


# Colonization dynamics and adaptation as structuring factors in population genetic structure ?

'sHertogenbosch – April 2014

# Luc De Meester



This is a detail from Hieronymus Bosch's painting 'The Fight Between Carnival and Lent'. The scene depicts a group of people in a pond, surrounded by various animals. A large white bull is prominent in the upper left, with people riding on its back. In the center, a group of people are standing in the water, some holding up objects. To the right, a group of people are sitting on the ground, and a large fish is visible. The background shows a landscape with trees and a building. The overall scene is a satirical representation of human behavior and the struggle between carnal desires and religious obligations.

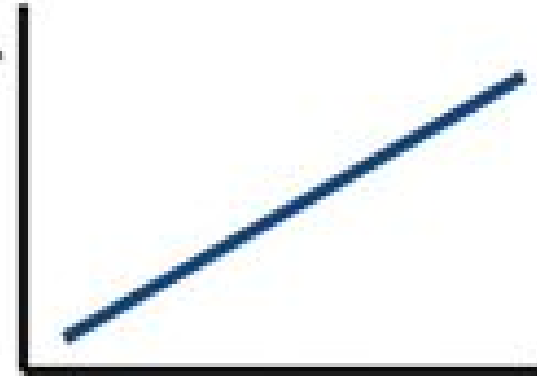
At what spatial scale does local adaptation occur and to what extent does it influence landscape genetic structure ?



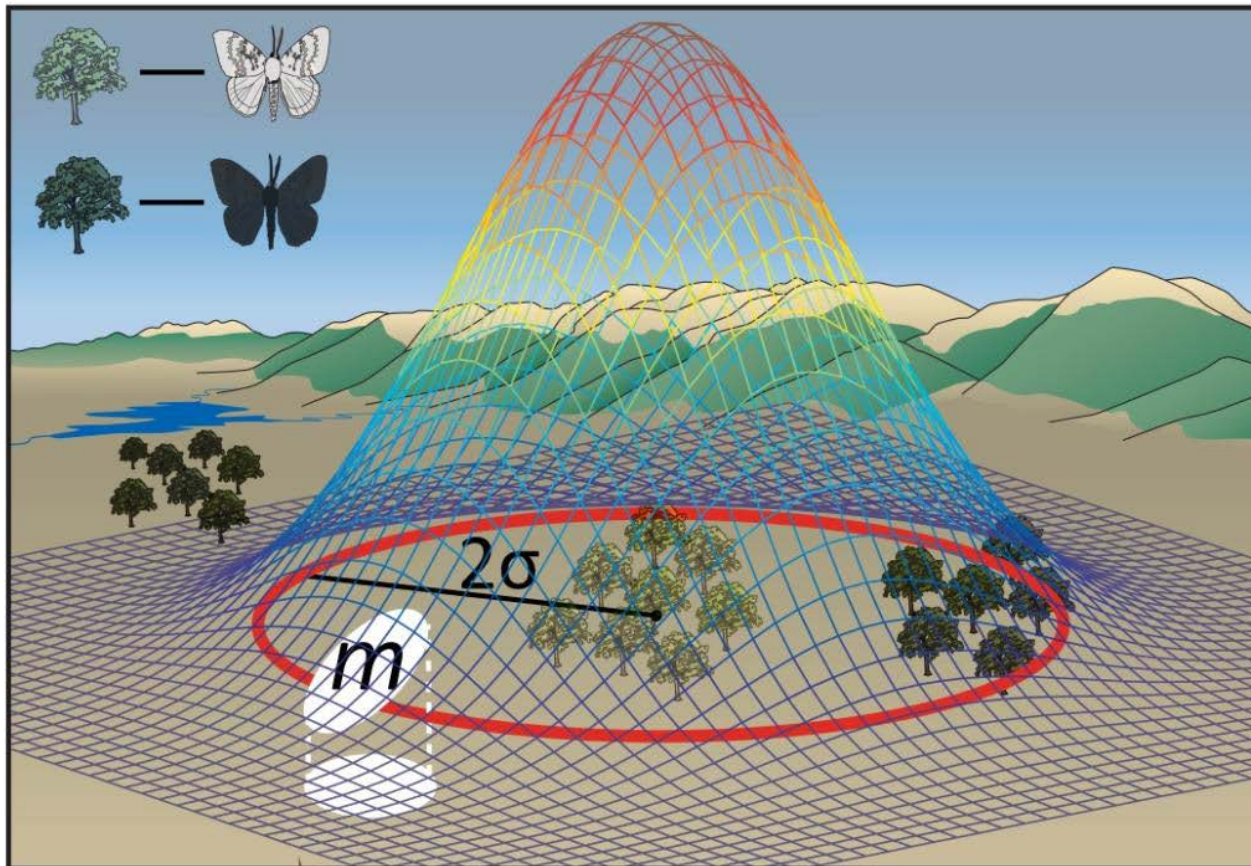


Richardson et al. 2014  
TREE

$F_{ST}$



**Geographic  
distance**



One “wright”:  
two standard deviations  
from the mean  
of the dispersal kernel



# Landscape genetic structure in relation to space and environment



Luisa Orsini

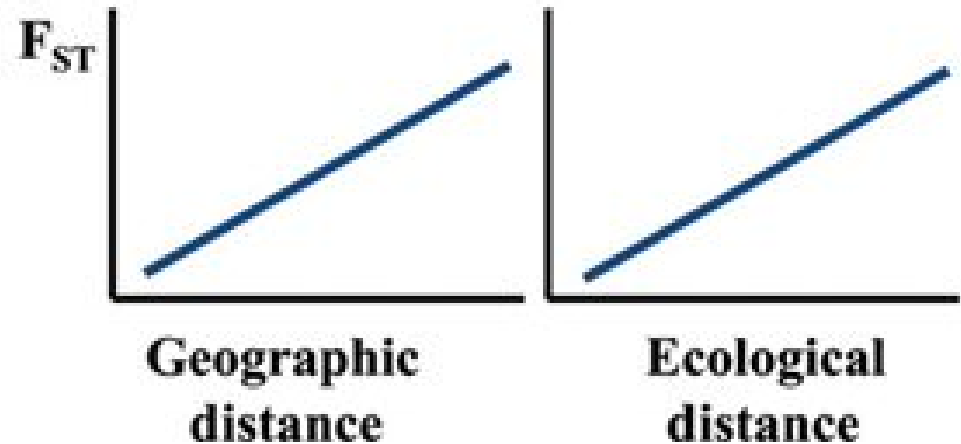
Orsini et al. 2013

Invited review *Molecular Ecology*

Patterns:

**Isolation by distance**

**Isolation by environment**



Processes:

**Isolation by dispersal limitation**

**Isolation by adaptation**

**Isolation by colonization**



**At what scale does local adaptation occur?**  
adaptation in the face of dispersal



# The ecological model, the water flea *Daphnia*



Strong ecological interactor

Short generation time

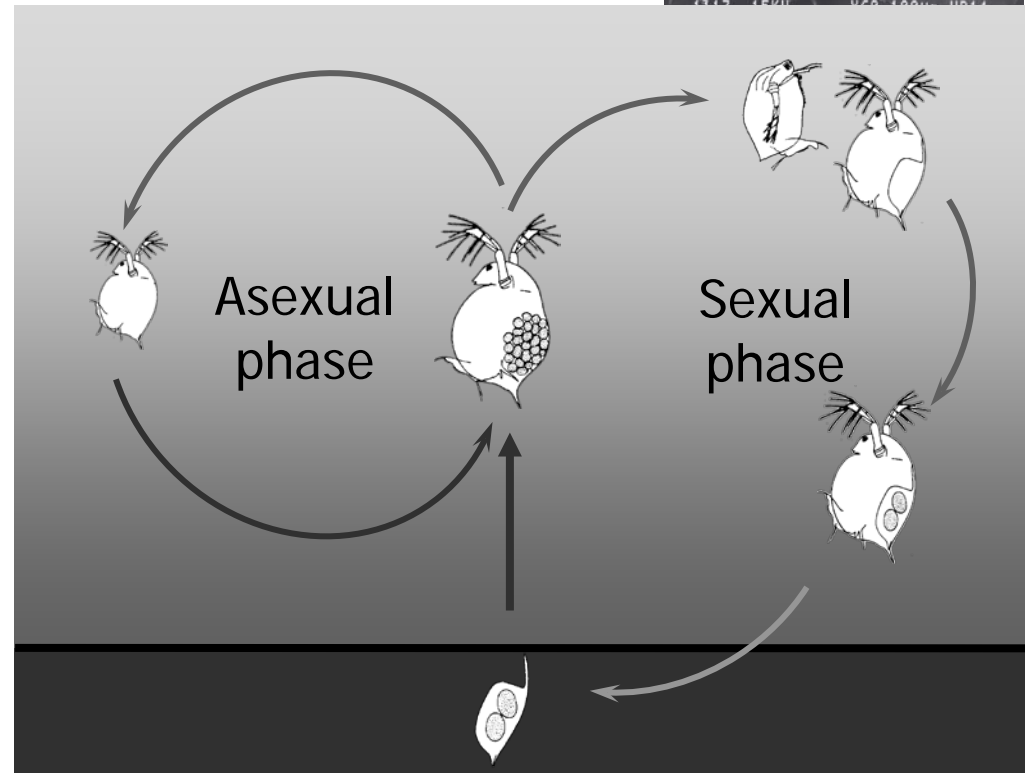
Clonal lineages (GxE, GxG, GxGxE,...)

Dormant stages

Genomics (Colbourne et al. 2011 Science)



*Daphnia* Genomics  
Consortium







# *Daphnia* is a good disperser

## (1) rapid colonization of new habitats

(e.g. Talling, 1951; Jenkins & Buikema, 1998; Louette & De Meester, 2005)

Louette et al. 2007 **1-3 clones per year *D. obtusa***

## (2) widespread occurrence of clones of obligately parthenogenetic taxa

(e.g. Weider et al., 1999)

## (3) rapid spread of exotic species

(e.g. *Daphnia lumholtzi* in NAM; Shurin & Havel, 2003; Mergeay et al. 2006)

## (4) cladoceran community structure shows little evidence of dispersal limitation (Shurin, 2000; Cottenie et al. 2003; De Bie et al 2012)

## (5) good data on **vectors**

Wind / Birds / Mammals

Figuerola 2003; Vanschoenwinkel et al. 2008; Waterkeyn et al. 20

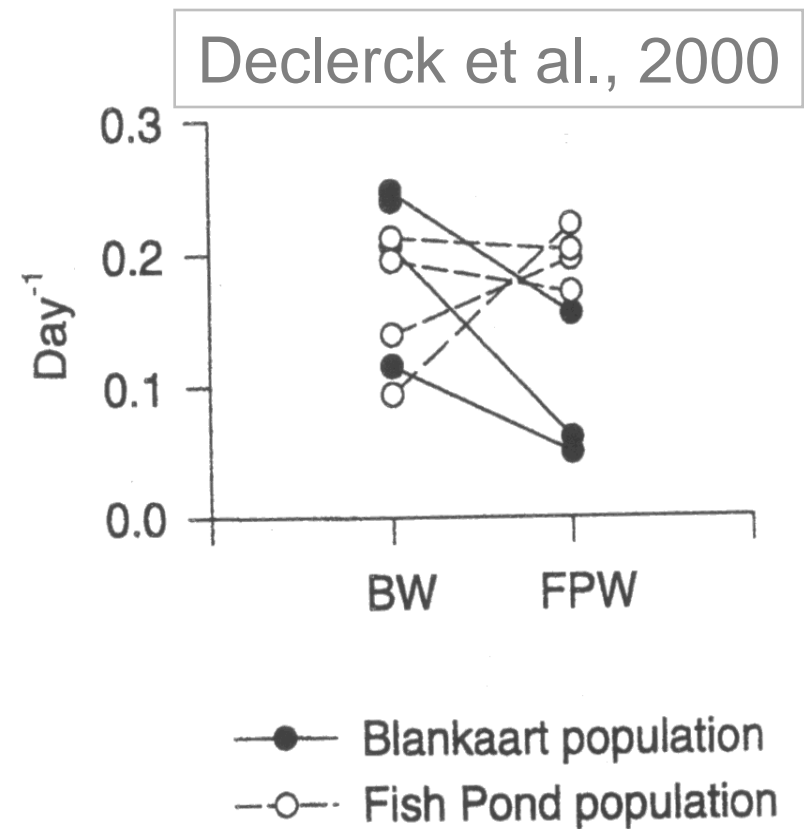
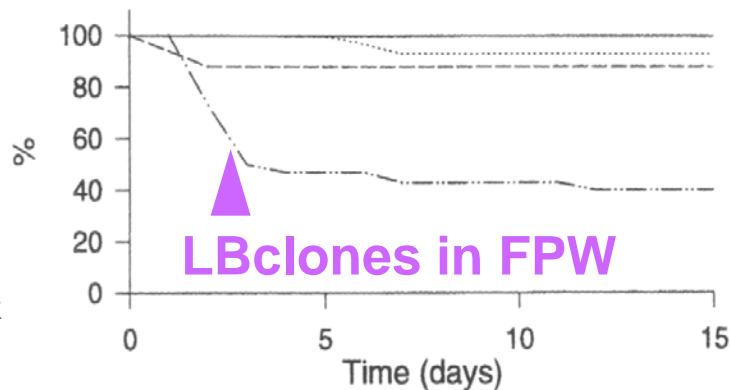




# Local adaptation at the scale of neighbouring ponds



Steven Declerck



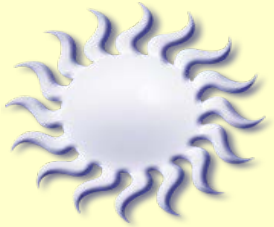
*Daphnia galeata*

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# Local adaptation reported for a wide range of environmental gradients

Climate  
change  
Temperature



Land use  
Pollution



Salinity (Weider)  
C:P (Jeyasingh, Weider)  
UV (Pfrender, Miner)  
...



Parasitism



Predation



Competition



**Land use  
Pollution**



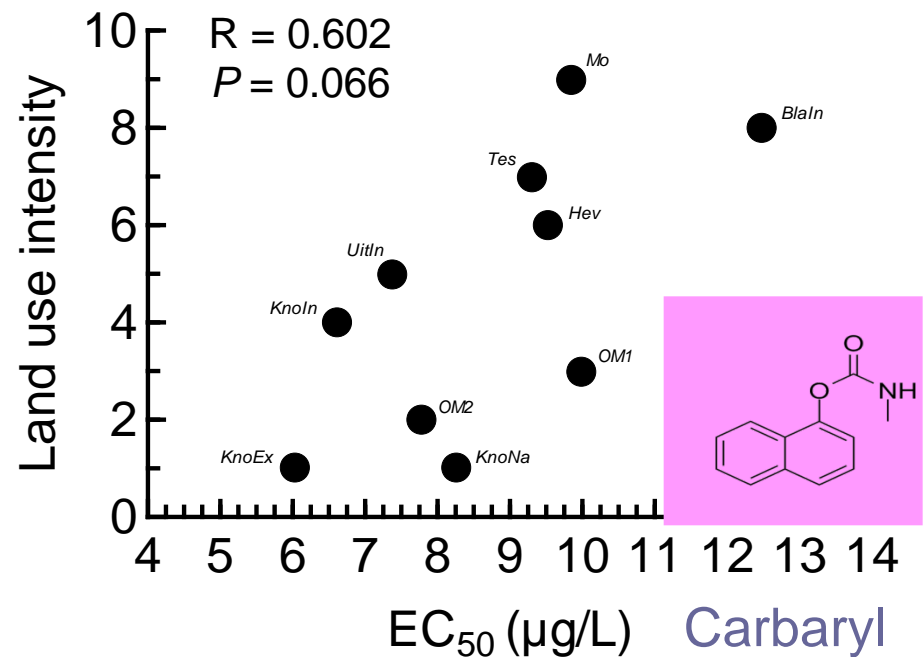
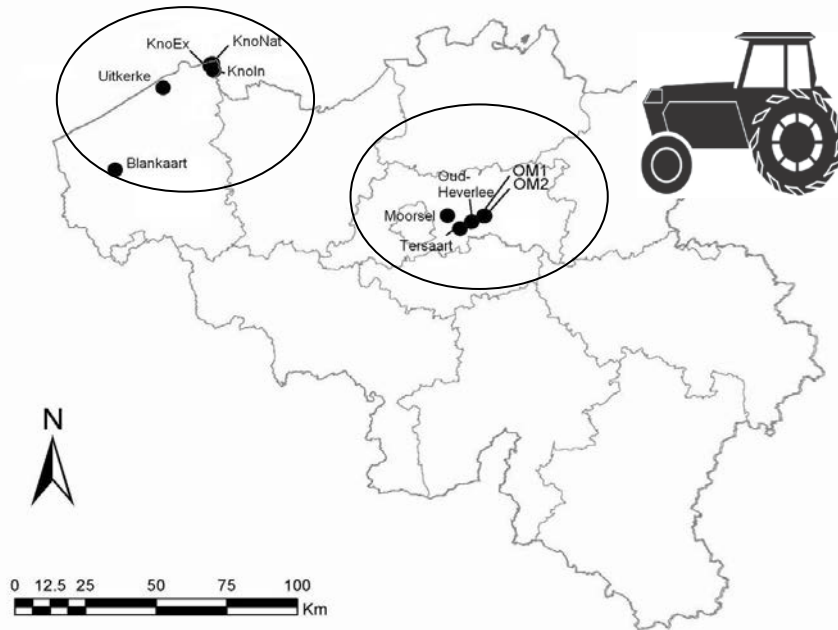
Jansen et al. 2011  
*Evolution  
Functional Ecology  
Ecotoxicology*



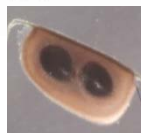
# Genetic adaptation to land use and pollution – field survey



Coors et al. 2009  
Aquatic Toxicology



Jansen et al. 2011  
*Evolution*  
*Functional Ecology*  
*Ecotoxicology*





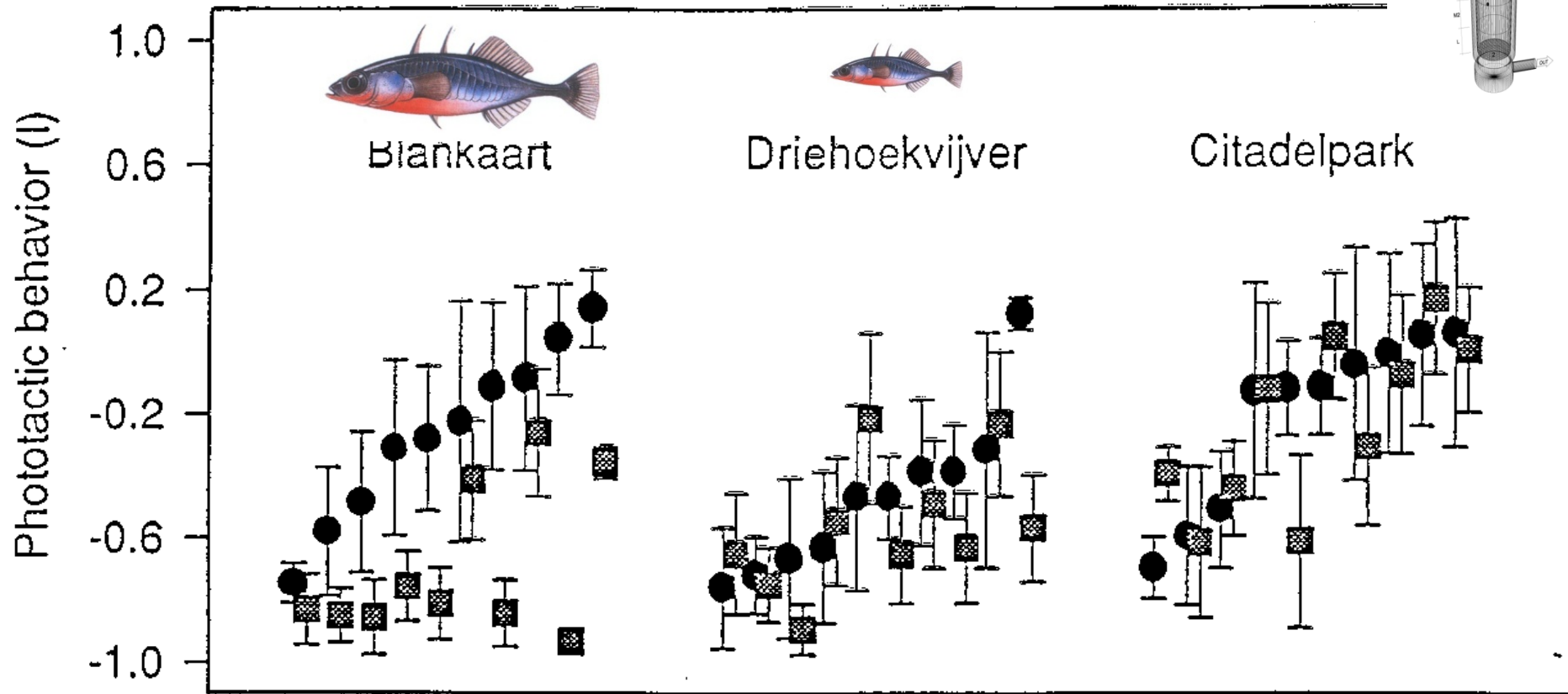
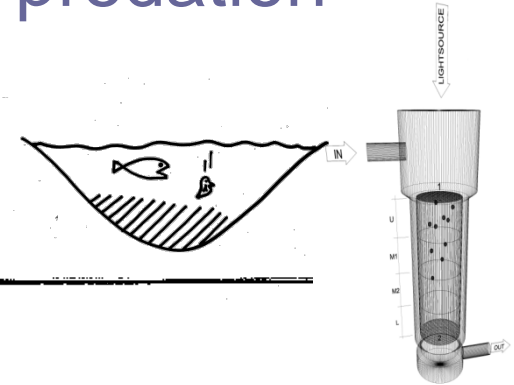


**Predation**



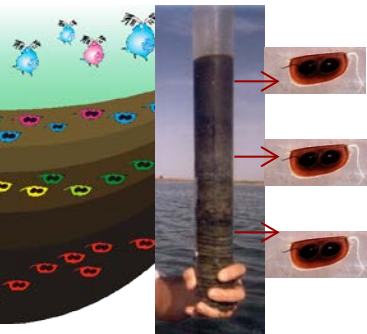
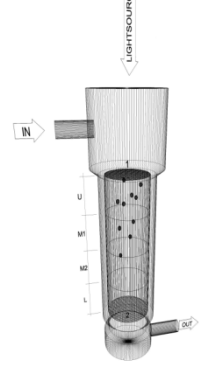
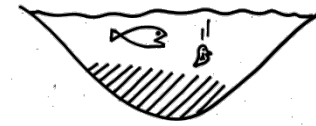


# Genetic adaptation to fish predation – Comparison of three natural populations

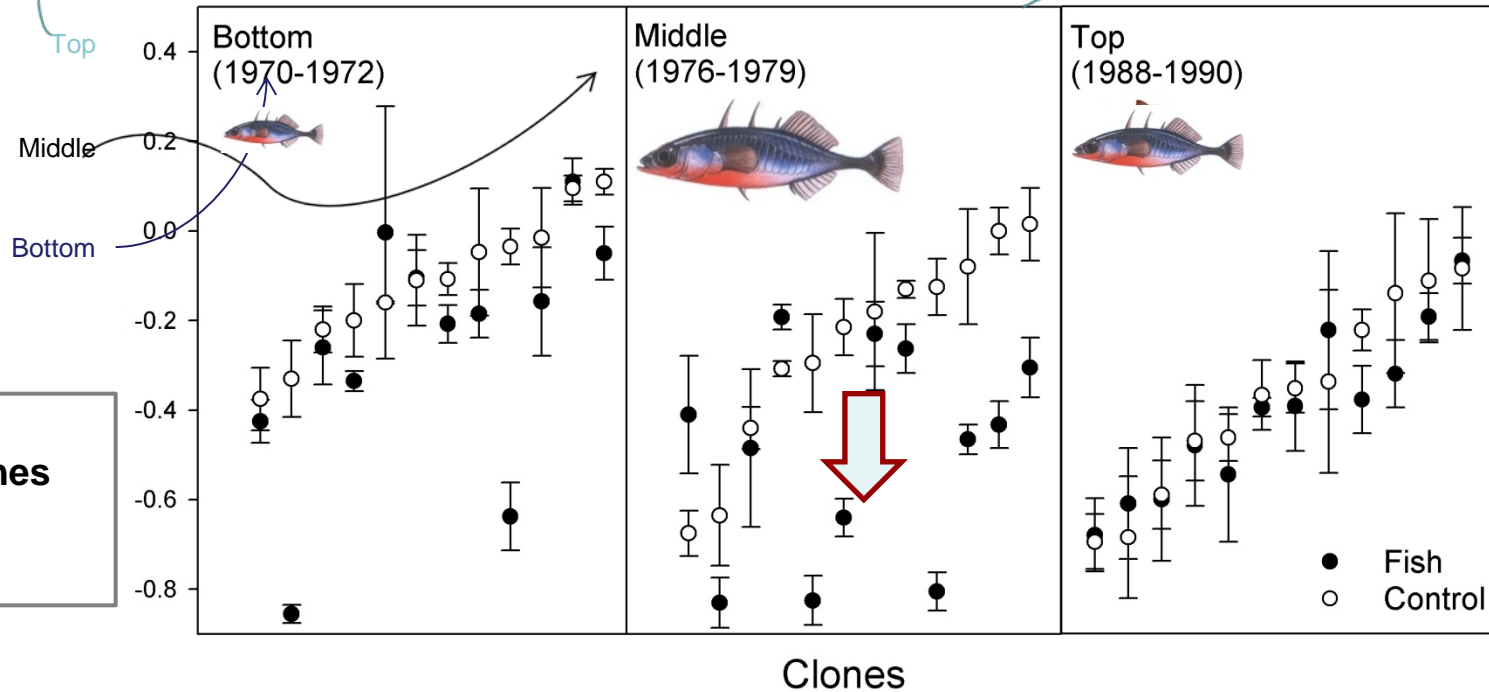




# Evolution of antipredator traits in *Daphnia*



Phototactic behaviour



POP x Fish  
 $P < 0.05$

No genetic differentiation for  $\mu$ sat markers  
LOCAL EVOLUTION (6-10 years)  
EVOLUTION OF PLASTICITY

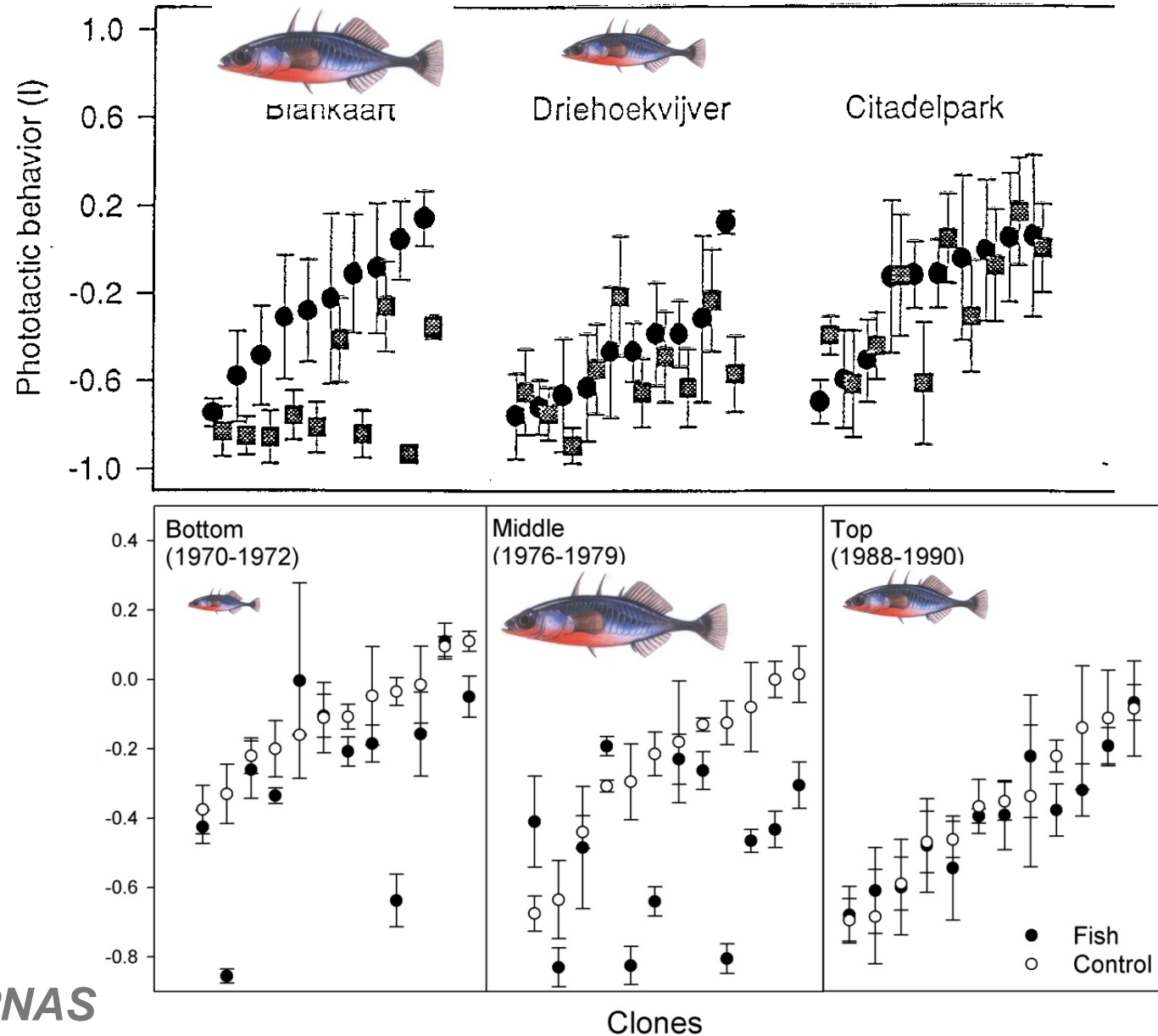
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Cousyn et al. 2001 PNAS





# Comparison space and time



De Meester 1996  
*Evolution*

Cousyn et al. 2001 *PNAS*



# Landscape genetic structure



# Landscape genetic structure in relation to space and environment



Luisa Orsini

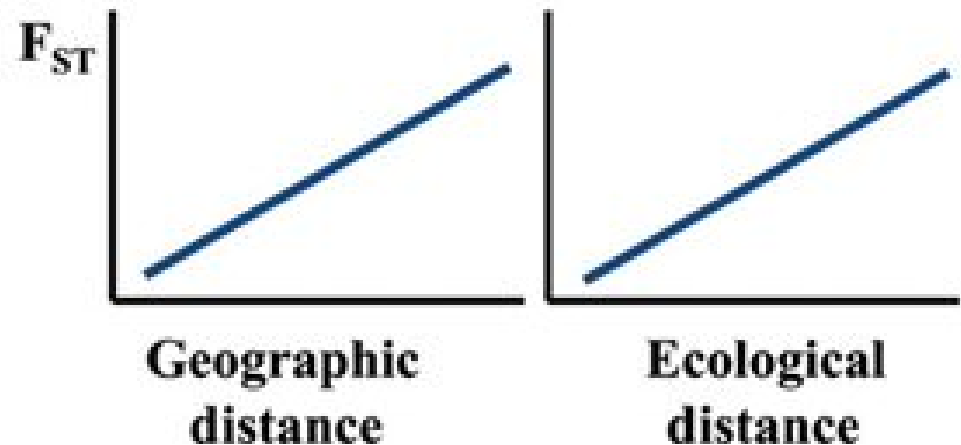
Orsini et al. 2013

Invited review *Molecular Ecology*

Patterns:

**Isolation by distance**

**Isolation by environment**



Processes:

**Isolation by dispersal limitation**

**Isolation by adaptation** (Nosil et al 2008 *Evolution*)

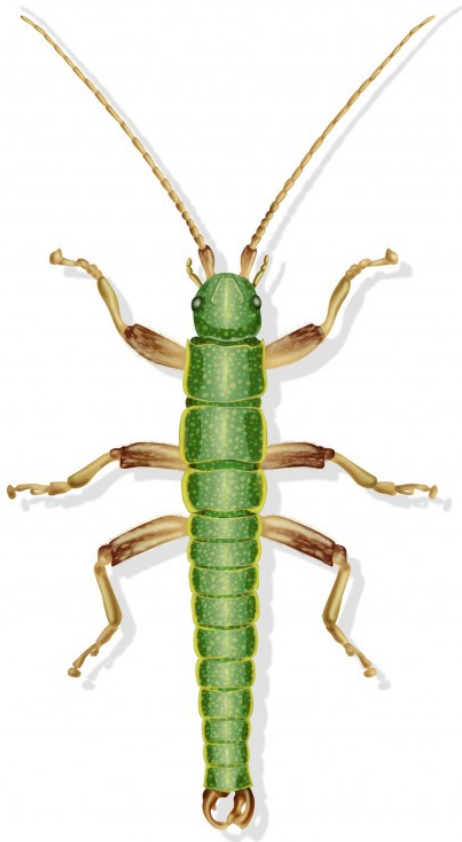
**Isolation by colonization**





# Isolation by adaptation

*Timema* walking stick insects  
Patrick Nosil, Sheffield



*Timema cristinae* Green (*Ceanothus*)



*Timema cristinae* Striped (*Adenostoma*)

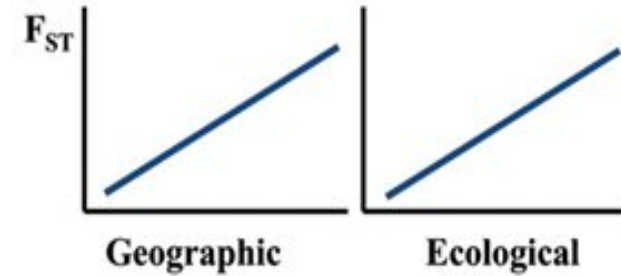


M. Muschick photo



# What is the resulting landscape genetic structure ?

“START”



**Colonization:** random or distance decay  
through serial colonization

Pattern (start)

IBD

RANDOM



**Isolation by dispersal limitation:**

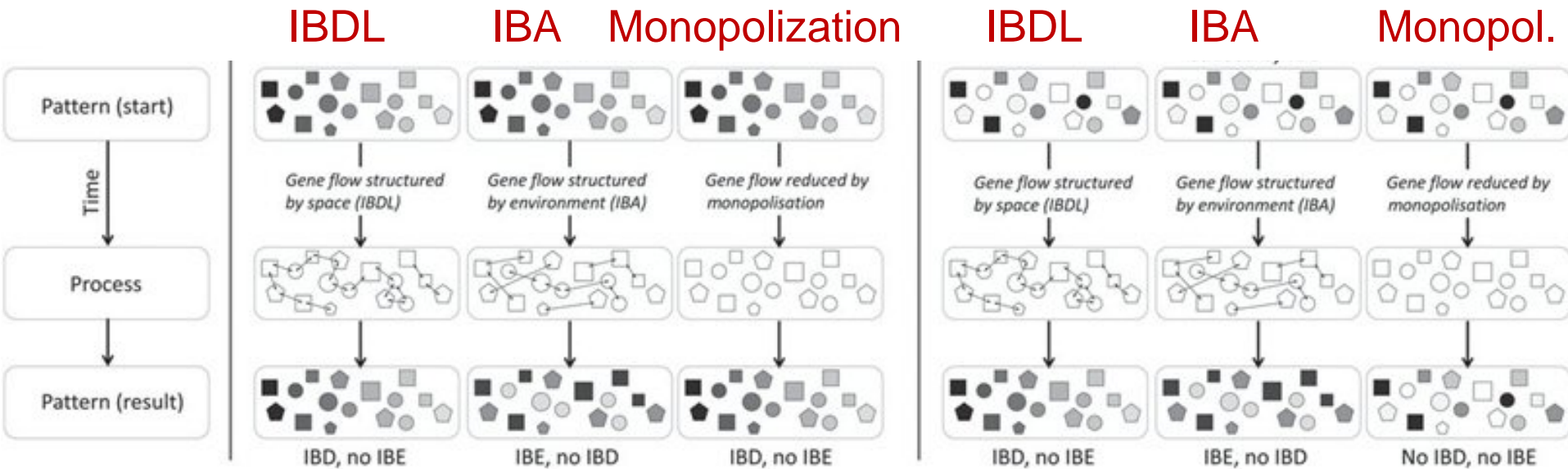
dispersal decays with spatial distance (dispersal kernel)

**Isolation by adaptation:**

reduced effective gene flow among ecologically different habitats

**Monopolization:** evolution-mediated priority effects

**Processes:**



**Resulting pattern**

**IBD**

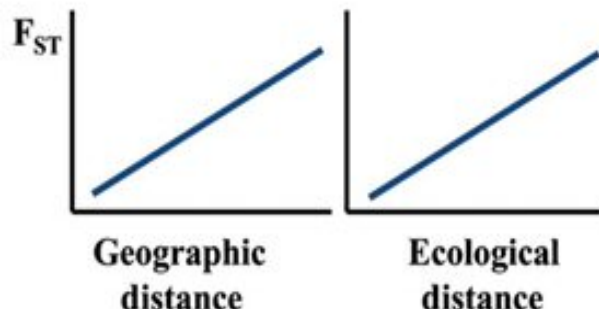
**IBE**

**IBD**

**IBD**

**IBE**

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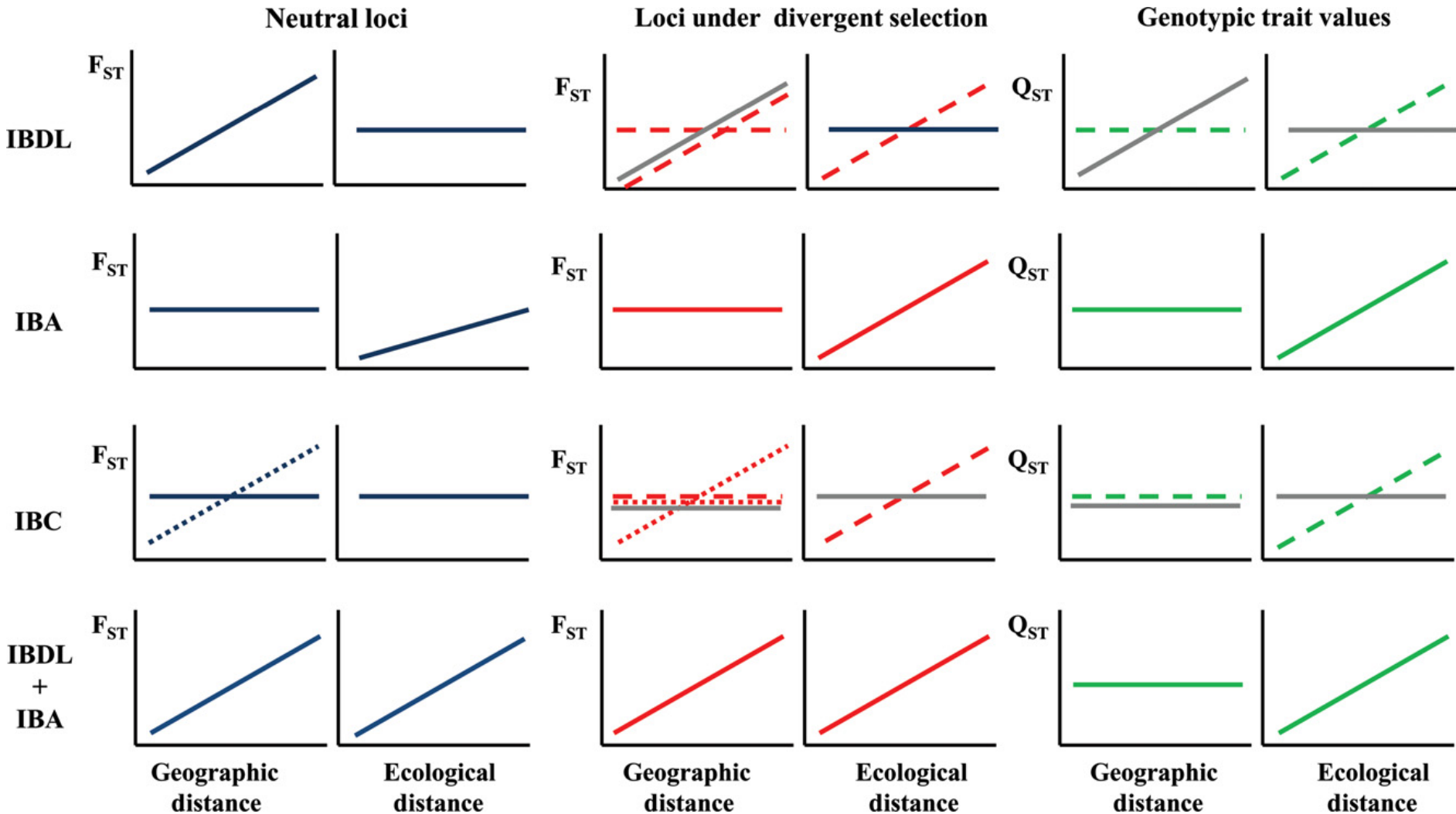






# PREDICTIONS of landscape genetic structure in relation to spatial and environmental gradients

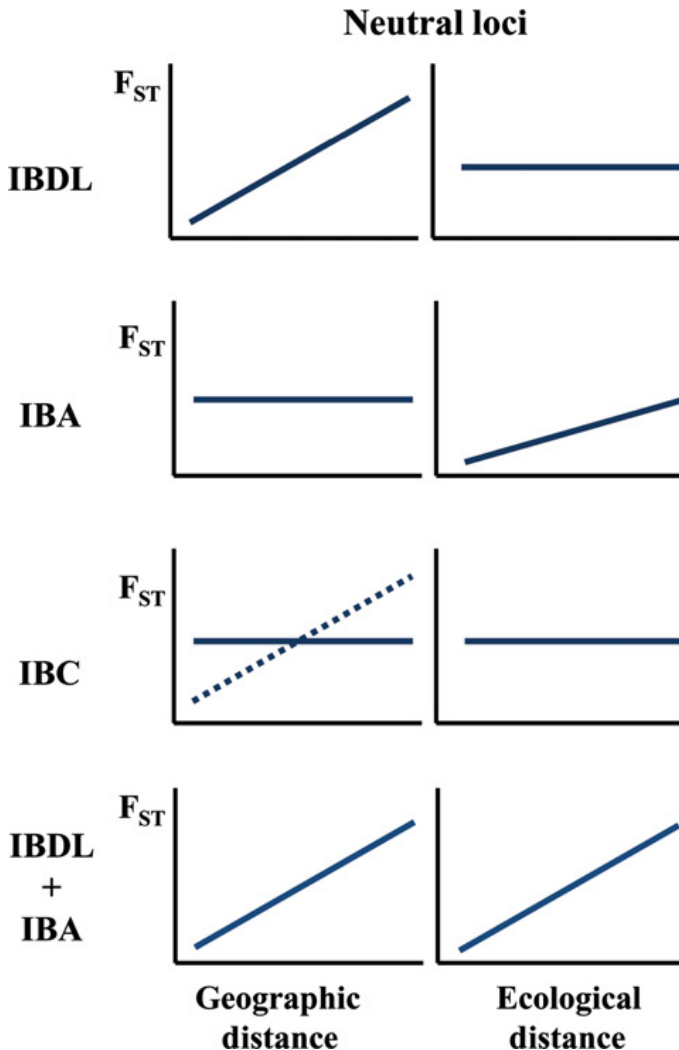
- Neutral loci
- Loci under selection / trait values





In most population genetic studies that explicitly consider environmental gradients, a pattern of isolation-by-environment is detected .

In many studies that quantify genetic variation in ecologically relevant traits, patterns of local genetic adaptation are found.



Literature review on 32 studies that investigated both IBD and IBE and both neutral markers and markers under selection / traits:

<b>-IBA</b>	19 (21)
<b>-IBDL contributes</b>	11 (17)
<b>-IBC+LA or Monopolization</b>	7-11

**Selection** and **adaptation** played a role in **all** of the studies



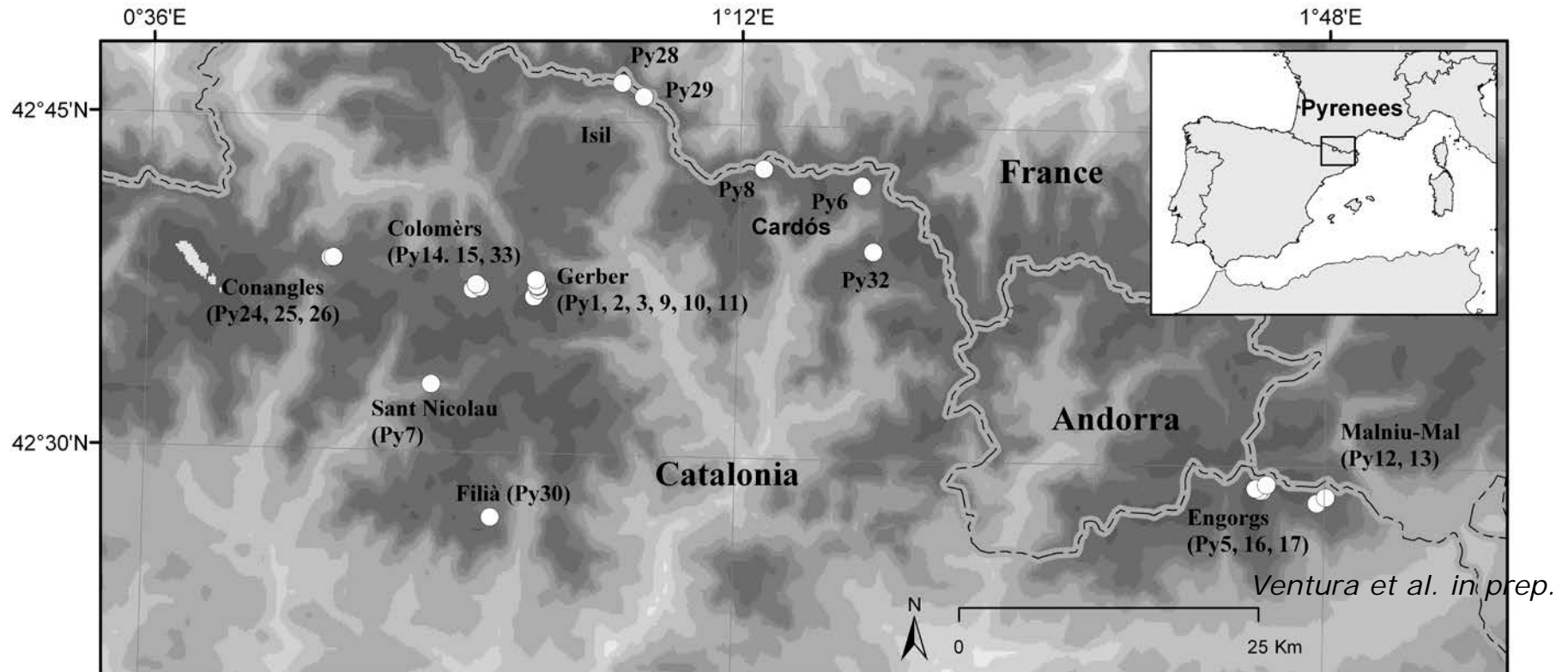
# Example 2: Long-lasting founder effects



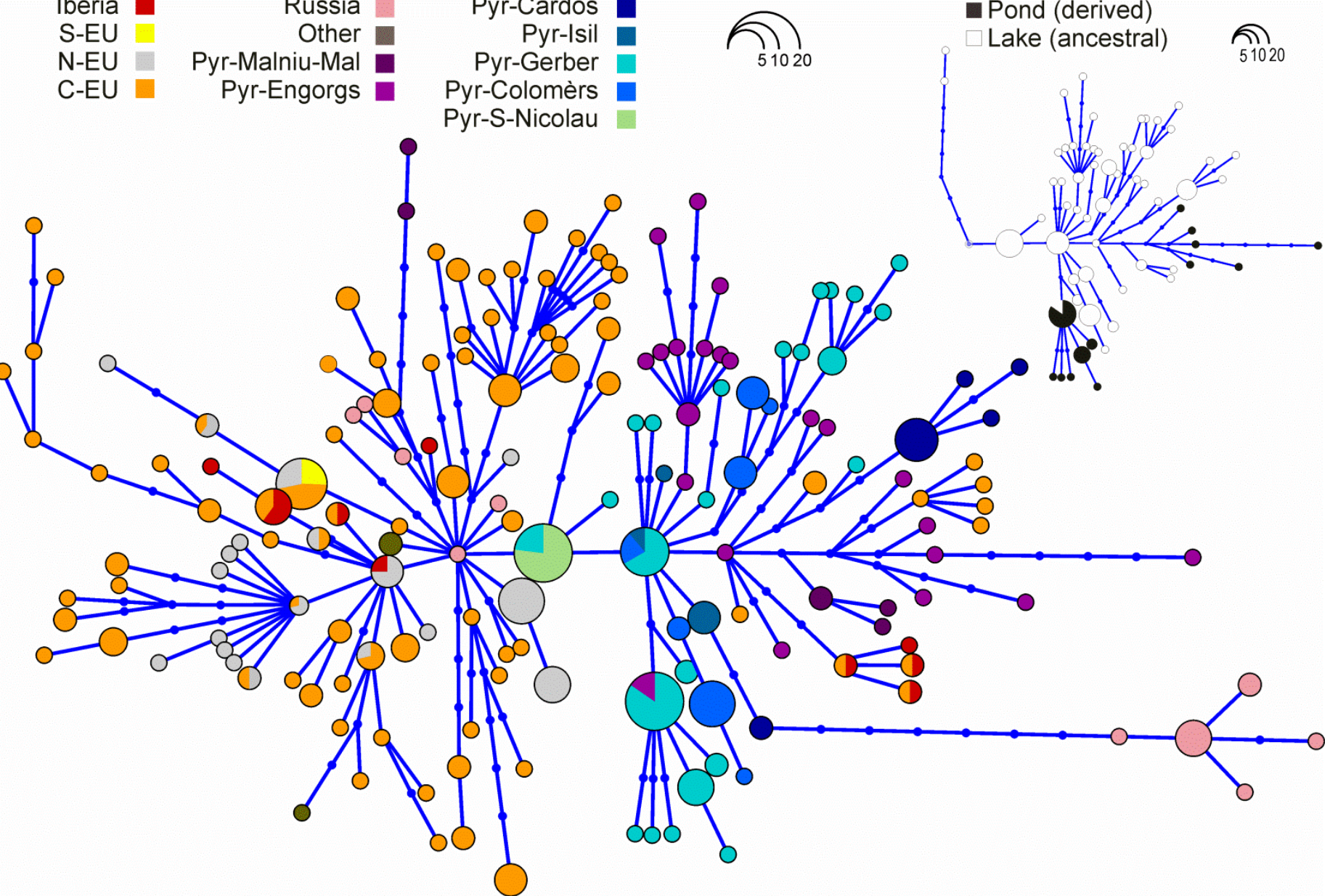
Joachim Mergeay

Ventura et al. 2014  
*Molecular Ecology*

Study on persistent founder effects (15,000 years) in *Daphnia longispina* from 24 alpine lakes in Pyrenees:







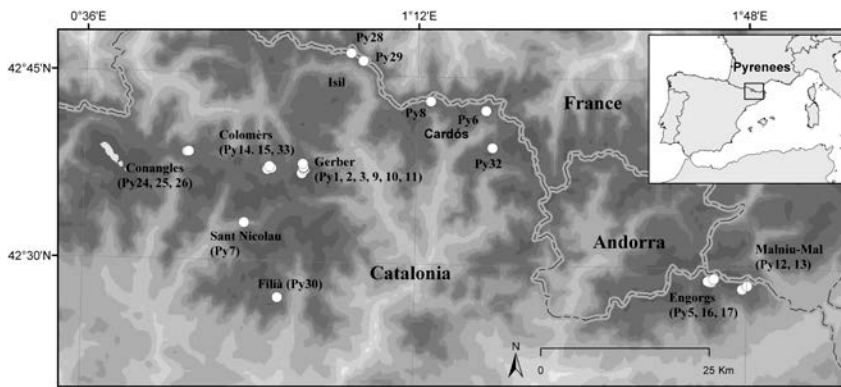
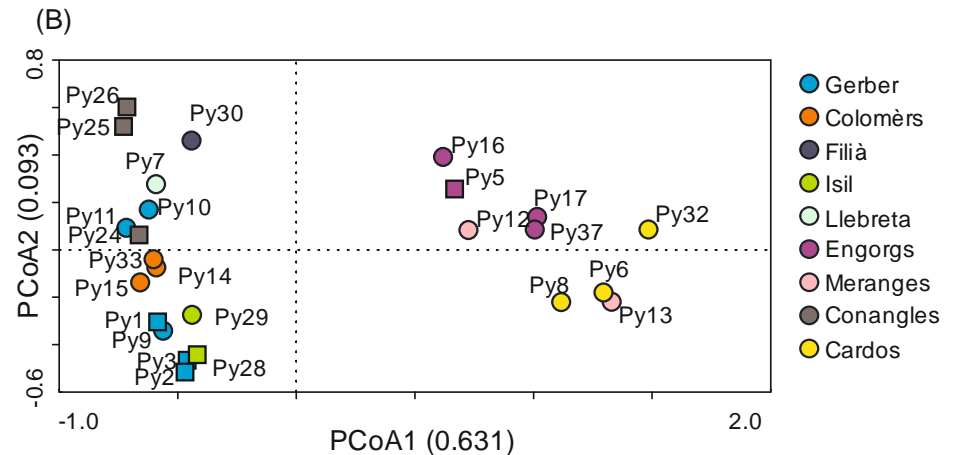
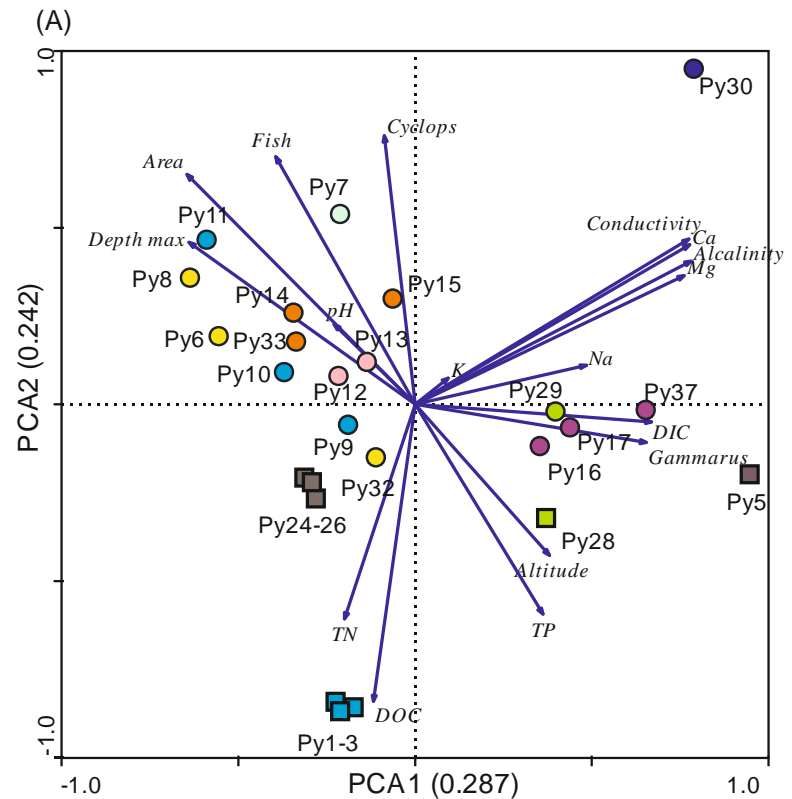
Haplotype (12S rRNA gene): single colonization event by *D. longispina*, followed by serial colonization

**Extremely low effective gene flow** among habitats / catchments



Genetic structure at 9  $\mu$ sat loci reflects catchment irrespective of environmental conditions

Squares = ponds  
Circles = lakes

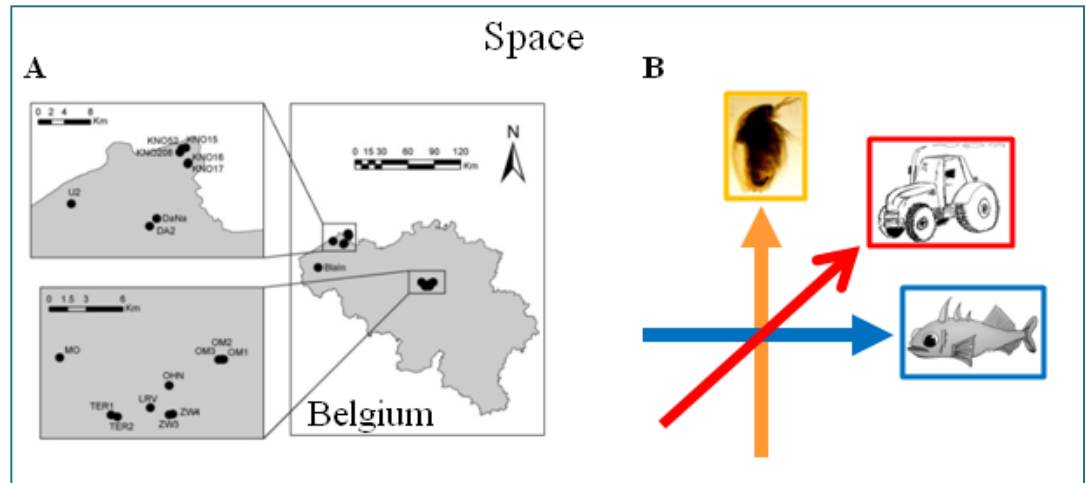
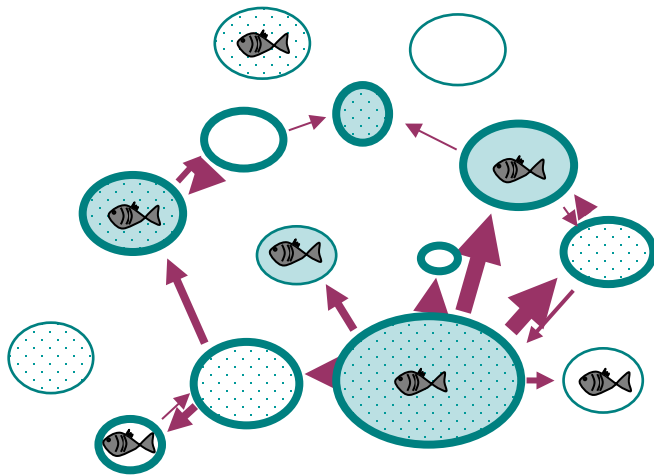




# Example 4: *Daphnia magna* along a mosaic of environmental gradients – ponds in Belgium



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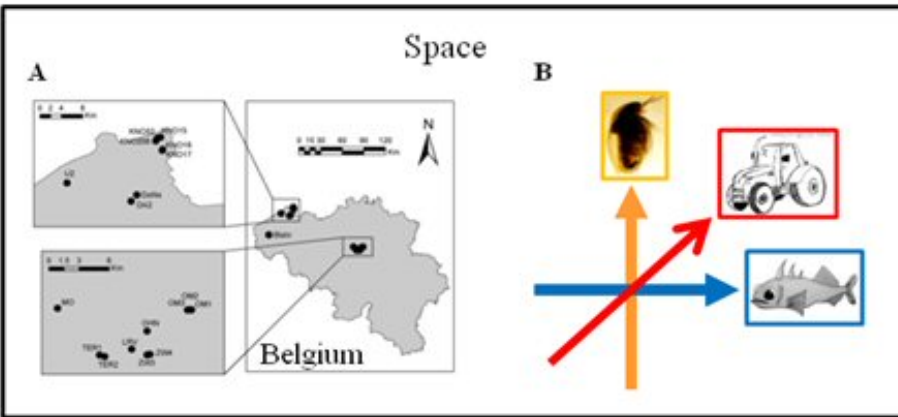


- 20 ponds along orthogonal gradients of *fish predation*, *land use intensity* and *parasites* (selection of habitats but along strong and orthogonal gradients to remove problem of collinearity)
- Quantify environmental variation [E] (selection)
- and spatial structure [S] (neutral processes, dispersal)

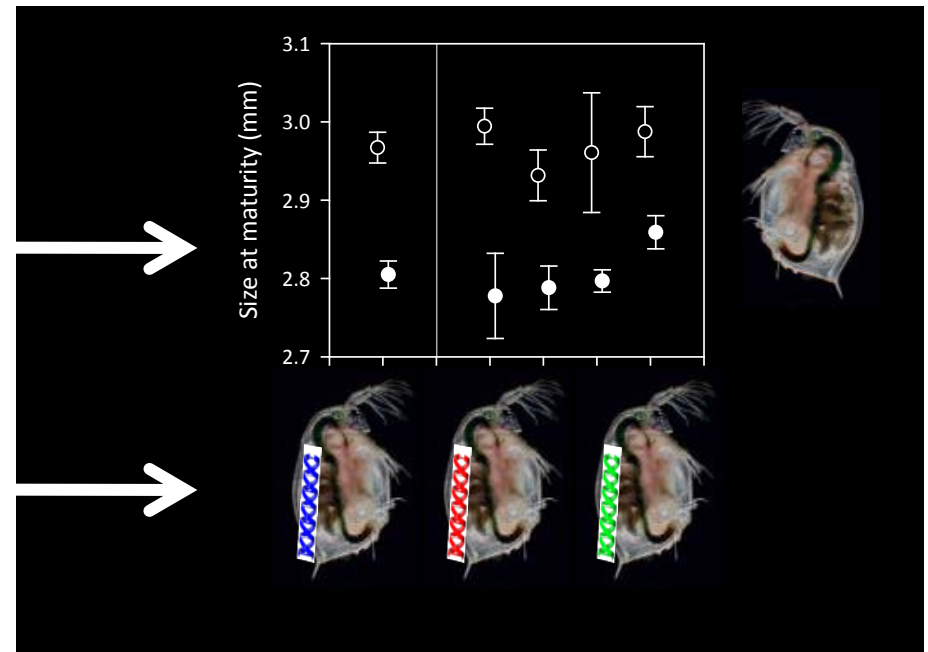




# Quantify matrices of population structure – traits and neutral markers



- genotypic variation in trait values within species (**genotypic values**) [Tw] (**trait variation in the metapopulation**) (quantitative genetic experiments)
- **genetic markers** [N] (μsats, SNP markers and mtDNA haplotypes)

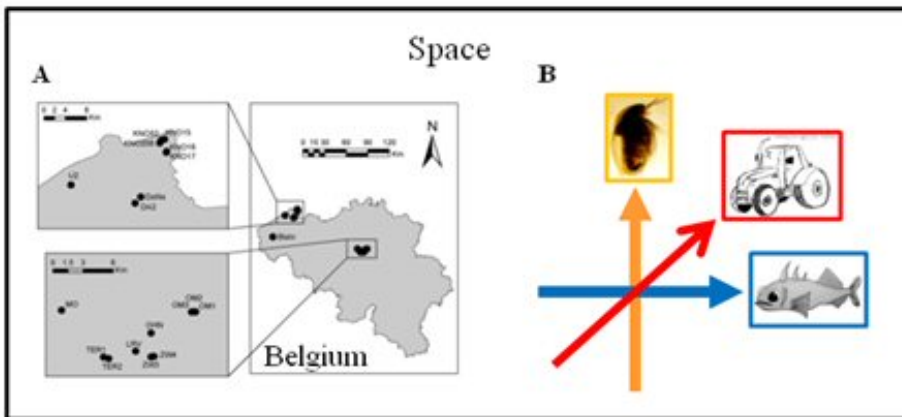




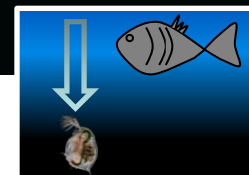
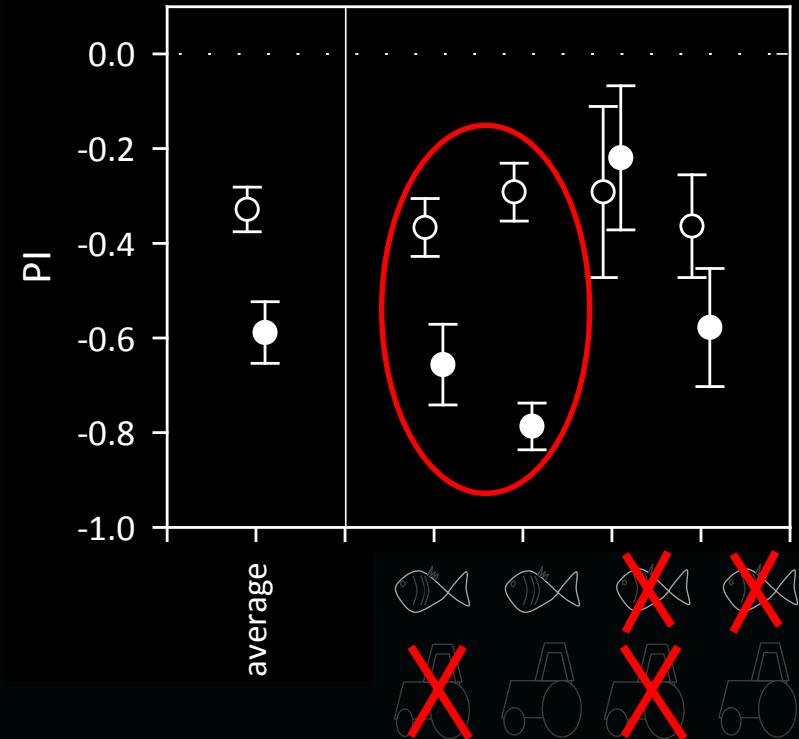


# Evolution of trait values within the focal species *D. magna*

## Orthogonal gradients Traits



Rousseaux et al. In prep.





Orsini et al. 2012 *Molecular Ecology*  
Orsini et al. 2013 *Molecular Ecology*

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Analysis taking all environmental variables into account and variation at both **hypervariable markers** (186  $\mu$ sats and SNPs) and **mt sequence variation** (colonization history)

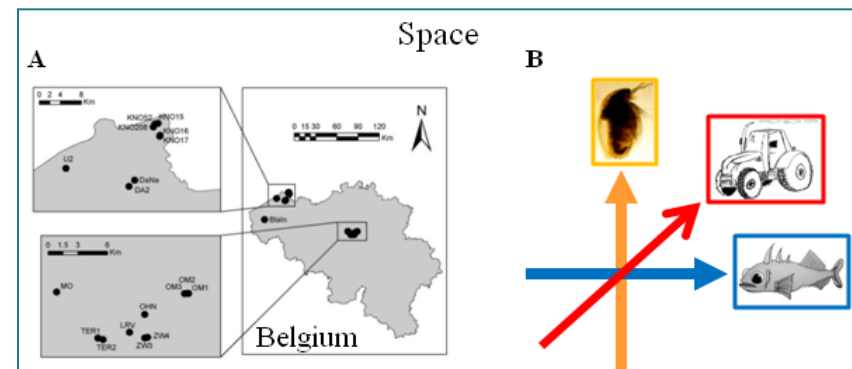
Pattern:

- Strong genetic differentiation at most  $\mu$ sat and SNP markers, **no** association with E or S.
- Specific markers popped up as outliers for specific gradients (fish, parasites, land use).
- Low effective population sizes
- Few mt DNA haplotypes per population, ie few founders

Most likely mechanism is **selection-based reduction of effective gene flow** (partly) freezing colonization events (**IBC mediated by monopolization**)

**Selection** is key in this process, resulting in  
(1) **local adaptation**,  
(2) **reduced gene flow**,  
(3) **enhanced genetic drift**

(Orsini et al. 2013 *Molecular Ecology*)





# Landscape genetic structure in relation to space and environment



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Orsini et al. 2013

Invited review *Molecular Ecology*

Importance of assessing environmental gradients in population genetic studies

Patterns:

**Isolation by distance**

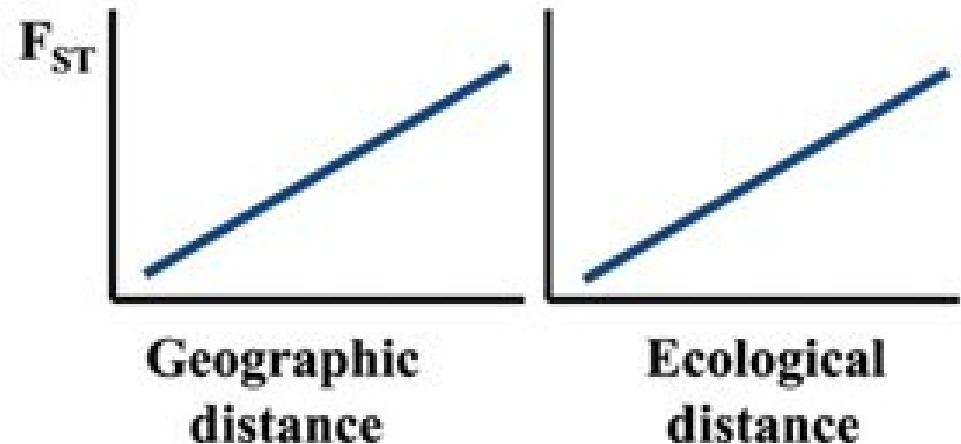
**Isolation by environment**

Processes:

**Isolation by dispersal limitation**

**Isolation by adaptation**

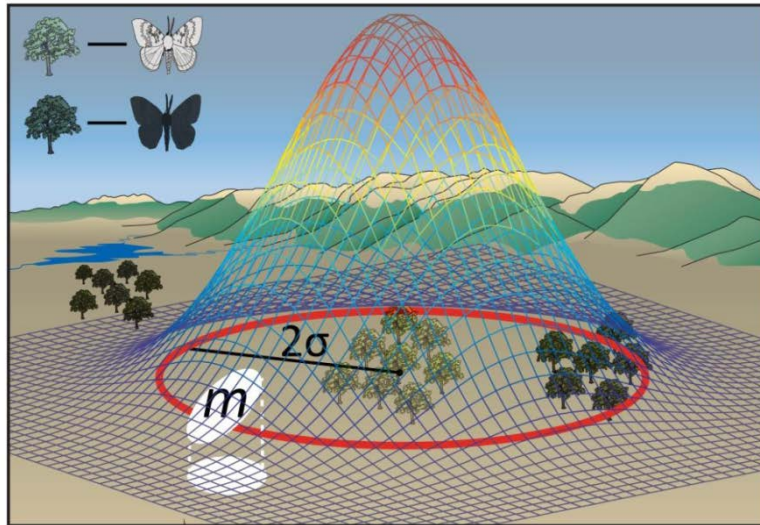
**Isolation by colonization**



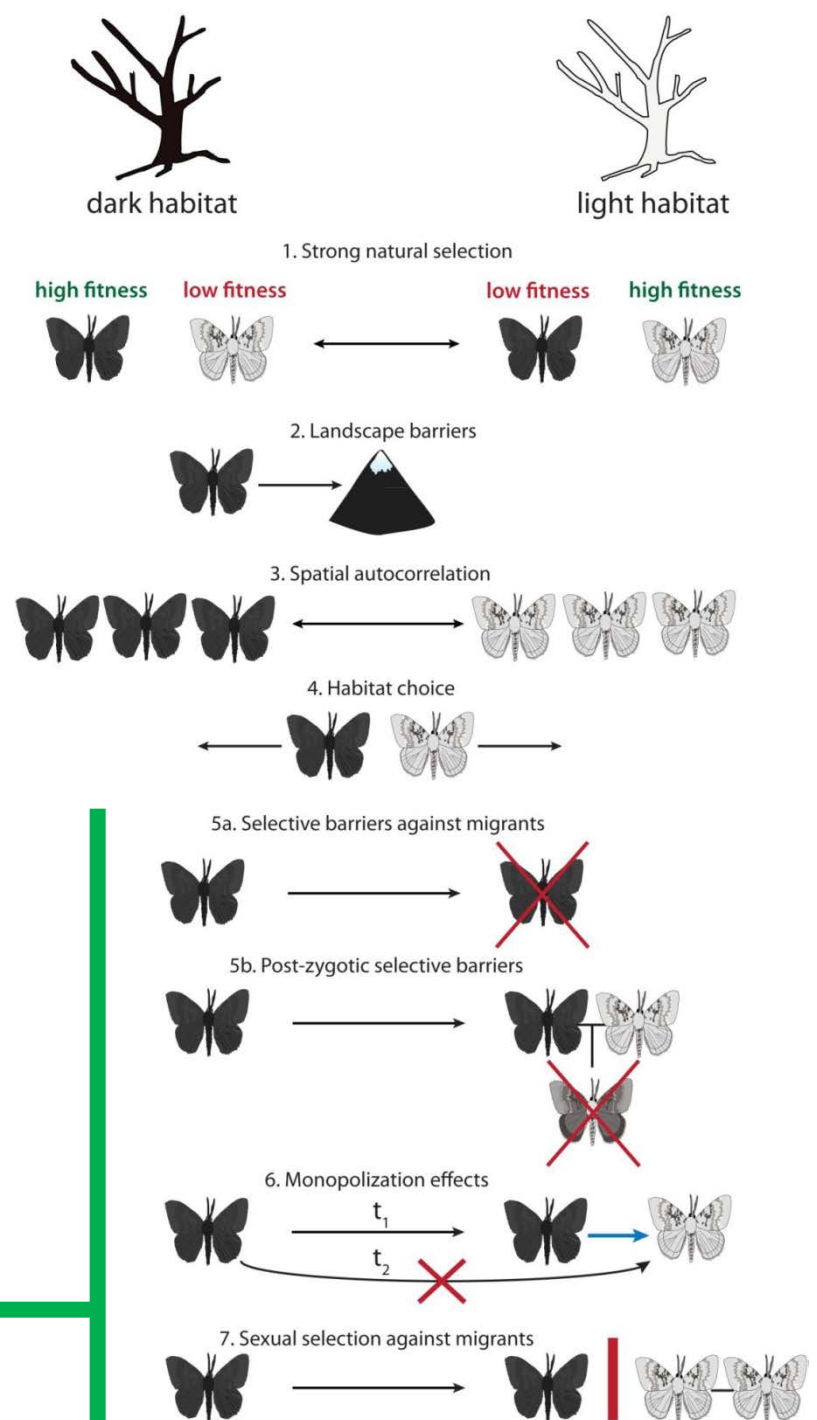




# Richardson et al. 2014 TREE

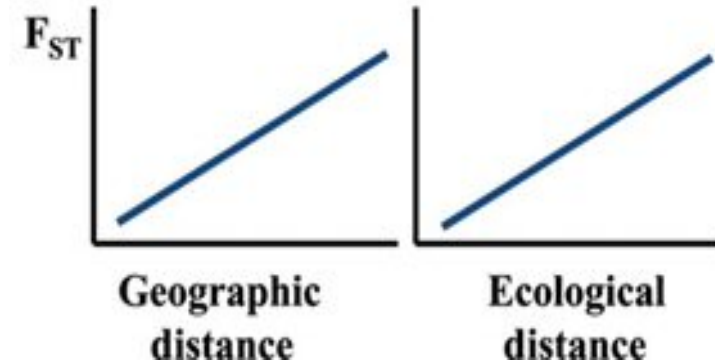
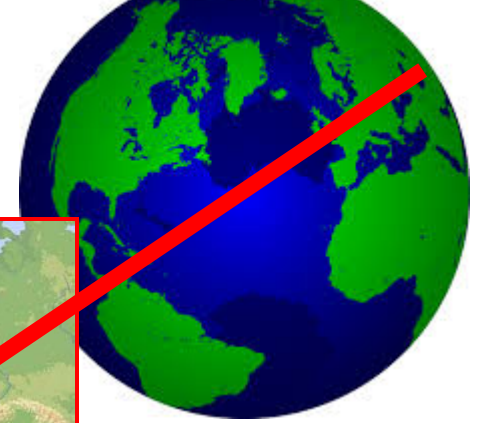


**REDUCED GENE FLOW  
BECAUSE OF SELECTION**





# Geographic scales

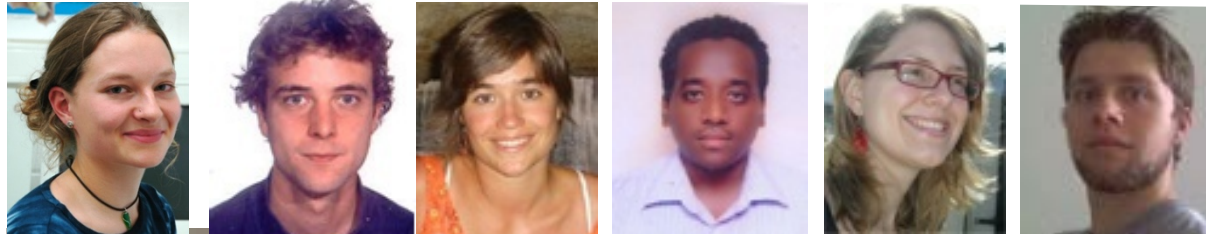






# The local team

**KU LEUVEN**



## *Associated staff*

**Ellen Decaestecker** staff **KULeuven-Kortrijk**  
**Steven Declerck** senior scientist **NIOO-CL (NL)**  
**Joachim Mergeay** head of the genetics Group  
**Institute of Nature and Forest Research (B)**

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## *PhD-students*

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Adinda Putman  
Aurora Geerts  
Fassil Tefera  
Katina Spanier  
Koen Rummens  
Veerle Lemaire  
Xavier Karremans  
Jessie Engelen  
Kristien Brans  
Haileselassie Tsega

**KU LEUVEN**



# Regional dynamics

Mark Urban, Mathew Leibold,  
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working group on “Evolving  
Metacommunities”

Brian Moss & Liverpool team

Erik Jeppesen & NERI team

Brooks Miner, Nelson Hairston,  
Michael Pfrender, Winfried Lampert

John Colbourne, Larry Weider



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**KU LEUVEN**



ESF EUROCORES PROJECT  
**STRESSFLEA**

**THANK YOU !**

