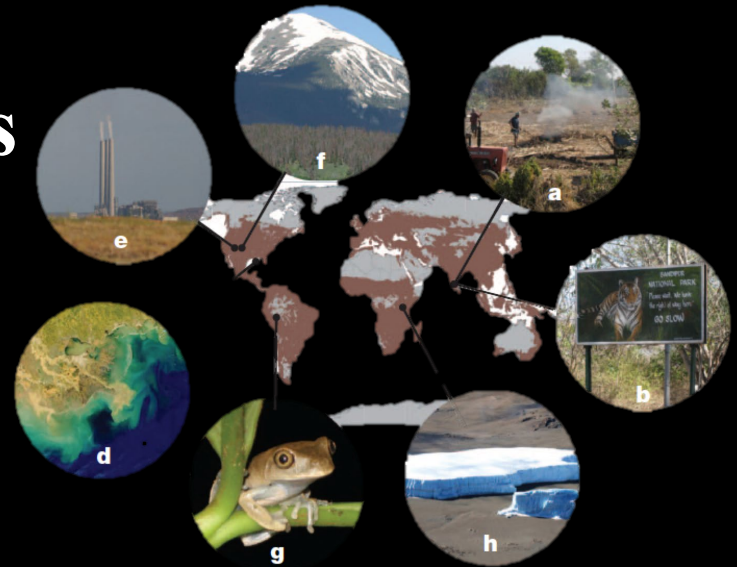


417 Hawaiian arthropod specimens from 12 orders

Andersen et al, 2019.

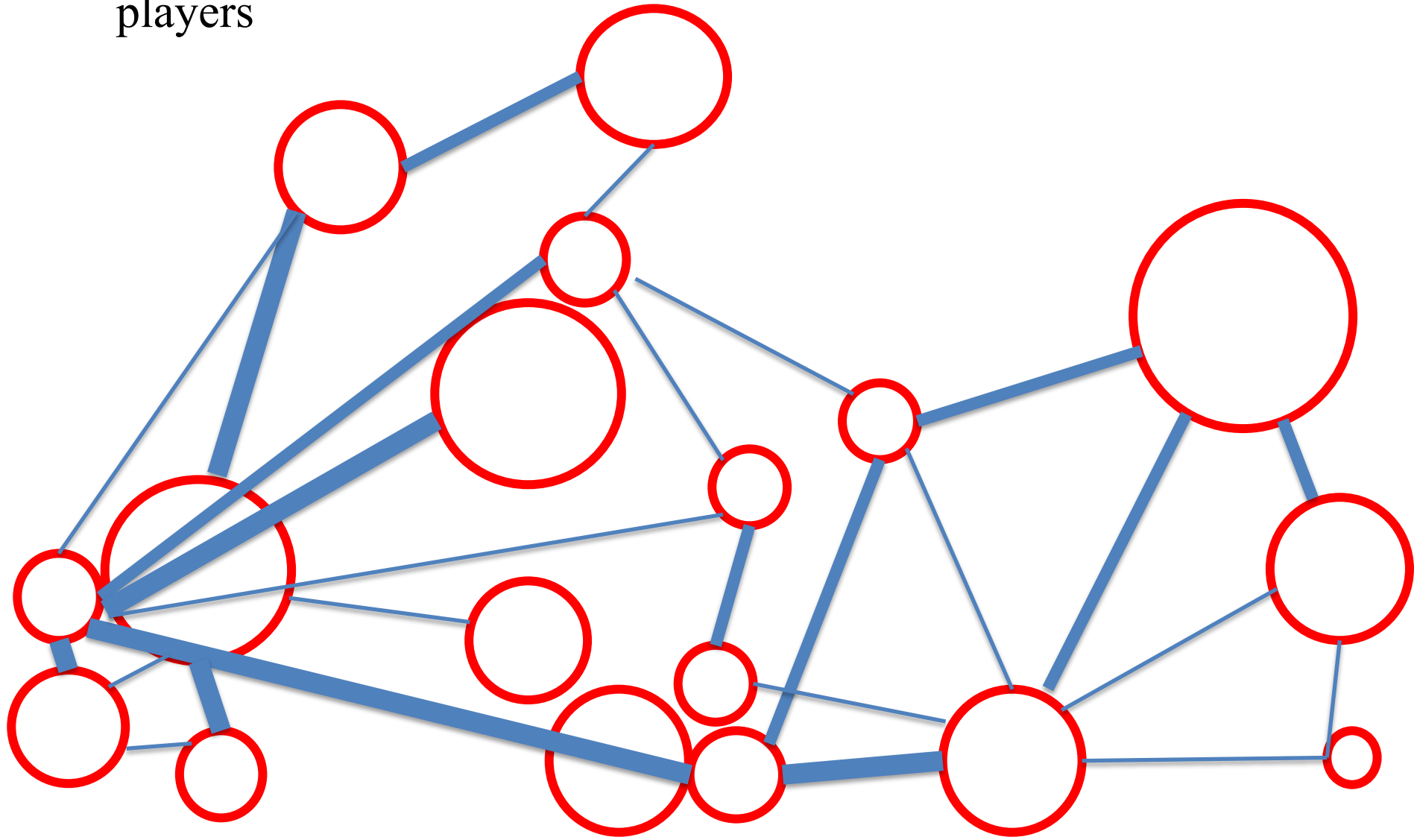
Evolutionary signatures of native and non-native species

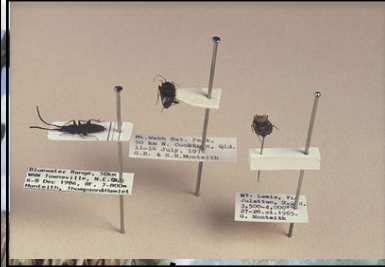
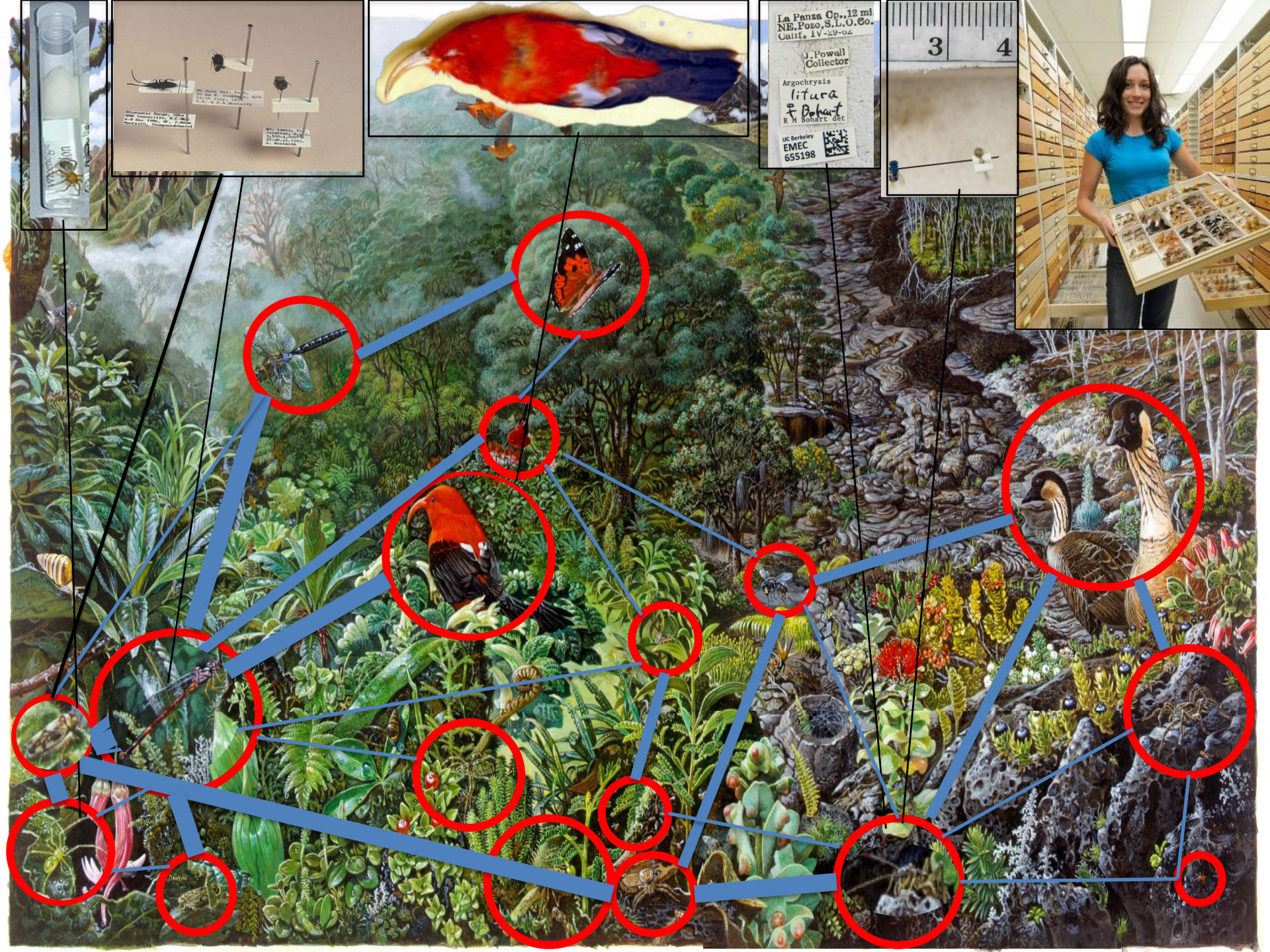
Novel Interactions: Tipping points and state shifts



Can we understand our own biology soon enough to make a difference?

- Metrics derived from network structure can indicate resilience, resistance, and response
- However, to take action, we need to identify the players





Key Importance of Reference Collection



On Borneo for a 2018 expedition to find new species, evolutionary biologist Marta Paterno of the University of Verona in Italy prepares samples for a portable DNA sequencer (center, right of laptop). PIERRE ESCOUBAS/TAXON EXPEDITIONS 2018

\$180 million DNA 'barcode' project aims to discover 2 million new species

By [Elizabeth Pennisi](#) | Jun. 6, 2019, 2:00 PM

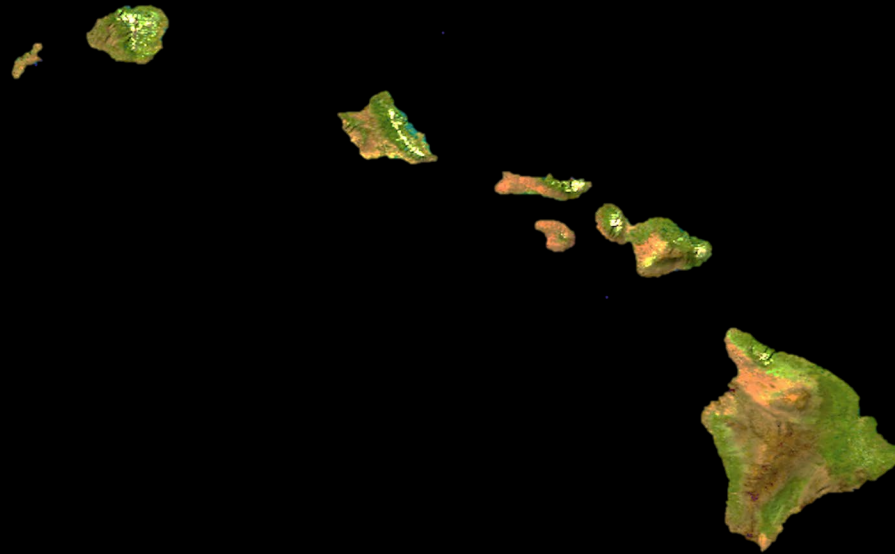
For centuries biologists have identified new species at a painstakingly slow pace, describing specimens' physical features and other defining traits, and often trying to fit a species into the tree of life before naming and publishing it. Now, they have begun to determine whether a specimen is likely a novel

Digitized, with metadata

Collections in Biodiversity Dynamics

Signatures of ecosystem change through time

– Using islands as microcosms to test theory



Highlights the tremendous relevance and largely untapped potential of collections in providing signatures of ecosystem resilience, resistance, and response to change

And the relevance goes far beyond biology

Disaster Mitigation

Fire – Complex interactions

Hot and dry



Higher temperatures & drought create ideal conditions for wildfires

More dead wood



Dry weather means more dead trees, shrubs, & grass, and more fuel for the fire

New dry plants



Plants that like humidity are replaced by more flammable plants that withstand dry conditions

Longer fire season



Fire season in most places used to be about 2 months; now it has lengthened up to 5 in places, or even the full year

Invading bugs killing trees



Warm weather causes wood beetles from south moving north, killing tree parts & increasing amount of flammable material

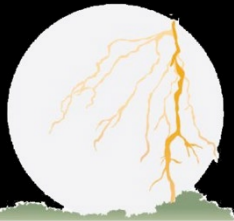


Thirsty trees drink more water



Water stressed trees send down deep roots to suck up every drop of water, further drying out the soil

Lightning strikes



Warmer temperatures can trigger more lightning, which can set blazes

Feedback loop



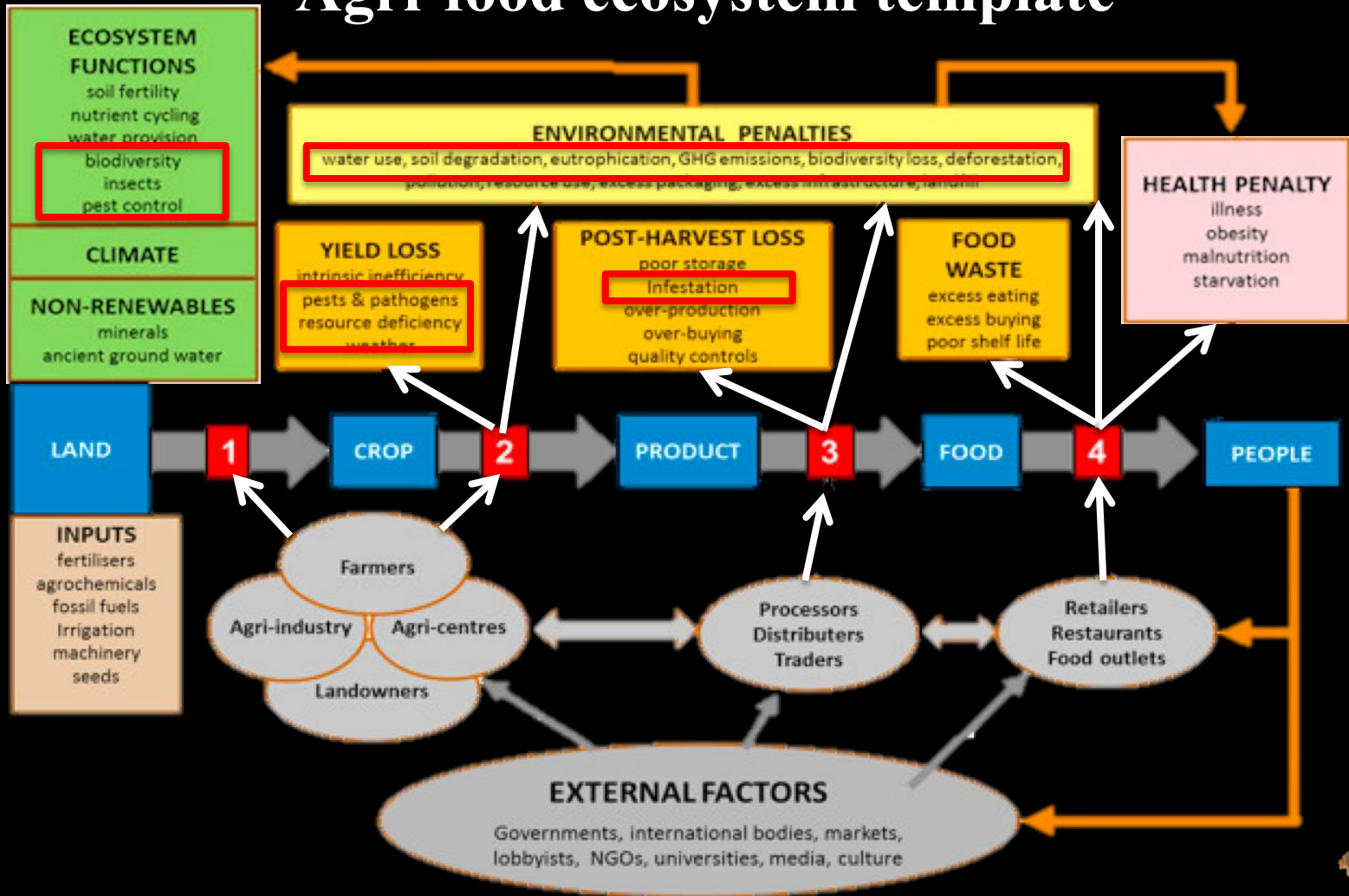
Burning forests release stored carbon into the atmosphere, contributing to global warming

Blazes out of control



Climate change boosts the intensity of fires; heightened intensity neutralizes efforts to put out the blaze

Agri-food ecosystem template



Four principle components

- ecosystem functions, climate, resource inputs
- key actors and external influences
- environmental and health penalties
- losses and wastes



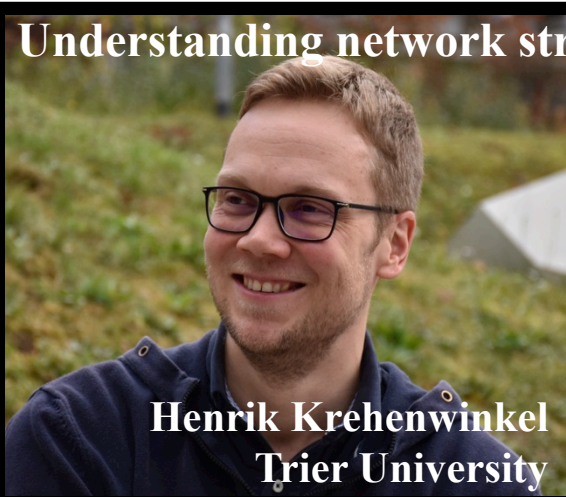
Collections in Biodiversity Dynamics

- The biodiversity crisis is real and will affect every aspect of human existence**
- Collections – both historic and current - provide the key to understanding resilience, resistance, and response to change**
- Most important now is to communicate the relevance before it is too late**

Understanding network structure & tipping points



Carl Boettiger



Henrik Krehenwinkel
Trier University



Natalie Graham



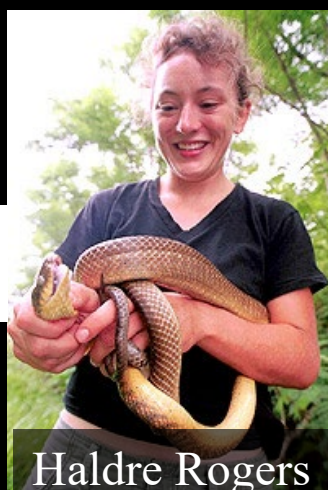
Andy Rominger
Santa Fe Inst



Thanks – A team effort!



Allison Barner



Haldre Rogers



Evan Economo

Combining forces
with efforts across
other Pacific Islands



sDiv | synthesis centre of iDiv

Global Synergies &
Sustainability for
Biodiversity Information



John LaSalle, deceased ALA



Jim Hanken, EoL



Donald Hobern, GBIF



Volker Mosbrugger



Larry Page, iDigBio