

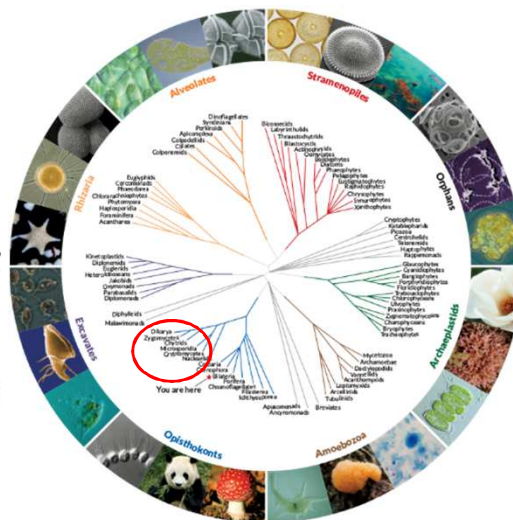
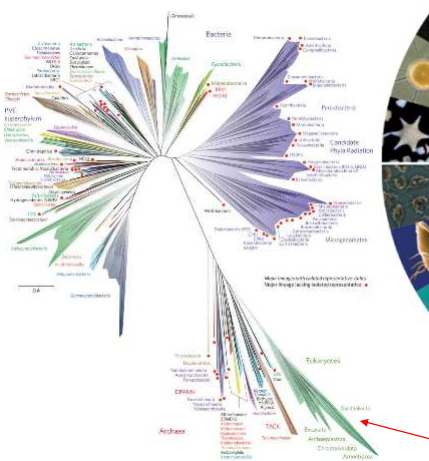
# Introduction to fungi in dead wood

*Diversity, life-cycles, life-history traits and more..*



Håvard Kausrud, University of Oslo

## Fungi - phylogenetic placement



## LETTER

https://doi.org/10.1093/aob/abz016

### Early fungi from the Proterozoic era in Arctic Canada

Camille Francaux<sup>1</sup>, Robert H. Schubert<sup>2</sup>, Elizabeth C. Turner<sup>3</sup>, Stephan Bräsegger<sup>4</sup> & Emmausabelle J. Jarvis<sup>1\*</sup>

Fungi are crucial components of modern ecosystems. They may have had an important role in the colonization of land by eukaryotes, and in the appearance and success of land plants and metazoans<sup>1</sup>. Nevertheless, fossils that can unambiguously be identified as fungi are absent from the fossil record until the middle of the Palaeozoic era<sup>2</sup>. Here we show, using morphological, ultrastructural and spectroscopic analyses, that multicellular organic-walled microfossils preserved in shale of the Grassy Bay Formation (Shalar Supergroup, Arctic Canada), which dates to approximately 1.610–600 million years ago, have a fungal affinity. These microfossils are more than half a billion years older than previously reported unambiguous occurrences of fungi, a date which is consistent with data from molecular clocks for the emergence of the clade<sup>3,4</sup>. In extending the fossil record of the fungi, this finding also pushes back the minimum date for the appearance of eukaryotic

down-group cytoplasmic, which comprises metazoans, fungi and their protist relatives<sup>5,6</sup>.

Several Proterozoic microfossils have been tentatively interpreted as fungi in the past fifty years<sup>7</sup> (for further examples and specimen names, see Supplementary Information). A few Proterozoic fossilizable parts of the eukaryotic tree—have been compared to fungus-like organisms<sup>8</sup>. All of these previous studies have focused on broad morphological comparisons in isolation; this methodology cannot fully support a specific affiliation with the fungi<sup>9</sup>. Nevertheless, when combined with the solid-state consistency of chemically resolved structures that have been tested in several fungal lineages<sup>10</sup>, the Palaeozoic record<sup>11</sup> indicates that fungi have a strong potential for preservation in the geological record. To conclusively identify fungal or other eukaryotic fossils, morphological evidence needs to be coupled with analyses of the ultrastructure and chemical composition of microfossils<sup>12</sup>.

Fig. 1. Microphotographs of 11 granular specimens. a, Sketch of *G. granularis*, displaying the main features of the microfossil. b, h. Characteristic terminal apices (apices). c, g. Characteristic light microscope images that show specimens with secondary branching at a right angle (b, c, g), with terminal apices connected together (c), with a bulbous connection (c) and with tertiary branching (d, e, g). Arrows show septate connections. Details of single and septate members have previously been published<sup>13</sup>. f, SEM image shows the compound branch. Inset f shows the inner layer of the rhytid wall, with an amylose outer layer (OL) and cellulose inner layer (IL). Inset j shows the microfossil microfossil of the microfossil wall structure. A 100 µm scale bar shows the compound branch of the microfossil wall structure to show thin sections, with magnification in insets. a, d, f, g, h, i, j, k, l, m, n, o, p, q, r, s, t, u, v, w, x, y, z are indicated on both main scale bars. 20 µm (b), 100 µm (c, m, n, o, p, q, r, s, t, u, v, w, x, y, z) and 2 µm (d, e, f, g, h, i, j, k, l, m, n, o, p, q, r, s, t, u, v, w, x, y, z) are indicated from a previous publication<sup>13</sup>.

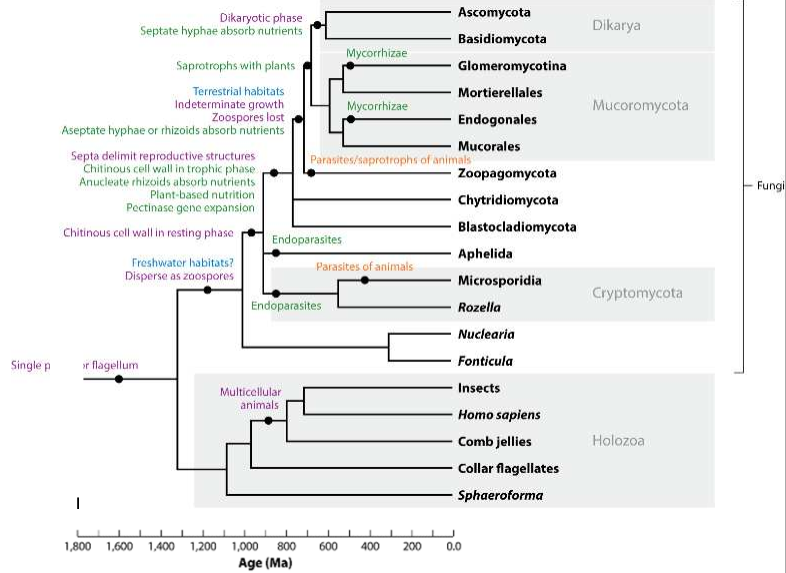
- Originated approximately 1.5 billion years ago
- One of the oldest eukaryotic lineages
- Established in terrestrial habitats together with the plants ~470 mill years ago
- Fungi have always posed a strong selection pressure on plants!

**Rhynie Chert, Scotland**

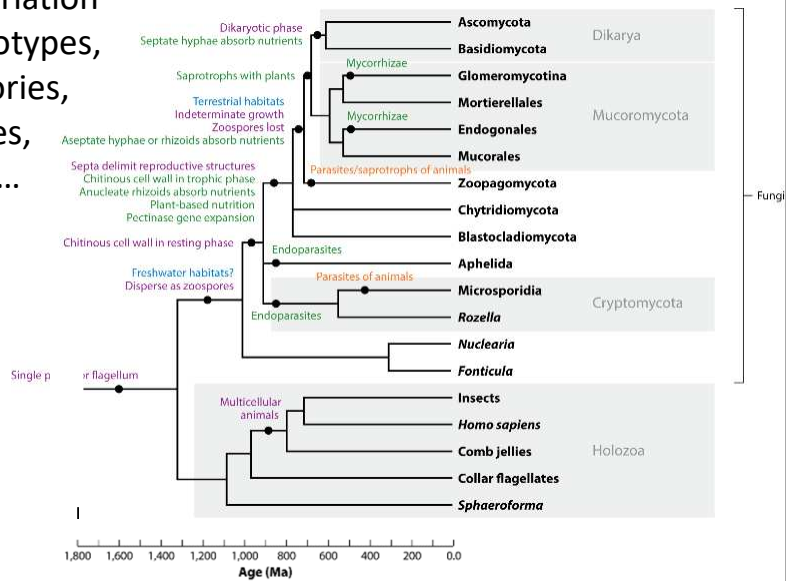
## Aglaophyton

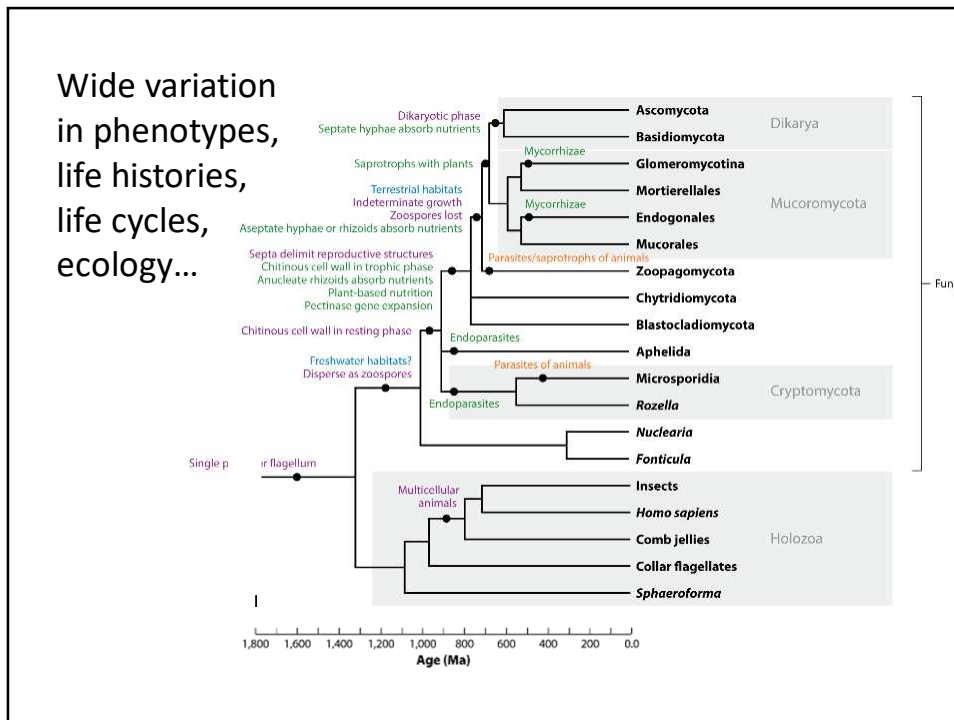
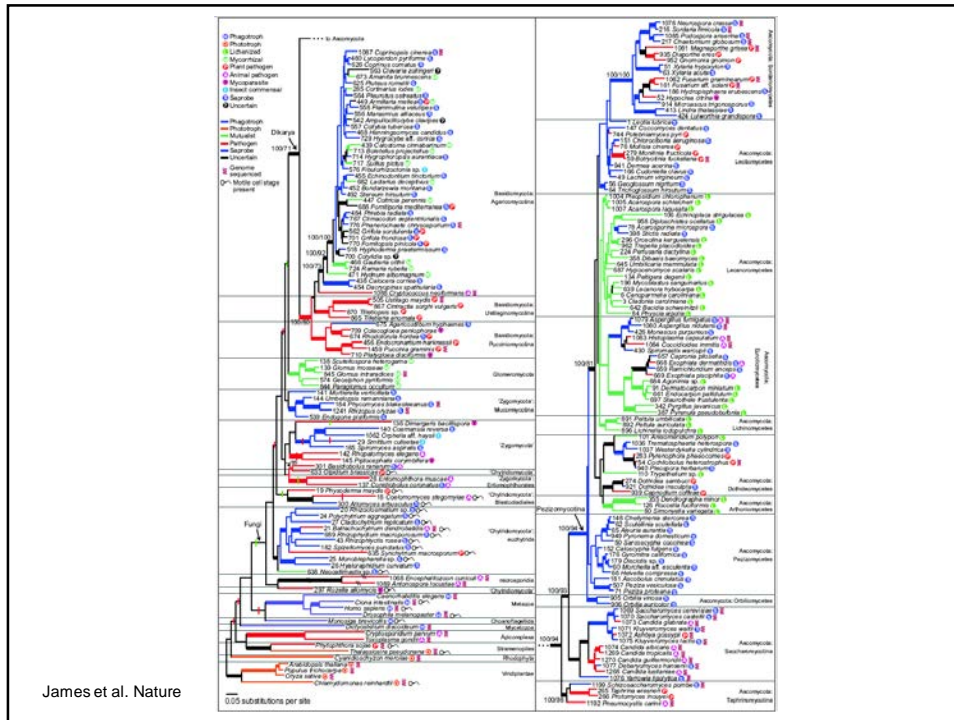
~400 mill years ago

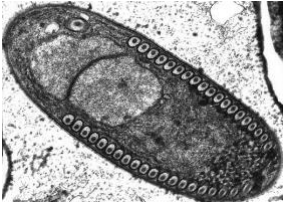
### Fungal tree of life



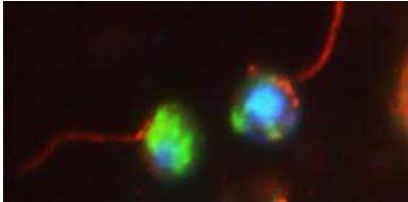
### Wide variation in phenotypes, life histories, life cycles, ecology...



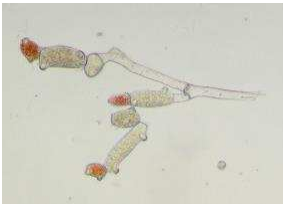




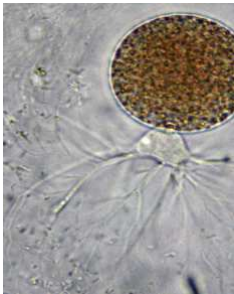
Microsporidia



Cryptomycota (Rozellamycota)

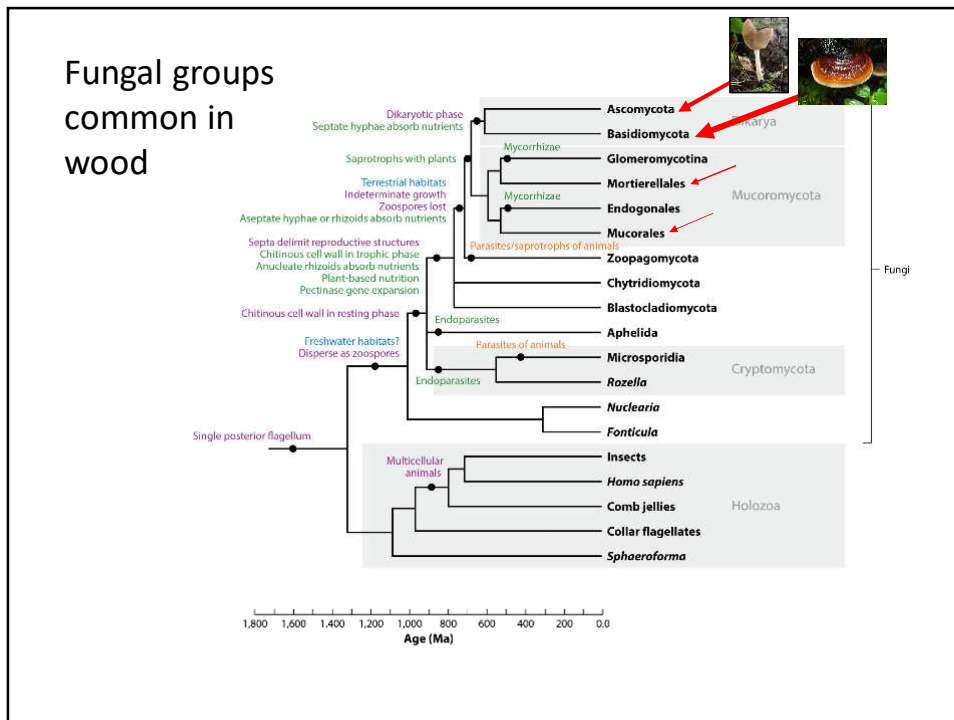


Blastocladiomycota

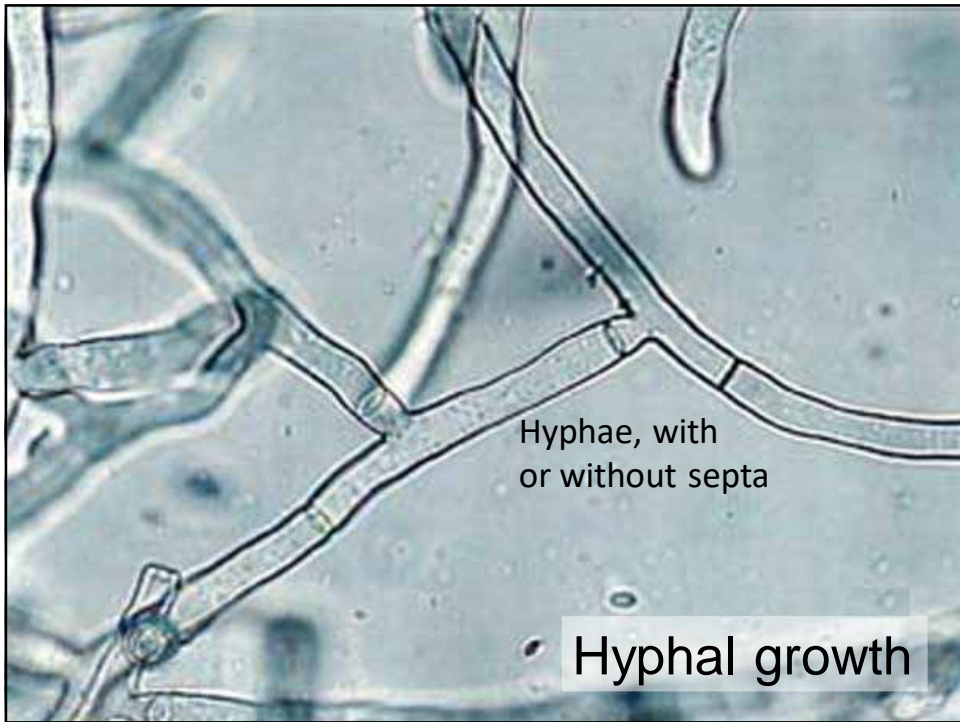


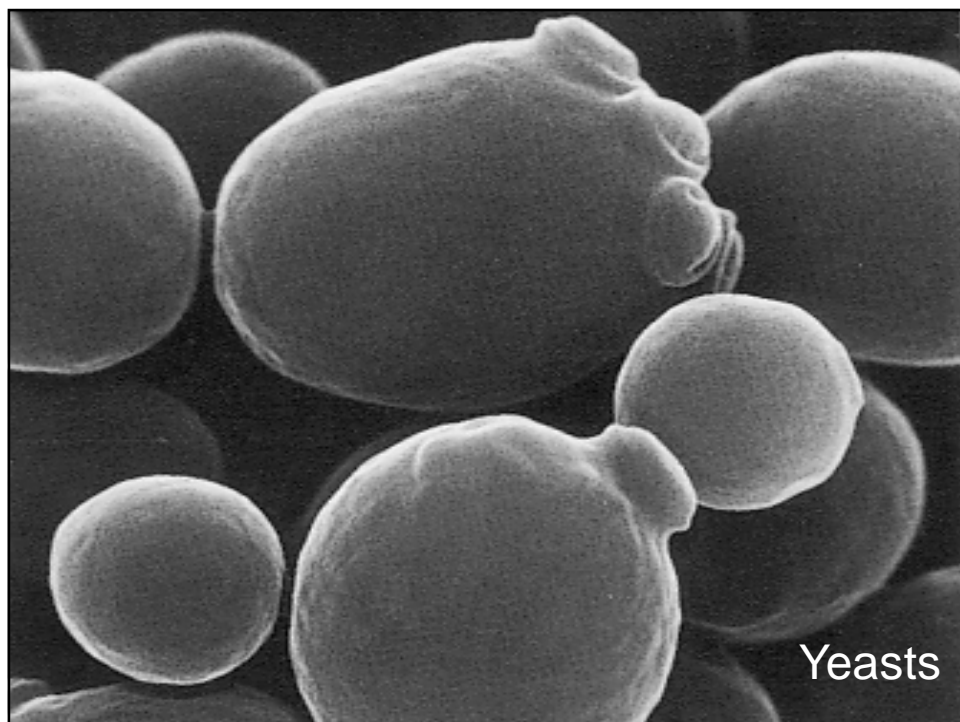
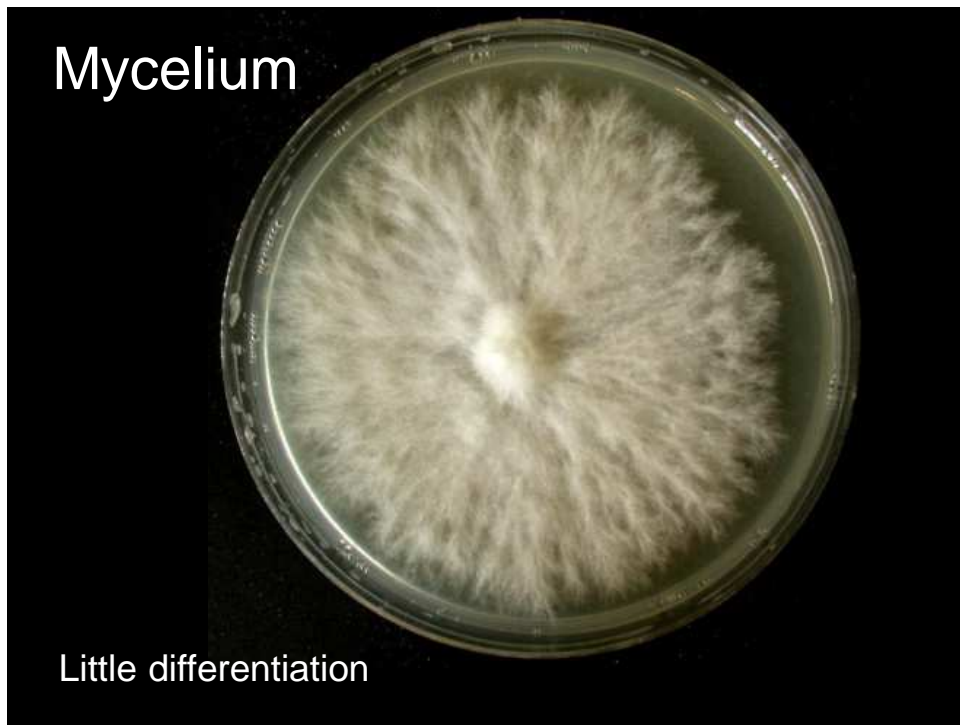
Chytridiomycota

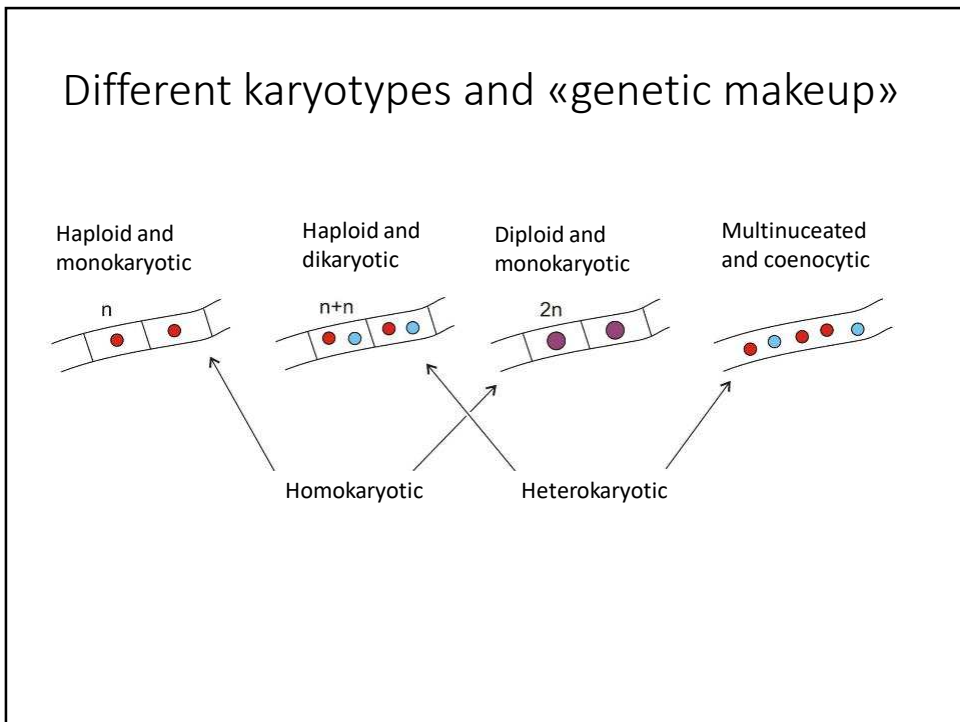
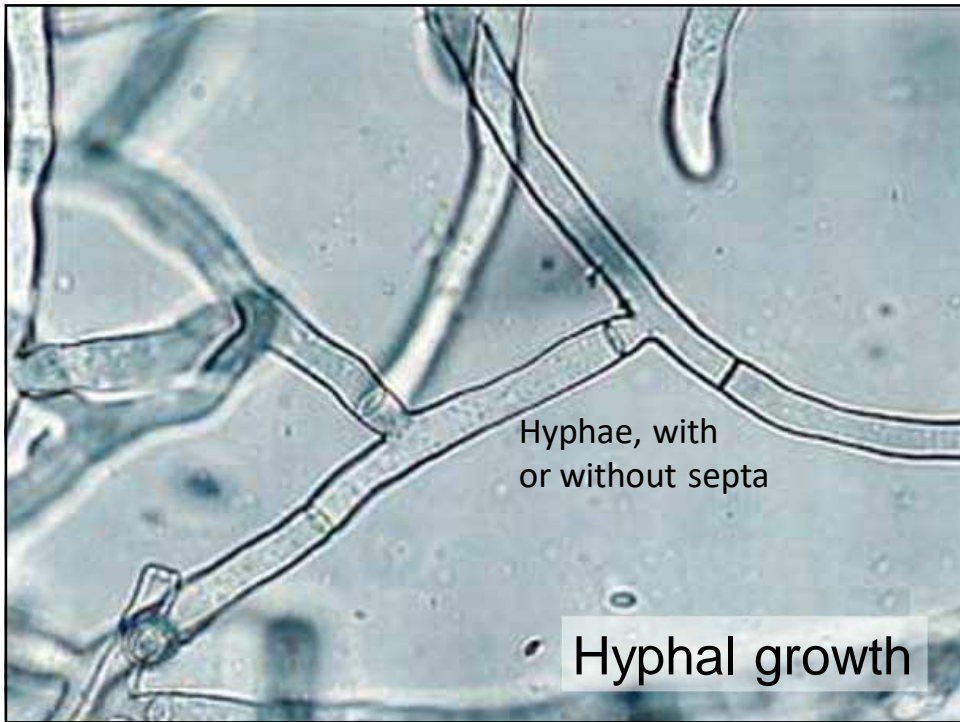
- Some of the basal groups are single-celled, flagellated, and does not form hyphae and mycelia
- These groups are not widespread in wood









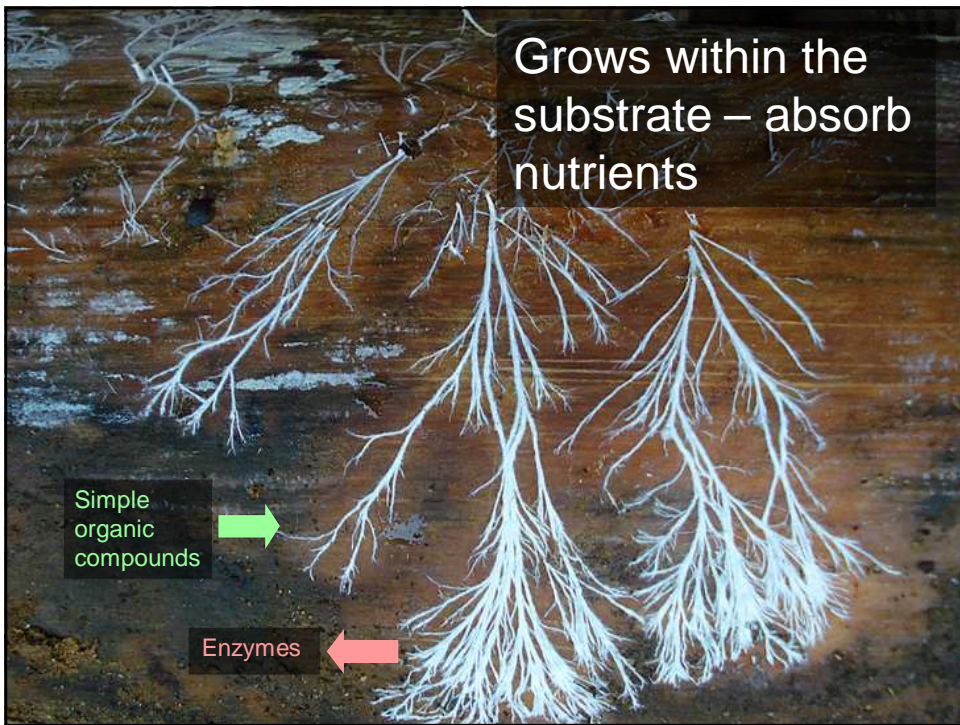




Heterotrophic organisms



Grows within the substrate – absorb nutrients





## White-rot fungi

- Decompose both the lignin + cellulose/ hemicellulose → white colour
- Fungi one of few organismal groups able to decompose lignin using e.g. laccases + peroxidases



*Fomes fomentarius*



*Armillaria*

## Brown-rot fungi

- Decompose cellulose + hemi-cellulose → brown colour
- Important in boreal forests



*Fomitopsis pinicola*



## Wood decay fungi are essential for nutrient and C cycling



- Much carbon is bound in dead plant litter – wood decay fungi are among the main decomposers
- Important player in the global carbon budget: Far more carbon would have accumulated if not wood decay fungi were around



## Fungal diversity

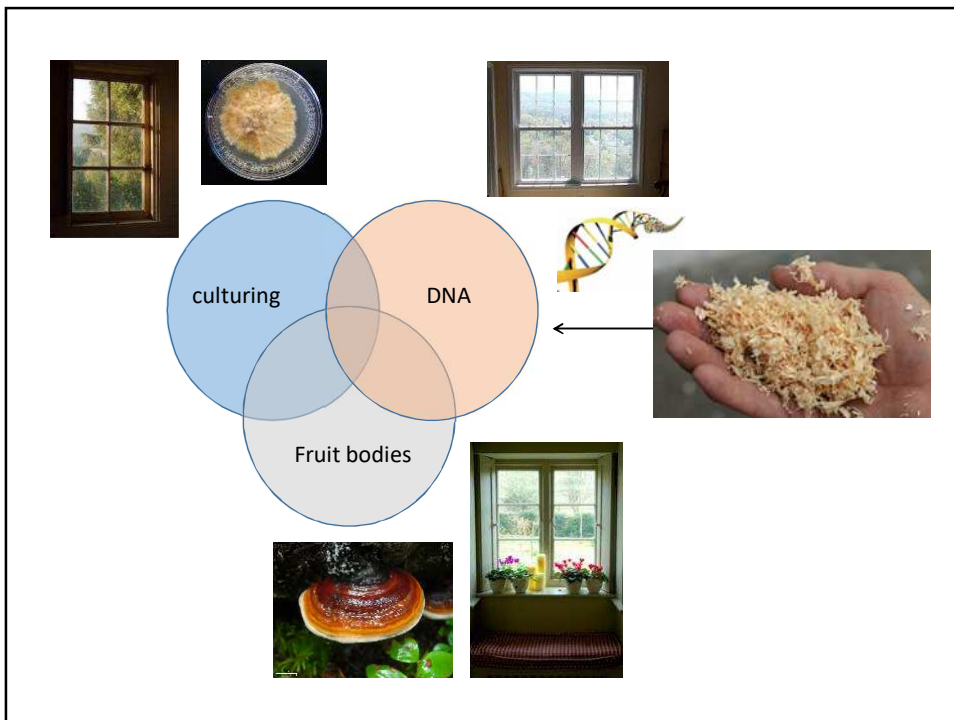
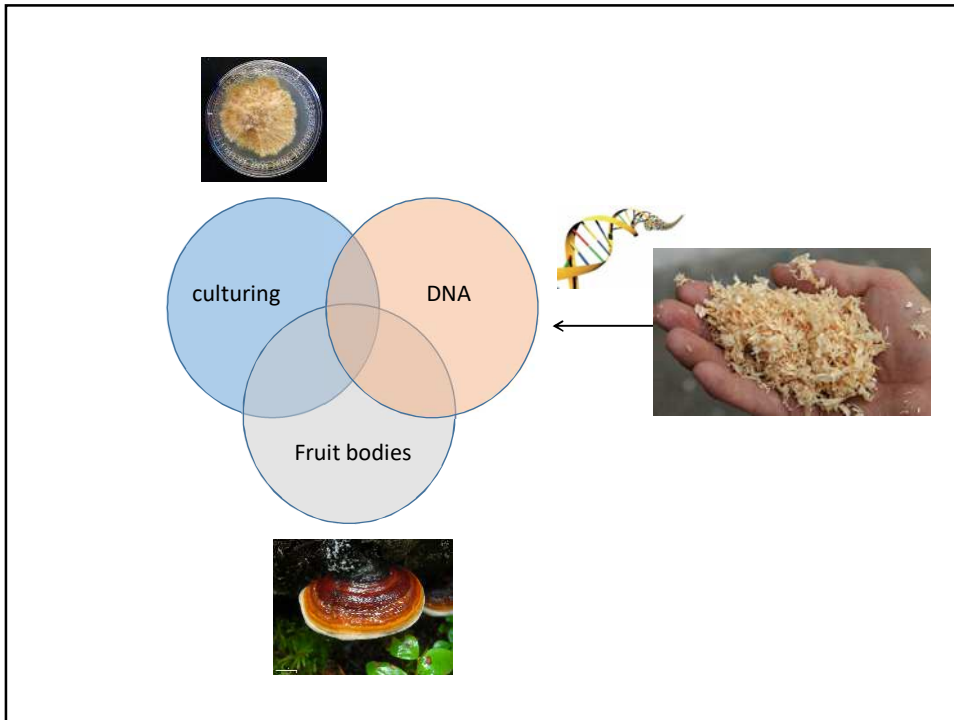
- Only ~100.000 described
- Between 1.5 and 7 million species have been estimated
- But, basically we have no clue..
- .. but if more or less all plants and animals harbour specific fungi, the diversity could be immense!

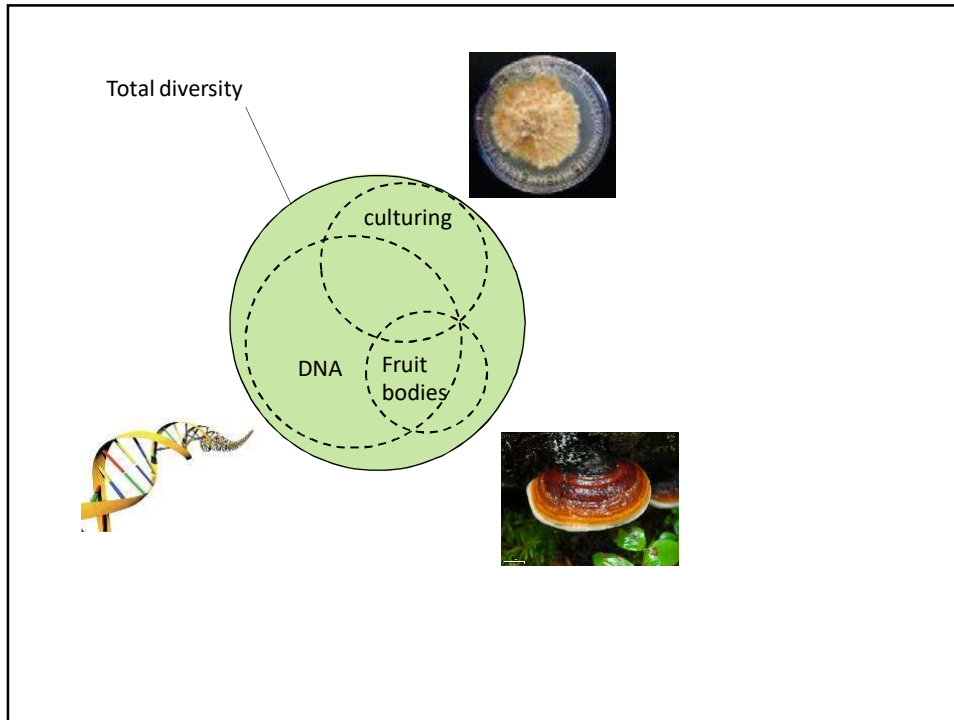


How can we assess fungal diversity in wood?



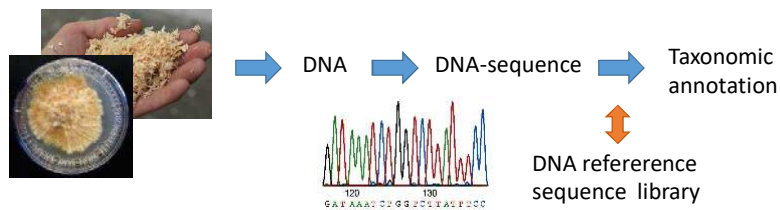






## Sanger sequencing

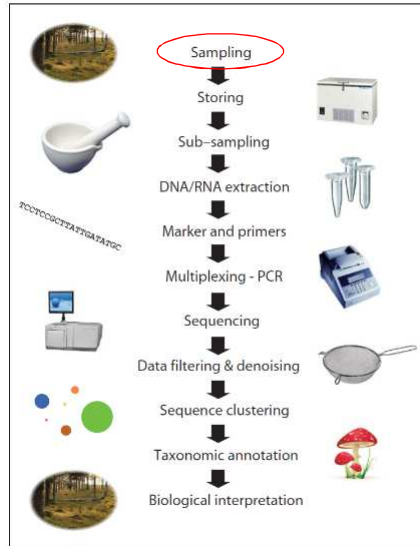
- During the 1990's PCR and Sanger sequencing was established in fungal ecology
- Possible to extract DNA from substrates, PCR amplify, DNA sequence and obtain knowledge about which fungi that occur in environmental samples
- Depends on comparison to known sequences!



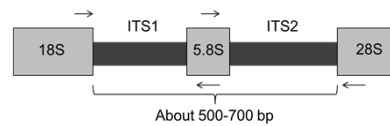
- The environmental sequencing studies typically included only a few hundred Sanger sequences in maximum
- By this, could still only get at glimps into the extant fungal diversity/ecology



## High throughput sequencing

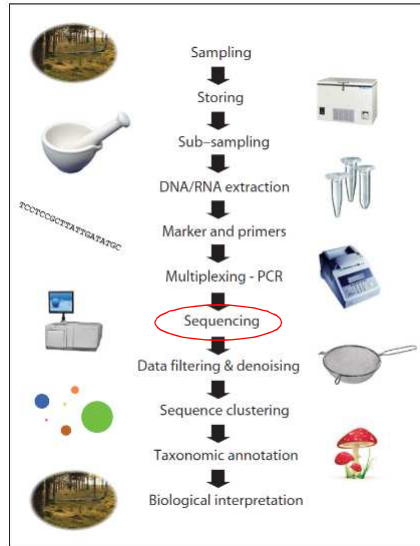


## High throughput sequencing

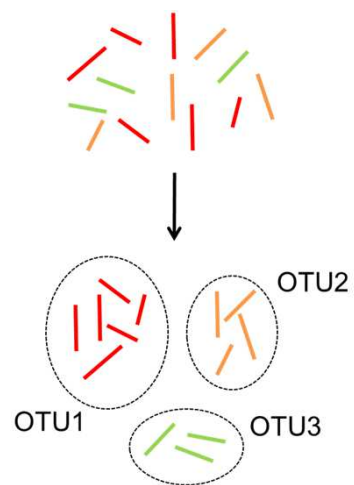
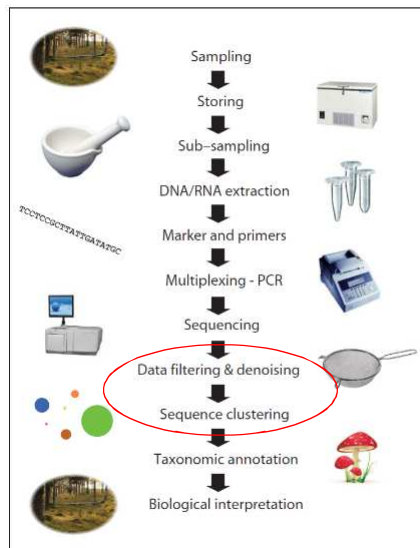




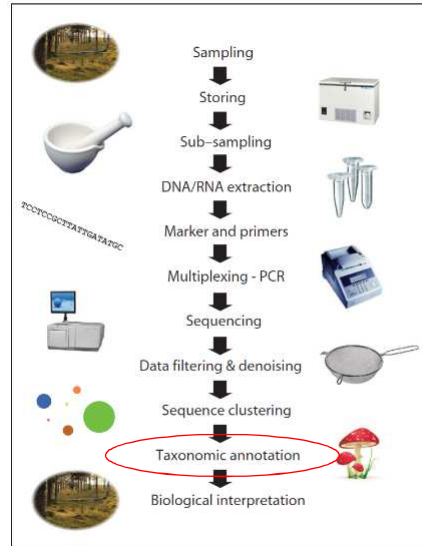
## High throughput sequencing



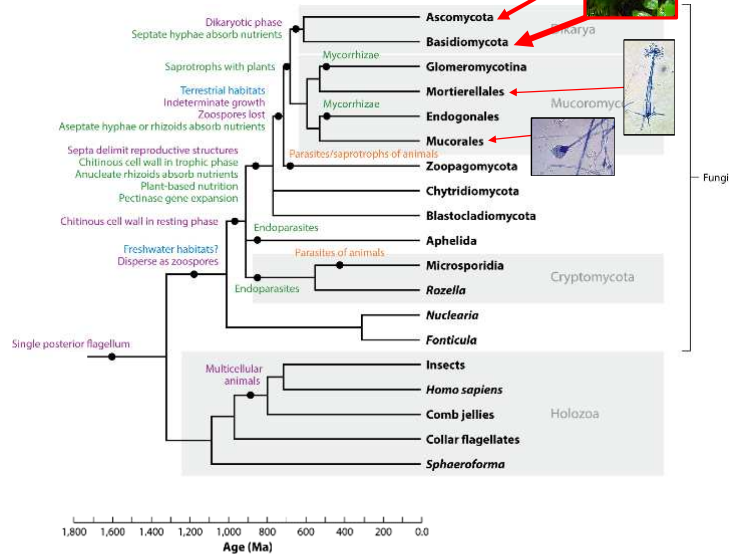
## High throughput sequencing

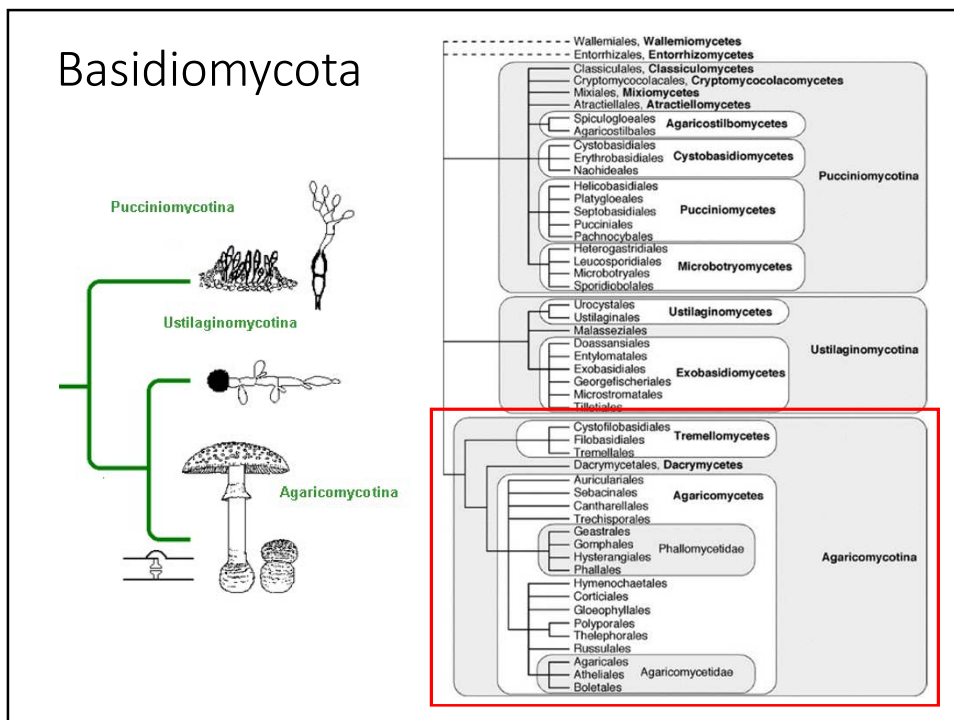
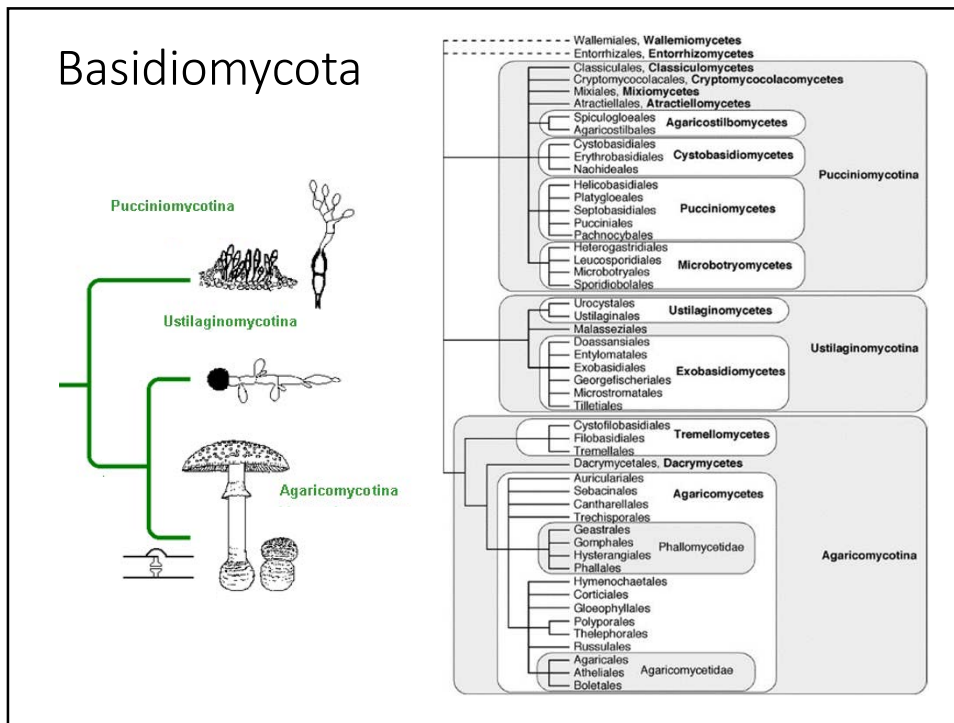


## High throughput sequencing



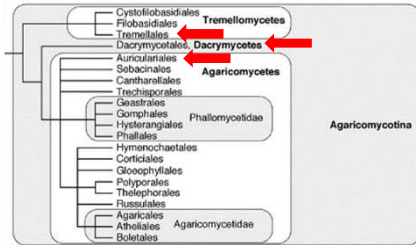
## Major fungal groups growing in wood





## Tremellales, Dacrymycetales, Auriculariales

«Jelly fungi»



*Tremella*



*Calocera*



*Dacrymyces*

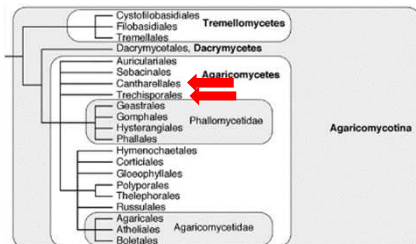


*Basidiodendron*



*Auriculariales*

## Cantharellales and Trechisporales



*Trechispora*



*Tulasnella*

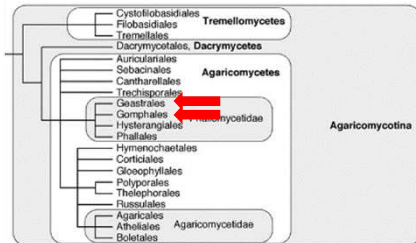


*Botryobasidium*

Many «corticoids»



# Phallomycetidae

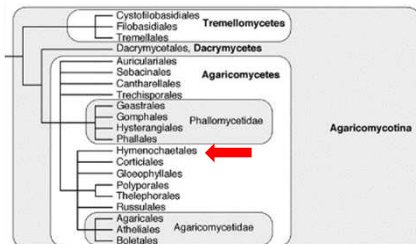


*Geastrum*



*Lentharia*

# Hymenochaetales



*Phellinus*



*Inonotus*

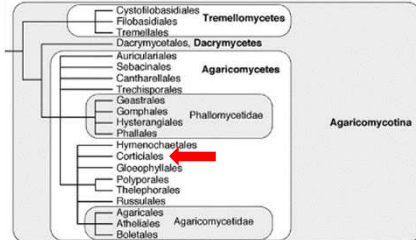


*Schizopora*



*Hymenochaete*

# Corticiales



*Vuilleminia*

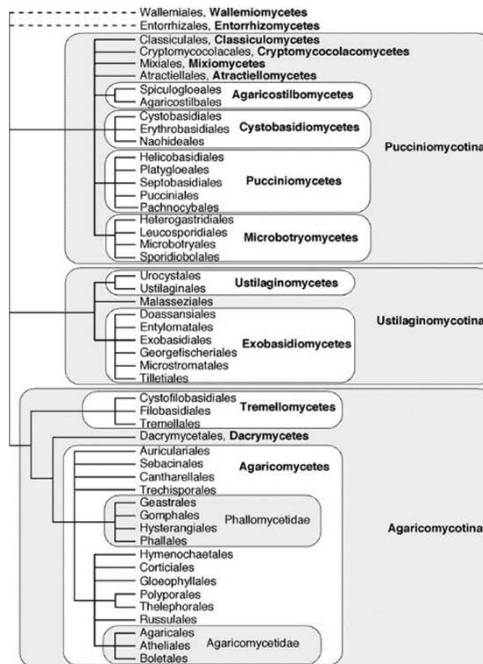
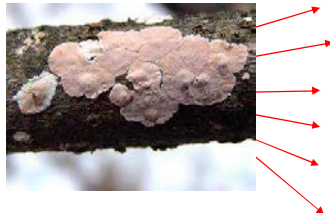


*Punctularia*

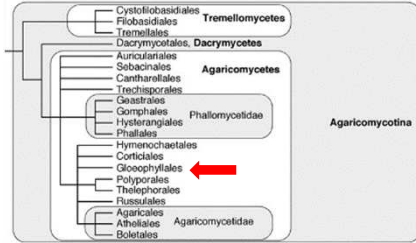


*Corticium*

- The old Corticiaceae – extremely polyphyletic
- Collapsed when using DNA based phylogeny
- Fruit body form says little about phylogenetic placement in the fungal kingdom!!



# Gloeophyllales



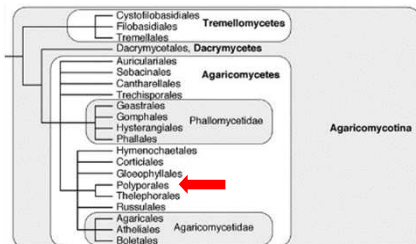
*Neolentinus* («Train wrecker»)



*Gloeophyllum*



# Polyporales



*Ganoderma*



*Fomitopsis*



*Crustomyces*



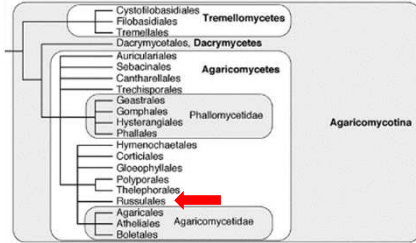
*Teraneae*



*Merulius*



# Russulales



*Stereum*



*Peniophora*



*Auriscalpium*



*Hericium*



*Heterobasidion*



*Heterobasidion*

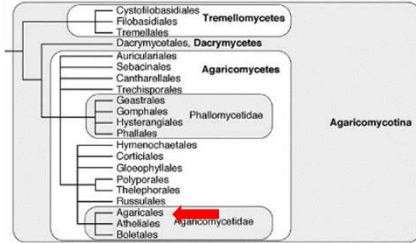


*Butt rot*





# Agaricales



*Chondrostereum*



*Mycena*



*Schizophyllum*

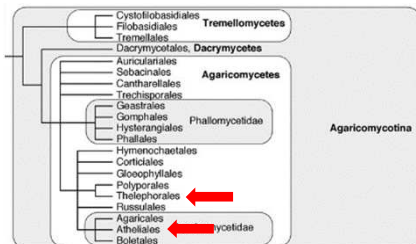


*Hypholoma*



*Pleurotus*

# Thelephorales and Atheliales

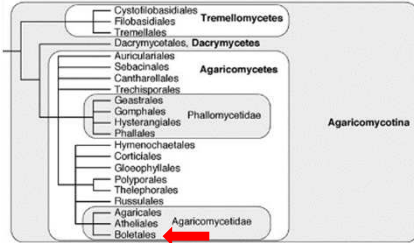


*Amaurodon*



*Hypochnella*

# Boletales



Tapinella



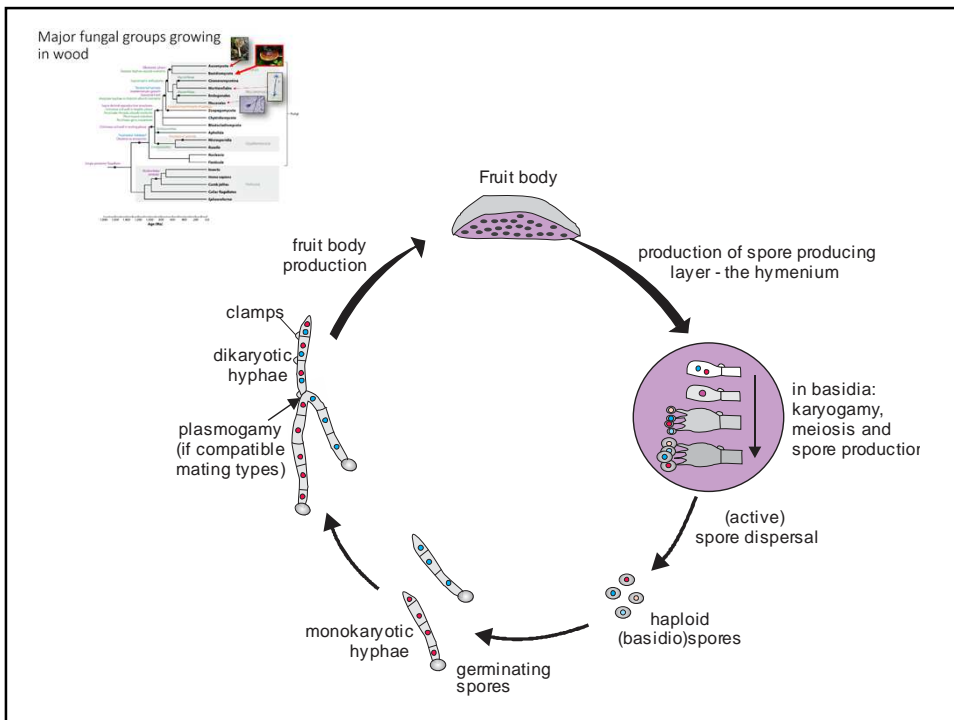
Coniophora



Serpula

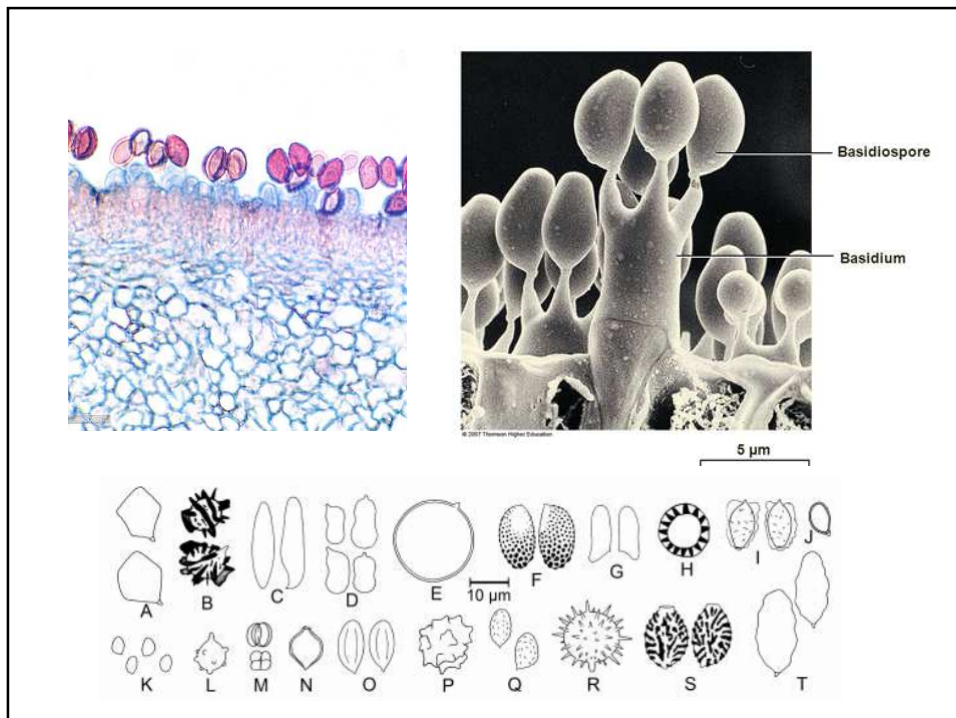
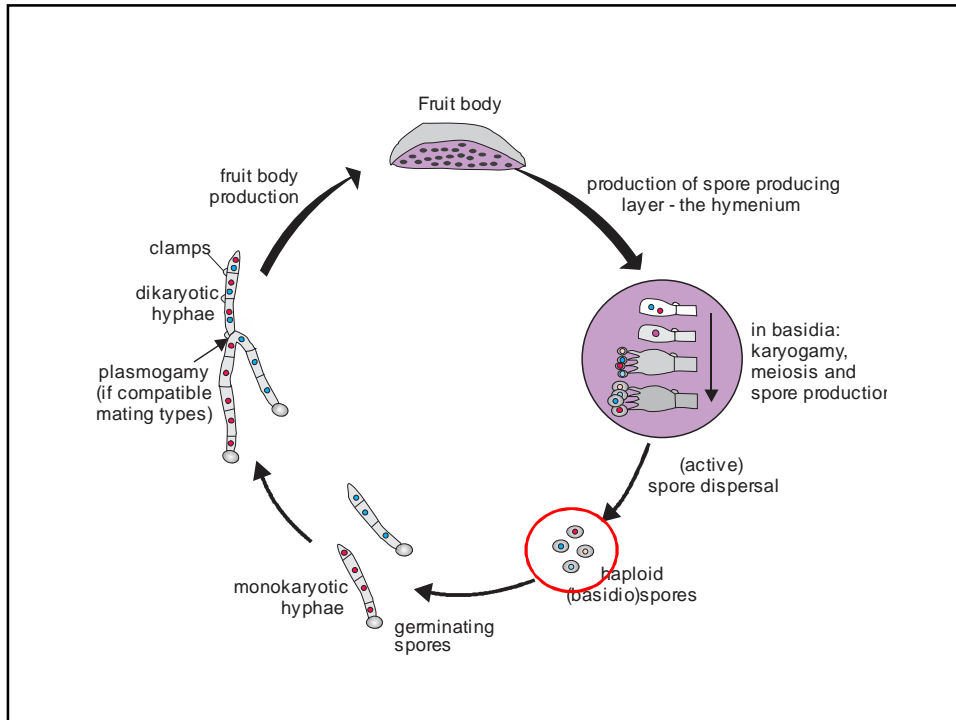
## Serpula lacrymans



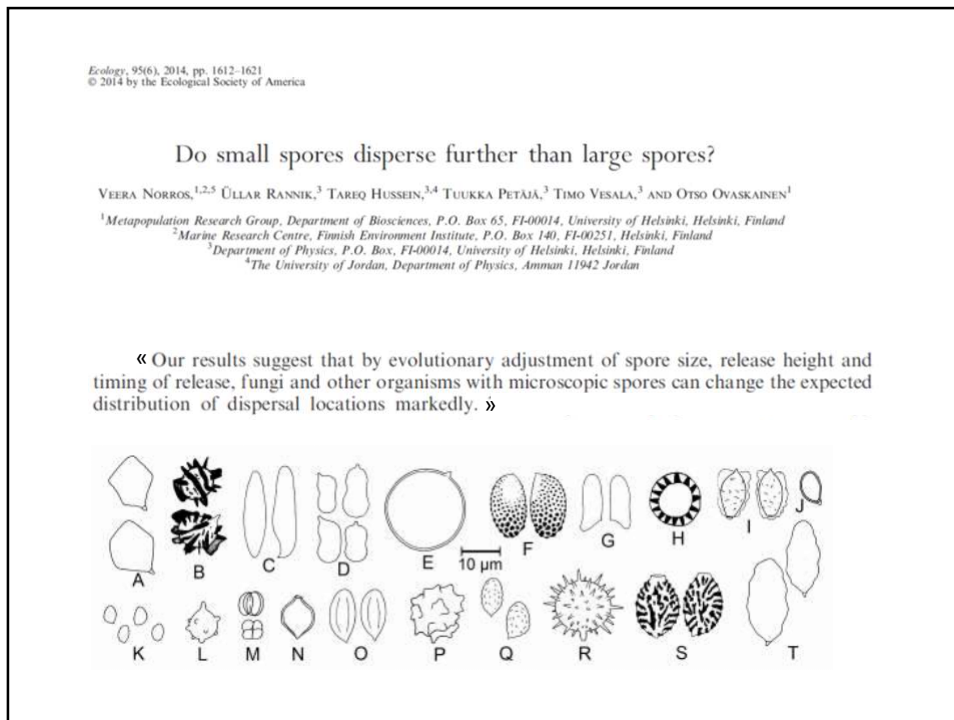
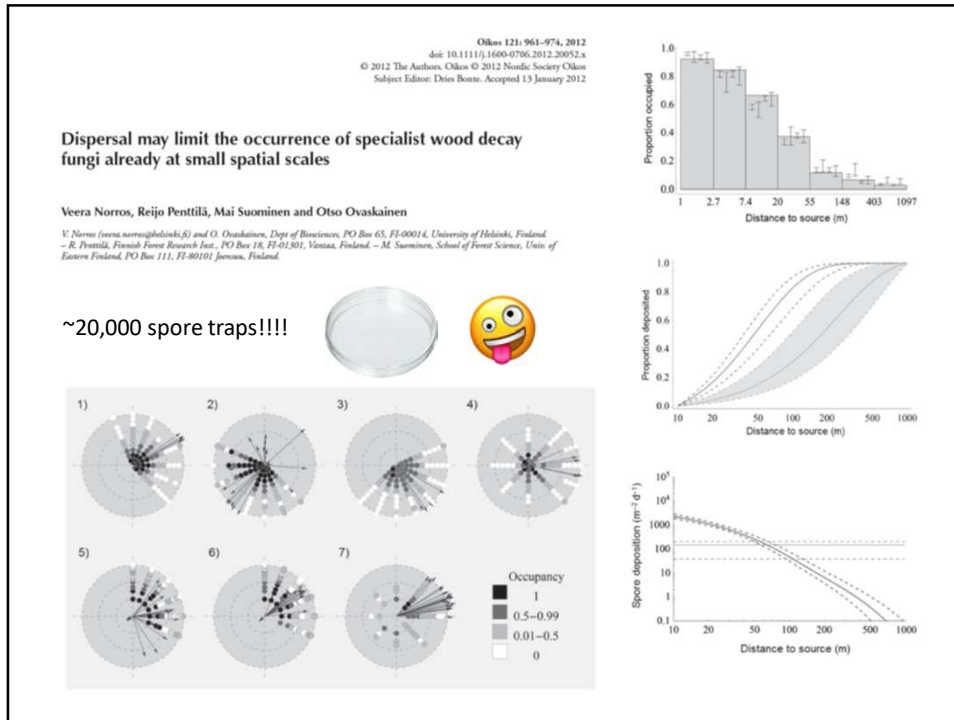












## Ecology and Evolution

Open Access

### Spore sensitivity to sunlight and freezing can restrict dispersal in wood-decay fungi

Veera Norros<sup>1,2</sup>, Elina Karhu<sup>1</sup>, Jenni Nordén<sup>3,4</sup>, Anssi V. Vähätalo<sup>5</sup> & Otso Ovaskainen<sup>1</sup>

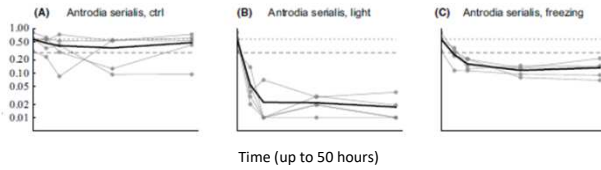
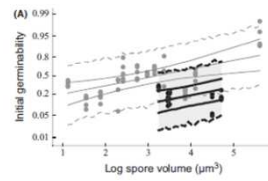
<sup>1</sup>Department of Biosciences, Metropolitan Research Centre, University of Helsinki, P.O. Box 65, FI-00014 Helsinki, Finland

<sup>2</sup>Marine Research Centre, Finnish Environment Institute, P.O. Box 140, FI-00251 Helsinki, Finland

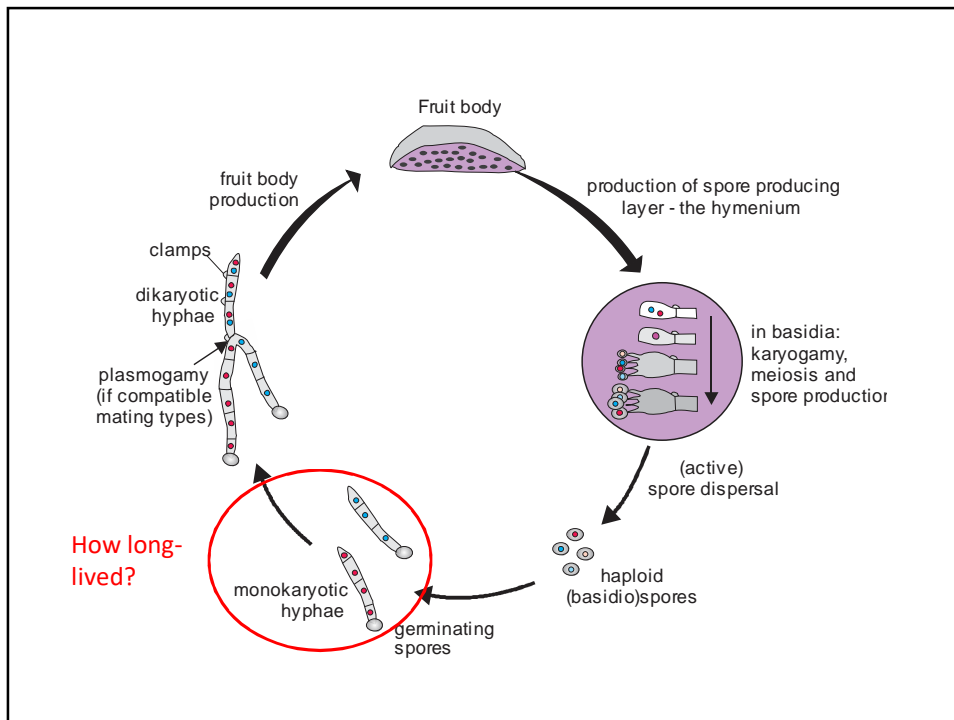
<sup>3</sup>Natural History Museum, University of Oslo, P.O. Box 1172 Blindern, NO-0318 Oslo, Norway

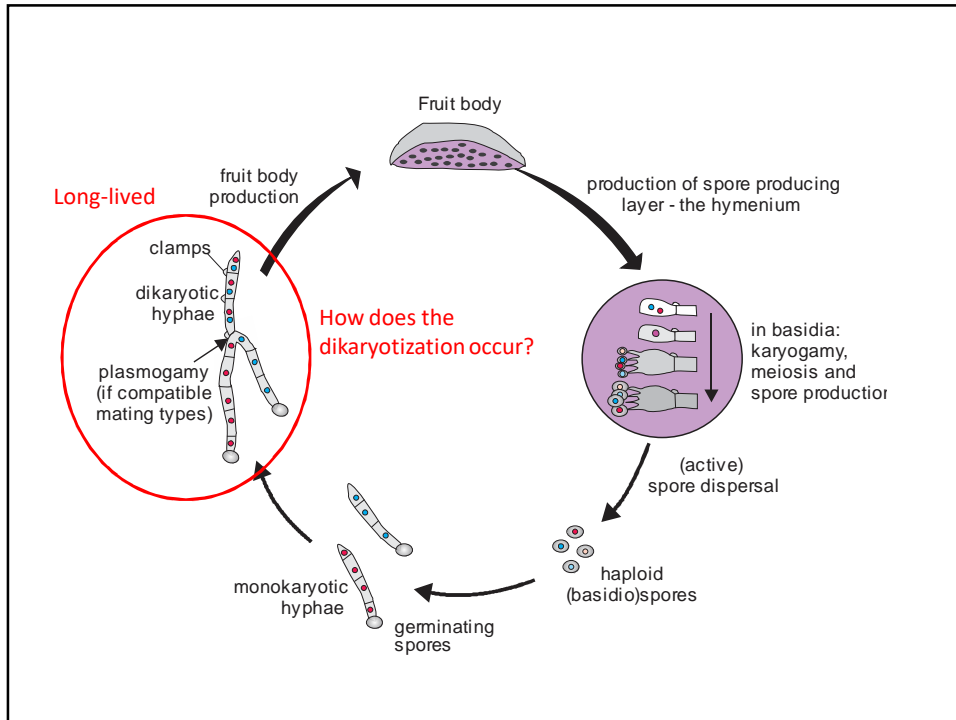
<sup>4</sup>Section for Genetics and Evolutionary Biology, Department of Biosciences, University of Oslo, P.O. Box 1066 Blindern, NO-0316 Oslo, Norway

<sup>5</sup>Department of Environmental Sciences, University of Helsinki, P.O. Box 65, FI-00014 Helsinki, Finland



Both treatments but especially sunlight markedly reduced spore germinability in most species, and species with thin-walled spores were particularly light sensitive. Extrapolating the species' laboratory responses to natural irradiance conditions, we predict that sunlight is a relevant source of dispersal mortality at least at larger spatial scales. In addition, we found a positive effect of spore size on spore germinability, suggesting a trade-off between dispersal distance and establishment.





*Serpula lacrymans*



### Clonal evolution and genome stability in a 2500-year-old fungal individual

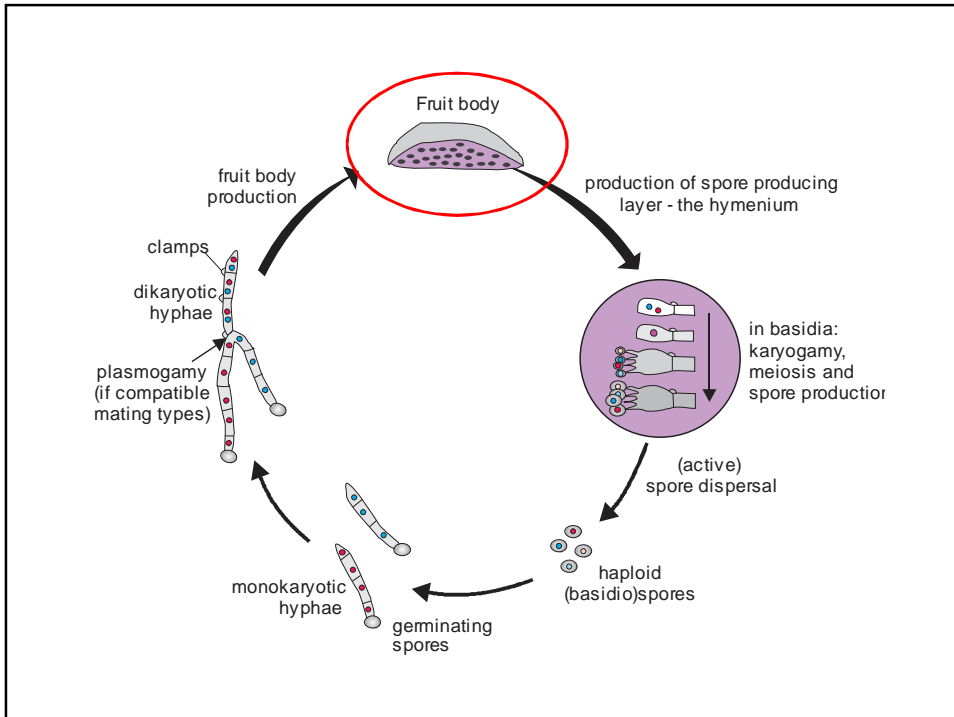
James B. Anderson<sup>1</sup>, Johann N. Bruhn<sup>2</sup>, Dahlia Kasimer<sup>1</sup>, Hao Wang<sup>3,4</sup>,  
Nicolas Rodrigue<sup>3,4</sup> and Myron L. Smith<sup>3</sup>



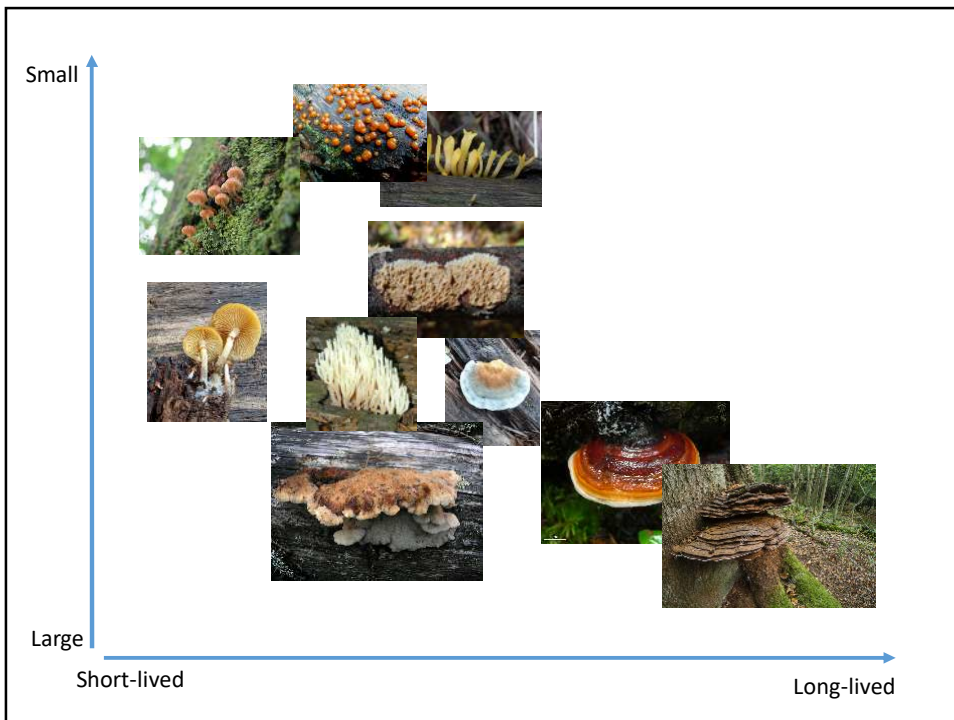
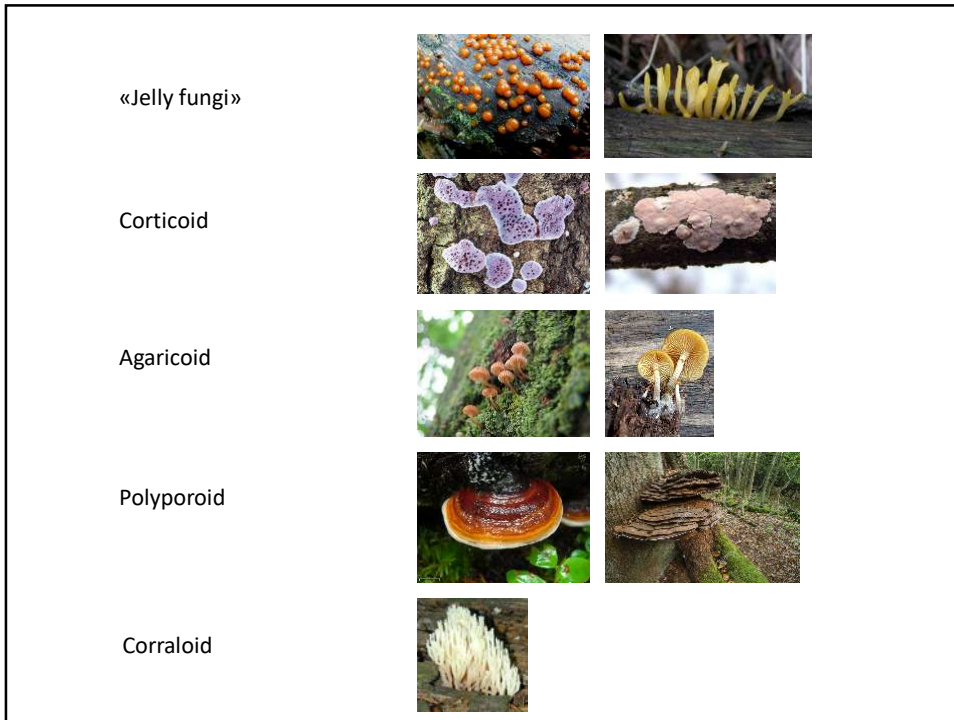
«The humongous fungus»



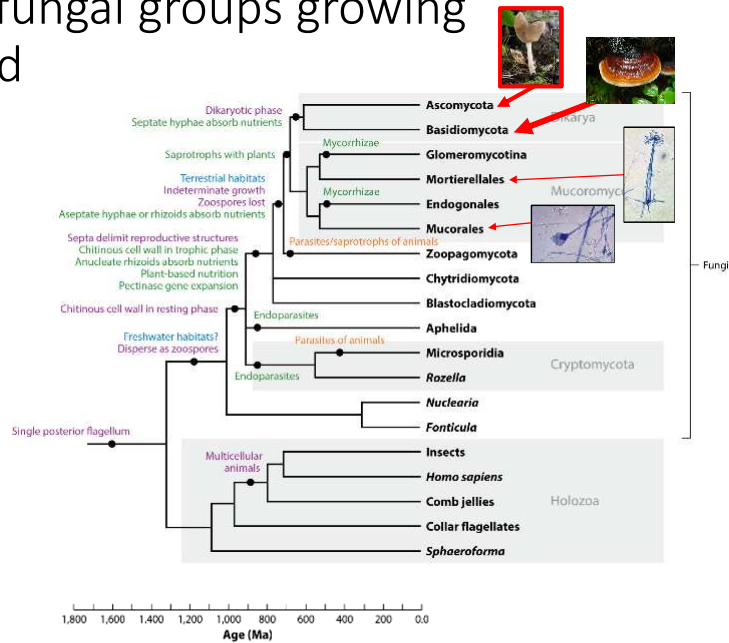




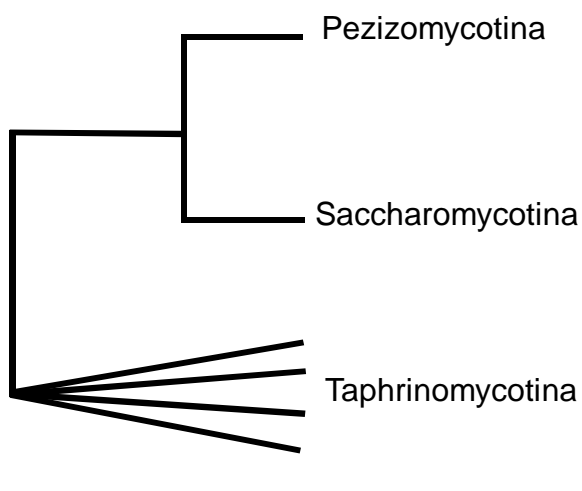


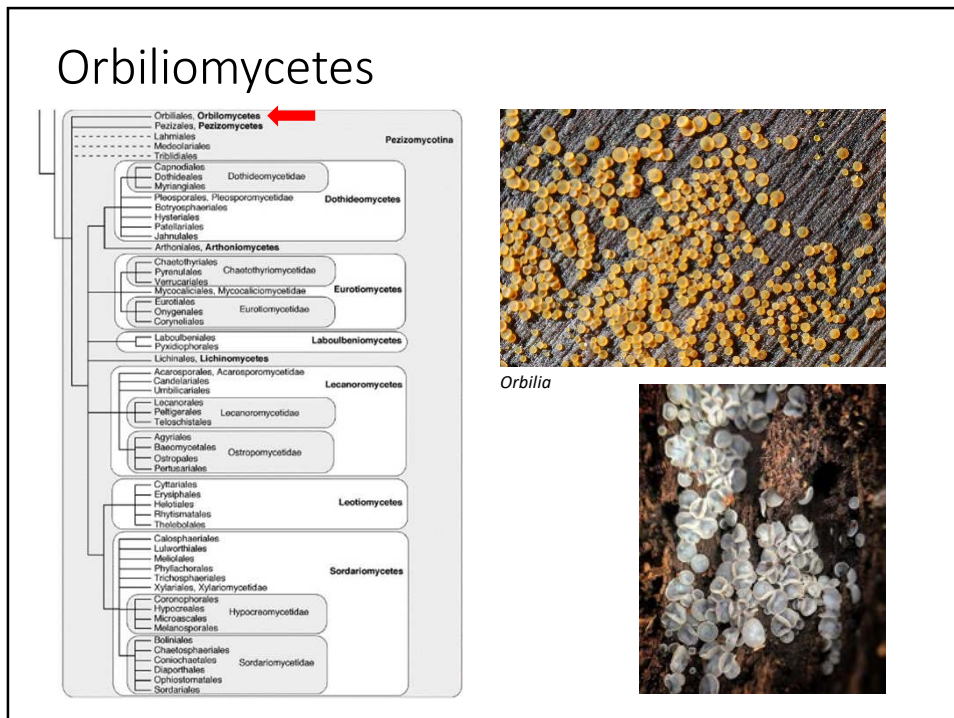
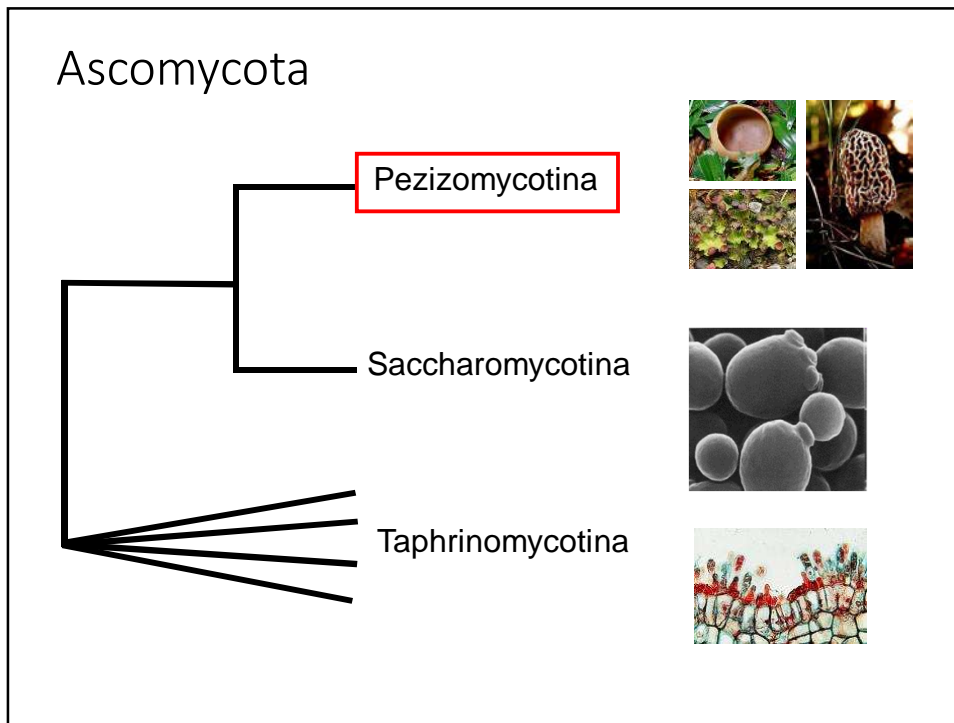


# Major fungal groups growing in wood

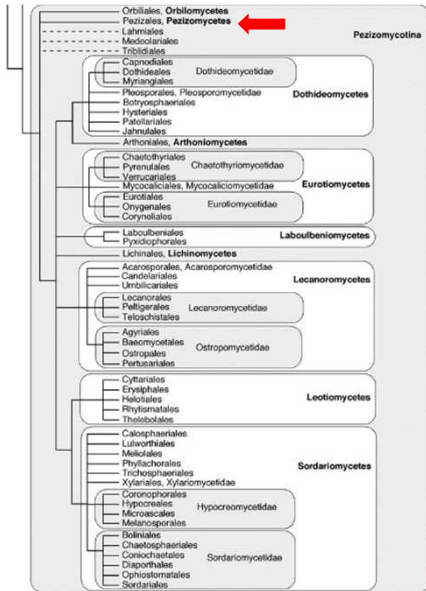


# Ascomycota





# Pezizales



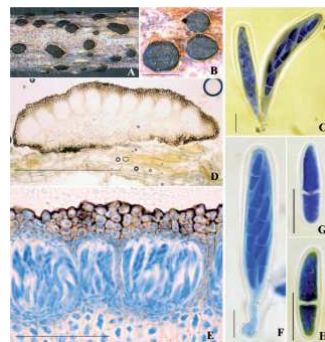
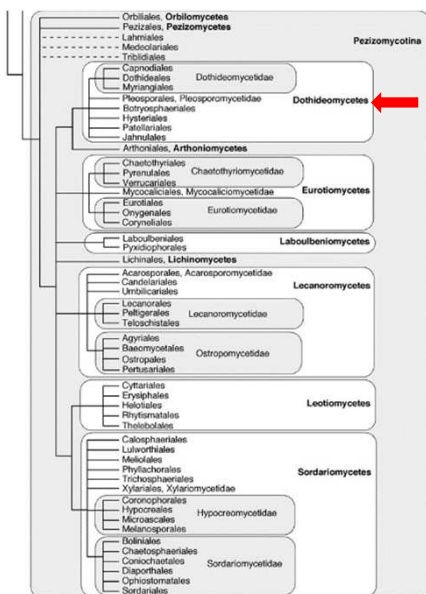
*Sarcoscypha*

*Gyromitra*



*Scutellinia*

# Dothideomycetes



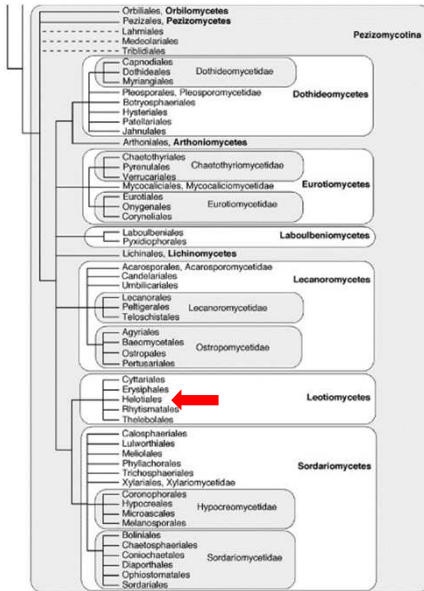
*Dothidea*



*Pleospora*



# Helotiales



*Chlorociboria*

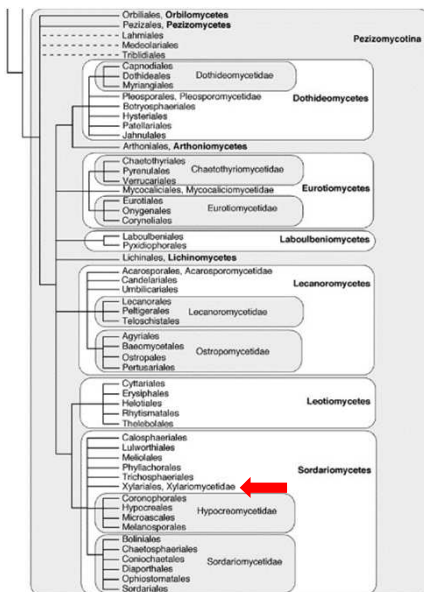


*Bisporella*



*Ascocoryne*

# Xylariales



*Xylaria*



*Hypoxylon*

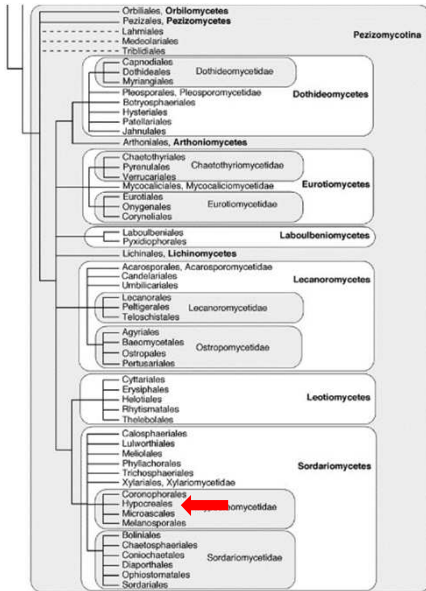


*Daldinia*



*Anthostoma*

# Hypocreales

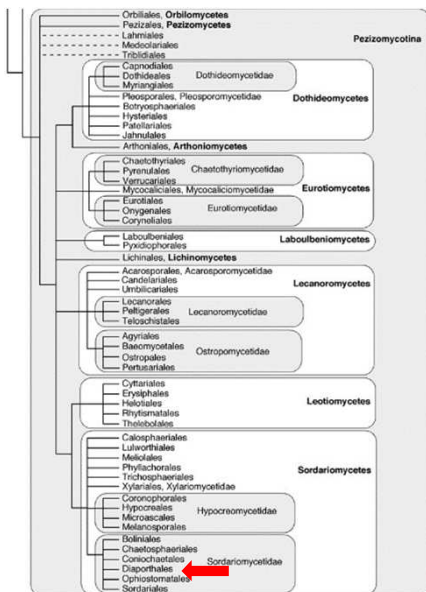


*Hypocrea*

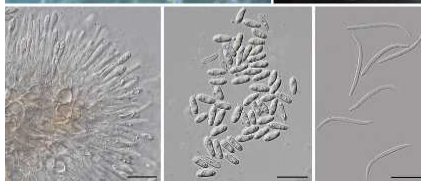


*Hypocreopsis*

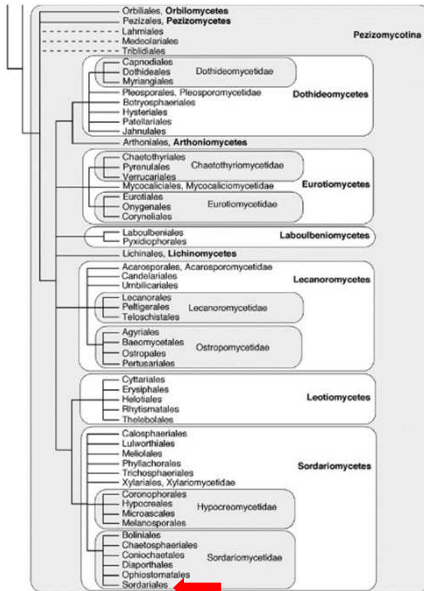
# Diaporthales



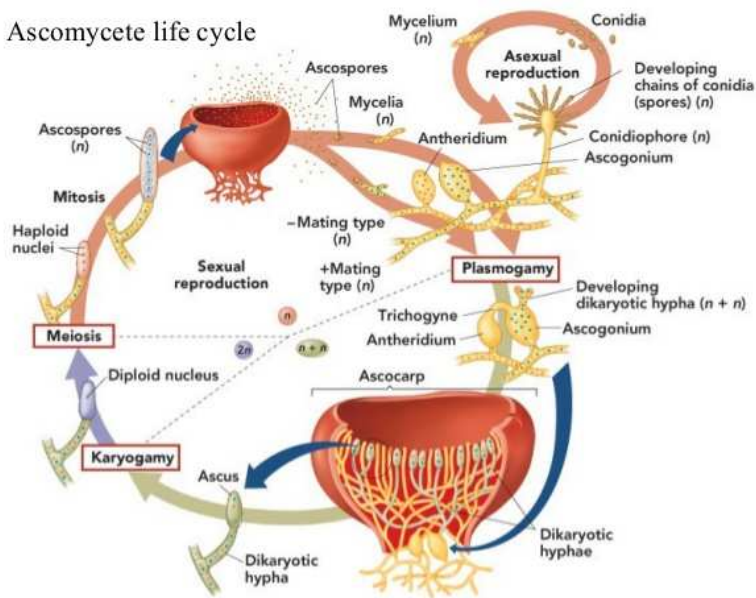
*Diaporthe*

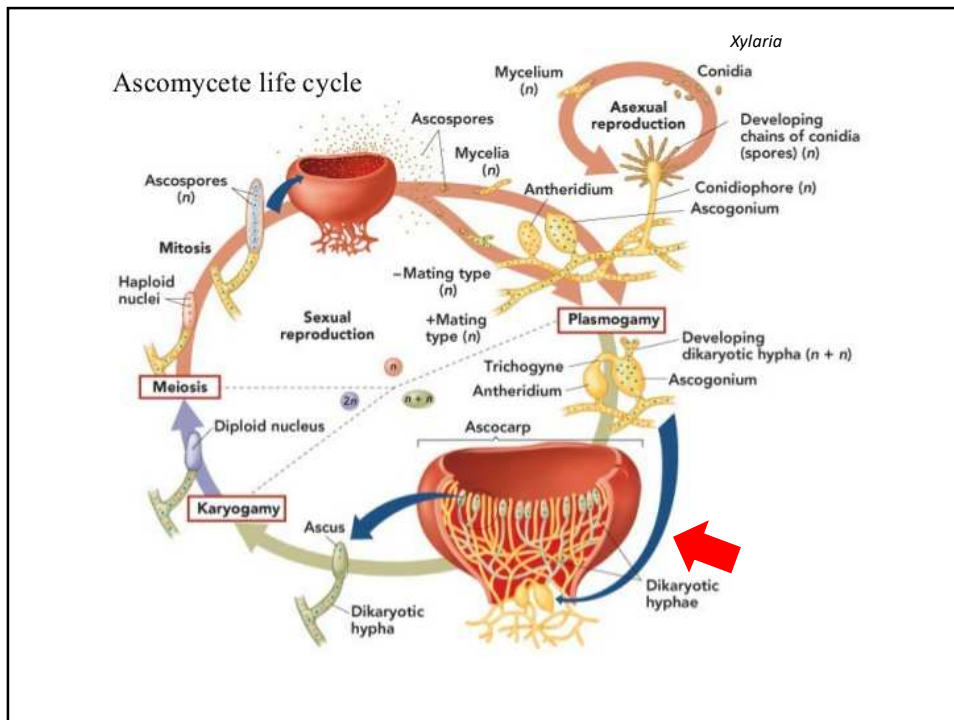
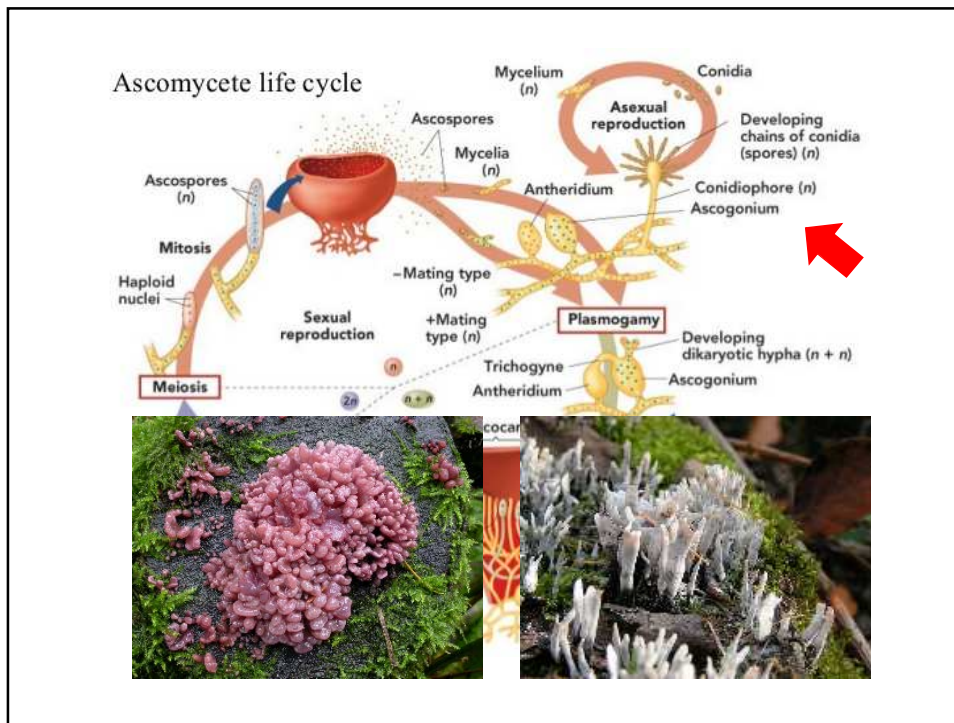


# Sordariales

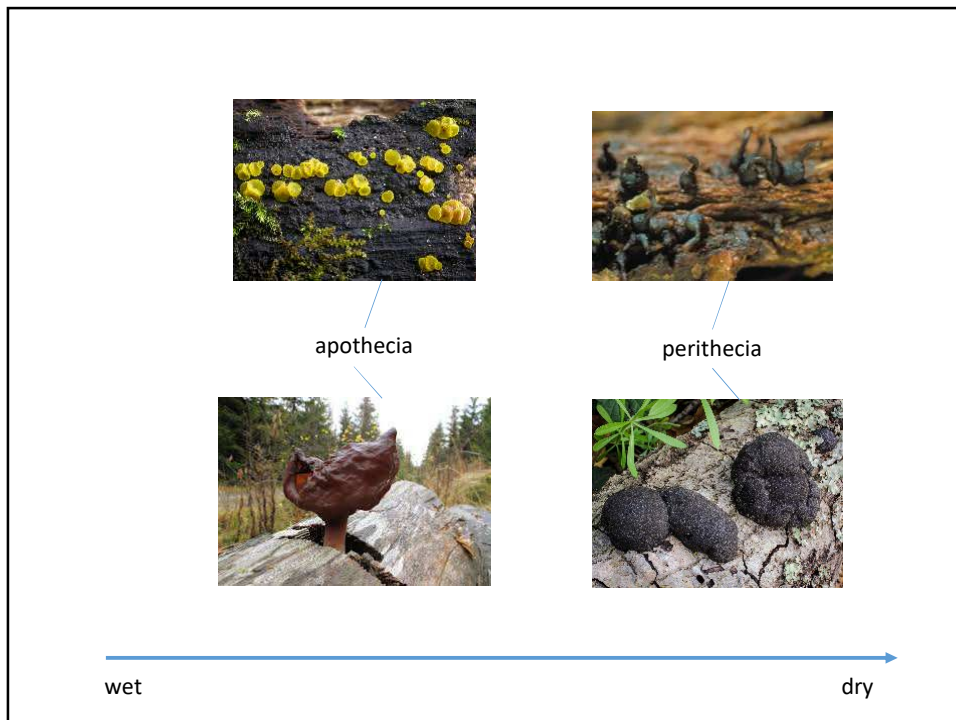
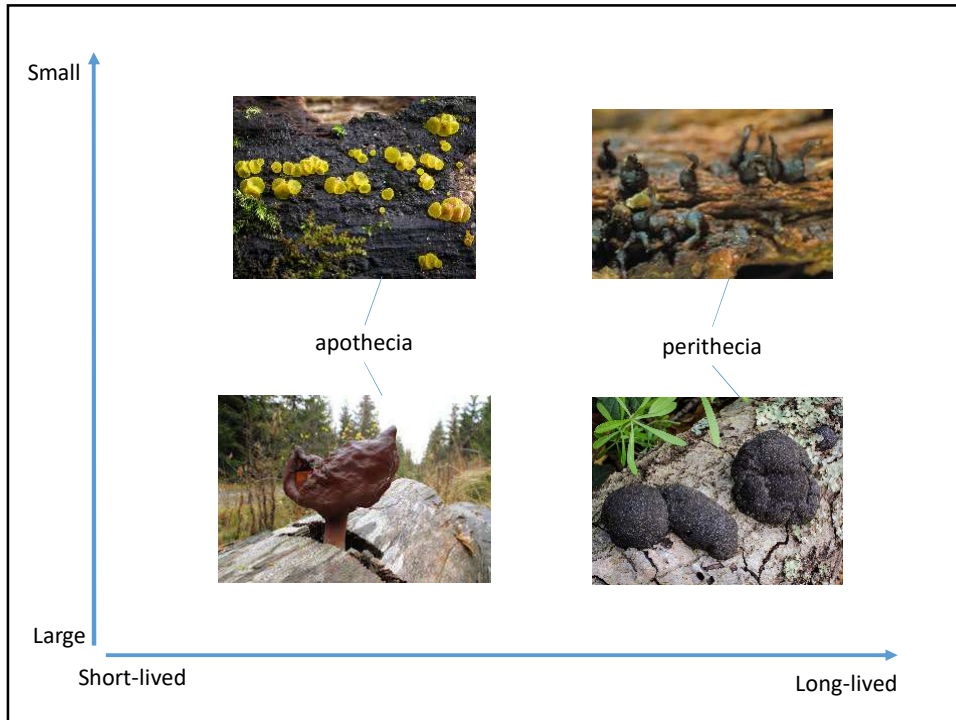


## Ascomycete life cycle

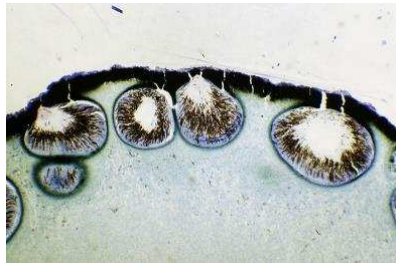






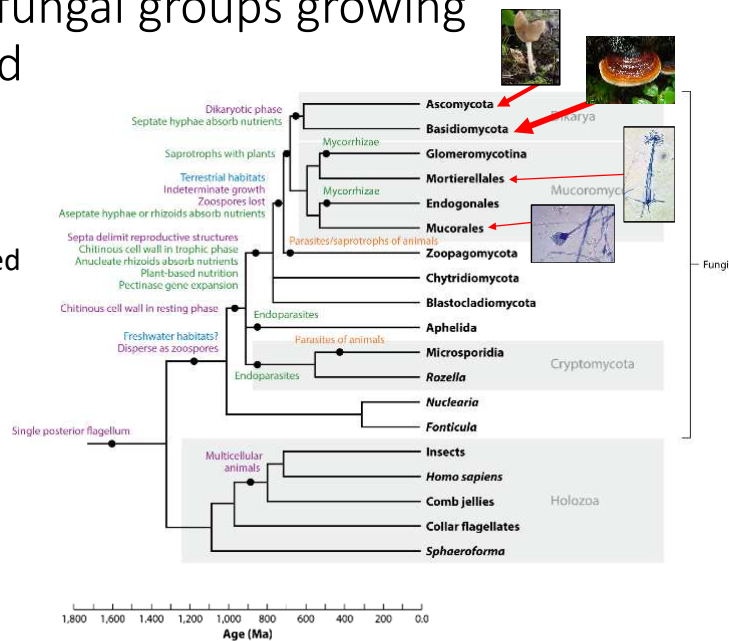


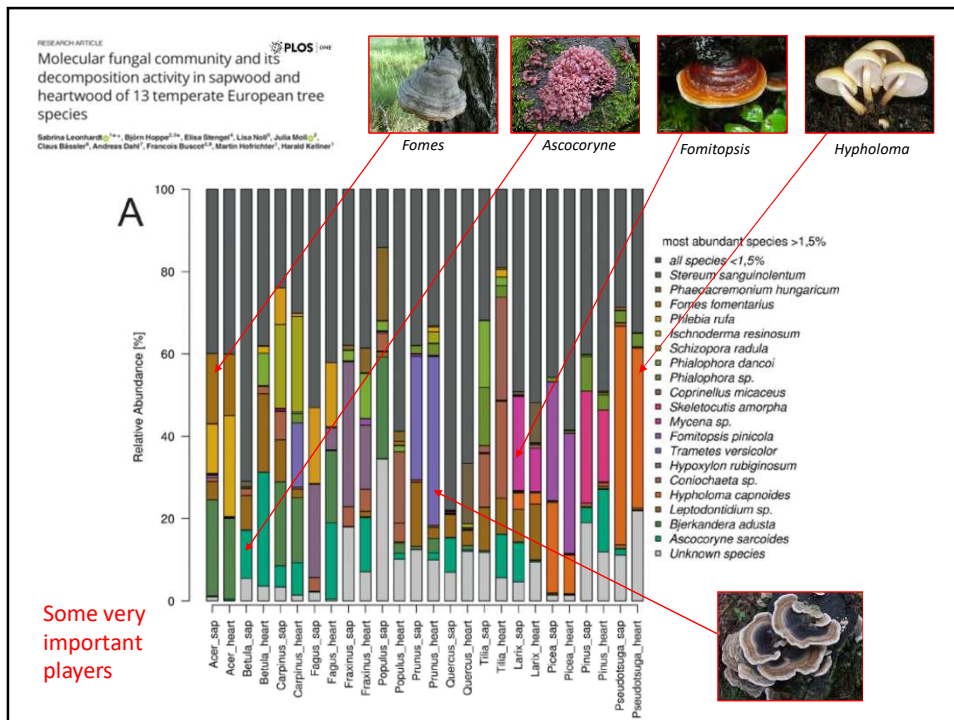
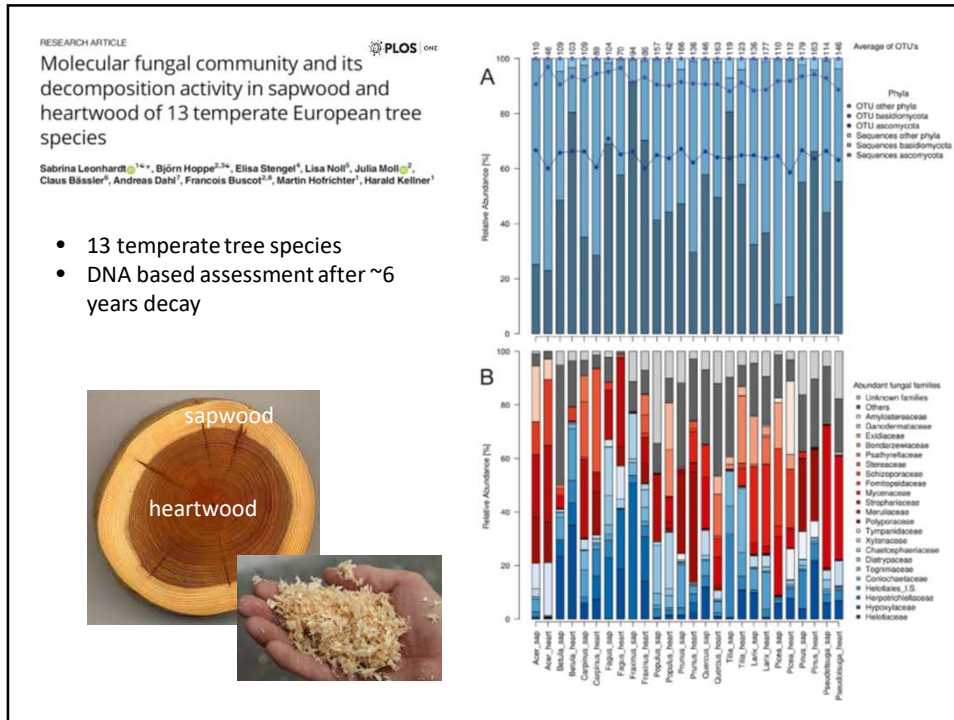
### Perithecia – an adaptation to dry habitats

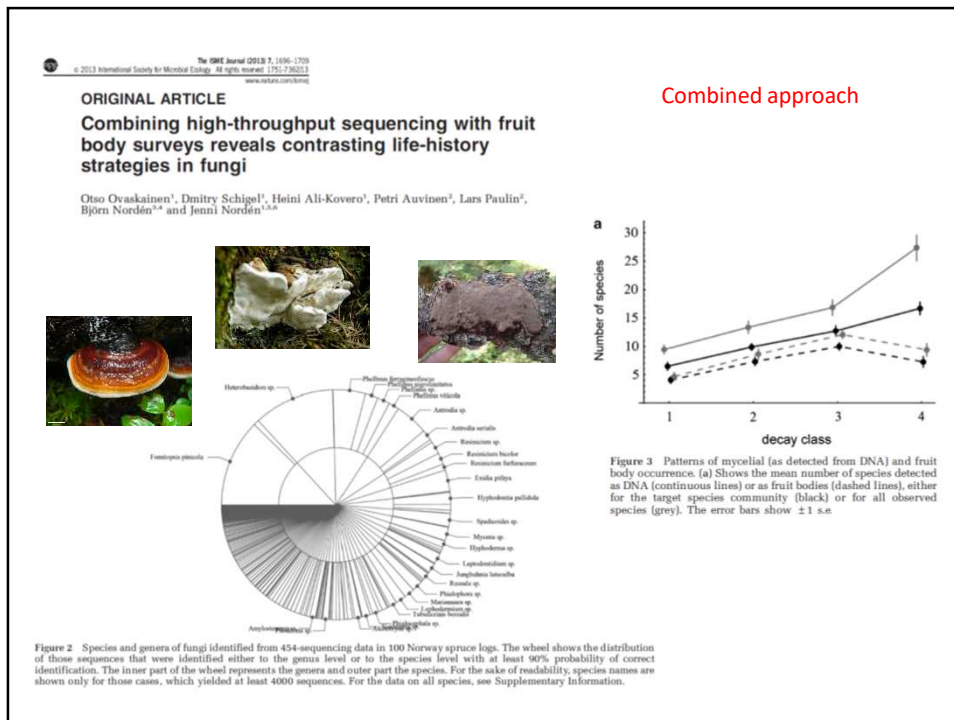
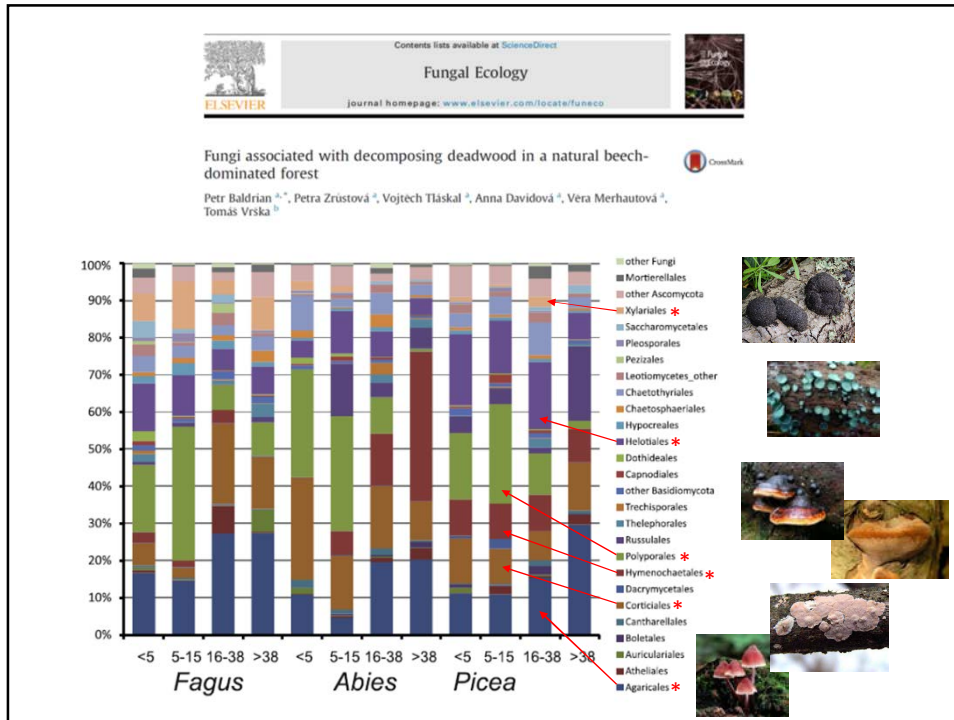


### Major fungal groups growing in wood

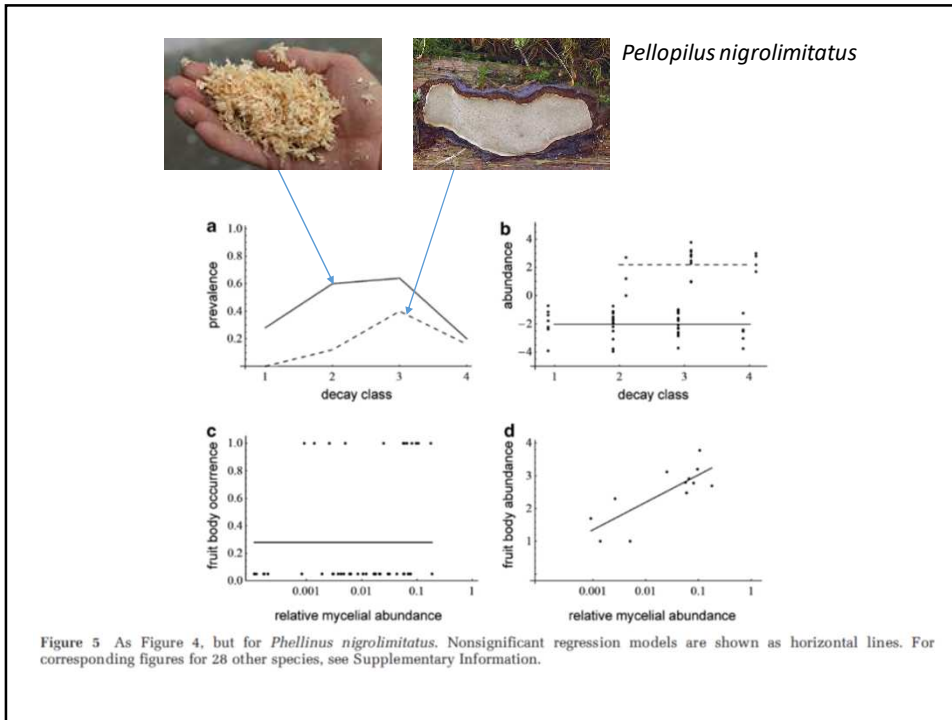
Current knowledge to large extent based on fruit bodies..





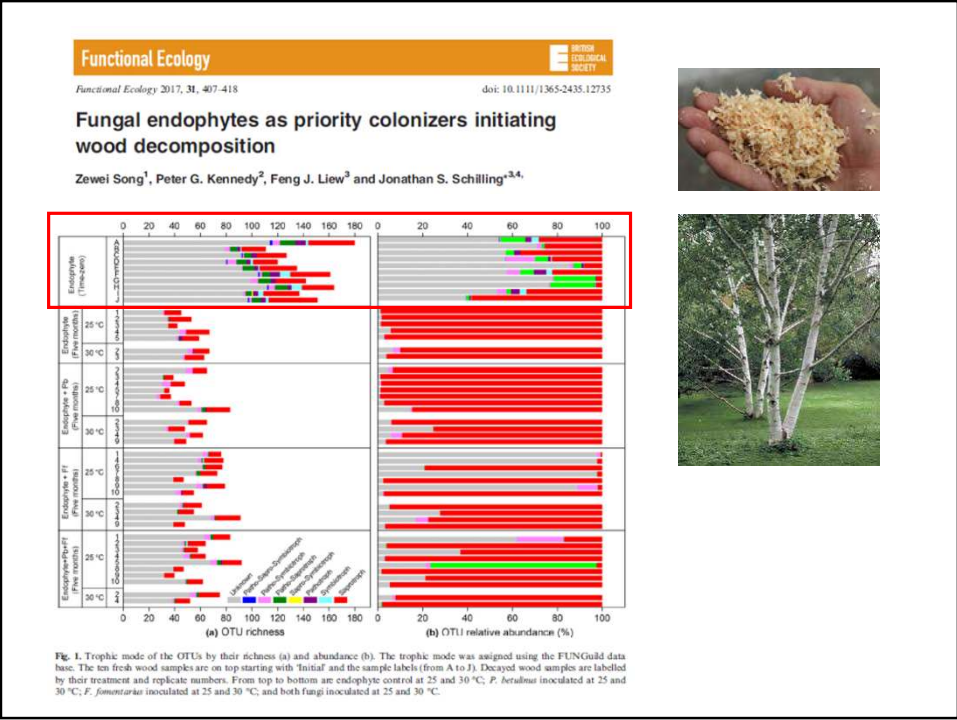
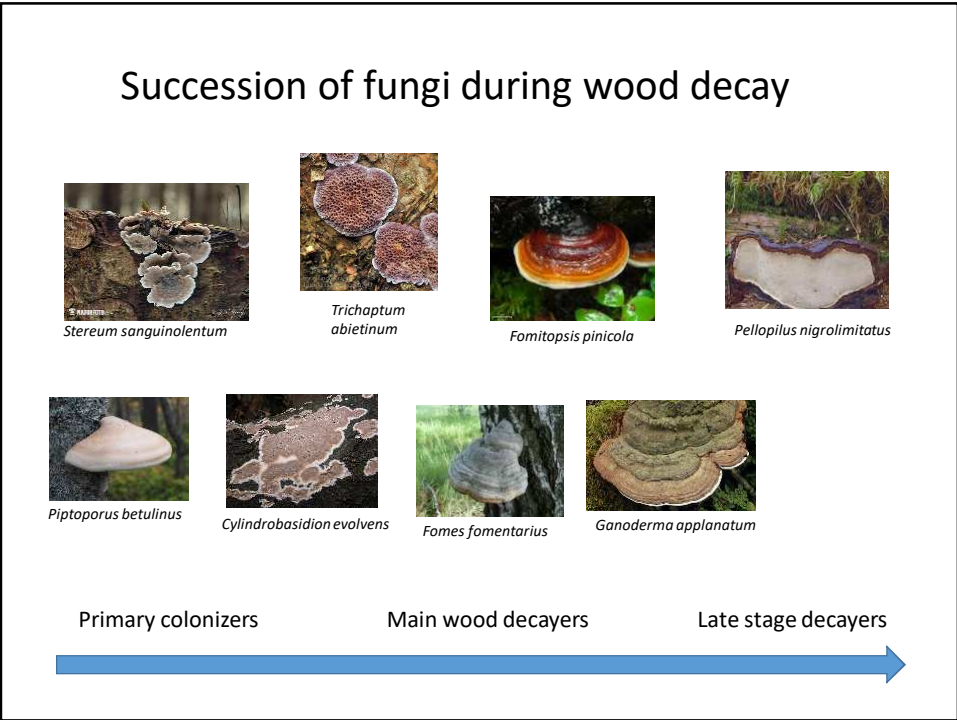


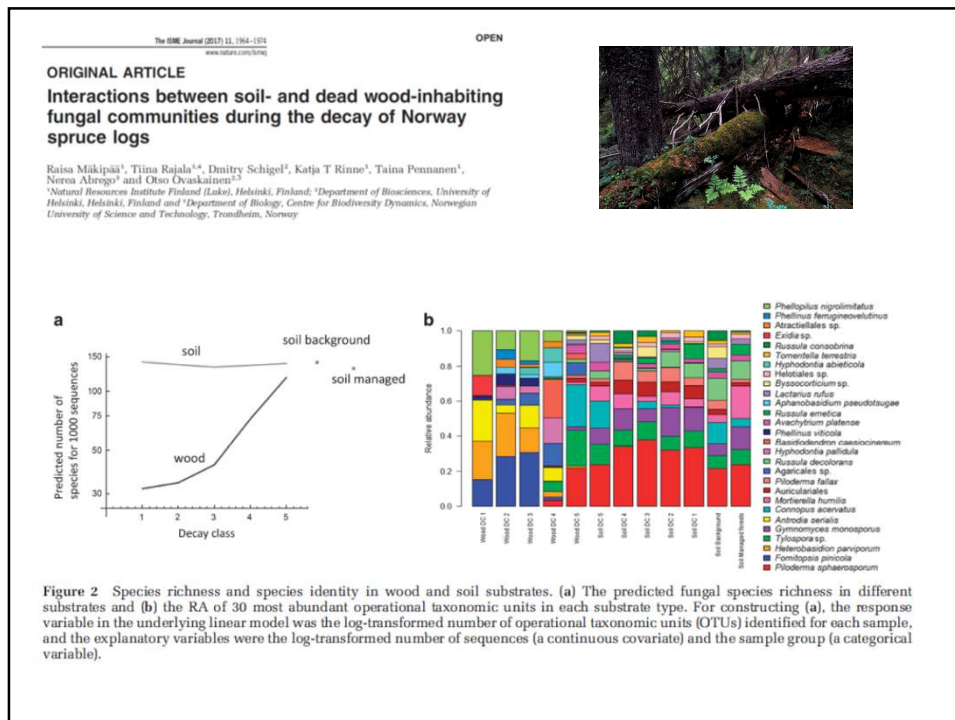




### Succession of fungi during wood decay








The ISME Journal (2017) 11, 194–197  
www.nature.com/ismj

OPEN

**ORIGINAL ARTICLE**  
**Interactions between soil- and dead wood-inhabiting fungal communities during the decay of Norway spruce logs**

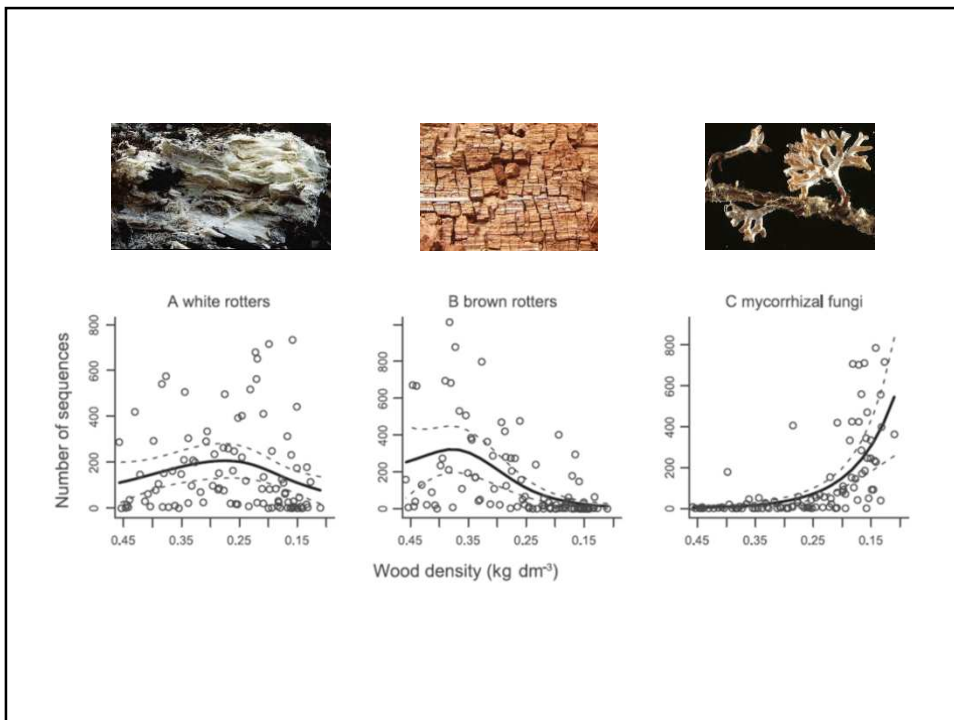
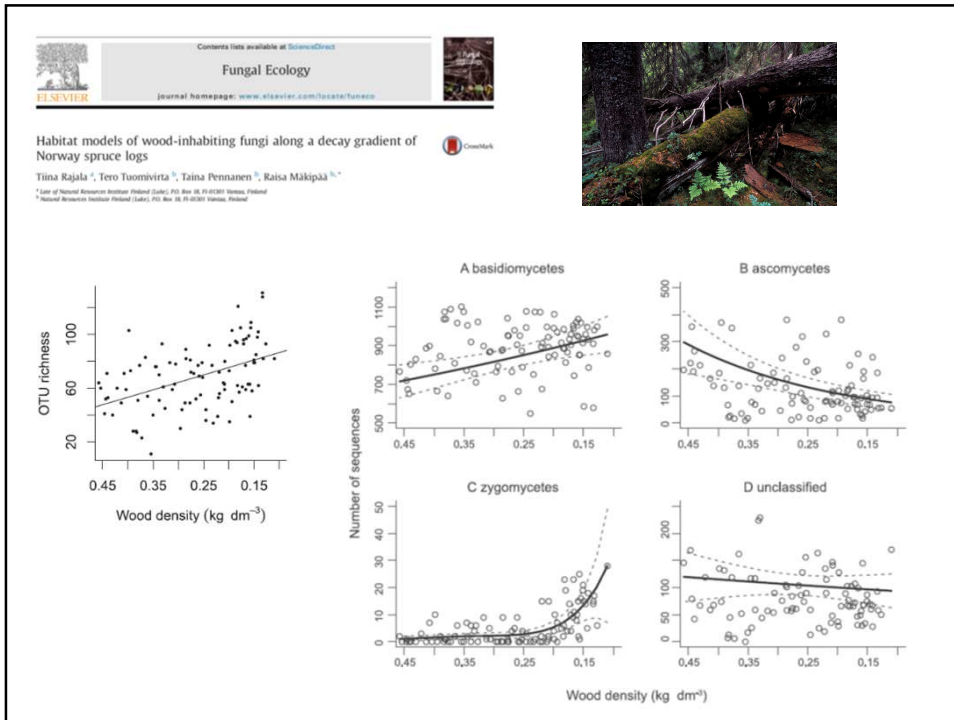
Raisa Mäkipää<sup>1</sup>, Tiina Rajala<sup>1,4</sup>, Dmitry Schigel<sup>1</sup>, Katja T Rinne<sup>1</sup>, Taina Pennanen<sup>1</sup>, Nerea Abrego<sup>1</sup> and Otsu Ovaskainen<sup>1,3</sup>  
<sup>1</sup>Natural Resources Institute Finland (Luke), Helsinki, Finland; <sup>2</sup>Department of Biosciences, University of Helsinki, Helsinki, Finland and <sup>3</sup>Department of Biology, Centre for Biodiversity Dynamics, Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Trondheim, Norway



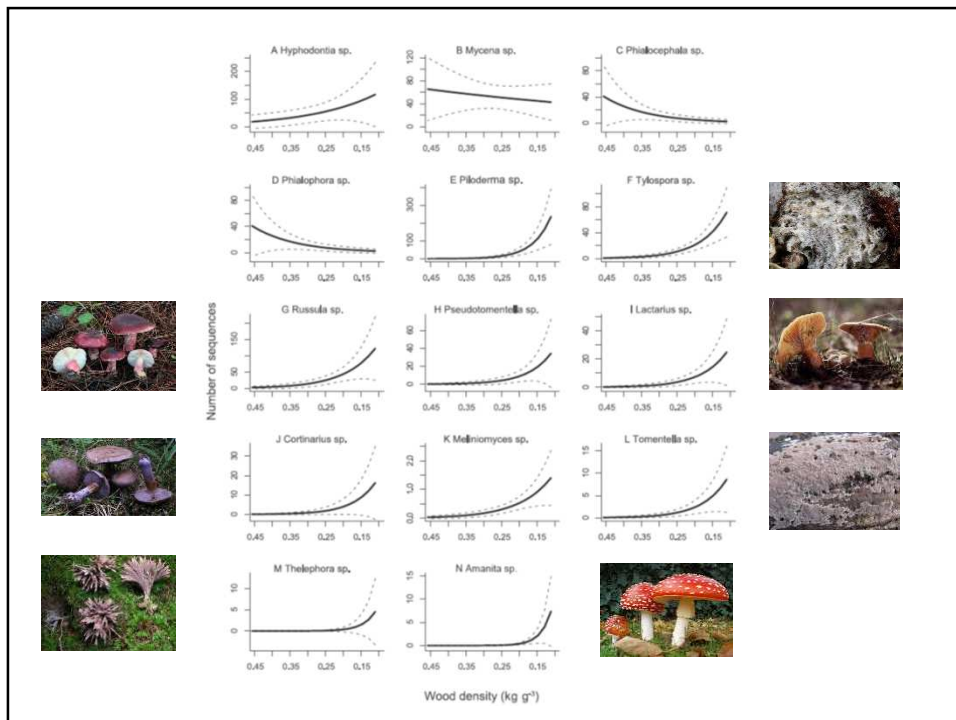
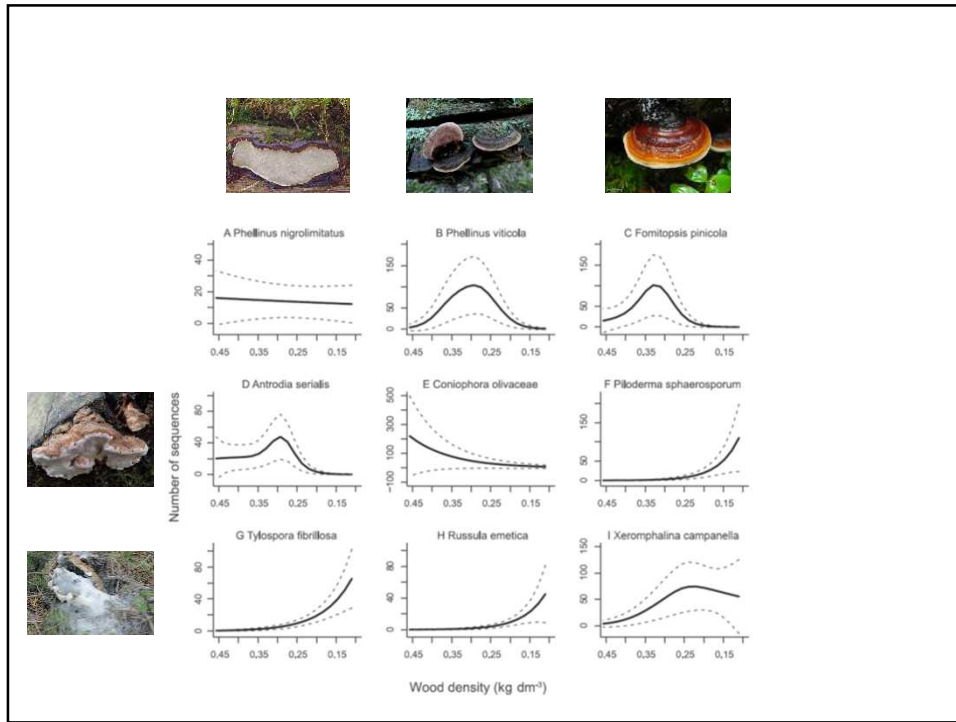
**Table 1** Fungal species found exclusively in soil, exclusively in dead wood, and in both substrate types

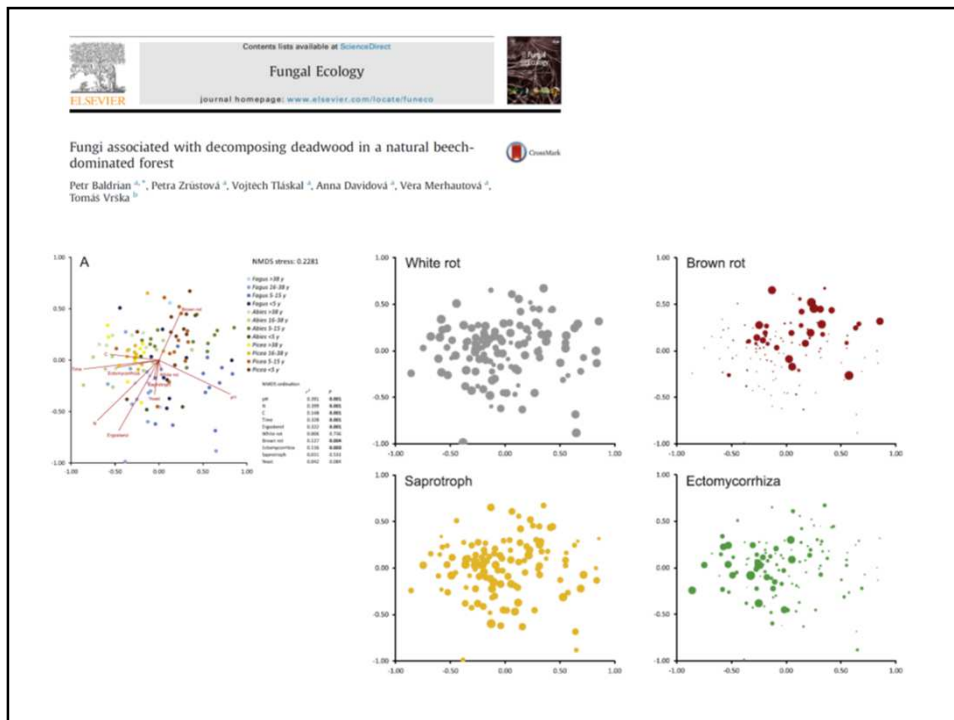
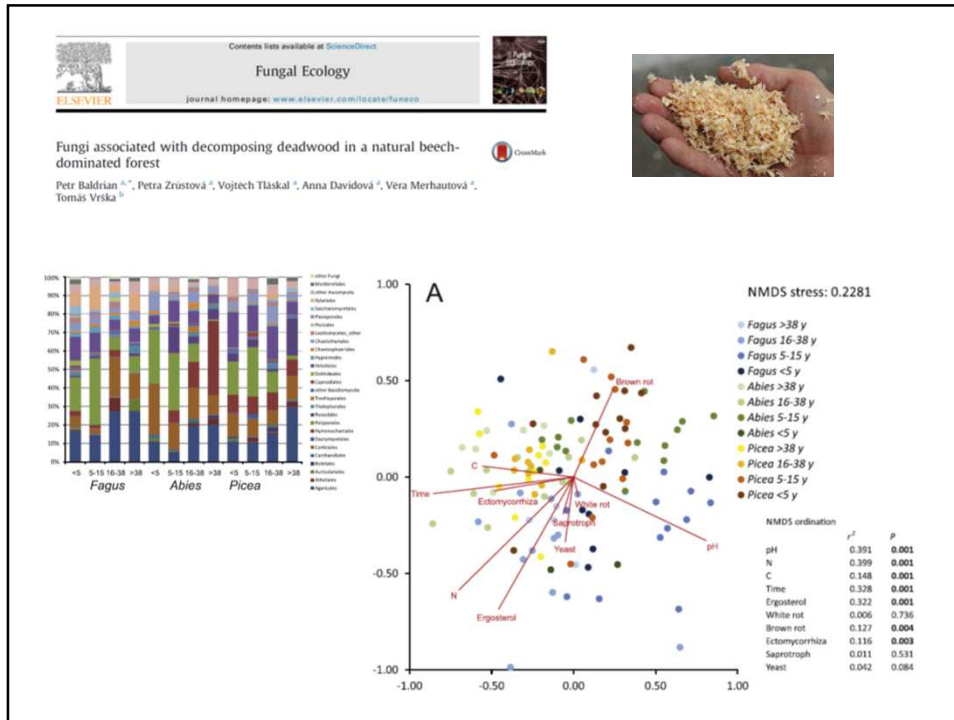
Unique to soil (793)	Both in soil and wood (608)	Unique to wood (589)
<i>Piloderma</i> sp. (OTU 00094)	<i>Piloderma sphaerosporum</i> (OTU 00310)	<i>Fomitopsis pinicola</i> (OTU 00001)
<i>Russula</i> sp. (OTU 00048)	<i>Heterobasidium parviporum</i> (OTU 00003)	<i>Antrodia serialis</i> (OTU 00004)
<i>Russula vesca</i> (OTU 00178)	<i>Tylospora</i> sp. (OTU 00005)	<i>Phellolus nigrolimitatus</i> (OTU 00006)
<i>Tretomyces lutescens</i> (OTU 00211)	<i>Gymnomyces monosporus</i> (OTU 00011)	<i>Phellolus nigrolimitatus</i> (OTU 00022)
<i>Amanita</i> sp. (OTU 00174)	<i>Connopus acervatus</i> (OTU 00017)	<i>Phellinus viticola</i> (OTU 00014)
<i>Pseudotomentella</i> sp. (OTU 00189)	<i>Mortierella humilis</i> (OTU 00009)	<i>Phellolus nigrolimitatus</i> (OTU 00019)
<i>Cortinarius caperatus</i> (OTU 00180)	<i>Auriculariales</i> sp. (OTU 00029)	<i>Exidia</i> sp. (OTU 00037)
<i>Cortinarius rubellus</i> (OTU 00088)	<i>Piloderma fallax</i> (OTU 00024)	<i>Attractiellales</i> sp. (OTU 00033)
<i>Rhodocollybia</i> sp. (OTU 00128)	<i>Agaricales</i> sp. (OTU 00010)	<i>Phellinus ferrugineovolutinus</i> (OTU 00020)
<i>Cortinarius traganus</i> (OTU 00212)	<i>Russula decolorans</i> (OTU 00025)	<i>Coniophora puteana</i> (OTU 00007)
<i>Trechisporales</i> sp. (OTU 00308)	<i>Hyphodontia pallidula</i> (OTU 00012)	<i>Basidioascus</i> (OTU 00039)
<i>Pseudotomentella humicola</i> (OTU 00308)	<i>Basiodendron caesiocinereum</i> (OTU 00012)	<i>Pseudeurotiaceae</i> sp. (OTU 00044)
<i>Cortinarius</i> sp. (OTU 00319)	<i>Avachytrium platense</i> (OTU 00015)	<i>Sistotrema brinkmannii</i> (OTU 00041)
<i>Piloderma sphaerosporum</i> (OTU 00310)	<i>Russula emetica</i> (OTU 00038)	<i>Hyphoderma</i> sp. (OTU 00055)
<i>Mortierella</i> sp. (OTU 00097)	<i>Aphanobasidium pseudotsugae</i> (OTU 00013)	<i>Stereum sanguinolentum</i> (OTU 00026)

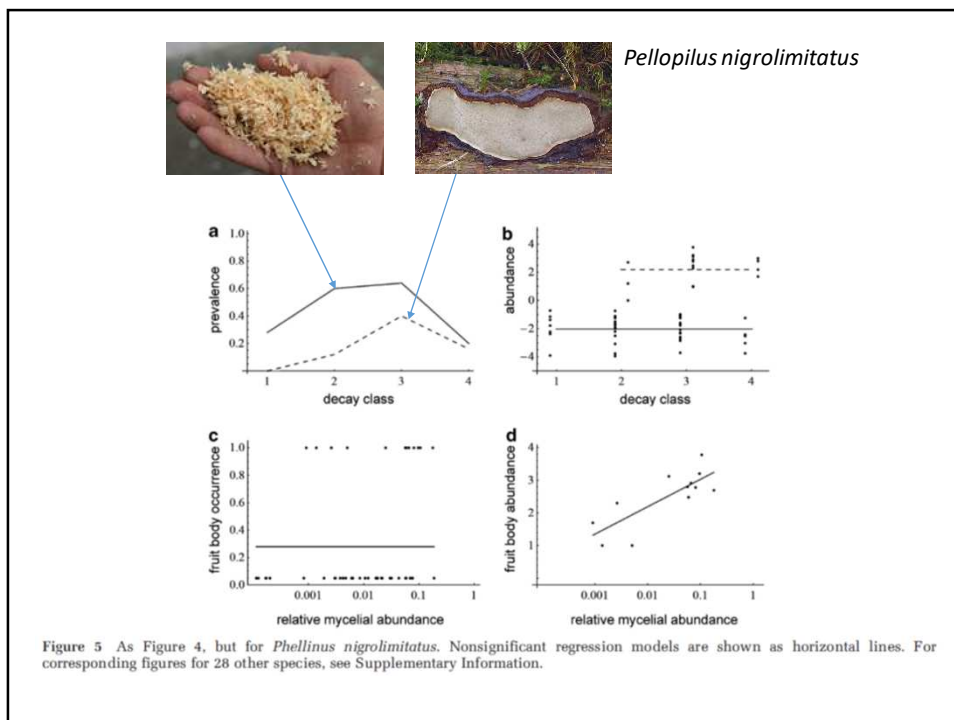
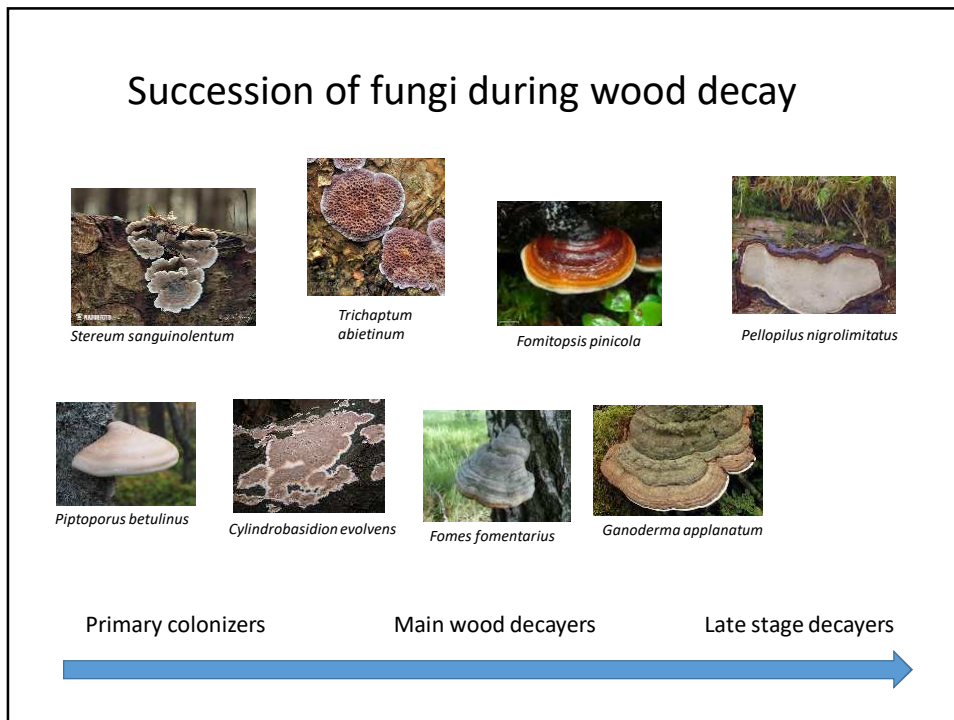
The 15 most abundant species are listed, and the numbers in brackets indicate the total number of species found.











## Not only wood decay fungi!



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**Fungal Ecology**

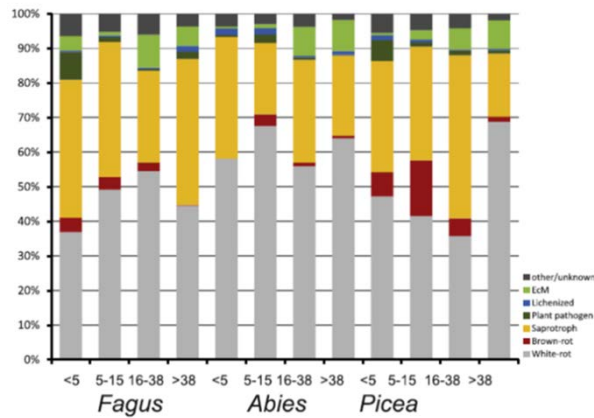
journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/funeco](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/funeco)

### Fungi associated with decomposing deadwood in a natural beech-dominated forest



Petr Baldrian <sup>a,\*</sup>, Petra Zrůstová <sup>a</sup>, Vojtěch Tláškal <sup>a</sup>, Anna Davidová <sup>a</sup>, Věra Merhautová <sup>a</sup>, Tomáš Vrška <sup>b</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Laboratory of Environmental Microbiology, Institute of Microbiology of the CAS, Václavská 108/3, 14220 Praha 4, Czech Republic  
<sup>b</sup> Department of Forest Ecology, The Silesia Technical University for Landscape and Ornamental Gardening, Ládkův 252/7, 602 00 Brno, Czech Republic



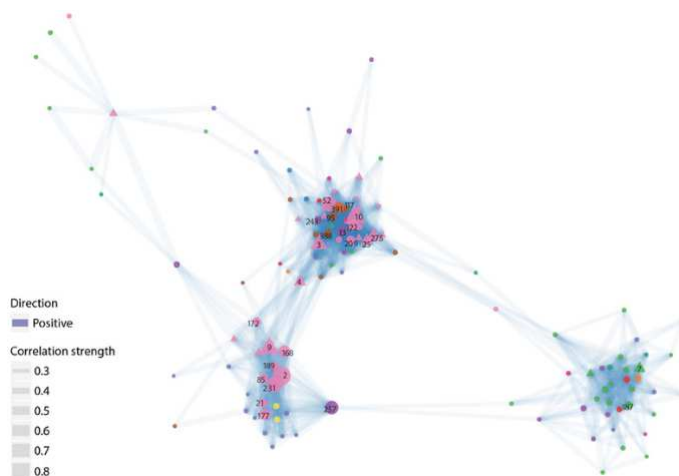


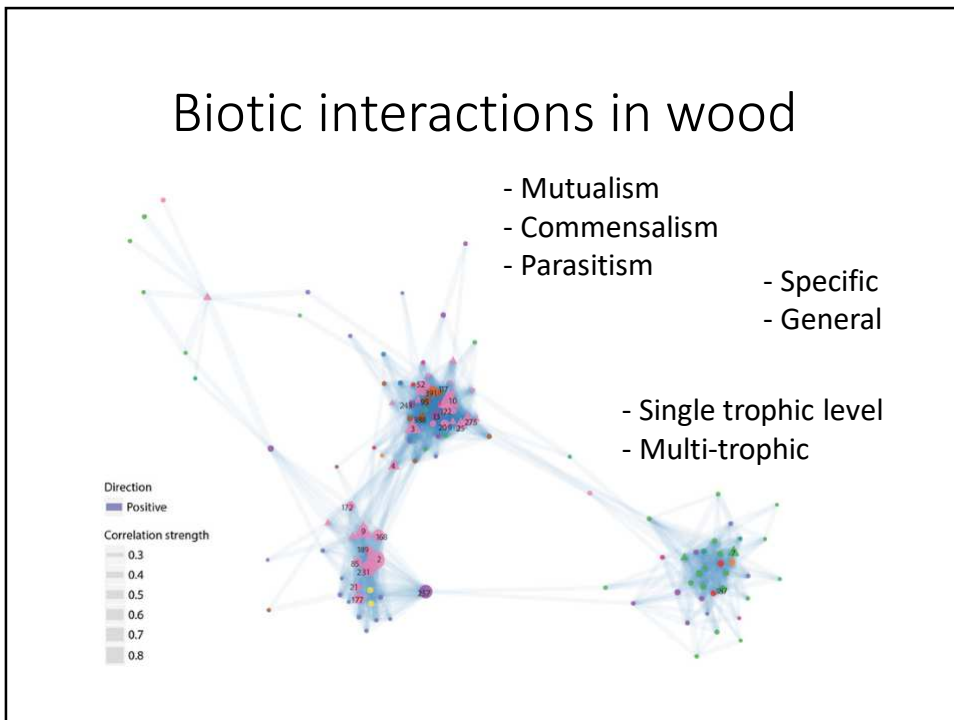
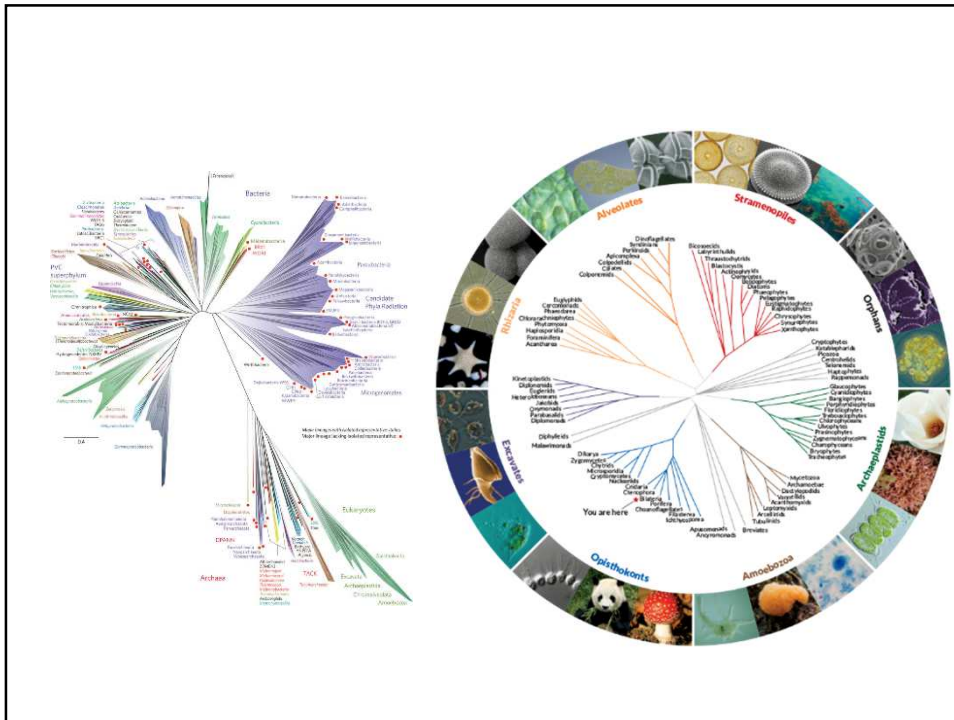
## General model for fungal succession

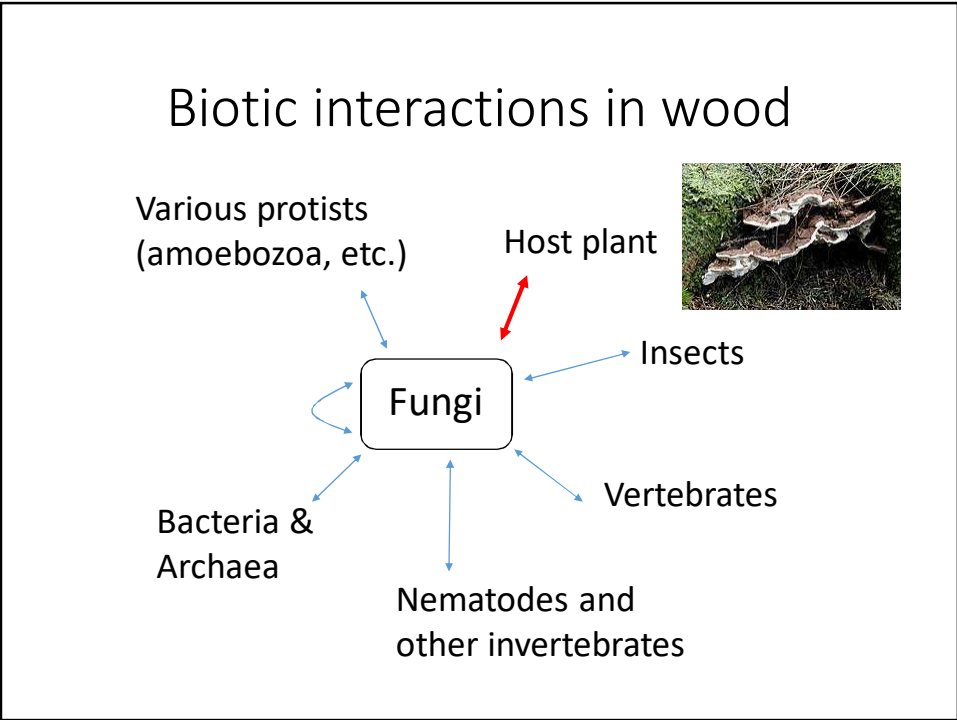
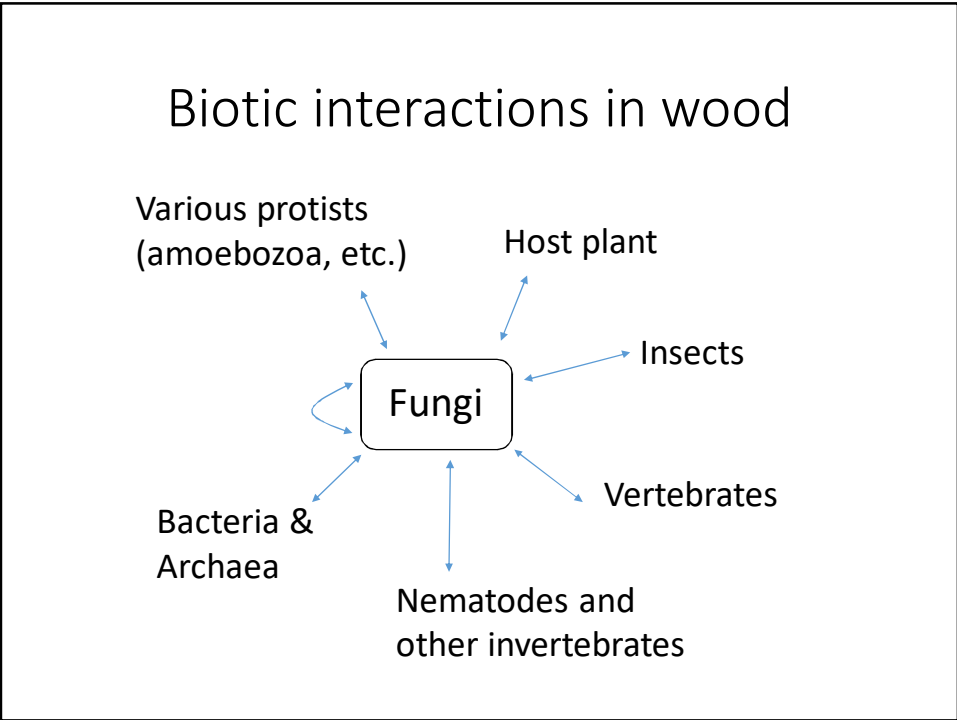
- Endophytes / parasites
- Wood decayers – brown rot
- Wood decayers – white rot
- Ectomycorrhizal fungi
  
- Ascomycetes
- Basidiomycetes

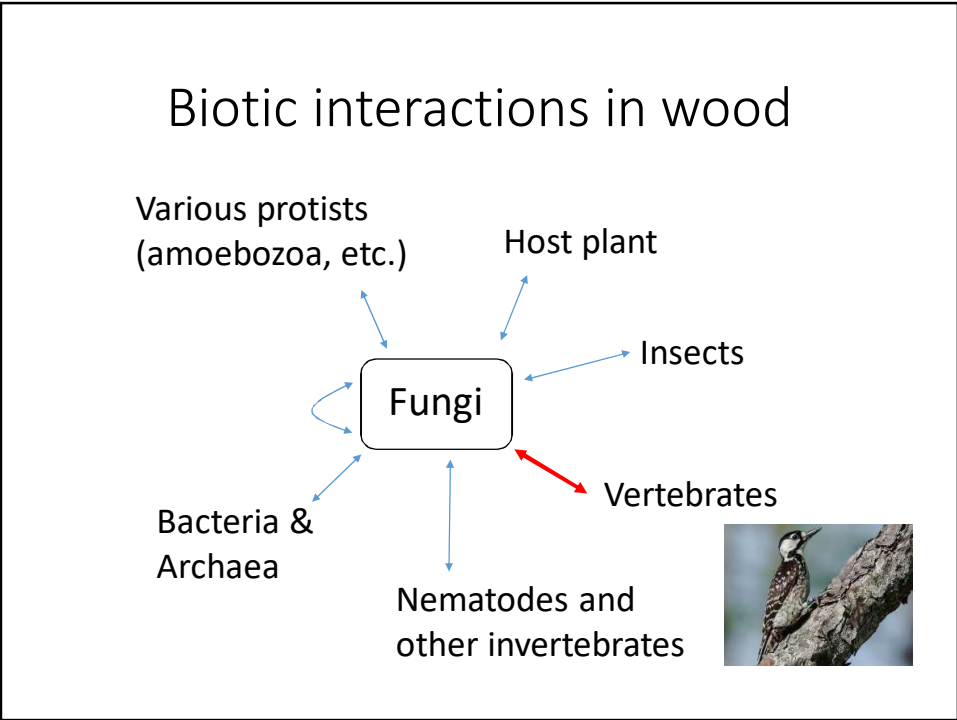
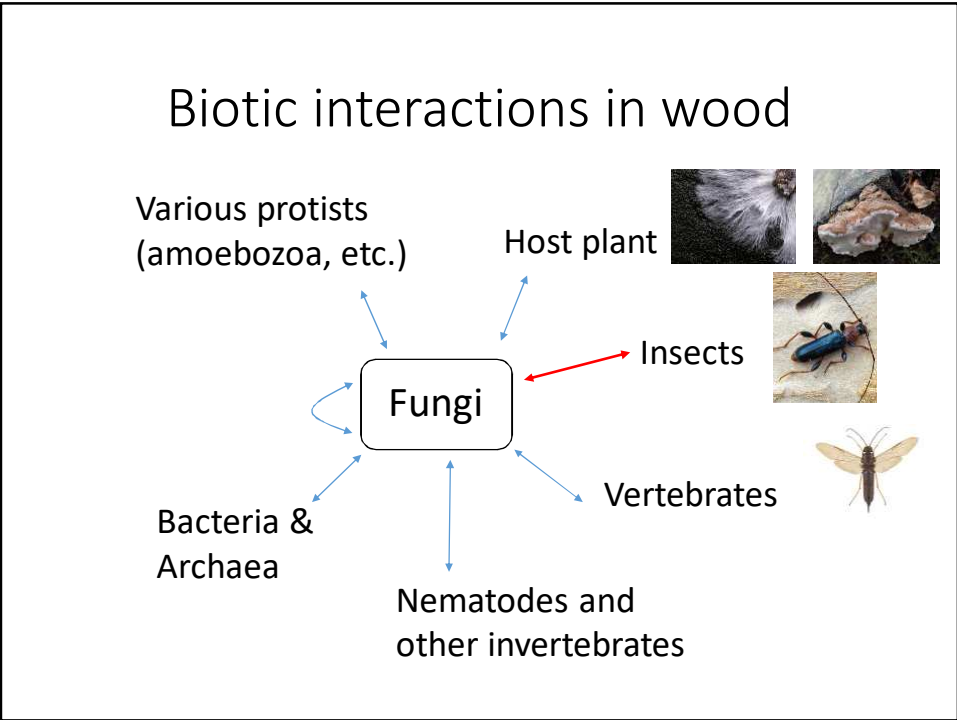


## Biotic interactions in wood

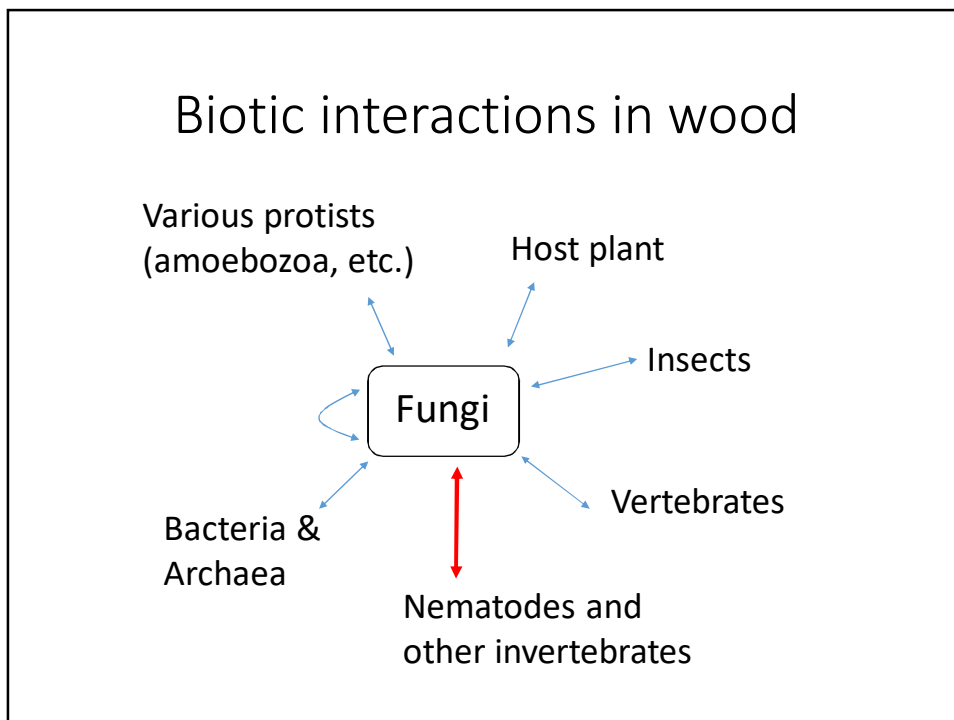
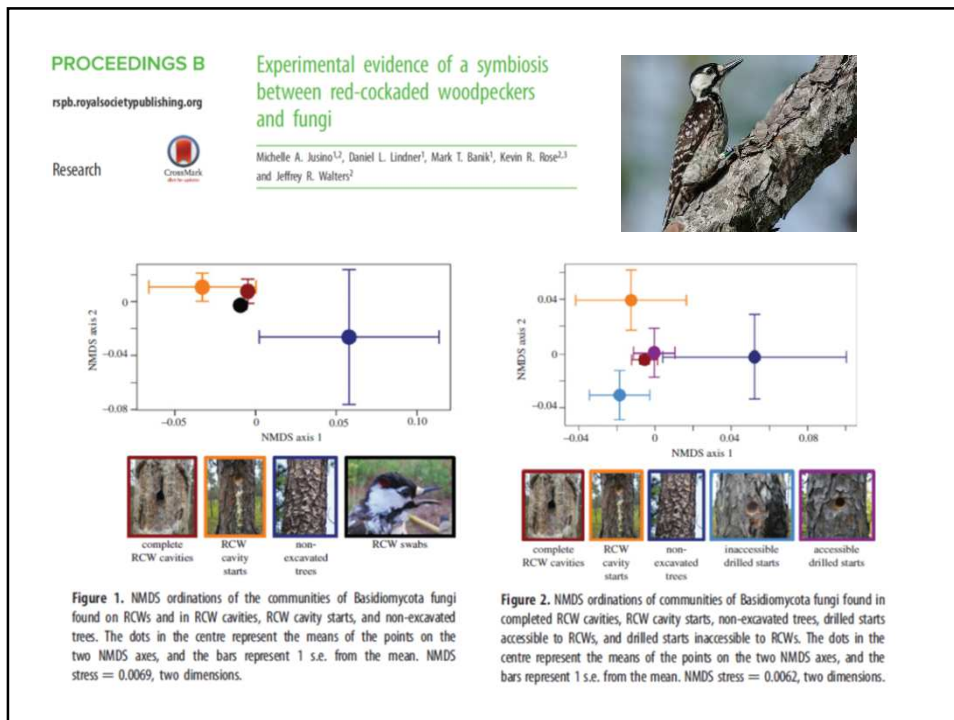


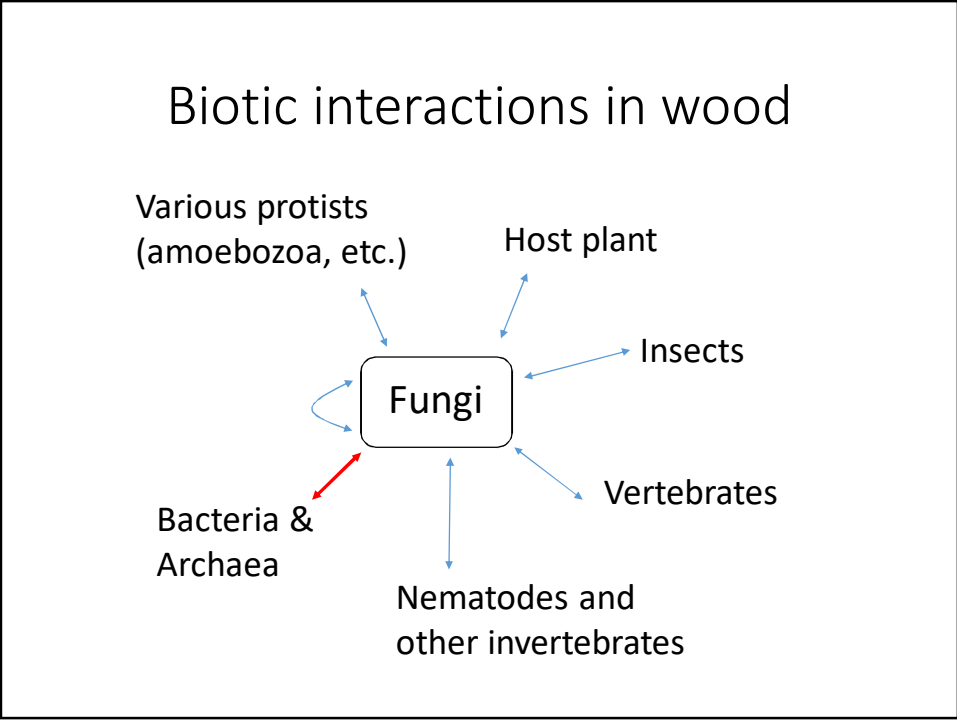
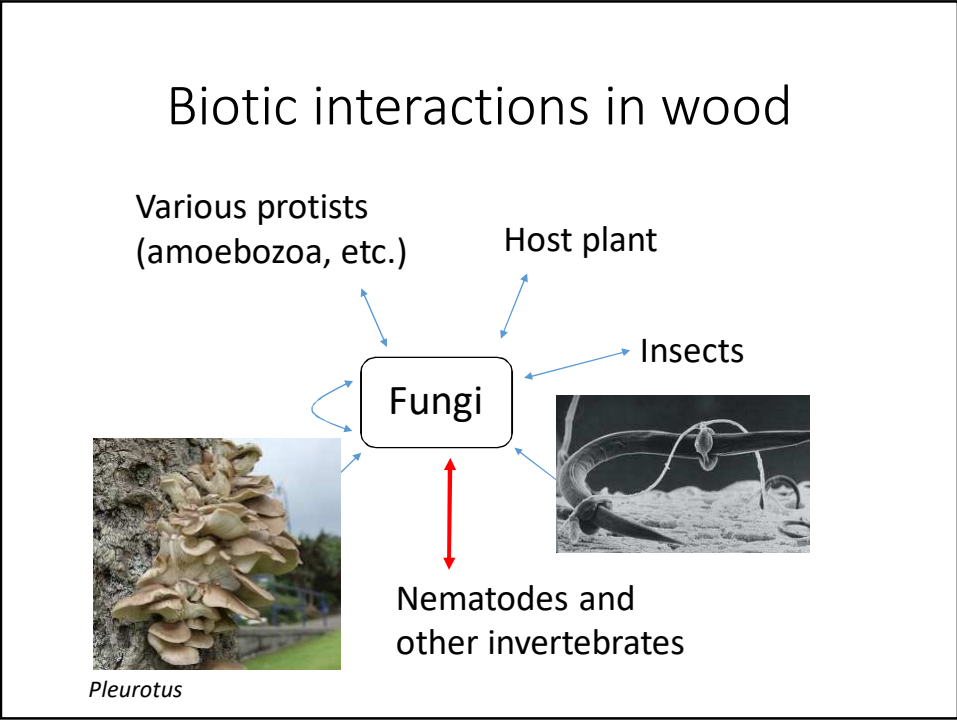


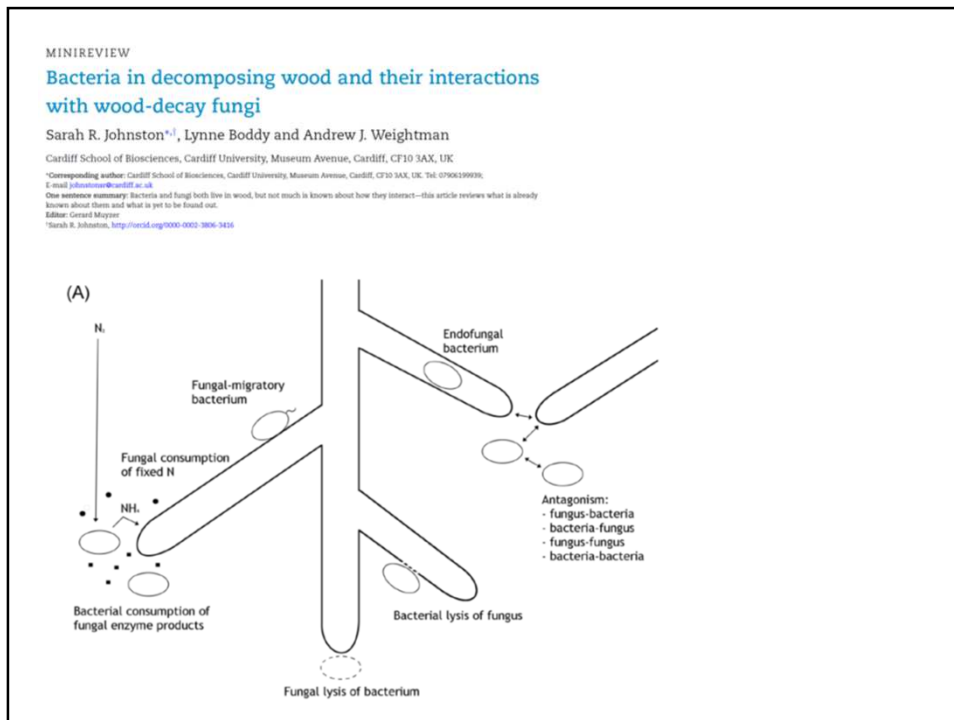
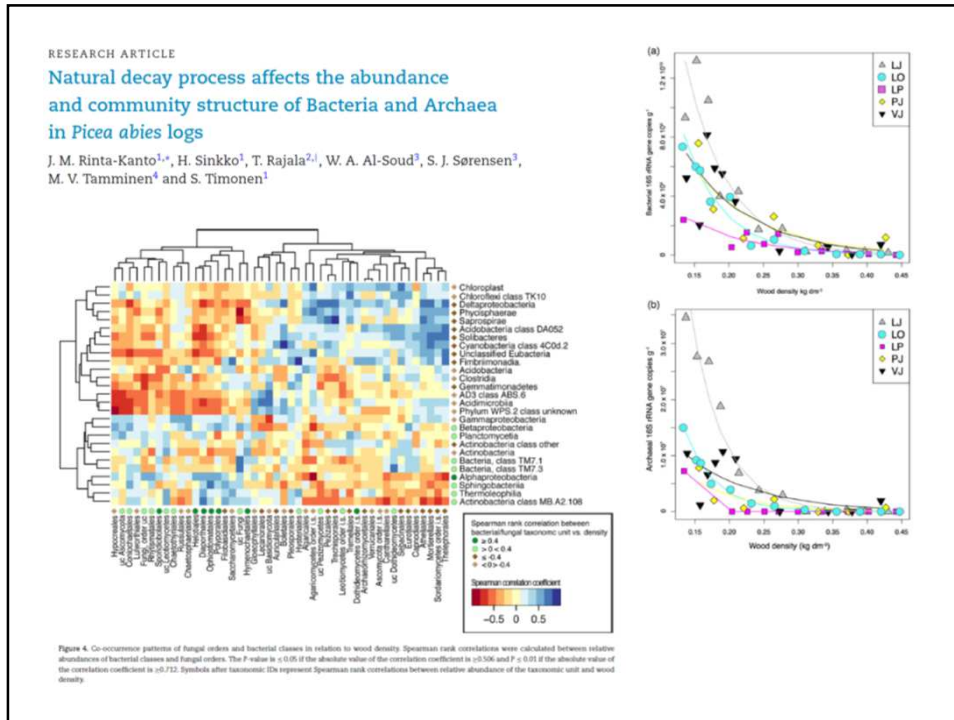


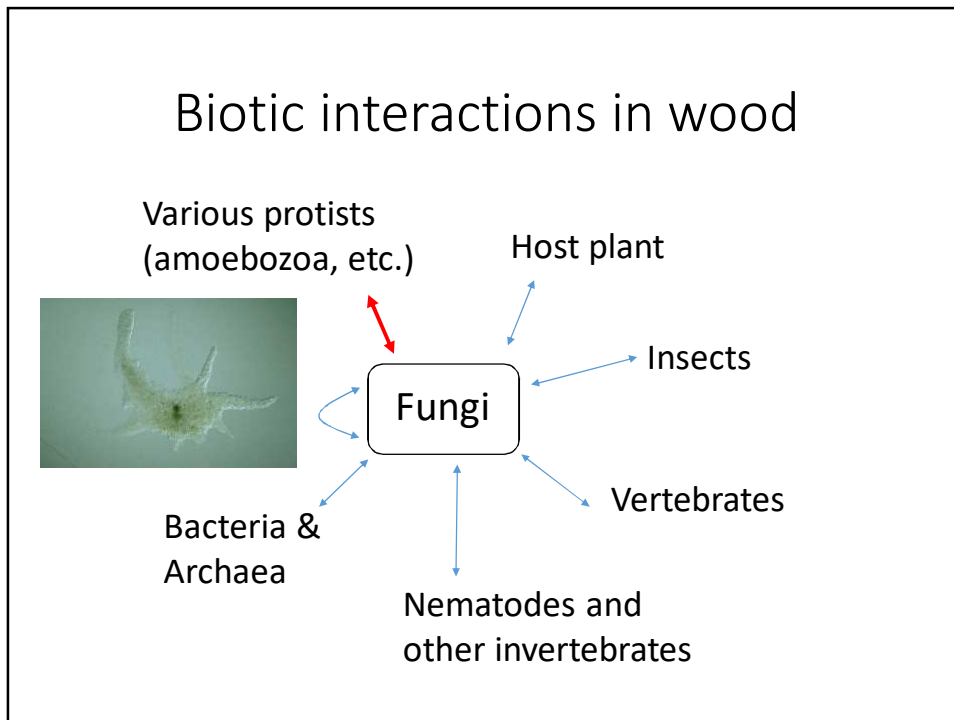
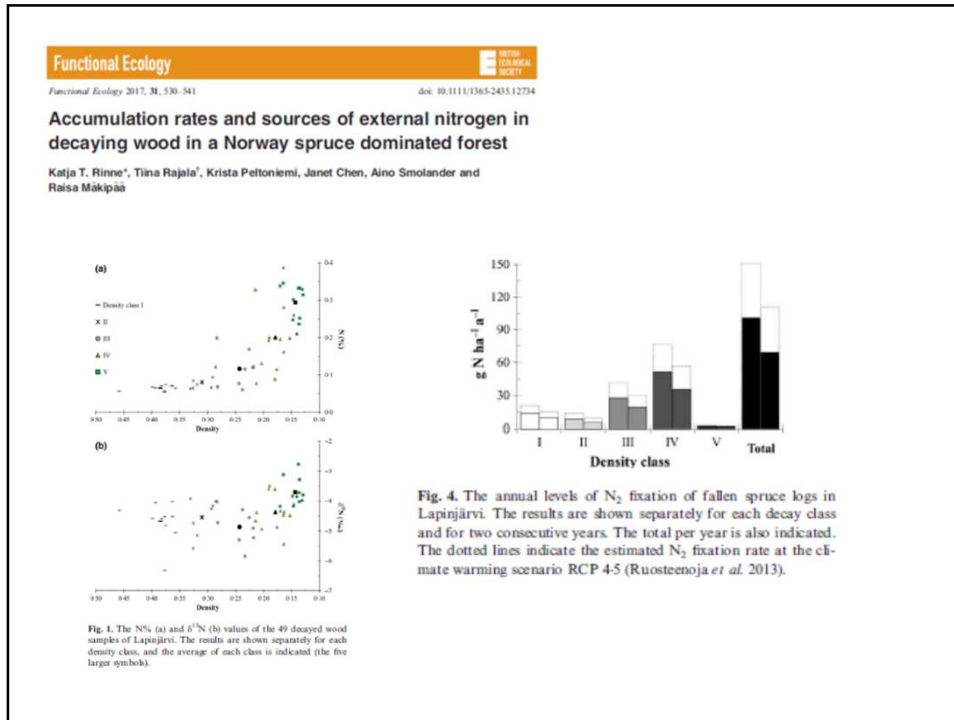






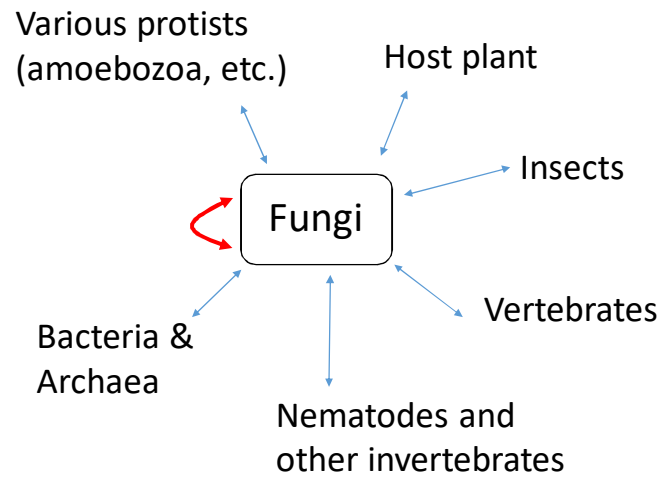








## Biotic interactions in wood



## Many unknown biotic interactions between fungi in wood



*Fomitopsis pinicola*



*Pycnoporellus fulgens*

*Ecology*, 91(9), 2010, pp. 2514–2521  
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### Modeling species co-occurrence by multivariate logistic regression generates new hypotheses on fungal interactions

OTSO OYAKAINEN,<sup>1,2</sup> JENNI HOTTOLA,<sup>1,2</sup> AND JUHA SIITONEN<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Biosciences, University of Helsinki, Viikinkaari 1, FI-00014 Helsinki, Finland  
<sup>2</sup>Finnish Forest Research Institute, Vantaa Research Unit, P.O. Box 18, FI-01301 Vantaa, Finland

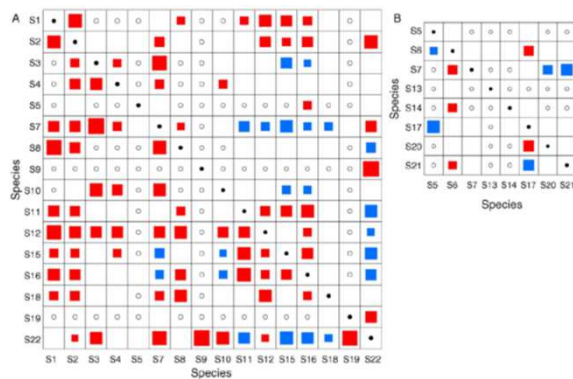


FIG. 2. The estimated species-to-species correlation coefficients on dead-wood fungi inhabiting (A) spruce and (B) birch logs. Upper diagonals correspond to the model M2(R) which accounts for the substrate variables; lower diagonals to the model M1(R) which assumes that all substrate units are equal. Red refers to positive and blue to negative correlations, and the size of the colored rectangle corresponds to the median estimate for the absolute value of the correlation coefficient. The estimates are averaged among the sites, including only cases in which the posterior probability for a positive (negative) correlation was at least 90%. Species pairs that were never included in the same analyses are shown by empty circles.

