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Microbiome Aggregated Traits and Assembly are More Sensitive to Soil Management than Diversity

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Abstract. How soil is managed, particularly for agriculture, exerts stresses upon soil microbiomes resulting in altered community structures and functional states. Understanding how soil microbiomes respond to combined stresses is important for predicting system performance under different land use scenarios, aids in identification of the most environmentally benign managements and provides insight into how system function can be recovered in degraded soils. We use a long-established field experiment to study the effects of combined chronic disturbance of the magnitude of organic carbon inputs with acute effects of physical disturbance by tillage. We show that because of the variety of ways it can be assessed, biodiversity – here based on microbial small subunit ribosomal RNA genes – does not provide a consistent view of community change. In contrast, aggregated traits associated with soil microbiomes indicate general loss of function, measured as a reduction of average genome lengths, associated with chronic reduction of organic inputs in arable or bare fallow soils and altered growth strategies associated with ribosomal RNA operon copy number in prokaryotes, as well as a switch to pathogenicity in fungal communities. In addition, pulse disturbance by soil tillage is

34 associated with an increased influence of stochastic processes upon prokaryote community
35 assembly, but fungicide used in arable soils results in niche assembly of fungal
36 communities compared to untilled grassland. Overall, bacteria, archaea and fungi do not
37 share a common response to land management change and estimates of biodiversity do
38 not capture important facets of community adaptation to stresses adequately.

39

40 **Importance.** Changes in soil microbiome diversity and function brought about by
41 land management are predicted to influence a range of environmental services provided
42 by soil, including provision of food and clean water. However, opportunities to compare
43 the long-term effects of combinations of stresses imposed by different management
44 approaches are limited. We exploit a globally unique fifty-year field experiment,
45 demonstrating that soil management practises alter microbiome diversity, community
46 traits and assembly. Grassland soil microbiomes are dominated by fewer - but
47 phylogenetically more diverse - prokaryote phylotypes which sustain larger genomes than
48 microbiomes in arable or bare fallow soil maintained free of plants. Dominant fungi in
49 grassland soils are less phylogenetically diverse than those in arable or fallow soils. Soil
50 tillage increases stochastic processes in microbiome assembly: this, combined with
51 reduced plant biomass, presents opportunities for organisms with a capacity for
52 pathogenesis to become established in stressed soils.

53

54 **Introduction.**

55 One consequence of the biodiversity of microorganisms in soils (1,2) is that historically,
56 responses of below-ground communities to environmental or land use change were
57 thought to be largely inconsequential to ecosystem processes (3). This stemmed from an
58 assumption that although functional diversity in soils can be high, it is typically exceeded
59 by the number of extant soil microbial species. It is generally assumed from this richness
60 of species that soil biological systems have high levels of functional redundancy. However,
61 soil microbial community composition and function have been shown to be sensitive to
62 land use and climactic change including CO₂ increases, inorganic fertilization,
63 temperature changes and carbon amendments (4). Recovery of community function to
64 pre-disturbance states is typically limited, particularly by long-term (chronic) disturbances
65 (5). Understanding the effects of land management upon soil microbial diversity is
66 important because soil microbes are responsible for the provision of a significant number

67 of environmental services (6,7). While the previous two decades have seen an increase in
68 our understanding of the effects of individual physical or chemical disturbance upon
69 microbial populations in soil, there is still limited information relating to the more realistic
70 combined effects of physical and chemical or chronic and acute disturbances (5).
71 Arguably, the greatest disturbances to soil and associated microbial communities result
72 from agricultural practices. Agricultural management is associated with losses of soil
73 organic carbon (8); harvesting limits the input of plant material, typically to just roots and
74 stubble in arable systems, and tillage accelerates microbial decomposition of soil organic
75 matter. Associated mechanical activity also induces soil compaction. Comparison of soils
76 from permanently untilled grassland and arable field experiments (9) indicate that
77 grassland soils show greater physical stability (to compression and wet/dry cycles) and
78 biological functional stability (to temperature and metal toxicity). The loss of stability in
79 arable soils is largely related to management effects on soil organic carbon (9).

80 Identifying any effects of disturbance arising from agricultural practice upon the
81 phylogenetic assemblage and diversity of soil microbial communities is not trivial.
82 Carbon turnover in soil typically occurs over decennial temporal scales (10). Studies of
83 the effects of persistent soil management must account for such long temporal scales if
84 they are to assess maximal changes in communities (5). This limits the practicality of
85 laboratory-based experiments, but controlled field manipulations lasting many decades
86 provide opportunities to investigate community responses to the combination of
87 disturbances brought about by altered land management (11). One example of such field-
88 scale manipulation is the Rothamsted Highfield Ley-Arable experiment, set on soil that
89 has been under permanent grass since at least 1838. The experiment compares original
90 grassland with continuous arable management (established in 1948) as well as bare
91 fallowed soil, kept free of vegetation and other organic inputs (established in 1959) in the
92 same soil and exposed to identical climatic conditions. Over this period, bare fallowed
93 soils have become depleted in labile organic carbon and enriched in persistent organic
94 carbon (12), and total organic carbon has been reduced to a greater extent than in arable
95 soil. There has also been observable progressive shifts, from grassland to arable and bare
96 fallow, in the distribution of organic carbon between different pools in the three soil
97 managements, particularly a relative decline in discrete organic particles independent of
98 stable soil aggregates, and a corresponding increase in the proportion of organic particles

99 encapsulated in stable aggregates (13). Confirmation of this apparent shift in soil structure
100 has been provided by high-resolution X-ray computed tomography (14).

101 This long-established field experiment presents a unique opportunity to study the
102 combined effects of press disturbance on the magnitude of organic carbon inputs
103 (estimated at approximately 78 Mg ha⁻¹ annum⁻¹ from perennial grass and forbs to
104 grassland soils, 46 Mg ha⁻¹ annum⁻¹ derived from annual wheat straw to arable soils, and
105 none in bare fallow soils (10)) with pulse effects of physical disturbance by tillage (once a
106 year in arable soils, three to four times a year in bare fallowed soils and never in grassland
107 soils) upon microbial communities: contemporaneous grassland effectively represents the
108 pre-disturbance state of arable and bare fallow soils, but also accounting for time as a
109 covariate. We generated shotgun metagenome datasets from DNA extracted directly
110 from soils subject to the three land managements. Metagenome reads with homology to
111 prokaryotic or fungal SSU rRNA genes were not clustered but analysed individually using
112 an evolutionary placement algorithm. This approach not only increases the accuracy of
113 taxonomic identification but also considers the complete range of biodiversity represented
114 in sequenced organisms. We used DNA extracted from soils subject to the contrasting
115 regimes to test three hypotheses relating to the structure and phylogenetic diversity of soil
116 prokaryotic and fungal communities: first, that reduced opportunity space (including
117 reduced bioavailability of nutrients) resulting from arable and bare fallow managements
118 will be reflected in reduced diversity of microbial communities compared to communities
119 associated with grassland; secondly, the reduced opportunity space, particularly as it
120 relates to the diversity of organic matter inputs, will also be reflected in reduced average
121 genome lengths observed in prokaryotes associated with arable and bare fallow soils and
122 environment-associated shifts in 16S rRNA gene copy number; and thirdly, that physical
123 disturbance associated with arable and bare fallow managements will result in greater
124 heterogeneity of community assemblages (*i.e.* β -diversity) between individual plots due to
125 the influence of stochastic processes upon community assembly.

126

127 Results

128 *Community-Aggregated traits* – There was a significant difference in average genome lengths
129 associated with metagenomes from each land management (ANOVA, $F_{2,6} = 36.7$, $p =$
130 0.0004 , $\omega^2 = 0.888$). AGL was 596.3 kb and 1.204 Mb larger in grassland soil than arable
131 or bare fallow soils, respectively (Fig. 1A). Significant differences between land

132 managements were also observed for 16S rRNA gene copy number (ANOVA, $F_{2,6} = 10.9$,
133 $p = 0.0100$, $\omega^2 = 0.688$). ACN was significantly greater in bare fallow soil than either
134 arable or grassland soils (Fig. 1B).

135 *SSU rRNA gene phylogenetic placement* – Bacteria in soils associated with the three land
136 managements were dominated by Acidobacteria including *Luteitalea pratensis*
137 (Vicinamibacteraceae, Acidobacteria subdivision 6), *Candidatus Solibacter usitatus*
138 (Solibacteraceae, Acidobacteria subdivision 3), *Chloracidobacterium thermophilum*
139 (Chloracidobacterium, Acidobacteria subdivision 4), the Gemmatimonadete *Gemmatirosa*
140 *kalamazoonesis* and the Verrucomicrobium *Ca. Xiphinematobacter* sp. (Supplementary Fig.
141 1). A second, less numerous cluster of phylogenetic placements was associated with
142 organisms of the Terrabacteria group, including *Fimbriimonas ginsengisoli*
143 (Armatimonadetes) and *Thermobaculum terrenum* (unclassified Terrabacteria group) among
144 others. The most abundant Proteobacteria were *Rhodoplanes* sp. Z2-YC6860 (Rhizobiales)
145 and *Sphingomonas ginsengisoli* (Sphingomonadales), both α -Proteobacteria and the
146 unclassified β -Proteobacterium GR16-43. Archaea were dominated by *Ca. Korarchaeum*
147 cryptofilum and the closely related *Ca. Prometheoarchaeum syntrophicum* which
148 outnumbered other placements (Supplementary Fig. 2). Other abundant organisms
149 included *Ca. Mancarchaeum acidiphilum*, the Thermoprotei Crenarchaeotes *Caldivirga*
150 *maquilingensis*, *Pyrobaculum arsenaticum* and *Sulfolobus acidocaldarius* and the
151 Euryarchaeotes *Methanobrevibacter ruminantium* (Methanobacteriales), *Methanopyrus*
152 *kandleri* (Methanopyrales) and *Methanococcus vanniellii* (Methanococcales). There were
153 fewer dominant taxa for fungi than for bacteria or archaea (Supplementary Fig. 3). The
154 most abundant fungus in all soils was *Conidiobolus obscurus*, a member of the
155 Zoopagomycota. Other abundant fungi included *Brunneoclavispora bambusae*
156 (Dothideomycetes), *Gongronella orasabula* (Mucoromycetes), *Cornuvesica acuminata*
157 (Sordariomycetes) and *Yarrowia osloensis* (Saccharomycetes).

158
159 *Abundance-sensitive measures of SSU rRNA sequence diversity* – Estimates of sample coverage
160 (C) for each gene were not significantly different across the land managements
161 (Supplementary Fig. 4) indicating that direct sample comparison was reasonable. The
162 three marker genes present in the soils were not censused equally. For the bacterial 16S
163 rRNA gene, C ranged from 97.0 to 98.5%. This was less than estimates for the archaeal

164 16S rRNA gene ($C = 99.8 - 99.9\%$), but greater than estimates for the fungal 18S rRNA
165 gene ($C = 94.4 - 97.1\%$).

166 To test the hypothesis that the reduced niche space of arable and bare fallow soils
167 is reflected in reduced microbial diversity compared to grassland, we examined
168 abundance-sensitive sequence diversity for each marker gene. Individual- (Fig. 2) and
169 sample coverage-based (Supplementary Fig. 5) estimates of sequence richness (0D)
170 indicated considerable overlap in the estimate 95% confidence intervals and no consistent
171 effect of treatment. This was particularly evident for prokaryotic 16S rRNA genes. There
172 were no significant effects of land management upon 0D for any gene (largest $\omega^2 = 0.383$,
173 fungal 18S rRNA gene, ANOVA $F_{2,6} = 3.8$, $p = 0.086$). Differences between land
174 managements were more evident for 1D and 2D which were kingdom dependent. There
175 was a significant land management effect upon 1D associated with the bacterial 16S rRNA
176 gene (ANOVA $F_{2,6} = 9.1$, $p = 0.015$, $\omega^2 = 0.642$). Grassland was associated with
177 significantly lower 1D than soils from the other managements (smallest difference,
178 grassland *vs.* arable $Q = 5.1$, $p = 0.025$). There was a more pronounced management effect
179 on 2D (ANOVA $F_{2,6} = 48.1$, $p < 0.001$, $\omega^2 = 0.913$), grassland again being associated with
180 significantly lower diversity than the other soils (smallest difference, grassland *vs.* arable Q
181 $= 10.7$, $p < 0.001$) which were equally diverse. Diversity of the archaeal 16S rRNA gene
182 was also influenced significantly by management (ANOVA ${}^1D - F_{2,6} = 8.3$, $p = 0.019$, ω^2
183 $= 0.619$; ${}^2D - F_{2,6} = 8.2$, $p = 0.019$, $\omega^2 = 0.615$). For both measures, arable soils were
184 significantly more diverse than bare fallow soils (smallest difference 2D , $Q = 5.7$, $p = 0.016$)
185 but there was no significant difference between grassland and arable soil diversities. For
186 the fungal 18S rRNA gene, a significant influence of land management was again apparent
187 (ANOVA ${}^1D - F_{2,6} = 7.0$, $p = 0.027$, $\omega^2 = 0.573$; ${}^2D - F_{2,6} = 7.1$, $p = 0.026$, $\omega^2 = 0.575$). For
188 1D , grassland was significantly more diverse than either arable or bare fallow soils (smallest
189 difference, grassland *vs.* bare fallow $Q = 4.4$, $p = 0.049$), however in the case of 2D , only
190 the difference between grassland and arable soils was significant ($Q = 5.0$, $p = 0.028$). The
191 trends indicated that grassland soils were associated with significantly lower diversity of
192 common (1D) and dominant (2D) bacterial sequences. This was reversed for fungi, where
193 grassland was associated with the highest 1D and 2D sequence diversities. There was also
194 considerable variation between grassland replicates. For these genes, diversity in arable
195 and bare fallow soils was similar. Archaeal sequence abundance distributions were
196 markedly different from those observed for bacteria and fungi in the sense that the greatest

197 sequence diversities were observed in soils managed as arable. Analysis of abundance-
198 sensitive sequence diversity provides insight into sequence abundance distributions
199 associated with soils from the different treatments. No phylogenetic information is
200 considered, even though it is inherent in the sequences upon which the analysis is based.

201

202 *Phylogeny-sensitive measures of SSU rRNA sequence diversity* – As an additional test, we
203 calculated sequence phylogenetic diversity using a one-parameter family of α -diversity
204 measures - $BWPD_0$ - based upon phylogenetic placement of metagenome reads on each
205 reference marker gene phylogram. Profiles show the phylogenetic diversity of increasingly
206 more abundant organisms, akin to qD described above: $BWPD_0$ takes no account of
207 sequence abundance, while $BWPD_1$ considers the most abundant sequences. Resulting
208 profiles are shown in Supplementary Fig. 6. They demonstrate a common, highly uneven
209 phylogenetic diversity–abundance distribution but with observable differences between
210 land uses.

211 These differences are illustrated best by considering the extremes of PD profiles:
212 $BWPD_0$ (Faith's phylogenetic diversity, representing the sum of lengths of phylogram
213 branches spanning all community members), and its abundance-weighted extension
214 ($BWPD_1$) shown in Fig. 3. As with the response of 0D above, there was no significant
215 effect of land management upon $BWPD_0$ associated with any biomarker gene, although a
216 clear consistent trend of arable soils being associated with the lowest PD was evident. This
217 observed lack of a treatment effect upon $BWPD_0$ may reflect a remarkable resistance of soil
218 microbiome PD to environmental change. However, alternatively it may reflect a relative
219 lack of statistical power of comparing three replicates *per* land management. Irrespective
220 of this, ω^2 estimates suggested that archaeal $BWPD_1$ was the least sensitive to the different
221 treatments, consistent with observations derived from qD measures of sequence diversity.
222 There was a significant effect of management upon archaeal 16S rRNA gene $BWPD_1$, and
223 ω^2 estimates suggested that archaea were in this case the most sensitive to the imposed
224 managements when both phylogeny and abundance were considered. $BWPD_1$ was
225 significantly lower in arable soil ($6.05 \pm 6.47 \times 10^{-3}$, mean \pm standard error) than in
226 grassland ($6.16 \pm 3.98 \times 10^{-3}$, $Q = 9.5$, $p = 0.0013$) or bare fallow ($6.15 \pm 15.2 \times 10^{-3}$, $Q = 9.0$,
227 $p = 0.0018$) soils. There was no significant difference between grassland or bare fallow soil
228 archaeal $BWPD_1$. There was also a significant effect of treatment upon $BWPD_1$ associated
229 with the fungal 18S rRNA gene. In this case, grassland soil was associated with lower

230 $BWPD_1$ (3.61 ± 0.213) than either arable (4.54 ± 0.197) or bare fallow (4.68 ± 0.324) soils.
231 There was, however, no statistically significant difference between bare fallow and
232 grassland soils ($Q = 4.2$, $p = 0.055$), showing the extremes of fungal $BWPD_1$.

233

234 *Comparison of SSU rRNA gene sequence assemblages* – Our third hypothesis related to
235 processes controlling community assembly in disturbed soils, predicting that physical
236 disturbance (tillage) associated with arable and bare fallow management would result in
237 greater assemblage heterogeneity than is observed for undisturbed grassland soils. To test
238 this, we generated Kantorovich-Rubinstein (KR) distance metrics, based upon the
239 distribution of homologous reads associated with each land management on reference
240 phylograms. We calculated the multivariate KR deviation of each replicate community
241 from each land management centroid in Euclidean space (phylogenetic dispersion). The
242 rationale was that where a combination of disturbances resulted in strong environmental
243 filtering, phylogenetic dispersion would be lower than that for grassland soil. Where
244 community assembly in disturbed soil was subject to a strong influence of stochastic
245 processes, phylogenetic dispersion would be greater than in grassland soil. The observed
246 relationships between the communities in each soil are shown in Fig. 4. In bare fallow
247 soils there is greater phylogenetic dispersion than is observed in grassland soils, although
248 there is overlap of 95% confidence intervals around the means. This provides evidence of
249 an increased influence of stochastic processes in bacterial community assembly in bare
250 fallow soils than grassland soils. Bacterial community phylogenetic dispersion in arable
251 soils is indistinguishable from grassland soil communities. The trend of increased
252 community phylogenetic dispersion in disturbed soils is more evident for archaea, where
253 phylogenetic dispersion is greater within arable and bare fallow soil communities. In this
254 instance, the 95% confidence intervals suggest significantly greater dispersion between
255 communities in bare fallow than grassland soils. The response of fungal soil communities
256 to disturbance is not consistent with an increased influence of stochasticity observed for
257 prokaryotes. There was significantly less phylogenetic dispersion between fungal
258 communities in arable compared to communities in grassland soils. This suggests
259 increased environmental filtering during community assembly. Environmental filtering
260 was not observed for fungal communities in bare fallow soils which were associated with
261 similar phylogenetic dispersion as grassland soil communities.

262 A significant effect of land management upon sequence assemblages of bacterial
263 16S rRNA (PERMANOVA, $pseudo-F_{2,6} = 16.3$, $p_{perm} = 0.0034$), archaeal 16S rRNA
264 (PERMANOVA, $pseudo-F_{2,6} = 8.0$, $p_{perm} = 0.0036$) and fungal 18S rRNA (PERMANOVA,
265 $pseudo-F_{2,6} = 3.0$, $p_{perm} = 0.0105$) genes was detected. *Post hoc* pair-wise comparisons
266 indicated that prokaryote assemblages were significantly different between all land
267 managements; in both cases the smallest *pseudo-t* was associated with the arable vs. bare
268 fallow comparison (bacteria, $pseudo-t = 3.0$, $p_{MC} = 0.0084$; archaea $pseudo-t = 0.1$, $p_{MC} =$
269 0.0301). Land management differences were more limited for the fungal 18S rRNA gene.
270 In this case, only the comparison of assemblages in arable and grassland soils indicated a
271 significant difference ($pseudo-t = 2.2$, $p_{MC} = 0.0291$). Associated CAP analyses are shown
272 in Supplementary Fig. 7.

273 To identify taxa responsible for the observed distinctiveness between land
274 managements, we used edge-PCA to identify phylogram branches across which there was
275 a high level of between-sample heterogeneity. Ordination of bacterial and archaeal 16S
276 rRNA gene assemblages separated the land managements clearly in two dimensions (Fig.
277 5 and 6). On edge-PCA axis 1, bacteria such as *Ca. Xiphinematobacter*, *Rhodoplanes* sp.
278 and the δ -Proteobacterium *Sorangium cellulosum* and the Crenarchaeotes *Sulfolobus* sp. and
279 *Metallosphaera* sp. were more associated with grassland soils. The Actinobacteria
280 *Mycolicibacterium* sp. and bacterium IMCC26256, the Chloroflexia *Roseiflexus* sp., the α -
281 Proteobacteria *Azospirillum* sp. and *Sphingomonas* sp., the β -Proteobacteria *Massilia* sp. and
282 *Methyloversatilis* sp., the δ -Proteobacterium *Polyangium brachysporum* and the
283 Gemmatimonadetes *Gemmatirosa kalamazonensis* the Crenarchaeote *Sulfurisphaera*
284 *tokodaii*, the Euryarchaeotes *Pyrococcus* sp., *Methanotherix soehngeni* and *Methanocaldococcus*
285 sp. and the Thaumarchaeote *Ca. Nitrosotenuis* were all associated more with bare fallow
286 soil. On the second axis, *Roseiflexus* sp., *Rhodoplanes* sp., *Sphingomonas* sp., the
287 Planctomycete *Gemmata obscuriglobus* and the Actinobacterium *Streptomyces* sp.,
288 *Methanocaldococcus* sp. and other Methanomada group Euryarchaeotes including
289 *Methanococcus paludis*, *Methanobrevibacter* spp. and *Methanobacterium* sp., the Halobacteria
290 Euryarchaeotes *Natronococcus occultus* and *Natronomonas* sp., and the Nitrososphaerales
291 Thaumarchaeotes *Ca. Nitrosocosmicus* and *Nitrososphaera viennensis* were all more
292 associated with arable soil.

293 Edge-PCA ordination of fungal 18S rRNA gene assemblages revealed a distinctly
294 different treatment distribution than observed for 16S rRNA genes (Fig. 7). Treatment

295 differences were distributed only across the first axis, separating grassland assemblages
296 from arable and bare fallow assemblages. Taxa most associated with grassland were the
297 Agaricomycetes (Basidiomycota) *Amanita pruitii* and *Clitopilus brunnescens* and the
298 Eurotiomycetes (Ascomycota) *Aspergillus cremeus*, *Cladophialophora* sp. and *Auxarthron* sp.
299 Arable and bare fallow soils were most associated with the Saccharomycete (Ascomycota)
300 *Yarrowia lipolytica*, the Agaricomycete *Cantharellus cascadenis*, the Kickxellomycete
301 (Zoopagomycota) *Coemansia biformis*, the Sordariomycetes (Ascomycota) *Ophiocordyceps*
302 *tiputini*, *Cornuvesica crypta*, *Sporidesmium olivaceoconidium*, *Peroneutypa mackenziei* and
303 *Irenopsis crotonicola*, and the Dothideomycete (Ascomycota) *Acidomyces acidophilum*.
304 Ecological guilds associated with these taxa (Table I) suggest grassland soil was associated
305 more with ectomycorrhizal and saprotrophic fungi, whereas taxa more associated with
306 arable and bare fallow soils were microfungi in growth habit, and had the capacity to
307 pathotrophy, associating with animals, plants and lichens.

308 Discussion

309

310 The Highfield Ley-Arable experiment soils studied here have experienced consistent
311 management for sufficiently long periods of time for the complete extent of microbial
312 community response to become apparent. While grassland soils effectively represent the
313 original soil community traits, structures and phylogeny, soils managed as arable or bare
314 fallow continue to experience combinations of press (different levels of plant inputs) and
315 pulse (different levels of tillage, addition of wheat seed-associated fungicide-insecticide)
316 disturbance. Despite these long-term combinations of disturbance, the prokaryotic and
317 fungal communities in all soils are dominated by a limited number of abundant organisms,
318 several of which share partner-dependent lifestyles. For example, *Ca. Xiphinematobacter*
319 sp., one of the more abundant bacteria in all metagenomes (Supplementary Fig. 1,
320 consistently one of the twenty most abundant bacterial species), is an obligate mutualist
321 endosymbiont of a group of migratory plant root-ectoparasitic nematodes, *Xiphinema*
322 *americanum sensu lato* (16). It has been identified in forty-nine of the sixty-one nominal
323 species comprising the *X. americanum s. l.* complex (17). The organism was more abundant
324 in grassland and arable than bare fallow soils (Fig. 5) and this is consistent with 16S rRNA
325 amplicon sequencing of these microbiomes which identified a Verrucomicrobium as being
326 associated with significantly different abundance between the three soils (18). Of the
327 dominant archaeal species, two are dependent upon associations with other organisms.

328 *Ca. Prometheoarchaeum syntrophicum* MK-D1 is a slow growing organism that degrades
329 amino acids syntrophically with other archaea - *Halodesulfobivrio* and *Methanogenium* in the
330 original co-cultures (19). A second organism, *Ca. Mancarchaeum acidiphilum* MIA14,
331 lacks any genes of the central carbohydrate metabolic pathways, but degrades proteins and
332 amino acids as part of obligate mutualistic partnerships with Thermoplasmatales archaea
333 (20). The most abundant fungus in all soils was the entomopathogen *Conidiobolus obscurus*,
334 which produce conidia that infect aphids (21,22). Another abundant microfungus,
335 *Cornuvesica acuminata*, requires metabolites (possibly siderophores) from other fungi for
336 growth (23).

337 Compared to grasslands composed of mixed forb and grass plant species, arable
338 and bare fallow soils provide severely limited breadths of niche space for microbes: limited
339 diversity of plant species and reduced ranges of organic inputs. Our first hypothesis
340 predicted that reduced opportunity space in arable and bare fallow soils would be
341 associated with changes to prokaryotic community-aggregated traits: average genome
342 length and 16S rRNA gene copy number. The effect of land management upon these
343 CATs was marked. Prokaryotic microbiomes of arable and bare fallow soils were
344 associated with significantly shorter AGL than grassland microbiomes (Fig. 1). Assuming
345 an average prokaryote gene length of 0.924 kb (24), the 596.3 kb and 1.204 Mb reductions
346 of arable and bare fallow AGL represent losses of approximately 645 and 1,300 genes *per*
347 genome compared to prokaryotes in grassland soil. This suggests strong genome
348 streamlining (25) driven by a pervasive bias towards greater numbers of nucleotide
349 deletions than insertions in the absence of strong selective pressures to maintain genes (26).
350 In the absence of the wide variety of organic inputs in grassland soils, a great number of
351 genes are lost and the less diverse the inputs the greater number of lost genes. However,
352 the 16S rRNA gene copy number suggests that microbiome responses to inputs is altered
353 between soils. Gene copy number was significantly greater in bare fallow soil than either
354 arable or grassland soils suggesting a shift in ecological strategy. Bacteria with greater
355 numbers of rRNA operons show more rapid responses to substrate inputs (27). Together,
356 these CATs suggest that microbiomes in arable and bare fallow soils have lost a significant
357 number of genes (and associated functions) but maintain a greater number of rRNA
358 operons enabling a more rapid response to organic inputs when they occur. Comparing
359 ω^2 between CATs indicates that AGL is more sensitive to stressors than 16S rRNA gene
360 copy number.

361 Our second hypothesis predicted that reduced niche space would be reflected in
362 lower diversity of prokaryotic and fungal communities typifying each disturbed soil. We
363 generated abundance- and phylogeny-sensitive diversity measures that suggest a nuanced
364 response of biodiversity to land management. Abundance-insensitive measures (0D and
365 $BWPD_0$) indicated limited differences in phylotype richness (Fig. 2) or phylogenetic
366 diversity (Fig. 3). There was a consistent effect of land management upon $BWPD_0$ –
367 “feature diversity” (28) – where arable soil was associated with the lowest, and grassland
368 with the highest $BWPD_0$ for each SSU rRNA gene. It is remarkable that $BWPD_0$ associated
369 with arable soil was consistently lower than even that associated with bare fallow soil.
370 This lack of any statistically significant effect of land management upon phylotype richness
371 or $BWPD_0$ could be a result of the low statistical power of the experiment however,
372 richness and PD cannot be estimated in a robust fashion (29) and our results may reflect
373 this. 1D , 2D and $BWPD_1$ are all estimated with greater certainty and these parameters
374 indicate significant land management effects upon diversity. Grassland soils are
375 associated with significantly lower numbers of common and dominant sequence
376 phylotypes suggesting a more uneven community profile. However, $BWPD_1$ (Fig. 3)
377 suggests that this reduced number of dominant phylotypes were associated with greater
378 PD than the dominant phylotypes in arable or bare fallow soils. For the fungal 18S rRNA
379 gene this distribution was reversed: grassland soils were associated with a greater number
380 of common and dominant phylotypes (Fig. 2), but dominant phylotypes were significantly
381 less phylogenetically diverse than dominant phylotypes in disturbed soils (Fig. 3). The
382 greatest number of archaeal 16S rRNA gene phylotypes were observed in arable soils (Fig.
383 2). These were associated with significantly lower $BWPD_1$ than either grassland or bare
384 fallow soils (Fig. 3). Prokaryotic communities appeared to have a common phylogeny-
385 sensitive response to land management. This assessment provides several salient
386 observations: disturbance in soil systems does not result in consistently reduced measures
387 of diversity; abundance- and phylogeny-sensitive measures of diversity are necessary to
388 generate a complete view of soil microbiome responses to disturbance; and, community
389 responses are kingdom specific.

390 In addition to these observations regarding diversity, comparison of soils subject to
391 different management suggests that shifts in community structure typically do not involve
392 dominant phylotypes. Few phylotypes associated with large edge-PCA eigenvalues in
393 Figs. 5 – 7 were dominant as indicated in Supplementary Fig. 1. Exceptions to this

394 observation were the nematode endosymbiont *Ca. Xiphinematobacter* sp. which was more
395 numerous in grassland than bare fallow soils, and *Gemmatirosa kalamazoonesis*, a
396 representative of a group of extremely abundant soil bacteria (Gemmatimonadetes) well-
397 adapted to arid conditions (30) which was more numerous in bare fallow soil than
398 grassland, consistent with previous 16S rRNA amplicon sequencing of these soils (18). A
399 second organism most numerous in bare fallow soils was *Methyloversatilis* sp. which grows
400 on single-carbon compounds (31) suggesting that organisms adapted to arid conditions or
401 capable of utilizing simple carbon substrates were typical of bacteria in bare fallowed soils.
402 Arable soils were associated with significantly higher 1D and 2D , associated with greater
403 numbers of Methanomada and Halobacteria Euryarchaeotes as well as of ammonia
404 oxidising *Nitrososphaera viennensis* and *Ca. Nitrosocosmicus* sp. These latter organisms
405 suggest that the response of archaea to arable management may reflect regular nitrogen
406 fertilization of these soils. The response of fungi to land management was distinct from
407 that of prokaryotes since the difference in communities were expressed on only one edge-
408 PCA dimension separating grassland from the disturbed soils (Fig. 7). Ectomycorrhizal
409 *Amanita pruitii* and saprotrophic *Clitopilus brunnescens* were less numerous in disturbed soils
410 than grassland. Most fungal species identified as more numerous in arable and bare fallow
411 soils had microfungal or yeast-like growth forms (Table I), possibly because of the effect
412 of physical disturbance arising from tillage upon ectomycorrhizal fungi (32,33). Fungal
413 species which became more numerous in disturbed soils were predominantly pathotrophs
414 of insects (*Ophiocordyceps tiputini*), plants (*Acidomyces acidophilum*, *Cornuvesica crypta*,
415 *Irenopsis crotonicola* and *Peroneutypa mackenziei*) and lichens (*Sporidesmium olivaceoconidium*).
416 The differences in phylotype assemblages observed between the land managements reflect
417 the predicted selection pressures within the soils and organismal traits.

418 Of equal interest to the effects of land management upon microbial diversity is the
419 issue of how disturbance influences microbiome assembly, testing our third hypothesis.
420 Our data support the proposition that physical pulse disturbance by tillage in arable and
421 bare fallow soils results in increased prokaryotic phylogenetic dispersion than in non-tilled
422 grassland soils (Fig. 4). This is indicative of an increased role for species neutral assembly
423 where community structures result from stochastic colonization and extinction processes
424 and are influenced less by species traits (34,35). This stochasticity is likely to arise as
425 tillage disrupts community assembly once *per* year in arable soils but three or four times in
426 bare fallow soils. Phylogenetic dispersion increases with the frequency of tillage (Fig. 4).

427 Assembly is re-established following tillage, but colonization is influenced by localized
428 abundance of potential colonizers and the assemblage of organisms remaining which can
429 exert an influence upon potential immigrating species – termed priority effects (36).
430 Despite this increased stochasticity, prokaryote phylotype assemblages in arable and bare
431 fallow soils are distinct, from grassland and each other (Figs. 5 and 6, Supplementary Fig.
432 6), suggesting several possible phylotype assemblages, dependent upon priority effects and
433 the degree of disturbance, even under the same environmental conditions and species pool.
434 However, given the consistent disturbance it is unlikely that the phylotype assemblages
435 represent stable endpoints, but more likely reflect alternative transient states (37).
436 Phylotype assemblages are dependent upon disturbance periodicity. Although we have
437 not tested it, observation of a greater role for stochasticity in phylotype assembly in
438 disturbed soils suggests that they may be more susceptible to immigration of pathogens, a
439 potential problem in arable soils. Soil structure and phylotype assemblages may contribute
440 to the significantly reduced yields observed when wheat is grown in the bare fallow soil
441 studied here (18). For fungal assemblages there was no evidence of increased dispersion
442 in response to tillage. Instead, phylogenetic dispersion was reduced significantly in arable
443 soil compared to grassland (Fig. 4). This suggests strong environmental filtering of
444 phylotypes (niche assembly). This filtering of fungal phylotypes cannot be due to tillage,
445 since phylogenetic dispersion of fungal assemblages in bare fallow soils was equivalent to
446 grassland. Instead, the fungicide prothioconazole (2-[2-(1-chlorocyclopropyl)-3-(2-
447 chlorophenyl)-2-hydroxypropyl]-1*H*-1,2,4-triazole-3-thione) added as a wheat seed coat is
448 likely to exert a significant selection pressure on fungi in arable soils resulting in the
449 observed increase in fungal niche assembly.

450 In summary, after a minimum of fifty-two years of continuous management, soils
451 experiencing combinations of chemical and physical press and pulse disturbances
452 harboured distinctly different microbial communities than undisturbed grassland soil. The
453 effects of each imposed management upon SSU rRNA gene phylotype diversity were
454 kingdom dependent. The observations were also dependent upon whether diversity
455 metrics considered SSU rRNA gene phylogenies. As an example, grassland bacterial
456 phylotype distribution was highly uneven and the soils were associated with the fewest
457 number of dominant phylotypes which were however more phylogenetically diverse than
458 the greater number of dominant phylotypes in disturbed arable and bare fallow soils. At
459 the other extreme, grassland had the greatest number of dominant fungal phylotypes, but

460 these were associated with reduced phylogenetic diversity compared to arable and bare
461 fallowed soils. We also observed a distinct influence of different disturbance types upon
462 the assembly of communities in disturbed soils. Physical disturbance by tillage increased
463 the influence of stochastic process upon assembly leading to apparently stable transient
464 states of the prokaryotic communities. Fungal community assembly was not influenced
465 by physical disturbance but showed a strong influence of niche assembly probably due to
466 fungicide incorporation in arable soils.

467 **Material and Methods**

468 *Soils* – We analysed soil from plots of the Rothamsted Highfield Ley-Arable field
469 experiment (00:21:48 °W, 51:48:18 °N). The soil is a silty clay loam (25% clay: 62% silt:
470 13% sand) (Chromic Luvisol according to FAO criteria). We sampled plots which had
471 been managed consistently as bare fallow for fifty-two years, arable for sixty-two years
472 (continuous winter wheat, *Triticum aestivum* L., at the time of sampling cv. “Hereward”
473 seed treated with Redigo Deter, a combination fungicide-insecticide, Bayer Crop Science)
474 or mixed grass swards since at least 1838. Grassland and arable plots were established as
475 300 m² plots, randomly distributed between four in-field blocks. Bare fallow plots were
476 added later in 1959.

477 *DNA Extraction and Metagenome Sequencing* - Soil was collected from triplicate plots for each
478 treatment to a depth of 10-cm. using a 3-cm. diameter corer. The top 2-cm. of soil
479 containing root mats and other plant detritus was discarded. Ten cores per plot were
480 pooled and thoroughly mixed whilst sieving through a 2-mm. mesh; samples were then
481 frozen at -80 °C. All implements were cleaned with 70% ethanol (vol./vol.) between
482 sampling/sieving soil from each plot. Soil community DNA was extracted from a
483 minimum of 2 g soil using the MoBio PowerSoil[®] DNA isolation kit (Mo Bio
484 Laboratories, Inc. Carlsbad, CA) with three replicates for each soil treatment. When
485 necessary, extracts from individual replicates were pooled to provide sufficient material
486 for sequencing. 10 µg of high-quality DNA was provided for sequencing for each of the
487 nine plots. Shotgun metagenomic sequencing of DNA was provided by Illumina[®] (Great
488 Abington, UK) using a HiSeq[™] 2000 sequencing platform, generating 150-base, paired-
489 end reads. The generated sequences were limited to a minimum quality score of 25 and a
490 minimum read length of 70-bases using Trimmomatic (38). After filtering to remove
491 substandard sequences, the average metagenome size for each soil was 4.96x10⁸ reads for
492 grassland, 2.86x10⁸ for arable and 2.88x10⁸ for bare fallow soils.

493 *Estimation of community-aggregated traits* - We selected two community-aggregated traits
494 (CAT) to test our hypothesis regarding the opportunity space provided by the treatments
495 studied. Firstly, we generated information regarding the average genome length (AGL)
496 of prokaryotes in each soil metagenome using the ags.sh binary (39). The process proceeds
497 in several steps. First, the abundance of a set of thirty-five single-copy genes are
498 enumerated and coverage estimated as the total number of annotated bases divided by
499 each gene length. These largely translation-associated marker genes occur only very
500 occasionally as duplicates within genomes, are considered both essential for cellular life
501 and very ancient, evolve at a slow rate and code for basal cellular processes, exhibiting
502 little variation across phyla (40). The number of genomes present in each metagenome is
503 then calculated as the average coverage of the thirty-five single copy genes. AGL is derived
504 from the ratio of the number of bases to the number of genomes. Secondly, we calculated
505 the average copy number of the 16S rRNA gene using the acn.sh binary (39) which
506 estimates the 16S rRNA gene coverage as the ratio of bases annotated as belonging to the
507 16S rRNA gene using SortMeRNA version 2.0 (41) and the 16S rRNA gene length (1,542
508 bases from *Escherichia coli*) and this value is then divided by the number of genomes in the
509 metagenome described above to estimate the average copy number.

510 *SSU rRNA gene phylogenetic placement* - Each of the metagenomes generated in this study
511 were analysed to assess the phylogenetic diversity of bacterial, archaeal and fungal SSU
512 rRNA genes. Nucleotide-based profile hidden Markov models (pHMM) were generated
513 from multi-sequence alignments (MSAs) of reference sequences of each gene using
514 HMMBUILD, part of the HMMER suite version 3.1 (42). All MSAs were generated
515 using the 1PAM/ $\kappa = 2$ scoring matrix and the *E-INS-i* iterative refinement algorithm in
516 MAFFT version 7.3 (43). For 16S rRNA genes, pHMMs were generated from alignment
517 of a set of 7,245 bacterial and 266 archaeal curated reference sequences associated with
518 PAPRICA version 0.5.2 (44), built November 2019. For the fungal 18S rRNA gene, a
519 pHMM was generated from 2,447 reference sequences downloaded from the National
520 Center for Biotechnology Information's curated Fungal 18S Ribosomal RNA RefSeq
521 Targeted Loci Project, built February 2020. Metagenome reads with homology to each
522 pHMM were identified using HMMSEARCH and a 1×10^{-5} Expect-value (*E*) cut-off. Each
523 homologous read was assigned to branches of maximum likelihood (ML) phylograms
524 generated from the respective reference gene sets using RAxML version 8.2.4 (45).
525 Phylogenetic placement of exact sequence variants was implemented using EPA-NG

526 version 0.3.6 (46) and visualized using iTOL version 5.5 (47). Gene sequence placements
527 can be translated into robust relative abundance and phylogenetic relatedness estimates of
528 organisms using the taxonomic labelling of phylogram branches.

529 *Statistical Analyses* – To test our hypotheses, we generated several gene assemblage-related
530 metrics, including gene sequence richness and phylogenetic diversity, abundance-sensitive
531 measures of sequence and phylogenetic diversity using a one-parameter family of diversity
532 measures, balance-weighted phylogenetic diversity ($BWPD_0$, (48)) and phylogeny-based
533 distance metrics for assemblage comparison between treatments. Sample size- and
534 coverage-based interpolation and extrapolation of qD of each SSU rRNA gene was
535 performed using iNEXT version 2.0.20 (49) in R version 3.6.1, treating each read as a
536 point mass concentrated on the highest-weight placement. Extrapolation of qD was
537 extended to the greater of the maximum number of sequences across all samples or twice
538 the number of sequences in the smallest sample; 77,805 bacterial 16S rRNA sequences,
539 62,304 archaeal 16S rRNA sequences and 15,153 fungal 18S rRNA sequences. Estimates
540 of associated 95% confidence intervals were based on 399 bootstrap samples (50).

541 Estimates of gene sequence similarity-sensitive phylogenetic diversity (PD) based
542 upon placement of homologous metagenomic reads were assessed by computing a
543 measure incorporating abundance, using the FPD binary in GUPPY version 1.1 (part of
544 the PPLACER code (51), accounting for reference ML tree pendant branch length. The
545 effects of different land managements upon $BWPD_0$ and $BWPD_1$ were analysed using one-
546 factor analysis of variance (ANOVA) after testing for homogeneity of variances using
547 Levene's test and normality using the Shapiro-Wilk test. We calculated omega squared
548 (ω^2) as an estimate of the extent to which variance in the response variable was accounted
549 for by the treatment (effect size). The experimental design was limited by having only three
550 replicate plots *per* land management and as a result low statistical power (increasing the
551 likelihood of Type II error). Where significant treatment effects were identified, *post-hoc*
552 pair-wise comparisons were performed using the Tukey-Kramer Studentized Q statistic,
553 following the Copenhaver-Holland procedure of sequentially rejective multiple
554 comparisons (52) to control family-wise Type I error. All parametric tests were performed
555 using PAST version 4.02 (53). An α of 0.05 was considered significant.

556 To assess prokaryotic 16S rRNA and fungal 18S rRNA gene-based β -diversity
557 between land managements, Kantorovich-Rubinstein (KR) metrics of phylogenetic
558 distance were calculated from phylogenetic placements of metagenome reads using the

559 KRD binary associated with GAPPA version 0.4.0 (54), treating each query as a point
560 mass concentrated on the highest-weight placement. The KR distance metric, which is
561 allied to the weighted-UniFrac measure (55), compares gene assemblage distributions on
562 a phylogram in units of nucleotide substitutions *per* site, a biologically meaningful
563 approach to comparing communities. Comparison of β -diversity dispersion of KR
564 phylogenetic distance metrics within and between land management was performed using
565 a multivariate analogue of Levene's test for homogeneity of multivariate variances, the
566 PERMDISP test (56). Differences in gene assemblages based upon KR distance metrics
567 were tested using permutational multivariate analysis of variance (PERMANOVA, (57)).
568 In addition, the distinctiveness of bacterial, archaeal and fungal phylogenetic assemblages
569 associated with each land management was tested in multivariate space using canonical
570 analysis of principle coordinates (CAP, (58)), maximising the success of a leave-one-out
571 allocation to land management to determine the appropriate number of axes to include in
572 the test. CAP-based hypothesis testing was based upon the sum of canonical eigenvalues.
573 For all multivariate tests, probability estimation was based upon 99,999 permutations
574 (denoted as p_{perm}). Where PERMANOVA indicated a significant treatment effect, pair-
575 wise comparisons were performed. However, since the number of observations was
576 insufficient to allow a reasonable number of permutations, Monte Carlo probabilities
577 (denoted p_{MC}) were calculated based upon an asymptotic permutation distribution.
578 Multivariate tests were performed using PRIMER PERMANOVA+ version 7.0.13
579 (PRIMER-e, Auckland, New Zealand).

580 Unconstrained ordination based upon principal component analysis of the difference in
581 placement masses across reference phylograms - termed edge-PCA (59) - was used for
582 graphical representation of phylogeny-based differences between treatments in a two-
583 dimensional plane using the EDGEPCA binary in GAPPA, treating each query as a point
584 mass concentrated on the highest-weight placement. An advantage of edge-PCA is that
585 branches associated with placements contributing to eigenvalues on each axis, and thus
586 organisms contributing to the observed differences, can be identified. For fungal taxa
587 identified by edge-PCA to be characteristic of the difference land managements, we used
588 the FUNGuild version 1.1 annotation tool (60) to associate taxa with ecological guilds.

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779 **Figure 1.** Aggregated Traits of microbiomes associated with soil of the Highfield Ley-
780 Arable field experiment. The average genome length (A) and 16S rRNA gene copy
781 number (B) determined from shotgun metagenomes generated from grassland (green),
782 arable (yellow) and bare fallow (brown) soils. In each case the mean value and standard
783 error of the mean is shown. Comparisons associated with significant trait differences are
784 indicated by dashed lines and the associated Tukey-Kramer Studentized Q and probability
785 (p) are given.

786 **Figure 2.** Sample size-based interpolation (solid line) and extrapolation (dashed line) of
787 SSU rRNA gene phylotype diversity of order q , qD : $q = 0$ (species richness, left panel), $q =$
788 1 (Shannon diversity, middle panel) and $q = 2$ (Simpson diversity, right panel). Data
789 points represent the observed qD and number of phylotypes for each data set. Shaded areas
790 represent the 95% confidence intervals of the diversity estimates. Diversity is presented as
791 the effective number of species. Data for bacterial and archaeal 16S rRNA gene and the
792 fungal 18S rRNA gene are shown for grassland (green) arable (yellow) and bare fallow
793 (brown) soils of the Highfield Ley-Arable field experiment. The observed range in sample
794 coverage (C) for each gene is given. Individual sample coverages are shown in
795 Supplementary Figure 1.

796 **Figure 3.** Comparison of phylogenetic diversity of SSU rRNA gene phylotype
797 assemblages associated with grassland (green), arable (yellow) and bare fallow (brown)
798 soils of the Highfield Ley-Arable field experiment based upon a one-parameter family of
799 diversity measures, $BWPD_\theta$, that interpolates between classical phylogenetic diversity
800 (PD, $\theta = 0$, left panel) and an abundance-weighted extension of PD ($\theta = 1$, right panel).
801 The mean and standard error of the mean $BWPD_\theta$ are shown together with results of a
802 one-factor analysis of variance and observed effect size (ω^2) are shown for each gene.
803 $BWPD_\theta$ profiles are shown in Supplementary Fig. 6.

804 **Figure 4.** Phylogenetic dispersion associated with SSU rRNA phylotype assemblages in
805 grassland (green), arable (yellow) and bare fallow (brown) soils of the Highfield Ley-
806 Arable field experiment. Phylogenetic dispersion was estimated based upon the
807 multivariate deviation of each replicate community from the centroid of each land
808 management group in Euclidean space, based upon Kantorovich-Rubinstein phylogenetic
809 distances between each phylotype assemblage. The mean \pm 95% confidence intervals are
810 shown for each soil.

811 **Figure 5.** Ordination of bacterial 16S rRNA gene phylotype assemblages shown in Fig.
812 1a, exploiting the underlying phylogenetic nucleotide sequence structure (edge-PCA).
813 Phylotype assemblages associated with grassland (green), arable (yellow) and bare fallow
814 (brown) soils of the Highfield Ley-Arable field experiment are separated across both edge-
815 PCA axes. Edges associated with large eigenvectors are shown in each axis-associated
816 colour-coded phylogram and corresponding to the axis colour scales. Phylotypes
817 associating more with grassland, arable or bare fallow soils are identified.

818 **Figure 6.** Ordination of archaeal 16S rRNA gene phylotype assemblages shown in Fig.
819 1b, exploiting the underlying phylogenetic nucleotide sequence structure (edge-PCA).
820 Phylotype assemblages associated with grassland (green), arable (yellow) and bare fallow
821 (brown) soils of the Highfield Ley-Arable field experiment are separated across both edge-
822 PCA axes. Edges associated with large eigenvectors are shown in each axis-associated
823 colour-coded phylogram and corresponding to the axis colour scales. Phylotypes
824 associating more with grassland, arable or bare fallow soils are identified.

825 **Figure 7.** Ordination of fungal 18S rRNA gene phylotype assemblages shown in Fig. 1c,
826 exploiting the underlying phylogenetic nucleotide sequence structure (edge-PCA).
827 Phylotype assemblages associated with grassland (green), arable (yellow) and bare fallow
828 (brown) soils of the Highfield Ley-Arable field experiment are separated across both edge-
829 PCA axes. Edges associated with large eigenvectors are shown in each axis-associated
830 colour-coded phylogram and corresponding to the axis colour scales. Phylotypes
831 associating more with grassland, arable or bare fallow soils are identified.

832 **Table I.** Predictions of trophic mode, growth form and ecological guild for the fungal
833 species identified with shifts in community assemblages between grassland, arable and
834 bare fallow soils shown in Fig. 8. Predictions are taken from FUNGuild version 1.0.

835 **Supplementary Figure 1.** Phylogenetic comparison of bacterial 16S rRNA phylotype
836 assemblages in grassland (green), arable (yellow) and bare fallow (brown) soils of the
837 Highfield Ley-Arable field experiment. The most abundant organisms are identified on
838 branch tips of each maximum likelihood SSU rRNA gene phylogram. Placement symbol
839 size is scaled to reflect relative abundance across the nine samples. Replicates for each
840 land management are represented by different placement shapes – circle, square or
841 triangle.

842 **Supplementary Figure 2.** Phylogenetic comparison of archaeal 16S rRNA phylotype
843 assemblages in grassland (green), arable (yellow) and bare fallow (brown) soils of the
844 Highfield Ley-Arable field experiment. The most abundant organisms are identified on
845 branch tips of each maximum likelihood SSU rRNA gene phylogram. Placement symbol
846 size is scaled to reflect relative abundance across the nine samples. Replicates for each
847 land management are represented by different placement shapes – circle, square or
848 triangle.

849 **Supplementary Figure 3.** Phylogenetic comparison of fungal 18S rRNA phylotype
850 assemblages in grassland (green), arable (yellow) and bare fallow (brown) soils of the
851 Highfield Ley-Arable field experiment. The most abundant organisms are identified on

852 branch tips of each maximum likelihood SSU rRNA gene phylogram. Placement symbol
853 size is scaled to reflect relative abundance across the nine samples. Replicates for each
854 land management are represented by different placement shapes – circle, square or triangle

855 **Supplementary Figure 4.** Sample size-based interpolation (solid line) and extrapolation
856 (dashed line) of SSU rRNA gene phylotype coverage. Data points represent the observed
857 coverage and number of phylotypes for each data set. Shaded areas represent the 95%
858 confidence intervals of the coverage estimates. Data for bacterial and archaeal 16S rRNA
859 genes and the fungal 18S rRNA gene are shown for grassland (green) arable (yellow) and
860 bare fallow (brown) soils of the Highfield Ley-Arable field experiment.

861 **Supplementary Figure 5.** Sample coverage-based interpolation (solid line) and
862 extrapolation (dashed line) of SSU rRNA gene phylotype diversity of order q , qD : $q = 0$
863 (species richness, left panel), $q = 1$ (Shannon diversity, middle panel) and $q = 2$ (Simpson
864 diversity, right panel). Data points represent the observed qD and coverage for each data
865 set. Shaded areas represent the 95% confidence intervals of the diversity estimates.
866 Diversity is presented as the effective number of species. Data for bacterial and archaeal
867 16S rRNA genes and the fungal 18S rRNA gene are shown for grassland (green) arable
868 (yellow) and bare fallow (brown) soils of the Highfield Ley-Arable field experiment.

869 **Supplementary Figure 6.** Comparison of phylogenetic diversity profiles of SSU rRNA
870 gene phylotype assemblages associated with grassland (green), arable (yellow) and bare
871 fallow (brown) soils of the Highfield Ley-Arable field experiment based upon a one-
872 parameter family of diversity measures, $BWPD_\theta$, that interpolates between classical
873 phylogenetic diversity (PD, $\theta = 0$) and an abundance-weighted extension of PD ($\theta = 1$).

874 **Supplementary Figure 7.** Discriminant analysis employing canonical analysis of
875 principal coordinates (CAP) of SSU rRNA phylotype assemblages based upon
876 Kantorovich-Rubinstein phylogenetic distance metrics. Phylotype assemblages associated
877 with grassland (green) arable (yellow) and bare fallow (brown) soils of the Highfield Ley-
878 Arable field experiment are shown. For each ordination, two CAP axes were defined,
879 based upon maximising a leave-one-out allocation success to *a priori* land management
880 groups. The results of permutation tests of the significance of the canonical relationships
881 using the trace statistic (sum of canonical eigenvalues) are shown.

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Genus	Association	Trophic Mode	Growth Form	Guild
<i>Acidomyces</i>	arable/fallow	Pathotroph; Saprotroph; Symbiotroph	Microfungus	Endophyte; Plant Pathogen; Unknown Saprotroph; Wood Saprotroph
<i>Amanita</i>	grassland	Symbiotroph	Agaricoid	Ectomycorrhizal
<i>Aspergillus</i>	grassland	Pathotroph; Saprotroph; Symbiotroph	Microfungus	Animal Pathogen; Endophyte; Plant Saprotroph; Soil Saprotroph; Undefined Saprotroph; Wood Saprotroph
<i>Auxarthron</i>	grassland	Saprotroph	not known	Undefined Saprotroph
<i>Cantharellus</i>	arable/fallow	Symbiotroph	Cantherelloid	Ectomycorrhizal
<i>Cladophialophora</i>	grassland	Saprotroph	Facultative Yeast	Undefined Saprotroph
<i>Clitopilus</i>	grassland	Saprotroph	Agaricoid	Undefined Saprotroph
<i>Coemansia</i>	arable/fallow	Saprotroph	not known	Undefined Saprotroph
<i>Cornuvesica</i>	arable/fallow	Pathotroph; Saprotroph	Microfungus	Plant Pathogen; Wood Saprotroph
<i>Irenopsis</i>	arable/fallow	Pathotroph	not known	Plant Pathogen
<i>Ophiocordyceps</i>	arable/fallow	Pathotroph; Symbiotroph	Microfungus	Animal Pathogen; Endophyte
<i>Peroneutypa</i>	arable/fallow	Pathotroph	not known	Plant Pathogen
<i>Sporidesmium</i>	arable/fallow	Pathotroph	Microfungus	Lichen Parasite
<i>Yarrowia</i>	arable/fallow	Saprotroph	Yeast	Undefined Saprotroph

Fig. 1

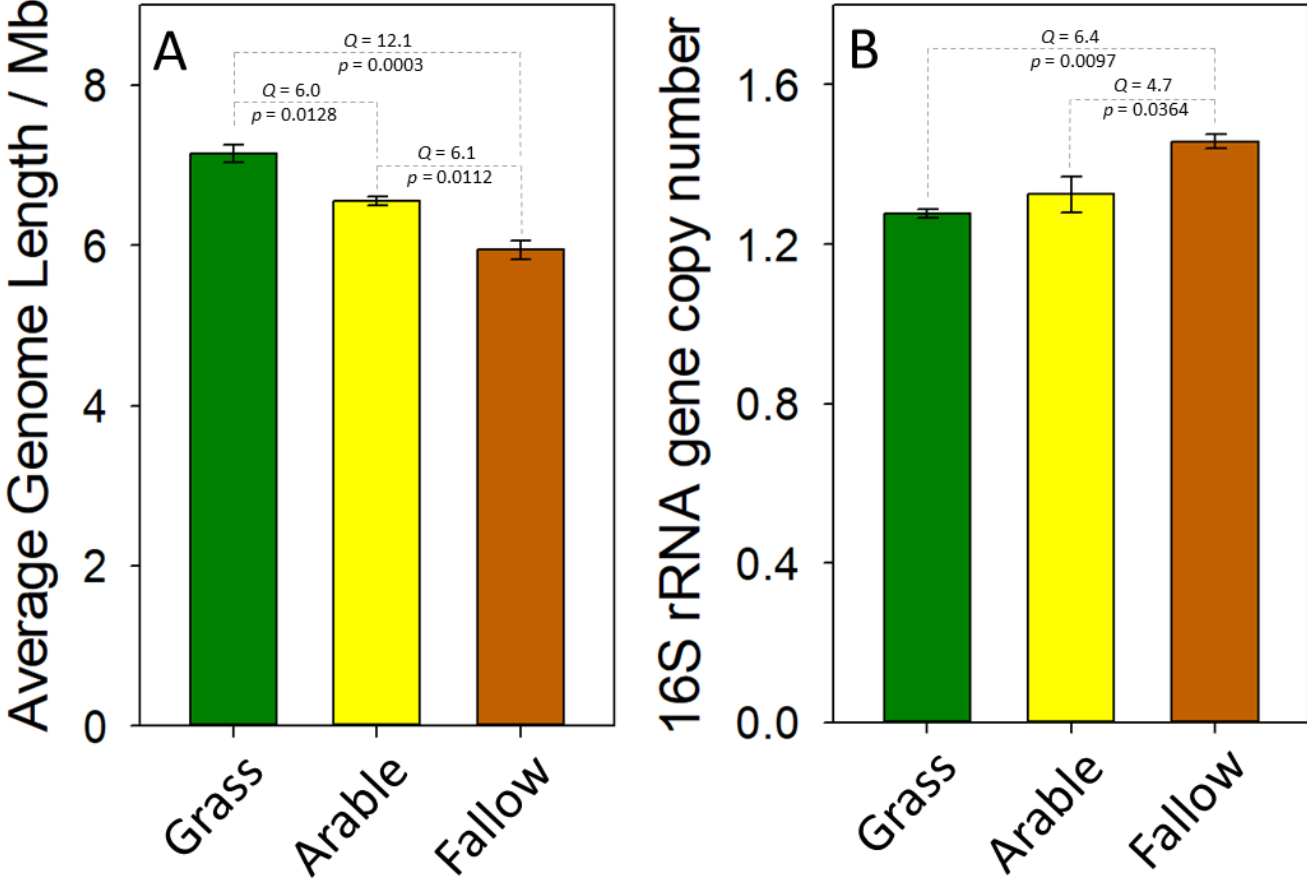


Fig. 2

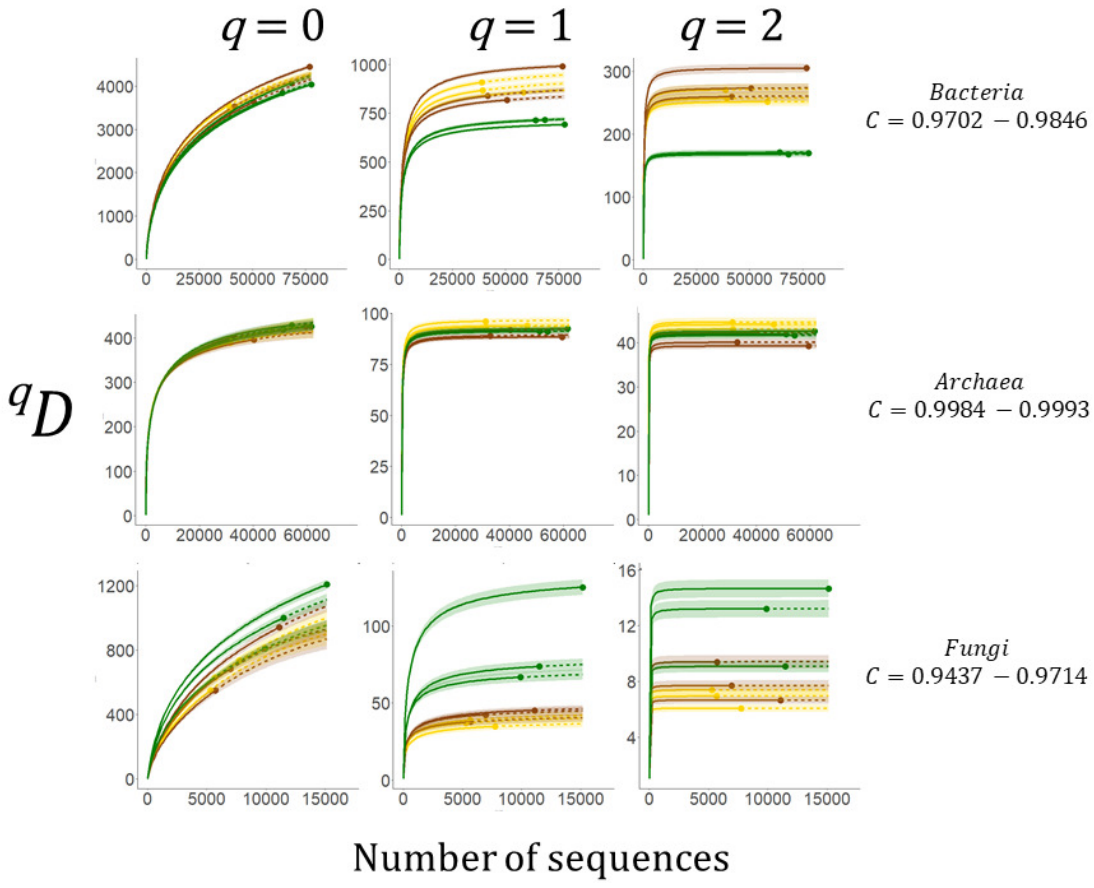


Fig. 3

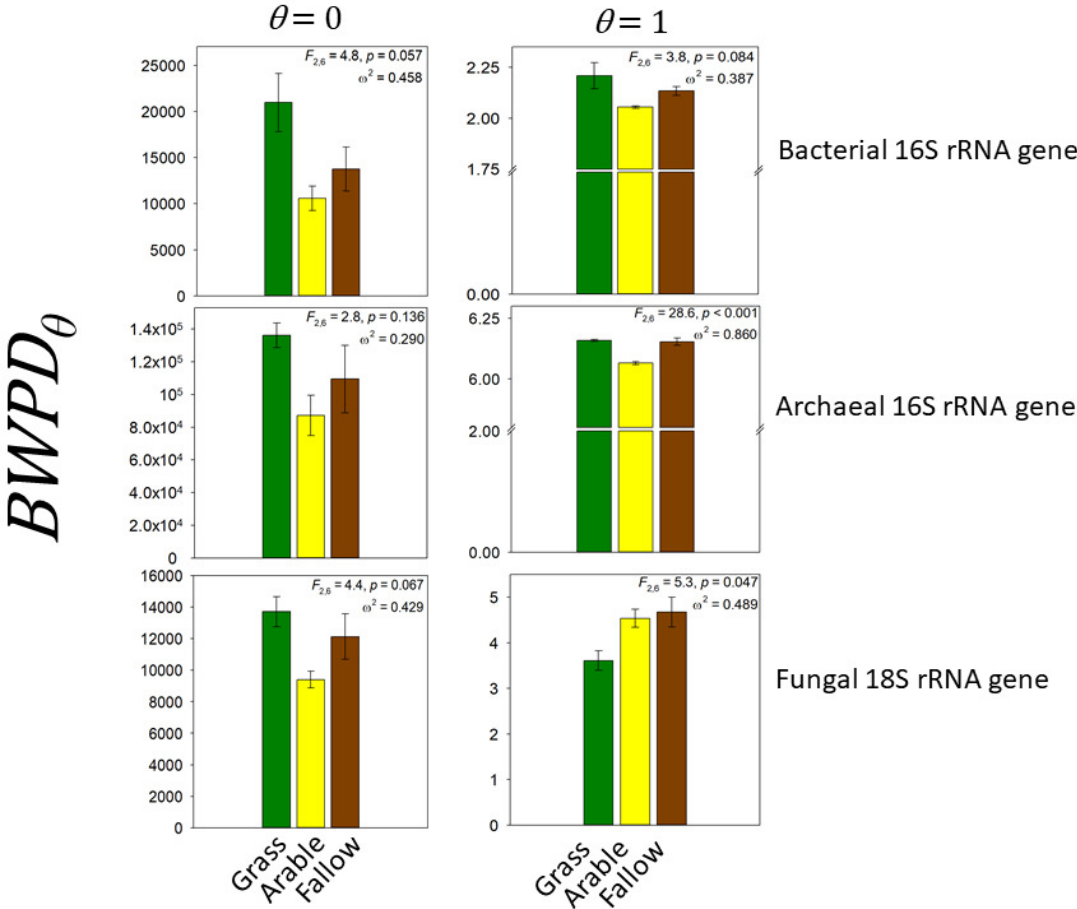


Fig. 4

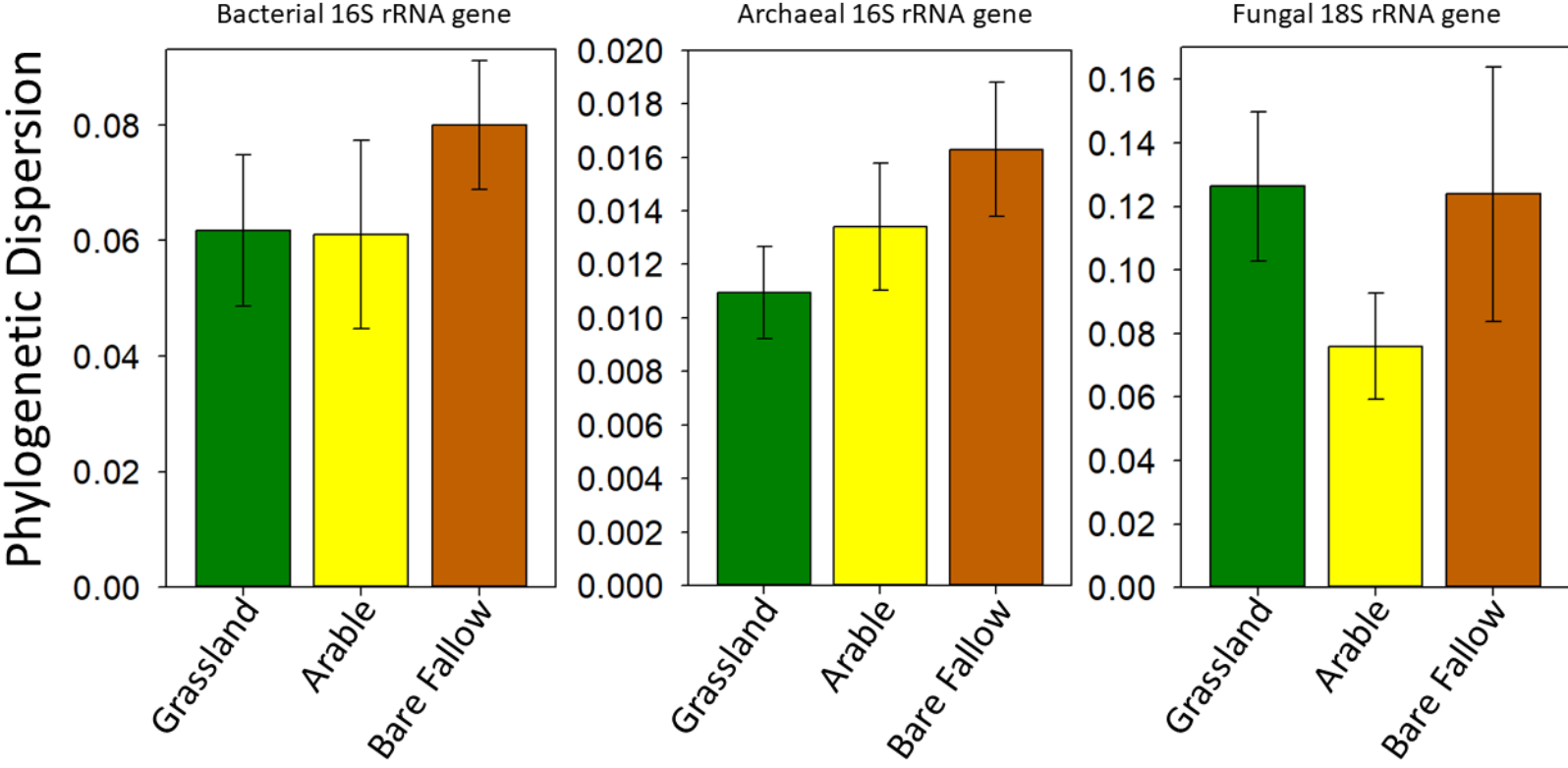


Fig. 5

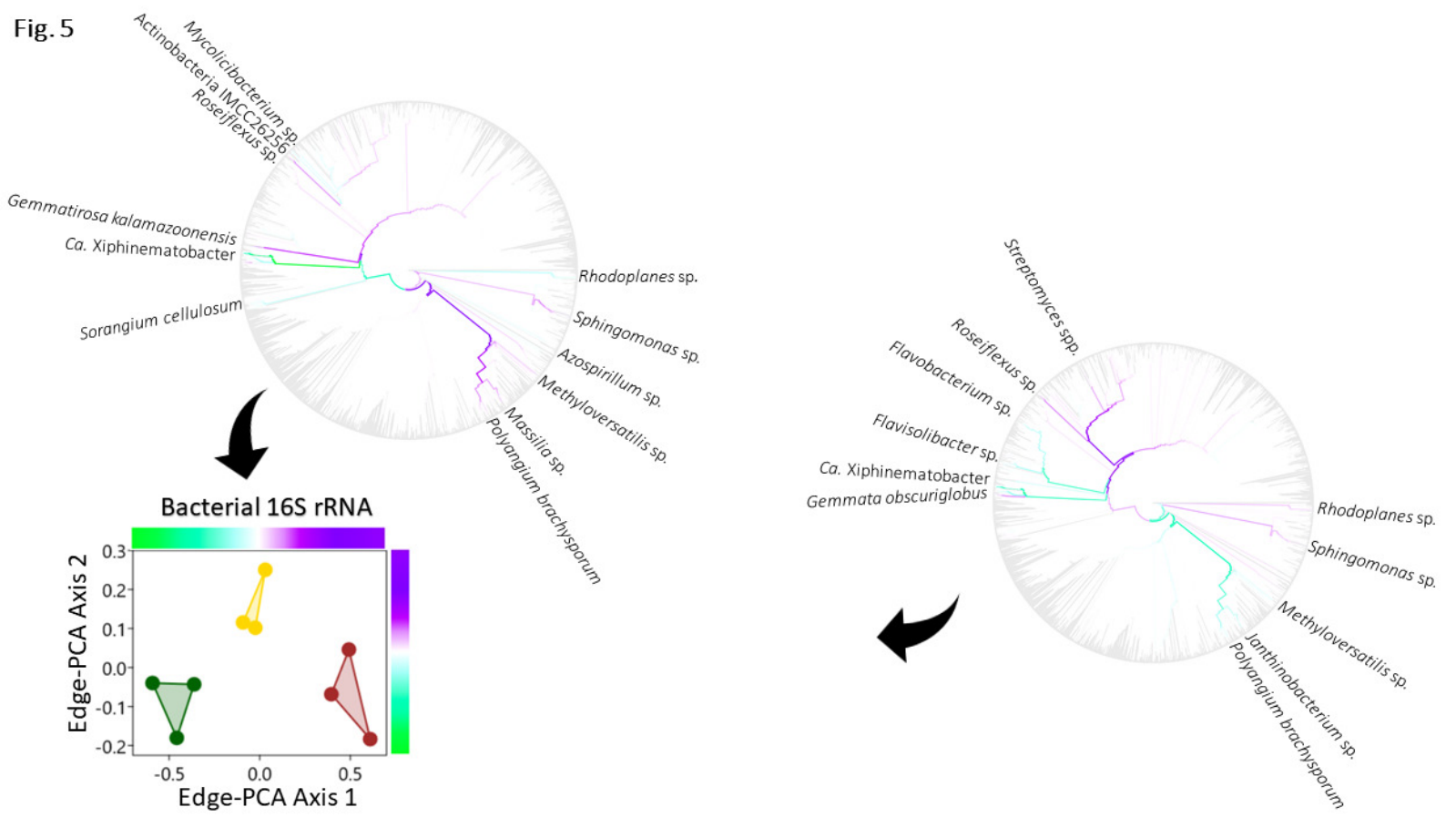


Fig. 6

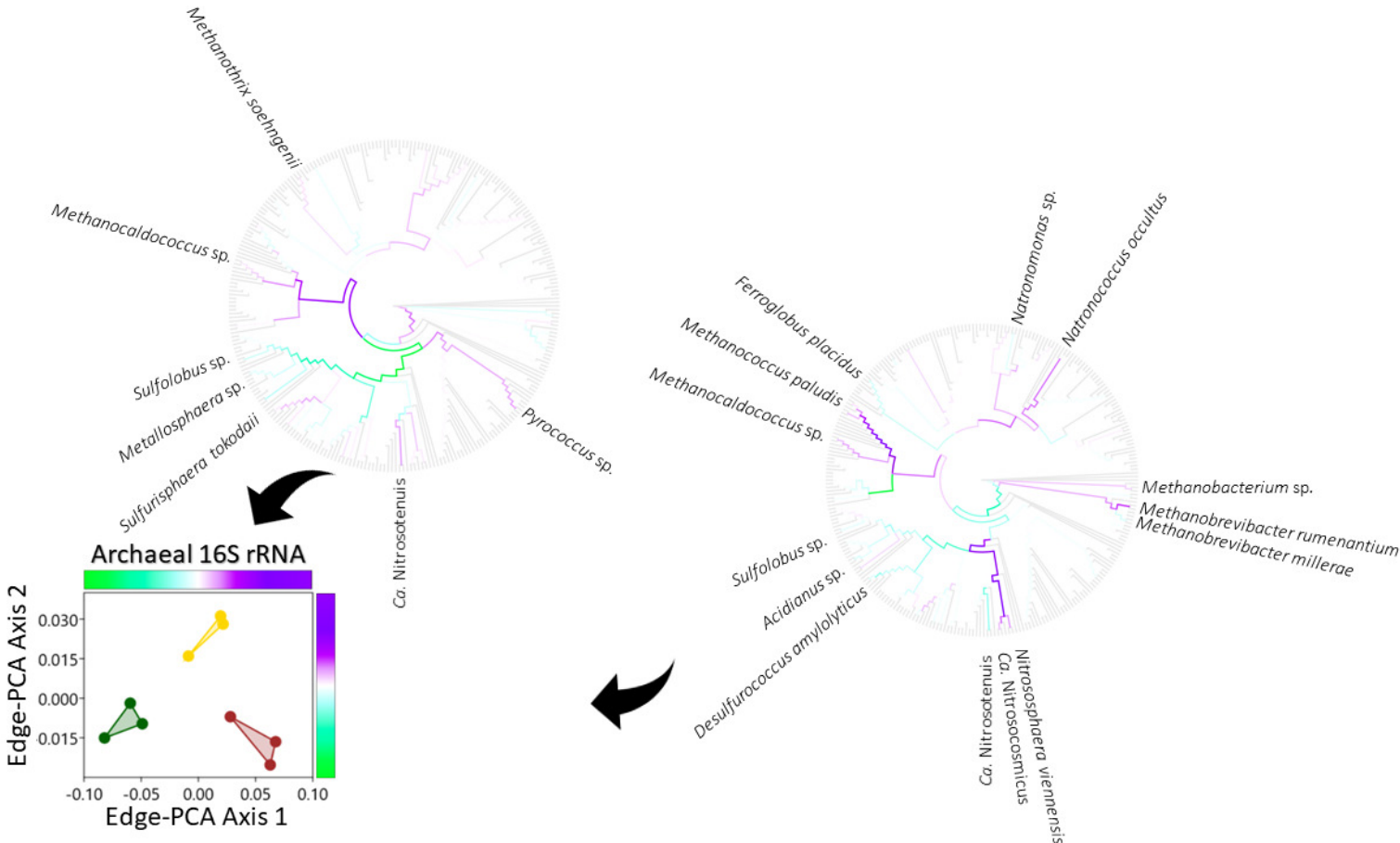


Fig. 7

