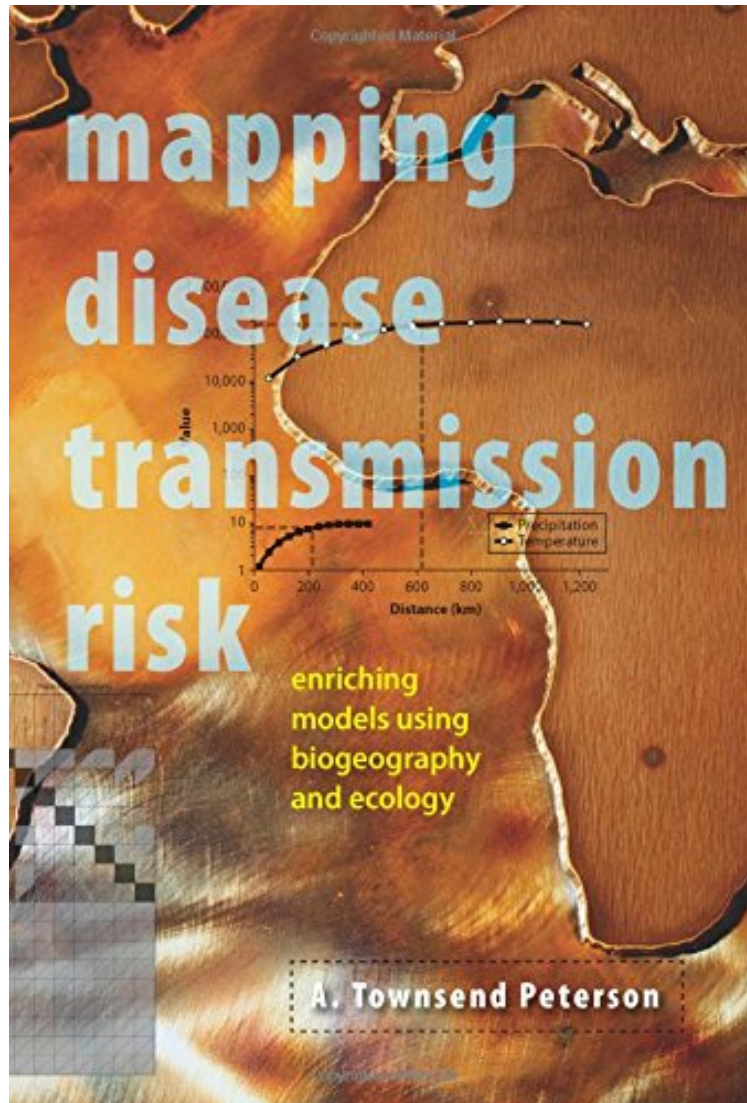


Mapping Disease Transmission Risk: Enriching Models Using Biogeography and Ecology

A. Townsend Peterson

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A. Townsend Peterson, one of the pioneers of ecological niche modeling, presents a synthesis that illuminates new and more effective infectious disease mapping methods. His work the culmination of twelve years of refinement breaks new ground by integrating biogeographic and ecological factors with spatial models. Aimed at seasoned epidemiologists and public health experts, this interdisciplinary book explains the conceptual and technical underpinnings of Peterson's approach while simultaneously describing the potentially enormous benefits of his modeling method. Peterson treats disease transmission areas for what they are distributions of species. The book argues that complex, fragmented, and highly irregular disease patterns can only be understood when underlying environmental drivers are considered. The result is an elegant modeling approach that challenges static spatial models and provides a framework for recasting disease mapping. Anyone working in the area of disease transmission, particularly those employing predictive maps, will find Peterson's book both inspiring and indispensable.

" Mapping Disease Transmission Risk fills a gap in the current literature by addressing both the geographic and ecologic aspects of disease ecology." (Lance A. Waller, Rollins School of Public Health, Emory University)"In this pioneering work... A. Townsend Peterson breaks new ground... Peterson's approach holds potentially enormous benefits for those charged with determining how disease spreads, and how to control that spread." (Venkat Subramaniam Biz India Magazine)"His main thesis is repeated like a mantra throughout the text, and was well received by me--disease mapping must move beyond geography and better incorporate ecology and biogeography. Peterson defends this thesis over 20 (mostly very short) chapters primarily via a broad, conceptual overview focused on methodological considerations and caveats to ecological niche modeling (ENM), and through brief descriptions of numerous relevant case studies." (Quarterly of Biology)About the AuthorA. Townsend Peterson is a professor of ecology and evolutionary biology at the University of Kansas. He is the coauthor of Ecological Niches and Geographic Distributions.