

# Development and application of molecular and bioinformatic tools for the genetic monitoring of beets

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J. Squirmelia



Letschert 1993

## Topics



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### ➤ Diversity analysis: *Beta patula* (Ait.) (BP)

Objective: Create decision criteria required for the establishment of a genetic reserve for *B. patula*

### ➤ Diversity analysis: *Beta vulgaris* (L.) ssp. *maritima* (Arcang.) (BVM)

Objective: Analysis of the genetic structure as a basis for further investigations on *In-situ*-conservation strategies

### ➤ Design and implementation of a database

Objective: Development of tools for data storage and the analysis of time series within the framework of genetic monitoring

# Overview

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## 1. Introduction

2. Material and methods

3. Diversity studies (*B. patula*, *B. vul. ssp. maritima*)

4. Monitoring database



## Introduction

**Crop Wild Relatives (CWR)** are species closely related to crops that include crop progenitors, and that may contribute beneficial traits to crops [...] (Maxted *et al.* 2008)

**Plant genetic resources (PGR)** are part of the biological resources and defined as [...] genetic material of actual or potential value [...] (BGB, 1993, Nr. 32)

**Convention on Biological Diversity, CBD**

**National Strategy on Biological Diversity**

Federal Ministry for Environment, Nature conservation and Nuclear Safety, FRG

**Agro-biodiversity strategy**

Federal Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Consumer Protection, FRG

**Law about the Convention on Biological Diversity Article 8:**

***In-situ* Conservation should be used to [...] Regulate or manage biological resources [...]**



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## Conservation strategies

### ***Ex-situ:***

Genebank

### ***In-situ:***

genetic reserve conservation  
technique

### **Genetic reserve conservation technique:**

Conservation of wild species in a genetic reserve involves the location, designation, management and monitoring of genetic diversity in a particular, natural location (Maxted *et al.* 1997).

### **AEGRO:**

„An Integrated European *In Situ* Management Work Plan: Implementing Genetic Reserves and On Farm Concepts“ (2007-2011)

**AEGRO** creates the data- and knowlege baseline for the establishment of genetic reserves for selected crop genepools. **This work conforms to target 7 of the 10. Conference of Parties of the CBD** (Nagoya, 2010)



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4. Monitoring database

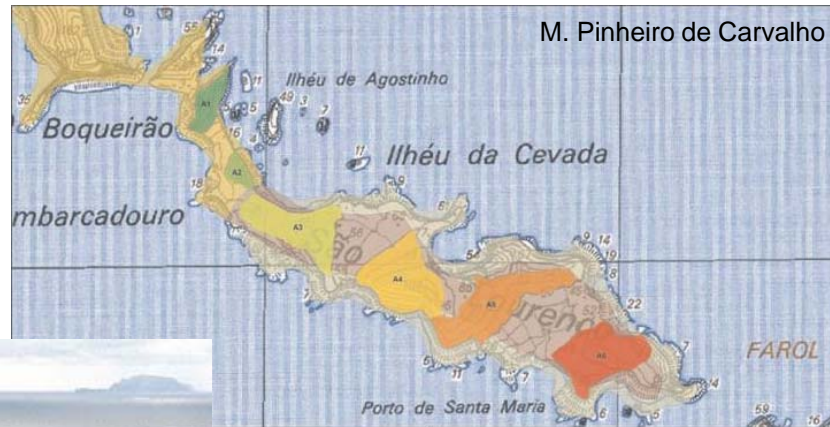




## Material: *Beta patula* (Ait.)

- An endemic species distributed on two islets off Madeira

Ilhèu do Desembarcadouro



Ilhèu Chão

## Material: *B. vul. ssp. maritima*

- Distributed along the Mediterranean Basin, the European Atlantic sea shores as well as in the western part of the Baltic Sea area



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(Google Earth™-Kartenservice)

24th November, Young Scientists Meeting 2010, Quedlinburg, Germany

### Motivation:

-Will the global climate change shift the distribution area towards the northern latitude and how will this affect genetic diversity?

-How will the loss of habitats in the South and gain in the North influence the conservation of important traits for breeding?

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## Methods

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- 25 SSR markers covering all linkage groups
- Approximately 2 SSR markers for each linkage group
  
- 242 samples of *B. patula* were collected in the natural habitat
- 316 samples of *B. vul. ssp. maritima* were sampled in the natural habitat
  
- All sampling plots were georeferenced
- Coordinates of 227 individual plants for *B. vul. ssp. maritima* were registered

# Overview

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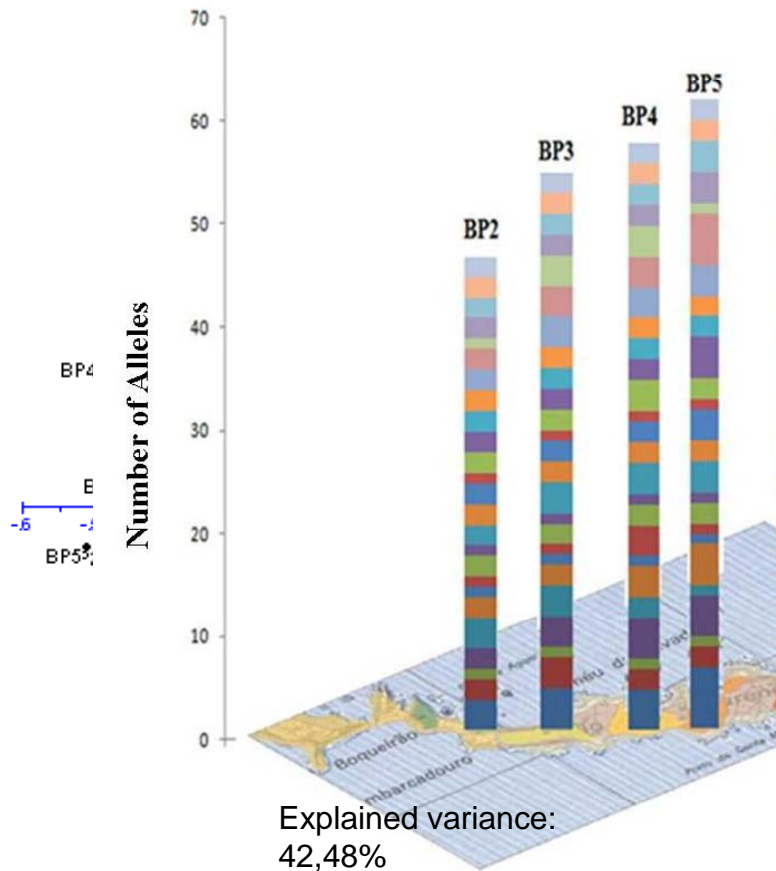
1. Introduction
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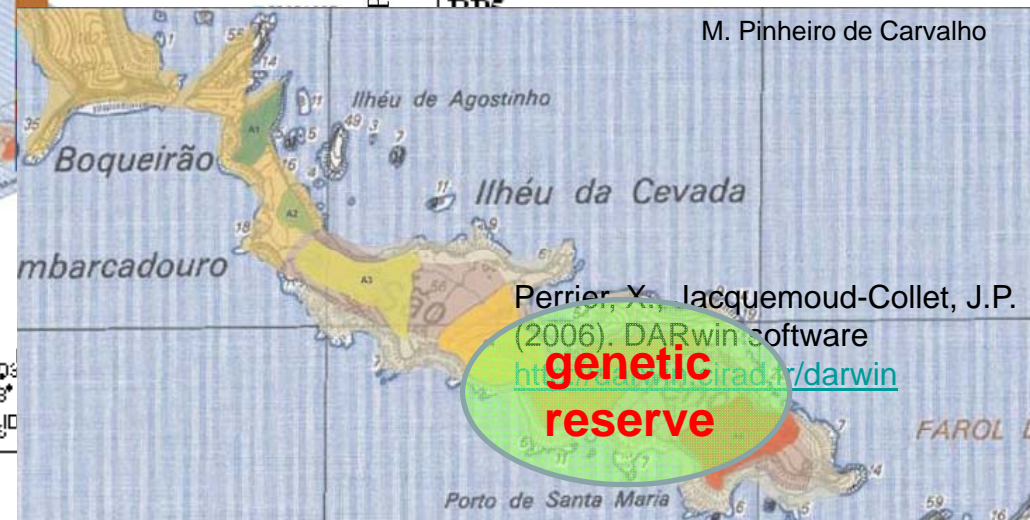
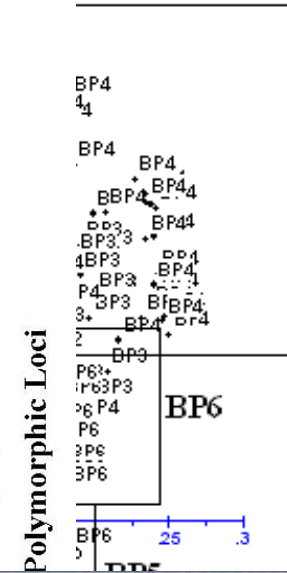
# B. patula diversity study



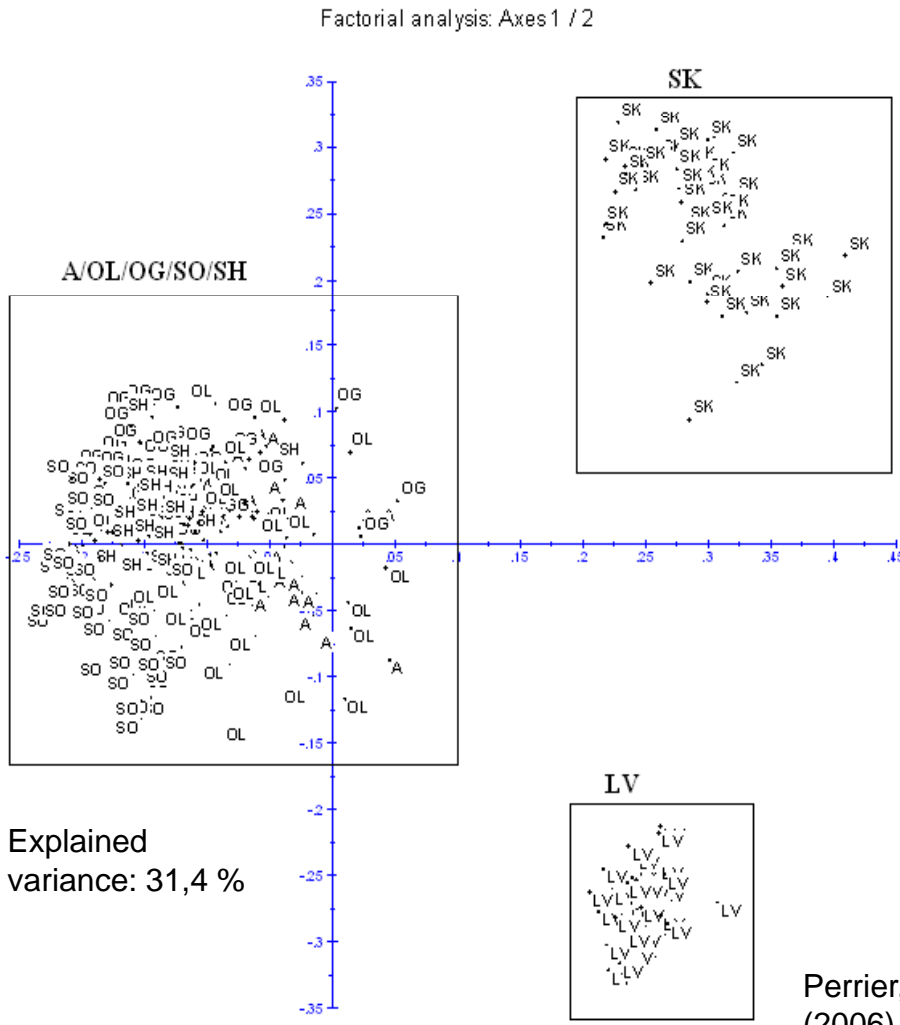
Factorial analysis: Axes 1 / 2



RP3 / RP4



# B. vul. ssp. maritima diversity study



(Google Earth™-Kartenservice)

Perrier, X., Jacquemoud-Collet, J.P.  
(2006). DARwin software  
<http://darwin.cirad.fr/darwin>

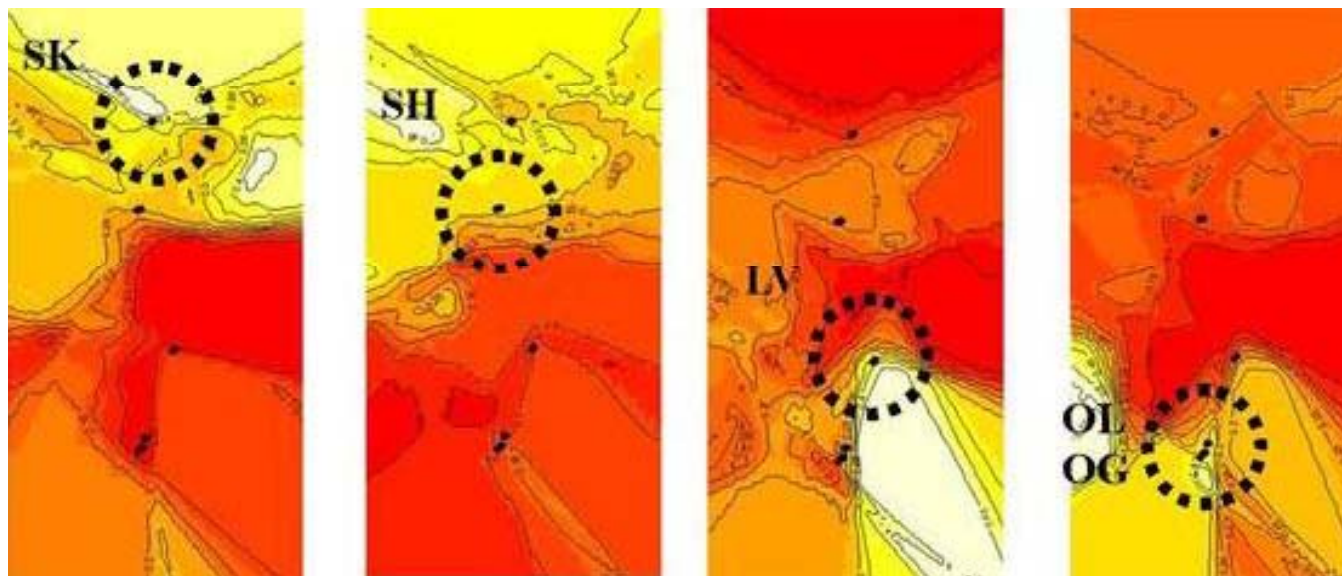


## B. vul. ssp. maritima diversity study

### Geneland (Guillot et al. Mol. Ecol. Notes 5, 712-715, 2005)

- assigns individuals to clusters and identifies migrants
- investigates the most likely number of populations
- combines geographic coordinates with a colored probability map of the cluster membership

Probability of the membership of individuals to a cluster



Propability



High Average Low

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# Monitoring database

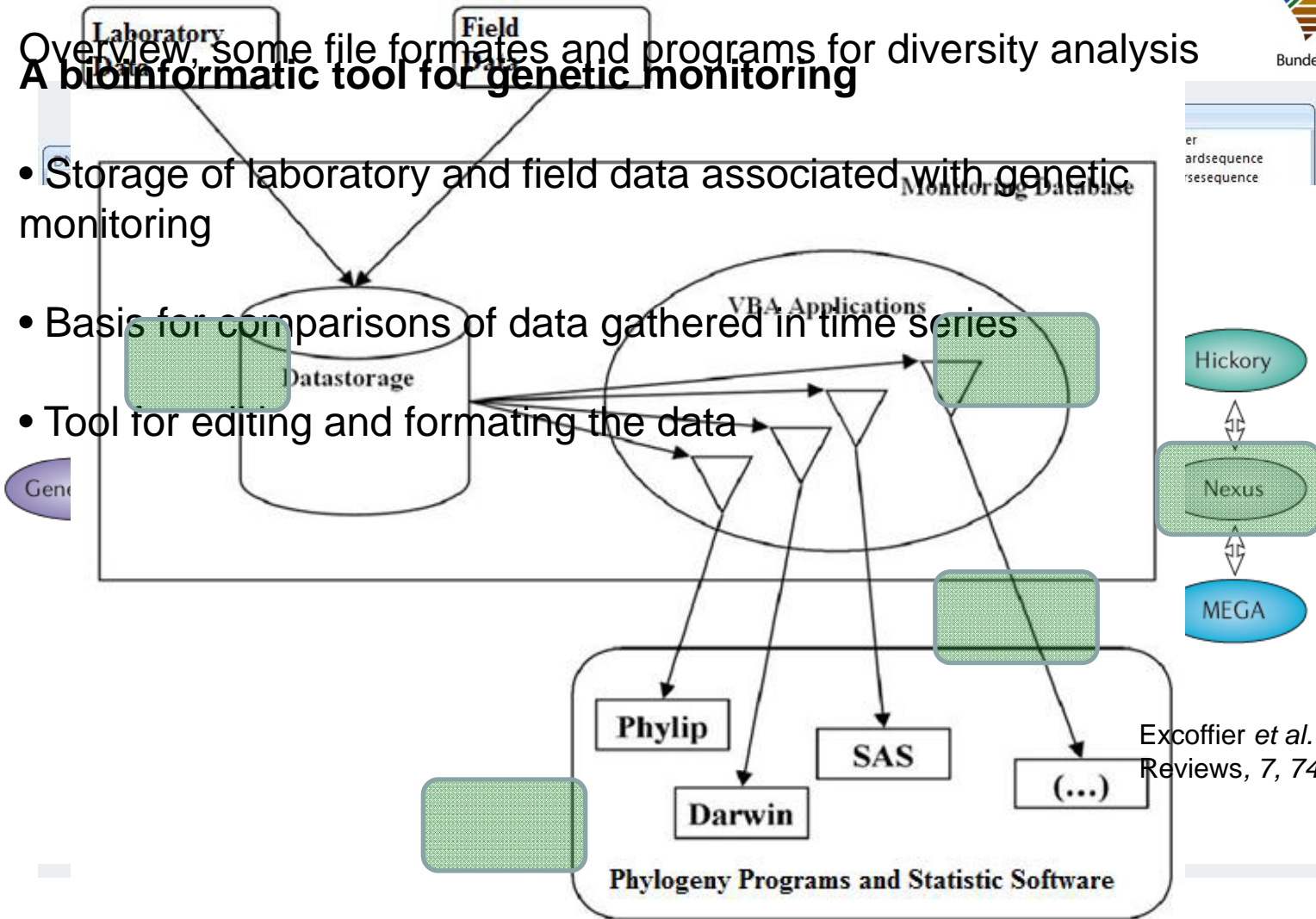


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Overview, some file formats and programs for diversity analysis  
**A bioinformatic tool for genetic monitoring**

- Storage of laboratory and field data associated with genetic monitoring
- Basis for comparisons of data gathered in time series
- Tool for editing and formatting the data



## Summary

- First description of the geographic patterns of genetic diversity in the wild beet *B. patula*
- Genetic data required as decision criteria for the establishment of a genetic reserve for *B. patula* were produced.
- Consolidation of the knowledge of geographic patterns of genetic diversity in the wild beet *B. vul. ssp. maritima*. This gives a baseline for further examinations on the potential influence of the geographic range shift on genetic diversity.
- Development of a database capable to store and process field and laboratory data associated with genetic monitoring





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24th November, Young Scientists Meeting 2010, Quedlinburg, Germany

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