

Article

New evidence on the linkage of population trends and species traits to long-term niche changes

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Table S1. Land-cover variables used in PCA (E-space). “DUSAF code” and “description” represent the classification according to the 3rd level of DUSAF digital map [59], while “Variable code” and “name” indicate the corresponding land covers used in the analysis after merging of some variables.

Land-cover variables			
DUSAF code	DUSAF description	Variable code	Variable name
111	Continuous urban matrix (e.g., dense residential areas)	C110	Continuous urban matrix
121	Industrial areas and large production plants		
122	Road and rail networks		
123	Harbours		
124	Airports		
131	Quarries		
132	Dumps		
133	Building sites		
134	Degraded areas		
141	Green urban areas		
142	Recreational areas		
112	Discontinuous urban matrix (e.g., farmsteads, scattered residential areas)	C112	Discontinuous urban matrix
211	Arable lands (e.g., maize, wheat, horticulture)	C211	Arable lands
213	Paddy fields	C213	Paddy fields
221	Vineyards	C220	Permanent orchard plantations
222	Orchards		
223	Olive groves		
224	Wood plantations	C224	Wood plantations
231	Meadows and pastures	C231	Meadows and pastures
311	Broadleaved forests	C311	Broadleaved forests
312	Coniferous forests	C312	Coniferous forests
313	Mixed forests	C313	Mixed forests
321	Grasslands	C321	Grasslands
322	Shrublands	C322	Shrublands
324	Shrub and grass vegetation under evolution	C324	Shrub and grass vegetation under evolution
331	Areas around waterbodies without vegetation	C330	Areas with sparse or absent vegetation
332	Debris deposits and rocks		
333	Rock areas with sparse vegetation		
334	Glaciers and perennial snow		
411	Wetland vegetation	C410	Wetland vegetation
511	Rivers and streams	C511	Rivers and streams
512	Natural and artificial lakes	C512	Natural and artificial lakes

Table S2. List of species traits and referencing literature.

Species traits		Abbreviation	References
Continuous			
Mean length of the body		len	[87]
Mean length of the wing		wing	[87]
Mean length of the tail		tail	[87]
Mean length of the bill		bil	[87]
Mean length of tarsus		tar	[87]
Mean weight in breeding season		wei	[87]
Mean clutch size		clu	[87]
Mean number of broods per breeding season		bro	[53,87]
Annual fecundity (clu x bro)		fec	[88]
Incubation period		inc	[87]
Fledging period		fle	[87]
Dispersal ratio (len/cube root[wei])		disr	[89,90]
Specialization index for the foraging habitat		SSI.fh	[53,91,92]
Specialization index for the acquisition behavior		SSI.acq	[53,91,92]
Specialization index for the nesting habitat		SSI.nes	[53,91,92]
Specialization index for the foraging substrate		SSI.fs	[53,91,92]
Specialization index for the diet		SSI.tr	[53,91,92]
Overall specialization index (mean[SSI.fh, SSI.acq, SSI.nes, SSI.fs, SSI.tr])		SSI.ov	[53]
Categorical			
Migration strategy		-	[53]
Groups	Long-distance migrants Short-distance migrant Sedentary		
Landscape type		-	[53]
Groups	Farmland Woodland Natural-open habitat Several		
Nest type		-	[53,87]
Group	Elevated-nester Ground-nester Hole-nester		
Diet		-	[53,93]
Group	Vertebrates Plant-eaters Invertebrates Omnivores		

Table S3. Coordinates of each variable respect to the first two PCA-axes (E-space). See Table S1 and Section 2.2 in the main text for variables' abbreviations.

Variable	PC1	PC2
C110	0.23	0.05
C112	0.17	0.11
C211	0.56	−0.41
C213	0.15	−0.20
C220	0.10	0.04
C224	0.16	−0.21
C231	0.02	0.35
C311	−0.04	0.56
C312	−0.47	−0.12
C313	−0.26	0.36
C321	−0.50	−0.35
C322	−0.45	−0.41
C324	−0.15	0.06
C330	−0.46	−0.39
C410	0.06	−0.03
C511	0.11	−0.17
C512	−0.06	−0.03
Elevation	−0.95	−0.10
sin	0.05	−0.17
cos	−0.13	0.08
Slope	−0.79	0.37
rr	−0.58	0.49
tmax	0.95	0.10
tavg	0.96	0.10
tmin	0.94	0.13

Figure S1. Contribution of each variable (%) to PC1 (a) and PC2 (b) (E-space). The red-dashed line represents the expected average contribution. If the contribution of the variables were uniform, the expected value would be the reciprocal of the number of variables (4%).

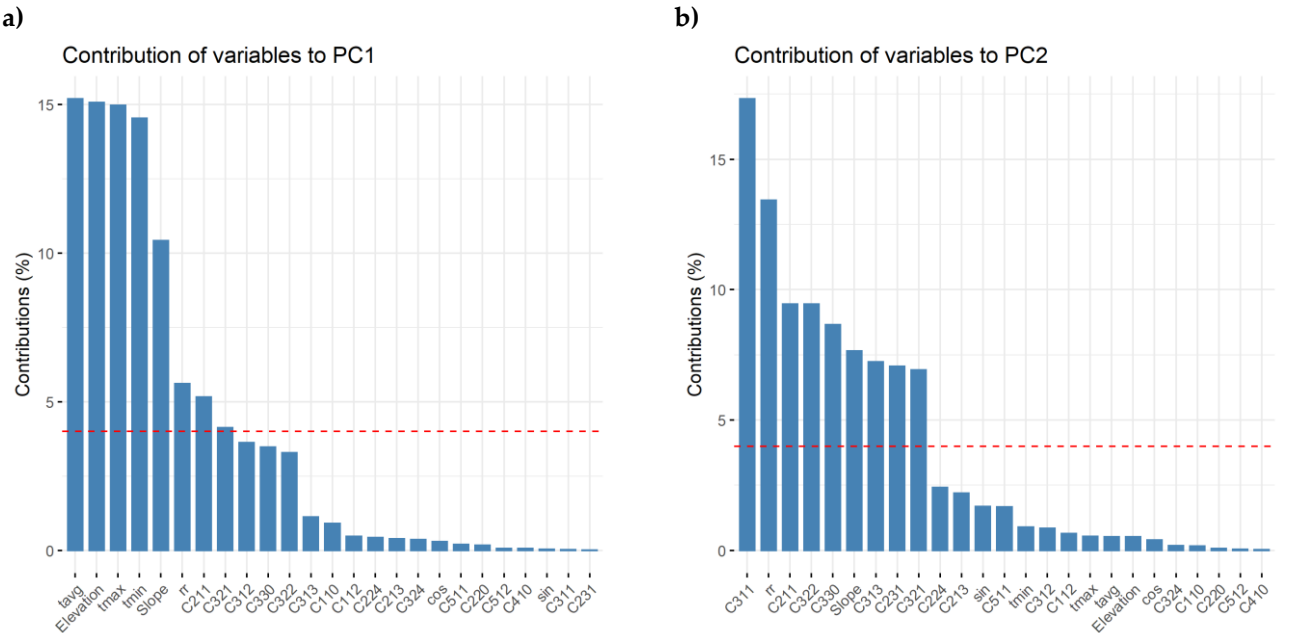


Table S4. Niche breadth and centroid for each species along the PCA-axes (E-space) in T1 and T2. T₁ = 1992–95–96; T₂ = 2015–16–17; PC1 = PCA-axis 1; PC2 = PCA-axis 2. Species are presented with the common name [97] and following the taxonomic order.

Species	Breadth				Centroid			
	T ₁		T ₂		T ₁		T ₂	
	PC1	PC2	PC1	PC2	PC1	PC2	PC1	PC2
Black-crowned Night Heron	0.18	0.40	0.06	0.33	1.59	−1.17	1.92	−0.94
Little Egret	0.09	0.33	0.12	0.38	1.53	−1.27	2.09	−1.03
Grey Heron	0.13	0.48	0.42	0.56	1.63	−1.06	2.03	−0.76
Mallard	1.26	1.69	0.41	0.68	1.35	−0.56	2.03	−0.85
Black Kite	1.49	1.12	1.47	1.36	0.15	0.70	0.50	1.18
Common Buzzard	2.05	1.20	2.39	1.44	−0.70	1.71	1.38	0.46
Common Kestrel	5.86	2.16	2.64	0.85	0.46	0.31	2.09	−0.67
Common Quail	0.42	0.57	0.16	0.59	1.63	−0.21	2.22	−0.91
Common Pheasant	0.58	1.26	0.39	0.75	1.56	−0.29	2.08	−0.73
Common Moohren	0.31	0.79	0.19	0.44	1.60	−0.66	2.02	−0.73
Feral Pigeon	0.38	0.75	0.36	0.63	1.62	−0.22	1.99	−0.20
Common Wood Pigeon	0.68	1.28	0.92	1.04	1.39	0.06	1.91	−0.22
Eurasian Collared Dove	0.50	0.90	0.57	0.77	1.55	−0.26	1.99	−0.24
European Turtle Dove	0.82	1.04	0.47	0.82	1.43	−0.03	1.89	−0.43
Common Cuckoo	4.19	1.72	4.76	1.89	1.03	−0.07	−0.65	0.83
Common Swift	2.39	1.27	3.10	1.22	1.45	−0.16	1.85	−0.04
Eurasian Wryneck	2.08	1.12	1.26	0.81	1.35	0.11	1.36	0.49
European Green Woodpecker	1.87	0.78	3.22	1.44	−0.61	1.26	0.83	0.38
Great Spotted Woodpecker	2.09	2.44	3.82	1.49	0.49	0.90	1.20	0.43
Eurasian Skylark	0.69	0.47	9.40	0.84	1.77	−0.70	2.03	−0.98
Eurasian Crag Martin	3.76	2.60	4.17	2.05	−1.74	1.55	−1.50	0.47
Barn Swallow	1.43	1.19	0.63	0.70	1.54	−0.07	2.02	−0.26
Common House Martin	2.05	1.27	4.61	1.24	1.13	0.33	1.48	0.07
Tree Pipit	2.74	1.86	1.74	2.31	−3.77	0.01	−3.55	−0.31
Water Pipit	0.44	0.78	1.40	1.09	−5.63	−2.52	−4.86	−2.50
Western Yellow Wagtail	0.17	0.44	0.06	0.34	1.79	−0.72	2.26	−1.03
Grey Wagtail	7.49	1.96	4.72	2.25	−2.75	0.23	−2.22	0.25
White Wagtail	5.20	1.57	6.43	1.73	−0.02	0.59	−0.91	0.31
Eurasian Wren	6.29	2.35	3.76	2.41	−1.59	1.07	−1.97	1.07
Duncock	0.44	0.80	1.82	2.91	−5.49	−1.07	−4.54	−1.28
European Robin	3.90	1.32	3.57	2.22	−1.90	1.52	−1.97	1.26
Common Nigthingale	0.68	1.05	0.37	0.70	1.60	−0.38	2.06	−0.62
Black Redstart	6.09	3.11	7.03	2.72	−5.66	−2.02	−3.89	−0.36

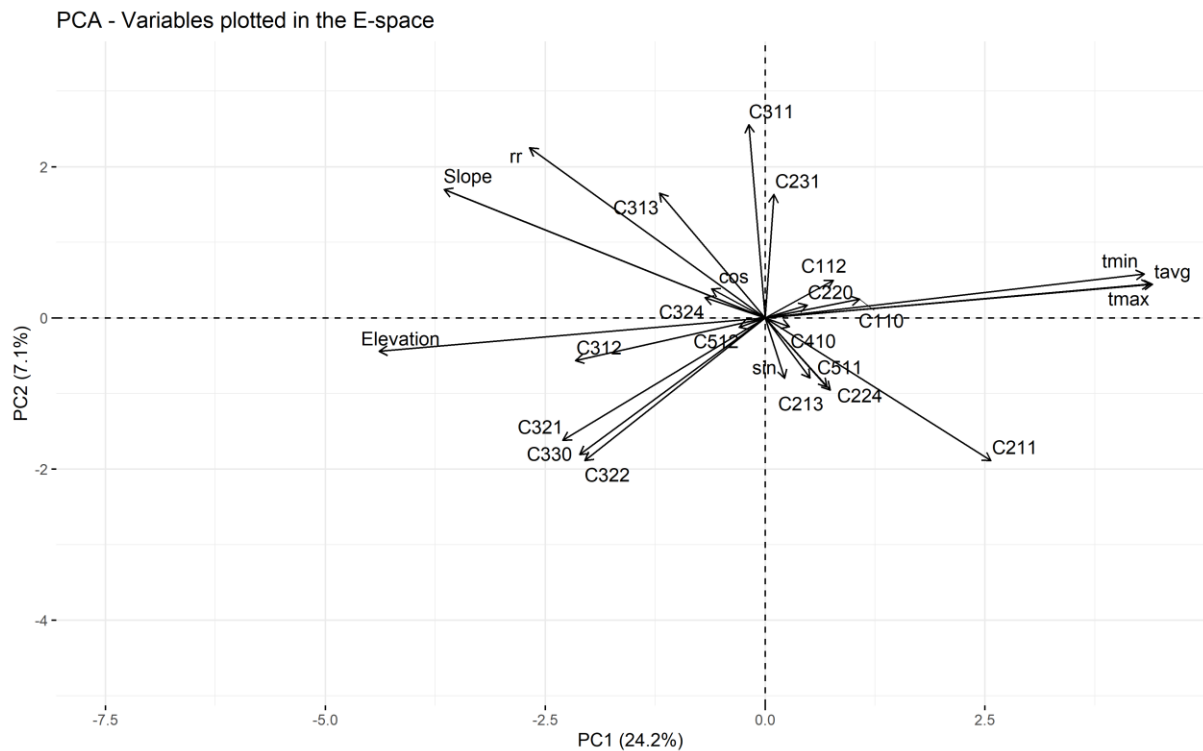
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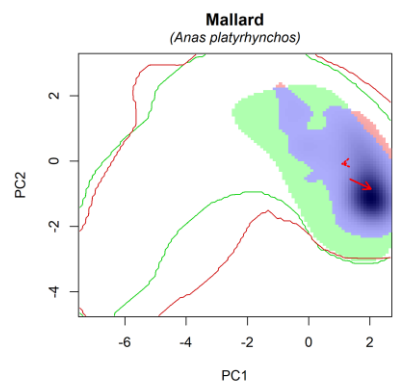
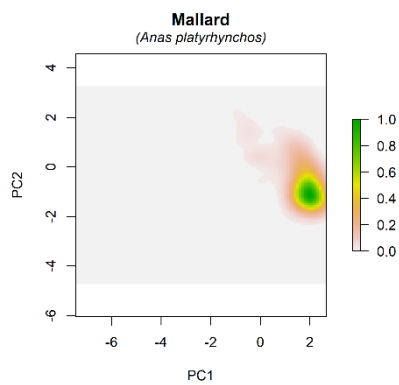
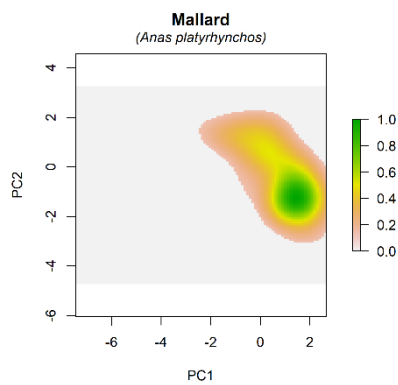
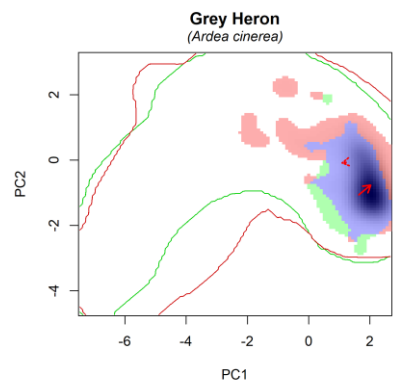
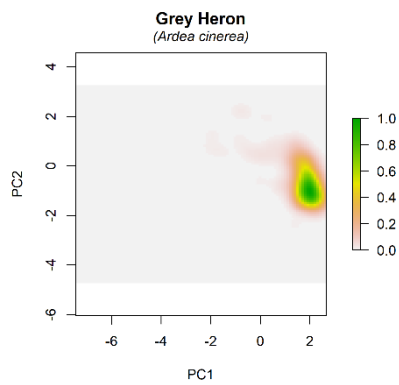
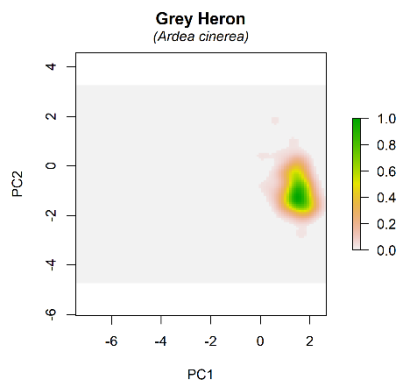
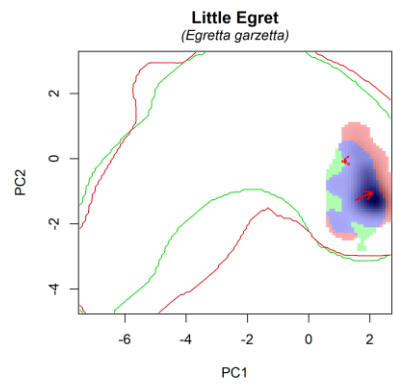
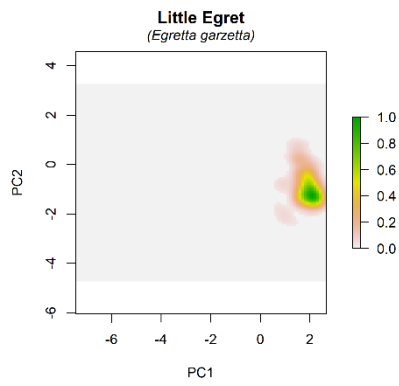
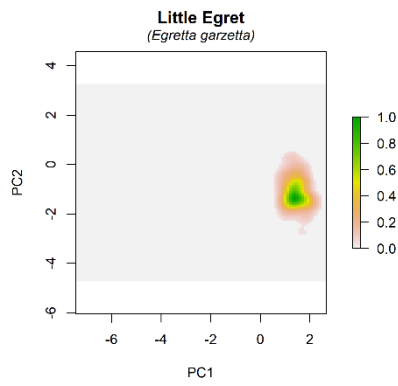
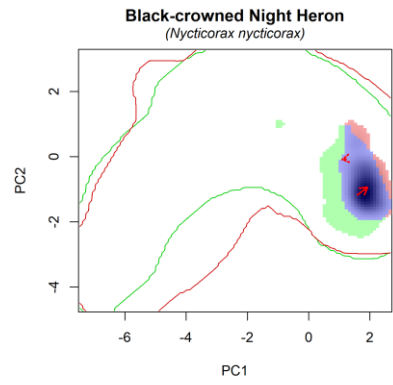
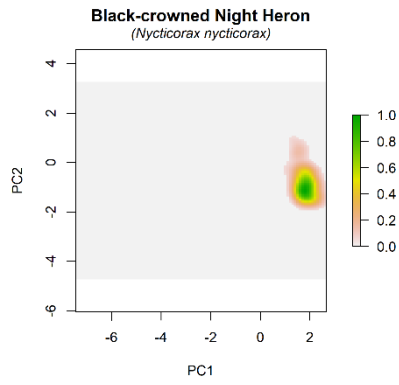
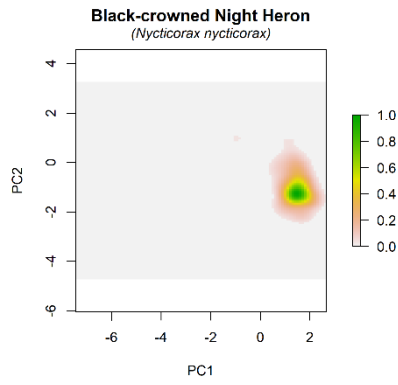
Common Redstart	3.45	1.10	4.11	1.21	-1.02	1.47	-0.66	0.72
African Stonechat	0.86	0.72	1.17	0.72	1.73	-0.44	1.92	0.02
Northern Wheatear	1.92	2.13	1.09	1.22	-5.49	-2.52	-4.73	-2.14
Common Blackbird	3.68	1.39	5.31	1.47	1.34	-0.01	1.76	-0.16
Song Thrush	3.59	1.19	3.06	3.23	-3.95	-0.02	-2.30	0.91
Mistle Thrush	4.30	3.27	2.27	3.44	-3.08	0.38	-4.22	-0.58
Cetti's Warbler	0.33	0.67	0.23	0.51	1.71	-0.53	1.87	-0.53
Melodius Warbler	1.12	1.47	0.34	0.78	1.27	0.11	1.89	-0.42
Lesser Whitethroat	2.89	2.73	1.59	2.09	-5.75	-0.80	-4.69	-1.89
Eurasian Blackcap	3.85	1.20	4.57	1.33	0.93	0.25	1.01	0.32
Western Bonelli's Warbler	3.21	1.14	2.26	1.77	-1.47	1.76	-1.46	1.60
Common Chiffchaff	4.40	1.77	3.61	2.94	-1.91	1.53	-2.11	0.89
Goldcrest	2.83	1.77	2.12	1.57	-3.11	0.58	-2.88	0.57
Common Firecrest	5.19	0.85	3.47	0.80	-4.48	-0.44	-1.71	0.89
Spotted Flycatcher	2.13	1.28	2.63	1.08	0.86	0.83	0.54	0.78
Long-tailed Tit	2.66	0.75	2.58	1.13	-0.84	1.63	0.63	0.95
Marsh Tit	2.20	0.95	1.62	0.45	-1.97	1.57	-1.23	1.83
Willow Tit	1.79	1.85	1.57	3.11	-4.96	-0.73	-5.08	-1.60
European Crested Tit	3.47	2.05	3.19	3.55	-3.30	0.26	-3.34	-0.22
Coal Tit	5.04	1.90	3.24	3.16	-3.41	0.49	-2.58	0.72
Eurasian Blue Tit	2.58	0.88	1.93	0.90	-0.77	1.48	-0.39	1.34
Great Tit	2.90	1.41	2.97	1.26	0.44	0.59	1.36	0.25
Eurasian Nuthatch	1.56	0.23	2.59	0.99	-0.31	1.62	-1.38	1.66
Eurasian Golden Oriole	0.61	1.05	0.39	0.89	1.52	-0.19	1.90	-0.30
Red-backed Shrike	2.46	1.43	2.42	0.76	0.59	0.44	0.83	0.51
Eurasian Jay	4.37	1.34	3.53	1.53	-1.24	1.17	-0.84	1.36
Eurasian Magpie	0.34	0.65	0.32	0.66	1.53	-0.26	2.07	-0.43
Carrion Crow	5.44	2.81	3.77	2.70	-1.89	1.42	-4.42	-0.47
Hooded Crow	2.49	1.29	2.94	1.19	1.45	-0.15	1.68	0.08
Common Starling	0.71	0.95	0.34	0.64	1.60	-0.26	2.01	-0.34
Italian Sparrow	1.30	1.20	1.33	0.81	1.55	-0.16	1.97	-0.19
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	0.72	0.81	0.76	0.62	1.61	-0.32	2.04	-0.46
Common Chaffinch	5.58	1.36	6.15	1.98	-0.41	0.89	-0.95	0.69
European Serin	1.13	0.72	2.06	0.63	1.27	0.41	1.47	0.23
European Greenfinch	1.05	1.06	1.25	0.60	1.45	0.02	1.86	0.09
European Goldfinch	1.25	1.28	2.70	0.71	1.54	-0.11	1.85	0.05
Common Redpoll	0.74	1.51	1.22	1.67	-6.18	-2.16	-5.13	-2.11
Eurasian Bullfinch	2.57	1.22	2.04	2.78	-4.60	-0.20	-2.56	0.17

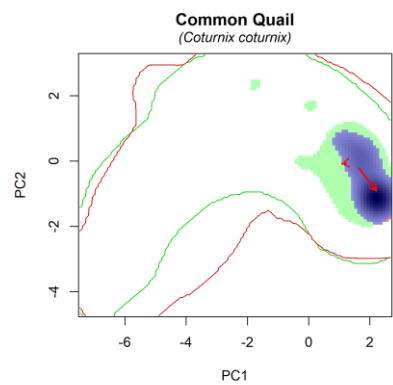
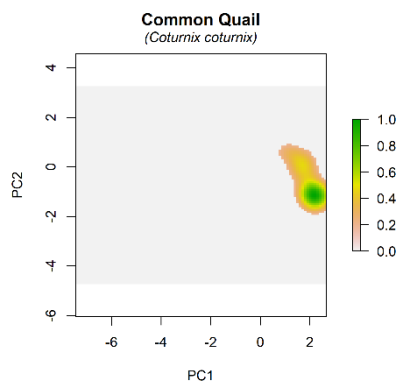
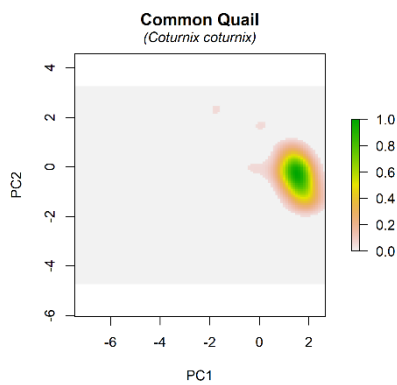
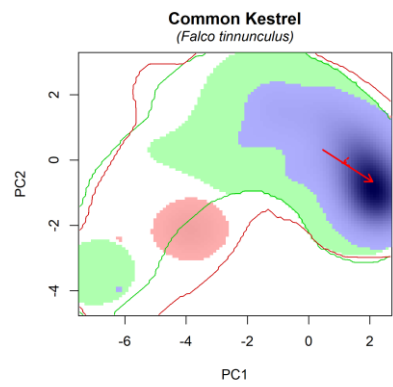
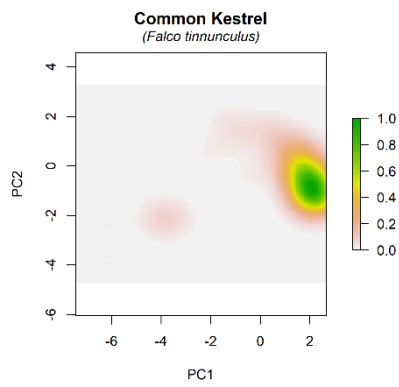
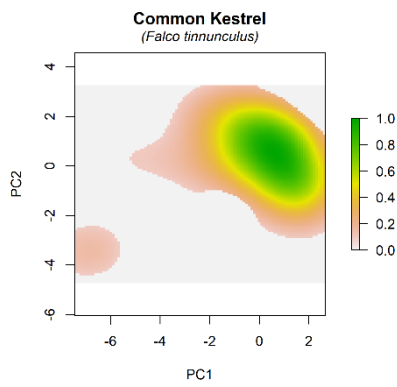
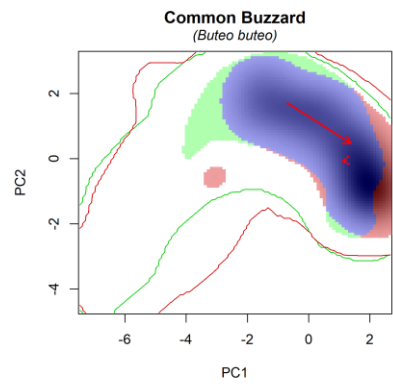
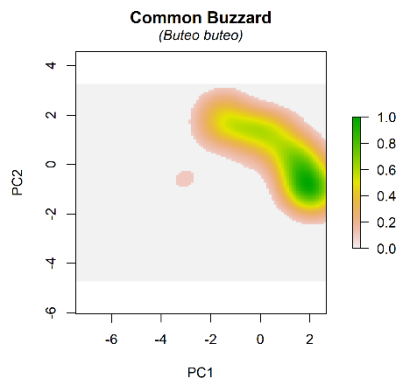
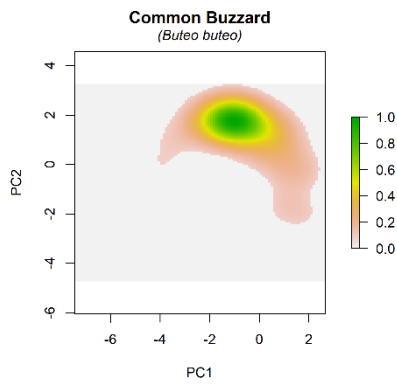
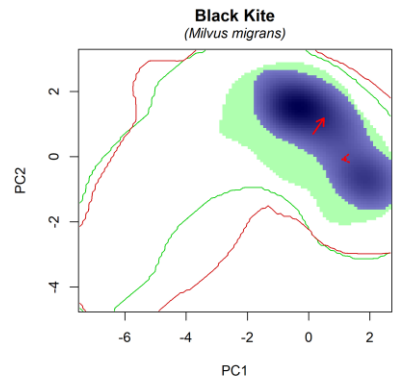
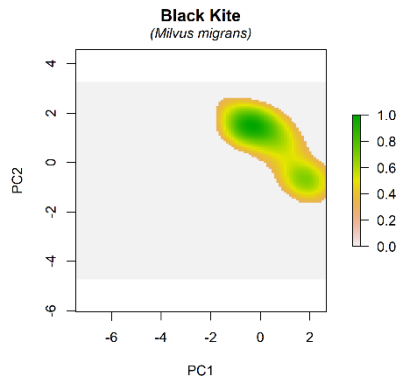
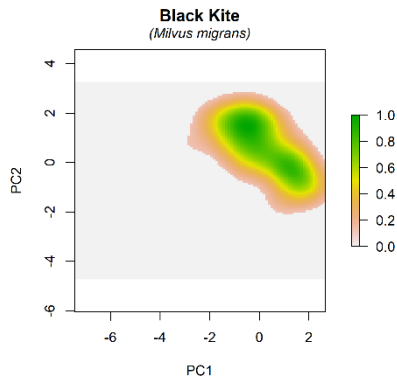
Figure S2. Notched box plots of niche breadth and centroid for each PCA-axis (E-space) in T₁ and T₂. From T₁ to T₂, the median of the niche breadth varied from 2.05 (range = 0.09-7.49) to 2.06 (range = 0.06-9.40) along PC1, and from 1.20 (range = 0.23-3.27) to 1.13 (range = 0.33-3.55) along PC2. From T₁ to T₂, the median of the niche centroid varied from 0.49 (range = - 6.18-1.79) to 1.01 (range = - 5.13-2.26) along PC1, and from - 0.02 (range = - 2.52-1.76) to - 0.04 (range = - 2.50-1.83) along PC2. In each box plot, the sample dimension is equal to the total number of the species (n=71). Whiskers are 1.5 x IQR. Black dots represent outliers. T₁ = 1992–95–96; T₂ = 2015–16–17; PC1 = PCA-axis 1; PC2 = PCA-axis 2. Notches give a roughly 95% confidence interval for medians. Wilcoxon rank sum test detected differences only for centroids' comparison along PC1 (niche breadth PC1: W = 2550, p-value = 0.906; niche breadth PC2: W = 2625, p-value = 0.671; niche centroid PC1: W = 1991, p-value = 0.031; niche centroid PC2: W = 2727, p-value = 0.401).

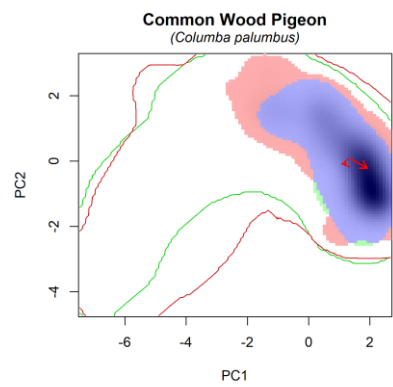
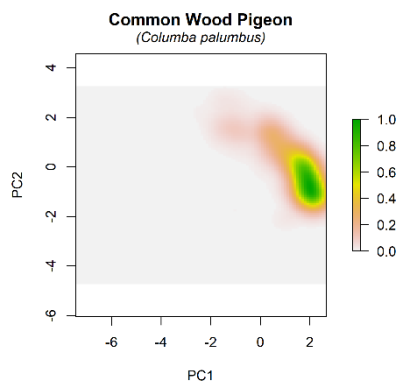
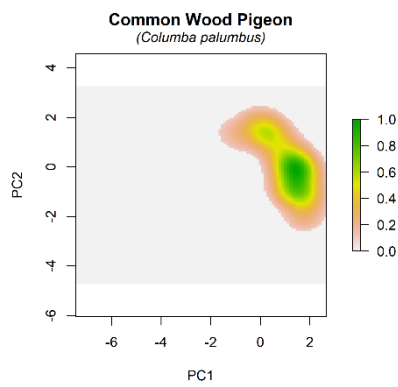
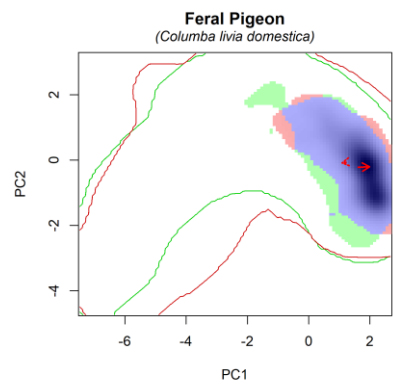
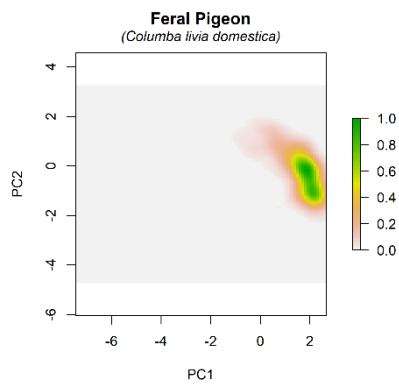
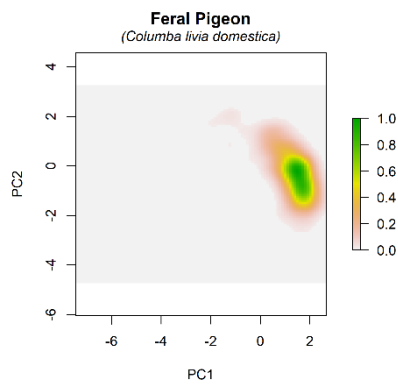
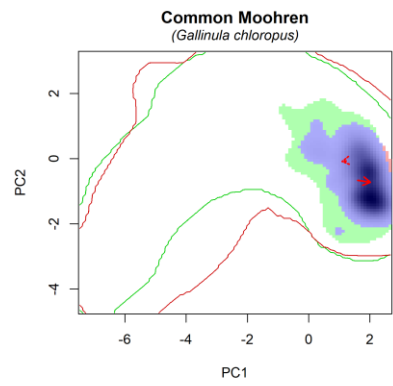
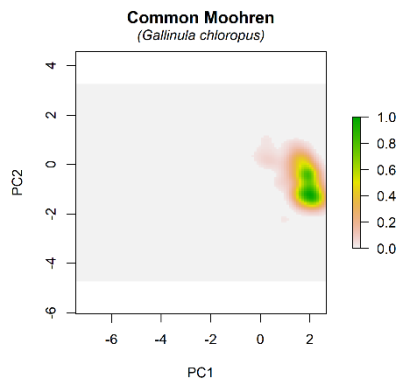
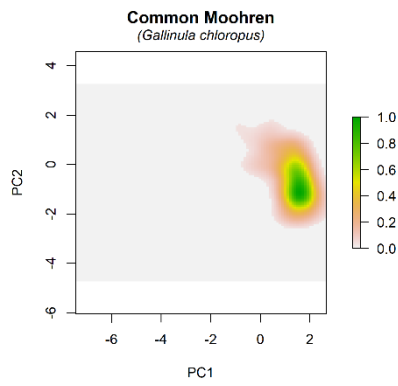
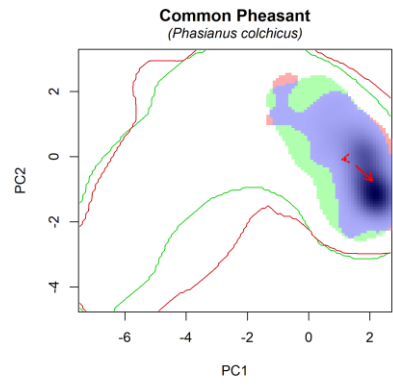
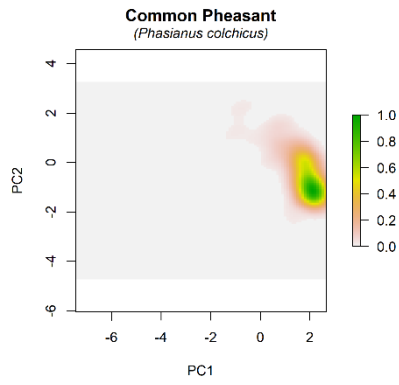
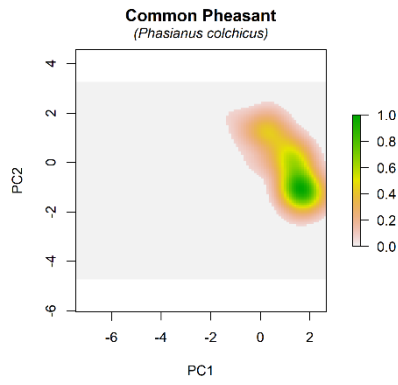


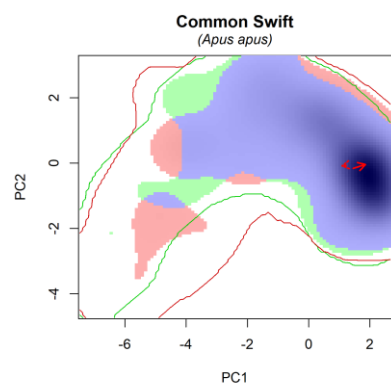
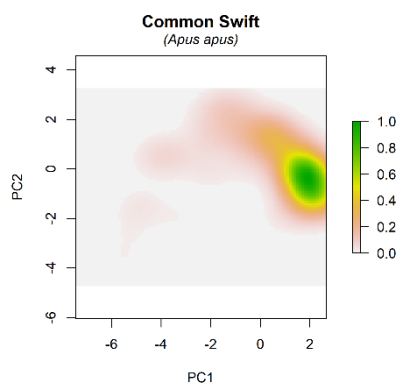
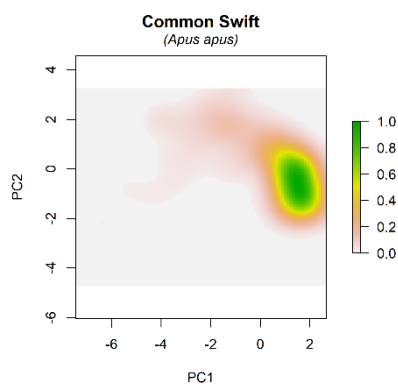
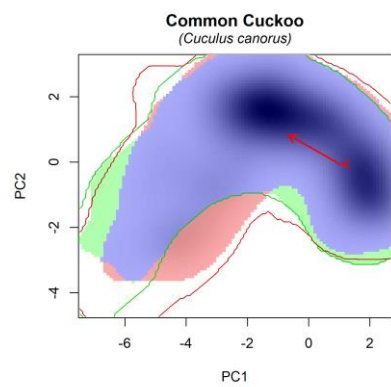
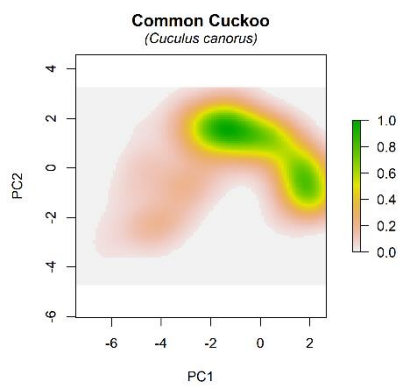
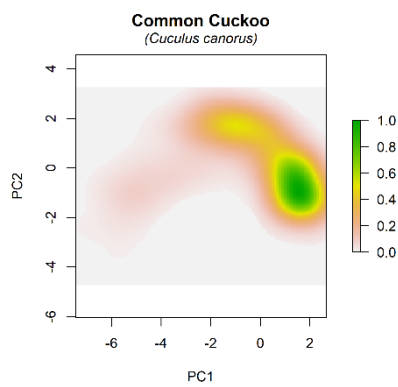
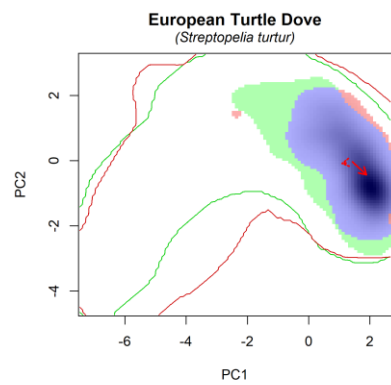
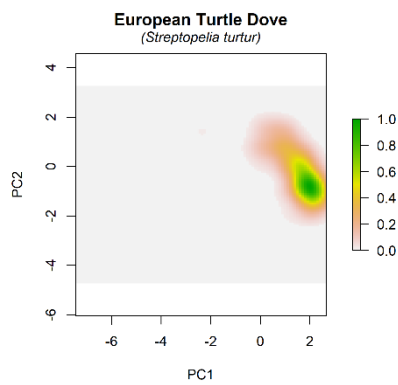
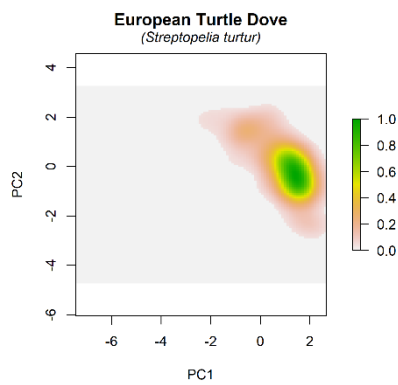
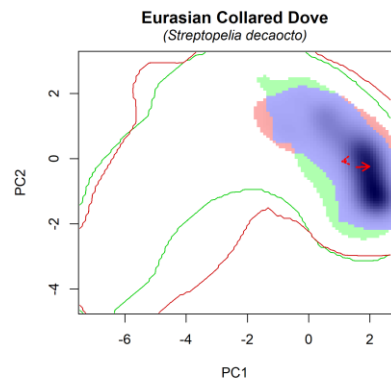
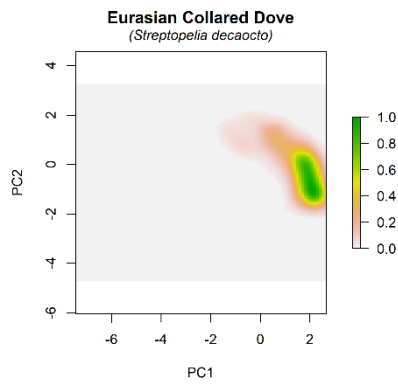
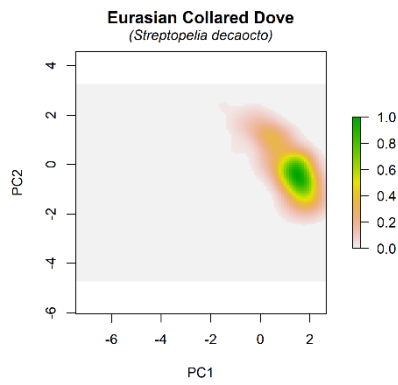
Figure S3. Niche quantification in the E-space for each species in T₁ (1992-95-96) and T₂ (2015-16-17) and niche changes between the two periods. The first plot represent the coordinates of the variables in the E-space to ease the interpretation of the niche respect to the PCA-axes. Niche in T₁ is shown in the left column, in T₂ in the middle column, and the overlap in the right column. In each row is represented a single species with its common and scientific name [97]. In the graphs of niche in T₁ and T₂ separately, the density of occurrence of species is depicted through a colored gradient from light grey (0) to green (1). In the graphs representing niche changes between T₁ and T₂, the red area indicates the E-space exclusively occupied in T₂, the green area the E-space exclusively occupied in T₁, and the blue area the E-space occupied in both T₁ and T₂. Color intensity of the filled area represents the density of occurrence of species in T₂. The green and red solid lines represent the whole extent of the available E-space in T₁ and T₂, respectively. Arrows indicate the centroids' shift from T₁ to T₂ for the available E-space (dashed arrow) and for the occupied E-space (solid arrow).

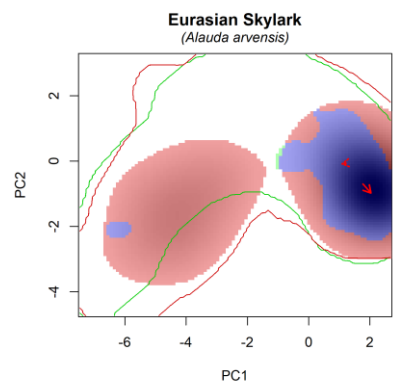
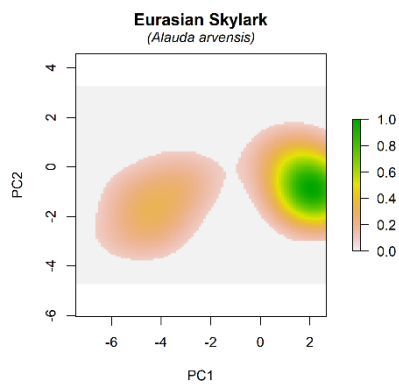
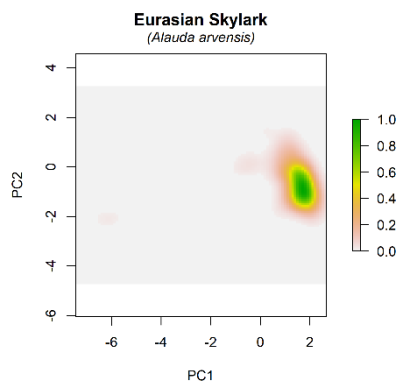
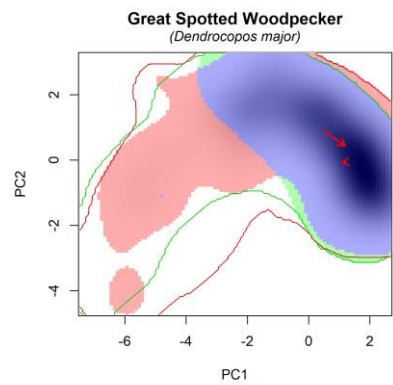
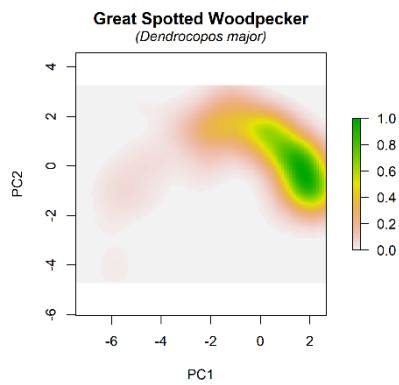
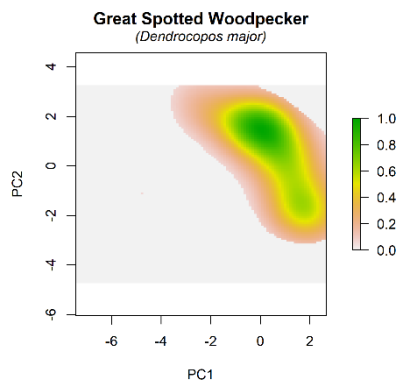
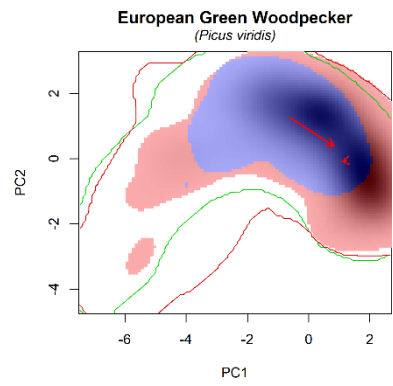
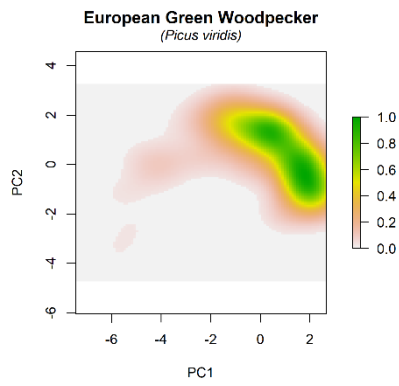
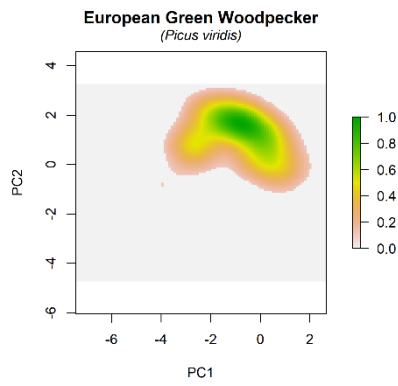
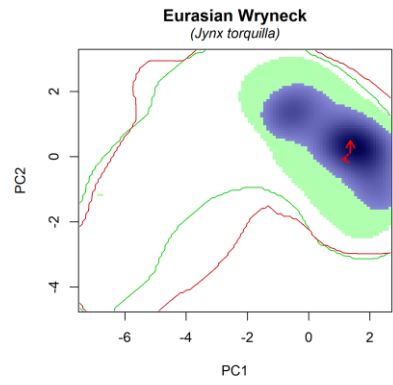
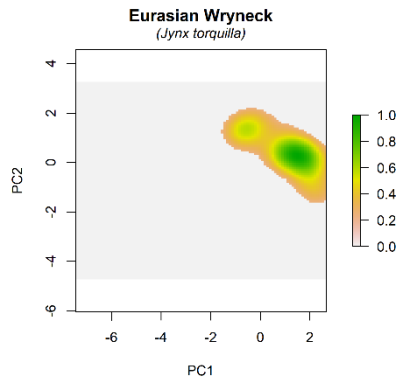
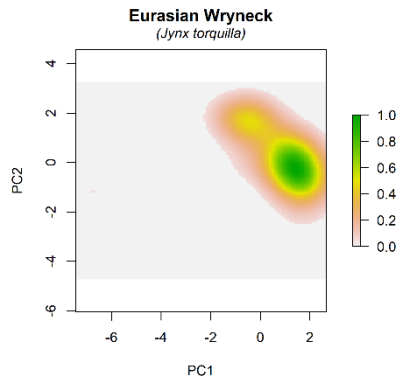


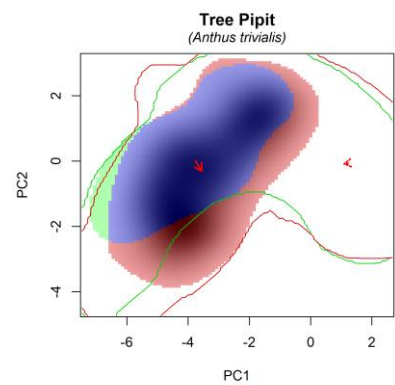
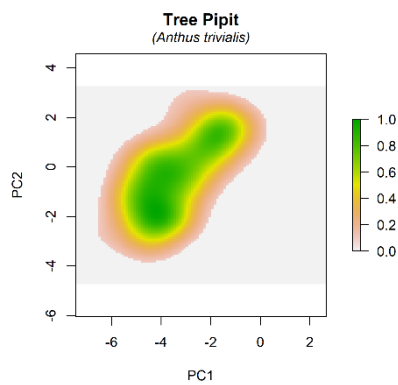
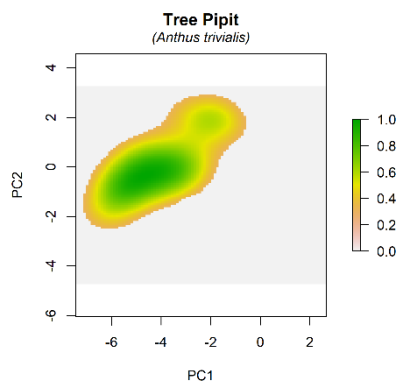
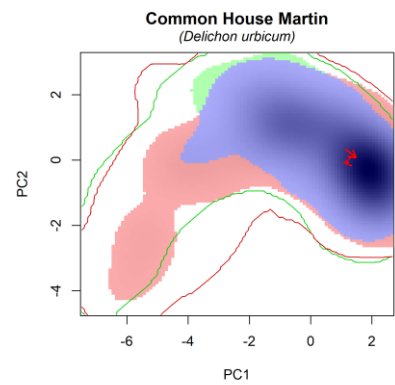
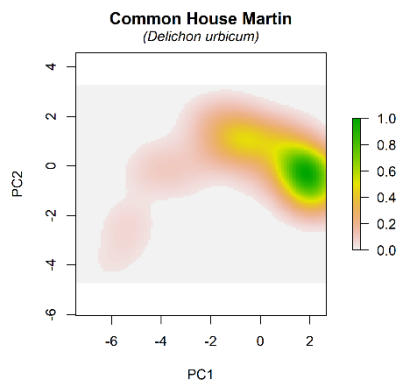
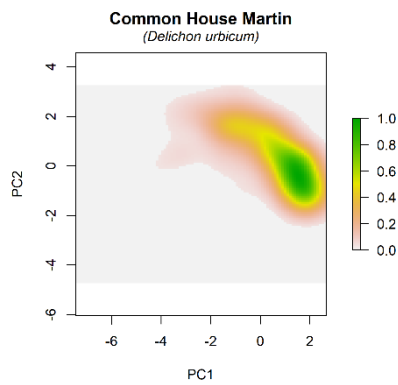
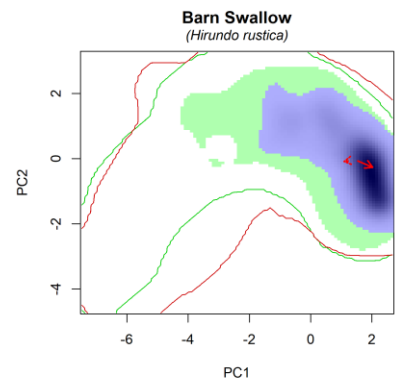
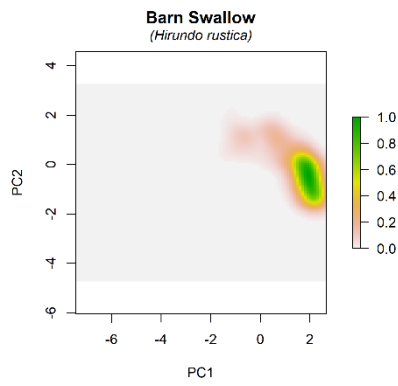
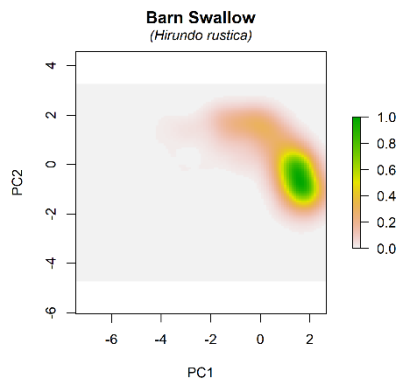
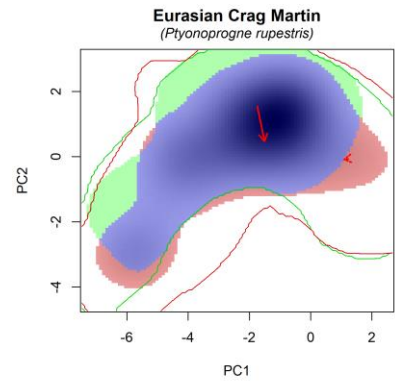
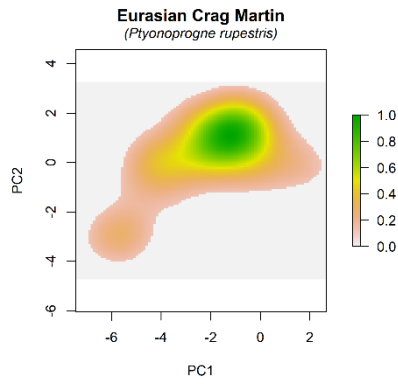
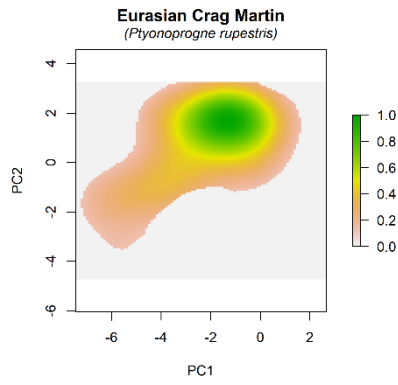


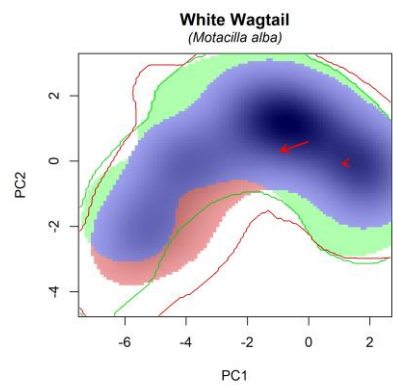
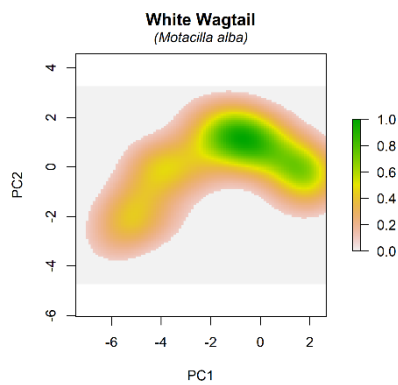
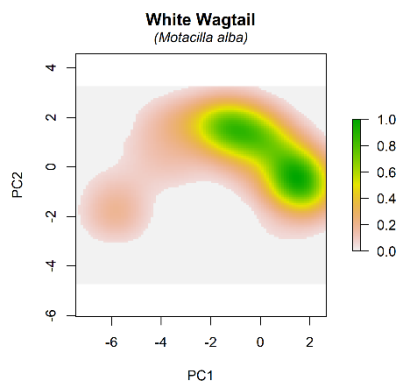
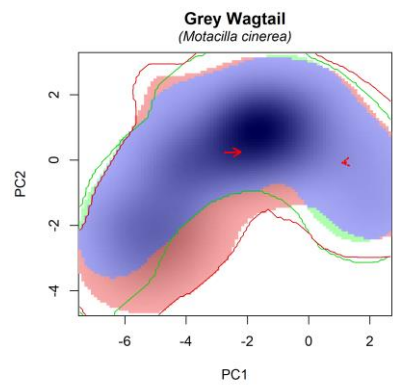
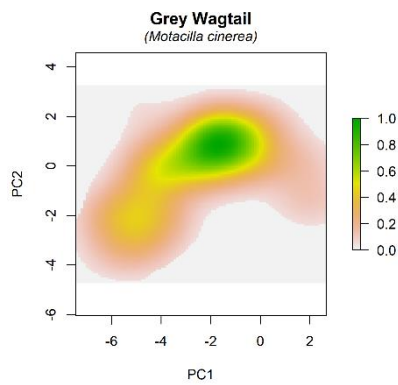
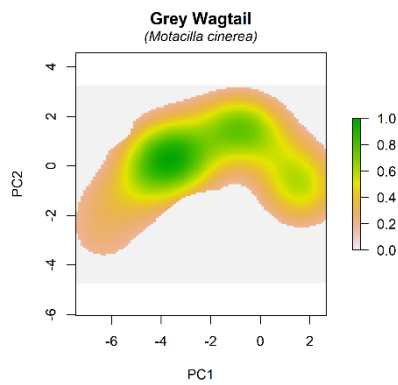
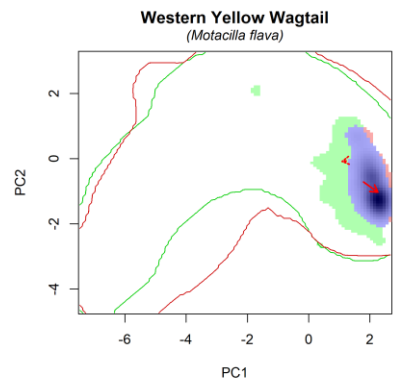
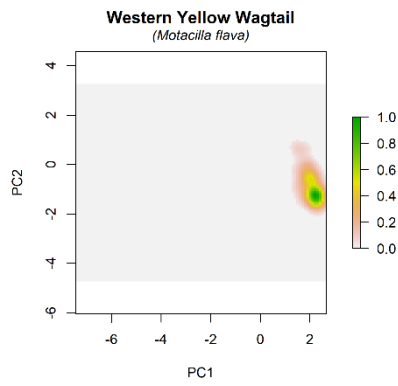
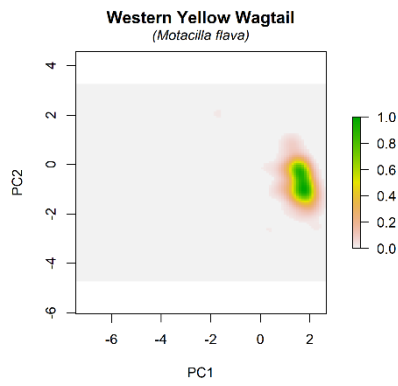
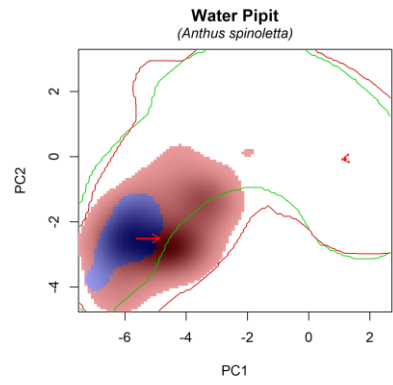
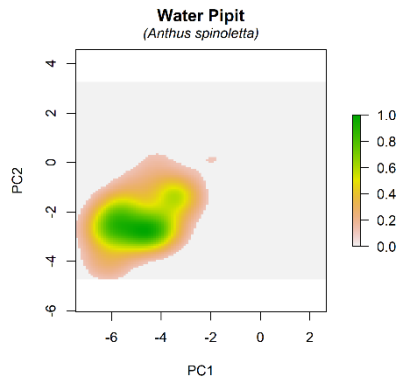
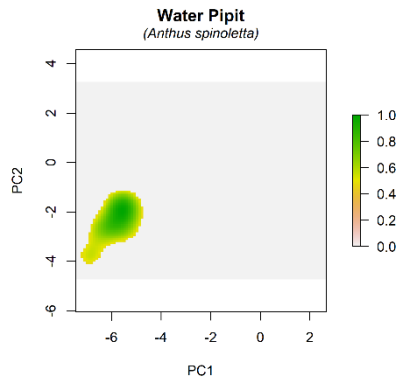


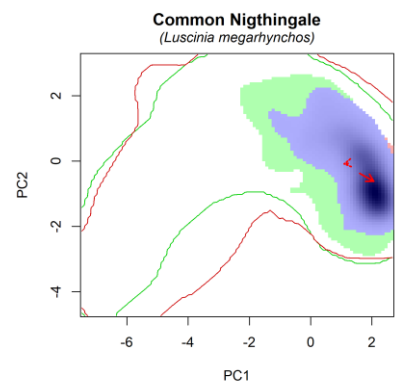
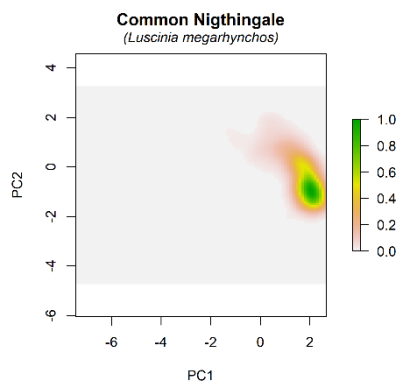
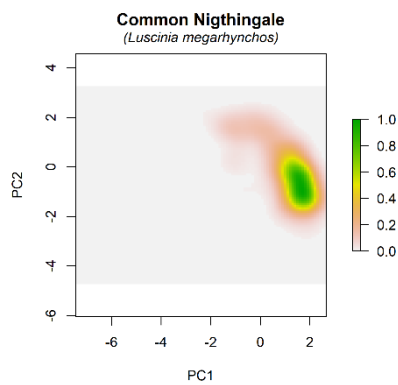
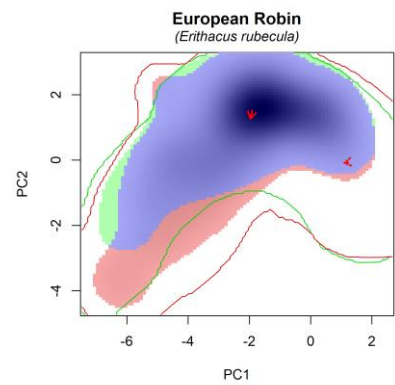
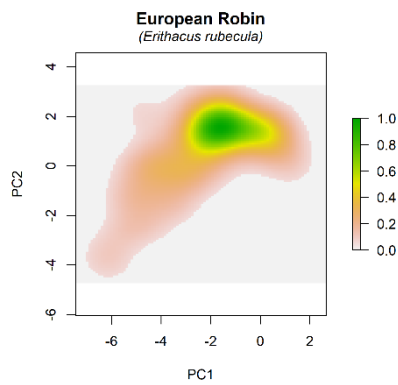
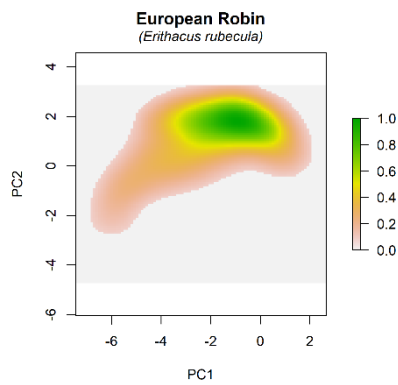
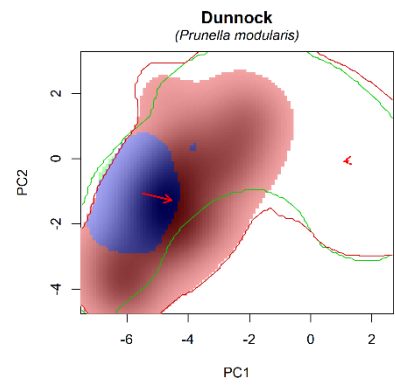
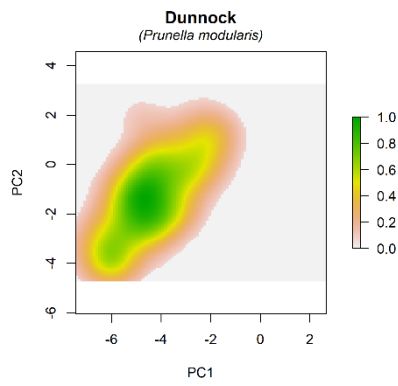
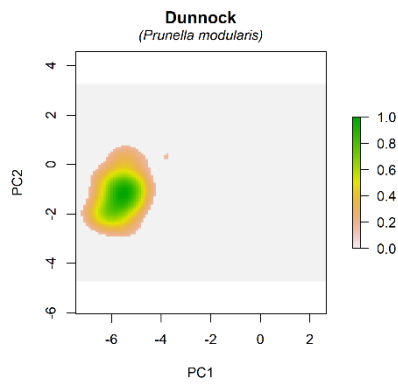
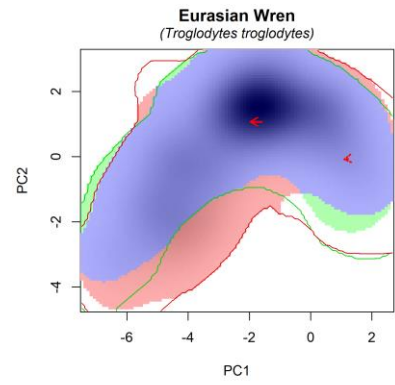
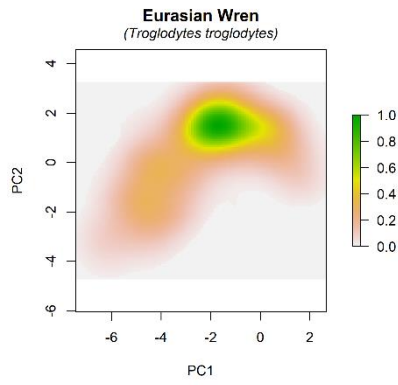
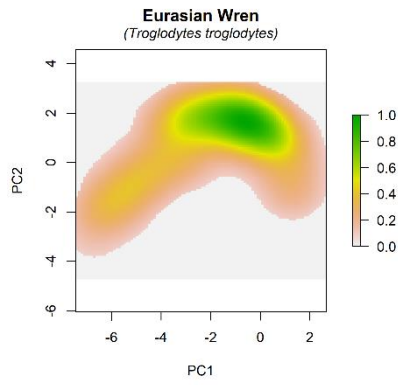


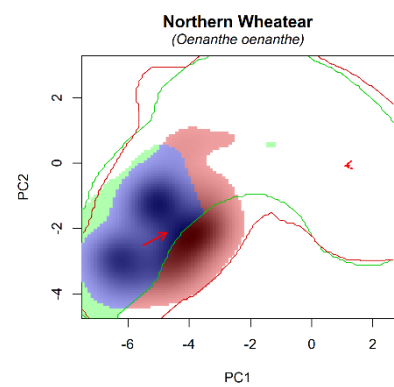
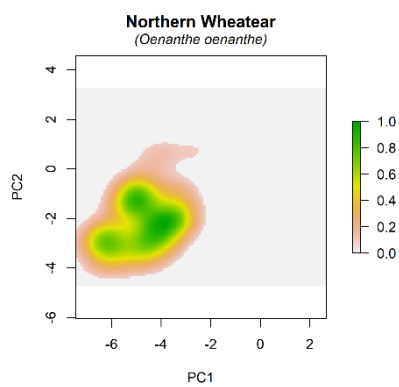
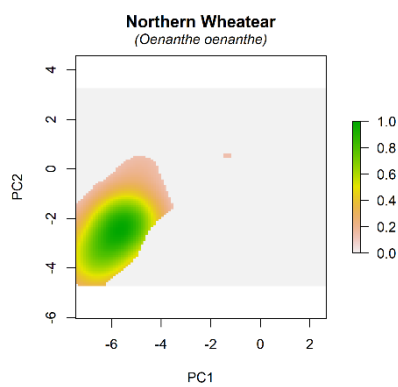
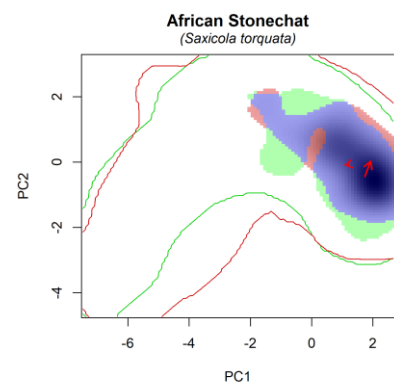
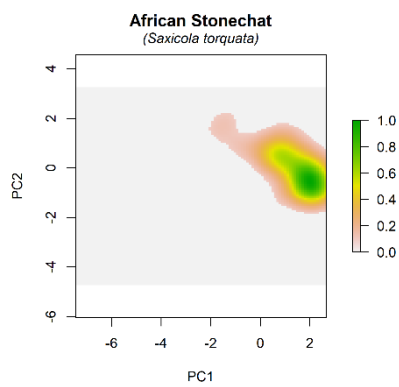
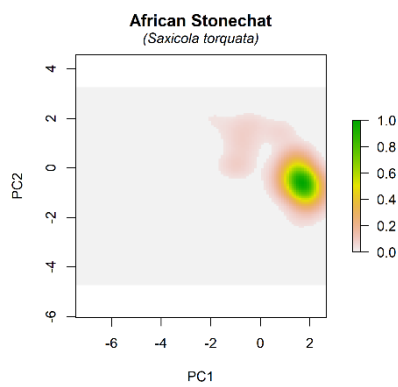
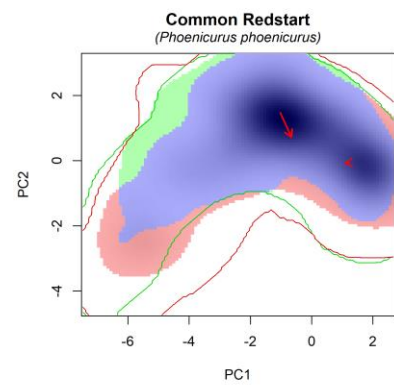
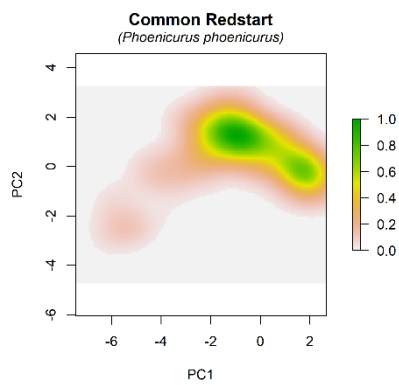
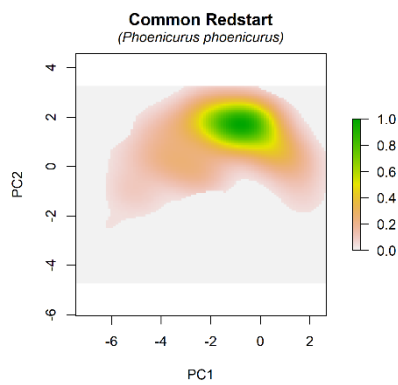
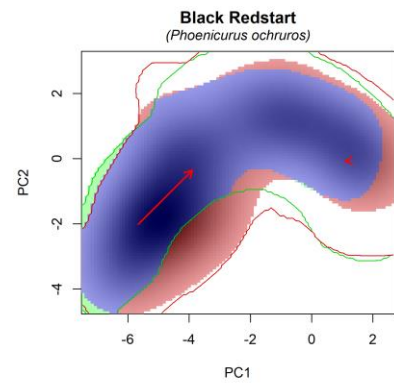
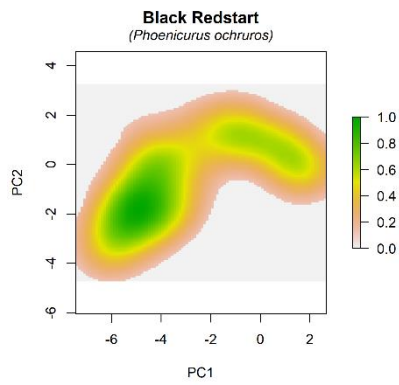
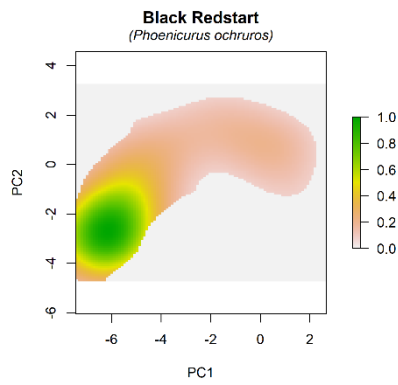


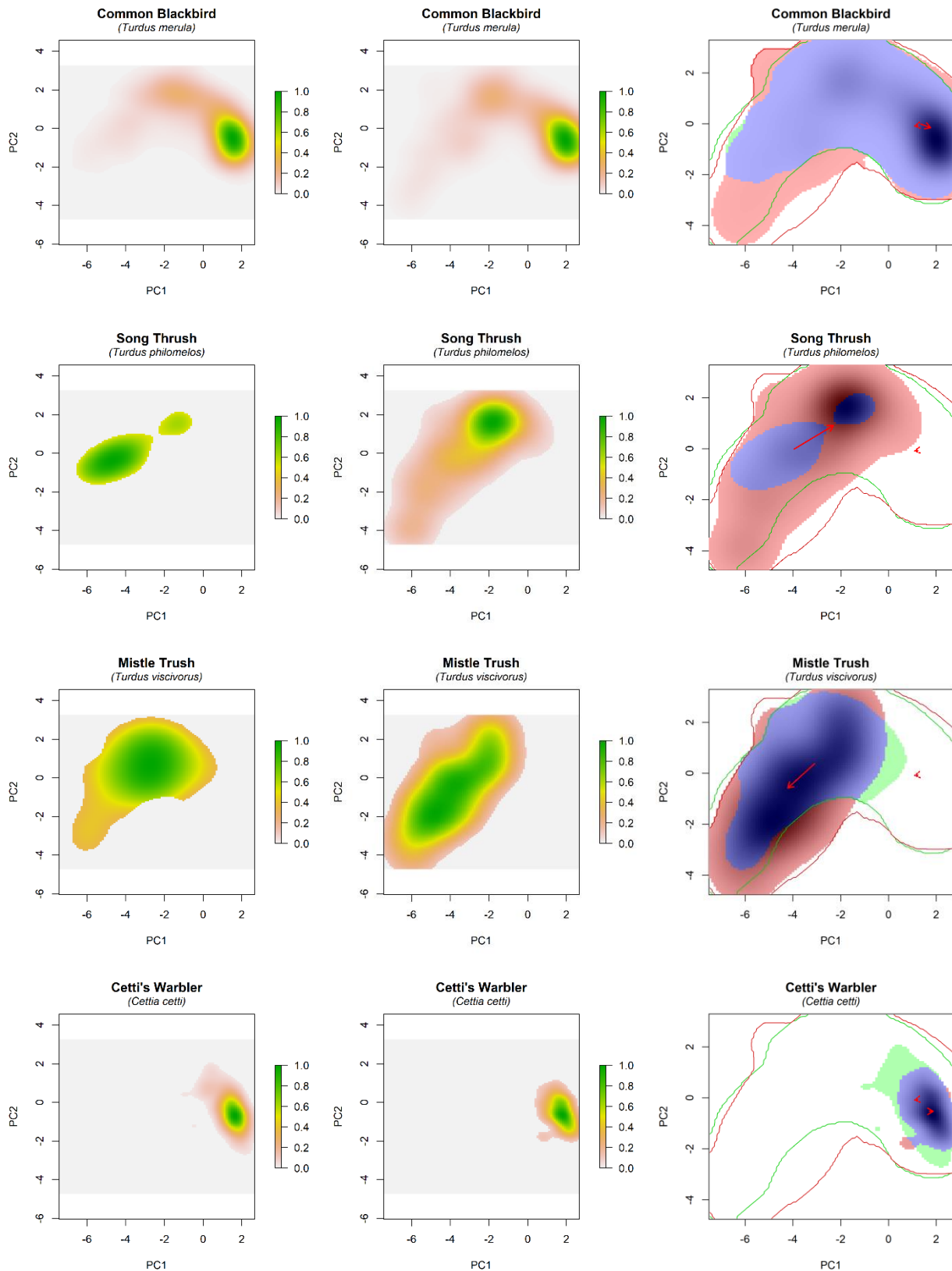


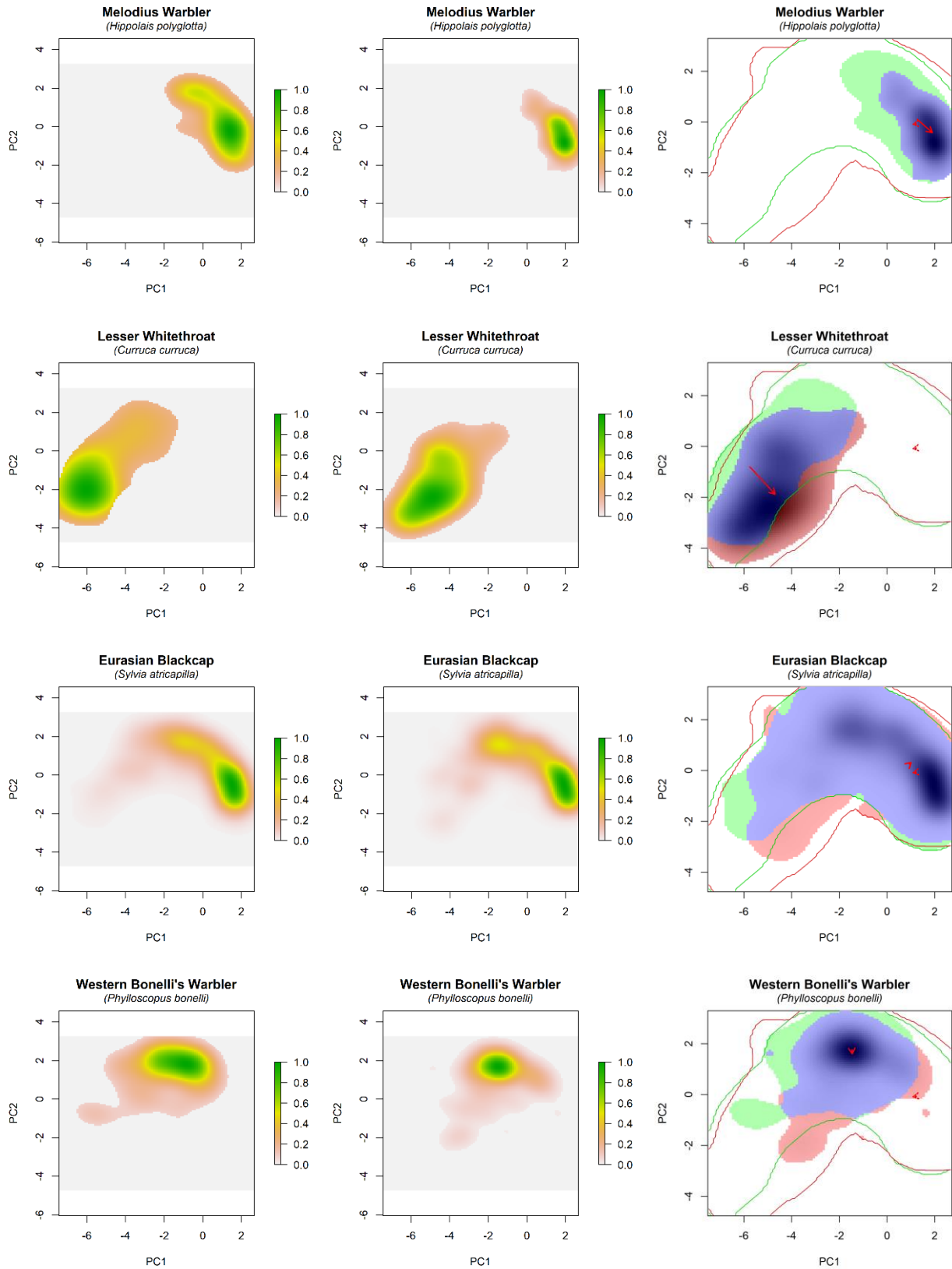


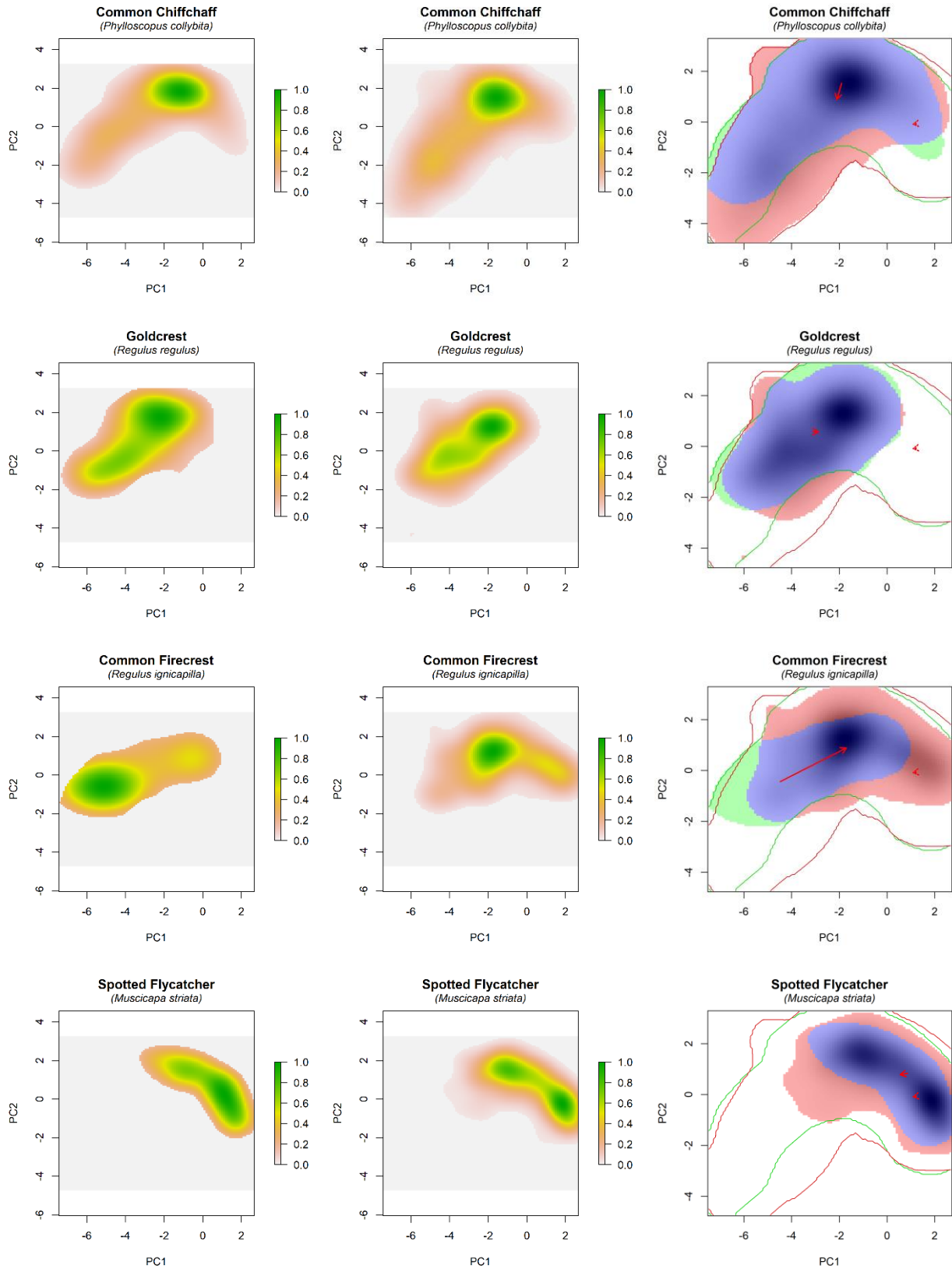


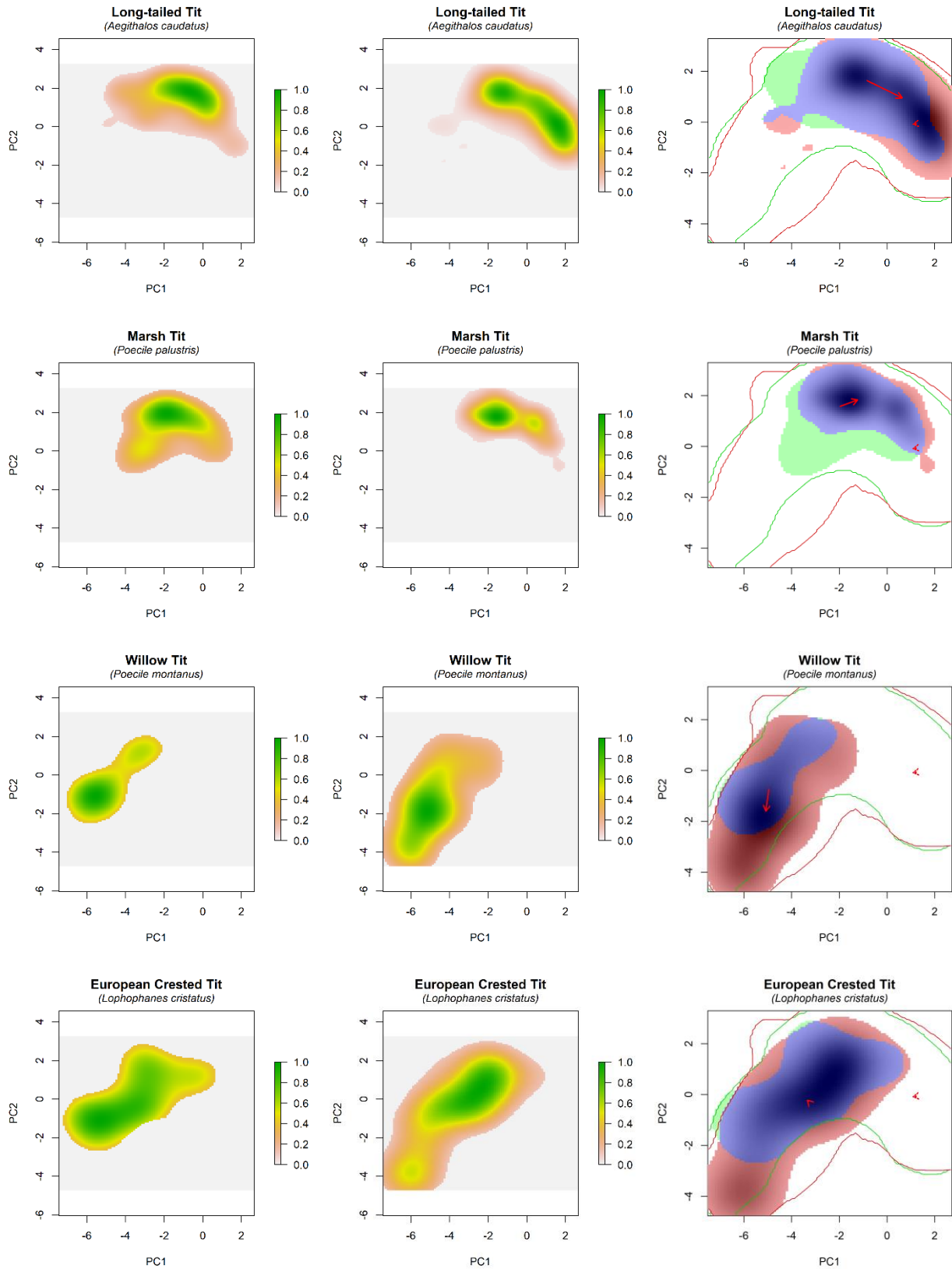


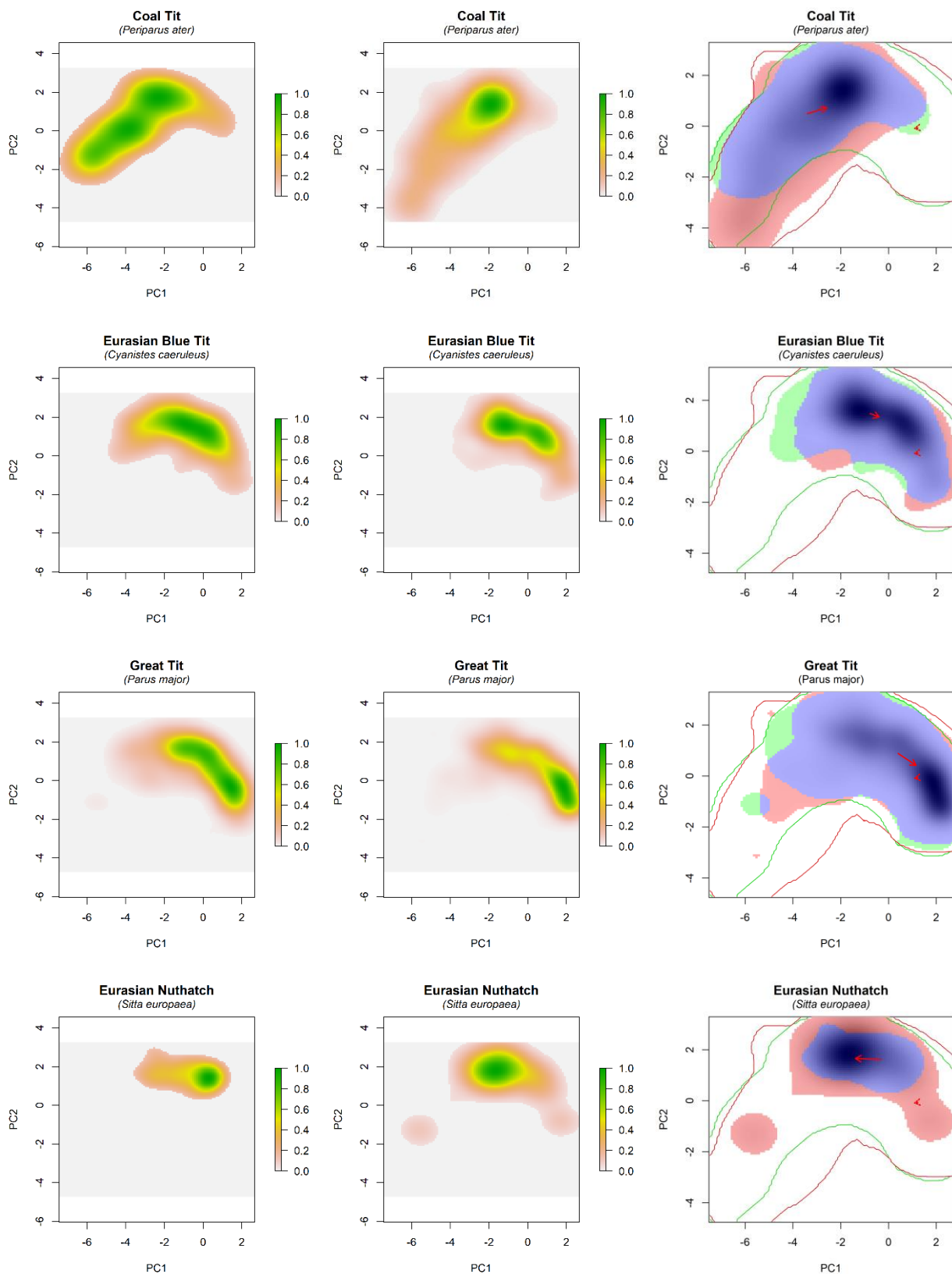


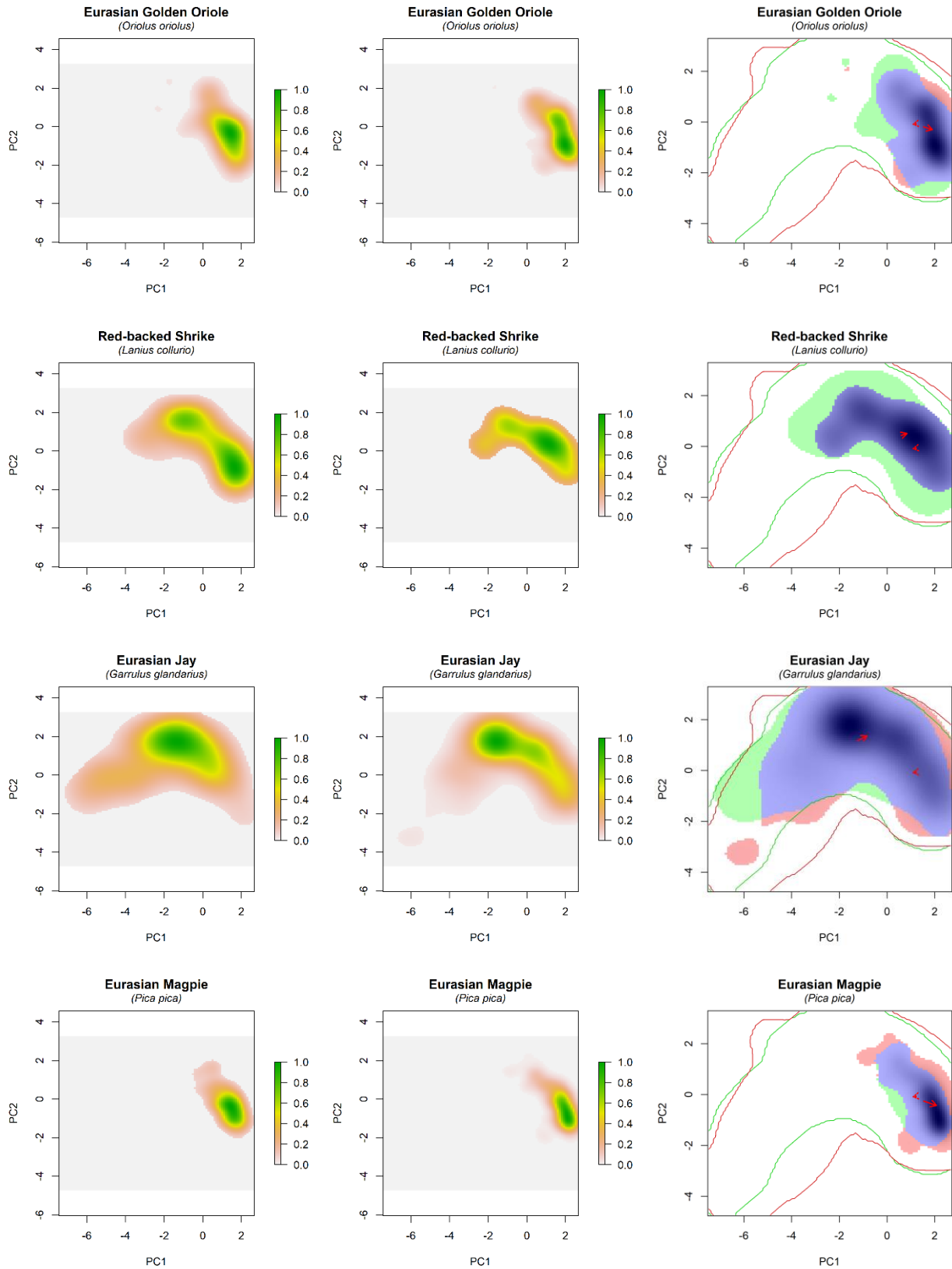


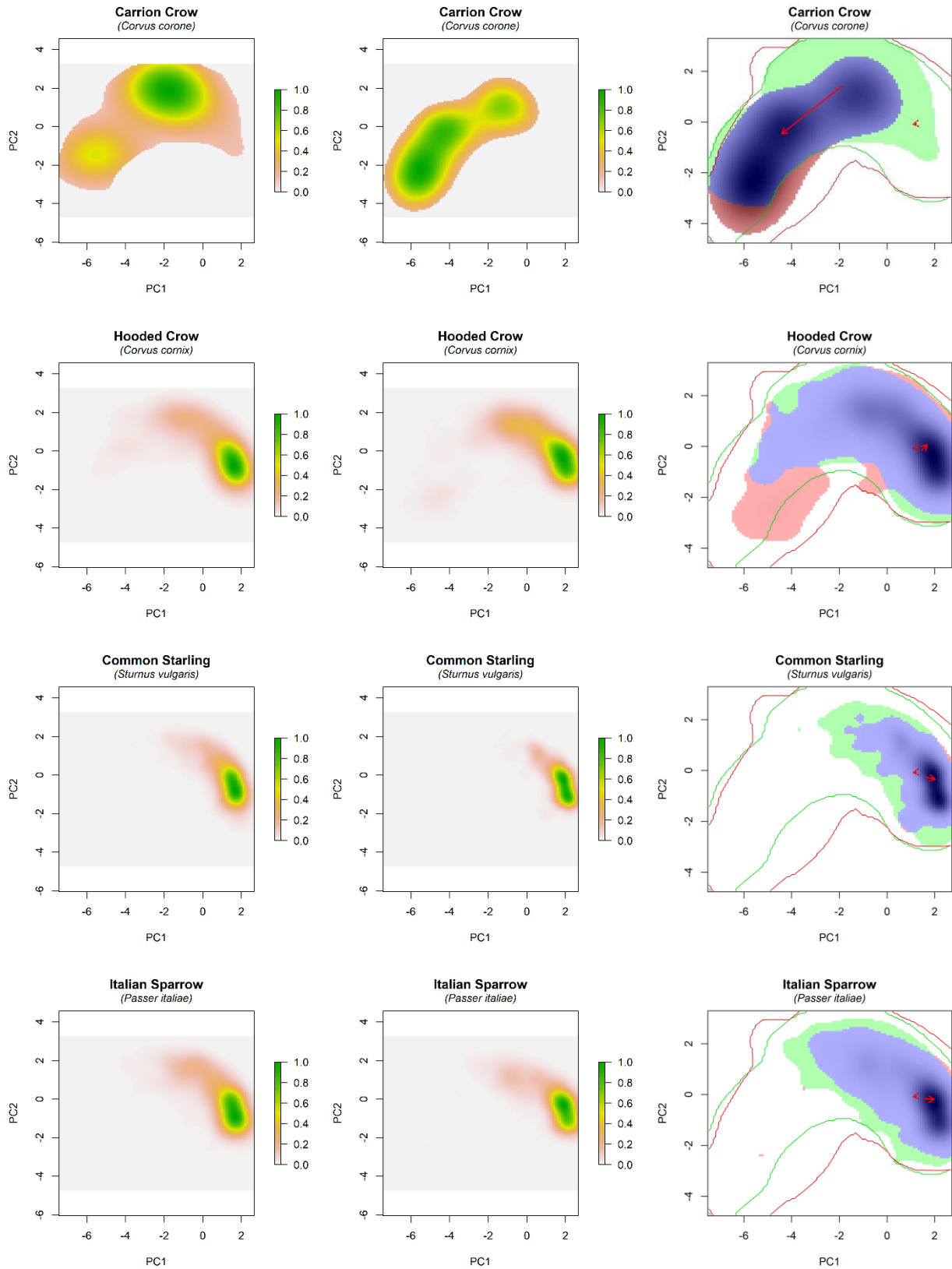


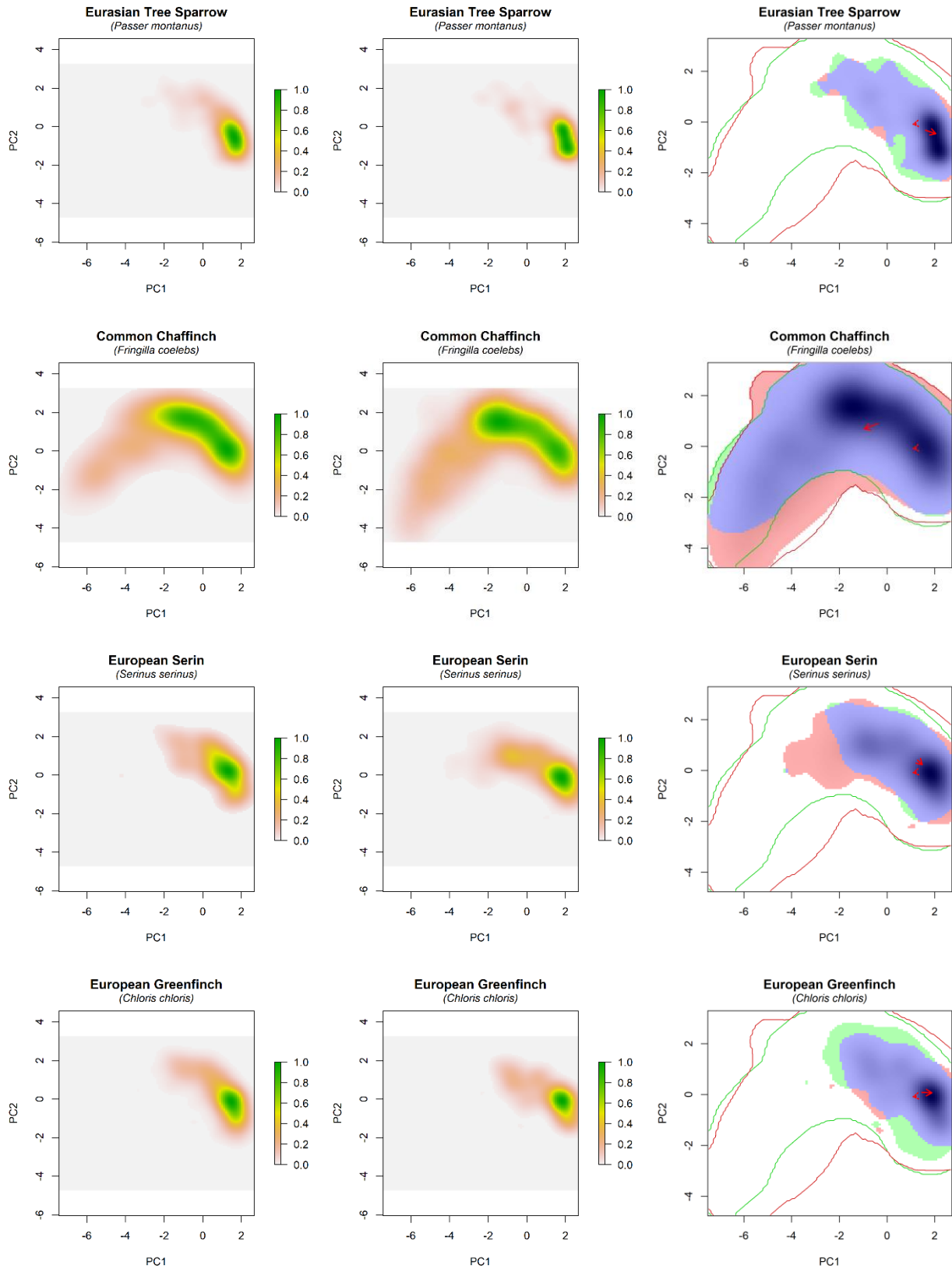












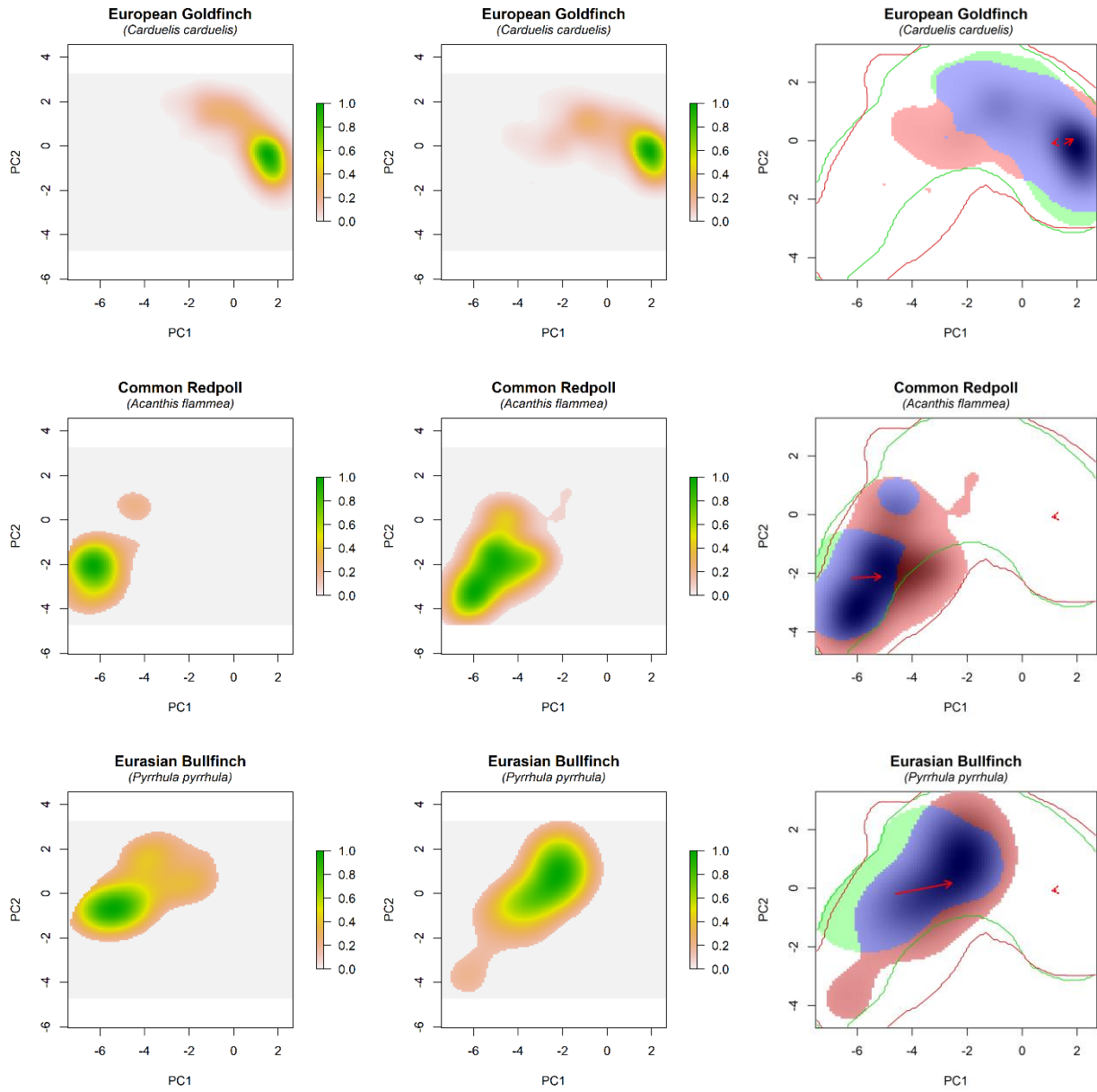


Table S5. Schoener's D, expansion and unfilling index for each species. Species are presented with the common name [97] and following the taxonomic order.

Species	Schoener's D	Expansion	Unfilling
Black-crowned Night Heron	0.52	0.05	0.22
Little Egret	0.48	0.18	0.09
Grey Heron	0.54	0.10	0.05
Mallard	0.29	0.01	0.30
Black Kite	0.50	0.00	0.23
Common Buzzard	0.60	0.12	0.08
Common Kestrel	0.25	0.02	0.28
Common Quail	0.61	0.00	0.26
Common Pheasant	0.60	0.01	0.13
Common Moohren	0.56	0.00	0.15
Feral Pigeon	0.72	0.01	0.05
Common Wood Pigeon	0.71	0.04	0.01
Eurasian Collared Dove	0.73	0.01	0.05
European Turtle Dove	0.62	0.01	0.12
Common Cuckoo	0.74	0.00	0.01
Common Swift	0.71	0.03	0.02
Eurasian Wryneck	0.49	0.00	0.26
European Green Woodpecker	0.41	0.31	0.00
Great Spotted Woodpecker	0.59	0.07	0.01
Eurasian Skylark	0.14	0.41	0.00
Eurasian Crag Martin	0.60	0.06	0.11
Barn Swallow	0.59	0.00	0.12
Common House Martin	0.66	0.08	0.01
Tree Pipit	0.57	0.17	0.05
Water Pipit	0.23	0.54	0.00
Western Yellow Wagtail	0.49	0.01	0.22
Grey Wagtail	0.61	0.03	0.01
White Wagtail	0.63	0.05	0.07
Eurasian Wren	0.71	0.01	0.01
Dunnock	0.27	0.65	0.00
European Robin	0.81	0.06	0.02
Common Nigthingale	0.61	0.00	0.12
Black Redstart	0.54	0.05	0.01
Common Redstart	0.63	0.04	0.04
African Stonechat	0.58	0.06	0.08
Northern Wheatear	0.44	0.09	0.09
Common Blackbird	0.76	0.02	0.00

Table S5 (cont.)

Song Thrush	0.21	0.66	0.00
Mistle Thrush	0.51	0.10	0.06
Cetti's Warbler	0.68	0.01	0.12
Melodius Warbler	0.40	0.00	0.32
Lesser Whitethroat	0.56	0.09	0.17
Eurasian Blackcap	0.79	0.01	0.01
Western Bonelli's Warbler	0.47	0.14	0.15
Common Chiffchaff	0.63	0.06	0.01
Goldcrest	0.71	0.00	0.04
Common Firecrest	0.33	0.29	0.19
Spotted Flycatcher	0.65	0.11	0.00
Long-tailed Tit	0.59	0.14	0.08
Marsh Tit	0.45	0.04	0.28
Willow Tit	0.38	0.47	0.00
European Crested Tit	0.46	0.26	0.08
Coal Tit	0.61	0.09	0.06
Eurasian Blue Tit	0.68	0.02	0.06
Great Tit	0.75	0.01	0.02
Eurasian Nuthatch	0.46	0.25	0.00
Eurasian Golden Oriole	0.57	0.02	0.08
Red-backed Shrike	0.57	0.00	0.23
Eurasian Jay	0.60	0.02	0.07
Eurasian Magpie	0.61	0.08	0.05
Carrion Crow	0.47	0.06	0.30
Hooded Crow	0.69	0.02	0.01
Common Starling	0.63	0.00	0.06
Italian Sparrow	0.70	0.00	0.03
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	0.67	0.01	0.03
Common Chaffinch	0.70	0.02	0.00
European Serin	0.73	0.05	0.01
European Greenfinch	0.65	0.01	0.08
European Goldfinch	0.60	0.06	0.02
Common Redpoll	0.48	0.27	0.03
Eurasian Bullfinch	0.40	0.21	0.23

Table S6. Coordinates of the 18 continuous species traits and of niche metrics respect to the four retained PCA-axes (trait space). See Table S2 for traits' abbreviations.

Traits	Dim1	Dim2	Dim3	Dim4
len	0.97	0.06	0.13	0.10
wing	0.97	0.09	−0.08	−0.04
tail	0.76	0.03	0.05	0.04
bil	0.81	−0.10	0.16	0.05
tar	0.90	−0.01	0.17	0.10
wei	0.92	0.08	0.25	0.12
clu	−0.19	−0.15	0.89	−0.11
bro	−0.27	0.43	−0.29	0.71
fec	−0.49	0.19	0.58	0.43
inc	0.83	0.17	0.20	−0.11
fle	0.75	0.24	0.11	−0.11
disr	0.42	0.24	−0.44	−0.55
SSI.fh	−0.25	0.75	0.34	−0.12
SSI.acq	0.14	0.58	−0.32	0.27
SSI.nes	−0.16	0.85	0.13	−0.25
SSI.fs	0.24	0.77	−0.09	0.11
SSI.tr	−0.70	0.08	0.11	−0.39
SSI.ov	−0.29	0.92	0.08	−0.16
Niche metrics	Dim1	Dim2	Dim3	Dim4
Schoener's D	−0.08	0.10	−0.12	0.07
Expansion	−0.13	−0.06	−0.04	0.10
Unfilling	0.23	−0.04	0.19	−0.17

Figure S4. Biplots between niche metrics and PCA-axes (trait space). (a) Dim1-Dim4. (b) Dim3-Dim4. For traits' abbreviations see Table S2. Dashed red arrows indicate the intensity of correlation for the niche metrics in the PCA space. D = Schoener's D; exp = expansion index; unf = unfilling index.

