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*Research article*

## Bacterial biofilm development during experimental degradation of *Melicertus kerathurus* exoskeleton in seawater

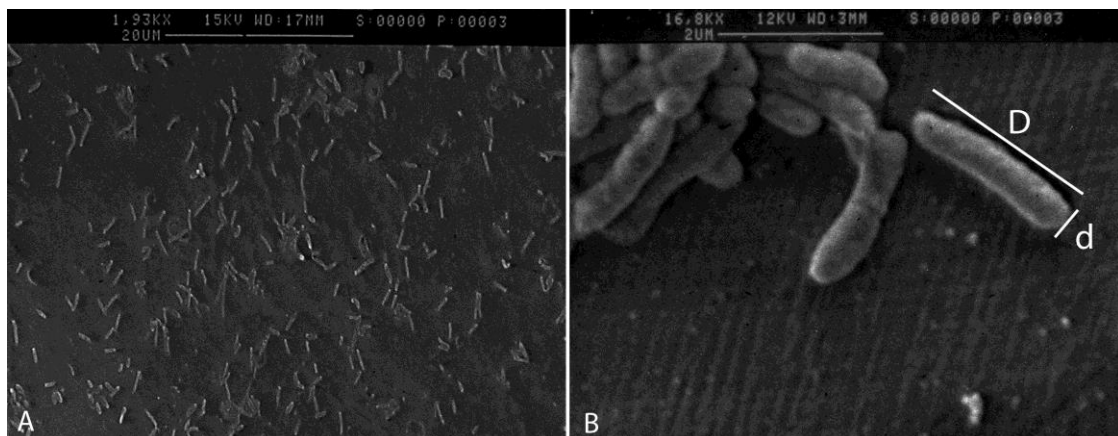
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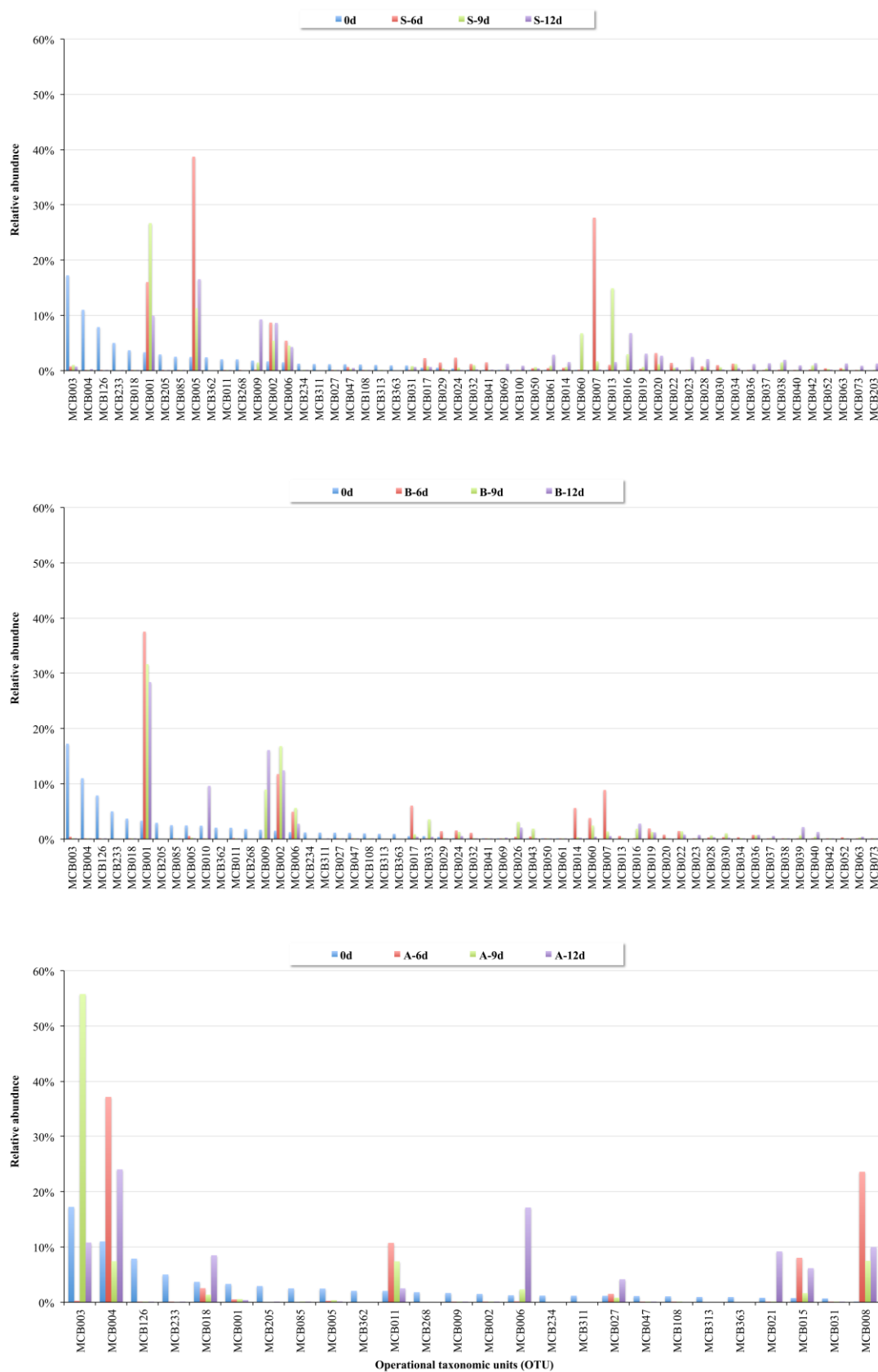
\* **Correspondence:** Email: [kkormas@uth.gr](mailto:kkormas@uth.gr), [kkormas@gmail.com](mailto:kkormas@gmail.com); Tel: +302421093082; Fax: +302421093157.

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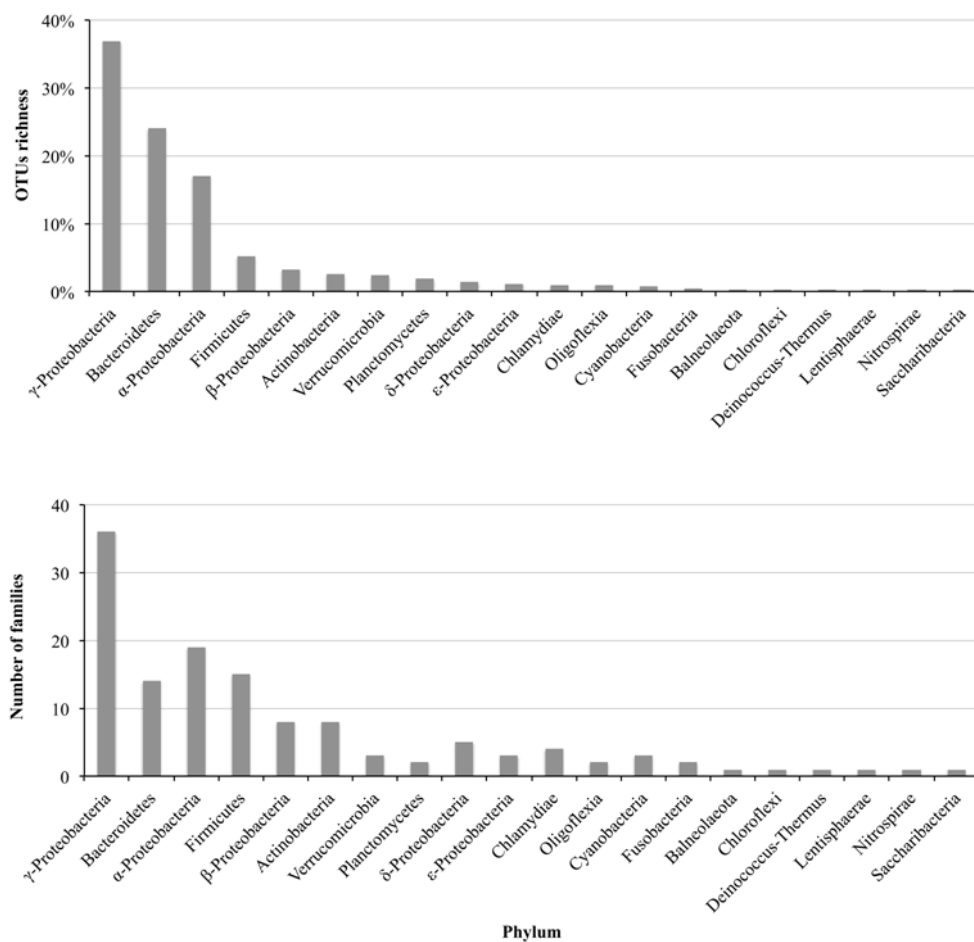
### Supplementary



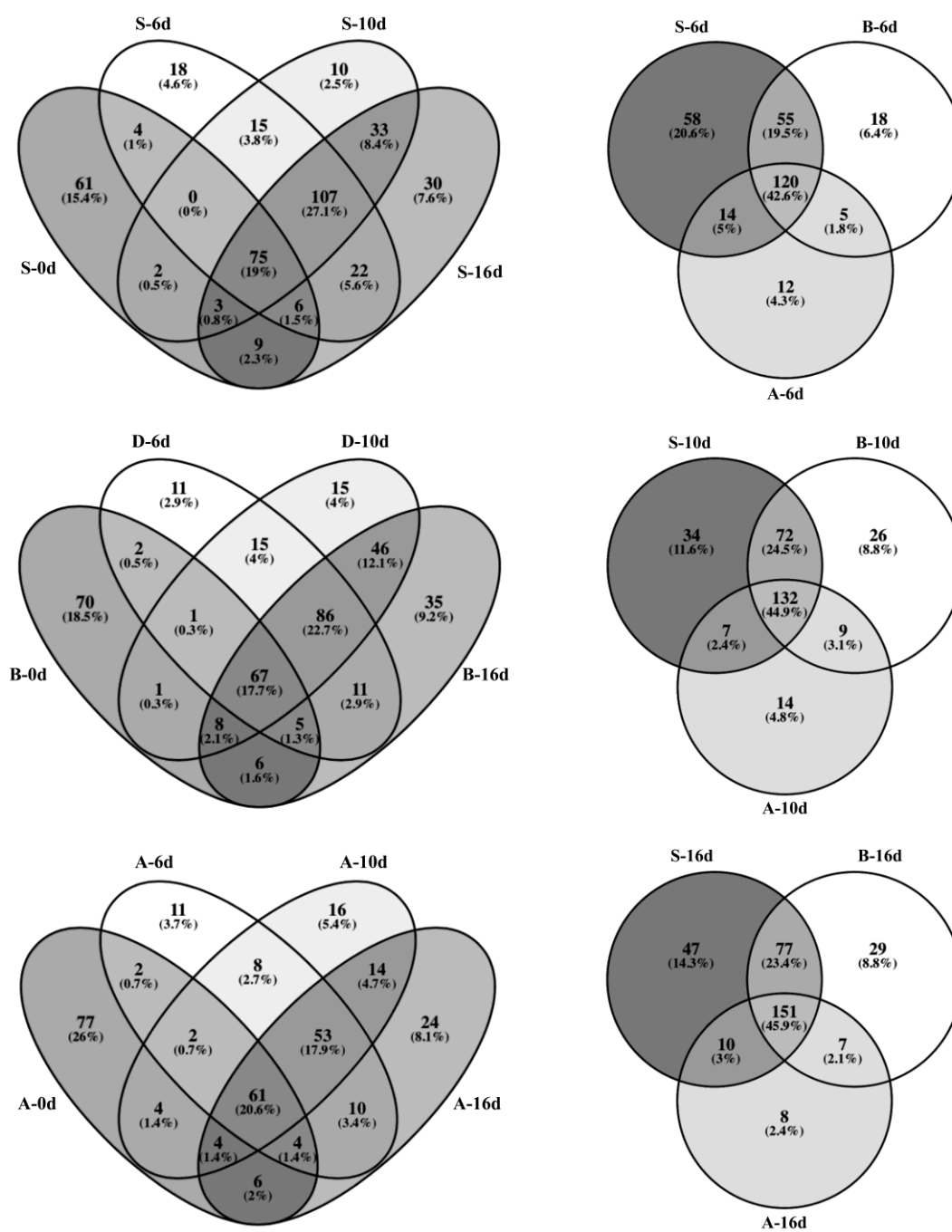
**Figure S1.** (A): Attached bacteria on the exoskeleton of *Melicertus kerathurus* at 0 days; (B): measurements of the long; (D) and small; (d) axis of the bacterial cells.



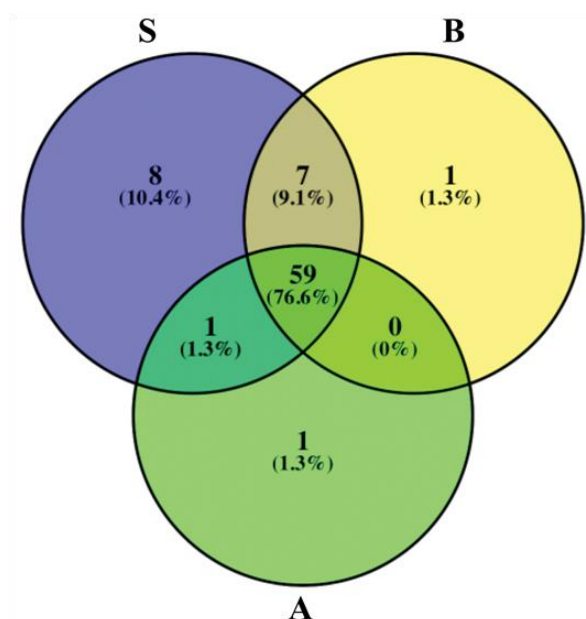
**Figure S2.** Operational taxonomic units with up to 75% cumulative relative abundance in the sterile (S), bacteria-only (B) and artificial (A) seawater containing treatments. d: Days.



**Figure S3.** Higher bacterial taxa of the operational taxonomic units found in the sterile (S), bacteria-only (B) and artificial (A) seawater containing treatments.



**Figure S4.** Venn diagrams of the shared and unique operational taxonomic units per treatment (left panel) and per day (right panel). S: sterile; B: bacteria-only; and A: artificial seawater containing treatments. d: Days.



**Figure S5.** Venn diagram of all the operational taxonomic units shared among treatments in the sterile (S), bacteria-only (B) and artificial (A) seawater containing treatments. d: Days.

**Table S1.** 16S rRNA gene copy number from the *rrnDB*\* (<https://rrnodb.umms.med.umich.edu>) and Microbial Genomes (<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/genome/microbes/>). Accessed on 01 March 2018.

Taxon	No. of genomes	Average no. of 16S rDNA copies	Standard deviation
<i>Alteromonas macleodii</i>	6	5	0
<i>Colwellia</i> spp.	6	7	1.4
<i>Halomonas</i> spp.	10	4.7	1.6
<i>Pseudoalteromonas</i> spp.	24	8.8	1.6
<i>Reinekea</i> spp.	1	5	-
<i>Ruegeria</i> spp.	3	4	0.8
<i>Vibrio</i> spp.	122	10.1	1.9

\*Stoddard S.F, Smith B.J., Hein R., Roller B.R.K. and Schmidt T.M. (2015) *rrnDB*: Improved tools for interpreting rRNA gene abundance in bacteria and archaea and a new foundation for future development. *Nucleic Acids Research* 2014; doi: 10.1093/nar/gku1201.



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