$O_{(t)}$	$E_{(t)}$	$O_{(t)}$	$E_{(t)}$	$O_{(t)}$	$E_{(t)}$	$O_{(t)}$	$E_{(t)}$	$O_{(t)}$	$E_{(t)}$
	A		A		A		A		A
c	B	b	B	b	B	b	B	b	B
g	G	g	G	g	G	g	K	k	K
q	Q	q	Q	q	Q	q	Q	q	Q
s	S	s	S	s	S	s	S	s	S
p	P	p	P	p	P	p	P	p	P
h	T	h	T	t	T	t	T	t	T
	Y		Y		Y		Y		Y
t		*t* + 1		*t* + 2		*t* + 3		*t* + 4	

TIME →

NICHE CONSTRUCTION MODELED IN EVOLUTIONARY TIME

- $O_{(t)}$ is representational of an organism in relation to time.
- $E_{(t)}$ is representational of the environment/ecosystem in which that organism exists, in relation to time.
- The lowercase variables in the O column model the phenotype of that organism. The uppercase letters in the E column model the biotic & abiotic attributes of the environment/ecosystem in which the organism lives.

- *t* exhibits an organism that, through preceding processes of natural selection and niche construction, has achieved a certain degree of evolutionary fitness (consider variables that match in columns $O_{(t)}$ with those in columns $E_{(t)}$ as exemplars of optimal fitness).
- *t* + 1 exhibits the process of natural selection (modification in the organism to suit its environment).
- *t* + 2 exhibits the process of positive niche construction (modifications made to the environment by the organism that enhance that organism's fitness).
- *t* + 3 exhibits the process of negative niche construction (modifications made to the environment by the organism that compromise that organism's fitness).
- *t* + 4 again exhibits the process of natural selection. Evolutionary pressure exhibited on the organism in *t* + 4 illustrates a selective response to negative niche construction (see *t* + 3).
- Note that there are some environmental factors that don't influence an organism's fitness (i.e. **A, Y**).