

Supplementary information

A functional vulnerability framework for biodiversity conservation

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Supplementary Methods: Species Distribution Modelling

Reef and coastal grid system

We first defined a coastal and reef grid to identify potentially valid areas for mapping species distributions at a 0.25° by 0.25° scale. Our general approach was to consider locations within a 0.5° buffer of coastal polygons, coral reef polygons, and local SCUBA surveys as valid for shallow-water reef fish presences. For global coastlines we used the Global Self-consistent, Hierarchical, High-resolution Geography dataset (GSHHG) using low resolution level 1 (version 2.3.7)¹. Additionally, to avoid missing coastal grid cells we inverse buffered this dataset by 0.26°. For coral reef locations we used the UNEP-WCMC “Global distribution of warm-water coral reefs” dataset (version 3)². Finally, for local SCUBA surveys known to be performed in shallow water systems we used a compilation 5,871 SCUBA transects (described below).

Occurrence records and species ranges

We obtained 12,629,945 records for 4,551 species using the AquaMaps occurrence record database (mainly comprised of OBIS, GBIF; personal communication K. Kaschner) (Figure 12). We removed 3,186 fossil records, 6,277,227 duplicated geographic species records, and 442,050 open water and land records that were not consistent with our coastal and coral reef grid. We combined this open-access presence only dataset with in-hand reef fish underwater visual census observations. The in-hand data come from curated citizen science and professional surveys, namely the *Reef Life Survey*³, *Socio-Ecological Reef Fish dataset (SERF)*^{4,5} and *GASPAR* project dataset⁶ (see supporting information in Barneche *et al.* 2018 for full sampling description). These contained 253,834 records for 2,758 of the species present in the occurrence dataset at 5,871 unique locations. We filtered to include only unique locations to avoid overfitting resampled locations⁷, and removed species with <50 records in unique cells on a 0.25° global reef and coastal grid^{8,9}. Our final set comprised of 2,340 species at 496,309 unique georeferenced locations in 20,450 grid cells for analyses. We aligned all submitted taxonomic names across data sources using the function `validate_names` in `rfishbase`¹⁰ (version 3.0.4).

Environmental variables

We modelled species distributions and abundances using 6 environmental variables commonly used for modelling marine species^{11,12,13}: maximum and minimum sea surface temperature (SST), minimum sea surface salinity (SSS), mean net primary productivity (NPP), minimum pH, mean degree heating weeks (DHW) and human gravity in a 500km² area. Being ectothermic, fishes have strong metabolic and physiological responses to sea surface temperature. As such, occupancy limits of sea surface temperature correlate well with species thermal physiological limits¹⁴, there is correspondence amongst physiological and abundance optima^{15,16} and temperature also predicts well range shifts^{17,18} and temporal change in fish assemblages^{19,20}. Salinity and pH have direct effects on reef fish osmotic and ionic balance^{21,22} and can indirectly affect reef fish distributions by reducing the quality, amount and diversity of calcareous reef habitat^{23,24,18}. We chose minimum salinity because of the reef fish assemblage diversity and biogeography are affected by freshwater flows^{25,26,27} and minimum pH because of the direct and indirect effects of ocean acidification on fishes^{28,29}. Primary productivity indicates the amount of phytoplankton that form the base of many marine food chains, we included mean annual NPP as an indicator of annual energy available to upper trophic levels. Degree-heating weeks represent the accumulated thermal stress and is a strong predictor of coral bleaching^{30,31,32}. Degree heating weeks is expressed as the unit °C-weeks. The daily degree heating week is calculated as the sum of temperatures above 1°C of summertime maximum temperatures for 84 days (12 weeks) prior, divided by 7 to give a weekly value³¹. Finally, we included the gravity of human impacts to control for the effect of human population on observation of species through introducing sampling biases^{33,34} or negatively affecting species' populations^{35,5}. We ensured our models were robust to variable multicollinearity which can bias range projections under climate change³⁶. For each model, we checked that the Pearson correlation between pairs of variables were <0.7, and if not, retained the variable with the highest deviance explained and lowest error rate (depending on the model algorithm, see below). We iterated this process until we obtained a set of uncorrelated and maximally explanatory variables.

Environmental background data

The vast majority of our occurrence records come from unstructured surveys where species absences are not recorded. As such, we generated background environmental data (pseudo-absences) using a target-group approach³⁷. Target group sampling was expected to reduce bias in our habitat suitability estimates by sampling background data from the available set of occurrence records. This process gave the background data a similar bias to the presence data and helped avoid extrapolation of absences beyond sampled environmental space. This approach has been demonstrated as robust in previous large-scale analyses of marine species distributions³⁸. We assumed all our reef species form an appropriate target group because similar sampling tools are used to generate occurrence records (e.g., SCUBA underwater visual surveys). We generated ten times the number of background points compared to presence points³⁹, sub-sampling with replacement when too few background points exist. To constrain the selection of background data to be within species potential ranges, we first produced a convex hull around species presences, retained intersecting marine provinces, and identified target record within this province range. We sampled 50% of background points from Spalding marine provinces that contain species presences, and 50% from adjacent provinces with no observed presences. The background data therefore balances our capacity to resolve internal range structure in addition to range edges⁴⁰. To ensure models were robust to stochastic background data generation, we repeated the background data generation five times and refitted all models for each background sample.

Fitting occurrence-based species distribution models

We used a set of algorithms that represent a gradient in environmental response complexity (generalized linear models: GLM, generalized additive models: GAM, and random forests: RF). The chosen statistical algorithm is an important source of variation in species distribution model predictions⁴¹, particularly under climate change^{42,36}. We fitted GLM and GAM using binomial error distributions and RFs as classification trees.

We fitted GLMs with a binomial error distribution using least squares. We ensured models converged using ordered backward stepwise model selection based on model term contributions, which ensures a model converges before performing backward selection based on likelihood-ratio tests. Our GLMs represent the simplest response shapes of our model set so we fitted linear and quadratic terms only. We fitted GLMs in the *stats* R package after the optimal model structure was identified using a combination of packages *buildmer*⁴³ and *glmmTMB*⁴⁴ which provided efficient tools for model fitting and selection.

We fitted GAMS with a binomial error distribution using quadratically penalized likelihood maximisation with the package *mgcv*^{45,46}. We first tested that each independent covariate produces an identifiable model and included valid covariates in multiple regressions. We performed model selection using null-space penalization to reduce the effect of non-important covariates to 0 (i.e., setting the argument `select = T`)⁴⁷. We used thin plate regression splines and a basis dimension of 5 to allow intermediate flexibility and computational efficiency⁴⁶.

We fitted random forests using the R package *randomForest*⁴⁸. Hyperparameter selection can have a large influence on model fit and default settings are unlikely to be optimal⁴⁹. We tuned the number of variables randomly sampled at each split (*mtry*) and size of the sample drawn for each tree (*sampsiz*). We used a grid approach to hyperparameter selection by varying *mtry* between the square root of the number of covariates, as suggested in (Breiman 2001)⁵⁰, and the maximum number of covariates. We varied *sampsiz* from 10% to 100% of the training sample in 10% increments. We balanced *sampsiz* proportionate to the representation of classification groups (0,1) in the testing set using the *strata* setting. Because we varied the sample size, the optimal *nodesize* parameter is unimportant and we set it to 1⁴⁹. We evaluated the performance of the random forest hyperparameter grid using the true-skill statistic (TSS) of predicted vs. observed occurrence, and repeated the above steps 5 times to obtain a mean TSS due to the stochastic nature of the RF algorithm⁵¹. We fitted our final RF with the optimal hyperparameters that maximised TSS.

Spatial cross-validation for model evaluation

In evaluating model performance, spatial similarity can positively bias model evaluations. Within each background data set ($n=5$) we created a 5-fold spatially blocked cross-validation testing datasets (within each 5-fold pseudo-absence repetition) that were independent from training data. We used the *spatialBlock* function in the R package ‘*blockCV*’⁵² with systematic block selection optimised over 500 iterations. We set the area of blocks as 10% of species occurrence area, determined as a bounding box of occurrences, such that each species blocking system was proportional to species’ range size. For occurrence-based models, we balanced folds according to the ratio of species occurrences and background data. We compared predicted habitat suitability to held-out presences and pseudo-absence data (Figure S13). We estimated the mean model true-positive rate (sensitivity), true-negative rate (specificity), true skill statistic (TSS), area under the curve statistic (AUC) using *ecospat* package in R⁵³. In addition, for GLM and GAM we estimated model deviance squared (D^2) as a measure of variation explained, for RF we also estimated model error rate as the proportion of combined false negatives and false positives. We estimated model predictive bias as an indicator of model overfitting. To do so, we evaluated the R^2 between global model predictions (i.e., those used in the final analysis) and cross validation predictions (i.e., those used to evaluate our model performance). High model predictive bias (low R^2) indicates model overfitting, whereby models fitted using all data are expected to poorly predict habitat suitability in new areas.

Model projections

We predicted habitat suitability for the present day (1985-2015) across our coastal and coral reef grid. We estimated habitat suitability under future climate conditions derived from six fully coupled global circulation models under the Coupled Model Inter-comparison Project Phase 6 (CMIP6): CNRM-ESM2-1, GFDL-ESM4, IPSL-CM6A-LR, MIROC-ES2L, MPI-ESM1-2-LR, NorESM2-MM, UKESM1-0-LL. We selected models that provided SST, SSS, pH and NPP and forced our models under changes in these four variables. To match our present-day environmental variables used for building species distribution models, we averaged mean, minimum and maximum monthly values to yearly averages, and then to climatological averages between 1985-2015, 2015-2040, 2041-2070 and 2071-2100. We used climatological averages to remove the influence of decadal climate oscillations (e.g., El Niño Southern Oscillation, Pacific Decadal Oscillation). We considered two Shared Socioeconomic Pathways: SSP1-2.6 and SSP5-8.5 which representative of high (‘fossil fuel development’) and low (‘sustainable’) emission futures where anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions induce 2.6Wm^{-2} and 8.5Wm^{-2} increase in radiative forcing by the year 2100⁵⁴, approximating Representative Concentration Pathway 2.6 and 8.5 in CMIP5. We estimated the change in each variable from 1985-2015 compared to future time periods, and applied this change to our present day spatially gridded environmental data.

We predicted species distributions under future conditions for each species. To account for uncertainty arising from different model assumptions, we made a separate prediction for background data iterations ($n=5$ for distributions), earth systems models ($n=6$), shared socioeconomic pathways ($n=2$). To ensure predictions of suitability were robust, we first removed all models with an out-of-sample TSS < 0.35 ³⁸. Across model algorithms and background data iterations, we estimated the mean and standard deviation of suitability predictions weighted by the TSS. Next, we estimated the mean and standard deviation of habitat suitability predictions across all earth system model projections, before constraining future predictions by dispersal scenarios (see below).

Dispersal

Dispersal rates are poorly quantified and unknown for many fish species, especially at the relatively short time-scales considered here. Therefore, we modelled a range of dispersal scenarios (as in Warren *et al.* 2018⁵⁵). First, we assumed no dispersal, in each new time-step species were constrained to their range in the previous time-step. In this scenario, extirpations from grid cells could not be recovered, and range expansions cannot occur. Second, we modelled dispersal informed by literature derived realized range shifts. Lenoir *et al.* (2020)⁵⁶ report an mean latitudinal shift of $5.95 \pm 0.94\text{km}$ per year in fishes, Sunday *et al.* (2015)⁵⁷ report shifts of $3.8 \pm 7\text{ km}$ per year, with larger ranged species tracking at a rate of 9.2km per year, and Fredston-Hermann *et al.* (2020)⁵⁸ report shifts of cold range edges of $6.7 \pm 0.8\text{km}$ per year but non-significant shifts in warm range edges. We modelled range shifts potential

of 10km per year which is greater than the mean for most estimates because i) literature derived values often only consider north-south movements distances (e.g., Lenoir *et al.* 2020⁵⁶), ii) depth shifts are unlikely to occur for many reef species considered here⁵⁹ but often occur for the species considered in studies of realized range shifts, thereby literature estimates are likely to underestimate realized range shifts^{17,19}. We did not consider dispersal differences amongst specific families or trait sets because evidence for strong trait-based effects on range shift magnitudes is mixed⁶⁰. In fishes, Pinsky *et al.* (2013)¹⁷ find marine species capacity to track shifting climate isotherms are very weakly related to species traits because multiple different strategies to facilitate dispersal exist (e.g., adult movement, larval dispersal; but see Sunday *et al.* 2015⁵⁷). Our third scenario was a 'no-limitation' scenario whereby species could migrate into all climatically suitable cells in their native province and additional adjacent provinces.

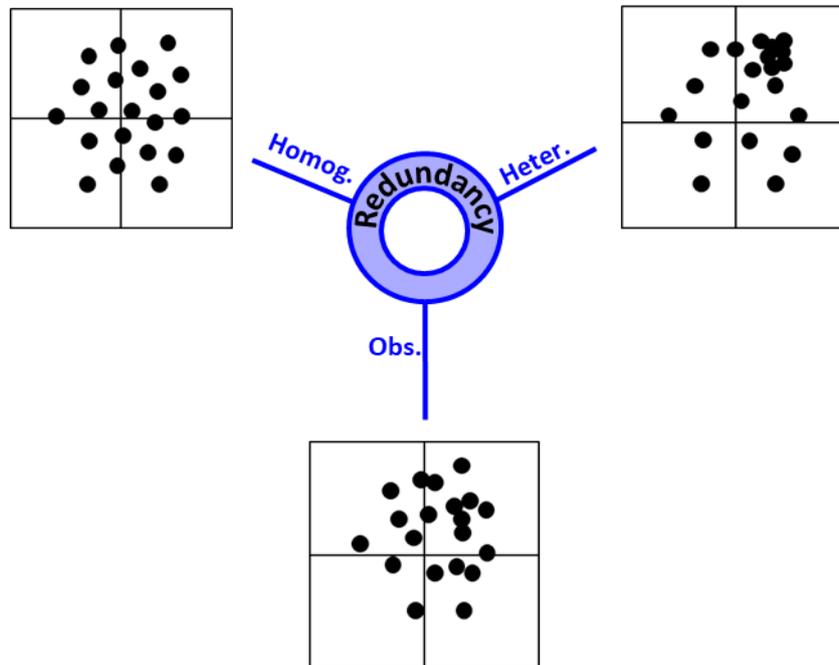


Figure 1. Trait spaces (PCoA biplots) of the 2 pseudo-communities and the observed community in cases where data are presence/absence only. The blue circle separates pseudo-communities into 3 main categories according to the distribution of functional redundancy (heterogeneous: ‘Heter.’; homogeneous: ‘Homog.’; observed: ‘Obs.’).

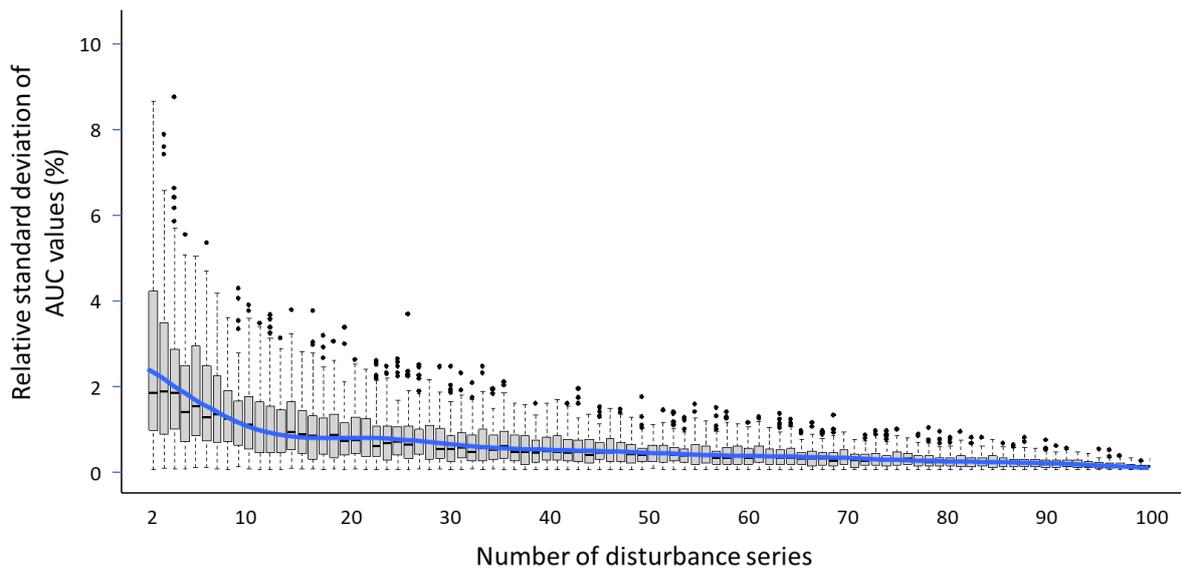


Figure 2. Sensitivity of AUC values to the number of disturbance series applied on communities. To test the effect of the number of disturbance series, 99 rarefaction curves were performed among which a varying number of curves (from 2 to 99) were randomly selected 100 times ($n=[99-1]*100=9800$ rarefaction curves). Boxes are defined by lower and upper box boundaries 25th and 75th percentiles, respectively, median is defined by the line inside box. Lower and upper error lines correspond to lower quartile minus 1.5 times interquartile range (IQR) and upper quartile plus 1.5 times IQR, respectively. Points falling outside correspond to minimal and maximal values.

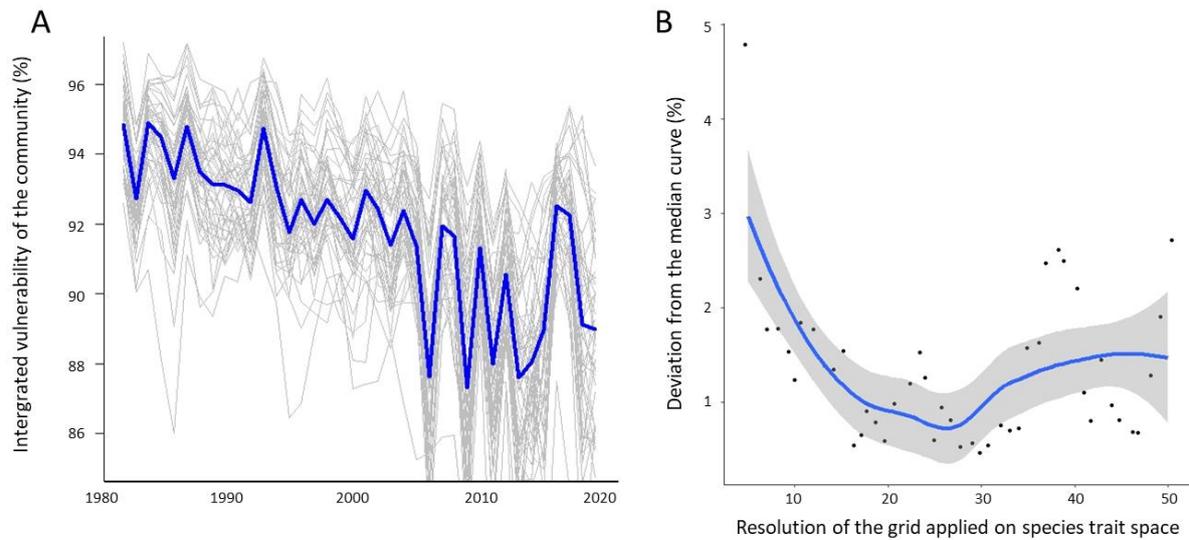


Figure 3. Sensitivity of the vulnerability index to the grid resolution applied on the species trait space (applied on the North Sea fish community case study). **A.** Temporal dynamics of the vulnerability under various grid resolution (the blue line is constructed from to the median value each year; grey lines corresponds to vulnerability values computed from 5*5 to 50*50 cells). **B.** Mean difference between the vulnerability computed with a given grid resolution and the reference vulnerability values (i.e. blue curve in Figure S3.A.). Data are presented as loess predicted values ± 5 (and 10)*standard error. Data are presented as loess predicted values $\pm 95\%$ confidence interval.

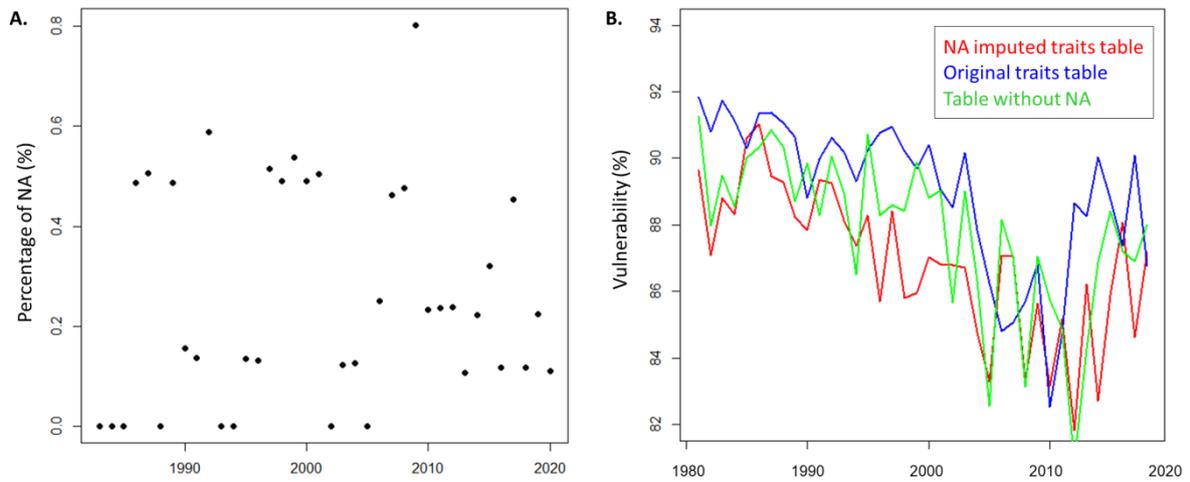


Figure 4. Effect of ‘Not Available’ (NA) data in species traits tables on final vulnerability values for the North Sea fishes case study. **A.** Temporal trend in the percentage of NA in species traits tables. **B.** Temporal trends in vulnerability values computed from the original traits table (i.e., with all NA considered; blue line), from the NA imputed traits table (red line) and from the traits table where all species with at least one NA were removed from analyses (green line).

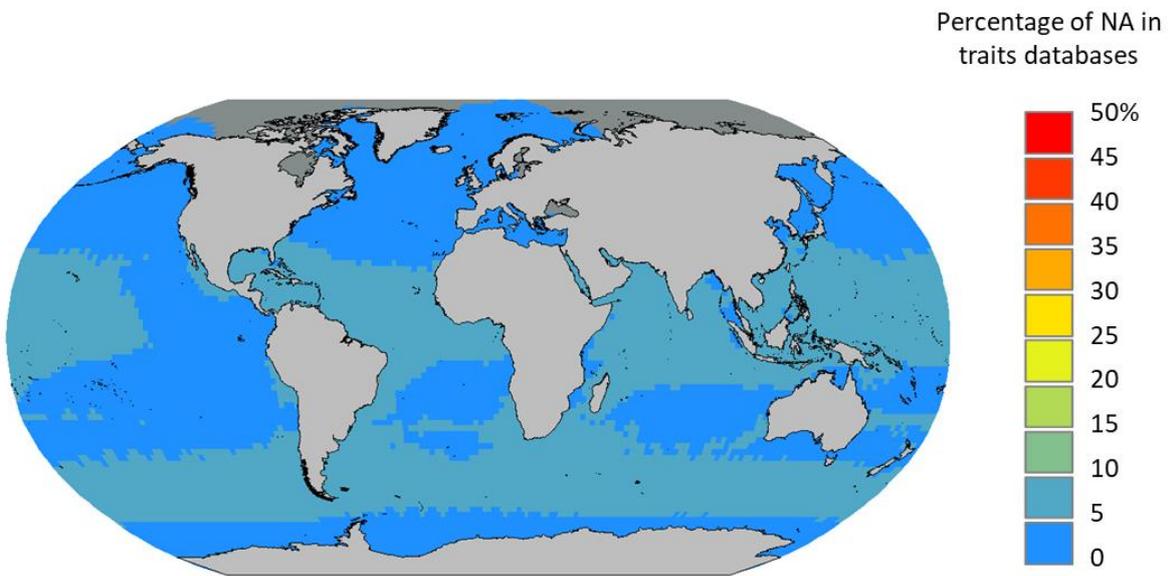


Figure 5. Spatial distribution of NA in marine mammals traits dataset. Background map shapefiles are available on the NOAA website: <https://www.ngdc.noaa.gov/mgg/shorelines/data/gshhg/latest/>.

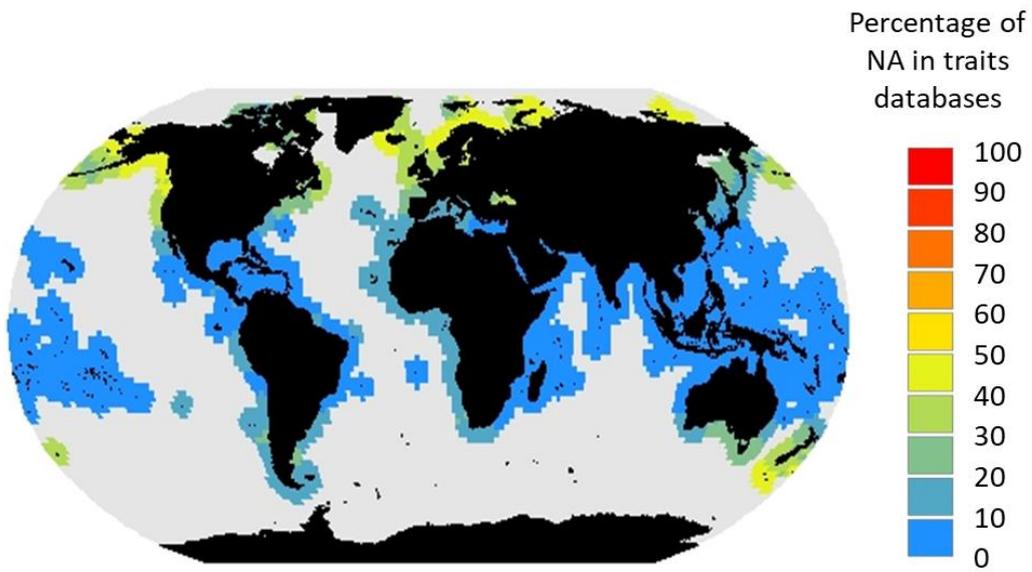
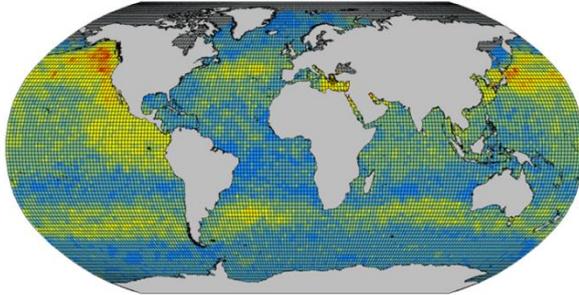


Figure 6. Spatial distribution of NA in global scale reef fishes traits dataset. Background map shapefiles are available on the NOAA website: <https://www.ngdc.noaa.gov/mgg/shorelines/data/gshhg/latest/>.

NA effect in case study 2:

Vulnerability from the
non-imputed traits table



Vulnerability from the
imputed traits table

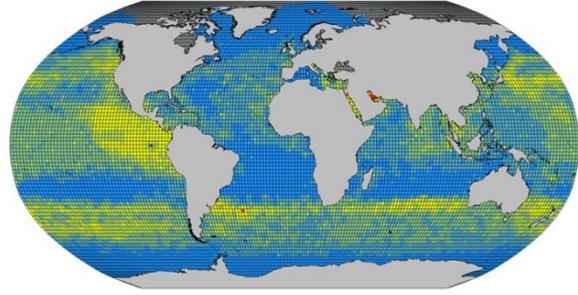
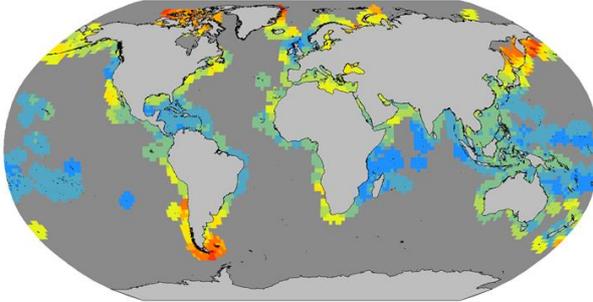


Figure 7. Effects of non available data in species traits dataset on vulnerability values of the marine mammals's communities. Background map shapefiles are available on the NOAA website: <https://www.ngdc.noaa.gov/mgg/shorelines/data/gshhg/latest/>.

NA effect in case study 3:
(example on the period [1981-2015])

Vulnerability from the
non-imputed traits table



Vulnerability from the
imputed traits table

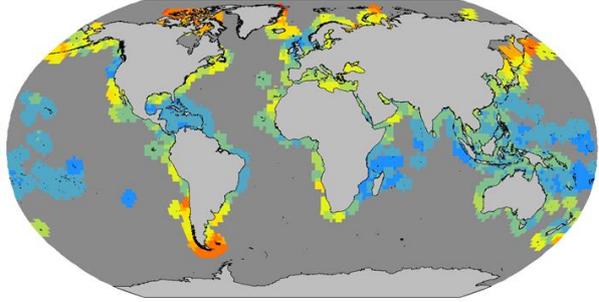


Figure 8. Effects of non available data in species traits dataset on vulnerability values of the global reef fish communities. Background map shapefiles are available on the NOAA website: <https://www.ngdc.noaa.gov/mgg/shorelines/data/gshhg/latest/>.

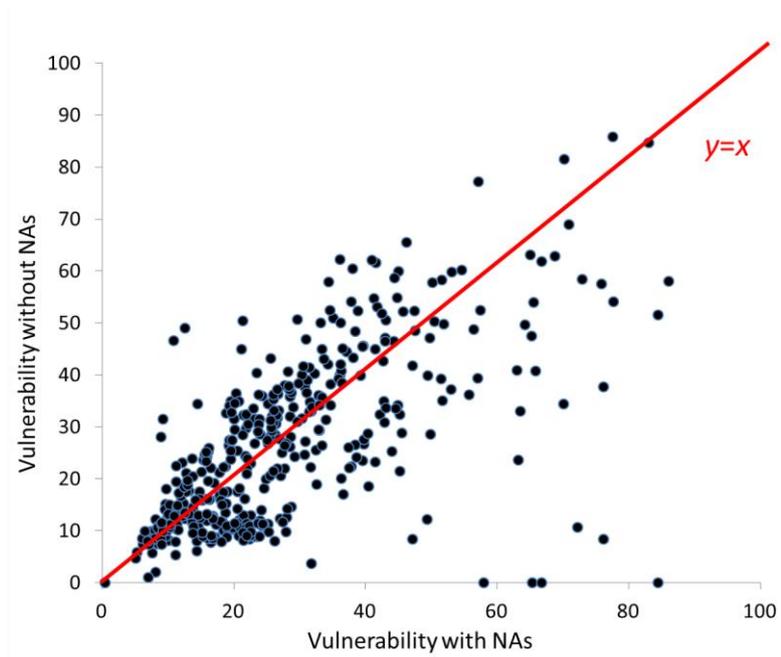


Figure 9. Correlation between vulnerability computed from the original traits table (i.e., with all NA considered) and vulnerability computed from the NA imputed traits table for the global scale reef fishes case study ($r = 0.67$).

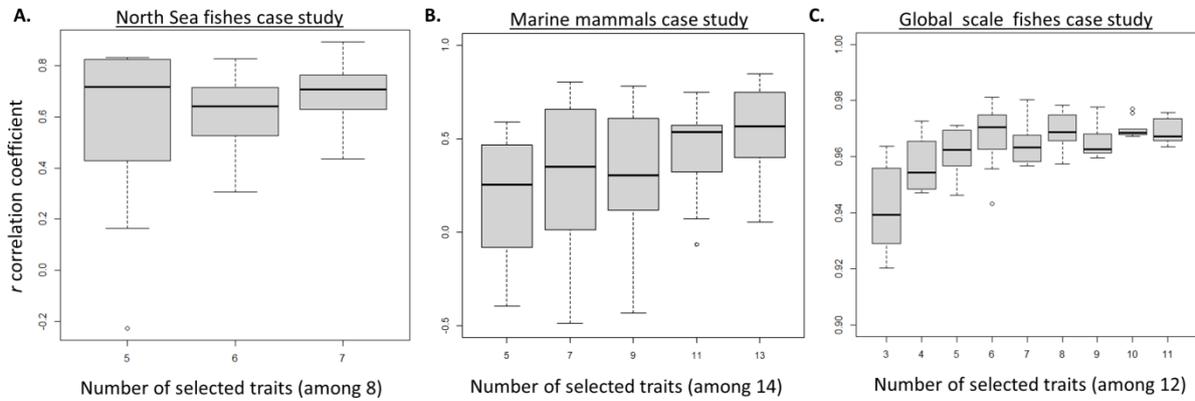


Figure 10. Effect of species trait deletion on vulnerability results. Pearson's correlation coefficient between reference vulnerability values (i.e. computed from all traits) and vulnerability values computed from subsetting trait tables for the three study cases: **A.** North Sea fishes, **B.** Marine mammals, and **C.** global scale reef fishes. Boxes are defined by lower and upper box boundaries 25th and 75th percentiles, respectively, median is defined by the line inside box. Lower and upper error lines correspond to lower quartile minus 1.5 times interquartile range (IQR) and upper quartile plus 1.5 times IQR, respectively. Points falling outside correspond to minimal and maximal values.

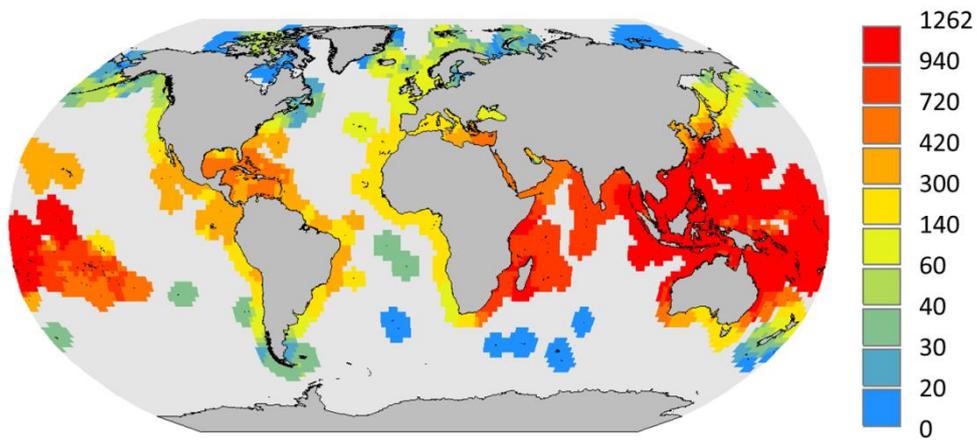


Figure 11. Global species richness of coastal fish communities at the horizon [2041-2070]. Background map shapefiles are available on the NOAA website: <https://www.ngdc.noaa.gov/mgg/shorelines/data/gshhg/latest/>

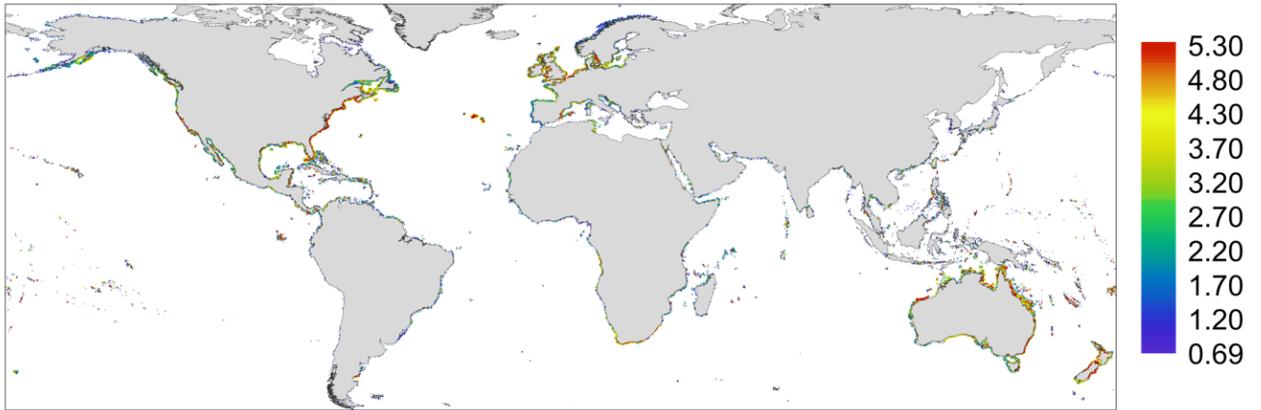


Figure 12. Spatial map of occurrence records used to build reef fish species distribution models. Background map shapefiles are available on the NOAA website: <https://www.ngdc.noaa.gov/mgg/shorelines/data/gshhg/latest/>

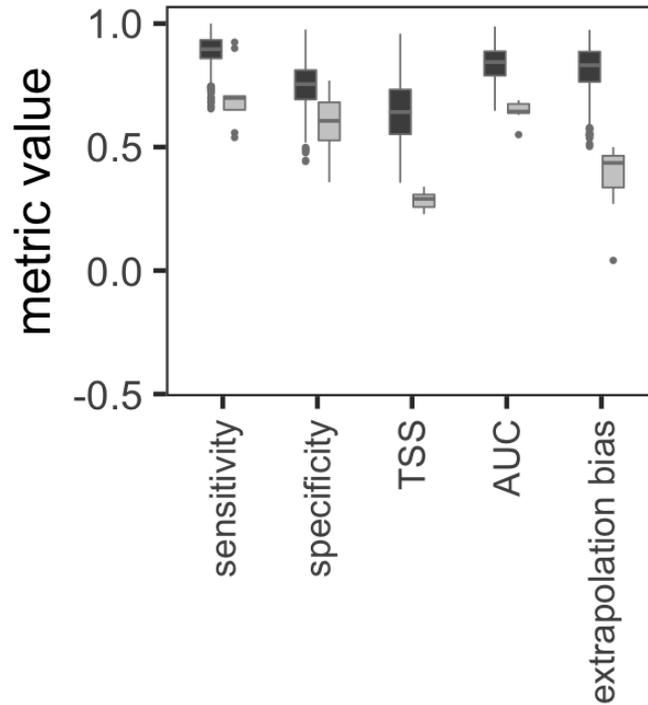


Figure 13. Evaluation summaries of species distribution models for occurrence-based SDMs. All metrics indicate out-of-sample spatially blocked cross-validations. Dark gray indicates species retained in models, light gray indicates species models fitted but not considered due to low performance. Performance metrics are first mean averaged over cross validation folds ($n = 5$), next over background pseudo-absences ($n = 5$), and finally over model algorithms ($n = 3$). TSS = true skill statistic, AUC = area under the receiver-operator curve. Extrapolation bias is the R^2 between predictions of models calibrated on the full dataset vs. the training set and is an indicator of the % variation explained for novel data points not included in the model. Boxes are defined by lower and upper box boundaries 25th and 75th percentiles, respectively, median is defined by the line inside box. Lower and upper error lines correspond to lower quartile minus 1.5 times interquartile range (IQR) and upper quartile plus 1.5 times IQR, respectively. Points falling outside correspond to minimal and maximal values.

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