

Morphometric analysis of leaf variation in three North American grape species (*Vitis acerifolia*, *V. riparia*, and *V. rupestris*)

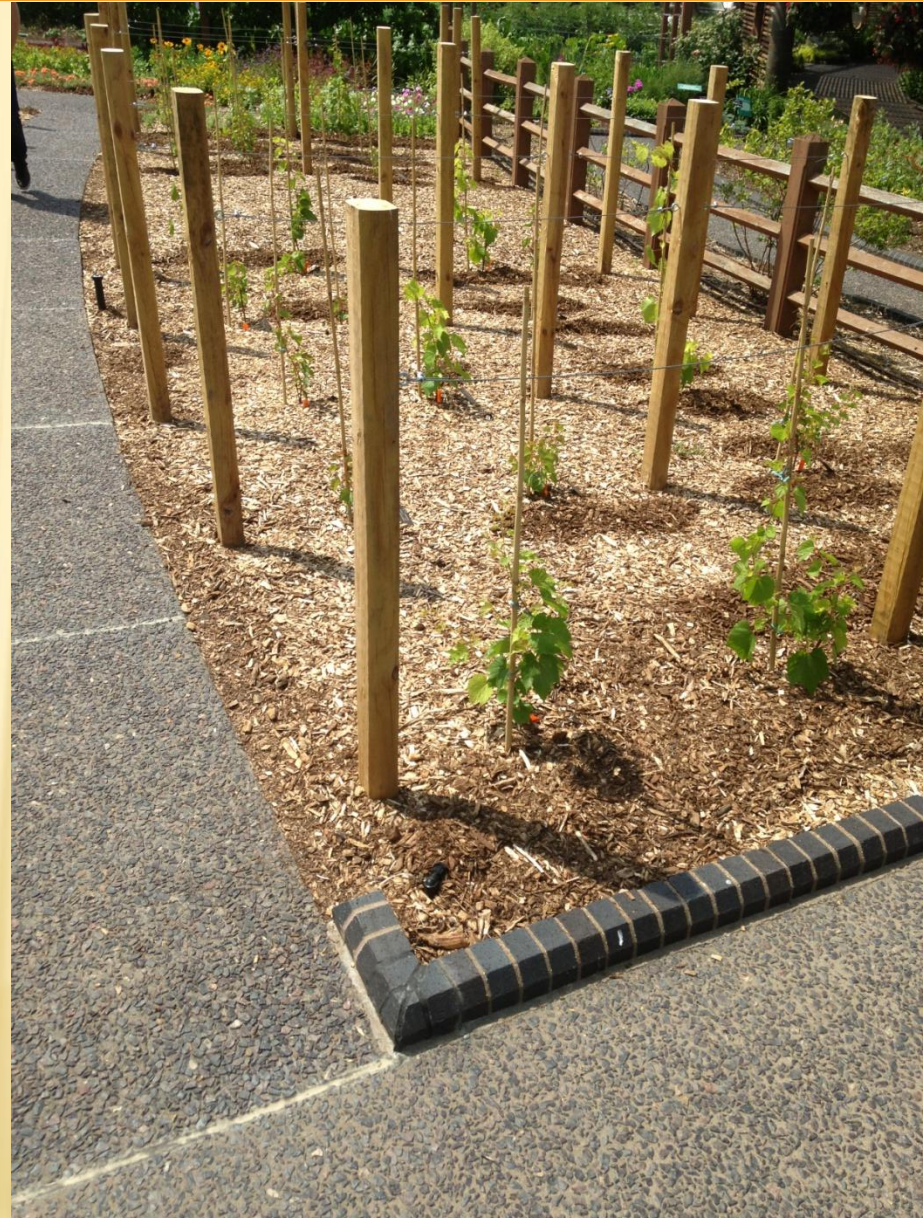


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OVERVIEW

- ✘ Introduction
- ✘ Research Question
- ✘ Objective
- ✘ Methods
- ✘ Results
- ✘ Discussion
- ✘ Future Work



WHEN YOU THINK OF GRAPES, WHAT DO YOU THINK?...





WHAT I NOW THINK AFTER THIS SUMMER



INTRODUCTION

- ✘ Species within the genus *Vitis* (Vitaceae):
 - + Foundation of industries:
 - ✘ Wine
 - ✘ Table grape
 - ✘ Raisin
 - ✘ Grape juice



- ✘ Although grapevine cultivation is based primarily on the **European grapevine *V. vinifera***, North American *Vitis* species play an important role.

FAMILY: VITACEAE

✗ 12 genera:

+ Largest genus = *Cissus*

✗ 350 species

+ *Vitis*

✗ 60-70 species

✗ Other woody vines:

+ Boston ivy (*q.v.*;
Parthenocissus tricuspidata)

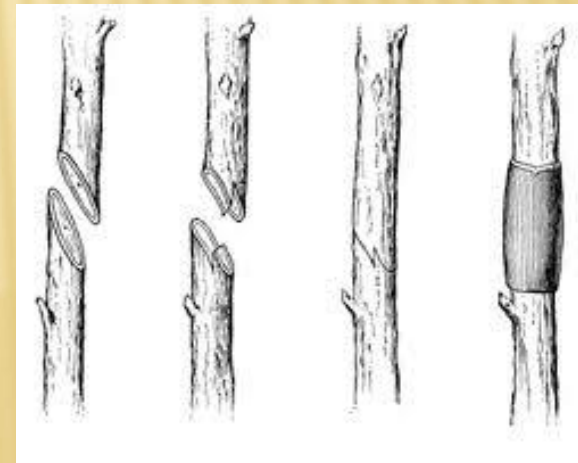


+ Virginia creeper (*q.v.*; *P. quinquefolia*)



GRAPEVINES

- ✘ Unusual crops because cultivated varieties often consist of **two genetically distinct entities** that are grafted together:
- ✘ **Above-ground part = scion**
 - + Produces the stem, leaves, flowers, and berries
- ✘ **Below-ground part = rootstock**
 - + Forms the lower stem and roots



NOT A NEW IDEA

- ✗ Widespread grafting since the mid-1800's

- + Why?

- ✗ Insects in the genus *Phylloxera* devastated the French grape industry.



- ✗ North American grapevines have been key genetic resources for the development of:

- ✗ Biotic and abiotic stress resistant rootstocks
- ✗ Hybrid grape varieties

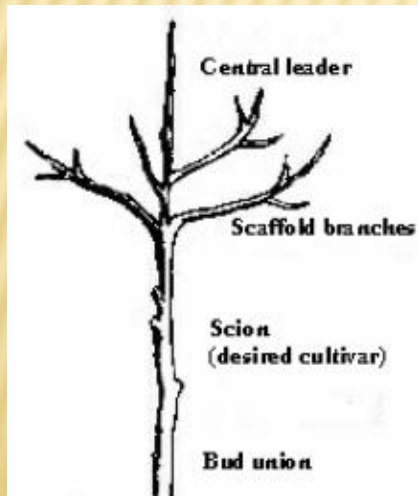
TODAY

✦ Vineyards in France (and other regions) consist of:

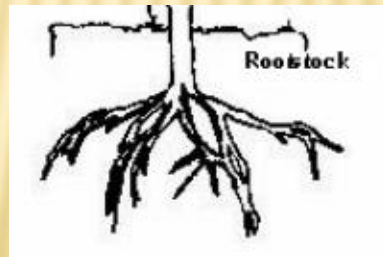
✦ European *V. vinifera*

grafted to

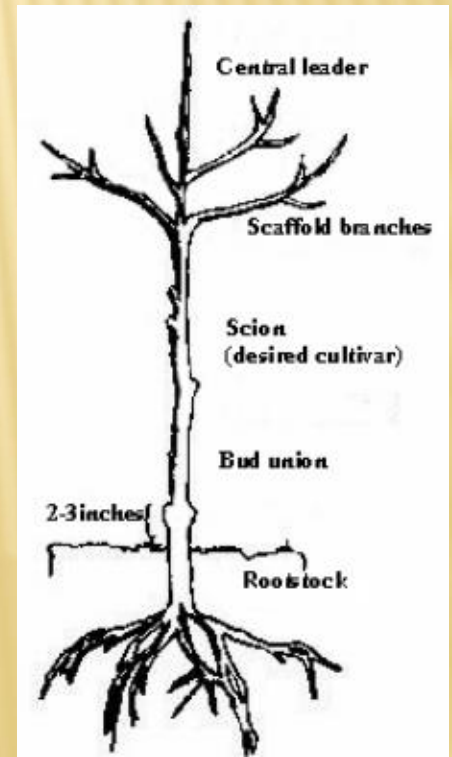
✦ North American *Vitis* species



+



=



WE CAN NOT IGNORE THE ROOT OF THE PROBLEM...

- ✘ Despite their importance for grape growing:
 - + Neglect of morphological variation in natural populations of *Vitis* species used for rootstocks.



FOCAL SPECIES:

✗ Noth A

+ Bus

✗ B

+ Rive

✗ C

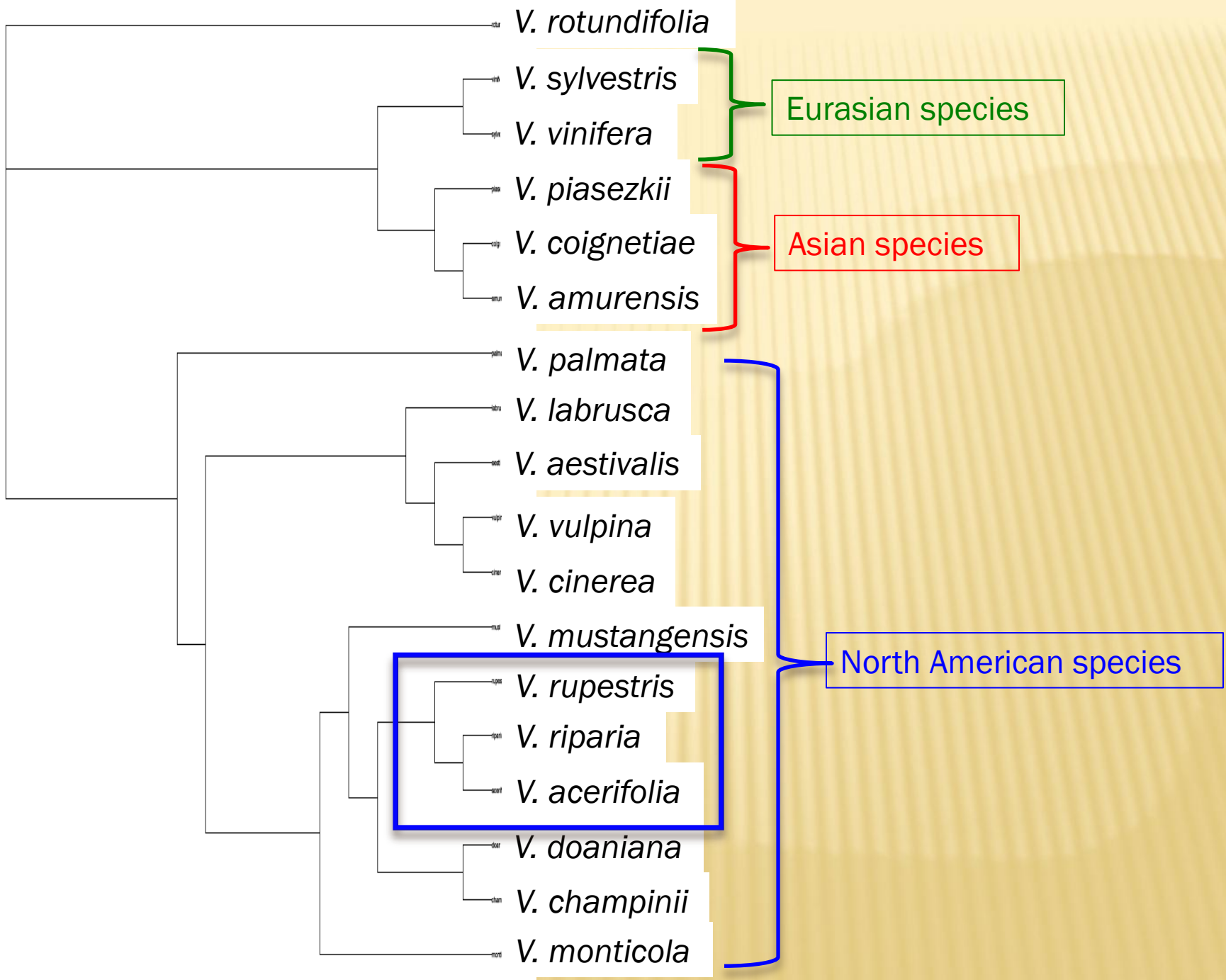
+ Rock grape (

✗ Crawling in



a)
reas

eds



Vitis acerifolia

(Bush or Maple-Leaf)

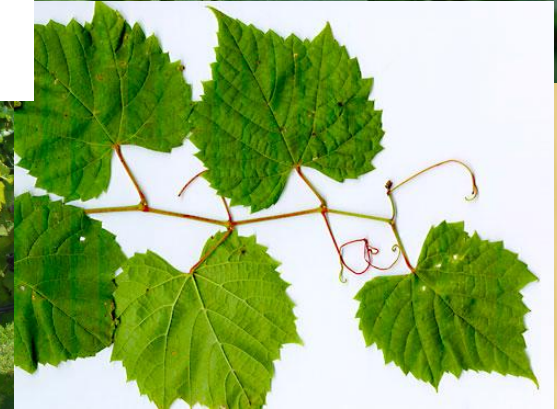
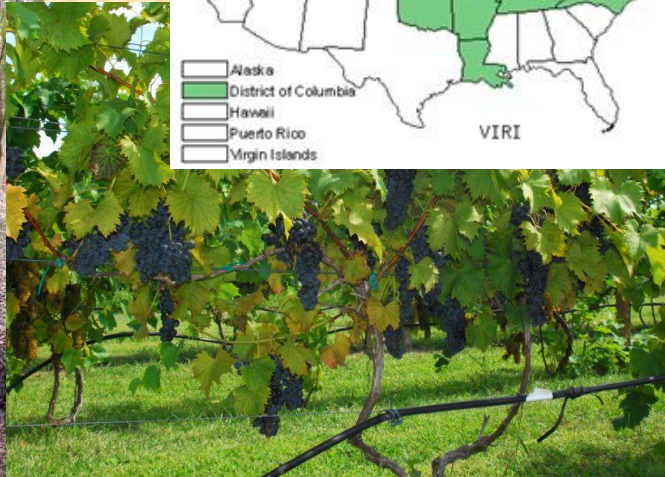
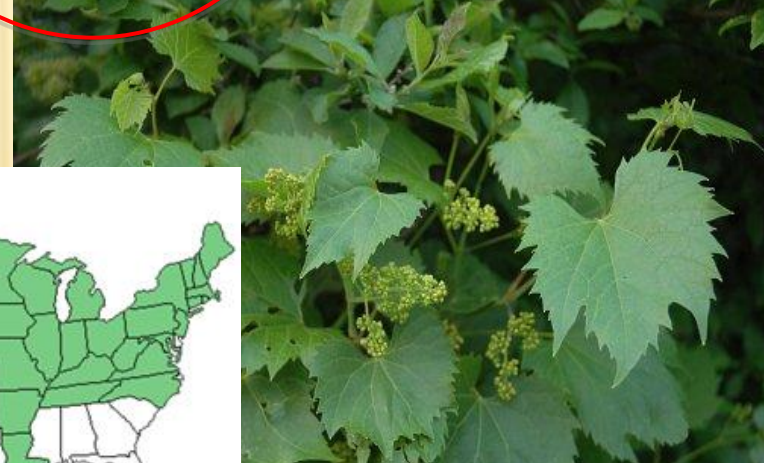
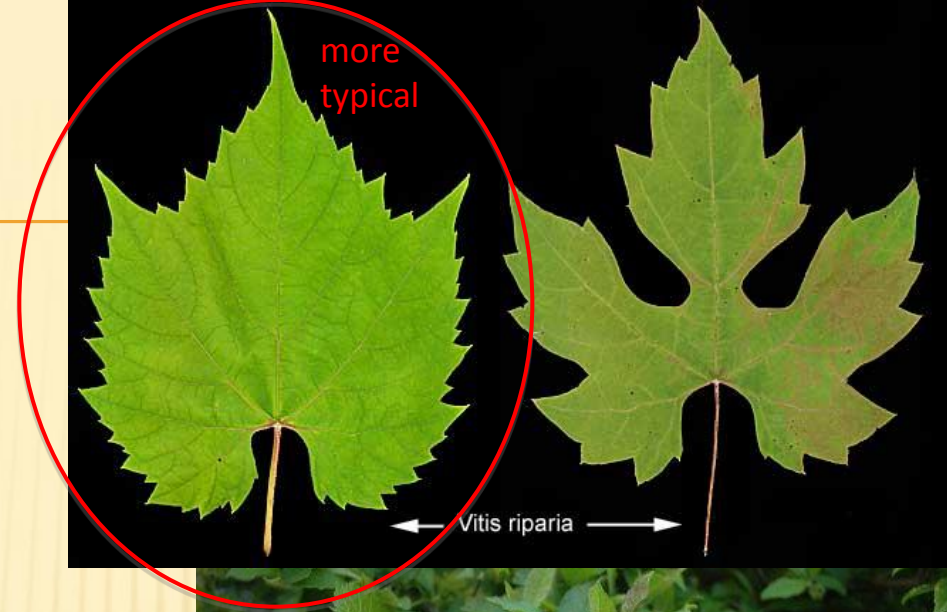
- ✘ Original name, *Vitis longii*
- ✘ Native to panhandle area
- ✘ Second in cold-hardiness among grapes only to *V. riparia*.



Vitis riparia

(River or Frost)

- ✘ Low woodlands near streams
- ✘ Heart-shaped leaves
- ✘ Forked tendrils
- ✘ Climbing vine
- ✘ Thick, woody vines with peeling, strip-like bark



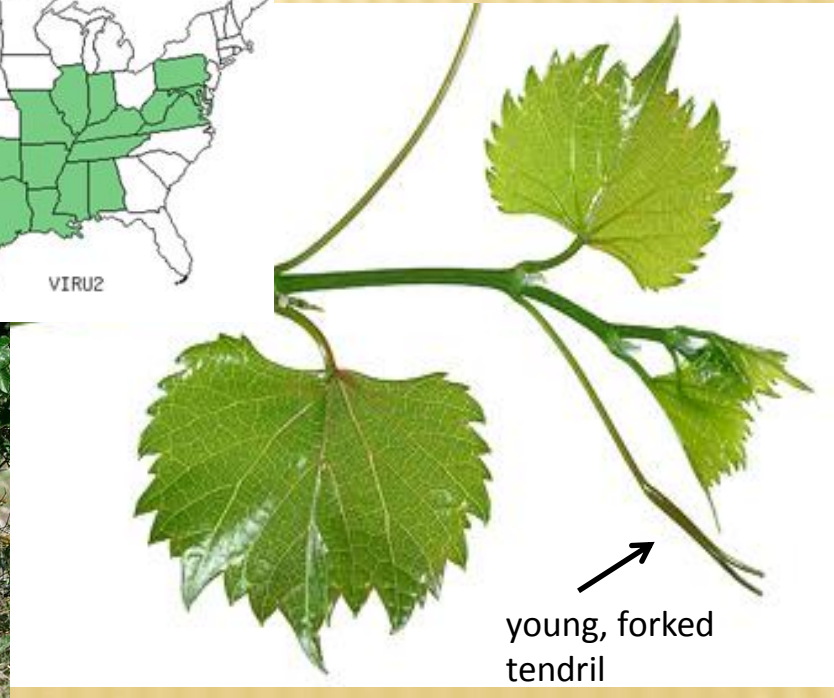
Vitis rupestris

(Rock)

- Rocky soils near streams/ dry creek beds
- Square/kidney-shaped leaves
- **Broader** than long
- Leaves often **conduplicate** (i.e., folding on itself)
- Young stem stalks often **red**
- Tendrils often absent (or forked)
- Shrub-like growth habit; rarely climb



red stems, book-like folding of the leaves



RESEARCH QUESTIONS

V. acerifolia, *V. riparia*, and *V. rupestris* differ in the environmental conditions subjected to:

- ✘ Can these **differences in morphology** be quantified?
 - + If so, can these measurements provide evidence for **species delimitation**?

OBJECTIVE

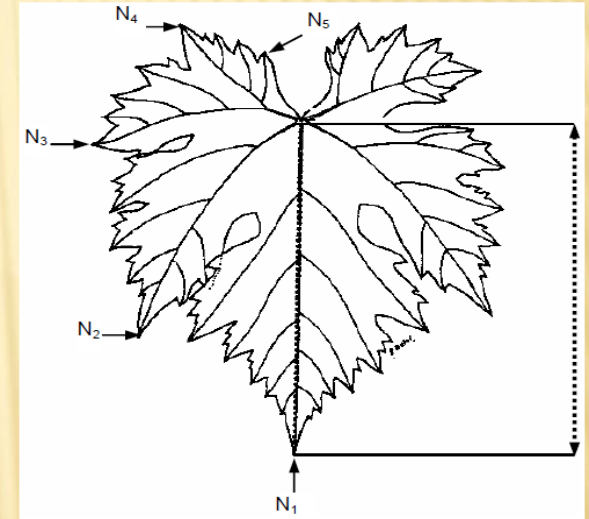
- ✘ The purpose of this study is to identify morphological traits that differ among three closely related *Vitis* species whose natural distributions differ with respect to abiotic conditions.

METHODS

- ✘ Determine Characters:

- + Standards-

- ✘ What has been done in the past?



- ✘ What appears most different?

- + It is okay to go to the obvious

- ✘ Leaves in *Vitis* species exhibit striking diversity (Galet 1979)

METHODS

- ✘ Apply comprehensive morphological indices developed by:
 - + *The International Organization of Vine and Wine (OIV)*
 - + *A Practical Ampelography: Grapevine Identification (Galet 1979)*

- ✘ In order to:
 - + Characterize variation in **25 leaf characters** in at least **10 accessions** each of *V. acerifolia*, *V. riparia* and *V. rupestris*.

UNDERSTANDING THE DIFFERENCE....

✘ Living



✘ Dead



METHODS

- ✘ Natural variation in leaf morphology is preserved through plant specimens housed in herbaria.

- + (*V. rupestris*)

- ✘ 117 specimens

- + (*V. acerifolia*)

- ✘ 24 specimens

- + (*V. riparia*)

- ✘ 505 specimens



METHODS

- ✘ Screen herbarium specimens
 - + Diverse geographic locations
 - + Complete



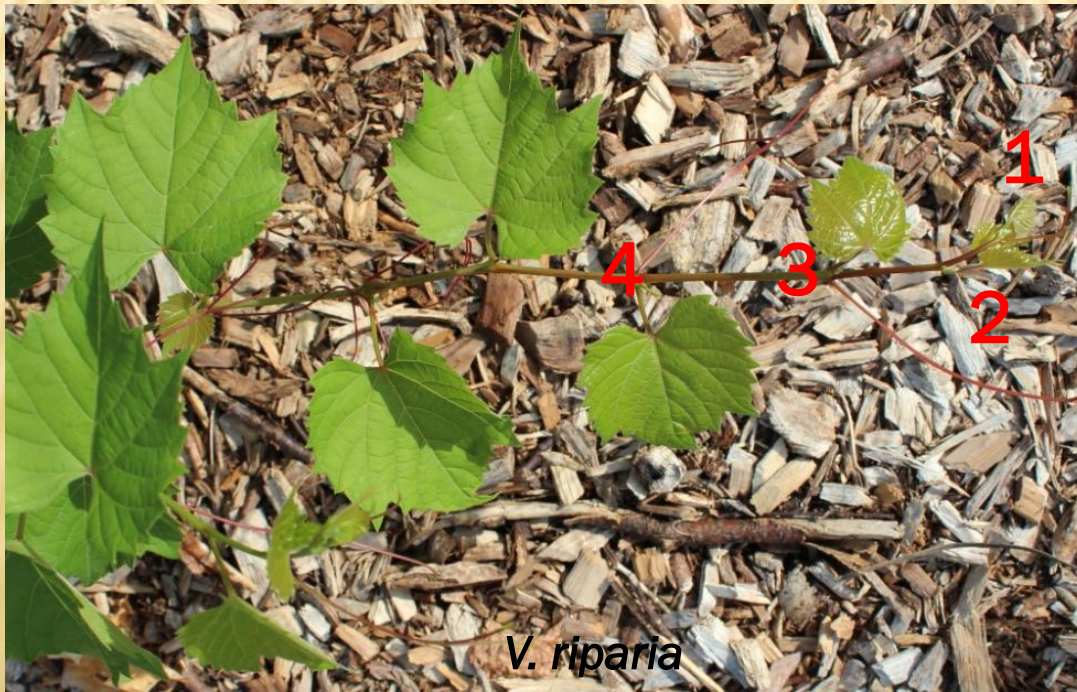
METHODS

✗ Locate the leaf to be measured:

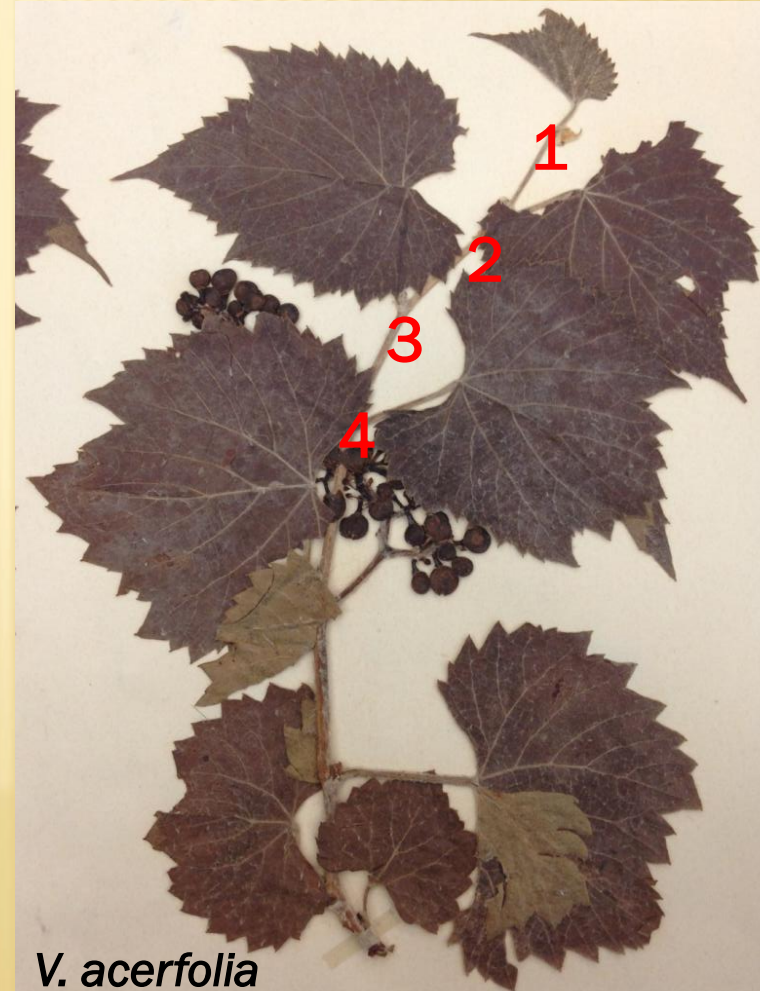
+ Maturity

✗ ~Fourth node down

* Seen in nature!



V. riparia



V. acerfolia

EXAMPLES OF DIFFICULTIES



V. rupestris



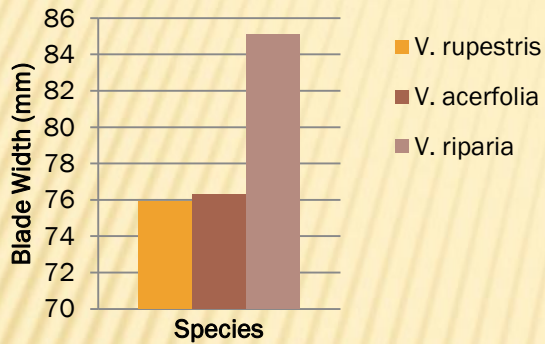
V. riparia

METHODS

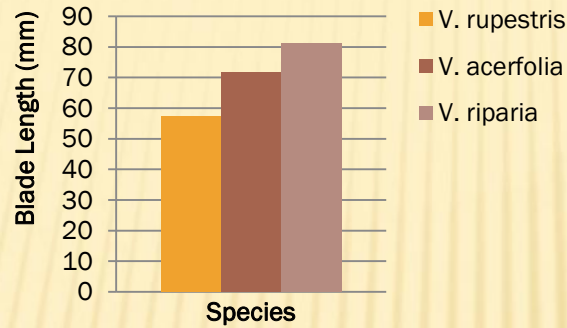
- ✘ Take measurements:



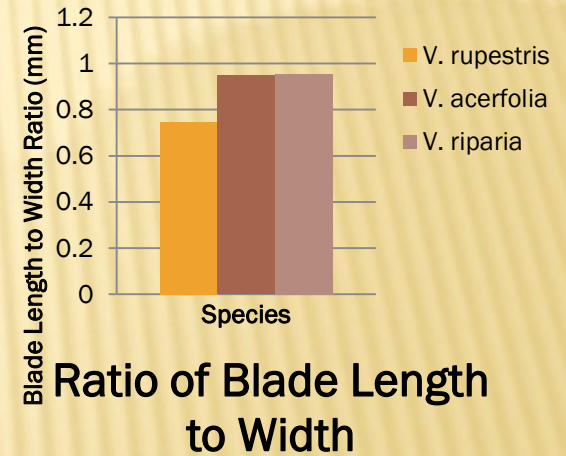
RESULTS



Blade Width



Blade Length



Beyond simply averages!

RESULTS

- ✘ By analyzing in **subsets**, a more **precise** comparison can be made.
- ✘ Consider sample size and dimensions analyzed.

Goals:

Describe leaf morphological variation in the three species

Identify traits that differentiate these close relatives

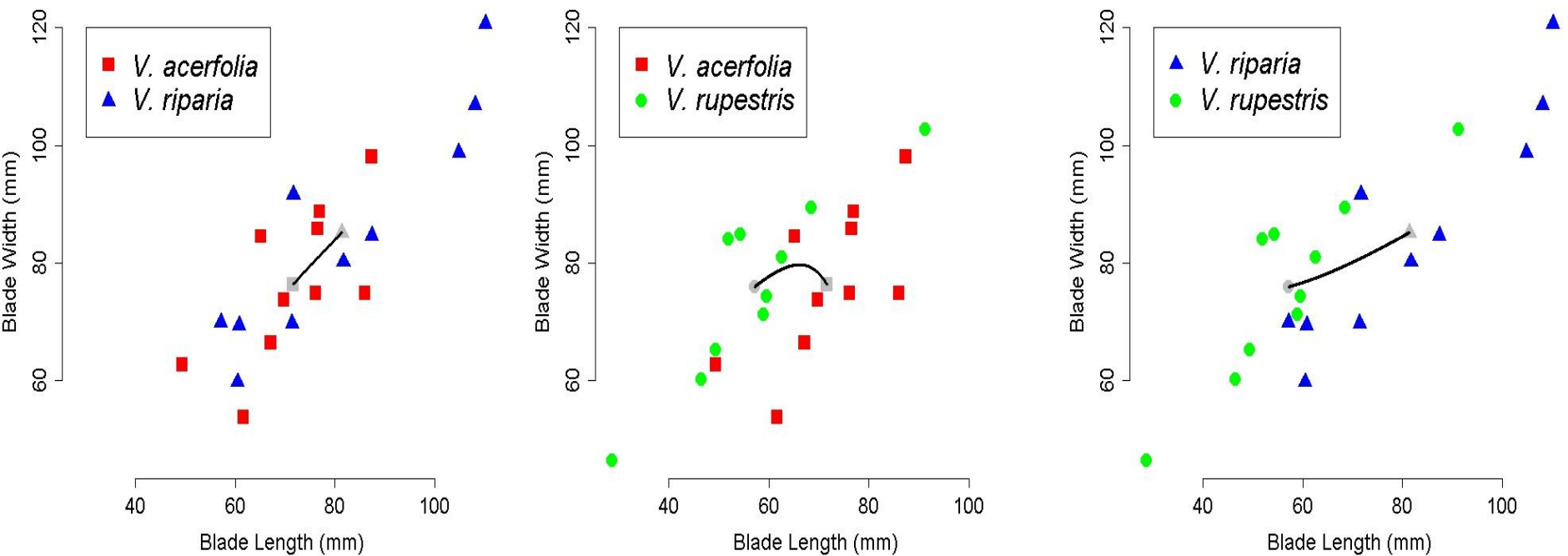


Figure 4:

- An R script was used to identify discontinuities (i.e., gaps) in morphological characters to test the hypothesis that three species of the genus *Vitis* are distinct lineages.
- A pairwise comparison using blade width and length characters was chosen as an example of visualizing a distribution of morphological variation.
- The ridgeline manifold travels between the mean (centroid, gray symbols) of each species.

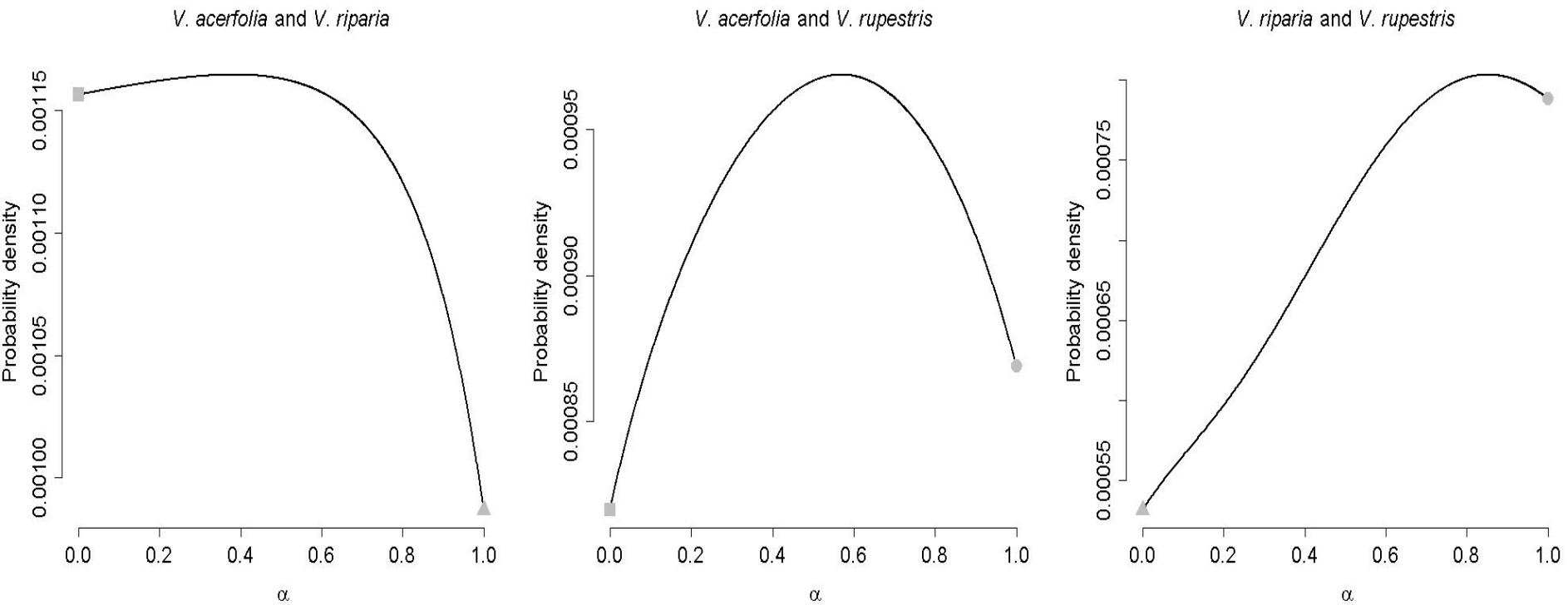
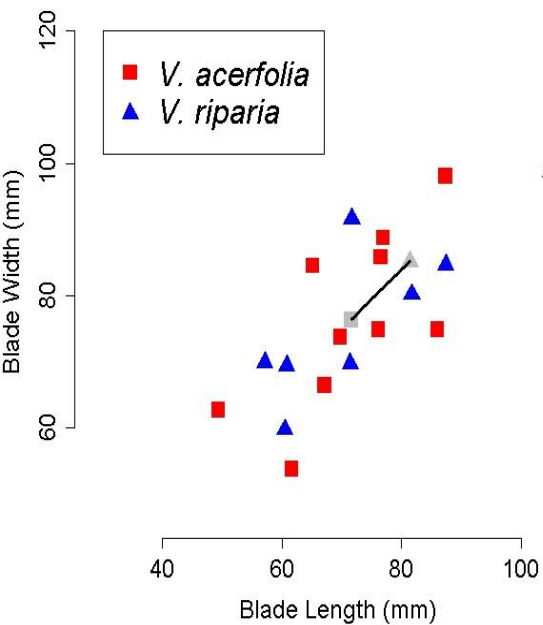
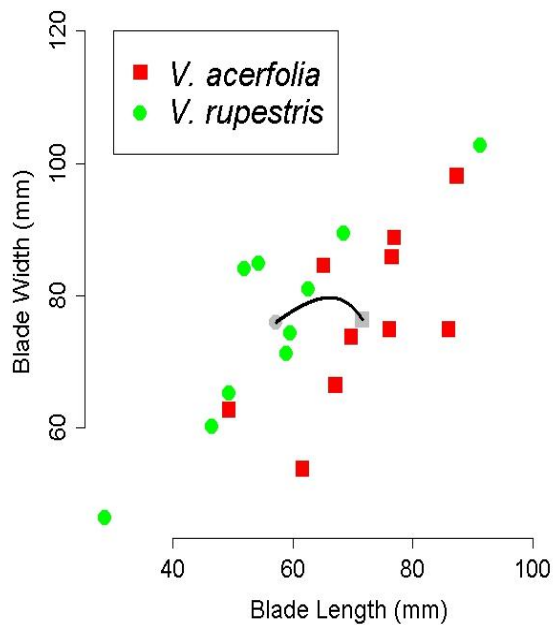


Figure 5:

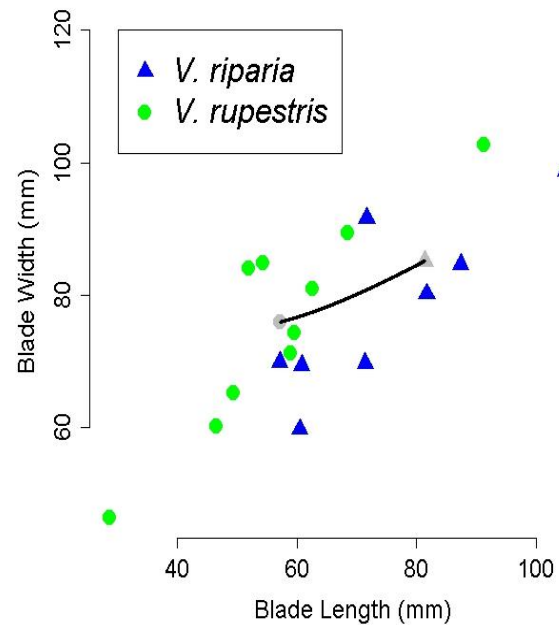
- Distribution of the probability density function (a measure of the frequency of phenotypes) along the ridgeline manifold.
- Depressions in the probability density function of the ridgeline manifold equate to a morphological gap between two species.



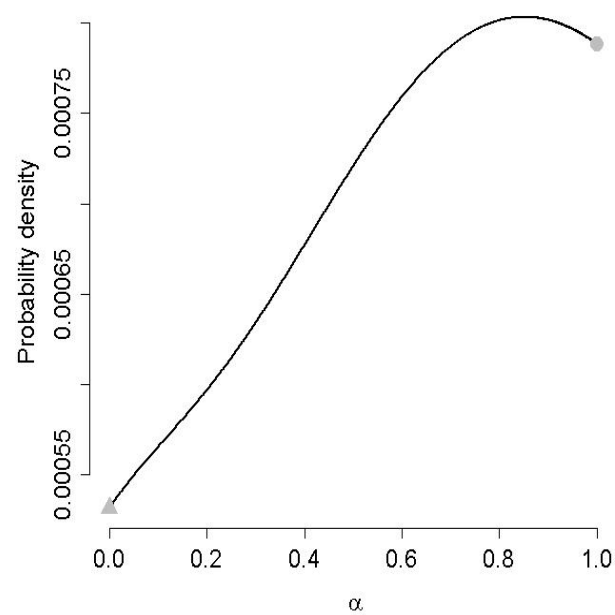
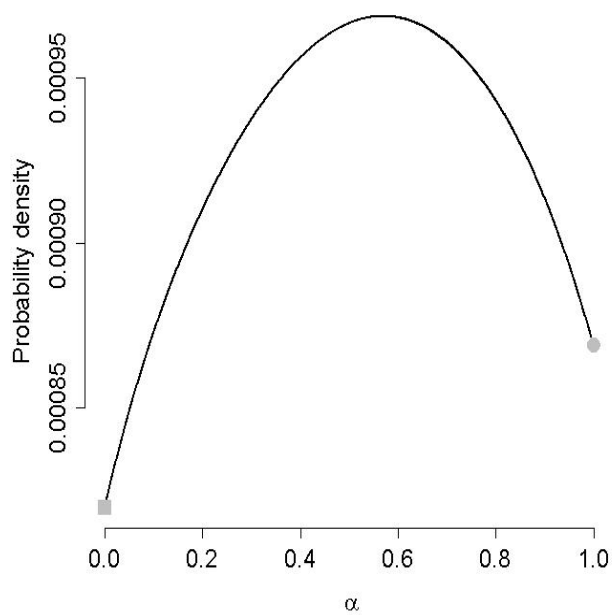
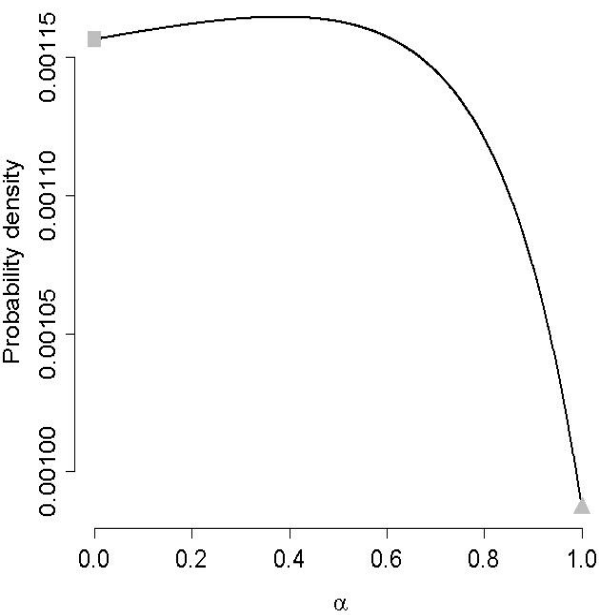
V. acerfolia and *V. riparia*

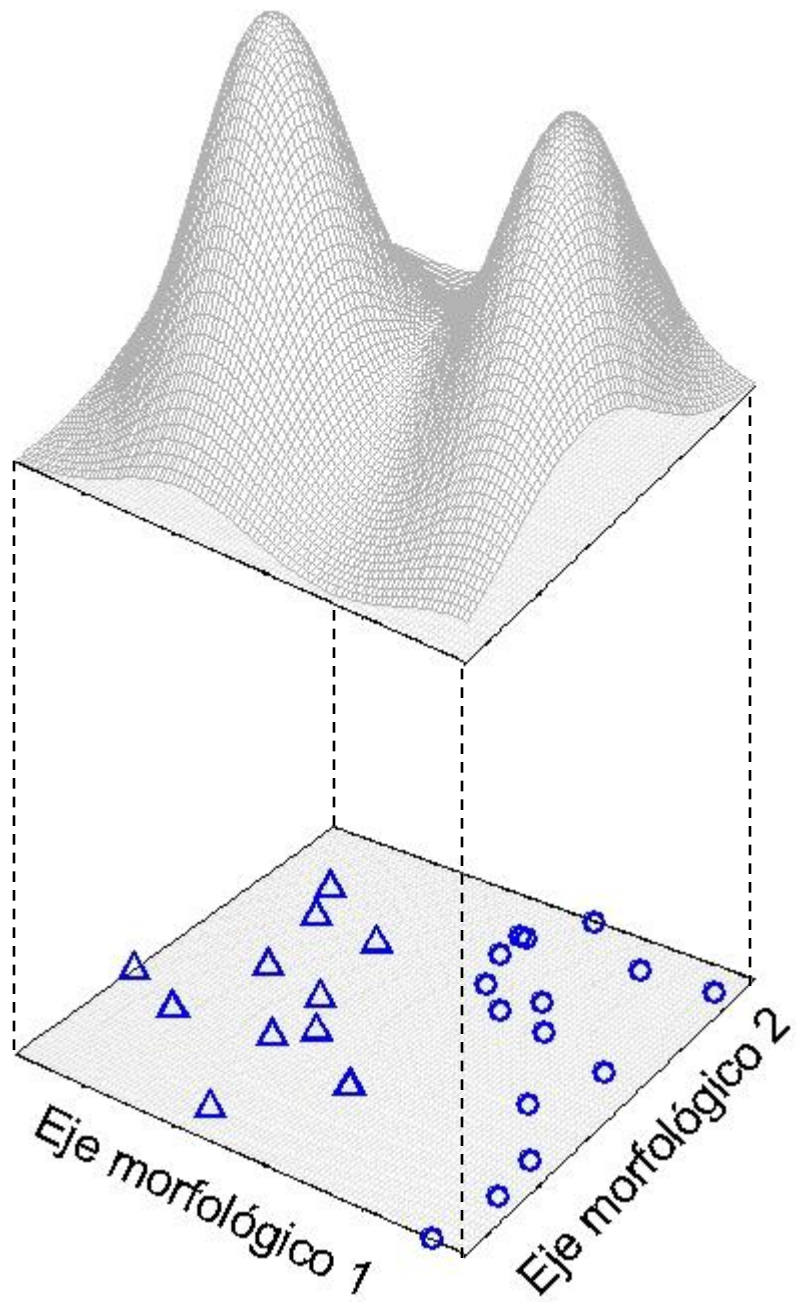


V. acerfolia and *V. rupestris*



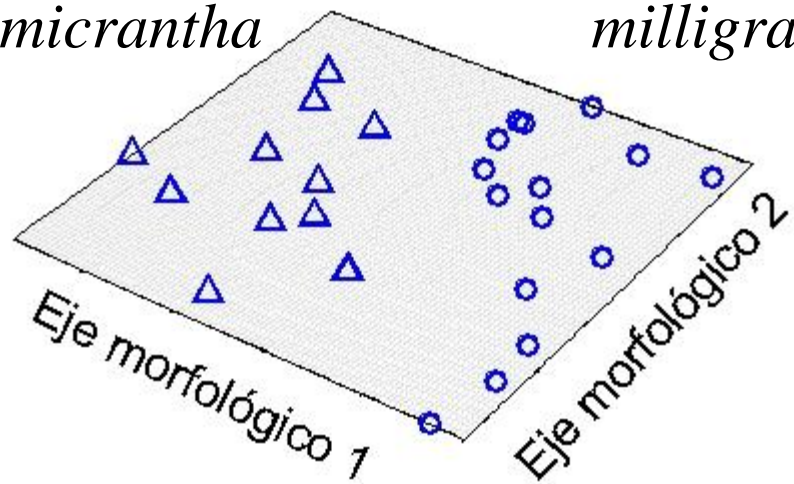
V. riparia and *V. rupestris*

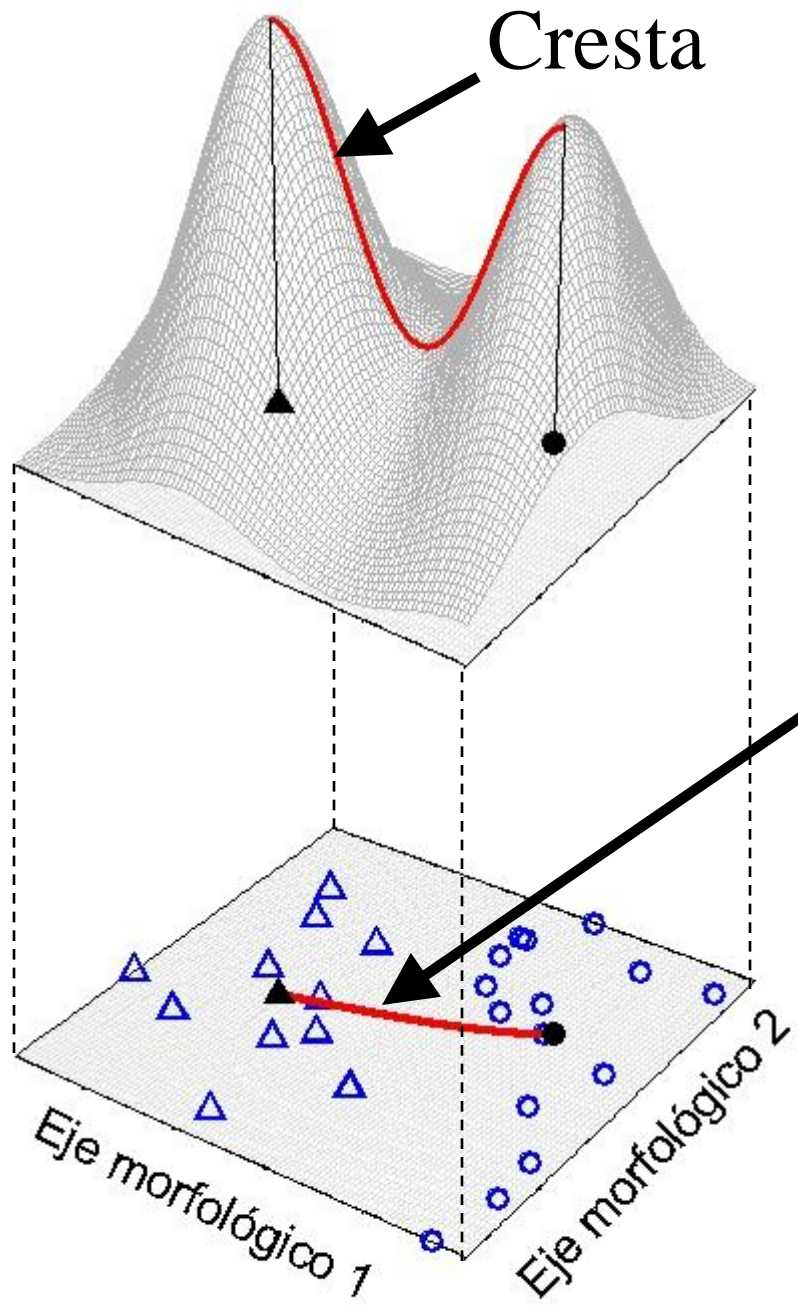




*Escallonia
micrantha*

*Escallonia
milligrana*

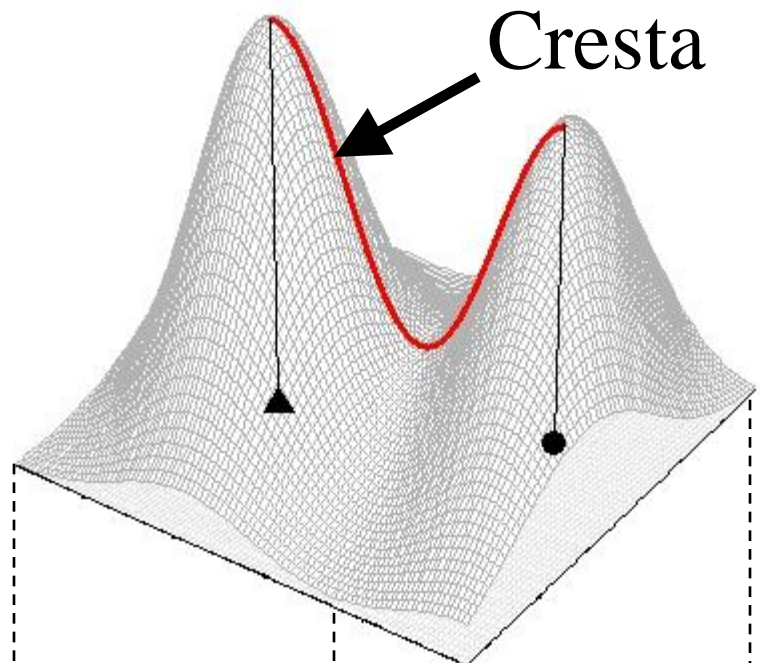




Cresta

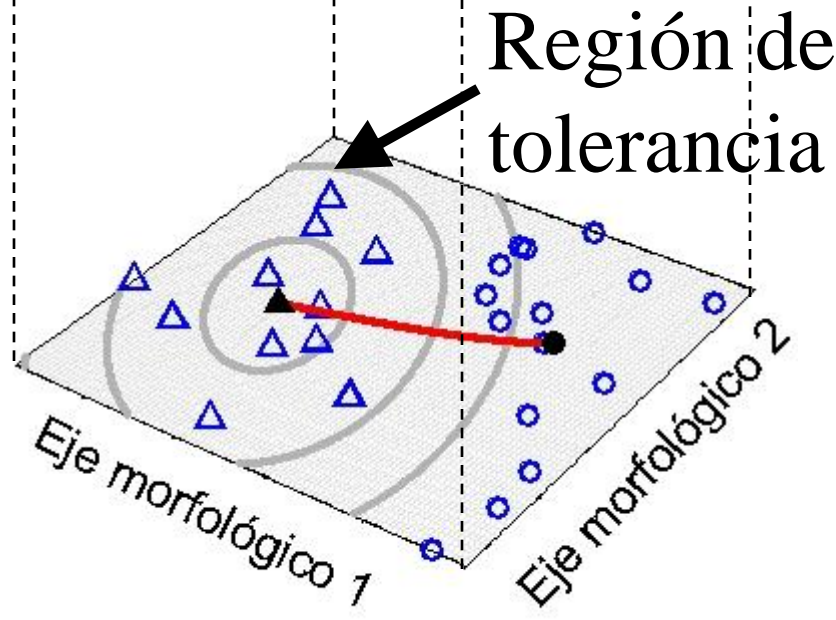
La cresta (“ridgeline manifold”) incluye todos los puntos críticos de una mezcla de dos distribuciones normales multivariadas.
(Ray & Lindsay, 2005, Ann. Stat. 33:2042–2065).

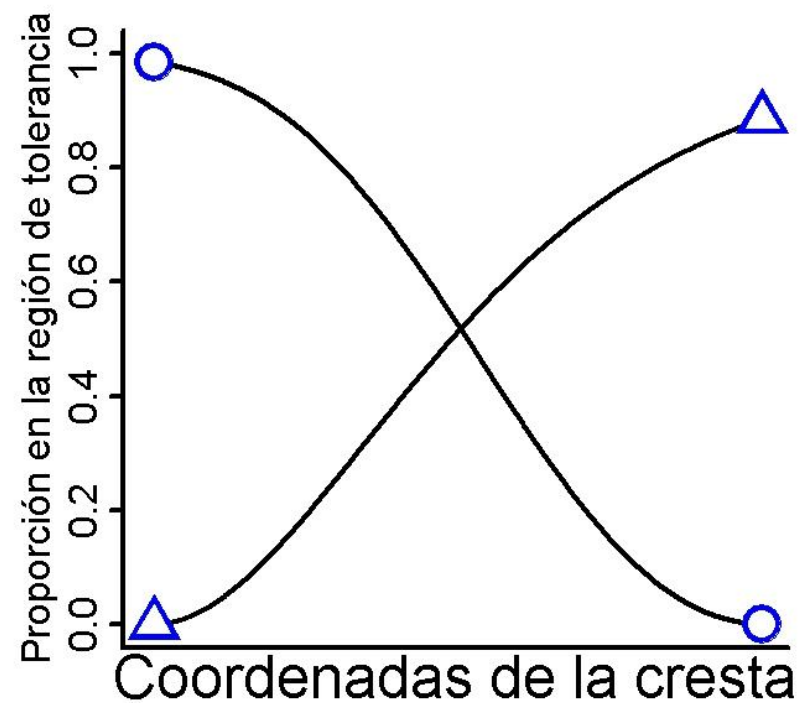
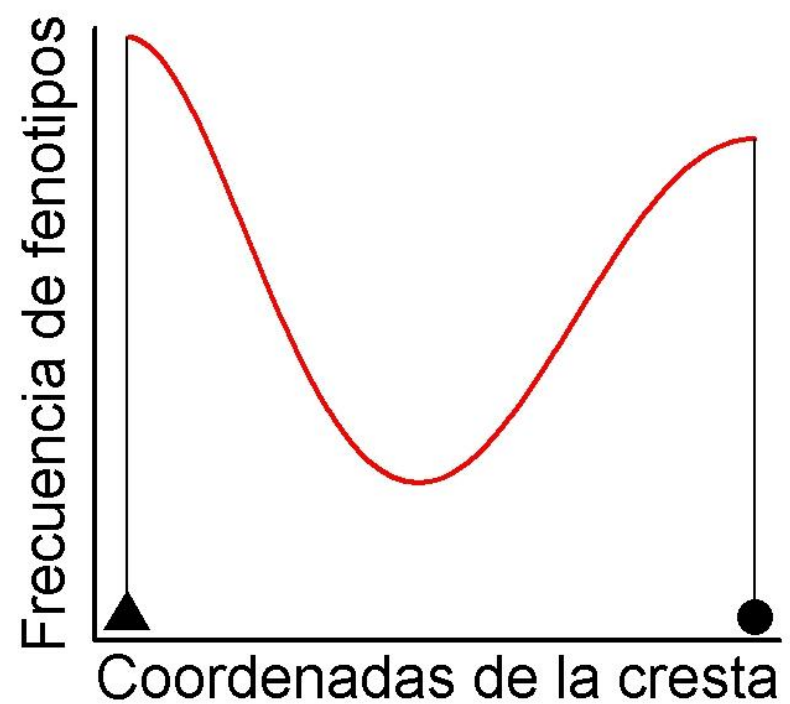
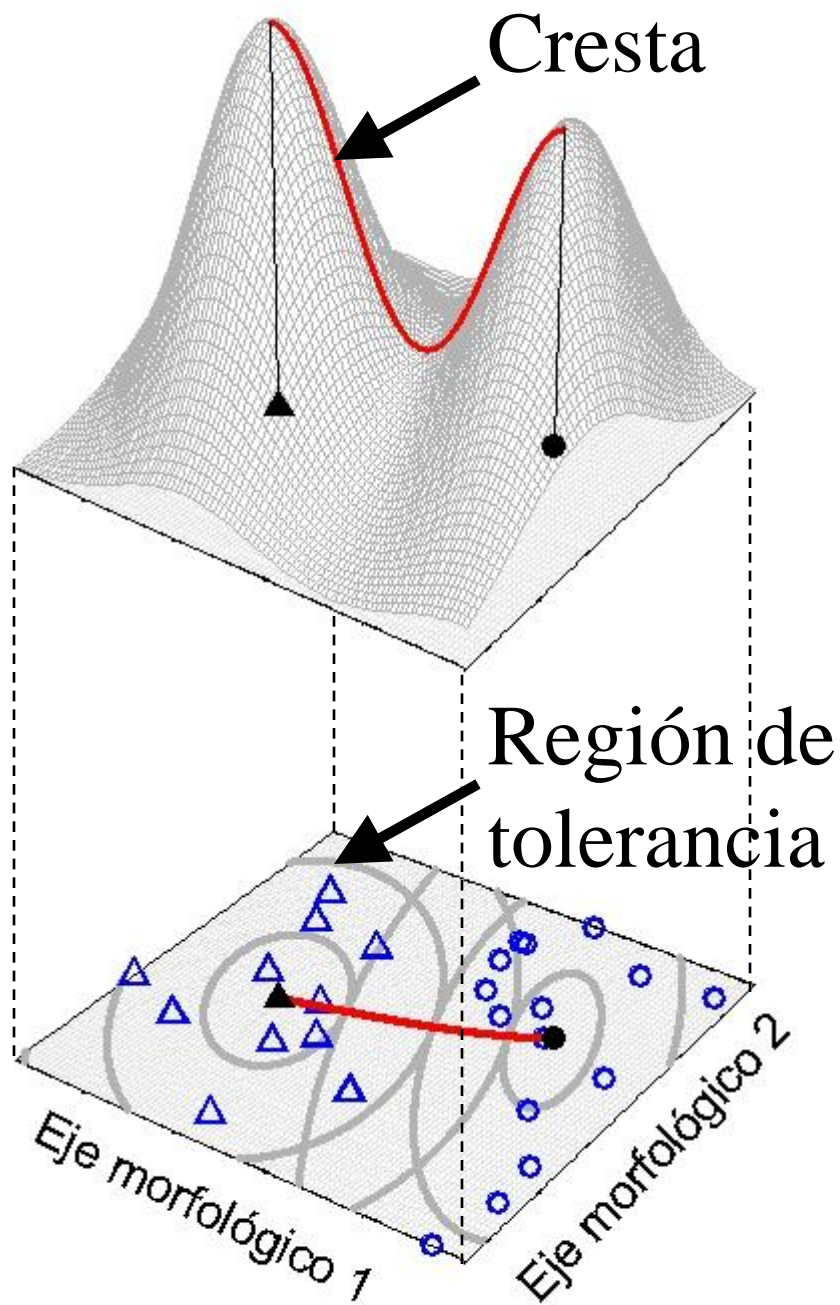
Ridgeline Manifold



La región de tolerancia abarca una proporción de una distribución normal multivariada.

(Krishnamoorthy & Mondal. 2006. Comm. Stat. Sim. Comp. 35: 461–478).





DISCUSSION

- ✘ Species are not “pulling apart” as much as one would think they would.
 - + The probability density functions along the ridgeline manifold **shows no evidence** of a morphological gap for any of the species pairs.

DISCUSSION

- ✘ Although:
 - + This conclusion is only for the morphological space defined by leaf blade length and width
 - ✘ May change with further sampling
- ✘ Illustrates that a difference between species in the means (or centroids) does not imply a gap (discontinuity).

DISCUSSION

- ✘ Way of describing natural variation associated with adaptation to dry environments in species used for rootstocks by the global grape industry.
- ✘ There are main characters that can be observed and measured that help classify species.

FUTURE WORK

- ✘ Modern morphometric techniques:
 - + Digital phenotyping
 - ✘ Leaf imaging
 - * Focus on quantifying **shape** variation
- 1) Elliptical Fourier Descriptors (EFDs)
- 2) Generalized Procrustes Analysis (GPA)
 - ✘ ImageJ
 - ✘ Cam2Com
 - ✘ ImageTool
 - ✘ R package analysis

LOOKING FORWARD

- ✘ What additional:
 - + Traits can be measured?
 - + Comparisons can be made?

- ✘ How do the traits observed relate to the environmental conditions of the area where they are located?

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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- ✘ Saint Louis University
 - ✘ Allison Miller, Laura Klein, Justin Zweck, Department of Biology



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- ✘ Zapata, F., and I. Jiménez. 2012. Species Delimitation: Inferring Gaps in Morphology across Geography. *Systematic Biology* 61(2): 179-194.
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