Important declarations

Please remove this info from manuscript text if it is also present there.

Associated Data

New DNA/RNA/peptide etc. sequences were reported.
Sequences supplied by author here:
All raw sequences generated are available at GeneBank BioProject PRJNA705156 (BioSample ITS accession SAMN18070760; BioSample 16S accession SAMN18070761). Full data of metabolome feature-based molecular networking can be accessed here:
https://massive.ucsd.edu/ProteoSAFe/dataset.jsp?accession=MSV000087545

Data supplied by the author:
Code and processed data are available at GitLab:
https://gitlab.com/lauasuar/archaean-domes-repository

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Diversity of an uncommon elastic hypersaline microbial mat along a small-scale transect

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We evaluated the microbial diversity and metabolome profile of an uncommon hypersaline elastic microbial mat from Cuatro Ciénegas Basin (CCB) in the Chihuahuan Desert of Coahuila, México. We collected ten samples on a small scale transect (1.5-meters) and described its microbial diversity through NGS-based ITS and 16S rDNA gene sequencing. A very low number of taxa comprised a considerable proportion of the mat and were shared across all sampling points, whereas the rare biosphere was more phylogenetically diverse (Faith's Phylogenetic Diversity (FPD) index) and phylogenetically disperse (using a null model distribution of Phylogenetic Species Clustering (nmdPSC)) than the abundant (high read count) taxa for both analyzed libraries. We also found a distinctive metabolome profile for each sample and were able to tentatively annotate several classes of compounds with relevant biological properties.

Title

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Abstract

We evaluated the microbial diversity and metabolome profile of an uncommon hypersaline elastic microbial mat from Cuatro Ciénegas Basin (CCB) in the Chihuahuan Desert of Coahuila, México. We collected ten samples on a small scale transect (1.5-meters) and described its microbial diversity through NGS-based ITS and 16S rDNA gene sequencing. A very low number of taxa comprised a considerable proportion of the mat and were shared across all sampling points, whereas the rare biosphere was more phylogenetically diverse (Faith's Phylogenetic Diversity (FPD) index) and phylogenetically disperse (using a null model distribution of Phylogenetic Species Clustering (nmdPSC)) than the abundant (high read count) taxa for both analyzed libraries. We also found a distinctive metabolome profile for each sample and were able to tentatively annotate several classes of compounds with relevant biological properties.

Introduction

Microbial mats are tightly interacting communities, usually self-sustaining, that are horizontally stratified with multilayered biofilms embedded in a matrix of exopolysaccharides and inorganic substances that bind cells together (Bolhuis et al., 2014; Prieto-Barajas et al., 2018; Stolz, 2000). These stratified structures, as well as stromatolites, are the oldest communities found in the fossil record, informing our understanding of ancient metabolic interactions (Gutiérrez-Preciado et al., 2018; Nutman et al., 2016).

Although modern microbial mats and stromatolites are geographically widespread (Gerdes, 2010), their distribution is restricted to extreme environmental conditions where multicellular algae and grazing organisms cannot grow (Bebout et al., 2002). One such site, with a high diversity of microbial mats and stromatolites, is the desert oasis of the Cuatro Ciénegas Basin (CCB), found in the Chihuahuan Desert of the state of Coahuila in northern México. This small site (150,000 km^2) is extremely biodiverse – in particular for microbes (Souza, Eguiarte, et al., 2018) – and is considered of international importance by the RAMSAR convention (www.ramsar.org). CCB is characterized by an imbalanced stoichiometry (i.e., very low concentration of

phosphorus) (Elser et al., 2005, 2006; Papineau, 2010; Planavsky et al., 2010), which

appears to be a strong selective pressure driving microbial lineages to adapt locally

(e.g. the reported *Bacillus coahuilensis* genes involved in phosphorous utilization

efficiency (Alcaraz et al. 2008)). The uniqueness of microbial life in CCB -- deemed as

an "Astrobiological Precambrian Park" (Souza et al., 2012) – resides, in the presence of

taxa related to marine lineages (Rebollar et al., 2012; Souza et al., 2006; Souza,

Eguiarte, et al., 2018), rich prokaryotic communities (López-Lozano et al., 2013; Pajares

et al., 2012, 2013; Souza, Olmedo-Álvarez, et al., 2018) , and diverse fungal (Velez et

al., 2016) and viral communities (Taboada et al., 2018), as well as a high microbial

diversity within the microbial mats and stromatolites (Bonilla-Rosso et al., 2012; de

Anda et al., 2018; Peimbert et al., 2012).

In March 2016, we discovered an outermost elastic layer microbial mat in CCB, which

enables the formation of dome-like structures under wet conditions (Fig. 1).

The internal microbial layer, insulated by an outer aerobic community, thrives under an

anaerobic environment, rich in methane, hydrogen sulfide, and small volatile

hydrocarbons that recreate the atmosphere of the Archaean Eon, hence we named

these mats "Archaean Domes" (Medina-Chávez et al., 2020). Similar types of elastic

mats have previously been described in marine tidal zones, although their formation is

relatively rare (Gerdes et al., 1993).

Microbial mats are ideal systems for the study of microbial community structure under

extreme conditions (Paerl & Yannarell, 2010; Prieto-Barajas et al., 2018). In this sense,

there are approaches that can improve our understanding of microbial mat

communities, such as determining the phylogenetic diversity of communities under

extreme environmental conditions where, for example, abiotic filtering and competitive

exclusion have been reported as drivers of phylogenetic clustering (Goberna et al.,

2014;); another possible approach is to describe microbial subcommunities, e.g. those

of rare taxa, a less-studied topic than the whole community (Liu et al., 2019) but

nevertheless important to explore (Jia et al., 2018); other form is to analyze the

metabolome of communities, which is one of the functional expressions of diversity and

an underexplored aspect of microbial communities that can help complete our

understanding of the observed diversity.

The investigation of microbial mats has gained special relevance in recent years with
regards to the interpretation of structuring processes in microbial communities.
However, hypersaline elastic mats remain poorly studied, limiting our understanding of
microbial diversity and functioning under extreme environmental conditions (e.g. high
salinity concentrations, elevated evaporation and frequent desiccation cycles). In this
study, we evaluated microbial diversity and metabolome profile within this elastic
hypersaline microbial mat from CCB, across ten samples collected on a 1.5-meter
transect. Specifically, we aimed: 1) to explore microbial diversity by analyzing amplicons
of the 16S rDNA and ITS regions, 2) to determine whether rare (low read count) and
abundant (high read count) taxa are phylogenetically structured; and 3) to evaluate
microbial metabolome.
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102 **Materials & Methods**
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Sampling site and sample collection
During the dry season (i.e. most of the year at CCB; Montiel-González et al., 2018), the
microbial mats of the Archaean Domes remain humid under a salty crust, which is then
dissolved during the rainy season, allowing for the development of the dome-like
structures.
The microbial mats of the Archaean Domes were sampled during the rainy season of
2018 (October), with ten evenly spaced samples (S1-S10) along a 1.5-meter transect,
from border toward center, (26º 49' 41.7" N 102º 01' 28.7" W) in the 'Pozas Azules'
ranch of Pronatura Noroeste within CCB (Fig. 1). Microbial mats were collected and
transferred to sterile conical tubes (50 mL), stored at 4ºC, and subsequently frozen in
liquid nitrogen until processing in the laboratory. Sampling was under the collection
permit SGPA/DGVS/03188/20 issued by Subsecretaría de Gestión para la protección
Ambiental, Dirección General de Vida Silvestre.
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Total DNA extraction and amplicons sequencing

Prior to DNA extraction, approximately 0.5 g of each mat sample was rinsed with sterile

water, removing associated sediments. Total DNA extraction was performed following

the protocol reported in de Anda et al. (2018).

DNA was sequenced at the Laboratorio de Servicios Genómicos, LANGEBIO

(http://langebio.cinvestav.mx/labsergen/) for the V3 region of the 16S rDNA gene (357F

universal primer 5'-CTCCTACGGGAGGCAGCAG-3' / 519R universal primer 5'-

GWATTACCGCGGCKGCTG-3'; (Lane 1991), and the ITS DNA region (ITS1F 5'-

TCCGTAGGTGAACCTGCGG- 3' / ITS4R 5'-TCCTCCGCTTATTGATATGC-3' for ITS;

(White et al., 1990). For each sample**,** 3 ug of genomic DNA (DO 260/280 1.8) was

used; 16S amplicons were sequenced within Illumina Next-Seq 500 platform (2x150 PE,

using forward reads; reverse reads were discarded from the analysis due to low quality),

and the ITS amplicons were sequenced with a Mi-Seq platform (2x300 PE).

Bioinformatics analyses

The 16S rDNA amplicon reads were quality filtered and dereplicated using the QIIME 2

bioinformatics platform version 2019.7 (Bolyen et al., 2018). Divisive Amplicon

Denoising Algorithm 2 (dada2) denoise-single was used; sequences were

demultiplexed and truncated at the 20th bp from the left, and the 120th bp from the right.

ASVs were then taxonomically classified using the silva_132_99_v3v4_q2_2019-7

database. For all diversity analyses the final ASV table was rarefied to 760,000 reads

per sample.

The ITS amplicon reads were processed using the ITS-specific workflow of the *dada2*

v1.13.1 package (Callahan et al., 2016) in R (R Core Team, 2020). Briefly, *cutadapt*

was used to remove primer and adapter contamination from the raw reads (Martin,

2011). Prior to determining ASVs, reads with inconsistent bases were excluded, and

reads were required to have less than two expected errors based on their quality

scores. ASVs classification was inferred from forward and reverse reads using the run-

specific error rates.

Due to the wide range of sizes of the ITS amplicons reported for fungal species in CCB

(485-782 bp; (Velez et al., 2016)), two different strategies were implemented to define

taxonomic diversity. First, the post-denoised ASVs were merged after excluding reads

with an overlap of less than 12bp and reads with mismatches in the overlapping region.

Chimeras were removed using the consensus method of "removeBimeraDenovo"

implemented in dada2. The taxonomic assignment was performed with the UNITE

database (Nilsson et al., 2019), using the RDP naive Bayesian classifier (Wang et al.,

2007) available in the *dada2* package with a minimum bootstrap value of 80. ASVs with

a minimum of 85% identity and with E-values lower than e-45 were retained (Merge ITS

data: Suppl. Table 1). ASVs without taxonomic assignment (mostly non-fungi

organisms) were classified using *blastn* (non-redundant nucleotide collection (nr/nt)

database) (Altschul et al., 1990), where only those ASVs within identities greater than

90% were enlisted (Suppl. Table 2). The remaining ASVs were considered non-

classified.

As a great proportion of the reads failed to merge (~56%), a parallel classification was

implemented. The RDP naïve Bayesian classifier was used on the two sets of reads

(forward and reverse) to check for congruence in the classification between the ASVs.

ASVs that had an assignment bootstrap value lower than 50, or showed inconsistent

classifications among forward and reverse reads, were aligned to the NCBI database

(non-redundant nucleotide collection (nr/nt) database), to corroborate their taxonomic

assignment. A more robust classification of ASVs was reached when using forward

ASVs, thus all subsequent analyses were performed using the Forward-Only ASVs;

even though some ASVs reached a genus level assignment, the taxonomic

classification of forward reads was limited to the phylum and kingdom level (ITS table

on Suppl. Table 3 and Suppl. Table 4); the Eukaryotic classification followed the UNITE

database. The ITS community composition table (Forward-Only data) was rarefied to

164,820 reads using the *vegan* package (Oksanen et al., 2013) in R (R Core Team,

2020).

In sum, the filtered 16S rDNA amplicon sequences included 760,326–1,973,982 high

quality reads per sample, with a total of 6,063 ASVs (Suppl. Table 5). The filtered ITS

amplicon sequences included 164,822–339,394 high quality reads per sample, with a

total of 923 ASVs (Suppl. Table 4). ITS amplicons were obtained for only six samples

(S1, S2, S3, S4, S6 and S7) due to low DNA amount that remained in four samples (S5,

S8, S9 and S10), after 16S rDNA amplicon sequencing.

Alpha and beta diversity estimates

To evaluate all samples from 16S (S1-S10) and 6 samples (S1-S4, S6, S7) from the

Forward-Only ITS data, we generated rarefied diversity plots using the *vegan* package

(Oksanen et al., 2013) in R (R Core Team 2020).

In order to visualize and count the number of overlapping ASVs within the ten samples

from the 16S rDNA gene and the six samples from the ITS region, we constructed an

UpSet plot using the *UpSetR* package (Conway et al., 2017) in R (R Core Team 2020).

Alpha diversity (Shannon index) and beta diversity (Bray-Curtis, Jaccard distances)

were estimated using the 16S rDNA ASV community composition table (Suppl. Table

5), as implemented in Qiime2. For the Forward-Only ITS ASV community composition

table (Suppl. Table 4), alpha and beta diversity were estimated with the *phyloseq*

package (McMurdie & Holmes, 2013) in R (R Core Team, 2020). The beta diversity

distance matrix was used to construct an UPGMA dendrogram of samples (Carteron et

al., 2012). Mantel tests (999 permutations) (Legendre & Legendre, 2012) were

conducted with the *vegan* package (Oksanen et al., 2013) to unveil the relationships

between beta diversity and geographic distance, as well as between beta diversity and

the metabolomic profile distance matrix (see below).

Phylogenetic diversity

We estimated phylogenetic diversity within samples using Faith's Phylogenetic Diversity

index (Faith, 1992) and the Phylogenetic Species Clustering index (Helmus et al., 2007)

using the *picante* package (Kembel et al., 2010) in R (R Core Team 2020). Given a

phylogenetic tree, phylogenetic diversity (PD) estimates the total length of branches

encompassing a subset of taxa (*e.g.*, sampled communities), where PD increases as

the subset of taxa is more phylogenetically diverse (Faith, 1992). Phylogenetic Species

Clustering (PSC) is a measure of the degree of clustering of taxa across the phylogeny

(Helmus et al., 2007), where a PSC value approaching zero indicates that the taxa

analyzed were phylogenetically clustered.

To estimate the two metrics, we used the rarified diversity matrices and the
corresponding phylogenetic trees for bacterial and fungal ASVs, separately. We tested
the observed patterns of PSC across samples against 1,000 replicates under a null
model and estimated standardized effect sizes (SES) for this index (null model
Phylogenetic Species Clustering, nmPSC). This allowed us to identify samples that had
more or less phylogenetic clustering than expected by chance alone. To construct the
null model, we randomized the entries of the rarified diversity matrices while keeping
total sample diversity constant. In addition, we estimated PD and PSC for the most
abundant and rare ASVs within each site. To define rare (low proportionated or low read
count) and abundant (high proportionated or high read count) ASVs, we estimated the
first and third quartiles (1Q, 3Q) of the distribution of ASV (organized by low to high read
count), for each site separately. We used the sites' 1Q and 3Q as the thresholds to
define rare and abundant ASVs; the sites' 1Qs ranged from 3 to 16 reads per ASV,
whereas the 3Qs ranged from 37 to 306 reads per ASV; rare and abundant ASV
numbers using this method were equivalent per site. We estimated SES for PD and
PSC as defined above, using matrices for rare and abundant ASV.
The phylogenetic tree was generated by QIIME 2 (Bolyen et al., 2018) for 16S data. For
the ITS data (Forward-Only data), a phylogeny was obtained by applying an equal
phylogenetic QIIME 2 methodology, using Maftt (Katoh & Toh, 2010) and FastTree
(Price et al., 2009) within Cipres Science Gateway (Miller et al., 2010) with default
XSEDE parameters.
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Metabolomics
Soluble compounds extraction and LC-MS/MS analysis
The samples (10 g each) were extracted with 60 mL of $CHCl_3$-MeOH (1:1) in an orbital
shaker at 150 rpm for 24 hrs. The mixture was filtered, and the solvent was evaporated
under reduced pressure. The dried extracts were reconstituted in 60 mL of CH_3CN-
MeOH (1:1) and defatted with hexanes. Then the CH_3CN-MeOH layer was dried under
a vacuum and resuspended in MeOH (LC-MS grade) to yield a concentration of 1 mg
mL^{-1}. All samples were filtered with a 0.22 μm membrane and analyzed using a Waters
Acquity Ultraperformance Liquid Chromatography (UPLC) system (Waters Corp.)

coupled to a Thermo Q Exactive Plus (ThermoFisher) mass spectrometer. The UPLC

separations were performed using an Acquity BEH C_{18} column (50 mm $\times$ 2.1 mm I.D.,

1.7 µm; Waters) equilibrated at 40 °C and a flow rate set at 0.3 mL min^{-1}. The mobile

phase consisted of a linear CH_3CN-H_2O (acidified with 0.1% formic acid) gradient

starting at 15% to 100% of CH_3CN over 8 min. The mobile phase was held for another

1.5 min at 100% CH_3CN before returning to the starting conditions. High-resolution

mass spectrometry (HRMS) data and MS/MS spectra were collected in the

positive/negative switching electrospray ionization (ESI) mode at a full scan range of

m/z 150−2000, with the following settings: capillary voltage, 5 V; capillary temperature,

300°C; tube lens offset, 35 V; spray voltage 3.80 kV; sheath gas flow and auxiliary gas

flow, 35 and 20 arbitrary units, respectively.

Untargeted metabolomics

The HRMS-MS/MS raw data was individually aligned and filtered with MZmine 2.17

software (http://mzmine.sourceforge.net/) (Pluskal et al., 2010). Peak detection was

achieved as follows: *m/z* values were detected within each spectrum above a baseline,

a chromatogram was constructed for each of the *m/z* values that spanned longer than

0.1 min, and finally, deconvolution algorithms were applied to each chromatogram to

recognize the individual chromatographic peaks. The parameters were set as follows for

peak detection: noise level (absolute value) at 1×10^6, minimum peak duration 0.5 s,

tolerance for *m/z* variation 0.05, and tolerance for *m/z* intensity variation 20%.

Deisotoping, peak list filtering, and retention time alignment algorithm packages were

employed to refine peak detection. The join align algorithm compiled a peak table

according to the following parameters: the balance between *m/z* and retention time was

set at 10.0 each, *m/z* tolerance at 0.05, and retention time tolerance size was defined as

2 min. The spectral data matrix (comprised of *m/z*, retention time, and peak area for

each peak) was imported to Excel (Microsoft) for heatmap analysis using *R* (R Core

Team, 2020).

Molecular networking was performed from the mzML files using the standard Global

Natural Products Social (GNPS) molecular networking platform workflow with the

spectral clustering algorithm (http://gnps.ucsd.edu; Aron et al, 2020). For spectral

networks, parent mass of 0.01 Da and fragment ion tolerance of 0.02 Da were

considered. For edges construction, a cosine score over 0.70 was fitted with a minimum

of 4 matched peaks, and two nodes at least in the top 10 cosine scores (K) and

maximum of 100 connected the components. After that, the network spectra were

searched against GNPS spectral libraries, and graphic visualization of molecular

networking was performed in Cytoscape 3.8.0 (Shannon et al., 2003). Chemical

structural information within the molecular network was obtained using the GNPS

MolNetEnhancer workflow (Ernst et al., 2019), which incorporated *in silico* structure

annotations from the GNPS library search (metabolomic_support_info.zip in

supplemental files). The chemical profiles were also manually dereplicated using UV-

absorption maxima and HRMS-MS/MS data against the Dictionary of Natural Products v

29.1 and Dictionary of Marine Natural Products 2019 (Taylor and Francis Group),

MarinLite (University of Canterbury, New Zealand) and SciFinder (CAS) databases as

described by El-Elimat et al. (El-Elimat et al., 2013), for fungal and bacterial small

molecules. For candidate search, exact mass accuracy was set to 5 ppm (Sumner et

al., 2007). Heatmap visualization of metabolomic data table was generated in

MetaboAnalyst (Pang et al., 2020).

Results

Microbial taxonomic composition

Overall, 40 prokaryote phyla were detected from the 16S rDNA gene libraries (Suppl.

Fig. 1A), and a total of 6,063 different ASVs were found, with a total proportion of 11.8%

of unclassified reads (Suppl. Table 3). Bacteroidetes was the most abundant (high read

count) phylum, representing around 23% of all sequences in the samples, followed by

Proteobacteria with ≈ 19% and Cyanobacteria with nearly 18%. Spirochaetes and

Chloroflexi represented ≈ 8% and ≈ 4%, respectively. Nearly 2% were Firmicutes,

Patesibacteria and Halanaerobiaeota (Suppl. Fig. 1A).

Genera composition is shown in Fig. 2. A total of 219 genera of Bacteria were detected

in the 10 sampled sites (S1-S10) at a 1.5 m-scale. From those, only 9 genera had high

read counts (representing ≈ 80% of the total proportion, Fig. 2 A bottom):

Coleofasciculus (formerly *Microcoleus chtonoplastes*), *Spirochaeta*, *Catalinimonas*,

Desulfovermiculus, *Halanaerobium*, *Tangfeifania*, *Sungkyunkwania*,

Sediminispirochaeta and *Imperialibacter*. The remaining 210 genera can be classified

as rare biosphere, with ≈ 20% of the total proportion (less than 1% of the total

proportion each, Fig. 2 A, top), having a heterogeneous distribution between sites.

As for 16S rDNA ASVs, 18 of the 6,063 were abundant (>1% relative abundance each),

representing 49% of the relative abundance of reads (Suppl. Table 5). This 18 ASVs

were distributed within the previously mentioned highly abundant (high read count)

genera and phyla (except Firmicutes and Patesibacteria).

Conversely, 6,045 ASVs were rare taxa (<1% relative abundance each) which

represents 51% of total reads: 4,124 of them were non-classified, and the rest (1,921)

were distributed within the whole 40 bacterial phyla and almost all (217) genera (Suppl.

Table 5). The two exceptions of genera with no rare ASVs were *Tangfeifania* with 2

highly proportionated ASVs, and *Coleofasciculus* with only one high-read count ASV.

Moreover, 28 ASVs of Archaea were obtained using the 16S primers, comprising two

phyla, Woesearchaeota and Euryarchaeota (Suppl. Fig. 1A). We detected 4 genera

within Halobacteria class: *Halovivax*, *Halorubrum, Halorussus* and *Haloasta*.

For the ITS region libraries, we successfully obtained reads for six of the sampled sites

(S1 to S4, S6 and S7). For the Forward-Only ITS data, we detected 923 different ASVs

(Suppl. Table 4). Many of the classified reads belong to Alveolata protists (77%, Suppl.

Fig. 1B), followed by Fungi (11%) and Viridiplantae (8%); Metazoa, Protista,

Amoebozoa, Rhodoplantae, Chromista and Stramenophila comprised the remaining

4%. Unassigned taxa were 50% of all reads (Suppl. Table 3). The majority of ASVs

within Forward ITS data could not be accurately classified at lower taxonomic

categories, particularly for three common ASVs (ASV0 (unclassified), ASV1 (Ciliophora)

and ASV2 (Ciliophora)), which comprise nearly 70% of the proportion of ITS reads for

all sites.

Using Merge ITS ASVs data (Suppl. Table 1) for a better taxonomic assignment, Fungal

ASVs comprising 18 genera were detected, with phyla Ascomycota, Basidiomycota and

Rozellomycota present in all samples (Fig. 2B). Non-fungal Eukarya Merge ITS

sequences classification (hits <90%) are shown in Suppl. Table 2. *Fabrea salina*

(Alveolata), and *Vannella simplex* (Amebozoa) were two species that constituted nearly

0.5% of the total proportion of Merge ITS ASVs data, among other classified but low-

read count eukaryotic ASVs.

Alpha and beta diversity

Rarefaction curves (Suppl. Fig. 2A and 2B) showed similar results for both the Forward-

Only ITS region libraries (S1, S2, S3, S4, S6, S7), and the 16S rDNA gene libraries, as

all sites reached an asymptote, suggesting an adequate sampling effort. Only 183 ASVs

(3% of the total ASV read count) were shared between all sites for 16S rDNA gene

libraries (Fig. 3A), forming a very small core, but comprised 72.4% of all reads

(composed of twenty-one phyla), while most of the ASVs were unique to a specific site

or shared between two or three sites. For ITS libraries, the 56 shared ASVs (6%)

comprised 94.7% of all reads (Fig. 3B).

The 16S rDNA ASVs alpha diversity (Table 1) ranged from 2,399 observed ASVs in S2

(Shannon = 7.4, highest Shannon index value), to 544 observed ASVs in S9 (Shannon

= 6.1). In the case of the ITS region libraries (Forward-Only ITS data), the highest ASV

number for Eukarya was S6 with 383 ASVs and a Shannon diversity of 2.5; S3 had the

lowest observed ASVs with 199, but this site had the highest Shannon value of 3 (Table

1).

Pairwise dissimilarities between samples for both the 16S rDNA gene and ITS region

data ranged from 0.2 to 0.7 (16S) and 0.2 to 0.6 (ITS) for the Bray-Curtis distance

values and 0.5 to 0.8 (16S) and 0.3 to 0.7 (ITS) according to the Jaccard-1 values

(Suppl. Fig. 3 A and B). For both distance values, S10 is different from the rest of the

16S rDNA gene libraries, and S1, S2, S4, S6, S7 were associated in the dendogram

clusters. In the ITS libraries, there are two main clusters (S1, S2 and S4; S3, S6 and

S7). A significant geographic pattern in the Mantel test (*p*=0.0402, r=0.3224) was found

for Jaccard-1 of the 16S library, however we did not find significant values based on

geography for ITS libraries for either Jaccard-1 or Bray-Curtis (Suppl. Table 6).

Phylogenetic diversity

For both libraries, Faith Phylogenetic Diversity indicated that rare (low read count) ASVs

on each site, were more diverse than abundant (high read count) ASVs (Table 1).

In respect to the null model distribution of Phylogenetic Species Clustering (nmdPSC),

the 16S and ITS communities analyzed per site had in some sites a phylogenetic

clustering distribution, and in others sites a null model distribution compared with

chance alone (Fig. 4 A and B, dots between lines or below -2).

When analyzing rare and abundant subcommunities using an equivalent ASV number

per site, nmdPSC indicated that abundant ASVs were phylogenetically clustered within

all sites and for both libraries, while rare ASVs were subcommunities with a null model

distribution in some sites, or phylogenetically dispersed in other sites, for bacterial and

fungal libraries (Fig. 4 A and B, Suppl. Table 7).

Metabolomic profile

Based on the LC-MS results of S1-S10, a wide range of metabolites were visualized on

a heatmap analysis chart (Suppl. Fig. 4 A&B) and a GNPS molecular networking

analysis (Fig. 5 and Suppl Table 4).

Untargeted metabolome analysis of microbial communities in soil or environmental

samples is difficult, due to the complexity and heterogeneity of this matrix and the

scarcity of the secondary metabolites extracted. In the heatmap, the 1,341 molecular

features at unique retention times (Suppl. Fig. 4 A&B) shared several common regions

across all samples (molecular features), allowing us to group them into three main

clusters (cluster 1, samples 3-5 and 10; cluster 2, samples 1, 2 and 6; and cluster 3,

samples 7-9, Suppl. Fig. 4B). We found highly heterogeneous metabolic profiles in all

samples, and no significant associations were observed between metabolite features

and ITS or 16SrDNA community composition matrices (Suppl. Table 6).

Moreover, feature-based GNPS molecular networking analysis grouped the metabolite

features in 1,534 nodes distributed into 67 chemical families (sub-networks) of ≥ 3

members, 72 families of two metabolite features, and 765 singletons (Fig. 5). Chemical

ontology analyses revealed the presence of superclasses of lipids and lipid-like

compounds, organic acids, and organonitrogen and organoheterocyclic compounds, all

commonly found in soil samples (Fig. 5). Detected compounds in the GNPS and manual

metabolome analysis of the main ions observed in LC-MS/MS data focused on

microbial metabolites, allowing tentative identification of several secondary metabolites

that passed our quality criteria ($\leq$ 5 ppm mass error; Suppl. Table 8). Finally, some

plant-derived secondary metabolites and small molecules reflecting human activity were

also observed (Suppl. Table 8).

Discussion

Microbial composition at a small scale

Our study describes microbial diversity on a 1.5 m scale in a rare elastic microbial mat

located at an extreme site. Altogether, we found 40 prokaryotic phyla, including 219

genera of Bacteria and 4 of Archaea, as well as 18 Fungal genera (Fig. 2 and Suppl.

Fig. 1).

Bacteria

The bacterial phyla (Suppl. Fig. 1A) detected in our study site are common components

of hypersaline microbial mats (Bolhuis et al., 2014; Visscher et al., 2010): Bacteroidetes,

Proteobacteria, Cyanobacteria, Chloroflexi, and Firmicutes, among other abundant

(high read count) phyla, which are similar at this broad taxonomic level to other sites in

CCB (Bonilla-Rosso et al., 2012; Breitbart et al., 2009; de Anda et al., 2018; Nitti et al.,

2012). As expected from a microbial mat, a primary producer was present and abundant

in all of our samples: *Coleofasciculus* (Fig. 2), a filamentous nitrogen-fixing

cyanobacteria genus well-adapted to saline conditions (De Wit et al., 2013; Ramos et

al., 2017) that has been reported in Guerrero Negro microbial mats (Des Marais, 2010;

Wong et al., 2016). We also found the abundant taxon *Catalinimonas,* which is a

halophilic Bacteroidetes marine genus (Choi et al., 2013) that has not been previously

reported in microbial mats. Another common taxon in our samples is the *Spirochaeta*

genus (Bolhuis et al., 2014; Margulis et al., 2006), an anaerobic chemo-organotrophic

taxon abundant in hypersaline marine mats (Ben Hania et al., 2015). Noteworthy is that

the *Spirochaetes* phylum has not been detected previously in any CCB mats (Bonilla-

Rosso et al., 2012; de Anda et al., 2018; Peimbert et al., 2012). We also observed

Desulfovermiculus, a sulfate-reducing Deltaproteobacteria, and *Halanaerobium*, a

thiosulfate-reducing Firmicute that is halophilic and can form spores (Liang et al., 2016),

both genera are common in marine microbial mats (Bolhuis et al., 2014), reinforcing

previous evidence from CCB studies that this site can harbor taxa that are

phylogenetically similar to marine lineages (see Rebollar et al., 2012; Souza et al.,

2006, 2018).

Archaea

Archaea data presented here should be taken cautiously, since the primers for 16S

rDNA used are universal but were not designed specifically to amplify archaea and

would likely recover only 1% or less of archaeal diversity. However, we decided to only

describe the groups detected, avoiding any interpretations regarding quantity where

there could be a strong bias. We detected two main phyla (Suppl. Fig. 1A); these were

Woesearchaeota, a phylum that potentially has a syntrophic interaction with

methanogens (Liu et al., 2018; Ortiz-Alvarez & Casamayor, 2016), and Euryarchaeota,

within which we found four halophilic genera: *Halovivax*, *Halorubrum, Halorussus* and

Haloasta, all of them previously reported in saline habitats and sediments (McGonigle et

al., 2019; Zaitseva et al., 2018)*.*

In a recent metagenomic study of the Archaean Domes (Medina-Chávez et al., 2020),

some archaeal taxa were detected in all sampled sites, forming a "core taxa". In those

metagenomes, Archaea represented nearly 5% of the total reads. The metagenomic

data (Medina-Chávez et al., 2020) and the 16S rDNA gene amplicons were sampled

from the same pond at different times and locations, and both contained these lineages

common to hypersaline habitats.

Fungi

Fungal members represent a diverse and common component of hypersaline water

columns and mats (Cantrell et al., 2013) and have been suggested to play a role in the

degradation of EPS (exopolymeric substances) (Cantrell & Duval-Pérez, 2013). Our

results suggest that unidentified uncultured members of the Ascomycota and

Rozellomycota comprise the core mycobiota of the analyzed mats, as they occurred

across all the samples (Fig. 3B). In addition, it is feasible that these abundant

heterotrophs occupy a niche at the micro-scale of microbial mats, where they can

degrade the abundant EPS produced in the CCB microbial mats (Breitbart et al., 2009;

de Anda et al., 2018; Peimbert et al., 2012). In particular, halotolerant taxa such as

members of the genera *Aspergillus*, *Penicillium*, and *Nigrospora* have been repeatedly

reported in microbial mats at other locations (Cantrell et al., 2013; Cantrell & Duval-

Pérez, 2013), evidencing their adaptation to extreme conditions. Thus, it appears that,

similar to other microbial mats, fungal members could occupy an EPS-degrader role at

the micro-scale of the Archaean Domes (Cantrell et al., 2011).

Other eukaryotes

In our sample, there are three abundant (high read count) ASVs of Alveolata protists

that represent 70% of the ITS sequences (Suppl. Fig. 1B, Forward-Only ITS data) in all

sequenced sites (S1-S4, S6, S7). Although the ITS primer pair used in this study were

originally designed for fungal amplification, it has been reported that there are potential

matches with non-fungal eukaryotic sequences as well (Toju et al. 2012). Nevertheless,

these results should be interpreted in a descriptive sense, considering that several

eukaryotic taxa are not being detected due to primer bias.

Two of the three ASVs are Ciliophora (i.e. ciliates), which is the most diverse phylum of

protists, with 3,500 described species, most of which are cosmopolites (Gao et al.,

2016). It will therefore be interesting to analyze more molecular markers in the future to

distinguish the protist lineages, as well as to microscopically study the protists to reach

a closer taxonomic identification. Other Protozoa ASVs were observed at low numbers

and belong to the Amoebozoa phylum, and the ancestral algae from the kingdom

Chromista were also observed at a low proportion (Suppl. Fig. 1B).

Although research on halophilic protozoan is still young, it has made great progress in
recent years (Harding & Simpson, 2018). Protozoa in general are grazing organisms, as
is the case with *Fabrea salina*, one of the few classified low proportion ITS ASVs in our
study (Merge data, Suppl. Table 2). This ciliate is present in microbial mats and feeds
on *Cyanotece sp.*, a Cyanobacteria associated with algae mats (Carrasco &
Perissinotto, 2012). Indeed, in hypersaline environments, most ciliates are known to be
important components of the pelagic microbial food loop (Liu et al., 2016). Amoebae
have also been observed as grazers (Hauer et al., 2001; Hauer & Rogerson, 2005; F.
Post et al., 1983) on cyanobacteria in surface mud samples from a salt pond in Eilat,
within the Salton sea in Southern California (Hauer & Rogerson, 2005). Even though the
diversity of protists is low, their prevalence, along with the large amount of viruses found
in metagenomic samples (28% of the metagenomes from Medina-Chávez et al., 2020),
strongly suggests that predator-prey interactions (e.g. protist-bacteria, Saleem et al.,
2013) could be very important for the dynamics of the system (Carreira et al., 2020).
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Alpha and beta diversity
The Shannon Index accounts for both species evenness and abundance; hence, it
might not reflect the total richness if most of the found taxa are part of the rare
biosphere. For example, Site 3 for the Forward-Only ITS data had the highest Shannon
value, despite having the lowest ASV number (Table 1), due to its higher evenness
distribution of taxa. Meanwhile, the rarefaction and observed diversity reflects the
richness of the site (Suppl. Fig. 2A and 2B; Table 1).
Beta diversity analysis showed values that represent a large ASV turnover between sites
despite the small scale (Suppl. Fig. 3), illustrated by the heterogenous composition
observed within bacterial genera (Figure 2A top). Accordingly, the different domains
analyzed (i.e., the bacterial 16S rDNA data or the Eukarya Forward only ITS data) had a
distinctive association pattern. This turnover pattern should be taken cautiously, as ASVs
turnover might a methodological artifact: beta diversity analysis uses data on relative
abundances, based on compositional data; this means that the presence of abundant
ASVs might "push" the rare ASVs below the detection threshold. Therefore, this pattern
should be corroborated in a future time-series using metagenomic data, and

additionally, a transcriptome approach would explore if the rare ASVs are an active part

of this community. A statistically marginal but significant geographic association was

found only for the bacterial 16S rDNA data (p=0.0402, r=0.3224); this suggests a

geographic pattern that also should be explored with a more extensive sampling.

Bacterial community comparison with other CCB layered microbial communities

We compared our data with four previously published metagenomes of layered

microbial communities from the CCB: one microbialite from a large spring-fed river Rio

Mesquites (Nitti et al., 2012), one stromatolite from a blue pool in Pozas Azules

(Breitbart et al., 2009) and two microbial mats, one from a small and shallow pond

called Lagunita in Churince (de Anda et al., 2018), and the other from a green pool in

Pozas Azules (Bonilla-Rosso et al., 2012).

At the phylum level, we found seven taxa present in all these five microbial

communities: Actinobacteria, Bacteroidetes, Chloroflexi, Cyanobacteria, Firmicutes,

Planctomycetes and Proteobacteria. All of them shared among all sites on Archaean

Domes mats and had a high read count (Fig. 3A).

Additionally, Bonilla-Rosso et al., (2012) reported 28 orders that were shared within the

microbial mat from a green pool (Bonilla-Rosso et al. 2012), the stromatolite (Breitbart

et al., 2009) and a coastal hypersaline non-thermophilic microbial mat from Guerrero

Negro (Kunin et al., 2008). We found 18 of those 28 orders in the Archaean Domes

community (Suppl. Table 9).

We also explored lower taxonomic levels but did not find a consistent pattern.

The common pattern at higher taxonomic ranks reflects, as Bonilla-Rosso et al., (2012)

mentioned, that layered microbial communities assemble in biogeochemical gradients

related to defined ecological niches (e.g. photosynthesis, sulfate reduction,

heterotrophy) according to their functional traits, rather than their species (Burke et al.,

2011, Escalas et al., 2019).

Phylogenetic diversity

The null model distribution of Phylogenetic Species Clustering (nmdPSC, Fig. 4) of

whole bacterial and eukaryotic communities showed negative or null values, indicating a

clustered pattern compared with the null model. Phylogenetic clustering is predicted to

be evident in environments with poor nutrient availability (Mondav et al., 2017), such as

the microbial mat conditions. Since little is known about patterns and processes of rare

and abundant bacterial and eukaryotic taxa in microbial mats, we also analyzed these

two microbial subcommunities.

Abundant (high read count) taxa

The nmdPSC pattern of clustering for the abundant ASVs (Fig. 4) could be similar to

some soil bacterial communities that typically show a coexistence of phylogenetically

close relatives (Bryant et al., 2009; Horner-Devine & Bohannan, 2006), which may be

the product of abiotic filtering but also of competitive exclusion (Goberna et al., 2014).

Competitive exclusion seems to be a likely explanation for the phylogenetic clustering

observed for abundant bacterial and eukaryotic ASVs, as proposed by Goberna et al.

(2014), since the presence of compounds with antimicrobial properties (check

Metabolomic profile sub-section below) suggests high levels of competition among

abundant microbes.

Rare (low read count) taxa

The rare biosphere, when analyzing equivalent numbers of ASVs within abundant taxa,

was more phylogenetically diverse (Faith Pylogenetic Diversity index, Table 1), as well

as more phylogenetically disperse (nmdPSC, Fig. 4) than the abundant taxa within

these samples for both the 16S rDNA and ITS libraries, suggesting that environmental

filtering is not occurring for the rare biosphere in this site.

The two analyzed subcommunities (abundant and rare) showed different phylogenetic

dispersion patterns. The clustering pattern for abundant taxa --and also for the whole

community--, suggests that the associated assembly processes are abiotic filtering or

competitive exclusion (Wang et al., 2013; Mondav et al., 2017). In contrast,

communities that show phylogenetic dispersion, such as the rare taxa of the Archaean

Domes, could be more affected by stochastic processes such as dispersal and drift

(Wang et al., 2013; Mondav et al., 2017). Thus, both processes, deterministic and

stochastic could be occurring in the Archean Domes community.

These rare and abundant patterns described suggest that rare taxa could be a large

reservoir of genetic diversity, having diverse metabolic functions within this microbial

mat (Jia et al., 2018) and perhaps presenting collective adaptations to the extreme

conditions. This is in correspondence with the unique metabolome profile showed for

each site, despite the homogeneous abundant taxa. These ideas should be taken

cautiously, since rare taxa may not be an active part of the community, as stated

previously.

Metabolomic profile

The dynamic and complex metabolomic profiles (Suppl. Fig. 4A&B, Fig. 5 and Suppl.

Table 8) of the studied microbial mat was consistent with the complex microbial

community observed in the metagenomic analysis (Medina-Chávez et al., 2020).

Even though the expression of regulatory genes responsible for secondary metabolites

production depends on several factors (e.g. nitrogen or phosphate starvation, stressors

like heat, pH and damage to the cell wall, among others) (Baral et al., 2018), along with

the lack of soil metabolomics studies and the solubility of the compounds for LCMS

analysis, we were still able to tentatively annotate several classes of compounds with

interesting biological properties (Fig. 5 and Suppl. Table 8). Many of these compounds

were found to overlap between most of the samples: the antibiotics 8,9-

dihydroindanomycin (Li et al., 2009), neoindanomycin (Rommel et al., 2011) described

from *Streptomyces* species; the cytotoxic daryamide C (Asolkar et al., 2006),

gibbestatin B (Kinashi & Sakaguchi, 1984) and furaquinocin H (Ishibashi et al., 1991),

from *Streptomyces* strains; the germination inhibitor colletofragarone A1, from fungi

Colletotrichum fragariae and *C. capsiciae* (Inoue et al., 1996); periconiasin G

(Zaghouani et al., 2016) from *S. nitrosporeus* and *Periconia* sp. F-31 with free radical

scavenger and weak anti-HIV activities; and phomamide and tomaymycin I form *Phoma*

lingam (Ferezou et al., 1980) and *Nocardia* sp. (Tozuka et al., 1983) with no biological

activity described. Other metabolites of interest were found in specific samples, for

example the antifungal agents griseofulvin and dechlorogriseofulvin, produced by

microorganisms of the genera *Penicillium*, *Aspergillus*, *Xylaria*, *Coriolus*, *Palicourea*,

Memnoniella, *Khauskia*, *Carpenteles*, *Arthrinium*, *Nigrospora*, *Stachybotrys*, and

Streptomyces (Atta-ur-Rahmanro, 2005; Kimura et al., 1992; Knowles et al., 2019; Park

et al., 2006) were identified only in S7; the antimitotic agent nostodione A from the blue-

green alga *Nostoc commune* (Kobayashi et al., 1994) commune in samples S2 and S6-

S8; and the mycotoxins citreohybridone B (Kosemura, 2003), setosusin (Fujimoto et al.,

1996), roridin E (Böhner et al., 1965) and ganoboninone A (Ma et al., 2015) in samples

S8-S10. Interestingly, several observed ions (Fig. 5) do not match with any data

reported and could represent potentially new secondary metabolites. Finally, plant- and

animal-derived metabolites and compounds resulting from human activity

(contaminants), were also annotated (Suppl. Table 8).

The association of compounds between fungi and osmotrophs, as well as to other

Eukarya, reflect the importance of studying the potential role of microorganisms besides

bacteria within microbial mats (Carreira et al., 2020). It is important to mention that

metabolomics studies of samples containing diverse communities are scarce; thus, this

work significantly expands our understanding of soil metabolites, especially from rare

elastic hypersaline microbial mats.

Conclusions & Perspectives

We found a very low number of taxa that comprised a considerable proportion of the

mat and were shared across all sampling points, whereas the rare biosphere was more

phylogenetically diverse (FPD index) and phylogenetically disperse (using a null model

distribution of Phylogenetic Species Clustering) than the abundant (high read count)

taxa for both analyzed libraries. We also found a distinctive metabolome profile for each

sample and were able to tentatively annotate several classes of compounds with

relevant biological properties.

In view of these results, we are interested to investigate if the metabolomic data is

associated with local adaptive processes that could be following an eco-evolutionary

dynamic in these fluctuating communities (i.e. taxa are constantly and actively modifying

their own ecological niche and that of others (niche construction) (Laland et al., 2016;

Odling-Smee et al., 2003, Van Der Hooft et al., 2020)). We also want to explore the high

phylogenetic diversity and phylogenetic dispersion shown by the rare biosphere and use

transcriptomic data to analyze if the rare biosphere is an active part of this community.

We hypothesized that there is a diverse "seed bank" in the aquifer of CCB, a deep

biosphere fed by magmatic energy (Wolaver 2013) that could be constantly "seeding"

the Archaean Domes community, along with deep water and particular minerals.

These ideas could be tested in a deep and spatial-temporal sampling approaches.

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1116
1117

Figure 1

Site and sample

(A) The Cuatro Ciénegas Basin within México and geographic location of the Archaean Domes in Pozas Azules Ranch. (B) Details of an Archaean Domes slice. (C) Domes when the sampling was conducted (note the size scale). (D) Sampling design along border toward center 1.5m transect (sample 1 (S1) to sample 10 (S10)). Photo credit: David Jaramillo

Figure 2

Genera relative proportion of taxa in Archaean Domes, Cuatro Ciénegas Basin sample

A) Bacteria (bottom: shows the most common taxa, more than 1% of total proportion of taxa; top: shows less than 1% of total proportion; for labels of 210 corresponding genera, check Supplementary Table 10) B) Fungi (using Merge data, only fungal ASVs. NA is for ASVs that were not assigned to any genera, but phylum only)

A

B

Legend for panel A:
- Abundance <1%
- Imperialibacter (Bacteroidetes)
- Sediminispirochaeta (Spirochaetes)
- Sungkyunkwania (Bacteroidetes)
- Tangfeifania (Bacteroidetes)
- Halanaerobium (Halanaerobiaeota)
- Desulfovermiculus (Proteobacteria)
- Spirochaeta (Spirochaetes)
- Catalinimonas (Bacteroidetes)
- Coleofasciculus PCC-7420 (Cyanobacteria)

Legend for panel B:
- Archaeospora (Glomeromycota)
- Aureobasidium (Ascomycota)
- Claroideoglomus (Glomeromycota)
- Devriesia (Ascomycota)
- Dipodascus (Ascomycota)
- Montagnula (Ascomycota)
- Neocamarosporium (Ascomycota)
- Nigrospora (Ascomycota)
- Parateratosphaeria (Ascomycota)
- Phaeococcomyces (Ascomycota)
- Rachicladosporium (Ascomycota)
- Sirobasidium (Basidiomycota)
- Neodevriesia (Ascomycota)
- Cladosporium (Ascomycota)
- Preussia (Ascomycota)
- Didymella (Ascomycota)
- Penicillium (Ascomycota)
- Ramularia (Ascomycota)
- NA_Ascomycota
- NA_Rozellomycota
- NA_Basidiomycota

Figure 3

Graphic representation of shared ASVs within Archaean Domes sampling sites

Number of shared ASVs is represented by black bars, showing the exact number on the top. Dots below bars denote sites where those ASVs are shared, and lines joining dots indicate the shared sites. Colored bars at bottom left of the main figure are for ASVs number within each site. Pie charts show taxonomy of the few shared ASVs (corresponding bars are pointed with arrows) within all sites. All of these shared ASVs had a high proportion within the whole ASVs (72.5% of 16S rDNA data and 95% of Forward-Only ITS data). (A) 16S Archaea and Bacteria, rDNA gene data; (B) Fungi and other Eukarya, Forward-Only ITS data

Figure 4

Graph representing null model distribution of Phylogenetic Species Clustering (nmdPSC)

(A) 16S Archaea and Bacteria, rDNA gene data; (B) Forward-Only ITS data. Dotted lines are showing nmdPSC significant values: > +2 is consistent with a sample that had more phylogenetic overdispersion than expected by chance alone, and nmdPSC value < -2 indicates more phylogenetic clustering than expected by chance alone; values in the range +2 and -2 had a null model distribution. nmdPSC values are reported in Suppl. Table 7.

Figure 5

Molecular network of soil samples grouped metabolite features into 139 chemical families

Each node in the network represents one metabolite feature. Nodes connected to each other are structurally-related (cosine MS2 similarity score ≥0.7)

Table 1(on next page)

Alpha diversity indices

Alpha diversity indices for 16S rDNA data and Forward-Only ITS region data from Archaean
Domes CCB microbial mats

ITS data					
α diversity			Phylogenetic diversity		
Sample	Observed	Shannon	Faith PD	Faith PD rare	Faith PD abundant
1	322	1.827	86.309	42.596	18.161
2	226	2.713	60.622	40.846	14.516
3	199	3.062	47.289	30.370	14.774
4	270	1.783	83.008	51.513	16.287
6	383	2.501	131.435	75.352	28.794
7	337	2.008	114.983	60.352	18.865

16S rDNA data					
α diversity			Phylogenetic diversity		
Sample	Observed	Shannon	Faith PD	Faith PD rare	Faith PD abundant
1	1761	6.863	544.704	290.491	44.159
2	2399	7.402	789.807	368.430	84.442
3	1068	6.256	211.745	156.204	20.064
4	1564	6.499	500.787	259.828	40.627
5	1344	6.882	220.536	172.299	21.557
6	2345	6.301	851.168	302.103	131.337
7	2156	6.838	759.536	328.238	97.486
8	1195	6.487	205.987	139.839	22.798
9	544	6.126	160.368	94.201	18.577
10	828	5.115	283.017	148.655	36.514

B

0.5 cm

C

26° 49' 41.7" N
102° 01' 28.7" W

A

30 cm

D

30 cm

S1 S2 S3 S4 S5 S6 S7 S8 S9 S10

SHORE   CENTER

16S rRNA

NUMBER OF ASVs

PHYLUM

Bacteroidetes	Epsilonbacteraeota
Cyanobacteria	Actinobacteria
Proteobacteria	Fibrobacteres
Spirochaetes	Tenericutes
NA	Atribacteria
Chloroflexi	Latescibacteria
Halanaerobiaeota	BRC1
Patescibacteria	Lentisphaerae
Gemmatimonadetes	Hydrogenedentes
Firmicutes	Verrucomicrobia
Planctomycetes	Armatimonadetes

NUMBER OF ASVs PER SITE

A

ITS

NUMBER OF ASVs

KINGDOM

Not classified
Alveolata
Fungi
Viridiplantae
Amoebozoa

NUMBER OF ASVs PER SITE

B

Classification:

- Lipids and lipid-like
- Organic acids and derivatives
- Organonitrogens
- Organoheterocyclic
- No hits

Node key:

Number of spectra

2   40   90

Edge strength

>0.95

>0.65

ITS data					
	α diversity		Phylogenetic diversity		
Sample	Observed	Shannon	Faith PD	Faith PD rare	Faith PD abundant
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2	226	2.713	60.622	40.846	14.516
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