Supplementary material

Bacterioplankton communities in dissolved organic carbon-rich Amazonian black water.

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Supplementary figures

Suppl. Figure 1: Relative abundance of the most abundant phyla in global and transcriptionallyactive bacterioplankton. Samples are grouped according to their water color.

Suppl. Figure 2: Rarefaction plots of the samples for each sampling site, for the global bacterioplankton. The rarefaction analysis was based on the Shannon diversity for each sample group, according to the sequencing depth (number of sequences used).

Suppl. Figure 3: Shannon diversity plots of the samples for the taxonomic structure of global and transcriptionally-active bacterioplankton. Samples are grouped according to their water color, and are colored according to their sampling site of origin.

Suppl. Figure 4: Rarefaction plots of the samples for each sampling site, for transcriptionallyactive bacterioplankton. The rarefaction analysis was based on the Shannon diversity for each sample group, according to the sequencing depth (number of sequences used)

Suppl. Figure 6: Average relative abundance of *Polynucleobacter* ASVs in each water type for

Suppl. Figure 7: Random-Forest (RF) machine-learning analysis identifies the 40 inferred functions showing the most important differentiation between black, clear and white water types. Heatmap columns represent samples and rows are different functions. Black boxes identify to which water type were associated to each inferred function.

Suppl. Figure 8: Flowchart of the pipeline used to produce the functional reference database.

Supplementary Tables

Suppl. Table 1: Results from the Random Forest classification tests with error rates for each water type.

Suppl. Table 2: Results of PERMANOVA tests conducted on bacterioplankton communities on the basis of the "Ecosystem" variable from Table 1.¹

| PERMANOVA : Lakes versus rivers | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-------------------|--------|------|-------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Water color | DNA or RNA | df res | F | p-value | | | | | | |
| All | DNA | 83 | 3.55 | ${}< 0.001$ | | | | | | |
| All | RNA | 83 | 2.04 | ${}< 0.001$ | | | | | | |
| Black | DNA | 34 | 5.02 | ${}< 0.001$ | | | | | | |
| Black | RNA | 34 | 2.43 | ${}< 0.001$ | | | | | | |
| White | DNA | 35 | 4.47 | ${}_{\leq 0.001}$ | | | | | | |
| White | RNA | 35 | 1.52 | 0.02 | | | | | | |

***1** : The groups used for the PERMANOVA tests consisted of "Lake" and "River" ecosystems. Here, "Water color" and "DNA or RNA" variables characterize the subset of samples that were used for the tests. "df res" means the number of degrees of freedom for residuals.

Suppl. Table 3: List of enzymes known to play a role in bacterial humic degradation processes from the literature.¹

***1**: Retrieved from de Gonzalo *et al.* (2016), Kamimura *et al*. 2017, Santos *et al.* (2020).

| Site # | Water color | | | Ions: $mg L-1$ | | Nutrients: umol L ⁻¹ | | | | |
|----------------|--------------------|-------|---------------|----------------|-----------|---------------------------------|---------|---------|----------|--|
| | | $Na+$ | $\rm Mg^{+2}$ | K^+ | Ca^{+2} | $Cl-$ | Nitrite | Nitrate | Silicate | |
| 1 | Black | 0.46 | 0.12 | 0.42 | 0.04 | 0.11 | 0.11 | 3.20 | 64.41 | |
| $\overline{2}$ | Black | 0.25 | 0.09 | 0.33 | 0.49 | 1.16 | 0.10 | 2.87 | 92.32 | |
| 3 | Black | 1.80 | 0.26 | 0.65 | 0.08 | 0.32 | 0.09 | 4.36 | 72.55 | |
| $\overline{4}$ | Black | 0.23 | 0.05 | 0.14 | 0.37 | 0.64 | 0.01 | 0.47 | 76.82 | |
| 5 | Black | 0.87 | 0.19 | 0.56 | 0.82 | 0.53 | 0.08 | 4.09 | 217.19 | |
| 6 | White | 1.15 | 0.43 | 0.70 | 0.93 | 1.10 | 0.04 | 8.23 | 180.48 | |
| 7 | White | 1.99 | 0.20 | 0.79 | 0.06 | 1.47 | 0.19 | 1.31 | 98.31 | |
| 8 | White | 4.56 | 3.76 | 1.71 | 0.83 | 1.75 | 0.09 | 0.56 | 242.31 | |
| 9 | White | 3.32 | 1.00 | 1.07 | 0.44 | 2.17 | 0.13 | 20.45 | 156.51 | |
| 10 | White | 4.91 | 0.14 | 1.45 | 0.05 | 1.43 | 0.12 | 1.53 | 126.01 | |
| 11 | White | 1.95 | 0.21 | 0.28 | 1.11 | 1.29 | 0.03 | 6.47 | 326.53 | |
| 12 | White | 5.35 | 1.76 | 1.28 | 1.17 | 3.26 | 0.61 | 11.96 | 222.31 | |
| 13 | Clear | 0.80 | 0.14 | 0.67 | 0.03 | 0.78 | 0.05 | 1.55 | 85.93 | |
| 14 | Clear | 0.43 | 0.47 | 0.57 | 0.68 | 0.39 | 0.09 | 1.91 | 179.36 | |
| 15 | Clear | 1.52 | 0.26 | 0.67 | 0.04 | 1.22 | 0.06 | 2.55 | 171.96 | |

Suppl. Table 4: Concentrations of free ions and nutrients.

| Site # | Water color | | | Primary productivity: $ug L-1$ | Physicochemical parameters | | | | | |
|----------------|--------------|-------|-----------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------|------|--------|--|--|
| | | Chl a | Phaeopig. | Chla/DOC | Temp. C | Cond. uS | pH | % $O2$ | | |
| 1 | Black | 0.35 | 2.43 | 0.03 | 31.60 | 13.10 | 3.71 | 92.12 | | |
| $\overline{2}$ | Black | 0.73 | 0.33 | 0.06 | 30.60 | 10.60 | 4.16 | 58.00 | | |
| 3 | Black | 0.05 | 0.38 | 0.00 | 30.70 | 13.20 | 4.24 | 53.20 | | |
| $\overline{4}$ | Black | 1.35 | 1.44 | 0.14 | 32.40 | 7.20 | 3.83 | 76.90 | | |
| 5 | Black | 1.82 | 1.73 | 0.26 | 30.00 | 10.60 | 4.98 | 61.50 | | |
| 6 | White | 6.21 | 2.89 | 1.03 | 31.00 | 22.00 | 6.25 | 88.70 | | |
| 7 | White | 4.62 | 17.31 | 0.65 | 32.90 | 22.40 | 4.38 | 60.00 | | |
| 8 | White | 7.14 | 6.60 | 0.79 | 32.90 | 174.80 | 5.70 | 44.00 | | |
| 9 | White | 1.35 | 1.88 | 0.24 | 29.30 | 88.00 | 6.75 | 82.60 | | |
| 10 | White | 2.78 | 10.54 | 0.35 | 32.60 | 24.30 | 5.31 | 72.80 | | |
| 11 | White | 4.41 | 3.20 | 0.77 | 30.30 | 19.70 | 6.05 | 68.60 | | |
| 12 | White | 9.05 | 4.69 | 1.40 | 31.90 | 127.60 | 7.15 | 31.90 | | |
| 13 | Clear | 0.83 | 0.78 | 0.17 | 33.20 | 16.80 | 5.05 | 103.20 | | |
| 14 | Clear | 2.15 | 1.03 | 0.81 | 30.00 | 14.10 | 6.36 | 80.20 | | |
| 15 | Clear | 1.25 | 2.38 | 0.28 | 31.20 | 19.00 | 6.00 | 79.10 | | |

Suppl. Table 5: Primary productivity characterization and measure of several physicochemical parameters.¹

***1:** "Chl a" means the concentration of chlorophyll a; "Phaeopig." means the concentration of phaeopigments; "Chla/DOC" is a ratio of the concentration of chlorophyll a divided by the concentration of DOC; "Temp. °C" means the temperature in ° Celsius; "Cond. uS" means the conductivity in microsiemens; "% O_2 " means the percentage of saturation of dissolved oxygen.

| Site | Water | Metals (ug/l) | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------|--------------|---------------|------|------|-------|--------|------|------|-------|--------|------|----------------|------|
| $^{\#}$ | color | Al | V | Cr | Mn | Fe | Co | Ni | Cu | Zn | As | C _d | Pb |
| $\mathbf{1}$ | Black | 137.75 | 0.38 | 0.30 | 7.38 | 166.63 | 0.13 | 1.93 | 10.36 | 33.48 | 0.16 | 0.09 | 1.43 |
| $\overline{2}$ | Black | 150.00 | 0.10 | 0.05 | 5.90 | 160.00 | 0.10 | 0.15 | 0.30 | 11.00 | 0.05 | 0.02 | 0.27 |
| 3 | Black | 36.33 | 0.34 | 0.37 | 9.24 | 142.38 | 0.28 | 3.23 | 9.25 | 72.92 | 0.48 | 0.21 | 1.11 |
| $\overline{4}$ | Black | 87.00 | 0.30 | 0.05 | 4.60 | 100.00 | 0.10 | 0.33 | 1.90 | 9.00 | 0.08 | 0.13 | 0.30 |
| 5 | Black | 62.00 | 0.10 | 0.33 | 13.00 | 220.00 | 0.10 | 0.52 | 0.60 | 4.40 | 0.19 | 0.02 | 0.12 |
| 6 | White | 38.00 | 0.20 | 0.05 | 0.51 | 230.00 | 0.10 | 0.14 | 0.80 | 2.60 | 0.07 | 0.02 | 0.26 |
| 7 | White | 65.50 | 0.78 | 0.40 | 9.85 | 269.28 | 0.10 | 0.85 | 16.19 | 44.15 | 0.47 | 0.06 | 0.67 |
| 8 | White | 1.81 | 0.17 | 0.10 | 0.61 | 5.84 | 0.10 | 0.48 | 2.20 | 171.78 | 0.99 | 0.02 | 0.03 |
| 9 | White | 28.02 | 1.45 | 0.09 | 11.25 | 166.97 | 0.10 | 0.58 | 2.73 | 1.83 | 0.70 | 0.03 | 0.25 |
| $10\,$ | White | 13.47 | 0.85 | 0.21 | 4.64 | 97.85 | 0.10 | 1.12 | 2.11 | 25.85 | 0.38 | 0.08 | 0.16 |
| 11 | White | 49.00 | 0.30 | 0.11 | 0.68 | 250.00 | 0.10 | 0.41 | 0.50 | 2.70 | 0.27 | 0.02 | 0.21 |
| 12 | White | 27.00 | 0.20 | 0.06 | 4.60 | 82.00 | 0.10 | 0.60 | 1.70 | 8.10 | 1.30 | 0.02 | 0.11 |
| 13 | Clear | 10.29 | 0.05 | 0.05 | 0.23 | 16.85 | 0.10 | 0.13 | 0.56 | 4.49 | 0.14 | 0.02 | 0.05 |
| 14 | Clear | 5.00 | 0.10 | 0.05 | 0.05 | 7.00 | 0.10 | 0.10 | 0.50 | 3.70 | 0.07 | 0.02 | 0.03 |
| 15 | Clear | 18.49 | 0.17 | 0.58 | 12.31 | 52.88 | 0.11 | 1.18 | 2.12 | 23.94 | 0.64 | 0.07 | 0.25 |

Suppl. Table 6: Concentration of dissolved metals in ug/L.

Supplementary results and discussion

Water residence time

Our results suggest that water residence time significantly influenced the taxonomic structure and transcriptional activity of the bacterioplankton communities, both in black and white water environments (results in Suppl. Table 1). Although water residence time was not specifically measured in this study, ecosystems were classified as lakes (longer residence time) and rivers (shorter residence time) and enabled us to perform PERMANOVA analyses based on the type of ecosystem that was studied (see Table 1). Water residence time moderates the extent and the time during which environmental pressures act on communities to create species sorting, or selection (Ben Maamar *et al*. 2015; Abbott *et al*. 2016; Niño-García *et al.* 2016; Jones *et al*. 2020). Longer residence times can potentially lead to feedback loops where bacterial communities engineer new conditions that select for different sets of taxa (Jones *et al*. 2020). For example, in longer residence times, anoxic conditions can be observed below the sediment-water interface if microbial decomposition exceeds the reaeration rate (Baker *et al*. 2000; Zarnetske *et al*. 2011). In such conditions, alternative terminal electron acceptor pathways are activated and can lead to a switch from net bacterial nitrification to denitrification processes affecting global water physicochemistry (Briggs *et al*., 2013; Oldham *et al*. 2013; Kolbe *et al*. 2019). In the Amazonian River system, water residence time varies according to the intense seasonality experienced by these ecosystems: Between the rainy season (January to June) and the dry season (July to December) the Amazon water level can vary of several meters – a variation of 29 meters was recorded in June 2021 (Espinoza *et al.* 2022). The temporal variability modulates the connectivity between environments and thus the water residence time. Overall, the effects of this seasonality on watercourse residence time, connectivity, and chemical profile likely interferes with bacterioplankton communities and merits further investigation.

Pathways of humic compounds' degradation

The set of genes that was detected in Amazonian *Polynucleobacter*, *Methylobacterium* and *Acinetobacter* (Fig. 7) suggests that they possess the genomic potential to be involved in the degradation of humic acids or their by-products, via a derivative of the β -aryl ether degradation pathway for diaryl residues.

Polynucleobacter: The *Polynucleobacter* detected contained the glutathione S-transferases ligF/ligG (GST, K00799), performing one of the main reactions of this funneling pathway leading to the production of vanillate. The O-demethylation of vanillate is still unresolved based on the gene set detected, but could involve a demethylase similar to ligM (K15066), since we detected genes coding for enzymes associated with the metabolism of protocatechuate (PCA), the product of the ligM reaction, such as 3-oxoadipate enol-lactonase/4-carboxymuconolactone decarboxylase (pcaL, K14727). The degradation of these substances appears to conclude in an extradiol 4,5-PCA ring meta cleavage as suggested by the presence of genes coding for enzymes ligI (a 2-pyrone-4,6 dicarboxylate lactonase, K10221) and ligK (a 4-hydroxy-4-methyl-2-oxoglutarate aldolase, K10218) associated with this pathway (de Gonzalo *et al*. 2016).

Methylobacterium: The set of genes found in *Methylobacterium* suggests that, like *Polynucleobacter*, this clade could degrade humic substances via a derivative of the β -aryl ether degradation pathway for diaryl residues, and concludes in an extradiol 4,5-PCA ring meta cleavage producing pyruvate and oxaloacetate.

Acinetobacter: In *Acinetobacter*, the O-demethylation of vanillate is achieved by a twocomponent monooxygenase composed of an oxygenase (VanA) and a reductase (VanB) (as detailed in Segura *et al*. 1999). Finally, in contrast to the extradiol 4,5-PCA ring meta cleavage of *Polynucleobacter* and *Methylobacterium*, we observed that *Acinetobacter* possessed the genes coding for the protocatechuate 3, 4-dioxygenase enzyme (pcaGH, K00448, K00449) associated to intradiol ring cleavage, as detailed in Vetting *et al*. (2000).

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