Local climate change velocities explain multidirectional range shifts in a North

American butterfly assemblage

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Abstract

Species are often expected to shift their distributions poleward to evade warming climates.

However, from 18 years of fixed transect monitoring data on 88 species of butterfly in the

midwestern United States, we show that butterflies are shifting their centroids in all directions,

except towards regions that are becoming warmer. Butterflies shifted their centroids at a mean

rate of 4.87 km yr^{-1}. The rate of centroid shift was significantly associated with local climate

change velocity (temperature and precipitation), but not with mean climate change velocity

throughout the species' ranges. Surprisingly, the centroid shift was also unrelated to species

traits expected to mediate the shift response including thermal niche breadth (range of climates

butterflies experience throughout their distribution) and wingspan (often used as metric for

dispersal capability). Contrasting with a number of previous studies, we observed relatively

high phylogenetic signal in the rate and direction species shifted their centroids, suggesting that

evolutionary history helps to explain multidirectional range shift responses and that some

groups of species will be better able to shift their ranges than others. This research shows

important signatures of multidirectional range shifts (latitudinal and longitudinal) and uniquely

shows that local climate change velocities are more important in driving range shifts than the

mean climate change velocity throughout a species' entire range.

Key words: range shift, abundance, vector analysis, climate change velocity, phylogenetic

signal, centroid shift, local climate change

Introduction

A majority of studies that have examined terrestrial geographic range shift responses to climate change have focused on poleward and upslope range shift responses (Lenoir et al., 2020; Lenoir & Svenning, 2015; VanDerWal et al., 2013). This is because temperature is correlated with both latitude and elevation, and species are expected to move towards cooler higher latitude and elevation environments with further warming (Chen et al., 2011; Parmesan & Yohe, 2003). However, this might limit our understanding of organismal range shifts as climatic factors are also changing across the longitudinal axis, particularly precipitation (Hordley et al., 2023; Lenoir & Svenning, 2015; VanDerWal et al., 2013). There is accumulating evidence of strong longitudinal components to species range shifts, especially within Lepidoptera and birds (Hordley et al., 2023; Huang et al., 2017, 2023; VanDerWal et al., 2013). While, it is not entirely clear what drives these longitudinal shifts, they could arise from a number of non-climatic factors such as biotic interactions and changes in land-use (Caro-Miralles & Gutiérrez, 2023; Kwon et al., 2021; Lenoir et al., 2020; Zhang et al., 2019).

Another possibility is that organisms are responding to changes in climate, but the magnitude and direction of climatic shifts is not strictly in a poleward or upslope direction (Lenoir et al., 2010). There are examples of this phenomenon in mountain plants where the direction of the isotherm or isohyet is downslope and plants are moving downslope accordingly (Crimmins et al., 2011; Lenoir et al., 2010, 2020). In addition, rates of climate change are not uniform across space and species could be shifting away from regions that are changing rapidly, even if that means shifting in a non-poleward or upslope direction (Pinsky et al., 2013). Lepidoptera seem to be especially prone to unexpected range shift responses, though it is not always clear why. For example, across studies between 22 - 33% of Lepidoptera species shifted their ranges

downslope rather than upslope as expected (Chen et al., 2009; Franco et al., 2006; Konvicka et

al., 2003; Lenoir et al., 2010; McCain & Garfinkel, 2021; Wilson et al., 2005). One possibility

is that Lepidoptera are tracking non-temperature related variables in response to climate change

such as precipitation. Precipitation is likely to be particularly important for Lepidoptera owing

to their reliance on host plants (which require certain amounts of water for their own growth)

for development through their juvenile stages and adult diet (Lancaster, 2020). In addition,

Lepidoptera are ectothermic insects which breathe through spiracles and simultaneously lose

water (respiratory water loss), meaning that preserving water balance is particularly difficult in

dry environments and is especially important for maintaining homeostasis (Chown, 2002; Jogar

et al., 2004).

While the magnitude and direction of local climate velocity might shape range shift responses

and provide a potential explanation for longitudinal range shifts, species also differ in their

intrinsic capabilities to be pushed, pulled, or resist shifting in response to climate change. In

particular, the climates in which species evolved over long timescales have the potential to

shape contemporary range shift responses under recent climate change. For example, species

traits, such as their environmental niche breadths (e.g. range of climatic temperatures they

inhabit) and dispersal capability, might also influence their range shift responses (Hällfors et

al., 2023; Herrera et al., 2018; Pöyry et al., 2009). Species with broad environmental thermal

niche breadths might not shift their ranges as quickly as those with a narrow thermal niche

breadth (Hällfors et al., 2023; Herrera et al., 2018). This is because species with broad

environmental niche breadths are likely to have broad climatic tolerances or be highly plastic

to allow survival across a broad range of climatic conditions (da Silva et al., 2019). Likewise,

dispersal capability might govern the ability of different species to shift in response to changing

climatic change. For example, wingspan, an approximation for dispersal capability in

Lepidoptera, is positively associated with the magnitude of range shift response (Pöyry et al., 2009).

Lepidopteran systems are well-poised to address questions regarding the prevalence and potential mechanisms of longitudinal range shift responses and the role of local climate velocity. This taxonomic group has a proclivity towards non-typical range shifts (Lenoir et al., 2010), and is highly sensitive to changes in temperature and moisture (Cayton et al., 2015; Diamond et al., 2014; Hällfors et al., 2023; Hordley et al., 2023). Here, we take advantage of fine scale spatio-temporal monitoring of butterflies in the Midwestern United States representing 18 years of data across a spatial extent spanning over 116,000 km^2 to explore these questions. We compute vectors of centroid shift responses (latitudinal and longitudinal components) for 88 species and link these with local climate change velocities based on temperature and precipitation. We examine whether local climate velocities can aid in explaining non-poleward shifts among species in the butterfly assemblage, and whether these local climate velocities are better predictors of the shift response than mean climate change velocity species experience throughout their entire range. We also explored how dispersal capability (wingspan) and thermal niche breadth influences range shifts, while examining the role of shared evolutionary history in mediating the shift response. In general, comparative studies of contemporary range shift responses show overall low, but quite variable, roles for evolutionary history in mediating the shift response (Diamond 2018). Previously unaccounted variation in the magnitude and direction of local climate velocities along with species niche and dispersal traits could provide an explanation for this outcome, and might therefore increase the degree to which range shift responses are explained by evolutionary history.

Methods

Centroid shifts

We examined range shifts in 88 species of North American butterfly species by examining changes in abundances across 146 fixed transects between the years 2000 - 2017. Transect monitoring was conducted by citizen scientists that took part in the Ohio Lepidopterists Monitoring Program within a strict range of environmental conditions on a weekly basis (https://www.ohiolepidopterists.org/). We only examined range shifts in species geographic ranges that had over 80 observations across the 18 year test period, and species that had range shift data for at least a 10 year period.

We used abundance-weighted methods to assess each species' range shifts (Ash et al., 2017, Huang et al., 2017; 2023). We calculated the abundance-weighted geographic centroid of each species each year between 2000 and 2017 within the Ohio Lepidoptera monitoring scheme to create centroid shift vectors for each species. To account for detection bias across sites we bootstrapped species occurrence records by resampling 80% of each species annual records with replacement 10,000 times to estimate each species' mean geographic centroid each year of the survey. Centroid shift vectors have been shown to be an efficient and accurate way to assess fine scale changes in species distribution, especially over relatively short time scales (Ash et al., 2017; Huang et al., 2017, 2023).

We used linear models to calculate the velocity at which each species shifted their latitudinal and longitudinal centroids across space. The range shift velocities have components of both rate and direction. The slope of each model was extracted to estimate range shift velocity. Degrees latitude were converted to kilometres by multiplying latitude by 84 (the mean degrees

150 to latitude conversion across Ohio's latitudinal span), and degrees longitude were converted to

151 kilometres by multiplying degrees longitude by 111 (same longitudinal conversion across the

152 globe). We calculated velocity of centroid shift as per Huang et al. 2017 equation 2,

$$\sqrt{velocity_{lat}^2 + velocity_{long}^2}.$$

Using the slopes of the latitudinal and longitudinal centroid shifts we estimated the start and

end points for each species centroid shift within Ohio to visualise range shift vectors. We also

estimated the standard error associated with each species geographic range shift and accounted

for this error within our models when examining the drivers of species range shifts (see details

below). The R package geosphere (Hijmans et al., 2017) was used to calculate the distance

(km) each species centroid shifted and the direction they shifted (bearing degrees). We plotted

the rate and direction of species range shifts using a rose wind diagram from the package clifro

(Seers & Shears, 2015).

Climate change velocity

We calculated the climate change velocities that each butterfly species experiences at their

modelled starting (2000) and ending (2017) centroid within Ohio as well as the mean climate

change velocity species experience throughout their entire geographic distribution using the

vocc (Brito-Morales et al., 2018) package. Climate change velocities are calculated as the ratio

of temperature change over time (temporal trend), to temperature change over space (spatial

trend) based on a 3 x 3 cell neighbourhood (Loarie et al., 2009), where climate change velocity

= spatial trend/temporal trend. We estimated the velocity at which the warmest temperatures

in July (hottest month of the year), coldest temperatures in January (coldest month of the year),

and mean precipitation received in April (important month for plant growth and butterfly

development), changed from 2000 - 2017, matching the period of time that we analyse butterfly

range shifts. We also divided Ohio into quadrants and estimated the climate change velocity

within each quadrant.

Niche and dispersal traits

To assess how niche traits might be influencing species range shifts, we extracted occurrence

data from the Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF) (https://www.gbif.org/) for each

species. We computed species distribution polygons for each species using the rangeBuilder

(Davis Rabosky et al., 2016) and geosphere (Hijmans et al., 2017) packages. Using the raster

(Hijmans et al., 2015) package, we estimated the maximum and minimum environmental

temperatures species experience within their range polygons to calculate the environmental

thermal niche breadth of each species.

As different parts of species ranges have different range shift responses to climate change

(Comte et al., 2014), we calculated an index of each species geographic range position relative

to Ohio. We did this using the minimum and maximum latitudes of each species range polygon

to calculate a latitudinal range for each species. We then estimated the quantile of this range

that overlapped the latitudinal midpoint of the monitoring scheme. Values range from 0 to 1,

with values closer to 1 indicating the monitoring scheme overlaps the species' range towards

its poleward edge and values closer to 0 overlapping toward its equatorward edge.

We estimated dispersal capability based on wingspan (in cm) (Daniels, 2004). Minimal and

maximal wingspan values from one forewing tip to another were available for the majority of

butterfly species, so we tested the predictive ability of both sets of wingspan estimates.

Statistical Analysis

Statistical analyses were performed in the R version 4.2.1 (R Core Team, 2023). To test the drivers of butterfly range shift responses, we used the 'rma.mv' function in the metafor package (Viechtbauer, 2010) so that we could account for the error in the rate of centroid shift we estimated when calculating species shift vectors, account for phylogenetic effects, and conduct hypothesis testing.

We used a recently published phylogeny of the butterflies of North America which was constructed using 13 common markers (1 mitochondrial and 12 nuclear) (Earl et al., 2021) to account for evolutionary history in our models. The phylogeny included 70/88 species that we had centroid shift data for. We examined if there was phylogenetic signal in rate of range shift, wingspan, and thermal niche breadth by calculating Pagel's λ using the phytools package (Revell, 2012). We also examined if there was phylogenetic signal in the direction species shifted their ranges by computing discrete character evolution models using the fitDiscrete function to estimate Pagel's λ with the package geiger (Harmon et al., 2015). We computed equal-rate (ER), symmetric transition (SYM) and all rate different (ARD) evolutionary models with a lambda transformation and then compared them using Akaike Information Criterion (AIC) and likelihood ratio tests.

We structured our models whereby species rate of range shift was the response variable, and the standard error associated with each species rate of range shift was accounted for. We included local climate change velocity and mean climate change velocity throughout species ranges in the same models, however, to avoid introducing multicollinearity into our models, we did not include maximum and minimum temperature velocity in the same model as those models had variance inflation factors (VIFs) over 2.5 (Johnston et al., 2018). Similarly, thermal niche breadth and latitudinal position relative to Ohio were correlated ($r^2 = 0.64$), and models

that included both variables had VIFs over 2.5. We elected to include thermal niche breadth in

our models as our main hypotheses were focused on this trait; we excluded latitudinal position

relative to Ohio to avoid collinearity issues. All models included species and a phylogenetic

correlation matrix as random factors to account for shared evolutionary history. We used a

maximum likelihood modelling approach in all models. Using model reduction (only variables

linked to key hypotheses were included in the full models) and AIC comparison, we examined

which models best explained variation in species range shifts. We used likelihood ratio tests

for significance testing of the variables in the best-fitting models.

In a separate model, which included the predictor variables from the model with the lowest

AIC value, we examined the relationship between rate of range shift and wingspan as a proxy

for dispersal capability. Wingspan was analysed separately because wingspan data was only

available for a subset of the species in the dataset (n = 66).

We also examined if the rate that species shifted their centroids depended on the direction that

butterflies were shifting their centroids, in a model that included rate of centroid shift (and its

associated standard error) as a response variable, and direction as a categorical variable (N, S,

E, W, NE, NW, SE, SW). Furthermore, to understand if there is a relationship between climate

change velocity (local and whole range temperature and precipitation) or wingspan on the

direction species shifted their centroids, we conducted separate linear models, where climate

change velocity or wingspan were included as continuous response variables and direction was

included as a categorical predictor variable.

To test if butterflies were consistently moving either towards or away from regions of rapid

climate change, we used separate linear models to examine if climate change velocity (local

maximum environmental temperature and precipitation velocity) at the start of a species range

shift vectors predicted climate change velocity at the end of species range shift vectors. We

tested the significance of the relationship between climate change velocities at the start and end

of species centroid shift vectors by conducting ANOVAs.

Results

Butterflies shifted their centroids at an average of 4.87 km per year in all directions (Figure 1

& Supplementary Table 1 & 2), but, only one species moved in a south easterly direction

(towards the region that is warming the fastest (Figure 1 & 2; Supplementary Table 3)).

Centroid shift velocities ranged from 0.2 to 25.7 km per year. While 40 butterfly species

significantly shifted their centroids, the remaining 48 species did not significantly shift their

centroids (Supplementary Table 2).

Figure 1. Rose wind diagram showing the velocity of butterfly centroid shifts between 2000 -

2017 in Ohio USA. Colour indicates centroid shift velocity and size indicates the proportion of

the sample that shifted at a particular rate and direction.

Phylogenetic signal

There was high phylogenetic signal in species rate of centroid shift (λ = 0.96, P = 0.013),

meaning that species that are more closely related have more similar rates of range shift than

distantly related species (Figure 2). There was also high phylogenetic signal in lower (λ = 0.98,

P < 0.05) and upper wingspan length (λ = 1.0, P < 0.05). However, we found low phylogenetic

signal in the environmental thermal niches species inhabit (λ = < 0.01, P = 1).

To determine if closely related species were more or less likely to shift in similar directions,

we computed and compared discrete character evolution models with different rates of state

change. The equal rates model had the lowest AIC value (ER = 296.72, SYM = 327.92, ARD

= 375.78); however, likelihood ratio tests indicated that no models were significantly different

from each other. The equal rate discrete character evolution model had a Pagel's λ value of

0.79 (SYM = 0.89 , ARD = 0.71), suggesting that closely related species are more likely to

shift their geographic ranges in similar directions (Figure 2).

Centroid shift velocity (km/yr)

5   10   15

Direction
N | NW | W | SE
NE | E | S | SW

Figure 2. Pruned ultraconserved element North American butterfly phylogeny (Earl et al.

2021). Tip colours correspond to the direction that butterflies shifted their centroid within Ohio

and the centroid shift velocity (km yr^{-1}) of butterflies between 2000 - 2017 (n = 70).

What are the drivers of butterfly range shift responses?

We found that a model that included local maximum temperature velocity and local

precipitation velocity best explained variation in butterfly centroid shifts (Figures 3A & B; see

model AIC comparisons in Supplementary Table 4). Rate of centroid shift was positively

correlated with both maximum temperature and precipitation velocity (Table 1; Figure 3A &

B). A model that included thermal niche breadth as well as local maximum temperature and

precipitation velocity had the second lowest AIC values which had a delta AIC of less than 2

(indicating the models explain a similar amount of variation in rate of centroid shift). However,

when we conducted a likelihood ratio test, thermal niche breadth was not significantly

associated with rate of centroid shift (χ^2 = 1.14, P = 0.286). In a separate model, we included

wingspan data from a reduced sample where wingspan data was available. Wingspan was not

associated with rate of centroid shift (χ^2 = 0.86, P = 0.86).

Table 1. Effects of local climate change velocity (maximum temperature and precipitation) on

butterfly centroid shifts.

Coefficients	Estimate ± SE	Z value	χ^2	P
Local maximum temperature velocity	29.34 ± 3.94	7.45	41.04	< 0.001
Local precipitation velocity	0.39 ± 0.06	6.6919	36.75	< 0.001

Figure 3. Relationship between rate of centroid shift and A) local maximum temperature

velocity and B) local precipitation velocity.

Are butterflies shifting their ranges in predictable ways?

The speed at which species shifted their centroid also depended on the direction that species

shifted their ranges (χ^2 = 20.44, df = 1, P = 0.005). Butterflies shifted their centroids fastest in

westerly directions (northwest, west and southwest) (Figure 1 & 2). Only one species shifted

their centroid in a southeasterly direction, which is also the quadrant of Ohio that was warming

at the fastest velocity (Figures 1 & 4; Supplementary Table 3). Many species shifted their

centroids in a northwesterly or southwesterly direction towards regions that were increasing in

precipitation velocity (getting wetter). We also examined if species shifted their centroids into

regions with lower climate change velocities by examining the relationship between climate

change velocity at the start and end of species range shift vectors. There was no significant

relationship between the local temperature velocity that species experienced at their starting

and ending centroid ($F_{1,68}$ = 0.145, df = 1, P = 0.704). However, there was a positive relationship

between local starting precipitation velocity and end of range shift precipitation velocity ($F_{1,68}$

= 16.22, P < 0.001; Figure 5), suggesting that butterflies are tracking environments that are

becoming wetter. Climate change velocity (local and whole range temperature and

precipitation) and species wingspan did not influence the direction butterflies shifted their

centroid (P > 0.005).

Figure 4. Predicted butterfly species range shift vectors from the modelled start and end

centroids from each species linear mixed effect model from between the years 2000 - 2017.

Figure 5. Relationship between the climate change velocity species experienced at the start of the centroid shift vector and the end of their centroid shift vector. Points above the dotted line indicate butterflies that shifted their ranges into environments that are becoming wetter at a faster rate. Points below the dotted line represent species that shifted their centroids into areas that are increasing precipitation at a slower rate than their starting position. Some regions in Ohio are getting more arid, however, the start and end of centroid shift vectors did not overlap with these areas.

Discussion

Until recently, most studies have examined poleward and upslope shifts in species ranges to avoid warming climates (Chen et al., 2009, 2011; Lenoir & Svenning, 2015; Parmesan & Yohe, 2003; VanDerWal et al., 2013). By ignoring longitudinal range shift components it is possible that we are underestimating species range shift responses and are missing important directional

information. By conducting multidirectional centroid shift analyses (considering latitudinal and

longitudinal shifts over an 18 year period), we found that butterflies in the Midwestern United

States are shifting their centroids at different rates and in all directions, except towards regions

that are warming the fastest. This study, along with a few other recent publications (Hordley et

al., 2023; Huang et al., 2017; Lenoir et al., 2010, 2020; Pinsky et al., 2013; VanDerWal et al.,

2013), challenges the notion that species are solely shifting their ranges poleward and upslope

to avoid warming habitats and highlights that changes in precipitation regimes also play a major

role in shaping species range shift responses.

We found strong longitudinal components to butterfly species centroid shift responses. A

majority of butterflies shifted their centroids in a westerly (west, northwest, southwest)

direction (Figure 1, Supplementary Table 1). The western quadrants of Ohio are warming at

slower rates than the eastern quadrants, and are also becoming wetter at faster rates than the

eastern quadrants (Figure 3; Supplementary Table 3). This suggests that butterflies are moving

away from environments that are heating up quickly and moving towards regions that are

becoming wetter. Only one species of butterfly (*Polites mystic*) shifted their centroid in a

southeasterly direction (towards the quadrant that is warming the fastest), and the rate that they

shifted their centroid was slow (southeast shift velocity = 1.4 km yr^{-1}) compared to butterflies

that shifted in a westerly direction (towards regions that are warming at a slower rate and

becoming wetter at a faster rate) (west shift mean velocity = 6.9 km yr^{-1}) (Figure 1;

Supplementary Table 1). Overall, the rate that butterflies shifted their centroids was strongly

influenced by the velocity of local climate change (maximum temperature and precipitation)

(Table 1; Figure 2, 3 & 4).

Our finding that centroid shifts (direction and rate) depend on both temperature and

precipitation velocity aligns well with other studies. For example, changes in moth distributions

are associated with temperature and precipitation, whereby leading edge populations are

shifting north with changes in temperature, but centroids are shifting northwest with changes

in precipitation (Hordley et al., 2023). While the local temperature velocity at the start of

species shift vectors did not predict the thermal velocity environment they moved into,

butterflies tended to move into higher precipitation velocity regions over the 18 year period

(Figure 5). Changing precipitation regimes are likely to play a major role in reshaping

Lepidoptera distributions as they rely on plants for development and diet, and plant richness

and abundance is correlated with precipitation, especially in dry habitats (Korell et al., 2021).

Thus, butterflies might not just be following changes in precipitation, but could be following

host plant distributions and abundance, potentially also explaining longitudinal components of

species range shifts. Or butterflies could be moving to environments that are increasing in

precipitation to avoid desiccating environments which are associated with high temperatures

and low precipitation.

Combined changes in temperature and precipitation influence desiccation stress or drying

power of the air (vapour pressure deficit), where desiccation stress is highest in warm and dry

environments (White et al., 2007). Our finding that butterflies are moving away from regions

that are becoming warmer at a rapid rate, and towards regions that are becoming wetter at a

faster rate suggest that butterflies could be escaping regions of higher desiccation stress. Insects

are particularly prone to respiratory water loss as they breathe through spiracles which

simultaneously allow oxygen into the tracheal system, and release carbon dioxide and water

(Chown, 2002). Desiccation stress in the environment is known to shape the geographic

distributions and desiccation resistance of insects such as *Drosophila* (Kellermann et al., 2012).

Thus, changes in precipitation regimes are likely to induce range shift responses in species that

are not adapted to desiccating environments, and likely contribute towards longitudinal

components of species range shifts.

Longitudinal components of species range shifts may also be explained by the finding that local

climate change velocity has a greater influence on species range shifts than the mean climate

change velocity throughout a species range. Climate change velocity is highly variable across

space, and it's likely that butterflies within local environments are responding to direct changes

in local climate, rather than responding to change in climate as a species with a unified

response. This is important because it implies that populations within species might be shifting

their geographic ranges at multiple rates and directions depending on the changes in local

climates they experience (Lenoir et al., 2020; Lenoir & Svenning, 2015; Pinsky et al., 2013).

Previous studies have found that range shift dynamics differ in centroid, leading and trailing

edge populations (Comte et al., 2014; Hordley et al., 2023; Lenoir et al., 2020), supporting this

idea. Future research should seek to examine how climate change velocity is correlated with

multiple populations within species to examine how population level range shifts interact to

influence whole species range shifts.

Thermal niche breadth did not explain significant variation in species range shift responses. If

thermal niche breadths are representative of species thermal tolerance breadths, we would have

expected that species with narrow thermal niches would shift their ranges more quickly to track

climates they can survive in. However, adaptation to local environments might mean that

thermal niche breadths of an entire species do not match the thermal tolerance breadths of

individuals at particular locations (Sunday et al., 2015). We also found no evidence to support

that wingspan, which is often used as a proxy for dispersal capability, influences rate of range

shift. Previous studies provide mixed support for whether wingspan is correlated with range

shift responses (Kharouba et al., 2009; Pöyry et al., 2009). However, in the current study, when

local climate change velocity and evolutionary history are accounted for, wingspan and thermal

niche breadth did not play an important role in predicting range shift responses in butterflies in

the Midwestern United States.

While we found that local climate change velocity plays an important role in determining

species range shift responses, we also found strong phylogenetic signal in species range shift

responses (rate and direction). Across taxonomic groups, there is a great deal of variation in

phylogenetic signal in range shift responses, however, overall, phylogenetic signal tends to be

low (Diamond, 2018). This could mean that range shift responses might be a relatively labile

trait, or it could indicate that phylogenetic signal is being underestimated due to missing

information on the longitudinal components of species range shifts. Similarly, very few studies

have examined phylogenetic signal in range shift direction, especially while considering

longitudinal components of species range shifts.

Conclusions

Butterflies in the Midwestern United States are shifting their centroids in all directions. They

are moving away from areas that are warming at the most rapid rates and towards regions that

are increasing in precipitation at rapid rates. Local climate change velocity better predicted

rates of centroid shift than the climate change velocity species experience throughout their

entire ranges, suggesting that populations within species might be shifting their ranges in

multiple ways. These findings highlight that range shift responses to climate change are

complex and vary depending on the climate change velocity in local regions and also on species

evolutionary histories.

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Data availability

Data will be archived on dryad upon manuscript acceptance.

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Supplementary Information

Supplementary Table 1. Summary of butterfly range shift responses between 2000 - 2017 in Ohio USA.

Direction	No. of species	Velocity km year⁻¹
N	14	3.49
NE	14	4.7
NW	17	5.1
S	10	3.6
SE	1	1.4
SW	16	4.6
E	3	1.3
W	13	6.9

Supplementary Table 2. Summary of centroid shift responses for butterflies in Ohio USA.

Species	Year span	Centroid shift velocity (km/yr)	Significant centroid shift	Bearing (clockwise)	Direction	Family
Achalarus lyciades	17	9.86	yes	273.88	W	Hesperiidae
Amblyscirtes vialis	16	11.82	yes	212.02	SW	Hesperiidae
Ancyloxypha numitor	18	2.74	yes	59.73	NE	Hesperiidae
Anthocharis midea	17	4.48	yes	241.25	SW	Pieridae
Asterocampa celtis	18	8.48	yes	199.08	S	Nymphalidae
Asterocampa clyton	17	5.33	no	201.47	S	Nymphalidae
Atalopedes campestris	18	1.08	no	8.98	N	Hesperiidae
Atrytone logan	18	9.67	yes	284.55	W	Hesperiidae
Atrytonopsis hianna	14	15.55	yes	335.09	NW	Hesperiidae
Battus philenor	18	2.38	no	268.81	W	Papilionidae
Boloria bellona	18	2.37	no	5.38	N	Nymphalidae
Boloria selene	17	12.94	yes	3.90	N	Nymphalidae
Callophrys gryneus	17	5.10	yes	184.27	S	Lycaenidae
Callophrys henrici	17	9.80	yes	199.88	S	Lycaenidae
Calycopis cecrops	17	6.75	yes	230.56	SW	Lycaenidae
Celastrina ladon	18	1.57	yes	196.33	S	Lycaenidae
Cercyonis pegala	18	1.22	no	32.78	NE	Nymphalidae
Chlosyne nycteis	18	2.38	no	199.30	S	Nymphalidae
Colias cesonia	15	10.32	no	311.32	NW	Pieridae
Colias eurytheme	18	4.15	yes	259.50	W	Pieridae
Colias philodice	18	2.12	yes	334.71	NW	Pieridae
Cyllopsis gemma	16	9.68	yes	251.90	W	Nymphalidae

Danaus plexippus	18	1.32	no	20.23	N	Nymphalidae
Enodia anthedon	18	2.95	yes	36.72	NE	Nymphalidae
Epargyreus clarus	18	2.02	no	222.42	SW	Hesperiidae
Erynnis baptisiae	18	3.20	no	268.42	W	Hesperiidae
Erynnis brizo	17	5.93	no	343.55	N	Hesperiidae
Erynnis horatius	18	3.79	yes	307.98	NW	Hesperiidae
Erynnis icelus	17	4.87	no	331.85	NW	Hesperiidae
Erynnis juvenalis	18	4.61	no	216.89	SW	Hesperiidae
Euphydryas phaeton	17	12.31	no	52.31	NE	Nymphalidae
Euphyes conspicuus	15	4.51	no	241.86	SW	Hesperiidae
Euphyes dukesi	12	5.75	no	67.40	NE	Hesperiidae
Euphyes vestris	18	1.40	no	56.16	NE	Hesperiidae
Euptoieta claudia	17	0.20	no	211.59	SW	Nymphalidae
Eurema lisa	18	4.60	yes	12.25	N	Pieridae
Eurema nicippe	18	9.74	yes	55.83	NE	Pieridae
Eurytides marcellus	18	2.06	no	208.32	SW	Papilionidae
Everes comyntas	18	2.59	yes	253.05	W	Lycaenidae
Feniseca tarquinius	17	6.03	yes	21.75	N	Lycaenidae
Hermeuptychia sosybius	17	5.56	yes	299.11	NW	Nymphalidae
Hesperia leonardus	17	3.08	no	358.81	N	Hesperiidae
Hylephila phyleus	18	3.42	no	26.34	NE	Hesperiidae
Junonia coenia	18	2.77	no	304.90	NW	Nymphalidae
Libytheana carinenta	18	4.59	yes	204.07	SW	Nymphalidae
Limenitis archippus	18	2.78	no	267.26	W	Nymphalidae
Limenitis arthemis	18	2.47	yes	208.96	SW	Nymphalidae

Lycaena hyllus	18	9.35	yes	48.78	NE	Lycaenidae
Lycaena phlaeas	18	14.22	yes	282.66	W	Lycaenidae
Megisto cymela	18	1.73	no	318.13	NW	Nymphalidae
Nastra lherminier	17	9.47	yes	282.80	W	Hesperiidae
Nymphalis antiopa	18	1.52	no	10.73	N	Nymphalidae
Nymphalis milberti	17	6.56	no	61.69	NE	Nymphalidae
Papilio cresphontes	18	1.70	yes	164.70	S	Papilionidae
Papilio glaucus	18	0.99	no	348.18	N	Papilionidae
Papilio troilus	18	3.05	no	309.86	NW	Papilionidae
Phoebis sennae	18	7.00	yes	222.03	SW	Pieridae
Pholisora catullus	18	1.39	no	98.47	E	Hesperiidae
Phyciodes tharos	18	0.55	no	190.39	S	Nymphalidae
Pieris rapae	18	3.44	yes	48.86	NE	Pieridae
Pieris virginiensis	18	2.87	no	43.92	NE	Pieridae
Poanes hobomok	18	1.65	no	23.74	NE	Hesperiidae
Poanes viator	17	1.82	yes	346.13	N	Hesperiidae
Poanes zabulon	18	0.79	no	110.20	E	Hesperiidae
Polites mystic	18	1.36	no	113.88	SE	Hesperiidae
Polites origenes	18	4.76	no	301.49	NW	Hesperiidae
Polites peckius	18	0.87	no	354.53	N	Hesperiidae
Polites themistocles	18	6.19	yes	266.20	W	Hesperiidae
Polygonia comma	18	0.90	no	184.35	S	Nymphalidae
Polygonia interrogationis	18	2.41	no	222.17	SW	Nymphalidae
Pompeius verna	18	1.67	no	229.16	SW	Hesperiidae
Pyrgus communis	18	4.22	no	11.62	N	Hesperiidae

Satyrium calanus	18	4.38	yes	332.04	NW	Lycaenidae
Satyrium edwardsii	15	7.59	yes	288.87	W	Lycaenidae
Satyrium liparops	17	8.86	no	213.89	SW	Lycaenidae
Satyrium titus	17	5.89	yes	294.59	NW	Lycaenidae
Satyrodes appalachia	17	2.27	no	228.03	SW	Nymphalidae
Satyrodes eurydice	17	7.44	yes	230.61	SW	Nymphalidae
Speyeria aphrodite	17	2.13	no	10.86	N	Nymphalidae
Speyeria cybele	18	0.75	no	324.85	NW	Nymphalidae
Strymon melinus	17	1.57	no	337.19	NW	Lycaenidae
Thorybes bathyllus	18	7.74	yes	299.08	NW	Hesperiidae
Thorybes pylades	17	8.40	yes	264.18	W	Hesperiidae
Thymelicus lineola	18	0.57	no	190.12	S	Hesperiidae
Vanessa atalanta	18	1.65	no	78.84	E	Nymphalidae
Vanessa cardui	18	2.61	no	35.31	NE	Nymphalidae
Vanessa virginiensis	18	6.22	yes	303.66	NW	Nymphalidae
Wallengrenia egeremet	18	6.46	yes	306.52	NW	Hesperiidae

689 **Supplementary Table 3.** Median climate change velocities (maximum environmental
690 temperature in the hottest month (July) and precipitation in Spring (April)) within Ohio split
691 into quadrants.

Quadrant	NW	NE	SW	SE
Local max. temperature velocity (km/year)	0.42	0.63	0.57	0.95
Local precipitation velocity (km/year)	13.11	-0.79	21.15	3.54

Supplementary Table 4. AIC comparison of models examining which predictor variables we expect to play an important role in range shift responses explain the greatest amount of variation in species centroid shifts. Maximum and minimum temperature velocity were not included in the same models to avoid multicollinearity. Similarly, thermal niche breadth and latitudinal position relative to Ohio were correlated, and thus latitudinal position relative to Ohio (to indicate whether the group of individuals within each species were part of the central, leading or trailing edge of a species) was dropped and thermal niche breadth was kept in the models. Rate of centroid shift and its associated standard error was included as the response variable in each model and phylogeny was included as a correlation matrix. Tbreadth = thermal niche breadth; LMaxTV = local maximum temperature velocity; LMinTV = local minimum temperature velocity; LPV = local precipitation velocity; RMaxTV = species range maximum temperature velocity; RMinTV = species range minimum temperature velocity; RPV = species range precipitation velocity.

Predictor variables	df	AIC	Delta AIC
LMaxTV + LPV	4	361.813	0
Tbreadth + LMaxTV + LPV	5	362.677	0.864
LMaxTV + LPV + RMaxTV + RPV	6	364.4542	2.6412
Tbreadth + LMaxTV + LPV + RMaxTV + RPV	7	365.5717	3.7587
Tbreadth + LMinTV + LPV + RMinTV + RPV	7	389.0894	27.2764
LMinTV + LPV + RMinTV + RPV	6	390.5686	28.7556
Tbreadth + LMaxTV + RMaxTV	5	391.48	29.667
Tbreadth + LMaxTV	4	391.5941	29.7811
LMaxTV + RMaxTV	4	393.6995	31.8865
LMaxTV	3	396.559	34.746
Tbreadth + RMinTV + RPV	5	397.3147	35.5017
LPV + RPV	4	398.0187	36.2057
Tbreadth + LPV + RPV	5	398.4513	36.6383
Tbreadth + RMinTV	4	399.558	37.745
RMinTV + RPV	4	399.7929	37.9799
Tbreadth + LMinTV + LPV	5	400.1038	38.2908
LPV	3	400.8599	39.0469

LMinTV + LPV	4	402.315	40.502
Tbreadth + RMaxTV	4	403.184	41.371
RPV	3	403.5329	41.7199
Tbreadth + RMaxTV + RPV	5	404.1721	42.3591
Tbreadth	3	404.7768	42.9638
RMaxTV + RPV	4	404.7872	42.9742
RMaxTV	3	405.1536	43.3406
Tbreadth + LMinTV	4	405.3252	43.5122
RMinTV	3	407.7244	45.9114
LMinTV	3	411.0219	49.2089

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