

1 **Supplementary information**

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3 Materials and methods: 454-pyrosequencing and noise removal

4 Tag-pyrosequencing was done with Roche 454 Titanium platform following
5 manufacturer protocols (454 Life Science). Amplification of the hypervariable regions
6 V1-V3 was done using Primers 28F (5'-GAGTTTGATCNTGGCTCAG) and 519R (5'-
7 GTNTTACNGCGGCKGCTG). Approximately 400 bp long tags were obtained. PCR
8 and subsequent sequencing are described in Dowd *et al.* (2008).

9 The raw tag-sequences were processed using QIIME (Caporaso *et al.*, 2010). Briefly,
10 to reduce sequencing errors and their effects, the multiplexed reads were first trimmed,
11 quality-filtered and assigned to the samples, surface or bottom. The filtering criteria
12 included a perfect match to the sequence barcode and primer, at least 400 bp in length, an
13 average quality score (phred) of 28 within sliding windows of 50bp. Additionally,
14 denoiser was used to reduce the amount of erroneous sequences (Reeder & Knight,
15 2010). The sequences were then clustered into Operational Taxonomic Units (OTUs)
16 based on the relatedness of the sequences (97% similarity) with UCLUST, version
17 1.1.579 (Edgar, 2010). A representative sequence from each OTU was selected as the
18 first cluster seed chosen by UCLUST. ChimeraSlayer implemented in Mothur (Schloss
19 *et al.*, 2011) use to check for chimeras. Then, taxonomy assignment was made with
20 QIIME by searching the representative sequences of each OTU against the SILVA
21 16S/18S rDNA non-redundant reference dataset (SSU Ref 108 NR) (Quast *et al.*, 2013)
22 using the Basic Local Alignment Search Tool (BLAST) and an e-value of 0.03. Chimera,
23 chloroplast, eukarya and archaea sequences were removed from the output fasta file that

24 was used for building a table with the OTU abundance of each sample and the taxonomic
25 assignments for each OTU.

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27 Materials and methods: Isolation of bacterial cultures

28 Isolates were obtained on board by plating 100 µl of undiluted and 10x diluted sea-water
29 from the surface sample, in triplicates, onto modified Zobell agar plates (i.e. 5 g peptone,
30 1 g yeast extract and 15 g agar in 1 l of 0.2 µm filtered 75% sea water). Agar plates were
31 incubated at *in situ* temperature (~20 °C), in the dark, for 14 days. 326 bacterial colonies
32 were selected and the cultures were subsequently purified by re-isolation three times in a
33 month. Next, isolates were grown at 20 °C on the same liquid medium and stored at -
34 80 °C with 25% (v/v) glycerol.

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36 Materials and methods: Bacterial isolates PCRs

37 PCR, using Taq polymerase (Boehringer-Mannheim), of the Internal Transcribed Spacer
38 (ITS) was done using primers ITS-F (5'-GTCGTAACAAGGTAGCCGTA) and ITS-R
39 (5'-GCCAAGGCATCCACC) and the following thermal conditions: 94°C for 2 min, then
40 32 cycles of 94 °C for 15 sec, 55 °C for 30 sec, 72 °C for 3 min, followed by one cycle of
41 72 °C for 4 min and 4 °C on hold.

42 PCR of the 16S rRNA gene of the 148 chosen by their different ITS pattern were then
43 amplified using bacterial 16S rRNA gene primers 27F
44 (5'-AGAGTTTGATCMTGGCTCAG) and 1492R (5'-GTTTACCTTGTTACGACTT).

45 The thermal conditions were as follows: 94 °C for 5 min, then 30 cycles of 94 °C for 1

46 min, 55 °C for 1 min, 72 °C for 2 min, followed by one cycle of 72 °C for 10 min and 4 °C
47 on hold.

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49 Materials and methods: Simulating the Required Sequencing Effort (RSE)

50 For each of 80 ensemble members, we simulated a random sequence of 10N individual
51 species labels, where N is the present sequencing effort, by: 1) sampling a set of
52 parameter values from the posterior distribution, 2) sampling relative abundances
53 (proportions in the water sample) from the taxon abundance distribution given the
54 parameter values, 3) sampling species counts (from hypothetical sequencing) using the
55 multinomial distribution given the proportions and the total number of individuals 10N,
56 and 4) converting the species counts into a randomly-ordered sequence of individual
57 labels. The simulated RSE was then identified as the individual (tag) index for which the
58 number of species observed earlier in the sequence first exceeded 90% of the simulated
59 total richness (S).

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61 Discussion: Simulation tests on the number of isolates retrieved in sequences

62 To simulate the number of isolates retrieved in sequences, we simulated 3000 sets of
63 species counts using the method described above for RSE calculations, but with the total
64 number of tags fixed at the present sequencing effort N. For each set of simulated
65 sequencing counts, 38 species were selected at random without replacement from the list
66 of all S counts (including zeros), and the number of these with non-zero counts was
67 recorded to give the simulated number retrieved by sequencing r_s . The simulation p-

68 value for the actual number of species retrieved by sequencing r was then taken as $(1 +$
69 $\#(r_s \leq r))/3001$ following Davison & Hinkley (1997).

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71 Discussion: Simulation/bootstrap tests on the counts of isolates retrieved in sequences

72 To simulate the counts of isolates retrieved in sequences, we again simulated 3000 sets of
73 species counts as described above, and this time randomly selected without replacement
74 either 9 or 14 species from the list of non-zero counts for each simulation. The mean,
75 median, and maximum counts from this subset were recorded for each simulation, and p-
76 values were calculated as described above assuming lower-than-random count statistics
77 as an alternative hypothesis. For the bottom count statistics (14 species), we also
78 performed the test assuming higher-than-random count statistics t on the alternative,
79 hence calculating p-values as $(1 + \#(t_s \geq t))/3001$.

80 These tests were also repeated using a bootstrap method, thus avoiding the need to
81 assume a parametric distribution. To do this, a vector of 9 or 14 species counts was
82 randomly resampled *with* replacement from the observed species count vector. This was
83 repeated over 9999 bootstraps and bootstrap p-values were calculated as $(1 + \#(t_s \leq$
84 $t))/10000$ or $(1 + \#(t_s \geq t))/10000$, again following Davison & Hinkley (1997).

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91 References:

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116 **Figure legends**

117 Figure S1. Goodness-of-fit of the best-approximating Sichel distribution to surface (A)
118 and bottom (B) data sets. Observed and predicted count frequencies (numbers of OTUs
119 with a given sample abundance) are plotted against tag counts (sample abundances) on a
120 log-log scale. Goodness-of-fit is illustrated by the closeness of the predicted frequencies
121 (posterior means, solid lines) to the observed frequencies (dots) as well as by the
122 narrowness of the 95% prediction intervals (dashed lines) while still containing most of
123 the data. The comparison is restricted to rare counts in the range 1–100 because these are
124 likely the most important for estimating total richness and required sequencing effort, and
125 because the computation of stable frequency prediction intervals for higher counts would
126 require too many simulations (the intervals shown used 3 000). The distributions were
127 however fitted to the full range of observed count frequencies ($f_{1-178569}$ and $f_{1-45414}$ for
128 surface and bottom samples respectively).

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131 **Table captions**

132 Table S1. Four different compound Poisson distributions were fitted to the surface and
133 bottom data: the Poisson log-normal, the Poisson inverse Gaussian, the Poisson log-
134 student, and the Poisson generalized inverse Gaussian (Sichel) distribution. As a
135 robustness check we reran the Sichel fit for the surface sample excluding the counts of
136 the most abundant species which, for this sample, was more than 3 times as abundant as
137 the second most abundant species (see Surface*). The relative goodness-of-fit is assessed
138 using Akaike's Information Criterion ($AICc = -2 \times \max(\log \text{likelihood}) + 2p + 2p(p+1)/(n-$
139 $p-1)$), where p is the number of fitted parameters and n is the number of data; Hurvich and

140 Tsai, 1989; Burnham and Anderson, 2002) and the deviance information criterion (DIC =
141 $-2 \times \text{posterior mean}(\log \text{likelihood}) + p$; Spiegelhalter *et al.*, 2002; Quince *et al.*, 2008).
142 For the robustness check the selection criteria are placed in square parentheses since these
143 cannot be compared to other rows. We also show the total species richness estimates
144 from maximum likelihood (\hat{S}_{ML}) as well as the posterior median ($\hat{S}_{50\%}$) and the 95%
145 credible bounds ($\hat{S}_{2.5\%}$ and $\hat{S}_{97.5\%}$) from the Bayesian MCMC method (Quince *et al.*
146 2008).

147 Reference: Hurvich CM and Tsai C-L (1989). Regression and time series model selection in
148 small samples. *Biometrika* **76**: 297-307.

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150 Table S2. (A) Semiparametric functional fits to surface sample collector's curve data and
151 corresponding estimates of total species richness. A set of 12 convex, saturating
152 functions were fitted to the rarefied species accumulation curve, sampled at intervals of 1
153 000 tags (hence 502 data points), using the nonlinear least squares function "nls" in R to
154 estimate the parameters a, b etc. The absolute quality of the fits was measured using the
155 generalized R2 values (defined for nonlinear fit as $1 - \text{RSS}/\text{SSM}$, where RSS is the
156 residual sum of squares and SSM is the sum of squares of the sample mean). The best-
157 approximating model was selected as that which minimized Akaike's Information
158 Criterion (AICc, in this case the Power Michaelis Menten (2) function was selected). The
159 selected model was then used to estimate the total sample richness S as the asymptotic
160 value of the function at $x = \text{Inf}$ (final column shows the estimates for all candidate
161 functions). Required sequencing effort (not shown) was predicted by inverting the
162 selected function for x such that the value of the function was 0.9 times the estimated
163 sample richness. Note that for certain 3 and 4 -parameter functions the R2 values are

164 extremely high and differ only in the fourth or fifth decimal places ($R^2 > 0.999$) yet the
165 estimated richnesses can differ substantially (cf. Power Michaelis Menten (2) vs. Weibull
166 Cumulative). For such functions, the AICc values also tend to differ by relatively large
167 amounts, such that a model averaging strategy based on AIC weights would differ little
168 from simply choosing the lowest-AICc model (Burnham and Anderson, 2002), and any
169 assessment of model selection uncertainty based on AIC-weights is unlikely to predict the
170 level of selection uncertainty observed in simulations (see Table S3). This latter is likely
171 the result of the neglected error correlation in the functional fits.

172 Table S2. (B) Semiparametric functional fits to bottom sample collector's curve data and
173 corresponding estimates of total species richness. A set of 12 convex, saturating
174 functions were fitted to the rarefied species accumulation curve, sampled at intervals of 1
175 000 tags (hence 576 data points), using the nonlinear least squares function "nls" in R to
176 estimate the parameters a, b etc. The absolute quality of the fits was measured using the
177 generalized R^2 values (defined for nonlinear fit as $1 - \text{RSS}/\text{SSM}$, where RSS is the
178 residual sum of squares and SSM is the sum of squares of the sample mean). The best-
179 approximating model was selected as that which minimized Akaike's Information
180 Criterion (AICc, in this case the Power Michaelis Menten (2) + offset function was
181 selected). The selected model was then used to estimate the total sample richness S as the
182 asymptotic value of the function at $x = \text{Inf}$ (final column shows the estimates for all
183 candidate functions). Required sequencing effort (not shown) was predicted by inverting
184 the selected function for x such that the value of the function was 0.9 times the estimated
185 sample richness. Note that for certain 3 and 4 -parameter functions the R^2 values are
186 extremely high and differ only in the fourth or fifth decimal places ($R^2 > 0.999$) yet the

187 estimated richnesses can differ substantially (cf. Power Michaelis Menten (2) vs. Weibull
188 Cumulative). For such functions, the AICc values also tend to differ by relatively large
189 amounts, such that a model averaging strategy based on AIC weights would differ little
190 from simply choosing the lowest-AICc model (Burnham and Anderson, 2002), and any
191 assessment of model selection uncertainty based on AIC-weights is unlikely to predict the
192 level of selection uncertainty observed in simulations (see Table S3). This latter is likely
193 the result of the neglected error correlation in the functional fits.

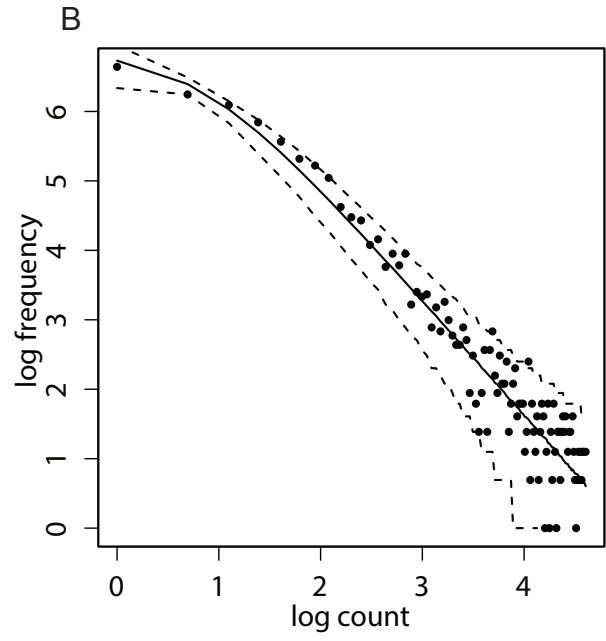
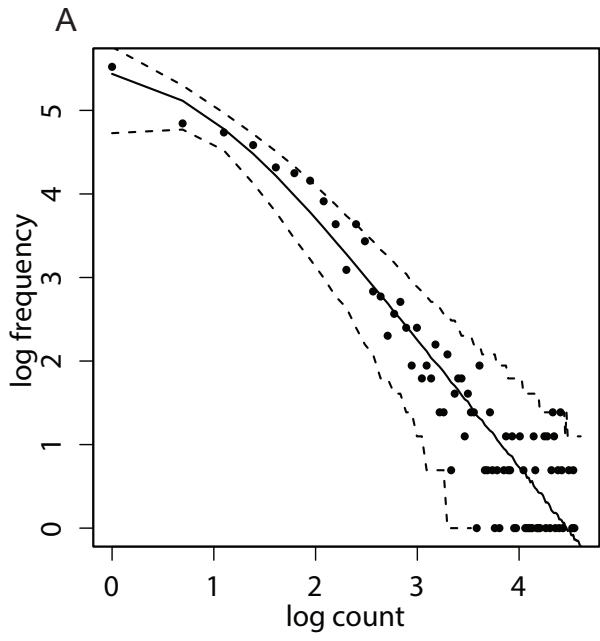
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195 Table S3. Simulation-based tests of estimator performance, considering estimates of both
196 the total species richness (S) and the required sequencing effort (RSE) i.e. number of tags
197 required to observe a given fraction of the total richness in a new sample (e.g. 0.7S means
198 70% of the total richness). For each of four parametric distributions (Poisson log-normal,
199 Poisson log-student, Poisson inverse-Gaussian, and Sichel) an ensemble of 80 sets of
200 community abundances were randomly sampled from the parametric distribution; species
201 data were then simulated by sampling from multinomial distributions with probabilities
202 defined by the community abundances for each ensemble member. Distribution
203 parameter values, including the total species richness, were also varied between ensemble
204 members by sampling from the posterior distributions fitted to the observed data.
205 Estimator performance is summarized by the %BIAS (ensemble average of estimate
206 minus true value) and %RMSE (root-mean-square error), normalizing by the ensemble
207 mean of the true value in both cases. Non-parametric species richness estimators
208 included the Chao1 lower bound estimate (Chao, 1984), the coverage-based estimator for
209 highly heterogeneous communities (ACE-1; Chao & Lee, 1992; Chao *et al.*, 2000) and

210 the bias-corrected Chao estimate $iChao$ (Chiu *et al.*, 2014). The ACE-1 estimator was
211 tested using two values of the cut-off count k to define "rare" species: the default value k
212 = 10 and a larger value $k = 100$ as recommended by Chao & Shen (2012) for microbial
213 communities (note, the estimated CV of the "rare" species was < 0.8 for $k = 10$ but > 0.8
214 for $k = 100$, where 0.8 is a threshold above which Chao & Shen (2012) recommend ACE-
215 1 in preference to ACE). RSE was estimated for each nonparametric estimator by
216 inverted the expression in Table 1 of Chao *et al.* (2014) and substituting the
217 corresponding estimates of the zero-count frequency $f_0 = (S - S_{obs})$ (using ACE-1 this is
218 identical to the method proposed in Chao & Shen (2012) based on Shen *et al.* (2003)
219 except for a negligible bias correction). Similar results (not shown) were obtained by
220 substituting into equation (12) in Chao *et al.* (2009) (see also Colwell *et al.*, 2012,
221 equation 11). A semi-parametric AICc-selected estimator SP (AICc) was constructed by
222 fitting 12 different functions to the collector's curves (rarefied species richness vs.
223 sampling effort) and choosing the function with the lowest Akaike's Information
224 Criterion (AICc). Total richness was then estimated as the asymptotic value of the
225 selected function (see Table S2), and RSE was estimated by inverting the selected
226 function for sampling effort given the required fraction of asymptotic richness.
227 Nonparametric estimates were calculated using the R package SPECIES (Wang, 2011)
228 and semiparametric functions were fitted using the nonlinear least squares function "nls"
229 in R (R Core Team, 2013).

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Supplementary Figure 1
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Table S1.

Distribution	No. fitted parameters p	Sample	min(-log lik)	AICc	DIC	$\hat{S}_{\max. \text{lik.}}$
Log-normal	3	Surface	869.4	1744.8	1744.8	2449
Log-student	4	Surface	840.6	1689.1	1689.3	1869
Inverse Gaussian	3	Surface	836.9	1679.8	1679.9	1644
Sichel	4	Surface	834.7	1677.4	1677.3	1618
Sichel	4	Surface*	[821.3]	[1650.7]	[1651]	1619
Log-normal	3	Bottom	1276.9	2559.8	2559.8	6843
Log-student	4	Bottom	1198.0	2404.1	2404.1	5850
Inverse Gaussian	3	Bottom	1230.0	2466.0	2466.0	5352
Sichel	4	Bottom	1176.9	2361.8	2362.1	5118

$\hat{S}_{\text{posterior mean}}$	$\hat{S}_{50\%}$	$\hat{S}_{2.5\%}$	$\hat{S}_{97.5\%}$
2501	2488	2238	2819
1897	1891	1797	2027
1644	1643	1594	1702
1615	1614	1568	1669
1616	1615	1568	1671
6856	6850	6544	7199
5867	5863	5701	6055
5353	5352	5250	5463
5109	5108	5027	5196

Table S2.

A

Function	Formula (x = #tags-1)	Number of Parameter s	R ²	AICc
Michaelis Menten	$(ax)/(b+x)+1$	2	0.98414	4976
Negative Exponential	$a(1-\exp(-bx))+1$	2	0.93681	5670
Power Michaelis Menten (1)	$ax^c/(b+x^c)+1$	3	0.99977	2856
Power Michaelis Menten (2)	$ax^c/(b+x)^c+1$	3	0.99995	2086
Power Negative Exponential	$a(1-\exp(-bx))^c+1$	3	0.99947	3274
Weibull Cumulative	$a(1-\exp(-bx))^c$	3	0.99992	2323
Michaelis Menten + offset	$(ax)/(b+x)+1+c$	3	0.99680	4174
Negative Exponential + offset	$a(1-\exp(-bx))+1+c$	3	0.98639	4901
Power Michaelis Menten (1) + offset	$ax^c/(b+x^c)+1+d$	4	0.99988	2545
Power Michaelis Menten (2) + offset	$ax^c/(b+x)^c+1+d$	4	0.99995	2088
Power Negative Exponential	$a(1-\exp(-bx))^c+1+d$	4	0.99957	3169
Weibull Cumulative + offset	$a(1-\exp(-bx))^c+d$	4	0.99992	2316

B

Function	Formula	Number of Parameter s	R ²	AICc
Michaelis Menten	$(ax)/(b+x)+1$	2	0.98873	6899
Negative Exponential	$a(1-\exp(-bx))+1$	2	0.95179	7737
Power Michaelis Menten (1)	$ax^c/(b+x^c)+1$	3	0.99986	4380
Power Michaelis Menten (2)	$ax^c/(b+x)^c+1$	3	0.99999	2897
Power Negative Exponential	$a(1-\exp(-bx))^c+1$	3	0.99959	4996
Weibull Cumulative	$a(1-\exp(-bx))^c$	3	0.99999	3062
Michaelis Menten + offset	$(ax)/(b+x)+1+c$	3	0.99758	6014
Negative Exponential + offset	$a(1-\exp(-bx))+1+c$	3	0.98893	6891
Power Michaelis Menten (1) + offset	$ax^c/(b+x^c)+1+d$	4	0.99992	4081
Power Michaelis Menten (2) + offset	$ax^c/(b+x)^c+1+d$	4	0.99999	2566
Power Negative Exponential	$a(1-\exp(-bx))^c+1+d$	4	0.99974	4729
Weibull Cumulative + offset	$a(1-\exp(-bx))^c+d$	4	0.99999	2924

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Table S3.

Estimator	Sample	S(lognormal)		RSE(0.7S, lognormal)	
		%BIAS	%RMSE	%BIAS	%RMSE
Chao	Surface	-25.8	26.8	-86.2	116.1
ACE-1(k=10)	Surface	-24.5	25.4	-85.5	114.4
ACE-1(k=100)	Surface	0.9	4.3	-21.0	54.4
iChao	Surface	-23.4	24.5	-84.8	114.1
SP(AICc)	Surface	-1.0	4.5	-6.2	33.3
Chao	Bottom	-14.9	15.1	-70.1	71.9
ACE-1	Bottom	-14.2	14.4	-70.8	72.4
ACE-1(k=100)	Bottom	7.5	8.1	54.1	55.2
iChao	Bottom	-12.7	12.9	-71.1	72.5
SP(AICc)	Bottom	3.7	4.1	23.3	27.5

S(logstudent)		RSE(0.8S, logstudent)		S(inverse Gaussian)		RSE(0.9S, inv
%BIAS	%RMSE	%BIAS	%RMSE	%BIAS	%RMSE	%BIAS
-22.1	22.9	-76.2	90.1	-5.7	6.6	-36.6
-18.9	19.4	-71.3	84.0	-3.5	4.2	-26.9
50.2	60.0	95.2	113.4	40.6	45.9	283.0
-19.1	19.9	-72.1	85.9	-3.3	4.3	-25.9
-2.4	11.6	-2.8	70.3	1.4	6.8	81.6
-24.3	24.8	-73.9	81.3	-5.9	6.0	-33.5
-18.8	19.0	-66.2	72.6	-3.7	3.8	-23.8
93.8	101.5	167.0	178.3	43.5	44.3	306.2
-20.6	21.0	-69.0	76.4	-3.2	3.5	-21.6
3.6	10.0	31.3	60.8	1.3	7.1	51.6

erse Gaussian)	S(Sichel)		RSE(0.9S, Sichel)		
	%RMSE	%BIAS	%RMSE	%BIAS	%RMSE
	49.6	-6.3	7.8	-38.3	53.9
	36.6	-3.7	4.9	-27.5	40.3
	313.4	53.2	60.5	323.0	361.5
	39.2	-3.6	5.5	-27.5	43.8
	448.9	4.1	12.2	237.9	921.5
	34.9	-7.4	7.9	-38.5	44.1
	25.0	-3.6	3.9	-24.7	28.5
	309.8	76.0	81.2	396.9	416.9
	23.3	-4.2	4.8	-27.2	33.0
	206.8	3.1	12.5	138.5	391.6