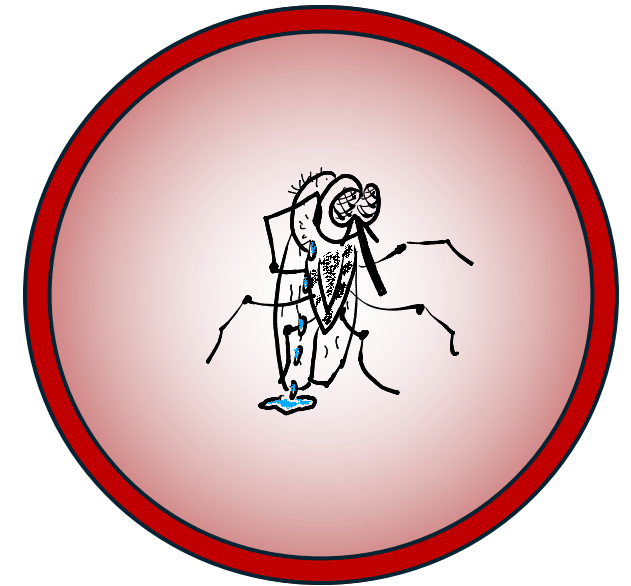


Impact of climate and weather on *Aedes albopictus* in Italy

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Open
Slides



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Outline

- 1 Introduction: the VECTRI model
- 2 Parametrization and calibration of *Aedes albopictus*
- 3 Objectives
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 - 3.2 Asses the geographical distribution and activity in Italy
 - 3.3 Study the effect of heatwaves on the population of *Aedes albopictus*
- 4 Results
- 5 Conclusion and future perspectives

1 Introduction: the VECTRI model

The **VEC**tor-borne disease community model of ICTP, **TRI**este, is

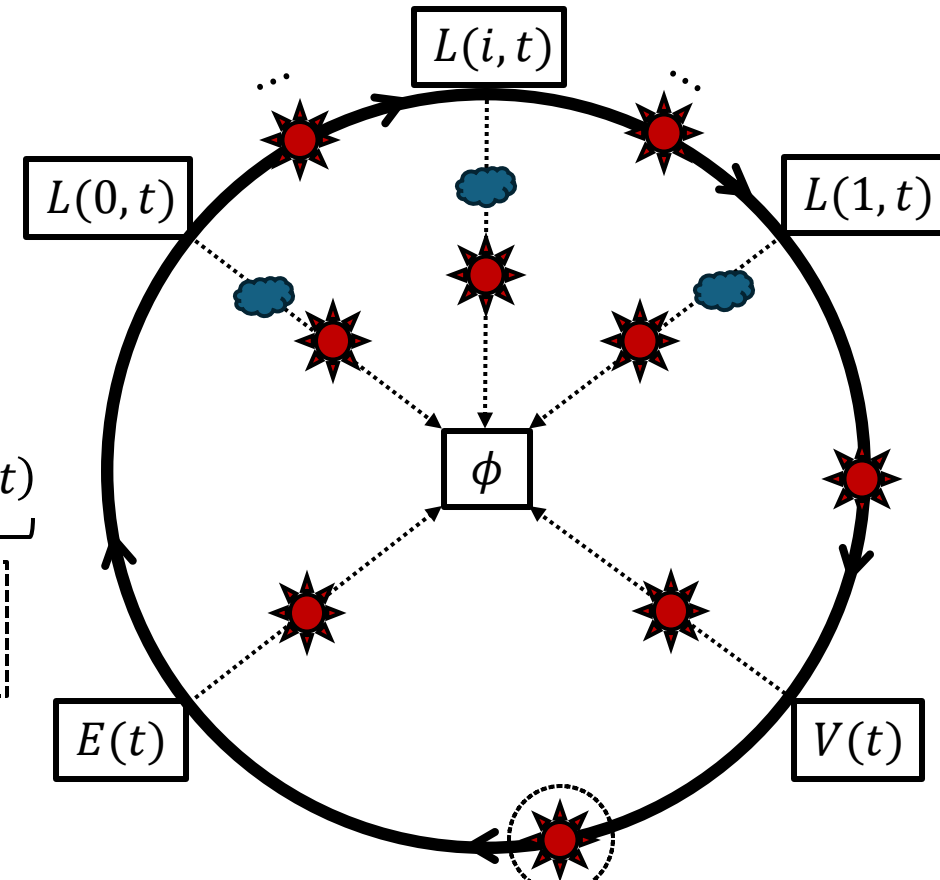
- A **multi-species** dynamical model, currently describing the life cycle of
 - *Anopheles gambiae* s.s. (original, see e.g., [Tompkins et al. 2013](#), [Asare et al. 2016](#) +15), malaria is parameterized
 - *Anopheles funestus* (in development, not evaluated)
 - *Anopheles sacharovi* ([Karypidou et al. 2020](#))
 - *Aedes aegypti* (in development, not evaluated)
 - *Aedes albopictus* ([Garrido Zornoza et al. 2024](#), under review), dengue is **not** parameterized
- **Climate-aware**: air temperature at two-metre height, T_{2m} (°C), and daily rainfall, R_d ($mm \cdot day^{-1}$)
- **Open source**: <http://users.ictp.it/~tompkins/vectri/>
 - Install *Aedes* version:

```
git clone https://gitlab.com/tompkins/vectri.git  
git checkout tags/v1.11.3
```
 - Run example in OSF repository <https://osf.io/3gcfb/>

1 Introduction: the VECTRI model

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{dE(t)}{dt} &= \overbrace{N_{egg} \cdot R_{gono}(T_{2m}) \cdot V(t)}^{\text{oviposition}} - \overbrace{\delta_E(T_{wat}) \cdot E(t)}^{\text{mortality}} - \overbrace{g_E \cdot E(t)}^{\text{hatching}} \\
 \frac{\partial L(f, t)}{\partial t} &= \underbrace{[f = 0] \cdot g_E \cdot E(t)}_{\text{hatching}} - \underbrace{R_L(T_{wat}) \cdot \frac{\partial L(f, t)}{\partial f}}_{\text{development (advection)}} - \underbrace{\delta_L(T_{wat}) \cdot L(f, t)}_{\text{mortality}} - \underbrace{\delta_{crowd}(R_d, L) \cdot L(f, t)}_{\text{predation and overcrowding}} \\
 \frac{dV(t)}{dt} &= \underbrace{R_L(T_{wat}) \cdot \frac{\partial L(f, t)}{\partial f} \Big|_{f=1}}_{\text{emergence}} - \underbrace{\delta_V(T_{2m}) \cdot V(t)}_{\text{mortality}}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 f = f(T_{2m}) \text{ or } f(T_{wat}) &\equiv \text{☀} \\
 f = f(R_d) &\equiv \text{☁}
 \end{aligned}$$



- Temperature-driven decay rates fitted from lab. and obs. data
- Fixed time step, $\Delta t = 1 \text{ day}$
- $T_{wat} = T_{2m} + 2^\circ\text{C}$ (when no hydro)
- No vector mobility across grid boxes

$$R_{gono}(T_{2m}) = \frac{T_{2m} - T_{gono}}{K_{gono}} \in [0, 1]$$

2 Parameterization and calibration of *Aedes albopictus*

Parameterization

- Temperature mortality scheme for V , E and L , *i.e.*, $\delta_V(T_{2m})$, $\delta_L(T_{2m})$, $\delta_E(T_{2m}) \rightarrow$ [Metelmann et al. 2019](#)
- Life cycle parameters, *e.g.*, T_{gono} or $N_{egg} \rightarrow$ from literature (referenced in the manuscript)

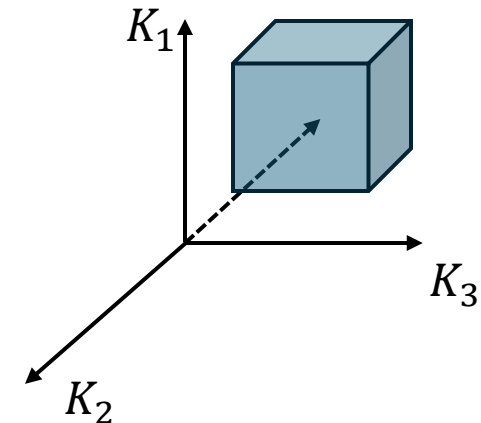
Calibration

- Life cycle **parameters**, \vec{K} , are constrained by field and lab. studies but nevertheless **uncertain**
- **Search** within this uncertainty “window” for the best, yet **realistic, solution**
- Constrained optimization using the **Genetic Algorithm** (GA) from [Tompkins et al. 2018](#)

$$\vec{K} \text{ s.t. } \vec{\sigma}(x, t) - \vec{S}(x, t; \vec{K}) \rightarrow \vec{0}$$

$$\vec{K}_{min} \leq \vec{K} \leq \vec{K}_{max}$$

- **Emilia-Romagna** ovitrap data from [Carrieri et al. 2011, 2017, 2021](#)



4 Results

4 Results

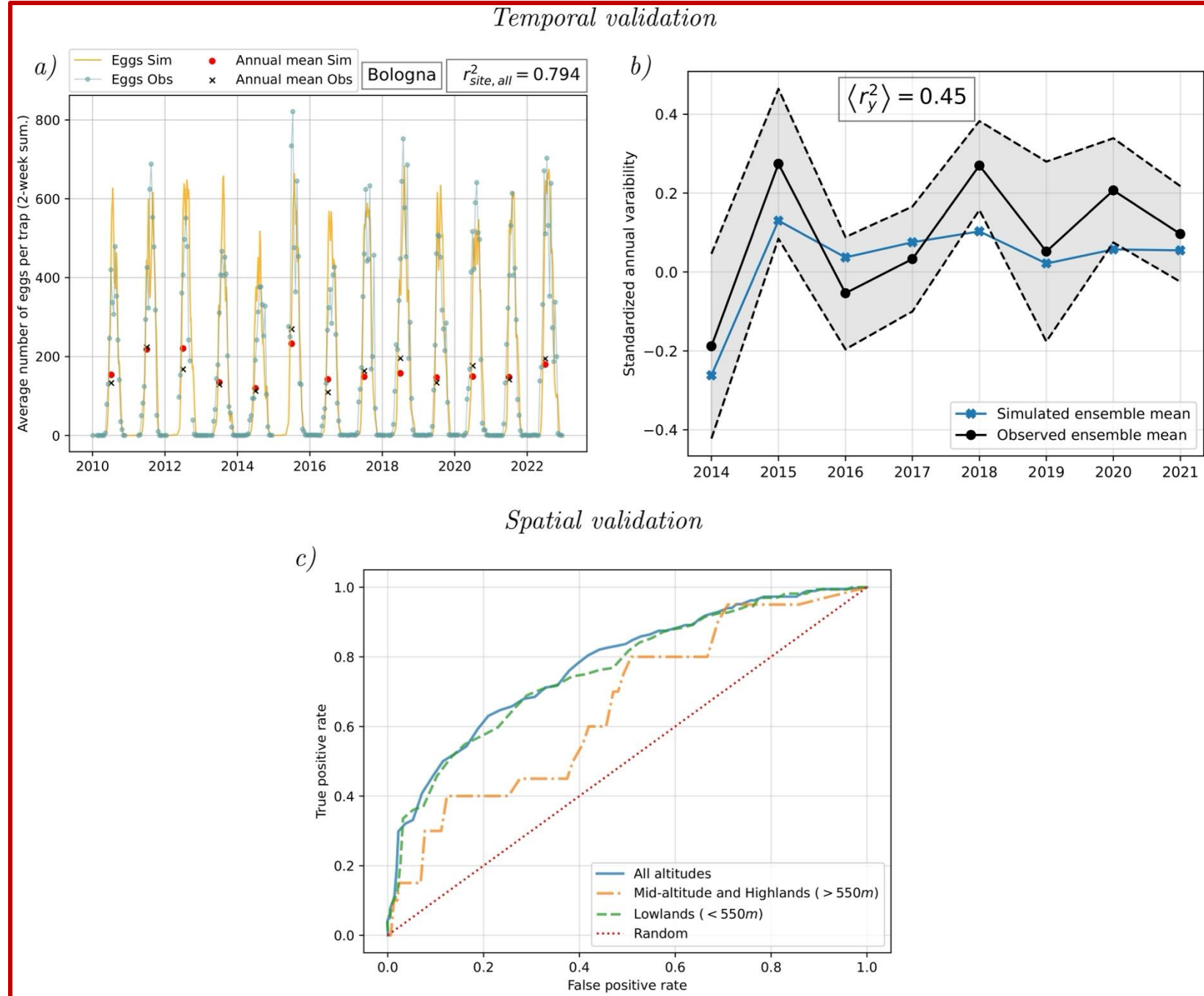
4.1 Model validation

a) Seasonality

b) Inter-annual ensemble

c) ROC curves (AUC \sim 0.65 – 0.85)

Garrido Zornoza et al. 2024
(in review for JRSI)



4 Results

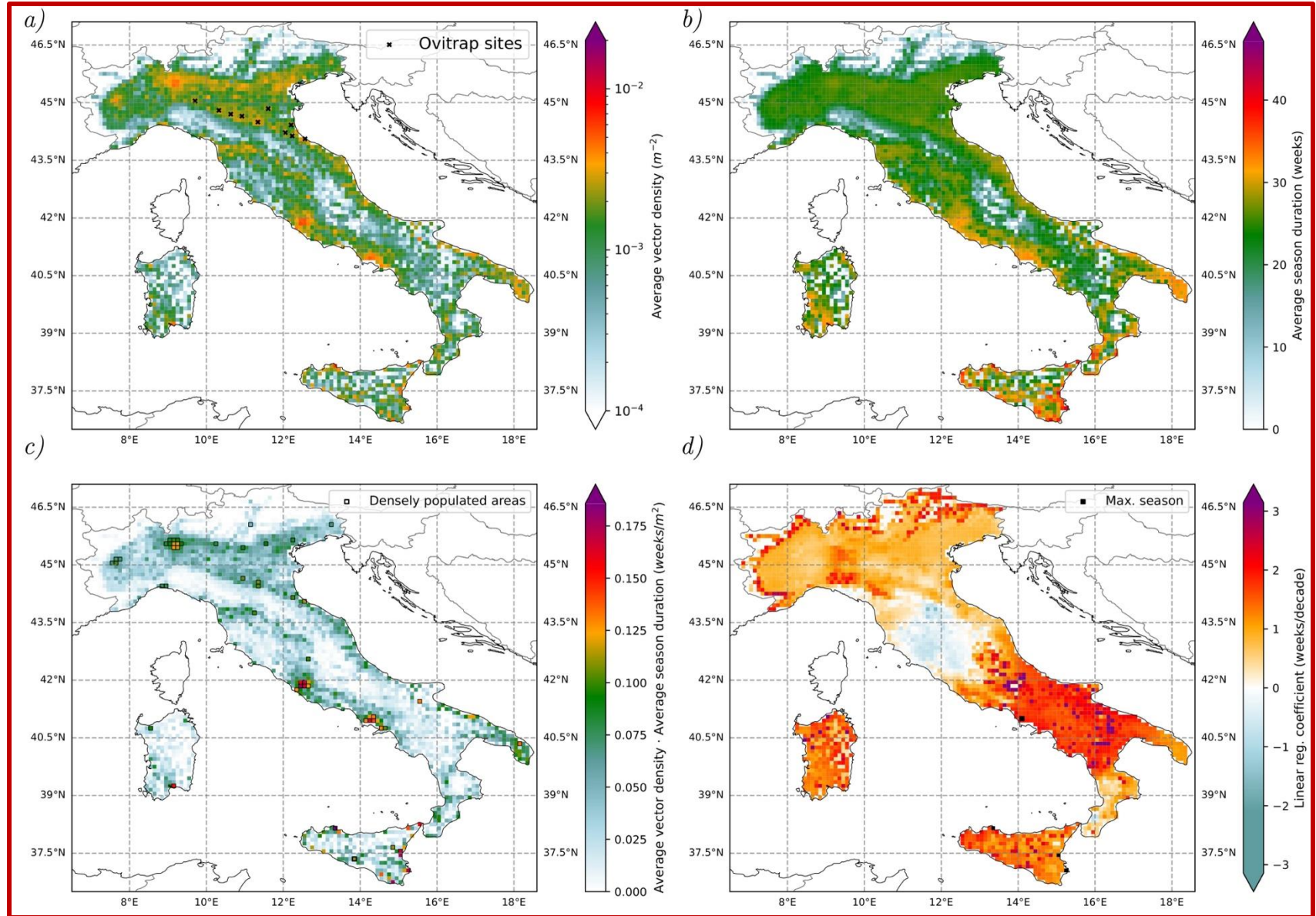
4.2 Geographical distribution and activity in Italy

a) Average density 1980-2022

b) Average session duration

c) Risk estimate

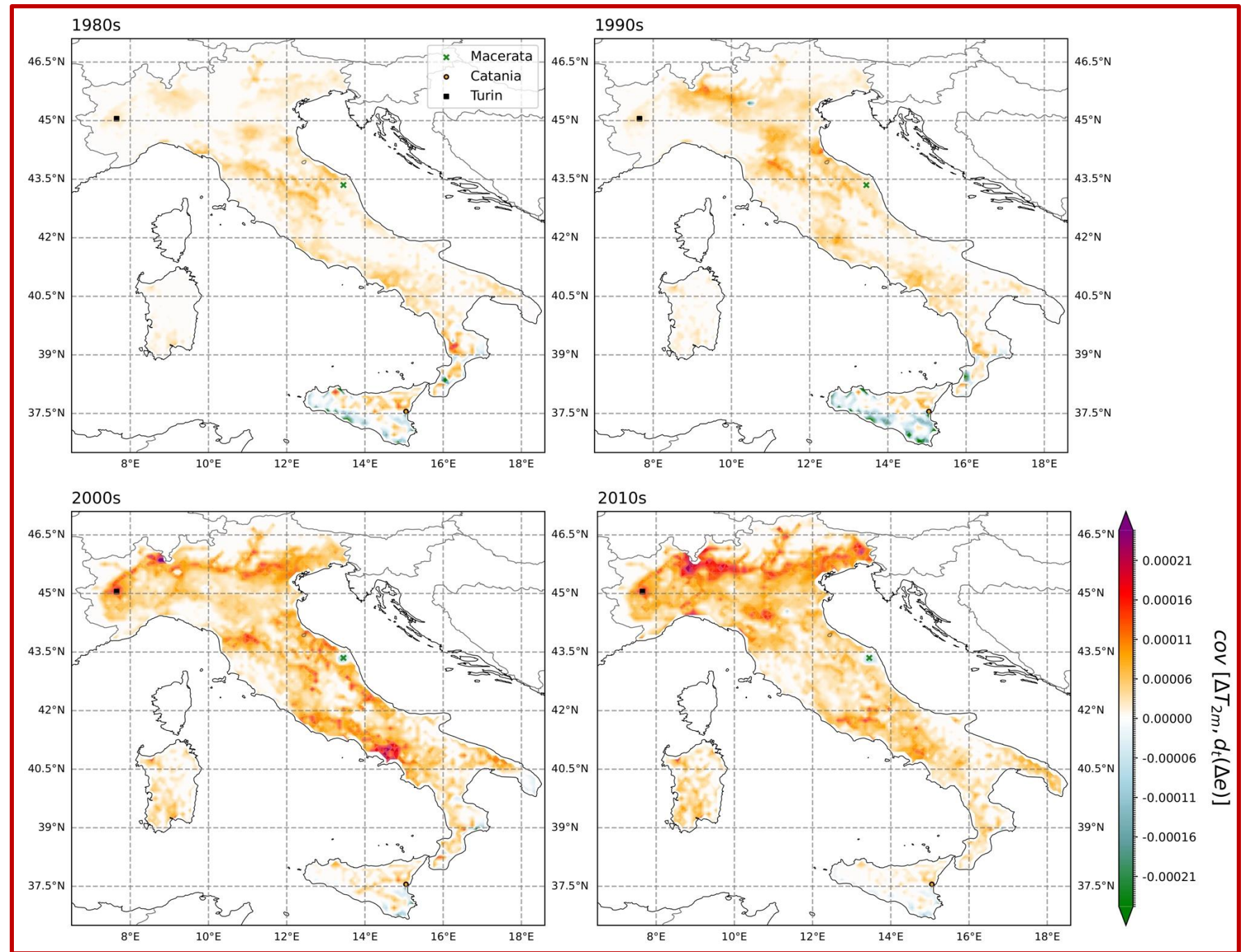
d) Increase in season length of 0.5 – 3 weeks per decade



4 Results

4.3 Heatwaves

- Decadal increase
 - Mostly positive
 - Can be negative in southern areas



Garrido Zornoza et al. 2024
(in review for JRSI)

4 Results

4.3 Heatwaves

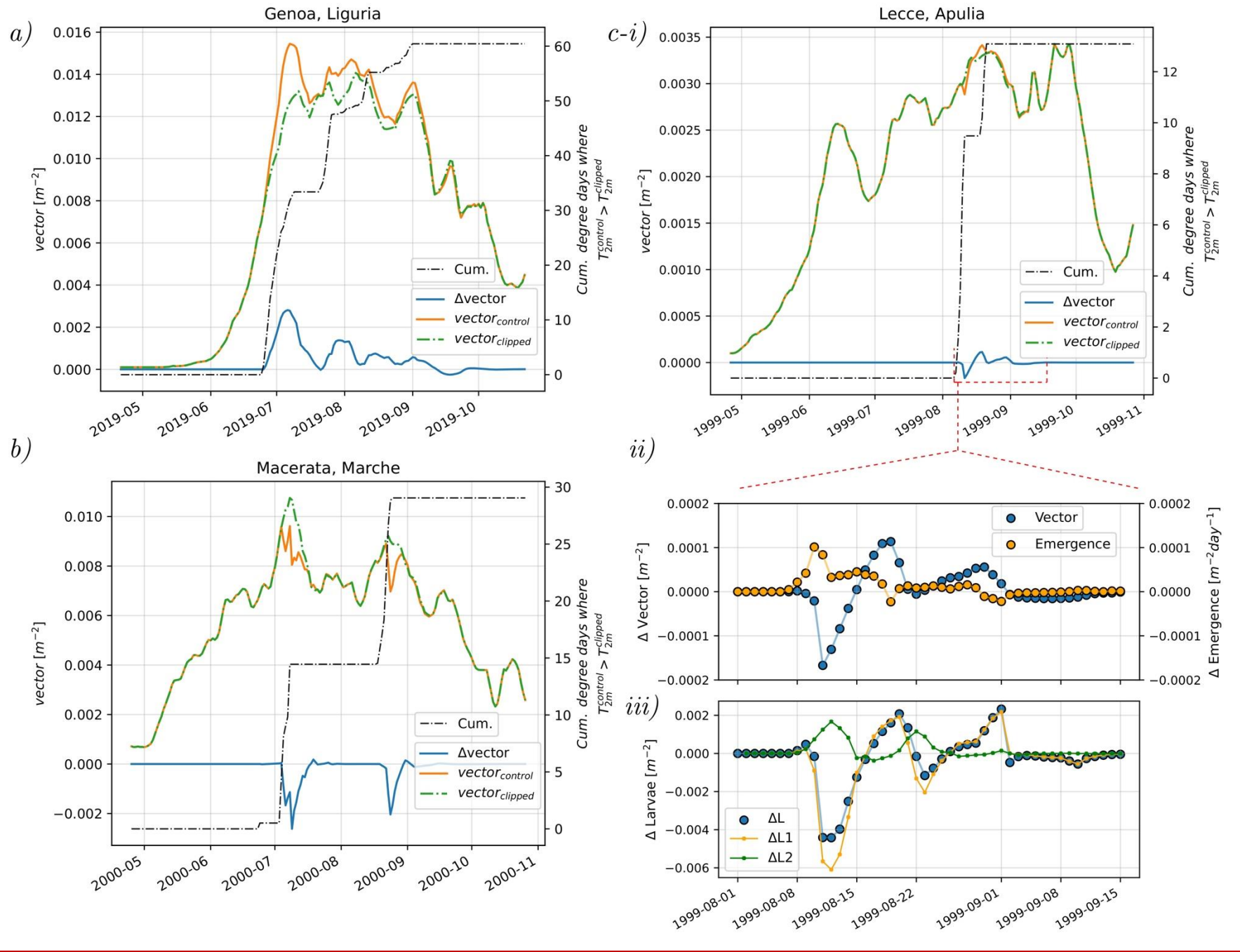
a) Beneficial

b) Detrimental

c-i) Temporarily detrimental

c-ii,iii) Differential impact on larval age structure

Garrido Zornoza et al. 2024
(in review for JRSI)



5 Conclusion and future perspectives

Summary

- VECTRI as a multi-species **climate-aware** mechanistic model
- Adapted VECTRI to *Aedes albopictus* → parameterization + calibration
- **Validated** the model for Italy (Emilia-Romagna ovitrap data)
- Model reproduces **seasonality** and **inter-annual** variability of observed ovitrap data
- Densely populated areas are hotspots
 - Rome, Milan, Naples, Foggia, Catania, Palermo, Lecce, ...
- Modelled **increase** of vector **activity** of 0.5 – 3 weeks per decade between 1980-2022
- Heatwave impact on simulated *Ae. albopictus* population can be **detrimental** in warmest regions but is **beneficial** over most areas during summer

Future perspectives

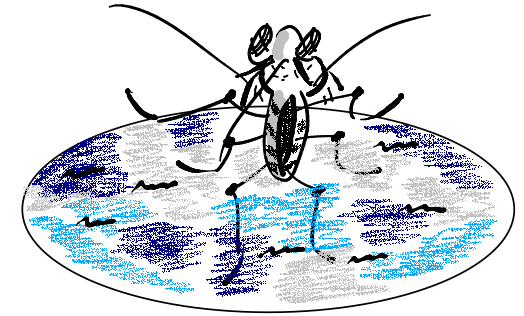
- Include **diapause** parameterization, larval **cannibalism** and **dengue** transmission dynamics

Thank you for the attention



S.1 Introduction: the VECTRI model

Breeding model for larval development



$$\frac{\partial L(f, t)}{\partial t} = \boxed{\text{hatching}} + \boxed{\text{mortality}} + \boxed{\text{predation and overcrowding}} + \boxed{\text{emergence}}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \underbrace{-\delta_{crowd}(R_d, L) \cdot L(f, t)}_{= 1 - P_{L, surv}(R_d, L)} \\ & = P_{L, surv0} \cdot P_{flush}(R_d) \cdot P_{crowd}(R_d, L) \end{aligned}$$

- Logistic $\rightarrow P_{crowd}(R_d, L) = \left(1 - \frac{\sum M_L}{w(R_d) \cdot M_{max}}\right)$
 - $\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{\text{stationary}}$
 - $\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{\text{stationary}}$
 - $\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{\text{dynamic}}$
- Fractional water coverage of potential breeding sites $\rightarrow w(R_d) = r_{urbn} \cdot w_{urbn}(\rho_h) + r_{perm} \cdot w_{perm} + r_{pond} \cdot w_{pond}(R_d)$
- r_i are vector-specific **usage coefficients**