

# Kill-the-Winner in four environments

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# Overview

- Kill-the-Winner
- Microbial loop
- Methods and results
- Conclusions

# Hypothesis driven research: Kill-the-Winner

- Viral-mediated killing of dominant microbes
- Leads to community structure changes

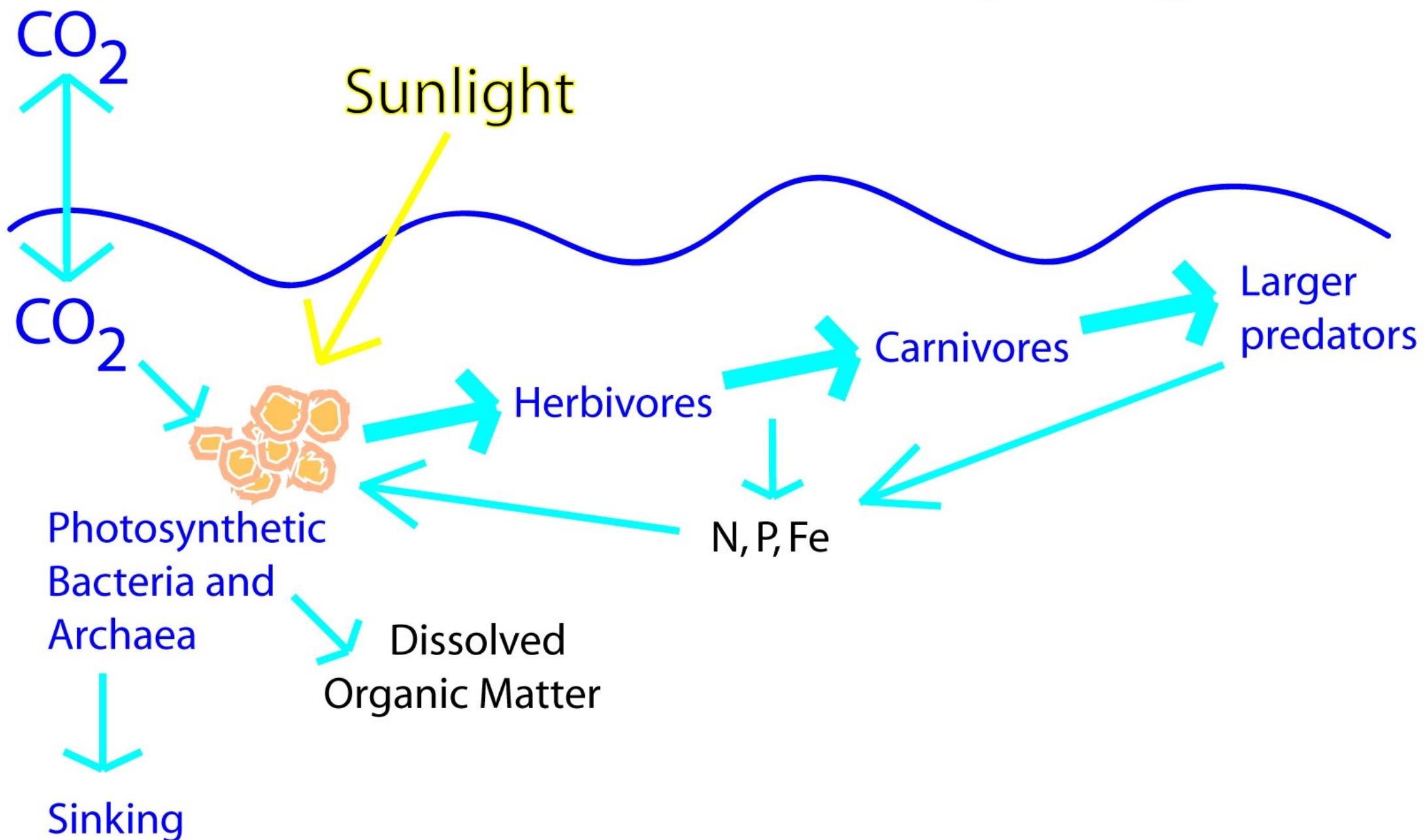
# Mic r o b e s ?

# Bac t er io ph a g e s ?

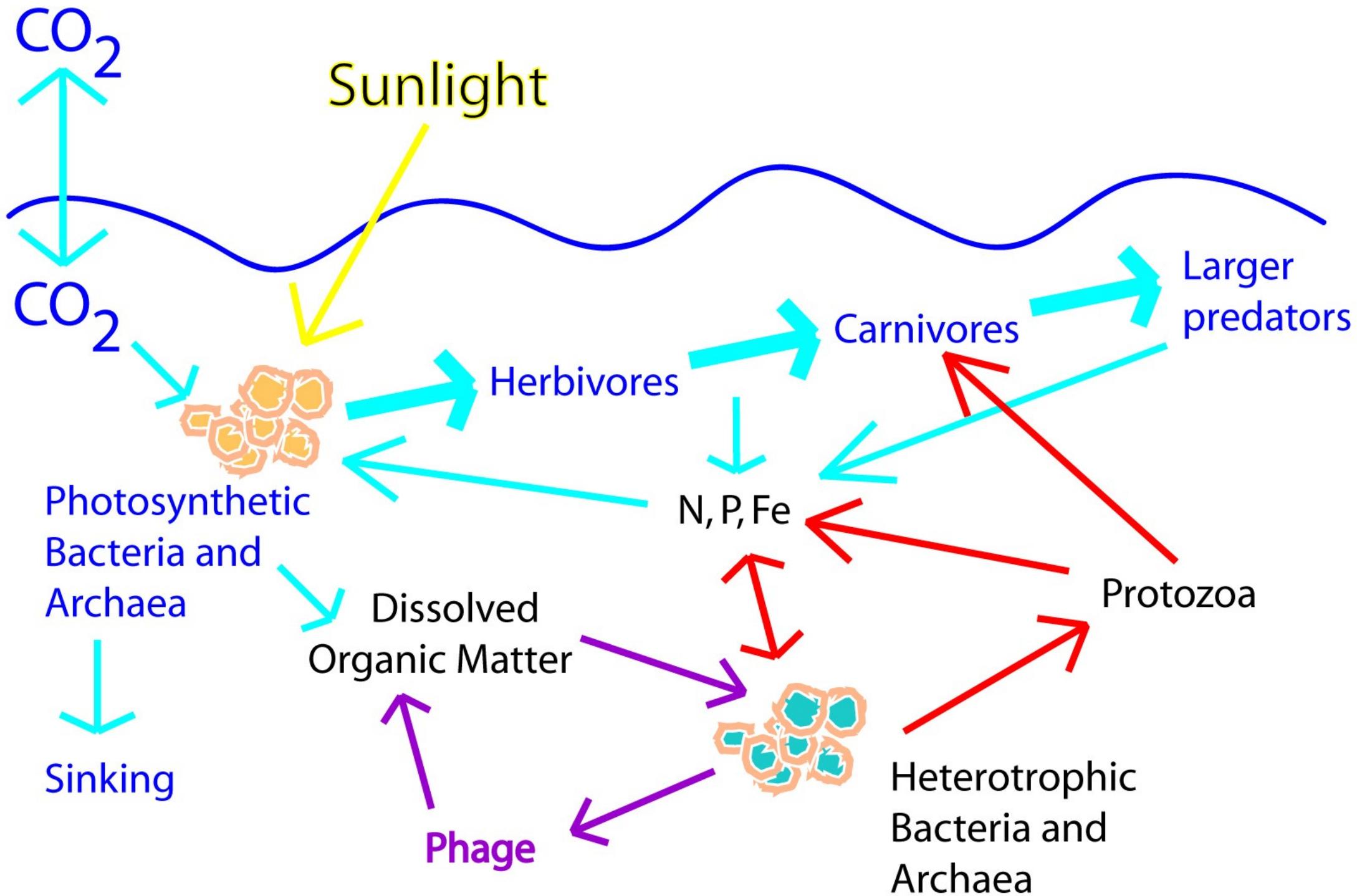
# W h at ?!

- Q: Why do we even care?
- A: Evolutionary theory.
- A: Estimated to be  $10^{30}$  and  $10^{31}$  on Earth
- A: Carbon cycle surprise. Microbes range between  $10^4 \text{ ml}^{-1}$  and  $10^6 \text{ ml}^{-1}$  in oceanic waters and effect greatly the oceanic biogeochemical cycles.

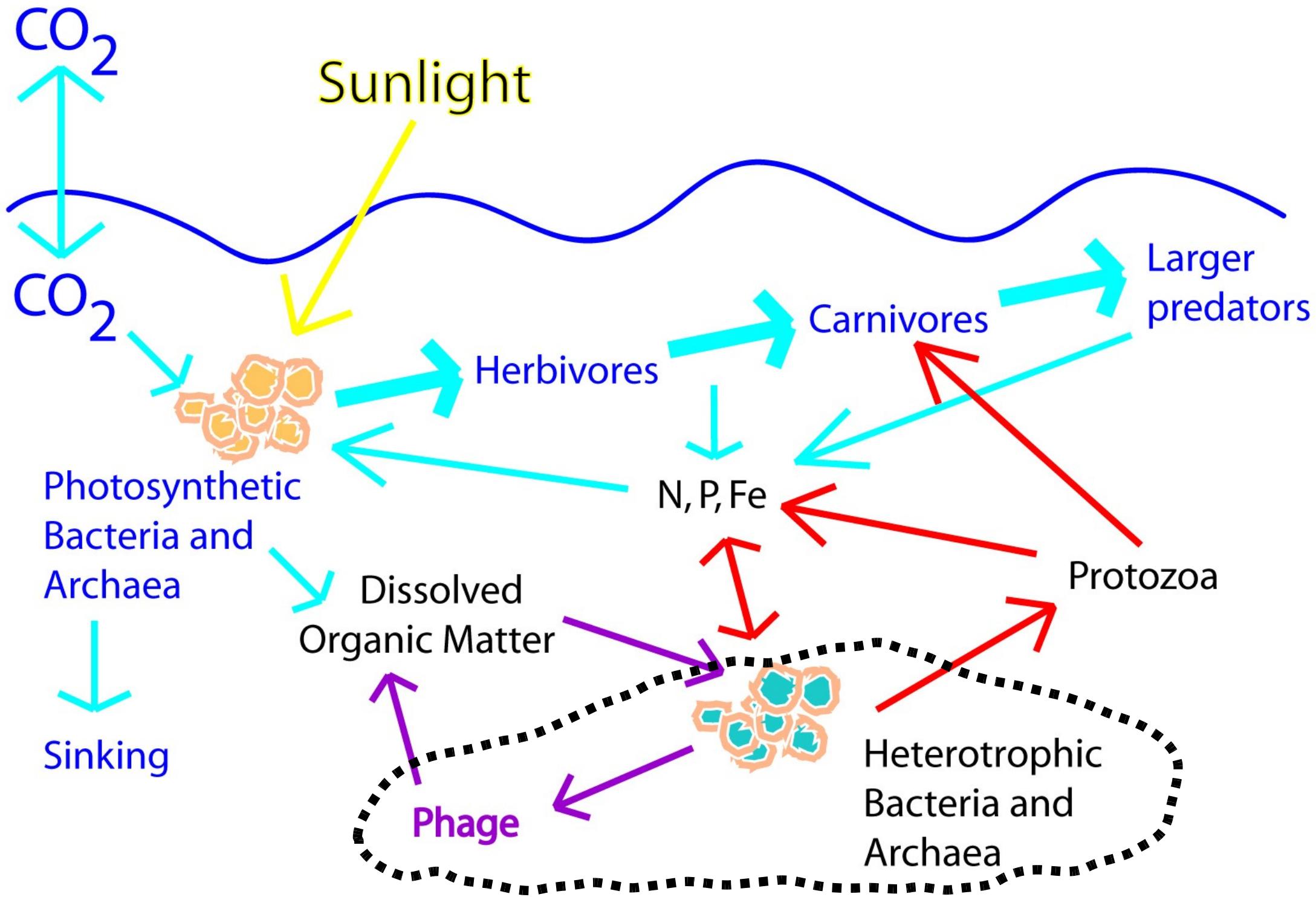
# Global Carbon Cycling



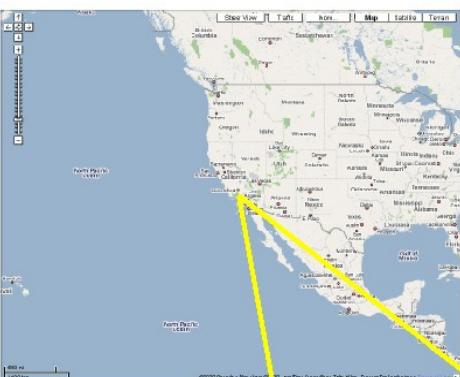
# Global Carbon Cycling



# Global Carbon Cycling



# Sampling locations



**San Diego,  
California,  
USA**



- Two sites: Kent Sea Tech's fish farm, Bay Saltworks' solar saltern



Saltern Samples

- 3 ponds in the solar saltern

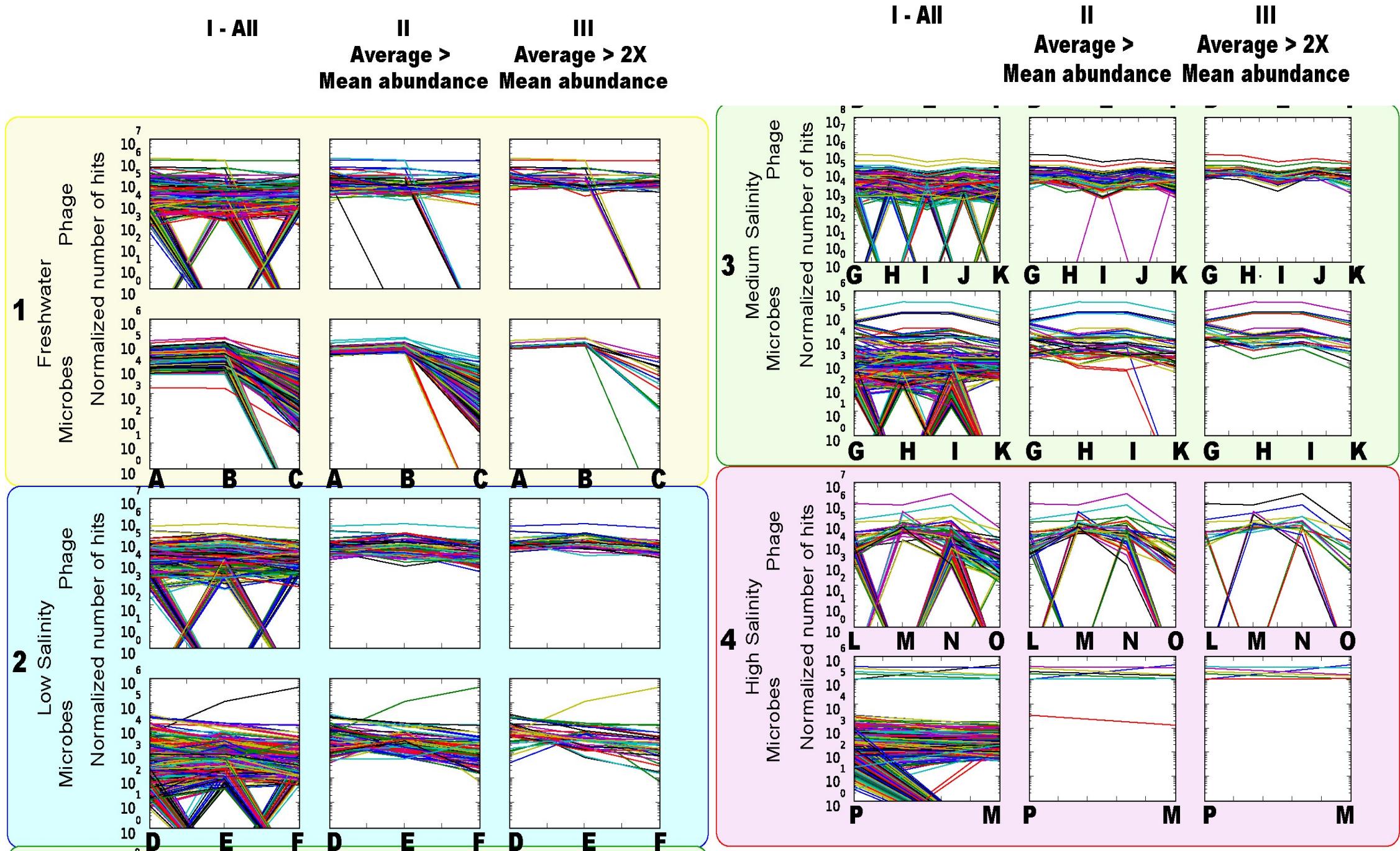


- 2 ponds in the fish farm

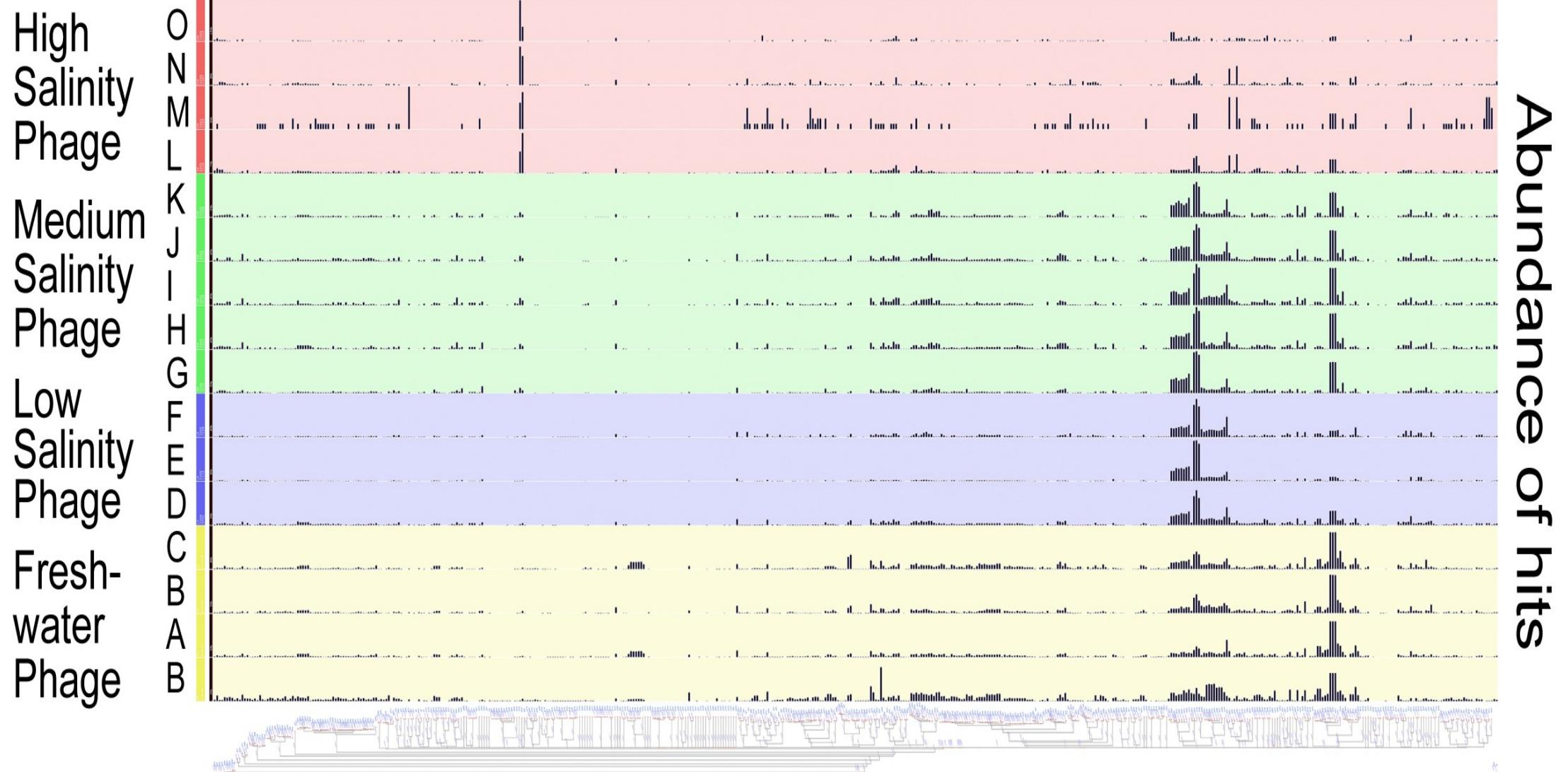
# Coarse-grained analyses

- NCBI's sequenced genome database
- Phage Proteomic Tree (PPT)
- SEED
- XIPE

# Results – time series



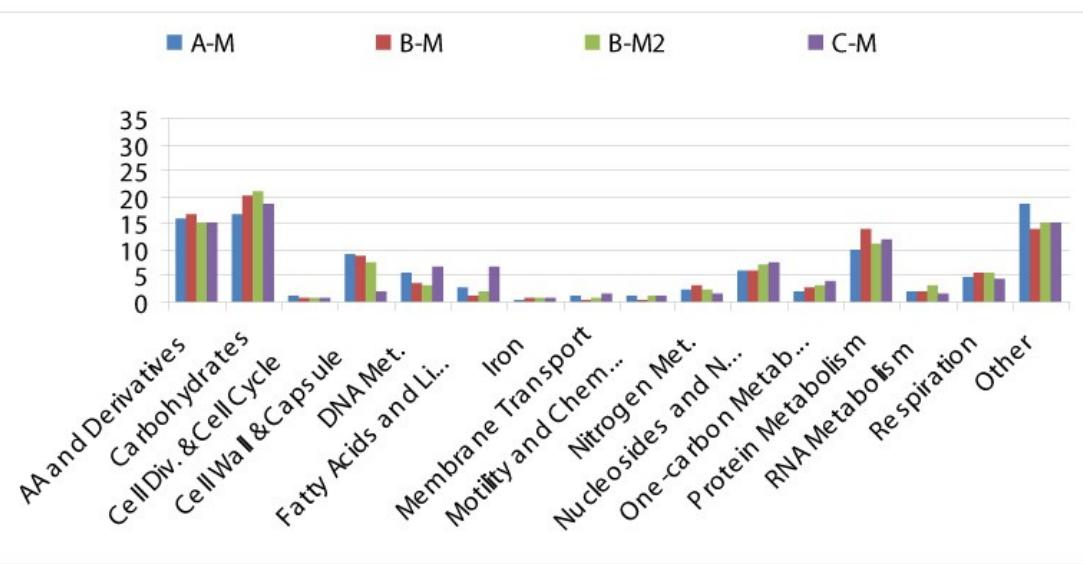
# PPT and environmental signatures



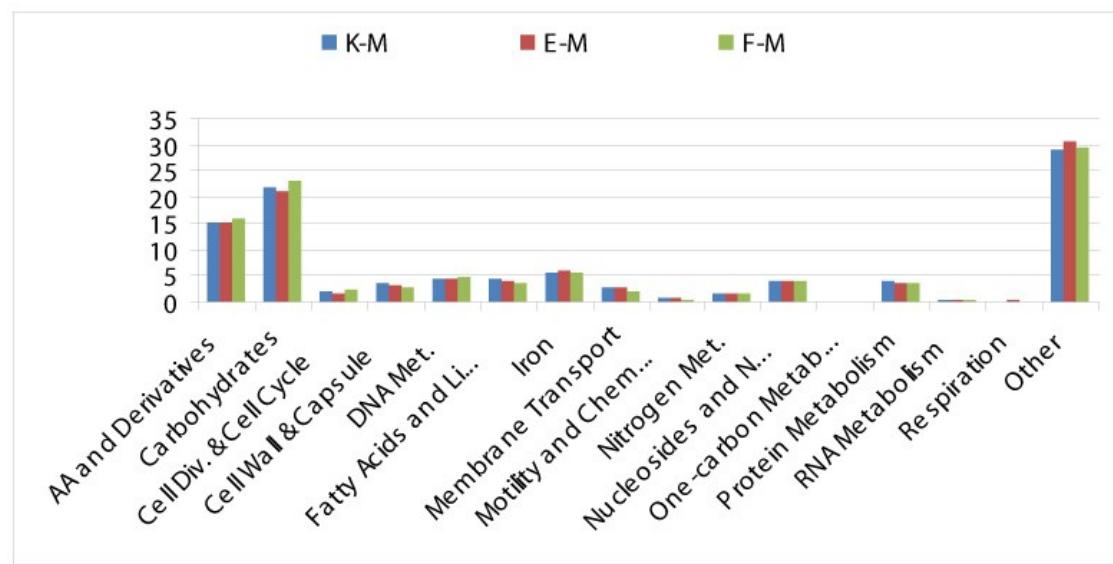
Phage Proteomic Tree

# SEED and environmental signatures

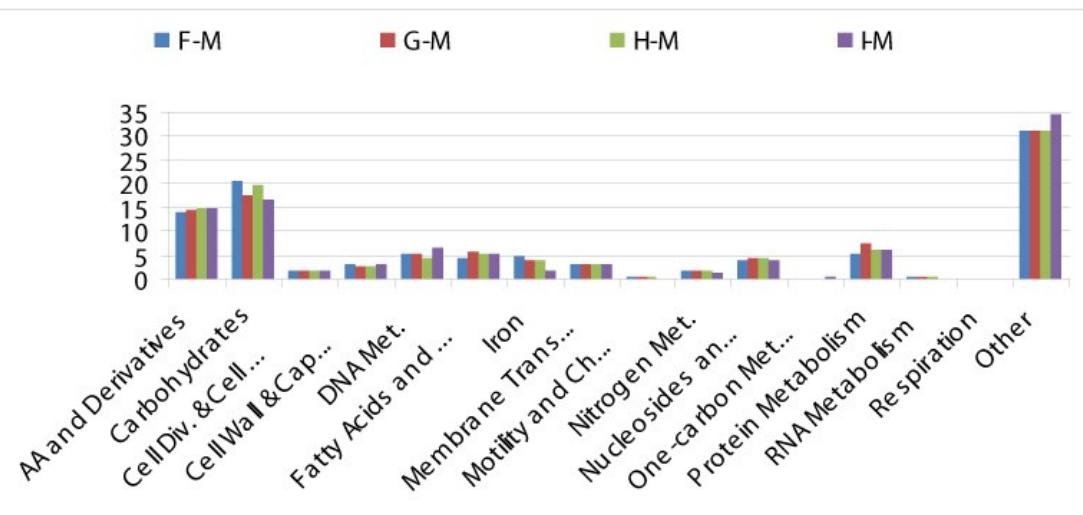
(A) Freshwater microbiomes



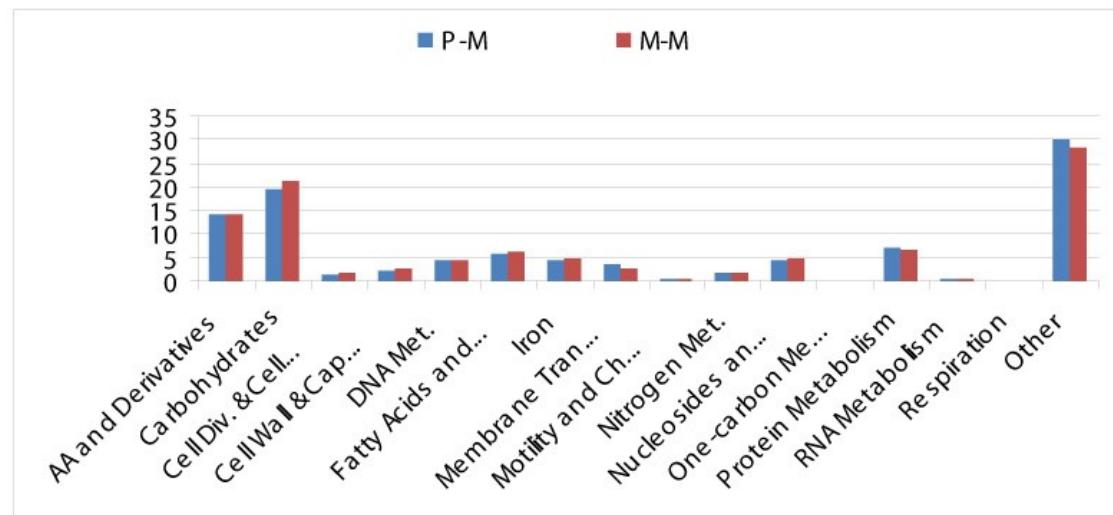
(B) Low salinity microbiomes



(C) Medium salinity microbiomes

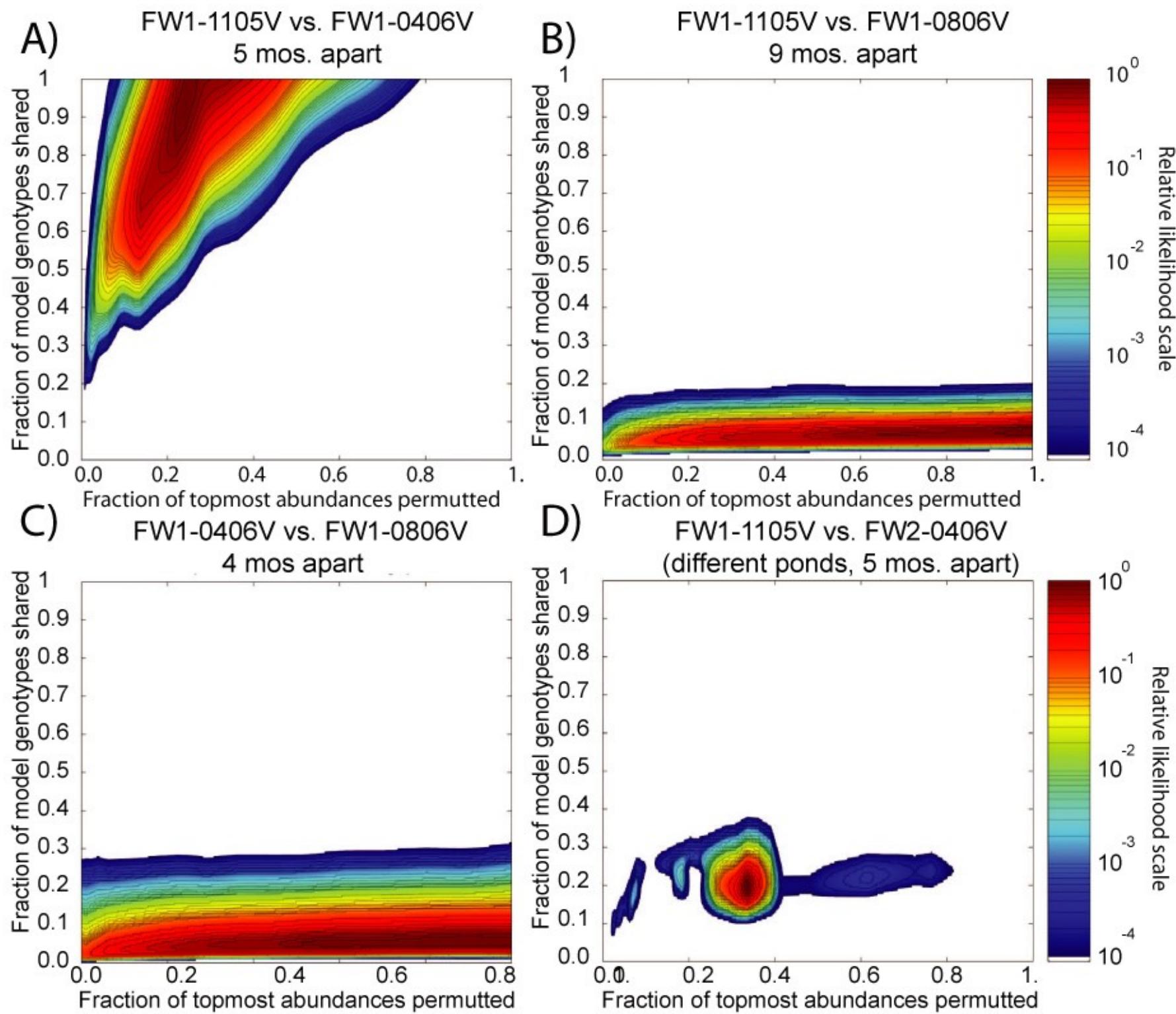


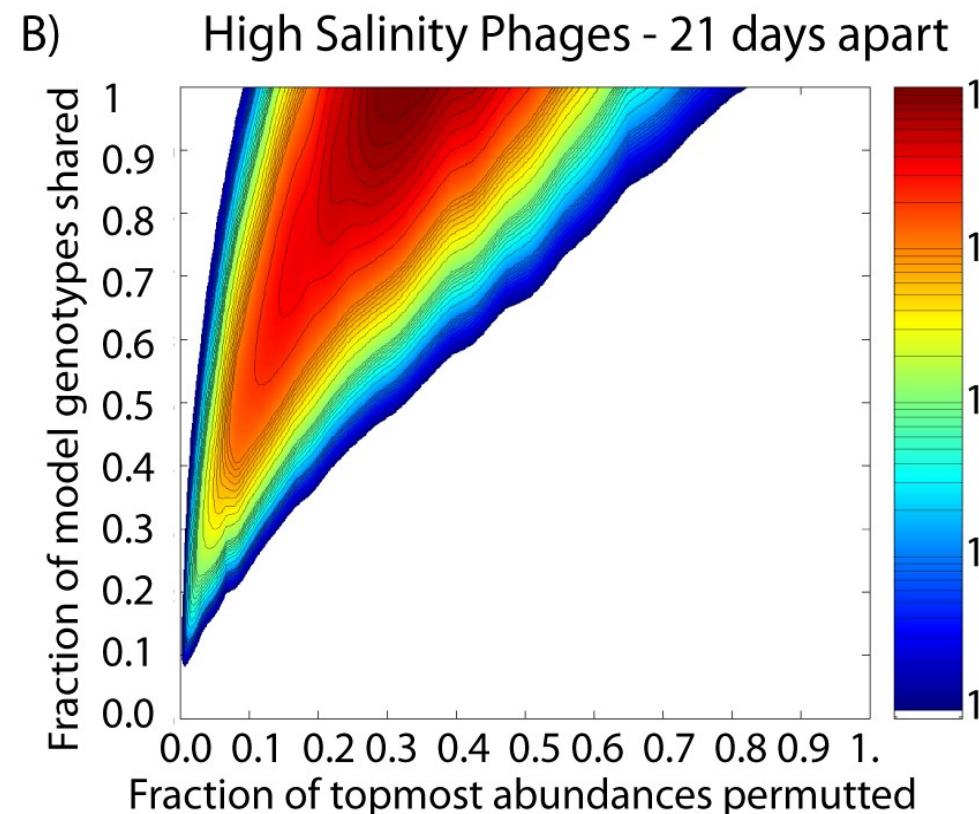
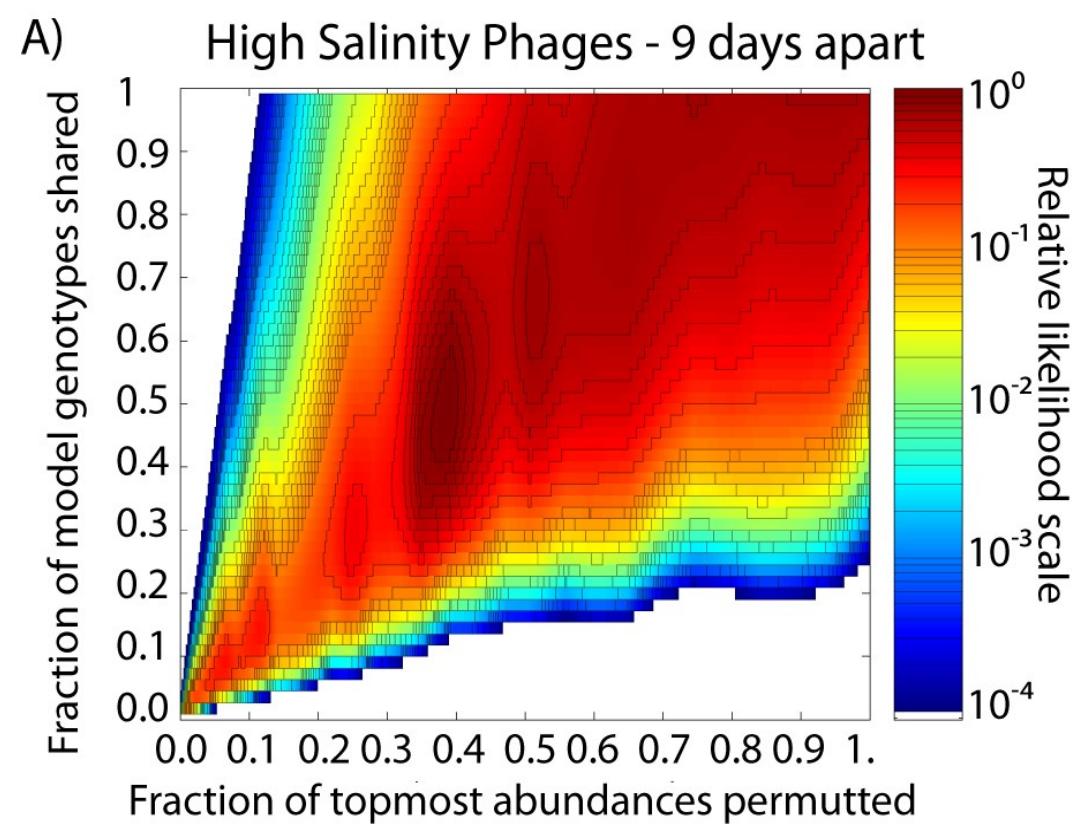
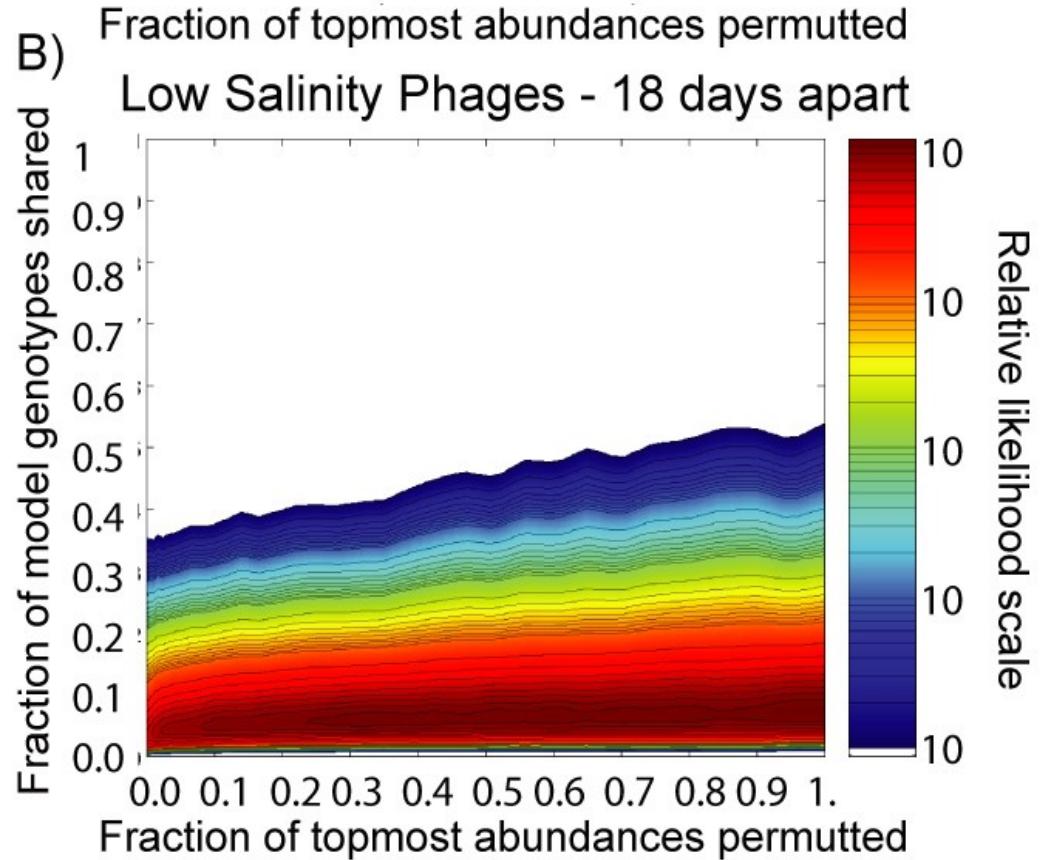
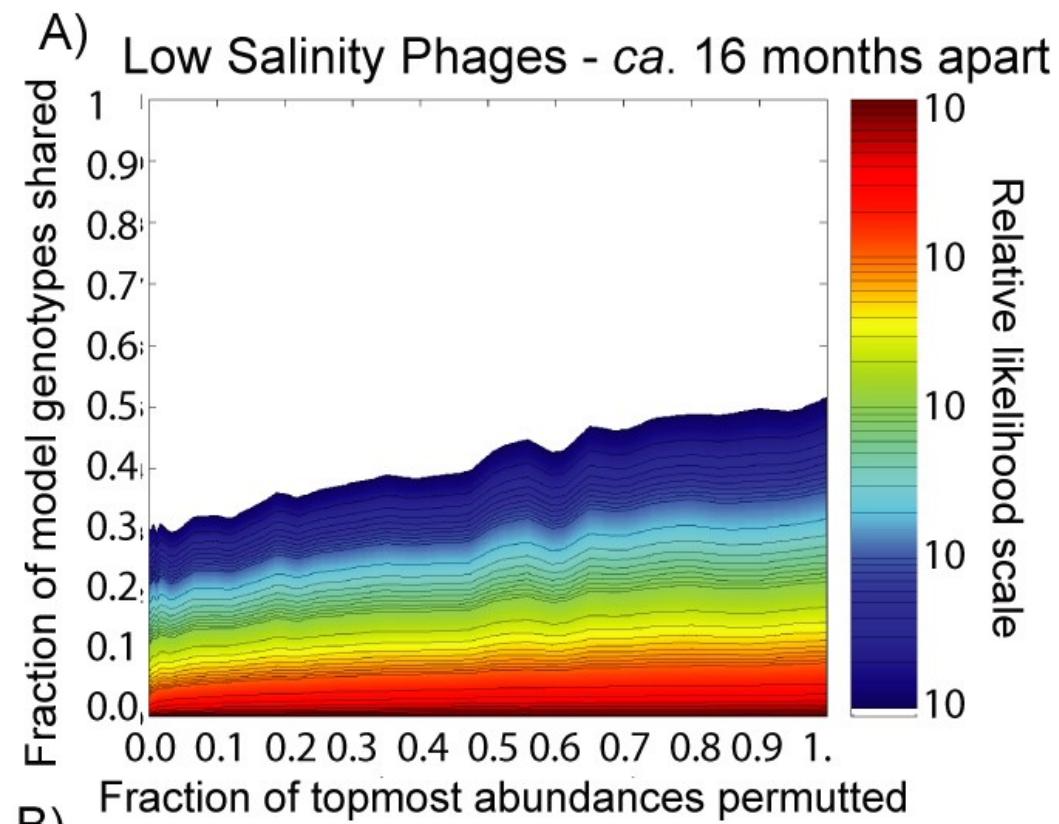
(D) High salinity microbiomes



# Fine-grained analyses

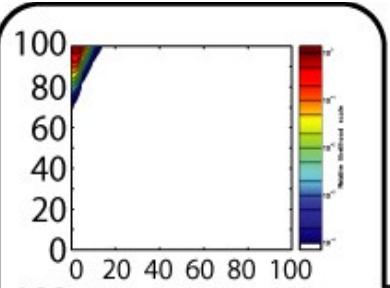
- Assembly, cross-assembly
- Taxi-phi



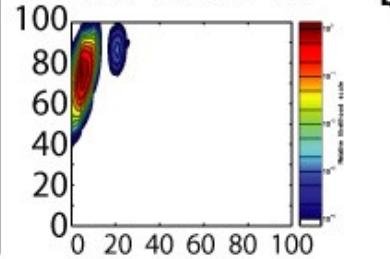


% shared

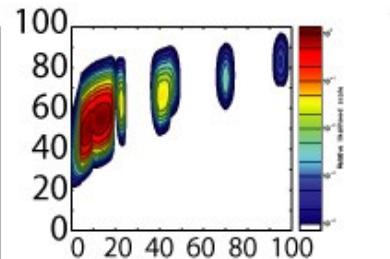
Nov 10  
(G-V)



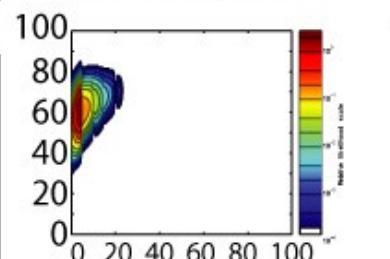
Nov 11  
(H-V)



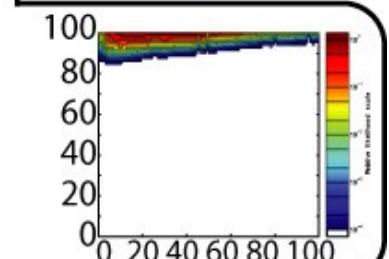
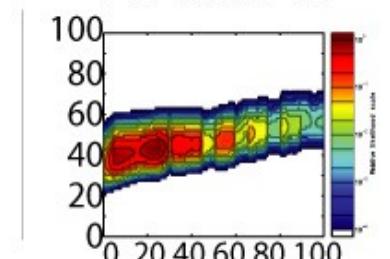
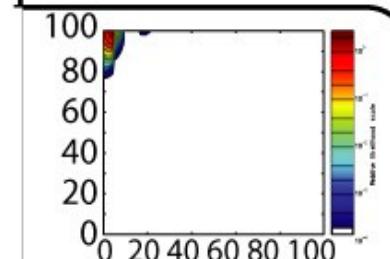
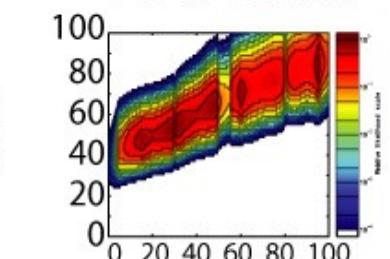
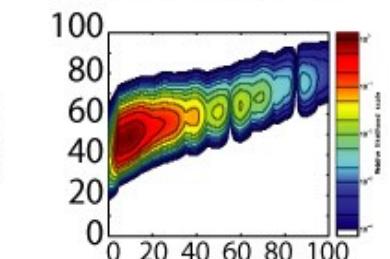
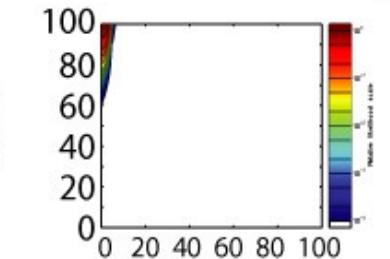
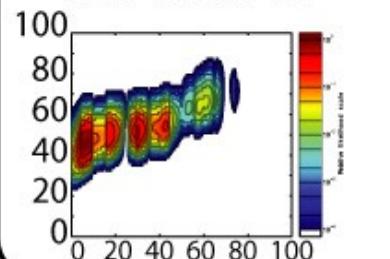
Nov 16  
(I-V)



Nov 20  
(J-V)



Nov 28  
(K-V)



Nov 10  
(G-V)

Nov 11  
(H-V)

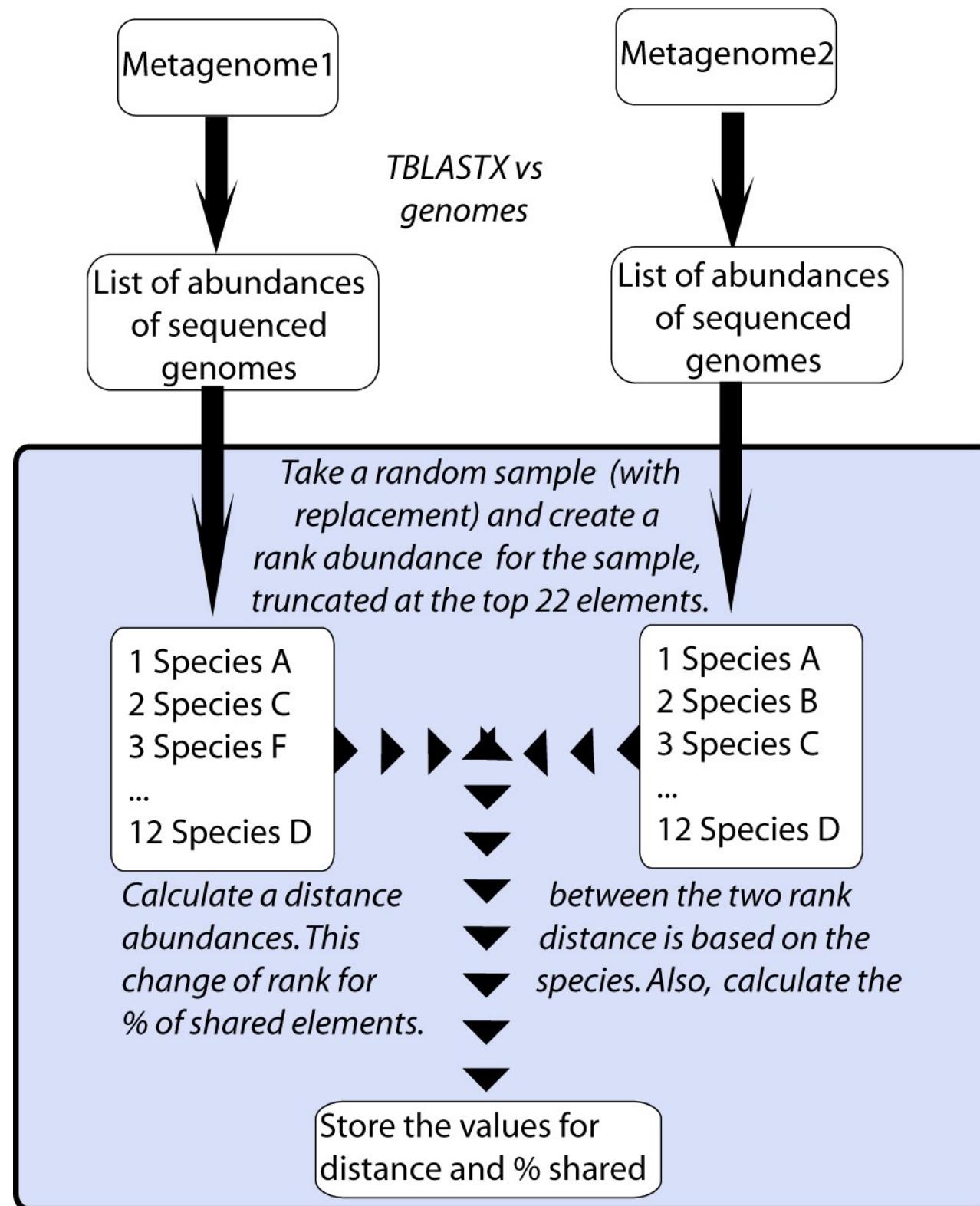
Nov 16  
(I-V)

Nov 20  
(J-V)

Nov 28  
(K-V)

% permuted →

How about the microbes?



*Repeat 5'000 times, plot the density of distances, %-shared pairs*

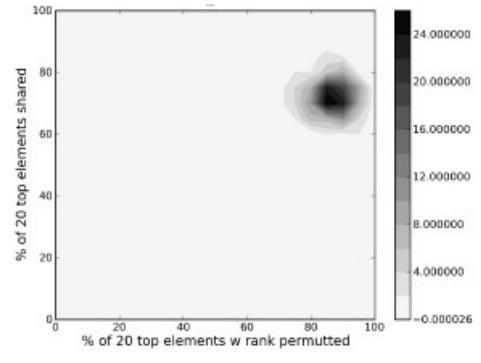
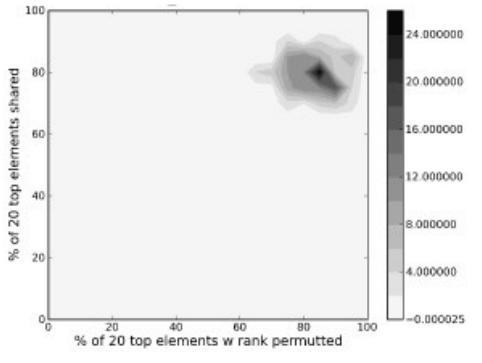
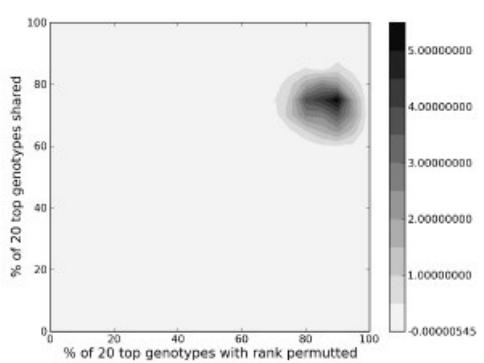
11/10  
G-M

11/11  
H-M

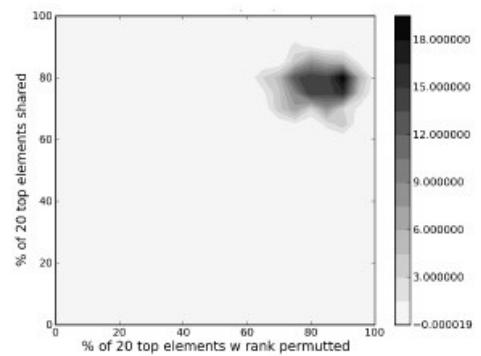
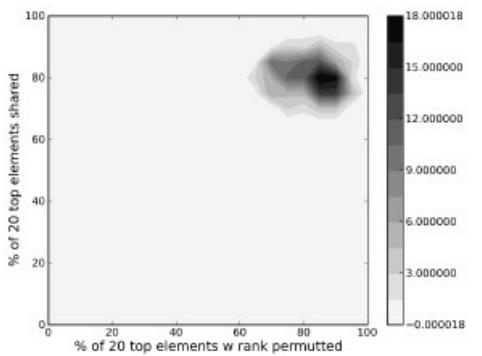
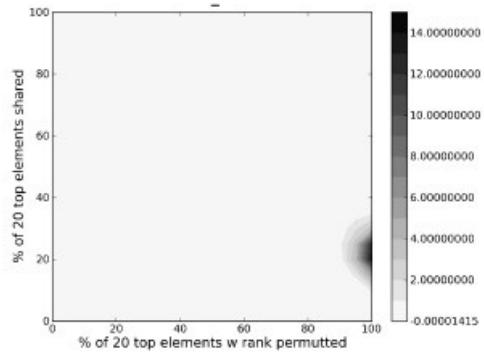
11/20  
J-M

11/28  
K-M

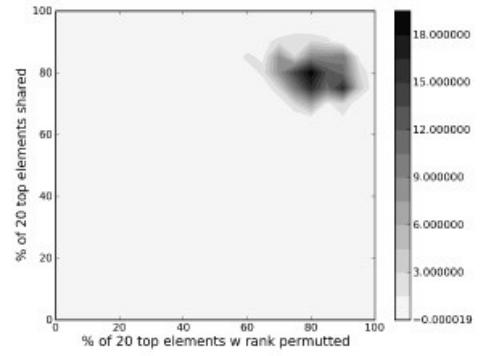
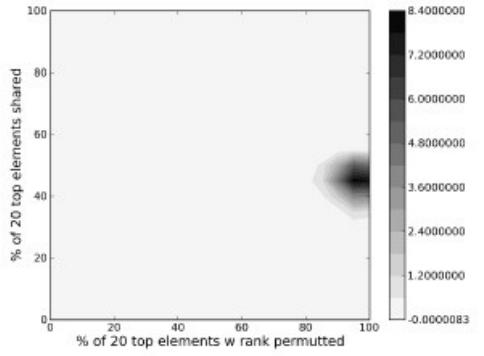
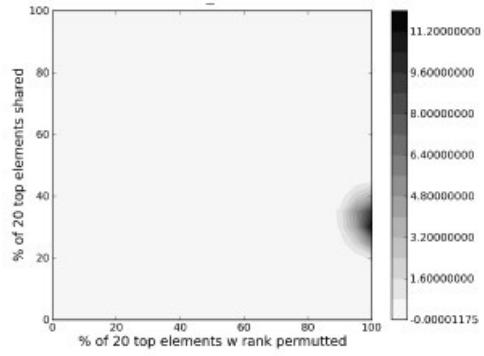
11/10  
G-M



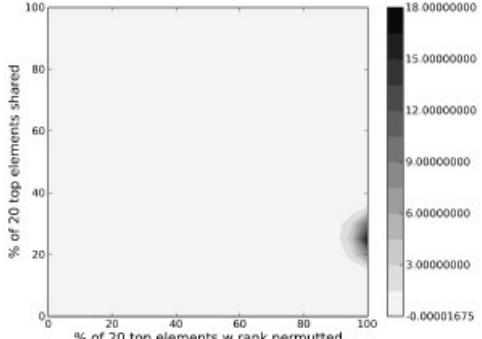
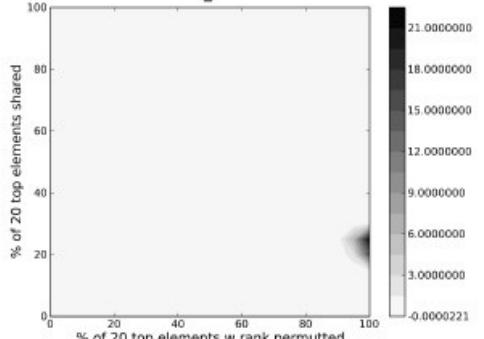
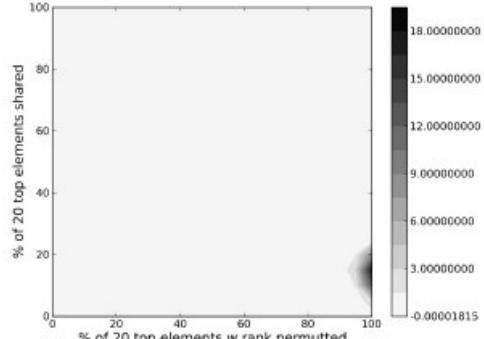
11/11  
H-M



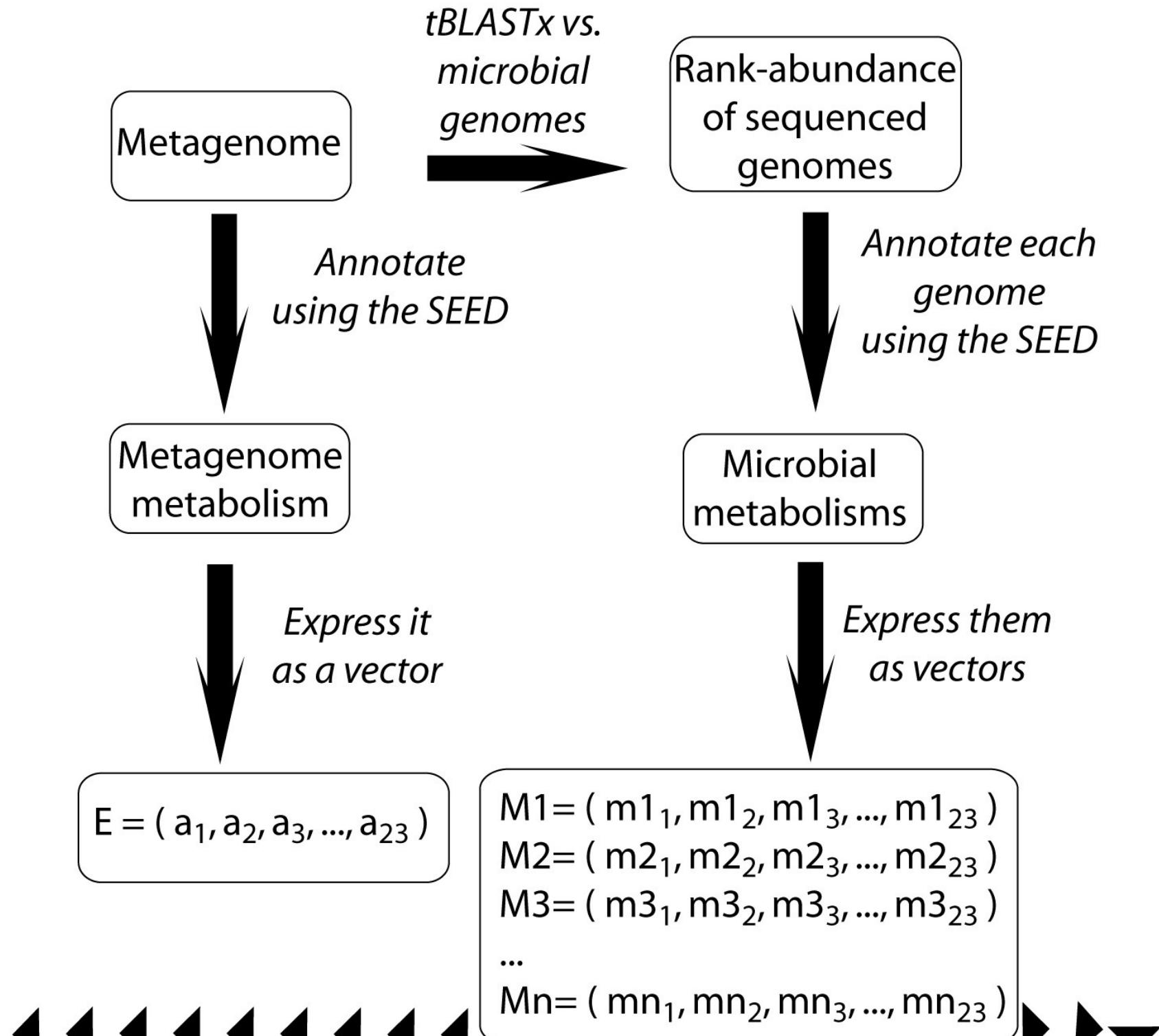
11/20  
J-M



11/28  
K-M

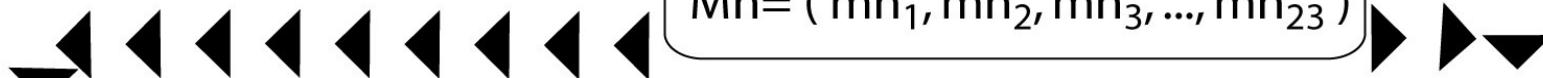


Connecting community  
structure and metabolism, a  
weighted linear combination of  
the top ranked genomes

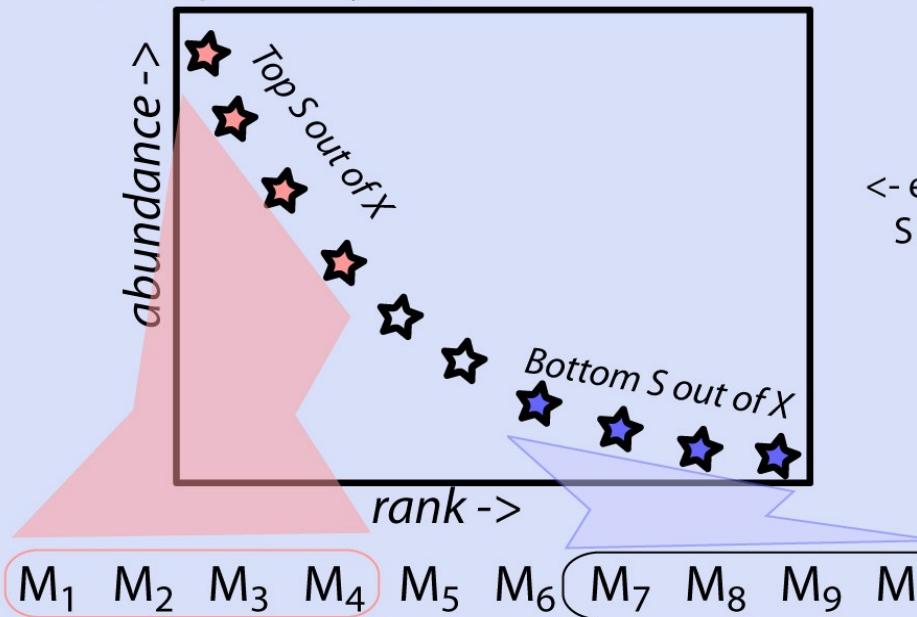


$$E = (a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots, a_{23})$$

$$\begin{aligned} M1 &= (m1_1, m1_2, m1_3, \dots, m1_{23}) \\ M2 &= (m2_1, m2_2, m2_3, \dots, m2_{23}) \\ M3 &= (m3_1, m3_2, m3_3, \dots, m3_{23}) \\ \dots \\ Mn &= (mn_1, mn_2, mn_3, \dots, mn_{23}) \end{aligned}$$



- ▼ Take elements from the top and bottom of the rank abundance curve, shuffle them at random, and calculate their linear combination, weighted by a power-law rank abundance curve ( $W_i$ )



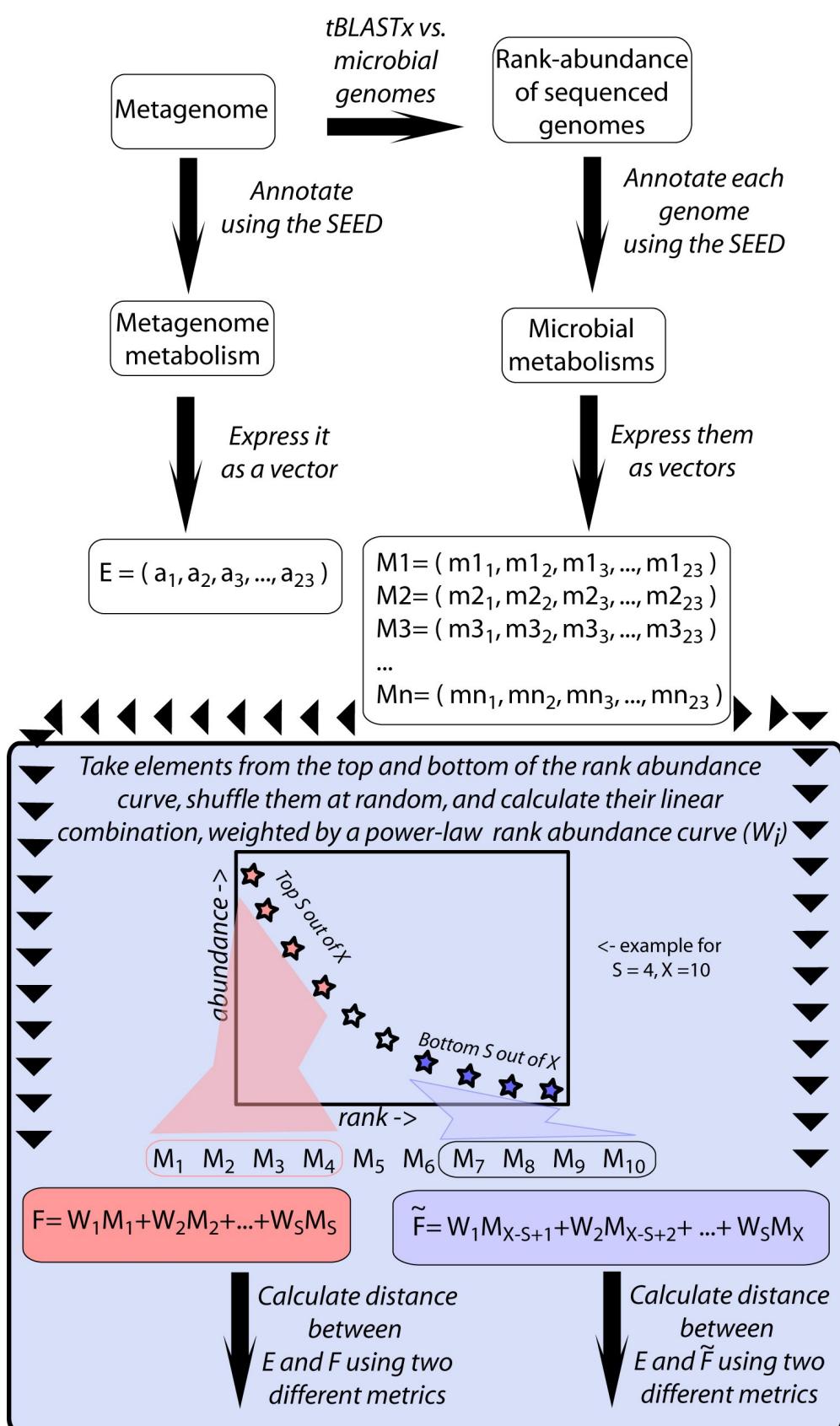
<- example for  
 $S = 4, X = 10$

$$F = W_1 M_1 + W_2 M_2 + \dots + W_S M_S$$

$$\tilde{F} = W_1 M_{X-S+1} + W_2 M_{X-S+2} + \dots + W_S M_X$$

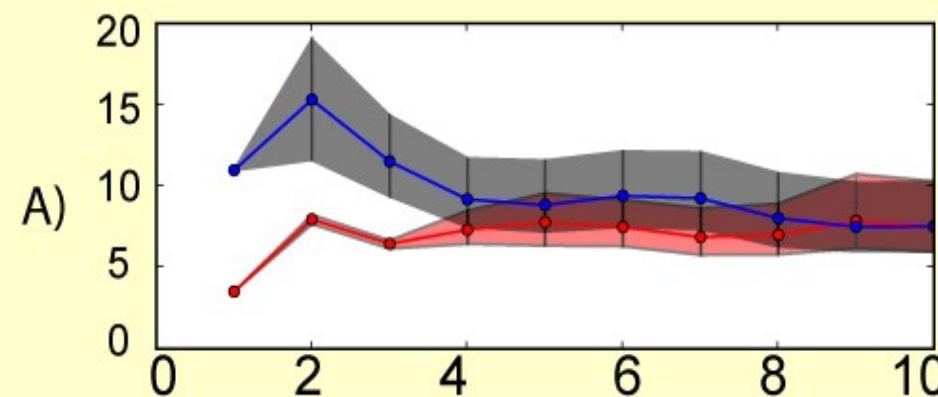
Calculate distance  
between  
 $E$  and  $F$  using two  
different metrics

Calculate distance  
between  
 $E$  and  $\tilde{F}$  using two  
different metrics

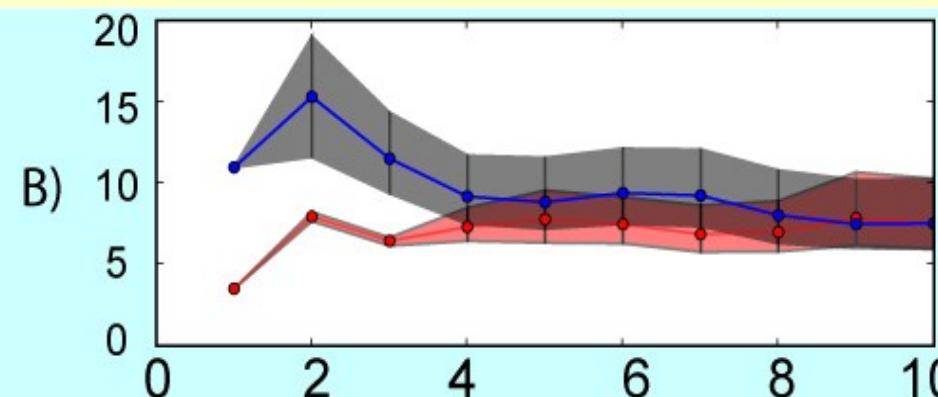


Distance to the reference metagenome

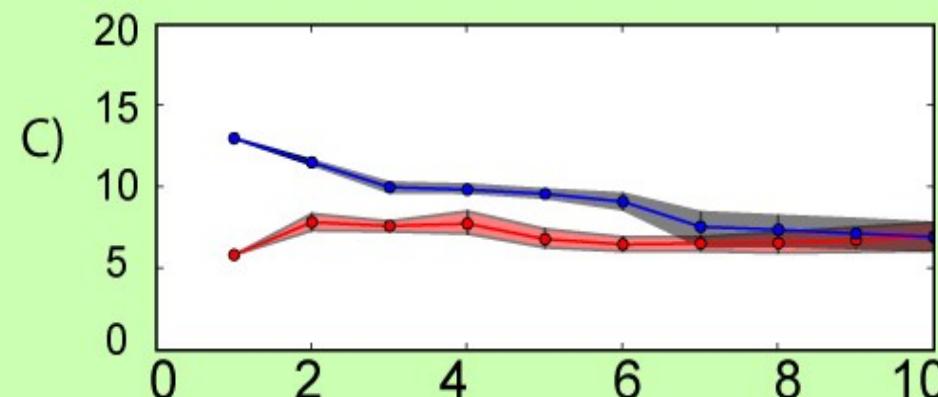
Fresh-water  
microbes



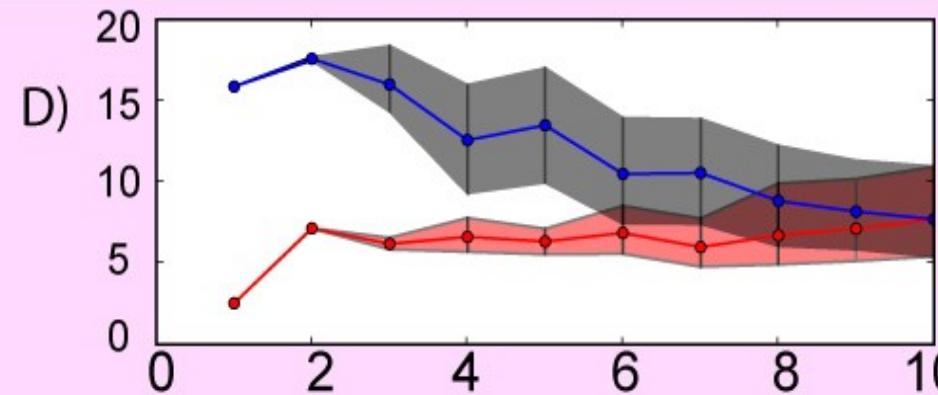
Low  
salinity  
microbes



Medium  
salinity  
microbes



High  
salinity  
microbes



# A model for the phage-host community

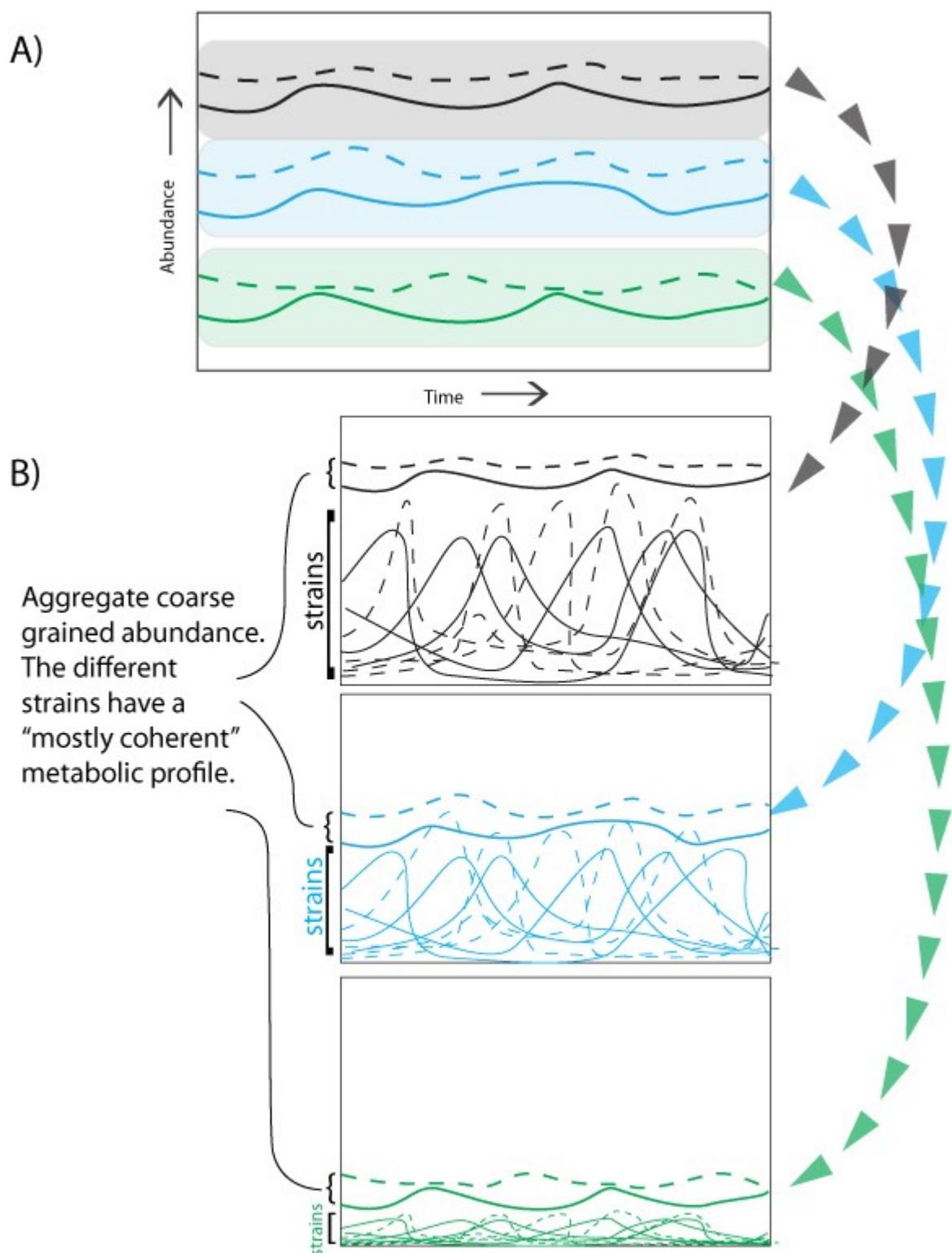


Figure 7  
Rodriguez-Brito, Li, et al., 2009

Kill-the-Winner seems to be happening mostly at the strain level, with the species having some KTW dynamics, but not necessarily dominant

Natural Systems seem to be self-similar (sort of, depending on the proper time)

# Fu t u r e w o r k

- I'd like to have a flying lizard
- I'd like to swim (for days)

# Gracias

- I'd like to thank lots and lots of people that made this possible, in particular Profs. Rohwer, Segall, Edwards, Breitbart, Rodriguez-Valera. Also all the people at the Rohwer Lab, specially Linda and Mike and Matt, as well as many many others.
-

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