Species Distribution, Abundance and Survival Modeling: New Opportunities and Methods

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Demography (Productivity + Survival)

Distribution

Abundance (Population numbers)

Demography (Productivity + Survival)







Abundance (Population numbers)





Distribution and occurrence are normal or Gaussian! What if not?

Abundance (Population numbers)



Let's add rivers and the distribution of observations along them will become normal

our observations regarding two factors - and here is the result!

5

How to determine the range in which the species occurs for which it is possible to extrapolate the obtained accounting data?



What is species range (distribution) modeling?



Central to understanding species distributions is the niche theory (Hutchinson 1957)



Fundamental niche comprises all abiotic environmental conditions where a species can survive indefinitely, meaning where it has a positive population growth



Realised niche smaller than the fundamental niche due to negative interspecific interactions

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Biotic-abiotic-movement diagrams emphasise the complex interplay between these three factors

A species can only survive in geographic areas where both the abiotic environmental conditions (A) and the prevailing biotic interactions (B) allow positive population growth. The intersection of A and B thus represents the potential distribution of the

species, or the realised niche. The movement capacity (M) of a species will determine which geographic area is accessible now. The intersection of A, B and M represents the geographic area that is actually occupied by the species and where we can find source populations (filled circles).

Schema of the species distribution modelling concept



Zurell, 2020



Back in the 90s. ...

First in ArcView 3x, then in ArcGIS 8~, 9~, 10~





What do we need for SDM?

Linear regression methods:

- Generalized linear model (GLM) (Nelder, Wedderburn, 1972),
- Generalized additive model (GAM) (Hastie, Tibshirani, 1990);

Machine learning methods:

- Maximum entropy method implemented in the MaxEnt program
- (Soberson, Peterson, 2005; Phillips et al., 2006; Phillips, Dudik, 2008),
- Random Forest (RF) is an ensemble learning method for classification and regression that works by constructing multiple decision trees during training (Breiman, 2001),
- Boosted Regression Trees (BRT),
- Convolutional Neural Networks (CNN) (LeCun et al., 1989),
- Genetic algorithm for Rule Set Production (GARP) (Stockwell, 1999; Stockwell, Peters, 1999),
- Machine learning supporting vector networks (Support Vector Machines, SVM) (Cortes, Vapnik, 1995; Vapnik *et al.*, 1997),
- XGBoost (eXtreme Gradient Boosting, XGB) (Chen, Guestrin, 2016).

Вероятность / Probability

Обучающая выборка / Training sample

The calculated formula: y = 0.01x + -0.02The coefficient of determination (R2): 0.91











Verification in the field using a network of random points generated according to a species distribution model with a pixel probability higher than 50%

66°30 68°00 71°00 69°30 44 Δ1° - A 43 43° PB⁻ Verified Unknown False - BB - BH 42° - R 42° W 50 100 Kilometers 50 71°00' 66°30' 68°00' 69°30'









Confusing interface



English language



Constant and a second and

Auto feature





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Difficulty understanding and learning





csv, shp, geojson

To run algorithms in which it is necessary to add data from GEE rasters, a selection field is provided from the list of available earth remote sensing (ERS) products: NASADEM, MOD13A1.061 Terra Vegetation Indices 16-Day Global 500m, Geomorpho90m, Global Habitat Heterogeneity, Global Wind Atlas, World Clim, ERA5-Land Monthly Aggregated – ECMWF Climate Reanalysis, ESA WorldCover 10m v100, Dynamic World V1, unclassified satellite data such as surface reflectivity (SR) collection 2 Landsat 8 atmospheric-corrected (blue, red, green, near-infrared and shortwave infrared 1 bands with 30 m spatial resolution) and ALOS-2 PALSAR Lband dual-polarization (HH and HV) SAR data, and NDVI and EVI calculation data from Landsat 8 images using the GEE (normalizedDifference) function.



At the current stage, the product includes the following modules:

1) Obtaining data from GEE rasters for given points (result presented in a table with data selected for points from rasters included in the GEE collection);

2) Obtaining a classified raster for a given area and a set of points of presence and absence of a view (training points) using the RF and MaxEnt classifiers based on GEE (both classifiers allow, for a given area of interest, a set of training points and selected remote sensing products from GEE, to obtain a classified one with using appropriate GEE raster methods of the area of interest. It is possible to cross-validate the selected models and evaluate their predictive effectiveness);



3) Three different methods to stimulate population size:

3.1) Generation of random points in a regular network – a heuristic algorithm that, based on data on the points of presence of the species and on the studied areas, generates random points, simulating species' distribution in the general area of interest;



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3.2) Distance – a method based on the Distance Sampling model (Buckland *et al.*, 2015), that accepts input of a file with the necessary variables for points and areas and displays detailed statistics as a result;





3.3) Simple site surveys using calculation of a weighted average indicator for species distribution density (Karyakin, 2004) with an calculation of asymmetric confidence interval (Ravkin, Chelintsev, 1990);



4) Estimation of nest survival based on the RMARK library (Laake, 2013). The survival calculation module includes processing of nest survival data using the nest method of the RMARK library, which can account for various variables in remote sensing data and infers the importance of variables for nest survival.



The software product is hosted on the servers of organizations recognized as undesirable in Russia, access to which is blocked by Roskomnadzor. The authors are considering options, including creating a clone on a Russian internet resource.



Спасибо за внимание! Thank you for your attention!

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