

## **Supplementary Information**

### **Biogeographic patterns of abundant and rare bacterioplankton in three subtropical bays resulting from selective and neutral processes**

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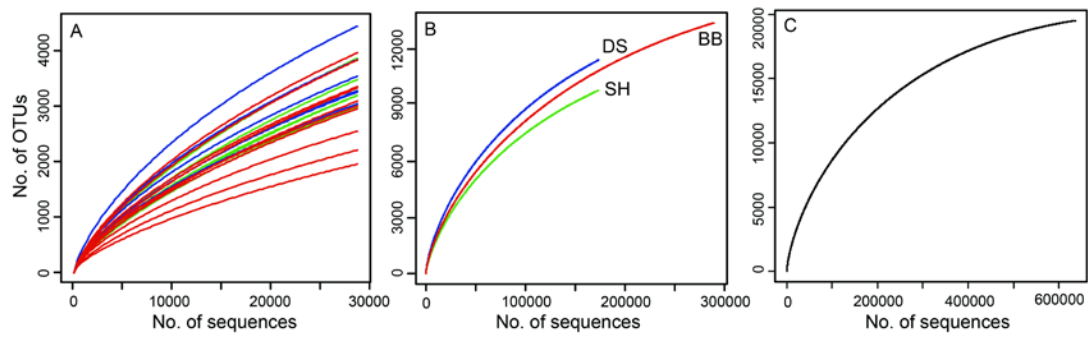
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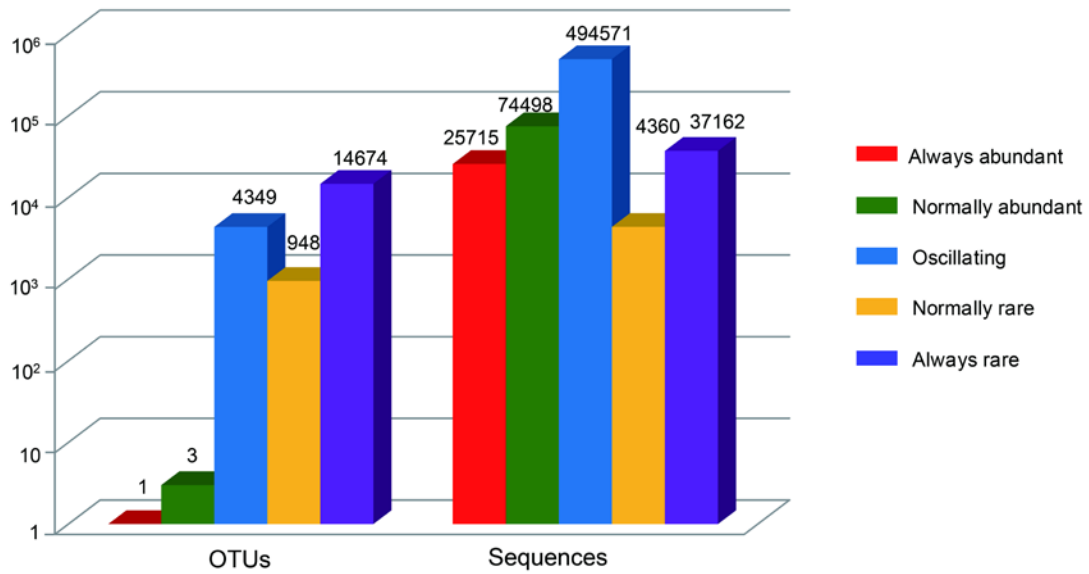
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#### **The supplementary information includes:**

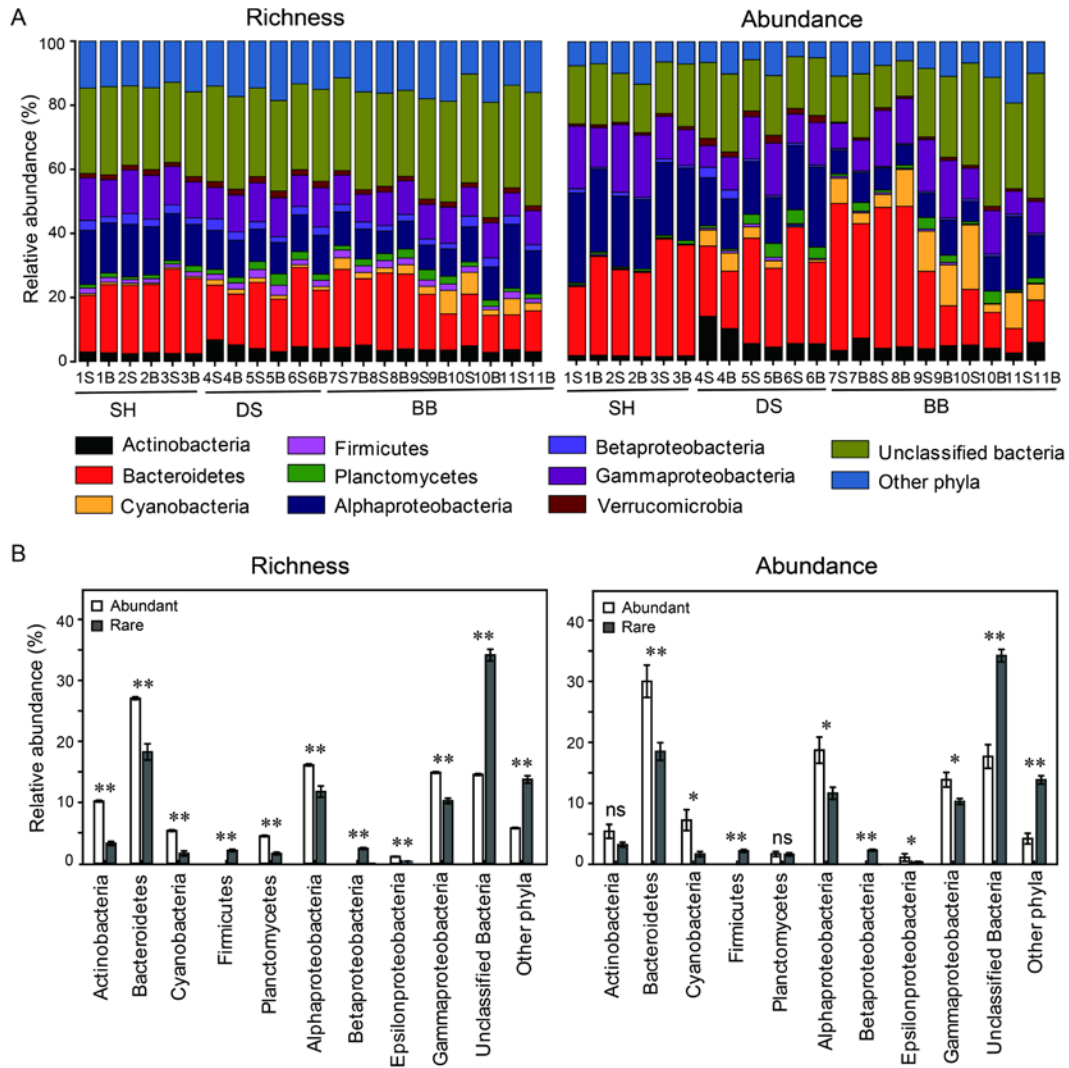
- 10 pages
- 7 figures
- 2 tables



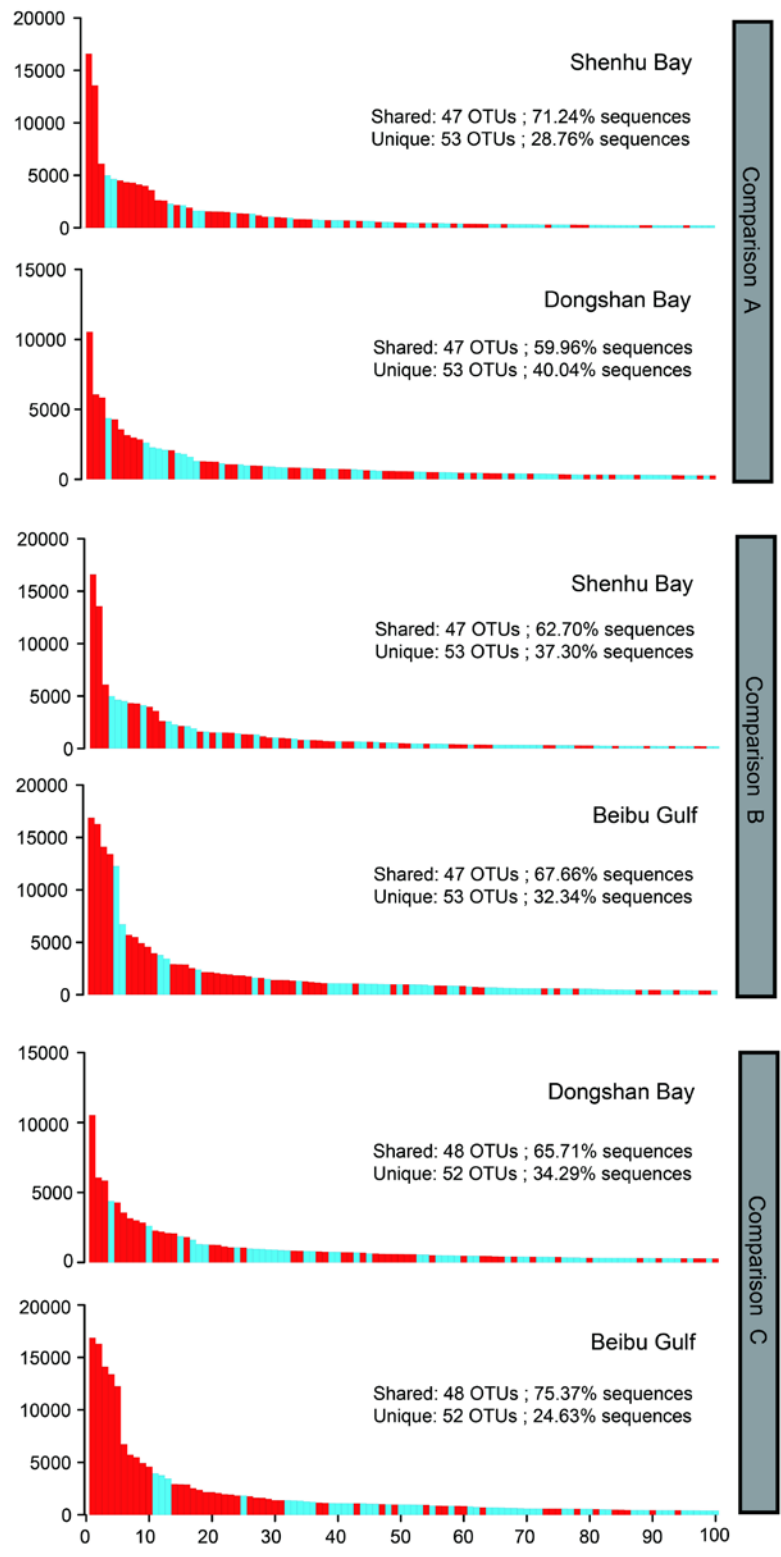
**Fig. S1** Rarefaction curves of similarity-based operational taxonomic units (OTUs) at 97% similarity level. (A) The individual samples (local communities), (B) the combined sets of each of three bays samples (6 samples in both SH and DS, and 10 samples in BB), (C) the combined set of 22 samples (metacommunity). SH, Shenhu Bay; DS, Dongshan Bay; BB, Beibu Gulf.



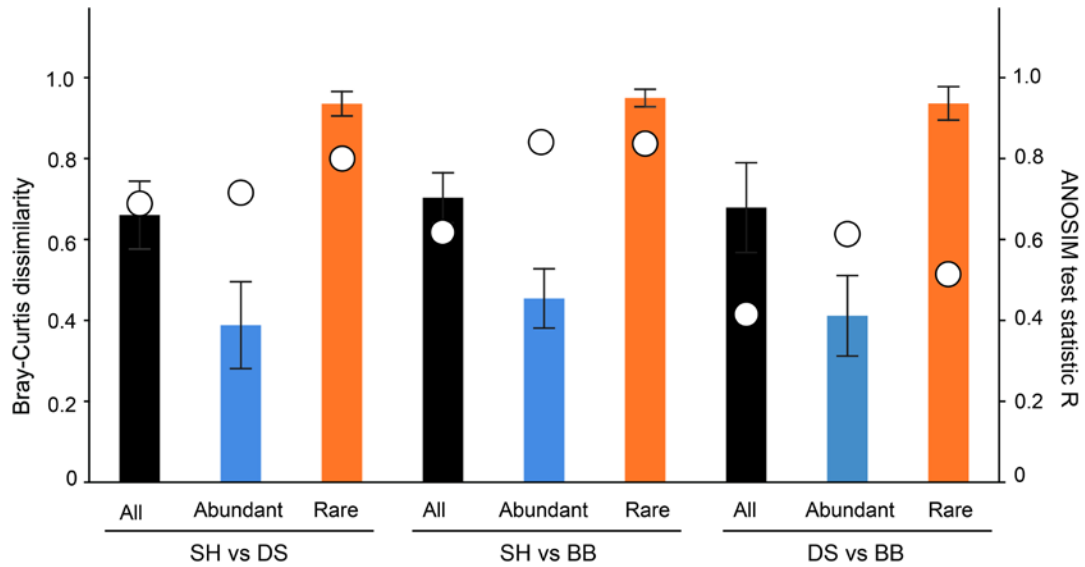
**Fig. S2** The number of OTUs and sequences of always abundant (the OTUs with  $\geq 1\%$  abundance in all samples), normally abundant (the OTUs with  $\geq 1\%$  abundance were present  $\geq 70\%$  of the samples), Oscillating (the OTUs does not fall in any of the other categories), normally rare (the OTUs with  $< 0.01\%$  abundance were present  $\geq 70\%$  of the samples), and always rare bacteria (the OTUs with  $< 0.01\%$  abundance in all samples).



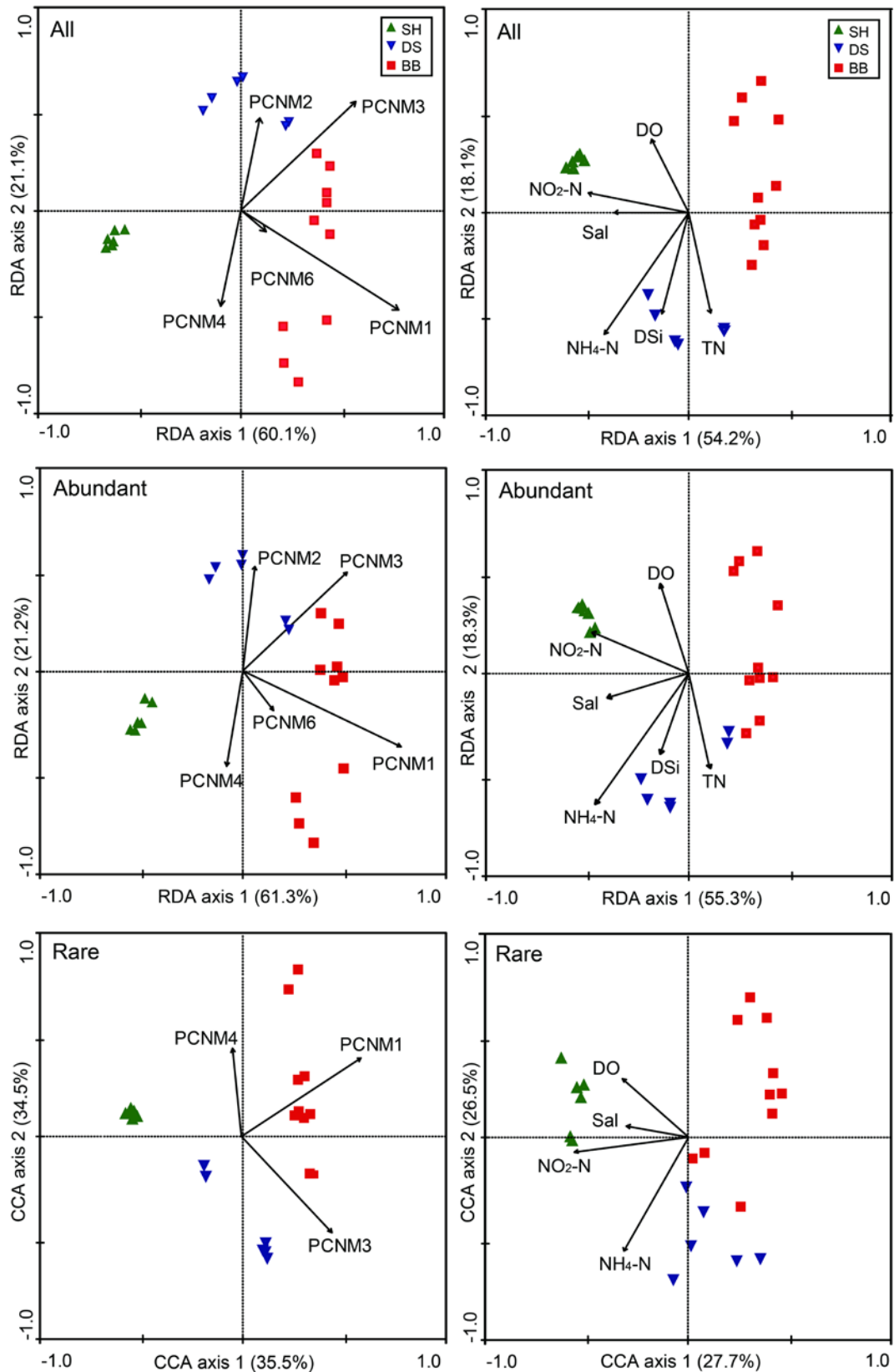
**Fig. S3** The known and unknown components of bacterioplankton community biodiversity and composition. (A) Richness (OTU number) and abundance (sequence number) of major bacterioplankton taxonomic groups across 22 samples. SH, Shenhu Bay; DS, Dongshan Bay; BB, Beibu Gulf. (B) Relative abundance of richness (OTU number) and abundance (sequence number) of abundant bacterial taxa compared with rare taxa in three subtropical bays of China. Values and error bars indicate means and standard errors, respectively. ns - not significant,  $*P < 0.05$ ,  $**P < 0.01$  (Mann-Whitney  $U$  test).



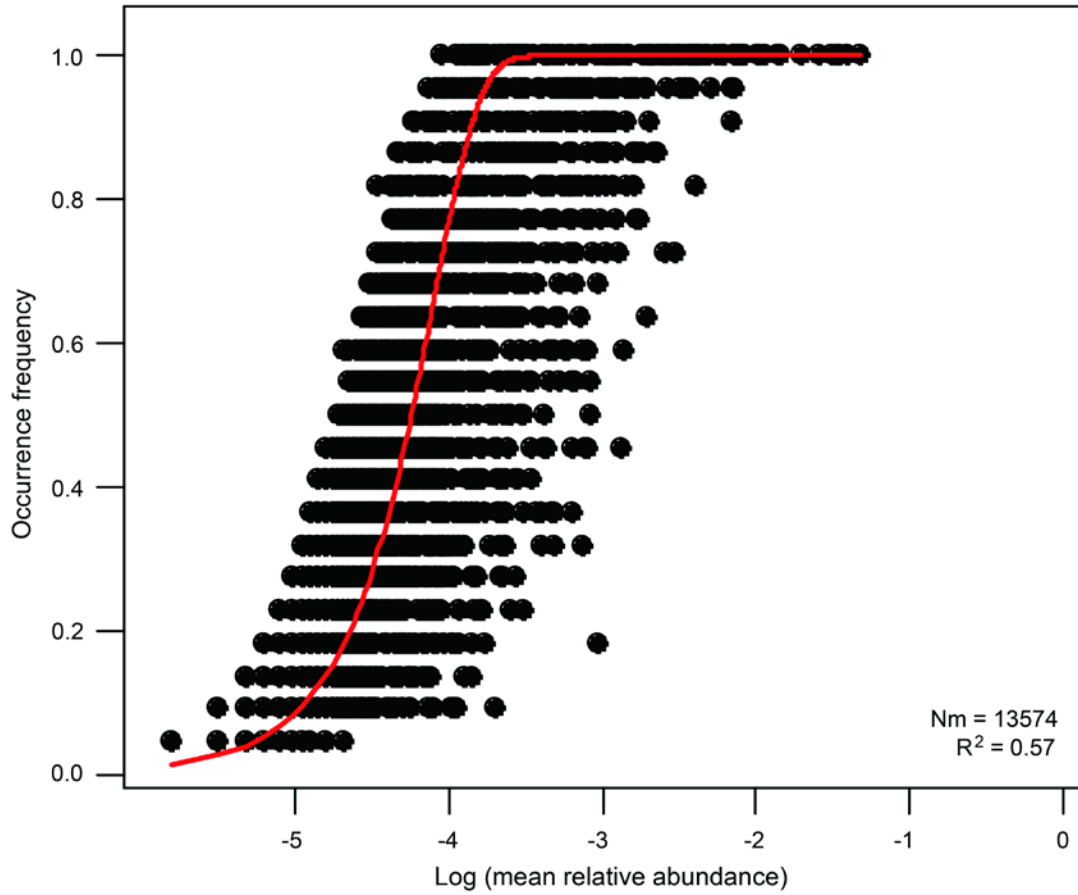
**Fig. S4** Rank abundance histograms of bacterioplankton community overlap between (A) Shenhu Bay and Dongshan Bay, (B) Shenhu Bay and Beibu Gulf, and (C) Dongshan Bay and Beibu Gulf. OTUs highlighted in red are shared between two compared regions, whereas OTUs highlighted in blue are unique to each region.



**Fig. S5** ANOSIM and community dissimilarity for the all, abundant and rare bacterioplankton between three subtropical bays. Given is the ANOSIM test statistic (R, denoted as circles) that two compared groups are significantly different at the  $P < 0.05$  level (all tests were significant). ANOSIM  $R$ - and  $P$ -values were generated using the Bray-Curtis dissimilarity. SH, Shenhu Bay; DS, Dongshan Bay; BB, Beibu Gulf. Data are means  $\pm$  s.d. (error bars).



**Fig. S6** CCA/RDA ordinations showing the bacterioplankton community composition in relation to significant ( $P < 0.01$ ) spatial (left-side panels) and environmental variables (right-side panels), respectively.



**Fig. S7** Fit of the neutral model based on the all bacterioplankton from three subtropical bays. Occurrence frequencies of different OTUs as a function of mean relative abundance in all data sets ( $n = 19975$ ).  $Nm$  indicates metacommunity size times immigration, and  $R^2$  indicates the fit to the neutral model. Note that the X axis was log<sub>10</sub> transformed.



**Table S1** Environmental variables of 22 samples in the three subtropical bays of China.

| Samples<br>Factors         | Shenhu Bay (Summer 2012) |        |        |        |        |        | Dongshan Bay (Summer 2011) |        |        |        |        |        | Beibu Gulf (Summer 2011) |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|----------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
|                            | 1S                       | 1B     | 2S     | 2B     | 3S     | 3B     | 4S                         | 4B     | 5S     | 5B     | 6S     | 6B     | 7S                       | 7B     | 8S     | 8B     | 9S     | 9B     | 10S    | 10B    | 11S    | 11B    |
| Latitude (°N)              | 24.65                    | 24.65  | 24.65  | 24.65  | 24.65  | 24.65  | 23.88                      | 23.88  | 23.77  | 23.77  | 23.69  | 23.69  | 21.17                    | 21.17  | 21.19  | 21.19  | 20.79  | 20.79  | 20.63  | 20.63  | 20.47  | 20.47  |
| Longitude (°E)             | 118.66                   | 118.66 | 118.68 | 118.68 | 118.69 | 118.69 | 117.52                     | 117.52 | 117.53 | 117.53 | 117.54 | 117.54 | 109.02                   | 109.02 | 109.56 | 109.56 | 109.53 | 109.53 | 108.99 | 108.99 | 108.31 | 108.31 |
| pH                         | 8.09                     | 8.10   | 8.06   | 8.05   | 8.08   | 8.08   | 8.15                       | 8.17   | 8.17   | 8.20   | 8.23   | 8.20   | 8.12                     | 8.08   | 8.16   | 8.14   | 8.07   | 8.01   | 8.18   | 8.03   | 8.10   | 8.07   |
| Temperature (°C)           | 22.40                    | 21.03  | 22.10  | 22.00  | 22.60  | 21.740 | 29.20                      | 29.30  | 26.40  | 24.00  | 23.90  | 22.60  | 30.84                    | 30.46  | 30.68  | 30.68  | 30.68  | 30.69  | 29.98  | 26.83  | 29.81  | 24.86  |
| Depth (m)                  | 0.5                      | 12.0   | 0.5    | 13.0   | 0.5    | 12.0   | 0.5                        | 3.0    | 0.5    | 9.4    | 0.5    | 18.3   | 0.5                      | 16.0   | 0.5    | 11.0   | 0.5    | 13.0   | 0.5    | 34.0   | 0.5    | 41.0   |
| Salinity                   | 32.80                    | 33.12  | 32.80  | 33.14  | 32.90  | 34.81  | 30.57                      | 30.80  | 33.96  | 34.95  | 34.97  | 35.14  | 31.78                    | 32.56  | 31.62  | 31.63  | 32.36  | 32.36  | 33.09  | 33.23  | 32.85  | 33.16  |
| DO (mg/ L)                 | 6.75                     | 6.57   | 6.69   | 6.56   | 6.99   | 6.78   | 6.21                       | 6.49   | 5.40   | 4.83   | 5.01   | 4.73   | 6.49                     | 5.68   | 6.44   | 6.40   | 5.92   | 5.95   | 6.42   | 4.83   | 6.44   | 5.73   |
| COD (mg/ L)                | 0.340                    | 0.160  | 0.220  | 0.400  | 0.150  | 0.160  | 1.050                      | 1.150  | 0.620  | 0.870  | 0.460  | 0.590  | 0.198                    | 0.340  | 0.257  | 0.250  | 0.108  | 0.104  | 0.149  | 0.057  | 0.141  | 3.822  |
| TN (mg/ L)                 | 0.213                    | 0.169  | 0.223  | 0.148  | 0.200  | 0.270  | 0.378                      | 0.414  | 0.585  | 0.346  | 0.208  | 0.197  | 0.190                    | 0.206  | 0.363  | 0.137  | 0.120  | 0.410  | 0.327  | 0.101  | 0.233  | 0.151  |
| NO <sub>2</sub> -N (mg/ L) | 0.020                    | 0.020  | 0.017  | 0.017  | 0.016  | 0.016  | 0.008                      | 0.008  | 0.008  | 0.010  | 0.008  | 0.007  | 0.002                    | 0.008  | 0.001  | 0.001  | 0.021  | 0.023  | 0.002  | 0.014  | 0.001  | 0.004  |
| NO <sub>3</sub> -N (mg/ L) | 0.068                    | 0.068  | 0.058  | 0.064  | 0.057  | 0.062  | 0.111                      | 0.106  | 0.058  | 0.072  | 0.045  | 0.041  | —                        | 0.005  | 0.001  | —      | 0.033  | 0.024  | 0.175  | 0.037  | 0.002  | 0.006  |
| NH <sub>4</sub> -N (mg/ L) | 0.019                    | 0.027  | 0.032  | 0.034  | 0.026  | 0.033  | 0.022                      | 0.027  | 0.063  | 0.054  | 0.048  | 0.051  | 0.009                    | 0.010  | 0.036  | 0.010  | 0.013  | 0.014  | 0.013  | 0.007  | 0.007  | 0.005  |
| TP (mg/ L)                 | 0.028                    | 0.022  | 0.031  | 0.084  | 0.040  | 0.056  | 0.078                      | 0.095  | 0.043  | 0.089  | 0.039  | 0.048  | 0.022                    | 0.015  | 0.033  | 0.048  | 0.051  | 0.077  | 0.026  | 0.019  | 0.023  | 0.029  |
| SRP (mg/ L)                | 0.007                    | 0.009  | 0.007  | 0.007  | 0.002  | 0.002  | 0.006                      | 0.010  | 0.016  | 0.022  | 0.029  | 0.028  | 0.001                    | 0.002  | 0.001  | 0.001  | 0.004  | 0.003  | —      | 0.010  | —      | 0.012  |
| DSi (mg/ L)                | 0.212                    | 0.160  | 0.281  | 0.185  | 0.391  | 0.391  | 1.540                      | 1.280  | 0.785  | 0.778  | 0.720  | 0.695  | 0.104                    | 0.105  | 0.003  | 0.017  | 0.049  | 0.082  | 0.026  | 1.118  | 0.024  | 0.199  |

The sample names are indicated using the format: station and layer (surface and bottom). S, surface; B, bottom; “—” indicates that the value < 0.001.

DO, dissolved oxygen; COD, chemical oxygen demand; TN, total nitrogen; NO<sub>2</sub>-N, nitrite nitrogen; NO<sub>3</sub>-N, nitrate nitrogen; NH<sub>4</sub>-N, ammonium nitrogen; TP, total phosphorus; SRP, soluble reactive phosphorus; DSi, active silicon.

**Table S2** Diversity of bacterioplankton community from 22 samples of three subtropical bays in China

| Sample | Region   | Depth (m) | OTU richness | ACE   | Chao1 | Shannon-Wiener | Simpson index of diversity | Pielou's evenness | Good's coverage |
|--------|----------|-----------|--------------|-------|-------|----------------|----------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| 1S     | SH       | 0.5       | 3120         | 8579  | 7851  | 5.211          | 97.59%                     | 64.76%            | 92.94%          |
| 1B     | SH       | 12.0      | 3997         | 10352 | 9031  | 5.726          | 98.02%                     | 69.05%            | 91.27%          |
| 2S     | SH       | 0.5       | 3304         | 9202  | 7724  | 5.244          | 97.81%                     | 64.72%            | 92.54%          |
| 2B     | SH       | 13.0      | 3093         | 8158  | 6941  | 5.145          | 97.38%                     | 64.02%            | 93.21%          |
| 3S     | SH       | 0.5       | 3602         | 9452  | 8086  | 5.466          | 97.66%                     | 66.75%            | 92.09%          |
| 3B     | SH       | 12.0      | 3308         | 8619  | 7950  | 5.346          | 97.42%                     | 65.96%            | 92.72%          |
| 4S     | DS       | 0.5       | 3370         | 7926  | 6777  | 5.735          | 98.89%                     | 70.60%            | 93.04%          |
| 4B     | DS       | 3.0       | 3972         | 8800  | 8011  | 6.037          | 98.96%                     | 72.85%            | 91.95%          |
| 5S     | DS       | 0.5       | 3663         | 8595  | 7906  | 5.795          | 98.54%                     | 70.62%            | 92.40%          |
| 5B     | DS       | 9.4       | 4595         | 9365  | 8880  | 6.511          | 99.31%                     | 77.21%            | 91.15%          |
| 6S     | DS       | 0.5       | 3394         | 8213  | 7328  | 5.466          | 97.92%                     | 67.24%            | 92.82%          |
| 6B     | DS       | 18.3      | 3149         | 7563  | 6943  | 5.290          | 96.97%                     | 65.68%            | 93.41%          |
| 7S     | BB       | 0.5       | 2287         | 5346  | 4819  | 4.498          | 93.57%                     | 58.14%            | 95.25%          |
| 7B     | BB       | 16.0      | 3061         | 8056  | 7321  | 5.313          | 97.95%                     | 66.19%            | 93.33%          |
| 8S     | BB       | 0.5       | 3442         | 8569  | 7792  | 5.114          | 96.07%                     | 62.80%            | 92.52%          |
| 8B     | BB       | 11.0      | 3199         | 8544  | 7631  | 5.048          | 96.80%                     | 62.55%            | 92.87%          |
| 9S     | BB       | 0.5       | 3964         | 9419  | 8612  | 5.691          | 98.17%                     | 68.69%            | 91.67%          |
| 9B     | BB       | 13.0      | 4097         | 9151  | 8074  | 5.882          | 98.44%                     | 70.71%            | 91.73%          |
| 10S    | BB       | 0.5       | 2028         | 5119  | 4435  | 4.432          | 94.75%                     | 58.20%            | 95.65%          |
| 10B    | BB       | 34.0      | 3112         | 7747  | 6668  | 5.597          | 98.44%                     | 69.58%            | 93.47%          |
| 11S    | BB       | 0.5       | 2642         | 5968  | 5131  | 5.267          | 98.21%                     | 66.85%            | 94.64%          |
| 11B    | BB       | 41.0      | 3466         | 8333  | 7514  | 5.681          | 98.23%                     | 69.70%            | 92.74%          |
| Total  | All bays |           | 19975        | 20218 | 20845 | 6.302          | 98.92%                     | 63.64%            | 99.79%          |

SH, Shenhui Bay; DS, Dongshan Bay; BB, Beibu Gulf. The OTU was defined based on 97% sequence similarity level.