

Co-occurrence networks show response of microbial communities to warming in tundra soils

Mathilde Jeanbille

Sara Hallin, Jaanis Juhansson, Karina Clemmensen, ITFX-network



Background



Directional changes in vegetation due to warming

- → no impact on microbial communities and on nitrogen-cycling
- → strong environmental filtering
- → very high phylogenetic diversity of the microorganisms

High diversity of interactions?

Are the interacting species structured by the environment and by the warming treatment?

SLU

Datasets

- 13 sites (19 experiments)
- 4 control / 4 OTC plots per site
- Humus layer
- C, N, pH and N C isotopes
- Plant abundances classified by functional groups and mycorhizal type
- Metabarcoding of the 16S rRNA gene and of the ITS2 gene
- Quantification of nitrogen-cycling genes





Co-occurence analysis methodology

- Prokaryotic species not randomly distributed
- Fungal species present in more than 5 sites



- Highly significant Spearman correlations (p<0.001)
- Non arbitrary cutoffs (RMT– based method): 0.6 for fungi and 0.81 for prokaryotes



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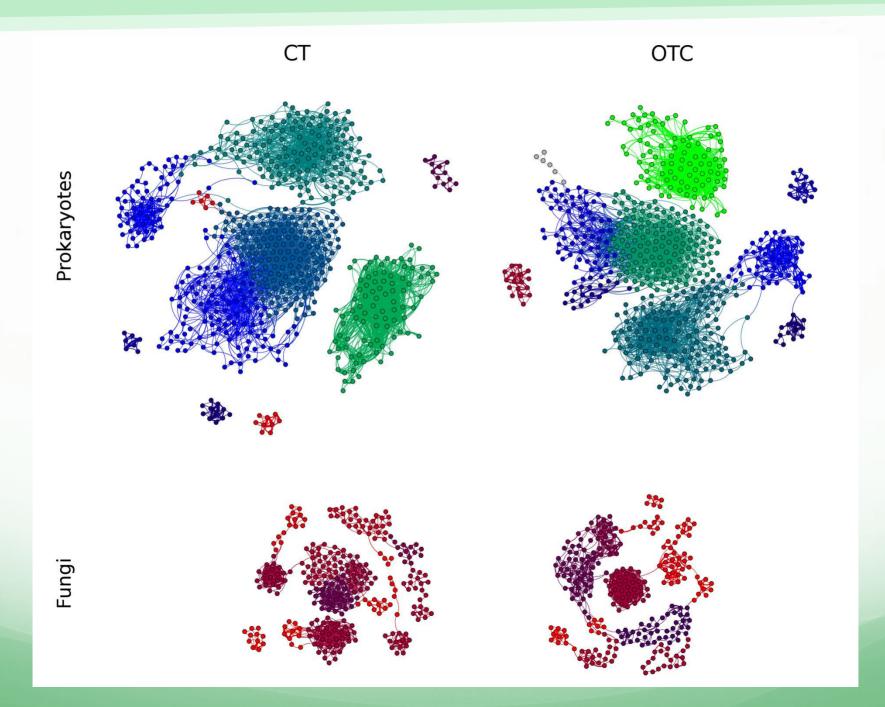
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- → Highly structured networks (significantly different fron random)
- → "Small-world" properties
- → Modular structure (modules = putative ecological niches)

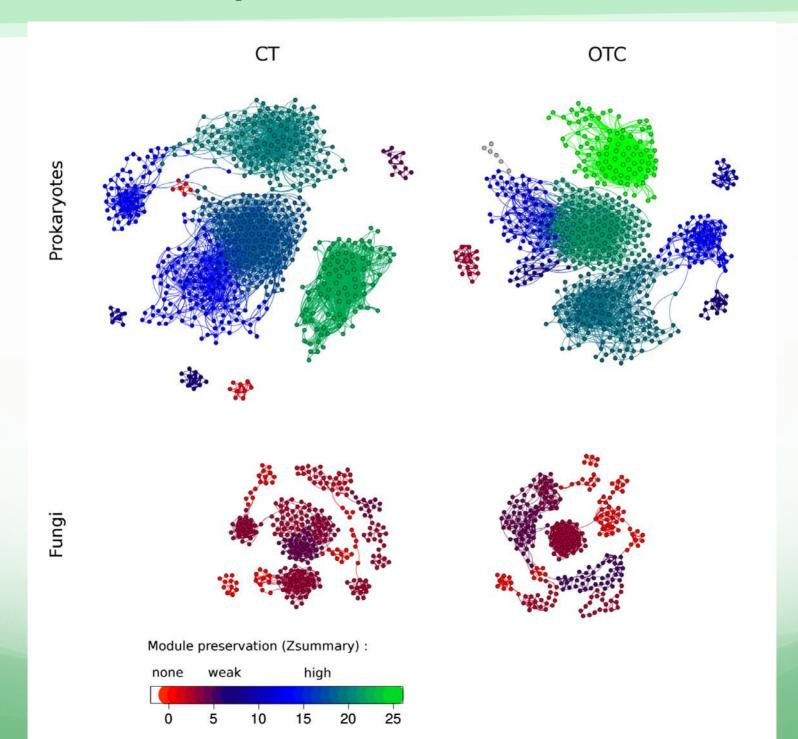


Network comparison between treatments



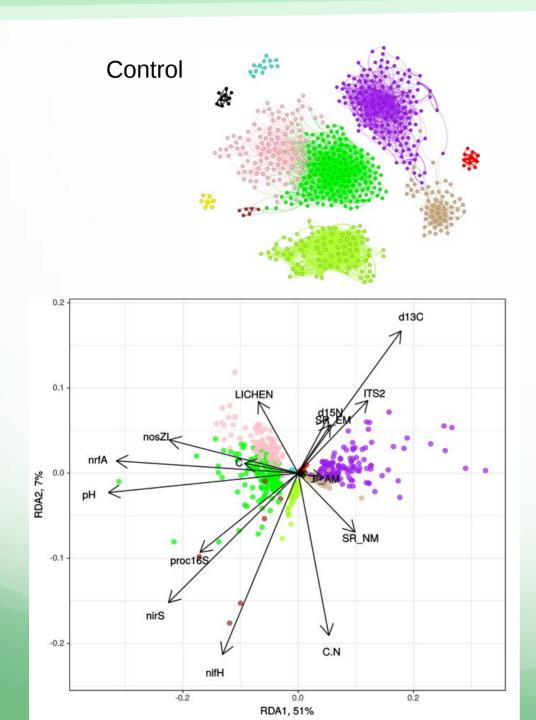


Network comparison between treatments



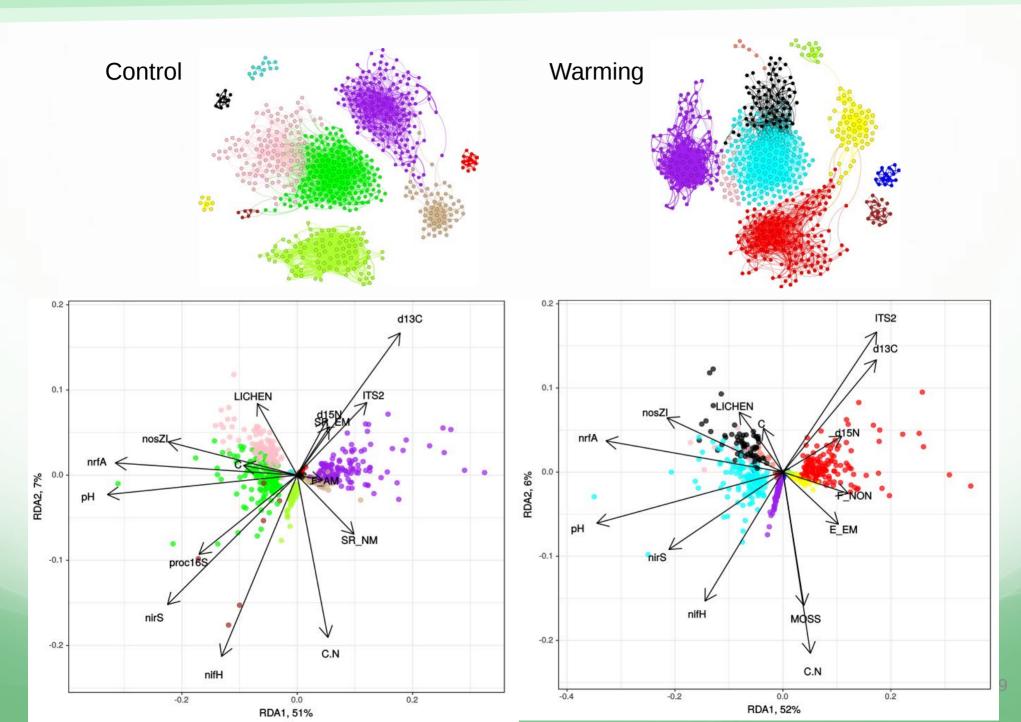


Prokaryotic networks





Prokaryotic networks



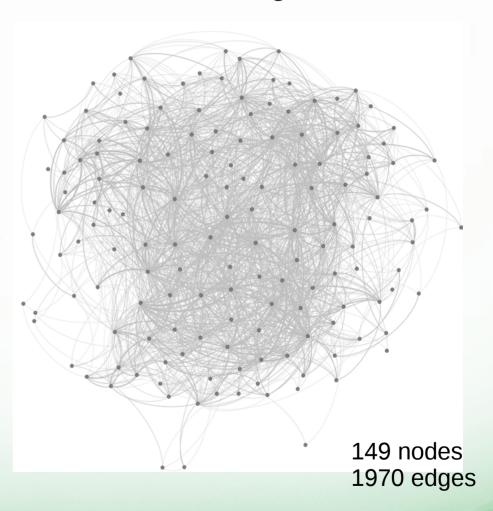


Negative prokaryotic co-occurences

Control

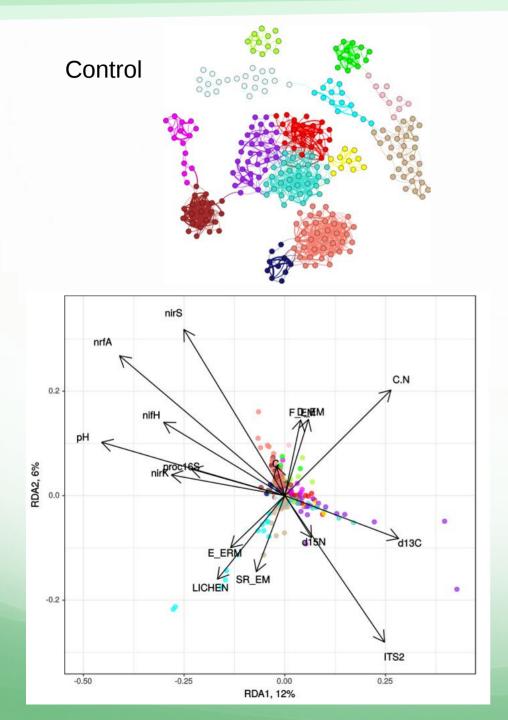
67 nodes 201 edges

Warming

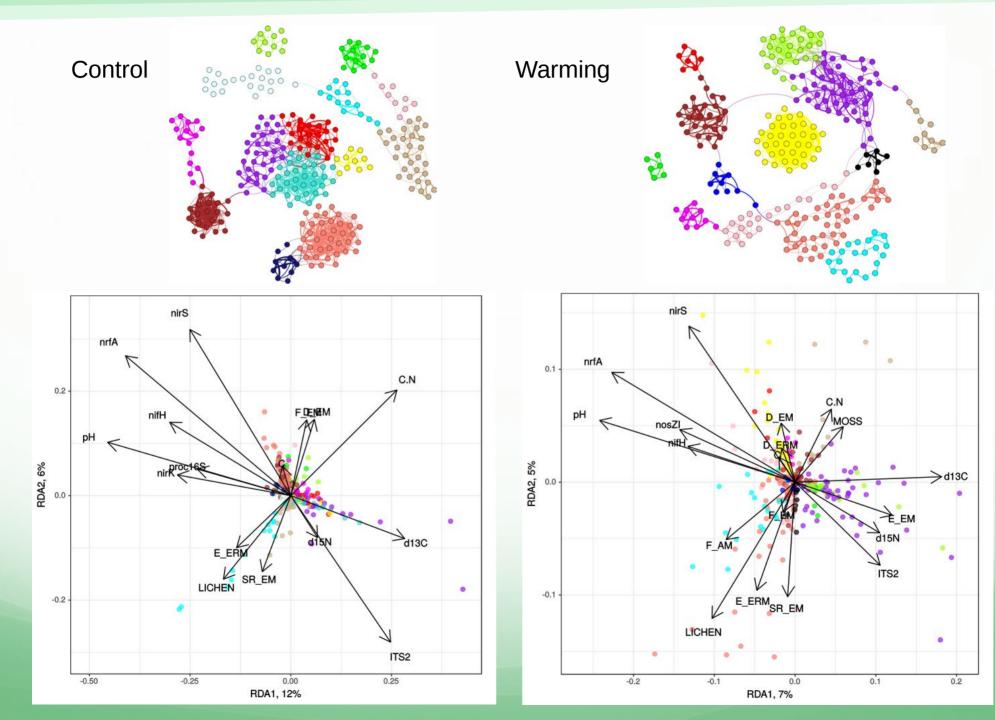


→ Increase of negative links is an indication of perturbation



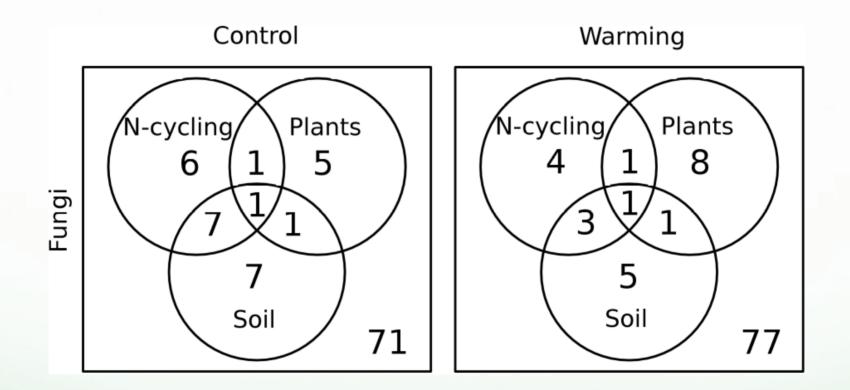






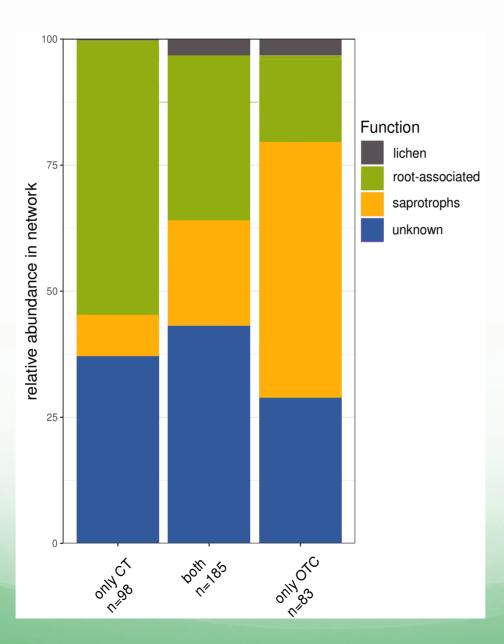


• Variance partitioning (%):





• Are those differences reflected in the functionnal diversity?





Conclusions

- Stability of the prokaryotic network in response to longterm warming
- Sensitivity of the fungal network to long-term warming, driven by changes in the aboveground vegetation
- Potential impacts on the N and C balances



Thank you for your attention!