



**FIG. S1:** Pictures of heterotrophic nanoflagellates with ingested cells of *Alteromonas* (A+B; probe ALT1413) (Eilers et al., 2000), *Roseobacter* (C+D) and *Bacteroidetes* (E+F) from inside the patch at different stations. Ingested cells are marked with arrows. The scale bars mark 10  $\mu$ m.