

1 **Supplemental Material**

2 **Authors:** Lauren Sassoubre, Kevan Yamahara, Alexandria Boehm

3 **Title:** Temporal stability of the microbial community in sewage-polluted seawater
4 exposed to natural sunlight cycles and marine microbiota

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6 ***Methods for investigating changes in OTU relative abundance between treatments***

7 ***using edgeR.*** The edgeR package facilitates statistical comparisons of the OTUs in each
8 sample using negative binomial general linear models and user defined contrasts (1, 2).

9 The data were filtered to remove OTUs with very low raw counts (OTUs that had a count
10 of 2 or more in at least one sample were retained by the program). The filtered dataset
11 contained 5338 unique OTUs. Raw OTU counts (not rarefied) were normalized to
12 ‘pseudo-counts’ using a model-based method that applies a correction factor to scale all
13 the library sizes to one ‘effective library size.’ Contrasts were defined as the difference
14 between the ‘pseudo-counts’ in one microcosm minus the ‘pseudo-counts’ in another
15 microcosm for each OTU at each time point. Four contrasts were examined (1) dark
16 unfiltered relative to dark filtered microcosms, (2) light unfiltered relative to light filtered
17 microcosms, (3) light filtered relative to dark filtered microcosms, (4) light unfiltered
18 relative to dark unfiltered. To account for Type 1 errors, all p values were adjusted to
19 False Discovery Rates (FDR) (3). Changes in OTU counts were considered statistically
20 significant if the FDR was less than 10% (FDR<0.1).

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22 Since we did not have biological replicates to calculate the biological coefficient of
23 variation (BCV) (1, 2, 4-6), we based the dispersion estimates (used to calculate the

24 BCV) on the samples from the dark filtered microcosm at 0 h and 12 h. We made the
25 assumption that the first two samples from the dark filtered microcosms (0 h and 12 h)
26 could be used as replicates based on the following. Measures of observed richness and
27 alpha diversity were similar between the dark filtered microcosms at 0 h and 12 h, with
28 observed richness of 721 and 786, respectively, and Shannon diversity indices of 5.3 and
29 5.4, respectively. We also compared the dark filtered microcosm samples at 0 h and 12 h
30 using edgeR and found no significant differences in OTU abundance between the two
31 samples (FDR<0.1).

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33 The edgeR manual discusses a few options for studies when biological replicates are not
34 available and one option is to treat samples expected not to differ as replicates (in this
35 case the dark microcosm) (6). We calculated the BCV using the dark filtered microcosm
36 samples collected at 0 h and 12 h and found it to be equal to 0.28. This value is between
37 0.1 to 0.4, the range given by the edgeR manual (0.4 for human data and 0.1 for data on
38 genetically identical model organisms) (6). The implications of assuming the dark filtered
39 microcosm samples at 0 h and 12 h can be used as replicates to calculate the BCV are
40 discussed in the Discussion section of the manuscript.

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42 ***Methods for investigating similarities in microbial community composition using the***
43 ***vegan package.*** The vegan package was used to investigate similarities in microbial
44 community composition between samples. Rarefied OTU counts were square root
45 transformed and Bray-Curtis dissimilarities between samples were calculated. A taxa-
46 time relationship was investigated using a Mantel test on the OTU dissimilarity matrices

47 and the temporal distance matrix. Similarities between samples were visualized with
48 nonmetric multidimensional scaling (nMDS) plots. We used analysis of similarities
49 (ANOSIM) to test the null hypothesis that (1) there was no significant difference in
50 community composition at the OTU level based on sunlight exposure and (2) there was
51 no significant difference in community composition at the OTU level based on the
52 presence or absence of marine microbiota.

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54 ***Methods for investigating changes in the abundance of sewage-derived***

55 ***microorganisms with time using SourceTracker.*** The SourceTracker package (7) was
56 used to investigate how the sewage microbial community changed with time in each
57 treatment. SourceTracker uses a Bayesian approach to determine the proportion of the
58 user-identified sources and an “unknown” source in each sample (each sample is termed
59 “sink” in the program) (7). The program rarifies OTU counts to the minimum number of
60 sequences in a sample (4635) and thus uses a different rarified data set than we used for
61 the rest of the analyses described earlier. The unfiltered seawater (before seeding with
62 sieved sewage) and the filtered seawater seeded with sieved sewage at the initial time
63 point were named as “sources”. All other samples were considered “sinks”. The
64 program’s “unknown” source category is used for the proportion of OTUs that are not
65 assigned the user-identified sources.

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67 ***Methods for quantification of bacterial 16S rRNA by Quantitative Polymerase Chain***

68 ***Reaction (qPCR).*** In each sample used for microbial community analysis, the number of
69 copies of a region of the 16S rRNA gene specific to bacteria was quantified using qPCR

70 on an Applied Biosystems StepOnePlus. Twenty microliter reactions consisted of 1X
71 Platinum Quantitative PCR SuperMix-UDG with ROX (includes 3 mM MgCl)
72 (Invitrogen, Life Technologies, Carlsbad, CA), 0.2 μ M forward primer (BACT1369F:
73 CGGTGAATACGTTCYCGG) (64), 0.2 μ M reverse primer
74 (PROK1492R:GGWTACCTTGTTACGACTT) (64), 0.1 μ M probe
75 (TM1389F:CTTGACACACCGCCCGTC) (64), and 2 μ l template. Samples were run at
76 1:100 dilutions. While the assay targeted bacteria broadly, standard curves were
77 constructed using genomic DNA from one bacterium with a known number of rRNA
78 operons (4), *Enterococcus faecalis* (ATCC 29212). Standard curves, no template controls
79 (NTCs) and samples were run in triplicate on each plate. The following cycling
80 parameters were used: 50 °C for 2 minutes, 94 °C for 10 minutes followed by 40 cycles
81 of 94 °C for 15 seconds and 56 °C for 30 seconds (64).

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83 ***Methods for enumeration of culturable enterococci.*** Standard methods were used to
84 enumerate enterococci on mEI media in each dialysis bag (4). The natural log of the
85 enterococci concentrations was used to calculate the inactivation rates k and T_{90} values
86 assuming first order decay.

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88 ***Results for quantification of the 16S rRNA gene by QPCR and enterococci by culture-***
89 ***based methods.*** The total number of bacterial 16S rRNA gene copies remained relatively
90 stable over time (Figure S3). Concentrations of culturable enterococci (from sewage
91 and/or seawater) decreased to below the detection limit (1 CFU/100 mL) by the end of
92 the first day of sunlight exposure but did not change in the microcosms kept in the dark

93 (~10⁵ colony forming units (CFU)/100 mL) (Figure S3). The enterococci inactivation
94 rates (k) for the sunlit microcosms with and without marine microbiota were calculated
95 using the first three time points and we found to be $-0.49 \pm 0.085 \text{ hr}^{-1}$ and -0.46 ± 0.048
96 hr^{-1} , corresponding to T_{90S} of 4.26 and 4.47 hr, respectively. While culturable
97 enterococci concentrations as high as 10⁵ CFU/100 ml were measured, only one OTU
98 was assigned to the genus *Enterococcus* in the NGS analysis, and the relative abundance
99 of this OTU was below 0.1% in all the microcosms it was measured in. This OTU
100 assigned to *Enterococcus* was identified in the dark filtered microcosms at 0 h, 12 h, 24
101 h, the light filtered microcosms at 0 h, 12 h, 24 h, 36 h, 48 h, the dark unfiltered
102 microcosms at 24 h and 36 h, and the light unfiltered microcosms at 12 h. *Enterococcus*
103 likely represents a very low proportion of the bacteria present in sewage and seawater,
104 making it too rare a target to be detected using NGS at the sequencing depth used. This is
105 consistent with previous studies investigating *Enterococcus* in beach sands using culture-
106 based methods and NSG (66, 67). Decay of the NGS signal for sewage microorganisms
107 followed a similar trend to enterococci bacteria but only in the sunlit microcosms where
108 culturable enterococci concentrations decayed significantly within 24 hours. In the dark
109 microcosms, enterococci levels remained elevated well after the sewage signal from NGS
110 had decayed.

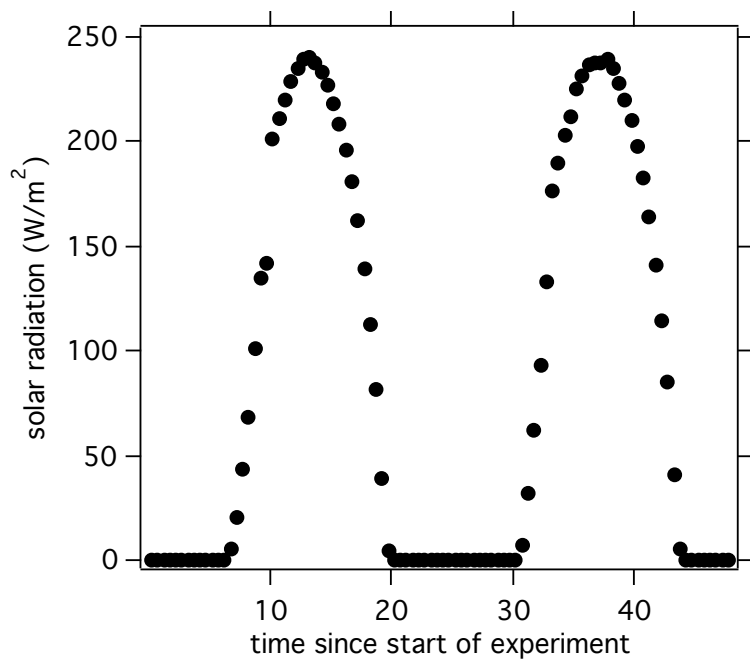
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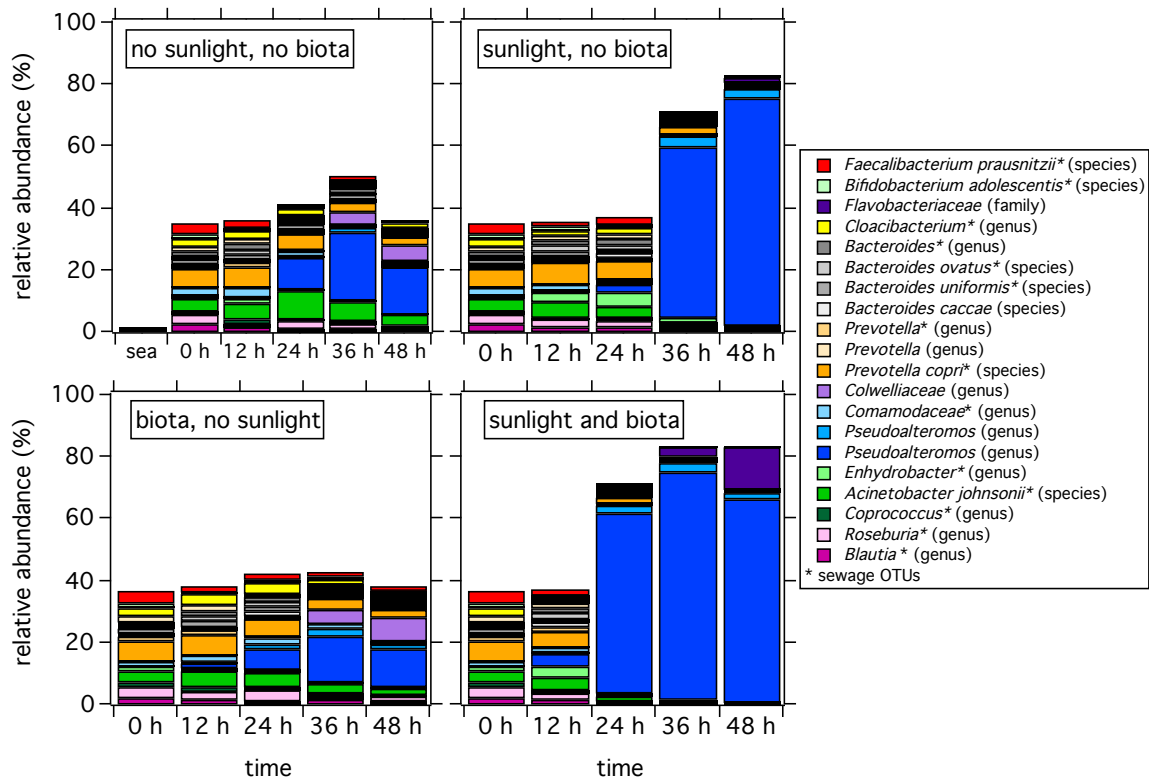
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119 **Supplemental Material Figure S1.** Solar irradiance collected every 30 minutes during

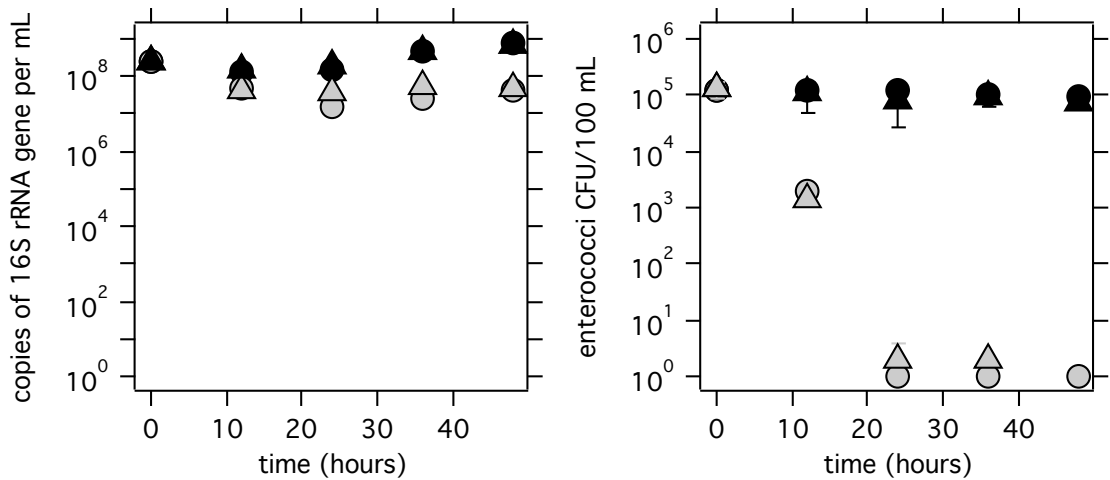
120 the experiment. Irradiance includes energy between 400 and 2700 nm.

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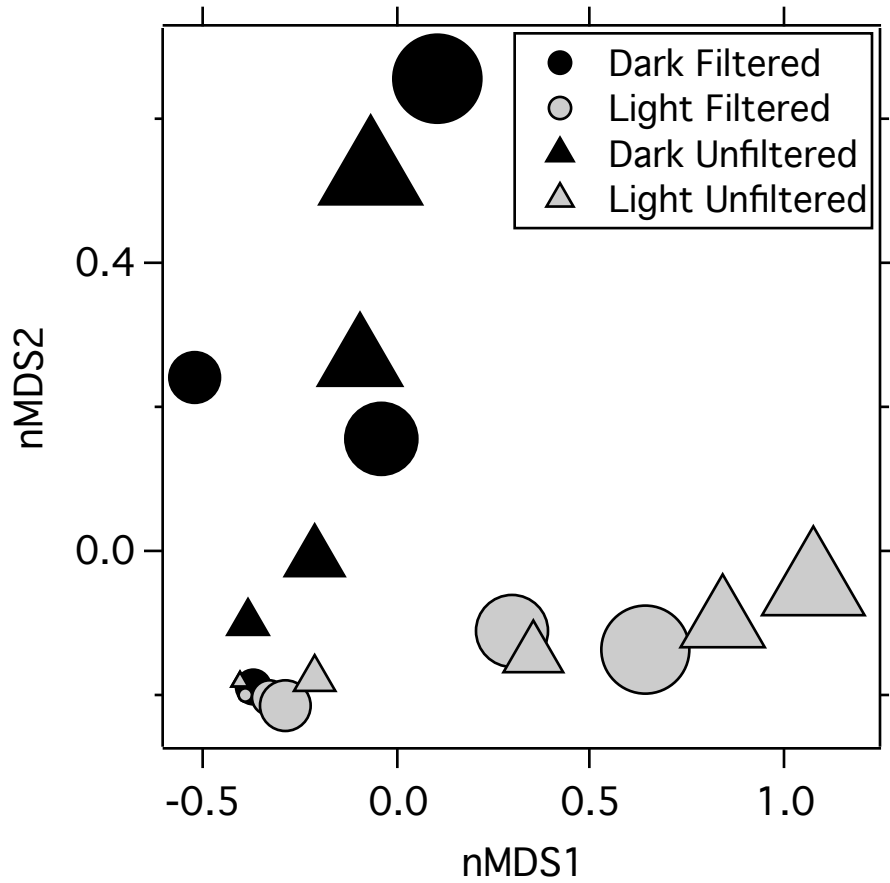
Supplemental Material Figure S2. The 20 most abundant OTUs labeled with their lowest taxonomic designation assigned by QIIME workflow (noted in parentheses in the legend). An asterisk next to the taxonomic designation indicates a ‘sewage OTU.’ Top left panel. The microcosms kept in the dark with no biota (dark filtered microcosms). Added to this plot are the relative abundances for the unfiltered seawater sample labeled “sea”. Top right panel. The microcosms exposed to sunlight with no biota (light filtered microcosms). Bottom left panel. The microcosms kept in the dark with biota (dark unfiltered microcosms). Bottom right panel. The microcosms exposed to sunlight with biota (light unfiltered microcosms). The y-axes in all plots represent the percent relative abundance. The x-axis in all plots is time. Note that *Pseudoalteromonas* (genus) and *Prevotella* (genus) are listed twice in the legend because two unique OTUs received this as their lowest taxonomic assignment.



● Filtered Dark ○ Filtered Light ▲ Unfiltered Dark △ Unfiltered Light

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Supplemental Material Figure S3. Changes in the bacterial 16S rRNA signal measured by qPCR (left panel) and changes in culturable enterococci concentrations (right panel). Dark circles represent dark filtered microcosms. Light circles represent light filtered microcosms. Dark triangles represent dark unfiltered microcosms. Light triangles represent light filtered microcosms. Time since the start of the experiment is shown on the x-axes. Error bars on the left panel represent the standard deviation of triplicate qPCRs and are difficult to see because they are small. Error bars on the right panel represent the standard deviation of replicate plate counts.



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Supplemental Material Figure S4. Nonmetric multidimensional scaling (nMDS) based on Bray-Curtis dissimilarities (stress=0.066). Black circles and triangles represent dark filtered and unfiltered microcosms, respectively. Grey circles and triangles represent light filtered and unfiltered microcosms, respectively. The size of the marker corresponds to the time the sample was collected; the smallest markers represent 0 h and the largest represent 48 h.

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