



MARINE BIOGEOGRAPHY AND EVOLUTION

HISTORICAL BIOGEOGRAPHY



RITA CASTILHO MARINE BIOGEOGRAPHY AND EVOLUTION

HISTORICAL BIOGEOGRAPHY



outline

HISTORICAL BIOGEOGRAPHY

DISPERSAL

VICARIANCE

BARRIERS



How historical events have affect the biology on the planet?

Changing climate and physical conditions



Rearrangements of the continents and ocean basins

















An **exclusive** focus on local environmental conditions will yield an **incomplete** understanding of diversity There are several fundamental processes in biogeography













"Other authors have thus hypothetically bridged over every ocean and united almost every island with some mainland. If indeed the arguments used by Forbes are to be trusted, it must be admitted that scarcely a single island exists which has not recently been united to some continent.

This view cuts the Gordian knot of the dispersal of the same species to the most distant points, and removes many a difficulty; but to the best of my judgement we are not authorized in admitting such enormous geographical changes within the period of existing species."

Darwin, 1859

No evidence was ever discovered for the lost corridors proposed by the extensionists





What is dispersal?

Simply, the movement of organisms away from their birthplace.



As a result, the debate between **dispersalists** and **extensionists** has been replaced by a debate between **dispersalists** and **vicariance biogeographers**









Dispersal and Range Expansion

Jump dispersal

Definition:

Movement of individual organisms across large distances of inhospitable, followed by the successful establishment of a population of the original disperser's descendants at the destination.

This usually takes place over a time period less than the life span of the individual and often over inhospitable terrain.



The sheepshead minnow (*Cyprinodon variegatus*)

Estuaries and mangrove swamps throughout the Caribbean

It has been able to colonize these habitats by **dispersing** many hundreds of miles **across ocean water**.

It's ability to tolerate wide ranges of salinity makes this possible.

We can see the same thing over **longer** distances and **greater** time periods for many other archipelagoes.

The Galapagos lie 800 km west of Ecuador in the Pacific Ocean.

We can see the same thing over **longer** distances and **greater** time periods for many other archipelagoes.

The Hawaiian Islands lie 4000 km west of Mexico.

We can see the same thing over **longer** distances and **greater** time periods for many other archipelagoes.

An example can be seen in the rapid recolonisation of Krakatau after all life was wiped out by the volcanic explosion of 1883

Diffusion

Definition:

Diffusion is the gradual movement of populations across hospitable terrain for a period of many generations.

Species that steadily expand their ranges can be said to be diffusing.

Gradual spread of of individuals outward from the margins of a species' range.

It is a slower form of range expansion involving not just individuals, but **populations**.

Range expansion 20 2005 9 1995 1981 1978 ALG Latitude 8 0.7 1971 0.6 0.5 1969 0.4 2 perennial 0.3 range 0.2 0.1 0 -10 10 -20 0 Longitude

Secular migration

Definition:

Secular migration is diffusion taking place so slowly that the diffusing species undergoes appreciable evolutionary change during the process. The range of the species expands or shifts over long time intervals (thousands or millions of years). The environments themselves may change and natural selection acts on the descendant populations.

Evolutionary divergence through range expansion. Evolutionary time scale.

BARRIERS

The nature of long-distance dispersal means that organisms often have to survive for periods of time in environments that are hostile to them.

These environments constitute physical and biological barriers to dispersal.

The effectiveness of such barriers in preventing dispersal depends not only on the nature of the barrier, but also on the organism dispersing.

VICARIANCE

₽ Split ~150 "geminate" (twin) species

snails across Central America

Osamu Miura^{1,2,*}, Mark E. Torchin¹, Eldredge Bermingham¹, David K. Jacobs³ and Ryan F. Hechinger⁴

Charles Darwin first postulated that invertebrates, including marine snails, could be dispersed long distances by birds. However, in contrast to terrestrial and fresh water invertebrates, there is little evidence for this for marine animals.

Our genetic evidence coupled with evidence from field studies provide a conservative estimate that marine snails crossed Central America on two separate occasions, established their alleles, which subsequently spread along both coasts.

This suggests that not only is such passive dispersal possible for marine organisms, but that it can occur across seemingly insurmountable barriers.

BIOTIC EXCHANGE AND DISPERSAL ROUTES

- Biogeographers often distinguish three kinds of dispersal routes based on how they effect biotic interchange.
- 1. Corridors. Allow dispersal by permitting movement.
- 2. **Filters**. Conditions fall outside range of physiological tolerance. Restrictive dispersal pathway. Conditions restrictive to some species, not others. Can be biotic or abiotic.
- **3.** Sweepstakes routes. Hazardous or accidental dispersal mechanisms by which animals move from place to place. The standard examples are island hopping and natural rafts.

DISPERSAL: OVERCOMING BARRIERS

Dispersal corridor

wide variety of corridor habitats

dispersal from A to B easy

Allow dispersal by permitting movement

DISPERSAL: OVERCOMING BARRIERS

Dispersal filter

Limited array of corridor habitats

dispersal from A to B difficult, only certain species

Conditions fall outside range of physiological tolerance. Restrictive dispersal pathway. Conditions restrictive to some species, not others. Can be biotic or abiotic.

DISPERSAL: OVERCOMING BARRIERS

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Dispersal vs Migration

DISPERSAL VS MIGRATION

Dispersal: *unintended/rarer* movements

DISPERSAL VS MIGRATION

Dispersal: unintended/rarer movements

Migration: periodic movements

MIGRATION

Feeding Migration

Spawning Migration

Recruitment/Juvenile Migration

Seasonal Migration

MIGRATION

Many types of fish migrate on a regular basis, on time scale ranging from daily to annually or longer

Travel over distances ranging from a few meters to thousands of km.

OCEANODROMOUS

Oceanodromous

Truly migratory marine fish.

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Truly migratory marine fish.

Travel long distances with in sea to spawn & return to the feeding areas.

There are no barriers within the sea and fishes have learned to migrate in order to take advantage of favourable conditions wherever they occur.

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Phylogeography or historical biogeography

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