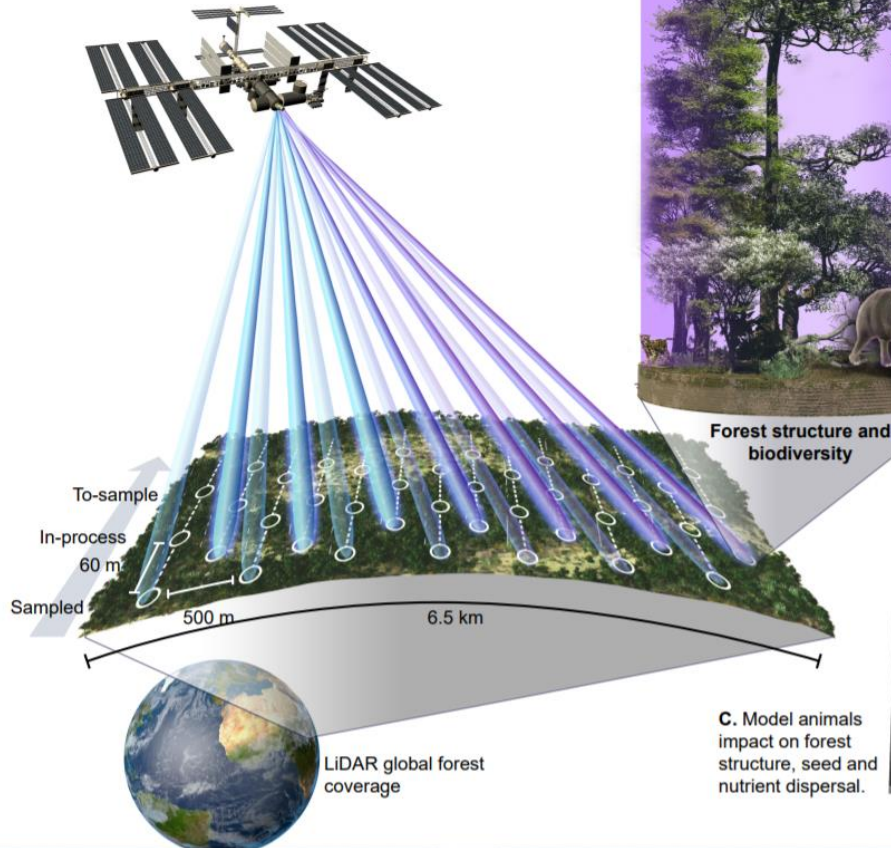
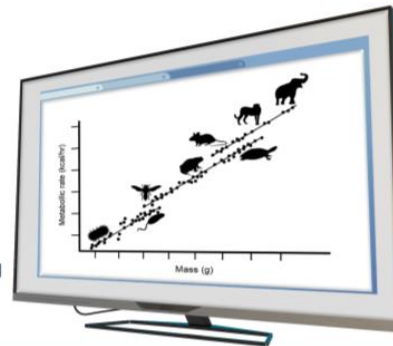


# Putting animals into Earth System Science

A. Determine global landscape vegetation structure with LIDAR.



C. Model animals impact on forest structure, seed and nutrient dispersal.



Chris Doughty<sup>1</sup>, Camille Gaillard<sup>1</sup>, Jenna Keany<sup>1</sup>, Andrew Abraham<sup>1</sup>, Scott Goetz<sup>1</sup>, Patrick Jantz<sup>1</sup>, Patrick Burns<sup>1</sup>, Toby Jackson<sup>2</sup>, Luca Santini<sup>3</sup>, Mike Harfoot<sup>4</sup>,

*Northern Arizona University<sup>1</sup>, Cambridge<sup>2</sup>, Sapienza University<sup>3</sup>, UNEP-WCMC<sup>4</sup>*



# Animals impact global nutrient and carbon cycles

## *The Thick Gray Line: Forest Elephants Defend Against Climate Change*

If the species is wiped out by poachers, Africa's vast rain forest will lose 7 percent of its carbon storage ability, scientists estimate.



nature  
geoscience

Article | Published: 15 July 2019

### Carbon stocks in central African forests enhanced by elephant disturbance

Fabio Berzagli<sup>1</sup>, Marcos Longo, Philippe Clais, Stephen Blake, François Bretagnolle, Simone Vieira, Marcos Scaranello, Giuseppe Scarascia-Mugnozza & Christopher E. Doughty

Nature Geoscience (2019) | [Download Citation](#)

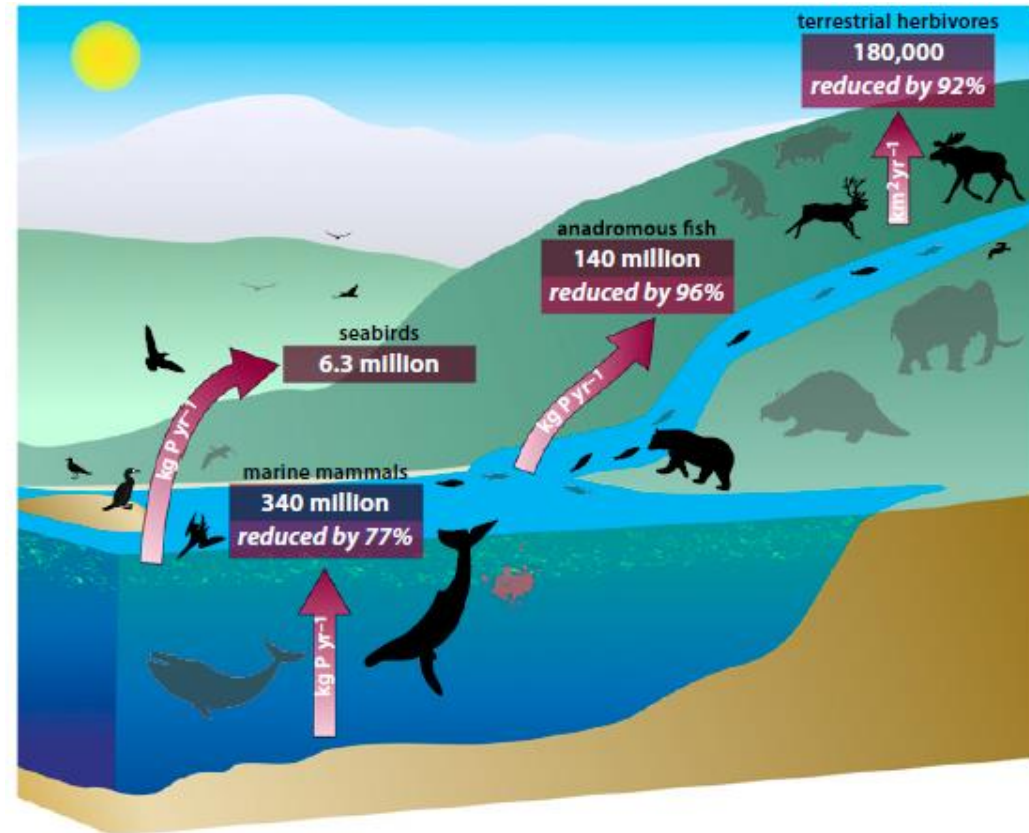
Reserve in Gabon in 2012. There are fewer than 1  
abon. Tyler Hicks/The New York Times

By Rachel Nuwer

Aug. 19, 2019

## Global nutrient transport in a world of giants

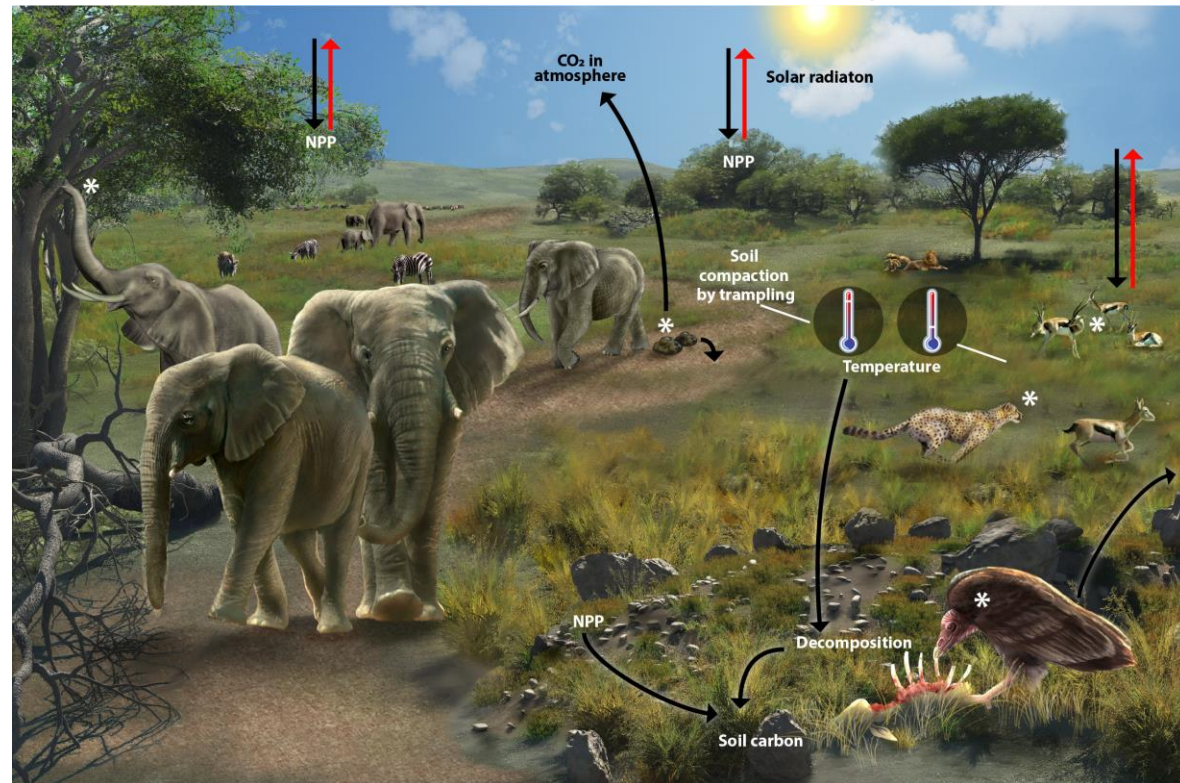
Christopher E. Doughty<sup>a,1</sup>, Joe Roman<sup>b,c</sup>, Søren Faurby<sup>d</sup>, Adam Wolf<sup>e</sup>, Alifa Haque<sup>a</sup>, Elisabeth S. Bakker<sup>f</sup>, Yadvinder Malhi<sup>a</sup>, John B. Dunning Jr.<sup>g</sup>, and Jens-Christian Svenning<sup>d</sup>



- What about:
- Landscapes of fear?
- Human influences?
- Climate change?
- The combined influences?

- Predation influences movement and biogeochemical patterns.
- Humans impact movement patterns.
- Temperature impact ecto and endotherms differently.

- We need a global mechanistic model



Schmitz et al. (2018), *Science*

# Madingley General Ecosystem Model

OPEN ACCESS Freely available online

PLOS BIOLOGY

## Emergent Global Patterns of Ecosystem Structure and Function from a Mechanistic General Ecosystem Model

Michael B. J. Harfoot<sup>1,2,3\*</sup>, Tim Newbold<sup>1,2,3</sup>, Derek P. Tittensor<sup>1,2,3</sup>, Stephen Emmott<sup>2</sup>, Jon Hutton<sup>1</sup>, Vassily Lyutsarev<sup>2</sup>, Matthew J. Smith<sup>2</sup>, Jörn P. W. Scharlemann<sup>1,4</sup>, Drew W. Purves<sup>2</sup>

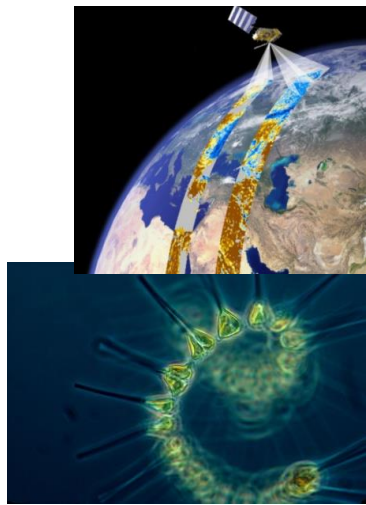
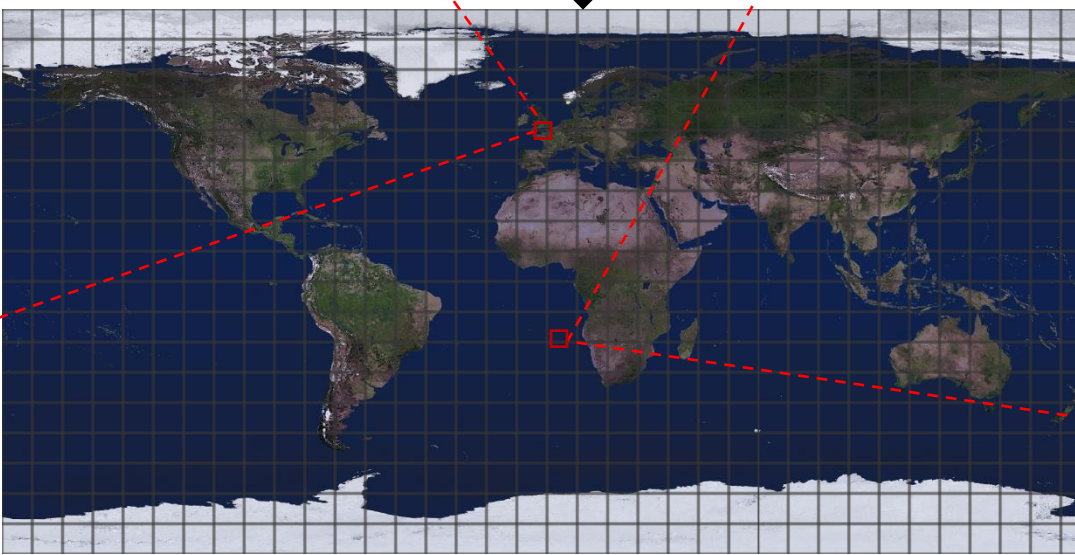
April 2014 | Volume 12 | Issue 4 | e1001841

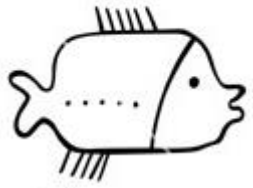


**Terrestrial:** data constrained carbon model (Smith *et al.*, 2013 Biogeosciences)

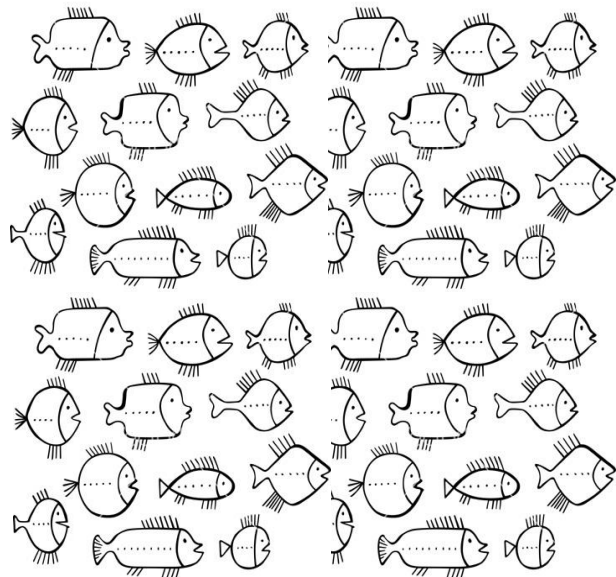
Realistic geography, ocean circulation, environmental conditions (air & ocean temperature, precipitation)

**Marine:** remotely sensed phytoplankton concentration

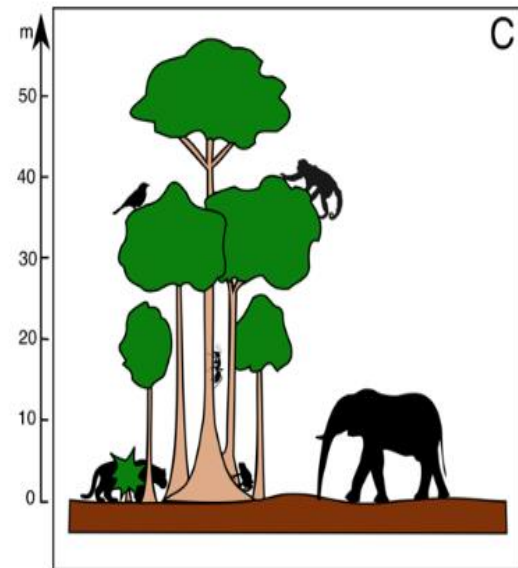
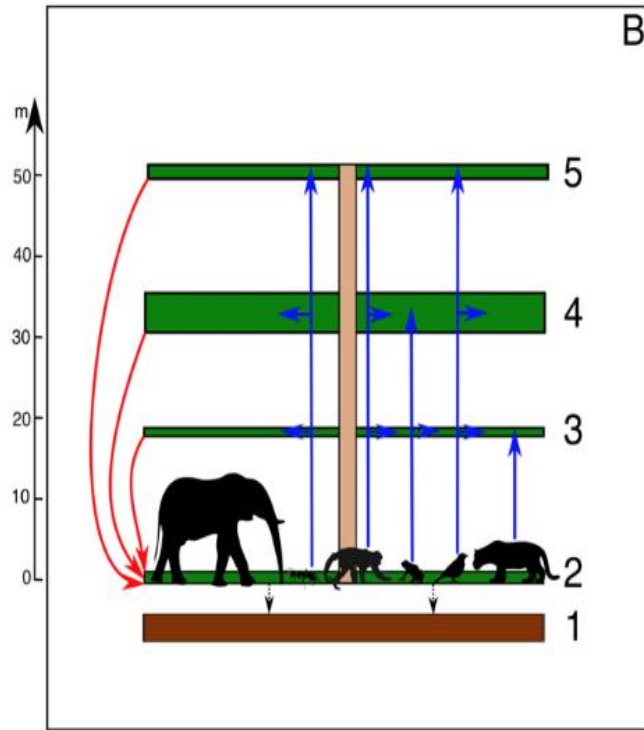
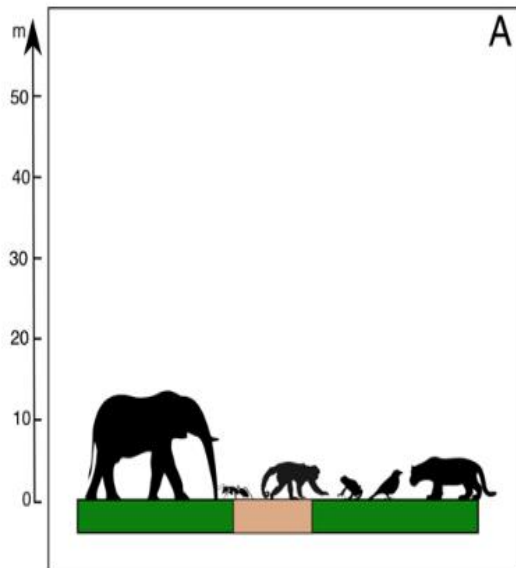







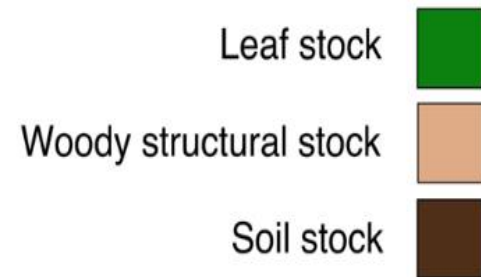
**Herbivore / omnivore / carnivore**  
**Ecotherm / Endotherm**  
**Active disperser / passive disperser**  
**Iteroparous / semelparous**  
Adult body mass  
Juvenile body mass  
Current body mass



**Herbivore / omnivore / carnivore**  
**Ecotherm / Endotherm**  
**Active disperser / passive disperser**  
**Iteroparous / semelparous**  
Adult body mass  
Juvenile body mass  
Current body mass  
**Abundance**

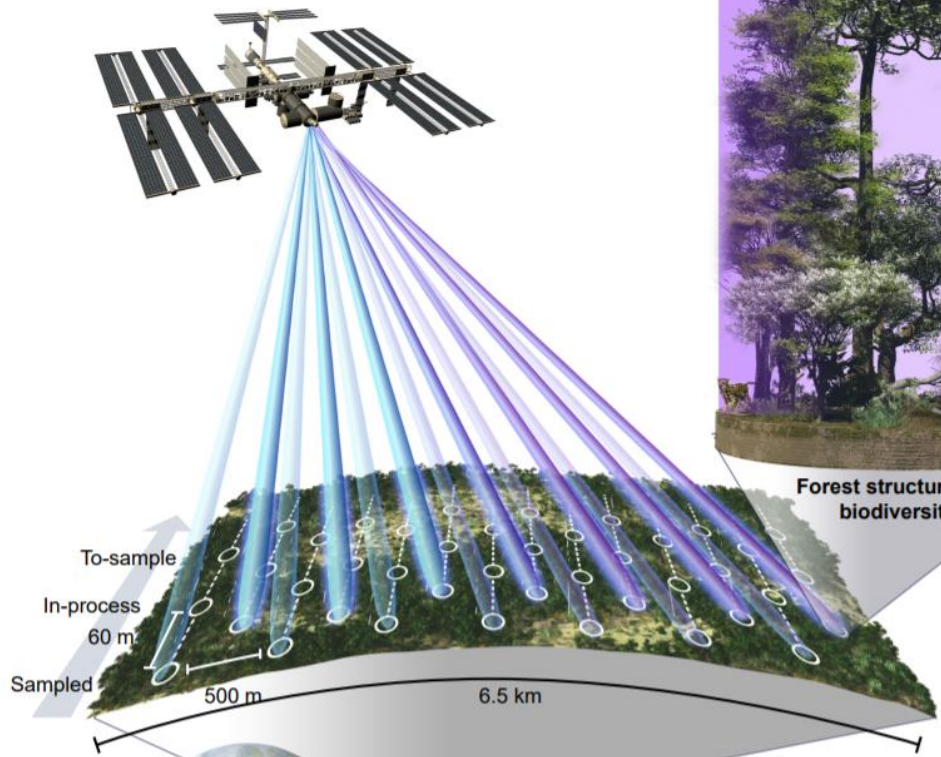


-  Leaf fall
-  Accessible layer(s) for each cohort
-  Decomposition to soil stock



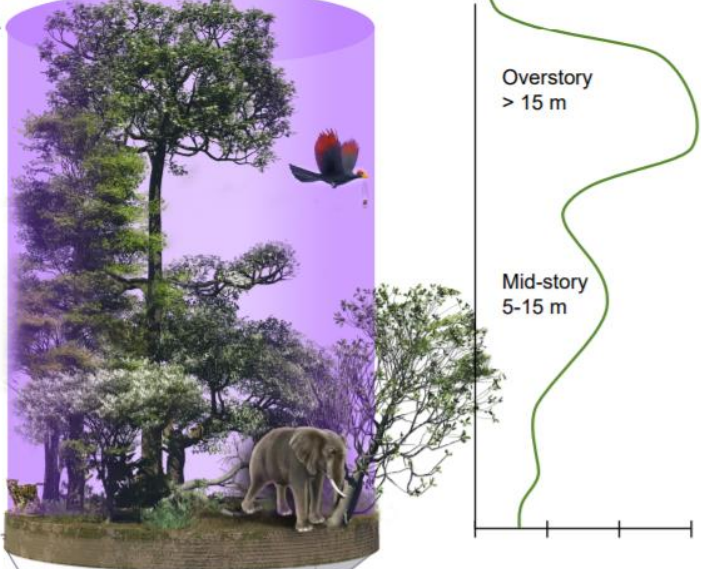
# Adding space-based vegetation structure measurements to a global ecosystem model to simulate tropical forest animal communities and their role in ecosystem function

**A. Determine global landscape vegetation structure with LiDAR.**



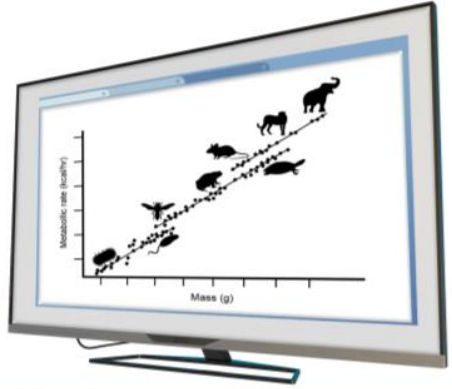
LiDAR global forest coverage

**B.**



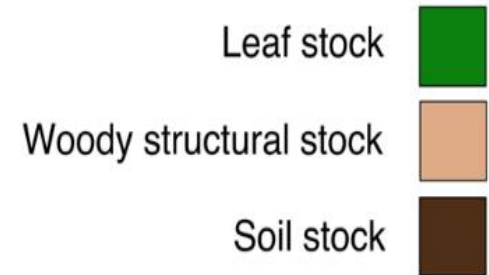
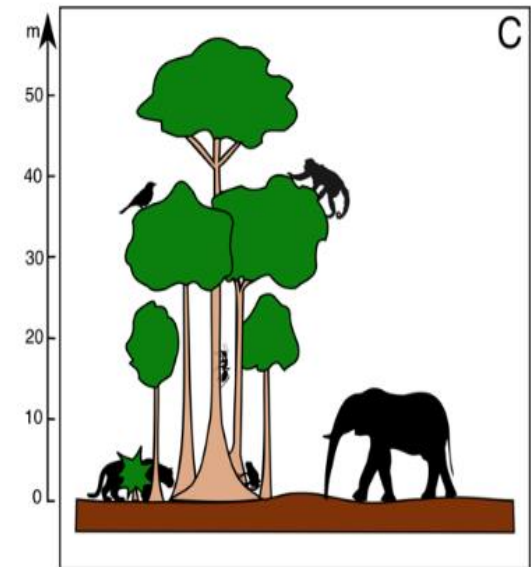
Forest structure and biodiversity

**C. Model animals impact on forest structure, seed and nutrient dispersal.**



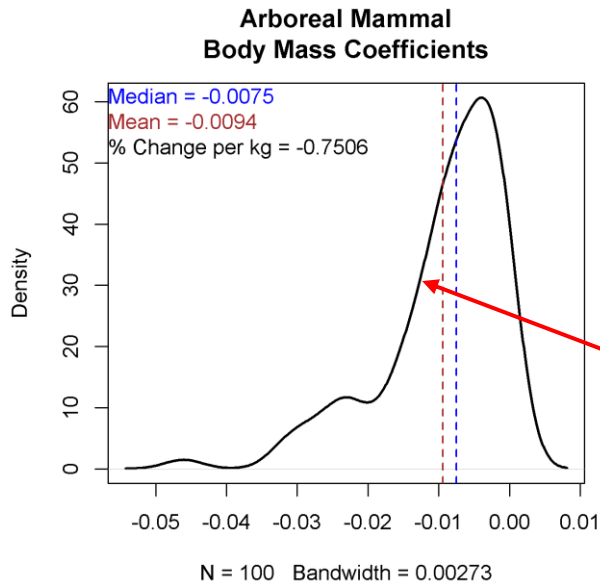
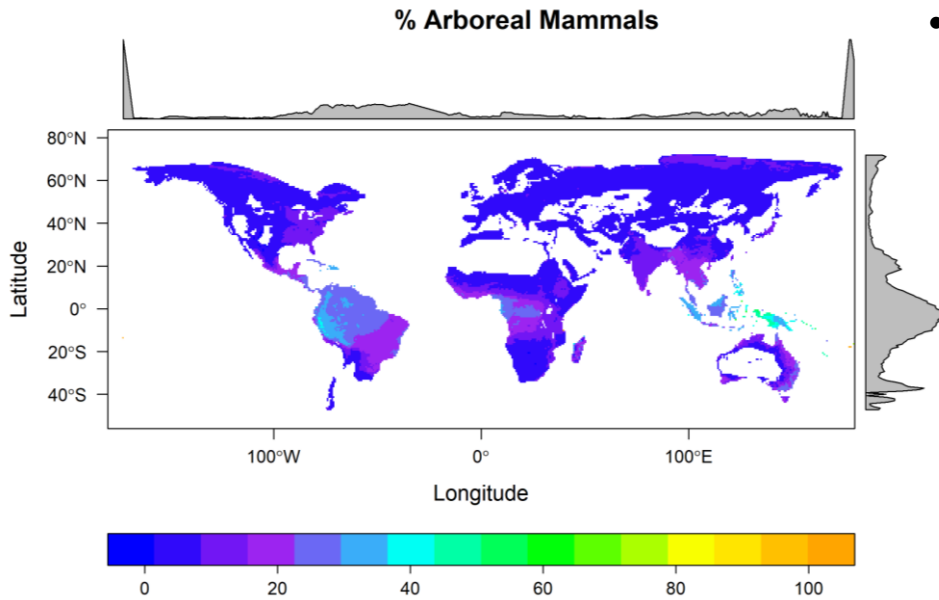
# Project goals

- Add climbing cohort and GEDI data to Madingley.
- Add ecosystem engineer cohort to Madingley.
- Understand role of forest structure on composition.
- Provide RCP scenarios and EBVs to key stakeholders in Gabon, Peru, and Brazil





# What traits are important for arboreality?



Jantz et al for SI ERE

- % nectar and fruit in diet are most important functional traits positively associated with arboreal mammals.

- Less important, but positive is predation pressure.

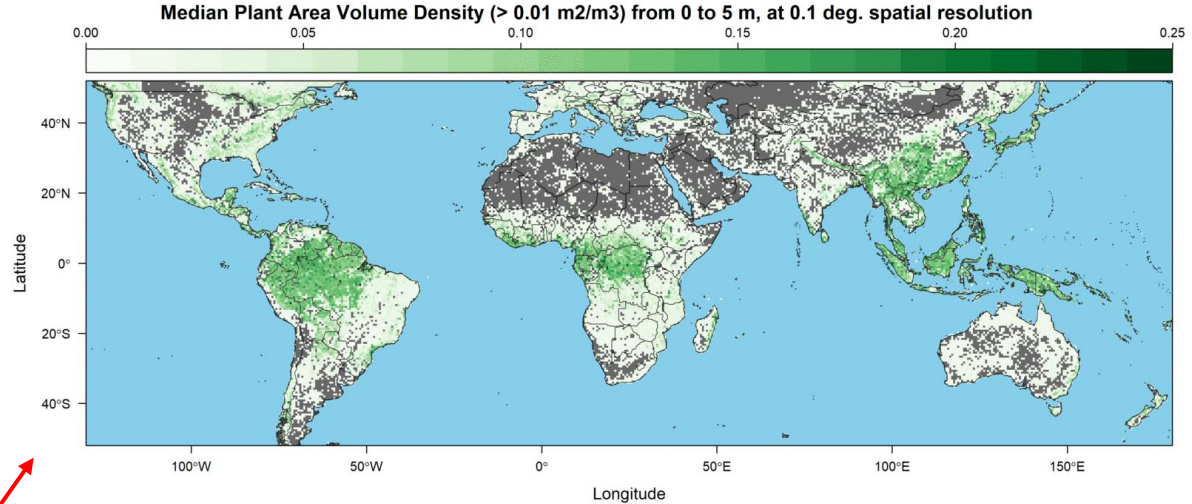
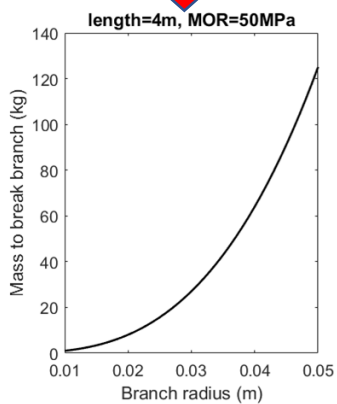
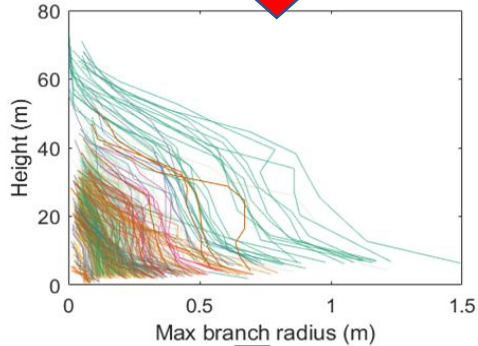
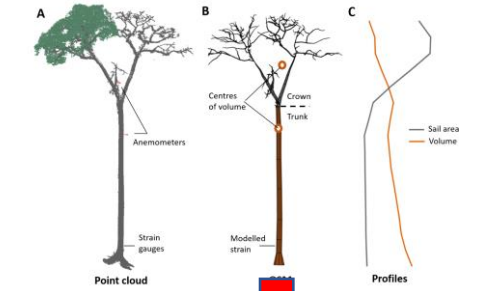
- ~1% decrease in arboreality per kg increase in body mass.



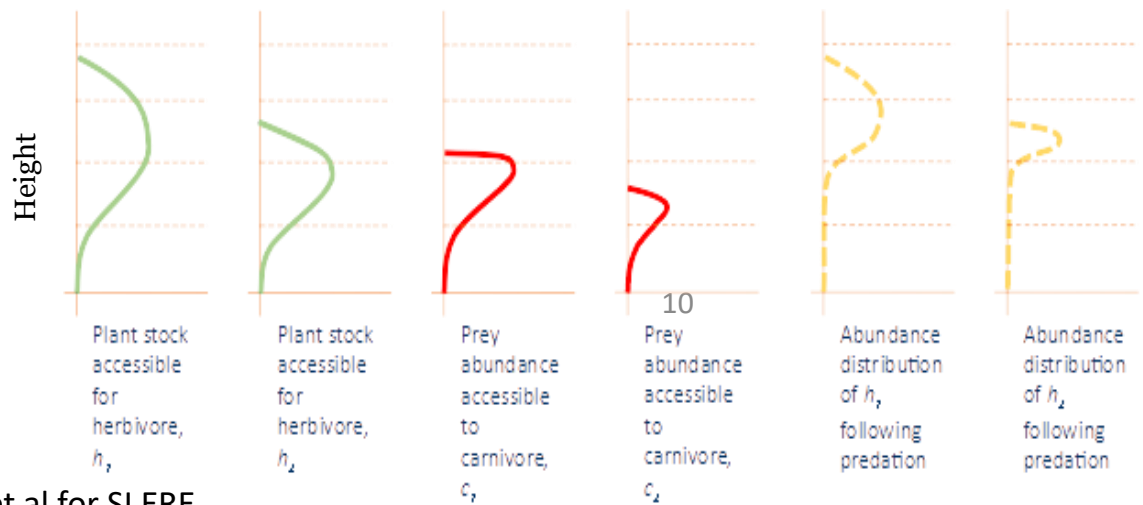
# Add climbing cohort and GEDI data to Madingley.

## Linking vegetation height to branch strength

### Terrestrial Lidar Scanning

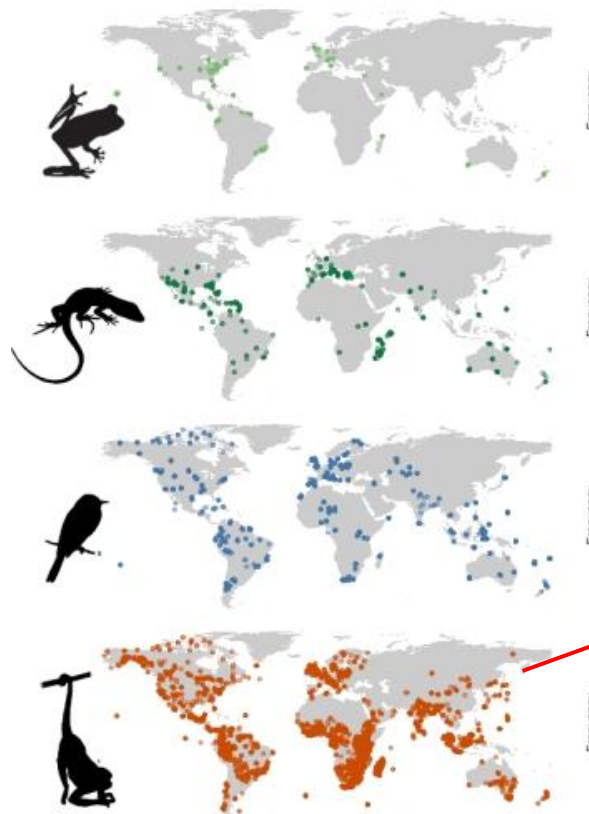


Links tree height to how accessible resources are to different sizes of organism



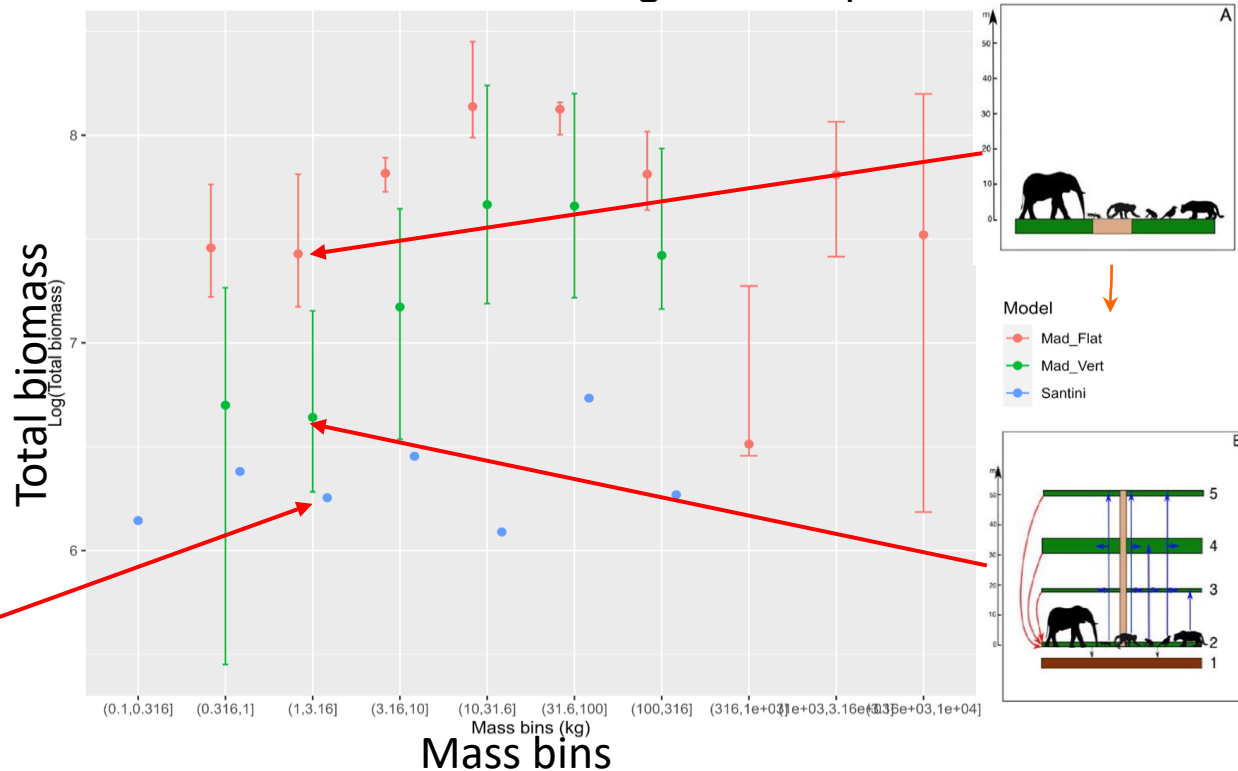
Gaillard et al for SI ERE

# Simulation results



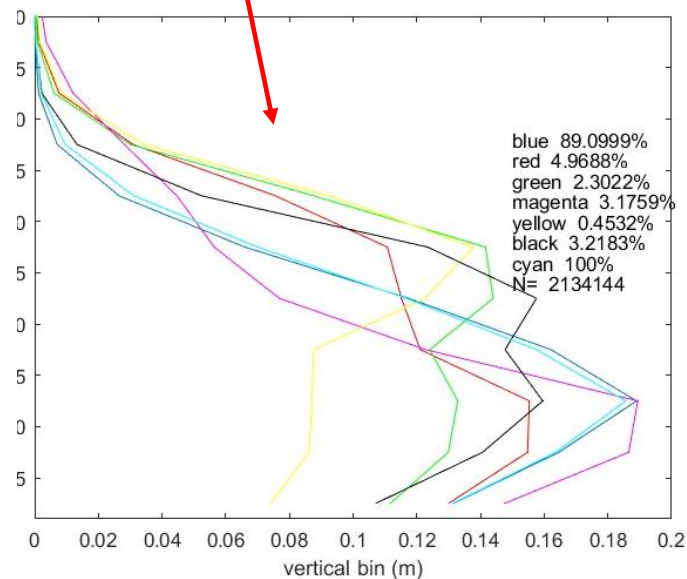
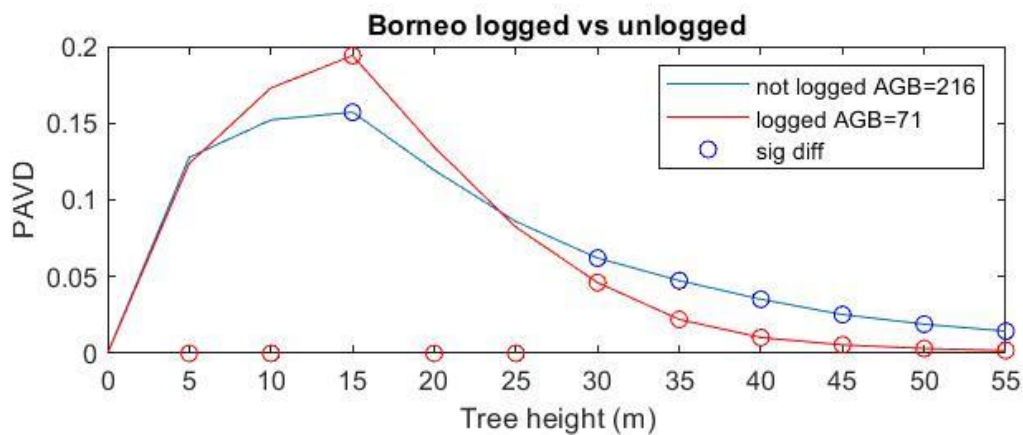
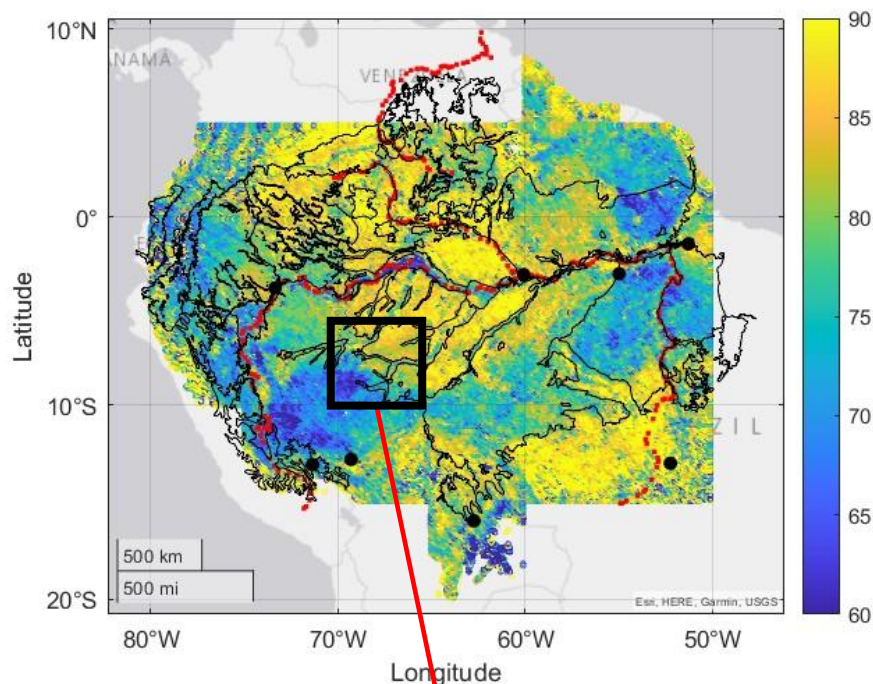
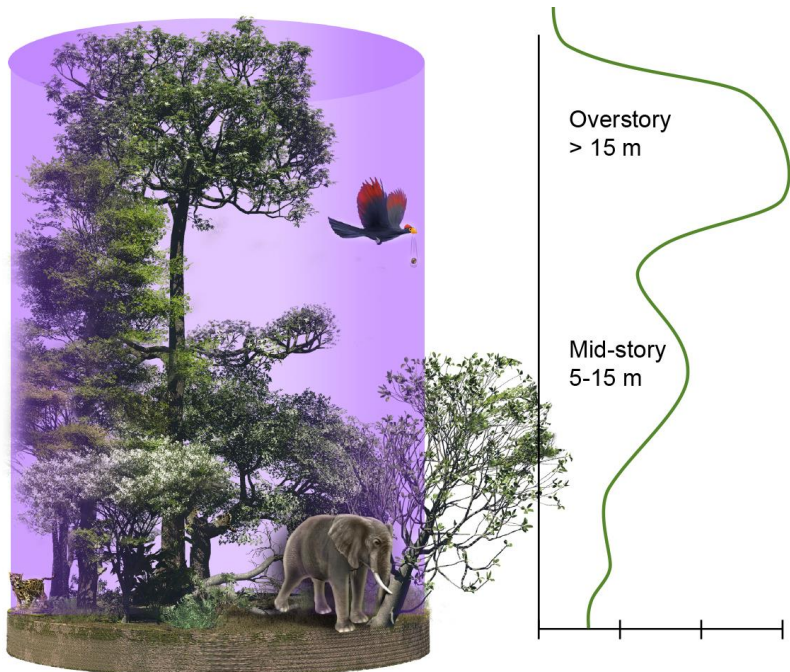
Tetradensity- Santini et al 2018

Cohorts are now using vertical space

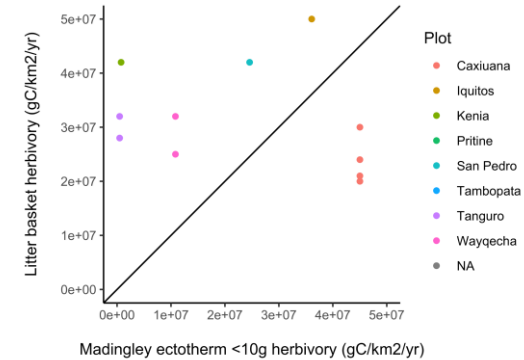
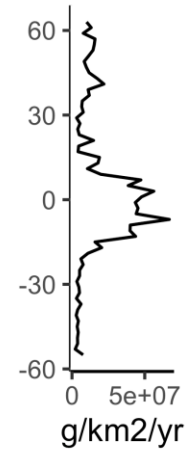
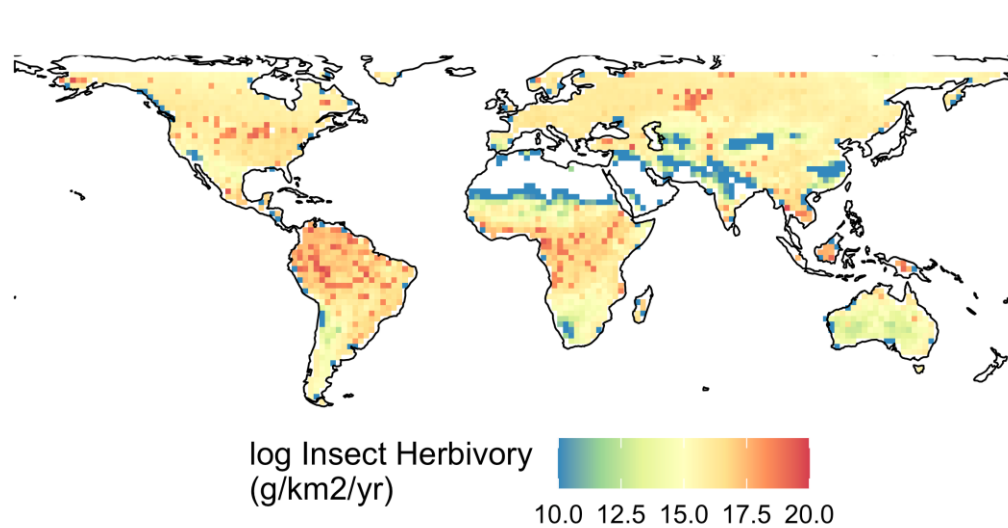


Adding vertical structure to Madingley gives more accurate total biomass estimates

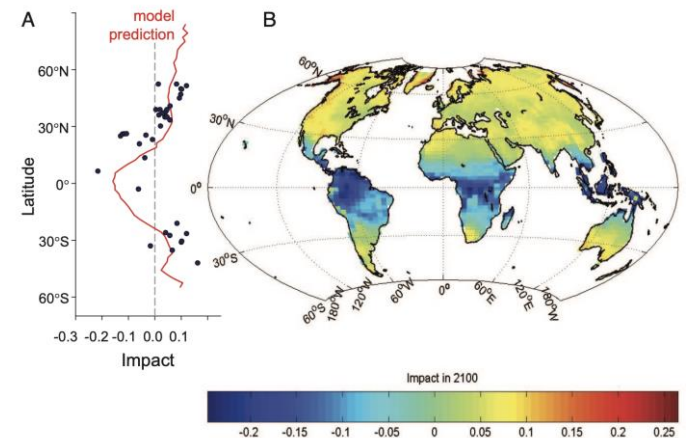
# How does tropical forest structure vary?



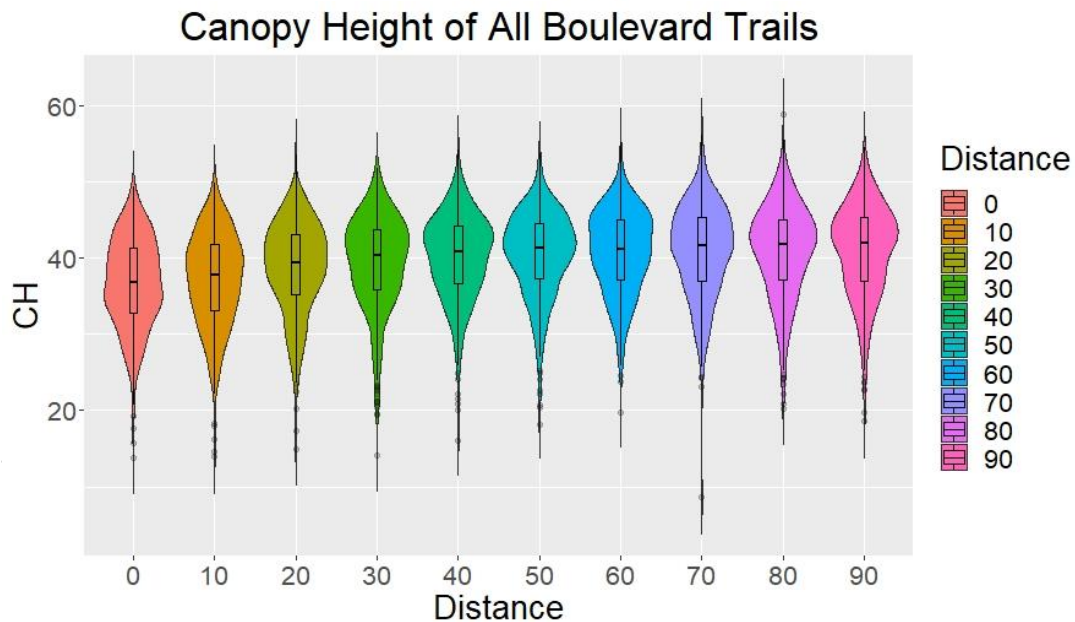
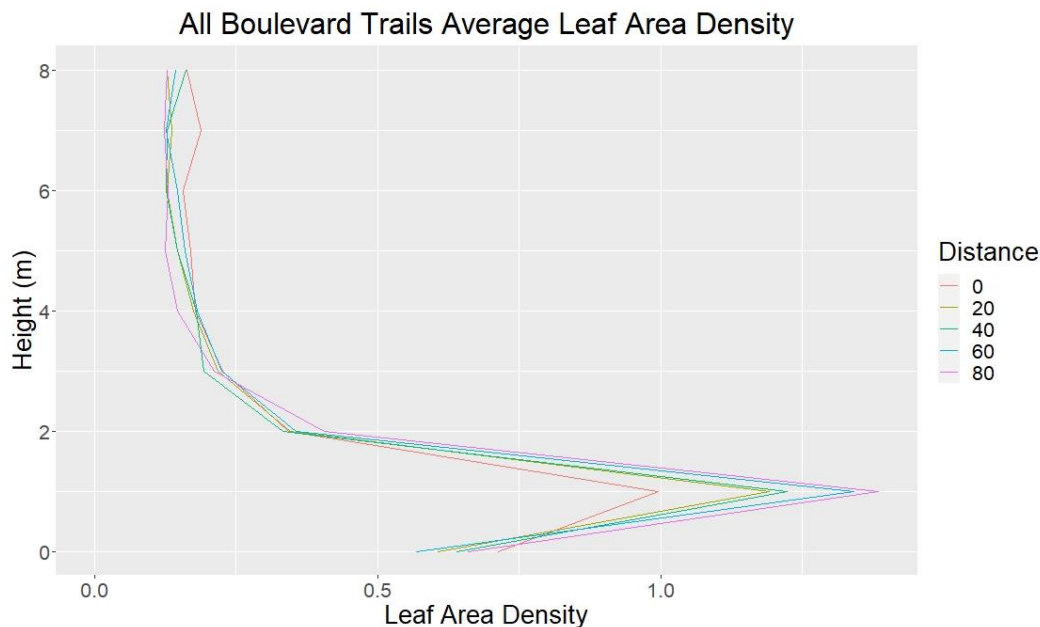
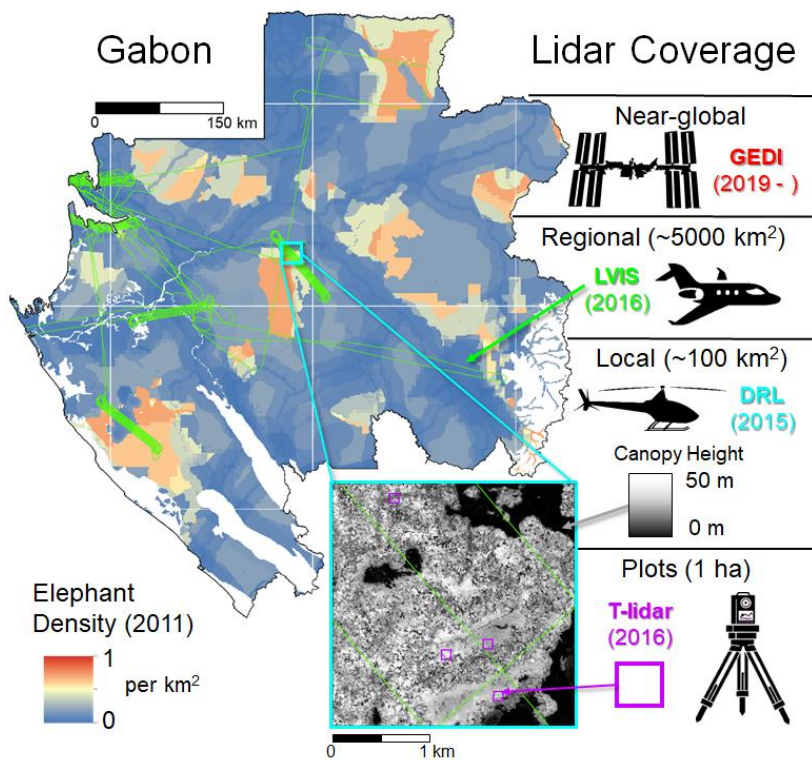
# Use Madingley to understand how changes to insect biomass may influence ecosystem composition globally



- Comparisons of Madingley to empirical data show that it correctly predicts decreasing insect herbivory from the tropics to the poles
- Next, we will modify insect abundance based on Deutsch et al. (2008)
- Assess ecosystem composition metrics globally in response to insect changes:
  - Total animal biomass
  - Functional diversity
  - Trophic skew



# Add ecosystem engineers to Madingley



## Lidar:

- Airborne DRL - 2015
- T-lidar - 2016
- Airborne LVIS - 2016
- GEDI - 2019 to present

# Provide RCP scenarios and EBVs to key stakeholders in Gabon, Peru, and Brazil

- Scenario planning for climate change, selective logging, extinctions, trophic loss, land use change.
- EBV Madingley results available for scientists, the public or policy makers as a map and a time series PDF.
- Available in five languages

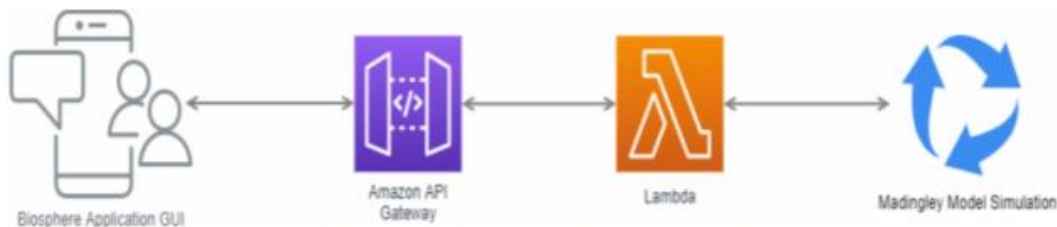
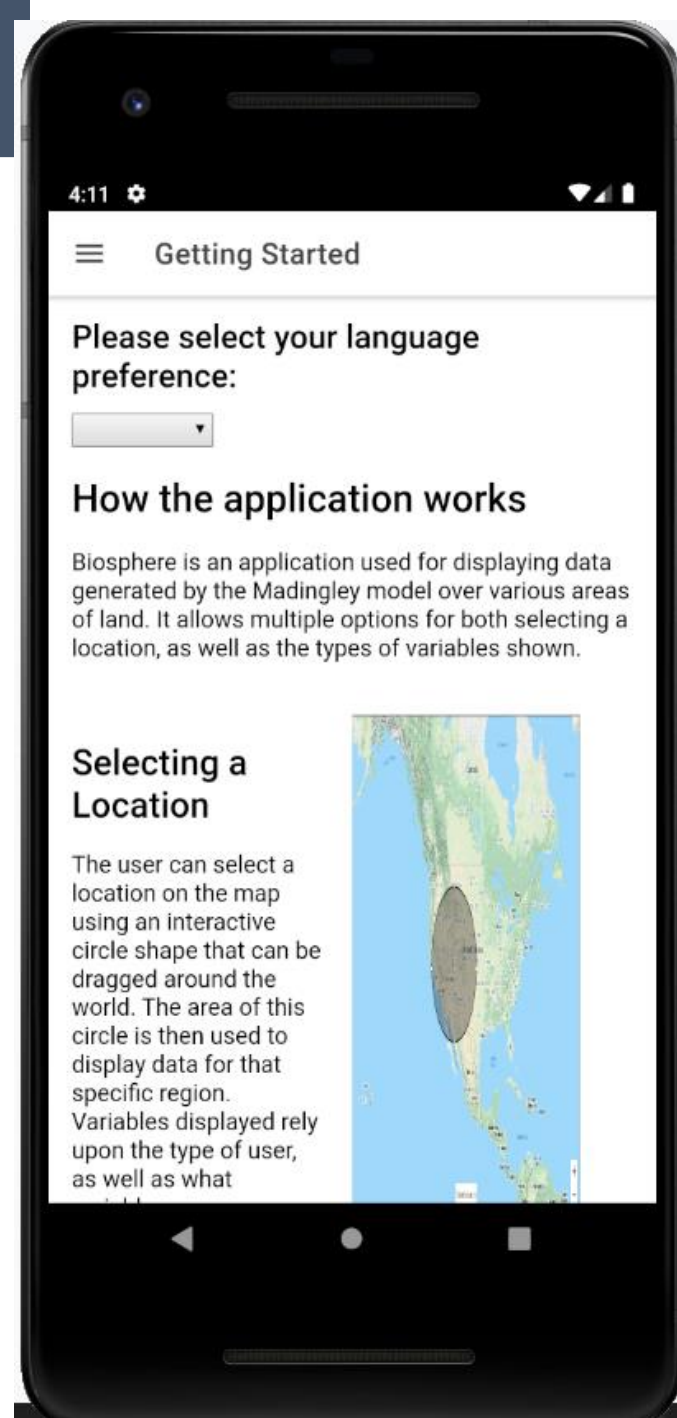


figure 4.1.3 - Application Data Flow Chart



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Unravelling the Role of Vegetation Structure  
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Questions?  
[Chris.doughty@nau.edu](mailto:Chris.doughty@nau.edu)

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Ecological and Environmental Informatics