

# Systematics, Phylogeography and Conservation of Arthropods in the Madrean Sky Island Region



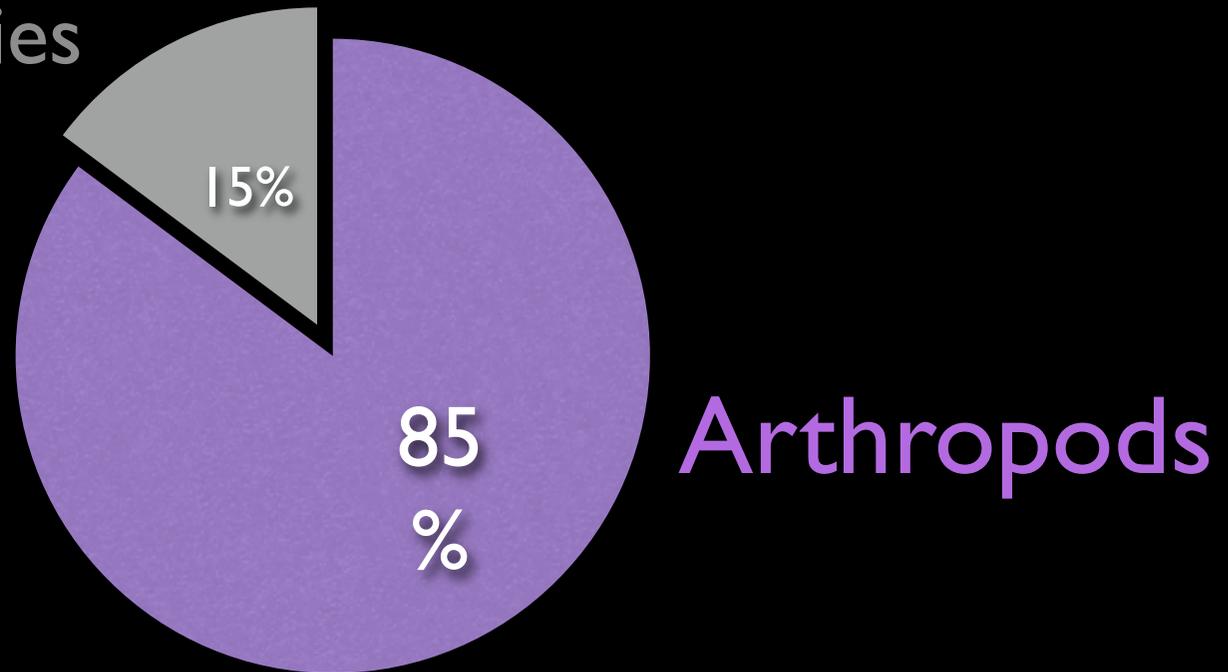
Wendy Moore, PhD  
Associate Professor, Insect Systematics  
Curator, UA Insect Collection  
Department of Entomology  
University of Arizona



Kingdom Animalia.....1,327,047 species

Arthropods.....1,139,120 species  
85% of all animal species

all other  
animal species







# University of Arizona Insect Collection

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The University of Arizona's Insect Collection is a UA core facility that is the cornerstone for entomological research and insect diagnostics for the state of Arizona. The UAIC maintains approximately 2.0 million insect specimens and is the most comprehensive in the world for the Sonoran Desert Region. Many holdings are encountered in agricultural or urban environments, of which some are actual or potential pests or vectors of disease. Specimens of these species have been authoritatively identified by leading researchers from around the world, making the UAIC the most complete, modern, and well-curated source of research specimens, and an essential resource for scientists conducting basic and applied entomological research in this biologically rich region.



We are located on the 4th floor of the Forbes Building near the center of the University campus. The collection is open to the public Monday through Friday from 8 am to 4 pm. Please [contact us](#) before you visit to make sure someone will be available to help you with your questions.





Collections in Support of Biological Research  
(DBI-1203398)

“Critical Renovation and Revitalization of  
the University of Arizona Insect Collection”



Newly renovated UAIC



2012-13 Renovation

# AND WE'RE OFF ... TO BENNU!

Liftoff for the UA-led OSIRIS-REx mission was right on time at Cape Canaveral, and the journey to the asteroid has begun.

[READ MORE »](#)

## OUR IMPACT

10<sup>th</sup>

The College of Architecture, Planning, and Landscape Architecture ranked 10th in the nation for annual research generated

*Association of American Universities*

2M

The number of irreplaceable specimens in the UA's Insect Collection

*Department of Entomology*

8<sup>th</sup>

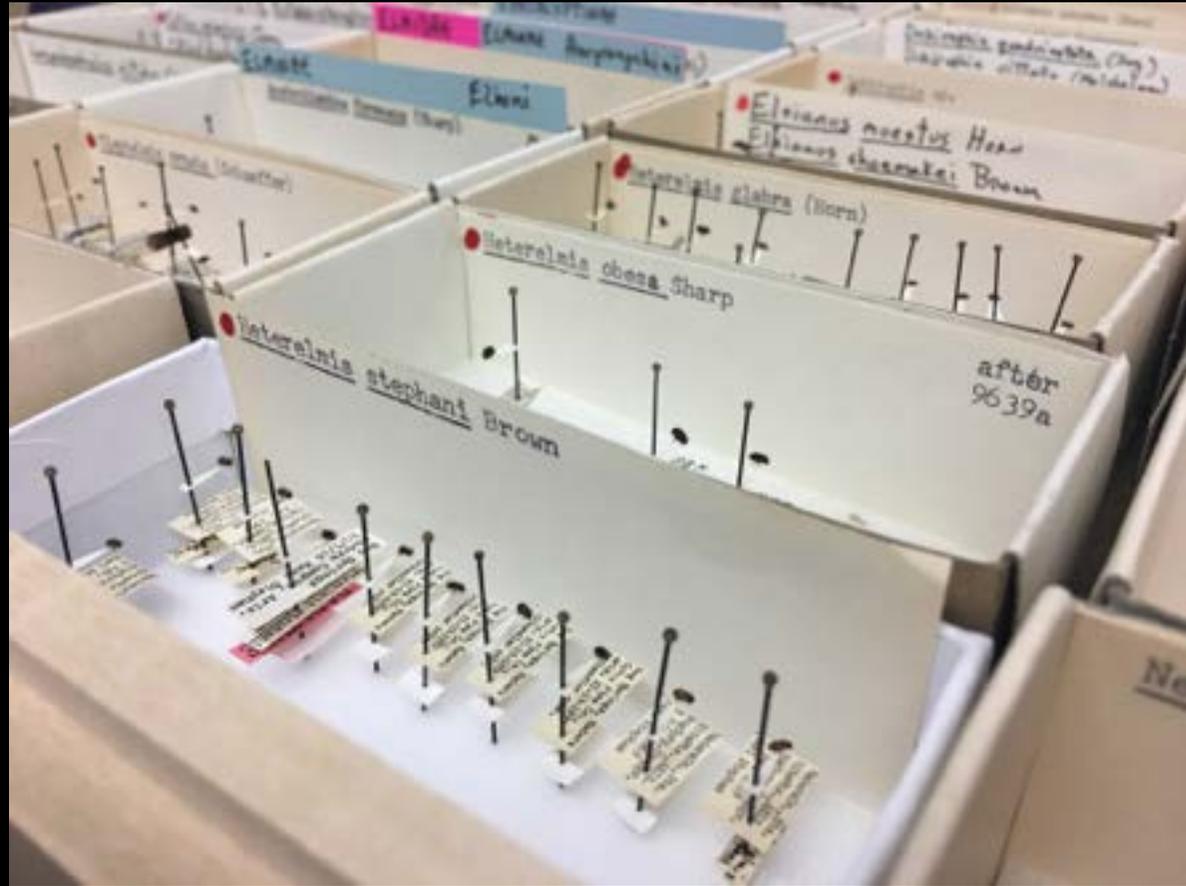
UA's Master of Science in Planning is ranked 8th out of 34 Top Planning Programs in the nation without a PhD

*Planetizen*

Declared Extinct



10 of those specimens belong to a beetle species, *Heterelmis stephani* (Stephan's riffle beetle)



UAIC riffle beetle collection

The beetle lived in two springs in Madera Canyon, a habitat the Center for Biological Diversity said was degraded by livestock grazing, spring water piping and hiking trails.

Declared Extinct



10 of those specimens belong to a beetle species, *Heterelmis stephani* (Stephan's riffle beetle)



PARATYPE  
UAIC1098458



Photos by James Robertson

The beetle lived in two springs in Madera Canyon, a habitat the Center for Biological Diversity said was degraded by livestock grazing, spring water piping and hiking trails.

## Arizona Sky Island Arthropod Project



### Introduction to the Arizona Sky Island Arthropod Project (ASAP): Systematics, Biogeography, Ecology, and Population Genetics of Arthropods of the Madrean Sky Islands

Wendy Moore, Wallace M. Meyer, III, Jeffrey A. Eble, and Kimberly Franklin  
Department of Entomology, University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona

John F. Wiens and Richard C. Brusca  
Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum, Tucson, Arizona

In: Merging science and management in a rapidly changing world: Biodiversity and management of the Madrean Archipelago III; 2012 May 1-5; Tucson, AZ. Proceedings. RMRS-P-67. Fort Collins, CO: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Research Station.

Moore et al 2013





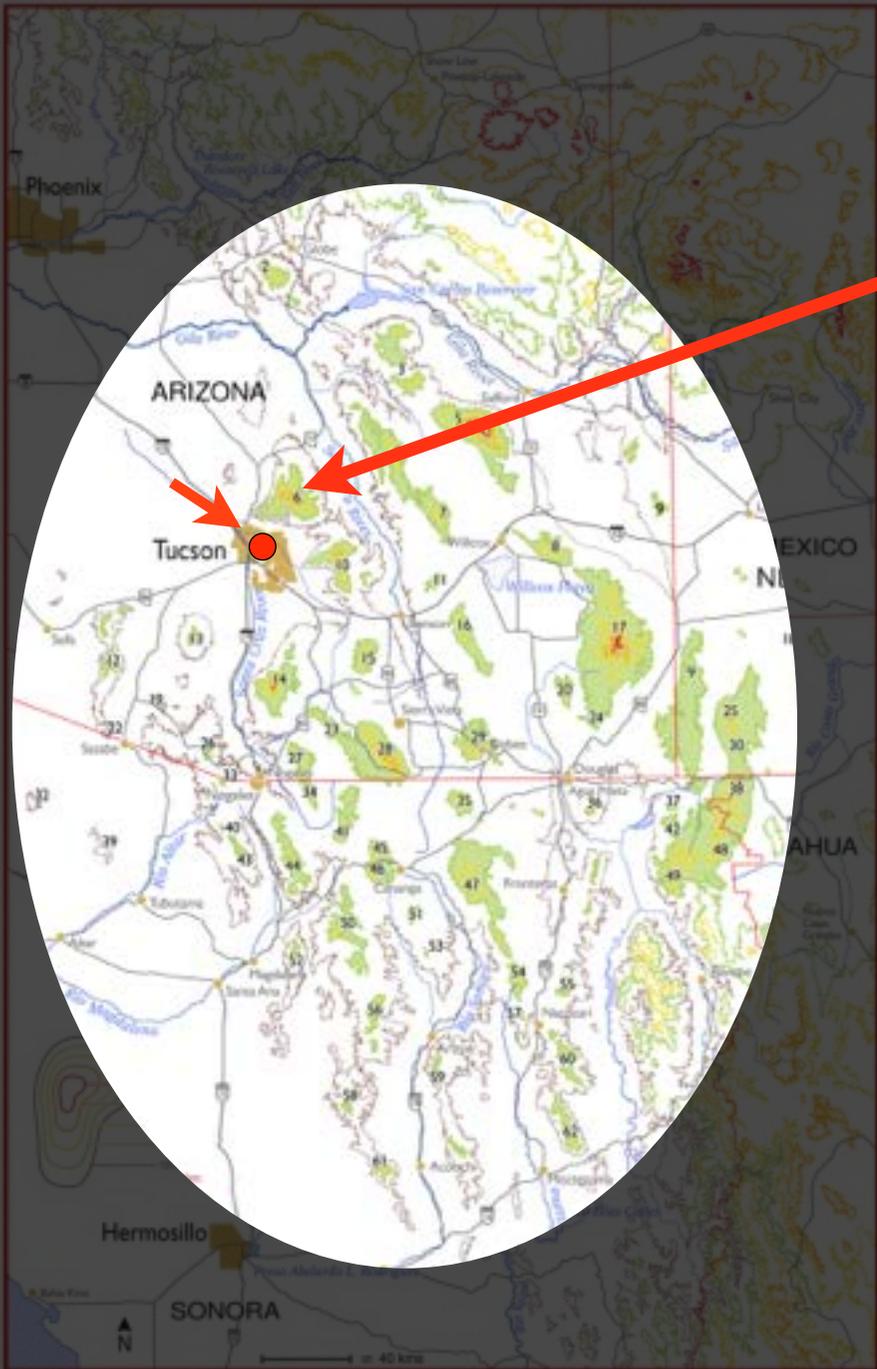
## Madrean Sky Island Region

65 mountain ranges

Formed during the Miocene, 15-6 MYA as part of the Basin-and-Range Extensional Province.



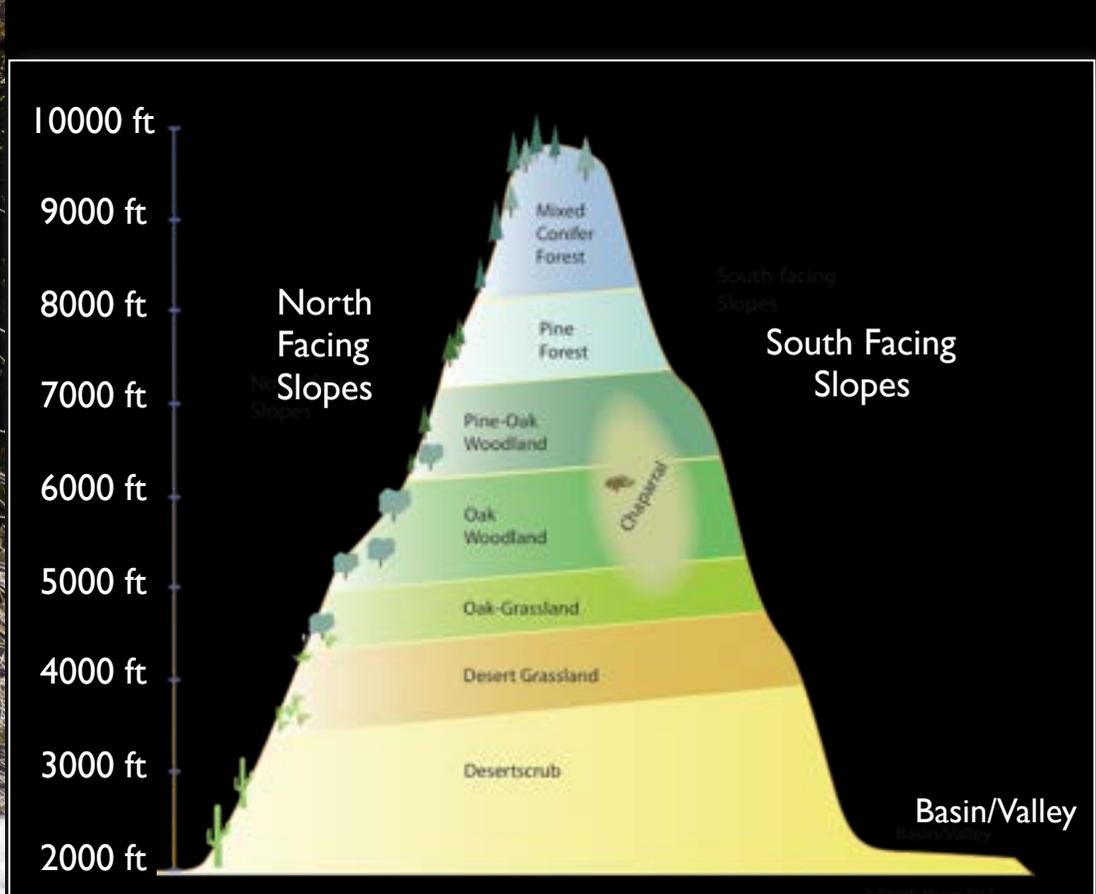
# Santa Catalina Mountains 9157 ft



SKY ISLAND ARCHIPELAGO

© 2012 Woody Floore

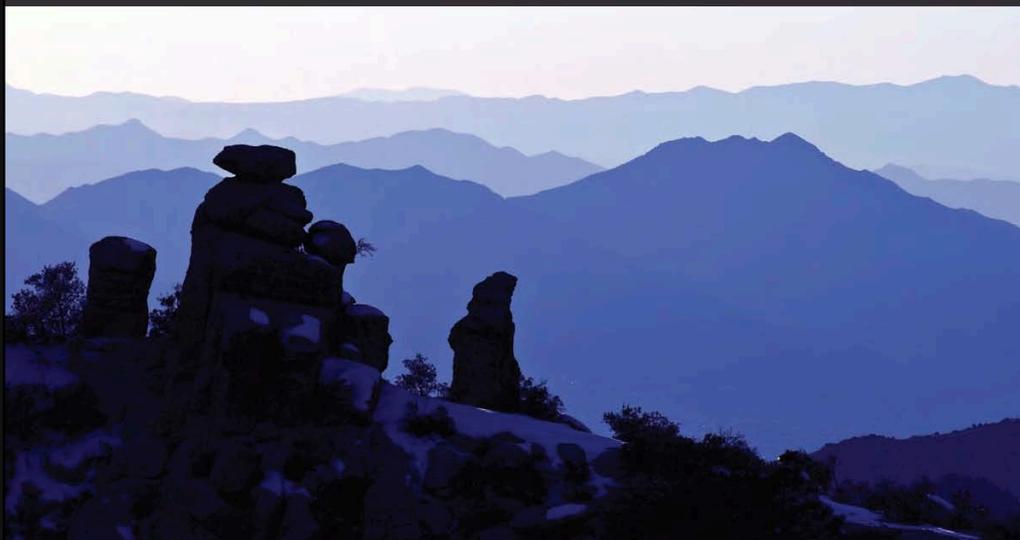
- 1 Superstition Mountains
- 2 Pinal Mountains
- 3 Santa Teresa Mountains
- 4 Catalina Mountains
- 5 Pinalito Mountains
- 6 Santa Catalina Mountains
- 7 Wheeler Mountains
- 8 Dos Cabezas Mountains
- 9 Pinalillo Mountains
- 10 Rincon Mountains
- 11 Little Dragon Mountains
- 12 Baboquiviri Mountains
- 13 Sierra Mountains
- 14 Santa Rita Mountains
- 15 Whetstone Mountains
- 16 Organ Mountains
- 17 Chiricahua Mountains
- 18 Little Hachas Mountains
- 19 Las Guapas Mountains
- 20 Swinburn Mountains
- 21 Big Hachas Mountains
- 22 Pico Verde Mountains
- 23 Careto Hills
- 24 Pedregosa Mountains
- 25 Anasazi Mountains
- 26 Accoya Mountains
- 27 Patagonia Mountains
- 28 Hualcaba Mountains
- 29 Mule Mountains
- 30 San Luis Mountains
- 31 Alamo Hueco Mountains
- 32 Sierra El Hualcaba
- 33 Pajarito Mountains
- 34 Sierra San Antonio
- 35 Sierra San Jose
- 36 Sierra La Centa
- 37 Sierra de Embudo
- 38 Sierra San Luis
- 39 Sierra San Juan
- 40 Sierra Anajas
- 41 Sierra El Chivato
- 42 Sierra Las Mojas
- 43 Sierra Chula
- 44 Sierra El Pinto
- 45 Sierra La Montaña
- 46 Sierra Elena
- 47 Sierra de Los Apes
- 48 Sierra Las Esquivas
- 49 Sierra La Castellana
- 50 Sierra Azul
- 51 Sierra El Placer
- 52 Sierra La Piedra
- 53 Cerro Beccachi
- 54 Sierra Buenos Aires
- 55 Sierra El Pinto
- 56 Sierra San Antonio
- 57 Sierra Purisa
- 58 Sierra El Jacaral
- 59 Cerro El Bellota
- 60 Sierra La Senda
- 61 Sierra Aconchi
- 62 Sierra de Oposura
- 63 Sierra Las Guapas
- 64 Sierra Los Arcos
- 65 Sierra Phasán





A NATURAL HISTORY OF THE  
SANTA CATALINA MOUNTAINS,  
ARIZONA

WITH AN INTRODUCTION TO  
THE MADREAN SKY ISLANDS

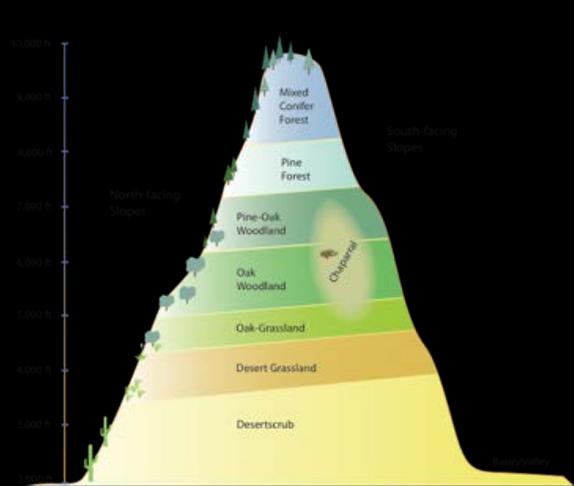


*Richard C. Brusca & Wendy Moore*  
*Foreword by Bill Broyles*

## Arizona Sky Island Arthropod Project

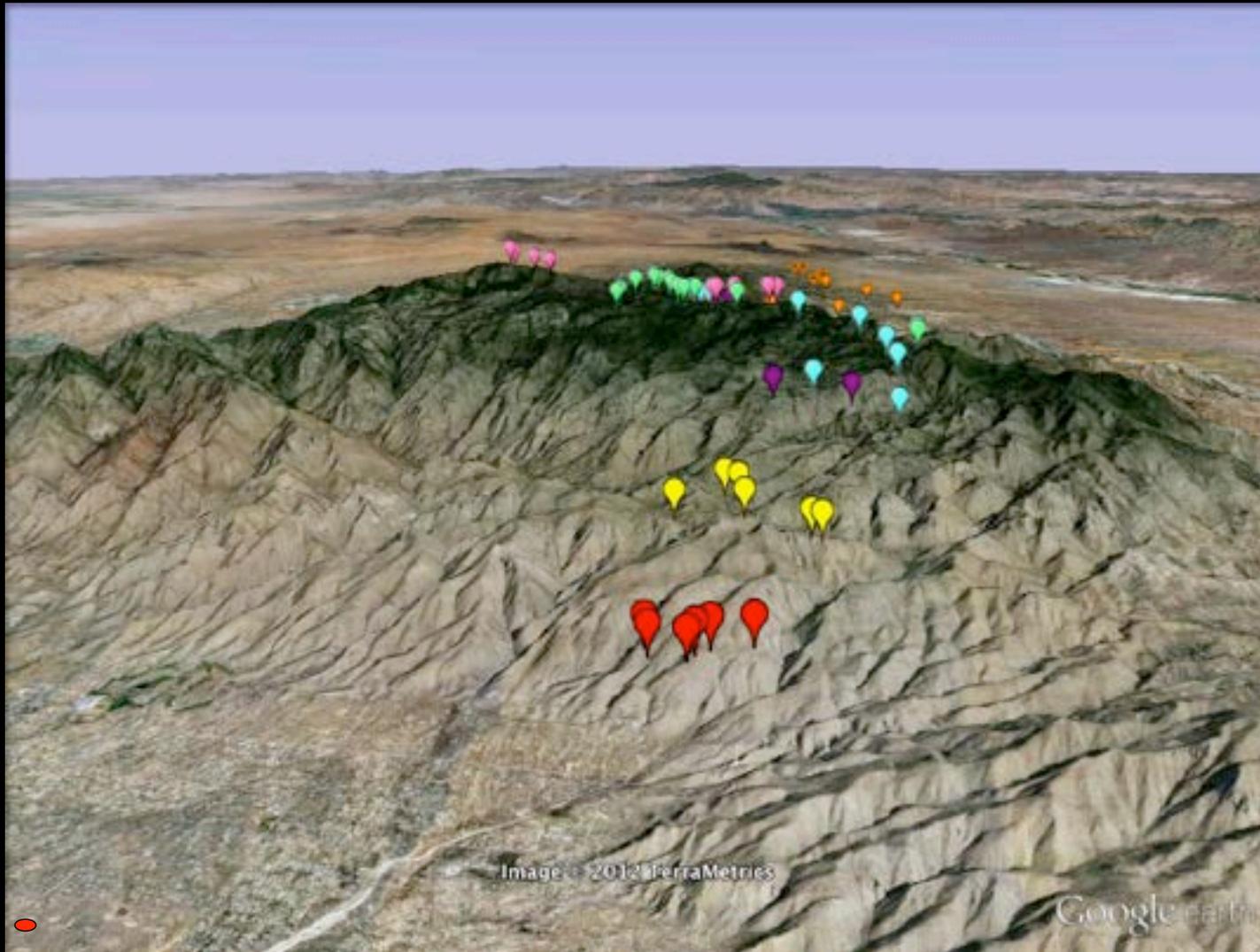
- What arthropods inhabit Arizona's Sky Islands?
- How are these species distributed within the region?
- What are their biogeographic affiliations?
- Have arthropods diversified or radiated within the region?
- Are there repeated phylogeographic patterns?







# Santa Catalina Mountains



-  Desertscrub
-  Oak-Grassland
-  Chaparral
-  Pine-Oak Woodland
-  Pine Forest
-  Mixed Conifer Forest
-  Oak Woodland
-  Desert Grassland
-  Desert Grassland  
*Grazing Disturbed*

10 pitfall traps were arranged 10 m apart along each 100 m transect line





# Undergraduate Research



# ASAP Coleoptera Collection





*Alaudes* n. sp. ?

# ASAP Coleoptera Collection

Gene Hall Univ. of Arizona

Carl Olson Univ. of Arizona

Jason Schaller Univ. of Arizona

James Robertson Univ. of Arizona

Nico Franz Arizona State University

Aaron Smith Arizona State University



Kim Franklin, Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum



Paul Marek, Virginia Tech



Carl Olson, UA Insect Collection



Garrett Hughes, University of Arizona



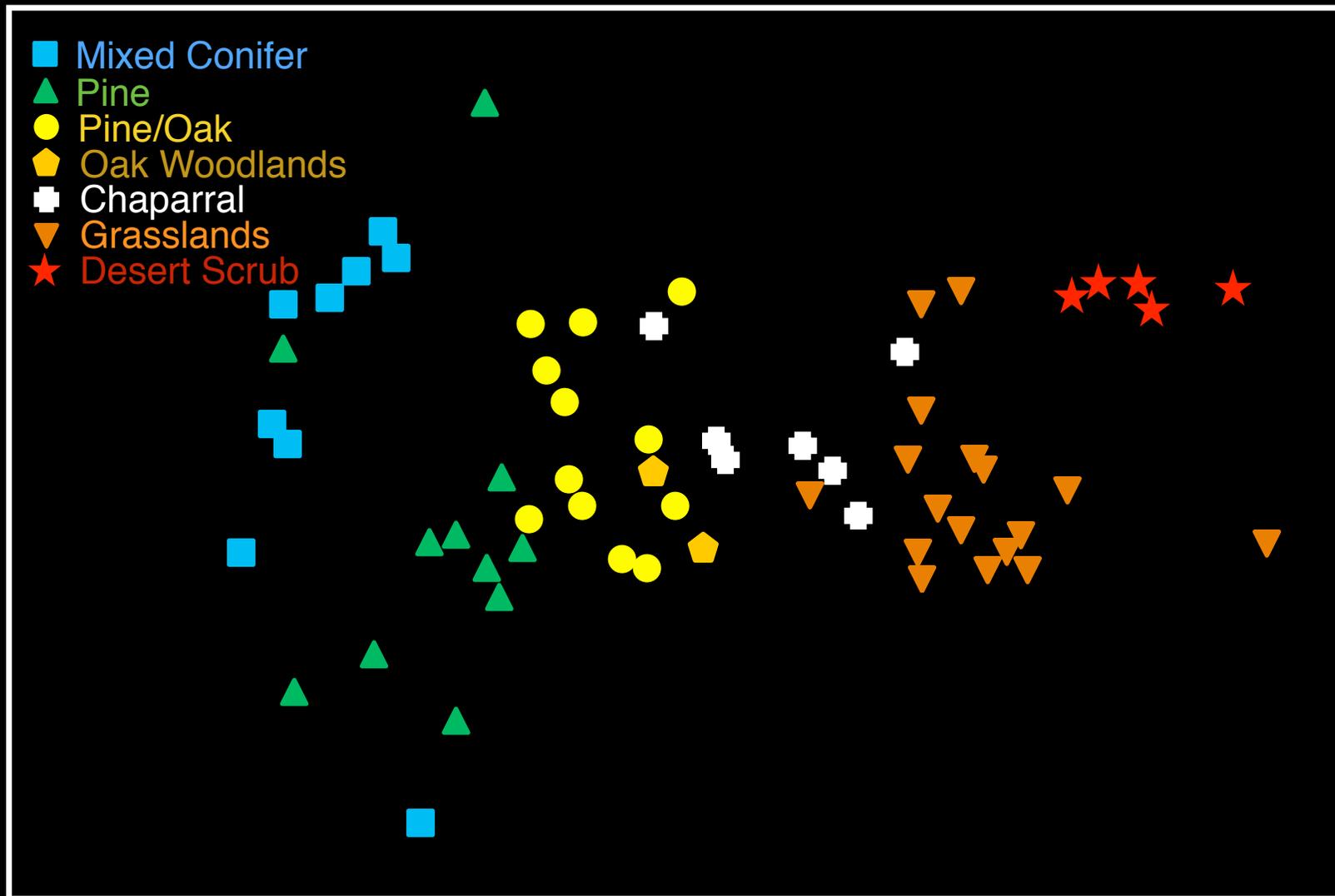
Sandy Brantley, University of New Mexico



Warren Savary, Tucson, Arizona



# Soil Dwelling Arthropod Communities in the Santa Catalina Mountains

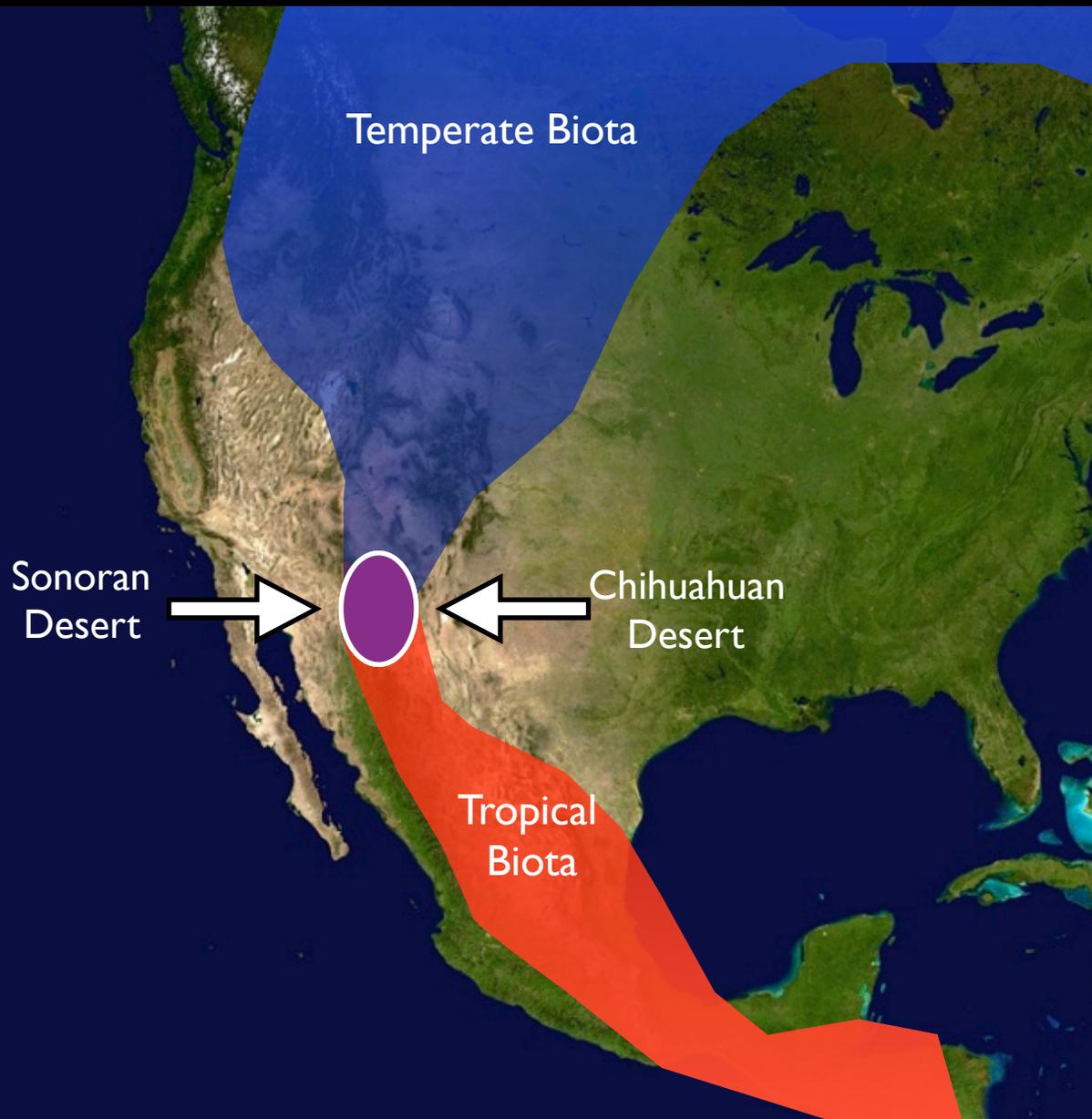


ANOSIM Results:

Mixed Conifer  $\neq$  Pine  $\neq$  Pine/Oak  $\neq$  Chaparral  $\neq$  Grassland  $\neq$  Desert Scrub

Systematics, biogeography, and ecology of ground-dwelling arthropods

1. What arthropods inhabit Arizona's Sky Islands?  
How are these species distributed within the region?  
What are the biogeographic affiliations?
2. Have arthropods diversified or radiated *within* the Sky Island Region?  
If so, are there repeated phylogeographic patterns?



## Madrean Sky Island Region

65 mountain ranges

Formed during the Miocene, 15-6 MYA as part of the Basin-and-Range Extensional Province.

Biodiversity hotspot: one of the most biologically rich regions in the United States

*Scaphinotus petersi*



# 6 subspecies of *Scaphinotus petersi*



*Scaphinotus petersi petersi*



*Scaphinotus petersi grahami*



*Scaphinotus petersi catalinae*



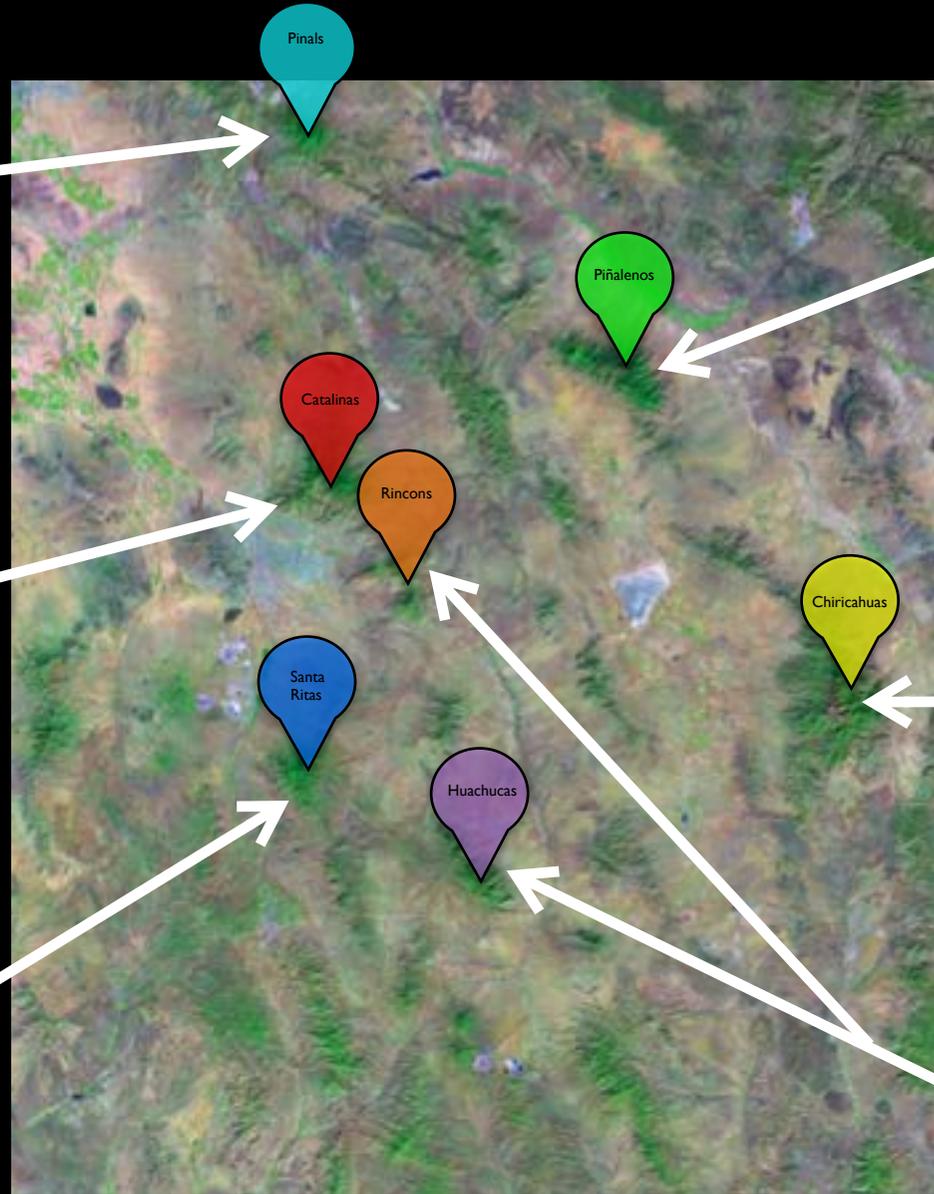
*Scaphinotus petersi corvus*



*Scaphinotus petersi kathleenae*



*Scaphinotus petersi biedermani*

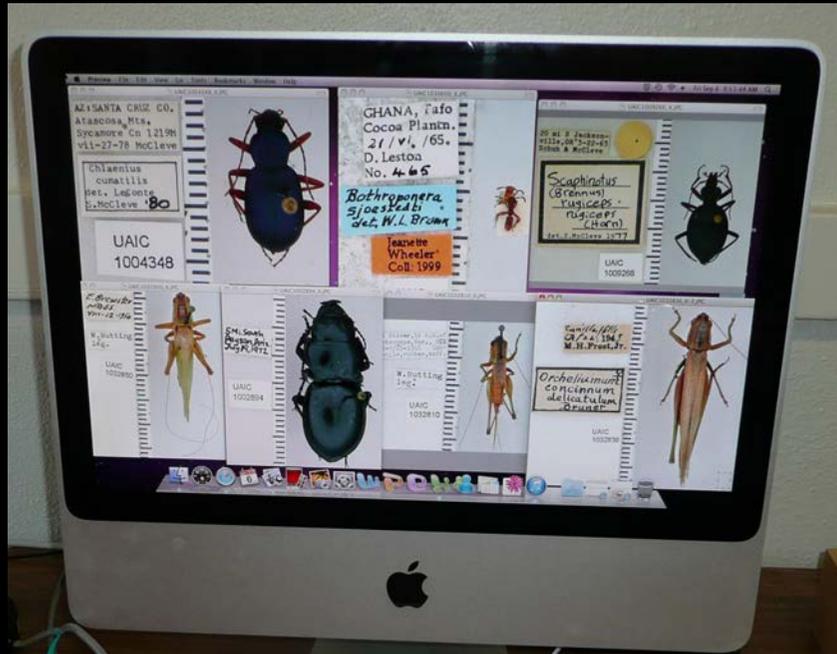


Ball 1966

Have other arthropods diversified within this region?



“Symbiota Collections of Arthropods Network (SCAN): A model for collections digitization to promote taxonomic and ecological research”



## Advancing Digitization of Biological Research Collections

Neil Cobb (Northern Arizona University), Boris C Kondratieff (Colorado State University), Charles S. Bundy (Regents of New Mexico State University), Frank Krell (Denver Museum of Nature and Science), James C. Cokendolper (Texas Tech University), John D. Oswald (Texas AgriLife Research), M. Deane Bowers (University of Colorado), Nico Franz (Arizona State University), Wendy Moore (University of Arizona)

2013 - present



“Symbiota Collections of Arthropods Network (SCAN): A model for collections digitization to promote taxonomic and ecological research”



Gene Hall, UAIC Collections Manager

Digitized to date:

- Carabidae
- Tenebrionidae
- Scarabaeidae
- Scolytinae
- Platypodinae
- Formicidae
- Orthoptera
- Isoptera
- research voucher specimens



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2013 - present



“Symbiota Collections of Arthropods Network (SCAN): A model for collections digitization to promote taxonomic and ecological research”



- 95,777 specimen records
- 81,355 (85%) georeferenced
- 87,153 (91%) imaged
- 68,896 (72%) identified to species
- 84 families



## Advancing Digitization of Biological Research Collections

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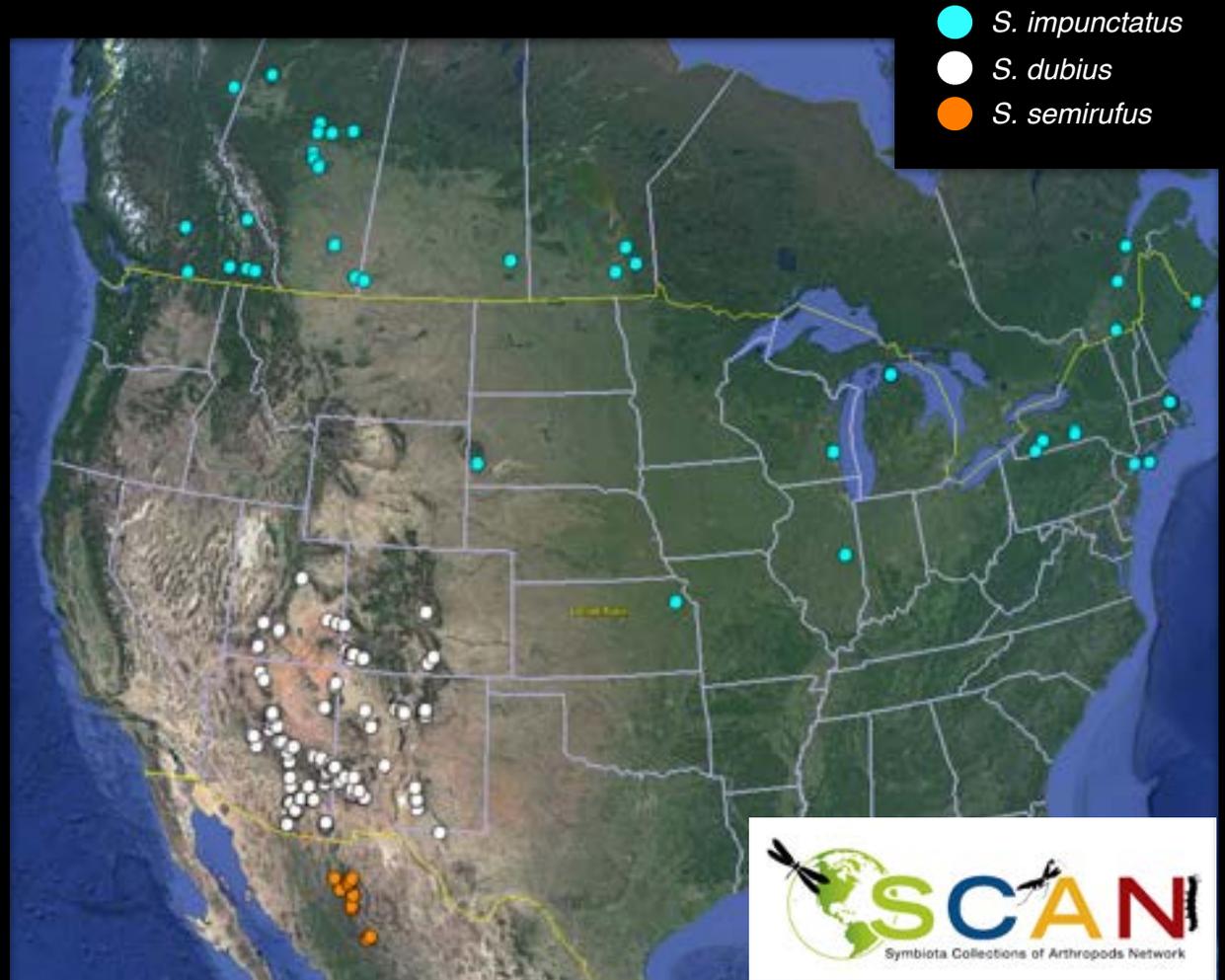


Alan Yanahan  
PhD Student



*Synuchus*

-  *S. impunctatus*
-  *S. dubius*
-  *S. semirufus*

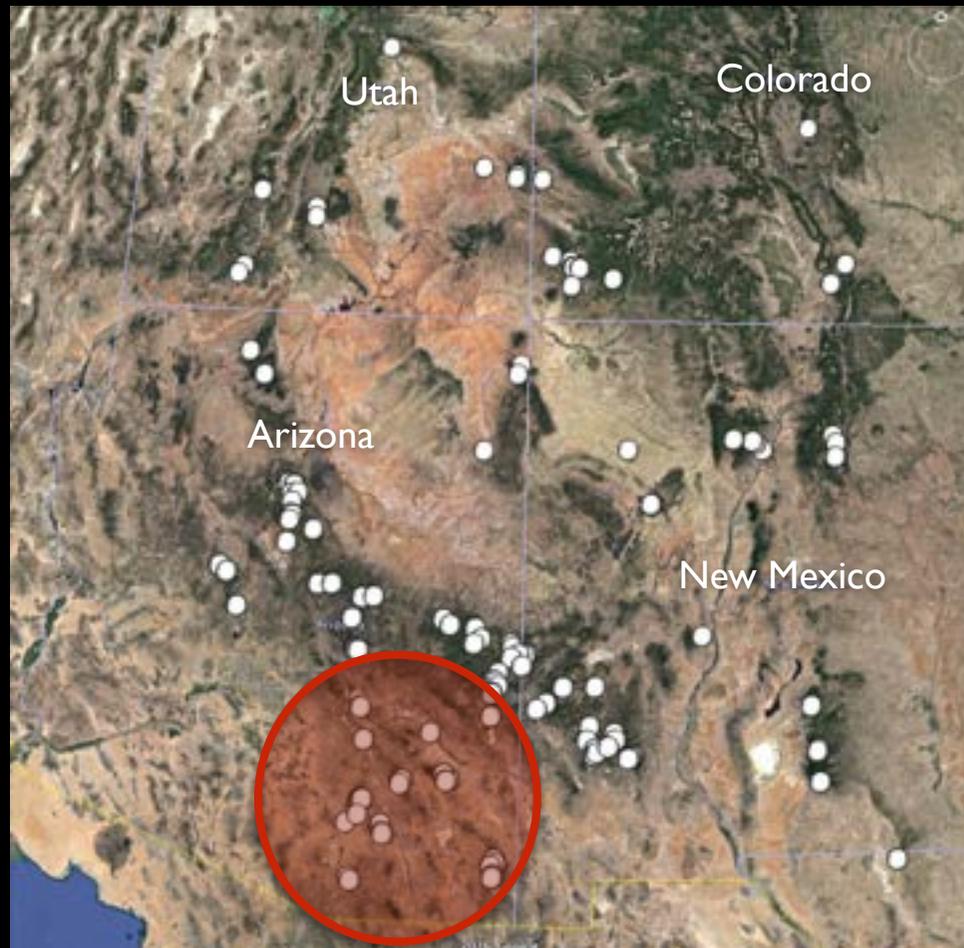


-  *S. impunctatus*
-  *S. dubius*
-  *S. semirufus*



*Synuchus dubius*

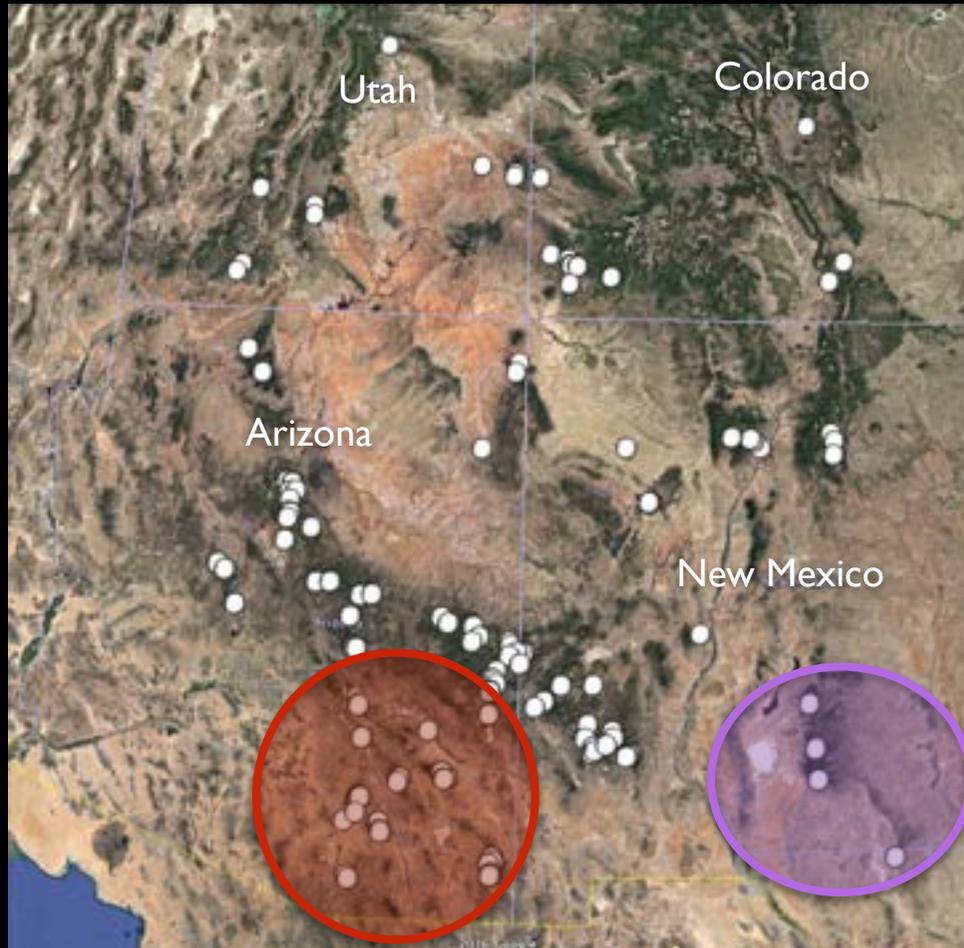
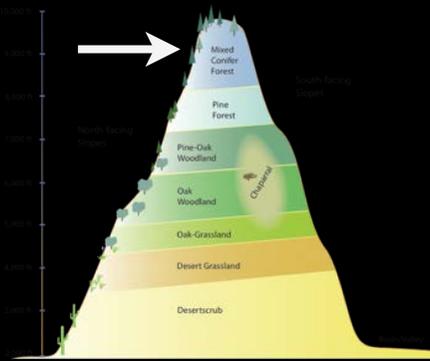
Unlike *Scaphinotus petersi*,  
*Synuchus dubius* is not endemic to  
the **Madrean Sky Island region**.



Gene: COI  
Maximum Likelihood Tree  
RAxML



*Synuchus dubius*

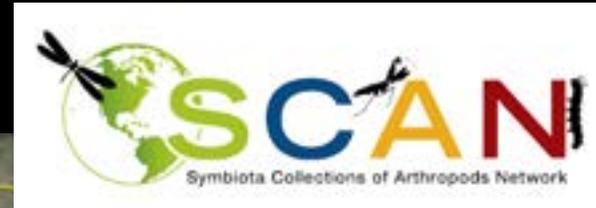


Gene: COI  
Maximum Likelihood Tree  
RAxML



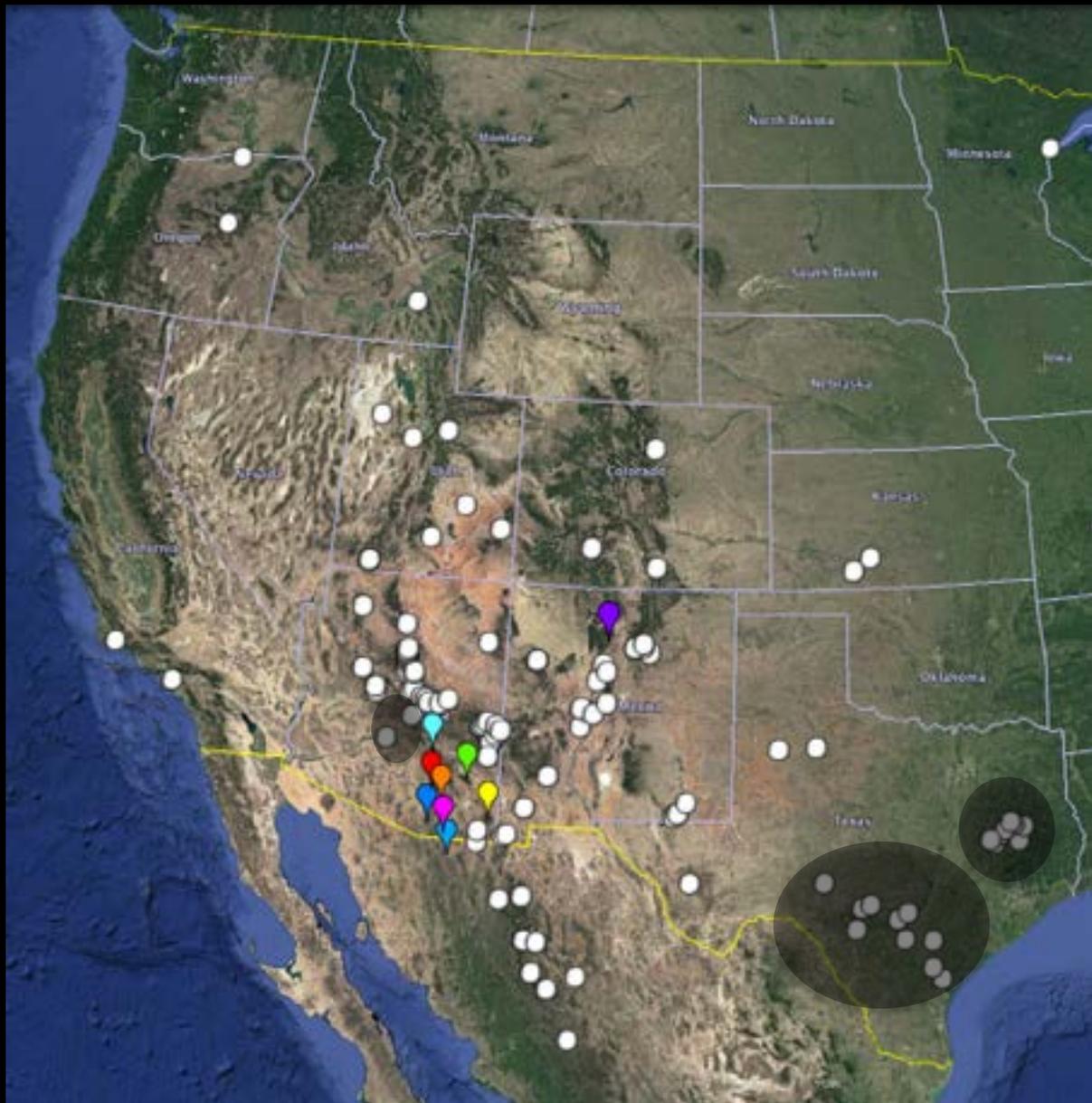
**Antonio Gomez**

Master's Student



**Rhadine** approximately 30 species

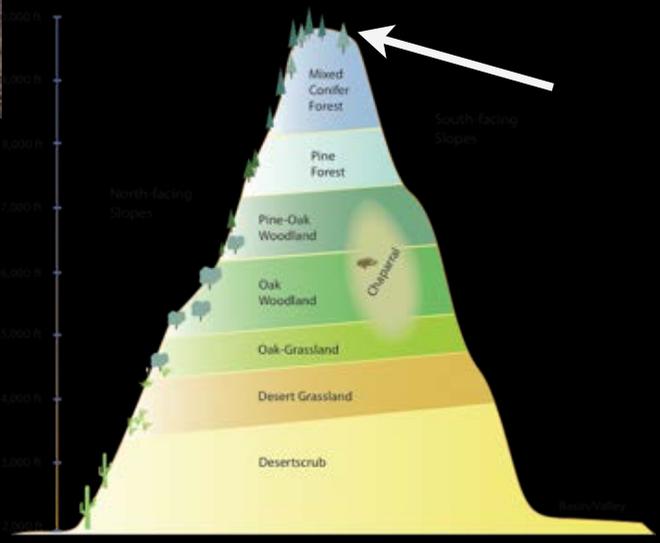




Genes: COI, 28S, CAD  
Maximum Likelihood Tree  
RAxML



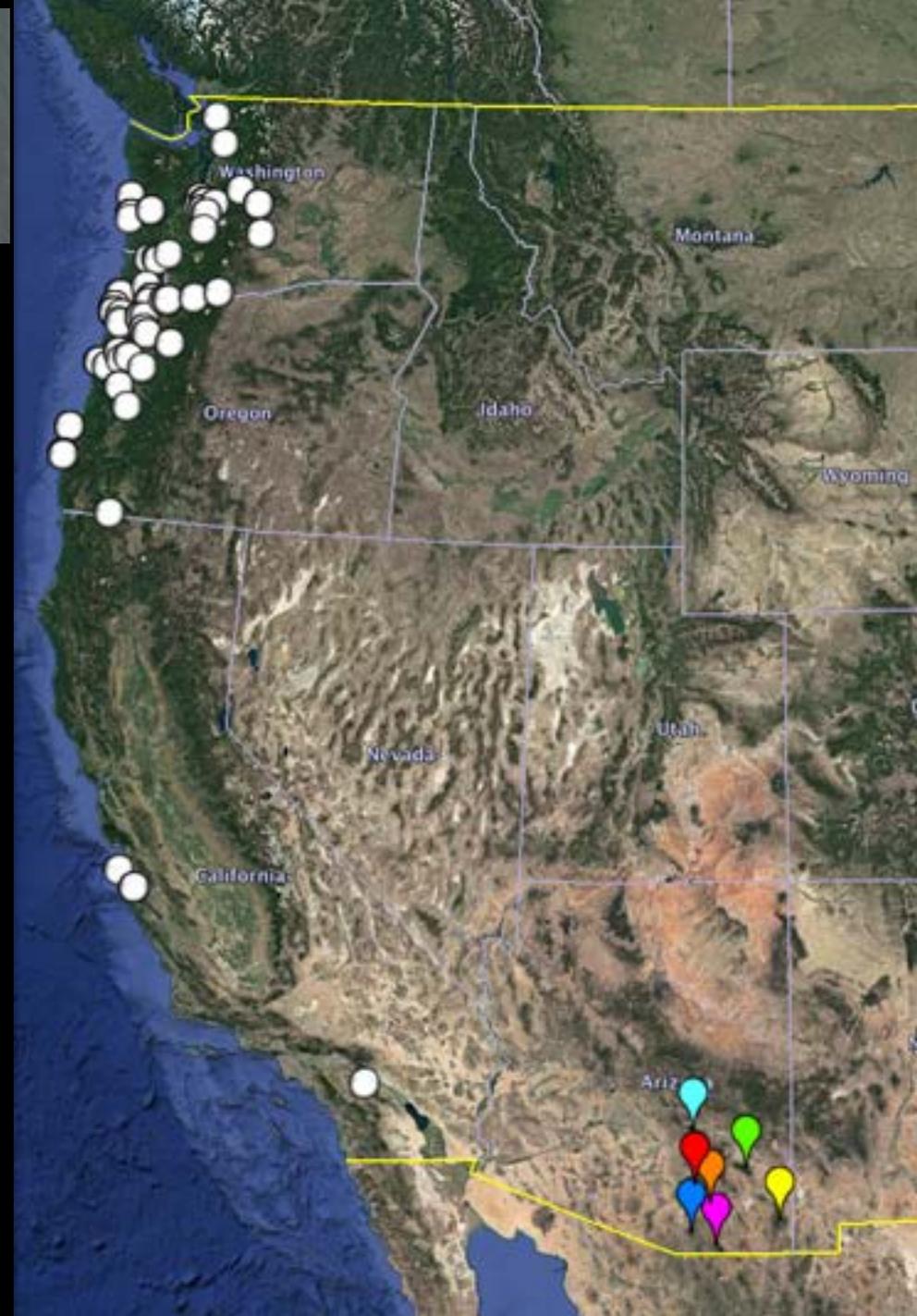
Garrett Hughes  
PhD Candidate



flightless (non-phoretic) pseudoscorpions



100



Genes: COI and 28S  
Maximum Likelihood Tree  
RAxML



John Palting  
PhD student



## Lichen moths



*Crambidia* spp. (Lepidoptera: Erebidae: Arctiinae: Lithosiini)

Systematics, biogeography, and ecology of ground-dwelling arthropods

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## VISITING SYSTEMATIST PROGRAM

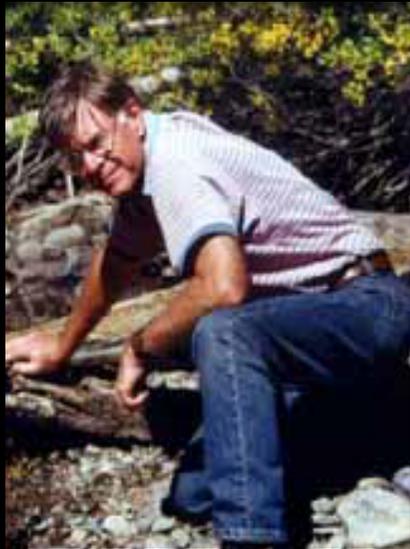
- Supported by an endowment from the **Schlinger Foundation**
- Award is intended to help offset expenses for visiting systematists to work in the UAIC on their specialty group
- Enhance knowledge of their group in the Sonoran Desert Region and enhance the curatorial state of the specimens and associated digital data.
- **Amount:** Annual awards up to \$25,000.



## VISITING SYSTEMATIST PROGRAM



Dr. Michael Sharkey  
University of Kentucky  
Braconid Wasps  
2013-2014



Dr. Terry Erwin  
Smithsonian  
Ground Beetles  
2014-2015



Dr. Tom Atkinson  
University of Texas  
Ambrosia Beetles  
2015-2016



Dr. Robert Anderson  
Canadian Museum of Nature  
Weevils  
*Coming soon!*

## ANCIENT DNA LAB

*Coming soon!*



Next Generation sequencing technology



# Acknowledgements

## Collaborators:

Gene Hall  
Kim Franklin  
John Wiens  
Rick Brusca  
Sandy Brantley  
Aaron Smith  
Warren Savary  
Carl Olson

## Undergraduate Students:

Reilly McManus  
Emmanuel Bernal  
Emily Hall  
Ryan McInroy  
Jeff Henkel  
Chelsea Powers  
Carol Tepper  
Chris McGinnis  
Shawna Rogers  
Eryn Wuori  
Heeya Ju  
Kayla Jones  
Rebecca Compoy  
Gabe Oropeza

## Postdoctoral Fellows:

James Robertson  
Marty Meyer  
Jeff Eble

## Graduate Students:

Reilly McManus  
Garrett Hughes  
Jason Schaller  
Antonio Gomez  
John Palting  
Alan Yanahan

## Permitting:

Don Swan- Saguaro National Park  
US Forest Service Special Use Permit # SAN0287



College of Agriculture  
& Life Sciences



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