

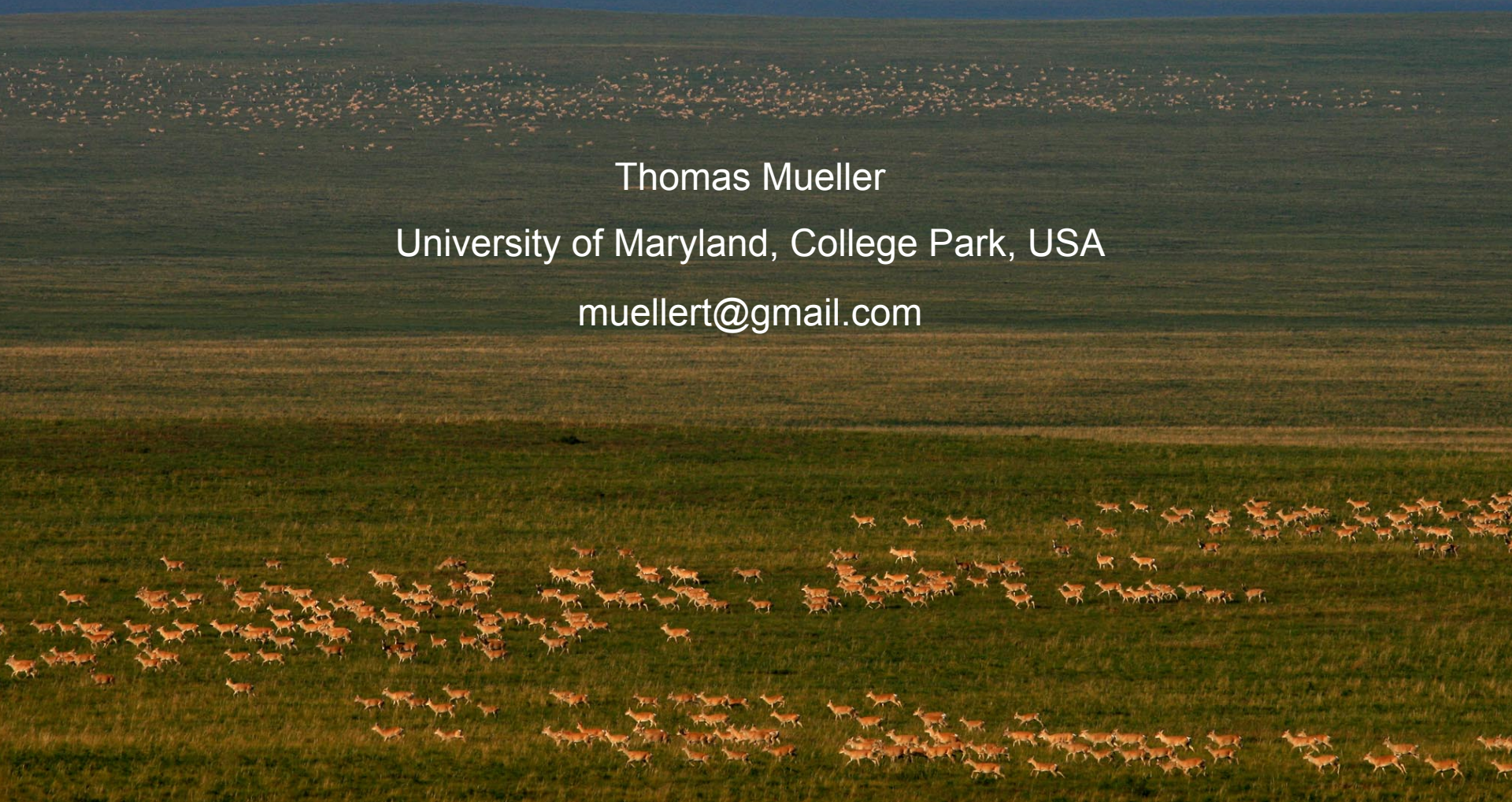
*“Everything Disperses to Miami”*

## Linking Individual Movements and Population Patterns in Dynamic Landscapes

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University of Maryland, College Park, USA

[muellert@gmail.com](mailto:muellert@gmail.com)



# Linking Individual Movements and Population Patterns in Dynamic Landscapes

## *Part 1: Conceptual*

**Framework for animal movements and population distributions**

## *Part 2: Empirical*

- > Nomadism in Mongolian gazelles**
- > Multispecies comparison**

## *Part 3: Theoretical*

**Simulating movement behaviors using artificial life approaches**





## Part 1: Conceptual framework for resources, population distributions and movement mechanisms

### Movement Mechanisms

*Non-oriented*

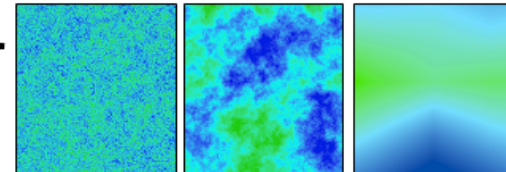
*Oriented*

*Spatial memory*

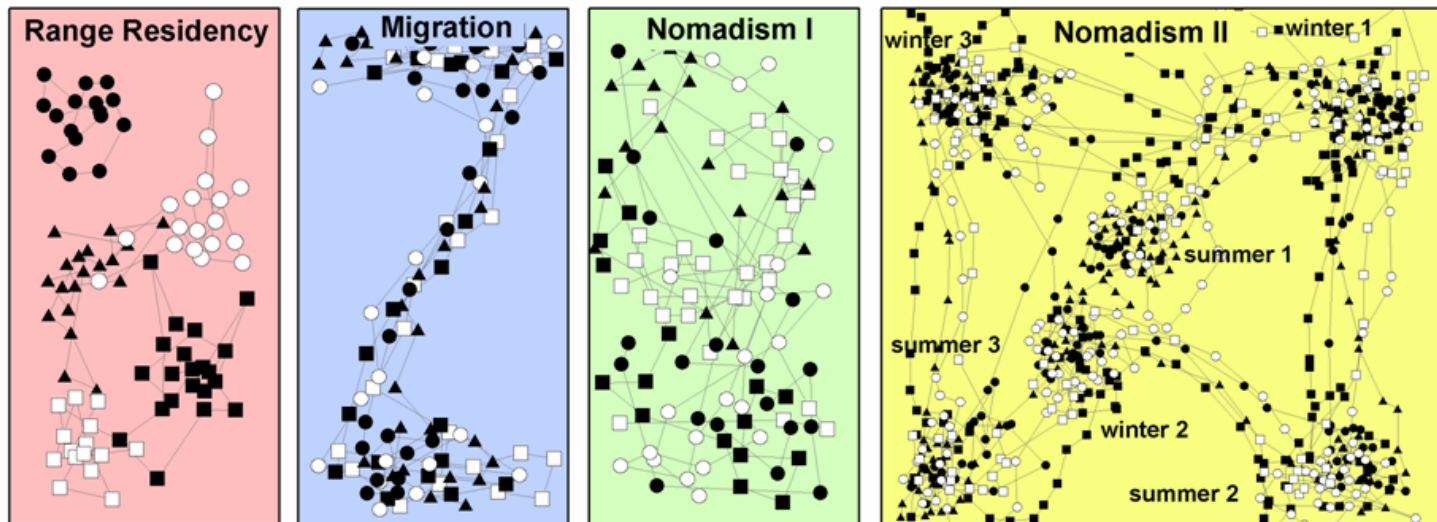


### Landscape Structure

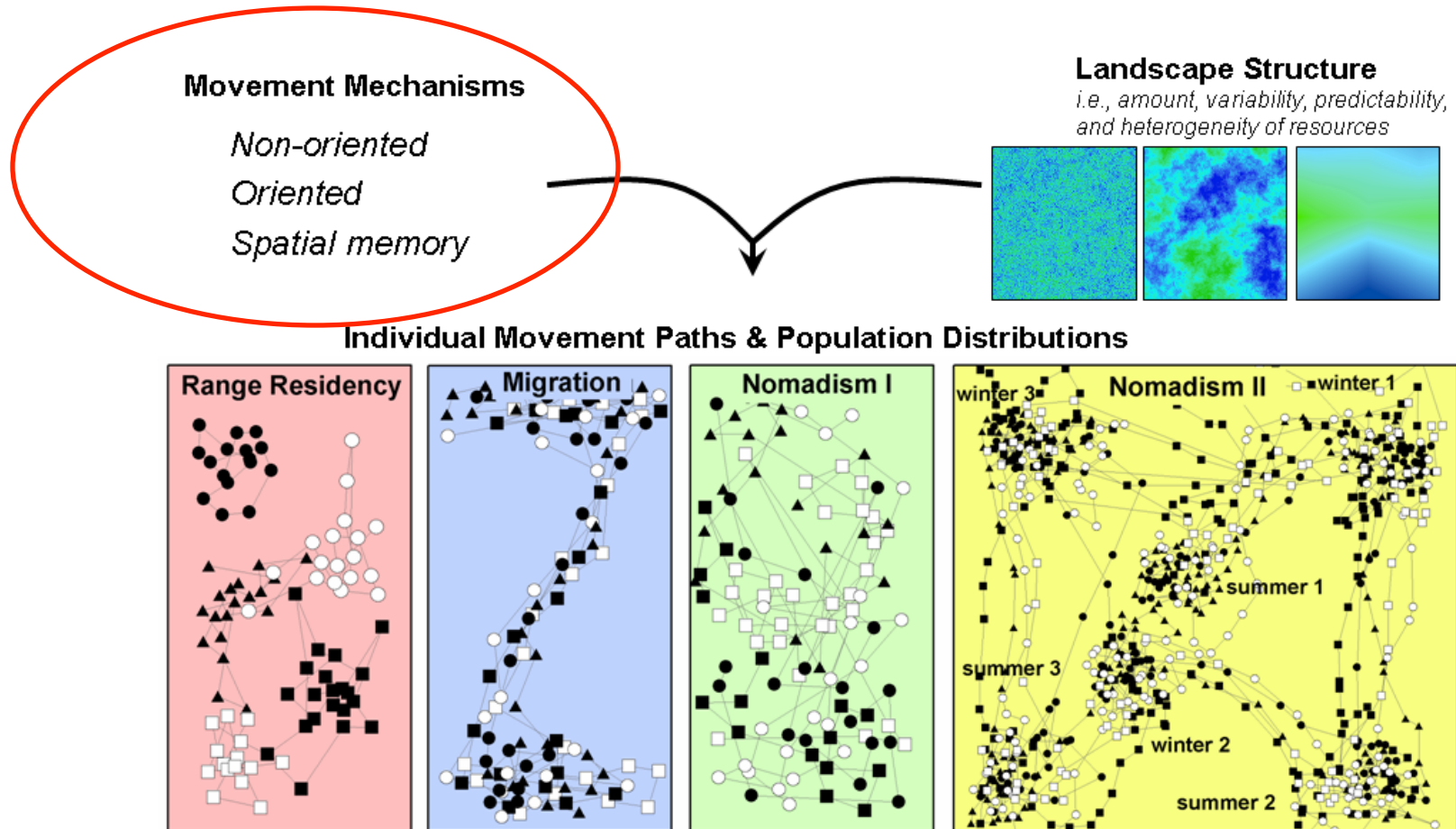
*i.e., amount, variability, predictability, and heterogeneity of resources*



### Individual Movement Paths & Population Distributions



## Part 1: Conceptual framework for resources, population distributions and movement mechanisms





## Individual level movement mechanisms:

### (1) ***Non-oriented***, based on kinesis and bio-diffusion

➤ sensory stimuli such as stomach fullness

➤ stimuli coming from an animal's current location

➤ cause an alteration in an individual's movement parameters (speed, turning angle)

➤ movement decision with random direction



## Individual level movement mechanisms:



(1) *Non-oriented*, based on kinesis and bio-diffusion

(2) *Oriented*, based on taxis and perceptual range

- e.g. visual detection of food good habitats
- stimuli stem from a location beyond the animal's current position
- movement in a predictable direction.





## Individual level movement mechanisms:

(1) *Non-oriented*, based on kinesis and bio-diffusion

(2) *Oriented*, based on taxis and perceptual range

(3) ***Spatial memory***, based on previous information derived from the recollection of

- an individual's own history,
- communication with conspecifics,
- or as a genetic inheritance from its ancestors

➤ *path integration* (e.g., waggle dance in bees or magnetic compasses in birds)

➤ *cognitive maps* (e.g., geomagnetic coordinates and use of landmarks)



## Part 1: Conceptual framework for resources, population distributions and movement mechanisms

### Movement Mechanisms

*Non-oriented*

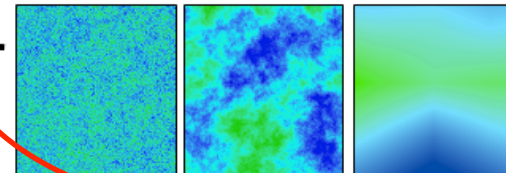
*Oriented*

*Spatial memory*

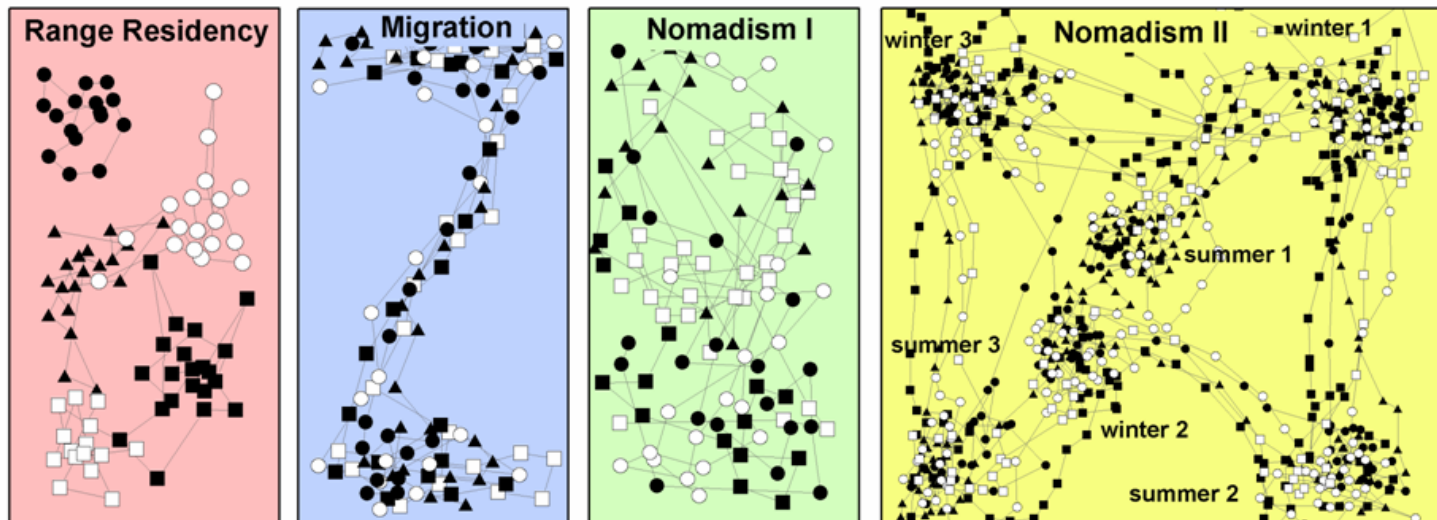


### Landscape Structure

*i.e., amount, variability, predictability, and heterogeneity of resources*



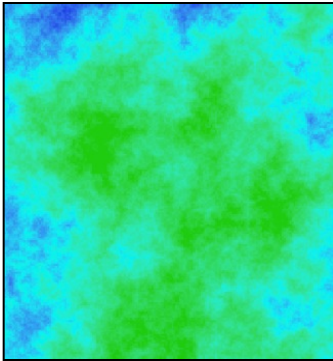
### Individual Movement Paths & Population Distributions



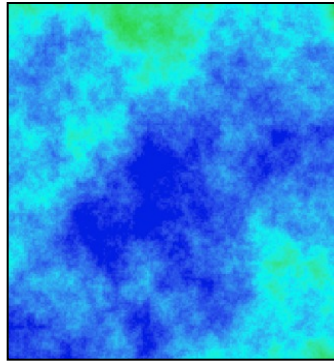
## Resources...variability across 4 gradients:

a) Amount

many



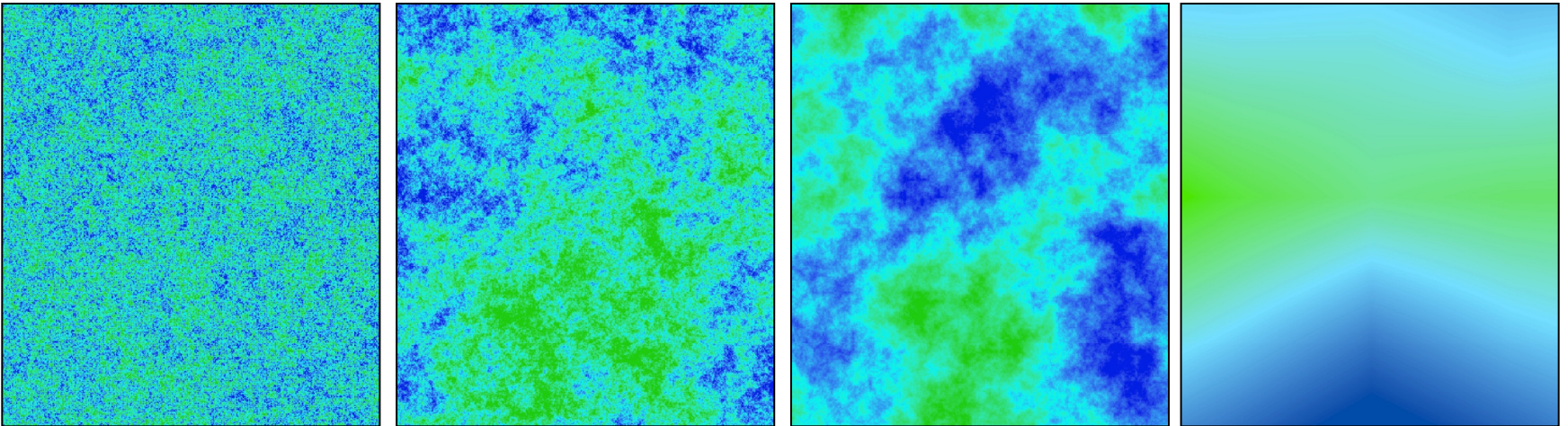
few



## Resources...variability across 4 gradients:

- a) Amount
- b) Spatial configuration

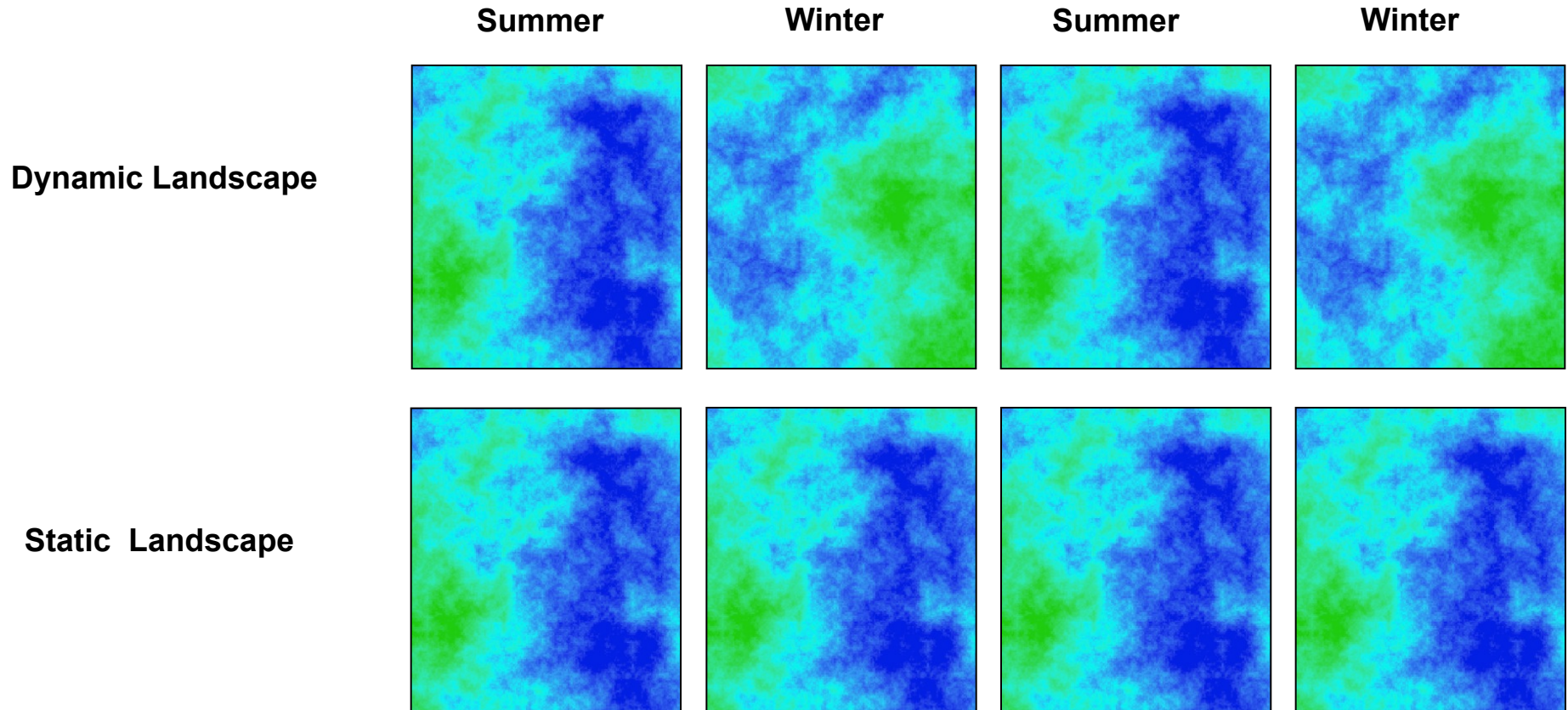
Fine —————→ coarse





## Resources...variability across 4 gradients:

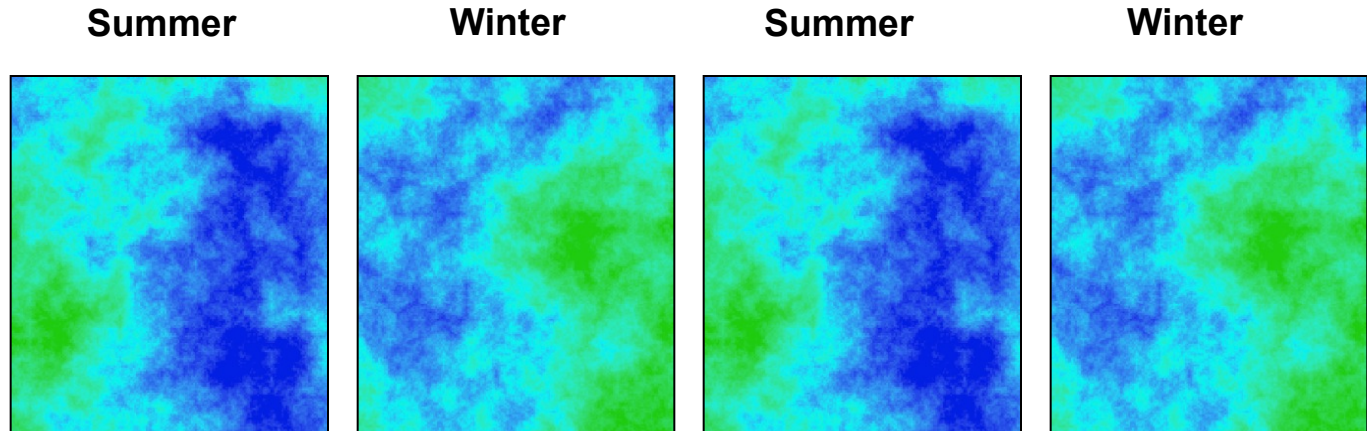
- a) Amount
- b) Spatial configuration
- c) Temporal variation



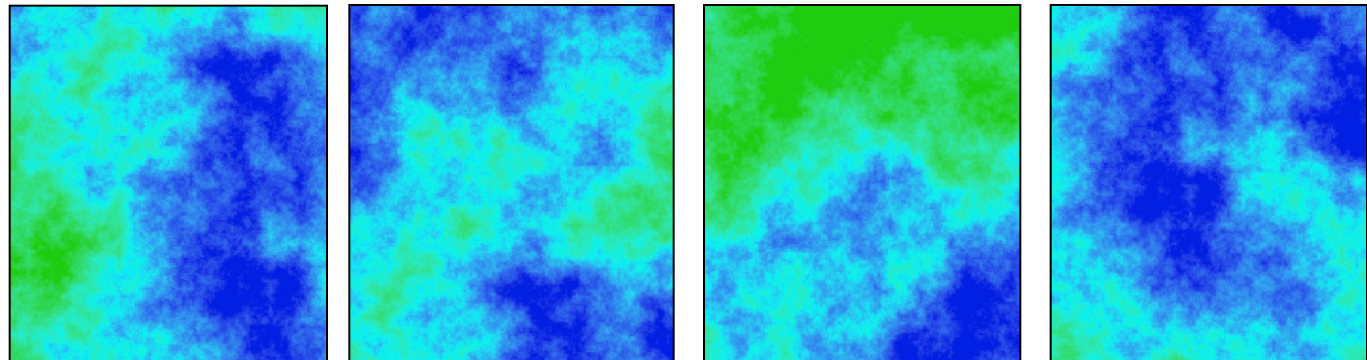
## Resources...variability across 4 gradients:

- a) Amount
- b) Spatial configuration
- c) Temporal variation
- d) Predictability

Dynamic Landscape:  
*variable but predictable*



Dynamic Landscape:  
*variable and  
unpredictable*



# Part 1: Conceptual framework for resources, population distributions and movement mechanisms

## **Movement Mechanisms**

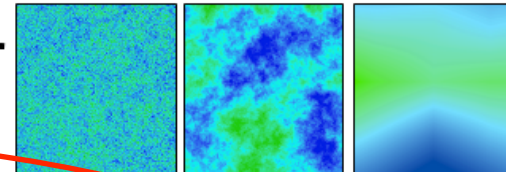
*Non-oriented*

*Oriented*

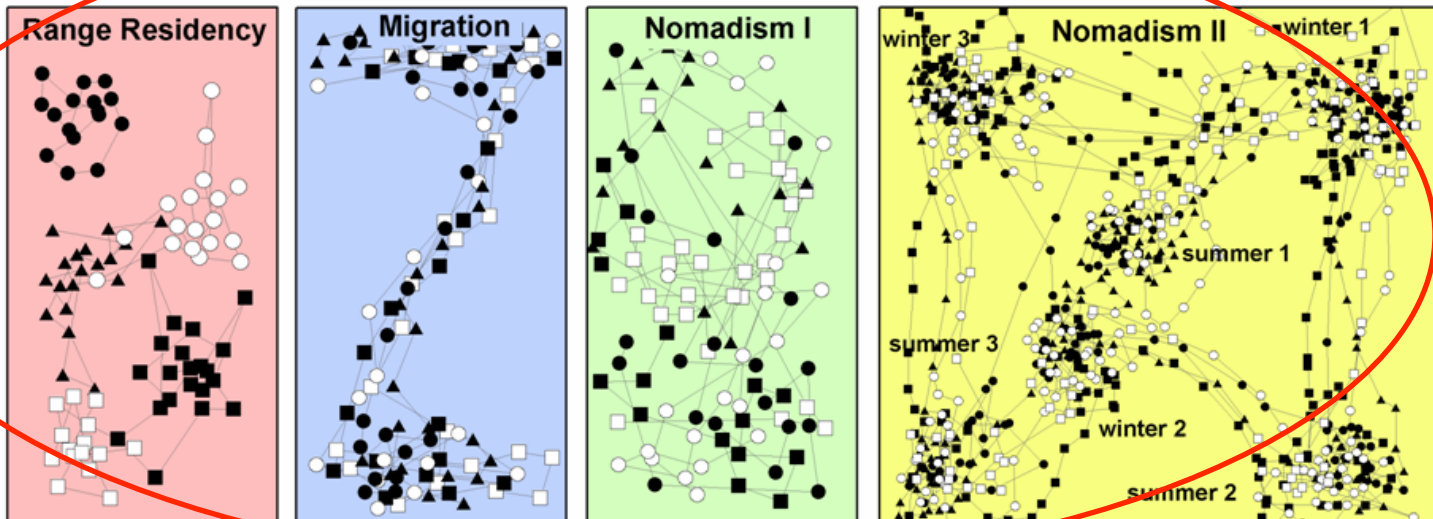
*Spatial memory*

## **Landscape Structure**

*i.e., amount, variability, predictability, and heterogeneity of resources*

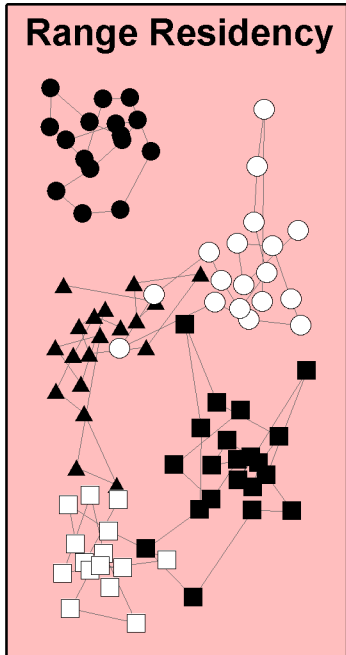


## **Individual Movement Paths & Population Distributions**

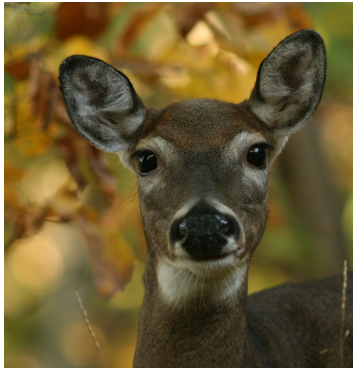
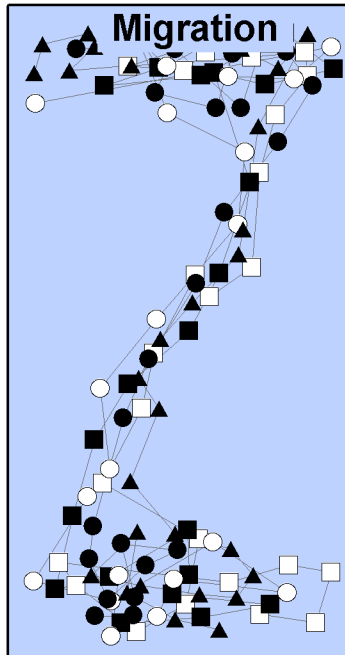
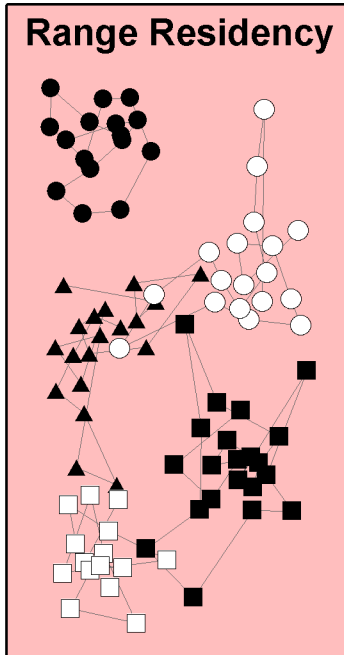




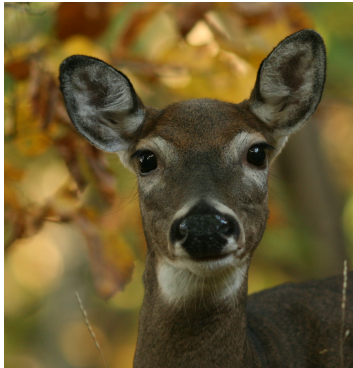
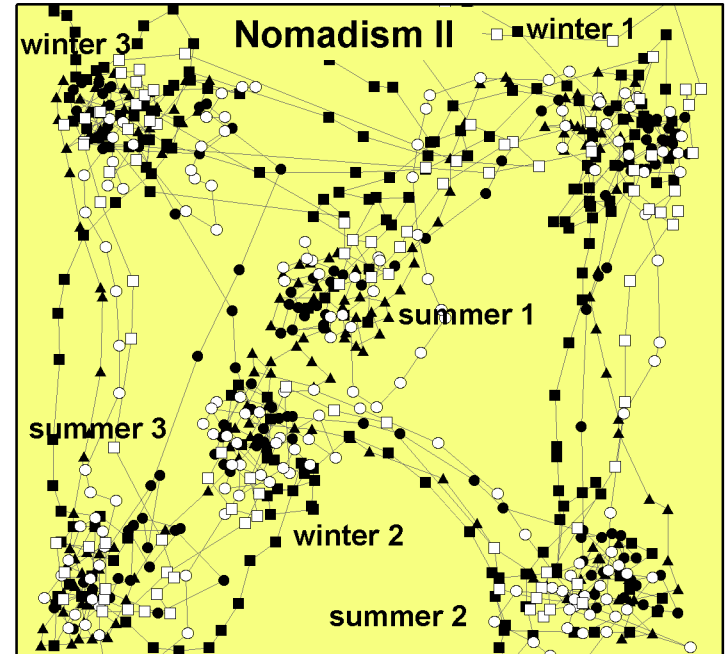
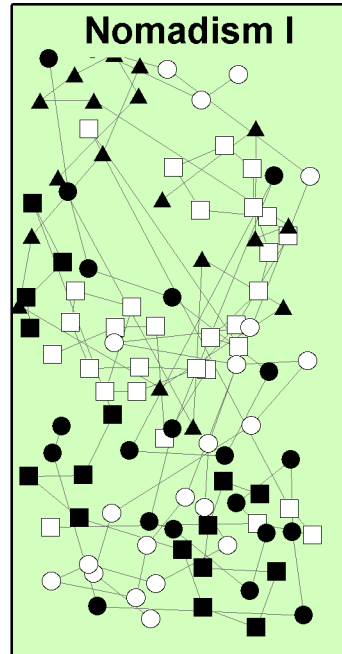
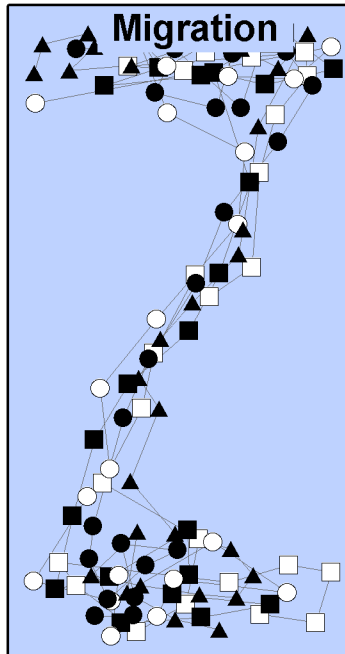
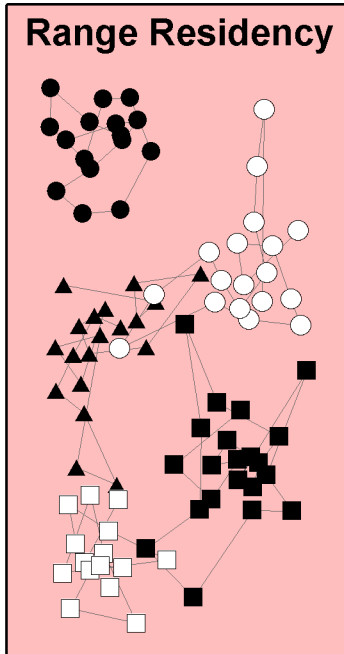
# Population distributions



# Population distributions

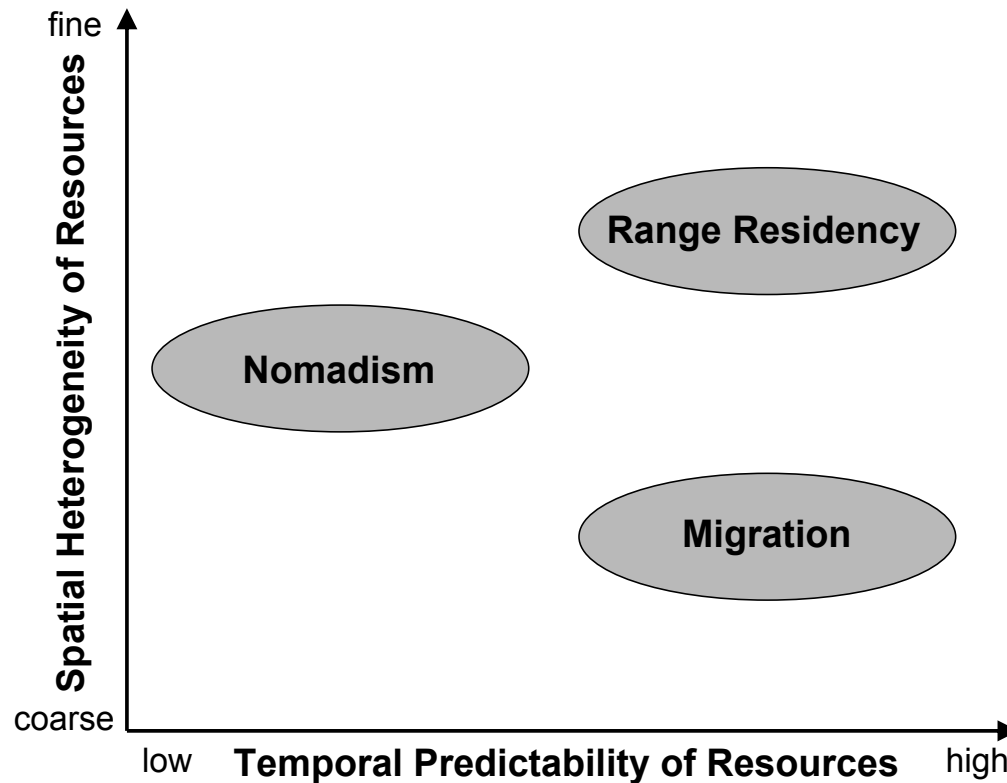


# Population distributions





# Resource landscapes and Population-level patterns



# Linking Individual Movements and Population Patterns in Dynamic Landscapes

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## *Part 2: Empirical*

- > Nomadism in Mongolian gazelles**
- > Multispecies comparison**

## *Part 3: Theoretical*

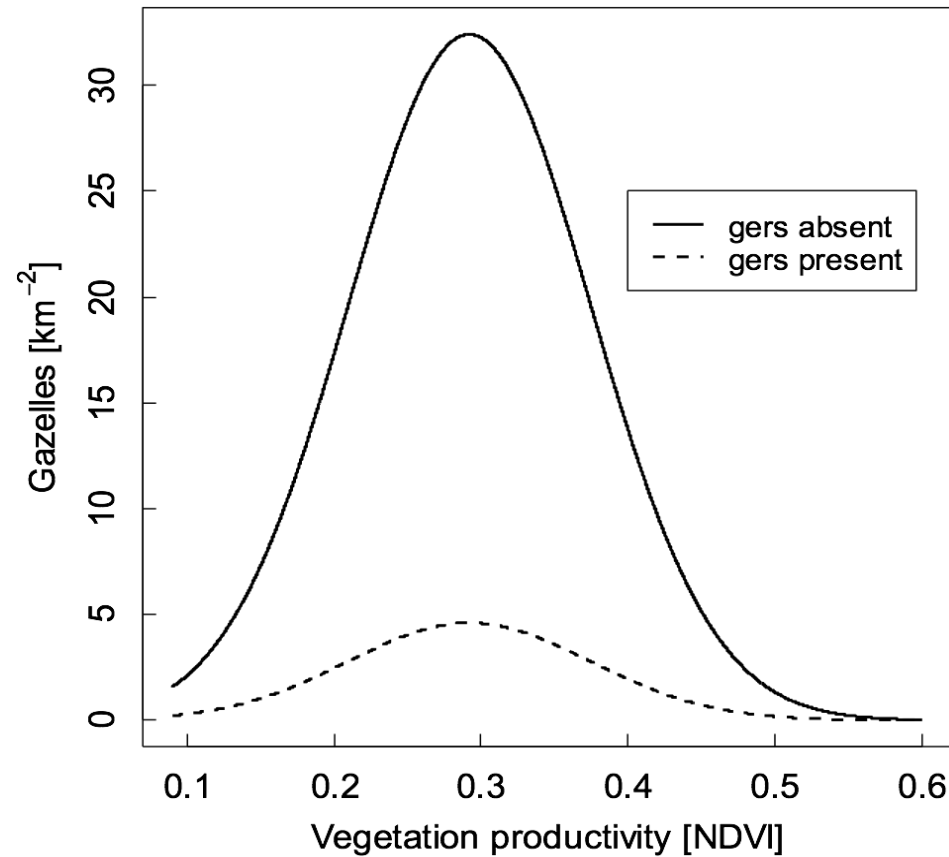
**Simulating movements using artificial life approaches**



# The Eastern Steppe of Mongolia

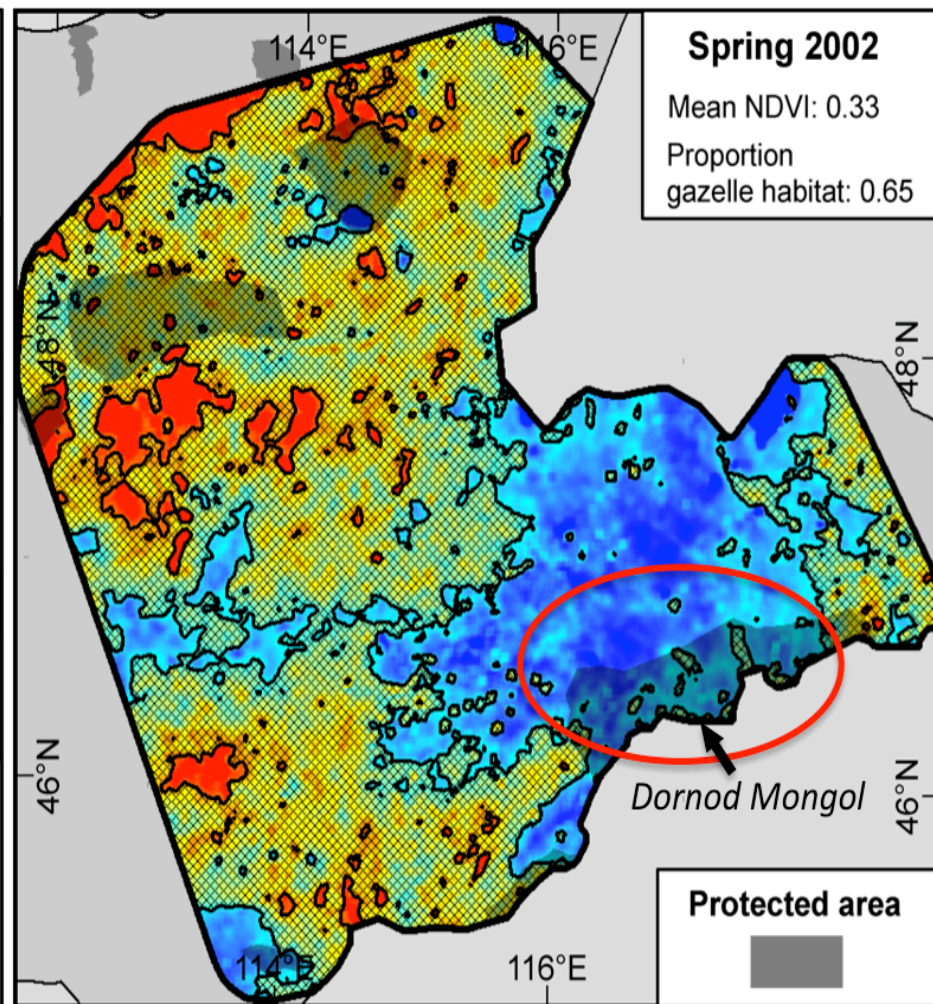
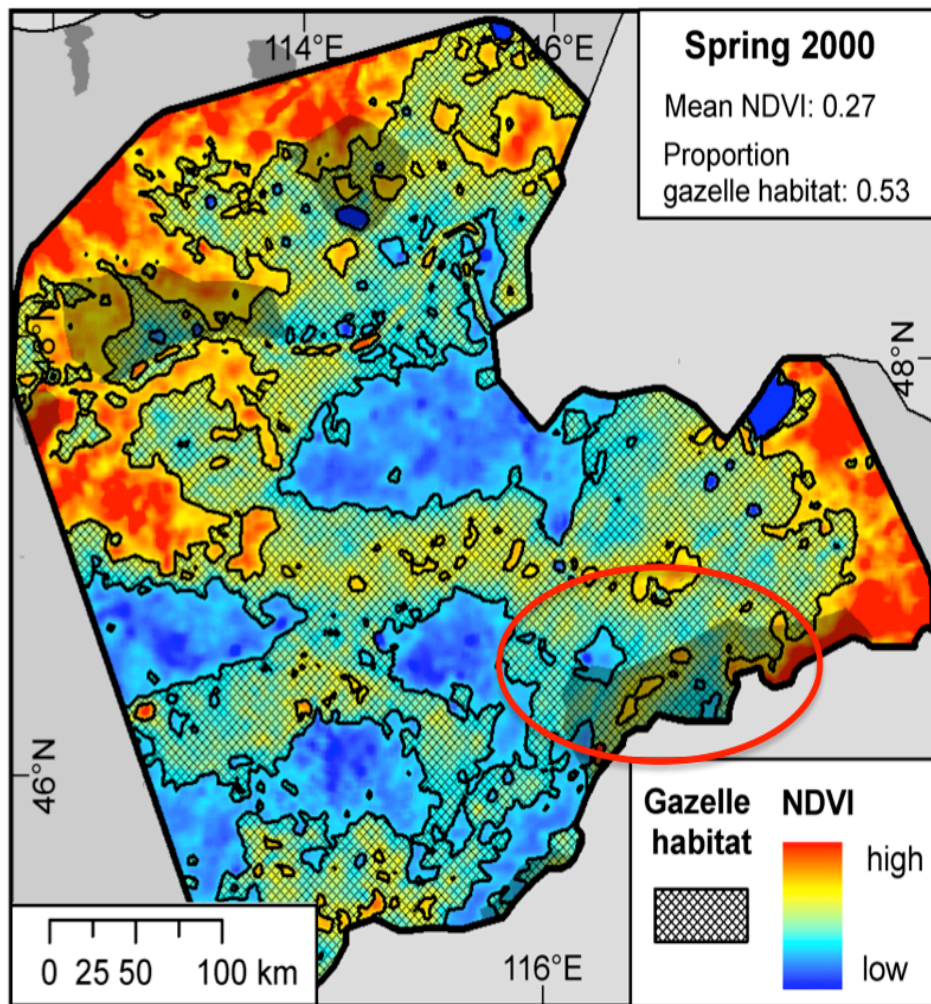


# Dynamic Habitat Models using Remote Sensing Data



*Olson et al. Cons. Letters 2011*

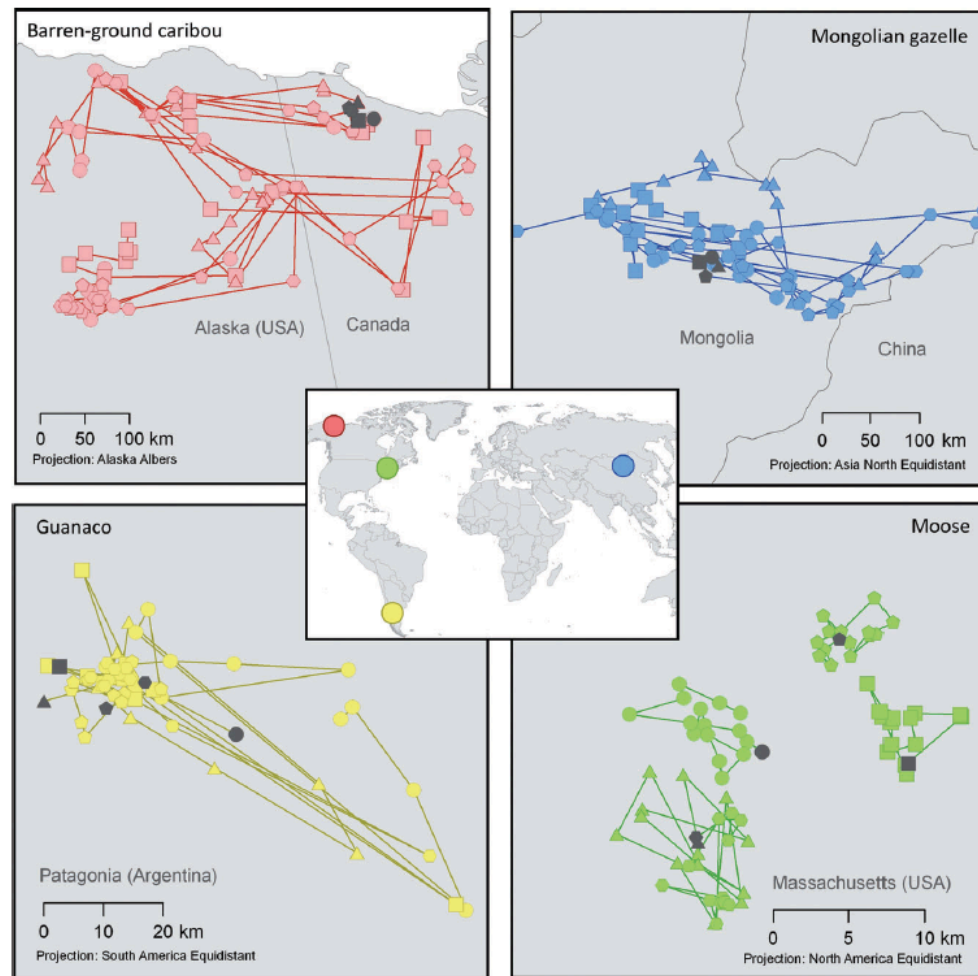




# Comparison of relocation patterns among individuals

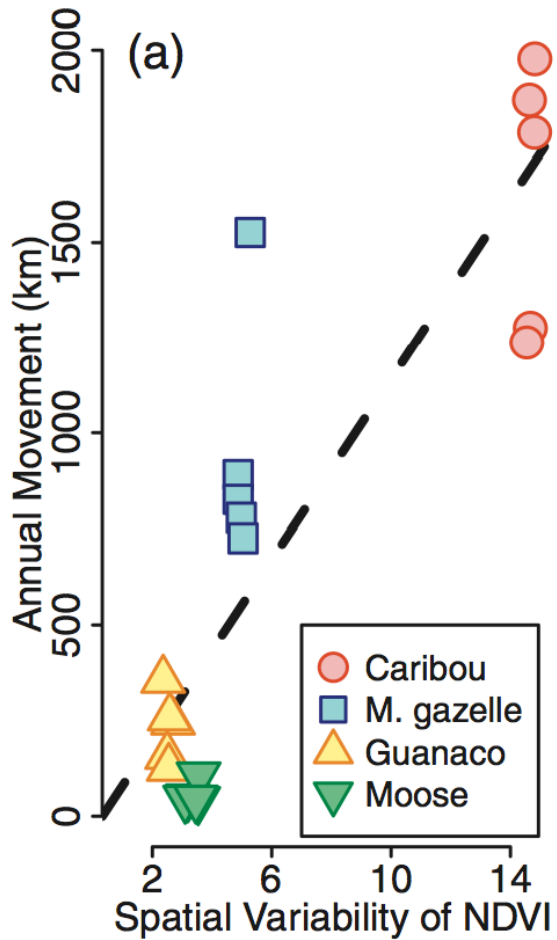
Data: 1 year of relocations in 16 day intervals of

- 5 Caribou of the Porcupine caribou
- 5 Mongolian gazelle
- 5 Patagonian guanaco
- 5 Moose of Massachusetts



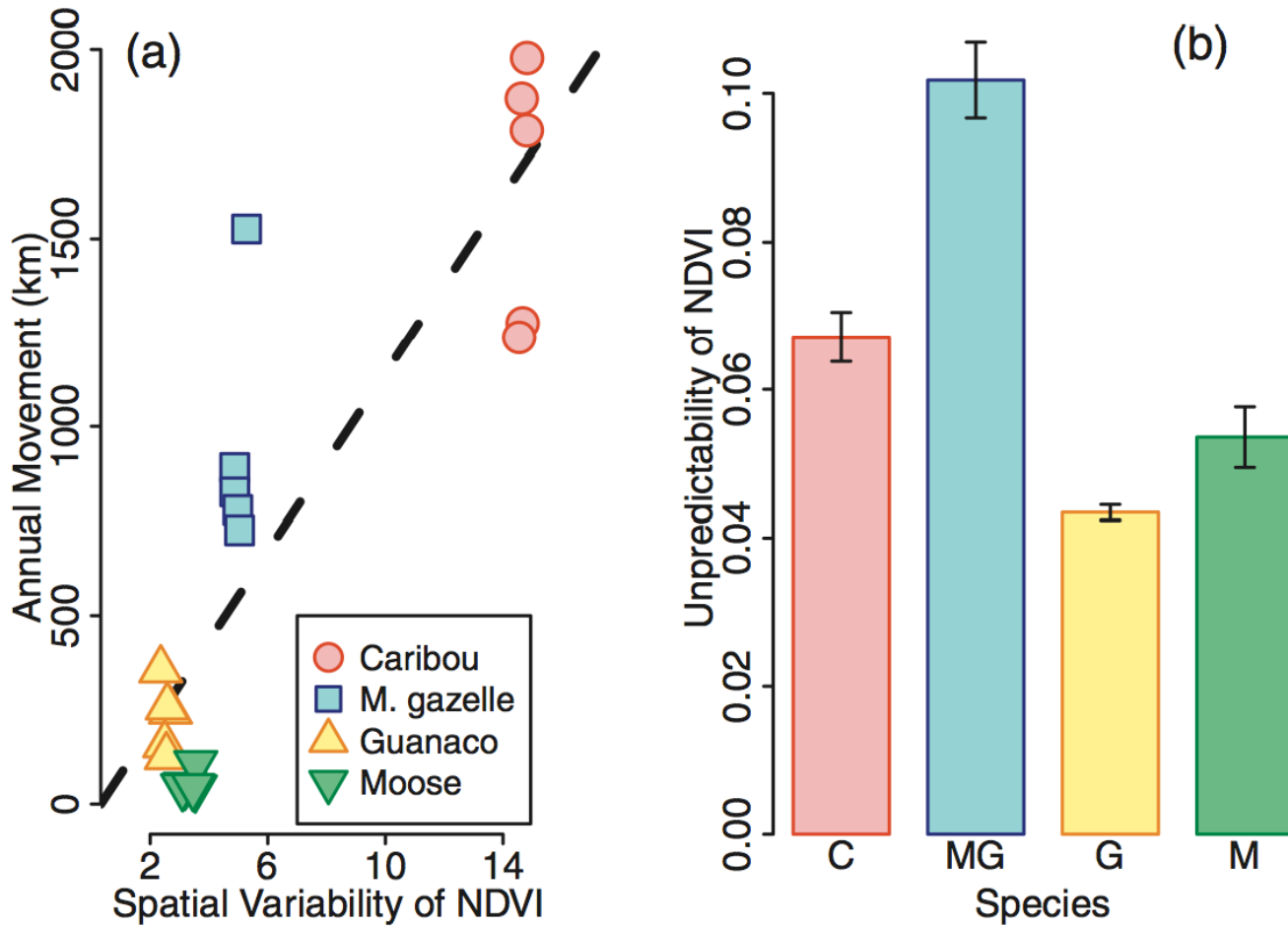
# Drivers of population-level movement

## Landscape dynamics in relation to movement



# Drivers of population-level movement

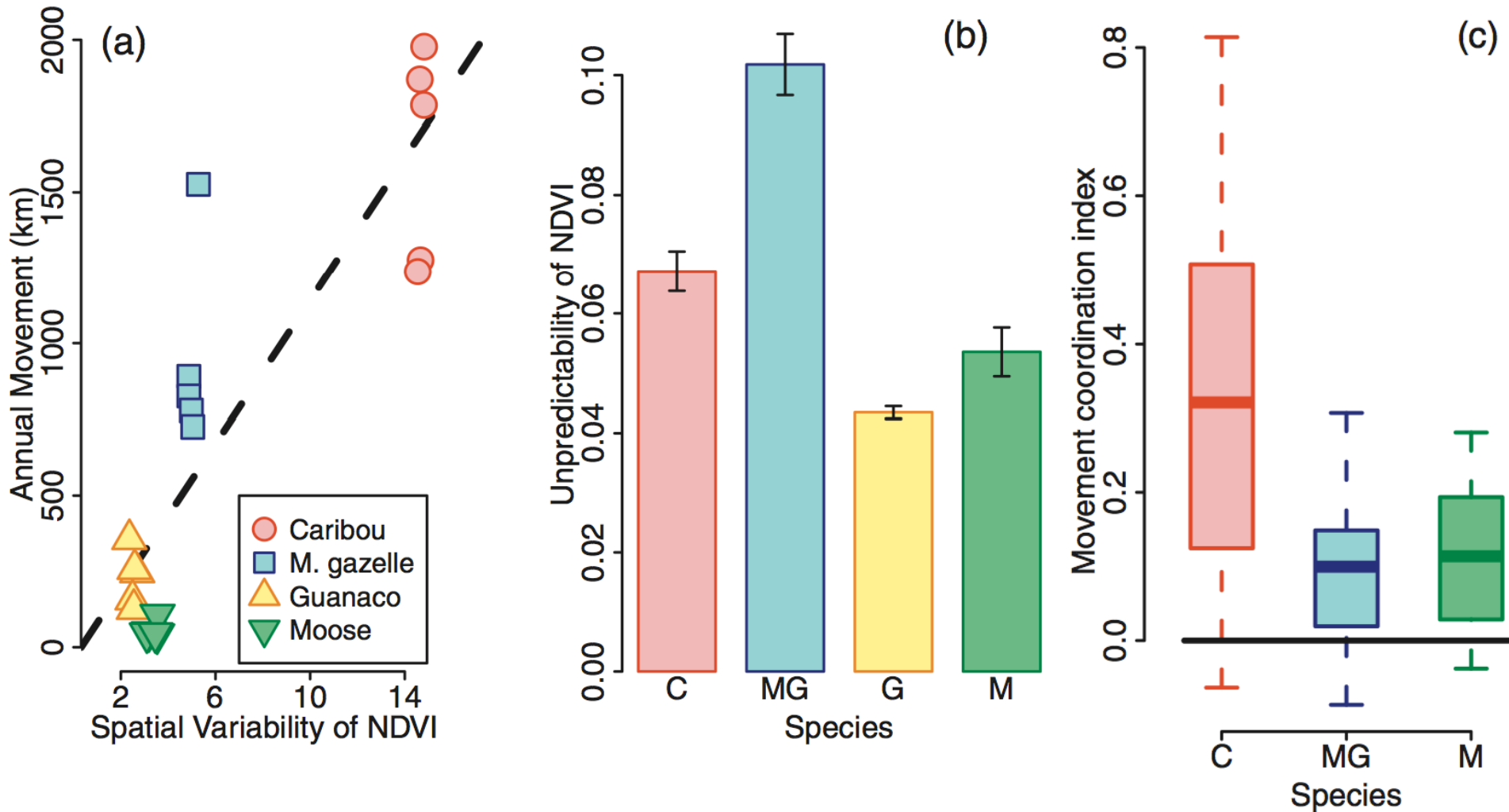
## Landscape dynamics in relation to movement



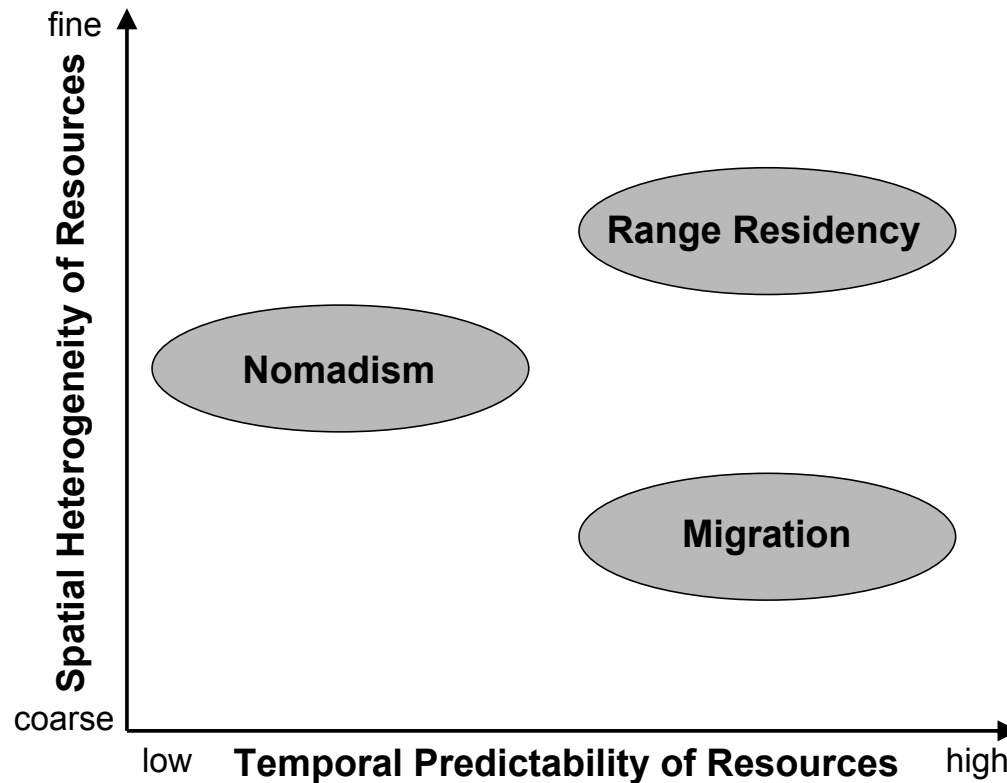


# Drivers of population-level movement

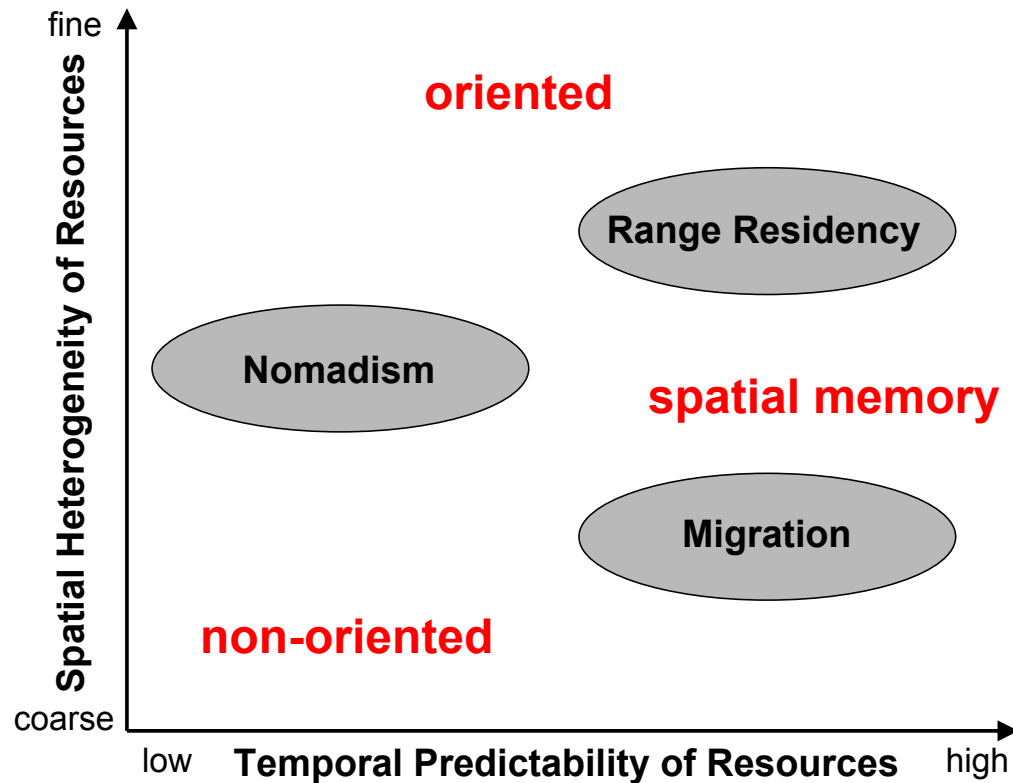
## Landscape dynamics in relation to movement



# Resource landscapes and Population-level patterns



# Resource landscapes and Individual movement



# Linking Individual Movements and Population Patterns in Dynamic Landscapes

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## *Part 3: Theoretical*

**Simulating movement behaviors using artificial life approaches**





## Part 3: Artificial life techniques to model movement

### Movement Mechanisms

*Non-oriented*

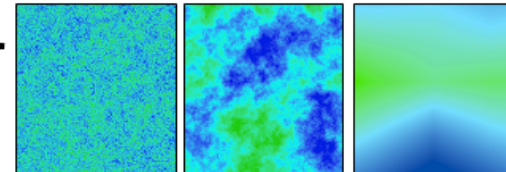
*Oriented*

*Spatial memory*

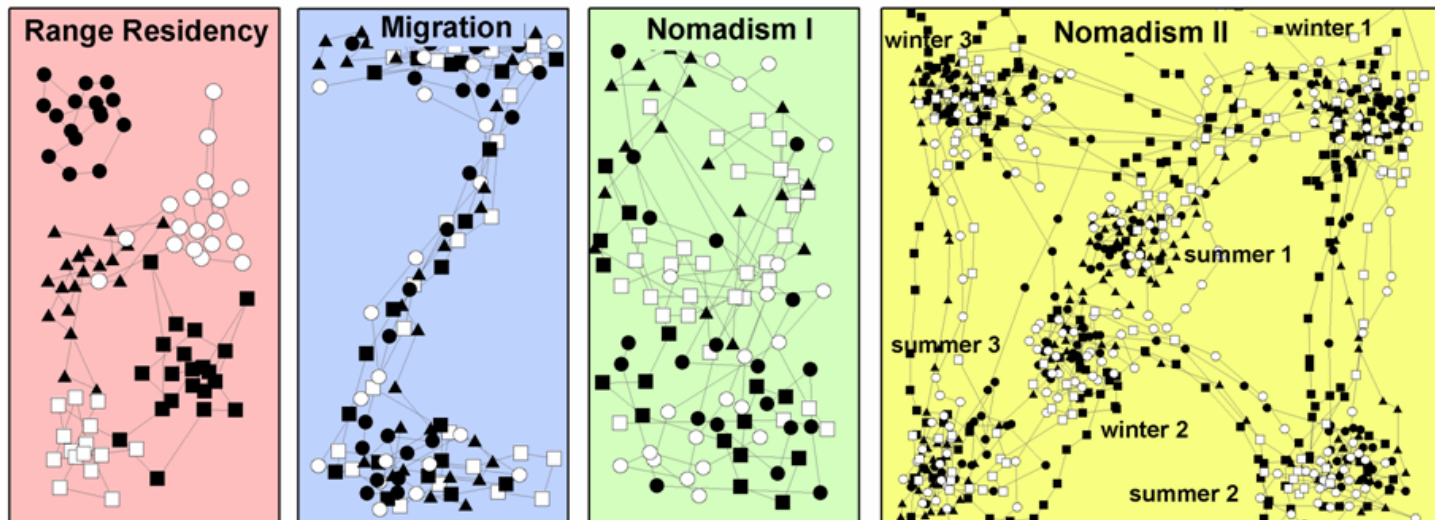
?

### Landscape Structure

*i.e., amount, variability, predictability,  
and heterogeneity of resources*



### Individual Movement Paths & Population Distributions



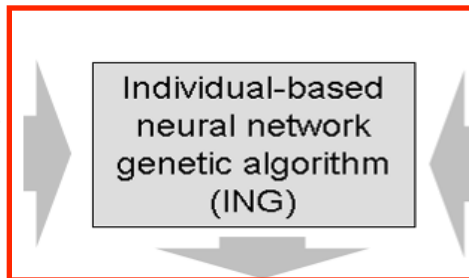
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### Movement Mechanisms

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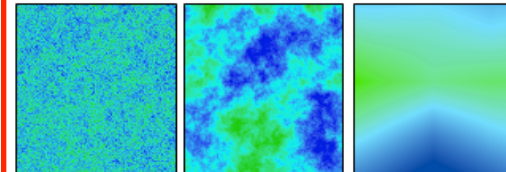
*Oriented*

*Spatial memory*

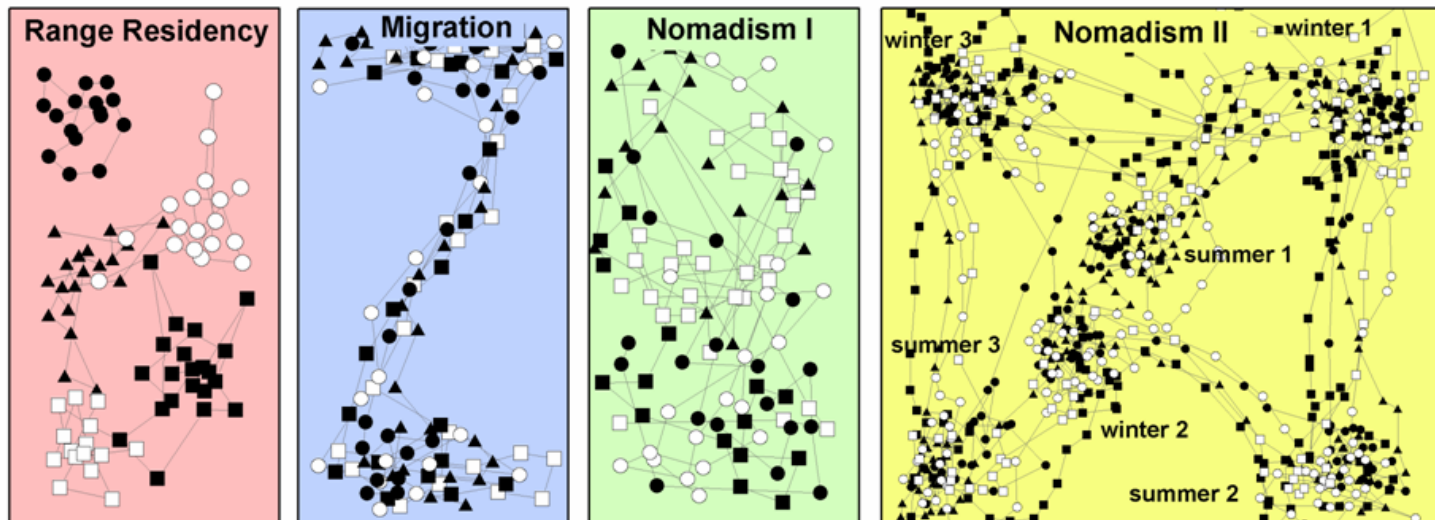


### Landscape Structure

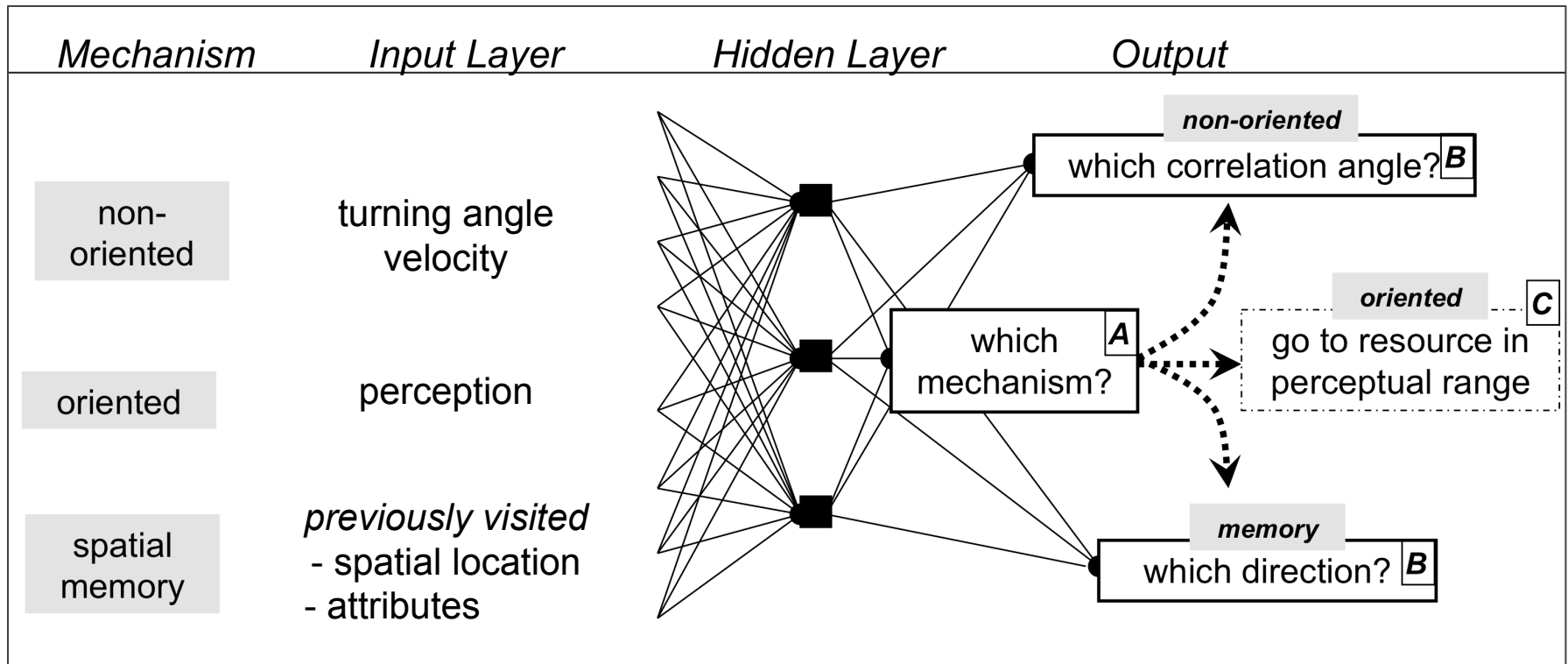
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### Individual Movement Paths & Population Distributions



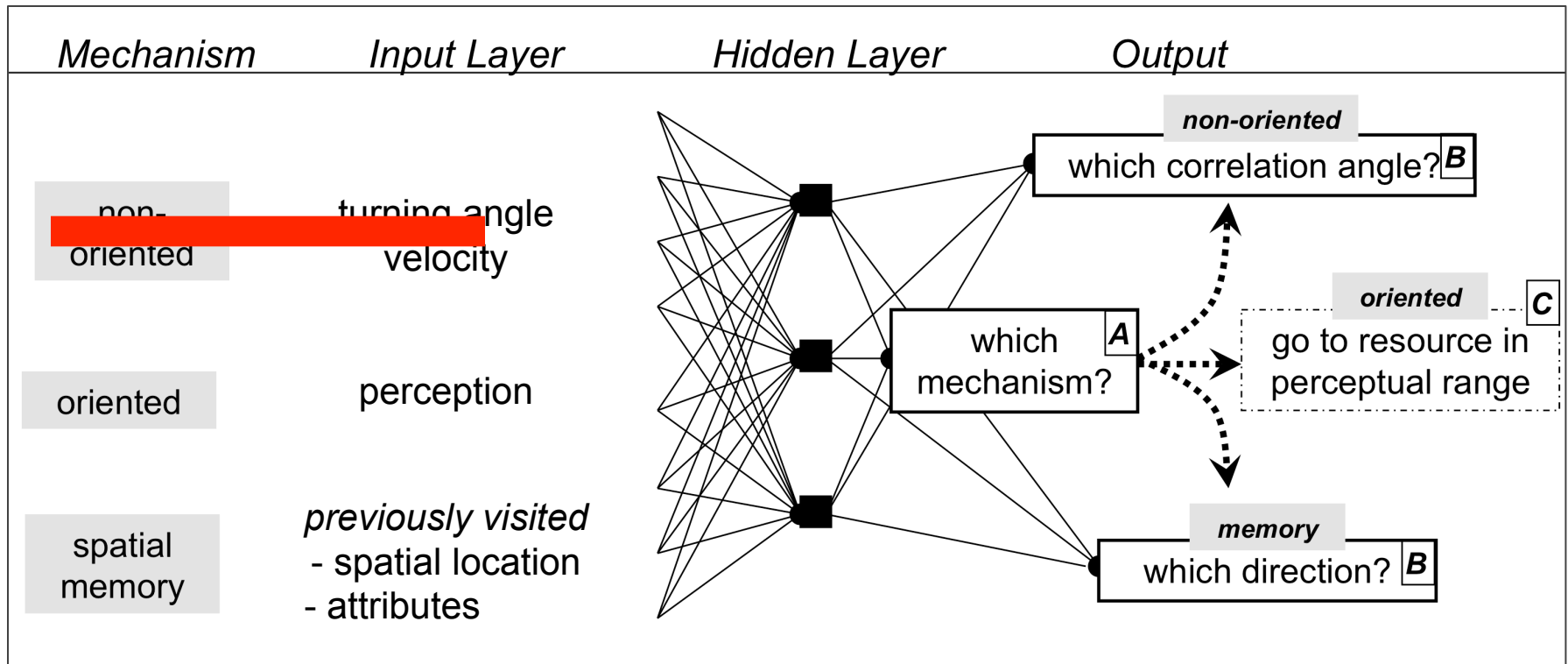
# Individual-based Neural Net Genetic Algorithm (ING) Model



Mueller, Fagan & Grimm, *Theoretical Ecology* 2011

$$HiddenNode_j = \frac{\exp\left(\sum_{i=1}^{InputNodes} InputNode_i * weight_{ij}\right)}{1 + \exp\left(\sum_{i=1}^{InputNodes} InputNode_i * weight_{ij}\right)}$$

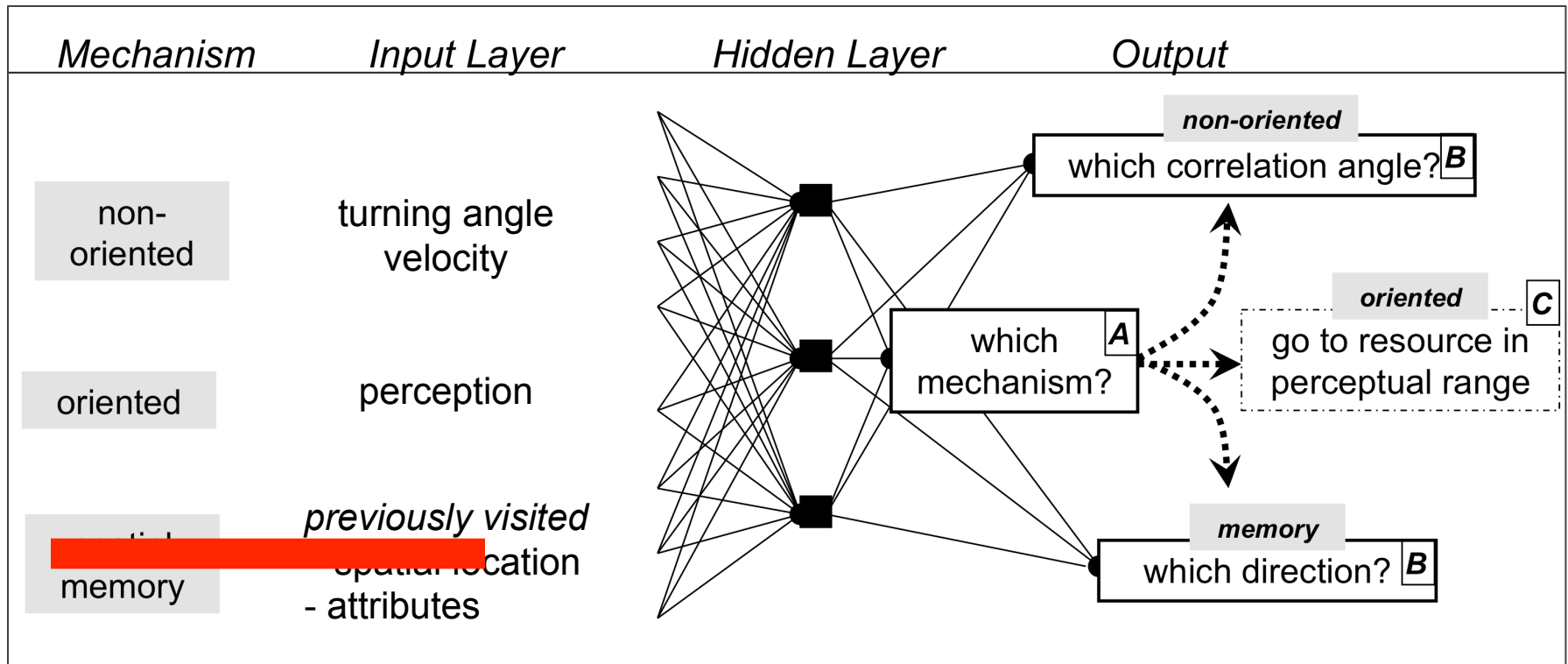
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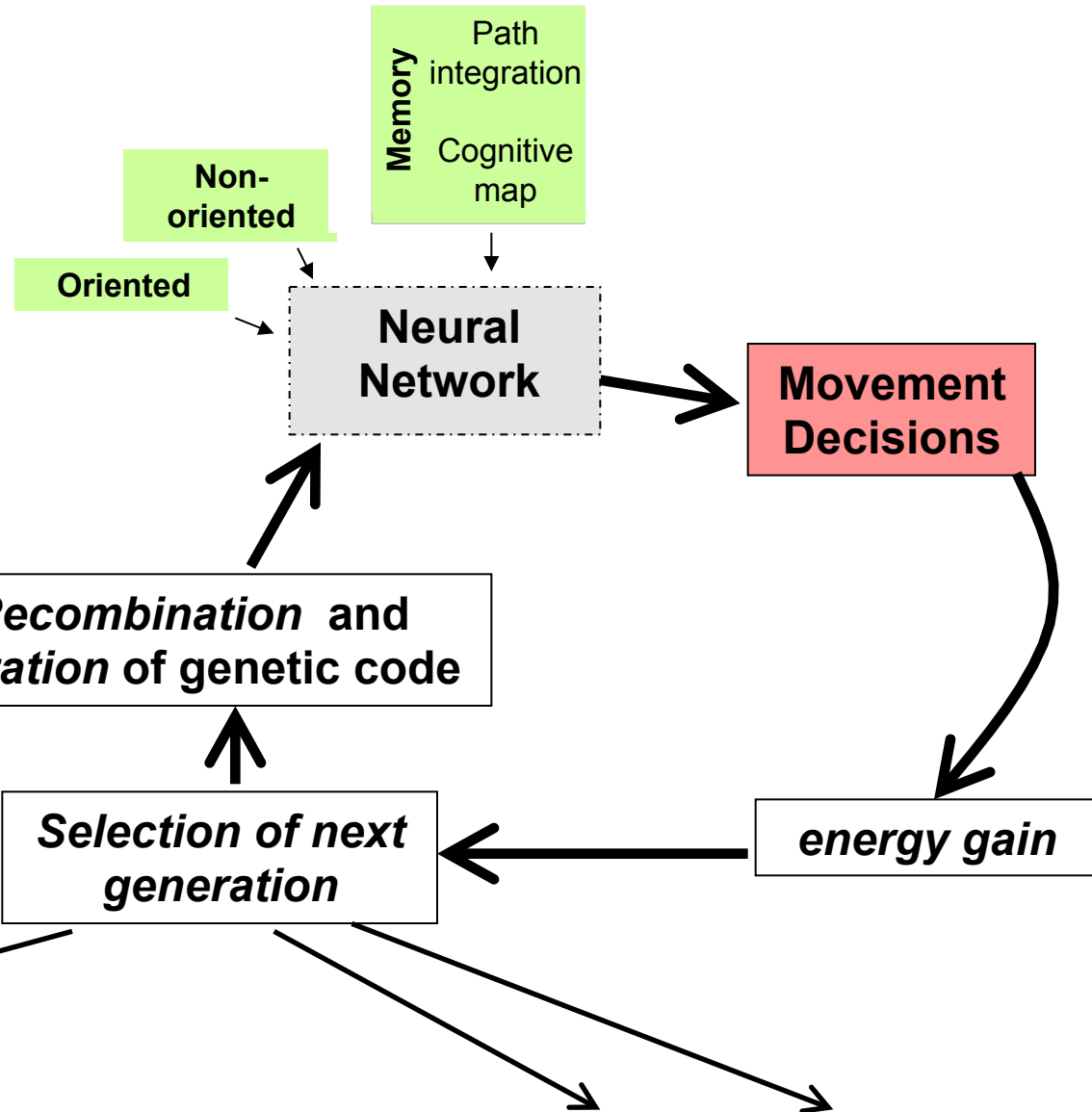
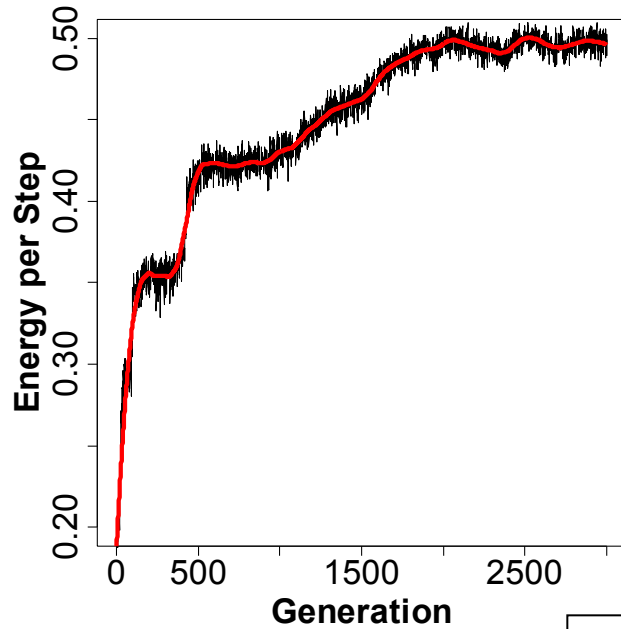


Mueller, Fagan & Grimm, Theoretical Ecology 2011

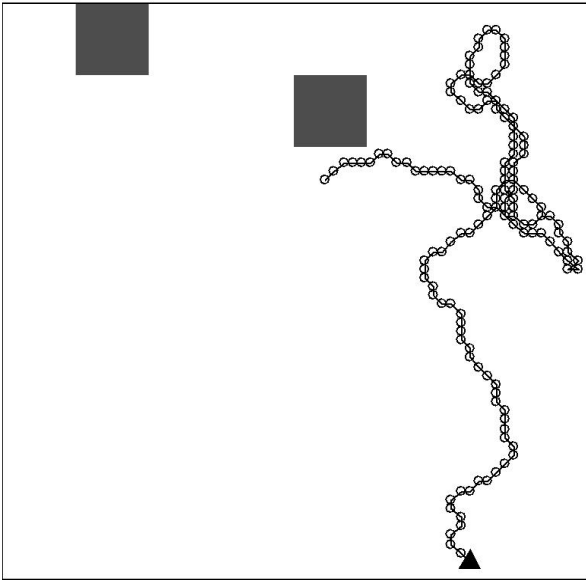
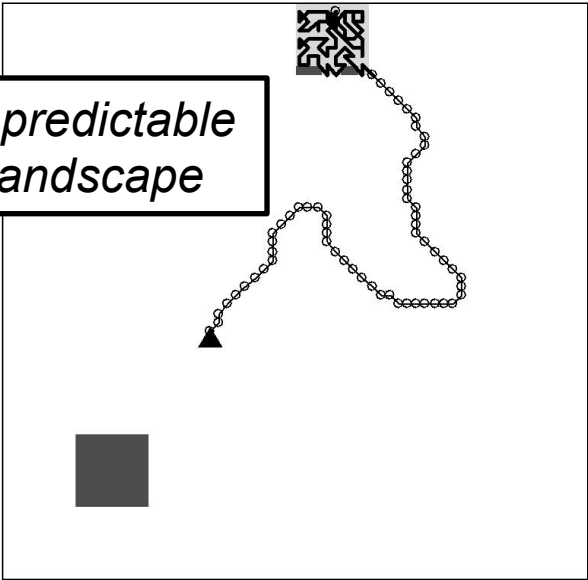
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# Individual-based neural network genetic algorithm

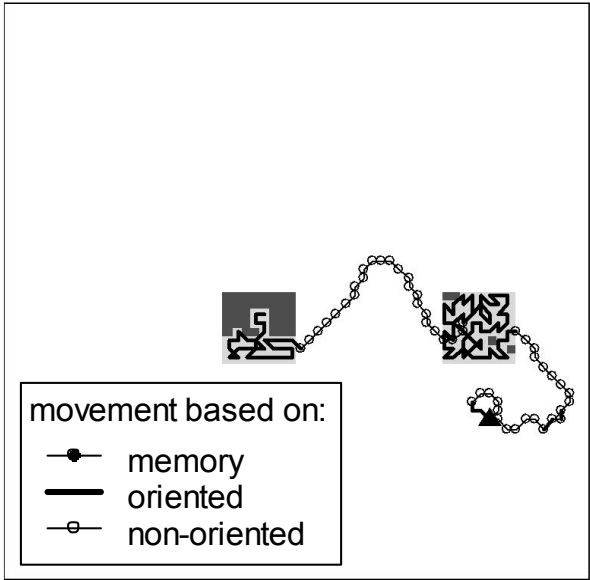


*Unpredictable  
landscape*

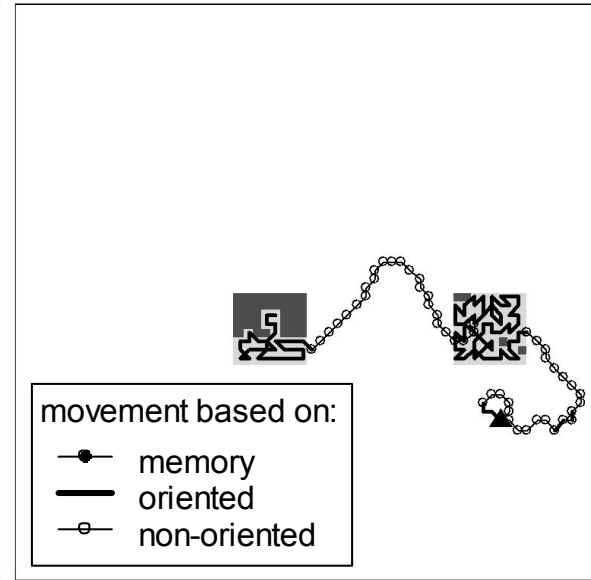
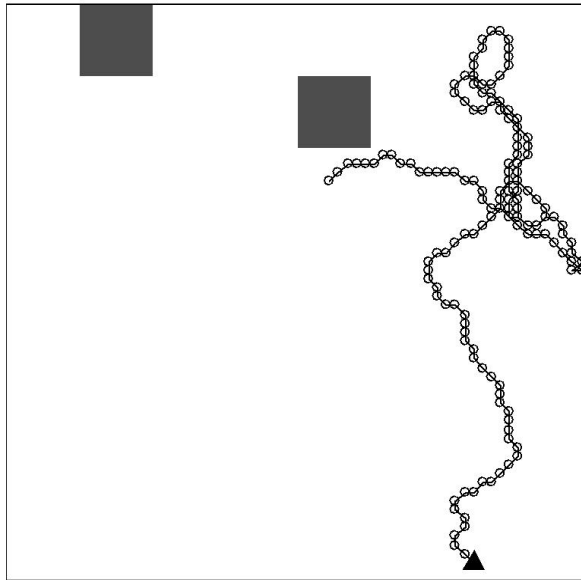
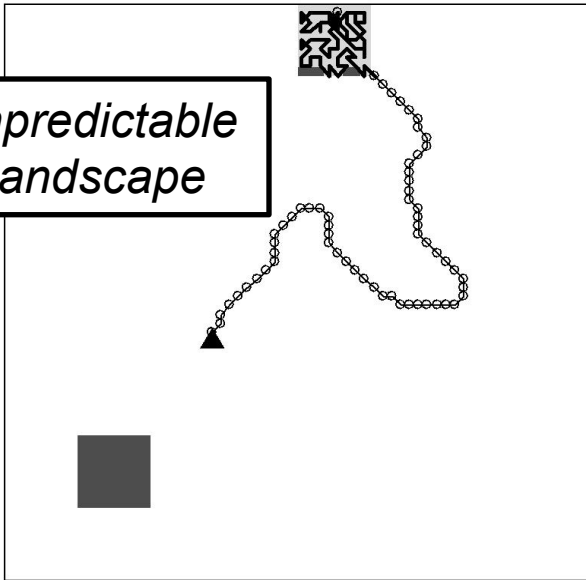


movement based on:

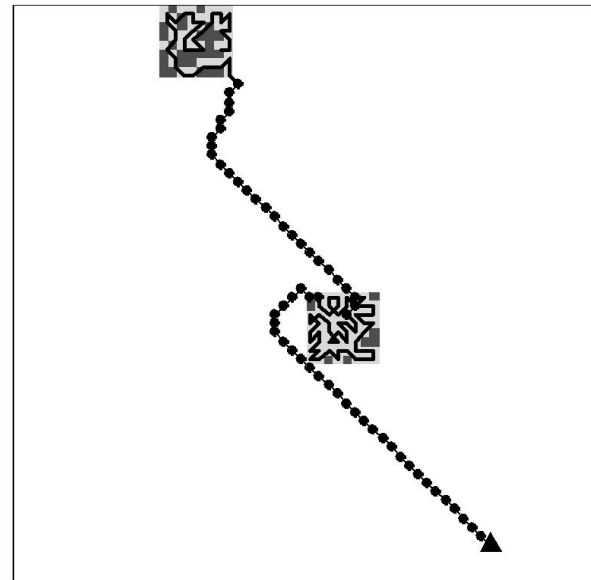
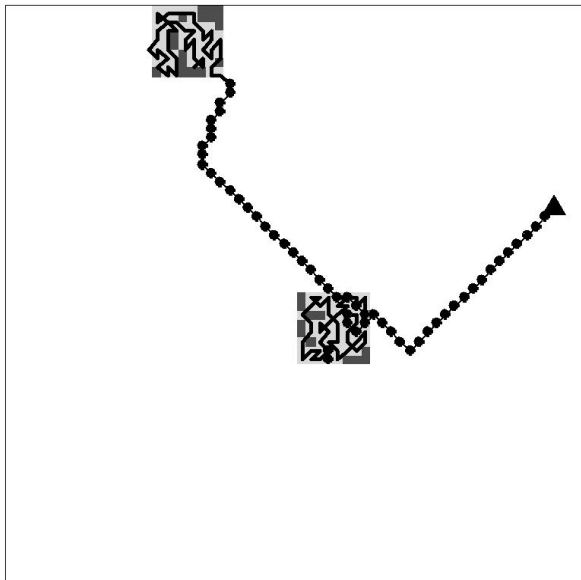
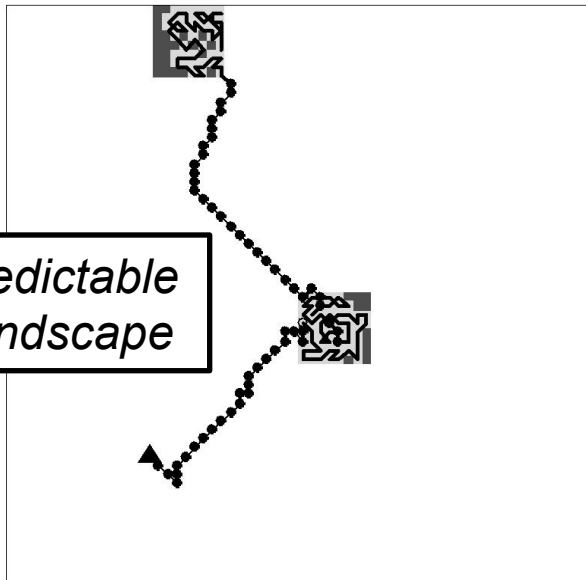
- memory
- oriented
- non-oriented



Unpredictable  
landscape



Predictable  
landscape



# Individual-based Neural Net Genetic Algorithm (ING) Model

Two key landscape features:

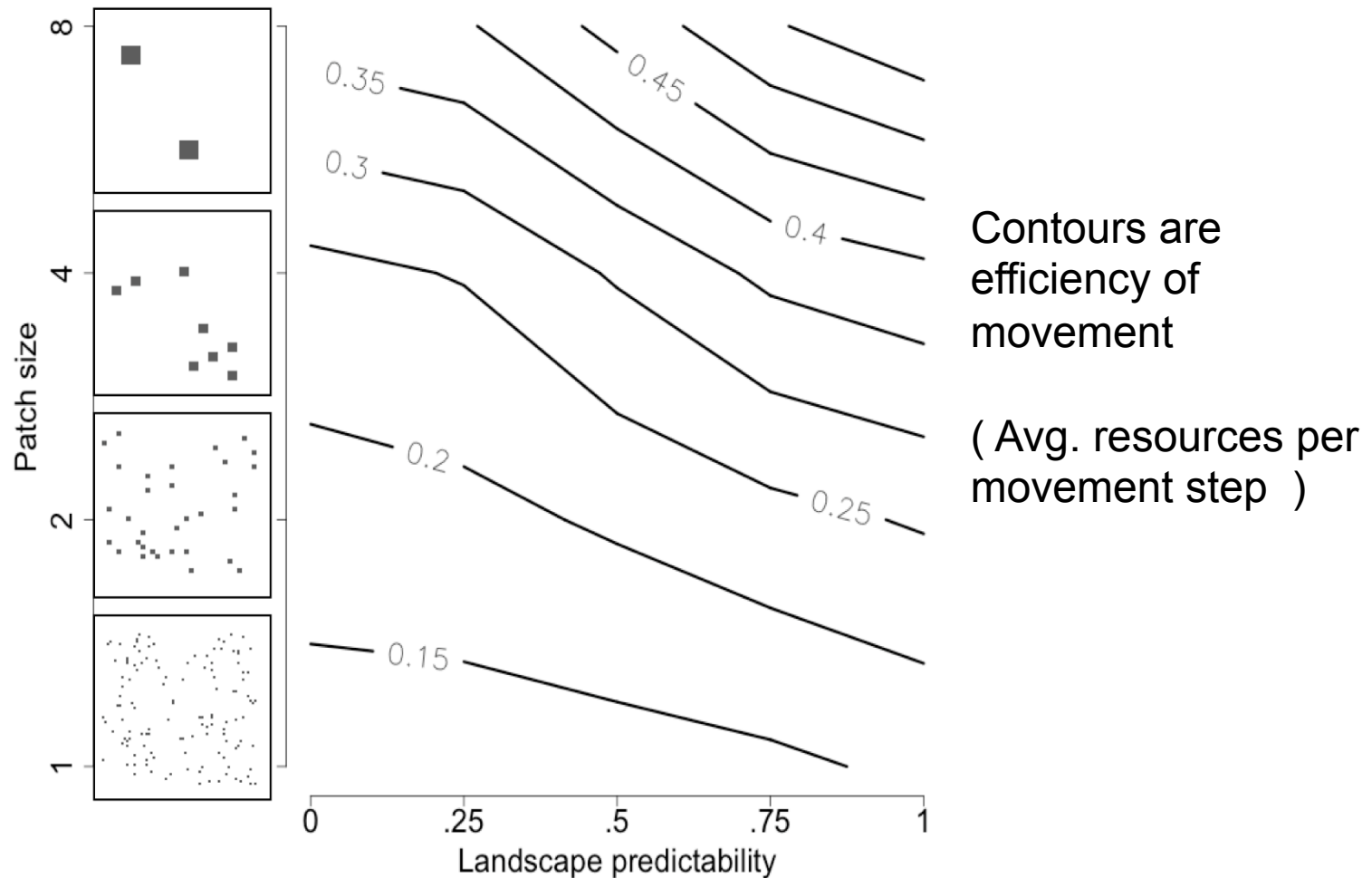
- 1) Patch Size
- 2) Resource Predictability

Foci:

- 1) Frequency
- 2) Context of use
- 3) “Relevance” of different movement mechanisms

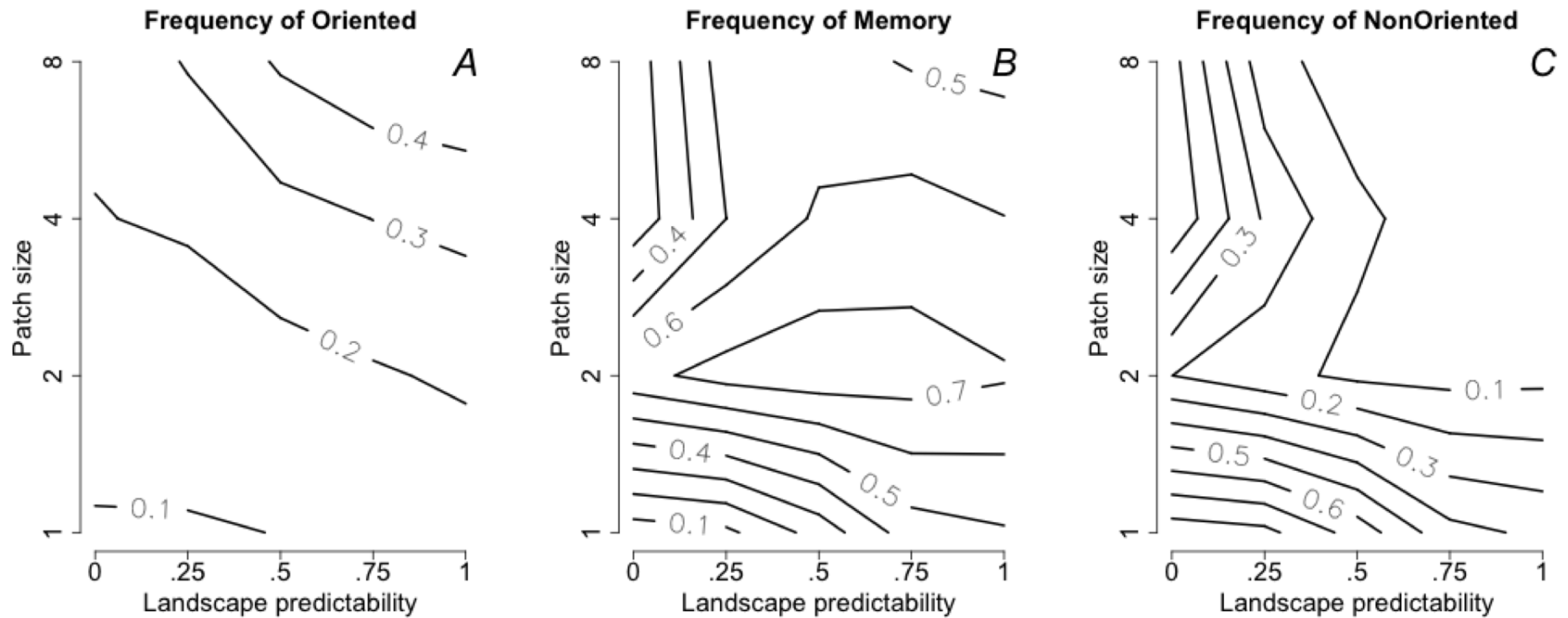
$$\text{Relevance} = 1 - \left[ \frac{\text{efficiency}_{\text{reduced network}}}{\text{efficiency}_{\text{full network}}} \right]$$

Efficiency is greatest in predictable landscapes with large patch sizes

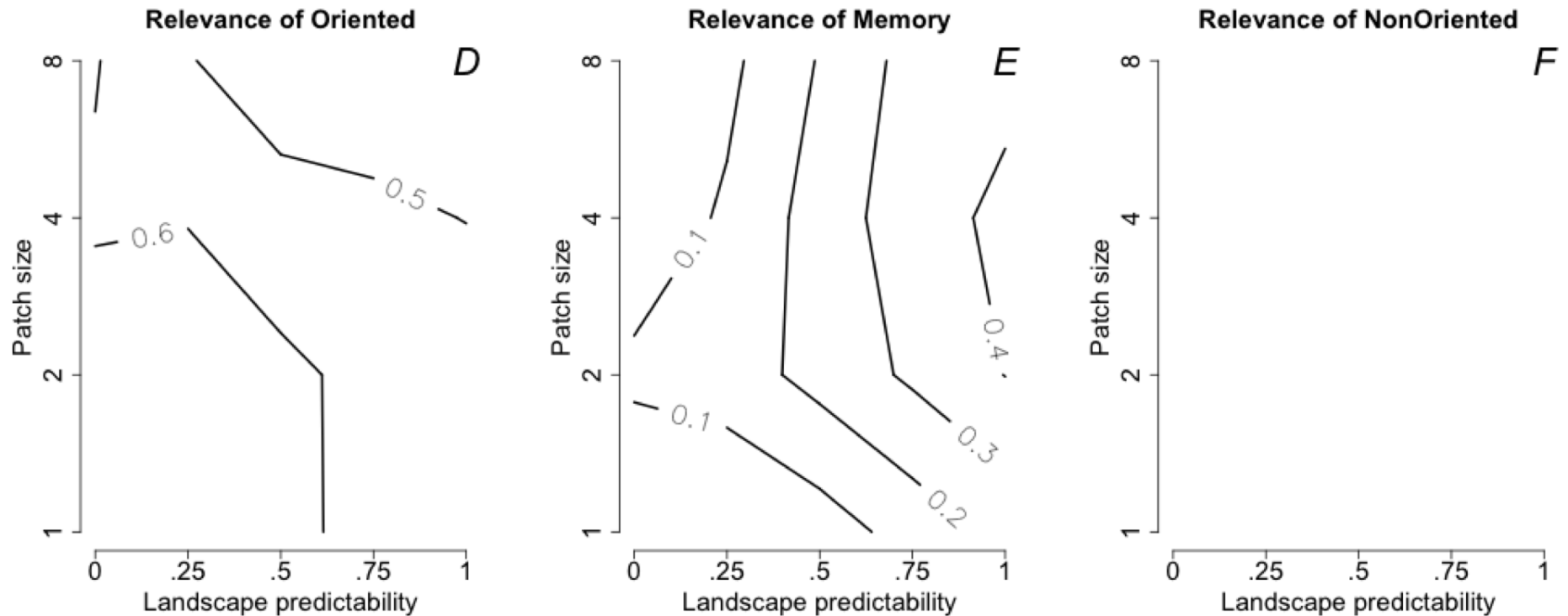




# Frequency of behaviors

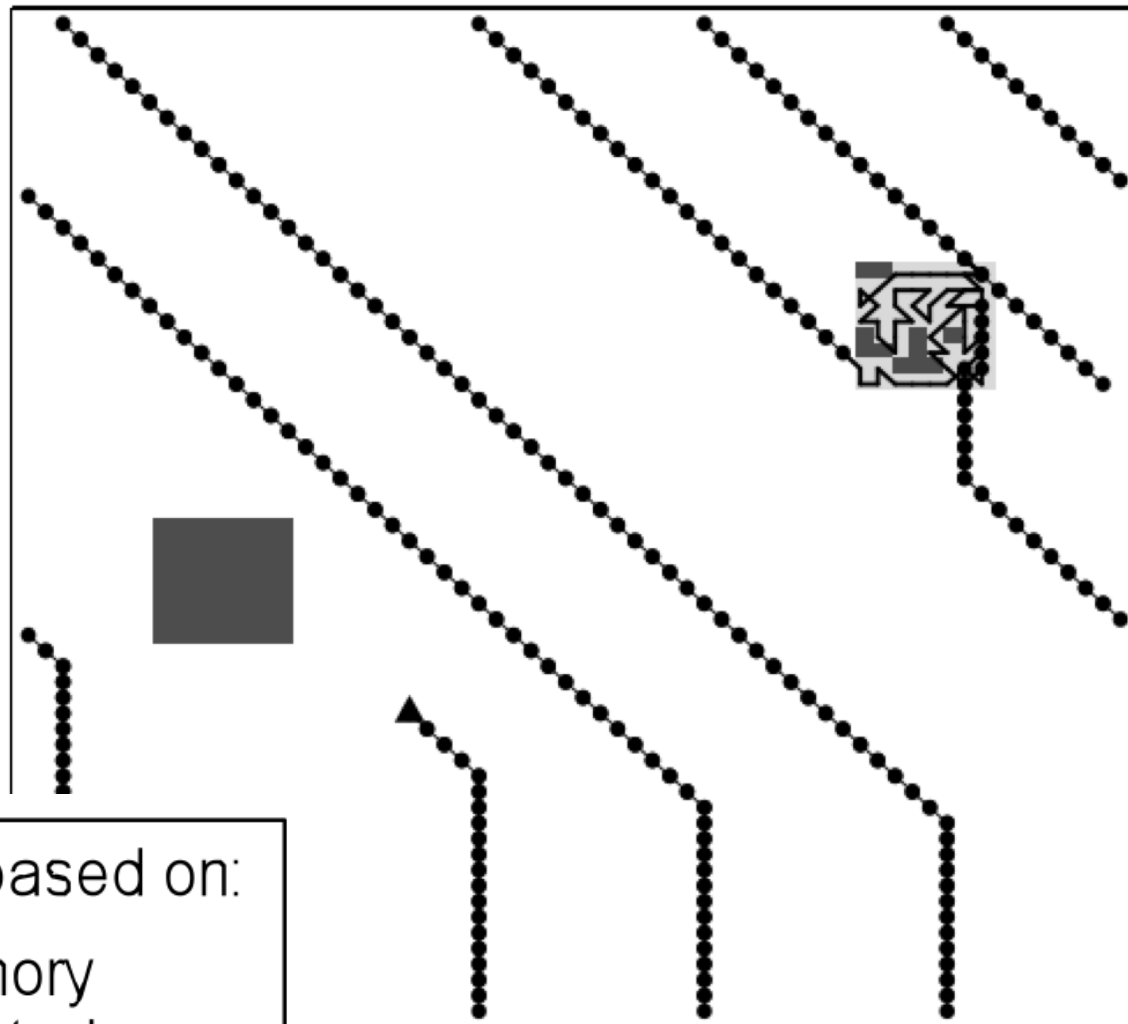


# Relevance of behaviors



$$\text{Relevance} = 1 - \left[ \frac{\text{efficiency}_{\text{reduced network}}}{\text{efficiency}_{\text{full network}}} \right]$$

# Unpredictable landscapes (no non-oriented)



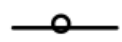
movement based on:



memory

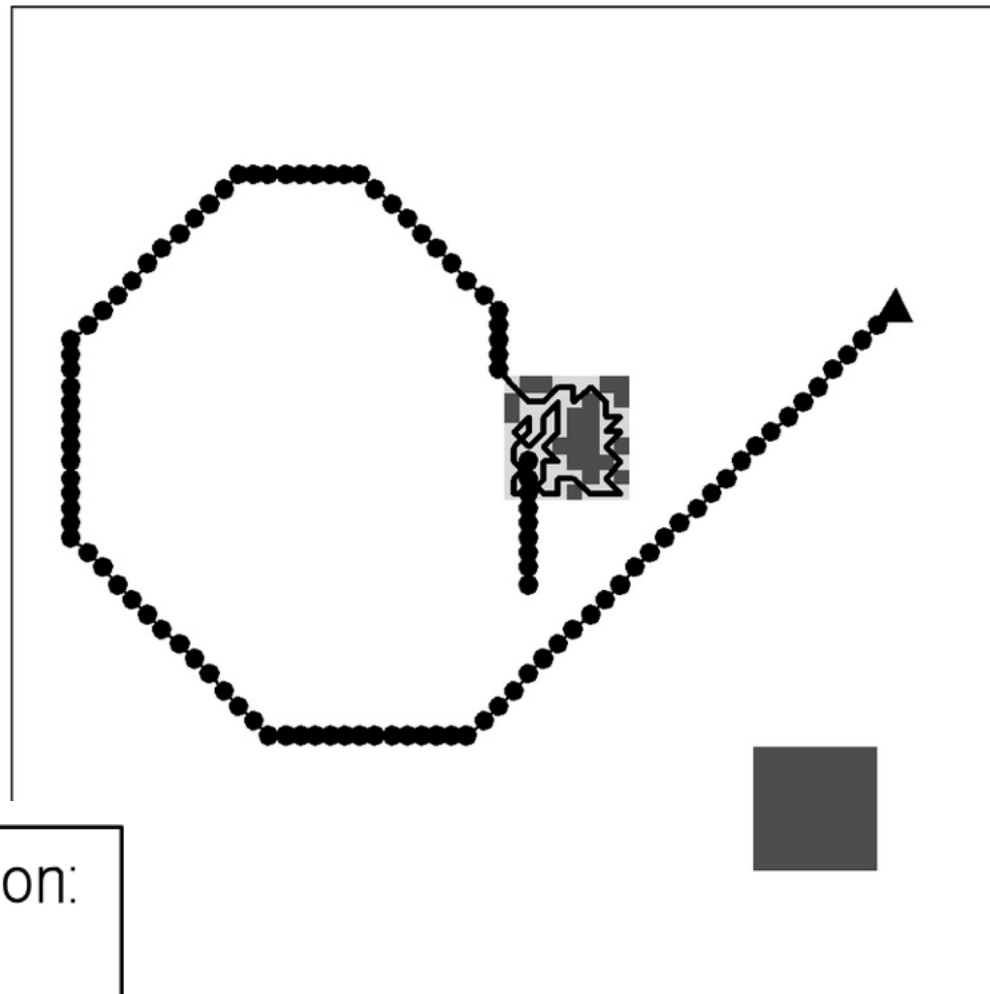


oriented



non-oriented

# Unpredictable landscapes (no non-oriented)



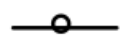
movement based on:



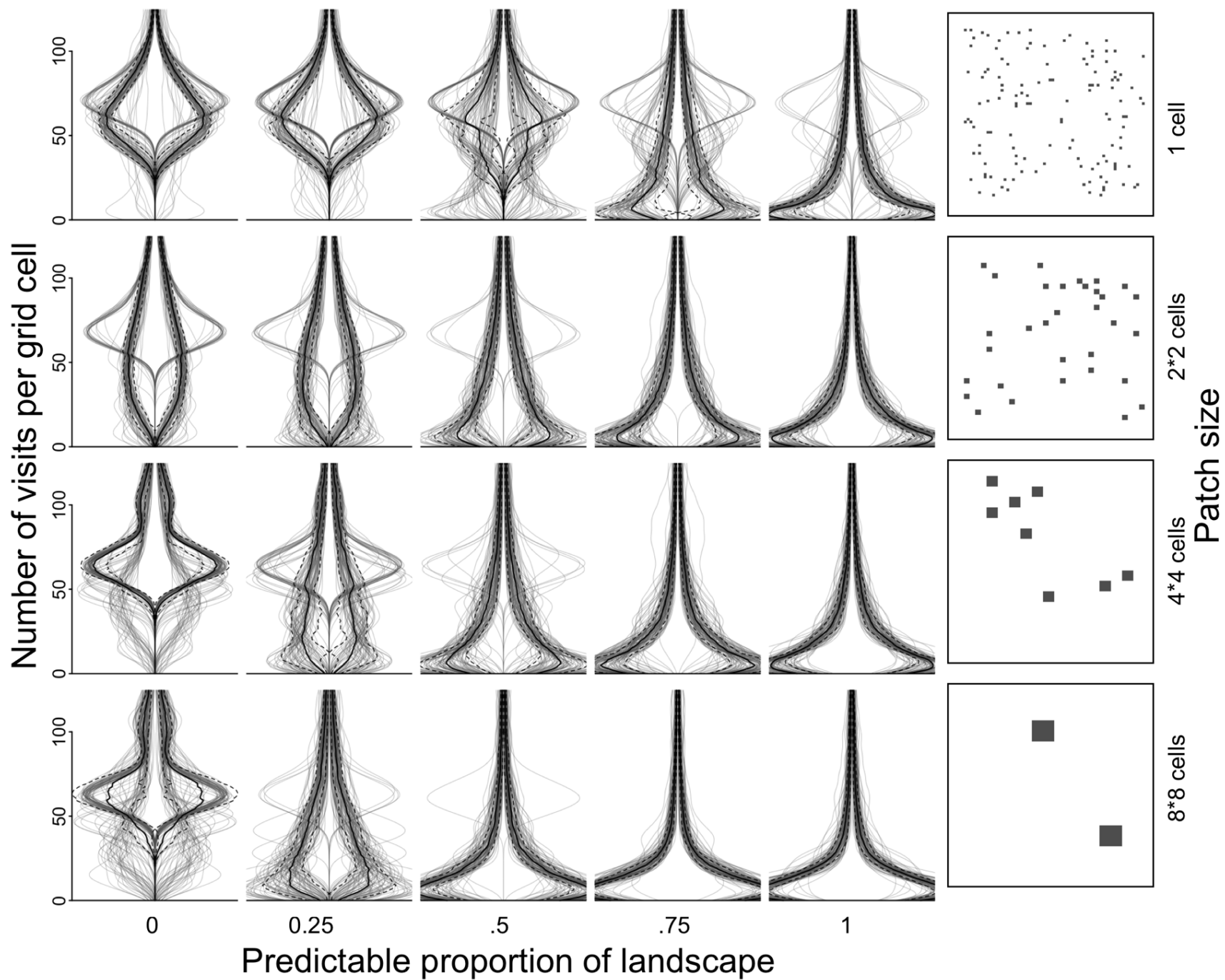
memory



oriented



non-oriented





# Acknowledgements

## Collaborators

William F. Fagan (University of Maryland, USA)  
Peter Leimgruber (Smithsonian, USA)  
Kirk Olson (Smithsonian, USA)  
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Petra Kaczensky (Vet. U. Vienna, Austria)  
Todd Fuller (UMASS, USA)  
George Schaller (Panthera, USA)  
David Wattles (Univ. Mass., USGS)  
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Maria Bolgeri (Argentine Scientific Agency)  
Craig Nicolson (Univ. Mass.)  
Andres Novaro (Argentine Research Council)

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DEB-0743557  
DBI-1062411

