
Variations in the diversity of soil microbial community and structure under various categories of degradation wetland in Sanjiang Plain, northeastern China

3

4 Abstract

5 Sanjiang Plain is the largest area of freshwater wetland in China. Due to agricultural development, a large volume of groundwater in
6 this area has been extracted over the last few decades, resulting in wetland degradation. In order to provide information for the
7 development and protection of wetland ecosystem, investigations examining processes of wetland degradation are important. The
8 aim of this work is to assess the impacts of wetland degradation on the communities of soil microbial community under four different
9 types of degradation wetland including swamp meadow (SW), meadow wetland (MW), paddy farmland (PF), and cropland (CL) in
10 Sanjiang Plain. Using both 16S and ITS rRNA gene amplicon sequencing to evaluate the fungal and bacterial diversity and
11 composition. The dominant fungal phyla and bacterial were Ascomycota and Proteobacteria in this study, respectively. In addition,
12 wetland degradation remarkably augmented the partial affluence of Chloroflexi and Gemmatimonadetes, but the partial affluence of
13 Proteobacteria and Verrucomicrobia significantly diminished. Bacterial Shannon index of SW was lower than those in other sites.
14 While, fungal diversity had no significant differences under different types of degradation wetland. Along with the wetland
15 degradation, such differential reactions of the dominant phyla microbial and diversity were notably coordinated with TP, TK, AK, and
16 SOM, which were the most essential criteria influencing the soil microbial communities. Generally, these outcomes suggested that
17 wetland degradation could result in variations in soil microbial community composition structure. These changes could be used as
18 an early warning signal for the degradation wetland in Sanjiang Plain.

19

20 KEYWORDS

21 wetland degradation, bacterial community, fungal community, soil properties, high-throughput sequencing

22

23 1 INTRODUCTION

24 In general, Wetlands are defined as transitional areas between aquatic ecosystems and land, playing an important role in
25 maintaining biodiversity and ecosystem functions of natural resources (An et al. 2019; Gutknecht et al. 2006b). Recently, 2006, An,
26 Liu et al. 2019). global climate change and human interference have resulted in serious threats to wetland ecosystem stability,
27 resulting in different degrees of destruction, such as serious degradation or a large reduction in area (Khaledian et al. 2017).
28 (Khaledian, Kiani et al. 2017). In the process of wetland degradation, the types and quantities of plants have changed; aboveground
29 plant communities have degraded, litter input has been reduced and mineralization rates of organic matter has increased (Ding et al.
30 2017; Li et al. 2016). 2016, Ding, Su et al. 2017).

31 Soil microbes are one of the most active fractions in the soil and play an important role in wetland soil ecosystems. Soil bacteria
32 are essential in ecological processes, such as regulating soil structure, nutrient circulation pollutant removal and soil formation,
33 providing feedback to the whole ecosystem function (Van der Heijden et al. 2015; DeLaune et al. 2008). In particular, soil bacteria
34 play an important role in material transformation and energy flow in wetland ecosystems, restricting differentiation and succession of
35 wetland types (Ding et al. 2017). Environmental observations indicate that the diversity of soil bacterial is mainly influenced through
36 the soil variety, vegetation, pH, latitude, humidity, nutrient effectiveness, and temperature (Bárcenas-Moreno et al. 2009; Fierer &
37 Jackson 2006; Hu et al. 2014; Lauber et al. 2009). According to the aforementioned criteria, soil species has a potent impact on the
38 diversity of soil bacteria as well as composition (Lundberg et al. 2012). Based on the last investigations, it was found that the
39 structure and abundance of the microbial communities in a soil are very sensitive to environmental changes (Argiroff et al. 2016;
40 Arroyo et al. 2014; Moche et al. 2015; Wu et al. 2015; Zhou et al. 2018). Wetland degradation could result in large-scale and durable
41 modifications in the structure of soil and microbial performances (Wen Y et al. 2019). The impact of changes in moisture status,
42 vegetation type and soil nutrient content in a wetland can therefore be used as a predictor of wetland degradation (Urakawa &
43 Bernhard 2017; Wu et al. 2016). Changes in soil nutrient conditions caused by wetland degradation in Sanjiang Plain might lead to
44 modifications within the structure and composition of the microbial assemblies, resulting in ecosystem alternations which could be

45 used as early warning signals for soil degradation. It is therefore important to examine changes in wetland soil microbial
46 communities and their role in wetland degradation for managing wetlands and evaluating their health status.

47 Sanjiang Plain is the largest and most concentrated area of marsh in China, having a high level of sensitivity to global climate
48 change and human interference. This area has been affected by increasing population growth and agricultural activities under the
49 influence of human activities and economic development since the 1950s when land reclamation was initiated, resulting in a reverse
50 succession from meadow wetland to degraded meadow. From the ending years of the last century, the area of wetlands in this
51 region has decreased sharply, and the area of meadow and cultivated land has increased. Although a series of wetland restoration
52 policies were initiated such as reverting cultivated land to wetland, resulting in an improvement of the wetland area, ecosystems are
53 still degraded due to low vegetation coverage, declining biodiversity and soil erosion.

54 In order to further understand the impact of wetland degradation processes in Sanjiang Plain, the microbial community
55 composition and distribution in different styles of degradation wetland were analyzed, including swamp meadow (SW), meadow
56 wetland (MW), paddy farmland (PF) and cropland (CL). The following hypotheses were examined in this study: (i) elucidate how
57 microbial community structure (for both bacteria and fungi) shift during different types of degradation wetlands; (ii) the fungi variety
58 and soil bacteria exhibited various dynamic patterns within the different degradation types of wetlands; and (iii) determine which
59 factors are closely attributed to the modifications in the structure of
60 microbial assembly.

61 The overall aim of the current research is to determine the change of soil microbial and soil features in Sanjiang Plain during
62 wetland degradation. Understanding the change characteristics of soil microbial communities under degradation processes will
63 represent a scientific data for the control of wetland degradation and the improvement of wetland productivity.

64

65 2 MATERIALS AND METHODS

66

67 2.1 Site information

68

69 The investigation area was undertaken within the ecological positioning research station (47°35'N, 133°31'E), located in the Institute
70 of Natural and Ecological Research of Heilongjiang Academy of Sciences in the research area. This area is located in a temperate
71 humid climate zone, characterized by temperate monsoon climate features. The study area has an altitude range of 55-65 m and an
72 average temperature of 1.9 °C. Average minimum and maximum temperatures occur in January (-20.4 °C) and July (21.6 °C),
73 respectively. The Average of annual precipitation is 566 mm, with more than 60 % of precipitation occurring in July and August. Prior
74 to the selection of the plot, we thoroughly evaluated the soil and vegetation to certify the comparability among selected plots (Yang
75 et al. 2018). We also investigated the history through literatures and local residents (Wei et al. 2019). The last researches
76 illuminated that the natural succession path of wetland degradation in our study area was to meadow wetland and farmland (Sun et
77 al. 2019). Currently, a series of plots located in the positioning research station were selected included swamp meadow (SW),
78 meadow wetland (MW), paddy field (PF) and cropland (CL). Soil texture in the four degradation statuses are swamp peat soil,
79 meadow swamp soil, paddy soil and corn soil, respectively. SW is dominated by *Carex pseudoconica* and *Calamagrostis*
80 *angustifolia*, while MW is dominated by *C. angustifolia*. PF and CL were taken from the respective surrounding farmlands that had
81 been planted with rice and corn.

82

83 2.2 Sample collection

84 Three soil cores per degradation status, situated at least 50 m apart, were collected using a soil drill with a diameter of 8 cm in May
85 2019. In all plots, five specimens were uniformly piled up at a depth of 0–10 cm, with a soil auger and blended to create a composite
86 specimen of bulk soil, which resulted in a total of 12 specimens. Roots and other plant tissue residues were eliminated before
87 blending; specimens were kept at -20 °C in an ice box before being transported to the laboratory. Samples were then divided into
88 two fractions: one fraction was kept at 4 °C for investigation of soil physical and chemical properties; the other fraction was stored at
89 -20 °C and used for molecular biological analysis.

90

91 2.3 The determination of soil properties

92 Soil organic matter (SOM, g kg⁻¹) was calculated by utilizing the potassium chromate-external heating approach (Lu, 1999). Moisture
93 content (MC) was ascertained *via* drying in the soil ambient for 48 h at 105 °C until a constant weight was recorded (Li et al. 2015).
94 Soil pH was assessed in a 1:2.5 soil-water suspension by implementing a pH meter (ST2100, Ohrus, Jiangsu, China). Total nitrogen
95 (TN g kg⁻¹) was evaluated using the Kjeldahl nitrogen determination approach (8420, FOSS Analytical Corporation, Denmark)
96 (Rayment et al. 1992); Total phosphorus (TP g kg⁻¹) was measured using the H₂SO₄-HClO₄ solution and measured by a
97 spectrophotometer (7200, UNICO, Wisconsin, USA) (Adeloju et al. 1984). Total K (TK g kg⁻¹) was measured *via* Na₂CO₃ extraction
98 and determined with an atomic absorption spectrometer (IRIS Advantage-ER, Thermo Jarrell Ash Corporation) (Jackson, 1958).
99 Available nitrogen (AN g kg⁻¹) was extracted by utilizing KCl and measured calorimetrically in the extracts of soil (8420, FOSS
100 Analytical Corporation, Denmark) (Bao, 2000); Available phosphorus (AP g kg⁻¹) was evaluated through NaHCO₃ Extraction-Mo-Sb
101 colorimetry (Cary60, Agilent Technologies Inc.) (Qing et al. 2018); Available K (AK g kg⁻¹) was assessed *via* flame photometry (IRIS
102 Advantage-ER, Thermo Jarrell Ash Corporation) (Mehlich, 1984).

103

104 2.4 Soil DNA extraction and amplification sequencing

105

106 The samples of DNA were extracted from 0.5 g of each sample with the Kit of FastDNA SPIN for Soil (MP Biomedicals, Santa Ana,
107 California), conforming to the instruction manufacturer. The region of 16S rRNA V3-V4 was reinforced for each specimen by utilizing
108 primer sets of 338F and 806R (Xu et al. 2016), the Internal Transcribed spacer (ITS) primers region of gene (ITS1F-ITS2F) (Caban
109 et al. 2018; Nottingham et al. 2018). The PCR components contained 25 µl of 5 µl of 5× Q5 buffer of reaction, 5 µl of 5× Q5 High-
110 Fidelity GC buffer, 0.25 µl of Q5 High-Fidelity DNA Polymerase (5U/µl), 1 µl (10 uM) of each Ahead and Reverse primer, 2 µl (2.5
111 mM) of dNTPs, 2 µl of DNA Template, and 8.75 µl of ddH₂O. The cycle of thermal performance was comprised of elemental
112 denaturation for 2 min at 98 °C, succeeded *via* 25 cycles comprised of denaturation for 15 s at 98 °C, annealing for 30 s at 55 °C,
113 and extension for 30 s at 72 °C, with an ultimate extension of 5 min at 72 °C.

114 The purification of PCR amplicons was carried out with Agencourt AMPure Beads (Beckman Coulter, Indianapolis, IN) and
115 measured by utilizing a PicoGreen dsDNA Assay Kit (Invitrogen, Carlsbad, CA, USA). Following the step of individual quantification,
116 amplicons were pooled in even amounts, and pair-end 2×300 bp sequencing was applied through the platform of Illumina MiSeq.
117 The sequences data in a raw form was operated in QIIME 2 2019.4 (Bolyen et al. 2018). In brief, the sequence data in a raw form
118 were demultiplexed utilizing the demux plugin succeeded through primers cutting with cutadapt plugin (Martin M. 2011).
119 Furthermore, sequences were quality filtered, denoised, merged and chimera eliminated by utilizing the DADA2 plugin (Callahan et
120 al. 2016). Non-singleton amplicon sequence variants (ASVs) were aligned with mafft (Katoh et al. 2002) and used to construct a
121 phylogeny with fasttree 2 (Price et al. 2010). Raw sequence data were then submitted to the NCBI Sequence Read Archive ([https://](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sra/)
122 www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sra/) with the accession number: PRJNA661140.

123

124 2.5 Statistical analyses

125

126 The physiochemical characteristics of soil as well as the diversity of soil microbial community were measured for differences among
127 degraded wetlands by utilizing one-way Analysis of variance (ANOVA) in SPSS 20.0 (IBM SPSS Inc., USA). The relevance between
128 dominant microbial and physiochemical features were investigated by implementing Spearman's rank correlation and visualized
129 using R (v3.2.0) and also the package of "corrplot". Principal coordinate analysis (PCoA) was performed in line with a Bray-Curtis
130 distance matrix in R software using the "ape" package. QIIME 2 computer program was utilized to carry out the unweighted paired
131 group arithmetic (UPGMA) clustering analysis to study the resemblance of the communities of soil microbial and visualized by
132 implementing Mega7 program. Heatmap illustration of the partial affluence of microbial OTUs among specimens was constructed
133 applying R. Soil physicochemical properties and also microbial total affluence and variety were compared by implementing LSD
134 experiments. Redundancy analysis (RDA) was performed using CANOCO 5.0 (Microcomputer Power, Ithaca, NY, USA) to observe
135 the impact of soil physiochemical properties on dominant microbial communities. The selection principle of the RDA or CCA model
136 was conforming to DCA (Detrended Correspondence Analysis) utilizing R, and the magnitude of the variables of explanatory was

137 measured against 499 Monte Carlo permutations. The contribution of all environmental criteria to the fungal and bacterial
138 community was appraised through Variance Partitioning Analysis (VPA) by utilizing R with the package of “vegan”.

139

140 3 RESULTS

141

142 3.1 Soil features under various types of degradation wetland

143

144 The nutrient conditions and moisture content, including 9 soil features, exhibited considerable differences among SW, MW, PF and
145 CL. Moisture content in site SW was highest with 58%. Compared to MW and PF, CL could dramatically increase moisture content
146 ($P < 0.01$). It was slightly acidic in Sanjiang Plain, the increase pH values in farmland (PF and CL). In terms of SOM, TN, TP, AN and
147 AP, all of them were the highest in SW, followed by MW, PF and CL. Further, MW is able to diminish TK and AK concentrations
148 compared to SW, PF and CL (Figure 1).

149

150 3.2 Changes in soil microbial community distribution and composition

151 Eventually, a set of 11 fungal phyla and 40 bacterial phyla were achieved across all specimens. Composition results of the bacterial
152 community at the level of phylum (relative abundance $> 1\%$; Fig. 2a) indicate that the most dominant phylum within the assembly of
153 soil bacterial was Proteobacteria, succeeded *via* Acidobacteria, Actinobacteria, Chloroflexi, Gemmatimonadetes, Bacteroidete,
154 Verrucomicrobia, Rokubacteria, Planctomycetes and Nitrospirae, covering 49.57, 42.08, 26.14 and 32.77% in SW, MW, PF and CL,
155 respectively. Any statistically remarkable changes of Actinobacteria, Bacteroidete and Planctomycetes were found among
156 treatments. SW hold the highest relative abundances of Proteobacteria and Verrucomicrobia with 49.57, 8.40%, respectively.
157 Ascomycota, Basidiomycota and Mortierellomycota were found as the predominant fungal phyla, covering 67.66, 21.94, 3.36% in
158 SW, MW, PF and CL, respectively (relative abundance $> 1\%$; Fig. 2b). No substantial changes were observed in Mortierellomycota
159 among four positions. SW hold the highest relatively abundances of Ascomycota with 88.99%, while the lowest Basidiomycota with
160 0.77% (Figure 2b).

161 A number of 964 soil bacterial and 439 fungal genera were represented in all specimens, among which, 14 bacterial genera
162 (*Subgroup_6*, *Pelomonas*, *RB41*, *Sphingomonas*, *KD4-96*, *Rokubacteriales*, *Candidatus_Udaeobacter*, *Gemmatimonas*, *MND1*,
163 *TRA3-20*, *Subgroup_2*, *Nitrospira*, *Haliangium*, *Bryobacter*) (Figure S1) and 16 fungal genera (*Russula*, *Plectosphaerella*, *Tausonia*,
164 *Hydnum*, *Mortierella*, *Humicola*, *Acremonium*, *Acaulium*, *Cortinarius*, *Tetracladium*, *Fusarium*, *Nectria*, *Cladorrhinum*,
165 *Staphylotrichum*, *Lecanicillium*, *Elaphomyces*) more than 1%. Differences in relative abundance for the first 50 bacteria and fungi
166 genera in all soil samples were analyzed using thermographic analysis (Figure S1). In different types of degradation wetland, the
167 distribution of bacterial communities also significantly differed. The most representative bacteria were *Subgroup_6* and *Pelomonas*
168 having average values of 1.38%, 6.78%, 15.18% and 1.53, and 13.89%, 13.70%, 0.00% and 0.10% for SW, MM, PF and CL,
169 respectively. While, the representative fungi were *Humicola* with 12.39, 0.12, 0.19 and 0.08% in four sites. Our results indicate that
170 significant differences were presented in the distribution and partial affluence of soil bacteria and fungi within various types of
171 degradation wetland.

172 The outcomes of the plots of clustering heatmap related to the soil fungi and bacteria at level the of genus illustrated that
173 composition of soil microbial community exhibited noticeably diverse and can be separated into two clusters, containing SW and
174 MW, PF plus CL. Whilst the structure of soil fungal community was clustered into two groups, containing MW and SW, PF plus CL,
175 denoting that the composition of soil microbial community from PF and CL displayed greater correspondence than those of MW and
176 SW (Figure S2).

177 Biomarker with a statistically significant difference was further sought from different treatments and classification levels using
178 Line Discriminant Analysis (LDA) Effect Size (LEfSe). LDA of 100 bacterial branches in different types of degradation wetland
179 recorded obvious differences under the threshold > 4.0 . Biomarker was affiliated to Gemmatimonadetes, Latescibacteria,
180 Nitrospirae, Proteobacteria, Rokubacteria, Verrucomicrobia, Acidobacteria at the phylum level (Figure 3a). In addition, the plot of
181 cladogram founded on LEfSe with the threshold of 4.0 indicated that Biomarker was affiliated to Ascomycota and Basidiomycota at
182 the phylum level (Figure 3b).

183

184 **Modifications in soil bacterial community richness and diversity**

185 The fungal and bacterial abundance tended to increase with degradation in the different types of degradation wetlands (Figure 4).
186 The bacterial Shannon diversity index results in different types of degradation wetlands significantly differed ($P<0.05$) but Chao1
187 index showed no significant differences among different treatments. Using Alpha diversity analysis indicators, the Shannon index of
188 SW was significantly lower than that of MW, PF and CL (Figure 4a). Regarding the fungal community, with no significant differences
189 among four treatments (Figure 4b). According to the PCoA, we found that both the fungal and bacterial communities showed
190 significant differences among the four degradation wetlands in bray-curtis distance (Figure 5a), suggesting that PF and CL were
191 more similar to each other in bacteria composition than they were to SW and MW. For fungi, SW site was distant from MW, PF and
192 CL (Figure 5b). Similar results were also recorded in the UPGMA-based cluster map (Figure S3)

193 Correlation between the diversity of microbial community soil properties is given in Table 1. pH value of the Soil had a notable
194 positive effect on the diversity of soil bacterial community ($P<0.05$), and the index of Shannon related to the soil bacteria
195 considerably decreased with an increase in SOM, TN, TP, AN and AP ($P<0.01$). By contrast, as the values of TK and AK increased,
196 the Shannon index showed a downward trend. At the same time, AN had a negative impact on the soil fungal Chao 1 index
197 ($P<0.05$).

198 **Correlations between soil characteristics and soil bacterial communities**

199 Redundancy analysis (RDA) indicates that the soil microbial classification unit has different responses to soil properties in phylum
200 level (Figure 6). For bacterial communities, the first two main components explained 73.28% of total variation (Figure 6a); the first
201 RDA axis had a higher variation value (50.39%) and the second axis had a lower variation value (22.89%). The contribution of soil
202 properties to bacterial community variation was analyzed using variance partition analysis (VPA), results of which indicated that the
203 TP value could explain the high variability of 41.6%, while TK, AK and SOM content could explain the low variability of 22.4%,
204 7.20% and 7.00%, respectively (Figure 7a). Concerning the communities of fungal, the first and second RDA axis respectively
205 defined 61.81% and 22.37% of the total variation (Figure 6b). VPA showed that TK value could explain the high variability of 38.6%
206 (Figure 7b).

207 Additionally, the relationship between the affluence of the dominant bacteria and environmental variables at the phylum stage
208 (Table 2) was also examined. Proteobacteria had a positive effect on MC, SOM, TN, TP, AN and AP ($P<0.05$), although had a
209 negative impact on pH ($P<0.05$); pH had a significant positive effect on Actinobacteria and Bacteroidetes ($P<0.01$). Chloroflexi
210 ($P<0.05$). The partial affluence of Gemmatimonadetes and Bacteroidetes was negatively corresponded with SOM, TN, TP, AN and
211 AP ($P<0.01$). Chloroflexi and Nitrospirae was considerably negative corresponded with MC and TK ($P<0.05$). TK had positive
212 association with Ascomycota ($P<0.05$), however, AK exhibited negative relevance with the partial affluence of Basidiomycota
213 ($P<0.05$). Fungal and bacterial communities from various types of degradation wetlands displayed clustering patterns, showing
214 notable changes in the composition of microbial community among SW, MW, PF and CL.

215

216 **4 Discussion**

217

218 **4.1 The response of soil characteristics to different wetland degradation levels**

219

220 The varying degrees of degradation in Sanjiang Plain wetland provide a model for assessing degradation processes which
221 simultaneously affect the physicochemical characteristics of the soil, as well as the soil bacterial community. Soil nutrients, important
222 factors that affect the structure and growth of plant communities in wetland ecosystems, are reduced with wetland degradation
223 (Zhang et al. 2019); wetland degradation also has a significant impact on physicochemical properties. In our study, SW recorded
224 higher values for MC, the results are in accordance with previous findings (Xu et al. 2017), indicating more favorable soil nutrient
225 conditions in undisturbed areas in Sanjiang Plain (Figure 1). In particular, SOM, TN, TP, AN and AP significantly decreased with
226 wetland degradation, providing effective indicators for assessing wetland degradation. Compared with the other three degradation
227 stages, soil physicochemical indices of natural wetland soil were higher due to soil degradation inhibiting plant growth by affecting
228 nutrient circulation, thus hindering the development and stability of wetland communities. As the main feature of the wetland (Tian

1998), MC plays an important role in wetland restoration. Our research indicate that soil moisture content decreased with wetland degradation, a change associated to aggravation of wetland degradation, which is in a good agreement with the outcomes of a research in Sanjiang Plain (Wei et al. 2019). Here, wetland plant species indispensable for formation of swamp soil are replaced through the vegetation of meadow and the ventilation and water permeability of the wetland soil are reduced, resulting in a weakening of the soil water conservation function (Xu et al. 2017). Most nutrient elements also exchange with soil moisture content, ventilation conditions and redox potentials also shift; thus, the community structure and composition of soil microbial also changed accordingly (Ma et al. 2018). Our analyses of soil properties indicated that soils were slightly acidific in Sanjiang Wetland (Yun et al. 2015), this is similar to our results. Soil pH was the main driving parameter for the development of the soil bacteria community, both on tiny and large scales (Rousk et al. 2010). Similarity to previous findings (Wu et al. 2017), our results indicated that pH decreased with wetland degradation. Synchronous changes of SOM, TN, TP, AN and AP with wetland degradation were observed in this study, Moges et al (2008) had also made similar trends under soil degradation. SOM of natural wetland is higher than that of the degraded wetland, probably because MC of the wetland changes the aerobic/anaerobic media of the soil, reducing the process of mineralization of organic matter, and thus limiting the decomposition of the SOM in different degradation stages of the wetland (Houghton et al. 1999). Previous studies have shown that a close relationship exists between SOM and other soil nutrients (Ahc et al. 2009). As the aggravation of degradation degree, significant SOM loss due to the erosion, lack of root C input, decomposition rate of organic substance in soil increases (Arroyo et al. 2014). High moisture content in natural wetlands forms an aerobic/anaerobic environment which limits the nitrification of bacteria, improves the fixation of N and enables the accumulation of N in the soil (Krause et al. 2013). Despite the use of nitrogen fertilizer in PF and CL, but the accumulation of N is a biological procedure containing a group of complex reactions between microorganisms and plants rather than simple accumulation (Binkley, 2005). In SW site, TP and AP were higher than those in MW, PF and CL, the same outcomes also realized in other researchers (Ducey et al. 2015). In our study TK and AK results indicated the highest value in SW, followed by PF and CL, and lowest in MW site. wetland degradation in this study. This suggest that SOM, TN, TP, AN and AP could be impacted with alike soil environmental modifications (Wang et al. 2002), therefore might be the cause N, P demonstrated closed relation to SOM in the present investigation. Potassium in wetland soil is mainly derived from the accumulation of available nutrients, depending on the accumulation of wetland plant absorption and plant residue death (Olde Venterink et al. 2002). In constrast, the increase TK and AK in PF and CL could be mostly ascribed to the nutrient load from K fertilization through the agricultural agronomy, these results correspond to the report of Lu et al. (2019). Briefly, our outcomes showed that wetland degradation affects soil nutrient circumstances in Sanjiang plain.

257

258 **4.2 The response of soil microbial communities to different types of degradation wetland**

259

260 The communities of soil microbial perform a vital task in the circulation of material and energy flow of the soil system, directly or indirectly affecting the healthy development of the wetland ecosystem (Falkowski & Jelen 2013). The diversity index of the soil bacterial community showed that the Shannon index in SW was significantly lower than those in other degraded wetlands. In addition, the diversity of soil fungal community (Chao1 and Shannon index) had no significant differences among four sites (Figure 4). Our observations might be due to their hydrologic environment, which the dry site might had consistently higher diversity (Ahn et al. 2009). Identical to the achieved data, the community of soil bacterial enhanced markedly within degradation wetland (Zhang et al. 2008, Lu et al. 2019). Peralta et al. (2013) recorded a lower Shannon index in undegraded wetland that may be related to the acidic nature of the soil. Although, the last investigation had realized that a higher diversity of bacterial communities was detected on undegraded wetland in comparison with degraded sites (Zhou et al. 2018). The contradictions in the results of these researches could be occurred through the sort of degradation time as well as dominant vegetation. According to the aforementioned discussions, the diversity of soil microbial community could be an essential indicator in the procedure of ecological soil degradation. In addition, results from PCoA and cluster studies indicate that the clearly difference in the composition of fungal communities and soil bacterial among various sites and the distances in physiological properties between PF and CL were partially near (Figure 5). Meanwhile, the clustering plots of heatmap related to the fungi and bacterial exhibited the identical patterns (Figure S2), that is alike to the last studies (Gu et al. 2018). However, we further found that the communities of soil fungal and bacterial separated along the water gradient, which is similar to the study of Poyang Lake (Chen et al. 2019) and proved our hypothesis to some content.

276 Dominant bacterial groups at the phylum level included Proteobacteria, Acidobacteria, Actinobacteria, Chloroflexi, Gemmatimonadetes, etc. (Figure 2a), indicating that these soil bacterial communities have high adaptability and play an important role in these ecosystems. Similar results have also been recorded in other wetlands (Ahn et al. 2007; Gorra et al. 2007). In the

279 present research, Proteobacteria was the main phylum, that is widespread in various ecosystems and involved in many
280 biogeochemical processes (Zhang & Xu 2008). This phylum is able to perform a major task in systemic development, ecological
281 processes, and take part in the energy metabolism, including the oxidation of organic/inorganic complexes as well as the
282 acquisition of energy from light (Mukhopadhyaya et al. 2012). Proteobacteria can stimulate the increase of nutrition in the environment
283 (Fierer et al. 2007). This factor also explains why Proteobacteria was more affluent in natural swamp soil, having greater organic
284 substance contents (Röske et al. 2012). In the process of organic matter decomposition and nutrition cycling, Acidobacteria in
285 degradation wetland was higher than in nature wetland (Eichorst et al. 2018), that is correspond to our results which indicate that the
286 relative abundance of Acidobacteria and in PF, CL and MW was higher than that in SW. To the best of our knowledge,
287 Acidobacteria also contain a large number of oligotrophs. In degraded wetland soil with low organic matter content, the relative
288 abundance of Acidobacteria was relatively high (Peralta et al. 2013), possibly being beneficial for the growth of oligotrophs. These
289 results indicated that microorganisms with nutritional degradation functions and high metabolic activities may successfully survive in
290 degraded wetlands. In addition, the relative abundance of Chloroflexi and Gemmatimonadetes in SW is lower than that in other
291 sites. Chloroflexi was found to survive on nutrient poor conditions. Previous work also documented Chloroflexi were less abundant
292 under nutrient limitation (Hug et al. 2013) and last report has confirmed that Gemmatimonadetes possibly associated to the
293 oligotrophic situations owing to the independence on nutrients (Zheng et al. 2016).

294 Literally, the composition and predominance of soil fungi varied among SW, MW, PF and CL. with different types of degradation
295 wetlands. Ascomycota, Basidiomycota and Mortierellomycota were found as the predominant fungal phyla in four positions, which
296 was in accordance with the findings discovered in Sanjiang plain (Wei et al. 2019) and in the degradation alpine meadow (Li et al.
297 2016). Ascomycota was known as the most abundant group in the fungal kingdom detected in soil all over the world (Al-Sadi et al.
298 2017). The phylum Basidiomycota is the second most affluent class which have ability to restrict mainly the decomposition of lignin
299 (Floudas et al. 2012). In site SW, the partial affluence of Basidiomycota is the lowest compared with others. This could be ascribed
300 to the fact that soil aeration improved and decomposed rapidly, which prompted amount of Basidiomycota proliferated (Heinemeyer
301 et al. 2004). In terms of genus level species, the relative abundance of common genera in the wetland varied with degraded types,
302 indicating that the soil bacteria and fungi with special functions could survive in wetland with different degradation types. Therefore,
303 wetland degradation results in structure and composition modifications related to the communities of the soil microbial, which could
304 be supported from PCoA results (Figure 5).

305 Overall, the distribution patterns of different bacteria and fungi groups reflect their ecological niche throughout the process of
306 wetland degradation, and nutrition condition, moisture circumstances as well as other possible environmental parameters might
307 contribute to partial abundance (Gu et al. 2018). These findings are important for the restoration and sustainable stability of
308 wetlands. For a deeper comprehension of the micro-process mechanism of ecological progression, further analysis on functional
309 genes needs to be undertaken.

310

311 4.3 Criteria influencing on soil bacterial communities under various categories of degradation wetland

312

313 It has been reported that soil physical and chemical properties are important driving factors of microbial communities (Leff et al.
314 2015; Song et al. 2020). With wetland degradation, the accumulation of soil MC, pH significantly changed (Figure 1), having a
315 noticeable impact on soil microbial community diversity (Table 1). In addition, soil microbial community diversity also affected soil
316 biogeochemical processes, the complexity of interactions, versatility and sustainability, thus affecting soil quality (Jansson &
317 Hofmockel 2018; Wagg et al. 2014). Therefore, soil microbial diversity is an important factor in the maintenance of ecological
318 function.

319 In the present investigation, soil bacterial diversity was considerably positively corresponded with pH (Table 1), similar to
320 findings from previous investigations (Lauber et al. 2008). As an example, most researches proposed that pH was shown as the
321 main indicator impacting the soil bacterial community (Hartman et al. 2008, Rousk et al. 2010). While no significant correlations
322 were found in some research (Beales et al. 2004), this might be caused by the adaptability and sustainability of bacterial community
323 to particular medium correlated with the Shannon and Chao 1 index, consistent with previously report (Yu et al. 2019; Lu et al.
324 2019;). Although soil organic matter is an important carbon source for soil bacteria, our findings indicate that Alpha diversity of soil
325 bacteria was lowest in swamp wetlands with a higher organic matter content, a finding that is contrary to previous results (Yuan et
326 al. 2016). This difference may be related to the accumulation of perennial water in the wetland swamp, poor soil aeration resulting
327 from a high moisture content, and limited growth and propagation of aerobic bacterial, thus affecting the variety of soil bacterial
328 assemblies. It should be stated that the large number of investigations have demonstrated the correspondences between soil

329 parameters and the diversity of fungal community, including AK (Guan et al. 2020), P content (Burke et al. 2019) and MC (Yu et al.,
330 2019). But no similar results were found in our research.

331 The communities of soil microbial are impacted *via* the interaction of herb species and soil characteristics, and environmental
332 factors perform an essential task in the composition of structure formation of soil bacterial communities (Freedman & Zak 2015).
333 Results from our investigation indicate that the structure of a community of soil microbial was impacted *via* the variety of
334 environmental criteria rather than single criterion (Zong & Shi 2020). Based on the VPA results, our results illustrated that TP, TK,
335 AK and SOM were found to be driving factors of soil bacterial communities (Figure 7a). Additional research indicated that change in
336 bacterial communities corresponds to a change in relative abundance of major groups (Zeng et al. 2017) and soil nutrients
337 contribute to the selection and development of soil bacterial assemblies (Carey et al. 2015; Peralta et al. 2013). However, these
338 findings are contrary to previous studies recording pH to be the best predictor of bacterial communities (Fierer & Jackson 2006),
339 which was not consistent with present study. At the phylum level, Proteobacteria is the most important bacterial group in wetland
340 ecosystems (An et al. 2019), which was completely consistent with our study and the 2019). correlation between soil microbial
341 assemblies and soil features in different soil systems are different. Results from our study also recorded a negative correlation
342 between Proteobacteria and pH (Table 2) , but positively corresponded with the partial affluence of Acidobacteria, similar to last
343 results (Yu et al. 2019; Yin et al. 2020). Soil pH is the key soil physical and chemical property that affects the partial affluence of
344 Acidobacteria (Lammel et al. 2018). Bacteroidetes affected strongly by C mineralization in terrestrial habitats (Fierer et al. 2007),
345 thus, the partial abundance of Bacteroidetes are positively related with SOM in our study (Table 2). In contrast, we made an
346 outcome that he partial abundance of Actinobacteria decreased with TN. Previous study found that Actinobacteria are considered as
347 oligotrophs and tend to be associated with limited conditions (Fierer et al. 2007), which was consistent present study. Collectively,
348 these results suggest that undegradation wetland in comparison with the degradation wetland ameliorates the levels of soil nutrient,
349 consequently influencing on the classes of functional bacterial.

350 Regarding the fungal communities, RDA results suggest that TK was the predominant decisive parameters (Figure 6b), which
351 was not completely similar with the last investigations (Lauber et al. 2008, Wei et al. 2019). The spearman studies illuminated that
352 the relative abundance of Basidiomycota exhibited a more potent negatively correlation with TK and AK, while played notably
353 positively impacts on Ascomycota (Table 2), these were not in accordance with previous studies (Ding et al. 2018). It is widely
354 recognized that the climatic factors (MAP and MAT) could be the predominant aspects impacting the fungal communities (Ren et al.
355 2017), these contradictions might be due to the differences in the experimental sites, sampling times and climatic conditions.
356 Concertedly, the obtained results propose that wetland degradation has significant impacts on bacterial community whilst negligible
357 impacts on fungal community composition, soil nutrient condition exhibit essential shifts in the diversity and structure of fungal and
358 bacterial community in this study.

359

360 5 Conclusions

361

362 Generally, the present research concentrated on the distribution pattern of the soil fungal and bacterial community under various
363 types of degraded wetland in Sanjiang Plain and improve our knowledge of soil microbial diversity in alpine wetlands. Wetland
364 degradation could reduce soil nutrients. SW harbored the lowest soil bacterial Shannon index. The dominant fungal and bacteria
365 phyla were Proteobacteria as well as Ascomycota in our study positions. In particular, wetland degradation could significantly
366 increase the partial affluences of Proteobacteria and Verrucomicrobia, whilst reduce the partial affluences of Chloroflexi and
367 Gemmatimonadetes. Additionally, wetland degradation had significantly negative total influences on the relative abundance of
368 Ascomycota, while positive effect on the relative abundance of Basidiomycota. Furthermore, wetland degradation directly or
369 indirectly modified the soil medium, leading in considerable alternations in soil features, which drive changes in microbial
370 community. TP, TK, AK and SOM were the most essential criteria influencing on the communities of bacterial soil, while TK was the
371 dominant factor of soil fungal communities. Overall, our finding indicates that the collaborative development of relevance between
372 the community of soil microbial and conditions, which results in the variation in soil microbial community in the process of wetland
373 degradation in Sanjiang Plain.

374

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379

380 DATA AVAILABILITY STATEMENT

381 All data included in this study are available upon request by contact with the corresponding author.

382

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611

612

613 Table 1 Correlation analyses between the diversity of fungal and soil bacterial community and soil characteristics.

Kingdom	Variables	Chao1	Shannon
Bacteria	MC	-0.38	-0.32
	pH	0.30	.839**
	SOM	-.622*	-.650*
	TN	-.601*	-.608*
	TP	-.580*	-.629*
	TK	-0.38	0.24
	AN	-.622*	-.622*
	AP	-.699*	-.629*
	AK	-0.39	0.38
	Fungi	MC	-0.11
pH		0.47	-0.04
SOM		-0.56	0.04
TN		-0.52	0.07
TP		-0.15	0.32
TK		-0.07	0.05
AN		-.587*	-0.01
AP		-0.50	0.07
	AK	0.02	0.30

614 MC, Moisture Content; SOM, Soil Organic Matter; TN, Total Nitrogen; TP, Total Phosphorus; TK, Total Kalium; AN, Available
615 Nitrogen; AP, Available Phosphorus; AK, Available Kalium. *correlation significant at 0.05 level. **correlation significant at 0.01 level
616 (two-tailed).

617

618 Table 2 Spearman's rank correlation between the partial affluence of predominant bacteria and fungi classes and soil
619 characteristics.

Kingdom	Phylum	MC	pH	SOM	TN	TP	TK	AN	AP	AK
Bacteria	Proteobacteria	0.55*	-0.73**	0.65*	0.60*	0.67*	-0.04	0.57	0.60*	-0.20
	Acidobacteria	-0.72**	0.43	-0.57	-0.45	-0.58*	-0.27	-0.45	-0.50	-0.11
	Actinobacteria	-0.26	0.38	-0.69*	-0.75**	-0.54	-0.52	-0.58*	-0.69*	-0.57
	Chloroflexi	0.15	0.35	0.10	0.03	-0.08	0.61*	0.05	0.03	0.69*
	Gemmatimonadetes	-0.14	0.84**	-0.66*	-0.68*	-0.59*	0.25	-0.66*	-0.70*	0.26
	Bacteroidetes	-0.09	0.75**	-0.82**	-0.83**	-0.73**	-0.03	-0.83**	-0.81**	-0.13

	Verrucomicrobia	-0.46	-0.29	-0.18	-0.17	-0.15	-0.75**	-0.14	-0.22	-0.75**
	Rokubacteria	0.51	0.21	0.37	0.38	0.23	0.94**	0.24	0.28	0.89**
	Planctomycetes	-0.03	-0.22	0.35	0.37	0.39	-0.02	0.39	0.48	0.22
	Nitrospirae	0.41	0.15	0.40	0.40	0.27	0.87**	0.30	0.35	0.91**
Fungi	Ascomycota	0.36	0.38	0.06	0.03	0.06	0.70*	-0.04	0.13	0.73**
	Basidiomycota	-0.50	-0.22	-0.28	-0.30	-0.27	-0.82**	-0.22	-0.31	-0.86**
	Mortierellomycota	-0.04	0.41	-0.39	-0.38	-0.25	0.05	-0.38	-0.49	0.08

620 MC, Moisture Content; SOM, Soil Organic Matter; TN, Total Nitrogen; TP, Total Phosphorus; TK, Total Kalium; AN, Available
621 Nitrogen; AP, Available Phosphorus; AK, Available Kalium. *correlation significant at 0.05 level. **correlation significant at 0.01 level
622 (two-tailed).