
Microbial degradation of hydrophobic emerging contaminants from marine sediment slurries (Capbreton Canyon) to pure bacterial strain

Azaroff Alyssa ¹, Monperrus Mathilde ¹, Miossec Carole ¹, Gassie Claire ², Guyoneaud Rémy ^{2,*}

¹ Université de Pau et des Pays de l'Adour, E2S UPPA, CNRS, IPREM-MIRA, UMR 5254, 64600, Anglet, France

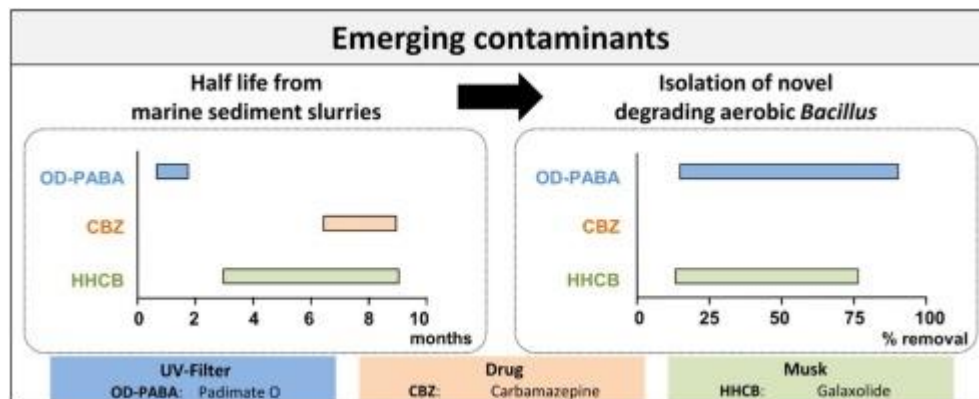
² Université de Pau et des Pays de l'Adour, E2S UPPA, CNRS, IPREM-MIRA, Environmental Microbiology, UMR 5254, 64000, Pau, France

* Corresponding author : Rémy Guyoneaud, email address : remy.guyoneaud@univ-pau.fr

Abstract :

Despite emerging contaminants (ECs) are more and more monitored in environmental matrices, there is still lack of data in marine ecosystems, especially on their fate and degradation potentials. In this work, for the first time, the degradation potential of synthetic musks (galaxolide and tonalide), UV filters (padimate O and octo-crylene) and a pharmaceutical compound (carbamazepine) was studied in marine sediment samples, under laboratory conditions using sediment slurry incubations under biotic and abiotic conditions. Minimum half life times under biotic conditions were found at 21 days, 129 days and 199 days for padimate O, galaxolide and carbamazepine, respectively. Enrichments conducted under anoxic and oxic conditions demonstrated that degradations after one month of incubation either under both biotic and abiotic conditions were limited under anoxic conditions compared to oxic conditions for all the contaminants. Novel aerobic bacteria, able to degrade synthetic musks and UV filters have been isolated. These novel strains were mainly related to the Genus *Bacillus*. Based on these results, the isolated strains able to degrade such ECs, can have a strong implication in the natural resilience in marine environment, and could be used in remediation processes.

Graphical abstract



Highlights

► (Bio)-degradation of hydrophobic emerging contaminants in marine sediment slurries is slow. ► Emerging contaminants are recalcitrant under anaerobic conditions. ► Emerging contaminant degrading aerobic bacteria were isolated from marine sediments. ► Isolated strains showed ability for UV filters and synthetical musks biodegradation. ► These isolated strains are promising for future studies (pathways, genetic determinism).

Keywords : Emerging contaminants, Musks, UV filters, Pharmaceuticals, Degradation, Marine sediments, Pure bacterial strains

24 **1. Introduction**

25 As a result of the last century, Man created and is still creating new synthetic substances.
26 Although well known persistent organic contaminants, such as organochlorine pesticides or
27 polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, are regulated in industrialized countries (European
28 Commission, US, Japan) for several decades, regulation for emerging contaminants (ECs)
29 arised only in the early of the 21th century and their update is still ongoing in Europe
30 (Directive 2008/105/EC and Commission implementing decision 2018/840). Indeed, the
31 scarce information available of their occurrence, reactivity and impact have led to a rising
32 interest in identifying and screening these new compounds in the environment [1]. Among
33 those ECs, pharmaceuticals and personal care products (PPCPs) are substances widely
34 consumed and continuously released in the environment, mainly through wastewater, both
35 treated and untreated [2,3].

36 Marine ecosystem is the final receptor for these organic ECs. They were found in marine
37 sediments, mainly close to the high density population coast nearby the main estuaries [4–7].

38 Marine sediments act as integrative matrices reflecting the pollution state in a given area
39 [8,9]. The affinities of contaminants with the suspended particulate matter (SPM) lead them
40 to be readily scavenged from the water column and to be deposited in the sediments.
41 Submarine canyons are known to act as transfer zones of suspended particulate matter and
42 contaminants between the continent and the open ocean where organic pollutants can be
43 accumulated [7,10,11] into these productive ecosystems containing important stocks of
44 commercially important fishes. Capbreton Canyon is located nearby the coast, with important
45 urban and agricultural activities.

46 Indeed, since the Capbreton canyon is connected to the Adour estuary, its geomorphology
47 and the local currents lead to transfer particles and micropollutants further, amplified during
48 storm events (e.i. turbidic currents)[12–14]. For instance, in the Capbreton canyon sediments
49 collected in the first 25 km from the coast, UV filters and synthetical musks have been

50 detected where the highest concentrations were observed in sediment collected at 25 km
51 from the coast [7]. This trend was also observed for mercury compounds [15]. Additionally,
52 wastewater treatment plants (WWTPs) are known to be an important pathway for
53 introduction of ECs both through the treated effluents and particles released in aquatic
54 environment [16,17]. In coastal areas, those WWTPs might be the main source of ECs in
55 coastal and submarine sediments [7].

56 Microorganisms play a key role in ecological processes such as biogeochemical cycling and
57 among them the carbon cycle and the organic compounds degradation. This bioremediation
58 provides an important ecosystem service for the maintenance of the environment quality.
59 The physicochemical properties of the sediment, such as organic carbon, grain size or pH,
60 drive most of its interactions with the contaminants [18]. The bioavailability for the dwelling
61 benthic organisms of these ECs is dependent on the adsorption, desorption and
62 transformation processes which are themselves under control of the biogeochemical
63 parameters. Even at low concentrations, those ECs can be hazardous for the sediment-
64 dwelling benthic organisms. It is widely accepted that their microbial co-metabolization could
65 be the main degradation pathway leading to limited structural changes and incomplete
66 mineralization (e.g. formation of degradation products). Consequently, the fates of ECs in
67 submarine canyon sediments depend on physicochemical properties, and on the presence
68 and activity of microorganisms.

69 Several studies were performed to explore bioremediation by microorganisms of priority
70 contaminants such as polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) and polychlorinated biphenyl
71 (PCBs) [19,20]. Few studies have shown the potential of bacteria and microbial consortia
72 involvement in the ECs remediation [21]. Biotransformation potential of ECs in natural and
73 oceanic environments is still unknown and it is urgent to better understand their fate in
74 marine ecosystems [22].

75 The aim of this present work was to study the degradation potentials of ECs such as
76 synthetic musks (galaxolide, HHCB; tonalide, AHTN), UV filters (padimate O, OD-PABA;
77 octocrylene, OC) and an antiepileptic (carmabazepine, CBZ) in marine sediments in order to
78 highlight, for the first time their natural resilience in a submarine canyon sediments.
79 Moreover, a specific focus was put on the isolation of pure strains exposed to these
80 hazardous substances in order to estimate their capacities in biotransformation of these
81 contaminants in natural ecosystems and more particularly in marine sediments

82

83 **2. Material and methods**

84 **2.1 Study area and sampling strategy**

85 The Capbreton Canyon (South-Eastern Bay of Biscay, NE Atlantic) begins 250 m
86 from the coastline and reaches up to 3000 m water depth. In this study, we focused on two
87 surface sediments (G10 and G14) sampled in the Capbreton Canyon area during the
88 oceanographic cruise HAPOGE organized in July 2017. Surface sediments (0–10 cm) were
89 sampled with Shipeck sampler grab. First sampling station was into the canyon (G10) and
90 the second one was on the adjacent continental shelf (G14) at 4.4 and 9 km from the coast,
91 and at 70 and 120 meters of depth, respectively (Fig. 1). After collection, the sediment
92 samples were placed into sterile polyethylene bags sealed and stored in the dark at 4°C until
93 slurry incubations in the laboratory (described further) within 48 h. In parallel, for each
94 sample, contaminants analysis and geochemical parameters were analysed [7,15]. Briefly,
95 G10 sediments were more muddy than those in G14 and were characterized with particulate
96 organic matter of 1.60 % and 0.92 %, respectively and fine grain size (<63 µm) of 76 % and
97 46%, respectively .

98 **2.2. Chemicals**

99 Ethyl acetate (EtOAc) and methanol were of analytical grade and supplied by Sigma Aldrich
100 (Saint-Louis, USA). Acetone (laboratory reagent. 99.5%) used for cleaning the glassware
101 was supplied by Fisher (Hampton, USA). Ultrapure water was obtained with a PURELAB
102 Classic water purification system from Veolia (Paris, France). Reference standards of
103 galaxolide (HHCB), octocrylene (OC), padimate O (OD-PABA) and carbamazepine (CBZ)
104 were purchased from Sigma–Aldrich. Tonalide (AHTN) was purchased from LGC Standards
105 (Molsheim, France). Internal standards musk xylene-d15 (MX-d15) (100 ng μL^{-1} in acetone)
106 was purchased from LGC Standards and carbamazepine-d10 (CBZ-d10) (100 ng μL^{-1} in
107 methanol) was purchased from Sigma Aldrich.

108 **2.3 Determination of half life: sediment slurry incubations**

109 In the laboratory slurry incubations spiked with HHCB, OD-PABA and CBZ were performed
110 for 110 days in order to estimate the degradation potential (Fig. 2). Briefly, for each station
111 (G10 and G14), a slurry was prepared by mixing fresh sediment with underlying water
112 (50:50, w:w). Incubation experiments were performed in 10 mL glass tubes sealed with PTFE
113 stoppers filled with 10 g of slurry. For all assays under abiotic and biotic conditions, HHCB,
114 OD-PABA and CBZ were added independently, to have a final concentration at 100 $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$.
115 Initial time assays were stopped immediately by storing samples at -80°C whereas incubated
116 assays were placed in the dark at 14°C (*in situ* temperature) and stopped at different elapsed
117 times until 110 days. Slurries under abiotic condition (control), were twice sterilized for 20
118 min at 120°C . All assays were performed in triplicate.

119 Based on the assumption that degradation reaction of these contaminants are of pseudo-
120 first-order (1), biodegradation rate constants (k) were estimated with the following equation
121 (2) :

122 (1) $\text{Ln}(C) = f(t)$

123 (2) $k = \text{Ln}(C_0/C_t)_t$

124 Where C_t is the concentration of the contaminant at the kinetic time t ; C_0 is the initial
125 contaminant concentration; k is the biodegradation rate constant and t is the time. Then, half
126 time reactions were also determined by the following equation (3):

127 (3) $t_{1/2} = \ln(2)/k$

128 **2.4. Enrichment experiments in liquid medium**

129 In order to do a selective enrichment of microbial populations potentially involved in the ECs
130 degradation, 0.5 grams of oxic (surface, 0.1 cm, clear yellow color) and 0.5 grams of anoxic
131 (dark color) sediments (Fig. 2) were subsamples from the last days of sediment slurry
132 incubations and were diluted with modified multipurpose medium [23] at 20 g L⁻¹ of NaCl,
133 called MM₂₀. The medium contained : 1 L of MilliQ water, 1 ml of SL₁₂, 1 mL SeTg, HEPES
134 10 mM, yeast extract 0.1 g L⁻¹, 20 g NaCl, 3 g MgCl₂·6H₂O, 0.15 g CaCl₂·H₂O, 0.25 g NH₄Cl,
135 0.5 g KCl. pH was adjusted at pH= 7.5 before sterilization and autoclave (20 min at 120°C).
136 After autoclaving, 1 mL of solution V7 (vitamins) and KH₂PO₄ (final concentration of 0.2 g L⁻¹)
137 were added with a syringe and a cellulose nitrate 0.2 µm filter (Fisher).

138 While we determined the half life for 3 ECs, the enrichment experiments in liquid medium
139 were performed for 5 ECs, HHCB, AHTN, OD-PABA, OC and CBZ. Since AHTN has the
140 same molecular mass than HHCB but with a different chemical structure (Table 1), we
141 performed the enrichment experiment for both from the HHCB sediment slurry incubation.
142 Then, OC was added to this list due to its occurrence in coastal sediments [24,25]. ECs were
143 added independently at 100 µM final concentration (corresponding to 25, 25, 28, 36 and 24
144 ppm, respectively) according previous experiments [26–29]. These ECs have low solubility in
145 water (Table 1), and they were added first into the tube with organic solvent (EtOAc, or
146 methanol for CBZ) and evaporated at ambient temperature, under microbiological safety
147 cabinet (MSC). This step was performed in order to release organic solvent, a potential
148 carbon source [30]. Enrichment was performed in an agitator (120 rpm) [26] under oxic and
149 anoxic conditions, at 27°C for one month. This enrichment was repeated three times, with

150 each time a dilution at approximately 1/11 of the previous assay. Briefly, under MSC,
151 micropollutant was added in a falcon tube (50 mL) or penicillin tube (100 mL) (for oxic and
152 anoxic conditions, respectively). Then 5.5 mL of the MM₂₀ were added before the addition of
153 0.5 g of anoxic and oxic sediments from the slurry incubations (1st step, Fig 2). After one
154 month in the agitator, new tubes were prepared with ECs by using the same protocol. Then 5
155 ml of MM₂₀ were added and inoculated with 0.5 ml of the previous enrichment, corresponding
156 to a 1/11 dilution (2nd and 3rd steps, Fig. 2).

157 **2.5 Strains isolation experiments**

158 After the third enrichment step, in order to isolate the strains previously selected and
159 enriched, solid medium of MM₂₀ (with 20 g L⁻¹ of agar bacteriologic, previously rinsed 3 times
160 with ultrapure water) were prepared in Petri plates. Under MSC, micropollutants were added
161 (274, 274, 306, 498 and 254 µl of HHCB, AHTN, OD-PABA, OC and CBZ at 1000 ppm,
162 respectively) at the surface of the solid medium and organic solvent was evaporated. Then,
163 inocula of the last enrichments were spread at the surface of the solid medium with sterile
164 inoculator and sealed with parafilm before incubation for 1 month, at 27°C to favour the
165 growth of colonies. After one month, colonies were selected and isolated by streak plates as
166 described (A, B, C steps, Fig. 2). Then all strains isolated were stored at -80°C in sterile LB
167 (20 g L) supplemented with NaCl (20 g L⁻¹), and glycerol 30% (v:v).

168 **2.6 Identification of isolated strains: DNA extraction, 16s rDNA gene amplification,** 169 **sequencing and phylogenetic analysis**

170 DNA was amplified from isolated strains after growth in LB Lennox medium. Amplification of
171 the 16S rRNA gene was done with the universal primers 63F (5'-CAG GCC TAA CAC ATG
172 CAA GTC-3') and 1387R (5'-GGG CGG WGT GTA CAA GGC-3')[31]. PCR amplification was
173 performed using ampliTaq Gold® 360 master mix (Applied Biosystems, CA, USA), 0.2 µM of
174 each primer and 1 µL of strain. PCR cycling was as following : after 10 min of initial
175 denaturation at 95 °C (lysis of cells), 35 cycles of 40 s denaturation at 95 °C, 40 s annealing

176 at 58 °C and 60 s elongation at 72 °C with 7 min final elongation at 72 °C. Amplicons were
177 sequenced by SANGER sequencing at GATC (Köln, Germany). Sequences were trimmed
178 with ChromasPro (Technelysium software) and were aligned with MUSCLE [32]. A tree was
179 generated using MEGA X software [33], with the Maximum Likelihood method and Tamura-
180 Nei model [34] (with n replication bootstraps = 500). Phylogenetic analysis were processed
181 with NCBI (<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/>) and corresponding reference type strains as
182 defined by the bacteriological code of nomenclature for Prokaryotes
183 (<http://www.bacterio.net/-classifphylo.html>). Sequences are archived in GenBank under
184 accession numbers MT658667 to MT658707.

185 In parallel, in order to compare with the isolated strains, DNA of *in situ* samples and from the
186 final kinetic time of the slurry incubations were studied to determine the global diversity. DNA
187 was extracted from frozen sediments with the QIAGEN DNeasy Powersoil kits (Qiagen Inc.,
188 Netherlands) according to the manufacturer's instructions. Diversity of the 16S rDNA were
189 determined by sequencing the V4-V5 hypervariable regions of the 16S rDNA with universal
190 primers V4-515F (5' GTGYCAGCMGCCGCGGTA 3') and V5-928R (5'-
191 ACTYAAAKGAATTGRCGGGG 3') [35–37]. PCR was performed using ampliTaq Gold® 360
192 master mix (Applied Biosystems, CA, USA), 0.5 µM of each primer and 3 ng of extracted
193 DNA. PCR cycling was as following : after 10 min of initial denaturation at 95 °C, 30 cycles of
194 30 s denaturation at 95 °C, 30 s annealing at 60 °C and 40 s elongation at 72 °C with 7 min
195 final elongation at 72 °C. Amplicons were sequenced using MiSeq 250-pair-end technology
196 (Illumina, CA, USA) with V3 kit version, in Get-plage sequencing platform (INRA, Toulouse,
197 France). Data were preprocessed using Galaxy FROGS pipeline [38]. Chimera and PhiX
198 reads were removed, Operational Taxonomic Units (OTUs) clustering, after a de-noising step
199 allows building fine clusters with minimal differences, with an aggregation distance equal or
200 above 3. Data were normalized with the minimum number of reads. Taxonomic affiliation was
201 performed using the Silva database v.128 [39]. Sequences data *in situ* and from the final

202 kinetic time of the slurry incubations have been deposited in Genbank under the accession
203 number PRJNA608532 and PRJNA640934, respectively.

204 **2.7 Experimental ECs degradation test**

205 Isolated strains were re-cultivated in medium MM₂₀-PYG (MM₂₀ medium supplemented with
206 peptone, 5 g L⁻¹, yeast extracts, 2.5 g L⁻¹ and glucose at 5 g L⁻¹) à 37 °C for 90 hours [40].
207 Optical density (DO) at 600 nm was measured during the growth until the maximum growth
208 using spectrophotometer (Spectronic 20). Degradation tests were performed in glass tubes
209 with contaminants (HHCB, AHTN, OD-PABA, OC and CBZ) evaporated (Delgado-Moreno et
210 al 2019) to be at 1 ppm final concentration, with 1 ml of the cultivated strains, 9 ml of MM₂₀-
211 PYG at 27°C in agitator (120 rpm) [26,40]. 10 µL of micropollutant at 1000 ppm were added
212 with sterile syringe and PTFE filter 0.2 µm (Fisher). Degradation was stopped when DO₆₀₀
213 reached the maximum value. For initial and final times, chemical analysis were performed (in
214 triplicates) to evaluate the ECs degradation capacity of the isolated strains under controlled
215 conditions (described below).

216 **2.8 ECs analysis**

217 HHCB, AHTN, OD-PABA, OC and CBZ were extracted by a liquid:liquid extraction, for both
218 the second enrichment in liquid medium (3) and the ECs degradation test (Fig.2) at the initial
219 and final time of each experiment. Briefly, 10 and 2 mL of EtOAc were added directly into the
220 essay tube before to vortex for 1 min, respectively. Then, 20µL of the supernatant was
221 diluted with EtOAc (960 µL) in GC-vial and spiked with 20 µL of an internal standard mixture
222 at 10 µL ng⁻¹ (CBZ-d10 and MX-d15) before analysis. Extracts were analysed by 7890A gas
223 chromatograph coupled with 5975C mass spectrometer (GC/MS) with an Electron Ionization
224 (EI) source using a Large Volume Injection (LVI) (Agilent Technologies). The GC/MS system
225 was equipped with a single taper ultra-inert liner with glass wool and a HP-5MS UI capillary
226 column (30 m length × 0.25 mm diameter and 0.25 µm film thickness). Carrier gas was
227 helium (He) with a purity greater than 99.999% (Linde). Separation was performed at a

228 constant He flow of 1.5 mL min⁻¹, and the GC oven temperature was programmed to hold at
229 50 °C for 3 min, then increase at 25 °C min⁻¹ until 195 °C (hold 1.5 min), then 8 °C min⁻¹ until
230 265 °C (hold 1 min) and 20 °C min⁻¹ until 310 °C (hold 5 min). Injection volume was 20 µL in
231 splitless mode. Instrument control, data acquisition and data treatment were performed using
232 Agilent Chemstation software. Quantification was carried out in Selected Ion Monitoring
233 (SIM) mode, selecting two characteristic fragments ions for each compound. Calibrations
234 with the target analytes (HHCB, AHTN, OD-PABA, OC and CBZ) were used to quantify
235 target compounds. A six-point calibration curve was performed in EtOAc spiked with
236 increasing pollutants concentration levels ranging from 0 to 500 µg L⁻¹ as well as internal
237 standards at 50 µg L⁻¹ transferred into GC vials (analytical performances are compiled in
238 Table S1, supporting information). Recoveries achieved for all target ECs in MM₂₀ medium
239 spiked at 100 µg L⁻¹ ranged from 91% to 102% for musk and UV-filter compound and was at
240 74% for CBZ (Supplementary information, Table S1).

241 **3. Results and discussion**

242 **3.1 Degradation of HHCB, OD-PABA and CBZ in sediment slurry incubations**

243 Based on kinetic degradation for 110 days under both abiotic and biotic conditions
244 (Supplementary information, Fig. S1), degradation rate constants, k , were estimated from
245 slurry incubations under biotic condition (Table 2). While CBZ in both sediment samples
246 exhibited similar rates (0.0035 ± 0.0004 and 0.0029 ± 0.0001), HHCB and OD-PABA
247 exhibited different rates of degradation according the location (e.g. G10 and G14) with a
248 factor around 2 (Table 2). This suggested that ECs degradations were depending on the
249 geochemical parameters of the sediments (e.i. grain size, organic matter content). For
250 instance, a previous study demonstrated that ECs have a strong affinity for particles [41], as
251 observed with sludge in wastewater treatment plants [42], suggesting those parameters and
252 as well as environmental factors have to be taken in consideration to understand the fate of
253 ECs in the ocean. Estimation of the half life time of reaction for these ECs indicated that the
254 UV filter OD-PABA was between 21 ± 1 and 44 ± 4 days (Table 2). These results are similar

255 with another UV filter degradation (i.e. EH-DPAB) estimated in marine sediments microcosm
256 with a $t_{1/2}$ ranging from 18 to 50 days [43]. Nevertheless, half life reaction for synthetic musk
257 HHCB and anti-epileptic CBZ reached around 8 months and 7 months, respectively,
258 indicated the high persistence of these contaminants in natural marine sediments compare to
259 the UV filter OD-PABA (Table 2). Lack of data on HHCB and CBZ degradation potentials in
260 marine sediments does not allow comparison with these present data. Nevertheless, these
261 preliminary results demonstrate the high persistence of these ECs in natural environment. In
262 sediments, ECs may be associated to particulate matter, establishing equilibrium relations in
263 the water-sediment interface, limiting their bioavailability. ECs remobilisation depends both of
264 geochemical characteristics variations of the sediment, the overlying water column and pore
265 water. Thus, ECs persistence in environment depend on coupling of abiotic and biotic factors
266 [44,45], such as physicochemical properties of the ECs, environmental factors (e.i.
267 temperature [46], pH [19], redox processes[47] photolysis process [48,49]) and the presence
268 of microbial communities able to degrade these ECs [50]. It was also demonstrated that
269 bioturbation or resuspension improved oxidation of anoxic sediments leading an increase of
270 lability of ECs which can be more available for degradation processes [51].
271 Additionally, chemical characterization of the collected sediments revealed that the three-
272 targeted ECs were not found at concentration detectable with the analytical method used [7].
273 The removal potential was observed under both abiotic and biotic conditions with percentage
274 of removal for each compounds, HHCB, OD-PABA and CBZ, ranging from 37.5% to 51.4%,
275 from 50.1% to 98.5% and from 11.6% to 49.6%, respectively (Fig. 3). Results of HHCB and
276 CBZ slurry incubations suggested that the degradation was mainly driven by an abiotic
277 process (except for G10 exposed with CBZ). Removal potential of OD-PABA under biotic
278 condition was 2 times higher compared to the abiotic condition, suggesting that micro-
279 organisms in these sediments improved the degradation of this UV filter compound (Fig. 3).

280 **3.2 Enrichment in liquid medium**

281 Results of the second enrichment in liquid medium (Fig. 4) demonstrated a higher removal in
282 oxic conditions than under anoxic conditions for the five ECs studies (e.i. HHCB, AHTN, OD-
283 PABA and CBZ). These ECs are well known to be observed in WWTP, where CBZ is
284 frequently detected in the liquid effluents while the other contaminants, due to the very
285 hydrophobicity, occur in sludges or remain through membrane post-treatment [52]. Although
286 new advanced treatment processes, such as activated carbon adsorption, advanced
287 oxidation processes, reverse osmosis or membrane bioreactors, are developed to increase
288 the micropollutant removal of the WWTPs to struggle against the spread of micropollutants in
289 aquatic environment, they are still observed in the WWTP effluents [53]. Those results
290 suggested that oxic processes could improve the ECs removal and limit their spread from the
291 WWTP sewage. Moreover, higher removals under abiotic anoxic conditions than biotic were
292 observed. It is likely due to a higher ECs adsorption on cells present in biotic condition
293 leading to trap ECs and reduce the quality of the liquid extraction [54,55]. Additionally, the
294 high concentrations (ppm level) used for the selection of strains in these enrichments could
295 inhibit microbial activity, thus could have mask their ECs removal capacities under anoxic
296 condition [56].

297 Under oxic condition, similar removal potentials were observed for the abiotic and biotic
298 condition, except for OC and CBZ (Fig. 4). That may indicate a potential involvement of
299 microorganisms in the OC removal. Contrary to OC, CBZ removal was observed only in
300 abiotic anoxic condition, likely due to the same explanations suggested previously for the
301 removal potential under anoxic condition (e.i. adsorption on cells and/or high exposition
302 concentrations). These results led to continue the study of ECs degradation with the isolated
303 strains under oxic conditions.

304 Nevertheless, even though an efficient removal of ECs under oxic condition was observed,
305 metabolites were not studied. Indeed, degradation of ECs to metabolites have been
306 observed for CBZ [28], HHCB [26] and also for others UV filters [43]. These results
307 highlighted the complexity of ECs removal under experimental conditions as well as in

308 WWTPs, where their efficiency are dependant of both physical, chemical and biological
309 processes but also to identify metabolites in further studies.

310 **3.3 Isolated strains involved in ECs degradation**

311 While the degradation of complex organic substances can occurs both under anaerobic and
312 aerobic conditions, it is well known that their degradation rates can be higher-under aerobic
313 condition [57,58]. In accordance with this observation, isolation of strains and degradation
314 test were consequently performed under aerobic condition. Twenty seven strains were
315 isolated with the current method with 6, 8, 4, 4 and 5 strains constrained with HHCB, AHTN,
316 OD-PABA, OC and CBZ, respectively (Supplementary information, Fig. S3). These strains
317 were related to two families, dominated by the *Firmicutes*, followed by the *Actinobacteria*
318 (Fig.5 A B).

319 Within the *Actinobacteria*, *Rhodococcus* was the main bacteria genus isolated followed by
320 *Streptomyces*, *Mycobacterium* and *Micrococcus*. Within the *Firmicutes*, only *Bacillus*-related
321 strains were isolated (Fig. 5 A, B). Studies have shown that *Actinobacteria* were involved in
322 degradation of some organic and inorganic compounds. For instance, *Rhodococcus* strains
323 are involved in the removal of pharmaceutical compounds [59], tetrabromobisphenol A
324 (TBBPA) [60] and dominant in naphthalene degrading enrichments [61]. It has also been
325 demonstrated that the members of the genus *Streptomyces* produce laccase (i.e. ligninolytic
326 enzymes) that can be involved in the removal of recalcitrant and ECs [62]. It has also been
327 demonstrated that members of the genus *Streptomyces* were involved in the CBZ
328 biodegradation [40,63]. Finally, experiments performed from marine sediments demonstrated
329 that *Bacillus thuringiensis* was a novel group participating to the removal of PAHs and
330 pesticides [64].

331 Within these isolated strains, only eight exhibited a capacity to degrade contaminants in the
332 conditions used (1 ppm, 5 days, 37 degrees in rich organic medium) with 1, 2, 3 and 2 strains
333 for HHCB, AHTN, OD-PABA and OC, respectively (Table 3). Seven were related to the
334 genus *Bacillus* and one was related to the genus *Rhodococcus* (23 AHTN G14). While

335 studies have demonstrated high bioremediation capacities by *Actinobacteria*, this study
336 demonstrated high capacity of marine *bacillus* to degrade ECs. These results suggested that
337 the isolated *bacillus* were able to remove OD-PABA with a capacity ranging between 34% ±
338 19% and 71% ± 19% (Table 3). These strains could be involved in the biotic degradation
339 observed in the slurry incubation experiment (Fig. 3). Although CBZ slurry incubations
340 experiments (G10) demonstrated a possible biotic degradation (Fig. 3), isolated strains did
341 not exhibit a remediation for this pollutant under the conditions tested (Supplementary
342 information, Fig. S3). Moreover, the $t_{1/2}$ of CBZ was estimated around 7 months, suggesting
343 that the time should be expanded to observe a remediation capacity. Moreover, it is well
344 known that in nature, the microbial consortia have to be considered to estimate
345 biodegradation pollutant removal process [65]. Moreover, global microbial communities
346 analysed *in situ*, in G10 and G14 demonstrated a relative abundance of the main phyla
347 similar in both sediments (and similar to the final kinetic time of the slurry incubations,
348 Supplementary information Fig. S2), with a dominance of *Proteobacteria* (relative abundance
349 ranged between 47.9 and 49.4%), followed by *Bacteroidetes*, *Planctomycetes* and
350 *Acidobacteria* (Fig. 6). Although the *Actinobacteria* and *Firmicutes* were minors *in situ* (Fig.
351 6), representing less than 1% of the total abundance, phylogenetic trees based the sequences
352 of the isolated strains (Fig. 5 A,B) demonstrated that these isolated strains were related to
353 the *Actinobacteria* and *Firmicutes* families. This suggests a good selection process of these
354 bacterial groups in the presence of these ECs exposition with the isolation method used. In
355 accordance with previous studies, the isolated bacterial strains from the Capbreton Canyon
356 sediments could be good candidate to degrade ECs. Nevertheless, in order to estimate the
357 natural resilience of those ECs, it is crucial also to take account both the biological (e.i.
358 biodegradation, biosorption/adsorption), physical and chemical processes, highlighting
359 further studies are needed to decipher their fate in oceans. It is difficult to extrapolate results
360 based on pure strains to the field. The culture conditions used (medium, temperature, ...)
361 enhance some microorganisms and inhibit others. The role of co-metabolisms in microbial
362 consortia is extremely important as well as the role of the uncultivated prokaryotes. But the

363 objective of this study *in fine* to isolate strains on which we will be able to work on. The
364 isolated strains can be a fantastic tool since they can be used to study the degradation
365 products, to study the isotopic fractionation due to micro-organisms, or to study the genetic
366 determinism of this pathway. These data could then be used as new tools for new
367 environmental studies (compound specific isotopic fractionation, functional genes, ...).

368

369 **4. Conclusion**

370 This work characterized the degradation kinetics for ECs (HHCB, OD-PABA and CBZ) from
371 marine sediments under *in situ* conditions (biotic, anaerobic and temperature) through slurry
372 sediment incubations. The half life times obtained demonstrated that half time live of OD-
373 PABA was lower than HHCB and CBZ, with $t_{1/2}$ ranging from few weeks to 8 months. This
374 underlies that the ECs degradation in marine sediment is a long process and could be a high
375 concern for the environment considering a chronic contamination from the coastal human
376 activities (e.i. WWTPs sewage, agriculture...). Additionally, contrary to CBZ, different half
377 lives were observed between muddy (G10) and sandy (G14) sediments for HHCB and OD-
378 PABA. That indicates ECs degradation depends on the physicochemical properties of both
379 chemicals and sediment.

380 Moreover, novel synthetic musks and UV filters degrading bacteria were isolated from marine
381 sediment. Based on phylogenetic characteristics, microorganisms were mainly identified as
382 *Bacillus sp.* dominated by *Bacillus megaterium* followed by *Bacillus aquimaris* and *Bacillus*
383 *vietnamensis*. One other isolated strain which was able to degrade musk was related to
384 *Rhodococcus ruber*. The isolated bacteria here, could have a strong potential to degrade a
385 wide variety of organic pollutants (e.g. priority and emerging), such as synthetic musks and
386 UV filters. Improving the knowledge about the microbial diversity in marine environment may
387 lead to the development of technical tools with degradation abilities and high tolerance in the

388 future but also highlight how microbial remediation contributes to the nature resilience in
389 marine environment.

390

391

392

393 **Acknowledgements**

394 This work was supported by the European Union and the Adour Garonne Water Agency
395 (Micropolit Project). Europe commits the New Aquitaine with the European Regional
396 Development Fund.

397 **Compliance with ethical standards**

398 **Conflict of interest** The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

399 **References**

- 400 [1] J.A. Field, C.A. Johnson, J.B. Rose, What is “emerging”?, *Environ. Sci. Technol.* 40
401 (2006) 7105–7105. <https://doi.org/10.1021/es062982z>.
- 402 [2] W.C. Li, Occurrence, sources, and fate of pharmaceuticals in aquatic environment and
403 soil, *Environ. Pollut.* 187 (2014) 193–201. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.envpol.2014.01.015>.
- 404 [3] S. Rainieri, A. Barranco, M. Primec, T. Langerholc, Occurrence and toxicity of musks
405 and UV filters in the marine environment, *Food Chem. Toxicol.* 104 (2017) 57–68.
406 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.fct.2016.11.012>.
- 407 [4] M. Beretta, V. Britto, T.M. Tavares, S.M.T. da Silva, A.L. Pletsch, Occurrence of
408 pharmaceutical and personal care products (PPCPs) in marine sediments in the Todos
409 os Santos Bay and the north coast of Salvador, Bahia, Brazil, *J. Soils Sediments.* 14
410 (2014) 1278–1286. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11368-014-0884-6>.
- 411 [5] W. Huang, Z. Xie, W. Yan, W. Mi, W. Xu, Occurrence and distribution of synthetic
412 musks and organic UV filters from riverine and coastal sediments in the Pearl River

- 413 estuary of China, *Mar. Pollut. Bull.* 111 (2016) 153–159.
414 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.marpolbul.2016.07.018>.
- 415 [6] M.G. Pintado-Herrera, C. Wang, J. Lu, Y.-P. Chang, W. Chen, X. Li, P.A. Lara-Martín,
416 Distribution, mass inventories, and ecological risk assessment of legacy and emerging
417 contaminants in sediments from the Pearl River Estuary in China, *J. Hazard. Mater.* 323
418 (2017) 128–138. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jhazmat.2016.02.046>.
- 419 [7] A. Azaroff, C. Miossec, L. Lanceleur, R. Guyoneaud, M. Monperrus, Priority and
420 emerging micropollutants distribution from coastal to continental slope sediments: A
421 case study of Capbreton Submarine Canyon (North Atlantic Ocean), *Sci. Total Environ.*
422 703 (2020) 135057. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scitotenv.2019.135057>.
- 423 [8] J. Bellas, Ó. Nieto, R. Beiras, Integrative assessment of coastal pollution: Development
424 and evaluation of sediment quality criteria from chemical contamination and
425 ecotoxicological data, *Cont. Shelf Res.* 31 (2011) 448–456.
426 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.csr.2010.04.012>.
- 427 [9] D.A. Roberts, Causes and ecological effects of resuspended contaminated sediments
428 (RCS) in marine environments, *Environ. Int.* 40 (2012) 230–243.
429 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.envint.2011.11.013>.
- 430 [10] C.K. Paull, H.G. Greene, W. Ussler, P.J. Mitts, Pesticides as tracers of sediment
431 transport through Monterey Canyon, *Geo-Mar. Lett.* 22 (2002) 121–126.
432 <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00367-002-0110-1>.
- 433 [11] A.M. Costa, M. Mil-Homens, S.M. Lebreiro, T.O. Richter, H. de Stigter, W. Boer, M.A.
434 Trancoso, Z. Melo, F. Mouro, M. Mateus, J. Canário, V. Branco, M. Caetano, Origin and
435 transport of trace metals deposited in the canyons off Lisboa and adjacent slopes
436 (Portuguese Margin) in the last century, *Mar. Geol.* 282 (2011) 169–177.
437 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.margeo.2011.02.007>.
- 438 [12] T. Mulder, O. Weber, P. Anschutz, F. Jorissen, J.-M. Jouanneau, A few months-old
439 storm-generated turbidite deposited in the Capbreton Canyon (Bay of Biscay, SW
440 France), *Geo-Mar. Lett.* 21 (2001) 149–156. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s003670100077>.

- 441 [13] T. Salles, T. Mulder, M. Gaudin, M.C. Cacas, S. Lopez, P. Cirac, Simulating the 1999
442 Capbreton canyon turbidity current with a Cellular Automata model, *Geomorphology*. 97
443 (2008) 516–537. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.geomorph.2007.09.005>.
- 444 [14] S. Brocheray, M. Cremer, S. Zaragosi, S. Schmidt, F. Eynaud, L. Rossignol, H. Gillet,
445 2000years of frequent turbidite activity in the Capbreton Canyon (Bay of Biscay), *Mar.*
446 *Geol.* 347 (2014) 136–152. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.margeo.2013.11.009>.
- 447 [15] A. Azaroff, E. Tessier, J. Deborde, R. Guyoneaud, M. Monperrus, Mercury and
448 methylmercury concentrations, sources and distribution in submarine canyon sediments
449 (Capbreton, SW France): Implications for the net methylmercury production, *Sci. Total*
450 *Environ.* 673 (2019) 511–521. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scitotenv.2019.04.111>.
- 451 [16] C. Miège, J.M. Choubert, L. Ribeiro, M. Eusèbe, M. Coquery, Fate of pharmaceuticals
452 and personal care products in wastewater treatment plants – Conception of a database
453 and first results, *Environ. Pollut.* 157 (2009) 1721–1726.
454 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.envpol.2008.11.045>.
- 455 [17] P. Verlicchi, M. Al Aukidy, E. Zambello, Occurrence of pharmaceutical compounds in
456 urban wastewater: Removal, mass load and environmental risk after a secondary
457 treatment—A review, *Sci. Total Environ.* 429 (2012) 123–155.
458 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scitotenv.2012.04.028>.
- 459 [18] L.H. Nowell, P.W. Moran, R.J. Gilliom, D.L. Calhoun, C.G. Ingersoll, N.E. Kemble, K.M.
460 Kuivila, P.J. Phillips, Contaminants in Stream Sediments From Seven United States
461 Metropolitan Areas: Part I: Distribution in Relation to Urbanization, *Arch. Environ.*
462 *Contam. Toxicol.* 64 (2013) 32–51. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00244-012-9813-0>.
- 463 [19] L.W. Perelo, Review: In situ and bioremediation of organic pollutants in aquatic
464 sediments, *J. Hazard. Mater.* 177 (2010) 81–89.
465 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jhazmat.2009.12.090>.
- 466 [20] R. Duran, C. Cravo-Laureau, Role of environmental factors and microorganisms in
467 determining the fate of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons in the marine environment,
468 *FEMS Microbiol. Rev.* 40 (2016) 814–830. <https://doi.org/10.1093/femsre/fuw031>.

- 469 [21] M.C. Ncibi, B. Mahjoub, O. Mahjoub, M. Sillanpää, Remediation of Emerging Pollutants
470 in Contaminated Wastewater and Aquatic Environments: Biomass-Based Technologies,
471 CLEAN – Soil Air Water. 45 (2017) 1700101. <https://doi.org/10.1002/clen.201700101>.
- 472 [22] M. Gavrilesco, K. Demnerová, J. Aamand, S. Agathos, F. Fava, Emerging pollutants in
473 the environment: present and future challenges in biomonitoring, ecological risks and
474 bioremediation, New Biotechnol. 32 (2015) 147–156.
475 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.nbt.2014.01.001>.
- 476 [23] F. Widdel, F. Bak, Gram-Negative Mesophilic Sulfate-Reducing Bacteria, in: A. Balows,
477 H.G. Trüper, M. Dworkin, W. Harder, K.-H. Schleifer (Eds.), Prokaryotes Handb. Biol.
478 Bact. Ecophysiol. Isol. Identif. Appl., Springer New York, New York, NY, 1992: pp.
479 3352–3378. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-1-4757-2191-1_21.
- 480 [24] T. Combi, M.G. Pintado-Herrera, P.A. Lara-Martin, S. Miserocchi, L. Langone, R.
481 Guerra, Distribution and fate of legacy and emerging contaminants along the Adriatic
482 Sea: A comparative study, Environ. Pollut. 218 (2016) 1055–1064.
483 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.envpol.2016.08.057>.
- 484 [25] C.L. Mitchelmore, K. He, M. Gonsior, E. Hain, A. Heyes, C. Clark, R. Younger, P.
485 Schmitt-Kopplin, A. Feerick, A. Conway, L. Blaney, Occurrence and distribution of UV-
486 filters and other anthropogenic contaminants in coastal surface water, sediment, and
487 coral tissue from Hawaii, Sci. Total Environ. 670 (2019) 398–410.
488 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scitotenv.2019.03.034>.
- 489 [26] L. Vallecillos, Y. Sadeq, F. Borrull, E. Pocurull, K. Bester, Degradation of synthetic
490 fragrances by laccase-mediated system, J. Hazard. Mater. 334 (2017) 233–243.
491 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jhazmat.2017.04.003>.
- 492 [27] F. Balk, R.A. Ford, Environmental risk assessment for the polycyclic musks AHTN and
493 HHCB in the EU: I. Fate and exposure assessment, Toxicol. Lett. 111 (1999) 57–79.
494 [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0378-4274\(99\)00169-1](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0378-4274(99)00169-1).

- 495 [28] A. König, C. Weidauer, B. Seiwert, T. Reemtsma, T. Unger, M. Jekel, Reductive
496 transformation of carbamazepine by abiotic and biotic processes, *Water Res.* 101
497 (2016) 272–280. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.watres.2016.05.084>.
- 498 [29] A. Sauvêtre, R. May, R. Harpaintner, C. Poschenrieder, P. Schröder, Metabolism of
499 carbamazepine in plant roots and endophytic rhizobacteria isolated from *Phragmites*
500 *australis*, *J. Hazard. Mater.* 342 (2018) 85–95.
501 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jhazmat.2017.08.006>.
- 502 [30] L. Delgado-Moreno, S. Bazhari, R. Nogales, E. Romero, Innovative application of
503 biobed bioremediation systems to remove emerging contaminants: Adsorption,
504 degradation and bioaccessibility, *Sci. Total Environ.* 651 (2019) 990–997.
505 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scitotenv.2018.09.268>.
- 506 [31] J.R. Marchesi, T. Sato, A.J. Weightman, T.A. Martin, J.C. Fry, S.J. Hiom, W.G. Wade,
507 Design and Evaluation of Useful Bacterium-Specific PCR Primers That Amplify Genes
508 Coding for Bacterial 16S rRNA, *Appl. Environ. Microbiol.* 64 (1998) 795–799.
- 509 [32] R.C. Edgar, MUSCLE: multiple sequence alignment with high accuracy and high
510 throughput, *Nucleic Acids Res.* 32 (2004) 1792–1797.
511 <https://doi.org/10.1093/nar/gkh340>.
- 512 [33] S. Kumar, G. Stecher, M. Li, C. Knyaz, K. Tamura, MEGA X: Molecular Evolutionary
513 Genetics Analysis across Computing Platforms, *Mol. Biol. Evol.* 35 (2018) 1547–1549.
514 <https://doi.org/10.1093/molbev/msy096>.
- 515 [34] K. Tamura, M. Nei, Estimation of the number of nucleotide substitutions in the control
516 region of mitochondrial DNA in humans and chimpanzees, *Mol. Biol. Evol.* 10 (1993)
517 512–526. <https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordjournals.molbev.a040023>.
- 518 [35] A.E. Parada, D.M. Needham, J.A. Fuhrman, Every base matters: assessing small
519 subunit rRNA primers for marine microbiomes with mock communities, time series and
520 global field samples, *Environ. Microbiol.* 18 (2016) 1403–1414.
521 <https://doi.org/10.1111/1462-2920.13023>.

- 522 [36] W. Walters, E.R. Hyde, D. Berg-Lyons, G. Ackermann, G. Humphrey, A. Parada, J.A.
523 Gilbert, J.K. Jansson, J.G. Caporaso, J.A. Fuhrman, A. Apprill, R. Knight, Improved
524 Bacterial 16S rRNA Gene (V4 and V4-5) and Fungal Internal Transcribed Spacer
525 Marker Gene Primers for Microbial Community Surveys, *MSystems*. 1 (2015).
526 <https://doi.org/10.1128/mSystems.00009-15>.
- 527 [37] Y. Wang, P.-Y. Qian, Conservative Fragments in Bacterial 16S rRNA Genes and Primer
528 Design for 16S Ribosomal DNA Amplicons in Metagenomic Studies, *PLOS ONE*. 4
529 (2009) e7401. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0007401>.
- 530 [38] F. Escudié, L. Auer, M. Bernard, M. Mariadassou, L. Cauquil, K. Vidal, S. Maman, G.
531 Hernandez-Raquet, S. Combes, G. Pascal, FROGS: Find, Rapidly, OTUs with Galaxy
532 Solution, *Bioinforma. Oxf. Engl.* 34 (2018) 1287–1294.
533 <https://doi.org/10.1093/bioinformatics/btx791>.
- 534 [39] E. Pruesse, C. Quast, K. Knittel, B.M. Fuchs, W. Ludwig, J. Peplies, F.O. Glöckner,
535 SILVA: a comprehensive online resource for quality checked and aligned ribosomal
536 RNA sequence data compatible with ARB, *Nucleic Acids Res.* 35 (2007) 7188–7196.
537 <https://doi.org/10.1093/nar/gkm864>.
- 538 [40] C. Popa, L. Favier, R. Dinica, S. Semrany, H. Djelal, A. Amrane, G. Bahrim, Potential of
539 newly isolated wild *Streptomyces* strains as agents for the biodegradation of a
540 recalcitrant pharmaceutical, carbamazepine, *Environ. Technol.* 35 (2014) 3082–3091.
541 <https://doi.org/10.1080/09593330.2014.931468>.
- 542 [41] S. Li, G. Lu, Z. Xie, J. Ding, J. Liu, Y. Li, Sorption and degradation of selected organic
543 UV filters (BM-DBM, 4-MBC, and OD-PABA) in laboratory water-sediment systems,
544 *Environ. Sci. Pollut. Res.* 23 (2016) 9679–9689. [https://doi.org/10.1007/s11356-016-](https://doi.org/10.1007/s11356-016-6126-2)
545 [6126-2](https://doi.org/10.1007/s11356-016-6126-2).
- 546 [42] Y.-S. Liu, G.-G. Ying, A. Shareef, R.S. Kookana, Occurrence and removal of
547 benzotriazoles and ultraviolet filters in a municipal wastewater treatment plant, *Environ.*
548 *Pollut. Barking Essex* 1987. 165 (2012) 225–232.
549 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.envpol.2011.10.009>.

- 550 [43] A. Volpe, M. Pagano, G. Mascolo, P. Grenni, S. Rossetti, Biodegradation of UV-filters in
551 marine sediments, *Sci. Total Environ.* 575 (2017) 448–457.
552 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scitotenv.2016.10.001>.
- 553 [44] N. Lee Wolfe, D.L. Macalady, New perspectives in aquatic redox chemistry: Abiotic
554 transformations of pollutants in groundwater and sediments, *J. Contam. Hydrol.* 9
555 (1992) 17–34. [https://doi.org/10.1016/0169-7722\(92\)90048-J](https://doi.org/10.1016/0169-7722(92)90048-J).
- 556 [45] J.-R. Jeon, K. Murugesan, P. Baldrian, S. Schmidt, Y.-S. Chang, Aerobic bacterial
557 catabolism of persistent organic pollutants — potential impact of biotic and abiotic
558 interaction, *Curr. Opin. Biotechnol.* 38 (2016) 71–78.
559 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.copbio.2015.12.016>.
- 560 [46] C. Lange, B. Kuch, J.W. Metzger, Occurrence and fate of synthetic musk fragrances in
561 a small German river, *J. Hazard. Mater.* 282 (2015) 34–40.
562 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jhazmat.2014.06.027>.
- 563 [47] J.-R. Jeon, K. Murugesan, I.-H. Nam, Y.-S. Chang, Coupling microbial catabolic actions
564 with abiotic redox processes: A new recipe for persistent organic pollutant (POP)
565 removal, *Biotechnol. Adv.* 31 (2013) 246–256.
566 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.biotechadv.2012.11.002>.
- 567 [48] S. Chiron, C. Minero, D. Vione, Photodegradation Processes of the Antiepileptic Drug
568 Carbamazepine, Relevant To Estuarine Waters, *Environ. Sci. Technol.* 40 (2006) 5977–
569 5983. <https://doi.org/10.1021/es060502y>.
- 570 [49] D. Vogna, R. Marotta, R. Andreozzi, A. Napolitano, M. d'Ischia, Kinetic and chemical
571 assessment of the UV/H₂O₂ treatment of antiepileptic drug carbamazepine,
572 *Chemosphere.* 54 (2004) 497–505. [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0045-6535\(03\)00757-4](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0045-6535(03)00757-4).
- 573 [50] K.M. Onesios, J.T. Yu, E.J. Bouwer, Biodegradation and removal of pharmaceuticals
574 and personal care products in treatment systems: a review, *Biodegradation.* 20 (2009)
575 441–466. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10532-008-9237-8>.

- 576 [51] K. Booij, E.P. Achterberg, B. Sundby, Release rates of chlorinated hydrocarbons from
577 contaminated sediments, *Neth. J. Sea Res.* 29 (1992) 297–310.
578 [https://doi.org/10.1016/0077-7579\(92\)90070-U](https://doi.org/10.1016/0077-7579(92)90070-U).
- 579 [52] P. Krzeminski, C. Schwermer, A. Wennberg, K. Langford, C. Vogelsang, Occurrence of
580 UV filters, fragrances and organophosphate flame retardants in municipal WWTP
581 effluents and their removal during membrane post-treatment, *J. Hazard. Mater.* 323
582 (2017) 166–176. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jhazmat.2016.08.001>.
- 583 [53] Y. Luo, W. Guo, H.H. Ngo, L.D. Nghiem, F.I. Hai, J. Zhang, S. Liang, X.C. Wang, A
584 review on the occurrence of micropollutants in the aquatic environment and their fate
585 and removal during wastewater treatment, *Sci. Total Environ.* 473–474 (2014) 619–641.
586 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scitotenv.2013.12.065>.
- 587 [54] J.P. Bell, M. Tsezos, Removal of Hazardous Organic Pollutants by Biomass Adsorption,
588 *J. Water Pollut. Control Fed.* 59 (1987) 191–198.
- 589 [55] M. Tsezos, J.P. Bell, Comparison of the biosorption and desorption of hazardous
590 organic pollutants by live and dead biomass, *Water Res.* 23 (1989) 561–568.
591 [https://doi.org/10.1016/0043-1354\(89\)90022-5](https://doi.org/10.1016/0043-1354(89)90022-5).
- 592 [56] A. Barra Caracciolo, E. Topp, P. Grenni, Pharmaceuticals in the environment:
593 Biodegradation and effects on natural microbial communities. A review, *J. Pharm.*
594 *Biomed. Anal.* 106 (2015) 25–36. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jpba.2014.11.040>.
- 595 [57] M. Biel-Maeso, C. González-González, P.A. Lara-Martín, C. Corada-Fernández,
596 Sorption and degradation of contaminants of emerging concern in soils under aerobic
597 and anaerobic conditions, *Sci. Total Environ.* 666 (2019) 662–671.
598 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scitotenv.2019.02.279>.
- 599 [58] G.-G. Ying, X.-Y. Yu, R.S. Kookana, Biological degradation of triclocarban and triclosan
600 in a soil under aerobic and anaerobic conditions and comparison with environmental
601 fate modelling, *Environ. Pollut.* 150 (2007) 300–305.
602 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.envpol.2007.02.013>.

- 603 [59] I. Ivshina, E. Tyumina, E. Vikhareva, Biodegradation of emerging pollutants: focus on
604 pharmaceuticals, *Microbiol. Aust.* 39 (2018) 117–122. <https://doi.org/10.1071/MA18037>.
- 605 [60] S. Xu, Y.-F. Wang, L.-Y. Yang, R. Ji, A.-J. Miao, Transformation of tetrabromobisphenol
606 A by *Rhodococcus jostii* RHA1: Effects of heavy metals, *Chemosphere.* 196 (2018)
607 206–213. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chemosphere.2017.12.173>.
- 608 [61] S.-K. Rhee, X. Liu, L. Wu, S.C. Chong, X. Wan, J. Zhou, Detection of Genes Involved in
609 Biodegradation and Biotransformation in Microbial Communities by Using 50-Mer
610 Oligonucleotide Microarrays, *Appl. Environ. Microbiol.* 70 (2004) 4303–4317.
611 <https://doi.org/10.1128/AEM.70.7.4303-4317.2004>.
- 612 [62] J.-A. Majeau, S.K. Brar, R.D. Tyagi, Laccases for removal of recalcitrant and emerging
613 pollutants, *Bioresour. Technol.* 101 (2010) 2331–2350.
614 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.biortech.2009.10.087>.
- 615 [63] C. Popa Ungureanu, L. Favier, G. Bahrim, A. Amrane, Response surface optimization
616 of experimental conditions for carbamazepine biodegradation by *Streptomyces* MIUG
617 4.89, *New Biotechnol.* 32 (2015) 347–357. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.nbt.2014.12.005>.
- 618 [64] L. Ferreira, E. Rosales, A.S. Danko, M.A. Sanromán, M.M. Pazos, *Bacillus thuringiensis*
619 a promising bacterium for degrading emerging pollutants, *Process Saf. Environ. Prot.*
620 101 (2016) 19–26. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.psep.2015.05.003>.
- 621 [65] Y. Wu, J. He, L. Yang, Evaluating Adsorption and Biodegradation Mechanisms during
622 the Removal of Microcystin-RR by Periphyton, *Environ. Sci. Technol.* 44 (2010) 6319–
623 6324. <https://doi.org/10.1021/es903761y>.

624

625

Figures

Microbial degradation of hydrophobic emerging contaminants from marine sediment slurries (Capbreton Canyon) to pure bacterial strain

Fig. 1 Sediment sampling sites in the Capbreton Canyon (dark circle) and on the adjacent continental shelf (white circle). Isobath data from SEDIMAQ3 (Gillet 2012).

Fig. 2 – Design of experiments to determine natural resilience and microbial strains involved in the degradation of emerging contaminants (ECs): Galaxolide (HHCB), Padimate O (OD-PABA), Carbamazepine (CBZ), Tonalide (AHTN) and Octocrylen (OC). First step was the determination of *in situ* degradation constant rates from slurry sediments spiked with three ECs under biotic and abiotic conditions at 100 ppb (AHTN and OC were not monitored). Second step was the selection of strains from the last slurry sediments incubation (day 110) through enrichments performed under oxic/anoxic and biotic/abiotic conditions at 25, 25, 28, 36 and 24 ppm of HHCB, AHTN, OD-PABA, OC and CBZ, respectively (corresponding to 100 μM). These enrichments were repeated three times (1, 2, 3) with liquid multipurpose medium at 20 g L⁻¹ of NaCl, called MM₂₀. Third step was strains isolation from the last enrichment (3) where microbial consortia were separated (spread plates) on agar MM₂₀ at same ECs exposition concentrations than previously (A). After one month of growth, colonies were twice isolated by streak plating (B, C). The last step was the characterisation of isolated strains through both their identification and the determination of their ECs degradation capacities. Isolated strains were identified by 16s rDNA amplification and Sanger sequencing. ECs degradation tests were performed at 1 ppm of ECs using liquid MM₂₀ supplemented with peptone (5 g L⁻¹), yeast extract (2.5 g L⁻¹) and glucose (5 g L⁻¹), called MM₂₀-PYG. * indicates that results are presented in the figures.

Fig. 3 - HHCB, OD-PABA and CBZ removal potential (%) after 110 days of sediment incubation () under biotic and abiotic conditions from Capbreton Canyon sediments (G10, and G14). Initial exposure concentration was 100 ppb. Data are mean \pm SD of three replicates.

Fig. 4 – HHCB, AHTN, OD-PABA, OC and CBZ removal potential (%) after one month on the second liquid enrichment under anoxic and oxic conditions with inoculum from G10 and G14 stations (biotic). Abiotic control was achieved without inoculum.

Fig. 5 Phylogenic trees of strains obtained after the aerobic isolation in solid medium with different ECs (AHTN, HHCB, OC, OD-PABA and CBZ) from sediments collected in the submarine Canyon of Capbreton (stations G10 and G14). Fig.5A and Fig.5B correspond to *Actinobacteria* and *Firmicutes*, respectively. Isolated strains are in bold, reference strains are in italic. The evolutionary history was

inferred by using the Maximum Likelihood method and Tamura-Nei model. The bootstrap values are above 50% are shown next to the branches. The scale indicates nucleotides substitution. Groups 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 included 10 (20, 21 AHTN-G10; 22, 27 AHTN-G14 and 4, 6, 7, 8, 11, 12 HHCB- G14), 3 (33, 35, 36 ODPABA-G14), 4 (17, 18, 19 AHTN-G10 and 24 AHTN-G14), 6 (45, 46, 47, 48 CBZ-G14 and 50, 52 CBZ-G10) and 3 (41, 42, 43 OC-G10) isolated strains, respectively.

Fig. 6 –Relative abundance of prokaryotic 16S rDNA gene sequences (MiSEQ) from sediments of G10 and G14. Data are average percentages (\pm SE). Categories representing $> 1\%$ are shown. Relative abundances of phyla from which the isolated strains belonged are also shown.

Fig1.

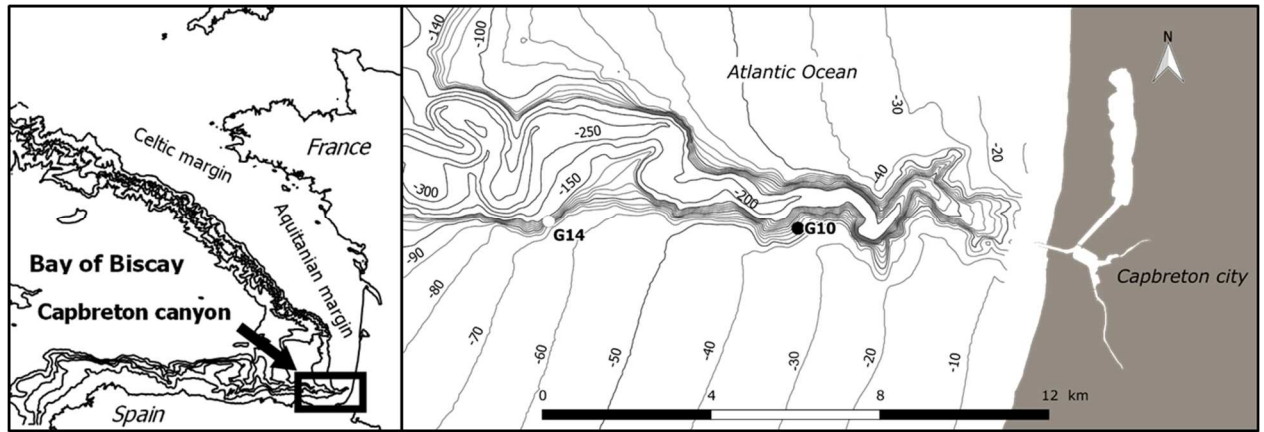


Fig. 2

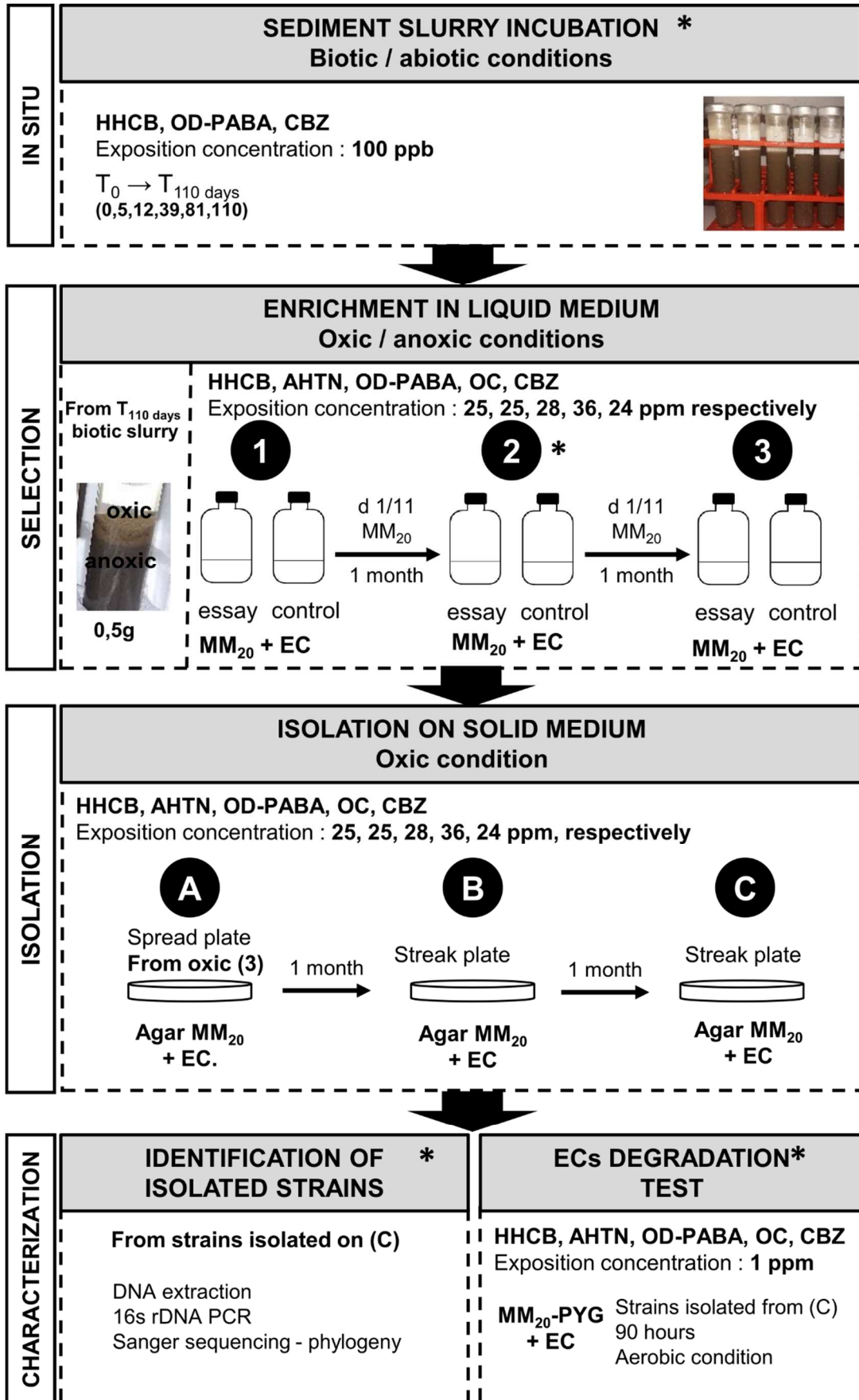


Fig. 3

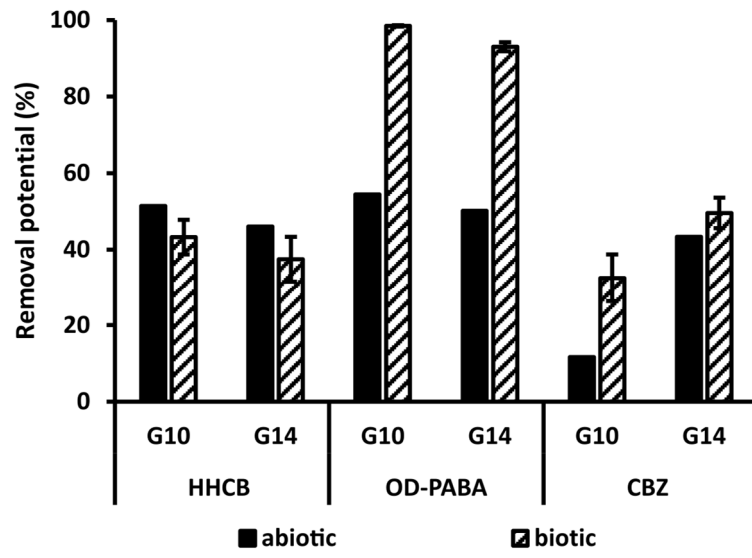


Fig. 4

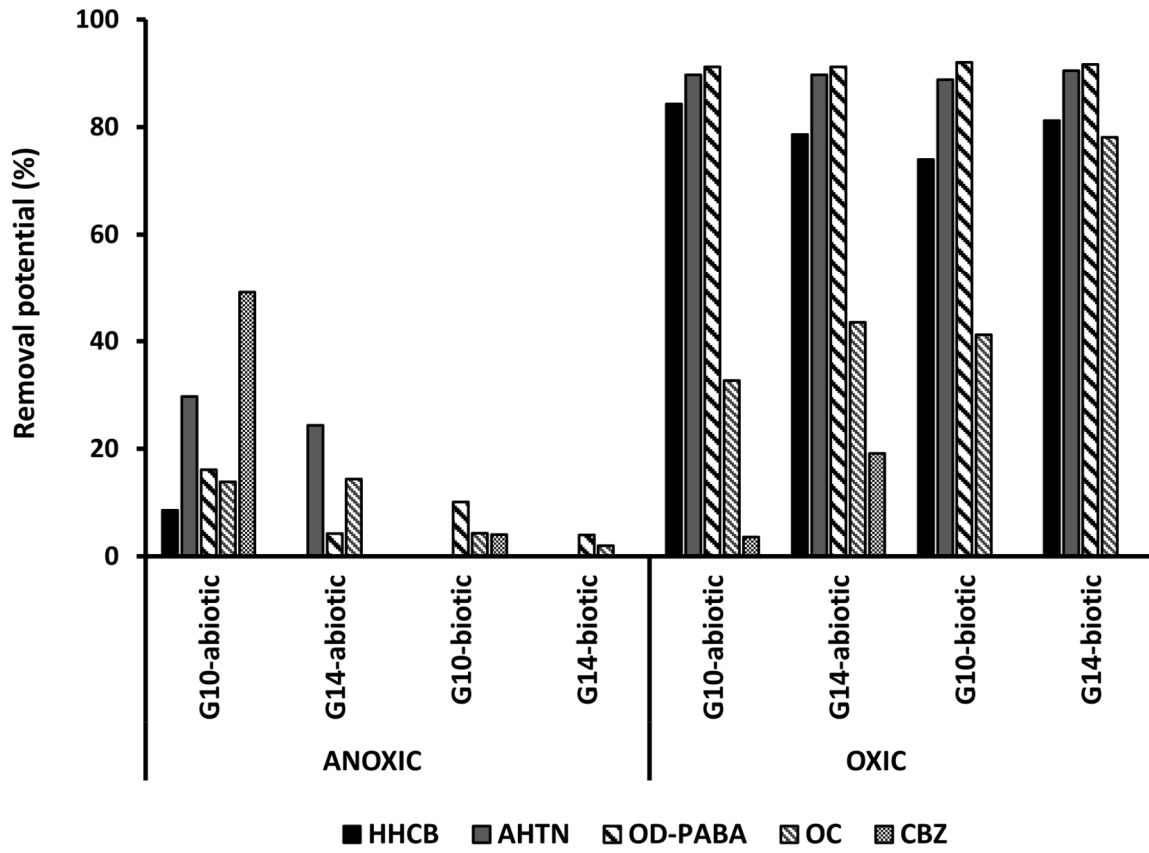


Fig.5

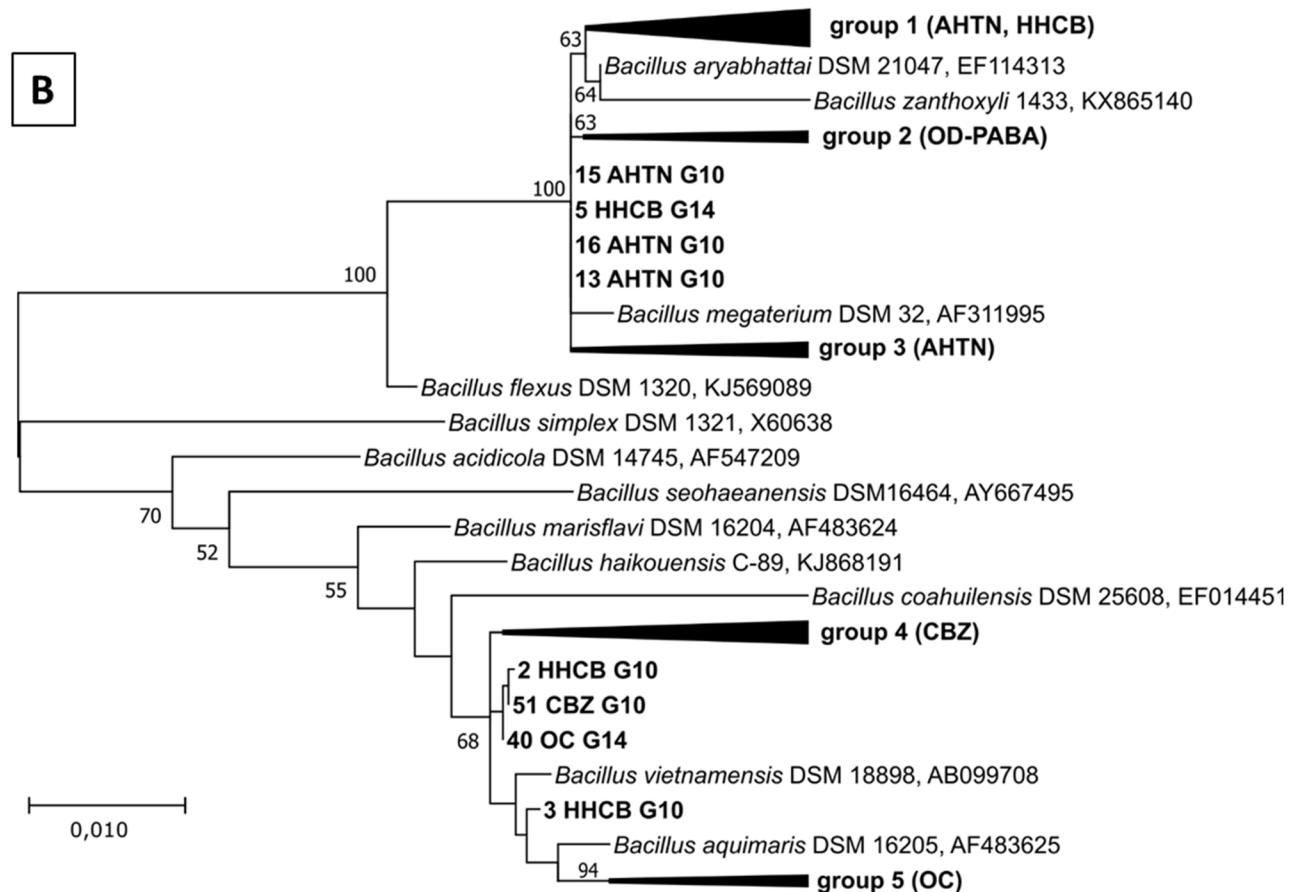
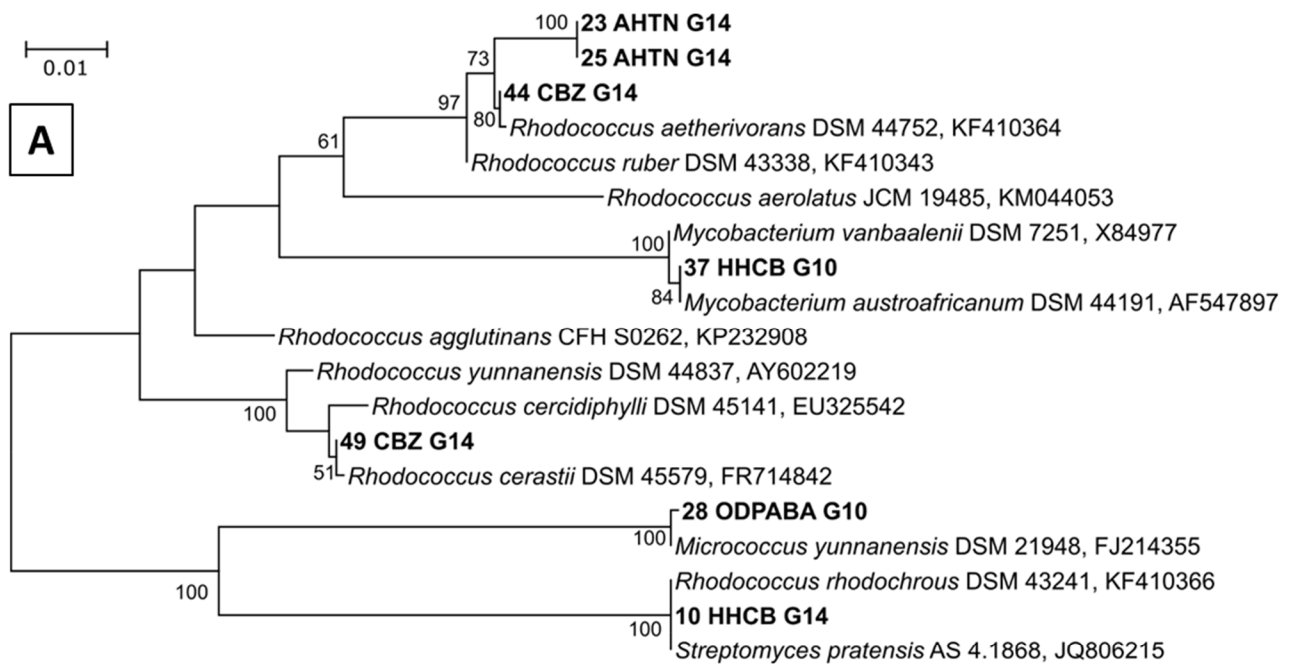
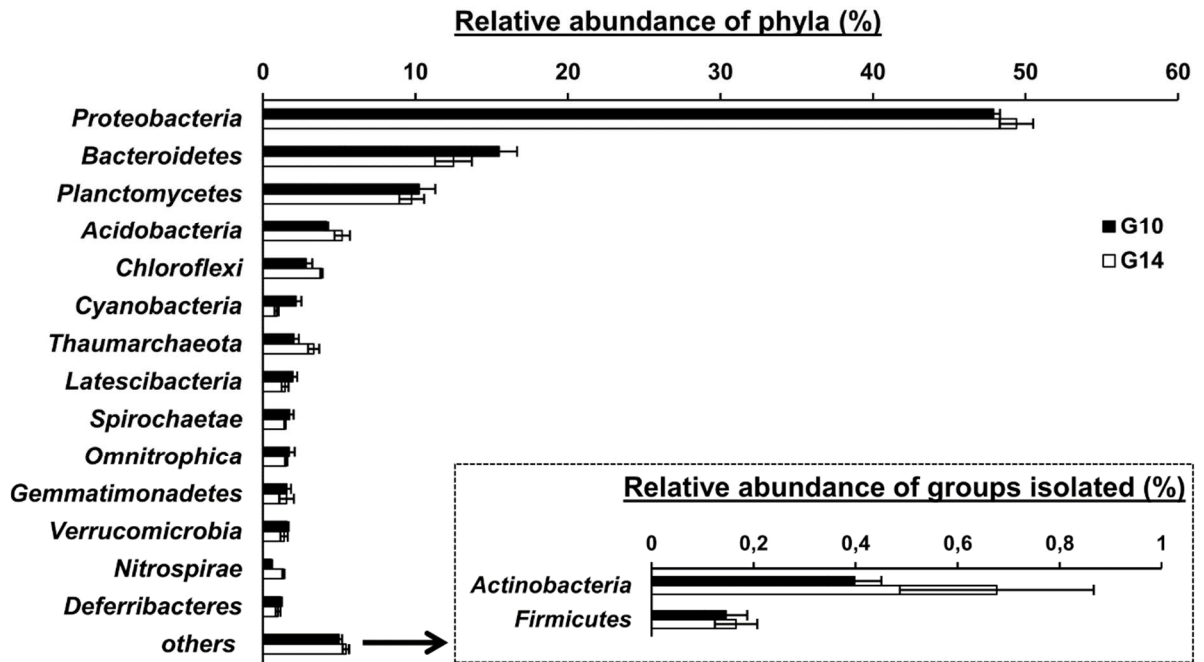


Fig.6



Tables

Microbial degradation of hydrophobic emerging contaminants from marine sediment slurries (Capbreton Canyon) to pure bacterial strain

Table 1 – Characteristics of the emerging contaminants used in this study. Log K_{ow} is octanol/water partition coefficient.

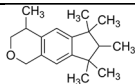
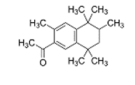
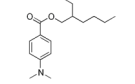
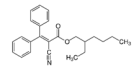
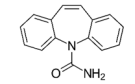
Compound	Family	Formula	Molar mass g mol ⁻¹	Solubility in water mg L ⁻¹	log K_{ow}	References	
Galaxolide (HHCB)	Musk	C ₁₈ H ₂₆ O		258.4	1.75	5.70	[1]
Tonalide (AHTN)	Musk	C ₁₈ H ₂₆ O		258.4	1.25	5.90	[1]
Padimate O (OD-PABA)	UV filter	C ₁₇ H ₂₇ NO ₂		277.4	0.54	6.15	[2]
Octocrylen (OC)	UV filter	C ₂₄ H ₂₇ NO ₂		361.5	0.36	6.88	[3]
Carbamazepine (CBZ)	Pharmaceutical	C ₁₅ H ₁₂ N ₂ O		236.3	17.7	2.45	EPA's EPI Suite™

Table 2 – First-order rate constants k (in days^{-1}) for degradation of HHCB, OD-PABA and CBZ in the slurry sediments incubations under biotic condition (in triplicate). Pearson determination coefficients ranged from 0.76 to 0.98 and p -values <0.05 for estimation of k . The corresponding half-lives ($t_{1/2}$, in days) were calculated as $\ln(2)/k$. G10 and G14 correspond to canyon surface sediment and continental shelf sediment, respectively

Emerging contaminants	Slurry incub.	$k \pm \text{SD}$ (days^{-1})	$t_{1/2} \pm \text{SD}$ (days)
HHCB	G10	0.0032 ± 0.0005	224 ± 41
	G14	0.0065 ± 0.0029	129 ± 44
OD-PABA	G10	0.0324 ± 0.0014	21 ± 1
	G14	0.0158 ± 0.0014	44 ± 4
CBZ	G10	0.0035 ± 0.0004	199 ± 19
	G14	0.0029 ± 0.0001	231 ± 17

Table 3 – Removal capacity of isolated strain and their related affiliation based on phylogenetic tree (Fig. 5). % of removal is calculated relatively to the control removal and in triplicate, after 120 hours of experimentation at 1 ppm exposition concentration for each emerging contaminants. The strains for which degradation were not determined are not shown (Fig. 5)

Isolated strains	Phyla	Family	% of removal \pm SD
2 HHCB G10	<i>Firmicutes</i>	<i>Bacillus</i>	44 \pm 31
17 AHTN G10	<i>Firmicutes</i>	<i>Bacillus</i>	68 \pm 9
23 AHTN G14	<i>Actinobacteria</i>	<i>Rhodococcus</i>	20 \pm 7
33 ODPABA G14	<i>Firmicutes</i>	<i>Bacillus</i>	34 \pm 19
35 ODPABA G14	<i>Firmicutes</i>	<i>Bacillus</i>	45 \pm 9
36 ODPABA G14	<i>Firmicutes</i>	<i>Bacillus</i>	71 \pm 19
40 OC G14	<i>Firmicutes</i>	<i>Bacillus</i>	17 \pm 17
43 OC G10	<i>Firmicutes</i>	<i>Bacillus</i>	14 \pm 13

Graphical abstract

Microbial degradation of hydrophobic emerging contaminants from marine sediment slurries

(Capbreton Canyon) to pure bacterial strain

