

**What drives study-dependent differences in distance-decay
relationships of microbial communities?**

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1 **Title:** What drives study-dependent differences in distance-decay relationships of microbial
2 communities?
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4 **Running title:** Meta-Analysis of Microbial Distance-Decay Relationships
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13 **Keywords:** Bacteria, Archaea, Eukarya, Mantel test, macroecology, biogeography, dispersal
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6 Abstract

7 **Aim:** Ecological communities that exist closer together in space are generally more
8 compositionally similar than those far apart, as defined by the distance-decay of similarity
9 relationship. However, recent research has revealed substantial variability in the
10 distance-decay relationships of microbial communities between studies of different
11 taxonomic groups, ecosystems, spatial scales, as well as between those using different
12 molecular methodologies (e.g. high-throughput sequencing versus molecular fingerprinting).
13 Here, we test how these factors influence the effect size of microbial distance-decay
14 relationships, to draw generalisations about how microbial β -diversity scales with space.

15 **Location:** Global.

16 **Time period:** Studies published between 2005-2019 (inclusive).

17 **Major taxa studied:** Bacteria, Archaea, and microbial Eukarya.

18 **Methods:** We conducted a meta-analysis of microbial distance-decay relationships, using
19 the Mantel correlation coefficient as a measure of effect size. We assembled 452 data
20 points, varying in environmental/ecological context or methodological approaches, and used
21 linear models to test the effects of each variable.

22 **Results:** Both ecological and methodological factors had significant impacts on the strength
23 of microbial distance-decay relationships. Specifically, larger spatial extents increased the
24 strength of these relationships, whilst differences also emerged between environments and
25 habitats, with soils showing significantly weaker distance-decay relationships than other
26 habitats. Methodological factors such as sequencing depth were positively related to the
27 strength of distance-decay relationships, and choice of dissimilarity metric was also

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3 28 important, with phylogenetic metrics generally giving weaker distance-decay relationships
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5 29 than binary or abundance-based indices.
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8 30 **Main conclusions:** We conclude that widely studied microbial biogeographic patterns, such
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10 31 as the distance-decay relationship, vary by ecological context but are primarily distorted by
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12 32 methodological choices. Consequently, we suggest that by linking methodological
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14 33 approaches appropriately to the ecological context of a study, we can progress towards
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16 34 generalisable biogeographic relationships in microbial ecology.
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35 Introduction

36 The distance-decay of community similarity is one of the most widely studied relationships in
37 macroecology (Nekola & White, 1999; Soininen *et al.*, 2007). This relationship quantifies the
38 decrease in compositional similarity (β -diversity) between communities with increasing
39 geographic distance separating them, and demonstrates that nearby communities are more
40 similar to each other than distantly-separated communities. Distance-decay relationships
41 can arise through several different, but often interacting ecological and evolutionary
42 processes, and consequently ecologists have extensively debated the underlying
43 mechanisms that generate such patterns (Nekola & White, 1999; Soininen *et al.*, 2007;
44 Hanson *et al.*, 2012). Spatial structuring of the environment can lead to distance-decay
45 relationships, as communities close together in space are likely to experience more similar
46 environmental conditions, and thus contain more similar communities than those situated in
47 very different environmental conditions. Dispersal limitation can also lead to distance-decay
48 relationships by limiting the connectivity between communities, meaning that communities
49 closer together in space will share more species through localised dispersal than those
50 further apart.

51 Distance-decay relationships are well documented in a multitude of plant and animal
52 communities. Yet, they are of particular interest to microbial ecologists because
53 microorganisms were typically assumed to have ubiquitous distributions for several reasons.
54 Firstly, their small size facilitates passive dispersal over large geographic distances by
55 vectors such as wind, bio-aerosolization, ocean currents or migrating animals (Bisson *et al.*,
56 2007; Favet *et al.*, 2013; Joung *et al.*, 2017; Vašutová *et al.*, 2019), thus potentially
57 overcoming dispersal limitation as a contributing factor to microbial community composition.
58 Additionally, microorganisms often maintain high population densities in the environment
59 leading to dispersal by “mass effects”, whereby high dispersal rates from areas of increased

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3 60 population density maintain populations in less optimal environments (Shmida & Wilson,
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5 61 1985), helping them to overcome the constraints of spatially-structured environmental
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7 62 gradients. Finally, some microorganisms are able to enter dormant states, whether as
8
9 63 vegetative cells or as cysts or spores (Locey *et al.*, 2019), allowing them to survive and
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11 64 disperse through suboptimal environments, simultaneously enhancing their dispersive
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13 65 abilities, and reducing the influence of spatially-structured environmental gradients
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15 66 (Low-Décarie *et al.*, 2016). Combined, these traits theoretically lower microbial β -diversity by
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17 67 increasing the amount of shared species between distant communities, in turn leading to
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19 68 weaker distance-decay relationships compared to macroorganisms. However, empirical tests
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21 69 of microbial distance-decay relationships have yielded mixed results. Many studies have
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23 70 detected little or no evidence of distance-decay relationships in microbial communities
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25 71 (Hazard *et al.*, 2013; Kivlin *et al.*, 2014), whilst others report relationships of varying
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27 72 steepness, across a range of spatial extents, study systems, and taxa (Dumbrell *et al.*, 2010;
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29 73 Martiny *et al.*, 2011; Clark *et al.*, 2017). Thus, despite hundreds of empirical studies, the
30
31 74 generality of spatial patterns in microbial communities remains unclear, and we are no closer
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33 75 to understanding whether variability in the spatial scaling relationships of microbial
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35 76 β -diversity originates from ecological or methodological sources.
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41 77 Variation in microbial distance-decay relationships could be due to different environmental or
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43 78 ecological contexts in studies. Here, we consider environmental context as the variability in
44
45 79 the physico-chemical environment (e.g. temperature, pH, topology), and ecological context
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47 80 as the total suite of species present and their interactions. The study systems commonly of
48
49 81 interest to microbial ecologists vary in terms of connectivity, which may facilitate or hinder
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51 82 dispersal between communities, thus leading to flatter or steeper distance-decay
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53 83 relationships, respectively. In well connected systems where dispersal is more feasible, such
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55 84 as oceanic waters, distance-decay relationships should be weaker than systems in which
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57 85 dispersal is limited, such as host-associated systems or soil systems, where distance-decay
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relationships are weaker in deeper soil horizons (Li *et al.*, 2020). Moreover, study systems differ in the spatially structured environmental gradients they support. Topsoil for example, supports strong environmental gradients over distances of a few meters (e.g. Dumbrell *et al.*, 2010), leading to steep distance-decay relationships due to spatially structured environmental gradients. Additionally, different study taxa are likely to yield variable distance-decay relationships because they may differ in traits that are linked to dispersal efficacy. For example, small cell sizes lead to more efficient long distance dispersal (Wilkinson, 2001; Wilkinson *et al.*, 2012; Norros *et al.*, 2014), thus organisms with larger cell sizes, such as microbial Eukarya, should be more strongly dispersal limited than those with small cell sizes, such as Bacteria (although this may not be true for all taxa e.g. see Kivlin, 2020). Finally, it is known that spatial extent can influence our perception of ecological relationships, which may contribute to variable distance-decay relationships (Steinbauer *et al.*, 2012). Studies incorporating larger spatial extents may find stronger distance-decay relationships as they are more likely to incorporate spatial scales at which the taxa are dispersal limited and/or at which environmental conditions become spatially structured (Martiny *et al.*, 2011).

Whilst the context in which a study was undertaken may contribute to variability in microbial distance-decay relationships, so too could different methodologies. Technological advances have yielded new insight into the structure and functioning of development of environmental microbial communities (Clark *et al.*, 2018). However, rapid turnover in molecular methodologies means that our perception of microbial β -diversity patterns is based on methods that vary substantially in both coverage (ability to detect a greater proportion of the community in a given sample) and resolution (ability to resolve closely related taxa) (Muyzer, 1999; Glenn, 2011). Early methods such as clone library sequencing and community fingerprinting methods (e.g. denaturing gradient gel electrophoresis (DGGE), terminal restriction fragment length polymorphism (TRFLP), or phospholipid fatty acid (PLFA)

analysis) are limited in their ability to detect rare taxa (Bartram *et al.*, 2011), undoubtedly missing taxa that are extremely rare (Low-Décarie *et al.*, 2016). In turn, this could reduce the detected β -diversity, inflating estimated community similarity and weakening distance-decay relationships (Hanson *et al.*, 2012). In contrast, high-throughput sequencing (HTS) platforms (also frequently referred to as next-generation sequencing (NGS)) can deliver sequencing depths upwards of tens or even hundreds of thousands of sequences per sample (Caporaso *et al.*, 2012), thus improving both community coverage (the detected proportion of a given community), and allowing more samples to be examined in a single study (sample coverage). Consequently, variation between molecular methods in their ability to resolve closely related taxa, and to detect rare taxa can be an additional source of variability in microbial beta diversity, which by extension can either weaken or strengthen microbial distance-decay relationships.

In addition to the molecular methods, the choice of analytical methods, such as similarity metric, can influence distance-decay relationships. The similarity of communities can vary according to the identity and abundance of the species present, their phylogenetic relationships, and by external factors such as varying sample sizes. Thus, similarity metrics that vary by one or more of these characteristics would likely result in contrasting distance-decay relationships (Chao *et al.*, 2005; Barwell *et al.*, 2015). For example, phylogenetic indices would be expected to yield weaker distance-decay relationships than other metrics, because communities that have no species in common can still be highly phylogenetically similar if the species share many branches of a phylogenetic tree, thus reducing the decay of similarity over geographic distance (Bryant *et al.*, 2008). On the other hand, quantitative indices compare not only the composition of species present, but also their abundance in each community, reflecting finer-scale changes in community structure, and thus should result in stronger distance-decay relationships by providing an additional axis (species abundances) by which communities can differ.

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4 138 Here, to disentangle the effects of both contextual (e.g. spatial extent, taxon, or ecosystem)
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6 139 and methodological (e.g. means of identifying/differentiating taxa, or similarity metric)
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8 140 variables on microbial distance-decay relationships, we undertook a meta-analysis to test
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10 141 the following specific hypotheses:

- 14 142 • H₁ Bacteria and Archaea will show weaker (lower effect size) distance-decay
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16 143 relationships than micro-eukaryotic taxa due to their smaller size and higher
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18 144 population densities in most environments.
- 20 145 • H₂ Ecosystems that contain steep physicochemical gradients will have stronger
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22 146 distance-decay relationships due to spatially-structured niche partitioning of
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24 147 communities.
- 26 148 • H₃ The spatial extent of a study will be positively related to the strength of any
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28 149 resulting distance-decay relationships, as larger extent studies incorporate greater
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30 150 environmental heterogeneity and lower dispersal rates between communities.
- 32 151 • H₄ High-throughput sequencing methods will yield stronger distance-decay
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34 152 relationships due to: a) their ability to resolve closely related taxa, b) their greater
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36 153 community coverage (e.g. number of sequences per sample, or number of
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38 154 individuals counted per sample), and/or c) their greater sample coverage.
- 40 155 • H₅ Phylogenetic similarity metrics (e.g. Unifrac, beta nearest taxon index) will result
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42 156 in weaker distance-decay relationships than other metrics as communities can be
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44 157 phylogenetically similar, yet different at fine taxonomic resolutions, whilst quantitative
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46 158 metrics (e.g. Bray-Curtis, Hellinger, Euclidean) will yield the strongest as they reflect
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48 159 changes in both species composition and abundance.

160 **Methods**

161 *Meta-Analysis*

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4 162 In order to test our hypotheses, we first gathered available data on microbial distance-decay
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6 163 relationships via a systematic literature search. To do this, five search terms were selected to
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8 164 detect relevant studies (Table 1). All literature searches were conducted using the Web of
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10 165 Science search portal on 18/04/2020, and all results published between 1900-2019
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12 166 (inclusive) were retained. To further filter the dataset to studies suitable for testing our
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14 167 hypotheses, search results were downloaded and manually screened using the “metagear”
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16 168 (Lajeunesse, 2016) package in R (version 3.4.1; R Core Team, 2019). Here, suitable studies
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18 169 were those that tested the relationship between community similarity and geographic
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20 170 distance in microbial communities, and not studies of “macroorganisms”, or studies of
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22 171 strain-level genetic distance (e.g. using multi-locus sequence typing). Furthermore, studies
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24 172 that did not test distance-decay relationships using Mantel correlation, or that used only
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26 173 partial Mantel tests, were also discarded. We did not identify any potentially suitable studies
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28 174 that were published prior to 1967, the year the Mantel test was described (Mantel, 1967),
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30 175 and the earliest suitable study was published in 2005.
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36 176 Table 1. Details of Web of Science search terms, and the number of results for each search.

Search	Search Term	Number of results
1	TS = (biogeograph*) AND TS = (bacteria* OR archaea* OR microb* OR microorganism*)	2907
2	TS = (macroecolog*) AND TS = (bacteria* OR archaea* OR microb* OR microorganism*)	136
3	TS = ("everything is everywhere") AND TS = (bacteria* OR archaea* OR microb* OR microorganism*)	66
4	TS = ("geographic distance") AND TS = (bacteria* OR archaea* OR microb* OR microorganism*)	220
5	TS = ("distance decay") AND TS = (bacteria* OR archaea* OR microb* OR microorganism*)	186

177 From these studies, we extracted Mantel correlation coefficients (r) as an effect-size
178 measure for each distance-decay relationship. The Mantel test is a permutation-based
179 method used to test for correlation between two distance matrices, or in the context of this
180 study, community (dis)similarity and geographic distance. The Mantel test statistic is an ideal
181 measure of effect size for use in meta-analytical frameworks for several reasons. Firstly, the
182 Mantel correlation test is the most frequently used method for testing distance-decay
183 relationships in microbial ecology (Franklin & Mills, 2007; Ramette, 2007). Secondly, as the
184 Mantel coefficient is a standardised correlation coefficient (i.e. is bound by -1 and 1), it
185 provides an easily interpretable and comparable measure of effect size (Harrison, 2012).

186 We ensured all Mantel correlation coefficients reflected correlations between geographic
187 distance and community dissimilarity, rather than similarity, by multiplying correlation
188 coefficients by -1 where necessary (so that positive values indicate a typical distance-decay
189 relationship). Partial Mantel statistics (which test for correlation between two matrices whilst
190 controlling for a third) were excluded as they are influenced by other variables included in
191 the test, and are therefore not easily comparable between studies. All Mantel correlation
192 coefficients were transformed to z-scores using Fisher's z transformation, as recommended
193 by Koricheva *et al.*, (2013). All subsequent statistical analyses were conducted on the
194 transformed z-scores, whilst original Mantel correlation coefficients were used to make
195 figures, for ease of interpretation.

196 In order to test our hypotheses, several variables relating to the context and methodology of
197 each distance-decay relationship were recorded. Details of these variables are described in
198 Box 1.

199 Box 1. Details of the explanatory variables extracted from each study.

Resolution

Each distance-decay relationship was categorised into either high-resolution (high-throughput or Sanger sequencing), low resolution (molecular e.g. ARISA, TRFLP, DGGE, PhyloChip, PLFA), or low resolution (morphological), based on the method's ability to distinguish between closely related organisms.

Community Coverage

This refers to the sequencing depth in sequencing-based studies, or number of individuals counted in morphology-based studies, per sample. For sequencing studies, we recorded the number of sequences after rarefaction, or if this was not given, the average number of sequences per sample. As there is no comparable measure of coverage for fingerprinting studies, we excluded them from analyses of community coverage.

Sample Coverage

Sample coverage refers to the sample size (e.g. number of communities/samples) of each distance-decay relationship.

Dissimilarity Index

The dissimilarity index used to calculate each distance-decay relationship. Recorded dissimilarity indices were then categorised as quantitative (Bray-Curtis, Horn-Morisita, Euclidean, Hellinger, Theta), qualitative (Jaccard, Raup-Crick, Sørensen, Simpson, β sim), or phylogenetic (weighted or unweighted Unifrac, Rao, β -mean nearest taxon distance, β -mean pairwise distance).

Study Taxon

Each distance-decay relationship was binned into the following broad taxonomic categories based on the taxonomy of the focal organisms (Archaea, Bacteria, Fungi, or other microbial Eukarya), or combination of these categories if a relationship was based on multiple taxa (for example due to using sequencing primers that detect both Archaea and Bacteria). Fungi grouped separately from other micro-Eukaryotes due to their distinct reproductive strategy (e.g. spore-production) and the fact they are frequently targeted using distinct molecular approaches (e.g. via taxon-specific primer sets), in contrast to most other studies of micro-Eukarya.

Spatial Extent

This is the maximum distance separating communities in km. If this was not stated in text or provided in supplementary material (e.g. in a geographic distance matrix), it was calculated from given geographic coordinates, estimated from a plot of the distance-decay relationship, or estimated from scaled maps.

Environment

We broadly categorised distance-decay relationships based on the type of environment (agriculture, air, aquifer, coastal wetlands/intertidal, desert, dune, forest, glacier, grassland, lake, marine, coastal marshes, mine, river, snow, urban) within which they were sampled. Whilst these categories are not mutually exclusive, we categorised each study based on which environment best represented the environmental context in which each study was undertaken.

Habitat

The type of environmental material that the sampled communities occupied. We categorised distance-decay relationships as: air, host-associated, sediment, snow, soil, water.

200 *Statistical Analyses*

201 In order to determine whether distance-decay relationships varied between categorical
202 variables (as in hypotheses 1, 2, 4, and 5), we used ANOVA tests. In tests where significant
203 differences between groups were found, Tukey's Honest Significant Difference (HSD) tests
204 were used to determine which groups were different. Linear models were used to test
205 relationships between effect sizes and continuous variables such as spatial extent and
206 community coverage. The variables spatial extent and community coverage were initially log
207 transformed to aid model fitting, as they spanned several orders of magnitude. To compare
208 the overall influence of ecological vs methodological factors on microbial distance-decay
209 relationships, we compared two full models (including all relevant variables) using AIC
210 scores, on a subset of the data for which all variables were successfully recorded. We then
211 sought to identify a smaller number of variables that adequately predicted the effect size of
212 microbial distance-decay relationships by using a drop-term likelihood ratio procedure.

213 **Results**

214 Our Web of Science searches resulted in 2,982 unique search results. Manual screening of
215 the abstracts yielded 951 studies that were deemed to be potentially suitable for use in this
216 analysis. A total of 452 Mantel correlation coefficients were successfully obtained from 187
217 studies represented in 61 journals (Fig. S1). Reported Mantel correlation coefficients ranged
218 from -0.33 to 0.95, with a mean of 0.27 (std. error = 0.011).

219 *Influence of Context on the Distance-Decay Relationship*

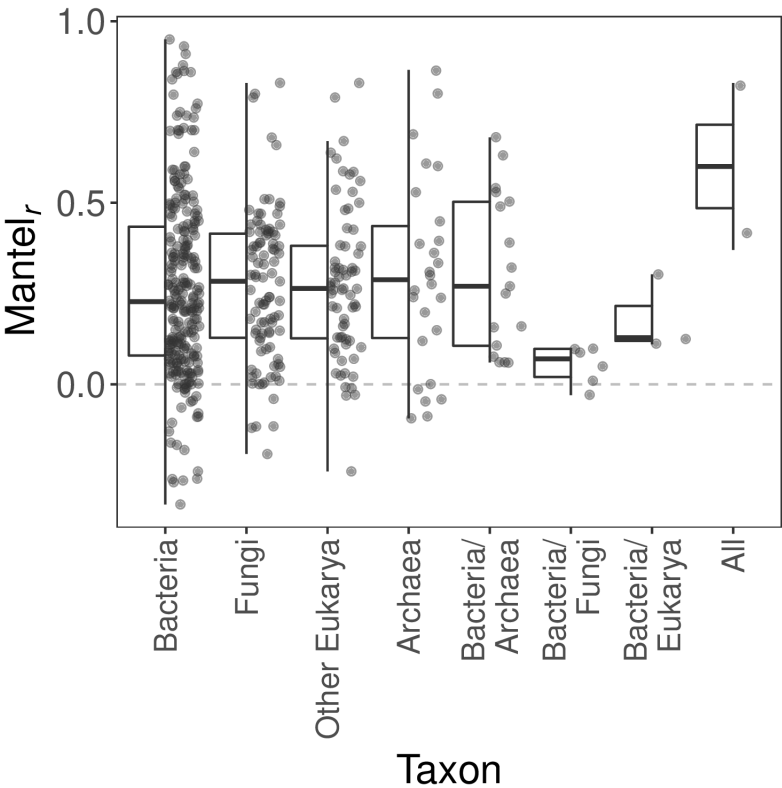


Figure 1. Effect sizes (Mantel_r) of distance-decay relationships based on different study taxa. A larger effect size indicates stronger positive correlation between community dissimilarity and geographic distance. The “All” category consists of studies that incorporated all microbial taxonomic groups, whilst combined categories (e.g. Bacteria/Archaea) incorporate communities from multiple taxonomic groups (e.g. bacterial and archaeal communities).

233 The distance-decay relationships in our dataset originated from 16 different environments.
234 Of these, five were represented by three, or fewer, distance-decay relationships, and so
235 were excluded from further analyses (marsh; $n = 3$, snow; $n = 3$, dune, mine, aquifer; $n = 1$).
236 The most frequently studied environments were grasslands ($n = 96$), marine ($n = 88$), and
237 lakes and forests ($n = 76$ for both). We found clear differences in the effect sizes of
238 distance-decay relationships between environments (Fig. 2A; $F_{10, 432} = 3.187$, $P < 0.001$).
239 Specifically, and perhaps counter-intuitively, grassland-based studies tended to have
240 weaker distance-decay relationships than those from aquatic environments such as lakes,
241 rivers, or the marine environment ($|\text{coef}| > 0.17$, $P < 0.05$ for all comparisons). Urban
242 environments, which included built environments such as sewers and indoor air, also
243 produced low effect sizes, although with only four data points, this difference was not
244 statistically clear ($P > 0.43$ for all comparisons). A more detailed analysis of the interaction
245 between environment type and habitat revealed that, whilst environments ($F_{9, 420} = 3.29$, $P <$
246 0.001) and habitat ($F_{3, 420} = 6.65$, $P < 0.001$) differ from each other, their interaction was not
247 statistically significant ($F_{4, 420} = 1.93$, $P = 0.10$). In fact, within environments, only marine
248 host-associated and marine water-based distance-decay relationships were clearly different
249 from each other (Fig. 2B), with host-associated communities showing significantly larger
250 effect sizes ($\text{coef} = 0.35$, $P < 0.001$).

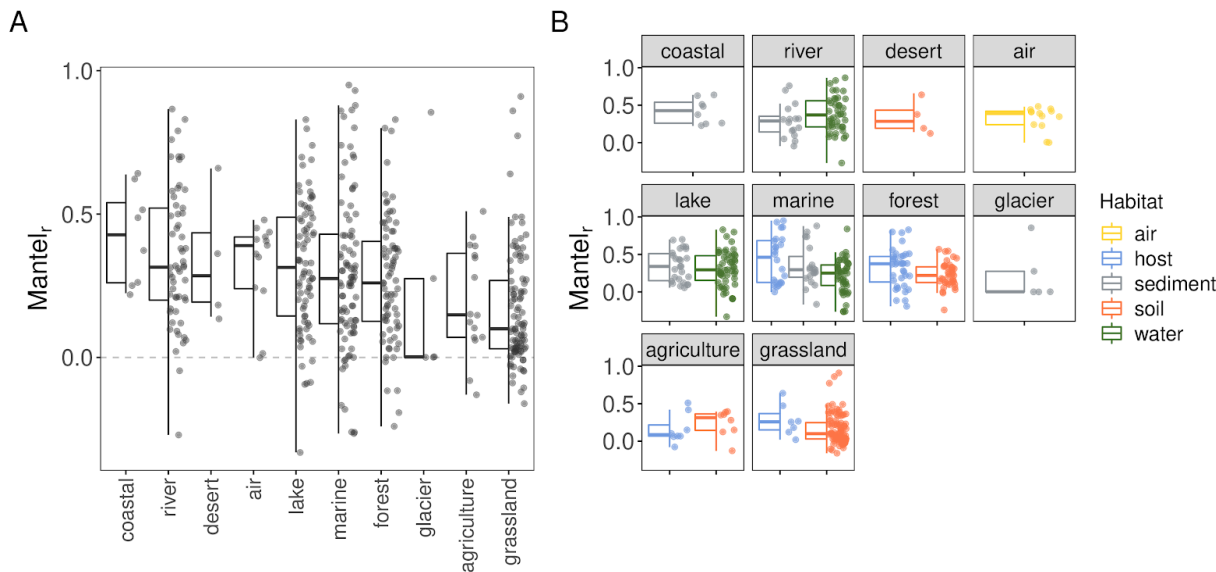


Figure 2. Variation in Mantel correlation coefficients (effect size) of distance-decay relationships between different environments (A) and habitat types (B). Environment categories are arranged from highest to lowest mean effect size.

Finally, we found a positive relationship between the (log) spatial extent and the effect size of microbial distance-decay relationships (Fig. 3; coef = 0.03, $t = 4.66$, $R^2 = 0.05$, $P < 0.001$), such that studies incorporating large spatial scales tend to have stronger distance-decay relationships. As larger spatial scale studies might also incorporate greater sampling coverage, we also tested for collinearity between the spatial scale of a study and the sampling coverage, but found no correlation between these variables ($\rho = 0.06$, $P = 0.19$).

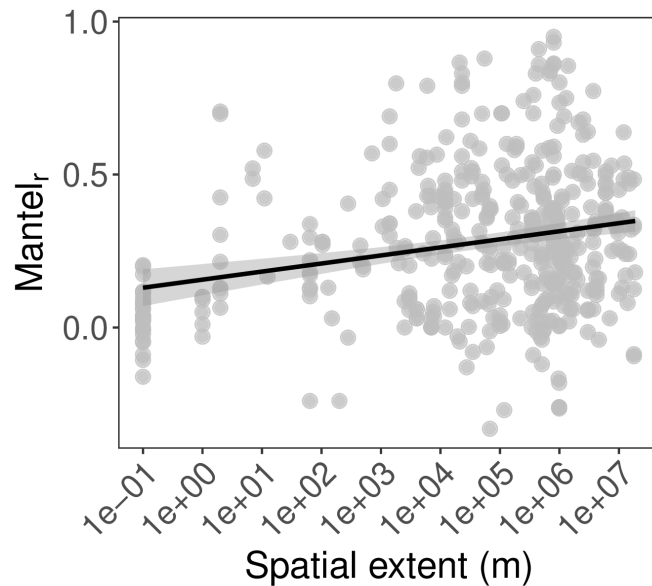


Figure 3. The relationship between spatial extent and the Mantel correlation coefficient of microbial distance-decay relationships. The best fit line represents the fit of a linear regression between the log of spatial extent and Mantel correlation coefficient, and the grey shaded region shows 95% confidence intervals.

Influence of Methodological Factors on the Distance-Decay Relationship

To determine whether the microbial distance-decay relationship may be influenced by methodological factors, we tested for relationships between the method of community characterisation, sampling depth, or choice of community similarity index and the effect size of microbial distance-decay relationships. We grouped community characterisation methods according to their ability to distinguish between closely related taxa. There were no clear differences in the distance-decay effect sizes between methods of differing resolutions ($F_{2, 449} = 0.562$, $P = 0.57$), nor were there clear differences between different molecular methods (Fig. S2, $F_{7, 437} = 1.97$, $P = 0.06$), considering only those methods that had >4 distance-decay relationships (excluding Ion Torrent; $n = 4$, phylo-chip; $n = 2$, and Pac-Bio; $n = 1$).

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274 Whilst we observed no differences in distance-decay relationships between different
275 resolution methods, we observed a positive relationship between (\log_{10}) community
276 coverage and the strength of microbial distance-decay relationships (Fig. 4A; $n = 337$, $\text{coef} =$
277 0.04 , $t = 2.39$, $P < 0.01$). However, this relationship was weak ($R^2 = 0.01$), and when two
278 distance-decay relationships with extremely high community coverage were removed, the
279 slope was indistinguishable from 0 ($\text{coef} = 0.03$, $t = 1.78$, $R^2 = 0.01$, $P = 0.08$).

280 The logistics of multiplexing samples on high-throughput sequencing runs means that there
281 is often a trade-off between the community coverage and sampling coverage of a study.
282 However, we found no evidence of negative correlation between these two factors
283 (Pearson's $\rho = -0.03$, $P = 0.54$). Neither did we detect any clear relationship between the
284 number of samples (\log_{10} sample coverage) and the distance-decay effect size (Fig. 4B; $n =$
285 451 , $\text{coef} = -0.04$, $t = -1.03$, $P = 0.30$).

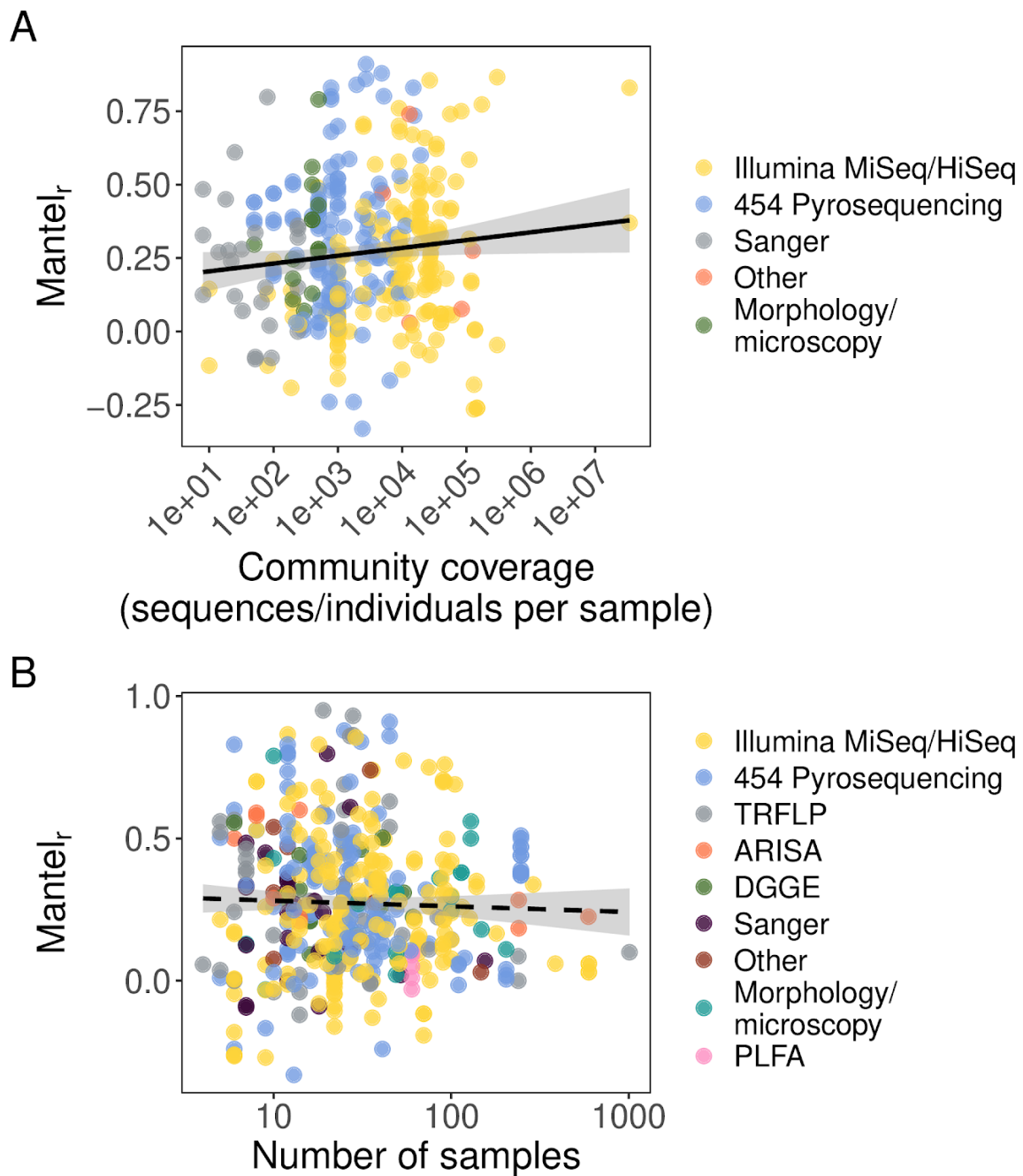


Figure 4. The relationship between the effect size of microbial distance-decay relationships (Mantel correlation coefficient) and A) community coverage, quantified as the number of sequences or individuals counted per sample, and B) sample coverage, quantified as the number of individual samples used to construct distance-decay relationships. Points are individual Mantel correlation coefficients, coloured by the molecular technique used in

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3 291 characterising the microbial community. Solid lines indicate statistically significant
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5 292 relationships ($P < 0.05$), whilst dashed lines indicate non-significant relationships ($P > 0.05$),
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7 293 and grey ribbons represent 95% confidence intervals. Abbreviated molecular methods in the
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9 294 legend are defined as follows (TRFLP = Terminal Restriction Fragment Length
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11 295 Polymorphism; ARISA = Automated Ribosomal Intergenic Spacer Analysis; DGGE =
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13 296 Denaturing Gradient Gel Electrophoresis; PLFA = Phospholipid Fatty Acid analysis).
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17 297 Choice of similarity index also had a clear impact on the effect size of microbial
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19 298 distance-decay relationships. As well as recording the specific similarity index used, we
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21 299 categorised these indices into types (binary, abundance, or phylogenetic) to look for broad
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23 300 differences in distance-decay relationships between them. We analysed the nested
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25 301 interaction between similarity index and index type, and found no clear differences between
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27 302 different index types (Fig. 5A; $F_{2, 424} = 1.48$, $P = 0.23$). However, the interaction between
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29 303 index type and similarity index was significant ($F_{7, 424} = 7.20$, $P = 0.001$). Post-hoc analysis
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31 304 revealed differences between similarity indices within and between index types (Fig. 5B).
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33 305 Distance-decay effect sizes based on the Raup-Crick index were weaker than those based
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35 306 on either Sørensen (coef = -0.38, $P < 0.01$) or unweighted Unifrac indices (coef = -0.44, $P <$
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37 307 0.01), whilst those based on weighted Unifrac were weaker than both Sørensen (coef =
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39 308 -0.29, $P < 0.001$) and unweighted Unifrac (coef = -0.35 $P < 0.05$).
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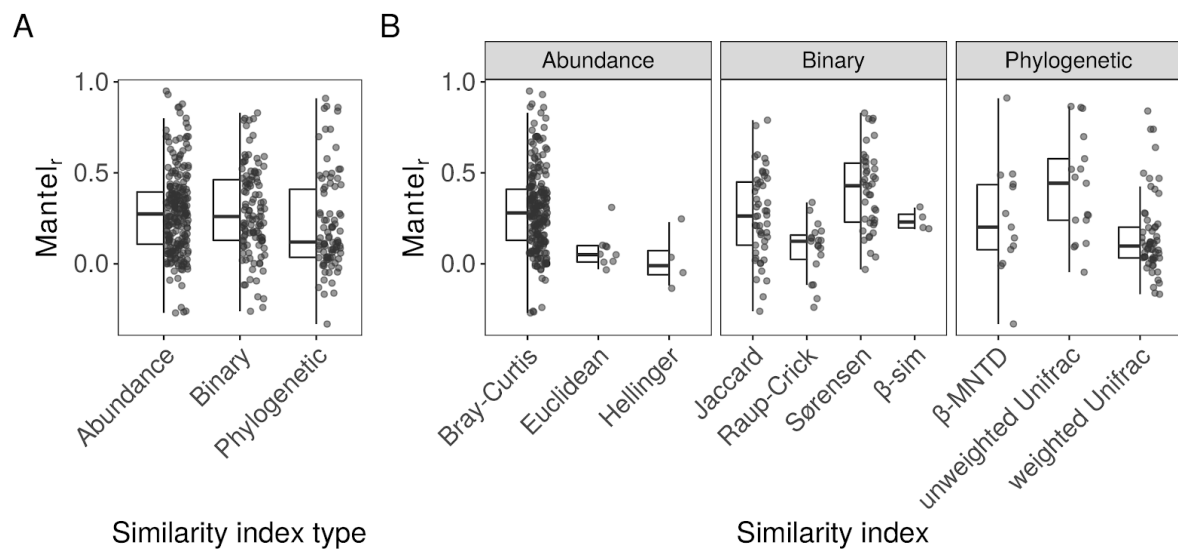


Figure 5. Variation in effect sizes of microbial distance-decay relationships calculated with different similarity index types (A), or individual indices (B). Only indices with four or more effect sizes were plotted for clarity.

Comparison of Contextual and Methodological Variables

In order to determine whether eco-environmental context or methodological factors better explain the effect size of microbial distance decay relationship, we specified two models, with variables from these two categories, using a subset of the original data for which values were obtained for all variables ($n = 323$). The two models each had four variables, and used similar degrees of freedom (context model $df = 26$, methodological model $df = 27$). The methodological model outperformed the contextual model in terms of both AIC (Akaike Information Criterion) and R^2 measures of model performance (Table 2). Notably, neither model explained a high proportion of the variance, although both AIC and likelihood ratio tests supported both models over a null (intercept only) model.

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Table 2. Comparison of models specified using either contextual, or methodological variables. Akaike Information Criterion (AIC) and adjusted R^2 quantify the likelihood and fit of a model relative to the number of predictor variables, respectively.

Model	AIC	Adj- R^2	Likelihood ratio comparison to null (intercept only) model			
			Δ AIC	Sum of squares	F (df)	P value
Contextual	146.89	0.11	-13.69	5.34	2.61	< 0.001
Methodological	134.11	0.14	-26.46	6.47	3.17 (25)	< 0.001

Discussion

Previous research into the spatial ecology of microbial communities has not yielded a consistent distance-decay relationship. Our meta-analysis of 452 microbial distance-decay relationships suggests that the reasons for this lack of consistency are two-fold. Firstly, the differing contexts within which studies are conducted contribute variability to reported distance-decay relationships. In particular, we found that differing study systems and spatial extents were associated with variation in microbial distance-decay relationships. Secondly, methodological differences between studies, including dissimilarity index, data resolution, and sample coverage, all significantly affected observed distance-decay relationships. A central tenet of macroecology is the search for universal patterns and relationships; our results suggest generalisable relationships may only emerge when methodological approaches are appropriately coupled to ecological context.

Our comparison of distance-decay relationships between different study systems revealed that agricultural and especially grassland-based studies had weaker relationships than studies of other environments. Within these environments, soils were by far the most

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3 340 frequently studied habitat, and we initially expected that, as soils maintain strong
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5 341 physicochemical gradients over small vertical and horizontal spatial scales (e.g. Dumbrell *et*
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7 342 *al.*, 2010), that these distance-decay relationships would be stronger than in other
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9 343 environments or habitats. It is possible that the environmental gradients present in soils do
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11 344 not change linearly over geographic distance, for example if similar environmental conditions
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13 345 are patchily distributed. Alternatively, soil microorganisms may be able to disperse more
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15 346 effectively than previously thought, perhaps via association with other soil organisms (e.g.
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17 347 bacterial migration along fungal hyphae; Warmink *et al.*, 2011), migratory species such as
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19 348 birds (Bisson *et al.*, 2007), wind blown soil particles (Favet *et al.*, 2013), or via bioaerosols
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21 349 (Joung *et al.*, 2017). The depth profile over which soil samples integrate may also play a role
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23 350 in obscuring distance-decay relationships, as surface soils show stronger distance-decay
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25 351 relationships than deeper ones, likely due to the greater intensity of dispersing propagules
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27 352 entering the surface (Li *et al.*, 2020). Furthermore, soils harbour extensive microbial “seed
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29 353 banks” of dormant organisms and/or relic DNA that could weaken the distance-decay
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31 354 relationship (Lennon & Jones, 2011; Carini *et al.*, 2016; Lennon *et al.*, 2018). Dormant cells
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33 355 and relic DNA are not subject to environmental selection yet, are routinely detected in
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35 356 molecular community assays, and thus may diminish the perceived effects of
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37 357 spatially-structured environmental selection on microbial communities (Locey *et al.*, 2019).
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39 358 Thus, in habitats such as soils, distinguishing dormant from active cells could result in
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41 359 stronger distance-decay relationships than those recorded previously, though the extent to
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43 360 which this phenomenon plays a role in other environments is less clear .
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50 361 Originally, we expected that studies of aquatic microbial communities may show the weakest
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52 362 distance-decay relationships as riverine or oceanic hydrology may provide an effective
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54 363 dispersal mechanism, homogenising microbial communities over larger spatial and
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56 364 environmental gradients over larger spatial scales. In contrast, we found that aquatic
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58 365 communities actually showed stronger distance-decay relationships. Soininen *et al.* (2007)
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3 366 recorded similar distance-decay rates between terrestrial, marine and aquatic ecosystems,
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5 367 showing that context-dependent distance-decay relationships may be a feature of microbial
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7 368 communities. Host-associated communities showed relatively strong, but variable
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10 369 distance-decay relationships. We suggest that this is caused jointly by the ecology of the
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12 370 host species, in combination with the degree of host-specificity with the associated microbial
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14 371 community. For example, if the host is not dispersal limited, and associates with a large
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16 372 variety of microorganisms, then the distance-decay relationship may be relatively weaker
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18 373 than those of either dispersal limited hosts, or highly specific associated microbiomes.
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21 374 Scale-dependent relationships have been reported previously (Bissett *et al.*, 2010;
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23 375 Martiny *et al.*, 2011; Soininen *et al.*, 2011), albeit with contrasting results. Our results are
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25 376 comparable to those of Soininen *et al.* (2011), who reported that distance-decay
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27 377 relationships of various microbial communities were generally steeper as greater spatial
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29 378 scales were incorporated. The scale-dependence of this relationship may be explained by
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31 379 greater environmental heterogeneity in large-scale studies, thus communities are subjected
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33 380 to different environmental filters, resulting in more dissimilar communities. In combination
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35 381 with this, communities separated by very large geographic distances should have minimal
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37 382 dispersal between them, assuming connectivity is negatively related to geographic distance.
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39 383 Alternatively, this result may be a statistical artefact, caused by studies with large spatial
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41 384 extents incorporating many zero similarity community comparisons (i.e. communities with no
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43 385 species in common), therefore biasing measured distance-decay relationships (Millar *et al.*,
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45 386 2011; Steinbauer *et al.*, 2012).
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51 387 Distance-decay relationships are frequently interpreted as evidence for neutral community
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53 388 assembly processes such as dispersal limitation, in the microbial literature. Across microbial
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55 389 taxa, cell size is a trait thought to influence dispersal efficacy (Wilkinson, 2001; Wilkinson *et*
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57 390 *al.*, 2012; Zinger *et al.*, 2019), and so larger microorganisms such as micro-Eukarya should
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3 391 show stronger distance-decay relationships than smaller microorganisms such as Bacteria
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5 392 or Archaea. However, we found no evidence for this, suggesting that phylogenetically
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7 393 structured traits such as cell size may be less important compared to other contextual and
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9 394 methodological factors, or that the broad domain-level classification used here does not
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11 395 sufficiently capture different microbial cell sizes. As discussed previously, distance-decay
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13 396 relationships can arise from spatially autocorrelated environmental gradients as well as
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15 397 dispersal limitation (Nekola & White, 1999). Therefore, the lack of differences in
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17 398 biogeographic patterns observed at the domain level may be the result of a trade-off
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19 399 between dispersal-related processes and environmental filtering. For instance, bacterial
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21 400 distance-decay relationships may be less strongly influenced by dispersal than
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23 401 environmental filtering, and vice versa for Eukarya. Consequently, these influences may
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25 402 balance out at broad taxonomic levels, resulting in similar biogeographic patterns at the
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27 403 domain level.
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32 404 In comparison to contextual factors, methodological factors were found to have a greater
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34 405 influence on microbial distance-decay relationships. The development of molecular methods,
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36 406 including high-throughput sequencing platforms, has vastly improved our ability to
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38 407 characterise microbial communities (Roesch *et al.*, 2007; Caporaso *et al.*, 2012). However,
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40 408 these methods differ in their resolution, community coverage, and ability to multiplex large
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42 409 numbers of samples, all of which we hypothesised could strengthen or weaken
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44 410 distance-decay relationships by altering our estimation of microbial β -diversity. In contrast,
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46 411 we observed only a weak relationship between distance-decay effect sizes and community
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48 412 coverage, and no clear relationships with different resolution methods, or with the number of
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50 413 samples, suggesting that molecular methodology may not play as large a role in determining
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4 415 The ability to resolve closely related taxa has previously been found to be an important
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6 416 determinant of our ability to detect biogeographical patterns, as such patterns may only
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8 417 emerge when taxa are defined at sufficiently high resolution (Hanson *et al.*, 2012). Yet, other
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10 418 studies show that bioinformatically altering taxonomic resolution frequently has little effect on
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12 419 microbial biogeographic patterns. For example, increasing the similarity threshold at which
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14 420 operational taxonomic units are defined is thought to be equivalent to increasing the
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16 421 taxonomic resolution (Callahan *et al.*, 2017). Yet, empirical biogeographic relationships often
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18 422 appear robust to such manipulation, in a variety of taxa and ecosystems (Clark *et al.*, 2017;
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20 423 Glassman & Martiny, 2018; Meyer *et al.*, 2018), supporting our finding that resolution may
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22 424 not be important. Perhaps most molecular methodologies operate above resolutions at
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24 425 which biogeographic patterns begin to change, or more worryingly, perhaps we are still
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26 426 studying microbial biogeography at too low a resolution.
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31 427 Aside from resolution, another important variable related to molecular methodology is
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33 428 community coverage. One of the few universal patterns that appears to hold true for most
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35 429 microbial communities is the “long-tailed” species abundance-distributions (Dumbrell *et al.*,
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37 430 2010; Shoemaker *et al.*, 2017; Maček *et al.*, 2019), which is caused by the majority of
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39 431 microorganisms in a community being rare. The rarer taxa in microbial communities also
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41 432 tend to be the least widespread (Clark *et al.*, 2017; Lindh *et al.*, 2017; Meyer *et al.*, 2018;
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43 433 Shade & Stopnisek, 2019) and thus, only detecting the more abundant, widespread
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45 434 organisms would overestimate compositional similarity across communities, and
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47 435 consequently, weaken distance-decay relationships due to the lower rate of turnover (Meyer
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49 436 *et al.*, 2018). Perhaps of more concern is that even with existing sequencing platforms, our
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51 437 surveys of environmental microbial communities still miss taxa that are vanishingly rare in
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53 438 the environment, such as extremophiles that persist in non-extreme habitats (Low-Décarie *et*
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55 439 *al.*, 2016). The ability of common species to reflect ecological patterns of the wider
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community is debated (Galand *et al.*, 2009; Heino & Soininen, 2010; van Dorst *et al.*, 2014) and is linked to a wider debate on the ecological importance of rare species that is far beyond the scope of this work (e.g. Gaston, 2012). However, rare microorganisms are well known to be of critical importance in the context of environmental perturbations (Shade *et al.*, 2014; Low-Décarie *et al.*, 2016) and in providing ecosystem processes (e.g. sulfate-reduction in peat soils, Hausmann *et al.*, 2016; and anaerobic ammonia-oxidation in river sediments Lansdown *et al.*, 2016) and as a result, ignoring them may further distance biogeographic patterns from ecosystem-level processes.

Against expectation, we observed no clear differences in distance-decay relationships using different similarity metric types, and differences between specific metrics were minimal. Distance-decay relationships based on the weighted Unifrac distance were weaker than those based on other metrics. Phylogenetic metrics, such as Unifrac, cluster communities at a lower resolution, as two communities can be closely genetically related, yet distinct at fine taxonomic resolutions (e.g. species or strain-level). For example, Bryant *et al.* (2008) found that Unifrac similarity was approximately three times higher than the compositional similarity of the same set of bacterial communities. Further, phylogenetic metrics may be inappropriate in less phylogenetically diverse environments (e.g. extreme systems) where phylogenetic diversity can be largely constrained to one taxon (e.g. the Halobacteria in hypersaline environments), leaving few “phylogenetic degrees of freedom” left to separate communities (Fukuyama, 2019). However, this does not account for the observed difference between weighted and unweighted versions of the Unifrac index, the former of which accounts for species’ relative abundance data, whilst the latter is binary (presence/absence based). A criticism of the weighted Unifrac index is that too much weight is placed on abundant taxa (Chen *et al.*, 2012). As abundant species are generally more widespread, placing too much weight on abundant taxa would have the effect of making communities appear artificially similar, exacerbating the effects of using a phylogenetic metric. As we observed no

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3 466 difference between binary and abundance-based compositional indices, the differences
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5 467 observed with weighted Unifrac appear to be the result of combining phylogenetic and
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7 468 weighted indices. We therefore suggest that weighted phylogenetic metrics may
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9 469 underestimate microbial biogeographic patterns, unless appropriate weight is given to rare
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11 470 and abundant taxa (Chen *et al.*, 2012).
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15 471 Our analysis of 452 microbial distance-decay relationships also revealed the overwhelming
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17 472 preference of microbial ecologists to use classic dissimilarity indices such as the Bray-Curtis
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19 473 ($n = 218$), Jaccard ($n = 49$), Sørensen ($n = 42$) indices. These choices no doubt reflect a
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21 474 wider trend in ecology as a whole, however, it is pertinent to draw attention to more recently
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23 475 developed metrics that may be more appropriate given the properties of microbial datasets
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25 476 and the hypotheses being tested. Biotic interactions are drivers of microbial β -diversity
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27 477 (Hanson *et al.*, 2012), yet classic dissimilarity metrics do not account for co-occurrence
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29 478 information in communities. To this end, a new family of metrics described by Schmidt *et al.*,
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31 479 (2017) include information on the average interactions of the taxa present, thus providing a
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33 480 novel approach to integrating co-occurrence data into distance-decay relationships. One
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35 481 problematic characteristic of high-throughput sequence datasets is the non-biological
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37 482 variance of sample sizes, which can result in statistical artefacts that confound
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39 483 biogeographic relationships (Baselga, 2007). Here, modifications made to some classic
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41 484 indices by Chao *et al.* (2005) reduce the sensitivity of these indices to variable sample sizes
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43 485 by accounting for unobserved species, thus reducing the need for post-sequencing
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45 486 normalisation of sample sizes (McMurdie & Holmes, 2014). Furthermore, “fuzzy logic”-based
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47 487 similarity indices are able to reduce the impact of false-absences or -presences on estimates
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49 488 of β -diversity, which is beneficial for microbial ecology studies where rarefaction may induce
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51 489 false-absences, and taxonomic assignment errors or contamination may lead to
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53 490 false-presences. Finally, many similarity metrics have been shown to merge compositional
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55 491 turnover (replacement of species) and nestedness (whereby communities are subsets of one
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another), thereby blurring the contribution of distinct ecological processes to total community (dis)similarity. To combat this, modified versions of classic indices such as Jaccard, Sorensen, and Bray-Curtis have been developed, allowing the partitioning of community similarity metrics into their turnover and nestedness components (Baselga, 2010; Podani & Schmera, 2011). We echo the call of Green and Bohannan (2006) for microbial ecologists to exercise more care in their choice of dissimilarity metrics, especially as many of these new metrics are implemented in popular and freely accessible software, such as R (e.g. Baselga and Orme, 2012).

Overall, our analyses revealed that methodological factors explain more variation in microbial distance-decay relationships than ecological context, but that both sets of factors alter our perception of this biogeographic pattern. Given the importance of methodological factors in determining the strength of microbial biogeographic patterns, it is intuitive to recommend standardising approaches across studies in order to minimise the statistical signals associated with methodological variance. However, our results show variance due to differing ecological contexts would still hinder drawing generalisable relationships across studies. Instead, we suggest that tailoring methodological choices towards specific ecological contexts may enhance generalisable relationships in microbial ecology. For instance, in searching for consistent relationships between ocean waters and terrestrial soils, it would be unrealistic to sample both at the same spatial grain and extent, as the heterogeneity in the physicochemical environment, and dispersal processes of their microbial communities, are fundamentally different. Similarly, we should not necessarily expect the relationships between soils and river sediments to be comparable, as microorganisms in soils can feasibly disperse in any direction, whereas in rivers or streams dispersal would be largely constrained by flow direction. Consequently, tailoring methodological approaches, such as the sampling design and/or (geographical) distance measure, to better reflect the environmental heterogeneity and dispersal dynamics between

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3 518 contrasting ecological contexts may enable us to negotiate the hierarchy of interacting
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5 519 factors that obscure macroecological patterns in microbial communities.
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9 520 **Conclusions**

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11 521 Our meta-analysis of >450 microbial distance-decay relationships revealed that factors
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13 522 related to the eco-environmental context within which a study was conducted, as well as the
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15 523 methodology of the study, jointly influence quantification of this classic biogeographic
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17 524 pattern. Against expectation, factors related to molecular methodology had relatively little
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19 525 effect on distance-decay relationships, whilst choice of dissimilarity metric was more
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21 526 important, highlighting that even after using robust, modern molecular methods, analytical
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23 527 choices have the power to obscure or enhance biogeographic patterns. Whilst we were able
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25 528 to detect clear relationships between microbial distance-decay relationships and various
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27 529 contextual and methodological variables, combining these variables explained only a modest
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29 530 amount of variation in our dataset. This lack of explanatory power highlights the fact that
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31 531 microbial biogeographic patterns may depend on a great number of contextual variables
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33 532 beyond those analysed here, and that understanding the environmental, or methodological,
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35 533 factors that drive this context-dependence may enable us to unify the seemingly disparate
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37 534 patterns observed by microbial ecologists over the past few decades.
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43 535 **Data Availability Statement**

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46 536 Full raw data analysed in this manuscript are provided in Table S1. Full raw data and code
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48 537 used in this manuscript will be uploaded to the Dryad data repository upon acceptance of
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50 538 this article.
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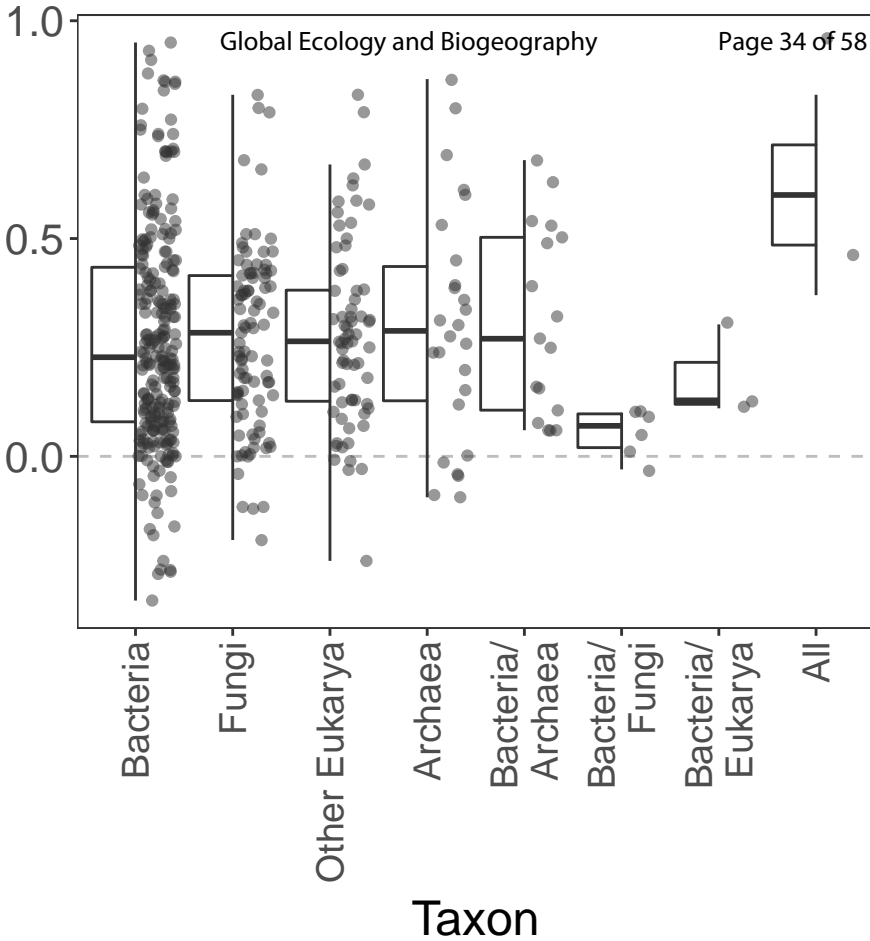
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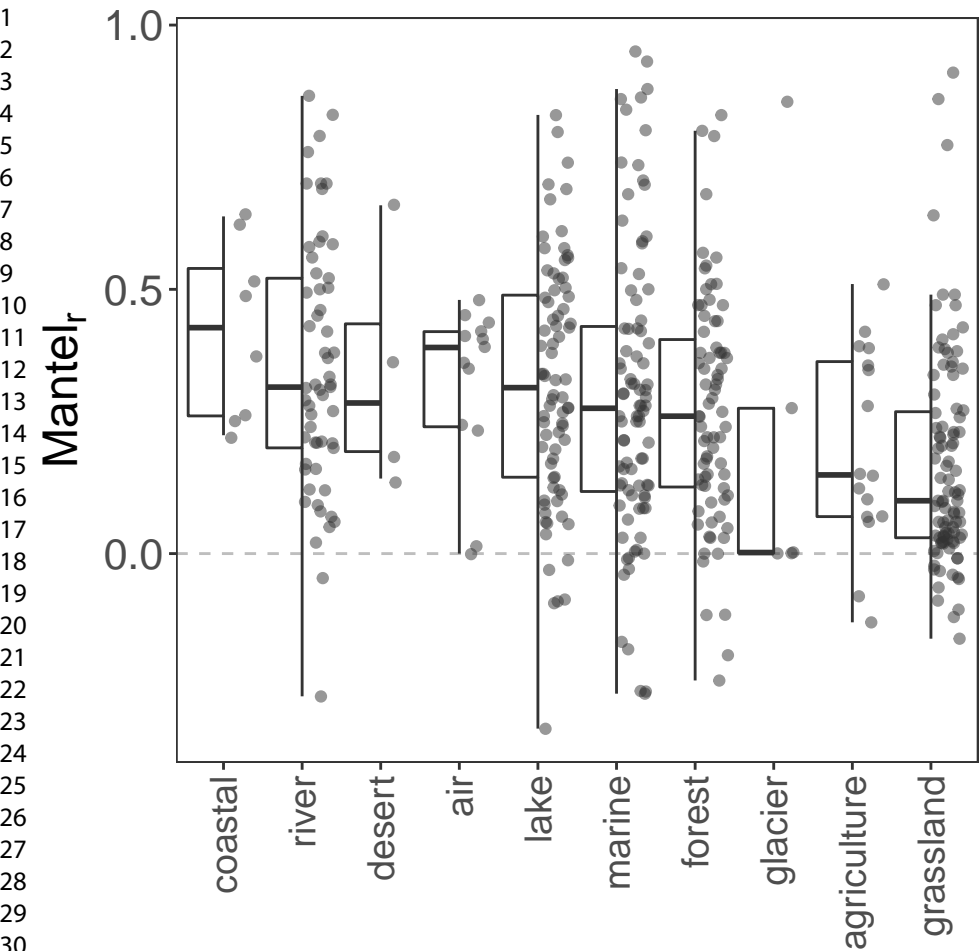
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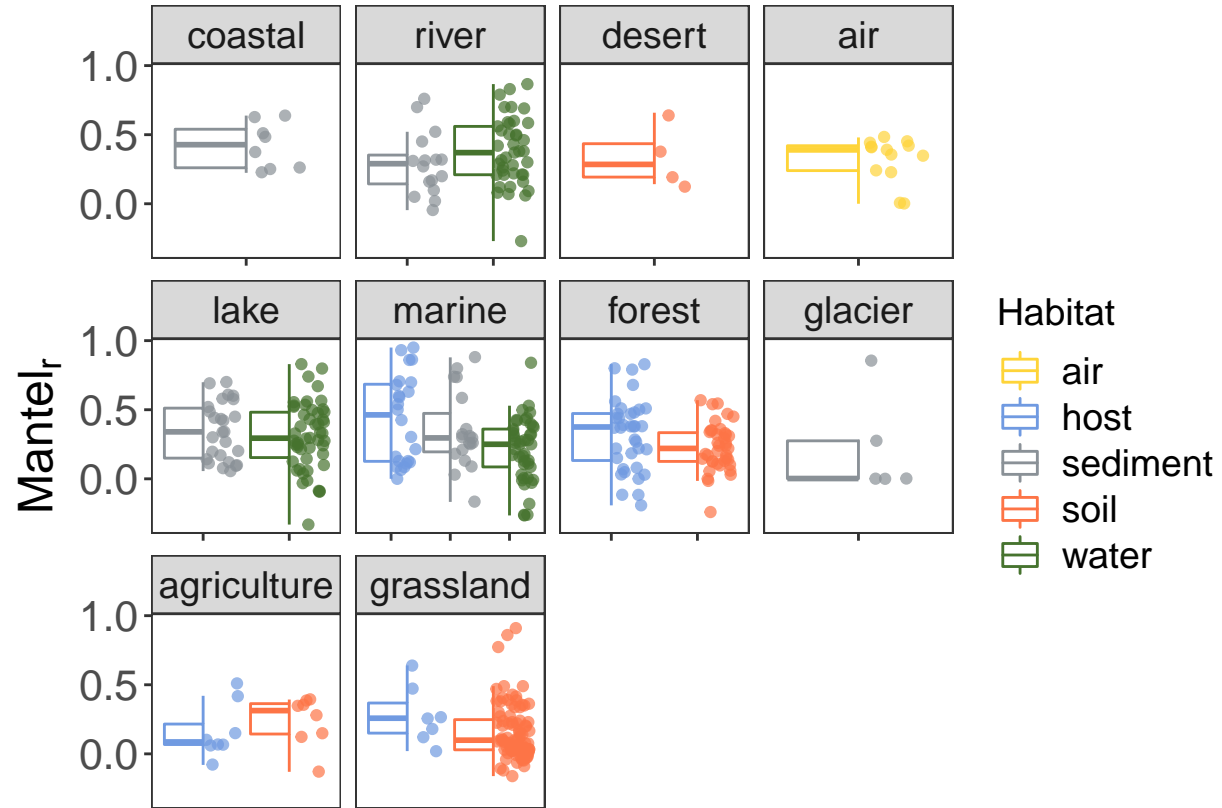
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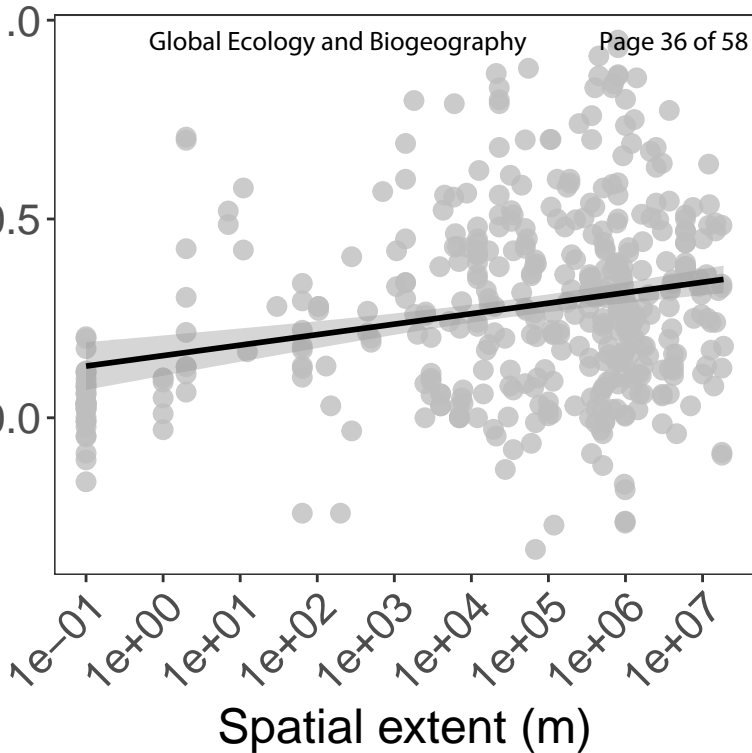


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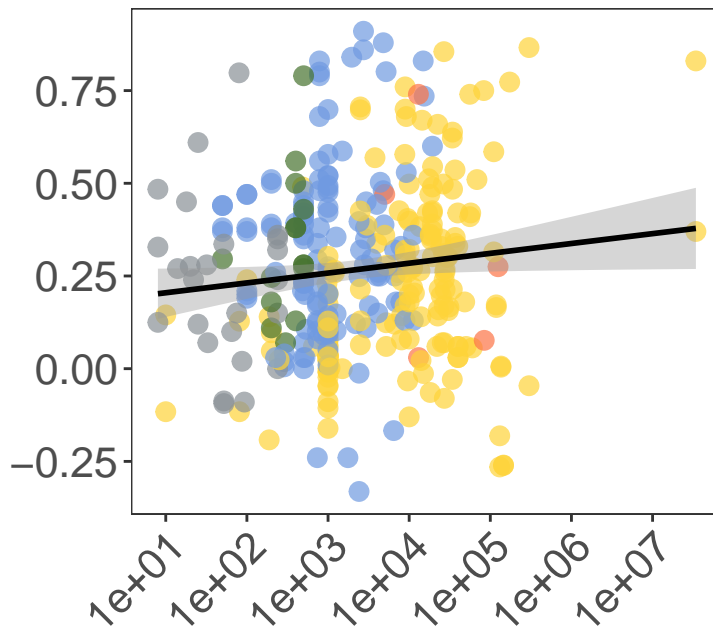
Mantel



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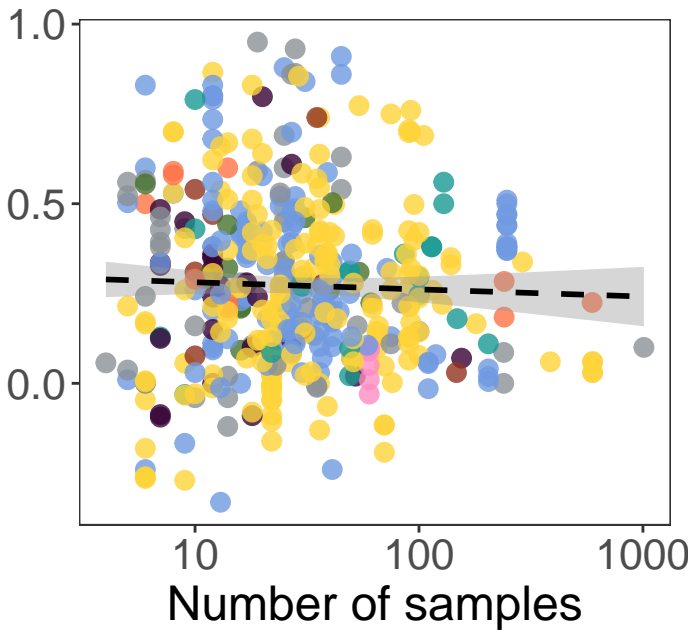
Mantel_r



- Illumina MiSeq/HiSeq
- 454 Pyrosequencing
- Sanger
- Other
- Morphology/
microscopy

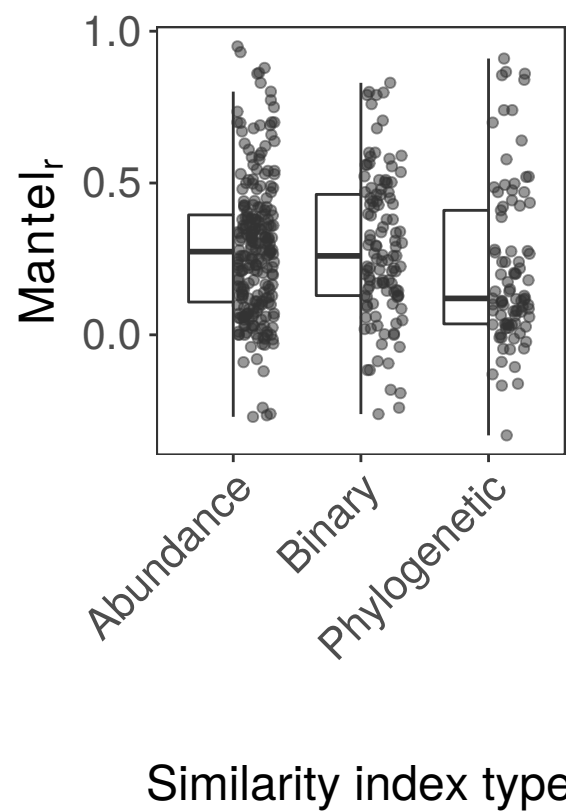
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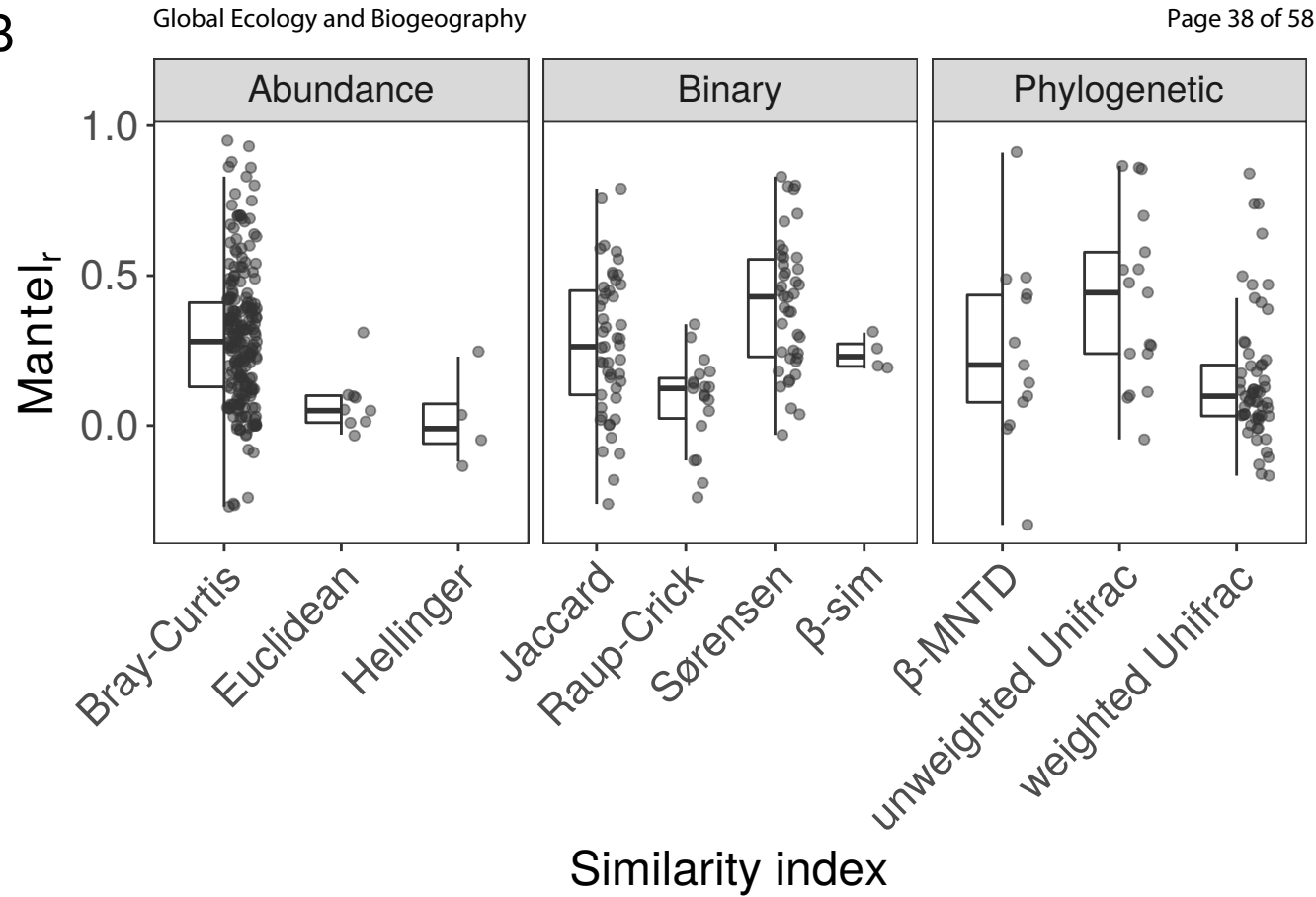


- Illumina MiSeq/HiSeq
- 454 Pyrosequencing
- TRFLP
- ARISA
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- Other
- Morphology/
microscopy
- PLFA

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Supplementary Information

Title: What drives study-dependent differences in distance-decay relationships of microbial communities?

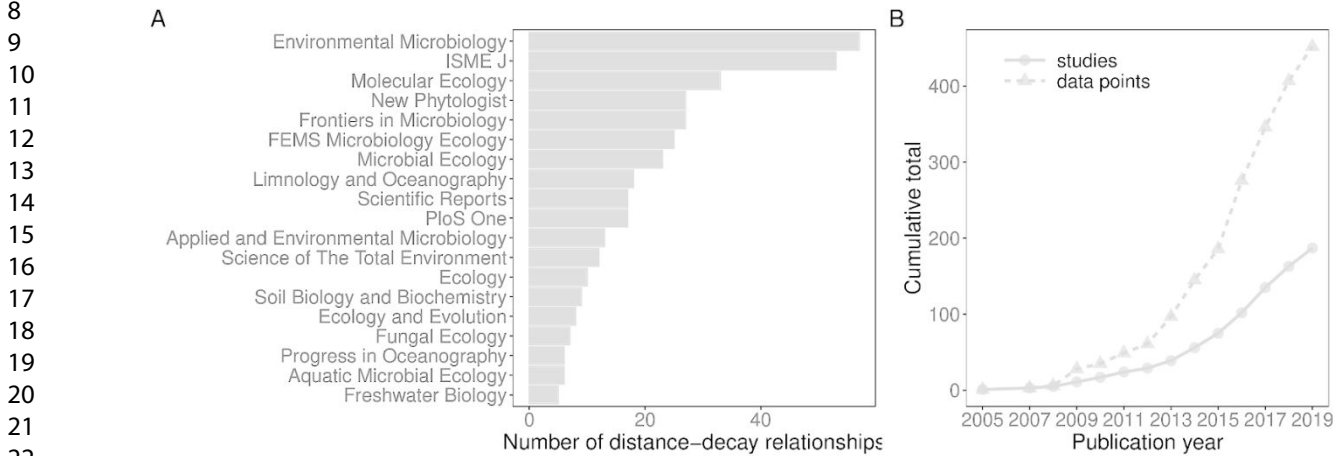


Figure S1. (A) The number of distance-decay relationships obtained from each journal. Only journals with five or more distance-decay relationships are shown for clarity. (B) The cumulative total of suitable studies (circles) and distance-decay relationships (triangles) according to publication year.

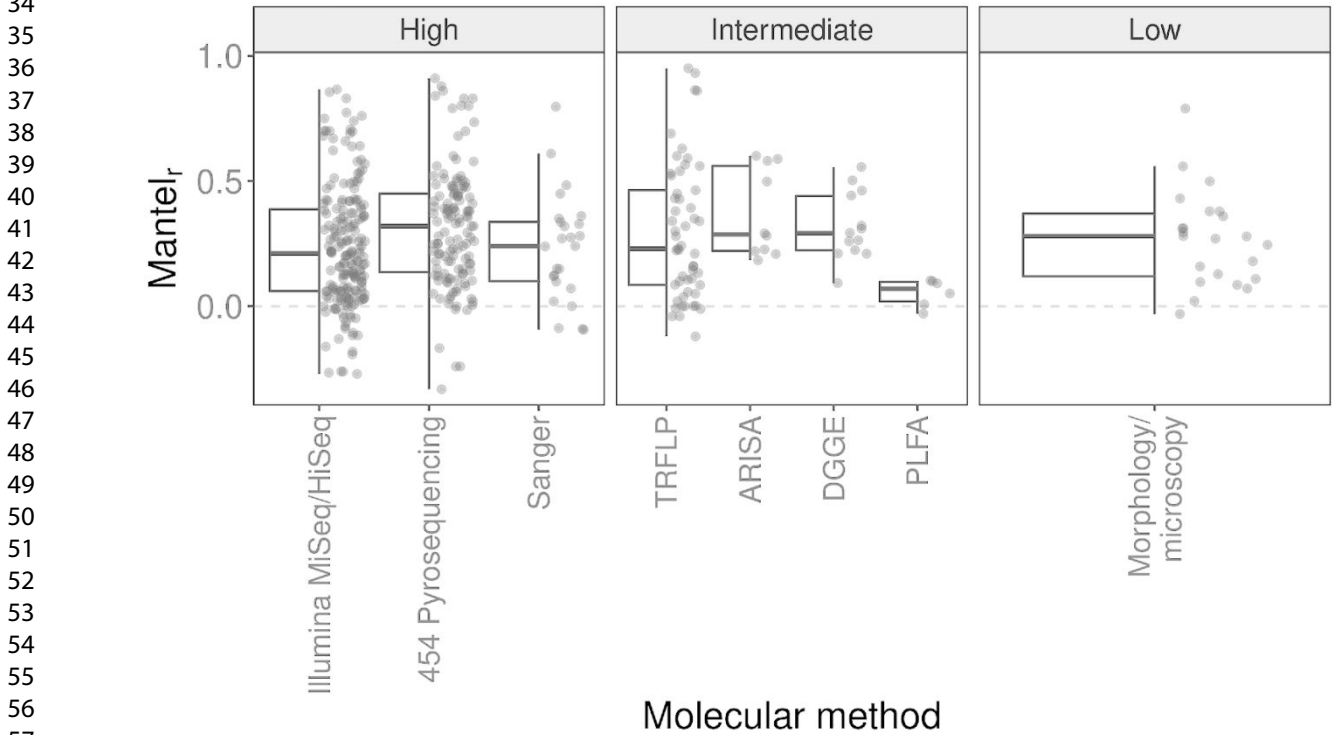


Figure S2. Mantel correlation coefficients of distance-decay relationships where the microbial community was characterised using molecular or morphological methods of varying resolution. High Mantel correlation coefficients indicate a stronger distance-decay relationship. Abbreviated molecular techniques are defined as follows: (TRFLP = Terminal Restriction Fragment Length Polymorphism; ARISA = Automated Ribosomal Intergenic Spacer Analysis; DGGE = Denaturing Gradient Gel Electrophoresis; PLFA = PhosphoLipid Fatty Acid analysis).

Table S1. Metadata extracted from each study confirmed to be suitable for inclusion in this study. Data will be deposited to the Dryad data repository upon acceptance of this manuscript.

For Peer Review

	title	year	journal	method	marker	Gen n	Samples	seqDepth	simIndex	otuDefinition
1	Plant divers	2017	Soil Biology	illumina			290	4000	bray	0.97
2	The differer	2017	Catena	pyrosequer	16S		45	2735	u_unifrac	0.97
3	The differer	2017	Catena	pyrosequer	16S		45	2735	betaMNTD	0.97
4	Bacterial Di	2017	Microbial E	pyrosequer	16S		75	11248	bray	0.97
5	Similar corr	2017	Limnology	pyrosequer	16S		21	7909	bray	0.97
6	Similar corr	2017	Limnology	pyrosequer	16S		21	7909	bray	0.97
7	Latitudinal	2017	Marine Eco	TRFLP	16S		45	NA	bray	band
8	Latitudinal	2017	Marine Eco	TRFLP	16S		45	NA	bray	band
9	Latitudinal	2017	Marine Eco	illumina	16S		18	9226	bray	97
10	Temporal a	2017	PLoS One	pyrosequer	16S		6	19358	bray	97
11	Temporal a	2017	PLoS One	ARISA	ITS		6	NA	bray	band
12	Regional va	2016	Scientific R	illumina	16S		34	10000	bray	97
13	Microbial ei	2016	Environmei	DGGE	18S		40	NA	bray	band
14	Microbial ei	2016	Environmei	illumina	18S		14	14437	bray	NA
15	Decoupling	2016	Science	illumina	metagenon		139	24644	bray	0.99
16	Decoupling	2016	Science	illumina	metagenon		139	24644	bray	0.99
17	Geographic	2016	Frontiers in	pyrosequer	16S		27	400	bray	0.97
18	Forest area	2016	Ecology	pyrosequer	28S		36	500	bray	0.97
19	Forest area	2016	Ecology	illumina	ITS		36	1500	bray	0.97
20	Diversity, B	2016	Frontiers in	pyrosequer	16S		9	6442	w_unifrac	0.97
21	The local ei	2016	Environmei	sanger	ITS		52	87	Horn-moris	0.97
22	Biogeograp	2016	FEMS Micr	TRFLP	16S		18	NA	bray	band
23	Biogeograp	2016	FEMS Micr	TRFLP	16S		34	NA	bray	band
24	Biogeograp	2016	FEMS Micr	TRFLP	16S		53	NA	bray	band
25	Biogeograp	2016	FEMS Micr	TRFLP	16S		28	NA	bray	band
26	Taxon inter	2016	Molecular E	Ion Torrent	16S		37	124582	bray	0.97
27	Biogeograp	2016	Frontiers in	illumina	16S		115	7300	bray	0.97
28	Ectomycorr	2016	Molecular E	illumina	ITS		70	200	Raup-Crick	0.97
29	Ectomycorr	2016	Molecular E	illumina	ITS		70	10	Raup-Crick	0.97
30	Ectomycorr	2016	Molecular E	illumina	ITS		70	81	Raup-Crick	0.97
31	Ectomycorr	2016	Molecular E	illumina	ITS		70	188	Raup-Crick	0.97
32	Ectomycorr	2016	Molecular E	illumina	ITS		65	200	Raup-Crick	0.97
33	Ectomycorr	2016	Molecular E	illumina	ITS		65	10	Raup-Crick	0.97
34	Ectomycorr	2016	Molecular E	illumina	ITS		65	81	Raup-Crick	0.97
35	Ectomycorr	2016	Molecular E	illumina	ITS		65	188	Raup-Crick	0.97
36	Interactions	2016	ISME	illumina	16S		386	50323	bray	0.97
37	Patterns an	2016	ISME	pyrosequer	18S		28	4783	bray	1
38	Patterns an	2016	ISME	morphology	NA		86	NA	bray	NA
39	Spatial scal	2016	Environmei	illumina	16S		22	1000	w_unifrac	0.97
40	Spatial scal	2016	Environmei	illumina	16S		22	1000	w_unifrac	0.97
41	Spatial scal	2016	Environmei	illumina	16S		22	1000	w_unifrac	0.97
42	Spatial scal	2016	Environmei	illumina	16S		22	1000	w_unifrac	0.97
43	Spatial scal	2016	Environmei	illumina	16S		22	1000	w_unifrac	0.97
44	Spatial scal	2016	Environmei	illumina	16S		22	1000	w_unifrac	0.97
45	Spatial scal	2016	Environmei	illumina	16S		22	1000	w_unifrac	0.97
46	Spatial scal	2016	Environmei	illumina	16S		22	1000	w_unifrac	0.97
47	Spatial scal	2016	Environmei	illumina	16S		22	1000	w_unifrac	0.97
48	Spatial scal	2016	Environmei	illumina	16S		22	1000	w_unifrac	0.97
49	Spatial scal	2016	Environmei	illumina	16S		22	1000	w_unifrac	0.97
50	Spatial scal	2016	Environmei	illumina	16S		22	1000	w_unifrac	0.97
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53	Spatial scal	2016	Environmei	illumina	16S		22	1000	w_unifrac	0.97
54	Spatial scal	2016	Environmei	illumina	16S		22	1000	w_unifrac	0.97
55	Spatial scal	2016	Environmei	illumina	16S		22	1000	w_unifrac	0.97
56	Spatial scal	2016	Environmei	illumina	16S		22	1000	w_unifrac	0.97
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59	Spatial scal	2016	Environmei	illumina	16S		22	1000	w_unifrac	0.97
60	Spatial scal	2016	Environmei	illumina	16S		22	1000	w_unifrac	0.97

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3	Spatial scal	2016 Environmei illumina	16S	22	1000 w_unifrac	0.97	
4	Spatial scal	2016 Environmei illumina	16S	22	1000 w_unifrac	0.97	
5	Spatial scal	2016 Environmei illumina	16S	22	1000 w_unifrac	0.97	
6	Spatial scal	2016 Environmei illumina	16S	22	1000 w_unifrac	0.97	
7	Spatial scal	2016 Environmei illumina	16S	22	1000 w_unifrac	0.97	
8	Spatial scal	2016 Environmei illumina	16S	22	1000 w_unifrac	0.97	
9	Spatial scal	2016 Environmei illumina	16S	22	1000 w_unifrac	0.97	
10	Spatial scal	2016 Environmei illumina	16S	22	1000 w_unifrac	0.97	
11	Spatial scal	2016 Environmei illumina	16S	22	1000 w_unifrac	0.97	
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15	Spatial scal	2016 Environmei illumina	16S	22	1000 w_unifrac	0.97	
16	Spatial scal	2016 Environmei illumina	16S	22	1000 w_unifrac	0.97	
17	Fungal corr	2016 Scientific Rpyrosequer ITS		30	3433 bray	0.97	
18	Microbial ei	2016 Molecular E illumina	18S	13	36744 sorensen	1	
19	Bacterial cc	2016 Environmeipyrosequer	16S	12	2900 bray	0.97	
20	Bacterial cc	2016 Environmeipyrosequer	16S	12	2900 bray	0.97	
21	Biogeograp	2016 Microbial E illumina	16S	91	27719 theta	0.97	
22	Biogeograp	2016 Microbial E illumina	16S	91	27719 jaccard	0.97	
23	Salinity sha	2016 Scientific R illumina	16S	9	60000 bray	0.97	
24	Contrasting	2016 New Phytol illumina	16S	26	660 bray	0.97	
25	Contrasting	2016 New Phytol illumina	ITS	26	970 bray	0.98	
26	Diversity ar	2016 PloS One pyrosequer	16S	27	6883 jaccard	0.97	
27	Archaeal ar	2016 PloS One TRFLP	16S	239 NA	Raup-Crick band		
28	Archaeal ar	2016 PloS One TRFLP	16S	239 NA	Raup-Crick band		
29	Decoupled	2016 Environmei illumina	16S	75	83008 bray	0.97	
30	Decoupled	2016 Environmei TRFLP	dsrA	75 NA	bray band		
31	The roles o	2016 Hydrobiolo(morphology)	NA	204	200 bray	NA	
32	Scale-depe	2015 FEMS Micr illumina	16S	54	173260 bray	0.97	
33	Environmer	2015 Journal of Fmorphology	NA	29 NA	bray	NA	
34	Spatiotemp	2015 Applied Mic DGGE	16S	16 NA	jaccard	band	
35	Spatiotemp	2015 Applied Mic DGGE	16S	16 NA	jaccard	band	
36	Spatiotemp	2015 Applied Mic DGGE	18S	16 NA	jaccard	band	
37	Spatiotemp	2015 Applied Mic DGGE	18S	16 NA	jaccard	band	
38	Depth shap	2015 Environmeipyrosequer	18S	39	1500 sorensen	0.97	
39	Bacterial bi	2015 Environmei illumina	16S	95	10000 w_unifrac	0.97	
40	Bacterial bi	2015 Environmei illumina	16S	95	10000 jaccard	0.97	
41	Soil bacteri	2015 Environmei Pac-Bio	16S	12	5000 w_unifrac	0.95	
42	Quantifying	2015 ISME pyrosequer	26S	36	1257 jaccard	0.98	
43	Quantifying	2015 ISME pyrosequer	26S	36	1257 jaccard	0.98	
44	Quantifying	2015 ISME pyrosequer	26S	36	1257 jaccard	0.98	
45	The biogeo	2015 ISME illumina	16S	42	26322 bray	0.97	
46	Biogeograp	2015 Microbial E illumina	16S	12	300000 u_unifrac	0.98	
47	Biogeograp	2015 Microbial E illumina	16S	6	300000 u_unifrac	0.98	
48	Quantifying	2015 Environmei DGGE	16S	31 NA	jaccard	band	
49	Bacterial ar	2015 Microbial E pyrosequer	16S	12	5192 bray	0.97	
50	Bacterial ar	2015 Microbial E pyrosequer	16S	12	15320 bray	0.97	
51	Seasonal c	2014 Soil Biology plfa	NA	60 NA	euclidean	band	
52	Seasonal c	2014 Soil Biology plfa	NA	60 NA	euclidean	band	
53	Seasonal c	2014 Soil Biology plfa	NA	60 NA	euclidean	band	
54	Seasonal c	2014 Soil Biology plfa	NA	60 NA	euclidean	band	
55	Seasonal c	2014 Soil Biology plfa	NA	60 NA	euclidean	band	
56	Seasonal c	2014 Soil Biology plfa	NA	60 NA	euclidean	band	
57	Seasonal c	2014 Soil Biology plfa	NA	60 NA	euclidean	band	
58	A continent	2015 New Phytolpyrosequer ITS		247	50 sorensen	0.95	
59	A continent	2015 New Phytolpyrosequer ITS		247	50 bray	0.95	
60	A continent	2015 New Phytolpyrosequer ITS		247	50 Morisita-ho	0.95	

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3	A continent	2015 New Phytolpyrosequer ITS	247	50 jaccard		0.95	
4	A continent	2015 New Phytolpyrosequer ITS	247	100 sorensen		0.95	
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12	Catchment	2015 ISME pyrosequer 16S	23	2179 bray	NA		
13	Biogeograp	2015 Aquatic Micpyrosequer 16S	37	500 bray		0.97	
14	Biogeograp	2015 Aquatic Micpyrosequer 16S	37	500 bray		0.85	
15	Aquatic bac	2015 Internation sanger 16S	20	80 sorensen		0.97	
16	Testing the	2015 Aquatic Micromorphology NA	50	300 bray	NA		
17	Bacterial ar	2015 Aquatic Micpyrosequer 16S	8	9200 bray		0.97	
18	Plant divers	2015 Ecology Le illumina 16S	25	100 bray		0.97	
19	Plant divers	2015 Ecology Le illumina 16S	25	18000 bray		0.97	
20	Plant divers	2015 Ecology Le illumina ITS	25	485 bray		0.97	
21	Environmer	2014 Fungal Ecopyrosequer 18S	21	1000 euclidean		0.97	
22	Environmer	2014 Fungal Ecopyrosequer 18S	5	1000 euclidean		0.97	
23	A phylogen	2014 Molecular E sanger 16S	18	65 u_unifrac		0.97	
24	Biogeograp	2014 Proceeding illumina 16S	596	40000 bray		0.97	
25	Biogeograp	2014 Proceeding illumina 16S	596	40000 jaccard		0.97	
26	Biogeograp	2014 Proceeding illumina 18S	596	40000 bray		0.97	
27	Biogeograp	2014 Proceeding illumina 18S	596	40000 jaccard		0.97	
28	Distance-D	2014 PloS One TRFLP 16S	25 NA	sorensen	band		
29	Distance-D	2014 PloS One TRFLP mcrA	25 NA	sorensen	band		
30	Distance-D	2014 PloS One TRFLP 16S	25 NA	sorensen	band		
31	Distance-D	2014 PloS One TRFLP 16S	25 NA	bray	band		
32	Distance-D	2014 PloS One TRFLP mcrA	25 NA	bray	band		
33	Distance-D	2014 PloS One TRFLP 16S	25 NA	bray	band		
34	Spore dispe	2014 New Phytolpyrosequer ITS	16	500 bray		0.97	
35	Spore dispe	2014 New Phytolpyrosequer ITS	16	500 bray		0.97	
36	Spore dispe	2014 New Phytolpyrosequer ITS	16	500 bray		0.97	
37	Spore dispe	2014 New Phytolpyrosequer ITS	16	500 bray		0.97	
38	Spore dispe	2014 New Phytolpyrosequer ITS	16	500 bray		0.97	
39	Spore dispe	2014 New Phytolpyrosequer ITS	16	500 bray		0.97	
40	Spore dispe	2014 New Phytolpyrosequer ITS	17	500 bray		0.97	
41	Spore dispe	2014 New Phytolpyrosequer ITS	17	500 bray		0.97	
42	Spore dispe	2014 New Phytolpyrosequer ITS	17	500 bray		0.97	
43	Spore dispe	2014 New Phytolpyrosequer ITS	17	500 bray		0.97	
44	Spore dispe	2014 New Phytolpyrosequer ITS	17	500 bray		0.97	
45	Spore dispe	2014 New Phytolpyrosequer ITS	17	500 bray		0.97	
46	Spore dispe	2014 New Phytolpyrosequer ITS	17	500 bray		0.97	
47	Soil fungal	2014 Molecular Epyrosequer ITS	204	289 jaccard	NA		
48	Soil fungal	2014 Molecular Epyrosequer ITS	204	289 betaMNTD	NA		
49	Soil fungal	2014 Molecular Epyrosequer ITS	204	289 betaMPD	NA		
50	Spatial Sca	2014 Microbial E pyrosequer 16S	30	520 bray		0.97	
51	Spatial Sca	2014 Microbial E pyrosequer 16S	26	520 bray		0.97	
52	SSU rDNA	2014 PloS One TRFLP 18S	35 NA	bray	band		
53	SSU rDNA	2014 PloS One TRFLP 18S	35 NA	bray	band		
54	Pyrosequer	2014 Journal of /pyrosequer 16S	6	1759 bray		0.97	
55	Neotropical	2014 Environmerpyrosequer 16S	5	4400 jaccard		0.97	
56	Diversity ar	2014 Applied ancpyrosequer 16S	49	4000 bray		0.97	
57	The spatial	2014 Ecology TRFLP 16S	16 NA	bray	band		
58	Drivers sha	2014 Molecular Epyrosequer 16S	30	4346 bray		0.97	
59	Differentiati	2014 Environmer sanger mcrA	27	25 w_unifrac		1	

Differentiati	2014 Environme	sanger	mcrA	27	25	bray	1
Biogeograp	2014 Applied an	pyrosequer	16S	25	4800	bray	0.97
Host rules:	2013 FEMS Micr	TRFLP	16S	28	NA	bray	band
Host rules:	2013 FEMS Micr	TRFLP	16S	28	NA	bray	band
Host rules:	2013 FEMS Micr	TRFLP	16S	27	NA	bray	band
Host rules:	2013 FEMS Micr	TRFLP	16S	27	NA	bray	band
Host rules:	2013 FEMS Micr	TRFLP	16S	19	NA	bray	band
Host rules:	2013 FEMS Micr	TRFLP	16S	19	NA	bray	band
Environmer	2013 Ecosphere	TRFLP	16S	32	NA	bray	band
Dispersal ir	2013 ISME	pyrosequer	ITS	44	100	beta_sim	0.97
Dispersal ir	2013 ISME	pyrosequer	ITS	36	100	beta_sim	0.97
The biogeo	2013 ISME	DGGE	ITS	61	NA	NA	band
Phylogenet	2013 ISME	pyrosequer	16S	12	1000	u_unifrac	0.97
Phylogenet	2013 ISME	pyrosequer	16S	12	1000	u_unifrac	0.97
Phylogenet	2013 ISME	pyrosequer	16S	27	1000	u_unifrac	0.97
Phylogenet	2013 ISME	pyrosequer	16S	27	1000	u_unifrac	0.97
Phylogenet	2013 ISME	pyrosequer	16S	20	1000	u_unifrac	0.97
Phylogenet	2013 ISME	pyrosequer	16S	28	1000	u_unifrac	0.97
Phylogenet	2013 ISME	pyrosequer	16S	24	1000	u_unifrac	0.97
Phylogenet	2013 ISME	pyrosequer	16S	25	1000	u_unifrac	0.97
Phylogenet	2013 ISME	pyrosequer	16S	12	1000	betaMNTD	0.97
Phylogenet	2013 ISME	pyrosequer	16S	12	1000	betaMNTD	0.97
Phylogenet	2013 ISME	pyrosequer	16S	27	1000	betaMNTD	0.97
Phylogenet	2013 ISME	pyrosequer	16S	27	1000	betaMNTD	0.97
Phylogenet	2013 ISME	pyrosequer	16S	20	1000	betaMNTD	0.97
Phylogenet	2013 ISME	pyrosequer	16S	28	1000	betaMNTD	0.97
Phylogenet	2013 ISME	pyrosequer	16S	24	1000	betaMNTD	0.97
Phylogenet	2013 ISME	pyrosequer	16S	25	1000	betaMNTD	0.97
Geographic	2013 FEMS Micr	TRFLP	18S	24	NA	bray	band
Geographic	2013 FEMS Micr	pyrosequer	18S	6	14890	bray	0.95
Biogeograp	2013 ISME	pyrosequer	16S	39	2800	bray	0.97
Contempor	2013 ISME	pyrosequer	16S	59	540	w_unifrac	0.97
Microbial bi	2013 Aquatic Mic	DGGE	16S	14	NA	bray	band
Microbial bi	2013 Aquatic Mic	DGGE	18S	14	NA	bray	band
Distance Di	2013 PloS One	morphology	NA	114	400	bray	NA
Distance Di	2013 PloS One	morphology	NA	129	400	bray	NA
Distance Di	2013 PloS One	morphology	NA	114	400	simpson	NA
Distance Di	2013 PloS One	morphology	NA	129	400	simpson	NA
Geographic	2012 Environme	pyrosequer	16S	17	4000	u_unifrac	0.97
Dispersal li	2012 Ecology an	TRFLP	16S	12	NA	bray	band
Dispersal li	2012 Ecology an	TRFLP	16S	12	NA	bray	band
Dispersal li	2012 Ecology an	sanger	16S	12	239	u_unifrac	0.97
Dispersal li	2012 Ecology an	sanger	16S	12	239	bray	0.9
Dispersal li	2012 Ecology an	sanger	16S	12	239	bray	0.93
Dispersal li	2012 Ecology an	sanger	16S	12	239	bray	0.95
Dispersal li	2012 Ecology an	sanger	16S	12	239	bray	0.97
Dispersal li	2012 Ecology an	sanger	16S	12	239	bray	0.99
Bacterial as	2012 Biogeoscie	pyrosequer	16S	16	6687	bray	0.97
Biogeograp	2011 Molecular E	pyrosequer	16S	31	1959	w_unifrac	0.97
Ecology an	2012 Frontiers in	TRFLP	16S	84	NA	bray	band
Bacterial co	2011 Freshwater	DGGE	16S	41	NA	jaccard	band
The bacteri	2011 Environme	TRFLP	16S	1010	NA	bray	band
Disentangli	2011 Limnology ;	morphology	NA	100	200	sorensen	NA
Disentangli	2011 Limnology ;	morphology	NA	100	50	sorensen	NA
Disentangli	2011 Limnology ;	TRFLP	16S	100	NA	sorensen	band
Metacomm	2011 Ecology	TRFLP	16S	14	NA	hellinger	band

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3	Metacomm	2011 Ecology	TRFLP	ITS	14 NA	hellinger	band	
4	Metacomm	2011 Ecology	TRFLP	16S	14 NA	hellinger	band	
5	Metacomm	2011 Ecology	TRFLP	ITS	14 NA	hellinger	band	
6	Possible int	2011 ISME	TRFLP	16S	6 NA	bray	band	
7	Possible int	2011 ISME	TRFLP	16S	6 NA	bray	band	
8	Possible int	2011 ISME	TRFLP	16S	6 NA	bray	band	
9	Evidence o	2010 Ecology	sanger	ITS	155	33 bray		0.97
10	The ecolog	2010 Environmer	pyrosequer	16S	119	750 w_unifrac		0.97
11	Community	2010 Freshwater	sanger	amoA	17	20 w_unifrac		0.98
12	Life history	2010 Molecular E	phylochip	16S	10 NA	bray	NA	
13	Life history	2010 Molecular E	phylochip	16S	10 NA	bray	NA	
14	Biogeograp	2010 Journal of E	morphology	NA	7	400 sorensen	NA	
15	Microbial B	2009 Applied and	sanger	16S	7	52 jaccard		0.99
16	Microbial B	2009 Applied and	sanger	16S	7	52 jaccard		0.97
17	Microbial B	2009 Applied and	sanger	16S	7	52 jaccard		0.95
18	Microbial B	2009 Applied and	sanger	16S	7	8 jaccard		0.99
19	Microbial B	2009 Applied and	sanger	16S	7	8 jaccard		0.97
20	Microbial B	2009 Applied and	sanger	16S	7	8 jaccard		0.95
21	Microbial B	2009 Applied and	sanger	16S	7	8 jaccard		0.95
22	Relationshi	2009 Journal of E	morphology	NA	9 NA	sorensen	NA	
23	Biogeograp	2009 Environmer	ARISA	16S	593 NA	sorensen	band	
24	Bar-Coded	2009 Applied and	pyrosequer	16S	39	484 bray	NA	
25	Contrasting	2009 Limnology	TRFLP	16S	7 NA	sorensen	band	
26	Contrasting	2009 Limnology	TRFLP	16S	9 NA	sorensen	band	
27	Contrasting	2009 Limnology	TRFLP	16S	4 NA	sorensen	band	
28	Contrasting	2009 Limnology	TRFLP	16S	7 NA	sorensen	band	
29	Contrasting	2009 Limnology	TRFLP	16S	6 NA	sorensen	band	
30	Contrasting	2009 Limnology	TRFLP	16S	5 NA	sorensen	band	
31	Contrasting	2009 Limnology	TRFLP	16S	14 NA	sorensen	band	
32	Contrasting	2009 Limnology	TRFLP	16S	5 NA	sorensen	band	
33	Contrasting	2009 Limnology	TRFLP	16S	7 NA	sorensen	band	
34	Contrasting	2009 Limnology	TRFLP	16S	7 NA	sorensen	band	
35	Contrasting	2009 Limnology	TRFLP	16S	6 NA	sorensen	band	
36	Contrasting	2009 Limnology	TRFLP	16S	5 NA	sorensen	band	
37	Bacterial co	2009 Freshwater	DGGE	16S	6 NA	jaccard	band	
38	Relationshi	2008 Microbial E	TRFLP	16S	10 NA	jaccard	band	
39	Relationshi	2008 Microbial E	TRFLP	16S	10 NA	jaccard	band	
40	Water mass	2008 Limnology	DGGE	18S	54 NA	euclidean	band	
41	Phylogenet	2007 Applied and	sanger	16S	18	93 bray		0.99
42	Environmer	2007 Ecology	TRFLP	16S	23 NA	bray	band	
43	Does ecosy	2005 Ecology	DGGE	16S	11 NA	jaccard	band	
44	Large varia	2016 ISME	pyrosequer	18S	25	6625 bray		0.97
45	Microhabita	2015 FEMS Micro	illumina	16S	33	1000 w_unifrac		0.97
46	Methanoge	2012 Biogeoche	sanger	16S	30	75 sorensen		0.97
47	Environmer	2011 Microbial E	sanger	nifH	13	14 rao		0.99
48	[FeFe]-hyd	2010 ISME	sanger	hydA	9	18 rao	NA	
49	Phyllospher	2016 Microbial E	pyrosequer	ITS	12	784 sorensen		0.9
50	Phyllospher	2016 Microbial E	pyrosequer	ITS	12	784 sorensen		0.95
51	Phyllospher	2016 Microbial E	pyrosequer	ITS	12	784 sorensen		0.97
52	Phyllospher	2016 Microbial E	pyrosequer	ITS	12	784 sorensen		0.99
53	Phyllospher	2016 Microbial E	pyrosequer	16S	12	784 sorensen		0.9
54	Phyllospher	2016 Microbial E	pyrosequer	16S	12	784 sorensen		0.95
55	Phyllospher	2016 Microbial E	pyrosequer	16S	12	784 sorensen		0.97
56	Phyllospher	2016 Microbial E	pyrosequer	16S	12	784 sorensen		0.99
57	Stochastic	2016 ISME	pyrosequer	ITS	41	738 Raup-Crick		0.97
58	Stochastic	2016 ISME	pyrosequer	ITS	41	738 Raup-Crick		0.97
59	Stochastic	2016 ISME	pyrosequer	ITS	41	738 Raup-Crick		0.97
60	Stochastic	2016 ISME	pyrosequer	ITS	41	738 Raup-Crick		0.97

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3	Stochastic c	2016 ISME	pyrosequer ITS	41	738 Raup-Crick		0.97
4	Stochastic c	2016 ISME	pyrosequer ITS	41	738 Raup-Crick		0.97
5	Stochastic c	2016 ISME	pyrosequer ITS	41	738 Raup-Crick		0.97
6	Stochastic c	2016 ISME	pyrosequer ITS	41	738 Raup-Crick		0.97
7	Stochastic c	2016 ISME	pyrosequer ITS	14	738 Raup-Crick		0.97
8	Stochastic c	2016 ISME	pyrosequer ITS	41	738 Raup-Crick		0.97
9	Eutrophicat	2014 Freshwater	morphology NA	10	500 jaccard	NA	
10	Eutrophicat	2014 Freshwater	morphology NA	10	500 jaccard	NA	
11	High diaton	2019 Marine Bio	morphology NA	30	500 bray	NA	
12	High diaton	2019 Marine Bio	morphology NA	30	500 bray	NA	
13	High diaton	2019 Marine Bio	morphology NA	30	500 bray	NA	
14	Microbial di	2019 Freshwater	illumina 16S	36	55890 w_unifrac		0.97
15	Microbial di	2019 Freshwater	illumina 16S	42	55890 w_unifrac		0.97
16	The local e	2019 Catena	illumina ITS	24	27000 bray		0.97
17	The local e	2019 Catena	illumina ITS	24	27000 u_unifrac		0.97
18	Depth and l	2019 Science of	illumina 16S	20	22000 bray		0.97
19	Depth and l	2019 Science of	illumina 18S	20	6600 bray		0.99
20	Diversity Di	2019 Frontiers in	illumina 18S	21	13595 bray		0.97
21	Diversity Di	2019 Frontiers in	illumina 18S	15	13595 bray		0.97
22	Ammonia C	2019 Applied anc	sanger amoA	19	22 w_unifrac		0.95
23	Ammonia C	2019 Applied anc	sanger amoA	17	32 w_unifrac		0.95
24	Stochastic	2019 Microbiome	illumina 18S	30	110394 bray		0.97
25	Stochastic	2019 Microbiome	illumina 18S	30	110394 bray		0.97
26	Integrated S	2019 Frontiers in	illumina 18S	22	7532 bray		0.97
27	Integrated S	2019 Frontiers in	morphology NA	22 NA	bray	NA	
28	Not by Sali	2019 Soil Scienc	illumina ITS	31	30000 bray		0.97
29	Microbiota c	2019 Internationa	lon Torrent 16S	10	84144 bray		0.94
30	Large-scale	2019 Microbiolog	illumina 16S	35 NA	bray		0.97
31	Biogeograp	2019 Science of	illumina 16S	24	11020 bray		0.97
32	Biogeograp	2019 Science of	illumina 16S	24	11020 w_unifrac		0.97
33	Biogeograp	2019 Science of	illumina 16S	24	11020 u_unifrac		0.97
34	Functional	2019 Frontiers in	illumina 18S	180	30890 bray		0.97
35	On-Site An	2019 Applied anc	lon Torrent 16S	147	13051 bray		0.98
36	Upland Soil	2019 Science of	illumina pmoA	30	30381 bray		0.82
37	Community	2019 Water	illumina 16S	100	16854 bray		0.97
38	Community	2019 Water	illumina 18S	100	28993 bray		0.97
39	Phosphorus	2019 FEMS Micr	illumina 16S	9	9563 bray		0.97
40	Phosphorus	2019 FEMS Micr	illumina 16S	9	9563 bray		0.97
41	Microbial E	2019 Microbial E	illumina 16S	12	15000 bray		0.97
42	Microbial E	2019 Microbial E	illumina ITS	12	9000 bray		0.97
43	Microbial E	2019 Microbial E	illumina ITS	12	250 bray		0.97
44	Historical F	2019 Frontiers in	pyrosequer 16S	10	226 jaccard		0.97
45	Historical F	2019 Frontiers in	pyrosequer 16S	10	226 bray		0.97
46	Molecular c	2019 Acta Ocear	pyrosequer 18S	37	100 bray		0.97
47	Distinct bio	2018 Science of	illumina 16S	50	25571 bray		0.97
48	How bacter	2018 Molecular E	illumina 16S	105 NA	bray		0.97
49	Influence of	2018 Scientific R	pyrosequer ITS	7 NA	bray		0.97
50	THE EFFE	2018 Journal of	pyrosequer rbcl	72	2515 bray	NA	
51	Multiple prc	2018 Scientific R	illumina 16S	92	8918 bray		0.97
52	Multiple prc	2018 Scientific R	illumina 16S	92	8918 bray		0.97
53	Multiple prc	2018 Scientific R	illumina 16S	92	8918 jaccard		0.97
54	Multiple prc	2018 Scientific R	illumina 16S	92	8918 jaccard		0.97
55	Association	2018 Ecography	morphology NA	49 NA	bray	NA	
56	Association	2018 Ecography	morphology NA	49 NA	jaccard	NA	
57	Association	2018 Ecography	morphology NA	49 NA	bray	NA	
58	Association	2018 Ecography	morphology NA	49 NA	jaccard	NA	
59	Association	2018 Ecography	morphology NA	49 NA	jaccard	NA	
60	Association	2018 Ecography	morphology NA	49 NA	jaccard	NA	

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3	Co-occure	2018 Microbes a illumina	16S	8 NA	bray		0.97
4	Co-occure	2018 Microbes a illumina	16S	9 NA	bray		0.97
5	Soil bacteri	2018 Applied Soi illumina	16S	100	8047 bray		0.97
6	Soil bacteri	2018 Applied Soi illumina	16S	100	8047 w_unifrac		0.97
7	Soil bacteri	2018 Applied Soi illumina	16S	100	8047 betaMNTD		0.97
8	Biogeograp	2018 Science of illumina	16S	51	5209 bray		0.97
9	Biogeograp	2018 Science of illumina	16S	51	5209 bray		0.97
10	Biogeograp	2018 Science of illumina	16S	51	5209 bray		0.97
11	Vertical anc	2018 Scientific R illumina	16S	6	135317 bray		0.97
12	Vertical anc	2018 Scientific R illumina	16S	6	145541 bray		0.97
13	Vertical anc	2018 Scientific R illumina	16S	6	118482 bray		0.97
14	Vertical anc	2018 Scientific R illumina	16S	6	130664 bray		0.97
15	Vertical anc	2018 Scientific R illumina	16S	6	135317 jaccard		0.97
16	Vertical anc	2018 Scientific R illumina	16S	6	145541 jaccard		0.97
17	Vertical anc	2018 Scientific R illumina	16S	6	118482 jaccard		0.97
18	Vertical anc	2018 Scientific R illumina	16S	6	130664 jaccard		0.97
19	Why do mic	2018 ISME illumina	16S	35	3790 canberra		0.97
20	Plant growt	2018 Land Degra illumina	16S	21	18844 bray		0.97
21	Ecological :	2018 Oecologia morphology	NA	148	200 sorensen	NA	
22	Biogeograp	2018 Applied ancpyrosequer	16S	50	8887 bray		0.987
23	Biogeograp	2018 Applied ancpyrosequer	16S	50	11273 bray		0.987
24	Environmer	2018 Scientific Rpyrosequer ITS		30	3229 sorensen		0.97
25	Ammonia-C	2018 Frontiers inpyrosequer amoA		26	4900 w_unifrac		0.85
26	Ammonia-C	2018 Frontiers inpyrosequer amoA		26	4100 w_unifrac		0.85
27	Contrasting	2018 Journal of illumina	16S	8 NA	bray		0.97
28	Contrasting	2018 Journal of illumina	16S	8 NA	bray		0.97
29	Facultative	2018 New Phytol illumina	ITS	43	48363 bray		0.97
30	The diversifi	2018 Environmer illumina	18S	36	34239 bray		0.97
31	The diversifi	2018 Environmer illumina	18S	36	34239 bray		0.97
32	Distribution	2018 PeerJ illumina	16S	14	10000 w_unifrac		0.97
33	Soil organic	2018 Functional illumina	16S	36	19460 bray		0.97
34	Impact of E	2018 Internationa illumina	16S	20 NA	w_unifrac		0.97
35	Highlighting	2018 Molecular E illumina	ITS	36	19317 bray		0.97
36	Highlighting	2018 Molecular E illumina	ITS	36	19317 bray		0.97
37	Highlighting	2018 Molecular E illumina	ITS	28	19317 bray		0.97
38	Highlighting	2018 Molecular E illumina	ITS	40	19317 bray		0.97
39	Patterns an	2017 Frontiers in illumina	18S	9	9513 bray		0.97
40	Linking bac	2017 Progress in ARISA	ISR	10 NA	jaccard	NA	
41	Linking bac	2017 Progress in ARISA	ISR	8 NA	jaccard	NA	
42	Linking bac	2017 Progress in ARISA	ISR	14 NA	jaccard	NA	
43	Linking bac	2017 Progress in ARISA	ISR	8 NA	jaccard	NA	
44	Linking bac	2017 Progress in ARISA	ISR	14 NA	jaccard	NA	
45	Linking bac	2017 Progress in ARISA	ISR	14 NA	jaccard	NA	
46	Linking bac	2017 Progress in ARISA	ISR	14 NA	jaccard	NA	
47	Is microbial	2017 Environmer illumina	ITS	18	57346 bray		0.97
48	Is microbial	2017 Environmer illumina	ITS	18	68490 bray		0.97
49	Is microbial	2017 Environmer illumina	16S	17	27106 bray		0.97
50	Is microbial	2017 Environmer illumina	16S	18	27106 bray		0.97
51	Deep nirS &	2017 Environmer lon Torrent nirS		35	13000 w_unifrac		0.88
52	Elevation, s	2017 Fungal EcOPYrosequer ITS		27 NA	bray		0.97
53	Elevation, s	2017 Fungal EcOPYrosequer ITS		27 NA	bray		0.97
54	Distinct sea	2017 Fungal EcOPYrosequer	18S	27	880 bray		0.99
55	Biogeograp	2017 Global Eco illumina	16S	75	27554 beta_sim		0.97
56	Biogeograp	2017 Global Eco illumina	16S	75	26578 beta_sim		0.99
57	Rhizospher	2017 Journal of E illumina	ITS	19 NA	w_unifrac		0.97
58	Rhizospher	2017 Journal of E illumina	ITS	19 NA	w_unifrac		0.97
59	Distinct mic	2017 Molecular E illumina	ITS	31	14000 bray		0.97
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3	Distinct mic	2017 Molecular E illumina	16S	31	19300	bray		0.97	
4	Distinct mic	2017 Molecular E illumina	ITS	31	14000	bray		0.97	
5	Distinct mic	2017 Molecular E illumina	16S	31	19300	bray		0.97	
6	Environmer	2017 Molecular E illumina	ITS	40	39721	bray		0.97	
7	Environmer	2017 Molecular E illumina	ITS	40	39721	jaccard		0.97	
8	The Patterr	2017 Frontiers in illumina	ITS	62	NA	bray		0.97	
9	The Patterr	2017 Frontiers in illumina	16S	62	NA	bray		0.97	
10	The Patterr	2017 Frontiers in illumina	ITS	62	NA	beta_bray		0.97	
11	The Patterr	2017 Frontiers in illumina	16S	62	NA	beta_bray		0.97	
12	Patterns an	2017 Frontiers in illumina	18S	12	33996	bray		0.97	
13	Patterns an	2017 Frontiers in illumina	18S	12	33996	bray		0.97	
14	Patterns an	2017 Frontiers in illumina	18S	10	33996	bray		0.97	
15	City-scale c	2017 Microbiome illumina	18S	76	1058	jaccard		0.97	
16	Climate cor	2017 FEMS Micr illumina	16S	88	5000	bray		0.97	
17	Microbial di	2017 FEMS Micr illumina	16S	36	10000	w_unifrac		0.97	
18	Microbial di	2017 FEMS Micr illumina	16S	14	10000	w_unifrac		0.97	
19	Microbial di	2017 FEMS Micr illumina	16S	27	10000	w_unifrac		0.97	
20	Biogeograp	2017 Molecular E illumina	16S	38	36920	bray		0.97	
21	Biogeograp	2017 Molecular E illumina	16S	38	36920	bray		0.97	
22	Relative rol	2017 Fungal Eco ARISA	ITS	240	NA	bray	NA		
23	Relative rol	2017 Fungal Eco ARISA	ITS	240	NA	bray	NA		
24	Transition k	2017 Environme illumina	18S	24	61 774	sorensen		1	
25	Distance de	2017 Environme illumina	ITS	127	NA	bray		0.95	
26	Ecological i	2017 Frontiers in pyrosequer	ITS	36	4184	bray		0.97	
27	Biogeograp	2017 FEMS Micr illumina	16S	29	26800	u_unifrac		0.97	
28	Land scale	2017 Environme illumina	16S	14	NA	bray		0.97	
29	Land scale	2017 Environme illumina	arsM	14	17434	bray		0.97	
30	Geographic	2017 Genes and pyrosequer	16S	28	2951	jaccard		0.97	
31	Geographic	2017 Genes and pyrosequer	16S	28	2951	w_unifrac		0.97	
32	High taxonc	2017 Nature Eco illumina	16S	22	NA	bray		0.99	
33	Distinct Bio	2017 mSystems pyrosequer	16S	110	NA	bray		0.97	
34	Distinct Bio	2017 mSystems pyrosequer	16S	110	NA	bray		0.97	
35	Distinct Bio	2017 mSystems pyrosequer	18S	110	NA	bray		0.97	
36	Fungal corr	2017 Soil Biology illumina	ITS	13	22466	bray		0.97	
37	Fungal corr	2017 Soil Biology illumina	ITS	13	22466	bray		0.97	
38	Floral orgar	2019 Molecular E illumina	16S	16	1200	bray		0.97	
39	Floral orgar	2019 Molecular E illumina	16S	NA	1200	bray		0.97	
40	Environmer	2019 Science of illumina	16S	20	11612	bray		0.97	
41	Environmer	2019 Science of illumina	ITS	20	3018	bray		0.97	
42	Abundant a	2018 Frontiers in illumina	16S	66	22938	bray		0.97	
43	Ecological j	2018 Water Resc illumina	16S	5	23429	bray	NA		
44	Benthic Alg	2018 Frontiers in illumina	23S	18	8843	bray		0.97	
45	Phylum-Lev	2018 Geomicrobi illumina	16S	38	24805	bray		0.97	
46	Community	2017 FEMS Micr pyrosequer	16S	13	2411	betaMNTD		0.97	
47	Community	2017 FEMS Micr pyrosequer	16S	13	2411	betaMNTD		0.97	
48	Community	2017 FEMS Micr pyrosequer	16S	13	2411	bray		0.97	
49	Community	2017 FEMS Micr pyrosequer	16S	13	2411	bray		0.97	
50	Soil Proper	2019 Frontiers in illumina	16S	39	18182	bray		0.97	
51	Soil Proper	2019 Frontiers in illumina	16S	39	18182	beta_bray		0.97	
52	Soil Proper	2019 Frontiers in illumina	16S	39	18182	nes_bray		0.97	
53	Intensive al	2019 Environme illumina	metagenon	18	34192561	Mash	NA		
54	Intensive al	2019 Environme illumina	metagenon	18	34192561	Mash	NA		
55	Highly struc	2018 ISME illumina	16S	90	2500	sorensen		0.97	
56	Highly struc	2018 ISME illumina	UPA	90	2500	sorensen		0.97	
57	Highly struc	2018 ISME illumina	tufA	90	1000	sorensen		0.98	
58	Highly struc	2018 ISME illumina	16S	90	2500	bray		0.97	

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3	Highly struc	2018 ISME	illumina	UPA	90	2500 bray	0.97
4	Highly struc	2018 ISME	illumina	tufA	90	1000 bray	0.98
5	Highly struc	2018 ISME	illumina	16S	90	2500 w_unifrac	0.97
6	Highly struc	2018 ISME	illumina	UPA	90	2500 w_unifrac	0.97
7	Highly struc	2018 ISME	illumina	tufA	90	1000 w_unifrac	0.98
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For Peer Review

	taxa	habitat	environment	spatialExt	mantelR	pValue
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4	fungi	soil	grassland	4000	0.338	0.001
5	bacteria	soil	grassland	451	0.86	0.001
6	bacteria	soil	grassland	451	0.91	0.001
7	bacteria	soil	dune	1700	0.13	0.35
8	bacteria	water	lake	600	0.18	0.001
9	bacteria	water	lake	600	0.33	0.001
10	Bac_arch	host	marine	2500	0.63	0.001
11	Bac_arch	host	marine	2500	0.54	0.001
12	Bac_arch	host	marine	2500	0.68	0.001
13	bacteria	host	marine	130	0.6	0.01
14	bacteria	host	marine	130	0.5	0.01
15	Bac_arch	sediment	marine	200	0.322	0.001
16	eukarya	water	lake	2100	0.26	0.002
17	eukarya	water	lake	2100	0.67	0.003
18	bacteria	water	marine	9000	0.35	0.004
19	bacteria	water	marine	9000	0.33	0.001
20	archaea	soil	agriculture	3400	0.3931	0.001
21	fungi	host	forest	7	0.03	0.23
22	fungi	host	forest	7	0	0.56
23	bacteria	sediment	marine	964	-0.167	0.726
24	fungi	host	grassland	1450	0.02	0.32
25	bacteria	water	marine	4200	0.106	0.161
26	bacteria	water	marine	4200	0.133	0.028
27	bacteria	host	marine	4200	0.16	0.001
28	bacteria	host	marine	4200	0.12	0.015
29	bacteria	sediment	glacier	1664	0.275	0.001
30	bacteria	soil	forest	NA	0.259	0.001
31	fungi	host	forest	NA	0.048	0.301
32	fungi	host	forest	NA	-0.116	0.834
33	fungi	host	forest	NA	-0.116	0.832
34	fungi	host	forest	NA	-0.192	0.947
35	fungi	soil	forest	NA	0.097	0.177
36	fungi	soil	forest	NA	0.145	0.155
37	fungi	soil	forest	NA	0.128	0.151
38	fungi	soil	forest	NA	0.14	0.116
39	bacteria	water	lake	1700	0.06	0.1
40	eukarya	water	marine	163	0.48	0.01
41	eukarya	water	marine	163	0.36	0.01
42	bacteria	soil	grassland	0.0001	-0.009	0.912
43	bacteria	soil	grassland	0.0001	0.199	0.011
44	bacteria	soil	grassland	0.0001	0.001	0.995
45	bacteria	soil	grassland	0.0001	0.023	0.779
46	bacteria	soil	grassland	0.0001	-0.009	0.904
47	bacteria	soil	grassland	0.0001	-0.048	0.568
48	bacteria	soil	grassland	0.0001	0.204	0.008
49	bacteria	soil	grassland	0.0001	0.034	0.644
50	bacteria	soil	grassland	0.0001	0.079	0.407
51	bacteria	soil	grassland	0.0001	0.112	0.198
52	bacteria	soil	grassland	0.0001	0.036	0.649
53	bacteria	soil	grassland	0.0001	0.116	0.159
54	bacteria	soil	grassland	0.0001	-0.089	0.31
55	bacteria	soil	grassland	0.0001	0.032	0.703
56	bacteria	soil	grassland	0.0001	0.027	0.858
57	bacteria	soil	grassland	0.0001	0.034	0.666
58	bacteria	soil	grassland	0.0001	0.059	0.498
59	bacteria	soil	grassland	0.0001		
60	bacteria	soil	grassland	0.0001		

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3	bacteria	soil	grassland	0.0001	0.098	0.261
4	bacteria	soil	grassland	0.0001	0.063	0.428
5	bacteria	soil	grassland	0.0001	0.021	0.819
6	bacteria	soil	grassland	0.0001	-0.106	0.166
7	bacteria	soil	grassland	0.0001	-0.045	0.602
8	bacteria	soil	grassland	0.0001	0.086	0.334
9	bacteria	soil	grassland	0.0001	0.174	0.016
10	bacteria	soil	grassland	0.0001	-0.023	0.79
11	bacteria	soil	grassland	0.0001	0.038	0.598
12	bacteria	soil	grassland	0.0001	0.039	0.649
13	bacteria	soil	grassland	0.0001	0.076	0.4
14	bacteria	soil	grassland	0.0001	0.118	0.223
15	bacteria	soil	grassland	0.0001	-0.161	0.072
16	fungi	sediment	marine	997.47	0.2959	0.001
17	eukarya	water	lake	12270	0.536	0.00002
18	bacteria	soil	grassland	923	0.35	0.004
19	bacteria	soil	grassland	923	0.38	0.002
20	bacteria	host	forest	0.45	0.213	0.001
21	bacteria	host	forest	0.45	0.268	0.001
22	bacteria	sediment	lake	467	0.056	NA
23	bacteria	soil	grassland	1530	0.06	NA
24	fungi	soil	grassland	1530	0.23	0.002
25	bacteria	sediment	marine	18700	0.18	0.017
26	bacteria	host	marine	2.5	0.086	0.01
27	archaea	host	marine	2.5	0	NA
28	bacteria	sediment	marsh	1300	0.75	0.001
29	bacteria	sediment	marsh	1300	0.11	0.001
30	eukarya	water	marine	1500	0.11	NA
31	bacteria	soil	grassland	3700	0.773	0.001
32	eukarya	water	river	1150	0.16	0.005
33	bacteria	water	river	115	0.092	0.315
34	bacteria	water	river	115	0.209	0.022
35	eukarya	water	river	115	0.212	0.02
36	eukarya	water	river	115	0.263	0.004
37	eukarya	sediment	marine	670	0.587	0.001
38	bacteria	water	marine	225	0.498	0.001
39	bacteria	water	marine	225	0.398	0.001
40	bacteria	soil	forest	500	0.47	0.01
41	fungi	host	agriculture	885.49	#####	0.1114
42	fungi	host	agriculture	885.49	#####	0.0502
43	fungi	soil	agriculture	885.49	#####	0.0006
44	bacteria	water	lake	2700	0.498	0.01
45	archaea	water	river	21	0.866	0.001
46	archaea	sediment	river	21	-0.046	NA
47	bacteria	water	river	380	0.461	0.001
48	archaea	sediment	marine	1000	0.801	0.001
49	bacteria	sediment	marine	1000	0.735	0.001
50	bac_fungi	soil	grassland	0.001	0.1	0.05
51	bac_fungi	soil	grassland	0.001	0.05	NA
52	bac_fungi	soil	grassland	0.001	-0.03	NA
53	bac_fungi	soil	grassland	0.001	0.09	0.05
54	bac_fungi	soil	grassland	0.001	0.01	NA
55	bac_fungi	soil	grassland	0.001	0.1	0.05
56	fungi	host	forest	6000	0.44	0.001
57	fungi	host	forest	6000	0.38	0.001
58	fungi	host	forest	6000	0.37	0.001
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3	fungi	host	forest	6000	0.44	0.001
4	fungi	host	forest	6000	0.47	0.001
5	fungi	host	forest	6000	0.38	0.001
6	fungi	host	forest	6000	0.37	0.001
7	fungi	host	forest	6000	0.47	0.001
8	fungi	host	forest	6000	0.5	0.001
9	fungi	host	forest	6000	0.39	0.001
10	fungi	host	forest	6000	0.38	0.001
11	fungi	host	forest	6000	0.51	0.001
12	bacteria	water	river	90	0.1214	0.048
13	bacteria	water	lake	1200	0.23	0.001
14	bacteria	water	lake	1200	0.07	0.019
15	bacteria	water	lake	1.8	0.7979	0.04117
16	eukarya	water	river	500	0.07	0.446
17	Bac_arch	water	marine	7500	0.529	0.1
18	archaea	soil	grassland	14800	0.24	0.021
19	bacteria	soil	grassland	14800	0.47	0.001
20	fungi	soil	grassland	14800	0.49	0.001
21	fungi	soil	grassland	360	0.05	0.87
22	fungi	air	air	110	0.01	0.36
23	bacteria	water	lake	72	0.1	0.31
24	Bac_arch	soil	grassland	4	0.06	0.001
25	Bac_arch	soil	grassland	4	0.06	0.001
26	eukarya	soil	grassland	4	0.03	0.02
27	eukarya	soil	grassland	4	0.03	0.025
28	archaea	sediment	lake	1.4	0.45	0.03
29	archaea	sediment	lake	1.4	0.6	0.001
30	bacteria	sediment	lake	1.4	0.34	0.006
31	archaea	sediment	lake	1.4	0.3	0.005
32	archaea	sediment	lake	1.4	0.69	0.001
33	bacteria	sediment	lake	1.4	0.34	0.006
34	fungi	air	air	12	0	0.51
35	fungi	air	air	12	0.23	0.04
36	fungi	air	air	12	0.41	0.04
37	fungi	air	air	12	0.48	0.01
38	fungi	air	air	12	0.42	0.04
39	fungi	air	air	12	0.24	0.08
40	fungi	air	air	12	0.39	0.01
41	fungi	air	air	12	0.35	0.03
42	fungi	air	air	12	0.41	0.03
43	fungi	air	air	12	0.36	0.02
44	fungi	air	air	12	0.44	0
45	fungi	air	air	12	0.45	0.02
46	fungi	soil	grassland	100	0.019	0.22
47	fungi	soil	grassland	100	0.005	0.577
48	fungi	soil	grassland	100	0.04	0.12
49	bacteria	soil	forest	0.15	0.03	0.05
50	bacteria	soil	forest	1300	0.2	NA
51	eukarya	water	marine	540	-0.011	NA
52	eukarya	water	marine	540	-0.008	NA
53	bacteria	water	urban	0.2	-0.24	0.175
54	Bac_arch	water	river	290	0.50273	0.05
55	Bac_arch	sediment	coastal	1350	0.25	0.001
56	bacteria	water	marine	0.03	0.28	0.01
57	bacteria	water	marine	500	0.2497	0.01
58	archaea	sediment	lake	32	0.12	0.14
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3	archaea	sediment	lake	32	0.61	0.001
4	bacteria	sediment	marine	55	0.879	0.001
5	bacteria	host	marine	800	0.863	NA
6	bacteria	host	marine	800	0.931	NA
7	bacteria	host	marine	800	0.085	NA
8	bacteria	host	marine	800	0.86	NA
9	bacteria	host	marine	800	0.95	NA
10	bacteria	host	marine	800	0.591	NA
11	bacteria	soil	desert	60	0.21	0.006
12	fungi	air	urban	0.5	0.2	0.001
13	fungi	air	urban	0.5	0.19	0.003
14	fungi	sediment	coastal	4000	0.224	0.003
15	bacteria	sediment	lake	3	0.093	NA
16	bacteria	sediment	lake	3	0.112	NA
17	bacteria	sediment	lake	50	0.699	0.001
18	bacteria	water	lake	50	0.476	0.01
19	bacteria	sediment	lake	0.011	0.578	0.05
20	bacteria	sediment	lake	0.007	0.52	0.001
21	bacteria	sediment	river	33	0.521	0.01
22	bacteria	sediment	lake	850	0.267	NA
23	bacteria	sediment	lake	3	0.099	NA
24	bacteria	sediment	lake	3	0.202	NA
25	bacteria	sediment	lake	50	0.435	0.001
26	bacteria	water	lake	50	0.275	0.01
27	bacteria	sediment	lake	0.011	0.422	0.001
28	bacteria	sediment	lake	0.007	0.486	0.001
29	bacteria	water	river	33	0.494	0.001
30	bacteria	sediment	lake	850	0.143	NA
31	eukarya	water	lake	400	0.53	0.01
32	eukarya	water	lake	400	0.83	0.05
33	bacteria	water	lake	20	0.28	0.001
34	Bac_arch	NA	mine	1600	0.106	0.072
35	bacteria	water	marine	523	0.441	0.003
36	eukarya	water	marine	523	0.321	0.013
37	eukarya	water	river	800	0.38	0.001
38	eukarya	water	river	800	0.56	0.001
39	eukarya	water	river	800	0.38	0.001
40	eukarya	water	river	800	0.5	0.001
41	bacteria	sediment	lake	1670	0.443	0.03
42	bacteria	soil	forest	343	0.35	0.022
43	bacteria	soil	forest	343	0.32	0.027
44	bacteria	soil	forest	343	0.24	0.064
45	bacteria	soil	forest	343	0	0.479
46	bacteria	soil	forest	343	0.15	0.186
47	bacteria	soil	forest	343	0.36	0.043
48	bacteria	soil	forest	343	0.35	0.036
49	bacteria	soil	forest	343	0.32	0.031
50	bacteria	water	marine	7700	0.25	0.04
51	bacteria	water	marine	700	0.84	0.0001
52	bacteria	NA	aquifer	1000	0.223	0.001
53	bacteria	water	lake	2150	0.503	0.0001
54	bacteria	soil	grassland	1200	0.1	0.001
55	eukarya	water	lake	800	0.246	0.001
56	eukarya	water	lake	800	0.296	0.001
57	bacteria	water	lake	800	0.145	0.001
58	bacteria	soil	grassland	508	0.23	0.007
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3	fungi	soil	grassland	508	-0.12	NA
4	bacteria	soil	grassland	508	0.02	0.41
5	fungi	soil	grassland	508	-0.04	NA
6	bacteria	sediment	glacier	7	0.001	0.007
7	bacteria	sediment	glacier	7	0	0.392
8	bacteria	sediment	glacier	7	0.002	0.169
9	fungi	host	forest	7.8	0.07	0.001
10	bacteria	host	forest	14000	0.08	0.5
11	archaea	water	lake	333.52	0.276	0.017
12	bacteria	soil	forest	350	0.54	0.007
13	bacteria	soil	forest	350	0.31	0.02
14	eukarya	water	marine	342	0.129	0.614
15	archaea	water	lake	17845.5	0.336	0.116
16	archaea	water	lake	17845.5	-0.094	0.473
17	archaea	water	lake	17845.5	-0.087	0.486
18	bacteria	water	lake	17845.5	0.125	0.166
19	bacteria	water	lake	17845.5	0.484	0.0016
20	bacteria	water	lake	17845.5	0.328	0.002
21	eukarya	water	lake	480	-0.031	0.437
22	bacteria	soil	grassland	NA	0.225	0.001
23	bacteria	water	river	2	0.21	0.0001
24	bacteria	water	lake	6.9	0.393	0.01
25	bacteria	water	lake	6.6	0.431	0.05
26	bacteria	water	lake	3	0.057	NA
27	bacteria	water	lake	3.9	0.38	0.001
28	bacteria	water	lake	8.7	0.565	0.01
29	bacteria	water	lake	7.8	0.037	NA
30	bacteria	water	lake	7.1	0.225	0.05
31	bacteria	water	lake	4.5	0.56	0.01
32	bacteria	water	lake	9.1	0.428	0.01
33	bacteria	water	lake	6.2	0.463	0.05
34	bacteria	water	lake	5.2	0.242	NA
35	bacteria	water	lake	4.3	0.522	0.001
36	bacteria	water	lake	5.9	0.555	0.032
37	archaea	water	marine	4600	-0.04	0.7939
38	bacteria	water	marine	4600	0.16	0.3512
39	eukarya	water	marine	2000	0.30932	0.019
40	bacteria	water	lake	362	-0.09	NA
41	bacteria	sediment	river	7.5	0.05	NA
42	bacteria	water	lake	7.5	0.292	0.025
43	eukarya	water	marine	16000	0.32	0.001
44	bacteria	host	forest	77.5	0.032	0.28
45	archaea	soil	marsh	775	0.15	0.67
46	Bac_arch	sediment	river	51.56	0.27	0.01
47	bacteria	sediment	river	53.3	0.45	0.01
48	fungi	host	forest	23	0.83	0.001
49	fungi	host	forest	23	0.8	0.01
50	fungi	host	forest	23	0.79	0.001
51	fungi	host	forest	23	0.68	0.001
52	bacteria	host	forest	23	0.38	0.01
53	bacteria	host	forest	23	0.48	0.01
54	bacteria	host	forest	23	0.51	0.01
55	bacteria	host	forest	23	0.56	0.001
56	eukarya	soil	forest	0.064	0.338	0.05
57	eukarya	soil	forest	0.064	-0.24	NA
58	fungi	soil	forest	0.064	0.171	0.05
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3	eukarya	soil	forest	0.064	0.22	0.05
4	eukarya	soil	forest	0.064	0.13	NA
5	fungi	soil	forest	0.064	0.18	0.05
6	eukarya	soil	forest	0.064	0.102	NA
7	eukarya	soil	forest	0.064	0.124	NA
8	fungi	soil	forest	0.064	0.294	0.05
9	eukarya	water	river	6	0.43	0.01
10	eukarya	water	river	6	0.79	0.001
11	eukarya	water	marine	0.104	0.27	0.001
12	eukarya	water	marine	0.104	0.28	0.001
13	eukarya	water	marine	0.104	0.28	0.001
14	bacteria	water	lake	250	0.74	0.001
15	bacteria	water	lake	200	0.41	0.001
16	fungi	soil	forest	12900	0.17	0.001
17	fungi	soil	forest	12900	0.24	0.001
18	Bac_arch	water	river	14.3	0.06	0.31
19	eukarya	water	river	14.3	0.12	0.07
20	eukarya	water	marine	66.48	0.383	0.001
21	eukarya	sediment	coastal	66.48	0.264	0.007
22	archaea	water	river	1100	0.24	0.02
23	bacteria	water	river	1100	0.28	0.04
24	eukarya	water	river	45	0.315	0.001
25	eukarya	water	river	45	0.585	0.001
26	eukarya	water	marine	50	0.426	0.001
27	eukarya	water	marine	50	0.086	0.242
28	fungi	soil	grassland	406.98	0.301	0.001
29	Bac_arch	sediment	lake	64.35844	0.0764	0.2525
30	bacteria	soil	grassland	737	0.383	0.001
31	bacteria	soil	grassland	800	0.274	0.001
32	bacteria	soil	grassland	800	0.219	0.001
33	bacteria	soil	grassland	800	0.271	0.001
34	eukarya	soil	grassland	0.0124	0.1661	0.0001
35	bacteria	water	marine	7000	0.03	NA
36	Bac_arch	soil	grassland	2000	0.1567	0.046
37	bacteria	water	river	16.75	0.42	0.01
38	eukarya	water	river	16.75	0.3	0.01
39	bacteria	soil	grassland	0.28	0.405	0.056
40	bacteria	soil	grassland	0.28	-0.033	0.504
41	bacteria	snow	snow	410	-0.013	0.438
42	fungi	snow	snow	410	0.306	0.033
43	eukarya	snow	snow	410	0.024	0.281
44	bacteria	sediment	marine	220	0.26	NA
45	bacteria	sediment	marine	220	0.03	NA
46	eukarya	sediment	marine	500	0.21	0.001
47	bacteria	host	agriculture	NA	0.07	NA
48	bacteria	water	river	1200	0.69	0.01
49	fungi	water	river	940	0.3343	0.001
50	eukarya	sediment	river	3816.9	0.32	0.001
51	bacteria	sediment	river	15.63357	0.32	0.04
52	bacteria	sediment	river	364.114	0.7	0.002
53	bacteria	sediment	river	15.63357	0.17	0.22
54	bacteria	sediment	river	364.114	0.76	0.001
55	eukarya	sediment	river	667.6188	0.098	0.074
56	eukarya	sediment	river	667.6188	0.021	0.336
57	eukarya	sediment	river	667.6188	0.31	0.001
58	eukarya	sediment	river	667.6188	0.313	0.001
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3	bacteria	water	river	105	0.7	0.01
4	bacteria	water	river	118	-0.27 NA	
5	bacteria	soil	grassland	524.5567	0.2376	0.001
6	bacteria	soil	grassland	524.5567	0.1432	0.001
7	bacteria	soil	grassland	524.5567	0.07761	0.015
8	bacteria	soil	agriculture	3700	0.279	0.001
9	bacteria	soil	agriculture	3700	0.124	0.055
10	bacteria	host	agriculture	3700	0.06	0.201
11	bacteria	water	marine	989	0.007	0.978
12	bacteria	water	marine	989	-0.26	0.35
13	bacteria	water	marine	989	0.165	0.557
14	bacteria	water	marine	989	-0.265	0.34
15	bacteria	water	marine	989	0.004	0.987
16	bacteria	water	marine	989	-0.261	0.348
17	bacteria	water	marine	989	0.172	0.539
18	bacteria	water	marine	989	-0.181	0.519
19	bacteria	soil	forest	#####	0.569	0.001
20	bacteria	soil	agriculture	4129.6	0.347	0.05
21	eukarya	sediment	grassland	1673.871	0.18	0.001
22	bacteria	sediment	marine	11250.7	0.13	0.0001
23	archaea	sediment	marine	11250.7	0.36	0.0001
24	fungi	sediment	lake	148	0.17	0.014
25	archaea	soil	agriculture	740.6049	0.388	0.001
26	bacteria	soil	agriculture	740.6049	0.15	0.007
27	archaea	water	river	108	0.53 NA	
28	bacteria	water	river	108	0.7	0.01
29	fungi	host	grassland	1804.736	0.18	0.001
30	eukarya	sediment	coastal	12000	0.638	0.01
31	eukarya	sediment	coastal	12000	0.484	0.01
32	bacteria	water	marine	251.9414	0.18 NA	
33	bacteria	soil	forest	3700	0.545	0.001
34	bacteria	host	grassland	3000	0.64	0.01
35	fungi	water	marine	544.152	0.421	0.001
36	fungi	water	marine	544.152	0.426	
37	fungi	water	marine	544.152	0.373	
38	fungi	sediment	marine	544.152	0.302	0.002
39	eukarya	water	marine	1300	0.26	0.13
40	bacteria	water	river	175	0.29 NA	
41	bacteria	water	river	175	0.58	0.05
42	bacteria	water	river	140	0.22	0.05
43	bacteria	water	river	190	0.59	0.005
44	bacteria	water	river	190	0.6	0.0005
45	bacteria	water	river	140	0.21 NA	
46	fungi	host	agriculture	35	0.42	0.007
47	fungi	host	agriculture	35	0.51	0.001
48	bacteria	host	agriculture	35	0.07	0.27
49	bacteria	host	agriculture	35	-0.08	0.61
50	bacteria	sediment	marine	NA	0.74	0.001
51	fungi	host	forest	NA	0.15	0.013
52	fungi	host	forest	NA	0.22	0.002
53	fungi	sediment	marine	590	0.091	0.085
54	archaea	sediment	marine	9714.929	0.26	0.001
55	archaea	sediment	marine	9714.929	0.31	0.001
56	fungi	host	grassland	3000	0.47	0.01
57	fungi	host	grassland	3000	0.12	0.18
58	fungi	soil	grassland	771.278	0.022	0.63

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3	Bac_arch	soil	grassland	771.278	0.49	0.001
4	fungi	soil	grassland	771.278	0.14	0.008
5	Bac_arch	soil	grassland	771.278	0.39	0.001
6	fungi	soil	forest	1.070612	0.33	0.01
7	fungi	soil	forest	1.070612	0.42	0.01
8	fungi	soil	grassland	1100	0.428	0.0001
9	bacteria	soil	grassland	1100	0.221	0.0001
10	fungi	soil	grassland	1100	0.415	0.0001
11	bacteria	soil	grassland	1100	0.209	0.0001
12	eukarya	water	marine	19.95401	0.214	0.085
13	eukarya	sediment	coastal	12.54235	0.622	0.001
14	eukarya	water	marine	19.39535	-0.029	0.85
15	fungi	air	urban	30	0.002	0.4
16	bacteria	soil	desert	888	0.36	0.001
17	bacteria	soil	agriculture	27.54095	-0.13	NA
18	bacteria	sediment	river	27.23884	0.2	NA
19	bacteria	water	river	31.57764	0.08	NA
20	bacteria	soil	grassland	360	0.3381	0.01
21	bacteria	soil	grassland	360	0.3539	0.01
22	fungi	host	forest	17.06215	0.2837	0.001
23	fungi	host	forest	16.95822	0.1843	0.001
24	eukarya	sediment	marine	11626.09	0.25	0.001
25	fungi	host	forest	110	0.22	0.001
26	fungi	soil	forest	1.840173	0.26	0.003
27	bacteria	sediment	glacier	1396.279	0.855	0.001
28	bacteria	sediment	coastal	1624.666	0.371	0.001
29	bacteria	sediment	coastal	1624.666	0.512	0.001
30	bacteria	soil	forest	10000	0.45	0.0001
31	bacteria	soil	forest	10000	0.11	0.204
32	bacteria	sediment	forest	0.13	0.13	0.09
33	bacteria	soil	forest	3000	0.059	0.012
34	archaea	soil	forest	3000	-0.015	0.657
35	fungi	soil	forest	3000	0.055	0.051
36	fungi	soil	desert	925	0.142	0.181
37	fungi	soil	desert	925	0.659	0.001
38	bacteria	host	grassland	2.55474	0.266	0.038
39	bacteria	host	grassland	2.55474	0.258	0.032
40	bacteria	soil	grassland	70	0.204	0.017
41	fungi	soil	grassland	70	0.387	0.002
42	Bac_arch	sediment	river	610	0.159	0.001
43	bacteria	water	lake	NA	0.215	NA
44	eukarya	sediment	lake	514	0.578	0.001
45	archaea	sediment	lake	3656	0.197	0.001
46	bacteria	water	lake	67.85	-0.3311	NA
47	bacteria	water	lake	67.85	-0.0122	NA
48	bacteria	water	lake	67.85	0.2482	0.0285
49	bacteria	water	lake	67.85	0.3969	0.0003
50	bacteria	soil	grassland	60	0.3574	0.0001
51	bacteria	soil	grassland	60	0.3626	0.0001
52	bacteria	soil	grassland	60	-0.0642	NA
53	all	water	river	674	0.83	0.001
54	all	water	river	674	0.37	0.1
55	bacteria	host	marine	0.00199	0.7059	0.0001
56	eukarya	host	marine	0.00199	0.2147	0.1072
57	bac_euk	host	marine	0.00199	0.3029	0.0543
58	bacteria	host	marine	0.00199	0.698	0.0002
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eukarya	host	marine	0.00199	0.1289	0.2247
bac_euk	host	marine	0.00199	0.1102	0.2611
bacteria	host	marine	0.00199	0.4252	0.0128
eukarya	host	marine	0.00199	0.0644	0.3428
bac_euk	host	marine	0.00199	0.1286	0.2345

For Peer Review