

The Functional Consequences of Biodiversity

EMPIRICAL PROGRESS AND
THEORETICAL EXTENSIONS

EDITED BY ANN P. KINZIG,
STEPHEN W. PACALA, AND DAVID TILMAN

The Functional Consequences Of Biodiversity Empirical Progress And Theoretical Extensions

Dinesh K. Maheshwari



The Functional Consequences Of Biodiversity Empirical Progress And Theoretical Extensions:

The Functional Consequences of Biodiversity Ann P. Kinzig, Stephen W. Pacala, David Tilman, 2001 Does biodiversity influence how ecosystems function Might diversity loss affect the ability of ecosystems to deliver services of benefit to humankind Ecosystems provide food fuel fiber and drinkable water regulate local and regional climate and recycle needed nutrients among other things An ecosystem's ability to sustain functioning may depend on the number of species residing in the ecosystem its biological diversity but this has been a controversial hypothesis There are many unanswered questions about how and why changes in biodiversity could alter ecosystem functioning This volume written by top researchers synthesizes empirical studies on the relationship between biodiversity and ecosystem functioning and extends that knowledge using a novel and coordinated set of models and theoretical approaches These experimental and theoretical analyses demonstrate that functioning usually increases with biodiversity but also reveals when and under what circumstances other relationships between biodiversity and ecosystem functioning might occur It also accounts for apparent changes in diversity functioning relationships that emerge over time in disturbed ecosystems thereby addressing a major controversy in the field The volume concludes with a blueprint for moving beyond small scale studies to regional ones a move of enormous significance for policy and conservation but one that will entail tackling some of the most fundamental challenges in ecology In addition to the editors the contributors are Juan Armesto Claudia Neuhauser Andy Hector Clarence Lehman Peter Kareiva Sharon Lawler Peter Chesson Teri Balsler Mary K Firestone Robert Holt Michel Loreau Johannes Knops David Wedin Peter Reich Shahid Naeem Bernhard Schmid Jasmin Joshi and Felix Schlipfer *Economic Valuation of Biodiversity* Bartosz Bartkowski, 2017-05-18 This book provides an ecological economic perspective on the value of diversity in ecosystems Combining insights from various sub disciplines of ecology and environmental ecological economics the author constructs a conceptual framework which identifies the ways in which biodiversity influences human well being are identified and offers a novel unifying perspective on the economic value of biodiversity Consanguinity, Inbreeding, and Genetic Drift in Italy (MPB-39) L L Cavalli-sforza, Antonio Moroni, Gianna Zei, 2013-02-15 In 1951 the geneticist Luigi Luca Cavalli Sforza was teaching in Parma when a student a priest named Antonio Moroni told him about rich church records of demography and marriages between relatives After convincing the Church to open its records Cavalli Sforza Moroni and Gianna Zei embarked on a landmark study that would last fifty years and cover all of Italy This book assembles and analyzes the team's research for the first time Using blood testing as well as church records the team investigated the frequency of consanguineous marriages and its use for estimating inbreeding and studying the relations between inbreeding and drift They tested the importance of random genetic drift by studying population structure through demography of the last three centuries using it to predict the spatial variation of frequencies of genetic markers The authors find that drift related genetic variation including its stabilization by migration is best predicted by computer simulation They also analyze the usefulness

and limits of the concept of deme for defining Mendelian populations The genetic effect of consanguineous marriage on recessive genetic diseases and for the detection of dominance in metric characters are also studied Ultimately bringing together the many strands of their massive project Cavalli Sforza Moroni and Zei are able to map genetic drift in all of Italy's approximately 8 000 communes and to demonstrate the relationship between each locality's drift and various ecological and demographic factors In terms of both methods and findings their accomplishment is tremendously important for understanding human social structure and the genetic effects of drift and inbreeding

Ecological Niches and Geographic Distributions A. Townsend Peterson, Jorge Soberón, Richard G. Pearson, Robert P. Anderson, Enrique Martínez-Meyer, Miguel Nakamura, Miguel B. Araújo, 2011-10-31 This book provides a first synthetic view of an emerging area of ecology and biogeography linking individual and population level processes to geographic distributions and biodiversity patterns Problems in evolutionary ecology macroecology and biogeography are illuminated by this integrative view The book focuses on correlative approaches known as ecological niche modeling species distribution modeling or habitat suitability modeling which use associations between known occurrences of species and environmental variables to identify environmental conditions under which populations can be maintained The spatial distribution of environments suitable for the species can then be estimated a potential distribution for the species This approach has broad applicability to ecology evolution biogeography and conservation biology as well as to understanding the geographic potential of invasive species and infectious diseases and the biological implications of climate change The authors lay out conceptual foundations and general principles for understanding and interpreting species distributions with respect to geography and environment Focus is on development of niche models While serving as a guide for students and researchers the book also provides a theoretical framework to support future progress in the field

The Population Biology of Tuberculosis Christopher Dye, 2015-07-07 Despite decades of developments in immunization and drug therapy tuberculosis remains among the leading causes of human mortality and no country has successfully eradicated the disease Reenvisioning tuberculosis from the perspective of population biology this book examines why the disease is so persistent and what must be done to fight it Treating tuberculosis and its human hosts as dynamic interacting populations Christopher Dye seeks new answers to key questions by drawing on demography ecology epidemiology evolution and population genetics Dye uses simple mathematical models to investigate how cases and deaths could be reduced and how interventions could lead to TB elimination Dye's analysis reveals a striking gap between the actual and potential impact of current interventions especially drug treatment and he suggests placing more emphasis on early case detection and the treatment of active or incipient tuberculosis He argues that the response to disappointingly slow rates of disease decline is not to abandon long established principles of chemotherapy but to implement them with greater vigor Summarizing epidemiological insights from population biology Dye stresses the need to take a more inclusive view of the factors that affect disease including characteristics of the pathogen

individuals and populations health care systems and physical and social environments In broadening the horizons of TB research *The Population Biology of Tuberculosis* demonstrates what must be done to prevent control and defeat this global threat in the twenty first century

Geographical Genetics (MPB-38) Bryan K. Epperson, 2003-08-31 Population genetics has made great strides in applying statistical analysis and mathematical modeling to understand how genes mutate and spread through populations over time But real populations also live in space Streams mountains and other geographic features often divide populations limit migration or otherwise influence gene flow This book rigorously examines the processes that determine geographic patterns of genetic variation providing a comprehensive guide to their study and interpretation Geographical Genetics has a unique focus on the mathematical relationships of spatial statistical measures of patterns to stochastic processes It also develops the probability and distribution theory of various spatial statistics for analysis of population genetic data detailing exact methods for using various spatial features to make precise inferences about migration natural selection and other dynamic forces The book also reviews the experimental literature on the types of spatial patterns of genetic variation found within and among populations And it makes an unprecedented strong connection between observed measures of spatial patterns and those predicted theoretically Along the way it introduces readers to the mathematics of spatial statistics applications to specific population genetic systems and the relationship between the mathematics of space time processes and the formal theory of geographical genetics Written by a leading authority this is the first comprehensive treatment of geographical genetics It is a much needed guide to the theory techniques and applications of a field that will play an increasingly important role in population biology and ecology

Modeling Populations of Adaptive Individuals Steven F. Railsback, Bret C. Harvey, 2020-05-19 This book offers a new theory for modeling how organisms make tradeoff decisions and how these decisions affect both individuals and populations Tradeoff decisions or behaviors are those that are optimize survival and include behaviors like foraging and reproduction Existing theories have not painted a complete picture of tradeoff decisions because they only observe how the decisions of an individual affect them rather than how individuals impact and are impacted by the behavior of their communities The authors theory which they call state and prediction based theory uses individual based models since these models show the complex ways that organisms relate to their environment The authors broader approach one that integrates behavior and population dynamics allows ecologists to see how individuals make adaptive tradeoff decisions In simpler terms this theory does not assume as the previous models do that future conditions are fixed known and unaffected by the behavior of others Instead the authors assume individuals make decisions like people do which is by forecasting future conditions using approximation to make good decisions and updating their choices as conditions change

The Theory of Ecological Communities Mark Vellend, 2020-09-15 A plethora of different theories models and concepts make up the field of community ecology Amid this vast body of work is it possible to build one general theory of ecological communities What other scientific areas might serve as a guiding framework As it

turns out the core focus of community ecology understanding patterns of diversity and composition of biological variants across space and time is shared by evolutionary biology and its very coherent conceptual framework population genetics theory The Theory of Ecological Communities takes this as a starting point to pull together community ecology's various perspectives into a more unified whole Mark Vellend builds a theory of ecological communities based on four overarching processes selection among species drift dispersal and speciation These are analogues of the four central processes in population genetics theory selection within species drift gene flow and mutation and together they subsume almost all of the many dozens of more specific models built to describe the dynamics of communities of interacting species The result is a theory that allows the effects of many low level processes such as competition facilitation predation disturbance stress succession colonization and local extinction to be understood as the underpinnings of high level processes with widely applicable consequences for ecological communities Reframing the numerous existing ideas in community ecology The Theory of Ecological Communities provides a new way for thinking about biological composition and diversity

Integrative Ecology, 2010-12-14 This thematic volume represents an important and exciting benchmark in the study of integrative ecology synthesizing and showcasing current research and highlighting future directions for the development of the field Updates and informs the reader on the latest research findings Written by leading experts in the field Highlights areas for future investigation Marine Biodiversity and Ecosystem Functioning Martin Solan, Rebecca J. Aspden, David M. Paterson, 2012-07-19 The biological composition and richness of most of the Earth's major ecosystems are being dramatically and irreversibly transformed by anthropogenic activity Yet despite the vast areal extent of our oceans the mainstay of research to date in the biodiversity ecosystem functioning arena has been weighted towards ecological observations and experimentation in terrestrial plant and soil systems This book provides a framework for extending these concepts to a variety of marine systems Marine Biodiversity and Ecosystem Functioning is the first book to address the latest advances in biodiversity function science using marine examples It brings together contributions from the leading scientists in the field to provide an in depth evaluation of the science before offering a perspective on future research directions for some of the most pressing environmental issues facing society today and in the future **Earth Days** William Dritschilo, 2004 Earth Days details the events of the revolution in ecology initiated by the publication of Silent Spring from the perspective of someone involved in its events It is a book having to do with ideas and the people who held them Earth Days starts with Rachel Carson and the other writers and scientists whose words caught the attention of the public on Earth Day It tells about the Odum brothers from the corn pone South champions of the ecosystem idea Robert MacArthur the James Dean of ecology and Jared Diamond who tried to be his successor and in the effort set off a war in ecology It tells about Dan Simberloff who rebelled against the science inspired by his own mentors in that war It tells about Paul Ehrlich and David Pimentel for whom no environmental issue was beyond their expertise It also tells about Gene Likens who looked and acted more like an insurance

salesman yet found a way through the swirling controversies in his science to put it to good practical use There are of course many others each trying to find their own personal way in the broad important science that is ecology Earth Days details that revolution from the perspective of someone involved in its events It also gives the reader the necessary background to follow the most technical material Difficult material becomes easy lively reading Howard V Cornell University of Delaware Fantastic It kept me up all night I couldn't put it down Nicholas Gotelli University of Vermont It is very lively and fun to read Daniel Simberloff University of Tennessee an excellent and engaging writer appears to be a really major and interesting book David Pimentel Cornell University fantastic job of writing to capture the views of numerous ecologists Gene Likens New York Botanical Garden I learned some things about myself

[Encyclopedia of Ecology](#) Brian D. Fath,2014-11-03 The groundbreaking Encyclopedia of Ecology provides an authoritative and comprehensive coverage of the complete field of ecology from general to applied It includes over 500 detailed entries structured to provide the user with complete coverage of the core knowledge accessed as intuitively as possible and heavily cross referenced Written by an international team of leading experts this revolutionary encyclopedia will serve as a one stop shop to concise stand alone articles to be used as a point of entry for undergraduate students or as a tool for active researchers looking for the latest information in the field Entries cover a range of topics including Behavioral Ecology Ecological Processes Ecological Modeling Ecological Engineering Ecological Indicators Ecological Informatics Ecosystems Ecotoxicology Evolutionary Ecology General Ecology Global Ecology Human Ecology System Ecology The first reference work to cover all aspects of ecology from basic to applied Over 500 concise stand alone articles are written by prominent leaders in the field Article text is supported by full color photos drawings tables and other visual material Fully indexed and cross referenced with detailed references for further study Writing level is suited to both the expert and non expert Available electronically on ScienceDirect shortly upon publication

Old-Growth Forests Christian Wirth,Gerd Gleixner,Martin Heimann,2009-07-07 Many terms often used to describe old growth forests imply that these forests are less vigorous less productive and less stable than younger forests But research in the last two decades has yielded results that challenge the view of old growth forests being in decline Given the importance of forests in battling climate change and the fact that old growth forests are shrinking at a rate of 0.5% per year these new results have come not a moment too soon This book is the first ever to focus on the ecosystem functioning of old growth forests It is an exhaustive compendium of information that contains original work conducted by the authors In addition it is truly global in scope as it studies boreal forests in Canada temperate old growth forests in Europe and the Americas and global tropical forests Written in part to affect future policy this eminently readable book is as useful for the scientist and student as it is for the politician and politically interested layman

Restoration Ecology Jelte van Andel,James Aronson,2009-03-12 Aimed at Masters and PhD students teachers researchers and natural resource managers this book explores the interface between restoration ecology and ecological restoration Covers both the ecological concepts involved in

restoration ecology and their practical applications Written by an excellent group of ecologists from centres across Europe with a strong reputation for restoration ecology Only textbook around aimed specifically at advanced undergraduate courses and postgraduate study programmes

Bacteria in Agrobiolology: Plant Probiotics Dinesh K. Maheshwari, 2012-04-23 The future of agriculture strongly depends on our ability to enhance productivity without sacrificing long term production potential An ecologically and economically sustainable strategy is the application of microorganisms such as the diverse bacterial species of plant growth promoting bacteria PGPB The use of these bio resources for the enhancement of crop productivity is gaining worldwide importance Bacteria in Agrobiolology Plant Probiotics discusses the current trends and future prospects of beneficial microorganisms acting as Probiotics Topics include the application for the aboveground fitness of plants in mountain ecosystems in tropical and Mediterranean forests and in muga sericulture Further aspects are Arabidopsis as a model system for the diversity and complexity of plant responses plant parasitic nematodes nitrogen fixation and phosphorus nutrition

Ecology of Predator-Prey Interactions Pedro Barbosa, Ignacio Castellanos, 2005-08-11 This book addresses the fundamental issues of predator prey interactions with an emphasis on predation among arthropods which have been better studied and for which the database is more extensive than for the large and rare vertebrate predators The book should appeal to ecologists interested in the broad issue of predation effects on communities

Insect Conservation Michael J. Samways, Melodie A. McGeoch, Tim R. New, 2010 This handbook outlines the main methods and techniques both modern and traditional used to measure insect diversity With the growing relevance of insect conservation in nature this guide should assist students in understanding a complicated field

Mechanistic Home Range Analysis Paul R. Moorcroft, Mark A. Lewis, 2013-10-31 Spatial patterns of movement are fundamental to the ecology of animal populations influencing their social organization mating systems demography and the spatial distribution of prey and competitors However our ability to understand the causes and consequences of animal home range patterns has been limited by the descriptive nature of the statistical models used to analyze them In Mechanistic Home Range Analysis Paul Moorcroft and Mark Lewis develop a radically new framework for studying animal home range patterns based on the analysis of correlated random walk models for individual movement behavior They use this framework to develop a series of mechanistic home range models for carnivore populations The authors analysis illustrates how in contrast to traditional statistical home range models that merely describe pattern mechanistic home range models can be used to discover the underlying ecological determinants of home range patterns observed in populations make accurate predictions about how spatial distributions of home ranges will change following environmental or demographic disturbance and analyze the functional significance of the movement strategies of individuals that give rise to observed patterns of space use By providing researchers and graduate students of ecology and wildlife biology with a more illuminating way to analyze animal movement Mechanistic Home Range Analysis will be an indispensable reference for years to come

Sex Allocation Stuart West, 2009-10-18 Recent decades

have witnessed an explosion of theoretical and empirical studies of sex allocation transforming how we understand the allocation of resources to male and female reproduction in vertebrates invertebrates protozoa and plants In this landmark book Stuart West synthesizes the vast literature on sex allocation providing the conceptual framework the field has been lacking and demonstrating how sex allocation studies can shed light on broader questions in evolutionary and behavioral biology West clarifies fundamental misconceptions in the application of theory to empirical data He examines the field's successes and failures and describes the research areas where much important work is yet to be done West reveals how a shared underlying theoretical framework unites findings of sex ratio variation across a huge range of life forms from malarial parasites and hermaphroditic worms to sex changing fish and mammals He shows how research on sex allocation has been central to many critical questions and controversies in evolutionary and behavioral biology and he argues that sex allocation research serves as a key testing ground for different theoretical approaches and can help resolve debates about social evolution parent offspring conflict genomic conflict and levels of selection Certain to become the defining book on the subject for the next generation of researchers Sex Allocation explains why the study of sex allocation provides an ideal model system for advancing our understanding of the constraints on adaptation among all living things in the natural world

Climate Change and Microbes Javid A. Parray, Suhaib A. Bandh, Nowsheen Shameem, 2022-05-18 This book provides an enlightening picture of the role of microbes for sustaining life systems and how climatic factors will change the course of the processes Climate Change and Microbes Impacts and Vulnerability explores the little addressed issue of the effects of climate change on microbial ecosystems and the influence of climate change on microbiome diversity across various habitats and regions Recent years have seen the evidence that microbial communities are neither immune to disruption nor do they have the capacity to recover completely after a stressful climate event This volume documents the important role of microorganisms as climate engineers and considers mitigation and adaptation strategies as well It goes on to present the research that addresses a diverse array of topics on the impact of climate change on plant microbe interactions and microbial aquatic life and change induced aggravations in microbial populations and processes The book also addresses microbial foodborne diseases resulting from challenging climates Other topics include algae as indicators of climate change and strategies for facilitating sustainable agro ecosystems This book will be immensely helpful in the study of plant microbiology agricultural sciences biotechnology climate science and environmental microbiology It will also be applicable to the field of microbial biotechnology agricultural and other life and environmental sciences

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