

Dear Editor,

While reviewing the proof, I noticed an error in Figure 3a regarding the marked significant differences. The current figure incorrectly shows a significant difference between EcM/ErM and the control, whereas it should display differences between AM/NM and the control.

The text in section 3.4 (highlighted in red) is correct; only the figure needs to be updated. At the bottom of this document, you will find the correct version of Figure 3a that we would like to include.

Thank you for your attention to this correction.

Best regards,

Robert Björk

3.4 Abundance of bacteria and fungi

The bacterial 16S rRNA gene copy numbers were consistently higher than fungal ITS rRNA gene copy numbers across all treatments (EcM/ErM, AM/NM, Rare, Dominant), ranging from 2.07×10^9 to 2.75×10^9 and 1.05×10^8 to 1.68×10^8 copies g^{-1} dry soil respectively ($V = 528$, $p < 0.001$, $n = 32$). In the AM/NM, fungal abundances were marginally lower ($z = -1.67$, $p = 0.094$) and **the ITS:16S rRNA gene copy ratio were lower ($z = -2.13$, $p = 0.033$) compared to the Control (Fig. 3a)**. No other treatments significantly affected the bacterial or fungal abundance (Table S7, S8) or the ITS:16S ratio (Fig. 3a, Table S9, S10).

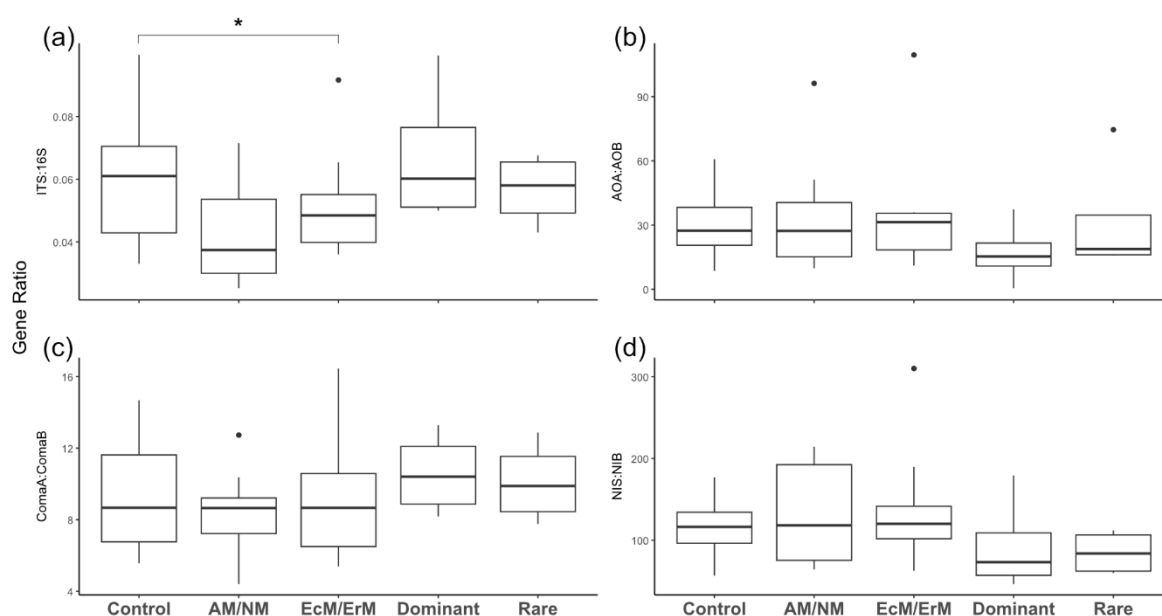


Figure 3: Soil gene abundance ratios in response to plant removal treatment. Gene abundance ratios for A) fungi (ITS) vs bacteria (16S rRNA gene); B) Archaeal ammonia oxidizer (AOA) vs bacterial ammonia oxidizer (AOB); C) comammox bacteria, clade ComaA vs comammox clade ComaB; and D) nitrite-oxidizing Nitrospira (NIS) vs Nitrospira (NIB). Treatments: no manipulation = Control; removal of plants with ecto and ericoid mycorrhiza associations = AM/NM; removal of plants with arbuscular mycorrhiza & no mycorrhiza

associations = EcM/ErM; removal of rare plant species = Dominant; removal of dominant plant species = Rare. Symbols above the boxplots denote significant differences for each group relative to a control group as determined through Generalized Linear Mixed Models (GLMMs) (* < 0.05) (Table S10).

New figure we want to include:

