

## **Understanding the effects of plant diversity on soil temperature stability**

To understand the mechanism that drives the relationship between plant diversity and soil temperature stability, we compare the results of Structural Equation Modeling (SEM) based on domain-expert hypotheses with those of two Causal Inference methods which are entirely agnostic towards possible relationship (The PC algorithm and the CCDr method). While the results are generally consistent, we also observe disparities between methods.

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