Biodiversity and Disturbances Iong-term ecological studies Christopher Carcaillet Professor Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes, Paris



#### Questions

How disturbance regimes control the diversity and the productivity and the diversity-productivity relationships

#### Aims

To review methods to estimate the diversity of paleo-community

To propose new pathways to assess correctly the paleo-diversity

To test the relationships between paleo-fires and diversity in diverse European and North-American ecosystems

To determine other forest disturbances that could be analyses on long-term ecological studies (avalanches, insect outbreaks)

## Establishing a theoretical framework



Conceptual sources: Connell, 1978, Science Hector et al., 1999, Science Mouquet et al., 2002, Ecology Letters Willis et al., 2010, Trends Ecol. Evol.

### Problems to solve

To assess community diversity: solving the problem of low-counts of bio-proxies, the sampling effort, etc.



**Rarefaction analysis** 

Heck et al. (1975) Ecology Birks & Line (1992) Holocene

pollen vs macroremains: redundancy or complementarity?

Scaling the diversity in space and time



## Alpha-diversity ~ Fire frequency ?

**Rarefaction analysis** 

$$E(T_n) = \sum_{i=1}^{T} 1 - \left[ \frac{\binom{N-N_i}{n}}{\binom{N}{n}} \right]$$





Blarquez et al. (2010) Journal of Ecology

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Leys et al. (2012) PhD Thesis Leys et al. (2014) Journal of Ecology

## Landscape (beta) diversity and fire



Blarquez (2010) PhD thesis Blarquez & Carcaillet (in review)

#### Scaling the paleo-diversity



Blarquez, Finsinger, Carcaillet (2013) PLoS ONE

## Pollen diversity dynamics: a biome-scale analysis





Blarquez, Carcaillet, Frejaville & Bergeron (in review)

# The origin of the modern diversity

#### Periglacial fires and trees in a continental setting of Central Canada, Upper Pleistocene N. Bélanger,<sup>1,2</sup> C. Carcaillet,<sup>2,3</sup> G. A. PADBURY,<sup>4</sup> A. N. HARVEY-SCHAFER<sup>4</sup> AND

K. I. C.VAN REES<sup>4</sup> 130°W 125°W 120°W 115°W 110°W 105°W 60°N Study BRITISH-Continuous Boreal Fores COLUMBIA . 42,200 ALBERTA 55°N 39,430 MANITOBA 43,800 39,030 44,200 Study Area 41,000 Edmonton Montreal Number of radiocarbon dates 43,800 - >50,000 > 27 500 cal BP Saskatoon 50°N (size of circle is proportional to number of dates) Calgary Regina Fire dates (17 <sup>14</sup>C): [50,000-27,000 cal BP] Plant: Pinus, Picea and Abies USA loe margin at 27 000-30 000 cal BP km Current surface waters Projection: NAD 1983 UTM 13 N | Author: CEF, 2013 0 75 150 120°W 115°W 110°W 105°W 100°W 95°W

Geobiology

Geobiology (2014)

DOI: 10.1111/gbi.12076

