A microscopic view of several Aedes albopictus larvae in a shallow layer of water. The larvae are translucent, worm-like creatures with long, thin legs and antennae. They are scattered across the frame, some near the surface and others slightly submerged. The water is clear, and the background is a light, neutral color.

**ROLE OF VECTOR PHENOTYPIC
PLASTICITY IN DISEASE
TRANSMISSION AS ILLUSTRATED BY
THE SPREAD OF DENGUE VIRUS BY
*Aedes albopictus***

Dominic Brass, Christina
Cobbold, Bethan Purse,
David Ewing, Amanda
Callaghan, Steven White



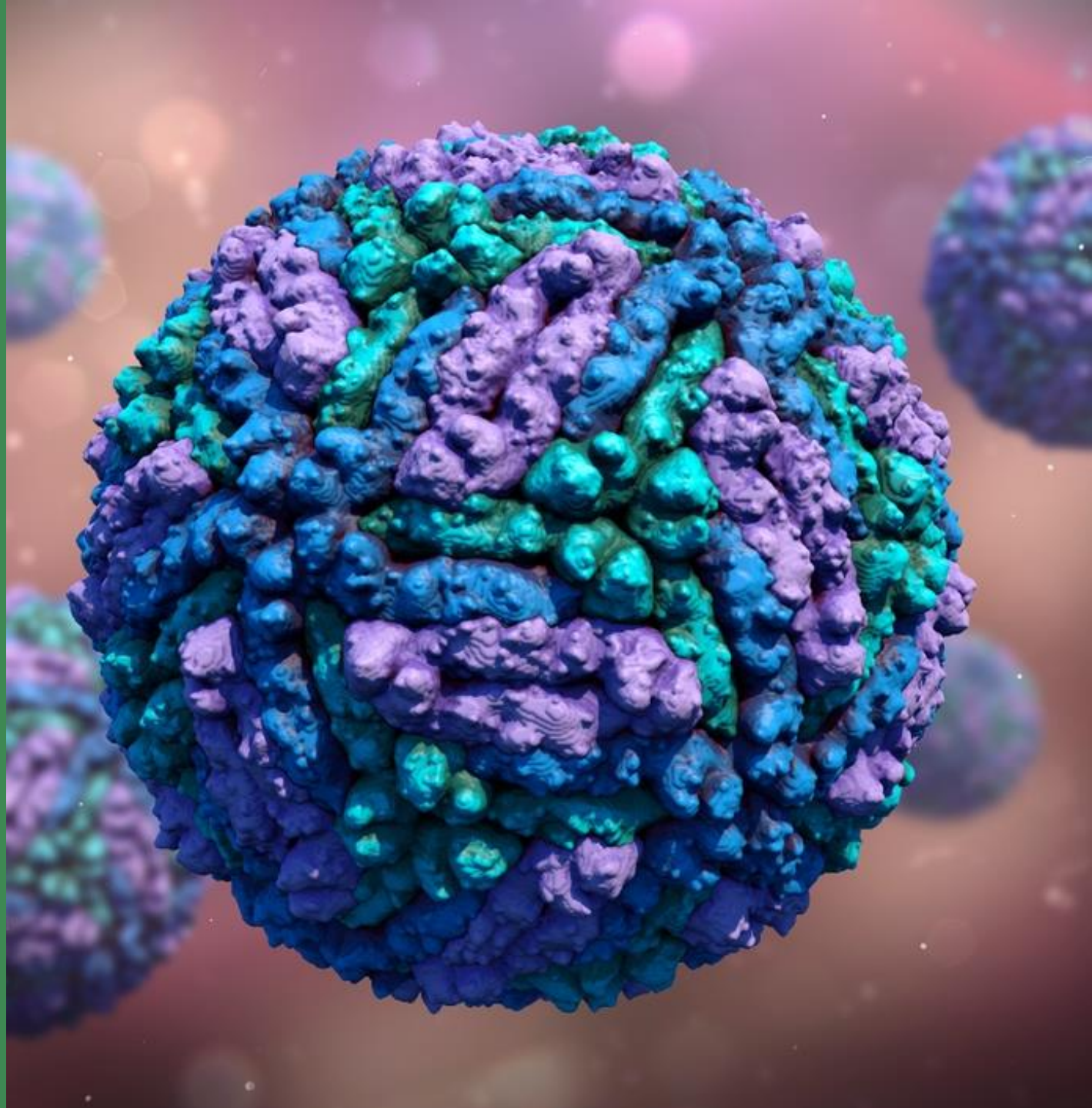
UK Centre for
Ecology & Hydrology

A microscopic view of numerous dark, elongated, spindle-shaped biological structures, possibly spores or microorganisms, scattered across a brown, textured background. The structures are dark brown to black with some internal detail visible. A thin white vertical line is positioned to the right of the text.

MODEL AIMS

MODEL AIMS

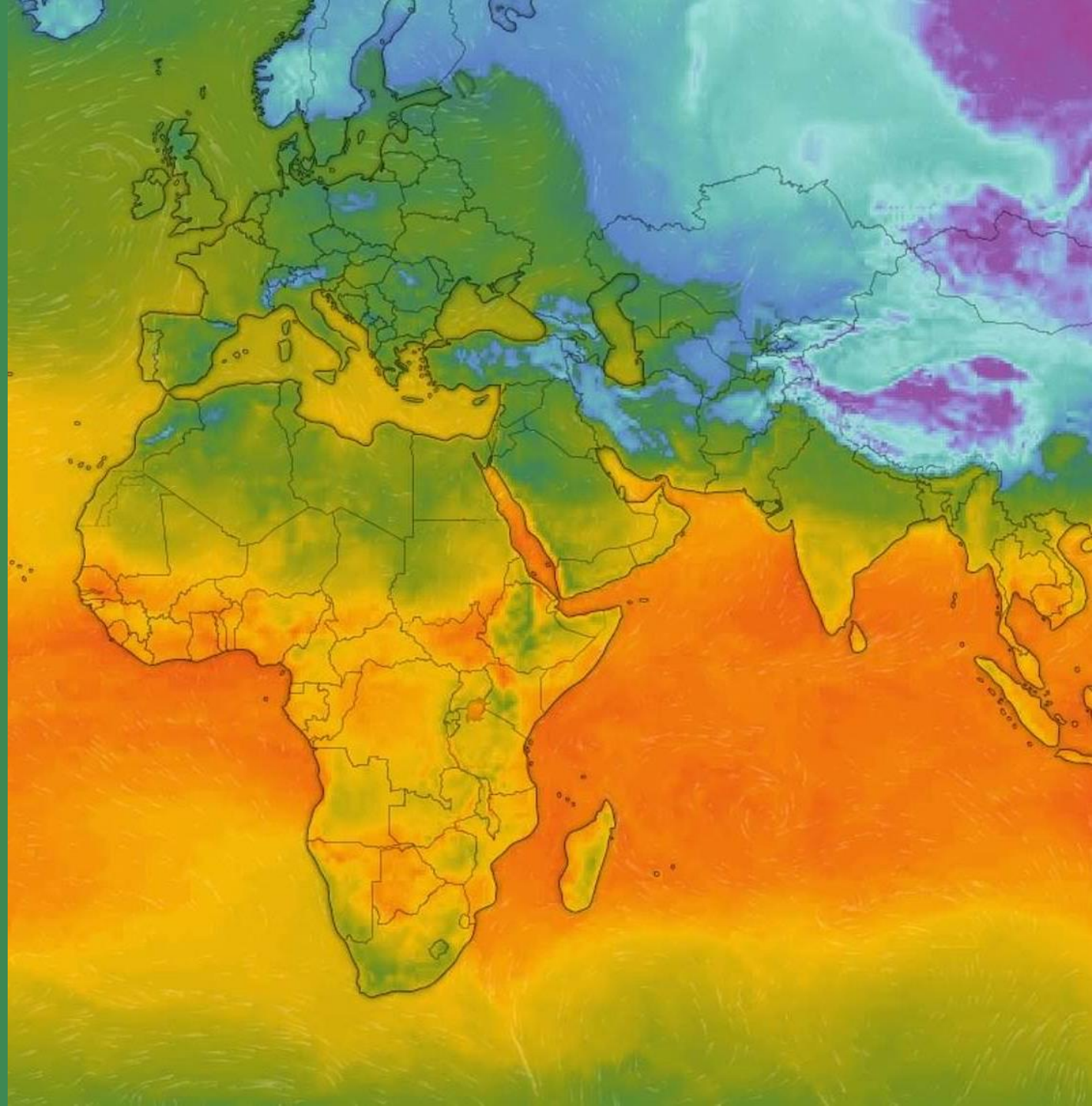
Understand patterns in *Aedes albopictus* driven dengue risk



MODEL AIMS

Understand patterns in *Aedes albopictus* driven dengue risk

This requires understanding differences in global vector dynamics

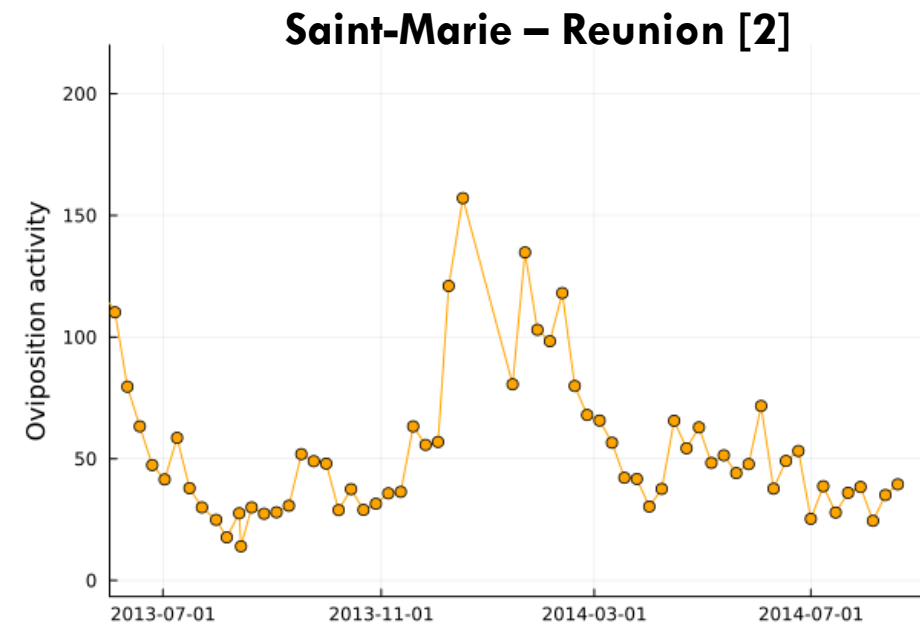
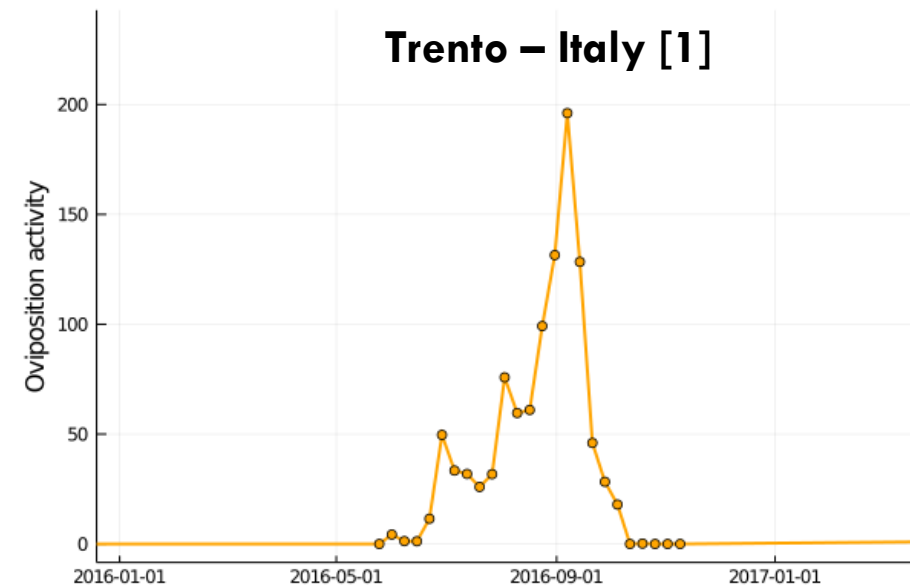


MODEL AIMS

Understand patterns in *Aedes albopictus* driven dengue risk

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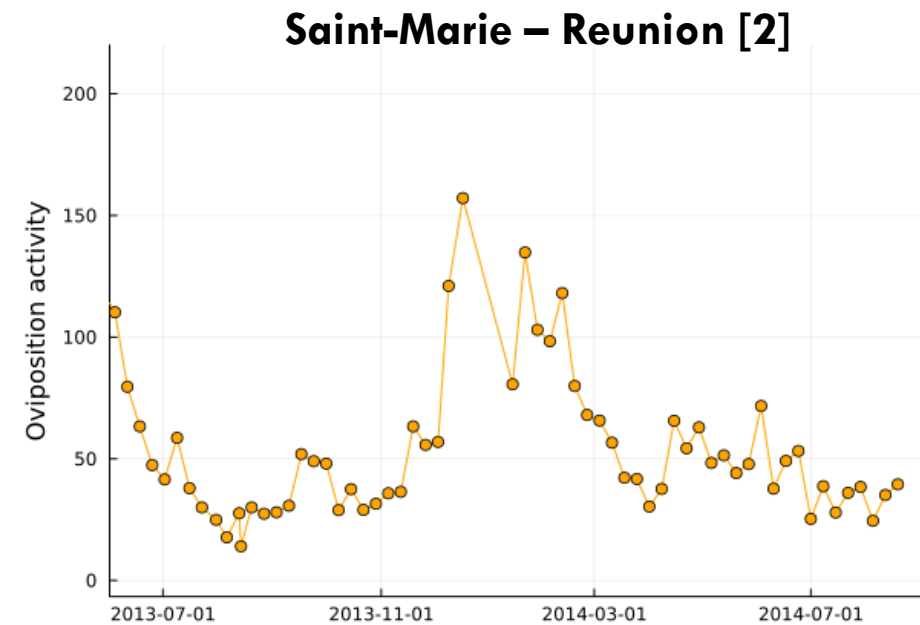
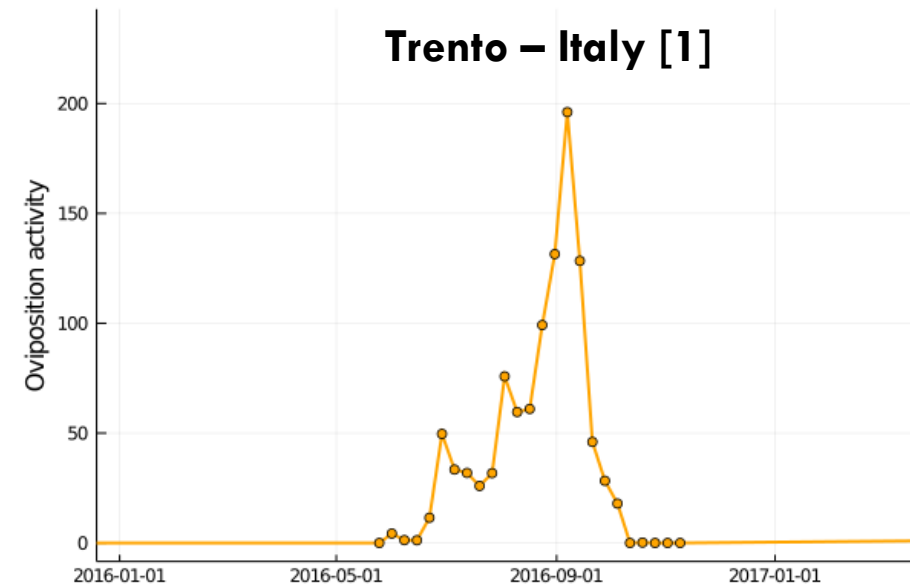
We need a model that makes predictions that generalise between environments



- [1] Lencioni, V. *et al.* Multi-year dynamics of the *Aedes albopictus* occurrence in two neighbouring cities in the alps. *The European Zoological Journal* **90**, 101–112 (2023).
- [2] Gouagna, L. C. *et al.* Strategic approach, advances, and challenges in the development and application of the SIT for area-wide control of *Aedes albopictus* mosquitoes in Reunion island. *Insects* **11**, 1–24 (2020).

THE IDEA

Accounting for density-dependence



- [1] Lencioni, V. *et al.* Multi-year dynamics of the *Aedes albopictus* occurrence in two neighbouring cities in the alps. *The European Zoological Journal* **90**, 101–112 (2023).
- [2] Gouagna, L. C. *et al.* Strategic approach, advances, and challenges in the development and application of the SIT for area-wide control of *Aedes albopictus* mosquitoes in Reunion island. *Insects* **11**, 1–24 (2020).

THE IDEA

Accounting for density-dependence

Traits important for disease transmission exhibit delayed density-dependence

Larval conditions
Temperature Competition



Adult traits
Wing length
Fecundity Survival



THE IDEA

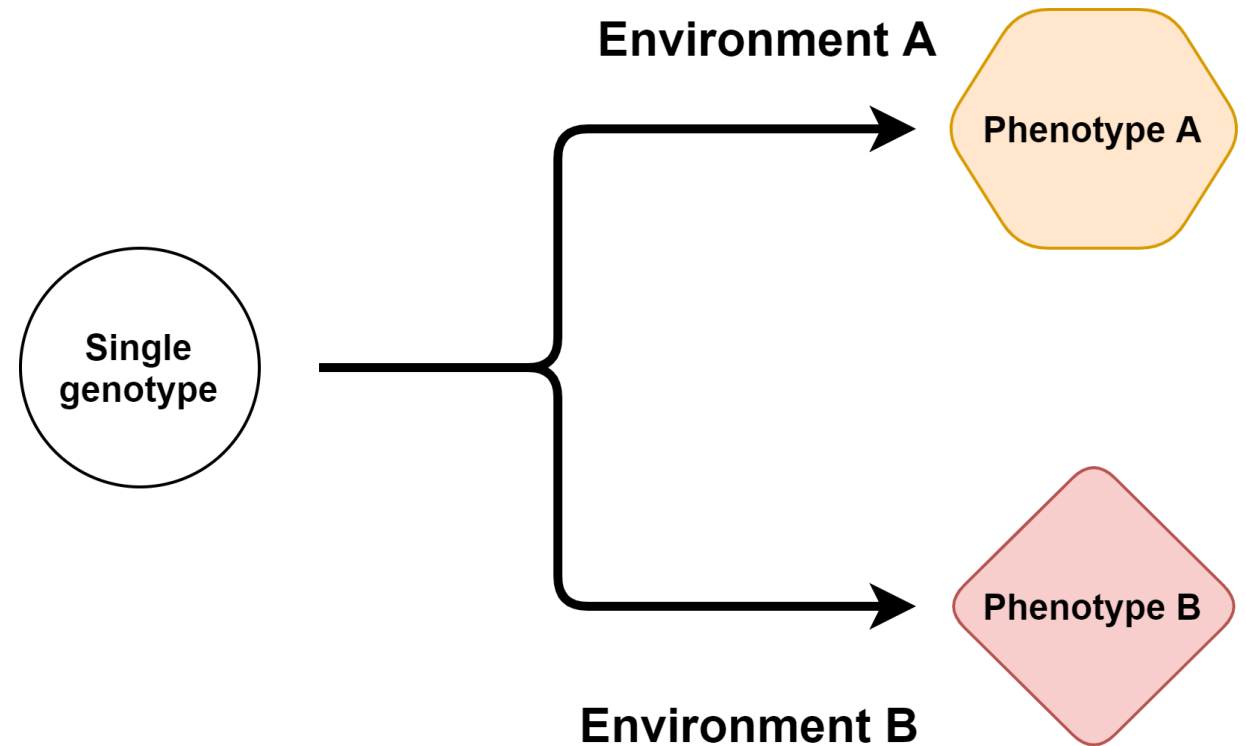
Accounting for density-dependence

Traits important for disease transmission exhibit delayed density-dependence

We consider the effect of developmental plasticity on disease dynamics

Definition - Phenotypic plasticity

The ability of a single genotype to produce multiple phenotypes when exposed to different environmental conditions





**MODELLING AEDES
ALBOPICTUS**

MODEL FOR AEADES ALBOPICTUS

Developed a stage-phenotypically structured system of delay-differential equations

The Systematic Formulation of Population Models for Insects with Dynamically Varying Instar Duration

R. M. NISBET AND W. S. C. GURNEY

Department of Applied Physics, University of Strathclyde, Glasgow G4 0NG, Scotland

Received May 26, 1982







Received: 26 November 2020 | Revised: 4 June 2021 | Accepted: 5 July 2021

DOI: 10.1111/ele.13862

LETTER

ECOLOGY LETTERS  WILEY

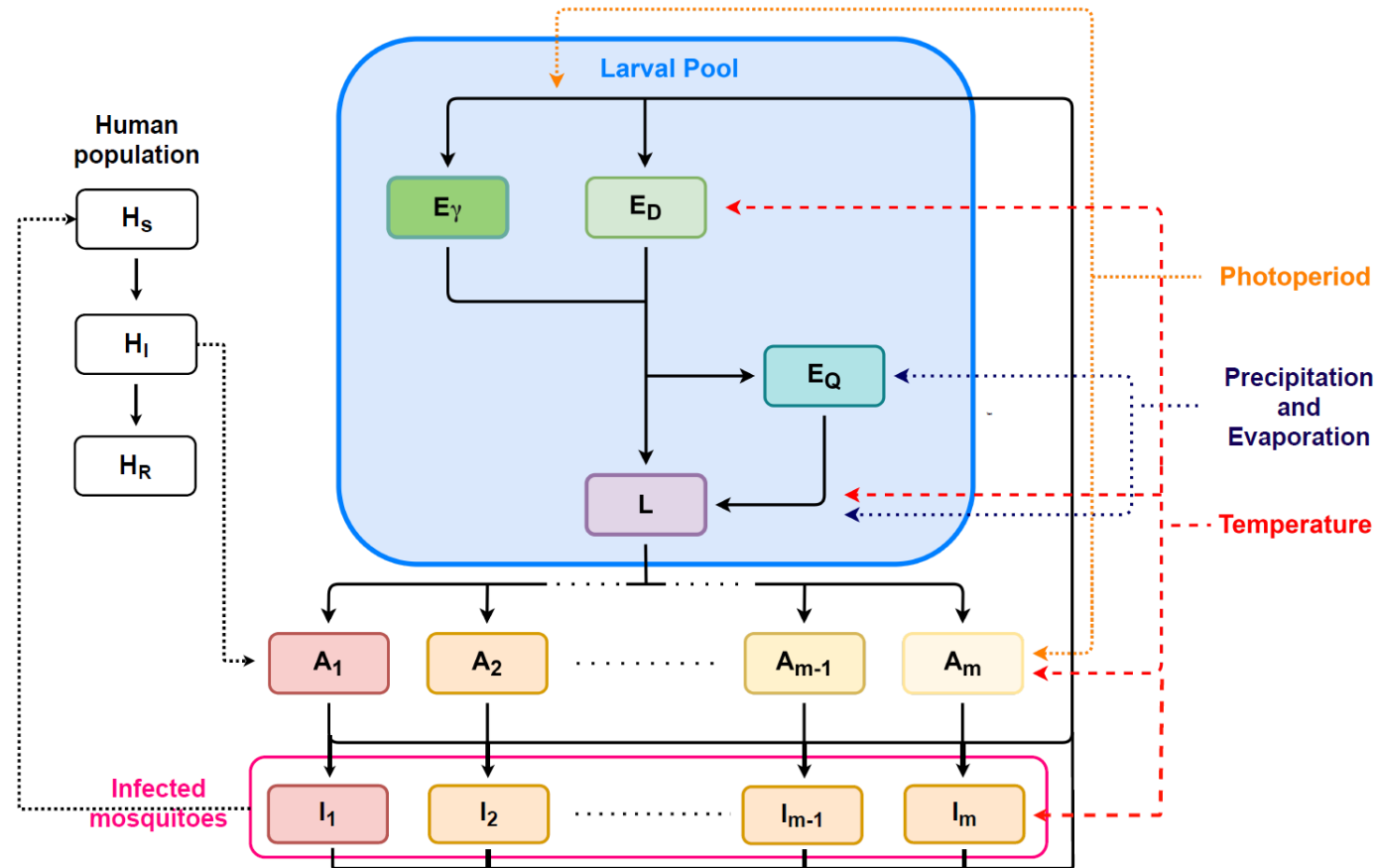
Phenotypic plasticity as a cause and consequence of population dynamics

Dominic P. Brass^{1,2}  | Christina A. Cobbold³  | David A. Ewing⁴  |
Bethan V. Purse¹  | Amanda Callaghan²  | Steven M. White¹ 

MODEL FOR AEADES ALBOPICTUS

Developed a stage-phenotypically structured system of delay-differential equations

Adult population structured by infection status and wing-length

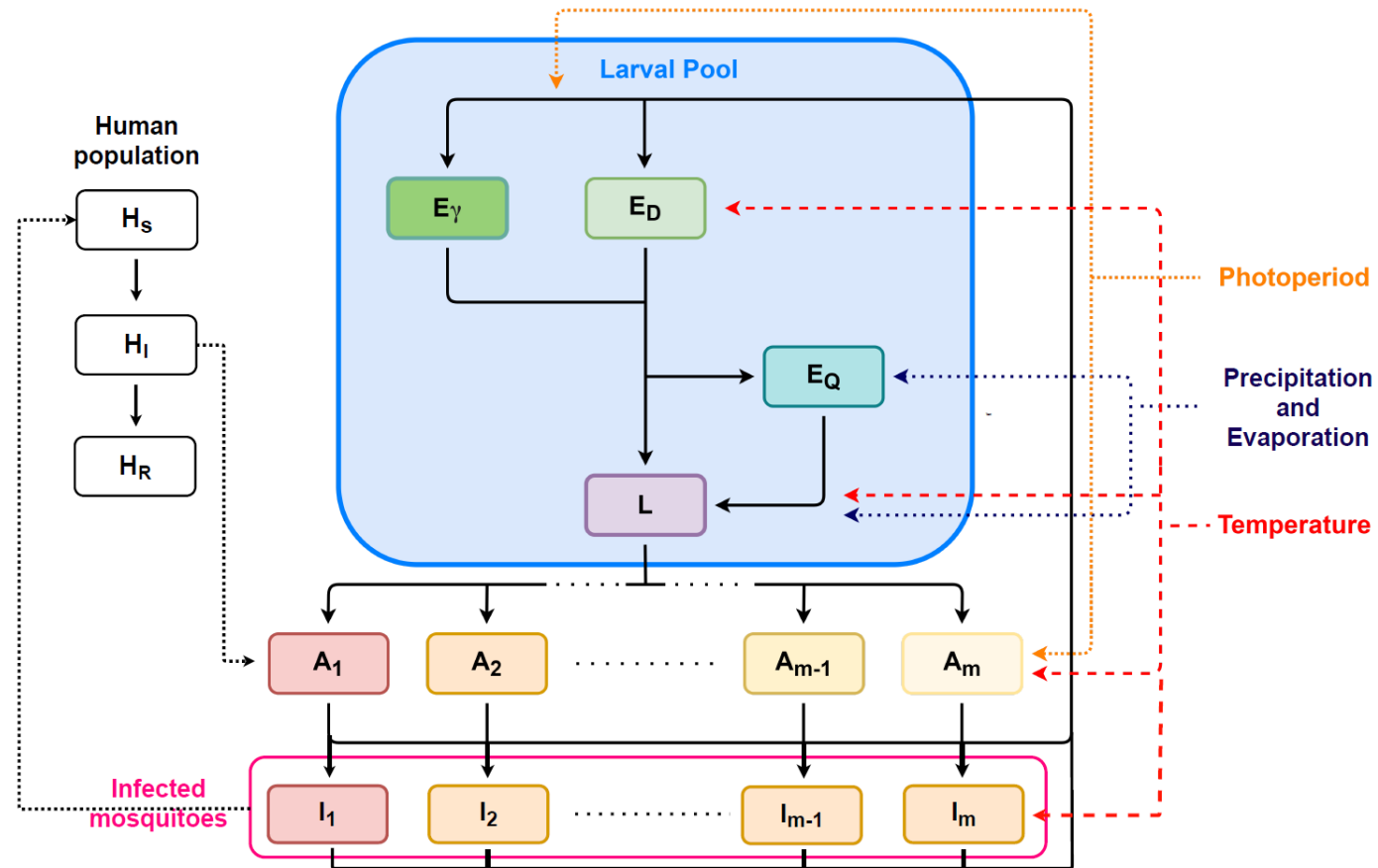


MODEL FOR AEADES ALBOPICTUS

Developed a stage-phenotypically structured system of delay-differential equations

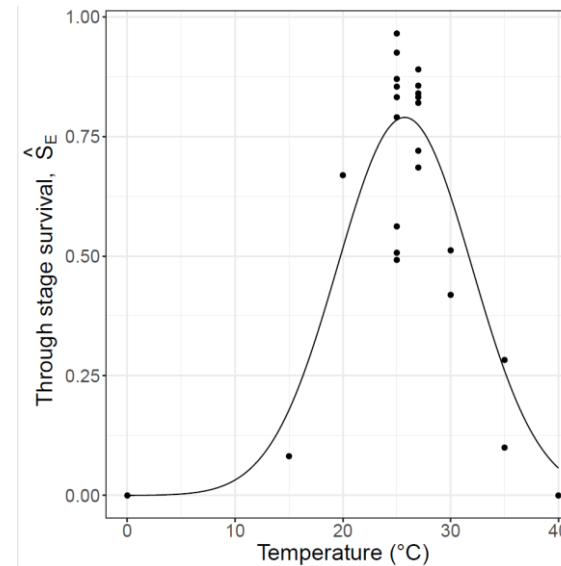
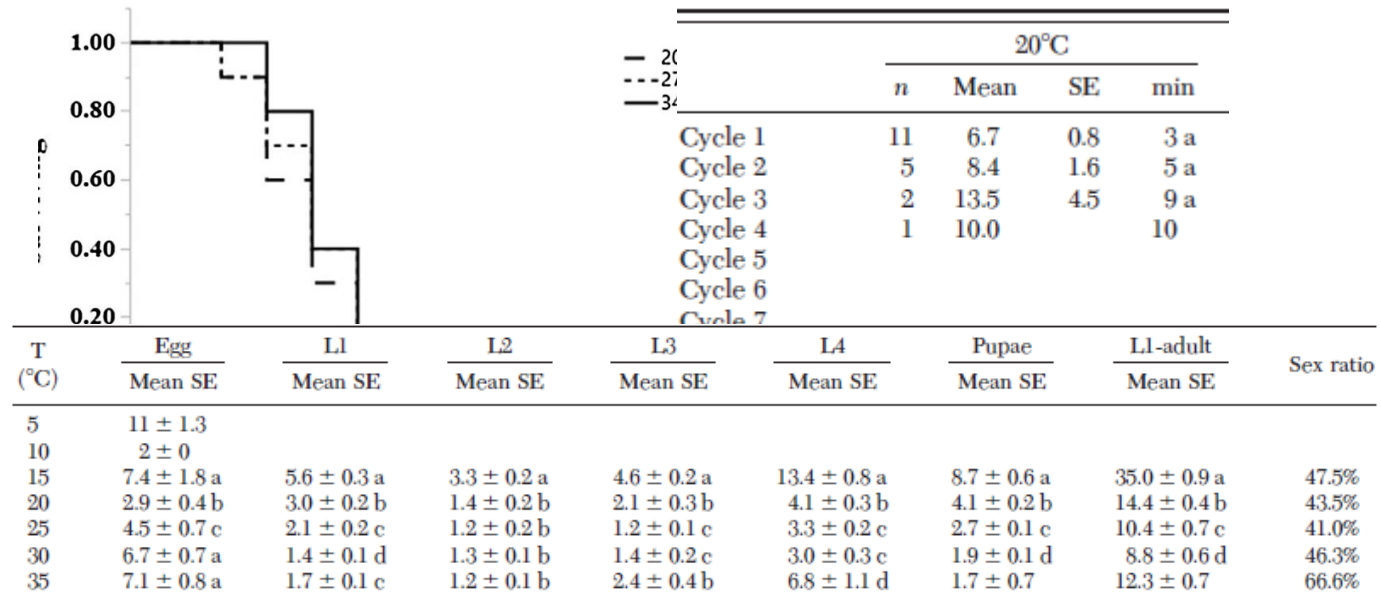
Adult population structured by infection status and wing-length

Use historic experience of larval competition to determine the wing-length of emerging adults



REACTION NORMS

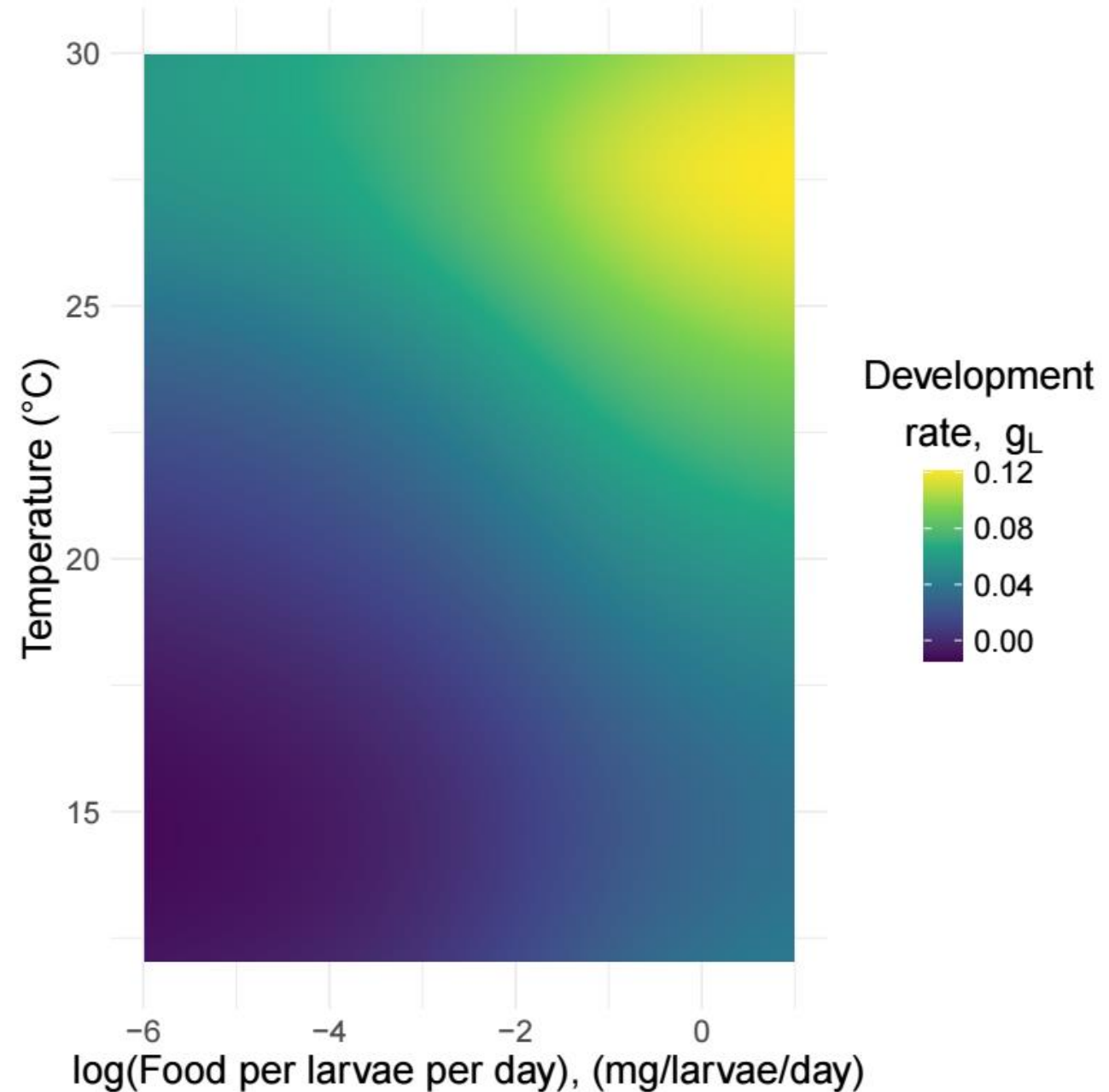
Parametrise reaction norms linking environmental drivers to trait value using laboratory data



REACTION NORMS

Parametrise reaction norms linking environmental drivers to trait value using laboratory data

Density and temperature dependent variable time delays

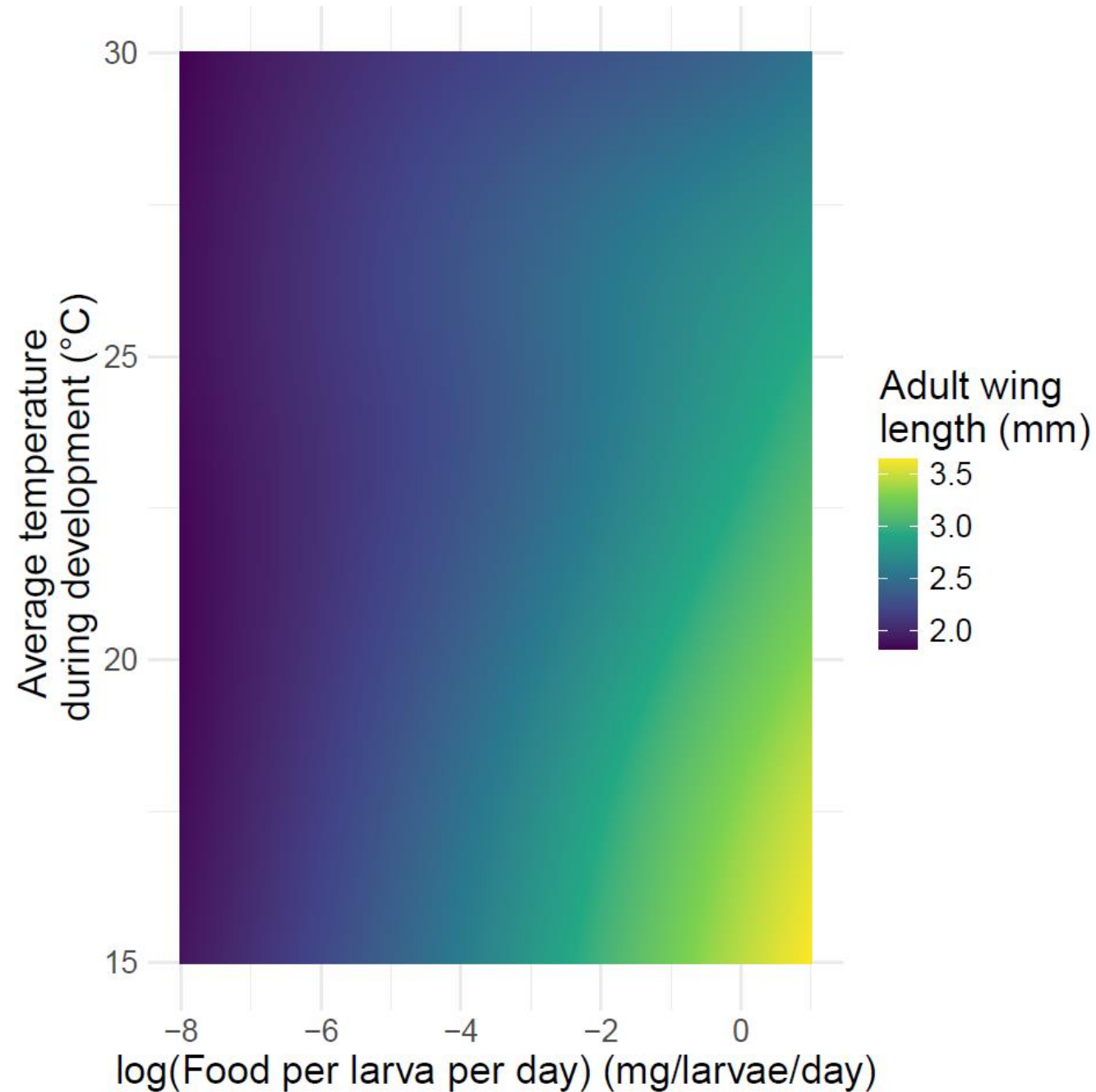


REACTION NORMS

Parametrise reaction norms linking environmental drivers to trait value using laboratory data

Density and temperature dependent variable time delays

Relationship between average larval temperature and average food per larvae per day and adult wing length

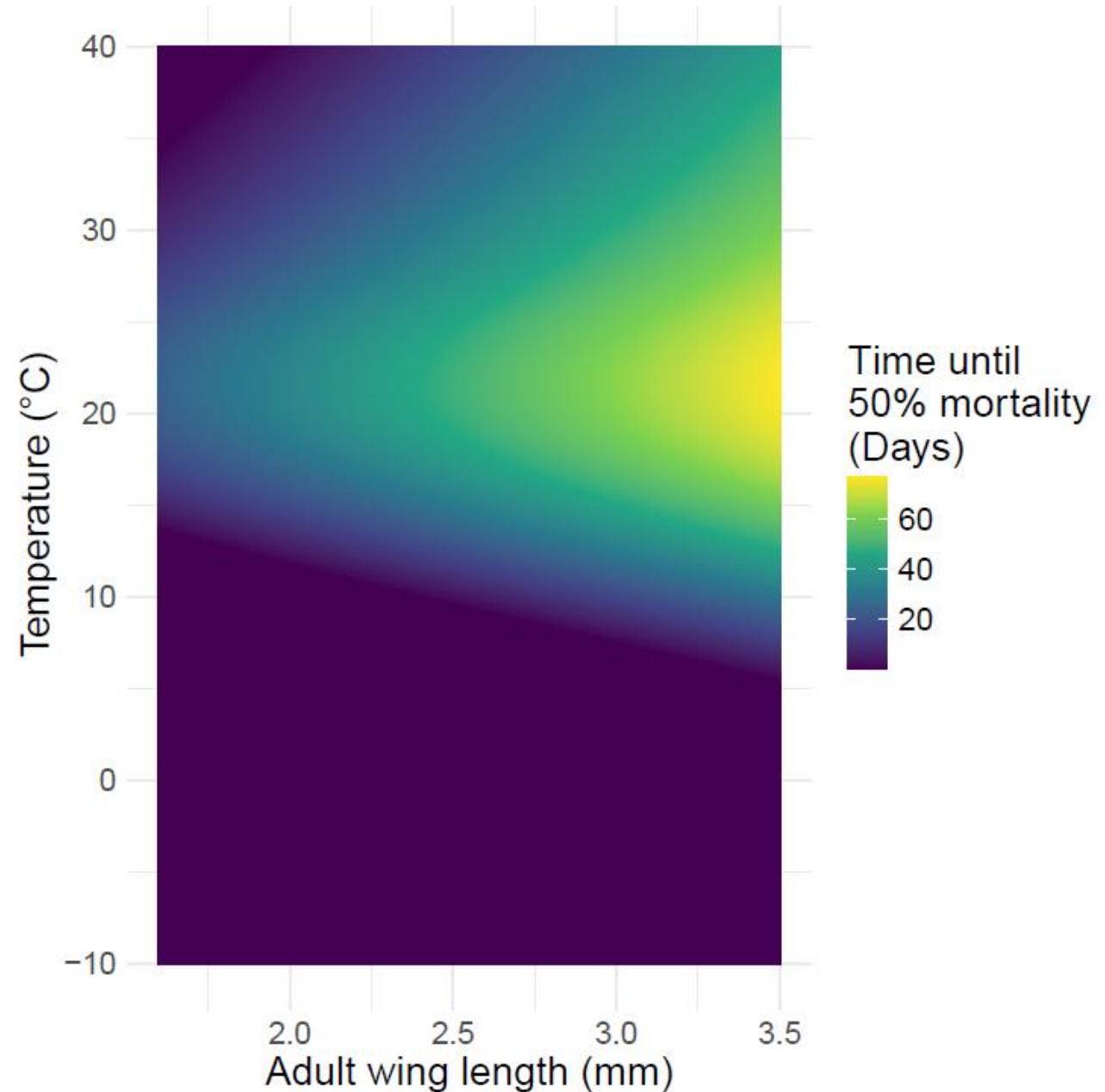


REACTION NORMS

Parametrise reaction norms linking environmental drivers to trait value using laboratory data

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Relationship between average larval temperature and average food per larvae per day and adult wing length



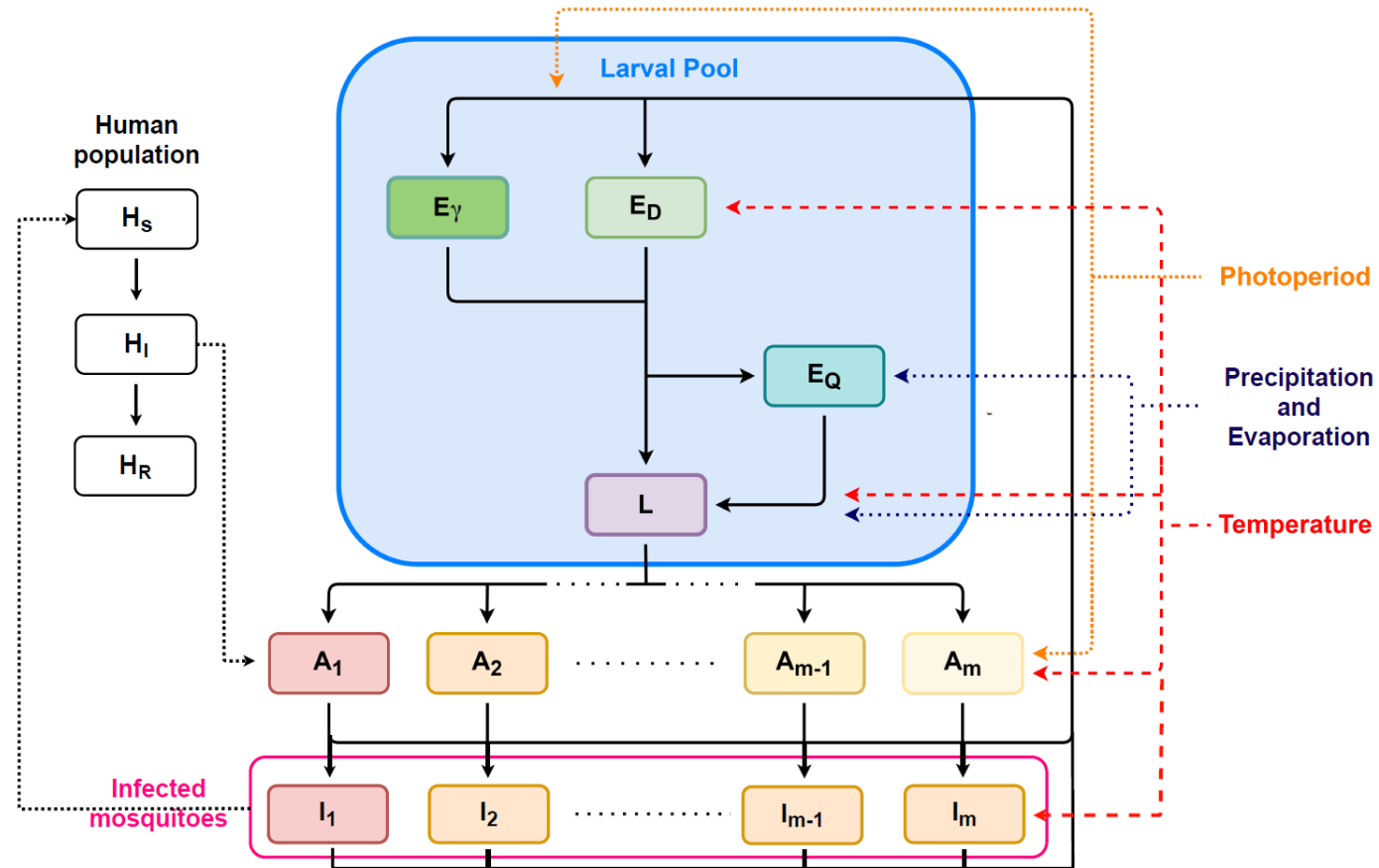
MODEL FOR AEADES ALBOPICTUS

Stage-phenotypically structured delay-differential equations

Input environmental variables

Output population & disease dynamics

No backfitting





MODEL VALIDATION & RESULTS

CARRIERI ET AL. (2011)

Rimini, Italy



CARRIERI ET AL. (2011)

Rimini, Italy

Temperate climate



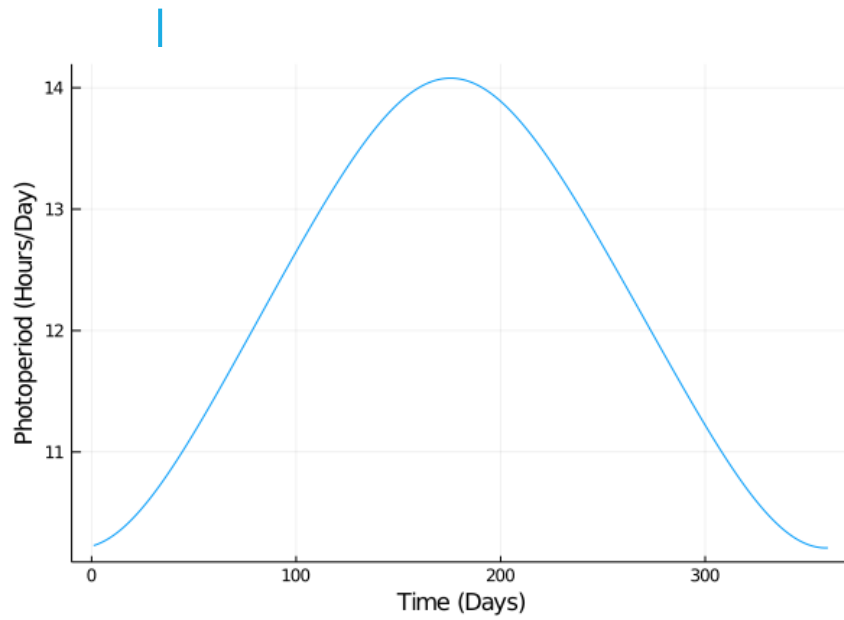
CARRIERI ET AL. (2011)

Rimini, Italy

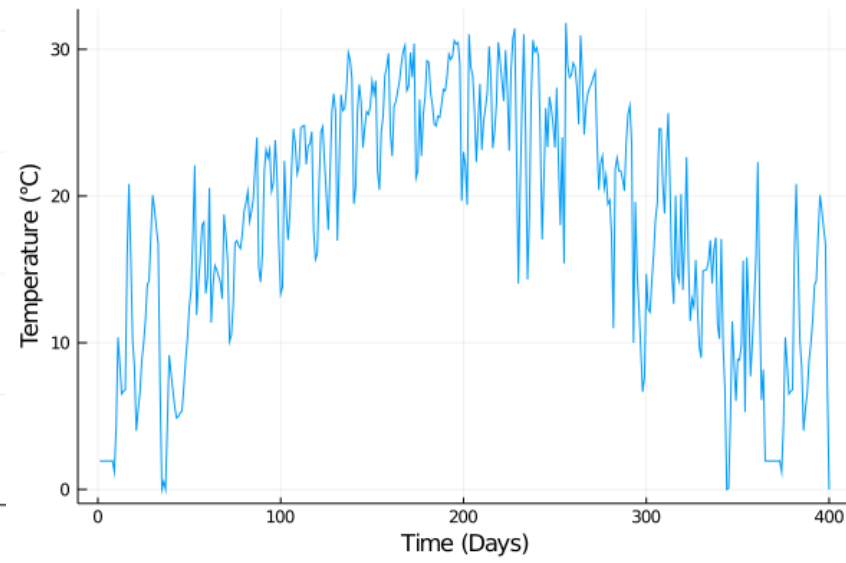
Temperate climate

Oviposition activity monitored
in 2008

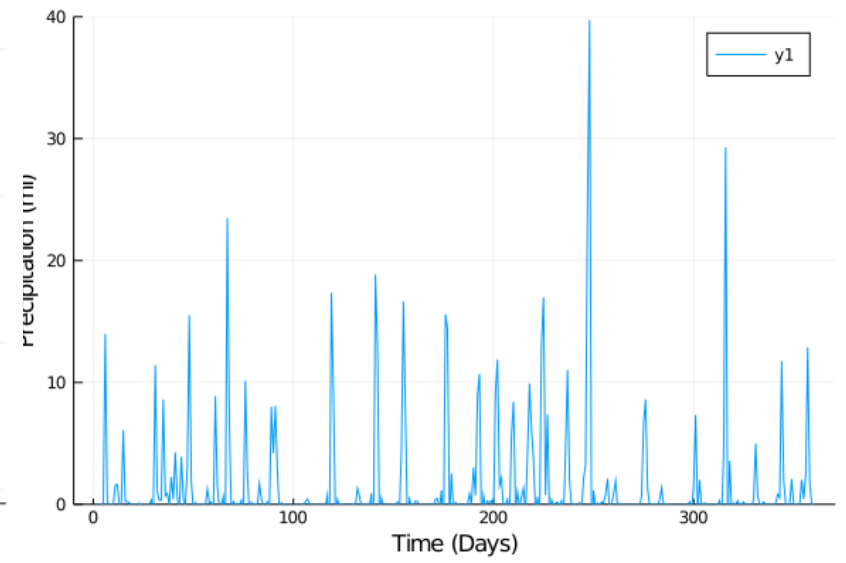




Photoperiod



Temperature



Precipitation

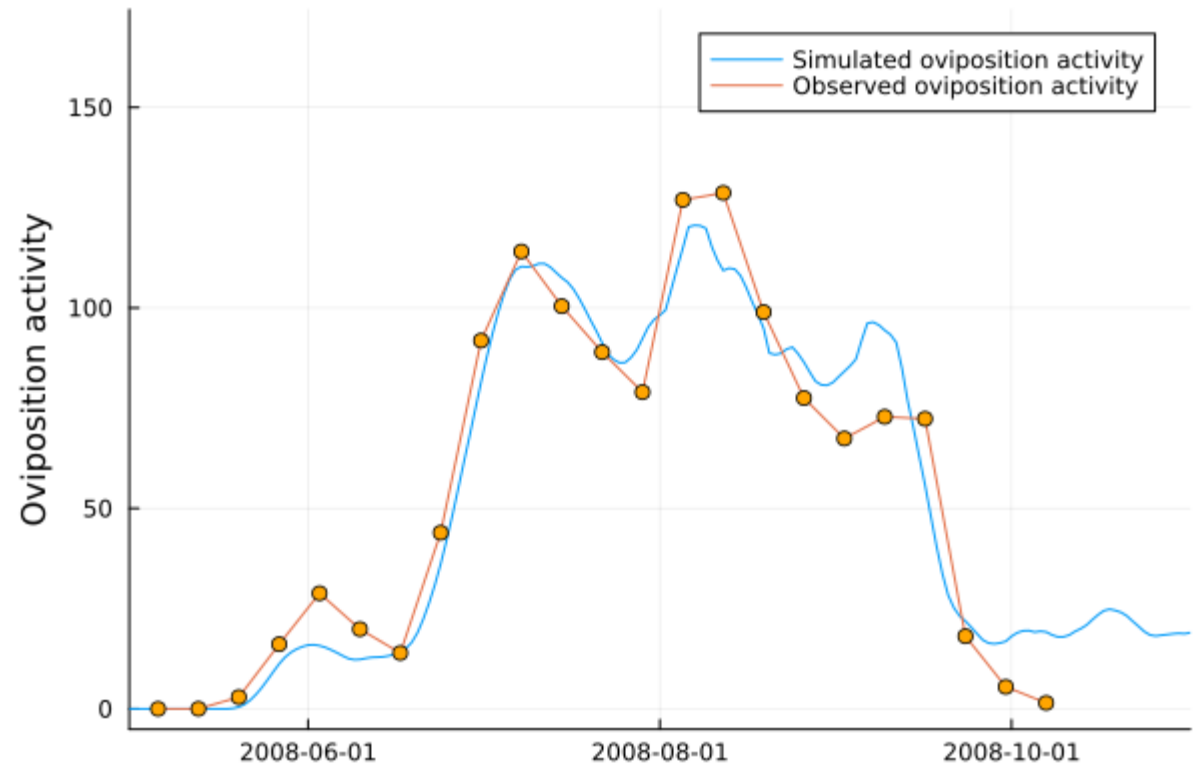
ENVIRONMENTAL CUES

CARRIERI ET AL. (2011)

Rimini, Italy

Temperate climate

Oviposition activity monitored
in 2008

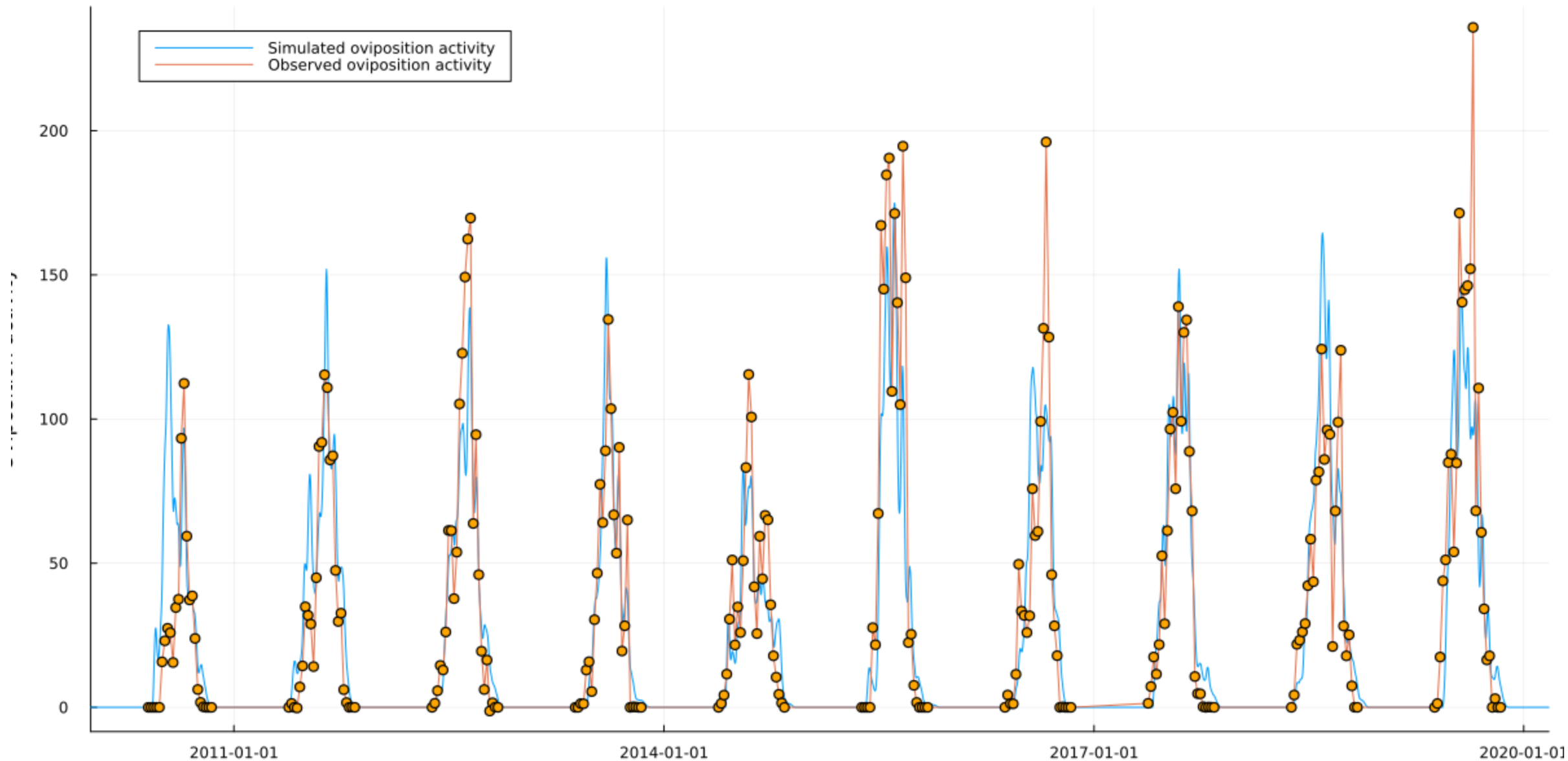


Carrieri, M., Angelini, P., Venturelli, C., Maccagnani, B. & Bellini, R. *Aedes albopictus* (Diptera: Culicidae) Population size survey in the 2007 Chikungunya outbreak area in Italy. II: Estimating epidemic thresholds. *Journal of Medical Entomology* (2012).

TRENTO, ITALY

Oviposition activity monitored
over 10 years



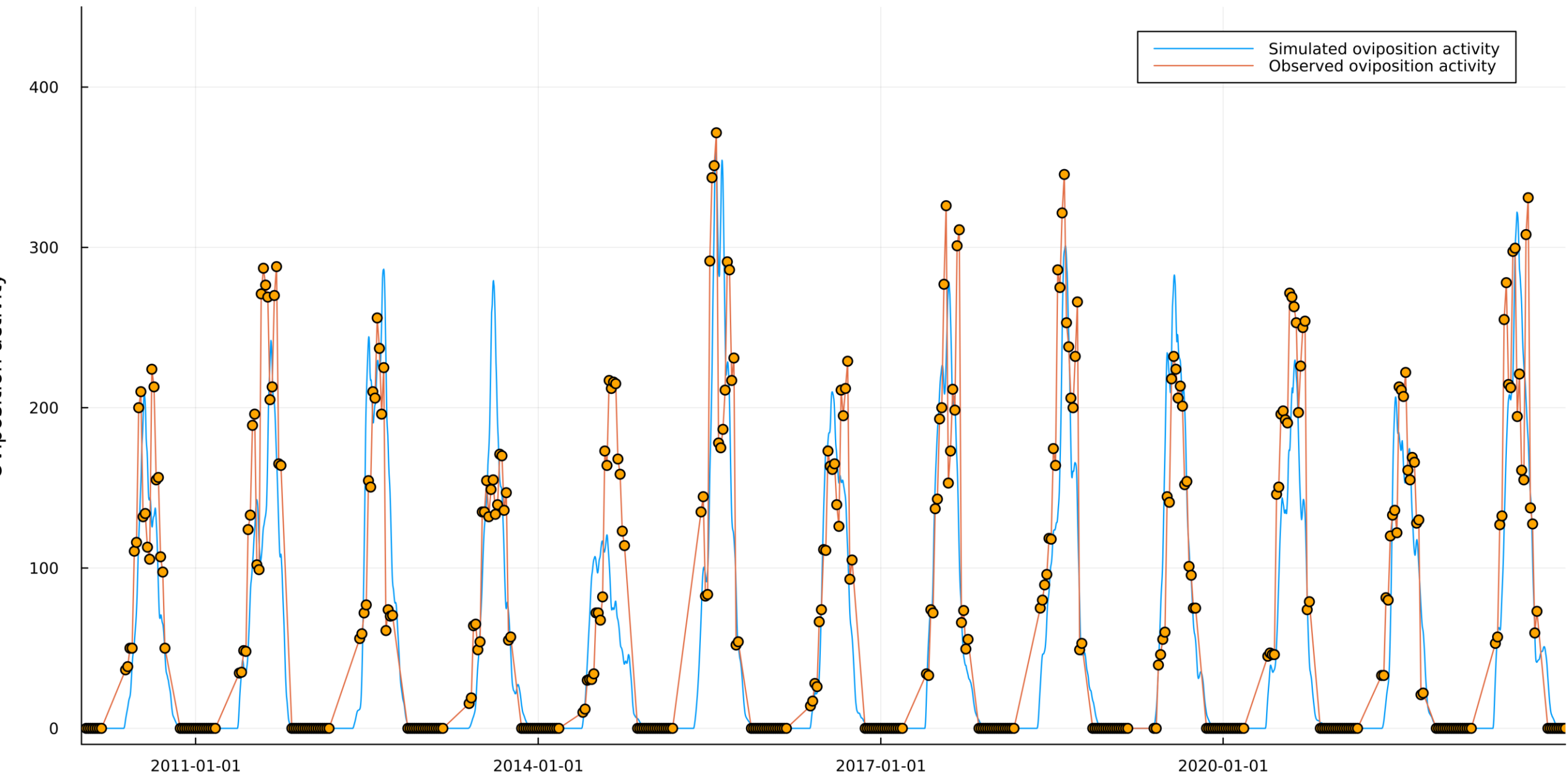


Lencioni, V. *et al.* Multi-year dynamics of the *Aedes albopictus* occurrence in two neighbouring cities in the alps. *The European Zoological Journal* **90**, 101–112 (2023).

BOLOGNA, ITALY

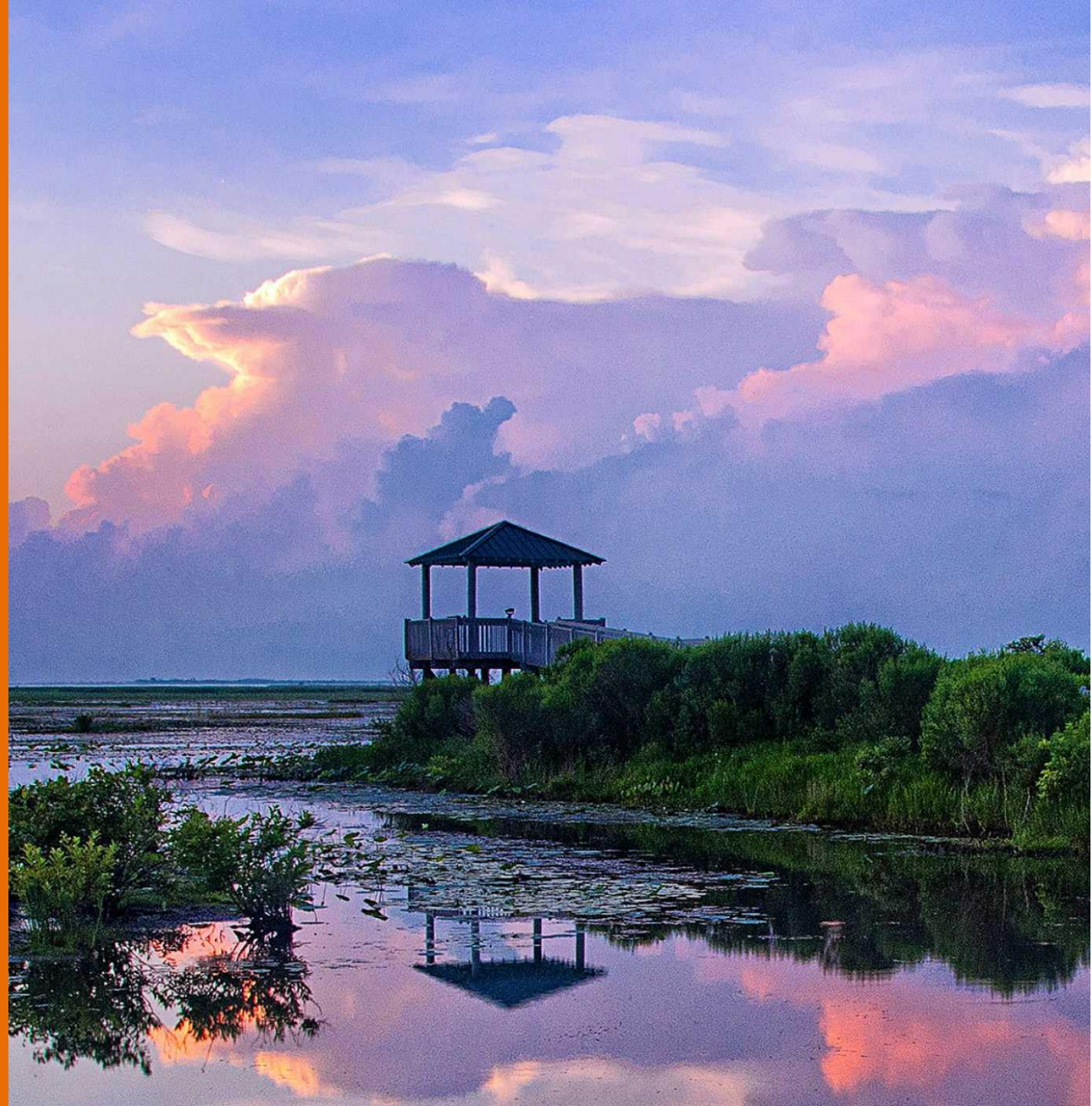
Oviposition activity monitored
over 10 years (taken from
VectAbundance)





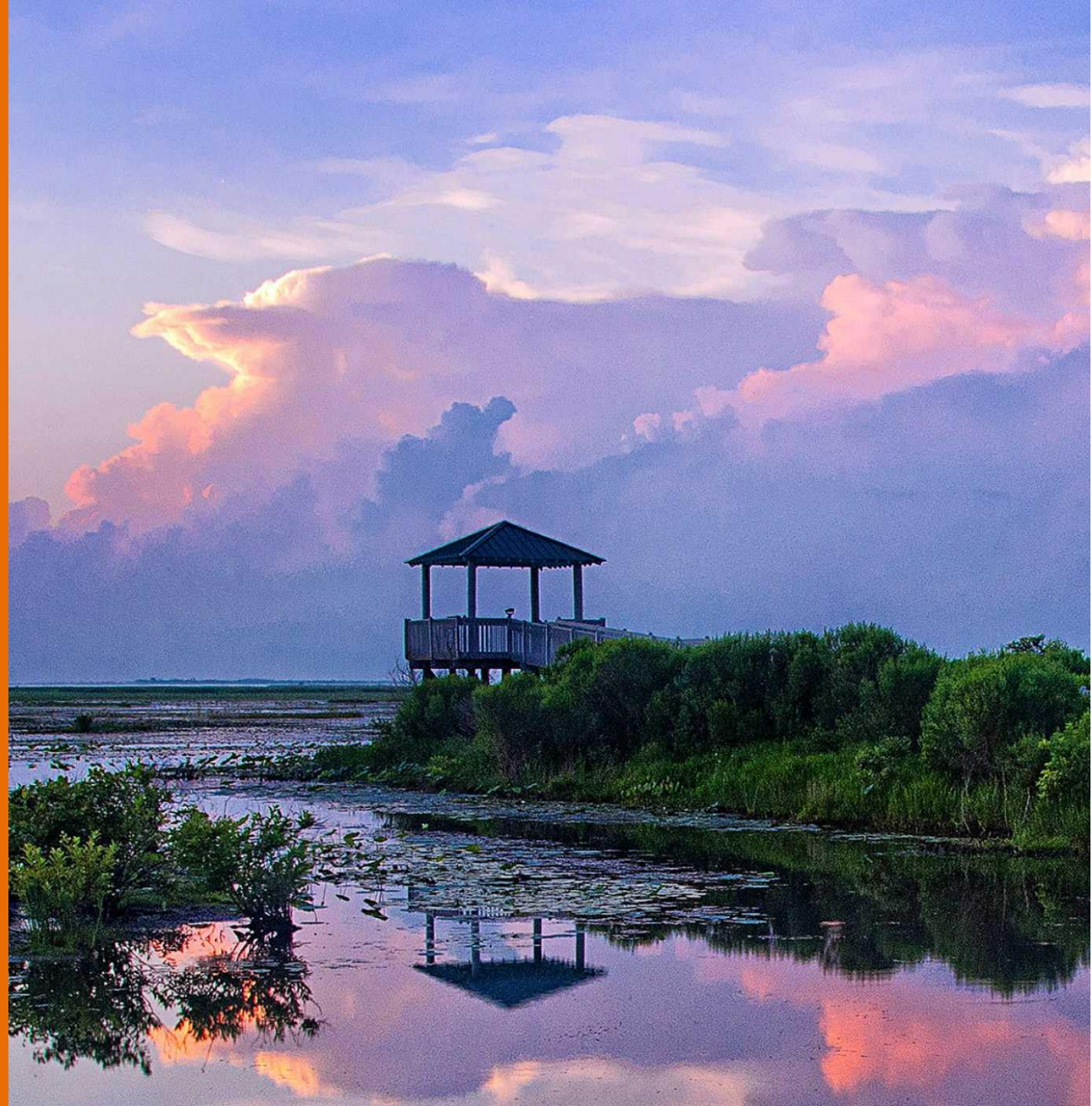
WILLIS AND NASCI (1994)

Lake Charles, Louisiana



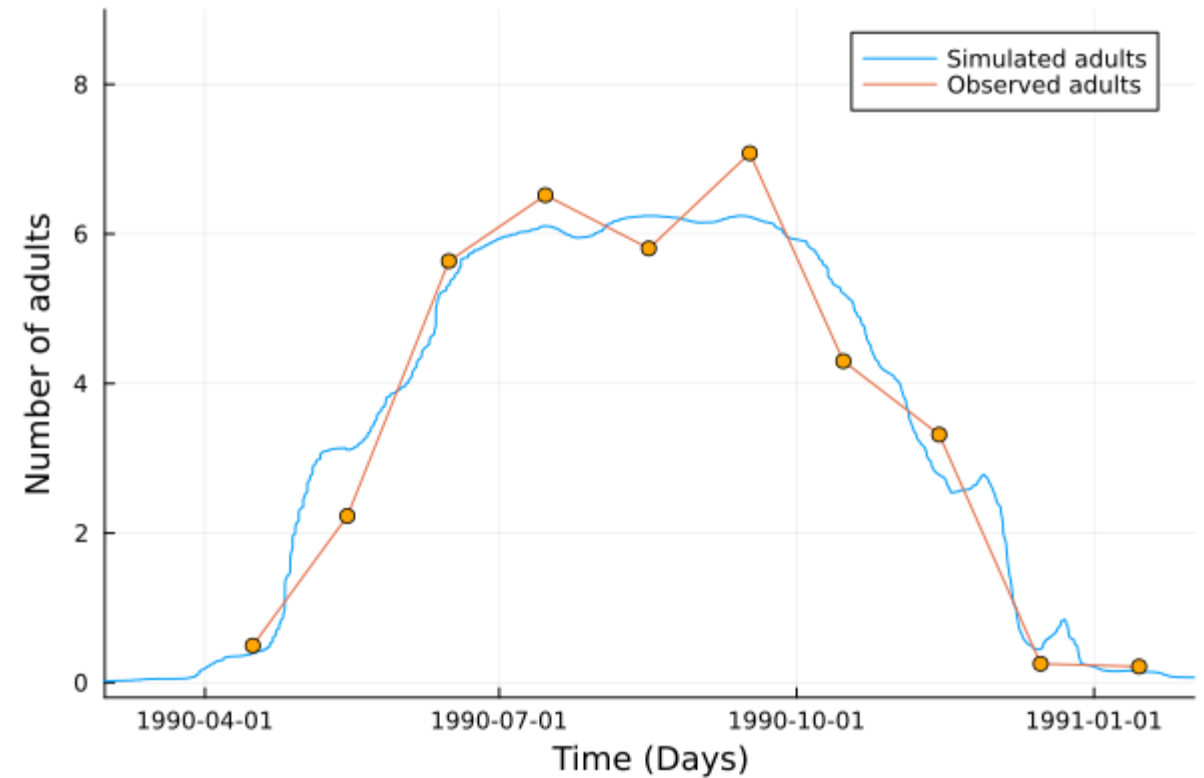
WILLIS AND NASCI (1994)

Lake Charles, Louisiana
Subtropical climate



WILLIS AND NASCI (1994)

Lake Charles, Louisiana
Subtropical climate
Adults trapped



Willis, F. S. & Nasci, R. S. *Aedes albopictus* (Diptera: Culicidae) population density and structure in southwest Louisiana. *Journal of Medical Entomology* **31**, 594–599 (1994).

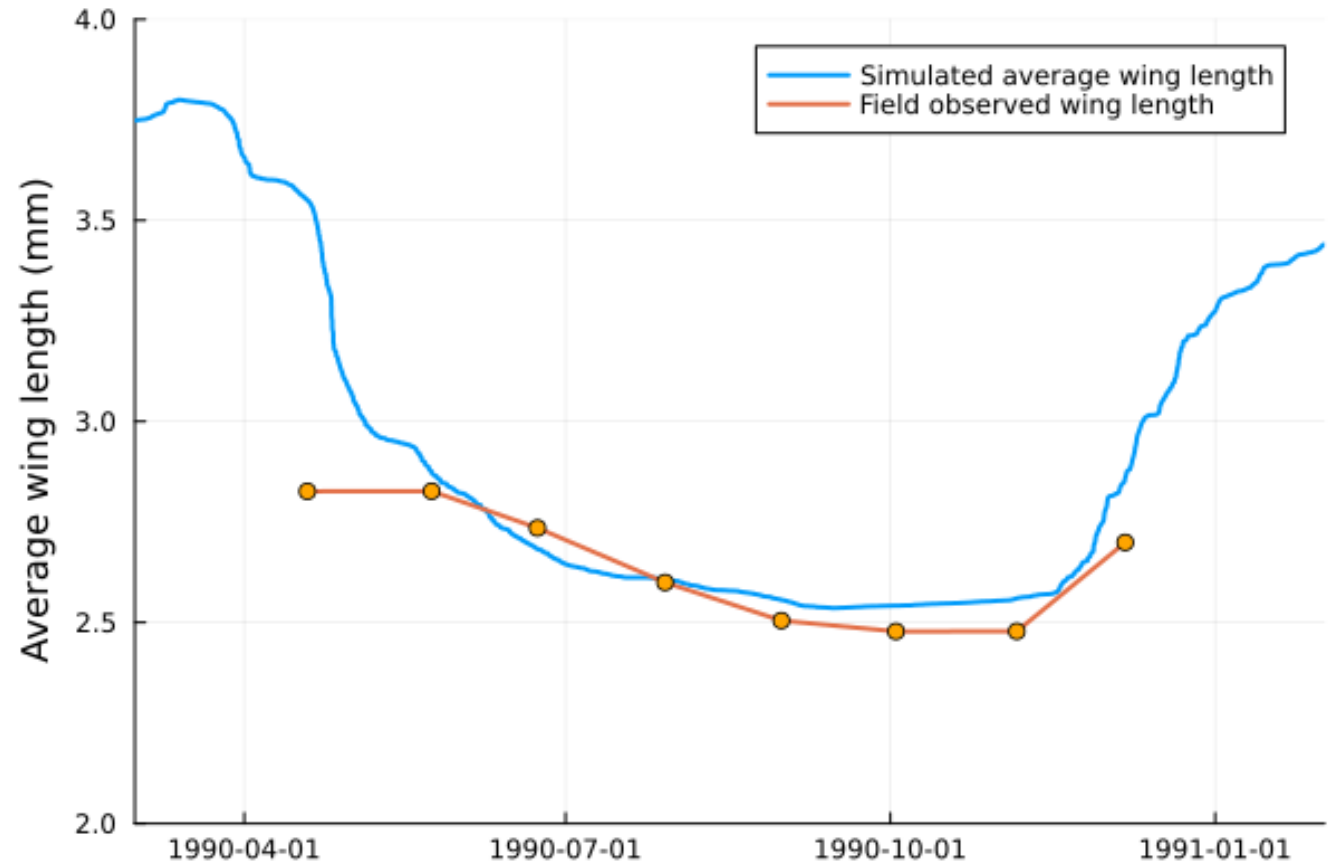
WILLIS AND NASCI (1994)

Lake Charles, Louisiana

Subtropical climate

Adults trapped

Average wing-length of
adults measured



Willis, F. S. & Nasci, R. S. *Aedes albopictus* (Diptera: Culicidae) population density and structure in southwest Louisiana. *Journal of Medical Entomology* **31**, 594–599 (1994).

GOUGNA ET AL. (2020)

Saint Paul, Reunion

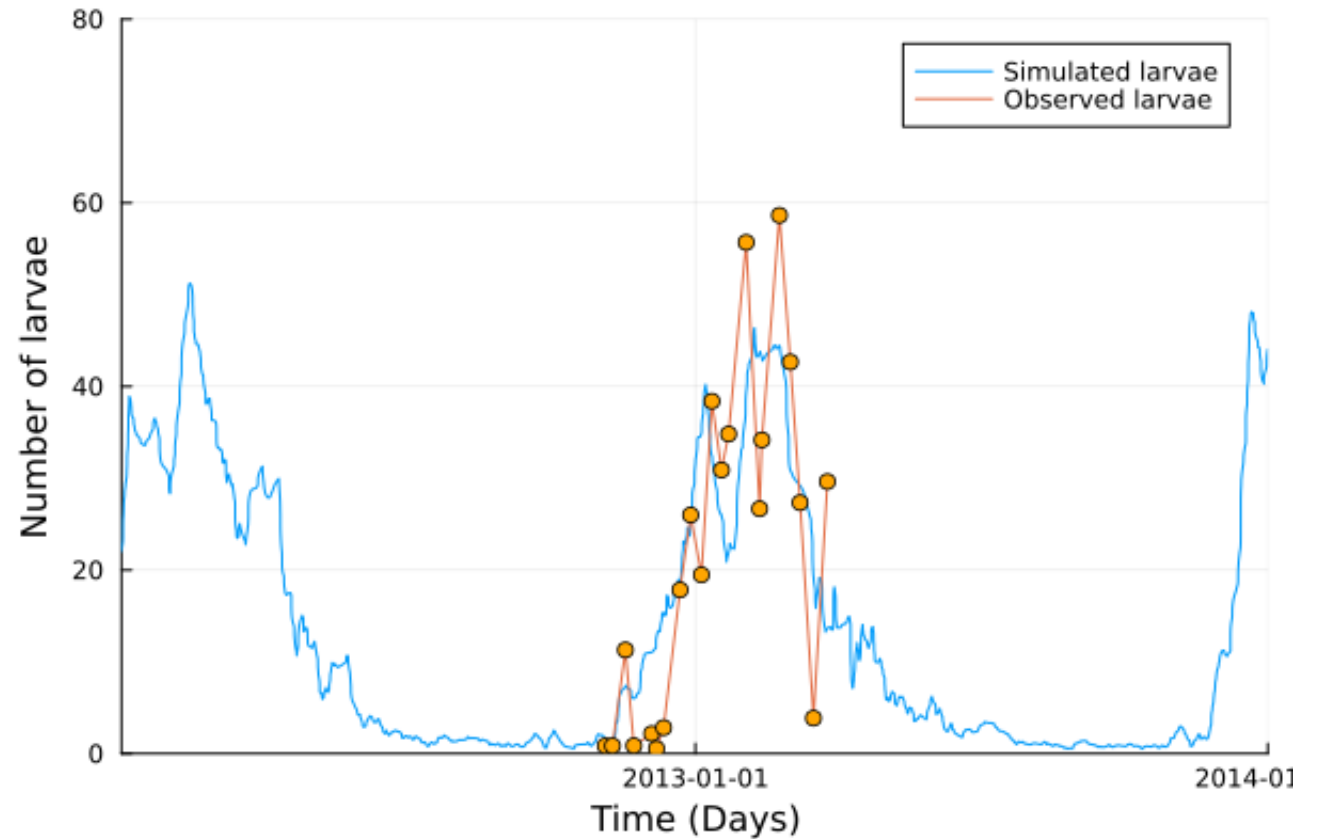
Tropical climate

Larvae sampled

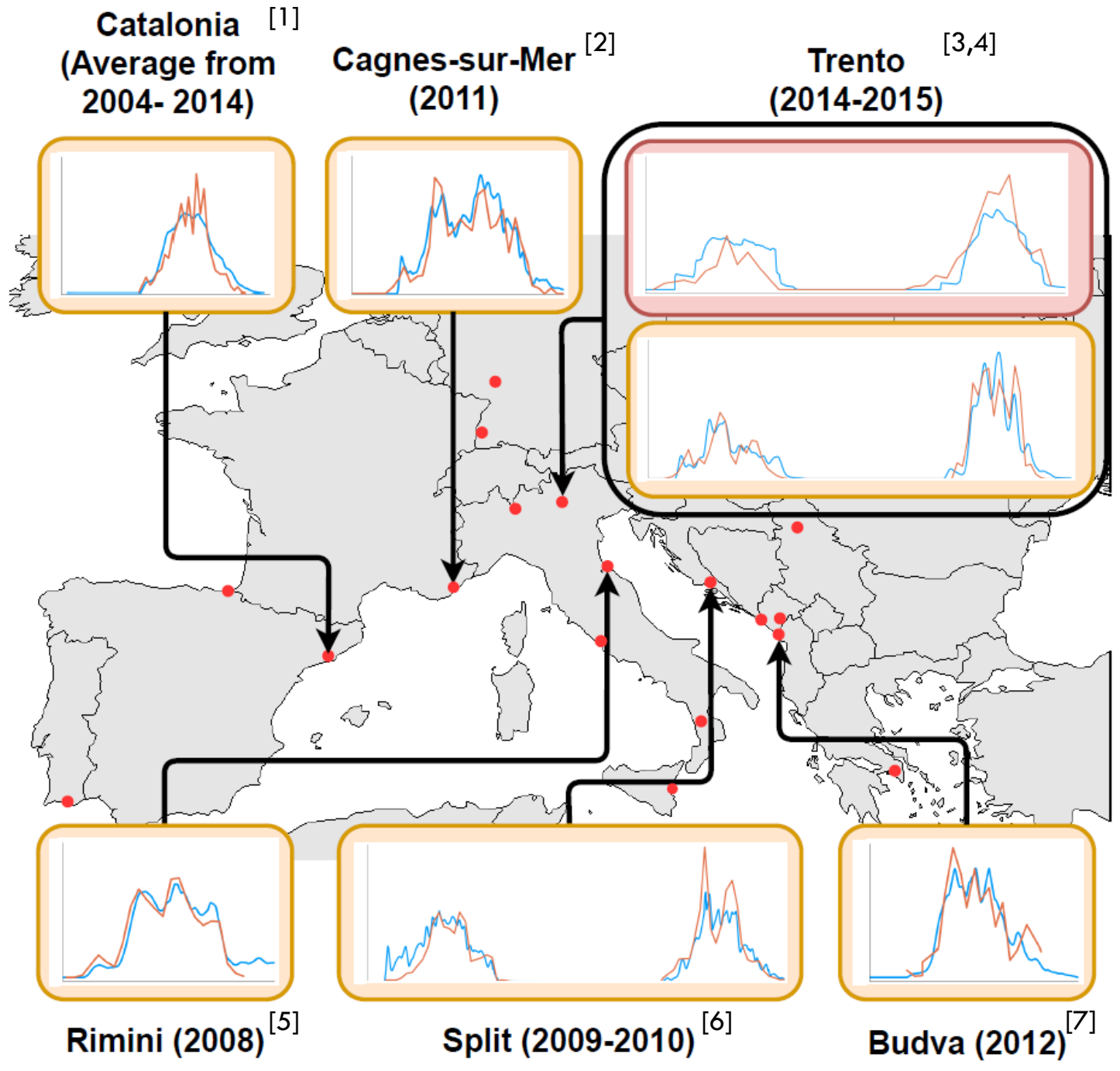
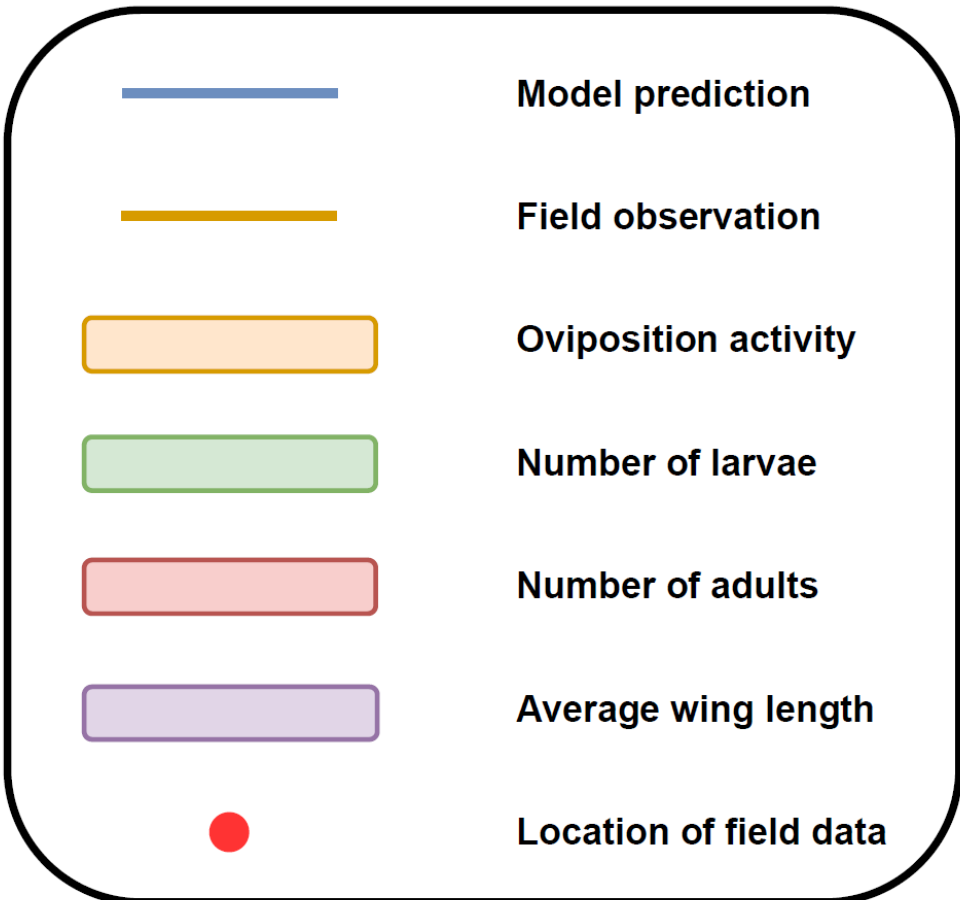


GOUGNA ET AL. (2020)

Saint Paul, Reunion
Tropical climate
Larvae sampled



Gouagna, L. C. *et al.* Strategic approach, advances, and challenges in the development and application of the SIT for area-wide control of *Aedes albopictus* mosquitoes in Reunion island. *Insects* **11**, 1–24 (2020).



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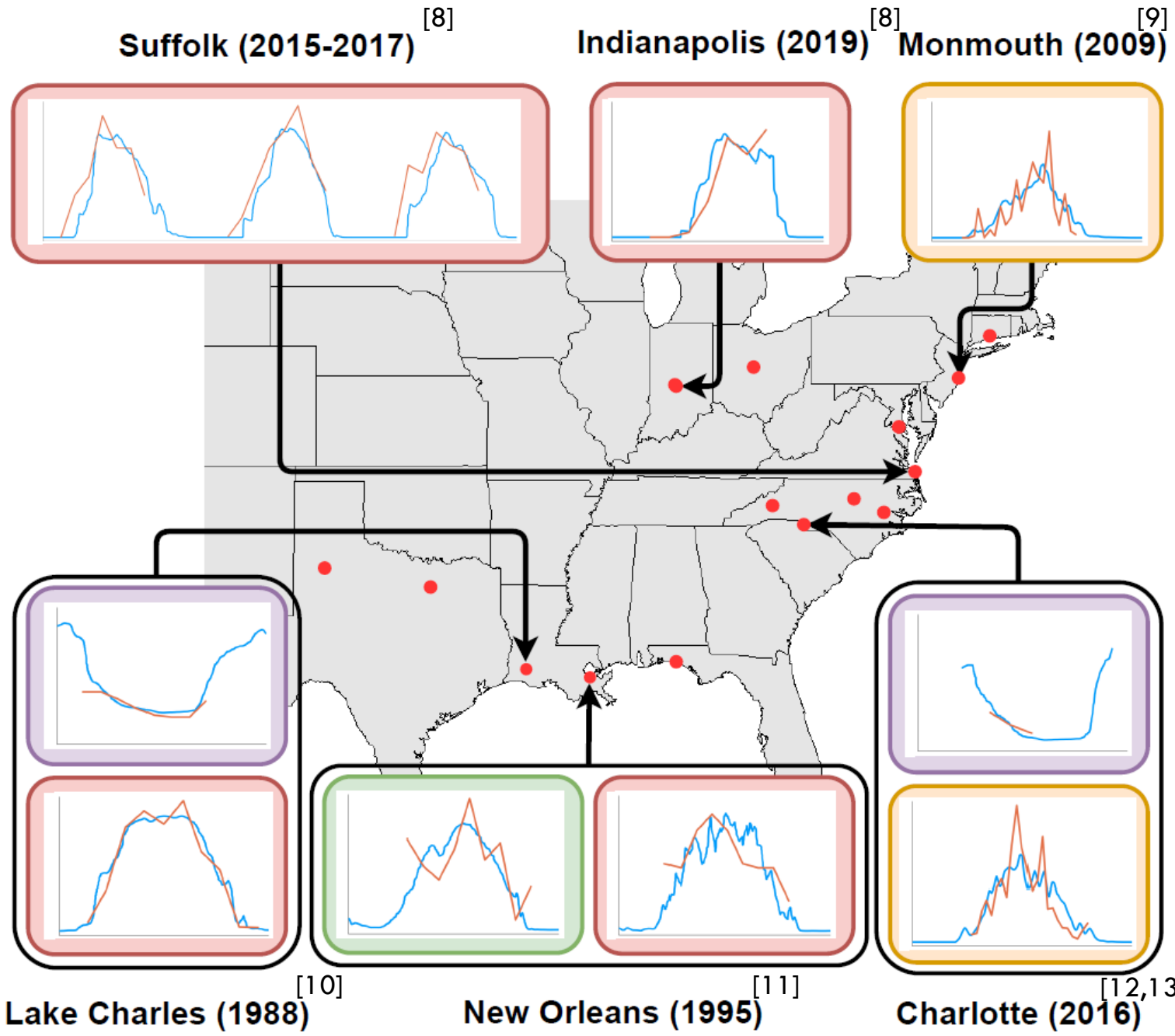
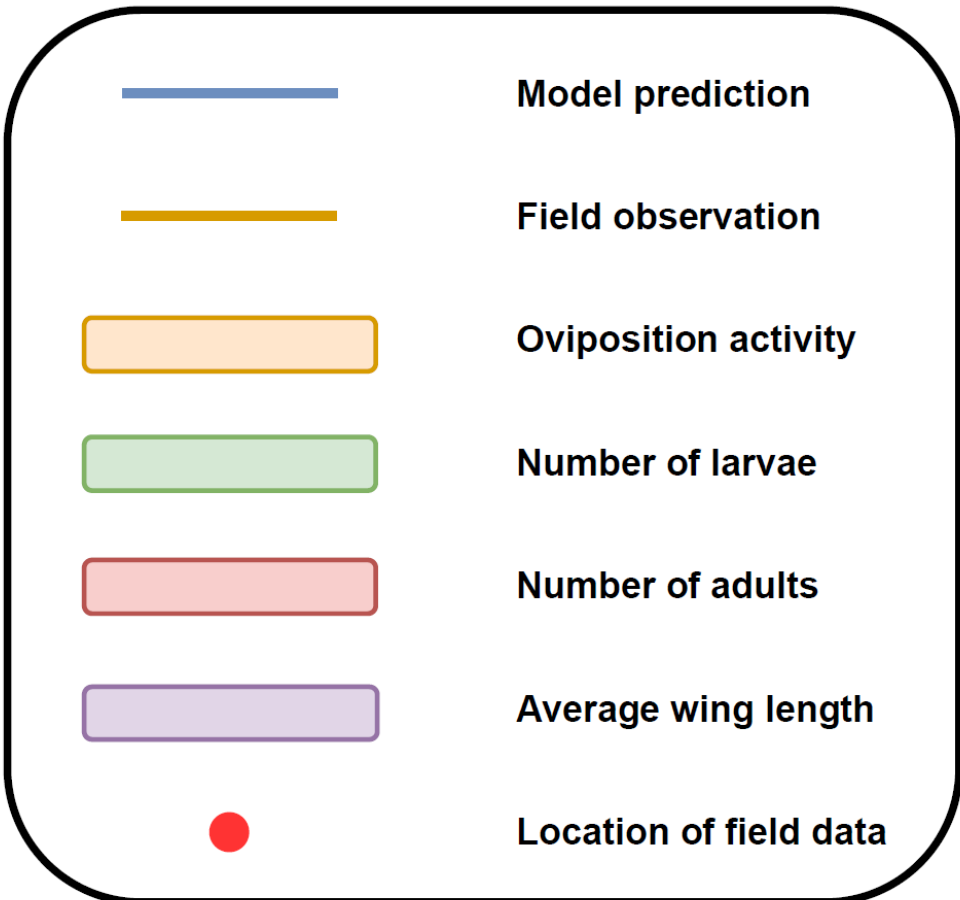
[3] Lencioni, V. *et al.* Multi-year dynamics of the *Aedes albopictus* occurrence in two neighbouring cities in the alps. *The European Zoological Journal* **90**, 101–112 (2023).

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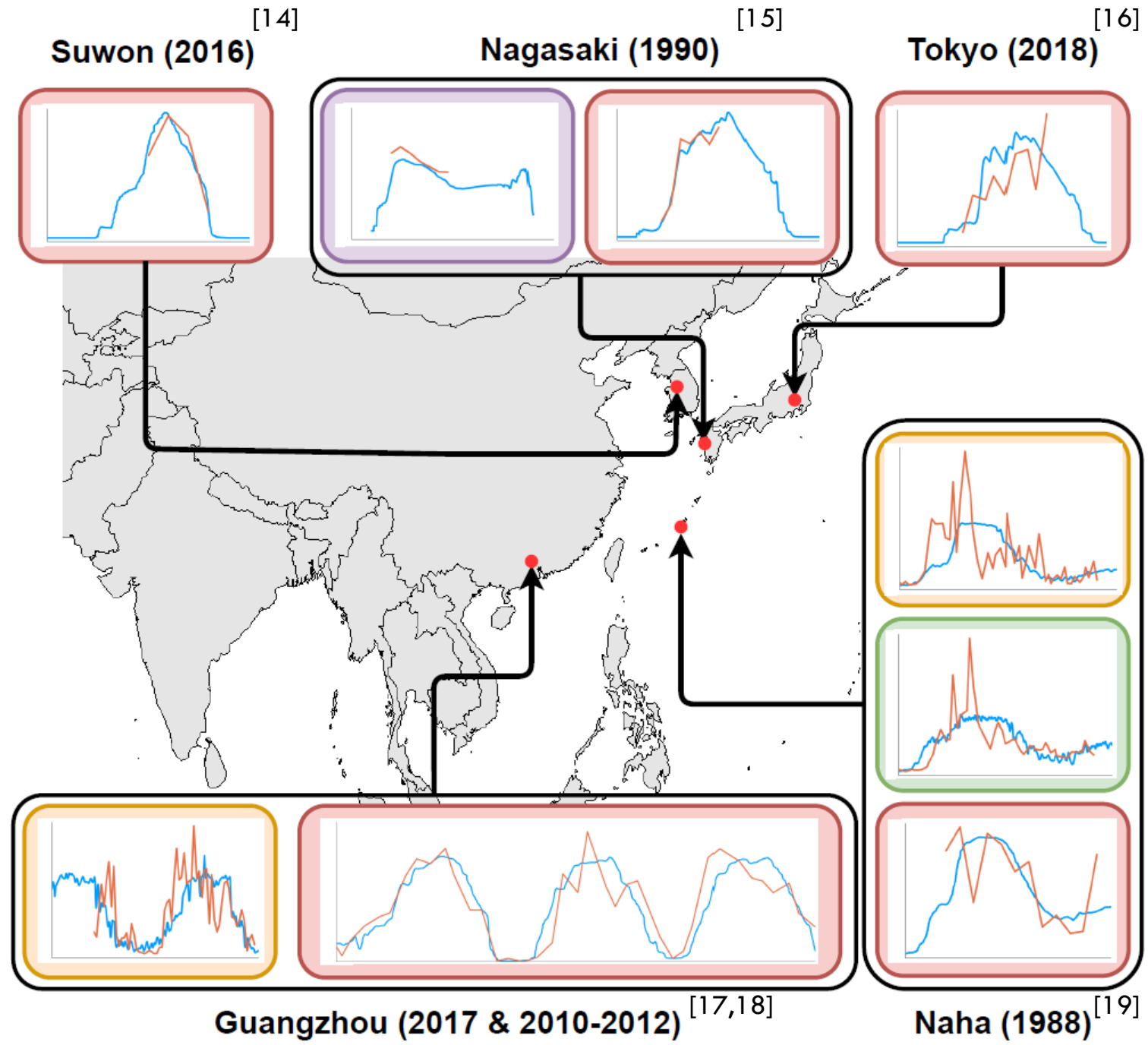
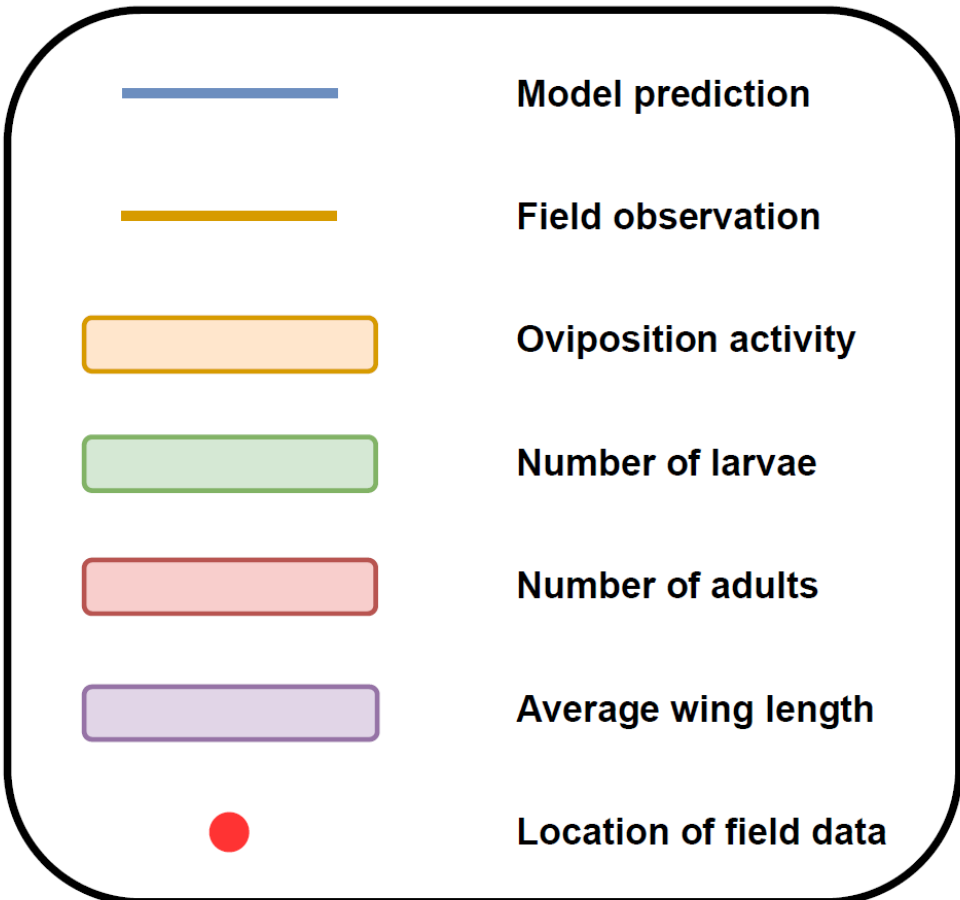
[9] Fonseca, D. M. *et al.* Area-wide management of *Aedes albopictus*. Part 2: Gauging the efficacy of traditional integrated pest control measures against urban container mosquitoes. *Pest Management Science* **69**, 1351–1361 (2013).

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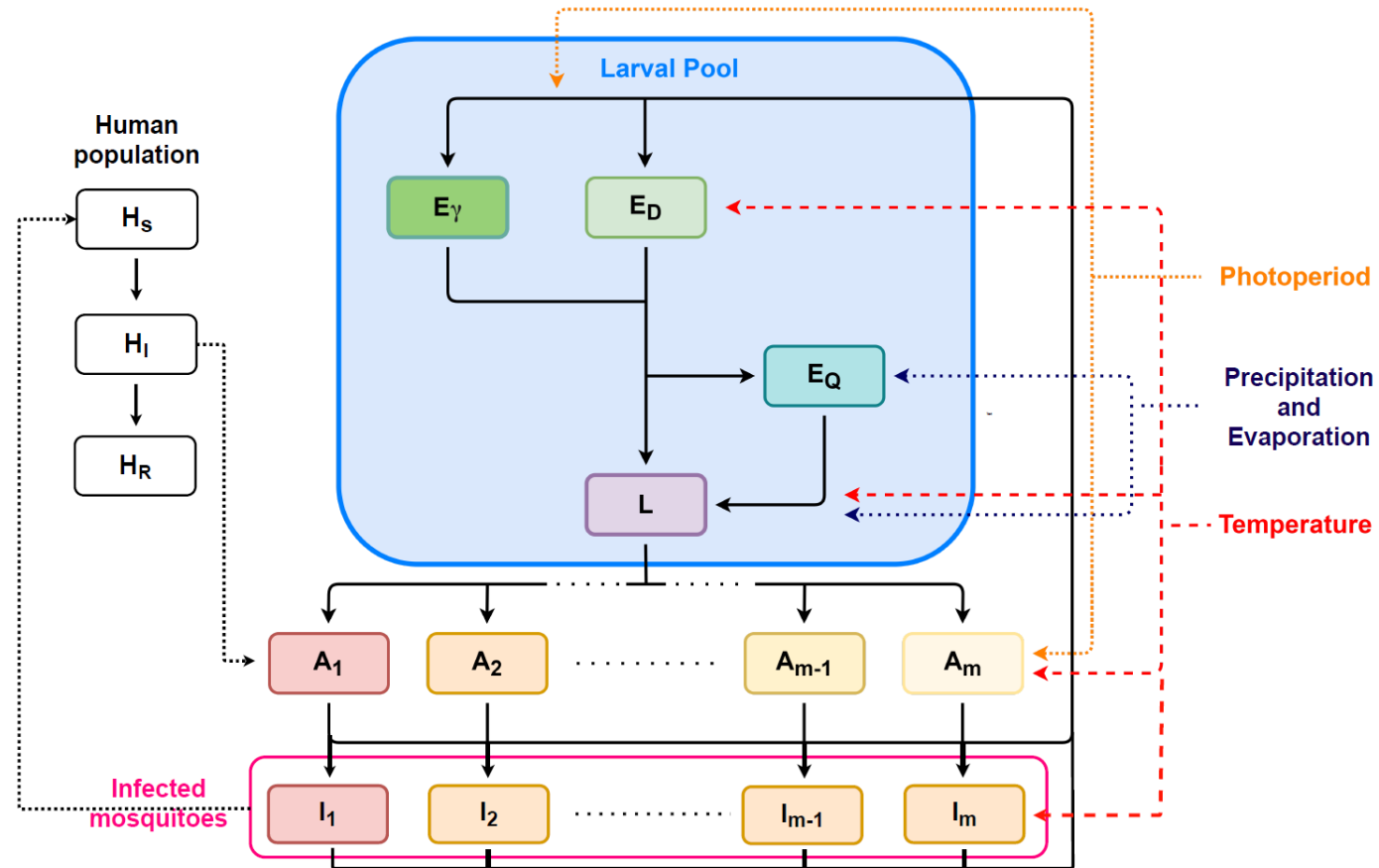
[13] Mundis, S. J. *et al.* Examining wing length–abundance relationships and pyrethroid resistance mutations among *Aedes albopictus* in a rapidly growing urban area with implications for mosquito surveillance and control. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health* **18** (2021).



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- [18] Xu, L. *et al.* Climate variation drives dengue dynamics. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America* **114**, 113–118 (2017).
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SEIR MODEL

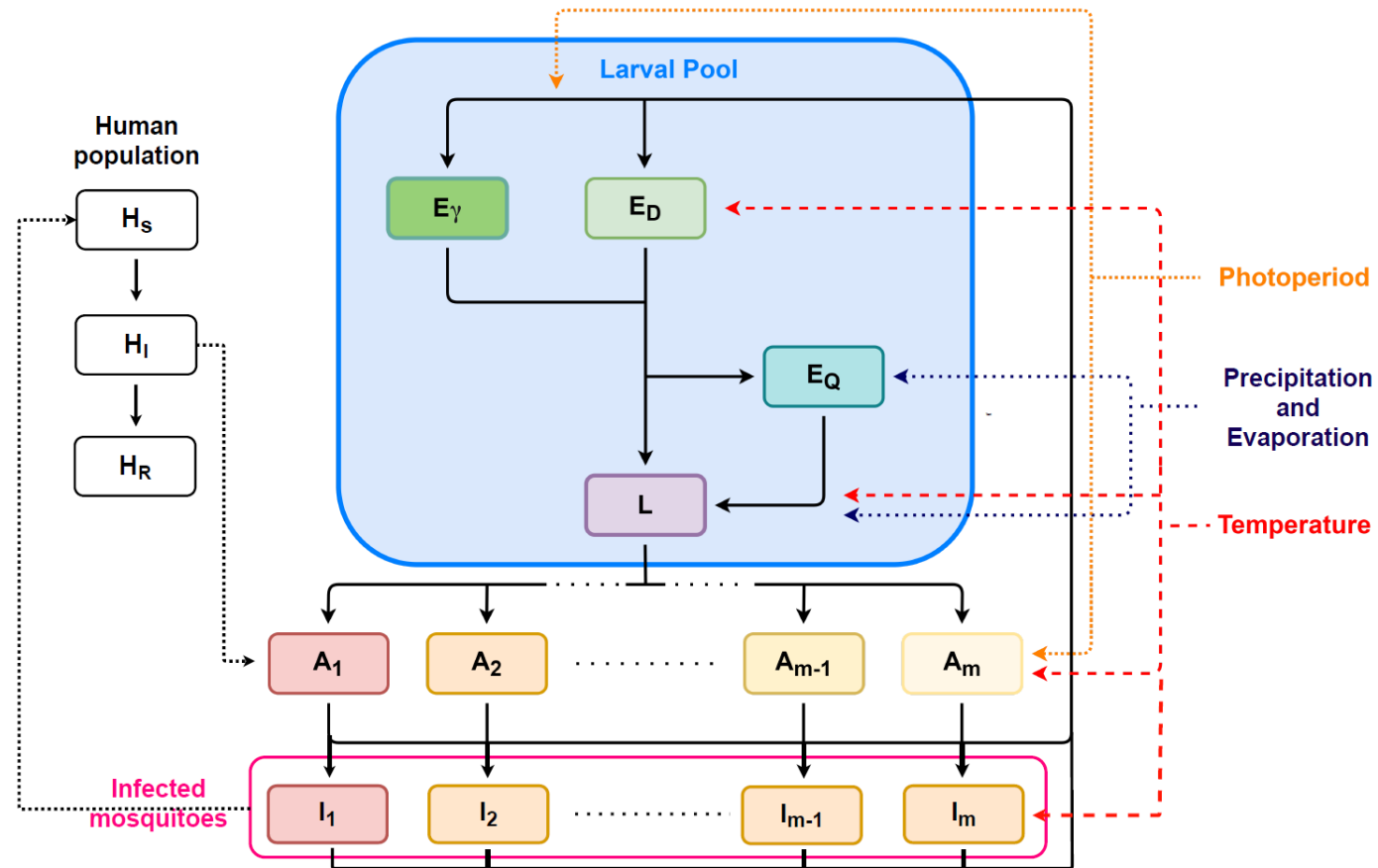
Validate disease dynamics by comparing predictions to historic dengue outbreaks



SEIR MODEL

Validate disease dynamics by comparing predictions to historic dengue outbreaks

We select plausible introduction scenarios for dengue cases based on case reports

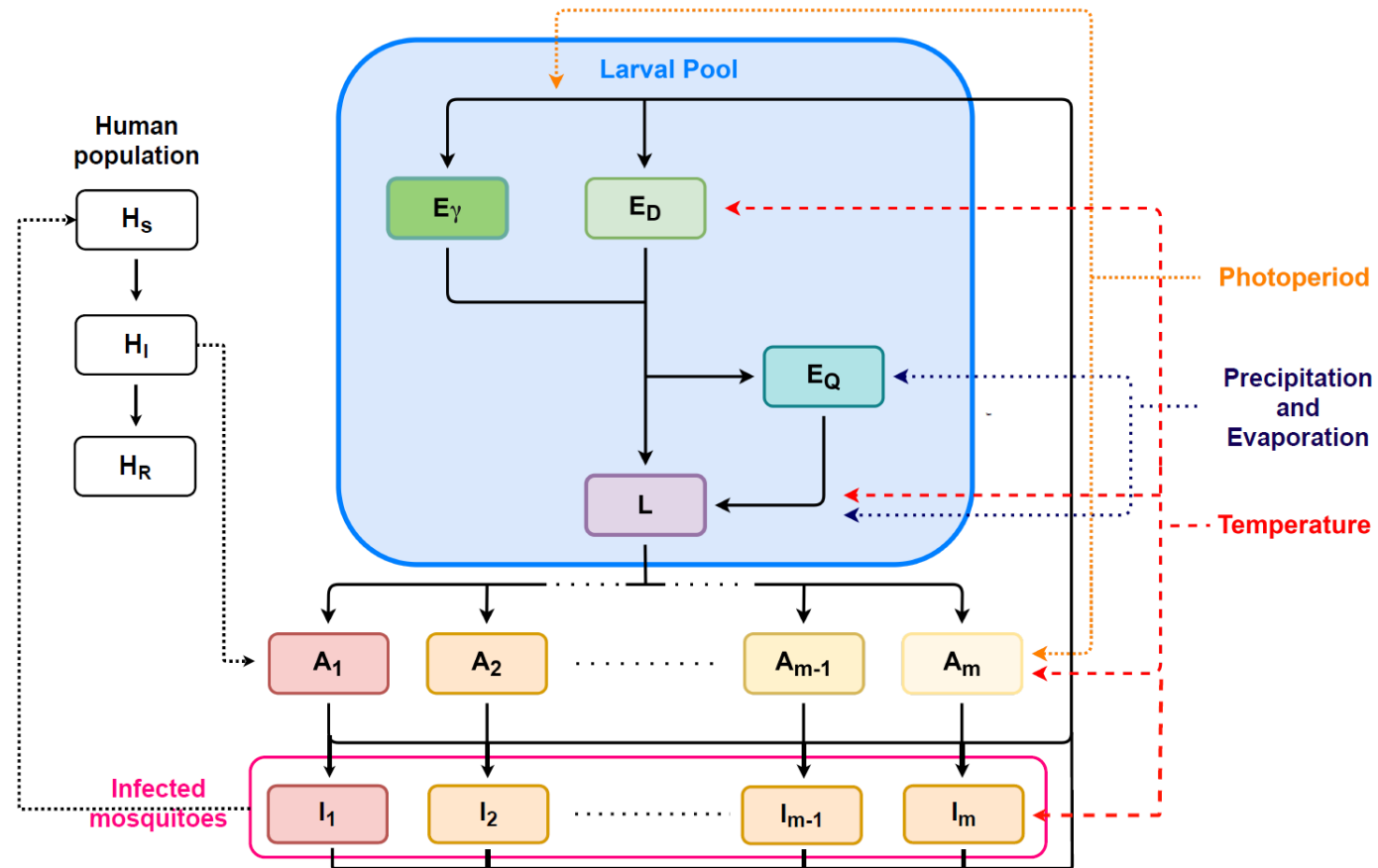


SEIR MODEL

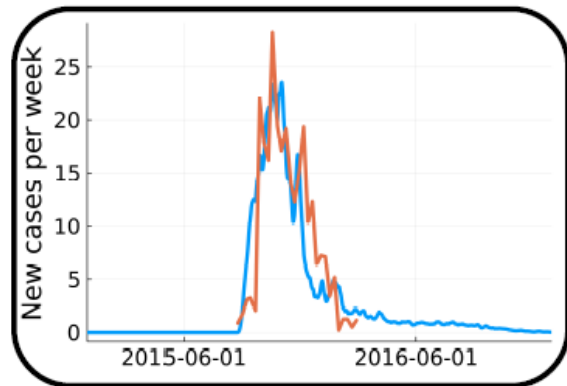
Validate disease dynamics by comparing predictions to historic dengue outbreaks

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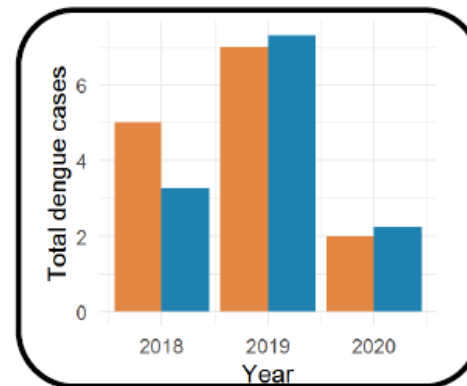
These are often uncertain



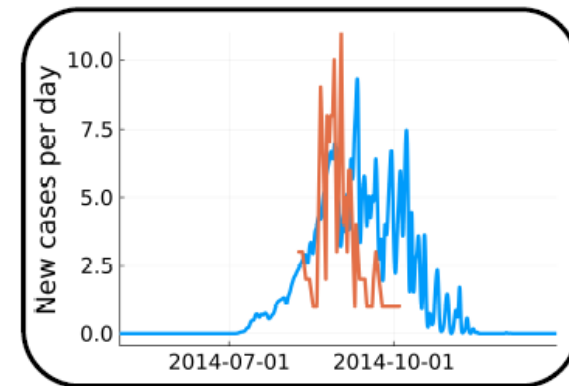
Hawai'i, USA (2015-2016)^[20]



Alpes Maritimes Department, [21]
France (2018-2020)



Tokyo, Japan (2014)^[22]



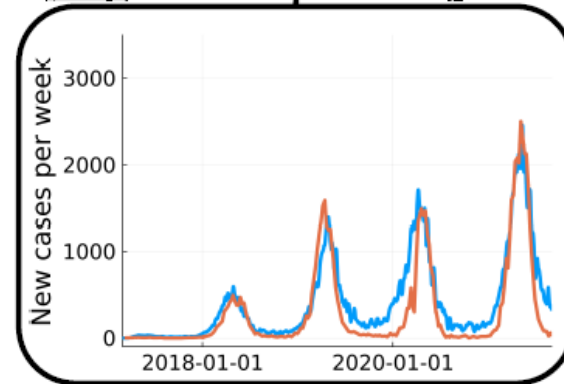
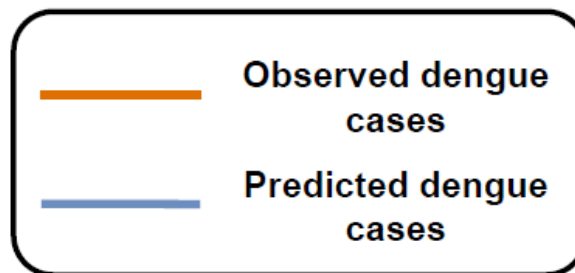
[20] Johnston, D. *et al.* Investigation and response to an outbreak of dengue: Island of hawaii, 2015-2016. *Public Health Reports* **135**, 003335492090406 (2020).

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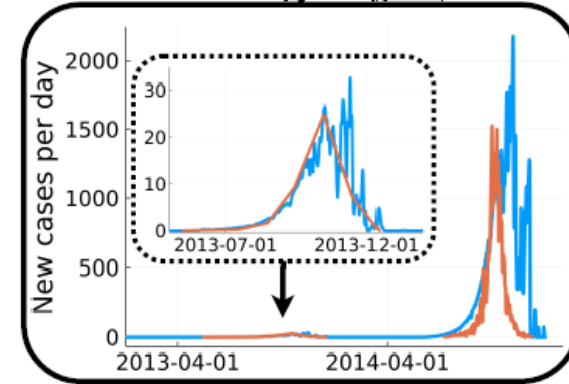
[22] Yuan, B., Lee, H. & Nishiura, H. Assessing dengue control in Tokyo, 2014. *PLoS Neglected Tropical Diseases* **13**, 1–17 (2019).

[23] Vincent, M. *et al.* From dengue outbreaks to endemicity: Reunion island, france, 2018 to 2021. *European Communicable Disease Bulletin* **28** (2023).

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La Réunion, France (2017-2020)^[23]



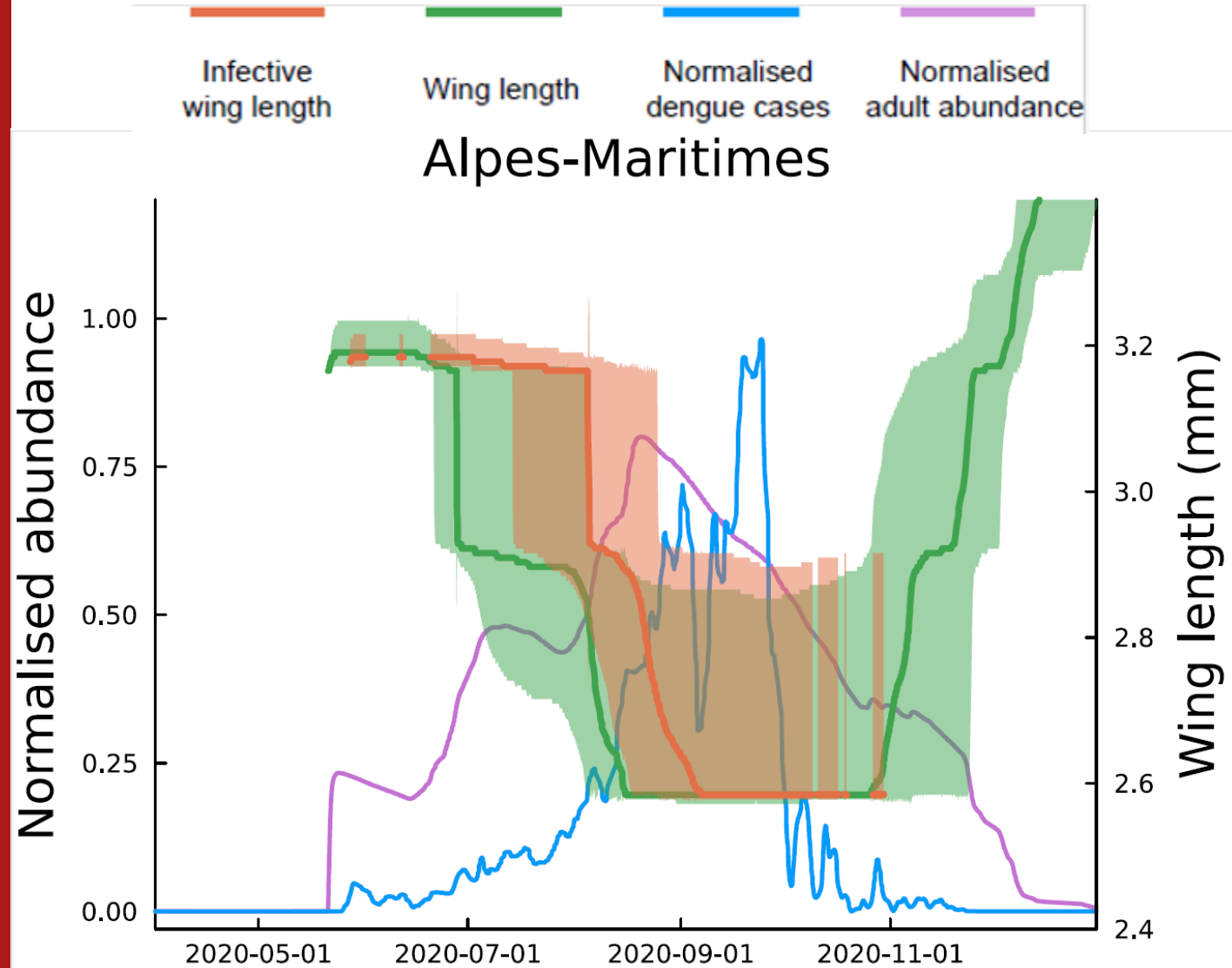
Guangzhou, China (2013-2014)^[24]



RESULTS

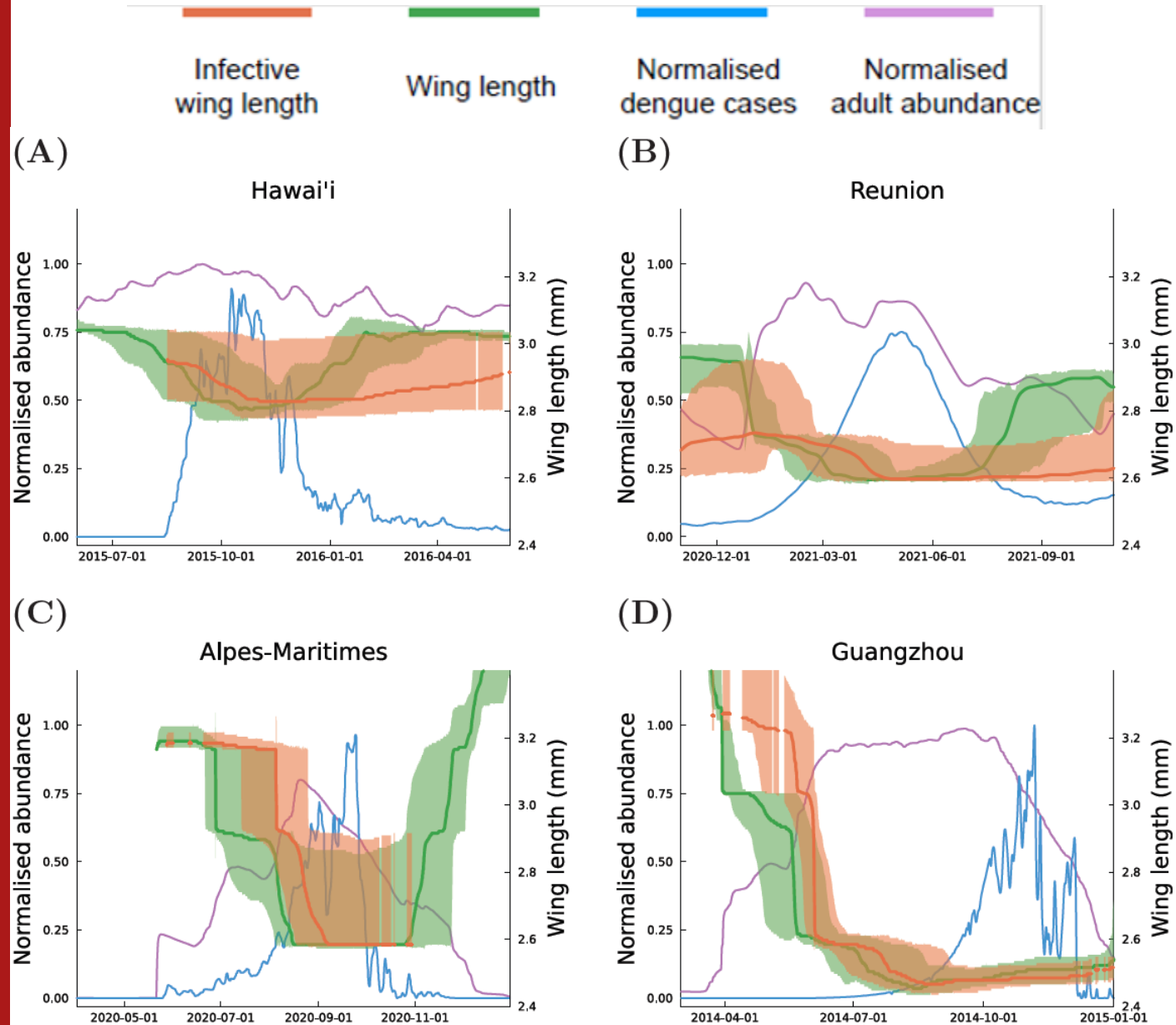
ROLE OF TRAIT VARIATION

The wing-length distribution of infected and uninfected mosquitoes are different



ROLE OF TRAIT VARIATION

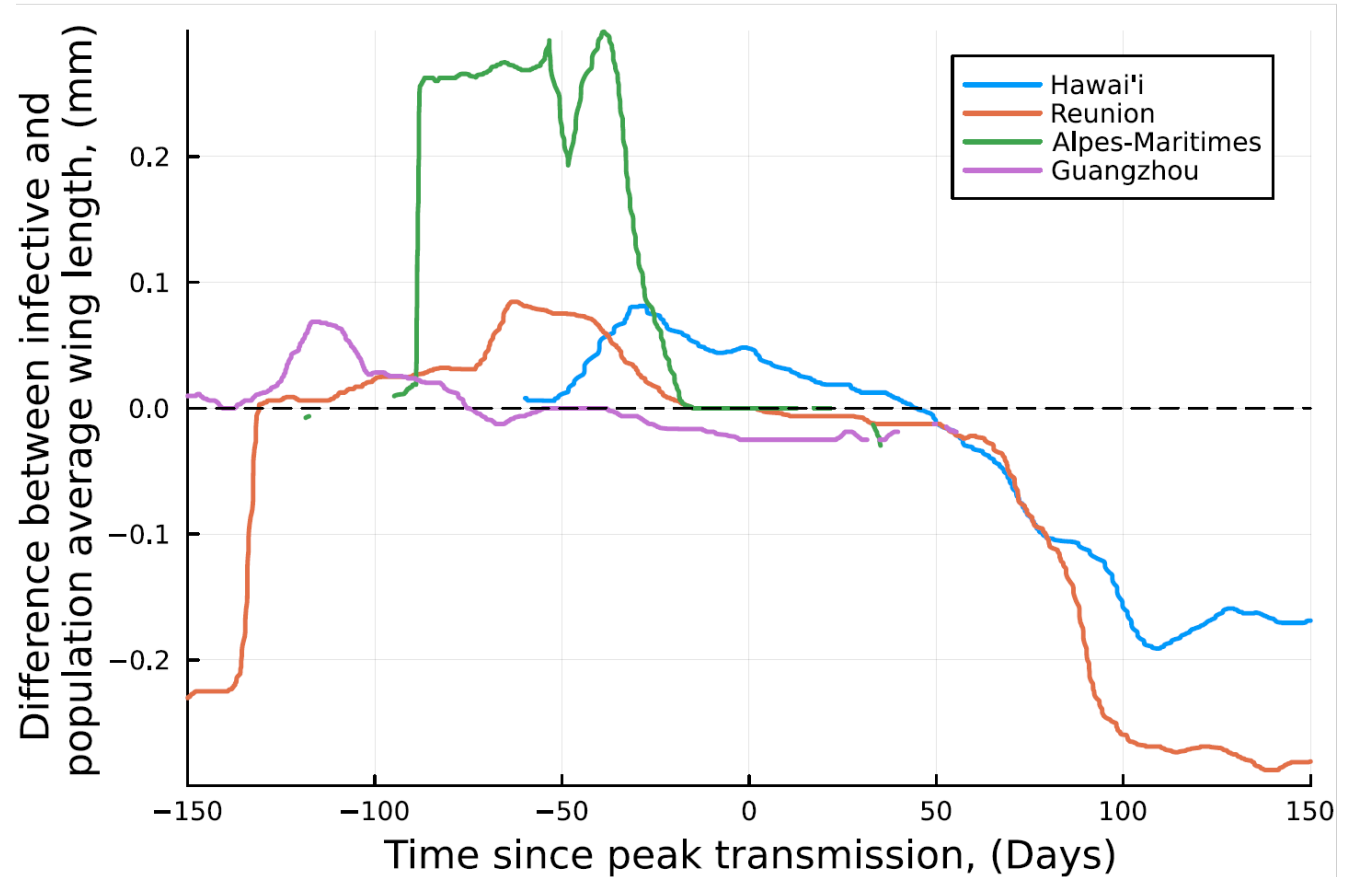
The wing-length distribution of infected and uninfected mosquitoes are different



ROLE OF TRAIT VARIATION

The wing-length distribution of infected and uninfected mosquitoes are different

Large mosquitoes drive increase in dengue case numbers before peak infection

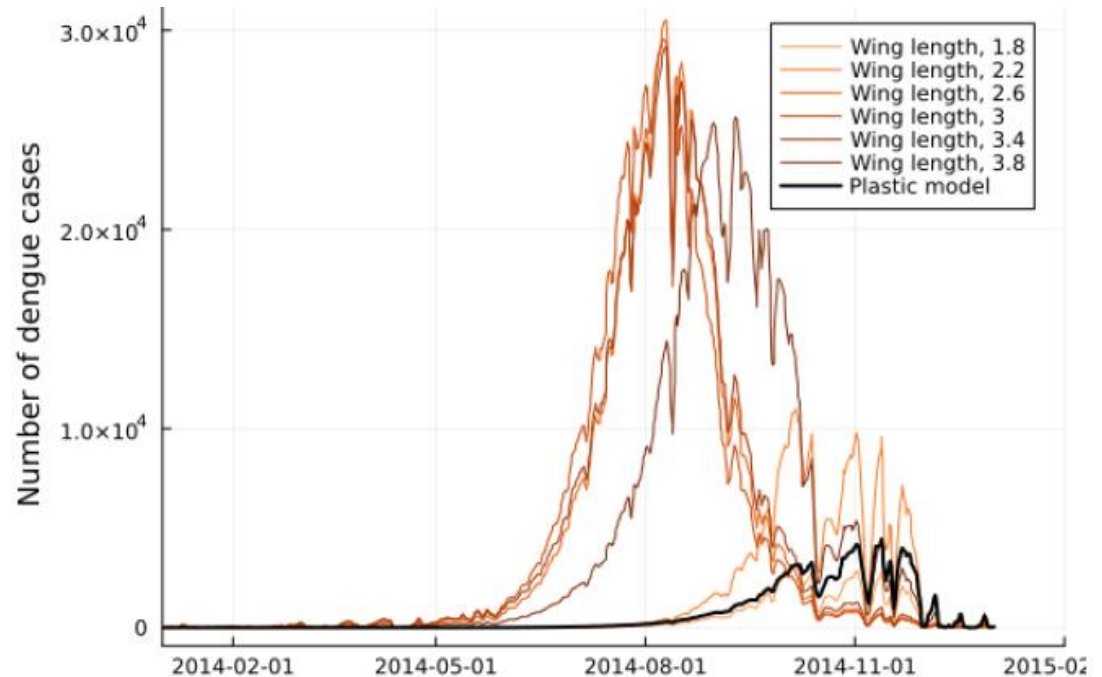
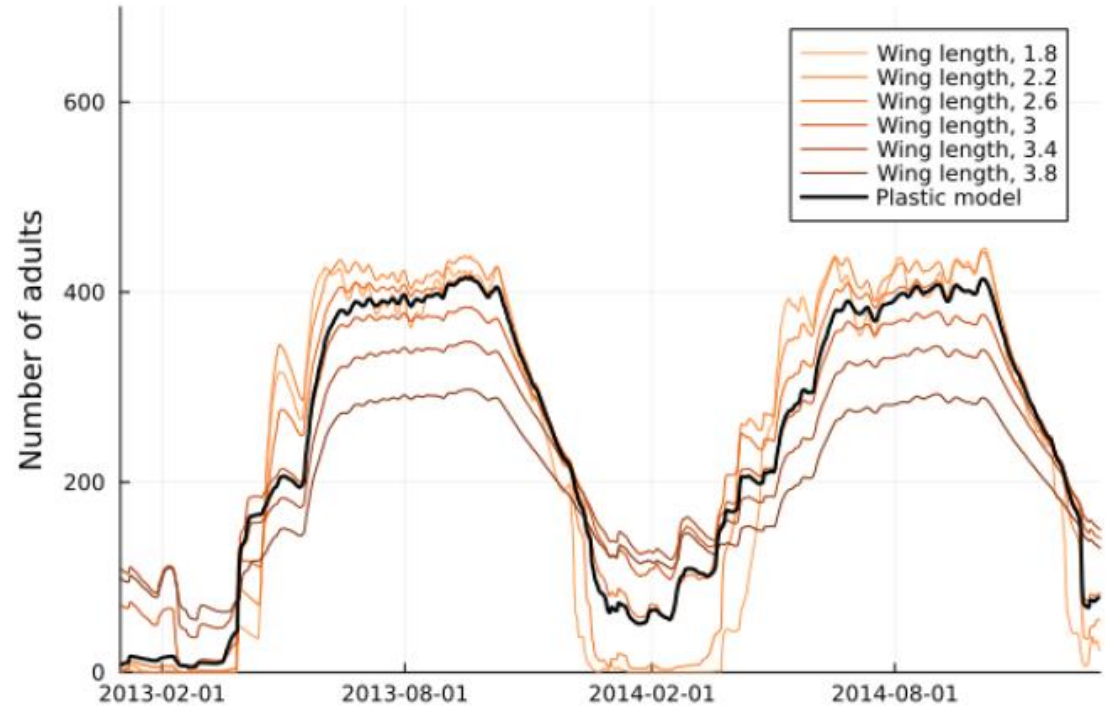


ROLE OF TRAIT VARIATION

The wing-length distribution of infected and uninfected mosquitoes are different

Large mosquitoes drive increase in dengue case numbers before peak infection

Phenotypic plasticity alters disease dynamics



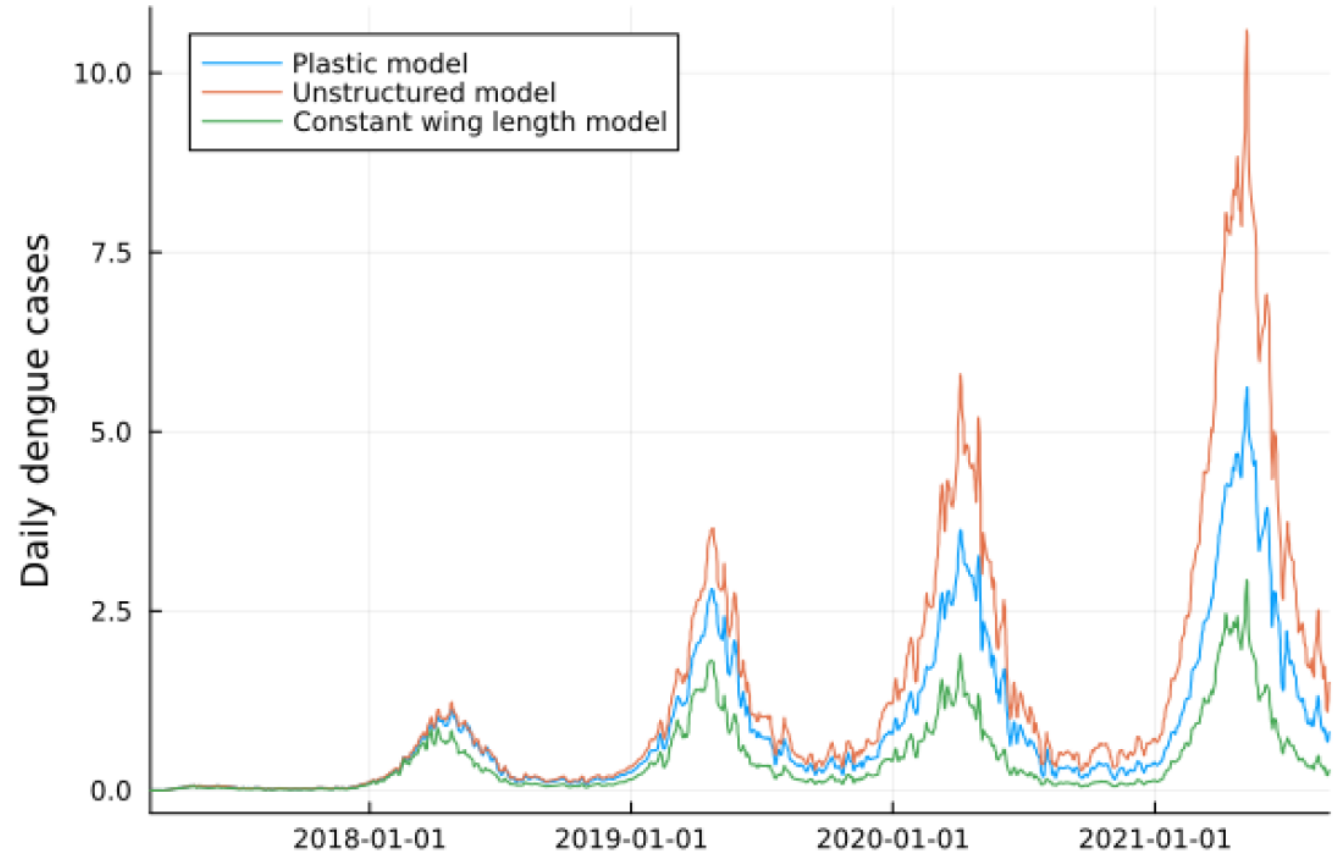
ROLE OF TRAIT VARIATION

The wing-length distribution of infected and uninfected mosquitoes are different

Large mosquitoes drive increase in dengue case numbers before peak infection

Phenotypic plasticity alters disease dynamics

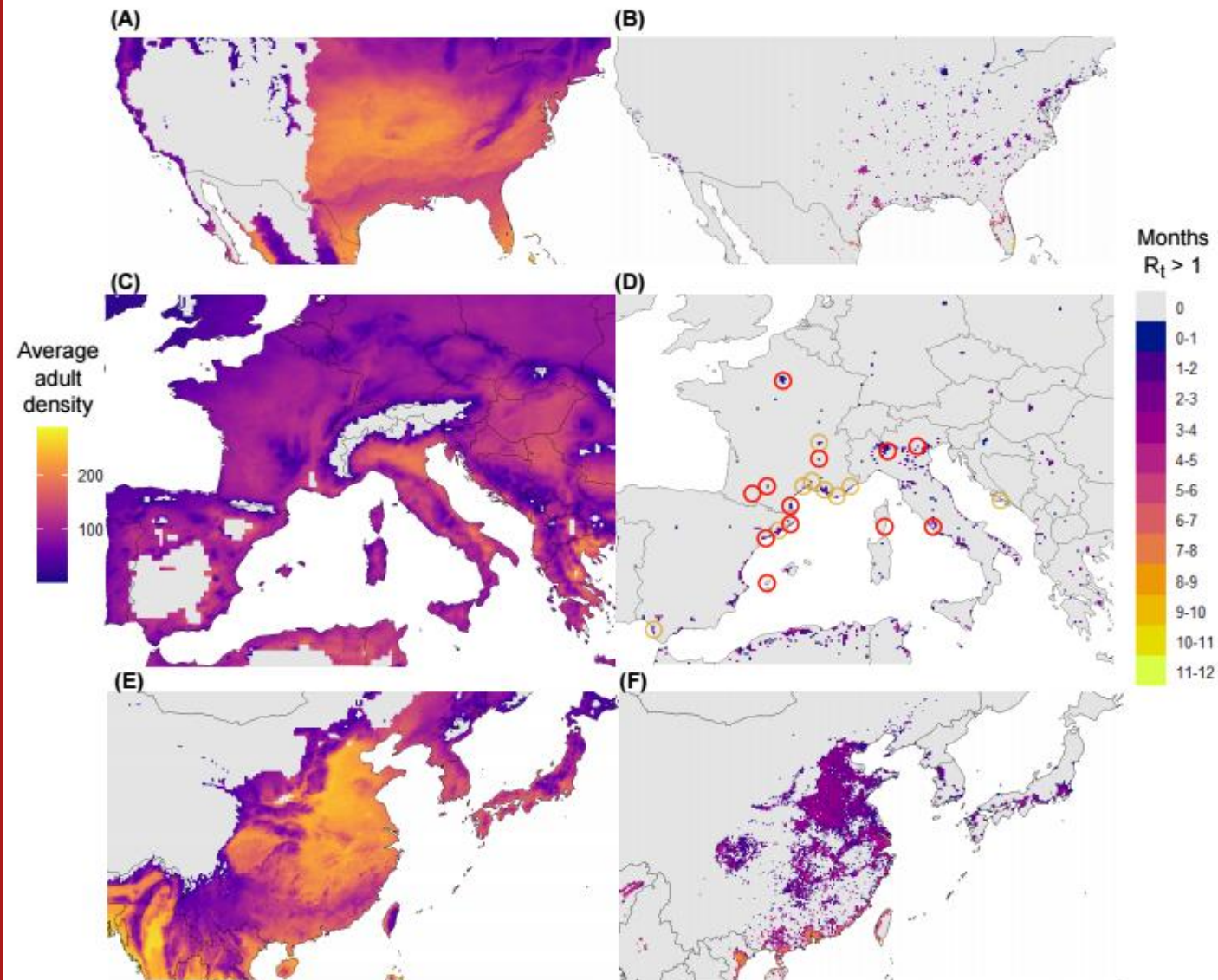
Trait structure alters disease dynamics



GLOBAL RISK

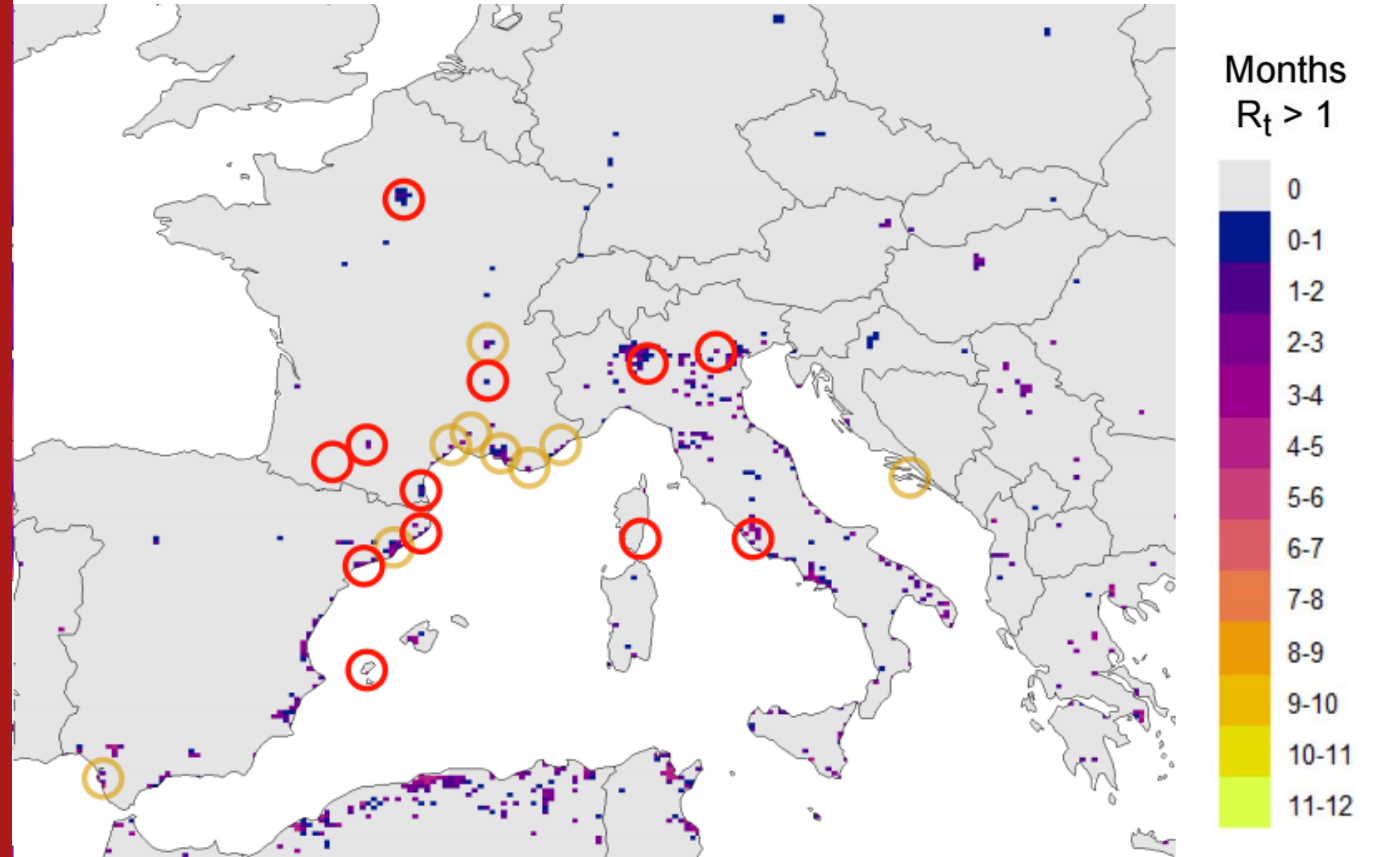
We simulate the model from 2015-2019 and output average months $R_t > 1$

$$R_{t-\tau_{\text{EIP}}(t)} = \left[\sum_{j=1}^m \left(\int_t^{t+\tau_{\text{REC}}} \frac{g_{\text{EIP}}(s)}{g_{\text{EIP}}(s-\tau_{\text{EIP}}(s))} b(s-\tau_{\text{EIP}}(s)) h_v(s-\tau_{\text{EIP}}(s)) 2\kappa A_j(s-\tau_{\text{EIP}}(s)) S_{\text{EIP}_j}(s) \frac{1}{H_T} \times \left(\int_s^{s+1/\delta_{A_j}(s)} \frac{b(u) v_h(u) H_s(u)}{H_T} du \right) ds \right) \right]^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$



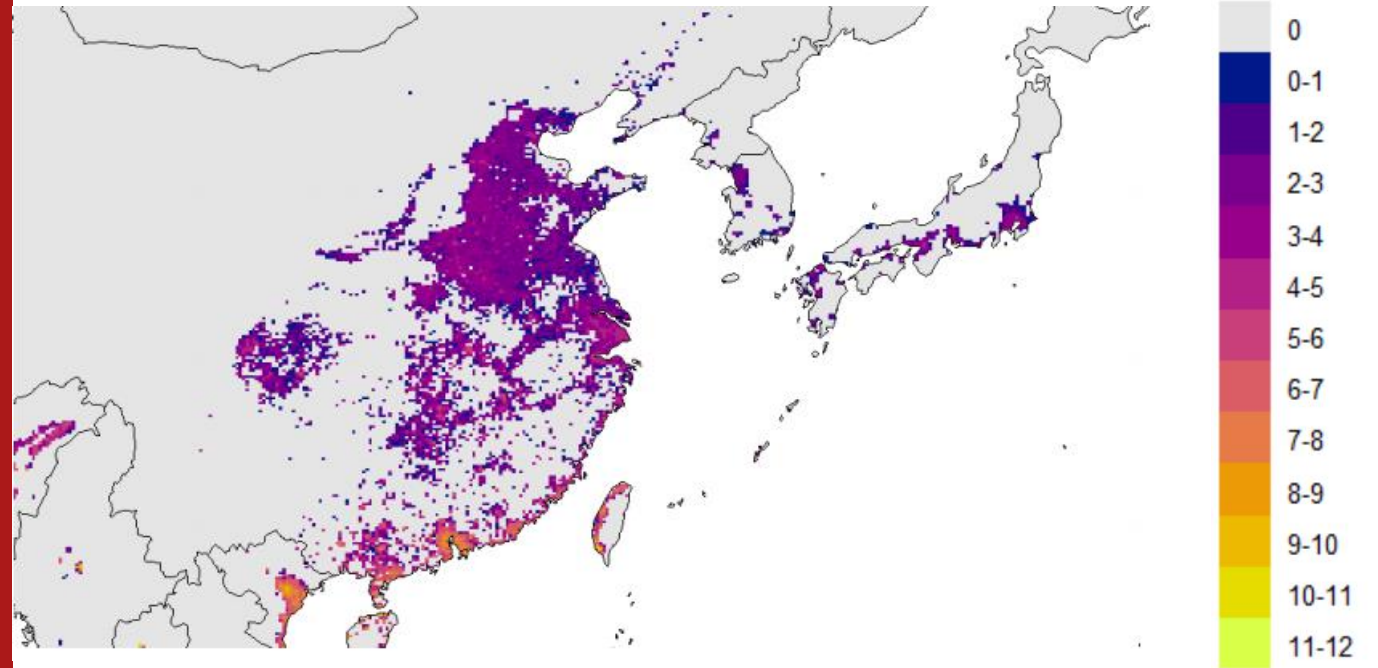
GLOBAL RISK

We simulate the model from 2015-2019 and output average months $R_t > 1$



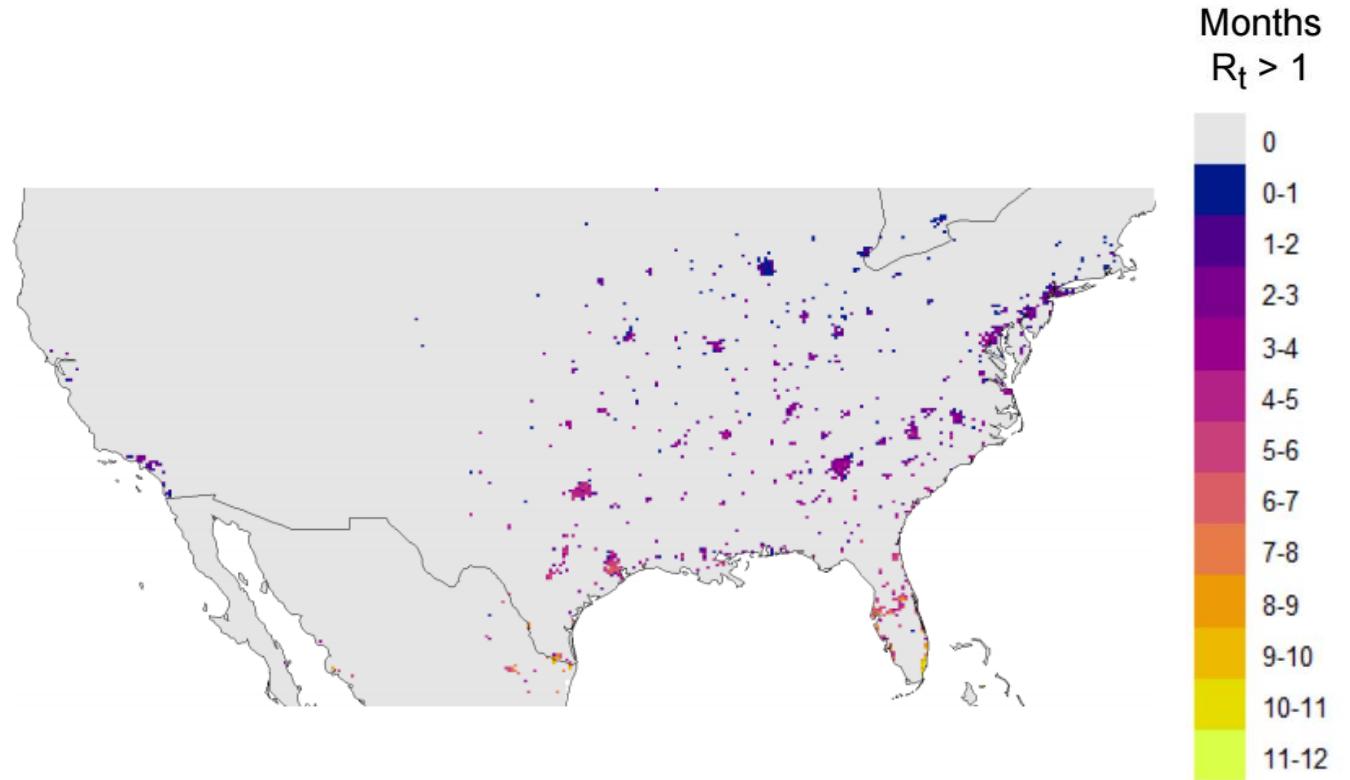
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CONCLUSIONS

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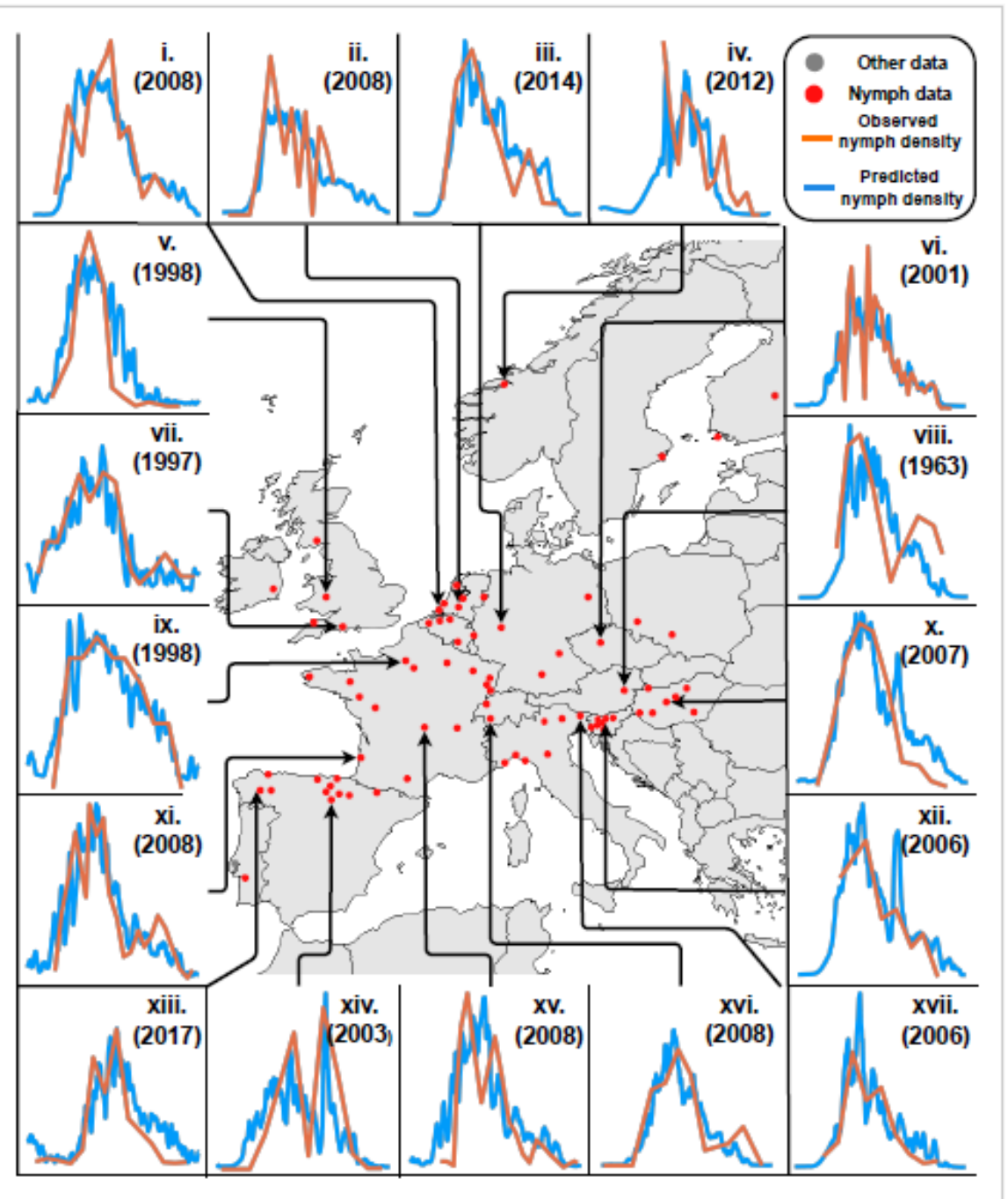
Mosquito trait variation in response to developmental environmental experience alters disease dynamics



TICKSOLVE
STAGE-STRUCTURED
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TICKSOLVE STAGE-STRUCTURED DELAY-DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS FOR *IXODES RICINUS*





THANKS FOR LISTENING!

Dominic Brass, Christina
Cobbold, Bethan Purse,
David Ewing, Amanda
Callaghan, Steven White



UK Centre for
Ecology & Hydrology

THE MODEL

$E_Y(t)$ – Active eggs

$E_D(t)$ – Diapausing eggs

$E_Q(t)$ – Quiescent eggs

$L(t)$ – Larvae

$A_j(t)$ – Adults in environmental class j

R – Recruitment terms

M – Maturation terms

P – Survival

δ – Mortality rate

τ – Stage duration

$$\frac{dE_Y(t)}{dt} = R_{E_Y}(t) - M_{E_Y}(t) - \delta_{E_Y}(t)E_Y(t),$$

$$\frac{dE_D(t)}{dt} = R_{E_D}(t) - M_{E_D}(t) - \delta_{E_D}(t)E_D(t),$$

$$\frac{dE_Q(t)}{dt} = R_{E_Q}(t) - M_{E_Q}(t) - \delta_{E_Q}(t)E_Q(t),$$

$$\frac{dL(t)}{dt} = R_L(t) - M_L(t) - \delta_L(t)L(t),$$

$$\frac{dA_j(t)}{dt} = R_{A_j}(t) - M_{A_j}(t) - \delta_{A_j}(t)A_j(t), \text{ for } j \in 1, \dots, m$$

$$\frac{dI_j(t)}{dt} = M_{A_j}(t) - \delta_{I_j}(t)I_j(t), \text{ for } j \in 1, \dots, m.$$

RATE OF DEVELOPMENT

$$\frac{d\tau_{E_Y}(t)}{dt} = 1 - \frac{g_{E_Y}(t)}{g_{E_Y}(t - \tau_{E_Y}(t))},$$

$$\frac{d\tau_L(t)}{dt} = 1 - \frac{g_L(t)}{g_L(t - \tau_L(t))},$$

$$\frac{d\tau_P(t)}{dt} = 1 - \frac{g_P(t)}{g_P(t - \tau_P(t))},$$

$$\frac{d\tau_{EIP}(t)}{dt} = 1 - \frac{g_{EIP}(t)}{g_{EIP}(t - \tau_{EIP}(t))}.$$

SURVIVAL EQUATIONS

$$\frac{dS_{E_Y}(t)}{dt} = S_{E_Y}(t) \left(\frac{g_{E_Y}(t)\delta_{E_Y}(t - \tau_{E_Y}(t))}{g_{E_Y}(t - \tau_{E_Y}(t))} - \delta_{E_Y}(t) \right),$$

$$\frac{dS_L(t)}{dt} = S_L(t) \left(\frac{g_L(t)\delta_L(t - \tau_L(t))}{g_L(t - \tau_L(t))} - \delta_L(t) \right),$$

$$\frac{dS_P(t)}{dt} = S_P(t) \left(\frac{g_P(t)\delta_P(t - \tau_P(t))}{g_P(t - \tau_P(t))} - \delta_P(t) \right), \quad (63)$$

$$\frac{dS_{EIP_j}(t)}{dt} = S_{EIP_j}(t) \left(\frac{g_{EIP}(t)\delta_{A_j}(t - \tau_{EIP}(t))}{g_{EIP}(t - \tau_{EIP}(t))} - \delta_{A_j}(t) \right), \quad \text{for } j \in 1, \dots, m.$$

TRANSITION FUNCTIONS

$$\bar{\alpha}(t) = \frac{\int_{t-\tau_p(t)-\tau_L}^{t-\tau_p(t)} \frac{F(s)}{L(s)} ds}{\tau_L(t - \tau_p(t))}.$$

$$w_j(T_{avg}(t), \bar{\alpha}(t)) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } g(w(T_{avg}(t), \bar{\alpha}(t))) = w_j \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

RT

$$R_{t-\tau_{\text{EIP}}(t)} = \left[\sum_{j=1}^m \left(\int_t^{t+\tau_{\text{REC}}} \frac{g_{\text{EIP}}(s)}{g_{\text{EIP}}(s-\tau_{\text{EIP}}(s))} \frac{b(s-\tau_{\text{EIP}}(s))h_v(s-\tau_{\text{EIP}}(s))2\kappa A_j(s-\tau_{\text{EIP}}(s))S_{\text{EIP}_j}(s)}{H_T} \right. \right. \\ \left. \left. \times \left(\int_s^{s+1/\delta_{A_j}(s)} \frac{b(u)v_h(u)H_s(u)}{H_T} du \right) ds \right) \right]^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$