



# Gathering and handling Big data

From metagenomics to ecosystems behaviors

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Computational Biology; Université de Nantes, France & Tara Global Ocean Systems Ecology and Evolution

December 2nd 2020

S4GES Workshop

Musing on the concept of Good Environmental Status: the complexity of the status & the status of complexity



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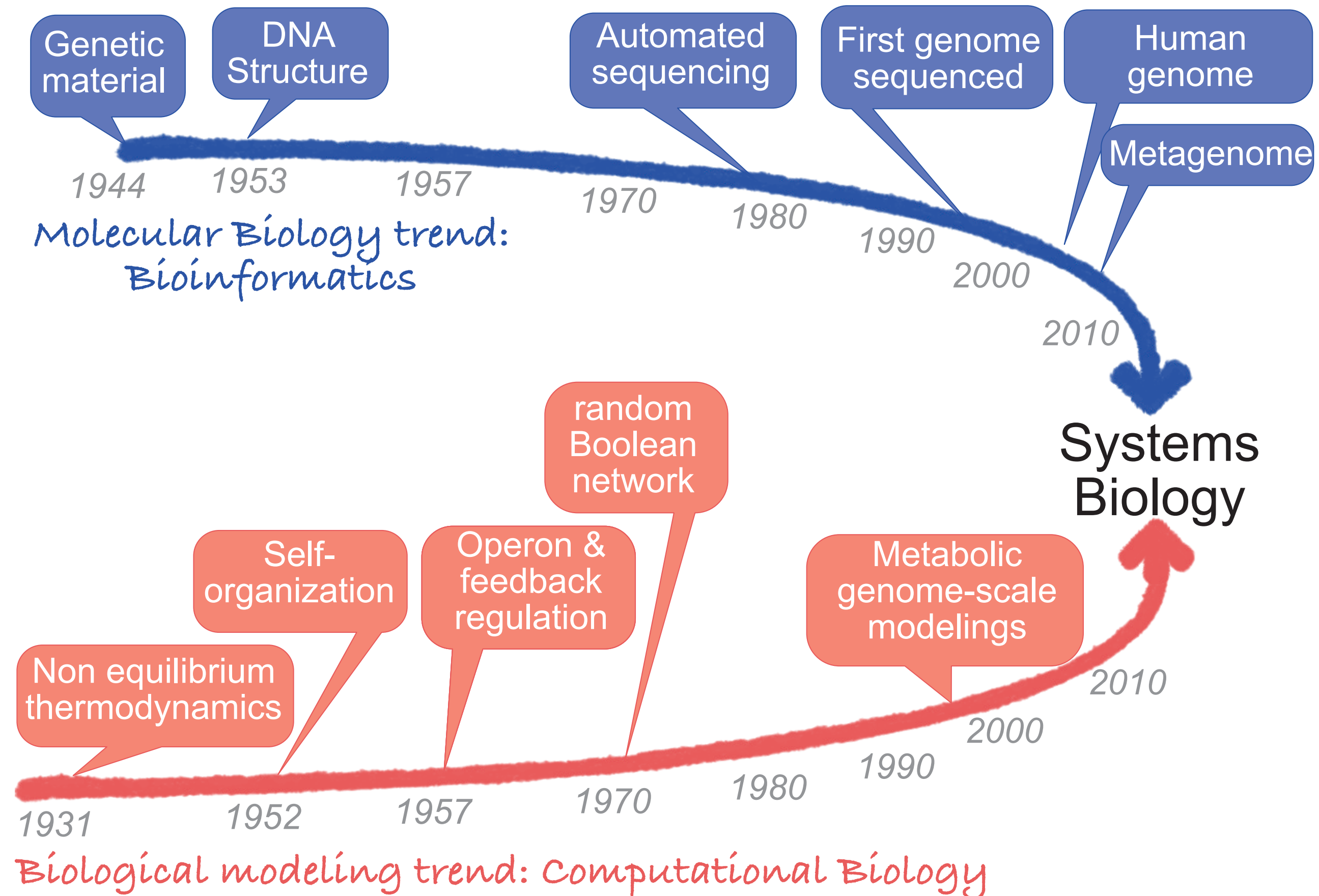


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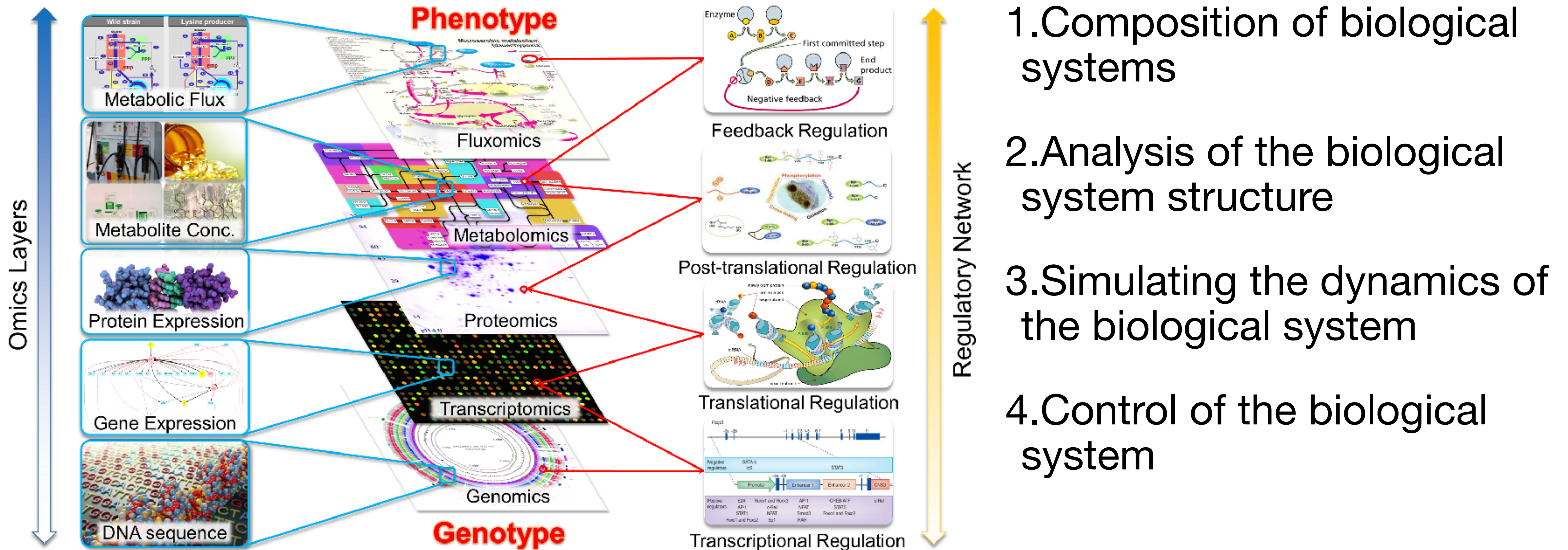


# Systems Biology

## Historical perspective driven by data and concepts



# Systems Biology in practice (from discrete data to almost quantitative ones)



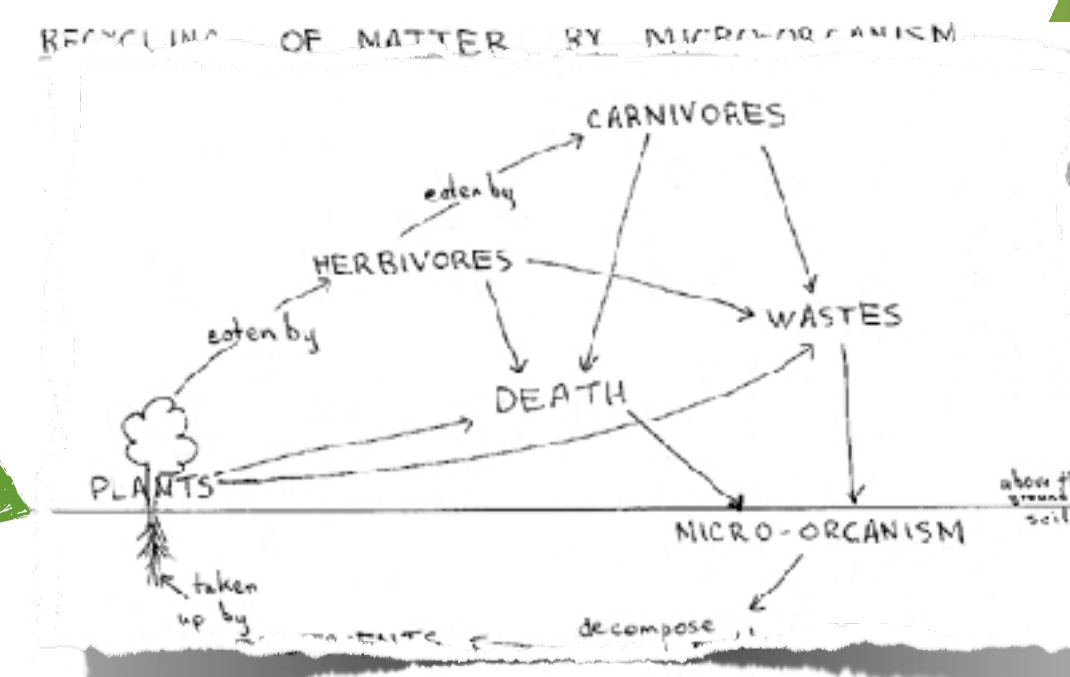
[Gao & Feng, PloS One, 2016]

# «Systems Ecology»



new abundant observations

Complex ecosystems



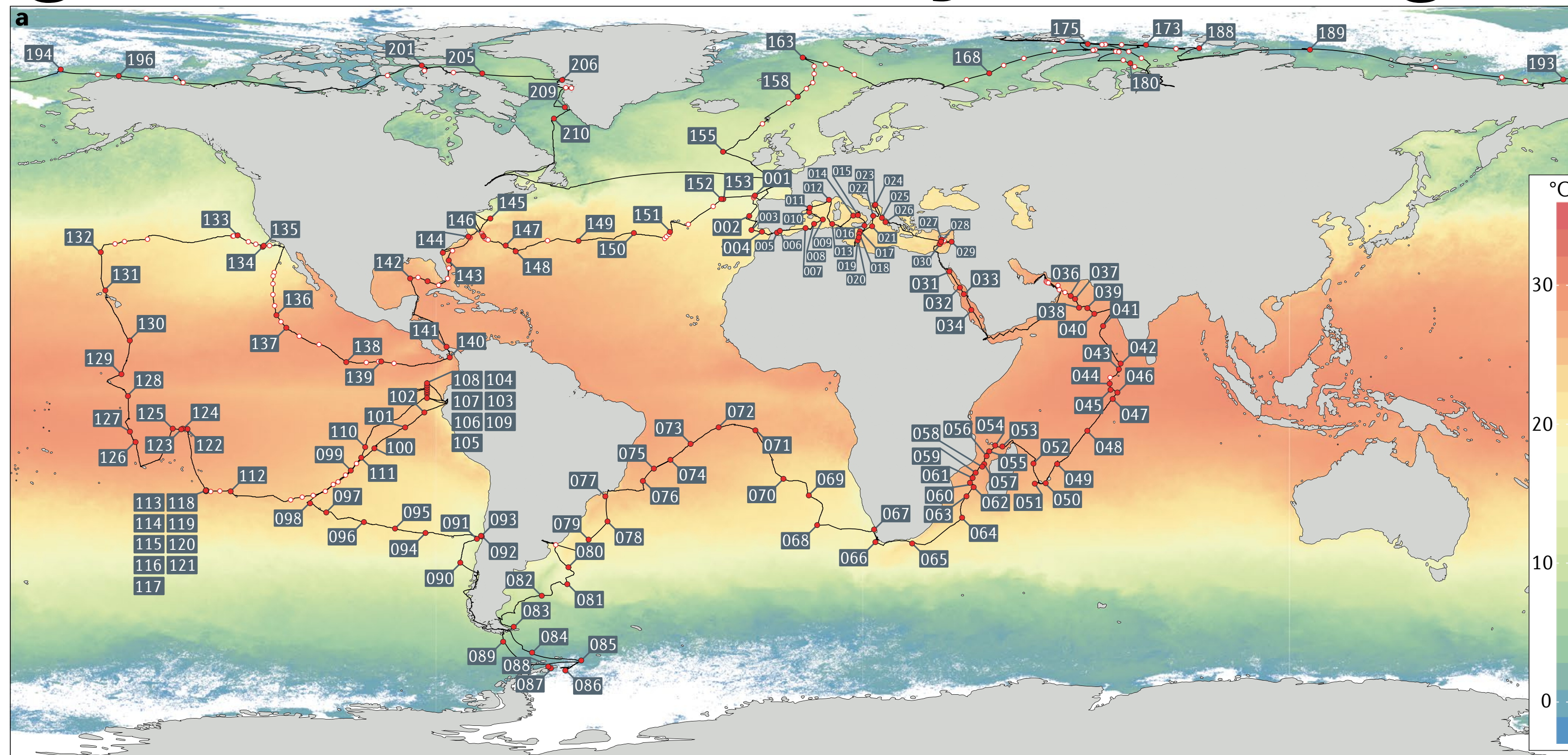
$$\begin{cases} \frac{dx(t)}{dt} = x(t) (\alpha - \beta y(t)) \\ \frac{dy(t)}{dt} = -y(t) (\delta - \gamma x(t)) \end{cases}$$

**IBM model**

**Deterministic modeling  
Relationship between  
abundance & diversity**

Extraction of emerging properties from complex ecological systems

# A metagenomic case study: crushing numbers

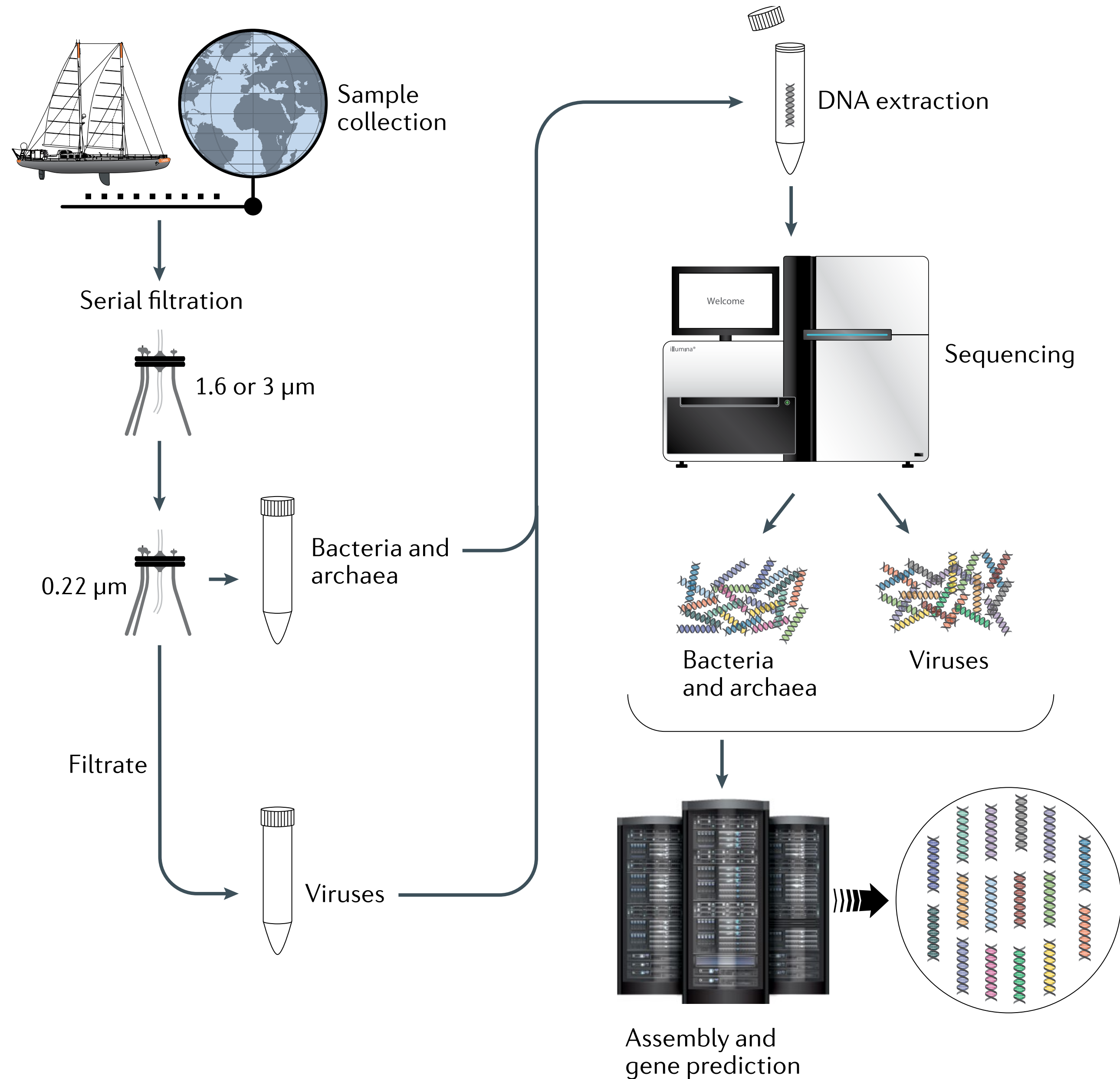


## Tara Oceans (2009–2013)

- 140,000 km sailed
- >35,000 plankton samples collected
- 210 sampling stations
- >60 terabases of DNA and RNA sequenced
- ~7 million images captured
- 120 crew members and scientists on-board
- 52 stopovers in 37 countries
- 35,000 schoolchildren on board at stopovers



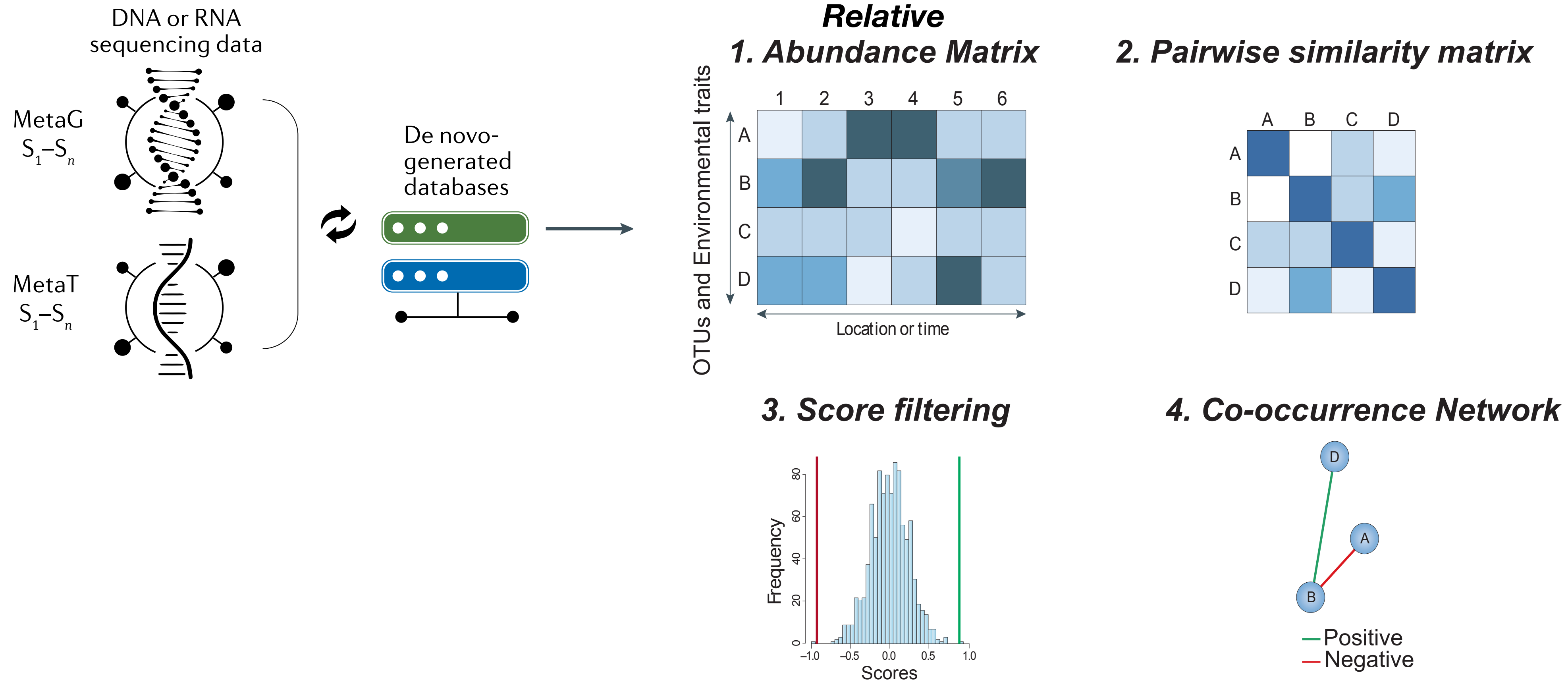
# Extraction of omics



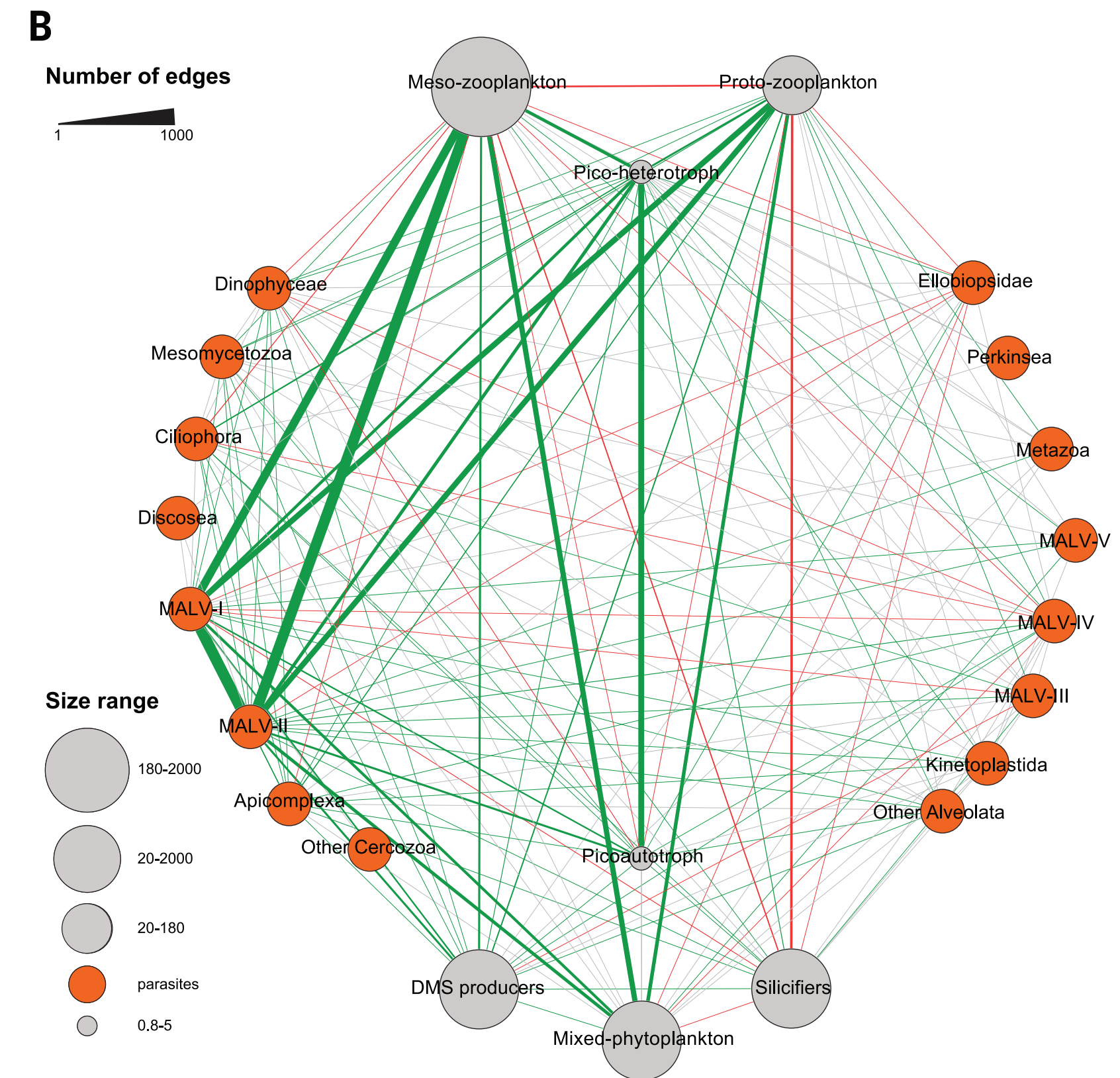
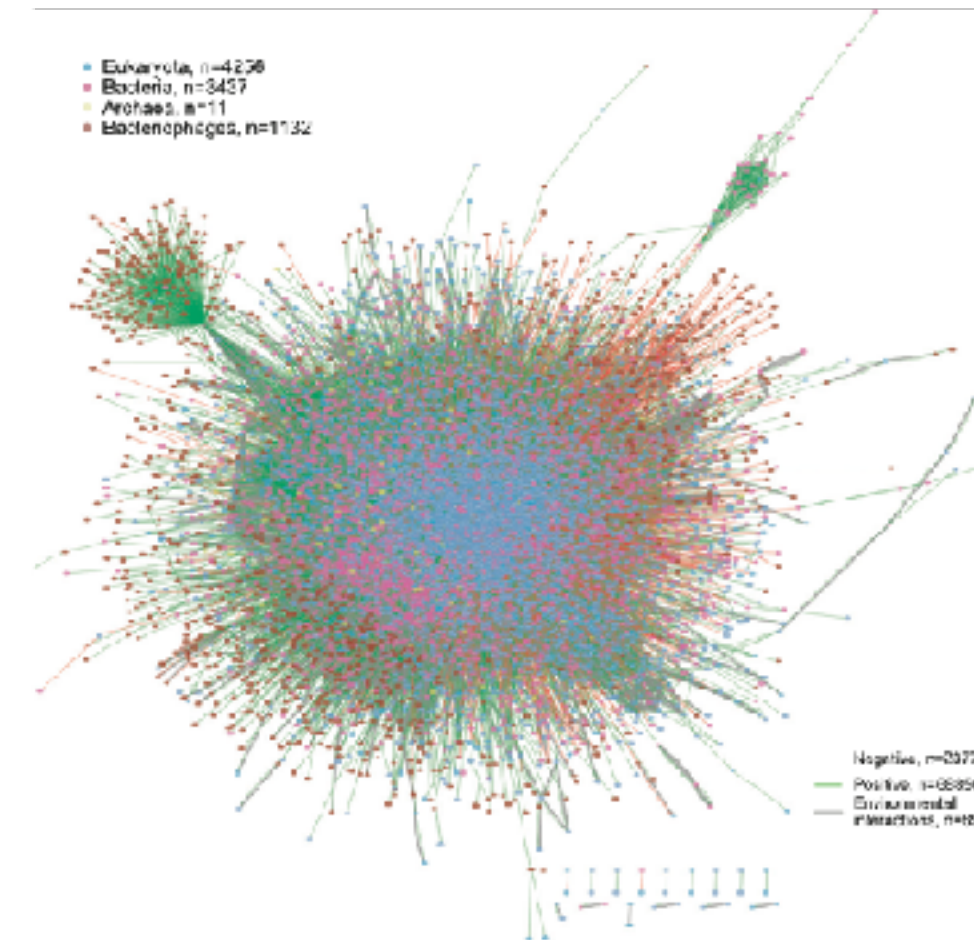
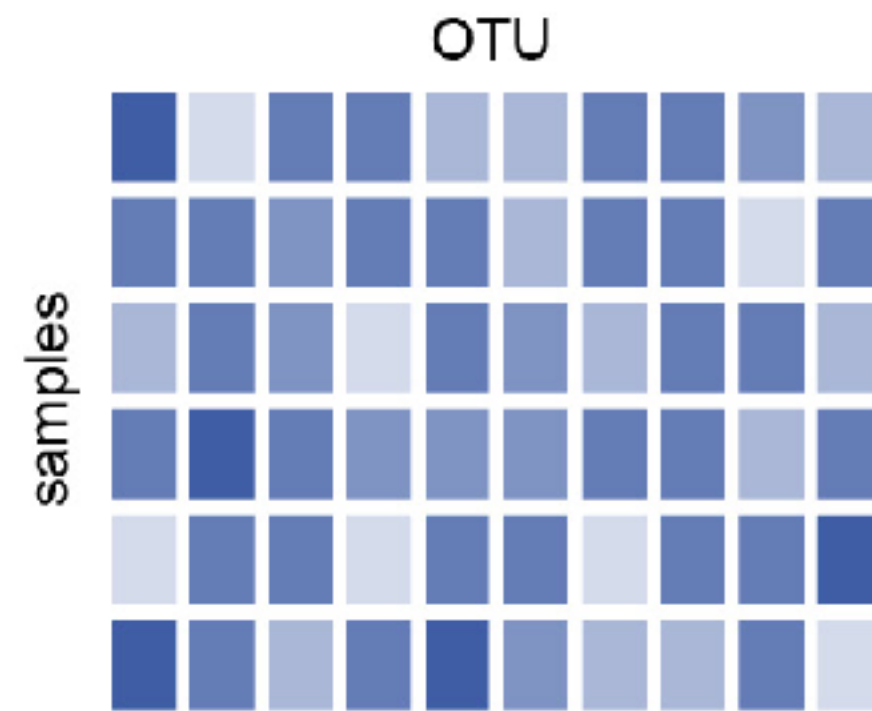
- Extraction of all genes (i.e., functions)
- Extraction of markers genes (i.e., diversity)

# Graph: a discrete abstraction for omics

## Building Co-occurrence networks

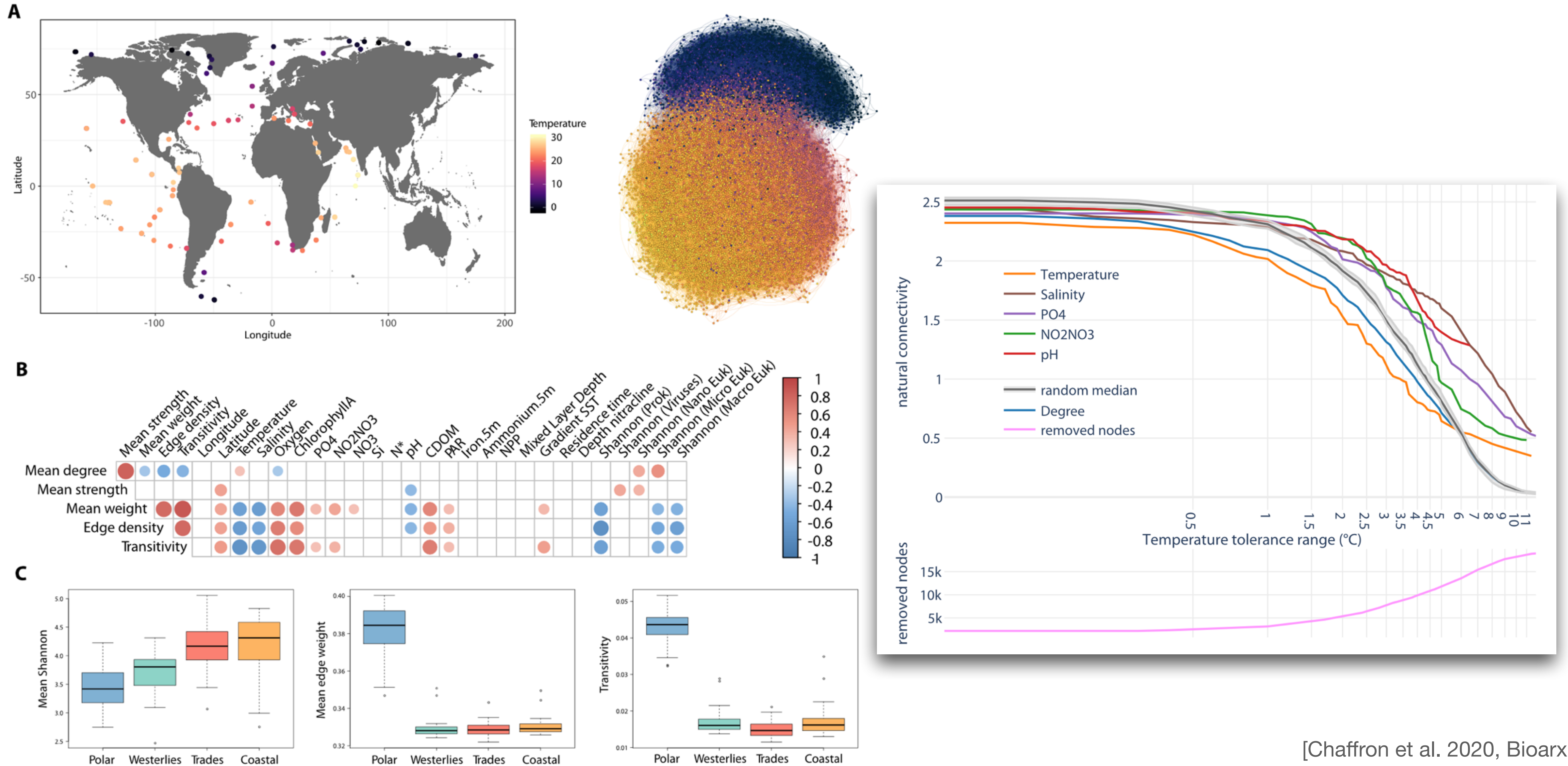


# Co-occurrence graph of TARA oceans

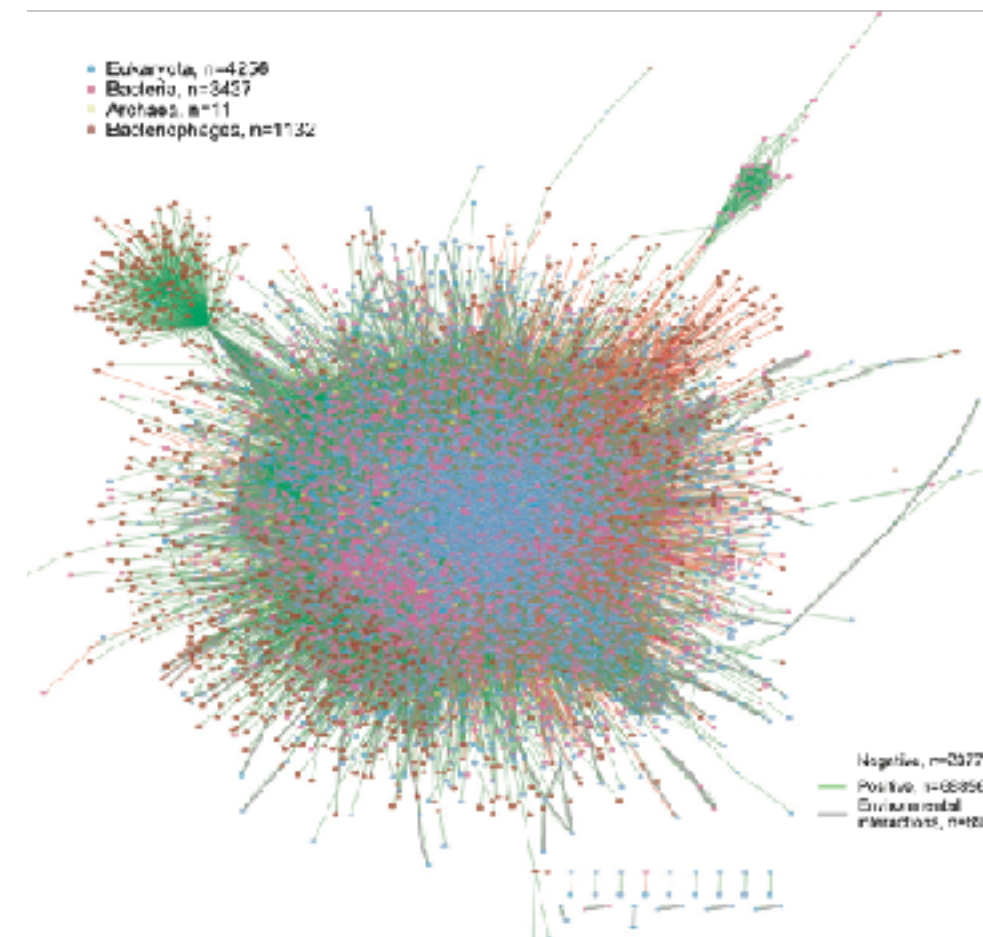
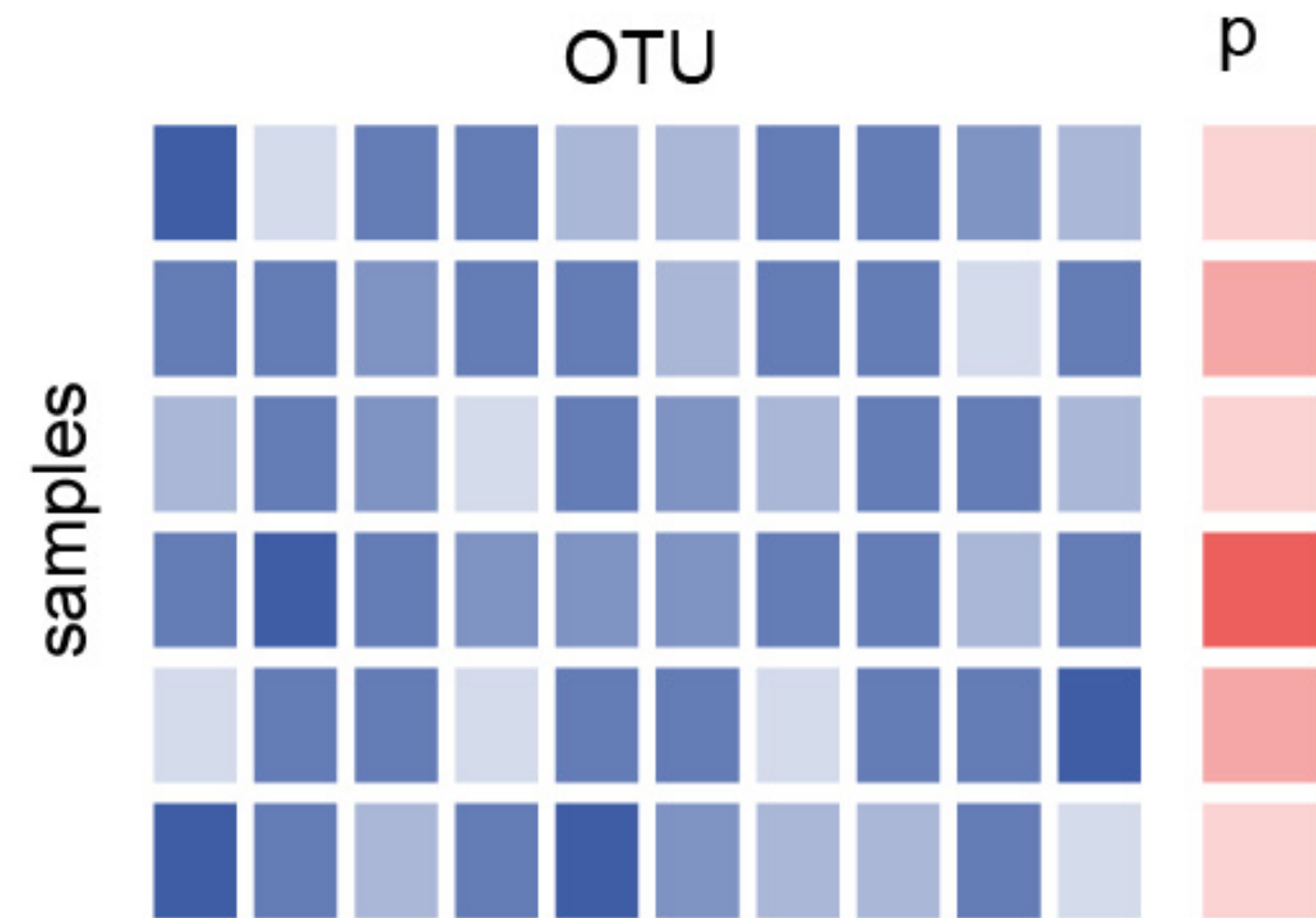




# Global Ocean Graph shows a biogeography



# Integrating the graph topology with quantitative measurements?



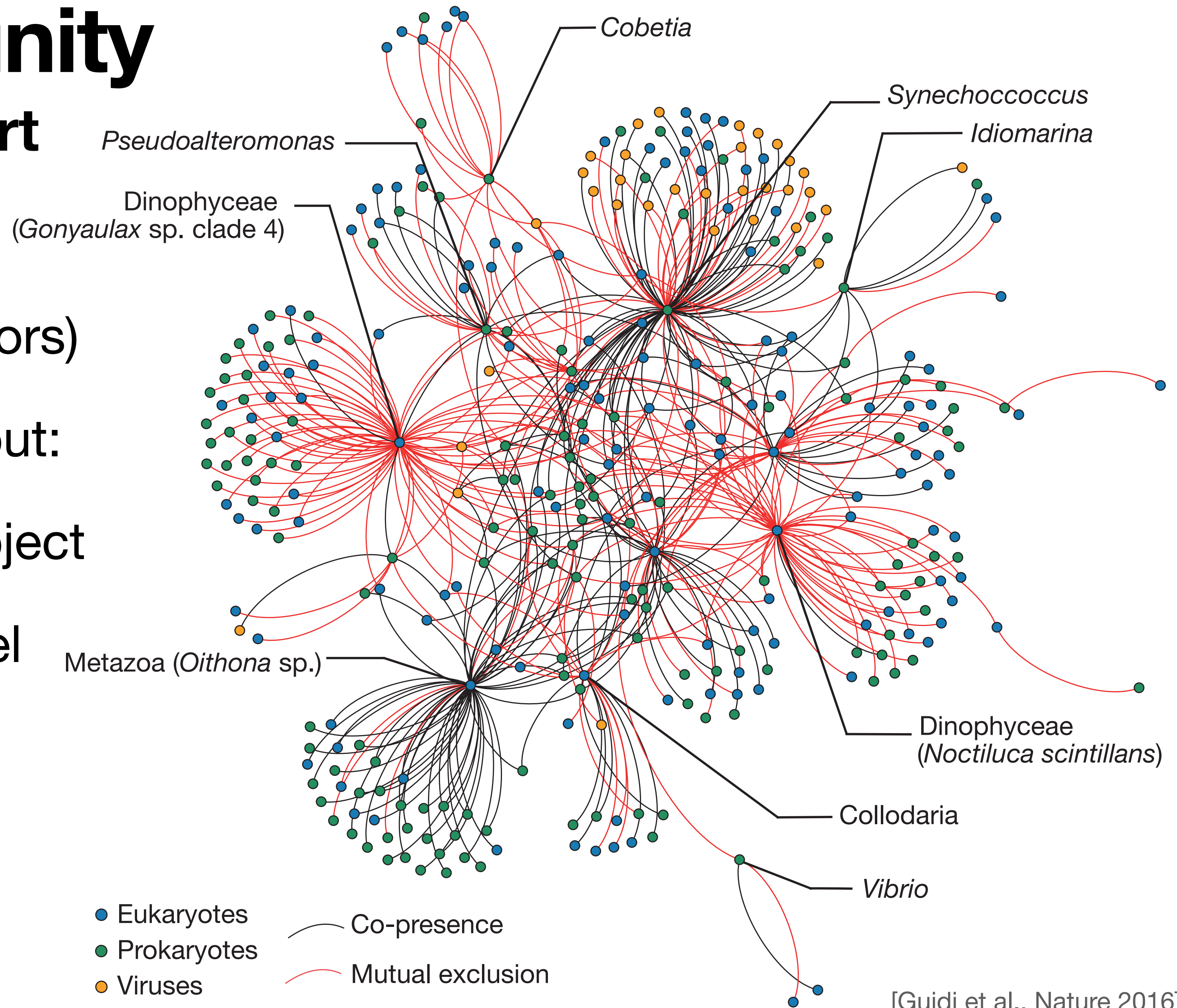
- Nutrients
- Oxygen
- Light
- Temperature
- pH
- NPP
- Carbon export

Identification of subgraphs associated with these feature



# Building a community associated to carbon export

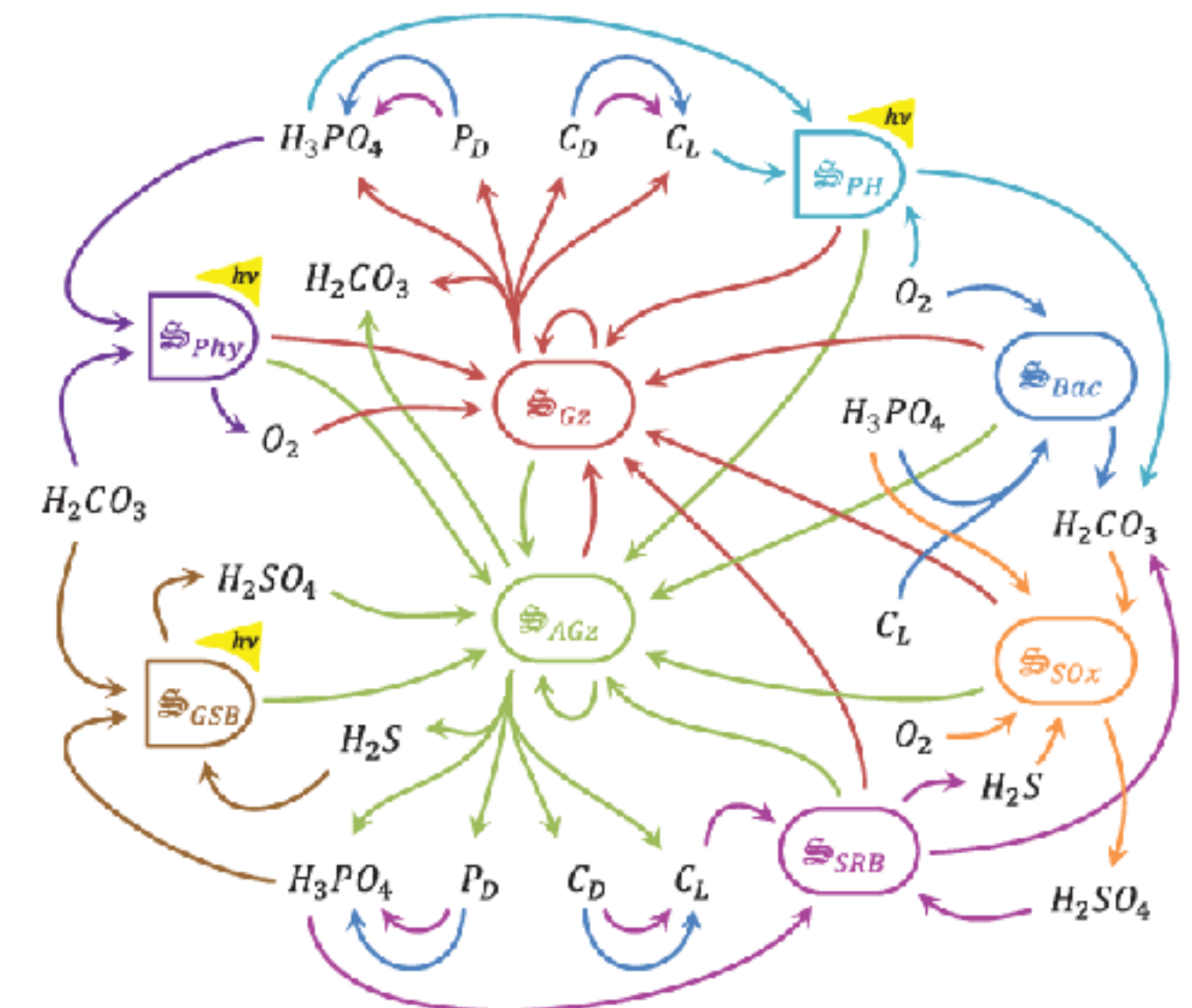
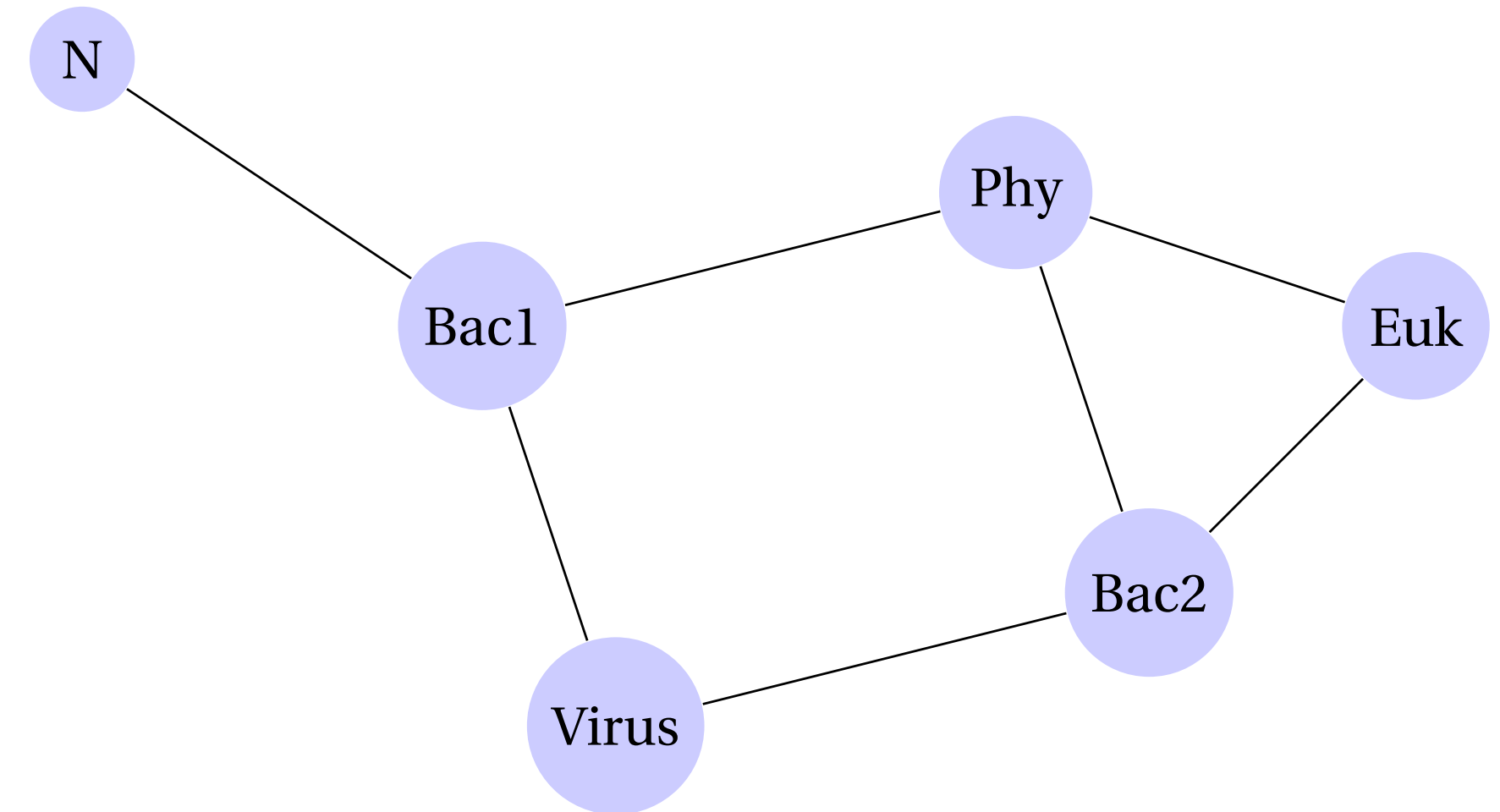
- 51 genes are associated to C. export (using omics as predictors)
- Graph as a good abstraction but:
  - ✓ Not just a discrete formal object
  - ✓ It is not a network or a model



# A short semantic point

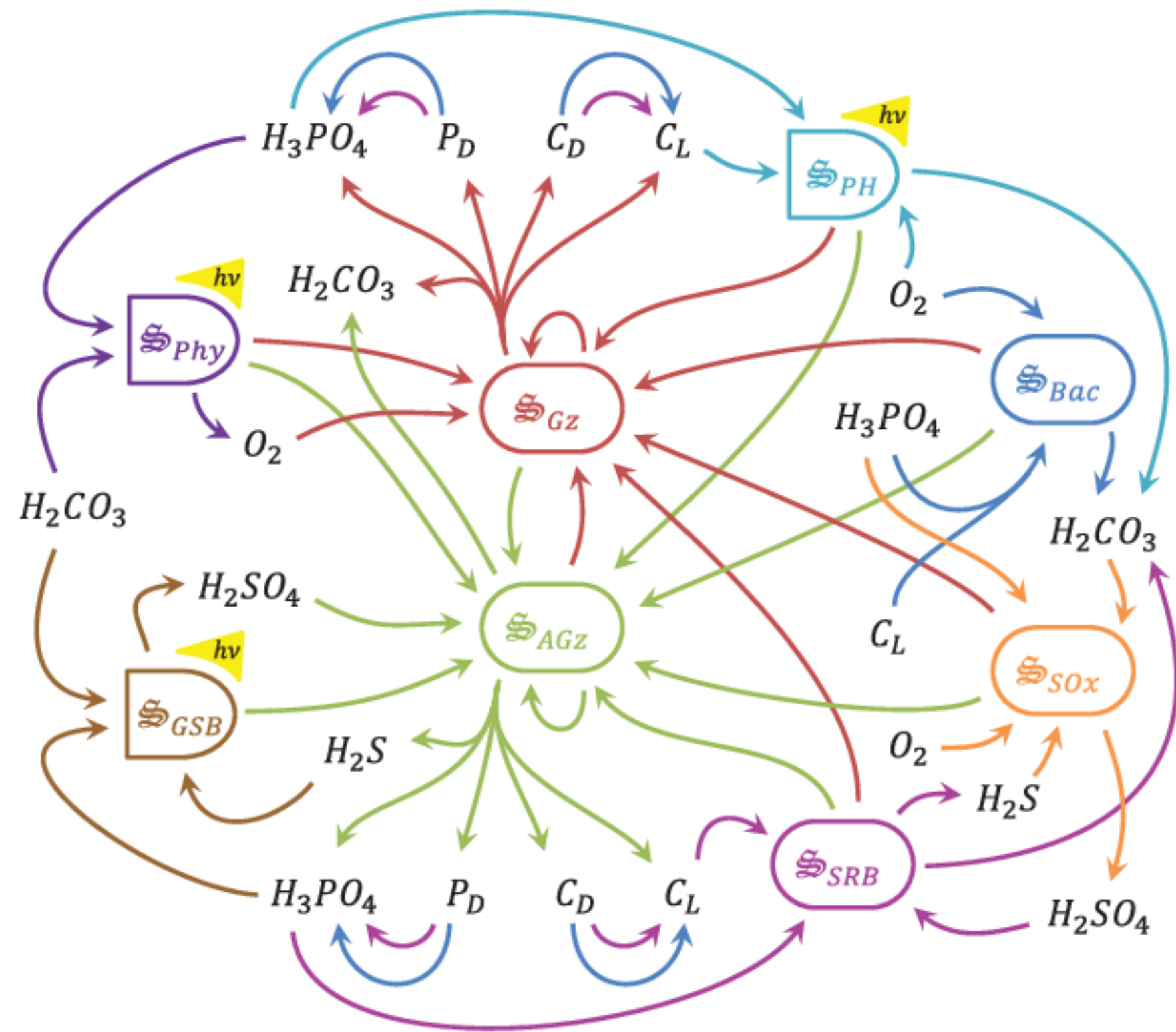
## Graph VS. Network

- **Graph:** discrete abstraction that considers (colored) vertices connected by (un)directed (weighted) edges
- **Network:** abstraction of an automaton that considers states connected by flows
- **Model:** automaton that considers variables that evolve under (un)deterministic constraints

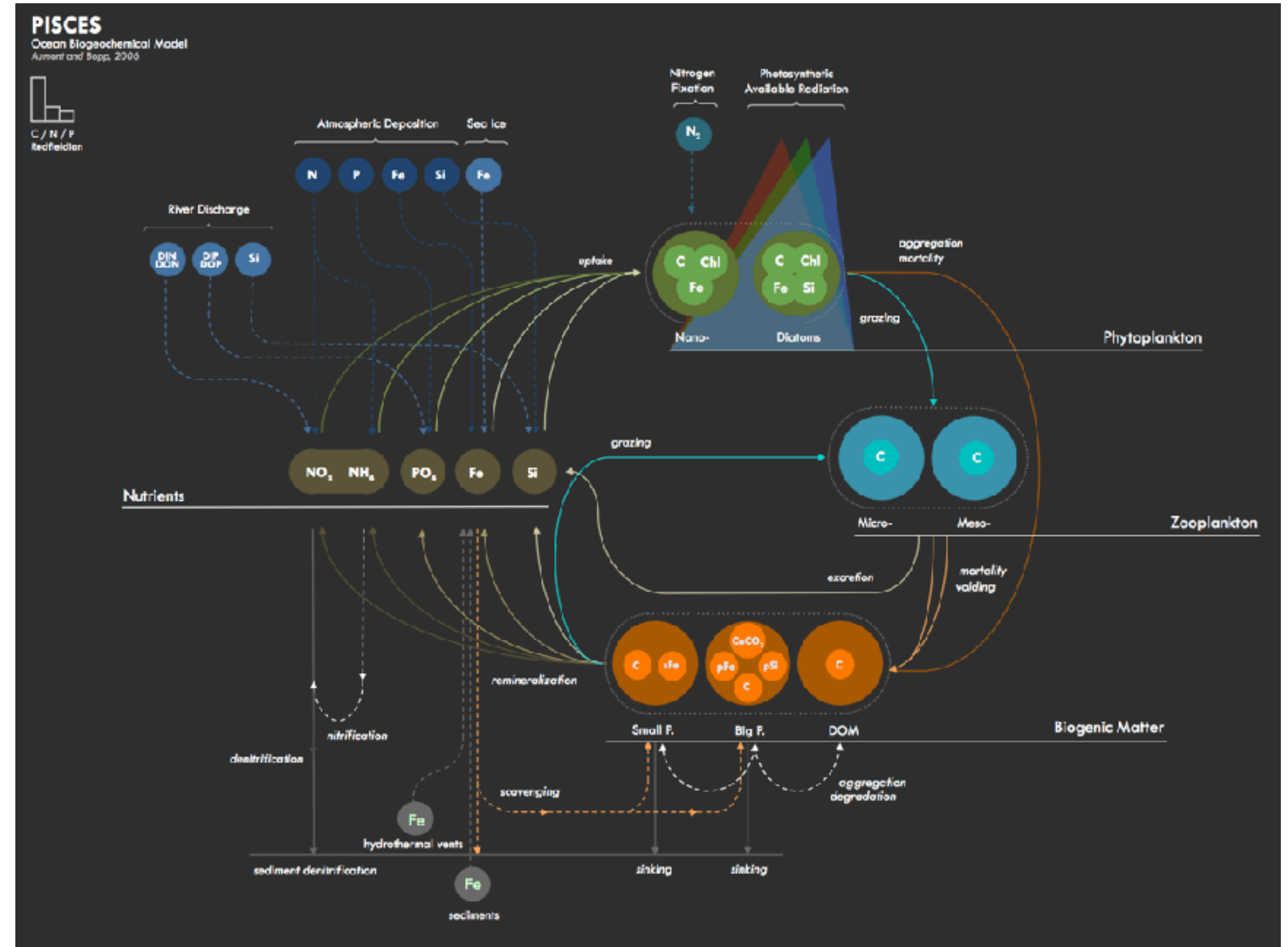


# Dedicated biogeochemical modelings

## a mechanistic network description

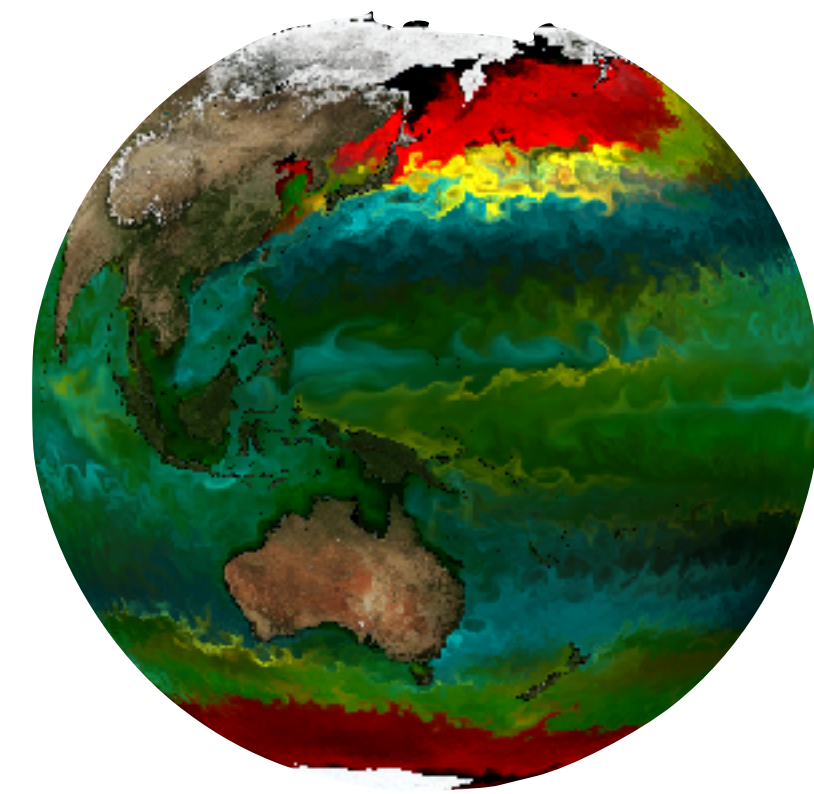


Valino & Huber, Frontiers Env. Science 2018

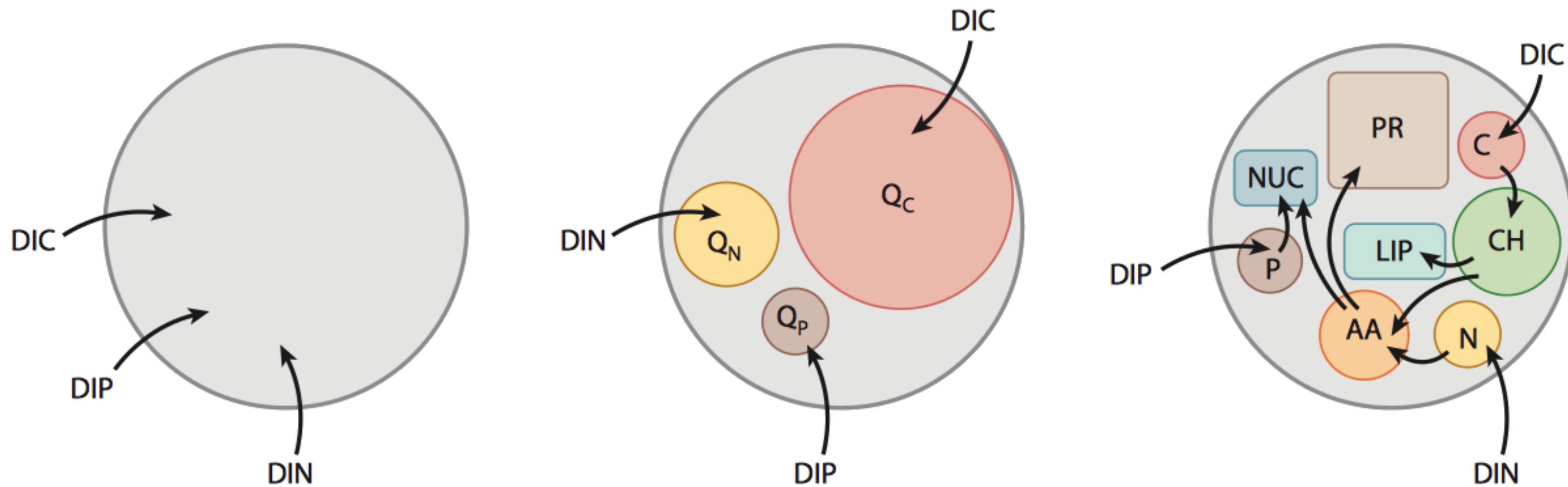


Aumont & Bopp, 2006

# Adding biological complexity for global modeling

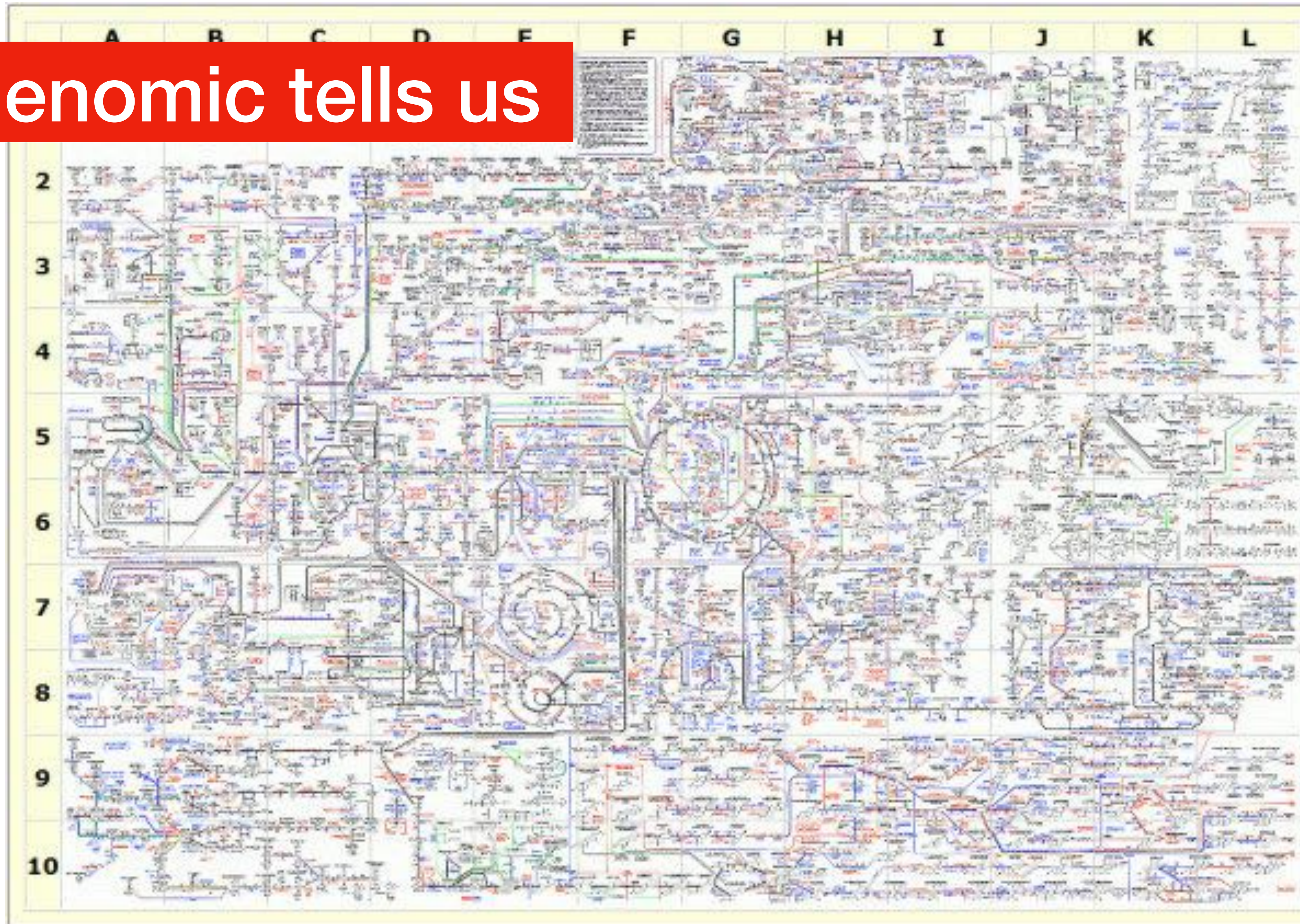


<https://darwinproject.mit.edu/>

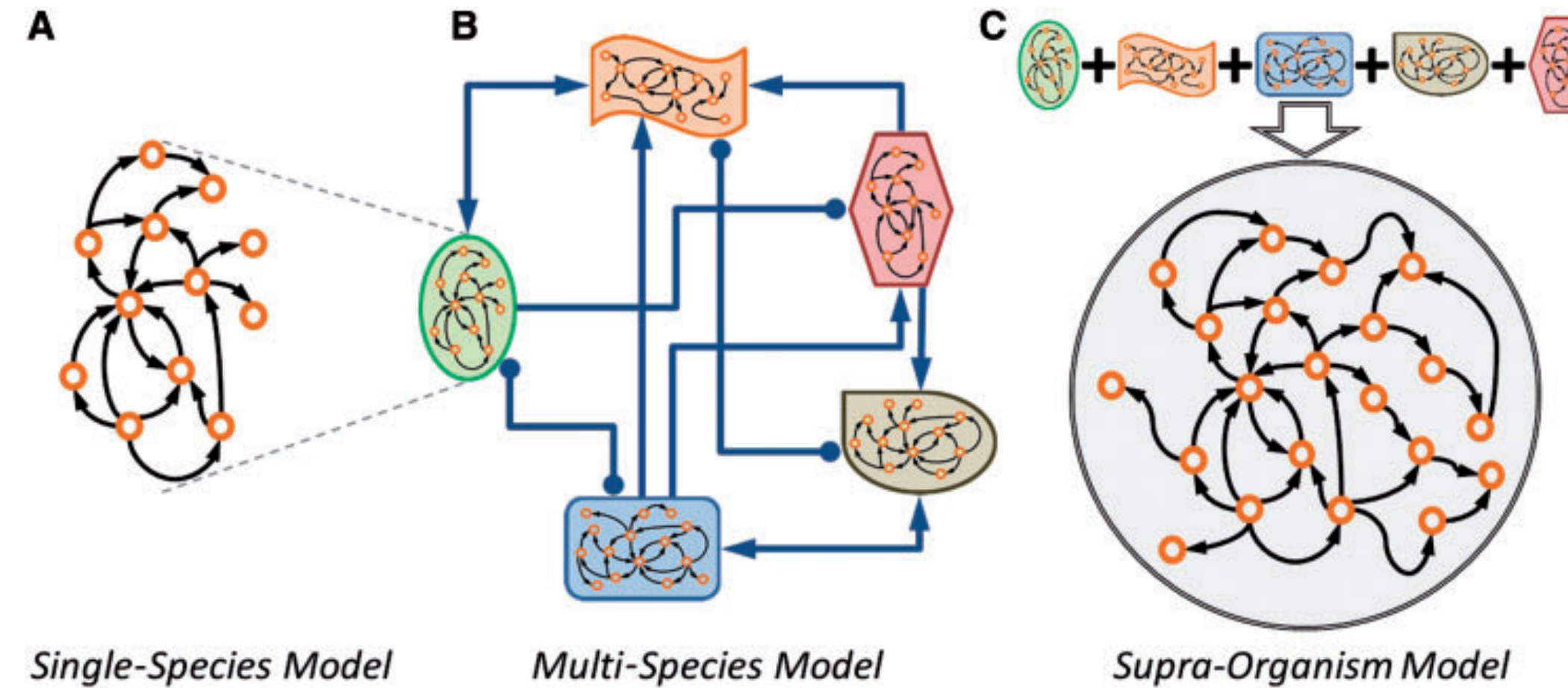


Follows MJ, Dutkiewicz S (2011). Modeling diverse communities of marine microbes. *Ann Rev Mar Sci* 3: 427–451.

# What genomics tells us



# Hypothesis: Metabolic network of the Super-Organism to access the marine biogeochemistry



BRIEFINGS IN BIOINFORMATICS, VOL 13, NO 6, 769-780  
Advance Access published on 15 May 2012

**Computational systems biology and *in silico* modeling of the human microbiome**

Elhanan Borenstein

**ECOLOGY LETTERS**  
Ecology Letters, (2019) 22: 1243–1252 doi: 10.1111/ele.13289

**LETTER** **Superorganisms or loose collections of species? A unifying theory of community patterns along environmental gradients**

Kevin Liataud,<sup>1\*</sup> Egbert H. van Nes,<sup>2</sup> Matthieu Barbier,<sup>1</sup> Marten Scheffer,<sup>2</sup> and Michel Loreau,<sup>1</sup>

**Abstract**  
The question whether communities should be viewed as superorganisms or loose collections of individual species has been the subject of a long-standing debate in ecology. Each view implies different spatiotemporal community patterns. Along spatial environmental gradients, the organismic view predicts that species turnover is discontinuous, with sharp boundaries between communities, while the individualistic view predicts gradual changes in species composition. Using a spatially explicit multispecies competition model, we show that organismic and individualistic forms of community organisation are two limiting cases along a continuum of outcomes. A high variance of competition strength leads to the emergence of organism-like communities due to the presence of alternative stable states, while weak and uniform interactions induce gradual changes in species composition. Dispersal can play a confounding role in these patterns. Our work highlights the critical importance of considering species interactions to understand and predict the responses of species and communities to environmental changes.

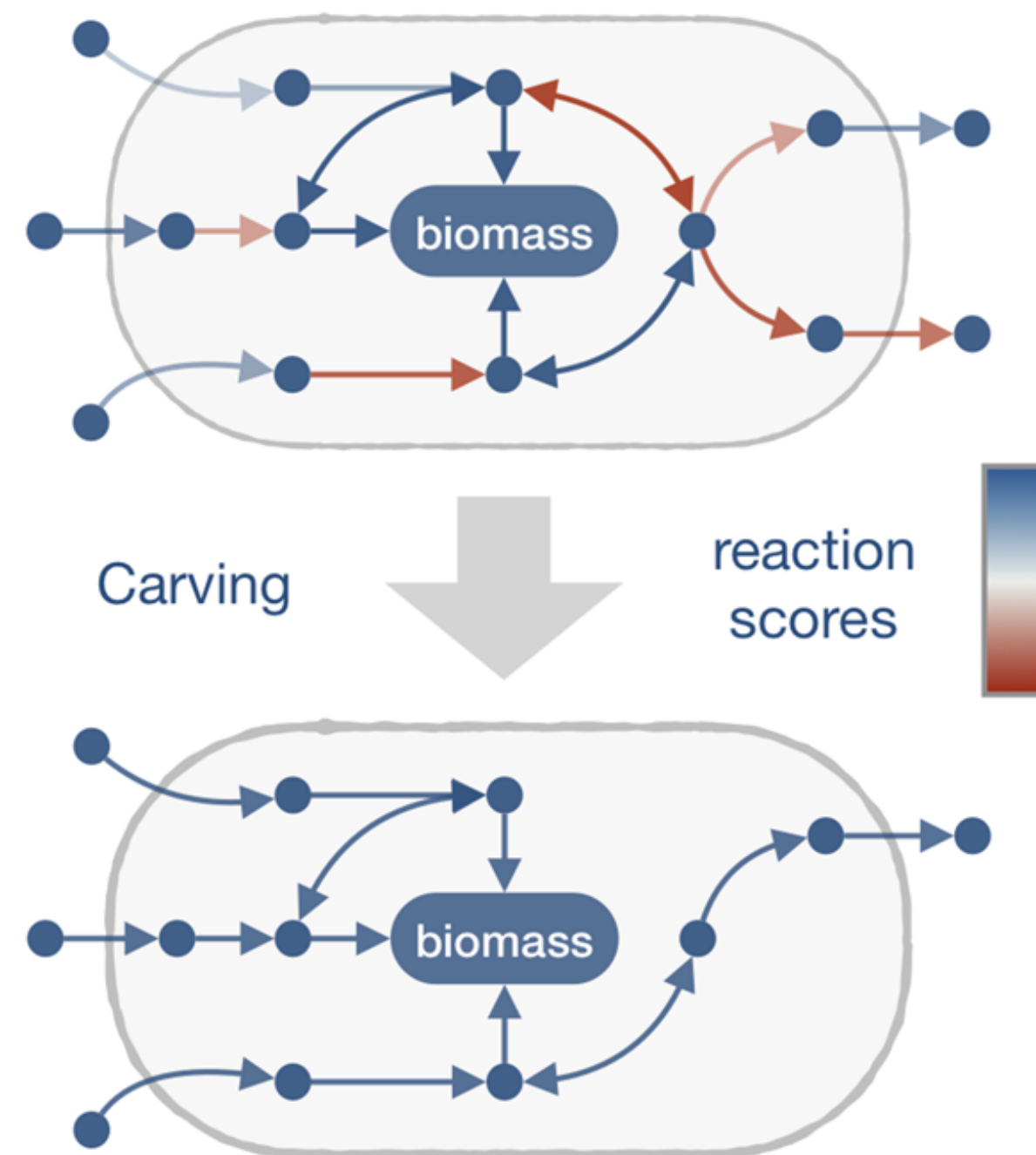
**Superorganism Model assumption to assess marine biogeochemical cycles**





# Building Metabolic networks

Starting from the Universal knowledge



Functional Metabolic Models

Targeting

- ✓ Marine **Autotrophic** biomass objectives
- ✓ Marine **Heterotrophic** biomass objectives
- ✓ Marine **Mixotrophic** biomass objectives

Fast automated reconstruction of genome-scale metabolic models for microbial species and communities

Daniel Machado, Sergej Andrejev, Melanie Tramontano and Kiran Raosaheb Patil  
European Molecular Biology Laboratory (EMBL), Meyerhofstrasse 1, 69117 Heidelberg, Germany

*Nucleic Acids Research*, 2018 · 1  
doi: 10.1093/nar/ky537

$$\max s^T (y^f + y^r)$$

s.t.

$$S \cdot v = 0$$

$$v > -My^r + \varepsilon y^f$$

$$v < -\varepsilon y^r + My^f$$

$$v_i > 0 \quad \forall i \in \{\text{forward irreversible}\}$$

$$v_i < 0 \quad \forall i \in \{\text{backward irreversible}\}$$

$$y^r + y^f \leq 1$$

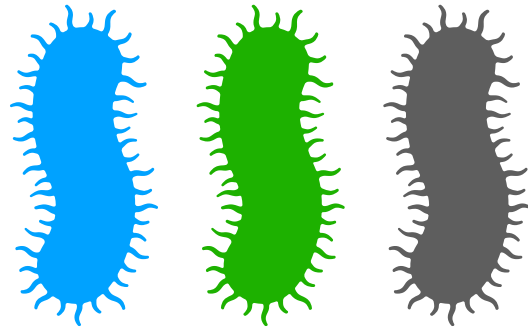
$$y^r, y^f \in \{0, 1\}^n$$

$$v_{\text{growth}} > v_{\text{growth}}^{\min}$$

Considering:

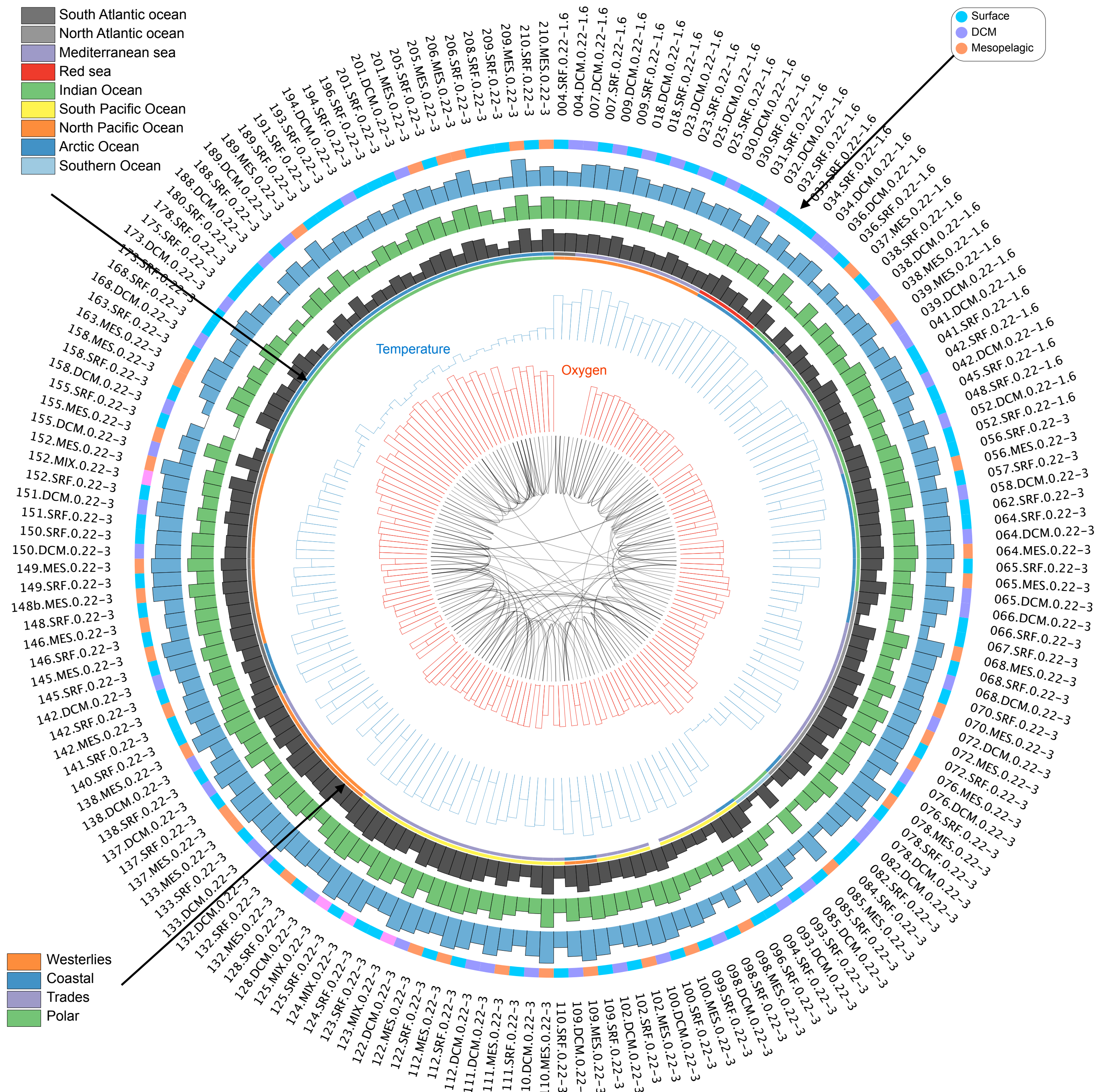
- stoichiometry of the reactions,
- mass action laws,
- reactions entropy
- optimize the growth rate

# Prokaryotic metabolic world



- **Heterotrophic,**
- **Autotrophic,**
- **Mixotrophic**

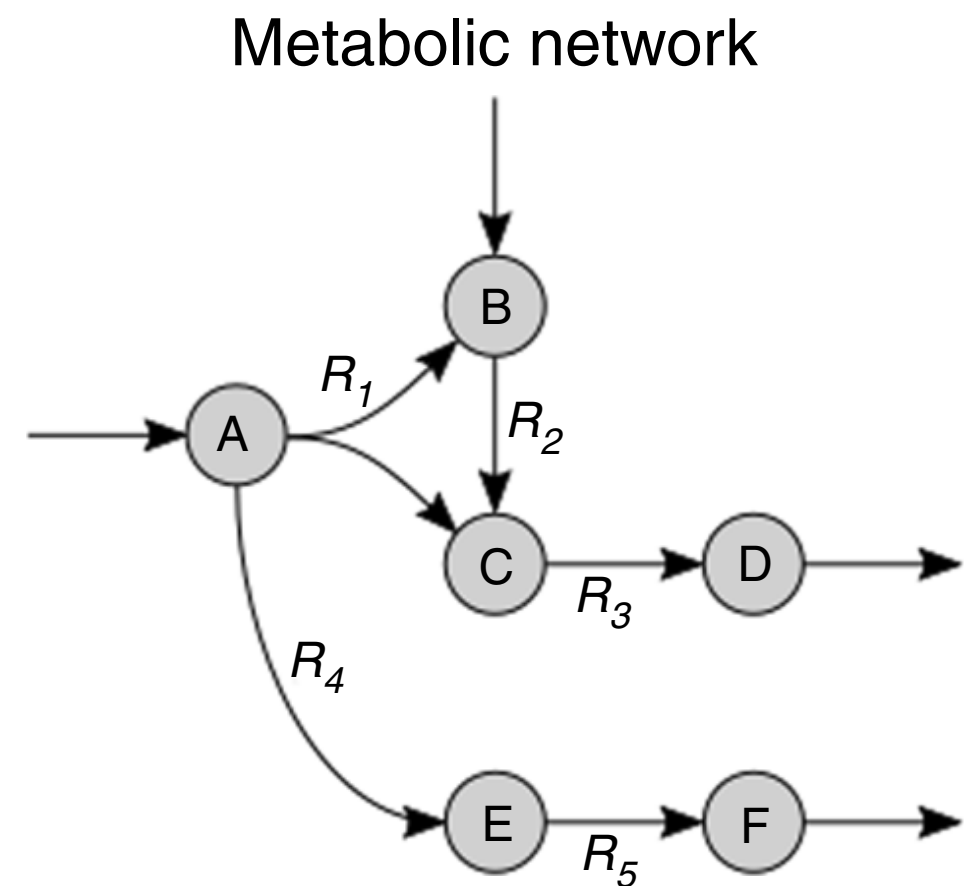
Metabolic networks (~3600 metabolic reactions) show differences but overall consistencies





# Analyzing each water mass metabolic behavior

(from network to model)



$$\begin{bmatrix}
 1 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
 0 & -3 & -2 & \dots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
 -1 & -1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
 0 & 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
 \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\
 \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\
 0 & 3 & -1 & \dots & -1 & 0 & 0 \\
 0 & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & -1 & 0 \\
 0 & 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 & 0 & 1
 \end{bmatrix}$$

**S**toichiometric Matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix}
 v_1 \\
 v_2 \\
 v_3 \\
 v_4 \\
 \vdots \\
 v_{n-2} \\
 v_{n-1} \\
 v_n
 \end{pmatrix}
 =$$

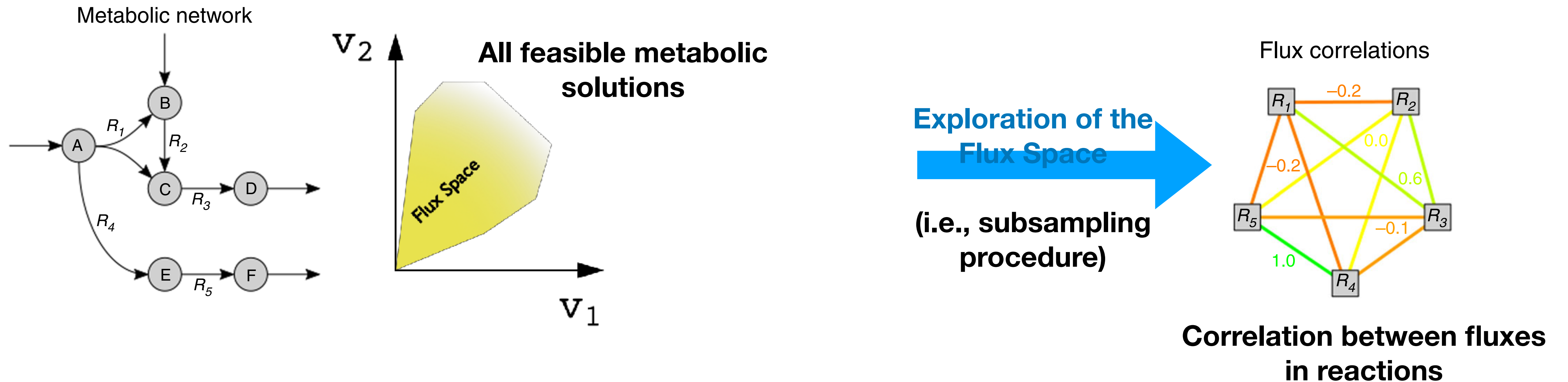
Flux vector  $v(t)$

$$\mathbf{Sv} = 0$$

$$lb \leq v_i \\
 v_i \leq ub$$

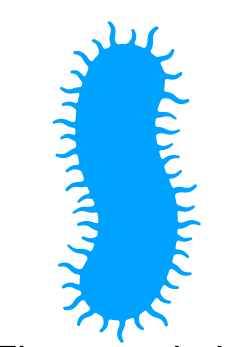
Flux Space

# Analyzing each water mass metabolic behavior (from network to model... and back to graph!)

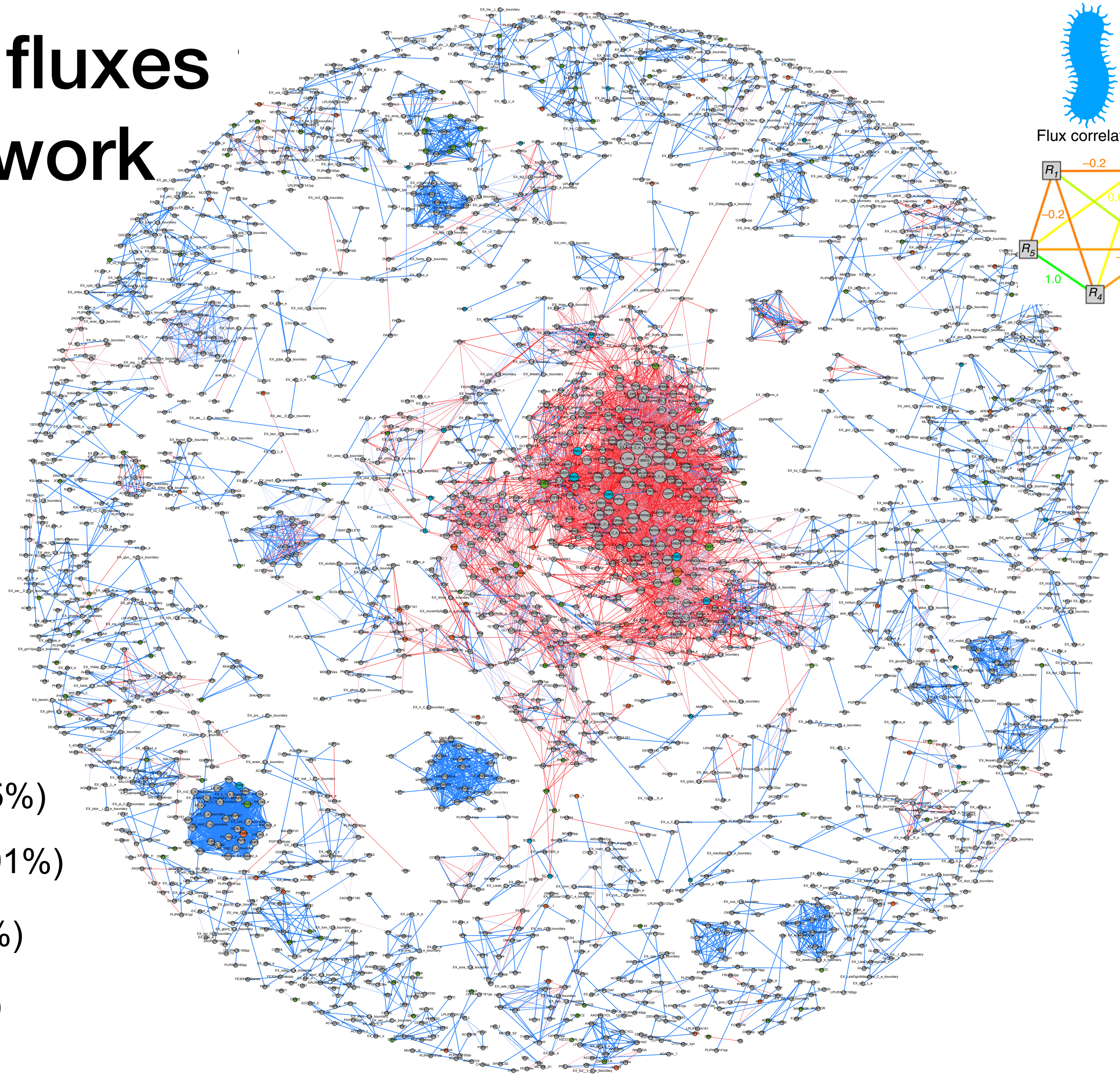
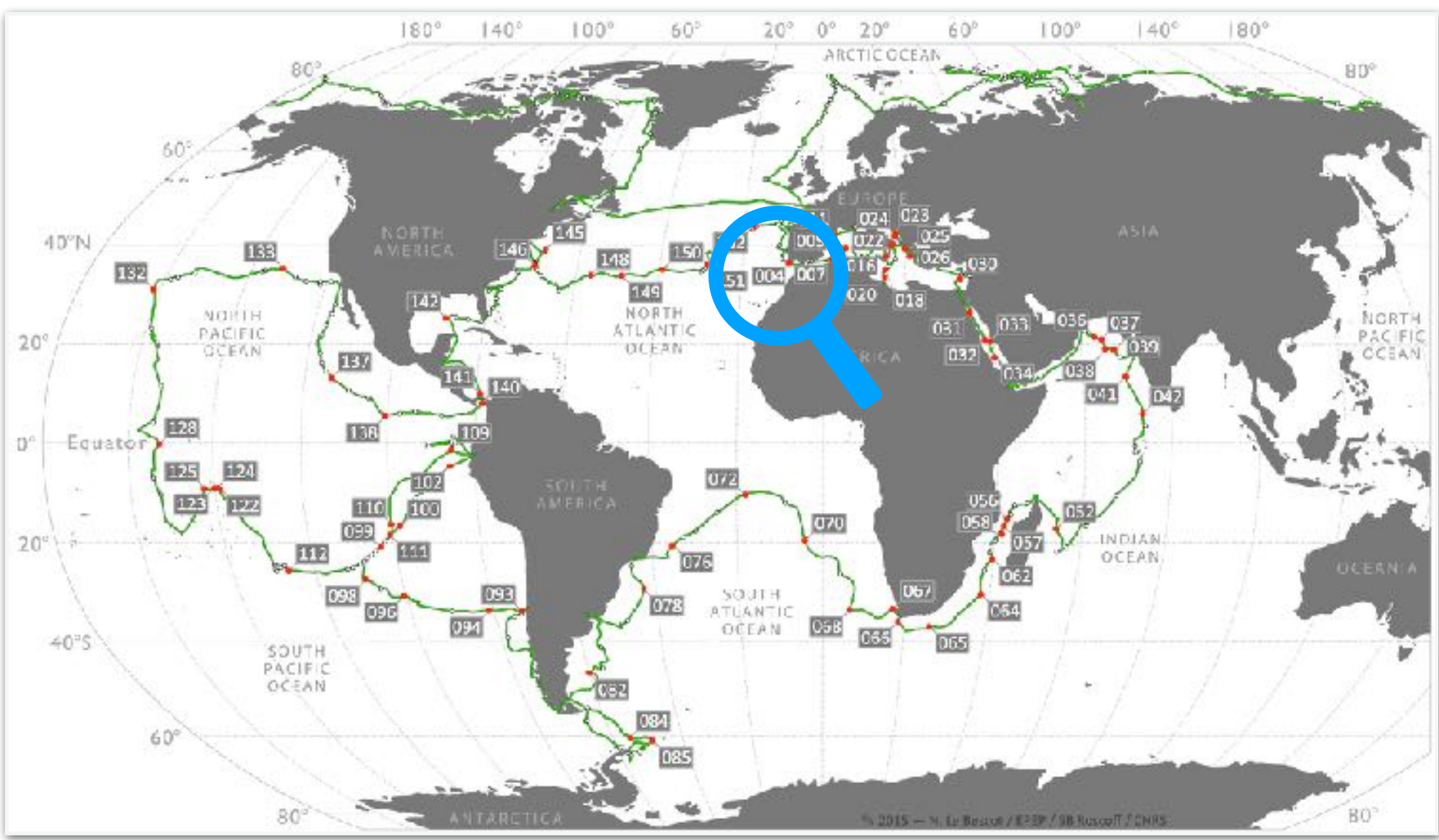
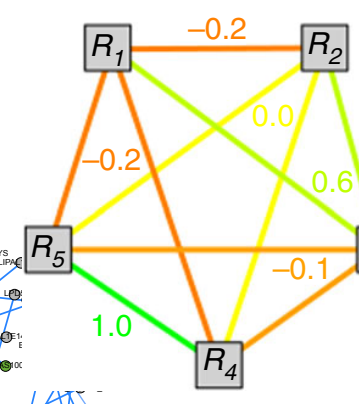


~3 600 reactions per Tara Ocean samples (1,5 times a Human organ)  
~ 6,8 millions of flux correlations per Tara Océan samples

# Dependencies between fluxes in given metabolic network

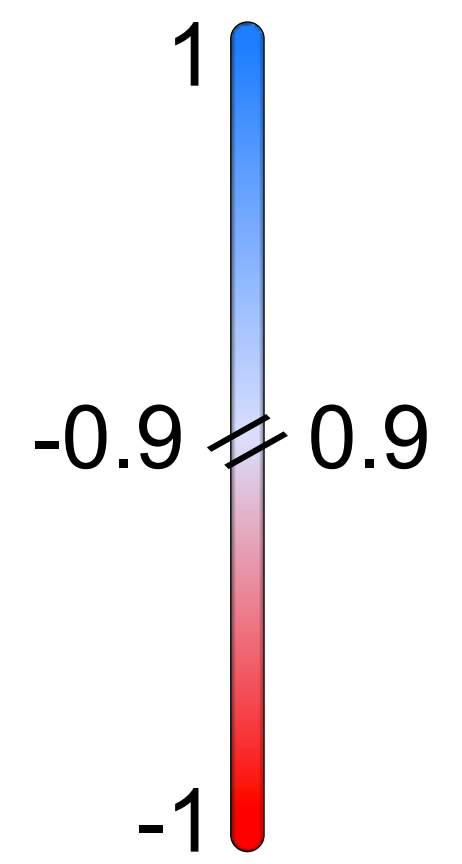






Flux correlations



correlation value

metabolism



-  Carbon metabolism (5.05%)
-  Nitrogen metabolism (2.91%)
-  Sulfur metabolism (1.08%)
-  Everything else (90.96%)

correlation value

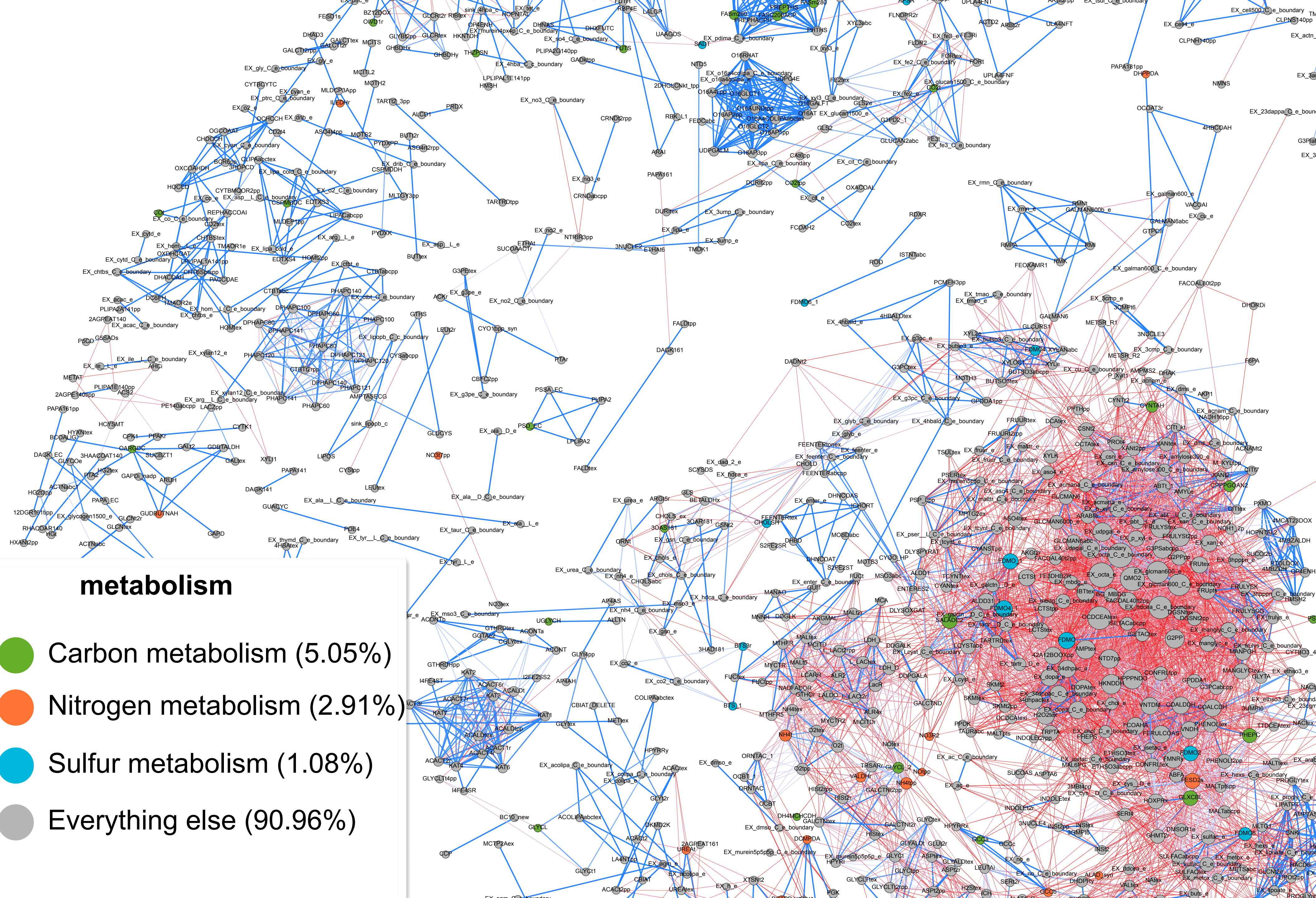
1

-0.9 0.9

-1

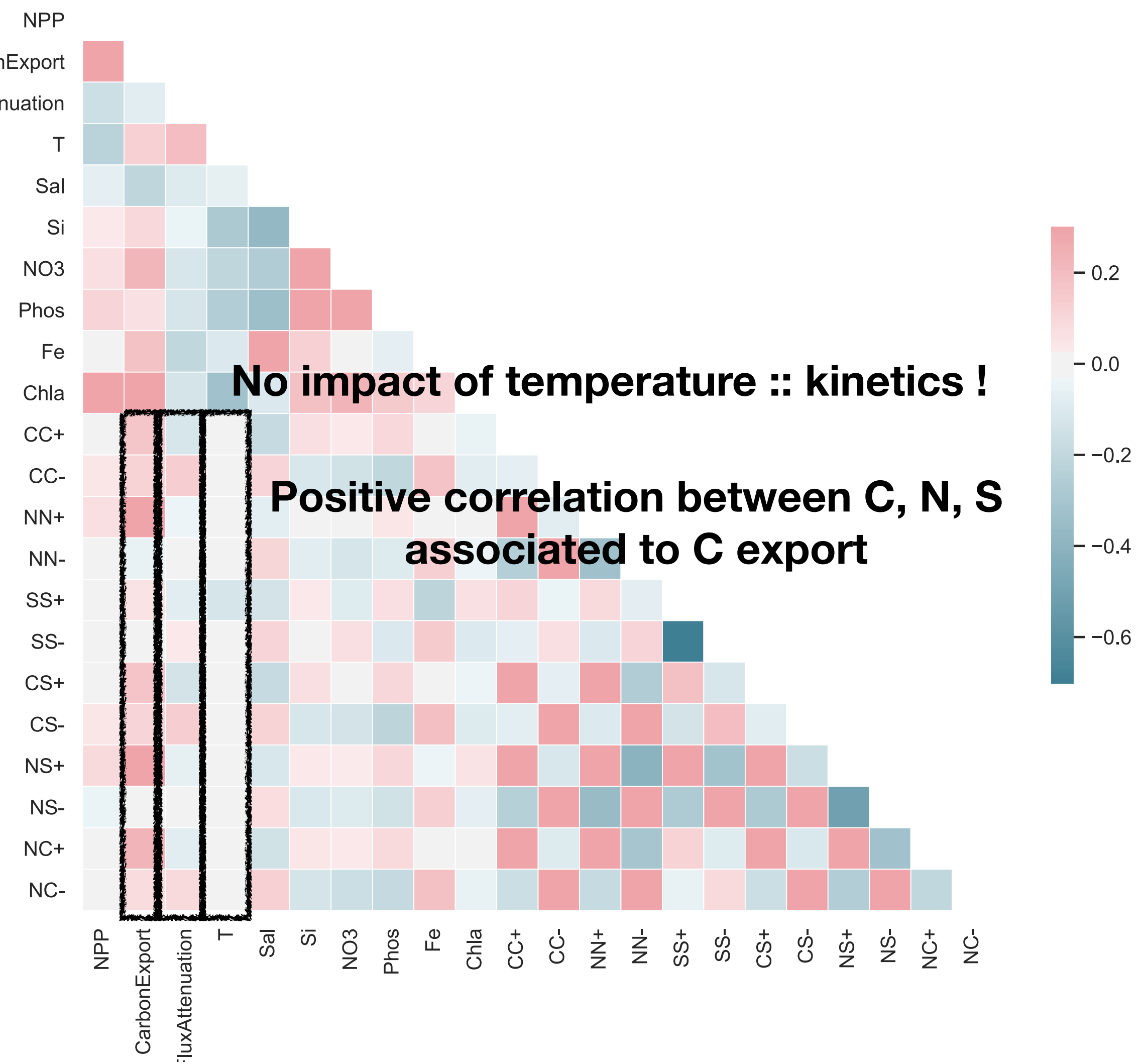
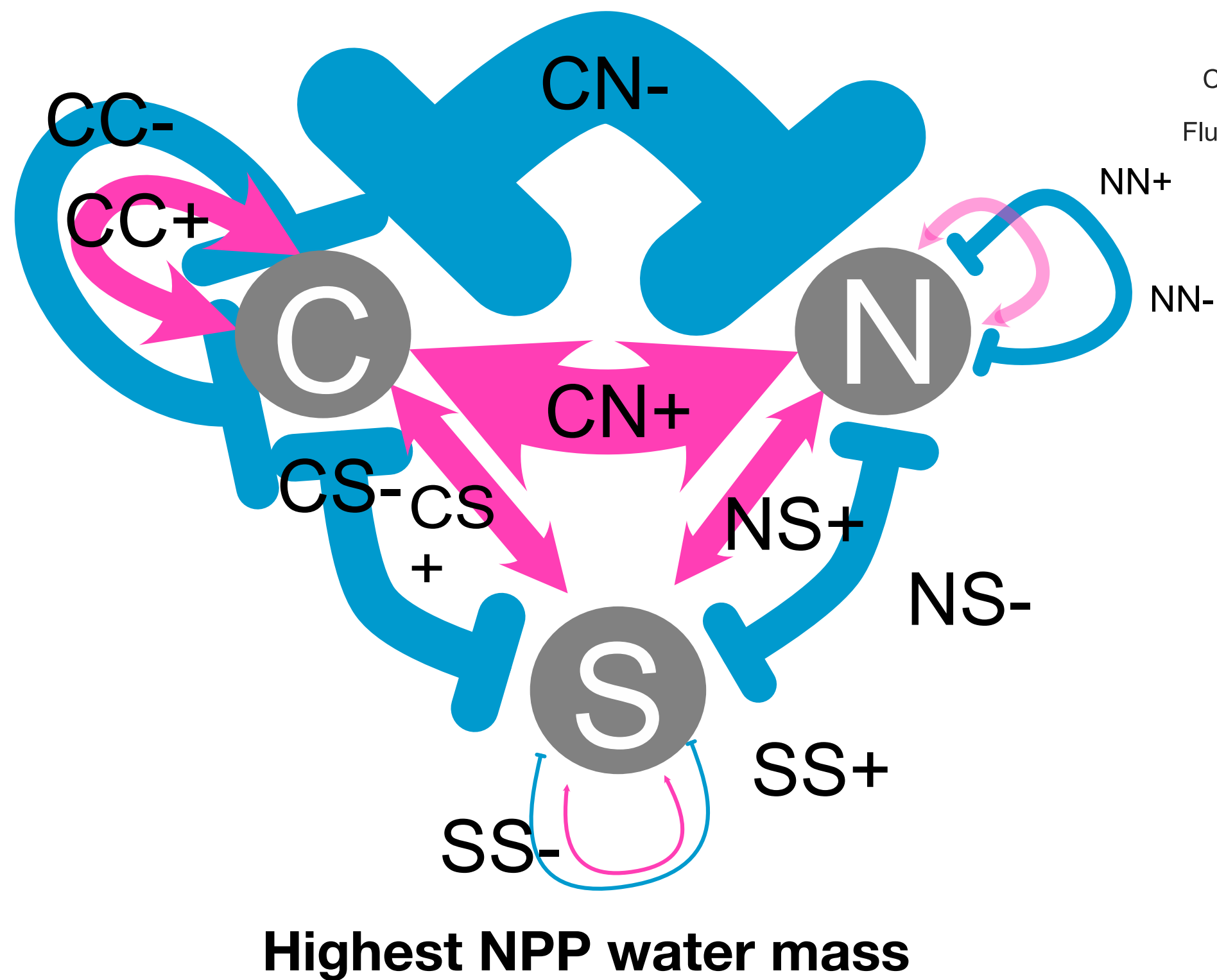
metabolism

- Carbon metabolism (5.05%)
- Nitrogen metabolism (2.91%)
- Sulfur metabolism (1.08%)
- Everything else (90.96%)





# Prok. Biogeochemistry in the global ocean (Carbon, Nitrogen, Sulfate)

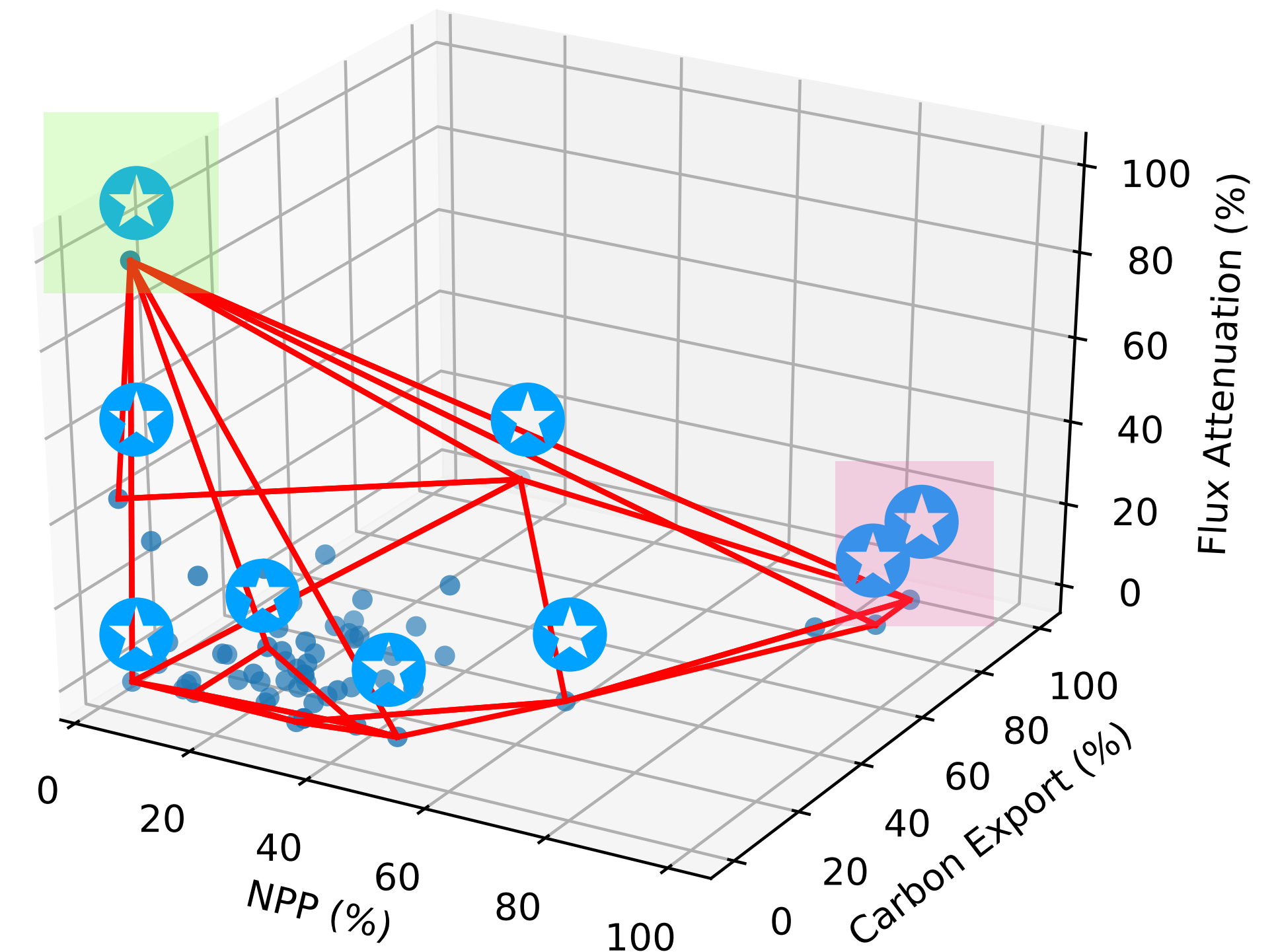


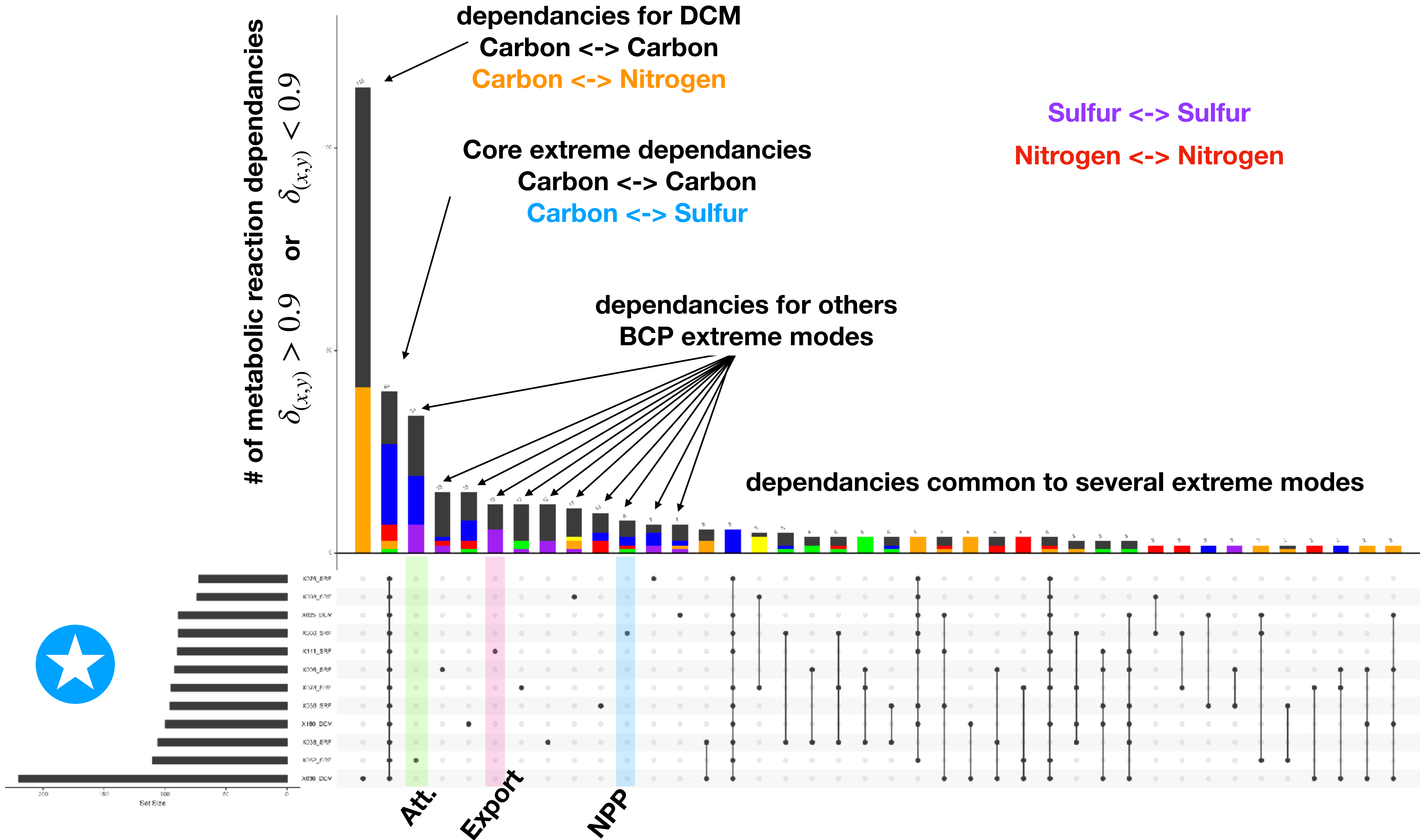
# « Simplexification » of the Biological Carbon Pump

BCP is described by

- carbon export
- net primary production (NPP)
- remineralization

The Global Ocean is enclosed in a **convex hull** that emphasizes extreme stations ★



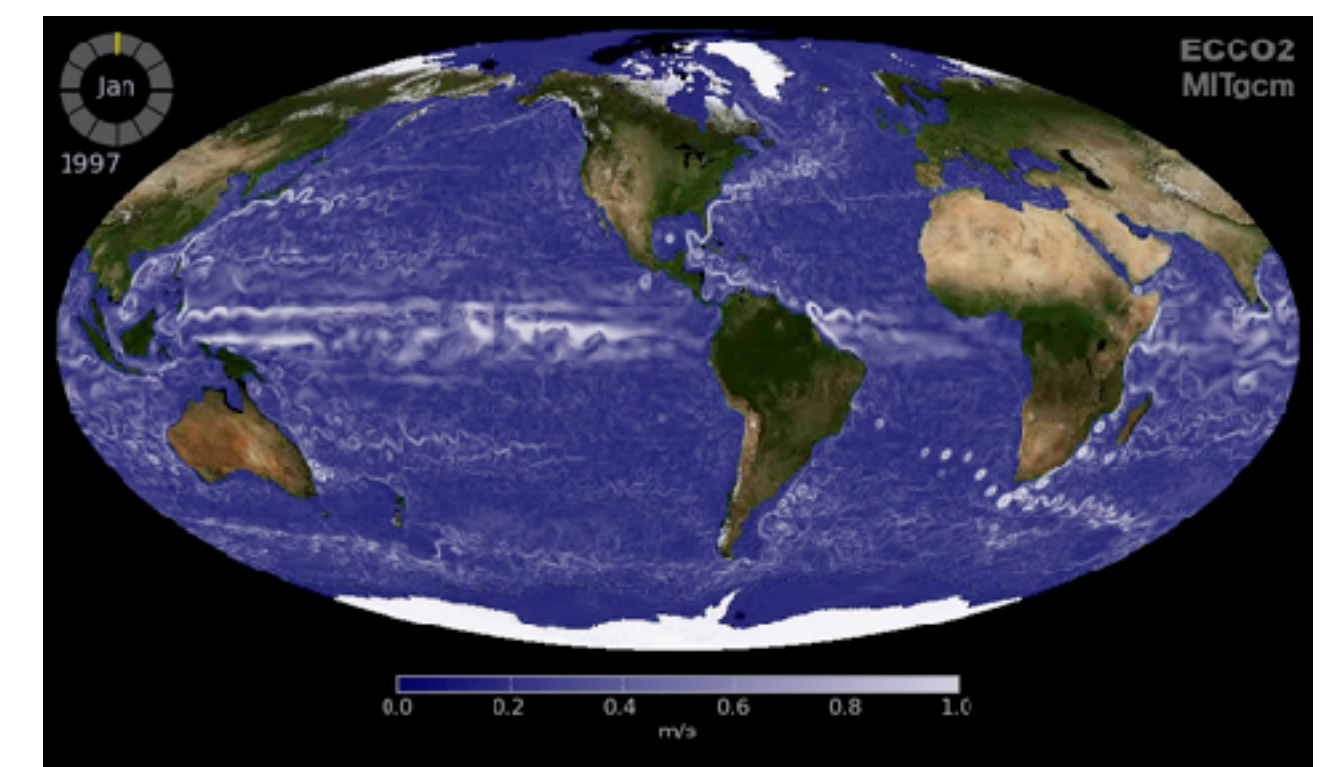
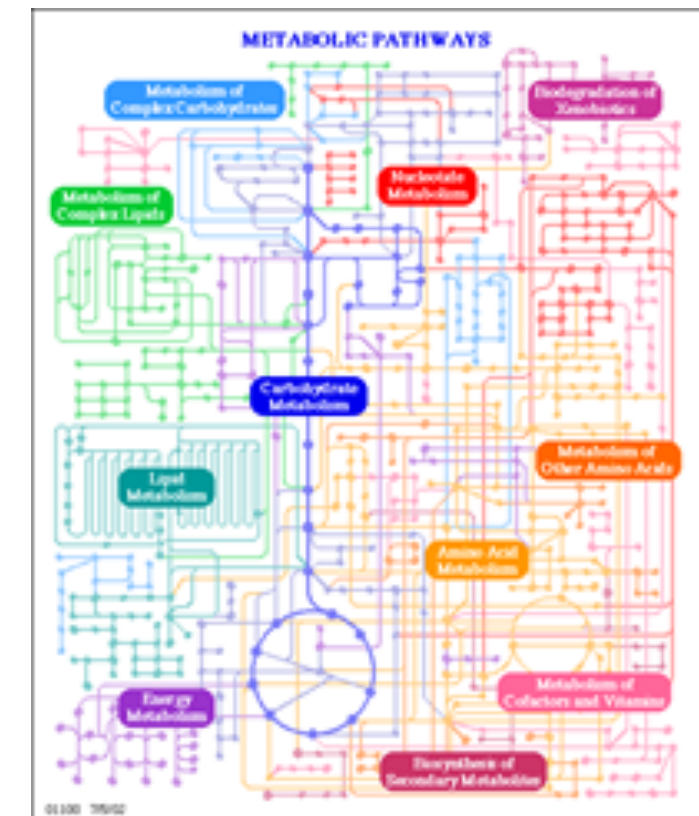
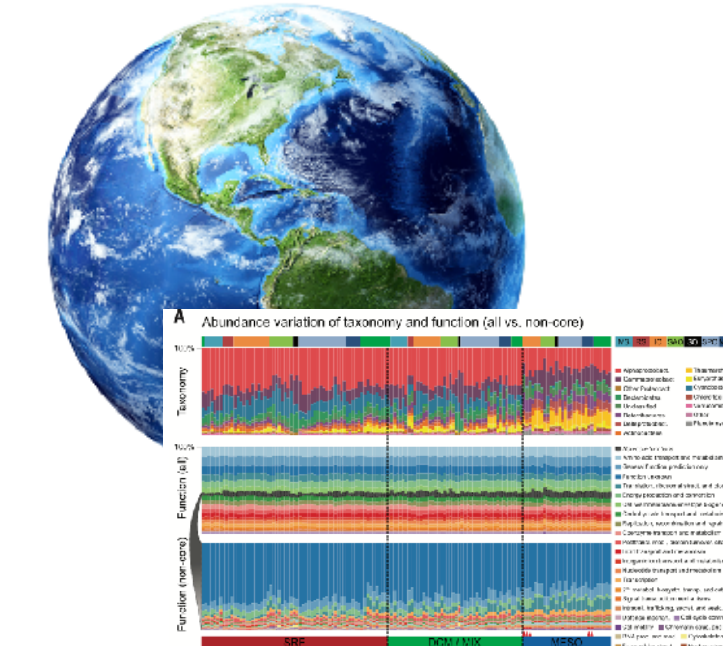


# Aims of Constraints-based modeling applied on Ocean omics data

- From big data to a proper abstraction
- Inference of biogeochemistry of the ocean from omics (revisiting the microbial loop)
- Mechanistic **and** meta-genome-scale modeling

## Perspectives:

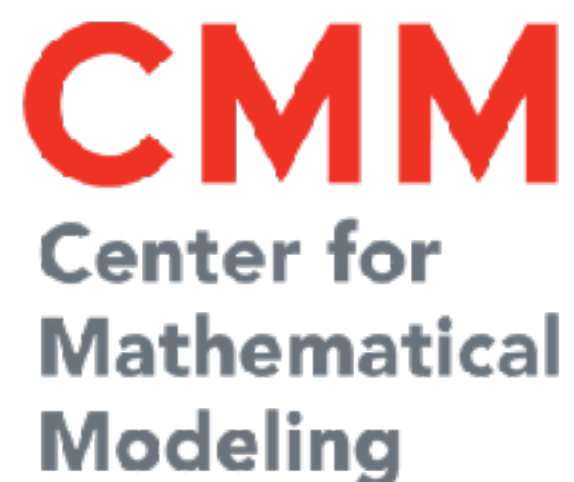
- Proper mining of the key metabolic reactions
- Identify organisms responsible for biogeochemical keystone reactions (rare or abundant? role of diversity in biogeochemistry)
- Adding mesoscale data & **time!!!!!!**





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# Thank you



- Samuel Chaffron, Julie Haguait, Abdelhalim Larhlimi, Antoine Regimbeau, Camille Trottier
- Marko Budinich
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- Lionel Guidi
- Matt Sullivan, James Wainaina
- Alejandro Maass, Dante Travisany
- Member of the Tara Ocean consortium

