

Incorporating phylogeography for modelling the distribution of the carob tree (Ceratonia siliqua, Leguminosae) in future climate change

Alex Baumel, Eleonora Potenza, Valentine Frelon, Juan Viruel, Gonzalo Nieto-Feliner, Magda Bou Dagher Kharrat, Lahcen Ouahmane, Hervé Sanguin, Stefano La Malfa, Mario Diguardo, et al.

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The carob is an evergreen termophilous fruit tree widely harvested throughout the Mediterranean for food and forage since antiquity. Currently, the carob is found in cultivation in orchards or in association with other crops, and it has expanded towards industrial, agricultural and soil restoration purposes. Wild populations are found in shrublands, forests as well as rocky outcrops and temporary river banks.

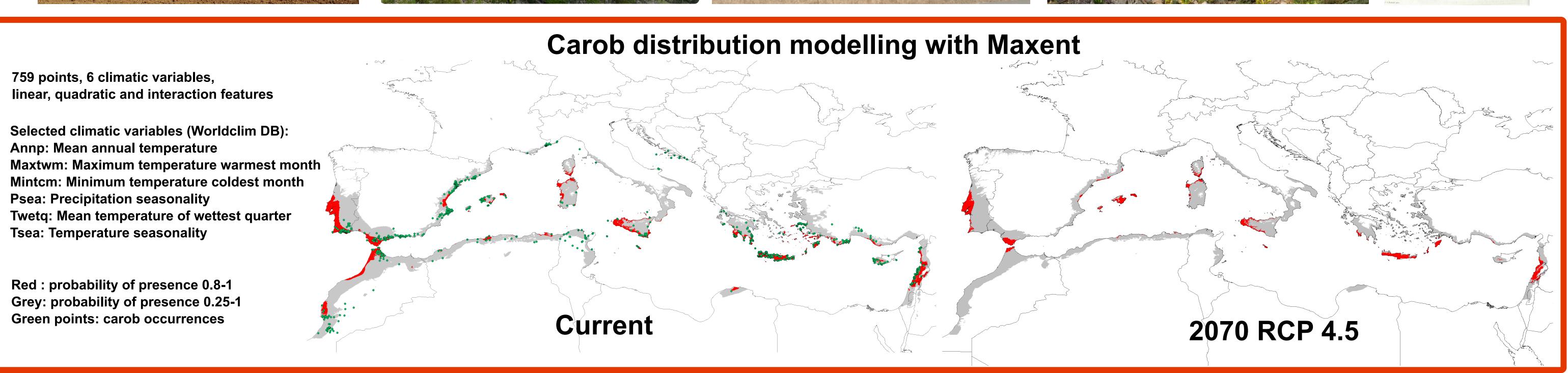




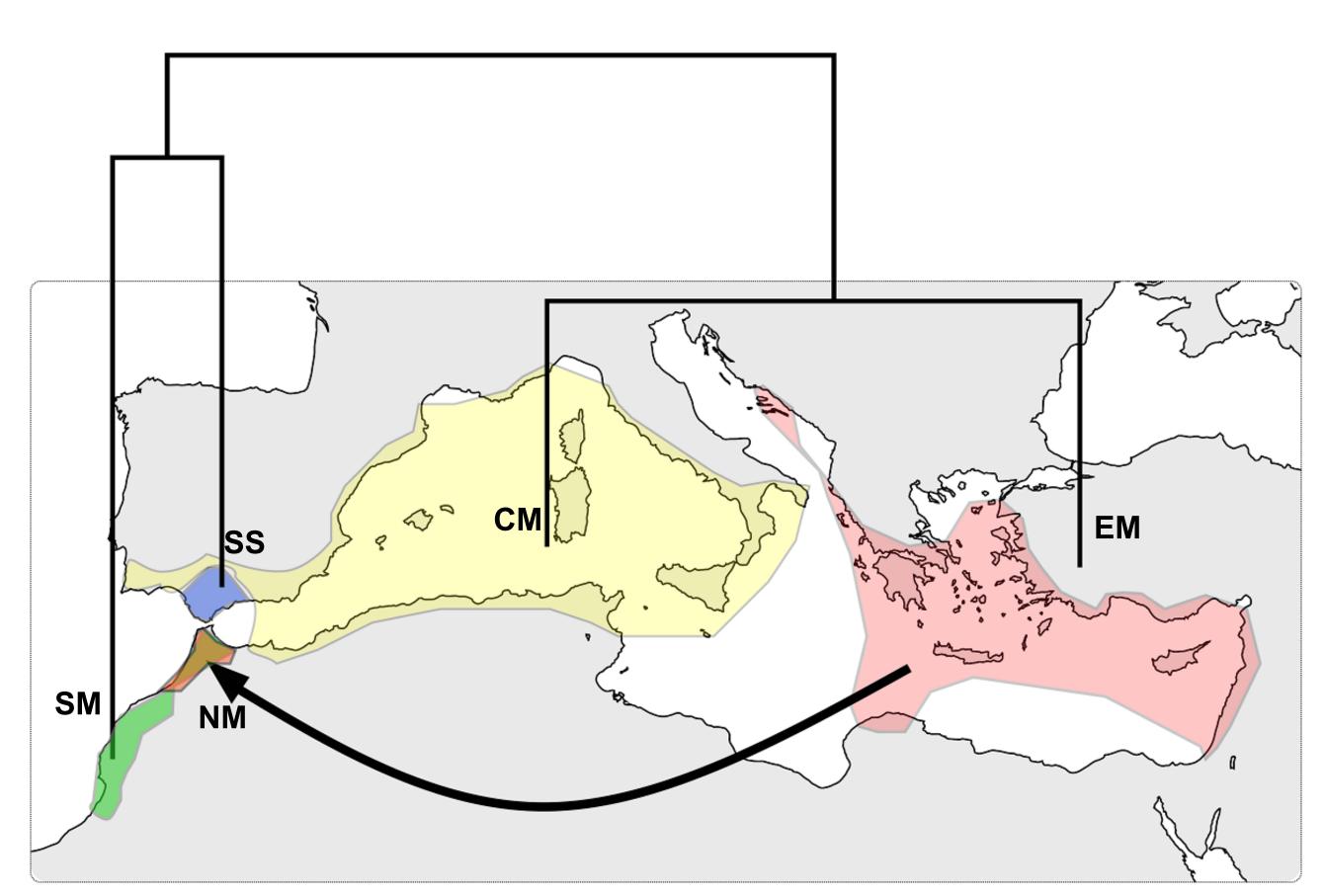




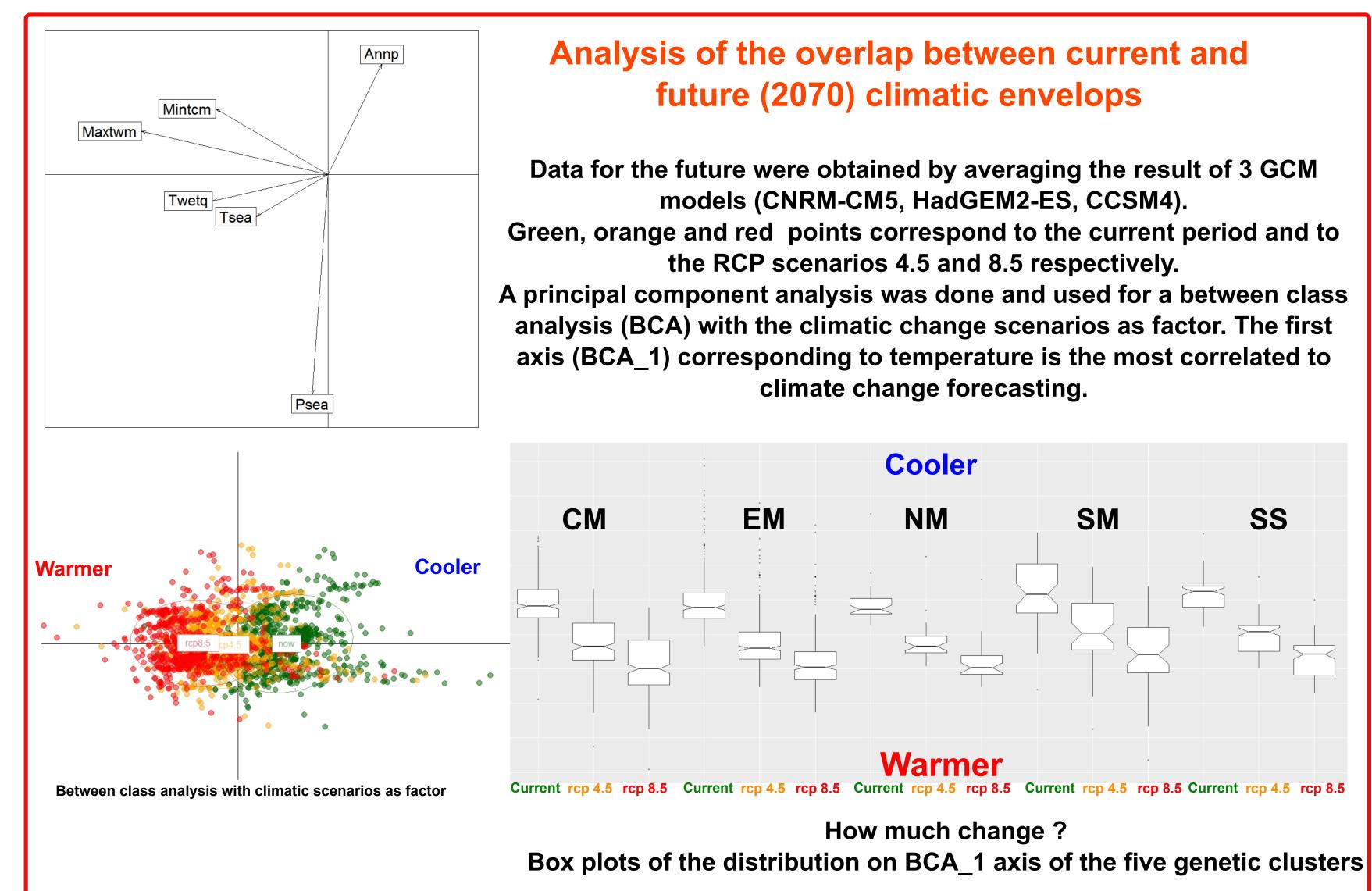




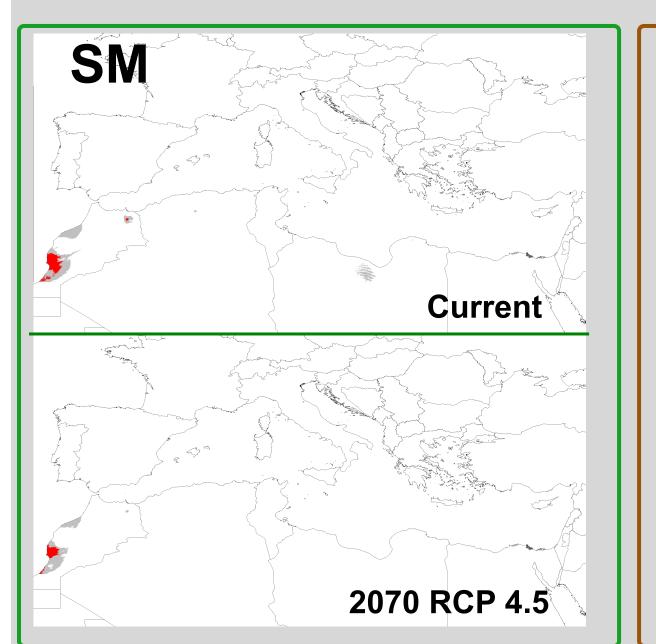
Pessimistic forecasts? What happens if the climate niche is divided according to phylogeographic structure?

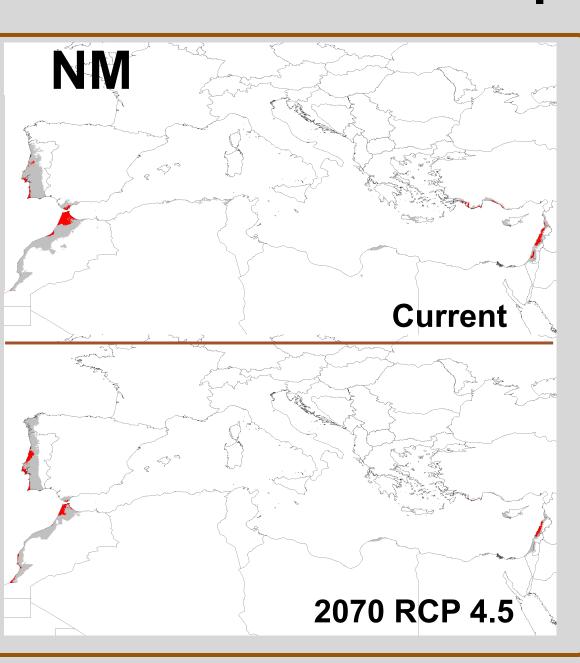


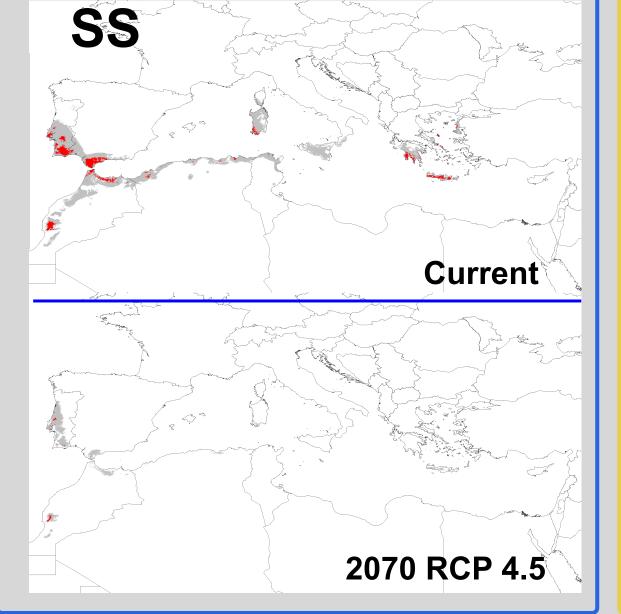
Carob phylogeography from Viruel et al. in press *
Two distinctive lineages diverged after a strong historical bottleneck, which subsequently split in four genetic clusters across the Mediterranean (SM, South Morocco; SS, South Spain; CM, Central Mediterranean; EM, East Mediterranean). Admixture is frequent due to human dissemination, such as in the North Moroccan populations (NM) which show assymetric introgression between Eastern and Western genetic clusters.

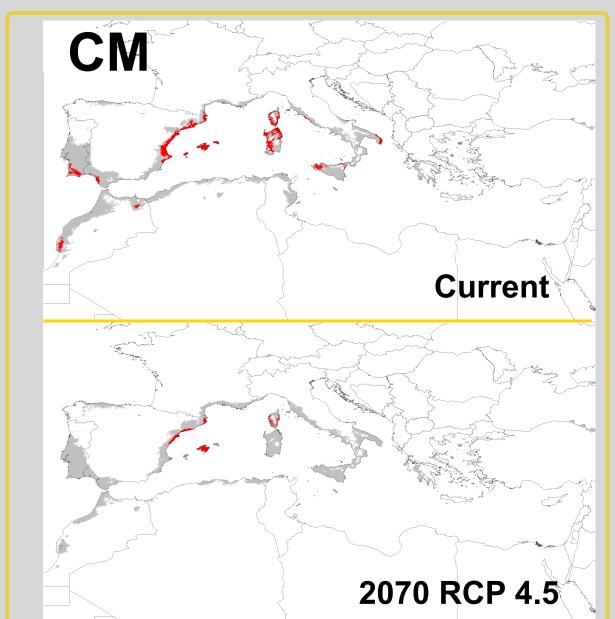


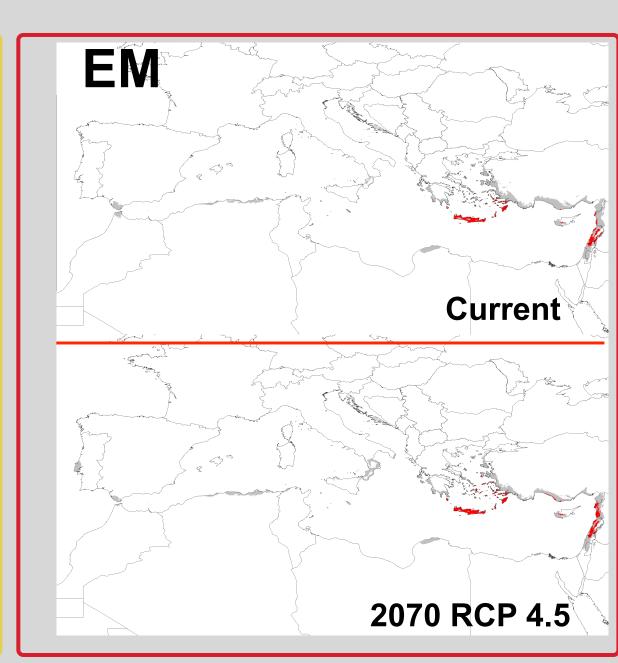
New forecasting done with Maxent in respect to phylogeography and averaging results of 3 GCMs for RCP 4.5













A range contraction in the Mediterranean is predicted for carob tree due to climate change.

Overlap analysis of climatic niches as well as Maxent modelling indicate that incorporating phylogeography may improve carob distribution modelling and forecasting.

In contrast with forecast done at the species level, the analyses done at the genetic groups level support SM, and EM as the most likely persistent areas whereas the most affected would be SS.

