

sDiv working group meeting summary

“sTeTra - Quantifying temporal change in traits across taxa and the globe”

General working atmosphere. The meeting was a mixed in-person and remote format, with the majority of participants attending remotely. Maria Dornelas kindly hosted us at her department at the University of St Andrews and, apart from Shane, who braved Covid tests and a journey to cold Scotland, all in-person participants were based in the UK. Due to Covid restrictions on the number of people who could be present in a room and CO2 sensors warning us when fresh air was required, we ended up having a lot of online meetings with in-person participants participating from different rooms. Nevertheless, it was great to get together with at least some of our WG members and having in-depth discussions and the ability to quickly sketch something on a whiteboard was not only motivating but also helped to advance our various projects.

sDiv support. Excellent support all-round, as usual although less was needed due to the meeting taking place at the University of St. Andrews.

General format. We started with a general introduction and welcome (PIs Maria Dornelas and Franzi Schrodtt) and short briefings on each of the topics covered, including the body size project (Ines), Life history data preliminary matching (Franzi), Functional/taxonomic rarity (Franzi, Faye, Isaac), Plasticity - Anthrophilia/phobia (Britt), Variance in population trends (Anne), Fast-Slow+reproductive investment (Mike) and finally, we presented a plan for the rest of the meeting and wrap up (Maria, Franzi).

Following this, we continued with a parallel session format (with two parallel sessions at once) with daily briefings and recaps. Sessions were planned dynamically to allow ideas to flourish and effort to migrate to where it was needed most. However, we focused particularly on the following main objectives and made substantial progress on all of them.

Topic 1 | body size project. We discussed where we were with the analysis, and divided initial tasks. The narrative of the paper was discussed and presented to the wider group at the end of the first day. In the next few days, we worked on incorporating the feedback in our workflow, reviewed the models, and identified a series of tasks that will need to be accomplished before we are ready to submit. An outline of the manuscript was drafted and writing began.

Topic 2 | Functional/taxonomic rarity. We discussed preliminary results and the general approach used, deciding to use a different measure of “rarity” in addition to the one we

already calculated. We planned the structure, started drafting the paper and agreed on an action plan to further advance the paper before our in person meeting in the summer.

Topic 3 | FastSlowReprod & VarPopTrends. The general goal was discussed. The "champions" presented their project ideas, and we spent some time discussing if this should be one or two projects. We decided to go ahead with two individual projects, although this will be revised in follow up smaller core meetings with the PIs after initial data collection.