

# USGS/SHWG Stressor summary project update

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U.S. Geological Survey

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# Progress on stressor summary project

- Defined scope of literature review
- Developed initial information extraction plan
- Conducted preliminary search
- Receive feedback from stakeholders
- Revise information extraction plan and expanded search to cover additional topics
- Receive feedback from stakeholders
- Write up results and interpretation
- Revise written product based on feedback
- Disseminate information to stakeholders





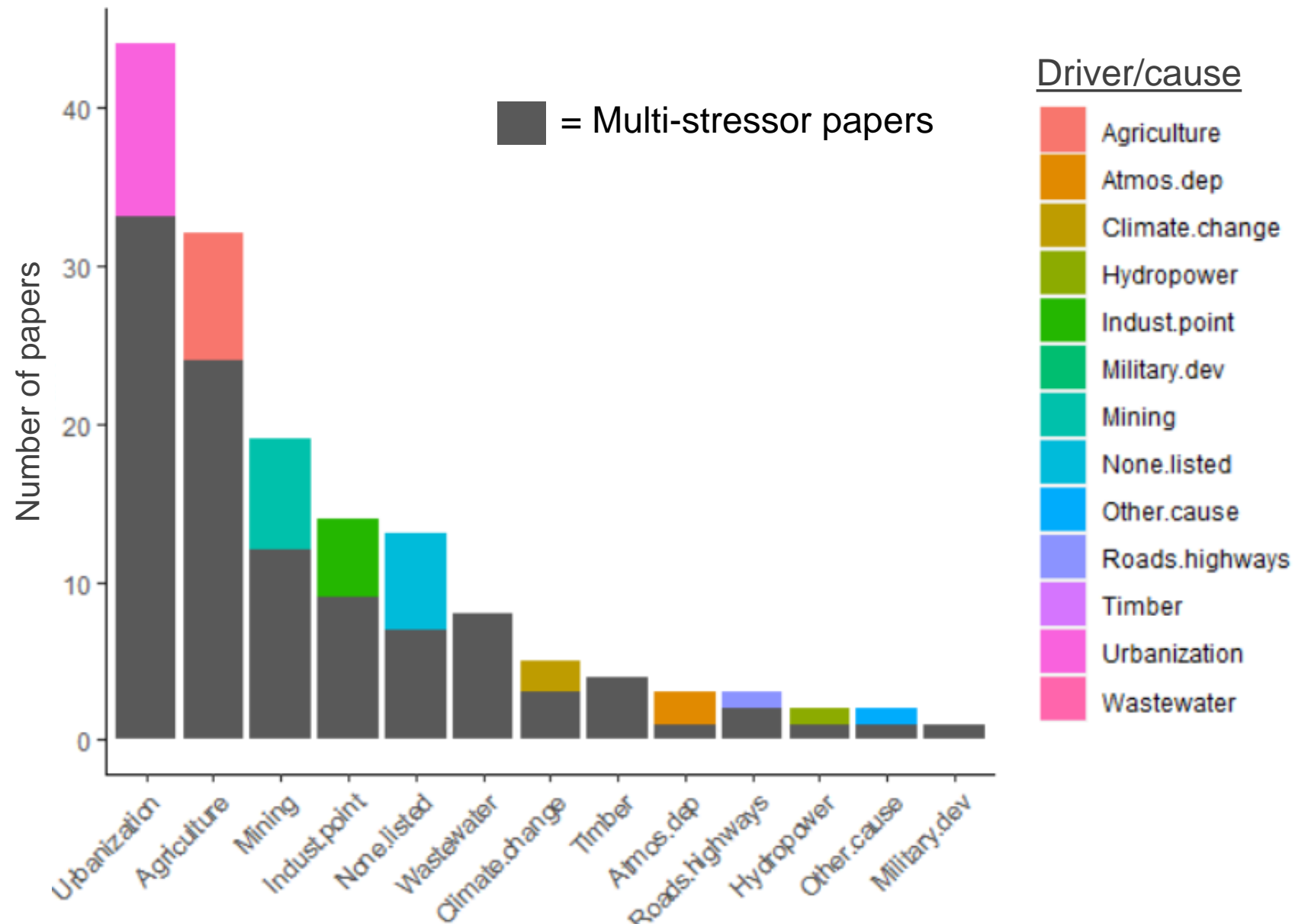
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# What were the major causes identified?

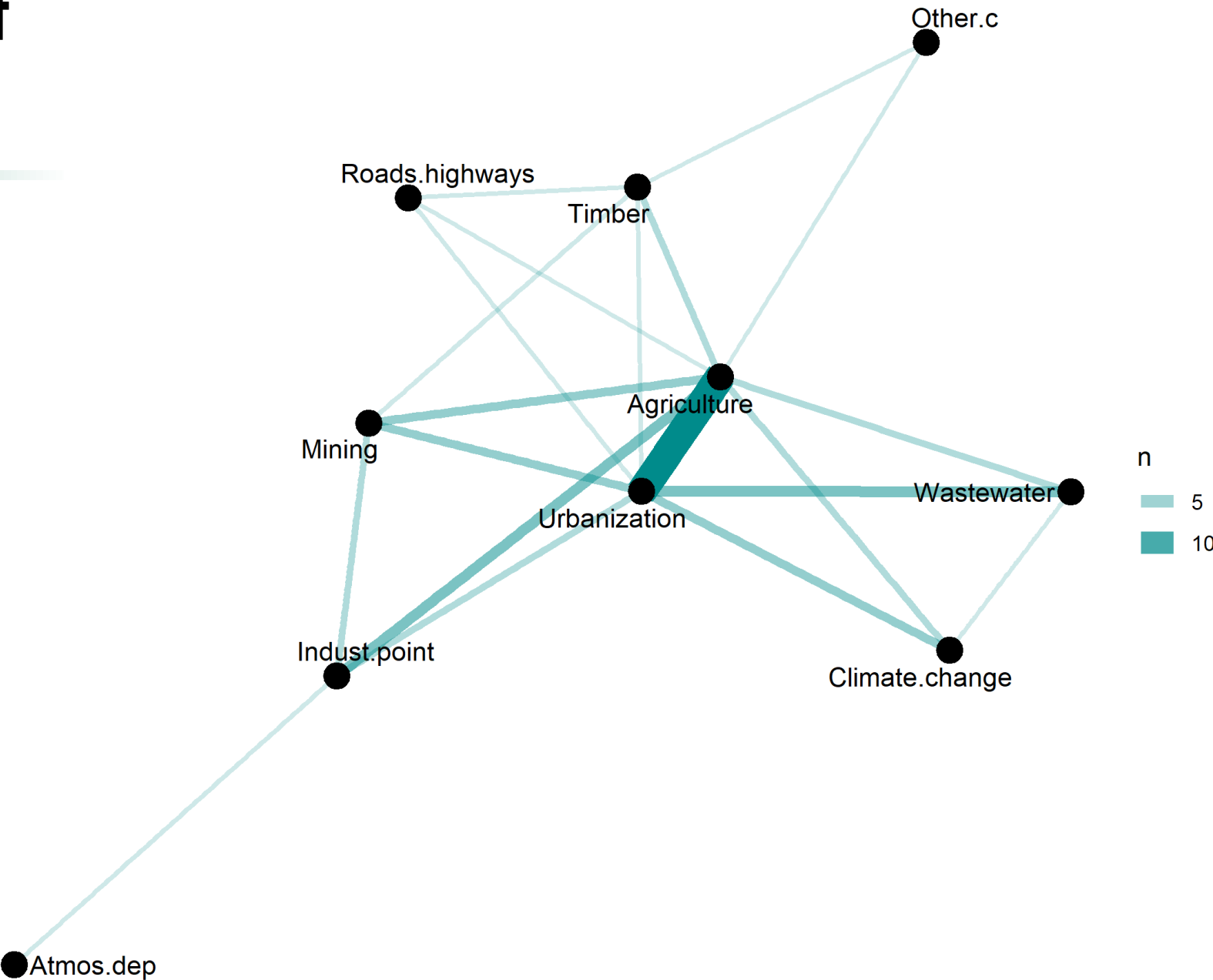
- Out of 113 papers:
- 38% urbanization
- 28% agricultural
- 17% mining
- 13 papers did not have defined cause
- 22% of papers (29) explored multiple causes simultaneously



# Comparing effects of multiple drivers

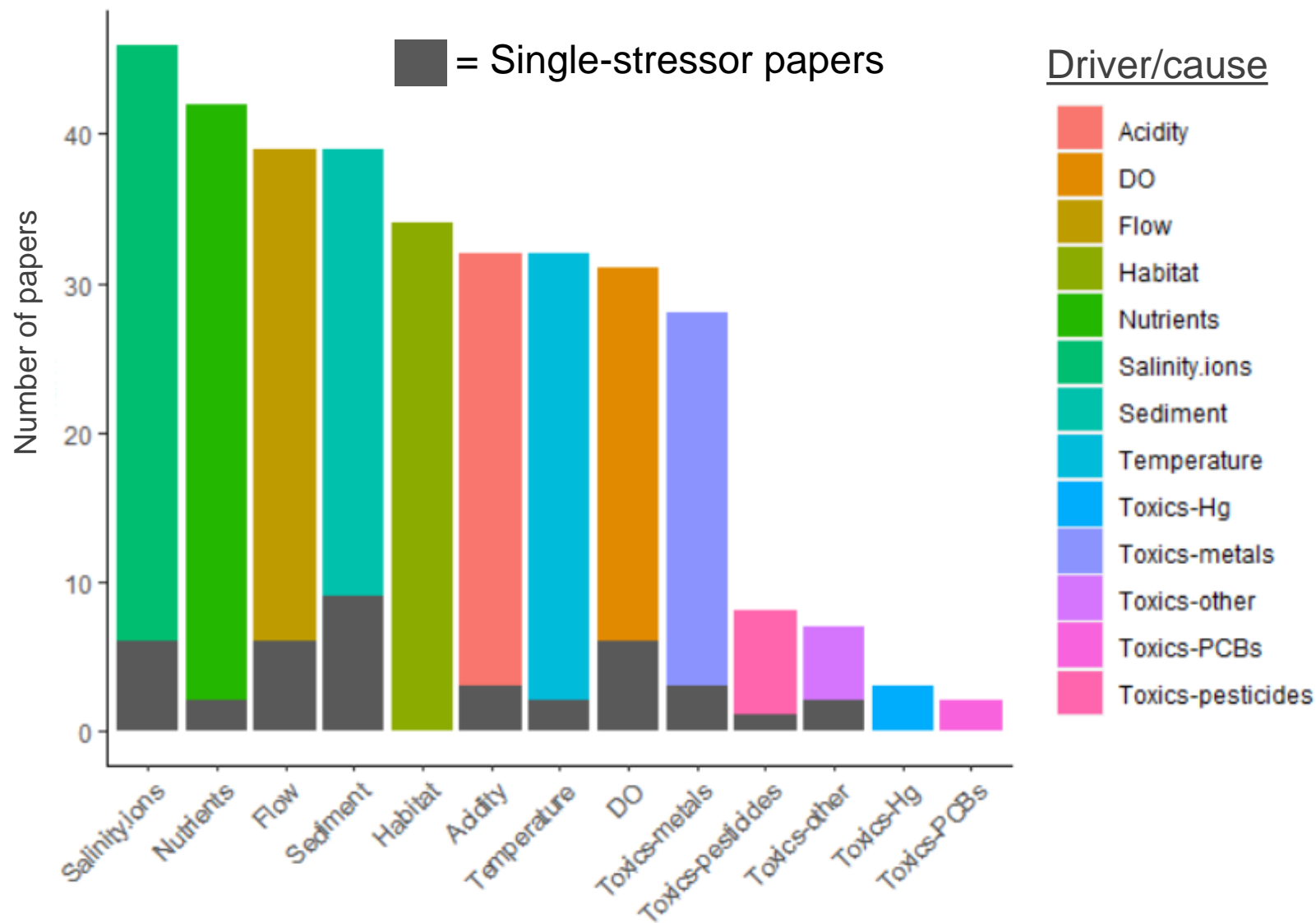
12% of studies (14 studies) examined urbanization and agriculture simultaneously

4 studies examined general urbanization and wastewater impacts simultaneously



# What types of stressors were measured?

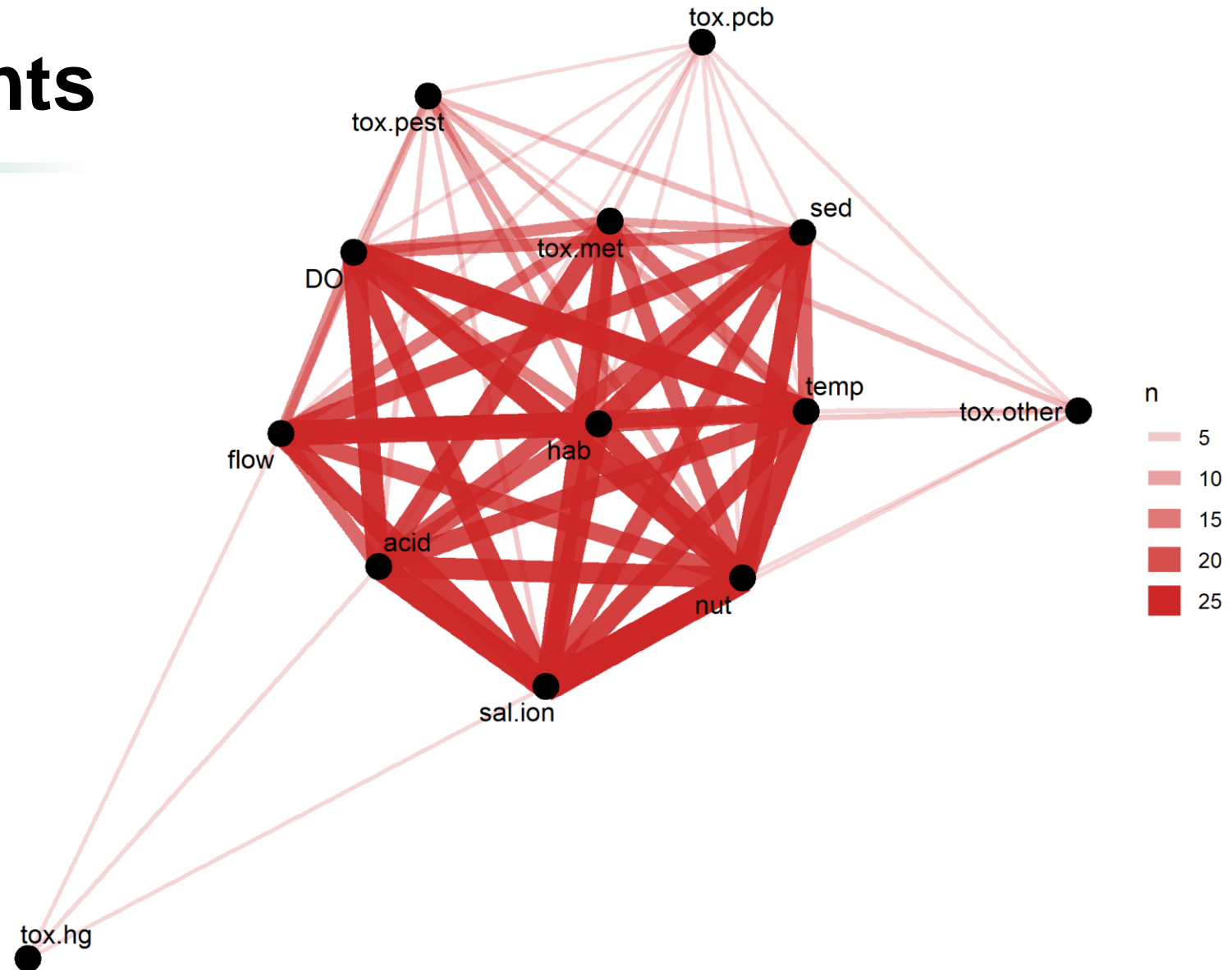
- Water quality and flow were most commonly measured stressors
- Metals was most common toxics category
- Effects of Hg and PCBs rarely covered in literature for macroinvertebrate effects



# Co-occurrence of stressor measurements

- Good representativeness in coverage across multiple stressor studies
- Fewer studies with toxics and other stressors

Literature Review: Stressor Co-Occurrence Network



Data are provisional and are subject to change

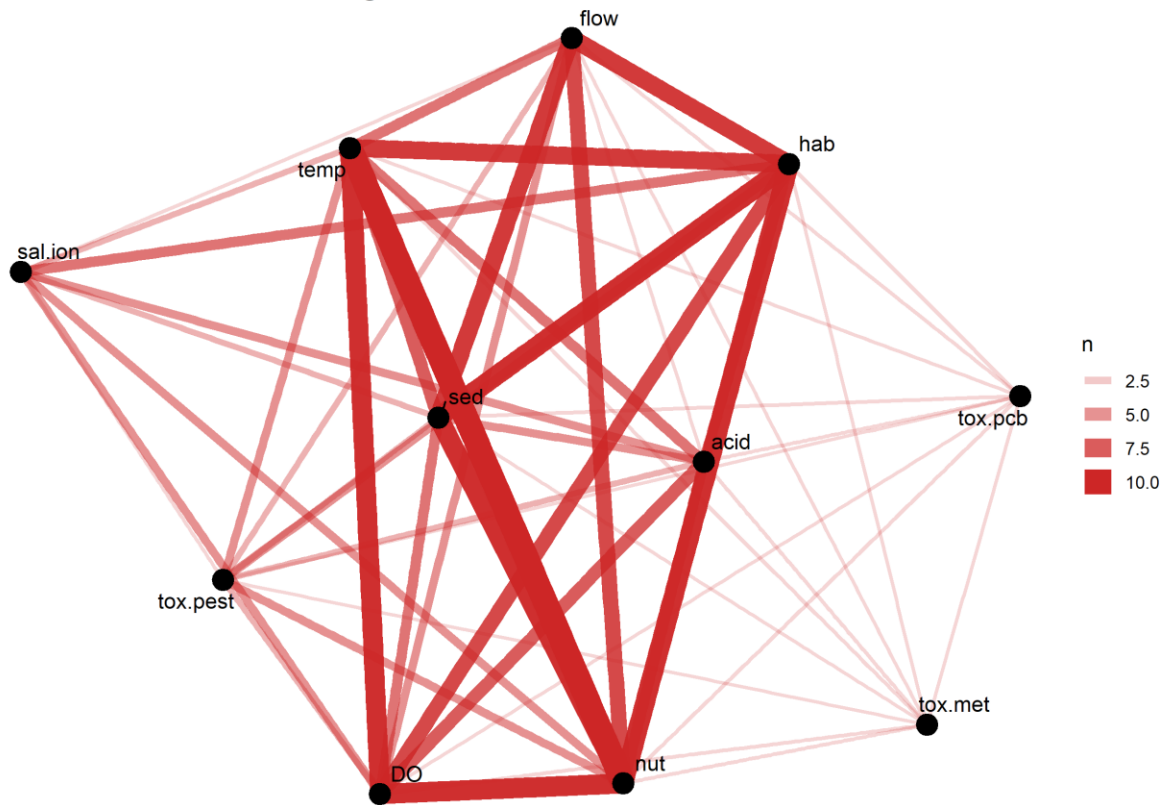
*Provisional results, for feedback only*



# What was measured in Ag and urban studies?

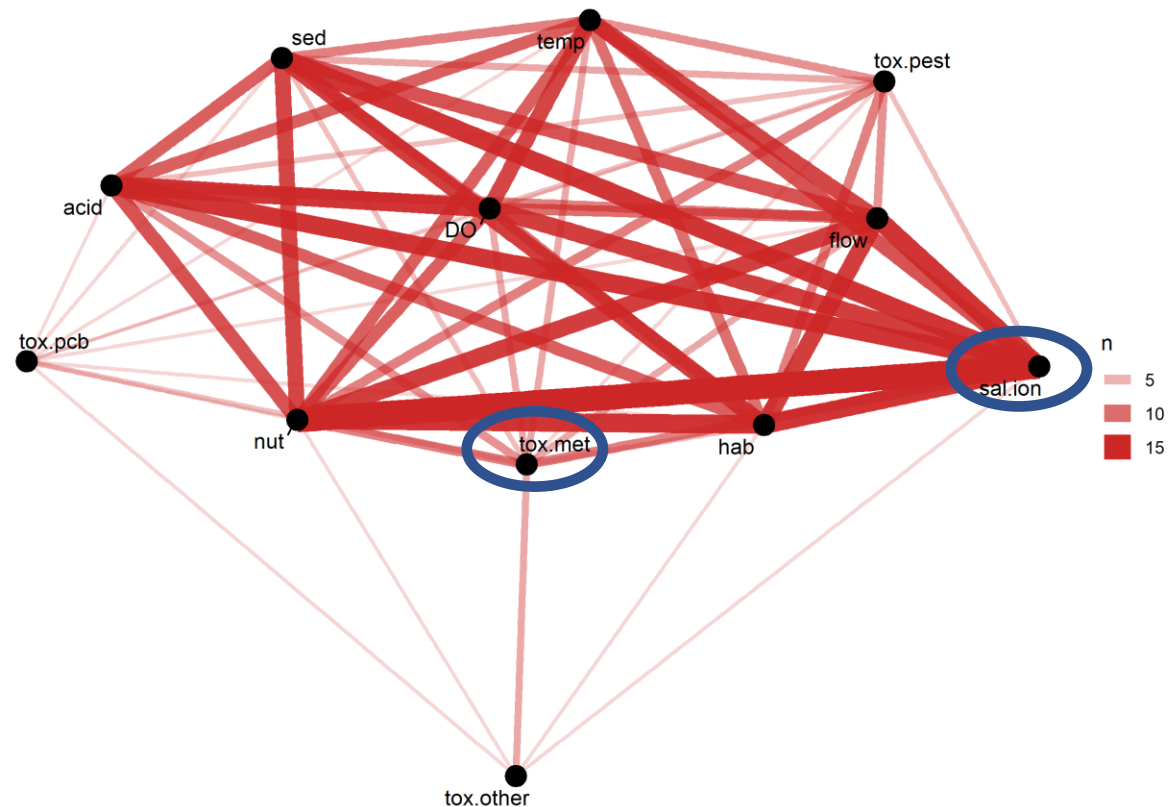
- Some similarities in studied parameters, slightly more multiple stressors in urban
- Difference in toxic metals and salinity/ions

Literature Review: Agriculture Stressor Co-Occurrence Network



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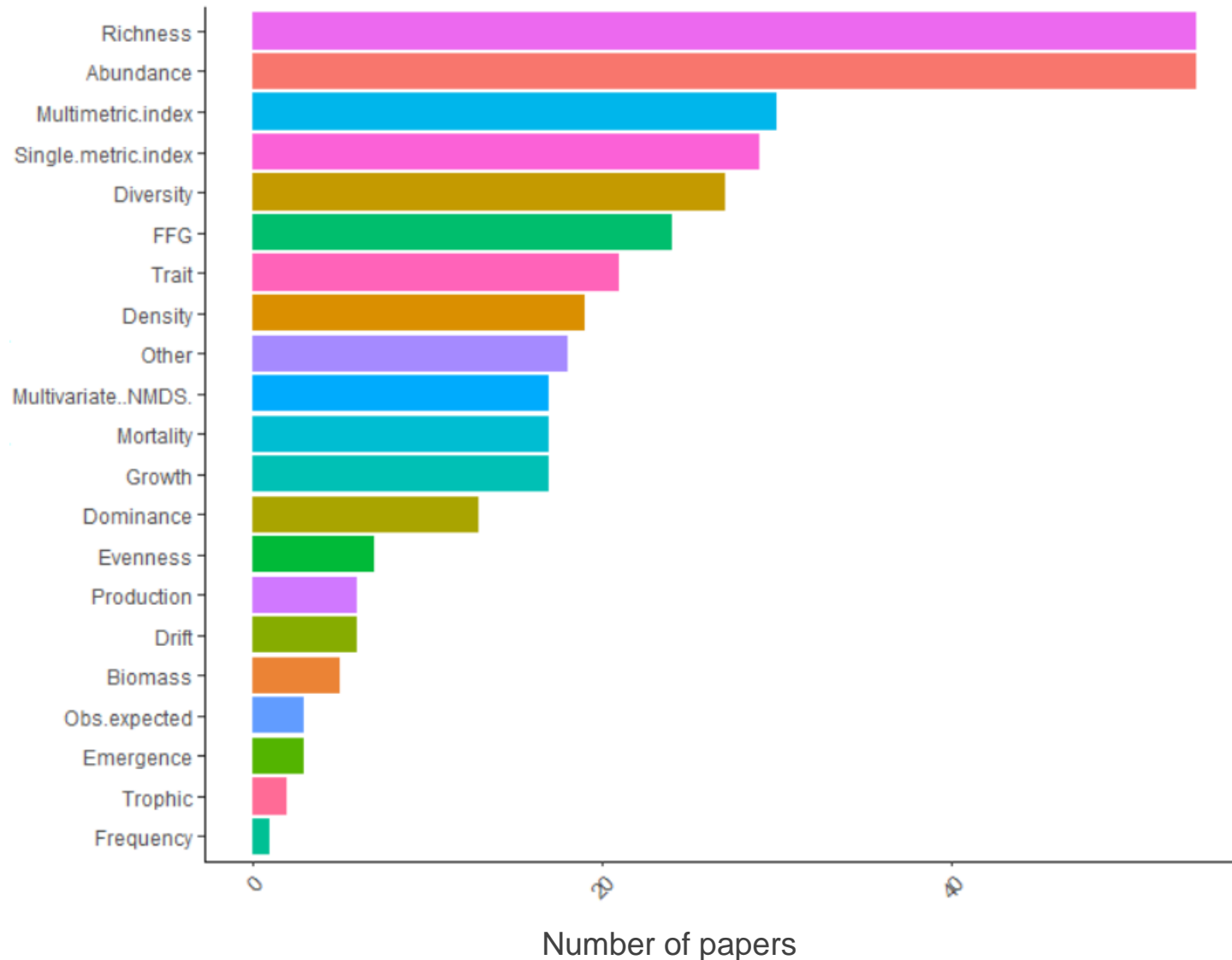
Literature Review: Urban Stressor Co-Occurrence Network



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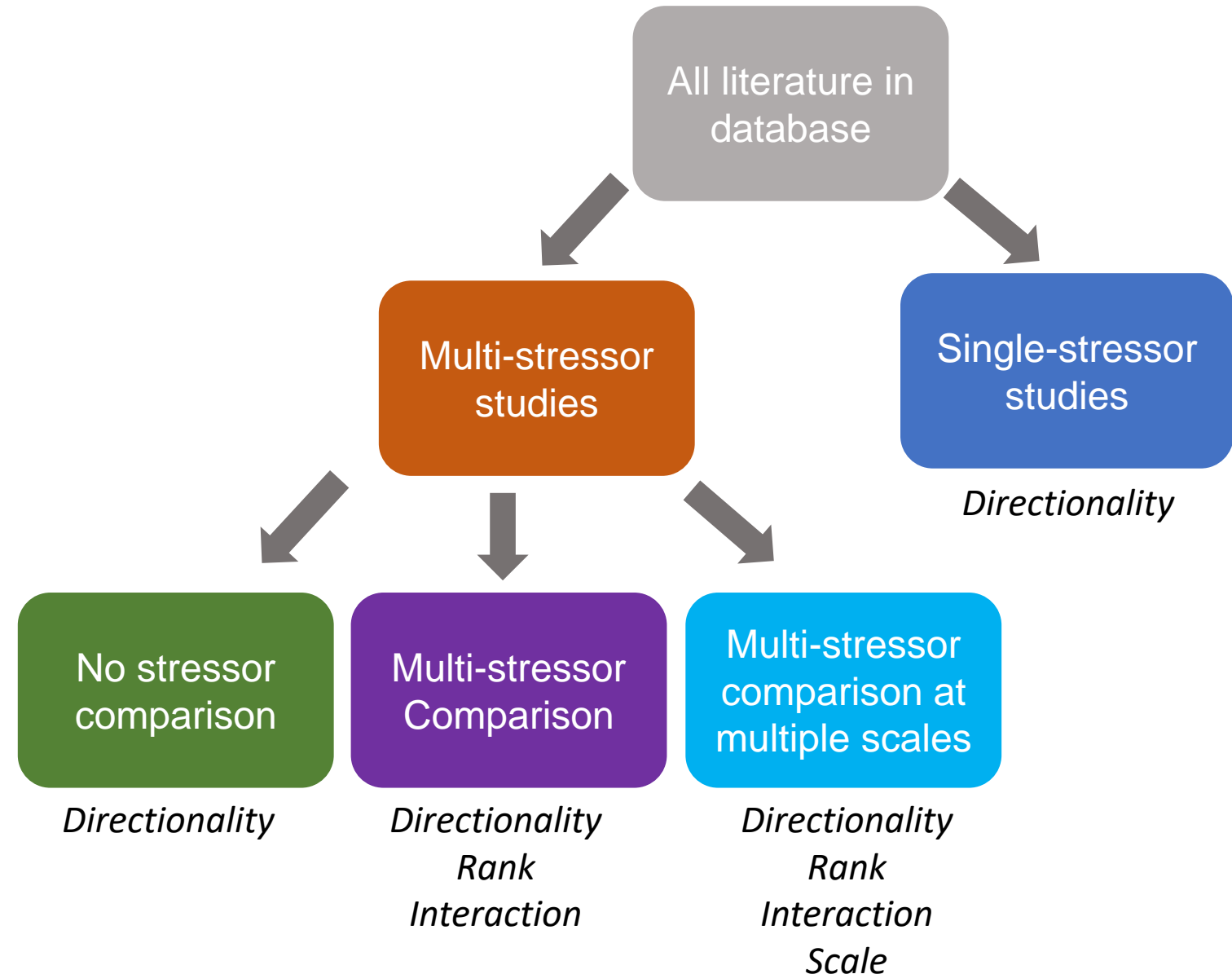
# What biological endpoints were reported?



- Community composition metrics (richness, abundance) most common response variables
- Multi-metric indices often reported, but vary widely
- Lab/mesocosm/flume studies reported growth, mortality, biomass, and emergence

# Major questions and analysis workflow

1. **Directionality**: How does a stressor or driver affect the biological community?
2. **Rank**: How do different in-stream stressors compare to each other in terms of their effect on the biological community?
3. **Interactions**: Do stressors/drivers have interactive effects?
4. **Scale**: How does the effect of in-stream stressors compare to landscape-scale drivers?



# Caveats and other topics to be discussed

## Caveats

- Multiple metrics reported for each stressor “type” (nutrients = TN, TP)
- Multiple response variables in each study
- Rank doesn’t take into account stressors that weren’t measured

## Other questions/discussion topics

- Stressors affecting other organisms (fish, algae, amphibians)
- Discussion of statistical modeling approaches
- In-direct effects of stressors (salinity and water quality, bioaccumulation of toxic contaminants)
- Specific focus on thresholds from lab toxicological and single stressor studies

- [illegible]

[illegible]

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# Textual analyses – Abstract Clustering

- Common abstract words clustered by co-occurrence
- Identifying thematic clusters in studies

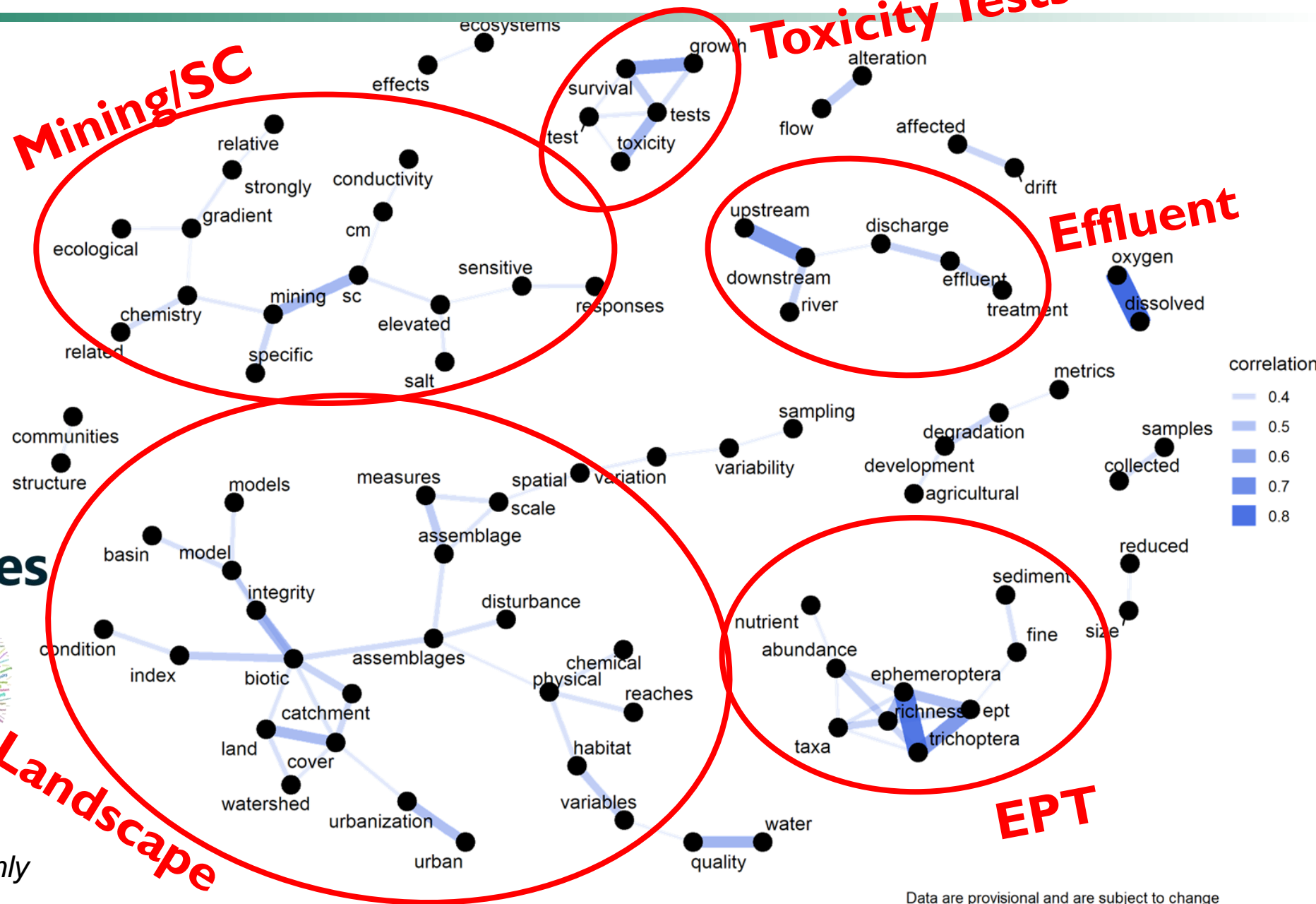
**Mining/SC**

**Toxicity Tests**

**Effluent**

**Landscape**

**EPT**

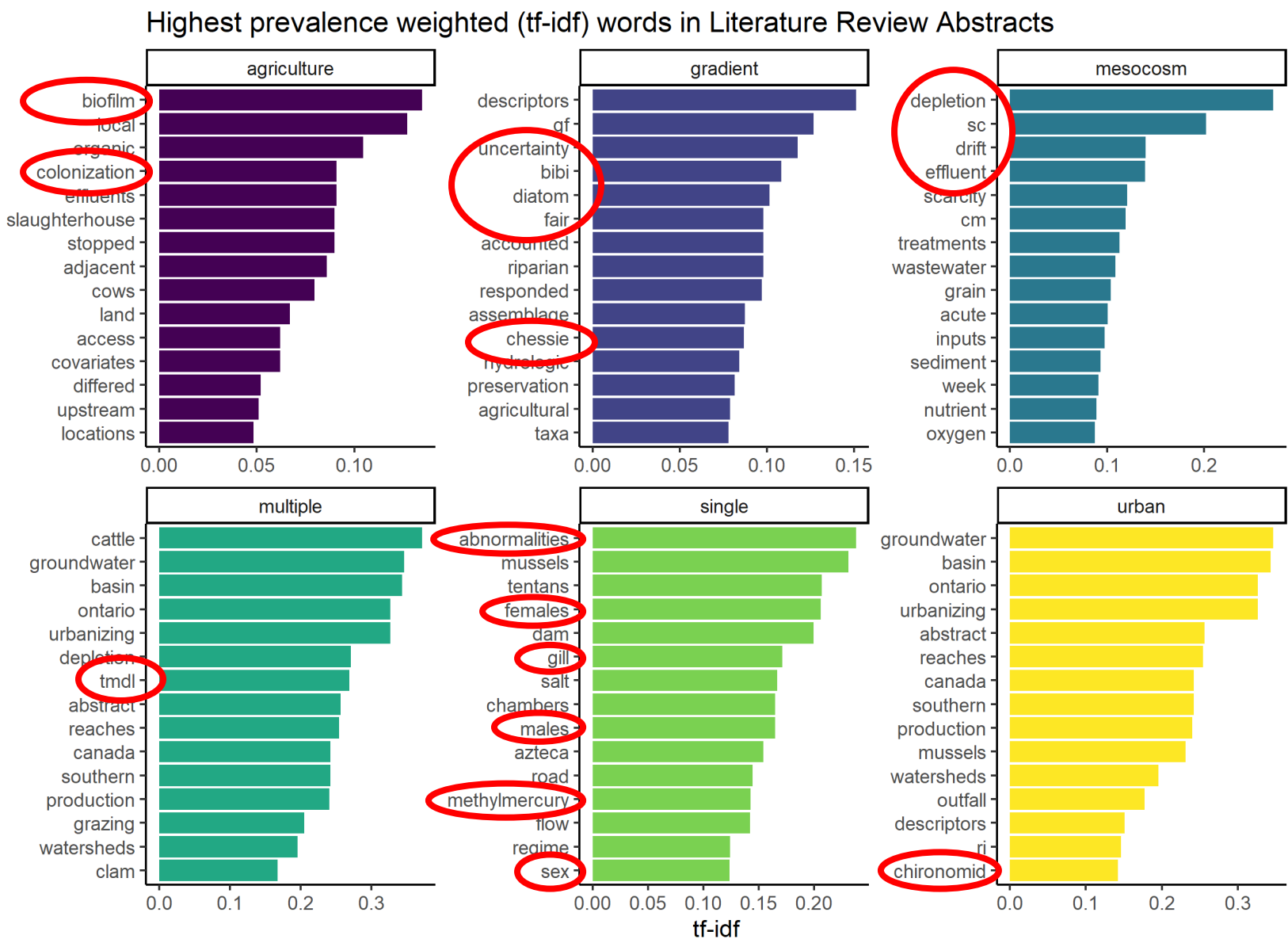


Provisional results, for feedback only

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# Textual Analysis: Characteristic rare terms

- Characteristic rare terms (tf-idf) calculated from abstract to further examine studies
- Terms highlights important, uncommon words from that study
- Grouped by keyword used to tag article
- Provides additional study-specific details



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- A word cloud shaped like a fish, composed of various terms related to environmental science and water quality. The largest words are 'water', 'multiple', 'sediment', 'toxicity', 'invertebrate', 'stream', 'null', 'quality', 'urban', 'flow', 'land', 'effluent', 'pesticides', 'nutrients', 'regression', 'mining', 'salinity', 'chloride', 'change', 'source', 'risk', 'models', 'fish', 'cover', 'salt', 'fine', 'SC', 'rivers', 'total', 'index', 'arteria', 'drift', 'metals', 'aquatic', 'climate', 'study', 'gradient', 'toxicity', 'freshwater', 'chemical', 'biotic', 'single', 'integrity', 'surface', 'community', 'entered', 'headwater', 'pollution', 'dissolved', 'sensitivity', 'regimes', 'chemistry', 'toxics'.