

# Statistical Analysis of Ecophysiology and Mycotoxin Production in Fusarium Species: Key Findings

Rémi Mahmoud, Marie-Odile Bancal, Pierre Bancal, David Causeur

*[remi.mahmoud@agrocampus-ouest.fr](mailto:remi.mahmoud@agrocampus-ouest.fr)*

# Context

Fusarium head blight: Fungal disease → lot of damages (yield / food safety / added value)



**Caused by different species of Fusarium → different ecological niche with climate change ?**



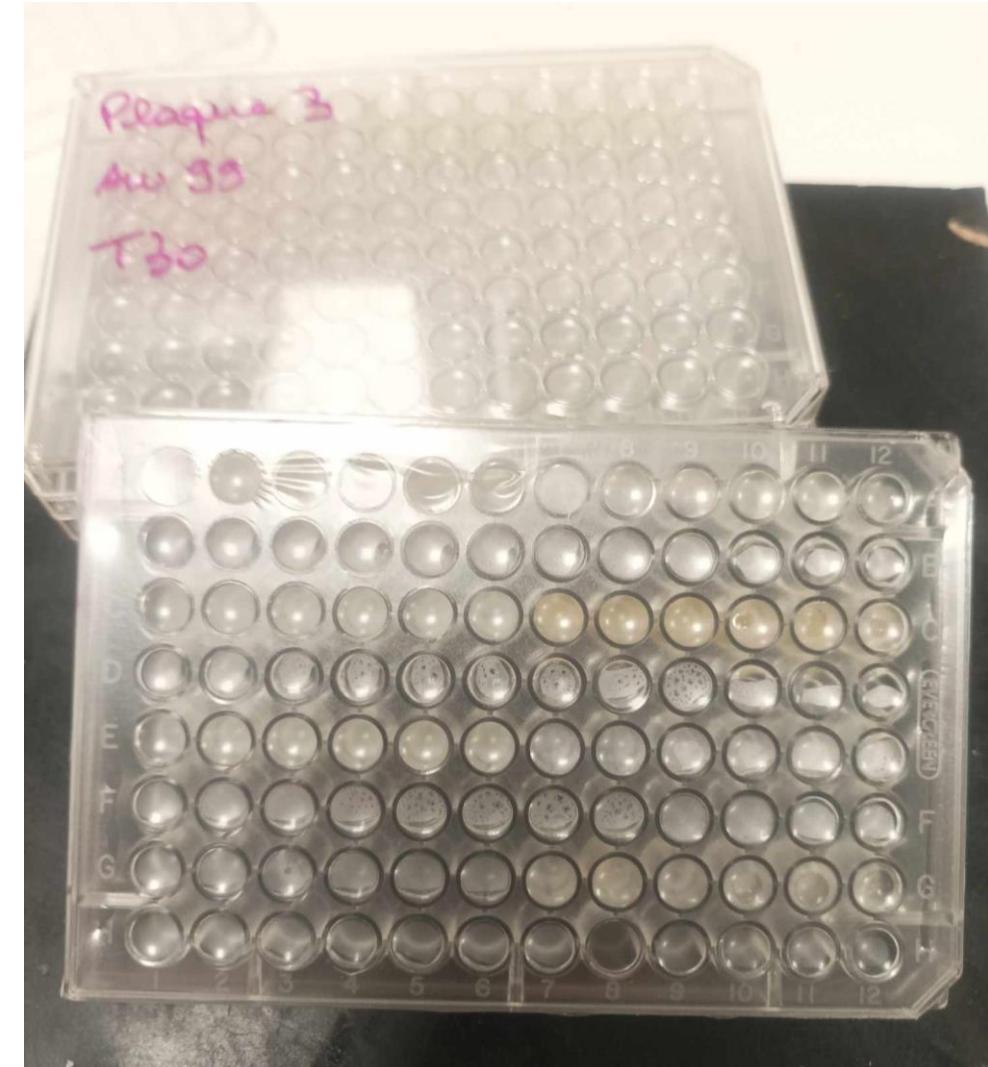
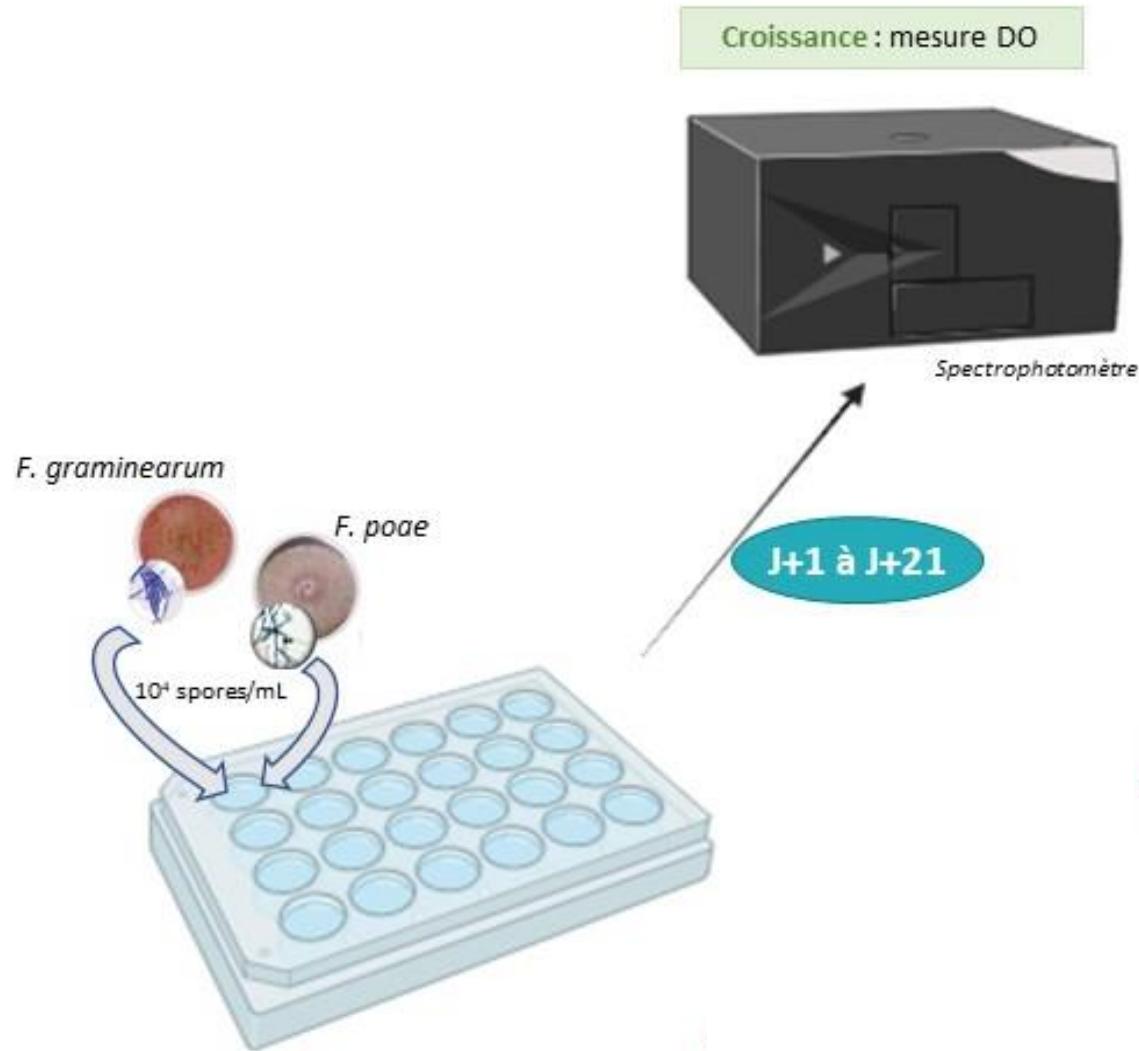
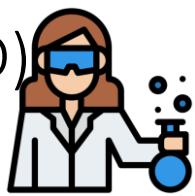
**How will the repartition of the different species of Fusarium evolve with climate change ?**

1. **Does it grow ?** Characterize the probability of growth of 25 strains of Fusarium under  $\neq T^\circ \times aw$  (Water activity)
  
2. **How does it grow ?** Characterize the kinetics of growth of 25 strains of Fusarium under  $\neq T^\circ \times aw$
  
3. **What happens when it grows ?** Study the mycotoxins emissions (\$\$\$)

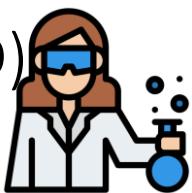
A close-up photograph of a dense field of green wheat ears. The wheat is in various stages of growth, with some ears appearing more yellowish-green than others. The plants are tall and swaying slightly, creating a textured, organic pattern across the frame.

## EXPERIMENTAL SETUP

# Experimental setup: monitoring growth through optical density measurements (OD)



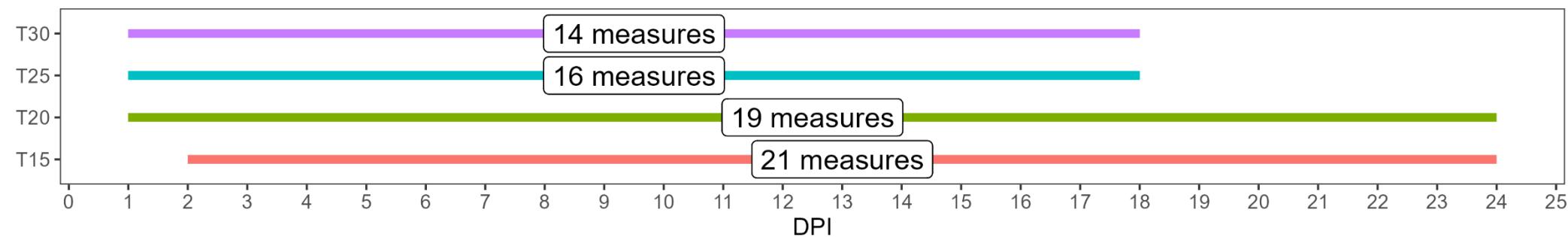
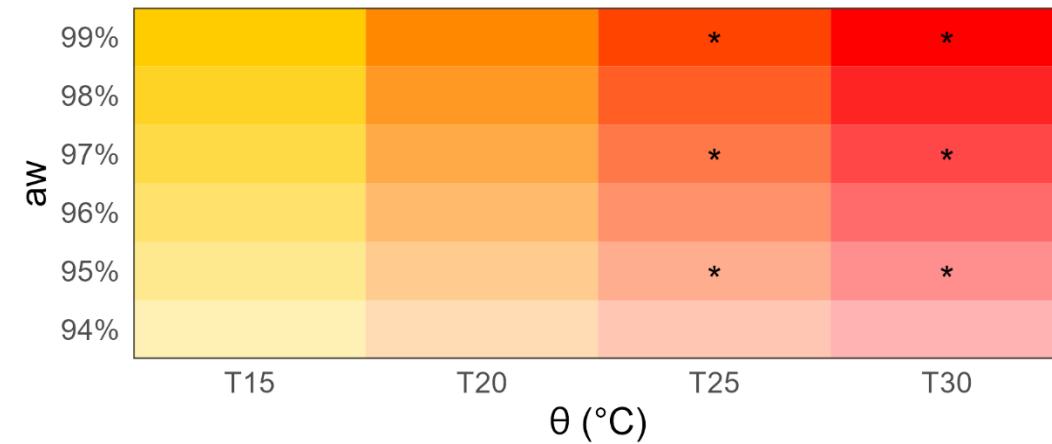
# Experimental setup: monitoring growth through optical density measurements (OD)



25 strains

<i>F. tricinctum</i>	I104	I106	I524	I526	I86
<i>F. poae</i>	I72	I474	I491	I488	I484
<i>F. langsethiae</i>	I509	I500	I508	I502	I466
<i>F. graminearum</i>	I156	I159	I164	I181	I178
<i>F. avenaceum</i>	I873	I498	I874	I612	I495

4 temperatures and 6 water availabilities



**600 treatments, 6 replicates/treatments = 3600 samples (statistical individuals)**

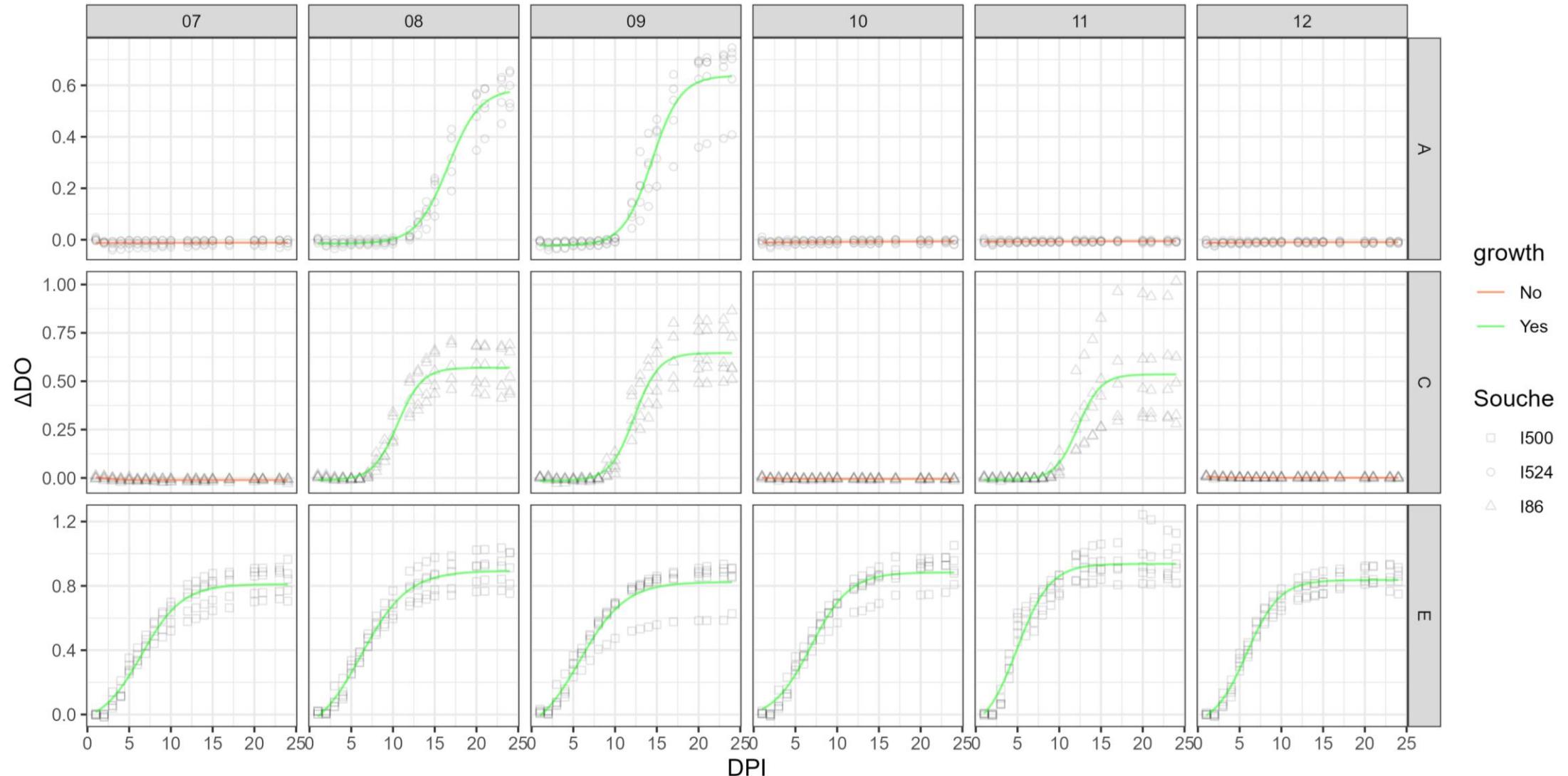
**120 000 measures of DO**



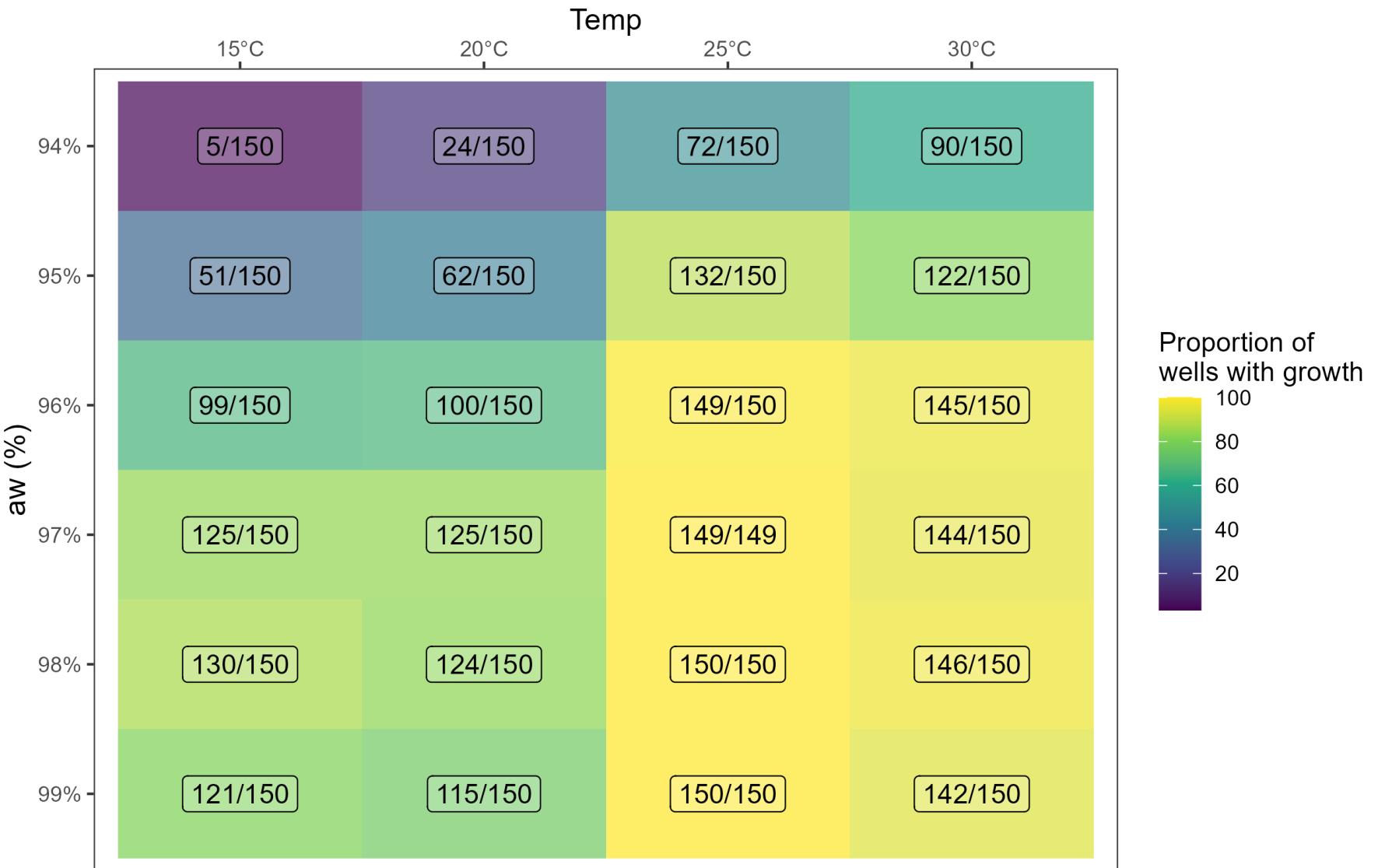
DOES IT GROW ?

# All the samples did not grow

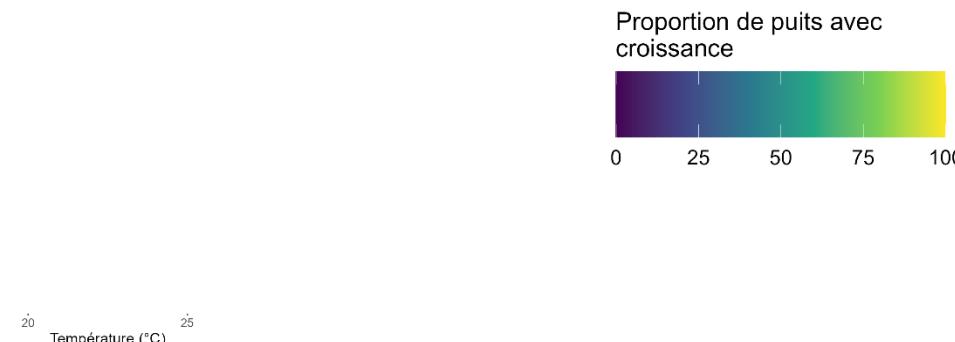
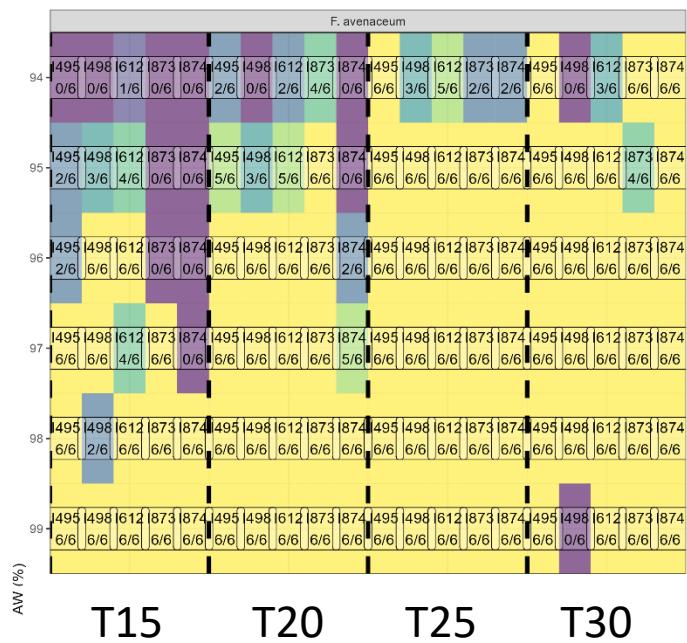
Evolution of OD (20°C, aw = 98%)



# Proportion of wells with growth, given temperature and aw

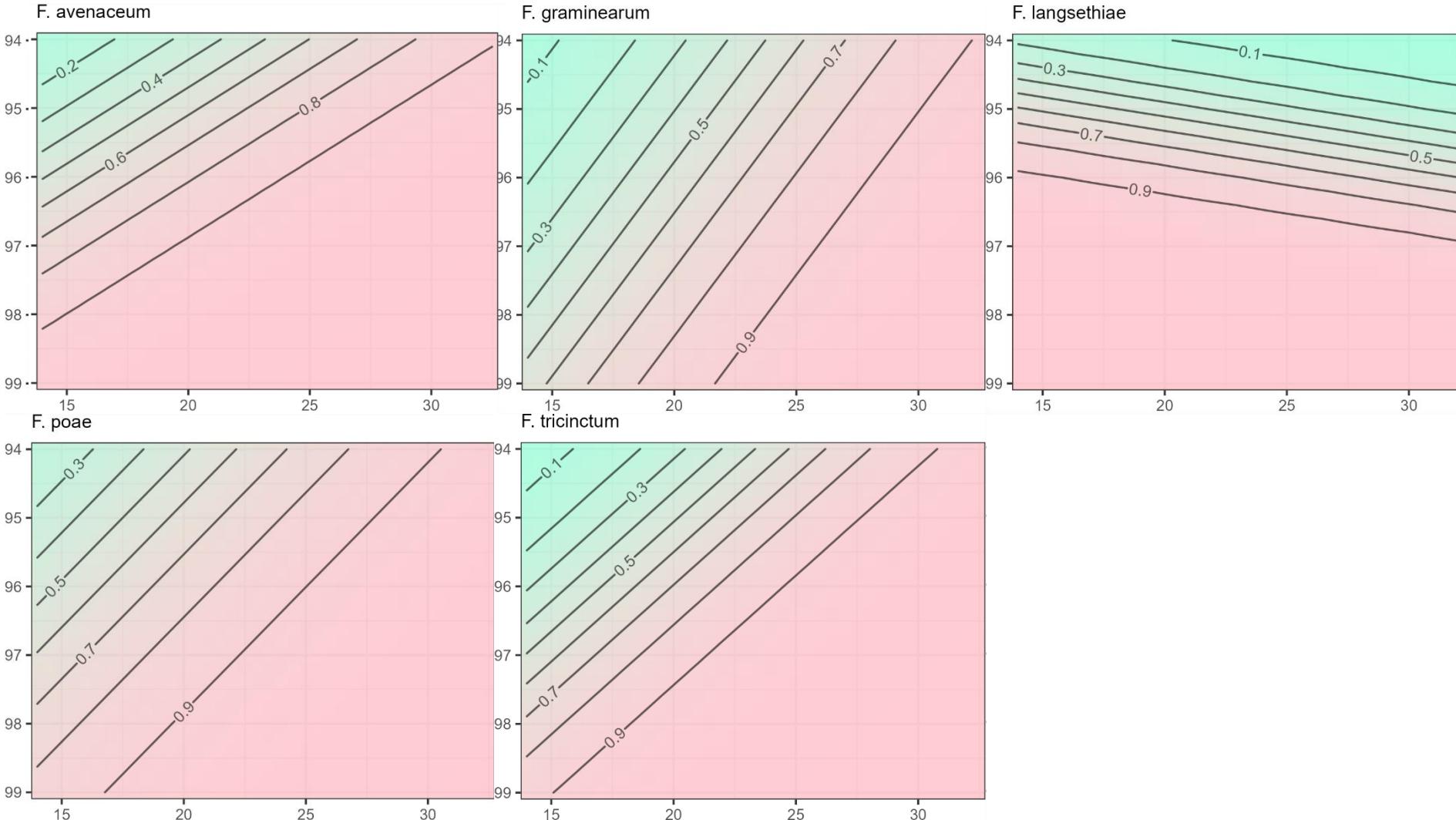


# Different behavior depending on the species?



# Logistic regression to model the probability of growth

$$\text{logit}(P(\text{growth})_i) = \beta_0 + \beta_{1i} \text{Species}_i + (\beta_2 + \beta_{2i}) \text{Temp} + (\beta_3 + \beta_{3i}) aw, i = 1, \dots, N$$

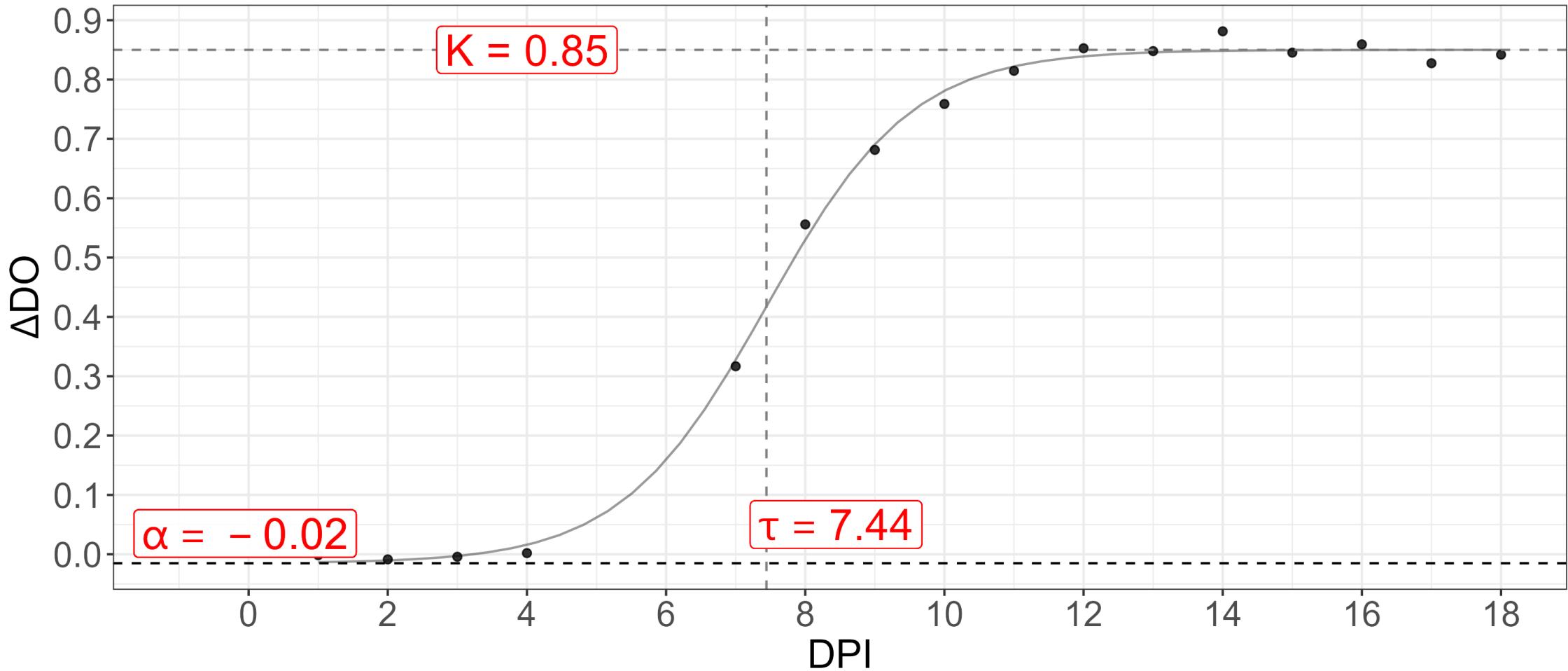




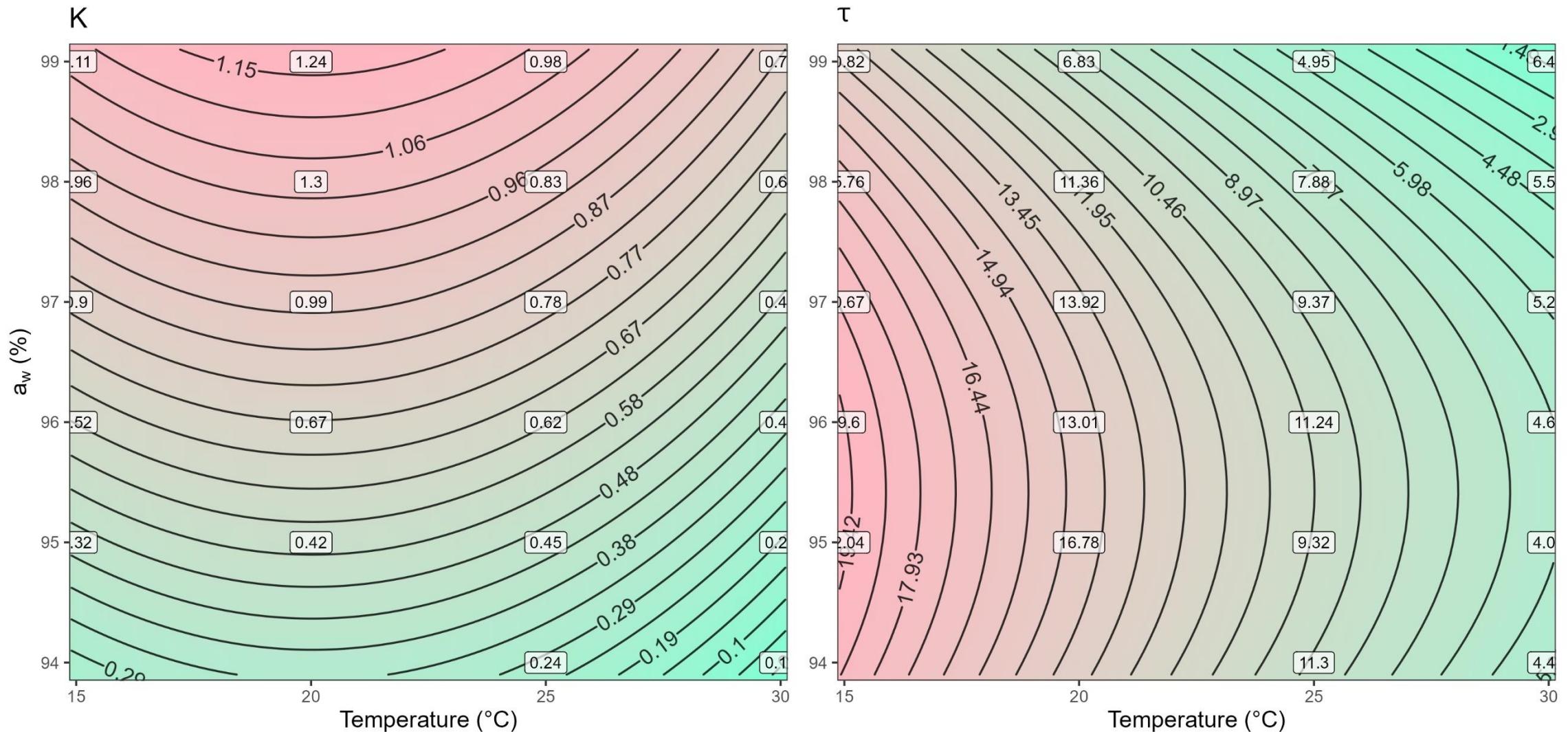
HOW DOES IT GROW ?

# Model the kinetics of OD

$$OD(t) = f_{\theta}(t) = \alpha + \frac{K}{1+e^{r(\tau-t)}}, \text{ where } \theta = (\alpha, r, \tau, K)$$



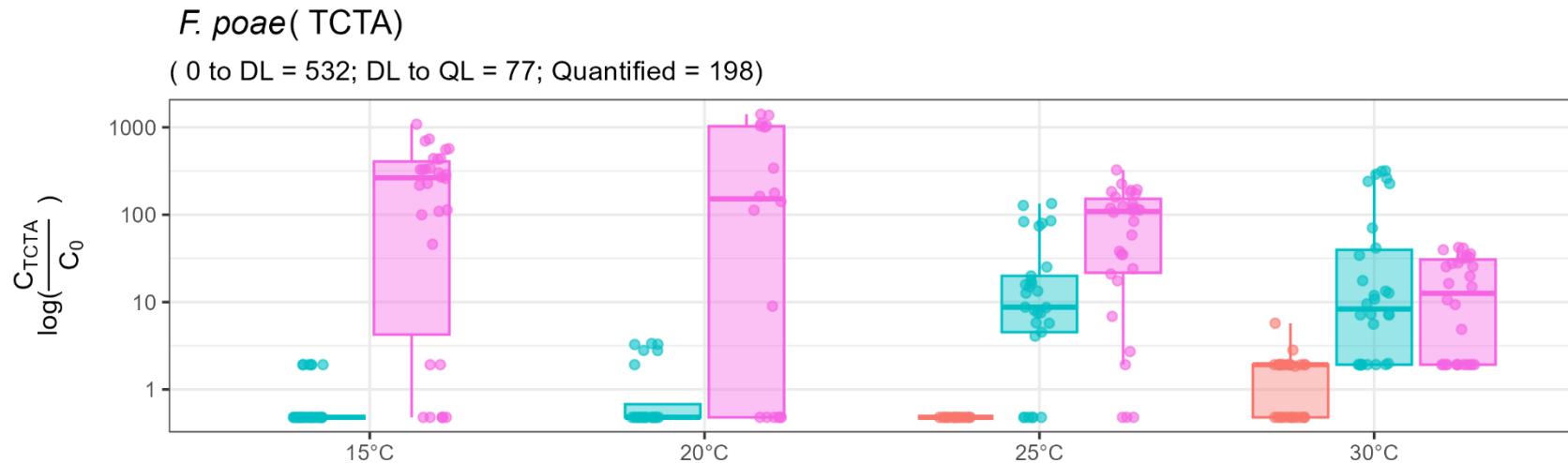
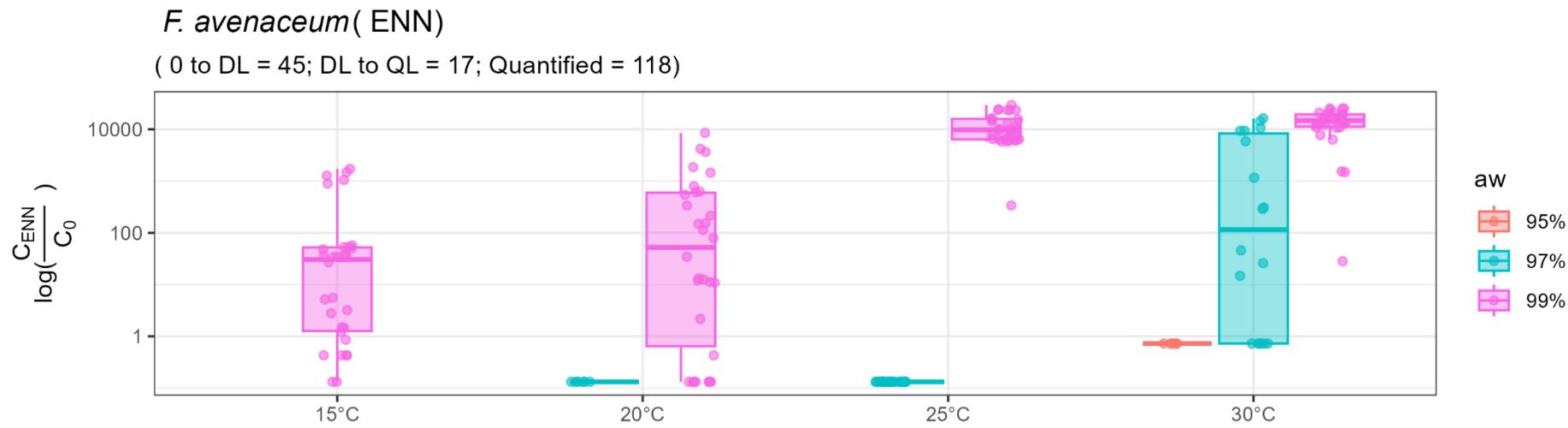
# Parameters as a function of $T^\circ$ and aw





Climate & mycotoxins  
emissions (ongoing work)

# Toxins, different behaviour vs Temp x aw

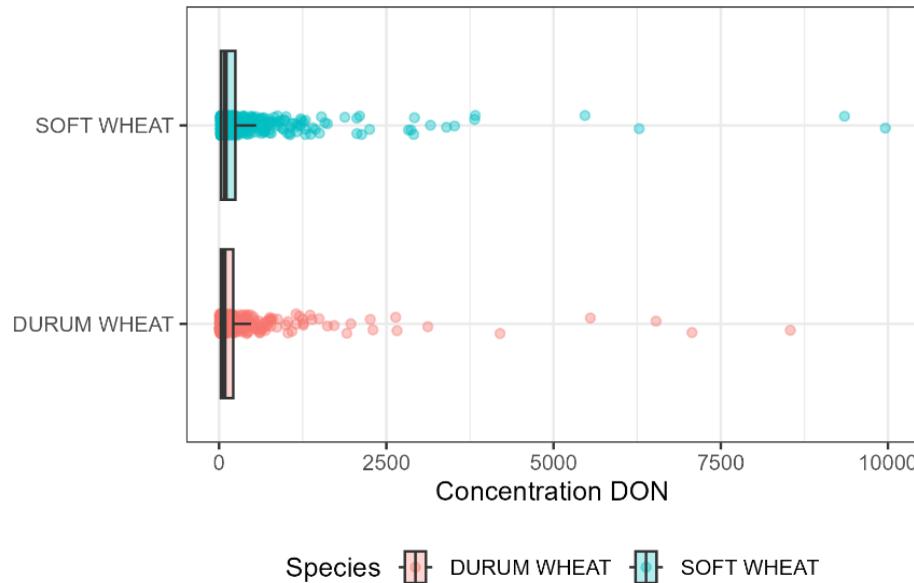
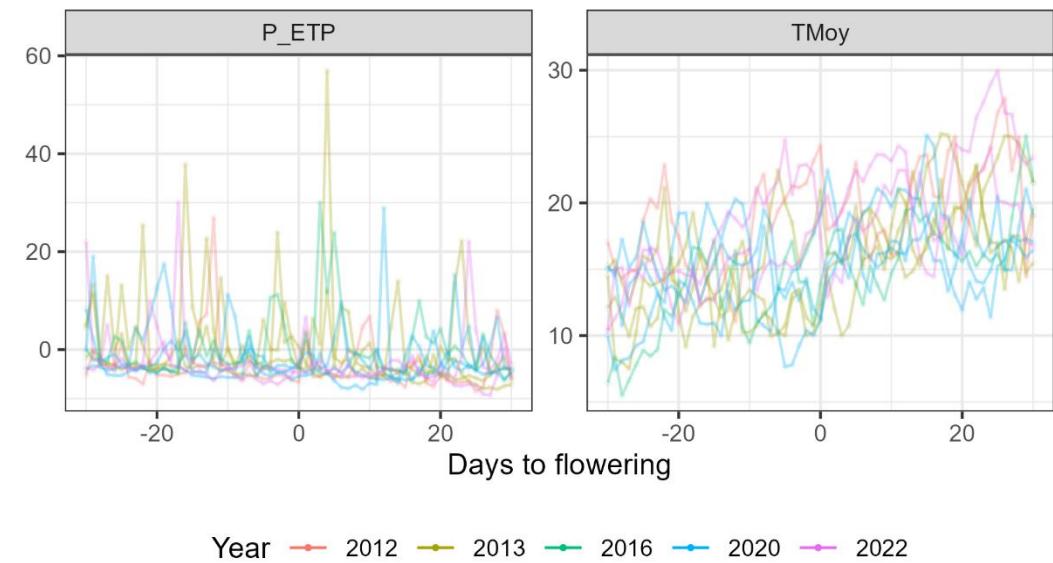
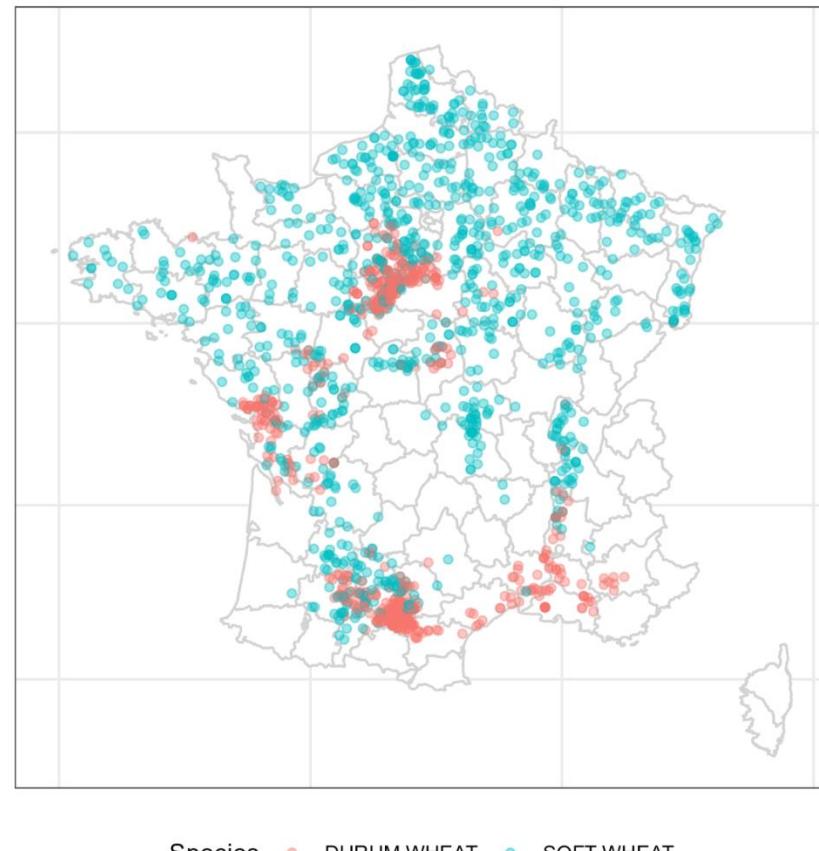


→ What happens in vivo ?



*Toxins = f(climate) ?*

Repartition of the samples  
(575 durum wheat, 1006 soft wheat)

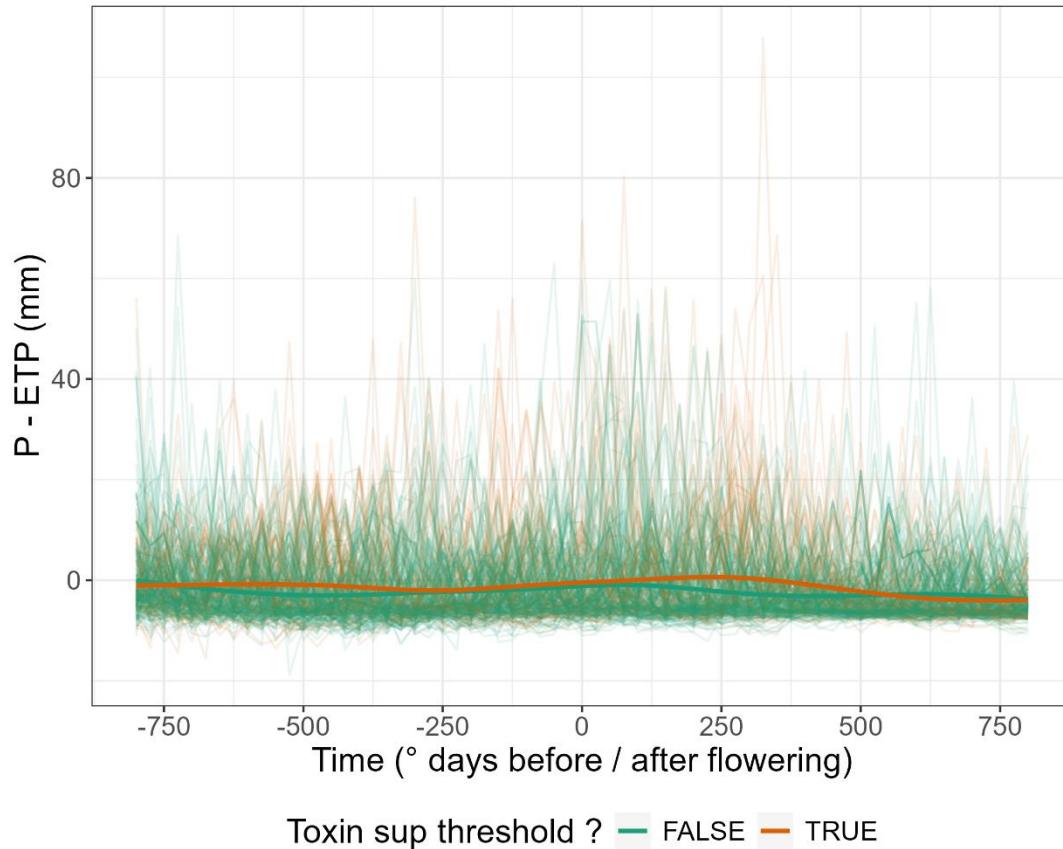


# A running example

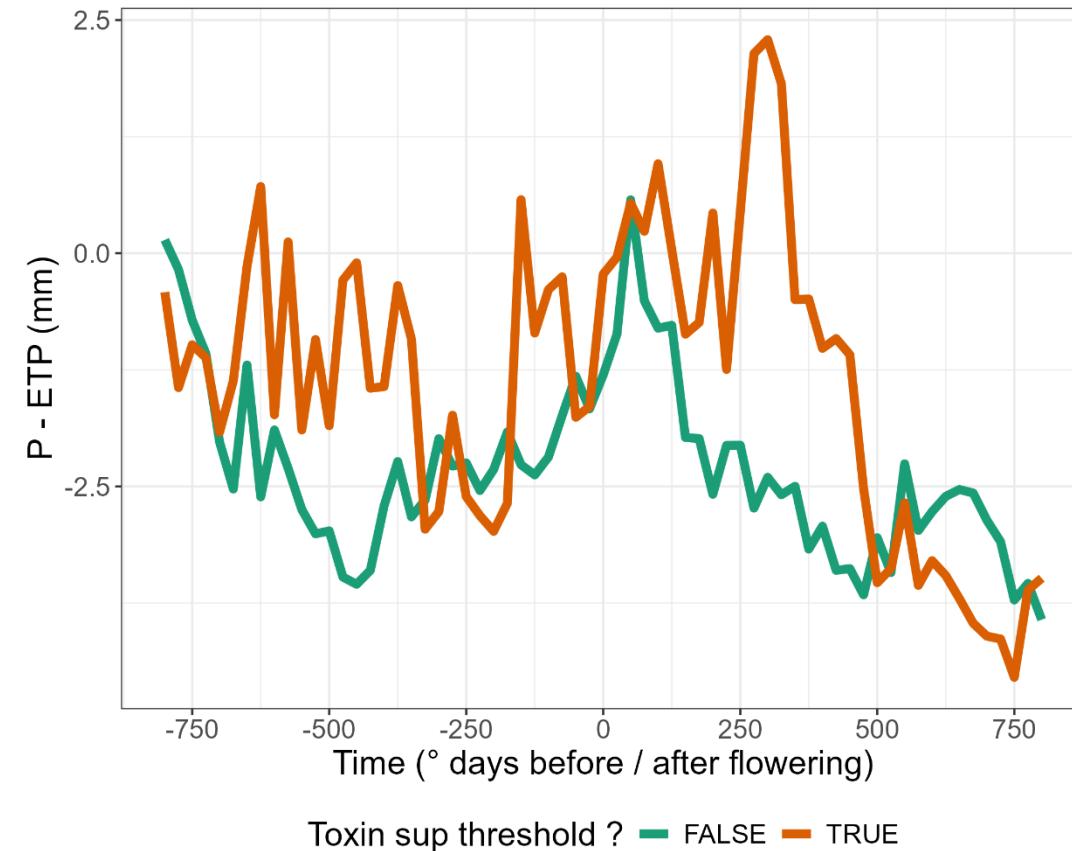
*How to find climatic zones related to the overtaking of a given mycotoxin*



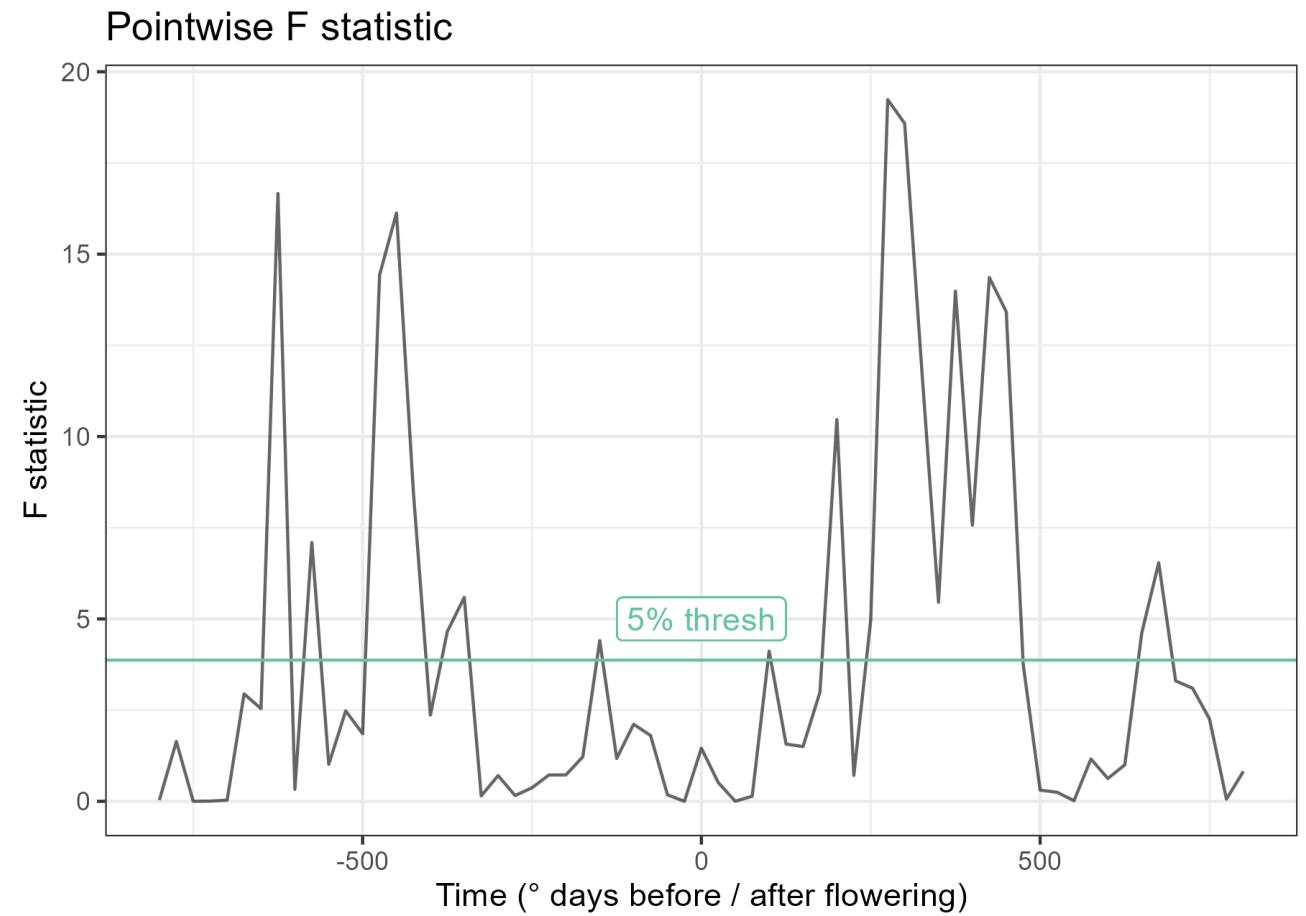
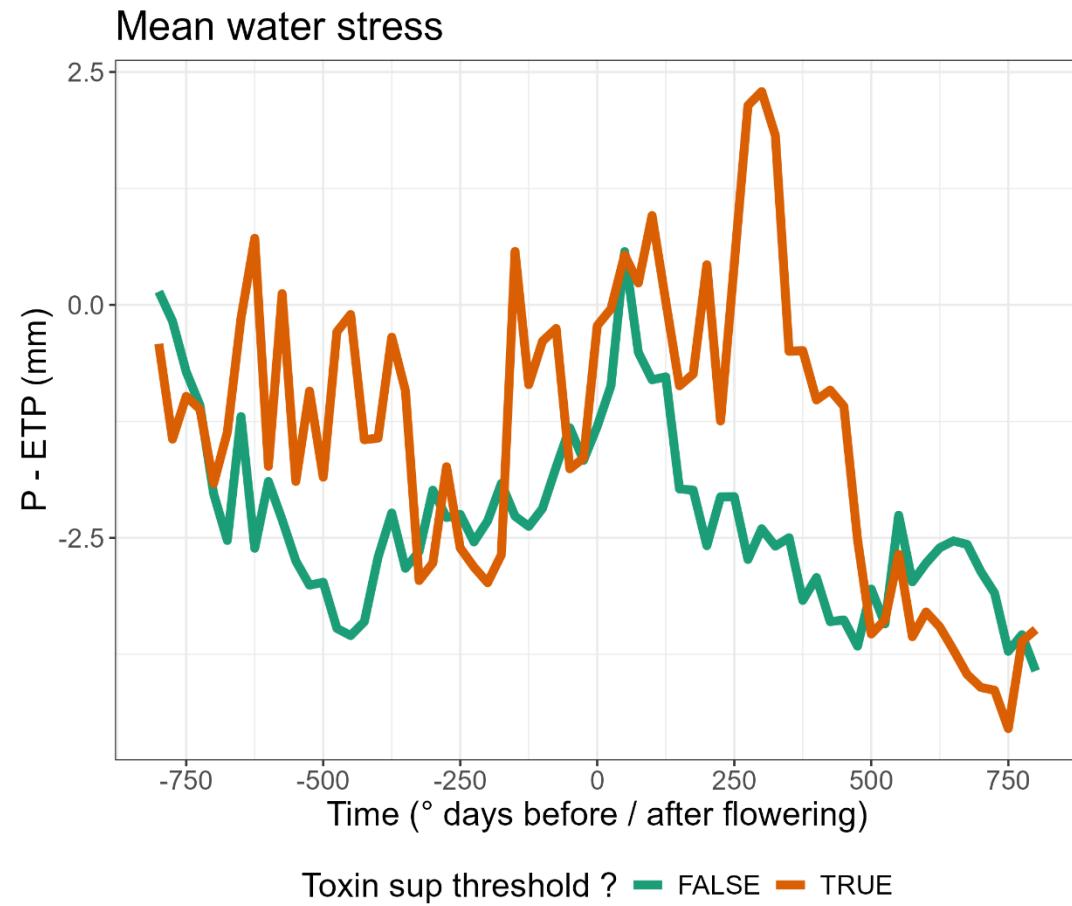
Water stress against overtaking or not of NIV threshold



Mean water stress



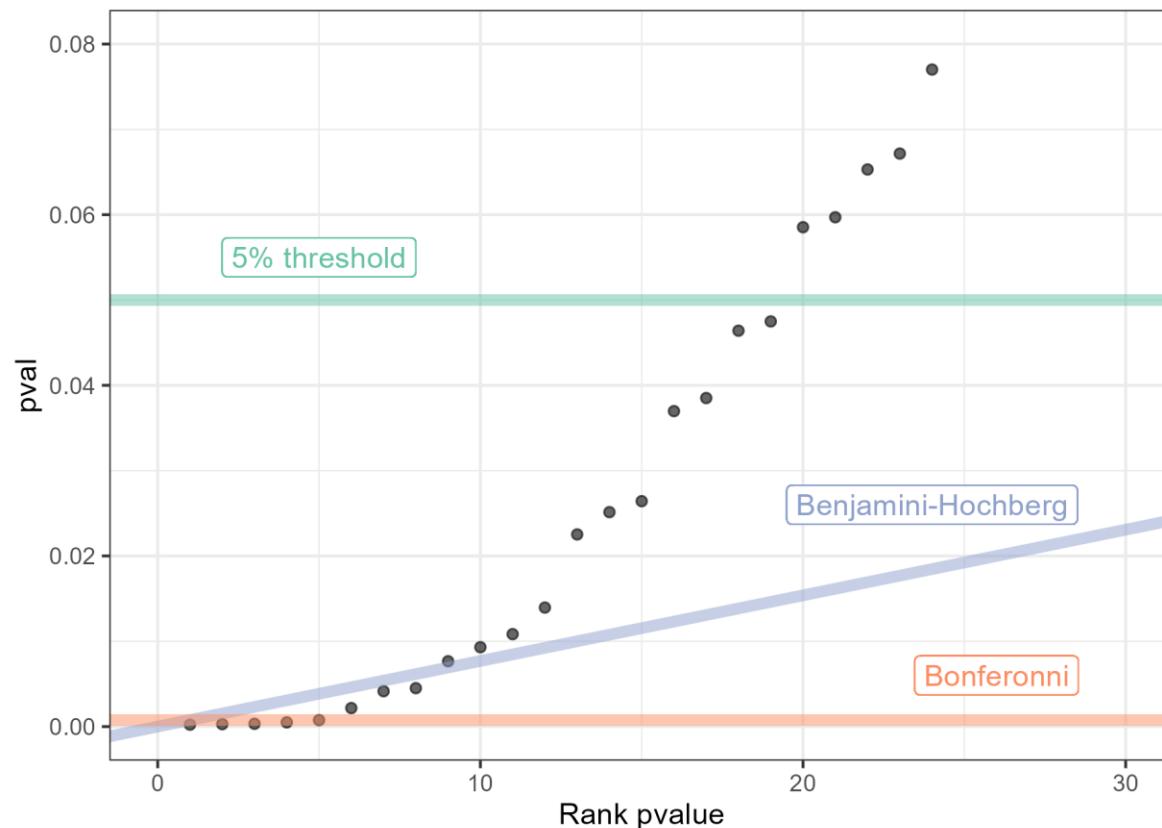
# Pointwise F tests



→ Just a multiple comparison problem ?

# Two possibilities to consider

1) Perform pointwise Ftests and correct the pvalues with a Benjamini-Hochberg procedure



2) Perform a functional ANOVA (Fanova)

- a) Compute pointwise F statistics
- b) Aggregate the F statistics (sum for ex.)
- c) Distribution of the aggregated F statistics under  $H_0$  computed by random permutation technics

**Problems:** Fanova results in a **yes/no** answer, no local information and BH procedure leads to no / noisy results → Need for a compromise

# Local Fanova: a compromise between the two approaches (on going work !)



**Idea:** find the largest intervals at which no significant effect can be detected with the functional ANOVA test

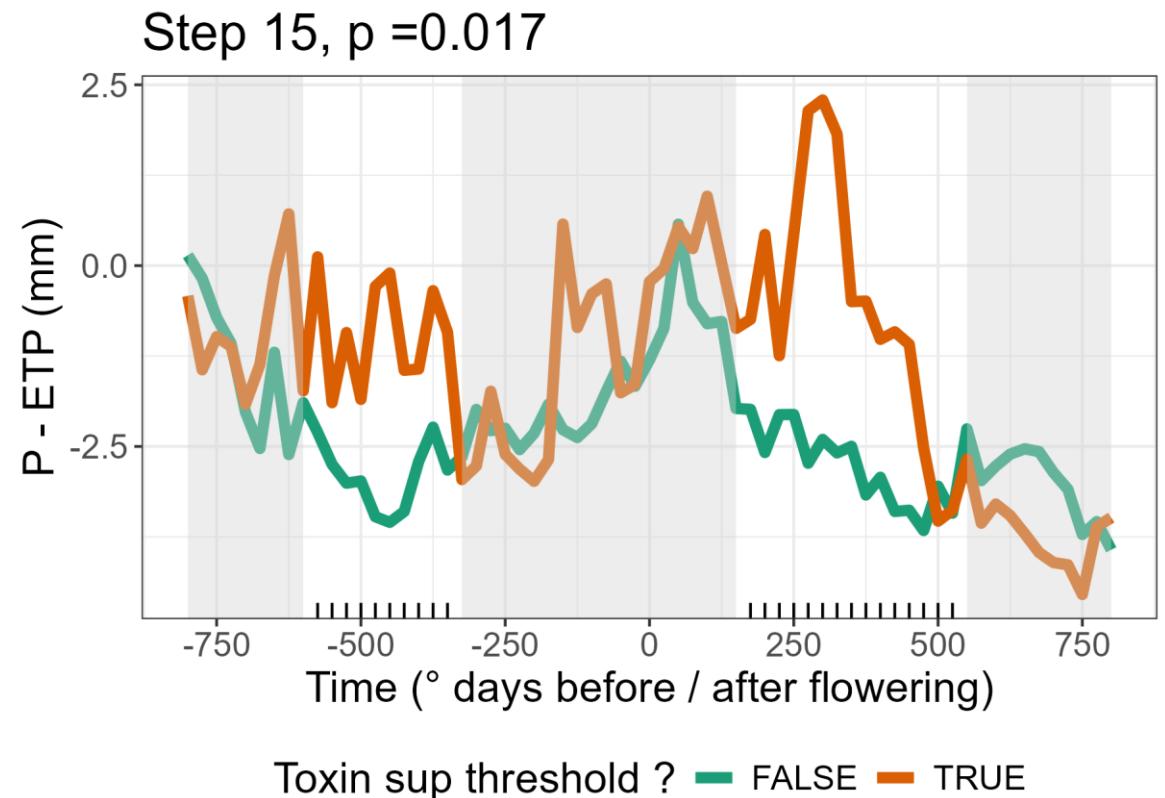
## Inputs:

k = window size

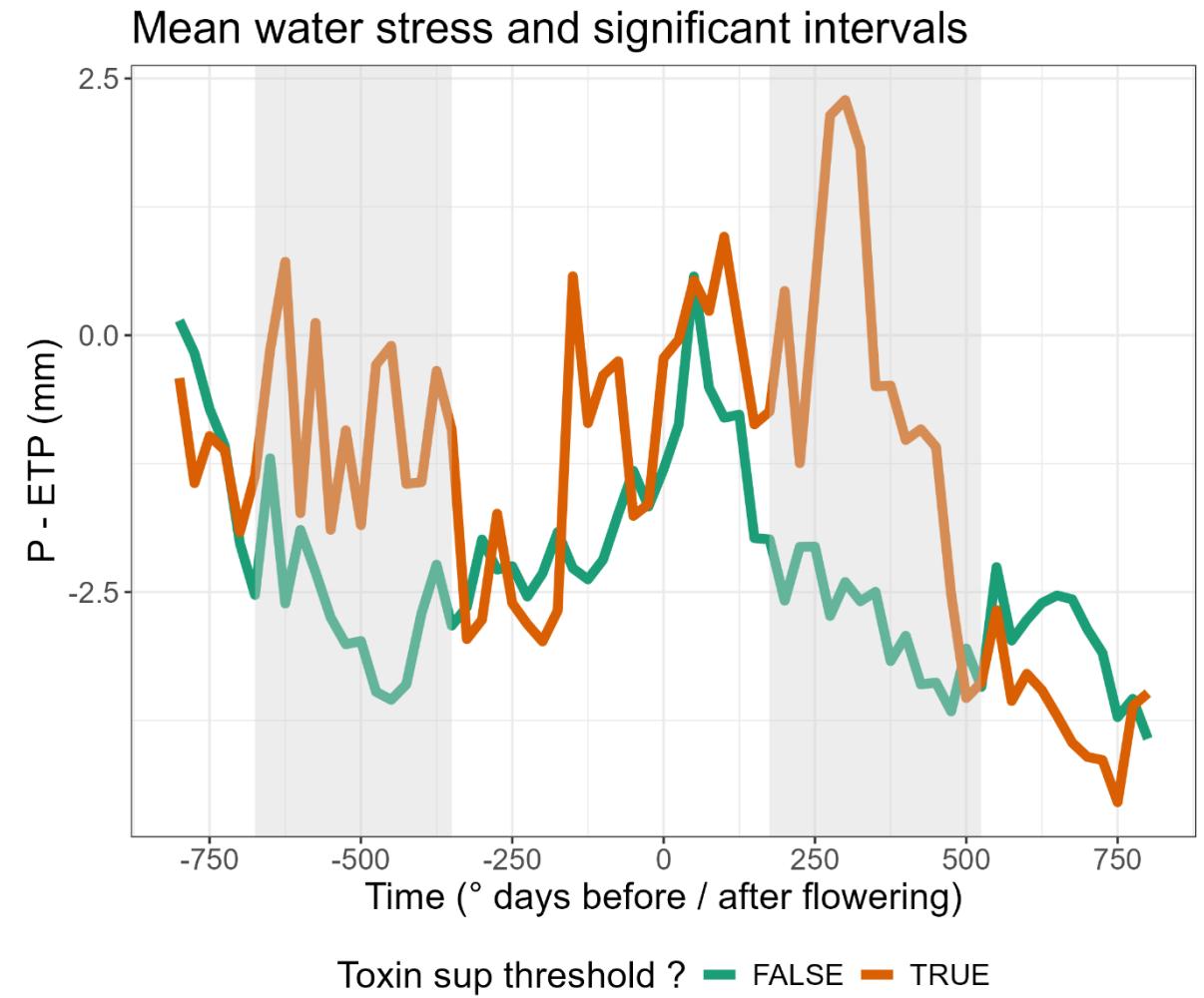
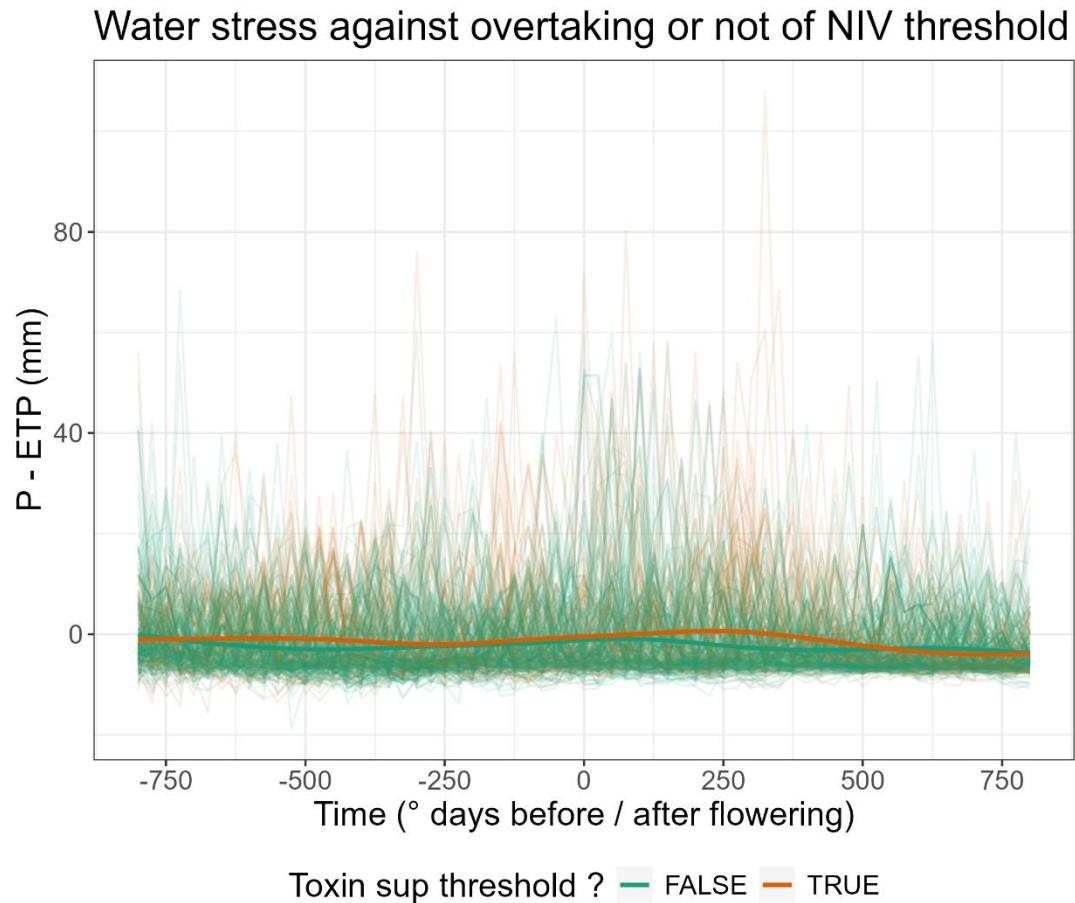
n = number of intervals to consider

## Algorithm:

1. For each interval i in 1 to n:
  - a. Define a time frame centered on interval i with a window size k
  - b. Perform a Fanova on these time frames
2. Remove all intervals from the time frame that are significant.
3. While the Fanova on the remaining whole time frame is not significant:
  - a. Add more intervals to the time frame
  - b. Perform a Fanova
  - c. Stop when the largest possible interval is found for which the test is not significant



# Results



# Perspectives



- How to set hyperparameters (window size, number of intervals) ?
- Comparison with other methods (Servien et al. 2019 (SISIR/SFCB), Grollemund et al. 2018 (BLISS) : function-on-scalar regression)
- Simulation study
- Link with in vitro results ?

Opened to discussion: **remi.mahmoud@agrocampus-ouest.fr**