

# **Bacterial community response to novel versus repeated disturbances**

Susannah Halbrook<sup>1</sup>, William Wilber<sup>2</sup>, Mary Elizabeth Barrow<sup>1</sup>, Emily C. Farrer<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Tulane University, New Orleans, LA, USA

<sup>2</sup>Department of Biological Sciences, University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, IN, USA

Correspondence: S. Halbrook, Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Tulane

University, 6823 St. Charles Ave. Room# 400 Lindy Boggs Center, New Orleans, LA. 70118-

5698, USA

Email: shalbroo@tulane.edu, Phone: (206)719-1725

Keywords: soil microbial community, stability, perturbation, succession, Gulf Coast, wetland,

16S

## **Abstract**

Disturbance response and recovery are an increasing focus in microbial ecology as microbes may recovery from disturbance differently than macro communities. Past disturbances can alter microbial community structure and disturbance response to subsequent disturbances events, but it remains unclear if the same recovery patterns continue after long-term exposure to stress. Here, we compare bacterial community composition in a community that experienced two years of monthly salinity addition disturbances with a community that has not experience salinity additions. We then track response and recovery to an additional salinity addition based on past disturbance exposure. We tested the following hypotheses: 1) communities with a repeated disturbance history will have different community composition than communities without a disturbance history; 2) communities exposed to repeated disturbances will undergo a different recovery trajectory than communities experiencing a novel disturbance. We find that repeated disturbances alter community composition and affect community response and recovery to a

subsequent disturbance after two years, primarily through increased resistance. This work improves our understanding of microbial temporal dynamics and suggests that novel disturbances may pose a threat to microbial community structure and function.

## INTRODUCTION

The effects of disturbance history on community structure and stability have been well studied in animal and plant systems, but only recently has been studied in microbes (Shade review, Bardgett and Caruso 2020, Philippot et al 2021). The distinct physiologies and life histories of microbes compared to macro-organisms may lead to microbes exhibiting unique response patterns to environmental disturbance, making it necessary to re-examine these questions in microbial systems. For example, the high diversity and functional redundancy of microbial communities (Fierer 2017, Chen et al 2022), paired with short turnover times (Powel 1956, Gibson et al 2018) and ability to use dormancy to survive inhospitable periods (Lenon and Jones 2011, Blazewicz et al 2014) could lead to distinct community disturbance responses compared to animals and plants.

The disturbance regime of an ecosystem can impact microbial composition by repeatedly selecting for microbial taxa that are tolerant of, or can recover from, disturbance stressors over long time periods. Disturbance experiments have found that past disturbances alter microbial composition (Berga et al 2012, Santos-Medellin et al 2017) and function (Berard et al 2012, Bouskill 2013, Meisner et al 2015, Kaisermann et al 2017) following subsequent disturbances compared to naïve communities, but examples of the effects of long-term disturbance regimes on community structure (Nielsen and Ball 2015) are less common. Theoretical work shows that a history of environmental variation affects the functioning of microbial communities (Hawkes and Keitt 2015), and the field and laboratory experiments that have tested long-term, repeated disturbances have also shown that they alter diversity and composition (Osburn et al. 2019, Shen

et al. 2016, Preece et al 2019, Steitz et al 2022), functional diversity (Steitz et al 2022), function (Evans and Wallenstein 2012, Evans and Wallenstein 2014, Fuchslieger et al 2016, Canarini et al 2021), and network structure (Osburn et al 2019) in a diverse array of systems and stressors.

Historic disturbance regimes may not only affect community structure and function but may also affect the community's recovery to future disturbances. Repeated disturbance may increase a community's resistance and resilience as the community adapts to the recurring environmental stress, where resistance describes the degree of compositional change following a disturbance and resilience describes how quickly the community returns to its pre-disturbance composition (Shade et al 2012). Considerable research effort has examined the effects of drought stress on soil microbiomes and finds that past drought events, whether over short or long-term periods, leads to increased resistance (Bouskill 2013, Canarini et al 2021) and/or resilience (Berard 2012, de Nijs et al 2019) to future drought stress. Drought-stressed communities have also been found to adapt to drought by altering their recovery strategy (Evans and Wallenstein 2014). However, microbial response to other types of disturbances, like salinity, fire, and heat shock, have yielded less consistent results, including finding little or no community resilience (Berga 2012, Bernhard et al 2015, Shen et al 2016, Jurgens 2017b, Calderon et al 2018, Feckler et al 2018, Hu et al 2018). A more thorough investigation of microbial responses to other disturbances, like has been done with drought stress, would lead to more conclusive understanding of the effect of historic disturbance regimes on microbial community recovery and adaptation.

We tested the effect of repeated disturbances on soil bacterial community structure and recovery in a brackish marsh in SE Louisiana using salinity pulses as the disturbance. Coastal wetlands are an understudied habitat (Carini et al 2016) prone to frequent and rapid changes in salinity and predicted to experience increased mean salinity over time with sea level rise

(Fagherazzi et al 2019). The frequent abiotic fluctuations and long-term salinity changes provide a useful context to examine how soil communities respond to salinity stress follow a long-term disturbance regime. The few studies that have tested salinity stress find communities to have inconsistent recovery and that the frequency of the disturbance impacts community composition (Berga et al 2012, Hu et al 2018, Mobilian et al 2020).

We work to expand our understanding of microbial response to salt stress in natural environments by implementing a field-based disturbance experiment, using a two-year monthly salinity addition regime as the historic disturbance. We assessed differences in community composition between communities with no artificial disturbance vs. two years of repeated disturbance history. We then compared the recovery trajectory of bacterial communities to an additional salinity disturbance in the community with the repeated disturbance history vs. the community for which the salinity addition was a novel disturbance. First, we hypothesize that the community with the repeated disturbance history will have different community composition than the community without a disturbance history, indicating the effect of long-term, repeated disturbances on composition. Second, we hypothesize that the community exposed to repeated disturbances will undergo a different recovery trajectory than the community experiencing a novel disturbance. Specifically, we predict that repeated disturbances will lead to less rapid and less extreme compositional change following the salinity addition (increased resistance), and a quicker recovery to the initial community composition (increased resilience) compared to novel disturbance community.

## **MATERIALS AND METHODS**

### **Experimental Design**

In the fall of 2018, 24 permanent 1x1m plots were established in the Pearl River WMA, LA (30°14'14.9"N 89°37'25.6"W). Plots were organized into three treatments: repeated disturbance (two-year monthly disturbance), novel disturbance (single disturbance event), and control (no disturbance), where each treatment had eight plots. Plots were organized in a block design, where each block contained one plot from each treatment for a total of 8 blocks. Each plot was 5-10m from neighboring plots, and all plots represent a native marsh plant community, dominated by *Spartina patens*. Repeated disturbance plots received a monthly addition of 750g of salt (Instant Ocean Sea Salt, Blacksburg, VA) (Moon and Stiling 2002) for two years, increasing salinity by about 33% but returning to initial levels within a month, to establish a 2-year repeated disturbance regime.

In December 2020, soil samples were collected from all plots (Day0, "pre-treatment") before adding 750g of salt to the repeated disturbance and novel disturbance plots as the subsequent disturbance event. An unexpected rain event on Day 0 following the sample collection and salinity addition diluted and washed away the salt so that there was no increase in salinity on the following day. To account for this, salt was added again the following day, this time successfully increasing salinity within 24 hours. Day 0 refers to pretreatment conditions (before any salt was added), and Day 1 (and beyond) refers to one day after the second salt addition that successfully increased salinity. Following the salinity addition (Day 1 and beyond), samples were collected in the following time sequence: every other day for the first week, once per week through the first month, and every other week for a second month. A total of ten time points were sampled, including Day 0, which will be referred to as the number of days post-disturbance (ranging from Day 1-55).

#### **Sample Collection**

Each collection day, samples were collected from a randomly selected, non-repeating subplot within the plot (excluding the outer 20cm of the plot to avoid edge effects). Soil pore-water salinity was measured at 15cm depth using sippers to suction up pore water and dispense into a falcon tube before measuring with a salinity meter. Daily salinity was measured at two locations in each plot, the plot center, and the daily subplot, to capture spatial heterogeneity. These values were averaged for statistical analyses. Once pore water was collected, soil samples were taken within the subplot with a sterile soil corer to 10 cm depth. Soils were kept on ice until returning to the lab.

### **Molecular Methods**

Upon returning to the lab, samples were homogenized then treated with PMAxx (Biotium Inc., Freemont, CA) to remove relic DNA (free-floating, extracellular DNA or DNA in dead cells). PMAxx is a photo-sensitive reagent that binds to free-floating DNA and prevents downstream amplification. The result is the amplification only of DNA from intact, living cells. Relic DNA has been found to represent about 40% of amplified prokaryotic DNA in soil samples (Carini et al 2016, Lennon et al 2018), so removing it provides a more accurate picture of the live bacterial community, which is important given the rapid time sequence of the experiment. Briefly, 0.3g of soil was suspended in 3mL of PBS buffer and 7.5uL of PMA to reach a final sample concentration of 50mM PMAxx. Samples were incubated in the dark for 10 minutes followed by a 15-minute light exposure on ice with a 500W Halogen bulb at a distance of 20cm to activate the PMAxx (Ramirez et al 2018). Samples were inverted and/or rotated to mix once per minute during the dark and light incubation. Samples were then stored at -20°C.

DNA was extracted with the Qiagen PowerSoil Kit following the manufacturer's protocol, with the exception that a slurry of 960uL of soil from the PMAxx protocol was added instead of

dry soil (Carini et al 2016). Samples were standardized to 2ng/uL before dual-step PCR, done in duplicate, to amplify the 16S region with primers 515F/806R (Farrer et al 2021). PCR product was pooled, purified and concentrated with AMPure, and sequenced on Illumina Miseq v3 (300bp PE) at Duke Sequencing Core, Duke University, Durham, NC.

## **Bioinformatics**

Sequencing data was processed with an ASV method using the Qiime2 (Boyle et al 2019) and DADA2 (Callahan et al 2016) bioinformatic pipelines. Reads were first trimmed where quality scores dropped below ~30, then quality filtered, denoised, and paired reads were joined. Potential contaminants identified from six control samples were removed using the R package decontam (prevalence option) (Davis et al 2018). The resulting data were rarefied to 5500 reads per sample for dissimilarity analysis, singletons were removed from the rarefied data for compositional analysis, and unrarefied with relative abundance was used for taxonomic analysis. Taxonomy was assigned using Greengenes (DeSantis et al 2006).

## **Statistical Analysis**

To assess how the salinity addition increased plot salinity, we used linear mixed effects models to test the effect of Treatment (control, repeated disturbance, novel disturbance) on salinity on each day of the experiment using the function lme() with Plot and Block as nested random effects in the R package nlme (Pinheiro et al 2023). ANOVAs tested significance, and post-hoc tests with the function glht() from the R package multcomp (Hothorn et al 2008) compared the salinity levels between treatments on each day to confirm the two salt treatments (repeated disturbance and novel disturbance) did not differ from each other.

To test the first hypothesis and compare the pre-treatment communities, the data were subset to only include the Day 0 samples. A PERMANOVA using adonis2() in the R package

vegan (Oksanen et al 2022) was used to test the effect of Treatment on composition using the strata argument to restrict permutations by block. Dispersion was calculated with the function betadisper(). Subsequent pairwise PERMANOVAs were used to compare Day 0 composition between each treatment by further subsetting the Day 0 dataframe to only include two treatments per comparison. A dbRDA ordination plot was used to visualize the Day 0 communities with the capscale() function in vegan, conditioned on block. The points were plotted by extracting the CAP scores from the capscale() output and plotting in ggplot2 (Wickham 2016).

To test the second hypothesis, that the treatments had different recovery trajectories, PERMANOVAs were used to test the effect of Treatment, Day (as a factor), and their interaction on community composition over the whole collection period. In order to account for repeated measures of plots over time, PERMANOVAs were done manually in R with different types of models and randomization restrictions (Simpson 2020) using adonis2() and the how() function in the package permute (Simpson 2022). First, to calculate the correct  $F$ -statistic for the effect of Treatment, we ran an adonis2() model testing the effect of Plot + Treatment and extracted the sums of squares for the Treatment variable (divided by df) and divided it by the sums of squares for the Plot variable (divided by df); this accounts for the fact that in a repeated measures design, the denominator in the  $F$ -statistic is the whole-plot error rather than the residual error (Simpson 2020). We then performed a permutation test with 999 permutations, randomizing the plots freely within blocks (comparing Treatments), but not randomizing within plots (individual samples), using the how() function. For each permutation, we ran the same adonis2() model and calculated the  $F$ -statistic for the Treatment effect. We then calculated a  $P$ -value by comparing the  $F$ -statistic of our actual data to the distribution of  $F$ -statistics of the randomized data. To test the effect of Day, we fit an adonis2() model testing the effect of Plot + Day and restricted permutations within plot,



which compares samples taken over time to only the other samples within that plot. Lastly, to test the effect of Day\*Treatment, we fit an `adonis2()` model testing the effect of Plot + Day + Day\*Treatment, again randomizing the plots freely within blocks, but not within plots. Dispersion was calculated with the function `betadisper()`. These results were visualized with a dbRDA showing the effect of the interaction of Treatment and Day on composition, conditioning by block with the `capscale()` function. Centroids and standard error were calculated from the extracted CAP values and plotted in `ggplot2`.

To assess resistance and resilience, we examined day-to-day change in composition and abundance with several methods. Firstly, pairwise PERMANOVA identified significant compositional change between Day 0 and each subsequent day by treatment. With this method, we assessed resistance by how long the communities resisted significant compositional change following the salinity disturbance, and resilience by how quickly the community returned to a pre-disturbance community composition (not significantly different from Day 0). Due to the difference in composition found between treatments on Day 0 (treatment effect, see results), we compared daily composition to the Day 0 composition of each respective treatment, instead of to the control. This method identifies how each treatment deviates from its initial community, which more accurately describes community changes than comparing the treatments to the control since their initial communities differed (Supplement Table 2 for daily compositional comparisons of each treatment to the control). After first subsetting the data by treatment, then by day (so that each dataframe contained only two time points, Day 0 and one other day), we used the `adonis2()` function with the `how()` function as described above to account for repeated measures (permuting samples within plots, but not permuting plots freely). Resistance was assessed based on if or how quickly community composition significantly changed from Day 0. Resilience was assessed by if

or how quickly the community returned to a composition similar to the Day 0 composition. To visualize the results, we plotted the effect of Day on community composition with a dbRDA conditioned on block for each treatment. The treatments were ordinated separately to more accurately see how the bacterial composition changes from Day 0 in each treatment using the function `capscale()` conditioned on block. Spider plots show the centroids per day, calculated based on extracted CAP values, connected to each individual sample point, plotted in `ggplot2`.

In addition, we considered resistance in terms of the degree of community change following the disturbance by using Bray Curtis dissimilarity. We quantified the Bray Curtis dissimilarity between the Day 0 community of each treatment and every subsequent day. Higher values indicate more compositional change, repressing lower resistance. We also compared the Bray Curtis Dissimilarity between Day 0 and the day that each treatment underwent significant composition change in response to the salinity addition (Day 1 (novel) and Day 3 (repeated), see results). This allows us to compare the degree of change that each treatment experienced and identify with treatment underwent more extreme change. We used the function `beta.pair.abund()` from the R package `betapart` (Baselga et al 2023) to create a dissimilarity matrix. We extracted the dissimilarity values between the Day 0 and every subsequent day per plot to compare dissimilarity between the treatments. Using the same linear model as described for the salinity tests, we compared how dissimilarity from Day 0 varied by treatment, and the same post hoc method as described above was used to assess significance between days and treatments.

To assess how abundance of key taxa changed over time and between treatment, we used a similarity percentage analysis with the function `simper()` in the R packaged `vegan`. This analysis calculates the average contribution of each taxon to the community dissimilarity between sample units. Permutations then calculate if the contribution to dissimilarity is significant per taxa. We

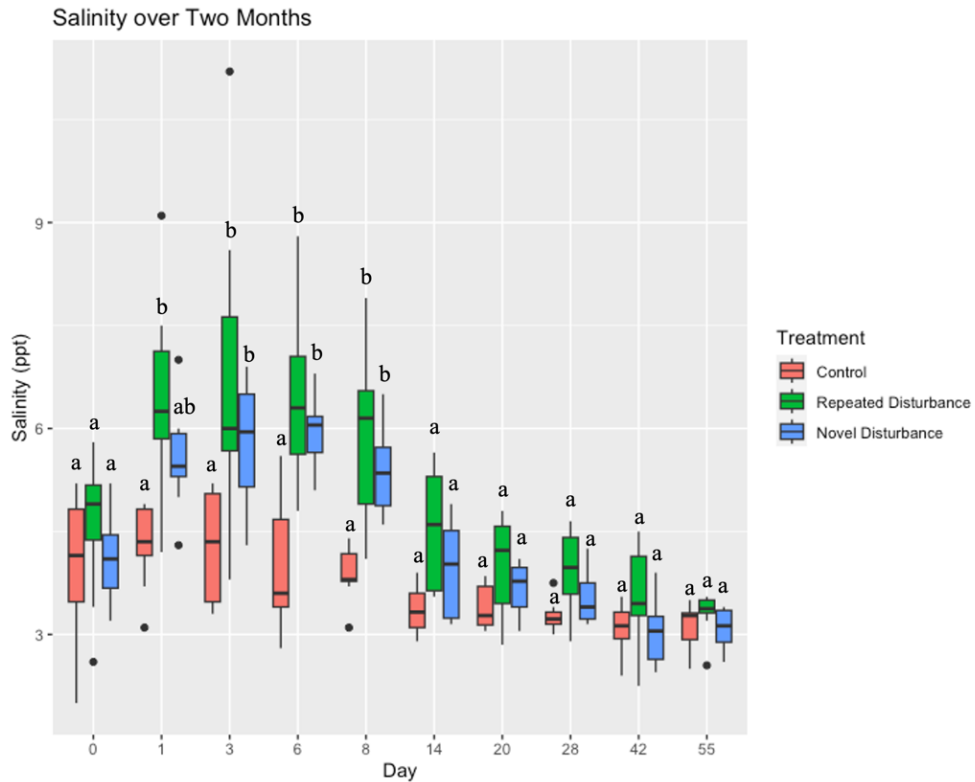
considered the dissimilarity between the three treatments (control-repeated disturbance, control-novel disturbance, repeated disturbance-novel disturbance). Using unrarefied, relative abundance data, we identified the 100 ASVs that most significant contributed to dissimilarity between each treatment comparison (300 total). Some of the 300 ASVs were present in more than one comparison, so after repeats were removed, there were 254 ASVs (the repeated taxa were still present in the analysis, but only listed once, resulting in a total of 254). To visualize abundance changes in these taxa over time, we subset our data to only include these 254 ASVs. Abundance values were log transformed and plotted as a heatmap using the function pheatmap() in the R package pheatmap (Kold 2019), with abundance values centered and scaled and taxa summed and labeled by the phylum.

All statistics and figures were run in R 4.1.2 (R Core Team 2023).

## **RESULTS**

### **Salinity Disturbance**

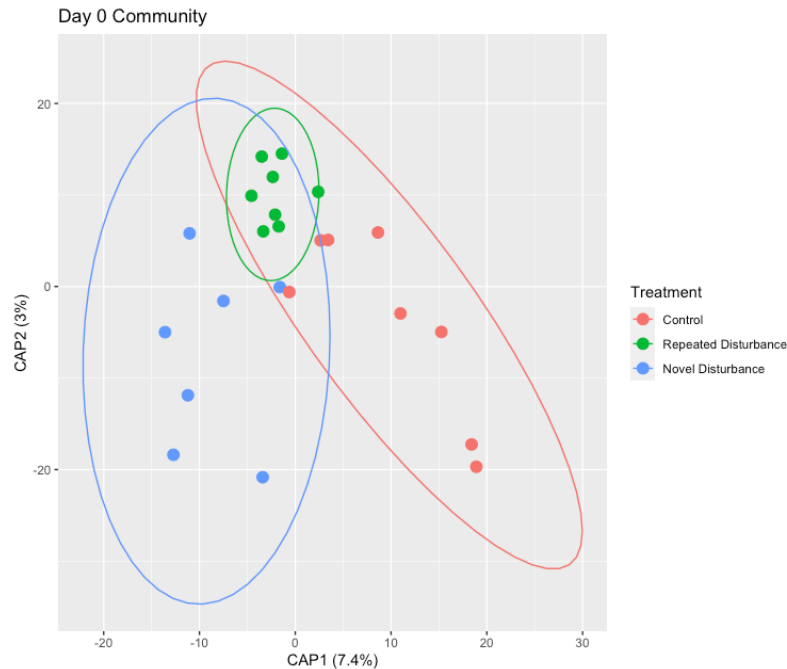
The salinity addition significantly increased salinity in the treatment plots for eight days, and by Day 14 salinity returned to pre-treatment levels (figure 1, Supplement Table 1). We consider the disturbance phase to last from Day 1 through Day 8, and the recovery phase to begin on Day 14. This timeline of salinity elevation is consistent with salinity measurements taken during the 2-year disturbance treatment to confirm the effect of the repeated salt additions, which showed salinity returning to ambient conditions after about two weeks.



**Figure 1:** A boxplot of the salinity of each treatment over the two-month sample collection. Salt was added after salinity was measured on Day 0. Changes in the control represent ambient salinity changes in the system. Significant differences ( $p < 0.05$ ) in salinity per day between treatments are shown for Days 0-14 based on post-hoc tests (supplement table 1).

## Effect of repeated salinity additions on community composition

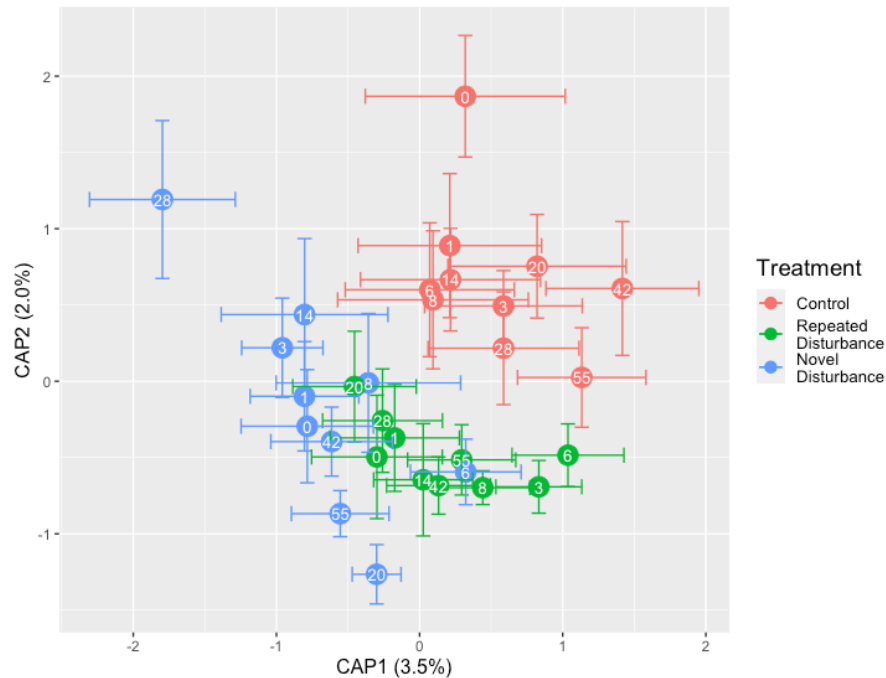
The Day 0 community composition significantly differed between treatments (figure 2;  $R^2 = 0.116$ , pseudo  $F_{(2,20)} = 1.31$ ,  $P = 0.014$ ), and pairwise PERMANOVAs comparing treatments find that the repeated disturbance composition was significantly different from the control ( $R^2 = 0.088$ , pseudo  $F_{(1,14)} = 1.34$ ,  $P = 0.039$ ) and the novel disturbance ( $R^2 = 0.087$ , pseudo  $F_{(1,13)} = 1.23$ ,  $P = 0.039$ ), but the novel disturbance and control did not differ ( $R^2 = 0.093$ , pseudo  $F_{(1,13)} = 1.33$ ,  $P = 0.094$ ). There was no significant difference in dispersion (compositional variance) between treatments ( $F = 1.98$ ,  $P = 0.163$ ), however, the repeated disturbance treatment showed a non-significant trend of decreased variance compared to the other treatments.



**Figure 2:** dbRDA plotting the effect of Treatment, conditioned by block, on community composition on Day 0.

## Effect of repeated salinity additions on disturbance response

Over the two months following the salinity addition, community composition significantly differed based on the disturbance regime (Treatment effect; pseudo  $F_{(2, 177)} = 2.05$ ,  $P = 0.038$ ) and days since disturbance (Day effect; pseudo  $F_{(9, 153)} = 1.67$ ,  $P = 0.001$ ), and the disturbance communities underwent different recovery trajectories over time (Treatment x Day interaction; pseudo  $F_{(18, 135)} = 1.19$ ,  $P = 0.0013$ ) (figure 3). Over the whole experiment, dispersion was significantly different by Treatment ( $F = 6.00$ ,  $P = 0.003$ ) and by Day ( $F = 2.16$ ,  $P = 0.027$ ). Like the Day 0 trend, the repeated disturbance treatment had lower compositional variance than the other treatments (Supplement Figure 1). These results support our second hypothesis, that the treatment communities respond to the disturbance differently based on their past disturbance regime.



**Figure 3:** dbRDA plotting the effect of the Treatment x Day interaction, conditioned by block, on community composition. Points represent the centroid of community composition on a given day by Treatment and bars represent standard error. Centroids are labelled by day.

## Resistance

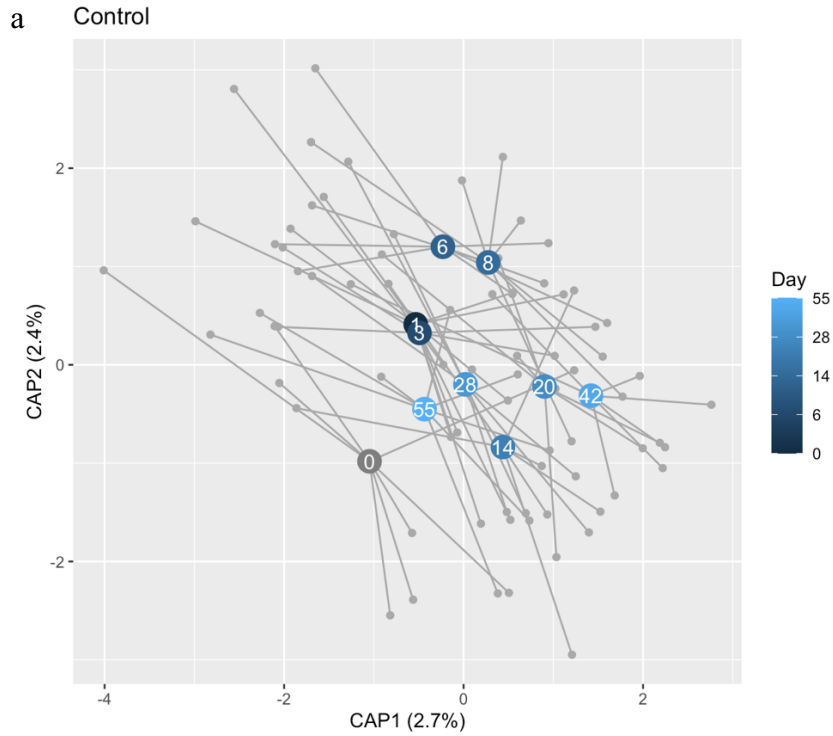
We found a slight increase in resistance in the repeated disturbance community compared to the novel disturbance based on how quickly the communities underwent significant compositional change following the salinity disturbance (table 1, figures 4a-c). The repeated disturbance treatment had only one day of significant compositional change away from the starting community, on Day 3, and the variance of community composition never changed. The novel disturbance underwent multiple days of compositional change, including on Day 1. This indicates lower resistance, and a rapid response to the salinity disturbance. The novel disturbance also showed the only significant change in compositional variance, which significantly decreased on Day 6 compared to Day 0. Overall, the control had multiple days of significant compositional change, demonstrating ambient bacterial dynamics.

We also used Bray Curtis Dissimilarity to assess resistance by quantifying the degree of community change on each day compared to Day 0. Dissimilarity over time differed by treatment ( $df=13$ ,  $F=12.77$ ,  $P=0.0009$ ; figure 5) and the novel disturbance had higher dissimilarity over the

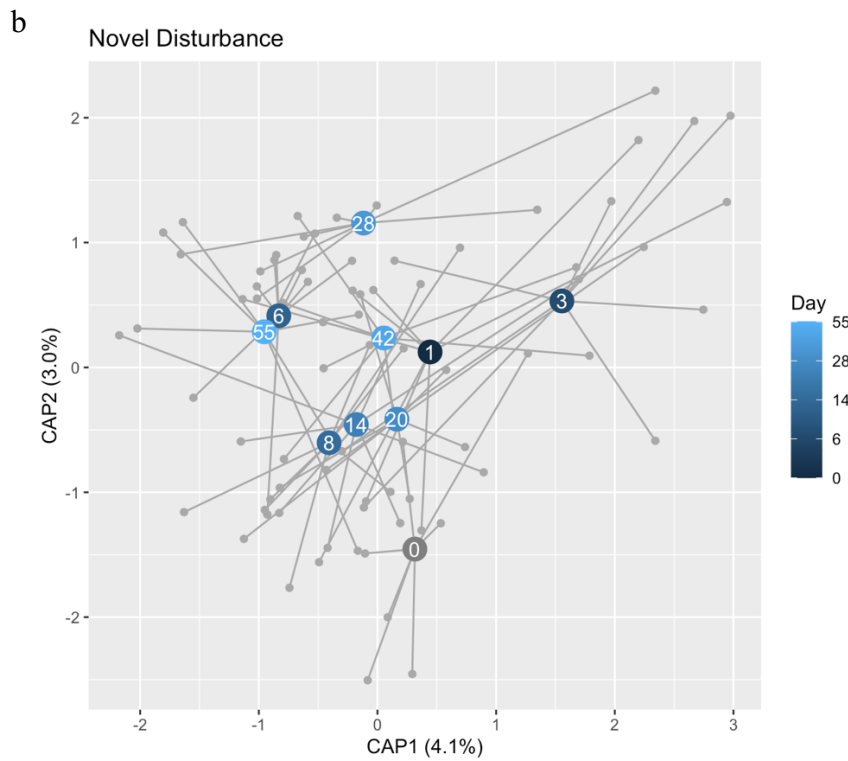
sampling period than the repeated disturbance and the control, supporting our prediction. Post hoc tests show that dissimilarity on Day 3 was significantly higher in the novel disturbance community than the repeated disturbance ( $p=0.012$ ) and the control ( $p=0.003$ ). We also assessed the degree of change by comparing the dissimilarity of both salt treatments on the day that they underwent significant composition change based on the PERMANOVA results (novel: Day 1, repeated: Day 3). While the novel disturbance had higher dissimilarity, the difference was not significant ( $p=0.89$ ). Together with the PERMANOVA result, we found a moderate increase in resistance in the repeated disturbance treatment compared to the novel disturbance.

	Repeated Disturbance		Novel Disturbance		Control	
Day Comparison	P-value	Dispersion	P-value	Dispersion	P-value	Dispersion
Day 0-1	0.64	0.64	0.0078**	0.24	0.063 <sup>†</sup>	0.46
Day 0-3	0.015*	0.72	0.63	0.25	0.19	0.46
Day 0-6	0.70	0.67	0.38	0.040*	0.016*	0.30
Day 0-8	0.40	0.98	0.45	0.40	0.063 <sup>†</sup>	0.26
Day 0-14	0.87	0.80	0.57	0.82	0.14	0.70
Day 0-20	0.90	0.64	0.46	0.95	0.0078**	0.23
Day 0-28	0.98	0.43	0.0078**	0.90	0.070 <sup>†</sup>	0.19
Day 0-42	0.94	0.41	0.13	0.47	0.078 <sup>†</sup>	0.60
Day 0-55	0.996	0.40	0.047*	0.724	0.063 <sup>†</sup>	0.43

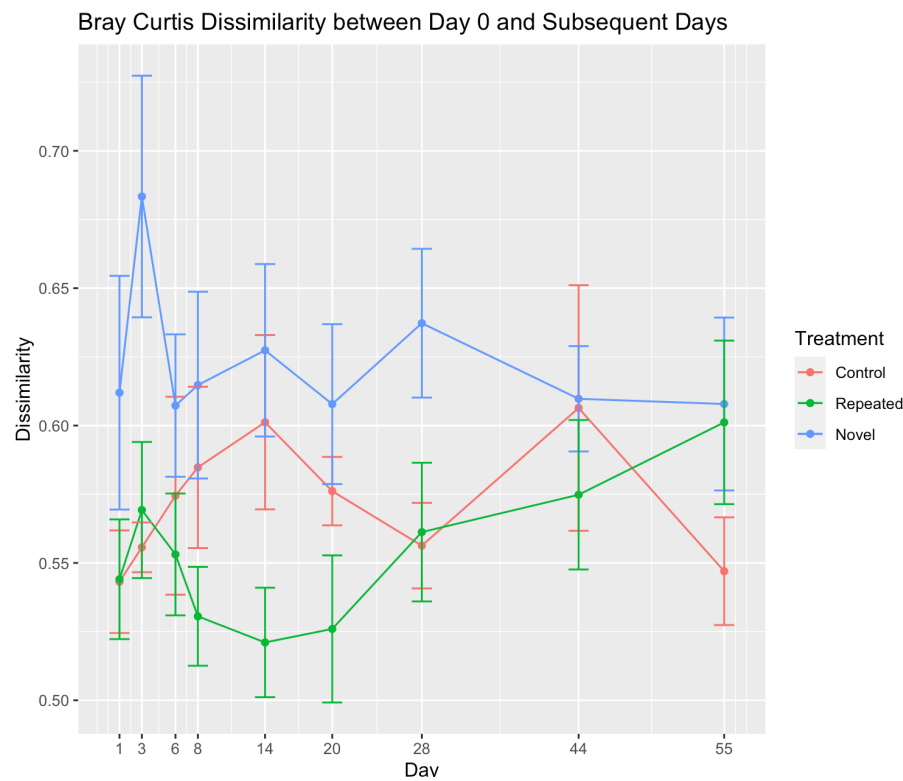
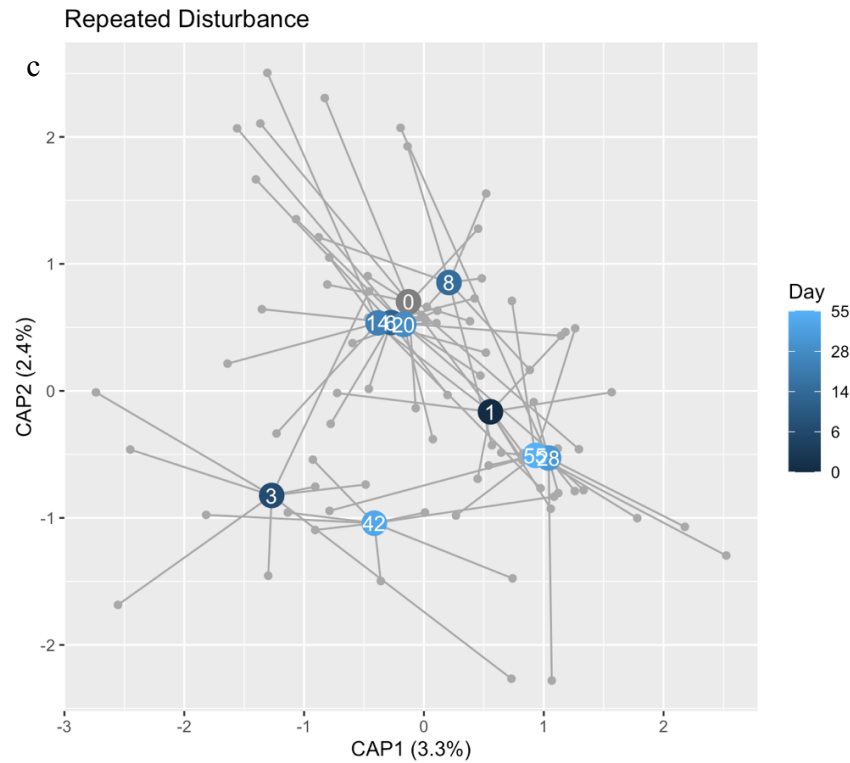
**Table 1:** Results of pairwise PERMANOVAs comparing the composition of each treatment on Day 0 to every subsequent day. Significance is represented as follow: <sup>†</sup>  $P<0.1$ , \*  $P<0.05$ , \*\*  $P<0.01$



**Figure 4a-c:** dbRDAs plotting the community composition of each day by treatment (ordinated separately): a) control, b) novel disturbance, c) repeated disturbance. Centroids of each day at labeled, and segments show the distance of each individual points (grey points) from the daily centroid.







**Figure 5:** Bray Curtis dissimilarity between the Day 0 community and each subsequent day by treatment. The novel disturbance had significantly higher dissimilarity than the control ( $p=0.005$ ) and repeated disturbance ( $p=0.023$ ) on Day 3. On Day 14, the novel disturbance dissimilarity was significantly higher than the repeated disturbance ( $p=0.047$ ), but not different from the control.

## Resilience

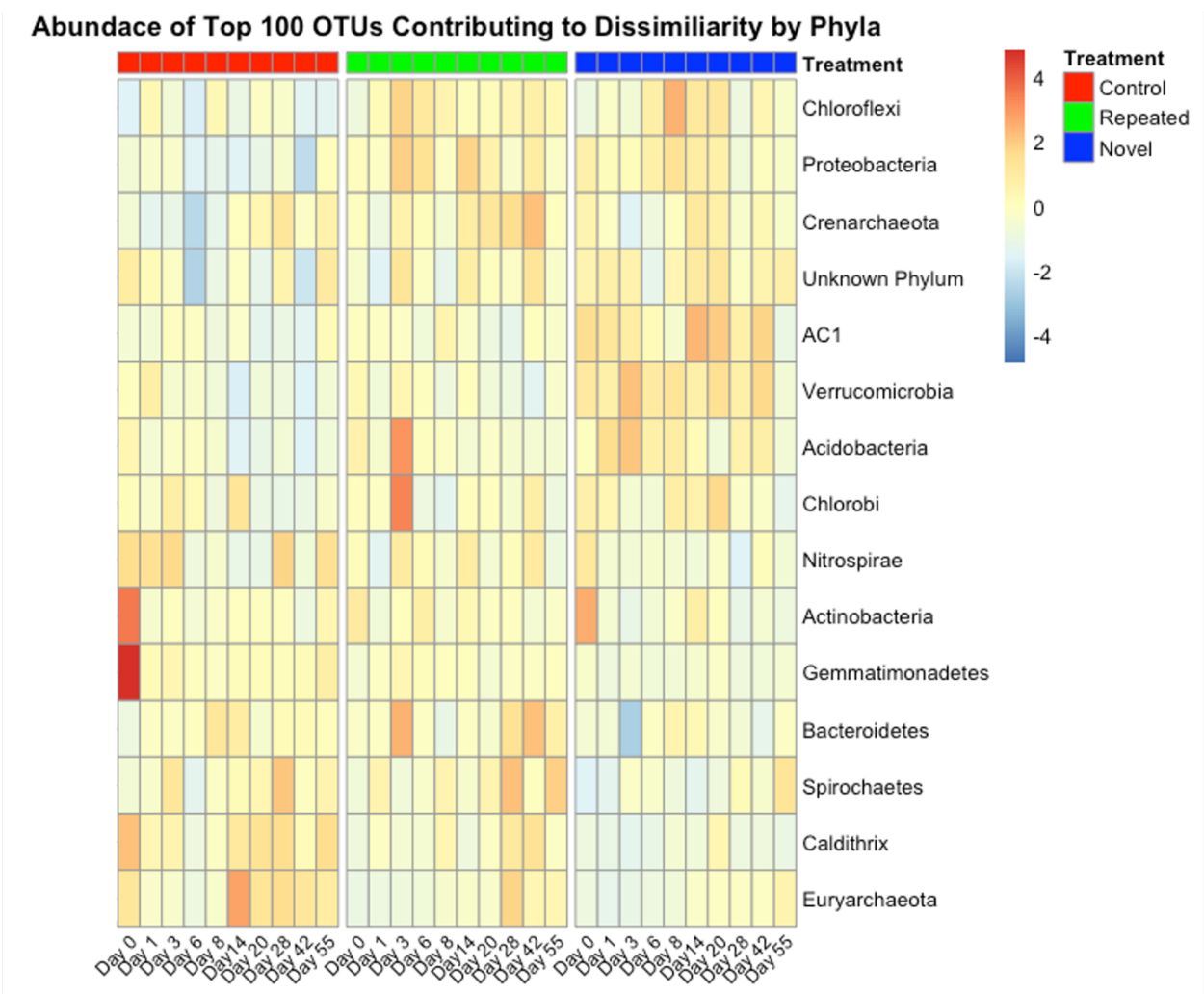
We found equally high resilience in both treatments based on how quickly community composition recovered after undergoing significant compositional change. Both salt treatments experienced one day of significant composition change during the disturbance phase, and both immediately returned to a composition similar to Day 0, even while salinity was still elevated. This indicates high resilience in both communities. After salinity returned to normal (Day 14 and beyond) the community composition and abundance continued to change in the control and novel disturbance but remained constant in the repeated disturbance.

To further examine resilience, we used a heatmap to plot relative abundance changes of the taxa that most significantly contributed to community dissimilarity between treatments based on a similarity percentage analysis (figure 6, Supplemental Table 3 for full taxonomy). In the control, Actinobacteria, Gemmatimonadetes, Caldithrix, Nitrospirae, and Euryarchaeota were among the most abundant phyla. The repeated disturbance had high abundance of Acidobacteria, Chlorobi, Chloroflexi, Proteobacteria, and Bacteroidetes. The novel disturbance was dominated by Actinobacteria, Acidobacteria, Verrucomicrobia, Chloroflexi, and AC1 (a phylum in Greengenes).

There were notable changes in abundant taxa in the salt treatments before and after the salinity addition and over the course of the experiment. On Day 0, the novel disturbance treatment was like the control with high abundance of Actinobacteria. However, immediately following the salinity addition (Day 1), the abundance of Actinobacteria decreased in the novel disturbance, suggesting the salt sensitivity of this phylum. Interestingly, several phyla increased in abundance following the salinity addition, but differed in their abundance patterns between salt treatments. Acidobacteria was amplified in both treatments following the addition, but immediately recovered in the repeated disturbance while remaining high in the novel disturbance. Chlorobi and

Bacteroidetes increased in the repeated treatment only, while the latter decreased in the novel treatment. Verrucomicrobia and AC1 were only elevated in the novel disturbance treatment.

While there were many abundance changes unique to each salt treatment, overall, there was a pattern of phyla abundance spiking and quickly recovering in the repeated disturbance compared to abundance increases that were maintained in the novel disturbance. By the final timepoints, the repeated disturbance is similar to the control, with elevated Spirochaetes, Caldithrix, and Euryarchaeota, suggesting recovery, while the novel disturbance did not show taxonomic recovery.



**Figure 6:** Heatmap plotting the abundance of the 100 taxa that significantly contributed the most to community dissimilarity by treatment (total 254), labeled by phylum. Warm colors represent high abundance and cool colors represent low abundance. The columns are arranged first by treatment, constituting each panel and indicated with colors on the top of the figure. Within each panel, the columns are in chronological order by day, labeled on the bottom of the figure. Full taxonomic classification of the ASVs represented in this analysis and figure can be found in Supplement Table 3.

## DISCUSSION

This study examined the effect of past disturbances on soil bacterial composition and disturbance response. We hypothesized that communities with a salinity disturbance history will differ from those that have not experienced an experimental disturbance, and that their recovery from a subsequent salinity disturbance will differ. Overall, we found support for both hypotheses.

This experiment detected bacterial community compositional changes within days following an environmental disturbance. This rapid timescale is consistent with other lab and mesocosm research (Jurgens et al 2017a, Rodríguez-Valdecantos 2017, Hu et al 2018, Shade et al 2011, Berga et al 2012, Ager et al 2010) and is the fastest timescale of microbial community change found in nature as far as we are aware. The control treatment captured the ambient bacterial dynamics that occur across two months, demonstrating how variable communities can be over time. This result helps inform our understanding of natural soil temporal dynamics in wetlands.

### Effect of long-term disturbances on composition

The repeated salinity disturbances over two years altered community composition, as Day 0 composition differed between the repeated disturbance treatment and the treatments that had not experience past disturbances (novel, control). While the methods used do not identify a mechanism, this points to the salinity addition selecting for salt tolerant taxa. Salinity is an important factor in structuring bacterial communities (Lozupone and Knight 2007), and community salt tolerance has been found to be proportional to soil salinity (Rath et al 2019). Our results show that the monthly salinity addition, which increased salinity by ~33% for about two weeks, or half of the time for two years, constituted a significant disturbance to the ambient salinity regime and cultivated a bacterial community adapted to altered salinity.

### Recovery trajectories

We found that the repeated and novel disturbance treatments underwent different recovery trajectories following the salinity disturbance, supporting our second hypothesis. The differences in their trajectories were seen in compositional differences over the recovery period (interactive effect), elevated relative abundances of distinct taxa, and differences in community variance. While both salt treatments had similar responses to the salinity disturbance, the relative abundance results show the repeated disturbance recovered taxonomically while the novel disturbance does not, which could reflect the compositional results. The treatments also differed in terms of community variance, where the repeated disturbance had consistently lower variance than the other treatments, and the novel disturbance had a sharp decrease in dispersion following the salinity disturbance but recovered after the first week. This suggests that the salinity disturbance decreases community variance, likely due to the death of salt sensitive taxa (Wichern et al 2006). The low variance in the repeated disturbance treatment, both on Day 0 and following the salinity addition, suggest that the past disturbances had a strong filtering effect on the community.

#### **Disturbance response: resistance**

The repeated disturbance treatment increased community resistance to subsequent disturbances, as we predicted, but only slightly. The salinity addition led to compositional changes in the novel disturbance community on Day 1, and the repeated disturbance community changed on Day 3. While this result demonstrates increased resistance, as has been found in other repeated disturbance studies (Bérard et al 2012, Bouskill et al 2013, Canarini et al 2021), the difference between the treatments was only one sampling time point, representing only a modest increase.

We also considered resistance in terms of degree of community change using dissimilarity, which also demonstrated a modest increase in resistance in the repeated disturbance treatment. During the disturbance phase, the novel disturbance community had higher dissimilarity than the

repeated disturbance, indicating more extreme community changes. This generally supports our prediction, but with one notable exception. We anticipated that the novel disturbance would undergo more extreme compositional change than the repeated disturbance during its initial disturbance response (Day 1 and Day 3, respectively). However, we did not find a difference in dissimilarity between the novel treatment on Day 1 and the repeated treatment on Day 3, suggesting they both underwent similar degrees of change in the immediate response to salinity. Taken together, the resistance results show that 1) the initial community response to the salinity disturbance was slightly delayed in the repeated disturbance treatment due to past exposures, 2) the salt treatments underwent the same degree of community change in response to the initial disturbance, and 3) the repeated disturbance community remained more like its pre-treatment type over the disturbance phase than the novel disturbance.

The mechanisms that caused the slight increase in resistance are unknown. The repeated salinity additions could have filtered out salt sensitive taxa (Rath et al 2019, Logares et al 2013) as the decrease in community variance in the repeated disturbance treatment would suggest. The past disturbances could also have selected for taxa with an improved ability to withstand stressful conditions through adaptations like increased dormancy potential (Kearns et al 2018). While our methods removed relic DNA to capture a clearer signal of community change, they did not differentiate between the active and dormant community. If certain taxa adapted to survive frequent salinity pulses by increase dormancy potential, they would still be detected in our sampling and result in fewer compositional changes. Barnett and Shade (2023) compared the resilience of the whole bacterial community to only the active (non-dormant) community by comparing DNA and RNA sequencing and found stronger recovery patterns in the whole

community than the active subset. This suggest that dormancy and the microbial seedbank are critical for community disturbance response and might explain our results.

Other studies of disturbance dynamics have found that disturbances select for microbial specialists (Renes et al 202) and tolerant taxa (Jurburg et al 2017b), or cause bacteria to adopt new life strategies to withstand disturbances (Evans and Wallenstein 2014). Through evolution and/or horizontal gene transfer, these traits could have increased resistance to future salinity disturbances. Bacteria have been found to evolve stress tolerance in 250-2000 generations (Zhou and Ning 2017), which is within the timeframe of the two-year repeated disturbance conditioning phase and could explain our results. These adaptations would lead to increased community resistance to a repeated disturbance, but more research is needed to understand which mechanisms are more important in driving microbial compositional changes in nature.

#### **Disturbance response: resilience**

Overall, we found resilience in this system in both the repeated and novel disturbance treatments, but the heat map suggest higher resilience in the repeated disturbance community, as expected. While the rapid community response to the salinity addition during the disturbance phase was notable, perhaps more surprising was the immediate recovery in both salt-disturbed treatments. We predicted that both communities would exhibit high resilience due to the frequent abiotic fluctuations in the system, but we did not expect recovery to happen while salinity was still elevated. Other studies have found bacterial communities to recover from a disturbance in about 25 days (Jurburg et al 2017a), but more work examining bacterial community changes over short time periods would be beneficial to understand community recovery patterns on this time scale. Our results show that the repeated disturbance community maintained its post-recovery community (Day 6) for the remainder of the experiment, while the novel disturbance and control

communities continued to shift over time. This, along with the decreased community variance, suggests that the past salinity additions had a strong filtering effect on the taxa present and continues to impact the community dynamics beyond the recovery phase.

The focus of this study was on compositional responses to disturbance, but there were notable changes in the abundances of phyla known to be salt sensitive/tolerant and known as either nitrogen or sulfur cyclers, suggesting potential functional differences between treatments. Firstly, the control had high abundances of salt-sensitive phyla, such as Actinobacteria and Gemmatimonadetes (Wijaya et al 2022, Li et al 2021), and the repeated disturbance was defined by high abundance of salt-tolerance taxa, like Bacteroidetes and Proteobacteria (Wijaya et al 2022, Mhete et al 2020). The control had higher abundance of phyla known as nitrogen cyclers, like Nitrospira (Mhete et al 2020, Chen et al 2022), while the salt treatments had high abundance of sulfur cycling phyla, like Chlorobi (Kuypers et al 2018, Jagannathan and Golbeck 2009) and Proteobacteria (Arora 2017, Wasmund et al 2017). These results support other research finding that nitrogen fixers and nitrogen cycling genes decrease as soil salinity increases (Li et al 2021, Morrissey and Franklin 2015) while Proteobacteria (particularly sulfur-reducing classes) increase in abundance with salinity (Li et al 2021, Morrissey and Franklin 2015). Microbial communities are often considered to have high functional redundancy, but recent studies have found recovery patterns are decoupled between composition/diversity and soil community function, demonstrating the importance of considering the resilience of both community structure and function (Sjöstedt et al 2018, Choi et al 2017). It is possible that the repeated salinity disturbances in our experiment could have cultivated a community with different functions and altered nutrient availability, but a focused examination of microbial function would be necessary to determine this.

## **Limitations**



The central limitations of this study are rooted in the challenges of field-based microbiome surveying. Soil collection required destructive sampling, so the same location and, potentially, community could not be repeatedly sampled within our plots. Instead, samples were collected over time from randomly chosen sub-plots. Our methods attempted to account for this by distributing salt across the plot as evenly as possible, measuring salinity from multiple plot locations, and taking care to ensure all plots had a similar and homogenous plant community; however, samples were collected from a new location in the plot on each sampling day which therefore introduced unknown community variance. The effects of the interacting plant community were also not considered, though care was taken to ensure all plots had a similar plant community and that collection was done outside of growing season to reduce plant effects on the soil microbes. The molecular methods used do not distinguish between active and dormant bacteria and do not focus on functional differences between treatments. Further investigation of these specific areas would provide greater insight into the mechanisms microbes utilized to withstand disturbance and functional consequences of disturbance events.

## **CONCLUSION**

In conclusion, this study found long-term, past disturbances to alter bacterial community composition and response to future disturbances. We identified moderate increases in resistance and resilience to disturbance based on the community's exposure to past disturbances, supporting similar results found in systems with different disturbances, mainly drought. Furthermore, we found soil bacterial to undergo significant compositional change following a salinity disturbance in a matter of days, confirming the short timescale of bacteria turnover found in lab-based experiments. These results suggest that soil microbiomes are likely well-adapted to typical abiotic

fluctuations and are resilient to disturbances, but novel disturbances may alter community structure and function.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This work was funded by grants from the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at Tulane University to SH and the Louisiana State Board of Regents (LEQSF(2017–20)-RD-A-14), the National Science Foundation (DEB-2141922), and the Tulane ByWater Institute to EF. We would like to recognize the manager of our field site Jeffrey Duguay at the Pearl River Wildlife Management Area, Louisiana.

## REFERENCES

- Ager, D., Evans, S., Li, H., Lilley, A. K., & van der Gast, C. J. (2010). Anthropogenic disturbance affects the structure of bacterial communities. *Environmental Microbiology*, 12(3), 670–678. <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1462-2920.2009.02107.x>
- Arora, N. K. (2017). *Advances in Soil Microbiology : Recent Trends and Future Prospects. Uttar Pradesh-India, Vol. 2, 1–18.* (Vol. 1).
- Averill, C., Cates, L. L., Dietze, M. C., & Bhatnagar, J. M. (2019). Spatial vs. temporal controls over soil fungal community similarity at continental and global scales. *The ISME Journal*, 13(8), 2082–2093. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41396-0190420-1>
- Averill, C., Waring, B. G., & Hawkes, C. V. (2016). Historical precipitation predictably alters the shape and magnitude of microbial functional response to soil moisture. *Global Change Biology*, 22(5), 1957–1964. <https://doi.org/10.1111/gcb.13219>
- Bardgett, R. D., & Caruso, T. (2020). Soil microbial community responses to climate extremes: Resistance, resilience and transitions to alternative states. *Philosophical Transactions of*

494        *the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences*, 375(1794).  
 495        <https://doi.org/10.1098/rstb.2019.0112>

496    Barnett, S. E., & Shade, A. (2024). Arrive and wait: inactive bacterial taxa contribute to perceived  
 497        soil microbiome resilience after a multidecadal press disturbance. *Ecology Let, March*,  
 498        2023.05.25.542271. <https://doi.org/10.1111/ele.14393>

499    Baselga A, Orme D, Villeger S, De Bortoli J, Leprieur F, Logez M, Martinez-Santalla S, Martin-  
 500        Devasa R, Gomez-Rodriguez C, Crujeiras R (2023). \_betapart: Partitioning Beta Diversity  
 501        into Turnover and Nestedness Components. R package version 1.6, <[https://CRAN.R-](https://CRAN.R-project.org/package=betapart)  
 502        [project.org/package=betapart](https://CRAN.R-project.org/package=betapart)>.

503    Bell, C., McIntyre, N., Cox, S., Tissue, D., & Zak, J. (2008). Soil Microbial Responses to Temporal  
 504        Variations of Moisture and Temperature in a Chihuahuan Desert Grassland. *Microbial*  
 505        *Ecology*, 56(1), 153–167. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00248-007 9333-z>

506    Bérard, A., Meriem, &, Sassi, B., Renault, P., & Gros, R. (2012). Severe drought-induced  
 507        community tolerance to heat wave. An experimental study on soil microbial processes. *J*  
 508        *Soils Sediments*, 12, 513–518. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11368-012-0469-1>

509    Berga, M., Székely, A. J., & Langenheder, S. (2012). Effects of Disturbance Intensity and  
 510        Frequency on Bacterial Community Composition and Function. *PLOS ONE*, 7(5), e36959.  
 511        <https://doi.org/10.1371/JOURNAL.PONE.0036959>

512    Blazewicz, S. J., Schwartz, E., & Firestone, M. K. (2014). Growth and death of bacteria and fungi  
 513        underlie rainfall-induced carbon dioxide pulses from seasonally dried soil. *Ecology*, 95(5),  
 514        1162–1172. <https://doi.org/10.1890/13-1031.1>

515 Bolyen, E., Rideout, J. R., Dillon, M. R., Bokulich, N. A., Abnet, C. C., Al-Ghalith, G. A.,  
 516 Alexander, H., Alm, E. J., Arumugam, M., Asnicar, F., Bai, Y., Bisanz, J. E., Bittinger, K.,  
 517 Brejnrod, A., Brislawn, C. J., Brown, C. T., Callahan, B. J., Caraballo-Rodríguez, A. M.,  
 518 Chase, J., ... Caporaso, J. G. (2019). Reproducible, interactive, scalable and extensible  
 519 microbiome data science using QIIME 2. *Nature Biotechnology*, 37(8), 852–857.  
 520 <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41587-019-0209-9>

521 Bouskill, N. J., Lim, H. C., Borglin, S., Salve, R., Wood, T. E., Silver, W. L., & Brodie, E. L.  
 522 (2013). Pre-exposure to drought increases the resistance of tropical forest soil bacterial  
 523 communities to extended drought. *ISME Journal*, 7(2), 384–394.  
 524 <https://doi.org/10.1038/ismej.2012.113>

525 Calderón, K., Philippot, L., Bizouard, F., Breuil, M. C., Bru, D., & Spor, A. (2018). Compounded  
 526 disturbance chronology modulates the resilience of soil microbial communities and N-  
 527 cycle related functions. *Frontiers in Microbiology*, 9(NOV), 1–11.  
 528 <https://doi.org/10.3389/fmicb.2018.02721>

529 Callahan, B. J., McMurdie, P. J., Rosen, M. J., Han, A. W., Johnson, A. J. A., & Holmes, S. P.  
 530 (2016). DADA2: High-resolution sample inference from Illumina amplicon data. *Nature*  
 531 *Methods*, 13(7), 581–583. <https://doi.org/10.1038/nmeth.3869>

532 Canarini, A., Schmidt, H., Fuchslueger, L., Martin, V., Herbold, C. W., Zezula, D., Gündler, P.,  
 533 Hasibeder, R., Jecmenica, M., Bahn, M., & Richter, A. (2021). Ecological memory of  
 534 recurrent drought modifies soil processes via changes in soil microbial community. *Nature*  
 535 *Communications* 2021 12:1, 12(1), 1–14. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-021-25675-4>

536 Carini, P., Delgado-Baquerizo, M., Hinckley, E. L. S., Holland-Moritz, H., Brewer, T. E., Rue, G.,  
 537 Vanderburgh, C., McKnight, D., & Fierer, N. (2020). Unraveling the effects of spatial

538 variability and relic DNA on the temporal dynamics of soil microbial communities.  
539 *BioRxiv*, 11(1), 1–16. <https://doi.org/10.1101/402438>

540 Carini, P., Marsden, P. J., Leff, J. W., Morgan, E. E., Strickland, M. S., & Fierer, N. (2016). Relic  
541 DNA is abundant in soil and obscures estimates of soil microbial diversity. *Nature*  
542 *Microbiology*, 2(December 2016). <https://doi.org/10.1038/nmicrobiol.2016.242>

543 Chen, H., Ma, K., Huang, Y., Fu, Q., Qiu, Y., & Yao, Z. (2022). Significant response of microbial  
544 community to increased salinity across wetland ecosystems. *Geoderma*, 415, 115778.  
545 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.geoderma.2022.115778>

546 Choi, S., Song, H., Tripathi, B. M., Kerfahi, D., Kim, H., & Adams, J. M. (2017). Effect of  
547 experimental soil disturbance and recovery on structure and function of soil community: A  
548 metagenomic and metagenetic approach. *Scientific Reports*, 7(1), 1–15.  
549 <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-017-02262-6>

550 Cruaud, P., Vigneron, A., Fradette, M., Dorea, C. C., Culley, A. I., Rodriguez, M. J., & Charette,  
551 S. J. (2020). Annual bacterial community cycle in a seasonally ice-covered river reflects  
552 environmental and climatic conditions. *Limnology and Oceanography*, 65(S1), S21–S37.  
553 <https://doi.org/10.1002/lno.11130>

554 Davis, N. M., Proctor, D. M., Holmes, S. P., Relman, D. A., & Callahan, B. J. (2018). Simple  
555 statistical identification and removal of contaminant sequences in marker-gene and  
556 metagenomics data. *Microbiome*, 6(1), 1–14. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s40168-0180605-2>

557 de Nijs, E. A., Hicks, L. C., Leizeaga, A., Tietema, A., & Rousk, J. (2019). Soil microbial moisture  
558 dependences and responses to drying–rewetting: The legacy of 18 years drought. *Global*  
559 *Change Biology*, 25(3), 1005–1015. <https://doi.org/10.1111/gcb.14508>

560 DeSantis, T. Z., Hugenholtz, P., Larsen, N., Rojas, M., Brodie, E. L., Keller, K., Huber, T., Dalevi,  
561 D., Hu, P., & Andersen, G. L. (2006). Greengenes, a chimera-checked 16S rRNA gene  
562 database and workbench compatible with ARB. *Applied and Environmental Microbiology*,  
563 72(7), 5069–5072. <https://doi.org/10.1128/AEM.0300605>

564 Evans, S. E., & Wallenstein, M. D. (2012). Soil microbial community response to drying and  
565 rewetting stress: Does historical precipitation regime matter? *Biogeochemistry*, 109(1–3),  
566 101–116. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10533-011-9638-3>

567 Evans, S. E., & Wallenstein, M. D. (2014). Climate change alters ecological strategies of soil  
568 bacteria. *Ecology Letters*, 17(2), 155–164. <https://doi.org/10.1111/ele.12206>

569 Fagherazzi, S., Anisfeld, S. C., Blum, L. K., Long, E. V., Feagin, R. A., Fernandes, A., Kearney,  
570 W. S., & Williams, K. (2019). Sea level rise and the dynamics of the marsh-upland  
571 boundary. *Frontiers in Environmental Science*, 7(FEB), 1–18.  
572 <https://doi.org/10.3389/fenvs.2019.00025>

573 Farrer, E. C., Birnbaum, C., Waryszak, P., Halbrook, S. R., Brady, M. V., Bumby, C. R., Candaele,  
574 H., Kulick, N. K., Lee, S. F. H., Schroeder, C. S., Smith, M. K. H., & Wilber, W. (2021).  
575 Plant and microbial impacts of an invasive species vary across an environmental gradient.  
576 *Journal of Ecology*, 00, 1–14. <https://doi.org/10.1111/13652745.13629>

577 Feckler, A., Goedkoop, W., Konschak, M., Bundschuh, R., Kenngott, K. G. J., Schulz, R., Zubrod,  
578 J. P., & Bundschuh, M. (2018). History matters: Heterotrophic microbial community  
579 structure and function adapt to multiple stressors. *Global Change Biology*, 24(2), e402–  
580 e415. <https://doi.org/10.1111/gcb.13859>

581 Ferrenberg, S., O'Neill, S. P., Knelman, J. E., Todd, B., Duggan, S., Bradley, D., Robinson, T.,  
582 Schmidt, S. K., Townsend, A. R., Williams, M. W., Cleveland, C. C., Melbourne, B. A.,

- Jiang, L., & Nemergut, D. R. (2013). Changes in assembly processes in soil bacterial communities following a wildfire disturbance. *The ISME Journal*, 7(6), 1102–1111. <https://doi.org/10.1038/ismej.2013.11>
- Fierer, N. (2017). Embracing the unknown: Disentangling the complexities of the soil microbiome. In *Nature Reviews Microbiology* (Vol. 15, Issue 10, pp. 579–590). Nature Publishing Group. <https://doi.org/10.1038/nrmicro.2017.87>
- Fuchslueger, L., Bahn, M., Hasibeder, R., Kienzl, S., Fritz, K., Schmitt, M., Watzka, M., & Richter, A. (2016). Drought history affects grassland plant and microbial carbon turnover during and after a subsequent drought event. *Journal of Ecology*, 104(5), 1453–1465. <https://doi.org/10.1111/1365-2745.12593>
- Gibson, B., Wilson, D. J., Feil, E., & Eyre-Walker, A. (2018). The distribution of bacterial doubling times in the wild. *Proc. R. Soc. B*, 1–9.
- Hawkes, C. V., & Keitt, T. H. (2015). Resilience vs. historical contingency in microbial responses to environmental change. *Ecology Letters*, 18(7), 612–625. <https://doi.org/10.1111/ELE.12451>
- Hothorn, T., Bretz, F., & Westfall, P. (2008). Simultaneous inference in general parametric models. *Biometrical Journal*, 50(3), 346–363. <https://doi.org/10.1002/bimj.200810425>
- Hu, Y., Bai, C., Cai, J., Shao, K., Tang, X., & Gao, G. (2018). Low recovery of bacterial community after an extreme salinization-desalinization cycle. *BMC Microbiology*, 18(1), 195. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12866-018-1333-2>
- Jagannathan, B., & Golbeck, J. H. (2009). Photosynthesis: Microbial. *Encyclopedia of Microbiology, Third Edition*, 325–341. <https://doi.org/10.1016/B978-0123739445.00352->

606 Jones, S. E., Chiu, C. Y., Kratz, T. K., Wu, J. T., Shade, A., & McMahon, K. D. (2008). Typhoons  
607 initiate predictable change in aquatic bacterial communities. *Limnology and*  
608 *Oceanography*, 53(4), 1319–1326. <https://doi.org/10.4319/lo.2008.53.4.1319>

609 Jurburg, S. D., Nunes, I., Brejnrod, A., Jacquiod, S., Priemé, A., Sørensen, S. J., Van Elsas, J. D.,  
610 & Salles, J. F. (2017). Legacy effects on the recovery of soil bacterial communities from  
611 extreme temperature perturbation. *Frontiers in Microbiology*, 8(SEP), 1–13.  
612 <https://doi.org/10.3389/fmicb.2017.01832>

613 Jurburg, S. D., Nunes, I., Stegen, J. C., Le Roux, X., Priemé, A., Sørensen, S. J., & Salles, J. F.  
614 (2017). Autogenic succession and deterministic recovery following disturbance in soil  
615 bacterial communities. *Scientific Reports* 2017 7:1, 7(1), 1–  
616 11. <https://doi.org/10.1038/srep45691>

617 Kaisermann, A., de Vries, F. T., Griffiths, R. I., & Bardgett, R. D. (2017). Legacy effects of  
618 drought on plant–soil feedbacks and plant–plant interactions. *New Phytologist*, 215(4),  
619 1413–1424. <https://doi.org/10.1111/nph.14661>

620 Kearns, P. J., & Shade, A. (2018). Trait-based patterns of microbial dynamics in dormancy  
621 potential and heterotrophic strategy: case studies of resource-based and post-press  
622 succession. *ISME Journal*, 12(11), 2575–2581. [https://doi.org/10.1038/s41396-018-0194-](https://doi.org/10.1038/s41396-018-0194-x)  
623 [x](https://doi.org/10.1038/s41396-018-0194-x)

624 Kearns, P. J., Angell, J. H., Howard, E. M., Deegan, L. A., Stanley, R. H. R., & Bowen, J. L.  
625 (2016). Nutrient enrichment induces dormancy and decreases diversity of active bacteria  
626 in salt marsh sediments. *Nature Communications*, 7, 1–9.  
627 <https://doi.org/10.1038/ncomms12881>



628 Kolde, R. (2019). *pheatmap: Pretty Heatmaps*. R package version 1.0.12, <[https://CRAN.R-](https://CRAN.R-project.org/package=pheatmap)  
629 [project.org/package=pheatmap](https://CRAN.R-project.org/package=pheatmap)>.

630 Kuypers, M. M. M., Marchant, H. K., & Kartal, B. (2018). The microbial nitrogen-cycling  
631 network. *Nature Reviews Microbiology*, 16(5), 263–276.  
632 <https://doi.org/10.1038/nrmicro.2018.9>

633 Lauber, C. L., Ramirez, K. S., Aanderud, Z., Lennon, J., & Fierer, N. (2013). Temporal variability  
634 in soil microbial communities across land-use types. *The ISME Journal*, 7(8), 1641–1650.  
635 <https://doi.org/10.1038/ismej.2013.50>

636 Lennon, J. T., & Jones, S. E. (2011). Microbial seed banks: The ecological and evolutionary  
637 implications of dormancy. In *Nature Reviews Microbiology* (Vol. 9, Issue 2, pp. 119–130).  
638 Nature Publishing Group. <https://doi.org/10.1038/nrmicro2504>

639 Lennon, J. T., Muscarella, M. E., Placella, S. A., & Lehmkuhl, B. K. (2018). How, When, and  
640 Where Relic DNA Affects Microbial Diversity. *MBio*, 9(3), 1–  
641 14.<https://doi.org/10.1128/mBio.00637-18>

642 Li, X., Wang, A., Wan, W., Luo, X., Zheng, L., He, G., Huang, D., Chen, W., & Huang, Q. (2021).  
643 High Salinity Inhibits Soil Bacterial Community Mediating Nitrogen Cycling. *Applied and*  
644 *Environmental Microbiology*, 87(21), e0136621. <https://doi.org/10.1128/AEM.01366-21>

645 Lipson, D. A., & Schmidt, S. K. (2004). Seasonal Changes in an Alpine Soil Bacterial Community  
646 in the Colorado Rocky Mountains. *Applied and Environmental Microbiology*, 70(5), 2867–  
647 2879. <https://doi.org/10.1128/AEM.70.5.2867-2879.2004>

648 Logares, R., Lindström, E. S., Langenheder, S., Logue, J. B., Paterson, H., Laybourn-Parry, J.,  
649 Rengefors, K., Tranvik, L., & Bertilsson, S. (2013). Biogeography of bacterial

communities exposed to progressive long-term environmental change. *ISME Journal*, 7(5), 937–948. <https://doi.org/10.1038/ismej.2012.168>

Lozupone, C. A., & Knight, R. (2007). Global patterns in bacterial diversity. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America*, 104(27), 11436–11440. <https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.0611525104>

Meisner, A., Rousk, J., & Bååth, E. (2015). Prolonged drought changes the bacterial growth response to rewetting. *Soil Biology and Biochemistry*, 88, 314–322. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.soilbio.2015.06.002>

Mhete, M., Eze, P. N., Rahube, T. O., & Akinyemi, F. O. (2020). Soil properties influence bacterial abundance and diversity under different land-use regimes in semi-arid environments. *Scientific African*, 7. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.sciaf.2019.e00246>

Mobilian, C., Wisnoski, N. I., Lennon, J. T., Alber, M., Widney, S., & Craft, C. B. (2020). Differential effects of press vs. pulse seawater intrusion on microbial communities of a tidal freshwater marsh. *Limnology and Oceanography Letters*. <https://doi.org/10.1002/lol2.10171>

Moon, D. C., & Stiling, P. (2002). The effects of salinity and nutrients on a tritrophic salt-marsh system. *Ecology*, 83(9), 2465–2476. [https://doi.org/10.1890/00129658\(2002\)083\[2465:TEOSAN\]2.0.CO;2](https://doi.org/10.1890/00129658(2002)083[2465:TEOSAN]2.0.CO;2)

Morrissey, E. M., & Franklin, R. B. (2015). Evolutionary history influences the salinity preference of bacterial taxa in wetland soils. *Frontiers in Microbiology*, 6(OCT), 1–12. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fmicb.2015.01013>

671 Nielsen, U. N., & Ball, B. A. (2015). Impacts of altered precipitation regimes on soil communities  
 672 and biogeochemistry in arid and semi-arid ecosystems. *Global Change Biology*, 21(4),  
 673 1407–1421. <https://doi.org/10.1111/gcb.12789>

674 Oksanen J, Simpson G, Blanchet F, Kindt R, Legendre P, Minchin P, O'Hara R, Solymos P,  
 675 Stevens M, Szoecs E, Wagner H, Barbour M, Bedward M, Bolker B, Borcard D, Carvalho  
 676 G, Chirico M, De Caceres M, Durand S, Evangelista H, FitzJohn R, Friendly M, Furneaux  
 677 B, Hannigan G, Hill M, Lahti L, McGlinn D, Ouellette M, Ribeiro Cunha E, Smith T, Stier  
 678 A, Ter Braak C, Weedon J (2022). *vegan: Community Ecology Package*. R package version  
 679 2.6-4.

680 Osburn, E. D., Badgley, B. D., Aylward, F. O., & Barrett, J. E. (2021). Historical forest disturbance  
 681 mediates soil microbial community responses to drought. *Environmental Microbiology*,  
 682 23(11), 6405–6419. <https://doi.org/10.1111/1462-2920.15706>

683 Osburn, E. D., McBride, S. G., Aylward, F. O., Badgley, B. D., Strahm, B. D., Knoepp, J. D., &  
 684 Barrett, J. E. (2019). Soil Bacterial and Fungal Communities Exhibit Distinct Long-Term  
 685 Responses to Disturbance in Temperate Forests. *Frontiers in Microbiology*, 10(December).  
 686 <https://doi.org/10.3389/fmicb.2019.02872>

687 Philippot, L., Griffiths, B. S., & Langenheder, S. (2021). Microbial Community Resilience across  
 688 Ecosystems and Multiple Disturbances. *Microbiology and Molecular Biology Reviews*,  
 689 85(2). <https://doi.org/10.1128/mmbr.00026-20>

690 Pinheiro J, Bates D, R Core Team (2023). *nlme: Linear and Nonlinear Mixed Effects Models*. R  
 691 package version 3.1-164, <<https://CRAN.R-project.org/package=nlme>>.

- Powell, E. O. (1956). Growth Rate and Generation Time of Bacteria, with Special Reference to Continuous Culture. *Journal of General Microbiology*, 15(3), 492–511. <https://doi.org/10.1099/00221287-15-3-492>
- Preece, C., Verbruggen, E., Liu, L., Weedon, J. T., & Peñuelas, J. (2019). Effects of past and current drought on the composition and diversity of soil microbial communities. *Soil Biology and Biochemistry*, 131(December 2018), 28–39. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.soilbio.2018.12.022>
- R Core Team (2023). *R: A Language and Environment for Statistical Computing*. R Foundation for Statistical Computing, Vienna, Austria. <https://www.R-project.org/>.
- Ramírez, G. A., Jørgensen, S. L., Zhao, R., & D'Hondt, S. (2018). Minimal Influence of Extracellular DNA on Molecular Surveys of Marine Sedimentary Communities. *Frontiers in Microbiology*, 9(December), 1–12. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fmicb.2018.02969>
- Rath, K. M., Fierer, N., Murphy, D. V., & Rousk, J. (2019). Linking bacterial community composition to soil salinity along environmental gradients. *ISME Journal*, 13(3), 836–846. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41396-018-0313-8>
- Renes, S. E., Sjöstedt, J., Fetzer, I., & Langenheder, S. (2020). Disturbance history can increase functional stability in the face of both repeated disturbances of the same type and novel disturbances. *Scientific Reports*, 10(1), 1–13. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-020-68104-0>
- Rodríguez-Valdecantos, G., Manzano, M., Sánchez, R., Urbina, F., Hengst, M. B., Lardies, M. A., Ruz, G. A., & González, B. (2017). Early successional patterns of bacterial communities in soil microcosms reveal changes in bacterial community composition and network architecture, depending on the successional condition. *Applied Soil Ecology*, 120, 44–54. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.apsoil.2017.07.015>

715 Santos-Medellín, C., Edwards, J., Liechty, Z., Nguyen, B., & Sundaresan, V. (2017). Drought  
716 stress results in a compartment-specific restructuring of the rice root-associated  
717 microbiomes. *MBio*, 8(4). <https://doi.org/10.1128/mBio.00764-17>

718 Schmidt, S. K., Costello, E. K., Nemergut, D. R., Cleveland, C. C., Reed, S. C., Weintraub, M. N.,  
719 Meyer, A. F., & Martin, A. M. (2007). Biogeochemical consequences of rapid microbial  
720 turnover and seasonal succession in soil. In *Ecology* (Vol. 88, Issue 6, pp. 1379–1385).  
721 <https://doi.org/10.1890/06-0164>

722 Seitz, T. J., Schütte, U. M. E., & Drown, D. M. (2022). Unearthing Shifts in Microbial  
723 Communities Across a Soil Disturbance Gradient. *Frontiers in Microbiology*, 13(May), 1–  
724 12. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fmicb.2022.781051>

725 Shade, A., Peter, H., Allison, S. D., Baho, D. L., Berga, M., Bürgmann, H., Huber, D. H.,  
726 Langenheder, S., Lennon, J. T., Martiny, J. B. H., Matulich, K. L., Schmidt, T. M., &  
727 Handelsman, J. (2012). Fundamentals of Microbial Community Resistance and Resilience.  
728 *Frontiers in Microbiology*, 3, 1–19. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fmicb.2012.00417>

729 Shade, A., Read, J. S., Welkie, D. G., Kratz, T. K., Wu, C. H., & McMahon, K. D. (2011).  
730 Resistance, resilience and recovery: Aquatic bacterial dynamics after water column  
731 disturbance. *Environmental Microbiology*, 13(10), 2752–  
732 2767. <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1462-2920.2011.02546.x>

733 Shen, J. P., Chen, C. R., & Lewis, T. (2016). Long term repeated fire disturbance alters soil  
734 bacterial diversity but not the abundance in an Australian wet sclerophyll forest. *Scientific*  
735 *Reports*, 6 (July 2015), 1–10. <https://doi.org/10.1038/srep19639>

736 Simpson, G. L. 2020. *Advanced community ecological data analysis using vegan*.  
737 [https://fromthebottomoftheheap.net/slides/advanced-vegan-webinar-2020/advanced-](https://fromthebottomoftheheap.net/slides/advanced-vegan-webinar-2020/advanced-vegan.html#83)  
738 [vegan.html#83](https://fromthebottomoftheheap.net/slides/advanced-vegan-webinar-2020/advanced-vegan.html#83).

739 Simpson, G. L. 2022. *permute: Functions for Generating Restricted Permutations of Data*. R  
740 package version 0.9-7.

741 Sjöstedt, J., Langenheder, S., Kritzberg, E., Karlsson, C. M. G., & Lindström, E. S. (2018).  
742 Repeated disturbances affect functional but not compositional resistance and resilience in  
743 an aquatic bacterioplankton community. *Environmental Microbiology Reports*, 10(4), 493–  
744 500. <https://doi.org/10.1111/1758-2229.12656>

745 Tardy, V., Mathieu, O., Lévêque, J., Terrat, S., Chabbi, A., Lemanceau, P., Ranjard, L., & Maron,  
746 P. A. (2014). Stability of soil microbial structure and activity depends on microbial  
747 diversity. *Environmental Microbiology Reports*, 6(2), 173–183.  
748 <https://doi.org/10.1111/1758-2229.12126>

749 Wasmund, K., Mußmann, M., & Loy, A. (2017). The life sulfuric: microbial ecology of sulfur  
750 cycling in marine sediments. *Environmental Microbiology Reports*, 9(4), 323–344.  
751 <https://doi.org/10.1111/1758-2229.12538>

752 Wichern, J., Wichern, F., & Joergensen, R. G. (2006). Impact of salinity on soil microbial  
753 communities and the decomposition of maize in acidic soils. *Geoderma*, 137(1–2), 100–  
754 108. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.geoderma.2006.08.001>

755 Wickham, H. *ggplot2: Elegant Graphics for Data Analysis*. Springer-Verlag New York, 2016.

756 Wijaya, W., Suhaimi, Z., Chua, C., Er, X., Sunil, R. S., Muzakkir, A., Rohaizat, B., Azmi, N. B.,  
757 & Hazlin, N. (2022). *Frequent pulse disturbances influence resistance and resilience in*  
758 *tropical marine microbial communities*. 65.

759 Zhou, J., & Ning, D. (2017). Stochastic Community Assembly: Does It Matter in Microbial  
760 Ecology? *Microbiology and Molecular Biology Reviews*, 81(4).  
761 <https://doi.org/10.1128/mnbr.00002-17>