# Predictive modeling of bryophyte a-diversity in boreal forests from remote sensing data

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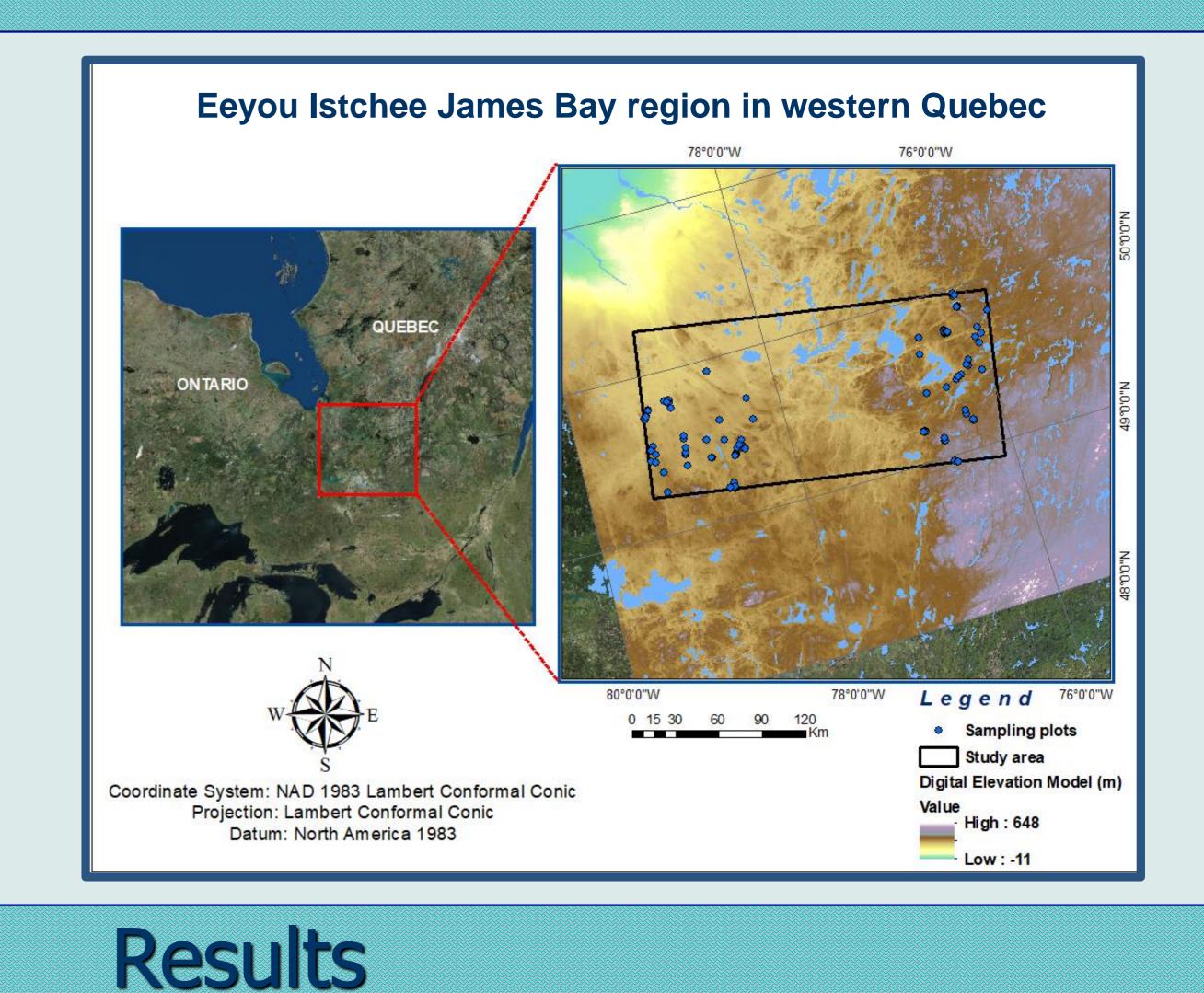
## Université du Québec en Abitibi-Témiscamingue

## Introduction

- > Bryophytes play a crucial roll in boreal forest ecosystem functioning as they are the main ground vegetation layer and account for a significant fraction of biodiversity
- > The acquisition and integration of knowledge about bryophyte spatial distribution and diversity hotspot location into ecological planning is required in a context of high exploitation industrial activity
- > Remote sensing is a powerful information source to assess biodiversity in vast and often inaccessible boreal forest areas





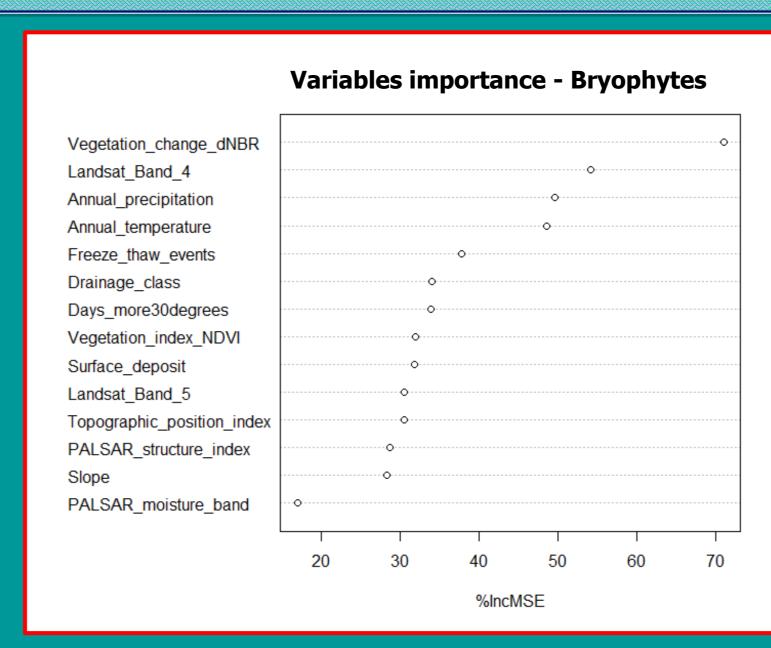


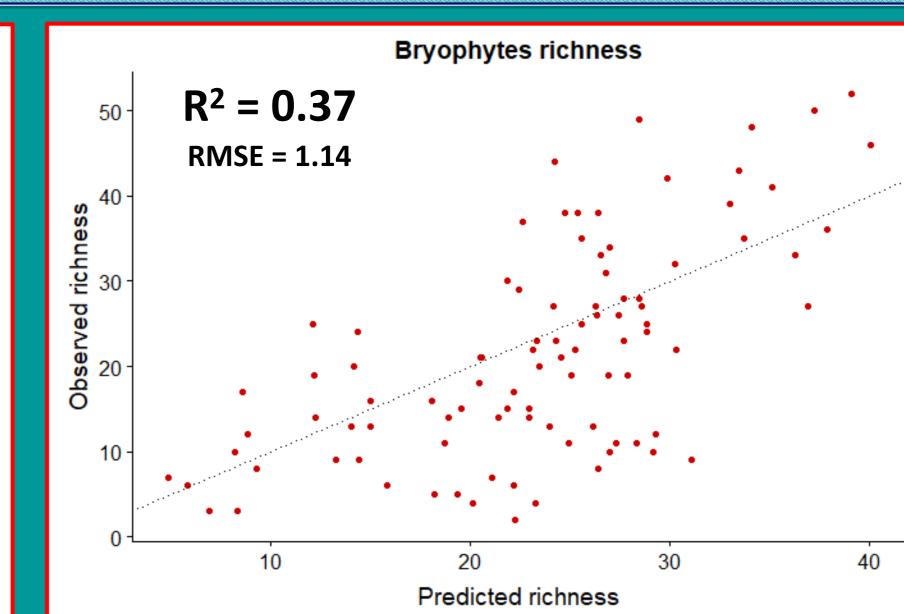
### **Objective**

Development of predictive models of bryophyte α-diversity (species number) using remote sensing data

# Bryophytes







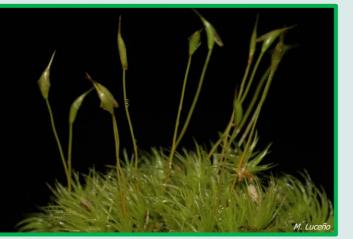
# Methodology

### **Bryophyte field** sampling database

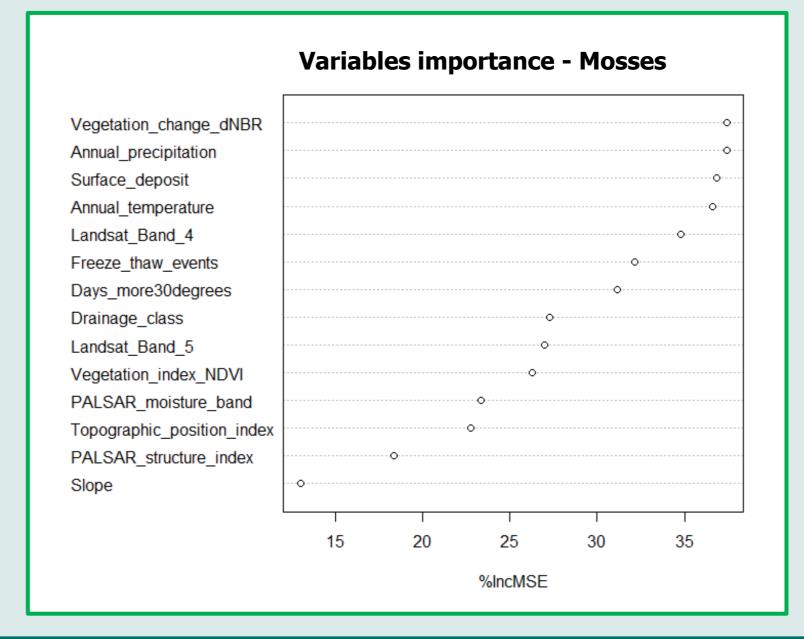
- **Predictors** > Climatic (6)
- Geographical (2)
- > Topographic (9)
- > Spectral (24)
- Ecoforestry (2)

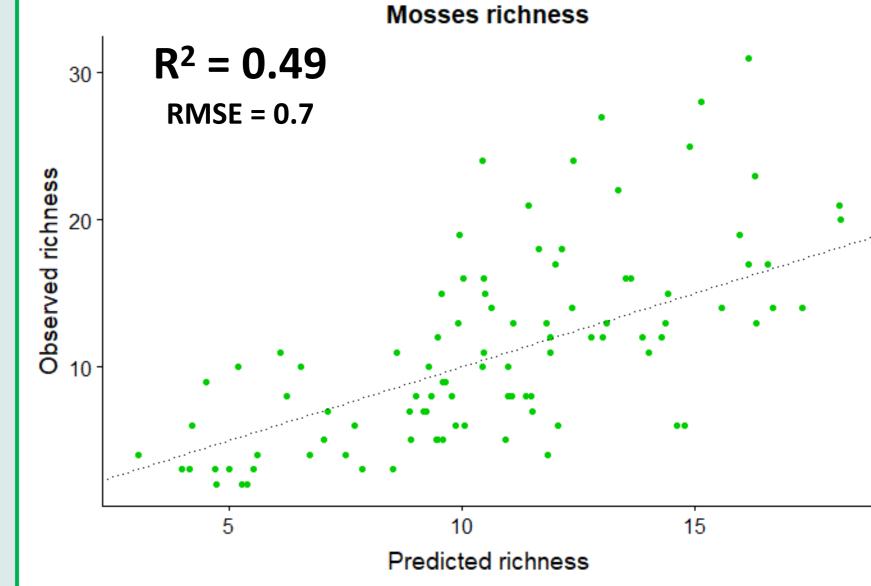
# **Models with Random Forest** α-diversity predictions' results

### Mosses









# Conclusions

- > The climatic, topographic and spectral variables explain an important part of the bryophyte species diversity
- Evidence the importance effect Of and dynamic variables/processes (dNBR) bryophytes diversity
- > The models' predictive performance highlight the potential of remote sensing in bryophyte diversity prediction
- > This study points out the importance of working not only with bryophytes as a whole, but also at the guild/group level

**Environment** 

Canada





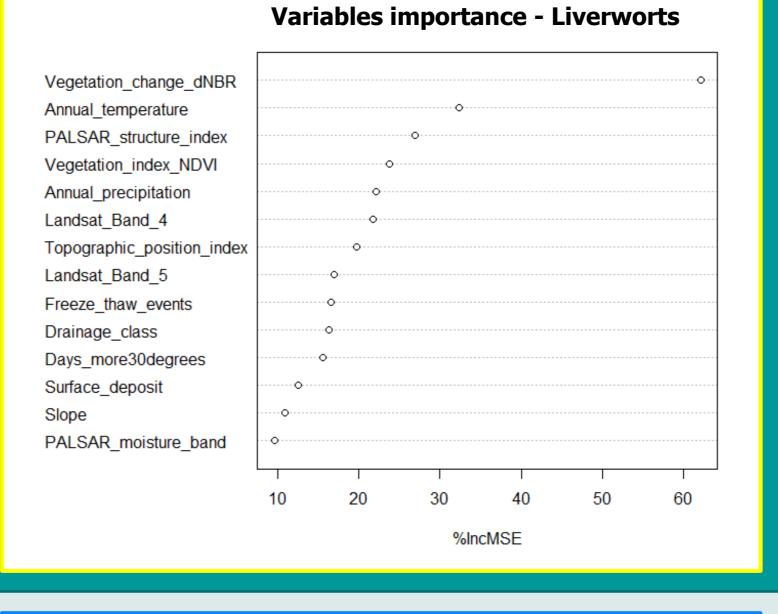


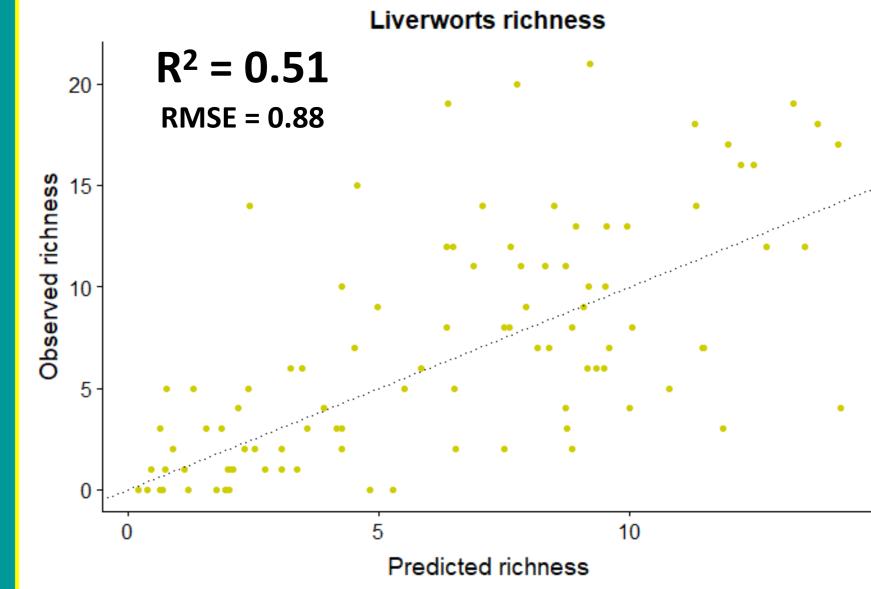


## Liverworts



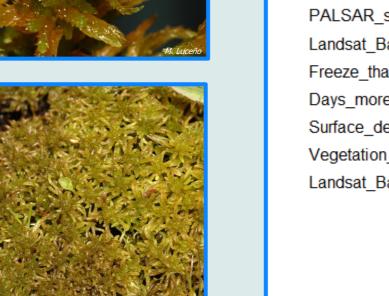


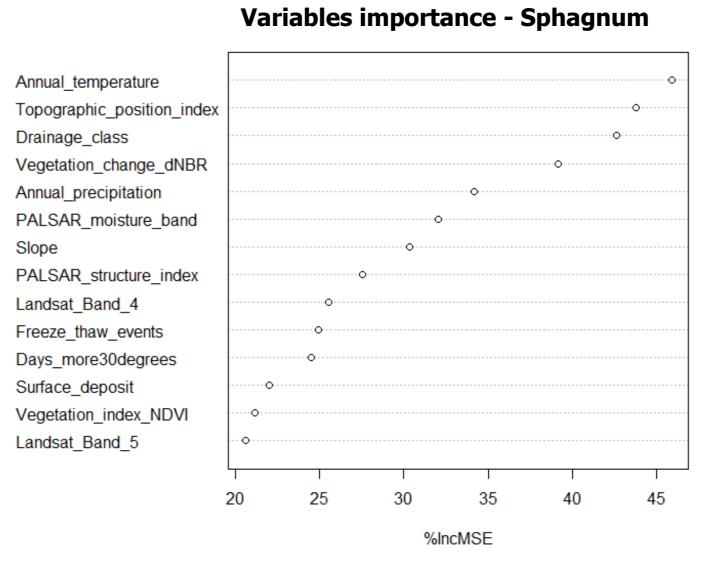


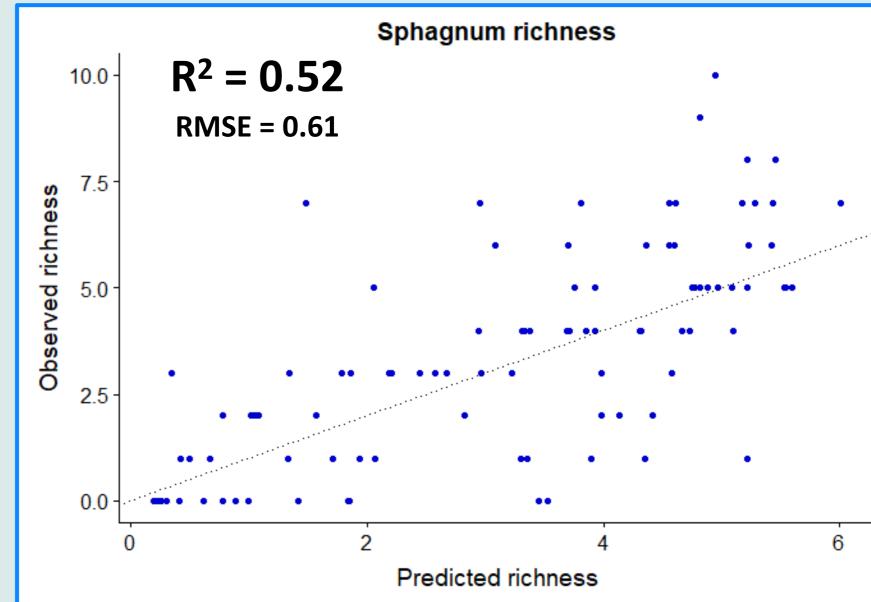


## Sphagnum









The dNBR index (vegetation change rate), annual temperature and annual precipitation appear as determining variables of the richness of each of the groups