

## **sDiv writing retreat summary**

### **“ sCAFE - Community Assembly and the Functioning of Ecosystems in Open Systems”**

Attendees: Mathew Leibold and Thomas Koffel

The objective of this writing retreat was to build on preliminary results obtained with a mathematical model developed during the 2<sup>nd</sup> working group meeting to write the first draft of a manuscript. In this study, we applied the sCAFE framework to a theoretical model of an ecological community that simulates BEF experiments. We compared the sCAFE patterns generated under different resource competition scenarios to see how such patterns could help infer the competition mechanisms that structure such communities.

More precisely, the aims of this retreat included:

- Refine the analysis developed during the 2<sup>nd</sup> working group meeting and apply them to 8 different resource competition scenarios
- Generate figures that illustrate the results
- Identify and interpret the most salient results, decide on an outline of the manuscript and choose the target audience
- Start writing the manuscript, which included the introduction, methods and result sections

During the week, we were in close contact with Katherine Bannar-Martin and Colin Kremer by both email and skype. They gave early feedback on the manuscript and suggested a direction forwards for the manuscript, such as the inclusion of a whole section comparing our modelling results to the Jena data.

Without sDiv's financial support to fly Thomas Koffel to the University of Texas to meet with Mathew Leibold the progress on the manuscript would have been delayed significantly.