

21 **Title:** Detecting spatial dynamics of range expansions with geo-referenced genome-wide SNP
22 data and the geographic spectrum of shared alleles

23 **ABSTRACT**

24 Uncovering the spatial dynamics of range expansions is a major goal in studies of
25 historical demographic inference, with applications ranging from understanding the evolutionary
26 origins of domesticated crops, epidemiology, invasive species, and understanding species-level
27 responses to climate change. Following the surge in advances that make explicit use of the
28 spatial distribution of genetic data from geo-referenced SNP variants, we present a novel
29 summary statistic vector, the geographic spectrum of shared alleles (GSSA). Using simulations
30 of two-dimensional serial expansion, we find that the information from the GSSA, summarized
31 with Harpending's Raggedness Index (RI), can accurately detect the spatial origins of a range
32 expansion under serial founder models, even with sparse sampling of only ten individuals. When
33 applying to SNP data from two species of the holarctic butterfly genus *Lycaeides*, the suggested
34 origins of expansion are consistent with hindcasts obtained from ecological niche models
35 (ENMs). These results demonstrate the GSSA to be a useful exploratory tool for generating
36 hypotheses of range expansion with genome-wide SNP data. Our simulation experiments suggest
37 high performance even with sampling found in studies of non-model organisms (one sampled
38 individual per location, no outgroup information, and only 5,000 SNP loci).

39 **Keywords:** demographic history, range expansion, geographic spectrum of shared alleles,
40 summary statistic

41 Introduction

42 Geographic range shifts are a prevalent feature of virtually all species' histories. They
43 often follow or accompany the origin of species (Gaston 2003), and frequently happen in
44 response to changes in climate, landscape, or biotic opportunities (Konečný *et al.* 2013; Roberts
45 & Hamann 2015). Despite range expansions being a pervasive feature across many species
46 histories, the net outcomes of the interactions between species-specific traits and changes in
47 suitable habitats are poorly understood with regards to changes in the geographic distribution of
48 genetic diversity, adaptability, and community structure (Pharo & Zartman 2007; Thuiller *et al.*
49 2008; Phillips *et al.* 2010). For example, although serial-range expansions are likely a common
50 feature of species histories in the context of past global changes (Excoffier *et al.* 2009), there is
51 still uncertainty about how they affect differentiation and diversification, or how they influence
52 the risk of extinction under future environmental shifts (Charles & Dukes 2008; Fordham *et al.*
53 2014). Tools that uncover the spatio-temporal dynamics of species' ranges are therefore critical
54 for understanding how geographic range dynamics affect the spatial distribution of genetic
55 diversity through drift and selection (Slatkin 1987; Kirkpatrick & Barton 1997; Peischl *et al.*
56 2013). They are also central to forecast species' responses to ongoing and future environmental
57 changes (Brown *et al.* 2016).

58 Among recent attempts to couple genetic and spatial information to infer historical range
59 dynamics, Ramachandran *et al.* (2005) proposed to identify the geographic origin of an expansion
60 using heterozygosity clines that result from the reduction of heterozygosity associated with the
61 sequential founder events that are characteristic of range expansions (Ramachandran *et al.* 2005;
62 Li *et al.* 2008; DeGiorgio *et al.* 2009; Henn *et al.* 2012). Based on the premise that

63 heterozygosity should continuously decrease with distance from the expansion source, this
64 method fits a linear regression between expected heterozygosity at multiple sampled locations
65 and their geographic distance from all possible candidate sources. While this is simple to
66 estimate, this approach has been found to perform well under a relatively narrow range of
67 circumstances, with its accuracy decreasing as the speed of the expansion decreases, or as the
68 time since the end of the expansion increases (Peter & Slatkin 2015). Previously, researchers
69 have used principal component analysis (PCA) of geo-referenced samples to identify the
70 direction of expansion under the assumption that the first principal component—which accounts
71 for the greatest amount of variation—aligns with the expansion source-front axis (Menozzi *et al.*
72 1978). However, this assumption has been challenged by recent evidence indicating that the
73 geographic alignment of the first component may be driven by the geographic distribution of
74 samples, allele surfing, or mathematical artifacts (Novembre & Stephens 2008; François *et al.*
75 2010; Pemberton *et al.* 2013).

76 More recently, Peter and Slatkin (2013) proposed a new statistic, the directionality index
77 (ψ), to detect the origins of range expansions using joint geo-referenced and genome-wide
78 information. This statistic takes advantage of allele frequency changes driven by the sequential
79 founder events that often characterize expansions. Specifically, ψ detects asymmetries in 2D site
80 frequency spectra of shared neutral non-ancestral alleles between pairs of populations, under the
81 theoretical expectation that populations further away from the expansion have experienced more
82 genetic drift than populations near the expansion source (Slatkin & Excoffier 2012; Peter &
83 Slatkin 2013). This metric has been also incorporated into an ABC framework, whereby He *et al.*
84 (2017) used it to estimate the source of range expansion in the Collared pika in Alaska.

85 While analyses using the directionality index (Peter & Slatkin 2015) have been highly
86 promising, the relatively high number of sampled individuals, and the requirement of polarized
87 SNPs, make its implementation difficult in non-model organisms, which are typically
88 characterized by limited numbers of geo-referenced genotypes, or for which a reliable outgroup
89 for polarizing SNPs has not been identified. Here we develop a summary statistic vector, which
90 we call the geographic spectrum of shared alleles (GSSA, hereafter), to harvest information from
91 the spatial distribution of shared allelic variants to help identify the geographical origin of range
92 expansions. Our approach is targeted for non-model organisms as it does not require information
93 about ancestral states, requires a single individual per sampled location, and can accommodate a
94 reasonable number of SNPs.

95 We formally describe the GSSA summary statistic vector and use two-dimensional
96 simulations of different expansion histories to statistically explore its behavior. We also
97 demonstrate its applicability with genome-wide SNP data sampled from a set of taxa of the
98 holartic butterfly genus *Lycaeides* distributed in Western North America (Gompert *et al.* 2010).
99 Our analyses demonstrate that the GSSA can be a powerful exploratory tool to identify the
100 relative position of samples along an expansion axis. In *Lycaeides*, the GSSA places the origin of
101 expansions in geographical areas that are consistent with species distribution models for
102 hypothesized ranges shifts during the last glacial maximum.

103 **Materials and Methods**

104 **The geographic spectrum of shared alleles (GSSA)**

105 The Geographic Spectrum of Shared Alleles (GSSA) is a property of—and calculated
106 for—each sampled locality. It captures the geographic distribution of shared co-ancestry with
107 other localities by summarizing the geographic distances between copies of the minor allele
108 observed at each SNP site (that is, the allele with the smallest frequency in the global sample for
109 each site; Nielsen et al. 2012). As such, the GSSA of a given location is a histogram that depicts
110 the cumulative frequency distribution of the geographic distances separating each minor allele
111 shared between the focal location and all other sampled locations across all SNPs (Fig. 1). On an
112 intuitive level, this new summary statistic vector can be understood as a spatial structure function
113 that captures the relative change in allelic similarity from a focal location as a function of
114 geographic distance. Importantly, the GSSA is a location-specific statistic which differs from
115 other structure functions such as spatial correlograms that are globally calculated. These latter
116 statistics quantify the spatial dependence of an observed variable across the entire set of
117 observations using a covariance matrix partitioned into distance classes (Smouse & Peakall
118 1999; Legendre & Legendre 2012). Instead, each location-specific GSSA is directly based on
119 distances between minor alleles shared with a focal locality.

120 The information captured in the GSSA helps identify the relative position of each
121 sampling location with respect to the expansion source-front axis, because the similarity in
122 genetic constitution between locations depends on the extent of shared history under an
123 expansion history (Peter & Slatkin 2015; Bradburd *et al.* 2016). Because the amount of genetic
124 drift increases with distance to the source of an expansion (Slatkin & Excoffier 2012; Peter &
125 Slatkin 2013), and because colonization through different geographic paths should lead to allelic
126 segregation (Hallatschek *et al.* 2007; Knowles & Alvarado-Serrano 2010; François *et al.* 2010),

127 the amount of shared genetic variants can potentially further inform about the direction of the
128 expansion. As such, if this information is captured by our summary statistic vector, it could be
129 useful in a simulation-based statistical method—such as approximate Bayesian computation or
130 supervised machine learning—for testing alternative expansion histories (Pudlo *et al.* 2015;
131 Joseph *et al.* 2016; Schrider & Kern 2018).

132 **GSSA overview**

133 The calculation of the set of GSSAs, one per unique sampled geo-referenced location,
134 requires two sets of data: i) the geographic distances between all sampled locations, and ii) a
135 record of the counts of minor allele copies of each SNP locus at each sampled location (Fig. 1a).
136 Here, we restrict our discussion to geographic distance between samples, but note that users
137 could use an alternative distance metric, such as river-distance, when appropriate. Below we
138 verbally summarized the steps involved in the calculation of the GSSA for one sampled location
139 (a formal mathematical description is presented in the next section).

140 First, using the entire set of geographic distances between all sampled locations, the
141 Sturges (1926) equation is deployed to identify the optimal number of geographic distance
142 classes and breakpoints for the construction of all of the location-specific GSSAs. This Sturges
143 binning scheme is then applied to the set of geographic distances associated with the i th focal
144 sampled location, such that there will be a specific histogram (h_{geo_i}) for each of the locations
145 (Fig. 1e). Second, a matrix of minor allele's presence/absence (G_i) is constructed for the i th focal
146 sampled location (Fig. 1a). Third, a vector (\vec{S}_i) is constructed for the i th focal sampled location
147 from the geographic distribution of minor alleles. Specifically, each location-specific \vec{S}_i vector

148 lists the geographic distances between each minor SNP allele present at the focal sampling
149 location and all other copies of the same minor allele in the entire sample (Fig. 1c). Fourth, this
150 location-specific vector is then converted into a corresponding location-specific histogram (h_{gen_i}
151) using the Sturges' (1927) binning scheme previously defined (Fig. 1d). Finally, to make our
152 statistic independent of the specific sampling scheme (i.e., sampling locations and their influence
153 on the binning scheme), the location-specific histogram constructed from the vector of distances
154 between minor alleles (h_{gen_i}) is regressed against the values from the corresponding
155 “geography-only” histogram (h_{geo_i} ; i.e., the “null” distribution of geographic distances). The
156 residuals from this regression are finally used to build the location-specific histogram for the i th
157 focal location ($GSSA_i$).

158 **GSSA calculation**

159 Formally, the two sets of data extracted from the series of georeferenced sampled
160 genotypes can be defined as two matrices. With one individual per sampled location, I locations,
161 M sets of chromosomes (i.e., ploidy), and L loci (i.e., SNPs), the arrangement of minor alleles in
162 the entire sample relative to each location can be characterized by a $M \times L$ genotype matrix, G_i ,
163 where each element $G_{i,m,l}$ takes the value of 0 or 1, depending on whether a copy of the minor
164 allele is present (1) or not (0) at each individual's SNP locus and DNA strand (note that phasing
165 is not necessary because the method treats each locus independently; Fig. 1a). In turn, the set of
166 Euclidean or effective (Shirk & Cushman 2014; Davis *et al.* 2018) geographic distances between
167 all locations can be characterized by an $I \times I$ square distance matrix, D , where $D_{i,i} = 0$ and $D_{ij} =$
168 $D_{j,i}$. From this latter matrix, a set of location-specific geographic-distances vectors, \vec{d}_i , can be

169 obtained by subsetting the D matrix so that $\vec{d}_i = D_{i,1:I}$ (Fig. 1b). Altogether, these data are used
 170 to construct a GSSA summary statistic vector for each sampled location following five steps:

171 *Step 1.* First Sturges' (Sturges 1926) equation is applied to the set of pairwise geographic
 172 distances between all localities contained in matrix D to identify an optimal series of consecutive
 173 distance classes that are later used for histogram binning. We chose Sturges' (1926) equation for
 174 its simplicity and common use in biological research (Ramírez-García *et al.* 1998; Fagua &
 175 Gonzalez 2007; Pires *et al.* 2016; Cardozo *et al.* 2018). Although alternative binning schemes
 176 would in theory be possible, an exploration of a coarser binning scheme (Scott 1979) and the
 177 more granular Rice rule (Jones *et al.* 2001--)) showed that although Sturges' scheme resulted in
 178 relatively better performance with regards to the dynamics of the GSSA and identification of
 179 expansion colonization history, accuracy was good across all three binning schemes (Supp. Fig.
 180 1).

181 *Step 2.* Each genotype matrix G_i is used to construct a location-specific vector, \vec{S}_i , which
 182 summarizes the aggregated relative spatial distribution of minor alleles at location i (Fig. 1c).

183 The elements of this vector are defined as:

$$184 \quad s_{i,m,l} = \begin{cases} \emptyset & \text{when } (G_{i,m,l} * G_{j,m,l}) = 0 \\ D_{i,j} & \text{when } (G_{i,m,l} * G_{j,m,l}) \neq 0 \end{cases}; \quad s_{i,m,l} \in \vec{S}_i \quad \wedge \quad j \in \{1:I\} \quad [1a];$$

185 where $\emptyset = \text{null}$, $G_{i,m,l}$ = element of individual i 's genotype matrix that denotes the presence or
 186 absence of a minor allele at locus l , strand m , and $D_{i,j}$ = geographic distance between localities i
 187 and j . Elements in the \vec{S}_i vector with a value of zero correspond to instances in which the same
 188 minor allele at a SNP locus is homozygous within an individual or present in more than one

189 individual sampled from the same locality because the geographic distance between these allele
 190 copies would be zero ($D_{ii} = 0$). On the other hand, non-zero elements correspond to the
 191 geographic distances between individuals from different localities sharing the same minor allele
 192 at a SNP locus (Fig. 1c). Effectively, \vec{S}_i can also be derived from the frequency of the minor
 193 allele at each locus and location by aggregating over DNA strands so that the set of $\vec{S}_{i_{m_1:M,l}}$
 194 elements of this vector are defined as:

$$s_{i_{m_1:M,l}} = \left\{ \underbrace{\langle D_{i,j} \rangle}_{(f_i \times f_j) \text{ times}} \right\}; \quad s_{i_{m,l}} \in \vec{S}_i \quad \wedge \quad j \in \{1:I\} \quad [1b];$$

196 where f_i is the frequency of copies of the minor allele at location i , locus l and D_{ij} as in eq. [1a].

197 *Step 3.* After removing all null elements (\emptyset) from vector \vec{S}_i (Fig. 1c), which number
 198 depends on the number of loci at which each locality does not contain a minor allele copy (Fig.
 199 1a), the size of each \vec{S}_i varies among locations. Therefore, it is necessary to compress each \vec{S}_i
 200 into a vector with an equal number of elements for all individual sampled locations. To do this,
 201 each vector \vec{S}_i (Fig. 1c) is converted into a histogram by calculating the frequency of \vec{S}_i
 202 elements that fall within each of the distance classes previously determined in *Step 1*. The
 203 resulting location-specific geo-genetic histogram (h_{gen_i}) summarizes the relative spatial
 204 distribution of minor alleles copies across loci present at each (i^{th}) sampling location (Fig. 1d).

205 *Step 4.* To correct for the “null” geographic expectation introduced by the specific
 206 geographic position of each sample, each location-specific vector of geographic-distances, \vec{d}_i , is
 207 first converted into a histogram by again estimating the frequency of observations that fall within

208 each of the same set of distance classes previously used to create the geo-genetic histograms.

209 This generates a unique geographic histogram (h_{geo_i}) for each (i^{th}) location that is analogous to
210 the corresponding geo-genetic histograms (h_{gen_i}) (Fig. 1e), yet that only containing geographic
211 information.

212 *Step 5.* Finally, the elements of each geo-genetic histogram (h_{gen_i}) are regressed against
213 the corresponding elements of the geographic-distance histogram (h_{geo_i}) (Fig. 1f), as defined
214 here:

$$215 \quad \hat{h}_{gen_i[b_{k=1}:b_{k=K}]} = \beta \left(h_{geo_i[b_{k=1}:b_{k=K}]} \right) + \varepsilon \quad [2];$$

216 where h_{gen_i} = geo-genetic histogram for location i , h_{geo_i} = geographic histogram for location i ,
217 $[b_k]$ = histogram's distance class, b , ranging from $k = 1$ to $k = K$ (i.e., the maximum number of
218 bins as determined by Sturges' equation), β = simple regression coefficient, and ε = error term.

219 The vector of absolute residuals resulting from each regression (eq. [2]) constitutes the
220 location-specific spatial summary statistic vector we named the GSSA and it is defined for each
221 location i as the absolute difference between the location-specific regression-predicted values
222 (eq. [2]) and the location-specific geo-genetic histogram values:

$$223 \quad GSSA_i = \left| \hat{h}_{gen_i[b_{k=1}:b_{k=K}]} - h_{gen_i[b_{k=1}:b_{k=K}]} \right| \quad [3];$$

224 with \hat{h}_{gen_i} , h_{gen_i} , and $[b_k]$ defined as in eq. [2].

225 **GSSA Implementation**

226 All five steps described above can be implemented from a list of genotypes and a list of
227 individuals' sampling coordinates, or optionally a set of distances between genotypes in case
228 users choose to use effective distances instead (Shirk & Cushman 2014; Davis *et al.* 2018). The
229 aggregated relative spatial distribution of minor alleles vector for each locality, \vec{S}_i , can be
230 obtained from the multi-site frequency spectrum (multiSFS), which summarizes the frequency of
231 shared allele variants across populations, and the set of distances among all sampled locations.
232 This multiSFS can be calculated from the list of genotypes in available programs such as $\delta a \delta i$,
233 whereby the multiSFS should be polarized based on the minor allele where each sampled
234 geo-referenced location is considered a "population" in the multiSFS (Gutenkunst *et al.* 2009).
235 Scripts to estimate the multiSFS along the rest of necessary steps to calculate the GSSAs for each
236 location are available at https://bitbucket.org/diegofalvarado-s/gssa_v0.0/src. If multiple
237 individuals per location are available, the method can be adapted by aligning all genotypes per
238 location into a single "polyploid individual" so that individuals' genotypes are treated as
239 different DNA strands. Similarly, polyploid individuals are likewise accommodated as the
240 method treats each SNP locus independently and thus, no phasing is necessary.

241 **Raggedness index**

242 A useful property of the GSSA is that its shape can potentially carry information about a
243 location's relative age of colonization and its historical connectivity with other populations given
244 an expansion history. To explore and summarize the overall behavior of the GSSA with respect
245 to expansion sources, we use Harpending's raggedness index (Harpending 1994). Harpending's
246 raggedness index (RI) was originally introduced to quantify the shape of the histogram obtained

247 from the average pairwise genetic differences amongst individuals in the context of inferring the
248 history of population size change due to the predictive relationships between the shape and the
249 timing and magnitude of size change. Here we repurpose it to condense the GSSA elements into
250 a single variable that is correlated with the shape of the GSSA and thus, summarizes the behavior
251 of the GSSA and its spatial and temporal relationship with the expansion source. In our
252 calculation of each locality-specific RI, we disregard all distance classes within each GSSA_i that
253 are equivalent to the distance classes in the corresponding h_{geo_i} that have a value of zero (which
254 arise for distance classes not involving the focal locality). We then correct the RI for the number
255 of comparisons used for its calculation:

$$256 \quad RI = \frac{\sum_{b_k=2}^{b_k=K} (b_k - b_{k-1})^2}{K' - 1}; \quad b_k \in GSSA_i \mid h_{geo_{b_k}} \neq 0 \quad [3],$$

257 where b_k indicates a distance class and K' the total number of distance classes used in the
258 calculation.

259 Locations further away from the serial-expansion source are expected to share more
260 genetic variants with nearby locations that were colonized through the same expansion path
261 (Knowles & Alvarado-Serrano 2010), and hence should tend to present a left-skewed and more
262 ragged GSSA (Supp. Fig. 2a). This is because, in this case, short distance bins should be overly
263 represented with a marked drop at intermediate bins, thereby inflating the RI from the
264 “neighborhood effect” resulting from allele surfing (Hallatschek & Nelson 2008; François *et al.*
265 2010). This process can cause genetic variants at the expansion front to increase in frequency
266 within constrained areas of derived populations (Excoffier *et al.* 2008). In contrast, locations
267 closer to the source should tend to have a more uniform and non-skewed GSSA histogram

268 because these locations are expected to retain the shared genetic variants present at different
269 frequencies in other locations in the sample. In this latter scenario (Supp. Fig. 2b), most variants
270 come from standing genetic variation in the source population due to the comparatively smaller
271 amount of drift experienced by these close-to-source populations (Excoffier *et al.* 2008; Peter &
272 Slatkin 2013).

273 **Simulation experiments**

274 To evaluate the behavior of the GSSA, we simulated 5,000 unlinked SNPs sampled from
275 10 spatially separated individuals under different serial range expansion histories, where 99
276 demes are colonized by a single source deme. Spatially implicit simulations were conducted
277 using fastsimcoal v2.5.2 (Excoffier & Foll 2011; Excoffier *et al.* 2013), with each simulation
278 starting with a source deme at either of four different starting locations (Fig. 2). At each
279 sequential expansion step going forward in time, we set a proportion of individuals within each
280 deme (f) to move out from the demes they occupied into an immediate neighboring deme,
281 excluding diagonal movements (i.e., 4-neighbors). We set newly colonized demes to then grow
282 to a size N_K (based on the carrying capacity parameter), in τ_r generations. After τ_c generations, we
283 set the next set of demes to be colonized from previously colonized populations, and cycles of
284 serial colonization proceed until the last of 99 demes is colonized. We set the simulations to then
285 run for τ additional generations after the last colonized deme has reached N_K . Through the entire
286 simulation, we allowed colonized demes to exchange individuals with neighboring colonized
287 demes (4-neighbors) according to a migration parameter (m) that reflects the per individual per
288 generation probability of migration. After all available demes are colonized, we let the

289 simulations continue under a stepping-stone model (Kimura & Weiss 1964) for a number of
290 generations determined by parameter (τ), which signifies the time after initial expansion has
291 ended. Table 1 lists all parameters controlling the simulations.

292 The particular effect of each parameter on the ability of the GSSA vector (summarized
293 with the RI) to locate the expansion source was quantified independently. For that, we kept all
294 parameters—except the one of interest of interest—fixed across simulations (Table 1). For each
295 scenario/parameter combination, we ran 1,000 simulations for a total of 48,000 simulations (1
296 scenario x 4 possible sources x 4 parameters x 3 parameter values x 1,000 simulations). After
297 each simulation was completed (as defined by τ), we gathered a dataset of 5,000 homologous
298 biallelic SNPs from one individual from each of the 10 locations that were randomly selected
299 before the simulations, including the source location. We then used our custom python pipeline
300 to calculate a GSSA (eqs. [2, 3]) and associated RI (eq. [4]) for each of the 10 sampled locations.
301 The source of the expansion was identified based on the distribution of magnitudes of the RI
302 across sampling locations, with the smallest RI value assumed to correspond to the expansion
303 source. Accuracy was measured as the proportion of simulations that correctly identified the
304 source. To capture the empirical reality that the actual expansion source may not have been
305 sampled, we repeated our inferences while excluding the source location from our sample (Fig.
306 S2). In this latter case, accuracy was measured as the proportion of simulations that correctly
307 identified the most proximate location to the source location among those sampled (Supp. Fig.
308 3). In the case of the simulations that include the source, the root mean squared error (RMSE)
309 was also calculated. Additionally, we visualized the magnitude of change in the RI of each
310 sampled location as a function of when each location was colonized.

311 As a point of comparison, we also used Peter and Slatkin's (2013) approach to identify
312 the expansion source on the same simulated datasets. Because Peter and Slatkin's approach make
313 use of interpolation, which reduces the chances of estimating the precise coordinates of the
314 simulated source, we scored a prediction as accurate whenever Peter and Slatkin's directionality
315 index was able to locate the source within the perimeter defined by the 8-neighbor demes around
316 the actual source.

317 **Empirical Application**

318 To illustrate and demonstrate the utility of our approach, we applied it to two taxa of the
319 holarctic butterfly genus *Lycaeides* that are distributed in western North America (Gompert *et al.*
320 2014b). These butterfly taxa are host-specialists and relatively poor dispersers, with distributions
321 that are tightly linked to their host plants (Forister *et al.* 2011; Gompert *et al.* 2014a). Their
322 respective geographical ranges were likely impacted by Pleistocene climatic events (Thompson
323 *et al.* 1993; Thompson & Anderson 2000; Pierce *et al.* 2004), which presumably involved range
324 expansions from refugia since the Last Glacial Maximum (LGM). In particular, we focused on
325 two high-elevation undescribed taxa (Alpine and Jackson *Lycaeides*; Gompert *et al.* 2014). These
326 data are well-suited for demonstrating our approach because they have a relatively
327 well-characterized evolutionary history and spatial distribution (Gompert *et al.* 2006; Nice *et al.*
328 2013), as well as a thorough, spatially widespread genetic sampling (Gompert *et al.* 2014) in the
329 western mountains of North America (Alpine *Lycaeides*: 10 localities and 8097 independent
330 homologous SNPs; Jackson *Lycaeides*: 11 localities and 9074 independent homologous SNPs).

331 To compare our geographic predictions of source locality with the plausible geographic
332 origin of each taxon's putative range expansion after the LGM, we used ecological niche models
333 (ENMs), projected onto past climates, as independent hypotheses of colonization history under
334 the assumption of Grinnellian niche conservatism. Briefly, we generated an ENM for each taxon
335 in the R package dismo (Hijmans 2012) using a maximum entropy approach (Phillips *et al.*
336 2006) and 19 interpolated climatic surfaces at 30 arc-seconds resolution that summarize global
337 patterns of temperature, precipitation, and seasonality (Hijmans 2012). We only included
338 localities for which genetic data are available (Table 1, Gompert *et al.* 2014) given the pending
339 taxonomic status of these taxa, which can lead to misidentification issues in available locality
340 databases. To reduce possible sampling bias, for each taxon we filtered the localities based on a
341 minimum distance required between localities. The exact distance used for each species was
342 determined by a variogram approach that establishes the distance over which spatial
343 autocorrelation in environmental conditions is minimal (Brown *et al.* 2016). In addition, to
344 maximize the fit of the model and to avoid unnecessary complexity, we tuned our models using
345 the R package ENMeval (Muscarella *et al.* 2014). The tuning procedure consisted of assessing
346 optimal model parameters based on jackknife cross-validation of the samples (Radosavljevic &
347 Anderson 2014; Muscarella *et al.* 2014). We chose a jackknife approach given the small sample
348 size of the filtered collection points (Galante *et al.* 2018). Model fit was evaluated under different
349 combinations of model features and regularization multipliers (Table S1) using three sequential
350 criteria: omission rate, AUC, and model feature class complexity. Tuning results are
351 summarized in Supp. Table 1. We then hindcasted this ENM to the LGM using climatic CCSM
352 (Community Climate System Model) estimations derived from the Paleoclimate Modelling

353 Intercomparison Project Phase II (Braconnot *et al.* 2007). Finally, following Knowles and
354 Alvarado-Serrano (2010), we identified the area(s) of contiguous high predicted suitability (i.e.,
355 refugial distribution) as potential expansion source(s), using as an arbitrary cut-off the top 10th
356 percentile of the predicted suitability scores. We then contrasted these hypothesized sources with
357 those inferred by our approach.

358 **Results**

359 **Simulation experiments**

360 Our simulation study showed that the magnitude of the RI calculated from the elements
361 of our GSSA vector was highly correlated with i) the distance from the location of the expansion
362 source, and ii) how long, after the expansion started, a location was colonized (Fig. 3). The
363 metric was able to accurately identify the geographical source of expansion given that one of the
364 sampling localities was the source of expansion, or the first location colonized among those
365 sampled (Fig. S3). Still, the degree of accuracy somewhat depended on the location of the source
366 deme such that lower accuracy occurred when the source was located in a peripheral area (Fig.
367 4). Still, incorrect inferences tended to identify sampling localities proximate to the actual
368 expansion locality, regardless of the location of the expansion source (Fig. 5).

369 By summarizing the GSSA with Harpending's (1994) RI, we were able to correctly
370 identify the source population up to 70% of the time, with RMSE values that approached zero
371 (Fig. 6). However, this accuracy declined with larger numbers of colonists (f) and time since all
372 demes have been colonized (τ). Likewise, under an IBD model that arose when enough time had
373 accrued for the signature of the expansion to have significantly diminished (Fig. 6), our metric

374 was unable to accurately identify the source population. Our approach did strongly outperform
375 Peter and Slatkin's directionality index (ψ) by a margin of up to 60%, except in those
376 aforementioned cases such as a high number of individuals colonizing demes (Fig. 6).

377 **Empirical application**

378 The application of our coupled GSSA-RI approach to the two *Lycaeides* datasets suggests
379 an expansion spatial dynamics that is well in line with species ranges at the LGM according to
380 our ENM hindcasts (Fig. 7). For the Alpine *Lycaeides* distributed in northern Rocky mountain
381 areas, the predicted source coincided with the southernmost samples, which are located in the
382 largest LGM refugium predicted by the ENM hindcasts (Figure 7A). Although the hindcasted
383 range at the LGM climate for this species covers a wide area that encompasses all of the sampled
384 locations, the sampling location predicted by the GSSA coincides with an area of highest
385 suitability. The RI calculated on the GSSA for Jackson *Lycaeides* samples suggested a source
386 also within the ENM hindcast (which was more heterogeneous in comparison with Alpine
387 *Lycaeides* hindcast), and close to one potential refugium (i.e., continuous area of high suitability)
388 (Fig. 7B).

389 **Discussion**

390 We introduce a new summary statistic vector, the geographic spectrum of shared alleles
391 (GSSA), which makes joint use of geographic and genetic information. We demonstrate that it
392 can be used to help infer the geographic dynamics of a range expansion. We use Harpending's
393 (1994) RI calculated on the GSSA elements of each sampled genotype to summarize spatial

394 gradients in the distribution of minor alleles that are indicative of the relative position of each
395 genotype along an expansion axis. However, we envision the elements of the GSSA vector may
396 be directly incorporated within a supervised machine learning or ABC inferential framework to
397 obtain parameter estimates associated with source locality likelihoods, and to test competing
398 expansion hypotheses (He *et al.* 2017b; Fraimout *et al.* 2017; Schrider & Kern 2018).

399 However, there are some important assumptions to first examine before deployment of
400 the GSSA. First, as with many other population genomic approaches, it should be used after
401 population structure is explored (Patterson *et al.* 2006; Frichot & François 2015; Petkova *et al.*
402 2016). Specifically, the GSSA is applied to groups of samples suggested to derive from single
403 sources by various other exploratory methods applied cautiously (House & Hahn 2017; Elleouet
404 & Aitken 2018). For example, as late Pleistocene range expansions and recent species invasions
405 can both have multiple origins (Miraldo *et al.* 2011; Ruiz-Cooley *et al.* 2013; Cristescu 2015),
406 care needs to be taken to detect the possibility of admixture from multiple origins *a priori*. In this
407 case, if exploratory methods suggest a species is heavily structured, with a history of expansions
408 from more than one refugium, researchers could apply the GSSA to each sub-sample
409 independently. This may, however, prove a challenging task in certain circumstances because
410 smaller sample sizes (resulting from splitting up the range) may lead to reduced accuracy.
411 Difficulties may also arise if more than two sources are close together geographically, multiple
412 expansions occurred, or if gene flow directions are biased given complex heterogeneous
413 geography (Branco *et al.* 2018; Lundgren & Ralph 2018). However, one strength of the approach
414 is that the assumption of panmixia within each sub-sample can be relaxed, as our simulated
415 conditions contain stepping stone relationships among demes such that some

416 isolation-by-distance relationships within genetic clusters is accommodated, as long as there is a
417 single source.

418 A second assumption underlying our metric is that a single spatial expansion had actually
419 occurred within an identifiable timeframe. As demonstrated by our simulations with the reduced
420 accuracy as the time since all demes have been colonized (τ) increases, eventually reaching the
421 stationarity conditions of isolation-by-distance, the historical signal of expansion will be erased
422 over long intervals. It is therefore recommended that spatial expansion be tested before
423 attempting to infer the geographic dynamics of an expansion (Excoffier 2004; Wegmann *et al.*
424 2006; Elleouet & Aitken 2018).

425 Key advantages of the GSSA are that no outgroup is required, and that it can be deployed
426 on sparse datasets that are often collected from a variety of non-model species. Notably,
427 correlation to the source of expansion was in general robust to different across-population
428 migration rates (m) and deme growth rates—as conditioned by the time allowed for demes to
429 reach their carrying capacity (τ_c). However, accuracy did somewhat decrease with greater
430 migration levels, as one would expect. Also expectedly, the accuracy in identifying the source
431 location was greatly diminished by larger founder sizes (f), and the amount of time passed after
432 colonization ended (τ). In the former case, larger f will deflate the founder effect, whereas in the
433 latter case the signal of the founder effect will become erased over time (Nei *et al.* 1975).

434 Regardless of parameter setting, the GSSA approach consistently outperformed the
435 directionality index of Peter and Slatkin's (2013) in all simulations. While such a finding is not
436 surprising given that we violated the latter method's assumption of allelic polarity and used
437 smaller sample sizes than recommended, it highlights the gap filled by our new statistic, which

438 accommodates data typical of non-model organisms. As demonstrated by Peter and Slatkin's
439 (2013) empirical example, in which they found support for the out-of-Africa hypothesis (Li *et al.*
440 2008; DeGiorgio *et al.* 2009) using a comprehensive empirical dataset consisting of over half a
441 million SNPs in more than 1,500 individuals distributed in 55 human populations (Fumagalli *et*
442 *al.* 2011), their statistic is a powerful tool for model organisms. Ours on the other hand, may be
443 best suited for smaller datasets. Furthermore, it is important to note that the two metrics are not
444 precisely inferring the same entity even if the overall objective is to uncover the spatial dynamics
445 of an expansion. Specifically, the smallest RI of the GSSAs is assumed to be associated with the
446 sampling location closest to the actual origin (i.e., first colonized location among those sampled).
447 In contrast, Peter and Slatkin's ψ aims to infer the actual geographical point of expansion, which
448 can be located beyond the sampling localities. This methodological difference reflects our goal
449 of limiting the amount of statistical uncertainty at the expense of decreasing potential inferential
450 capabilities (i.e., limiting the noise introduced by spatial interpolation). Nevertheless, part of our
451 simulation study used sampling locations that included the source, thereby making this
452 comparison between both approaches informative.

453 The utility of our new statistic for non-model organisms is also apparent in the empirical
454 analysis of *Lycaeides* (Fig. 7). These taxa had 8097 and 9074 independent SNPs (i.e., 1 SNP per
455 tag for Alpine *Lycaeides* and Jackson *Lycaeides* respectively), from which we randomly selected
456 a set of 5000 SNPs for consistency with our simulations. Our approach was able to point, as
457 sources, geographical regions of relatively high predicted suitability according to the ENMs. For
458 Alpine *Lycaeides*, this included a location at the southern end of the range. In contrast, for
459 Jackson *Lycaeides*, the lowest RI suggested an area of marginal LGM suitability (albeit close to

460 regions predicted to be suitable; Fig. 7). That being said, because the inferred entity refers to the
461 sampling location that is closest to the true origin (i.e., first colonized location among those
462 sampled), a perfect match between the ENMs' prediction and the GSSA inference is not
463 expected. Together with the simulation data, these analyses demonstrate that under circumstances
464 of more constrained information and limited sampling relative to those common to model
465 organisms, our approach may be a useful complement to existing methods to infer the geographic
466 history underlying range expansions (Ramachandran *et al.* 2005; François *et al.* 2010; Peter &
467 Slatkin 2013). Our results also highlight how independent lines of evidence can be combined for
468 more robust demographic inference. In contrast to previous attempts to reciprocally validate
469 ENMs and genetic data without spatially explicit inference (Alvarado-Serrano & Knowles 2014),
470 our method allows one to make more explicit comparisons between the hypothesized locations of
471 refugia derived from ENMs and the inferred range expansion dynamics based on genetics. This
472 capability is of particular interest when considering the uncertainty associated with hindcasting
473 using ENMs, as these tools are capable only of generating hypotheses about potential distribution
474 based on abiotic correlates under the assumption of niche conservatism and analogous
475 climate—which is likely to overpredict the real former distribution of species (Soberón 2007;
476 Peterson *et al.* 2010; Alvarado-Serrano & Knowles 2014). By combining these approaches, the
477 confidence in these estimates increases, giving scientists the ability to refine a set of plausible
478 historical scenarios under consideration.

479 **Potential Pitfalls**

480 To help improve model-based inferences, several aspects of our approach should be taken
481 into consideration. Besides accurate georeferencing of all samples, the number and spatial
482 distribution of samples should be carefully considered. As it is true for previous methods
483 (Ramachandran *et al.* 2005; Peter & Slatkin 2013), inferences based on the GSSA will be most
484 useful with sampling that maximizes geographical space at the cost of multiple samples per
485 location. Samples clustered in a particular area, and representing only a small portion of the
486 distribution of the taxon of interest, would probably carry limited information and lead to biased
487 estimates. Similarly, our results indicate that precaution should be taken with peripheral localities
488 as they may carry a smaller signal due to noise introduced by boundary effects . In this regard,
489 the advantage of allowing only a single individual per locality should help researchers to more
490 efficiently design their sampling scheme without excessive increases in overall costs, assuming
491 that accessing most of the range of a species is not prohibitive. Furthermore, larger sampling of
492 geographic space could potentially better enable the implementation of a spatial interpolation to
493 identify major colonization routes in more detail (Li & Heap 2011).

494 Like any method using genome-wide SNP data, another relevant consideration is the
495 potential for confounded inference if the sampled SNPs are impacted from parts of the genome
496 under strong natural selection (Sokal *et al.* 1989; Lotterhos & Whitlock 2014), even if they are
497 not linked (Allman & Weissman 2018). For this reason, it would be advisable to test for selective
498 neutrality *a priori*, and to remove loci potentially under selection. An additional consideration is
499 that care should be taken to ensure that inference is not confounded by multiple population
500 histories that involve different sources of expansion. Although use of the GSSA does not
501 explicitly require clustering individuals into populations *a priori* (Frichot & François 2015;

502 Petkova *et al.* 2016), the conduction of exploratory analyses to obtain some information about
503 population structure may help identify cases of admixture and more than one source for
504 expansion.

505 As a stand-alone summary statistic, the GSSA is itself an exploratory tool to be used with
506 other spatial genomic methods such as EEMS (Petkova *et al.* 2016) , MAPS (Al-Asadi *et al.*
507 2018), or SpaceMix (Bradburd *et al.* 2016): it can investigate one's data and help formulate
508 model-based hypotheses about population history (House & Hahn 2017). Ideally, the GSSA
509 should be incorporated into an inferential model that allows for testing historical hypotheses and
510 for estimating relevant demographic parameters (He *et al.* 2017a).

511 **Future Prospects**

512 Further evaluations are needed to assess whether our approach can also detect multiple
513 sources of expansion (a bimodal distribution of raggedness indices could potentially suggest two
514 colonization sources), and if it may allow us to estimate the relative timing of expansions (for
515 instance, by using the slope of the spatial clines in the raggedness of the GSSAs; Fig. 3).
516 Additionally, the GSSA might be used more generally to test for spatial expansion in the first
517 place by using null simulations to determine the significance of spatial clines in the raggedness
518 of GSSAs (Fig. 3). Specifically, the GSSA shape quantified by Harpending's (1994) RI could be
519 used to test for expansion in the context of a null distribution expected under an ahistorical
520 equilibrium between distance and genetic differences (i.e. isolation by distance; IBD). Under the
521 latter scenario, the allelic similarity is expected to be inversely correlated with distance (Wright
522 1943), and hence the spatial cline of raggedness indexes should not be significant. On the

523 contrary, under a range expansion this slope is expected to be significantly different from zero.
524 Finally, the GSSA could also be a useful way to explore a broader set of models such as a
525 source/sink population scenarios (Martinez-Solano & Gonzalez 2008), cyclical histories of
526 admixture (Frantz *et al.* 2013; Alvarado-Serrano & Hickerson 2015), or heterogeneous
527 population densities (Excoffier *et al.* 2008). However, the potential for these future directions
528 remains speculative at this point and further work is needed to assess these possibilities.

529 Our approach may also be expanded if there is interest in more precisely identifying the
530 geographic origin of an expansion when the source area is suspected to be missing from the
531 sample. That would require interpolating the expected raggedness index at un-sampled localities
532 to identify the region with the smallest indexes. Implementing an interpolation would also allow
533 us to potentially identify spatially isolated areas of contiguous high raggedness indices, which
534 could serve to uncover instances of expansion from more than one source using an Euclidean
535 allocation algorithm. However, as interpolation is strongly impacted by the number and
536 distribution of observed samples (Stein 2012), its implementation may be not possible when a
537 limited number of locations are available since interpolation accuracy drastically decreases for
538 small sample sizes. Alternatively, a time-difference of arrival approach (TDOA; (Gustafsson *et al.*
539 *al.* 1994)) could be implemented, as done by Peter and Slatkin's (2013) ψ . Commonly used for
540 localization, the TDOA is a triangulation approach that takes advantage of the change in the
541 strength of a signal as distance from the source increases (Gustafsson *et al.* 1994; Drake &
542 Dogancay 2004). Specifically in our case, the pairwise difference in raggedness index between
543 location pairs may be used as the signal change for triangulation to identify the geographic
544 coordinates of the hypothesized source (see eq. 5 in Peter and Slatkin 2013).

545 For those interested in community ecology and species interactions, the GSSA may be
546 used in aggregated geo-referenced population genomic datasets of co-distributed taxa to test for
547 concerted spatio-temporal dynamics between two interacting species (Perkins & Swayne 2001;
548 Wicker *et al.* 2012), the sources of multiple invading species (Sax *et al.* 2007; Johnson *et al.*
549 2009), and the geographic origins of multiple historic domestications (Kanginakudru *et al.* 2008;
550 He *et al.* 2011). Likewise, it may be used to help identify shared regions of secondary contact
551 and hybridization between long-isolated co-distributed pairs of taxa (Remington 1968; Moritz *et*
552 *al.* 2009), or to understand the assembly of whole communities across geographic barriers or
553 trajectories of expansion after global shifts in climate (Avisé *et al.* 1987; Ibrahim *et al.* 1996;
554 Avisé 2000; Hewitt 2000; Burbrink *et al.* 2016). Additionally, if one were interested in
555 incorporating a resistance surface to correct for effective distances that emerge from landscape
556 features (Spear *et al.* 2010), the GSSA may easily accommodate alternative distance matrices to
557 allow the integration of realistic landscape scenarios.

558 **Conclusion**

559 The GSSA statistic we present here builds on emerging efforts to make phylogeography
560 and population genetics more spatially explicit (Alvarado-Serrano & Hickerson 2015; House &
561 Hahn 2017; Ashander *et al.* 2018; Bradburd *et al.* 2018). By doing so, it improves our ability to
562 estimate the geographical source region (or closest areas) as well as the general direction of
563 range expansions. The use of single samples per location, and un-polarized SNPs, makes this
564 metric well-suited for a wide range of non-model organisms. The GSSA offers not only the
565 capability to serve as an additional spatially explicit summary of genetic patterns for

566 model-based inference when likelihood-based methods are intractable (Beaumont 2010; Pudlo *et*
567 *al.* 2015), but, most importantly, presents a tool for guiding the development of spatially-explicit
568 demographic hypotheses by better accounting for the spatial component of species histories.
569 Further developments of this statistic, including the refinement of an interpolation procedure for
570 geographically sparse samples, should lead to easier incorporation of this tool into
571 simulation-based inferential approaches (Currat *et al.* 2004; Leblois *et al.* 2009; He *et al.* 2017a).
572 We expect that the incorporation of expansion surfaces will enable more complex scenarios that
573 include environmental heterogeneity and explicit geographic barriers to be modeled into these
574 simulation approaches (Ray & Excoffier 2010; Joseph *et al.* 2016). Likewise, we expect clines in
575 GSSA estimates to be able to help identify relevant spatial features, such as shared contact zones
576 between populations that have been colonized from different expansion clusters (Swenson 2010),
577 or consistent geographic barriers that have maintained isolation of populations during expansions
578 and hence have promoted differentiation (Carstens *et al.* 2005; Potter *et al.* 2017). The GSSA
579 offers a useful and flexible tool that complements existing methods for improved understanding
580 of the processes governing population differentiation and spatial patterns of genomic diversity.

581 **Software**

582 A program to calculate the GSSA and Harpending's (1944) raggedness index from
583 geo-referenced genotypes and associated user-defined geographic distances among sampled
584 locations is available in https://bitbucket.org/diegofalvarado-s/GSSA_v0.0. This software also
585 contains the pipeline needed to recreate the simulations we used to test the accuracy of the GSSA

586 and Peter and Slatkin's ψ . A full step-by-step implementation of our method, including
587 comments and visualization of the intermediate outputs, is available at the following jupyter
588 notebook: <https://mybinder.org/v2/gh/ftempo/GSSA/master>.

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892 **Data Accessibility**

893 The whole pipeline and associated files needed to recreate the simulations used is available at the
894 following bitbucket repository: https://bitbucket.org/diegofalvarado-s/GSSA_v0.0

895 **Author Contributions**

896 DFA and MJH conceived the GSSA statistic and DFA led the development of it. DFA coded
897 the simulations, analyses and produced the figures. DFA and MJH wrote the manuscript.

898 **Tables**

899 **Table 1.** Parameters used in simulations. Parameter values in bold were used for all simulation
900 experiments except those in which the parameter is being tested.

Parameter	Description	Values tested	Unit
τ	Time allowed for the simulation to continue after last deme has been colonized and reached its carrying capacity	0.0 0.5 1.0	Coalescent units
f	Proportion of individuals of a source deme that settle each uncolonized deme	0.002 0.01 0.1	Proportion of N_K
τ_r	Time allowed for demes to reach N_K after being colonized	0.01 0.05 0.10	Coalescent units
m	Pairwise probability of migration per individual per generation between neighboring colonized demes	0.000 0.001 0.010	Proportion
N_K	Effective population size of deme at carrying capacity	1000	Number of individual
τ_c	Time lag between source deme reaching N_K and colonizing a new deme	0.01	Coalescent units

901 Figure Legends

902 **Fig. 1.** Schematic cartoon describing the construction of the geographic spectrum of shared
903 alleles (GSSA) across five diploid genotypes that are each sampled from a unique location.
904 Location-specific genotype matrices (G_i), which capture the presence/absence of minor alleles at
905 each location, locus and DNA strand (**panel a**), and cartoon representation of location-specific
906 vectors (\vec{d}_i), which capture the geographic distances between each focal location and all of the
907 other locations in the sample (**panel b**). Based on the G_i matrices and \vec{d}_i distance vectors,
908 corresponding vectors (\vec{S}_i) are constructed from the aggregated relative spatial distribution of
909 minor alleles for each location (**panel c**). To facilitate interpretation, the color of each \vec{S}_i element
910 follows the location colors in panel a, and indicates their derivation with respect to each one of
911 the sampled locations. The \vec{S}_i vectors are then converted into corresponding geo-genetic
912 histograms (h_{gen_i}), by applying a common binning scheme based on Sturge's (1926) equation
913 (**panel d**). For each location, a corresponding geographic histogram (h_{geo_i}) is constructed, using
914 the same binning scheme as before, from the geographic-distances separating the location from
915 all other sampled locations (**panel e**). The number of observations for corresponding distance
916 classes in both histograms, h_{gen_i} and h_{geo_i} , are then regressed against each other for each
917 location (**panel f**). From these regressions, the GSSA vector for each individual is built by taking
918 the absolute value of the regression residuals for each histogram's distance class (**panel g**).

919 **Fig. 2.** Schematic of the sequential range expansion models used to quantify the spatial
920 association of the GSSA and expansion source location. Each panel correspond to simulations
921 started from a different source (marked in red and denoted by letter). Demes are shaded
922 according to their colonization time, with darker colors corresponding to earlier colonization
923 times. Sampled demes are surrounded by a square.

924 **Fig. 3.** Association between time at which each sampled locality is colonized and the raggedness
925 index calculated from the GSSA at each of these localities under all four simulated scenarios.
926 Colonization time step denotes the time at which a locality was colonized (with the origin always
927 being zero). The impact of each parameter on the ability to recover the simulated colonization
928 history is evidenced by changes in the slope of the association. Different colors are used for each
929 parameter value for increased visibility.

930 **Fig. 4.** Probability across 1000 simulation replicates of the the raggedness index calculated from
931 the GSSA vector for identifying the source deme given the four serial range expansion scenarios
932 and model parameter values. Higher probabilities of correct source identifications are a function
933 of darker shadings. See Table 1 for model parameter definitions.

934 **Fig. 5.** Geographic position of the suggested sources of expansion according to the raggedness
935 index calculated from the GSSA vector (left column) and directionality index (right column). A
936 red circle denotes the true source used for each simulation scenario, whereas black circles
937 indicate the locations sampled (shown only for the GSI-RI approach). Results presented are

938 aggregated across 1000 simulations, with the relative frequency that each position was identified
939 as the source of expansion indicated by the color hue (darker colors corresponding to greater
940 frequencies). Note that in the vast majority of instances, the GSSA-RI approach either correctly
941 infers the source or identifies a close neighbor location.

942 **Fig. 6.** Comparative accuracies of the raggedness index calculated from the GSSA and
943 directionality index in identifying the source deme for serial range expansions. The mean
944 accuracy (a) per model parameter tested and corresponding root mean square error (RMSE) (b)
945 obtained under both methods (GSSA-RI in blue, directionality index in red) is shown under
946 different model parameter values.

947 **Fig. 7.** Comparison of LGM hindcasts of range distributions obtained with Ecological Niche
948 Models (ENMs). The grey circles indicate the sampling localities on which the inferences are
949 based. The suggested sources of expansion according to the GSSA-RI approach are indicated by
950 a green rhombus with a “G” on it. Warmer colors indicate greater potential suitability as
951 estimated by the ENM. a) Model and inferences for Alpine *Lycaeides*; b) model and inference
952 for Jackson *Lycaeides*. Refugia, identified as the top 10th percentile most suitable areas, are
953 denoted by black polygons.

- 954 **Supp. Table 1.** Tuning results for ecological niche models of *Lycaeides* taxa based on jackknife
955 cross-validation. Abbreviations: AUC: area-under the ROC curve; OR.10: 10th percentile
956 of omission rate; AICc: corrected Akaike Information Criterion; L: linear features, Q: quadratic
957 features, LQ: linear-quadratic features; H: hinge features. Models for each species are ordered
958 according to their ranking, with the best model on top.
- 959 **Supp. Fig. 1.** Estimation accuracy of the raggedness index calculated from the GSSA vector
960 under alternative histogram binning schemes. Accuracy of the GSSA-based inference when
961 constructed using Sturge's binning equation is compared against its accuracy when constructed
962 using a coarser (a), or a finer-grain binning scheme (b). Each dot corresponds to the mean
963 accuracy with which the source of expansion is inferred for each parameter combination and
964 binning scheme used (points are colored according to the parameters used in the simulations; see
965 Table 1). The dashed red line corresponds to a 1:1 line.
- 966 **Supp. Fig. 2.** Example of GSSA vectors for (a) last-colonized and (b) the expansion source
967 locality in one of the simulations. The frequency of each of the GSSA bin (b_k) is depicted along
968 the corresponding raggedness index (Simulation parameters used: $\tau = 0$; $f = 0.002$; $\tau_r = 0.01$; $m =$
969 0 ; $N_K = 1000$; $\tau_c = 0.01$; simulated source = "origin B").
- 970 **Supp. Fig. 3.** Geographic position of the sampled locality closest to the source of expansion
971 according to the GSSA-RI approach. A red circle denotes the locality, among those sampled
972 (indicated with black incircles), that was first colonized (note the simulated source itself, denoted
973 by a black square, is not sampled). Results presented are aggregated across simulations, with the
974 relative frequency that each position was identified as the first to be colonized indicated by the
975 color hue (darker colors corresponding to greater frequencies). Note that in the vast majority of
976 instances, the GSSA-RI approach correctly infers the closest neighbor to the source or another
977 closeby neighbor location.

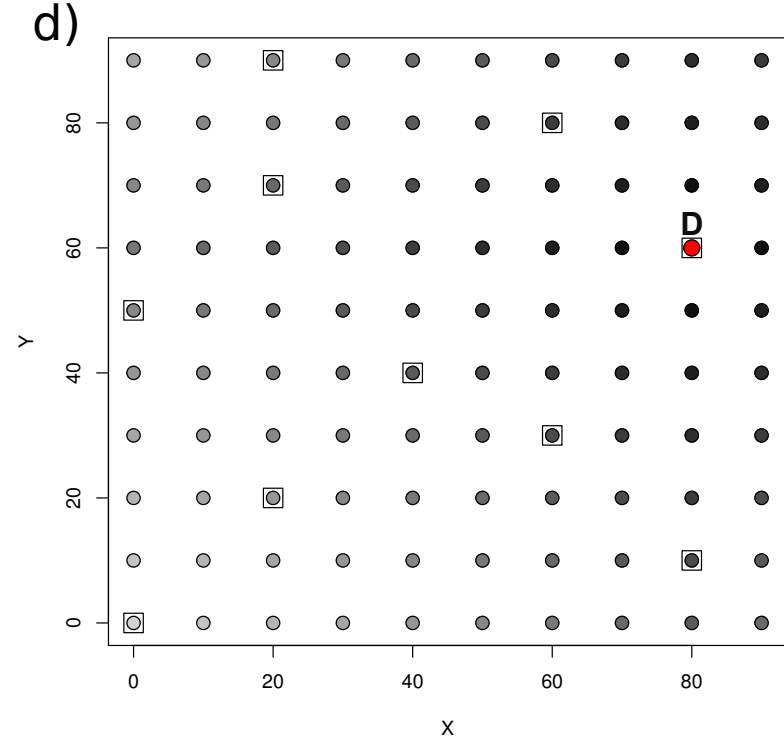
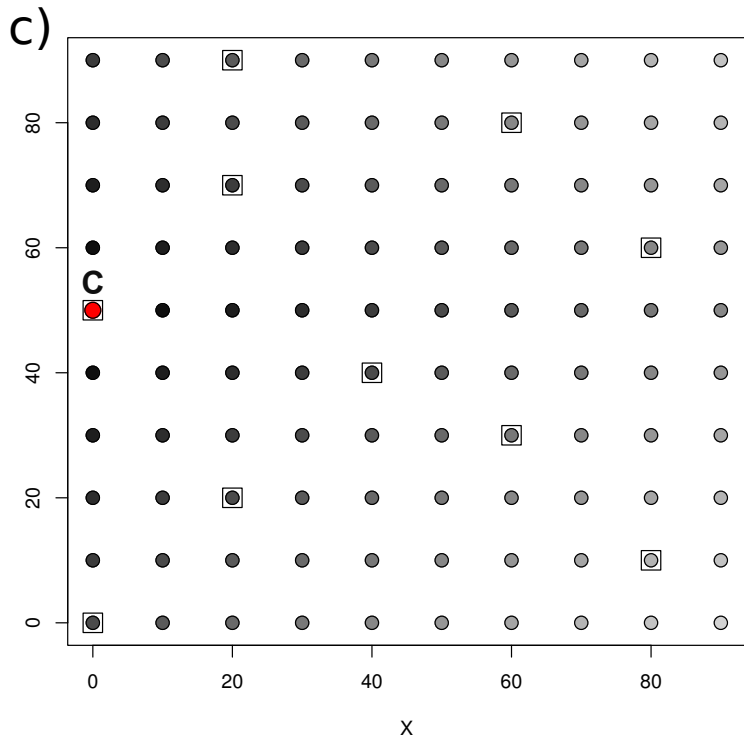
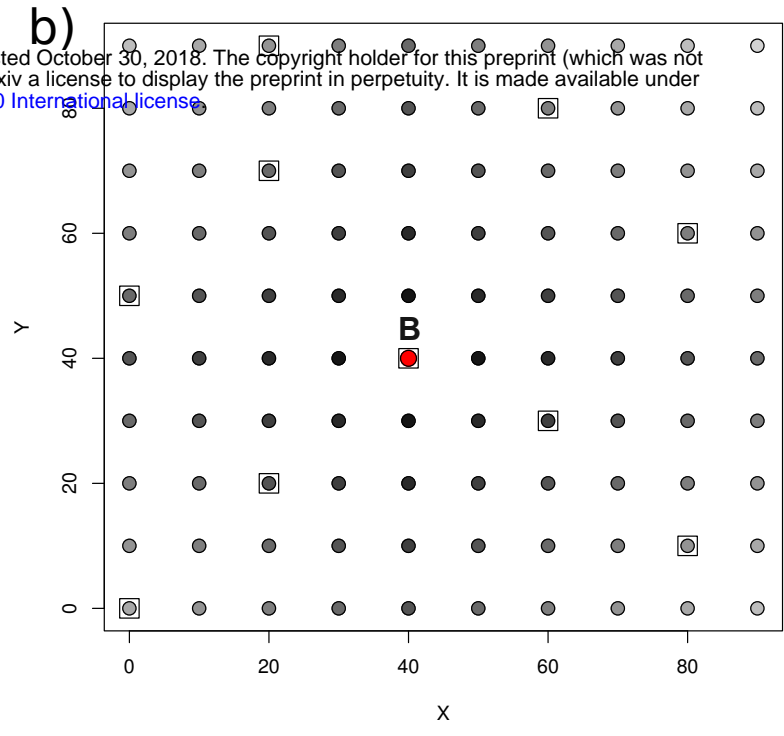
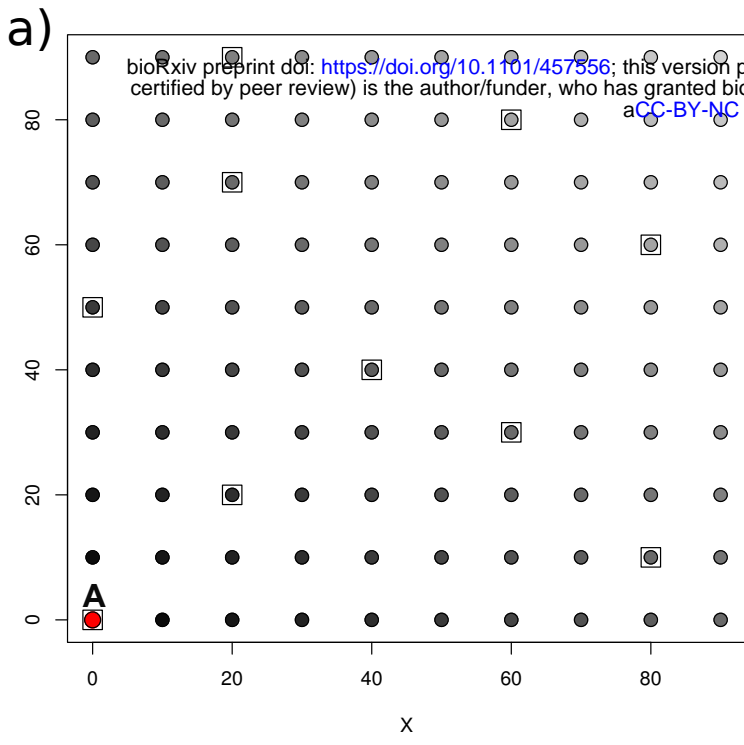


Fig. 2

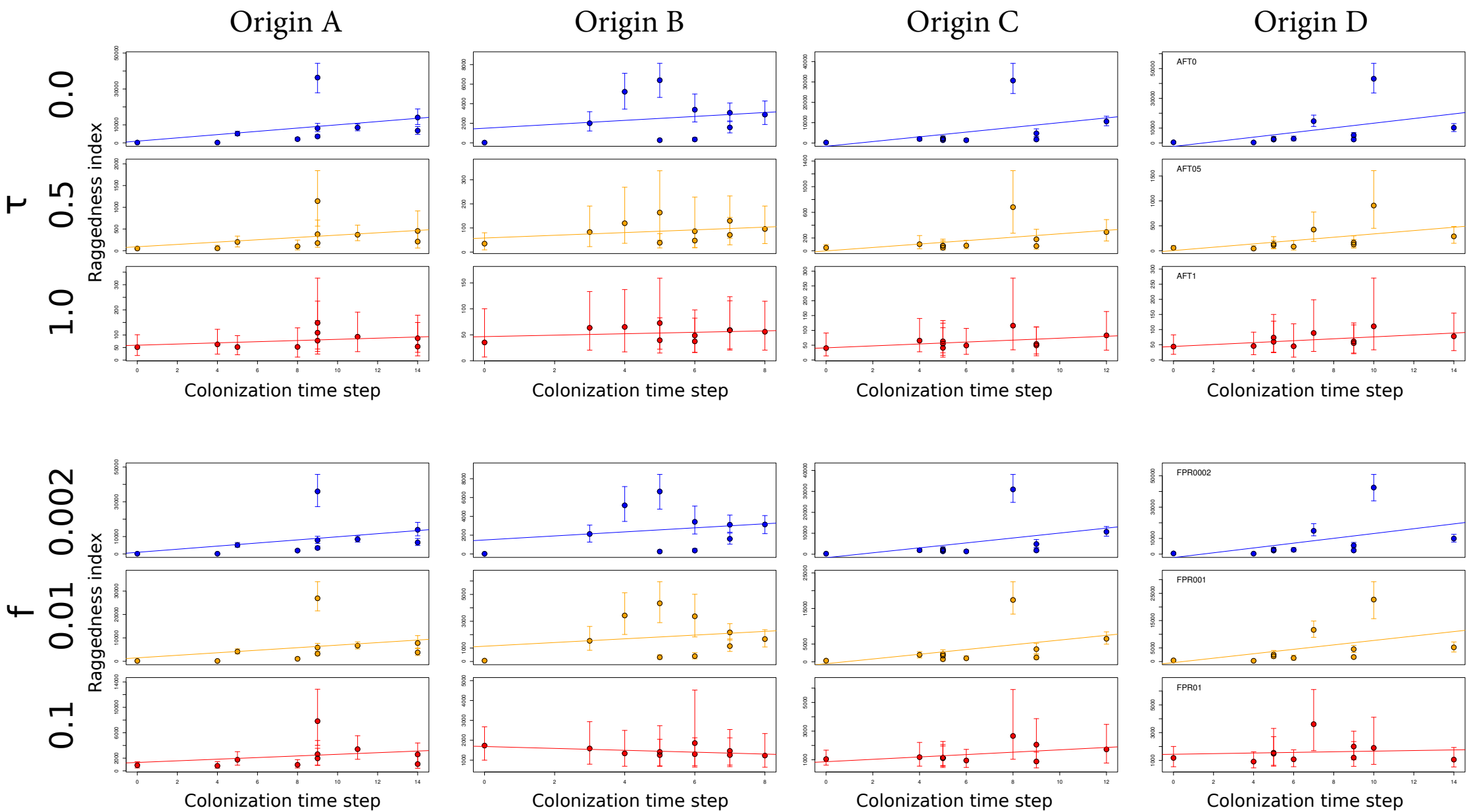


Fig. 3a

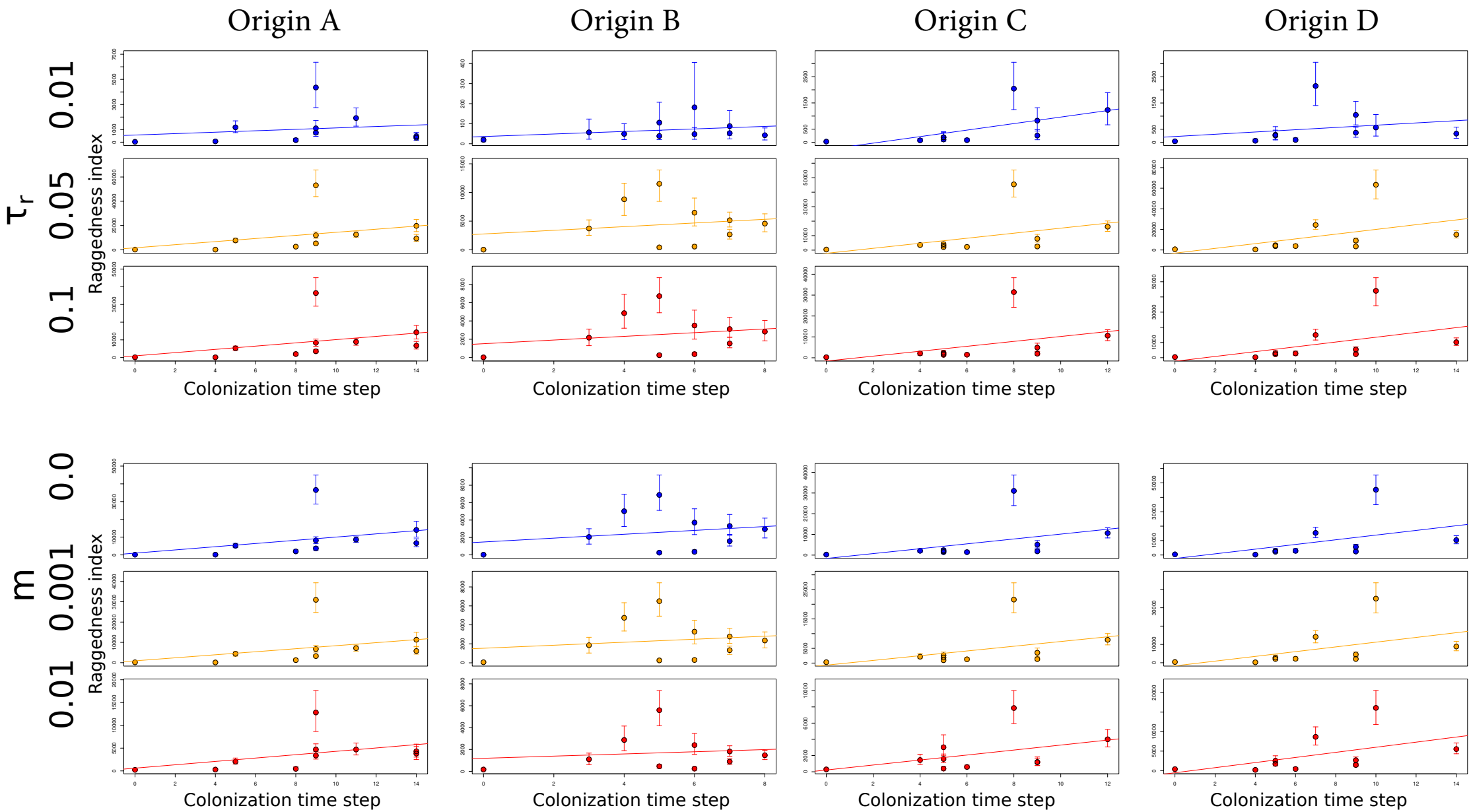


Fig. 3b

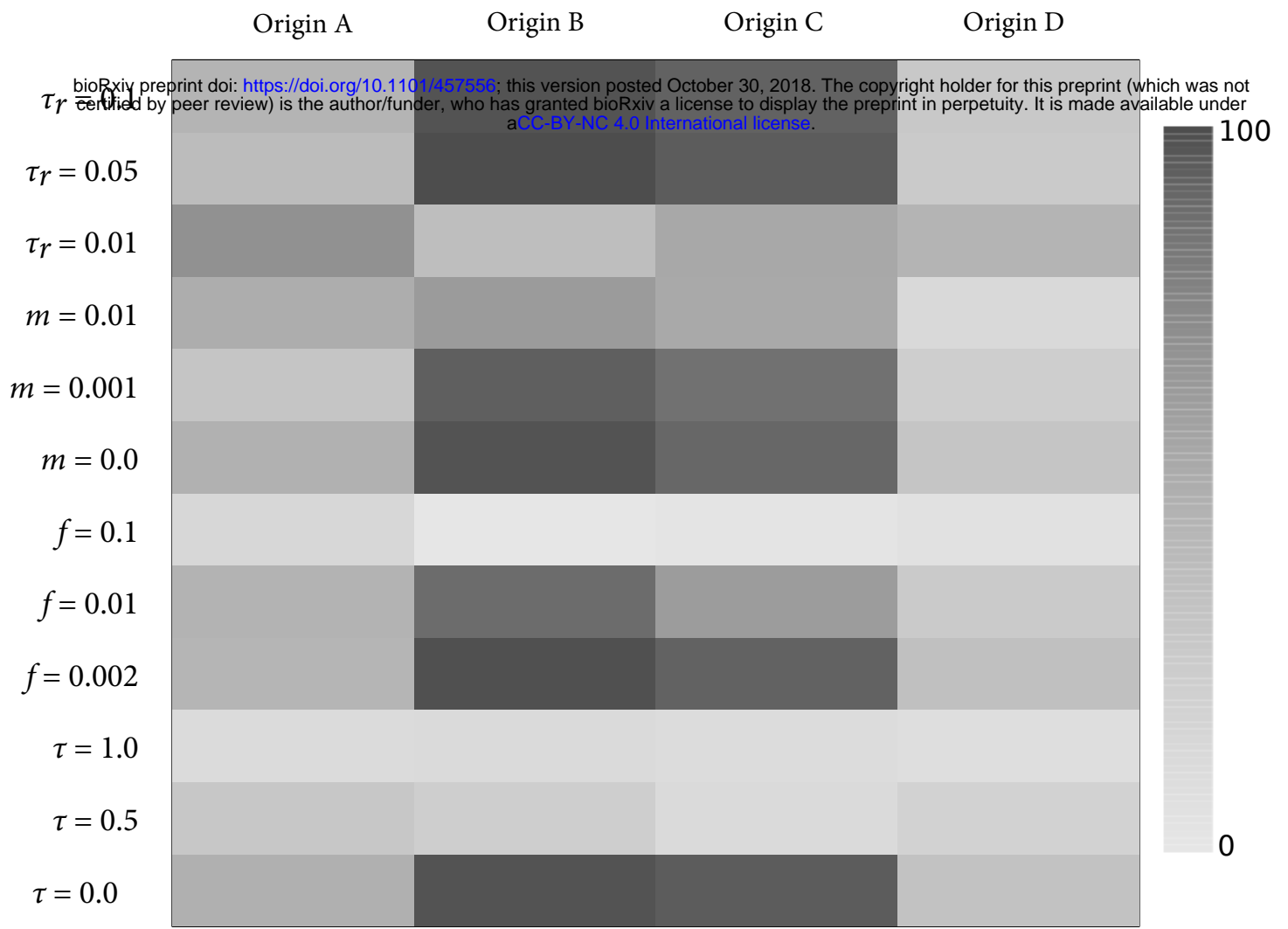


Fig. 4

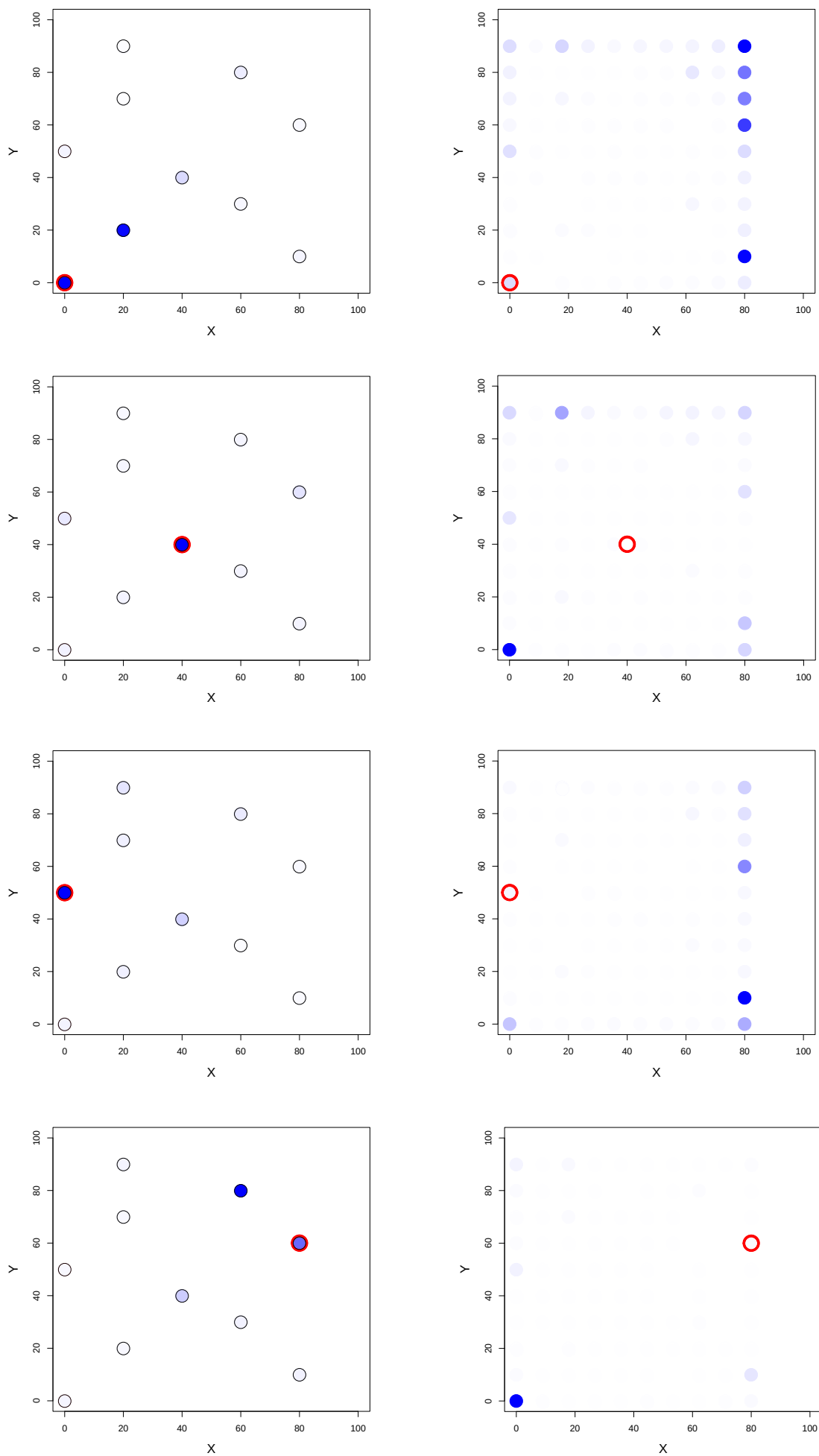
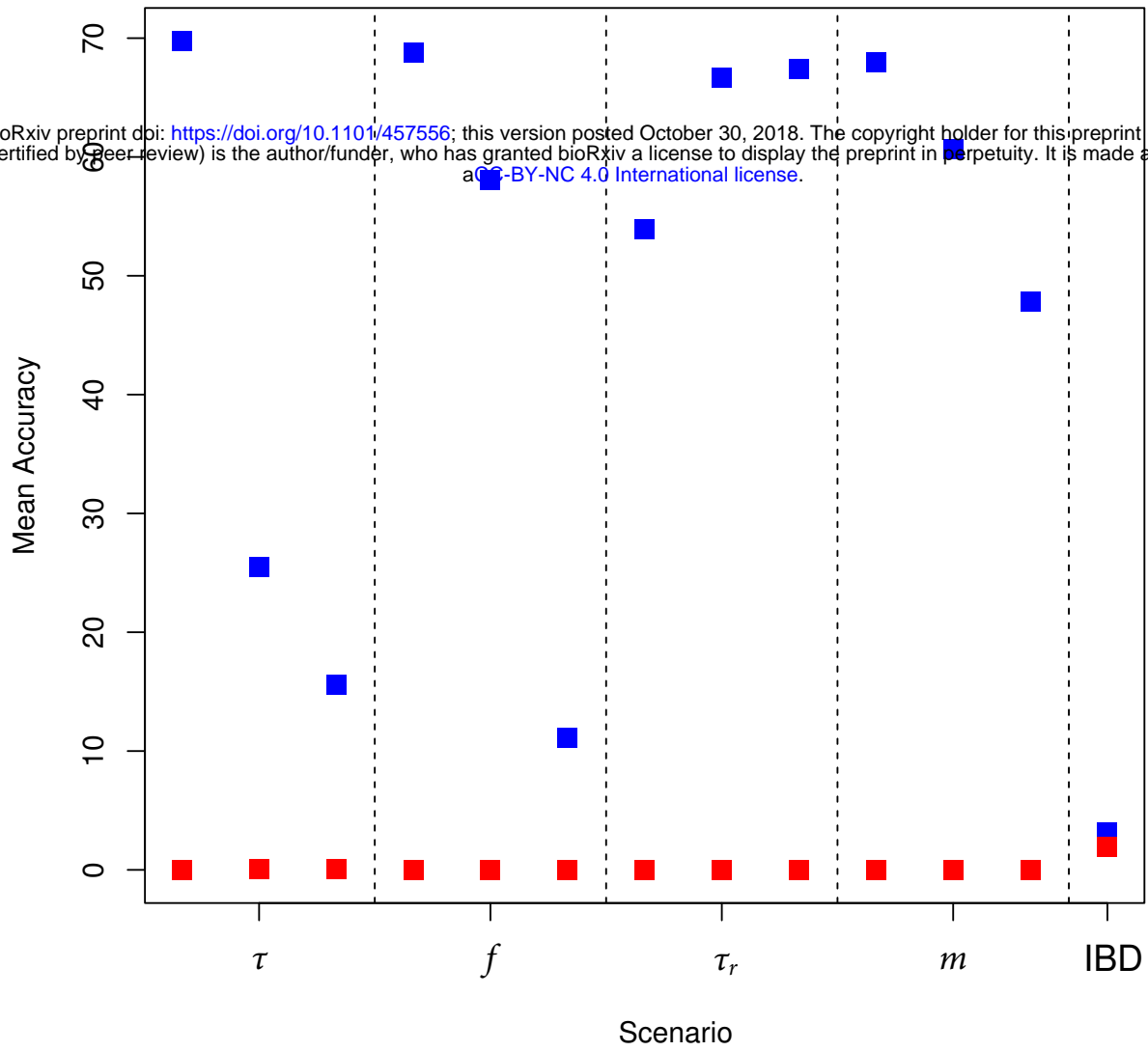


Fig. 5

a)

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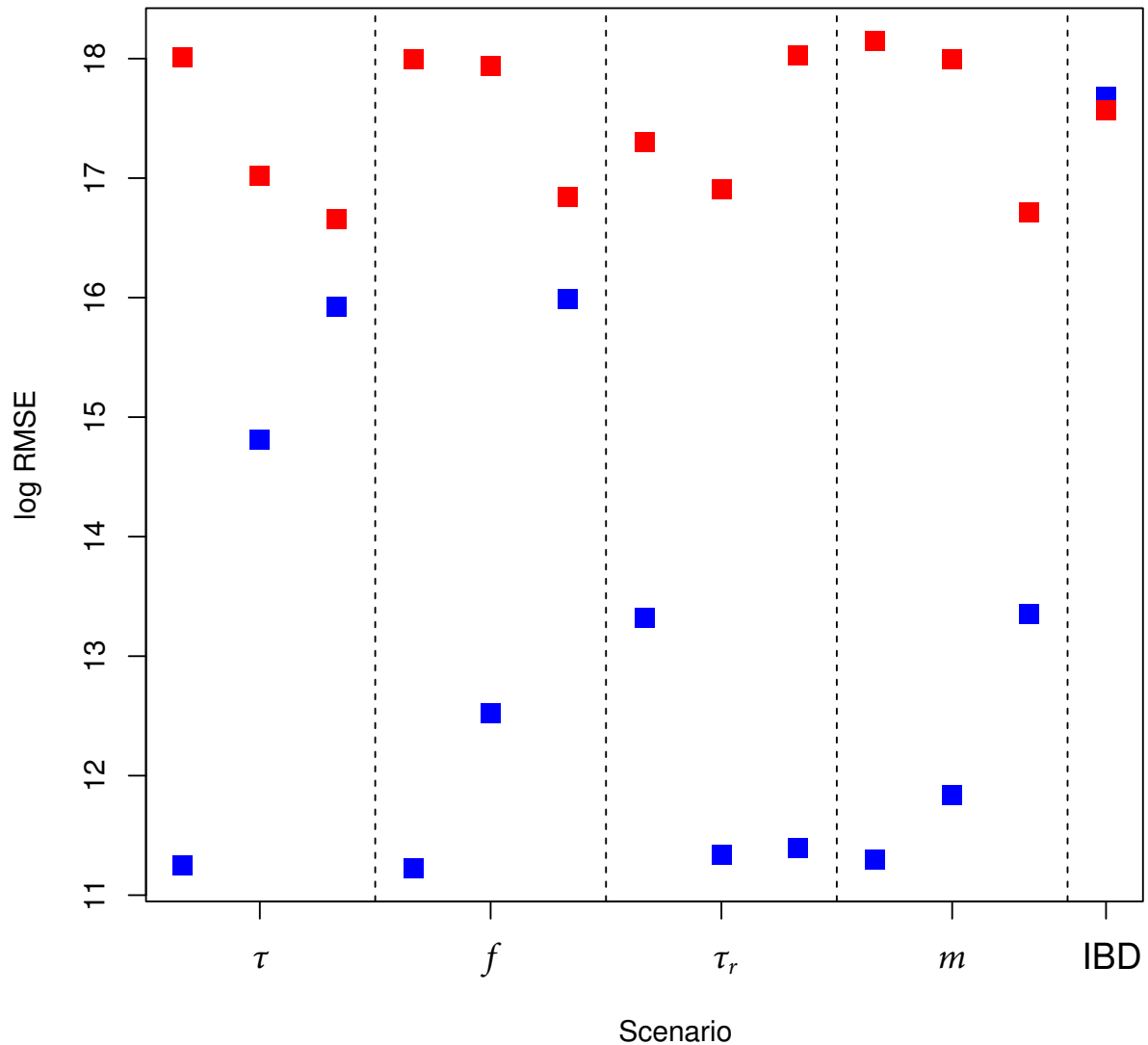
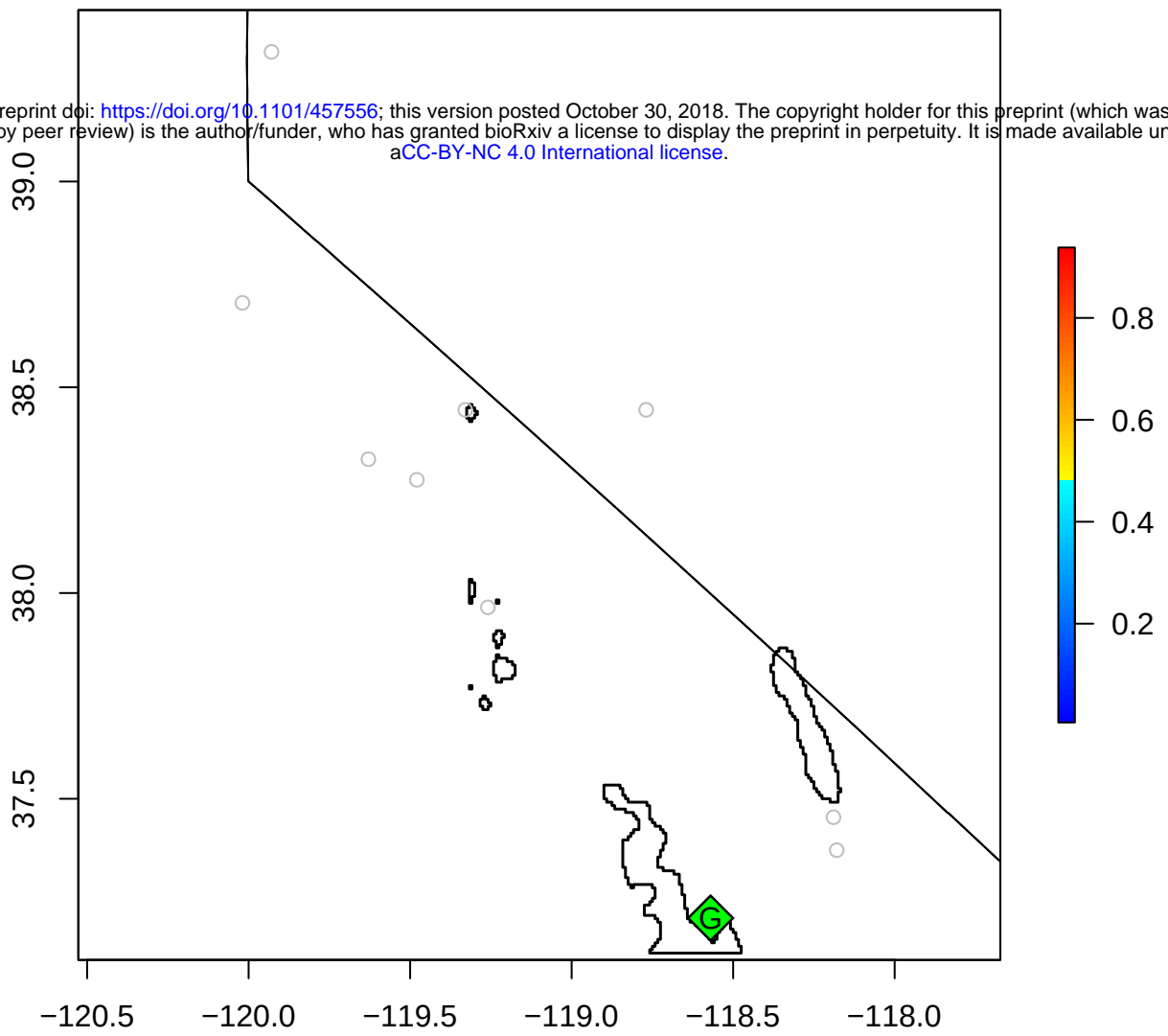


Fig. 6

a)

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b)

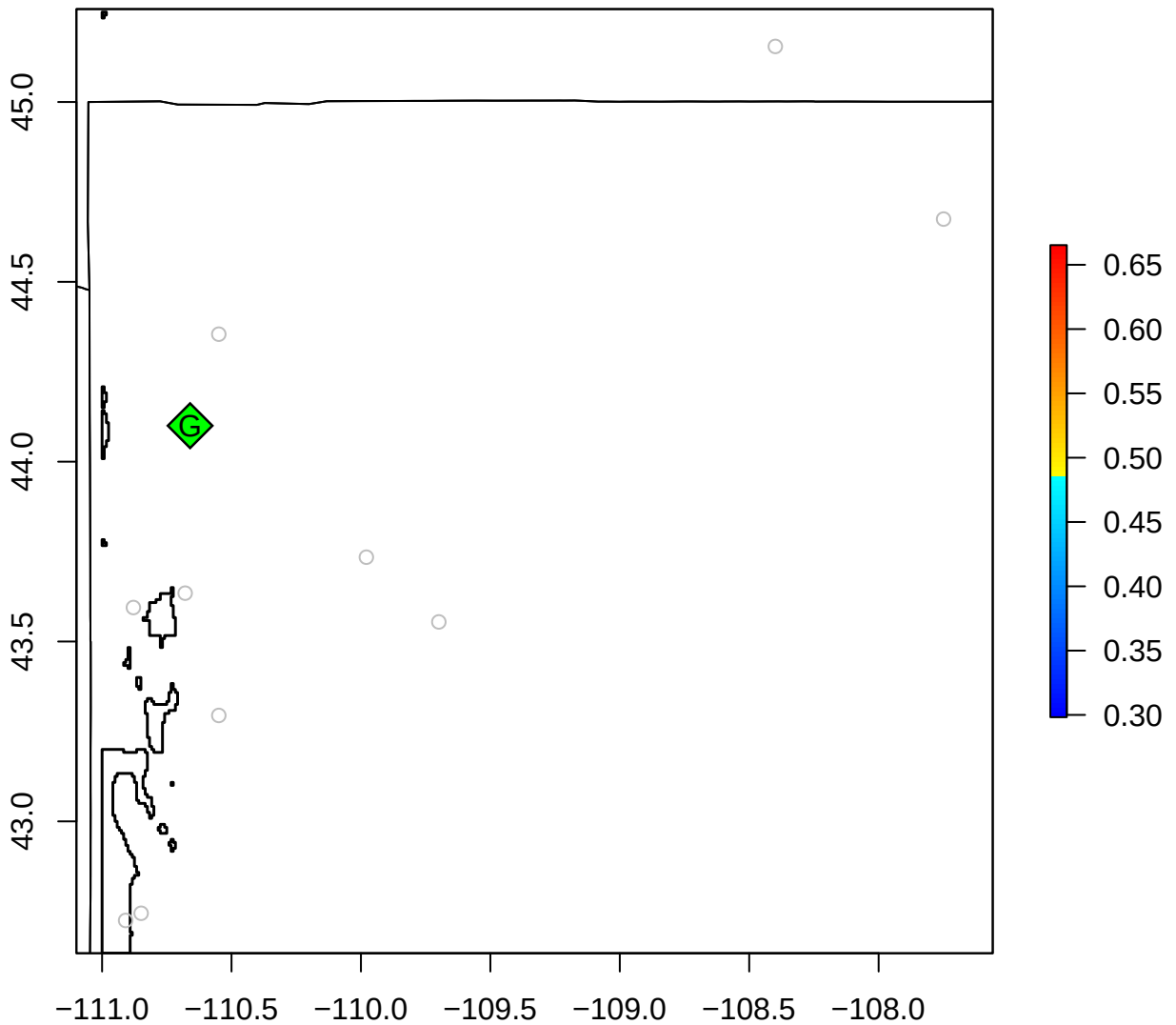
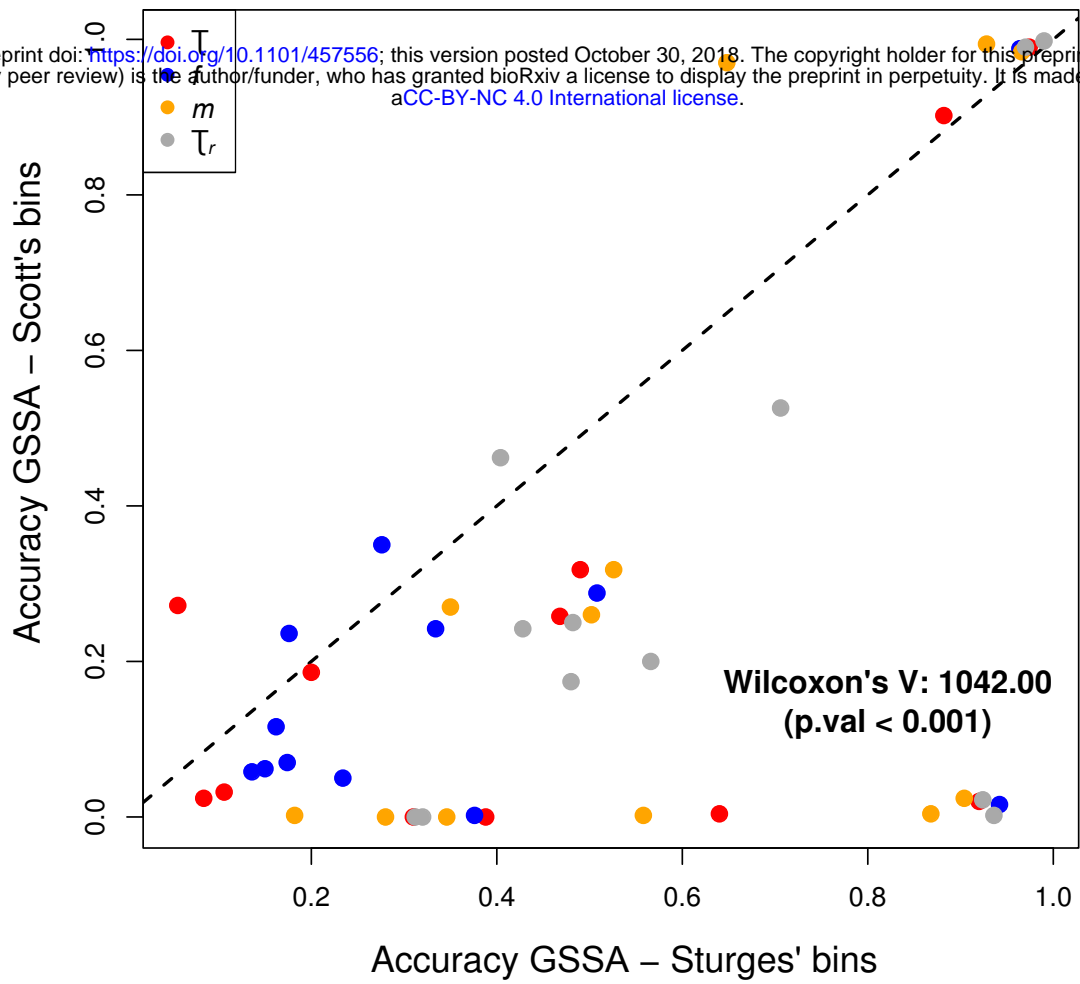


Fig. 7

Taxon	Features	Regularization Multiplier	Mean OR.10	Mean AUC	AICc	No. parameters
Alpine	L	1	0.2	0.89182	206.6493599	3
Alpine	L	1.5	0.2	0.89661	203.2155179	2
Alpine	H	1	0.2	0.91757	-	10
Alpine	LQ	2.5	0.2	0.92362	192.4424708	2
Alpine	LQ	3	0.2	0.92511	191.7289706	1
Alpine	LQ	3.5	0.2	0.92638	192.100387	1
Alpine	LQ	4	0.2	0.926675	192.481438	1
Alpine	LQ	2	0.2	0.942205	189.4175236	2
Alpine	LQ	1.5	0.2	0.953875	186.7180064	2
Alpine	LQ	1	0.2	0.954975	188.7346517	3
Alpine	L	4	0.3	0.894535	204.4186749	2
Alpine	L	3.5	0.3	0.894875	204.1054873	2
Alpine	L	3	0.3	0.896515	203.8267215	2
Alpine	L	2	0.3	0.896815	203.3794817	2
Alpine	L	2.5	0.3	0.89716	203.5840395	2
Alpine	H	1.5	0.3	0.919485	-	9
Alpine	LQ	0.5	0.3	0.948905	191.9917093	4
Alpine	H	3.5	0.4	0.900645	213.0286531	4
Alpine	H	3	0.4	0.904335	210.8766708	4
Alpine	H	2	0.4	0.921855	254.9666543	7
Alpine	L	0.5	0.5	0.895105	232.219168	6
Alpine	H	4	0.5	0.898295	224.3725035	5
Alpine	H	2.5	0.5	0.906895	215.6799301	5
Alpine	H	0.5	0.6	0.89088	-	23
Jackson	H	3.5	0.090909091	0.7772409	276.9584756	6
Jackson	H	4	0.090909091	0.7773182	296.5895898	7
Jackson	H	3	0.090909091	0.7773864	-	12
Jackson	H	2	0.090909091	0.8230182	-	12
Jackson	H	2.5	0.090909091	0.8234773	-	14
Jackson	LQ	4	0.181818182	0.7101455	251.8684554	1
Jackson	L	3.5	0.272727273	0.60175	258.7359365	1
Jackson	L	4	0.272727273	0.6024864	259.499018	1
Jackson	LQ	3.5	0.272727273	0.6793591	251.7077368	2
Jackson	L	0.5	0.272727273	0.7016091	263.8753876	5

Jackson	L	1	0.272727273	0.7086545	254.3545529	3
Jackson	LQ	1	0.272727273	0.8240091	251.79814	4
Jackson	LQ	1.5	0.272727273	0.8318727	247.5532945	3
Jackson	LQ	2.5	0.272727273	0.8378864	246.4362601	2
Jackson	LQ	2	0.272727273	0.8389182	244.8357271	2
Jackson	L	2.5	0.363636364	0.5528318	258.4254047	2
Jackson	L	3	0.363636364	0.5833864	258.0480926	1
Jackson	L	2	0.363636364	0.64355	255.1049989	2
Jackson	L	1.5	0.363636364	0.6852545	256.5961569	3
Jackson	LQ	0.5	0.363636364	0.7837682	285.3357205	7
Jackson	LQ	3	0.363636364	0.7894136	248.625469	2
Jackson	H	1.5	0.363636364	0.8025455	-	14
Jackson	H	1	0.454545455	0.7811682	-	17
Jackson	H	0.5	0.818181818	0.6934545	-	45



b)

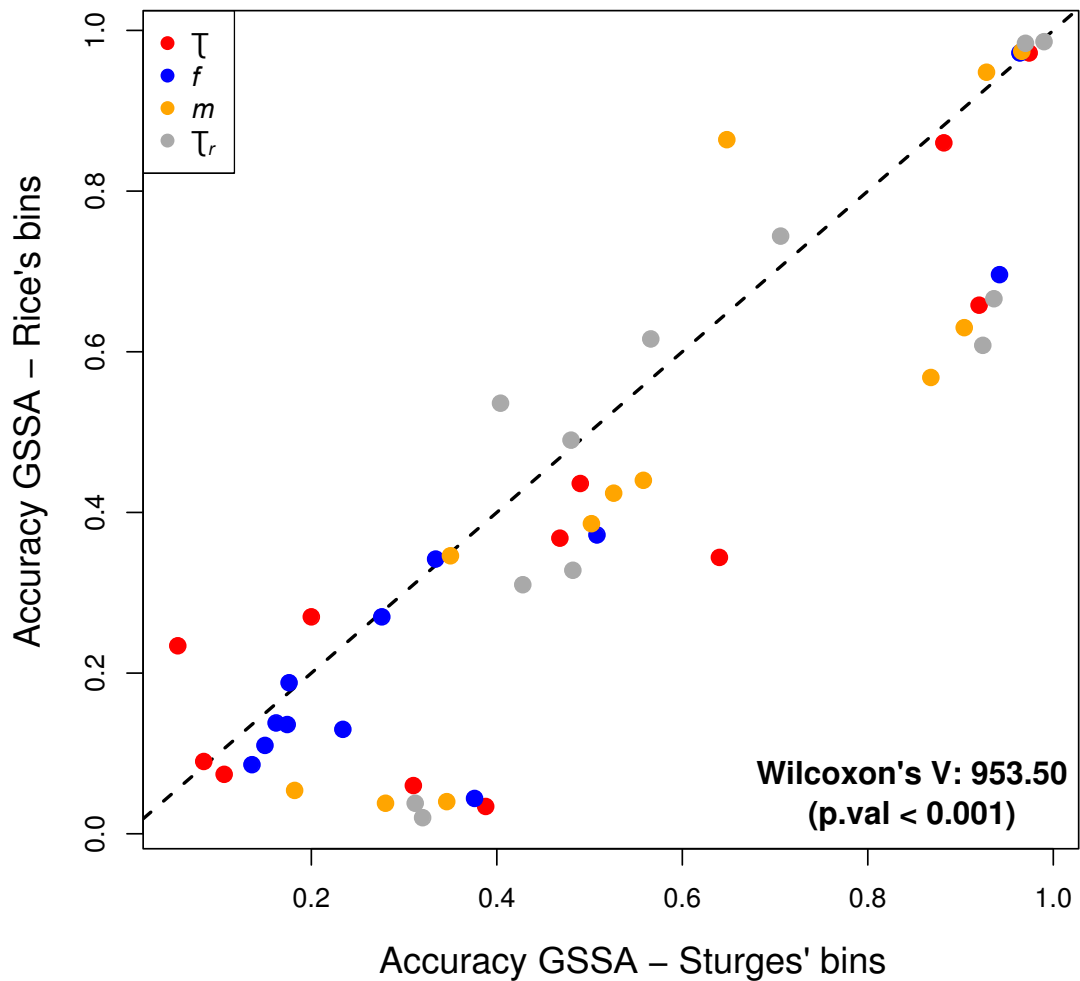
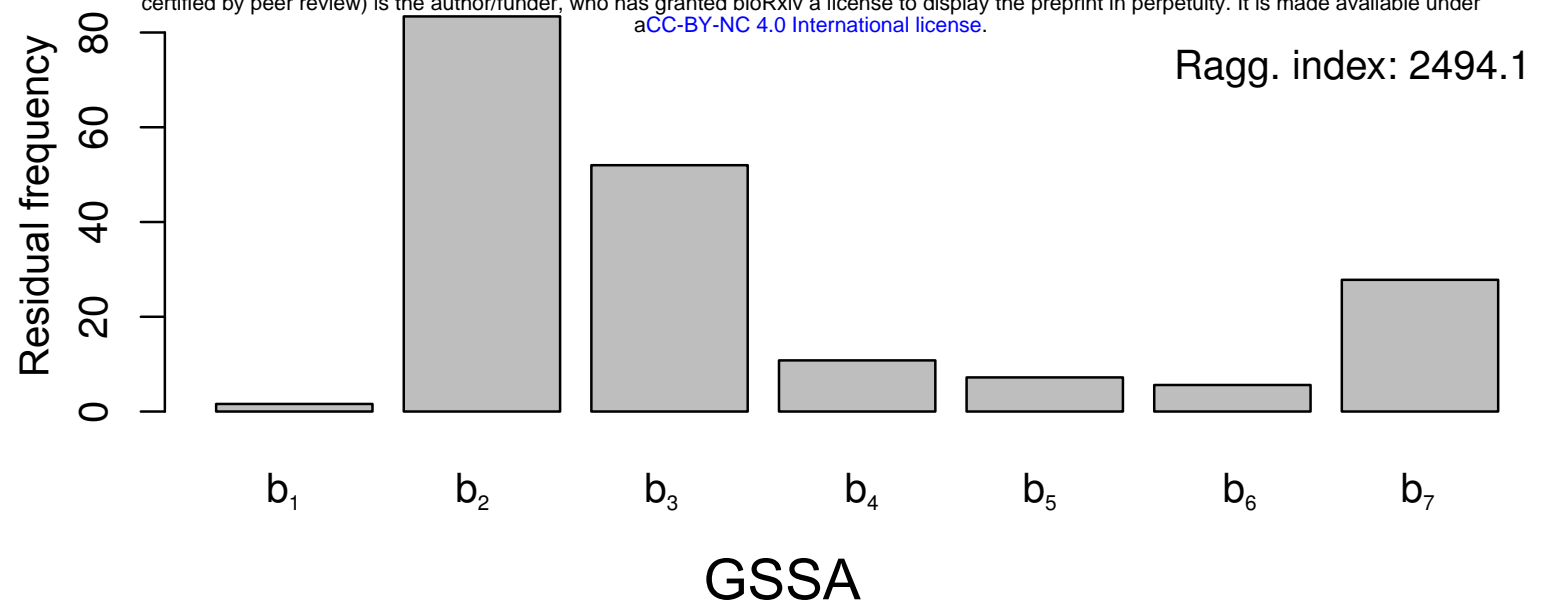


Fig. S1

a)

Furthest away locality

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b)

Expansion source

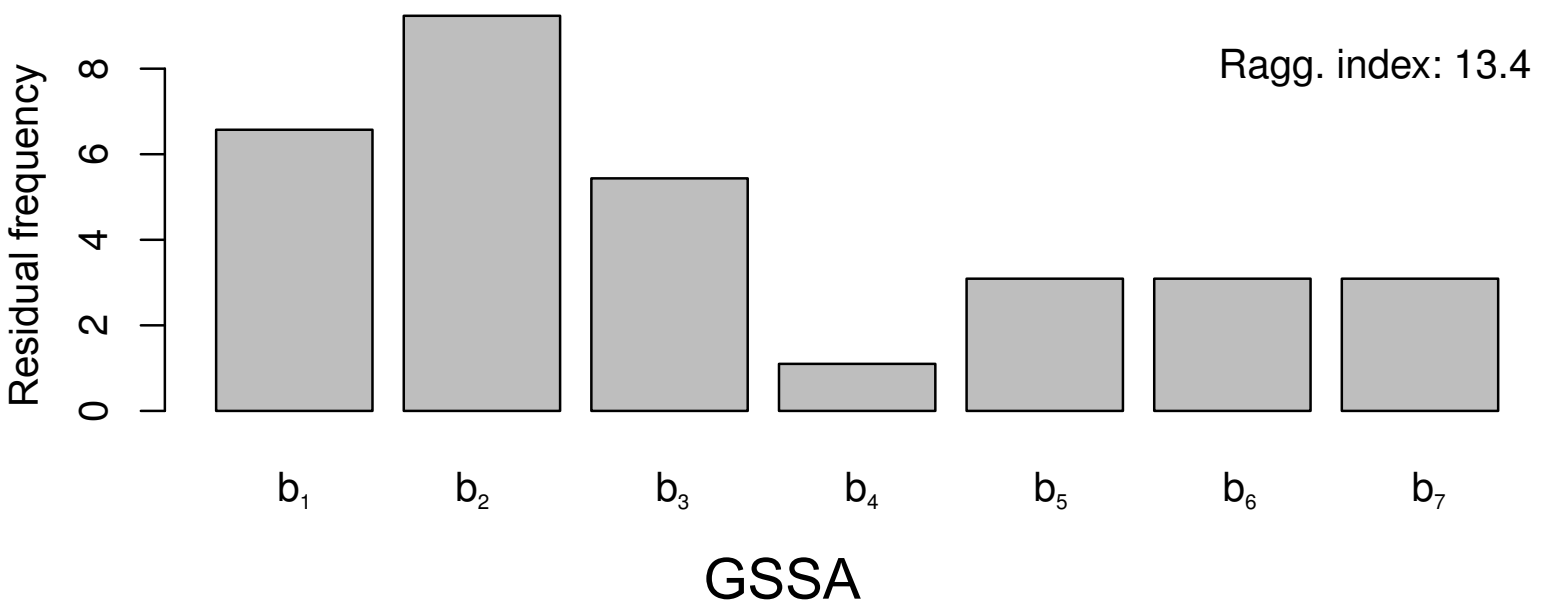
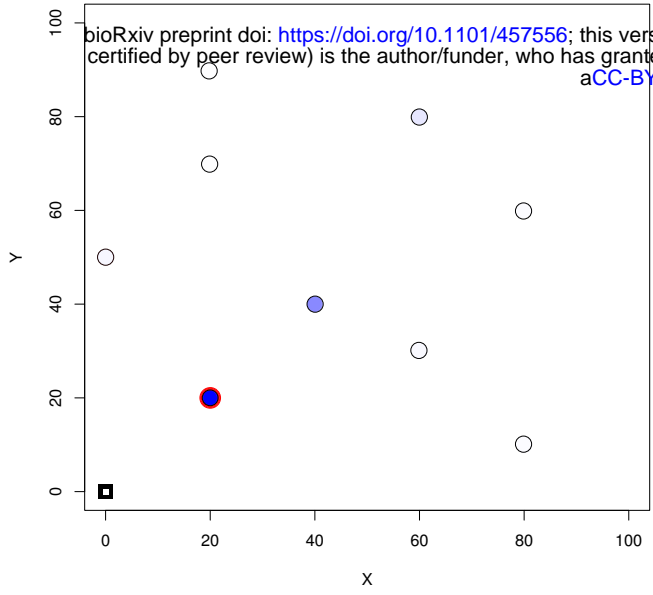


Fig. S2

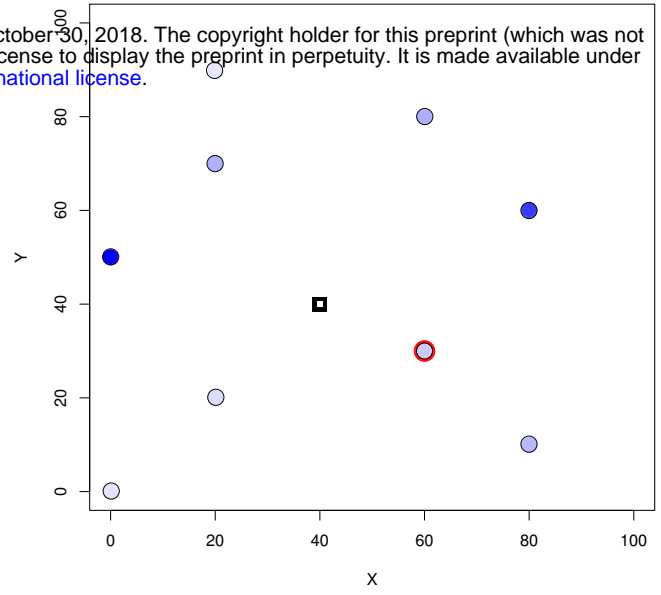
a)

Origin A



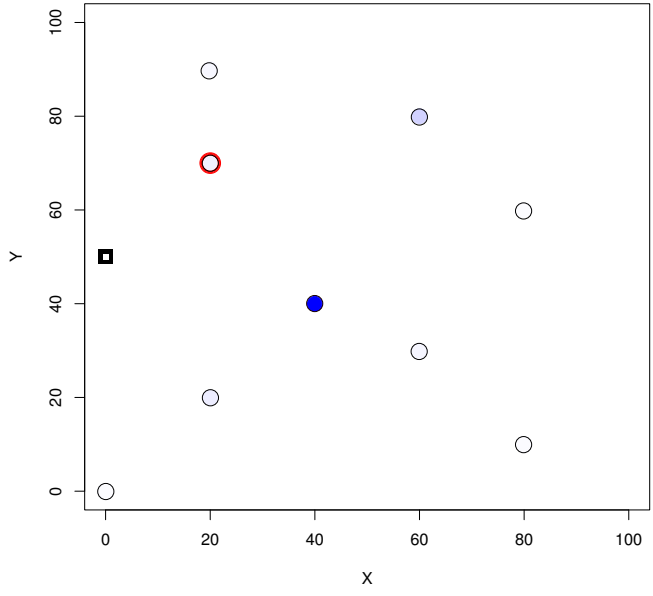
b)

Origin B



c)

Origin C



d)

Origin D

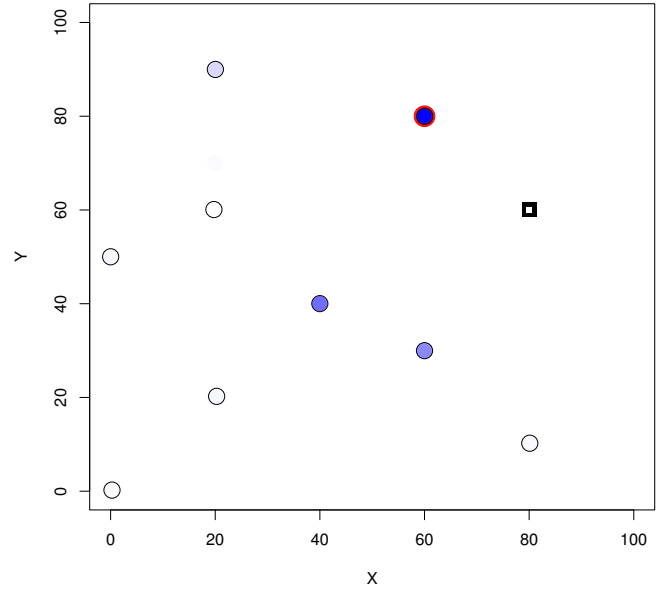


Fig. S3