Supplementary Information

Root traits and soil bacterial composition explain rhizosphere effects along a chronosequence of rubber plantations

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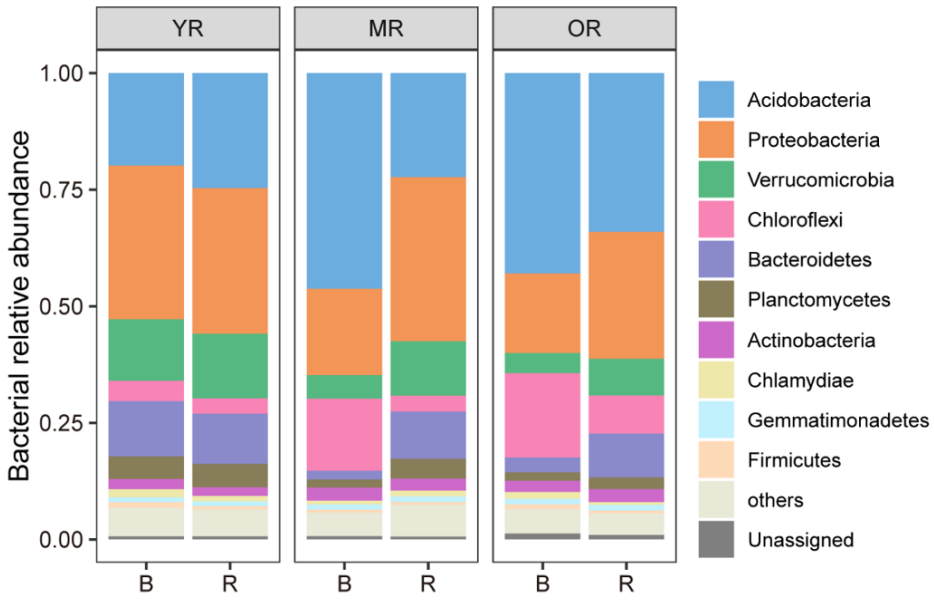

Figure S1 Relative abundance of major phyla within the bacterial community in different age classes of rubber plantation. YR, young rubber plantation; MR, middle-aged rubber plantation; OR, old rubber plantation.

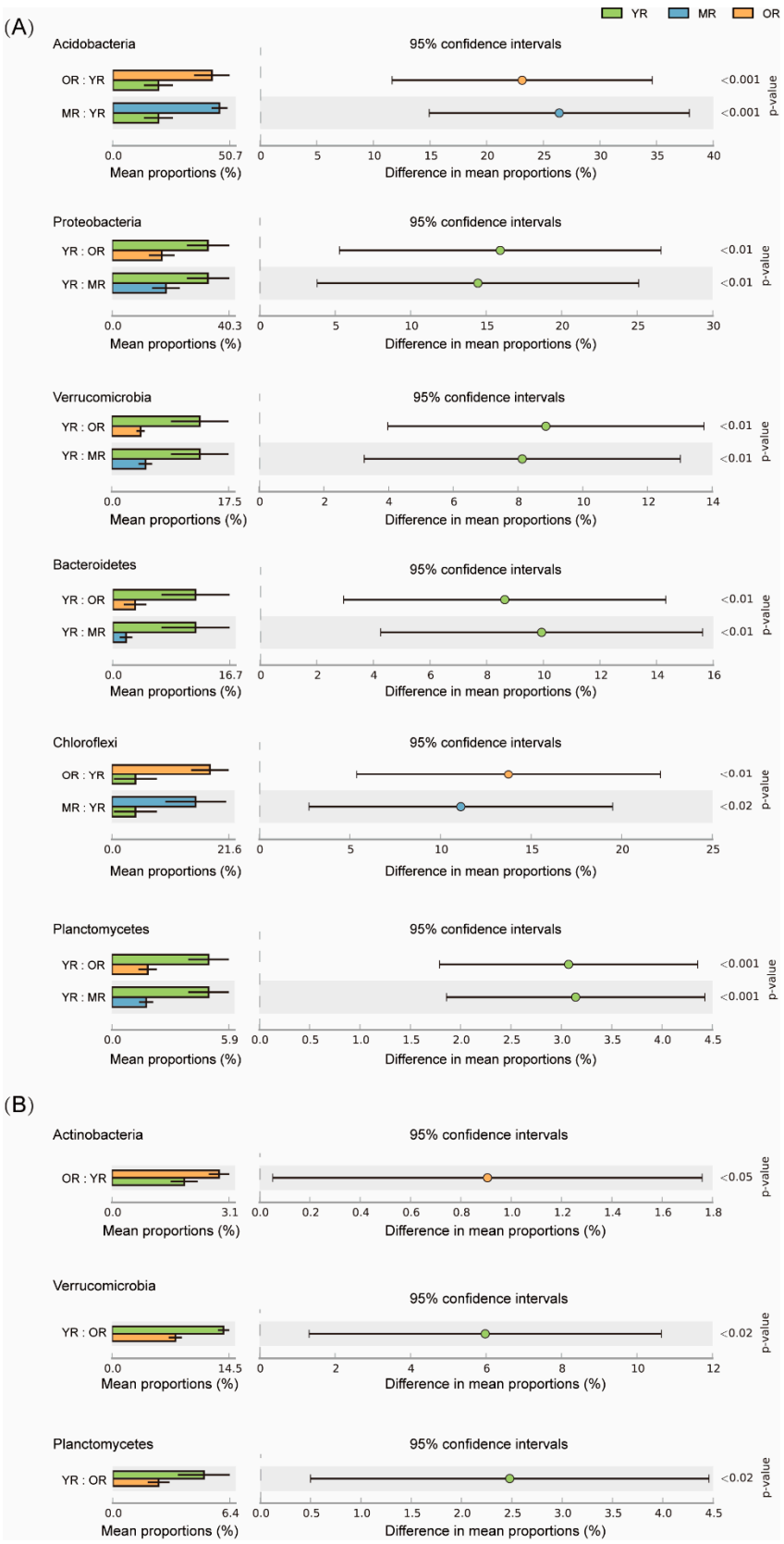

Figure S2 Results of phyla show significant changes in the bacterial community in bulk soil (A) and rhizosphere soil (B) among three age classes of rubber plantation. The 95% confidence intervals represent the different proportion of two age classes.

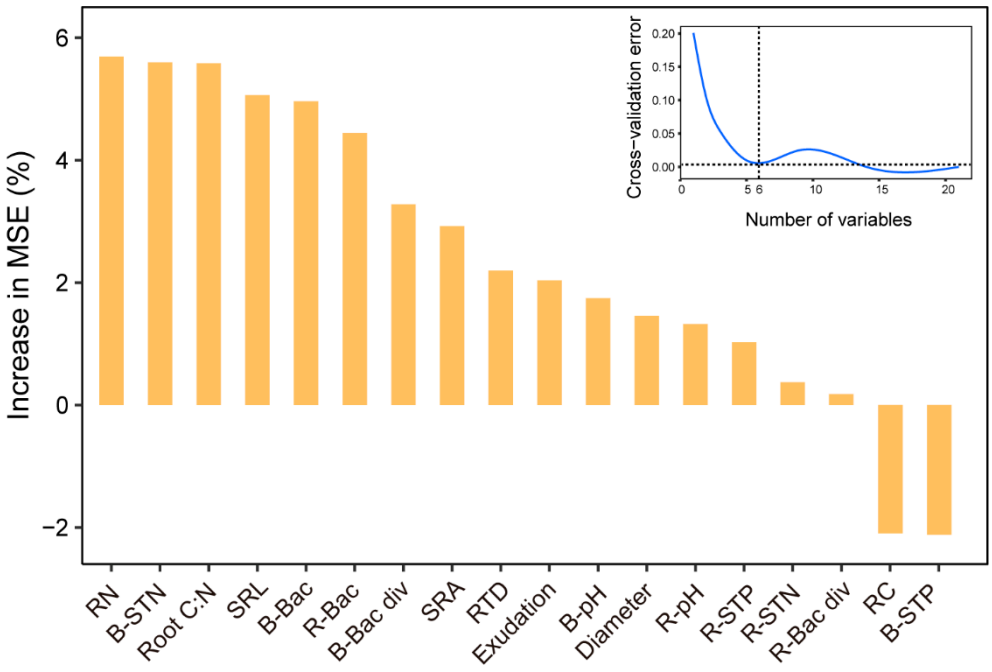

Figure S3 Relative importance of independent variables for the rhizosphere effect on soil organic matter decomposition. RN, root nitrogen; B-STN, bulk soil total nitrogen; SRL, specific root length; B-Bac, bulk soil bacterial composition; R-Bac, rhizosphere soil bacterial composition; B-Bac div, bulk soil bacterial diversity; SRA, specific root area; RTD, root tissue density; B-pH, bulk soil pH; Diameter, root diameter; R-pH, rhizosphere soil pH; R-STP, rhizosphere soil total phosphorus; R-STN, rhizosphere soil total nitrogen; R-Bac div, rhizosphere soil bacterial diversity; RC, root carbon, B-STP, bulk soil total phosphorus.

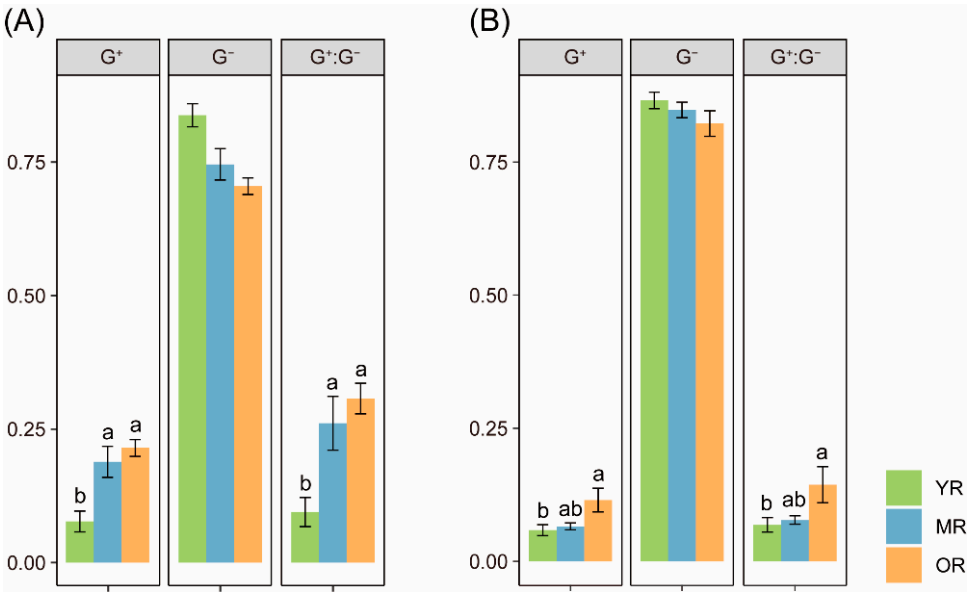

Figure S4 Effects of age classes on the gram-positive (G^+) bacteria, gram-negative (G^-) bacteria, and the ratios of G^+ to G^- bacteria (G^+:G^-) in the bulk soil (A) and rhizosphere soil (B). YR, young rubber plantation; MR, middle-aged rubber plantation; OR, old rubber plantation. The different lowercase letters indicate significant differences (P <0.05). The error bar represents the standard deviation (n = 5).