

1 The global *Microcystis* interactome

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60 Running head: *Microcystis* interactome

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67 **Abstract**

68 Bacteria play key roles in the function and diversity of aquatic systems, but aside from
69 study of specific bloom systems, little is known about the diversity or biogeography of bacteria
70 associated with harmful cyanobacterial blooms (cyanoHABs). CyanoHAB species are known to
71 shape bacterial community composition and to rely on functions provided by the associated
72 bacteria, leading to the hypothesized cyanoHAB interactome, a coevolved community of
73 synergistic and interacting bacteria species, each necessary for the success of the others. Here,
74 we surveyed the microbiome associated with *Microcystis aeruginosa* during blooms in twelve
75 lakes spanning four continents as an initial test of the hypothesized *Microcystis* interactome. We
76 predicted that microbiome composition and functional potential would be similar across blooms
77 globally. Our results, as revealed by 16S rRNA sequence similarity, indicate that *M. aeruginosa*
78 is cosmopolitan in lakes across a 280° longitudinal and 90° latitudinal gradient. The microbiome
79 communities were represented by a wide range of OTUs and relative abundances. Highly
80 abundant taxa were more related and shared across most sites and did not vary with geographic
81 distance, thus, like *Microcystis*, revealing no evidence for dispersal limitation. High phylogenetic
82 relatedness, both within and across lakes, indicates that microbiome bacteria with similar
83 functional potential were associated with all blooms. While *Microcystis* and the microbiome
84 bacteria shared many genes, whole-community metagenomic analysis revealed a suite of
85 biochemical pathways that could be considered complementary. Our results demonstrate a high
86 degree of similarity across global *Microcystis* blooms thereby providing initial support for the
87 hypothesized *Microcystis* interactome.

88

89 *Introduction*

90 Seasonally-recurrent harmful algal blooms, particularly those of toxic cyanobacteria
91 (cyanoHABs) are a global phenomenon of growing concern impacting water quality, ecosystem
92 services, and human health associated with freshwater systems (Paerl and Otten 2013).
93 Accelerating eutrophication and climate change (e.g., rising temperatures and shifting
94 hydrological regimes) have resulted in the proliferation, intensification, and prolongation of
95 cyanoHABs around the world (O’Neil et al. 2012; Carey et al. 2012; Paerl and Paul 2012;
96 Mantzouki et al. 2018). Water quality in freshwater systems is intimately linked to anthropogenic
97 activities. With rapidly expanding agricultural and urban development, as well as prolonged
98 stratification periods due to global warming, many systems have become eutrophic or at risk of
99 eutrophication. Although there is debate regarding the roles of specific nutrients in cyanoHAB
100 dynamics (Conley et al. 2009; Paerl et al. 2011, 2016; Schindler 2012; Schindler et al. 2016),
101 there is general agreement that increased nutrient inputs lead to increases in cyanobacterial
102 biomass. CyanoHABs can alter ecosystem function by causing anoxia, depleting dissolved
103 nutrients, and shifting zooplankton communities, all which alter carbon flows (Paerl and Otten
104 2013). Such blooms can produce hundreds of secondary metabolites, including hepatotoxins,
105 neurotoxins, and dermatotoxic irritants, all of which can pose serious health threats to humans,
106 livestock, and wildlife (Carmichael 2001; Huisman et al. 2018).

107 CyanoHABs, once thought to be homogeneous populations, are now known to be
108 accompanied by a diverse suite of heterotrophic bacteria (Eiler and Bertilsson 2004; Steffen et al.
109 2012; Xu et al. 2018), which may play an important role in cyanobacterial bloom health and
110 duration. First, Bell and Mitchell (1972) defined this potential interactive relationship between
111 cyanobacteria and heterotrophic bacteria as the “phycosphere” (Paerl and Kellar 1978, 1979;

112 Paerl and Millie 1996). It is well known that cyanobacteria generate abundant dissolved organic
113 carbon resources to the benefit of nearby heterotrophs that can subsequently return benefits to the
114 cyanobacteria, including removal of reactive oxygen species, CO₂ generation, and nutrient
115 recycling (Dziallas and Grossart 2011, 2012; Steffen et al. 2012; Paerl and Otten 2013).
116 Moreover, *Microcystis* has been shown to alter ambient environmental conditions by decreasing
117 oxygen concentrations and light availability (Paerl and Otten 2016), as well as by altering CO₂
118 and pH levels (Havens 2008), which is likely to affect nearby bacteria. Indeed, studies have
119 found that cyanobacterial bloom species strongly impact bacterial community composition (e.g.,
120 *Nodularia* – Salomon et al. 2003, *Microcystis* – Li et al. 2011; Steiner et al. 2017). Specifically,
121 heterotrophic bacteria can form close-knit aggregates with *Microcystis*, and studies have shown
122 greater similarity between attached Bacteria and Archaea communities than between free-living
123 assemblages during *Microcystis* blooms (Cai et al. 2014; Yang et al. 2017; Batista et al. 2018;
124 Xu et al. 2018).

125 One reason for this close association could be that, like other Bacteria and Archaea
126 (Swan et al. 2013; Giovannoni et al. 2014), Cyanobacteria have small genomes compared with
127 eukaryotes (Herdman et al. 1979; Humbert et al. 2013). While this may be beneficial for rapid
128 reproduction and evolution, it is not necessarily conducive for cyanoHAB formation. Genome
129 reduction can lead to loss of functions (Giovannoni et al. 2014), but can also confer a selective
130 advantage if the organism can obtain the lost function through a public good as described by
131 Morris et al. (2012) in the Black Queen Hypothesis. This hypothesis suggests that natural
132 selection can act on “leaky” functions where a public good is produced and available to the
133 whole community. Coupled with selection towards smaller genomes to reduce replication-related
134 fitness costs, some members of the community can receive metabolic products as public goods,

135 which are useful metabolites or other necessary resources that are leaked into the cell-external
136 environment. With such products available extracellularly, these “leaky” functions become
137 dispensable and once lost confer a selective advantage to that organism (Pande and Kost 2017).
138 Garcia et al. (2015) proposed that this coevolved community of synergistic and interacting
139 bacteria species was a bacterial community microbiome or “interactome”, analogous to the
140 microbiome concept described for humans (Human Microbiome Project Consortium 2012), soils
141 (Fierer 2017), and coral reefs (Bourne et al. 2013). We hypothesize that the bacteria associated
142 with *Microcystis* may be providing functions that help sustain it during blooms.

143 Given the small size of bacterial genomes and presumed ubiquity of *Microcystis*
144 *aeruginosa* (Kützing) Kützing, if there exists a mutualistic interactome, we would predict a
145 microbiome of a certain species of associated bacteria or perhaps metabolic functions to be
146 preserved across geographically distinct *M. aeruginosa* blooms. We would also expect
147 communities to be more similar than predicted by traditional biogeographic theory, where
148 community similarity is expected to decrease with increasing geographic distance (MacArthur
149 1984; Nekola and White 1999; Green and Bohannan 2006; Nemergut et al. 2013). As a first test
150 of this prediction, we examined community composition and function of the *M. aeruginosa*
151 bloom microbiomes from 12 lakes across four continents, addressing the specific prediction that
152 if global *Microcystis* blooms were composed of the same taxon, the blooms would support and
153 require a similar suite of bacterial-provided functions, thus leading to highly similar bacterial
154 communities across *Microcystis* blooms regardless of geographic location.

155

156 ***Methods***

157 **Sample Collection**

158 Samples were collected from 12 lakes spanning the globe during the peak of the
159 *Microcystis* blooms between May 2016 and July 2017 (Fig. 1). Three surface water samples were
160 taken from each lake with a clean 1000-mL beaker or Erlenmeyer flask and set aside undisturbed
161 for 10 min to allow the cyanobacteria to float to the surface. Concentrated *Microcystis* biomass
162 was poured off the top of the flask or beaker through a Nitex screen (100 μm pore size) stretched
163 between a PVC pipe and PVC coupler to collect large *Microcystis* aggregates on the screen. Each
164 Nitex screen was rolled up using forceps and transferred into 2-ml screw cap tubes containing
165 1.0 ml DNA preservative (DNA/RNA Shield, Zymo Research, Irvine, CA, United States). This
166 process was carried out for each water sample. Tubes were stored at $-20\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ until shipping. They
167 were shipped at ambient temperature and once received were stored at $-20\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ prior to extraction.

168

169 **DNA extraction and sequencing**

170 DNA extraction from the preserved samples was performed using Zymo Research *Quick-*
171 *DNA Fecal/Soil Microbe Miniprep Kits* (Zymo Research, Irvine, CA, United States) following
172 the manufacturer's recommended protocol. The procedure involved placing the Nitex screen into
173 the lysis tube with glass beads, followed by mixing with a Bead Beater vortex mixer (BioSpec
174 products, Bartlesville, OK) for 2 min as a first step in the extraction process. Extracted DNA was
175 collected by decanting and used as a template for amplifying bacterial 16S rRNA gene through
176 PCR. Forward (S-D-Bact-0341-b-S-17, 5'-CCTACGGGNGGCWGCAG-3') and reverse primers
177 (S-D-Bact-0785-a-A- 21, 5'-GACTACHVGGGTATCTAATCC-3') were used for targeting the
178 V3 and V4 regions of bacterial 16S rRNA gene (Klindworth et al. 2013). Each 50- μL PCR
179 reaction mix contained 2 μL of template ($\sim 30\text{ ng}$), 2 μL of each primer (0.4 μM , final
180 concentration), and 25 μL PCR master mix containing DreamTaq polymerase (Thermo Fisher

181 Scientific, USA). Thermocycler conditions were as follows: 94 °C for 3 min followed by 28
182 cycles of 94 °C for 30 sec, 55 °C for 60 sec, and 72 °C for 75 sec, and a final elongation step at
183 72 °C for 10 min. PCR products were visualized on 1% agarose gels to confirm amplification
184 and then purified by QIAquick PCR purification kit (Qiagen, Valencia, CA, United States) to
185 remove primers. From each purified sample, 4 µL were added to a second PCR mixture
186 containing barcoded primers for multiplexed Illumina sequencing. Through re-amplification for
187 another eight cycles in the second PCR reaction, each sample received a unique “barcode”
188 sequence as previously described (Wawrik et al. 2012). The secondary PCR products were
189 quantified with the Qubit dsDNA BR Assay kit (Life Technologies, Carlsbad, CA, USA) on a
190 Qubit 2.0 Fluorometer. Amplicons of all samples were pooled in an equimolar amount. Pooled
191 samples were purified using a QIAquick PCR Purification Kit (Qiagen, Valencia, CA, USA) and
192 re-quantified with the Qubit. Paired-end sequencing of the library was performed at the
193 Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation, using the MiSeq Reagent Kit (v3) with the read length
194 set to 2 × 300 base pairs (bp).

195 Shotgun metagenomics was used to profile functional potential and to recover whole
196 genome sequences from the *Microcystis* and microbiome communities. Metagenomic sequencing
197 was performed on two replicates per sample. A 300-bp paired-end library was constructed
198 according to the instructions from Illumina. The libraries were sequenced on an Illumina
199 Genome Analyzer IIx at the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation. Eighteen metagenomes
200 (two per lake) were multiplexed on two lanes, and a median total of ~48 million raw paired-end
201 reads was obtained for each sample (range: ~32–96 million, due to variations in library loading).

202

203

204 **Sequence Processing and Analysis**

205 The 16S raw sequence data was processed via the QIIME pipeline (V1.9.1) (Caporaso et
206 al. 2010), integrated with UPARSE-OTU algorithm. Paired-end reads were joined using the
207 `join_paired_ends.py` function according to the SeqPrep method
208 (<https://github.com/jstjohn/SeqPrep>) with a minimum overlap of 150 bp. The quality-joined
209 fragments were demultiplexed and primer sequences removed. After using the FASTQ Quality
210 Filter ($q = 20$, $p = 80$) to remove unqualified sequences, the remaining fragments were clustered
211 into operational taxonomic units (OTUs) at the 97% similarity level with UPARSE OTU
212 clustering (Edgar 2013) which generates a representative set of high-quality OTU sequences and
213 filters out chimeric sequences via the de novo mode (using `usearch 11.0.667` Edgar 2010).
214 Taxonomic annotations were assigned to each high-quality OTU sequence by RDP's naive
215 Bayesian rRNA Classifier (Wang et al. 2007) against the SILVA SSUv132 Reference Database
216 (Quast et al. 2012), at the confidence threshold of 80%. To perform phylogenetic analysis, OTU
217 sequences were also aligned against the SILVA database with PyNAST (Caporaso et al. 2009),
218 filtered, and a phylogenetic tree constructed with FastTree (Price et al. 2010). Operational
219 taxonomic units that failed in alignment or were classified as either eukaryote, archaea,
220 chloroplast, or mitochondria were discarded from the OTU table, as were OTUs with fewer than
221 100 counts summed across samples.

222 To compare the community structure of the *Microcystis* microbiome among lakes, we
223 extracted non-cyanobacterial OTUs from the OTU table, and then retrieved their associated
224 representative sequences. A phylogenetic tree with non-cyanobacterial OTU sequences was
225 constructed, as detailed above. OTU tables without cyanobacteria were rarified to the number of

226 reads of the sample with the fewest reads. The rarified OTU table with pooled replicates was
227 used for all downstream diversity calculation and statistical analysis.

228 Following quality trimming (Trimmomatic v 0.39; Bolger et al. 2014), with reads shorter
229 than 20bp being discarded and removal of human genes (MetaWRAP; Uritskiy et al. 2018), the
230 clean metagenomic data was assembled into contigs by de novo assembly of each sample
231 sequence using metaSPAdes (SPAdes v.3.13.0; Bankevich et al. 2012). The interactome (i.e.,
232 *Microcystis* and its microbiome) metagenomic assembled genomes (MAGs) were generated for
233 each lake using three tools with default options: MaxBin (v.2.2.6) (Wu et al. 2015), MetaBAT
234 (v. 2.12.1) (Kang et al. 2015) and CONCOCT (v. 1.0.0) (Alneberg et al. - unpublished preprint
235 doi: arXiv:1312.4038v1 [q-bio.GN]), followed by integration using DAS Tool (using a threshold
236 of $\geq 70\%$ genome completeness) (v. 1.1.1) (Sieber et al. 2018). The complete MAGs were then
237 divided into two groups, *Microcystis* and heterotrophic bacteria, and pooled across the lakes.
238 Protein-encoding genes of each group were annotated from the contigs with Prokka (v1.13.3)
239 (Seemann 2014). Duplicate genes were removed with CD-HIT-EST (v 4.6) (Hahn et al. 2016).
240 Genes were then converted into protein sequences using Prokka. The protein sequences of each
241 group were annotated to Kyoto Encyclopedia of Genes and Genomes (KEGG) orthologies to
242 characterize individual gene functions using GhostKOALA (Kanehisa et al. 2016). To calculate
243 the gene abundance in each sample, all KEGG annotated genes were first aligned with the clean
244 reads by bowtie2 alignment software (Langmead and Salzberg 2012). The number of reads
245 mapping to each gene was extracted using the SAMtools (v1.3.1) “idxstats” command. The
246 abundance of each gene in all samples was calculated by get_count_table.py
247 (https://github.com/edamame-course/Metagenome/blob/master/get_count_table.py). To compare
248 the functions contributed by the microbiome to those of the *Microcystis* we constructed complete

249 KEGG pathways (no less than one missing gene). Due to the high phylogenetic and functional
250 similarities found across lakes (see Results), we pooled *Microcystis* MAGs and microbiome
251 MAGs (Li et al. 2018), respectively, in order to generate the pathways. We uploaded the KO
252 numbers into the online KEGG mapper to construct the complete KEGG pathways.

253 Due to the low depth of coverage for *Microcystis* microbiome genes, we attempted to
254 maximize the probability of identifying functional potential in the *Microcystis* microbiomes by
255 repeating the process outlined above for MAGs using the total metagenomic data. We separated
256 the *Microcystis* reads from the microbiome reads by aligning the clean metagenomic data with
257 16 *Microcystis* genomes (ten *M. aeruginosa*, one *M. viridis*, one *M. panniformis*, two *M. flos-*
258 *aquae*, two *M. wesenbergii*) using bwa v0.7.15 (Li and Durbin 2009) and splitting the data based
259 on this alignment. The reads were then assembled into contigs (SPAdes v3.1.1; Bankevich et al.
260 2012) and the contigs for each lake (*Microcystis* and the microbiome kept separate) were pooled
261 across lakes into a single group and annotated (Prokka v1.13.3; Seemann 2014). Duplicate genes
262 were then removed with CD-HIT-EST (v 4.6) (Hahn et al, 2009). The protein sequences of each
263 group were annotated to KEGG orthologies, the gene abundance mapped to each lake, and the
264 data pooled and complete KEGG pathways constructed as described above.

265

266 **Statistical Analyses**

267 All statistical analyses were completed in the R statistical environment v.3.5.1 (R
268 Development Core Team 2018), except where noted otherwise. We first tested for associations
269 between geographic distance and community dissimilarity across samples. We calculated the
270 great circle geographic distance between sites using the “rdist.earth” function (fields v.9.6). We
271 calculated Bray-Curtis dissimilarity using “vegdist” (vegan package v.2.5-3 (Oksanen et al.

272 2013). UniFrac values, weighted by abundance, were generated in QIIME. Generalized linear
273 models (GLM) were used to assess the relationship between geographic distance and community
274 dissimilarity measures (using default family = Gaussian, link = identity). Deviance explained by
275 GLMs coupled with p-values was used to assess the significance and strength of the relationship.

276 To examine the phylogenetic relationship among *Microcystis* microbiome bacteria *within*
277 each sample (α -diversity), we calculated mean-nearest-taxon-distance (MNTD) and the nearest-
278 taxon-index (NTI) (Webb 2000) using the “mntd” and “ses.mntd” commands in the Picante
279 package v.1.7 in R (Kembel et al. 2010; Swenson 2014). NTI is a measure of phylogenetic
280 distance between each OTU within a sample and its closest relative in the same sample. The
281 mean is then calculated across all phylogenetic distances in a sample to give a value of
282 phylogenetic relatedness. To determine whether observed phylogenetic community composition
283 was more or less related (or structured) than predicted by chance, null models were built by
284 randomly shuffling the taxa within each community across the tips of the phylogeny (null.model
285 = “taxa.labels” in “ses.mntd”) and recalculating MNTD 999 times (Stegen et al. 2012). The
286 resulting NTI (which is the negative output of “ses.mntd”) distribution displays the number of
287 standard deviations that the observed MNTD is from the mean of the null MNTD values. An
288 α NTI value less than -2 indicates taxa within the community are more distantly related than by
289 chance (phylogenetically overdispersed), a value greater than 2 indicates taxa are more closely
290 related than expected by chance (phylogenetically clustered), and α NTI values between 2
291 standard deviations of 0 indicate that the observed community is no different from random
292 (Webb 2000; Stegen et al. 2012). A two-sample t-test was used to assess whether the mean α NTI
293 values from across all communities was significantly different from that of the null distribution.

294 We used beta-mean-nearest-taxon-distance (β MNTD) and beta-nearest-taxon-index
295 (β NTI) to quantify the phylogenetic distance among samples (see Swenson 2014 for R code).
296 Similar to its α -diversity analog, β MNTD is the mean of the phylogenetic distances between each
297 OTU in a given sample to their nearest relative in the comparison sample. Null distributions were
298 generated by randomizing OTUs across the phylogeny and recalculating β MNTD 999 times
299 (Stegen et al. 2012). As before, β NTI is the number of standard deviations that the observed
300 β MNTD is away from the mean of the null distribution. A value of β NTI less than -2 indicates
301 more phylogenetic relatedness between samples than expected by chance, and a β NTI greater
302 than 2 indicates less phylogenetic relatedness between the two communities than expected by
303 chance (i.e., species in these communities are more phylogenetically distant from each other). A
304 two-sample t-test was used to determine if the mean β NTI for two communities was significantly
305 different from the null expectation.

306 The abundance of KEGG genes for the *Microcystis* microbiome for each lake (mapped
307 from the pooled total metagenomic data) were used to measure the community functional
308 dissimilarity using Bray-Curtis (pairwise comparisons between lakes). GLM were used to assess
309 the relationship between geographic distance and community functional dissimilarity measures
310 (using default family = Gaussian, link = identity). To explore important biogeochemical
311 pathways that may be shared or different between the *Microcystis* and their associated bacteria,
312 we compared the complete (no more than one gene missing) KEGG pathways between
313 *Microcystis* and the microbiome. Due to the low depth of coverage of the microbiome, we used
314 both the MAGs complete KEGG pathways and the total metagenome complete KEGG pathways
315 for this analysis to maximize the probability of identifying a complete pathway.

316

317 **Results**

318 The sampled lakes spanned a 280° longitudinal and 90° latitudinal gradient ranging from
319 444 to 11,777 km apart and represented *M. aeruginosa* blooms from four continents (Fig. 1).
320 After removal of Eukaryota, singletons, chloroplasts, and mitochondrial reads, 3.25 million high-
321 quality reads were represented by 454 unique (97% similarity) bacterial OTUs. *Microcystis* (927
322 total OTUs) was dominant in ten of the 12 lakes and ranged from 65-84 % of total sequence
323 abundance. Both Taihu and Wentowsee communities were made up of less than 50% *Microcystis*
324 (48% and 5%, respectively) sequences suggesting the lakes were not at peak bloom phase during
325 sampling. As such, these two lakes were removed from subsequent analyses. Castlerock was also
326 removed from subsequent analyses due to a loss of one of the triplicate samples. All *Microcystis*
327 OTUs with greater than 1000 total abundance were re-identified to species using NCIBI BLAST
328 function (Altschul et al. 1990) and were all identified as *M. aeruginosa*, accounting for 79-85%
329 of the total *Microcystis* across lakes and 53-68% of all OTU abundances across lakes. This
330 confirms that, at least at the level of 16S rRNA sequences, *M. aeruginosa* is a cosmopolitan
331 bloom-forming species.

332 The 454 non-cyanobacterial OTUs were associated with 35 bacterial classes, with most
333 OTUs identified as Alphaproteobacteria, Bacteroidia, Gammaproteobacteria, Clostridia,
334 Campylobacteria, Deltaproteobacteria, Negativicutes, Phycisphaerae, Gemmatimonadetes,
335 Acidobacteriia, Ignavibacteria, SM1A07, Melainabacteria, Cytophagia, Parcubacteria, and
336 Anaerolineae (Fig. 2b). The abundance and taxonomy of the associated bacteria differed among
337 sites (Fig. 2b) with Alphaproteobacteria, Bacteroidia, and Gammaproteobacteria classes
338 contributing most sequences across sites. Bray-Curtis dissimilarity values were relatively high
339 for all of the site comparisons indicating large differences in OTUs among sites (Fig. 3a).

340 Weighted UniFrac, on the other hand, was generally low, suggesting that among sites, there were
341 many shared taxa (or a few shared taxa with high abundances) with some degree of phylogenetic
342 relatedness (Fig. 3b). These results together suggest that there was a wide range of relative
343 abundances of taxa across all of the sites, including many low abundance rare taxa (contributing
344 to high Bray-Curtis values), while the highly abundant taxa were more related and shared across
345 most sites (contributing to lower UniFrac values). Neither of the community dissimilarity metrics
346 were significantly correlated with geographic distance (Fig. 3a and 3b; BC GLM deviance
347 explained = 4.1%, $p = 0.2$; UF GLM DE = 0.97%, $p = 0.57$).

348 Phylogenetic α -diversity analysis using mean nearest taxon distance and null model
349 generation revealed on average that within lakes, bacteria in the *Microcystis* microbiome were
350 more phylogenetically related than predicted by chance (Fig. 4, α NTI; $t = 10.13$, $p < 0.001$).
351 Among lakes, the *Microcystis* microbiome communities also were significantly more
352 phylogenetically related than expected by chance (Fig. 4, β NTI; $t = -12.65$, $p < 0.001$).

353 A total of 866 million metagenomic sequencing reads were generated from the nine lake
354 *Microcystis*-microbiome communities. After trimming and filtering, 612 million (52.4 to 137.6
355 million per lake) clean reads were generated (Supplementary Table 1). Most of the clean
356 metagenomic reads (55.2% to 76.6% per lake) belonged to *Microcystis*.

357 Analysis of only whole genome data revealed nine *Microcystis* genome bins (one MAG
358 per lake) and but only 43 microbiome bacterial genome bins (3-10 MAGs per lake), indicating
359 extremely low depth coverage for the microbiome bacteria. After removing the duplicate genes
360 and RNA genes, 156,445 and 39,880 protein-coding genes were obtained from the microbiome
361 and *Microcystis* genomes, respectively. Our analysis showed that 66,861 (~42%) of the
362 microbiome genes, and 14,188 (~35%) of *Microcystis* genes were successfully assigned to the

363 KEGG orthology. By contrast, after removing duplicate and rRNA genes, analysis of the total
364 metagenomic data produced 407,658 and 54,312 protein-coding genes for the microbiome and
365 *Microcystis*, respectively, of which 139,384 (more than twice the number compared with MAGs)
366 and 17,817 (3,629 more), respectively, were successfully mapped to the KEGG orthology.
367 Microbiome gene diversity was similar across lakes (Fig. 5; low Bray-Curtis values) and did not
368 differ with geographic distance between the lakes (Fig. 5; BC GLM DE = 1.97%, $p = 0.41$).

369 Shared pathways were mostly assigned to carbohydrate metabolism; amino acid,
370 nucleotide, and fatty acid biosynthesis; and co-factor and vitamin biosynthesis (Fig. 6). The
371 microbiome bacteria contained unique pathways for organic carbon transportation and
372 degradation and vitamin B₁₂ synthesis not found in *Microcystis*. Numerous pathways for organic
373 carbon degradation (D-galacturonate, D-glucuronate, galactose, glycogen, fatty acid, purine,
374 pyrimidine) and transportation (e.g., proline, maltose, galactose, maltose, mannose, D-xylose,
375 fructose, rhamnose, glycerol), as well as complete pathways for degradation of aromatics (mostly
376 anthropogenic pollutants, such as toluene, xylene, benzene, phthalate) were also identified in the
377 microbiome. Numerous important anaerobic bacterial pathways, including nitrogen fixation,
378 denitrification, and dissimilatory sulfate reduction were also detected in the *Microcystis*
379 microbiome, suggesting the anaerobic bacteria play an important role in nutrient cycling during
380 *Microcystis* blooms in these lakes. With the exception of some genes related to carbon cycling
381 (purine, pyrimidine, salicylate, and catechol degradation), as well as bacterial pathways involved
382 in methane metabolism (methane oxidation and formaldehyde assimilation), the majority of
383 potential biochemical function appeared to be associated with the 43 microbiome MAGs (Fig. 6,
384 Table S2).

385

386 **Discussion**

387 Genome reduction leads to a loss of function (Giovannoni et al. 2014), necessitating
388 interactions with community members capable of carrying out those functions (Morris et al.
389 2012; Garcia et al. 2015). With small genomes compared to other algae (e.g., 4.2 Mbp vs 34.5
390 Mbp, Armbrust 2004; Gregory et al. 2007), *Microcystis* spp. are potentially missing some key
391 metabolic functions (Steffen et al. 2012) and might be reliant on community members to fill in
392 the metabolic gaps. Similar potential mutualist interactions have recently been mapped between
393 *Microcystis* and their microbiome of associated bacteria (Xie et al. 2016; Li et al. 2018),
394 corroborating the original idea of a ‘phycosphere’ of functional interaction within the
395 *Microcystis* aggregates (Bell and Mitchell 1972; Paerl and Kellar 1978, 1979; Paerl and Millie
396 1996). Moreover, bacteria have been shown to complement algae in marine ecosystems by
397 excreting large amounts of exometabolites including growth factors and biosynthetic precursors,
398 as well as processing toxic metabolites (Morris et al. 2011; Pérez et al. 2016; Lee et al. 2017;
399 Wienhausen et al. 2017). Given the predominance of such data across aquatic system, we
400 hypothesized *M. aeruginosa* blooms have a microbiome of certain species of associated bacteria
401 or perhaps metabolic functions that will be preserved across geographically distinct *Microcystis*
402 blooms.

403 *Microcystis aeruginosa* was the most abundant *Microcystis* species across all lakes and
404 this confirms that, at least at the level of 16S rRNA sequences, *M. aeruginosa* is a cosmopolitan
405 bloom-forming species. We found remarkable phylogenetic relatedness among associated
406 bacteria, and similar function between sites, despite those bacteria being taxonomically distinct
407 at the 16S rRNA level. We found no relationship between community composition dissimilarity
408 and geographic distance (Fig. 3a and 3b), indicating no distance-decay relationship as would be

409 expected for dispersal-limited species (Nekola and White 1999; Green and Bohannan 2006;
410 Nemergut et al. 2013). We also conclude that the functional potential of microbial communities
411 is more highly conserved than their taxonomic composition (Fig. 3A & Fig. 5). Similarly, Steffen
412 et al. (2012) found that the cyanobacterial bloom-associated bacterial communities across three
413 lakes (Erie, Taihu, St. Marys) differed taxonomically, while being functionally similar. Thus,
414 while OTU identity was variable across *Microcystis* microbiome bacteria, functional potential
415 appears to have been quite similar providing evidence that under bloom conditions, *M.*
416 *aeruginosa* is accompanied by a common suite of bacterial functionality, potentially forming an
417 interactome.

418 We found that *Microcystis* microbiome bacteria have functional potential not found in
419 *Microcystis*, and functional similarity was preserved globally. Pathways involving
420 photosynthesis (excluding the anoxygenic photosystem II pathway) and carbon fixation were
421 only detected in *Microcystis* (Fig. 6). The microbiome bacteria could potentially be contributing
422 to carbon recycling within the aggregates as many of the pathways found only in the bacteria are
423 related to carbohydrate breakdown (e.g., d-galacturonate, galactose and glycogen degradation)
424 and transport (e.g., numerous transport systems). The microbiome bacteria are likely tightly
425 associated with the carbon sources found in the *Microcystis* aggregates. Bacteria associated with
426 phytoplankton blooms have been found to utilize the carbon source glycolate from
427 phytoplankton (Lau et al. 2007; Paver and Kent 2010) and contain the glycolate oxidation
428 pathway. Unfortunately, the KEGG database does not contain this gene or related pathways thus
429 we were unable to detect it in our samples. Every metagenomic function database has its
430 shortcomings and for future studies we would recommend using multiple databases to cover as
431 many genes and pathways as possible. For example, using the COG database (clusters of

432 orthologous groups) to search for specific genes, we in fact found that the *glcD* gene, which is
433 involved in the glycolate oxidation pathway, as well as the microcystin production genes
434 (*mcyA-I*) were present in the microbiome and the *Microcystis*, respectively, in all of our lakes. In
435 addition, we found that the microbiome potentially contributes methane metabolism pathways
436 (methane oxidation and formaldehyde assimilation) which are used to convert methane into a
437 useable carbon form. Recently, cyanobacteria have been suggested to produce methane during
438 blooms (M. Bižić et al. unpublished preprint, doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/398958>), although
439 methane is typically produced by methanogenic archaea. While we did not analyze the archaea in
440 our samples, other studies have found methanogenic archaea can be closely associated with
441 cyanobacteria blooms (Batista et al. 2018), thus we would expect some methane production
442 within aggregates.

443 In addition, the ethylmalonyl pathway was identified in the microbiome bacterial
444 genomes. The ethylmalonyl pathway is a new acetate assimilation strategy in *Rhodobacter*
445 *sphaeroides*, an anoxygenic phototrophic organism that lacks the key enzyme of the glyoxylate
446 cycle, isocitrate lyase (Erb et al. 2007). Indeed, genes associated with anoxygenic photosystem II
447 were identified in six microbiome MAGs (data not shown). Sulfur is a byproduct of anoxygenic
448 photosynthesis and we also found evidence for thiosulfate oxidation and dissimilatory sulfate
449 reduction pathways present in the microbiome bacteria. These results corroborate Li et al.
450 (2018), who suggested that bacteria associated with *Microcystis* (termed epibionts by Li et al.)
451 were essential for maintaining the redox balance and cycling different forms of sulfur within
452 *Microcystis* aggregates. In addition, the vitamin B₁₂ biosynthesis pathway, a necessary vitamin
453 that *Microcystis* cannot produce, was only detected in the microbiome bacteria. Croft et al.
454 (2005, 2006) proposed that most phytoplankton were likely auxotrophic for vitamin B₁₂ and

455 other essential vitamins. Indeed, previous studies have also suggested that vitamin B₁₂ was
456 provided to *Microcystis* by the associated bacteria and, moreover, that this relationship was
457 mutually beneficial for both groups (Xie et al. 2016; Li et al. 2018).

458 Most *Microcystis*-blooming lakes are typically recipients of urban and agricultural runoff.
459 Correspondingly, we found the *Microcystis* microbiome contained the degradation pathways for
460 many potentially harmful aromatic pollutants (e.g., benzene, benzoate, phthalate, etc.).
461 *Microcystis* could be benefiting from pollutant degradation as many of these aromatics have been
462 shown to inhibit phytoplankton growth (Häder and Gao 2015). Xi et al. (2016) also found a
463 group of aggregate-associated bacteria that contributed the whole benzoate degradation pathway
464 to the community, again pointing toward mutualism between the *Microcystis* and the *Microcystis*
465 microbiome. Together, these results support our hypothesis of a co-evolved interactome. We also
466 hypothesize that many of these microbiome functions (Fig. 6) are needed for growth and
467 dominance by *M. aeruginosa* during bloom conditions.

468 Loss of necessary metabolic functions is more common in bacterial communities than
469 previously thought (Hottes et al. 2013). Morris et al. (2012) found that the marine
470 cyanobacterium, *Prochlorococcus*, has lost many oxidative-stress genes and instead relies on
471 *Synechococcus*, another marine cyanobacterium, for removal of hydrogen peroxide from the
472 microenvironment. As such, *Prochlorococcus* may benefit from hydrogen peroxide removal by
473 way of *Synechococcus*, i.e., the “leaky” public good (*sensu* Morris et al. 2012), and the smaller
474 genome of *Prochlorococcus* affords it a selective advantage. A recent genomic study has shown
475 that *M. aeruginosa* also has a reduced genome with remarkable redundancy consisting of a set of
476 ~2,400 core genes and a large, variable pangenome, an additional set of genes unique to different
477 *M. aeruginosa* strains likely acquired through horizontal gene transfer (Humbert et al. 2013). We

478 speculate that the variability within the *M. aeruginosa* pangenome could be due to differences in
479 the need for specific functions across different environments. Horizontal gene transfer and the
480 Black Queen hypothesis provide two mechanisms for coping with changing environmental
481 needs. “Leaky” functions may be lost from *Microcystis* when they are costly and a public good is
482 available, as with the case of oxidative-stress genes in *Prochlorococcus*. However, when that
483 public good becomes less predictable, those functions may be recouped through horizontal gene
484 transfer if the new conditions provide a selective advantage to carriers for regaining the function.
485 Steffen et al. (2012) corroborated this hypothesis as they found microbiome functional potential
486 remained static between two *Microcystis* blooms. However, in one of the lakes (Taihu),
487 *Microcystis* was reliant on Proteobacteria for nitrogen assimilation and metabolism, while in the
488 other lakes (Erie and St. Marys), *Microcystis* carried out those functions. In the present study, we
489 also found that the microbiome bacteria were potentially the sole contributors of nitrogen
490 fixation, denitrification, and the urea cycle pathways (Fig. 6). *Microcystis* cannot fix nitrogen so
491 this may indicate that *Microcystis* is relying on public goods across multiple blooms. This
492 interactome of *M. aeruginosa* and its microbiome could be an ideal system to test for “Black
493 Queen” functions.

494 Alternatively, the similarities we see in the microbiome bacterial community could be
495 due in part to the *Microcystis* bloom creating specific habitats that are selective of certain types
496 of heterotrophic bacteria. As previously mentioned, *Microcystis* blooms can change local
497 environments, creating large amounts of particulate organic matter that have been shown to be an
498 important nutrient source for shaping the bacterial community (e.g., Fogg G. E. and Pearsall
499 William Harold 1952; Bell and Mitchell 1972; Paerl and Gallucci 1985). We saw through β NTI
500 analysis that *Microcystis* microbiome communities were significantly phylogenetically related

501 (Fig. 4), with the negative value of β NTI indicating a common environmental filter across the
502 lakes - *Microcystis* (sensu Dini-Andreote et al. 2015). Similarly, multiple studies (Yang et al.
503 2017; Xu et al. 2018; Shi et al. 2018) have shown that the *Microcystis*-associated (i.e., particle-
504 attached, which is equivalent to our use on *Microcystis* microbiome) bacterial community
505 composition appeared to be heavily structured by the bloom compared to free-living bacteria.
506 Over the course of a *Microcystis* bloom, Parveen et al. (2013) found that *Microcystis* bloom
507 aggregates provided habitat for a bacterial community distinct from the free-living bacteria. In
508 addition, specific bacteria have also been found utilize parts of bloom aggregates. For example,
509 bacteria in the genus, *Sphingomonas*, actively break down toxins while associated with
510 *Microcystis* blooms (Dziallas and Grossart 2011). This bloom-as-habitat hypothesis could also
511 explain the differences in attached and free-living bacteria described in previous studies (Yang et
512 al. 2017; Xu et al. 2018; Shi et al. 2018). This hypothesis does not negate that *Microcystis* could
513 be exchanging or receiving functions from these aggregate-associated bacteria. Additional
514 metagenomic and multi-year bloom studies are needed to further parse these relationships.

515 The phylogenetic and functional similarities compared with the taxonomic dissimilarities
516 we observed provide support to a growing body of evidence suggesting that community
517 composition comparisons should be based on functional genes rather than strictly taxonomy
518 (OTUs) (Burke et al. 2011; Oh et al. 2011). While clear similarities are shown using 16S rRNA
519 genes, this method is taxonomically conservative and multiple different bacterial species could
520 be represented by a single OTU. 16S rRNA genes represent a very small part of the genome, and
521 evidence is growing which suggests that 16S rRNA is insufficient for distinguishing freshwater
522 bacteria. For example, *Polynucleobacter* species, with 16S rRNA similarities $\geq 99\%$, have been
523 shown to be distinct species based on whole genome comparisons and ecological isolation (Hahn

524 et al. 2016). In *Microcystis*, a threshold of 98-99% similarity is suggested to be sufficient in
525 distinguishing some species (Harke et al. 2016). In our study, all *Microcystis* OTUs with greater
526 than 1000 sequence abundance were assigned to *M. aeruginosa* at the species level, thus we are
527 confident in this taxonomy, but also recognize the need for more detailed taxonomic analysis to
528 further investigate the diversity of *Microcystis* within a bloom beyond the 97% similarity
529 threshold for 16S rRNA genes.

530 In the current study, we have used 16S rRNA taxonomy paired with metagenomic
531 functional analysis to describe the community composition and potential function of the
532 associated bacterial community in nine geographically distinct *Microcystis* blooms. The multiple
533 samples across continents has allowed us to confirm that *M. aeruginosa* is a cosmopolitan bloom
534 former. The phylogenetic and functional similarity of associated bacteria across sites and the sets
535 of complementary pathways found between the *Microcystis* and associated bacteria support the
536 presence of a synergistic interactome. These results highlight the need for deeper investigation
537 into *Microcystis* taxonomic identity and both *Microcystis* and microbiome functional capabilities
538 at different times before, during, and after a bloom to fully elucidate the interactome relationship
539 between *M. aeruginosa* and its microbiome. We conclude that the co-evolution within an
540 interactome, i.e., between *M. aeruginosa* and its microbiome, could help explain the global
541 distribution of, and dominance by, *M. aeruginosa* in diverse freshwater ecosystems.

542

543

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555

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802 bacterial communities during a *Microcystis aeruginosa* bloom in a Plateau Lake. *Front.*
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- 804

805 **FIGURE CAPTIONS:**

806 **Figure 1.** Location of the 12 lakes across the globe. These samples represent a 280° longitudinal
807 and 90° latitudinal gradient.

808 **Figure 2.** (A) Relative abundance of Bacteria classes in the nine lakes. The lakes are arranged in
809 order from left to right of increasing percent *Microcystis* in the community. Classes less than
810 1% of the total relative abundance were grouped together as a single group denoted “<1%
811 abund”. Oxyphotobacteria (cyanobacteria) were split into two groups: *Microcystis* only in
812 one and all other cyanobacteria in the second. (B) Relative abundance of non-*Microcystis*
813 (i.e., microbiome) bacterial classes.

814 **Figure 3.** Scatter plots of community dissimilarity in the microbiome as related to geographic
815 distance. (A) The non-significant (GLM Deviance explained = 3.7%, $p = 0.2$) relationship
816 between taxonomic Bray-Curtis dissimilarity and geographic distance where the higher Bray-
817 Curtis values indicate fewer species in common between sites. (B) Abundance weighted
818 UniFrac did not scale significantly by geographic distance (GLM DE = 0.82%, $p = 0.55$).
819 Here higher values of UniFrac indicate there is little overlap in species between communities
820 whereas lower values indicate the communities are more similar.

821 **Figure 4.** Distributions of *within* community phylogenetic relatedness (α NTI -Nearest Taxon
822 Index), and the phylogenetic relatedness *between* two communities (β NTI) of the nine
823 sampled lakes. Values below -2 or above +2 standard deviations from the null (indicated by
824 the red rectangle) are statistically significantly different from random. Black dashed lines
825 indicate the mean of the observed distributions. The mean of the α NTI distribution is 4.64
826 and the mean of the β NTI distribution is -3.58. α NTI is a measure of community
827 phylogenetic structure and relatedness, where positive deviations from the null expectation

828 indicate the species in the community are more phylogenetically related (clustered) than
829 expected by chance (as seen here), and negative deviations indicate the species are more
830 phylogenetically distant (overdispersed). The observed α NTI was significantly different from
831 the null ($t = 10.13$, $p < 0.001$). β NTI measures phylogenetic relatedness between two
832 communities with values greater than the null meaning lower relatedness than expected by
833 chance and values lower than the null meaning higher relatedness than expected by chance
834 (as seen here). Our β NTI is significantly different from random ($t = -12.65$, $p < 0.001$).

835 **Figure 5.** The dissimilarity between the *Microcystis* microbiome community's metagenomic
836 function was not significantly correlated with geographic distance (GLM DE = 1.97%, $p =$
837 0.41) and was overall low (low values of Bray-Curtis dissimilarity).

838 **Figure 6.** Venn diagram showing the distribution of complete or nearly complete (no more than
839 one gene missing) KEGG modules in *Microcystis* and the microbiome bacteria. See
840 Supplementary Table 2 for details and indication for involvement in major elemental cycling.
841 KEGG modules in bold print with astricks were not detected in *Microcystis* and the
842 microbiome bacterial MAGs.

843

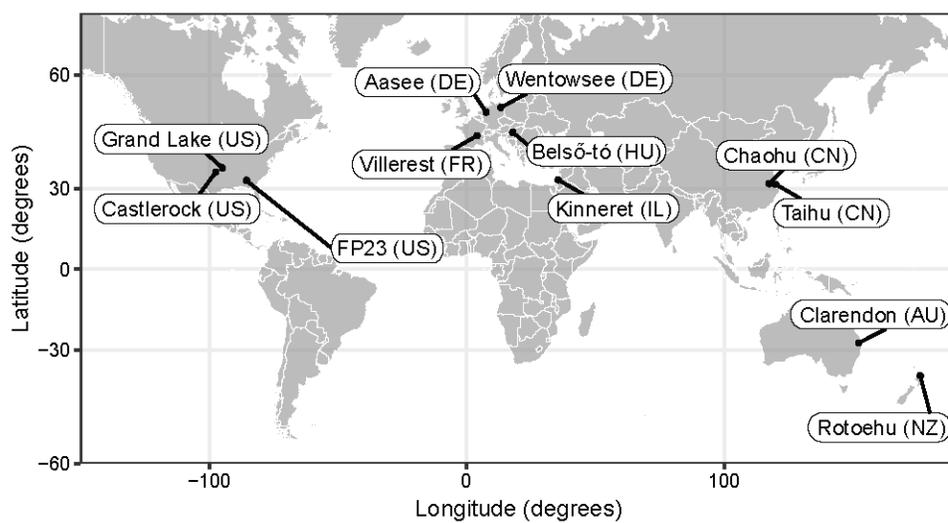


Figure 1. Location of the 12 lakes across the globe. These samples represent a 280° longitudinal and 90° latitudinal gradient.

Dimensions: 12.7 cm wide by 6.6 cm tall

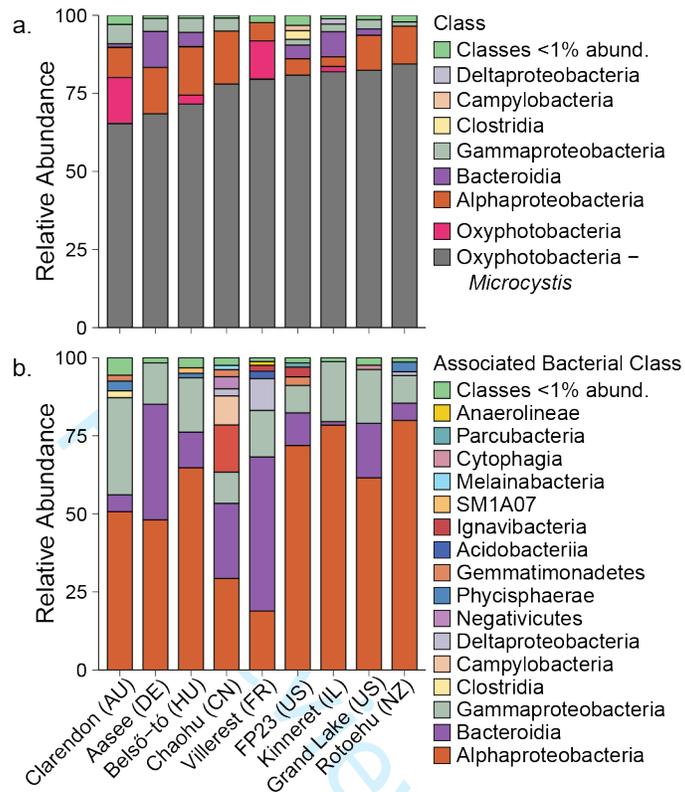


Figure 2. (A) Relative abundance of Bacteria classes in the nine lakes. The lakes are arranged in order from left to right of increasing percent *Microcystis* in the community. Classes less than 1% of the total relative abundance were grouped together as a single group denoted “<1% abund”. Oxyphotobacteria (cyanobacteria) were split into two groups: *Microcystis* only in one and all other cyanobacteria in the second. (B) Relative abundance of non-*Microcystis* (i.e., microbiome) bacterial classes.

Dimensions: 8.9 cm wide by 10.7 cm high

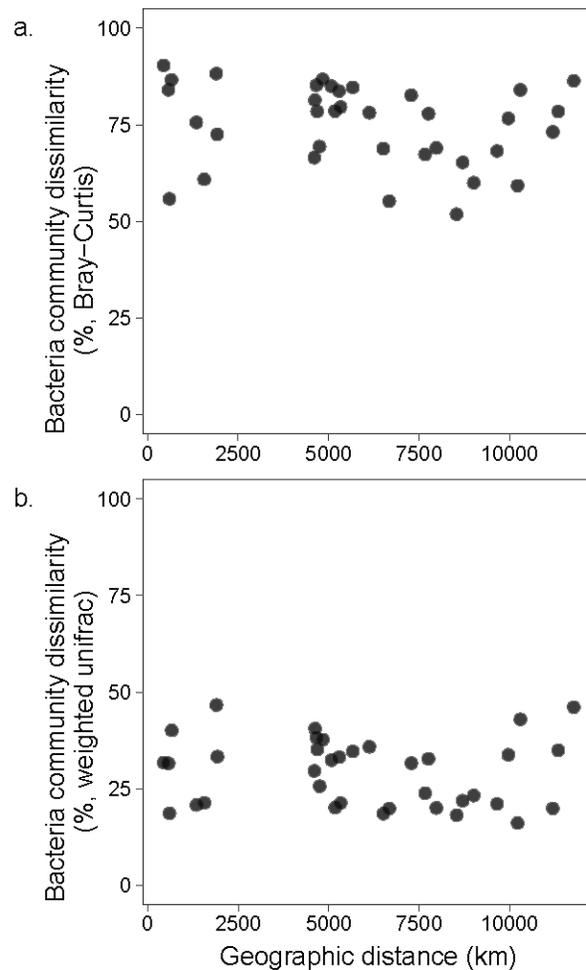


Figure 3. Scatter plots of community dissimilarity in the microbiome as related to geographic distance. (A) The non-significant (GLM Deviance explained = 3.7%, $p = 0.2$) relationship between taxonomic Bray-Curtis dissimilarity and geographic distance where the higher Bray-Curtis values indicate fewer species in common between sites. (B) Abundance weighted UniFrac did not scale significantly by geographic distance (GLM DE = 0.82%, $p = 0.55$). Here higher values of UniFrac indicate there is little overlap in species between communities whereas lower values indicate the communities are more similar.

Dimensions: 7.6 cm wide by 12.7 cm tall

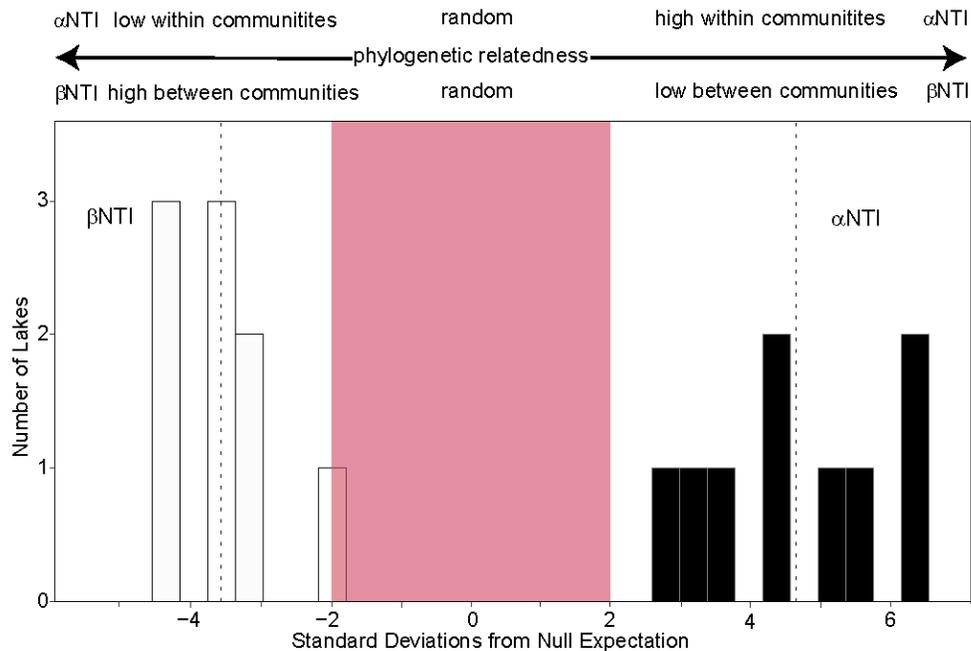


Figure 4. Distributions of within community phylogenetic relatedness (α NTI -Nearest Taxon Index), and the phylogenetic relatedness between two communities (β NTI) of the nine sampled lakes. Values below -2 or above +2 standard deviations from the null (indicated by the red rectangle) are statistically significantly different from random. Black dashed lines indicate the mean of the observed distributions. The mean of the α NTI distribution is 4.64 and the mean of the β NTI distribution is -3.58. α NTI is a measure of community phylogenetic structure and relatedness, where positive deviations from the null expectation indicate the species in the community are more phylogenetically related (clustered) than expected by chance (as seen here), and negative deviations indicate the species are more phylogenetically distant (overdispersed). The observed α NTI was significantly different from the null ($t = 10.13$, $p < 0.001$). β NTI measures phylogenetic relatedness between two communities with values greater than the null meaning lower relatedness than expected by chance and values lower than the null meaning higher relatedness than expected by chance (as seen here). Our β NTI is significantly different from random ($t = -12.65$, $p < 0.001$).

Dimensions: 12.7 cm wide by 8.4 cm tall

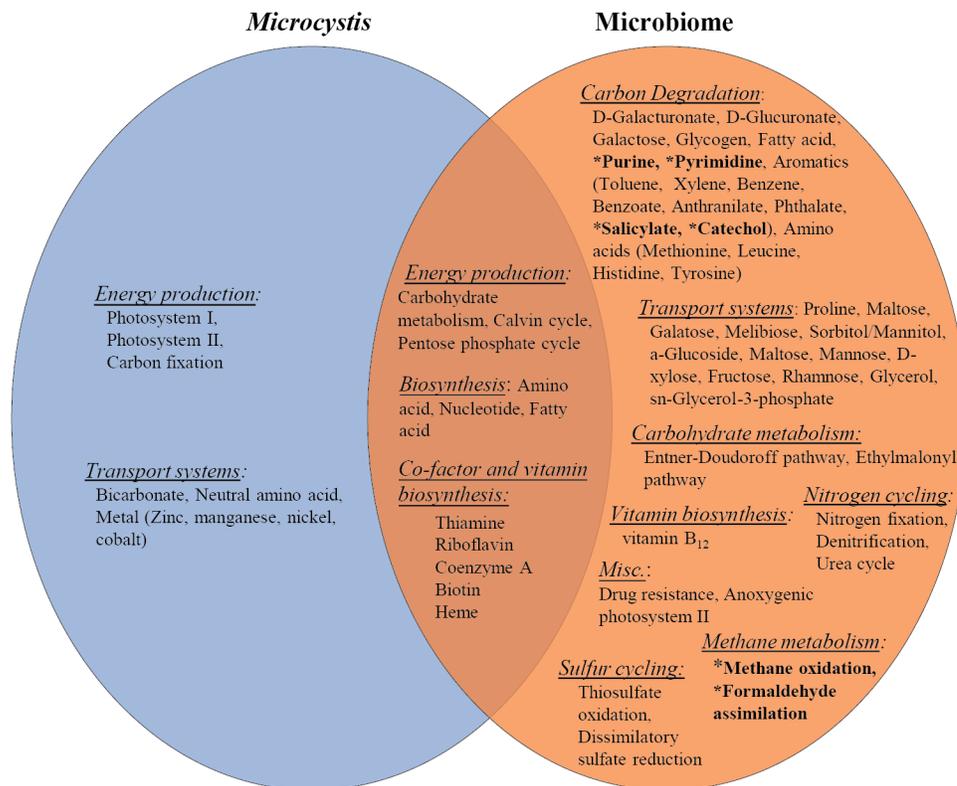


Figure 6. Venn diagram showing the distribution of complete or nearly complete (no more than one gene missing) KEGG modules in *Microcystis* and the microbiome bacteria. See Supplementary Table 2 for details and indication for involvement in major elemental cycling. KEGG modules in bold print with astricks were not detected in *Microcystis* and the microbiome bacterial MAGs.

Dimensions: 12.7 cm wide by 11.43 cm tall

1 **Supporting Information:**

2

3 The global *Microcystis* interactome

4

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8 **Table S1.** Summary of metagenome data for each lake.

Lake	category	contigs number	contigs bases(Mbp)	N50(bp)	Max length(bp)	protein-coding gene number
Belső-tó	Bacteria	33496	27.1	765	74324	26699
	<i>Microcystis</i>	890	4.7	16388	81696	4267
Chaohu	Bacteria	23682	19.8	794	36145	18385
	<i>Microcystis</i>	5258	7.8	1944	54606	6268
Clarendon	Bacteria	82636	104.8	1392	321729	102844
	<i>Microcystis</i>	6740	10.9	2336	38246	9427
FP23	Bacteria	155545	19.5	1454	49139	28976
	<i>Microcystis</i>	4816	7.9	2248	35883	6825
Grand	Bacteria	73551	92.3	1418	105344	89141
	<i>Microcystis</i>	9312	11.1	1418	57431	8881
Kinneret	Bacteria	26202	37.0	1817	101729	37307
	<i>Microcystis</i>	4943	9.1	2627	55640	8028
Aasee	Bacteria	36892	57.9	2441	299862	56457
	<i>Microcystis</i>	1122	5.5	19101	77987	5191
Rotoehu	Bacteria	26009	31.1	1368	41132	32313
	<i>Microcystis</i>	503	4.3	16710	49814	4098
Villerest	Bacteria	30454	40.5	1691	97662	36391
	<i>Microcystis</i>	2619	6.7	5702	54900	5927

10 **Table S2.** KEGG orthology numbers and functional pathways found in *Microcystis* and the microbiome bacteria, indicating
 11 involvement in C, N, P, or S cycling. Complete pathways are indicated by black fill ██████, while modules with no more than one
 12 pathway missing, are indicated by blue fill ██████. Empty cells indicate missing or partial (>1 missing) pathways.

Pathway	<i>Microcystis</i>	Bacteria	Biogeochemical cycle
Carbohydrate metabolism			
M00001 Glycolysis (Embden-Meyerhof pathway), glucose => pyruvate			C
M00002 Glycolysis, core module involving three-carbon compounds			C
M00003 Gluconeogenesis, oxaloacetate => fructose-6P			C, P
M00307 Pyruvate oxidation, pyruvate => acetyl-CoA			C
M00009 Citrate cycle (TCA cycle, Krebs cycle)			C
M00010 Citrate cycle, first carbon oxidation, oxaloacetate => 2-oxoglutarate			C, S
M00011 Citrate cycle, second carbon oxidation, 2-oxoglutarate => oxaloacetate			C
M00004 Pentose phosphate pathway (Pentose phosphate cycle)			C, P
M00006 Pentose phosphate pathway, oxidative phase, glucose 6P => ribulose 5P			C, P
M00007 Pentose phosphate pathway, non-oxidative phase, fructose 6P => ribose 5P			C, P
M00580 Pentose phosphate pathway, archaea, fructose 6P => ribose 5P			C, P
M00005 PRPP biosynthesis, ribose 5P => PRPP			C, P
M00008 Entner-Doudoroff pathway, glucose-6P => glyceraldehyde-3P + pyruvate			C, P
M00308 Semi-phosphorylative Entner-Doudoroff pathway, gluconate => glycerate-3P			C, P

M00309 Non-phosphorylative Entner-Doudoroff pathway, gluconate/galactonate => glycerate		C
M00854 Glycogen biosynthesis, glucose-1P => glycogen/starch		C,P
M00855 Glycogen degradation, glycogen => glucose-6P		C,P
M00565 Trehalose biosynthesis, D-glucose 1P => trehalose		C,P
M00549 Nucleotide sugar biosynthesis, glucose => UDP-glucose		C,P
M00631 D-Galacturonate degradation, D-galacturonate => pyruvate + D glyceraldehyde 3P		C,P
M00061 D-Glucuronate degradation, D-glucuronate => pyruvate + D-glyceraldehyde 3P		C,P
M00632 Galactose degradation, Leloir pathway, galactose => alpha-D-glucose-1P		C,P
M00552 D-galactonate degradation, De Ley-Doudoroff pathway, D-galactonate => glycerate-3P		C,P
M00554 Nucleotide sugar biosynthesis, galactose => UDP-galactose		C,P
M00012 Glyoxylate cycle		C
M00373 Ethylmalonyl pathway		C
M00013 Malonate semialdehyde pathway, propanoyl-CoA => acetyl-CoA		C
M00741 Propanoyl-CoA metabolism, propanoyl-CoA => succinyl-CoA		C
M00130 Inositol phosphate metabolism, PI=> PIP2 => Ins(1,4,5)P3 => Ins(1,3,4,5)P4		C,P
M00132 Inositol phosphate metabolism, Ins(1,3,4)P3 => phytate		C

Energy metabolism

Carbon fixation

M00165 Reductive pentose phosphate cycle (Calvin cycle)		C
M00166 Reductive pentose phosphate cycle, ribulose-5P => glyceraldehyde-3P		C,P
M00167 Reductive pentose phosphate cycle, glyceraldehyde-3P => ribulose-5P		C,P

M00168 CAM (Crassulacean acid metabolism), dark	■	C
M00173 Reductive citrate cycle (Arnon-Buchanan cycle)	■	C
M00579 Phosphate acetyltransferase-acetate kinase pathway, acetyl-CoA => acetate	■	C,P
Methane metabolism		
M00345 Formaldehyde assimilation, ribulose monophosphate pathway	■	C
M00358 Coenzyme M biosynthesis	■	C
M00174 Methane oxidation, methanotroph, methane => formaldehyde	■	C
M00346 Formaldehyde assimilation, serine pathway	■	C
M00344 Formaldehyde assimilation, xylulose monophosphate pathway	■	C,P
M00378 F420 biosynthesis	■	C
Nitrogen metabolism		
M00531 Assimilatory nitrate reduction, nitrate => ammonia	■	N
M00175 Nitrogen fixation, nitrogen => ammonia	■	N
M00530 Dissimilatory nitrate reduction, nitrate => ammonia	■	N
M00529 Denitrification, nitrate => nitrogen	■	N
M00528 Nitrification, ammonia => nitrite	■	N
M00804 Complete nitrification, comammox, ammonia => nitrite => nitrate	■	N
Sulfur metabolism		
M00176 Assimilatory sulfate reduction, sulfate => H ₂ S	■	S
M00595 Thiosulfate oxidation by SOX complex, thiosulfate => sulfate	■	S
M00596 Dissimilatory sulfate reduction, sulfate => H ₂ S	■	S

Photosynthesis

M00161 Photosystem II



C

M00163 Photosystem I



C

M00597 Anoxygenic photosystem II



C

ATP synthesis (Structural complex)

M00144 NADH:quinone oxidoreductase, prokaryotes



M00146 NADH dehydrogenase (ubiquinone) 1 alpha subcomplex



M00145 NAD(P)H:quinone oxidoreductase, chloroplasts and cyanobacteria



M00149 Succinate dehydrogenase, prokaryotes



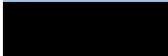
M00162 Cytochrome b6f complex



M00154 Cytochrome c oxidase



M00155 Cytochrome c oxidase, prokaryotes



M00153 Cytochrome bd ubiquinol oxidase



M00157 F-type ATPase, prokaryotes and chloroplasts



M00150 Fumarate reductase, prokaryotes



M00162 Cytochrome b6f complex



M00151 Cytochrome bc1 complex respiratory unit



M00152 Cytochrome bc1 complex



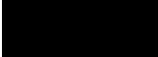
M00154 Cytochrome c oxidase



M00155 Cytochrome c oxidase, prokaryotes



M00153 Cytochrome bd ubiquinol oxidase



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M00417 Cytochrome o ubiquinol oxidase

M00156 Cytochrome c oxidase, cbb3-type

M00159 V-type ATPase, prokaryotes



Lipid metabolism

Fatty acid metabolism

M00082 Fatty acid biosynthesis, initiation

M00083 Fatty acid biosynthesis, elongation

M00086 beta-Oxidation, acyl-CoA synthesis

M00087 beta-Oxidation

M00861 beta-Oxidation, peroxisome, VLCFA



C

C

C

C

C

Sterol biosynthesis

M00862 beta-Oxidation, peroxisome, tri/dihydroxycholestanoyl-CoA => choloyl/chenodeoxycholoyl-CoA

M00107 Steroid hormone biosynthesis, cholesterol => pregnenolone => progesterone

M00110 C19/C18-Steroid hormone biosynthesis, pregnenolone => androstenedione => estrone



C

C

C

Lipid metabolism

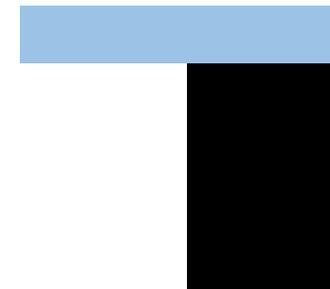
M00098 Acylglycerol degradation

M00088 Ketone body biosynthesis, acetyl-CoA => acetoacetate/3-hydroxybutyrate/acetone

M00089 Triacylglycerol biosynthesis

M00090 Phosphatidylcholine (PC) biosynthesis, choline => PC

M00091 Phosphatidylcholine (PC) biosynthesis, PE => PC



C

C

C

C,P

C,P

M00092 Phosphatidylethanolamine (PE) biosynthesis, ethanolamine => PE		C,P
M00093 Phosphatidylethanolamine (PE) biosynthesis, PA => PS => PE		C,P
M00094 Ceramide biosynthesis		C
M00066 Lactosylceramide biosynthesis		C
M00099 Sphingosine biosynthesis		C
M00100 Sphingosine degradation		C

Nucleotide metabolism

Purine metabolism

M00048 Inosine monophosphate biosynthesis, PRPP + glutamine => IMP		C,P
M00049 Adenine ribonucleotide biosynthesis, IMP => ADP,ATP		C,P
M00050 Guanine ribonucleotide biosynthesis IMP => GDP,GTP		C,P
M00546 Purine degradation, xanthine => urea		C,N

Pyrimidine metabolism

M00051 Uridine monophosphate biosynthesis, glutamine (+ PRPP) => UMP		C,P
M00052 Pyrimidine ribonucleotide biosynthesis, UMP => UDP/UTP,CDP/CTP		C,P
M00053 Pyrimidine deoxyribonucleotide biosynthesis, CDP/CTP => dCDP/dCTP,dTDP/dTTP		C,P
M00046 Pyrimidine degradation, uracil => beta-alanine, thymine => 3-aminoisobutanoate		C,P

Amino acid metabolism

Serine and threonine metabolism

M00018 Threonine biosynthesis, aspartate => homoserine => threonine		C,N
M00555 Betaine biosynthesis, choline => betaine		C,N

M00020 Serine biosynthesis, glycerate-3P => serine

C,N

M00033 Ectoine biosynthesis, aspartate => ectoine

C,N

Cysteine and methionine metabolism

M00021 Cysteine biosynthesis, serine => cysteine

C,N

M00338 Cysteine biosynthesis, homocysteine + serine => cysteine

C,N

M00034 Methionine salvage pathway

C,N

M00035 Methionine degradation

C,N

M00017 Methionine biosynthesis, aspartate => homoserine => methionine

C,N

M00368 Ethylene biosynthesis, methionine => ethylene

C,N

Branched-chain amino acid metabolism

M00019 Valine/isoleucine biosynthesis, pyruvate => valine / 2-oxobutanoate => isoleucine

C,N

M00535 Isoleucine biosynthesis, pyruvate => 2-oxobutanoate

C,N

M00570 Isoleucine biosynthesis, threonine => 2-oxobutanoate => isoleucine

C,N

M00432 Leucine biosynthesis, 2-oxoisovalerate => 2-oxoisocaproate

C,N

M00036 Leucine degradation, leucine => acetoacetate + acetyl-CoA

C,N

Lysine metabolism

M00016 Lysine biosynthesis, succinyl-DAP pathway, aspartate => lysine

C,N

M00526 Lysine biosynthesis, DAP dehydrogenase pathway, aspartate => lysine

C,N

M00527 Lysine biosynthesis, DAP aminotransferase pathway, aspartate => lysine

C,N

M00433 Lysine biosynthesis, 2-oxoglutarate => 2-oxoadipate

C,N

Arginine and proline metabolism

Lipopolysaccharide metabolism

M00064 ADP-L-glycero-D-manno-heptose biosynthesis

M00072 N-glycosylation by oligosaccharyltransferase

M00073 N-glycan precursor trimming

M00056 O-glycan biosynthesis, mucin type core

M00070 Glycosphingolipid biosynthesis, lacto-series, LacCer => Lc4Cer

M00068 Glycosphingolipid biosynthesis, globo-series, LacCer => Gb4Cer

M00060 KDO2-lipid A biosynthesis, Raetz pathway, LpxL-LpxM type

M00866 KDO2-lipid A biosynthesis, Raetz pathway, non-LpxL-LpxM type

M00063 CMP-KDO biosynthesis

M00064 ADP-L-glycero-D-manno-heptose biosynthesis

C

C

C

C

C

C

C

C

C

C

Metabolism of cofactors and vitamins**Cofactor and vitamin metabolism**

M00127 Thiamine biosynthesis, AIR => thiamine-P/thiamine-2P

M00125 Riboflavin biosynthesis, GTP => riboflavin/FMN/FAD

M00115 NAD biosynthesis, aspartate => NAD

M00119 Pantothenate biosynthesis, valine/L-aspartate => pantothenate

M00120 Coenzyme A biosynthesis, pantothenate => CoA

M00123 Biotin biosynthesis, pimeloyl-ACP/CoA => biotin

M00842 Tetrahydrobiopterin biosynthesis, GTP => BH4

M00843 L-threo-Tetrahydrobiopterin biosynthesis, GTP => L-threo-BH4

C,P

C,P

C,P

C,N

C

C

C

C

C

M00538 Toluene degradation, toluene => benzoate

M00537 Xylene degradation, xylene => methylbenzoate

M00551 Benzoate degradation, benzoate => catechol / methylbenzoate => methylcatechol (ete)

M00637 Anthranilate degradation, anthranilate => catechol

M00568 Catechol ortho-cleavage, catechol => 3-oxoadipate

M00569 Catechol meta-cleavage, catechol => acetyl-CoA / 4-methylcatechol => propanoyl-CoA

M00540 Benzoate degradation, cyclohexanecarboxylic acid => pimeloyl-CoA

M00638 Salicylate degradation, salicylate => gentisate

M00623 Phthalate degradation, phthalate => protocatechuate

Drug resistance

M00627 beta-Lactam resistance, Bla system

M00745 Imipenem resistance, repression of porin OprD (13)

M00651 Vancomycin resistance, D-Ala-D-Lac type

M00726 Cationic antimicrobial peptide (CAMP) resistance, lysyl-phosphatidylglycerol (L-PG) synthase MprF

M00744 Cationic antimicrobial peptide (CAMP) resistance, protease PgtE

M00718 Multidrug resistance, efflux pump MexAB-OprM

M00642 Multidrug resistance, efflux pump MexJK-OprM

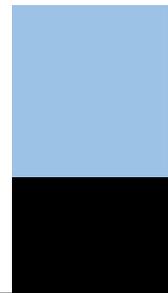
M00643 Multidrug resistance, efflux pump MexXY-OprM

M00769 Multidrug resistance, efflux pump MexPQ-OpmE

M00649 Multidrug resistance, efflux pump AdeABC

C
C
C
C
C
C
C
C
C

M00696 Multidrug resistance, efflux pump AcrEF-TolC
M00697 Multidrug resistance, efflux pump MdtEF-TolC
M00698 Multidrug resistance, efflux pump BpeEF-OprC
M00700 Multidrug resistance, efflux pump AbcA
M00714 Multidrug resistance, efflux pump QacA



13
14
15

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