

# Preliminary results of climate-induced tree-dieback effects on insect biodiversity in the Bavarian Forest National Park using DNA metabarcoding of malaise trap data

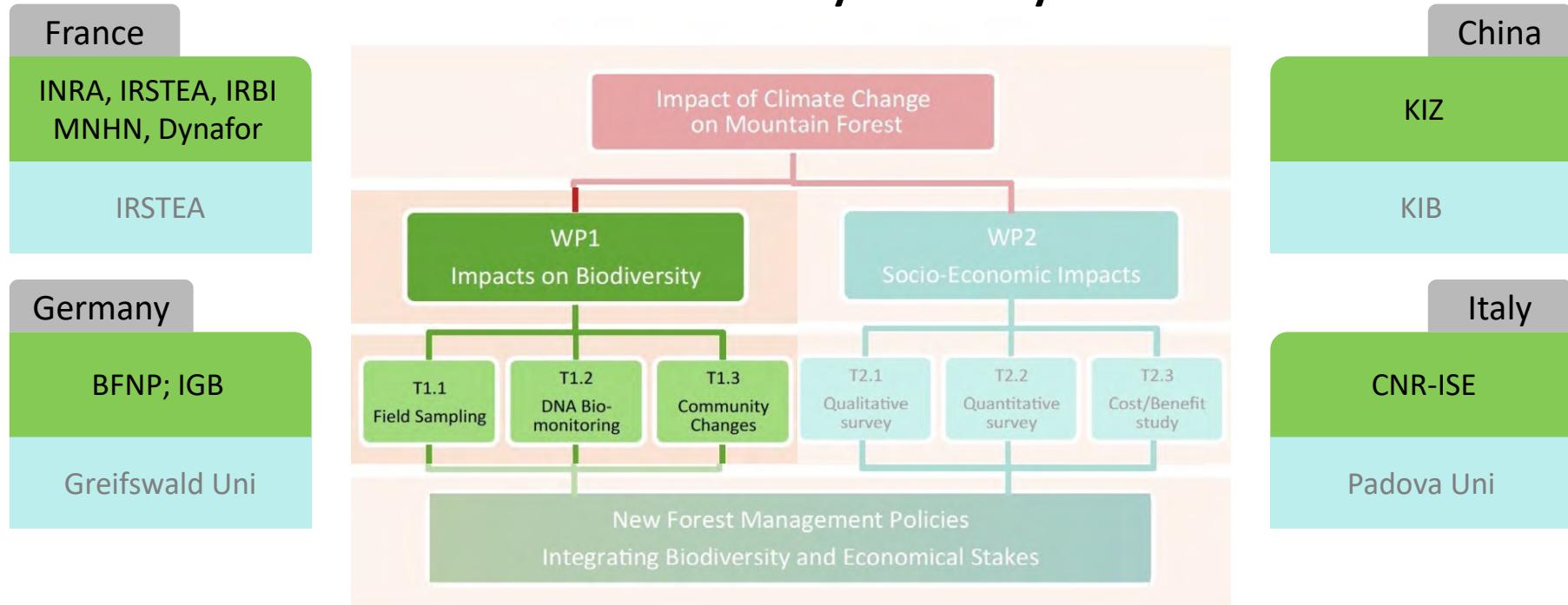
Paul Schmidt Yáñez – schmidt.yanez@igb-berlin.de -  @SchmidtYanez

Leibniz Institute of Freshwater Ecology and Inland Fisheries (IGB) Berlin

LTER-D annual meeting 2019 – Göttingen

# The CLIMTREE project

Produce cross-continental results of the impact of mountain forest die-offs on biodiversity and ecosystem services



WP1:

- Implement new biomonitoring pipeline (DNA metabarcoding)
- Relevant Taxa: fungi, soil meiofauna, **terrestrial & aquatic invertebrates**

# Consequences of climate change

- Increasing stress (drought, fires, storms)



Modified after Allen et al 2016 - Ecography

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- Susceptibility to pathogens and pest insects increases



Modified after Allen et al 2016 - Ecography

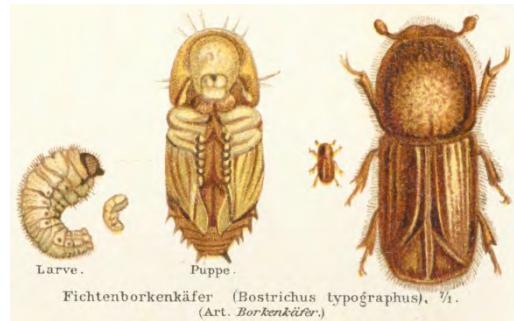


# Consequences of climate change

- Increasing stress (drought, fires, storms)
  - Susceptibility to pathogens and pest insects increases
  - More severe bark beetle outbreaks
- Changes on landscape level



Modified after Allen et al 2016 - Ecography



*Ips typographus*

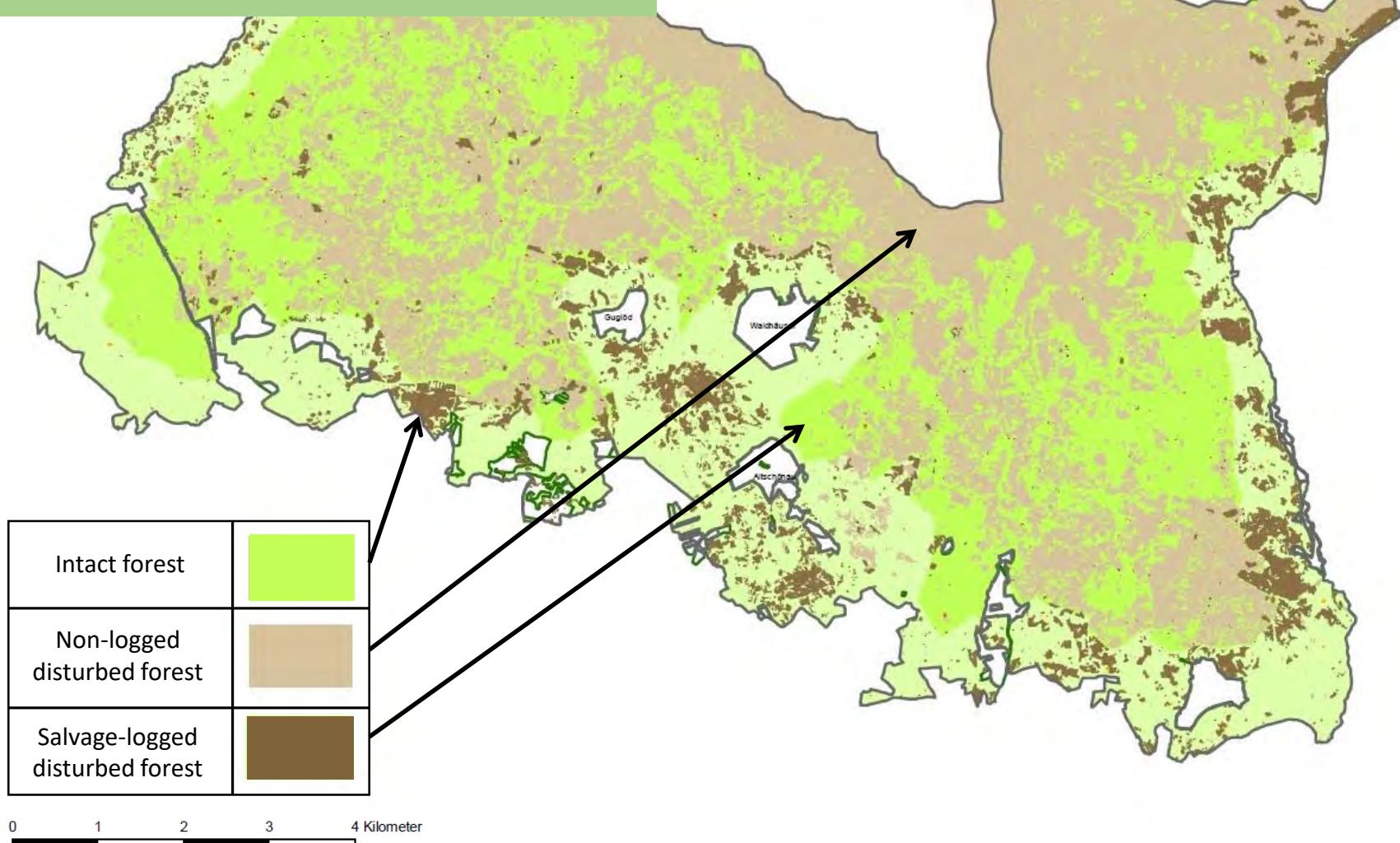


## Large scale landscape changes



Spruce stands in the Bavarian Forest NP, view from Rachel spring 2017

## Bavarian Forest National Park - south



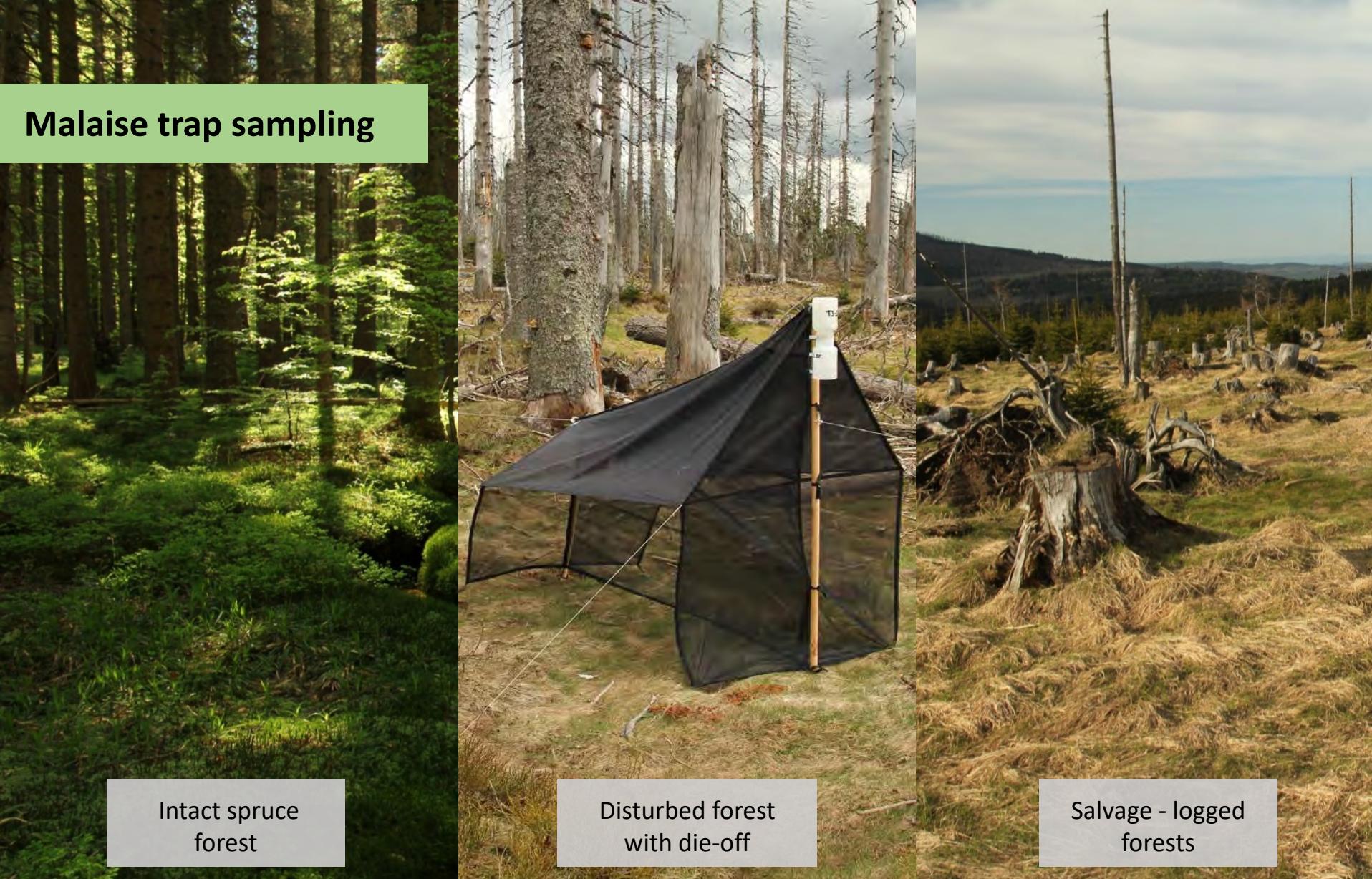
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Research for the future of freshwaters

## Question

How are terrestrial and aquatic invertebrate species composition influenced by tree die-back and management?

## Malaise trap sampling



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## Malaise trap sampling



240 malaise trap samples (3 habitats x 10 replicates x 8 time periods) – May-Sept 2017  
Environmental parameters through the BIOKLIM project

Intact spruce forest

Disturbed forest with die-off

Salvage - logged forests

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# Question & Hypotheses: Terrestrial

How is terrestrial invertebrate species composition influenced by tree die-back and management?

## Hypotheses:

- Composition differs most markedly between intact forest and disturbed or salvage-logged sites
- More species overlap between salvage-logged and disturbed sites
- Disturbed sites harbour more rare/specialized species

Intact spruce forest

Disturbed forest with die-off

Salvage - logged forests

© Paul Schmidt Yanez

## Aquatic kick-net sampling



Intact spruce  
forest



Disturbed forest  
with die-off



Salvage - logged  
forests

© Paul Schmidt Yanez

## Aquatic kick-net sampling



© Paul Schmidt Yanez

# Question & Hypotheses: Aquatic

How is aquatic invertebrate species composition influenced by tree die-back and management?

## Hypotheses:

- More shredders + filter feeders in intact forests areas (**more organic matter input**)
- More grazers, shift towards autochthonous food sources in disturbed and salvage-logged areas (**more light -> algal growth**)

Intact spruce forest

Disturbed forest with die-off

Salvage - logged forests

© Paul Schmidt Yanez

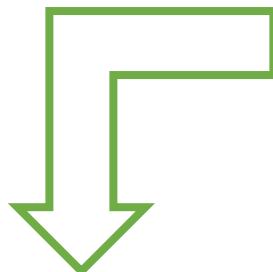
## Bulk sample processing



Filtering and weighing

\* © Paul Schmidt Yanez

## Bulk sample processing

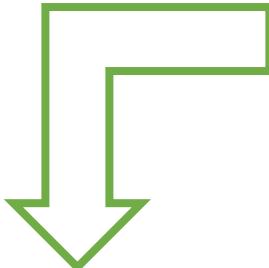


Filtering and weighing



Sample storage

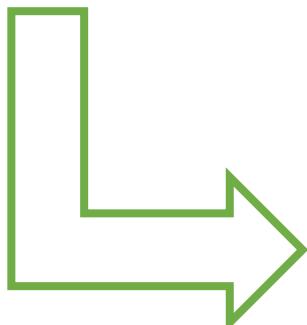
## Bulk sample processing



Filtering and weighing



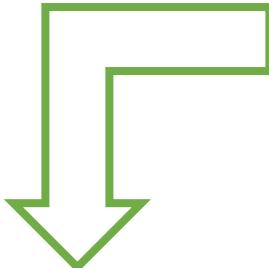
Sample storage



Dried arthropods

\* © Paul Schmidt Yanez

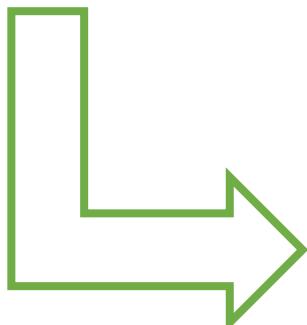
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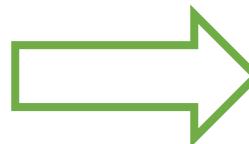
Filtering and weighing



Sample storage



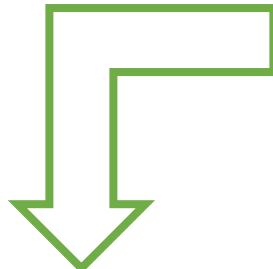
Dried arthropods



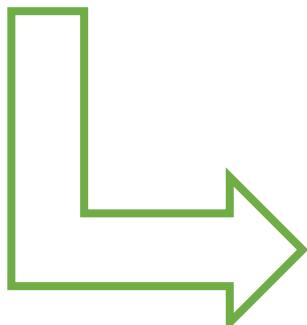
Sample homogenization

\* © Paul Schmidt Yanez

## Bulk sample processing



Sample storage



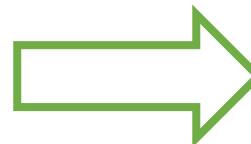
Filtering and weighing



DNA extraction



Dried arthropods



Sample homogenization

\* © Paul Schmidt Yanez

## Laboratory peculiarities

### (Simplified) laboratory setup:

- Bulk metabarcoding using:
  - Leray - Geller COI-primer (313 bp)
  - Non-native mock community (positive control)
  - Extraction and negative controls
- Three PCR replicates (DAMe pipeline)

## Bioinformatics pipeline:

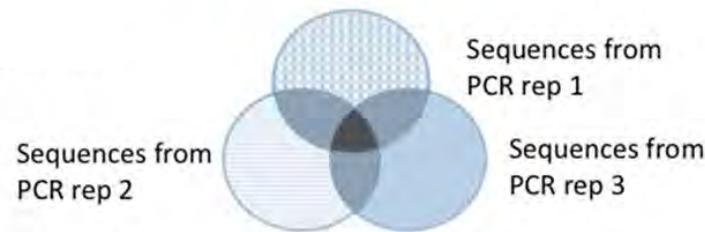
**Very conservative to avoid false positives!**

- Quality check and multiple error corrections

## Bioinformatics pipeline:

Very conservative to avoid false positives!

- Quality check and multiple error corrections
- Stringent filtering (min 3 PCRs & 3 reads each)

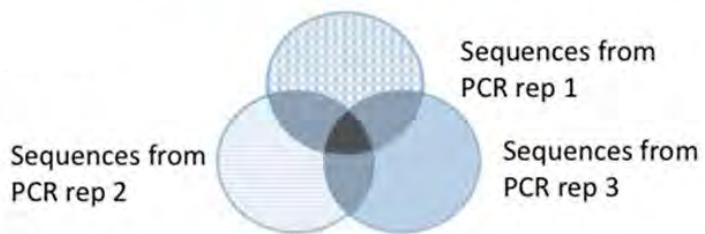


Modified after Zepeda-Mendoza et al. 2016 - BMC

## Bioinformatics pipeline:

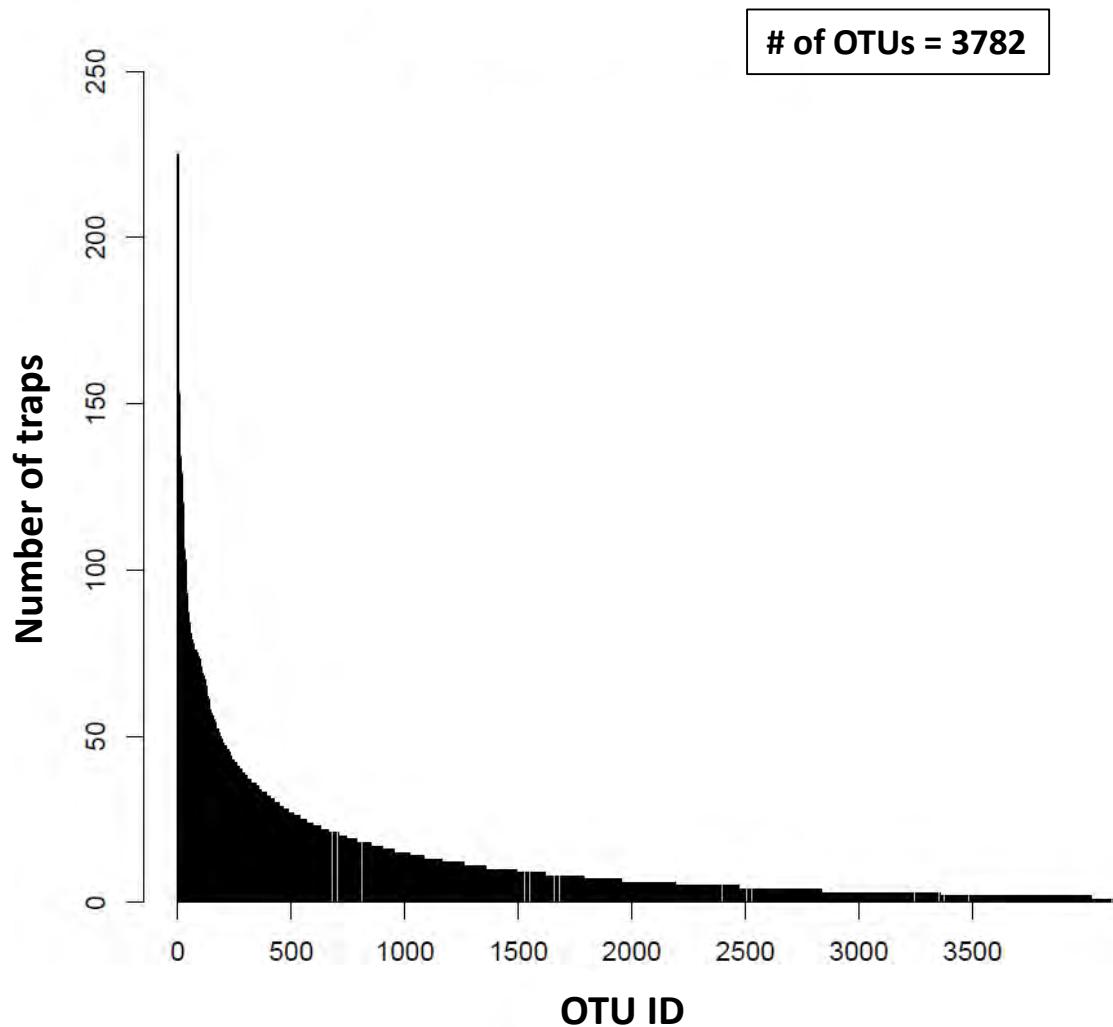
Very conservative to avoid false positives!

- Quality check and multiple error corrections
- Stringent filtering (min 3 PCRs & 3 reads each)
- Clustering & OTU assignment (RDP Midori classifier – NCBI based)



Modified after Zepeda-Mendoza et al. 2016 - BMC

## OTU distribution across traps



# OTU assignment

## 10 most common OTUs

# of traps	Midori_species_ID	species_prob
125	Ichneumon discoensis	0,5
103	Dyscritomyia lucilioides	0,11
202	Botanophila brunneilinea	0
135	Formica fusca	0,9
150	Dolichopus stenhammari	0,34
91	Myrmica ruginoidis	0,98
143	Clusiodes clandestinus	0,29
120	Spilogona magnipunctata	0,16
75	Drosophila cauverii	0,02
33	Erynnia tortricis	0,23

# OTU assignment

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*Formica fusca*



*Myrmica ruginoidis*

# OTU assignment

## 10 most common OTUs

# of traps	Midori_species_ID	species_prob	Midori_family_ID	family_prob
125	Ichneumon discoensis	0,5	Ichneumonidae	1
103	Dyscritomyia lucilioides	0,11	Calliphoridae	0,15
202	Botanophila brunneilinea	0	Anthomyiidae	0,01
135	Formica fusca	0,9	Formicidae	1
150	Dolichopus stenhammari	0,34	Dolichopodidae	0,48
91	Myrmica ruginoidis	0,98	Formicidae	1
143	Clusiodes clandestinus	0,29	Clusiidae	0,3
120	Spilogona magnipunctata	0,16	Muscidae	0,65
75	Drosophila cauverii	0,02	Drosophilidae	0,27
33	Erynnia tortricis	0,23	Tachinidae	0,36

# OTU assignment

# of traps	Midori_species_ID	species_prob
125	<i>Ichneumon discoensis</i>	0,5
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*Ichneumonis gracilentus*

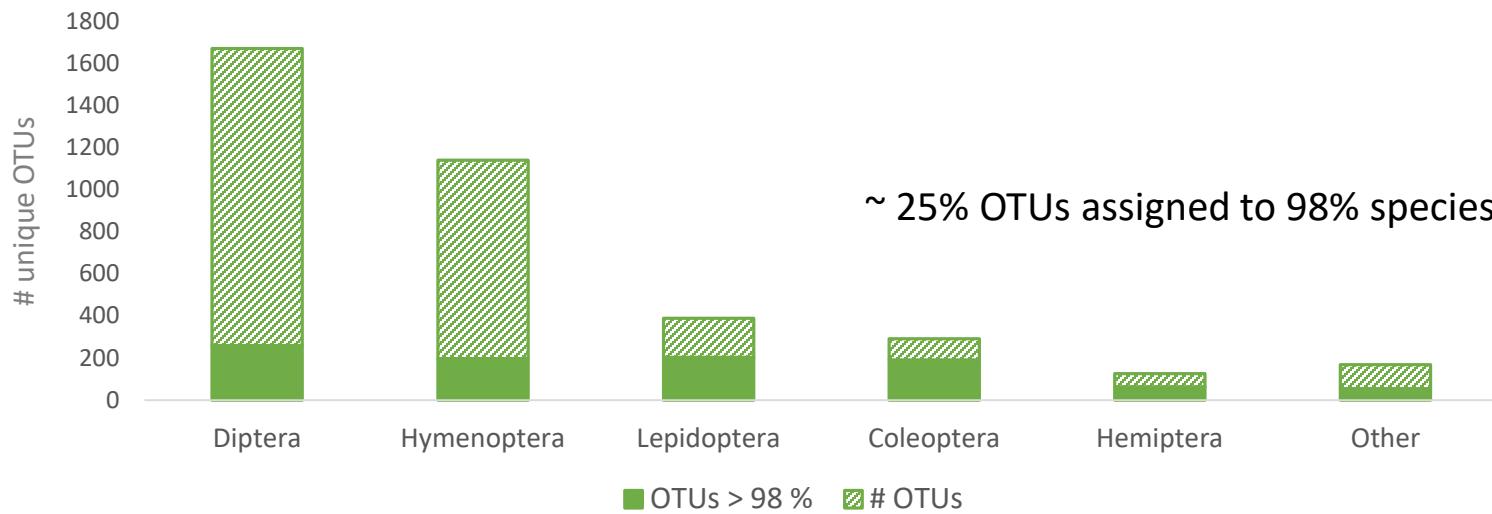
BOLD_ID	similarity
<i>Ichneumonis gracilentus</i>	100
<i>Rhagio conspicuus</i>	100
<i>Megaselia nigriceps</i>	100
<i>Formica fusca</i>	100
<i>Dolichopus discifer</i>	100
<i>Myrmica ruginoidis</i>	100
<i>Acnemia nitidicollis</i>	100
<i>Coenosia means</i>	100
<i>Neurigona quadrifasciata</i>	100
<i>Ocytata pallipes</i>	100



*Rhagio conspicuus*

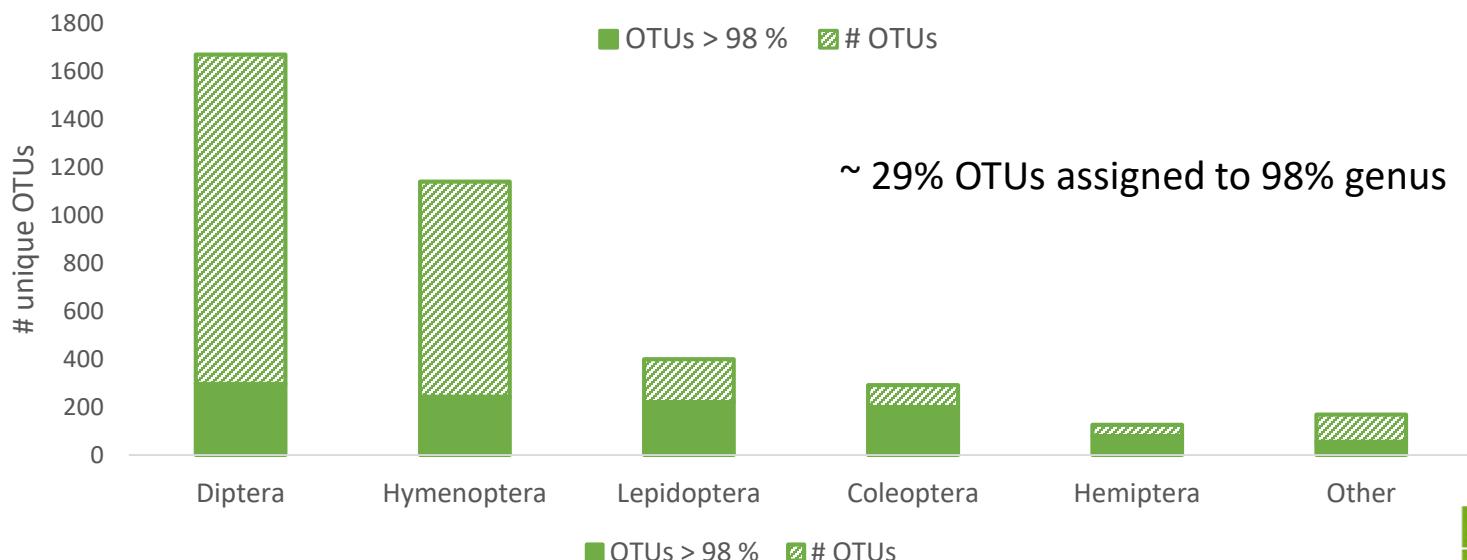
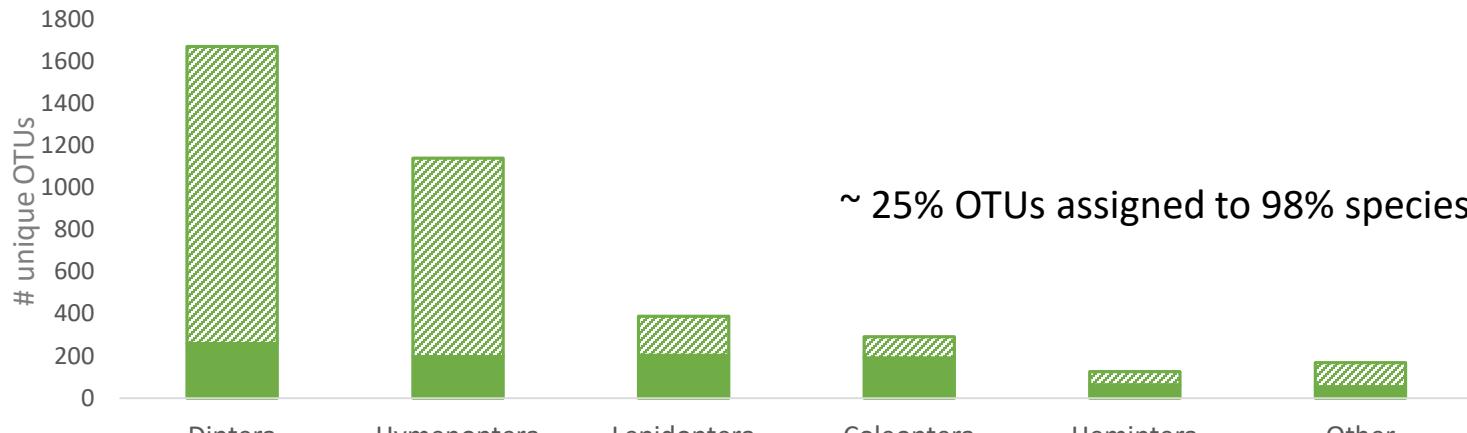
## Taxonomic coverage – RDP Midori

# of OTUs = 3782



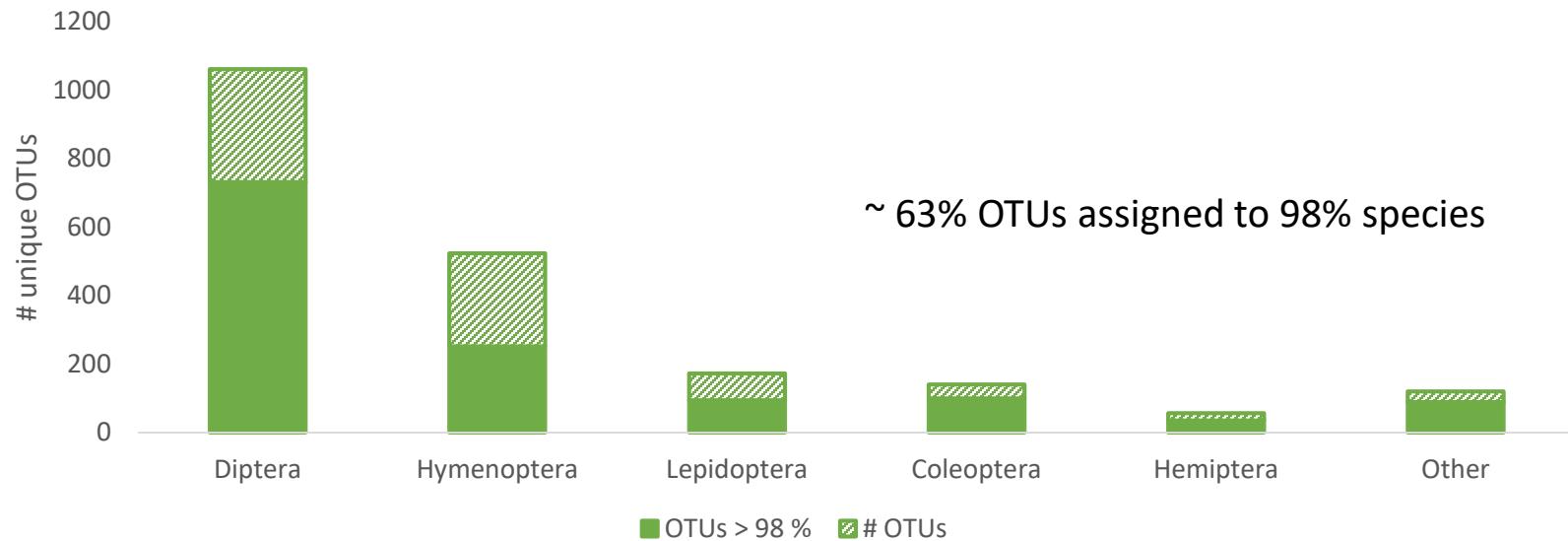
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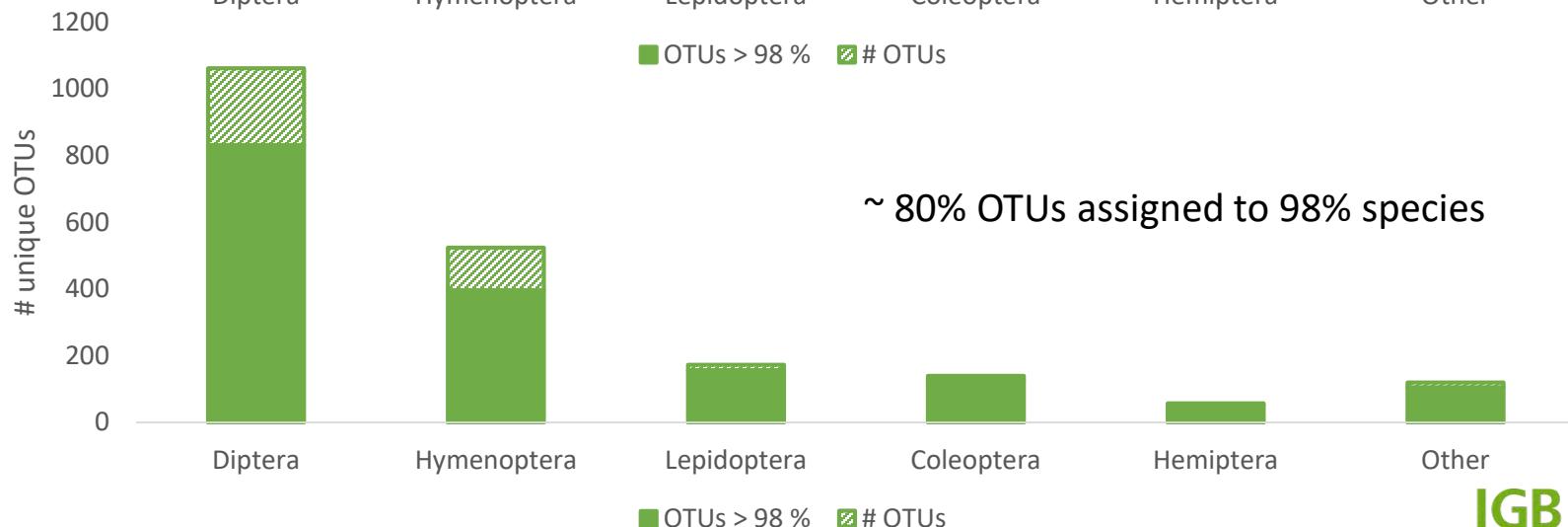
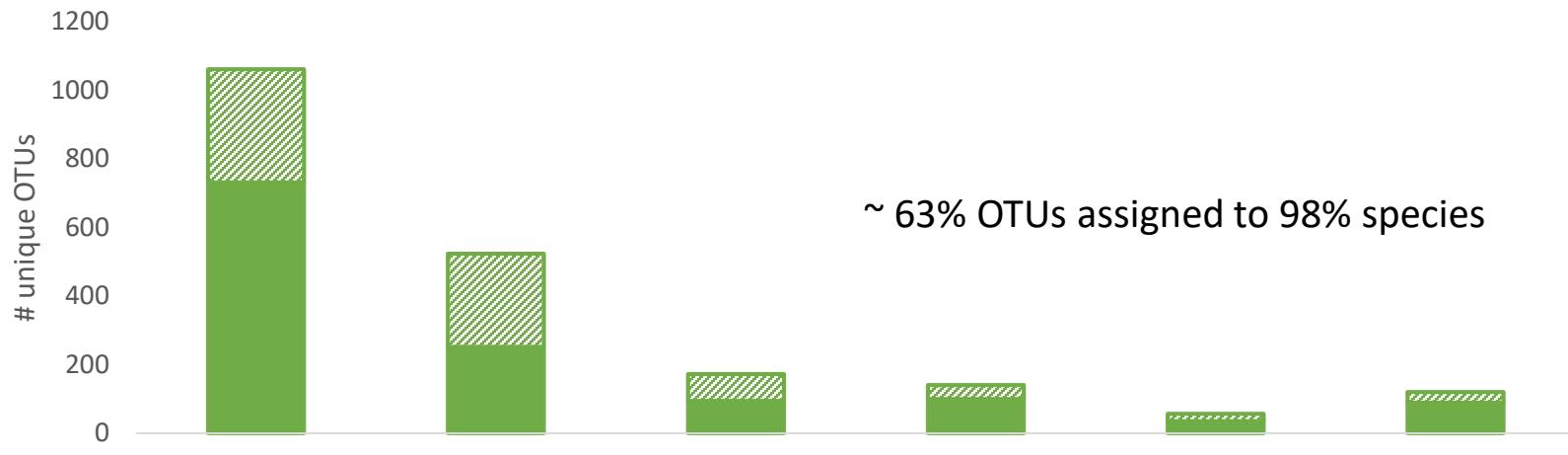
## Taxonomic coverage – BOLD

# of OTUs = 2076



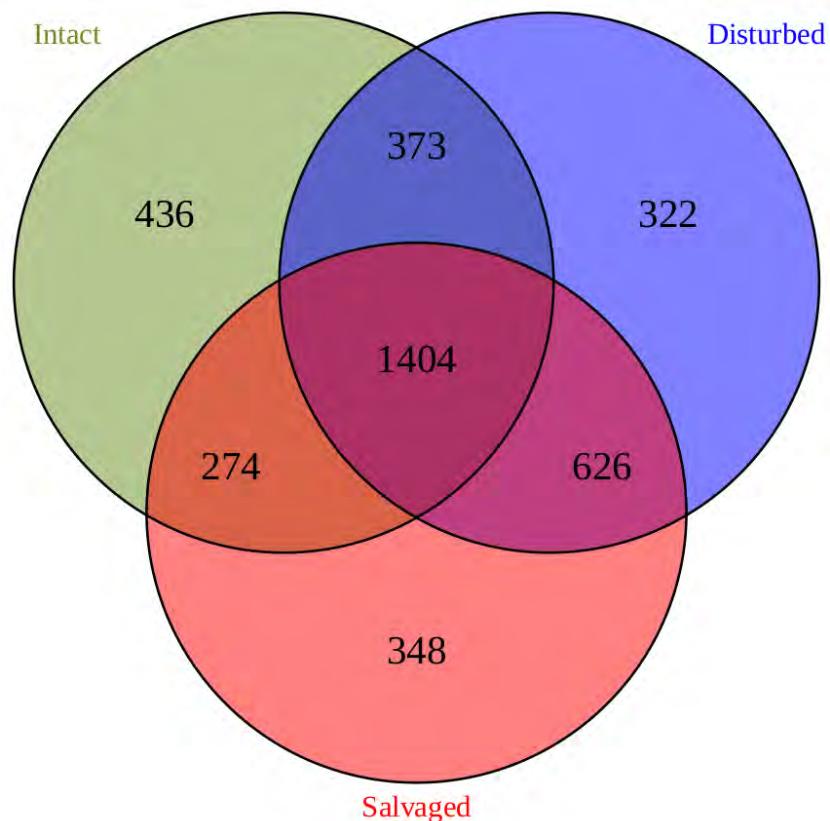
## Taxonomic coverage – BOLD

# of OTUs = 2076



## Habitat species turnover

# of OTUs = 3782



Jaccard dissimilarity index:

intact - disturbed	0.48
intact - salvaged	0.52
disturbed - salvaged	0.39

### Summary:

- OTUs differ markedly between habitats, but have large overlap
- More similar between disturbed and salvage-logged forests
- Intact forest has most unique OTUs
- (Rare species and specialists missing in salvage-logged forests)

## Problems to resolve

### Optimal filtering threshold

- No false positives
- Maximum number of control OTUs
- Sequence copy number threshold

### Alternative taxonomic assignment methods

- ~~Bad Midori RDP classifier assignment of diverse taxa~~
- Switch to BOLD, most recent species incorporated

- Mountain forest management  
**(national parks/forest owners/landscape managers/scientists)**
- Standardize biomonitoring  
**(affordable, reliable, repeatable & verifiable)**
- Improve metabarcoding methods & database  
**(global DNA barcoding campaigns)**

### CLIMTREE

- Develop early warning signals to detect forest die-off
- Determine thresholds of forest loss for biodiversity collapse

## Special thanks to:

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& Kunming Institute of Zoology



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& INRA Orléans



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Questions?

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