# The bacterial response to phytoplankton blooms

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Buchan et al (2014) NRM



Azam 1983 Science

# Generalized response

- Bacteria increase in abundance
- Secondary production increases
- Bacterial community composition changes in a successional fashion

### Substrate-Controlled Succession of Marine Bacterioplankton Populations Induced by a Phytoplankton Bloom

### German Bight, North Sea



Teeling et al (2012) Science

#### Mesocosm experiment: Raunefjorden, **Espeland Norway** Picoeukaryotes Nanoeukaryotes 250,000 Coccolithophores/ 200,000 Cells/ml Synechococdus Bacteria (10X) 150,000 100,000 Picoeukaryotes Nanoeukaryotes 50,000 0 2 3 10 11 12 13 15 17 5 8 9 14 16 4 7 6 days

Data from Kimmance and Wilson

# biomolecular signatures

- Amplicon sequencing of taxonomic (SSU rRNA) or functionally informative genes
- 'omics approaches



Maron et al 2007 Microb Ecol; peer.tamu.edu

What do 16S rRNA gene surveys reveal about bacterial communities in blooms?

- They are diverse, but generally less so than non-bloom conditions
- Select lineages respond to bloom conditions
- They are dynamic
  - Successional changes from pre-bloom
    throughout bloom
  - Within broader phylogenetic groups, subgroups peak ("bloom") at different times during the phytoplankton bloom

#### Changes in bacterioplankton composition under different phytoplankton regimens.

Pinhassi et al (2004) Appl Environ Microb "...majority of the bacterial phylotypes identified in our study belonged to the **Roseobacter** group or the **Bacteroidetes** phylum."

### Differing growth responses of major phylogenetic groups of marine bacteria to natural phytoplankton blooms in the Western North Pacific Ocean

Tada et al (2011) Appl Environ Microb

"Roseobacter bacteria remained widespread, active, and proliferating despite large fluctuations in organic matter and chlorophyll a concentrations. The relative contribution of **Bacteroidetes** to total bacterial production was consistently high."

#### Major differences of bacterial diversity and activity inside and outside of a natural ironfertilized phytoplankton bloom in the Southern Ocean.

West et al (2008) Environ Microbiol

"In the bloom, the dominant operational taxonomic units (OTUs) were the **Roseobacter NAC11-7** cluster, SAR92 and a Cytophaga-**Flavobacteria**-Bacteroides cluster related to the agg58 group, whereas in the HNLC region, SAR11, **Roseobacter RCA** and **Polaribacter** dominated."

### Substrate-controlled succession of marine bacterioplankton populations induced by a phytoplankton bloom

Teeling et al (2012) Science

"....distinct populations of **Bacteroidetes**, **Gammaproteobacteria**, and **Alphaproteobacteria** are specialized for successive decomposition of algal-derived organic matter."

"Roseobacter"

Domain: Bacteria

Phylum: Proteobacteria

Class: Alphaproteobacteria

- Order: Rhodobacterales
- Family: Rhodobacteraceae

"Flavobacteria"

Bacteria Bacteriodetes Flavobacteriia Flaviobacteriales Flaviobacteriaceae





#### Rhodobacteraceae Flavobacteriaceae γ-Proteobacteria



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Allen et al 2012, ISME J

### Recruitment of Teeling data to Roseobacter genome HTCC 2150



#### Gulf of Mexico mesocosm bloom



% of 16S rRNA Gene Sequences

### Transcripts of specific functional gene families are more (or less) abundant during blooms



Rinta-Kanto et al (2012) EM

#### Metaproteomes



Diatom-dominated bloom

Flavobacteria

Teeling et al (2012) Science



# Moving forward with 'omics

- Missing low abundance functional traits
- Making sense of hypothetical genes/proteins
- Making sense of annotated genes/proteins
  - Deciphering the underlying interactions that give rise to system-level response
- Relating data to system level C fluxes

# General features of bloom response bacteria

### Table 1. Physiological characteristics of the model copiotroph *P. angustum* S14 and oligotroph *S. alaskensis* RB2256

Physiological characteristic	P. angustum S14	S. alaskensis RB2256
Trophic strategy	Copiotroph	Oligotroph
Growth strategy	Feast and famine	Equilibrium
Cell size	Large (>1 $\mu$ m <sup>3</sup> )	Small (<0.1 $\mu$ m <sup>3</sup> )
Maximum growth rate	>1 h <sup>-1</sup>	<0.2 h <sup>-1</sup>
Growth rate dependence on media richness	Yes	No
Starvation cross-protection to high levels of other stress inducing agents	Yes	Νο
Growing cells inherently resistant to stress inducing agents	No	Yes
Lag phase after starvation	Yes	No
rpoS-dependent reductive cell division	Yes	No
Consistent cell yield during nutrient limited growth	No	Yes

# Inferring trophic status from genome sequences

#### oligotroph



copiotroph

# Genomic features of copiotrophs

- Large genome sizes (>4Mb)
- More transporters, high specificity
- More sensory mechanisms (e.g. chemotaxis)
- Motility & adhesion
- Secondary metabolite production, excretion and detoxification
- Complex and numerous regulatory networks
- Chemical signaling

### What can we learn from model systems?



#### Roseobacter features

Buchan et al (2014) NRM



Flavobacteria strain produces protease active against diatoms



Paul and Pohnert (2011) Plos One

### The "Jekyll & Hyde" nature of roseobacterphytoplankton relationships



Reugeria sp. Phaeobacter sp. Dinoroseobacter shibae

Seyedsayamdost et al (2011) Nat Chem Bio Wang et al (2014) (Frontiers)

### Interactions with other bacteria



Cude et al 2012; 2015 AEM



Ankrah et al (2014) ISME J





Growth rates of different lysogens



Ankrah et al. 2014 Gen Ann.; Basso et al in prep

# Interaction and signalling between a cosmopolitan phytoplankton and associated bacteria

S. A. Amin<sup>1,2</sup>, L. R. Hmelo<sup>3</sup>, H. M. van Tol<sup>1</sup>, B. P. Durham<sup>4</sup>, L. T. Carlson<sup>1</sup>, K. R. Heal<sup>1</sup>, R. L. Morales<sup>1</sup>, C. T. Berthiaume<sup>1</sup>, M. S. Parker<sup>1</sup>, B. Djunaedi<sup>1</sup>, A. E. Ingalls<sup>1</sup>, M. R. Parsek<sup>3</sup>, M. A. Moran<sup>5</sup> & E. V. Armbrust<sup>1</sup> (2015) Nature

# Cryptic carbon and sulfur cycling between surface ocean plankton

Bryndan P. Durham<sup>a</sup>, Shalabh Sharma<sup>b</sup>, Haiwei Luo<sup>b</sup>, Christa B. Smith<sup>b</sup>, Shady A. Amin<sup>c</sup>, Sara J. Bender<sup>d</sup>, Stephen P. Dearth<sup>e</sup>, Benjamin A. S. Van Mooy<sup>d</sup>, Shawn R. Campagna<sup>e</sup>, Elizabeth B. Kujawinski<sup>d</sup>, E. Virginia Armbrust<sup>c</sup>, and Mary Ann Moran<sup>b,1</sup> (2015) PNAS



# Conclusions

- Specific lineages of marine bacteria respond positively to phytoplankton blooms
- "Omics field data provides evidence for niche specialization
- Lab experiments provide evidence for highly specific interactions between bacteria and phytoplankton
- Reconciling 'omics data with system level measurements

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