

1 **Microbial biogeography of 925 geothermal springs** 2 **in New Zealand**

3
4 Jean F. Power^{1,2}, Carlo R. Carere^{1,3}, Charles K. Lee², Georgia L.J. Wakerley², David
5 W. Evans¹, Mathew Button⁴, Duncan White⁵, Melissa D. Climo^{5,6}, Annika M. Hinze⁴,
6 Xochitl C. Morgan⁷, Ian R. McDonald², S. Craig Cary^{2*} and Matthew B. Stott^{1,6*}

7
8 ¹Geomicrobiology Research Group, Department of Geothermal Sciences, GNS
9 Science, Taupō 3384, New Zealand

10 ²Thermophile Research Unit, School of Science, University of Waikato, Hamilton
11 3240, New Zealand

12 ³Department of Chemical and Process Engineering, University of Canterbury,
13 Christchurch 8140, New Zealand

14 ⁴Department of Computer Science, University of Waikato, Hamilton 3240, New
15 Zealand

16 ⁵Wairakei Research Centre, GNS Science, Taupō 3384, New Zealand

17 ⁶School of Biological Sciences, University of Canterbury, Christchurch 8140, New
18 Zealand

19 ⁷Department of Microbiology and Immunology, University of Otago 9054, Dunedin,
20 New Zealand

21
22
23 ***Corresponding authors:** Dr Matthew Stott (matthew.stott@canterbury.ac.nz; +64
24 (0)3 369 2511) and Prof. Craig Cary (caryc@waikato.ac.nz; +64 (0)7 838 4593)

25 26 27 **SUPPLEMENTARY METHODOLOGY**

28 29 **Field sampling**

30 Three litres of spring water were collected for each sample taken. A custom-made
31 stainless-steel device was used to capture the water column of each feature to a
32 depth of 1 m where possible, either at the centre of the spring or at ~3 m from the

33 edge for large features to target well-mixed and/or more representative samples,
34 depending on safety and size of the spring (detailed sketches were drawn of each
35 sampling location to facilitate replication). If the feature was on a slope or the safest
36 sampling position was too far from the spring for the water sampler to operate
37 correctly, a 500 mL PP Nalgene bottle (ThermoFisher Scientific, Waltham, MA, USA)
38 was used to collect the water from the same part of the water column. Either this
39 vessel or the water sampler were then used to aseptically fill a 2000 mL PP Nalgene
40 bottle (ThermoFisher Scientific, Waltham, MA, USA) with spring water for
41 subsequent filtering and DNA extraction. In addition, a 330 mL rubber-sealed glass
42 bottle was collected for geochemical analyses and the 500 mL PP bottle was used to
43 retain water for geophysical parameters. All vessels that contained a microbiological
44 sample were subjected to the same stringent washing procedures, namely with
45 detergent (Extran MA03, EMD Millipore, Billerica, MA, USA) and bleach (20 % v/v
46 bleach:distilled water solution using 5 % sodium hypochlorite), followed by a final
47 autoclave step (122 °C for 20 mins). All metadata were recorded on a custom-made
48 application suitable for Android tablets. Metadata recorded *in situ* at the time of
49 sampling included: sample number, sample date, feature name, feature type,
50 location name, geothermal field, district, latitude and longitude coordinates, detailed
51 description, ebullition, size, colour, spring temperature (same location as sample),
52 and photographs/diagrams of the site. Spring temperature (TEMP) was measured *in*
53 *situ* immediately after sampling. Parameters measured within two hours of sampling
54 were pH, oxidation-reduction potential (ORP), conductivity (COND), dissolved
55 oxygen (dO), turbidity (TURB), ferrous iron (Fe^{2+}) concentration and filtered volume
56 (more details are given in Sample Processing). Entries were digitally linked to the
57 corresponding sample ID and automatically uploaded to an Amazon Relational
58 Database Service (RDS) and E3 Bucket with structured query language (SQL).
59 These results are visible on an Amazon EC2 Web Server, accessed through
60 <http://1000springs.org.nz/>.

61

62 **Sample processing**

63 Within 2 hours of sampling, the contents of the 2000 mL Nalgene bottle were filtered
64 through a Sterivex-GP 0.22 µm PES column filter (EMD Millipore, Billerica, MA,
65 USA), using the Masterflex E/S Portable Sampler with a peristaltic L/S pump head
66 and platinum-cured silicone L/S tubing (Cole-Parmer, Vernon Hills, IL, USA). All

67 tubing was bleached and rinsed (first with reverse-osmosis water followed by
68 approximately 150 mL sample water) between samples. Each sample was filtered
69 until all 2000 mL water was pushed through or the filter membrane became clogged.
70 The filters were immediately cooled to 4 °C and then stored at -20 °C until DNA
71 extraction. Filtrate from the column filter was used to fill three 50 mL tubes and two
72 15 mL tubes with spring water for varying geochemical analyses (Supplementary
73 Table 7). 80 µL of this filtrate was also added to 4 mL ferrous iron reagent (which
74 includes 0.63 mM 2,2-bipyridyl, 0.80 M ammonium acetate and 3.7 % v/v glacial
75 acetic acid)¹ for colorimetric spectroscopy. A multiparameter field meter (Hanna
76 Instruments, Woonsocket, RI, USA) was used to measure pH, oxidation-reduction
77 potential (ORP), conductivity (COND), turbidity (TURB), dissolved oxygen (dO) and
78 sample temperature from the air-tight 500 mL vessel (after samples had cooled to
79 below room temperature). Where pH measured less than 1, a benchtop pH meter
80 (Hanna Instruments, Woonsocket, RI, USA) calibrated to pH 0 was used. All
81 geochemical sample vessels were then stored at either 4 °C or -20 °C until analyses
82 were performed. Aqueous metals and non-metals measured by ICP-MS were Ag, Al,
83 As, B, Ba, Br, Ca, Cd, Co, Cr, Cs, Cu, Fe, Hg, K, Li, Mg, Mn, Mo, Na, Ni, Pb, Rb, S, Se, Si,
84 Sr, Tl, U, V and Zn. Chemical analyses were performed at the Geomicrobiology
85 Research Group (GRG) and the New Zealand Geothermal Analytical Laboratory
86 (NZGAL), both at GNS Science in Wairakei, New Zealand and at the School of
87 Science, University of Waikato, Hamilton, New Zealand. All samples and analyses
88 are summarised in Supplementary Table 7.

89

90 **DNA extraction**

91 DNA extraction, amplification and sequencing were performed at the Thermophile
92 Research Unit and DNA Sequencing Facility (University of Waikato, Hamilton, New
93 Zealand) from a modified cetyl trimethylammonium bromide (CTAB) method².
94 Column filters were thawed, 500 µL of a 0.8 % w/v skim milk powder solution (local
95 consumer brand, freshly prepared for each batch of extractions and treated with UV
96 light for 20 min) added and mixed at 150 RPM on a Ratek orbital mixer at 65 °C for
97 15 mins. A buffer containing CTAB was used in the extraction lysis buffer which
98 consisted of 2 % (v/v) cetyl trimethylammonium bromide, 1 % (v/v) polyvinyl
99 pyrrolidone, 100 mM Tris-HCl, 1.4 M NaCl and 20 mM EDTA. The final extraction

100 buffer contained 400 μ L CTAB buffer, 200 μ L PBS (100 mM) and 100 μ L SDS (10
101 %). This was added to the filters which were then mixed at 150 RPM at 65 °C for 45
102 mins. The extraction buffer was pushed through the filter and collected. A further 0.7
103 mL CTAB buffer was added to the filters and mixed at 150 RPM for 15 mins. This
104 filtrate was added to a separate tube, resulting in two extraction duplicates.
105 Chloroform:isoamyl alcohol (24:1), in equal volumes (1:1) to the filtrate, was added
106 to each duplicate and vortexed. These were centrifuged at 10,000 RCF for 12 mins
107 at 4 °C. The aqueous top layers were transferred to new tubes, and 300 μ L of
108 chloroform:isoamyl (24:1) added. Again, these were vortexed and centrifuged at
109 10,000 RCF for 12 mins at 4 °C. The aqueous top layers were removed to fresh
110 tubes. The subsequent steps were modified from the PowerMag Microbial DNA
111 Isolation Kit using SwiftMag technology (MoBio Laboratories, Carlsbad, CA, USA).
112 Equal volumes of 100 % molecular grade ethanol and SwiftMag beads (22:22 μ L)
113 were added to the aqueous phases and placed on a magnetic stand for 2 mins. The
114 supernatants were removed and the beads washed with 1 mL of 100 % ethanol. The
115 beads were then resuspended in 22 μ L 1X TE (10 mM Tris-HCL containing 1 mM
116 EDTA, pH 8.0). Using a magnet to retain the beads, resuspended DNA were
117 collected, pooled and quantified using the Qubit dsDNA HS assay (ThermoFisher
118 Scientific, Waltham, MA, USA). DNA was then either stored at 4 °C for subsequent
119 PCR that day or at -20 °C for extended periods of time.

120

121 **DNA amplification**

122 PCR reactions were done in triplicate and each final concentration contained: 0.2 μ M
123 of forward and reverse primers, 0.016 μ g/ μ L BSA, 0.24 mM of each dNTP, 1.2 X
124 PCR buffer, 6 mM MgCl₂, 0.6 U TAQ polymerase and 0.5 ng of DNA to a final
125 volume of 25 μ L. Prior to the addition of primers, TAQ polymerase and DNA, the
126 PCR master mix was treated with ethidium monoazide bromide (1 mg/mL stock) to
127 remove exogenous DNA in the PCR reagents³. The amount of ethidium monoazide
128 bromide added varied for each batch of the reagent made. This was determined by
129 serial dilution and the resultant highest concentration that did not inhibit PCR (a
130 1/100 dilution was typical). The master mix was then incubated on ice for 1 min in
131 darkness, followed by 1 min photoactivation using a halogen lamp. All PCR reagents
132 were supplied by Life Technologies (ThermoFisher Scientific, Waltham, MA, USA),
133 except for ethidium monazide bromide (Mediray, Auckland, New Zealand). The

134 following PCR thermocycling parameters were performed: initial 3 min at 97 °C
135 denaturation, 30 cycles of 45 sec at 94 °C, 60 sec at 50 °C and 90 sec at 72 °C,
136 followed by a final 10 min incubation at 72 °C.

137

138 The triplicate amplicons were pooled and purified using SPRIselect (Beckman
139 Coulter, Brea, CA, USA) as per the manufacturer's instructions (recommended ratio
140 of 0.8X SPRI to amplicon volume). Quality and final concentration of the libraries
141 were verified and adjusted to 12 pM via HS Qubit 2.0 (ThermoFisher Scientific,
142 Waltham, MA, USA) and 9100 BioAnalyser (Agilent Technologies, Santa Clara, CA,
143 USA). Amplicon sequencing was then performed using the Ion PGM System for
144 Next-Generation Sequencing (ThermoFisher Scientific, Waltham, MA, USA) with the
145 Ion 318 Chip Kit v2 and 400-base read length chemistry.

146

147 **Sample filtering for spatial analyses**

148 A total of 1,019 samples were taken from 18 different geothermal fields across the
149 entire TVZ for this study from July 2013 to April 2015 (Fig. 1). Twenty-eight of these
150 produced insufficient DNA yields for sequencing. Twenty-two failed to generate
151 adequate sequence reads for downstream processing (< 9,500 reads). Twenty-one
152 geothermal springs were also sampled over time for future investigation of temporal
153 variation ($n = 66$). Forty-four temporal repeats (excluding one already removed due
154 to low sequence reads) were therefore removed from the dataset, leaving a final 925
155 individual geothermal springs for spatial statistical analyses. This also removed all
156 springs sampled from the geothermal field Atiamuri, which left a final number of 17
157 individual fields analysed.

158

159 **Geochemical filtering**

160 To build the constrained correspondence analysis (CCA) model, the 46
161 physicochemical variables measured physicochemistry had to be reduced to a
162 tractable number. Mantel testing of all variables against Bray-Curtis similarities
163 calculated showed significant correlations (Supplementary Table 3). In order of
164 highest to lowest mantel statistic, the variables were added to a permutational
165 multivariate analysis of variance (the adonis function in the vegan package in R). pH
166 and temperature had the highest contributions to this model (12.4 and 3.9 %

167 respectively, $P < 0.001$, Supplementary Table 4). Manganese, caesium, cadmium,
168 selenium, cobalt, iron, zinc, barium, chromium, calcium and nickel had a P -value
169 greater than 0.01 and were removed. Collinear variables were identified in the
170 remaining set (Pearson's coefficient: $|r| > 0.7$) and group representatives with the
171 highest mantel statistic with beta diversity were chosen. This removed rubidium,
172 potassium, vanadium, mercury, sodium, boron, bromine, sulfur, chloride and ferrous
173 iron. The model was re-run on remaining variables and subsequently, magnesium
174 was removed ($P = 0.062$). Of the 24 variables that remained, those with low variation
175 (standard deviation < 0.25 ppm) were removed (Supplementary Table 5) – this
176 included strontium, copper, lead, nitrite, molybdenum, thallium, silver and uranium.
177 The remaining 15 variables were added to the CCA model, with geothermal fields
178 and spring communities (Fig. 3). Two springs also had to be removed from this
179 model due to insufficient chemical analyses ($n = 923$).

180

181 **Supplementary References**

- 182 1. Wilson, A. D. The micro-determination of ferrous iron in silicate minerals by a
183 volumetric and a colorimetric method. *Analyst* **85**, 823–827 (1960).
- 184 2. Archer, S. D. J., McDonald, I. R., Herbold, C. W. & Cary, S. C.
185 Characterisation of bacterioplankton communities in the meltwater ponds of
186 Bratina Island, Victoria Land, Antarctica. *FEMS Microbiol. Ecol.* **89**, 451–464
187 (2014).
- 188 3. Rueckert, A. & Morgan, H. W. Removal of contaminating DNA from
189 polymerase chain reaction using ethidium monoazide. *J. Microbiol. Methods*
190 **68**, 596–600 (2007).

191

SUPPLEMENTARY TABLES

Supplementary Table 1 | Linear regression of physicochemistry individually against alpha diversity using the Shannon diversity index.

	Slope	Std. Error	t-value	P-value	Signif. Codes	R ²
pH	0.1574	0.0117	13.480	< 0.0001	***	0.164
NO ₃ ⁻	0.8205	0.0834	9.838	< 0.0001	***	0.095
SO ₄ ²⁻	-0.0003	0.0000	-6.620	< 0.0001	***	0.045
TURB	-0.0009	0.0001	-6.382	< 0.0001	***	0.042
H ₂ S	-0.0140	0.0026	-5.304	< 0.0001	***	0.030
Al	-0.0049	0.0010	-5.100	< 0.0001	***	0.027
dO	0.0727	0.0148	4.899	< 0.0001	***	0.025
S	-0.0006	0.0001	-4.675	< 0.0001	***	0.023
U	-350.7932	76.2842	-4.599	< 0.0001	***	0.022
HCO ₃ ⁻	0.0011	0.0003	4.229	< 0.0001	***	0.019
Li	0.0321	0.0080	4.009	< 0.0001	***	0.017
Na	0.0004	0.0001	3.887	< 0.0001	***	0.016
As	0.0627	0.0195	3.216	0.0013	**	0.011
Cs	0.1131	0.0373	3.030	0.0025	**	0.010
K	0.0020	0.0007	2.831	0.0047	**	0.009
Br	0.0355	0.0133	2.664	0.0079	**	0.008
Se	14.3009	5.4569	2.621	0.0089	**	0.007
ORP	-0.0005	0.0002	-2.596	0.0096	**	0.007
NH ₄ ⁺	-0.0014	0.0005	-2.594	0.0096	**	0.007
Rb	0.1298	0.0534	2.429	0.0153	*	0.006
Fe	-0.0027	0.0012	-2.319	0.0206	*	0.006
Fe ²⁺	-0.0023	0.0010	-2.317	0.0207	*	0.006
NO ₂ ⁻	0.9100	0.4052	2.246	0.0250	*	0.005
B	0.0051	0.0023	2.188	0.0289	*	0.005
Mn	-0.0555	0.0297	-1.870	0.0619	.	0.004
V	-0.6407	0.3791	-1.690	0.0913	.	0.003
Si	-0.0010	0.0006	-1.656	0.0980	.	0.003
Cd	36.1309	23.0894	1.565	0.1180	.	0.003
Co	-9.3257	6.3612	-1.466	0.1430	.	0.002
Cr	-0.2915	0.2145	-1.359	0.1740	.	0.002
TEMP	0.0018	0.0014	1.279	0.2010	.	0.002
Ca	-0.0005	0.0004	-1.175	0.2400	.	0.001
Ni	-1.0608	0.9284	-1.143	0.2540	.	0.001

Mo	2.7628	2.4559	1.125	0.2610	0.001
COND	0.0000	0.0000	-1.098	0.2720	0.001
Hg	-2.3407	2.1961	-1.066	0.2870	0.001
Mg	-0.0009	0.0008	-1.022	0.3070	0.001
Ba	-0.0648	0.0639	-1.015	0.3100	0.001
Ag	-43.2878	47.1283	-0.919	0.3590	0.001
Zn	-0.1021	0.1115	-0.916	0.3600	0.001
Cl ⁻	0.0000	0.0000	-0.700	0.4840	0.001
Tl	5.0194	7.6863	0.653	0.5140	0.000
PO ₄ ³⁻	0.0269	0.1135	0.237	0.8130	0.000
Pb	-0.0390	0.3551	-0.110	0.9130	0.000
Sr	0.0100	0.1433	0.070	0.9440	0.000
Cu	0.0149	0.2460	0.060	0.9520	0.000

Signif. codes: 0-0.001 '***'; 0.001-0.01 '**'; 0.01-0.05 '*'; 0.05-0.1 '.'; 0.1-1 ''

TURB: turbidity, dO: dissolved oxygen, ORP: oxidation-reduction potential, COND: conductivity

Supplementary Table 2 | Multiple linear regression model of significant physicochemical parameters against alpha diversity (Shannon Index), after collinear variables were removed and an Akaike information criterion (AIC) was applied. Variables were added to the model in order of highest to lowest best fit from singular linear regression.

	Estimate	Std. Error	t-value	P-value	Signif. codes
(Intercept)	2.7116	0.1107	24.502	< 0.0001	***
pH	0.1568	0.0140	11.201	< 0.0001	***
NO ₃ ⁻	0.7690	0.0905	8.502	< 0.0001	***
TURB	-0.0002	0.0001	-1.768	0.0774	.
dO	0.0498	0.0131	3.807	0.0002	***
ORP	0.0004	0.0002	2.219	0.0268	*
NO ₂ ⁻	-1.6099	0.4104	-3.923	0.0001	***
Si	-0.0014	0.0005	-2.689	0.0073	**
Cd	48.7715	19.8181	2.461	0.0140	*

Multiple R-squared: 0.273, adjusted R-squared: 0.2666

F-statistic: 42.99 on 8 and 916 degrees of freedom, p-value: < 2.2e-16

Signif. codes: 0-0.001 '***'; 0.001-0.01 '**'; 0.01-0.05 '*'; 0.05-0.1 '.'; 0.1-1 ''

TURB: turbidity, dO: dissolved oxygen

Supplementary Table 3 | Mantel tests using Spearman's correlation (permutations = 999) of Bray-Curtis dissimilarities between all communities sampled and each individual geochemical parameter and geographic distance (km).

	Rho (ρ)	P-value	Signif. codes
pH	0.544	< 0.001	***
SO ₄ ²⁻	0.248	< 0.001	***
Al	0.224	< 0.001	***
TEMP	0.193	< 0.001	***
HCO ₃ ⁻	0.153	< 0.001	***
TURB	0.145	< 0.001	***
S	0.131	< 0.001	***
km	0.122	< 0.001	***
NH ₄ ⁺	0.103	< 0.001	***
As	0.102	< 0.001	***
COND	0.098	< 0.001	***
Mo	0.086	< 0.001	***
Fe	0.082	< 0.001	***
Li	0.082	< 0.001	***
Ag	0.079	< 0.001	***
Tl	0.074	< 0.001	***
NO ₂ ⁻	0.073	< 0.001	***
V	0.072	< 0.001	***
U	0.069	< 0.001	***
Rb	0.068	< 0.001	***
Na	0.068	< 0.001	***
Cs	0.064	< 0.001	***
Mn	0.063	< 0.001	***
B	0.059	< 0.001	***
K	0.058	< 0.001	***
Mg	0.057	< 0.001	***
ORP	0.057	< 0.001	***
Cl ⁻	0.056	< 0.001	***
Fe ²⁺	0.056	< 0.001	***
Hg	0.055	< 0.001	***
NO ₃ ⁻	0.055	< 0.001	***
Si	0.046	< 0.001	***
Sr	0.044	< 0.001	***
Co	0.040	0.002	**

Br	0.038	0.002	**
Zn	0.044	< 0.001	***
dO	0.041	< 0.001	***
Se	0.031	0.003	**
Ca	0.029	0.007	**
Ba	0.020	0.017	*
Cd	0.020	0.068	.
H ₂ S	0.014	0.142	
Cr	0.007	0.276	
Pb	0.006	0.297	
PO ₄ ³⁻	0.005	0.344	
Cu	-0.008	0.736	
Ni	-0.020	0.953	

Signif. codes: 0-0.001 '***'; 0.001-0.01 '**'; 0.01-0.05 '*'; 0.05-0.1 '.'; 0.1-1 ''

TEMP: temperature, TURB: turbidity, km: kilometres, COND: conductivity, dO: dissolved oxygen, ORP: oxidation reduction potential

Supplementary Table 4 | Permutational multivariate analysis of variance (using continuous variables only) of beta diversity using Bray-Curtis dissimilarities.

	Df	SumsOfSqs	MeanSqs	F.Model	R ²	P-value	Signif. codes
pH	1	44.13	44.125	154.945	0.124	0.001	***
TEMP	1	14.03	14.026	49.253	0.039	0.001	***
ORP	1	5.06	5.056	17.755	0.014	0.001	***
SO ₄ ²⁻	1	2.88	2.883	10.123	0.008	0.001	***
TURB	1	2.71	2.708	9.508	0.008	0.001	***
As	1	2.51	2.512	8.820	0.007	0.001	***
NO ₃ ⁻	1	2.25	2.249	7.896	0.006	0.001	***
NH ₄ ⁺	1	1.99	1.989	6.986	0.006	0.001	***
HCO ₃ ⁻	1	1.84	1.839	6.457	0.005	0.001	***
Rb	1	1.76	1.757	6.169	0.005	0.001	***
Ag	1	1.39	1.389	4.877	0.004	0.001	***
NO ₂ ⁻	1	1.25	1.254	4.405	0.004	0.001	***
K	1	1.22	1.223	4.294	0.003	0.001	***
COND	1	1.14	1.143	4.014	0.003	0.001	***
dO	1	1.10	1.096	3.848	0.003	0.001	***
H ₂ S	1	1.00	1.001	3.514	0.003	0.001	***

Tl	1	1.00	0.998	3.506	0.003	0.001	***
V	1	0.96	0.959	3.369	0.003	0.001	***
Mg	1	0.88	0.880	3.090	0.002	0.001	***
Al	1	0.84	0.838	2.942	0.002	0.001	***
Si	1	0.83	0.830	2.916	0.002	0.001	***
Sr	1	0.75	0.753	2.643	0.002	0.001	***
Hg	1	0.72	0.718	2.522	0.002	0.001	***
Mo	1	0.64	0.640	2.247	0.002	0.001	***
Pb	1	0.56	0.565	1.984	0.002	0.001	***
Na	1	1.02	1.020	3.582	0.003	0.002	**
B	1	0.95	0.945	3.320	0.003	0.002	**
Br	1	0.88	0.880	3.089	0.002	0.002	**
Li	1	0.87	0.866	3.041	0.002	0.002	**
PO ₄ ³⁻	1	0.65	0.653	2.292	0.002	0.002	**
Cu	1	0.61	0.612	2.149	0.002	0.002	**
U	1	0.74	0.744	2.613	0.002	0.003	**
S	1	0.83	0.827	2.903	0.002	0.004	**
Cl ⁻	1	0.75	0.748	2.628	0.002	0.005	**
Fe ²⁺	1	0.57	0.568	1.995	0.002	0.005	**
Mn	1	0.58	0.581	2.040	0.002	0.011	*
Cs	1	0.59	0.592	2.078	0.002	0.014	*
Cd	1	0.39	0.394	1.384	0.001	0.019	*
Se	1	0.47	0.473	1.660	0.001	0.055	.
Co	1	0.38	0.379	1.329	0.001	0.142	
Fe	1	0.36	0.357	1.255	0.001	0.145	
Zn	1	0.37	0.367	1.289	0.001	0.146	
Ba	1	0.37	0.369	1.296	0.001	0.172	
Cr	1	0.35	0.355	1.247	0.001	0.187	
Ca	1	0.34	0.344	1.209	0.001	0.225	
Ni	1	0.23	0.227	0.797	0.001	0.758	

Signif. codes: 0-0.001 '***'; 0.001-0.01 '**'; 0.01-0.05 '*'; 0.05-0.1 '.'; 0.1-1 ''

TURB: turbidity, dO: dissolved oxygen, ORP: oxidation-reduction potential, COND: conductivity

Supplementary Table 5 | Variance and standard deviation (SD) of significant chemistry (ppm) correlating with beta diversity. Parameters with SD < 0.25 ppm were removed for building the constrained correspondence analysis (CCA) model with a tractable number of variables.

	Variance (σ^2)	SD (ppm)
SO ₄ ²⁻	404969.24	636.37
HCO ₃ ⁻	15489.52	124.46
NH ₄ ⁺	3417.50	58.46
Si	2945.29	54.27
Al	452.90	21.28
H ₂ S	141.45	11.89
Li	15.49	3.94
As	2.58	1.61
NO ₃ ⁻	0.13	0.36
PO ₄ ³⁺	0.08	0.28
Sr	0.04	0.20
Cu	0.02	0.13
Pb	0.01	0.09
NO ₂ ⁻	0.01	0.08
Mo	0.00	0.01
Tl	0.00	0.00
Ag	0.00	0.00
U	0.00	0.00

Supplementary Table 6 | Linear regression of spring community dissimilarity in each geothermal field against geographic distance. Geothermal fields Whangairorohea, Ohaaki and Misc were removed from this analysis due to low spring numbers present ($n < 3$). Fields are ordered north to south.

	Slope	Std. Error	t-value	P-value	Signif. Codes	R ²
White Island	0.0003	0.0001	2.925	0.0042	**	0.077
Taheke	0.0003	0.0003	0.995	0.3490		0.110
Tikitere	0.0000	0.0000	2.570	0.0102	*	0.002
Rotorua	0.0000	0.0000	25.850	< 0.0001	***	0.010
Waimangu	0.0000	0.0000	1.858	0.0632	.	0.001
Waikite	0.0001	0.0000	4.389	0.0000	***	0.046

Waiotapu	0.0000	0.0000	10.110	< 0.0001	***	0.040
Te Kopia	0.0000	0.0001	-0.117	0.9070		0.000
Reporoa	0.0000	0.0000	6.541	0.0000	***	0.096
Orakei Korako	0.0001	0.0001	1.686	0.0929	.	0.010
Ngatamariki	0.0001	0.0001	2.566	0.0111	*	0.035
Rotokawa	0.0001	0.0000	9.565	< 0.0001	***	0.041
Wairakei-Tauhara	0.0000	0.0000	21.200	< 0.0001	***	0.153
Tokaanu	0.0005	0.0000	12.280	< 0.0001	***	0.185

Signif. codes: 0-0.001 '***'; 0.001-0.01 '**'; 0.01-0.05 '*'; 0.05-0.1 '.'; 0.1-1 ''

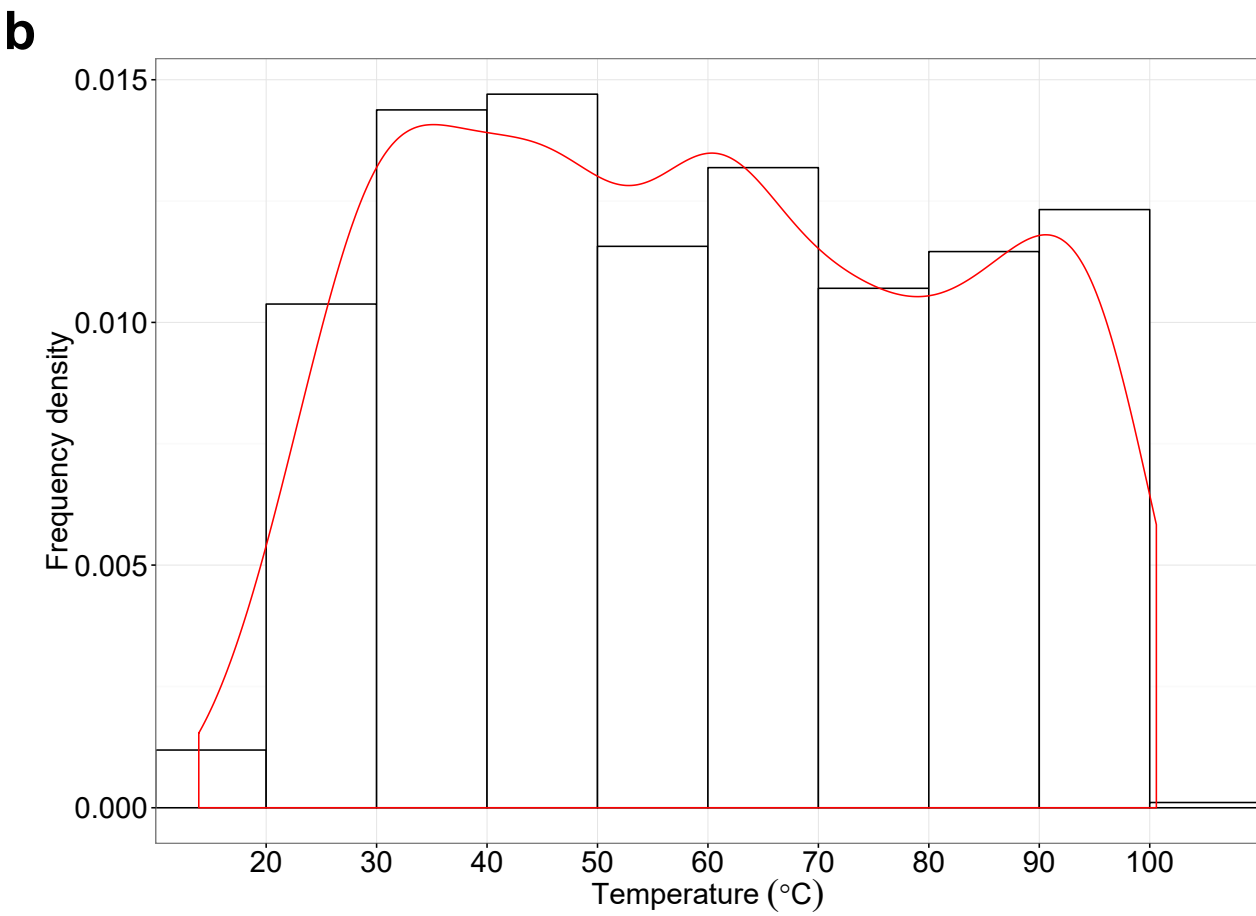
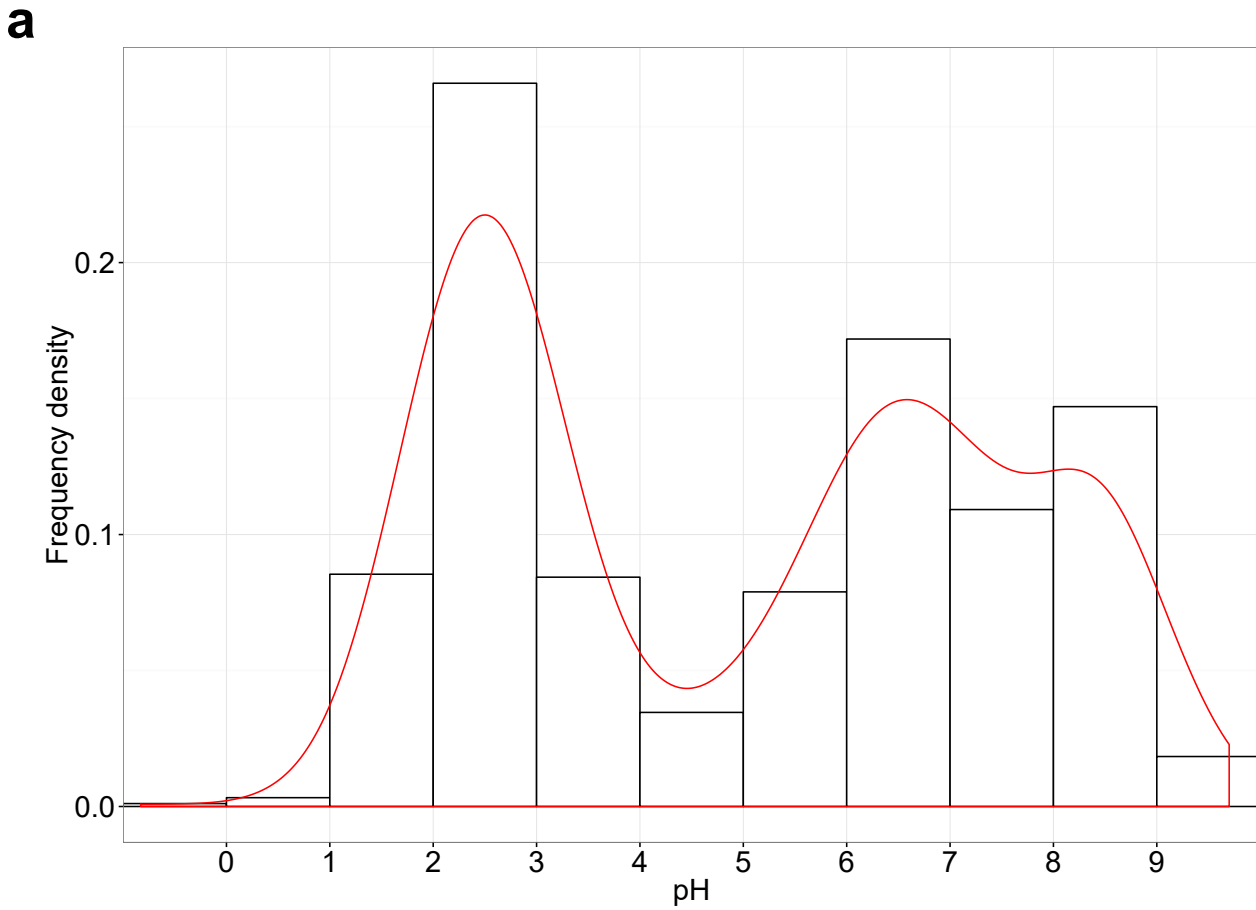
Supplementary Table 7 | A list of all DNA and physicochemical samples taken from each spring, and the subsequent processing and analyses performed for each individual parameter.

Parameter	Volume (mL)	Processing	Storage	Analytical Method
Microbial diversity	2,000	Filtered	-20 °C	DNA extraction, sequencing
Temperature	NA	Raw	NA (<i>in situ</i>)	Digital thermocouple
*Physical properties	500	Raw	RT	Multiparameter field meter
Fe ²⁺	0.08	Filtered	RT	Colorimetric spectroscopy
H ₂ S	330	Raw	4 °C	Iodometric titration
HCO ₃ ⁻	330	Raw	4 °C	HCO ₃ titration
Cl ⁻	330	Raw	4 °C	Potentiometric titration/IC
SO ₄ ²⁻	50	Filtered	4 °C	IC
NH ₄ ⁺ , PO ₄ ³⁻ , NO ₂ ⁻ , NO ₃ ⁻	50	Filtered	-20 °C	FIA
Back up sample	50	Filtered	4 °C	NA
**Elemental analysis	15	Filtered, acidified	4 °C	ICP-MS

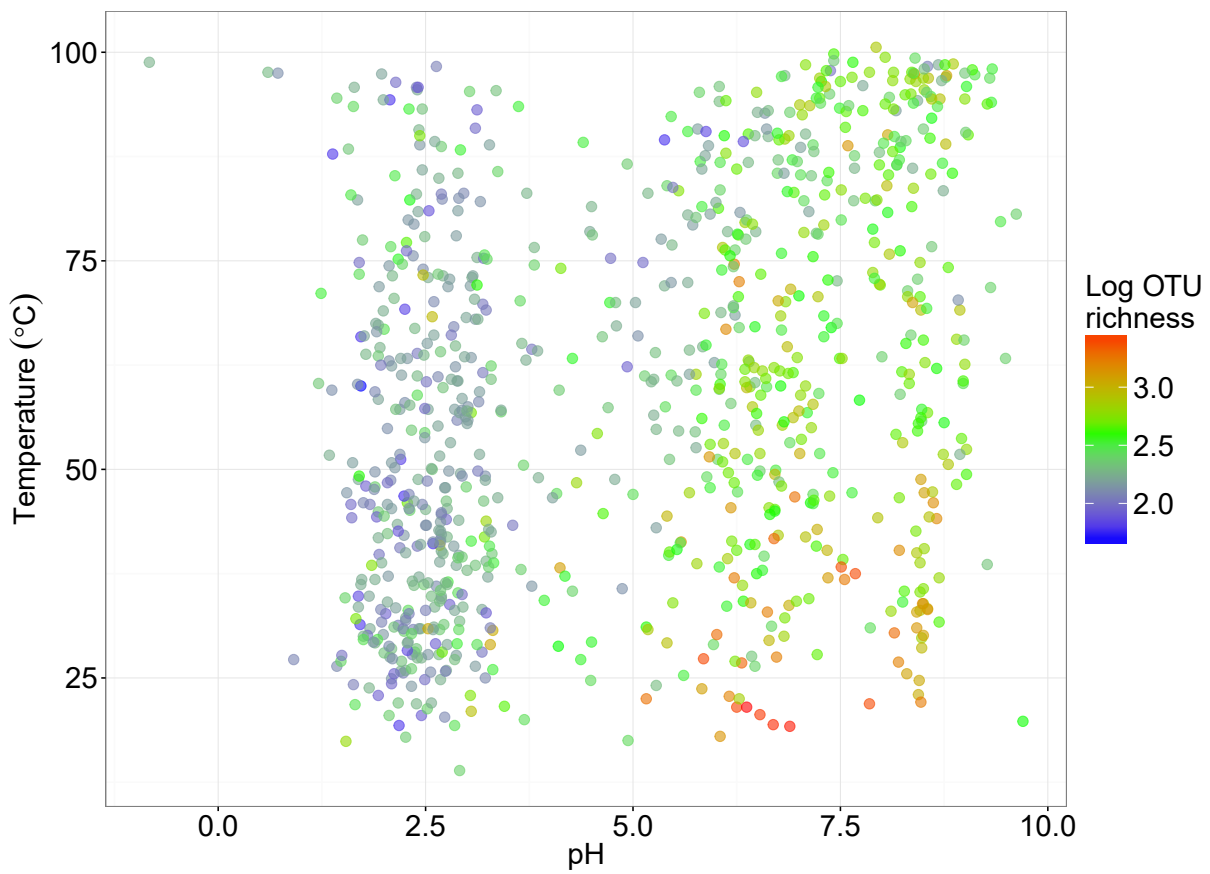
NA: not applicable, **RT:** room temperature, **IC:** ion chromatography, **FIA:** flow injection analysis, **ICP-MS:** inductively coupled plasma-mass spectroscopy.

*Physical properties measured by the field meter were pH, oxidation-reduction potential (ORP), conductivity (COND), turbidity (TURB) and dissolved oxygen (dO)

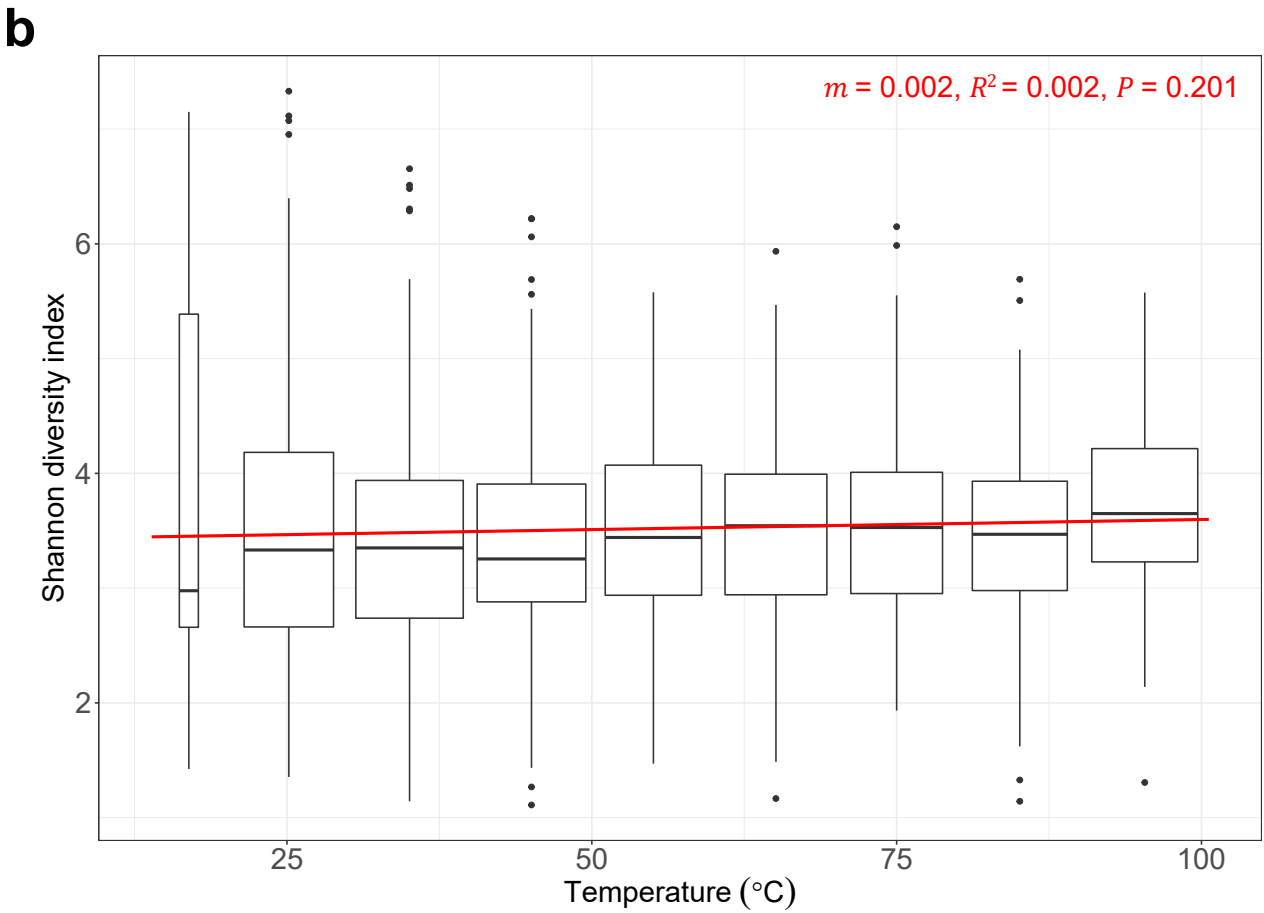
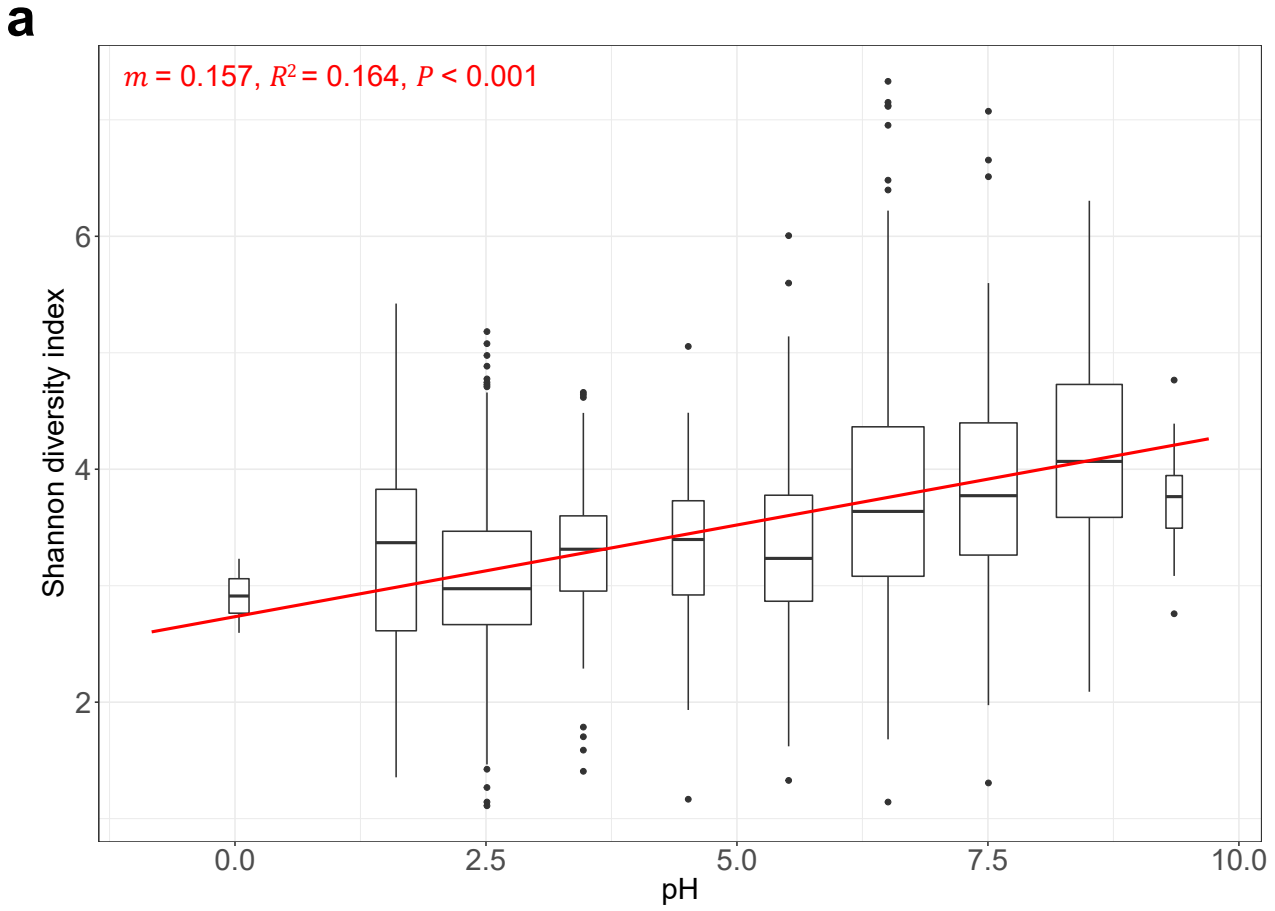
**Elements measured using ICP-MS were Al, Ag, As, B, Ba, Br, Ca, Cd, Co, Cr, Cu, Cs, Fe, Hg, K, Li, Mg, Mo, Mn, Na, Ni, Pb, Rb, S, Se, Si, Sr, Tl, U, V and Zn.



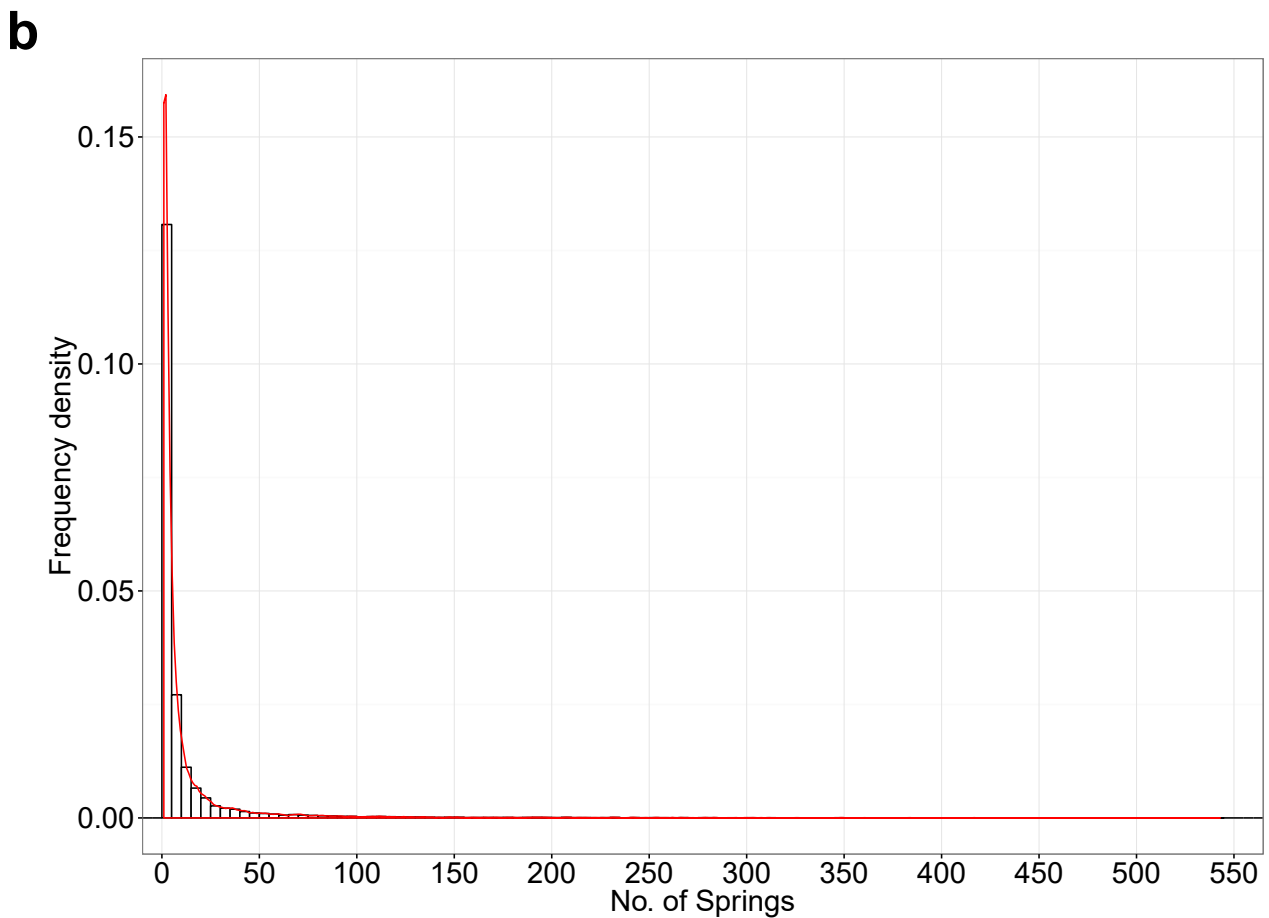
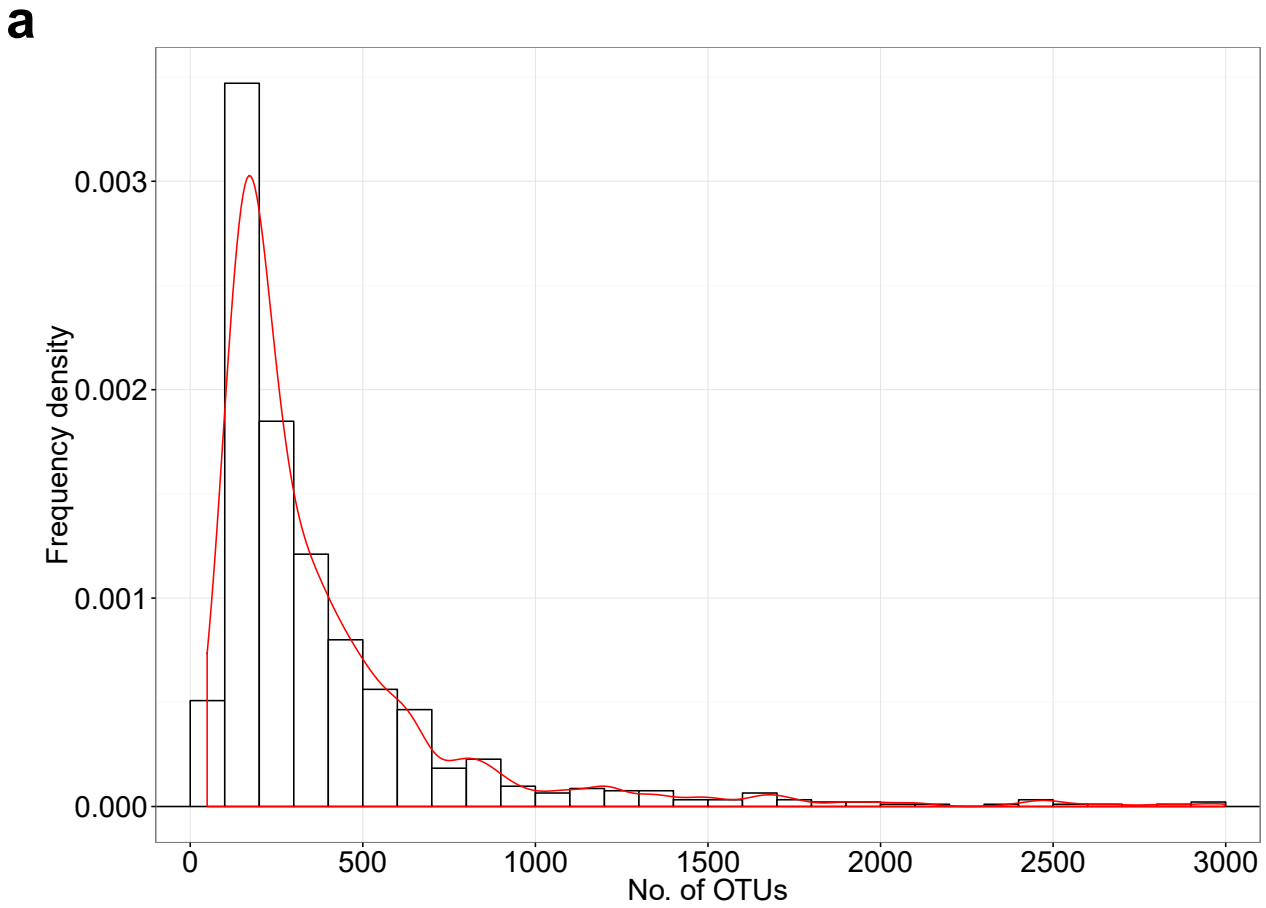
Supplementary Fig. 1 | pH (a) and temperature (b) frequencies from all spring communities sampled. Red trendlines are a function of frequency density ($n = 925$).



Supplementary Fig. 2 | pH, temperature and alpha diversity scales. A scatter plot of pH and temperature gradients for all springs sampled ($n = 925$). The number of OTUs or richness is shown in colour (range: 49 – 2997, mean: 386, median: 247).

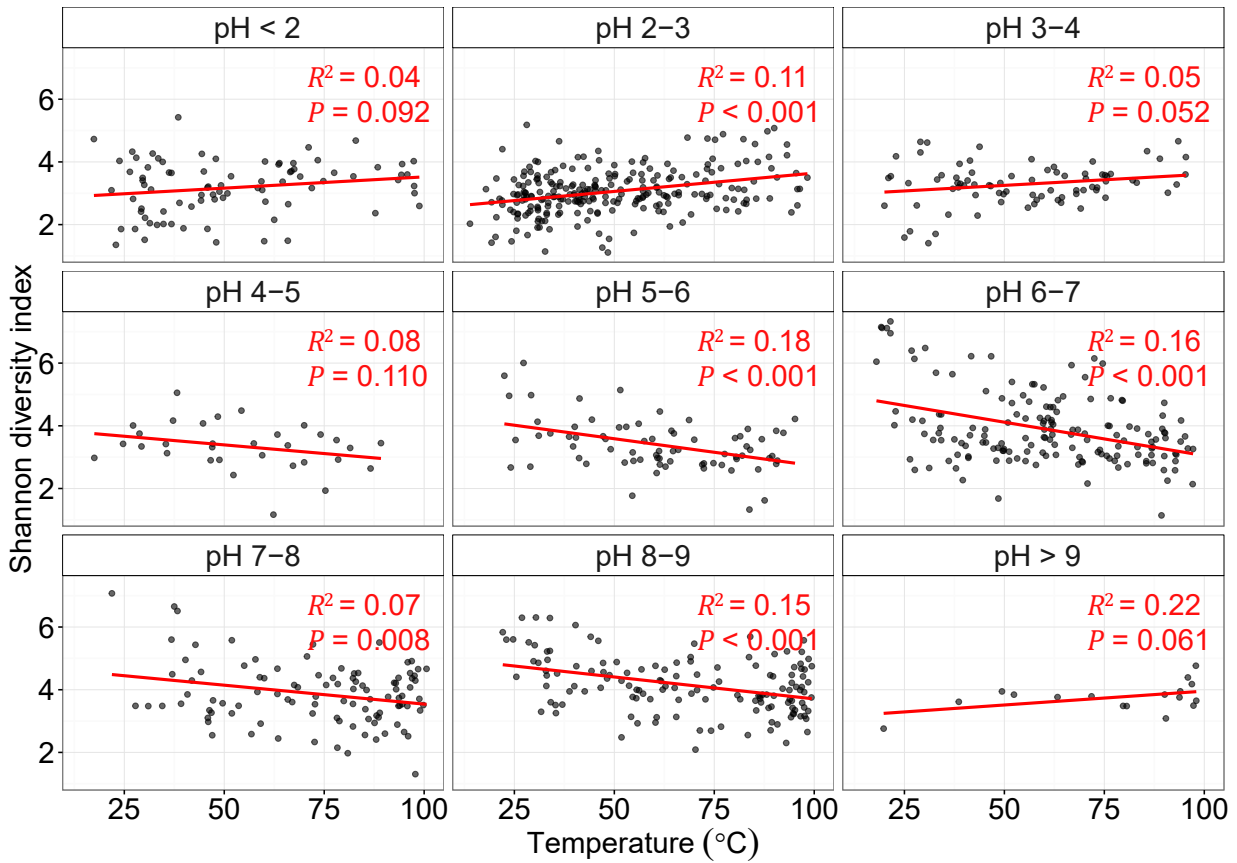


Supplementary Fig. 3 | Alpha diversity against pH (a) and temperature (b). Linear regression of Shannon index against each variable is shown in red ($n = 925$).

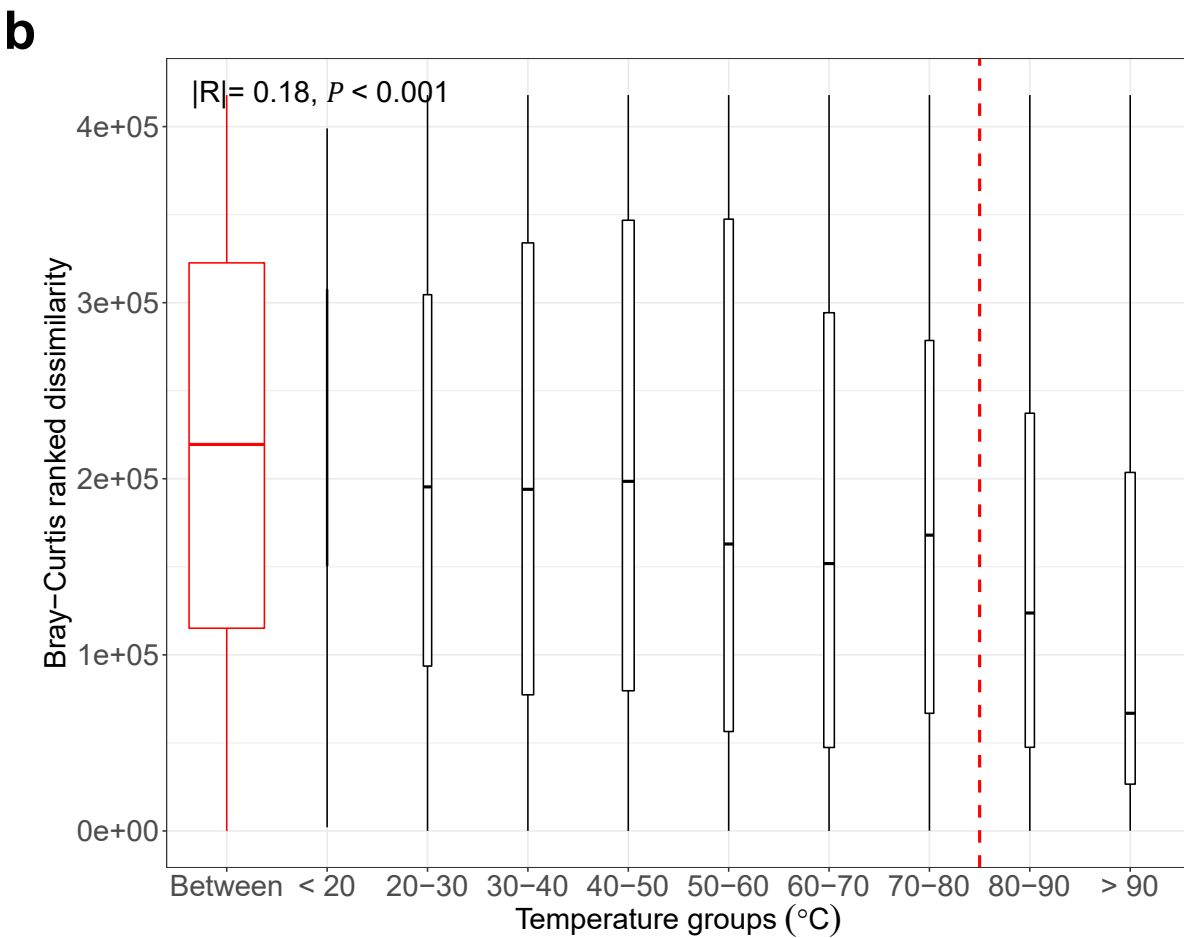
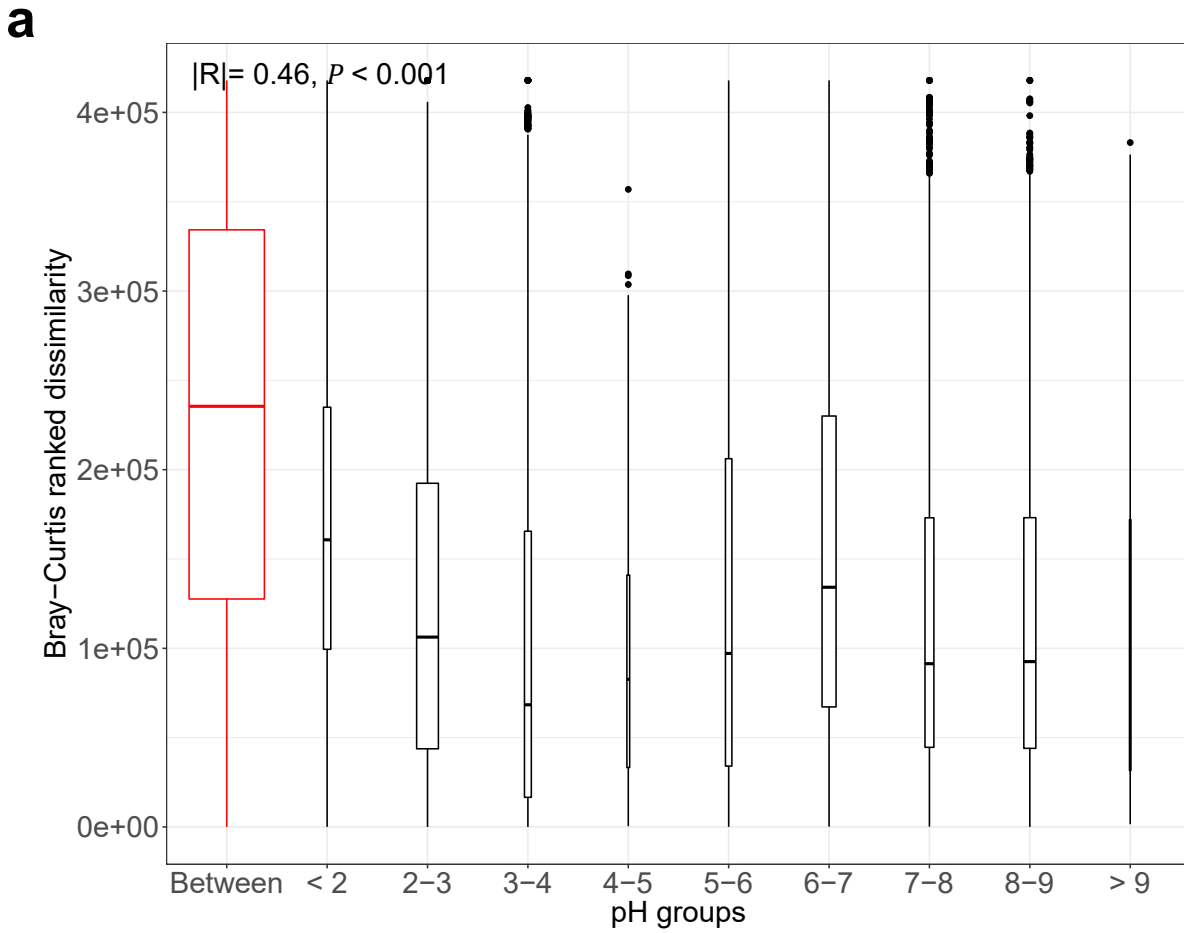


Supplementary Fig. 4 | Quantity and distribution of OTUs across springs.

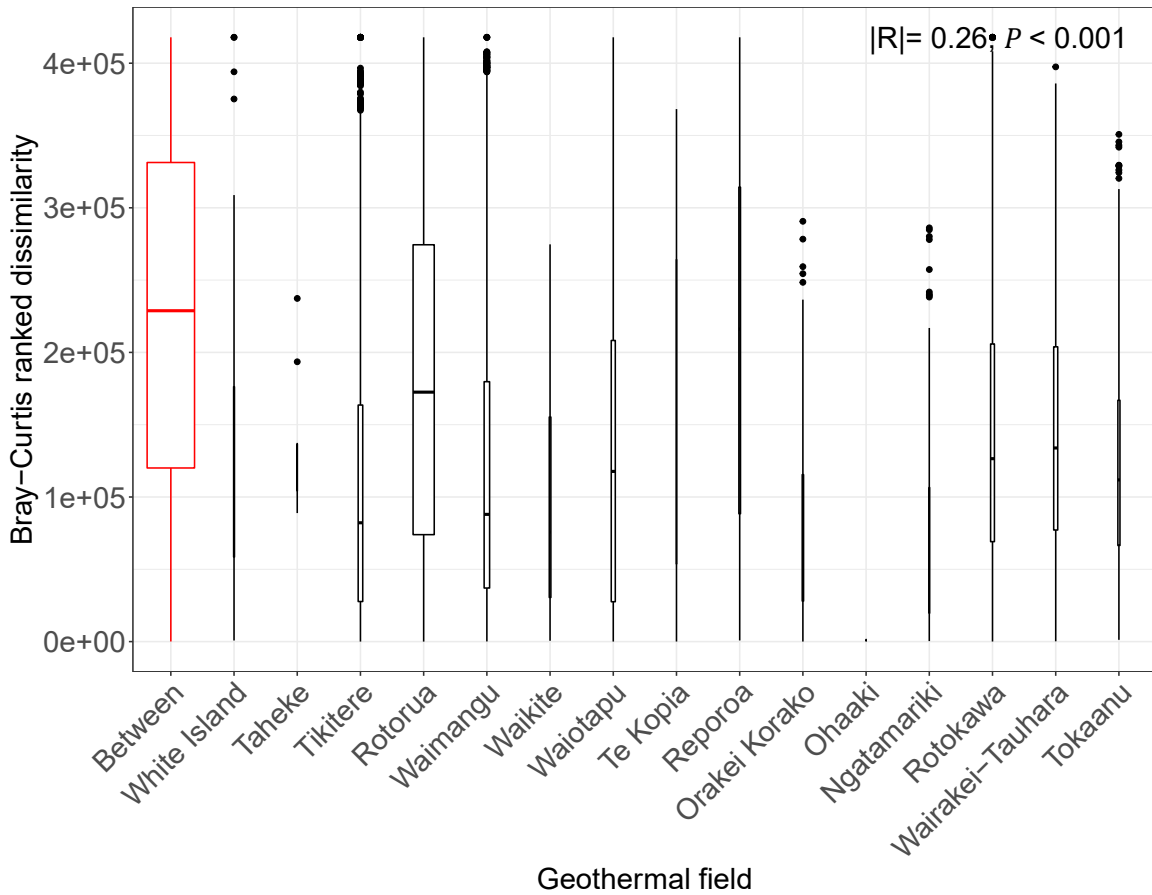
(a) Histogram shows the number of OTUs found in each spring ($n = 28,381$, range: 49-2997, mean: 386, median: 247). (b) The distribution of each OTU across all springs ($n = 925$, range: 1-547, mean: 13, median: 3).



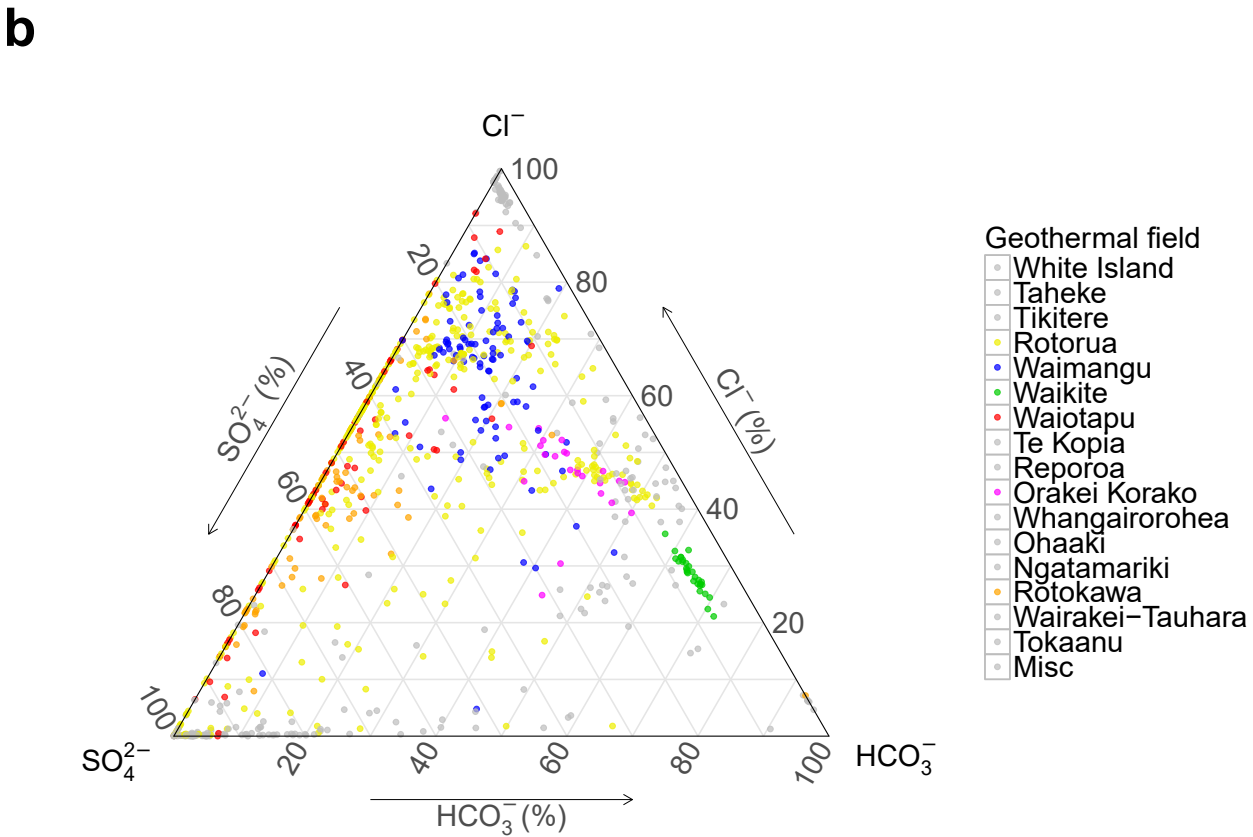
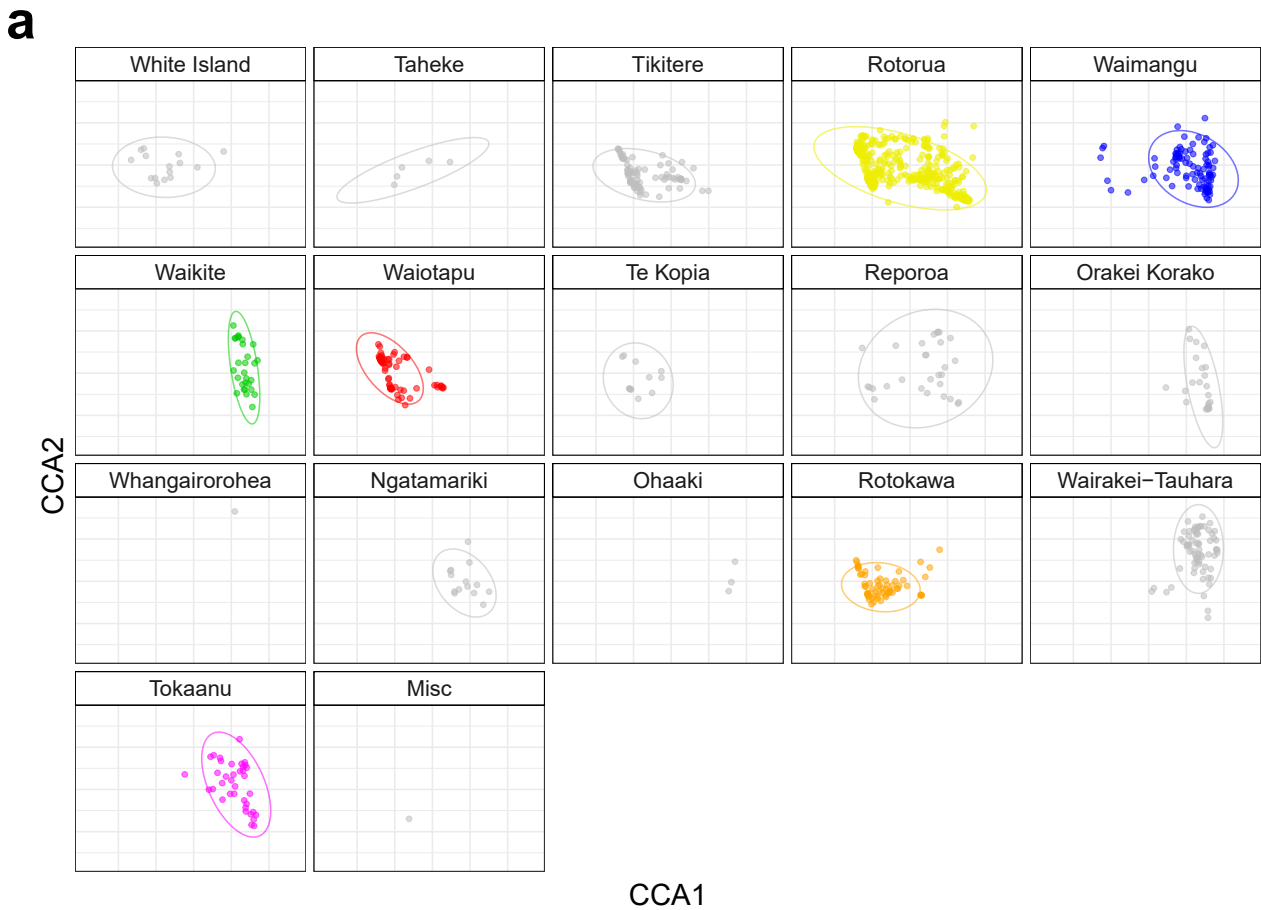
Supplementary Fig. 5 | The relationship between alpha diversity and temperature. Samples ($n = 925$) are split into pH increments. Linear regression of each increment against Shannon diversity index is shown in red.



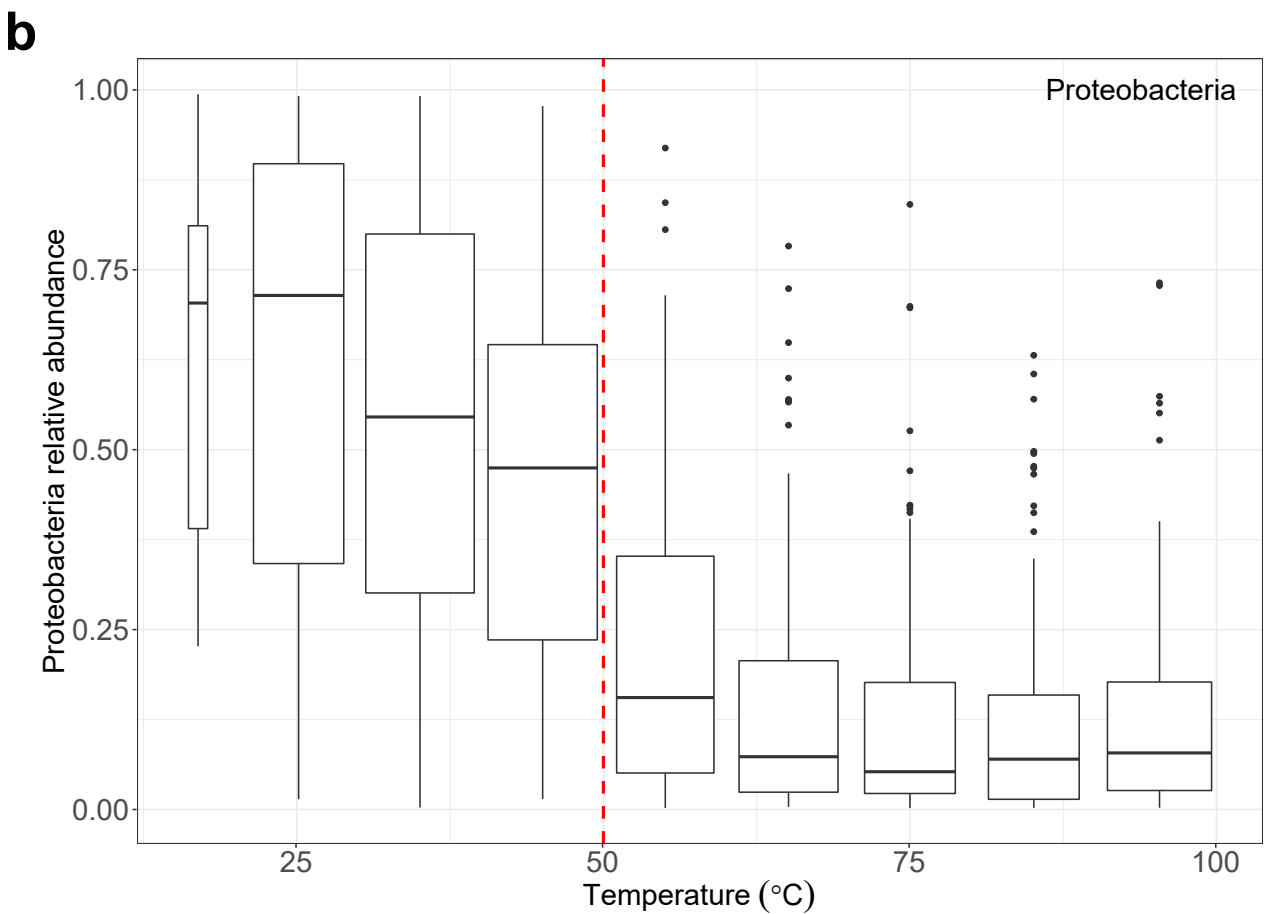
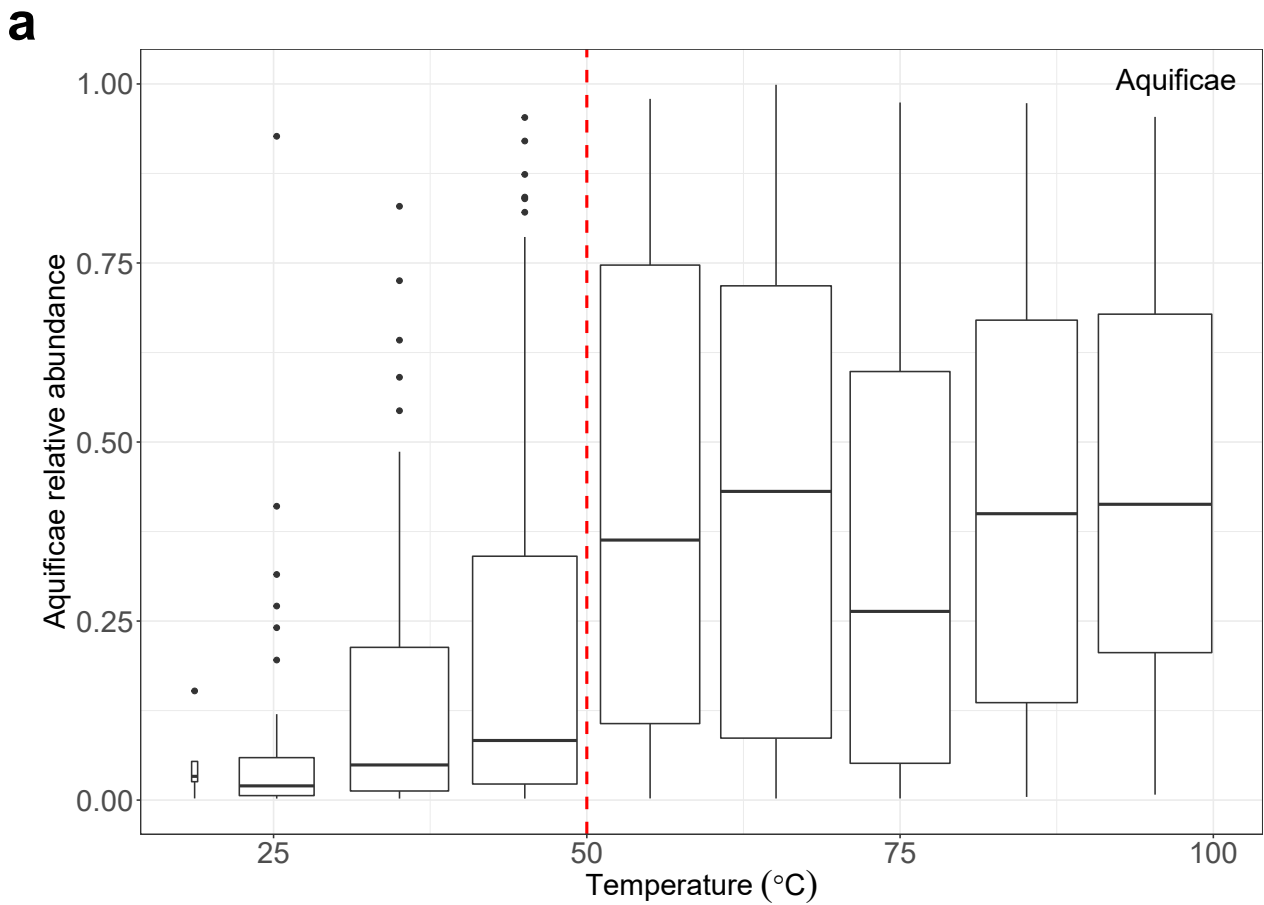
Supplementary Fig. 6 | Analysis of similarities (ANOSIM: $|R|$) of pH and temperature binned samples ($n = 925$) against beta diversity. The variation between pH (a) and temperature (b) groups is shown in red, with the variation within individual groups in black. The red dashed line in (b) refers to the greatest significant difference between individual temperature groups (Wilcoxon test: $P < 2 \times 10^{-16}$; > 80 °C).



Supplementary Fig. 7 | Analysis of similarities (ANOSIM: |R|) between geothermal fields and beta diversity. The overall variation between fields is plotted in red, with the variation within each individual field in black. The width of each bar indicates the number of springs ($n = 925$) per site. Two geothermal fields (Whangairorohea and Misc) had only one spring sampled and therefore are not shown in this analysis.



Supplementary Fig. 8 | Constrained correspondence analysis (CCA) of geothermal fields and geochemical signatures. (a) CCA ordination for each geothermal field – full model is shown in Fig. 3 ($n = 923$). Ellipses are plotted as 95 % confidence intervals. (b) Ternary diagram of geochemical signatures for springs sampled ($n = 923$). Points are colour-coded to geothermal fields shown individually in Fig. 3.



Supplementary Fig. 9 | Relative abundance of Aquificae (a) and Proteobacteria (b) in each spring against temperature. The boxplots are binned by 10 °C increments. The red dotted line marks a substantial change in abundance levels at 50 °C ($n = 925$ for both plots).