

1 Research Article

2 Year-round dynamics of amplicon sequence variant communities differ among eukaryotes,

3 *Mimiviridae*, and prokaryotes in a coastal ecosystem

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19 One sentence summary: A one year observation of coastal microbial communities revealed

20 similar but different community dynamics for eukaryotes, a group of large viruses, and

21 prokaryotes.

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23 **Abstract**

24 Coastal seawater is the habitat of different microbial communities. These communities
25 are affected by seasonal environmental changes and fluctuating nutrient availability, as well as
26 competitive and cooperative interspecific interactions. In this work, we investigated the seasonal
27 dynamics of communities of eukaryotes, a major group of double-stranded DNA viruses
28 infecting eukaryotes (i.e. *Mimiviridae*), as well as prokaryotes in the Uranouchi Inlet, Kochi,
29 Japan. We performed metabarcoding using ribosomal RNA genes and the *Mimiviridae polB* gene
30 as marker genes in 43 seawater samples collected during 20 months. Communities characterized
31 by the compositions of amplicon sequence variants (ASVs) showed synchronic seasonal cycles
32 for eukaryotes, *Mimiviridae*, and prokaryotes. However, the community dynamics showed
33 intriguing differences in several aspects such as the recovery rate after a year. We further show
34 that the differences in the community dynamics can be explained by differences in the
35 recurrence/persistence levels of individual ASVs among eukaryotes, *Mimiviridae*, and
36 prokaryotes. *Mimiviridae* ASVs were less persistent than eukaryotic ASVs, and prokaryotic
37 ASVs were the most persistent. We argue that the differences in the specificity of interactions
38 (i.e. virus-eukaryote vs prokaryote-eukaryote) as well as the survival strategies are at the origin
39 of the distinct community dynamics among eukaryotes, *Mimiviridae*, and prokaryotes.

40

41 **Introduction**

42 Microbes – cellular microorganisms and viruses – in marine ecosystems are responsible for
43 biogeochemical cycling (Not *et al.* 2012; Brum and Sullivan 2015; Fuhrman, Cram and
44 Needham 2015), which is driven by diverse members of microbial communities. The
45 compositions of microbial communities change over time and space in response to
46 environmental factors and through species interactions. Therefore, to understand a marine
47 ecosystem, it is fundamentally important to study the structures of microbial communities, their
48 dynamics, and the mechanism that drives the change of microbial communities in the ecosystem.

49 Previous studies have explored the temporal dynamics of eukaryotic (Chen *et al.* 2017;
50 Giner *et al.* 2019; Gran-Stadniczeňko *et al.* 2019a), prokaryotic (Gilbert *et al.* 2012; Fuhrman,
51 Cram and Needham 2015; Milici *et al.* 2016; Sakami *et al.* 2016; Teeling *et al.* 2016; Ward *et al.*
52 2017), both eukaryotic and prokaryotic (Bock *et al.* 2018; Chafee *et al.* 2018), and viral
53 communities (Ignacio-Espinoza, Ahlgren and Fuhrman 2020). Other studies have investigated
54 co-variations among these cellular communities (Needham and Fuhrman 2016; Martin-Platero *et*
55 *al.* 2018; Santi *et al.* 2019) or cellular and viral communities (Chow and Fuhrman 2012;
56 Needham *et al.* 2013; Pagarete *et al.* 2013; Johannessen *et al.* 2017; Arkhipova *et al.* 2018;
57 Sandaa *et al.* 2018; Gran-Stadniczeňko *et al.* 2019b). Overall, these studies have revealed
58 similarities and differences in community dynamics among different microbe groups. Yearly
59 cycles and the recurrence of certain operational taxonomy units at 12-month intervals have been
60 detected for eukaryotes in the north western Mediterranean Sea (Giner *et al.* 2019), prokaryotes
61 in the English Channel (Gilbert *et al.* 2012; Fuhrman, Cram and Needham 2015), and small
62 viruses at a near-coastal site of southern California (Ignacio-Espinoza, Ahlgren and Fuhrman
63 2020) through long-term observations. A short-term study that compared prokaryotic and

64 eukaryotic communities in Massachusetts Bay revealed a higher rate of decline in community
65 similarity for eukaryotes than for prokaryotes (Martin-Platero *et al.* 2018). Furthermore, changes
66 in abiotic factors were found to have a lower impact on the eukaryotic community than on
67 prokaryotic communities in the Mediterranean Sea (Giner *et al.* 2019).

68 In this study, we investigated the community structures of microbial eukaryotes, viruses
69 in the family *Mimiviridae* (phylum *Nucleocytoviricota*), and prokaryotes in the Uranouchi Inlet
70 in Kochi prefecture, Japan. The Uranouchi Inlet is a semi-enclosed, eutrophic inlet, which is
71 located at the south eastern side of Shikoku Island, Japan. The climate of Shikoku Island is
72 humid subtropical and shows clear seasonality, with contrasting high and low water temperatures
73 in summer and winter, respectively. The contrasting seasons provide abiotic conditions that
74 change throughout the year. The inlet is known for recurrent harmful blooms of eukaryotic
75 microalgae including *Karenia mikimotoi* (Dinophyceae), *Chattonella* spp. (Raphidophyceae),
76 and *Heterosigma akashiwo* (Raphidophyceae), which occasionally damage the local fishery and
77 aquaculture. No previous studies have investigated the dynamics of the microbial eukaryotic
78 community in this inlet.

79 Viruses are thought to be important top-down regulators of communities of
80 microorganisms, including eukaryotes. For example, the collapse of eukaryotic phytoplankton
81 blooms is associated with viruses (Tarutani, Nagasaki and Yamaguchi 2000; Tomaru *et al.* 2004;
82 Lehahn *et al.* 2014; Moniruzzaman *et al.* 2014). The sudden increase of virions during the period
83 of bloom decline suggests that viruses are top-down regulators of phytoplankton populations
84 (Nagasaki *et al.* 2003; Kuhlisch *et al.* 2020). The family *Mimiviridae* is a major group of large
85 DNA viruses that infect diverse eukaryotes in marine environments (Hingamp *et al.* 2013). A
86 recent study revealed an association between eukaryote and *Mimiviridae* communities in a global

87 metagenomic dataset (Endo *et al.* 2020). Another study detected cooccurring pairs of eukaryotes
88 and large DNA viruses including members of the *Mimiviridae* through time-series sampling for
89 more than one year in Northern Skagerrak, South Norway (Gran-Stadniczeńko *et al.* 2019b).
90 These spatial and temporal associations suggest the tight ecological interactions between diverse
91 *Mimiviridae* and eukaryotes, that is, the obvious dependence of *Mimiviridae* replication on the
92 activity of their hosts and the possible top-down regulatory roles of these viruses on the
93 dynamics of the eukaryote community as a consequence of lytic infection. However, long-term
94 studies on the associations between these viruses and eukaryotes are still limited. Thus, how their
95 community dynamics are related or distinct is under-investigated. We recently established a
96 highly sensitive metabarcoding method for *Mimiviridae*, which successfully detected diverse
97 *Mimiviridae* in the Uranouchi Inlet (Prodinger *et al.* 2020). In this study, the community of
98 *Mimiviridae* was analyzed with this method for the first time on a time-series sample set and
99 compared with communities of microbial eukaryotes to see if they show synchronic seasonal
100 dynamics in the study area towards better understanding their ecological interactions.

101 We also investigated the dynamics of the prokaryotic community. *Mimiviridae* and
102 eukaryotes directly interact with each other through infection, while eukaryotes and prokaryotes
103 interact with each other either directly by grazing and parasitism, or indirectly by metabolization
104 of cell debris and nutrient-rich cellular exudates. An example of the indirect interaction between
105 eukaryotes and prokaryotes can be seen during algal blooms. The decline of algal blooms is
106 associated with the release of cellular debris and other organic substrates (Kuhlich *et al.* 2020),
107 which become important resources for heterotrophic prokaryotes (Gómez-Pereira *et al.* 2012).
108 Therefore, we reasoned that the prokaryotic community serves as a contrasting reference for the
109 comparison of communities between directly interacting eukaryotes and *Mimiviridae*.

110 We performed metabarcoding of eukaryotes, prokaryotes, and *Mimiviridae* using 18S and
111 16S rRNA genes and the *Mimiviridae polB* gene as marker genes, based on 43 seawater samples
112 collected during 20 months from January 2017 to September 2018. Microbial communities were
113 characterized at the amplicon sequence variant (ASV) level, which is the highest possible
114 resolution for operational taxonomic grouping of amplicon sequences. We characterized the
115 similarities and differences in community dynamics among eukaryotes, *Mimiviridae*, and
116 prokaryotes.

117

118 **Materials and Methods**

119 **Sampling and DNA extraction.** Seawater was collected at four stations in Uranouchi
120 Inlet, Kochi Prefecture, Japan (i.e. station “j”: 33°25'43.2"N 133°22'49.5"E, station “m”:
121 33°25'60.0"N 133°24'38.3"E, station “f”: 33°26'33.6"N 133°24'41.8"E, station “u”:
122 33°25'49.7"N 133°24'01.4"E). Time-series sampling was performed sporadically (average
123 interval, 15 days) with a higher sampling frequency during summer. In total, 43 sample sets (i.e.
124 43 seawater samples, with three size fractions each) were obtained over 20 months from 5th
125 January 2017 (170105-j) to 25th September 2018 (180925-j). The samples were denoted with the
126 sampling date followed by the station’s abbreviation in “yymmdd-station” format.

127 Seawater (10 L) was collected from 5-m depth, transported to the laboratory, and then
128 filtered through 3.0- μ m (diameter 142 mm) (polycarbonate, Merck, Darmstadt, Germany) and
129 0.8- μ m (diameter 142 mm) membranes (polycarbonate, Merck). The filtrate (1 L) was further
130 filtered through a 0.22- μ m filtration unit (Sterivex, polycarbonate, Merck). The filters were kept
131 at –80°C until DNA extraction with the Proteinase-K method for the 0.22- μ m filtration units

132 (Frias-Lopez *et al.* 2008) and the xanthogenate-sodium dodecyl sulfate method for larger size
133 fractions (0.8- μm and 3- μm filters) (Yoshida *et al.* 2003).

134 **PCR amplification.** The 18S ribosomal RNA gene primers (forward “V8f”:
135 ATAACAGGTCTGTGATGCCCT, reverse “1510r”: CCTTCYGCAGGTTACCTAC)
136 (Bradley, Pinto and Guest 2016) targeting the V8/V9 region were used on both the 0.8–3 μm and
137 >3 μm size fractions. Hereafter, the 0.8–3 μm and >3 μm fractions are referred to as the
138 PicoNano and NanoPlus fractions, respectively. The PCR analysis was performed by mixing 5
139 μL of 1 $\mu\text{mol}\cdot\text{L}^{-1}$ of both primers and 2.5 μL of 0.25 $\text{ng}\cdot\mu\text{L}^{-1}$ template DNA with 12.5 μL 2 \times
140 KAPA HiFi HotStart ReadyMix (Roche, Basel, Switzerland). The thermal program was 98°C for
141 3 min, followed by 25 cycles of 98°C for 20 s, 65°C for 15 s, 72°C for 15 s, and 72°C for 10 min.
142 The 16S rRNA gene amplification was performed by mixing 5 μL of 1 $\mu\text{mol}\cdot\text{L}^{-1}$ of both primers
143 (forward “Pro-16S NGS”: CCTACGGGNBGCASCAG, reverse “Pro-16S NGS”:
144 GACTACNVGGGTATCTAATCC) (Takahashi *et al.* 2014) with 2 μL of 1 $\text{ng}\cdot\mu\text{L}^{-1}$ sample DNA
145 (0.2–0.8 μm size fraction) and 12 μL 2 \times KAPA HiFi HotStart ReadyMix. The thermal program
146 was 95°C for 3 min, then 25 cycles of 95°C for 30 s, 55°C for 30 s, 72°C for 30 s, and final
147 extension at 72°C for 5 min. For the *Mimiviridae* DNA polymerase gene amplification, we used
148 a recently published method that has been described in detail elsewhere (i.e. “MP10v2” in
149 combination with “protocol 3”) (Prodinger *et al.* 2020).

150 **Clean up and sequencing.** The 18S rRNA gene and 16S rRNA gene amplicons were
151 purified with Agencourt AMPure XP beads (Beckman Coulter, Inc., Brea, CA, USA) following
152 Illumina’s library preparation protocol. The *Mimiviridae polB* gene amplicons were purified by
153 gel extraction (Prodinger *et al.* 2020). After amplicon purification, dual indices were attached by
154 PCR. The second purification was performed according to Illumina’s library preparation protocol

155 for the cellular amplicons and with gel extraction for *polB* amplicons. The final library
156 concentration was 10 pM with a 30% PhiX spike. The sequencing data were generated with
157 paired-end sequencing (2×300 nucleotides) on the MiSeq platform (Illumina, Inc., San Diego,
158 CA, USA).

159 **Analysis of prokaryotic and eukaryotic amplicon raw reads.** The data were analyzed
160 separately using QIIME 2 (Bolyen *et al.* 2018) with default settings unless noted otherwise. The
161 pipelines for both prokaryotes and eukaryotes were nearly identical. The raw reads were
162 imported to QIIME 2 (version 2020.2.0). dada2 (Callahan *et al.* 2016: 2) was used for ASV
163 generation in QIIME 2, mostly with default settings. This included several steps. Primers were
164 removed according to length and reads were corrected according to the dada2 algorithm. The
165 final low quality basepairs of each read were removed (truncation at 240 bp for 18S data and at
166 250bp for 16S data). Finally, dada2 merged forward and reverse reads and removed chimeric
167 sequences. The ASVs were taxonomically assigned at 90% nucleotide identity using “classify-
168 consensus-vsearch” in QIIME 2 against the SILVA 132 database (taxonomic majority, 97%) for
169 either 16S amplicon reads or 18S amplicon reads.

170 **Analysis of *Mimiviridae polB* amplicon raw reads.** *Mimiviridae polB* ASVs were
171 generated by a newly developed pipeline named MAPS2, which is mostly based on R (3.6.3)
172 (www.R-project.org, 17 February 2021, date last accessed) and the “dada2” package. The
173 functions of dada2 were used with default settings unless specified otherwise. Raw reads were
174 loaded using the “filterAndTrim” command, truncated at a length of 240 bp (both forward and
175 reverse reads), and 2 expected read errors were accepted. Primer sequence regions were trimmed
176 (i.e. forward reads: 40 bp and reverse reads: 38 bp). The chance of sequencing error was
177 calculated with dada2’s “learnErrors” function and sequences were dereplicated with the

178 “derepFastq” function. The “dada” function was used on the reads, and the reads were merged
179 with the “mergePairs” function. Chimeric sequences were removed using the
180 “removeBimeraDenovo” function. The nucleotide sequences and the ASV table were then
181 exported. The nucleotide sequences were searched against a database of 11,413 *polB* sequences,
182 1,004 of which were viral *Mimiviridae* sequences, using BLASTx (2.9.0)(Altschul *et al.* 1990)
183 (like in the original MAPS (Li *et al.* 2018)). Sequences with the best hit to viral sequences were
184 processed further (E-value <10⁻⁵). Both the original nucleotide sequence and the amino acid
185 sequences (translated by BLASTx) were saved. MAFFT (7.453) (Katoh and Standley 2013) was
186 used to align the reads with those in a reference file containing 1109 PolB sequences from
187 different organisms and viruses. The aligned PolB sequences were added to a reference tree
188 (Endo *et al.* 2020) using pplacer (1.1.alpha19) (Matsen, Kodner and Armbrust 2010). We
189 removed ASVs that were not within the *Mimiviridae* branch of the reference tree with R (Fig.
190 S5). The ASVs within the *Mimiviridae* branch were split into 13 clades for community structure
191 analysis (Fig. S5). Finally, a Python (3.7.5) (www.python.org, 17 February 2021, date last
192 accessed) script was used to cut the *Mimiviridae* ASV sequences in a common region. The ASVs
193 that became identical as a result of this process were clustered using cd-hit (clustering at 100%
194 nucleotide identity).

195 **Community composition and diversity analysis.** Communities were compared with R
196 with the “vegan” (2.5-6) (Oksanen *et al.* 2012) and “ggplot2” (3.2.1)
197 (<https://ggplot2.tidyverse.org>, 17 February 2021, date last accessed) packages. Singleton ASVs
198 and ASVs that were not taxonomically assigned and datasets with fewer than 8000
199 taxonomically assigned reads were removed before analyses of community composition (Fig. 1).
200 Ecological analysis was performed after subsampling with “rarefy” at 8000 reads. An ASV was

201 determined to be present in the dataset if it yielded more than 0.1% of reads after subsampling.
202 Community dissimilarity was measured using the Sørensen-Dice dissimilarity test with vegan's
203 “vegdist” function (method = “bray”, binary = T), as follows:

$$dissimilarity_{SD} = \frac{2|community_A \cap community_B|}{|community_A| + |community_B|}$$

204 Mantel test was performed using R's “mantel” command (5 million permutations). The
205 NMDS analysis was conducted with R's “cmdscale” command, and stress was calculated using
206 the “sammon” command (MASS package). The similarity of communities among seasons was
207 calculated by binning datasets of several months: winter (December to February), spring (March
208 to May), summer (June to August), and fall (September to November). The p values for seasonal
209 differences were calculated with R's “t.test” command, if more than 100 values were compared
210 we used the “pairwise.t.test” command with Benjamini–Hochberg correction.

211 **Cell counts, biotic, and abiotic data.** Environmental metadata (temperature, salinity,
212 phytoplankton cell counts, and concentrations of nutrients, organic and inorganic forms of
213 nitrogen and phosphorus, dissolved oxygen, and chlorophyll a) for the Uranouchi Inlet from
214 2013 to 2019 were obtained from the observation records of the Kochi Prefectural Fisheries
215 Research Institute with appropriate ethics approval. Since these records aim to monitor and
216 forecast HABs in the sampling area, cell count data were only collected for HAB species. We
217 used the daily maximum cell count data in this study. Different species are considered to be
218 blooming at different cellular concentrations, because bloom identification is linked to
219 heightened fish mortality according to the Prefectural Fisheries Research Institute
220 (<https://www.pref.kochi.lg.jp/soshiki/040409>, 17 February 2021, date last accessed). Fish
221 mortality rates increase when *Chattonella* spp. reaches cellular concentrations as low as 10 to
222 100 cells mL⁻¹; when *K. mikimotoi* (an unarmored, solitary dinoflagellate, 24–40 μm long, 20–32

223 μm wide (Omura *et al.*) reaches concentrations ranging from several 100 to 1000 cells·mL⁻¹;
224 and when *H. akashiwo* (kidney shaped, motile dinoflagellate, 8–25 μm long (Omura *et al.*)
225 reaches concentrations starting from 10.000 cells·mL⁻¹.

226

227 **Results**

228 **Seasonal variations in abiotic and biotic environmental factors.** Abiotic factors (i.e.
229 temperature and salinity) and the concentrations of nutrients (i.e. nitrogen species and phosphate),
230 dissolved oxygen, and chlorophyll *a* were recorded over 6 years (Fig. S1). Temperature and
231 salinity showed the most pronounced seasonality among all recorded biotic and abiotic factors.
232 The differences in seasonality were less pronounced for other factors, although the
233 concentrations of nutrients and chlorophyll *a* were higher in summer and autumn than in winter
234 and spring (Fig. S2).

235 **Seasonal variation of bloom-forming phytoplankton.** The abundance of six harmful algal
236 bloom (HAB) -forming phytoplankton (i.e. *Heterocapsa circularisquama* (Dinophyceae), *K.*
237 *mikimotoi* (Dinophyceae), *Cochlodinium polykryoides* (Dinophyceae), *Chattonella* spp.
238 (Raphidophyceae), *H. akashiwo* (Raphidophyceae), and *Pseudochattonella verruculosa*
239 (Ochrophyta, Dictyochophyceae)) were recorded by microscopic cell counting from 2013 to
240 2019. Blooms of three species (i.e. *H. akashiwo*, *K. mikimotoi*, *Chattonella* spp.) occurred in the
241 inlet and showed an approximately seasonal pattern: *H. akashiwo* bloomed in late spring (April
242 or May), *K. mikimotoi* bloomed in early summer (~June), and *Chattonella* spp. bloomed in the
243 middle of summer (~July). This pattern was observed in 5 of the 6 years we monitored (Fig.
244 S2M). In 2014, 2015, and 2018, a second *H. akashiwo* bloom occurred (Fig. S1G). The highest
245 daily cell counts of these species were in 2018 or 2019 (Fig. S1G). Blooms of *H.*

246 *circularisquama*, *C. polykrycoides*, and *P. verruculosa* did not occur every year and their
247 maximum abundances were relatively low (29–4900 cells·mL⁻¹) (Fig. S1G, and Fig. S2M).

248 **Overview of sequence data.** We generated from 36 to 43 metabarcoding datasets for four
249 different communities (i.e. eukaryotic NanoPlus (>3 μm) and PicoNano (0.8–3 μm), prokaryotes
250 (0.2–0.8 μm), and *Mimiviridae* (0.2–0.8 μm)) from a total of 43 sample sets. After discarding
251 datasets with <8000 reads, 36 to 41 datasets were retained for each community (i.e. eukaryotic
252 NanoPlus community: 41; eukaryotic PicoNano community: 36; prokaryotes: 38; *Mimiviridae*:
253 41). These metabarcoding datasets were composed of 5.2 million eukaryotic reads, 3.4 million
254 prokaryotic reads, and 5.7 million *Mimiviridae* reads (Table 1). The subsampled datasets showed
255 similar curve shapes and slopes at 8,000 reads, indicating sufficient sequencing depth for all four
256 communities (Fig. S3).

257 The eukaryotic reads were grouped into 6413 ASVs. Only 1501 ASVs (23.4%) were
258 represented in both NanoPlus (3356 ASVs) and PicoNano (4559 ASVs) datasets, but those ASVs
259 accounted for 97.3% and 90.1% of total reads in the NanoPlus and PicoNano datasets,
260 respectively. The *Mimiviridae* reads were grouped into 6261 ASVs, whilst the prokaryotic reads
261 were grouped into 4478 ASVs. The subsampled datasets also showed relatively low richness for
262 eukaryotes in the NanoPlus size fraction (1486 ASVs) compared with eukaryotes in the
263 PicoNano size fraction (2184 ASVs), prokaryotes (2383 ASVs) and *Mimiviridae* (3693 ASVs).
264 Shannon's diversity fluctuated throughout the sampling period (Fig. S4). The eukaryotic
265 community in the NanoPlus size fraction was less diverse than other communities during most of
266 the sampling period (Table 1, Fig. S4).

267 **Composition of eukaryote, prokaryote, and *Mimiviridae* communities.** Eukaryotic ASVs
268 were classified into 16 groups (from phylum to genus levels) as shown in Figure 1. These 16

269 groups accounted for 98.7% of the eukaryotic reads from the NanoPlus dataset (Fig. 1A). The
270 group with the highest relative read abundance was Metazoa (28.6%, 625 ASVs), followed by
271 Diatomea (25.1%, 234 ASVs) and Dinoflagellata (22.5% including Dinophyceae, 469 ASVs).
272 These three groups accounted for 77.0% of total reads. Each of the other 13 groups accounted for
273 0.06% to 6.6% of total reads. The relative abundance of ASVs of HAB-forming genera and
274 families, namely *Heterosigma*, *Chattonella*, and Kareniaceae, was 0.26%, 2.1%, and 5.8%,
275 respectively (Fig. 1A and Fig. 1B). Each of these groups was dominated by a single ASV; the
276 most abundant ASV in each group accounted for more than 96.1% of the total reads in that group.

277 The 16 selected eukaryotic groups accounted for 88.8% of the eukaryotic reads in the
278 PicoNano dataset. The most abundant groups were “other Alveolata” (Alveolata that were not
279 classified as Dinoflagellata; 17.5%, 1201 ASVs), Metazoa (17.2%, 376 ASVs), and “other
280 Stramenopiles” (Stramenopiles that were not classified as Diatomea or Raphidophyceae, 12.4%,
281 716 ASVs); these three groups accounted for 47.1% of all reads (Fig. 1B). Each of the remaining
282 13 groups contributed from 0.14% to 7.7% of total reads. The HAB-forming groups Kareniaceae,
283 *Chattonella*, and *Heterosigma* accounted for 7.7%, 1.5%, and 0.75% of total reads, respectively.
284 The most abundant ASVs in these three groups contributed more than 88% of their respective
285 groups. Diatomea, Dinophyceae, and Haptophyta contributed 7.3%, 6.4%, and 5.9% of total
286 reads, respectively. All other groups contributed less than 5%. Chlorophytes (including
287 Trebouxiophyceae, Prasinophytiae, Mamiellophyceae, and Tetraselmis) accounted for 7.2% of all
288 reads.

289 Prokaryotic reads were dominated by three phyla (i.e. Proteobacteria, Bacteroidetes, and
290 Cyanobacteria), which represented 89.3% of all prokaryotic reads (Fig. 1D). The most abundant
291 phylum was Proteobacteria (2164 ASVs and 53.6% of total reads), 72.1% of which belonged to

292 Alphaproteobacteria. Bacteroidetes (992 ASVs and 20.4% of total reads) was dominated by
293 Bacteroidia (967 ASVs, 91.4% of Bacteroidetes reads). Cyanobacteria was dominated by
294 Oxyphotobacteria (99.9% of Cyanobacteria reads). Three other phyla (Verrucomicrobiae,
295 Actinobacteria, and Planctomycetes) contributed 4.8%, 3.8%, and 0.5% of total prokaryotic
296 reads, respectively. Overall, these six phyla contributed 98.4% of prokaryotic reads.

297 We classified the 5701 *Mimiviridae* ASVs (of the 6261 total *Mimiviridae* ASVs) into 13
298 clades based on their phylogeny (Fig. S5). The majority of amplicon reads (61.9%) were
299 assigned to clades 6 (518 ASVs, 24.0%), 3 (665 ASVs, 20.7%), and 5 (535 ASVs, 17.2%). The
300 other ten clades contributed from 0.3% to 8.4% of total *Mimiviridae* reads. Six out of the 13
301 *Mimiviridae* clades included previously studied *Mimiviridae* (clades 1, 3, 8, 9, 10, 13) (Fig. S5).
302 Of these six clades, clade 3, which includes Organic lake phycodnavirus 1 and 2 (Zhang *et al.*
303 2015), had the largest number of reads (20.7%). Clade 1 (7.8% of *Mimiviridae* reads) included
304 haptophytes (Prymnesiophyceae) infecting *Mimiviridae* (Santini *et al.* 2013; Gallot-Lavallée *et*
305 *al.* 2015; Johannessen *et al.* 2015). Clade 10 (2.4% of *Mimiviridae* reads) contained the
306 predatory Choanoflagellate infecting virus ChoanoV1 (Needham *et al.* 2019). Each of the other
307 clades (clades 8, 9, 13) with known *Mimiviridae* contributed less than 2% of *Mimiviridae* reads.

308 **Synchronic seasonal changes in microbial communities.** The non-metric
309 multidimensional scaling (NMDS) ordination of the datasets revealed similar seasonal patterns
310 for the four communities (Fig. 2). Datasets from the same month clustered together in the plot,
311 except for June datasets, thereby forming a yearly cycling of community succession. Consistent
312 with this observation, the community dynamics were significantly correlated among the four
313 microbial communities (Mantel test, correlation coefficients >0.75 , $p < 10^{-4}$; Fig. S6). The
314 average Sørensen-Dice dissimilarity between datasets from the same season ranged from 0.58 to

315 0.78 (Fig. 3), while that between datasets from opposite seasons (i.e. winter vs. summer or spring
316 vs. fall) ranged from 0.77 to 0.94), indicative of greater dissimilarity of communities between
317 opposite seasons (Fig. 3). The spring and fall communities differed from each other as much as
318 the summer and winter communities (Fig. 3). The dissimilarities within the same season were
319 significantly lower than those between spring and fall ($p < 10^{-16}$) and between summer and winter
320 ($p < 10^{-16}$). However, dissimilarities between summer and winter communities did not
321 significantly differ from those between spring and fall communities ($p > 0.1$), except that spring
322 vs. fall dissimilarities were higher than summer vs. winter dissimilarities for the prokaryotic
323 community ($p < 10^{-6}$).

324 **Distinct patterns in seasonal dynamics among eukaryote, prokaryote, and**
325 ***Mimiviridae* communities.** The annual cycles of the communities were characterized by plotting
326 the community dissimilarity between samples against the length of time separating the sampling
327 events (Fig. 4A–D). In addition, we calculated the dissimilarities between communities sampled
328 at intervals of approximately 1-month (i.e. 30 ± 10 days; hereafter D30), approximately 6 months
329 (i.e. 182 ± 30 days; D182), and approximately one year (i.e. 365 ± 30 days; D365).

330 The level of these dissimilarity measures (i.e. D30, D182, and D365) was consistent with
331 the yearly cycle pattern observed for the four communities (Fig. 4E–G). D182 was the largest
332 among these measures for all communities (NanoPlus, PicoNano, prokaryotes, *Mimiviridae*), and
333 the levels of D30 and D365 were comparable. However, these measures substantially differed
334 when compared between communities ($p < 10^{-6}$), except for the comparisons between
335 *Mimiviridae* and PicoNano communities for D30 and D365. These measures were the highest for
336 *Mimiviridae* and PicoNano communities, followed by the NanoPlus community. The prokaryotic
337 community showed the lowest dissimilarity values for all measures (i.e. D30, D182, and D365).

338 **Recurrence and persistence of ASVs.** To dissect the dynamics of the eukaryote,
339 prokaryote, and *Mimiviridae* communities, we investigated temporal patterns in the occurrence
340 of individual ASVs. First, we analyzed the temporal pattern of the four most abundant ASVs in
341 each community (Fig. 5). This analysis revealed that the dynamics of the selected prokaryotic
342 ASVs clearly differed from those of other ASVs. The prokaryotic ASVs were characterized by a
343 relatively low maximum relative abundance (<31%), whilst the dynamics of the most abundant
344 ASVs from other communities (i.e. NanoPlus, PicoNano, and *Mimiviridae*) were characterized
345 by sharp peaks in relative abundance (up to 70%) (Fig. 5). The most abundant prokaryotic ASV
346 was assigned to SAR11 (Clade 1a) and showed 10%–30% relative abundance more than 7
347 months from late autumn to early spring (present in 32 samples in total).

348 This result prompted us to further examine recurrence (i.e. number of samples in which
349 an ASV was detected) and persistence (i.e. maximum number of successive samples in which an
350 ASV was detected) of ASVs. In this analysis, we considered all the ASVs with >1% relative
351 abundance in at least one sample. Among the four microbial groups, prokaryotes showed the
352 highest level of ASV recurrence, and *Mimiviridae* showed the lowest (Fig. 6). Similarly,
353 prokaryotes showed longer ASV persistence compared with the other microbe groups (Fig. S7).
354 For instance, three prokaryotic ASVs (of 73 prokaryotic ASVs) were continuously present in
355 more than 19 datasets, while there were no such long-lasting ASVs in the *Mimiviridae* or
356 eukaryote groups.

357 **Discussion**

358 Eukaryotic communities in the study area were dominated by Metazoa, Alveolata, and
359 Stramenopiles. These lineages are commonly found in coastal eukaryotic communities (Chen *et*
360 *al.* 2017; Martin-Platero *et al.* 2018; Gran-Stadniczeňko *et al.* 2019a), although detailed

361 compositions of microbial eukaryote communities in coastal areas vary among different
362 locations (Chen *et al.* 2017; Martin-Platero *et al.* 2018; Gran-Stadniczeňko *et al.* 2019a). A
363 notable feature of the study area is the occurrence of HABs (Fig. 1C), which were detected in our
364 sequence data (Fig. 1A, B). The prokaryotic communities in the Uranouchi Inlet (Fig. 1D) were
365 similar to those reported for other coastal areas, where the communities are mainly composed of
366 Proteobacteria, Bacteroidetes, and Cyanobacteria (Sakami *et al.* 2016; Martin-Platero *et al.* 2018;
367 Santi *et al.* 2019), but different from those in brackish water (Fazi *et al.* 2020) or freshwater
368 (Bock *et al.* 2018), which are dominated by the same phyla, but different classes. Finally, the
369 previously developed metabarcoding method (Prodinger *et al.* 2020) revealed diverse
370 *Mimiviridae* (6261 ASVs, 464.6 ASVs per sample on average) that were grouped into 13 clades
371 (Fig. 1E).

372 All four studied microbial communities, including the community of *Mimiviridae*,
373 showed clear seasonal cycles (Fig. 2). Such seasonal changes in microbial communities have
374 been reported previously for eukaryotes (Giner *et al.* 2019; Gran-Stadniczeňko *et al.* 2019a),
375 bacteria (Ward *et al.* 2017; Chafee *et al.* 2018), large DNA viruses (Sandaa *et al.* 2018; Gran-
376 Stadniczeňko *et al.* 2019b), and smaller viruses (Chow and Fuhrman 2012; Pagarete *et al.* 2013;
377 Ignacio-Espinoza, Ahlgren and Fuhrman 2020). The greatest dissimilarity in communities in our
378 datasets was between communities sampled at 6-month intervals (Fig. 4F), while communities
379 were more similar when compared at approximately 12-month intervals (Fig. 4G), indicating a
380 recovery of community structure after one year. The high dissimilarity between summer and
381 winter datasets was expected, since physicochemical parameters such as temperature are very
382 different between these two seasons. However, for all microbe groups, the microbial
383 communities in spring vs. fall were as dissimilar as the communities in summer vs. winter (Fig.

384 3), even though the differences in water conditions (e.g. temperature, salinity, and nutrient
385 concentrations) were less pronounced between fall and spring than between summer and winter
386 (Fig. S1, S2). We also observed that the community compositions were relatively similar
387 between samples collected in successive months (Fig. 2 and Fig. 4E). These observations suggest
388 that the dynamics of microbial communities cannot be explained solely by changes in abiotic
389 factors, but are governed by a Markovian process in which the current biotic state substantially
390 influences the next biotic state. This pattern is obvious in macro-ecosystems; for example, a
391 forest looks different in spring and autumn even on days with similar weather. Microbial
392 communities with a much higher turnover rate (one to several days) appear to be no exception to
393 this rule. A previous study on oceanic microbial communities suggested that biotic factors (such
394 as the subset of communities) are better predictors of microbial community composition than are
395 abiotic factors (such as geography, nutrient concentration, and temperature) (Lima-Mendez *et al.*
396 2015). This reinforces the classical notion that the sum of biotic and abiotic factors forms the
397 environment that affects individual microorganisms. We suggest that the microbial communities
398 in the Uranouchi Inlet at a given time strongly influence the formation of the next generation of
399 communities. A similar observation and idea has been proposed for post-bloom communities
400 (Needham and Fuhrman 2016).

401 All the studied microbial communities became similar to the original communities after a
402 year, but the recovery level of community structure was far below 100% (i.e. 19% to 44%
403 recovery, Fig. 4). In other words, more than half of the ASVs in the original communities were
404 undetected by deep sequencing one year later. Previous long-term studies on prokaryotic
405 (Fuhrman, Cram and Needham 2015) and viral communities (Chow and Fuhrman 2012; Ignacio-
406 Espinoza, Ahlgren and Fuhrman 2020) detected a similar trend that continued for several years.

407 Therefore, it seems legitimate to postulate that the marine microbial community structure at the
408 ASV level never perfectly recovers over time (Fig. 7A). This implies a significant role of the
409 “invisible” rare biosphere in the formation of a new community structure through their capacity
410 to bring forth new abundant microbes over time (Giner *et al.* 2019; Ignacio-Espinoza, Ahlgren
411 and Fuhrman 2020). The rare biosphere may be undetectable, even with state-of-the-art
412 metabarcoding approaches as used in this study. The technical limitations in uncovering the rare
413 biosphere combined with its capacity to substantially replace abundant populations may explain
414 why microbes cannot completely recover their community structure, although migration and
415 evolution could also have effects. Interestingly, Furman et al. found that the dissimilarity of
416 bacterial community structure increased during the first four years of analysis (Fuhrman, Cram
417 and Needham 2015). After this period, the dissimilarity level still fluctuated (according to
418 seasonal dynamics) but its basal level remained constant (Fuhrman, Cram and Needham 2015).
419 This and our observations suggest the existence of a “memory” (or a historical trace) of the
420 original community structure that influences the structures of successive communities only for a
421 short time period (one to a few years) (Fig. 7A).

422 Although a pattern of annual cycling and partial recovery after a year was commonly
423 observed for the four microbial communities in this study, the degree and speed of changes in the
424 community structure showed intriguing differences among the communities (Fig. 4). A
425 schematic diagram in Fig. 7B illustrates the conceptual and qualitative differences in the
426 observed community dynamics among eukaryotes, prokaryotes, and *Mimiviridae* (Fig. 7B). The
427 D182 and D365 values were highest for *Mimiviridae* and lowest for prokaryotes. Thus, in terms
428 of “memory” of community structure, *Mimiviridae* have the shortest memory, eukaryotes have
429 medium memory, and prokaryotes have the longest memory. The rapid change and a low level of

430 recovery after one year for the *Mimiviridae* community contrasts with the result from a previous
431 study on the seasonal changes of small viruses (i.e. mostly bacterial viruses), which detected
432 strong stability of the small virus community, with 95% of viral contigs present in all samples
433 (Ignacio-Espinoza, Ahlgren and Fuhrman 2020). In the Uranouchi Inlet, the prokaryotic
434 community changed slowly and showed the highest level of recovery after a year. The distinct
435 community dynamics between prokaryotes and eukaryotes in the Uranouchi Inlet is consistent
436 with a previous study conducted on a shorter time scale (Martin-Platero *et al.* 2018); they found
437 prokaryotic communities to be more stable and to change more slowly than eukaryotic
438 communities.

439 To dissect the differences in the community dynamics, we analyzed the recurrence and
440 persistence of ASVs among eukaryote, *Mimiviridae*, and prokaryote communities. The
441 recurrence and persistence levels of ASVs (Fig. 6, Fig. S7) and the relative abundance of
442 abundant ASVs (Fig. 5) differed among the microbial groups. Overall, *Mimiviridae* ASVs
443 showed lower recurrence and persistence levels than eukaryotic ASVs. In contrast, prokaryotic
444 ASVs showed higher recurrence and persistence levels than eukaryotic ASVs. The abundant
445 *Mimiviridae* ASVs were found only in a few samples but they had high relative abundance
446 (21.1%–71.3%). In contrast, the abundant prokaryotic ASVs were dominant throughout much of
447 the year, whilst their maximum relative abundance was lower (<30%) than that of dominant
448 ASVs in other microbial groups (Fig. 5). The pattern of eukaryotic ASVs occurrence was
449 between these extremes. The four most abundant ASVs in the PicoNano and the NanoPlus
450 groups had high relative abundance (23.5%–90.3%) but were present in more samples than were
451 the most abundant *Mimiviridae* ASVs (Fig. 5). Therefore, the systematic differences in the

452 recurrence/persistence levels of individual ASVs are consistent with the differences in the
453 dynamics at the community level.

454 The differences in the community and ASV dynamics among eukaryotes, *Mimiviridae*,
455 and prokaryotes may result from the limitations of metabarcoding. It is worth noting that ASVs
456 may have different resolutions across microbial groups. For instance, the result that bacterial
457 ASVs showed longer persistence than eukaryote and *Mimiviridae* ASVs may be because their
458 resolution was lower. However, if we assume that this is the case, the comparatively high
459 abundance peaks for the major eukaryotic and *Mimiviridae* ASVs become difficult to
460 compromise, because their resolution was assumed to be higher than that of bacterial ASVs.
461 Thus, the differences in the ASV community dynamics likely reflect some essential features of
462 the dynamics of the populations belonging to the respective microbial communities. In the
463 following paragraph, we attempt to explain these differences in light of the possible ecological
464 strategies of individual populations within those communities.

465 The population dynamics of microbes largely depend on resource availability and their
466 survival strategies, which have historically been classified into “*r*” and “*K*” strategies. The
467 original interpretation of *r/K* selection theory states that organisms maximize their fitness
468 through either high reproduction rates (high *r*), or the ability to constantly exist in relatively high
469 numbers (high carrying capacity, *K*) (Andrews and Harris 1986). In microbial ecology, the *r/K*
470 nomenclature has often been used more qualitatively (Andrews and Harris 1986). That is, “*r*-
471 strategists” are specialized to rapidly consume resources and reproduce quickly (Andrews and
472 Harris 1986) so that they thrive through an influx of nutrients (Santi *et al.* 2019). In contrast, *K*-
473 strategists adapt to a stable environment with limited resources (Andrews and Harris 1986). They

474 tend to show slow growth rates and their population dynamics are more stable than those of *r*-
475 strategists (Endo, Ogata and Suzuki 2018).

476 In our study, several of the major eukaryotic ASVs were present over a long period of
477 time (i.e. the *Skeletonema* sp. ASV, the *Oithona davisae* ASV and the Dinoflagellata ASV; Fig.
478 5), reminiscent of *K*-strategists. The Dinoflagellata ASV in the NanoPlus fraction was abundant
479 throughout several months in spring during oligotrophic conditions. The *Oithona davisae* ASV
480 (a copepod preying on plankton) was present throughout the year with no pronounced peak in its
481 relative abundance. In contrast, other abundant ASVs (e.g. the Symbiodinium ASV) and those
482 assigned to HAB species (e.g. the *Chattonella* spp. ASVs, the *K. mikimotoi* ASVs, and the *H.*
483 *akashii* ASVs; Fig. 1A and B) emerged only occasionally but with a high relative abundance
484 (>20%). The dynamics of the HAB ASVs were consistent with their cell counts (Fig. 1C). They
485 formed blooms only during the months with high nutrient availability (Fig. S1, Fig. S2). This
486 ecological characteristic is typical of *r*-strategists (Andrews and Harris 1986; Endo, Ogata and
487 Suzuki 2018).

488 The majority of *Mimiviridae* ASVs showed low persistence and occasional high peaks in
489 relative abundance. The most abundant *Mimiviridae* ASVs occurred only in a few samples but
490 had high relative abundance of over 70% (Fig. 5). These dynamics are reminiscent of *r*-
491 strategists that show a rapid boom and bust appearance. The lower recurrence and persistence of
492 *Mimiviridae* ASVs than eukaryote ASVs likely originate in the fact that the presence of viruses
493 depends on the presence of their hosts, not vice versa. Furthermore, the possible existence of
494 multiple *Mimiviridae* that compete for the same eukaryotic host species (Baudoux and Brussaard
495 2005) may lead to the *r*-strategist like feature in the dynamics of *Mimiviridae* ASVs.

496 A recent study suggested that *Mimiviridae* that infect *K*-strategist eukaryotes have long
497 infection and latent periods to maximize the chance of vertical transmission, since the chances of
498 horizontal transmissions are low due to the low host density (Blanc-Mathieu *et al.* 2020). Viruses
499 of *K*-strategist eukaryotes are more likely to exist inside the host cell (i.e. a long latent period),
500 while viruses of *r*-strategist eukaryotes are more likely to be found outside their host (i.e. they
501 show higher virulence and tend to produce virions more quickly) (Blanc-Mathieu *et al.* 2020).
502 The size fraction we used for the detection of viral sequences (0.2–0.8 μm) may be enriched in
503 free virions, which might have led to the preferential detection of *r*-strategist *Mimiviridae*. A few
504 *Mimiviridae* ASVs showed a relatively long persistence (occurrence in more than ten continuous
505 samples) (Fig. S6) or a high recurrence level (Fig. 6). Investigation of active *Mimiviridae* (e.g. by
506 RNA-Seq from the PicoNano and NanoPlus fractions) may reveal *Mimiviridae* ASVs showing
507 *K*-strategist dynamics.

508 The most abundant prokaryotic ASVs had comparatively low relative abundances (Fig. 5),
509 but were found in many samples (Fig. 6). The most abundant prokaryotic ASV belonged to
510 SAR11, which is a *K*-strategist characterized by its ubiquitous presence in the ocean and low
511 maximum growth rate (Suttle 2007; Giovannoni 2017). As expected, this ASV was abundant
512 during months with low nutrient availability with no pronounced sharp peaks in abundance.
513 Several bacterial genera are known to be *r*-strategists (e.g. *Ulvibacter*, *Formosa*, and
514 *Polaribacter*) (Teeling *et al.* 2012, 2016; Needham and Fuhrman 2016), but they were not highly
515 represented in our dataset. In this study, prokaryotic communities were more stable than were
516 eukaryotic and *Mimiviridae* communities. Heterotrophic prokaryotes depend on organic
517 substrates especially from eukaryotes, but their interactions are mostly indirect and less specific
518 compared with the specificity of *Mimiviridae*-eukaryote interactions. Overall, the distinct

519 community dynamics among eukaryotes, *Mimiviridae*, and prokaryotes revealed in our study
520 may be due to the differences in specificity of interactions as well as the prevalence of *r* vs. *K*
521 strategies among these microbial groups.

522 In summary, our study revealed synchronic seasonal cycles for eukaryote, *Mimiviridae*,
523 and prokaryote communities in the Uranouchi Inlet. The seasonality could not be explained
524 solely by abiotic factors and is suggested to be shaped through a Markovian process of
525 successive communities under the influence of abiotic factors. Despite their synchronized
526 community dynamics, we discovered intriguing differences in the dynamics in several aspects,
527 including the length of “community memory” among eukaryotes, *Mimiviridae*, and prokaryotes.
528 These differences at the community level were consistent with the recurrence and persistence of
529 individual ASVs in the respective communities. Therefore, the distinct community dynamics
530 among eukaryotes, *Mimiviridae*, and prokaryotes likely originate in systematic differences in the
531 specificity of interactions (i.e. virus-eukaryote vs prokaryote-eukaryote) as well as the dominant
532 survival strategies across the studied microbial groups. Overall, our results provide an important
533 step towards mechanistically understanding the community dynamics of microorganisms in light
534 of ecological strategies of individual microorganisms.
535

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537 F.P. performed experiments, bioinformatics analyses, and wrote the initial manuscript.
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553 The authors declare no conflict of interest.

554

555 **Data availability**

556 The raw sequencing data of this study have been deposited in the DNA database of Japan
557 (accession number DRA010976). The environmental data and cell count data are available in the

558 Microsoft Excel file (dataset S1). The amplicon data analysis pipelines for eukaryotes,
559 prokaryotes, and *Mimiviridae* have been deposited online and are available for download
560 (www.github.com/FlorianProdinge/pipeline_18S,
561 www.github.com/FlorianProdinge/pipeline_16S, www.github.com/FlorianProdinge/MAPS2,
562 17 February 2021, date last accessed).

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707

| | Raw reads | Reads | Richness all reads | Richness per samples subsampling | Average richness subsampling |
|--------------------|------------|-----------|-----------------------|--|------------------------------------|
| NanoPlus | 3 613 399 | 3 001 267 | 3356 | 52 – 253 | 120 ± 51 |
| PicoNano | 2 692 119 | 2 180 138 | 4559 | 115 – 410 | 278 ± 68 |
| Prokaryotes | 4 044 427 | 3 427 158 | 4478 | 141 – 415 | 275 ± 57 |
| Mimiviridae | 45 106 746 | 5 712 580 | 6261 | 108 – 394 | 246 ± 72 |

708

709

710 Table 1: Summary of generated datasets. The table contains read and ASV numbers for all
711 datasets with >8000 reads. Singletons and unassigned ASVs were removed from datasets.
712 Average richness is shown with one standard deviation.

713

714 Figure 1: Relative abundance of different eukaryotic lineages, prokaryotic phyla, and viral clades.
715 Bar plots show relative read percentages of generated sequencing data for eukaryotic lineages of
716 (A) NanoPlus and (B) PicoNano size fraction, and (C) daily cell count of HAB species. (D)
717 Relative abundance of prokaryotic phyla. (E) Relative abundance of *Mimiviridae*. Colors in the
718 background represent seasons (blue: winter, green: spring, red: summer, and yellow: fall).

719

720 Figure 2: NMDS ordination of different communities. Strong seasonality for every community
721 was detected at station “j”. Samples clustered together according to sampling months. Different
722 colors show different months, shapes represent years. Stress of the NMDS was between 0.09 and
723 0.13 (prokaryotic NMDS: 0.09, PicoNano NMDS: 0.11, NanoPlus NMDS: 0.13, *Mimiviridae*
724 NMDS: 0.11).

725

726 Figure 3: Dissimilarity metrics according to seasons. Violin plot shows dissimilarities of samples
727 collected in opposite seasons (i.e., summer vs. winter or spring vs. fall). Communities were
728 equally dissimilar between spring and fall as between summer and winter. Average Sørensen-
729 Dice dissimilarity was lower between datasets from the same season (PicoNano: 0.72 ± 0.08 ,
730 NanoPlus: 0.78 ± 0.06 , Prokaryotes: 0.58 ± 0.09 , and *Mimiviridae*: 0.78 ± 0.11 ; average
731 dissimilarity ± 1 standard deviation) than between datasets from opposite seasons (PicoNano:
732 0.83 ± 0.04 , NanoPlus: 0.89 ± 0.04 , Prokaryotes: 0.77 ± 0.09 , and *Mimiviridae*: 0.94 ± 0.03).

733

734 Figure 4: Sørensen-Dice dissimilarity metrics for the four different communities. (A–D) Dot
735 plots showing pairwise dissimilarities of all samples plotted against sampling interval (days). (E–
736 F) Boxplots showing dissimilarity and average dissimilarity of the four communities at three
737 different time points.

738

739 Figure 5: Four most abundant ASVs of the subsampled datasets of each microbe-group and their
740 taxonomic assignment. Eukaryotes are plotted in green and blue, prokaryotes in red, and
741 *Mimiviridae* in purple. Eukaryotes are plotted in blue if their ASV was one of the four most
742 abundant ASVs in both size fractions.

743

744 Figure 6: Recurrence of abundant ASVs. Line plots show number of samples in which abundant
745 ASVs were present (i.e., recurrence). (A) Percentage of abundant ASVs and how often they were
746 found. (B) Recurrence as indicated by absolute number of abundant ASVs and number of
747 samples in which they were present. Most *Mimiviridae* ASVs were found in fewer than ten
748 samples, while roughly half of all eukaryotic ASVs were found in fewer than ten samples. Most
749 prokaryotic ASVs were found in more than half of all samples. An ASV was considered
750 abundant if it generated at least 1% relative reads in one sample.

751

752 Figure 7: Schematic, visual representation of community memory model. (A) Seasonally
753 dependent dissimilarity of one community over a longer sampling period with seasonal
754 fluctuations (dark cyan) and fading community memory (grey). (B) Line plots showing changes
755 in community dissimilarity over the short period represented in our datasets. *Mimiviridae*

756 communities (purple) were more dissimilar than were eukaryote (green) and prokaryote (red)
757 communities.

758

759

760 Fig. S1: Cell counts, biotic, and abiotic data collected over 6 years. Blue dotted lines indicate
761 sampling period during which amplicon sequencing was performed.

762

763 Fig. S2: Monthly and seasonal summary of cell counts, biotic, and abiotic data. (A–L) Boxplots
764 showing monthly and seasonal biotic and abiotic data. (M) Bar plot showing monthly sum of
765 daily cell counts throughout 6 years.

766

767 Fig. S3: Rarefaction curves of all samples. (A) Rarefaction curves for subsampled datasets. (B)
768 Rarefaction curves for data without subsampling.

769

770 Fig. S4: Visualization of different diversity indices across all datasets subsampled at 8000 reads.
771 (A) Shannon's diversity index; (B) Richness of different communities; (C) Pielou's evenness
772 index.

773

774 Fig. S5: Phylogenetic tree with *Mimiviridae* ASV placements. Names of leaves correspond to
775 known reference *Mimiviridae*. Unnamed leaves are PolB amino acid sequences assembled from
776 metagenomic data. Red dots indicate placement of sequences generated from *Mimiviridae* PolB
777 amplicon sequencing.

778

779 Fig. S6: Correlations of dissimilarity between different communities. All communities are
780 statistically significantly correlated with each other ($p < 10^{-4}$).

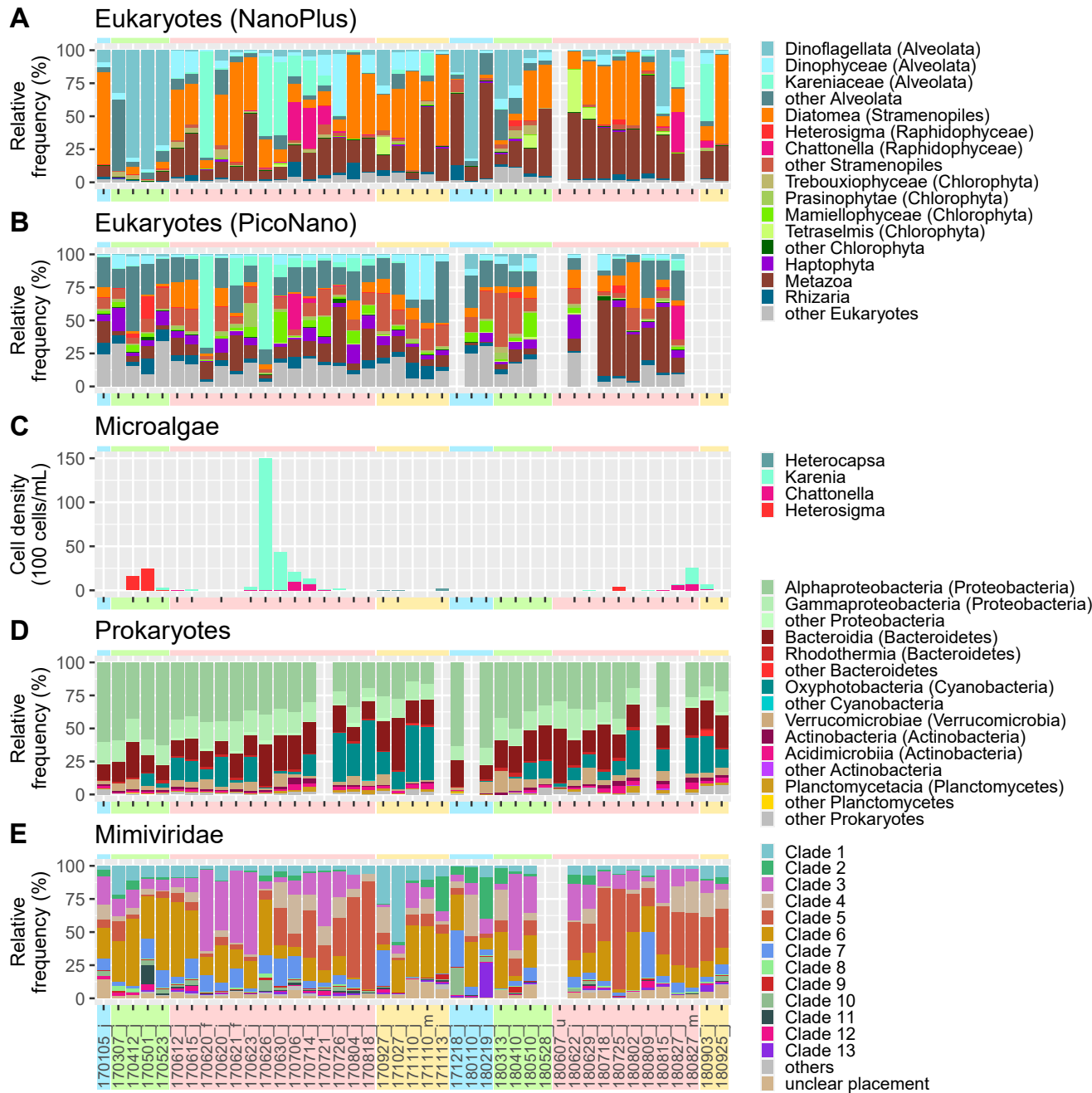
781

782 Fig. S7: Persistence of abundant ASVs in different microbial communities. (A) Percentage of
783 abundant ASVs that were persistent (i.e., continually found in a series of samples). (B) Absolute
784 number of abundant ASVs and their persistence.

785

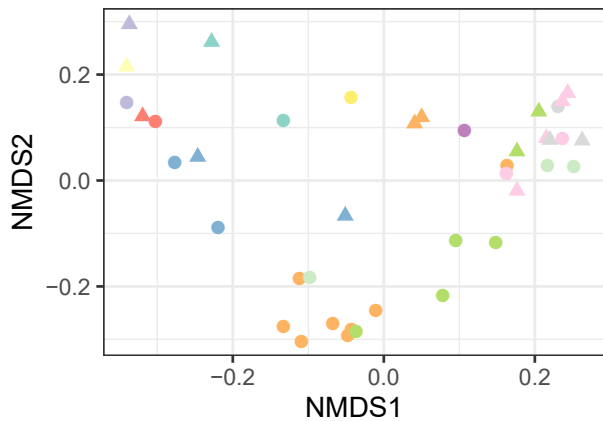
786 Dataset S1: Microsoft Excel file contains environmental data and cell count data obtained from
787 the Kochi Prefectural Fisheries Research Institute.

788



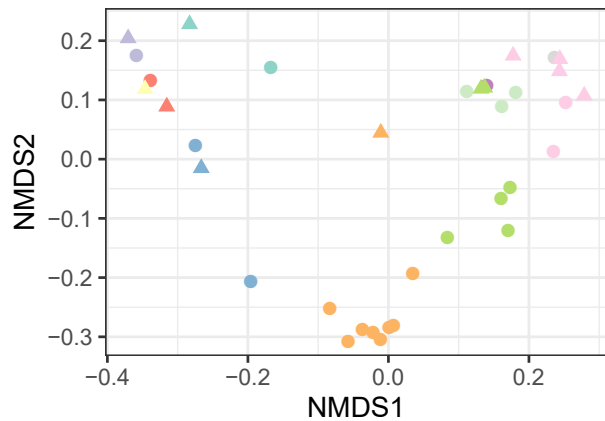
A

Eukaryotes (NanoPlus)



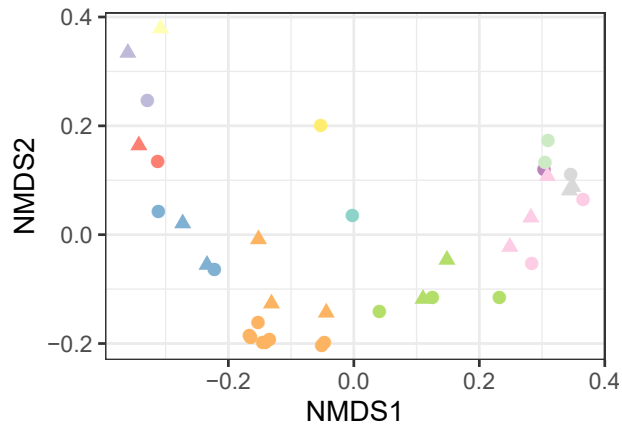
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Eukaryotes (PicoNano)



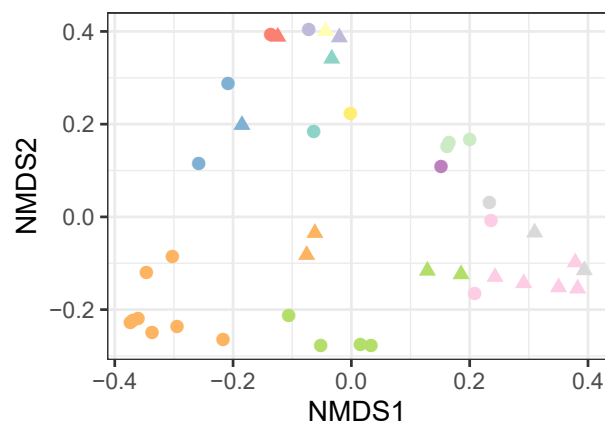
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Prokaryotes



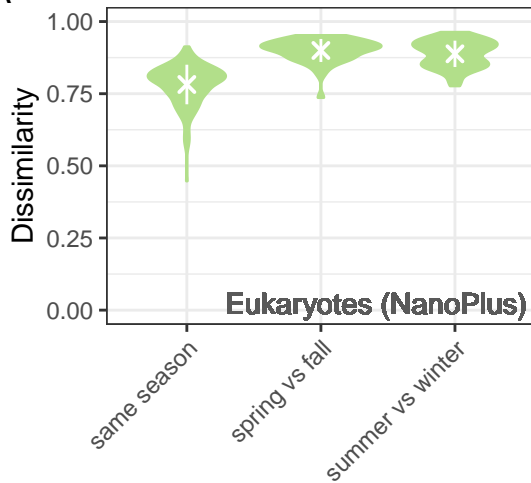
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Mimiviridae

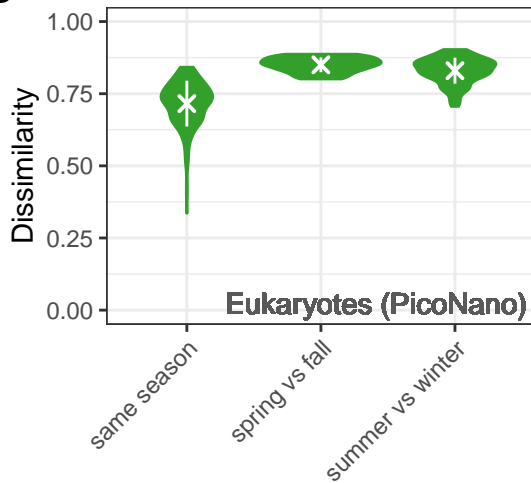


| | | |
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| year | ● 2017 | ▲ 2018 |
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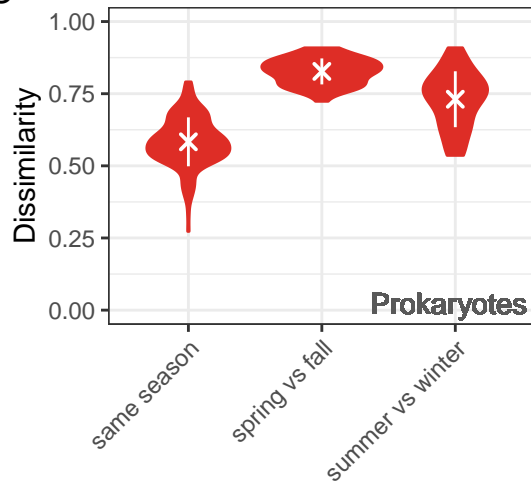
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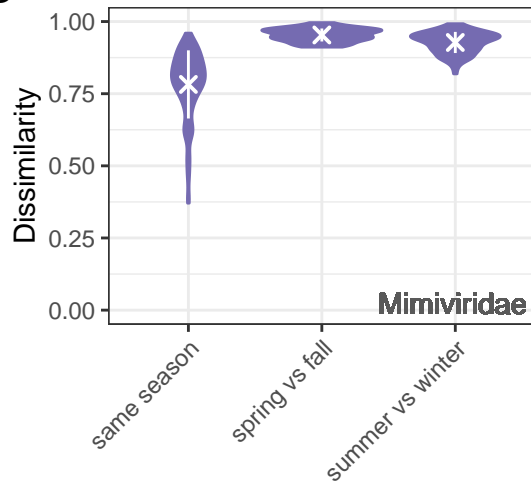
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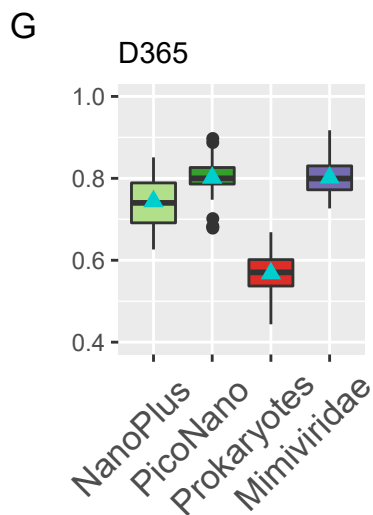
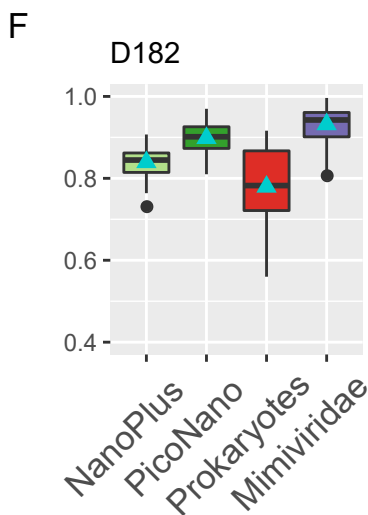
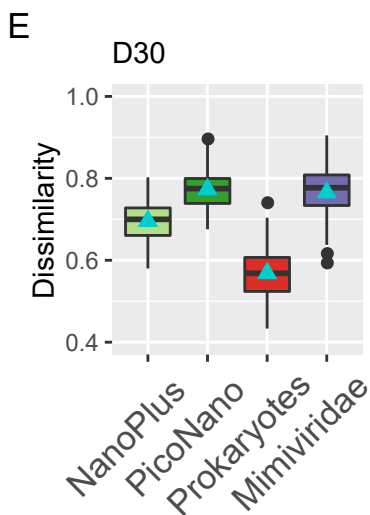
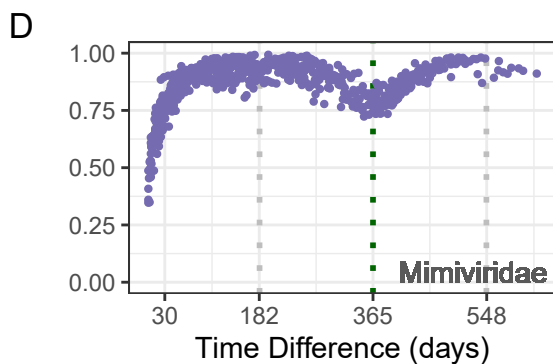
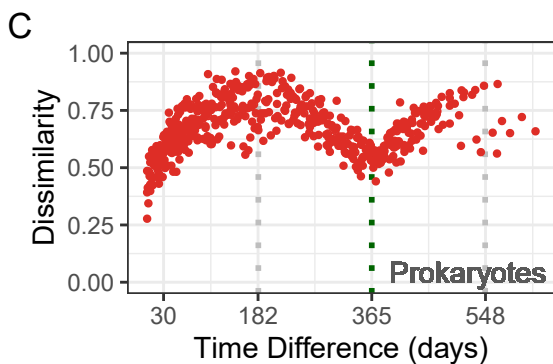
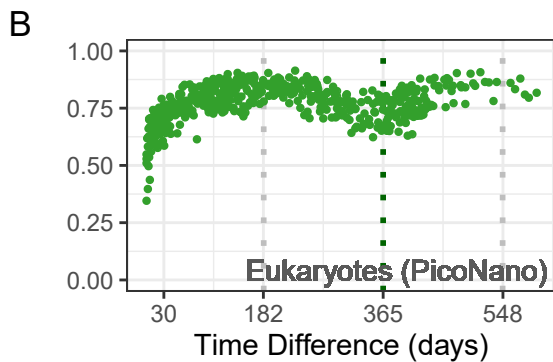
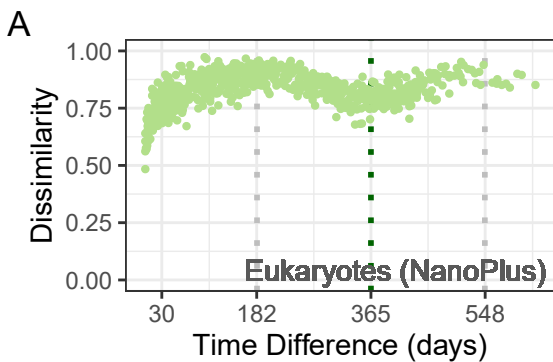


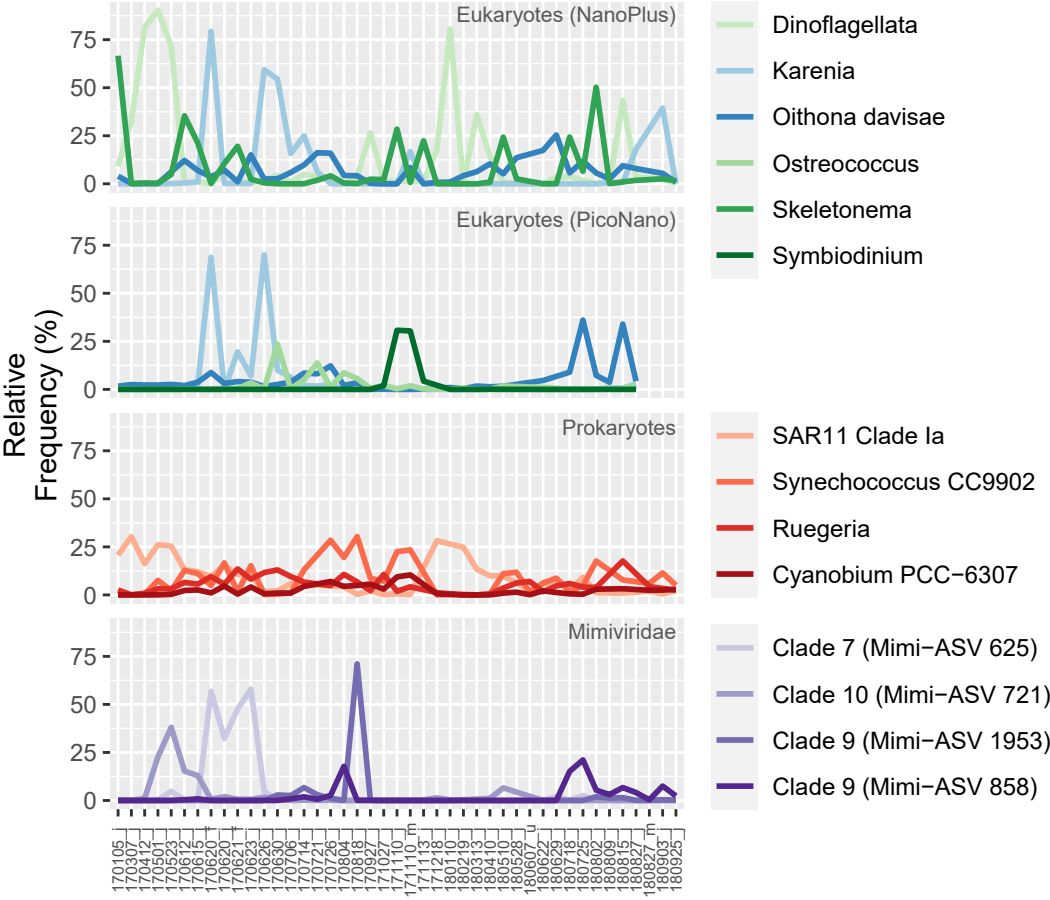
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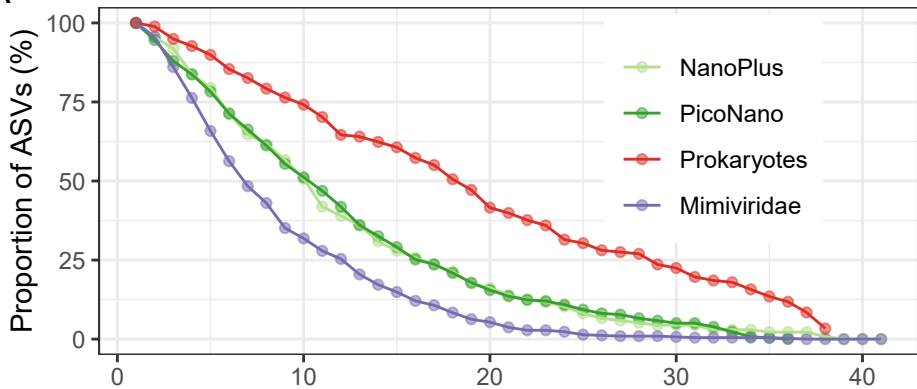
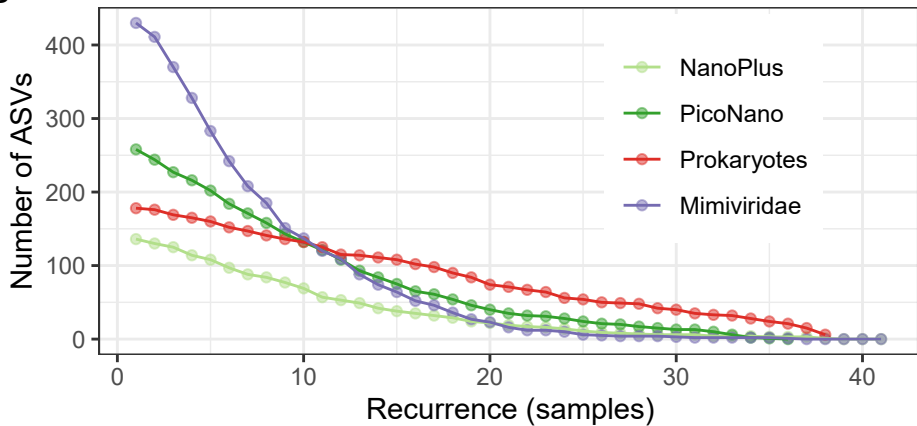


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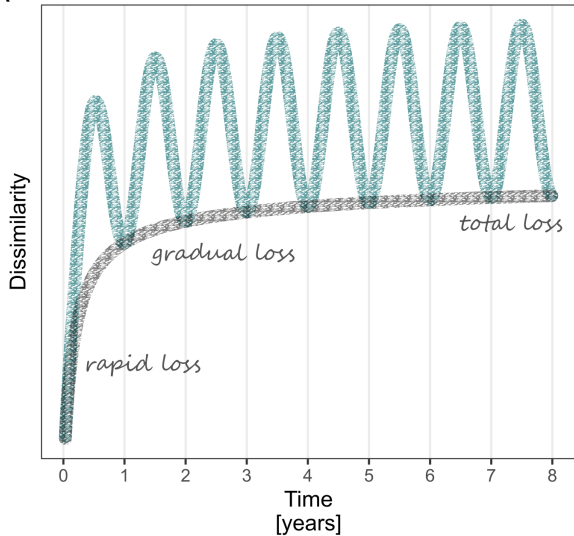






A**B**

A



B

