

## Biodiversity and dynamics of the bacterial community of packaged king scallop (*Pecten maximus*) meat during cold storage

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### Abstract:

The microbial biodiversity and dynamics of king scallops meat and coral during cold storage (cold chain rupture: 1/3 storage time at 4 °C followed by 2/3 at 8 °C), was assessed by combining culture-dependant and -independent methods. Products were packaged as follows: aerobic, vacuum packed and 3 different CO<sub>2</sub>/N<sub>2</sub> modified atmospheres and the impact of these conditions on the microbial communities was assessed. Results indicated that under air (current packaging condition), the dominant species corresponded to *Brochothrix thermosphacta*, *Pseudomonas* spp. and *Shewanella* spp. These species have regularly been associated in the literature with food (especially seafood), and product spoilage. *Moellerella wisconsensis* was the only species detected on VRBG medium, however, its impact on the food product is unclear. Packaging conditions influenced the ecosystem equilibrium and biodiversity. Except for day 8, the lowest counts for all studied flora were observed for modified atmosphere packaging (MAP) containing >80% CO<sub>2</sub>. Moreover, in these conditions, higher biodiversity by Temporal Temperature Gradient Gel Electrophoresis (TTGE) and the non-detection of specific flora (i.e. *Pseudoalteromonas haloplanktis*) were observed. At day 8, scallops packaged using these conditions were still acceptable from a sensorial point of view (odour), although the initial load of the king scallop was high (total psychrotrophic flora reached 5.5 log CFU/g).

### Highlights

► High microbial biodiversity associated with king scallops during storage (at least 26 species). ► Impact of MAP on flora equilibrium especially at high CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations. ► At day 8, scallops packaged with high CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations were still acceptable from a sensorial point of view.

**Keywords:** King scallop ; Microbial biodiversity ; Modified atmosphere packaging (MAP) ; TTGE

## 46 1. Introduction

47 The king scallop *Pecten maximus* is a valuable bivalve mollusc as it is a highly  
48 appreciated food product, especially in France (“coquilles Saint-Jacques”). France produces  
49 around 25 000 tons of king scallops per year (FAO, 2006), a significant portion originate from  
50 the Normandy region. A large quantity of scallops is also imported to France and mainly  
51 originates from Scotland and North America (*Pecten maximus* and *Placopecten magellanicus*,  
52 respectively). In the context of new food consumption habits, in particular, ready-to-eat foods,  
53 a larger proportion of this bivalve mollusc production is sold shelled. King scallop meat is  
54 sold either frozen or fresh. As for other seafood products, shelf-life during cold storage is  
55 limited; thus, the study of alternative packaging or storage conditions is important.

56 Like other seafood products, scallop quality during packaging and storage is  
57 associated with biochemical and sensorial changes that are mainly affected by storage  
58 temperature (Ehira and Uchiyama, 1987; Kawashima and Yamanaka, 1992) and the  
59 development of microbial flora that can lead to spoilage (Ocaño-Higuera et al., 2006). Several  
60 methods have been used to evaluate the freshness of fish and shellfish. These methods are  
61 based on measuring chemical, physical and microbiological changes (Luong et al., 1991;  
62 Ohashi, 1991; Olafsdottir et al., 1997). The main indices used in relation to fish spoilage  
63 (Botta, 1995; Hebbard et al., 1982) correspond to trimethylamine nitrogen (TMA) and total  
64 volatile basic nitrogen (TVBN), as well as sensory changes; however, there is very limited  
65 data based on the changes observed during mollusc’s spoilage and especially king scallops.  
66 Indeed, studies have rather been carried out on alterations of closely related species including  
67 sea scallops (*Placopecten magellanicus*) (Hilts and Dyer, 1970), queen scallops (*Chlamys*  
68 *opercularis*) (Thomson et al., 1974), yesso scallops (*Patinopecten yessoensis*) (Kawashima  
69 and Yamanaka, 1992) and lion-paw scallops (*Nodipecten subnodosus*) (Ocaño-Higuera et al.,  
70 2006) or have been based on the characterization of bacterial communities during the early

71 life stages of scallops that may have an impact on the survival of bivalve larvae (Lane et al.,  
72 1985; Nicolas et al., 1996; Sandaa et al., 2003; Torkildesen et al., 2005).

73 Studies based on the impact of packaging conditions on bivalve mollusc spoilage  
74 during cold storage are rare. Ruiz-Capillas et al. (2001) compared the biochemical and  
75 sensory changes of frozen king scallops that were thawed and stored at 4° C in melting ice to  
76 samples wrapped in aluminium foil and cling film. Only few differences were observed  
77 between aluminium foil and cling film while the levels TMA and TVBN were low due to the  
78 leaching effect of the ice meltwater. Kimura et al. (2000) showed that storage at 5°C of  
79 scallop adductor muscle packaged under air or various O<sub>2</sub> and CO<sub>2</sub> atmospheres ranging from  
80 20 to 40% had an impact on the bacteria found in the samples (inhibition from 20% CO<sub>2</sub>) and  
81 that 100% O<sub>2</sub> allowed to prolong the shelf life by nearly two days in comparison to aerobic  
82 conditions.

83 Finally, the microflora associated with king scallops and their respective spoilage  
84 potential as well as the impact of packaging on the microbial diversity is not well  
85 documented. Thomson et al. (1974) indicated that the spoilage flora of the queen scallop  
86 (*Chlamys opercularis*) was similar to spoilage flora found in fish. While Llanos et al. (2002)  
87 showed that in the Peruvian scallop (*Argopecten purpuratus*), the initial flora was associated  
88 with culture conditions, farming localization and the feed used. Moreover, this flora would  
89 have a direct impact on spoilage. Bremner and Statham (1983) showed that *Vibrio* spp. were  
90 the dominant flora and persisted in vacuum packed *Pecten alba* scallops.

91 This study aimed at evaluating the microbial diversity of French king scallops meat  
92 and coral during cold storage and the impact of various packaging conditions on the bacterial  
93 ecosystem. The different modified atmosphere conditions were selected to test for their  
94 potential inhibiting properties towards spoilage bacteria at temperatures encountered by the  
95 consumer during food storage. Indeed, practical industrial studies tend to suggest that TVBN

96 content is lower in CO<sub>2</sub> rich environments for some seafood products. Both microbiological  
97 and molecular tools were used to follow and identify the bacterial communities during cold  
98 storage. To our knowledge, this is the first study on the bacterial community of king scallops  
99 using microbial and molecular tools.

100

## 101 **2. Materials and Methods**

102

### 103 *2.1 Sample preparation and bacterial enumerations*

104 King scallops (*Pecten maximus*) harvested in the Basse-Normandie region were  
105 obtained just after shelling (meat and coral) on ice. They were then placed into trays (6 King  
106 scallop meats with coral per tray) and packaged under different conditions using a Multivac  
107 Galaxy TS 355 semi-automatic tray sealer (Multivac, France) with 150µm thick polyethylene  
108 film. A total of 5 different modified atmosphere packaging conditions were tested for each  
109 sampling date (day D1, D4, D6 and D8) and corresponded to air conditions, vacuum packed  
110 and three different modified atmospheres (50% CO<sub>2</sub> / 50% N<sub>2</sub>, 80% CO<sub>2</sub> / 20% N<sub>2</sub>, 100%  
111 CO<sub>2</sub>). A 3:1 ratio of modified atmosphere to scallops was obtained in the sealed trays. The  
112 different modified atmosphere conditions were selected to test for their potential inhibiting  
113 properties towards spoilage bacteria at temperatures encountered by the consumer during food  
114 storage.

115 A cold chain rupture, 1/3 storage time at 4°C and 2/3 at 8°C, was applied to each  
116 sample to mimic conditions encountered by the consumer during cold storage according to the  
117 guidelines given for best before date determinations (Norme NF V01-003). Microbial  
118 sampling was performed in triplicate. For each sampling date and packaging condition, the 6  
119 King scallop meats per tray were separated into 3 samples (2 meats and coral) to obtain 3  
120 sample repetitions. Then, for each repetition, 2.5 g of each meat and 2.5 g of each coral,

121 corresponding to 10 g in total per repetition, were placed in a sterile stomacher bag and  
122 homogenized for 2 min in 90 ml tryptone salt buffer using a stomacher (AES laboratories,  
123 France). In order to numerate total aerobic flora, homogenates were serially diluted and plated  
124 on modified Long and Hammer's medium (van Spreekens, 1974), then, incubated for 5 days  
125 at 15°C. For enterobacteria, serial dilutions were plated onto Violet Red Bile Glucose  
126 (VRBG) agar (AES, France) and incubated for 48h at 30°C. *Pseudomonas* spp., were plated  
127 and enumerated on Cephalosporine Fucidine Cetrimide (CFC) medium (AES, France), lactic  
128 acid bacteria (LAB) on De Man Rogosa Sharpe (MRS, pH 6.4) (AES, France), *Brochothrix*  
129 *thermosphacta* colonies were enumerated on Streptomycin Thallous Acetate Actidione  
130 (STAA) agar (Oxoid, France) and H<sub>2</sub>S producing bacteria on Iron Agar (IA) (tryptone 20 g/L,  
131 NaCl 5 g/L, beef extract 3 g/L, yeast extract 3 g/L, ferric citrate 0.3 g/L, sodium thiosulfate  
132 0.3 g/L and agar 12 g/L). CFC, MRS, STAA and IA plates were incubated at 25°C for 48 h, 5  
133 days, 48 h and 72 h, respectively. For each Petri dish containing  $n < 300$  and at each sampling  
134 date, the square root of the total number of colonies were selected according to  
135 morphological, microscopic and biochemical aspects (sampling was performed according to  
136 morphotypes, Gram-staining, catalase and oxidase testing to ensure proper species  
137 representation). Overall, 311 isolates were selected for further study using molecular tools. In  
138 parallel, the king scallop homogenates used for microbiological analyses were filtered on  
139 Minisart 5 µm filters (Sartorius, France) and kept frozen at -20°C for latter use in Temporal  
140 Temperature Gel Electrophoresis (TTGE) analyses. Indeed, previous studies performed by  
141 our laboratory have shown that there is no impact on TTGE results after freezing samples at -  
142 20°C (data not shown).

143

144 2.2. Culture conditions

145 All representative strains were cultivated in tryptic soy broth (TSB, AES,)  
146 supplemented with 2.5g/l yeast extract (TSBYE) except LAB which were cultivated in MRS  
147 broth (AES, France). All isolates, except LAB, were incubated at 25°C for 24 h under  
148 agitation. LAB were incubated at 30°C for 24-48 h. Strains were finally conserved in  
149 cryotubes with 30% v/v glycerol at -80°C.

150

### 151 *2.3 Isolate M13-PCR grouping and identification*

#### 152 *2.3.1 Preparation of template DNA*

153 DNA was extracted from bacterial cultures grown to stationary phase using 1 ml of  
154 culture with the NucleoSpin Tissue Kit (Macherey Nagel, France) according to the  
155 manufacturer's instructions for bacteria. Purified DNA samples were stored at -20°C.

156

#### 157 *2.3.2. PCR amplification*

158 For strain grouping, genetic profiles were generated for each isolate as described by  
159 Guinebretière and Nguyen-The (2003). Briefly, 1 µl purified DNA (~50 ng) was used for each  
160 reaction in the presence of 2.0 µM M13 primer (5'-GAGGGTGGCGGCTCT-3'), 400 µM  
161 dNTP in the presence of 1.25U *Taq* polymerase (5 PRIME, Germany). Amplification  
162 conditions were as follows: 95°C 5 min, 45 cycles of 95°C 1 min, 36°C 1 min, 72°C 4 min.

163 For strain identification, amplification and sequencing of a 1533bp 16S rRNA gene  
164 fragment was carried out using the universal primers BSF8 and BSR1541 (Edwards et al.,  
165 1989) in the presence of ~50 ng DNA, 0.2 µM each primer, 1.5 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>, 200 µM dNTPs  
166 and 1U *Taq* polymerase (Invitrogen, France). Amplification conditions were 94°C for 5 min,  
167 30 cycles of 94°C for 45 sec, 59.5°C for 45 sec, 72°C for 2 min with a final extension at 72°C  
168 for 5 min. All PCR were performed in a Master Gradient thermocycler (Eppendorf, France).

169

170 *2.3.3. Gel electrophoresis*

171 Aliquots (9 µl for M13 PCR products and 18 µl for 16S rDNA fragments) of each  
172 PCR sample were analyzed using 1.2% (M13-RAPD experiments) or 0.8% (16S rDNA  
173 experiments) (wt/vol) agarose gels (Invitrogen, France) in 1X TBE buffer at 130 V for 50 min  
174 then visualized with ethidium bromide staining using a GelDoc2000 (BioRad, France).

175

176 *2.3.4. Genetic profile clustering and sequence analysis*

177 M13-PCR genetic banding patterns were analyzed using Quantity One software  
178 (BioRad, France) and BioNumerics fingerprinting software version 5.1 (Applied Maths,  
179 Belgium). For sequencing, 16S rDNA amplicons (1533bp) were purified using the GenElute  
180 PCR purification kit (Sigma, France) and sent to Eurofins MWG Operon for sequencing  
181 (Abersberg, Germany). Alignments were performed using the ClustalX program or  
182 Bionumerics software and sequence similarity was determined using BLAST (Altschul et al.  
183 1990) in the GenBank database.

184

185 *2.4 TTGE gel electrophoresis*

186 *2.4.1. Total bacterial DNA extraction.*

187 Filtrates obtained from each sampling homogenate were thawed overnight at 4°C, and  
188 then 10 ml of homogenised filtrate were filtered on a Nucleospin Plant column (Macherey-  
189 Nagel, France) by centrifugation at 8500 rpm for 10 min. The pellet was resuspended in 400  
190 µl of lysis solution (Tris-HCL20 mM, pH 8.0, EDTA 2 mM, Triton X-100 1.2 %, lysozyme  
191 20 mg/ml, mutanolysin 11.6 U), then transferred in 2 ml microtubes and incubated at 37°C for  
192 1 h. This enzymatic lysis was followed by a mechanical lysis performed by addition of 0.3 g  
193 of glass beads (150-200 µm diameters) and agitation for 2 cycles of 2 minutes at 30 Hz in a  
194 MM 200 mixer mill (Retsh, Germany). Proteins were digested by proteinase K (20 mg/ml) in

195 200 µl of DNeasy blood and tissue kit AL buffer (Qiagen, France) and incubation performed  
196 at 56°C for 30 min. Glass beads were pelleted by centrifugation at 10 000 rpm for 3 min and  
197 the supernatant was then transferred in a 2 ml microtube for DNA precipitation by addition of  
198 200 µl of cold absolute ethanol at -20 °C. Total DNA was finally purified using the DNeasy  
199 blood and tissue kit (Qiagen, France) according to the manufacturer's instructions.

200

#### 201 2.4.2. PCR amplification.

202 The 16S rRNA gene V3 region (194 bp) was amplified using the following primers:  
203 V3P2 (5'-ATTACCGCGGCTGCTGG-3') and V3P3 with GC clamp (5'-  
204 CGCCCGCCGCGCGCGGCGGGCGGGGCGGGGGCAGGGGGCCTACGGGAGGCAG  
205 CAG-3') (Jaffrès et al., 2009). Amplification was performed in 50 µl final volume with 40 µl  
206 of PCR mix containing in final concentration: dNTP 800 µM (Interchim, France), 1 X *Taq*  
207 buffer (Tris-HCL 10 mM [pH 9.0], KCL 50 mM, MgCl<sub>2</sub> 1.5 mM, Triton X-100 0.1% and  
208 BSA 0.2 mg/ml), 2.5 U of *Taq* DNA polymerase (MP Biomedicals, France), 1 µM of each  
209 primer and 10 µl of extracted total DNA. PCR amplification was performed in a PTC-100  
210 thermocycler (MJ Research Inc, USA) with the following conditions: 94°C for 5 min, 40  
211 cycles of 94°C for 30 sec, 62°C for 30 sec, 72°C for 1 min. A final extension at 72°C for 30  
212 min was performed. The quality and size of the amplicons were evaluated on agarose gel 1%  
213 (MP Biomedicals, France) with a 100 bp ladder (Fermentas Life Science, France).

214

#### 215 2.4.3 TTGE analysis

216 Amplified fragments were separated using the DCode Universal Mutation Detection  
217 System (BioRad, France). Polyacrylamide gels (16 cm x 16 cm, 1 mm thickness) consisted of  
218 two layers including resolving and stacking gels. Resolving gels were prepared with 9.5 %  
219 (w/v) of an acrylamide solution (acrylamide-bisacrylamide, 37.5 :1) and urea 8 M (final

220 concentration) in 1.25 X Tris base Acetic acid EDTA (TAE) buffer obtained from a 50 X  
221 TAE buffer (Tris base 2 M, glacial acetic acid 1 M, EDTA 50 mM). Stacking gels were  
222 prepared without urea with 16% (w/v) of acrylamide solution (acrylamide-bisacrylamide,  
223 37.5:1) in 1.25 X TAE buffer. Acrylamide gel polymerisation was initiated by addition of  
224 ammonium persulfate (10%) and N, N, N', N'-tetramethylethylenediamine (TEMED) just  
225 before pouring into the vertical glass plate sandwich. After polymerisation, the gels were  
226 stored overnight at 4°C. Electrophoresis was run in 1.25X TAE buffer. Before loading the  
227 PCR products, the wells were rinsed with 1.25X TAE buffer. Thirty µl of amplified fragments  
228 with 1X of loading buffer (1:1) were then loaded in the wells. Electrophoresis were performed  
229 at 50 V for 12h30 with a temperature gradient ranging from 65°C to 70°C (0.4°C/h ramp)  
230 under stirring with a magnetic stirrer to mix the buffer and improve the temperature gradient  
231 homogeneity. After electrophoresis, gels were rinsed for 20 min in MilliQ water (Millipore,  
232 France); stained for 30 min in 300 ml of 3X GelRed staining solution (Fluoprobes, Interchim,  
233 France) in water containing NaCl 0.1 M and then rinsed in MilliQ water. Finally, gels were  
234 photographed by UV illumination using an ImageMaster VDS-CL imaging system  
235 (Amersham Pharmacia Biotech, France).

236 TTGE gels were standardized by using a V3 identification ladder made up of ten  
237 reference species resulting in ten bands well spread over the track length. TTGE banding  
238 patterns were analysed using BioNumerics fingerprinting software version 5.1 (Applied  
239 Maths, Belgium).

240

#### 241 *2.5 Total volatile basic nitrogen (TVBN) and trimethylamine (TMA) content*

242 TVBN and TMA content were determined in this study using the Conway method as  
243 an index of freshness quality for the scallop samples at each sampling date (Conway and  
244 Byrne, 1936). Briefly, 100 g sample were homogenized then TVBN were extracted with

245 trichloroacetic acid (TCA). Mixtures were filtered using Whatman filter paper and the filtrate  
246 was used for analysis. For TMA determination, a 40% formaldehyde solution was added to  
247 the solution to fix the ammonia present in the sample. TVBN and TMA were released after  
248 addition of a 112% potassium carbonate solution and diffused into a 1% boric acid solution.  
249 Samples were then titrated by 0.01 N HCl until a rose colour appeared and TVBN and TMA  
250 contents were determined. TVBN was expressed as the quantity of  $\text{NH}_3$  in the homogenised  
251 product using the following formula:  $[\text{V in ml hydrochloric acid} \times 0.17 (\text{mass in g}$   
252  $\text{homogenised product} + \text{mass in g water} + \text{mass in g 20\% TCA}) \times 100] / [1 \times \text{TCA density} \times$   
253  $\text{ml}]$ . TMA was expressed as mg nitrogen per 100g product using the formula:  $[\text{V in ml}$   
254  $\text{hydrochloric acid} \times 0.14 (\text{mass in g homogenised product} + \text{mass in g water} + \text{mass in g 20\%}$   
255  $\text{TCA}) \times 100] / [1 \times \text{TCA density} \times \text{ml}]$ .

256

### 257 *2.5 Sensory Evaluation*

258 Sensory evaluation was carried out on both raw and cooked scallop samples at four  
259 different sampling dates (D1, D4, D6, D8) with a trained panel of 6-8 judges. To do so,  
260 different factors were considered and included visual aspect, odour and texture/firmness for  
261 both raw and cooked scallops and corals. A list of descriptors was made and grades were  
262 given based on 4 major sensorial criteria (odour, scallop aroma, coral aroma, and presence of  
263 spots) in order to judge scallop quality and freshness. For cooked scallops, samples were  
264 placed for 1 minute in a microwave at 750 W. Before each session, samples were placed in  
265 airtight containers prior to disposing them onto tasting plates.

266

## 267 **3. Results**

268

### 269 *3.1 Culture-dependent community dynamics*

270 Microbiological analyses targeting various bacterial floras (total psychrotrophic flora,  
271 *B. thermosphacta*, pseudomonads, enterobacteria, lactic acid bacteria and H<sub>2</sub>S-producing  
272 bacteria) were performed at each sampling day (D1, D4, D6 and D8) and for each packaging  
273 condition (aerobic, vacuum, 50%CO<sub>2</sub> /50%N<sub>2</sub>, 80%CO<sub>2</sub> /20%N<sub>2</sub> and 100% CO<sub>2</sub>) by triplicate  
274 analyses (Figure 1).

275 The results obtained on Long & Hammer medium indicated that total psychrotrophic  
276 flora counts were high during the entire storage period and under all packaging conditions.  
277 Counts ranged from 5.5 log CFU/g at day D1 and almost reached 8 log CFU/g at day D8.  
278 Noteworthy, a difference of about 1 log was observed at day D4 between aerobic and vacuum  
279 packed conditions (~ 7 logs CFU/g) versus the 3 different CO<sub>2</sub> rich modified atmosphere  
280 conditions (~ 6 logs CFU/g) (Figure 1A).

281 For VRBG medium targeting enterobacteria (Figure 1B), counts were the lowest with  
282 1 log CFU/g at day D1 and a maximum of about 4.5 log CFU/g at day D8 under aerobic  
283 conditions. While the largest differences were observed at day D6, with vacuum packaging  
284 allowing for faster growth and 80% CO<sub>2</sub> allowing for the slowest growth, at day D8 the  
285 maximum counts observed were relatively close to each other (ranging from 3.9 to 4.5 log  
286 CFU/g).

287 Concerning STAA medium numerations, results indicated that the packaging  
288 conditions had a limited but statistically significant effect. Indeed, although growth curves  
289 were parallel, they showed, at day D8, that aerobic packaging conditions allowed for the  
290 highest growth (6.9 log CFU/g) followed by vacuum packed samples and 50% CO<sub>2</sub> /50% N<sub>2</sub>  
291 modified atmosphere conditions (~ 6.5 log CFU/g). Packaging conditions with more than  
292 80% CO<sub>2</sub> presented the lowest counts ( $\leq$  6 log CFU/g) (Figure 1C).

293 For lactic acid bacteria numerated on MRS medium (Figure 1D), growth curves were  
294 parallel except for 50% CO<sub>2</sub>/50% N<sub>2</sub> that reached a plateau at day 6 (~ 7.0 log CFU/g). At day

295 D8, the highest growth was observed for air packaged scallops while slowest growth rates  
296 were observed for modified atmosphere conditions with over 80% CO<sub>2</sub> (~ 6.0 log CFU/g).

297 Concerning CFC medium targeting pseudomonads, the obtained results showed the  
298 highest differences (Figure 1E). While packaging under aerobic conditions allowed for the  
299 growth of *Pseudomonas* spp. up to 6.5 log CFU/g ; the other packaging conditions had an  
300 impact on this flora with almost no growth observed for vacuum packed samples or in the  
301 presence of CO<sub>2</sub>.

302 Finally, H<sub>2</sub>S-producing bacteria were numerated on IA medium and appeared with a  
303 black halo. At day D8, significant differences were found as highest counts (~ 6.2 log CFU/g)  
304 were observed for the air packaged scallops while lowest counts corresponded to all the other  
305 conditions (< 5.0 log CFU/g)(Figure 1F). However, at day D6, modified atmosphere  
306 conditions with 100 % CO<sub>2</sub> showed the lowest counts.

307 Overall, highest microbial flora counts were observed for air and in some cases  
308 vacuum packed and 50% CO<sub>2</sub> / 50% N<sub>2</sub> packaged scallops during conservation; these results  
309 were in agreement with the highest levels of TVBN and TMA detected under these packaging  
310 conditions (Table 2). Moreover, sensory evaluation data also showed that air packaged,  
311 vacuum packed and 50% CO<sub>2</sub> / 50% N<sub>2</sub> modified atmosphere samples were significantly  
312 different and considered unacceptable after day D6 while those for 80% CO<sub>2</sub> / 20% N<sub>2</sub> and  
313 100% CO<sub>2</sub> modified atmosphere samples were inferior to the sensory evaluation acceptability  
314 limits (data not shown) These results allowed us to determine TVBN and TMA sensorial  
315 evaluation acceptability limits of <30 mg N / 100 g and <10 mg N / 100 g for *Pecten maximus*  
316 scallops, respectively.

317

318 3.2. *MI3-PCR typing and inter- and intra-species biodiversity*

319 Genetic diversity of 311 representative isolates originating from the various media  
320 was assessed by obtaining genetic profiles using the coliphage M13 sequence-based PCR  
321 (M13-PCR) method (Henderson et al. 1994; Guinebretière and Nguyen-The 2003). The  
322 profiles generated for the 311 strains were then integrated and analyzed in a Bionumerics  
323 database (Figure 2 presents an example of profiles generated for isolates at day 8 from the  
324 various media). The repeatability and reproducibility of all experiments was also evaluated by  
325 using 2 control strains (laboratory control strains) in all M13-PCR experiments. Overall, a  
326 high level of M13-PCR genetic profile diversity was observed with at least 104 different  
327 profile types, of which 57 contained from 2 to 20 isolates (data not shown).

328 Strain identifications at the species level were then carried out, *via* sequencing of a  
329 1533 bp 16S rRNA gene fragment, on 58 representative isolates (isolates within dominant  
330 M13 profile type clusters or unique isolates). Overall, high species diversity was observed  
331 with at least 26 different species (Table 1). The non-selective Long & Hammer medium  
332 showed the presence of various genera and species including numerous Gram-positive and  
333 Gram-negative bacteria. Overall, on this medium, the dominant genera corresponded to  
334 *Pseudomonas*, *Brochothrix* and *Shewanella* (20.2%, 15.9% and 14.9% of all LH isolates,  
335 respectively). A certain level of species biodiversity was also observed on CFC medium;  
336 dominant species corresponded to pseudomonads (46.9% of all CFC isolates) (*Pseudomonas*  
337 sp., *P. fluorescens*, *P. jensenii*, *P. syringae* and *P. fragi*) followed by *Shewanella* spp. (17.2%  
338 of all CFC isolates) (*S. baltica*, *S. putrefaciens* and *S. frigidimarina*) and to a lesser extent  
339 *Pseudoalteromonas haloplanktis* and *Morganella morgani*. For Iron Agar, *Shewanella* spp.  
340 (in particular, *S. baltica* and *S. putrefaciens*) were dominant represented 61.7% of all IA  
341 isolates. On MRS medium, *Carnobacterium maltaromaticum* and *Actinomyces radidentis*  
342 were observed (data not shown). *Moellerella wisconsensis* was the only species identified on  
343 VRBG medium; while bacteria growing on the STAA medium almost only corresponded to

344 *B. thermosphacta*. Low intra-species diversity was observed using these tools for strains  
345 belonging to the *Moellerella wisconsensis* and *S. putrefaciens* species (only 1 or 2 genetic  
346 profile clusters for each species). On the contrary, *B. thermosphacta* and *S. baltica* presented  
347 high infraspecific diversity and were distributed on the generated dendrogram in 5 different  
348 groups for both species (data not shown).

349

### 350 3.3 Incidence of storage duration and packaging conditions

351 Bacterial counts combined with species identification data allowed to study the impact  
352 of the storage period and packaging conditions on king scallop microbial ecosystem  
353 equilibrium. Concerning the storage duration (all packaging conditions considered), some  
354 variations of the represented species from day D1 to day D8 were observed except in the case  
355 of *Pseudomonas* spp. that were dominant at day 1 and remained stable during the following  
356 days (except under air). In particular, *B. thermosphacta* showed highest prevalence in all  
357 conditions followed by *Shewanella* spp. and *Moellerella wisconsensis* (except at day D1)  
358 (Table 3).

359 Regarding the impact of packaging conditions on bacterial genus distribution (all  
360 storage days considered), the analysis indicated that the dominant genera *Pseudomonas*,  
361 *Brochothrix*, *Shewanella* and to a lesser extent *Staphylococcus* spp. were present in every  
362 packaging condition although some differences in the respective ratios were observed (Table  
363 3). Mainly, bacteria growing on CFC and IA (in particular, *Pseudomonas* and *Shewanella*  
364 spp.) were affected by all conditions eliminating oxygen from the packaging atmosphere. *B.*  
365 *thermosphacta* and *C. maltaromaticum* were slightly affected by the presence of CO<sub>2</sub> with an  
366 approximately 1 log unit reduction in “100% CO<sub>2</sub>” MAP as observed by STAA and MRS  
367 media counts, respectively, while *Moellerella wisconsensis* showed lower differences. The  
368 obtained result also indicated that the packaging conditions could have a deeper impact on

369 specific microorganisms. For example, the *Pseudoalteromonas* genus, represented in this  
370 study by the *Pseudoalteromonas haloplanktis* species, was not found in “80% CO<sub>2</sub>/20% N<sub>2</sub>”  
371 and “100% CO<sub>2</sub>” MAP conditions. This result suggested that this species is sensitive to high  
372 CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations rather than to anaerobic conditions as it was detected in the “vacuum  
373 packed” and “50% CO<sub>2</sub>/50% N<sub>2</sub>” packaging conditions.

374

#### 375 3.4 Culture-independent community dynamics

376 In parallel, the TTGE molecular method was used in order to contribute to the study of  
377 the biodiversity as well as the dynamics of the king scallop meat ecosystem during storage.  
378 The obtained TTGE profiles indicated that the repeats were highly similar (data not shown);  
379 therefore, only one representative TTGE profile was selected for further analysis. The  
380 corresponding 17 selected profiles were analyzed and compared using the Bionumerics  
381 software which generated a proximity dendrogram (Figure 3).

382 After day D6, the bacterial flora seemed to be stable in each packaging condition and  
383 patterns at day D6 and day D8 were similar. These patterns have been clustered according to  
384 the different packaging atmospheres showing their respective effect on the microbiota  
385 composition. The profiles obtained at day D4, although close to those from day D6 and day  
386 D8, did not group as closely suggesting that at this sampling date the flora ecosystem was still  
387 evolving.

388 The effect of each packaging condition on the evolution of the TTGE profiles during the  
389 storage period was also analyzed. For the king scallop meats packaged under aerobic or  
390 vacuum packed conditions, the profiles obtained between days D4 and D8 were similar  
391 (except for day D6 under vacuum packaging). The largest modification of the microbial  
392 ecosystem composition seemed to appear between the first and the fourth day.

393 For the products packaged in the presence of CO<sub>2</sub>, the profiles evolved between days  
394 D1, D4 and D6. From day D6, the ecosystems seemed to be stabilized. Moreover, on these  
395 products, a larger number of bands could reflect a higher diversity of the king scallop  
396 microbiota in these samples, however, some species may present multiple bands.

397 By comparing the profiles obtained from the different products to the profiles obtained  
398 from pure strains representative of the biodiversity as observed by M13-PCR typing, band  
399 assignment was performed although some pure strains exhibited several bands in their TTGE  
400 profiles (data not shown). The band associated with the dominating genus on culture media  
401 (i.e. *Pseudomonas*) was not found in the product profiles and sporadically present for  
402 *Brochothrix* and *Shewanella putrefaciens*.

403

#### 404 **4. Discussion**

405 The first part of this work consisted in studying the main groups of flora associated  
406 with king scallops and their dynamics during cold storage under different modified  
407 atmosphere packaging. These different conditions were selected to determine their impact on  
408 the microbial communities and their potential inhibiting properties towards spoilage bacteria  
409 at temperatures encountered by the consumer during cold food storage. Indeed, practical  
410 industrial studies tend to suggest that TVBN content is lower in CO<sub>2</sub> rich environments for  
411 some seafood products although it can evolve with microbial development.

412 The first observation was that for every flora considered (except *Enterobacteriaceae*),  
413 the initial counts were relatively high. Indeed, at day D1, depending on the considered  
414 medium the counts ranged from 3.04 log CFU/g for H<sub>2</sub>S-producing bacteria to 5.5 log CFU/g  
415 for the total psychrotrophic flora while enterobacteria were at the detection limit with 1 log  
416 CFU/g. This could be explained by two facts, first *Pecten maximus*, like other bivalve  
417 molluscs, are filtrating water to feed on plankton; in this context they might concentrate

418 microorganisms; secondly, to obtain the meat and coral, the rest of the scallop, including the  
419 mantel and the digestive gland, are removed manually which can contribute to the  
420 contamination of the eatable parts. Concerning the dynamics of the various populations, the  
421 most obvious effect of the tested packaging conditions was the impact of anaerobic  
422 conditions, either through vacuum packaging or CO<sub>2</sub>/N<sub>2</sub> mixtures on pseudomonads. In these  
423 conditions, minimum growth potentials (<log 0.5 CFU/g) were observed at day D8 while a  
424 growth potential of 1.6 log CFU/g was observed under aerobic conditions. The impact of O<sub>2</sub>  
425 depletion, through vacuum or modified atmosphere packaging, on *Pseudomonas* was not a  
426 surprise as most members of this flora are strictly aerobic. The inhibition of *Pseudomonas* in  
427 anaerobic packaging conditions has been reported on different food products (Crowley et al.,  
428 2010; Pantazi et al., 2008; Ravi Sankar et al., 2008). Except for day D8, the lowest counts for  
429 every studied flora as well as lowest TVBN and TMA contents were observed for the  
430 modified atmosphere packaging (MAP) with >80% CO<sub>2</sub>. These results were clearly  
431 confirmed by sensory evaluation criteria as only >80% CO<sub>2</sub> modified atmosphere samples  
432 were acceptable after day D8 (data not shown). Both TVBN and TMA content limits were  
433 determined based on all of the results in this study and were considered to be <30 mg N / 100  
434 g and <10 mg N / 100 g, respectively. No European regulation exists for TVBN and TMA  
435 contents in *Pecten maximus* scallops, however, EC regulation No 2074/2005 fixed TVBN  
436 values at 25-35 mg N / 100g muscle according to the fish species. Based on the results of this  
437 study, the determined TVBN and TMA limits are therefore in accordance with those for fish  
438 species.

439 The microbial diversity of the king scallop ecosystem was assessed by M13-PCR  
440 grouping followed by identification of representative isolates by 16S rRNA gene sequencing.  
441 This approach allowed to show a large biodiversity with at least 26 species identified. Under  
442 air, the dominant species corresponded to *B. thermosphacta*, *Pseudomonas* spp. and

443 *Shewanella* spp.. These species have been regularly associated with food, and especially  
444 seafood products (Fonnesbech Vogel et al., 2005; Hovda et al., 2007; Laursen et al., 2006).  
445 *Pseudomonas* was also the predominant genus along with *Moraxella* and *Vibrio* in the scallop  
446 *Argopecten purpuratus* cultured in Chile (Riquelme et al., 1995). The species *Moellerella*  
447 *wisconsensis* also seemed to be well associated with the king scallop ecosystem as it was the  
448 only species identified on VRBG. This species, first described from human stools (Hickman-  
449 Brenner et al., 1984), has been rarely isolated from food products and its natural reservoir is  
450 still unclear (Stock et al., 2003). Interestingly, Matyar (2007) indicated that this species was  
451 one of the dominant Gram-negative bacterial species (18%) in Turkish sea bass; while,  
452 Skrodenytė-Arbačiauskienė et al. (2008) identified it in the intestinal flora of freshwater  
453 salmon and sea trout. Finally, it was also associated with sea mammals and marine birds  
454 (Bogomolni et al., 2008) as well as the sponge *Halichondria rugosa* (Li, 2009). As a whole,  
455 these facts suggest that the marine environment could constitute one of *Moellerella*  
456 *wisconsensis* main natural reservoirs.

457         The analysis of the obtained biodiversity data by both culture-dependent and culture-  
458 independent methods allowed to evaluate the impact of the modified atmosphere packaging  
459 conditions during storage with a cold chain rupture on the king scallop ecosystem. The results  
460 indicated an impact of the packaging conditions on the ecosystem's equilibrium during  
461 storage as well as on TVBN and TMA levels. In particular, the MAP with elevated CO<sub>2</sub> levels  
462 (80 and 100% CO<sub>2</sub>) allowed for the reduction of the different spoilage bacteria and the non-  
463 detection of specific flora (i.e. *P. haloplanktis*). The use of MAP, specifically elevated CO<sub>2</sub>  
464 levels, has been shown to inhibit normal spoilage bacteria, such as *Pseudomonas*, *Aeromonas*  
465 and *Shewanella* spp. in fish and to extend shelf life (Stammen et al., 1990). For scallops, the  
466 use of CO<sub>2</sub> was shown to extend scallop shelf life (Bremner and Statham, 1987). More  
467 recently, Bremer and Fletcher (1999) compared the impact of "100% CO<sub>2</sub>" MAP and aerobic

468 conditions on *Pecten alba* scallop meat. Under aerobic conditions, the bacterial development  
469 was exponential from day 3 and reached 8 log CFU/g at day 10; while, under “100% CO<sub>2</sub>”  
470 MAP, bacteria only developed from day 7 and reached 6.7 log CFU/g at day 28. Moreover, at  
471 the end of shelf life a large presence of Gram-positive bacteria corresponding to lactobacilli  
472 was observed.

473 In parallel, a culture-independent method (TTGE) was performed. TTGE and denaturing  
474 gradient gel electrophoresis (DGGE) have been previously used to study microbial dynamics  
475 of numerous foods including during food fermentations (Ercolini, 2004; Cocolin et al., 2004;  
476 Ogier et al., 2004) and more recently rainbow trout fish gut microbiota (Navarette et al.,  
477 2012). The obtained patterns have been clustered according to the different packaging  
478 atmospheres showing their respective effect on the microbiota composition. Moreover, the  
479 TTGE profiles obtained for the high CO<sub>2</sub> level packaging seemed to indicate an increase of  
480 the bacterial biodiversity. The dominance of the *Shewanella* spp. and *B. thermosphacta* was  
481 confirmed while the profiles corresponding to *Pseudomonas* spp. and *C. maltaromaticum*  
482 were not found. On the contrary, two genera, *Psychrobacter* and *Vibrio*, non-dominant on the  
483 culture media, clearly displayed their respective patterns in the product profiles. These  
484 findings emphasize that both methods (culture-dependent and -independent) provide  
485 complementary insights into the microbial ecosystem composition of the packaged king  
486 scallop meat during storage.

487 The sensory parameters (appearance and smell of raw king scallops) assessed by an  
488 internal panel of six experts and the biochemical spoilage indicator levels (TMA and TVBN  
489 obtained by the Conway's Microdiffusion Units - Conway and Byrne, 1936) also indicated  
490 that there was an impact by the packaging conditions on these criteria. For example, the  
491 scallops packaged with 100% CO<sub>2</sub> presented TMA and TVBN levels representing almost half  
492 of the ones observed under aerobic conditions (TMA 30.9 mg/100g and TVBN 78.2 mg/100g

493 under aerobic conditions vs. TMA 16.3 mg/100g and TVBN 37.4 mg/100g under 100% CO<sub>2</sub>)  
494 and were still acceptable from an odour point of view while the declared shelf life of king  
495 scallops is 6 days in cold storage. At day D8, all the products were considered spoiled and the  
496 results suggested that *B. thermosphacta*, and to a lesser extent *Shewanella* species, were  
497 associated with king scallop spoilage. Pseudomonads could also contribute to spoilage;  
498 however, their involvement is less clear as the vacuum packaged scallops as their growth was  
499 almost always inhibited (89% of pseudomonads were identified in the other packaging  
500 conditions) were already unacceptable from an organoleptic point of view (aspect, texture and  
501 smell) at day D4 (no link with TMA and TVBN levels was observed). Interestingly, the  
502 scallops packaged at high CO<sub>2</sub> levels (80 and 100%), although unacceptable at day D8 from  
503 visual and texture points of view, were acceptable from an odour point of view (data not  
504 shown). The potential of packaging conditions for shelf life extension is directly linked to the  
505 initial bacterial load. In this study, we showed that the initial microbial load was high (total  
506 psychotrophic flora of 5.5 log CFU/g) and therefore, efforts should be done to reduce the  
507 initial load to make the most of MAP effects.

508 Little data is available in the literature on the flora associated with king scallop  
509 (*Pecten maximus*). The results obtained during this study, combining culture-dependent and -  
510 independent methods, allowed comprehending the complex biodiversity and dynamics of the  
511 bacterial flora during cold storage under various packaging conditions.

512

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519

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656 Table 1. Species biodiversity as observed by the identification of 58 representative isolates.

657 (UA: air, UV: vacuum, Ga: 50% CO<sub>2</sub> / 50% N<sub>2</sub>, Gb: 80% CO<sub>2</sub> / 20% N<sub>2</sub> and Gc: 100% CO<sub>2</sub>)

Strain code (accession n°)	Closest relative	% identity <sup>1</sup>	Genbank accession number	Other strain codes associated to this identification
D6-MRS-Ga-3	<i>Actinomyces radidentis</i>	98.9%	AJ251986	
D8-VRBG-Ga-3	<i>Aeromonas molluscorum</i>	99.4%	AY987772	
D8-VRBG-Ga-1	<i>Aeromonas</i> sp.	94.2%	GQ266405	
D1-LH-10	<i>Arthrobacter bergerei</i>	100%	AJ609633	
D4-LH-UV-2	<i>Brevibacterium antiquum</i>	98.5%	AY243344	
D4-LH-UV-6	<i>Brevibacterium</i> sp.	98.4%	FJ652620	
D4-LH-A-3	<i>Brochothrix thermosphacta</i>	99.2%	M58798	D4-STAA-UA-2; D6-STAA-UA-2; D8-STAA-UA-2; D8-STAA-UV-2; D8-STAA-Ga-1
D6-VRBG-UV-2	<i>Moellerella wisconsensis</i>	98.5%	AM040754	D8-VRBG-UA-2; D8-VRBG-UV-1; D8-VRBG-UV-3
D8-CFC-UV-4	<i>Morganella morgani</i>	98.5%	DQ513315	D8-CFC-UA-4 ; D8-IA-Gb-3
D8-LH-Ga-5	<i>Photobacterium iliopiscarium</i>	99.4%	AY849429	
D4-CFC-UA-5	<i>Pseudoalteromonas haloplanktis</i>	99.9%	CR954246	D6-CFC-Ga-4
D4-CFC-Ga-4	<i>Pseudomonas fluorescens</i>	99.9%	DQ084460	D4-LH-Gc-6; D8-CFC-UA-3; D8-CFC-Gc-3; D4-VRBG-Gc-1
D8-CFC-UA-1	<i>Pseudomonas fragi</i>	99.8%	AF094733	
D1-LH-9	<i>Pseudomonas jessenii</i>	99.2%	AM933510	
D6-LH-Gc-5	<i>Pseudomonas</i> sp.	99.8%	EU681009	D1-CFC-5; D4-CFC-Gc-3
D6-CFC-UV-4	<i>Pseudomonas syringae</i>	99.9%	AJ576247	
D1-LH-3	<i>Psychrobacter</i> sp.	99.8%	AB365059	D6-LH-Ga-3; D8-LH-UA-1
D4-CFC-V-2	<i>Shewanella baltica</i>	99.3%	CP001252	D8-LH-UA-5; D4-IA-UA-2; D4-IA-UV-2; D6-IA-Ga-1 ; D8-IA-UA-2 ; D8-IA-Gc-2
D8-LH-Gb-4	<i>Shewanella frigidimarina</i>	99.7%	AJ300833	
D8-LH-UA-7	<i>Shewanella putrefaciens</i>	100%	AB205575	D4-IA-Gc-1; D8-IA-UA-1 ; D8-IA-UV-3
D4-LH-Gb-1	<i>Staphylococcus cohnii</i>	99.9%	AJ717378	
D8-LH-Ga-9	<i>Staphylococcus pasteurii</i>	99.9%	FJ435675	
D8-LH-UV-5	<i>Staphylococcus</i> sp.	99.9%	EU195954	
D8-STAA-UV-3	<i>Vagococcus salmoninarum</i>	99.9%	Y18097	
D8-CFC-Gb-1	<i>Vibrio</i> sp.	98.4%	DQ097524	
D8-LH-UA-6	<i>Vibrio logei</i>	99.9%	AY292932	D8-LH-UV-3

658 <sup>1</sup> Identical nucleotides percentage in the sequence obtained from the 16S rRNA gene and the sequence found in

659 Genbank.

660 Table 2. Evolution of TVBN and TMA content in scallops under different packaging

661 conditions. Results are presented in mg N / 100 g scallop meat.

Time (days)	TVBN mg N / 100 g					TMA mg N / 100 g				
	air	VP	50% CO <sub>2</sub>	80% CO <sub>2</sub>	100% CO <sub>2</sub>	air	VP	50% CO <sub>2</sub>	80% CO <sub>2</sub>	100% CO <sub>2</sub>
1	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.7	3	3	3	3	3
4	10	10.2	8.1	8.4	7.32	1.1	1.8	3	3	3
6	42.2	35.9	24.3	27.7	21.7	12.2	10.6	8.6	9	8.6
8	78.2	67.9	48.8	49.9	37.4	30.9	22.5	19	21.1	16.3

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681 Table 3. Species encountered in scallops under different packaging conditions during cold  
 682 storage. Results are presented as the number of isolates identified to a given species at each  
 683 sampling date and according to packaging conditions. For each medium, the square root of the  
 684 total enumerated bacteria were randomly analyzed.

685

Species	Day 1	Day 4	Day 6	Day 8	Packaging conditions*
<i>Actinomyces radacidensis</i>	0	2	3	3	UV, GA, GB, GC
<i>Aeromonas molluscorum</i>	0	0	0	1	GA
<i>Aeromonas</i> sp.	0	0	0	1	GA
<i>Arthrobacter bergerei</i>	3	1	2	0	GA, GC
<i>Brevibacterium antiquum</i>	0	1	0	0	UV
<i>Brevibacterium</i> sp.	0	3	1	0	UA, UV, GC
<i>Brochothrix thermosphacta</i>	2	19	13	19	UA, UV, GA, GB, GC
<i>Carnobacterium maltaromaticum</i>	0	0	4	3	GB, GC
<i>Moellerella</i> sp.	0	0	5	0	UA, UV, GA, GB
<i>Moellerella wisconsensis</i>	0	8	2	8	UA, UV, GA, GB, GC
<i>Morganella morganii</i>	3	2	5	8	UA, UV, GA, GB, GC
<i>Photobacterium iliopiscarium</i>	0	0	0	1	GA
<i>Pseudoalteromonas haloplanktis</i>	2	3	6	1	UA, UV, GA
<i>Pseudomonas fluorescens</i>	4	7	2	7	UA, UV, GA, GB, GC
<i>Pseudomonas fragi</i>	0	1	3	2	UA, UV, GC
<i>Pseudomonas jessenii</i>	2	2	1	0	GA, GC
<i>Pseudomonas</i> sp.	4	15	4	4	UA, UV, GA, GB, GC
<i>Pseudomonas syringae</i>	0	1	2	0	UV, GB
<i>Psychrobacter</i> sp.	2	7	3	1	UA, UV, GA, GC
<i>Shewanella baltica</i>	0	5	8	14	UA, UV, GA, GB, GC
<i>Shewanella frigidimarina</i>	0	0	0	1	GB
<i>Shewanella putrefaciens</i>	5	6	2	8	UA, UV, GA, GC
<i>Staphylococcus cohnii</i>	0	1	0	0	GB
<i>Staphylococcus pasteurii</i>	0	0	0	1	GA
<i>Staphylococcus</i> sp.	1	1	5	3	UA, UV, GA, GB, GC
Unidentified	4	11	15	2	UA, UV, GA, GB, GC
<i>Vagococcus salmoninarum</i>	0	0	0	1	UV
<i>Vibrio</i> sp.	0	0	0	1	GB
<i>Vibrio logei</i>	0	2	2	3	UA, UV, GA, GB, GC

686 \* UA: air, UV: vacuum, Ga: 50% CO<sub>2</sub> / 50% N<sub>2</sub>, Gb: 80% CO<sub>2</sub> / 20% N<sub>2</sub> and Gc: 100% CO<sub>2</sub>

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689 **Figure legends**

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691 Figure 1. Numeration of bacterial flora associated with king scallop during storage (cold chain  
692 rupture 1/3 storage time at 4°C and 2/3 at 8°C) under different packaging conditions (air:■,  
693 vacuum□, 50% CO<sub>2</sub> / 50% N<sub>2</sub>:■, 80% CO<sub>2</sub> / 20% N<sub>2</sub>:■ and 100% CO<sub>2</sub>:■). The following  
694 flora were numerated: total aerobic flora (A), enterobacteria (B), *Brochothrix thermosphacta*  
695 (C), lactic acid bacteria (D), pseudomonads (E) and H<sub>2</sub>S<sup>+</sup> bacteria (F).

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697 Figure 2. Genetic profiles generated by M13-PCR for strains isolated at D8 in the different  
698 packaging conditions. The tree was constructed using the Pearson correlation and UPGMA.  
699 (UA: air, UV: vacuum, Ga: 50% CO<sub>2</sub> / 50% N<sub>2</sub>, Gb: 80% CO<sub>2</sub> / 20% N<sub>2</sub> and Gc: 100% CO<sub>2</sub>)

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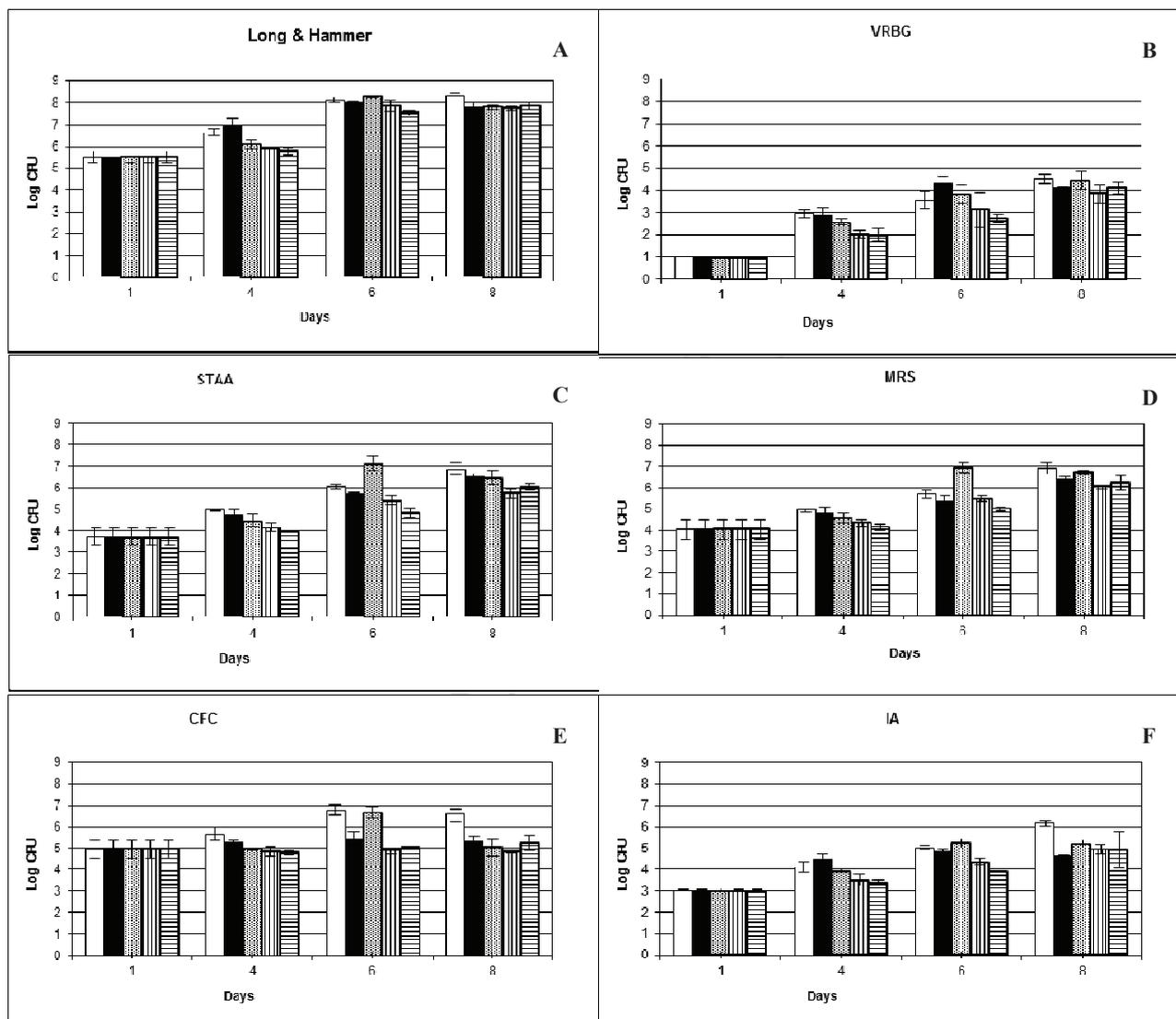
701 Figure 3. Proximity dendrogram of the TTGE profiles obtained during storage (D1, 4, 6 and  
702 8) in the different packaging conditions using the Dice coefficient and UPGMA.

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705 **Figure 1**

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Figure 2

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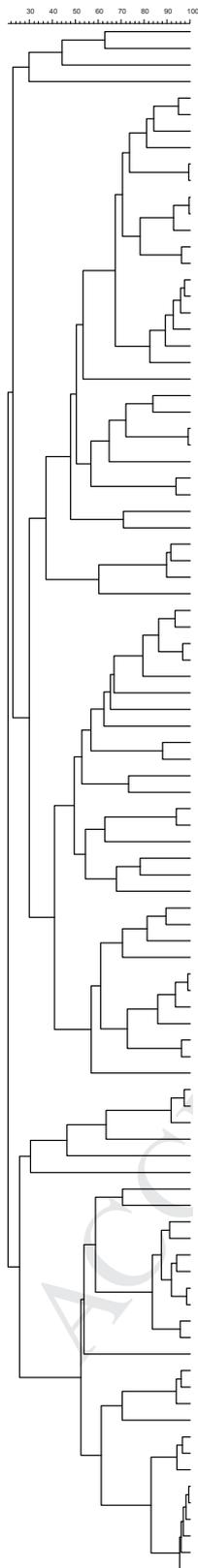
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## Species

## Strain code

<i>Brochothrix thermosphacta</i>	D8-STAA-UV-2
<i>Actinomyces radocidentis</i>	D8-STAA-Gc-3
<i>Actinomyces radocidentis</i>	D8-STAA-Gb-3
<i>Vagococcus salmoninarum</i>	D8-STAA-UV-3
<i>Shewanella putrefaciens</i>	D8-LH-UA-7
<i>Shewanella putrefaciens</i>	D8-CFC-Ga-1
<i>Shewanella putrefaciens</i>	D8-LH-Gc-3
<i>Shewanella putrefaciens</i>	D8-CFC-UA-6
<i>Shewanella putrefaciens</i>	D8-GF-UA-1
<i>Shewanella putrefaciens</i>	D8-GF-UA-3
<i>Morganella morgani</i>	D8-CFC-Ga-2
<i>Morganella morgani</i>	D8-CFC-Ga-4
<i>Morganella morgani</i>	D8-CFC-UA-4
<i>Moellerella wisconsinensis</i>	D8-VRBG-UA-1
<i>Moellerella wisconsinensis</i>	D8-VRBG-UA-2
<i>Moellerella wisconsinensis</i>	D8-VRBG-UA-3
<i>Moellerella wisconsinensis</i>	D8-VRBG-UV-2
<i>Moellerella wisconsinensis</i>	D8-VRBG-Gb-1
<i>Moellerella wisconsinensis</i>	D8-VRBG-SV-3
<i>Moellerella wisconsinensis</i>	D8-VRBG-Gb-2
<i>Moellerella wisconsinensis</i>	D8-VRBG-SV-1
ND	D8-LH-Ga-2
ND	D8-LH-Gb-3
<i>Shewanella baltica</i>	D8-LH-Gc-2
<i>Pseudomonas</i> sp.	D8-VRBG-Ga-2
<i>Aeromonas molluscorum</i>	D8-VRBG-Ga-3
ND	D8-GF-UV-1
<i>Shewanella putrefaciens</i>	D8-GF-UV-2
<i>Shewanella putrefaciens</i>	D8-GF-UV-3
<i>Pseudomonas fluorescens</i>	D8-CFC-UV-3
<i>Pseudomonas fluorescens</i>	D8-VRBG-Gc-2
<i>Carnobacterium maltaromaticum</i>	D8-MRS-Gc-2
<i>Carnobacterium maltaromaticum</i>	D8-MRS-Gc-3
<i>Carnobacterium maltaromaticum</i>	D8-MRS-Gc-1
ND	D8-LH-Ga-6
<i>Photobacterium ilopiscarium</i>	D8-LH-Ga-5
<i>Morganella morgani</i>	D8-LH-Gb-1
<i>Morganella morgani</i>	D8-GF-Gb-1
<i>Morganella morgani</i>	D8-GF-Gb-3
<i>Psychrobacter</i> sp.	D8-LH-UA-1
<i>Shewanella baltica</i>	D8-GF-UA-2
<i>Shewanella baltica</i>	D8-GF-Ga-3
<i>Shewanella frigolimaria</i>	D8-LH-Gb-4
<i>Pseudomonas fluorescens</i>	D8-CFC-Gb-2
<i>Pseudomonas fluorescens</i>	D8-CFC-Gc-3
<i>Pseudomonas</i> sp.	D8-CFC-Ga-5
ND	D8-CFC-Gc-1
<i>Vibrio logei</i>	D8-LH-UA-6
<i>Vibrio logei</i>	D8-LH-UV-4
<i>Pseudomonas fluorescens</i>	D8-CFC-UA-3
ND	D8-GF-Gb-2
<i>Aeromonas salmonicida</i>	D8-VRBG-Ga-1
<i>Pseudomonas fragi</i>	D8-LH-Gc-1
<i>Pseudomonas</i> sp.	D8-CFC-UA-2
<i>Pseudomonas</i> sp.	D8-VRBG-Gb-3
<i>Pseudomonas fragi</i>	D8-CFC-UA-1
<i>Morganella morgani</i>	D8-CFC-UV-4
<i>Shewanella baltica</i>	D8-GF-Gc-1
<i>Shewanella baltica</i>	D8-GF-Gc-2
<i>Shewanella baltica</i>	D8-CFC-Gc-2
<i>Shewanella baltica</i>	D8-LH-Ga-1
<i>Shewanella baltica</i>	D8-GF-Ga-1
<i>Shewanella baltica</i>	D8-GF-Ga-2
<i>Shewanella baltica</i>	D8-VRBG-Gc-3
<i>Staphylococcus pasteurii</i>	D8-LH-UV-2
<i>Staphylococcus pasteurii</i>	D8-LH-Ga-9
<i>Staphylococcus pasteurii</i>	D8-LH-Gb-2
<i>Staphylococcus pasteurii</i>	D8-LH-UV-5
<i>Brochothrix thermosphacta</i>	D8-LH-Ga-7
<i>Pseudoalteromonas haloplanktis</i>	D8-LH-UA-3
<i>Brochothrix thermosphacta</i>	D8-LH-UA-2
<i>Pseudomonas fluorescens</i>	D8-VRBG-Gc-1
<i>Brochothrix thermosphacta</i>	D8-LH-Gb-5
<i>Vibrio littoralis</i>	D8-CFC-Gb-1
<i>Brochothrix thermosphacta</i>	D8-LH-UV-1
<i>Brochothrix thermosphacta</i>	D8-STAA-Gb-2
<i>Brochothrix thermosphacta</i>	D8-STAA-Ga-2
<i>Brochothrix thermosphacta</i>	D8-STAA-Ga-3
<i>Brochothrix thermosphacta</i>	D8-STAA-UA-1
<i>Brochothrix thermosphacta</i>	D8-STAA-UV-1
<i>Vibrio logei</i>	D8-LH-UV-3
<i>Shewanella baltica</i>	D8-LH-UA-5
<i>Shewanella baltica</i>	D8-CFC-Ga-3
<i>Shewanella baltica</i>	D8-CFC-UV-1
<i>Shewanella baltica</i>	D8-CFC-UV-2
<i>Brochothrix thermosphacta</i>	D8-STAA-UA-2
<i>Brochothrix thermosphacta</i>	D8-STAA-UA-3
<i>Brochothrix thermosphacta</i>	D8-LH-Gc-5
<i>Brochothrix thermosphacta</i>	D8-STAA-Gc-1
<i>Brochothrix thermosphacta</i>	D8-STAA-Gc-2
<i>Brochothrix thermosphacta</i>	D8-STAA-Ga-1
<i>Brochothrix thermosphacta</i>	D8-STAA-Gb-1
<i>Brochothrix thermosphacta</i>	D8-LH-Ga-3
<i>Brochothrix thermosphacta</i>	D8-LH-Gc-4

Figure 3

