

1 **Development of Inflammatory Bowel Disease is Linked to a Longitudinal Restructuring of the**
2 **Gut Metagenome in Mice.**

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15 **Abstract**

16 The gut microbiome is linked to inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) severity and altered in late stage
17 disease. However, it is unclear how gut microbial communities change over the course of IBD
18 development, especially in regards to function. To investigate microbiome mediated disease
19 mechanisms and discover early biomarkers of IBD, we conducted a longitudinal metagenomic
20 investigation in an established mouse model of IBD, where dampened TGF- β signaling in T cells leads
21 to peripheral immune activation, weight loss, and severe colitis. IBD development is associated with
22 abnormal gut microbiome temporal dynamics, including dampened acquisition of functional diversity
23 and significant differences in abundance trajectories for KEGG modules such as glycosaminoglycan
24 degradation, cellular chemotaxis, and type III and IV secretion systems. Most differences between sick
25 and control mice emerge when mice begin to lose weight and heightened T cell activation is detected in
26 peripheral blood. However, lipooligosaccharide transporter abundance diverges prior to immune
27 activation, indicating that it could be a pre-disease indicator or microbiome-mediated disease
28 mechanism. Taxonomic structure of the gut microbiome also significantly changes in association with
29 IBD development, and the abundance of particular taxa, including several species of *Bacteroides*,
30 correlate with immune activation. These discoveries were enabled by our use of generalized linear
31 mixed effects models to test for differences in longitudinal profiles between healthy and diseased mice
32 while accounting for the distributions of taxon and gene counts in metagenomic data. These findings
33 demonstrate that longitudinal metagenomics is useful for discovering potential mechanisms through
34 which the gut microbiome becomes altered in IBD.

36 **Importance**

38 IBD patients harbor distinct microbial communities with different functional capabilities compared to
39 healthy people. But is this cause or effect? Answering this question requires data on changes in gut
40 microbial communities leading up to disease onset. By performing weekly metagenomic sequencing
41 and mixed effects modeling on an established mouse model of IBD, we identified several functional
42 pathways encoded by the gut microbiome that covary with host immune status. These pathways are
43 novel early biomarkers that may either enable microbes to live inside an inflamed gut or contribute to
44 immune activation in IBD mice. Future work will validate the potential roles of these microbial pathways
45 in host-microbe interactions and human disease. This study is novel in its longitudinal design and focus
46 on microbial pathways, which provided new mechanistic insights into the role of gut microbes in IBD
47 development.

49
50 **Keywords:** gut microbiome, metagenome, inflammatory bowel disease, mouse model, TGF-beta (β),
51 autoimmunity, longitudinal modeling, biomarkers, T cell activation
52
53

54 **Background**

55

56 Inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) is an increasingly prevalent chronic autoimmune disease wherein the
57 cells of the immune system attack intestinal tissue (1-3). Quality of life deteriorates, and patients die in
58 severe cases. Unfortunately, the etiology of disease remains unclear and is likely complex (4).
59 Discovery of the factors that contribute to IBD onset, development, and severity is needed to ensure
60 accurate and effective health care. Epidemiological studies and animal model experiments have
61 identified genetic (5-7) and lifestyle factors that associate with IBD, including diet (8) and exercise (9).
62 But these factors are not precise predictors of disease risk, severity, or response to treatment, and
63 many questions remain regarding disease mechanisms. Elucidating the cryptic etiology of IBD would
64 enable new preventative measures, diagnostics, and therapies.

65

66 Recent work has implicated the gut microbiome in the development and severity of IBD (10). Individuals
67 afflicted with Crohn's disease or ulcerative colitis, the two principal clinical forms of IBD, harbor distinct
68 taxa relative to healthy controls (11-14). Shotgun metagenomics further revealed that the abundance of
69 several microbial metabolic pathways are significantly altered in IBD guts (13, 15, 16). These
70 associations may be causal, because gut microbes can influence the immune system and intestinal
71 homeostasis. For example, immunosuppressive regulatory T cells (Tregs) are prevalent in the colonic
72 lamina propria (LP) compared to other organs. But, their numbers are reduced in germ-free or
73 antibiotic-treated mice, suggesting that microbiota affect colonic differentiation of peripheral Tregs
74 (pTregs) (17, 18). A similar loss of Tregs occurs in people with polymorphisms in IBD-susceptibility
75 genes that promote defects in Treg responses (19). Thus, gut microbes have the potential to interact
76 with immune cells and this interaction can be altered due to host genetics and other risk factors in the
77 development of IBD.

78

79 We hypothesized that the changes in immune status of individuals with IBD are associated with
80 temporal alterations in the functional capabilities of their gut microbiota. Understanding how the gut

81 microbiome dynamically changes during IBD and how these changes relate to host symptoms and
82 immune activation could clarify which microbiomic alterations contribute to disease onset and
83 progression and which alterations respond to disease. We are particularly interested in elucidating
84 specific microbial pathways that may induce or exacerbate immune activation and distinguishing these
85 from pathways required for survival in an inflamed intestinal environment. Addressing these questions
86 requires a prospective, longitudinal study of the microbiome in IBD.

87

88 Longitudinal investigations of the microbiome have tended to focus on taxonomic rather than functional
89 changes (20, 21). One study used 16S sequencing in the T-bet^{-/-} RAG2^{-/-} Ulcerative Colitis (TRUC)
90 mouse model of inflammatory disease to identify how gut microbiome taxonomic composition changes
91 over the course of treatment-induced remission and then imputed how microbial pathway abundances
92 might change over time with ancestral state reconstruction techniques (22). Shotgun metagenomic
93 sequencing provides direct insight into the functions encoded in the microbiome, but it has not been
94 applied to a longitudinal investigation of IBD. As a result, our insight into how the gut microbiome
95 operates dynamically in association with disease development is limited.

96

97 Mouse models of disease present an opportunity to quantify the longitudinal covariation between gut
98 microbiome functions and IBD development while overcoming the challenges associated with a
99 prospective human study and reducing the extensive genetic, lifestyle, and microbiome variation among
100 humans. We implemented this approach using a well-documented IBD model (23-29), where TGF- β
101 dominant negative receptor II is driven by the CD4 promoter (CD4-dnT β RII) (30), called DNR hereafter.
102 TGF- β is important for inducing pTreg differentiation (31), and its signaling in naive T cells results in
103 activation and nuclear translocation of Smad2/3 molecules and regulation of target genes, including
104 Foxp3 (32-34). Foxp3 then provides a positive feedback loop by downregulating Smad7, thereby
105 reducing its inhibition of TGF- β signaling (35). Absence of TGF- β signaling in T cells results in loss of
106 Foxp3 expression and defective *in vivo* expansion and immunosuppressive capacity of pTregs (36, 37).
107 However, excess inflammation can also potently inhibit Foxp3 induction by TGF- β (38, 39), and the

108 presence of certain inflammatory cytokines can instead divert differentiation of Tregs into pathogenic
109 Th17 cells (40-45). Thus, due to TGF- β 's involvement in Treg cell differentiation, and the requirement
110 for Treg produced IL-10 to maintain intestinal homeostasis, TGF- β signaling in T cells is an important
111 component of intestinal immunity (46-54). Furthermore, mutations in both TGF- β and IL-10 signaling
112 pathways have been implicated in human IBD (55-58). As a result of the blockage of TGF β signaling on
113 their T cells, and reduced number of pTregs, DNR animals develop spontaneous colonic inflammation
114 and IBD that is akin to Crohn's disease (30, 59). In addition to these physiological similarities, the DNR
115 line serves as an effective model of human IBD because (i) human IBD is associated with mutations in
116 SMAD3 (5, 60-62), a direct downstream target of TGF β RII required for Foxp3 induction in the gut (33),
117 and (ii) DNR mice model the documented effect of Smad7 overexpression in human IBD (63-65).

118

119 To obtain insight into how the longitudinal dynamics of the microbiome associate with IBD onset and
120 progression, we followed DNR and littermate wild-type (hereafter, WT) controls from weaning through
121 severe disease. We used shotgun metagenomics to quantify how fecal microbiome structure and
122 function change over the course of disease development in DNR mice and identified components of the
123 microbiome that both associate with and predict immune status. We focus on longitudinal changes in
124 biological pathways (i.e., groups of genes performing a coherent function), using estimated abundances
125 of KEGG modules from DNR and WT metagenomes. Our work indicates that the microbiome may
126 contain biomarkers of IBD development, clarifies mechanisms through which the microbiome may
127 contribute to disease development, and reveals how gut microbes operate to succeed in an inflamed
128 intestinal environment.

129

130 **Results**

131

132 Age-matched female WT and DNR littermates were monitored longitudinally for IBD development over
133 a period of 9 weeks, starting at 4 weeks of age upon being weaned from their mother. As this is a T
134 cell-mediated IBD model, we quantified peripheral CD4 and CD8 T cell activation by flow cytometry and

135 measured the longitudinal change in the CD44^{hi} activated fraction, which includes both effector and
136 memory T cells (Additional File 1: Figure S1). We also measured the weight of the animals over time
137 (Fig. 1A). As expected, WT mice gained weight and maintained a constant fraction of activated T cells.
138 DNR mice, conversely, stopped gaining weight and experienced a sharp increase in CD4 T cell
139 activation followed by gradual increase in CD8 T cell activation starting at 7 weeks of age (Fig. 1).
140 These results indicate that in our facility, the DNR mice develop signs of IBD starting around week 7
141 and full disease by week 9. DNR mice had to be euthanized by week 15, as they had lost more than
142 15% of their maximum body weight. Similar to the T cell activation phenotype observed in the blood
143 after week 7 (Fig. 1B-C), the DNR animals had a larger fraction of activated T cells in the spleen and
144 the gut-draining mesenteric lymph node (MLN) at week 15 (Additional File 2: Figure S2).

145

146 We used shotgun metagenomics to assess how the functional potential of the gut microbiome
147 diversifies over the course of disease progression. Specifically, we collected stool samples from parallel
148 cohorts of DNR and WT mice weekly and performed shotgun metagenomic sequencing from samples
149 obtained at 4, 5, 6, 8, 10, 12, and 13 weeks of age (Additional File 3: Table S1). We then quantified the
150 abundance of KEGG modules encoded in each metagenome with ShotMAP (16), which revealed 373
151 modules present in at least one sample. These module abundances were then used to quantify how the
152 within-sample (alpha) diversity of microbiome functions varies over time in DNR and WT mice. A
153 Kruskal-Wallis test of the change in KEGG module Shannon entropy over time (Additional File 4: Figure
154 S3) found that the DNR mice are relatively stable in their functional alpha-diversity ($p=0.47$) as
155 compared to WT mice ($p=0.078$). We also observed that functional alpha-diversity varies among
156 individuals within a line over time, and that this variation differs between lines in association with
157 disease activation (week 7). Specifically, the coefficient of variation of KEGG module Shannon entropy
158 (CV) from a generalized linear model is higher among WT than DNR mice after disease activation ($p =$
159 0.0085). We also find that the CV is higher among DNR mice prior to activation, though this difference
160 is reduced when the disproportionately variable week 5 samples are removed from the analysis

161 (p=0.21). These results show that the functional diversity of the mouse gut microbiome is relatively
162 constrained early in life but increases over the lifetimes of WT but not DNR individuals.

163

164 We then investigated how the composition of gut microbiome functions varies over time and between
165 cohorts (DNR vs. WT) by using an abundance-weighted beta-diversity metric (Bray-Curtis dissimilarity).

166 At a global level, KEGG module abundances were similar between DNR and WT mice prior to week 6,
167 but then diverged over time as IBD developed in the DNR mice (Fig. 2). Furthermore, the diversity of
168 KEGG modules found in a metagenome was significantly associated with the week that the sample was
169 collected within the cohort (PERMANOVA p=0.01, R²=0.42), as well as cohort's weekly mean activated
170 T cell status (pcCD4tCD44hi, PERMANOVA p=0.001, R²=0.16). Thus, there exist microbiome-encoded
171 functional modules that differ in abundance in association with IBD progression in DNR mice.

172

173 This temporal divergence in DNR versus WT microbiome functions is mirrored in the taxonomic
174 structure of the microbiome (Fig. 2). The composition of the gut metagenomes is relatively similar
175 between WT and DNR lines at early time points and begins to diverge at week 6. Additionally, the
176 microbiomes of WT mice remain relatively consistent over time as compared to DNR mice, though they
177 are not without temporal variation. Indeed, similar to the functional diversity analysis, the taxonomic
178 beta-diversity of the microbiome significantly differs between the lines over time (PERMANOVA
179 p=0.004, R²=0.46), though not with mean activated T cell status (PERMANOVA p=0.118, R²=0.046).
180 Collectively, these analyses indicate that (1) the diversity and structure of the gut microbiome varies
181 over time between 4 and 15 weeks of age in both WT and DNR mice, (2) WT and DNR microbiomes
182 are generally consistent prior to immune activation in DNR mice, but diverge afterwards, and (3)
183 immune activation is associated with changes in the subsequent succession of the gut microbiome.

184

185 Based on these observations, we assessed how specific components of the microbiome associate with
186 disease development. A key novelty of our approach is the use of Tweedie compound Poisson
187 generalized linear mixed effects models (GLMMs). These models allow us to test for differences in

188 temporal trends in KEGG module abundance between DNR and WT mice while accounting for baseline
189 differences between mice and genotypes, as well as DNA extraction kit effects. GLMMs enable
190 accurate modeling of non-normally distributed abundance data and correctly account for multiple
191 sources of variation (66), including the inter-subject variation that is present in repeated measures
192 designs such as the longitudinal sampling of individual mice in our study. The Tweedie compound
193 Poisson distribution, which is a weighted mixture between Poisson and Gamma distributions, has a
194 number of other attractive features. Its exponential relationship between variance and mean captures
195 the overdispersion that is frequently present in environmental DNA sequence data, and its point mass
196 at zero allows for one-step fitting of zero-inflated data (versus fitting a model to determine feature
197 presence/absence before modeling non-zero components, as in hurdle models). Additionally, the
198 Tweedie compound Poisson is a continuous distribution, allowing us to use a normalized abundance
199 measure as the dependent variable, instead of raw counts. We provide a more detailed description of
200 the models used in our analysis in [Additional Data File 5: Text S1](#).

201

202 We first looked at overall trends of abundance trajectories for DNR versus WT mice as quantified by the
203 interaction between genotype and time in the GLMM. These analyses revealed 29 KEGG modules with
204 significant differences in abundance trends between DNR and WT mice ($FDR < 0.05$). The interaction
205 coefficient was positive for 26 of the significant modules ([Additional File 6: Table S2](#)), which indicates
206 that these modules became increasingly abundant in DNR versus WT mice over time. This set includes
207 modules associated with uridine monophosphate biosynthesis (M00051), keratin sulfate degradation
208 (M00079), and the type III secretion system (M00332). The three modules with negative interaction
209 coefficients, indicating decreasing abundance in DNR versus WT mice over time ([Fig. 3](#)), are lysine
210 biosynthesis (M00031), lipooligosaccharide transport (M00252), and melatonin biosynthesis (M00037).

211

212 To obtain improved temporal resolution regarding the divergence of module abundance in DNR mice,
213 we extended our GLMMs to include a “hinge” at week 7, which is when immune activation initiates in
214 DNR mice. This segmented regression approach has the potential to discover modules that diverge in

215 abundance between DNR and WT mice either between weeks 4 and 7 or between weeks 7 and 13.
216 Only 13 of the 29 previously identified modules exhibited a significant effect when using segmented
217 regression (Fig. 4), likely due to a loss of power from partitioning the data into two smaller sets of
218 samples. However for these 13 modules, our results clarify when DNR and WT abundances began to
219 diverge (Additional File 7: Table S3). The predominant pattern was similar module abundance prior to
220 week 7, followed by divergence after immune activation (11/13 modules). This pattern suggests that
221 these modules respond to disease or play a role in disease progression.

222

223 Lipooligosaccharide transport (M00252), which is a two-component system with an unknown substrate
224 in the mammalian gut, was the only module that stratified DNR and WT mice both before and after
225 disease onset. To further investigate the potential taxa that may drive this particular signal, we
226 assessed the taxonomic source of the KEGG sequences that recruited metagenomic reads into the
227 module. We also quantified the distance covariance (67) between the longitudinal trajectories of the
228 KEGG Orthology Groups (KOs) that comprise the module and each observed species' trajectory. The
229 result was mixed, with the former analysis suggesting primarily *Streptococcus* contributions, while the
230 latter identified greatest similarity with *Lactobacillus murinus* and *Candidatus* Arthromitus trajectories
231 (Additional File 8: Figure S4). The differences in the taxonomic composition of the reference data
232 underlying these two approaches could account for these inconsistencies, as could the fact that the
233 KEGG analysis relies on amino acid comparisons while the species trajectories are determined through
234 nucleotide comparisons. Thus, an uncharacterized lipooligosaccharide transporter encoded in
235 *Streptococcus* and other gut microbes decreases in abundance over time at a significantly faster rate in
236 DNR compared to WT mice, starting early in life before weight loss and immune activation.

237

238 Type III secretion system (M00332) differed in its temporal change between the lines uniquely before
239 disease onset. Specifically, the module decreased in abundance in WT mice over weeks 1-7, with KO
240 K03225 primarily driving this effect. On the other hand, this module was relatively stable in DNR mice
241 prior to disease onset, and several of the KOs that comprise the module increased in DNR mice in the

242 later weeks (Fig. 4). The discovery of stable, rather than decreasing, abundance of K03225 as an early
243 indicator of IBD in DNR mice is intriguing because Type III secretion systems are used by pathogens to
244 invade the gut community and alter the gut environment (68, 69).

245

246 We next examined baseline differences in module abundance between DNR and WT mice at weaning.
247 Early differences could result from genotype-specific selection of the gut microbiome or cage effects.
248 Our models revealed 17 modules with significantly different intercepts ($q < 0.05$), which indicates
249 differences in abundance between the two lines at week 4 (Additional File 9: Table S4). Eight of these
250 modules, including several methanogenesis associated pathways, had positive intercept coefficients,
251 meaning that they were more abundant in DNR compared to WT mice at week 4. Lipopolysaccharide
252 biosynthesis and eight other modules showed the opposite effect and were higher in WT mice at
253 weaning. This early-life variation in the microbiome supports hypotheses that pre-adolescent
254 development of the microbiome can affect health state later in life. However, these temporal
255 relationships are complex: later changes in abundance, as captured by the time by cohort interaction,
256 could reverse the pattern seen at weaning.

257

258 To explore temporal dynamics of specific gut taxa, we applied the same GLMM analysis to species
259 abundances. This analysis yielded no significant results at $FDR < 0.05$, likely due to not having the
260 advantage of grouping components across a higher order variable. While species could be grouped into
261 higher taxonomic entities, the model assumption that members of the same group tend to covary
262 across samples and over time may be violated because members of the same taxonomy may compete
263 or ecologically exclude one another (70). We evaluated this possibility by applying a non-parametric
264 decomposition of variance components (71) to assess whether within-module or within-genus
265 dispersion decomposition patterns were significantly different from those obtained from random
266 permutations of the underlying data. This auxiliary analysis finds that components of functional groups
267 covary more than random while components of taxonomic groups do not (Additional Data File 10:
268 Figure S5). This observation indicates that grouping taxa would violate GLMM model assumptions.

269 Consequently, we instead used a goodness-of-fit test based on functional principal components
270 analysis (FPCA), which is less rigid in its assumption of linearity and capable of borrowing information
271 across species due to the representation of abundance trajectories as combinations of eigen-functions
272 derived from the entire dataset. This test identified seven species that significantly differ in their
273 variation over time between the DNR and WT cohorts (Figure 5; Table 1), including greater increases in
274 abundance over time within DNR microbiomes for *E. coli* and four species from the *Bacteroides* genus,
275 which are associated with gut inflammation (10).

276

277 Discussion

278

279 This study represents the first shotgun metagenomic characterization of IBD development. By using a
280 controlled mouse model, a longitudinal study design, and statistical modeling, we identified novel
281 microbial biomarkers associated with IBD onset and progression. Many of the taxa and functions we
282 implicated have known roles in immune regulation and pathogenicity, making them plausible
283 candidates for stimulating the disease process, while others likely represent responses of the
284 microbiota to changes in host physiology. Ordination and GLMM analyses enabled us to distinguish
285 these scenarios by identifying significant differences between DNR and WT mice over time from
286 weaning through severe disease. We discovered that lipooligosaccharide transport and type III
287 secretion protein abundance trajectories between weaning and immune activation differentiate DNR
288 mice prior to immune activation, making them promising early biomarkers and consistent with a
289 potentially causal role in IBD. Abundances of 17 modules are altered in DNR mice at weaning and
290 could predict IBD risk if they generalize to other mouse models and human disease (see below). Many
291 other modules as well as a few species have altered abundances in DNR mice in later, more severe
292 stages of disease. Functional and taxonomic diversity also show temporal differences in DNR mice that
293 correlate with immune profiles and/or disease progression. Most of these discoveries would have been
294 missed in a cross-sectional study because the disease association is a longitudinal trend.

295

296 By using shotgun metagenomics, we were able to investigate both taxonomic and functional
297 characteristics of the IBD microbiome. Both types of data consistently showed differences between
298 DNR and WT mice. For example, beta-diversity analyses revealed increasing divergence of both
299 taxonomic and functional profiles between DNR and WT microbiomes over the last four weeks of the
300 study. In addition, the individual taxa and modules with genotype-specific trajectories predominantly
301 had increased abundance in DNR mice after disease onset. These similarities in the successional
302 diversification of species and genes support the idea that taxonomic changes in IBD have functional
303 consequences that are linked to immune activation. Despite such parallels, our taxonomic and
304 functional results differed in several important ways. Notably, a smaller number of species stratify lines
305 over time as compared to KEGG modules. Furthermore, most of the IBD-associated modules we
306 discovered were not represented solely in singular species and would have been missed by
307 considering information from taxonomic analyses only. These results could be due to disease-
308 associated functional redundancy, wherein a gene that is enriched in DNRs might derive from different
309 species in each mouse. Other potential reasons include (1) higher power due to grouping protein
310 families into modules, and (2) missed taxonomic associations due to the relatively small number of
311 laboratory mouse associated microbes in the genome tree of life (72). Future work should explore how
312 taxa missed by reference-based quantification vary in association with IBD in DNR mice.

313

314 Despite finding relatively few species that distinguish DNR mice, we can gain insight into the disease
315 process from what is known about how these taxa interact with the host. It is striking that four of the
316 seven species that change in abundance as IBD develops belong to the genus *Bacteroides*, three of
317 which are more abundant in DNR mice. Several studies have implicated *Bacteroides* in intestinal
318 inflammation. For example, a subset of *B. fragilis* strains carry a proinflammatory metalloprotease toxin
319 that has been identified in 19.3% of patients with active IBD (73), and the inoculation of animals with
320 such strains is associated with severe colitis (10, 74). Subsequent research showed that multiple
321 commensal species of *Bacteroides* could be incorporated into the gut microbiomes of IBD-susceptible
322 genotypes of mice to induce IBD, including mice with TGF- β susceptibility loci (75). Supporting the idea

323 that *Bacteroides* contribute to IBD, we observe a modest increase ($q=0.1898$) in the
324 hemophore/metalloprotease transport system module (M00328) in DNR mice as disease progresses.
325 These and other mechanistic hypotheses must be tested, because the species of *Bacteroides* we
326 identified are diverse and species within the same genus can exhibit discordant patterns of interaction
327 with host physiology (76).

328

329 Cross-sectional and mechanistic investigations of IBD support our finding that disease development is
330 linked to microbiome taxonomy and function (4, 77, 78). The progressive divergence of DNR and WT
331 microbiomes as IBD worsens is consistent with a 16S-based study using a different mouse model of
332 IBD in which gut microbes and imputed functions changed in association with disease status and
333 therapeutically induced remission (22). Additionally, studies in germ-free mouse models of IBD
334 implicate the gut microbiome in disease development. For example, interleukin (IL)-10-knockout mice
335 grown under germ-free conditions do not develop colitis, while conventionally raised mice do (79).
336 Similar findings have been reported for the TRUC mouse model (80). Furthermore, IL-10-knockout (81)
337 and IL-2-deficient (82) mice manifest differential severity of colitis dependent on the types of taxa that
338 colonize their gut. Human studies of IBD have yet to investigate the disease longitudinally. However,
339 our results are consistent with microbiome case-control studies that found significant differences in the
340 taxonomic (11, 83-87) and functional (13, 16, 22) profiles of IBD patients compared to healthy controls,
341 especially in Crohn's disease. Additionally, clinical administration of antibiotics shows promise for
342 reducing the intestinal inflammation associated with IBD (88, 89). The longitudinal biomarkers we
343 identified are promising new candidates to investigate in the context of human disease onset and
344 progression.

345

346 Our analyses identified several modules that implicate a pathogenic effect by the DNR microbiome. For
347 example, DNR mouse microbiomes increase in the abundance of adhesion protein transport modules
348 (M00330) in association with disease, which may help pathobiotic members of the microbiome
349 associate with and metabolize intestinal mucosa (90). Correspondingly, keratan (M00079) and

350 dermatan (M00076) sulfate degradation pathways increase in abundance as disease progresses.
351 Keratan sulfate and dermatan sulfate are glycosaminoglycans (GAGs) that are integral to intestinal
352 mucosa and regulate the permeability of the gut epithelium. These sulfated GAGs are depleted in IBD
353 patients (91), and their metabolism by intestinal bacteria, including *Bacteroides thetaiotaomicron*,
354 contributes to intestinal colonization (92, 93). Furthermore, Crohn's metagenomes exhibit an increase
355 in GAG degradation pathways (94). DNR guts also have elevated levels of Type III and Type IV
356 secretion systems, which pathogenic organisms leverage to successfully invade the gut microbiome
357 and induce preferable ecological conditions within the gut (68, 69). Curiously, type III secretion
358 abundance shows the opposite effect before immune activation (weeks 4-7), perhaps because of broad
359 shifts in community composition after week 7 or alternatively due to microbes with type III secretion
360 systems invading the LP and becoming less abundant in stool over time. Finally, we observe an
361 increase in modules associated with the biosynthesis of isoprenoids, which have been linked to the
362 stimulation of the mammalian immune system (95). Together these DNR-associated pathways support
363 a pathogenic role of gut microbes in IBD development. Future studies that seek to determine the
364 existence of a microbiome-mediated etiology for IBD should consider these potential mechanisms of
365 disease activation.

366

367 Our identification of pathways that change in association with IBD development generates many novel
368 hypotheses about the mechanisms through which gut microbes contribute or respond to disease
369 development. Future studies can explicitly test these hypotheses to discern the cause and effect
370 relationship between the gut microbiome and inflammatory bowel disease. Several KEGG modules with
371 different abundance dynamics in DNR versus WT mice appear to be associated with the microbiome's
372 acclimation to the disease environment. For example, we observe increases in two-component systems
373 (M00511, M00482) that may contribute to a cell's ability to manage the elevated oxidative stress that
374 exists during active IBD (96). We also observe increases in pathways associated with cellular
375 chemotaxis (M00515, M00507). This result is consistent with observations of increased cell motility
376 pathways in the gut microbiomes of TRUC mice suffering active colitis using imputation from 16S data

377 (22). This result also aligns with prior work that implicated toll-like receptor recognition of flagellar
378 bacterial antigens in the development of intestinal inflammation (97, 98). Based on these observations,
379 we speculate that chemotaxis pathways help microbiota scavenge the metabolic resources required to
380 survive inside of an inflamed gut or invade the host given that intestinal permeability frequently
381 increases during IBD flare-ups (99).

382

383 We also observe several biosynthetic modules that increase in association with IBD development. For
384 example, modules related to the biosynthesis of uridine monophosphate, leucine, proline, and ammonia
385 change in association with disease. These results may suggest that the metabolic preferences and
386 needs of the organisms that comprise the microbiome change as disease develops. Alternatively, it
387 may be that more T cells are entering the gut, becoming activated, and consequently consuming the
388 local resources, which in turn results in bacteria activating biosynthetic pathways to survive and
389 compete. Our finding that pathways associated with ammonia production (M00531) increase in DNR
390 mice is noteworthy because prior studies have found that IBD associates with a lower pH in the
391 intestinal lumen (100), and the production of ammonia by bacteria may serve to buffer such pH
392 changes. Additionally, these pathways are utilized when bacteria metabolize proteins, amino acids, and
393 urea, and the increase in this pathway may indicate a preferential utilization of these substrates by the
394 microbiome or, as above, immune cells, during disease.

395

396 Furthermore, we observe increases in modules associated with choline metabolism, specifically betaine
397 and phosphatidylcholine biosynthesis. Recent work has connected the gut microbiome's production of
398 these metabolites to increased cardiovascular disease risk (101). Our finding is important because a
399 growing number of studies indicate that IBD patients have an increased risk of developing
400 cardiovascular disease, especially during flare-ups (102, 103). The mechanisms underlying this
401 increased risk are not well resolved, but may relate to a proposed explanation for the increased
402 cardiovascular disease risk observed in HIV-infected patients (104, 105). Under this model, changes in
403 the relative proportion of protective to pathobiotic gut microbiota, especially those capable of

404 translocating across the gut epithelium, activate a chronic systemic inflammation that increases
405 cardiovascular disease risk. It is thus tempting to speculate that, based on our observations in these
406 mouse models of disease, IBD and perhaps HIV-associated changes in microbial metabolism of choline
407 contribute to or at least indicate this increased risk of cardiovascular disease.

408

409 Another intriguing hypothesis emerges from our observation that heme transport genes are elevated in
410 DNR mice as IBD develops. Bacteria use this module to scavenge iron from the environment. Iron is a
411 crucial component for many cellular processes, but gut microbes seldom have access to free iron and
412 instead sequester it from host sources, such as heme (106, 107). Heme concentrations may be
413 increased in IBD, as a common feature of the disease is intestinal bleeding (108). Hence, we
414 hypothesize that gut microbes that can take advantage of this heme may flourish in DNR mice. It is
415 intriguing to further speculate that microbial sequestration of heme contributes to IBD (e.g., through
416 signaling to the immune system) or to iron deficiency in IBD patients (109).

417

418 One surprising discovery was an increase in pathways associated with the production of benzoate
419 (M00538) in DNR mice. Benzoate is a carboxylic acid produced by microbial degradation of dietary
420 aromatic compounds and is a precursor of hippurate biosynthesis in mammals (110). Prior work
421 suggested that hippurate may be a useful diagnostic of Crohn's disease given that it is found at
422 significantly lower levels in the urine of patients (110) and that the gut microbiome's production of
423 benzoate is responsible for these differences in urinary hippurate (111). Our results are inconsistent
424 with this prior work in such that they indicate that intestinal benzoate biosynthesis is higher in sick
425 animals. This difference may be due to variation in the host species being investigated, including how
426 benzoate is subsequently metabolized in the gut or by the host. Alternatively, the potential of the DNR
427 microbiome to make excess hippurate may not be realized given that we performed DNA sequencing.
428 Future mechanistic studies could measure benzoate and hippurate and quantify the benzoate proteins
429 at the RNA or protein level in DNR versus WT mice.

430

431 Most of the taxonomic and functional IBD biomarkers we identified are increasingly abundant in DNR
432 mice throughout the disease process. But three modules show the opposite trajectory and decrease in
433 abundance over time in DNR relative to WT mice: melatonin biosynthesis (M00037), lysine biosynthesis
434 (M00031), and lipooligosaccharide transport (M00252). Melatonin has a dual effect on the immune
435 system, acting in a stimulatory manner in early infection, and in an immunomodulatory manner in cases
436 of prolonged inflammation (112). The effects of melatonin produced by gut commensals have not been
437 studied as extensively as those of endogenous melatonin. Traditionally, melatonin acts as a potent
438 antioxidant, although additional quorum signaling functions in bacteria have been recently reported
439 (113). The reduction in melatonin biosynthesis capacity observed in the DNR mice could be caused by
440 the expansion of species that can tolerate a highly oxidative environment (114) or microbes that utilize
441 other strategies for neutralizing reactive oxygen species. Without metabolite data, it is not possible to
442 definitively say that the final concentrations of melatonin are reduced in the disease state, since the
443 decrease can be offset by host production. With respect to lysine biosynthesis, this module is also
444 depleted in human IBD microbiomes (115), indicating that there may exist similar mechanisms of
445 interaction between disease context and the gut microbiome across species. Future work should
446 empirically test the potential role of these microbiome functions on the development of IBD, especially
447 in individuals that are genetically susceptible for the disease.

448

449 Lipooligosaccharide transport is the only module to show significant differences in abundance
450 trajectories both pre- and post-activation. Intriguingly, it is consistently lower in DNR versus WT mice
451 throughout our study with the largest difference during weeks 4-7, prior to immune activation and
452 disease symptoms. This finding initially seems surprising, because lipooligosaccharides are the major
453 glycolipids that are produced by mucosal Gram-negative bacteria and are known to have
454 proinflammatory effects (116). However, the two genes (NodI and NodJ) in the lipooligosaccharide
455 transport system are present across diverse prokaryotes, and the substrates of this two-component
456 ABC transporter are not characterized beyond lipo-chitin oligosaccharide export in rhizobial bacteria
457 (117, 118). Determining what this system transports in the mammalian gut and how its function

458 changes in IBD is an exciting future direction. Regardless of mechanism, the consistent and pre-
459 symptomatic depletion of lipooligosaccharide transport genes in DNR mice make this module a
460 promising candidate biomarker for predicting and diagnosing IBD.

461

462 We relied on a mouse model to quantify the longitudinal interaction between the gut microbiome and
463 disease because the extensive inter-individual variation in human genetics, lifestyle, microbiome
464 composition, and disease status and severity can complicate study design, analysis, and interpretation.
465 We used the DNR mouse model because it is relevant to our understanding of the mucosal
466 immunological dysregulation that occurs during human IBD and, consequently, its interaction with the
467 gut microbiome. Indeed, we observe immune activation in the blood of the DNR mice that is consistent
468 with what has been observed in human IBD (119). The phenotype observed in DNR mice is akin to
469 severe Crohn's disease with relatively substantial immunological activation and weight loss by week 12.
470 Interpretations of the microbiome-disease interaction in this model should be considerate of this
471 relatively severe disease status. Alternative mouse lines may be better models for other forms of IBD.
472 Another consideration is that we found some baseline differences in microbiome protein abundances in
473 DNR mice at weaning that may be specific to this genetic model of IBD. Ultimately, comparisons
474 between our results and those obtained by the integrated Human Microbiome Project (iHMP) (120)
475 which is longitudinally evaluating the microbiome and immune status of IBD patients, will clarify the
476 relevance of the findings produced by the DNR model to human populations. Additionally, future
477 research should use this model and build upon our findings to clarify how TGF- β induced differentiation
478 and function of T cells interacts with the taxonomic structure and function of the gut microbiome.

479

480 Overall, our results indicate that the development of IBD is associated with corresponding
481 changes in the operation of the gut microbiome. Microbial taxa and KEGG module abundances vary
482 over time and in association with immune activation. Furthermore, our results suggest that the gut
483 microbiome may contribute to disease by activating inflammation through metabolism of mucosa and
484 by expressing proinflammatory and downregulating anti-inflammatory metabolites. Because our study

485 relied on the imputation of microbiome function from DNA sequences, we cannot definitively conclude
486 that the observed differences in the microbiome's functional profiles manifest as differences in the
487 metabolites produced by the microbiome. Future research that applies direct measurements of
488 microbiome function should be used to validate and expand the results presented here. Regardless,
489 our results hold promise for our understanding of microbiome-mediated IBD disease mechanisms and
490 the potential of using microbiome sequencing of patient stool to classify and potentially even predict
491 disease.

492

493 **Methods**

494 *Growth of mice and microbiome sampling*

495 We bred two cohorts of DNR and WT littermate control animals in the Gladstone Institutes mouse
496 facility as follows. CD4-dnT β RII (DNR) animals were crossed to RAG1^{-/-} background to eliminate the T
497 cell mediated IBD, and were transferred from Yale University to Gladstone Institutes in 2010. To initiate
498 experiments described in this study, DNR-RAG1^{-/-} males were bred with C57BL/6N female animals,
499 and DNR-RAG1^{-/+} progeny were again crossed to C57BL/6N females to generate a combination of
500 RAG1^{-/+} and RAG1^{+/+} DNR and WT age-matched littermate controls. Animals were given regular
501 chow consisting of irradiated PicoLab Rodent Diet 20 (LabDiet). Only female animals were used in this
502 study. Four co-housed WT-RAG1^{+/+} and five co-housed DNR-RAG1^{+/+} littermates were followed
503 longitudinally for 15 weeks and fresh fecal samples were collected weekly and stored at -30° C until
504 they were subject to microbiome processing. All mice from both cohorts were weighed weekly.
505 All animal experiments were conducted in accordance with guidelines set by the Institutional Animal
506 Care and Use Committee of the University of California, San Francisco.

507

508 *Immune sampling*

509 Tail vein blood samples were collected weekly from a parallel cohort of “bleeder” mice to quantify how
510 their immune status changes over time (n=6 WT, n=6 DNR). These are distinct individuals from the
511 “pooper” mice subjected to stool metagenomics (same colony and time period), in order to prevent

512 repeated tail vein blood sampling from affecting the health or microbiota of the cohort of pooper mice.
513 Specifically, ~100 μ l (2-3 drops) of blood from tail vein was added to 30 μ l of 1x heparin (500 units/ml).
514 500 μ l of 1x ACK lysis buffer (Lonza) was added directly to the cells and incubated at room temperature
515 for 2–3 min. Cells were centrifuged at 4000 rpm for 5 min. The top layer was aspirated and another 500
516 ml of 1x ACK lysis buffer was added followed by centrifugation. Cells were resuspended in FACS buffer
517 (PBS + 0.5% FBS) and after blocking Fc receptors with anti-CD16/CD32, single-cell suspensions were
518 incubated with FITC CD4 (GK1.5), PE CD62L (MEL14), PerCP-Cy5.5 CD8a (53.6.72), and APC CD44
519 (IM7) mouse antibodies for 30 min at 4°C. Stained cells were washed and acquired on an Accuri C6
520 cytometer (BD). Blood lymphocytes were gated on CD4+ or CD8+ fractions and percentage of
521 activated/memory (CD44hi) among CD4+ and CD8+ T cells was determined using FlowJo software
522 (Tree Star Inc.). This cohort was separated from those subjected to microbiome sampling to eliminate
523 the effect that repeated bloodletting might have on the microbiome. At 15 weeks of age, two WT and
524 three DNR from the non-bleeding animals were euthanized. Spleen and mesenteric lymph nodes were
525 then processed into single-cell suspension and subjected to ACK lysis and cell surface staining as
526 described for PBMCs. The status of T cell activation was quantified and found to highly correlate with
527 the blood immune status of their “bleeder” littermates ([Additional Data File 2: Figure S2 and Additional](#)
528 [Data File 3: Table S1](#)).

529 *Metagenome sequencing and analysis*

530 QIAamp DNA Stool Mini Kits (QIAGEN, Valencia, CA, USA) were used to extract DNA from
531 stool samples collected from weeks 4, 6, 8, 10, and 12. Samples were incubated in an elevated water
532 bath temperature of 95 C to increase the lysis of bacterial cells, as per manufacturer instructions. The
533 MoBio PowerFecal DNA isolation kit (MOBIO, Carlsbad, CA USA) was used as per manufacturer
534 instructions to process stool samples collected at weeks 5 and 13. Kit type was adjusted for in
535 statistical modeling to account for any potential differences in extraction bias between the two methods.

536 Purified DNA was prepared for shotgun metagenomic sequencing using the Nextera XT library
537 preparation method (ILLUMINA, San Diego, CA USA). Libraries were quality assessed using qPCR and
538 a Bioanalyzer (Agilent Technologies, Palo Alto, CA USA) and subsequently sequenced using an

539 Illumina HiSeq 2000. This produced an average of 74,427,303 100-bp paired-end sequences per
540 sample. Metagenomic reads were quality controlled using the standard operating procedure defined by
541 the Human Microbiome Project Consortium (121) as implemented in shotcleaner (122). Briefly, reads
542 were quality trimmed using prinseq (123) and mapped against the mouse reference genome sequence
543 (GRCm38) using bmtagger (124). Exact duplicate reads were collapsed and the subsequent high-
544 quality data was subject to taxonomic and functional annotation. Functional annotation of
545 metagenomes was conducted using ShotMAP as described in (16) with, Prodigal (125) to call genes
546 and RAPsearch2 (126) to identify metagenomic homologs of the KEGG database (downloaded Feb.
547 2015). Reads mapping to mammalian sequences in the KEGG database were discarded and the
548 subsequent data was used to quantify the abundance of each KEGG Orthology Group (KO) using the
549 RPKG abundance statistic (127). Metagenomes were taxonomically annotated using MIDAS as
550 described in (72).

551

552 *Statistical analyses and modeling*

553 The functional and taxonomic similarity between metagenomic samples was assessed using
554 non-metric multi-dimensional scaling (NMDS) as implemented through the nmDS function in the labdsv
555 R package (128). Ordinations were visualized using the ordiplot function in the vegan R package (129).
556 For the functional similarity analysis, the vegdist function from the vegan R package quantified the
557 Bray-Curtis dissimilarity based on KEGG module abundances. The taxonomic analysis used the
558 generalized Unifrac (130) distances ($\alpha=0.5$), which were obtained by using the taxonomic tree from
559 the Living Tree Project (131) and matching the genus and species component of tree leaf labels to the
560 corresponding components of the MIDAS species labels in our data. Assessment of the significance of
561 the clustering of samples in these ordination plots was conducted using PERMANOVA as implemented
562 by the adonis function in R.

563 The compound Poisson generalized linear mixed effects model implemented in the cplm
564 package in R (132) was used to find KEGG modules with a significantly different time trend between
565 groups while controlling for static differences between the lines and DNA extraction procedure

566 (QIAGEN versus MOBIO). Random intercepts and slopes for both subjects and contributing KOs were
567 used to capture variation between subjects and between genes while focusing on the large scale shifts
568 over the whole collection of abundance profiles contributing to a module. As described more thoroughly
569 in Supplementary Text S1, the general computational procedure consisted of subsetting the data to
570 each module's relevant KO abundances and fitting a full model that described the RPKG abundance as
571 a function of time, group, time by group interaction, sequencing kit and random effects of each KO and
572 individual. We then use two reduced models, dropping first the interaction term and then the group
573 term, to obtain p-values via likelihood ratio tests. This is one of the recommended significance testing
574 approaches for mixed models since it avoids using approximations for the residual degrees of freedom
575 that would be necessary to test significance via the t-statistic (66). To limit the number of modules
576 tested, the input data were run through the MinPath algorithm (133) to select a parsimonious set of
577 modules based on the KOs present. The union of all samples' individual parsimonious sets was used
578 as the final set of tested modules. The approach of testing the dynamics of an entire module by fitting a
579 single GLMM to a set of multiple genes' temporal abundances is modeled on the TcGSA method of
580 Hejblum et al. (134), with the modification of using a different response distribution (the Tweedie
581 compound Poisson). Significant modules were selected at the 0.05 FDR threshold after controlling for
582 multiple testing via the Benjamini-Hochberg procedure (B-H). Species time trend differences were
583 tested with the same approach, minus the grouping of multiple trajectories. Additional details of our
584 modeling approach can be found in Additional Data File 5: Text S1. All of the code used in this analysis
585 is available at the following URL:

586 https://github.com/slyalina/Mouse_IBD_2017_paper_supporting_code.

587 To differentiate functional changes occurring prior to immune activation, we fit a second hinge
588 regression to the abundances of modules that were found to have a significant time by group
589 interaction in the main GLMM analysis. This second regression placed a break point at week 7, which
590 represents the point at which immune activation initiated (Fig. 1). This allowed for two sets of slopes
591 (before disease onset and after) and two sets of time by group interactions (representing deviations of
592 DNR slopes from WT before-onset and after-onset slopes).

593 Alterations in the species trajectory curves were additionally tested with an alternate method
594 aimed at highlighting differences in shape rather than slope. This method was an implementation of the
595 FPCA-based difference in goodness-of-fit approach described previously in (135). The permutation-
596 based p-values from this analysis were B-H corrected and species passing the 0.05 FDR threshold
597 were retained.

598 To test the hypothesis that the distribution of all modules' between-KO/within-KO dispersion
599 decomposition statistic is significantly different from random when grouping functional trajectories (KOs
600 into modules) but is not significantly different from random when grouping taxonomic trajectories
601 (species into genera) we used the DISCO (71) non-parametric test to obtain the real distributions of the
602 test statistic in the two scenarios, as well the simulated null distributions that arise when generating
603 random groupings of KOs and species. We then performed a Kolmogorov-Smirnov test to compare the
604 true distributions with their simulated counterparts.

605

606 **Accession numbers**

607 Metagenomic sequences are available through GenBank accessions SAMN06921515 -
608 SAMN06921563.

609

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614

615 **Competing Interests**

616 The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

617

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620

621

622 **Figure Legends**

623

624 **Figure 1. IBD development correlates with peripheral T cell activation in DNR mice.** (A) Animal
625 weight over time. N= 7 WT and 8 DNR mice. (B) Percent of activated CD4 T cells among peripheral
626 blood mono-nuclear cells (PBMCs). (C) Percent of activated CD8 T cells among PBMCs. (B-C) N=6
627 WT and 6 DNR mice.

628

629 **Figure 2. The taxonomic and functional diversity of the gut microbiome associates with IBD**
630 **development.** (A) NMDS ordination plots of the functional (left) and taxonomic (right) beta-diversity of
631 samples from each line illustrate the significant divergence in beta-diversity between lines over time.
632 Functional beta-diversity was measured as the Bray-Curtis dissimilarity based on KEGG module
633 abundances, while taxonomic beta-diversity is the UniFrac distance of taxa detected in metagenomes.
634 (B) The longitudinal variation of samples along selected NMDS dimensions similarly reveals how DNR
635 and WT lines significantly diverge over time both in terms of their functional (left) and taxonomic (right)
636 beta-diversity. Plotted is the smoothed LOESS trajectory of samples from each line over time, where
637 grey areas represent 95% confidence intervals.

638

639 **Figure 3. Summary of GLMM results of 29 modules with significant time by group interaction.**

640 (A) The quantity plotted is the predicted marginal mean (PMM) of the slope coefficients. Significance
641 testing was done by comparing goodness of fit of full and reduced GLMM specifications, and the full
642 model was used to produce the PMM estimates shown here. This quantity was primarily calculated to
643 get a succinct summary of the direction of temporal change, and does not always coincide with the
644 interaction coefficient that is the focus of the main analysis. The estimates were obtained by running the
645 *lstrends* function from the *lsmeans* R package (136) (B) The underlying KO abundance trajectories of a
646 significant module (M00031: Lysine biosynthesis) that decreases in DNR mice and increases in WT
647 mice over time, as evidenced by a negative and positive model slope, respectively. (C) A similar plot as
648 in (B), except that this significant module (M00330: Adhesin transport) significantly increases in

649 abundance over time in DNR mice, while it does not change in abundance in WT mice. For both (B)
650 and (C) the shaded ribbons represent LOESS confidence bounds.

651

652 **Figure 4. Modules with significantly differing slopes between groups show primarily post-**
653 **disease-onset differences when analyzed with a segmented GLMM.** For each cohort, the
654 segmented GLMM estimates two separate WT slopes (pre-week7 and post-week7) and two deviations
655 from those slopes, which represent the time by group interaction that measures how DNR slopes differ
656 from WT slopes. Plotted here are the estimates of these deviations, with asterisks marking coefficients
657 that were significantly non-zero with B-H corrected p-value of <0.2

658

659 **Figure 5. Species that showed significantly different trajectory shapes between DNR and WT**
660 **groups.** These results are based on an FPCA-based goodness-of-fit comparison test that identified 7
661 species that were different at B-H corrected p-value < 0.05 .

662

663

664 **Table Legends**

665

666 **Table 1** - Species with significantly different trajectory shapes in the FPCA-based goodness-of-fit

667 comparisons.

668

669

670

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1053

1054 **Supplemental Files**

1055 **Additional File 1: Figure S1.** Longitudinal phenotypic monitoring of T cell activation in PBMC of WT
1056 and DNR “bleeder” mice. Representative FACS plots from WT bleeder #89 and DNR bleeder #85 at
1057 indicated time points. The gate is set on CD44^{hi} population to show the percent of activated effector and
1058 memory T cells over time.

1059

1060 **Additional File 2: Figure S2.** Phenotypic monitoring of CD8 T cell activation in WT and DNR “pooper”
1061 mice post disease onset. Representative FACS plots from spleen or mesenteric lymph node (MLN)
1062 isolated from WT pooper #90 and DNR pooper #83 at week 15. Fraction of activated (CD44^{hi}) and
1063 effector (CD44^{hi} KLRG-1^{hi}) CD8+ T cells are shown.

1064

1065 **Additional File 3: Table S1.** Project metadata

1066

1067 **Additional File 4: Figure S3.** The functional alpha-diversity of the gut microbiome as measured by
1068 Shannon entropy differentially varies over time across cohorts (left). In fact, there is significantly greater
1069 variation in the Shannon entropy between lines before and after disease onset (right).

1070

1071 **Additional File 5: Text S1.** Modeling methods

1072

1073 **Additional File 6: Table S2.** KEGG modules that exhibit significant group by time interaction
1074 coefficients, indicating that they differentially diversify over time between the two lines.

1075

1076 **Additional File 7: Table S3** - KEGG Modules with significant interactions in the segmented GLMM
1077 analysis

1078

1079 **Additional File 8: Figure S4** - Two different analyses potentially explain the taxonomic origins of the
1080 lipooligosaccharide transport KOs that were observed. (a) Species identities of KEGG ortholog

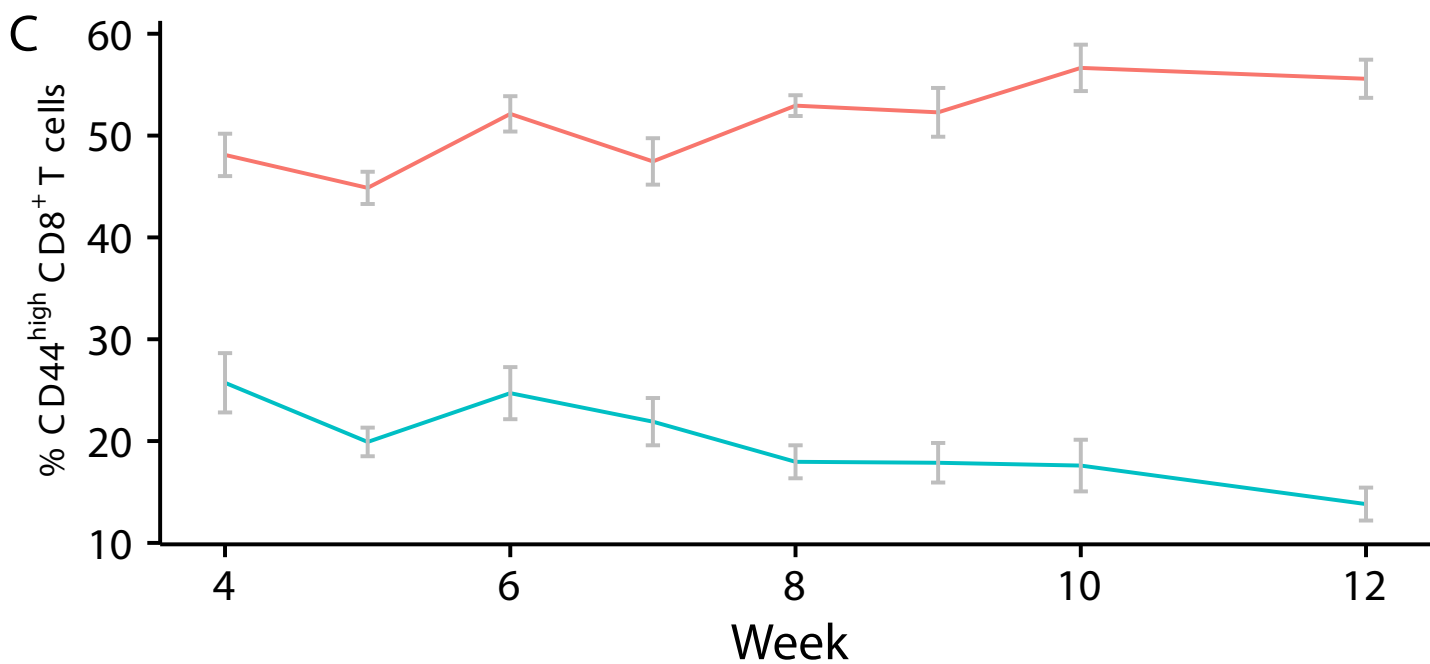
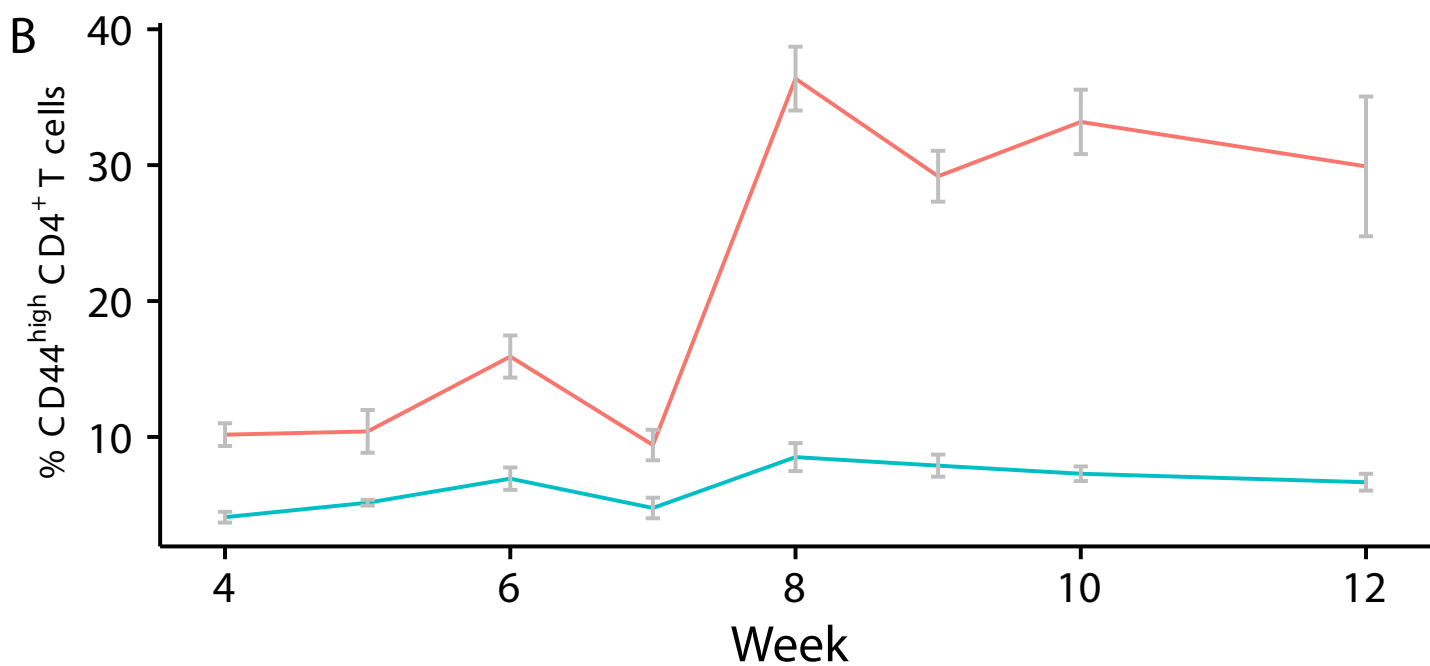
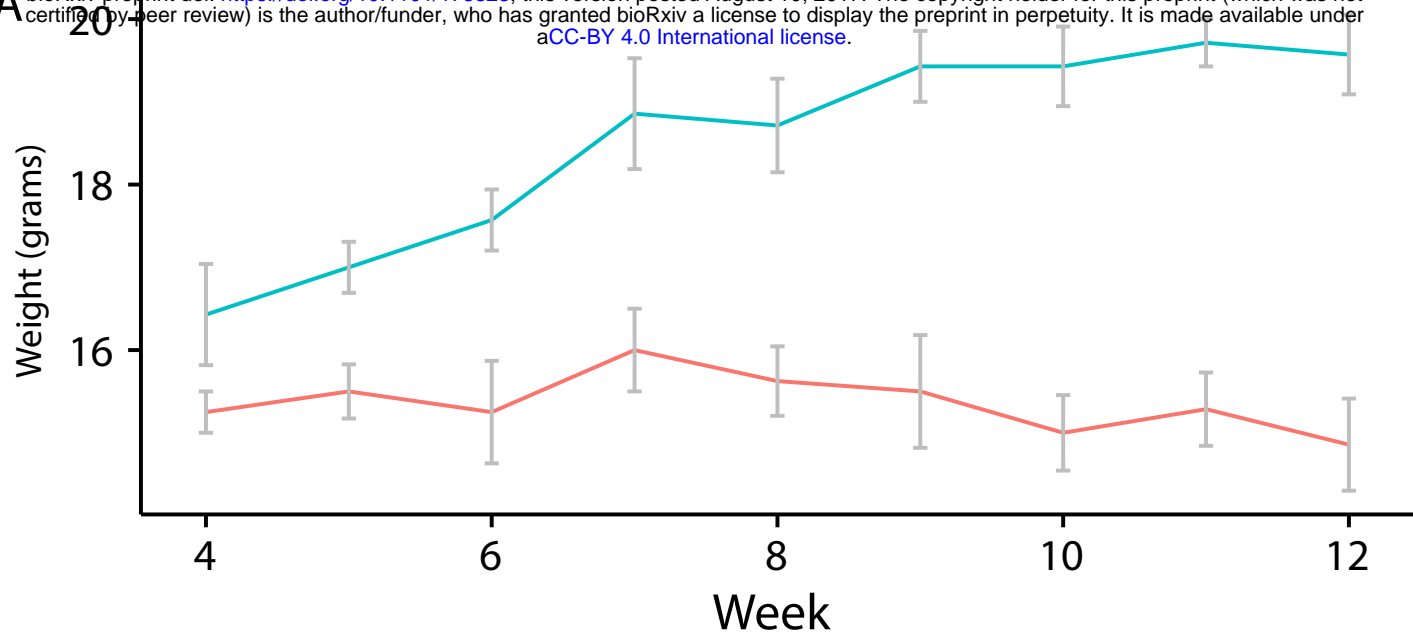
1081 sequences that recruited reads when generating the relevant KO abundances. (b) Distance covariance
1082 values trajectories of K09694 and K09694 and all species, with asterisks marking those dCov values
1083 that were significantly non-zero after B-H multiple testing correction.

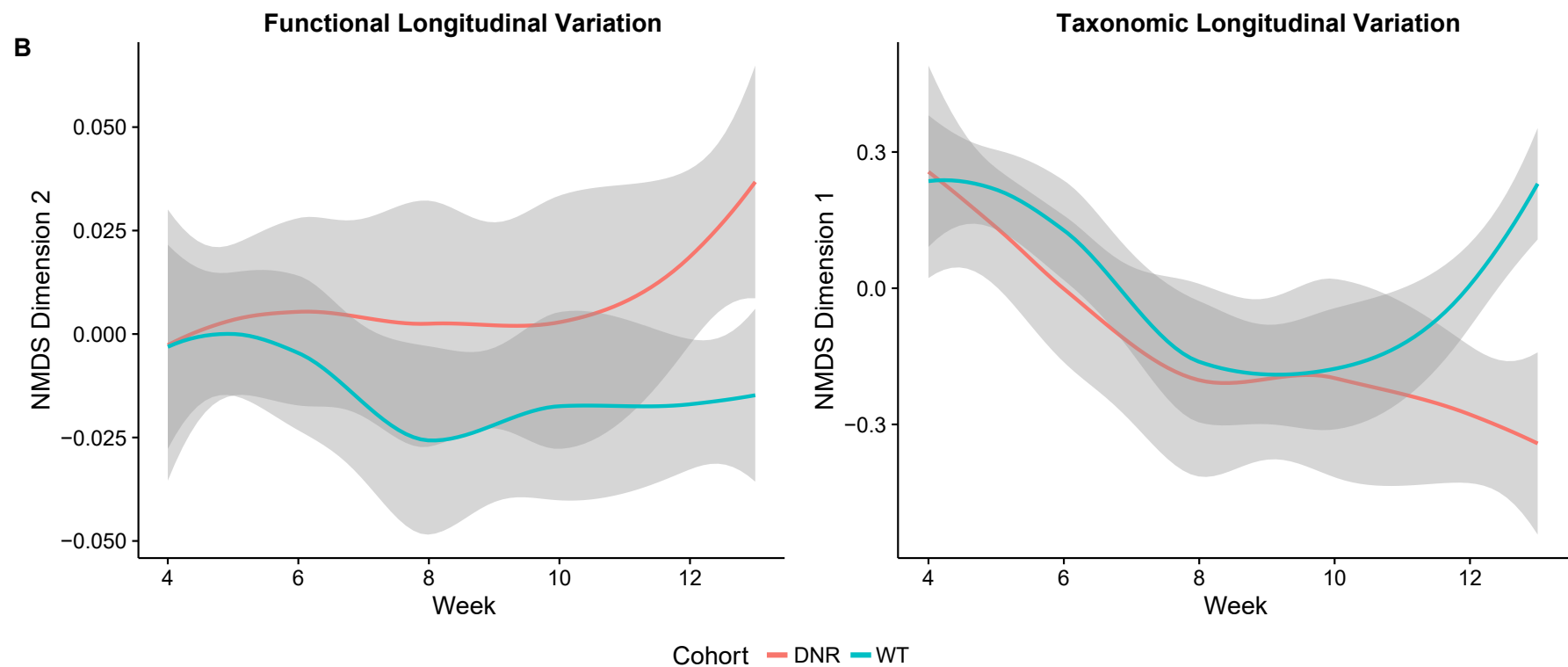
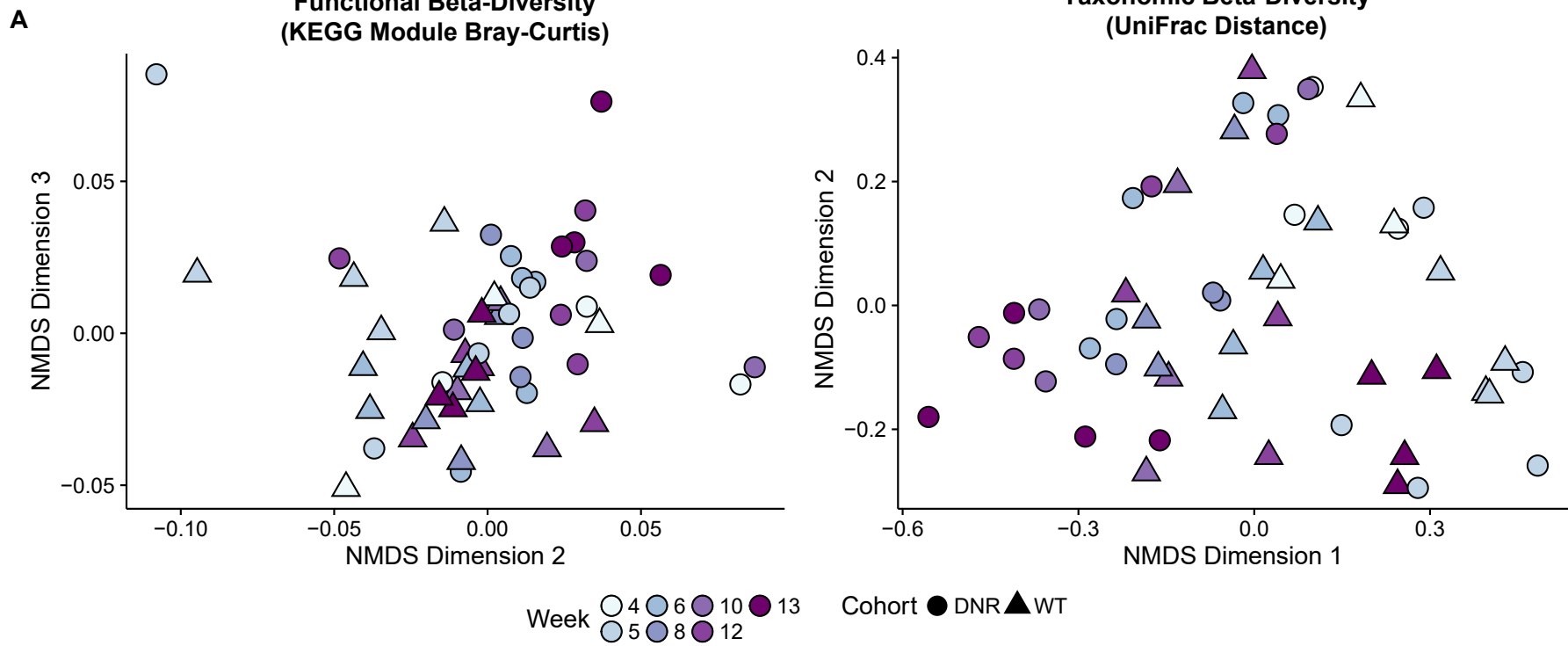
1084

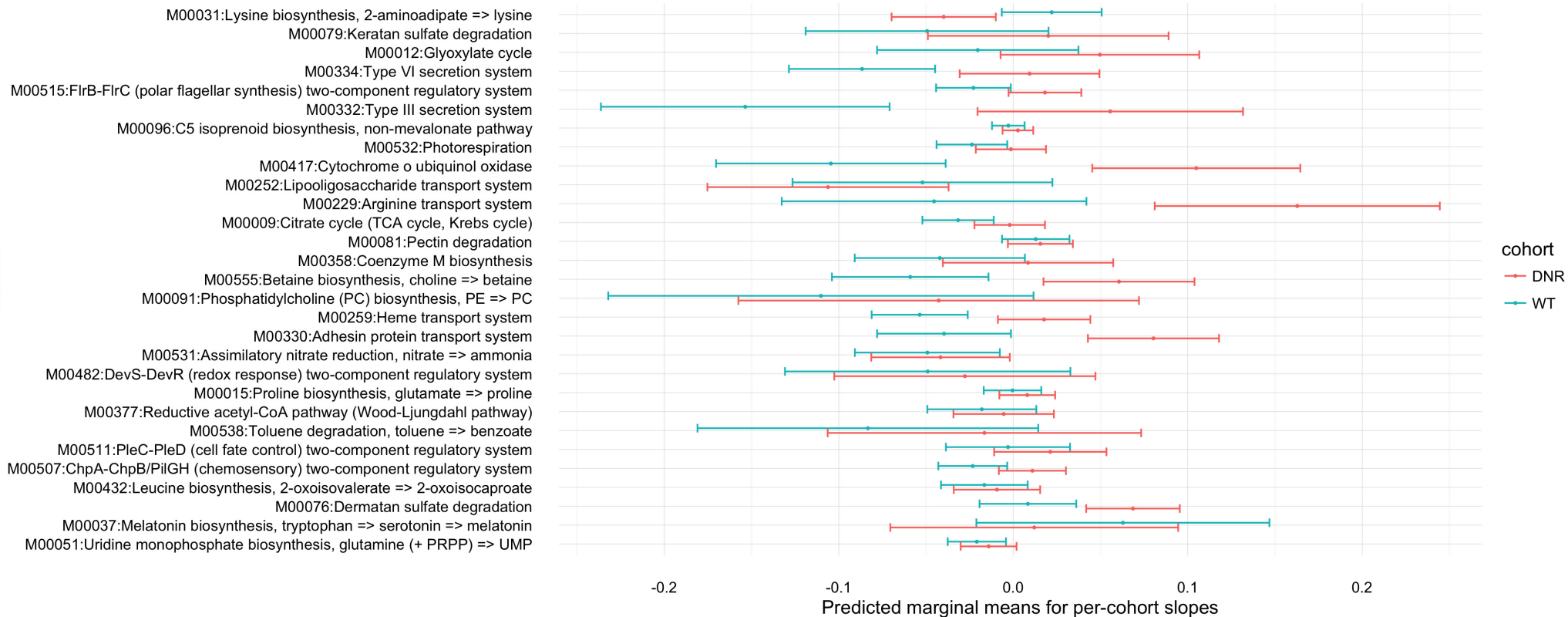
1085 **Additional File 9: Table S4** – KEGG modules with significant intercepts, indicating that they exhibited
1086 significantly different abundances between lines at the initial time point.

1087

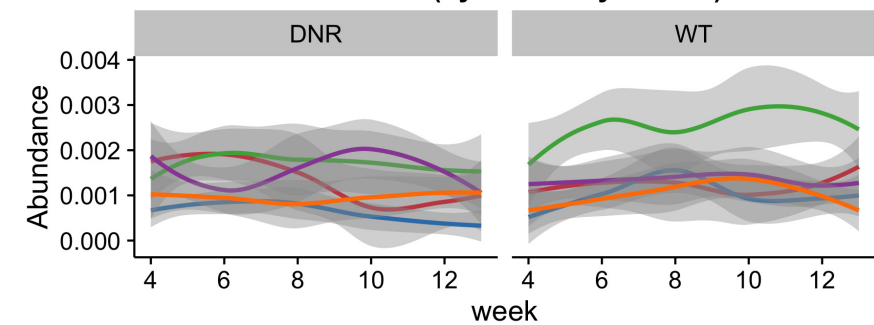
1088 **Additional File 10: Figure S5** - Distributions of F-statistics computed by the DISCO method for
1089 KO and species vectors within module and genus groupings respectively, compared to values from
1090 permuted groupings. Kolmogorov-Smirnov tests show significant difference between real and permuted
1091 distributions in the functional groupings, but no significant difference in the taxonomic groupings.



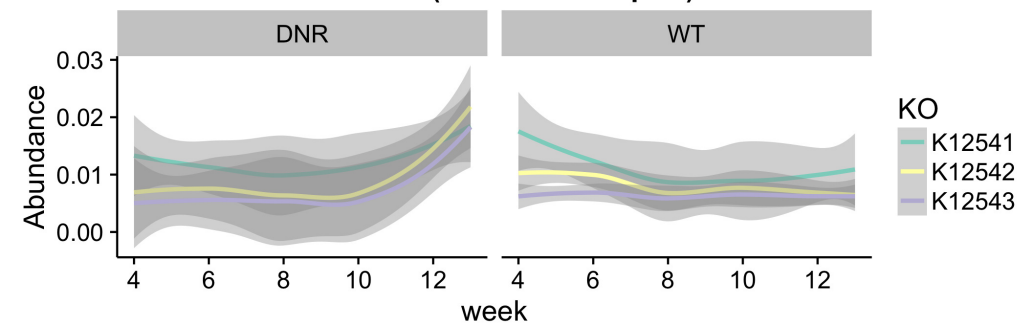


A**B**

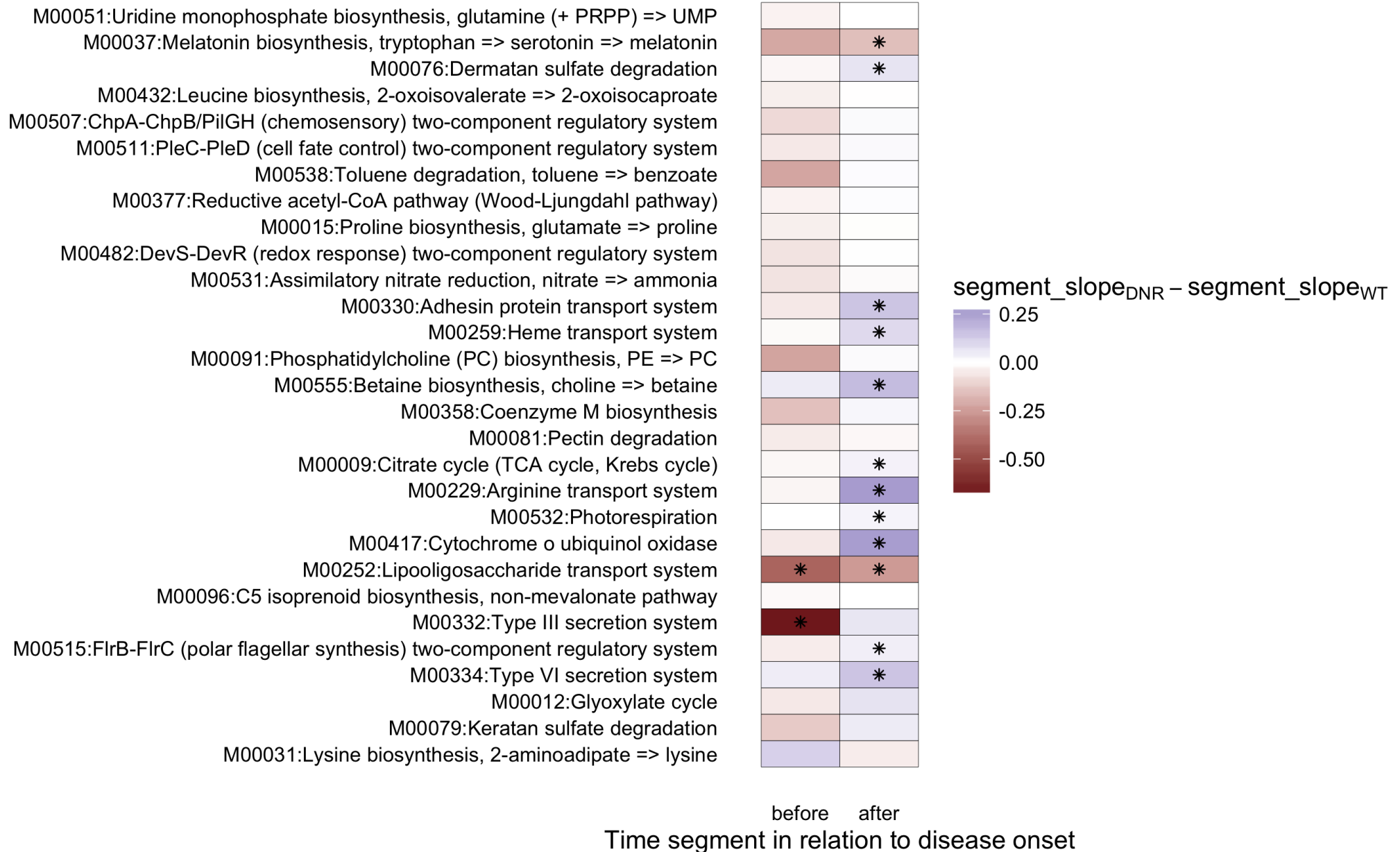
Abundance trajectories of M00031 (Lysine biosynthesis)

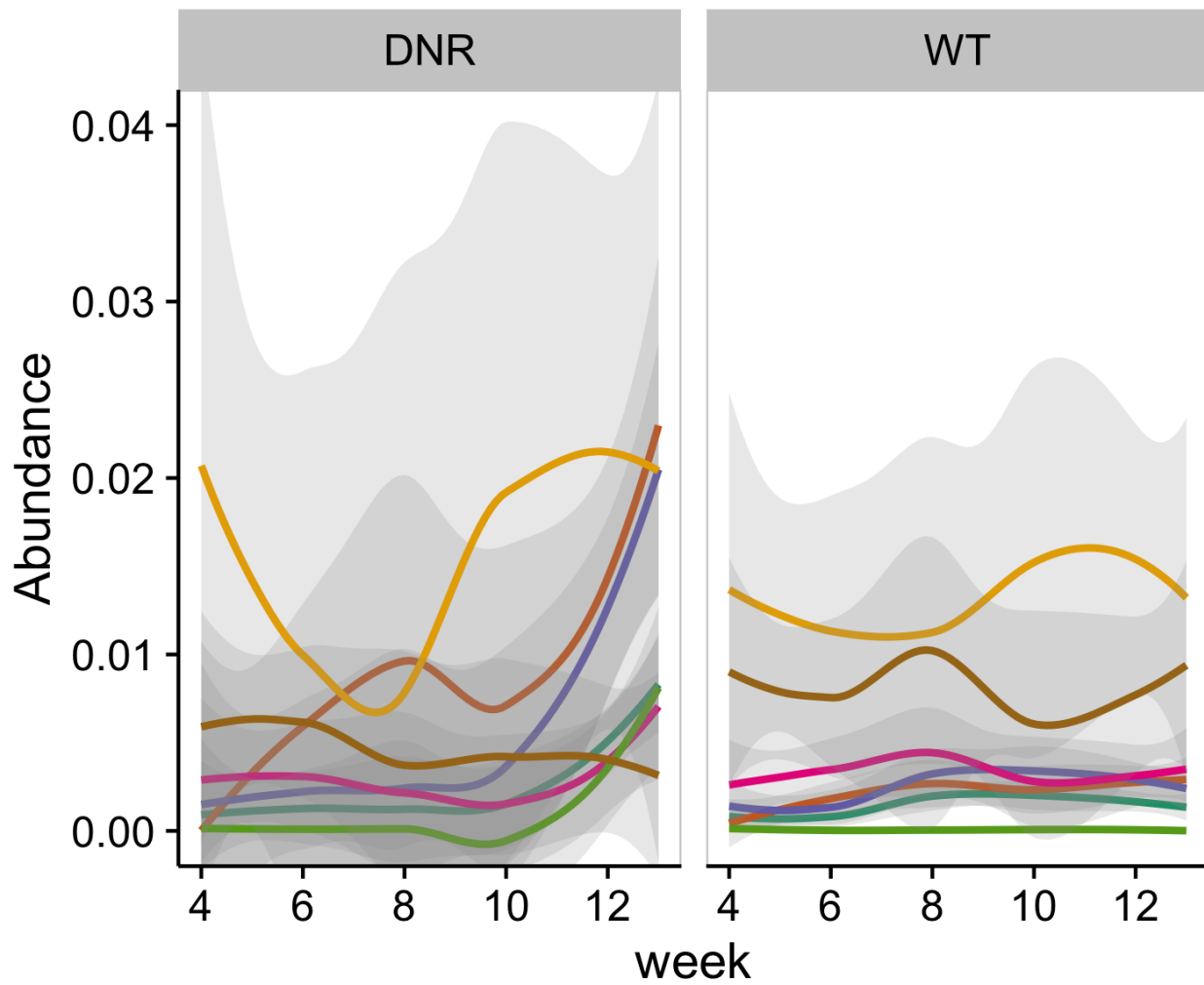
**C**

Abundance trajectories of M00330 (Adhesin transport)



Results of segmented GLMM





Species

- Bacteroides rodentium
- Bacteroides sartorii
- Bacteroides uniformis
- Bacteroides xylanisolvens
- Escherichia coli O157:H43 str. T22
- Lachnospiraceae bacterium A4
- Lachnospiraceae bacterium COE1

Species ID	p-value	q-value	Species Name	WT area under LOESS curve	DNR area under LOESS curve
54642	0	0	<i>Bacteroides sartorii</i>	0.01992	0.07699
57185	0	0	<i>Bacteroides xylanisolvens</i>	0.03051	0.02506
57318	0	0	<i>Bacteroides uniformis</i>	0.02297	0.04506
58110	0	0	<i>Escherichia coli</i> <i>O157:H43 str. T22</i>	5.35E-04	0.007523
59684	0.0001	0.0025	<i>Lachnospiraceae</i> <i>bacterium COE1</i>	0.07203	0.04213
59708	0	0	<i>Bacteroides rodentium</i>	0.0136	0.01986
61442	0.0013	0.02786	<i>Lachnospiraceae</i> <i>bacterium A4</i>	0.119	0.1348