

BIOTIC AND ABIOTIC STRESS DISTINCTLY DRIVE THE PHYLLOSPHERE MICROBIAL COMMUNITY STRUCTURE



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Table of contents

1. Introduction

Growth-defense trade-off

Climate change induced variability in microbiome

2. Climate change and microbial response

Ozone as an environmental stress affecting crop health

3. Knowledge gap and experimental design

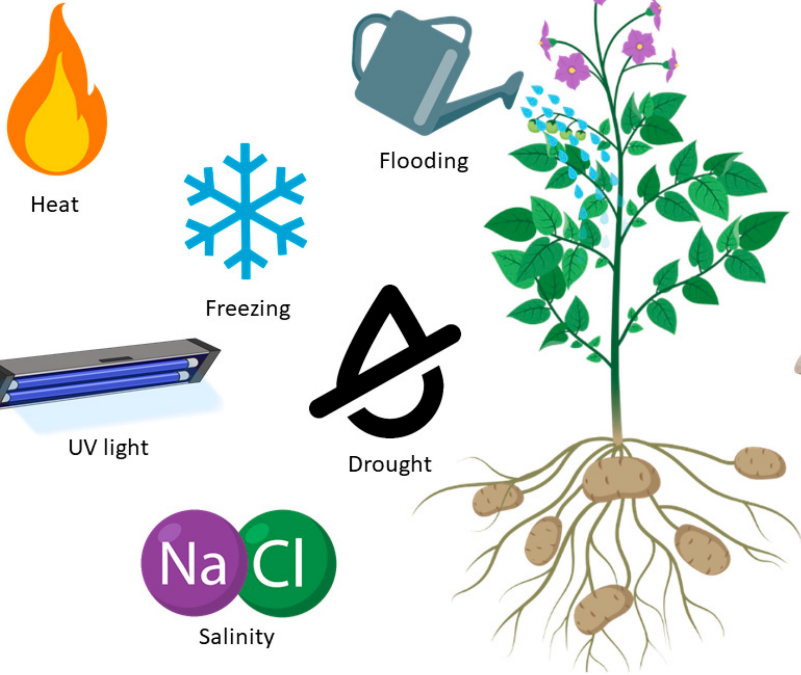
4. Results

5. Summary

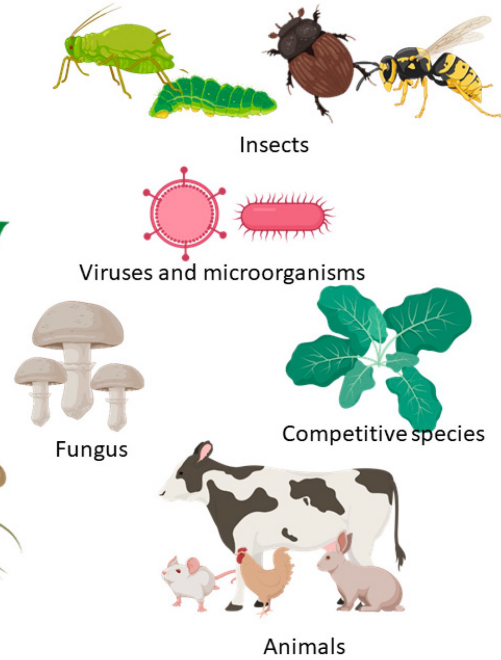
6. Inference from the study

Can plants grow and defend well at the same time?

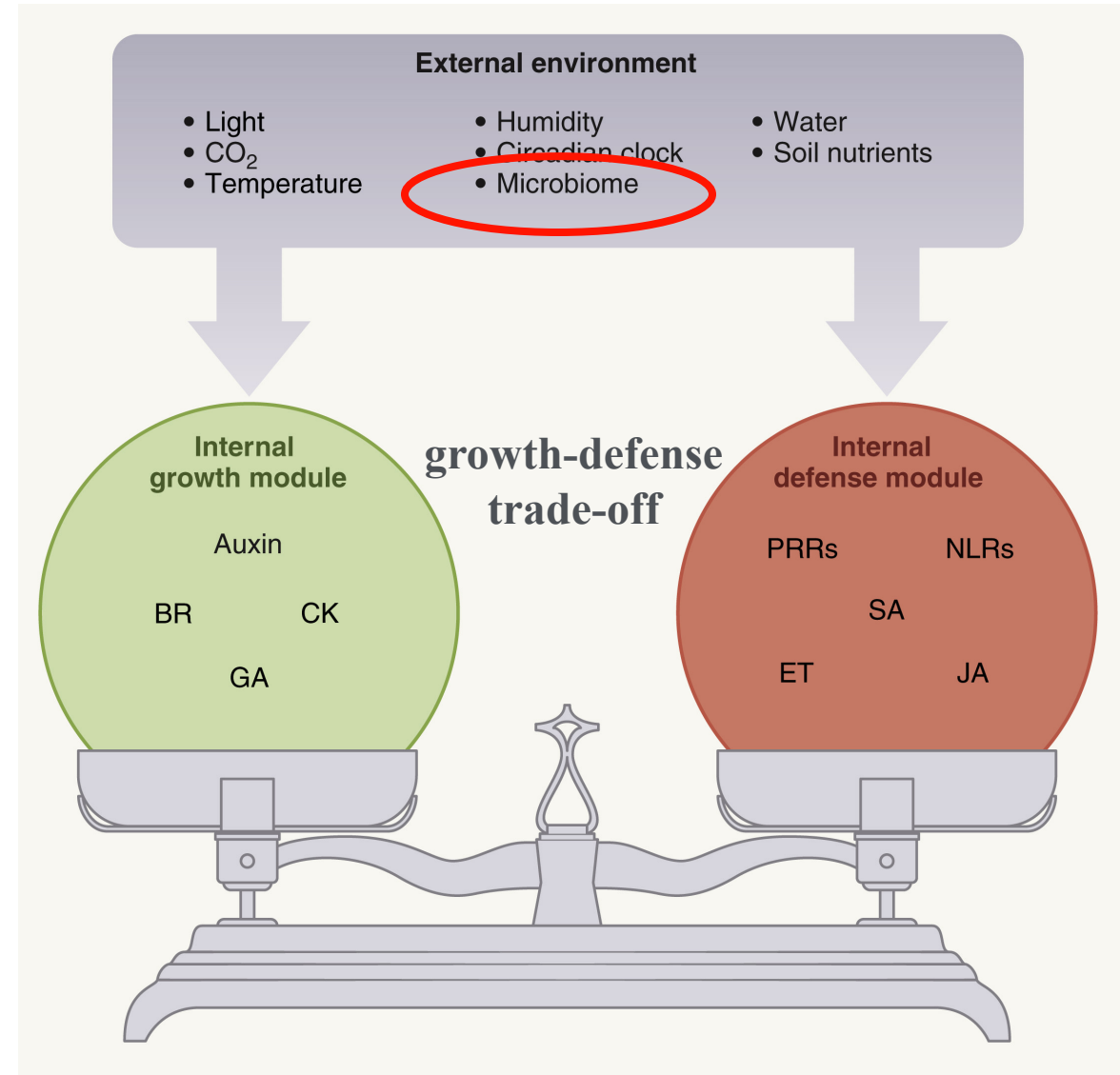
Abiotic stresses



Biotic stresses

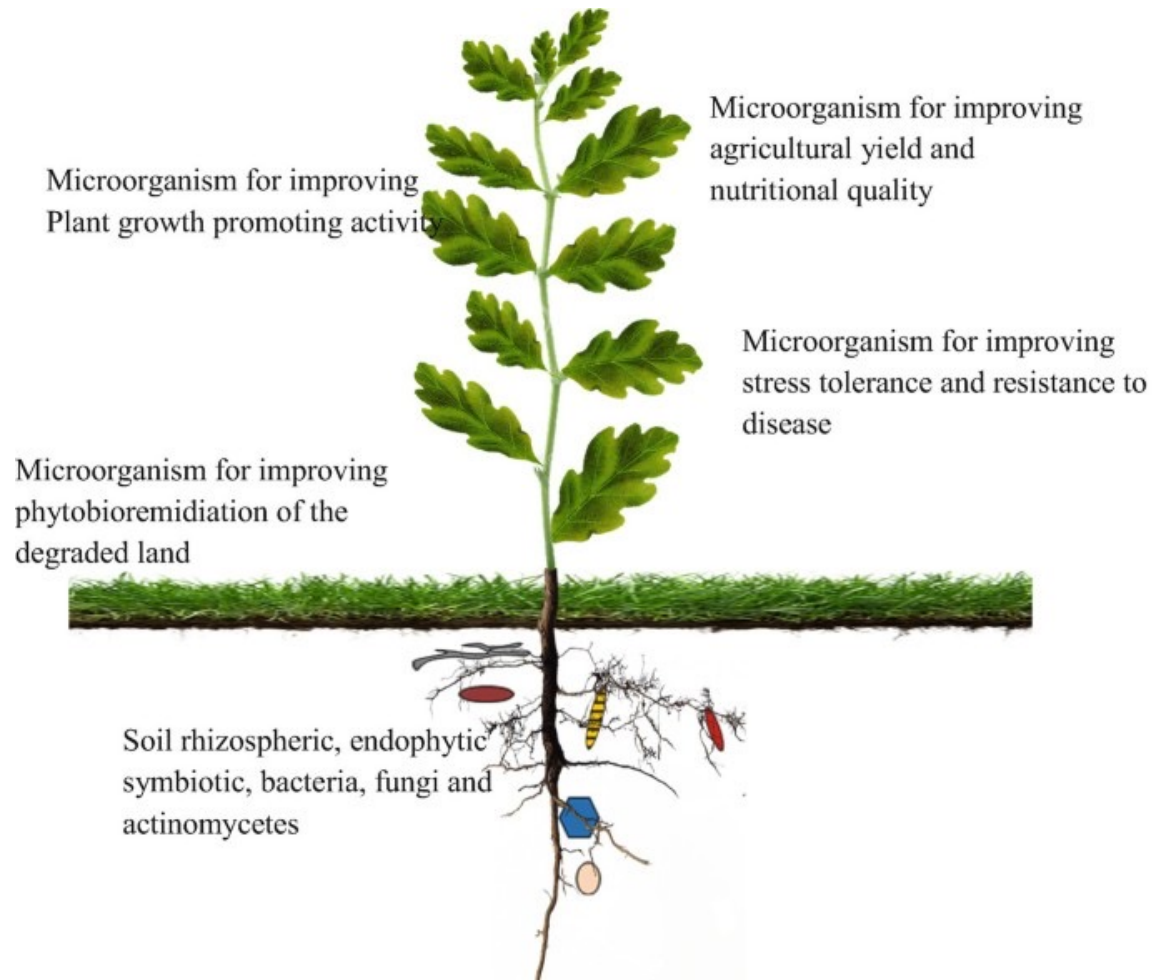


Paramo L. et. al. 2020



He Z. et. al. 2022

Microbial communities play a diverse role in plant health



Dubey et. al. 2019

Microbial ecology and functional diversity of natural habitats

Nitrogen fixation by phyllosphere bacteria associated with higher plants and their colonizing epiphytes of a tropical lowland rainforest of Costa Rica

Michael Fűrnkranz, Wolfgang Wanek, Andreas Richter, Guy Abell, Frank Rasche & Angela Sessitsch ✉

The ISME Journal 2, 561–570 (2008) | [Cite this article](#)

Role of Dominant Phyllosphere Bacteria with Plant Growth–Promoting Characteristics on Growth and Nutrition of Maize (*Zea mays* L.)

Vahid Alah Jahandideh Mahjen Abadi, Mozghan Sepehri ✉, Hadi Asadi Rahmani, Mehdi Zarei, Abdolmajid Ronaghi, Seyed Mohsen Taghavi & Mahdieh Shamshiripour

Journal of Soil Science and Plant Nutrition 20, 2348–2363 (2020) | [Cite this article](#)

> *Plant Biol (Stuttg)*. 2014 May;16(3):586–93. doi: 10.1111/plb.12082. Epub 2013 Aug 16.

Community structures of N₂ –fixing bacteria associated with the phyllosphere of a Holm oak forest and their response to drought

L Rico ¹, R Ogaya, J Terradas, J Peñuelas

Affiliations + expand

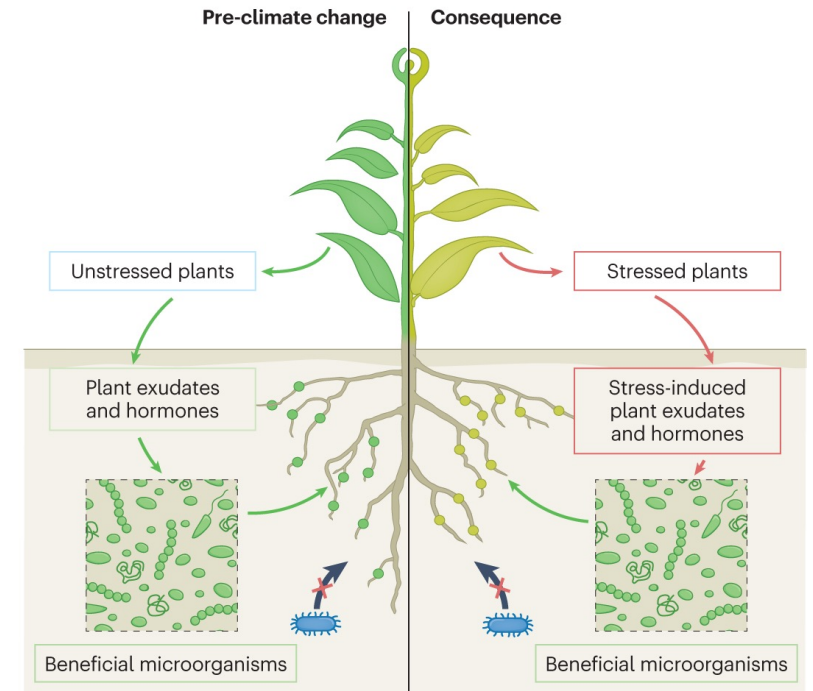
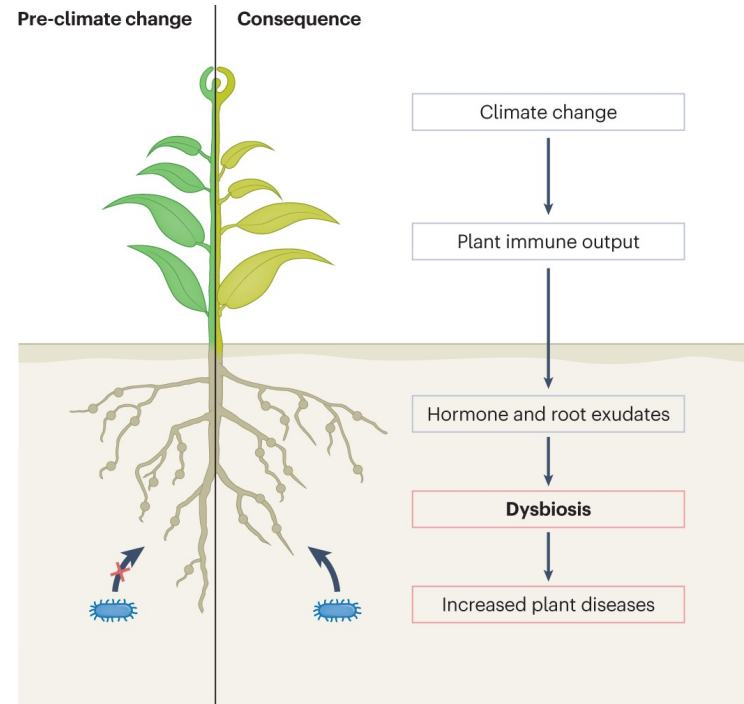
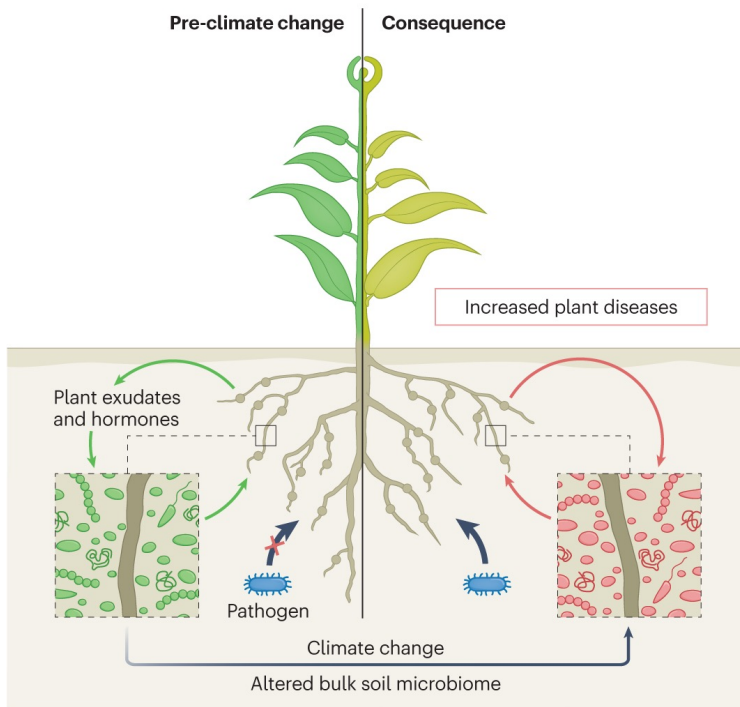
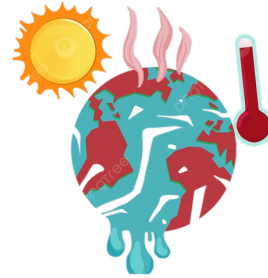
PMID: 23952768 DOI: 10.1111/plb.12082

Bacterial Ice Nucleation: A Factor in Frost Injury to Plants 1 ^{FREE}

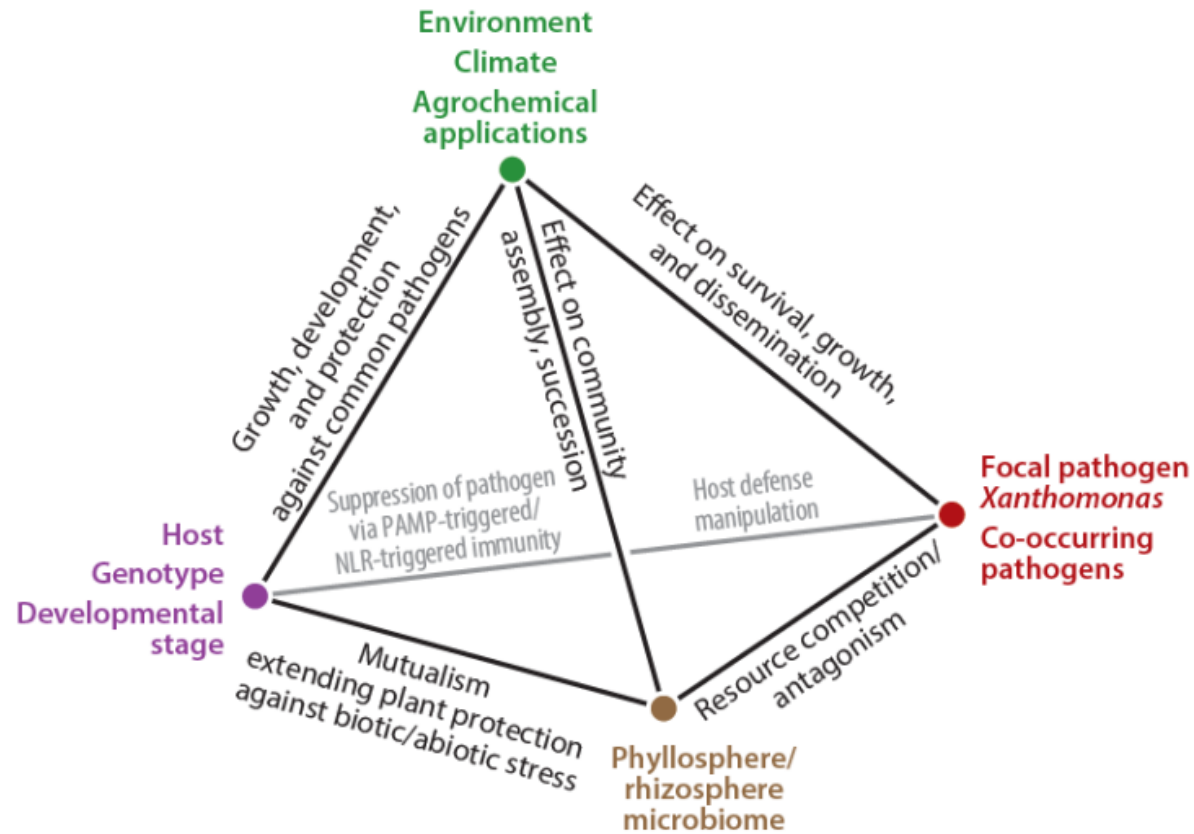
Steven E. Lindow, Deane C. Arny, Christen D. Upper

Plant Physiology, Volume 70, Issue 4, October 1982, Pages 1084–1089,

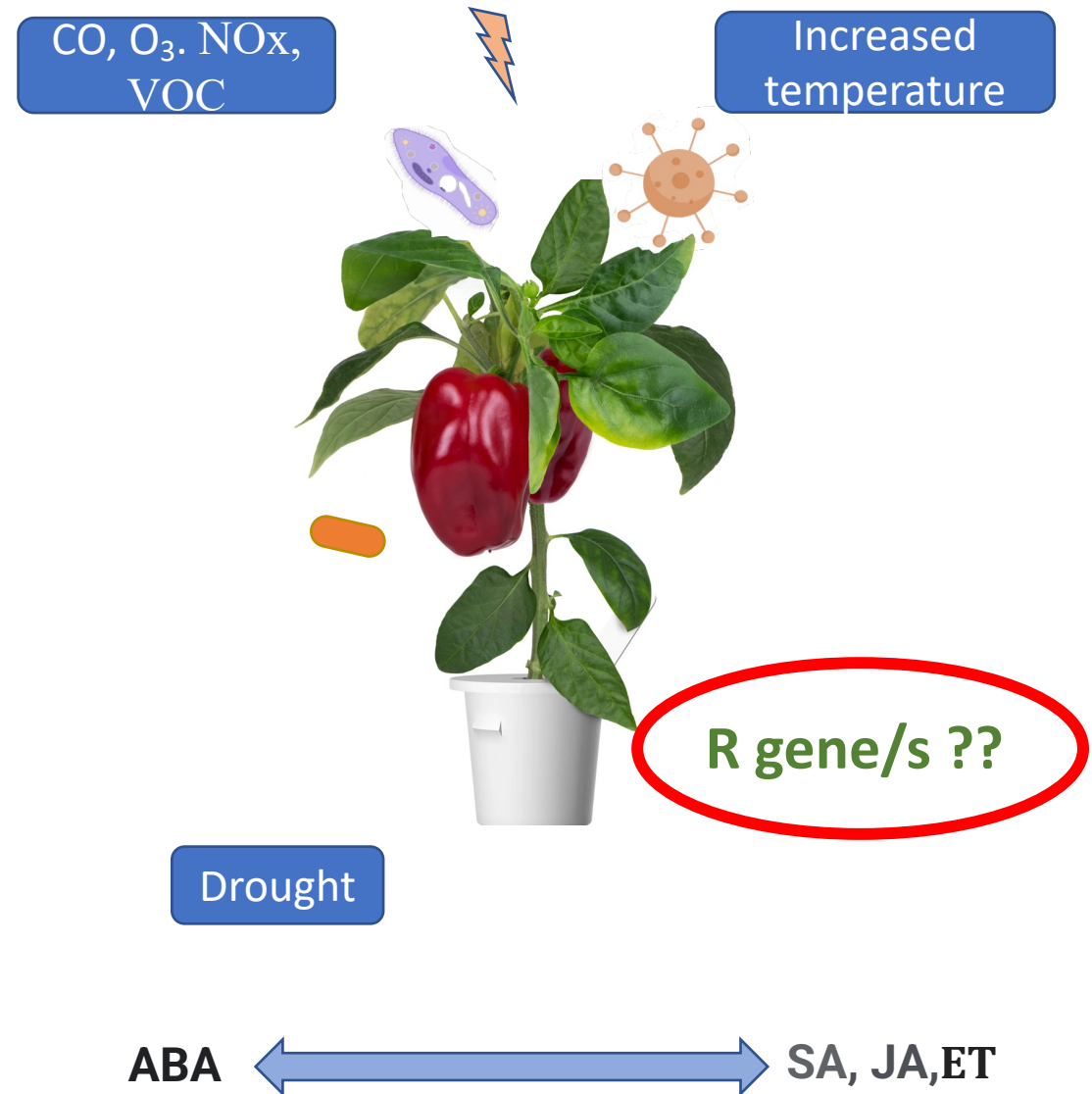
Climate change induce unpredictability in microbial community structure/function and disease outcome



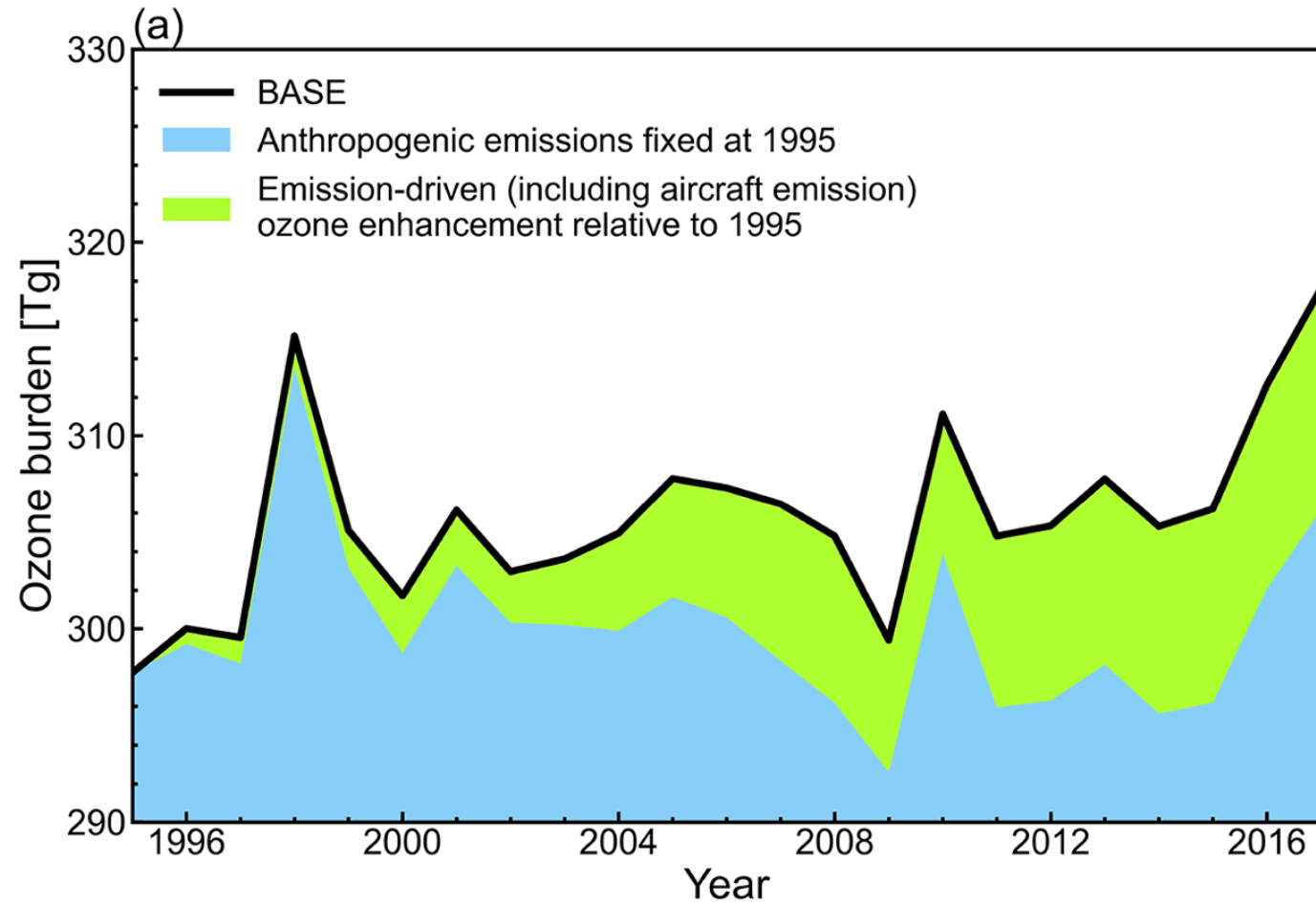
How would plants and associated microbes respond to climate change and emerging pathogens?



Potnis, N., 2020

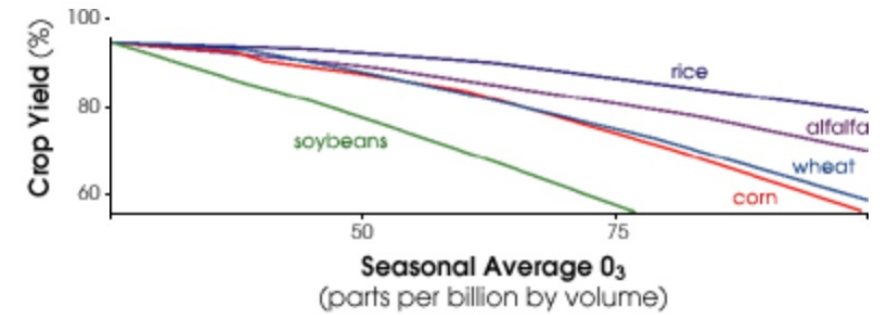
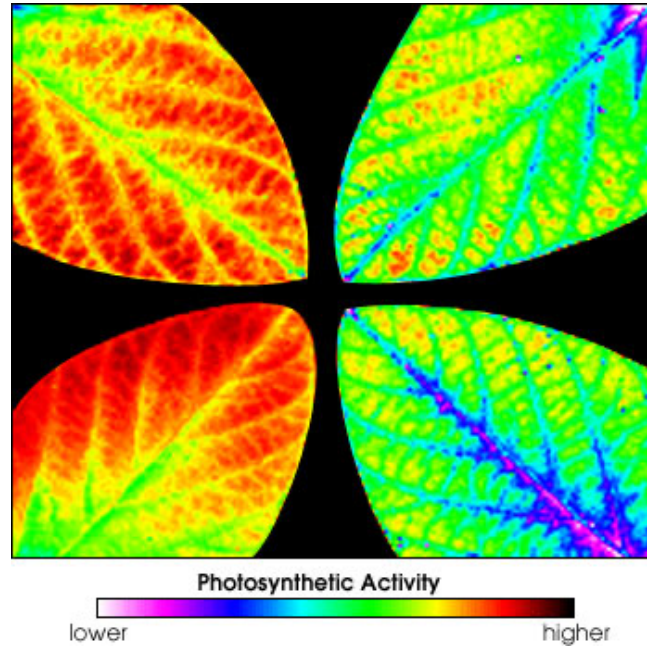


Tropospheric ozone levels is being increased around the globe



Wang et al. 2022

Tropospheric ozone is considered a major air pollutant having negative effects on plant growth and productivity.

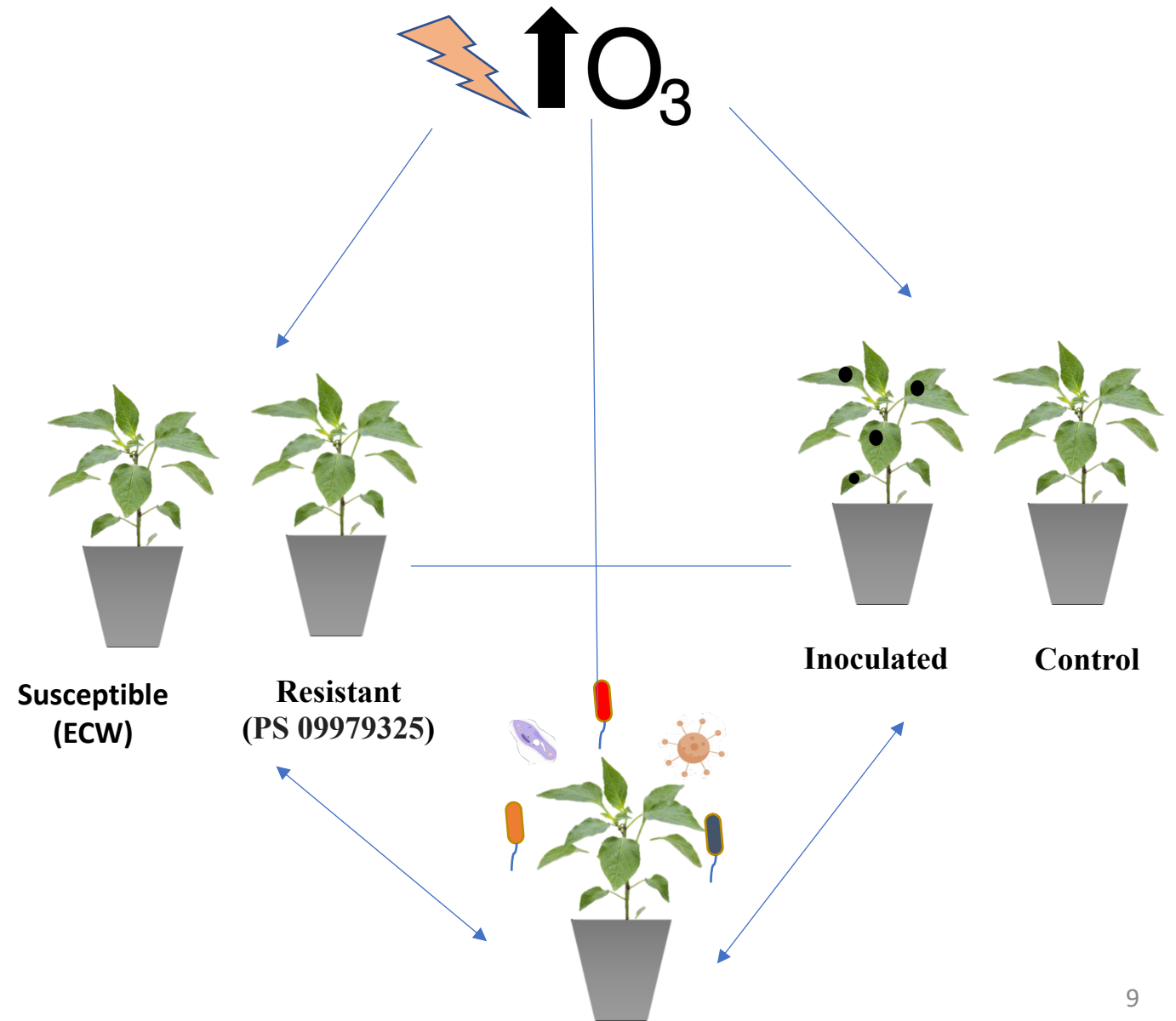
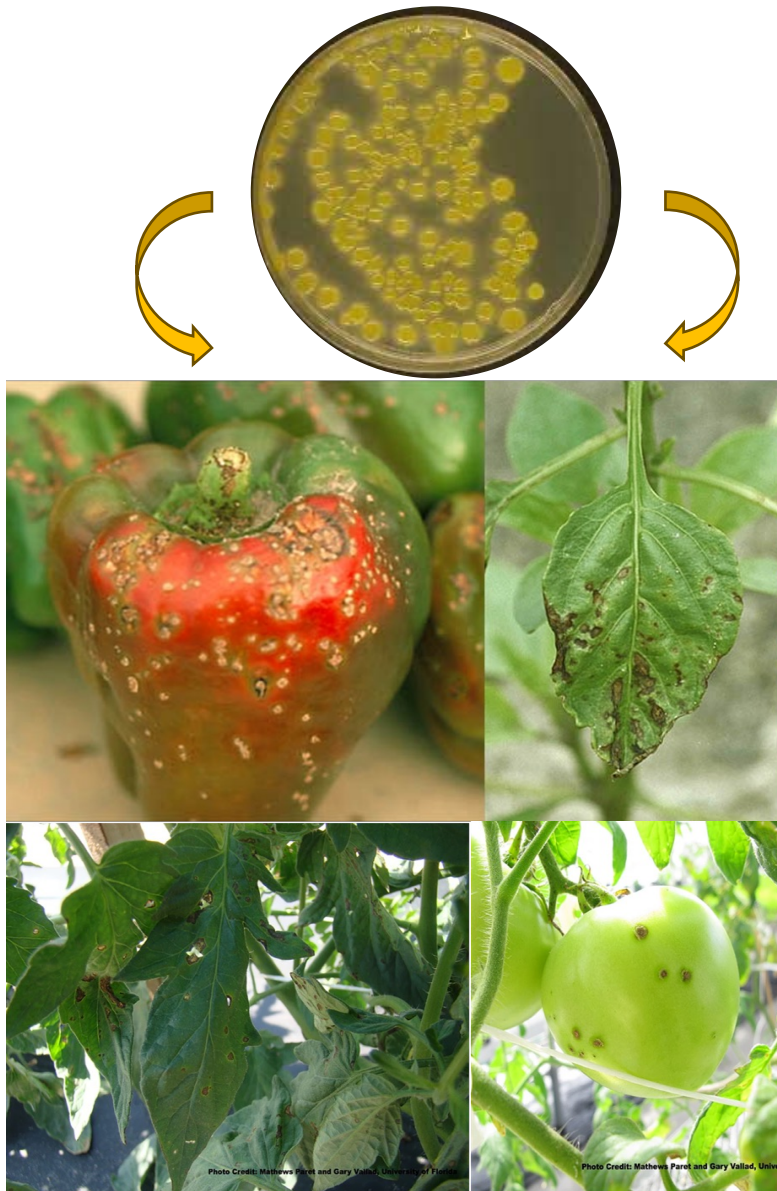


(Photograph courtesy earthobservatory.nasa.gov;
photo by Gerald Holmes)

Kim, M.S. et al., 2001,

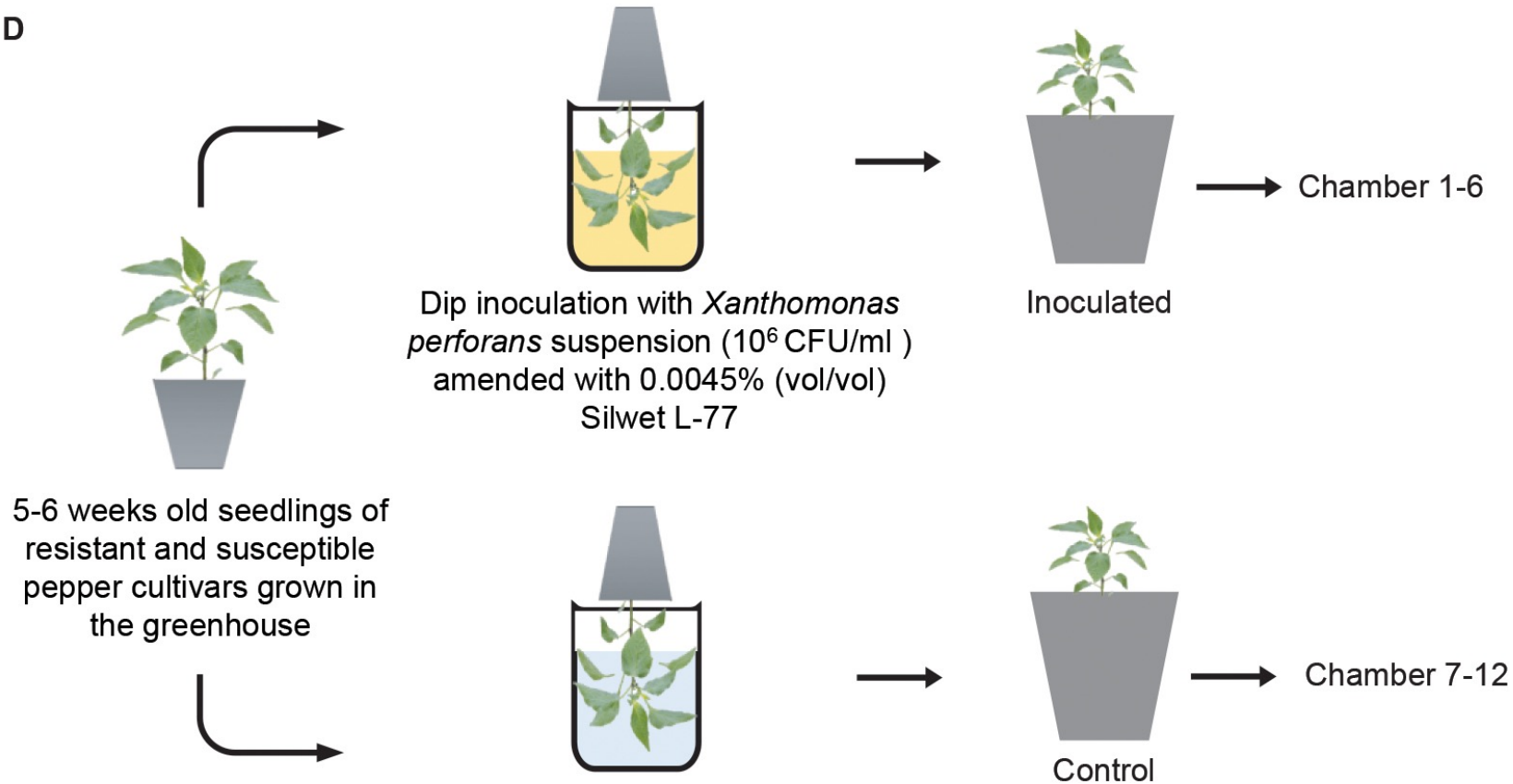
Chameides et al., 1999

Model system: *Xanthomonas* sp. pathogenic in tomato and pepper (Bacterial leaf spot pathogen)



Experimental design

D

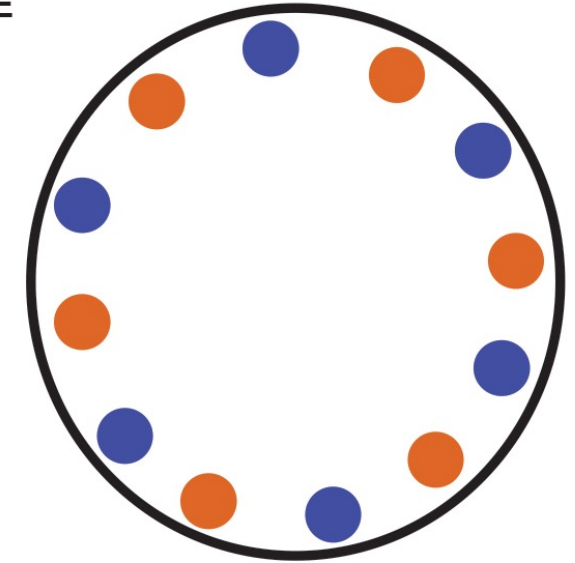


5-6 weeks old seedlings of resistant and susceptible pepper cultivars grown in the greenhouse

Control plants dip inoculated in $MgSO_4$ buffer amended with 0.0045% (vol/vol) Silwet L-77

Both control and inoculated seedlings were then transplanted into 10.5" pots

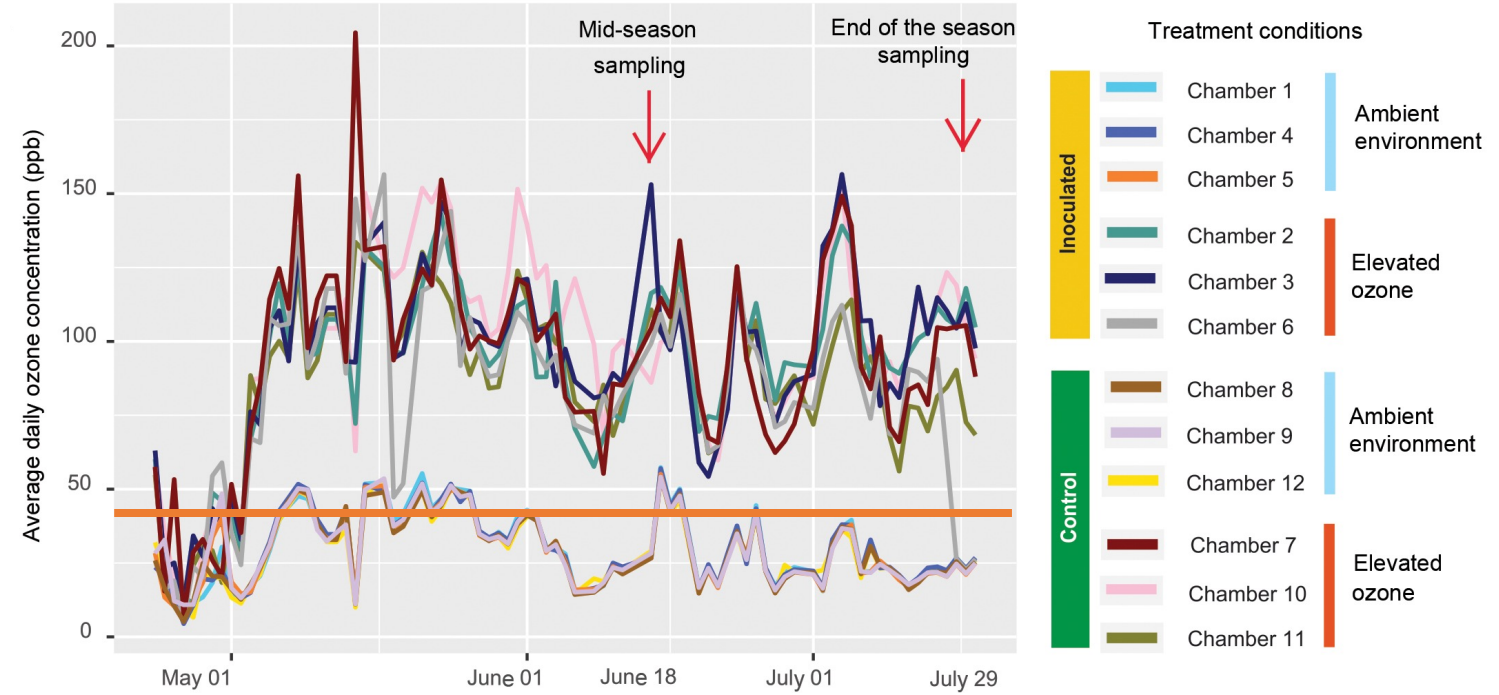
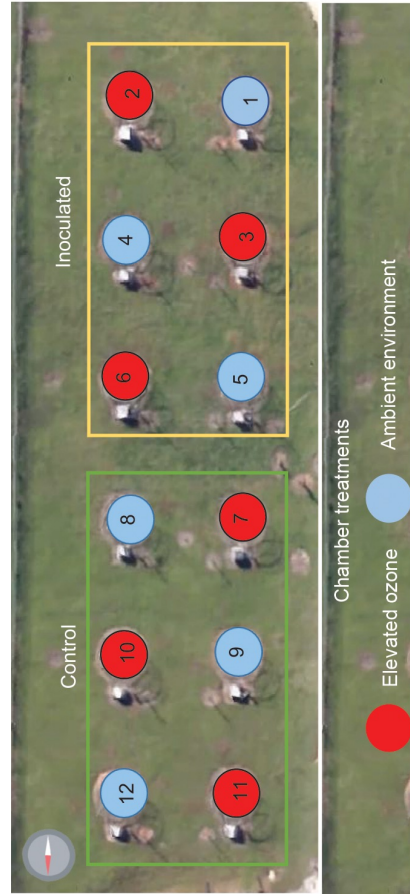
E



- Susceptible cultivar
- Resistant cultivar

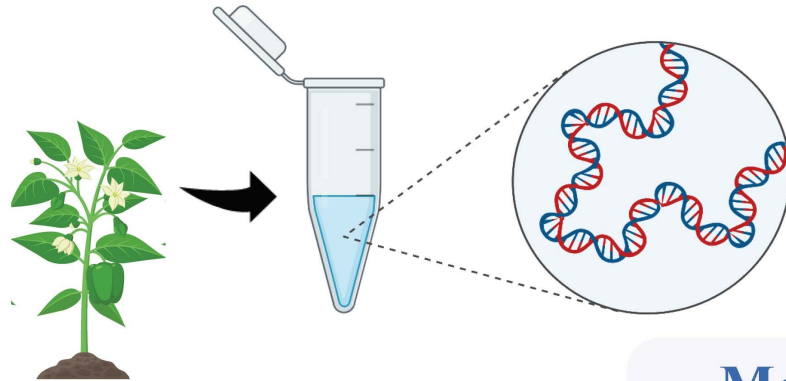
Each chamber had 12 plants, six resistant and six susceptible cultivars arranged alternately

Experimental design

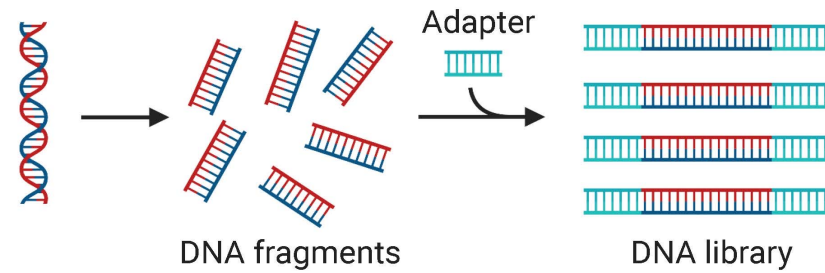


Methods and shotgun metagenomics workflow

Step 1: DNA extraction

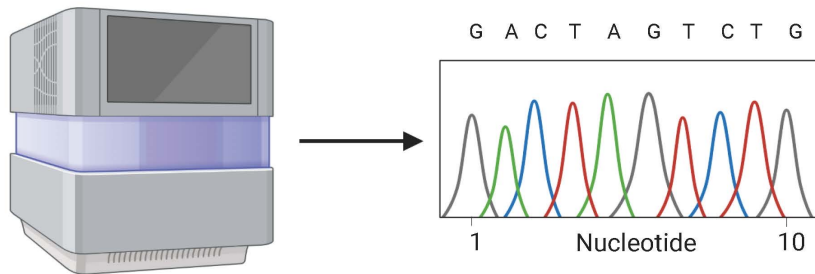


Step 2: Library preparation

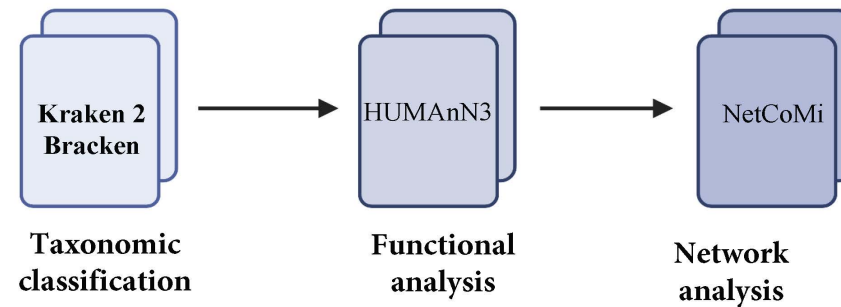


Metagenomic DNA extraction and analysis Workflow

Step 3: Sequencing



Step 4: Analysis



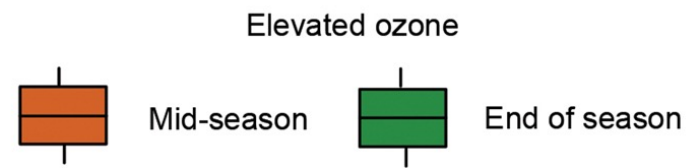
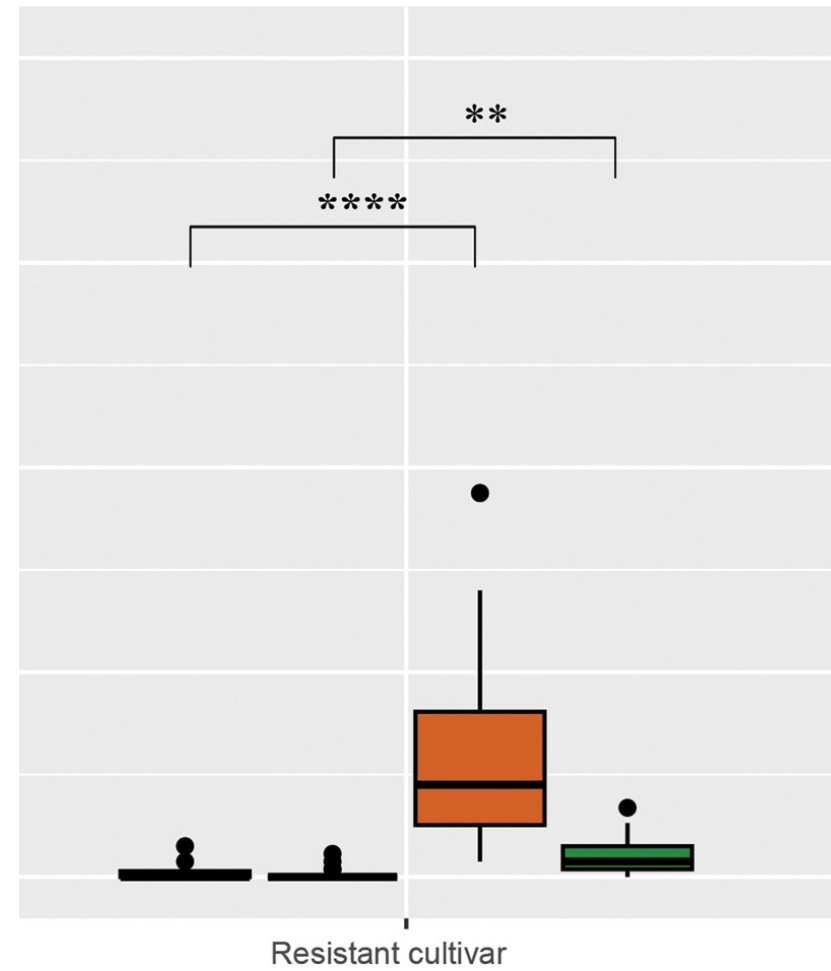
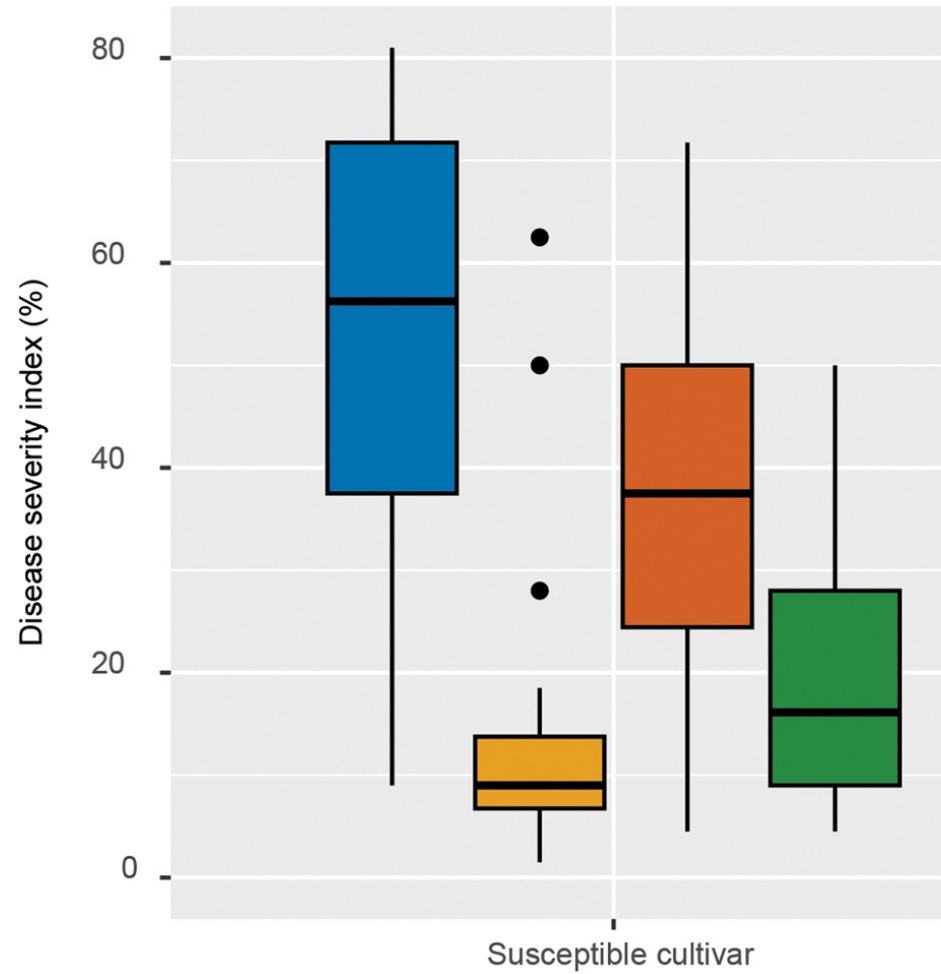
Hypothesis

Presence of elevated **O₃** will increase **overall susceptibility of pepper** to bacterial spot xanthomonads, even on the resistant cultivar.

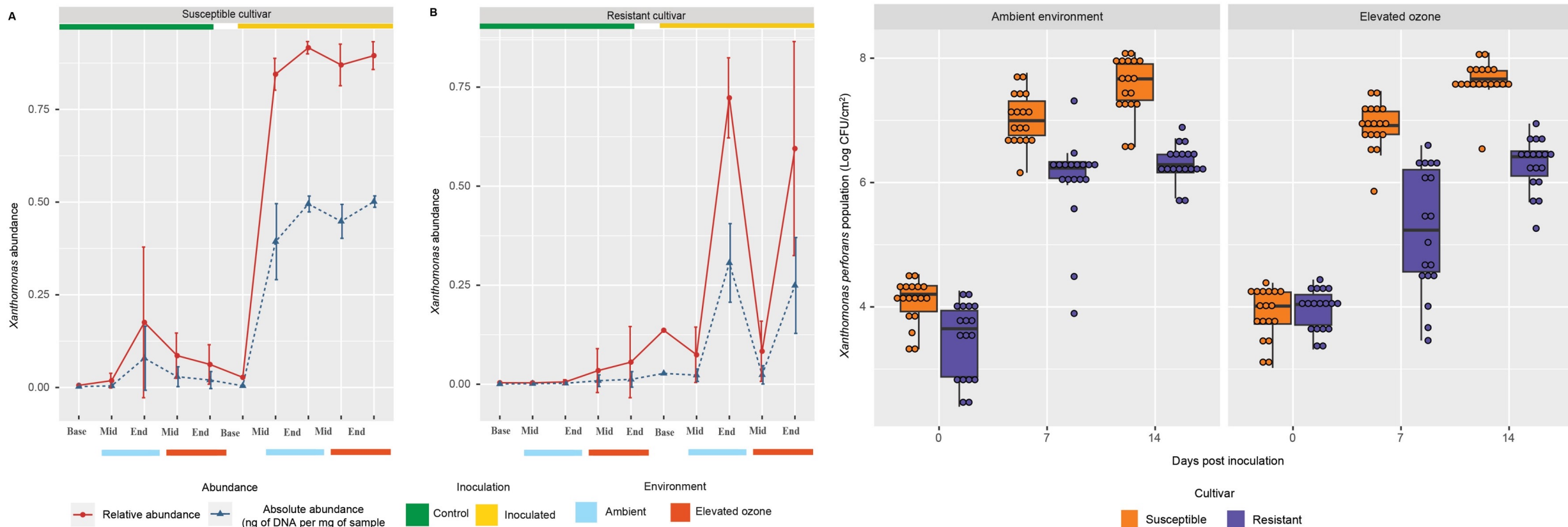
Phyllosphere microbial communities will show **alterations in both taxonomic and functional profiles and altered seasonal dynamics** in response to altered O₃ levels, regardless of the cultivars.

Establishment of **disease would disrupt seasonal dynamics** of the phyllosphere microbiome, and this effect will be stronger in the environments that support high disease pressure.

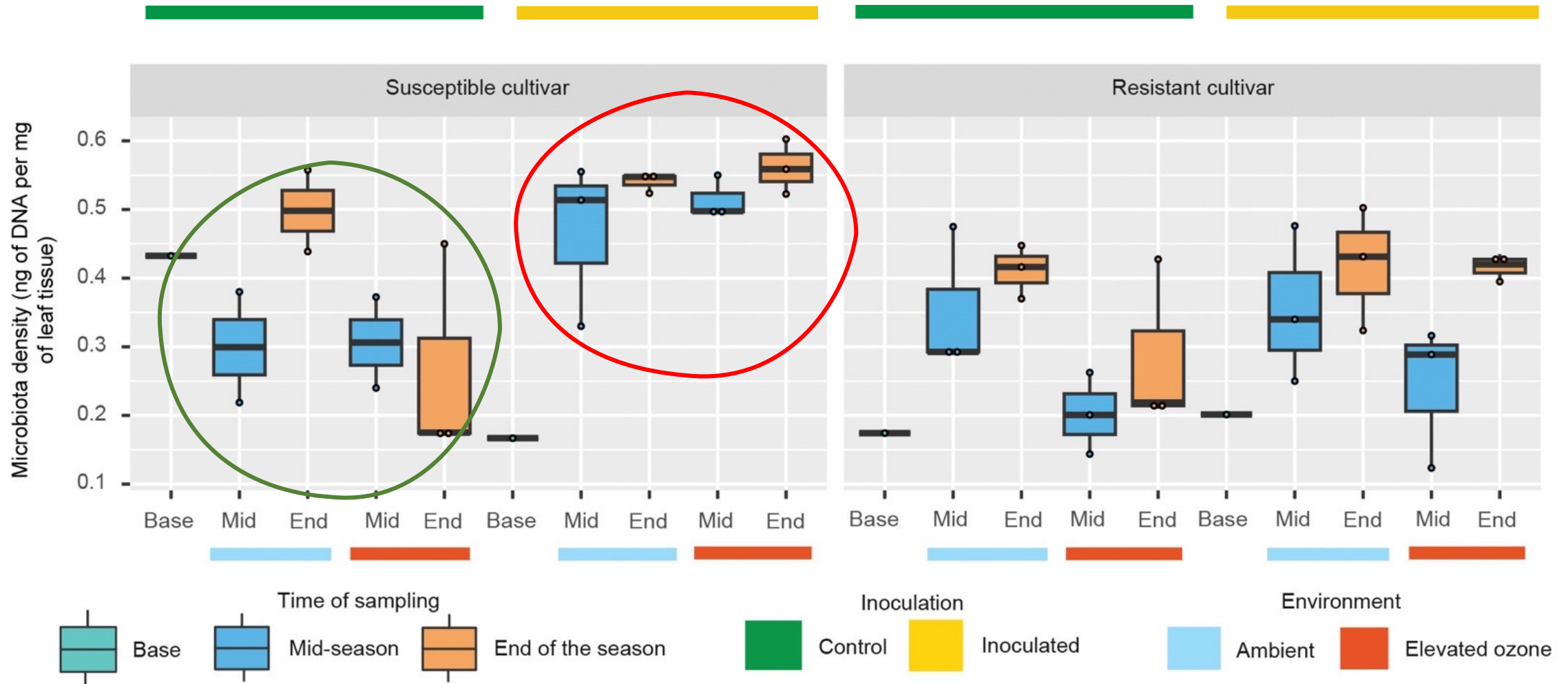
Elevated O₃ exacerbates bacterial spot disease severity on the resistant cultivar but has no effect on the susceptible cultivar



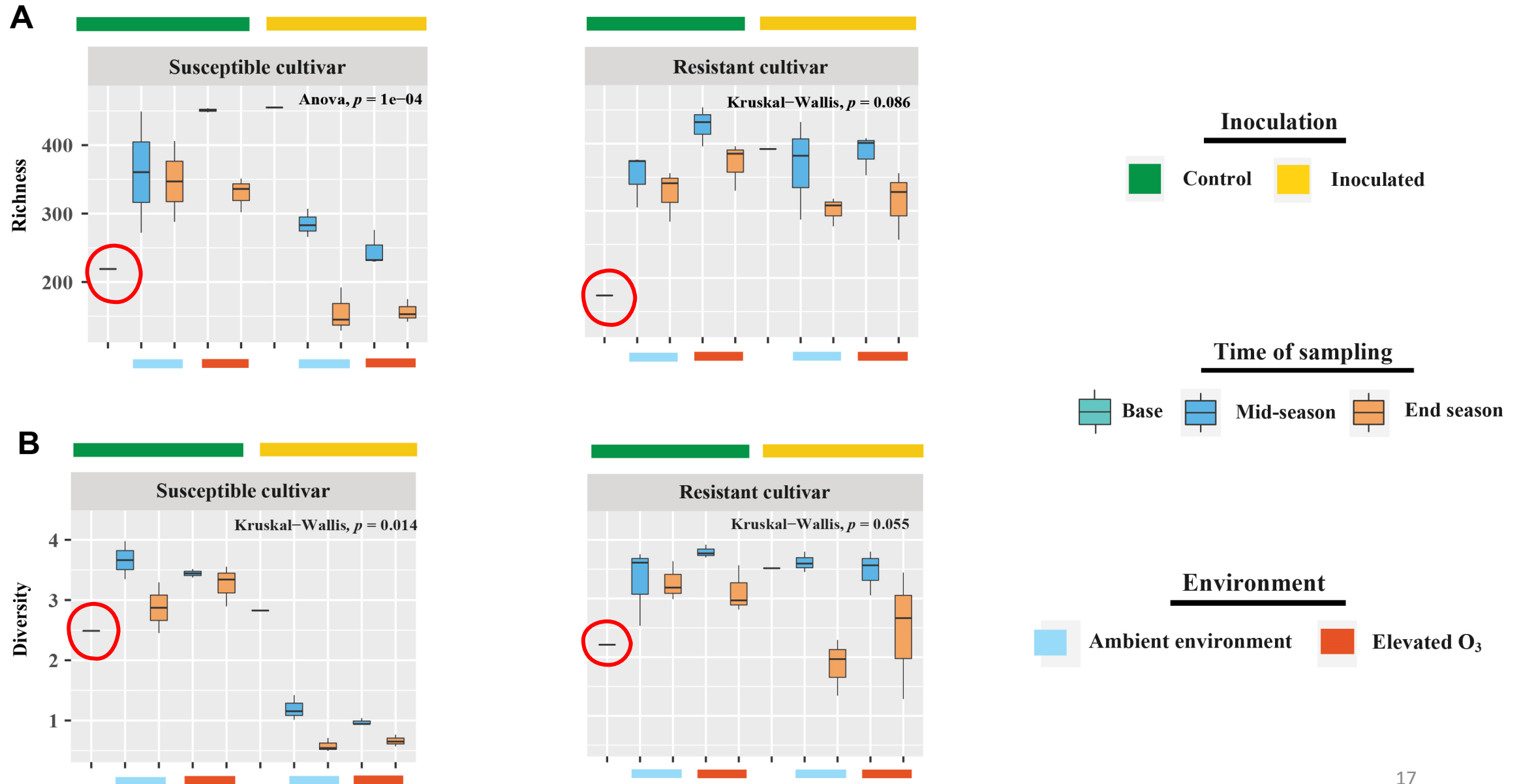
Elevated O₃ doesn't have the influence on *Xanthomonas* population in both the cultivars



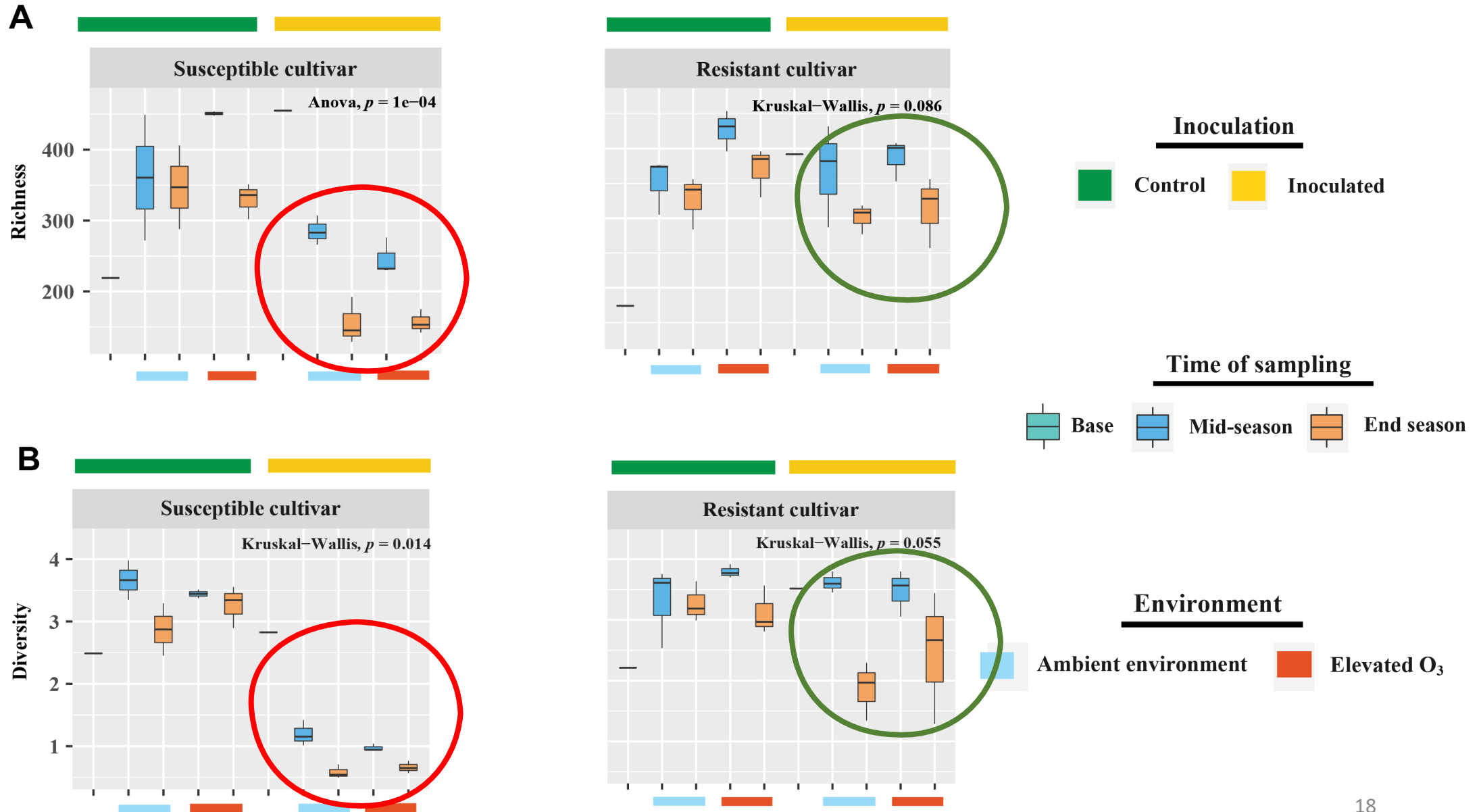
The effects of elevated O₃ on disease outcomes are not fully explained by changes in microbiota density and abundance



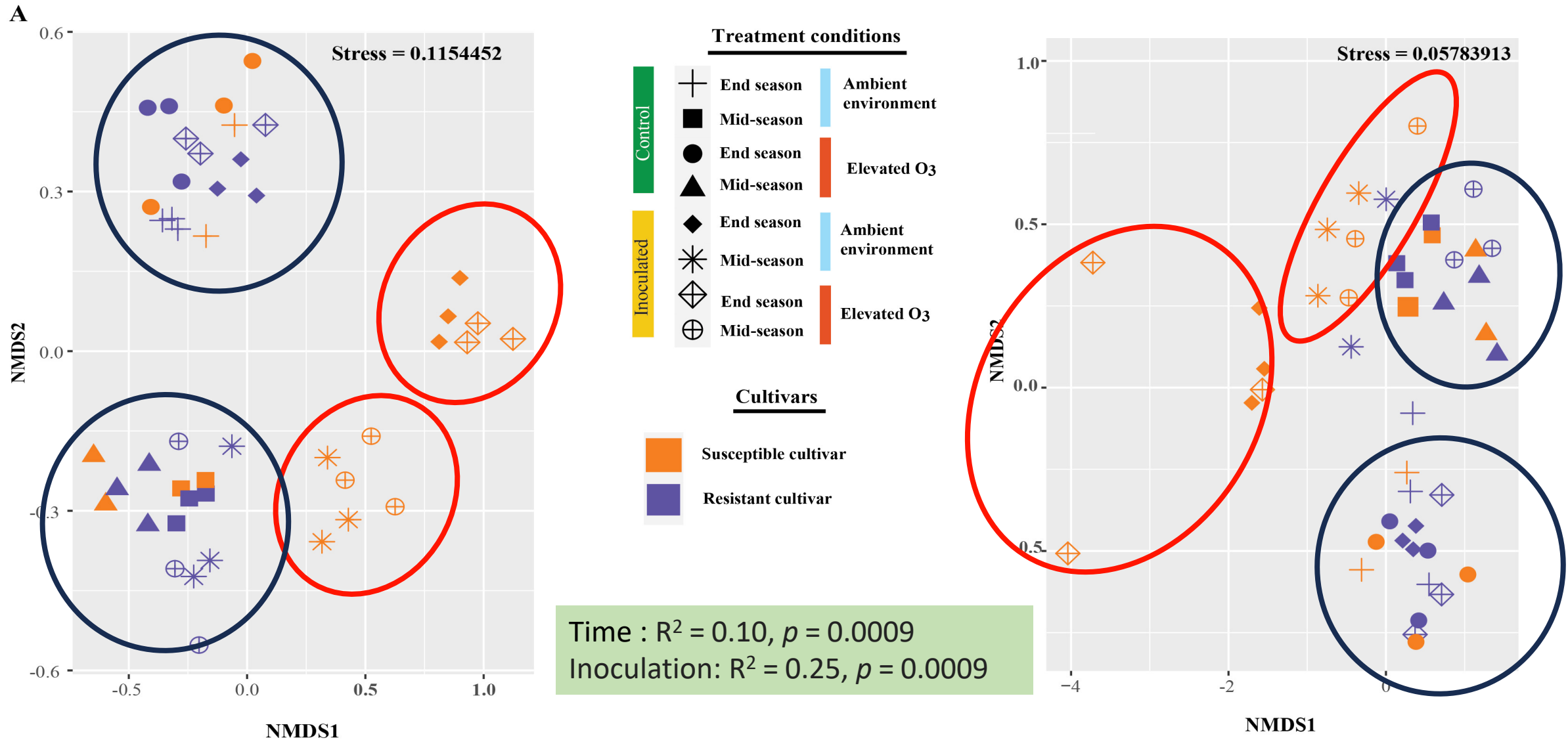
Bacterial diversity and richness increases upon exposure to field conditions



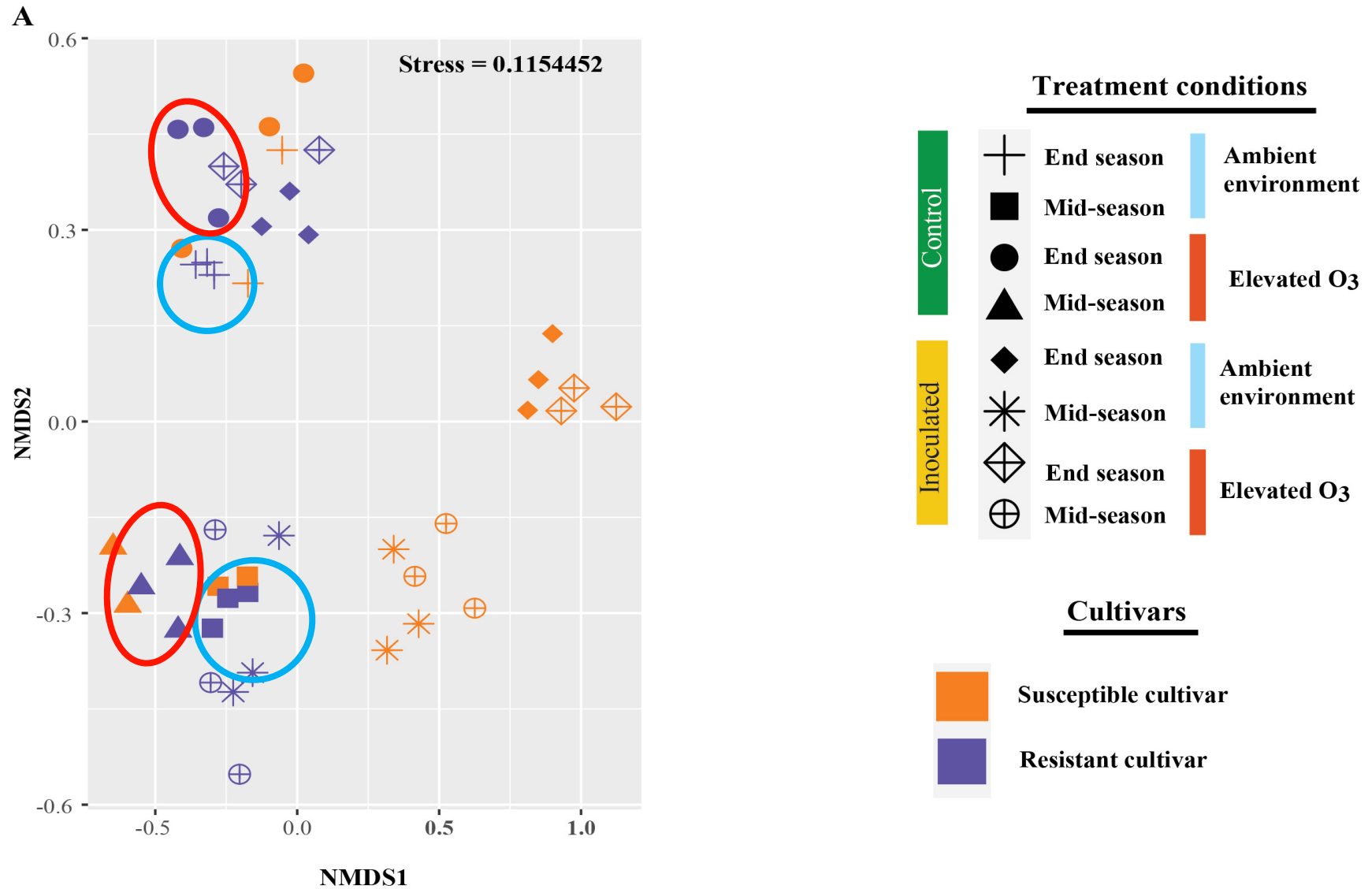
Elevated O₃ has little impact on microbial diversity and richness



Microbial community structure was significantly affected by inoculation and time of sampling

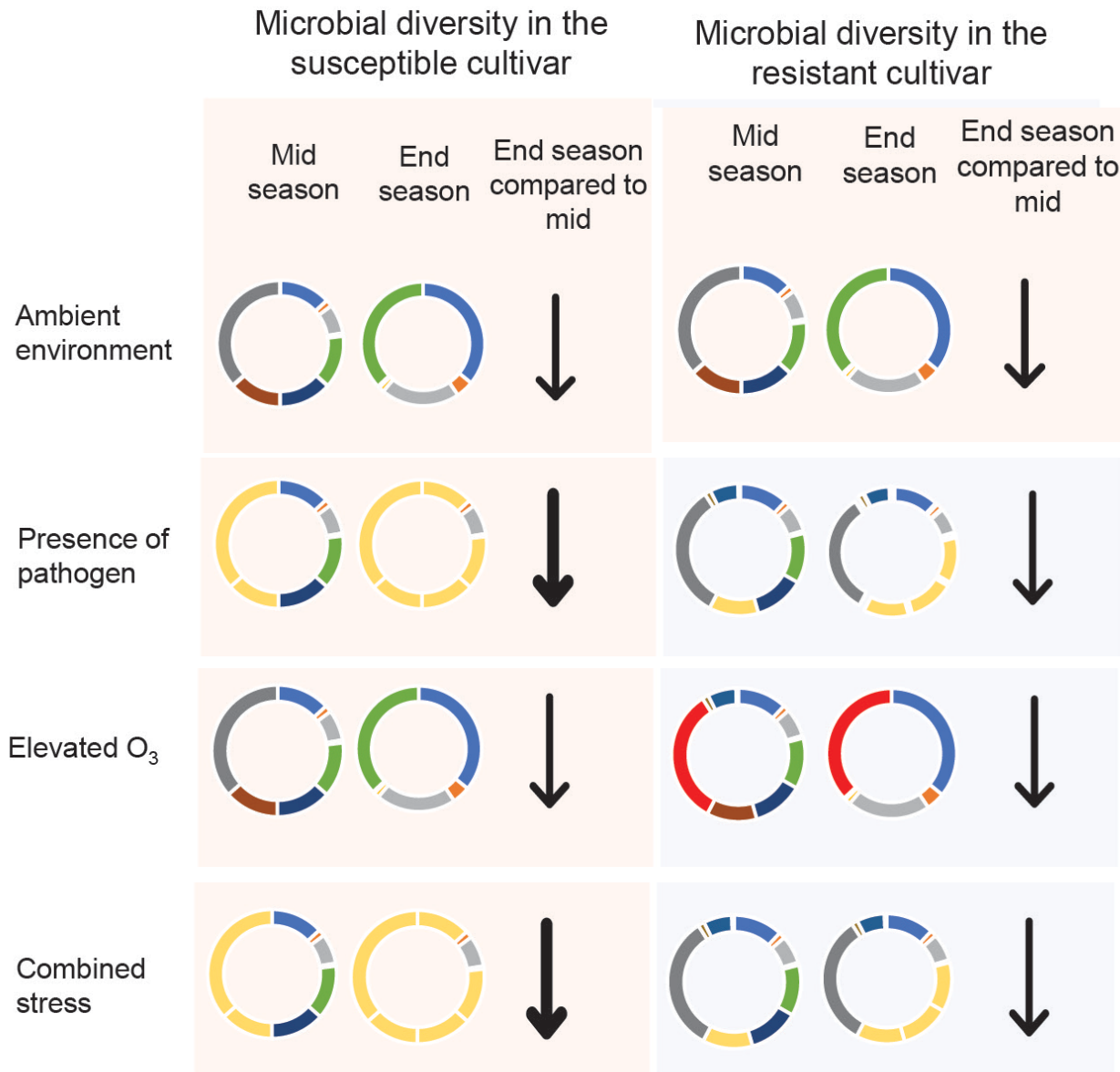


Elevated O₃ changes microbial community structure on resistant cultivars in the absence of pathogen



$(R^2 = 0.14, p = 0.02)$

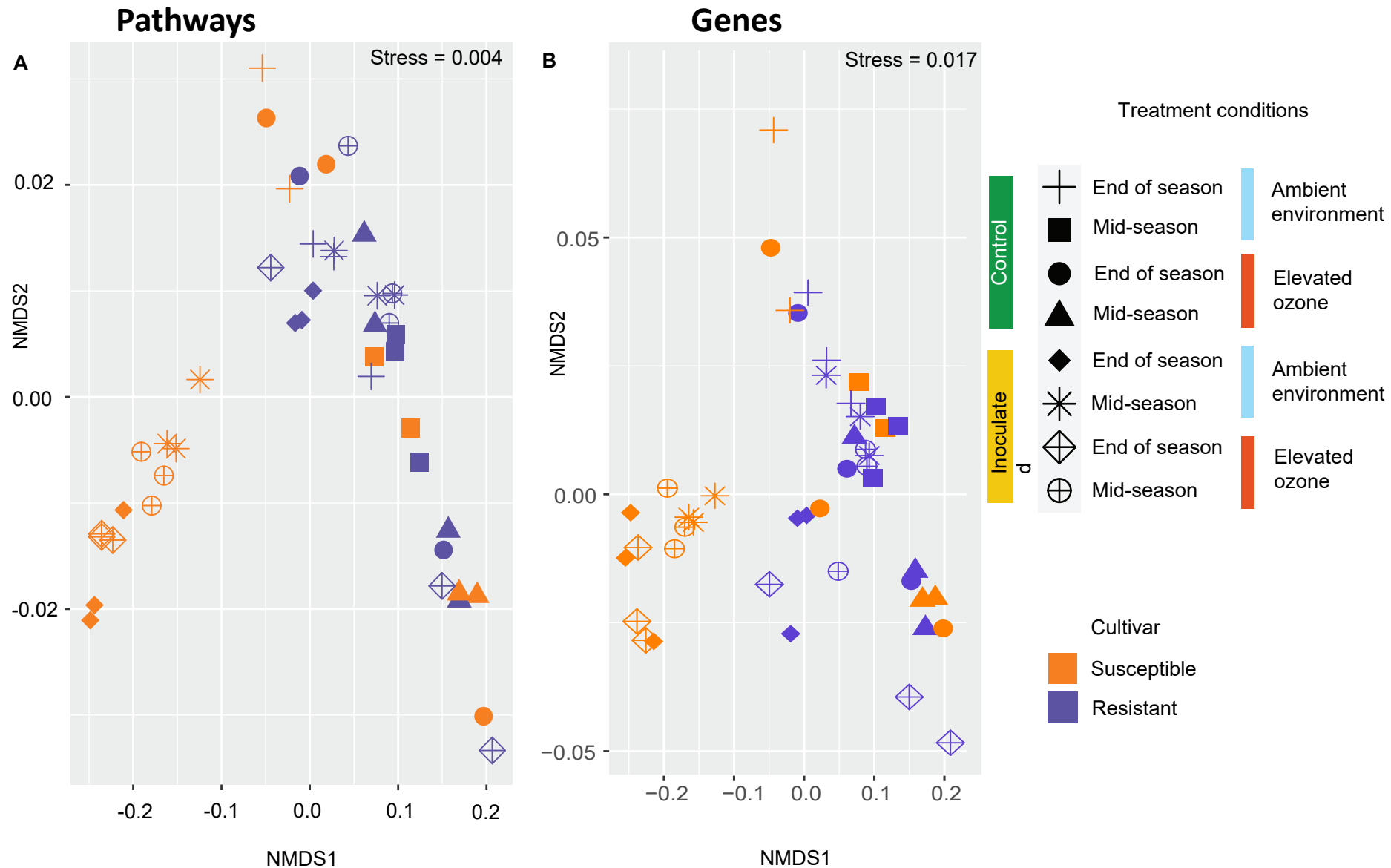
Summary: Influence of environment, pathogen and host resistance in microbial community structure



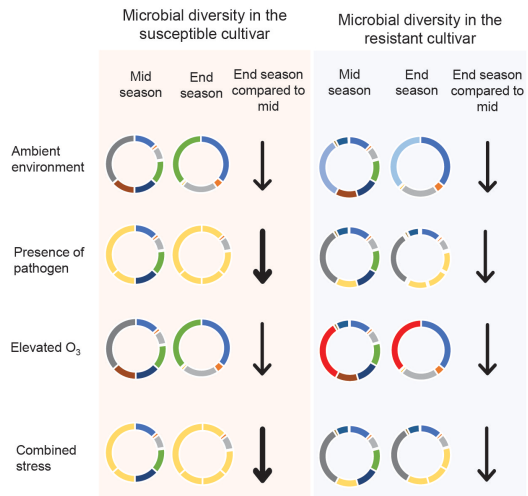
Does the observed taxonomic differences reflect niche-specific microbial functions ?



Phyllosphere microbial communities with different taxonomical compositions shows functional redundancy.



Summary: Influence of environment, pathogen and host resistance in microbial community function



Microbial functions enriched in both the cultivars

Biosynthesis of amino acid
Defense pathways

Carbohydrate metabolism
Defense pathways
Exopolysaccharide pathways

β -oxidation
O₂ independent respiration
DNA repair
Pathways against O₂ stress

Purine nucleotide production and degradation

Overall community function

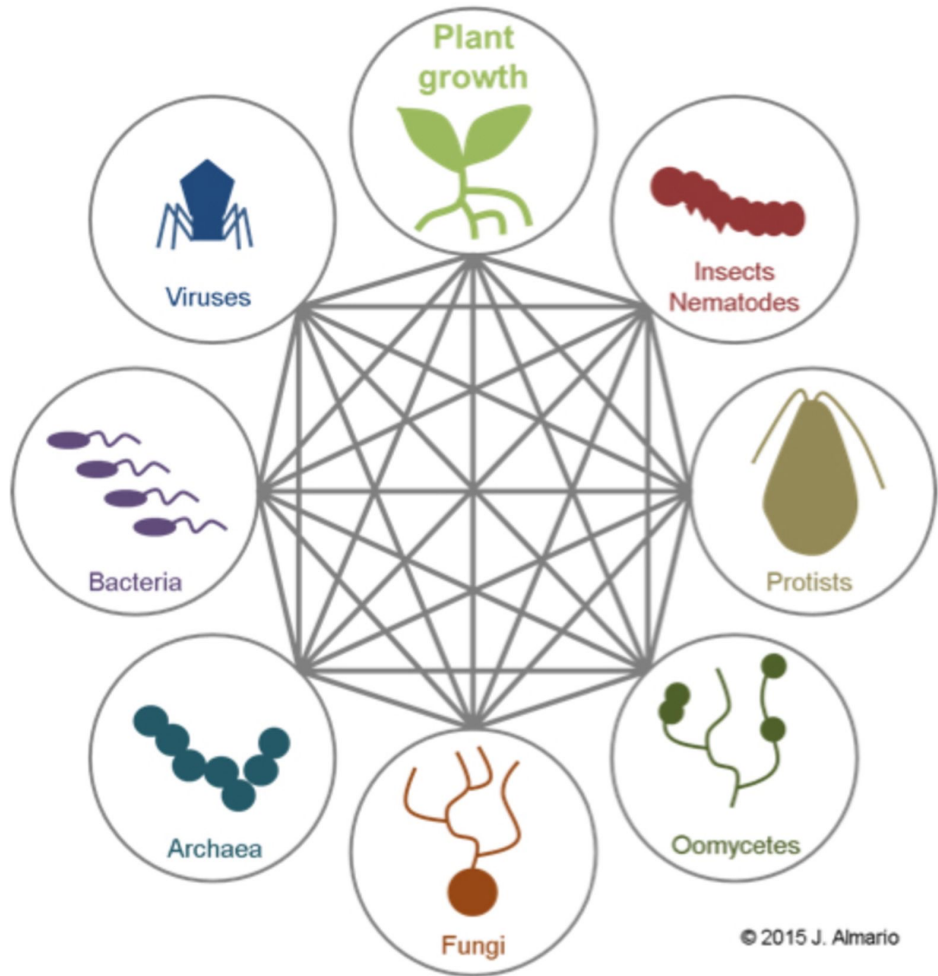
Influence of seasonal succession on community function in the ambient environment, yet functional resilience in the presence of single or combined stress.

How does the biotic and abiotic stress influence the microbial association?

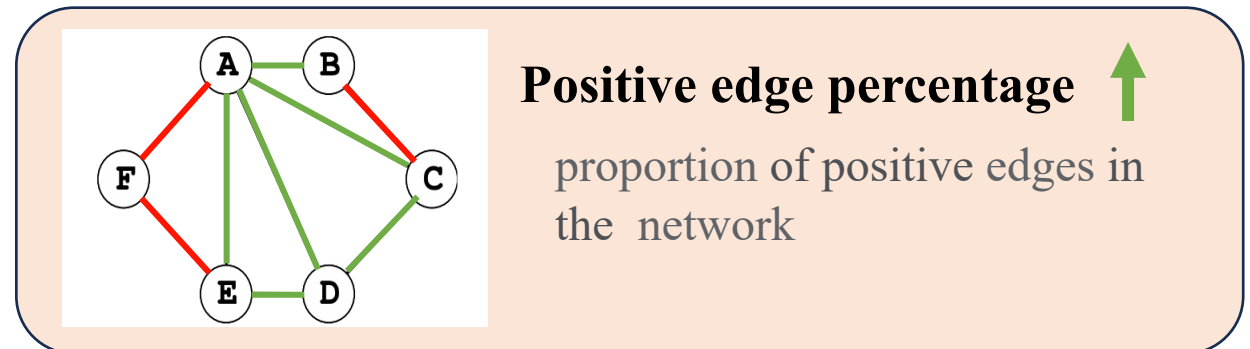
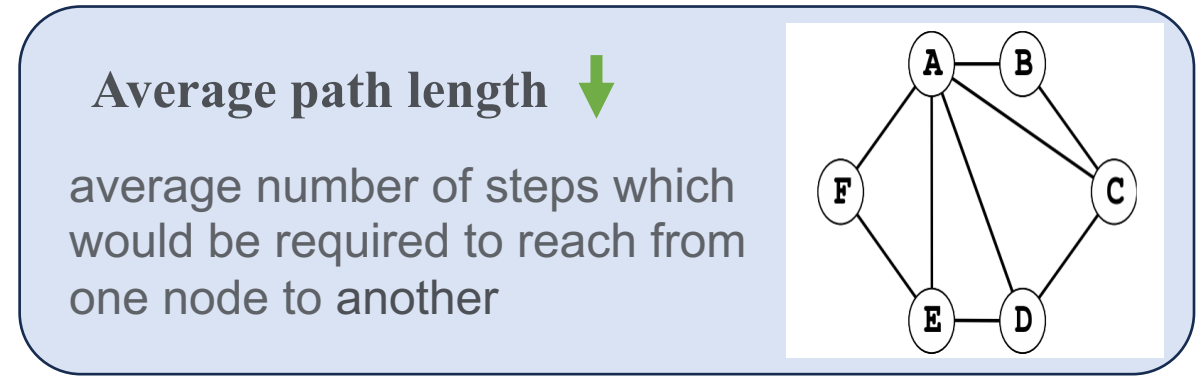
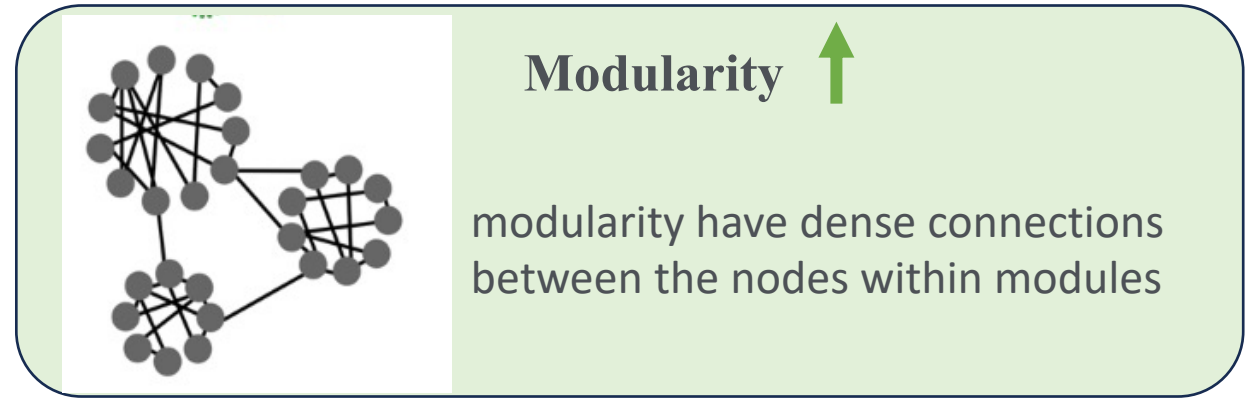


Source: WUR <https://www.wur.nl/en/article/microbial-interactions-between-green-microalgae-neochloris-oleoabundans-and-hypothesised-symbionts.htm>

Microbial network analysis helps to explore co-occurrence patterns of the microbial communities

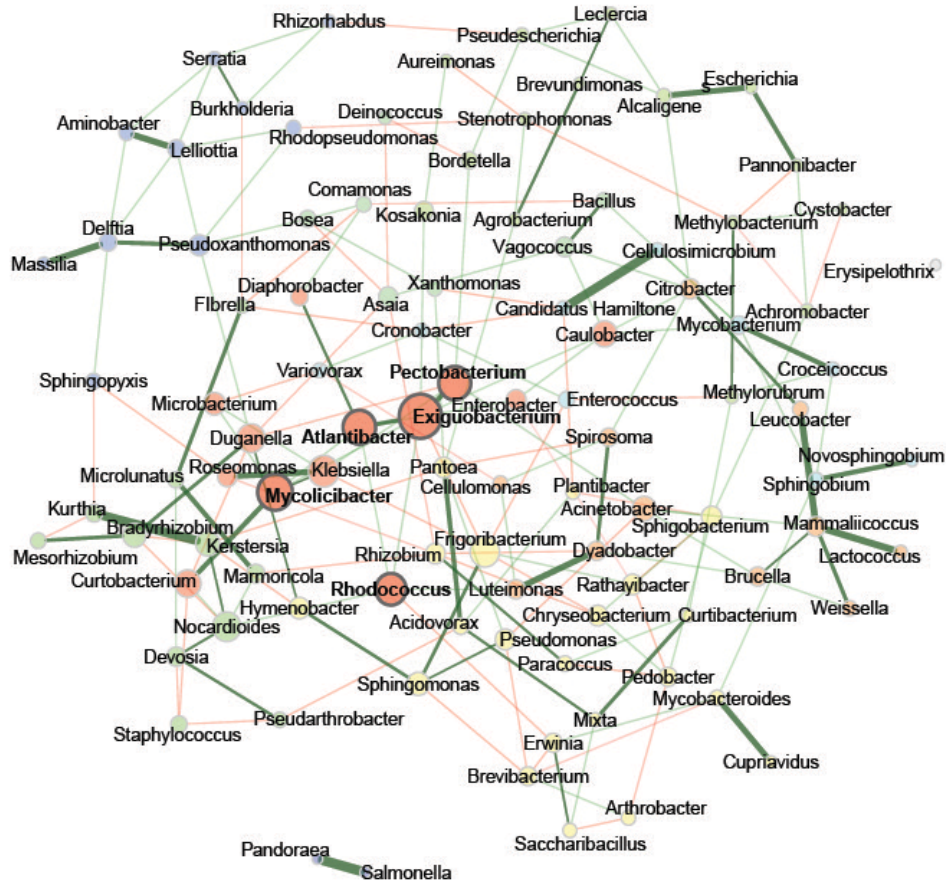


Source: CEPLAS

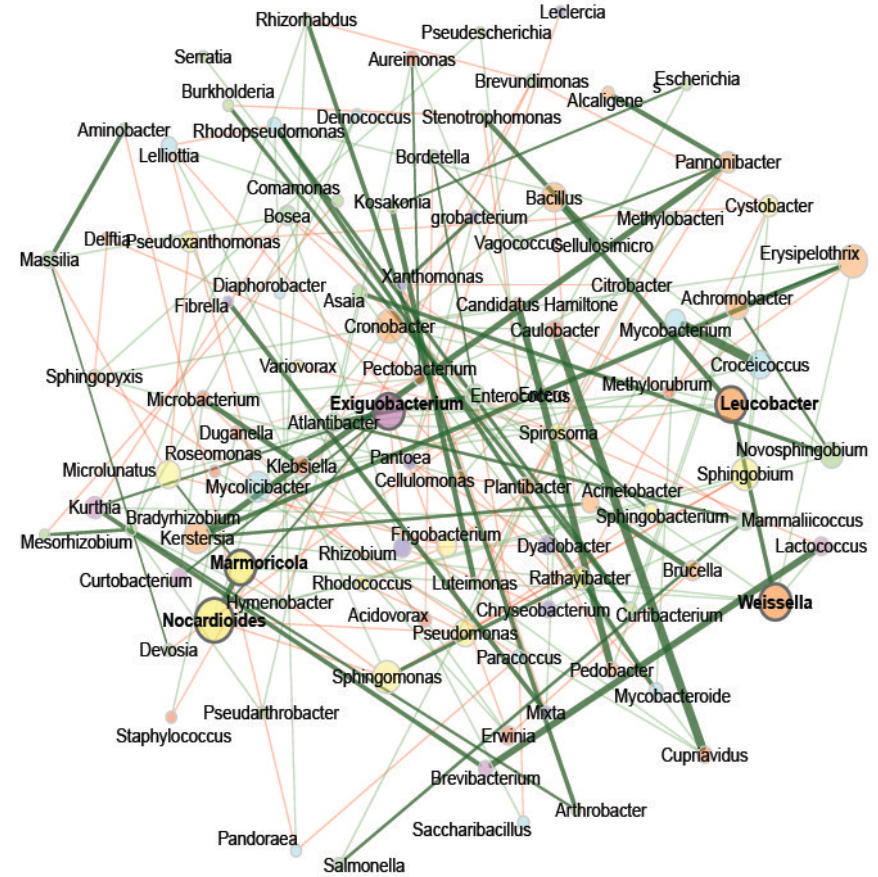


Abiotic stress destabilizes microbial network

Ambient environment



Elevated ozone

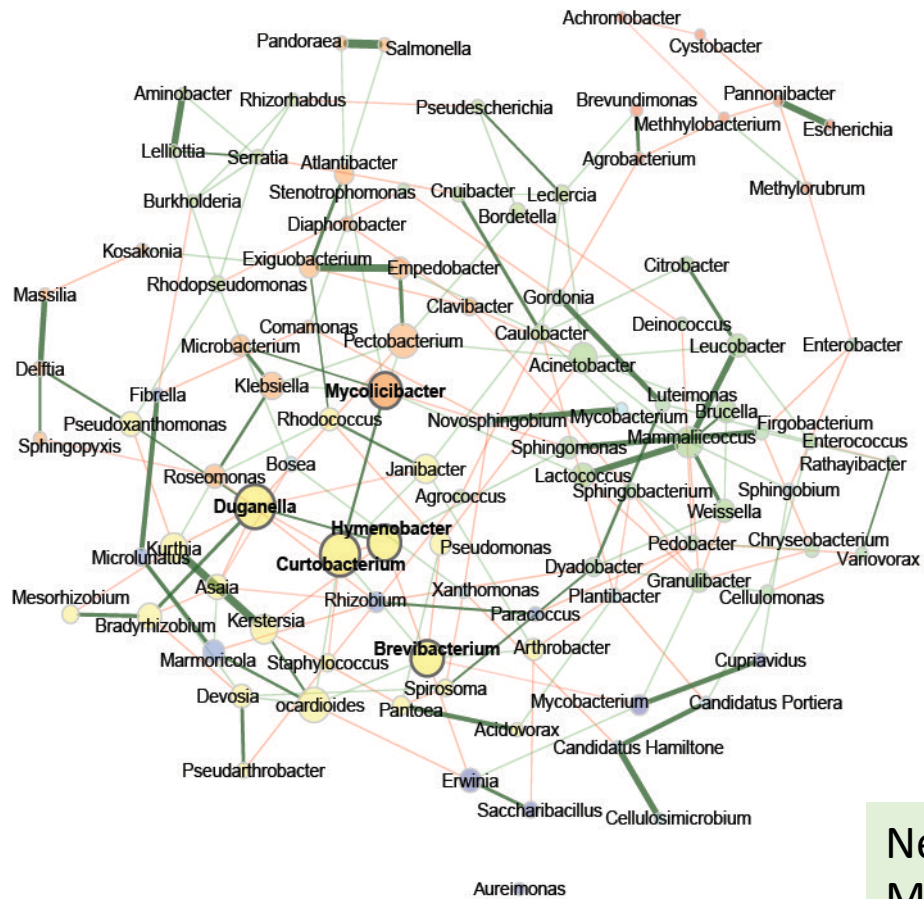


Modularity ↑
Positive edge % ↑
Average Path length ↓

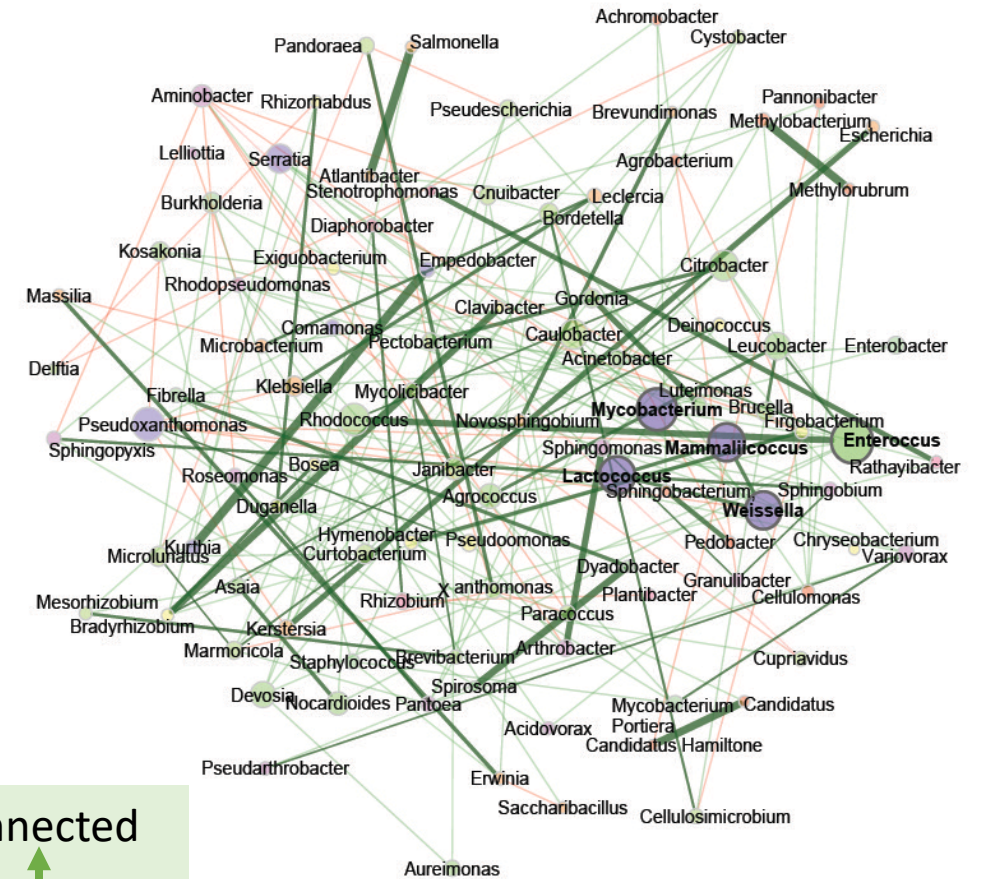
Network: Random
Modularity ↓
Positive edge % ↑
Average Path length ↓

Pathogen infection is associated with microbial communities showing positive and stable interactions

Ambient environment and control plants

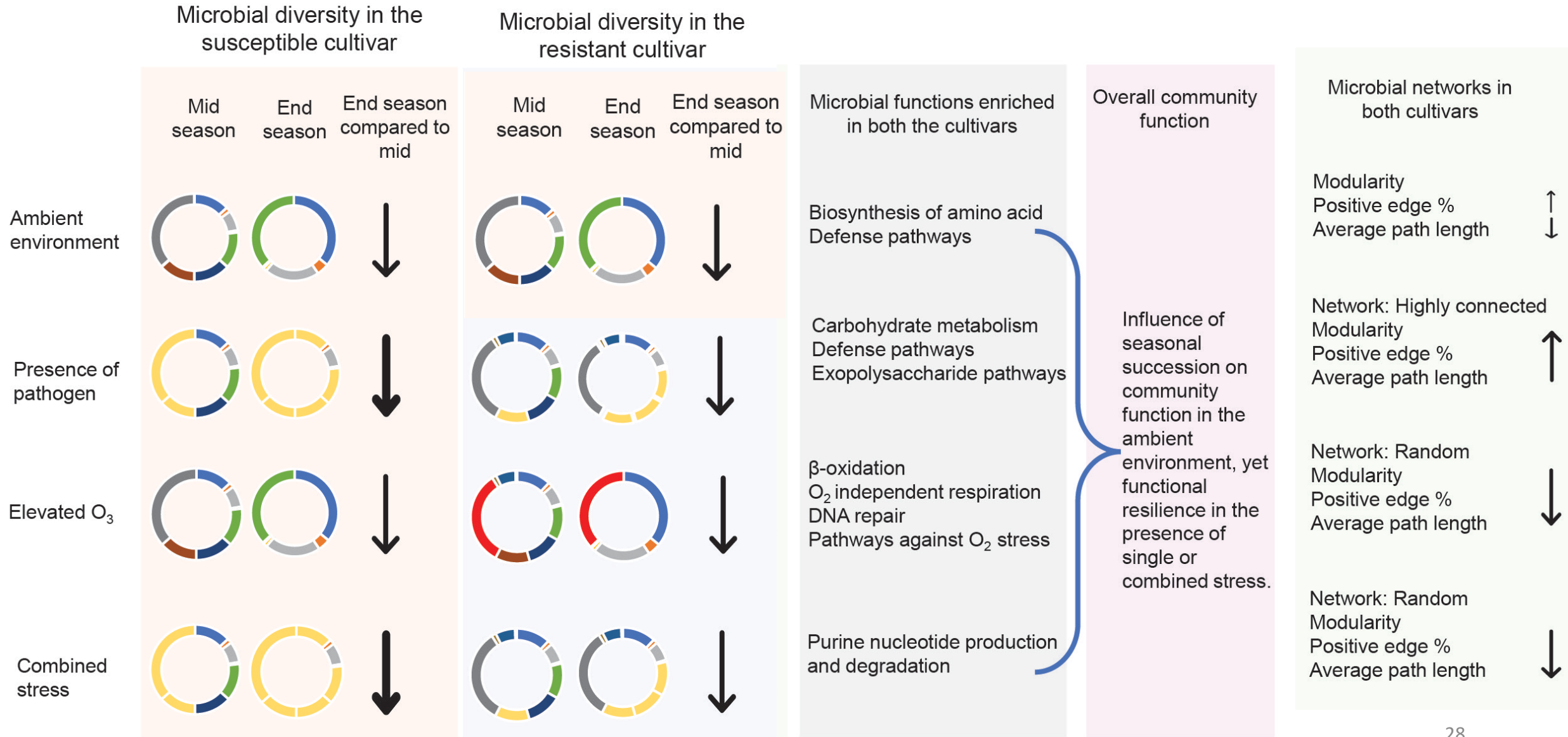


Ambient environment and inoculated plants



Network: Highly connected
Modularity ↑
Positive edge %
Average Path length ↓

Overall summary



Take home message, inferences and future directions

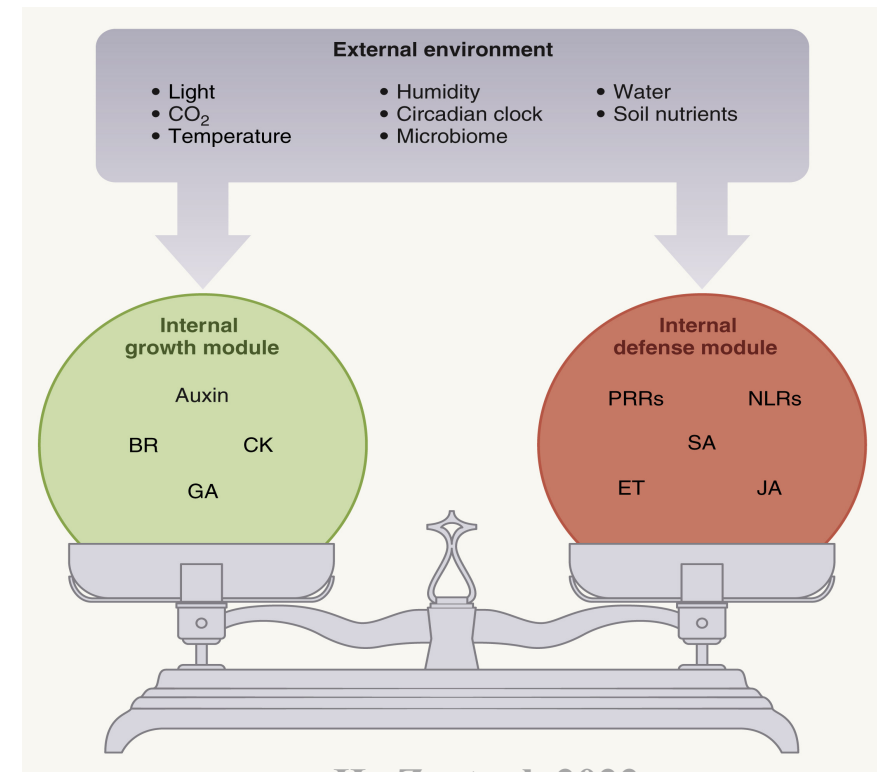
The host defense is likely to be compromised in the face of climate change

Altered host defense in the altered environment?

Is the pathogen being more aggressive with the change in the environment?

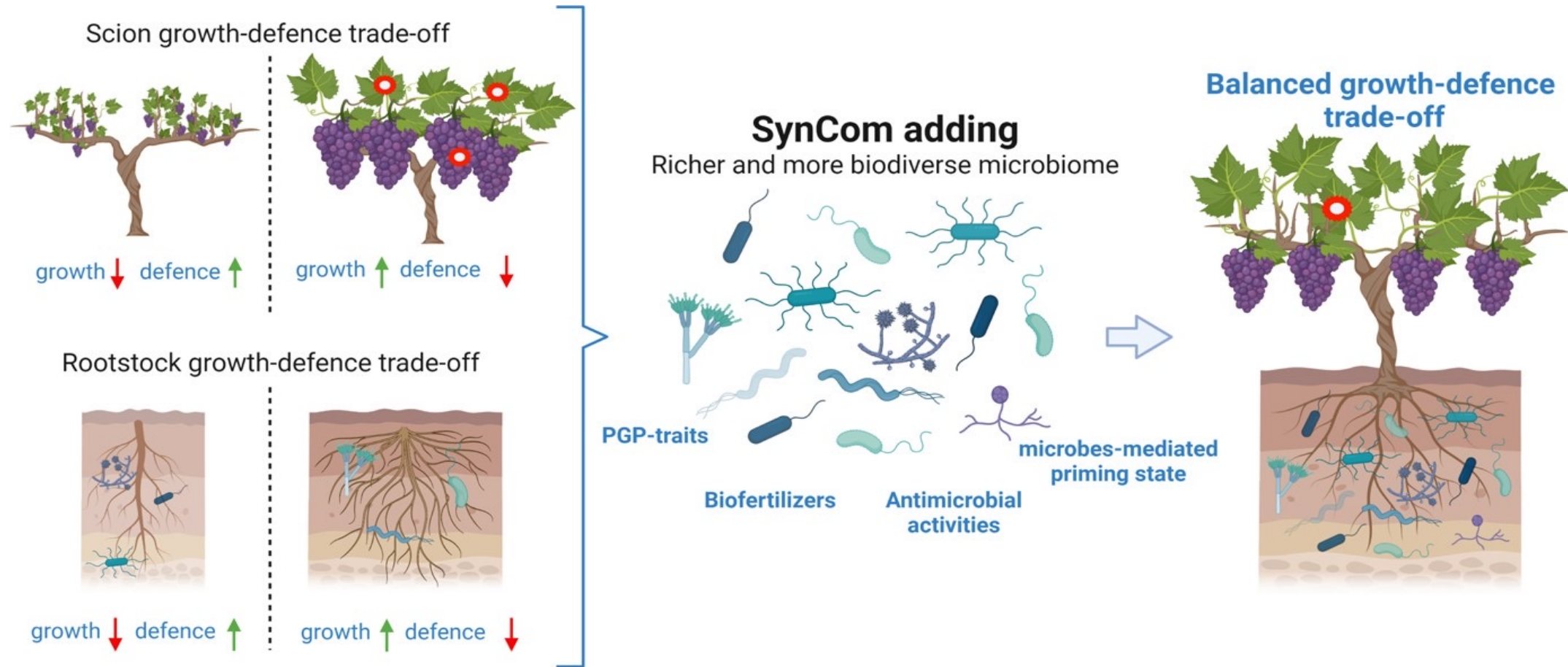
Loss of microbiota mediated protection?

Altered interaction among the community members



He Z. et. al. 2022

Microbial interactions can be restored by adding SynCom to balance the growth-defense trade-off ??



Sandrini M. et al. 2022

Acknowledgement

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Ivory Russel

Palash Ghosh

Sivakumar Ramamoorthy

Past lab member

Auston Holland





<https://nehapotnis.wixsite.com/potnislab/>



<https://github.com/Potnislab/>



@nehapotnis @hreeshee

ARTICLE **OPEN**

 Check for updates

Xanthomonas infection and ozone stress distinctly influence the microbial community structure and interactions in the pepper phyllosphere

Rishi Bhandari¹, Alvaro Sanz-Saez², Courtney P. Leisner³ and Neha Potnis ¹ ✉

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s43705-023-00232-w>

