

# Low-level arsenite boosts rhizospheric exudation of low-molecular-weight organic acids from mangrove seedlings

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# Outline



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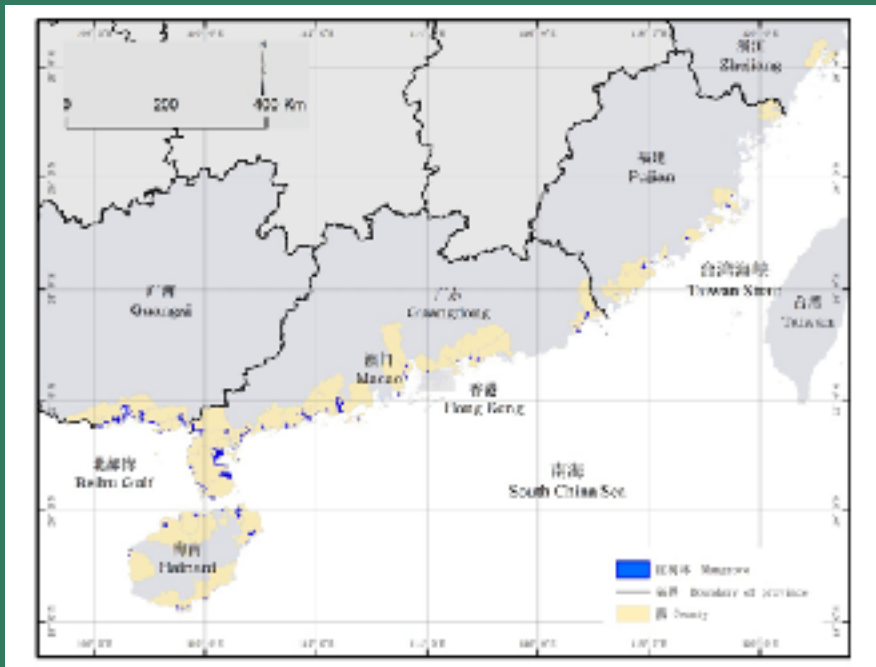




Quanzhou, 2016

# PART ONE

# Background



Dan xinqiu, 2016



# MANGROVES

These forests, found where the ocean meets land and sea water meets fresh water, provide a wealth of benefits for people but are losing their rightful place in nature.

# Mangrove wetland



Carbon Storage



Habitat /Spawning



Ecological benefit

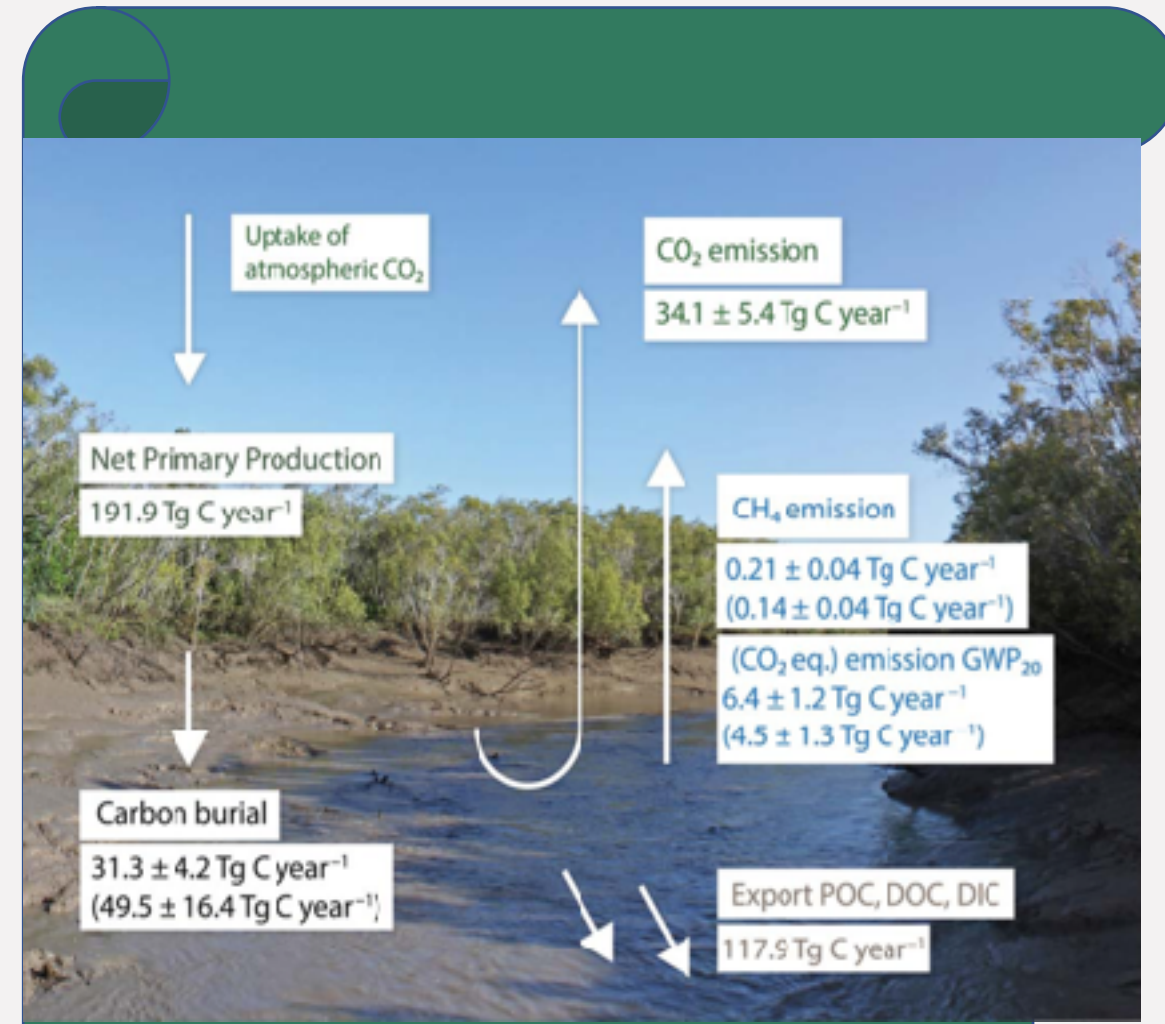
## Human activities and environmental characteristics

- Industry
- Agriculture
- Aquaculture
- Deforestation

- High organic matter
- High Fe & S
- Reducing environment
- Food chain/web



**Heavy metal accumulation**



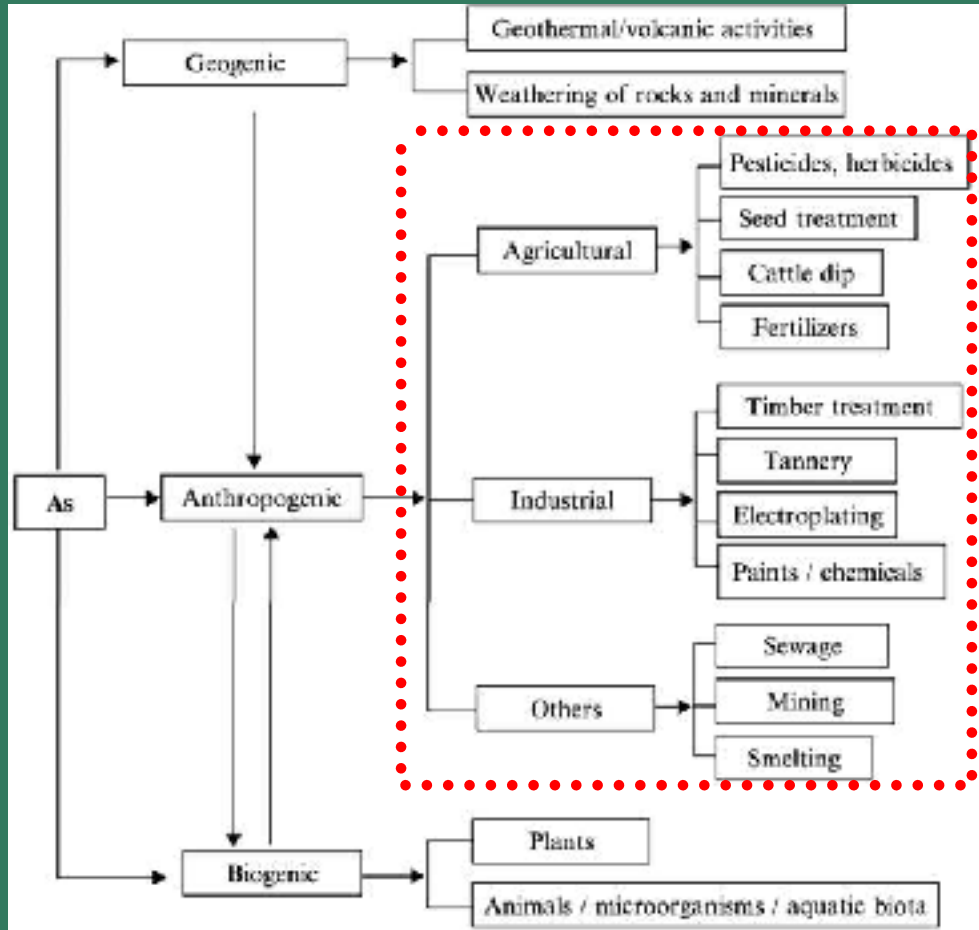
Judith, Science Advance, 2018



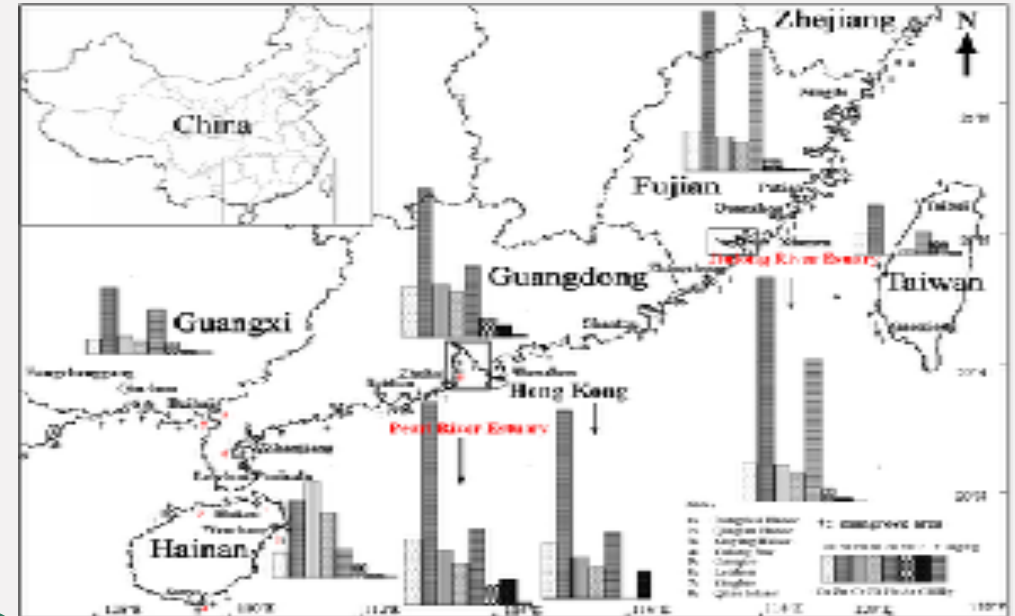
# Arsenic



## Arsenic content in mangroves



Kumar, 2015



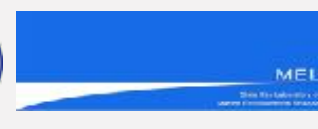
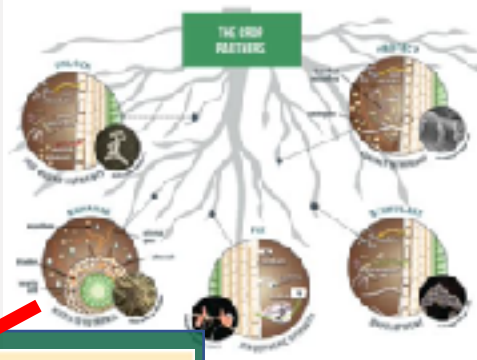
K. Pan, 2012



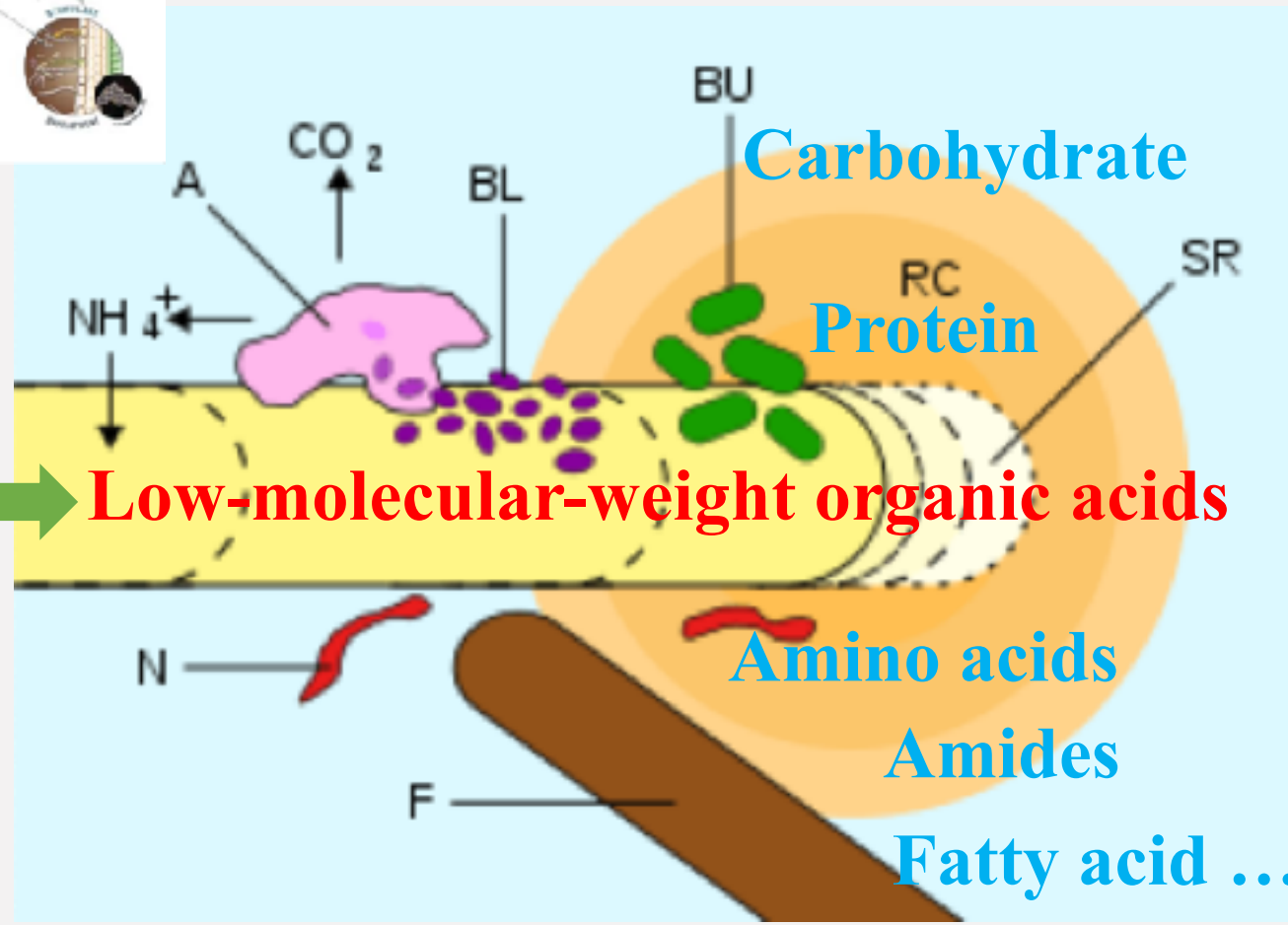
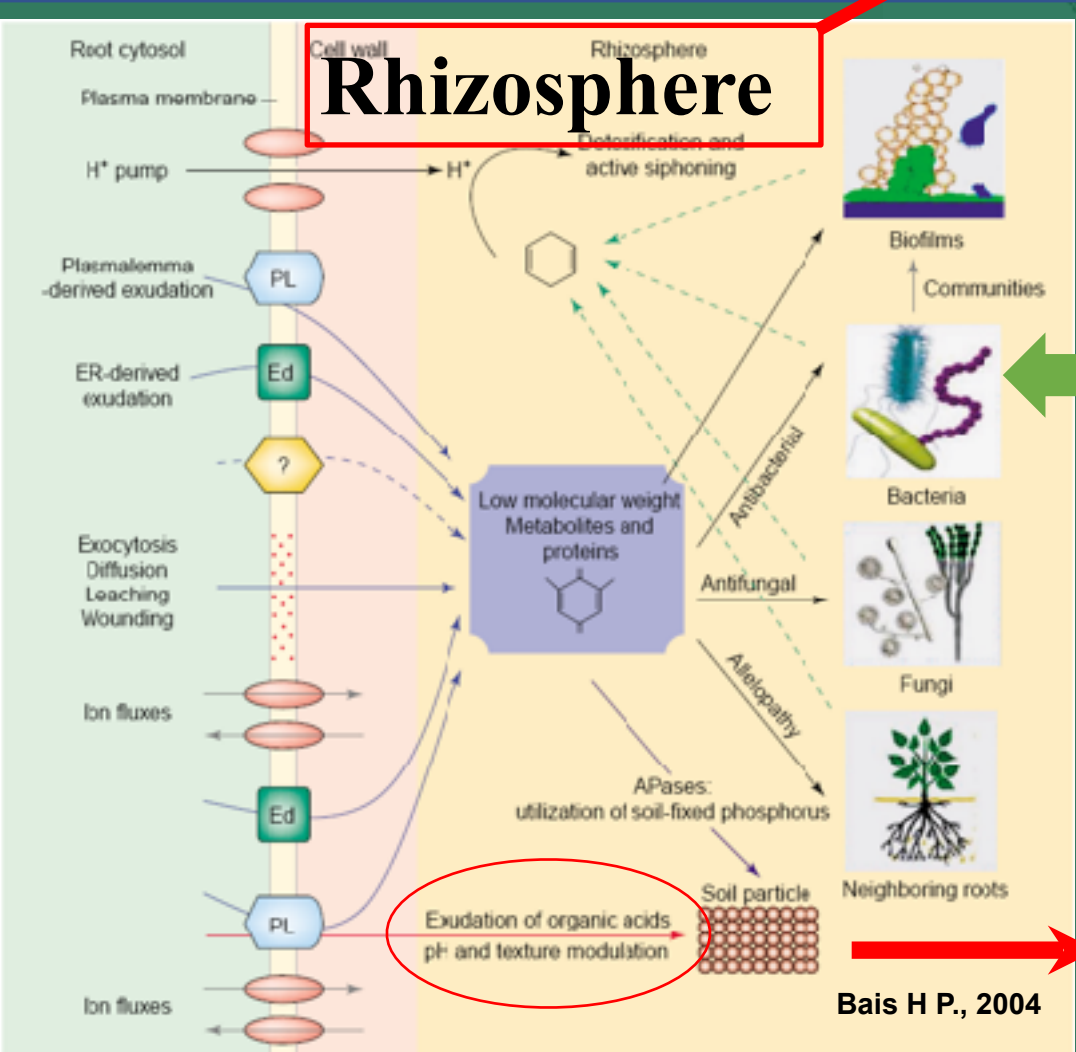
## Arsenic pollution

- National nature reserves : < 15 mg/kg
- 30 mg/kg (wetland) and 40 mg/kg (dry farm)

# Root exudates



## Rhizosphere



Low-molecular-weight organic acids

- LMWOAs change soil pH;
- affect complexation/chelation with metal ions;
- Microbial composition and microbial activity.

Bais H P., 2004



How to understand regarding phytoextraction and mangrove tolerance to As toxicity, and the rhizospheric behaviour of metalloid As-contaminated sediments in the mangrove ecosystems.

## PART TWO

# Material & Method

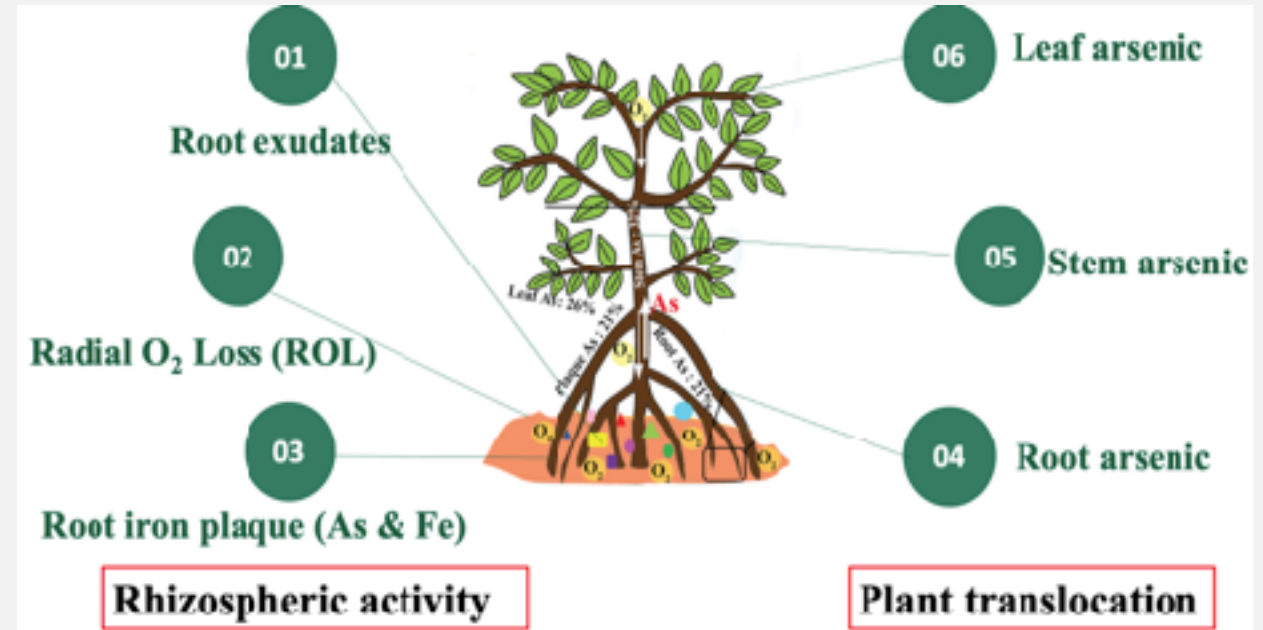




# Research design

## Pot experiment

## Plant Analysis



## Sand cultivation

Arsenite (As <sup>3+</sup> )	0 μM/ L	5 μM/ L	10 μM/L	20 μM/L	30 μM/L
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- LMWOAs constitution and changes
- Root responses to As toxicity
- As phytoextraction of mangroves

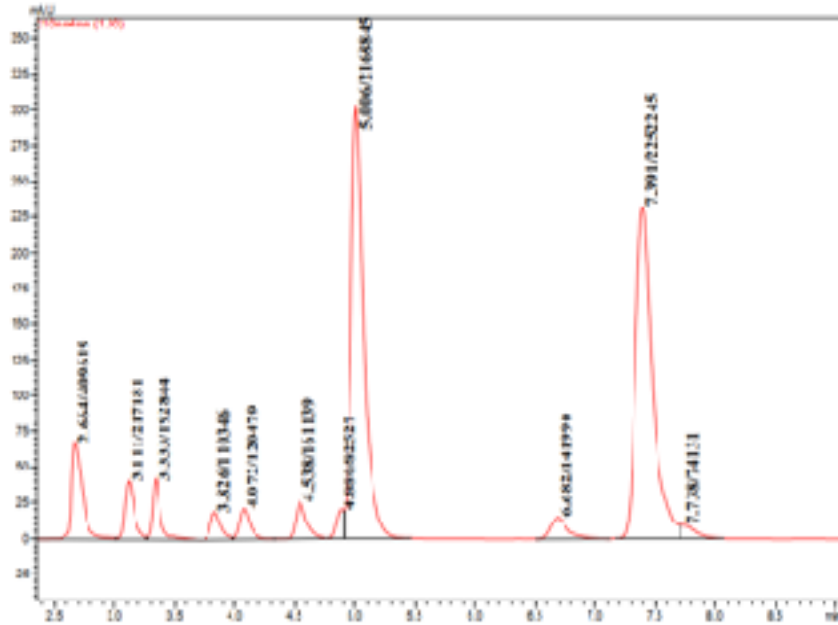




# Research design

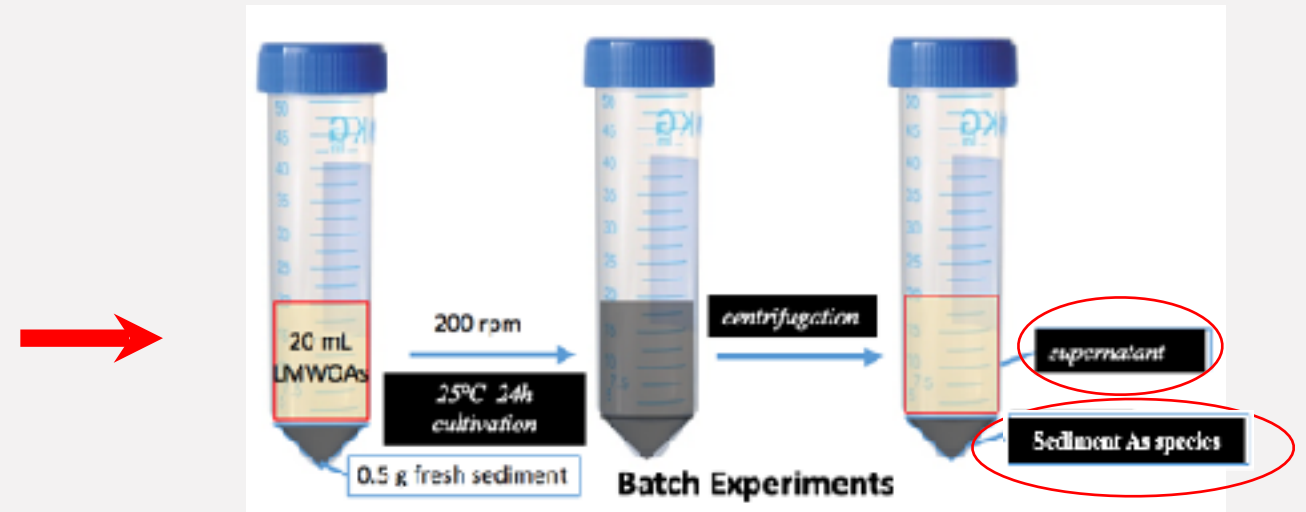
## Pot experiment

### Pot experiment



Chromatogram of 10 organic acids mixture analyzed by HPLC. oxalic acid (2.664 min); tartaric acid (3.111 min); formic acid (3.333 min); L-malic acid (3.826 min); malonic acid (4.072 min); lactic acid (4.538 min); acetic acid (4.88 min); maleic acid (5.006 min); citric acid(6.682 min); fumaric acid (7.391 min).

## Batch experiment



### As treatment

As in sediments	As0 (0 mg/kg)	As20 (20 mg/kg)	As40 (40 mg/kg)
LMWOAs	citric acid	malic acid	oxalic acid

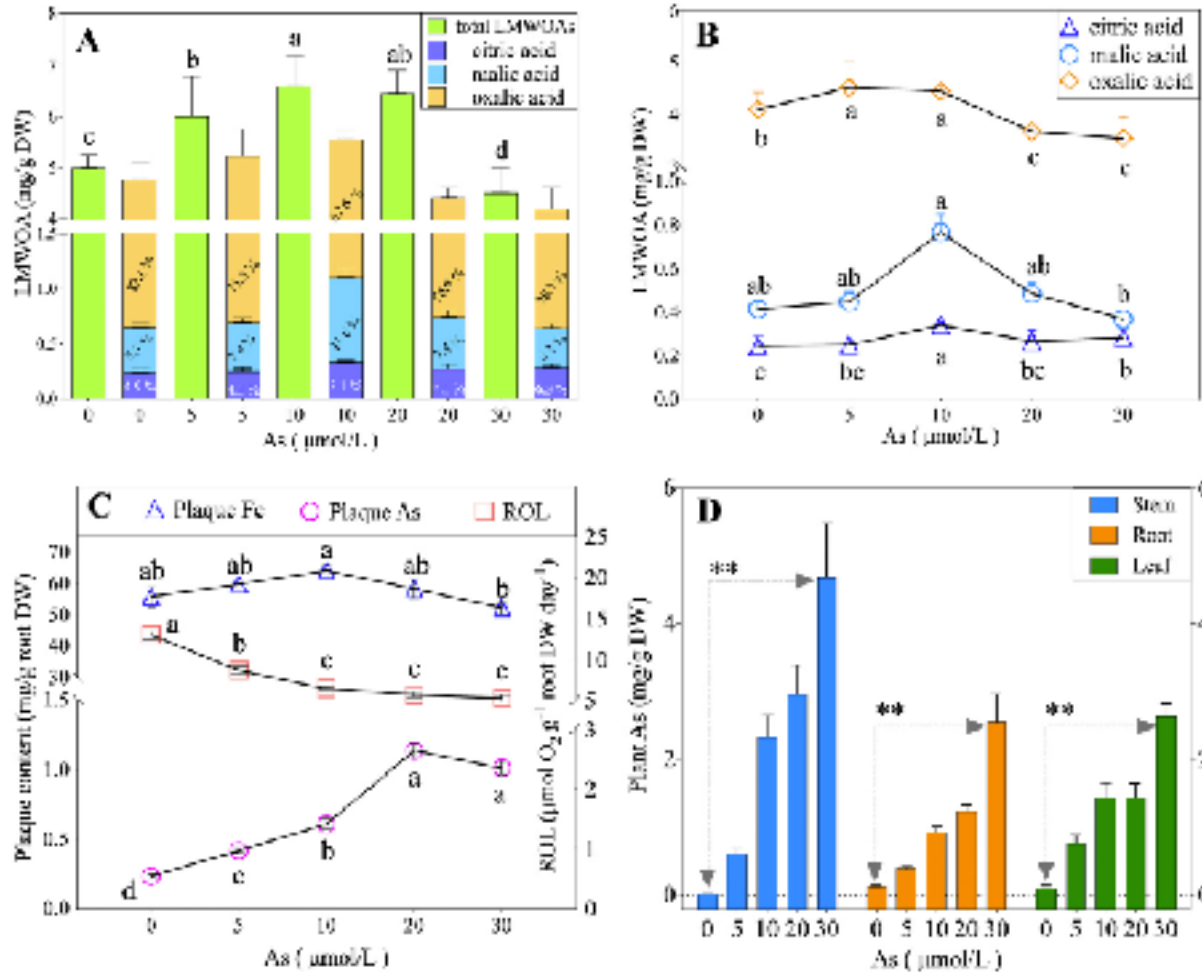


**PART  
THREE**

# Results & Discussion



# Pot experiment



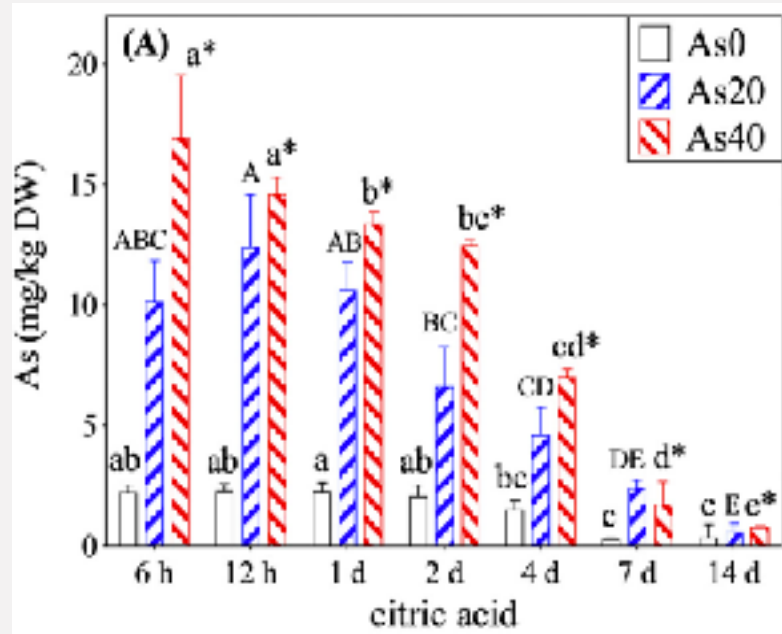
➤ Low-level As **promoted** the secretion of Low-molecular-weight organic acids (LMWOA, 4.5–6.59 mg/kg root in dry weight) and Fe plaque formation in their rhizospheres.

➤ **Citric, oxalic, and malic** acid were the three main components (84.3%–86.8%) in the 10 LMWOAs (Fig. A).

➤ Low-level As (5 and 10  $\mu\text{mol/L}$ ) also **inhibited** the rate of radial oxygen loss (ROL, Fig. C) but **increased** the accumulation of plant As (**stem > leaf > root**, Fig. D) and plaque As (0.23–1.13 mg/kg root in dry weight).

Root Exudation

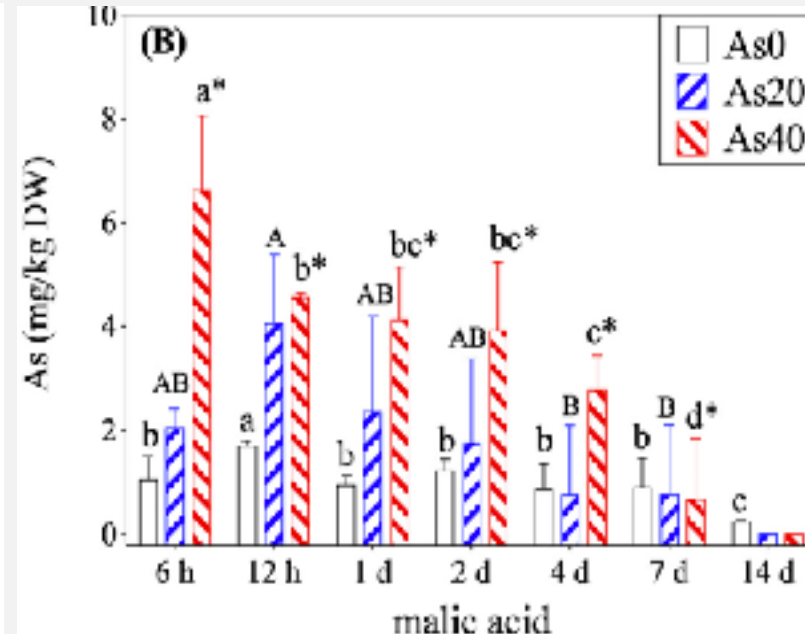
# Batch experiment



01

LMWOAs

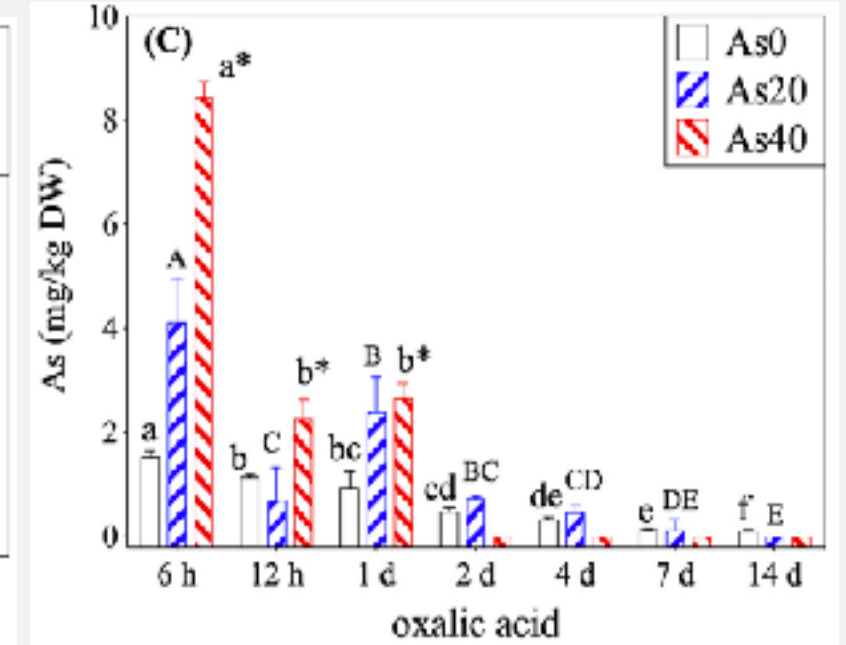
➤ LMWOAs promoted sediment As mobilisation and followed the order of **citric acid > malic acid > oxalic acid**.



02

As treatment level

➤ The As concentration significantly increased through As addition ( $p < 0.01$ ) to the LMWOAs extracts and showed the following decreasing trend: **As40 > As20 > As0**.



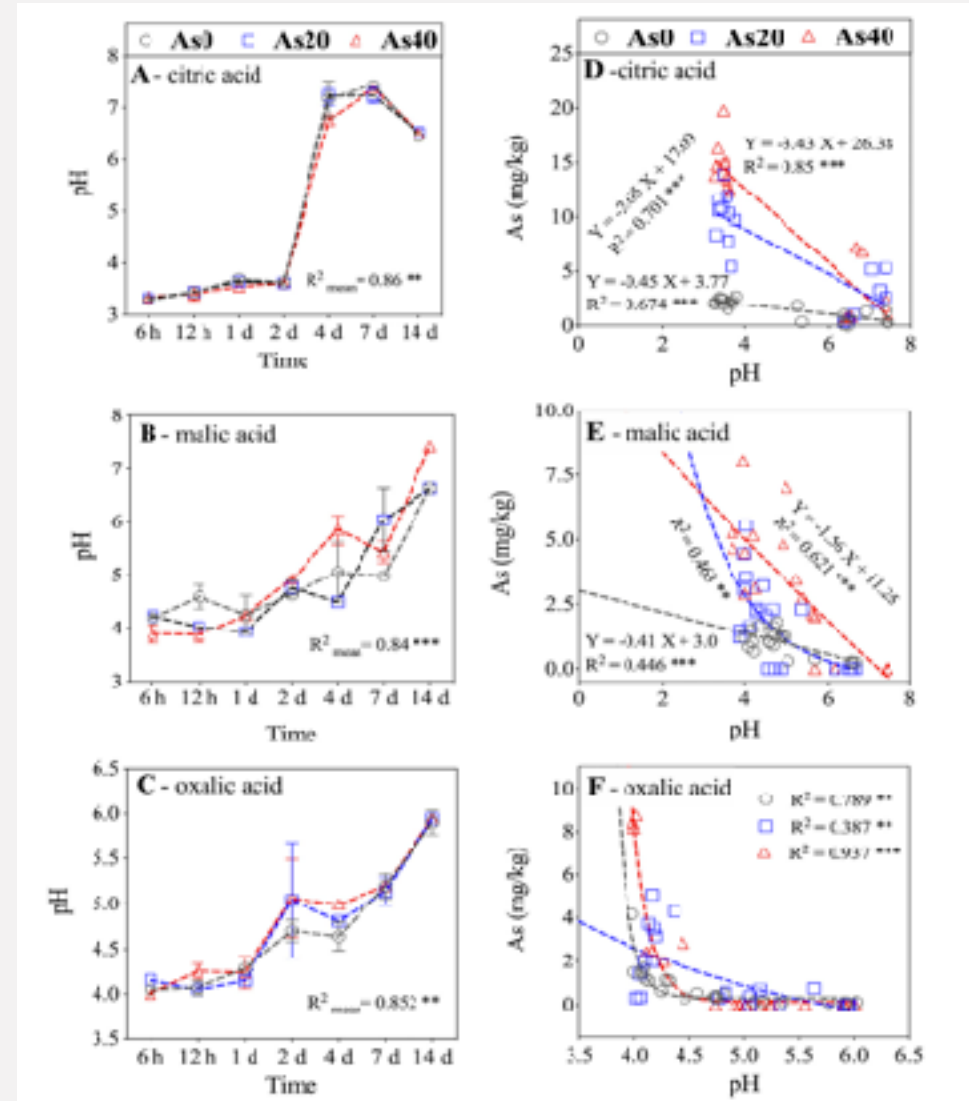
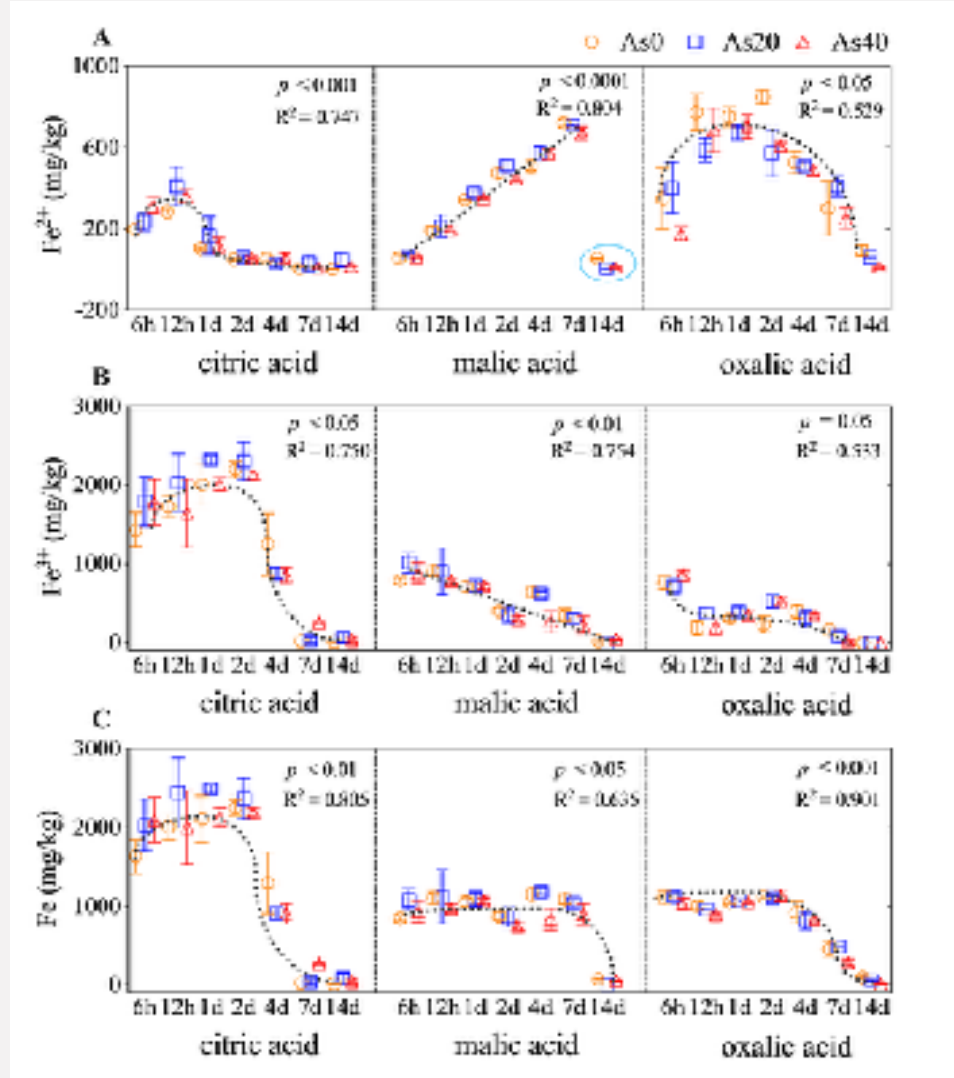
03

Solution As

➤ The total As levels in the citric acid extracts were **2.88 and 4.16 times** those in the malic and oxalic acids respectively.



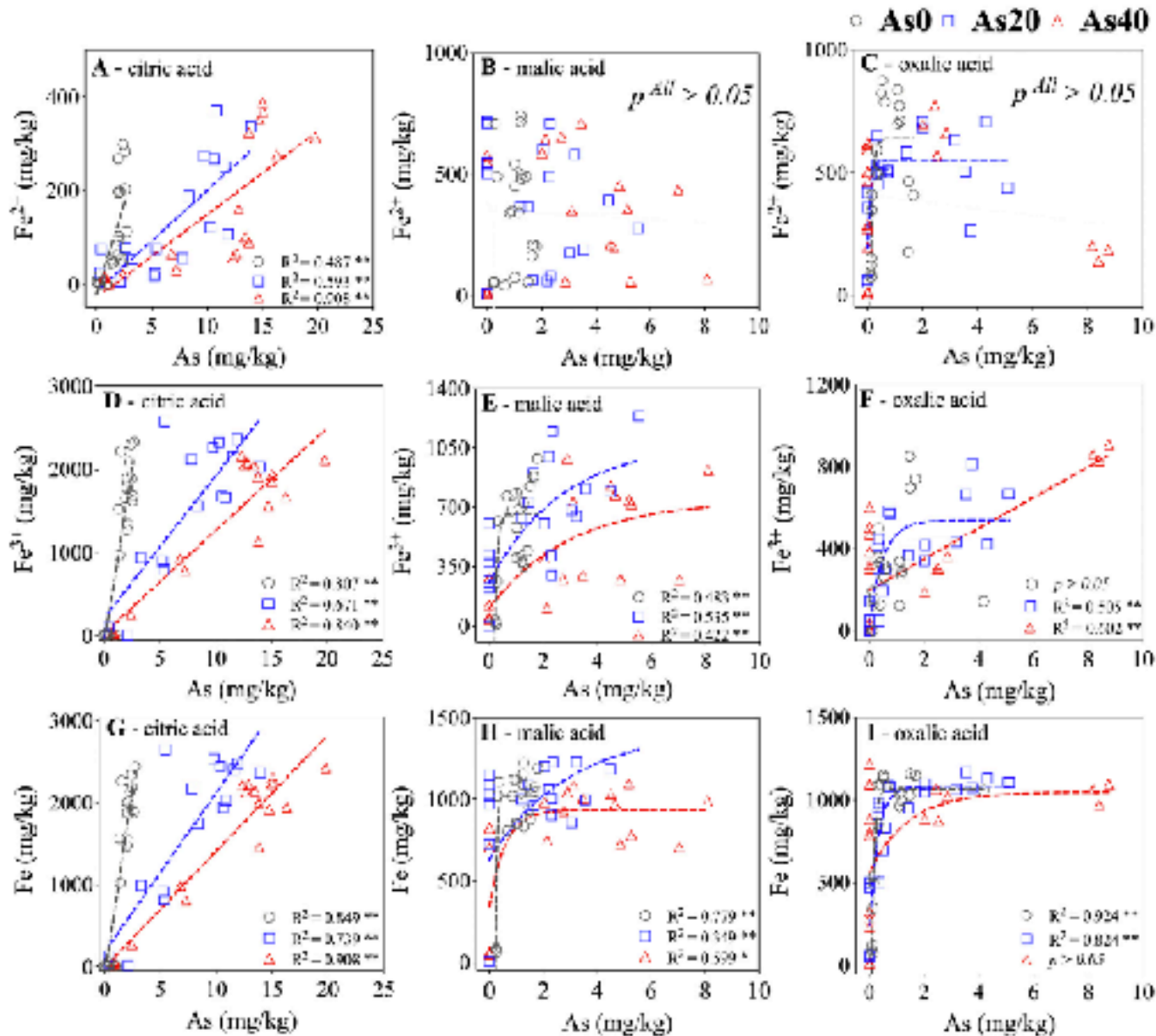
# Fe species and pH



Fe & Fe<sup>3+</sup>: citric acid > malic acid > oxalic acid  
 Fe<sup>2+</sup>: oxalic acid > malic acid / citric acid

time ↑ As ↑ pH ↓  
 As & pH: negative correlation

# Fe species v.s. As

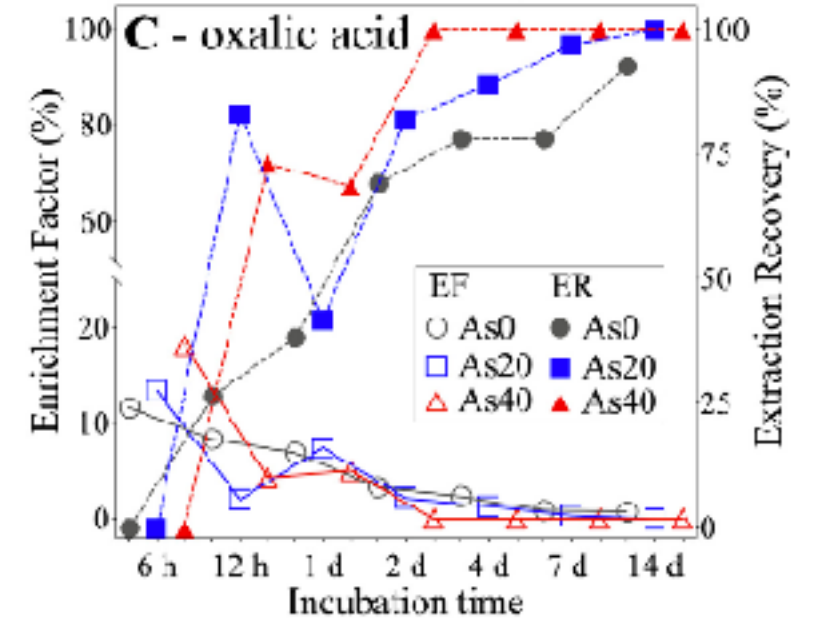
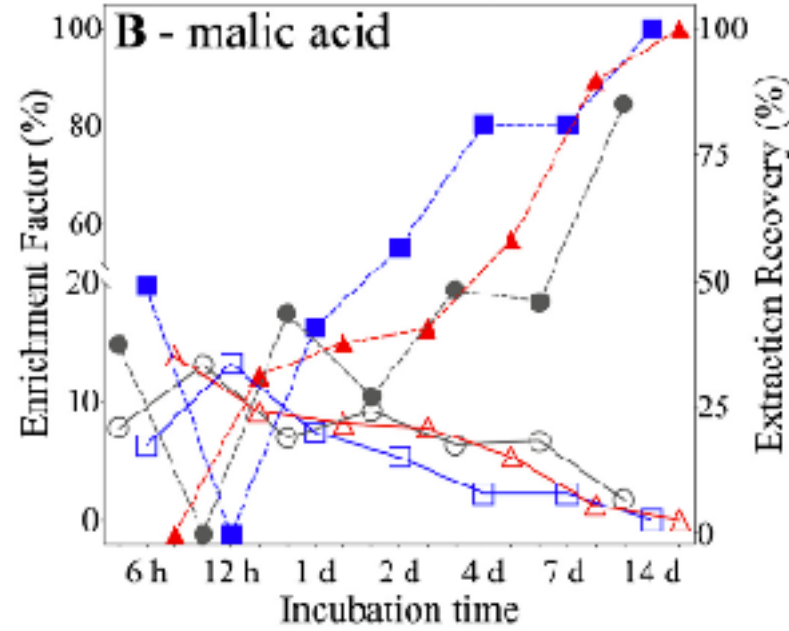
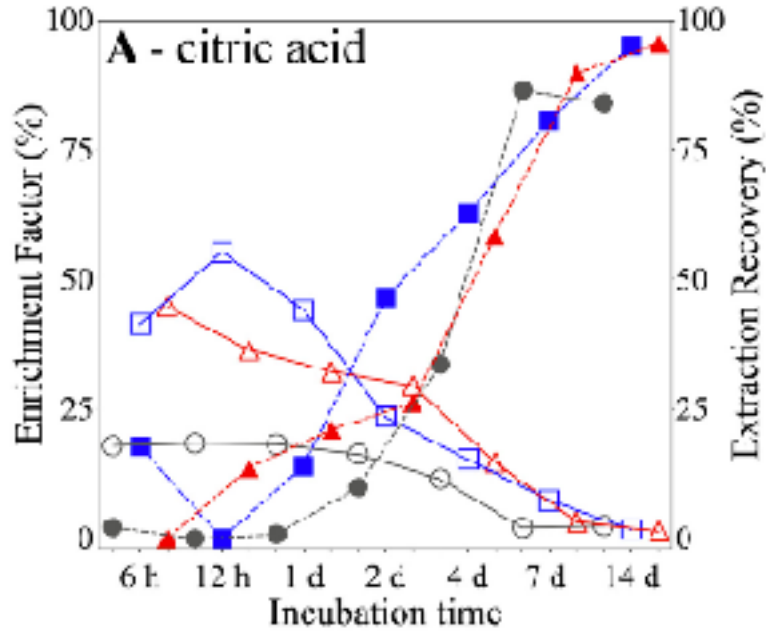


## Iron influences

- **Hydrolysis precipitation**, with  $Fe^{3+}$  readily precipitated by hydrolysis;
- **Ferric malate complexation**, as the strong affinity of malic acid could determine the reduction potential of  $Fe^{3+}/Fe^{2+}$ ;
- **Reducibility**, since oxalic acid possesses strong complexing properties and reducibility, reducing dissolved  $Fe^{3+}$  to  $Fe^{2+}$  and enhancing the formation of highly soluble iron oxalate complexes.



# Migration effects



$$EF (\%) = \frac{\text{aqueous As}}{\text{solid As}} * 100$$

$$ER (\%) = \frac{\text{maximum As} - \text{aqueous As}}{\text{maximum As}} * 100$$

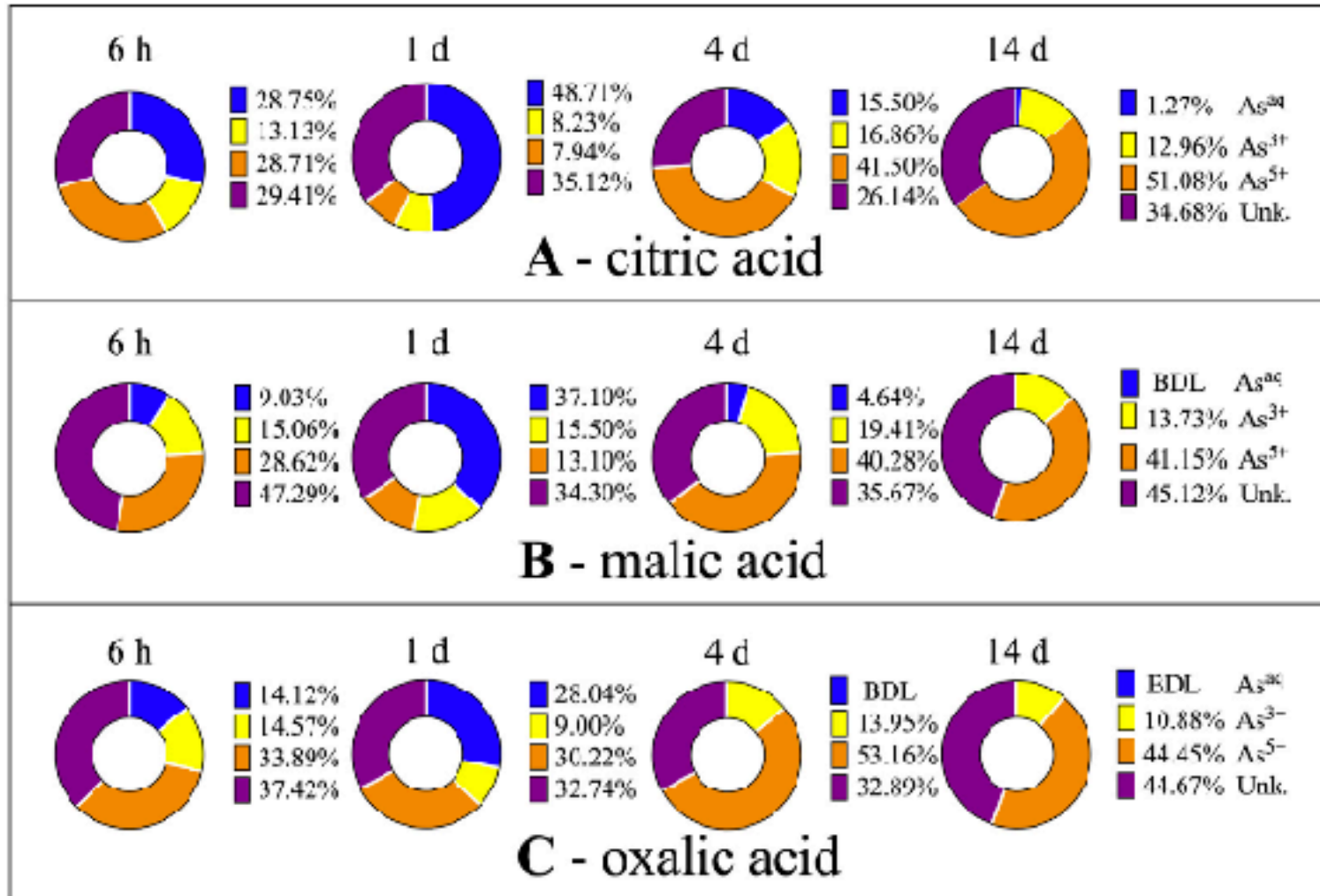
**Enrichment Factor**

**Extraction Recovery**



# Batch experiment

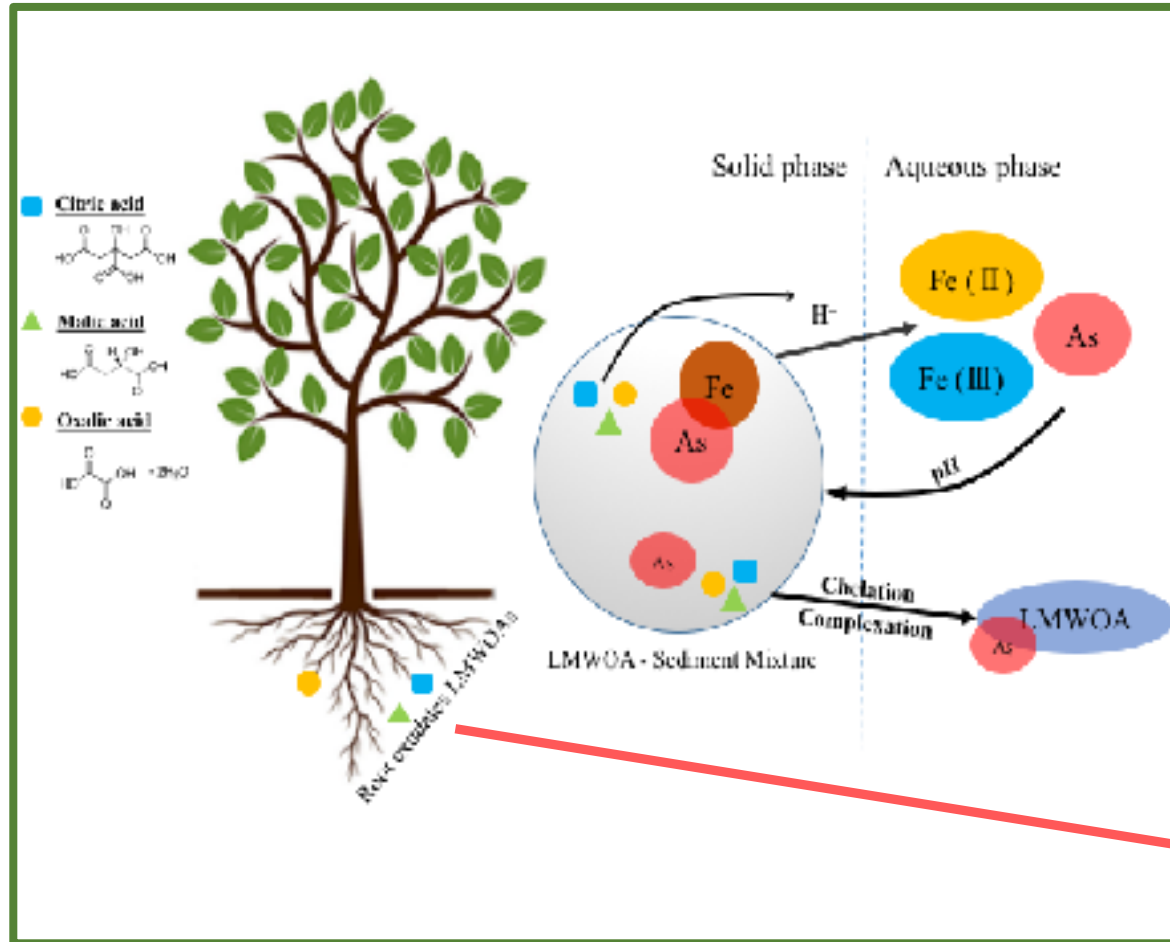
## As species variation



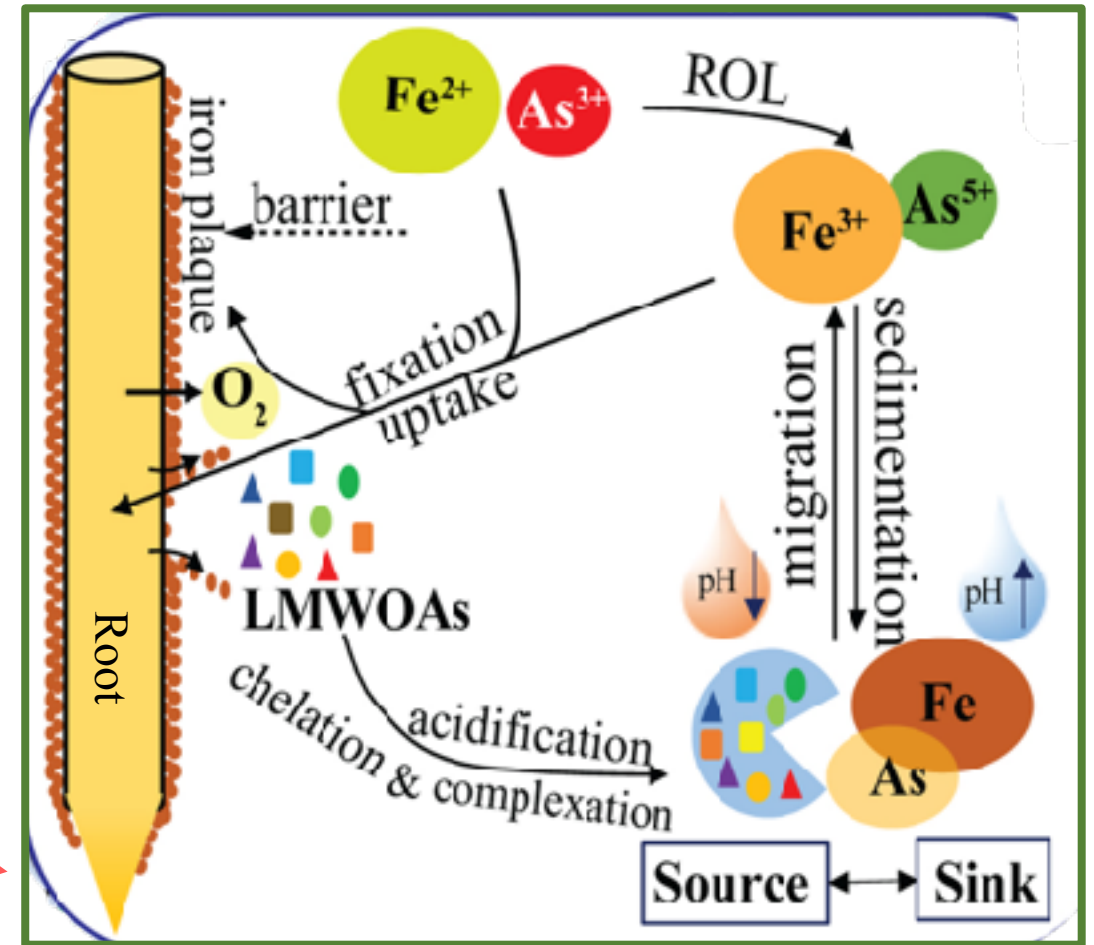
➤ Inorganic arsenic ( $As^{3+}$  and  $As^{5+}$ ) were the dominant species.



# Rhizospheric processes

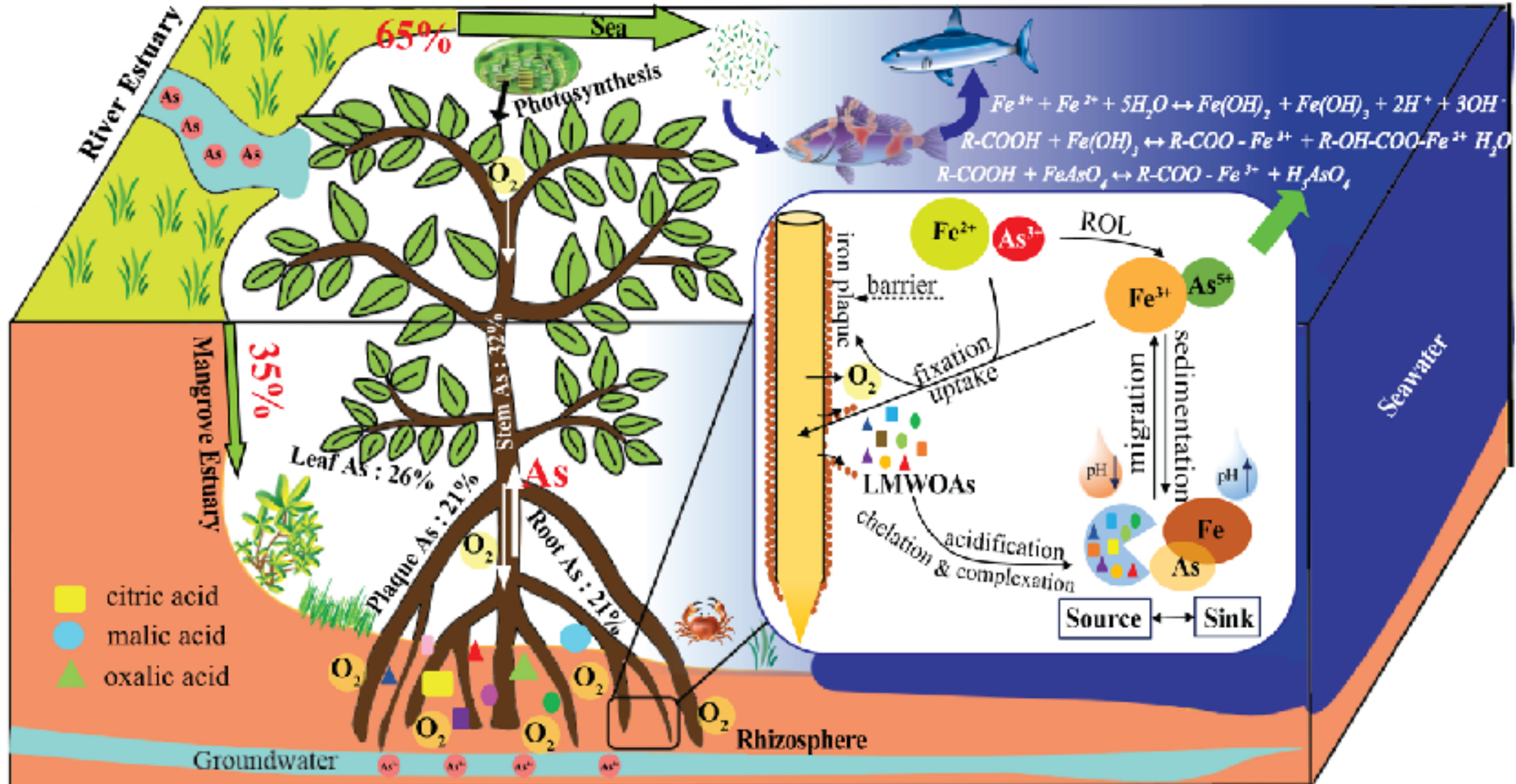


Mei et al., 2020



Mei et al., 2021

# Graph abstract





**PART  
FOUR**

# Conclusion



# Summary



## Root activity

- Low-level trivalent arsenite boosts **LMWOAs** exudation of mangroves to reduce arsenic toxicity.



## LMWOA exudation

- **Citric, oxalic and malic acid** were the three main components (84.3%–86.8%) of root exudates.



## Arsenic tolerance

- The As **tolerance** mechanisms include lowering ROL, translocating As, releasing LMWOAs, and facilitating As fixation.



## Potential benefit

- *A. marina* seedlings are potentially propitious to As phytoextraction, removal and detoxification.





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**Low-level arsenite boosts rhizospheric exudation of low-molecular-weight organic acids from mangrove seedlings (*Avicennia marina*): Arsenic phytoextraction, removal, and detoxification**

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**HIGHLIGHTS**

- Low-level trivalent arsenite boosts LMWOAs exudation of mangroves to reduce arsenic toxicity.
- Citric, oxalic and malic acid were the three main components (84.33–86.83%) of root exudates.
- The As tolerance mechanisms include lowering ROL, translocating As, releasing LMWOAs, and facilitating As fixation.
- *A. marina* seedlings are potentially propitious to As phytoextraction, removal and detoxification.

**GRAPHICAL ABSTRACT**

# 谢谢大家

Thank you for your listening!