

## Title: Spatial patterns of discovery points and invasion hotspots of non-native forest pests

## **Running title:** Spatial patterns of non-native forest pests

## Abstract

**Aim** Establishments of non-native forest pests (insects and pathogens) continue to increase worldwide with the growing number of introductions and changes in invasion pathways.

Quantifying spatiotemporal patterns in establishment locations and subsequent invasion dynamics can provide insight into the underlying mechanisms driving invasions and assist biosecurity agencies with prioritizing areas for proactive surveillance and management.

**Location** Contiguous United States of America

## 10 *Time period* 1794-2018

## 11 *Major taxa studied* Insecta and plant pathogens

12 **Methods** Using locations of first discovery and county-level occurrence data for 101 non-native  
13 pests across the contiguous USA, we (1) quantified spatial patterns in discovery points and  
14 county-level species richness using spatial point process models and spatial hotspot analyses,  
15 respectively, and (2) identified potential proxies for propagule pressure (e.g., human population  
16 density) associated with these observed patterns.

17 **Results** Discovery points were highly aggregated in space and located in areas with high  
18 densities of ports and roads. Though concentrated in the northeastern USA, discovery points also  
19 occurred farther west and became less aggregated as time progressed. Invasion hotspots were  
20 more common in the northeast. Geographic patterns of discovery points and hotspots varied  
21 substantially among pest origins (i.e., global region of pests' native ranges) and pest feeding  
22 guilds. Significant variation in invasion richness was primarily attributed to the patterns of first  
23 discovery locations.

24 **Main conclusions** Use of spatial point pattern analyses provided a quantitative characterization  
25 of the central role of human activities in establishment of non-native pests. Moreover, the  
26 decreased aggregation of discovery points through time suggests that invasion pathways to  
27 certain areas in the USA have either been created or intensified [by human activities](#). Overall, our  
28 results suggest that spatiotemporal variability in the intensity of invasion pathways has resulted  
29 in marked geographical patterns of establishment and contributed to current macroscale patterns  
30 of pest invasion in the USA.

31 **Keywords:** Getis-Ord, Insecta, invasion biology, pathogens, pathways, [Ripley's K function](#),  
32 spatial point process

33

## Introduction

34 Biological invasions can be categorized into three phases: arrival, establishment, and  
35 spread (Liebhold & Tobin, 2008). For invasive forest pests (insects and pathogens), the first  
36 phase is typically facilitated by inadvertent human transportation, for example, through  
37 importation of live plants, wood packaging material, or timber (Skarpaas & Økland, 2009;  
38 Liebhold *et al.*, 2012; Brockerhoff & Liebhold, 2017). The arrival of non-native pests has  
39 increased with international trade and travel (Levine & D'Antonio, 2003; Turbelin *et al.*, 2016).  
40 Arrival of more conspecifics per unit of time and/or space (i.e., higher propagule pressure)  
41 increases the likelihood that a species will locate resources and overcome demographic barriers  
42 to establishment (Lockwood *et al.*, 2005; Simberloff, 2009). The final invasion phase, spread, is  
43 affected by human activities (e.g., movement of pests within the invaded range) (Shigesada &  
44 Kawasaki, 1997; Gilbert *et al.*, 2004), variation in habitat quality (Liebhold *et al.*, 2013; Hudgins  
45 *et al.*, 2017), temperature (Lantschner *et al.*, 2014), voltinism (Fahrner & Aukema, 2018), time  
46 since establishment (Andow *et al.*, 1990) and other factors. Processes operating during each  
47 phase combine to determine the extent of currently invaded ranges.

48 The number of non-native forest pests arriving and establishing in the USA continues to  
49 increase (Aukema *et al.*, 2010). Non-native pests impact forest structure and succession (Morin  
50 & Liebhold, 2015; Lovett *et al.*, 2016; Liebhold *et al.*, 2017) and cause billions of dollars (US\$)  
51 in damage per annum (Aukema *et al.*, 2011). Given that human activity drives pest arrival and  
52 establishment, discovery of pests in densely populated or well-traveled regions may be expected  
53 (Huang *et al.*, 2012). Locations of arrival and establishment may vary temporally with changes  
54 in international trade, such as fluctuations in economic markets that alter the intensity of invasion  
55 pathways between regions (Everett, 2000) or as human population densities change in time and

56 space. However, spatial correlates of discovery points for non-native forest pests in the USA  
57 have not been quantified.

58 The USA is highly invaded by forest pests with the number of non-native species per unit  
59 area (“invasion richness”) distributed heterogeneously across the country (Liebhold *et al.*, 2013).  
60 The geographical distribution of locations of initial invader establishment likely contributes to  
61 macroscale patterns of invasion richness, as pests spread into adjacent areas. However, after  
62 establishment, it does not necessarily follow that areas surrounding sites of initial establishment  
63 will be conducive to rapid population growth and expansion of the invasive range. That is,  
64 patterns of invasion richness are the result of both establishment and spread and therefore  
65 patterns of invasion richness may not exactly mirror those of establishment locations.

66 Geographic variation in establishment and invasion richness may be driven, in part, by  
67 frequent human-aided movement of pests into specific regions (Brockerhoff *et al.*, 2014), forest  
68 structure including host availability and/or apparenency (Liebhold *et al.*, 2013; Guo *et al.*, 2019),  
69 and climate (Ward & Masters, 2007). Among other factors, establishment and invasion richness  
70 may also be influenced by global regions of origin and/or guilds of invaders. For example, rates  
71 of establishment and spread may be greatest when pests are moved between regions with similar  
72 climates (Roura-Pascual *et al.*, 2011; Venette, 2017) or more wood-borers may arrive in areas  
73 with high imports of wood packaging material (Brockerhoff *et al.*, 2006; Haack, 2006; Rassati *et  
al.*, 2015). Following establishment, spread may be guild dependent, for example, if firewood, a  
75 major pathway for wood-boring insects (Koch *et al.*, 2012), is moved with different frequencies  
76 between two regions than live plant material, a major pathway for foliage- and sap-feeding  
77 insects (Liebhold *et al.*, 2012). It is unclear if either global region of origin or guild mediate  
78 patterns in establishment locations or invasion richness.

79 Here, we quantify spatial patterns in discovery points and invasion richness of non-native  
80 forest pests using spatial point pattern and hotspot analyses, respectively. Application of spatial  
81 point pattern analyses to ecological data has increased over the previous ~20 years and been  
82 frequently used to quantify spatial aggregation patterns (e.g., compete spatial randomness) in  
83 univariate data (Velázquez *et al.*, 2016). Point pattern analyses may also be used to quantify the  
84 influence of spatial heterogeneity (e.g., habitat features) on point patterns (Dodd *et al.*, 2016) and  
85 conduct marked point pattern analyses, which enable the inclusion of trait information  
86 (Velázquez *et al.*, 2016). To that end, we analyzed changes in first discovery points by time  
87 period of introduction, origin, and guild. For analyses of invasion richness, we identified richness  
88 hotspots by estimating local Getis-Ord statistics (Getis & Ord, 1992) at the county-level. Our  
89 intention was to provide insight on underlying drivers of macroscale patterns of invasion by non-  
90 native forest pests. We anticipate that our findings will assist management agencies in targeting  
91 areas for increased monitoring and mitigation efforts.

## Materials and Methods

### 93 *Data collection and processing*

94 The locations of first detection, henceforth referred to as discovery points, and county-  
95 level occurrence for 101 major non-native pests ( $n = 84$  insects, 17 pathogens) of trees were  
96 compiled for the contiguous USA. Data were originally collected for the Alien Forest Pest  
97 Explorer database. Briefly, locations (latitude, longitude) of discovery and occurrence at the  
98 county-level were compiled from primary literature articles, surveys, and federal and state  
99 government reports. A detailed description of the database was provided in Liebhold *et al.*,  
100 (2013), which focused on mapping invasion richness at the county-level and identifying terms  
101 for propagule pressure and habitat invasibility that explained variation in invasion richness. Here,

102 we conducted analyses to predict spatial patterns in discovery locations and quantitatively  
103 identify invasion hotspots (see below). For each pest, we obtained the year of first discovery,  
104 global region of origin or simply “origin” (Asian Palearctic, Australasia, European plus Asian  
105 Palearctic, European Palearctic, or Neotropic Mexico/Central/South America; based on a pest’s  
106 native range and henceforth referred to as Asia, Australasia, Eurasia, Europe, and  
107 Mexico/Central America/South America respectively), and guild (bark/wood-borer, foliage-  
108 feeder, sap-feeder, pathogen). Pests were discovered between 1794-2004. Most were introduced  
109 from Asia (33) and Eurasia (33), followed by Europe (25), Australasia (8), and Mexico/Central  
110 America/South America (2). Of the total pests, 23 were bark/wood-borers, 34 were foliage-  
111 feeders, 27 were sap-feeders, and 17 were pathogens.

112 For analyses of discovery points, some pests were not included either due to lack of  
113 documentation or because points were only traceable to the state level. One pest, beech scale  
114 (*Cryptococcus fagisuga* Lind.), was removed from analysis of discovery points because this  
115 species arrived in the USA via diffusive spread from Canada rather than as a point introduction.  
116 Some pests were assigned to county centroids and were retained for analyses. Ten pests ( $n = 4$   
117 insects, 6 pathogens) were discovered in two, isolated locations and were treated as independent  
118 data points. In total, 79 discovery points for 74 pests ( $n = 62$  insects, 12 pathogens) across 62 US  
119 counties were available for analyses of discovery points (Figure 1).

120 Hotspot analyses of invasion richness focused on 101 pests across 3,109 counties and  
121 were current as of July 2018. First discovery locations were not available for all pests; hence,  
122 number of species between first detection point analyses and hotspot analyses differed. Two  
123 pests, soapberry borer (*Agrilus prionurus* Chevrolat) and, oak wilt (*Bretziella fagacearum* (T. W.  
124 Bretz) J. Hunt) originating from Mexico/Central America/South America were not included in

125 origin-dependent analyses. Summaries of pests analyzed for discovery points (Table S1.1) and  
126 hotspots (Table S1.2) by origin  $\times$  guild are available in Appendix S1 in supporting information.  
127 All data and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) layers used in analyses are available  
128 through the Purdue University Research Repository (PURR) (Ward *et al.*, 2019).

129 ***First discovery points***

130 We analyzed the spatial intensity of discovery points (discovery points per  $\text{km}^2$ ) using  
131 spatial point pattern analysis (Renner *et al.*, 2015). Our spatial window of analysis was the  
132 border of the entire contiguous USA. All points were projected using Albers equal area  
133 projection. We then quantified Ripley's K-function ( $K(r)$ ; Ripley 1976) for discovery points,  
134 which provides inference on spatial clustering of points within circles of increasing radii (i.e., at  
135 various spatial scales) (Bivand *et al.*, 2013b). The estimated  $K(r)$  was transformed ( $\sqrt{K(r)/\pi b} - r$ )  
136 and compared visually to  $K(r)$  values simulated from a random distribution of 200 points. All  
137 point pattern analyses were conducted in R statistical software (R Core Team, 2018) via the  
138 'spatstat' package (Baddeley & Turner, 2005; Baddeley *et al.*, 2015).

139 We then evaluated the explanatory power of invasion pathway variables such as  
140 population density in 1990 (converted to  $10 \times 10 \text{ km}$  raster; Falcone, 2016), coastal port density  
141 (National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency, 2017), road density (primary roads; US Census  
142 Bureau Department of Commerce, 2016) and first and second order terms for the west-east and  
143 south-north directions in log-transformed intensity of discovery locations using point process  
144 models (PPMs). Non-directional terms were converted to pixel-images for analysis (Baddeley &  
145 Turner, 2005). Note that our analyses predicted where pests were discovered, not necessarily  
146 where they first became established. The west-east and south-north terms were included as  
147 putative correlates for the arrival of pests in coastal areas by means not accounted for by the

148 invasion pathway variables. For example, a positive correlation between west-east and intensity  
149 of first discovery points would indicate that there are statistically higher concentrations of points  
150 in the east vs. west. Approximately 80,000 quadrature points were selected to approximate the  
151 integral in the log-likelihood function that is maximized when fitting point process models  
152 (Baddeley & Turner, 2005; Renner *et al.*, 2015). Diagnostic plots of residuals suggested that  
153 substantial unexplained variation in both the west-east and south-north directions remained  
154 (Appendix S2).

155 We further analyzed the location of discovery points in relation to time periods of  
156 discovery, origins, and guilds. To investigate temporal patterns in aggregation, the discovery  
157 point data were split into four groups using quartiles (Q1 = 1794-1907, Q2 = 1908-1927, Q3 =  
158 1928-1991, Q4 = 1992-2004) for year of first discovery and Ripley's  $K$  statistic was then  
159 estimated separately for each quartile. Following the approach of Bivand *et al.*, (2013), we also  
160 conducted pairwise comparisons of aggregation between time periods to determine, for example,  
161 if discovery points from time period  $i$  were more or less aggregated than those of time period  $j$   
162 (graphical results of pairwise comparisons are provided in Appendix S3 in supporting  
163 information). We then conducted a marked point pattern analysis, which enabled each point to be  
164 assigned to a level of time period, by fitting a point process model with spatial covariates for the  
165 west-east direction, south-north direction, and each direction's interaction with a term for time  
166 period (i.e., west-east  $\times$  time period, south-north  $\times$  time period; time period had four levels, Q1-  
167 Q4). Thus, we quantified (1) aggregation and (2) directional trends of points in space. Parallel  
168 analyses were conducted using origin and guild, each a categorical variable with four levels as  
169 described above, instead of time period. Trends were assessed visually by graphing intensity of  
170 discovery points as estimated via an isotropic Gaussian smoothing kernel fit via the density.ppp()

171 function in R (Diggle, 1985; Baddeley & Turner, 2005). To determine robustness of full models,  
172 individual models for each level within a predictor were constructed by fitting terms for the  
173 west-east and south-north direction (e.g., assessing directional trends for pests introduced in Q1)  
174 and are provided in Appendix S4 in supporting information.

175 Finally, to determine if patterns associated with origin or guild may have changed with  
176 time, we fit two separate ANOVAs assessing the role of origin or guild in year of first discovery.  
177 When significant variation in discovery year was explained by a predictor (either guild or  
178 origin), we used TukeyHSD tests fit via the ‘emmeans’ package (Lenth, 2018) in R to conduct  
179 pairwise comparisons.

180 ***Current invasion hotspot patterns***

181 Hotspot analyses compare attributes of a spatial feature, such as the invasion richness of a  
182 county, and its neighbors, to the global pattern across all spatial features to identify features with  
183 attribute levels greater than would be expected due to random chance (Patil & Taillie, 2004; Fei,  
184 2010; Iannone *et al.*, 2016). Invasion hotspots were identified by quantifying local Getis-Ord  
185 ( $G_i^*$ ) statistics (Getis & Ord, 1992) for each county in the data set.  $G_i^*$  is a local neighborhood  
186 statistic that can account for invasion richness in neighboring counties and enable one to detect  
187 spatial patterns that may not be accounted for when using global statistics (Ord & Getis, 1995).  
188 Thus, a county with low invasion richness could be identified as a hotspot if it is surrounded by  
189 counties with extremely low invasion richness values. Moreover, estimating  $G_i^*$  produces a Z-  
190 score, which can be used as a threshold value for identifying areas with high invasion richness,  
191 rather than a scale of integer values such as invasion richness counts. That is, invasion richness  
192 counts do not involve a statistical test to determine which areas have significantly higher  
193 richness.

194 A first-order spatial neighborhood was constructed for calculating  $G_i^*$  statistics. Separate  
195 analyses were conducted for all pests combined, origins, and guilds. For origin and guild, we  
196 quantified  $G_i^*$  statistics both among (i.e., to identify counties with significantly more origins or  
197 guilds) and within (i.e., to identify counties with significantly more species belonging to a  
198 specific origin or guild) groupings. Calculating  $G_i^*$  statistics results in a  $Z$ -score that can be  
199 compared to a standard normal distribution to obtain a  $P$ -value. We defined a hotspot as any  $Z \geq$   
200 4.158 (i.e.,  $P < 0.05/3,109$ , or  $< 0.000002$ ), equivalent to a Bonferroni correction, to protect  
201 against inflated type I error rates from calculating 3,109  $Z$ -values (one for each county).

## 202 *Current invasion hotspot patterns and first discovery locations*

203 To quantify the effect of discovery locations on invasion richness, we first estimated the  
204 intensity of discovery points at county centroids from observed discovery point data using an  
205 isotropic Gaussian smoothing kernel as described above (see Figure 1 for a representation of the  
206 smoothed surface). Estimated intensities ranged from 0.0000001 to 0.00011 pests per  $\text{km}^2$ . We  
207 then fit three spatial simultaneous autoregressive error (SAR) models. For the first two, we  
208 predicted invasion richness and hotspots, using estimated  $Z$ -values, as a function of estimated  
209 intensities of discovery points. For the third model, we regressed hotspot  $Z$ -values on invasion  
210 richness. Model residuals for each analysis were weighted by second order spatial neighborhoods  
211 to account for spatial autocorrelation. The SAR models were fit and Moran's I estimated using  
212 the 'spdep' package in R (Bivand *et al.*, 2013a; Bivand & Piras, 2015). GIS analyses relied on  
213 the 'geosphere' (Hijmans, 2017), 'geostatsp' (Brown, 2015, 2018), 'maptools' (Bivand & Lewin-  
214 Koh, 2017) and 'rgdal' (Bivand *et al.*, 2018) packages in R (R Core Team, 2018).

215

216

## Results

217 ***First discovery points: population density, ports, and roads***

218 Discovery points were concentrated in the northeast and western coastal areas except for  
219 ~10 points (~12%) distributed across the inland and southern USA (Figure 1). Owing to a total of  
220 79 discoveries across the entire contiguous USA, the mean intensity was low (0.00001 points per  
221 km<sup>2</sup>). Discoveries were highly aggregated in space at both local and continental scales (Figure  
222 2a). In point process models, a second order term for west-east (west-east<sup>2</sup>) was significantly,  
223 positively correlated with the intensity of discovery points, indicating that more pests initially  
224 invaded on both the east and west coasts (Table 1). Neither a first nor second order term for  
225 south-north was significant. After accounting for these directional trends in discovery points, the  
226 density of ports and roads, proxies for invasion pathway intensity (propagule pressure), were  
227 positively correlated with the intensity of discovery points (Table 1). Human population density  
228 was not significantly correlated with intensity of discovery points in our full model (Table 1), but  
229 was significantly, positively correlated when fit with just the directional predictors (Appendix S5  
230 of supporting information). In the full model, the most significant pathway correlate of discovery  
231 point intensity was the density of roads, followed by density of ports and human population  
232 density, which was not significant (Table 1).

233 ***First discovery points: time period***

234 When modeling the intensity of discovery points using marked point pattern analysis, we  
235 found that spatial patterns in discoveries varied among time periods. Pests discovered between  
236 1794-1907 (Q1) and 1908-1927 (Q2) were significantly more aggregated than pests discovered  
237 between 1928-1991 (Q3) and 1992-2004 (Q4) (all  $P < 0.01$ ; Figure 2b). There were no statistical  
238 differences between Q1 vs. Q2 and Q3 vs. Q4. When analyzing how directional trends and time  
239 period of introduction (Q1-Q4) jointly influence discovery point intensity, there was a

240 statistically significant interaction between both directional predictors and time (west-east  $\times$  time  
241 period and south-north  $\times$  time period). Pests discovered between 1794-1927 (Q1-Q2) were more  
242 likely to be discovered in eastern and northern regions of the USA (Table 2a, Figure 3a,b). Pests  
243 discovered from 1928-1991 (Q3) were more likely to be discovered farther west than pests from  
244 Q1 (Table 2a, Figure 3c). Pests discovered from 1992-2004 (Q4) were more likely to be  
245 discovered farther south and west than pests from Q1 (Table 2a, Figure 3d). Individual fits by  
246 time period confirmed that discoveries were more likely to occur farther west and south as time  
247 progressed (Table S4.1, Appendix S4).

248 ***First discovery points: origin***

249 Marked point pattern analyses demonstrated that, in addition to changes with time period,  
250 spatial patterns of discovery points were mediated by pests' global region of origin. Within an  
251 origin, all pests were aggregated in space (e.g., pests from Asia were likely to be discovered near  
252 other pests from Asia), although discovery points of pests from Australasia, Eurasia, and Europe  
253 were more aggregated than those from Asia (Figure 2c). There were no differences in  
254 aggregation among discovery points of pests from Australasia, Eurasia, and Europe. Pests from  
255 Asia were more likely to be discovered in the east vs. the west (Table 2b, Figure 3e). Pests  
256 originating in Australasia were more likely to be discovered in the southwestern USA than those  
257 from Asia (Table 2b, Figure 3f), whereas pests from Eurasia and Europe were typically  
258 discovered in the northeastern USA, similar to pests from Asia (Table 2b, Figure 3g,h).  
259 Individual fits by origin confirmed that pests from Asia, Eurasia, and Europe were generally  
260 discovered in the east whereas pests from Australasia were discovered in the southwest (Table  
261 S4.2, Appendix S4).

262 ***First discovery points: guild***

263 We also found that spatial patterns in discovery points differed among guilds.  
264 Discoveries of foliage-feeders were significantly more aggregated than borers, sap-feeders, and  
265 pathogens (all  $P < 0.01$ ; Figure 2d). There were no other differences detected in aggregation  
266 among guilds (all  $P > 0.05$ ). Foliage-feeders were more likely to be discovered in the  
267 northeastern USA (Figure 3i), whereas borers (Figure 3j), sap-feeders (Figure 3k), and pathogens  
268 (Figure 3l) were more likely to be discovered farther west than foliage-feeders (Table 2c).  
269 Higher densities of discovery points of pathogens were observed at higher latitudes, though this  
270 trend was not statistically significant (Table 2c). Individual fits by guild confirmed conclusions  
271 from full models, except that the positive trend of discoveries of pathogens in the  $y$ -direction was  
272 statistically significant in the model evaluating pathogens alone (Table S4.3, Appendix S4).

273 ***First discovery points: guild and origin by time period***

274 Year of first discovery did not vary with region of origin ( $F_{4,74} = 2.10$ ,  $P = 0.09$ ). Pests  
275 from Australasia were the most recently discovered group on average, with a mean discovery  
276 year of 1973 ( $\pm 18$  years SE), followed by pests from Asia ( $1943 \pm 8$ ), Eurasia ( $1928 \pm 11$ ), and  
277 Europe ( $1923 \pm 12$ ). Year of first discovery varied significantly among guilds. The means for  
278 year of first discovery of borers and pathogens were 1981 ( $\pm 8$  years SE) and 1949 ( $\pm 9$ ),  
279 respectively, and did not differ significantly (TukeyHSD,  $t_{75} = 2.08$ ,  $P = 0.17$ ). Foliage-feeders  
280 and sap-feeders were discovered, on average, in 1916 ( $\pm 9$  SE) and 1918 ( $\pm 11$ ), respectively,  
281 significantly earlier than borers (TukeyHSD, all  $t_{75} > 4.3$  and  $P < 0.0004$ ). No differences were  
282 detected among foliage-feeders, sap-feeders, and pathogens (TukeyHSD, all  $t_{75} < 2.29$  and  $P >$   
283 0.10).

284 ***Current invasion hotspot patterns: all pests***

285 Of the 3,109 counties comprising our analysis, 89% were invaded by at least one species  
286 (Figure 4a). The average number of species per county was 4.88 ( $\pm 0.09$  SE; maximum = 36  
287 species) and 6.3 % of counties were identified as hotspots (i.e.,  $Z \geq 4.158$ ,  $< 0.00002$ ) as  
288 estimated by Getis-Ord ( $G_i^*$ ) statistics (Figure 4b). Most hotspots were in the northeastern USA  
289 except for one county in southeastern Wisconsin (Figure 4b).

290 ***Current invasion hotspot patterns: origin***

291 Species region of origin was associated with distinct geographical patterns. The average  
292 county had pests belonging to 1.62 ( $\pm 0.018$  SE) origins. Pests from Asia were the most  
293 widespread and established in 80% of counties. Pests from Eurasia (50% of counties infested)  
294 were the second most widespread, followed by pests from Europe (28%) and Australasia (4%).  
295 Several counties in California and one county each in Massachusetts and Montana were hotspots  
296 for the number of different origins represented (Figure 5a). That is, in those counties in  
297 California, Massachusetts, and Montana, there were more origins represented per county than  
298 would be expected due to random chance. Hotspots based on origin were relatively limited in  
299 spatial extent for pests from Asia, Australasia, Eurasia, and Europe, covering 7%, 2%, 6%, and  
300 5% of counties (Figure 5b-e). Hotspots for pests from Asia (Figure 5b) and Eurasia (Figure 5d)  
301 were concentrated in northeastern counties, though a hotspot for Eurasian pests was identified in  
302 Washington state. Hotspots of pests from Australasia were concentrated in the southwest and  
303 Florida (Figure 5c), whereas hotspots for pests from Europe were located in several coastal and  
304 inland western counties, some counties in the upper Midwest, and several northeastern counties  
305 (Figure 5e).

306 ***Current invasion hotspot patterns: guild***

307 Counts and distributions of guilds exhibited considerable geographical variation. The  
308 average county contained 2.22 (0.023  $\pm$  SE) guilds. Pathogens were the most widespread and  
309 were detected in 76% of counties, followed by foliage-feeders (64% of counties), borers (49%),  
310 and sap-feeders (34%). Hotspots for numbers of different guilds represented occurred in few  
311 counties (< 1%) and were concentrated in the northeast (Figure 6a). Hotspots for borers, foliage-  
312 feeders, sap-feeders, and pathogens were limited in their spatial extent, covering 4.7%, 5.2%,  
313 4.6% and 7.1% of counties, respectively (Figure 6b-e). Despite that hotspots for borers (Figure  
314 6b) and sap-feeders (Figure 6d) were the least geographically widespread, hotspots for both  
315 guilds were identified in the northeast and southwest. Additional hotspots for borers were found  
316 in Michigan and Wisconsin, with one hotspot in northwestern Utah. Several counties throughout  
317 California were identified as hotspots for sap-feeders. Hotspots of foliage-feeders (Figure 6c)  
318 and pathogens (Figure 6e) were distributed similarly and concentrated in the northeast and some  
319 Midwestern states.

320 ***Current invasion hotspot patterns and first discovery locations***

321 Both county-level invasion richness (Figure 7a) and hotspot Z-values (Figure 7b) were  
322 positively correlated with estimated intensities of first discovery locations. That is, invasion  
323 richness was higher in counties located in areas with higher densities of first discovery points.  
324 Similarly, hotspot Z-values were significantly, positively correlated with invasion richness  
325 (Figure 7c). The simultaneous autoregressive error models used to regress invasion richness and  
326 hotspots on estimated intensities of discovery points sufficiently accounted for spatial  
327 autocorrelation (both Moran's  $I < -0.10$ ,  $P = 0.99$ ). There remained some spatial autocorrelation  
328 in the model regressing hotspot Z-values on invasion richness (Moran's  $I = 0.02$ ,  $P < 0.05$ ).

329

## Discussion

330 Our finding that discovery locations of forest pests are associated with human activity  
331 provides quantitative support for the role humans have in facilitating invasions. Movement of  
332 non-native species by humans has long been recognized (Hulme, 2009), however, we found that  
333 proxies for human activity, such as density of ports and roads, were more correlated with the  
334 intensity of discovery points than human population density itself (Table 1). Such findings may  
335 be indicative of frequent pest arrival in cargo imports (Work *et al.*, 2005; Aukema *et al.*, 2010).  
336 The final destination of contaminated cargo is not necessarily near the port of entry (Rassati *et*  
337 *al.*, 2015) and areas with high densities of roads may contain many final destinations for cargo.  
338 The predictive ability of human population density may have been improved by considering  
339 population densities at earlier time periods (e.g., prior to the 1920s), given the relatively large  
340 temporal window of our first discovery point data (1794-2004). Human population density,  
341 ports, and roads are also correlated in space, which may have masked the predictive power of  
342 population density (Appendix S5). Nonetheless, there remained unexplained variation in  
343 locations of initial establishment, as indicated by the strong association of discovery points with  
344 coastal regions after accounting for the densities of ports, roads, and humans (Table 1), which  
345 may be attributable to habitat invasibility (e.g., tree diversity) (Liebhold *et al.*, 2013; Guo *et al.*,  
346 2019).

347 The spatial distribution of discovery points differed between time periods and were  
348 dependent on pest origin and feeding guild, likely reflecting changes in the intensity of invasion  
349 pathways, prevention/management efforts at ports of entry, or composition/volume of imports.  
350 For example, the historically dominant invasion pathway for foliage-feeders is the movement of  
351 live plants (Liebhold *et al.*, 2012). Prior to 1918, imports of plants to the USA were largely  
352 unregulated but subsequent implementation of quarantine practices greatly diminished accidental

353 imports of insects on commercial plant imports (Liebhold & Griffin, 2016). We found that  
354 discoveries of foliage-feeders occurred the earliest on average (1916) and were concentrated in  
355 the northeastern USA. Thus, the concentration of human populations in the northeast in the early  
356 1900s coupled with unregulated importation of live plants likely drove the high aggregation of  
357 discovery points for foliage-feeders (Figure 2d). It follows that increased population density in  
358 the western USA would increase propagule pressure in the west and spread the risk of non-native  
359 pest establishment across a larger area, thus decreasing aggregation; indeed, we observed a  
360 decrease in aggregation through time (Figure 2b). Patterns of borer discovery also suggest that  
361 intensity of invasion pathways change with time. The average introduction year for borers was  
362 1981, which may reflect temporal changes in their dominant invasion pathway, solid wood  
363 packaging material (Brockerhoff *et al.*, 2006; Brockerhoff & Liebhold, 2017). Imports to the  
364 USA have risen dramatically over the last 100 years and widespread adoption of containerized  
365 cargo has led to increased movement of wood packaging and associated increases in borer  
366 invasions with time (Aukema *et al.*, 2010).

367 We note that patterns in discovery points may be a function of sampling bias, with more  
368 pests discovered in areas of human activity due to survey efforts. However, invaders often arrive  
369 via pathways such that they typically establish in populated areas (Colunga-Garcia *et al.*, 2009;  
370 Paap *et al.*, 2017) and thus first establishments in rural areas are generally low. Conspicuousness  
371 of impacts may also be an important determinant of first discovery point patterns. For example,  
372 there may be shorter time lags between establishment and detection for pests with immediately  
373 visible impacts when at low densities. Variability in detection and/or imperfect detection may be  
374 able to be accounted for using occupancy models (Dorazio, 2014; MacKenzie *et al.*, 2017).  
375 However, data on impact detectability, particularly when at low densities as is observed

376 immediately following introduction, were not available and thus not accounted for in our  
377 analyses.

378 Hotspot analyses using all pest species indicated that hotspots were concentrated in the  
379 northeastern USA, corroborating findings by Liebhold *et al.*, (2013), but striking differences  
380 emerged when viewing hotspots by pest origin and guild. Moreover, hotspot patterns may also be  
381 driven by the origin  $\times$  guild composition of invasive forest pests. Hotspots of Australasian pests  
382 (Figure 5c) and sap-feeders (Figure 6d) were abundant in California and Florida and 3/7 pests  
383 from Australasia were sap-feeders (only 3/25 sap-feeders were from Australasia; Appendix S1).  
384 Thus, the number of species per guild arriving from a place of origin could have contributed to  
385 some of the patterns in both first discovery points and hotspots observed here

386 Invasion pathways begetting higher rates of establishment appear to, in part, drive  
387 subsequent patterns in invasion richness. That is, high numbers of invasive forest pest species  
388 accumulate in regions simply because pests are likely to initially establish in those regions  
389 (Figure 7), in addition to those regions being conducive to spread (Liebhold *et al.*, 2013).  
390 Quantification of spatiotemporal import trends may provide further insights, for example, if  
391 certain regions and time periods are associated with guild-dependent invasion pathways and  
392 associated establishments. We caution that our hotspot results may be scale-dependent, analyzing  
393 data at the county level was ideal, however, given that (1) these data were recorded and  
394 quarantines are often imposed (e.g., emerald ash borer) at the county-level and (2) hotspot  
395 analyses at the state level may have been limited by too few data points (i.e., 3000+ counties vs.  
396 48 states).

397 Future analyses encompassing more discovery points, including those of pests of  
398 agricultural, rangeland, and/or other ecosystems, may exhibit different patterns and/or provide

399 insight into the behavior of different invasion pathways. Patterns described here may not reflect  
400 the patterns of all non-native forest insects and pathogens, as our data are limited to tree insects  
401 and pathogens having some detectable impacts. Further analyses are also needed to examine the  
402 role of biotic resistance, the ecological components of a community that decrease invasibility, in  
403 patterns of first discovery locations. Investigations of the effects of urban and rural forest  
404 diversity and structure on pest establishment may potentially help managers promote more pest-  
405 resistant urban and rural forests (Santamour, 1990; Raupp *et al.*, 2006; Jactel *et al.*, 2009).  
406 Nonetheless, our findings highlight the central role humans play in the movement and  
407 establishment of non-native forest pests and suggest continued monitoring near ports and highly  
408 populated areas to maximize early detection of new invaders.

409

410

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580

## Tables and Figures

581 **Table 1** Summary statistics from a spatial point process model evaluating the role of invasion  
 582 pathways and terms for cardinal directions in intensity of first detection points, log(points per  
 583  $\text{km}^2$ ), of non-native forest insects and pathogens discovered in the contiguous USA between  
 584 1794-2004. The terms west-east and south-north represent geographic coordinates in Albers  
 585 projection (km). Model AIC: 1571.

Covariate	Estimate <sup>a</sup>	SE	$ Z ^b$	P
Intercept	-14.12	0.39	36.39	<0.0001
Population density	0.00006	0.00007	0.81	0.29
Port density	0.37	0.15	2.57	0.0149
Road density	0.00704	0.00081	8.68	<0.0001
west-east	0.00041	0.00008	5.01	<0.0001
west-east <sup>2</sup>	$10.2 \times 10^{-7}$	$1.3 \times 10^{-7}$	8.00	<0.0001
south-north	0.00009	0.00027	0.35	0.38
south-north <sup>2</sup>	$-2.0 \times 10^{-7}$	$3.5 \times 10^{-7}$	-0.58	0.34

586 <sup>a</sup> Exponentiated coefficients for point process models indicate the factor by which density of  
 587 discovery locations would increase per unit area with a one unit increase in the density of a  
 588 covariate. For example, holding all else equal, an increase in 1 port per  $\text{km}^2$  was associated with  
 589 a  $1.4 \times [\exp(0.37)]$  increase in discovery points per  $\text{km}^2$ .

590 <sup>b</sup> Z statistics indicating whether coefficients estimated using spatial point process models are  
 591 significantly different from 0.

592 **Table 2** Spatial covariates of the intensity of first detection points,  $\log(\text{points per km}^2)$ , of non-  
 593 native forest insects and pathogens discovered in the contiguous USA between 1794-2004.  
 594 Trends were analyzed using marked spatial point process models. Three separate analyses were  
 595 conducted in which points were marked by time period of discovery (a), origin (b), or guild (c).  
 596 The terms west-east and south-north represent geographic coordinates in Albers projection (km).

Covariate <sup>a</sup>	Estimate <sup>b</sup>	SE	Z  <sup>c</sup>	P
a. Time period of discovery (AIC: 2120)				
Intercept (Q1, 1974-1907)	-13.48	0.35	38.93	<0.0001
Q2 (1908-1927)	-0.19	0.52	0.37	0.37
Q3 (1928-1991)	0.51	0.43	1.19	0.20
Q4 (1992-2004)	0.45	0.43	1.06	0.23
west-east	0.00117	0.00025	4.76	<0.0001
south-north	0.00110	0.00041	2.66	0.0116
Q2 × west-east	0.00022	0.00037	0.60	0.33
Q3 × west-east	-0.00076	0.00031	2.45	0.0200
Q4 × west-east	-0.00113	0.00034	3.35	0.0014
Q2 × south-north	0.00001	0.00059	0.02	0.40
Q3 × south-north	-0.00001	0.00057	0.02	0.40
Q4 × south-north	-0.00116	0.00056	2.05	0.0484
b. Origin (AIC: 1994)				
Intercept	-12.62	0.21	61.29	<0.0001
Australasia	-29.11	9.12	3.19	0.0024
Eurasia	-0.64	0.37	1.73	0.09
Europe	-2.08	0.66	3.15	0.0028
west-east	0.00053	0.00018	2.99	0.0046
south-north	0.00051	0.00031	1.63	0.11
Australasia × west-east	-0.01497	0.00419	3.57	0.0007
Eurasia × west-east	0.00044	0.00026	1.68	0.10
Europe × west-east	0.00147	0.00046	3.20	0.0024
Australasia × south-north	-0.00945	0.00288	3.28	0.0018
Eurasia × south-north	0.00106	0.00051	2.08	0.0463
Europe × south-north	0.00082	0.00060	1.36	0.16
c. Guild (AIC: 2089)				
Intercept	-15.05	0.78	19.39	<0.0001
Borers	2.00	0.82	2.45	0.0198
Pathogens	1.50	0.86	1.75	0.09
Sap-feeders	2.18	0.81	2.70	0.0104
west-east	0.00265	0.00052	5.06	<0.0001
south-north	0.00065	0.00041	1.57	0.12

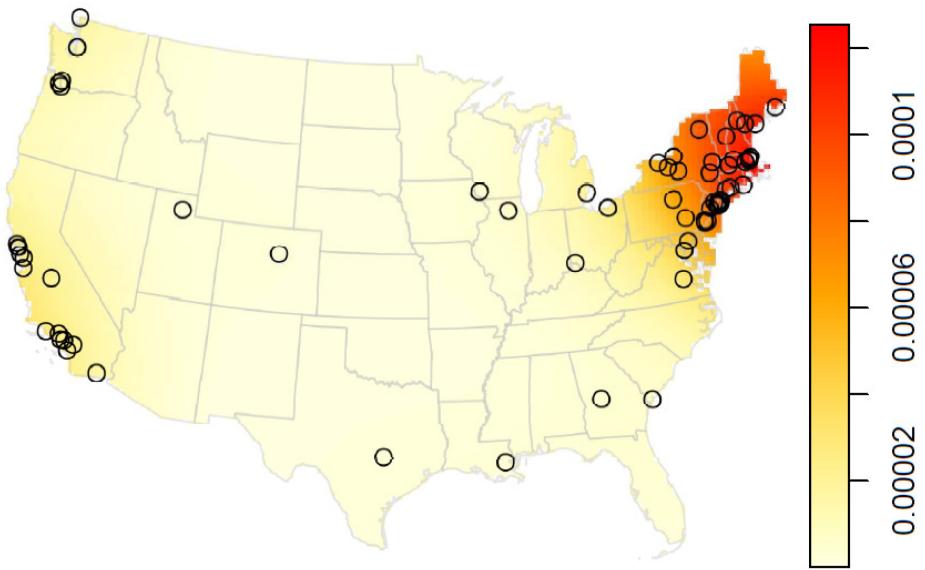
Borers × west-east	-0.00230	0.00057	4.06	0.0001
Pathogens × west-east	-0.00210	0.00057	3.71	0.0004
Sap-feeders × west-east	-0.00262	0.00056	4.64	<0.0001
Borers × south-north	-0.00005	0.00057	0.09	0.40
Pathogens × south-north	0.00097	0.00066	1.46	0.14
Sap-feeders × south-north	-0.00056	0.00054	1.03	0.23

597 <sup>a</sup> Models predict the intensity of discovery points as a function of variables for west-east and  
 598 south-north directions and a categorical predictor (each with four levels). For example, in model  
 599 (a), the model reference level is Q1 (1974-1907), and thus the interaction of other levels of the  
 600 variable time period with west-east and south-north are each compared to the slope coefficients  
 601 of west-east and south-north associated with level Q1 (i.e., 0.00117 and 0.00110, respectively).  
 602 In models (b) and (c), the reference levels for the variables origin and guild are Asia and foliage-  
 603 feeders, respectively.

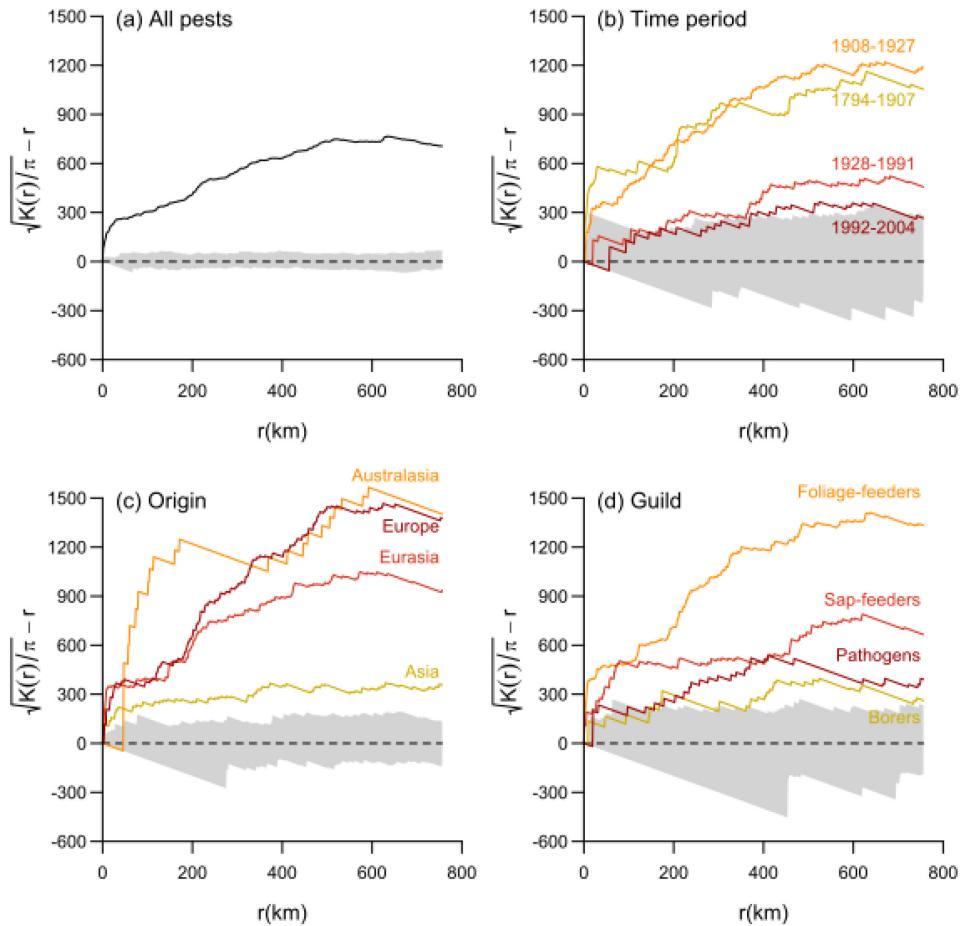
604 <sup>b</sup> Exponentiated coefficients for point process models indicate the factor by which density of  
 605 discovery locations would increase per unit area with either a change between levels of a factor  
 606 or a one unit increase in the density of a covariate. For example, for model (a) and holding all  
 607 else equal, a shift 500 km west between Q1 and Q4 was associated with  $1.76 \times [\exp(0.00113 \times$   
 608  $500 \text{ km})]$  increase in the number of discovery points per  $\text{km}^2$ .

609 <sup>c</sup> Z statistics indicating whether coefficients estimated using spatial point process models are  
 610 significantly different from 0.

611

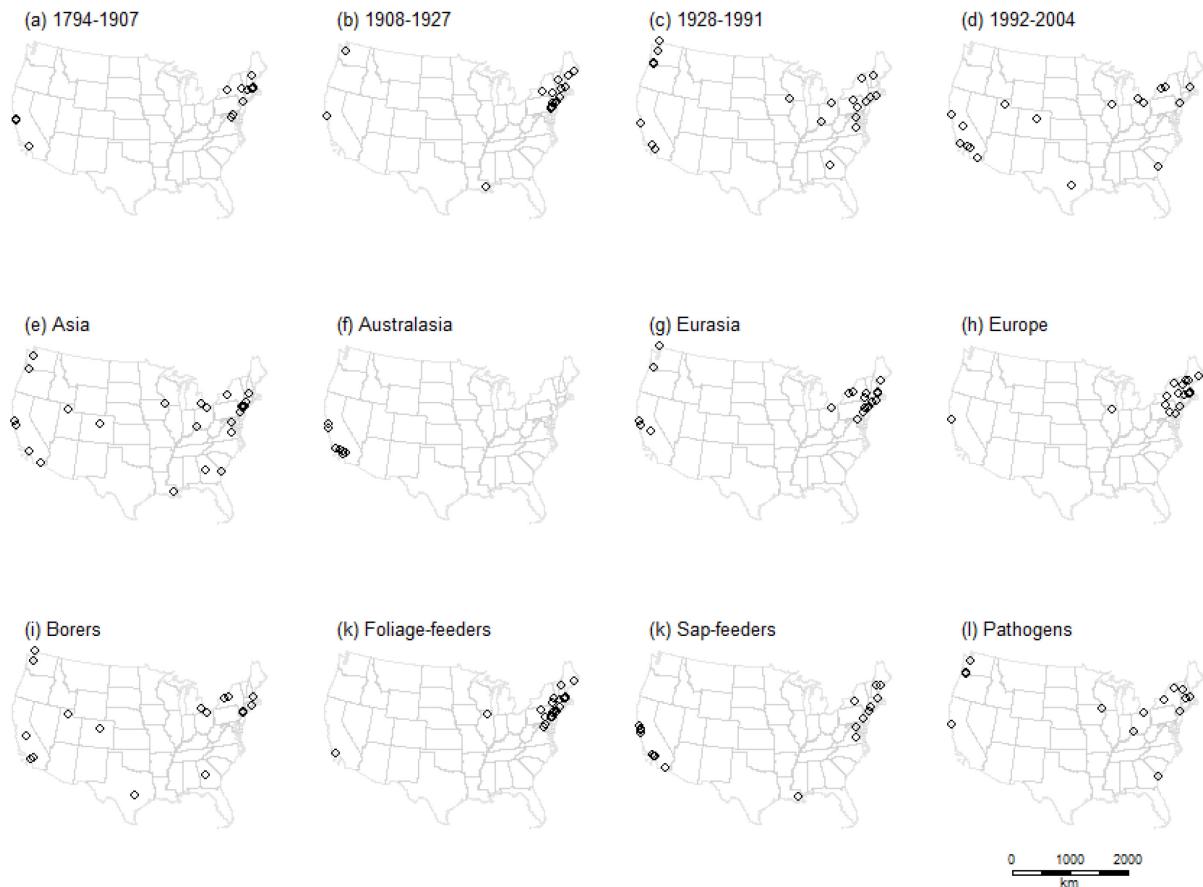
**Figures**

614 **Figure 1** Intensity of discovery points (points per  $\text{km}^2$ ; black circles) of non-native forest insects  
615 and pathogens discovered in the contiguous USA between 1794-2004. Colors and scale bar  
616 indicate a kernel smoother fit to observed first discovery locations. Map projection: Albers equal  
617 area.



618

619 **Figure 2** Ripley's  $K$  statistics for discovery points of non-native forest insects and pathogens  
 620 discovered in the contiguous USA between 1794-2004 as a function scale (radius of circles in  
 621 km). Panels display patterns across a) all discovery points, b) time period of discovery, c)  
 622 origins, or d) guilds. Solid lines indicate observed  $K(r)$  statistics, transformed for visualization  
 623 (y-axis), at a radius  $r$  from each discovery point (x-axis). The dotted line provides an estimate of  
 624 complete spatial randomness and the gray area represents 95% confidence limits for  $K(r)$   
 625 statistics simulated from a theoretical, random distribution of discovery points. Lines above gray  
 626 areas are significantly aggregated at the scale of analysis. For example, discoveries of all pests  
 627 (panel a) are highly aggregated, regardless of scale.

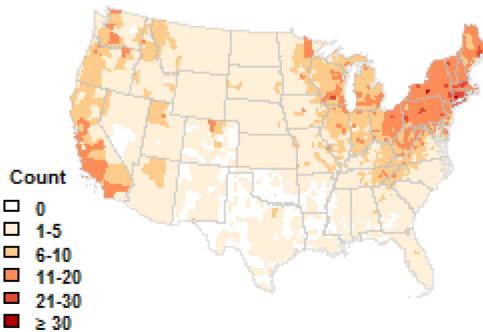


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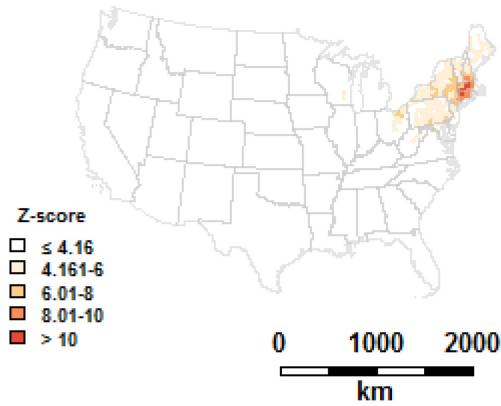
629 **Figure 3** Discovery locations of non-native forest insects and pathogens discovered in the  
 630 contiguous USA between 1794-2004 displayed by time period (a-d; quartiles of introduction  
 631 year), world region of origin (e-h), and feeding guild (i-l). Models comparing changes in the  
 632 distribution of points by time period (row 1 of figure), origin (row 2), and guild (row 3) are  
 633 provided in Table 2. Changes in aggregation between groupings are presented in Figure 2. Map  
 634 projection: Albers equal area.

635

(a) All pest counts

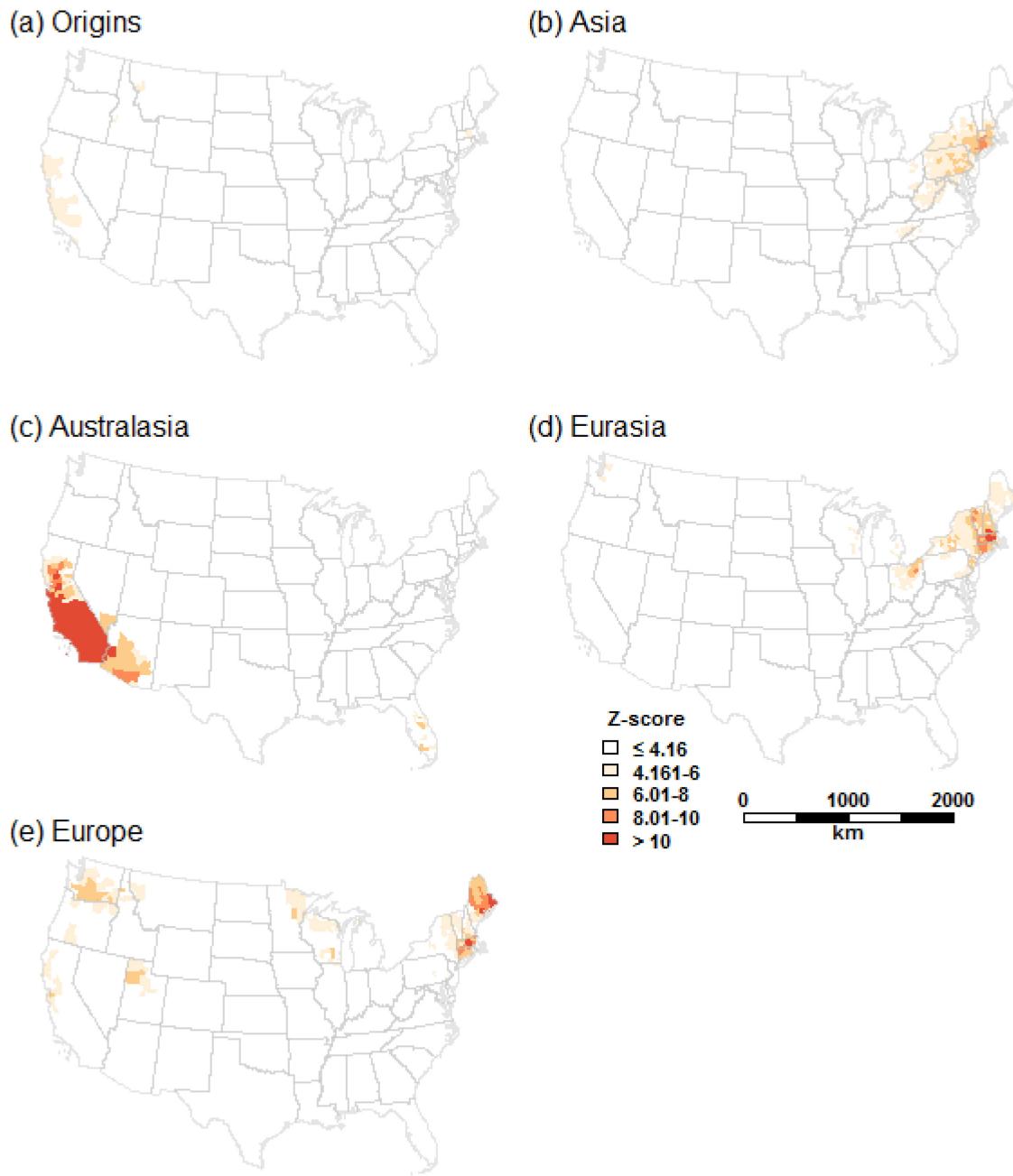


(b) All pest hotspots



636

637 **Figure 4** County-level a) invasion richness and b) hotspots for non-native forest insects and  
638 pathogens as of 2018 in the contiguous USA. Hotspot analyses enable comparisons of invasion  
639 richness of a county and its neighbors to the global richness patterns across all counties to  
640 identify counties with richness levels greater than would be expected due to random chance.  
641 Invasion hotspots were identified by quantifying local Getis-Ord ( $G_i^*$ ) statistics, which produces  
642 a Z-score. Counties with Z-scores  $\geq 4.158$  were considered invasion hotspots. Map projection:  
643 Albers equal area.



644

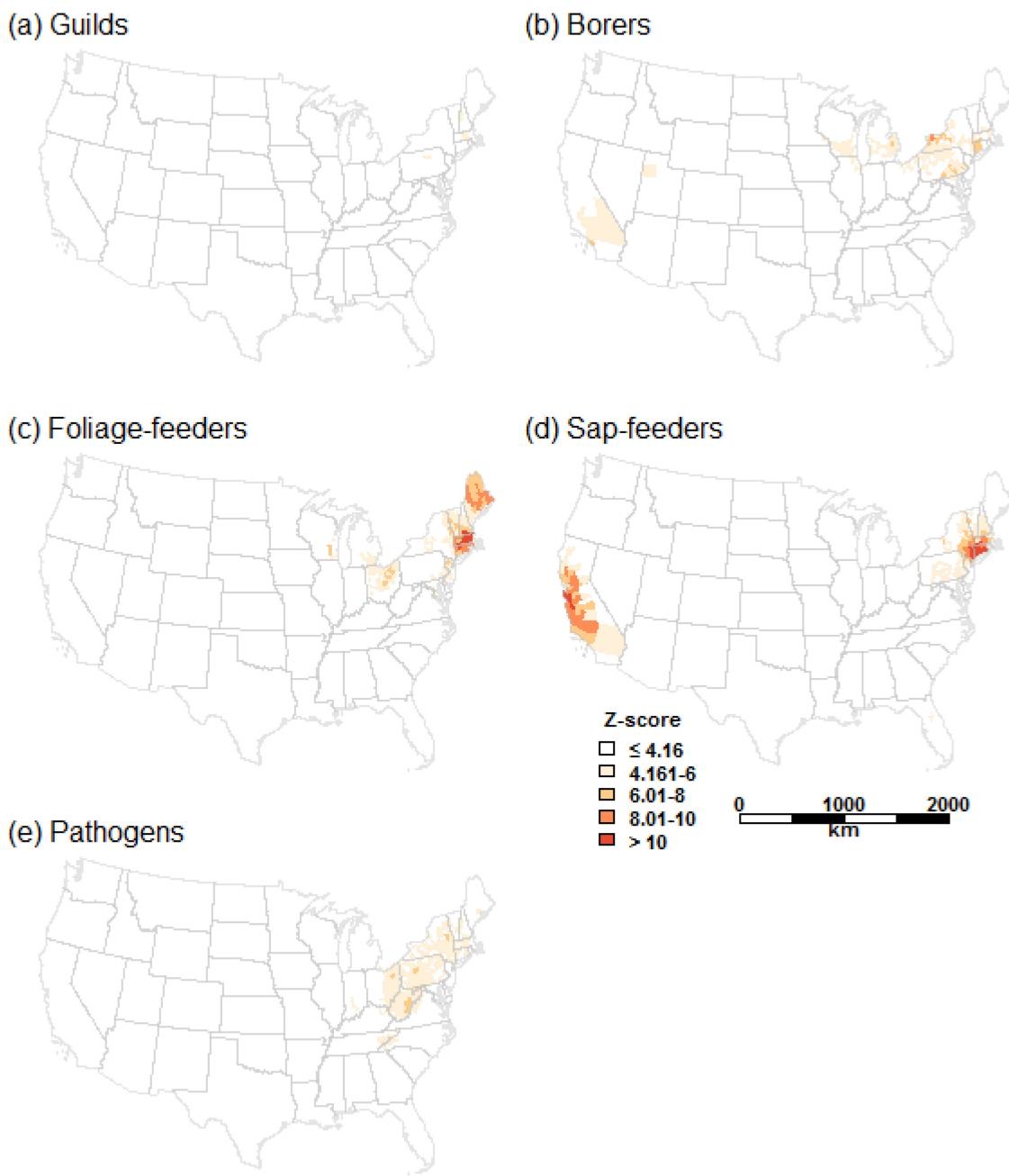
645 **Figure 5** County-level invasion hotspots for non-native forest insects and pathogens as of 2018

646 in the contiguous USA based on pest origin: a) numbers of origins, b) Asia, c) Australasia, d)

647 Eurasia, and e) Europe. A hotspot is defined as any county where Getis-Ord ( $G_i^*$ ) statistics (Z

648 scores) are  $\geq 4.158$ . See Figure 4 and main text for description of  $G_i^*$ . Map projection: Albers

649 equal area.



650

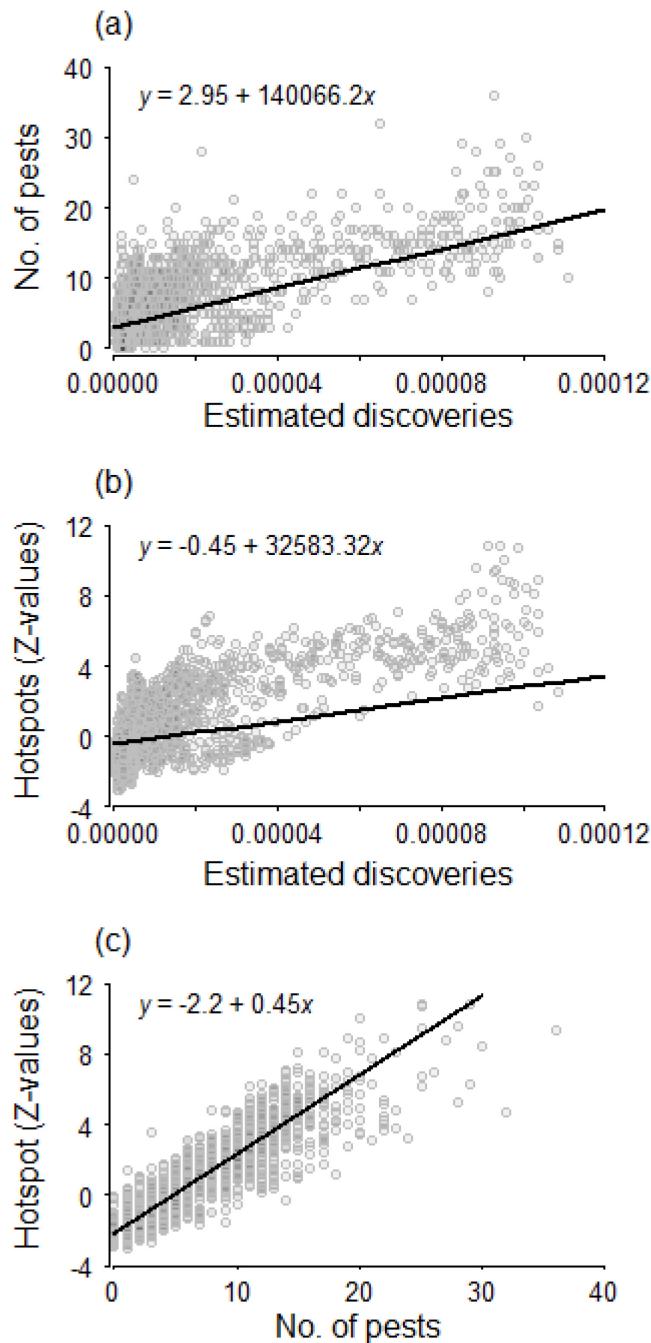
651 **Figure 6** County-level invasion hotspots for non-native forest insects and pathogens as of 2018

652 in the contiguous USA based on pest guild: a) numbers of guilds, b) bark/wood-borers, c)

653 foliage-feeders, d) sap-feeders, and e) pathogens. A hotspot is defined as any county where

654 Getis-Ord ( $G_i^*$ ) statistics (Z scores) are  $\geq 4.158$ . See Figure 4 and main text for description of  $G_i^*$ .

655 Map projection: Albers equal area.



656

657 **Figure 7** (a) Number of non-native pests per county as of 2018 in the contiguous USA (y-axis;  
 658 invasion richness) as a function of kernel estimated discovery points per  $\text{km}^2$  at county centroids.  
 659 The kernel smoother was fit to observed first discovery locations for non-native forest pests in

660 the contiguous USA (1794-2004) and estimated discoveries ( $x$ -axis) for each county were  
661 obtained from that interpolated surface. Intercept ( $\pm 0.22$  SE,  $Z = 13.46$ ,  $P < 0.0001$ ) and slope ( $\pm$   
662  $7816.57$  SE,  $Z = 17.92$ ,  $P < 0.0001$ ) of fit line significantly differ from 0. (b) Z-values from  
663 hotspot analyses of invasion richness, displayed in Figure 4c, as a function of estimated  
664 discoveries at the county-level. Intercept ( $\pm 0.14$  SE,  $Z = -3.18$ ,  $P = 0.0015$ ) and slope ( $\pm 5773.40$   
665 SE,  $Z = 5.64$ ,  $P < 0.0001$ ) of fit line significantly differ from 0. (c) Z-values from hotspot  
666 analyses as a function invasion richness at the county-level level. Intercept ( $\pm 0.02$  SE,  $Z = -$   
667  $132.48$ ,  $P < 0.0001$ ) and slope ( $\pm 0.002$  SE,  $Z = 182.05$ ,  $P < 0.0001$ ).