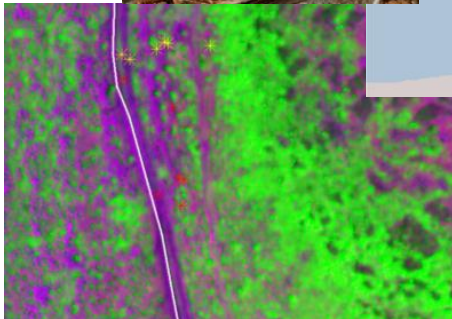
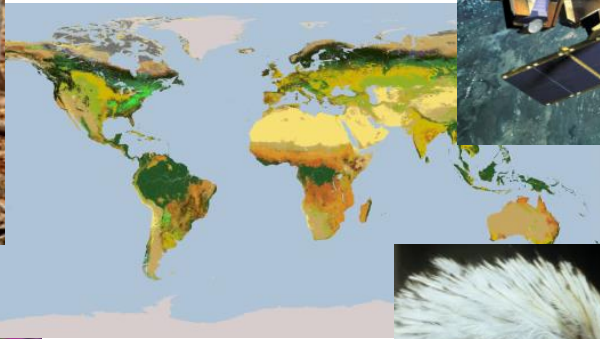


# Tracking changes to habitats and biodiversity for global assessments and monitoring



Walter Jetz  
Yale University

# Habitat



Latin *habitare* - 'possess, inhabit'

**The natural or environment of an animal,  
plant, or other organism**

# Global science-policy activities



Convention on  
Biological Diversity

Rio 1992: Develop national strategies for the **conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity**. **Aichi 2020 targets** to monitor progress.

futurearth  
research for global sustainability

1980/2013: A global **research platform** aiming to provide the knowledge and support to accelerate our transformations to a sustainable world.

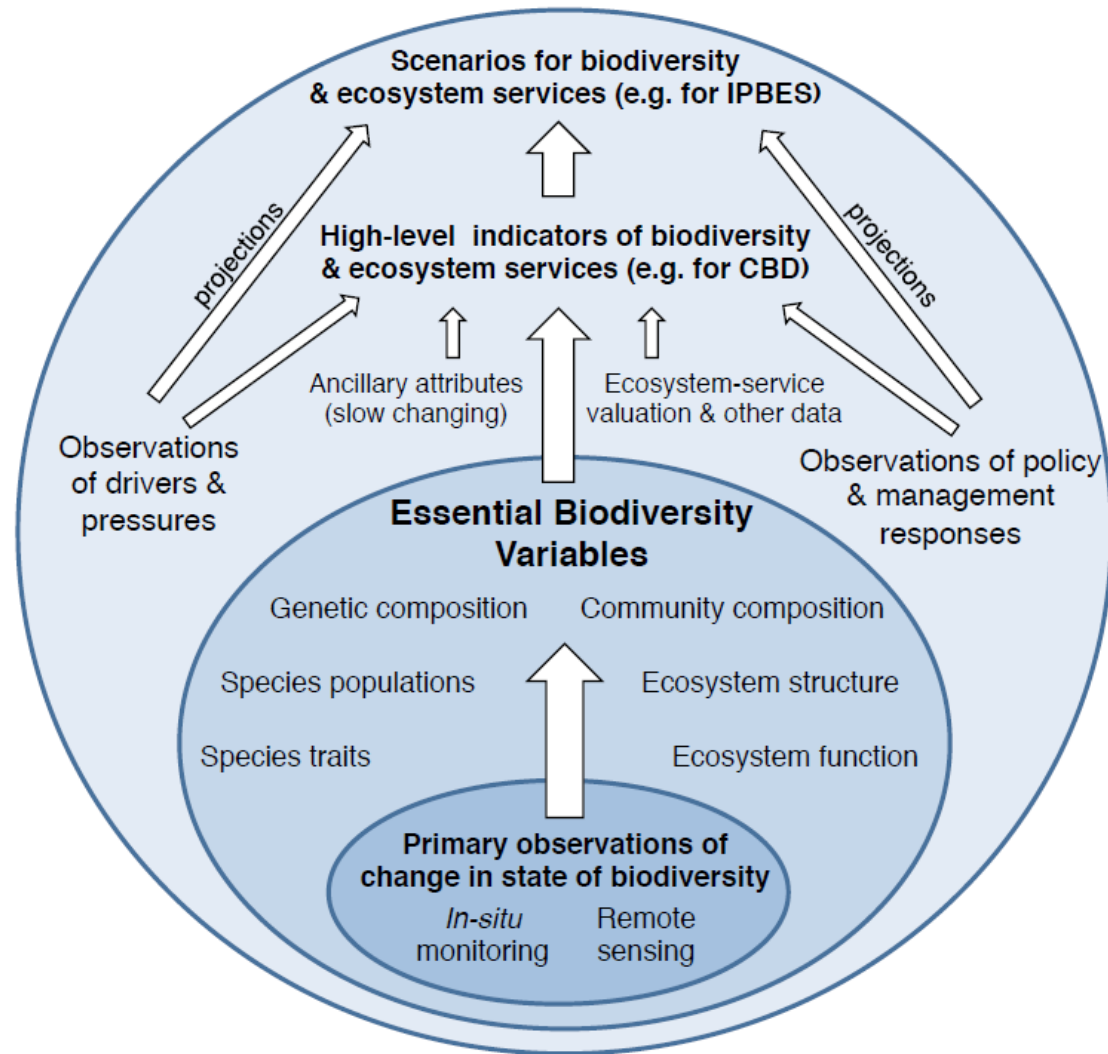
GEO BON

2008: Group on Earth Observations **Biodiversity Observation Network**: link and leverage efforts to collect, manage, share and analyze biodiversity status and trend observations



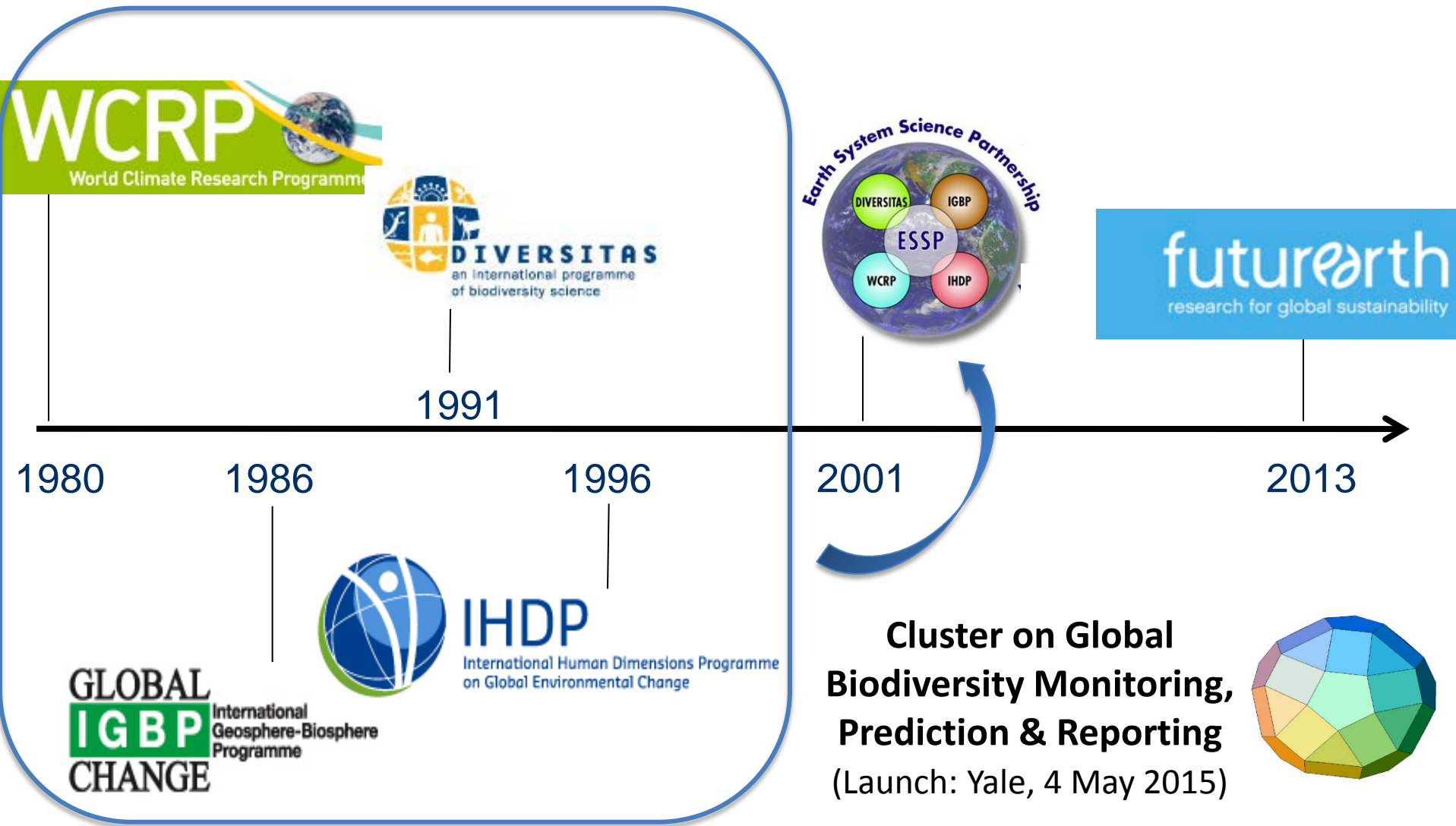
2012: **Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity & Ecosystem Services**: an IPCC style assessment process. Carries out assessments of existing knowledge in response to governments' and other stakeholders' requests

- Coordinate the gathering and delivery of biodiversity change information globally
- Provide a set of innovative and relevant products based on the integration of key data set



## Essential Biodiversity Variables





Provide the knowledge required for societies in the world to face risks posed by global environmental change and to seize opportunities in a transition to global sustainability

## Platform work programme 2014–2018: Objectives and associated deliverables

**Objective 1:** Strengthen the **capacity and knowledge foundations** of the science-policy interface to implement key functions of the Platform:

- (a) Priority capacity-building needs to implement the Platform's work programme matched with resources through catalysing financial and in-kind support
- (b) Capacities needed to implement the Platform work programme developed
- (c) Procedures, approaches for participatory processes for working with indigenous and local knowledge systems developed
- (d) **Priority knowledge and data needs for policymaking addressed through catalyzing efforts to generate new knowledge and networking**

**Objective 2:** Strengthen the **science-policy interface** on biodiversity and ecosystem services at and across subregional, regional and global levels:

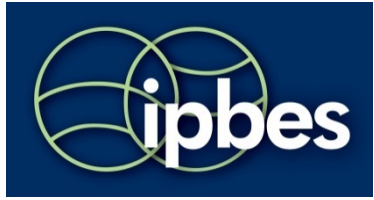
- (a) **Guide on production and integration of assessments** from and across all scales
- (b) **Regional/subregional assessments** on biodiversity, ecosystem services
- (c) **Global assessment on biodiversity and ecosystem services**

**Objective 3:** Strengthen the science-policy interface on biodiversity and ecosystem services with regard to thematic and methodological issues:

- (a) One fast track thematic assessment of pollinators, pollination and food production
- (b) Three thematic assessments: land degradation and restoration; **invasive alien species**; and **sustainable use and conservation of biodiversity** and strengthening capacities/tools
- (c) **Policy support tools and methodologies for scenario analysis and modelling of biodiversity and ecosystem services** based on a fast track assessment and a guide
- (d) Policy support tools and methodologies regarding the diverse conceptualization of values of biodiversity and nature's benefits to people including ecosystem services based on an assessment and a guide

**Objective 4:** Communicate and evaluate Platform activities, deliverables and findings:

- (a) Catalogue of relevant assessments
- (b) Development of an information and data management plan
- (c) Catalogue of policy support tools and methodologies
- (d) Set of communication, outreach and engagement strategies, products and processes
- (e) Reviews of the effectiveness of guidance, procedures, methods and approaches to inform future development of the Platform

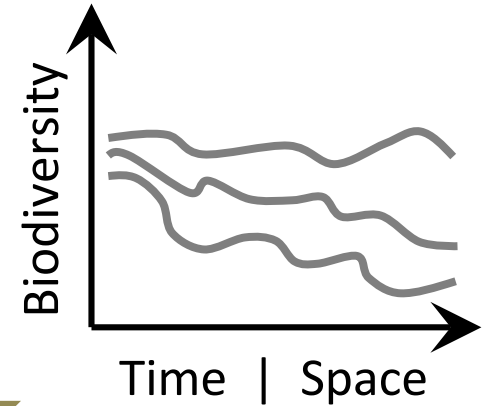
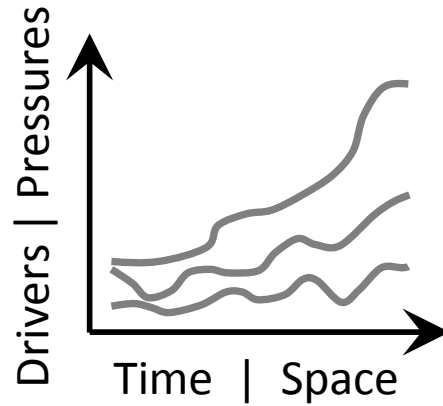


Intergovernmental  
Platform for  
Biodiversity &  
Ecosystem Services

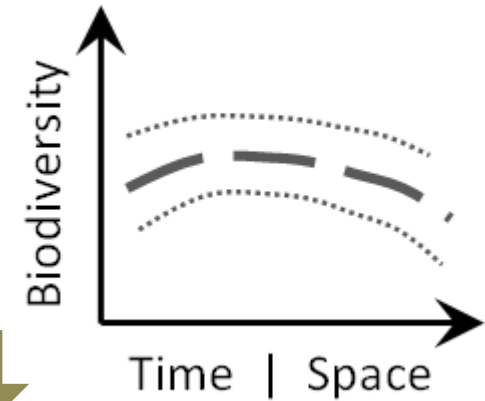
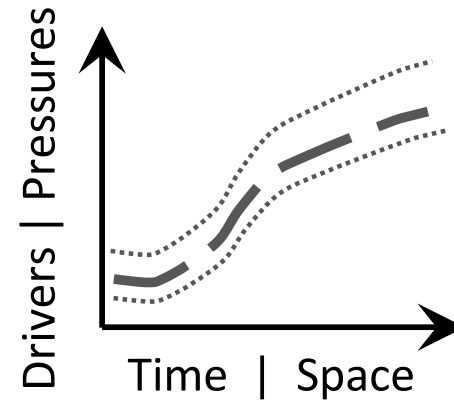
Task Force on  
Knowledge & Data



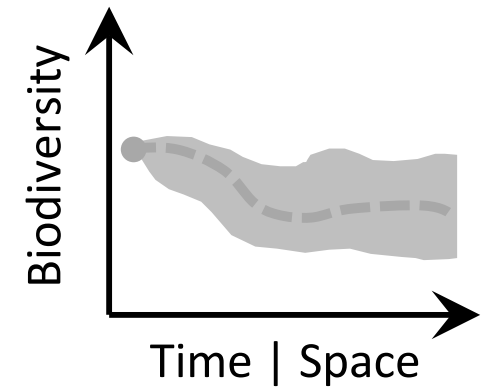
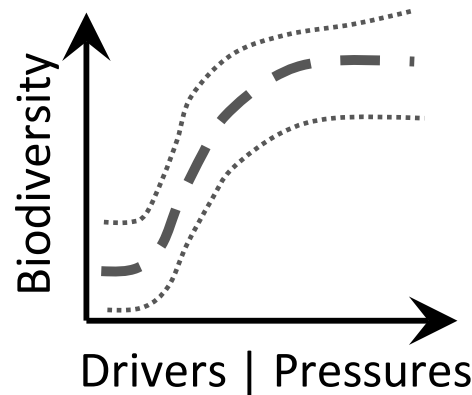
Data  
Monitoring



Indicators  
Metrics



Response  
Projection  
(Future)



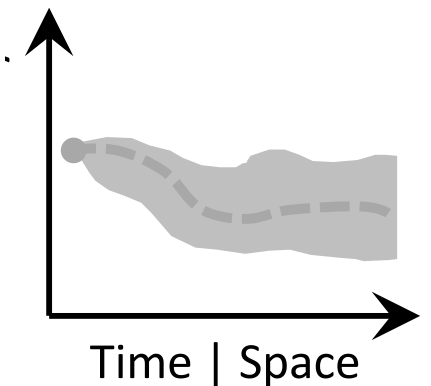
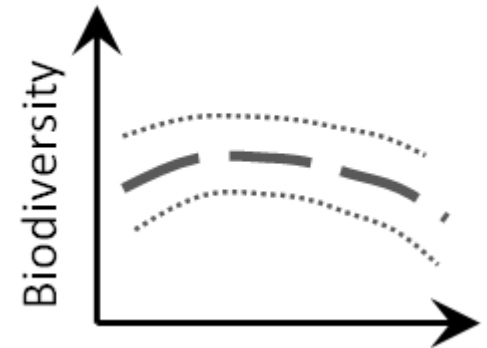
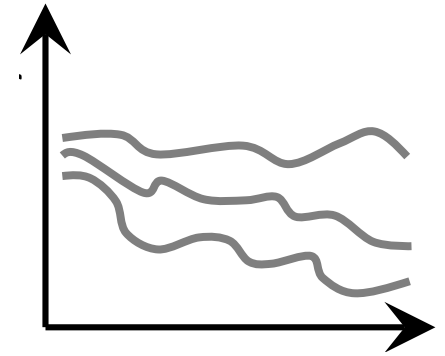
# Data suited for monitoring is ...

Not mobilized

Spatially, temporally coarse

Limited to only certain attributes

Geographically, environmentally,  
taxonomically biased



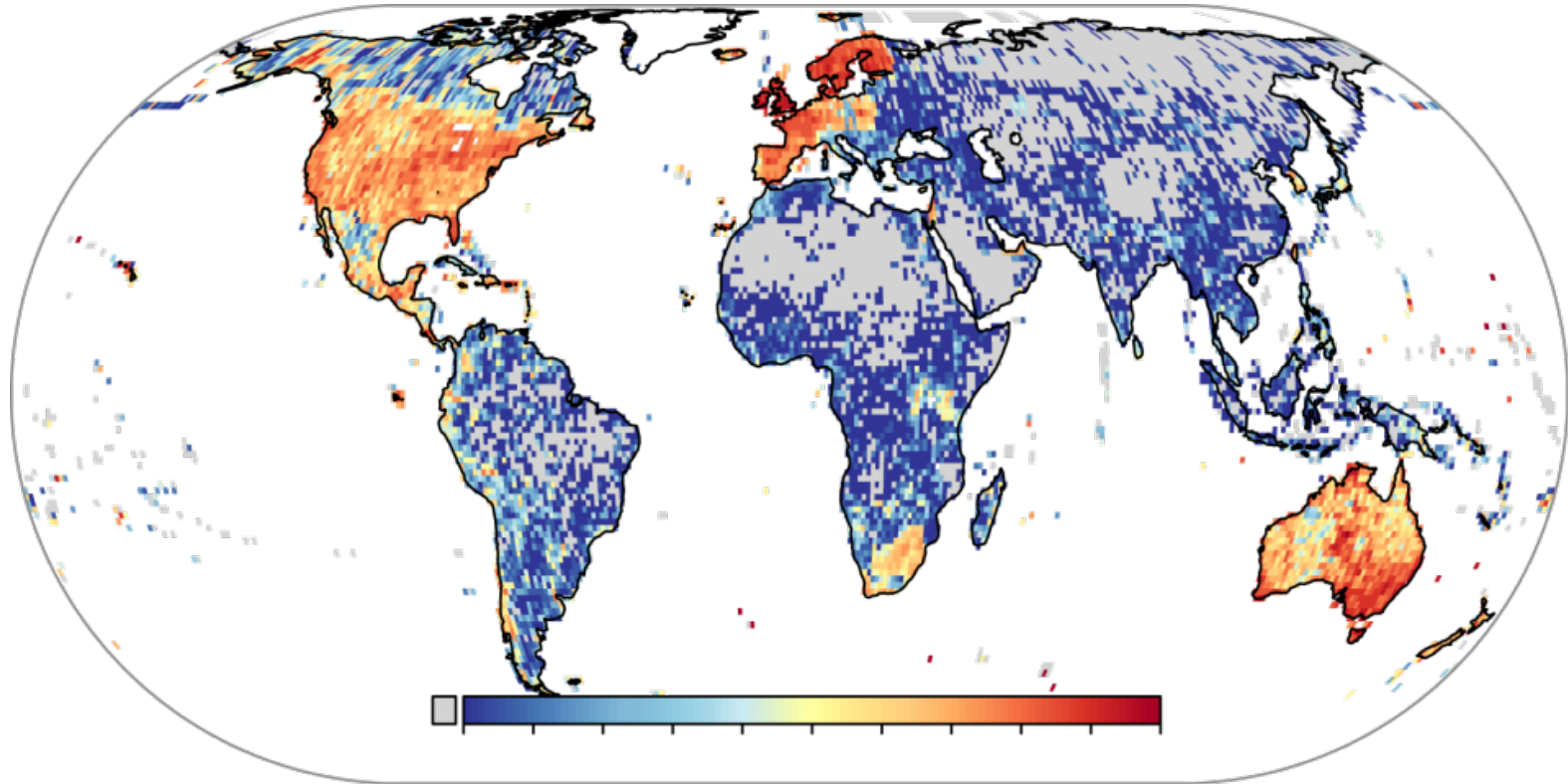


# Sparse and biased: Population trend data



The “Living Planet Index”

# Sparse and biased: Species Distributions



>0 20 40 60 80 100

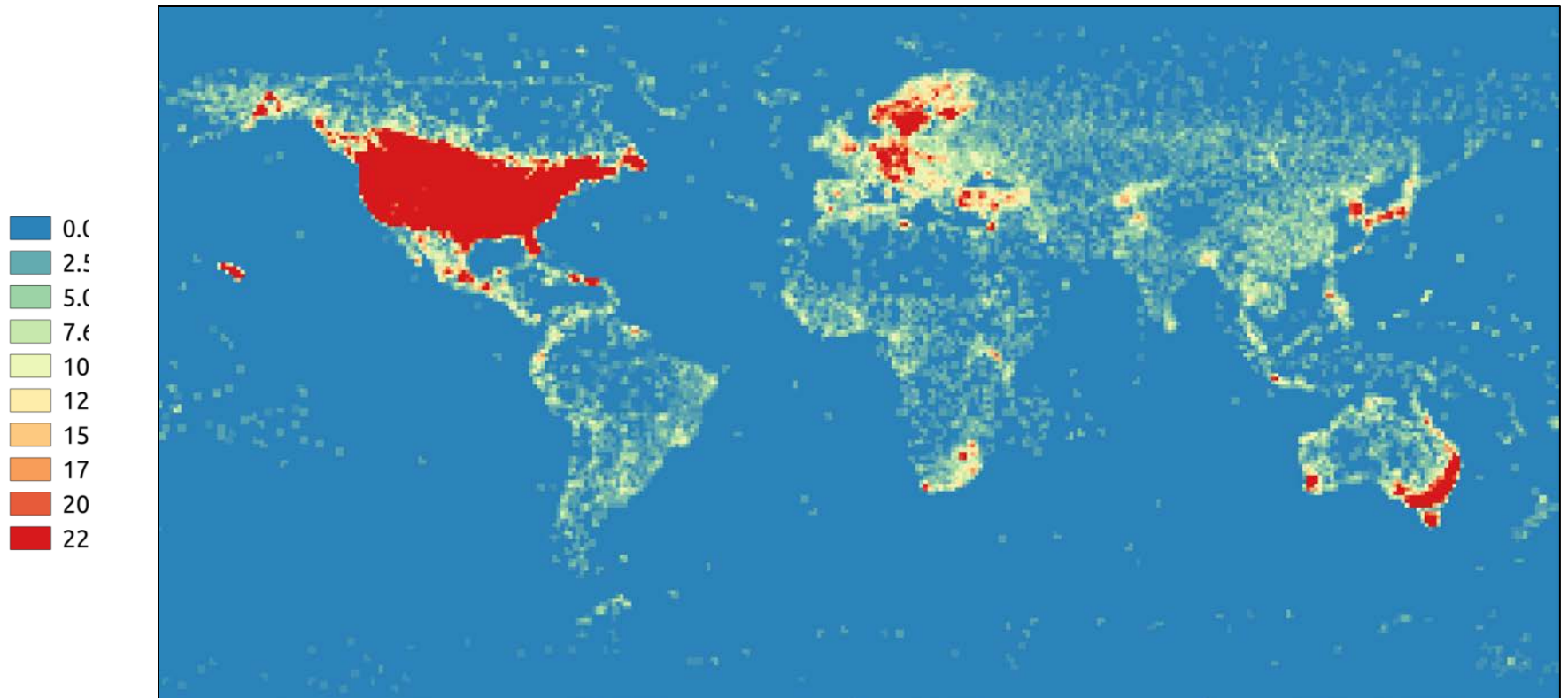
Inventory completeness (%)

Terrestrial vertebrates



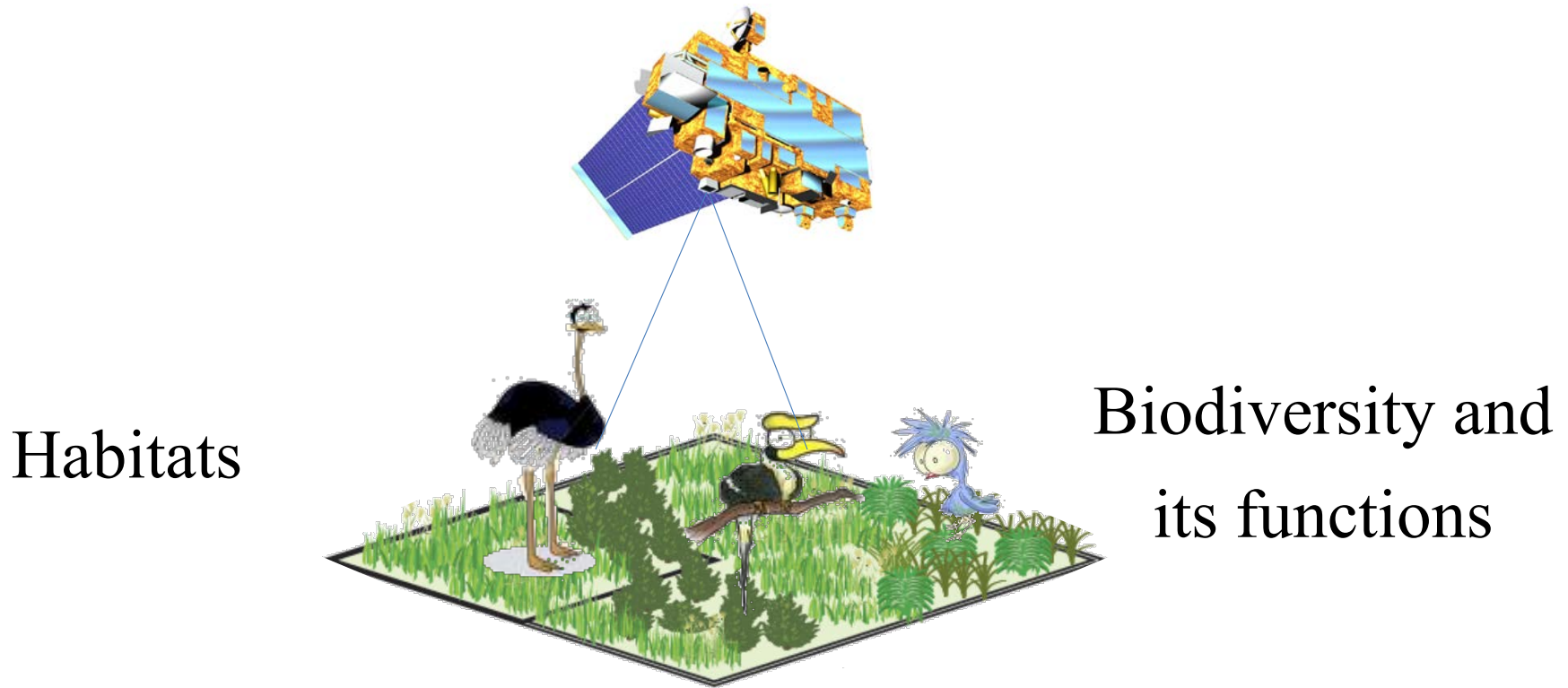
Meyer et al., 2015

# Sparse and biased: Climate data



Monthly GHCN+GLSD  
Total station count

# Remote Sensing



Fine spatial resolution

Consistent temporal sampling

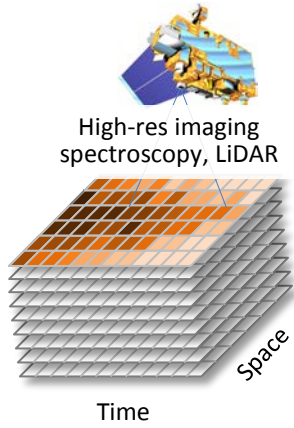
Ecological characteristics: habitats

Global extent

Spatial observations, not interpolations

# Observation

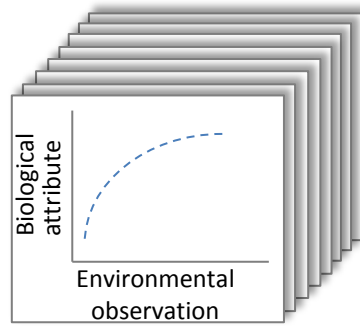
I.



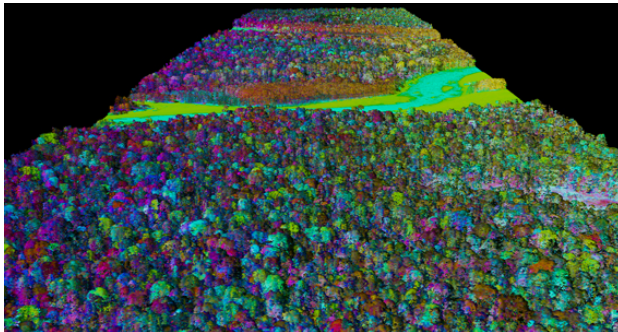
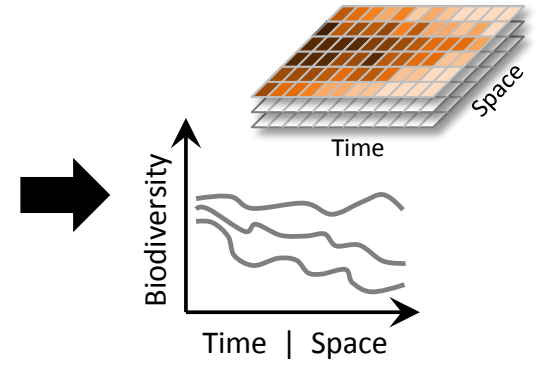
+

=

# Biochemical relationships



# Observed | Predicted Change



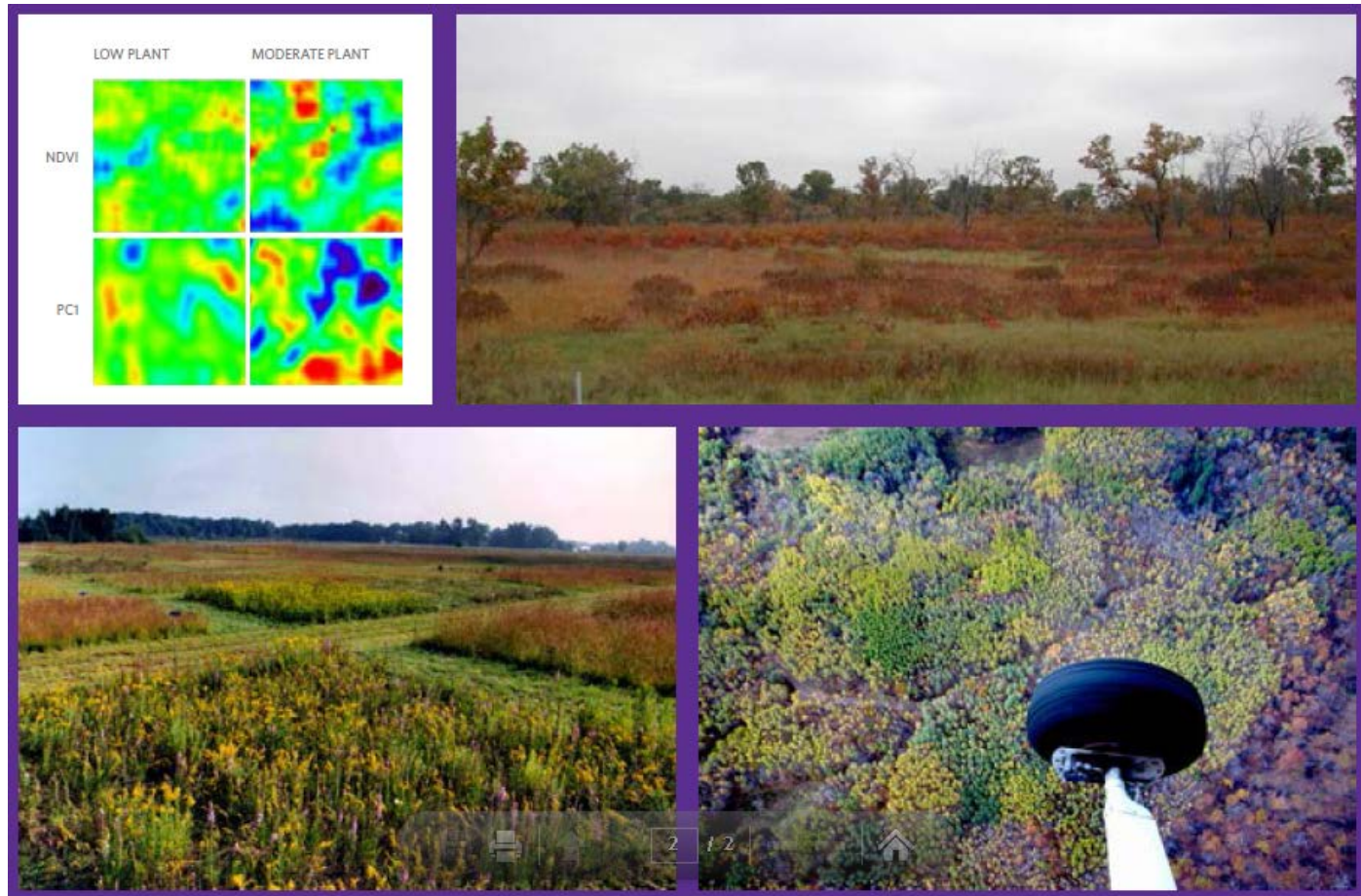
Asner et al. (2011)  
Schimel et al. (2014)



HyspIRI ... ?



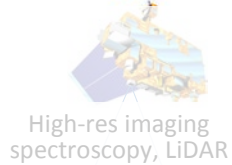
# Imaging spectroscopy



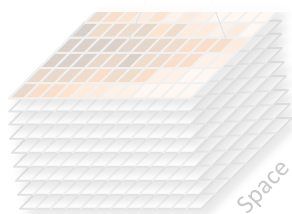
Linking remotely sensed optical diversity to genetic, phylogenetic and functional diversity to predict ecosystem processes

NSF – NASA Dimensions Team: Jeannine Cavender-Bares, Sarah Hobbie, Rebecca Montgomery (University of Minnesota, Twin Cities). Michael Madritch (Appalachian State University) Philip Townsend, Richard Lindroth (University of Wisconsin, Madison). Arthur Zyguelbaum, John Gamon (University of Nebraska, Lincoln)

# Observation



High-res imaging spectroscopy, LiDAR

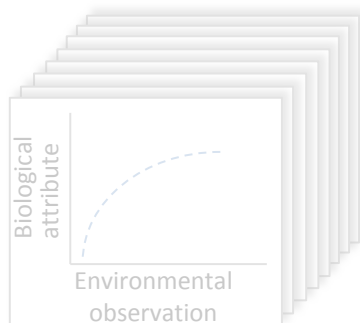


Time

Space



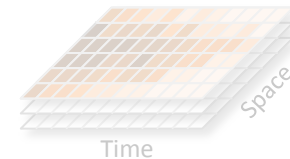
## Biochemical relationships



Biological attribute

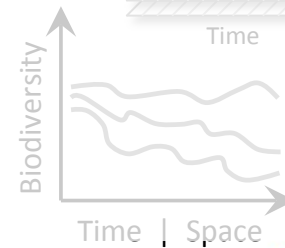
Environmental observation

# Observed | Predicted Change



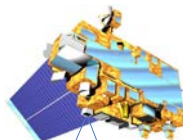
Time

Space

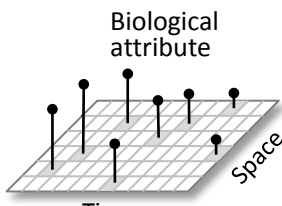


Biodiversity

Time | Space



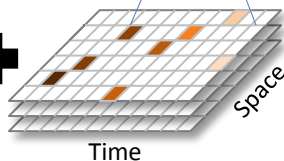
Environment



Biological attribute

Time

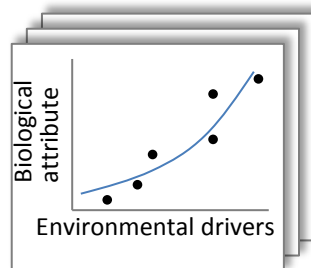
Space



Time

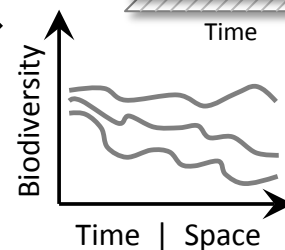
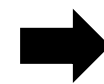
Space

## Inductive model



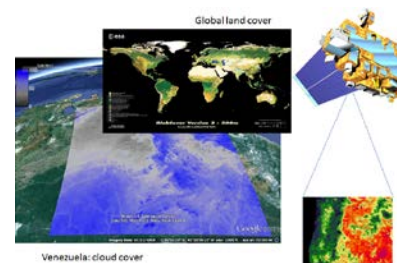
Biological attribute

Environmental drivers



Biodiversity

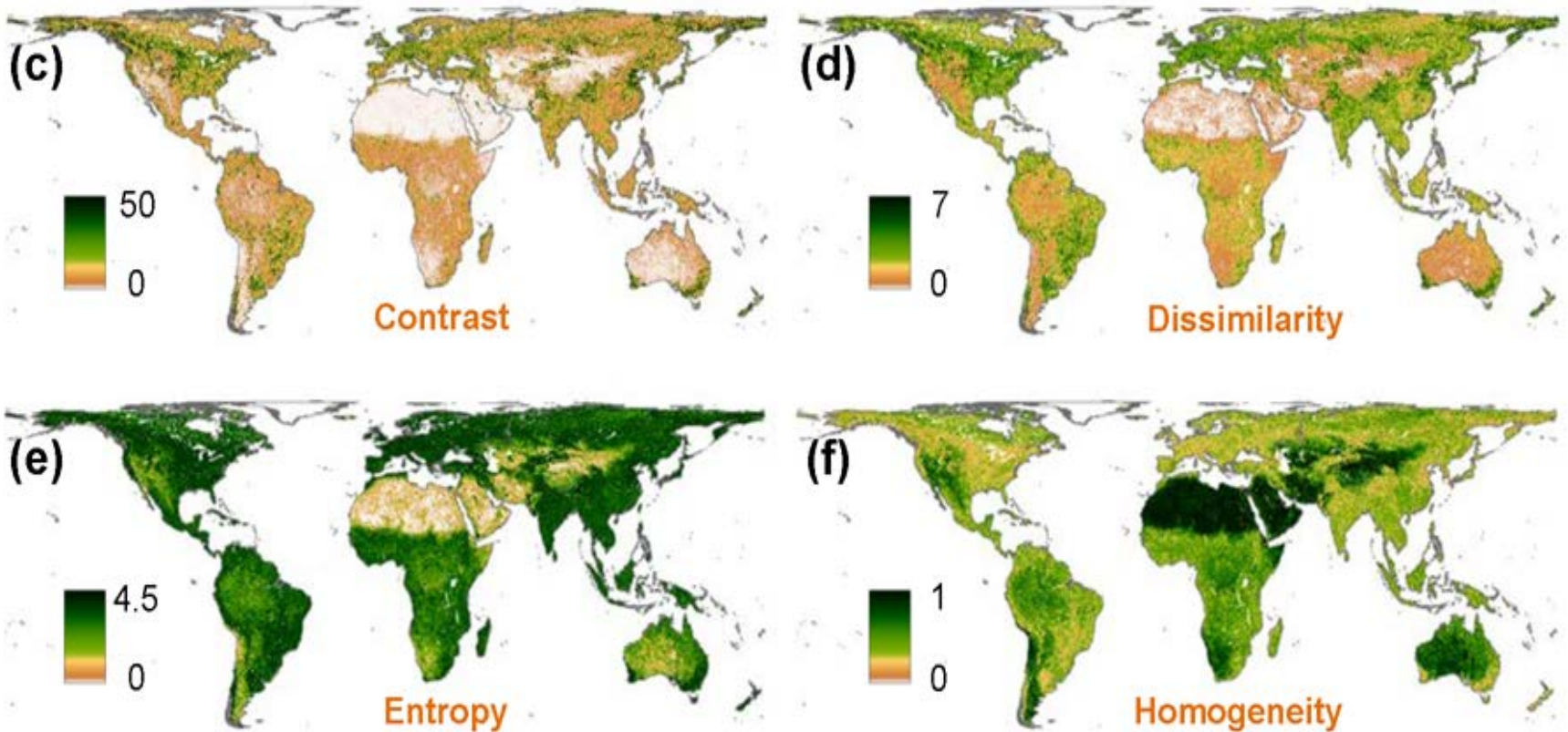
Time | Space



Global land cover

Venezuela: cloud cover

# Habitat Heterogeneity



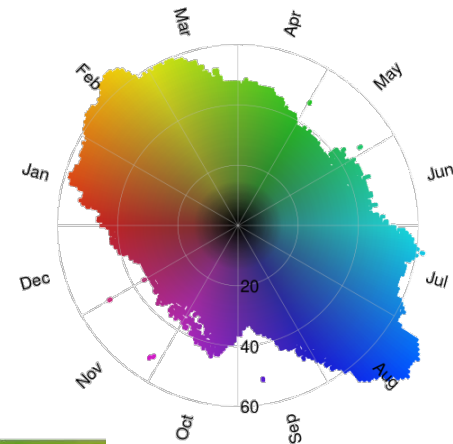
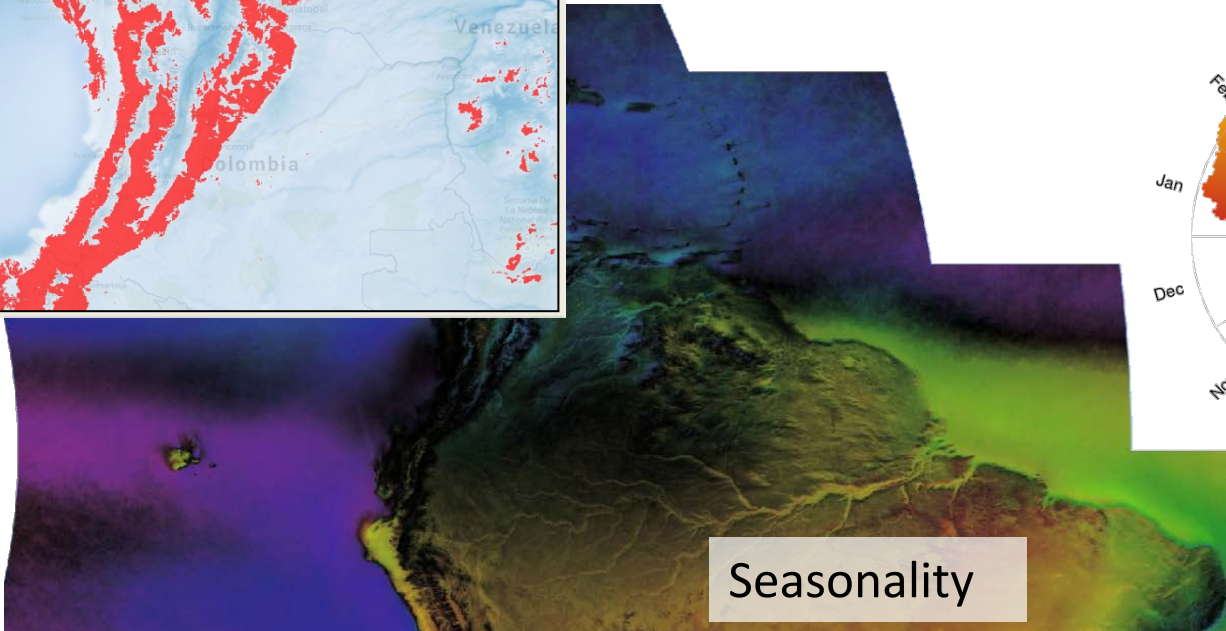
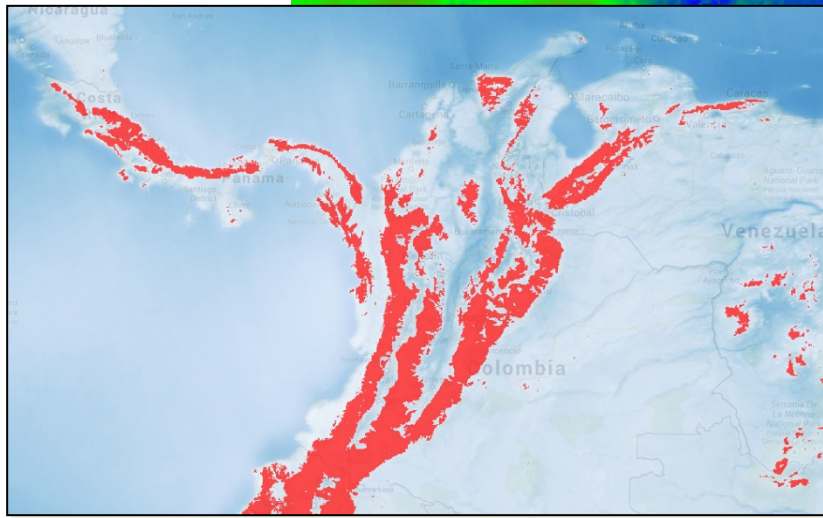
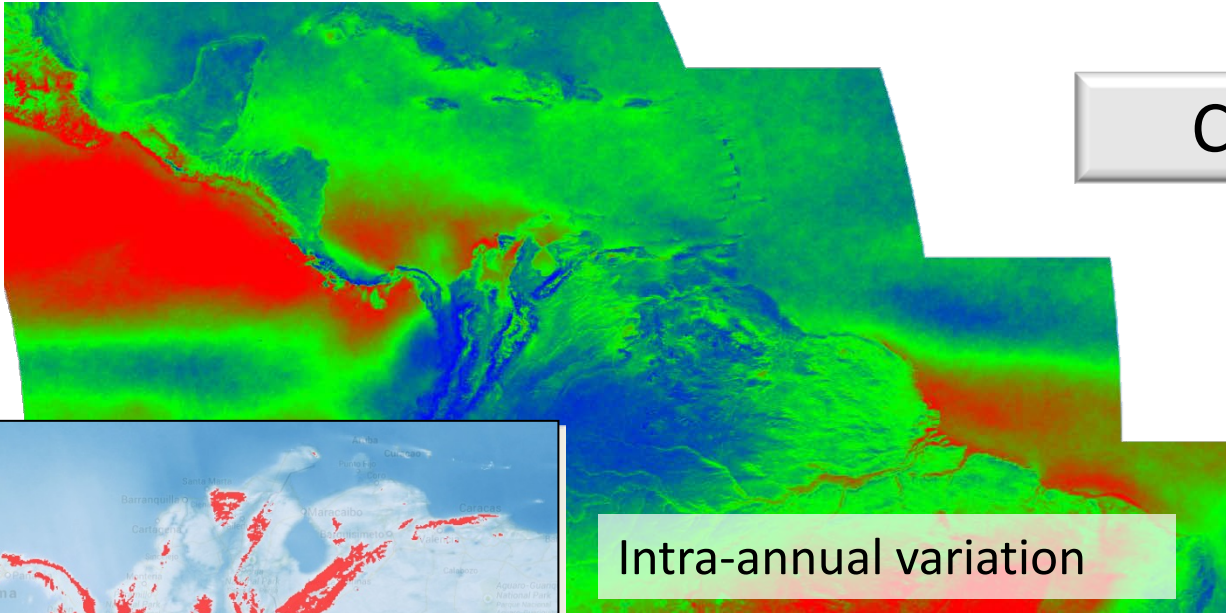
MODIS EVI-based **texture metrics** explain bird species richness and functional diversity better than traditional heterogeneity predictors



# Climate: Spatial accuracy, structure



Clouds

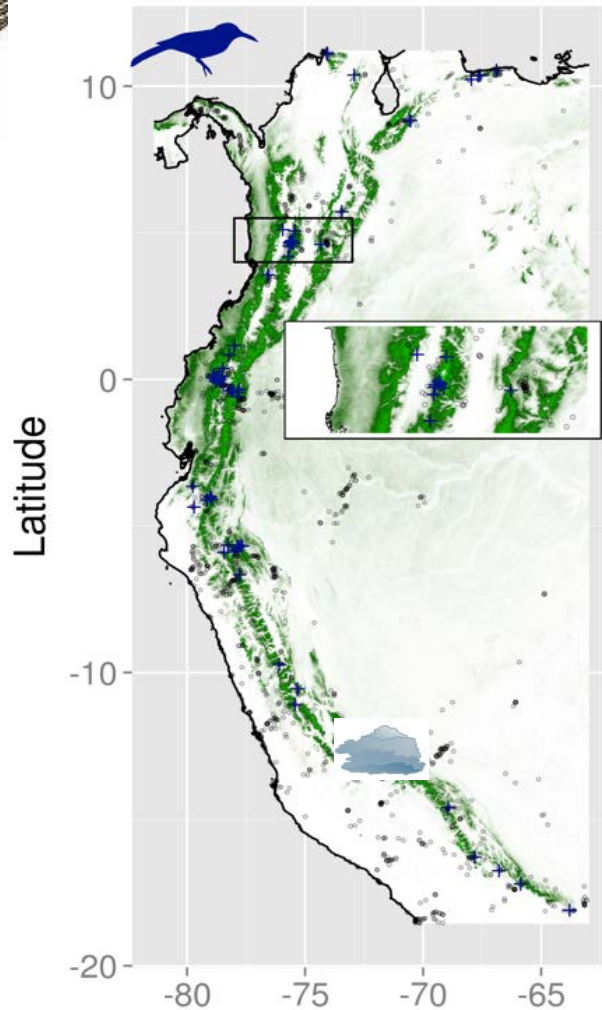


Based on  
MOD09

# Climate: Spatial accuracy, structure

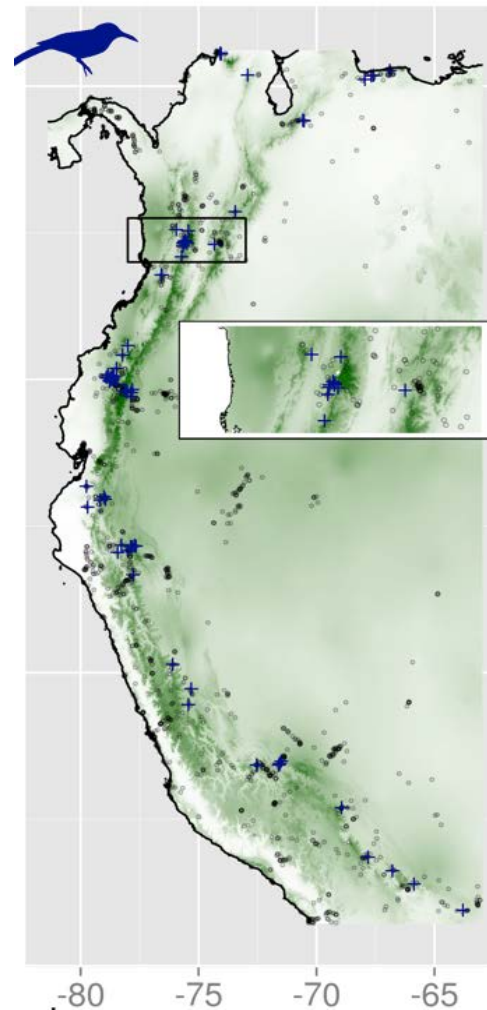


## MODIS – observed



AUC	COR	DIC
<i>0.87</i>	<i>0.35</i>	<i>1,861</i>

## Interpolated



AUC	COR	DIC
<i>0.68</i>	<i>0.10</i>	<i>2,176</i>

p(pres)

1.00

0.75

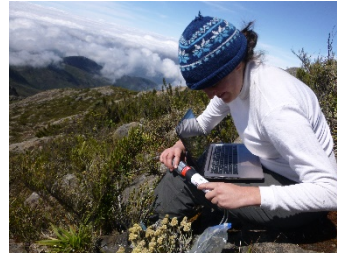
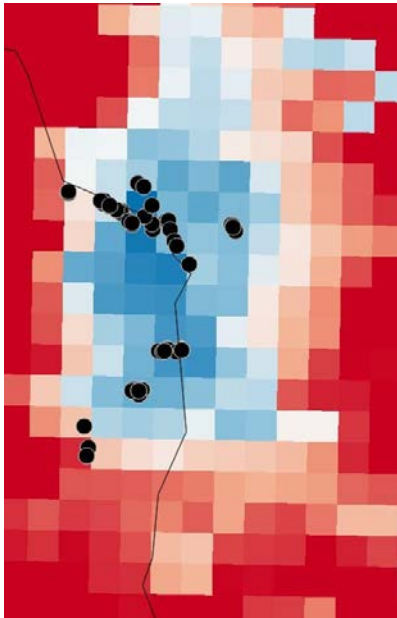
0.50

0.25

0.00

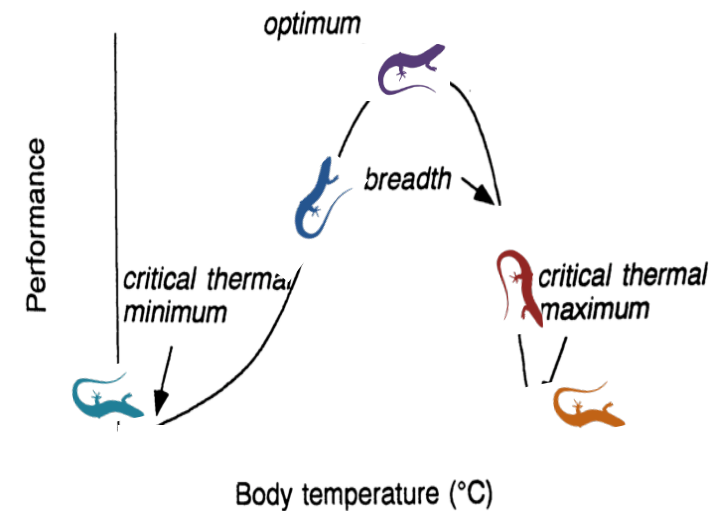


# Climate: Spatial & Temporal Detail



Estimates of surface temperature based on MODIS LST

## Thermal Performance Curve

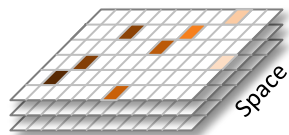


Performance curves based on experiments.

Atlantic Forest Dimensions of Biodiversity team : Ana Carnaval, Kyle McDonald and Mike Hickerson (all from City College of CUNY) plus Fabian Michelangeli and Wayt Thomas (both from New York Botanical Garden).

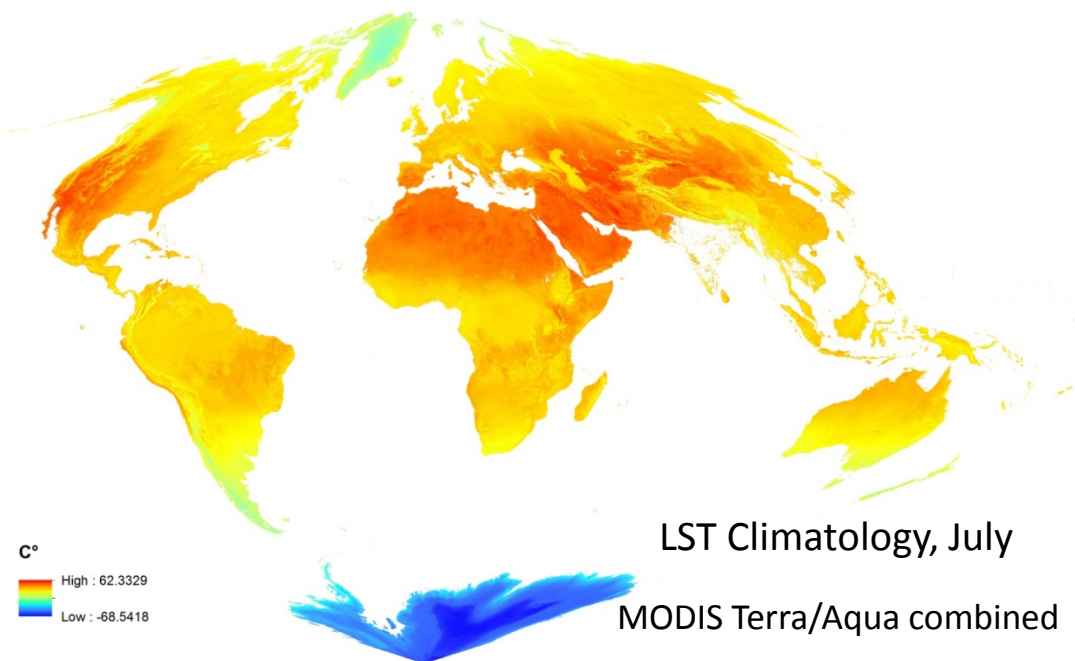


# Climate: Spatial & Temporal Detail

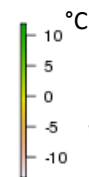
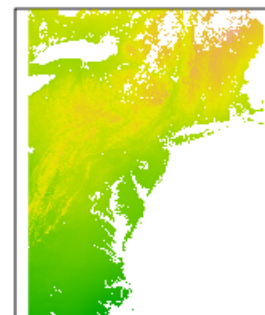


Time

- MODIS Land Surface Temperature + met station data
- **Daily, global, 1km ambient temperature layers 2001-14**
- RMSE:  $\sim 2^{\circ}\text{C}$
- Watch [earthenv.org](http://earthenv.org) (contact us for earlier use)

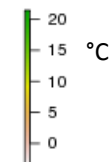
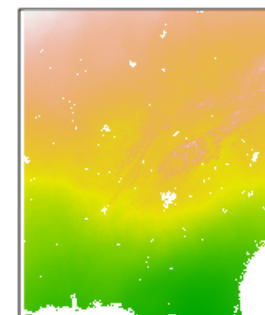


Northeast U.S.



Sample results,  
air temp.,  
Jan 1., 2010,

Southeast U.S.

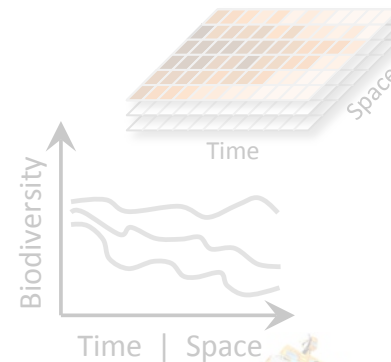
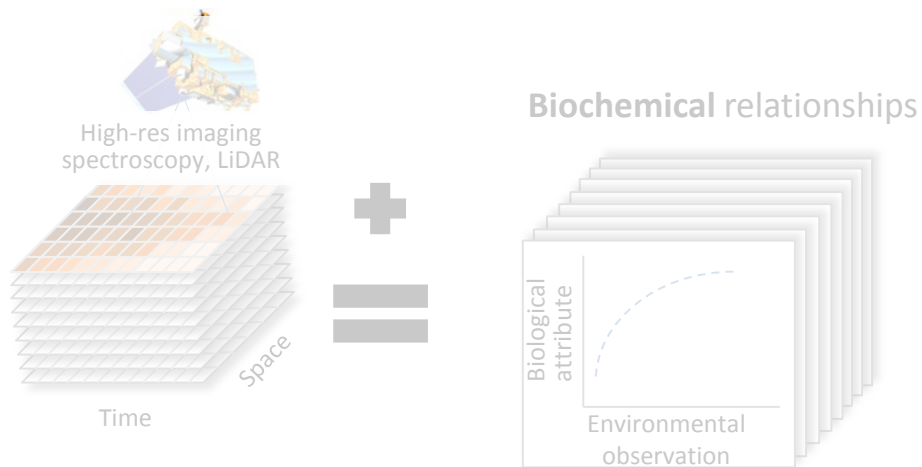


NASA EarthEnv project: W. Jetz (Yale U), F. Melton (Ames), B. McGill (U Maine)R. Guralnick (U Florida)

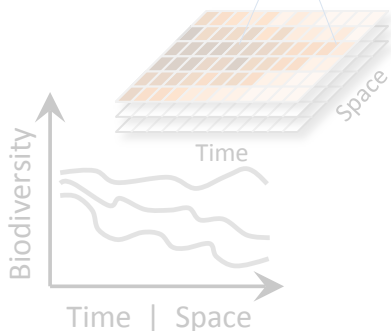
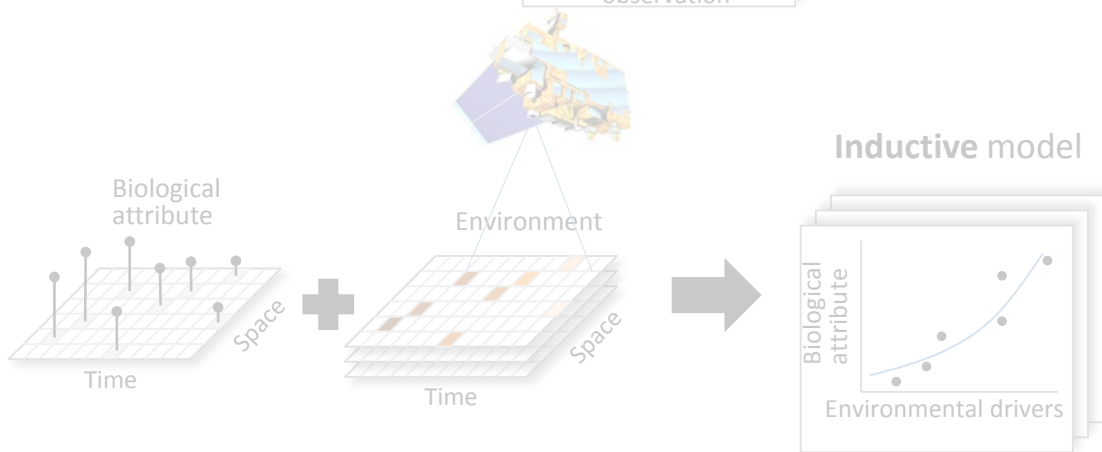
# Observation

# Observed | Predicted Change

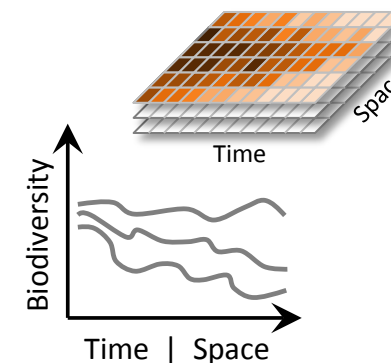
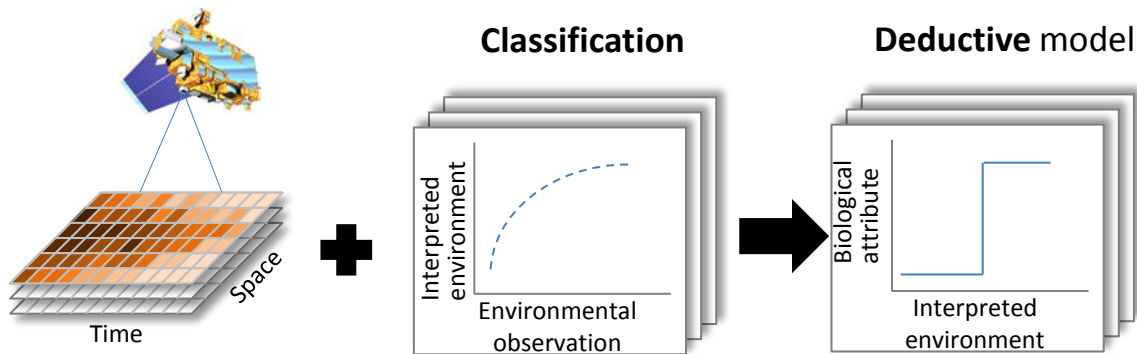
I.



II.

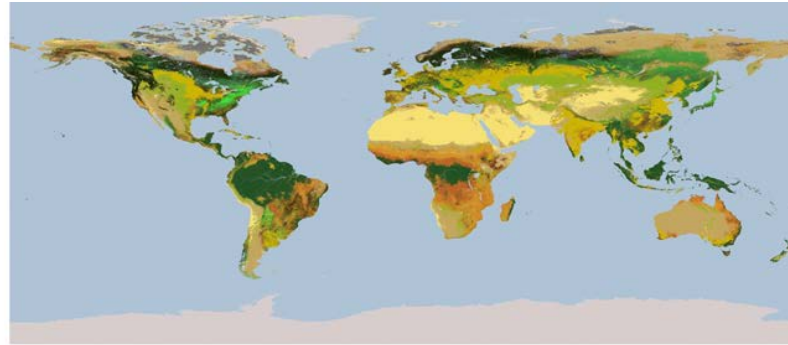


III.

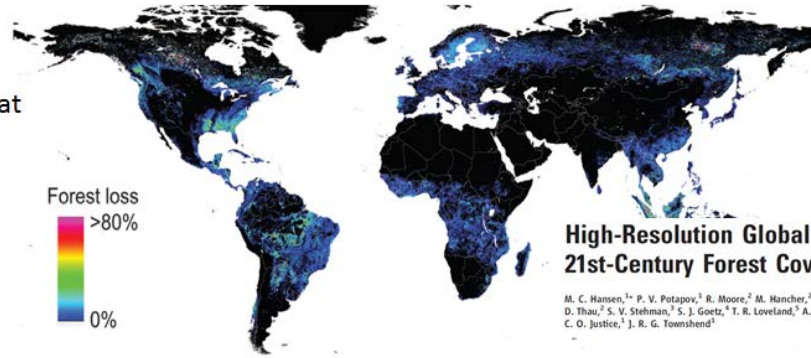


# The special role of habitat monitoring

1km MODIS  
Land cover



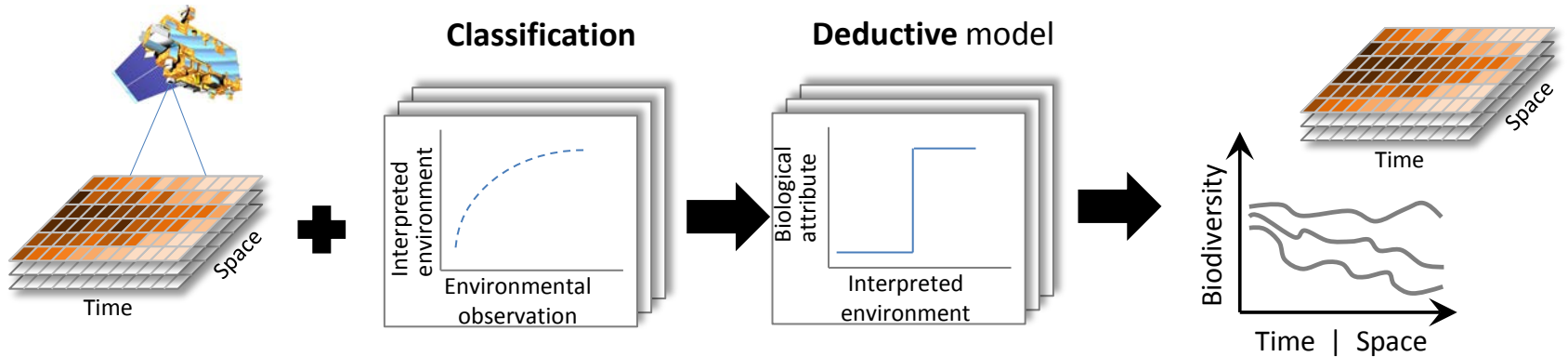
30m Landsat  
Tree cover



High-Resolution Global Maps of  
21st-Century Forest Cover Change

M. C. Hansen,<sup>1</sup> P. V. Potapov,<sup>1</sup> R. Moore,<sup>2</sup> M. Hancher,<sup>2</sup> S. A. Turubanova,<sup>1</sup> A. Tyukavina,<sup>1</sup>  
D. Thau,<sup>2</sup> S. V. Stehman,<sup>2</sup> S. J. Goetz,<sup>4</sup> T. R. Loveland,<sup>2</sup> A. Kommareddy,<sup>4</sup> A. Egorov,<sup>4</sup> L. Chini,<sup>1</sup>  
C. O. Justice,<sup>1</sup> J. R. G. Townshend<sup>4</sup>

III.



## Büttikofer's Babbler

*Trichastoma buettikoferi*






### Habitat Associations ON OFF

Elevation  ON  OFF

0 - 900 meters



Tree cover:  ON  OFF

75 - 100%



Landcover  ON  OFF

#### Woodlands

 Forests  Woody Savannas

#### Cultivated

 Cropland  Cropland Mosaics

#### Shrublands

 Open  Closed

#### Barren Urban

 Barren  Urban

#### Herbaceous

 Savannas  Grasslands

#### Water

 Wetlands  Water Bodies


### Geographic distribution

Range size

216,074 km<sup>2</sup>

374,925 km<sup>2</sup>

Suitable

Total



With support from  
Google Earth Engine

Explore at MOL.org



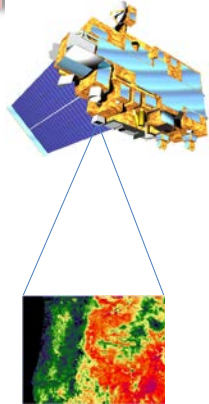
2015

# NASA Carbon Cycle & Ecosystems JOINT SCIENCE WORKSHOP

- How can CC&E community best tackle the next generation of cutting-edge science questions to help assess global change in habitats and biodiversity?

- Can we develop more effective and integrated global products to capture habitat change?

- Which larger research questions and observation needs emerge, how can they inform NASA priorities?



GEO BON

## Global Monitoring of Habitats and Biodiversity



futurearth  
research for global sustainability

# Remote-sensing based biodiversity monitoring

