Advanced Ecology Discussion Questions D. Jenkins

Chave (2013)

1. Is our collective ability to work on more complex subjects and at bigger scales a simple, direct result of advances in computational power?
2. scaling of respiration, NPP, body sizes, etc.: (pgs. 7-8) - does it sound like general predictive models based on biomass and environmental conditions (temp., etc.) are coming?
3. Interaction networks, conflicts across scales, modularity - have you been aware of network-thinking in ecology?
4. p. 13. Do you agree that "Ricklefs (1987)'s plea for more integration with systematics, biogeography and palaeontology has now been realised"?
5. Does this paper support Levin's suggestion/rule that aggregating at a next-more-coarse level of scale is more likely to find generality?

Chase et al. (2018)

6. What is a rarefaction curve? Are crossed lines diagnostic of different biodiversities?
7. Please walk me through Fig. 4 - what is the take home message here?
8. How might the approach outlined at Fig. 5 and Table 1 and shown in the "recipe" help make biodiversity analysis more scale-explicit?

He et al. (2020)

9. Pretty statistical, huh?
10. This work approaches spatial scale very differently than Chase et al. (2018). Which do you like better?
11. Table 2. Any consistent stories or surprises in here?
12. Fig. 3. What message emerges from this outcome?
13. Why is limited dispersal more important to community composition patterns at larger scales?