Resistance and resilience of soil microbiomes under climate change

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Abstract

Soil microbiomes play key roles in plant productivity and nutrient cycling, and we need

to understand whether and how they will withstand the effects of global climate change. We

exposed *in situ* soil microbial communities to multiple rounds of heat, drought, or both

treatments, and profiled microbial communities with 16S rRNA and ITS amplicon sequencing

during and after these climatic changes, and then tested how domain and symbiotic lifestyle

affected responses. Fungal community composition strongly shifted due to drought and its

legacy. In contrast, bacterial community composition resisted change during the experiment, but

still was affected by the legacy of drought. We identified fungal and bacterial taxa with

differential abundance due to heat and drought and found that taxa affected during climate events

are not necessarily the taxa affected in recovery periods, showing the complexity and importance

of legacy effects. Additionally, we found evidence that symbiotic groups of microbes important

to plant performance respond in diverse ways to climate treatments and their legacy, suggesting

plants may be impacted by past climatic events like drought and warming even if they do not

experience the event themselves.

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Introduction

Anthropogenic climate change is increasing both global temperature and the frequency

and severity of weather events like drought (Thuiller 2007). The microbial communities in soil

are among the largest and most diverse on earth (Singh et al. 2009) and their response to climate

change will affect elemental cycling, greenhouse gas production, plant-soil interactions, and

ecosystem services and agriculture (Dubey et al. 2019; Jansson & Hofmockel 2020; ASM Report

2022). Here, we examine the effect of repeated heat and drought events on a soil microbiome

across time, characterizing how fungal and bacterial communities resist, and recover from, heat

and drought events.

Resistance refers to how quickly and how much an ecological community responds to

shifting environmental conditions, whereas resilience is measured by the speed and degree to

which community composition returns to baseline historical conditions (Bissett et al. 2013;

Hartmann et al. 2013; Martiny et al. 2017). Low resilience may lead to lasting changes in a

community after the disturbance, known as legacy effects. Microbial communities can resist

more or less depending on the type and duration of environmental change (Schimel et al. 2007;

Zhou et al. 2020), with evidence of microbes being more resistant to short-term than long-term

changes (Pec et al. 2021; Seaton et al. 2021). After an environmental shift, microbial

communities are often assumed to have high resilience due to short microbial generation times

(Allison and Martiny 2008), but empirical evidence is mixed, as described below.

Heat and drought stress can harm the integrity of microbial cells, leading to reduced and

differential survival of microbes, and stress can alter microbial activity through modifying gene

expression and enzyme production, with knock-on effects on other microbes and the soil

environment (Bérard et al. 2015). As a result, the resistance and resilience of microbial

communities to environmental change are often characterized by changes in alpha or beta

diversity, microbial community composition and microbial biomass (Allison & Treseder 2008;

Castro et al. 2010; Sheik et al. 2011; Melillo et al. 2017; Zhou et al. 2020; Pec et al. 2021; Seaton

et al. 2021). Empirically, there appears to be little consistent pattern in microbial biomass,

richness, and diversity responses to warming or drought. For instance, microbial biomass can

increase (Castro et al. 2010) or decrease (Allison & Treseder 2008) in response to heat, with a

decrease in microbial biomass accompanying a loss of overall soil carbon (Melillo et al. 2017).

Heat can increase species richness (Allison & Treseder 2008) or decrease it (Sheik et al. 2011),

with a meta-analysis of studies finding no overall trend of warming or altered precipitation on

microbial alpha diversity (Zhou et al. 2020). The same meta-analysis also found no overall trend

of altered precipitation, but a positive effect of warming, on microbial beta diversity (Zhou et al.

2020). Despite the overall lack of consistent patterns, empirical research frequently reports

significant changes in microbial relative abundance and identity (community composition) due to

heat or drought (Allison & Treseder 2008; Castro et al. 2010; Zhou et al. 2020; Pec et al. 2021).

Changes in soil microbial community composition due to climatic events can persist long after

the event (Averill et al. 2016; Martiny et al. 2017; de Nijs et al. 2019) or sometimes do not

persist (Evans & Wallenstein 2012; Rousk et al. 2013; Dacal et al. 2022), suggesting resistance

and resilience may vary amongst soil microbial communities (Waldrop & Firestone 2006).

Changes in community composition can be further characterized through time using metrics like

turnover (appearances and disappearances) and mean rank shifts (Hallett et al. 2016), where

greater turnover and larger mean rank shifts can indicate less resistant and resilient communities.

Resistance and resilience can also be considered from the perspective of continued

ecological services (Allison & Martiny 2008), which are less likely to be altered in communities

with high stability. Communities are considered stable when groups of taxa are negatively

covarying and asynchronous, as decreases in one group can be compensated for by increases in

another, potentially recouping total organismal biomass and ecological function (Thibaut &

Connolly 2013; Huang et al. 2020; Valencia et al. 2020). Therefore, understanding the effect of

environmental stress on microbial community stability is important for predicting changes in

ecosystem services (Wagg et al. 2018; Hernandez et al. 2021). In practice, microbial community

stability can be estimated with microbial covariances, microbial networks, and by examining

microbial synchrony in response to a stressor. Environmental stresses like water availability and

lack of nutrients have been shown to increase positive correlations between microbial soil taxa,

decreasing community stability and jeopardizing ecological function (Hernandez et al. 2021; Gao

et al. 2022); thus we predict a destabilizing effect of heat and drought on the soil microbiome.

Differences in resistance and resilience are likely among component members of the

microbiome, due to the vast taxonomic and functional diversity of soil microbes (Singh et al.

2009). A phylogenetic signal in microbial response to climatic events is probable because many

microbial traits are phylogenetically conserved, although we lack data on the phylogenetic signal

of ecologically relevant phenotypes like heat and drought resistance (Goberna and Verdú 2016).

If resistance and resilience are phylogenetically conserved, this lends predictive power to

microbial response to climate events. We predict large differences in resistance and resilience

between domains, due to their phylogenetic distance and lifestyle differences. For example,

bacteria are generally fast-growing, with short generation times and the ability to horizontally

transfer potentially adaptive genes (Ochman et al. 2000), while fungi show a myriad of life

history strategies, many of which require multiple stages (Andrews 1992) and thus longer

generation times. In the soil food web, bacteria are considered a 'fast' energy channel that cycles

nutrients rapidly, while fungi are considered a 'slow' energy channel that cycles nutrients slowly

(Rooney et al. 2006; Bardgett & Caruso 2020). Consistent with this classification, turnover times

of soil fungi are estimated to be an order of magnitude longer than those of soil bacteria (Rousk

& Bååth 2011). Slow fungal turnover times mean that it could take longer to observe a shift in

fungal than in bacterial community composition, such that the effect of climate stressors on

fungal composition may manifest more slowly, but persist for longer.

Microbial lifestyle (e.g., symbiosis propensity and type) could also have implications for

how well a microbe can resist or recover from climatic events. Many soil microbes engage in

symbiosis with host organisms, including plants, animals, and macroscopic fungi (Berendsen et

al. 2012), with the outcome of symbiosis ranging from negative to positive for the host. One

major group of plant symbionts is rhizobia, a polyphyletic group of soil bacteria that

facultatively nodulate legume roots, where they exchange fixed nitrogen for fixed carbon

(Beringer et al. 1979). We highlight rhizobia because their status as mutualistic symbionts of

legumes is well-characterized; furthermore, they are critical to the global nitrogen cycle and

modern agricultural practices (Hirsch & Mauchline 2015). Rhizobia genomes are large for

bacteria and contain plasmids that encode genes required for nodule formation and nitrogen

fixation (MacLean et al. 2007), and this extra genetic material could hamper growth rates and

select for genomic streamlining under warming (Hessen et al. 2010; Sabath et al. 2013;

Simonsen 2021). Some parasites may be encumbered by similar problems, for example, the

bacterial plant pathogen *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* also carries large plasmids that contain the

tumor-inducing genes required for its lifestyle (White & Winans 2007), which could slow

replication times. In addition, plants have a ubiquitous, often mutualistic, symbiosis with

mycorrhizal fungi where mycorrhizae provide mineral nutrients to plants in return for carbon and

improve plant tolerance of water stress by extending the root system (Kakouridis et al. 2022).

However, mycorrhizal fungi are often obligately symbiotic (Smith & Read 1997), and thus the

fate of a mycorrhizal fungus under climate stress may depend on the performance of their plant

partner and vice versa, to positive or negative effect (Stachowicz 2001; Kiers et al. 2010). In

sum, there are clear pathways through which the life history and symbiotic nature of a microbe

could underlie facets of the microbe's resistance or resilience to climate events.

More empirical evidence on the response of microbial communities to climate events is

needed to understand the existing mixed results and to determine what factors underpin

microbial resistance and resilience (Jansson & Hofmockel 2020). We conducted a factorial

experiment to examine the response of soil microbial communities to the interacting climate

factors of heat and drought, with an emphasis on measuring resiliency and legacy effects. We

identified microbial groups and lifestyles particularly altered under climate change and discuss

why they may be differentially affected. Based on the findings from the literature described

above, we hypothesized that fungal communities would be more resistant but less resilient than

bacterial communities to climatic perturbations due to their slower growth and turnover times.

For similar reasons, we hypothesized that symbiotic microbes would be more resistant but less

resilient than the microbial community at large, with the strongest effects on microbes that lack a

partner in the experimental plots, because they are in an ecological context without the benefits

of symbiosis, but where they bear many of the costs. Given that microbes are a major contributor

to global nutrient cycling (ASM Report 2022), interact strongly with species in higher trophic

levels (Berendsen et al. 2012), and contribute to ecosystem functioning (Ochoa-Hueso et al.

2020), microbial resistance and resilience to climate change will have far-reaching

consequences.

Methods

Site description and sampling

We conducted this study at the Koffler Scientific Reserve (KSR, www.ksr.utoronto.ca) in

Ontario, Canada (latitude 44°01'48"N, longitude 79°32'01"W) in an old field environment

(Figure 1). The average annual precipitation is 767 mm, with the average high temperature

reaching 27°C in July and the average low temperature reaching -11□ in January (Koffler

Scientific Reserve 2023).

The temperature-free-air-controlled enhancement experiment at KSR was established

following Kimball et al. (2008). Plots are 3m in diameter, with six plots having six 100W

infrared heaters each (Mor Electric Heating Association) and six plots having equivalent dummy

infrared heaters. In 2017, we excavated twelve plots 30 cm deep and filled them with a 1:1:1

mixture of local soil, peat moss, and sand; then, we planted white spruce seedlings (*Picea*

glauca, provided by Natural Resources Canada, Laurentian Forestry Centre, Quebec QC) in the

plots. A top layer of commercially supplied cedar bark mulch was added in 2020 and 2021, and

weeding occurred biweekly to keep plant cover constant. Starting in 2020, we applied climate

treatments to plots: control, heat, drought, or heat and drought (Figure 1). Heat and drought

treatments were established to study the physiological and molecular responses of different white

spruce genotypes to climatic stressors through the growing season and into early winter; those

results will be presented elsewhere. The heaters ran day and night in the heated plots, while the

drought plots had concave-up (∪) slotted rainout structures that covered ~50% of the plot surface

area and drained rain out and away from all plots. To control for the effects of the structures

themselves, non-drought plots had the same rainout structures except in the concave-down

position (∩), allowing all water to pass off the structure and into the plot. There were two

periods of active treatment (Appendix 1: Table S1): rainout structures were present July-

November 2020, and June-October 2021, for a total of 8 months; heaters were active in heated

plots August-December 2020, and August 2021-January 2022, for a total of 9 months. To

determine how treatments affected soil conditions, soil volumetric water content (VWC) and

temperature were monitored using soil sensors and dataloggers (detailed methods in Appendix

2). During active treatment, the mean soil temperature of heated plots was 3.7▯ or 3.6▯ hotter

than un-heated plots in 2020 and 2021 respectively (Figure 1). The mean soil VWC during

droughts was 0.28 (m^3/m^3) in non-drought plots and 0.25 (m^3/m^3) in drought plots in 2020, and

in 2021, mean VWC was 0.26 (m^3/m^3) in non-drought plots and 0.21 (m^3/m^3) in drought plots

(Figure 1). So, soil VWC in drought-treated plots was relatively decreased by 10% in 2020 and

20% in 2021.

On June 11th 2021, September 14th 2021, and June 5th 2022, we sampled from the first

10 cm of bulk topsoil from three locations ~50 cm apart in each plot. We collected the June 2021

and 2022 samples when there were no active climate treatments being applied (plots in a

recovery period) to test microbial resilience, and the September 2021 samples when climate

treatments were being actively imposed to test resistance. After each collection, samples were

stored at -20▯ until DNA extraction.

Sequencing and QIIME2

We extracted soil microbial DNA using the QIAGEN DNeasy PowerSoil Pro Kit

following the kit protocol and sequenced samples at Genome Quebec (Montréal, Canada) using

Illumina MiSeq PE 250bp 16S rRNA amplicon sequencing on the conserved hypervariable V4

region (primer pair 515F-806R) and ITS region (primer pair ITS1FP2-58A2RP3). Samples from

2021 and 2022 were sequenced separately. We used Quantitative Insights Into Microbial

Ecology 2 (QIIME2) v.2022.2 (Bolyen et al. 2019) to trim sequences and then denoised

sequences with DADA2 (Callahan et al. 2016) to obtain amplicon sequence variants (ASVs).

Using QIIME2, we removed ASVs that had fewer than 10 reads across all samples, and assigned

taxonomy using the 'sklearn' feature classifier (Pedregosa et al. 2011); we used Greengenes 16S

V4 region reference for bacteria (McDonald et al. 2012), and UNITE (Nilsson et al. 2019)

version 9.0 with dynamic clustering of global and 97% singletons for fungi. We then filtered out

reads assigned as cyanobacteria and mitochondria to remove plant and animal DNA. Finally, for

each of the bacterial datasets we constructed a phylogeny using QIIME2's MAFFT (Katoh &

Standley 2013) and FastTree (Price et al. 2010) functions to obtain a rooted tree.

Statistical Analysis

We performed analyses in R v4.2.0 (R Core Team 2022), with the 'tidyverse' (Wickham

et al. 2019), 'phyloseq' (McMurdie & Holmes 2013), and 'microbiome' (Lahti & Shetty 2019)

packages. For statistical tests, we merged the subsamples of plots such that each plot had one set

of reads for each time point and domain, then rarefied samples to the minimum read number for

that sampling time point (Appendix 1: Table S2). We analyzed the data from each time point

separately unless otherwise stated. Models followed the same general structure, with heat

treatment, drought treatment, and the heat $\times$ drought interaction as predictors, unless otherwise

stated. To visualize communities, we used principal coordinates analysis (PCoA) on the rarefied

relative abundance data, using weighted UniFrac distance for bacteria and Bray-Curtis distance

for fungi. Next, we tested for differences in rarefied relative community composition using

adonis2 permutational analysis of variance with the Bray-Curtis method and 9999 permutations

('vegan' package, Oksanen et al. 2022); results did not change based on the order of factors. We

used betadisper ('vegan' package, Oksanen et al. 2022) and the base R dist function to measure

the distance between centroids when heat or drought was applied, which provides a quantitative

effect size of treatment on community composition.

We leveraged the repeated sampling of our climate-treated plots to understand how the

soil microbiome changed over time. We tested for differences in observed ASV richness,

evenness, Shannon diversity, and Simpson's diversity across timepoints, using the rarefied

datasets and linear models, then used type 3 ANOVAs from the 'car' package (Fox & Weisburg

2019) on the linear models to calculate F values. We measured temporal diversity indices using

the 'codyn' package (Hallett et al. 2020), including the mean rank order shifts of genera and

turnover (total, appearances, and disappearances) within communities of the same climate

treatments. We also used 'codyn' to measure two community stability metrics, synchrony and

variance ratio, with ASVs aggregated to genus. Synchrony compares the variance of aggregated

genera abundances with the summed variance of individual genera (Loreau & de Mazancourt

2008), with 0 indicating complete asynchrony, and 1 indicating complete synchrony. The

variance ratio measures the pairwise covariance of genera, where a value of 1 indicates no

covariance, a value below 1 indicates negative covariance, and a value above 1 indicate positive

covariance (Schluter 1984); we permuted the data 999 times to generate a null estimate with

confidence intervals, and an observed variance ratio that was higher or lower than the confidence

interval indicated a significantly positive or negative covariance among genera, respectively. We

tested for differences in synchrony, rank shifts, and turnover using linear models in the same way

as for differences in the alpha diversity metrics, except the rank shifts and turnover models

included time comparison as an added interacting predictor. To further compare pairwise

correlations of genera across treatment and domain during active treatment, we combined fungal

and bacterial datasets aggregated at the genus level and used SparCC implemented through the

'Spiec-Easi' package (Friedman & Alm 2012; Kurtz et al. 2015) to create co-occurrence

networks. We permuted the correlations 100 times in each network to create a null expectation

for significance testing, and adjusted p values using the false discovery rate. Then, to determine

how correlated genera are with each other and if groups of genera correlate together more in each

network, we determined the Kleinberg's hub centrality scores of genera, the number of clusters,

and modularity.

To detect differentially abundant taxa, we used the analysis of compositions of

microbiomes with bias correction ('ANCOMBC') package (Lin & Peddada 2020), which

identifies significantly differentially abundant taxa while accounting for bias from library size.

We performed this analysis at the genus level with Holm's method p-value adjustment. We

visualized the magnitude and overlap of significant log fold responses using heat maps and

'UpSetR' (Conway et al. 2017). Then, we tested for consistent differences in the response of

resistant or resilient microbes by using student's t-tests to compare the log fold response of

genera in active treatment to genera in recovery periods. We tested domains separately and their

responses to heat and drought separately, and used natural log transformed responses as needed

to improve normality. Next, we determined whether genera correlated to many other genera were

less resistant to climate events by using a MANOVA with log fold response in active heat and

drought as the responses, and hub score in active control conditions as the predictor.

To test whether bacterial genera's response to heat and drought is phylogenetically

conserved, we used the log fold change in abundance due to heat or drought calculated from

ANCOMBC as continuous traits. Using phylosig from the 'phytools' package (Revell 2024) we

calculated Pagel's λ (Pagel 1999) for both traits at each timepoint separately, where a value of 0

indicates phylogenetic independence (no significant signal) and a value of 1 indicates traits

follow the expected distribution under Brownian motion (Münkemüller et al. 2012). We tested

for phylogenetic signal only in our bacterial data, as fungal phylogenetic reconstructions using

the ITS region are not reliable. Then, we visualized log fold change due to heat and drought

along the bacterial phylogeny using the 'phylosignal' package (Keck et al. 2016).

To assess treatment effects on groups of known symbiotic bacteria, we leveraged

catalogues by Li et al. (2023) and Lajudie et al. (2019) to create separate subset datasets of

genera containing plant beneficial bacteria (PBB), phytopathogens, and rhizobia. We tested for

differences in diversity and community composition as described above using the rarefied

datasets aggregated at genus-level. In our experimental plots, rhizobia responded to climate

events without any legume partners, due to weeding. Next, we assessed treatment effects in

symbiotic fungi. As white spruce was the focal plant host in our plots, we subset the data to

families containing ectomycorrhizal fungi that commonly associate with white spruce (Lazaruk

et al. 2008; Smith et al. 2015; Nadeau & Khasa 2016) and tested for differences in their relative

abundance using linear models. We identified more symbiotic fungi by classifying fungi into

guilds using FUNGuild annotation (Nguyen et al. 2016) and kept classifications only when

'Probable' or 'Highly Probable.' We concatenated classifications across years and relativized

each guild's raw read number to sample read number, then used repeated measures ANOVAs

with time included as a factor and plot as the error term. The response variables were the relative

abundance of symbiotic guilds of interest: parasites, pathogens, endophytes, ectomycorrhiza,

non-ectomycorrhizal mycorrhizae (e.g. ericoid, arbuscular), and all mycorrhizae. We also tested

the relative abundance of the saprotroph guild for comparison. Response variables were natural

log transformed as needed to improve the normality of error distributions.

Results

Fungal communities

Fungal community composition and diversity were not resistant or resilient to drought

During active treatment, fungal community composition was not resistant; it was strongly

shaped by drought ($F_{1,8}$=1.24, p<0.05; Appendix S1: Table S4), but not by heat or heat $\times$

drought. Significant drought, but not heat or heat $\times$ drought, effects on fungal community

composition also persisted to the second recovery period (drought $F_{1,8}$=2.35, p<0.05; Figure 2B,

Appendix S1: Table S4), meaning fungal communities were not resilient and slow to recover

after experiencing climate treatments.

Drought-induced shifts in community composition during active treatment did not change

the alpha diversity of fungal communities; Shannon diversity, Simpson's diversity, evenness, and

observed richness were not significantly affected by any active experimental treatment

(Appendix S1: Table S3). The only statistically significant effects of climate treatments on alpha

diversity occurred in the first recovery period, when legacy of drought caused a 16% reduction in

Shannon diversity ($F_{1,8}$=9.67, p<0.05; Appendix S1: Table S3) and a 4% reduction in Simpson's

diversity compared to control plots ($F_{1,8}$=8.74, p<0.05; Appendix S1: Table S3). Heat mitigated

the effect of drought on fungal alpha diversity in the first recovery period, significantly so for

Shannon diversity ($F_{1,8}$=7.19, p<0.05; Figure 2A; Appendix S1: Table S3) and marginally

significantly for Simpson's diversity ($F_{1,8}$=5.04, p=0.055; Appendix S1: Table S3). Drought and

heat $\times$ drought effects on Shannon diversity were driven by significant changes in evenness

($F_{1,8}$>7.01, p<0.05 for all effects; Appendix S1: Table S3), not by changes in observed species

richness (Appendix S1: Table S3).

Underlying community-wide shifts, we identified 161 genera (full list in Figure 4 and

Figure 5) that shifted in estimated absolute abundance in response to heat, drought, or both.

There were only 30 genera that significantly responded to both active treatment and treatment

legacies (Figure 4, Figure5, Appendix S3: Figure S4). Drought and its legacy increased and

decreased the estimated absolute abundance of fungal genera to similar extents during treatment

and recovery periods ($t=1.21$, $df=87.2$, $p=0.231$; Figure 4, Appendix S3: Figure S5). In contrast,

active heat decreased the estimated absolute abundance of fungal genera while heat legacy

overall increased estimated abundance; the distribution of fungal responses to heat was

significantly different between active and recovery periods ($t=-3.01$, $df=15.5$, $p<0.01$; Figure 5,

Appendix S3: Figure S5). *Saccharomycetales* (yeasts) showed strikingly higher relative

abundance in drought plots (Figure 3), driven by the *Babjevia* genus (~3x log fold increase in

drought, Holm's adjusted $p<0.05$; Figure 4). We also saw interactions of fungal phenology and

climate treatments. For example, the average relative abundance of *Pezizales* in the control plots

increased by 92% from June to September 2021, then decreased 83% between September 2021

and June 2022 (Figure 3), suggesting *Pezizales* are more naturally abundant in September. In

contrast, the relative abundance of *Pezizales* in drought-treated plots increased by an average of

only 77% between June and September 2021, and decreased 86% between September 2021 and

June 2022. Drought dampened the phenological increase in *Pezizales* abundance, and as a result

Pezizales had one of the largest negative log fold changes in response to drought among fungi

(Holm's adjusted $p<0.05$; Figure 4).

Heat altered fungal community dynamics across time

We measured community change through time within treatments and found evidence of

low fungal resistance and resilience. First, we tested the effect of heat and drought on turnover in

genera across timepoints. Many genera were present across all time points (n=193), with the

most unique genera occurring in the second recovery period (n=75) (Appendix S3: Figure S1).

All aspects of turnover significantly depended on which time was being compared to the first

recovery period ($F_{1,8}>10.1$, $p<0.01$ for all effects, Appendix S1: Table S5; Appendix S3: Figure

S2), for example, there were 42% more disappearances that occurred between the first recovery

period and active treatment compared to the disappearances between recovery periods. Heat

significantly altered genera appearances and disappearances ($F_{1,8}>6.70$, $p<0.05$ for all effects,

Appendix S1:Table S5), but not drought. The effect of heat differed depending on which periods

were compared ($F_{1,8}>7.22$, $p<0.05$ for heat $\times$ time, Appendix S1:Table S5). Between first

recovery period and active treatment, active heat alone increased the appearances of new genera

by 25% and decreased disappearances by 23%. In contrast, between recovery periods, heat

decreased new appearances by 17% while disappearances increased 40% ($F_{1,8}>6.70$, $p<0.05$ for

all effects, Appendix S1:Table S5). Total turnover between recovery periods was not significant

(Appendix S1:Table S5). Climate treatment and time comparison did not significantly alter the

average relative change in species rank abundance (Appendix S1: Table S5; Appendix S3:

Figure S2).

We next considered how climate treatments affected community stability, e.g. whether

the abundance of taxa changed at the same time and in the same direction in response to climate

treatments. The fungal genera in control plots positively covaried, but not significantly so, with a

variance ratio of 1.55; heat alone and drought alone increased the variance ratio by 0.5 each, and

their effects were synergistic in the heat and drought treatment (variance ratio of 2.69), indicating

climate treatments increased the strength of positive covariance among genera. Variance ratios

were only significantly higher than permuted estimates when heat was applied. Overall

synchrony of fungi was low, ranging between 0.1-0.3, and the difference among treatments was

not statistically significant (Appendix S1: Table S5, Appendix S3: Figure S2).

Mutualistic and parasitic fungal guilds differed in their resistance and resilience

Our analysis of symbiotic fungal guilds showed the relative abundance of parasitic fungal

guilds (parasitic on other fungi, lichen, plants, or insects) increased 36% in response to drought

($F_{1,8}$=13.0, p<0.01; Figure 6, Appendix S1: Table S6). The guilds of pathogens, endophytes, and

saprotrophs were not significantly affected by the climate treatments (Appendix S1: Table S6).

The mycorrhizal guild as a whole significantly decreased by an average of 59% in relative

abundance due to heat ($F_{1,8}$=6.15, p<0.05; Appendix S1: Table S6) and had a non-significant

trend of 51% lower abundance under drought. Mycorrhizal relative abundance was much greater

during the September samples compared to June samples ($F_{2,22}$=13.2, p<0.001; Appendix S1:

Table S6), and 93.4% of mycorrhizal reads in September were ectomycorrhizal, which is not

surprising given that the spruce saplings in the plots are ectomycorrhizal. Ectomycorrhizal fungi

on their own decreased an average of 61% in heat-treated plots and 50% in drought-treated plots,

however the reduction in abundance in response to heat was only marginally significant

($F_{1,8}$=5.26, p=0.051; Appendix S1: Table S6), likely due to low statistical power. The remaining

mycorrhizal reads consisted of ericoid and arbuscular mycorrhiza; on their own, these fungi had

43% and 60% reduced relative abundance due to heat and drought, respectively, throughout all

timepoints, although there were no significant differences from control plots ($F_{1,8}$<1.70, p>0.22

for all effects; Appendix 1: Table S6, Appendix S3: Figure S3). Most mycorrhizal reads were in

the families *Pyronemataceae, Herpotrichiellaceae, Ceratobasidiaceae, Entolomataceae,*

Helotiaceae, Pezizaceae, Thelephoraceae, Myxotrichaceae, Hymenogastraceae, and *Suillaceae*.

We also examined only ectomycorrhizal fungi known to associate with white spruce. We

found that their relative abundance decreased by an average of 58% due to heat and 49% due to

drought across all timepoints, similar to the trends for all mycorrhizae. During active treatment,

heat significantly reduced white spruce ectomycorrhizal relative abundance in the bulk soil

($F_{1,8}$=6.36, p<0.05; Appendix 1: Table S7), but the reduction was not significant in recovery

periods ($F_{1,8}$<3.52, p>0.05 for all effects; Appendix 1: Table S7). We identified two

differentially abundant ectomycorrhizal genera that associate with *Pinaceae* tree saplings:

Wilcoxina, and *Suillus* (Dahlberg & Finlay 1999; Yu et al. 2001). *Suillus* and *Wilcoxina* had

~2.5x and ~3x log fold decreased estimated absolute abundance due to legacy of drought, but

differing responses during active drought, with decreased *Wilcoxina* and increased *Suillus*

(Holm's adjusted p<0.05; Figure 4). The *Thelephoraceae* family has an ectomycorrhizal genus

that associates with white spruce, *Thelephora* (Lazaruk et al. 2008); interestingly, an unidentified

genus from this family was extremely differentially abundant, with a significant ~5x log fold

increase due to drought in the first recovery period, and significant increase during active

treatment (Holm's adjusted p<0.05; Figure 4).

Bacterial communities

Bacterial community composition and diversity were resistant and resilient to heat and drought

Bacteria communities were more resistant to the climate events than fungi, with no

significant shifts due to active treatments (Appendix S1: Table S8 and 10-13% less distance

between centroids during active treatment compared to fungi. Bacteria community composition

was also very resilient to climate treatments, showing no lasting compositional changes in

recovery periods.

Bacteria diversity was resistant and resilient to climate treatments, especially heat.

Shannon diversity, Simpson's diversity, evenness, and observed richness were not affected

during active treatment or the first recovery period (Appendix S1: Table S9). In the second

recovery period, the legacy of drought significantly increased bacterial Shannon diversity, but by

only 1% ($F_{1,8}$=9.30, $p<0.05$; Figure 2C, Appendix S1: Table S9), potentially because of a

marginally significant increase in observed richness amounting to an average of 293 ASVs

($F_{1,8}$=5.11, p=0.054; Appendix S1: Table S9). No other alpha diversity metrics were affected in

the second recovery period (Appendix S1: Table S8-S9).

Despite whole bacterial communities having strong resistance to climate treatments, we

identified 102 differentially abundant bacterial genera due to heat and drought during active

treatment and recovery periods (Holm's adjusted $p<0.05$; Figure 4, Figure 5). Only 16 taxa were

significantly affected during both active treatment and recovery periods (Appendix 3: Figure S4).

Bacteria significantly affected by heat and heat legacy tended to increase in estimated absolute

abundance (Figure 5), and there was no significant difference in the $\log_{10}$ transformed

distribution of responses between active and recovery periods (t=0.295, df=4.53, p=0.781;

Appendix S3: Figure S5). Drought and drought legacy increased the estimated absolute

abundance of some bacterial taxa, and decreased the abundance of others, but the distribution of

effects was not significantly different in active and recovery periods (t=-1.32, df=25.4, p=0.198;

Appendix S3: Figure S5). We detected significant phylogenetic signal in bacterial response in

only the second recovery period to both heat (Pagel's λ=0.31, $p<0.001$; Appendix S1: Table S11,

Appendix S3: Figure S6) and drought (Pagel's λ=0.19, $p<0.01$; Appendix S1: Table S11,

Appendix S3: Figure S7). This phylogenetic signal may in part be driven by genera belonging to

the orders *Bacillales* and *Clostridiales* in the phylum *Firmicutes*; the *Firmicutes* clade showed

consistent decreases in log-fold estimated absolute abundance to both heat and drought

throughout the experiment, but especially in the second recovery period (Appendix S3: Figure

S4-S5).

Bacterial community dynamics were not affected by heat or drought

Bacterial community dynamics did not differ significantly in response to treatment, again

suggesting high resistance and resilience. Most bacterial genera were present across all sampling

times (n=167), and active treatment had the most unique bacterial genera (n=35) (Appendix S3:

Figure S1). There were no significant differences in the mean rank shift or turnover of bacterial

genera due to either climate treatments, nor were there significant differences between treatment

and recovery periods (Appendix S1: Table S10, Appendix S3: Figure S2). Though there was no

effect of climate, bacterial genera had very high synchrony ranging between 0.84-0.96, and

genera in all climate-treated communities were significantly positively covarying with a variance

ratio of ~1.40 (Appendix S3: Figure S2).

Heat and drought more strongly affected symbiotic bacterial guilds compared to all bacteria

Phytopathogenic bacteria had high resistance and resilience to climate treatments, though

they were more affected by treatment compared to the whole bacterial community. There was no

significant effect of climate treatment on phytopathogenic alpha diversity metrics or community

composition in the first recovery period or active treatment (Appendix S1: Table S12-S13). In

the second recovery period, heat significantly decreased bacterial phytopathogen evenness by an

average of 2% ($F_{1,8}$=11.8, $p{\leq}0.01$, Appendix S1: Table S12), and drought significantly shifted

community composition ($F_{1,8}$=1.75, $p{\leq}0.05$, Appendix S1: Table S13). The ANCOM-BC

differential abundance analysis found the estimated absolute abundance of a potentially

phytopathogenic genus *Agrobacterium* decreased 1.3x log fold due to drought, and a human

pathogen, *Legionella*, significantly increased 4.9x log fold due to the legacy of heat (Figure 4).

The plant beneficial bacteria (PBB) showed high resistance but low resilience to drought.

In the first recovery period and active treatment, there were no significant changes to PBB's

alpha diversity metrics or community composition (Appendix S1: Table S14-S15). However, in

the second recovery period drought significantly increased PBB's Shannon and Simpson

diversity by an average of 2% each ($F_{1,8}>11.6$, p≤0.01 for all, Appendix S1: Table S14). This

increase in diversity was driven by significantly higher observed ASV richness in drought;

drought-only plots increased by a mean 47 ASVs compared to control plots, but heat

significantly dampened this increase as indicated by the significant heat × drought interaction

($F_{1,8}>8.94$, p≤0.05 for all, Appendix S1: Table S14). Community composition of PBB was not

significantly changed in the second recovery period (Appendix S1: Table S15). The ANCOM-

BC differential abundance analysis found that active drought and legacy of drought increased

plant growth-promoting rhizobacteria in the soil (Figure 4), for example *Variovorax* spp.

increased by 3x log fold, and *Pseudoxanthomonas* spp. by 1-1.3x log fold, which can help plants

tolerate abiotic stresses such as drought (Kang et al. 2014; Kaushal 2019; Singh et al. 2021).

Rhizobia showed strong community-wide responses both during and after the heat and

drought treatments. During active treatment, heat and drought significantly increased the

rhizobia guild's Shannon diversity by an average of 13% and significantly increased Simpson's

diversity by an average of 4% ($F_{1,8}>5.29$, p≤0.05 for all, Appendix S1: Table S16). Heat

significantly increased observed richness by an average of 32% (an additional 8 ASVs) during

active treatment ($F_{1,8}=6.58$, p<0.05, Appendix S1: Table S16). Evenness and community

composition were not significantly changed during active treatment (Appendix S1: Table S16-

S17). In the first recovery period, the rhizobia community composition was significantly

predicted by the heat × drought interaction ($F_{1,8}=1.78$, p<0.05, Appendix S1: Table S17, Figure

6), but no alpha diversity metrics were affected (Appendix S1: Table S16). In the second

recovery period, Shannon diversity and Simpson's diversity remained significantly increased due

to legacy of drought by 14% and 5% respectively ($F_{1,8}>5.46$, p<0.05 for all, Appendix S1: Table

S16, Figure 6), and there was a marginally significant increase in evenness ($F_{1,8}$=5.22, p=0.052;

Appendix S1: Table S16). Community composition was not significantly affected by heat and

drought in the second recovery period (Appendix S1: Table S17). The ANCOM-BC differential

abundance analysis showed that drought and legacy of drought increased the log fold abundances

of many rhizobia genera (*Burkholderia* 1x, *Cupriavidus* 1.4-2.4x, *Methylobacterium* 1.9x,

Rhizobium 1.2x, *Phyllobacterium* 0.87-3.6x*)*.

Heat and drought altered associations in microbial community networks

We analyzed how co-occurrence networks that included both fungi and bacteria were

altered by heat and drought during active treatment. The networks indicate groups of taxa with

correlated abundances, potentially because of species interactions or niche similarity. Each

network, regardless of climate treatment, formed three clusters, and the global clustering

coefficients ranged between 0.75-0.78 (Appendix S1: Table S18). Modular networks indicate

distinct groupings of taxa that are highly correlated among themselves and less correlated with

taxa in other groupings. Modularity increased with both heat and drought, starting at 0.35 in

control conditions and peaking at 0.41 when both heat and drought were applied (Appendix S1:

Table S18). We identified 37 significant correlations between pairs of genera in control

conditions, of which 22% were positive correlations; 60% of the significant correlations in

control conditions were between fungi and bacteria (Appendix S1: Table S18). The heat

treatment had 43 significant correlations total, but the number of fungi-fungi interactions

doubled compared to control conditions (Appendix S1: Table S18). Supporting the variance ratio

analyses, heat tended to shift correlations to be more positive: 49% of correlations were positive

in the heat treatment. Drought dramatically decreased the number of significant correlations. In

the drought treatment, there was only one significant positive correlation between fungi and

bacteria, while in the heat and drought treatment there were only 9 significant correlations total

(Appendix S1: Table S18). Significantly correlated pairs of microbes are provided as a

supplemental file.

Microbes correlated to many other microbes, e.g. hub taxa, were different between each

network (Appendix S1: Table S18). The average hub score decreased when drought or heat was

applied, compared to control plots, however microbes with a low hub score in control conditions

tended to remain the same or increase their score with heat and drought, while microbes with a

high hub score in control conditions tended to remain the same or decrease their hub scores in

heat and drought (Appendix S3: Figure S8). The hub score of a genus in control conditions

significantly predicted how that genus responded to drought ($F_{1,59}$=9.19, p<0.01, Appendix S1:

Table S19), where genera correlated to many other genera decreased more in active drought.

Response to heat was not significantly predicted by hub score ($F_{1,59}$=3.31, p=0.07, Appendix S1:

Table S19).

Discussion

Our results suggest that climate change, and especially drought, will have more persistent

effects on soil fungi than on soil bacteria. In fungal communities, drought shaped community

composition, legacy of drought decreased diversity, and heat and drought altered the relative

abundance of symbiotic fungi important to plant communities. Heat changed the strength and

sign of covariance of fungal genera and increased temporal dissimilarity within heated

communities. In contrast, bacterial communities were largely resistant to climate treatments,

although legacy of drought tended to increase diversity and drought and drought legacy

increased the relative abundance of some plant beneficial bacteria. We discuss the implications

of the differences between these members of the microbial community, and the effects of

climatic events on symbiotic microbes below.

529
Fungi are less resistant and resilient than bacteria

Microbial communities experienced legacy effects from the climate treatments, with the

effect of drought being stronger than the effect of heat. Our study site regularly experiences

extreme annual swings in temperature, potentially conditioning microbes to resist and recover

faster from heat (Hawkes & Keitt 2015). In contrast to some studies (de Vries et al. 2018; Zhou

et al. 2020; Pec et al. 2021), even relatively short-term climate treatments had strong immediate

and lasting impacts on fungal communities; droughted fungal communities did not resemble

control communities during or after treatment. Moreover, fungal community resilience was

lower than bacterial resilience to drought, as indicated by the significant compositional changes

in the second recovery period. The other climate factor, heat, decreased the stability of fungal

communities by increasing the positive covariance between genera, potentially changing future

resistance and resilience to climate events. The differences in response between fungal and

bacterial communities suggest there is phylogenetic conservation of ecologically relevant traits at

the domain level and given that we detected phylogenetic signal in response to heat and drought

at the genus level in bacteria, ecologically relevant traits appear to be conserved at smaller

phylogenetic scales as well. Our prediction that fungi would be more resistant but less resilient to

climate change than bacteria was only partially supported; their more complex life history

strategies and longer generation times may contribute to fungi's lack of resilience under climate

stress, but do not prevent immediate shifts in relative abundance or presence.

In contrast to our prediction, the bacterial community composition and dynamics in our

plots were very resistant to climate treatments, despite literature predicting high turnover rates

(Rousk & Bååth 2011) that could allow quick responses. These results are consistent with

climate conditions affecting slow-growing microbes more, and fungal communities having a

higher proportion of very slow-growing microbes compared to bacteria, thus showing greater

change. While some literature suggests slow-growing microbes have lower relative fitness under

more extreme climate conditions (Sabath et al. 2013), slow-growing microbes may also benefit

from climate change relative to faster-growing microbes, especially if heat and drought make

resources scarce or reduce the cost of slower growth (Konstantinidis & Tiedje 2004; Abreu et al.

2023).

The life histories of bacteria and fungi likely affected their resistance and resilience to

climatic shifts, although differences in dispersal could have also played a role. It is possible that

climate treatments may have influenced local bacterial populations, but dispersal was high

enough among bacterial metacommunities to mask these effects. If bacteria could disperse easily

between our plots, their community compositions would converge more readily and the strength

of signal would be smaller (Gianuca et al. 2017), while if fungi cannot disperse as easily, shifts

in composition would be more evident. Actual rates and distances of microbial dispersal are not

well described, but there is evidence that fungi are more dispersal-limited than bacteria (Zhang et

al. 2021) meaning fungi may be less able to escape a poor environment. While we cannot rule

out the role of dispersal, dispersal did not mask the significant effects of treatment on rhizobia

and other specific bacterial genera. While surprising, highly resistant bacterial communities are

not uncommon; for example, Waring and Hawkes (2018) also observed no direct compositional

changes to altered precipitation. Despite no significant changes in community composition, the

bacteria in our plots likely experienced physiological changes and costs (Schimel et al. 2007;

Evans & Wallenstein 2013; Allison & Goulden 2017) as well as turnover in allele frequencies

and gene functions (Chase et al. 2021) that we could not detect with 16S rRNA sequencing,

which may have then contributed to drought's legacy effects on bacterial diversity.

The community-wide shifts in composition and diversity we detected are likely a product

of both the direct effects of heat and drought on microbes and the indirect effects of climate

treatment on microbes mediated through species interactions, such that microbes not directly

affected by climate may still have increased or decreased in relative abundance (Bardgett &

Caruso 2020). The increase in positive correlations between genera due to heat suggest that

climate stress can reveal axes of niche similarity among microbes that are hidden under less

stressful conditions. Our results align with new research suggesting that abiotic stress

destabilizes microbial networks through increased positive correlations (Hernandez et al. 2021;

Gao et al. 2022). Furthermore, our results suggest that these correlations between genera can

affect microbial resistance and resilience, given that highly connected hub taxa were more

negatively affected by active drought. While network analyses do not directly measure microbe-

microbe interactions, they do reflect the net pattern of how microbes interact with each other,

respond to environmental variation, and indirect effects. Indirect effects of climate can also be

mediated through plant-microbe or animal-microbe interactions, where stressed organisms may

alter the soil environment in some way, for example plants may secrete different root exudates

(Karlowsky et al. 2018; Bakhshandeh et al. 2019), or stressed organisms may themselves be an

altered environment for symbionts due to factors like growth or immune responses (Nejat &

Mantri 2017). While examining differential abundance trends over time, it became apparent that

microbes affected during active treatment were not necessarily the ones affected in recovery

periods (Figure 4, Figure 5 Appendix S3: Figure S4). Sensitive fungi showed especially different

responses to heat in active and recovery periods, with the sign of mean response changing

(Appendix S3: Figure S5). These observations demonstrate the complexity of legacy effects and

resiliency and suggests a strong role of persisting direct and indirect effects of climate on

microbial communities.

600   The fungal community, composed of predominantly saprotrophs and mycorrhiza, showed

low resistance and resilience indicating that the ecosystem services they provide may change

under future climate conditions. Fungi are major decomposers of organic material, and therefore

unlock a large supply of nutrients for higher soil trophic levels (Boddy & Watkinson 1995).

Mycorrhizal fungi contribute to nutrient cycling and mineral weathering (Courty et al. 2010), as

well as carbon sequestration (Clemmenson et al. 2013). Despite their importance to global

elemental cycling and other ecosystem processes, most research on fungal stress responses

focuses solely on yeasts (Branco et al 2022). In this experiment, yeasts were common in drought

plots, but they did not represent the average fungal response to treatments. Although yeasts

thrived under drought, overall fungal diversity was lower after drought and mycorrhizal

abundance was reduced after heat, suggesting the breadth of ecosystem services provided by

fungal communities will be decreased under future climatic conditions (Mori et al. 2016).

Additionally, low resilience in soil communities means that plants that recruit into a population

following a climatic shift may interact with an altered pool of microbes even if they do not

experience the climate event themselves. Soil microbiomes affect plant performance and fitness

(Berendsen et al. 2012; Rubin et al. 2018; Lu et al. 2018; Fitzpatrick et al. 2019) through

mechanisms such as nutrient provisioning (Beringer et al. 1979) and altering plant gene

expression profiles (Lu et al. 2018). For plants, associations with microbes can result in

improved stress tolerance (Gehring et al. 2017; Allsup et al. 2023) or even broadened geographic

range size (Afkhami et al. 2014), which can be adaptive under climate change. Therefore, soil

microbes modulate how plants respond to climate events (Classen et al. 2015; Rudgers et al.

2020) and soil legacy effects may have far-reaching ecological and environmental

consequences.

623
Symbiotic microbes respond differently to heat and drought compared to all microbes

Free-living and symbiotic microorganisms may respond differently to climate change, for

example if living inside host cells or tissue buffers microorganisms against changes to the abiotic

environment (Gulzar et al. 2020). Multiple groups of plant symbionts sometimes responded

differently to climate treatments than the average response of bacterial and fungal communities,

and ectomycorrhizal fungi that associate with white spruce did not have a universally larger or

smaller response to heat and drought compared to other symbiotic microbes. We do not attribute

these results to a shifting plant community, because it was held constant throughout the

experiment, however results may be influenced by shifts in plant traits under different climate

treatments.

Symbiotic bacterial communities were more altered by heat and drought and their

legacies compared to the whole bacteria community. Phytopathogens responded to both heat and

drought legacies and had a whole community shift, while plant beneficial bacteria diversity

increased by multiple metrics due to drought legacy. Li et al. (2023) found that environmental

filtering is a large factor structuring the distribution of PBBs across a landscape, and here we

provide experimental evidence supporting PBB's sensitivity to climate and future climate

change. The implications of PBB's higher diversity and a shifted phytopathogen community

after drought on plant performance could be an interesting area of future research. The rhizobia

guild showed a similar post-drought response compared to the overall bacteria community with

an increase in diversity; however, because we also saw significantly higher diversity when heat

and drought were being actively applied, this indicates rhizobia positively responded more to

active treatment than the overall community and even other symbiotic microbes. Since rhizobia

fix biological nitrogen through legume symbiosis (Beringer et al. 1979), their high abundance

bodes well for global nitrogen cycles under climate change. This was unexpected, as we

predicted rhizobia in particular would be a worse soil competitor under climate treatments due to

their relatively large genomes and thus longer replication times. However, if slower-growing

microbes are more sensitive to changes in climate, as we saw with our domain comparison, then

this rhizobia result is consistent. At higher temperatures, slow-growing marine bacteria cells

retain more normal membrane functions and have a lower mortality burden than fast growers

(Schaum & Collins 2014; Abreu et al. 2023), which may apply to slow-growing soil bacteria too.

Given our results, we might predict the likelihood of symbiosis between specific legume-

rhizobia partners and plant-bacteria partners more broadly to differ in future climate conditions.

A change in the availability of microbial partners matters because plant-microbe interactions

vary in specificity, especially in the legume-rhizobia system (Chen et al. 2021), which could lead

to shifts in plant communities and plant ranges (Harrison et al. 2018). The increased abundance

and diversity of rhizobia could also shape evolution in the rhizobia-legume system through

increased bacterial competition (Burghardt & diCenzo 2023).

While beneficial bacteria increased with our climate treatments, mutualistic fungi were

negatively affected. Mycorrhizae, mainly composed of ectomycorrhiza, had significantly lower

relative abundance in heated plots, and ectomycorrhiza that associate with the host plant found in

the plots did not have a different magnitude or direction of change from mycorrhizae as a whole.

Our results suggest mycorrhizae were less resistant to heat than the fungal community overall,

which showed no major compositional changes to heat. We also observed significant decreases

in the abundance of specific ectomycorrhizal genera in the bulk soil due to active drought and its

legacy, and possibly as a result of this decreased abundance, drought has been shown to reduce

ectomycorrhizal root colonization (Erlandson et al. 2022). A recent study by Fu et al. (2022)

found that drought lowered the diversity of field arbuscular mycorrhizae, and they suggested this

shift was mediated by plant communities. In our experiment, because the ectomycorrhiza could

associate with the spruce saplings in our plots, it is likely there were negative indirect climate

effects on the mycorrhizae mediated through changes in the physiology of the spruce, indirect

microbe-microbe interactions, as well as the direct effects of climate treatment. Ectomycorrhizal

fungi have a narrow climatic tolerance and thus are predicted to be disproportionately affected by

climate change (Baldrian et al. 2023), which our results support.

Mutualistic and parasitic fungi both derive nutrients from hosts, however while heat

decreased mycorrhizae, drought increased parasites in recovery periods. If parasitic fungal

species become more prevalent in post-drought conditions this could increase the likelihood of

soil dwelling organisms hosting a parasite. Drought and heat may be especially problematic in

temperate forests, where most trees are ectomycorrhizal (Baldrian et al. 2023) since trees may

simultaneously lack their main mutualist partners and experience increased parasite pressure.

Organisms hosting parasites may have reduced growth and fitness, leading to reduced ecosystem

productivity. Additionally, parasitized hosts may experience more negative effects from climate

events than non-parasitized hosts (Baldrian et al. 2023). In positive feedback, pathogens and

parasitic microbes are predicted to increase in heated environments in part due to increased

susceptibility of stressed hosts (Pritchard 2011; Altizer et al. 2013; Baker et al. 2018). While we

688 saw limited evidence of heat differentially affecting parasites, our results did suggest drought

689 may also play a role in moderating parasite abundances under future climate conditions.

691 *Conclusions*

692  Soil microbiomes are tightly linked to global nutrient and chemical cycling, and there is a

693 rich literature describing how microbes buffer plants against the abiotic stresses of climate

694 change (e.g. Yang et al. 2009; Lau & Lennon 2012; Rudgers et al. 2020; Marro et al. 2022;

695 Allsup et al. 2023). Given the soil microbiome's important role in ecosystems, it is important to

696 understand how microbial populations respond to climate events and the factors underlying

697 variation in resistance and resilience. We found that fungi were less resistant and less resilient to

698 drought and its legacy compared to bacteria, while heat had limited overall effect on both

699 domains. Symbiosis generated variation in resistance and resilience within the domains but did

700 not have a universal effect; for example, notable mutualistic bacteria performed well under

701 climate stress while mutualistic fungi did not. Our results suggest that slower-growing microbes

702 will be more affected by climate change. Low resistance and resilience of soil fungal

703 communities will have far-reaching consequences for ecosystems under climate change.

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Conflict of Interest Statement

The authors declare no conflicts of interest.

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1081 **Figure captions**

1082

Figure 1. Experimental design at Koffler Scientific Reserve. (a) The temperature-free-air-

controlled enhancement plots showing the infrared heaters and rainout structures, as well as the

water drainage system. Photo by Julia Boyle. (b) Schematic diagram of the experimental plots

(numbered) and their climate treatments. Dots represent sampled sites within plots. (c) Drought

treatment was effective at reducing soil volumetric water content. (d) Heat treatment was

effective at increasing soil temperature. Lines in (c) and (d) show GAM smoothed means of

treatments and overlays indicate when drought (orange) or heat (blue) was actively applied.

1090

1091 Figure 2. Community structure of fungal and bacterial soil microbes across climate conditions

1092 and time. Boxplots of Shannon diversity across time in fungal (a) and bacterial (c) microbial

1093 communities. PCoA plots show fungal Bray-Curtis dissimilarity (b) and bacterial weighted

1094 Unifrac distances (d) of the microbial communities. Only significant effects of heat, drought, and

1095 their interaction are displayed on the panels.

1096

1097 Figure 3. Community composition over time for each subsample in each treatment. (a)-(c) Fungi

1098 relative abundances at the order level. (d)-(f) Bacteria relative abundance at the order level.

1099 Orders were aggregated and included when they were at least 1% of the compositional

1100 abundance, and found in at least 30% of samples. Plot order within treatment groups remains

1101 consistent, with 2-3 samples per plot.

1102

1103 Figure 4. Differentially abundant microbe genera due to drought across all sampling times,

1104 compared to control plots. Taxa shown are significant (p<0.05) with Holm's method *p*-value

1105 adjustment, grouped by domain, and ordered by descending average log fold change.

1106

1107 Figure 5. Differentially abundant microbe genera due to heat across all sampling times,

1108 compared to control plots. Taxa shown are significant (p<0.05) with Holm's method *p*-value

1109 adjustment, grouped by domain, and ordered by descending average log fold change.

1110

1111 Figure 6. Symbiotic microbes under climate treatments. (a) Rhizobia Shannon diversity. (b)

1112 Rhizobia community weighted Unifrac PCoAs. (c) and (d) Fungal parasite and mycorrhizae

1113 relative abundance across treatment and time. Only significant main effects of heat, drought, and

1114 their interaction are displayed on the panels.

1115
1116 **Figures**
1117

1118
1119   Figure 1

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1121   Figure 2

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1123   Figure 3
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1129　Figure 4

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1131   Figure 5

1132
1133   Figure 6

(a)

(b)

12	11	10	9	8	7

1	2	3	4	5	6

■ Control ■ Drought ■ Heat ■ Heat and Drought ○ = Sample site

(c) Volumetric water content (m^3/m^3)

2020 · 2021

Treatment
■ Control
■ Drought
■ Heat
■ Heat and drought

Day of the year

(d) Soil temperature °C

2020 · 2021

Treatment
■ Control
■ Drought
■ Heat
■ Heat and drought

Day of the year

Fungal Order

Acrospermales · Fungi_ord_Incertae_sedis · Pleosporales
Agaricales · Glomerellales · Pleurotheciales
Agaricostilbales · Helotiales · Polyporales
Auriculariales · Hypocreales · Rozellomycota_ord_Incertae_sedis
Boletales · Leucosporidiales · Saccharomycetales
Branch06 · Microascales · Sakaguchiales
Cantharellales · Microbotryales · Sebacinales
Capnodiales · Microbotryomycetes_ord_Incertae_sedis · Sordariales
Chaetosphaeriales · Mortierellales · Sporidiobolales
Chaetothyriales · Myrmecridiales · Thelephorales
Coniochaetales · Onygenales · Trechisporales
Cystofilobasidiales · Orbiliales · Tremellales
Eurotiales · Other · Unknown
Filobasidiales · Pezizales · Xylariales

Bacterial Order

[Chthoniobacterales] · Armatimonadales · Clostridiales · iii1-15 · Oceanospirillales · S0208
[Entotheonellales] · B07_WMSP1 · Cytophagales · IS-44 · OPB54 · SBR1031
[Marinicellales] · B97 · Desulfuromonadales · JG30-KF-CM45 · Opitutales · SC-I-84
[Pedosphaerales] · Bacillales · DS-100 · LD1-PA13 · Other · Sediment-1
[Roseiflexales] · BD7-3 · DS-18 · Legionellales · Phycisphaerales · Solibacterales
[Saprospirales] · Bdellovibrionales · Ellin329 · Methylacidiphilales · Pirellulales · Solirubrobacterales
0319-7L14 · BPC015 · Ellin5290 · Methylophilales · PK29 · Sphaerobacterales
11-24 · Burkholderiales · Ellin6067 · Micrococcales · PK329 · Sphingobacterales
258ds10 · C114 · Ellin6513 · MIZ46 · Planctomycetales · Sphingomonadales
32-20 · Caldilineales · Enterobacteriales · MND1 · Pseudomonadales · Spirobacillales
A31 · Caulobacterales · FAC88 · MVS-107 · RB41 · Sva0725
A89 · CCM11a · Flavobacteriales · MVS-40 · Rhizobiales · Syntrophobacterales
Acidimicrobiales · CCU21 · Gaiellales · Myxococcales · Rhodobacterales · Thiotrichales
Actinomycetales · CFB-26 · GCA004 · N1423WL · Rhodocyclales · Unknown
agg27 · Chlamydiales · Gemmatales · NB1-j · Rhodospirillales · Verrucomicrobiales
AKIW781 · Chloroflexales · Gemmatimonadales · Nitrososphaerales · Rickettsiales · wb1_H11
AKYG1722 · Chromatiales · H39 · Nitrospirales · Rubrobacterales · WCHB1-50
AKYG885 · Chthonomonadales · Herpetosiphonales · Nostocales · S-70 · WD2101
Alteromonadales · CL500-15 · HTCC2188 · · S-BQ2-57 · Xanthomonadales

Drought

Heat

(a) Rhizobia diversity

First recovery period | Active treatment | Second recovery period

Active treatment: Drought p=0.05, Heat p<0.05

Second recovery period: Drought p<0.05

Shannon diversity index

Treatment: Control, Drought, Heat, Heat and drought

(b) Rhizobia communities

First recovery period — Axis 1 [79.3%], Axis 2 [9.1%], Heat x Drought p<0.05

Active treatment — Axis 1 [72%], Axis 2 [16.2%]

Second recovery period — Axis 1 [84.9%], Axis 2 [11%]

Treatment: Control, Drought, Heat, Heat and drought

(c) Fungal parasites across treatment and recovery — Drought p<0.01, Month p<0.001

First recovery period | Active treatment | Second recovery period

Parasite relative abundance

Treatment: Control, Drought, Heat, Heat and drought

(d) Mycorrhizae across treatment and recovery — Heat p<0.05, Month p<0.05

First recovery period | Active treatment | Second recovery period

Mycorrhizal relative abundance

Treatment: Control, Drought, Heat, Heat and drought