

## LA-UR-18-30590

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Title: Vegetation under changing climate: What determines who survives?

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Intended for: Invited seminar talk at New Mexico State University

Issued: 2018-11-02

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Los Alamos,  
New Mexico



Sequoia National  
Park, California



Jarrah Forest  
region, Australia

# Vegetation under changing climate: What determines who survives?

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***Earth and Environmental Sciences Division***

Nov. 9, 2018



# Acknowledgements:

## Los Alamos National Laboratory:

- EES and vegetation team
- Bioenergy and Biome Sciences
- Physics Division
- Material Sciences
- ISR



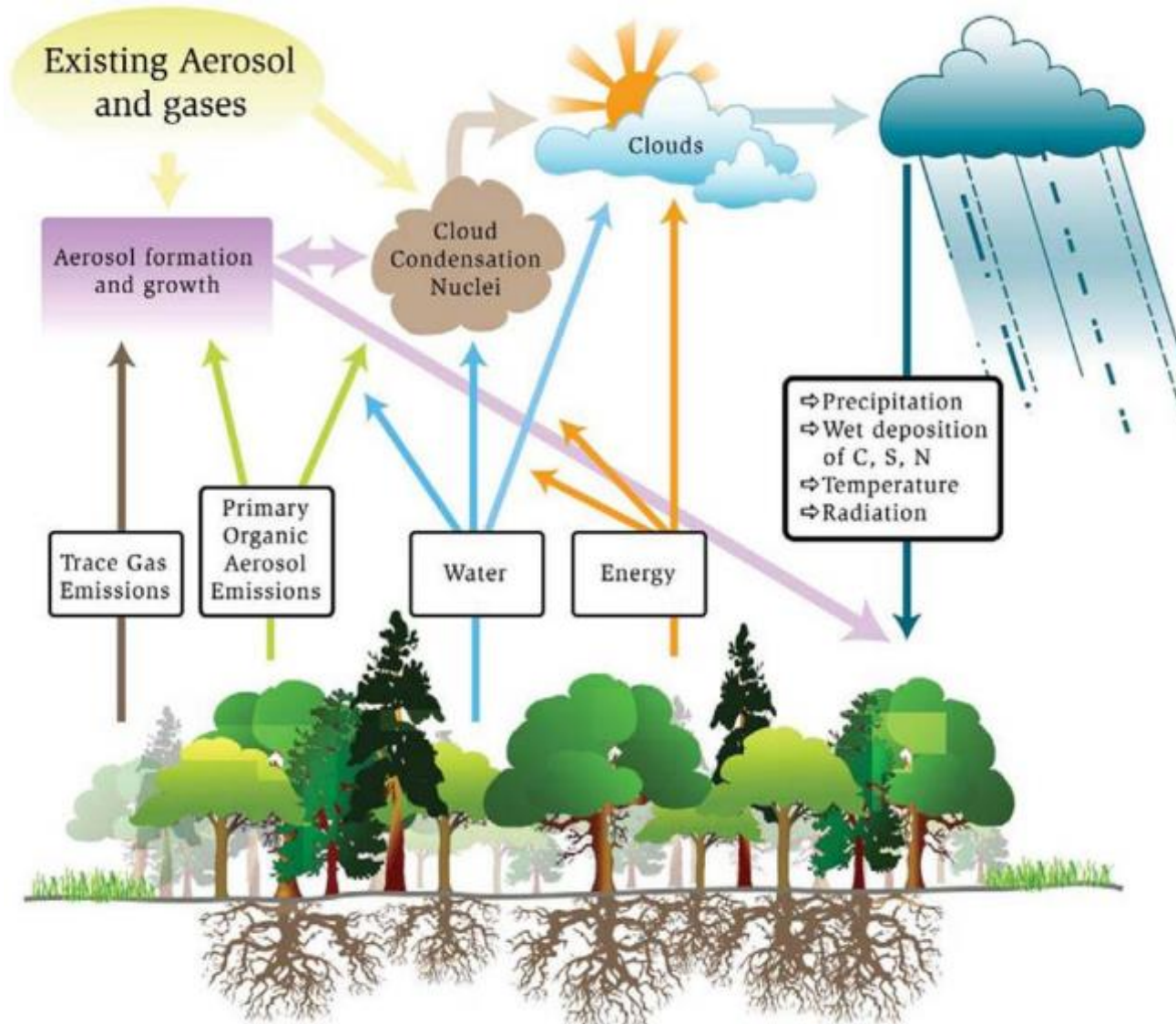
UNM Pockman and Hanson groups



EMPA –Swiss Federal  
Laboratories of Materials Science  
Dominique Derome, Jan Carmeliet, Thijs  
Defraeye, Alessandra Patera, David Mannes,  
David Habitur, Anne Bonnin @ Paul Scherrer  
Institute

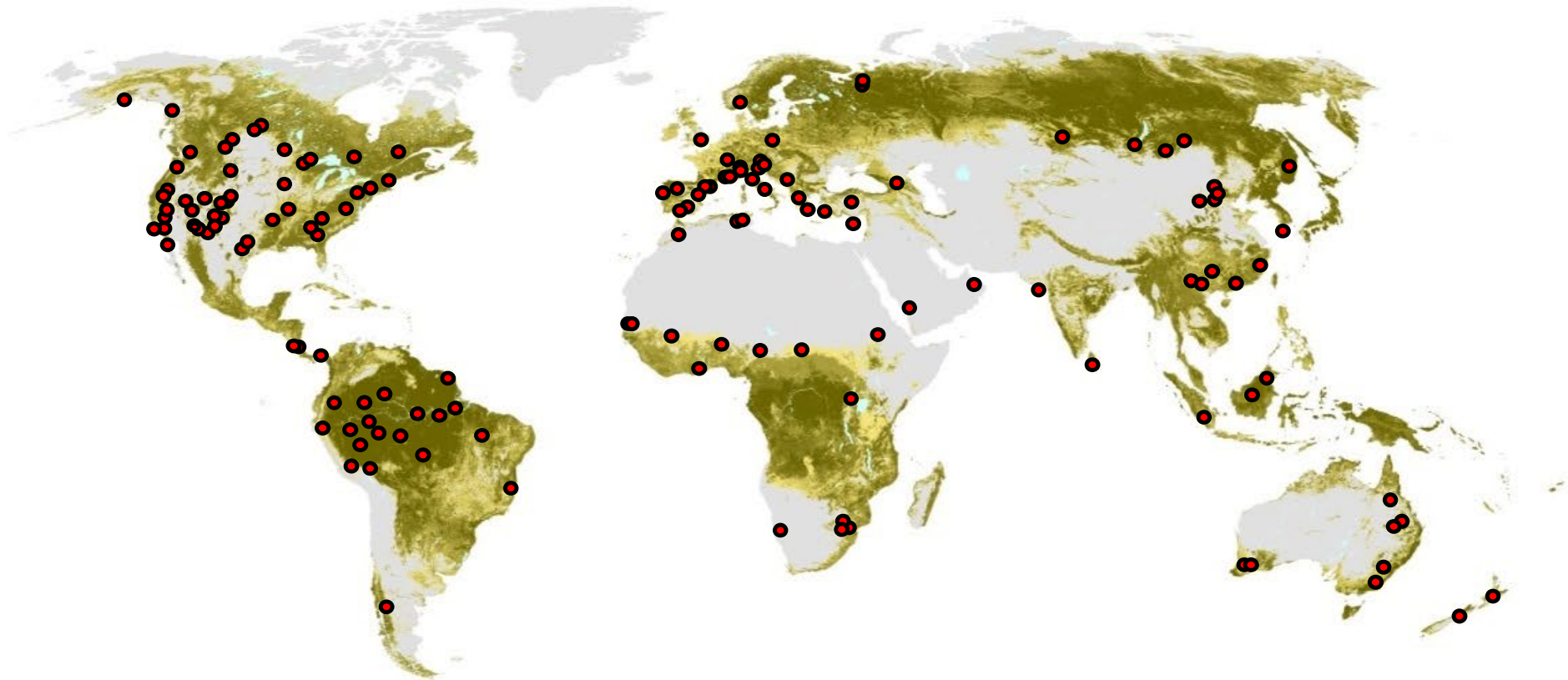


# Forests are important for keeping the planet in balance



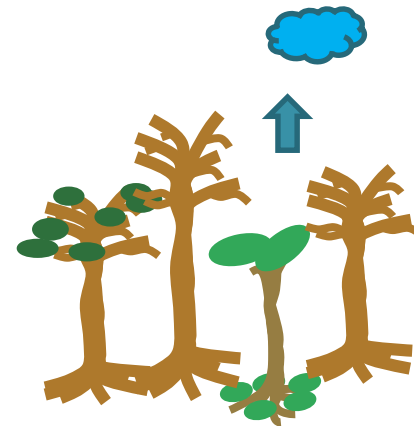
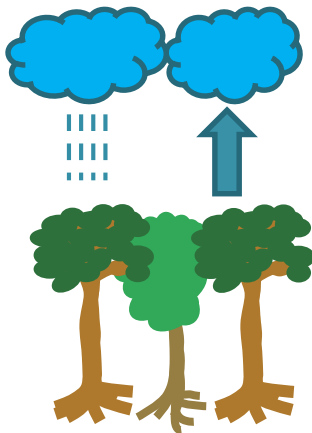
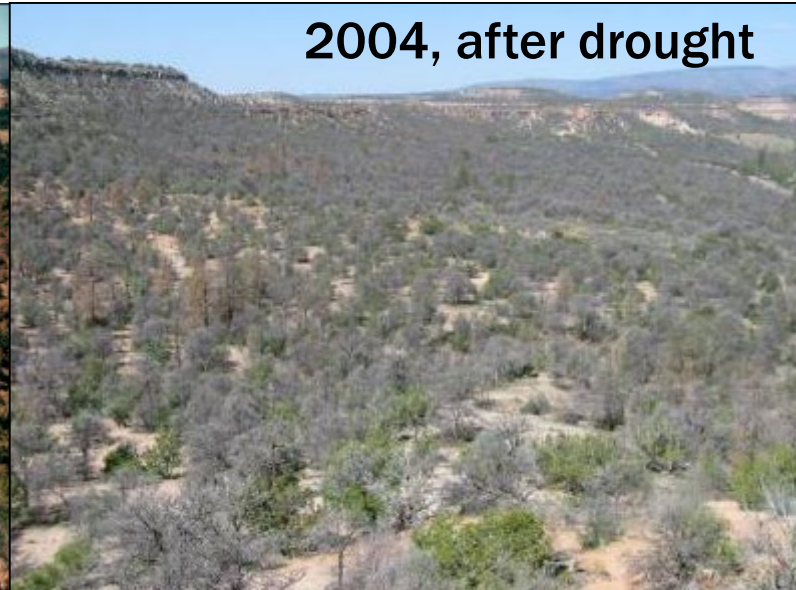


# Motivation: Large-scale forest mortality events are a global phenomenon

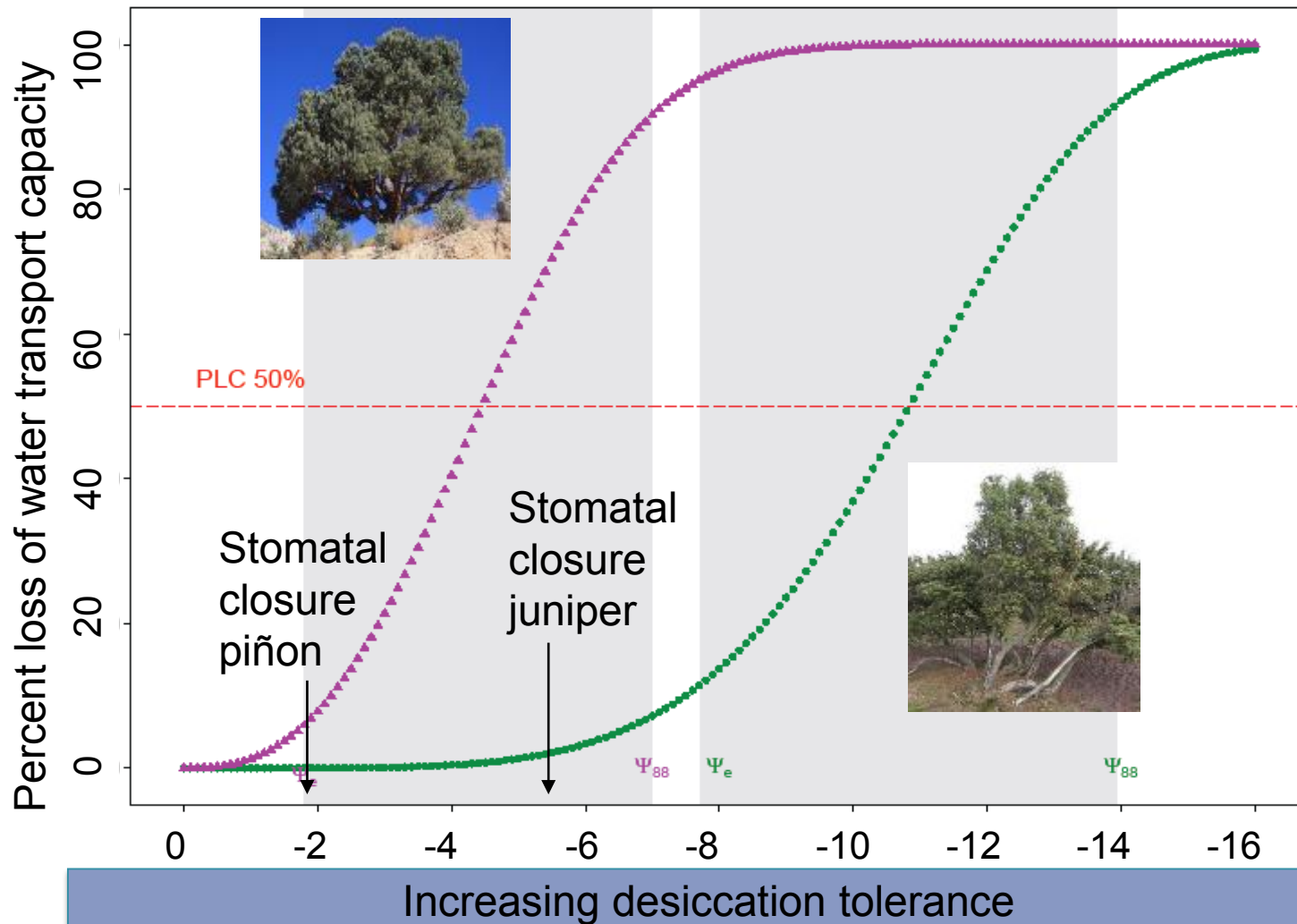


Allen, Breshears & McDowell 2015

# Green biomass increases precipitation

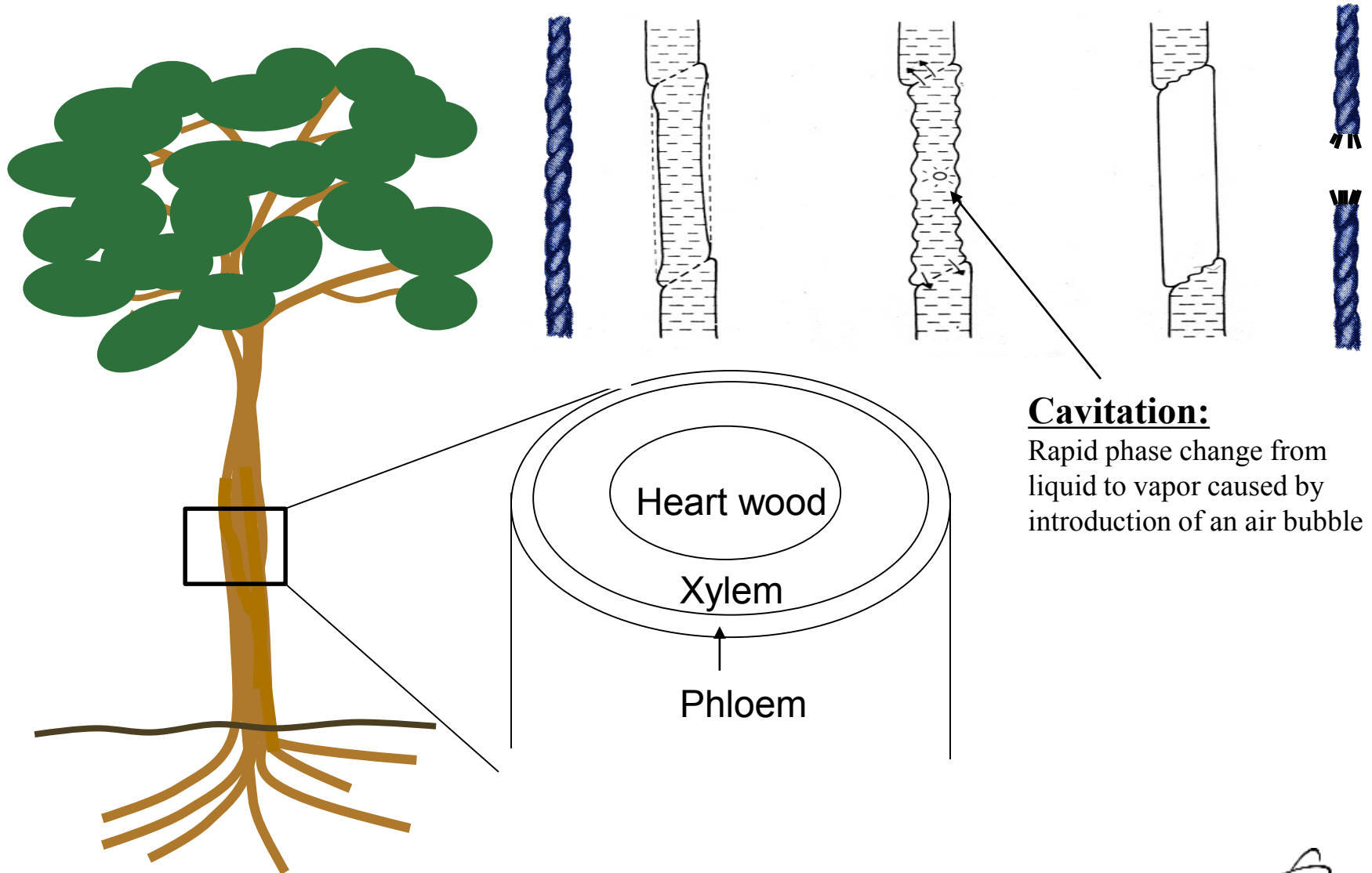


# Different desiccation tolerance of pine and juniper makes PJ very interesting:



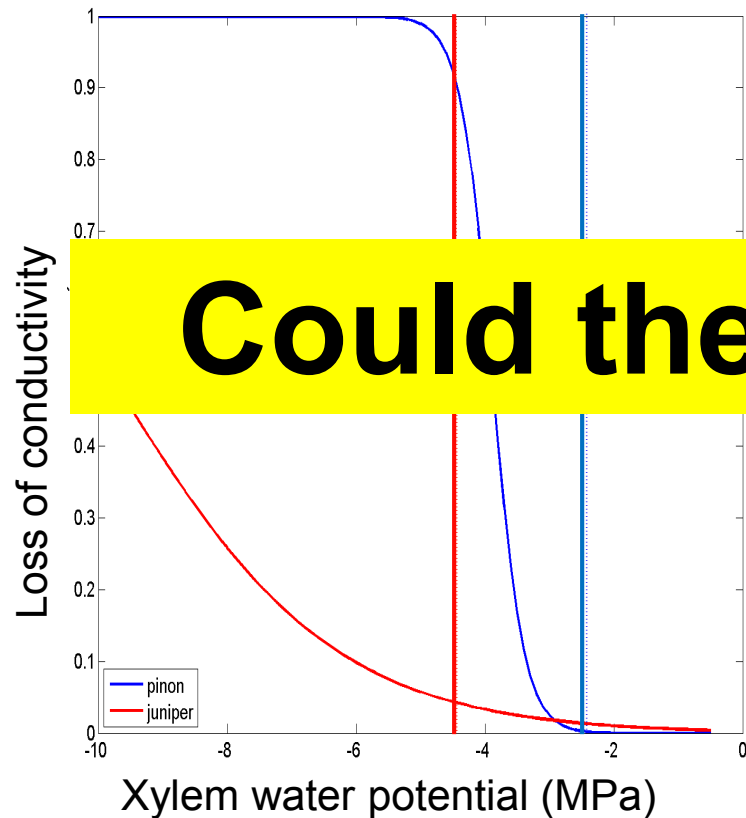


# Basics of water flow in trees

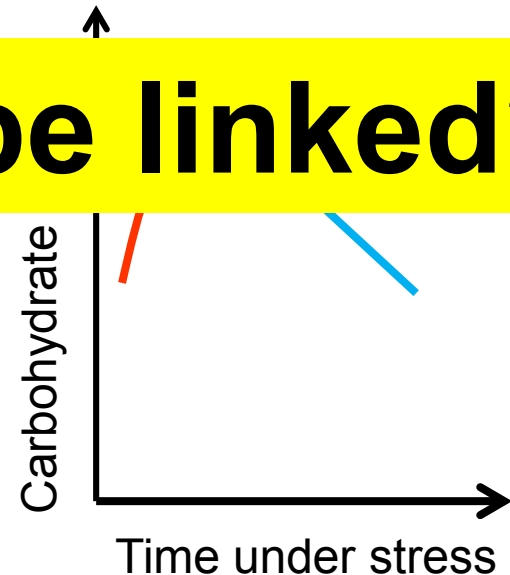


# Hypothesized mortality mechanisms

## Hydraulic failure:



## Carbon starvation:



**Could these be linked?**

# How species avoid mortality?

**Trees** can respond to climate change by:



**Adaptation** 50-5000 years



**Acclimation**



**Migration** 60-250 m yr<sup>-1</sup>

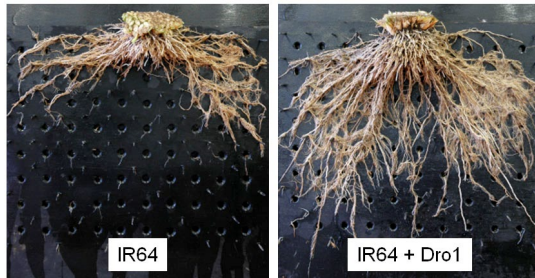


# Acclimation to drought and warming

## Acclimation to drought



Thicker and shorter needles



Growing deeper roots

## Acclimation to warming



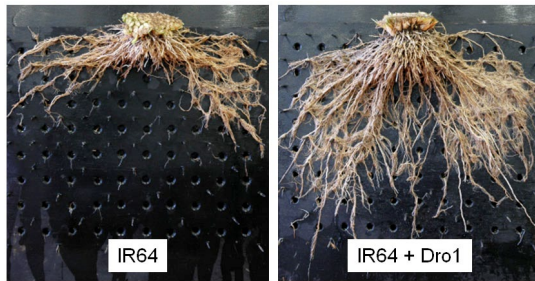
Advanced phenology



Higher productivity



# Acclimation to drought + warming



# Tree SURvival and MOrtality experiment: New Mexico in 2100

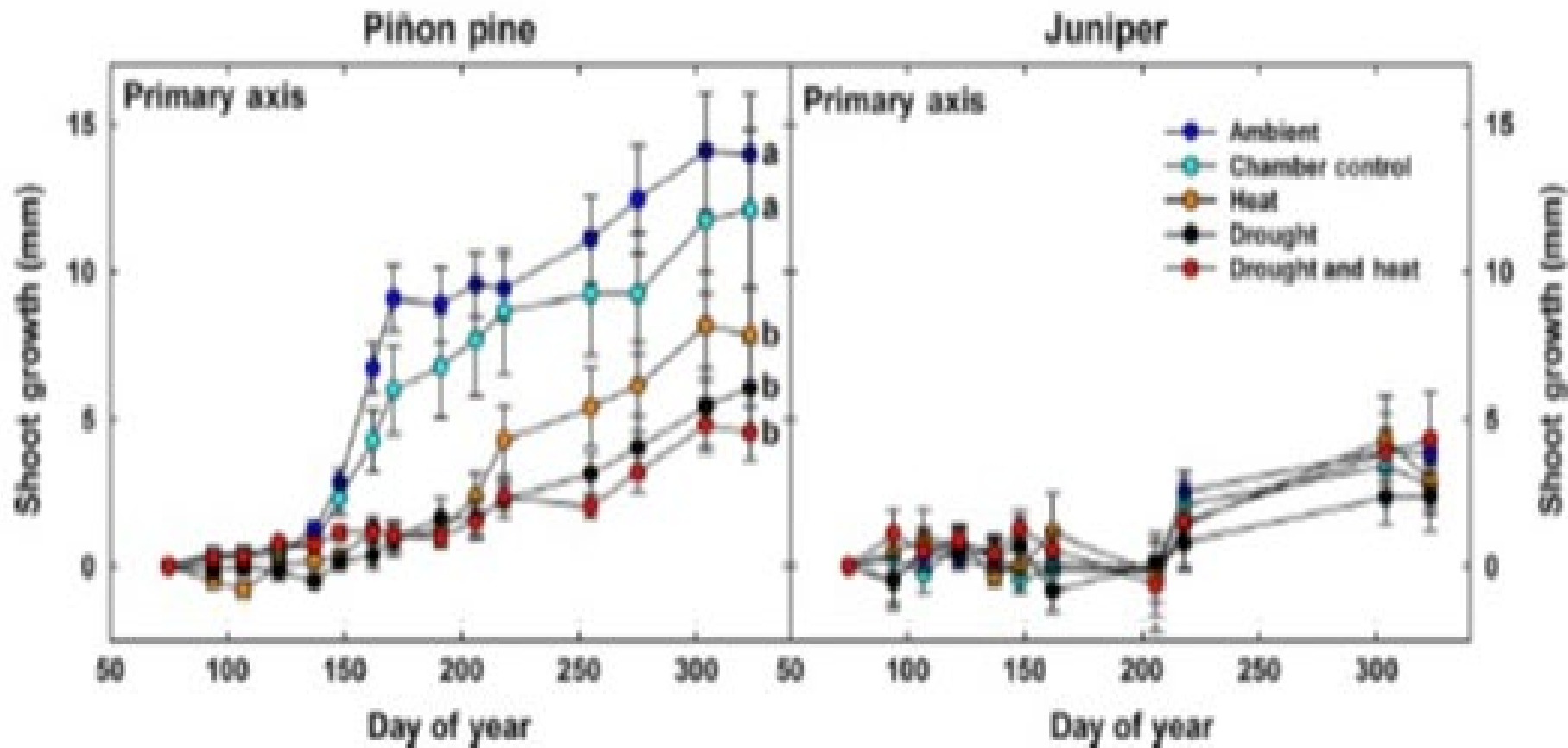


Temperature

Precipitation

	Ambient P	Drought
Ambient T		
~+5°C		
Ambient T Chamber		

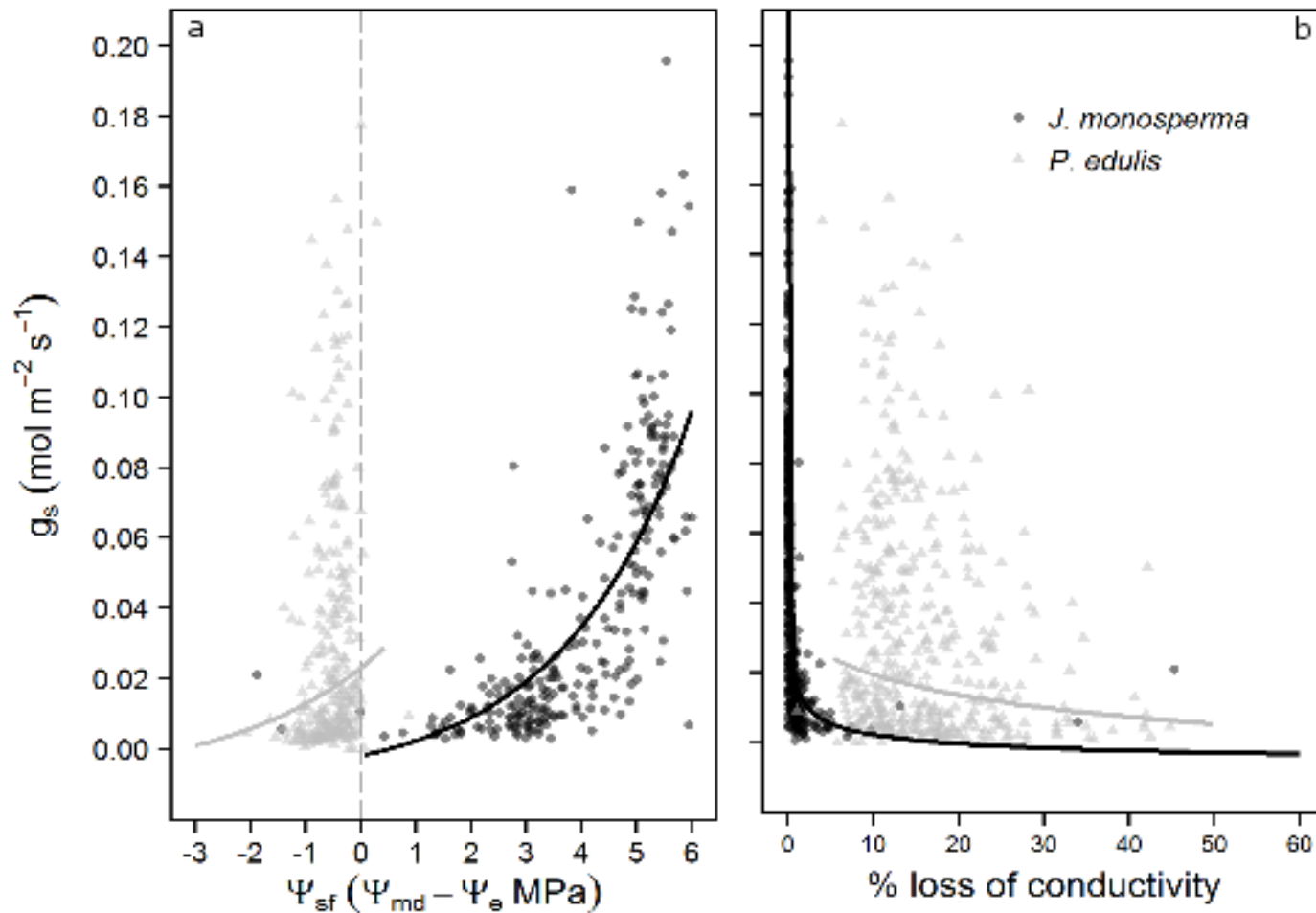
# Moisture drives growth; Growth = health



Adams et al. 2015 Global Change Biology

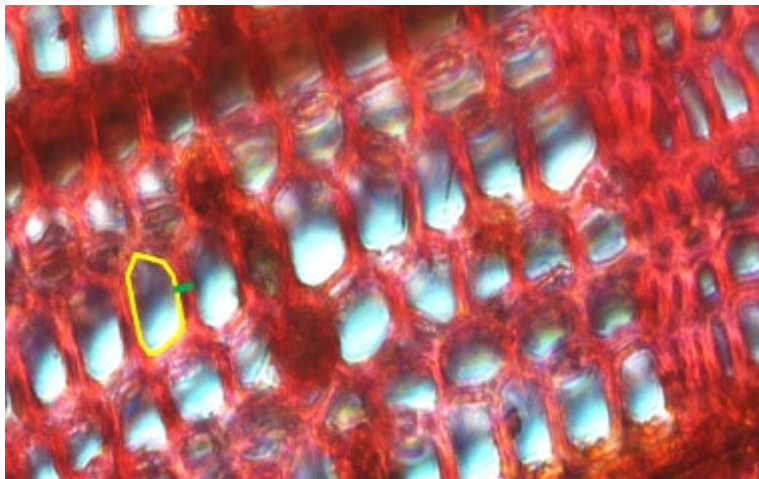
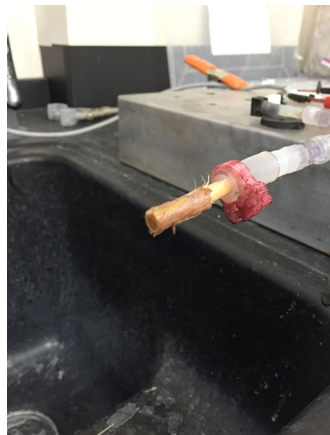
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# Mortality mechanisms: Hydraulic failure

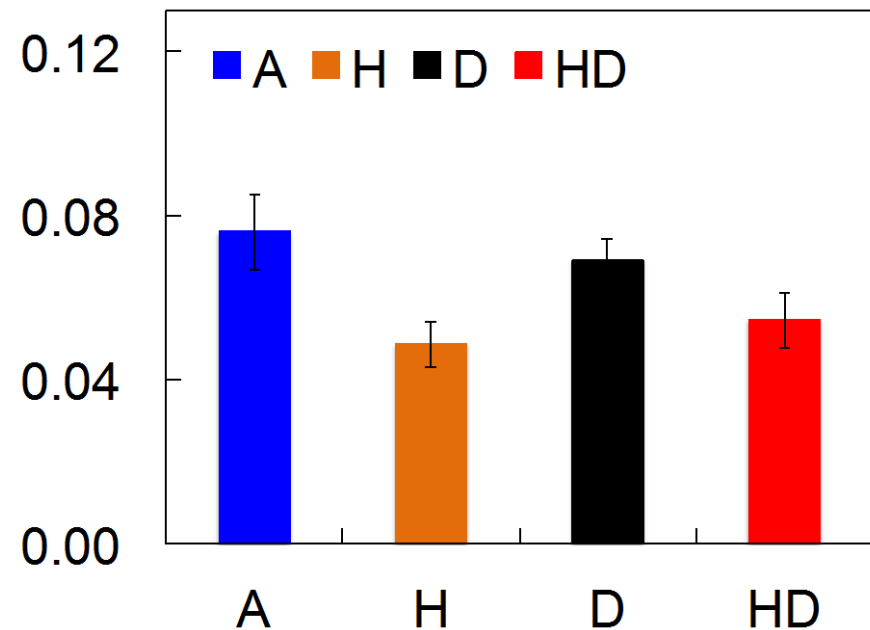




# Reduced hydraulic conductivity under warming

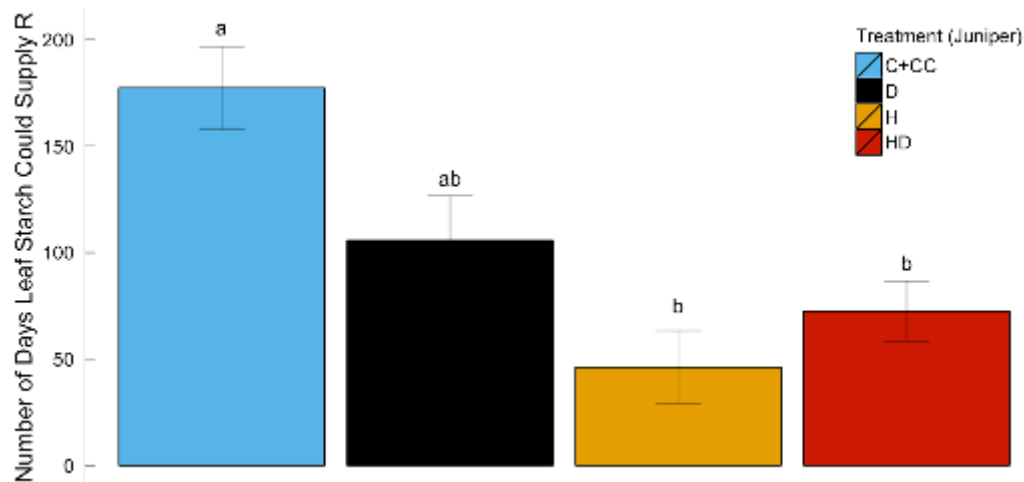
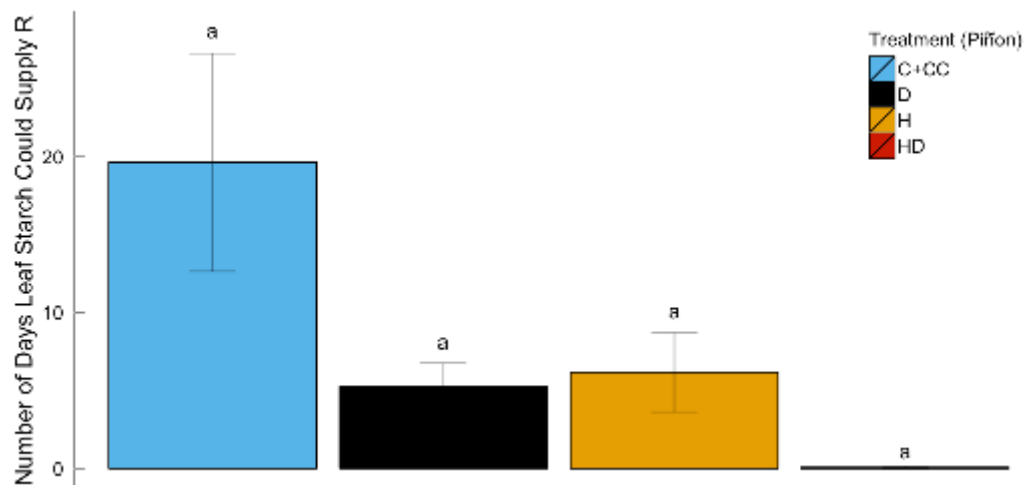


Early-wood tracheids from 2016 growth of a juniper tree (400x on a compound microscope)



Grossiord et al. 2017 PCE

# How about carbon starvation?

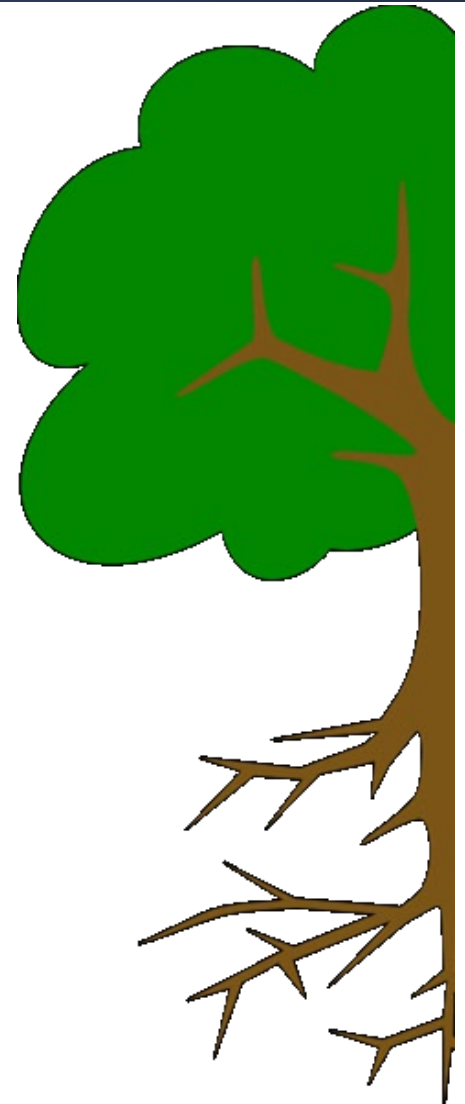
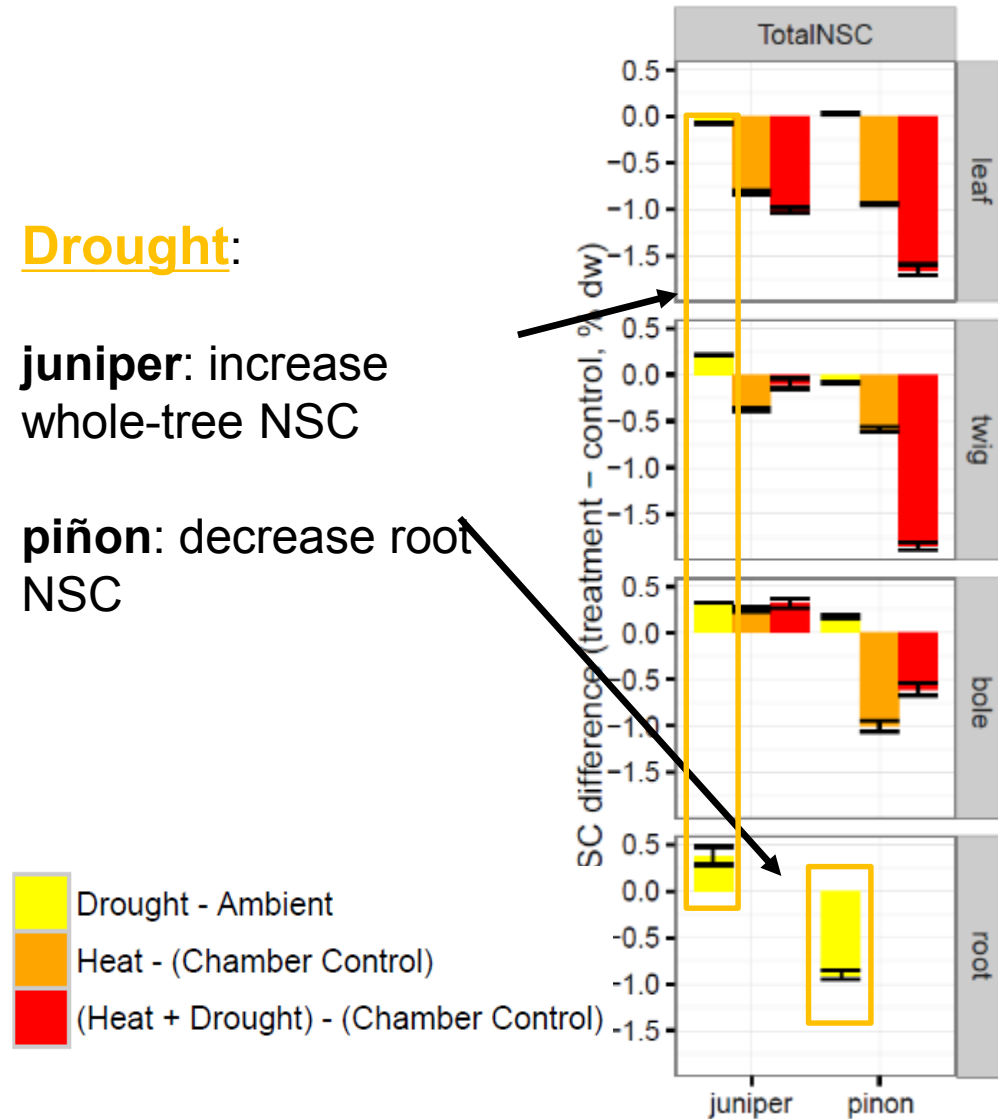


# Changes in carbon storage

## Drought:

**juniper:** increase  
whole-tree NSC

**piñon:** decrease root  
NSC

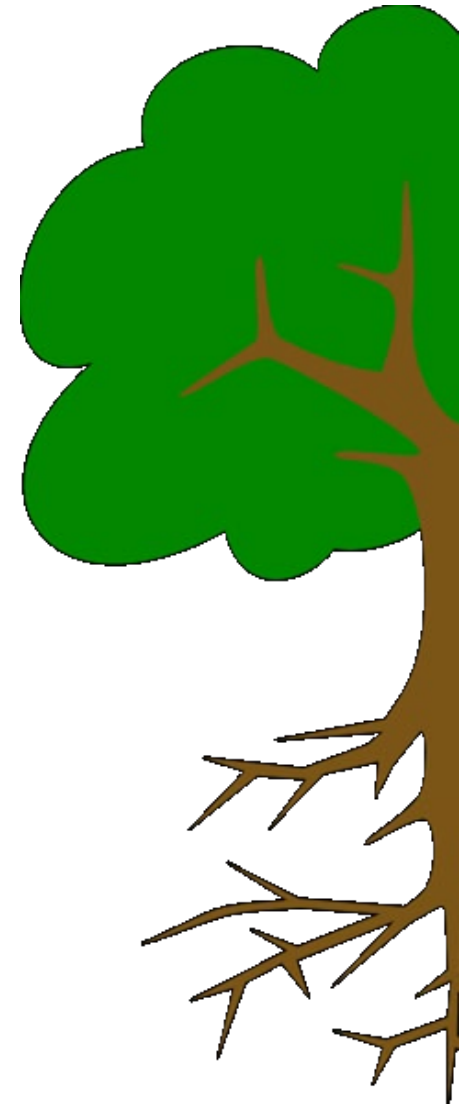
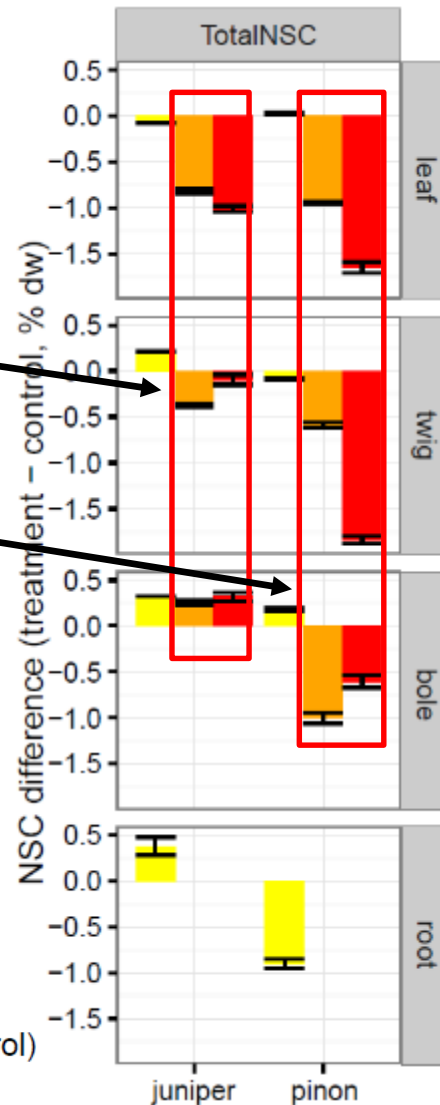
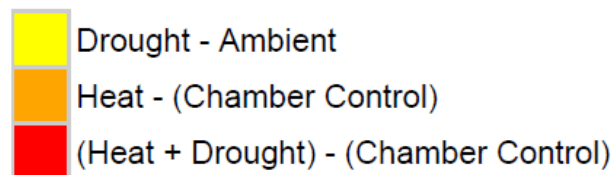


# Changes in carbon storage

Heat & Heat + Drought:

**juniper**: shift allocation  
from canopy to stem

**piñon**: reduce whole-  
tree NSC



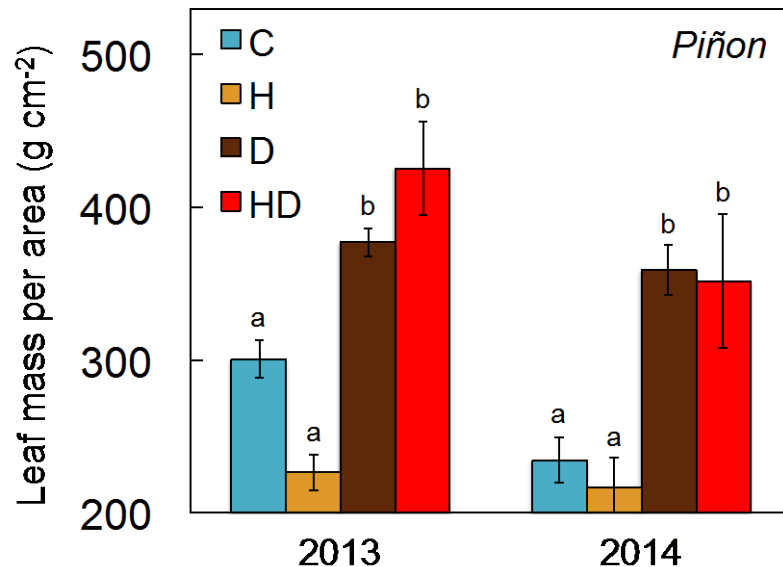
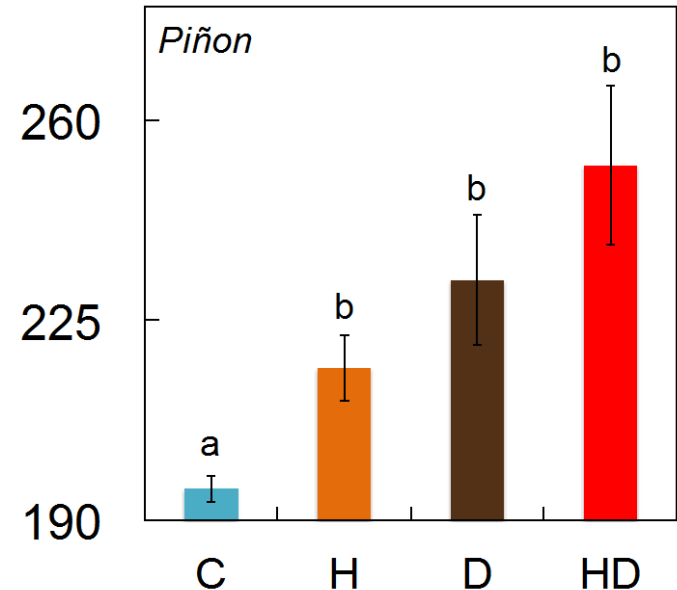


# Acclimation: Phenology and foliar structure

Warming and drought induced delayed phenology



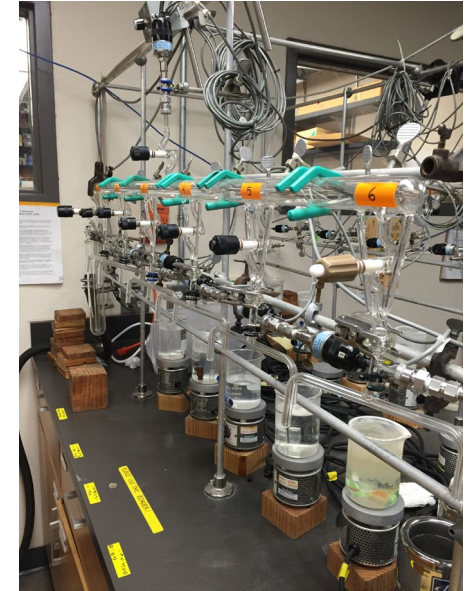
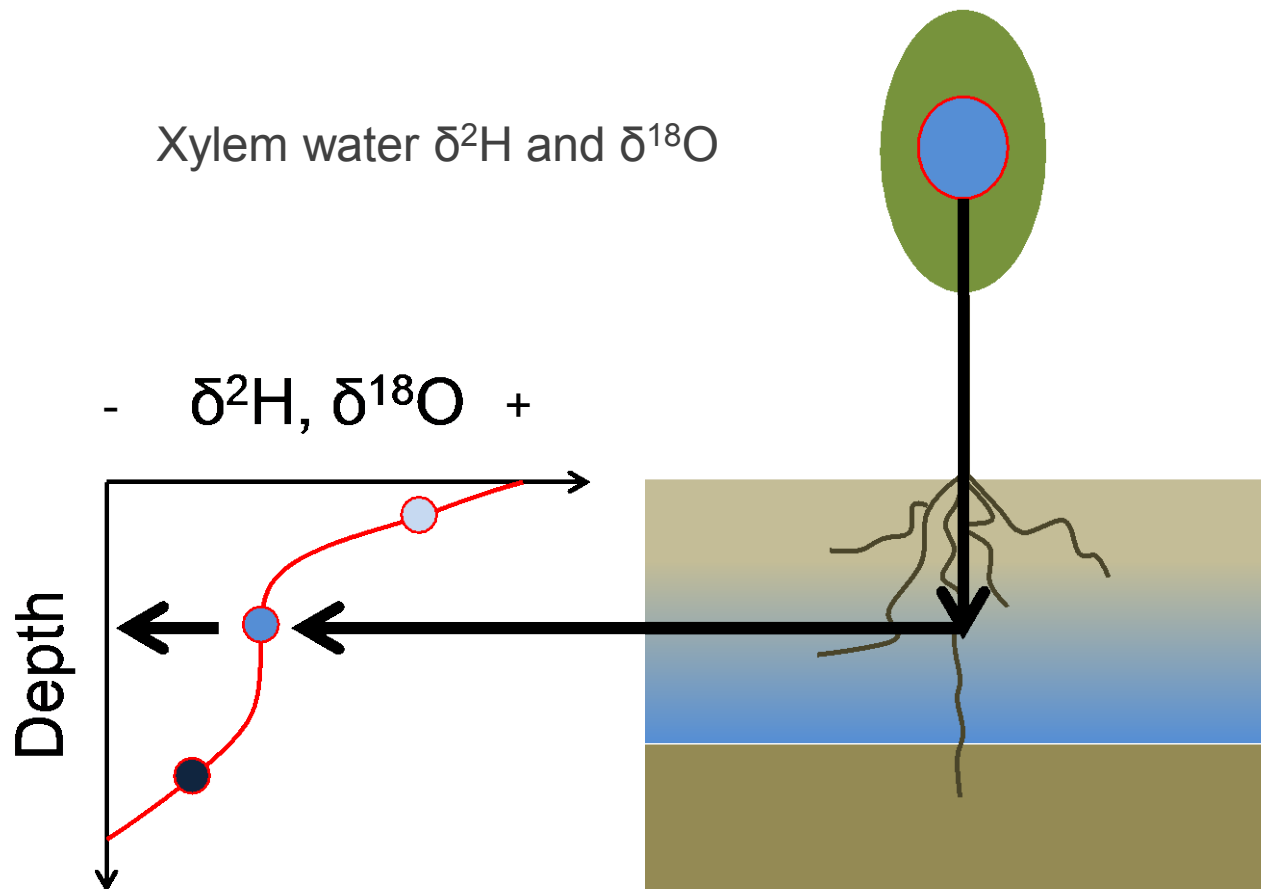
Needle emergence



Drought reduced evaporative surfaces

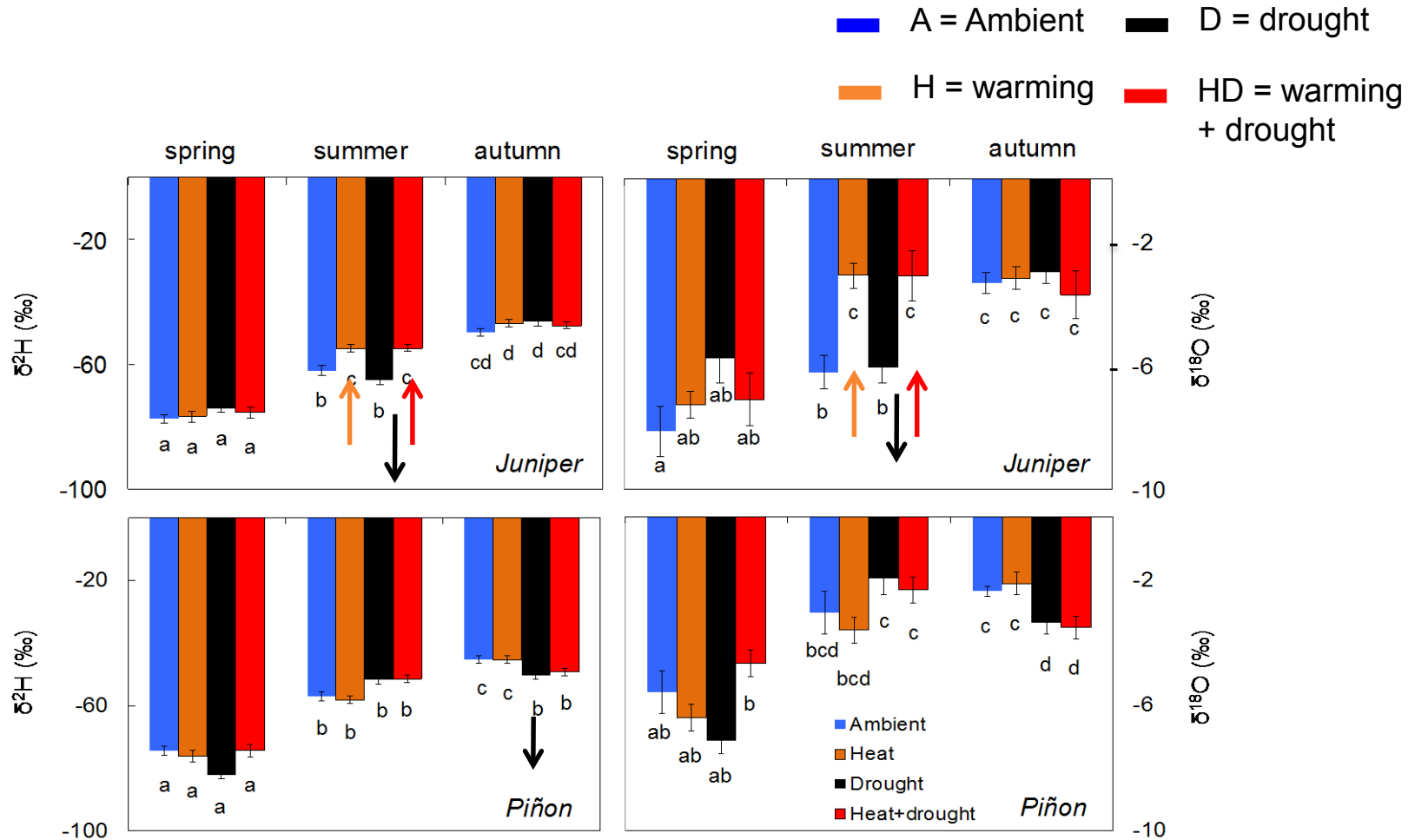


# Acclimation of water uptake



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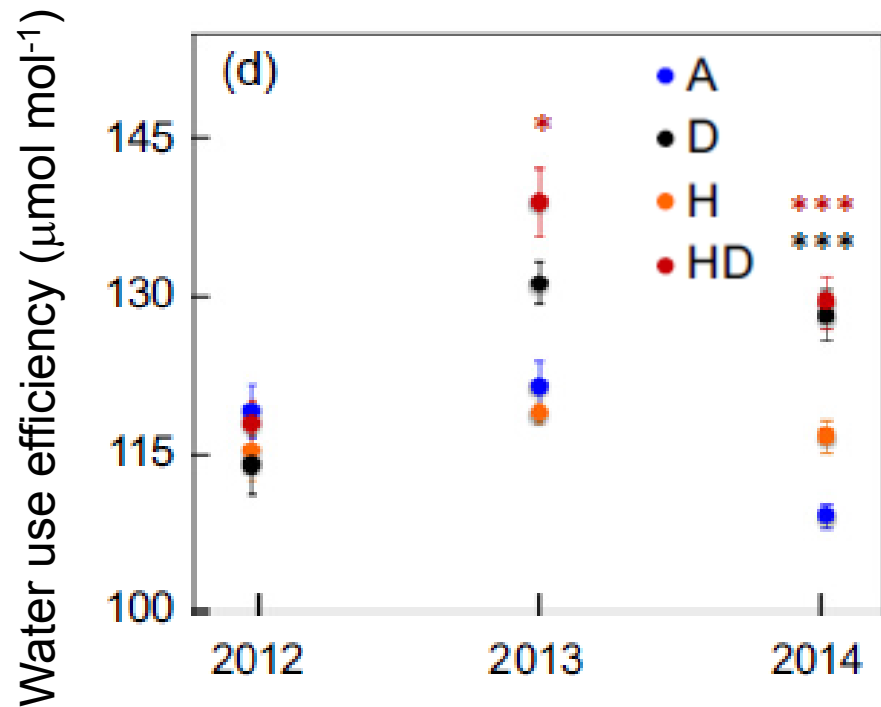
# Acclimation of water uptake



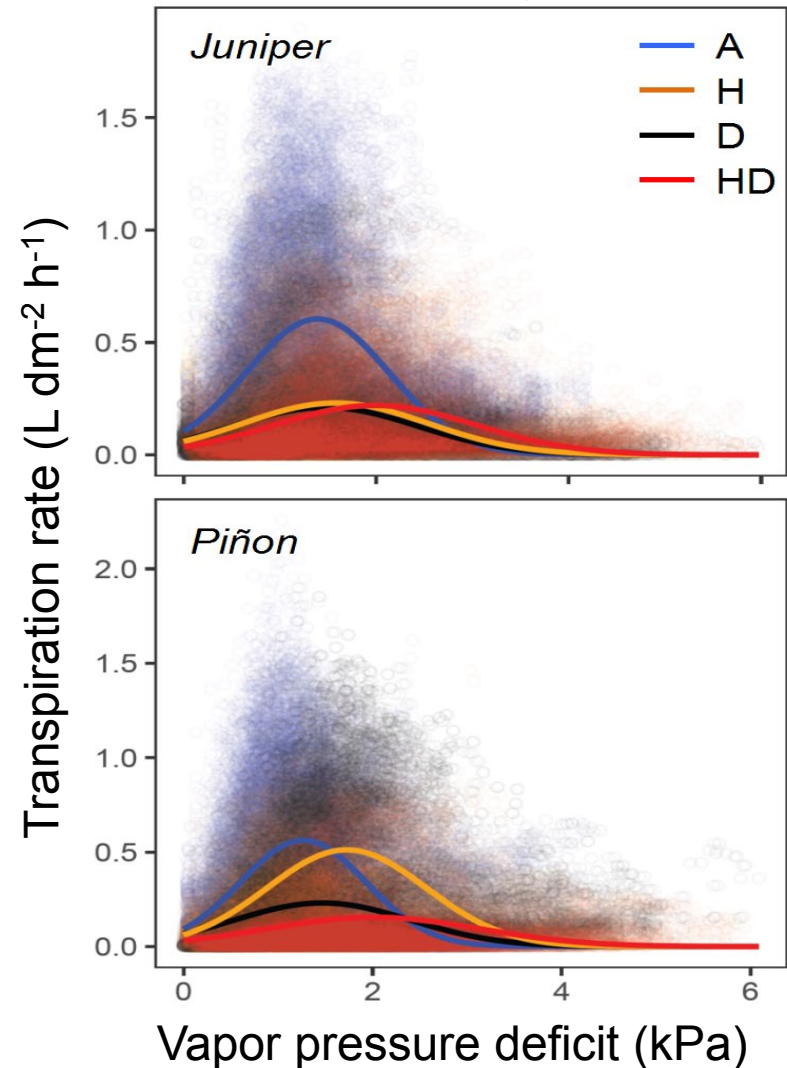
Higher contribution of deeper water sources / uptake

# Acclimation of water use

Grossiord et al. 2017 J. of Ecology



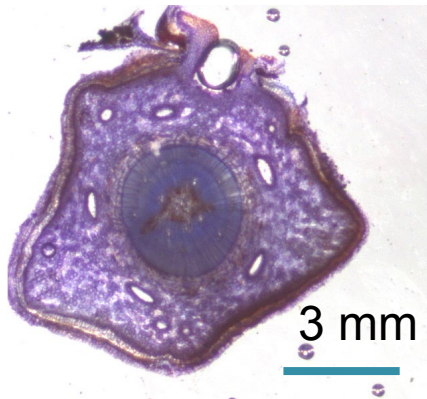
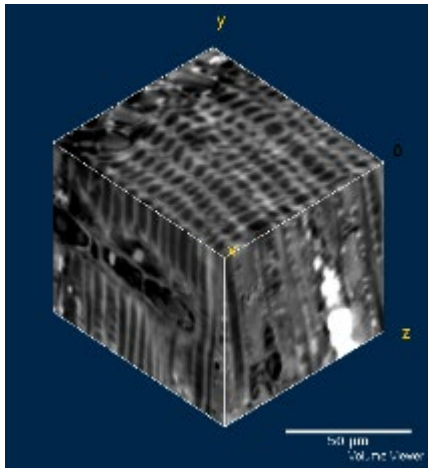
Grossiord et al. 2017 Plant, Cell and Environment



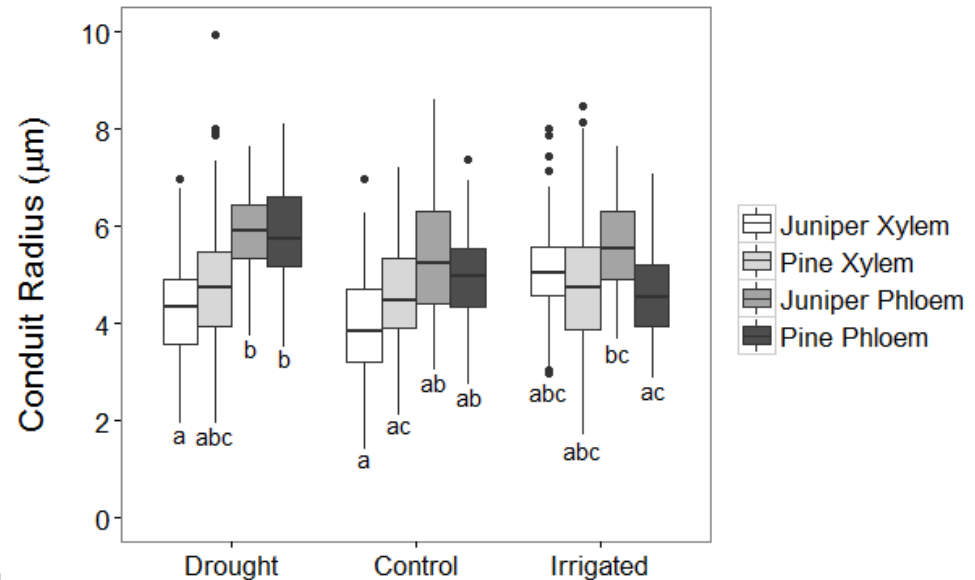
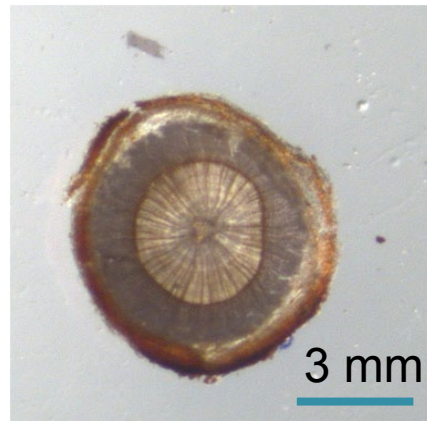
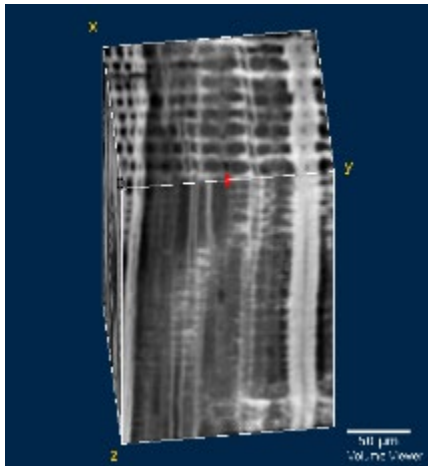


# Structural acclimation is slower than physiological

*Pinus edulis*



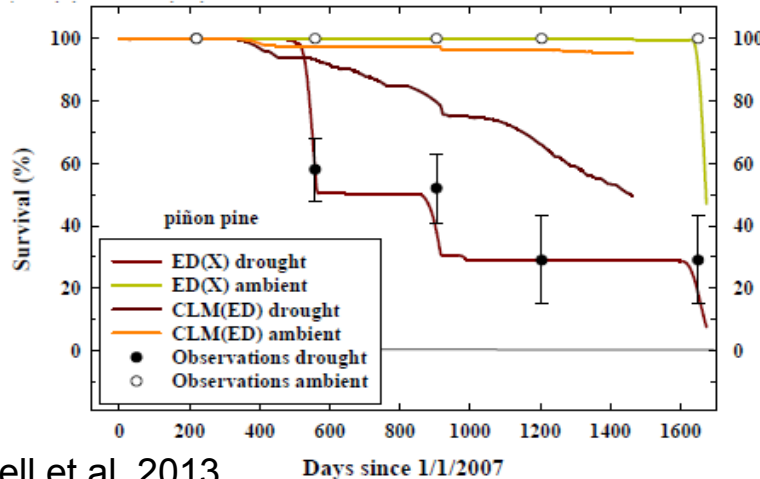
*Juniperus monosperma*



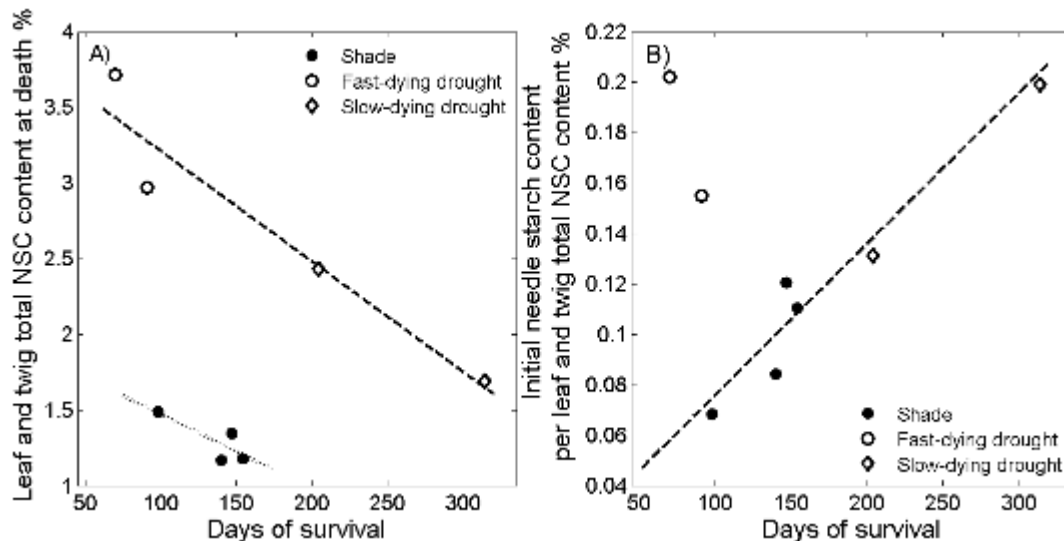
Sevanto et al. 2018 PCE

Carbohydrate transport capacity increases under drought in a desiccation avoiding species

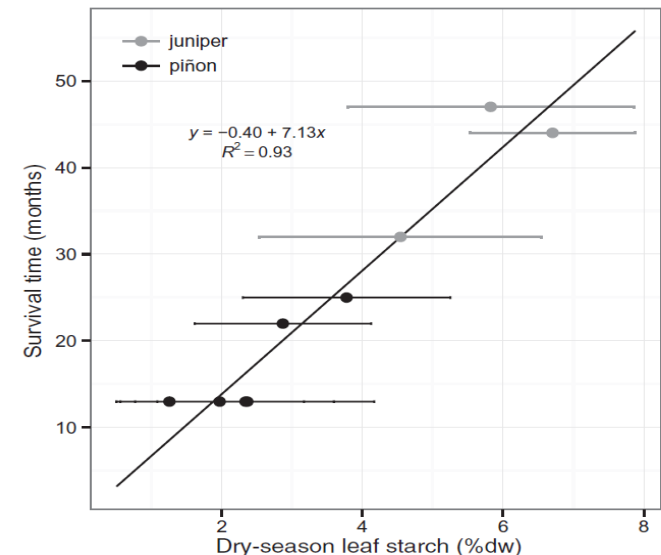
# Variability in survival time of individuals is a major modeling challenge



McDowell et al. 2013

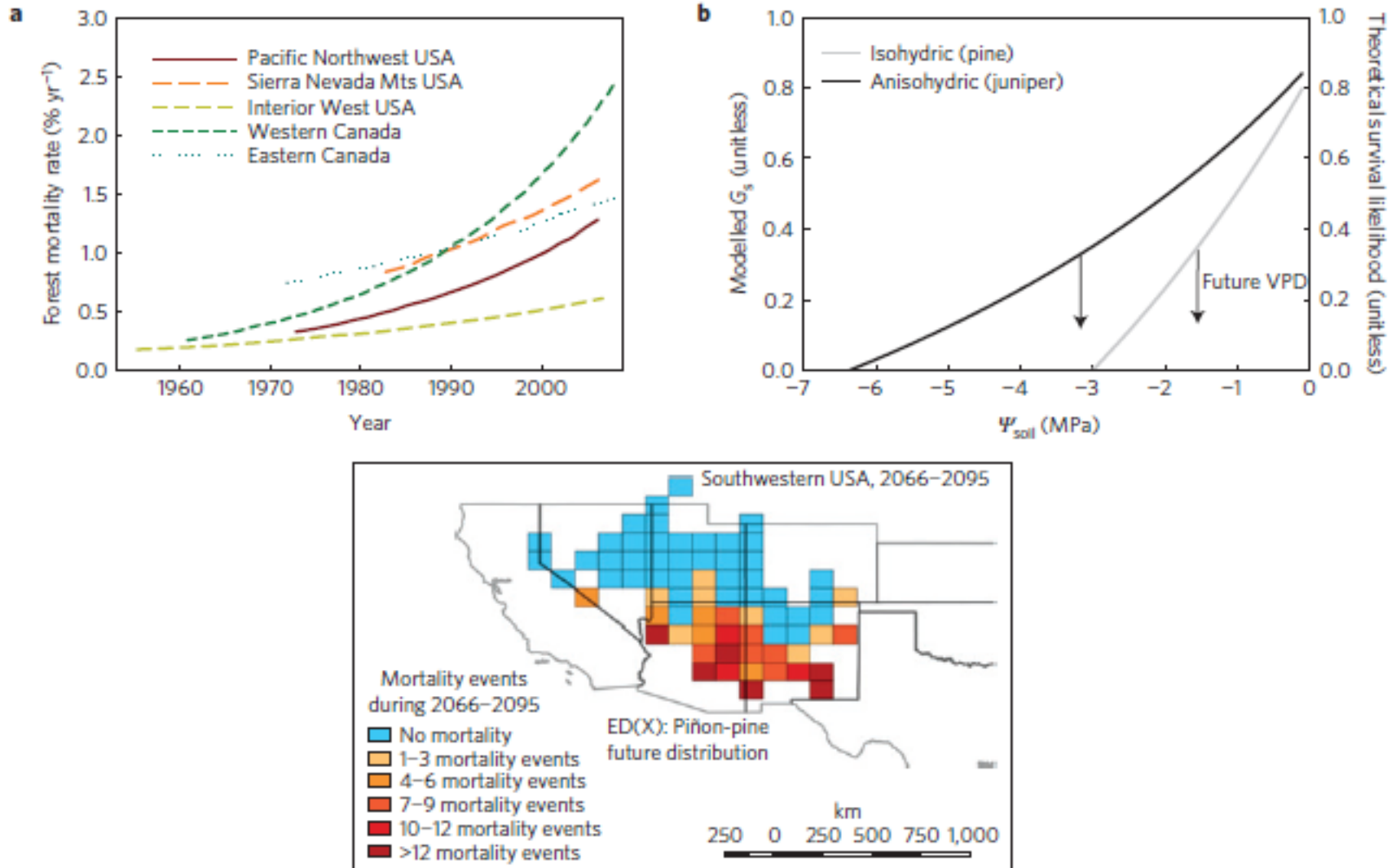


Sevanto et al. 2014 Plant, Cell and Environment



Dickman et al. 2014 Plant, Cell and Environment

# What is the destiny of PJ?



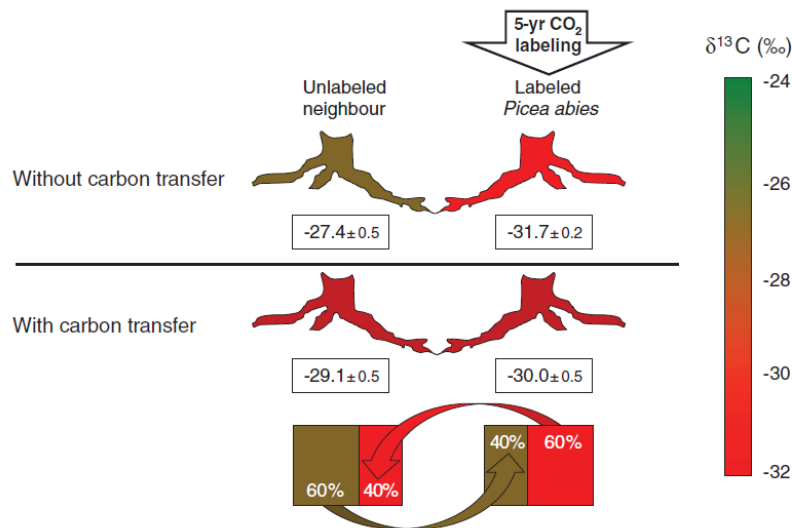
# Maybe your support team matters most?

No fungi

With fungi

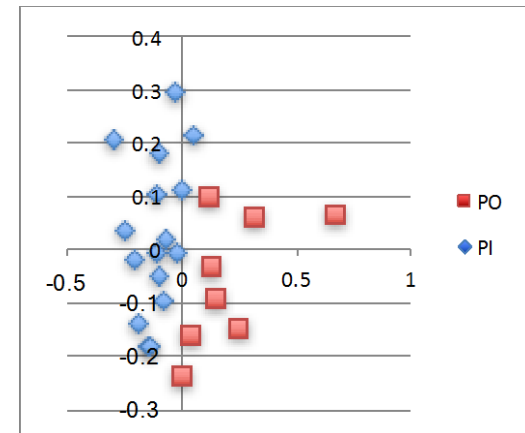


Interspecific root carbon transfer

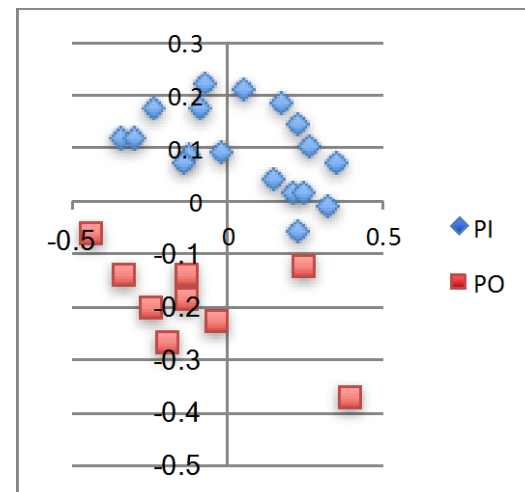


PIED is not the same as PIPO

Fungi



Bacteria



# Microbial associates affect drought tolerance in piñon pine

