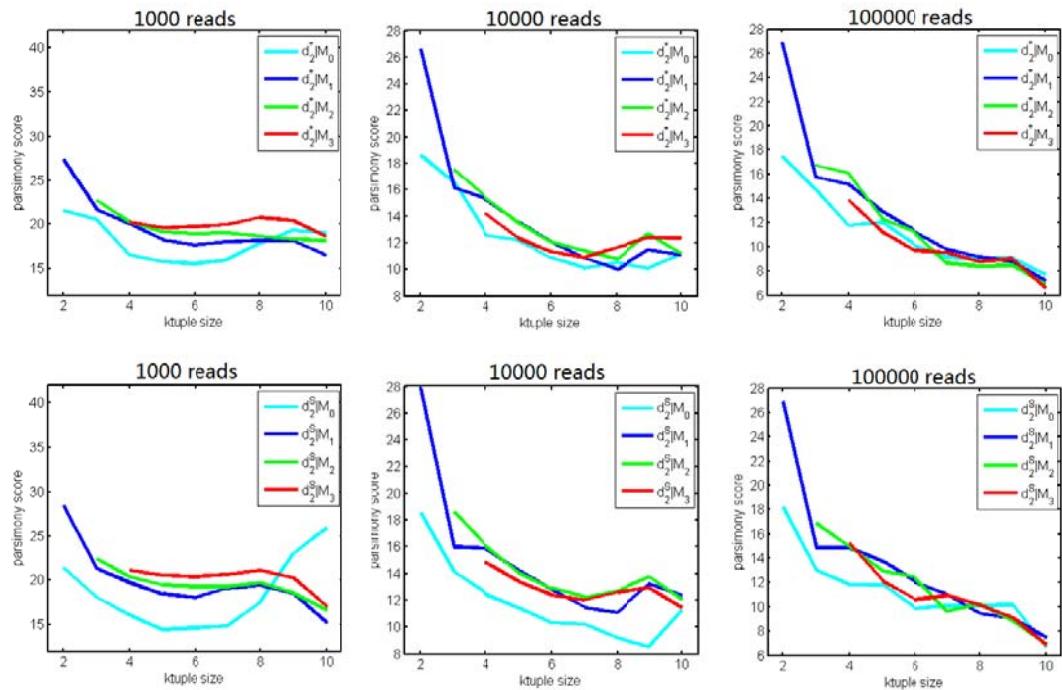


# Supplementary Materials for

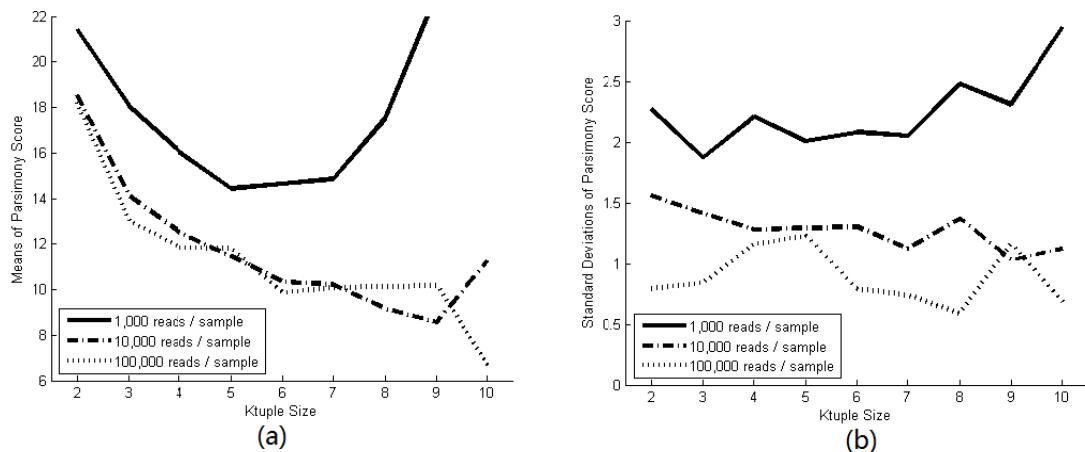
## “Comparison of Metagenomic Samples Using Sequence Signatures”

Bai Jiang, Kai Song, Jie Ren, Minghua Deng, Fengzhu Sun, Xuegong Zhang

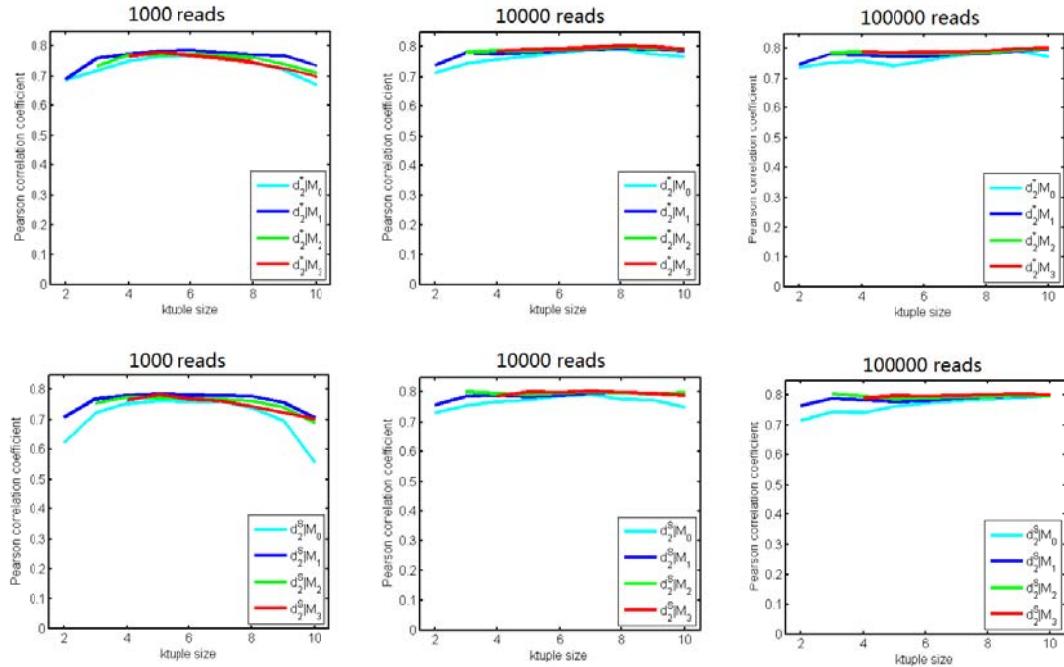
**Figure S1** – The effect of the order of Markov model on the performance of  $d_2^*$  (upper panel) and  $d_2^S$  (lower panel) at different sequencing depths to recover group relationship of metagenomic samples.



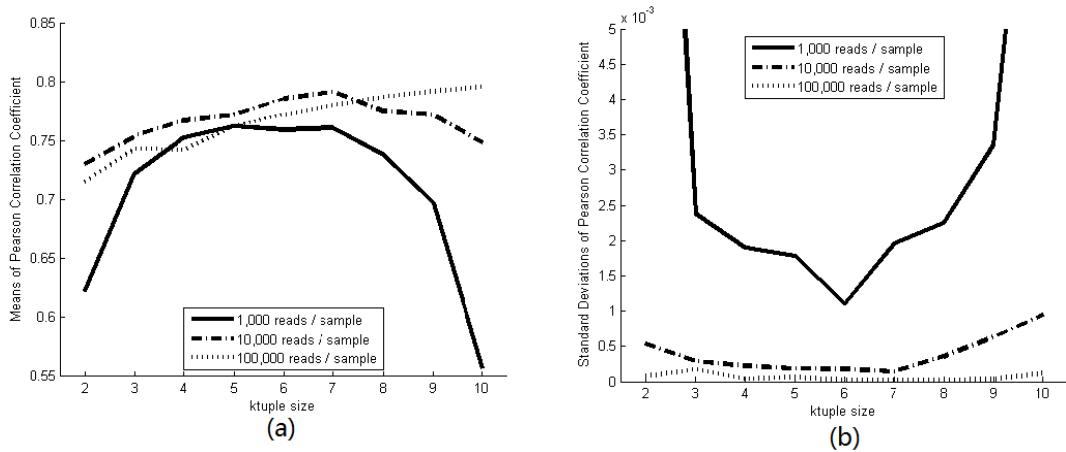
**Figure S2** – The effects of sequencing depth and tuple size on the mean (a) and standard deviation (b) of the parsimony scores from 100 repeated simulations with dissimilarity measure  $d_2^S|M_0$  in Simulation 1.



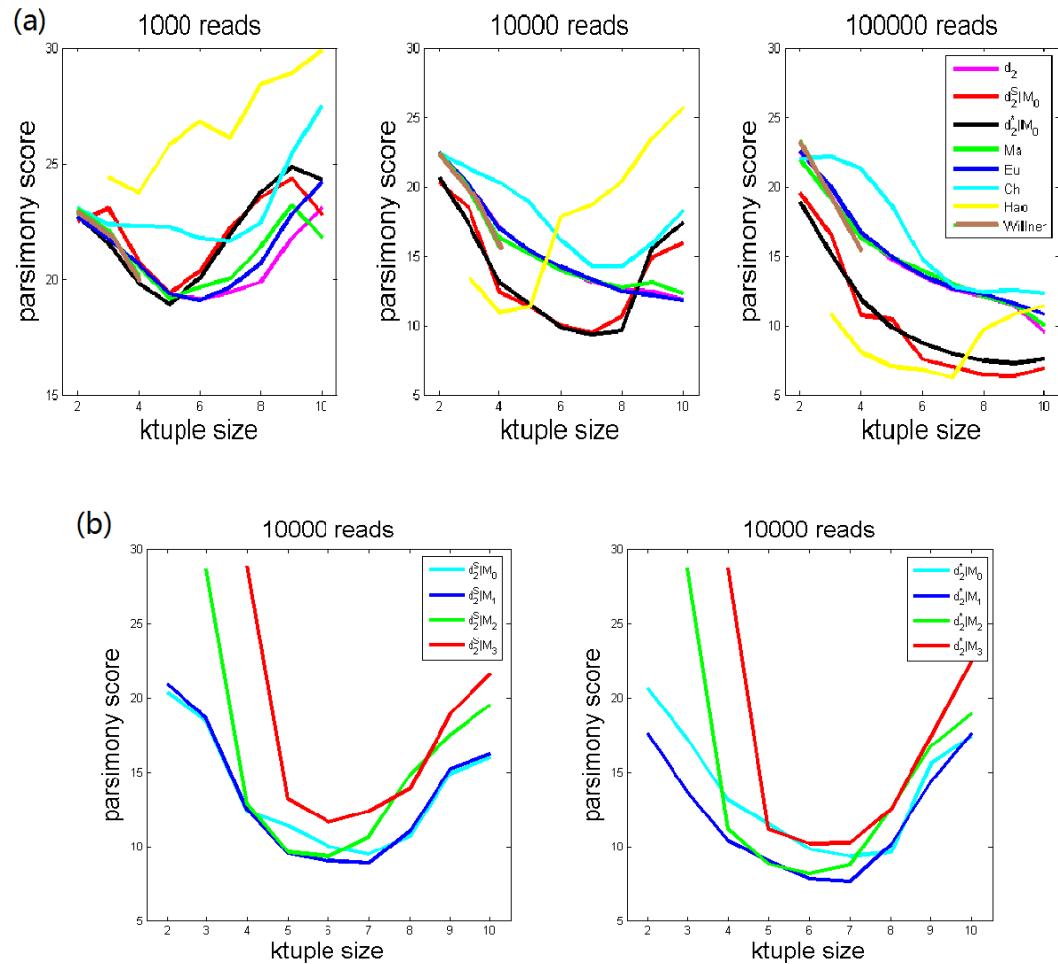
**Figure S3** – The effect of the order of Markov model on the performance of  $d_2^*$  (upper panel) and  $d_2^S$  (lower panel) at different sequencing depths to recover gradient relationship of metagenomic samples. The order of the Markov model has little effect on the performance of  $d_2^*$  and  $d_2^S$ .



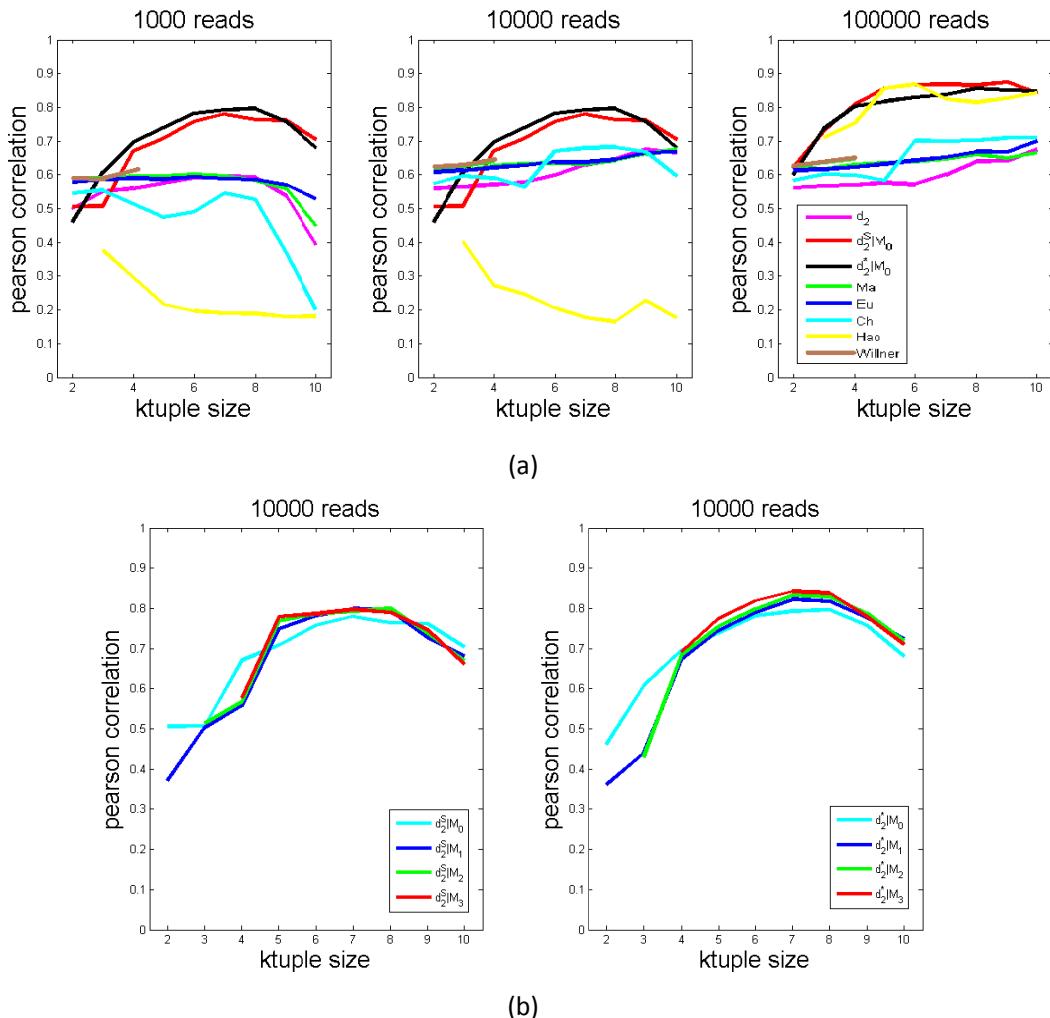
**Figure S4** – The effects of sequencing depth and tuple size on the mean (a) and standard deviation (b) of the PCCs from 100 repeated simulations between the first principal coordinate (PC1) and the gradient with dissimilarity measure  $d_2^S|M_0$  in Simulation 2.



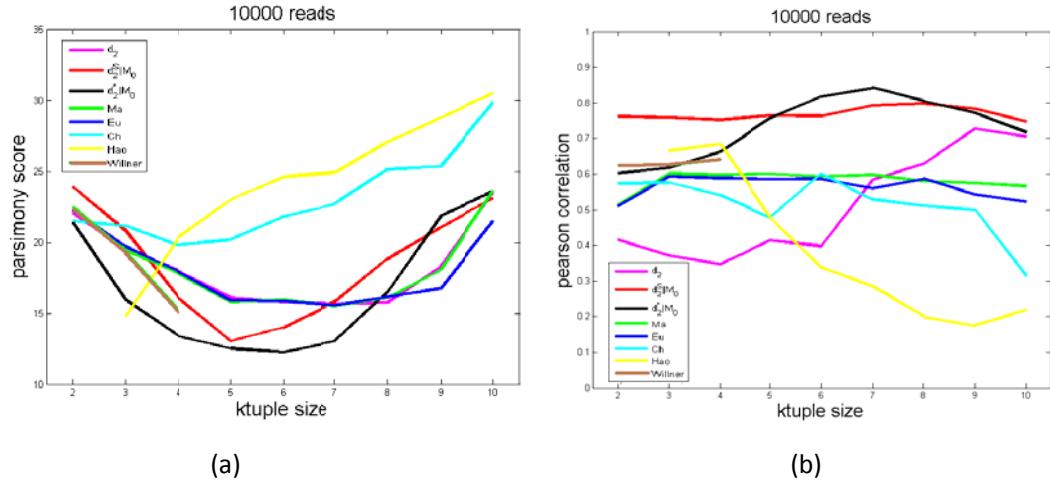
**Figure S5** – (a) The average parsimony scores of clustering trees obtained in Simulation 3 using the Roche/454 platform with different tuple sizes, dissimilarity measures and sequencing depths of 1,000 , 10,000 and 100,000 reads per sample. (b) The effect of the order of Markov model on the performance of  $d_2^S$  and  $d_2^*$  at the sequencing depth of 10,000 reads per sample.



**Figure S6** – The average PCC between PC1 and the gradient in Simulation 4 using the Roche/454 platform for different dissimilarity measures, tuple sizes, and sequencing depths of (a) 1,000 , 10,000 and 100,000 reads per sample. The dissimilarity measure  $d_2^S$  and  $d_2^*$  outperform others in recovering the gradient relationship among the samples. (b) The effect of the order of Markov model on the performance of  $d_2^S$  and  $d_2^*$  at the sequencing depth of 10,000 reads per sample.



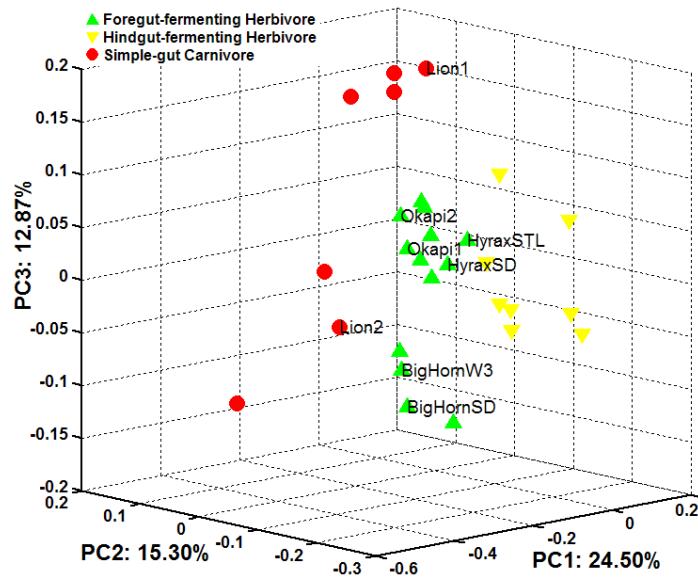
**Figure S7-** The relative performance of different dissimilarity measures for sequence data generated using the Illumina/Solexa platform at sequencing depth of 10,000 reads per sample. (a) The average parsimony scores of clustering trees obtained in Simulation 3 and (b) the average PCCs of PC1 and the gradient in Simulation 4 with different dissimilarity measures and different tuple sizes.



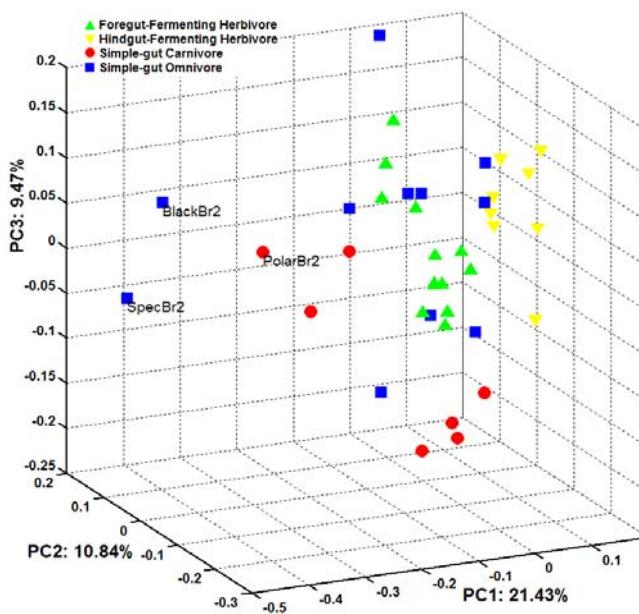
**Figure S8** – Ordination analysis of the mammalian gut samples based on 5-tuples and  $d_2^S | M_0$ .

Foregut-fermenting herbivore samples (green up-triangle), hindgut-fermenting herbivore samples (yellow down-triangle), simple-gut carnivore samples (red circle) and simple-gut omnivore samples (blue square). (a) Excluding omnivorous samples. Four pairs of samples from the same species are annotated with sample ID. (b) Including omnivorous samples. Three bear samples are annotated with sample ID.

(a)



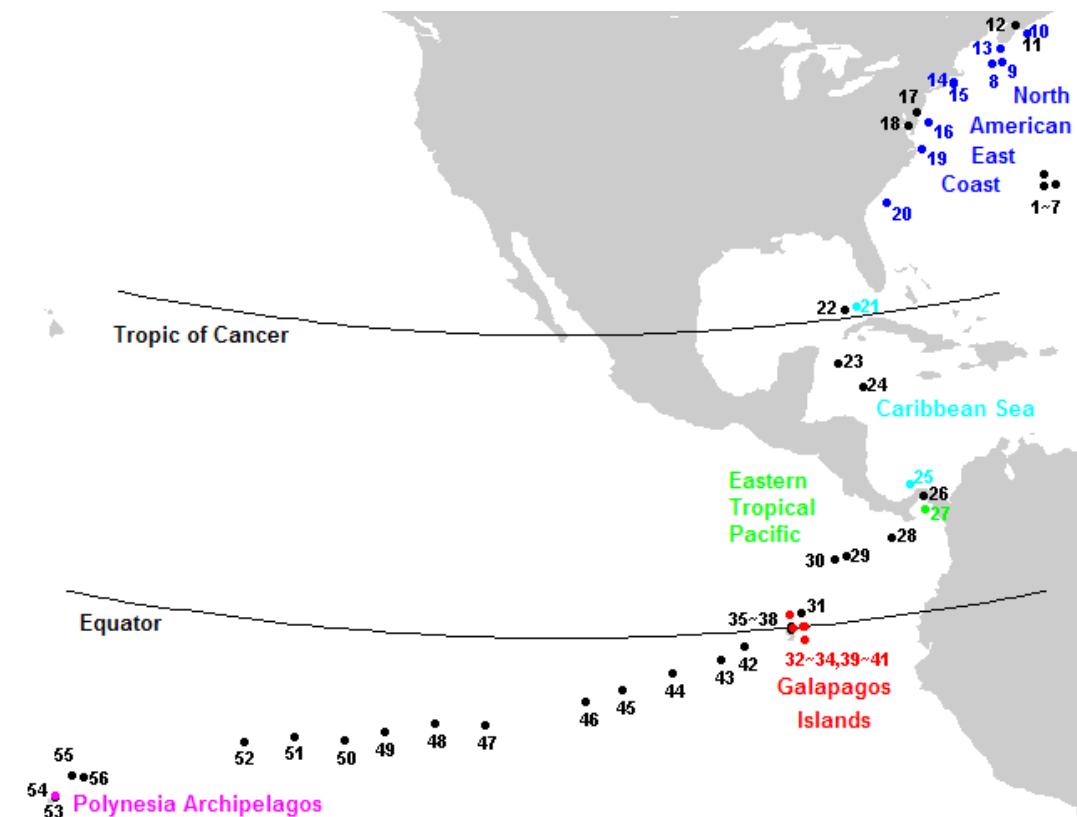
(b)



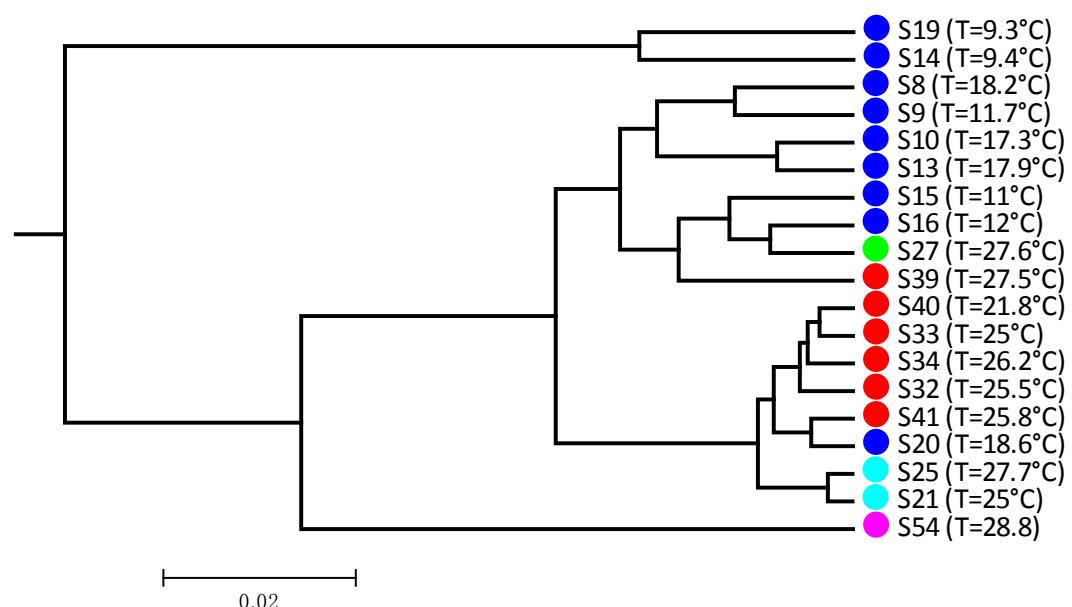
**Figure S9** – Clustering of coastal water samples from different geographical locations.

(a) Geographical locations of coastal water samples from North American East Coast (n=9), Caribbean Sea (n=2), Eastern Tropical Pacific (n=1), Galapagos Islands (n=6) and Polynesia Archipelagos (n=1). (b) Clustering of samples based on 5-tuples and  $d_2^S | M_0$  dissimilarity.

(a)

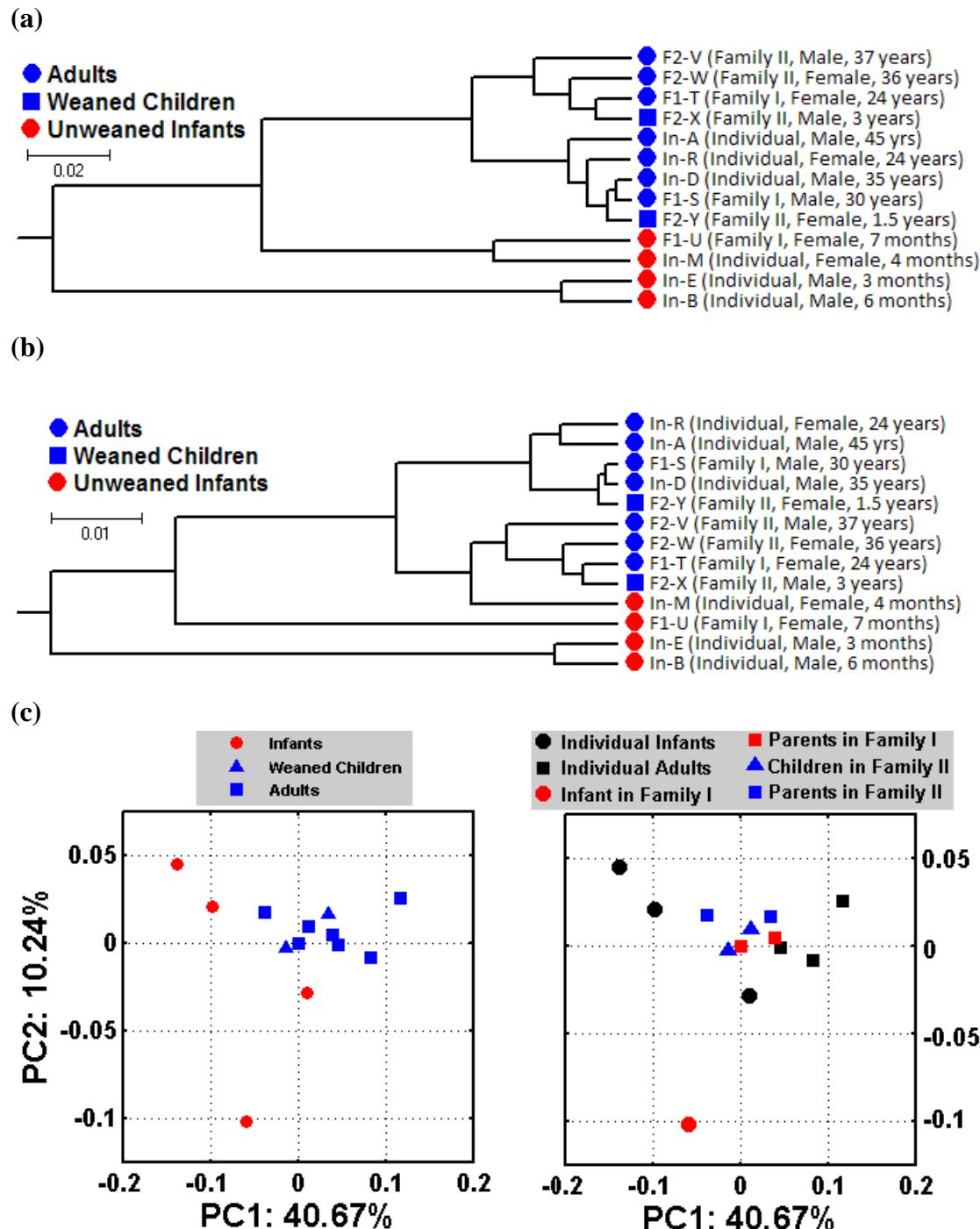


(b)

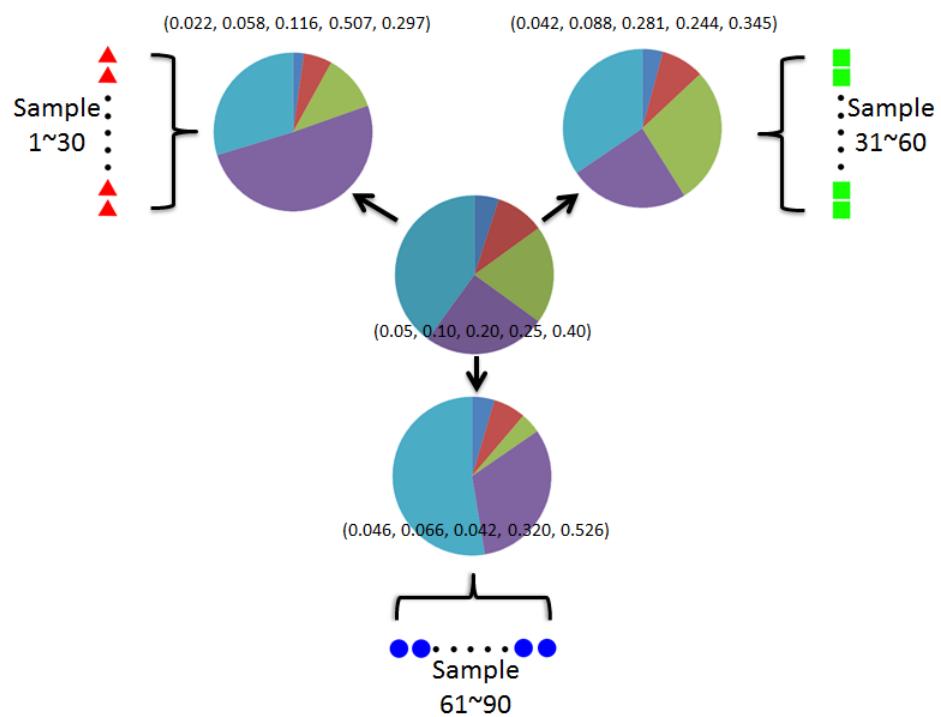


**Figure S10** – Clustering and ordination analysis of 13 human gut metagenomic samples.

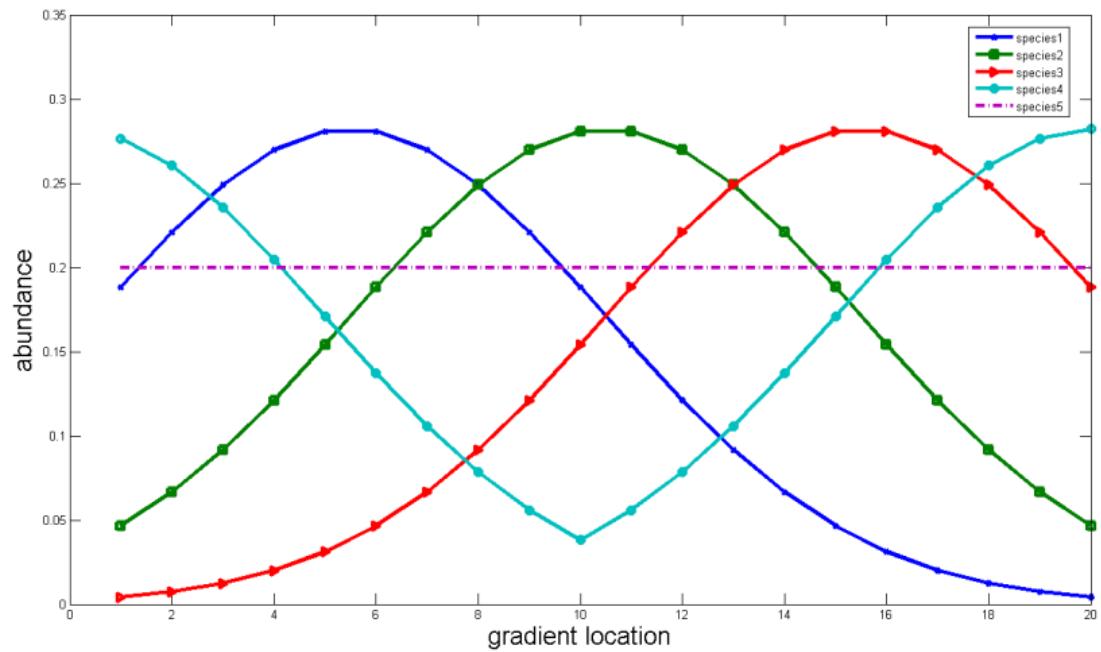
(a) Clustering tree based on 4-tuples and  $d_2^S | M_0$ . (b) Clustering tree based on 5-tuple and  $d_2^S | M_0$ . (c) PCoA plots based on 5-tuple and  $d_2^S | M_0$ : samples are labeled with age information in the left panel and are labeled with family information in the right panel.



**Figure S11** – Generation of 90 samples with group differences in species abundance of 5 bacteria species



**Figure S12** - Species abundance along the gradient location.



**Table S1 – Summary of samples in the mammalian gut data set.**

In the provenance column, SD, STL and W are short for San Diego Zoological Park, St. Louis Zoo and Wild, respectively.

| SampleID    | Common Name              | Diet      | Digestive Physiology | Provenance |
|-------------|--------------------------|-----------|----------------------|------------|
| AfElphSD3   | African Elephant         | Herbivore | Hindgut              | SD         |
| Armadillo   | Armadillo                | Carnivore | Simple-gut           | STL        |
| BaboonSTL   | Baboon 1                 | Omnivore  | Simple-gut           | STL        |
| BaboonW     | Baboon 2                 | Omnivore  | Simple-gut           | W          |
| BigHornSD   | Bighorn Sheep 1          | Herbivore | Foregut              | SD         |
| BigHornW3   | Bighorn Sheep 2          | Herbivore | Foregut              | W          |
| BlackBr2    | Black Bear               | Omnivore  | Simple-gut           | STL        |
| BlackLemur  | Black Lemur              | Omnivore  | Simple-gut           | STL        |
| BlackRhino1 | Balck Rhinoceros         | Herbivore | Hindgut              | SD         |
| BushDog1    | Bush Dog                 | Carnivore | Simple-gut           | STL        |
| Callimicos  | Callimicos               | Omnivore  | Simple-gut           | STL        |
| Capybara    | Capybara                 | Herbivore | Hindgut              | STL        |
| Chimp1      | Chimpanzee 1             | Omnivore  | Simple-gut           | STL        |
| Chimp2      | Chimpanzee 2             | Omnivore  | Simple-gut           | STL        |
| Colobus     | Colobus                  | Herbivore | Foregut              | STL        |
| Echidna     | Echidna                  | Carnivore | Simple-gut           | STL        |
| Gazelle3    | Gazelle                  | Herbivore | Foregut              | STL        |
| Giraffe2    | Giraffe                  | Herbivore | Foregut              | STL        |
| GorillaSTL  | Gorilla                  | Herbivore | Hindgut              | STL        |
| Horse1      | Horse                    | Herbivore | Hindgut              | W          |
| Hyena2      | Hyena                    | Carnivore | Simple-gut           | STL        |
| HyraxSD     | Rock Hyrax 1             | Herbivore | Foregut              | SD         |
| HyraxSTL    | Rock Hyrax 2             | Herbivore | Foregut              | STL        |
| Kroo3       | Kangaroo                 | Herbivore | Foregut              | STL        |
| Lion1       | Lion 1                   | Carnivore | Simple-gut           | STL        |
| Lion2       | Lion 2                   | Carnivore | Simple-gut           | STL        |
| Okapi1      | Okapi 1                  | Herbivore | Foregut              | STL        |
| Okapi2      | Okapi 2                  | Herbivore | Foregut              | STL        |
| Orang1      | Orangutan                | Herbivore | Hindgut              | STL        |
| PolarBr2    | Polar Bear               | Carnivore | Simple-gut           | STL        |
| Rabbit      | European Rabbit          | Herbivore | Hindgut              | STL        |
| RTLemur     | Ring-tailed Lemur        | Omnivore  | Simple-gut           | STL        |
| Saki        | Saki                     | Omnivore  | Simple-gut           | STL        |
| SecBr2      | Spectacled Bear          | Omnivore  | Simple-gut           | STL        |
| SpgbkW      | Springbok                | Herbivore | Foregut              | W          |
| Squirrel    | Squirrel                 | Omnivore  | Simple-gut           | STL        |
| Urial2      | Transcaspian Urial sheep | Herbivore | Foregut              | STL        |
| VWPig       | Visayam Warty Pig        | Herbivore | Foregut              | SD         |
| ZebraSTL1   | Zebra                    | Herbivore | Hindgut              | STL        |

**Table S2 – Summary of samples in the global ocean data set.**

| Sample ID              | Geographic Location       | Sample Location              | Habitat Type | Location                 | Water Depth (m) | T (°C) |
|------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|--------------|--------------------------|-----------------|--------|
| JCVI_SMPL_110328300001 | Sargasso Sea              | Sargasso Sea, Station 13     | Open Ocean   | 31°2'06"n; 63°5'42"w     | >4200           | 20     |
| JCVI_SMPL_110328300001 | Sargasso Sea              | Sargasso Sea, Station 11     | Open Ocean   | 31°0'30"n; 64°9'27.6"w   | >4200           | 20.5   |
| JCVI_SMPL_110328300002 | Sargasso Sea              | Sargasso Sea, Station 13     | Open Ocean   | 31°2'06"n; 63°5'42"w     | >4200           | 20     |
| JCVI_SMPL_110328300002 | Sargasso Sea              | Sargasso Sea, Station 11     | Open Ocean   | 31°0'30"n; 64°9'27.6"w   | >4200           | 20.5   |
| JCVI_SMPL_110328300003 | Sargasso Sea              | Sargasso Sea, Station 3      | Open Ocean   | 32°0'29.4"n; 64°0'36.6"w | >4200           | 19.8   |
| JCVI_SMPL_110328300004 | Sargasso Sea              | Sargasso Sea, Station 13     | Open Ocean   | 31°2'06"n; 63°5'42"w     | >4200           | 20     |
| JCVI_SMPL_110328300005 | Sargasso Sea              | Sargasso Sea, Hydrostation S | Open Ocean   | 32°0'00"n; 64°0'00"w     | >4200           | 22.9   |
| JCVI_SMPL_110328300006 | Sargasso Sea              | Sargasso Sea, Hydrostation S | Open Ocean   | 32°0'00"n; 64°0'00"w     | >4200           | 22.9   |
| JCVI_SMPL_110328300007 | Sargasso Sea              | Sargasso Sea, Hydrostation S | Open Ocean   | 32°0'00"n; 64°0'00"w     | >4200           | 22.9   |
| JCVI_SMPL_110328300008 | North American East Coast | Gulf of Maine                | Coastal      | 42°0'11"n; 67°4'24"w     | 106             | 18.2   |
| JCVI_SMPL_110328300009 | North American East Coast | Browns Bank, Gulf of Maine   | Coastal      | 42°1'10"n; 66°3'2"w      | 119             | 11.7   |
| JCVI_SMPL_110328300010 | North American East Coast | Outside Halifax, Nova Scotia | Coastal      | 44°14"n; 63°8'40"w       | 142             | 17.3   |
| JCVI_SMPL_110328300011 | North American East Coast | Bedford Basin, Nova Scotia   | Embayment    | 44°1'25"n; 63°8'14"w     | 64              | 15     |
| JCVI_SMPL_110328300012 | North American East Coast | Bay of Fundy, Nova Scotia    | Estuary      | 45°42"n; 64°6'48"w       | 11              | 11.2   |
| JCVI_SMPL_110328300013 | North American East Coast | Northern Gulf of Maine       | Coastal      | 43°7'56"n; 66°0'50"w     | 139             | 17.9   |
| JCVI_SMPL_110328300014 | North American East Coast | Newport Harbor, RI           | Coastal      | 41°9'9"n; 71°1'4"w       | 12              | 9.4    |
| JCVI_SMPL_110328300015 | North American East Coast | Block Island, NY             | Coastal      | 41°28"n; 71°6'8"w        | 32              | 11     |
| JCVI_SMPL_110328300016 | North American East Coast | Cape May, NJ                 | Coastal      | 38°6'24"n; 74°1'6"w      | 10              | 12     |
| JCVI_SMPL_110328300017 | North American East Coast | Delaware Bay, NJ             | Estuary      | 39°5'4"n; 75°0'15"w      | 8               | 11     |
| JCVI_SMPL_110328300018 | North American East Coast | Chesapeake Bay, MD           | Estuary      | 38°6'49"n; 76°5'2"w      | 25              | 1      |
| JCVI_SMPL_110328300019 | North American East Coast | Off Nags Head, NC            | Coastal      | 36°14"n; 75°3'41"w       | 20              | 9.3    |
| JCVI_SMPL_110328300020 | North American East Coast | South of Charleston, SC      | Coastal      | 32°0'25"n; 79°5'50"w     | 31              | 18.6   |

|                         |                          |  |                   |                      |       |      |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|--|-------------------|----------------------|-------|------|
| JCVI_SMPL_1103283000021 | Caribbean Sea            | Off Key West, FL                                     | Coastal           | 24°9'18"n; 83°12"w   | 47    | 25   |
| JCVI_SMPL_1103283000022 | Caribbean Sea            | Gulf of Mexico                                       | Coastal Sea       | 24°0'29"n; 84°0'40"w | 3333  | 26.4 |
| JCVI_SMPL_1103283000023 | Caribbean Sea            | Yucatan Channel                                      | Open Ocean        | 20°1'21"n; 85°4'49"w | 4513  | 27   |
| JCVI_SMPL_1103283000024 | Caribbean Sea            | Rosario Bank   | Open Ocean        | 18°12"n; 83°7'5"w    | 4470  | 27.4 |
| JCVI_SMPL_1103283000025 | Caribbean Sea            | Northeast of Col                                     | Coastal           | 10°2'59"n; 80°5'16"w | 3336  | 27.7 |
| JCVI_SMPL_1103283000026 | Panama Canal             | Lake Gatun   | Fresh Water       | 9°52"n; 79°0'10"w    | 4.2   | 28.6 |
| JCVI_SMPL_1103283000027 | Eastern Tropical Pacific | Gulf of Panama                                       | Coastal           | 8°45"n; 79°1'28"w    | 76    | 27.6 |
| JCVI_SMPL_1103283000028 | Eastern Tropical Pacific | 250 miles from Panama City                           | Open Ocean        | 6°9'34"n; 82°4'14"w  | 2431  | 29.3 |
| JCVI_SMPL_1103283000029 | Eastern Tropical Pacific | 30 miles from Cocos Island                           | Open Ocean        | 5°8'24"n; 86°3'55"w  | 1139  | 28.7 |
| JCVI_SMPL_1103283000030 | Eastern Tropical Pacific | Dirty Rock, Cocos Island                             | Fringing Reef     | 5°3'10"n; 87°16"w    | 30    | 28.3 |
| JCVI_SMPL_1103283000031 | Galapagos Islands        | 134 miles NE of Galapagos                            | Open Ocean        | 1°5'51"n; 90°7'42"w  | 2386  | 27.8 |
| JCVI_SMPL_1103283000032 | Galapagos Islands        | Devil's Crown, Floreana Island                       | Coastal           | 1°2'58"s; 90°5'22"w  | 2.3   | 25.5 |
| JCVI_SMPL_1103283000033 | Galapagos Islands        | Coastal Floreana                                     | Coastal           | 1°3'1"s; 90°9'11"w   | 156   | 25   |
| JCVI_SMPL_1103283000034 | Galapagos Islands        | North James Bay, Santigo Island                      | Coastal           | 0°2'0"s; 90°0'7"w    | 12    | 26.2 |
| JCVI_SMPL_1103283000035 | Galapagos Islands        | Warm seep, Roca Redonda                              | Warm Seep         | 0°6'20"n; 91°8'0"w   | 19    | 26.9 |
| JCVI_SMPL_1103283000036 | Galapagos Islands        | Upwelling, Fernandina Island                         | Coastal upwelling | 0°8'4"s; 91°9'6"w    | 19.6  | 18.6 |
| JCVI_SMPL_1103283000037 | Galapagos Islands        | Mangrove on Isabella Island                          | Mangrove          | 0°5'38"s; 91°10"w    | 1.6   | 25.4 |
| JCVI_SMPL_1103283000038 | Galapagos Islands        | Punta Cormorant, Hypersaline Lagoon, Floreana Island | Hypersaline       | 1°3'42"s; 90°5'45"w  | 0.3   | 37.6 |
| JCVI_SMPL_1103283000039 | Galapagos Islands        | North Seamore Island                                 | Coastal           | 0°2'59"s; 90°6'47"w  | 35    | 27.5 |
| JCVI_SMPL_1103283000040 | Galapagos Islands        | Wolf Island  | Coastal           | 1°3'21"n; 91°9'1"w   | 71    | 21.8 |
| JCVI_SMPL_1103283000041 | Galapagos Islands        | Cabo Marshall, Isabella Island                       | Coastal           | 0°15"s; 91°1'52"w    | 67    | 25.8 |
| JCVI_SMPL_1103283000042 | Eastern Tropical Pacific | Equatorial Pacific TAO Buoy                          | Open Ocean        | 1°8'26"s; 95°53"w    | 3334  | 28   |
| JCVI_SMPL_1103283000043 | Tropical South Pacific   | Tropical South Pacific                               | Open Ocean        | 2°4'55"s; 97°1'5"w   | >4000 | 28.4 |
| JCVI_SMPL_1103283000044 | Tropical South Pacific   | Tropical South Pacific                               | Open Ocean        | 3°0'36"s; 101°2'26"w | >4000 | 28.6 |

|                         |                        |                             |                  |                       |       |      |
|-------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|-----------------------|-------|------|
| JCVI_SMPL_1103283000045 | Tropical South Pacific | Tropical South Pacific      | Open Ocean       | 4°9'56"S; 105°4'12"W  | >4000 | 27.8 |
| JCVI_SMPL_1103283000046 | Tropical South Pacific | Tropical South Pacific      | Open Ocean       | 5°5'48"S; 108°1'13"W  | >4000 | 28   |
| JCVI_SMPL_1103283000047 | Tropical South Pacific | Tropical South Pacific      | Open Ocean       | 7°6'27"S; 116°7'9"W   | >4000 | 27.6 |
| JCVI_SMPL_1103283000048 | Tropical South Pacific | Tropical South Pacific      | Open Ocean       | 7°9'40"S; 120°4'8"W   | >4000 | 27.6 |
| JCVI_SMPL_1103283000049 | Tropical South Pacific | 600 miles from F. Polynesia | Open Ocean       | 8°4'54"S; 124°4'23"W  | >4000 | 27.6 |
| JCVI_SMPL_1103283000050 | Tropical South Pacific | 400 miles from F. Polynesia | Open Ocean       | 9°1'3"S; 127°6'2"W    | >4000 | 28.3 |
| JCVI_SMPL_1103283000051 | Tropical South Pacific | 300 miles from F. Polynesia | Open Ocean       | 9°4'16"S; 131°9'30"W  | >4000 | 28.7 |
| JCVI_SMPL_1103283000052 | Tropical South Pacific | 201 miles from F. Polynesia | Open Ocean       | 10°53"S; 135°6'58"W   | 2400  | 28.6 |
| JCVI_SMPL_1103283000053 | Polynesia Archipelagos | Moorea, Cooks Bay           | Coral Reef       | 17°8'33"S; 149°8'44"W | 34    | 28.9 |
| JCVI_SMPL_1103283000054 | Polynesia Archipelagos | Moorea, Outside Cooks Bay   | Coastal          | 17°7'11"S; 149°7'56"W | 900   | 28.8 |
| JCVI_SMPL_1103283000055 | Polynesia Archipelagos | Tikehau Lagoon              | Coral Atoll      | 15°6'40"S; 148°3'28"W | 24    | 27.8 |
| JCVI_SMPL_1103283000056 | Polynesia Archipelagos | Rangirora Atoll             | Coral Reef Atoll | 15°37"S; 147°6'6"W    | 10    | 27.3 |

**Table S3 - Parsimony scores on the clustering tree of 19 coastal water samples given by k-tuple method.**

Monte Carlo p-value was estimated by comparing observed parsimony score to the scores in 10000 randomly joined trees: parsimony score=5, p=0.001; parsimony score=6, p=0.008; parsimony score=7, p=0.067; parsimony score=8, p=0.306.

| $k$            | 2  | 3  | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
|----------------|----|----|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| $d_2$          | 8  | 8  | 7 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 7  |
| $d_2^S   M_0$  | 6  | 6  | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6  |
| $d_2^S   M_1$  | 6  | 6  | 6 | 6 | 6 | 7 | 6 | 6 | 6  |
| $d_2^S   M_2$  | NA | 6  | 6 | 6 | 6 | 7 | 6 | 6 | 6  |
| $d_2^S   M_3$  | NA | NA | 5 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6  |
| $d_2^*   M_0$  | 6  | 6  | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 7 | 7  |
| $d_2^*   M_1$  | 7  | 6  | 6 | 6 | 7 | 6 | 7 | 7 | 7  |
| $d_2^*   M_2$  | NA | 6  | 6 | 6 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7  |
| $d_2^*   M_3$  | NA | NA | 6 | 6 | 6 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7  |
| <i>Ma</i>      | 8  | 8  | 8 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6  |
| <i>Eu</i>      | 8  | 8  | 8 | 7 | 7 | 6 | 6 | 7 | 7  |
| <i>Ch</i>      | 7  | 8  | 8 | 8 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7  |
| <i>Hao</i>     | NA | 6  | 6 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 7 | 7 | 6  |
| <i>Willner</i> | 9  | 8  | 8 |   |   |   |   |   |    |

**Table S4 – Summary of samples in the human gut data set.**

| Sample Status | Sample name | Gender | Age       |
|---------------|-------------|--------|-----------|
| Individual    | In-A        | Male   | 45 years  |
| Individual    | In-B        | Male   | 6 months  |
| Individual    | In-D        | Male   | 35 years  |
| Individual    | In-E        | Male   | 3 months  |
| Individual    | In-M        | Female | 4 months  |
| Individual    | In-R        | Female | 24 years  |
| Family I      | F1-S        | Male   | 30 years  |
|               | F1-T        | Female | 28 years  |
|               | F1-U        | Female | 7 months  |
| Family II     | F2-V        | Male   | 37 years  |
|               | F2-W        | Female | 36 years  |
|               | F2-X        | Male   | 3 years   |
|               | F2-Y        | Female | 1.5 years |

**Table S5 - Parsimony scores on the clustering tree of 13 human gut sample between 4 unweaned infants and 9 adults or children given by sequence signature methods.**

Monte Carlo p-values were estimated by comparing the observed parsimony score with the parsimony scores in 10,000 randomly joined trees: parsimony score=1, p=0.005; parsimony score=2, p=0.05; parsimony score=3, p=0.36.

| k              | 2  | 3  | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
|----------------|----|----|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| $d_2$          | 3  | 3  | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2  |
| $d_2^s   M_0$  | 3  | 1  | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1  |
| $d_2^s   M_1$  | 3  | 1  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1  |
| $d_2^s   M_2$  | NA | 2  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1  |
| $d_2^s   M_3$  | NA | NA | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1  |
| $d_2^*   M_0$  | 3  | 1  | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1  |
| $d_2^*   M_1$  | 3  | 1  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1  |
| $d_2^*   M_2$  | NA | 1  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1  |
| $d_2^*   M_3$  | NA | NA | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1  |
| <i>Hao</i>     | NA | 2  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1  |
| <i>Ma</i>      | 3  | 3  | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2  |
| <i>Eu</i>      | 3  | 3  | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2  |
| <i>Ch</i>      | 3  | 3  | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3  |
| <i>Willner</i> | 4  | 4  | 4 |   |   |   |   |   |    |