



Working with what we know – presence-only / ecological niche models in marine mammal science

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School of Biological Sciences (Zoology), University of Aberdeen, UK



Outline

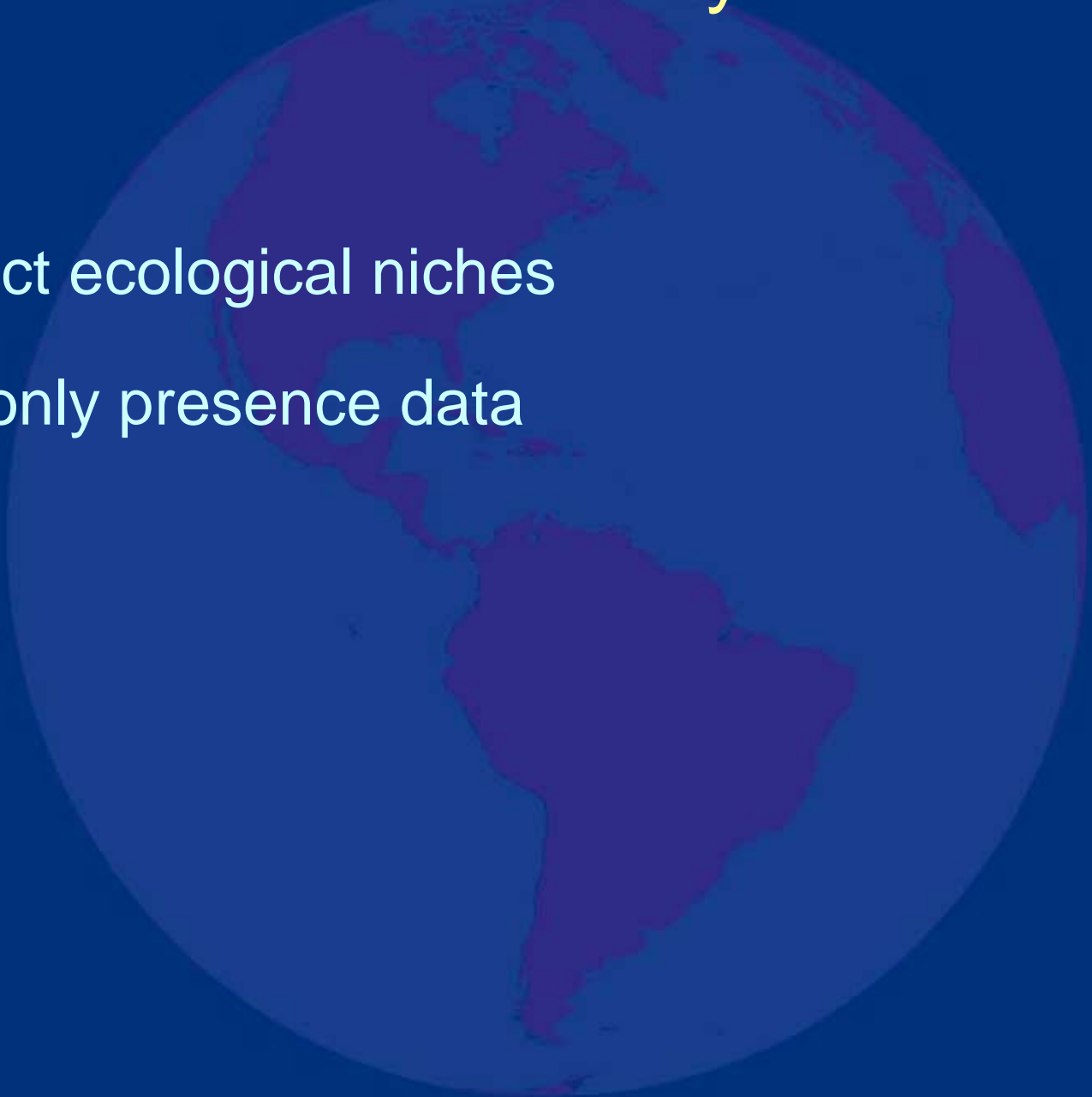
- What are presence-only models?
- Why do we use them?
- Which ones are there?
- Do they work?
- What can we do with them?



WHAT?

What are they?

- Predict ecological niches
- Use only presence data

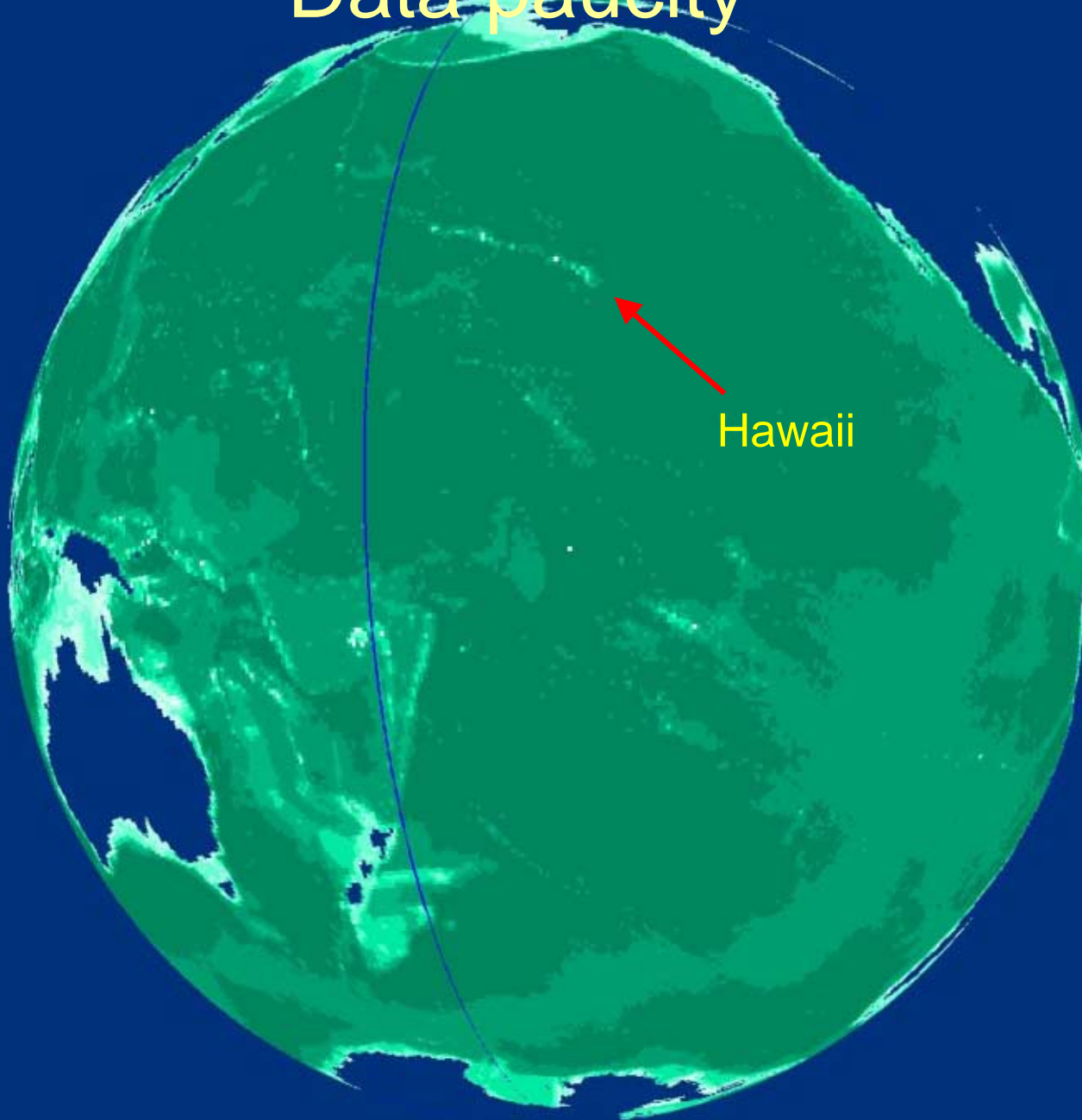


Why do we use them?

- Data paucity
- Absence data issues
- Niche modeling vs. distribution

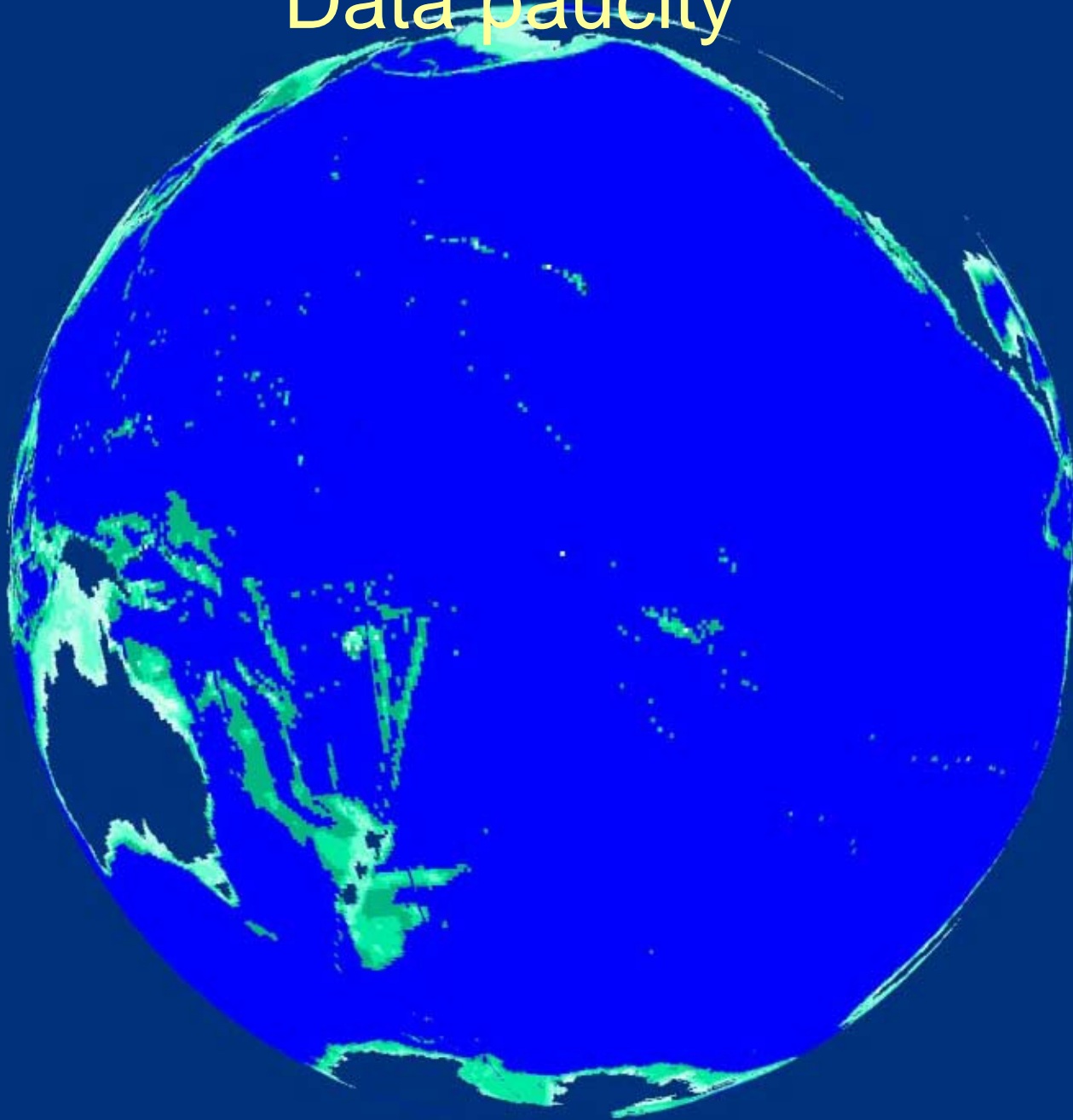
WHY?

Data paucity



WHY?

Data paucity



Data paucity

OBIS-SEAMAP (<http://seamap.env.duke.edu/species>)

- compilation & storage of marine mammal occurrence data
- out of 115 species, geo-referenced / effort corrected data
 - available/accessible for ~ 50%
 - representative coverage = ~ 2 %

Absence Data Issues

Model evaluation





Presence-absence confusion matrix

	Recorded presence	Recorded absence
Predicted presence	a (true presence)	b (false presence)
Predicted absence	c (false absence)	d (true absence)

Absence Data Issues

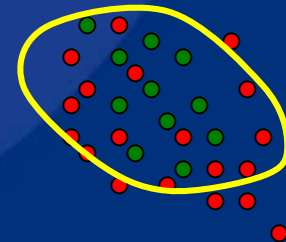
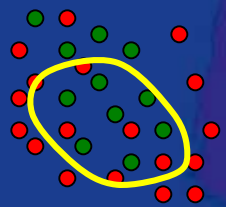
Model evaluation

Presence-absence confusion matrix

	Recorded presence 	Recorded absence 
Predicted presence	a (true presence)	b (false presence) 
Predicted absence	c (false absence) 	d (true absence)

Omission error /
Model overfitting

Commission error /
Model overprediction



Absence Data Issues

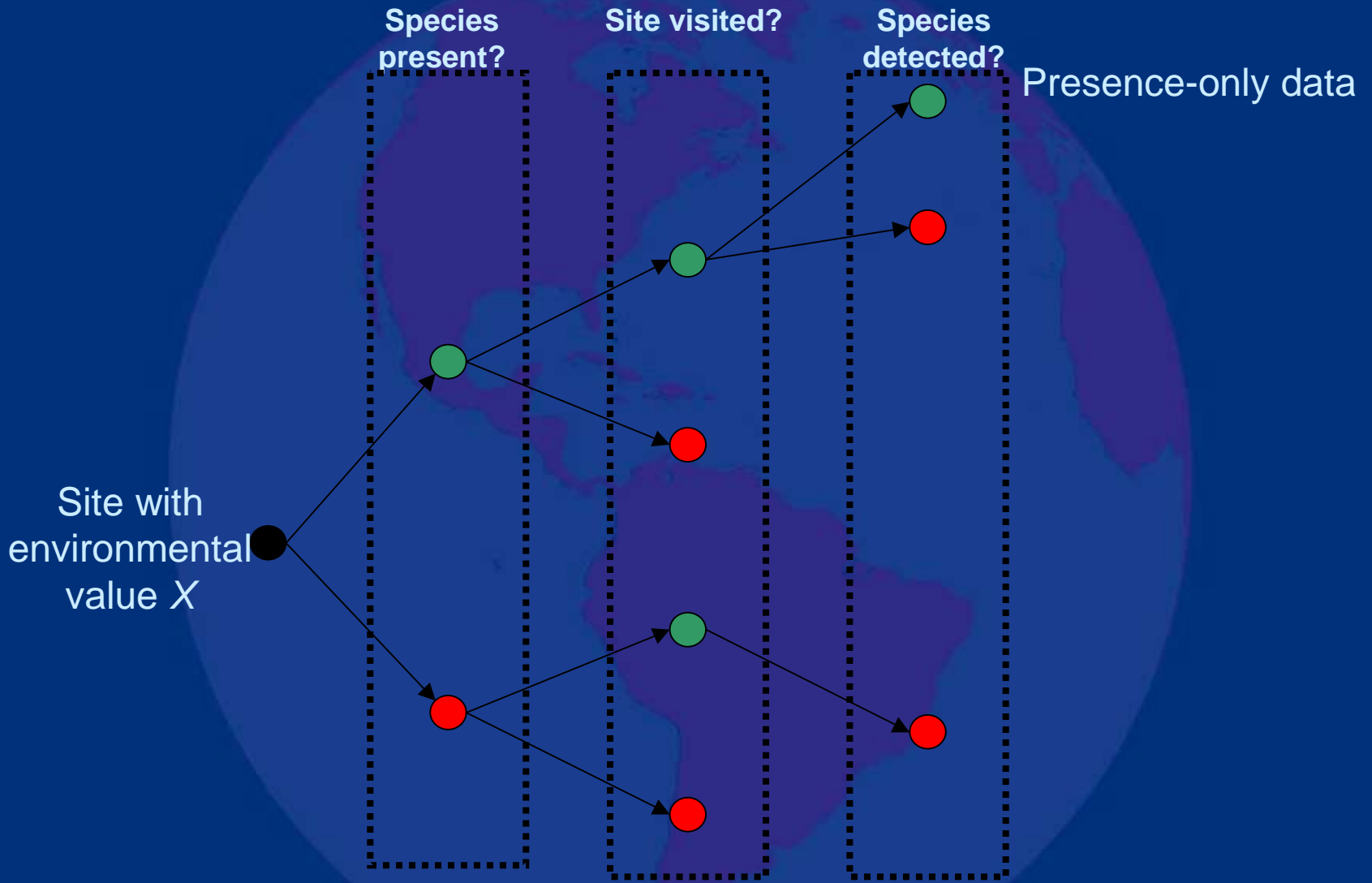
Model evaluation

Presence-absence confusion matrix

	Recorded presence	Recorded absence
Predicted presence	a (true presence)	b (false presence)
Predicted absence	c (false absence)	d (true or perceived absence????)

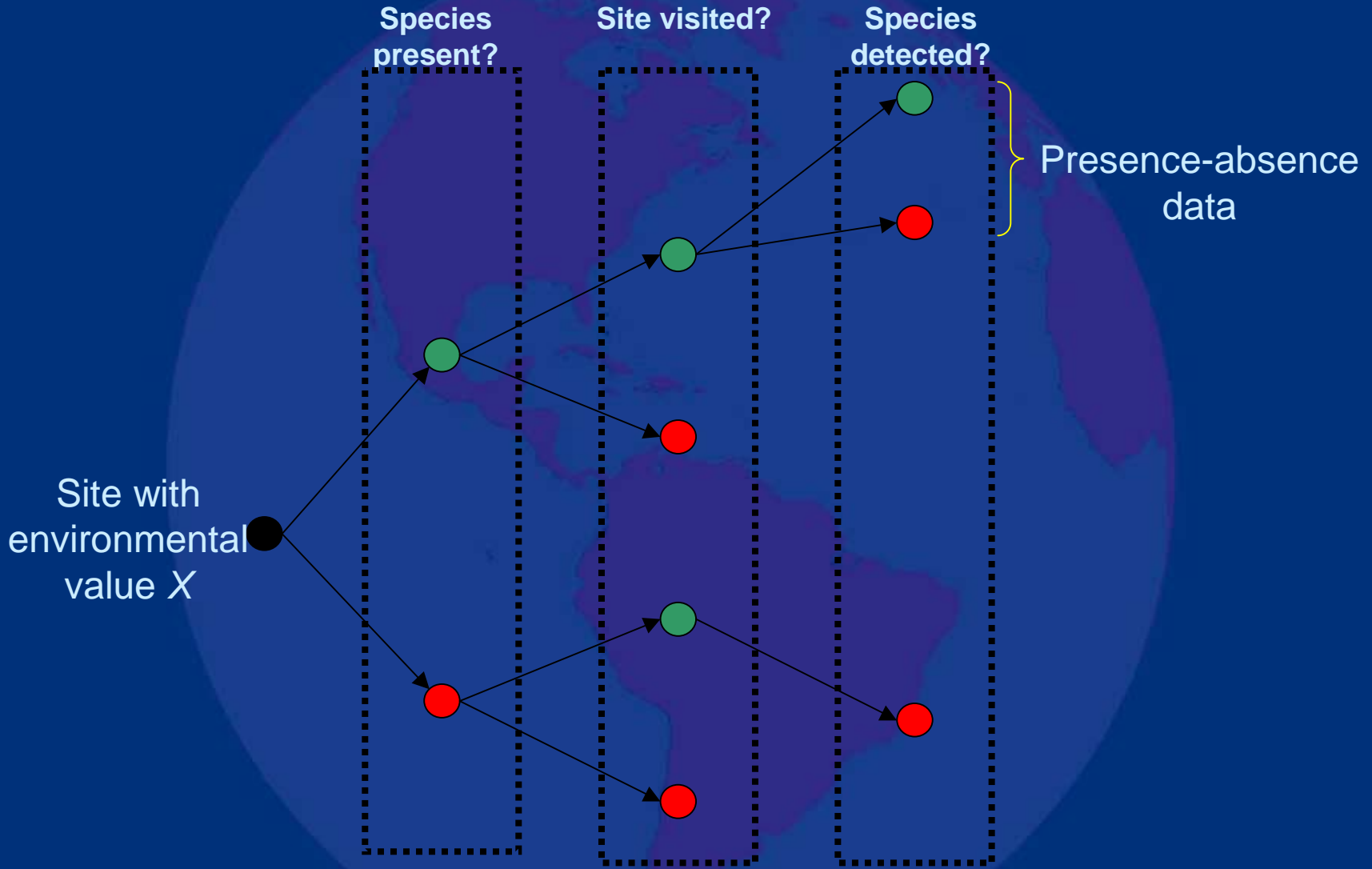
WHY?

Absence Data Issues



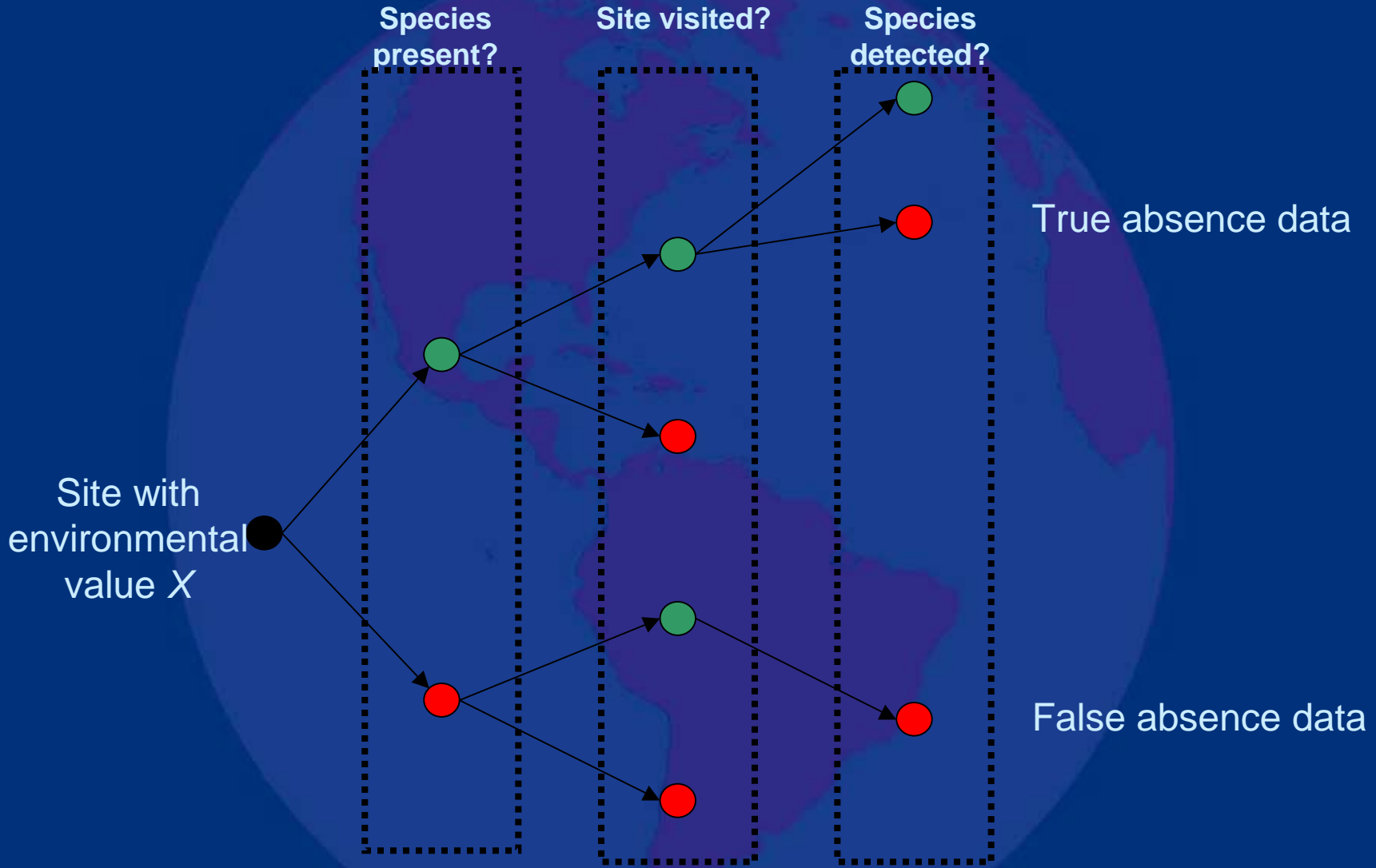
WHY?

Absence Data Issues



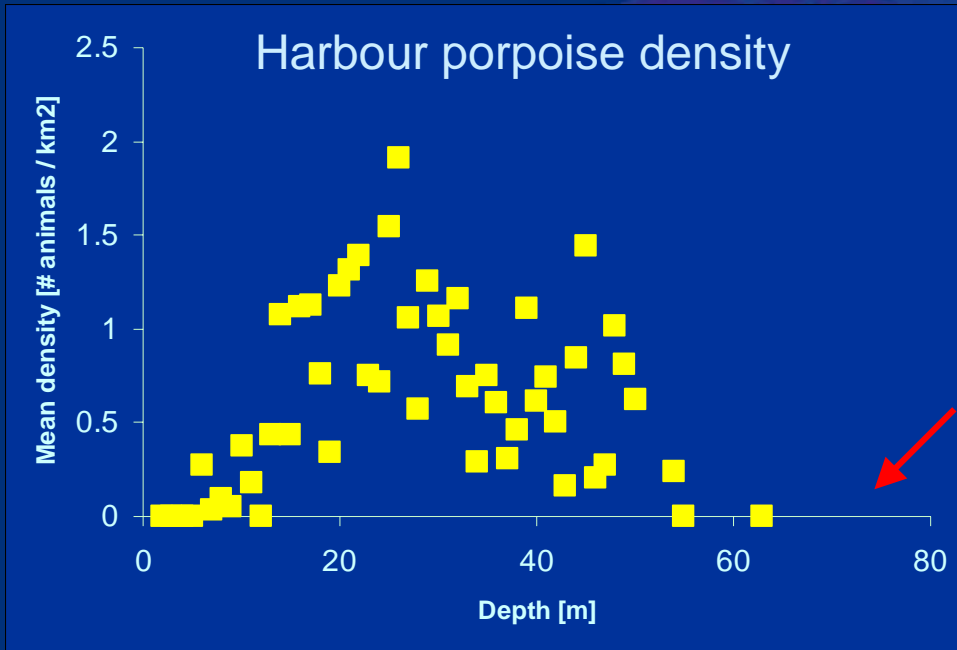
WHY?

Absence Data Issues



WHY?

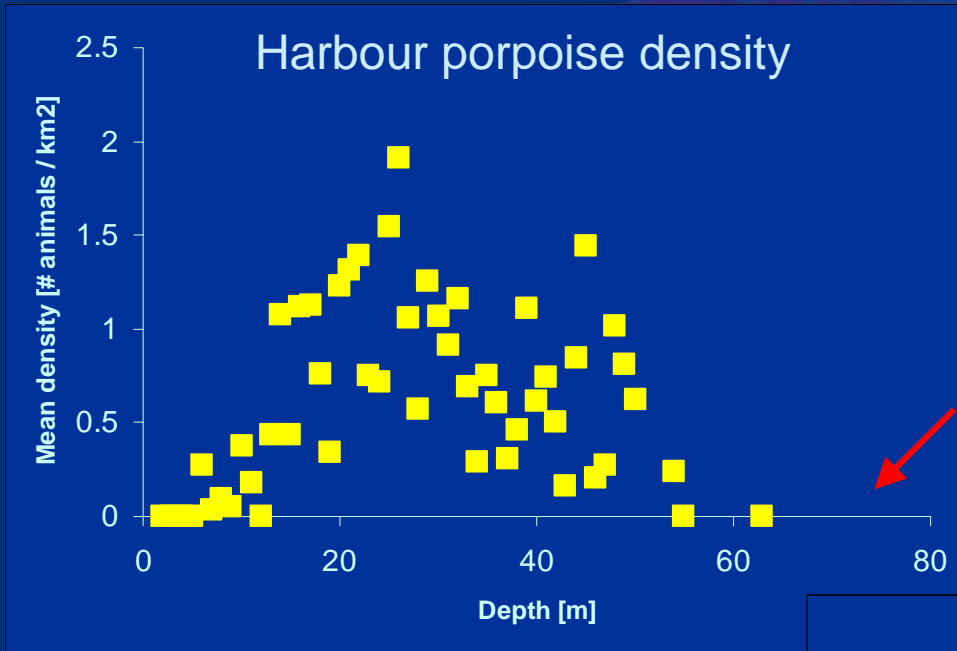
Absence Data Issues



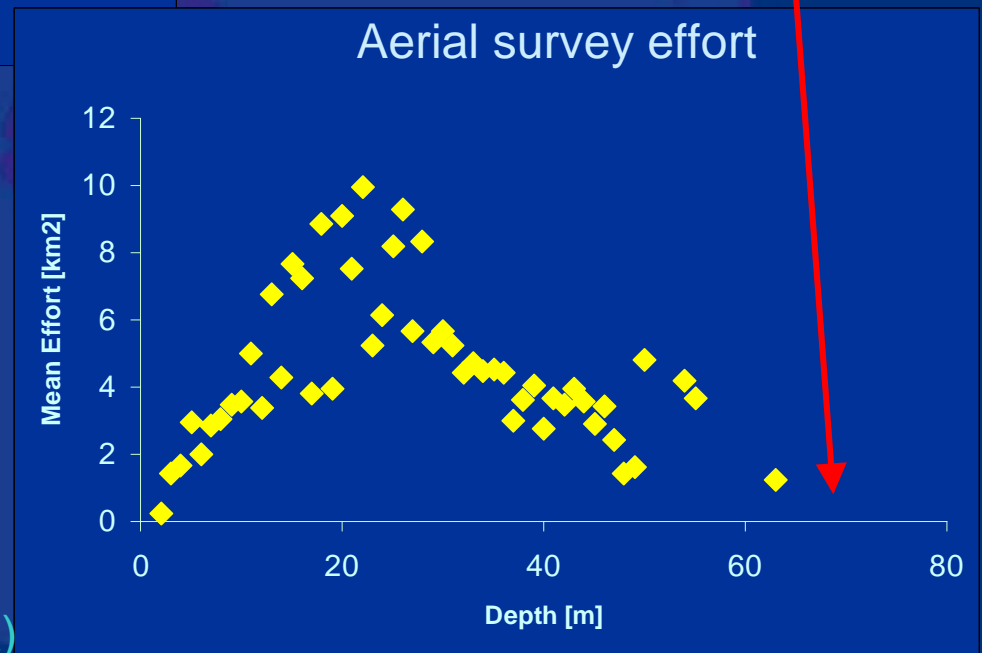
No animals in deeper waters!

WHY?

Absence Data Issues

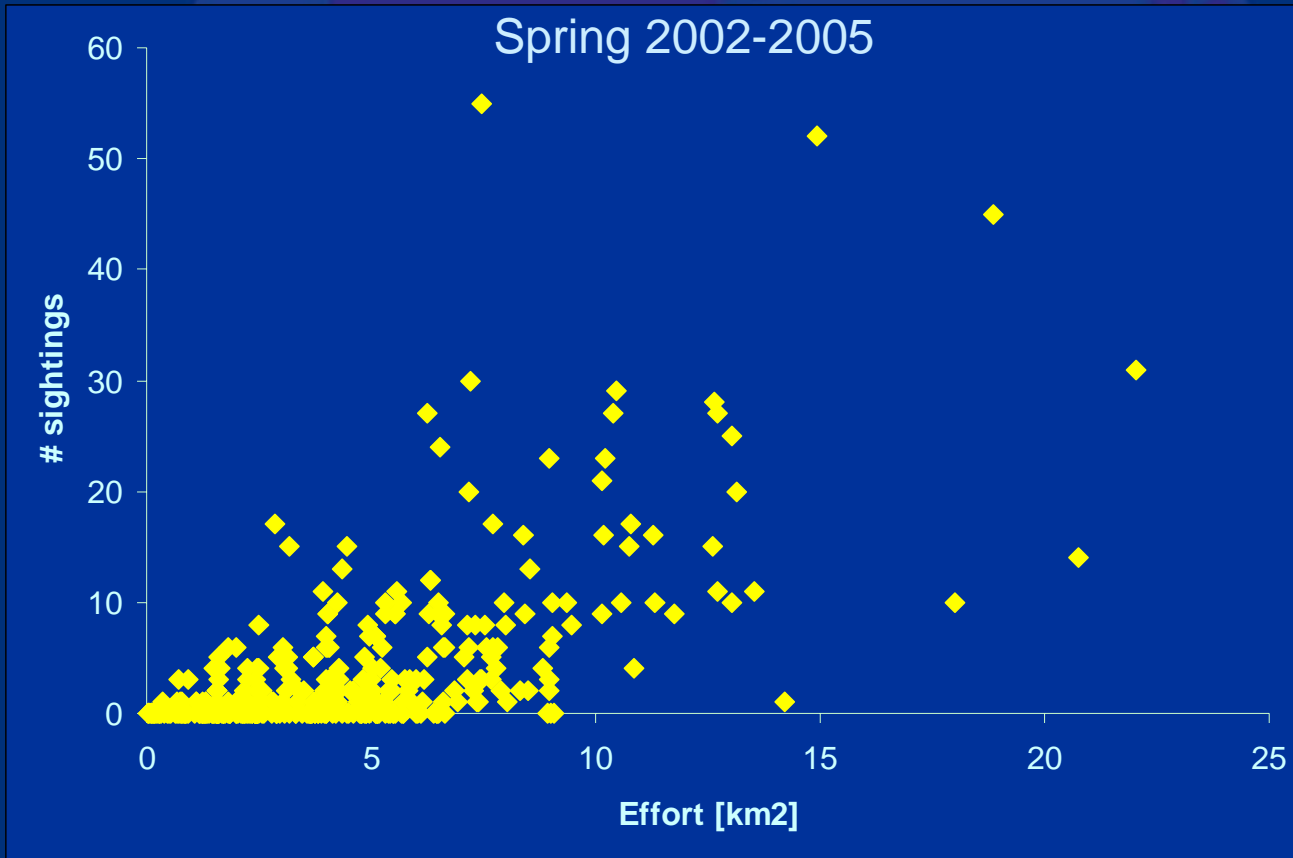


No animals in deeper waters?
True absences???



WHY?

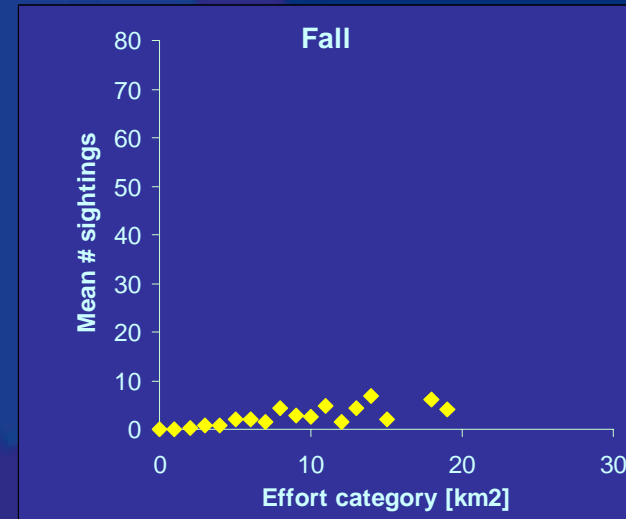
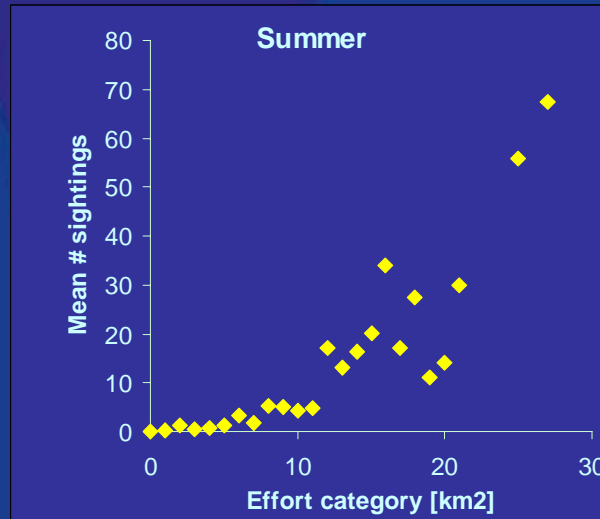
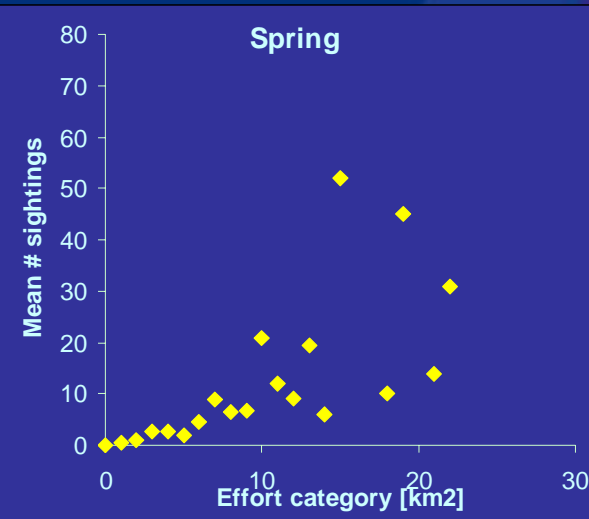
Absence Data Issues



Scheidat, Gilles et al, (unpublished data)

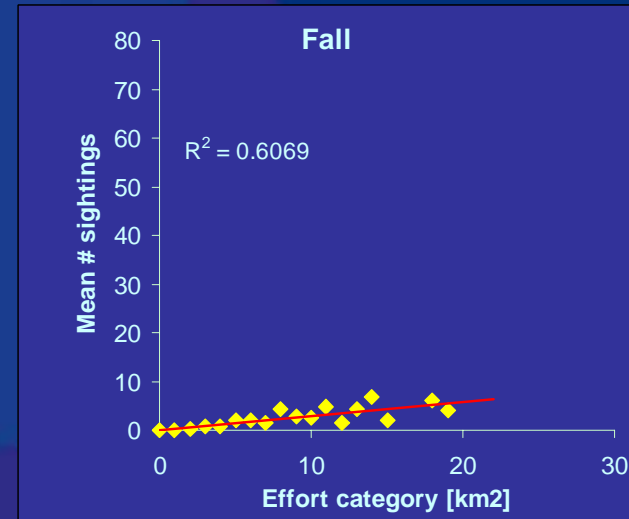
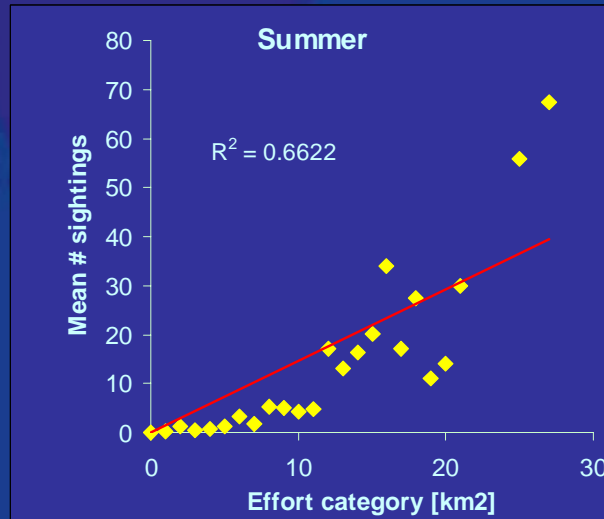
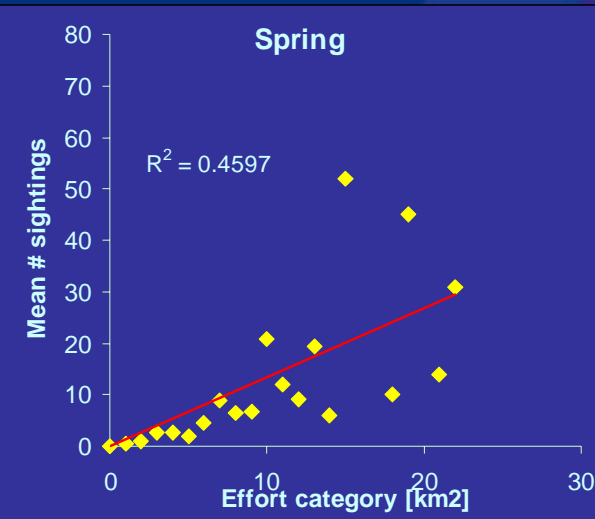
WHY?

Absence Data Issues



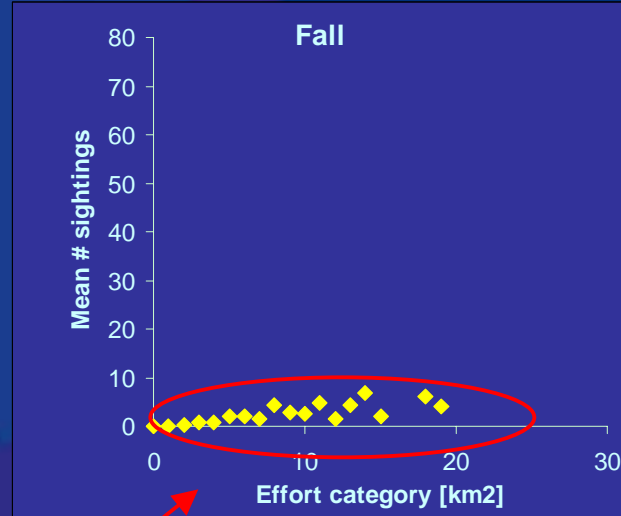
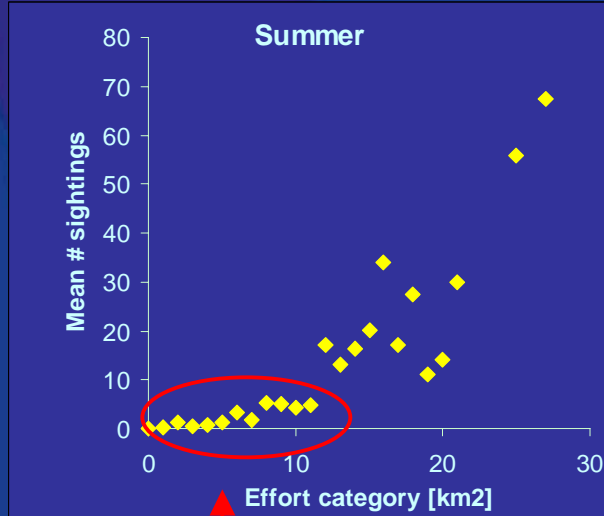
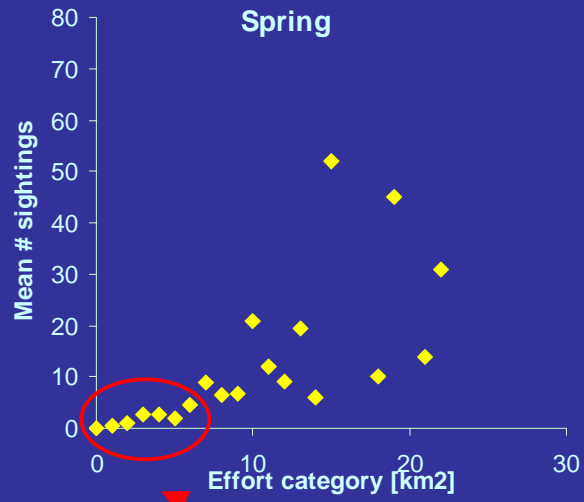
WHY?

Absence Data Issues



WHY?

Absence Data Issues



True absences???

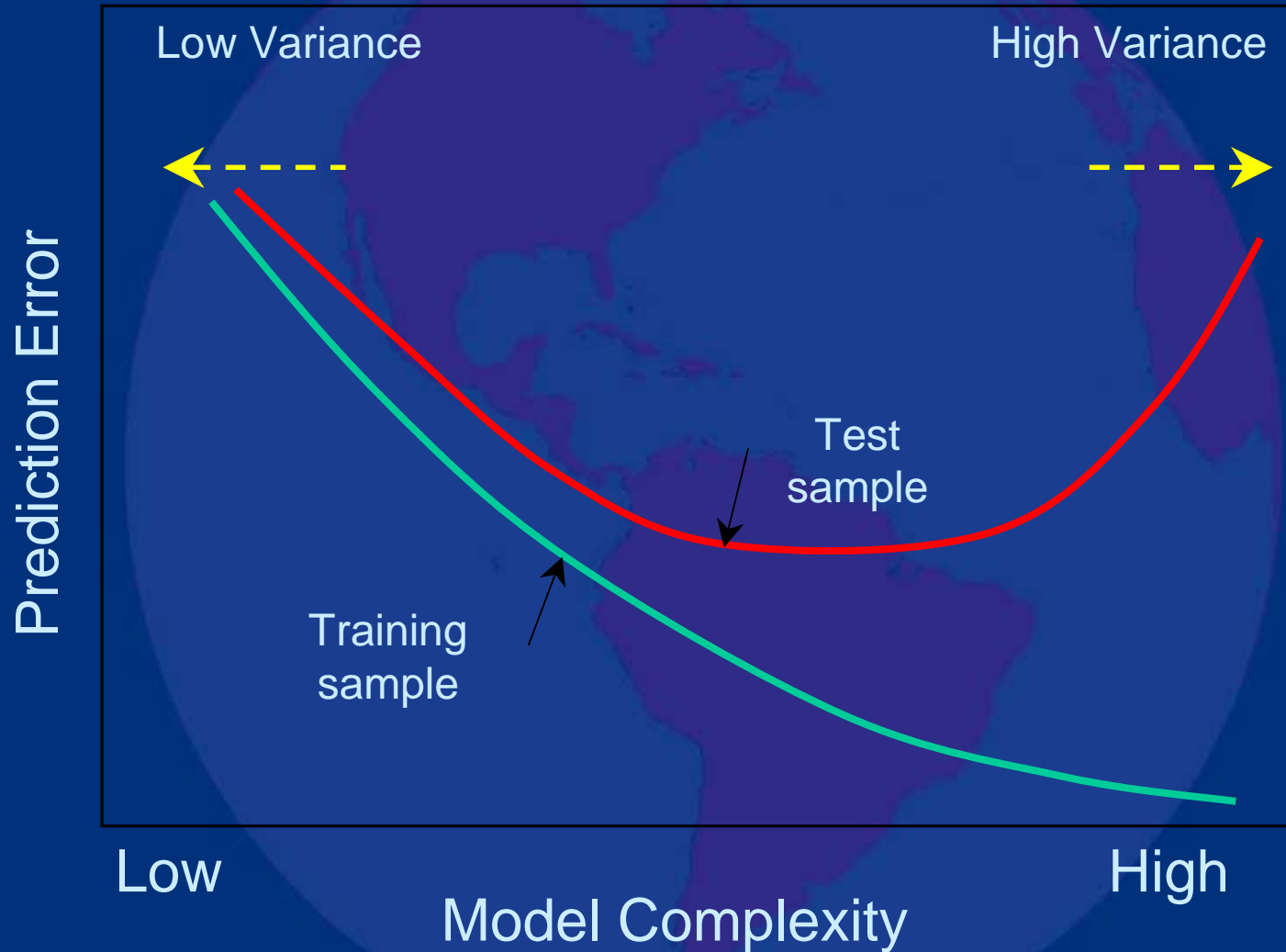
Absence Data Issues

Example: 100 trials

	Species #1			Species #2		
	Variable A	Variable B	Variable C	Variable A	Variable B	Variable C
Presence	.20	.80	0	.32	.16	.52
	×	×	×	×	×	×
Bias	.8	.1	.1	.5	.5	0
	=	=	=	=	=	=
Obs. rate	.16	.08	0	.16	.08	0
Observed	16	8	0	16	8	0

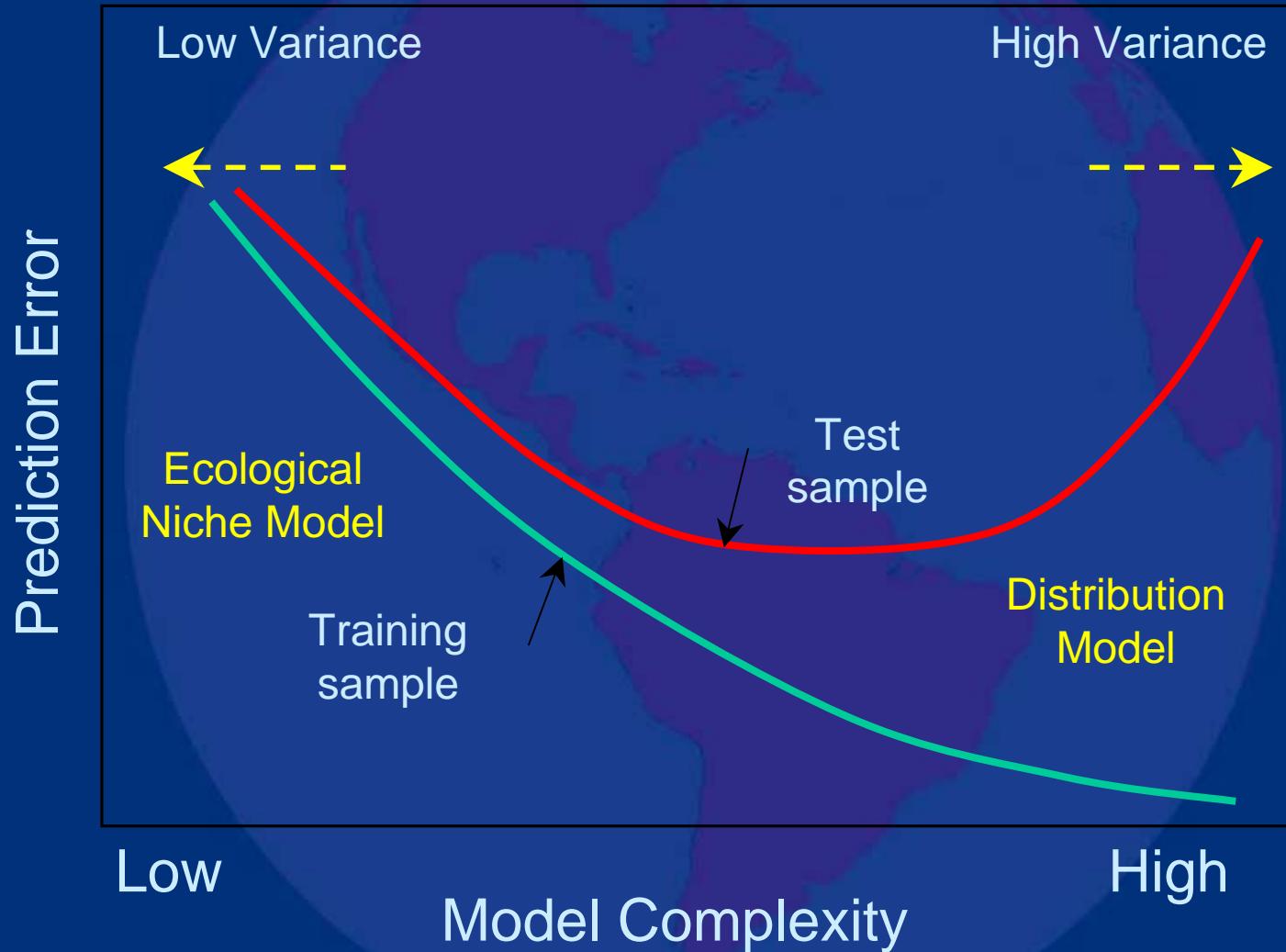
WHY?

Ecological Niche vs Distribution



WHY?

Ecological Niche vs Distribution

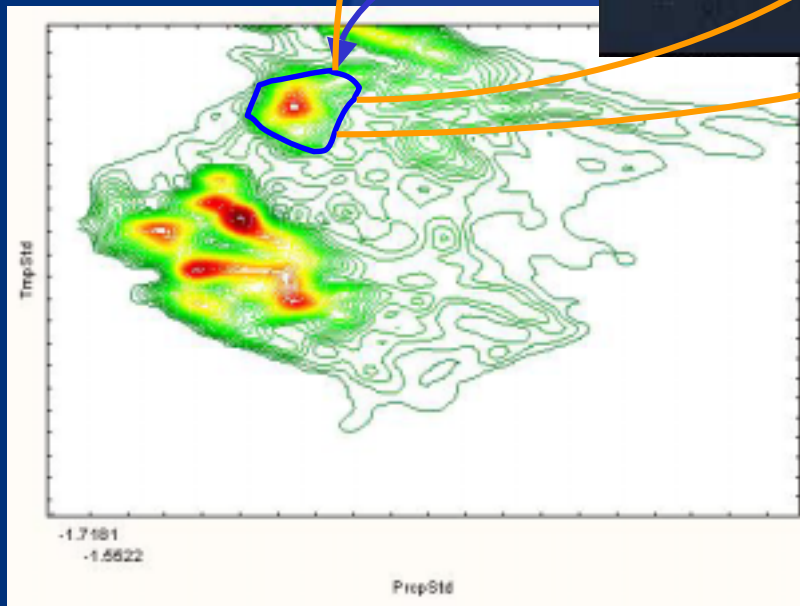


WHY?

Ecological Niche vs Distribution



Geographic space
(2 dimensions)



Ecological space
(n dimensions / hypervolume)

Which ones are out there?

Envelope models

- BioClim
- DOMAIN
- Fuzzy bioclimatic envelope model
- RES*

Machine-learning

- Garp**
- Maxent**
- ENFA (Biomapper)*

* Models have been applied to and tested for marine mammals


** Preliminary applications to marine mammals



Which ones are out there?

Web-based applications

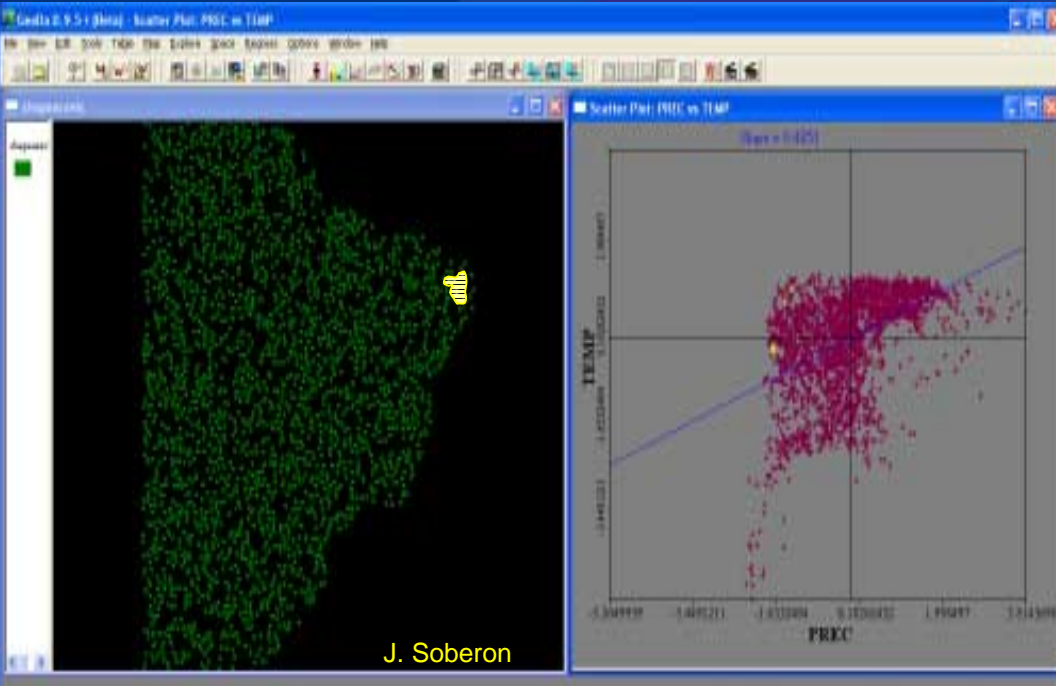
- AquaMaps*
- KGS-Mapper**
- WhyWhere?



* Models have been applied to and tested for marine mammals
** Preliminary applications to marine mammals

WHICH?

Ecological Niche Models

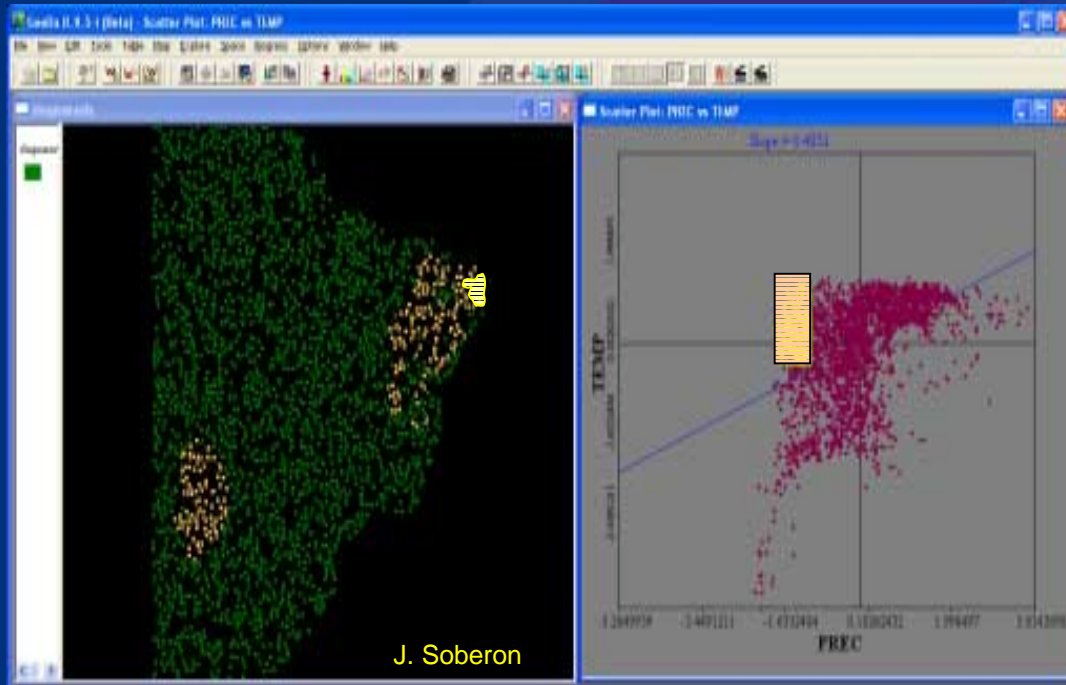


↑
Geographic space

↑
Ecological / Environmental space

WHICH?

BioClim / Climate Envelope Range



- Based on presence cells
- Very simple & intuitive
- No interactions between variables
- Unweighted variables
- Binary predictions
- No extrapolations
- Tends to overpredict

Lindenmayer et al. 1991 *J. Biogeog.* 18: 371-383.

Arcscript: <http://arcscripts.esri.com/details.asp?dbid=13745>

WHICH?

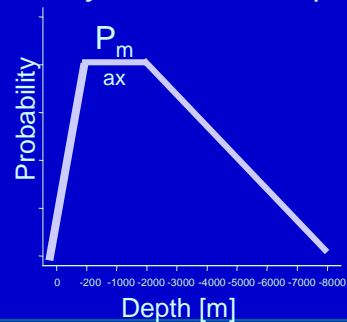
RES

Relative Environmental Suitability Model (Fuzzy Bioclimatic Envelope Model)

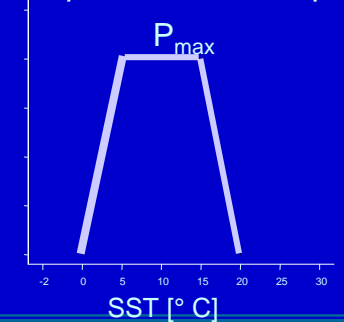
Sowerby's beaked whale

Assigned habitat usage categories: **Depth**, **SST**, **Ice edge**

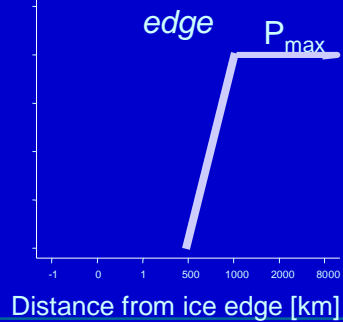
Mainly continental slope



Subpolar – warm temp.



No association with ice edge

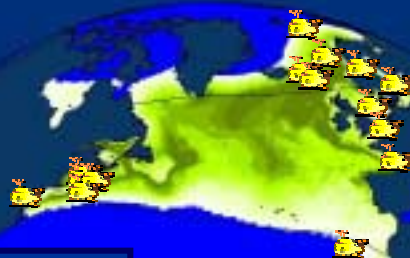


- Based on relative occurrences
- Very simple, transparent & intuitive
- Expert knowledge based (no point data required)
- No interactions between variables
- Unweighted variables
- Continuous output
- Tends to overpredict

WHICH?

RES

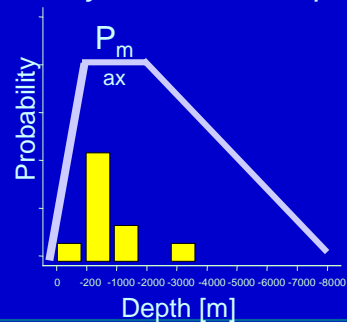
Relative Environmental Suitability Model (Fuzzy Bioclimatic Envelope Model)



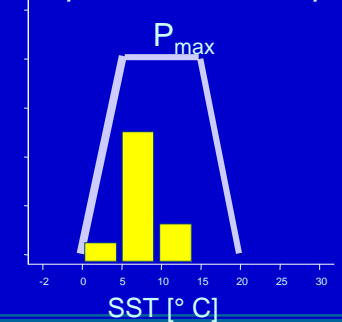
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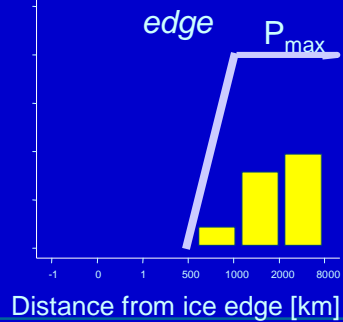
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Subpolar – warm temp.



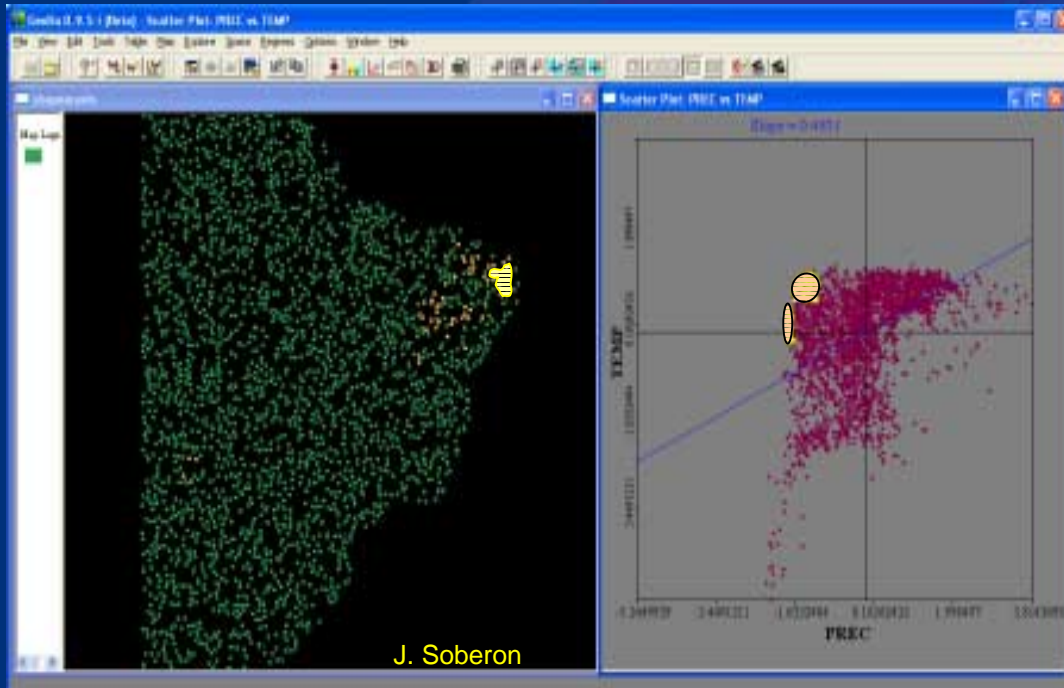
No association with ice edge



- Based on relative occurrences
- Very simple, transparent & intuitive
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- Unweighted variables
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WHICH?

DOMAIN



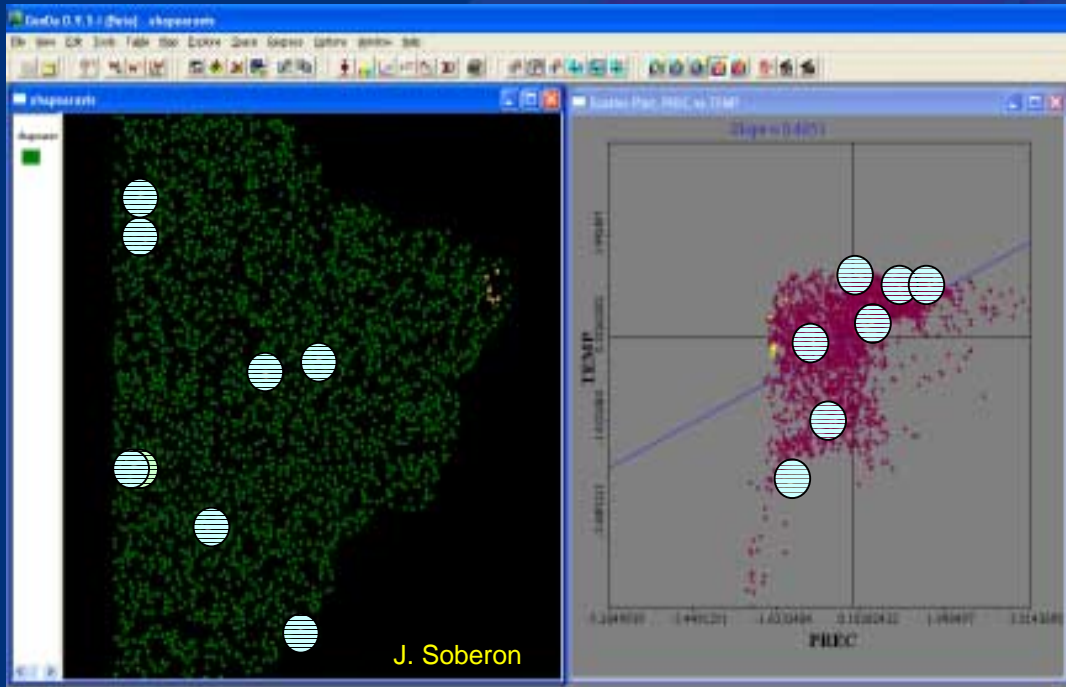
- Based on presence cells
- Cluster algorithm in environmental space
- No interactions between variables
- Unweighted variables
- Non-binary predictions
- Tends to overfit

WHICH?

GARP

Genetic Algorithm of Rule-set Prediction

- Based on presence cells
- Machine learning / automated model optimization (not transparent)
- Generates pseudo-absence data
- Optimization using training / test data sets
- Interactions between weighted variables
- Non-binary predictions
- Tends to overpredict?

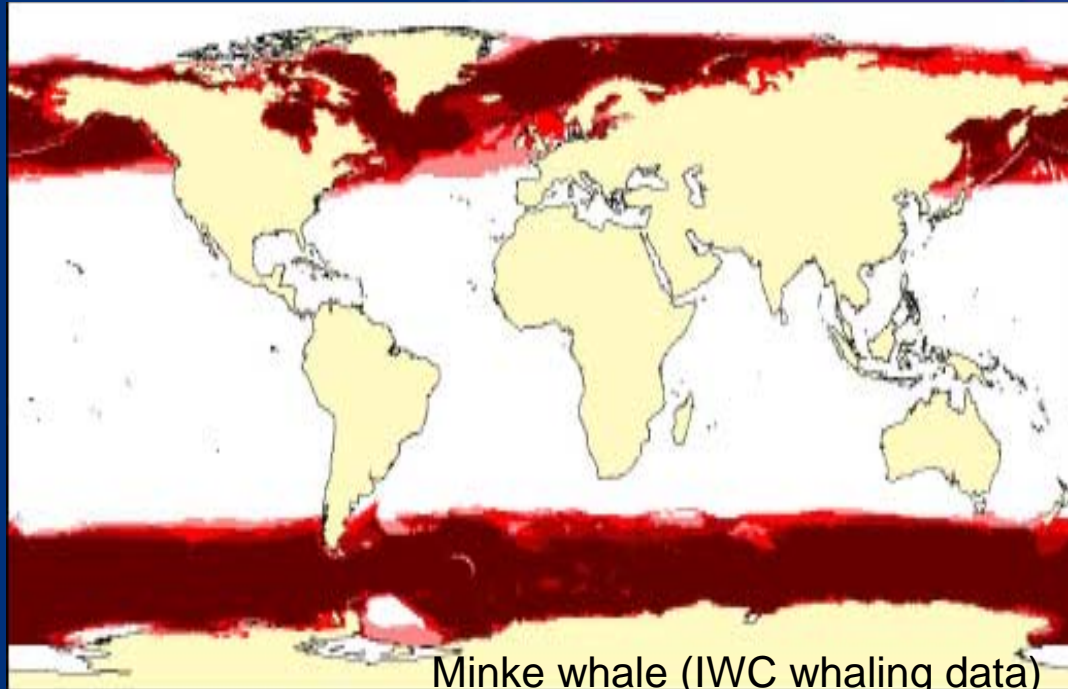


WHICH?

GARP

Genetic Algorithm of Rule-set Prediction

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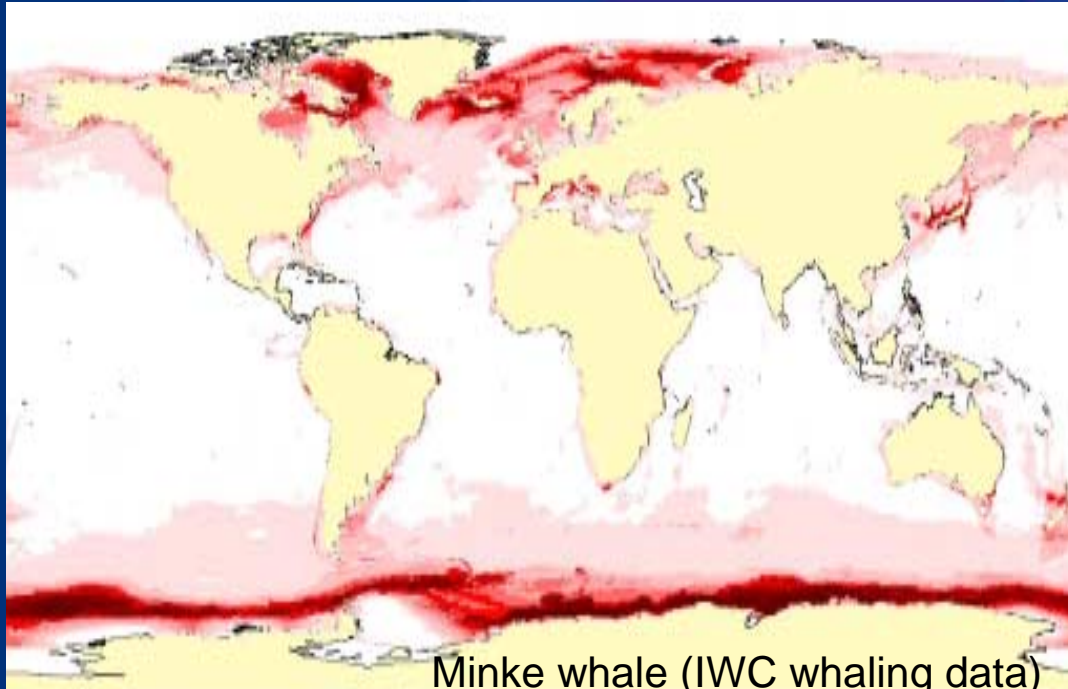
Minke whale (IWC whaling data)

Stockwell & Noble 1992, *Math. & Comp. in Simulation* 33:385-390
Freeware: <http://www.lifemapper.org/desktopgarp/>

WHICH?

Maxent

Maximum entropy



Minke whale (IWC whaling data)

- Based on presence cells
- Machine learning / automated model optimization (not transparent)
- Optimization using training / test data sets
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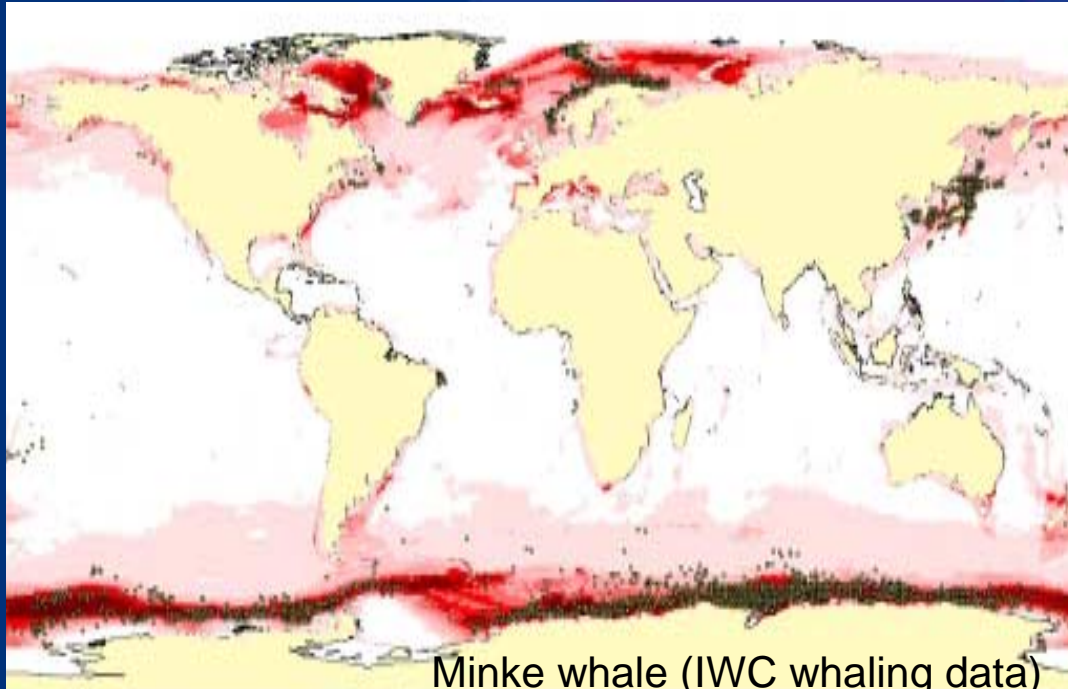
Phillips et al. 2006, *Ecological Modelling*

Freeware: <http://www.cs.princeton.edu/~schapire/maxent/>

WHICH?

Maxent

Maximum entropy



- Based on presence cells
- Machine learning / automated model optimization (not transparent)
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- Interactions between weighted variables
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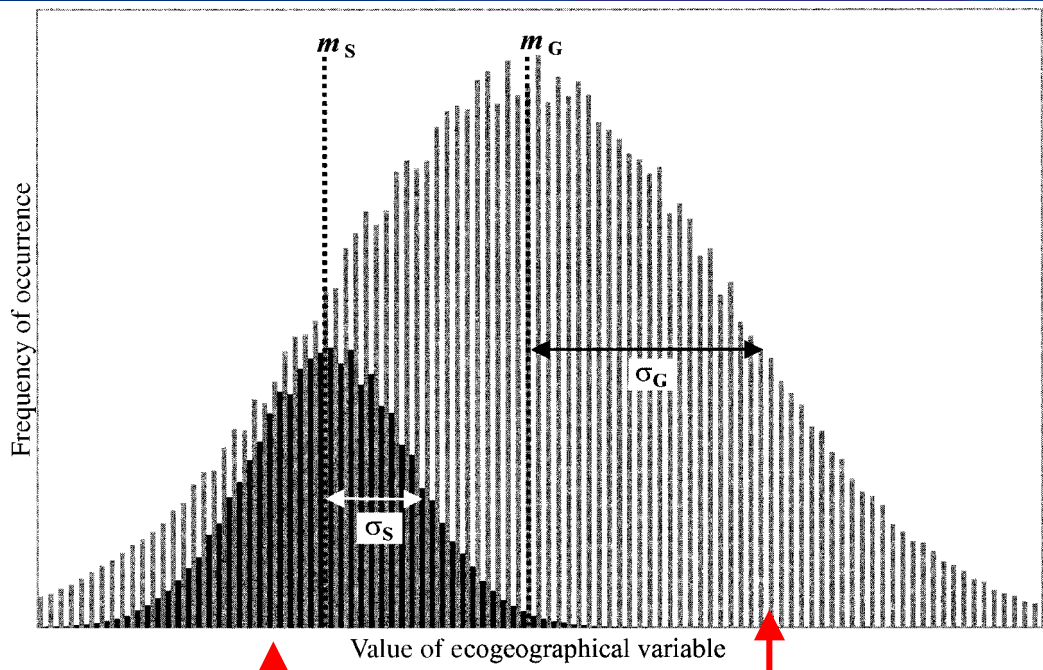
Phillips et al. 2006, *Ecological Modelling*

Freeware: <http://www.cs.princeton.edu/~schapire/maxent/>

WHICH?

ENFA

Ecological Niche Factor Analysis



Species
occurrence cells

Available habitat

- Based on presence cells
- Compares species occurrence to all available habitat
- Multivariate (Interactions between weighted variables)
- Non-binary predictions (HIS)

Hirzel et al. 2002, *Ecology* 83: 2027-2036.

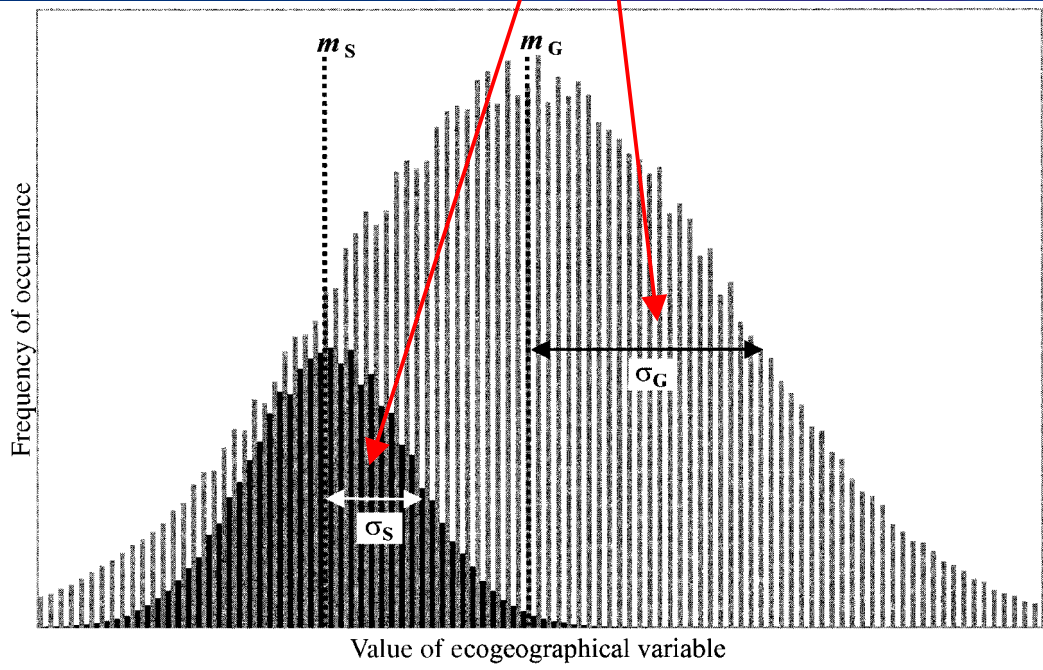
Biomapper freeware: <http://www2.unil.ch/biomapper/>

WHICH?

ENFA

Ecological Niche Factor Analysis

Specialization



Marginality

- Based on presence cells
- Compares species occurrence to all available habitat
- Multivariate (Interactions between weighted variables)
- Non-binary predictions (HIS)

Hirzel et al. 2002, *Ecology* 83: 2027-2036.

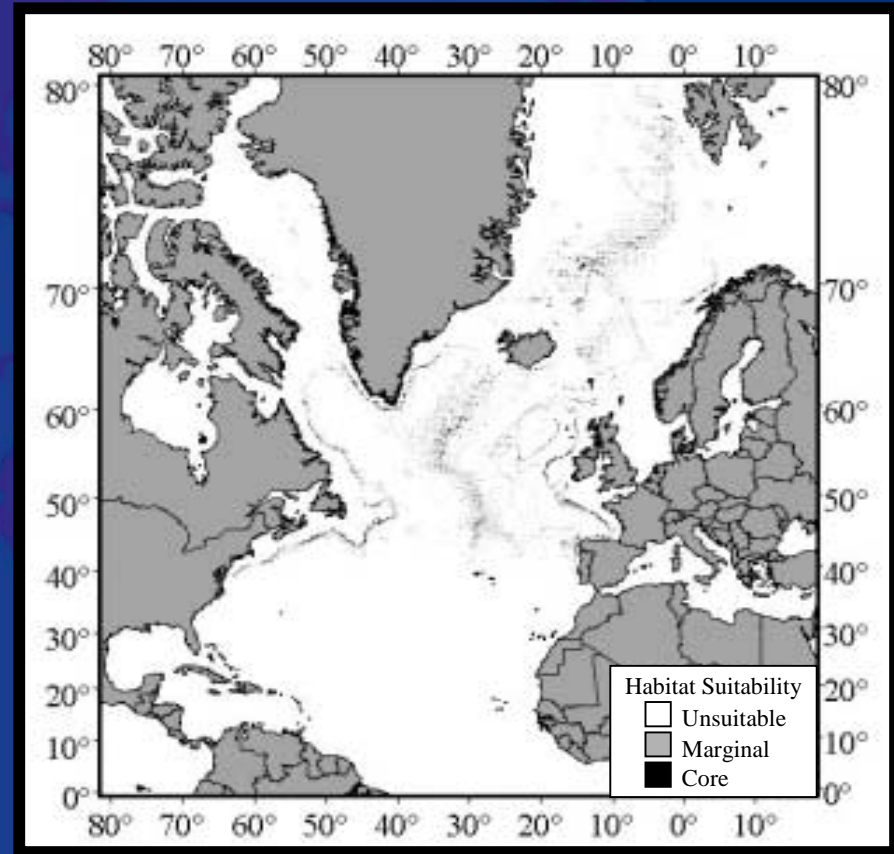
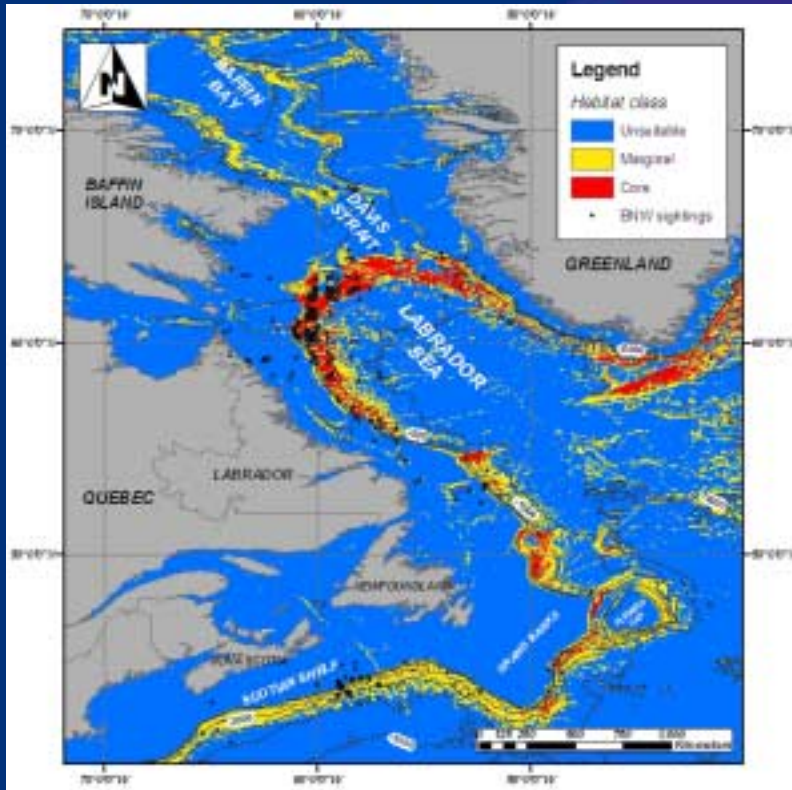
Biomapper freeware: <http://www2.unil.ch/biomapper/>

WHICH?

ENFA

Ecological Niche Factor Analysis

Northern bottlenose whale
(NW Atlantic & Total N Atlantic)



Compton, 2004, MRes Thesis, U of Plymouth
MacLeod, 2005, PhD Thesis, U of Aberdeen

WHICH?

AquaMaps (Coming soon....)



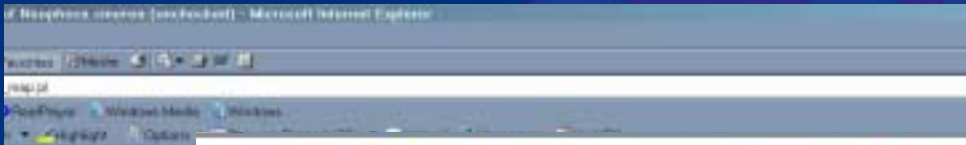
WHICH?

AquaMaps (Coming soon....)



WHICH?

AquaMaps (Coming soon....)



Computer Generated Distribution

Map produced by the CMR v.1.0.0
hosted at <http://fishbase.org>

Mapping parameters for *Neogobius holbrooki* () [New species](#) | [About AquaMaps](#) | [Class 'Create Your Own Map'](#)

Area restrictions:
EAOAreas: (Flag: False) [Re-calculate Envelope and Grid Cells](#)
Boarding box (N/E/S): [Restart Default Values](#)

Environmental envelopes:

	Min	Prof Min (10%)	Prof Max (90%)	Max	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Depth (m)	<input type="text" value="0"/>	<input type="text" value="10"/>	<input type="text" value="100"/>	<input type="text" value="1000"/>	[enlarge]
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SST (°C)	<input type="text" value="10"/>	<input type="text" value="15"/>	<input type="text" value="20"/>	<input type="text" value="25"/>	[enlarge]
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Salinity (psu)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	[enlarge]
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Primary Production	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	[enlarge]
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ice Edge Distance (km)	<input type="text" value="1000"/>	<input type="text" value="2000"/>	<input type="text" value="8000"/>	<input type="text" value="8000"/>	[enlarge]
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Distance to Land (km)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	[enlarge]

[Save Changes](#)

[Re-generate Map Data](#) Takes 3-5 mins

[View Map](#)

environmental envelope_n = 0 | [View point map](#)

Do they work?

Model Evaluations

- Test statistics
- Cross-validation
- External testing
- Comparison with other models

Test statistics

	Recorded presence	Recorded absence
Predicted presence	a (true presence)	b (false presence)
Predicted absence	c (false absence)	d (true absence)

Sensitivity: Proportion of observed presences correctly predicted
 $a/(a + c)$

Test statistics

	Recorded presence	Recorded absence
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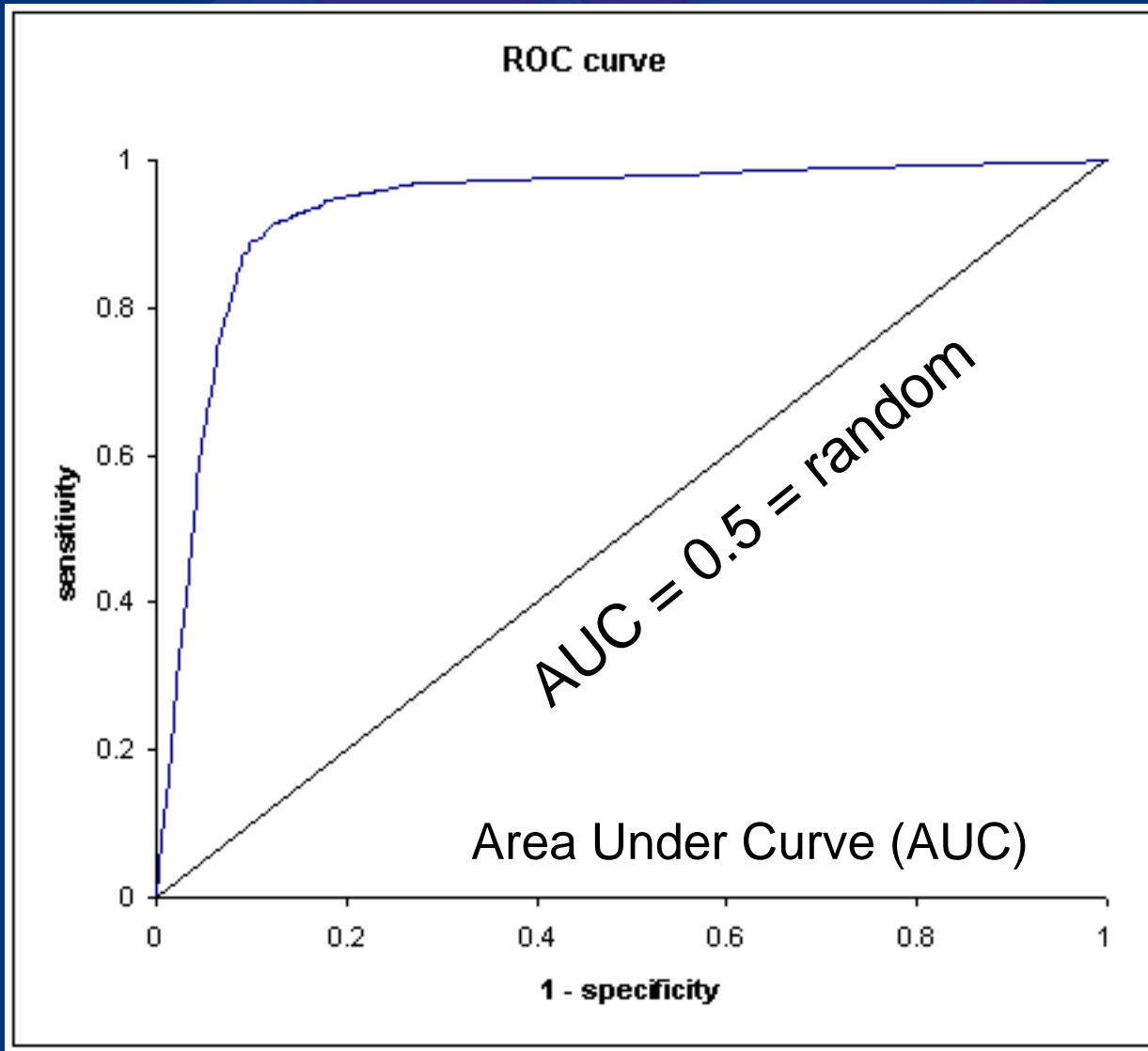
$$a/(a + c)$$

Specificity: Proportion of observed (or assumed) absences correctly predicted

$$d/(b + d)$$

DO THEY
WORK?

Test statistics: Receiver Operator Curve



Test statistics

	Recorded presence	Recorded absence
Predicted presence	a (true presence)	b (false presence)
Predicted absence	c (false absence)	d (true absence)

Cohen's Kappa:

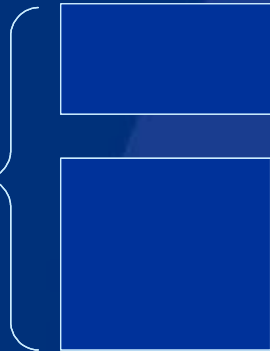
$$k = \frac{[(a + d) - (((a + c)(a + b) + (b + d)(c + d)) / n)]}{[n - (((a + c)(a + b) + (b + d)(c + d)) / n)]}$$

DO THEY
WORK?

Cross-validation

Projection

Environmental
envelope



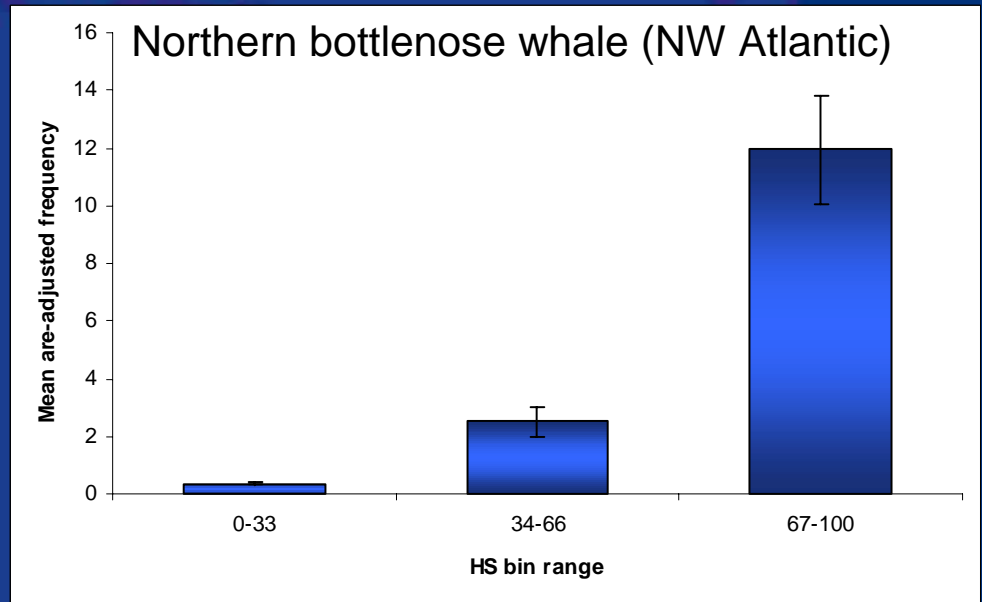
Evaluation

Calibration

Same region
New region
New resolution
New time

Araújo et al. 2005 *Gl. Ch. Biol.*

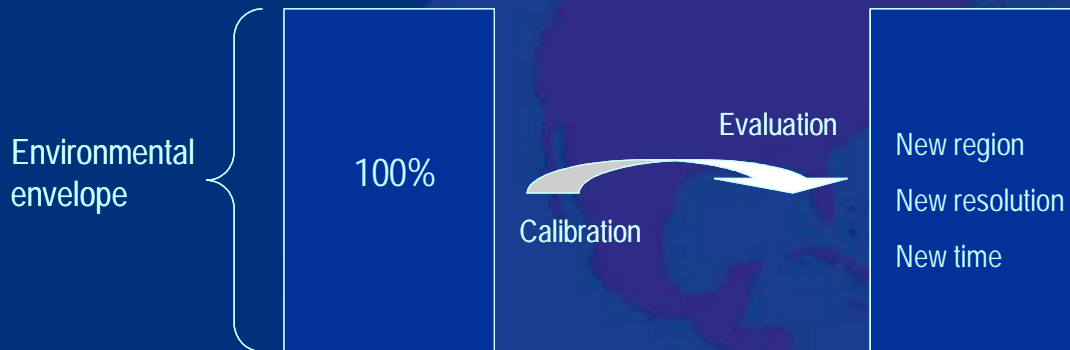
- Same data set
- Jack-knife procedure



DO THEY
WORK?

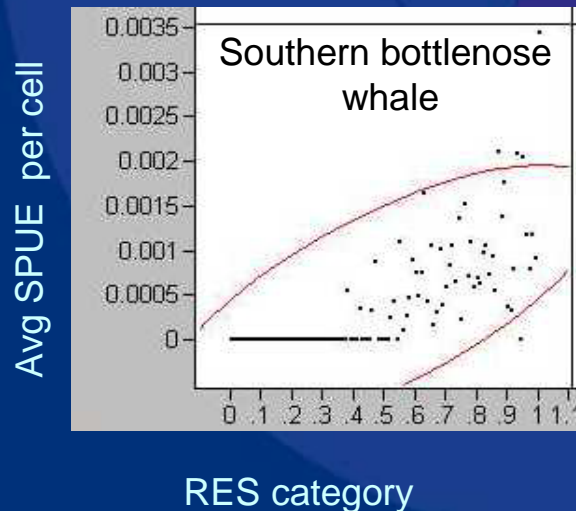
External Testing

Projection



Araújo et al. 2005 *Gl. Ch. Biol.*

- Different data set
- Permutation



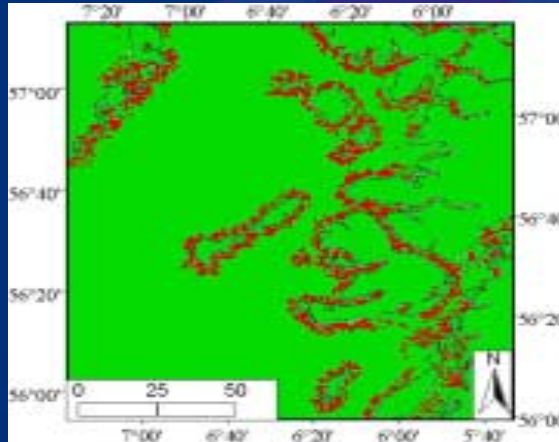
Common name	Spearman's non-parametric rank correlation analysis of RES vs mean SPUE		Comparison with random data sets
	rho	p	Simulated p-value
Northern fur seal	0.54	< 0.0001	0
Harbour porpoise	0.59	< 0.0001	0
Sperm whale	0.66	< 0.0001	0
Antarctic minke whale	0.71	< 0.0001	0
Killer whale	0.56	< 0.0001	0.54
Fin whale	0.53	< 0.0001	0
Blue whale	0.48	< 0.0001	0.268
Humpback whale	0.20	< 0.05	0.006
Hourglass dolphin	0.68	< 0.0001	0
Southern bottlenose whale	0.83	< 0.0001	0
Dwarf minke whale	-0.77	< 0.0001	0

Kaschner et al, 2006, *MEPS*

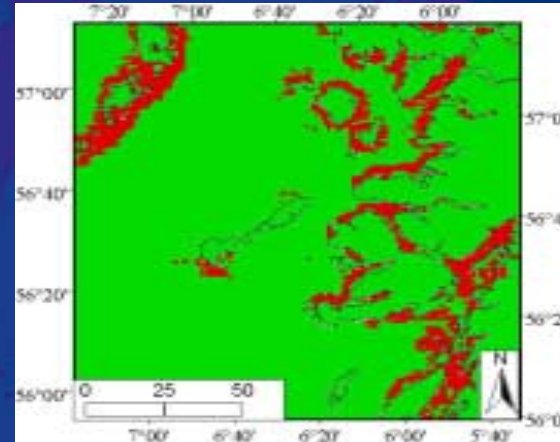
DO THEY
WORK?

Model Comparison

PCA

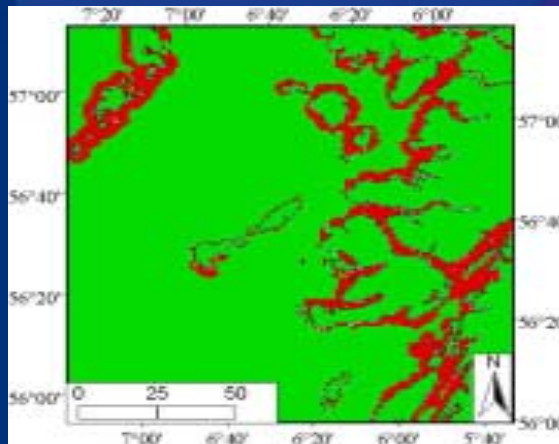


ENFA

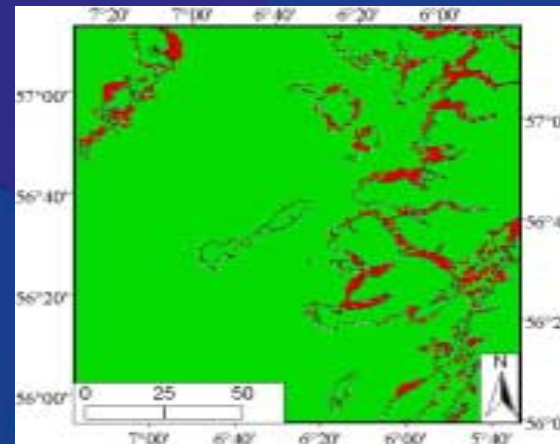




Harbour porpoise

GARP



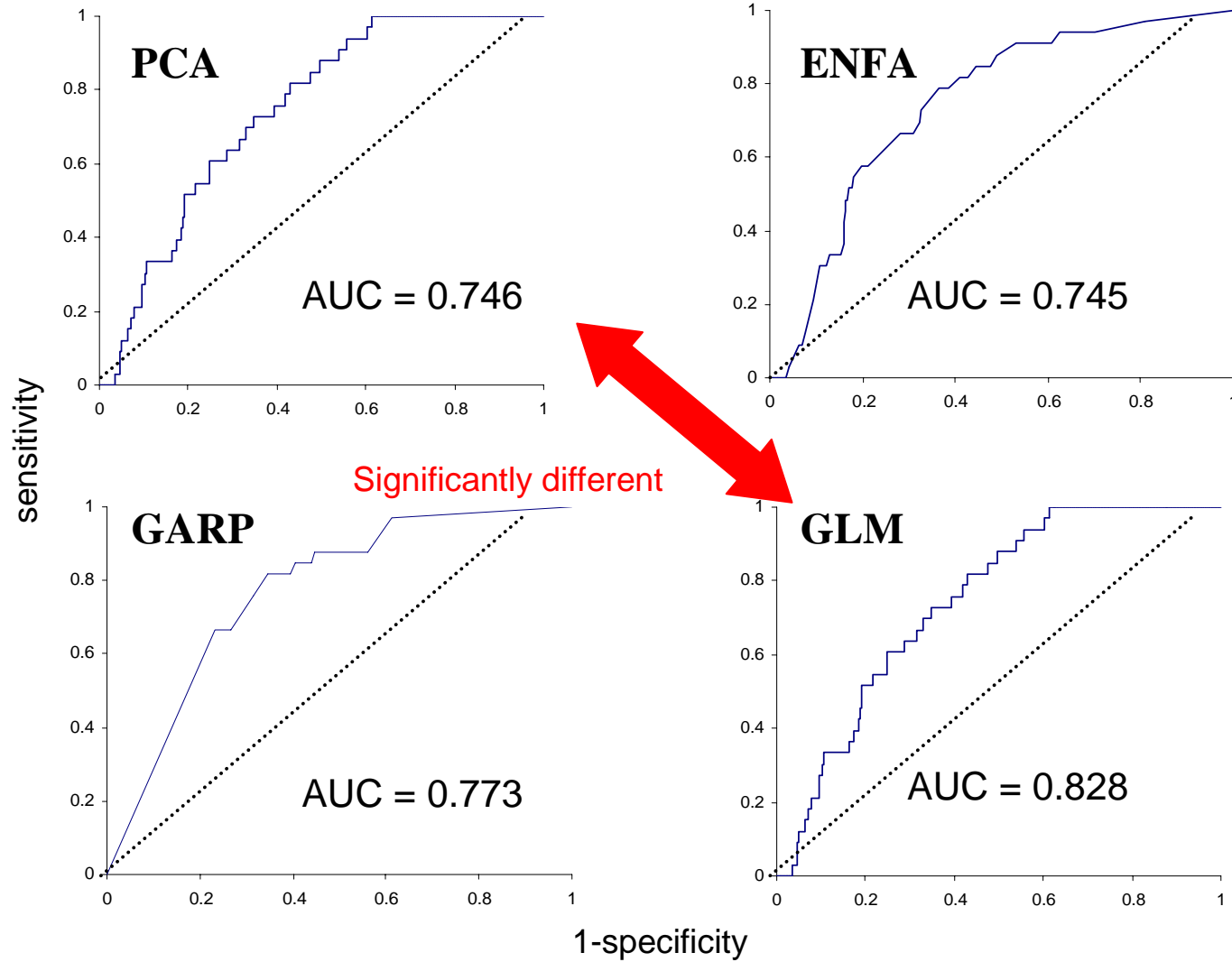
GLM



 Presence
 Absence

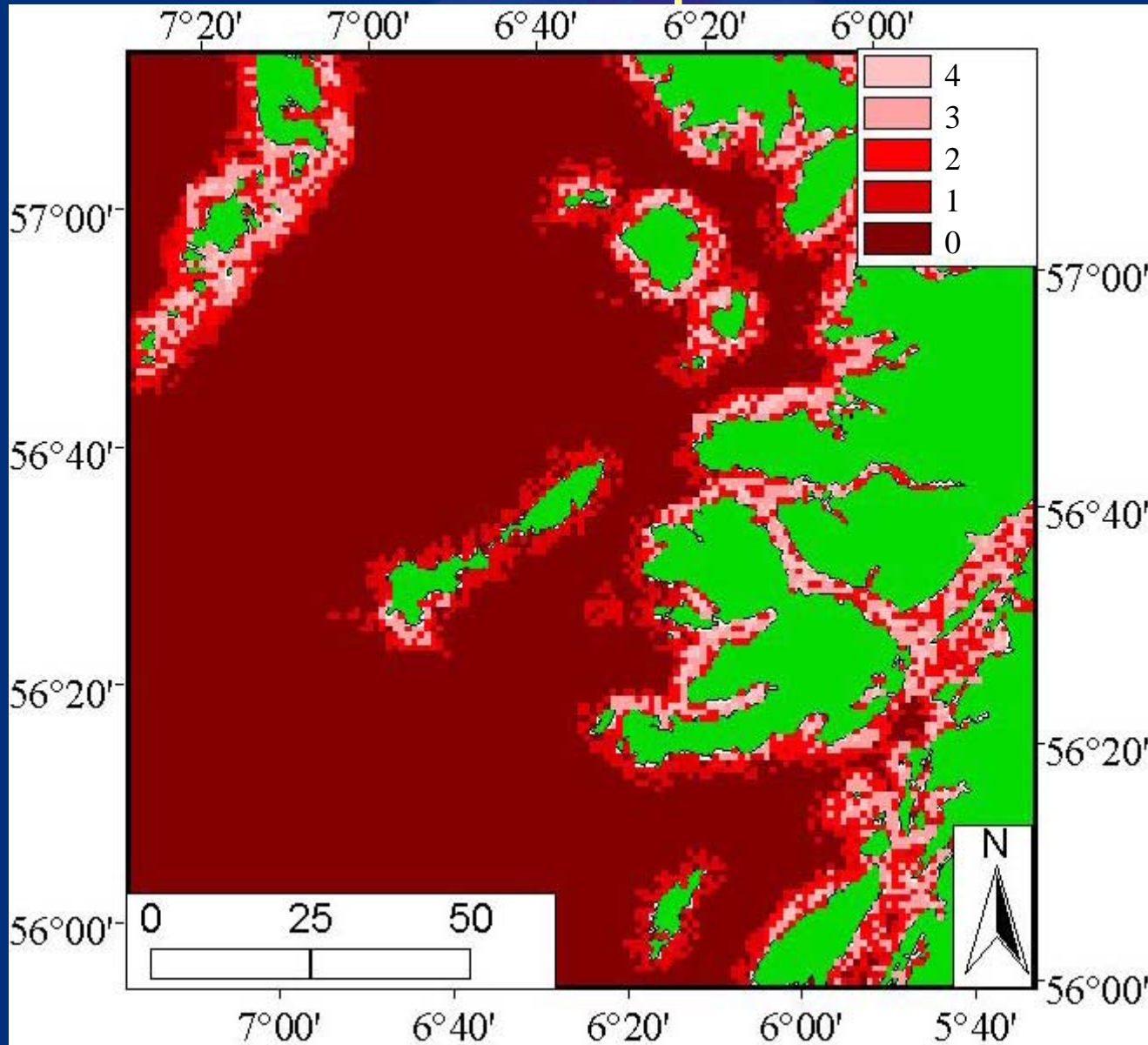
DO THEY
WORK?

Model Comparison



DO THEY
WORK?

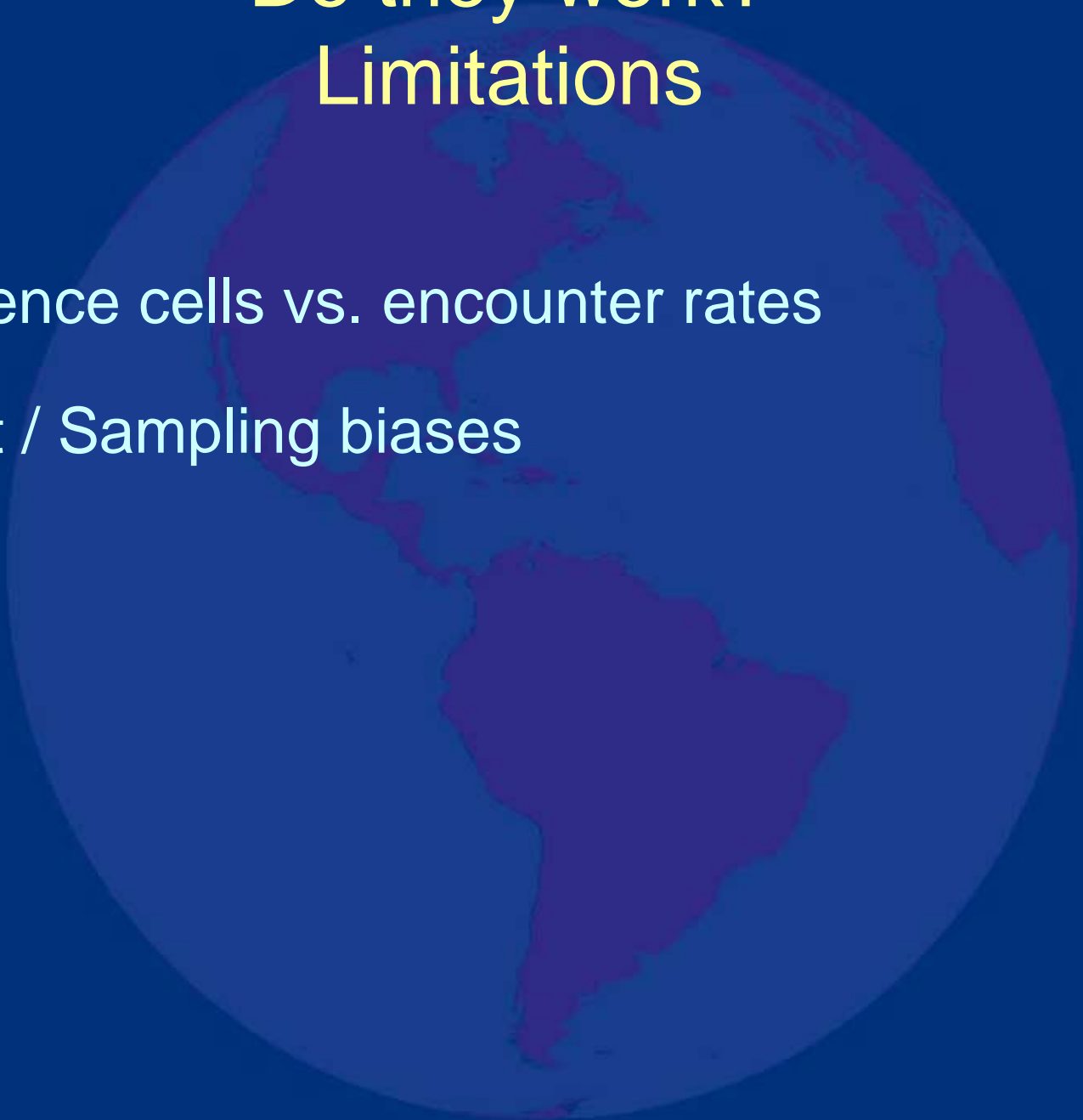
Model Comparison



Combined
model

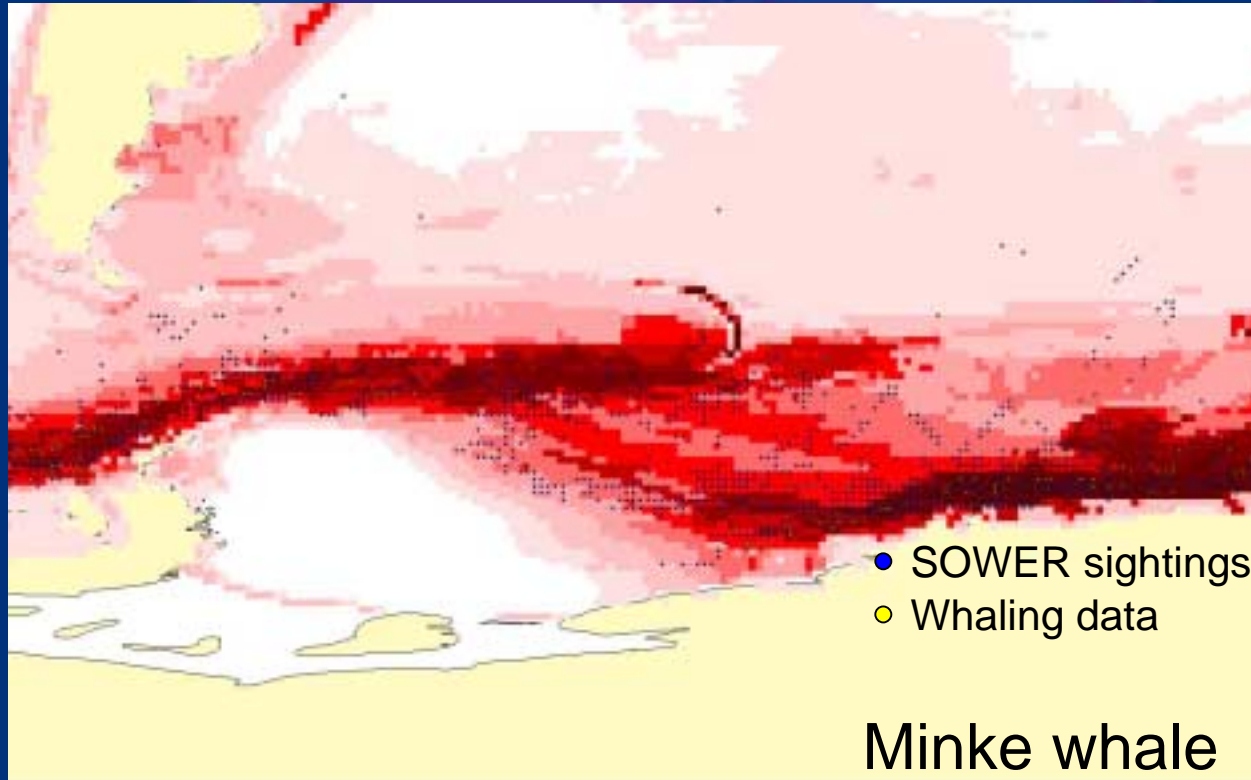
Do they work? Limitations

- Presence cells vs. encounter rates
- Effort / Sampling biases



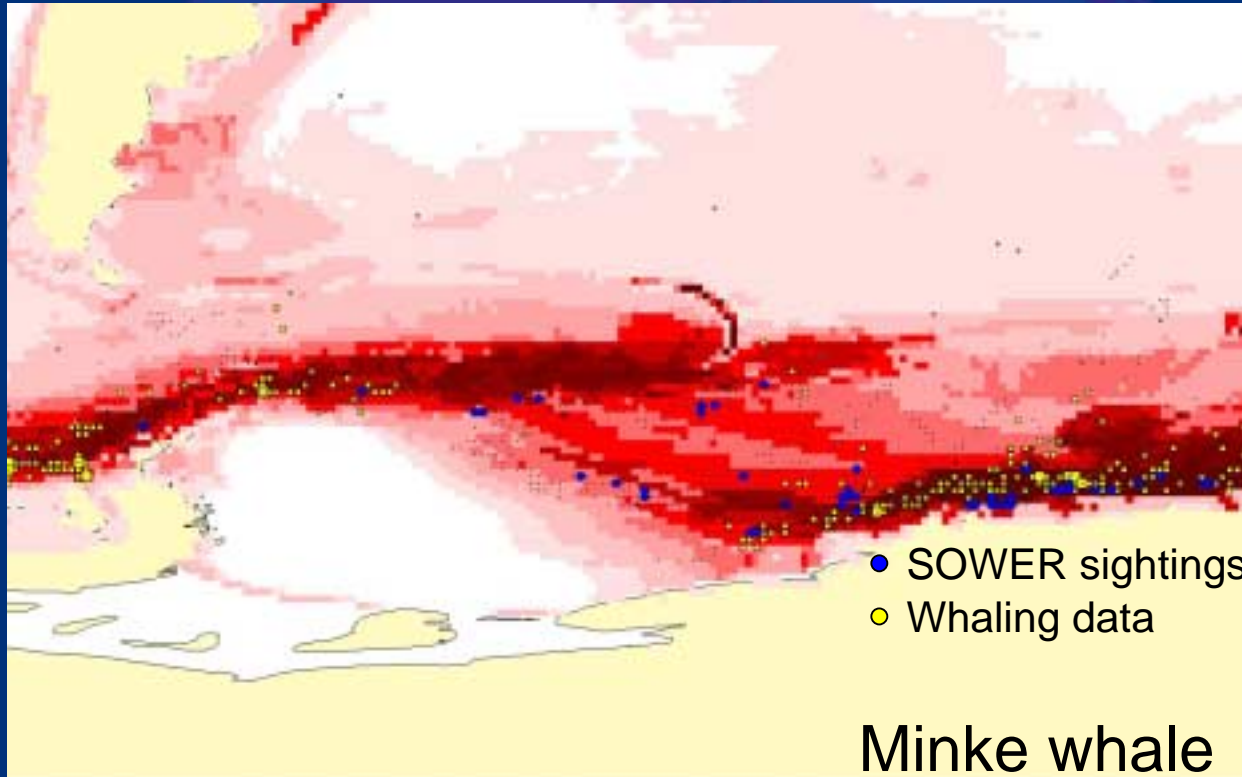
Presence cells vs Encounter Rate

Maxent prediction (IWC whaling data)



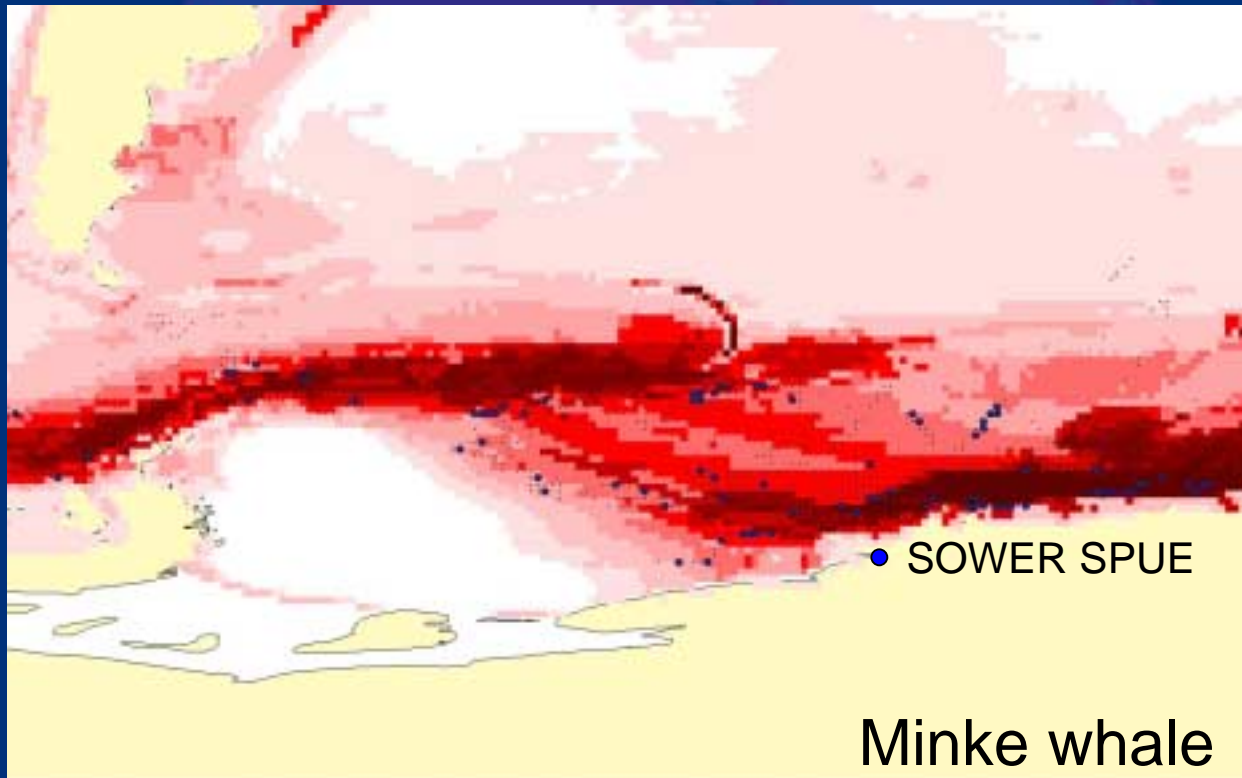
Presence cells vs Encounter Rate

Maxent prediction (IWC whaling data)



Presence cells vs Encounter Rate

Maxent prediction (IWC whaling data)



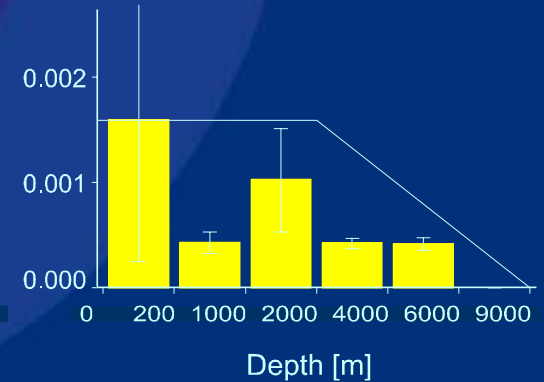
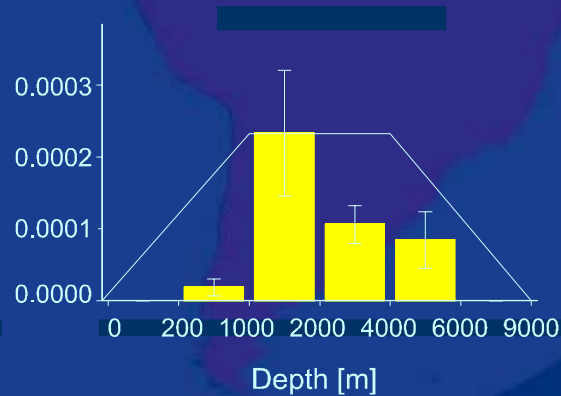
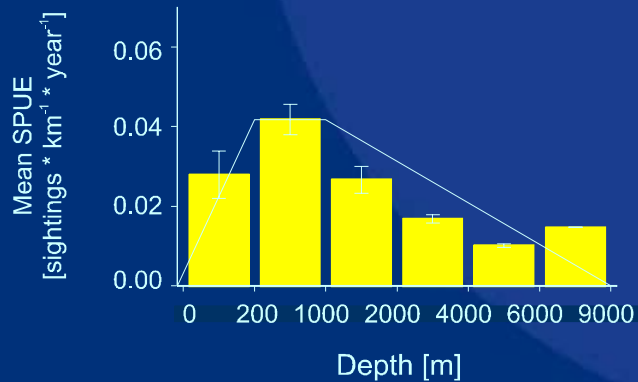
DO THEY
WORK?

Sampling Biases

Minke whale

Blue whale

Humpback whale



DO THEY
WORK?

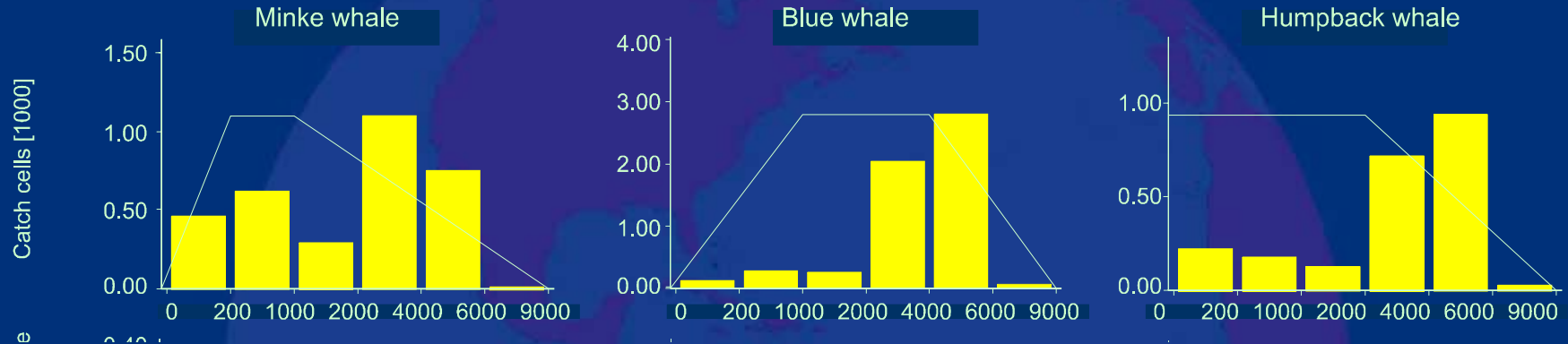
Sampling Biases

Minke whale

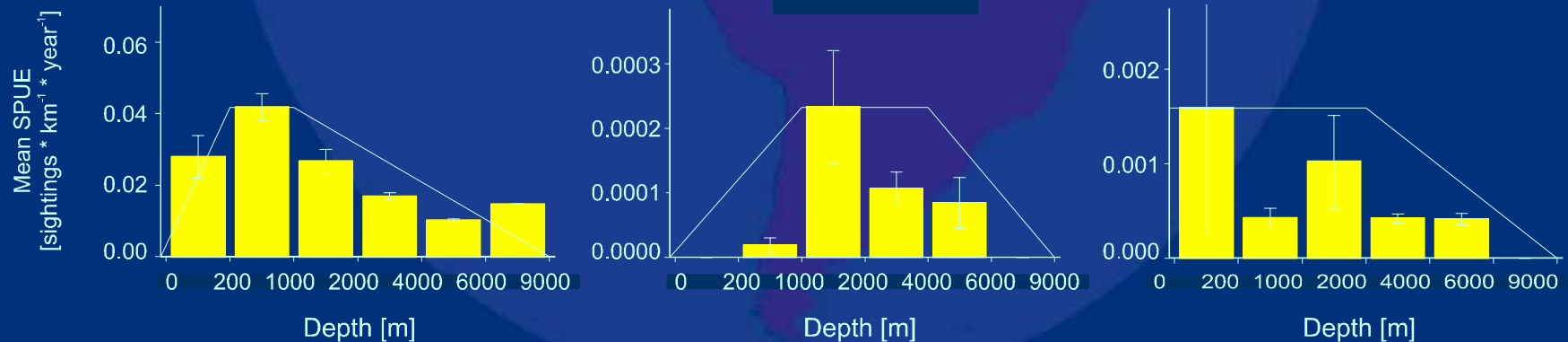
Blue whale

Humpback whale

A



B



DO THEY
WORK?

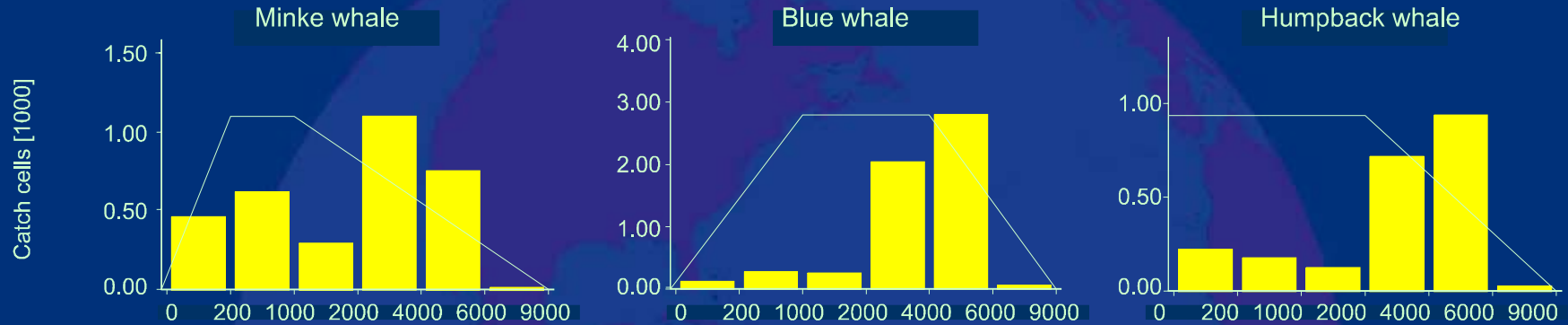
Sampling Biases

Minke whale

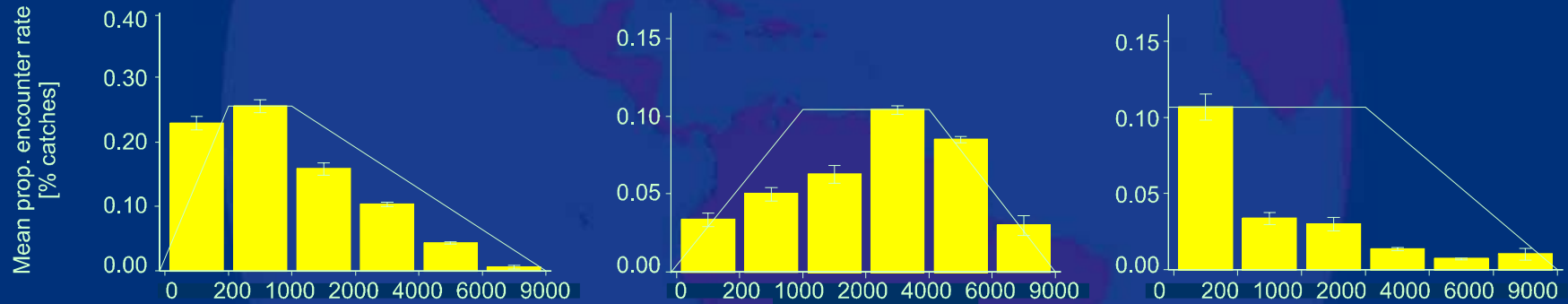
Blue whale

Humpback whale

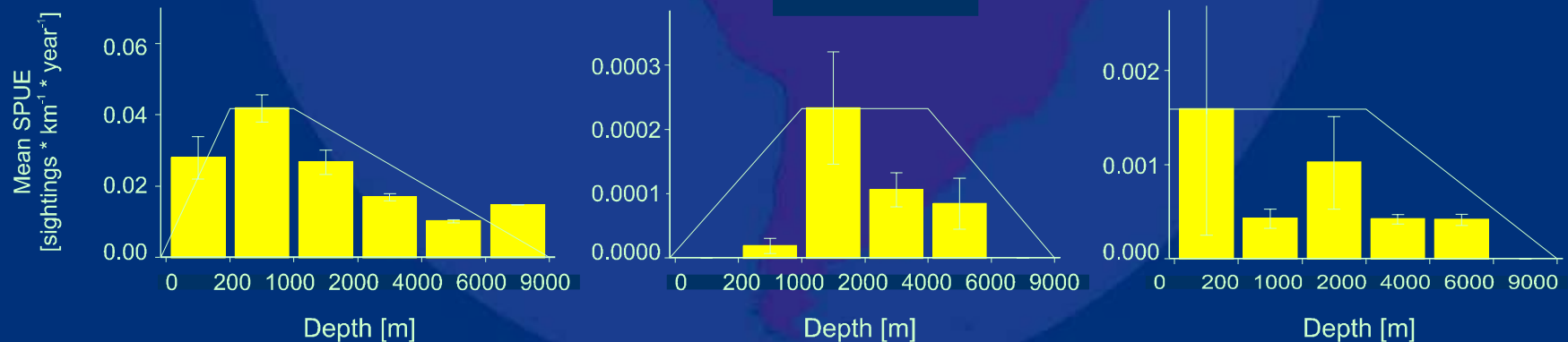
A



B



C



What can we do with them?

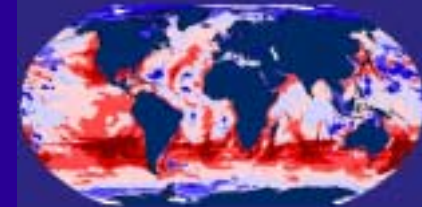
Potential Applications

- Biodiversity Mapping
- Management / Research Prioritization
 - Risk mitigation
 - Marine mammal-fisheries interactions
 - Marine Protected Areas
 - Climate change

What can we do with them?

Potential Applications

- Biodiversity Mapping →
- Management / Research Prioritization
 - Risk mitigation
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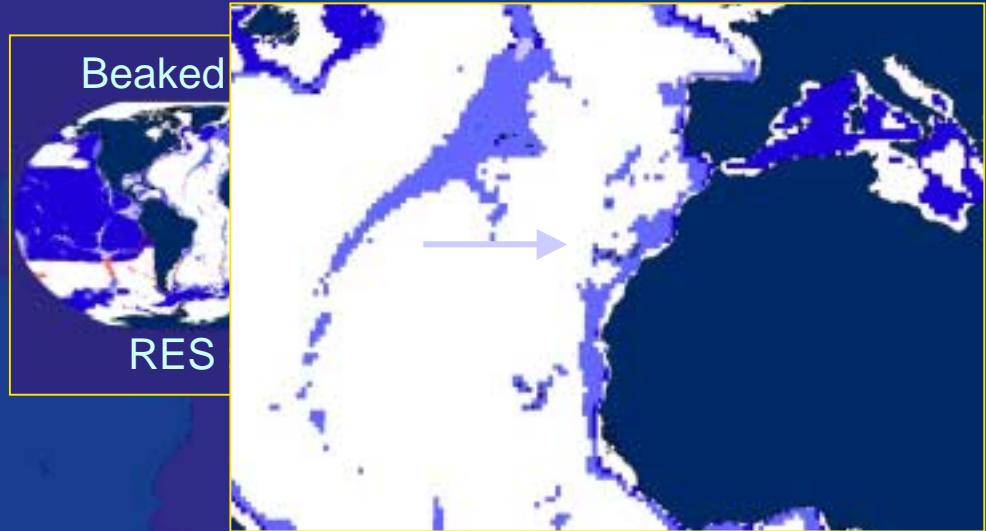


Kaschner & Worm
Wednesday, 15:15

Applications

- Management / Research Prioritization

- Risk mitigation



- Marine mammal fisheries interactions

- Marine Protected Areas

- Climate change

Applications

- Management / Research Prioritization

- Risk mitigation

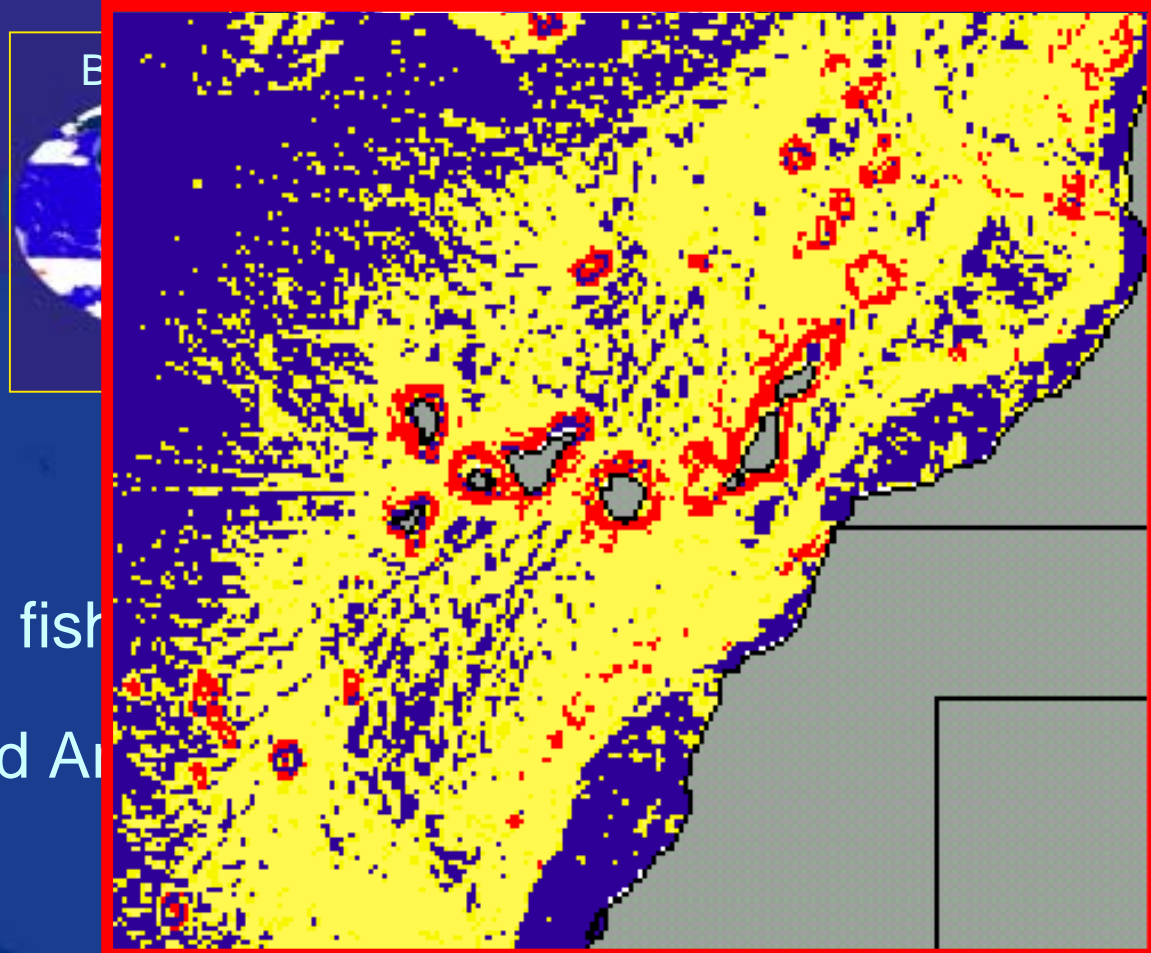
- *M. densirostris*

- All *Mesoplodon* Spp.

- Marine mammal fish

- Marine Protected Area

- Climate change



Applications

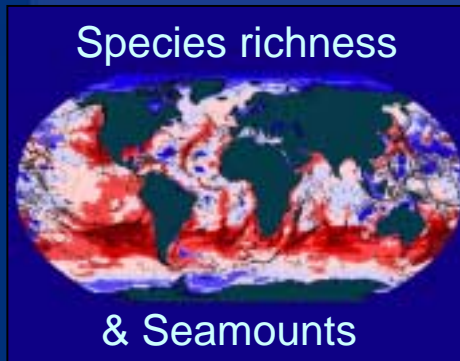
- Management / Research Prioritization
 - Risk mitigation
 - Marine mammal-fisheries interactions



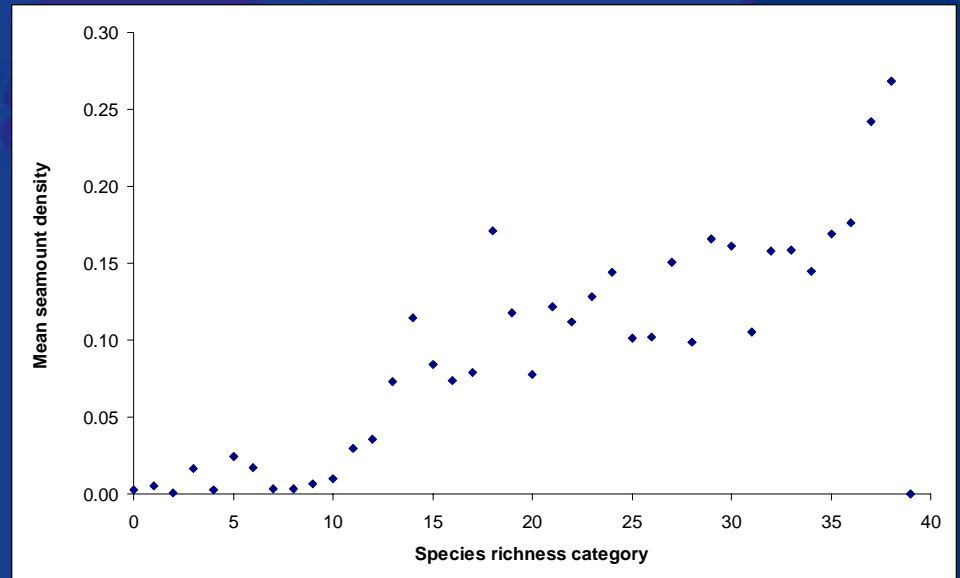
- Marine Protected Areas
- Climate change

Applications

- Management / Research Prioritization
 - Risk mitigation
 - Marine mammal fisheries interactions
 - **Marine Protected Areas**

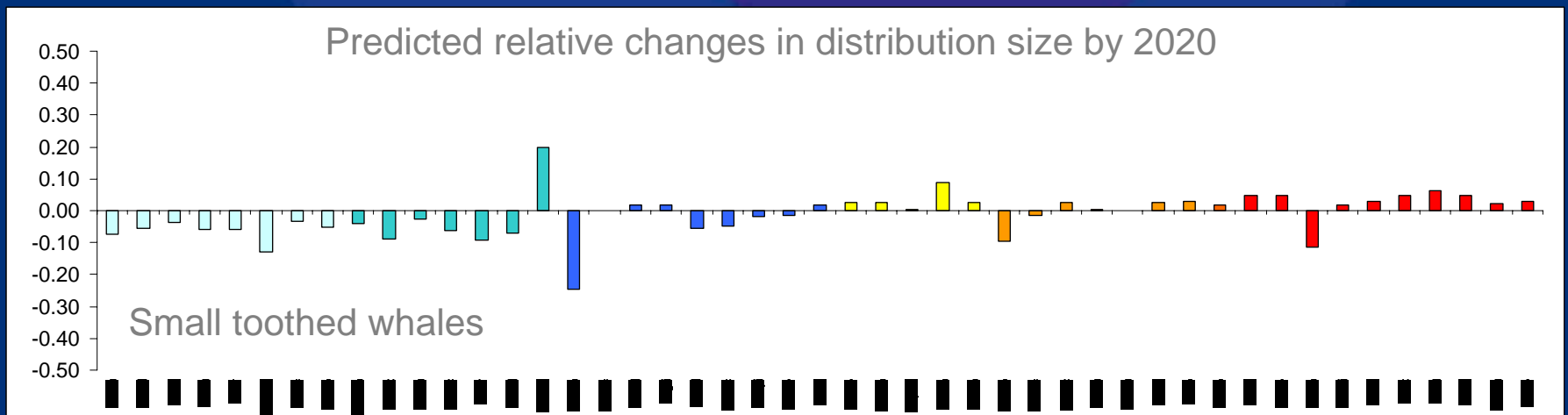


- Climate change

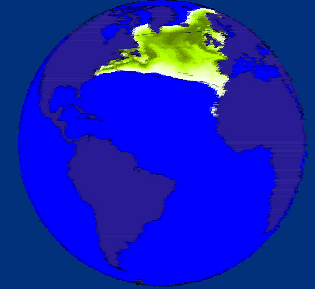


Applications

- Management / Research Prioritization
 - Risk mitigation
 - Marine mammal fisheries interactions
 - Marine Protected Areas
 - **Climate change**



Conclusions



Presence-only / Ecological niche models

- require less data / maximize available data
- less affected by false absences
- more general, useful to investigate large scale patterns & ecological interactions
- time & cost efficient starting points
- can supplement small scale studies and help to focus research and management efforts

Acknowledgements

- Ed Gregr, MMRU, UBC, Vancouver
- Anita Gilles & Roger Mundry, FTZ Buesum
- Instructors & Participants of the GBIF Ecological Niche Modelling Workshop, 5-9 Dec 2005, Lawrence, Kansas

