

Figure S8: Southern blot analysis of metagenomic DNA collected from two sampling sites where the SM1 Euryarchaeon occurs. A different restriction pattern was observed for metagenomic DNA from the two sampling sites indicating a difference of SM1 Euryarchaea on genome level. Remarkably, the same pattern was retrieved for the string-of-pearl-community as it was retrieved for the biofilm from the same sampling site. This supports the hypothesis of the biofilm being the precursor of the SOPC.

