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### Authors

Powell, Tyler  
Sumner, Dawn Y  
Jungblut, Anne D  
et al.

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# Metagenome-assembled bacterial genomes from benthic microbial mats in ice-covered Lake Vanda, Antarctica

Tyler Powell,<sup>1,2</sup> Dawn Y. Sumner,<sup>1</sup> Anne D. Jungblut,<sup>3</sup> Ian Hawes,<sup>4</sup> Tyler Mackey,<sup>5</sup> Christen Grettenberger<sup>1,6</sup>

**AUTHOR AFFILIATIONS** See affiliation list on p. 8.

**ABSTRACT** We recovered 57 bacterial metagenome-assembled genomes (MAGs) from benthic microbial mat pinnacles from Lake Vanda, Antarctica. These MAGs provide access to genomes from polar environments and can assist in culturing and utilizing these Antarctic bacteria.

**KEYWORDS** Antarctica, microbial mat, metagenome-assembled genomes

Most microorganisms, especially extremophilic organisms cannot be cultured easily under *in vitro* laboratory conditions (1, 2). Molecular methodologies like metagenomic shotgun sequencing now provide a culture-independent method of examining extremophilic taxa and the adaptations that they have for life in these extreme environments. They provide a helpful alternative approach to answer questions about the organisms and their community when culturing attempts are unsuccessful. Here, we retrieved 57 metagenome-assembled genomes (MAGs) from microbial pinnacles that were subsampled from benthic mats that grew on the floor of the perennially ice-covered Lake Vanda, Antarctica.

Samples were collected as described previously (3). Briefly, scientific divers sampled microbial mat pinnacles in Lake Vanda in the McMurdo Dry Valleys, Antarctica (–77.529, 161.578) between 8th and 18th December 2013. Microbial mats were subsampled based on color into photosynthetically active green (G) or purple (P) areas and aphotic beige (IB) areas within pinnacles (4). DNA was extracted in the field from multiple green, purple, and inner beige samples and one un-subsampled “bulk mat” sample. DNA was extracted using the Zymo Soil/Fecal miniprep kit (Zymo Research, USA). Libraries were prepared using the KAPA HyperPrep kit (KAPA Biosystems, USA) and DNA was sequenced using the Illumina HiSeq-2500 1TB platform with 2 × 151 bp paired-end sequencing and quality controlled using the standard Joint Genome Institute protocol as described previously (3). Briefly, reads with four or more “N” bases with average quality less than three or minimum length ≤51 bp or 33% of the full read length and those with 93% identity to masked human, dog, cat, mouse, and common contaminants were removed using BBDuk (version 37.36) within BBTools (5). Metagenomes were assembled using MEGAHIT v1.9.6 with a minimum contig length of 1500 (6). Reads were mapped to the assembly using Bowtie2 v1.2.2 and samtools v1.7 (7, 8). A depth file was generated using the `jgi_summarize_bam_contig_depths` command in MetaBAT v2.12.1 (9). Bins were generated using metaBAT using a minimum contig size of 2,500 bp. The completeness and contamination of the bins were calculated using CheckM v1.0.7 (10). Bins > 90% complete with less than 5% contamination were retained. Average nucleotide identity (ANI) between bins was calculated using the `anvi-compute-genome-similarity` command in Anvi’o v6.2 using fastANI (11, 12). Bins sharing >98% ANI was considered to be the same taxon and the bin with the highest completeness was selected as the representative MAG for that taxon. Representative MAGs were classified using GTDB-tk v1.7.0 (13). Previously published MAGs were removed (3, 14, 15). Genome coverage was calculated

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Address correspondence to Christen Grettenberger, [clgrett@ucdavis.edu](mailto:clgrett@ucdavis.edu).

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TABLE 1 Summary of metagenome statistics and MAG properties<sup>a</sup>

Site	Metagenome statistics				Genome statistics										
	Accession	Raw read pairs (millions)	Quality controlled read pairs (millions)	Contigs N50	Accession	Genome name	Classification	Total length (Mb)	GC (%)	Contigs	Completeness (%)	Contamination (%)	Coverage (x)	Protein-encoding genes (total)	
Bulk Mat	<a href="#">SRX3539175</a>	208	207	179,859	4156	<a href="#">SAMN38186868</a>	BulkMat.140	Bacteria; Bacteroidota; Bacteroidia; Chitinophagales; Saprospiraceae; JABWAJ01	5.56	49.33	409	97.78	1.01	50.0	4,494
						<a href="#">SAMN38186869</a>	BulkMat.37	Bacteria; Pseudomonadota; Alphaproteobacteria; Caulobacterales; TH1-2; Terricaulis	3.7	62.78	136	98.62	1.54	23.1	3,852
						<a href="#">SAMN38186870</a>	BulkMat.75	Bacteria; Zixibacteria; MSB-5A5; GN15; FEB-12; JACRAV01	2.7	48.5	82	98.84	0	44.0	2,246
						<a href="#">SAMN38186871</a>	BulkMat.82	Bacteria; Chloroflexota; Anaerolineae; Aggregatilineales; A4b; GCA-2794515	3.9	47.52	509	96.18	1.82	15.4	3,595
MP5G1	<a href="#">SRX3539176</a>	95	94	213,763	4255	<a href="#">SAMN38186872</a>	MP5G1.132	Bacteria; Bacteroidota; Bacteroidia; Chitinophagales; Saprospiraceae; JABWAJ01	5.76	49.38	437	97.78	2.27	24.6	4,673
						<a href="#">SAMN38186873</a>	MP5G1.138	Bacteria; Spirochaetota; Leptospirae; Leptosirales; Leptosiraceae; Leptospira_A	4.11	35.7	37	100	0	44.6	3,834
						<a href="#">SAMN38186874</a>	MP5G1.179	Bacteria; Chloroflexota; Chloroflexia;	6.13	54.9	757	95.91	1.89	12.1	5,489
						<a href="#">SAMN38186875</a>	MP5G1.50	Chloroflexales; Roseiflexaceae Bacteria; Bacteroidota; Bacteroidia; AKYH767; B-17B0; UBA2475	3.53	36.14	190	97.44	2.66	28.9	3,021
MP5IB2	<a href="#">SRX3539179</a>	103	102	217,012	4652	<a href="#">SAMN38186876</a>	MP5IB2.11	Bacteria; Bdellovibrionota; Bdellovibrionia; JABDDW01; JABDDW01	3	39.57	70	95.48	2.68	17.6	2,935
						<a href="#">SAMN38186877</a>	MP5IB2.114	Bacteria; Bacteroidota; Bacteroidia; NS11-12g; SHWZ01	3.5	36.82	205	96.43	0.63	20.4	2,970

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TABLE 1 Summary of metagenome statistics and MAG properties<sup>a</sup> (Continued)

Site	Metagenome statistics			Genome statistics											
	Accession	Raw read pairs (millions)	Quality controlled read pairs (millions)	Contigs	N50	Accession	Genome name	Classification	Total length (Mb)	GC (%)	Contigs	Completeness (%)	Contamination (%)	Coverage (x)	Protein-encoding genes (total)
						<a href="#">SAMN38186878</a>	MP5IB2.151	Bacteria; Planctomycetia; Pirellulales;	4.77	56.21	204	97.63	0	42.4	4,053
						<a href="#">SAMN38186879</a>	MP5IB2.172	Lacipirellulaceae; Bythopirellula	3.92	44.25	298	95.42	0.41	18.5	3,141
						<a href="#">SAMN38186880</a>	MP5IB2.194	Bacteria; Bacteroidota; Bacteroidia; Chitinophagales; Saprospiraceae; JADKGY01	5.14	62.43	304	95.9	2.19	21.4	4,229
						<a href="#">SAMN38186881</a>	MP5IB2.201	Bacteria; Bacteroidota; Rhodothermiales; Rhodothermiales; Bdellovibrionota; Bdellovibrionales; Bdellovibrionales; SG-bin7	3.26	42.33	111	99	1.79	17.7	3,273
						<a href="#">SAMN38186882</a>	MP5IB2.37	Bacteria; Bacteroidota; Bacteroidia; NS11-12g; UKL13-3; B1	3.59	37.51	149	95.24	1.59	23.9	3,020
						<a href="#">SAMN38186883</a>	MP5IB2.67	Bacteria; Gemmatimonadota; Gemmatimonadales; Gemmatimonadales; GWC2-71-9; SZUA-320	3.29	67.18	419	95.6	2.2	27.9	3,077
						<a href="#">SAMN38186884</a>	MP5IB2.78	Bacteria; Planctomycetota; Planctomycetota; Planctomycetota; Planctomycetaceae; DSVQ01	7.43	63.99	717	95.51	1.23	15.0	6,251
MP6G1	<a href="#">SRX3539172</a>	101	100	223,185	4583	<a href="#">SAMN38186885</a>	MP6G1.103	Bacteria; Chloroflexota; Anaerolineae; Aggregatilineales; A4b; OLB15	5.21	59.04	383	98.18	0.91	25.8	4,619
						<a href="#">SAMN38186886</a>	MP6G1.12	Bacteria; Planctomycetota; Phycisphaerae; Phycisphaerales; SM1A02; JAEUIT01	4.3	64.28	281	95.8	2.84	20.6	3,691
						<a href="#">SAMN38186887</a>	MP6G1.168	Bacteria;	4.44	61.39	335	97.27	0	28.5	4,031

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TABLE 1 Summary of metagenome statistics and MAG properties<sup>a</sup> (Continued)

Site	Metagenome statistics			Genome statistics											
	Accession	Raw read pairs (millions)	Quality controlled read pairs (millions)	Contigs	N50	Accession	Genome name	Classification	Total length (Mb)	GC (%)	Contigs	Completeness (%)	Contamination (%)	Coverage (x)	Protein-encoding genes (total)
								Chloroflexota; Anaerolineae; Aggregatilineales; A4b; OLB15	5.23	59.6	389	95.81	1.31	19.8	4,590
						<a href="#">SAMN38186888</a>	MP6G1.198	Bacteria; Myxococcota; Polyanglia; Palsa-1104_A	3.7	41.41	269	95.61	0	16.1	2,907
						<a href="#">SAMN38186889</a>	MP6G1.94	Bacteria; Bacteroidota; Bacteroidia; Flavobacteriales; UA16	3.61	37.22	262	95.36	1.09	31.4	3,123
MP6IB1	<a href="#">SRX353917Z</a>	101	100	182,767	5165	<a href="#">SAMN38186890</a>	MP6IB1.110	Bacteria; Bacteroidota; Ignavibacteria; SJA-28; B-1AR	4.75	42.75	325	95.17	0.99	23.7	3,981
						<a href="#">SAMN38186891</a>	MP6IB1.118	Bacteria; Bacteroidota; Bacteroidia; Chitinophagales; Saprospiraceae; JADJLQ01	3.61	64.33	253	97.65	2.03	40.7	3,409
						<a href="#">SAMN38186892</a>	MP6IB1.130	Bacteria; Pseudomonadales; Alphaproteobacteria; Caulobacterales; Hyphomondaceae; UBA7672	3.76	63.88	143	98.91	0.82	30.5	3,523
						<a href="#">SAMN38186893</a>	MP6IB1.145	Bacteria; Proteobacteria; Alphaproteobacteria; Dongiales; Rhodospirillaceae	3.46	50.16	52	99.45	0.55	18.2	3,064
						<a href="#">SAMN38186894</a>	MP6IB1.15	Bacteria; Bacteroidota; Bacteroidia; Cytophagales; Cyclobacteriaceae; ELB16-189	4.04	54.27	175	97.83	2.76	16.6	3,703
						<a href="#">SAMN38186895</a>	MP6IB1.21	Bacteria; Pseudomonadota; Gammaproteobacteria; Lysoobacteriales; SZUA-36; SHZL01	2.76	48.16	132	95.95	1.38	16.0	2,590
						<a href="#">SAMN38186896</a>	MP6IB1.62	Bacteria; Verrucomicrobiota; Verrucomicrobia	3.53	58.5	234	96.35	0	41.9	3,561
						<a href="#">SAMN38186897</a>	MP6IB1.66	Bacteria; Proteobacteria; Alphaproteobacteria;							

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TABLE 1 Summary of metagenome statistics and MAG properties<sup>a</sup> (Continued)

Site	Metagenome statistics			Genome statistics											
	Accession	Raw read pairs (millions)	Quality controlled read pairs (millions)	Contigs	N50	Accession	Genome name	Classification	Total length (Mb)	GC (%)	Contigs	Completeness (%)	Contamination (%)	Coverage (x)	Protein-encoding genes (total)
								Micropepsales; Micropepsaceae; SZUA-430							
						<a href="#">SAMN38186898</a>	MP6 B1.68	Bacteria; Planctomycetota; Planctomycetia;	7.29	61.18	534	93.79	4.44	16.2	5,962
						<a href="#">SAMN38186899</a>	MP6 B1.8	Pirellulales; JAEUIK01 Bacteria; Nitrospirota; Nitrospiria; Nitrospirales; Nitrospiraceae;	2.85	56.68	133	96.76	3.41	111.3	2,896
						<a href="#">SAMN38186900</a>	MP6 B1.81	Palsa-1315 Bacteria;	3.04	50.5	71	95.9	1.09	20.3	2,514
						<a href="#">SAMN38186901</a>	MP6 B1.97	Bacteroidota; Kapabacteria; Kapabacteriales; Kapabacteriaceae;							
						<a href="#">SAMN38186902</a>	MP7G1.125	Uba2333 Bacteria; Proteobacteria;	3.33	65.96	240	95.94	1.49	20.3	3,382
						<a href="#">SAMN38186903</a>	MP7G1.130	Alphaproteobacteria; Caulobacteriales; TH1-2; VFBF01							
MP7G1	<a href="#">SRX3539171</a>	107	106	219,283	4526	<a href="#">SAMN38186902</a>	MP7G1.125	Bacteria;	2.96	37.52	483	96.14	3.3	12.4	2,731
						<a href="#">SAMN38186904</a>	MP7G1.139	Bdellovibrionota_C; UBA2361;							
						<a href="#">SAMN38186905</a>	MP7G1.168	UBA2361 Bacteria; Planctomycetota; UBA1135; UBA1135;	4.49	64	287	97.85	4.48	26.6	3,736
						<a href="#">SAMN38186906</a>	MP7G1.59	GCA-002686595; JAEUIA01 Bacteria; Nitrospirota; Nitrospiria; Nitrospirales;	4.32	56.62	282	95.91	3.01	41.7	4,447
						<a href="#">SAMN38186905</a>	MP7G1.168	Nitrospiraceae; Palsa-1315 Bacteria;	2.4	47.45	74	97.3	1.69	17.4	2,307
						<a href="#">SAMN38186906</a>	MP7G1.59	Verrucomicrobiota; Verrucomicrobia; Methylacidiphilales; JAAUTS01; JAAUTS01 Bacteria;	4.17	67.42	403	97.8	4.44	17.8	3,870

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TABLE 1 Summary of metagenome statistics and MAG properties<sup>a</sup> (Continued)

Site	Metagenome statistics				Genome statistics										
	Accession	Raw read pairs (millions)	Quality controlled read pairs (millions)	Contigs N50	Accession	Genome name	Classification	Total length (Mb)	GC (%)	Contigs	Completeness (%)	Contamination (%)	Coverage (x)	Protein-encoding genes (total)	
MP8B2	<a href="#">SRX3539178</a>	94	92	205,304	4796	<a href="#">SAMN38186907</a>	MP8B2.145	Bacteria; Proteobacteria; Alphaproteobacteria; Micropepsales; Micropepsaceae; SZUA-430	5.07	63.43	186	99.78	1.74	30.5	4,930
						<a href="#">SAMN38186908</a>	MP8B2.79	Bacteria; Candidatus Eisenbacteria; RBG-16-71-46; JABDJR01	3.96	62.82	264	95.6	3.3	39.5	3,429
MP9P1	<a href="#">SRX3539181</a>	116	115	200,348	4604	<a href="#">SAMN38186909</a>	MP9P1.103	Bacteria; Cyanobacteria; Vampirovirionia; Obscuribacteriales; Obscuribacteraceae	8.13	50.27	283	95.73	3.99	24.5	6,547
						<a href="#">SAMN38186910</a>	MP9P1.11	Bacteria; Bacteroidota; Bacteroidia;	4.53	44.3	137	96.55	0.33	40.0	3,885
						<a href="#">SAMN38186911</a>	MP9P1.153	Chitinophagales; CAIOSU01	4.28	62.58	288	96.21	0.57	32.7	3,735
						<a href="#">SAMN38186912</a>	MP9P1.20	Bacteria; Planctomycetota; Phycisphaerae; Phycisphaerales; SM1A02; JAEUT01	2.98	47.26	138	97.26	1.35	17.3	2,763
						<a href="#">SAMN38186913</a>	MP9P1.49	Bacteria; Verrucomicrobiota; Verrucomicrobiia	3.11	57.39	84	98.59	0.4	35.7	3,115
P2IB	<a href="#">SRX3539180</a>	98	97	198,359	5291	<a href="#">SAMN38186914</a>	P2IB.100	Bacteria; Pseudomonadota; Alphaproteobacteria; Hyphomicrobiales; Rhodomicrobiaceae	2.48	35.43	128	98.09	0	19.9	2,130
						<a href="#">SAMN38186915</a>	P2IB.100	Bacteria; Pseudomonadota; Gammaproteobacteria; Lysobacterales; Ahniellaceae; 0-14-3-00-62-12	4.41	60.13	352	95.64	1.98	63.2	3,779
						<a href="#">SAMN38186916</a>	P2IB.134	Bacteria; Planctomycetota; Planctomycetia;	5.43	55.33	599	95.59	4.18	11.1	4,619

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using coverM (<https://github.com/wwood/CoverM>) and genomes were annotated using the NCBI Prokaryotic Genome Annotation Pipeline (16). Default parameters were used unless otherwise noted.

Metagenomes contained 177–229 million reads which assembled into 179,000–223,000 contigs (Table 1). We retrieved 57 MAGs from 20 bacterial phyla. The median contig number for MAGs was 264. The average size and GC content were 4.296 Mb and 52.828%, respectively. Average completeness was 96.41% and contamination was 1.38%. Coverage ranged from 11.1× to 111.3×. There were 2,130–6,778 protein-encoding genes (Table 1).

These Antarctic MAGs help to remove barriers to researchers interested in the Antarctic by expanding the catalog of Antarctic bacterial genomes. They provide information that can be used to inform culturing efforts and be used in parallel with *in vitro* studies to understand how these organisms adapt to their extreme environment and may respond to ongoing climate change.

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### AUTHOR AFFILIATIONS

<sup>1</sup>Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences, University of California, Davis, USA

<sup>2</sup>Microbiology Graduate Group, University of California, Davis, USA

<sup>3</sup>Department of Sciences, The Natural History Museum, London, United Kingdom

<sup>4</sup>Coastal Marine Field Station, University of Waikato, Tauranga, New Zealand

<sup>5</sup>Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, New Mexico, USA

<sup>6</sup>Department of Environmental Toxicology, University of California, Davis, USA

### AUTHOR ORCIDs

Dawn Y. Sumner  <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-7343-2061>

Christen Grettenberger  <http://orcid.org/0000-0002-6323-5179>

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## AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

Tyler Powell, Data curation, Formal analysis, Methodology, Writing – original draft, Writing – review and editing | Dawn Y. Sumner, Conceptualization, Funding acquisition, Investigation, Methodology, Project administration, Resources, Supervision, Writing – original draft, Writing – review and editing | Anne D. Jungblut, Conceptualization, Funding acquisition, Investigation, Methodology, Project administration, Resources, Writing – review and editing | Ian Hawes, Conceptualization, Funding acquisition, Investigation, Methodology, Project administration, Resources, Writing – review and editing | Tyler Mackey, Data curation, Investigation, Methodology, Writing – review and editing | Christen Grettenberger, Conceptualization, Data curation, Formal analysis, Funding acquisition, Methodology, Project administration, Resources, Supervision, Writing – original draft, Writing – review and editing

## DATA AVAILABILITY

Quality-controlled reads are available in the NCBI Sequence Read Archive under accession numbers [SRR6448204–SRR6448219](https://doi.org/10.1101/2022.10.27.514113). Draft genomes are available under Genbank accession numbers [JAWXAL01–JAWXCP01](https://doi.org/10.1101/2022.10.27.514113). Raw reads are available in IMG under project number [Gs0127369](https://doi.org/10.1101/2022.10.27.514113).

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