

# Direct multiscale ordination

Helene Wagner



Swiss Federal Research Institute WSL, Birmensdorf  
NCCR Plant Survival, Neuchâtel  
Colorado State University, Fort Collins (CO), USA

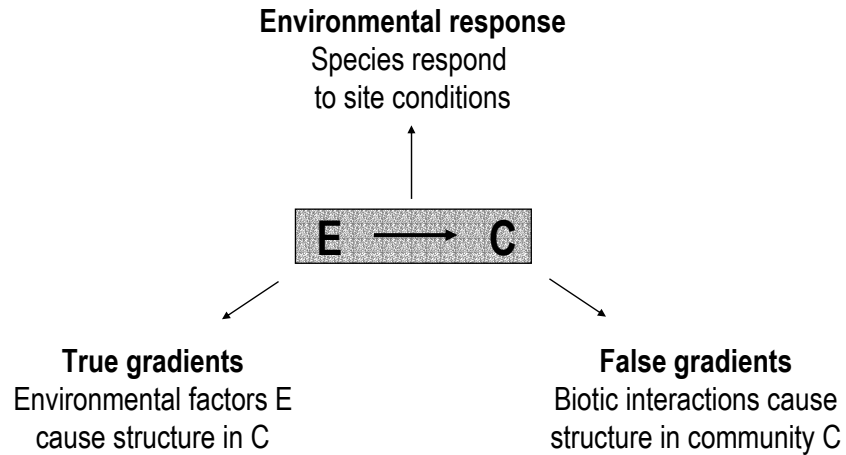


## *Overview*

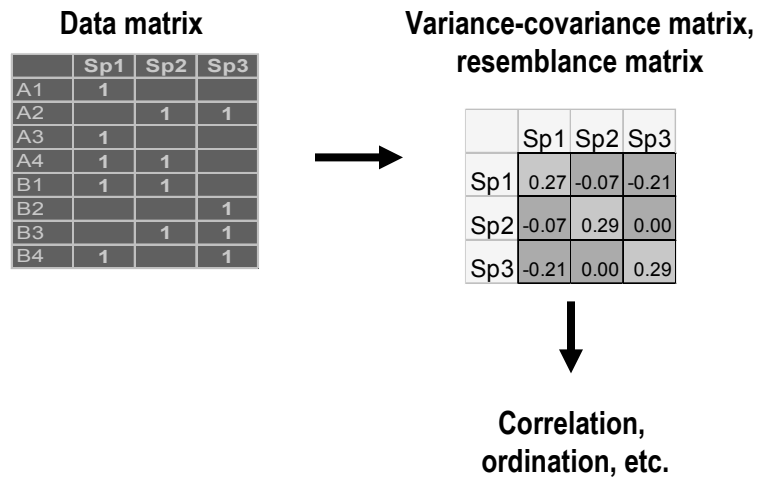
- Spatial effects in gradient analysis
- Direct multiscale ordination
- Application to oribatid mite data

Photo: Ray Norton (<http://www.fcps.k12.va.us>)

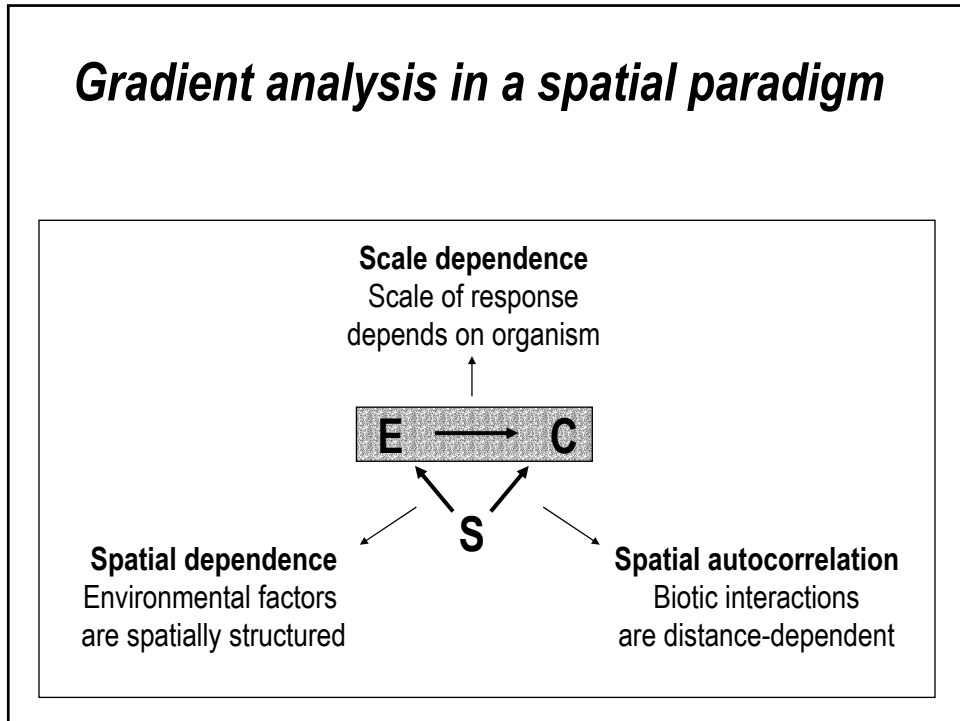
## Gradient analysis



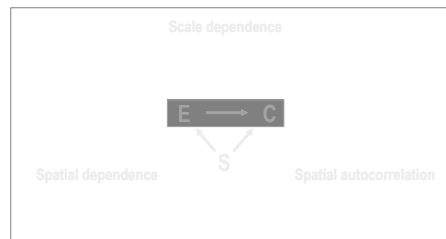
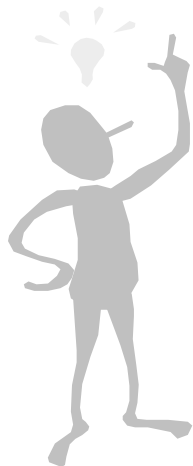
## Non-spatial data analysis



## Gradient analysis in a spatial paradigm



### In short ...

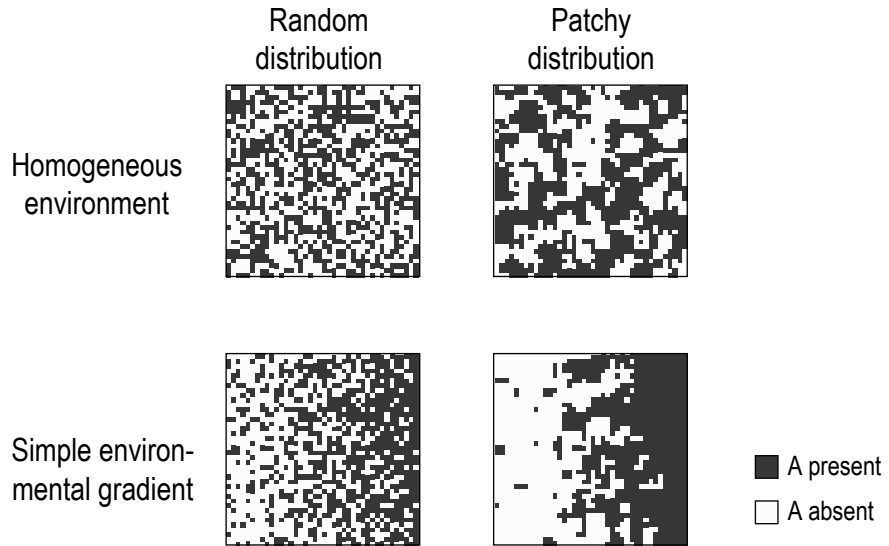


Three causes of spatial structure:

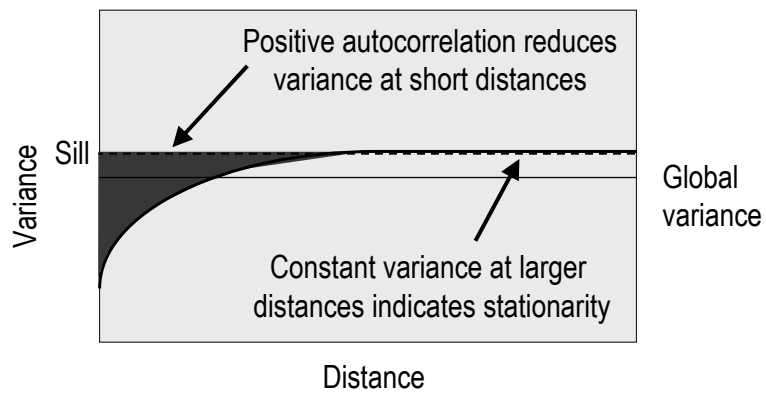
- How to distinguish between them?
- How to account for them?

➔ Direct multiscale ordination

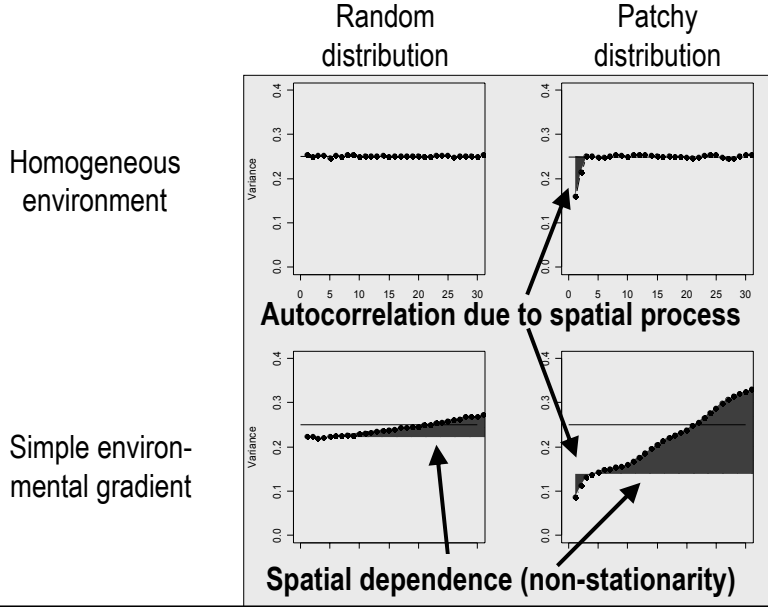
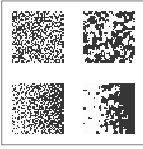
## ***Simulated species distribution***



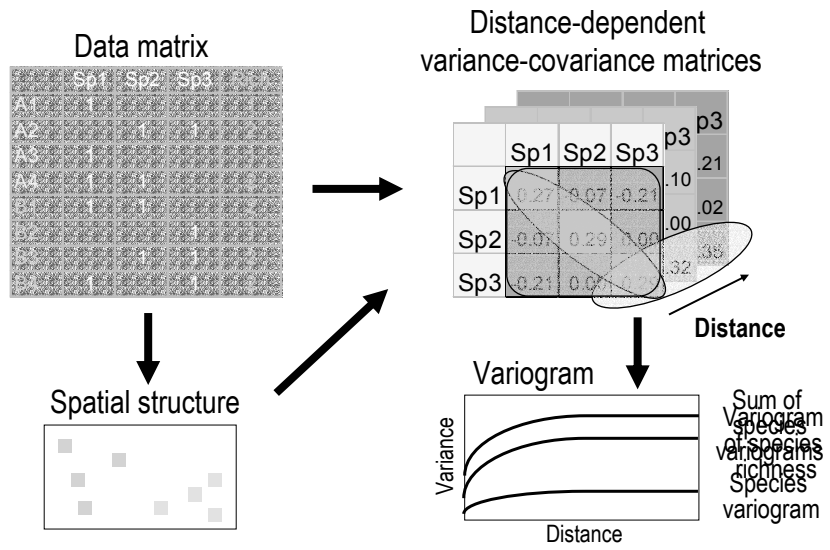
## ***Variogram interpretation***



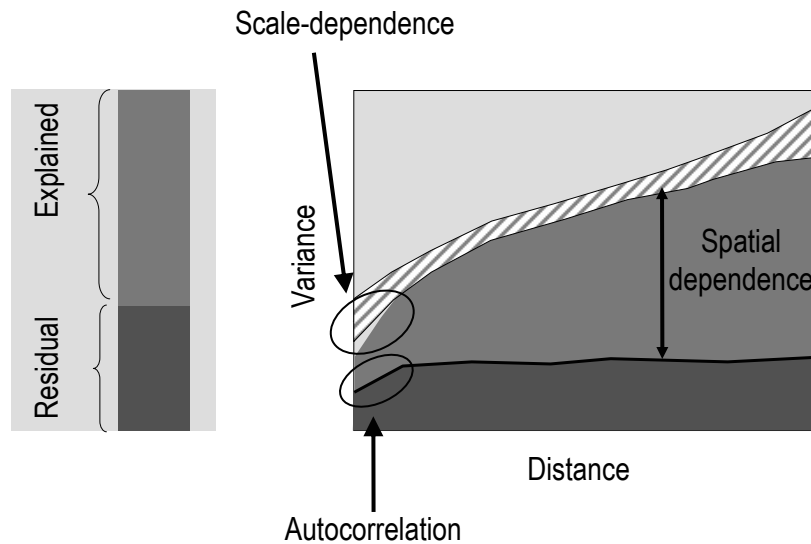
# Variograms of simulated species



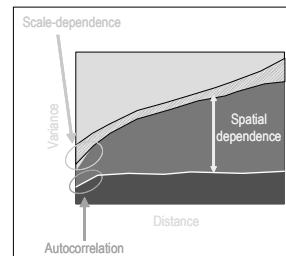
# Spatial partitioning



## Direct multiscale ordination



## In short ...



Direct multiscale ordination provides:

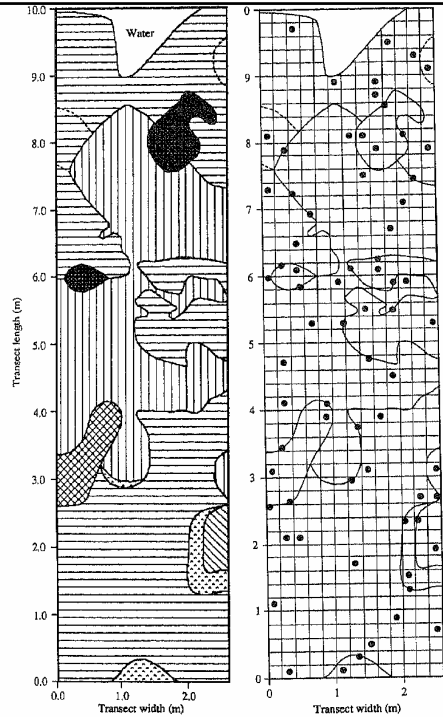
- A simple test for residual autocorrelation
- A simple test for a mismatch of the scales of observation and response
- Separation of spatial dependence, spatial autocorrelation, and scale dependence

➔ Application to Oribatid mite data

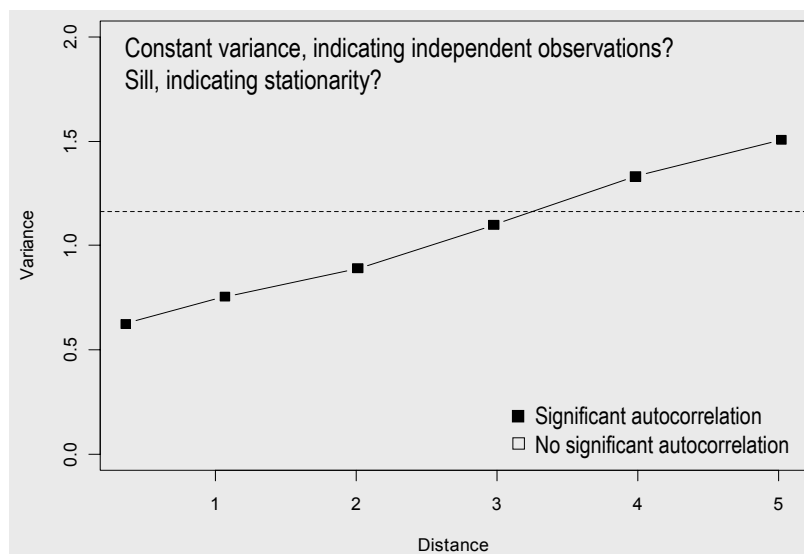
## Oribatid mite data

(Borcard et al. 1992, Borcard & Legendre 1994)

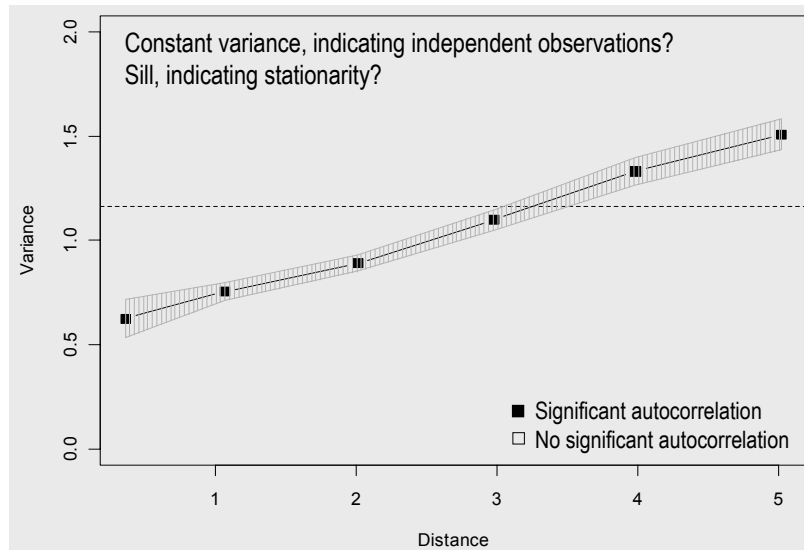
- Grain: 0.2 m grid
- Extent: 10 m x 2.6 m
- Samples: 70 cores
- Response:
  - 35 mite species
- Predictors:
  - Substratum (7),
  - shrub cover (3),
  - microtopography (2),
  - substratum density,
  - water content



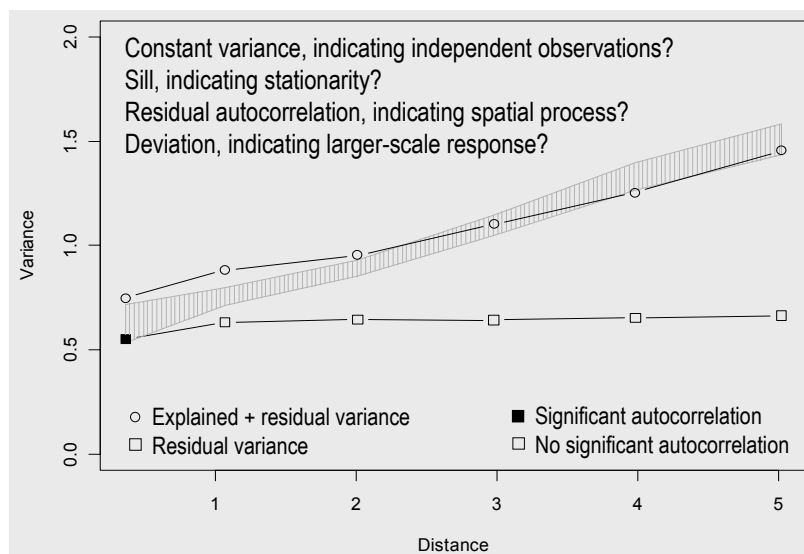
## Original data (CA)



## Original data (CA)

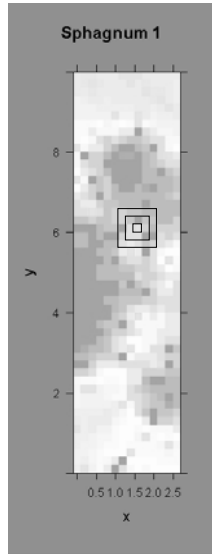


## Accounting for environment (CCA)



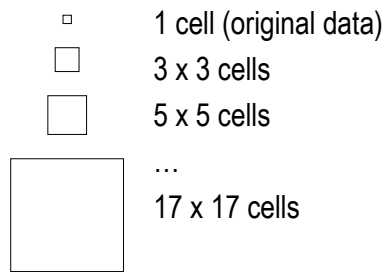


## Aggregation of environmental data

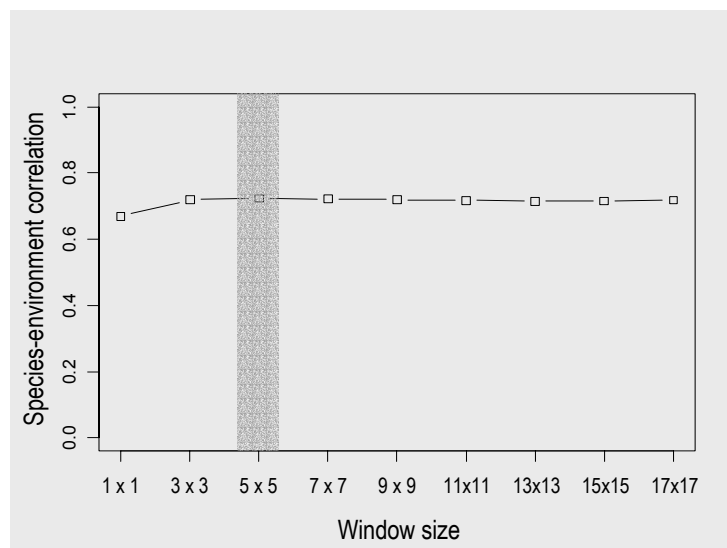


For each predictor variable:

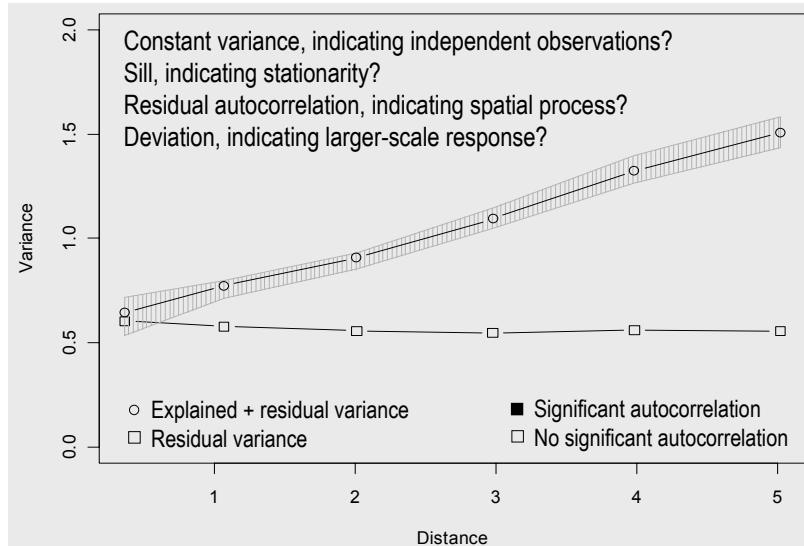
- Linear interpolation
- Mean within windows:



## Identifying scale of response



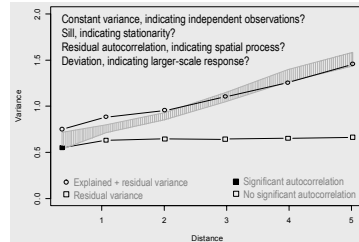
## Accounting for larger-scale response



## Model comparison

|                          | Local response model | Larger-scale response model |
|--------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|
| Scale of response        | 1 cell<br>(0.2 m)    | 5 x 5 cells<br>(1 m)        |
| Rsquare                  | 0.45                 | 0.52                        |
| Residual autocorrelation | < 1 m                | none                        |

## ***In short ...***



- Natural communities are likely to contain spatial structure due to several processes
  - The components of spatial structure cannot be estimated independently
  - Failing to account for one component is likely to lead to wrong conclusions
- ➔ Direct ordination requires residual analysis, as provided by MSO.

## ***More details?***

### **Spatial partitioning of variance:**

Wagner (2003), *Ecology* 84: 1045-1057.

### **Direct multiscale ordination (incl. R library):**

Wagner (2004), *Ecology* 85: 342-351.

### **Multiscale response:**

Wagner et al. (submitted), *Journal of Animal Ecology*.

### **Generalized multiscale ordination (incl. R library):**

Couteron and Ollier (2005), *Ecology* 86: 828-834.

### **Spatial analysis of landscapes:**

Wagner and Fortin (2005), *Ecology* 86: 1975-1987.

## ***Acknowledgments***

### **VIP**

- John Wiens, Bea Van Horne and Jon Bossenbroek (Colorado State University)
- Christoph Scheidegger, François Gillet (WSL, Switzerland)
- Marie-Josée Fortin (University of Toronto)
- Daniel Borcard and Pierre Legendre, University of Montréal

### **Funding agencies**

- EPA STAR grant
- Swiss National Science Foundation: NCCR Plant Survival

Email address: [helene.wagner@wsl.ch](mailto:helene.wagner@wsl.ch)