



Inference, fragmentation, conservation and genomics INFRAGECO

Lounes CHIKHI (Partner 1)

Funded projects final conference, 12-13 November 2019, Brussels

BiodivERsA COFUND Call (2015-2016)

« Understanding and managing biodiversity dynamics to improve ecosystem functioning and delivery of ecosystem services in a global change context: the cases of soils and sediments, and land- river and sea-scapes »

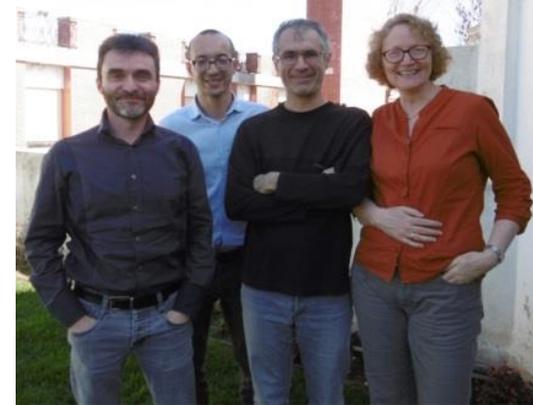
CONSORTIUM DESCRIPTION

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Institut Mathématiques de Toulouse, France, Funded by ANR





INFRAGECO PROJECT DESCRIPTION

To study the consequences of habitat loss and fragmentation on genetic diversity using comparative analyses, genomic data and statistical modelling. To develop simulation and inferential tools. To visit schools, train students, conservationists and inform authorities

Madagascar as a **model region** (first humans < 5000-10,000 years)

Habitat Loss and Fragmentation (10-20% of the total area is forested)

Genetic and genomic data (**RAD-seq**, msats, etc.)

Comparative approach (**lemurs, rodents, Oleacea *Noronhia***)

Identify recent and ancient **barriers to gene flow**

Demographic inference integrating population structure

Spatial simulations software for inference and prediction

INFRAGECO PROJECT DESCRIPTION

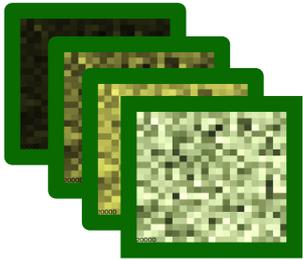
Genetic and genomic data
(RAD-seq, msats, etc.)

Comparative approach
(lemurs, rodents, *Noronhia*)

(endemic – invasive)



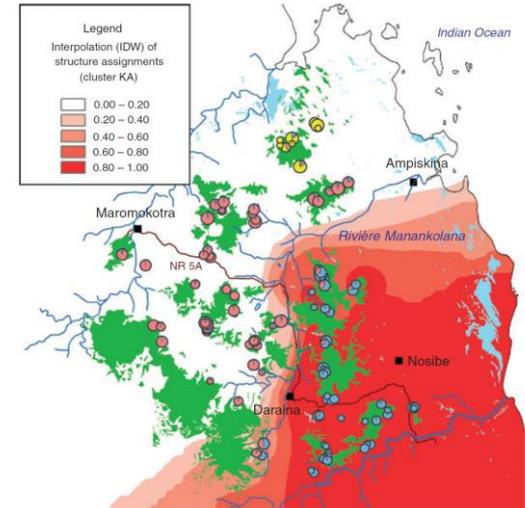
INFRAGECO PROJECT DESCRIPTION



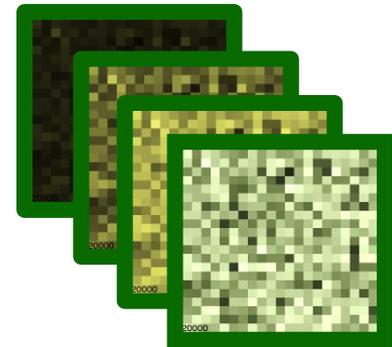
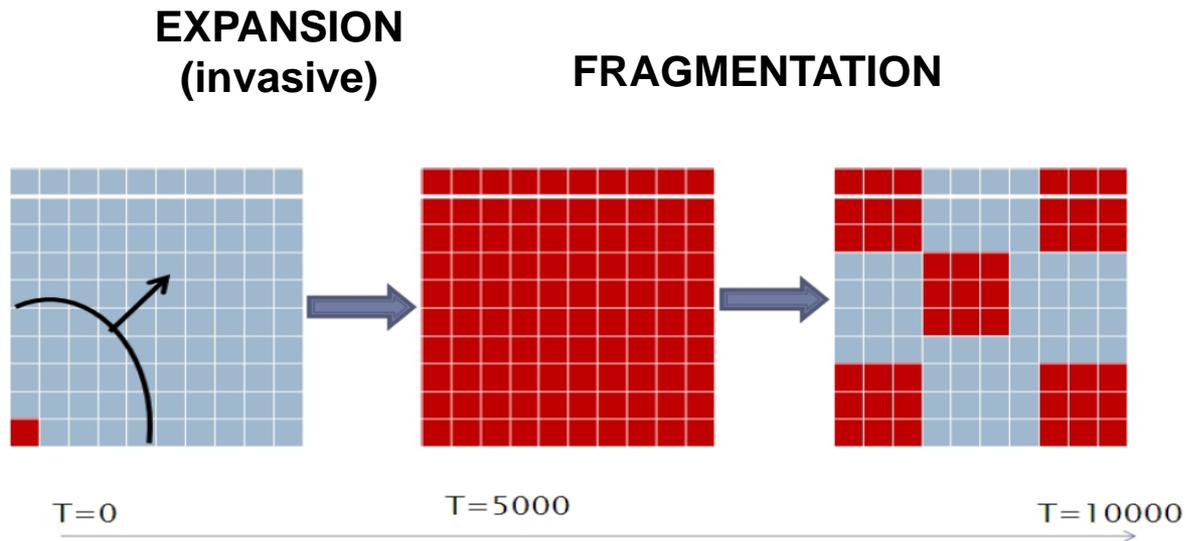
Identify recent and ancient barriers
to gene flow

Demographic history inference integrating
population structure

Spatial simulations for **inference** and **prediction**



INFRAGECO PROJECT DESCRIPTION



Spatial simulations for **inference** and **prediction**



INFRAGECO PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Work Packages

Sampling and Coordination - LC

Genotyping and Genomics - GB

Critical Features of Ecological Networks - UR

Spatial Simulations of HL&F - LC

Stochastic Modelling and Statistical Inference - OM

Dissemination – LC

Tasks : 15 Tasks (sub WPs)

Milestones: 22 across the six WPs

Deliverables: 29 across the six WPs



SCIENTIFIC OUTPUTS

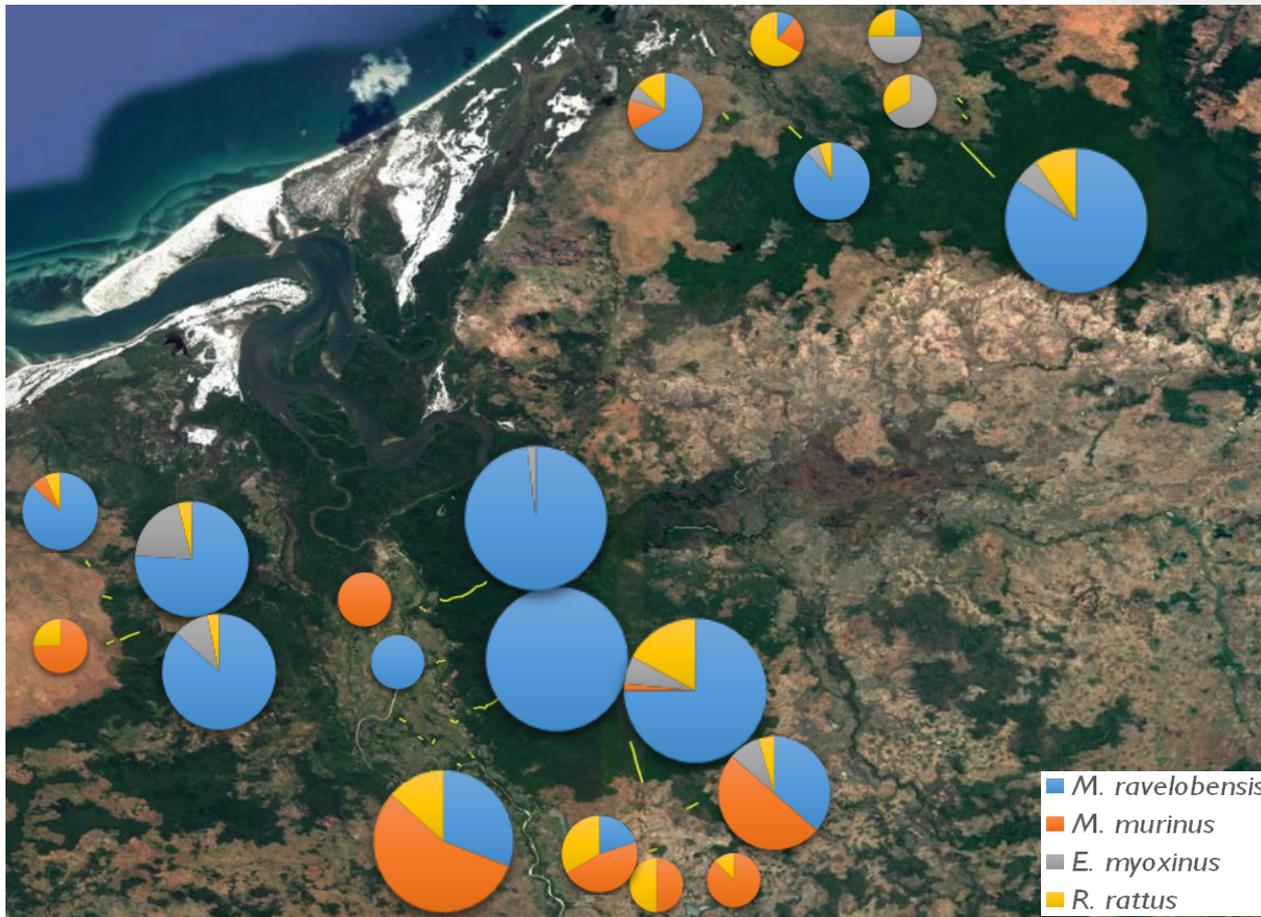
- **> 1000 animals and > 2500 plants sampled**
- **> 900 individuals RAD-seq-ed across all species (to be finished)**
- **3 theoretical articles** published (one was expected) + 2 additional to be submitted
- **11 articles published (9 peer-reviewed) + 3 submitted + 3 in prep.**
- **Two simulation software** (final stages -- as expected)
- **Theoretical advances: extensions of the IICR concept (inverse instantaneous coalescence rate):** clarifies connection between **population structure and population size change** → makes it easier to infer **ancient connectivity**



SCIENTIFIC OUTPUTS

- **Tentative new species** of mouse lemurs
- **Extension of species distributions** of mouse lemurs
- **Biodiversity hotspot for Noronhia**
- **Variable species-specific response of mouse lemurs to habitat fragmentation**
- **First genetic study** of the only **open habitat** Noronhia species (*Noronhia lowry*)
- *Noronhia lowry*: **extreme structure on cpDNA** and **no structure in nuclear DNA**
- *Noronhia lowry* to be used for **reforestation**
- **New results on genetic edge effect (spatial simulations)**
- **New measures of edge effect correlate with genetic diversity**
- **Parasitic load has a complex relation with edge and fragmentation**

Distribution mouse lemur species in Mariarano

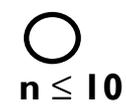
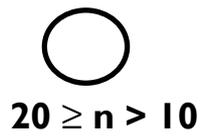
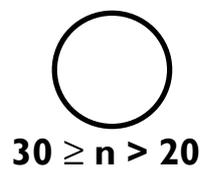
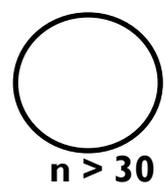


■ *M. ravelobensis*: i
the largest forests

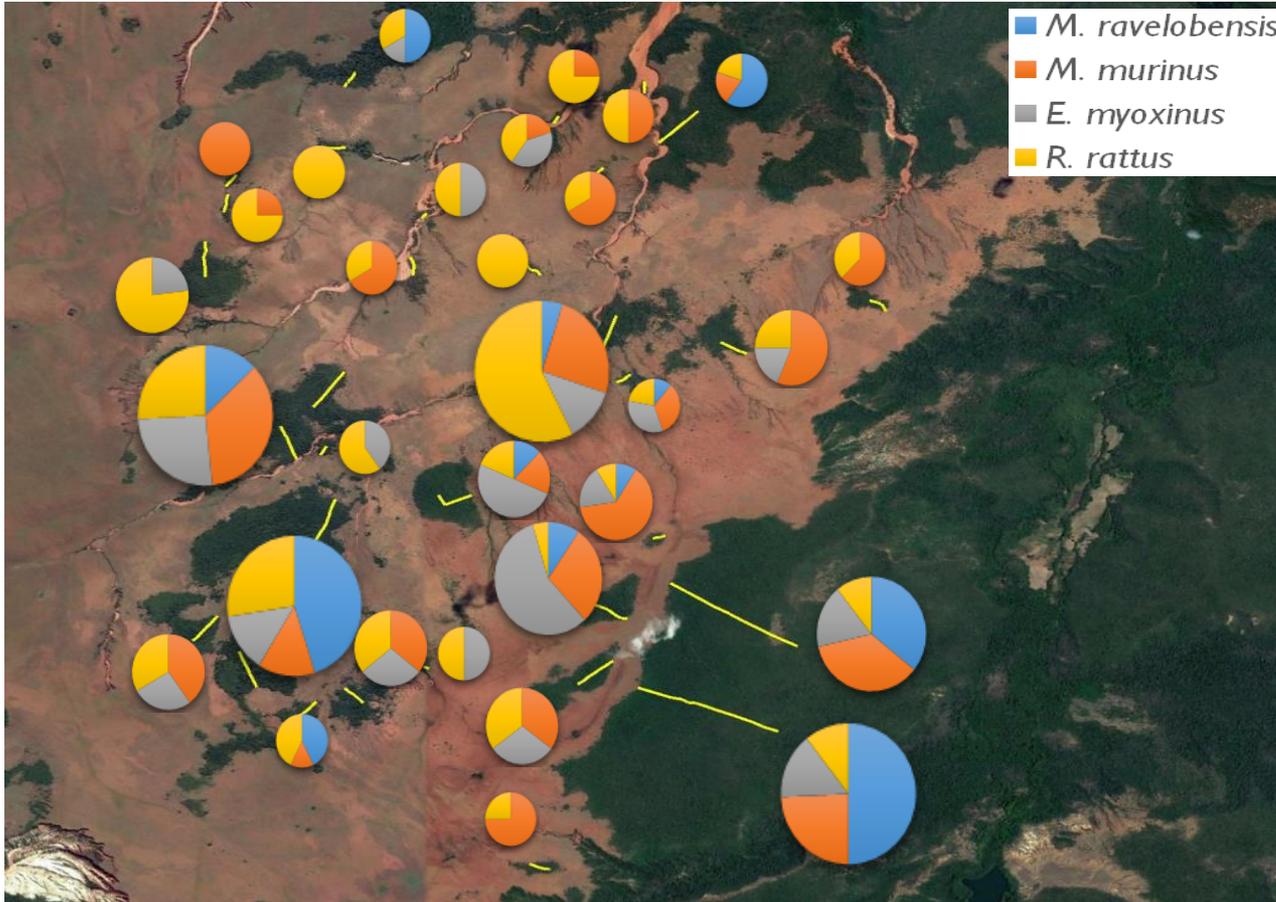
• *M. murinus*: in
forest fragments

• *E. myoxinus*: rare
everywhere

• *R. rattus*: in forest
fragments



Distribution of species in Anbanjabe (Ankarafantsika)



 *M. ravelobensis*:
in largest
fragments



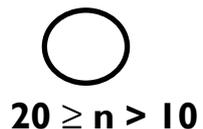
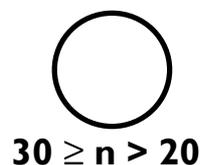
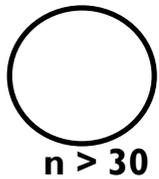
 *M. murinus*:
everywhere



 *E. myoxinus*:
everywhere

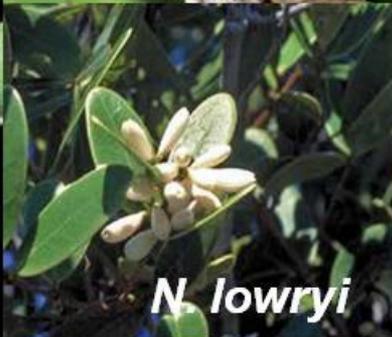
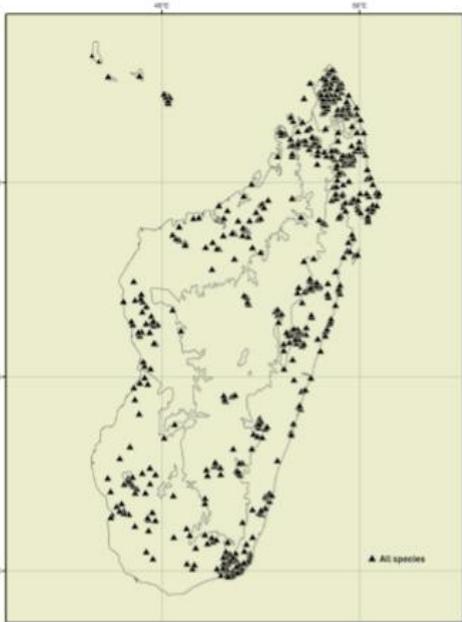


 *R. rattus*: in
fragments



Noronhia as a case study

- « Recent » radiation (Miocene) ...
- Great variability morphologique (fleur, feuille, fruit, taille...)
- High species diversity



SCIENTIFIC OUTPUTS

Noronhia field work in the « Loky-Manambato »

✓ Sampling transects

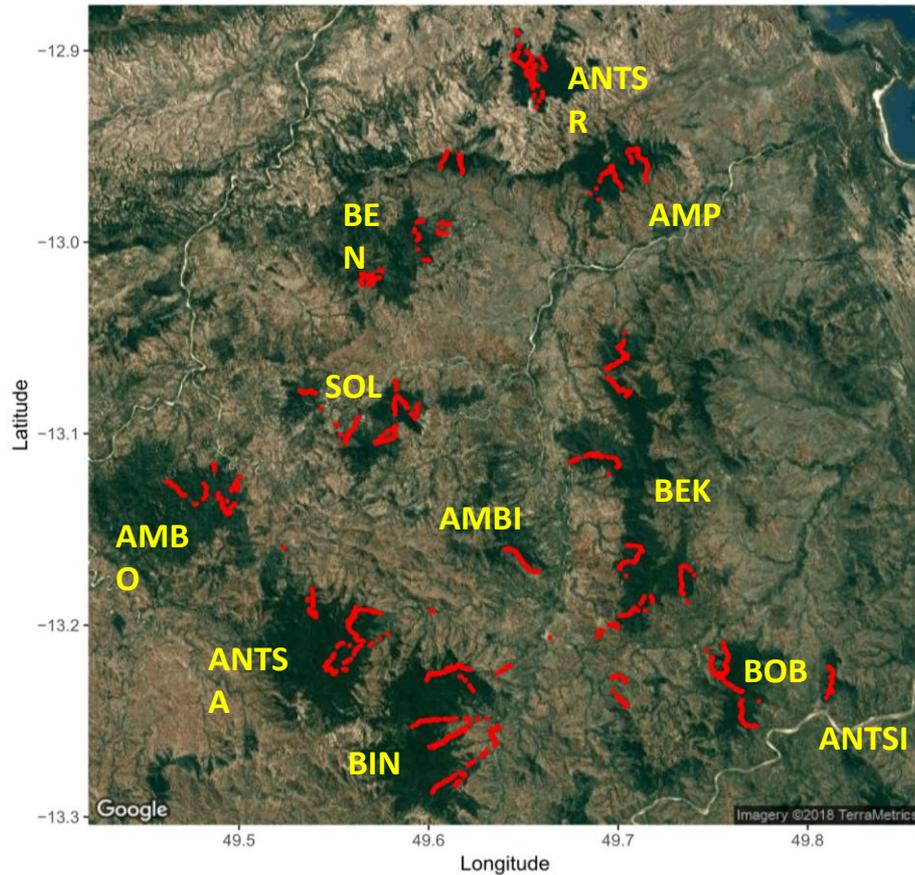
- Habitats types
- Altitude
- Forest size

✓ >2500 *Noronhia*

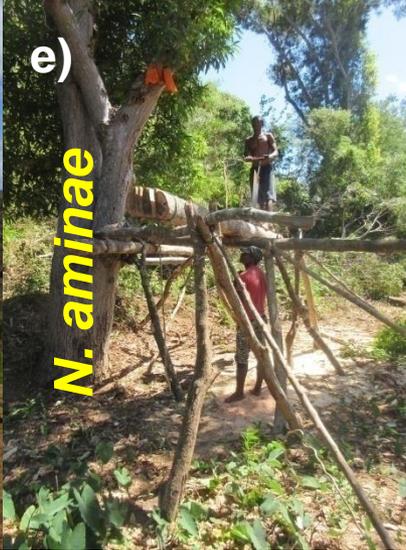
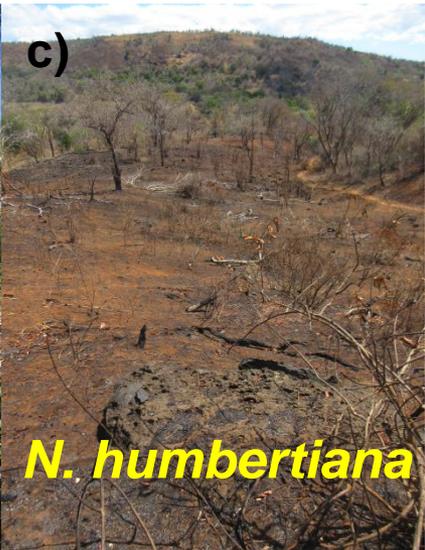
✓ ~30 species

Most species are micro-endemics

Many sympatric species



Noronhia exploited for wood and charcoal

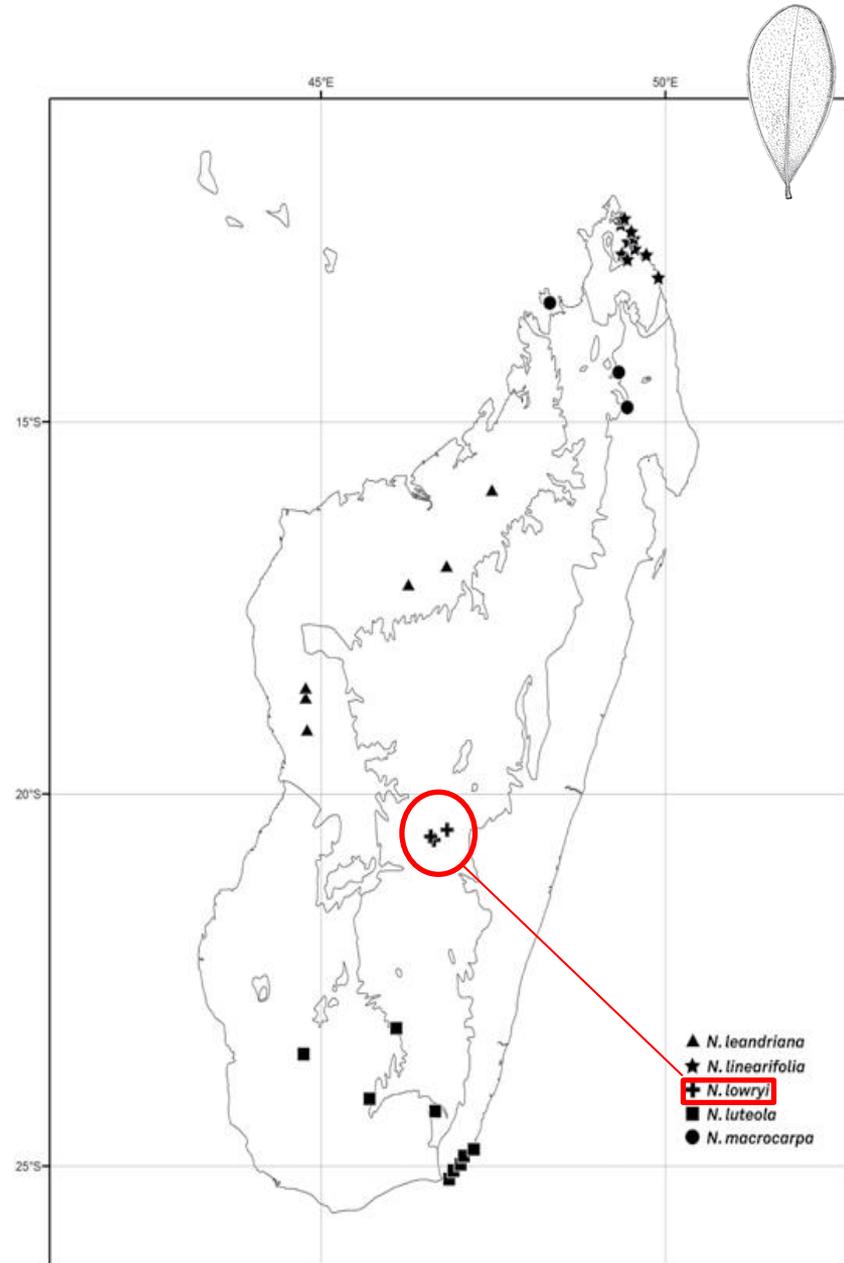


Noronhia lowryi

Hong-Wa C. 2016. *Boissiera*

Recently described :

- Only *Noronhia* savanah species
- Endemic in Itremo à Ibity
- Sols quartzites
- Rare, threatened(EN)
- Restoration Programmes (Ibity, MBG)





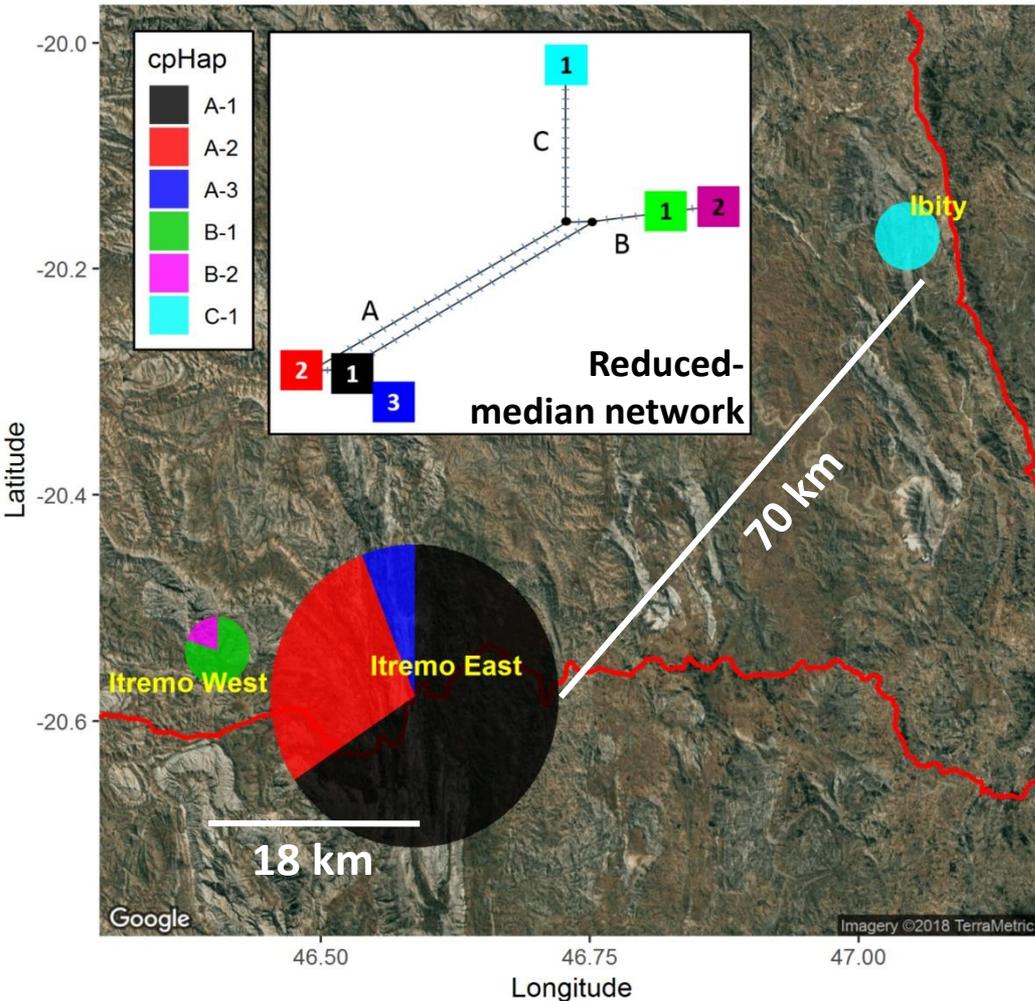
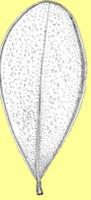
Itremo, Centre Madagascar



Noronhia lowryi : savannah

(Itremo-Ibity, Centre Madagascar)

Extreme genetic differences in maternal genome (chloroplastic)



Few very divergent alleles

One lineage per population

No genetic exchange (maternal side)

BUT

No genetic differentiation on the nuclear

Ectoparasites



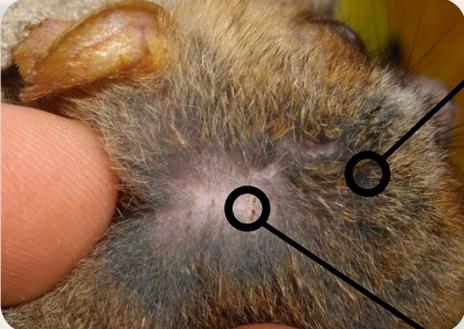
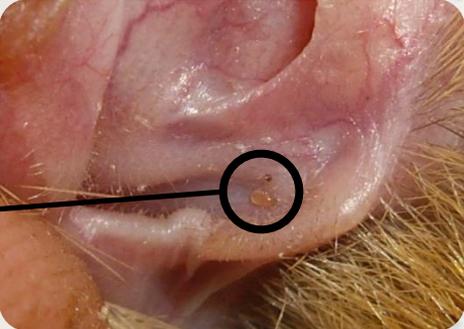
ticks



thrombiculidae



acariens



acariens predators



lice



SOCIETAL / POLICY OUTPUTS

IUCN Primate Specialist group in 2018: Conservation status of all lemur species

Symposia at the ATBC (Association for Tropical Biology and Conservation) meeting in Madagascar July-August 2019

Visits at **schools** in Madagascar 2018-2019 + Portugal + France

Masters students from Mahajanga trained in the field and for data analysis

University lectures in Antananarivo and Mahajanga

One Malagasy PhD student + One Malagasy post-doc (U. Radespiel)

Three European PhD students within INFRAGECO or significantly involved

INFRAGECO WEBSITE: <http://www.infrageco-biodiversa.org>

Madagascar Stakeholder meeting 5 August 2019

SOON: Science and Music in Feb. 2020 (Fundação Gulbenkian)

SOCIETAL / POLICY OUTPUTS



School visits











Misaotra betsaka tompoko



Research consortium: INFRAGECO



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